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COM 315

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Dr. Greaves

Treatment

The title of my story is "Hope In Hope". The drama was written by the well-known, German athlete and screenwriter Hannah Simon, who loves to write inspiring stories. It is set in the Floridian city of Saint Petersburg in the summer of 2019. The protagonist is Marley Miller, a nineteen-year-old teenager who is known as the track star not only in her hometown, but also in the whole country as well as Europe.

The main character Marley decided not to go to college in order to become a professional athlete. She is very ambitious and eager with her sport, but she is also a nice and genuinely caring person. People love to be around her, especially her longtime boyfriend Peter, who she wants to have a future with. Her parents Marissa and Raul are very supportive and love their daughter more than anything. They are expecting a baby soon.

As a heptathlete, Marley does multiple events (100m hurdles, 200m, long jump, high jump, javelin, shot put and 800m.) However, she also loves to do events that are not included in her range such as triple jump, 400m or pole vault. Being a multi-talent, Marley is the hope for the upcoming Olympic Games in 2020. However, one failed try is what changes everything...

Marissa and Raul function as a dream time when it comes to their relationship as they still go on romantic dates, do sweet things for each other and take part in dancing competitions as a couple. Also, they always have Marley's back and have supported her in her sport since she was little. Marley's dream to become an Olympic athlete is their dream as well.

Marley's boyfriend Peter is nineteen years old as well. He has known Marley since High School, as he and his family moved from Canada to Florida. He and Marley have a three year history together and call each other the "love of their lives". Despite their longterm relationship, Peter is known as a "player", as he likes to party and flirt with other girls, which Marley does not know about. Their relationship comes to a crisis when Marley finds out that he cheated on her, which is an eye opener for Peter. The fact that Marley does not want to forgive him at first hits him harder than anyone expected. He is part of the men's basketball team at the University of Miami, known as the "beast" on the team.

Coach Henry is Marley's track coach and has been working with her for five years. He is very strict and requires a lot of discipline from Marley, which puts even more pressure on Marley than she puts on herself anyways. However, coach Hnery and Marley have a close relationship as they work with each other and Marley's training group every day and, thus, the whole group has become a "family" as they call their community.

Louisa is Marley's best friend. Louisa was originally born in Maryland, but she and her family moved to Florida when Louisa was in eighth grade. Louisa is a senior in High School and spends a lot of time with Marley. They both tell each other everything and feel honored to be each other's best friends.

Chico is the Miller family's dog, a Labrador retriever. However, the family call him Marley's sibling, as he has plenty of human characteristics and goes way beyond just being a family dog. He becomes crucially important when Marley's life begins to change...

The story begins on a hot summer day in July 15th. Marley is at the track with Coach Henry and her teammates. Everyone is excited for the upcoming competitions, as some of them are trying to meet the standards for the Olympics in 2020. Over time, Marley improves faster than expected, so it is almost certain that she will be one of the Olympic candidates in the upcoming year. Week by week, she travels to track meets across the country, where she always achieves high placements.

The next month Marley and her boyfriend Peter are about to celebrate their three-year anniversary but the same day Marley hears terrible news. The night before her best friend Louisa was at a party, where she saw Peter kiss another girl. Interestingly enough, Louisa and Tiffany, the girl who he betrays Marley with, are in the same grade. Marley finds out that they have been

spending time together every now and then, without Marley knowing about it.

Marley cannot forgive him and wants to end the relationship, which is hitting Peter very hard. Unexpectedly, he tries to commit suicide. But he survives. Marley notices how much she still loves him even though he hurt her this bad and gives him another chance.

Marley's training keeps going really well and she gets a lot of support from other famous athletes as well. Also, the family is about to get another baby in three months from August, so everyone is excited. Marley goes on daily walks with her dog and takes him to her practices in order to let her parents take preparations for the baby.

In Act 2 the main tragedy happens: It happens on a Saturday morning when Marley is practicing pole vault. Feeling motivated, Marley has multiple great jumps except for her last one.

Instead of landing on to the mat, which usually happens, Marley lands next to it and breaks her neck. How much worse can it actually get for a human in general, but especially for an athlete with big dreams. Marley is taken to the hospital, where the doctors try their best to save her life. She had dreamed of pursuing her biggest goals in track but it is already clear that she is not going to be able to keep doing her sport ever again. Instead, people are hoping for her to get her life back again. At this point, it is still uncertain

whether she is going to be able to move her upper body again, as the fall has disabled her natural body functions.

Marley goes through several stages of depression as it would probably hit every other person. She gets the best treatment from doctors in the hospital as well as physical therapists, but her accident has hit Marley that hard not only because she can't run track anymore, but also because her life will be very complicated, at least for the first couple years of adjustment.

After three months the doctors announce the diagnosis. Marley is partially paralyzed, so she is going to have to sit in the wheelchair for the rest of her life. However, with the help of multiple doctors she might be able to move her upper body again. Marley falls into a deep whole of depression.

Act 3 starts with a happy event despite Marley's bitter accident. Marissa just gave birth to their second child Benjamin, who plays a big role in Marley's life as he is one of the few people who can make Marley feel better. Little by little Marley gets more hope as well as motivation to move on with her life. Also, her relationship with her boyfriend becomes stronger and stronger as Peter is giving his all to her.

Marley finds a new motivation in her treatment sessions with multiple physical therapists and sees it as still being an athlete, as she is training every day to get better, hoping that she is going to be able to move her arms again. After months of treatment she is, so that brushing her teeth as well as painting her nails becomes her capability again.

Over time, Marley gives motivational speech around the world, which inspire people a lot. Thus, Marley finds more and more happiness in life and becomes involved in many projects including helping other disabled people to get better, but she is also still involved in track. She decided to become a mental coach for athletes, which is why she chooses to get a college education.

The story moves 5 years ahead when Marley and her boyfriend get married and travel the world together. Meanwhile, Marley has her degree and starts her job together with her husband.

The story shows that even if terrible things happen and dreams break, there is always a chance to make the best out of life and look forward to a great future. Despite her disappointment, Marley has shown willingness to move on and become a happy, independent woman. She never would have become happy again if she didn't have "Hope in Hope".