

## Eternal Mercury

### Excerpt from Book 1: Chelsee's Story

Walking back into work the next day was hard because of the drama I caused the day before. It had been over two weeks since I last felt Max's presence and I felt extra horrible. That morning, I tucked my antianxiety pill safely in my purse, just in case.

I looked forward to the hustle of the dinner rush to try to keep myself from getting stuck inside my own head. I was wiping a table when, out of nowhere, the shockwave of my Max Feeling exploded through my body. It was so much more intense than any of the times before that I gasped and froze for a moment. *I can't believe he found me.* Unsure of what to do, I slowly turned around. Amanda was showing three guys, probably in their early twenties, to a table. My eyes locked with the guy in the middle and when our gaze met, he stopped in his tracks, turned completely around, shoved past his friend, flung open the door, and practically ran out of the restaurant.

"What's up with him? He acted like he saw a ghost," the guy who got shoved said to the first guy.

"You know he's been through a lot—give him a break," the first guy answered. "I guess he's still just dealing with stuff after being in the hospital for so long."

A fourth guy came in the door, walked over to where the other two were being seated, and asked, "Where's Blake in such a hurry to? He looked like he couldn't get out of here fast enough."

"Not sure," said the first guy.

They all shrugged it off and drifted into another conversation.

For a moment, I had the strangest feeling I had seen that guy before, but I just couldn't place it. I had been staring into his hazel eyes, his dirty blonde hair was slightly wavy, and it hung down over his ears and neck in an almost shaggy way. He could have definitely been described as ruggedly handsome. I was sure that if I had seen him before, I would remember it. It seemed strange to me that his friends didn't seem concerned about him at all.

I needed a minute alone after experiencing my Max Feeling for the first time in so long.

"Hey, Amanda," I said, "I just need a quick break. I'll be right back."

She winked at me as she bounced by.

When I stepped out the door, I heard screeching tires and saw a big black Chevy pickup truck zoom out of the parking lot and onto the road. And just like that, the intense feeling of Max's presence was completely gone. I snapped back into reality and realized that the restaurant was getting busy. I didn't want a repeat of yesterday's drama, so I knew I had to forget about my fleeting surge of Max Feeling for the moment.

### **Excerpt from Book 2: Blake's Story**

I screeched into the driveway and my mom was outside before I was halfway up the walkway.

"Mom—"

"What's wrong?"

I heard the panic in her voice and my dad rushed to her side.

"She's real. She's not a dream. What am I doing here?" I ran back to my truck. "I have to go get her."

"Blake. Blake!" My dad ran after me and grabbed my truck door before I could shut it.

"Why don't either one of you look surprised right now?" I looked back and forth between the two of them. "You knew she was real, didn't you? Oh, that is really nice."

"Well, this changes things completely," my mom said. "Blake, darling, come inside and we'll figure out what to do."

"I need to go get her," I said. "She's really sad and I think she needs me."

"Let's talk about it first," my dad said.

I got back out of my truck and shut the door. "Alright."

I followed them into the house and sat on the sofa. My mom sat right next to me and my dad sat across from me.

"What happened?" my mom asked. "Where did you find CeeCee?"

"She works at Papa Joe's," I said.

"Are you sure she's the same girl?" my dad asked.

“Absolutely.”

If you enjoyed these excerpts, *Eternal Mercury* can be purchased at the following:

