

Sariska

by

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For Lara,
For confusing me so much I
went back and finished this.

EXT. SCHOOL PLAYGROUND - DAY

SCOTT (12) and SARISKA (12) sit on the edge of the playground on the ground eating their lunch. Sariska has her hair tied back in a ponytail. There are kids everywhere. A group of them are standing by the flying fox platform. One of the bigger kids, JACOB, is playing on a Nintendo DS while a small one, JAMES, looks annoyed next to him.

SCOTT

Do you think your Dad's ever gonna come back?

SARISKA

(shrugging)

I don't know. Mum said not to get my hopes up.

SCOTT

Don't worry, I'm sure he'll come back.

We hear from afar the volume of the group by the flying fox rise. We see them in the distance.

GIRL

Just give him his game back Jacob.

JACOB

(eyes on the game)

I'm not done yet.

JAMES

You said after you died you'd give it back.

JACOB

(eyes still on the game)

Shut up, I'm trying to concentrate.

Sariska and Scott look up from where they're sitting to see them arguing on the other side of the playground.

SCOTT

(hopeful)

You think this might be the one?

SARISKA

(smiling)

Maybe.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Sariska gets up and we follow her from behind with Scott as she heads straight for the flying fox where the argument is still going.

GIRL
(pleading with Jacob)
C'mon, you're just being mean now.

Jacob just ignores her. Sariska and Scott are close now.

SARISKA
(calling out)
Hey Jacob!

JACOB
(head still down on
the game, annoyed)
What?

SARISKA
(impatient)
Oi! Look at me when I'm talking to
you.

Jacob finally looks up from his game, annoyed.

JACOB
(aggressive)
What the hell do you want?

SARISKA
Give James his game back.

JACOB
I'll give it back when I'm done.
But I'm not done yet.

SARISKA
(stern)
Give it back now or I'll have to
make you.

JACOB
(smiling)
You can't do anything. Look at
you.

Sariska walks up closer to Jacob and stands above him.

SARISKA
You sure you want to find out?

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CONTINUED: (2)

Holding the Nintendo with his left hand, Jacob shoves Sariska back with his right forcing Sariska to step back.

JACOB

See? What are you gonna do?

Scott looks scared. So do the rest of the kids watching around them. Sariska steps back up to him.

SARISKA

(confident)

Touch me again and I'll show you.

JACOB

(smiling again)

You're full of shit.

Jacob goes to shove her back again but this time Sariska fends his arm with her left and gives him a straight cross to face with her right, knocking him back onto the flying fox platform. She snatches the Nintendo out of his hand and gives it to James. All the kids watch in disbelief.

JAMES

(shocked)

Thanks.

SARISKA

If he ever does that again just come find me.

Sariska motions to Scott.

SARISKA

C'mon.

They start walking back to where they were sitting. Scott is all smiles.

SCOTT

Oh my God, you actually did it!

Sariska smiles back. They walk past the frame as we hold on the group of kids. James back on his game, Jacob still sitting back up now, holding his nose.

CUT TO BLACK:

BLACK

Text on screen fades in: "Five years later"

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Text fades out, leaving us back on black.

We hear the sound of a car slowing down, parking, turning off. We're still on black. We hear the doors open and two people get out. They talk over the black screen. A boy's voice (SCOTT) and a girl's voice (Sariska).

SARISKA (O.S.)

I can't believe what happened to Alana.

SCOTT (O.S.)

Saw it on the news this morning. That guy used to go to our school too.

SARISKA (O.S.)

I felt sick when I saw the article.

We can hear them going up steps now.

SCOTT (O.S.)

I don't even think he's gonna get jail time because he was under eighteen when he did it.

SARISKA (O.S.)

What are they gonna do then? Slap his wrist and send him to a shrink?

SCOTT (O.S.)

That's what it sounds like.

We hear a door open.

CUT TO:

INT. BOXING GYM

Scott and Sariska, seventeen years old, walk into an empty boxing gym. Sariska is dressed in full workout gear, Scott is wearing a pair of basketball shorts and a band t-shirt. Sariska has her hair in a simple pony-tail just like when she was twelve. EMMA, a woman in her twenties, is packing her sports bag by the reception area.

SCOTT/SARISKA

Hey Emma.

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EMMA
(smiling)
Hi Scott, hey Sariska.

Scott and Sariska walk towards a bench.

SARISKA
(at Scott)
You remember your iPod?

Scott walks towards the right corner of the gym.

SCOTT
Yep.

Sariska starts putting her wraps on as Emma finishes packing her bag and heads for the door.

EMMA
Remember to lock up when you
leave. I'll see you guys tomorrow
night.

Scott looks up from his iPod.

SCOTT
Thanks Emma.

SARISKA
Cya.

Emma leaves. Scott puts his iPod down as 'Get Free ft. Amber of the Dirty Projectors' by Major Lazor starts to play. He walks back to where Sariska is still doing her wraps. He picks his own up and starts to do them. Scott looks at Sariska, focused intently on her wrapping.

SCOTT
(concerned)
You alright?

SARISKA
Just angry about what happened to
Alana.

SCOTT
Yeah, me too.

CUT TO:

Credit sequence:

Sariska and Scott hop in Sariska's car in the parking

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

lot. 'Get Free' on full blast now. We follow them inside the car as they drive out of the quiet street into central city Wellington where people are going out clubbing. We go in and out of slow motion as we see tipsy guys walking in big groups, girls in short skirts, bouncers looking bored, cops walking the sidewalks. Everyone looks young, too young. POV shots out of Sariska and Scott's windows then going in even closer to CU's of cigarette's in hand, bouncers hands ushering, girls' cold hands rubbing against their skin in club lines outside, hands texting.

CUT TO:

INT. CAR - MORNING

Close up of a woman's hand on the steering wheel showing a tan mark where a wedding ring used to be. HELEN, late thirties, formal work attire, is driving while MARY, seventeen, in jeans and a sweater is in the backseat reading 'Lightning Field' by Dana Spiotta.

HELEN

Are you still going to Tina's
after school today honey?

Helen looks in her rear view mirror when she doesn't hear an immediate reply to see Mary lost in her book.

HELEN

(impatient)
Mary please. When I ask you
something can you respond straight
away please? You know how
frustrating I find that.

Mary looks up at her Mum in the rearview mirror.

MARY

Sorry Mum, what'd you say?

HELEN

I was asking if you were still
going to Tina's after school.

MARY

Oh yeah, I'm still going. I'll be
back before ten though. She said
she can drop me home. Is that
okay?

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HELEN

It's fine honey, I was just double checking.

They pull up outside a high school campus. Mary takes off her seat belt and smiles at her Mum.

MARY

(getting out)
Thanks for the ride mum.

HELEN

Alright, bye honey, love you.

MARY

(just before closing
the door)
Love you too. Bye Mum.

Mary hops out and walks towards the school buildings. We stay in the car as Helen pulls back out onto the road and stops at a nearby traffic light as students cross. She can hear three boys, CHRIS, JACK and HARVEY, all seventeen, talking as they wait at the lights, then cross in front of the car as they head up to school.

CHRIS

...Who cares if she was, you should of just had her when you got the chance.

JACK

(defensive)
C'mon, she was practically passed out.

CHRIS

(laughing)
And? Pussy's pussy man. So unless you wanna be a virgin when we graduate, stop acting like one.

And I don't know what it was like at your old school but if she's wasted, then you get her up to a room as quick as you can. Don't go looking for her friends.

(smirking)
Shit.

Harvey starts laughing. Jack's speechless.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

HARVEY

Don't worry, you'll figure it out.

Helen winds her window up as the boys pass her car, muting their voices. Scott and Sariska walk past the car a few steps behind the three boys. We hear Sariska's voice over top as we

CUT TO:

INT. CLASSROOM - MORNING

People are taking their seats. Scott and Sariska are already seated in the back corner.

SARISKA

I spent like half an hour last night convincing my mum that Britney's career isn't over.

SCOTT

(smiling)

I thought your Mum liked her too?

SARISKA

Yeah she does, but she thinks taking that Vegas gig was her saying her charts career was over which I don't think is true.

The classroom door bursts open. Chris, Jack and Harvey walk in. Chris looks at Scott and Sariska talking.

CHRIS

(calling across the room, smiling)

Hey Scott, how's life in the friend zone?

Scott looks up and just looks at Chris, not answering him. Sariska gives Chris the fingers and smiles sarcastically. Chris smiles back.

CHRIS

(at Scott)

Faggot.

The three boys take their seats. We go back in to Scott and Sariska.

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CONTINUED:

SARISKA

I wish he'd stop bitching all the time and just take a swing at you already. At least that way I'd have a proper excuse to have a go at him.

SCOTT

(shrugging)

Who cares about them, they're just a waste of time.

SARISKA

I know, but I wish I could have a go at them just once.

SCOTT

(smiling)

You and me both.

CUT TO:

EXT. STREET - AFTERNOON

Sariska and Scott walking home. The school visible in the distance behind them.

SCOTT

Do you know much about that new kid that's been hanging out with Chris and Harvey?

SARISKA

Not really. His name's Jack. He just moved here from outta town a few weeks ago.

SCOTT

I feel bad for him.

SARISKA

Why? He chose to hang out with the two biggest douche bags in the whole school.

SCOTT

I don't know. He doesn't seem so bad. I feel like they were probably the first people he tried to make friends with and now he's stuck with them.

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CONTINUED:

They walk quietly together for a few moments. Sariska's distracted.

SCOTT

What are you thinking about?

SARISKA

Jean Turner called me at lunch today on my way to meet you.

SCOTT

Why, what's going on?

SARISKA

She's offered to coach me full time when school's finished. She said she's been thinking about it for a while and if I'm willing to go all in, she thinks I could go all the way if I wanted.

SCOTT

That's awesome! Why didn't you tell me straight away?

SARISKA

(hesitant)

I don't know, I just thought -

Well it means I'd have to stay here with Jean and the gym. I wouldn't be able to move up to Auckland with you.

SCOTT

(encouraging)

This is huge though. Jean could really take you all the way. She barely offers to coach anyone anymore.

SARISKA

I know, I know. But we've been planning this move for ages. I don't know what to do.

SCOTT

Sariska, you gotta stay. This is such a huge opportunity for you, you can't pass this up.

Sariska stops walking. Scott stops with her.

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CONTINUED: (2)

SCOTT

You ok?

SARISKA

Sorry. This is gonna sound pathetic coming from me but I don't know how I'm gonna get by without you.

SCOTT

(smiling)

Without me? You're the one who takes care of us. If it wasn't for you I'd of had my ass handed to me dozens of times.

Everything I've learned in the last few years has just been from shadowing you, including how to finally throw a punch for myself. You're gonna be fine. It's me you should be worried about.

Sariska looks a bit upset. Scott steps in and hugs her.

SCOTT

C'mon Sariska, I'm not going that far.

SARISKA

I'll be able to come visit you at the hostel and you'll be down for the breaks and summer right?

SCOTT

Course. And you know if there was pre-med here I'd apply in a heart beat.

Scott let's go of her and steps back.

SCOTT (CONT'D)

C'mon, we're gonna be fine. You've got your Mum and Jean here. We can Skype anytime we want.

'Secret Meeting' by The National starts to play as Sariska and Scott continue walking down the street.

CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM - TINA'S HOUSE

Mary and TINA (seventeen), both holding Wii controllers, are playing a dancing game and laughing.

CUT TO:

INT. HOUSE - AFTERNOON

Helen, with a name badge on her work clothes now, is showing a couple through a house.

HELEN

...great thing about a three bedroom home like this one for a young couple like yourselves is you have the option of a study and spare bedroom so if kids are on the way they can easily be converted right back into bedrooms. Wait till you see the tile work in the bathroom. They just had it redone before putting the house on the market. Looks amazing.

CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM - SARISKA'S HOUSE

Sariska's on the couch, biscuits on the table in front of her. Scott walks over carrying two mugs of hot chocolate. A DVD case for Six Feet Under Season 5 is on the edge of couch.

SARISKA

I can't believe we're already on the last episode. I don't want this series to end.

Scott hands Sariska her hot drink, sits down and reaches for the remote.

SARISKA

Thanks.

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CONTINUED:

SCOTT

I don't know how you're supposed to write a finale to a show like this.

CUT TO:

INT. TINA'S BEDROOM

Tina and Mary are doing their nails. 'Secret Meeting' now playing from pink portable speakers on the bed.

TINA

Are you allowed to come to Sam's this weekend?

MARY

I hope so. If Mum's in a good mood when I get home tonight I'll ask her.

TINA

(smiling)
Harvey's gonna be there.

MARY

I know. I just hope he doesn't show up with some other girl.

TINA

Well even if he does, I'll get rid of her for you.

MARY

(worried)
No, don't do anything embarrassing. The last time you were drunk you thought it was a good idea to tell everyone I was still a virgin. Last thing I wanna do is embarrass myself at the first party me and Harvey are at together.

Tina smiles wide and puts a voice on.

TINA

Don't worry Mary, I'll be on my best behaviour.

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CONTINUED:

MARY
(laughing)
Yeah right.

CUT TO:

INT. RESTAURANT - EVENING

Helen's at the entrance/reception to a restaurant. Still in her work clothes, her name badge removed.

HELEN
Hi, can I get a table for dinner please?

STAFF MEMBER
Just for you ma'am, or are you expecting company tonight?

HELEN
No, just for me thanks.

The staff member guides her to an empty table. Helen takes a seat and looks out the window.

CUT TO:

INT. PARKING LOT - GYM

Sariska and Scott, in their gym gears, small sweat patches visible on them both, as they walk to Sariska's car.

SARISKA
...she's definitely got more confidence in me than I do but so long as she thinks I can make it then so do I.

They both hop in the car.

CUT TO:

EXT. WELLINGTON CITY STREET - EVENING

Helen walks down an alleyway. When she get's midway, two men step out in front of her, blocking the path.

CUT TO:

INT. SARISKA'S CAR

Sariska's driving, 'Secret Meeting' transitions to now playing from the car stereo. Scott's in the passenger seat reading 'Beautiful You' by Chuck Palahniuk.

They stop at a red light, perpendicular to the alleyway Helen is in. Sariska looks out her window and see's Helen arguing/struggling with one of the men.

SARISKA

(shocked)

Oh my God!

Scott looks up.

SARISKA (CONT'D)

(taking of her seat
belt)

Scott, park the car quick then
come running.

SCOTT

(panicked)

What are you gonna do?

Sariska pulls the hand brake up fast and opens her door.

SARISKA

(strongly as she gets
out of the car)

Just do it! I'm gonna see what's
going on over there.

Sariska jumps out of the car while Scott undoes his belt and starts to move across onto the drivers seat.

CUT TO:

EXT. ALLEYWAY

We follow Sariska as she sprints down the alleyway towards Helen. 'Secret Meeting' fades away as she gets further from the car with her footsteps and breathing now filling the air. As she nears the two men with Helen, she yells out at MAN #1, who is gripping one of Helen's arms.

SARISKA

(shouting)

Hey! What do you think you're
doing?

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CONTINUED:

MAN #1

Look bitch, just piss off before
you get hurt.

SARISKA

What did you just call me?

MAN #1

(still holding Helen
who looks scared for
Sariska)

You heard me bitch, piss off.

SARISKA

You better watch who you're
calling a bitch.

MAN #2

(smiling)

Shit. You got a mouth on you.

Man #1 shoves Helen violently towards Man #2.

MAN #1

(at Man #2)

Hold onto her.

(walking towards her)

You should've left when I gave you
the chance.

We can hear Scott running towards them in the distance.
Sariska waits for Man #1 to throw a punch and dodges it,
following with a three punch combo, knocking Man #1 right
out to the ground. Scott arrives puffing, just as Man #1
hits the ground.

SCOTT

(shocked)

Oh shit!

Sariska looks calm and composed. Scott looks over at Man
#2, still gripping Helen's arm, in shock.

SCOTT

(shouting)

What the hell are you still doing?
Let go of her.

Man #2 let's go of Helen's arm as if he forgot he was
holding it in the first place and steps back, looking at
Sariska and down at his friend on the ground.

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CONTINUED: (2)

SARISKA

(at Man #2)

Unless you wanna join your friend
on the ground, take out your
wallet right now and throw it to
me.

MAN #2

(confused)

What?

SARISKA

Just do it before I crack your
head open on the wall.

MAN #2

(panicked)

Ok, ok, shit.

Man #2 reaches into his pocket.

SARISKA

(to Scott)

Grab this other guy's wallet.

Man #2 throws his wallet to Sariska as Scott bends down
and gets Man #1's wallet out of his pants. He hands it to
Sariska. She takes a card out of each wallet and tosses
the wallets to the side.

SARISKA

(at Man #2)

We've got both your name's and
addresses now. Don't think this is
the end of this.

MAN #2

(worried)

Who the hell are you?

SARISKA

Just some bitch you never wanna
see again. Now start running
before I change my mind.

Sariska points out behind Man #2. He looks down at his
friend on the ground.

MAN #2

Screw this.

Man #2 turns and runs off down the alleyway. Scott and
Sariska both look at Helen.

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CONTINUED: (3)

SCOTT

Are you okay?

HELEN

(still in shock)

Yeah, I'm okay. Thank you so much.

I can't believe what just happened.

SARISKA

I was worried I didn't get here in time. They didn't hurt you did they?

HELEN

No, no, they were just about to because I wouldn't hand over my bag. Then I heard you shout out at them. I don't know how I could possibly thank you.

SARISKA

You don't owe us a thing. We're just glad we could help.

HELEN

There's a nice little cafe around the corner. Let me at least buy you each a cup of coffee to say thank you.

SARISKA

(shrugs)

Yeah, that'd be nice, um,
(looks at Scott)
You wanna go?

SCOTT

(smiling)

Sure.

SARISKA

Cool. We don't drink coffee but a hot chocolate sounds good.

HELEN

(smiling)

Perfect.

CUT TO:

INT. CAFE - EVENING

Helen sits down on one side of a booth, Sariska and Scott on the other. A waitress comes right away as they're sitting down.

HELEN

Hi Dree, can I get a flat white
and hot chocolate's for these two.

DREE

No problem. Anything else?

HELEN

(at Scott/Sariska)
Did you want anything to eat,
dessert maybe?

SARISKA

No thanks.

SCOTT

I'm fine thanks.

DREE

No worries, I'll be back with your
drinks in just a minute.

ALL

Thanks.

Helen turns back to Scott and Sariska as Dree leaves.

HELEN

Sorry, I just realized I haven't
introduced myself. I'm Helen.

SARISKA

I'm Sariska.

SCOTT

Scott.

HELLEN

Well, despite the circumstances,
I'm really happy to meet you both.
How old are the two of you? If
you don't mind me asking.

SARISKA

Seventeen. We're both year 13 at
Onslow college.

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CONTINUED:

HELLEN

Right. And where did you learn to fight like that?

SARISKA

My dad used to be a boxer.

HELLEN

So he taught you?

SARISKA

Yeah. Before he walked out on my mum he had me in the gym with him before I could walk. By the time I started at Onslow I had already been training with him four times a week.

Scott's been helping me out at the gym since he left so he can actually hold his own pretty good now.

HELLEN

Wow.

I've never seen anyone do something like what you did back there. I was quite shocked to be honest with you. So confident standing up to those men like that. Have you been in a lot of fights?

Scott smiles. Sariska notices him and starts laughing.

HELEN

What's so funny?

SCOTT

By the time we were in seventh grade, she started to get pretty confident but she didn't have anyone to actually fight against. The closest aged girl around who boxed seriously was a lot older and bigger than her. So she turned the playground into a boxing ring instead.

Helen looks worried.

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CONTINUED: (2)

SCOTT (CONT'D)

Don't worry, she didn't go around picking fights and beating kids up. We kind of just walked around waiting for someone to do something mean.

SARISKA

I promised to try solve whatever the problem was without fighting first. And if that didn't work then too bad.

SCOTT

After about two weeks of this, there wasn't another bullying incident for the rest of the year.

HELEN

The teachers were okay with this?

SARISKA

Some of them were. I still got in big trouble after every fight though. They'd bring my Mum in to talk to her about it and give me detentions and everything. But I explained what we were doing to my teacher and she told me not to worry about it. She said she wished there was someone like me around when she was my age.

SCOTT

I think most of the teachers actually supported her but they couldn't just let her go around punching boys and not get in trouble. That would've looked pretty weird.

HELEN

Did you have to fight any girls?

SARISKA

Oh there were some pretty bad girl bullies. But I never had to actually hurt any of them. Once they saw what I did to some of the boys, all I had to do was look at them funny and they started playing nice.

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CONTINUED: (3)

Dree is back with their drinks.

ALL

Thanks.

DREE

You're welcome.

Dree leaves.

HELEN

Do you know about that local girl Alana who's pressing rape charges on a boy she went to school with? The papers said she went to Onslow a couple years ago.

SARISKA

We were just talking about that last night. We're both really pissed about it, especially from a classmate she thought she'd be fine getting a ride with. Alana was only two years above us at school before she graduated, she's a super sweet girl.

HELEN

Broke my heart when my daughter told me about it this morning. She goes to Onslow too. Do you know a Mary? She's in your year.

SARISKA

Oh yeah, I know Mary. Not properly though, I've never actually spoke to her but I used to have English with her.

SARISKA

Do you have any classes with her?

SCOTT

No, I don't think I know her.

HELEN

Well you can imagine how worried I am about her after hearing something like that. It wasn't some stranger in the city or at a park after dark.

(MORE)

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CONTINUED: (4)

HELEN (CONT'D)

The fact that the boy she's pressing charges against was in one of her classes at the time is enough to make me never let Mary go to another party again.

SCOTT

Well, with the way some of the guys are at school, that wouldn't exactly be an overreaction. The only reason I don't stress out about Sariska is a, we never even go to parties and b, I know there's no guy at school she couldn't handle with one hand behind her back if she needed to.

HELEN

Unfortunately not everyone, including my daughter, knows how to defend themselves like that.

Beat. They sip their drinks.

HELEN

Can I make an unusual proposition to the two of you?

SARISKA

Sure.

HELEN

I know this may sound like a strange offer, but would you be open to looking out for my daughter when she goes out to parties?

SARISKA

(smiling)

You want us to be her bodyguards?

HELEN

I'm not sure. I don't want Mary to know about it though. I know she wouldn't be comfortable with it. She'd probably think I'd gone crazy. She already tells me I'm overprotective. I'd just really like it if I knew that there was someone at these parties that could look after her if things ever went to a bad place.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (5)

HELEN (CONT'D)

Just to keep an eye on her and her friends really.

SCOTT

So how would that work exactly?

HELEN

I don't know. The thought just came to me when you said you both go to Onslow. Perhaps if Mary is going to a party, I can find out where it is and let you know. And if you're available, you could go there and watch out for her until she's back home. Would that be something you'd be interested in? I'd pay you of course.

SARISKA

Yeah, that sounds awesome.

(at Scott)

What do you think?

SCOTT

Yeah, definitely.

HELEN

Great. Would fifty dollars an hour each be enough.

SARISKA

Sounds good to me.

HELEN

You can let me know how long you've had to stay out at the end of each night. And of course, if anything ever happens that ends up costing you while you're watching out for Mary, I'll cover it.

Sariska smiles. Helen takes her phone out.

HELEN

If you give me your numbers, I can let you know the next time she's going out.

Helen hands the phone to Sariska.

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CONTINUED: (6)

HELEN

(as Sariska is
putting in her
number)

I think it'd be best if I just pay
you in cash. That way it stays
between the three of us.

Do you two live far from town, is
this cafe alright to meet for me
to pay you?

SARISKA

(handing the phone to
Scott)

This place is fine.

HELEN

(as Scott is putting
in his number)

This means a lot to me. And I know
I can't ever thank you enough for
what you did for me tonight. I
just hope if Mary's ever in a bad
situation she won't be alone
either.

SARISKA

Don't worry, if we're there, we'll
make sure nothing happens to her
or her friends.

HELEN

(To both of them as
Scott hands her back
her phone)

Thank you so much.

SARISKA

No problem. Thanks for the hot
chocolate.

SCOTT

(smiling)

And the job.

HELEN

(smiling)

You're welcome.

FADE TO:

EXT. SUBURBAN STREET - EARLY MORNING

Sariska at the end of her morning run, listening to 'Passenger' by Britney Spears.

CUT TO:

INT. SARISKA'S KITCHEN

Sariska let's her earphones down so Britney Spears plays quietly as she pours herself a glass of water. As she's drinking her cell phone on the bench rings. 'Passenger' ends and 'Chillin' With You' starts from the headphones while she's on the phone.

SARISKA

Hello?

...

Oh hi, I'm good thanks.

...

No, no, don't worry, I've been up for a while.

...

Tonight?

...

Yeah that should be fine, let me just get a pen and paper.

Sariska reaches into a drawer and takes out a pad of paper. She scans for a pen but can't find one. She walks out of frame with the pad but we stay in the kitchen.

SARISKA (O.S.)

Uh huh, yeah, I'll see him at school soon so I can ask him -

We hear a door opening and closing as her voice fades.

CUT TO:

INT. SCHOOL HALL - DAY

SARISKA

Helen called this morning. Mary's going to a party tonight at about nine-thirty. You free to go?

SCOTT

Yeah, I've got nothing on.

SARISKA

Sweet, I'll pick you up around nine.

SCOTT

I wonder if anything bad will -

Scott stops talking as he and Sariska notice something going on ahead.

SARISKA

Jesus, I'm so sick of this.

We see Chris blocking a small boy from passing him in the hall. Harvey's next to him laughing. Jack looks uncomfortable watching. Chris turns and sees Sariska and Scott walking towards him.

SARISKA

(annoyed)

Leave him alone Chris.

CHRIS

What are you, the school police now?

The hall goes quiet. Sariska and Scott are now standing a few metres from Chris. The little boy runs free as Chris's attention is now on Sariska and Scott.

SARISKA

(confident)

Yeah, I am the police. So shut the hell up and stop picking on year nine's. It's not their fault they've all got bigger dicks than you.

STUDENT CROWD

Ohhhhhhhh

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

CHRIS

You're lucky there's cameras
around here.

SARISKA

No, it's you that's lucky.

Sariska and Scott walk away before Chris even has a
chance to reply

CUT TO:

EXT. SUBURBAN STREET - NIGHT

Establishing shot of Helen's house. We hear Mary's voice
before we

CUT TO:

INT. HELEN'S ROOM

Mary is seated as Helen stands behind her, doing her hair
all fancy in front of the mirror.

MARY

Did Grandma teach you how to do it
like this?

Helen smiles at Mary through the mirror.

HELEN

Yes. Mum loved playing with our
hair. I remember Katie and I were
late to school one day because Mum
was trying this fancy new plait
with our hair. We ended up being
an hour late but she didn't care.
There was no way her daughters
were showing up to school without
respectable looking hair.

Mary smiles at her Mum.

HELEN (CONT'D)

Our Dad was pretty adamant about
sending us to Catholic school,
which my Mum wasn't thrilled about
but she didn't fight it. We had to
wear uniforms right through till
we started university.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

HELEN (CONT'D)

I'll always remember the first day of college when Mum was doing my hair like this in front of the mirror. She looked at me and said, "well if you have to wear that horrible thing for the next five years, at least your hair is going to show you have some sense of style."

MARY

I wish I could've met her.

HELEN

She would've loved you so much honey.

They smile at each other as Helen finishes her hair.

MARY

Thanks Mum.

Mary's cell phone vibrates. She checks it.

HELEN

(as Mary stands up)
You know Tina's welcome to come inside every once in a while.

MARY

(walking towards the door)
Yeah I know, she's just weird like that. Ok, I gotta go now mum, love you.

HELEN

Love you too honey, bye.

Helen takes her cell phone out when Mary's gone. She presses a few buttons and puts it to her ear.

HELEN

Hi Sariska, it's Helen.

...

Yep, she's just left now.

...

Thank you so much.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

HELEN (CONT'D)

...

Uh huh, yes, I'll see you at noon
tomorrow at the same cafe.

...

Alright, thanks again, ba-bye.

FADE TO:

INT. CAR - NIGHT

Sariska's driving, Scott's riding shotgun. Sariska has her hair down for the first time. Scott's smiling a little to himself as they listen to 'Belated Promise Ring' by Iron & Wine on the car stereo.

SARISKA

What are you smiling about?

SCOTT

I looked up Mary on Facebook
before you came over and she's so
nice.

SARISKA

You think every girl's nice.

SCOTT

What's wrong with that? Means I
have plenty of options.

SARISKA

(smiling)

Yeah, so many options you can't
get a girlfriend.

SCOTT

(smiling)

Oh that's real friendly. You're
probably gonna have heaps of fun
tonight with that attitude.

Sariska keeps smiling as she parks the car on the side of
the street, taking the keys out and opening her door.

SARISKA

Well it's not like we're here to
make friends.

EXT. STREET

"Party No. 1" - text on screen appears in the bottom right corner.

A party's clearly going on at a house up ahead. The music can be heard from the sidewalk as Sariska and Scott step out onto the street. And extended intro of the baseline to 'Something Is Not Right With Me' by Cold War Kids plays and gets louder as they get up to the house. People are outside drinking and smoking. The house looks packed. The two of them stand there for a moment, looking up at the house.

SARISKA

I feel uncomfortable already.

We cut on the beat as the vocals come in.

CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM

'Something Is Not Right With Me' now blasting on full inside the house. People talking and drinking and dancing. Coolers full of ice and beer litter the floor. A couple is making out on one of the couches, surrounded by people filling every piece of floor space.

CUT TO:

INT. HALL WAY

A line of people waiting outside the bathroom talking and on their phones.

CUT TO:

INT. KITCHEN

The kitchen is packed. Jack is talking to JESS (seventeen), a short haired blonde girl.

CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM

Wide shot of the living room. Sariska and Scott talking in the corner, Scott has a beer in his hand, Chris and Tina kissing in another corner. We come in to where Tina and Chris are. Tina pulls away from Chris.

TINA
(interrogating)
So Jess said she saw you out with
Karen again last weekend.

CHRIS
And?

Chris kisses her but she pulls away.

TINA
You said you were gonna stop
seeing other people.

CHRIS
What?

TINA
I said that you said you were
gonna stop seeing other people.

Chris rolls his eyes and takes Tina's face with his hands.

CHRIS
Don't worry, I didn't sleep with
her.

Chris tries to kiss her again but she stops him.

TINA
(frustrated)
That's not what people have been
saying.

CHRIS
Trust me, I could've had my way
with her, but I didn't.

Tina looks disgusted.

CHRIS (CONT'D)
C'mon, let's stop talking. I
didn't sleep with her ok?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Chris kisses her again. This time she let's him. We go to Sariska and Scott on the other end of the living room who are watching them.

SCOTT

How does a loser like Chris get a girl like Tina?

SARISKA

What, you like Tina too?

SCOTT

I don't really know her but she seems nice. I kinda like her.

SARISKA

Is there anyone here you're not attracted to?

SCOTT

(smiling)

I don't know, but I'm gonna go find a bin for this. I'll be back.

Scott motions to his can before walking away. We follow him into

CUT TO:

INT. KITCHEN

Scott throws his beer can into a large trash bag that's filled with bottles and cans. We can see Jack still talking to Jess. Scott looks around before we

CUT TO:

INT. HALLWAY

Scott goes up to the girls in the bathroom line.

SCOTT

Have any of you seen Mary around?

BATHROOM GIRL

Yeah, she just came out a second ago. I think she went outside.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SCOTT

Thanks.

CUT TO:

EXT. FRONT PORCH/BALCONY

Scott closes the front door, he see's Mary off to the side, leaning on the rail, doing something on her cell phone. Scott goes and stands next to her and leans on the rail.

SCOTT

Hi.

Mary looks up from her phone.

MARY

Hey.

SCOTT

I'm Scott. I go to Onslow but I don't think we've actually met before.

MARY

I think I recognize you. Do you hang out with that girl Sariska a lot? The real tough one? I think I saw her here.

SCOTT

Yeah, she's inside.

MARY

Cool. I thought that was her. I'm Mary by the way.

SCOTT

(smiling)
Nice to meet you.

CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM

"Days Are Gone" by Haim now fueling the party. Sariska is leaning against a wall in the middle of a conversation with a boy, TRENT, who's clearly drunk.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SARISKA

It's not really that simple.
There's just too many weight
divisions to really call anyone
that.

TRENT

Oh yeah, I guess that makes sense.

You're really hot you know...I
mean even though everyone calls
you like the tough bitch not to
mess with or anything but you're
hot as shit...

SARISKA

(sarcastic)

Thanks.

TRENT

Man, I reckon we should go
upstairs. Maybe you can teach me
some moves.

Trent shadow punches the air a couple times.

SARISKA

(annoyed)

I don't think so.

Trent all of a sudden looks worried.

TRENT

Aw shit, are you on the pill? Coz
I left my condoms at Mark's house.

Trent puts his hands in his pockets clumsily, panicking.

TRENT

Shit, I bet he's got them on him
now. Wait here for me I'll be back
real fast.

Trent stumbles off.

SARISKA

(to herself)

Jesus.

We follow behind Trent as he walks through the living
room and into the kitchen

INT. KITCHEN

Jack is still talking to Jess, who's looking worse for wear.

JESS

I don't feel so good. I think I'm gonna be sick.

Jess holds onto Jack's shoulder for balance.

JESS (CONT'D)

Can you go find Kristen? She's supposed to be giving me a ride home.

JACK

(unsure)

Uh yeah, ok, I'll um, I'll go find her.

(easing her back)

Here, lean on this.

Jack guides Jess so she lean against the stove.

JACK

I'll be right back.

Jack downs the rest of his beer and leaves it by the stove. He walks over to Chris who's talking with a couple of guys.

JACK

Hey Chris, do you know where someone called Kristen is?

CHRIS

Yeah, what are you looking for her for?

JACK

Jess isn't feeling so good. Kristen's supposed to be giving her a ride home or something.

Chris looks over at Jess, leaning against the stove, looking drowsy.

CHRIS

What's wrong with her?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

JACK

She's just had too much to drink I think. She needs to lie down.

CHRIS

(smiling)

Then why the hell are you gonna let her leave?

JACK

What do you mean?

Chris pulls Jack away from the guys he was talking to.

CHRIS

(focused)

Look, Jess is the chick you've been talking to all night right?

JACK

Yeah.

CHRIS

And you wanna get with her right?

JACK

Yeah, but not when she's like this.

CHRIS

You think a girl like Jess will ever sleep with someone like you when she's sober?

JACK

I don't know. Maybe.

Chris puts his hand on Jack's shoulder.

CHRIS

Look, you gotta be honest with yourself. She's the kind of chick who doesn't give a shit about people like you. C'mon, think about all the girls who said no to you or that you thought you'd never sleep with. All the popular girls at your old school who you were too scared to ask out or hit on at parties. I mean look at her.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

CHRIS (CONT'D)

Take her upstairs and bang the
shit out her before she ends up
passing out. You do wanna get laid
tonight right?

We hold on Jack unsure, before we

CUT TO:

EXT. FRONT PORCH/BALCONY

Mary and Scott still talking together.

MARY

I just don't get it. Why would you
want to look at a little seven
inch screen when you could hold a
nice hardback edition.

Scott looks at Mary and smiles.

MARY

What?

SCOTT

(blushing)
Nothing. I don't know...

MARY

So um, are you and Sariska like a
couple or?

SCOTT

No, no. We're just good friends.

MARY

Sorry, I just assumed you guys
were going out. Pretty sure every
time I've seen her at school, you
guys are together.

SCOTT

We've been friends for a really
long time.

MARY

I heard she beat up Chris on the
first day of year nine.

Scott just smiles.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MARY

What? Did that actually happen?
Coz it kinda feels like an urban
legend or something now since it
was so long ago and none of my
friends were actually there.

SCOTT

Yeah, that definitely happened. We
were eating lunch on the terraces.
Chris and a few other guys were
near us and saw this girl walking
up. She was pretty big and wearing
a really short skirt and Chris
yelled out at her something about
how she shouldn't dress like that
with those thighs. When she looked
up and saw him and all his friends
laughing I wanted to cry. She
looked so humiliated.

MARY

Oh my God, that's so mean.

SCOTT

Unlike me, when Sariska saw what
happened she called out to Chris
and was like, "oi, who do you
think you are, talking to her like
that?" He turned around and called
her a bitch and told her to keep
out of it.

You should've seen her face when
he said that. Looked like she
wanted to kill someone.

MARY

Do you get scared when she does
stuff like that? Standing up to
guys all the time?

SCOTT

Honestly, the only time I ever got
scared was when I saw her get into
her first fight way back in
primary school. But after seeing
her so easily in control I stopped
being scared. I still get worried,
but at the same time I know she
knows what she's doing.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

MARY

So what ended up happening with
Chis?

SCOTT

The same thing that usually
happens. They just kept mouthing
off at each other until Sariska
told him if he called her a bitch
one more time she was gonna go
down there and shut him up. Of
course he stood up and called her
a bitch again and laughed.

After that it was all over pretty
fast. She started walking towards
him as he said "what the hell do
you thinks gonna happen?" Right
before she cracked him right in
the face and told him to keep his
mouth shut.

By the time she punched him, there
were quite a few people watching
and a few of them even cheered
when she hit him. She knocked him
back a bit and he fell into one of
his friends. He started clutching
at his nose and she could've
easily hit him again but she just
walked back to where I was
sitting.

Chris and his friends still give
us shit all the time but they know
not to go too far because Sariska
could probably still knock any of
them out if it came to that.

Mary smiles.

MARY

She's crazy. I wish there were
more girls like her around.

SCOTT

(smiling)
Yeah, me too.

CUT TO:

INT. BEDROOM

Jack and Jess stumble into the room. Jack closes the door behind them as Jess crashes onto the bed, sits up on the edge and leans back on the palm of her hands. We can still hear the bass from the music downstairs.

JESS

Did you find Kristen?

Jess looks like she's about to pass out. Jack's nervous. He sits down beside her.

JACK

I couldn't find her sorry.

JESS

Well then why aren't still looking then?

Jack leans in and kisses her. She's completely unresponsive. Jack pulls away. Jess is confused.

JESS

(confused, her eyes
closing)

What are you doing?

Jack looks at her and kisses her again but more aggressively this time. He guides her back so they're lying on the bed now, Jack on top of her. Jack kisses her more before standing up and fumbling with his jeans.

JACK

(to himself, as he
struggles with his
belt)

Shit!

We stay with Jack, only the bottom of Jess's legs in the frame. He finally gets his jeans off and turns back to the bed and leans over Jess's body but she's asleep.

JACK

(to himself)

Shit!

Jack gets off the bed and puts his jeans back on. He looks at the passed out Jess, laid out on the bed in front of him. He pauses for a moment, staring at her body, looking everywhere.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Jack sighs and finishes doing up his fly. He grabs a blanket from the edge of the bed and lays it carefully over Jess's body.

CUT TO:

INT. HALLWAY

Jack closes the door quietly and whispers to himself.
'No.1 Party Anthem' by Arctic Monkeys is mid first verse.

JACK
(to himself quietly)
What the hell am I doing?

Jack starts to move and we follow him down the stairs as the music gets louder.

INT. LIVING ROOM

The party is still in full swing. Sariska is talking to a couple girls. Jack walks up to them. Still holding the take as we follow him.

JACK
Excuse me. Do um, do any of you
know where someone called Kristen
is?

TALKING GIRL
(pointing behind him
to the kitchen)
She's the redhead by the fridge
over there.

Jack turns and see's who she's talking about.

JACK
Thanks.

We keep following Jack from behind in the same take as he makes his way into the kitchen.

INT. KITCHEN

Jack approaches Kristen (seventeen), who's in the middle of a group conversation.

JACK
Kristen?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Kristen turns from the conversation and looks at Jack.

KRISTEN

Yeah?

JACK

Jess is um... Jess is passed out
in one of the rooms upstairs.

KRISTEN

(concerned)

What?

JACK

She isn't feeling well and she
asked me to find you.

KRISTEN

(interrogating)

You didn't do anything to her up
there did you?

We break from the long take over Jack's shoulder and cut
to an MCU of him.

JACK

(really defensively)

No, no, it's nothing like that. I
just took her up there so she
could lie down. She said you're
supposed to be giving her a ride
home.

KRISTEN

(smiling)

Okay, okay, you don't have to get
all defensive about it, I'm just
messing with you. I'll go see if
she's okay.

Kristen puts her drink down and walks past Jack towards
the staircase. We hold on Jack as he turns and watches
her walk away.

CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM

We see Sariska break off from a conversation she's having
with two other girls as she notices Scott enter the
living room, and walks towards him.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SARISKA

What'd you get lost or something?

SCOTT

(smiling)

No. But I think Mary and Tina are going now. We should probably head back to the car so it's not so obvious we're following them home.

CUT TO:

EXT. STREET

Sariska and Scott walk towards the car. The music from the party fades slowly as they get further away. We come in mid-sentence.

SARISKA

...yeah well at least now we know we haven't exactly been missing out on anything as far as parties go.

SCOTT

C'mon, it wasn't that bad.

SARISKA

It was just like school, except everyone was just a dumber version of themselves.

They hop in Sariska's car.

INT. SARISKA'S CAR

Backseat point of view as Scott looks out the window.

SCOTT

(pointing outside)

There they are.

We watch through the front window as Mary and Tina walk towards Tina's car. Tina's visibly complaining about something, though we can't hear what she's saying from inside. Mary hops in the driver's side as Sariska starts the car. Exterior shot of both cars driving away.

FADE TO:

INT. SARISKA'S CAR

Backseat point of view again. We can see Tina's car up ahead. 'Fans' by Kings of Leon plays quietly from the car stereo.

SARISKA

So who were you talking to outside?

SCOTT

I was actually talking to Mary.

SARISKA

(disappointed)

Really?

SCOTT

Yeah, she was just outside by herself.

SARISKA

So what'd you guys talk about for so long?

SCOTT

I dunno, school, books, movies.

(smiling)

She was so awesome. I can't believe how much we had in common.

Scott looks across at Sariska and smiles.

SCOTT (CONT'D)

You know what she said to me?

SARISKA

What?

SCOTT

She said she couldn't believe someone thought the same about so many things as her. I thought my heart skipped a beat. I wanted to kiss her so bad. And every time she smiled I just wanted to touch her face.

SARISKA

(annoyed)

Ok, stop talking now.

Scott smiles at her again. Sariska laughs.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SARISKA

Oh my god. You're like a little kid. Why are you so happy?

SCOTT

And she was asking heaps of questions about you. She thinks you're awesome from all the stories that go round about you at school. Especially that one about Chris from year nine.

SARISKA

I can't believe people still talk about that.

SCOTT

I can. People thought you were like Black Widow or something. It was crazy.

Sariska smiles. We see up ahead as Mary pulls into the driveway of her house so Sariska slows down and pulls over to the side of the road.

SARISKA

I guess we're done then right?

SCOTT

Yeah, I can't believe we're getting paid to do this.

SARISKA

Well it's the only way I'm ever going to a party like that again.

SCOTT

So long as Mary's there I won't be complaining.

SARISKA

So long as any girl's are there you won't be complaining.

Scott smiles. We see Mary and Tina walk inside.

CUT TO:

EXT. CAFE - MORNING

We hear Helen's voice and the sound of rustling in a bag.

HELEN (O.S.)
Thanks for texting me your hours
last night.

CUT TO:

INT. CAFE

Sariska and Scott have chocolate and strawberry milkshakes in front of them, sitting opposite Helen and her coffee. Helen hands them each a white envelope.

HELEN
Was a lot easier knowing exactly
how much to get out.

SARISKA/SCOTT
Thanks.

HELEN
Did everything go ok?

SARISKA
Yeah, it was totally fine.

HELEN
(smiles)
That's good.

SCOTT
I almost feel bad that you're
paying us. We kind of just went to
the party like everyone else did.

HELEN
But you were there just in case
anything happened. I just feel
better about Mary going out
knowing someone's watching out for
her.

Sariska and Scott suck at their straws.

HELEN
Are you sure you don't want
anything for breakfast? Pancakes,
eggs?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SCOTT

I'm okay thanks.

SARISKA

I just need to use the bathroom
real quick.

Sariska gets up and walks away.

HELEN

(when Sariska is
gone)

So is Sariska your girlfriend
Scott?

SCOTT

(smiles)

Me and Sariska? I wish. No, we're
just really good friends.

HELEN

You two seem awfully close.

SCOTT

Well I did ask her if she wanted
to be more than friends. That was
a couple years ago. Obviously she
said no.

HELEN

Oh I'm sorry.

SCOTT

It's fine. At first I thought I
wasn't gonna be able to keep
hanging out with her after she
rejected me but I got over it
eventually. It's not so bad now.

HELEN

Well that's good.

SCOTT

And I um, I know I probably
shouldn't have, but I talked to
Mary for a while last night.

HELEN

Oh that's fine. Just so long as
you don't mention anything about -

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

SCOTT

Aw no, we just talked about school
and books and movies and stuff and
I -

(hesitates)

Well, I really started to like
her. I just thought I should tell
you in case you don't want me to
do this job anymore now that you
know that.

HELEN

(smiling)

Scott, that's fine. I don't have a
problem with you liking my
daughter. I'd rather it be you
than some of those other boys at
your school. And I appreciate your
honesty.

SCOTT

So it's okay?

HELEN

(smiles)

Yes, of course it's ok. Maybe you
should ask her out on a date.

SCOTT

(surprised)

Really? You think she might like
someone like me?

HELEN

Well you'll never know unless you
ask will you?

Sariska appears behinds them.

SARISKA

(curious, as she sits
down)

Never know what?

SCOTT

Helen thinks I should go for it
and ask Mary out.

SARISKA

(disappointed)

Oh.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

We hold on Helen who notices Sariska's disappointment before we

CUT TO:

EXT. SCHOOL FIELD - DAY

"One week later" - text on screen appears in the bottom right corner.

Students are sitting around having lunch on the field. Some throwing a football around. Scott and Sariska are off alone, separated from everyone else in the same sitting positions as they were in the opening scene as twelve year olds. Scott's looking at his phone, smiling.

SARISKA

What are you smiling about?

SCOTT

Mary just txt saying she finished Invisible Monsters last night. I can't believe she actually went and read it.

SARISKA

When did you get her number?

SCOTT

We've been messaging a bit online so she gave it to me there so we could txt when we don't have wi-fi.

SARISKA

(sighs)

Oh.

SCOTT

Aw man, she's like the perfect girl.

SARISKA

(supportive)

You should ask her out then.

SCOTT

I will, I'm just waiting for the right time. She just said she's free tonight and wanted to see a new movie that's out.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SCOTT (CONT'D)

Do you mind if I miss training, or
should I ask if she can do
tomorrow?

SARISKA

It's fine. Maybe you'll find the
right time to ask her after your
movie.

CUT TO:

EXT. SUBURBIA - NIGHT

Establishing shot outside Sariska's home.

CUT TO:

INT. KITCHEN

Sariska is at the kitchen bench eating while her mother
LINDA is drying dishes.

LINDA

You've been pretty quiet tonight.

SARISKA

Yeah, I'm just tired.

LINDA

(putting a dish away)
You going to the gym with Scott
again tonight?

SARISKA

No, I'm gonna do a solo workout.
He's going to the movies with some
girl from school.

LINDA

(smiling, surprised)
Oh wow. He finally got a date with
someone. I thought you were the
only girl he ever had it in him to
talk to.

SARISKA

It's not funny Mum.

LINDA

C'mon honey, you can't be upset
that he's going on a date.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SARISKA

I'm not upset. I just, I don't know why I feel weird all of a sudden now that he might actually get a girlfriend.

LINDA

He's your best friend Sariska. You should be happy for him.

SARISKA

I know I should but I'm not.

LINDA

(putting her tea
towel over her
shoulder)

What's going on honey?

SARISKA

I don't know. I think maybe I'm jealous.

LINDA

Well maybe this other girl is making you think about what you really feel about Scott.

SARISKA

But it's Scott. He's been there forever. He was never supposed to be anything romantic.

LINDA

Look honey. I don't know what's going on between you two, but the only time I was ever jealous about one of my guy friends going off with another girl was when I wanted that girl to be me.

SARISKA

Well it's too late now anyway. He's obviously moved on.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

LINDA

I know you're thinking it was over a year ago when he told you he was in love with you and at your age that probably seems like a long time, but trust me honey, feelings like that boy had for you don't just disappear.

CUT TO:

EXT. CITY - NIGHT

City street, outside the cinema.

CUT TO:

INT. MOVIE THEATRE LOBBY

Mary and Scott are in line to get tickets.

MARY

A bunch of my friends have got fake I.D's and it's all about going clubbing now but I couldn't think of a worse place to hang out.

SCOTT

Yeah, that's not really my thing either. It probably sounds boring but I'd rather just hang out and talk to people I like than jump around with a bunch of strangers.

MARY

That's all anyone at school seems like they wanna do though.

(smiling)

It's nice hearing I'm not the only one.

SCOTT

Well you don't have to worry about me ever asking you to go to town. The last thing on my mind is a fake I.D.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MARY

I just don't get what's so great about a place that's so loud you can't even talk to anyone. The way Tina describes it, it just sounds like a bunch of bad music and body odor.

Scott smiles.

CUT TO:

INT. GYM

Sariska walks in with her gym bag over her shoulder. Emma looks up from her desk where she's packing up.

EMMA

Thought you weren't gonna make it in time. I was just about to lock up.

SARISKA

Sorry I'm late.

EMMA

No Scott today?

SARISKA

Na, I'm just gonna do a quick circuit on my own.

EMMA

You want me to stay and work with you?

SARISKA

No it's okay.

EMMA

(as she finishes
packing her bag)
You made a decision yet about whether you're staying?

SARISKA

Yeah, I think that might be best for me.

EMMA

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

EMMA (CONT'D)

I think so too. I know Scott's
moving up to Auckland but training
here with Jean's gonna be amazing
for you.

Emma heads for the door.

SARISKA

Yeah, I know.

EMMA

(at the door)

I'll see you tomorrow.

And don't get too caught up
thinking about the future ok?

SARISKA

Ok.

Emma closes the door behind her. Sariska walks to the wall and takes down a skipping rope. She takes her iPod from her pocket and plugs it into the speakers and pushes play. 'Albatross' by Fleetwood Mac starts. We go to slow motion as she starts to walk away from the speaker.

CUT TO:

EXT. STREET SIDE OUTSIDE CINEMA

SLOW MOTION Scott and Sariska walking and talking.

CUT TO:

EXT. SUBURBAN STREET

SLOW MOTION Tina is on her knees doing up her running shoes outside her house, earphones in.

CUT TO:

INT. GYM

SLOW MOTION Sariska skipping.

CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM

SLOW MOTION Harvey, Chris and Jack are playing a console video game, all laughing.

CUT TO:

INT. GYM

SLOW MOTION Sariska putting her wraps on.

CUT TO:

EXT. STAIRCASE

SLOW MOTION Tina running up stairs.

CUT TO:

EXT. CITY STREET

SLOW MOTION Mary laughing as they walk and talk.

CUT TO:

INT. GYM

SLOW MOTION Sariska working on the punching bag. We hear the sound of a car slow down and stop.

CUT TO:

INT. MARY'S CAR

Mary's hand turns down the radio as Albatross quiets down. Mary's in the driver's seat, Scott riding shotgun.

MARY

Thanks for the movie.

SCOTT

No problem. I um, I had a really good time tonight.

MARY

Me too.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SCOTT
(nervous)
Do you think you might -

Scott pauses.

MARY
Might what?

SCOTT
Actually it doesn't matter. Are
you going to that party at
Michael's on Saturday?

MARY
Yeah I think so.

SCOTT
Cool, I'll probably see you there
then.

MARY
Yeah, should be fun.

Scott opens his door.

SCOTT
Thanks for the ride.

MARY
No problem.

SCOTT
Ok, cya.

MARY
Bye Scott.

We hold on Mary as she watches him leave before we

CUT TO:

EXT. HIGH SCHOOL GROUNDS - DAY

Kids hanging out during lunchtime.

CUT TO:

INT. CLASSROOM - DAY

Scott and Sariska are eating lunch by the windows of an empty classroom. People outside playing in the distance.

SARISKA

I hope Michael's party's not gonna be as bad as the last one.

SCOTT

(smiling)

I think there's a pretty good chance they're all gonna be the same.

Sariska takes a bite of her lunch.

SCOTT

I think I might finally ask Mary tonight.

SARISKA

So the movie didn't really end up being a date then?

SCOTT

Not really.

SARISKA

You paid for her ticket though right?

SCOTT

Yeah but there was nothing romantic about the whole thing. Then when she dropped me off I was about to tell her I liked her but I got nervous and I just panicked and said bye.

SARISKA

(smiling)

Scott.

SCOTT

(confused)

What?

SARISKA

You just went out to the movies with her and paid for it.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SARISKA (CONT'D)

I don't think she would've been too surprised if you told her you liked her.

SCOTT

Well when you put it like that it seems pretty obvious but, I don't know, in the car it seemed so hard to do.

I was about to tell her and out of nowhere I remembered back to when I told you that...

(hesitates)

Well, you know, and I thought how lucky we are that we can still be real good friends. Me and Mary were having such a good time I just didn't want to risk ruining it so soon.

We hold on Sariska as 'Blaze Of Glory' Feat. Clipse, Pharrell & Ab-Liva by The Neptunes starts to play.

CUT TO:

EXT. SUBURBAN STREET SIDE - NIGHT

"Party No. 2" - text on scree appears in the bottom right corner.

Sariska and Scott get out of Sariska's car. Up ahead we can see Mary and Tina enter the house and close the door. The house is bigger than last week, the music louder. People everywhere outside. We follow them up the front lawn and to the door. Sariska opens the door to a boy and girl standing in the way kissing. The music gets louder. They kissers don't stop when the door opens so Sariska nudges them to the side and they walk in. We keep following them without cutting as they follow a ways back from Mary and Tina through the house.

INT. OPEN PLAN KITCHEN/DINING AREA

People mingling everywhere, drinking and talking. We see Tina spot Chris and motion to Mary that she's gonna go talk to him, leaving Mary on her own.

SARISKA

I'll keep an eye on Tina. Go talk to Mary if you want.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SCOTT

Thanks.

Sariska veers out of frame in the direction Tina went.
Scott follows Mary who turns and see's him and smiles.

MARY

Hey!

SCOTT

Hey Mary.

Mary reaches out and gives him a hug.

MARY

I'm glad you decided to come.

SCOTT

Yeah, me too.

MARY

Should we go find a drink?

SCOTT

(smiling)

Sure.

We break from the long take as we

CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM

Sariska's walking aimlessly. We can see Tina and Chris making out in the corner. We follow behind her as Trent taps her on the shoulder, a half finished liquor bottle in his other hand.

TRENT

Hey, it's you again.

SARISKA

(annoyed)

What do you want?

TRENT

(defensive)

Wo, what'd I do this time? Can I get you a drink?

SARISKA

No thanks.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Trent smiles.

SARISKA

What?

TRENT

I got my condoms off Mark, I'm
good to go if you're up for it.

SARISKA

The last thing I need is your dick
in me ok?

(walking past Trent)
I'm going outside. Don't follow
me.

We stay with Trent.

TRENT

(to himself)
O-k. Guess I caught you on a bad
night then.

Trent takes a sip from his drink.

CUT TO:

INT. KITCHEN

We can see Harvey, Jack and a bunch of guys drinking and talking. The dining area that bleeds out from the kitchen is filled with people dancing and hanging out. Jess walks in and grabs a drink from one of the coolers. Jack spots her and walks over to her.

JACK

Jess.

JESS

Hey, Jack right?

JACK

Yeah. I just wanted to apologize
about last weekend. You were
really drunk. I shouldn't of
kissed you like that.

JESS

(blushing)
We kissed? I don't really remember
what happened last week.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

JACK

Oh.

JESS

Don't worry about it. It's not like we slept together or anything. Did we?

JACK

No, no, no. I managed to find Kristen. She came and took you home after you passed out.

JESS

Oh good. I was watching some Amy Schumer stand up the other night and she was joking about HPV so I looked it up and it freaked me out.

Beat. Jack doesn't know what to say.

JESS

Well it was nice to see you again. I need to go find my friends.

Jess starts to walk away. Jack hesitates for a moment then decides to call out.

JACK

Hey Jess?

Jess turns back around.

JESS

Yeah?

JACK

(quietly)

I was wondering, um, do you have a boyfriend at the moment?

Jess steps back closer.

JESS

Sorry, I couldn't hear you.

JACK

I was just asking if you had a boyfriend or not.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

JESS

(smiling)
No, why?

JACK

Well um, would you wanna hang out
sometime?

JESS

(still smiling)
What, like a date?

JACK

Yeah.

JESS

You wanna take me out on a date?

JACK

Yeah, I do.

JESS

Ok, well I gave you my number last
weekend right?

JACK

Yeah, I've got it.

JESS

Cool. Give me a text some time and
we can totally do that.

JACK

(smiling)
Awesome.

Jess turns and walks off, leaving Jack smiling to
himself.

FADE TO:

EXT. PORCH

Mary and Scott are chatting outside, drinking bottled
beer. "No Better" by Lorde is playing in the background.

SCOTT

I can't believe you read both of
those in one week.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MARY

(smiling)

I think you're the first person I
could brag to about how much I
read and not come across as
uncool.

SCOTT

(smiling)

Is that a bad thing?

MARY

No, not at all. And I think I
actually like Pygmy the best.

SCOTT

Even more than Survivor?

MARY

It's just such a different
experience with all the vocab and
everything since the narrator's
not a native English speaker. It's
just nice to read something that's
way out there different from
everything else. Makes it a cool
reading experience.

Scott sips his beer.

SCOTT

So uh, you wanna go see another
movie next week?

MARY

Yeah, sure.

Mary sips hers.

MARY

Hey, do you know if Harvey's here
tonight?

Scott's face drops, swallowing air.

SCOTT

Uhhh, yeah I think I saw him in
the kitchen earlier.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

MARY

I've been trying to talk to him
all term but I always get too
nervous. Do you mind if I go try
find him?

SCOTT

No, go ahead.

MARY

(smiling, walking
away)

Cool. I might see you around
later?

SCOTT

(turning to face her
as she leaves)

Yeah, maybe.

MARY

(getting to the door)

And text me about the movies next
week.

SCOTT

Yep, I will.

We hold on Scott looking like he just saw a ghost before
we

FADE TO:

INT. DINING AREA

Slow motion montage shot list. 'Wait' by M83' plays soft:

People dancing in the dining area.

Tina arguing with Chris.

CU of shots being thrown down.

Harvey pouring and smiling.

Sariska annoyed at a boy talking to her.

Kristen and NATE (seventeen), dancing together in the
middle of a crowd, looking very skilled.

Scott walking through the dining area looking ahead.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Mary smiling at Harvey pouring her a shot.

Mary and Harvey throwing back their shots. On the sound of a door opening we

CUT TO:

INT. BATHROOM

Scott enters the bathroom. He sits on the floor and leans against the bath tub. 'Wait' continues, playing in the background now. He tilts his head back and exhales loudly in frustration.

SCOTT

Ahhhhhhhhhhhhh

Scott gets up and looks at himself in the mirror for a few moments before we follow him from behind as he leaves the bathroom.

CUT TO:

INT. HALLWAY

Scott see's Sariska walking up ahead of him.

SCOTT

Hey Sariska.

Sariska turns around.

SARISKA

(annoyed)

Let's just wait outside till Mary leaves. I can't stand these people.

SCOTT

Ok.

CUT TO:

EXT. FRONT LAWN

Scott and Sariska sitting on the lawn like they're on the field at school.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SCOTT

I can't believe I actually thought she liked me.

We had such a good time talking last weekend and then again after the movie. I mean, we've messaged each other like every day, I don't get it.

What more has to happen for a girl to like you? Wasn't our connection enough to -

SARISKA

Scott, if she doesn't like you she doesn't like you. At least you know now so you don't have to keep wasting time taking her out and texting her every five seconds.

Scott looks upset.

SARISKA (CONT'D)

Look, I'm sorry but if she's stupid enough to wanna get with someone like Harvey then she's an idiot.

SCOTT

(confused)

Wait, how do you know she likes Harvey?

SARISKA

I saw them making out in the kitchen just before.

SCOTT

(sighing)

Oh my God.

Scott puts his head in his hands.

SARISKA

I'm sorry.

SCOTT

This is so stupid. Why is it so easy for those losers?

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

SCOTT (CONT'D)

I talk to her, take her to the movies, show her how much I like her and we have a good time and it doesn't mean anything.

Harvey shows up not even thinking about her at all and ends up kissing her.

(frustrated)

Why can't I be the guy that's making out with the girl at the party?

SARISKA

Because you're not an asshole ok?

SCOTT

Well maybe I should start acting like one and I might get a girlfriend.

SARISKA

Don't be stupid Scott. She's just one girl, who cares?

SCOTT

(annoyed)

What do you mean who cares? I care, I like her.

SARISKA

Why? She's so basic.

SCOTT

(annoyed)

No she's not. Why would you say that about her?

SARISKA

Because I'm trying to make you feel better about being rejected, that's why.

SCOTT

(sarcastic)

Well thanks, that really helps.

SARISKA

C'mon Scott. If she likes Harvey, she was never gonna like someone like you anyway.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

SCOTT

(upset)
Why would you say that?

SARISKA

Because -

Scott looks like he's about to cry when their conversation gets interrupted by the sound of Chris and Tina fighting behind them. They turn around and see them coming out onto the lawn. Tina walking fast, Chris following behind her.

CHRIS

(yelling)
Hey! Where are you going?

TINA

(stern)
I'm going home!

Chris gets out in front of her, blocking her off.

CHRIS

(lowers his voice)
C'mon, you're not gonna leave now.

Tina ignores him and try's to walk in front of him but he holds her arm, stopping her.

SCOTT (O.S.)

(yelling)
Hey!

Chris looks up. Scott stands up, turning his sadness into anger.

SCOTT (CONT'D)

If she wants to go then let her go!

CHRIS

You stay out of this.

Chris, distracted by Scott, let's go of Tina's arm and she tries to walk off but he quickly grabs her arm again, yanking her back, making her fall onto the lawn.

TINA

(falling on the
ground)
Ow, shit!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

SCOTT
(angry, walking
towards Chris)
Keep your hands away from her!

Chris smirks as Scott nears. He puts his fists up and we come in close just before another fist comes from the side and knocks him straight down. Everyone outside on the lawn watching cheers as we cut out wide to see Sariska standing over Chris on the ground. Sariska and Scott help Tina up off the lawn.

TINA
Thanks.

SARISKA
(to Scott, calm)
I'll take her home. You stay and
watch out for Mary.

Scott just stands there as Sariska leads Tina off to the road. Sariska helps the drunk Tina into her car before walking round to the driver's side, turning on the car.

INT. SARISKA'S CAR

TINA
Thanks for helping me back there.

SARISKA
(pulling out onto the
road)
No problem, it was nothing.

TINA
(smiling)
Sariska, that wasn't nothing.

SARISKA
Well it wasn't much.

Beat.

TINA
You do realize like every girl in
our year pretty much worships you.

SARISKA
(surprised)
What?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

TINA

Everyone wants to be your friend
but no one knows how. You're like
this hot chick who can fight like
crazy but all you do is hang out
with Scott and no-one knows
anything about you.
Last week was the first time I've
ever even seen you outside school
before and we're just about to
graduate.

What do you do all the time?

Sariska takes a breathe.

SARISKA

I train all the time, that's what
I do. I can't just fight like that
naturally.

Isn't there something you'd rather
be working on than going to all
these parties and getting smashed?

Tina thinks for a moment.

TINA

(smiling)

Ummmm, I'm sure there's something,
but I just can't think of it right
now.

Sariska laughs.

SARISKA

You're actually not that bad Tina.

TINA

(yawning)

Thanks.

SARISKA

And if Chris ever lays a hand on
you again, I hope I'm around to
sort it out.

TINA

(lying her head back
and closing her
eyes)

I'm sure you will be.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

Sariska looks at Tina as she falls asleep.

FADE TO:

EXT. PORCH

Scott is out leaning on the deck barrier where he talked to Mary earlier. The party has died down now, the music quiet. A few people are still inside hanging around. Mary, drunk, comes out and stands next to Scott. Her energy level an obvious contrast to Scott's.

MARY

(loud)
Hey Scott!

SCOTT

(unenthusiastic)
Hey Mary.

MARY

(smiling)
I wasn't planning on drinking this much and I need to get Tina's car home. You think you could drop me off?

SCOTT

(shrugs)
Yeah sure.

Mary skips off.

MARY

(motioning to Scott
with her arm)
C'mon, let's go!

CUT TO:

INT. TINA'S CAR

Scott puts his seat belt on and turns the car on. He pulls out onto the street.

SCOTT

You should put your belt on.

MARY

(smiling)
Oh yeah.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Mary fumbles with her belt, finally getting it to click in.

MARY

Hey thanks for standing up to
Chris like that. He can get a
little crazy sometimes.

SCOTT

(sarcastic)
Yeah, no kidding.

MARY

(looking across at
him)
You okay Scott? You look upset.

Scott takes a breath and looks at Mary then back at the road and doesn't say anything.

MARY

What is it?

SCOTT

It doesn't matter.

MARY

(smiling)
C'mon, something's obviously going
on. Why don't you wanna talk about
it?

SCOTT

Because I was gonna tell you I
liked you tonight, that's why. I
was just about to say something
when we were talking on the porch
but then you asked about Harvey
and I realized you obviously
didn't like me back so I didn't
bother.

MARY

(still smiling)
What? But I do like you Scott.

SCOTT

Yeah but not the same way you like
Harvey.

Beat. Mary stops smiling.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

MARY

I'm sorry.

SCOTT

It's not your fault. You don't have to be sorry about who you like, that's ridiculous. I just don't get it that's all.

MARY

Don't get what?

SCOTT

Harvey. I don't get why you like Harvey. You're such a nice person. How do you end up wanting to go out with someone like him? He's horrible.

Mary looks sad.

SCOTT (CONT'D)

Have you not seen the way he treats people at school? He doesn't care about anyone. I mean, what do you see in him anyway?

MARY

I don't know. I wish I did. I can't help who I fall for Scott.

I'm sorry.

Scott just stares at the road in front of him.

CUT TO:

EXT. STREET OUTSIDE SARISKA'S HOUSE

Chris' car is parked across the street, it's back lights on.

CUT TO:

INT. CHRIS' CAR

Chris is in the driver's seat, the side of his face messed up from Sariska's punch. Harvey's riding shotgun and Jack's in the middle at the back. He looks worried.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

JACK

This seems like a bad idea Chris.

CHRIS

What? You think she doesn't have
it coming? Can't believe that
bitch sucker punched me.

Chris looks at his reddened face in the rearview mirror.

CHRIS

(to himself)

Shit!

CUT TO:

EXT. OUTSIDE MARY'S HOUSE

Tina's car pulls into the driveway.

CUT TO:

INT. TINA'S CAR

Scott turns the car off.

SCOTT

I'm not too far away, I can just
walk home from here.

MARY

Are you sure? I could ask my Mum
to drop you off.

SCOTT

(opening his door)

No it's ok, you don't have to do
that.

Scott gets out. Mary follows suits.

EXT. DRIVEWAY

Scott locks the car, walks around it and hands Mary the
keys.

MARY

Thanks for bringing me home.

SCOTT

No problem.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MARY

I'm sorry things didn't really
work out like you wanted tonight.

I still want to hang out with you
though.

SCOTT

I don't know if that's such a good
idea anymore.

MARY

Oh.

SCOTT

I just, I already had to do this
once before with Sariska and it
was pretty exhausting.

I don't think I really wanna do
that again.

Sorry if that sounds selfish.

MARY

No it's ok.

Maybe I'll see you round at
school?

SCOTT

Yeah.

MARY

Well, goodnight Scott.

SCOTT

Goodnight.

Mary walks away to her front door. We hold on Scott as he
watches her go.

CUT TO:

INT. CHRIS' CAR

HARVEY

(looking out the
window)

There she is.

Harvey and Chris get out of the car.

EXT. STREET OUTSIDE SARISKA'S HOUSE

Harvey and Chris close their doors, Jack still inside.
Chris opens up Jack's door.

CHRIS

What the hell are you doing? Get
out.

JACK

(getting out)
Shit.

Jack gets out of the car. They cross the street and we
see Sariska's car being turned off. She gets out of the
car as the boys move towards her.

SARISKA

What are you doing here?

CHRIS

You think nothing was gonna happen
after what you did?

Chris, Harvey and Jack are close to Sariska now. Chris
raises his fist and throws a punch, missing by miles.
Sariska counters with a right to the face just as Harvey
lands one right on her jaw from the side knocking her
back. Chris jumps in quick and gives her a gutful, making
her bend over as Harvey shoves her onto her front lawn.
Chris kicks her in the stomach while she's down.

CHRIS

(wiping his face)
See what happens?

Mind your own business next time.

HARVEY

And tell that faggot friend of
yours he better watch his mouth.

Harvey kicks her in the gut too. Sariska rolls over in
pain, trying to get up but Chris kicks her back down
again. He looks over at Jack.

CHRIS

You just gonna stand there?

JACK

C'mon, she's had enough.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

CHRIS

(smiling)

We're not leaving until you lay
one into her.

JACK

Chris, she's already done for.

Chris kicks her again. Harvey just smiles.

CHRIS

Oh I think she can handle a little
more. And I'm just gonna keep
going until you give her one. It's
up to you Jack.

Jack doesn't say anything. Chris kicks her again.

SARISKA

(in pain)

Arrgh!

Jack steps up and kicks her in the stomach

JACK

You happy now?

Jack walks off towards the car. Chris and Harvey follow
after him. We stay with Sariska.

CHRIS (O.S.)

See? That wasn't hard was it?

JACK (O.S.)

Let's just get outta here.

We move low to Sariska who reaches for her phone in her
pocket as we hear the boys hop in Chris' car and drive
off. Sariska makes a call. She can barely talk.

SARISKA

(in pain)

M-Mum...

Linda sounds like she's been woken up.

SARISKA

Honey? Are you okay?

SARISKA

Just c-come outside...

P-please.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

Sariska drops the phone. We stay down at Sariska's eye level as we see Linda out of focus open the front door and come rushing. We lose live sound as Linda kneels down and holds her daughter. We stay with them a while before we hear the sounds of a busy cafe before we

CUT TO:

INT. CAFE - MORNING

Scott sits opposite Helen. She's got a coffee in front of her, Scott has nothing. He looks at his phone.

SCOTT

Sorry, I don't think she's coming.

HELEN

I hope she's ok. Mary told me what happened last night with Tina's boyfriend. It sounds like he was getting a bit rough with her but Sariska managed to end things pretty quickly.

SCOTT

Yeah she's fine. We just had a bit of an argument at the party last night. She's probably still annoyed at me. I think that's why she's not here.

HELEN

Why, what happened?

SCOTT

(hesitates)

Uhh

HELEN

You don't have to talk about it if you don't want to.

SCOTT

Thanks.

HELEN

So how did you find your date with Mary last week?

She seemed like she had a good time.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SCOTT

It wasn't really a date. I had a good time too but it looks like she just wants to be friends.

HELEN

Oh, I'm sorry.

SCOTT

It's ok, I don't know why I thought someone like her would like me anyway.

HELEN

Aw Scott, you shouldn't think like that.

SCOTT

Yeah I know, but I still do.

HELEN

Are you sure you don't want something to drink?

SCOTT

I'm fine.

Helen reaches into her bag and takes out two white envelopes like last time and hands them to Scott.

HELEN

Would you be able to give Sariska hers when you see her?

SCOTT

(taking the
envelopes)

Yeah sure.

CUT TO:

EXT. OUTSIDE CAFE

Scott's on his phone. We come in to see him texting Sariska.

Text message: *"Where are you? We were supposed to meet at the cafe at 10."*

Scott leans back against the wall for a moment before his phone rings.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SCOTT
Hey, where are you?
(starts walking)
Oh, hi Linda.

...

...
(concerned)
Oh my God. I'll come over right
now.

Scott starts running.

CUT TO:

INT. HOSPITAL RECEPTION

Scott runs through the entrance and up to the counter. We stay wide and don't hear his voice. After talking to the receptionist he runs down the hall.

CUT TO:

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM

Scott opens the door puffing and comes to the side of the Sariska's bed. Sariska is sitting up with a small bruise on her face. Linda sitting next to her looking worn out.

SCOTT
I came as fast as I could.
(worried)
Are you ok?

What happened?

SARISKA
(calm)
Don't worry, it's nothing serious,
I'm gonna be fine.

Linda gets up.

LINDA
I'll let you guys talk.

Linda leaves.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SCOTT

So what happened? I thought you dropped off Tina and went straight home?

SARISKA

I did. But Chris, Harvey and Jack must've gone straight to mine after I left because they were there, waiting for me.

SCOTT

Oh shit.

SARISKA

I couldn't handle both of them at the same time. Once they had me down they just kicked the shit of me.

SCOTT

Oh my God. Are you sure you're ok? I should've been there to help.

SARISKA

The doctor said I'm lucky there's no internal bleeding or any real damage from the tests they did.

SCOTT

I can't believe those guys. What the hell is wrong with them?

(upset)

The one time it was you that needed help and I wasn't around.

SARISKA

What are you talking about Scott? There's no way you could've known this was going to happen. And you needed to stay at the party to watch out for Mary. That's the only reason we were there in the first place.

SCOTT

(still upset)

I know, I just, I can't believe they did that to you.

Scott starts to choke up.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

SARISKA

Scott, seriously.

C'mon. Don't worry, I'm fine.

Scott wipes his eyes.

SARISKA

Did you meet Helen this morning?

SCOTT

Yeah, she gave me your money to give to you.

SARISKA

Thanks.

I was hoping I didn't mess that up by not being there since it was only our second party.

She can't know about this. If she finds out she'll feel responsible and I don't want her to have to deal with that because it's not her fault.

Did she ask why I wasn't there this morning?

Scott dry swallows.

SCOTT

I told her we kind of had an argument last night and you might still be annoyed at me about it.

She didn't jump to any conclusions about you getting into trouble or anything.

I'm pretty sure she just thinks you got upset and didn't want to see me this morning because that's what I thought too until your Mum called.

SARISKA

I'm sorry about what I said last night.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

SCOTT

It's ok.

I think I probably needed to hear it to get the fantasy of me and Mary being perfect for each other out of my head.

That's obviously not going to happen now.

SARISKA

I am sorry about her liking Harvey.

She has no idea what she's missing out on.

Sariska smiles at Scott who manages to get a smile out himself.

SCOTT

Do you want me to ring Helen and tell her we can't do this anymore?

SARISKA

No, don't do that. I'm supposed to be out of here by tomorrow and back at school on Monday like normal.

Last night someone was going on about a huge party next week that I know Mary and Tina will be going to. I don't want Harvey and Chris to think they can just scare me away.

But if you don't wanna come, I totally understand given what's just happened to me but there's no way I'm gonna walk away from this and -

SCOTT

Sariska.

SARISKA

What?

SCOTT

Of course I'm gonna come. We'll finish this together.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

SARISKA
(smiling)
Ok good.

FADE TO:

EXT. SCHOOL - MORNING

Students from all angles make their way onto the high school grounds.

CUT TO:

INT. SCHOOL HALL

Students crowd the hall, talking in small groups, individuals at their lockers, people passing through. Scott and Sariska walk together. Everyone seems to take notice of them. They can hear people talk as they go past.

LOCKER GIRL
I can't believe what she did to
Chris.

Scott and Sariska keep walking.

LOCKER BOY
Have you seen his face?

She just straight sucker punched
him.

One hit and he went down.

LOCKER GIRL #2
Holy shit.

Sariska and Scott walk past Mary. Slow motion as Scott looks at her and we see her look at him. Both their faces emotionless.

SCOTT
I don't even wanna be in this
place anymore.

SARISKA
Let's just go then.

SCOTT
What?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SARISKA

C'mon, let's go down to the skate park.

SCOTT

Ok.

We pull to a wide as Sariska and Scott exit the hallway.

CUT TO:

EXT. SKATE PARK

Close up of a skateboard landing. Shots of skaters hanging out, talking, riding. Close up of a skateboard holding on the edge of a half pipe before releasing back down.

SARISKA (O.S.)

Have you talked to Mary since the party?

We cut to Sariska and Scott sitting on a bench on the edge of the skate park watching, milkshakes in hand.

SCOTT

Not really. She just messaged saying thanks again for bringing her home.

Oh yeah and she said to say thanks to you for taking Tina home since she was supposed to do that.

SARISKA

So are her and Harvey together now?

SCOTT

I don't know. I guess they probably are. I just don't want Mary to get hurt.

She doesn't know how cruel those guys really are.

They should've been arrested for what they did to you.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SARISKA

I don't want to go to the cops.
Besides, I did sucker punch him in
the first place.

Scott sips his milkshake.

SCOTT

You sure you wanna go on Friday
night? If they see us there,
something's gonna happen. They're
not just gonna let us stay there.

SARISKA

We have to go Scott. This is
supposed to be like the big party
before finals, everyone's gonna be
there.

SCOTT

Yeah exactly and we're just two
people. What if we get into
trouble and a bunch of guys want
to step in and help them?

SARISKA

If we play it right we shouldn't
have to worry about that.

SCOTT

Are you sure? And after what they
did to you, who knows how far
they'd be willing to go.

Sariska sips her milkshake.

SARISKA

Do you trust me Scott?

SCOTT

Yeah, of course I do.

SARISKA

Then trust me when I say we're
gonna be fine ok?

People need to see how bad these
guys are and we're the only one's
willing to show them.

If we don't go on Friday, we're
letting them win.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

SARISKA (CONT'D)

You in or not?

SCOTT

Yeah, I'm in.

(smiling)

So long as you're there with me of
course I'm in.

Sariska smiles and sips her milkshake again.

FADE TO:

INT. SARISKA'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Sariska's putting on her shoes, sitting on the edge of the bed. Scott is leaning back on her dresser. They're both pretty dressed up. Sariska in something much more dressy than the previous two parties.

SCOTT

You look really nice tonight.

Sariska looks up and smiles nervously.

SARISKA

Thanks.

Scott stands there looking down. A few silent beats before Sariska speaks again.

SARISKA

You ok?

SCOTT

Yeah I'm fine.

Scott's phone rings. He answers.

SCOTT

Hi Helen.

...

Ok yeah, we'll head off now then.

...

Alright thanks. We'll see you
tomorrow at ten.

...

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SCOTT (CONT'D)

Bye.

SARISKA

(standing up)

Ready?

We hold on a nervous Scott as we hear the sound of
'Power' by Kanye West starting and we

CUT TO:

INT. MANSION

"Party No. 3" - text on screen appears in the bottom
right corner.

Close ups: Cups being filled at a keg, bass speaker
pumping, joint being smoked, feet dancing, hands on
bodies. After the lyrics "21st Century schizoid man" we
cut on beat.

CUT TO:

INT. ENTRANCE LIVING AREA

Mary and Tina come in the front door. It's packed. People
are everywhere.

MARY

You mind if I go hang out with
Harvey for a while?

TINA

(smiling)

Yeah, don't worry about me. I'll
be fine once I find something to
drink.

MARY

(smiling, walking
away)

Thanks. I'll come catch up with
you later ok?

Tina walks off too as Sariska and Scott come through the
door. Scott looks ahead and sees Mary walk up to Harvey
who greets her with a kiss, making her smile.

SARISKA

Forget about her Scott.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SCOTT
I wish it was that easy.

SARISKA
C'mon, let's go find somewhere
less obvious to hang out.

CUT TO:

INT. LARGE KITCHEN AREA

Amongst the packs of teenagers drinking and partying,
Jack walks over to Jess and her friends.

JACK
Hey.

Jess smiles when she sees him and moves away from her
group of friends so she can talk to him.

JESS
Hey.

Thanks again for dinner the other
night. I had a really good time.

JACK
Yeah, me too.

They both just smile at each other for a moment. Then
Jess grabs his hand and starts leading him out.

JESS
(as they walk)
Come out here for a second.

INT. HALLWAY

Jess takes his other hand when she stops in the hall
where it's less crowded. They look at each other
nervously before Jess leans in and kisses him.

JESS
(smiling)
I really wanted to do that when
you dropped me home but I was too
nervous.

JACK
I'd been wanting to do that since
I picked you up.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Jess smiles.

JESS

I'm just not really used to going on actual dates.

JACK

Me neither.

JESS

Hey um, a few of my friends were saying something about you, Chris and Harvey following Sariska home last weekend after she hit Chris.

Jack looks down.

JACK

Shit.

JESS

(concerned)
What happened?

JACK

They hurt her up pretty bad. It made me feel sick. I should've stopped them.

JESS

It's not your fault.

JACK

I could've stopped them though but I was too scared.

JESS

Hey, just because they were the first people you met when you got here doesn't mean you have to keep hanging out them.

JACK

Yeah I know. I'm gonna stay away from them now.

Jess smiles and leans in and kisses him again.

FADE TO:

INT. LIVING AREA

'Time to Dance' by The Shoes is mid song. Close up of a straw sucking up the contents of a Flaming B-52. We go out wide to see Mary finishing off the drink. Harvey, Chris and a bunch of others surround her. Mary stands up straight and exhales loudly.

MARY

Oh my God.

Harvey laughs.

HARVEY

See? How was that?

He leans in and kisses her.

MARY

(smiling)

I can't believe I just did that.

CUT TO:

EXT. BALCONY

Sariska and Scott are outside leaning back on the rail, looking in at the party. The Shoes are quieter out here. Scott has a beer in his hand. They can see Harvey, Mary etc. We can also see Tina off to the side talking closely with Trent. Sariska smiles.

SARISKA

So she still as attractive to you
as she was at the start?

SCOTT

(sighs)

I don't know, I guess not but it
still hurts.

Scott sips his beer.

SCOTT

So is Jean gonna start training
you over summer as soon as
school's finished?

SARISKA

Yeah, that's the plan.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SARISKA (CONT'D)

You can still come along if you
wanna keep working out.

SCOTT

That's ok.

Sariska looks at Scott.

SARISKA

You ok Scott?

SCOTT

I don't know, I just, I figure
you'll be real busy with your new
training programme over summer.
And now that my summer romance
with Mary fantasy is out the
window, summer break looks pretty
shitty right now.

Sariska just smiles at him.

SCOTT

What?

SARISKA

I'm not gonna be training 24/7 you
idiot. We can still hang out like
everyday.

SCOTT

(smiling)

Yeah I know. I guess I'm just
being dramatic.

SARISKA

(smiling, sarcastic)

You think?

Just as Sariska says this the music abruptly shuts off
and everyone looks around. We hear a microphone turn on
and screech and hear a girl speaking.

MIC GIRL (O.S.)

Hey everyone, sorry to interrupt
the party but can everyone please
come to the front of the house by
the stairs?

Scott and Sariska look at each other. Sariska shrugs and
they walk towards the house.

CUT TO:

INT. ENTRANCE LIVING AREA

Scott and Sariska walk in last. Everyone is crowded around by the front door where a rectangular area is kept empty. Kristen and Nate are standing in it holding hands. MIC GIRL (seventeen) is standing next to them.

MIC GIRL

So most of you are here because
Kristen just turned eighteen on
Tuesday.

People cheer.

MIC GIRL (CONT'D)

And her and Nate have been
preparing something for the school
talent competition next week which
they wanted to practice in front
of you guys tonight.

More cheers from the crowd. Kristen and Nate nervously smile at each other. Mic Girl walks back into the crowd as the Flume Remix for "You & Me feat. Eliza Doolittle" by Disclosure starts to play and people cheer some more.

Kristen and Nate start slowing dancing together. They move slowly, gracefully. Nate spins Kristen around and back against his chest. We cut away to everyone we've come across in the film watching them dance. Scott and Sariska, Chris, Harvey and Mary, Jess and Jack, Trent and Tina. Tina smiles and takes Trent's hand, leading him to the back of the crowd on the opposite end of the room to where Scott and Sariska are standing. Kristen and Nate continue to dance. Just before the drop, they stand facing each other, close together, and as soon as the drop hits, they kiss and everyone cheers. They kiss and kiss and kiss for the whole chorus/drop. Sariska and Scott watch with everyone else. Tina and Trent, now at the back of the entrance living area, start to kiss. Chris notices them and pushes through the crowd towards them. Sariska sees Chris moving and looks over at Tina and Trent.

SARISKA

Aw shit.

Scott sees Trent and Tina too and talks into Sariska's ear.

SCOTT

I thought she dumped him.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SARISKA

You think that matters to him?

Chris is out from the crowd now and nearing Tina and Trent who are still making out.

CHRIS

(at Trent/Tina)

Oi, what the hell do you think you're doing?

Chris pulls Trent off of Tina and shoves him against the wall.

TRENT

What's your problem man?

The music shuts off. Kristen and Nate, slow dancing again to the 2nd verse stop and look with everybody else.

CHRIS

(at Trent)

I said what do you think you're doing?

Sariska and Scott start to move towards them from the other end of the living area.

TINA

Chris stop it. I'm not your girlfriend anymore. Don't embarrass yourself.

CHRIS

(harshly)

You shut up.

TRENT

C'mon man, don't talk to her like -

Chris cuts him off by punching him in the gut.

TRENT

(in pain)

Argh, shit.

As soon as he punches him, Sariska calls him out. Everyone's eyes are on her and Scott who are now standing a few metres away from Chris now.

SARISKA

You throw another punch and you're done.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

CHRIS

What do you think you're doing
here?

SARISKA

Look, we don't want any trouble.
We're just here to stop guys like
you throwing your weight around.

CHRIS

(smiling)
What are you, everyone's bodyguard
now or something? No-one needs
your help here.

SARISKA

They do when you're around.

Harvey starts to move towards them. Mary takes his hand,
trying to stop him.

MARY

Harvey, wait.

HARVEY

(pushing her off him)
Get your hands off me.

Harvey steps out of the crowd and stands next to Chris,
his half drunken beer bottle still in one of his hands.
Chris is unbuttoning one of his cuffs.

CHRIS

(smiling, rolling up
his sleeve)
You picked the wrong night to
cause trouble.

SARISKA

Look, we don't want to fight you
ok? If you leave now, I'll spare
you the injuries.

A couple people in the crowd cheer for Sariska. Chris
looks around and see's Jack.

CHRIS

Oi Jack, get out here!

Jack and Jess look at each other. Jess shakes her head at
him.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

JACK

Don't be stupid Chris. They don't
wanna fight.

CHRIS

Fine, be a faggot.

Chris rolls up his other sleeve.

SARISKA

You sure you wanna do this? You
don't have me outnumbered so the
odds don't look so good for you
this time.

CHRIS

You think I need anyone else to
take you out?

(at Harvey)

Let me take care of this.

HARVEY

You sure?

CHRIS

Yeah I'm sure. Shit, she's just a
girl.

Sariska smiles.

SARISKA

(at Scott)

Scott, step back.

SCOTT

Maybe we should just -

SARISKA

Just step back ok?

Scott steps back. Chris calls out to everyone.

CHRIS

If anyone interferes you're done
ok?!

SARISKA

I'm gonna give you one more chance
to walk away. After that it's
over.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

Chris steps forward and throws a punch at Sariska who avoids it with ease and counter punches with a straight to the side of his face. The crowd goes crazy. Chris stumbles and stands back up straight and wipes his face with his hand. He goes in for another punch and again Sariska avoids it, this time countering with a three punch combo that sends Chris flying backwards. As he stumbles back into the crowd, Harvey steps up behind Sariska and smashes his beer bottle over her head.

SARISKA

Argh!

On impact, Scott rushes in, throwing a haymaker at Harvey, knocking him backwards. Sariska gets her balance back at the same time as Chris is now back on his feet properly. He lunges at Sariska and throws a few wild punches, all missing. Harvey's balanced again. Scott and Harvey trade punches. The raw sound of the punches landing is painfully loud in the now music-less atmosphere. Everyone's watching. After Sariska lands a few more on Chris, he finally manages to land a straight to her face. This sets off a switch in her and she goes all out. Punch after punch, forcing him back towards the wall where she kicks him in the chest, sending his body back into wall where he falls. Harvey and Scott are still trading punches when Harvey knocks him back just as Sariska steps up by his side. Harvey looks and see's Chris on the ground behind her.

SARISKA

You've got two seconds to get the hell out of here.

Harvey drops his fists and leaves. Everyone cheers. The music turns back on with the drop in 'You & Me' blasting. Scott, his face reddened and bleeding, sees Mary who looks horrified. He looks at Sariska.

SCOTT

You ok?

The crowd starts to scatter and Sariska steps forward and hugs Scott tight.

SARISKA

Pretty sure I'm gonna need stitches from that bottle.

SCOTT

(smiling)
Yeah, and me a new face.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (5)

Sariska smiles.

FADE TO:

EXT. SARISKA'S HOUSE - MORNING

"One week later" - text on screen appears in the bottom right corner.

Establishing shot of the house. We hear the sounds of people eating.

LINDA (O.S.)

You really figured out how to draw
some nasty attention to yourselves
these last few weeks.

CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM

Linda, Sariska and Scott are eating pancakes. Scott's face still hasn't fully recovered. Their plates looking pretty empty.

LINDA (CONT'D)

I'm starting to worry about the
two of you.

Sariska and Scott look at each other.

LINDA (CONT'D)

I'm just glad neither of you
suffered any serious damage.

SARISKA

Don't worry, graduation's in like
three weeks, and I'm pretty sure
we've handled the worst of it now.
I think they got the message
alright.

LINDA

(smiling)

You know you can't just go around
beating up whoever you think is a
bad person honey. It doesn't work
like that.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SARISKA

It's not like we ever start the fight. We always try to sort it out without hurting them but they never listen. What are we supposed to do?

LINDA

I just wish it didn't mean you have to put yourselves in danger like that.

Sariska sips her orange juice.

SCOTT

Thank you so much for breakfast Linda.

LINDA

You're welcome Scott. It's always a pleasure having you over.

(at Sariska)

Are you driving him home honey?

SARISKA

Yeah

(at Scott)

You wanna head off now?

SCOTT

Yeah I should probably get back. Mum's been grilling me about prepping for finals. I just need to use the bathroom real quick.

Scott stands up and leaves. Linda looks at Sariska.

LINDA

You really ought to tell him how you feel.

SARISKA

(whispering
aggressively)

Jesus, keep your voice down!

LINDA

Sorry but you need to tell him honey.

SARISKA

I know, I'm just, what if he's still caught up on that Mary girl?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

LINDA

Sariska, can't you see that boy
would do anything for you?

Maybe it's time you put your heart
out on your sleeve for once and
see what happens.

SARISKA

I just...

I don't want to ruin our last
summer before he leaves.

LINDA

And if you don't you'll be
thinking about the summer you
could've had forever. Trust me,
I've had my share of regrets when
it comes to love and you don't
want to live with that kind of
thing.
If you let him leave without
telling him, you might never find
the courage to do it.

Scott walks back in.

SCOTT

(at Sariska)

You ready to head off?

CUT TO:

INT. SARISKA'S CAR

Sariska driving, Scott riding shotgun.

SARISKA

Hey, I never thanked you for
stepping in when you did. After
Harvey hit me with that bottle I
thought that was gonna be it.

SCOTT

I think if I didn't someone else
definitely would've. Everyone was
on your side by the time Chris
threw his first punch.

Sariska looks across Scott's bruised face.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SCOTT

What?

SARISKA

Nothing. It's just, sometimes I think all I ever do is drag you into bad situations.

I'm sorry.

SCOTT

Well it turns out those bad situations you drag me into are all my favourite memories. If it wasn't for you my life would just be a boring emotional mess.

Sariska smiles as she pulls into Scott's driveway.

SCOTT

(taking something out
of his pocket)

Oh yeah, I just remembered. I was thinking about what happened last weekend and all the other times you've saved my ass and I made this CD for you to listen to while you're driving.

SARISKA

(smiling, taking the
CD)

Thanks.

SCOTT

(undoing his seat
belt)

I better go but I'll see you at school tomorrow.

Scott opens his door and starts to hop out when Sariska stops him.

SARISKA

Hey Scott.

Scott turns back to her.

SCOTT

Yeah?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

SARISKA
(hesitates then
smiles)
Thanks for the CD.

SCOTT
(smiling)
No problem.

Scott gets out of the car. He stands and leans down,
looking in at Sariska.

SCOTT
Cya.

SARISKA
Bye.

Scott closes the door and walks up to his house. We stay with Sariska as she sits there for a few moments before backing out and driving away. She looks at the CD which has a drawn on smiley face on it and puts it in. "All I Want" by Kodakline starts to play. Sariska drives for a few beats then turns it up. We hold in close on Sariska's face as she drives and drives and drives. When the first chorus hits Sariska starts to cry. She keeps driving. We hold on her face as she cries. At the end of the second chorus Sariska makes a sudden U-turn and drives back towards Scott's house. She smiles through her tears and just as the electric guitar comes in to take us to the bridge we

CUT TO BLACK:

THE END

POST CREDITS SCENE

Scott and Sariska's first kiss.