## **America's Next Model**

## **Hotel Books**

I wanted us to be model citizens so no one would ask us about o ur sins.

But there's an intoxicating thrill that comes with entering a h ome of love and finding skeletons in the closet

And there's something about community that creates competition and something about competition that leaves me feeling uninvite d.

And the ones that stain the healthy way and inspired my faith a re the same ones who are ready to jump ship the second thing turns to fifth and the path I'm on diminishes or the lights on the sides of the road that I walk down fall di m, and I'm sorry darling, but you were the worst of it.

I used to feel alone when I thought that nobody loved me in tru th, but now I feel alone when I think about the way that you do . You told me you didn't want me to fall asleep with bitterness i

n my heart, so I guess I'll just stay awake.

You said you could tell me and only me, and I wouldn't fall apa rt, but you couldn't see me stand when I began to break.

And I was told that true character shows when no one's around, but I felt like no one wanted me around, and the sound of the ground being punished by my feet and the s olitude I find when I put ice on my shaking knees resound in a profound runaround of emotionally bound conclusion s. I came to I felt like I was going to drown, and the bitterness you thought I felt was just your own mind confusing bitterness with acceptance. And fixing our broken home with wasting time because you though t it would begin.

And sometimes I hear the crack on the windowsill, and I miss th e days when it had a picture of you and I.

And I miss the emotions that came with chasing after this thril 1, but mostly I just miss being a part of your life.

And I remember when you stopped saying I love you unless you we re just saying I love you too, and then I remember when even that was too hard for you.

And I remember the day that our blue suitcase on the top shelf

of my closet disappeared, and so did the passion you had for me here and the fear of know ing you could leave me had vanished but so did the reason I eve r felt purpose.

And it hurts to know that you said goodbye, but I just thank Go d that you're alive. And I'm happy that you're happy, and my joy comes from knowing you were once mine. And I'm grateful for that, and even though there's so many word s I wish I could take back I still thank my God every time I re member you.

I still thank my God every time I remember you.