



CARTER HIGH  
SENIOR YEAR



# TIME TO *Move On*



SADDLEBACK  
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# *Chapter 1*

Bel walked to school. It was the first school day after spring break.

Bel's real name was Belinda. But her friends called her Bel.

Paz walked with her. Paz was her best friend.

"I can hardly believe it, Bel. Our senior year will be over in less than two months. And we will be out of high school," Paz said.

"I know, Paz. It's hard to believe," Bel said.

"I hope this will be a great two months for us," Paz said.

“I hope it will be too,” Bel said.

Bel was sure it would be a great time for her. She was dating Al.

Al was her boyfriend. His real name was Alberto. He and Bel dated for a year.

Paz said, “I am so glad you are back, Bel.”

“So am I. And I am in a hurry to get to school. I can hardly wait to see Al,” Bel said.

Bel and her mom had been out of town. Bel’s aunt was sick. So Bel and her mom went to stay with her aunt. They also took care of her cousins.

Bel hadn’t seen Al in over a week.

She missed Al, and she could hardly wait to talk to him. But most of all, she just wanted to see him.

Paz said, “I wanted to call you last night. I needed to talk to you about something. But I knew you would want

to talk to Al, not me.”

“I did want to talk to Al. But Al didn’t call,” Bel said.

Paz looked very surprised.

Paz asked, “He didn’t call? Maybe he didn’t know you would be home last night.”

“But he did know. School starts back this morning. So he knew I would be home last night. I told him that before I left,” Bel said.

Bel had been sure Al would call. She had wanted to call him. But she didn’t think she should do that.

Bel asked, “How is Al? Do you know? I didn’t hear from him at all. Not even one time. And he said he would call me at my aunt’s house.”

Paz looked even more surprised.

Then Paz said, “I haven’t seen Al. He must be very busy. That must be why he

didn't call."

The girls got to the school. Some students were standing outside the school.

Bel looked for Al. But she didn't see him.

Paz waved at someone.

Then Paz said, "I see Al, Bel."

"Where?" Bel asked.

Paz said. "He is over there. I waved at him. But he didn't see me."

Bel looked where Paz said Al was standing. Then she saw Al. But he wasn't looking their way.

Bel said, "I must go over there, Paz. It seems like a long time since I talked to Al. And I must talk to him before school starts."

Paz said, "OK. I will go on to class. I will see you after our first class."

"OK," Bel said.

Then Bel hurried over to Al.

Bel thought Al saw her. But he turned away. So he probably didn't see her. He started to go in the school.

Bel called to him. She said, "Al. Wait."

But Al didn't wait. So he must not have heard her.

Bel called to him again. She said, "Wait, Al."

Al stopped. And he turned around. But he didn't look happy to see Bel. That surprised her.

Bel said, "Al, I am so glad to see you. I have missed you so much."

But Al didn't say he had missed Bel.

"I thought you were going to call last night," Bel said.

But Al didn't say anything. And that wasn't like Al.

Al seemed upset.

"Is something wrong, Al?" Bel asked.

But Bel had a bad feeling. Now she

wasn't sure she wanted to know.

Al still didn't say anything. And he didn't look at Bel.

"Why didn't you call me last night?" Bel asked.

At first Al didn't answer.

But then he said, "I like you, Bel. I like you a lot. You are a very nice girl. But—."

He didn't say any more.

But he didn't need to say more. Bel knew what he wanted to say. He had found a new girl.

Bel said, "I know, Al. You have found a new girl. A girl you like better than me."

Al seemed surprised.

"You are right, Bel. But how do you know? Who told you?" Al asked.

Bel said, "No one, Al. But I know you wouldn't act this way unless you had found a new girl."



“I am sorry, Bel,” Al said.

And Al did seem as if he was sorry.

“I am sorry too, Al. But it is OK. You must do what makes you happy,” Bel said.

Bel didn’t want to say that. But she made herself say it. And then she made herself say something else.

“Why didn’t you call me, Al? Why didn’t you tell me last night?” Bel asked.

“I know I should have, Bel. But I didn’t know how to tell you. So I didn’t call you,” Al said.

“But you should have called, Al,” Bel said.

Then Bel went in the school without Al.

Al had broken up with her.

The rest of her senior year wouldn’t be so great after all.



## Chapter 2

Bel went to class. But she couldn't keep her mind on the class. All she could think about was Al. She was glad he wasn't in any of her classes.

Bel wanted to talk to Paz. But her teacher didn't let her class out on time. So Bel wouldn't have time to tell Paz about Al.

Bel hurried out of her class. Paz was waiting for her in the hall.

Paz asked, "What is wrong, Bel? You don't look so good."

Bel said, "I don't have time to tell you now. But I need to talk to you, Paz."

Bel didn't think she would see Paz again until after school. They didn't have the same classes. And they didn't have lunch at the same time.

Bel said, "We might have to wait until after school to talk. And I don't think I can wait until then."

But Bel knew she would have to wait that long.

"It can't be that bad," Paz said.

Bel said, "But it is, Paz. It is. I wish I could tell you how bad it is now. But we have to get to our classes."

So Bel couldn't tell Paz.

Bel hurried to class. She was almost late. She couldn't keep her mind on the class. All she could think about was Al.

Bel had lunch next. But she didn't want to go to lunch. Al had lunch at the same time. And she didn't want to see him.