



A
Teardrop
Story

Last Day
of Love

BY THE #1 *NEW YORK TIMES* BESTSELLING AUTHOR

LAUREN KATE

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About the Book

On Ander's eighteenth birthday, he must give up all that he loves in order to complete the Passage and become a Seedbearer. But can he ever relinquish his love for Eureka?

An exclusive ebook original short story from the dark, romantic world of TEARDROP.

A Teardrop Story

Last Day of Love

Lauren Kate

RHCP DIGITAL

Today is my eighteenth birthday. Tomorrow I swear off love.

It's absurd. I've never kissed a girl, never asked anyone out. I've never slipped my arm around a waist, hoping for encouragement to let it stay. I've never danced entangled in another's limbs, never flirted in a hallway or teased someone and walked away.

And yet tomorrow, when I give up love, everything will change. I'll still be Ander—blond and pale, immune to illness, able to blend into any background—but I won't be me anymore. I won't be what I am today.

Because for as long as I have known Eureka, my love for her has defined me. And though she knows nothing of my existence, I've known her all my life. My secret dies in the woods tonight, along with a thousand smaller passions. The Passage is what matters, not the life I'll lose.

A knock on my door startles me. My uncle doesn't wait, enters my dark room.

"Are you packed?" Albion closes the blinds above my bed, erasing the knife made of moonlight that was splitting my chest in two.

Albion makes a room feel cold. Like all my relatives, his movements make no sound. He has no scent. His voice is clear but somehow never disturbs the silence. Only his shape and his effect on the temperature tell me that I'm not dreaming. I pull my blanket higher.

In the twin bed across the room, my uncle Critias stretches stiffly and sits up. His naked body is muscular, strong. He looks younger than Albion, though both of them are thousands of years old.