

Gazing out of the car window, the city lights captivated me. The bright red traffic lights almost knowingly slowed our trip with each irritating stop. Oblivious to this downtrodden pocket of the city, my eagerness got the best of me as I stumbled up the small concrete steps. Stepping into the small city building, my blue eyes dilated, adjusting to the dim light of the crystal chandeliers hanging from the black, stained ceiling. The odor of sweaty bodies mixed with the antique fragrance of the aged building, permeated the room. My mouth slowly began to carry the taste of stale cigarettes as I moved deeper into the mass of people. My black high-top converse stuck to the tacky, slanted floor. My height an unfair disadvantage, I raised up on my toes, only to watch the sea of people stretched out before me. To ask just how many people were in the crowded room would be a foolish question. Scanning the tops of the heads in front of me, my eyes settled on a tall man, his brunette bun peeking from beneath the rim of a black velvet fedora. I fixated on the toothpick he nonchalantly twirled between his lips. Goosebumps spread contagiously up my arms as I heard the familiar guitar riffs of my favorite song pushing from behind the stage. Heavy fog along with blue and red iridescent lights consumed us. The floor began to bounce under the weight of the dancing bodies in the claustrophobic room. Every voice singing in unison overflowed the capacity of the little structure.