The Greatest Love of All

It was hot. The classroom was just like an oven. The fans were rotating slowly. May had to keep on swiping sweat away from her forehead. Mr. Smith, the history teacher, was trying to squeeze in some words on the blackboard which was already scribbled all over. There were piercing screeches when chalk was etched onto it.

May looked around. Everyone was fidgeting. No one was listening to Mr. Smith’s boring teaching.

‘Hey, what happened to you last night?’ Someone tapped May’s shoulder. It was Harry.
‘Nothing,’ May answered cavalierly.

‘Don’t be silly. Last night you cried, didn’t you?’ Harry asked worriedly.
‘Your sister said that last night you had a fight with your father and you were crying for the whole night in your bedroom.’

May could feel blood rushing to her face.

‘It is all over now. It was just argy-bargy between my dad and me.’ May looked down and cold-shouldered Harry.

May always had arguments with her father. Her father never agreed with her decision all the time. When her sister Ann asked for his permission, he never said ‘No’.

May knows that there are lot of differences between Ann and herself. Ann is good at studying. She always gets the first place in the whole form. Ann is much more beautiful than her. Ann has got mother’s blond, wavy hair, but May has only got father’s black hair. Ann looks like her dead mother,’ her dad always said that.

At night, May had a fight with her father again.

‘Why me? I already washed the dishes last night. It is Ann’s turn now!’ May grumbled.

‘Your sister needs to revise for her quiz tomorrow,’ he said, ‘just do what I said. Go and wash the dishes.’
‘It never happens to me,’ May shook her head, ‘Last Monday night I asked you whether I could skip the housework for revision, you said no,’ May glared at him.

‘It’s because . . .’ her father said.

‘I hate you! How come Ann can always get a better treatment than mine? I’m also your daughter!’

May shouted. Tears kept running down her cheeks. ‘I hate you!’ May roared again.

May ran out of her home and closed the door hard. She didn’t know where she should go. She just wanted to escape. Her face was full of tears.

‘May, how dare you run out from the home!’ May’s father ran out and held her arm tight.

‘Go away! I don’t want to see you anymore!’ May screamed. ‘Just leave me alone!’ May pushed her father away. At that moment, a car was driving towards her. May fell down. She saw the car getting closer and closer, but she didn’t feel any pain at all. She opened her eyes. Her dad was in a pool of blood.

‘Good, you’re fine,’ he said with a smile, a broad one though listless.

At that moment, she realized how deep her father’s love to her was. It was the greatest love of all.