

Periods and Commas

Today was a gloomy day. Elle hasn't left her bed all weekend and she could barely survive the little wind striking her foot the minute it stuck out of the blanket.

She often slept flat on her stomach to block as many cramps as possible since her medication barely helped numb the period pain. As she lay still, she could feel a breeze against the back of her neck. Slyly, she decided to ignore it and forced herself back to sleep when a soft peck met the warm skin of her nape.

"Turn around *Jagi*, I know you're awake" a gentle voice whispered in her ear.

Strong-headed, she plunged her head in the pillow further while firmly holding its sides and refused to let go "Go away Jimin, I don't want to talk to you".

Amused by her persistence, Jimin stroke his hair back and sat by the side of the bed "Are you mad at me because I didn't spend the night?"

"I'm mad at you because you left your half-dead girlfriend alone and chose to do god knows what instead of taking care of her" she mumbled against the pillow.

"*Ya Jagi*, that's not fair!" Jimin protested "I stayed by your side all night until you fell asleep and then I quietly left. I didn't go anywhere else I swear, I simply went back to the dorm".

Although feeling remorseful, she carried on with the strong act "Exactly, you could've stayed over! What's the point of leaving the house only to go sleep in another bed?"

Growing impatient, Jimin tenderly tapped her on the shoulder "Can you at least look at me while I try to explain myself?"

"I don't want to hear it" she shook her back, moving his hand away "Just let me agonize in peace".

By the moment she finished her line, she could feel his hands resting on both sides of her arms and flipping her in a jiffy as she now laid on her back. Perplexed, she gaped at Jimin in astonishment, unsure of what's going to happen next.

"Here, this is much better" Jimin stated as he tucked the blanket underneath her back to keep her warm.

"*Ya Jimin*, are you out of your mind? You scared me to death!" she blatantly shouted.

“Jagi” Jimin admired her with loving eyes and planted a kiss on her forehead “You know that you’re irresistible when you’re vulnerable, right?”

His soothing tone instantly calmed her. Motionless, she eyed him without a single word coming out of her mouth.

Taking her silence as a nod of approval, he slowly leaned towards her “I didn’t spend the night because I couldn’t stand the idea of being near you without being able to touch you and love you properly” he then caressed her right cheek as he pushed her hair behind her ear “I know that you think you’re a mess right now and your cranky mood doesn’t make it any better, but I love this version of you, the natural you. I feel weak when I see you in this state and I was afraid that I wouldn’t be able to control myself around you. This is why I had to leave”.

Although she was expecting empty excuses or white lies, she surprisingly ended up receiving a bold confession instead. She always knew that her boyfriend was a very thoughtful man, but she didn’t think that her effect on him would go to such extent.

“I thought that you didn’t want to look after me anymore. I felt safe when I fell asleep in your arms last night, but when I woke up in the middle of the night and found myself hugging my blanket instead, I thought that you grew tired of me” she cunningly pouted.

In return, Jimin was caught off guard with her aching confession. He raised the blanket, sneaked in next to her and slid his arm under her back, bringing her closer to him as he rested her head on his chest. She reciprocated by surrounding him with her arms and tugging the back of his oversized shirt.

“I’m sorry for being selfish *Jagi*, I will behave next time” he played with her locks as he rested his chin on her head “I promise to never leave your side again”.

Satisfied with his approach, she met his gaze and gently kissed him on the chin “I’m sorry for being stubborn, I promise to make it up to you as soon as I recover”.

Jimin responded to her promise with an eye smile and cupped her face as he placed a slow kiss on her lower lip “I will hold you to your word”.