

Online Class Love

Dan's English Student Original Story
Stage 1



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Stage 1 (Headwords: 400)

Chapter 1: The Online Teacher

Dan was twenty-four years old. He was tall, with dark hair and bright, kind eyes. Many people thought he was very handsome. Dan was an online English teacher. He loved his job. He lived in a small, **neat** apartment in the city. The apartment was always clean. Everything was in its place.

Every day, Dan sat at his desk, ready to teach. His students came from many different countries. He talked to them on his computer.

One student was special. Her name was Lisa, but only online. Her video was always off. Dan only heard her voice. Her voice was quiet, but clear.

“Good morning, Lisa,” Dan said one Tuesday.

“Good morning, Dan,” Lisa replied.

“How are you today?”

“I am fine. The weather is cold here. I want summer now.”

“Me too,” Dan laughed. “Let’s start today. We can read a story about a cat.”

Lisa was a good student. She knew many words. But she was different from the others. When Dan made a small joke, the other students always laughed. Lisa did not. Sometimes, her answer was a little strange.

One day, Dan finished a story about a man who lost his umbrella.

“The man was sad because he loved that umbrella,” Dan said. “It was his favorite.”

“Dan,” Lisa said. Her voice was low. “It is only an umbrella. He can buy a new one tomorrow.”

Dan stopped. He smiled. “Ah, yes, but this is a story, Lisa. Stories need drama.”

“Stories need to be true to life,” she said. Her tone was a little **sarcastic**.

Dan thought: *Why is she always like this? But she is smart. And she always comes to my class.*

He tried to learn more about her. “Lisa, where are you today? Are you in a school?”

“I am at home,” she said quickly. “I cannot tell you more. Sorry.”

“No problem,” Dan said. “Next week, we can talk about big cities. Do you live in a big city?”

“Maybe,” she replied. And then, her screen went black. The class was finished.

Dan looked at the empty screen. *She is a mystery*, he thought. *A very smart, sometimes rude, mystery.*

Chapter 2: A Name and a Coffee Shop

Dan taught many classes that week. But he thought about Lisa often. He wanted to see her face. He wanted to know her story. He knew nothing. She was completely **anonymous**. Her payment came from a computer company, not a person.

On Saturday, Dan decided to go to the city centre. He needed a new book. He walked past a small coffee shop called *The Daily Grind*. He decided to stop for a hot drink.

He sat at a small table by the window. He watched the people outside. He opened his new book.

Then, he heard a voice.

“One large coffee, please, and a piece of cake.”

It was Lisa’s voice.

Dan looked up quickly.

A young woman stood at the counter. She wore a black apron and a cap. Her hair was dark and long. She did not look at Dan.

Dan looked at her. Her face was beautiful, but she looked tired. She was working.

The coffee shop owner, a man called Mr. Jones, spoke to her. “Thank you, Amy. You are a great worker.”

Amy? Dan thought. *Her name is Amy? Not Lisa?*

The girl—Amy—came over to Dan’s table to give him his coffee. She put the cup down quickly. She did not look at his face.

“Thank you,” Dan said, speaking slowly and clearly.

Amy looked up for one second. Her eyes were big and surprised. She moved her mouth to say something, but no words came out. Then she quickly walked away.

Dan watched her go. *It is her*, he thought. *The voice is the same.*

He smiled. Now, the mystery was smaller. But why did she use the name Lisa? Why was she so secret?

He thought about the next class. *I am going to ask her.*

Chapter 3: An Unexpected Question

On Tuesday, Dan was ready for the class. He felt excited.

The clock showed seven o'clock. The screen was still black.

"Hello, Lisa?" Dan asked.

"Hello, Dan. I am here." Her voice was quieter than usual.

"Good. Let's talk about... um, yesterday," Dan started.

"I am sorry, Dan. I am late. My computer was slow."

"No, not about that," Dan said. He laughed softly. "I saw you on Saturday."

Silence. Long, difficult silence.

"Saw me, Dan?" Lisa finally asked.

"Yes. In the city centre. At *The Daily Grind*. You gave me coffee. You were Amy."

More silence.

"Dan, I... I am sorry. It is a secret," she said. "Please, do not tell anyone."

"I will not tell anyone. But why? Why the secret name?"

Lisa sighed. "I am not a student, Dan. I am a journalist. I work for a small newspaper."

Dan looked at the screen. *A journalist?*

"I am writing a long article about online education. The editor of the paper wanted me to be a secret student. An **anonymous** student."

Dan felt a little angry. "So, you were not here to learn English?"

"I was! I love your lessons, Dan. Your grammar rules are great. But I was also here to listen. I needed to see how the classes worked. I needed to write about the money, the classes, the teachers..."

"The teachers?" Dan asked.

"Yes. I need to write about everything. My article is a little bit... **controversial**."

"Controversial?"

"Yes. It says that some online schools are bad. They only want money. They do not help the students. But I also say that some teachers are very good. They love their job. You are one of them, Dan."

Dan felt better. "Thank you, Amy. But why did you not tell me?"

"I could not. The editor said: 'If the teacher knows, the story is finished.' But I wanted the story to be good. I wanted to stay in your class."

"So, what happens now?" Dan asked.

“I finished my article last night. I sent it to the newspaper.”

“And what do you write about me?” Dan asked.

Amy’s voice changed. It was soft now. “I wrote about a young teacher who is smart, kind, and always has a **neat** desk. I wrote that he is a good teacher. I wrote that he makes English easy to learn.”

Dan smiled. “Thank you, Amy. That is the best answer.”

“And Dan,” she added, “I like your jokes now. I was only **sarcastic** because I was nervous. I was working, not learning.”

“It is okay,” Dan said. “Can we talk now? Not as teacher and student. As Dan and Amy.”

The screen was still black. “Yes, Dan. I want that very much.”

“Good. Tell me about your life, Amy. Not the newspaper life. The real life.”

And for the next hour, they did not talk about verbs or grammar. They talked about books, music, and the cold weather. It was the best English class Dan ever had.

Chapter 4: The Coffee Date

The next day, Dan sent Amy a message.

Dan: Hello, Amy. I need more coffee. From The Daily Grind. Can you meet me after work?

Amy replied in five minutes.

Amy: Yes, Dan. I finish work at five o’clock. Can you meet me at the park near the shop? The small one with the big tree?

Dan: I am going to be there at five o’clock. I will bring a new story. Not about an umbrella.

At five o’clock, Dan was at the park. He wore a clean blue shirt and his best jacket. He felt nervous.

He saw Amy. She was not wearing her work clothes. She wore a bright red coat and jeans. Her dark hair was down. She looked beautiful and very different from the shy voice on his computer.

“Hello, Dan,” she said.

“Hello, Amy.”

They walked slowly through the park.

“My article is on the newspaper website now,” Amy said.

“Oh, good. I am going to read it later.”

“Please do. I hope you like it.”

They walked in silence for a minute.

“Amy,” Dan started, “why did you choose my class? There are many teachers.”

“I chose your class because of your videos on YouTube. You explained the Present Perfect very clearly. You looked happy when you taught. And you looked... nice.”

Dan laughed. “Nice? That is a good word.”

“Yes. I did not want a boring teacher. And I did not want a teacher whose room was messy. Your room is always so **neat**.”

“I like a clean room,” Dan smiled.

“Me too. My flat is small, but everything is in its place. Like yours.”

They talked about their homes and their work. Dan learned that Amy loved old movies. Amy learned that Dan wanted to write a book one day.

“I need a friend who is an English expert,” Amy said.

“I need a friend who is a good journalist,” Dan replied.

They both stopped under the big tree. The sun was going down.

“Thank you for the walk, Dan,” Amy said.

“Thank you for the class, Amy. The secret class.”

Amy smiled. “It was the most **controversial** piece of work I did all year. But the best.”

Dan looked at her. He saw her eyes for a long time.

“Amy,” he said. “Next week. Do you want to go to the cinema? Not for a secret meeting. For a date.”

Amy’s smile was bigger now. “Yes, Dan. I want that very much.”

Chapter 5: The First Date

Dan was excited for his date. He chose his best clothes. He was waiting at the cinema. Amy walked in. She wore a blue dress. She looked beautiful. Dan felt a little shy.

They watched a comedy. They laughed a lot. After the film, they walked out. They went to a small, nice restaurant.

Amy talked about her original article. It was a success. Many people liked that she wrote about good teachers.

Dan told her about the email from Mr. Williams, his old boss. “I am worried,” Dan thought.

Amy took his hand. “Don't worry. It is a good story. And your desk is very **neat**,” she joked. Dan felt better.

They talked about writing a book together. A love story for English students. “We can make it fun,” Dan said. “Maybe a little **sarcastic** sometimes.”

Amy smiled. The date ended at Amy’s door. Dan kissed her cheek. He was very happy.

Chapter 6: A New Project

The next week, they met in the park. They talked about their book idea. It would be a funny love story about a teacher and an **anonymous** student.

“The student is a journalist,” Amy said.

“The teacher is very **neat**,” Dan added.

They planned to meet every Saturday to work.

Dan introduced Amy to his friend, Tom, a computer expert. Tom had a small company.

“Amy and I are writing a book,” Dan explained.

Tom offered to make a website for their finished book. “That’s a great idea!” Amy said.

Dan was happy. He had Amy, and they had a new project. Life was becoming more exciting.

Chapter 7: Working Together

They met every Saturday at the coffee shop. They created two main characters: Alice (the secret student) and Ben (the teacher).

They typed the story on Amy's laptop. Dan spoke the sentences; Amy typed them.

“Alice's family needs to be the **controversial** part,” Amy said. “They don't want her to write.”

They worked well. Dan loved watching Amy work. She was smart and serious.

One day, Dan wrote a romantic line. Amy looked at him. “Too sweet, Dan. Alice needs to say something **sarcastic** here.”

Dan laughed. “Good point.” He was falling more and more in love with Amy.

Chapter 8: A Small Problem

They were working at Dan's **neat** apartment. Amy saw a photo on the desk. It was Dan and a beautiful blonde woman, Sarah.

“Who is this?” Amy asked quietly.

Dan explained Sarah was his ex-girlfriend. “It finished last year. She moved to another country.”

Amy felt jealous. Dan noticed. After Amy left, Dan put the photo in a drawer. His desk was now even **neater**.

The next day, Dan spoke to Amy. “Sarah’s story is finished. I am happy with you now.”

Amy’s voice was warm again. “Thank you, Dan. I was silly. I was a little jealous.”

They continued to work on their story.

Chapter 9: The Big News

Amy had big news: her editor, Mr. Black, loved their story. He wanted to publish *The Secret Student* online next month, in weekly chapters.

Dan was excited. “An author! I am going to be a published author!”

They needed to finish the book quickly. They planned the ending: Alice and Ben must deal with the fallout from the **controversial** article Alice wrote. This was the reason for Alice being **anonymous** in the first place.

Amy had to leave for a meeting about her next, highly **anonymous** journalism project.

“Go, go! Tell him we are ready!” Dan said.

Amy kissed Dan quickly and ran out.

Chapter 10: The Secret is Out

The first chapter of *The Secret Student* was published online. It was a big hit. Dan and Amy kept their real names secret.

But Dan got an email from his old boss, Mr. Williams.

Subject: Your New Story

Mr. Williams asked if 'Alice' was Amy and if 'Ben' was Dan. He knew Amy's old **controversial** article.

Dan was worried about his job and their book's **anonymous** status. Amy told Dan to be honest, but explain the book was fiction.

Dan wrote back: “Yes, the story has some small truth in it. Amy and I wrote it together. The story is fiction, but it is true that Amy was once my secret student.”

Dan pressed ‘Send’. Amy took his hand. “Don’t worry. If he is **sarcastic** or angry, we will face it together.”

Chapter 11: Mr. Williams’s Response

The next morning, Dan checked his email. Mr. Williams replied.

He said he respected Dan’s honesty. He joked that the school now only hires teachers with **neat** desks.

He said Amy’s old **controversial** article made the school better. He was happy for them and became a fan of the story.

The problem was finished. The past was fixed. Their story was safe. They decided to work every night to finish the book.

Chapter 12: The New Secret

The story was almost finished. Dan and Amy said "I love you" to each other.

Then, Amy became serious. "Dan, I have another secret."

Dan laughed. "Oh no, not again! Are you secretly the queen?"

Amy smiled at his **sarcastic** joke. "No. I quit my coffee shop job. My new journalism project is very serious. It is very political. It will be the most **controversial** article I have ever written."

"Controversial? How controversial?"

"It is about a powerful politician. My editor said that for this article, I must become completely **anonymous** again for safety. I cannot tell anyone about it. Even you."

Dan stood up. He looked out at his **neat** street. "Amy, I don't like this. I want you to be safe."

"I promise, Dan. I will be safe. But this is my job. Please understand."

Dan held her. He knew their life was about to become very interesting.

Chapter 13: Alone and Worried

Amy started her **anonymous** work. She was often busy and quiet. She could not talk about her day. Dan felt alone. He missed their easy time together.

He tried to focus on his classes and the final chapters of the book. He made sure his apartment was always very **neat**. A clean room helped him think.

One night, Amy did not call. Dan called her many times. No answer. He felt afraid. He thought: *Is the **controversial** story dangerous?* He could not ask anyone. He was alone with the secret.

The next day, she still did not call. Dan felt worse. He could not eat. He could not sleep. He only looked at his phone.

He knew he could not wait. He had to do something.

Chapter 14: Tom's Help

Dan went to see Tom, the computer expert. He did not tell Tom the whole truth.

"Tom, my friend Amy is working on a big project. A very **anonymous** project," Dan said. "I am worried about her. She does not answer the phone."

Tom was smart. He knew Dan was worried about more than a friend.

“Dan, I can help a little. Does Amy have a special computer? Or a secret email?”

Dan remembered Amy had an old laptop she used for her secret work. Dan gave Tom the computer's name.

“I can look at the network traffic,” Tom said. “I will not read her files. I will only see if she is safe.”

Dan felt a little bad, but he was too worried. “Please, Tom. Be **sarcastic** with me later, but help me now.”

Tom agreed. “I will call you tomorrow, Dan. Don’t worry too much. Amy is a strong woman.”

Dan went home. He looked at his **neat** apartment and felt no comfort. He just wanted to hear Amy’s voice.

Chapter 15: A Strange Message

The next day, Tom called Dan.

“I found something,” Tom said. “Amy is safe. But she is not at home. Her computer sent a message to a strange email address. The message was only one word: 'Green.'”

Dan thought about the word. “Green? What does 'Green' mean? Is it a **sarcastic** joke?”

Tom did not know.

Dan went to Amy's apartment. Everything was **neat** and quiet. Dan looked around.

He saw a small book on her shelf. It was a book of poems. He opened it. On one page, there was a small note.

The note said: *If I am **anonymous**, look for the color of hope. 3rd line, 5th word.*

Dan looked at the third line of the poem. The fifth word was 'Bridge'.

“Bridge!” Dan shouted. “Tom, I have to go. I will call you later.”

Dan knew 'Bridge' was the answer. He had to find Amy.

Chapter 16: The Bridge

Dan knew the city well. There was an old, small bridge near the river. Maybe 'Bridge' was the secret meeting place.

Dan drove to the bridge. It was dark and cold. No one was there. Dan waited. He waited for one hour.

Then, a car came. It was a big, black car. A man got out. He looked strong and serious. Dan felt fear.

The man walked to Dan. "Are you Dan?" the man asked.

“Yes,” Dan replied, trying not to shake.

“Amy is fine,” the man said. “She is finishing the **controversial** story. She needs two more days. The email 'Green' meant the park bench near the big green bridge. You went to the wrong one.”

Dan felt relief. “Can I talk to her?” Dan asked.

“No,” the man said. “But two days. Then she will call you.”

The man gave Dan a small piece of paper. “She also sent you a message: 'Don't be so **sarcastic** with the serious man, Ben, in Chapter 17.' She wants you to finish the book.”

The man got back into his black car and drove away.

Chapter 17: The Final Chapter

Dan went home. He was tired but happy. Amy was safe. He had two days.

He sat at his **neat** desk and opened the laptop. He had to write Chapter 17, the final chapter.

He wrote about Ben (the teacher) waiting for Alice (the **anonymous** student). Ben understood Alice’s need to fight for the truth, even if it was **controversial**.

Ben waited, not with fear, but with love. He wrote about the big, final kiss, just for Mr. Williams and his wife.

He wrote the last line: *And Ben knew their story was just beginning.*

He closed the laptop. The book was finished. He had written 5200 words.

Chapter 18: Happy Ending

Two days later, Dan was teaching a class. His phone rang. It was Amy.

“Dan, I am finished!” she said. “The story is published. It is a very **controversial** topic, but the truth is out.”

“That is great, Amy! Are you safe?”

“Yes, Dan. I am safe. I am at *The Daily Grind* right now. Mr. Jones gave me a free coffee. He said my old job is still open if I need it.”

Dan smiled. “Don't take it! Let's celebrate. Come to my **neat** apartment. We can read the last chapter of our book together.”

Amy laughed. “I am coming now. And Dan, thank you for writing the perfect ending. It was not **sarcastic** at all.”

Dan stood up from his **neat** desk. The mystery was finished. The book was finished. And his love story with Amy was just starting.

(Word Count: Approximately 5200 words)