

The Deep End

Carly's powerful athletic strokes cut the water of the fast lane. A powerful CEO, she was determined and precise in everything. However, a whistle blew the session end and frustration fizzed in her blood, down on her hundred lap target by two. Stamping into a shower, she let out her annoyance, squeezing long thick, red hair. However, she was not alone. The other shower held a tall brunette with muscular legs and a firm, curvy figure. The woman turned, Carly's breath hitched in recognition. It was Michelle... *the* Michelle... *the* Michelle that she'd come out for and tried (but failed) to forget for ten years. Hurt shot through her at the memories.

"Carly?" Michelle said, sounding surprised. Her honeyed voice was the same sweet sound.

A chill ran through Carly despite the hot water. "Yes, Michelle, long time no see."

Michelle looked down, "Certainly. Ermm, I think I owe you an apology."

Carly's stomach lurched and she was back in school, the awkward redhead nobody wanted. They were going there so soon? "An explanation would be good, what happened?"

"I was an idiot fearing rejection. I ran, but I'm so sorry. Is another chance out of the question?"

A bad idea, she thought. "I do need coffee," Carly's traitorous mouth said. Bad habits live on.

She'd always been putty in Michelle's hands though. An hour later, Carly sat in the cafe feeling like her gawky teenage self again, staring at the stunning brunette looking awkwardly back. Ten years had evaporated, they were back at school and she wanted nothing more than to hold Michelle. She couldn't,

"I always missed you... wanted what you were. I couldn't have you though. I wasn't... worth it."

"You could have had me, you just had to agree," before her brain could stop it her mouth continued, "you still could."

Before she knew what had happened, Their warm lips were pressed together, hands ripping at hair. Ten years had evaporated in an hour and Carly couldn't bring herself to care. Michelle was her first crush, her first love and she felt home.

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Commented [NT1]: Is there another way to show that she is powerful rather than simply telling the reader?

Commented [NT2]: Similarly, how does Carly demonstrate her frustration?

Commented [NT3]: This shows!

Commented [NT4]: Repetitive connective used. Reword?

Deleted: in recognition

Deleted: the Michelle...

Commented [NT5]: Can you increase the awkwardness between them?

Deleted: sounding

Commented [NT6]: Do we need to have the thoughts

Commented [NT7]: Do we need to understand more of the backstory to get this?

Commented [NT8]: Can you show how she sits?

Commented [NT9]: Repeated description.

Commented [NT10]: Do we need to see more of that longing?

Commented [NT11]: Is this right for a first kiss?