JUST A LITTLE ROMANCE

By Shannon Zusy

The sun is so bright I have to shade my eyes to look ahead of me. I forgot my sunglasses. There's a snicker from my left, and I look at him. He's smiling at me, motioning to my hand above my eyes. I smile sheepishly, then poke his side gently, telling him it was for the snicker. Then his hands are at my hips, pulling me, so my back is against his chest. With a playful grin, his fingers move over my stomach. Oh no... he knows that's where I'm most ticklish... I start to squirm and squeal in protest, making him laugh and tickle me anyway.

Tears roll down my cheeks from laughing so hard, as I ask him to stop. But he refuses to and in my squirming, I try to turn in his arms, but with all my god-given grace, we fall... He braces himself with one hand, and protects the back of my head with the other. His voice is soft and gentle, asking if I'm alright. I'm laughing too hard to answer him with words, instead I pull him down, into a happy and loving embrace. He chuckles softly and rolls us so I'm half laying on his chest, so he can wipe my tear streaked face and look in my eyes. The next three words float to my ears and make me catch my breath a moment. It's those three words that make me cry more, that make my heart beat speed up and my legs buckle.

I love you...

It's those three words, that I say back to him, softly, as if it were said any higher than a whisper, then it wouldn't be something truely ment and felt. His blue eyes are sharp and intense as I stare into their depths, smiling and brushing the tears that have fallen onto his cheek away. It's those words I say again and nuzzle his neck, wanting nothing more than to stay like that forever...