

The First Three 'I Love You's'

written by

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Logline:

After not being able to commit to her relationship, Vivienne has to deal with her girlfriend, Ximena, leaving their home in Manhattan. When Ximena leaves, Vivienne is left alone to deal with this painful loss.

Synopsis:

In a Manhattan apartment, Vivienne and Ximena are experiencing a breakup due to Vivienne not telling Ximena that she loves her. This isn't the first time this has happened, but Ximena refuses to stay if Vivienne can't commit to their relationship. Vivienne is left alone in a half-empty apartment and has to deal with this loss.

Narrative treatment:

In Manhattan, Vivienne and Ximema are going through a breakup that isn't going as well as you might expect. Vivienne wakes up one morning and hears Ximena packing her bags. Ximena ignores Vivienne as long as possible, but Vivienne forces her to tell her what's happening. Vivienne begs Ximena to stay, but Ximena tells her that it's the only way. Vivienne tries everything to make her stay, but nothing seems to work. Ximena and Vivienne sit in silence until Ximena finally leaves. As she's leaving, Vivienne finally tells Ximena that she loves her. Ximena almost stays, but already has her mind made up. Once Ximena is officially gone, Vivienne breaks down. The day after, Vivienne sees the picture of her and Ximena and she remembers the event that brought Ximena to leave. One year later, in a bar, Vivienne and Ximena unexpectedly meet again and seem open to rekindling their relationship.

Character descriptions:

Vivienne- She is 24 years old. She is the main character of the story. Vivienne is an insecure and anxious person, she's scared to tell Ximena that she loves her.

Ximena- She is 26 years old. Ximena is Vivienne's love interest who leaves. She's also a main character. She's outgoing and a romantic person. She is hurts when Vivienne can't tell her that she loves her.

Luke- He is 24 years old. Luke is a secondary character. He is Vivienne's best friend and he's always there in her times of need. He is caring and kind.

Script:

1 EXT. MANHATTAN. MORNING.

A view of Manhattan appears. Quickly travelling, through a busy street, then up a five-story red brick building, onto a light brown door, and landing inside an apartment.

2 INT. APARTMENT. MORNING.

The apartment is colourful, books are sitting on shelves everywhere, pictures of TWO WOMEN are on the walls and there are quite a few plants near the windows.

Slowly approaching the bedroom.

3 INT. BEDROOM. MORNING.

VIVIENNE is sleeping as she slowly wakes up and hears some noise coming from the next room. She walks towards the kitchen and then into the living room.

4 INT. LIVING ROOM. MORNING.

XIMENA is packing a bag. Vivienne stands in the corner of the room. Ximena doesn't look up at all, ignoring Vivienne's presence. Ximena is quickly shoving things into her small bag. Ximena walks past Vivienne and walks into the bedroom.

5 INT. BEDROOM. MORNING.

Ximena starts folding clothes and putting it inside her bag.

VIVIENNE

Ximena, could you say something?
Please, I have to know what you're thinking.

XIMENA

I'm leaving Viv.

Vivienne stays silent for a few seconds.

XIMENA

It's too much. You don't want to commit. I was willing to give you time, but I can't stay with someone that doesn't really want to be with me.

VIVIENNE

We can fix this.

XIMENA

No, we can't Vivienne. Every single day I wonder if I'm wasting my time here or not.

VIVIENNE

I just need more time. Yeah. That's it! I promise I can fix this, just please give me more time.

XIMENA

I already gave you time. It isn't going to fix this.

VIVIENNE

Don't leave.

XIMENA

I've already made up my mind. Nothing's going to change that.

Ximena tries to walk out of the bedroom, but Vivienne is standing in front of the door.

XIMENA

Could you please move?

Vivienne doesn't move.

VIVIENNE

Think about what I said.

XIMENA

I ASKED YOU TO MOVE.

Ximena walks back to the living room.

6 INT. LIVING ROOM. MORNING.

Ximena continues packing. Vivienne walks slowly towards the couch and sits. She lifts up her legs to her chest. Still in shock, she watches Ximena pack.

XIMENA

If things were different, I would've stayed.

They go silent once more.

XIMENA

Shit! I forgot to call a cab.

Ximena throws the bag onto the couch and walks over to the phone. She starts calling somebody.

XIMENA

Hey, could you come to pick me up at home? I forgot to call a cab.

Ximena listens. She's tapping her foot on the ground.

XIMENA (CONT'D)

Okay, great. I'll see you then.

Ximena hangs up and sits in silence.

VIVIENNE

What can I do to make you stay?

XIMENA

There isn't anything worth fighting for, Viv. I'm doing what's best for me.

Ximena walks to the window and looks out. She takes her bag and opens the door. Vivienne gets up quickly from the couch, almost running to catch up with Ximena. Vivienne takes Ximena's hand. She turns around to look at Vivienne.

VIVIENNE

Stay. I can't lose you.

Ximena takes her hand out of Vivienne's and starts walking towards the stairs.

7 INT. HALLWAY. MORNING.

Vivienne leaves the apartment.

VIVIENNE

I love you, Ximena.

Ximena stops dead in her tracks and turns around.

VIVIENNE

Come back, there's still something worth fighting for.

XIMENA

It's not enough, I'm sorry.

VIVIENNE
(whispering to herself)
It almost was.

Ximena leaves and Vivienne walks back into the apartment.

8 INT. APARTMENT. MORNING.

It seems emptier than before. Vivienne walks towards the window and sees Ximena getting into a dark blue car. She walks over to the couch and starts sobbing. It's extremely silent. She wants to scream, but physically can't.

9 INT. LIVING ROOM. NIGHT.

Vivienne calms down and calls somebody.

10 INT. LIVING ROOM. MORNING.

Vivienne wakes up from the couch and notices the images of her and Ximena on the walls. Vivienne focuses on one image. Vivienne leaves the living room and walks to the kitchen.

11 INT. KITCHEN. NIGHT (FLASHBACK)

Vivienne is doing the dishes and Ximena walks up behind her, wrapping her arms around Vivienne's waist. Music is playing and Ximena starts swaying her hips. Ximena lays her head down on Vivienne's back.

XIMENA
I love you. I want to spend my life
with you, Viv. You're it for me.

VIVIENNE
Ximena--

XIMENA
Look, I know that we haven't really
talked about it, but I know what I'm
feeling. And I know we haven't thought
about the future much, but I can see
my whole life ahead of me...and it's
with you, Viv. That night in town was
the happiest I've been in a very long
time and I knew that you were the one
for me. I knew that no matter what, we
were going to spend our lives
together. And then I told you how I
felt and you ran away. I gave you time
and I gave myself time. I love you so

damn much, Viv and I can't keep that from you.

VIVIENNE

Ximena, I care about you. I do! But what about how I'm feeling in this situation.

Ximena backs up and stands in silence.

12 INT. KITCHEN. MIDDAY. (PRESENT)

There's a knock at the door. She opens the door and her friend, LUKE, is standing there. He hugs her.

VIVIENNE

(crying)

It's my fault, Luke. She left because I couldn't tell her that I love her.

LUKE

(hugging Vivienne)

It's okay Viv, you weren't ready.

13 INT. BAR. NIGHT. (ONE YEAR LATER)

Vivienne is in a bar with her friends. In the corner of her eye, she notices somebody looking at her. It's Ximena. Ximena smiles and raises her glass. Vivienne smiles back.

XIMENA

(silently mouthing)

I miss you.

Vivienne waves her hand to tell Ximena to come over. Ximena walks towards Vivienne and sits down next to her.

XIMENA

Hi.

VIVIENNE

Hi.

Vivienne and Ximena smile at each other. And as they continue smiling, we leave them. Slowly pulling out of the bar, through the busy street and finally, out of Manhattan.

