

Novelette #1 in the *Divine Intervention* Series

By Debbie Johnson, Best-Selling Author and Award-Winning Filmmaker

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Summary: Ava's back-story, from Perfect Love Series. Teen girl in Canada is talented in dream-observation gets to work for Canadian intelligence. She's dating school-mate skilled in computer tech. Grandma wants her to date others.

Important Note: This is a work of Fiction. People, places and organizations are fictionalized, as are all their activities, references, techniques, etc.

Chapter 1

I can't believe it! My grandmother is, once again, telling me I'm too young to have a boyfriend. But I'm almost sixteen! She just wants me to be her baby forever, I guess.

I put my hands on my hips and looked at her with her knitting in her lap. "Grandma, you have to get that *every-one* my age is connecting with just one person. Why can't I?"

"That attitude won't get you anything you want, Ava." Grandma got up, walked over to me, and hugged me tight. I could smell the familiar orange blossom scent from her shampoo. Even if she was tough on me, she was always loving, like that hug. And I knew she wanted the best for me. That helped, but it didn't change my embarrassing, frustrating situation. I was always determined to be independent—not to need anyone but me.

I plopped sideways onto the nearest chair in our rundown living room and looked up at Gran with my best puppy-dog look. It sometimes works—for little things—but not this time. The look she gave me stopped me cold. Hey, a girl can try, right?

Debbie Johnson

I'd been raised by my mother's mom since I was six. My parents were both gone, but in different ways. Dad just took off and left us, but Mom got cancer. She didn't make it. She'd wanted her mother to raise me, and Grandma's been my rock ever since. Sometimes a bit too rocky, if you get my meaning. But she taught me to be grateful for everything, such as not being stuck in the foster-care system like some kids in my situation. Yeah, I was glad about that for sure.

Back to boyfriends.

"Ava, you gotta understand, honey, if you get stuck on just one boy now, and he turns out to be . . . well . . . not the one for you—then you wasted all your good high school years not getting to know the ones that *might* be right.

I blew out a breath. "Okay. Okay, I get it. But I'm gonna date Mendo anyway." I put up my hand to stop Grandma's shocked open mouth, ready to object. "And . . . I will go on a few extra dates with other guys. But what if that makes Mendo mad?"

"Then he's not for you!" She sat back down in her rocker. "Especially if you told him you are honoring your one parent's wishes—me!"

I was scared Mendo would not understand, but I had to follow Grandma's rules while I was still living here. Was there any other option? Little did I know that the option in my near future would be necessary, sad, scary, and exciting all at the same time.



I had a dream with M, as usual. He's my guardian angel, or at least that's what I've figured out—he's been around in my dreams since I was little. We were in this amazing garden filled with sparkling light and the most beautiful, heavenly colors of every flower you can imagine. As soon as he saw me, M floated over in his long white robe and beard. His big, dark, shining eyes looked into me like he could see all my hurt and make it go away. It almost did.

Then he "thought-spoke" to me. Ava, you will have much bigger challenges to come than just whom to date, but if it will make you happy, I have someone in mind for you to become friends with—Dustin. And who knows what can happen from there?

But, M, I love Mendo! I plopped down on a beautiful white marble bench.

M sat next to me. I know, dear one, but he has some lessons to learn as well, and you just need to be patient. M floated away just as I woke up.

Dang it! I really want to know more.



A Teen Love Story Beyond this World

Ava's backstory from the Perfect Love Series. Teen girl in Canada, talented in dream observation, gets to work for Canadian intelligence. She's dating a schoolmate, skilled in computer tech. Grandma wants her to date others.

About Debbie Johnson

Author Debbie Johnson is best-selling author of Think Yourself Thin (Hyperion), award-winning filmmaker (Soul Survivors Angelin-Training series on Dove channel) and a big kid who has never grown up, but is still in love with love!

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