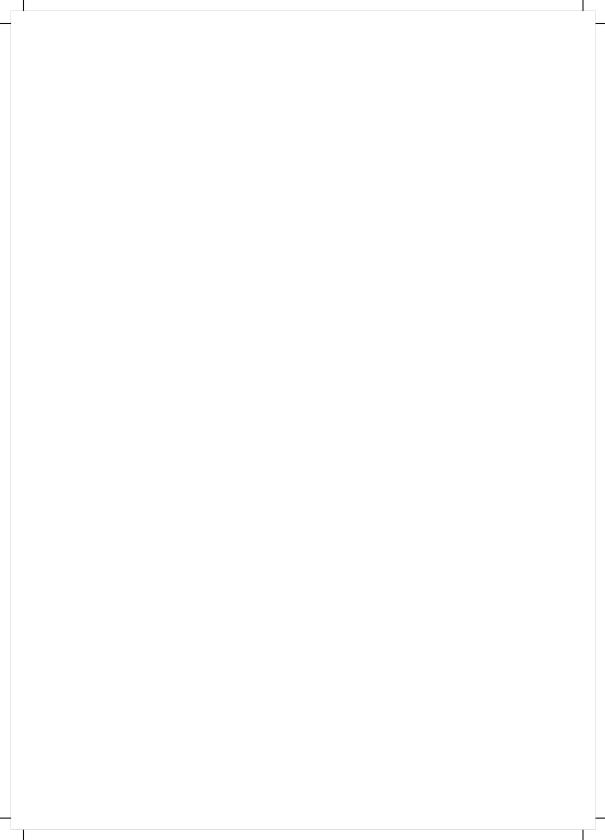
**ZOJA KERN** 



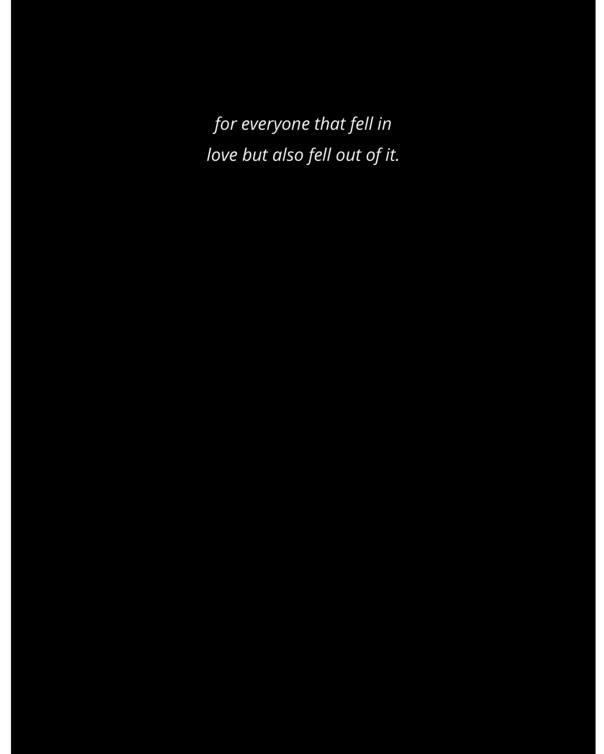


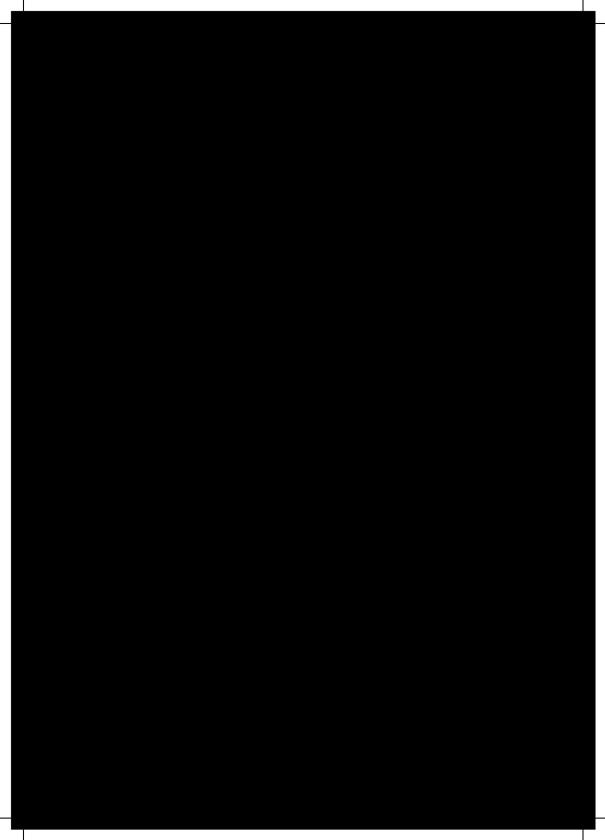
## butterfly love

### Zoja Kern butterfly love

Urednica LILY SCHWEIGER KOTAR

Likovna urednica NINA MALOVRH Grafično oblikovala ZOJA KERN Izdala in založila ZALOŽBA KERN Natisnila SLOVENIJA 2023





### content

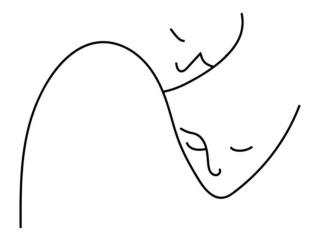
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## love



I was utterly in love with life when I met you.
But you took that love away from me when we parted.
You took a piece of me and shattered it in pieces.
You changed me. More than I thought anyone ever could.
So now I am changed. A completely different person.
Who doesn't know how to love anymore.



I wish you could remember all of our moments like I do. But through this you just showed me that you never saw me the way I always thought you did.

Or did you?

You loved me.

But I was never the first choice.

Sometimes the second.

But always the last.

Last Friday you said hey again. And that's all it took for me to fall in love again.

I fell in love with hope.

That we might exist.

Maybe one day you'll choose hope too.

I just want someone to stay.

For a while. Maybe even for eternity?

Is that too much to ask?

I used to fall in love so quickly with every guy that showed me the littlest of love.

Or even just affection.

To be honest just a simple sign of decency from a human being that happened to be a boy.

But not any boy anymore. Now it's always you.

Even though I always ignored it to the last bit. But guess what? Last night I dreamt of you. And that's how I started to fall in love again. With another soul. And it didn't hurt mine. It just stung a little because I knew it would be nothing but a one-

sided clueless love that you would know nothing about.

I just want to be loved. By choice this time.

Not just because I love you so much and it's rude not to love me back just a little bit.

I want you to choose me. Because of who I am.

Because of how I make you feel.

Not just because I love *you* so easily.

There's a thin line between love and hate. But you. You, I love and hate. With equal force to both

If I drifted away, would you notice?
If I disappeared, would you care?
Would you try to find me?

Why are you always there when I don't need you or want you there.

You're just ruining things that aren't yours to ruin.

For the girl that stupidly fell in love with you.

I don't think I care anymore.

Because you just want to see me in pain.

Or at least not as happy as I was lately. Without you.

I have always just wanted to be happy you know.

I have never wanted this. Any of it. Until now.

Now I can smile at every thought of you.

And it's worth all the pain of the possibility that we might never be what we are inside my head.

The way you always cupped my face into your hands when you wanted to make me understand something.

That's a sweet memory to cherish and it holds such unconditional love in it. And I am never letting go off it.

Never.

That night. That hug. That stairway. That look on your face.

When you cared. When you cared so much more than I thought you did.

The way you held me tight in your arms.

And you never pulled away.

You would do anything in that moment. And I think that's when I realized I'd never be able to really let go off you.

And even so, that's my favourite moment of my life.

I'll keep on reliving it. Because that will always be my dream.

To be in your arms. Again, and again.

Maybe one day it will become an everyday thing.



Slow love. Sweet kind of love. Stable love. You would give me all of it if you felt the same. But that "if" keeps getting in the way.

The overwhelming feeling of your embrace is still taking over my body. The butterflies still haven't left.

And I hope they never do.



They say it's never too late to fall in love.

But has anyone ever thought it might be too soon.

Or is everything just right?

There shouldn't be right or wrong in love, but yet everyone finds something wrong with any situation you might find yourself in.

#### Falling in love

I never looked at you this way.

You were always just someone that made me smile a lot.

But suddenly everything changed. I don't know how or why, but I was left speechless as I uncovered my feelings for you.

I still can't believe I can love like this.

But you made me feel all the butterflies, all the joy and all the love in just one moment with you.

So please, I beg you. Don't be in love with someone else.

I like to imagine us. Sitting in a place only we know.

Laughing as you're playing the guitar. You play our favourite song as I sing along. We stare at each other with such love and adoration.

And then you suddenly stop. You pull me into your arms. And we just lie there. Both knowing this is our forever.

I like to imagine us. In all sorts of possible scenarios. So, I can at least live my dream inside my mind. Hoping I can once live in it.

In my dreams.

I keep on falling in love with you even though we could never really work. And every time I realize it again and again it feels like losing another piece of my heart.

Maybe one day I will just run out of pieces to lose.

All I feel is love for you. Love stronger than this world.

For a boy that doesn't even know me. It's a sacred ignorance of my taste.

Even when I try to tell you.

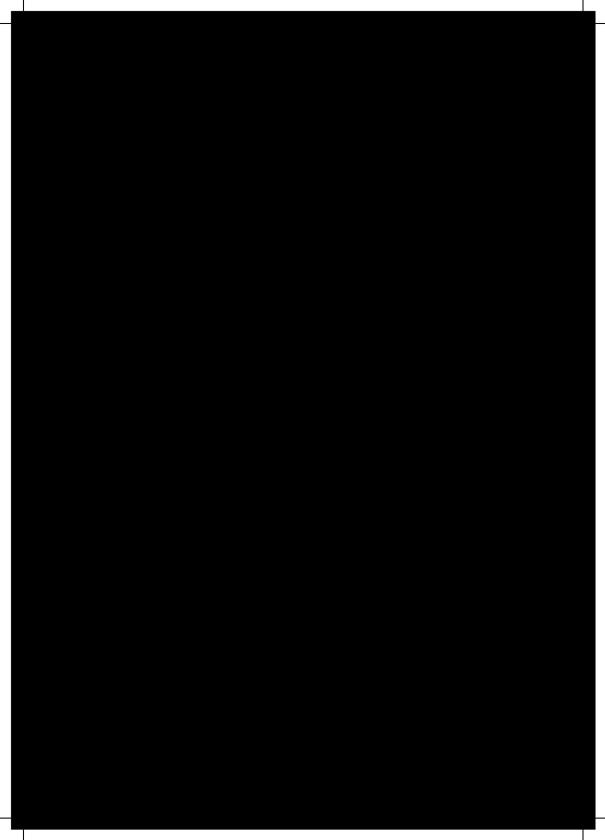
Really, I know I can't have you.

Why do we fall in love with people we can't have?
Why is this unbearable pain of being unwanted so necessary in the life of teenagers?

Are we supposed to feel like adults when we are all just children.

Why does only he love me? When I don't love him.
I am not used to admirers. I don't want to break his heart.
So how do we do this?
Without shattered pieces and blood?

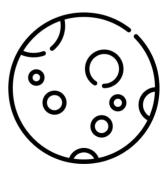
# something else



We put men on the moon. Hard for us to reach.

Because why would someone worth our love be easy to get?

Isn't it all in this life worth keeping only when we work hard for it?



Are you afraid? What if you fail?
What if you end up making the wrong decision and you end up hating your life forever?
Have *you* ever thought of that?

l cry for you every second of every day. When all l can do is feel you drifting away.

They always say: He's always there. He will always hold your hand. *God has a plan for you.* 

But why do I mess up or fall all the time if He is supposed to be holding me?

It's so funny that when you stop caring everyone else suddenly starts caring.

But when you do care no one else does.

I'm hanging on by a thread. But you don't even feel regret. Are you even human?

I already forgave you.

The question is will I forgive myself?

Everything is going to be okay.

The world may have its way.

But one day you'll be happy again.

