

Your Character's Name: Claire Valentine

Nickname: Val – Claire's friends shortened Valentine into Val after years of calling her Valentine.

Age: 28

Gender: female

Date of birth: June 3rd

Hair color: Dyed black, naturally blond

Eye color: grey blue eyes

Height: 5'6"

Weight: 127lbs

Nationality: Caucasian

Description:

Claire dyes her naturally blond hair black and wears it typically dead straight with a center part and no bangs. She has grey blue eyes that stand out against her very pale skin. Claire avoids the sun because she generally turns into a lobster and does not ever tan. Claire has several small tattoos - a rose at the base of her back, a heart above her left breast and a decorative "chain" around her left wrist and her right ankle. Claire typically wears dark colors, she's fond of wearing crimson red, sapphire blue and emerald green in the mix. Claire's make up is soft and enhances her features. If Claire left her hair natural she looks very similar to pictures of her mother at the same age.

Character concept: a journalist seeking the truth

Family:

Claire's only living family is her father Stephen Valentine - movie producer. Her mother passed away on her 19th birthday, she was an actress and model, Gloria Patrini. Claire has no living grandparents and no siblings.

Education:

BA in Journalism (minor in Criminal Justice) graduated age 21

AA in Criminal Justice graduated age 34

Occupation: Investigative Journalist

Income Status: Family Estate plus journalist income (Rich)

Skills:

- Knack for uncovering material not necessarily found by other journalists (research, investigating backgrounds, scenes etc)
- Good Journalist - great writing skills, good communication skills

Hobbies:

Claire enjoys going to dance clubs and raves with her friends. She enjoys reading the classics.

Personal Possessions:

- 2004 blue Saturn IOn3
- 2 medium suitcase of clothes (contents: 1 slinky black dress, 2 pairs of jeans - 1 black, 1 blue - 3 blouses - crimson red, sapphire blue, emerald green, 5 changes of undergarments - all white, 1 black leather jacket, 1 navy blue knit sweater, 1 pair of black pumps, 1 pair of black sneakers, 1 pair of black boots)
- 1 box of her mothers things (this collection of things is "unknown" to be used to continue the story - known contents: 1 unsent letter to her mother's parents with a Reckon, NV address - generalization: newspaper clippings, trinkets and other memorabilia)
3 books - Great Expectations, Collection of Edgar Allan Poe, The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn
- 1 laptop with internet connection, 1 cell phone

Fears:

After watching her mother die of cancer, Claire fears death and dying alone.

Joys:

Claire enjoys pain - Claire's first boyfriend was abusive in the love making department, it was Claire's first time and she knew no better. After they broke up she found her self drawn to men who would treat her the same way. Claire never tolerated violence out of the bedroom and if he struck her, she'd drop him fast. But the pain also drew her in, Claire's desire for pain drew her to tattoo parlors. It had become slightly more than sexual experience.

Most painful experience:

The most painful experience Claire has gone through was watching her mother die of cancer. It was a hard experience and pushed Claire deeper into her darker elements - partying a bit too hard, going to the wrong clubs/bars.

Greatest Achievement:

Claire's greatest achievement was when she became an investigative reporter. She was tired of working strictly entertainment jobs and was glad when they finally found merit in her writing enough to promote her - the associate degree from night school in criminal justice also helped.

Greatest Strength:

Claire's greatest strength is her need to seek the truth, whether its in her life or in her stories, she strives to find the truth hidden in everything.

Greatest Weakness:

Claire's greatest weakness is her desire for pain - it is an addiction and once she starts it's hard to break the cycle.

Vice: Gluttony (Pain)

Virtue: Fortitude

Quick Summary and Why Claire is in Reckon, NV:

Claire is an only child. Her mother passed when she was 19 years old. Claire has a BS in Journalism (with a minor in Criminal Justice) and went to night school to get an Associates degree in Criminal Justice. Claire was employed at a prominent LA paper for 3 years while going to night school, she was an entertainment columnist, she visited many of the local clubs, bars, concerts and even a few out of state events. After she earned her degree in Criminal Justice she started on at the same paper as an investigative journalist. 3 years later Claire was cleaning about her father's attic and found a box of her mother's old things. She started to go through things, and found a rather interesting unsent letter. The letter was to her mother's parents. It revealed one thing Claire did not know about her mother, she was not who she said she was all these years. The letter was addressed to a family in Reckon, NV. Claire had to know the truth, so she took a leave of absence and turned her head towards Nevada to find the truth.

Complete History:

Claire was born to Stephen Valentine, a movie producer, and Gloria Patrini, actress and model. She was born June 3rd at 2:35am, 28 years ago. Claire is an only child and has a rather large income from the estate itself – enough that Claire didn't have to work if she didn't want to, but care had to be taken for that situation to last.

Claire had a mostly happy life, nothing to complain about. She went to school, did most things girls her age did including having a boy friend. Her high school sweetheart, Ezra Strong was the man she saw her life with up until she was just about 19 years old. Ezra was the high school varsity quarterback and one of the most popular guys in school. He and Claire had been neighbors since they were in the second grade. Claire and Ezra hooked up freshman year of high school and were together for about 5 years. They had an on again off again relationship right up till the end. But they always seemed to end up back together again.

Ezra was her first. He ruined Claire for all men after him. Ezra was strong and powerful and he tended to be a bit more aggressive than most girls wanted, which is one reason why he kept going back to Claire, she liked it rough. Claire wasn't aware of it at the time, but pain would become part of her general sexual preferences, and all others to follow Ezra would be compared to him, her first.

Just before Claire turned 19, Ezra was out camping with his buddies, they'd been drinking and they were being stupid. Whatever happened there made him more aggressive outside of the bedroom. In an angry fit he hit Claire, and she walked out of his life. It was one thing for him to hurt her in the bedroom, but to purposefully strike her Claire would not have any of that.

Ezra tried for a few months to apologize but Claire didn't take him back, but she soon didn't have to worry about that, as her mother took ill and it was all Claire could manage to finish her course work and to help her mother through the worst part of her cancer. The doctors told her that Claire's mother only had a few months left to live, and she wanted to spend it at home with her family. Without the constant care a hospital could give, even with the round the clock nurse that had taken to live with the Valentines, Gloria suffered and Claire could only watch.

Claire's mother passed away the day before Claire's 19th birthday. It was a devastating week, thankfully school had ended and she was able to help her father with final preparations.

While in college Claire's roommate, Debra Deeds, helped Claire through the tough time, they took her out to the local clubs, and tried to cheer her up with concerts. After her mother passed they no longer had to drag Claire along, she willingly went, and they started going to clubs that they hadn't been to before. Claire's adventurous side started taking over, and leading her into her darker days.

That's when Claire met Jack Wynn. He was a student at their college as well. But Jack had the same desires and Claire and their intimate acts rocked both their worlds, despite both of their lack of interest in inflicting pain. Their fling only lasted a short while before Jack disappeared, he left no message, didn't write or tell Claire what had happened, just disappeared.

Claire finished her journalism degree with honors, despite her party habits. She took a job at a big newspaper company as an entertainment columnist. Claire could continue her partying and get paid for it. Claire spent three years going to clubs or concerts weekly. She was even able to take a trip to Las Vegas as part of her job, she wrote several articles about her trip to Las Vegas and the fun you could have there.

While Claire was working as an entertainment journalist, Claire wanted to do more, she wanted to be an investigative journalist, she had always wanted to, which was the reason why she had minored in Criminal Justice in college. Claire spent those three years taking night classes at the local community college getting her associates degree in Criminal Justice.

After she'd graduated with honors again with her associates degree, Claire wrote a freelance piece on a political debate that had been raging on in the city for several months, she uncovered a few things prior journalists hadn't and when she presented the piece to her editor he immediately promoted her to investigative journalist.

Claire was proud of herself and she spent the next three years of her life happy and working her dream job. That was until she found a box in her father's attic as they were cleaning up the house to sell.

The box was filled with her mother's things, newspaper articles, letters she'd received from Claire's father, and a few from other men. A few of her first fan letters and the most important thing Claire found was an unsent letter. Claire set the letter aside as she rummaged through the box a little more, finding nothing else that caught her fancy. She'd have to look through each piece thoroughly later, but the letter kept catching her eye. Claire read the letter. And one sentence caught in Claire's throat as she read it.

"I've finally made it. Your little girl is on the silver screen, it's not a huge part, but I'm there, catch me in the credits. I've changed my name to Gloria Patrini."

Her mother was not who she said she was. Claire asked her father and he knew nothing of her name change, he'd always known her as Gloria. Claire's need to know the truth drove her to take a leave of absence from work, more of a sabbatical per say, as she could write an article about the truth behind Gloria Patrini's past, at least that's how she pitched it to her editor.

The address on the letter was the small town of Reckon, Nevada, that is where Claire would start her search.

Character Profile:

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