

Dying

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Rated: PG

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Summary: With Kryptonite coursing through his veins, Clark needs something to give him the strength to go on.

Story Size: 299 words (2Kb as text)

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Author's note: #35 in the At First Sight series, set during Top Copy after Diana Stride poisons Superman but before Lois finds him on the floor in Clark's apartment.

This story is part of a series that includes "[1. At First Sight](#)," "[2. A Matter of Time](#)," "[3. Evil Lurks](#)," "[4. Invisible](#)," "[5. Gratitude](#)," "[6. Unprofessional Behaviour](#)," "[7. But For the Grace of God](#)," "[8. Vulnerable](#)," "[9. Decisions](#)," "[10. A Terrible Mistake](#)," "[11. Facets](#)," "[12. Terrified](#)," "[13. A Remarkable Woman](#)," "[14. The Aftermath of Illusion](#)," "[15. Black, White and Shades of Grey](#)," "[16. Tainted](#)," "[17. Betrayal](#)," "[18. Brothers](#)," "[19. Saving the Enemy](#)," "[20. Aching](#)," "[21. Healing](#)," "[22. Defending Myself](#)," "[23. Euphoria](#)," "[24. Family Ties](#)," "[25. Two Steps Forward](#)," "[26. Vigilante](#)," "[27. Friendship](#)," "[28. Life Or Death](#)," "[29. Ramifications](#)," "[30. Christmas Magic](#)," "[31. Situational Ethics](#)," "[32. Expectations](#)," "[33. A Permanent Solution](#)," "[34. Success](#)," "[35. Dying](#)," "[36. ... One Step Back](#)," "[37. First Date](#)," and "[38. Rights and Responsibilities](#)."

I'm dying.
The pain comes in waves, each more devastatingly painful than the last.

I'm not ready to die. Not now. Not like this.

I would never have guessed Diana Stride was an assassin for Intergang. But there she was, hiding in plain sight. She's a clever assassin; it takes a diabolical mind to think of a Kryptonite kiss.

And now the Kryptonite is inside me, burning its way through my body, wracking me with pain, robbing me of my strength. I can't move, can't stand. Can't do anything but writhe with the agony. The phone- and help- is just a few feet away, but it may as well be on Mars; I can't get to it.

I don't want to die.

I'm so close to everything I've ever wanted. A date with Lois... it's all just beginning.

Lois...

Suddenly she's here, and in my pain filled haze it feels almost like I summoned her. For a moment, I fear she's an illusion, a hallucination brought on by being near to death. Then she reaches for the phone and I know I can relax. The pain hasn't lessened; it's still there, still excruciating, but it's changed somehow. In a moment of clarity, I know why.

Lois has called for help. As she's done so many times before, she's brought me hope.

I'm no longer dying.

THE END