

First and Second Loves

written by

Katie Maughan

@katie\_media

katiemedia@gmail.com

EXT. SCHOOL LAWN. DAY.

Open on KARINA (16), wearing a green blazer and skirt, with brown curly hair and dark skin sitting on the grass outside of an old school building. We pan out to see a small group of teenagers wearing the same uniform sitting around her and chatting.

LUKE (16), with light freckled skin and messy blond hair walks out of the building, smiling when he sees his friends, and sits down close to KARINA. Their conversation is muffled by the light intro music. We can see them both smiling together and LUKE putting his arm around her shoulders.

INT. DORMROOM. DAY.

The door swings inwards, and we see LUKE enter, carrying his blazer over his shoulder. He stops in his tracks, and the music stops playing. We pan over to JAMES (17), with black quaffed hair and sharp facial features, on the other side of the room unpacking his bags. JAMES looks up at LUKE upon his arrival, and stands up.

JAMES

Hey, you must be my new roommate.

LUKE

Oh, I didn't realise someone new was starting.

JAMES

I just moved here. Are you Luke?

LUKE shifts awkwardly, before dumping his blazer on his bed.

LUKE

Yeah, who are you again?

JAMES

I'm James.

JAMES has a very confident and calm energy, which makes LUKE territorial.

LUKE

Nice to meet you, I hope you're not too bothered about keeping the room tidy.

EXT. SCHOOLYARD. DAY.

ELLIE (16) with long blonde hair, blue eyes and her backpack slung over her shoulder, approaches KARINA, who is now sitting alone in the grass, scrolling through her phone.

ELLIE

What're you doing here by yourself?

ELLIE steps in front of KARINA, casting a shadow over her. KARINA squints up at her.

ELLIE (CONT'D)

Were you waiting for me?

We focus on ELLIE's face, and we see her grin down at KARINA. KARINA smiles back at her.

KARINA

Always.

INT. CLASSROOM. DAY.

The same group of teenagers from before can be seen lounging around their desks, chatting and laughing. KARINA and ELLIE are sitting at a desk together, writing notes in each other's notebooks subtly and giggling. LUKE is leaning on the desk behind them looking more dishevelled than before. He opens a water bottle and then hands it over to KARINA.

LUKE

I thought it was a free room again this year, I'm so pissed off. It's not even just the fact that I have to share again, I can just tell that I won't like him.

KARINA

How would you know that? You've only spoken to him like twice.

LUKE

He looks too posh, and he's brought so much shit with him, he's already taken up the whole bathroom. He uses more stuff than you do.

KARINA

Ooh he sounds fancy.

LUKE looks at her blankly while she takes a drink.

LUKE

I definitely don't like him now.

JAMES walks into the classroom carrying his books, looking pristine and relaxed. Nobody recognises the new boy, so everyone watches as he walks in. KARINA and ELLIE look at each other and raise their eyebrows. LUKE glances at him, and moves around to stand next to KARINA.

LUKE (CONT'D)

What books were we supposed to bring again?

KARINA laughs and hands him her text book.

KARINA

Go on. We'll share.

ELLIE starts digging in her backpack for her copy.

KARINA (CONT'D)

Please tell me you have yours.

ELLIE finally pulls out her copy and slides it over to KARINA happily.

ELLIE

Here you go.

KARINA

Thank you, El.

WE CUT TO:

INT. CLASSROOM. DAY.

ELLIE and KARINA are leaning over their textbook and taking notes. ELLIE gazes at KARINA whenever she isn't looking. KARINA tears a page from her notebook, where we can see scribbles the two had been drawing.

KARINA

You got that bit wrong.

She points at ELLIE's notes and passes her the page with the correct answers on.

ELLIE

What? Oh, thanks.

We pan over to LUKE, who is looking bored as he absently scrawls in his notebook.

JAMES

Sir? Can you check this part?

LUKE looks up, and sees JAMES sitting a few rows ahead of him with his hand raised. He watches him for a moment, and then glances at KARINA, to check if she's looking too. We see her facing ELLIE, helping her with her work. LUKE relaxes a bit.

EXT. SCHOOL FIELD. DAY.

We open on ELLIE in her sports kit, in the middle of a Lacrosse practice. KARINA and LUKE can be seen sitting on the field beside the pitch. LUKE cheers when she scores a point. KARINA is watching her intently with her fingers crossed. ELLIE is playing very well in her attacker position.

ELLIE takes a moment to look over at her friends, and watches as LUKE leans over and kisses KARINA. Her shoulders slump noticeably, and then she turns her focus back to the game. We see ELLIE play with more determination

KARINA jumps up and waits for her to get off the pitch before giving her a hug.

KARINA

You've gotten so much better!

ELLIE

Alright, I wasn't that bad before.

LUKE

I dunno, you were pretty bad.

ELLIE

Let's see how you do in football then.

KARINA

I heard someone say that your new roommate was joining the team. Maybe you can bond over that.

LUKE

Don't remind me. If he scores more points than me I'm locking him out of our room.

ELLIE

Jealousy is a disease Luke.

ELLIE pats LUKE's back solemnly, which makes him laugh.

LUKE  
 Alright, go shower now stinky.

WE CUT TO:

EXT. SCHOOL FIELD. DAY.

A football being kicked across the school field. JAMES has the ball, and is making his way across the pitch at a rapid pace. LUKE is sprinting to keep up with him, attempting to overtake him.

LUKE  
 Pass it to me!

JAMES ignores him, continuing towards the goal as the other team goes after him. LUKE sprints faster, making it to the goal before him.

LUKE (CONT'D)  
 I can score!

JAMES doesn't look up at him, as he sprints and makes an attempt at scoring. He gets the goal, and the whole team cheers for him. LUKE wanders back to his side of the pitch in a mood.

ELLIE is laying in the grass with her head on KARINA's lap as they lazily watch the match.

ELLIE  
 He is a bit of a dick, isn't he?

KARINA  
 Yeah, I'll give him that.

The next game begins, and soon enough JAMES has the ball once again. This time, he finds himself surrounded by the opposite team. He looks over at LUKE, who looks annoyed, but waits by the goal, nonetheless.

JAMES  
 Luke! Here!

JAMES kicks the ball over to LUKE, who looks startled for a second, but manages to kick the ball straight into the goal. Their team cheers. LUKE looks flustered. JAMES walks up to him with an annoying grin.

JAMES (CONT'D)  
 Sorry, I had to set the tone.

LUKE looks up at him, flushed.

LUKE

Alright.

ELLIE and KARINA are clapping from the side of the pitch.

MONTAGE

INT. CLASSROOM. DAY.

LUKE can be seen frantically searching in his backpack for his homework. JAMES walks past him and drops it onto his desk. LUKE looks down at it, then back up at JAMES and sighs. JAMES grins at him over his shoulder.

EXT. SCHOOL LAWN. DAY.

LUKE is laying on his stomach on the grass, with an open text book in front of him. Karina is laying across his back, contently going through his notes with him.

INT. DORMROOM. NIGHT.

KARINA and ELLIE are sitting on KARINA's bed side by side, the room is lit by small hanging wall lights, and the two girls are sharing some ice cream as they watch a movie on a laptop. ELLIE leans her head back on the wall and looks over at KARINA. KARINA turns to look back at her, and for a moment, we see a conflicted expression on her face.

MONTAGE ENDS

INT. DORMROOM. DAY.

We see LUKE getting out of bed, still not fully awake yet. The en suite door opens, and JAMES steps out with damp hair and only half-dressed. We can see the steam from the bathroom. LUKE takes a second to notice him, followed by a startled once over.

JAMES

Hey, I accidentally ended up with two copies of my Chemistry textbook somehow, so I left my extra on your desk so you can stop stealing your girlfriend's.

LUKE

Oh, thanks.

LUKE turns away from him and grabs his clothes from his wardrobe. JAMES stands there watching him, drying his hair with a towel. Neither of them say anything as JAMES steps to the side so LUKE can get to the bathroom.

INT. DORMROOM. DAY.

KARINA wakes up gradually, looking around the room, slightly confused as the light pours in. By her side, she finds a fully-clothed ELLIE sleeping next to her, her spoon still in her hand. KARINA feels a wave of anxiety wash over her. She watches ELLIE, sleeping peacefully and facing her, with her hair everywhere. We watch as KARINA feels conflicted once again.

INT. HALLWAY. DAY.

KARINA, in a new change of clothes, is rushing through the hallways towards the boy's dorms. She looks upset, not paying attention to anyone that she passes. We finally see her running up the stairs of the dorms, stopping when she gets to LUKE's door. She takes a breath outside for a moment, before slowly opening the door.

INT. DORMROOM. DAY.

When the door opens, KARINA sees a fully dressed JAMES standing in the middle of the room opposite a damp-haired LUKE. She takes a second to register that they're kissing. She isn't upset. She realises now that they've been feeling the same way.

When the two boys notice her, they both let out sounds of surprise. A silence falls over the room as the boys look at her with expressions of panic and guilt. KARINA starts smiling back at them softly.

KARINA

It's okay. I understand.

Before either of them can figure out what to say, she backs out of the room and closes the door.



INT. HALLWAY. DAY.

KARINA stands on the staircase and lets out a sigh of relief.

CUT TO:

INT. DORMROOM. DAY.

The door swings open, and we see ELLIE standing by the bed, still unmade with the laptop left open. She's wearing the same clothes and still has her bedhead.

ELLIE  
Where did you go?

KARINA stands in the doorway, looking at her nervously.

KARINA  
I had to go and check something.

ELLIE looks confused as KARINA runs up to her. She looks up at ELLIE cautiously before she kisses her.

INT. CLASSROOM. DAY.

We watch as LUKE walks into science class with his arm around KARINA, who is linking arms with ELLIE. The trio all look content. JAMES is sitting at the empty work bench, watching as they walk in.

LUKE  
Morning!

JAMES  
Morning, you're all late.

LUKE sits down next to JAMES.

LUKE  
Sorry, I had to go and pick up these two.

KARINA and ELLIE join them at the bench.

We watch as the two couples share their textbooks and flirt subtly. To everyone else they just look like a close group of friends.

EXT. SCHOOL FIELD. DAY.

We watch LUKE and JAMES celebrating on the football pitch with their teammates after winning their match. ELLIE and KARINA are in the stalls cheering for them.

CLOSE UP

KARINA and ELLIE are holding hands, concealed by the crowd.

INT. DORMROOM. NIGHT.

KARINA and ELLIE are watching a movie in bed together. KARINA's head is resting on ELLIE's shoulder.

INT. LOCKER ROOM. DAY.

JAMES and LUKE wait as the rest of their teammates head out of the locker room before sneaking in a kiss.

INT. DINING HALL. DAY.

We watch as the two couples sit at the lunch table. KARINA is holding up the poster for their upcoming prom. We can't hear what they're talking about, but as we pan around the table, we can see that LUKE and JAMES are looking nervously at each other, and ELLIE is grinning at KARINA.

EXT. SCHOOL GROUNDS. NIGHT.

KARINA and LUKE are both dressed up for prom, holding hands. They're looking around anxiously. Soon, JAMES and ELLIE arrive, arms linked. ELLIE is in a long dress, and JAMES in a suit.

JAMES

I've never acted straight before.  
Doesn't it look weird?

ELLIE

I've never acted straight either!  
People won't notice.

LUKE

It does look weird.

KARINA holds her hand out to ELLIE.

KARINA  
Shall we go in?

INT. PROM HALL. NIGHT.

We see the four of them taking group pictures together, it's hard for everyone else to tell who's dating who.

Finally, ELLIE and KARINA run to the dance floor together, holding hands in front of the whole school. JAMES and LUKE look at each other before walking up together.

We watch the two couples dancing together. Their friends have a look of confusion mixed in with understanding. It's both surprising and totally expected. ELLIE kisses KARINA, confident in her decision to come out publicly. JAMES and LUKE watch them, and look back at each other before shaking their heads at the same time.

INT. SCHOOL HALL. DAY.

The school hall is filled with students collecting large envelopes from desks and nervously opening them with their friends. Some are celebrating, others are lamenting.

ELLIE opens her envelope, with KARINA watching expectantly. She pulls out her exam results, and scans them carefully.

ELLIE  
I passed!

KARINA  
Yes!

They hug each other as JAMES and LUKE approach them.

JAMES  
Did your tutoring go well, too?

They both turn to LUKE.

KARINA  
Did you pass too?!

LUKE  
Yes! Through my own work! James didn't do anything.

JAMES  
What?

ELLIE puts her arm around KARINA.

ELLIE  
Can't relate, my tutoring went  
really well.

LUKE  
Gross.

JAMES rolls his eyes.

INT. TRAIN. DAY.

ELLIE and KARINA sit opposite each other by the train windows, dressed in bright clothing and glitter painted on their faces. They're leaning on the table, chatting excitedly about the acts that will be performing at the festival they're going to. JAMES and LUKE are sitting next to them at the table, dressed in summer clothes, mocking them playfully. KARINA looks between LUKE and ELLIE happily.

EXT. COUNTRYSIDE. DAY.

The train cuts through the serenity of the rolling hills and fields filled with animals as it heads towards a busy city.

END.