

Red Panda Lego Set Disguised as an I Love You

Inspired by "Mountain Dew Commercial Disguised as a Love Poem" by Matthew Olzmann

So here's what I've got, the reasons why we might make it: Because the trunk of your car is a mess. Because your hair never quite lays flat. Because you tear up watching a sad video of a cat with their stuffed animal. Because you dance with your shoulders. You have the greenest brown eyes I have ever seen. Because when I told you sometimes, occasionally, when we kiss your facial hair hurts just a bit, you started being two minutes late to every date, shaving your face furiously. Because you don't laugh when I ask you a question someone else would find stupid. Because your hands find my hips when I'm anxious and tearing up my lip. Because you called me darling kind of as a joke on our second date and my stomach did somersaults and then you held my hand. Because you drove us through the rain. Because you told me I could rest if I needed to. Because ours is a sacred space no one else can reach. Because you swear like you might die if you don't every twenty seconds. Because you stayed and hugged me and I whined and complained and you stayed, still, when you really needed to get going. And one day, when you were more broke than you were as a sophomore in high school, I mentioned to you my bloody fingertips torn by teeth, and there you were with that 3-in-1 Lego set, that you

paid for in ones.