

Thera Pitts

Skank

Hey Jordan,

I had a wonderful time on our date last week, well, most of it anyhow. I would have gotten back to you sooner, it's just some things came up. Looking back on last week I can safely say that it would have been the greatest night of my life, if only....

If only I hadn't stood at my front stoop at the end of the night, coyly jangling my house keys pretending I couldn't find the right one
but really hoping that you would kiss me good night
a little trick Marcy taught me that would have worked perfectly if only....

If only you hadn't asked to come in afterwards
and I wouldn't have hesitated for a few seconds before reluctantly mumbling, "yes,"
telling myself that you probably just wanted a cold drink, and to talk to me a little longer
and I would have been happy to talk over soda if only....

If only you wouldn't have leaned in to kiss me again, not as sweetly as before
before I could even ask, Coke or Sierra Mist?
before I could even say "my mom should be home soon."
I'm sure you would have listened if only....

If only I would have said "I think you should leave now!"
or, "I'm just not ready for this yet"
instead of, "do you at least have a protection?"
that probably wouldn't have mattered if only....

If only my first time could have been more like a Hollywood romance
where the screen dissolves past the awkward parts
like the scene where Ryan Gosling tells Rachel McAdams "don't worry baby, we don't need a condom."
The Notebook would probably still be my favorite movie now if only....

If only you would have stayed afterward
to hold me and say "I've loved you since the first day I met you"
instead of "Thanks babe, but I gotta get going."
I know I wouldn't so vividly remember the sound of you re-buckling your belt if only....

If only I hadn't laid there for what seemed like hours, with my knees pulled to my chest
with the memories of what had happened playing over and over again in my mind,
the sound of your heavy breathing, the triumphant look on your face when you finished.
In spite of it all I would have probably been able to face you on Monday if only....

If only I wasn't so certain that you would tell everyone

“she was begging for it, you should have seen what she was wearing”
But I only wanted you to like me, and I guess I succeeded
I’m sure I would feel that way right now if only....

If only it hadn’t come to this
me standing on the cold bathroom tile
my face streaked with mascara, body glitter, and tears.
I know I never would have made this crazy decision if only....

If only the pills weren’t sitting right there
and I hadn’t read somewhere that you have to take them one by one, or else they wouldn’t work
and I hadn’t read somewhere else what the medical term for sleep medication was
I’m sure I never would have gotten away with it if only....

If only my mother would have come home ten minutes earlier.

So you see Jordan, I would have told you all of this at school on Monday...

If only.