

SIDES CONTAIN TWO SCENES:

Car Scene

Water Tower Scene

CAR SCENE

INT. DAYLEN'S CAR - A LITTLE LATER

They're now driving home. MUSIC PLAYS IN THE CAR (**CUE 17**)

DAYLEN

(...Work was crazy though.) I don't think I have a job there anymore (laughs).

MYRON

You kidding? What happened?

DAYLEN

Well, long story short, I don't usually work Wednesdays and just spaced about your thing and the shift being on the same day.

MYRON

And you got fired?

DAYLEN

I guess... I mean, they said I couldn't leave, but I did anyway.

MYRON

Bull shit!

DAYLEN

Stuck it to the man.

MYRON

You'd never do that!

DAYLEN

No telling what I'll do next:

MYRON

You never change.

DAYLEN

I'm getting naked right now!

MYRON
Your driving.

Daylen unzips his pants.

MYRON (CONT'D)
No! No!

They laugh.

They pull up to the

GORDON HOUSE

Laughter slows.

MYRON (CONT'D)
What are you doing this weekend?

DAYLEN
Um. I don't know, why?

MYRON
You want to go camping?

DAYLEN
I thought you already went?

MYRON
It fell through. Wanna go this weekend?

DAYLEN
Ooo. Er... Sorry dude, this weekend's bad.

MYRON
(covers disappointment)
Cool.

Myron gets out of the car.

MYRON (CONT'D)
(lost cause voice)
Well, let me know.

DAYLEN
Yeah man. We'll do it.

MYRON
And your music sucks by the way!

DOOR SLAMS

DAYLEN
I'm gonna get you right!

Daylen's about to leave, but Myron KNOCKS ON THE WINDOW.

MYRON
Hang on!

Myron drops his bag and sprints towards the house. It's a comically unnecessary run.

DAYLEN
I gotta go!

MOMENTS LATER

Myron charges through the front door and runs. He's holding A PICTURE. He hands it to Daylen.

MYRON
Here you go.

Daylen looks at it. They laugh.

DAYLEN
What's wrong with you!

INSERT, CLOSE UP - THE PICTURE (a print out of a funny old man in a speedo and a top hat jumping into a pool).

MYRON
Thought you'd like it.

Daylen hands him the picture.

MYRON (CONT'D)
Keep it.

MYRON (CONT'D)
Did you ever finish that polar bear puzzle we got you?

DAYLEN
Workin' on it. I got something comin' for you too.

MYRON
Right...

DAYLEN
No faith!

MYRON

Thanks again for coming. You didn't mention it to Dad did you?

DAYLEN

Naw. You're straight.

Myron hits the car and runs away. Daylen drives off.

WATER TOWER SCENE

PART 1

EXT. TOP OF A WATER TOWER - MIDNIGHT - **THE PRESENT**

CLOSE UP - Digital alarm clock reads 12:00 AM.

ALARM NOISE fades in FROM SILENCE.

CAMERA BACKS UP TO REVEAL Maggie and Daylen lying on blankets on the water tower. It's pitch black, but they're lit by a gas lamp above them.

Maggie lies on the left, Daylen on the right, and in between: an alarm clock and TWO ROWS OF NUMBERED, WHITE ENVELOPES. A few feet behind them sits a red cooler and a video camera suspended in mid-air in the distance.

Daylen wakes up, turns off the alarm clock, and quickly opens an envelope with a scribbled, "READ ME FIRST" on the cover and takes out an enclosed letter.

He shakes Maggie to wake her as he reads the letter.

He looks to Maggie. She's slowly regaining consciousness.

Maggie's suddenly alert and a little scared.

DAYLEN

Are you okay?

Maggie lifts up the shirt on her arm and examines a black, house-arrest-looking shackle on her upper arm.

MAGGIE

What just happened?

Daylen examines a similar shackle on his arm.

DAYLEN

This is scary shit (nervous laugh).

Maggie's confused and looks around.

DAYLEN (CONT'D)

Read this.

Hands her the letter. She reads it.

Daylen exhales.

Maggie looks at the clock then back at the letter.

DAYLEN (CONT'D)

So we're supposed to open one envelope on the hour. Then ask each other- you- whatever's in it... Then...

Daylen scoots closer and uses one hand to point to the letter and the other hand to stabilize himself by resting it on her shoulder. **When he puts his hand on her, she flinches/pulls away - reflex.** Daylen's a little taken aback.

DAYLEN (CONT'D)

Sorry.

Eye contact.

DAYLEN (CONT'D)

...Then... Ask and I wait I think... 24 times.

Maggie grabs her envelope reading, "1."

She looks at the neatly-organized row of letters.

DAYLEN (CONT'D)

At the bottom here it says we can't
leave either.

Daylen picks up his "1" envelope.

MAGGIE

It didn't say who goes-? But that's
24...hours!

DAYLEN

Heh... I don't guess it matters.

MAGGIE

What's happening?

DAYLEN

What else are we going to do?

They look all around. It's pitch black.

MAGGIE

Errrrrrmm.

DAYLEN

We'll just see what goes.

MAGGIE

O-kay!

Reads her enclosed message over one more time.

MAGGIE (CONT'D)

The question is as follows: What is
your name? How old are you? Where
did you grow up? What's your
favorite color? Do you have any
siblings? Pets? What do you do for
fun? Dreams?

MUSIC PLAYS (CUE 5).

Daylen looks at Maggie's feet.

DAYLEN

That's it?

Maggie flips over the letter. They make eye contact

DAYLEN (CONT'D)

Okay?... I'm Daylen Gordon. 22.
Lived all my life in Birmingham,
Alabama-

MAGGIE
Me too. I live there.

They look at each other.

DAYLEN
...I like black - or... to be
technical - I guess blue's my
favorite.. Have a brother.

Looks to Maggie for prompting.

MAGGIE
...Pets, fun, dreams.

DAYLEN
No pets. I like music, and I don't
have dreams.

Daylen looks at his letter.

DAYLEN (CONT'D)
It's the same.

MAGGIE
Magnolia - Maggie's what I go by -
Anderson. 23. Born in Endicott, New
York. Blue too. Petless. I work...
I guess I'd like to be independent.

Daylen examines the letter and instructions.

MAGGIE (CONT'D)
Well nice to meet you Daylen.

Daylen's a bit preoccupied. He sees the semi-hidden camera a
few feet behind them. It's unreachable.

DAYLEN
Is that a camera...

Maggie looks around.

MAGGIE
Can't see.

DAYLEN
Back there. See? Too far to reach
though.

Maggie's looking for it.

DAYLEN (CONT'D)
 So wake up. Here. Ask your favorite
 color... and sit?

Looks at clock (now reads 12:04). Picks up card "2" and slaps
 it on his leg.

DAYLEN (CONT'D)
 56 minutes... Yep. Pretty dark out
 here...

MAGGIE
 Should we climb down?

He looks around - it's dark and very high up.

DAYLEN
 ...Err... We could sleep maybe?

MAGGIE
 It said no sleeping... What's gonna
 happen if we don't do it?

DAYLEN
 Well, he did manage to kidnap us
 and put us wherever the hell.
 (Laughs) I don't know if we should
 test him.

MAGGIE
 (laughs)
 Got a point...

Daylen examines the darkness once more then looks at Maggie.

DAYLEN
 So you grew up in New York?

MAGGIE
 (laughs)
 Yeah, we're not going anywhere.
 (Inhales) So...

DAYLEN
 Oh wait. Siblings?

...

...

...

PART 2 - LATER

EXT. TOP OF WATER TOWER - SUNRISE - **THE PRESENT**

INSERT - CLOSE UP, ALARM CLOCK READS **6:59AM**

Maggie and Daylen haven't talked this much in years. Daylen talks with his hands. Maggie listens intently.

DAYLEN

...EXACTLY! He never liked me playin'. Said some things, but she bought my first guitar too.

MAGGIE

-The things people say... small stuff... Really messes you up.

DAYLEN

...He just puts anything creative in a lower category ya know? If it's not a 'job'-

MUSIC FADES IN (**CUE 9**).

ALARM CLOCK RINGS, **7:00 AM**.

They reach for their respective envelopes and open.

MAGGIE

Describe the single best and single worst days of your life.

CUT TO:

LATER - **12:00 PM**

Daylen reads.

DAYLEN

What makes you happy?

CUT TO:

LATER - **2:00 PM**

They open a new envelope and pull out a letter, a pad of paper, and a pencil.

DAYLEN

Pencil AND paper. Hot damn!

They're both reading intently.

DAYLEN (CONT'D)
 Easy peasy: Just five minutes of
 whatever and don't stop writing
 until then.

MAGGIE
 Write about what?

DAYLEN
 Doesn't say, the only rule's we
 have to write the whole time.

Maggie looks over it once more.

MAGGIE
 Kay. On your mark, get set...

She looks at the clock.

MAGGIE (CONT'D)
 Go.

-They're writing.

INSERT - THE CLOCK READS **2:07 PM**

-Maggie looks at the clock.

MAGGIE (CONT'D)
 Anngghhh (buzzer noise).

They stop writing at the same time.

MAGGIE (CONT'D)
 So we swap...

They swap papers.

Daylen stands up.

DAYLEN
 It doesn't make sense. Just don't
 think -

MAGGIE
 ...And read. It'll be okay, mine
 doesn't make any sense either. You
 sit down though. It's like school.

Maggie stands up, Daylen sits. She reads a little ahead
 before she starts. She struts around a little and almost
 makes a dance out of reading.

MAGGIE (CONT'D)
 (reading out loud)
 Once upon a time... There was a
 voice that spoke the things people
 think...

Maggie stops the dance thing and slows her walk down, she's more interested in the words.

MAGGIE (CONT'D)
 From the woman on the corner, "I
 wish I could be better. Be there..."

CUT TO:

EXT. DELIVERY TRUCK - THAT MOMENT

WE HEAR Maggie and Daylen TALKING OFF SCREEN THROUGH A WALKIE TALKIE in the car.

HIGH ANGLE - PAN FROM THE PASSENGER SEAT TO THE DRIVER'S SEAT

On the passenger side of the car, we see several Polaroid pictures taped to the window, and on the floor we see a pile of photographs and paper scraps - **he's making a scrap book**. On the dashboard we see binoculars, a megaphone, a camera (with a long lens), and a small journal.

When we reach the driver's seat we see a man transcribing the off-screen conversation.

MAGGIE (O.S.)
 ...And the quiet man waiting in
 line... "I'm going to tell her. The
 next time. I'm gong to tell her
 that life isn't always perfect.
 It's hard, and you might be sad,
 but you've gotta trust things'll be
 better, 'cause they will, and I
 know this doesn't make sense to you
 now, and I know you'll be happy,
 but just in case.

BACK TO THE WATER TOWER

MAGGIE (CONT'D)
 You've gotta know, and remember
 that things will be okay. The next
 time. I'll tell her. I swear." And
 so the voice moves along. Speaking
 thunk thoughts.

DAYLEN
(nervous laugh)
I was right... that really doesn't
make sense! I'm sorry.

Maggie sits slowly.

MAGGIE
I thought it was interesting.

She looks at him with a newfound intrigue.

He looks down and rolls his head the other way. Small grin.

DAYLEN
Can I start?

MAGGIE
Mmmhmm.

Daylen clear throat and stands up.

DAYLEN
...All at once (switch to story
time voice) the youngster told them
to leave her alone. They did. And
she was left there. She was alone.

Maggie picks up some of the used paper nervously tears
pattern in it.

DAYLEN (CONT'D)
But all was not well. She needed a
friend, and a friend she found.
They went places, and did things.
Fun things. Scary things. Silly
things. And who would have thought
they'd grow up? That one would
leave and one would stay? (No more
story time voice) Someone surely
knew it would end. But how? After
so many sleep-overs, and secrets,
makeovers, and pizza Wednesdays,
and the mess on the porch, and cat
in the street, and the yellow
treehouse. She could not
understand, but she will learn.
Yes. In time. She will learn...

Daylen hesitates.

DAYLEN (CONT'D)
I like that.

CUT TO:

LATER: 3:20 PM.

DAYLEN (CONT'D)
...I want to communicate on a
different level altogether. Fuck
the rain! *Talk* about when you
weren't doing well. Don't always
pretend things are fine.

Daylen looks up for a bit and interrupts himself.

DAYLEN (CONT'D)
(laughs)
(goofy) Gee wiz! Chatter box king
over here...

Maggie waits for him to say more.

DAYLEN (CONT'D)
...I'm not one to talk.

Daylen looks at Maggie then back down.

Maggie waits again. Daylen looks at her. They connect, but as
soon as Maggie speaks, she talks to the ground mostly.

MAGGIE
Do you feel guilty when you talk?

DAYLEN
How?

MAGGIE
Nevermind.

DAYLEN
Say it.

MAGGIE
It's like what I'm going to say
isn't interesting to me, and how's
anyone else going to care? I just
want to give up mid-sentence, but-

Extra long pause.

DAYLEN

...JERK!

CUT TO:

LATER: 4:00 PM.

MAGGIE

This one requires extra secretness.

Maggie quickly takes the blanket out from under her and throws it in the air to cover them. They talk under the blanket.

MAGGIE (CONT'D)

(whisper)

You're stuck on a desert island...
and you can only bring one thing,
what would it be?

Daylen looks at her.

MAGGIE (CONT'D)

Just kidding... It says, "what
incident in your life has had the
single most impact on you or was
the most meaningful."

Maggie looks at him. The lock eyes for a few moments.

CUT TO:

LATER: 5:30 PM.

Empty envelopes and food packages are stacked in a pile.

MAGGIE (CONT'D)

...but how do you meet people?

Maggie scratches her nose.

DAYLEN

I don't think I'm the one to
ask...(awkward laugh) AND!

Daylen stands up.

DAYLEN (CONT'D)

I gotta pee.

He walks to the edge of the tower and relieves himself.

MAGGIE

Be careful! Did you hear that?

Daylen laughs and walks funny.

DAYLEN

I can't feel my cheeks!... (now peeing). Beats me though. Do you ever see someone out you want to talk to?

MAGGIE

All the time.

DAYLEN

Why is it so hard to just talk?

MAGGIE

(It's not hard with you.)

DAYLEN

What did you say?

MAGGIE

Nothing.

DAYLEN

Tallest waterfall ever!

MAGGIE

(laughs)
...It's tough.

CUT TO:

LATER: SUNSET, 6:30 PM.

Daylen finishes an origami x-wing fighter out of a piece of paper from his writing pad.

MAGGIE (CONT'D)

Oh come on! You couldn't do that again if you tried!

DAYLEN

What do you want?

MAGGIE

How do you know how to do that?

DAYLEN

It's a secret.

She hits him on the shoulder.

MAGGIE
Loser.

CUT TO:

LATE NIGHT: 11:59 PM.

Neatly lined origami figures replace the empty envelopes.

MAGGIE (CONT'D)
(intimate)
I don't know what it is... about...
but I feel...

Maggie looks at Daylen.

MAGGIE (CONT'D)
It's been a long time...

Daylen listens.

MAGGIE (CONT'D)
(change the subject)
I'm tired!

DAYLEN
Any second.

CUT TO:

LATER: 12:05 AM.

They lie unconscious.

The locked gate to the water tower ladder opens and a Masked Figure emerges.