

WHAT CORAL WANTS

# Zak's Bubble Messages

The morning after the game, Zak sends Coral a series of bubble messages that she sends back unread. I found them in Zak's trash bin and decided to share them with you.

**WARNING:**  
What Coral Wants spoilers!



## First Bubble Message

Coral,

I've been thinking all night about what happened. We really need to talk.

Zak

## Second Bubble Message

Coral,

Sorry I sent that last message so early. You must have been still asleep. Or maybe you're mad at me? And maybe I deserve it because I wasn't honest with you up front. But I'm going to be now. I need you to know that this—us—was never, ever about Angel. It started out being about keeping my mom off my back. It turned into something so much more.

Please. Can we talk?

Z

### Third Bubble Message

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I know you're not even reading these. But I'll keep sending them because maybe you'll give in or maybe you'll accidentally open one. And if you do, I want the first thing you see to be

I LOVE YOU

I didn't want to say it first in a bubble message.

But I don't want to not say it more. Does that even make sense?

Please answer.

Z

## Fourth Bubble Message

Since you're not going to read this, I'm going to write it for myself.

There is barely a time in my life that I remember you not being in it. It feels like you have always been there. Always at our table, at Zanzia's side, with our family and part of it.

For all that time, I didn't really see you.

Spending the last few days with you has been the best time of my life. With you, I can be exactly who I am. My whole self. Not what anyone else expects me to be. Just me.

You are the most selfless, caring, funny, and intelligent person I've ever known.

Now that I see you, I mean really see you, I can't ever go back to what it was like before. Maybe that makes me selfish, but I want more than to just be friends. I want more than polite greetings and casual chat across the dinner table. I want more. I want it all.

I want long swims in the moonlight and talking for hours about the meaning of life and endless rides on the Torpedo Whirl.

Even though you're hurting right now—and I can't tell you how much that hurts me—I will do whatever it takes to make this up to you. To make you see that what you saw wasn't what you think you saw. I will do whatever it takes to make sure that this pain we're both feeling right now never happens again.

You deserve someone who accepts and loves your whole self, and I want to be that merguy. If you give me the chance, I'll spend every day for the rest of my life proving it to you.

## Fifth Bubble Message

I love you.

There's nothing more to say.

I, Zak Marlin, love you, Coral Ballenato.

Period.