

Completely Loyal to Me

By

Theresa Chaze

Original work

Theresa Chaze
231-421-3998

EXT. AERIAL VIEW OF A SMALL COASTAL TOWN: DAY

A 1950s-style fishing village that became a resort town. Aan expensive luxury car drives out of town and follows the coast. An old lighthouse watches over the boats, docks, and the rocky coastline. The car pulls into a parking over-looking the ocean and the lighthouse.

EXT. PARKING LOT: DAY

Wally (a 20-something African American wearing Marine uniform with many metals) gets out of the luxury car. He focuses on the lighthouse. Locking his car, he walks toward it.

EXT. AERIAL VIEW BEACH: DAY

Carrying a bucket of oysters and wearing latex gloves, LYNNE (a 12-year-old tomboy) walks along the shore gathering oysters. Wally approaches her.

WALLY

You shouldn't do that. It's dangerous.

Lynne turns to face him. Stunned, she slowly shows him her gloves.

LYNNE

(stammering)

I'm being careful.

WALLY

You don't have to be afraid.

LYNNE

I'm not afraid of anything!

WALLY

I believe you.

LYNNE

(surprised)

I've never seen anyone like you.
Except in pictures.

WALLY

(walking away)

Just say out of the water. And get rid of the oysters. The red tide is dangerous

(CONTINUED)

LYNNE

Where are you going?

WALLY

To the Rayfield Lighthouse.

LYNNE

You can't. Nobody goes there. It's closed.

Wally continues walking.

LYNNE (CONT.)

I don't want you to get in trouble. The sheriff doesn't like colored people.

WALLY

I'll be quick as a bunny. Besides Grandpops told me about the backway and a secret place.

LYNNE

Why do you want to go there?

WALLY

I have to keep a promise.

LYNNE

To who?

WALLY

My Grandpops. I promised to bring him here. But I couldn't.

LYNNE

Why?

WALLY

He got sick and died.

(pointing at the lighthouse)

Booker T. Washington, himself, asked him and his best friend, Jacob, to build it.

LYNNE

I don't know who that is.

WALLY

Booker T. Washington was famous a long time ago. He helped build Tuskegee University. He taught my grandpops how to design buildings.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

WALLY (cont'd)

In class, he challenged his students to create a design with the place in mind. Grandpops came up with the best one. I'm not sure of all the details, but Grandpops and Jacob were hired to build
(pointing at the lighthouse)
it. After it was finished, the were attacked. Jacob helped Grandpops and three others escaped. Grandpops never forgot...he always felt guilty...he said needed to come back before he met Jacob in heaven. He made me promise to come if he couldn't. I was going to break my word.

LYNNE

You broke your promise?

WALLY

For a time.
(pauses to look at the lighthouse)
We pinned down in Ardennes. It was just the three of this left. All I could think of was that it served me right. And then I saw him.

LYNNE

Your Grandpops?

WALLY

I promised to keep my word if we made it out. He led us to safety. It took me a while. But I am finally here.

LYNNE

My brother never made it to the beach. Mom cried and cried. Sometimes she still does. But she doesn't want the rest of us to know. But we hear her at night. Sometimes she doesn't get about bed. She won't talk to anybody for a long time.

WALLY

I'm sorry.

(CONTINUED)

LYNNE

Grandpa says it's the commies' fault. We should've killed them all. They're evil!

WALLY

(gently)

Don't wish that. After Pearl Harbor I did. That's why I enlisted in the Marines. I didn't know much it would hurt to kill. Now, I wish I could take it all back. Especially my bullets.

LYNNE

They were the enemy! They killed my brother. They deserve to die!

WALLY

They were good men with mothers just like yours. I killed good men. I saw good men die. Nobody won. We all lost, especially the mothers who lost their sons.

LYNNE

Are you a commie?

WALLY

No. Just a man with too much blood on his hands. I wish I could wash it off. Maybe returning Jacob's mezuzah to his family will help wash some of it away.

LYNNE

What's a mezuzah?

WALLY

The reason Jacob was murdered.

Wally walks toward the lighthouse. Confused, Lynne watches him.

EXT. GARDEN: DAY

Drinking alcohol, MARGARET(sensual, snarky, and beautiful woman 40-something woman) restlessly paces around the garden. Several times she walks to the gate. She angrily walks back to the table and refills her glass.

EXT. BEACH: DAY

Satisfied that she has enough oysters, Lynne returns to the beach and puts on her backpack. She briefly looks toward the lighthouse. She runs in the opposite direction.

EXT. GARDEN: DAY

Margaret finishes her drink and returns inside. Lynne sneaks into the garden. She puts the bucket inside the shed and takes out a box. Inside is a camera and a note. Excited she reads it.

EXT. AERIAL VIEW COAST ROAD: DAY

A sports car speeds down a winding road that follows the coastline. It suddenly skids to a stop on the side of the road.

EXT. SPORTS CAR: DAY

GARY (seductive/intense 20-something man) gets out of the driver's door. LENNETTE (A 20-something woman who has the same kind of free spirit/passion) gets out of the passenger side.

LENNETTE

What gives?

GARY

Heebie-jeebies. It felt like someone walked on my grave.

LENNETTE

This is the biggest score we ever had. It will set us up for the rest of our lives.

Gary remains reluctant. Lennette calms him.

LENNETTE (CONT.)

It can't go wrong. We have help.

GARY

So what is William James' generosity going to cost us?

LENNETTE

Just what her first husband promised him in his will.

(CONTINUED)

GARY

Which is?

LENNETTE

The old geezer promised him the house.

GARY

Good ridded to that ugly monstrosity.

LENNETTE

He was also promised a yearly stipend equal to twice his salary plus maintenance of the house.

GARY

I don't want to be dealing with that ghoul for the rest of my life.

LENNETTE

He said the same thing--not in those words exactly. We settled on a lump sum and agreeing never to see each other again.

GARY

Works for me.

LENNETTE

Don't worry love. William James is completely loyal to me.

GARY

As beautiful and seductive as you are baby, let me break it to you. He is a little light in the loafers. So your considerable charms have no effect on him.

LENNETTE

Nothing is going to go wrong. It's our best plan. It'll look like George murdered her to be with me.

GARY

While at the same time, the cougar decided to replace him with a younger model.

LENNETTE

And if something does go wrong, well, there is always the cliché.

(CONTINUED)

GARY

The butler did it?

LENNETTE

Cliches are a cliché for a reason. Besides, he has a reason to kill them. We don't. He wants revenge. The changing of the wills was part of the business deal. Who knew we would be inheriting their millions so quickly?

Gary points at WALTER (50-something man), who walks toward them from the beach.

WALTER

If you needed to stop you should have done it back there at parking lot. The hairpin turns up there don't enough time to react.

LENNETTE

We know. We're just stopping a sec.

WALTER

It's a quick way to get someone dead.

GARY

(snarky)

Hanging around to warn people? Or were you adding to your seashell collection?

WALTER

Wouldn't recommend that either. The red tide is coming in.

GARY

(snarky)

How sweet of you to warn us!

LENNETTE

Gary! That was rude.

WALTER

I'm looking for my daughter. She's out playing Nancy Drew again. I need to find her before the neighbors do.

Lennette and Gary look questioning at each other.

(CONTINUED)

WALTER (CONT.)
She's ten.

GARY
Late start?

WALTER
Surprise gift.

LENNETTE
I hope you find her.

WALTER
We will. We always do.
(indicating up the road)
Be careful. Don't underestimate
those hairpin turns. Those that
do, don't live to regret it.

Walter walks back toward the beach.

GARY
Butinsky.

LENNETTE
I think he's sweet.

GARY
(raising an eyebrow)
Just out of curiosity, what are you
going to do if he asks for proof
that you're pregnant?

LENETTE
By the time I drop that bomb, he'll
be too hot and hard to ask
questions.

GARY
Baby, you know how to work all the
angles.

LENETTE
Let's hall ass.

GARY
(teasingly slapping her butt)
All the way to the bank.