

Asher and Billy were out smoking again. The three others had retuned and Liam now donned an ice bag on his left eyebrow. It had only taken fifteen minutes or so but it felt like hours especially to Liam. Billy and Asher passed the cig between them, each taking a hit and passing it on. Billy broke the silence "Hey Asher." "mhm... what's up?" Asher had calmed down considerable mostly from the cigs and the alcohol but also just by being beside Billy all night. "Do you think I can stay the night? The busses don't drive anymore tonight" The calm was broken and Asher coughed and hacked from the question. "hack hack cough... yes well, yes you can." Forming words and sentences was becoming hard. "But we don't have any spare mattresses and the bean bag's no fun to sleep in. trust me I've tried. My neck hurt for a week!" Billy laughed "What about you bed?" He asked in his usual cocky and coolheaded manner. Asher swallowed "Err... sur- I mean sure it's a bit narrow for two but we could make it work." Billy patted Asher on the shoulder with his fist and handed the last bit of the cig to him. "Thanks man, I knew I could count on you."

Inside, the others had begun playing a party game on the TV. Faulkner was losing, he always was a sore loser. Asher couldn't help but giggle at the groggy drunk Faulkner trying to blurt out some obscenity only for it to come out as gurgled vowel sounds. Not much later he was sleeping on the bean bag, butt naked. The rest gathered around the low sofa-table, drinking and talking. the clock was around three by then. Asher was getting bleary-eyed and leaned slowly against Billy who was intently talking about politics and the state of the world with Sam until he noticed. Both Liam and Asher were half asleep. Sam and Billy looked at each other with a sly grin. "Well... let's leave the politics to the professionals. Come on Liam let's get you to bed. You are gonna have the shittiest headache tomorrow." Sam lifted Liam by his slippery pits got him to his feet still naked and dragged him to his room. She whispered goodnight to Billy. He did the same and tried to get some life into Asher: "hey Asher let's get you to bed." Asher, half asleep mumbled something: "Hey.. he.. Billy I love you man... love..." He dozed off completely. Billy didn't really here what he said but he heard the important things. He shook his shoulders and smiled "tsk" he let out indulgently blushing ever so slightly. He lifted Asher by his arm and put his other arm around Asher's ribcage. He hauled Asher to the door, the door knob was just out of reach. Billy made a jerk motion when he looked down. He saw Asher's member sticking from the left boxer pant. His boxers had become crooked from the towing and it must have slipped out. Now Billy really blushed he couldn't stop looking but he forced himself to look at the doorknob and turn it with his right hand. They got inside and Billy splayed Asher on his bed inadvertently touching Asher between his legs. Billy jerked up and reached for the sky with both his hands. He drooped his whole body and let out a sigh. "Why am I getting so worked up over this?" He thought to himself dragging Asher toward the pillow by his arms. When he straightened his back he saw the whole of Asher. The dragging had pulled his underwear all the way to his ankles and he was fully exposed. Billy sprouted an erection. He jerked around as to not look at Asher's impressive display. Asher was still sleeping but he slowly woke up maybe from the draft now coursed by his lack of boxers. Ha sat up on his right elbow. "Bi- Billy what... is that you?" Billy was dumbstruck he couldn't think of anything to say. Asher rose from the bed falling over from his boxers being around his ankles denying him to put one leg at a time on the ground. On the floor Asher was right up against Billy's legs he could see up through his boxers. His eyes widened. He quickly sat up realizing he wasn't wearing his own anymore, at least not around his hips. He was slowly blooming and

erection too. "Uhm... Asher..." Billy started. "I kinda like you, I guess that's kind of obvious." He didn't look around he was too embarrassed. "Ever since I saw you beside Liam the first day of orientation. I was always looking at you. Hoping to become friends and..." He swallowed audibly "and possibly more." He let go of all the street lingo in this very candid moment. "But... But... I don't- I don't even know if you like.. guys. This is stupid I should just leave." "Wait!" Billy Froze before he even moved. "Bil- William I sort of kind of... feel the same about... you." The words made tears dwell up in Billy's eyes. "But I don't know if I like guys either. I mean I've had girlfriends before, but I've also had some guy crushes just never... acted on them I suppose." Billy turned around "Would you act upon me?" The words came out really corny they both thought and couldn't help but laugh. As they were there, looking at each other something blossomed inside them.

Love.