Sorry?

Who is betrayal? I'm betrayal. I'm the person you love the most, the person you least expect. I can bring your world to its knees at the drop of a hat. Afraid yet? You should be. I am inevitable. I hurt even the undeserving, simply because I can. How do I do it? I gain your trust, I make up stories, I sympathize, maybe even shed a tear or two but don't be fooled. I don't care... I never cared and I probably never will.

I'm the most valuable lesson you'll ever have to learn and sometimes you have to learn me more than once. I remember when I first became who I am now, at first it just happened and now it happens because I've learned to love it. My infliction has no limits and my stories are endless. One after the other, same narrative, different plot even if my characters remain the same. My favorites being the people who are most oblivious. When they finally realize what I've done even if their face is stone I can always see it in their eyes. The hurt, the anger... it does something to me. It makes me feel alive in a way nothing else ever could. It's like a drug and every so often I get my fix.

That's why I hurt you. That's why whenever you look at me you have to avert your eyes and your heart sinks the way it does. It was never personal and you never did anything to deserve what I had done, but I needed it. I needed to feel your pain because I never had the courage to deal with my own. Selfish, I know, but that's how I'm supposed to be, right? Can someone like me change? Can I be better? I've spent my whole life teaching these lessons and never learned anything of my own.

Kayla Garcia Piscataway High School, Grade 11

What have I turned myself into? A monster? Is that who I am? Look me in the eyes and tell me I can change even though you know I can't. Give me another chance just so I can prove you wrong.

I am Betrayal. I'm not sorry and I won't change, No matter how much you want me to...or how much you need me to but

nothing

feels

better

than

hurting

you.