

Wherever I go



Table of Contents

Copyright	3
Characters	4
Home in my heart	8
Facing and embracing	10

Copyright

Author

Roxanne Knight

Copyright © 2014 Roxanne Knight

First Published using Papyrus,2014

This book may be purchased for educational, business, or sales promotional use. Online edition is also available for this title. For more information, contact our corporate/institutional sales department: Rooftopsrevolution@hotmail.com

While every precaution has been taken in the preparation of this book, the publisher and authors assume no responsibility for errors or omissions, or for damages resulting from the use of the information contained herein.

Characters

Angel Claire Raines



Age: 19

The heroine of story. Angel is rather soft spoken and quiet, well liked among most of the townies. She's rather shy and somewhat dense. Past her quiet persona, Angel is very strong and intelligent, able to stand up for what she believes in, and isn't afraid of much. Angel has a little bit of social anxiety, but for the most part is fine once she is able to befriend the person.

Taka Kimura

Age: 21



Taka is Angel's former friend from before she moved away. He and Cindy are best friends, and Cindy is in love with him. Taka was saved by Angel from a dog when they were kids.

Max Matalic

Age: 20

Angel's best friend and closest ally. He admits to harbouring a childhood crush on her which he got over when she moved away. Max is very happy-go-lucky and rather positive. He remains one of the only ones who hasn't changed since childhood.

Aris Dragon

Age: 18

A spoiled popstar from Araysia. He is raised by his mother's best friend and feels entitled to his position and to those who care about him. Angel knew him from school, and watched him on TV, but they never really spoke.

Damion Skylar King

Age: 22



Damion appears rather harsh and mean when he first is introduced. He knew Angel while he visited Araysia as a child, but has since moved into the town. He is actually a rather nice guy around his friends, but he's pretty closed off otherwise.

Kyler Foxxe

Age: 22

Kyler is the rather kind and outgoing friend of Damion. He sometimes gets shy, and therefore covers up with a fairly angry and falsely superior attitude. Angel and Kyler used to meet since their families were friends, and he has since moved to Araysia.

Andy Valitrov

Age: 20

Max's best friend and a former friend of Angel. She had known him through Max, and the two were rather close. Andy closed her off shortly before she moved away, and since the two haven't spoken.

Tai Summers

Age: 19



Tai is the feisty little princess of the town. Originating from England, she moved in shortly after Angel left. While Tai appears rather mean to begin, she's actually a nice person, but doesn't know how to talk to others about anything other than small talk.

Roxie Matalic

Age: 18

Roxie is Max's hot headed little sister, and best friend. She was rather close to Angel when she lived in Araysia. While Max disappeared, Roxie kept in touch, and remains her closest female friend.

Anastasia Valitrov

Age: 20

Andy's twin sister. She often bullies Angel, and found a best friend in Tai. Anastasia has since moved away for university, but appears every now and again.

Cindy Woods

Age: 19

The daughter of the mayor. She is currently in training to succeed him. She is good friends with Angel, and has been in love with Taka since she was a child.

Kaede Raines

Angel's proud and calculating mother. She is intelligent and always smiling, and treasures her daughter over everything. She moved her and Angel away from Araysia when she chose to re-attend school in France. She has since become a lawyer and is moving back to Araysia with Angel.

Kiara Samuels

Angel's best friend growing up. She no longer lives in Araysia, but

Home in my heart

[Picture]

I'm home.

I've been around the world and back, and still nothing is as sweet as the waft of home's air. Araysia's grass is green with the effervescent burst of spring. The lust worthy colours and bright atmosphere welcomes me as though I had never left. I shut the door of the Taxi, as I heave my luggage out of the trunk.

The skies tingle with slight wisps of clouds. Some things have yet to change.

I saunter nostalgically through the second housing district. Few houses have come up, though many remained the same. The white bricked buildings stayed forever strong, even after so long. Everything in Araysia has been frozen in time for these last seven years. I soon approach a building that was all too familiar. Here, Tristan used to live and now lies empty core of a house. In the corner of the district, I had saved Taka from a giant dog when I was ten. Memories ghosted, remaining soft traces of my childhood, my eyes mist. I am an adult now, crying is for a child.

Home, I arrive at last. Mother stands proudly over her old kitchen, which had only accumulated a thin sprinkle of dust over the years we had been away. She greets me back, smiling sweetly.

"Welcome back." She sounds as though she is speaking to me, but I feel in a sense she has been reciting this to herself. We had come in separate taxis, and it had become clear that she was more excited to return than I. "How does it feel, Angel?" I nod in satisfaction.

"A little strange. It doesn't seem like much has changed." My mother turns to look out of the kitchen's window, longingly glancing to nowhere in particular.

"You heard about your friends?"

"Leo, Tristan, Gage... All of them have moved away." Just like me.

"Kiara..." My mom sighs, "Did you hear...?"

"I haven't looked for her! Is she still in town?" My mother shakes her head. "I'll look her up later." I can see my mother's face dim slightly. Kiara used to be my best friend, but through the last seven years, she stopped sending postcards and eventually stopped calling at all. It was strange to be without her, but I knew she was happy wherever. She always had a way of finding happiness even if she were in the most grim of situations.

"I can't wait to see everyone! We should invite them for dinner or something." My mom flexed her muscles. "Alright! We'll have pad thai, sushi and a side of teriyaki shrimp!" I blink once or twice at her excitement. My mother can't cook.

Before I know it, my mother has her finger pointed at me in determination. "You call the Sushi, Teriyaki and Pad Thai place, and I'll cake mix from the supermarket. She laughs in her pride.

I sigh. I suppose no matter how much you grow, your family will always stay the same.

Facing and embracing

Dinner party plans were on their way, while I stuck myself in my room cowering in nervousness. Some of them were legal adults now, and some were of my age. When I left, there was no concern for who I was, or let alone who they were... but now they will have their boyfriends and girlfriends and I will be here, left behind. The strength in their bonds may have grown, while I was left to fall to the mercy of being alone. My chest tightens and pains with anxiety, as my head spins with my fears. I don't want to face them. I don't want to see them grown up.

I am nervous.

I am scared.

"Sweetheart!" My mother shoves the door open. My head has fallen into my collapsed arms, and my hair falls all over. "Guess who's coming tonight?!" She hands me a list of names.

Glossing over them makes my sharp fear grow stronger. It is only when I see the name of one particular person that my whole body goes numb. I can't hear what my mother is saying. I don't want it to be true.

"you invited him?" I shout, trying to not come across as ungrateful.

"Yep! him and his guardian are coming. I knew you'd be happy!" She exits with a hum in her throat, as my jaw remains open. Aris Dragon was my childhood crush and celebrity inspiration. As a child, I would watch him from afar and say that I was in love with him. He became a pop star after I had moved away and he had since become my hero. However, as I grew older, I realized he was nothing but a spoiled popstar, and since have fallen away from him. He used to tease me all the time, so why I liked him was rather questionable. He was mean.

I scan the list again, looking for someone I wasn't afraid of seeing again. Max, Andy, Kyler, Damion... They were all coming. Back when they knew me, they were my friends, but now I've been shut out- a simple price to pay for abandoning my home. They've grown up, become closer and

have left me behind.

"I'll make new friends." I say to no one in particular. "I'll make friends with them again." My voice echos through the empty room, as hallucinations of the past furniture lingers.

I reach behind me, snatching my plush doll from behind me. At least Creature is still the same. I stroke Creature's matted fur as though it were a living animal. Holding it made me feel like a child, playing with creature as though it were a real life friend.

Time ticks by as I just lay on my bed, thinking and remembering in attempts to calm myself. At Two o' clock, I hear the doorbell chime, and two voices speak. One is a woman, and the other a teenage boy. I don't move, in hopes my mother would dismiss me as taking a nap. I listen in.

"おかあさん～！ともだちわどこですか？"

The male's voice rings out from the floor below. The woman responds quietly only for him to whine slightly like a child. She snaps at him, before he belts out:

"でも！俺..."

He sighs slightly, before switching back to English. The words I can hear are broken, muffled from the one-floor buffer that separated us. I can hear the two women talking, with footsteps tapping against the floor. 'Please, don't come here.' I think to myself. Of course, they always do.

"Angel! Angel are you in there?"

"Taka! Didn't I tell you not to bother the poor girl?" The woman snapped from downstairs, words bent from the distance. Taka... It couldn't be- Before I could react, my door swings open to reveal an aqua-marine headed teenager. He my next door neighbour and childhood friend: Taka Kimura. His general stature hadn't changed too much. He had become average height- taller than I, and his voice still had a playful tone with every word.

"Did I wake you, Angel?" Taka grins with a warm and reassuring smile. My actions work faster than my mind as I leap off of the bed and melt into his arms. "Welcome home."