

All Nighter

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Night. Small Liberal Arts College in Rural Pennsylvania. 1600 students total, 400 students per grade. The year is 2014.

Specifically: Johnson Ballroom, the only 24 hour space on campus. A giant ballroom with no walls just windows - when the sun sets you see only your reflection. A fish bowl filled with tables for students to work at.

We only see one isolated round table on stage. But the ballroom is full of tables and people that we cannot see.

The ballroom is massive. Cavernous. There are many spaces in which to spread out, lie down, talk privately, take a nap. Lighting is important in differentiating when characters are in ear shot of one another.

DARCIE enters. She carries an Arizona Iced Tea, wears a backpack on her back. She takes in the ballroom, smiles and waves at some people we cannot see. She has something about her that is magnetic.

She sees the only table that's available. Stops, has a moment of disappointment, but continues on.

Darcie sits down at the table, places her jacket around her chair, and neatly takes out her books, computer. We can tell by what she pulls out that she is highly organized. She takes a pill out of her backpack, swallows it, sips her Arizona Iced Tea, and opens her computer. She has an intensity and focus to her. A DING sounds from her computer. She smiles.

LIZZY enters. She carries a backpack, she is slightly disheveled. Her hair is in a messy bun, and her clothes are definitely not thoughtfully picked out. She sees Darcie. She walks towards the table.

LIZZY

Not good. NOT good.

DARCIE

The table was taken when I got here! I'm so sorry I wish that I had gotten here sooner to claim it!

LIZZY

No no this is not your fault at all! I'm sorry I'm running so late!

DARCIE

No, don't be sorry! You had rehearsal!

LIZZY

Jacqueline is going to be sad about the table.

DARCIE

The good news is, I don't think this group will be in here for long-

Lizzy clocks the group at the other table we cannot see. Dialogue is rapid.

LIZZY

Yeah. It's Janie Perkins and her crew.

DARCIE

They won't be here past midnight-

LIZZY

Yeah. They are all so productive-

DARCIE

So productive!

Janie Perkins was in my freshman year lit class and I remember thinking that she was someone I probably would never be able to relate to...

LIZZY

I have *never* been able to relate to her-

DARCIE

Same! In the past four years on this campus we have *never truly* connected. She was *so* productive in that class-

LIZZY

Yeah-

DARCIE

But in a way that felt almost *unproductive*?-

LIZZY

Completely get it-

DARCIE

Do you know what I mean?-

LIZZY

I totally understand. All those girls are very productive. Janie Perkins was in my intro to french class sophomore year and she would always bring baguettes to class and eat them... and then she would see me in the cafeteria or the library and say 'bonjour' and I would say.... "bonjour" and she would try to have a full conversation in french with me and I would try to respond but ultimately I would always have to say "I'm sorry I just really don't know the language that well yet."

DARCIE

We're just different from them.

LIZZY

Yeah.

DARCIE

We'll keep our eyes on the table, and move when they leave.

LIZZY

Well thought out, Darc.

DARCIE

Thank you, Liz-

Lizzy has finished unpacking her books, throughout the process it's been clear she's not as organized as Darcie. She plops down.

LIZZY

Oooof. Did I need to have the fourth shot at 2am? Probably not.

DARCIE

I think you needed it!

LIZZY

You passed out so early!

DARCIEIKEE

I know...I was out of it by like 10pm. I'm sad I didn't make it out with everyone.

*

LIZZY

We missed you.

DARCIE

I want to hear everything.

LIZZY

I can't think about it too much without wanting to vomit so step by step.

Darcie smiles knowingly.

DARCIE

How was your rehearsal?

Lizzy starts pulling out some papers from her very disorganized folders...

LIZZY

It's going to be such a dumb senior week thing. But. Yeah. It was good.

Pages fall out of Lizzy's folder to the ground. Liz is a tad manic.

LIZZY

Shit.

Darcie bends down and helps her.

LIZZY

Thanks. How was your day!? How was the Latin final?

DARCIE

Everything was good! I made a pizza this morning, went to the gym, and my Latin final went well! Not as bad as I thought it would be.

LIZZY

You made a pizza?

DARCIE

Yeah.

LIZZY

What do you mean?

DARCIE

I made a pizza.

LIZZY

Yeah. But what do you *mean* you made a pizza

Dialogue is extremely rapid.

DARCIE

I made...I made a pizza. A very small pizza-

LIZZY

What exactly are you saying?

DARCIE

I cooked a pizza-

LIZZY

How did you cook a pizza?

DARCIE

I made a small pizza from scratch.

LIZZY

From scratch? There are no dishes in the house-

DARCIE

Yeah. From scratch-

LIZZY

The kitchen is so clean there are no dirty dishes-

DARCIE

I cleaned after I made it!

LIZZY

I can't believe you made a pizza. How did you make the pizza?

DARCIE

I had ingredients leftover from my groceries-

LIZZY

You cooked a pizza... from scratch? In our kitchen.

DARCIE

Yes. A tiny pizza.

LIZZY

But not the dough.

DARCIE

Including the dough. I cooked the dough from scratch.

LIZZY

Okay, but not the cheese-

DARCIE

I made the cheese.

LIZZY

No. You didn't. You didn't make cheese-

DARCIE

I did make cheese-

LIZZY

You *made* cheese??

DARCIE

I made cheese-

LIZZY

That's *so insane that you made cheese*. Do you understand that that's insane?

DARCIE

I mean it was a very small pizza.

LIZZY

What do you mean you aren't productive? Go sit at Janie Perkin's table! You don't know who you are! You have no idea who you are! You are SO / PRODUCTIVE!

DARCIE

I just made-

LIZZY

No you didn't MAKE, You BUILT a pizza today. You BUILT a pizza!
I'm so excited for/ you!

DARCIE

Thank you Liz!-

LIZZY

It's REALLY AMAZING. Really amazing Darcie.
Tell Tessa you made this all from scratch she'll love it...

Darcie smiles. Moment. Liz's leg is shaking.

LIZZY

I rearranged my bedroom this morning. So that was sort of productive.

DARCIE

Definitely!

LIZZY

I moved the position of my bed.

Why?
DARCIE

I felt anxious.
LIZZY

I understand. Did it make you feel better?
DARCIE

I'm not sure yet.
LIZZY

Are you okay?
DARCIE

Yeah. Just hungover.
LIZZY

A ding from Darcie's phone.

Oh! Angie is going to email me the psych notes. She's typing them up which will be sooo helpful to us.
DARCIE

Incredible news. I'm soooo behind for that test. And I have an Art History Paper to write.
LIZZY

I know. I'm behind too and I have my Anth presentation. But it's the home stretch!
DARCIE

This is the last time I'll have to study for a test and write a research paper in one night.
LIZZY

It's so crazy!
DARCIE

Beat. Darcie is hesitant.

DARCIE

Also... this is so dumb, but I mentioned it to Jacqueline and Tessa earlier so... I just.. I was slightly annoyed to walk downstairs this morning and see you guys had eaten all the pasta I had made yesterday-

LIZZY

Oh... oh my god! I'm so sorry-

DARCIE

It's totally fine. I was just planning to. I wanted the pasta to last throughout the week.

Very genuine from Lizzy...she feels badly.

LIZZY

I am SO sorry. Oh I feel horrible! We were so drunk when we got home-

DARCIE

Truly it's so okay, I feel embarrassed even bringing it up, I just thought it was important to get it off my chest.

LIZZY

I'm glad you did. I'm so sorry! That's really not okay.

DARCIE

I just feel like. Sometimes we aren't. No one is conscious of... those groceries weren't cheap and-

LIZZY

I know, I get it. And that must feel so annoying and stupid and I'm sorry-

DARCIE

It's so okay. I just needed to put it out there-

LIZZY

It was really rude.

I truly haven't been that drunk in so long.

Darcie takes Lizzy in.

DARCIE

Are you sure you're okay Liz?

LIZZY

(vulnerable)

Yeah. Yeah. I just. I'm feeling a little... a little all over the place.
I had sort of a weird night.

DARCIE

Tell me about it...

Lizzy takes a moment

LIZZY

In a little.

DARCIE

We need a Lizzy Darcie meal. Like tomorrow. Just us, one on one. It's been too long-

LIZZY

I'd love that.

DARCIE

I'm *here*-

LIZZY

I know.

Beat. With anxiety.

LIZZY

Don't mention anything to-

DARCIE

Of course not.

Tessa enters. She's in lulu lemon leggings and clogs. Her hair in a bun. She's striking. She has an elegance to her. Maybe a slight coldness. It's clear by what she's wearing, the jewelry she has on... somehow it's clear she comes from wealth. She enters the ballroom with a large backpack and grocery bags and walks straight toward the table.

TESSA

It's so crowded in here I don't understand how we're supposed to focus-

DARCIE

Hi-

TESSA

Jacqueline's in the bathroom but she's coming.

LIZZY

Were you guys together?

TESSA

We just met at the market. Ran into Andrea, then Jack started harassing Andrea about the apple selection...

LIZZY

Andrea is never going to be our friend.

TESSA

That's what I said.

Tessa starts unloading some grocery bags on the table.

DARCIE

How are you Tess?

TESSA

Stressed. But good.

LIZZY

How much do you have-

TESSA

Like a lot. I have a lot to do.

LIZZY

You'll ride the wave Tess!

TESSA

Yeah. I'm just. Yeah.

She starts stretching.

DARCIE

How was the gym?

TESSA

Really excellent. I needed to sweat.

DARCIE

Claire's in here.

TESSA

I saw. Jacqueline will be thrilled! But she's going to be upset we are sitting at this table.

Tessa starts going through her backpack.

DARCIE/ LIZZY

We know.

TESSA

I'm so hungover. God.

LIZZY

Yeah.

TESSA

Did anyone see my credit card lying around the house?

DARCIE

LIZZY

No, why?

I don't think so.

TESSA

I can't find it. I just used cash at the market but I thought maybe it was hiding deeper in my bag.

She keeps looking through her bag.

LIZZY

When was the last time you used it?

TESSA

I'm not sure. Maybe a day ago? It's probably somewhere in the house

DARCIE

I'll help you look when we get home.

LIZZY

That's frustrating Tess.

DARCIE

We'll find it.

Tessa grabs her stomach.

TESSA

I actually can't imagine ever drinking again. Why did we do that?

DARCIE

It's our last week of college... I think it's good everyone got so drunk.

LIZZY

I agree!

TESSA

Darc you didn't even make it out of the house!

DARCIE

I really went for it... just a little too early...

LIZZY

We've all been there-

TESSA

Last weekend Jack didn't make it out-

LIZZY

It's almost like we are on a rotation-

TESSA

Speaking of the devil-

Jacqueline enters. She wears a crop top and loose jeans. She is confident in her body, energetic. She bounces into the ballroom, taking in the space.

She spots Claire (who we cannot see) in the corner and smiles flirtatiously. Jacqueline approaches the table.

JACQUELINE

Tessa, you are DEEPLY incorrect-

TESSA

No I can't have this conversation with you again-

JACQUELINE

(to tessa)

I just saw Andrea AGAIN... AGAIN in the BATHROOM-

TESSA

Oh my god you are-

JACQUELINE

You just have to admit that I'm right.

TESSA

You're delusional!

JACQUELINE

Tessa. She wants to be our friend-

TESSA

I love you but she doesn't want to be our friend.

JACQUELINE

Open your mind! She does-

DARCIE

(with delight)

Does she?

JACQUELINE

Okay so we were in the market and Tessa was rushing through the aisles *like she didn't want to be alone with me or something-*

TESSA

Oh my god stop I was grocery shopping with focus-

JACQUELINE

And we ran into Andrea and her and I had an AMAZING conversation about if any apples were still good-

TESSA

She doesn't want/ to be our friend.

LIZZY

Were there /any good apples?

JACQUELINE

We were *connecting* about the apples!

TESSA

Oh my god you make meaning out of everything-

JACQUELINE

Dude. In the bathroom we were washing our hands together and she made a joke about the paper towels in *another clear effort to connect* with me-

LIZZY

What was the joke?

JACQUELINE

She said "classic paper towels."

DARCIE

That's funny!

TESSA

That's not a joke-

JACQUELINE

Tessa! I have a goal please support me.

TESSA

She literally made a *statement*. An honestly weird statement about paper / towels

JACQUELINE

Before graduation it's my intent to get that group to like me

DARCIE

If they knew how much we talk about their group of friends-

TESSA

They would be seriously disturbed.

JACQUELINE

Do you think they ever talk about us?

TESSA/ DARCIE

No.

JACQUELINE

I don't know if that's true-

TESSA

This is getting embarrassing for you.

LIZZY

You have one week left J. Make it happen!

JACQUELINE

Thank you for the support Lizzy. A rare moment these days!

Lizzy looks a little defeated.

Jacqueline takes in the ballroom, their table, and looks at the other table that she really desires.

JACQUELINE

Janie Perkins crew is at our table-

DARCIE

They won't last in here past 11pm. We'll move when they leave-

LIZZY

and we KNOW they will leave-

JACQUELINE

Yeah. They are all so productive...

DARCIE/LIZZY

Exactly.

JACQUELINE

I feel like crying but I can't go there yet.

TESSA

Oh my god you guys and your ballroom real estate.

JACQUELINE

It's important Tess! We can't have our last all nighter be at THIS table. This is not our table!

LIZZY

It's true, it's not our table.

JACQUELINE

Tessa do you want to do it?

TESSA

Yes.

Tessa opens up her backpack and pulls out a bottle of wine. It's very presentational.

TESSA

Darcie, we're so sorry about eating all your pasta last night.

DARCIE

Oh you guys!

JACQUELINE

We got you apology wine.

Tessa hands Darcie the bottle of wine.

DARCIE

Thank you! That is so thoughtful and-

TESSA

It was really disrespectful of us.

DARCIE

I appreciate the apology. I feel weird that I even-

TESSA

I felt horrible when you sent us that text we're just/ really sorry

JACQUELINE

Yeah dude we were so drunk when we got home we weren't thinking.

TESSA

I'm *never* that drunk -

DARCIE

I honestly feel stupid I brought the pasta up-

TESSA

Do not feel stupid, it's good you brought it up. It wasn't okay!

DARCIE

Thanks for the wine, you guys are so sweet.

LIZZY

(slightly pointed)

Thanks for telling me you guys were going to get wine!

JACQUELINE

Maybe if you answered your phone Liz you'd be more involved!

LIZZY

Darcie I'll get you apology chocolate.

JACQUELINE

(to Liz)

Where have you been all day?

LIZZY

I was at the house then I had rehearsal then I came here.

JACQUELINE

Interesting. I called you like three times.

LIZZY

Sorry. My phones been so weird.

JACQUELINE

Don't worry about it.

LIZZY

Darcie do you want market chocolate or a cookie or-

DARCIE

That's sweet, but it's so okay.

JACQUELINE

I know it was rude of us to eat your food but I have to tell you Darcie...that pasta was incredibly fresh.

LIZZY

It was really good pasta.

TESSA

It was!

DARCIE

Thanks. I'm trying to learn how to cook!

LIZZY

Darcie made an *entire pizza* / from scratch today.

DARCIE

It was a small pizza.

JACQUELINE

The kitchen is so clean I can't believe you did that!

LIZZY

That's what I said!

DARCIE

I got this new dairy free cookbook it's been great-

LIZZY

I'm sorry. What? The pizza was dairy free? /You MADE dairy free cheese?

JACQUELINE
You MADE dairy free cheese?

DARCIE
Yeah.

JACQUELINE
I'm astonished.

LIZZY
Well it's astonishing.

TESSA
Darc, you should have told me you were looking for dairy free cookbooks I would have recommended a good one!

DARCIE
Next time I'll ask in advance! Oh and Tess, I have to confess I used your special pan- I hope that's okay-

TESSA
Of course it is!

DARCIE
I was thinking about getting one for my mom for her birthday. The special pan. But... I looked it up online and it's quite pricey. Not sure I can swing it, / but that's probably why it's so good!

TESSA
Ah. Yeah. Darc we should have one last day in the kitchen. Just you and me.

DARCIE
I'd love that. Let's do that tomorrow!

JACQUELINE
You can learn from masterchef Tessa!

Tessa is a little embarrassed.

TESSA
Alright.

JACQUELINE

You're the house chef Tess!

TESSA

We can all be house chefs.

The round table is now full of coffee, hummus, carrots, chips, hummus, red bulls, grapes, popcorn, blue moons, hummus.

Lizzy is looking at the spread with love and adoration. There's always this much hummus on the table. Nothing new.

LIZZY

(dreamy)

There's so much hummus on this table.

JACQUELINE

How could there not be?

LIZZY

Hummus has played a huge role in our college experience.

DARCIE

Yeah it has.

JACQUELINE

What do we love to pair the most with hummus?

DARCIE

I think chips.

LIZZY

Turkey.

DARCIE

Oh yeah. And turkey. Chips and turkey... a tie for me.

JACQUELINE

I'm going snap peas.

DARCIE

This is so hard I like everything with hummus.

JACQUELINE

Tess?

TESSA

Carrots.

JACQUELINE

To each her own.

DARCIE

I might want to change my answer to popcorn.

LIZZY

Oh yeah I remember that-

TESSA

The kettle corn-

JACQUELINE

No it was just salty-

DARCIE

It was caramel!

LIZZY

I think it was cheddar because it upset my stomach-

JACQUELINE

You guys, it was definitely salty.

An active set of decisions.

DARCIE

TESSA

You're right.

I think it was salty.

LIZZY

Yeah, maybe it was salty.

They're in agreement.

TESSA

I can't believe it's already 10pm-

LIZZY

If I think about how much work I have to do in the next 12 hours I might *actually* vomit.

JACQUELINE

It will get done. We've done this so many times.

DARCIE

It's the home stretch.

TESSA

I really do love you guys.

DARCIE

I'm already crying.

JACQUELINE

I love you guys so much. I just wish we were at a different table.

TESSA

Stop.

LIZZY

I can't believe we graduate in five days.

DARCIE

Let's all hold hands.

They all hold hands. Sit up straight. This is
EXTREMELY Serious business. There's a beat
as they center themselves.

TESSA

Let's pray for everyone's love and happiness and success.

DARCIE

I'm seriously so proud of all of you.

JACQUELINE

It has to stay like this. Even after graduation.

DARCIE

When our real lives begin!

TESSA

How daunting.

LIZZY

Yeah.

JACQUELINE

We're about to complete our last academic assignments... ever.

LIZZY

Tonight marks the end of our academic careers

TESSA

Unless we go to graduate school.

JACQUELINE

I can't even engage with that concept right now.

LIZZY

I hope everyone finishes their work tonight.

And I mean *really* finishes it.

JACQUELINE/TESSA/DARCIE/LIZZY

Amen.

They release hands.

JACQUELINE

Do you think I can write 15 pages in twelve hours?

TESSA

You're irresponsible.

JACQUELINE

Oh my god chill out.

LIZZY

I've written a paper and a play in one night-

Lizzy pulls out a pouch and pours a pile of blue pills on the table... she starts counting them.

JACQUELINE

Are we ready for our little blue friends?

LIZZY

Almost.

JACQUELINE

Liz are you really counting them?

LIZZY

Ten.

JACQUELINE

Ten. Great.

LIZZY

I put twelve adderall in here.

They've all heard Lizzy stress about her pills
before...

JACQUELINE

Oh let's not do this dance again...

DARCIE

Are you sure Liz?

LIZZY

I'm positive. I put twelve in here.

JACQUELINE

Some probably fell out in your bag.

DARCIE

You could have miscounted-

JACQUELINE

A difference of two is so small.

There's a slight edge/ vulnerability to Liz here...

LIZZY

Okay. Okay. I just-

DARCIE

Don't get stressed Lizzy!

LIZZY

I'm not, I'm not stressed... I'm annoyed-

TESSA

You're sleep deprived and hungover.

JACQUELINE

I just think the habit of always counting your pills obsessively is not good for you-

TESSA

I definitely agree.

DARCIE

Yeah.

Lizzy is stressed.

LIZZY

I'm missing two adderall.

Jacqueline spots a new group of people coming into Johnson (that we can't see)-

JACQUELINE

Liz your thespian friends are now entering the ballroom!

LIZZY

Yes they are-

JACQUELINE

You can go sit with them if you want-

LIZZY

I was with them all day-

JACQUELINE

Is Roger still upset he didn't get the lead in Almost Maine?

LIZZY

No he's over it-

JACQUELINE

I want what's best for him-

LIZZY

He hooked up with Jason last night-

JACQUELINE

Oh my god I could totally see them getting married in the real world

DARCIE

(dreamy)

That end of senior year magic.

Lizzy recenters-

LIZZY

Okay. Guys. I packed twelve adderrall and now there are only-

JACQUELINE

Liz, you need to finally release this anxiety. Anony probably took them!

Anony is pronounced "Anon-ie". It's a name.

LIZZY

Did she though?

JACQUELINE

Do you think Anony is with us right now?

LIZZY

(earnest and polite)

I couldn't say because I've never met Anony.

JACQUELINE

It makes me sad. I don't think you *truly* believe in her Liz.

LIZZY

I go in waves...

DARCIE

She's real Liz. She just absolutely is-

TESSA

Even I believe in her Lizzy.

JACQUELINE

There's a ghost living in our house. Like. There just is. You just refuse to accept it! Ever since the /Vyvance Scandal of 2011

DARCIE / TESSA

Vyvance scandal of 2011.

DARCIE

Our house was built on very old, very sacred ground so...

Beat.

JACQUELINE

If Anony's with us right now I wonder where she is-

We see Lizzy trying to get on board...

LIZZY

Maybe Anony is in the hummus.

JACQUELINE/ DARCIE/ TESSA

That's beautiful Lizzy.

JACQUELINE

All five roommates are here now.

LIZZY

Oh my god you guys have lost it-

JACQUELINE

No one's lost it-

LIZZY

I *want* to believe in her I do-

JACQUELINE

I think Anony visited my room last week.

DARCIE

What?

JACQUELINE

Yeah. I think Anony was *in* my room-

DARCIE

What do you mean?

JACQUELINE

I found my journal on the center of my floor.

Beat.

Darcie gasps.

LIZZY

Did it fall?

JACQUELINE

How and why would it have just fallen!

LIZZY

(lightly)

I'm just offering maybe another realistic solution beyond a ghost.

TESSA

She has a point.

JACQUELINE

I was in the house alone a few days ago and the phone just kept ringing and ringing and ringing and ringing and I answered and it was just static and then I heard a door SLAM-

DARCIE

Oh my god I have the chills-

JACQUELINE

And I go upstairs and my journal is suddenly on my floor. I was literally screaming!

TESSA

The house is off. The house is off!

LIZZY

Perhaps the joke has run its course-

JACQUELINE

It's offensive that you keep calling this a joke.

LIZZY

I'm waiting for tangible proof.

JACQUELINE

Maybe you should be a lawyer.

TESSA

I think Darcie's the one going to law school.

DARCIE

We'll see.

LIZZY

I really thought I put twelve in here.

JACQUELINE

Well. We live in a haunted house. So things can get confusing.

Jacqueline puts her arms around Liz.

JACQUELINE

Cheer up buttercup!

Lizzy releases with a smile...

LIZZY

I'm cheered.

JACQUELINE

There she is! I think we should take it in halves.

LIZZY

I agree. It's better for the long ride ahead.

Slightly challenging..

LIZZY

Darc you having any?

DARCIE

(slightly holier than thou)

No thank you. You know how I feel about them.

JACQUELINE

Indeed we do.

DARCIE

They really aren't/ good for you-

JACQUELINE

Good for you. We know.

LIZZY

Well, a doctor gave me these Darc I have / visual processing issues.

JACQUELINE

Visual processing issues.

DARCIE

I know. To each her own.

JACQUELINE

Tessa?

TESSA

I'll have just a tiny bit maybe. Like a quarter of a pill. But not yet.

Tessa stands and starts doing jumping jacks.

JACQUELINE

(with both love and judgement)

Tess, you're special did you know that?

TESSA

I don't pull these...I want to make sure my body is ready. You and Liz over there are the queens of All Nighters.

Lizzy and Jacqueline high-five as Lizzy's other hand focuses on cutting the pills.

JACQUELINE

We're missing Wilma though. She'll be sure to make a guest appearance.

LIZZY

The Queen of Johnson.

DARCIE

I'm not in the mood for her right now. I saw her earlier today and she was...on one.

JACQUELINE

She hasn't slept in 48 hours.

TESSA

This econ is kicking my BUTT.

LIZZY

Okay I need to eat like five carrots before I take this.

JACQUELINE

I think we should have five carrots and a handful of chips.

LIZZY

With the hummus.

JACQUELINE

Yeah. Got to coat the stomach.

They eat carrots with hummus and chips.

I'm ready.

LIZZY

Finish the chips.

JACQUELINE

Lizzy bites into a chip.

Okay I finished.

LIZZY

Lizzy and Jacqueline pick up two halves of a blue pill-

Cheers.

LIZZY/ JACQUELINE

They swallow the pills.

Lizzy's water bottle is empty. She needs something to quench her thirst.

Darcie can I have a sip of your iced tea?

LIZZY

Darcie grabs the can and holds it close to her.

I'm feeling kind of sick. Best not.

DARCIE

Here Liz have my water.

TESSA

Lizzy sips. Takes a breath. Looks around the ballroom.

Oh shit.

LIZZY

(internal)

I know I just saw him.

DARCIE

TESSA

What?

They all look in the same direction.

JACQUELINE

Oh god. Mike just walked in.

All the girls straighten their back and put their attention towards Lizzy. We feel the girls form a militant and protective barrier around Liz. Lizzy looks down at her work.

TESSA

Lizzy we can leave if you want.

LIZZY

It's fine. I'm fine.

DARCIE

Okay but if you want to leave you tell us.

LIZZY

I know. Thanks.

Darcie, Jacqueline and Tessa share a look of concern. They push their chairs closer together, forming more of a physical barrier between Liz and Mike. They all look back at their work. Lizzy looks back at where Mike is. Looks away. Lizzy starts to pick at her nails, her leg shakes.

TESSA

Okay. I'm requesting at *least* a 15 minute work period.

They work. Time Passes.

Jacqueline looks up.

Wilma incoming.
JACQUELINE

Oh god.
DARCIE

I'm in a nightmare.
TESSA

It's an interesting look tonight-
LIZZY

WILMA enters. She has a MULLET. She is a double major in Art and American studies. She wears a bright pink coat (It's 80 degrees out) yellow heels, a crop top, her self confidence contagious. When she starts talking it is hard to get her to stop. She carries two canvasses.

WILMA
I'M HAVING A MENTAL BREAKDOWN!

JACQUELINE
There are at least 40 other people in this room. You need to lower your voice.

WILMA
Do you think this looks like me?!

She holds up a self portrait that is actually a picture of Hilary Clinton. The girls cheer her on.

LIZZY	DARCIE
I love it.	Looking good Wilma.
TESSA	JACQUELINE
Really fun and interesting	I'm proud of you.

WILMA
Okay. Okay. Thank you so much.

JACQUELINE
Did you get to nap today Wil, you haven't slept-

WILMA

Not a winkkkk. I'm in a zone, FEELING SO MUCH LOVE FOR THE CLASS OF 2014!

TESSA

Shhhhh

WILMA

Jacqueline did you see Claire is in here?

JACQUELINE

Yes. Please be calm.

Tessa shifts in her chair, puts her head down.

WILMA

Extremely fun for you though.

JACQUELINE

Wil-

WILMA

That sexual tension across the ballroom.

TESSA

What's on your to do list tonight Wilma-

WILMA

Literally I have to write a paper on America tonight.

LIZZY

Wait, Jacqueline, what's the update with you and Claire?

JACQUELINE

(slightly sharp)

It's a long story I'll tell you later.

WILMA

It's an extremely good story!

TESSA

Wilma what's the paper? America and what?

WILMA

Like a paper about America. The country we live in.

She looks at the "other table"

WILMA

Ugh. Janie P's got the table huh?

JACQUELINE

Yes. It's extremely depressing.

WILMA

Incredibly depressing. But Janie won't be here for long. She's too type A. Like too productive? Know what I mean?

JACQUELINE/LIZZY/DARCIE/TESSA

We know-

WILMA

I'm literally *reckless*. I went to Walmart today and bought so much cranberry juice and goldfish and orange expo pens I spent like 45 dollars. Darcie I bought *orange* expo pens-

DARCIE

I need to focus on my anth presentation right now.

WILMA

What do you think *Madonna* is doing right now.

JACQUELINE

That's a really hard question.

WILMA

Right? I mean, what *is* Madonna doing... like at this very second? *Cause we are living-*

DARCIE

Wil, we have a lot of work to get done-

Vulnerable-

WILMA

Okay, but I just want to say that my orange expo pens-

With EXTREME EDGE and intensity.

DARCIE

Wilma CAN YOU PLEASE LEAVE.

I *really* have to focus.

This hits Wilma in an extreme way. Wilma starts to scream then starts to cry and runs to another corner of the ballroom in a huff... The girls watch her. Lizzy looks at all of them.

DARCIE

Oh god I didn't mean for her to-

TESSA

She's being insane.

JACQUELINE

There she goes-

Lizzy stands up.

JACQUELINE

No. Lizzy don't indulge!

Disappointed in them...

LIZZY

You guys...

Lizzy follows Wilma to the corner out of earshot from the table.

JACQUELINE

What a familiar feeling.. Lizzy walking away.

TESSA

She'll come back.

JACQUELINE

Until one of her thespian friends needs her...

Beat.

JACQUELINE

It's just sad.

The corner-

LIZZY

I need you to take some deep breaths. You need to center yourself.

Wilma does not calm down. Heaving sobs.

WILMA

(through her tears)

Do you think anyone knows what Madonna is doing right now?

LIZZY

I'm not sure any of us know, Wil.

WILMA

I just want to be with everyone. We leave here in literally days!

LIZZY

I know. I know! We all feel emotional this week-

Wilma sobs, Lizzy rubs her arm, soothes her.

The table-

TESSA

Last night Lizzy was...

JACQUELINE

Yeah.

I'm worried.

She ignored all my calls today.

DARCIE

I think she wants to talk to me about it, but she hasn't yet.

TESSA

I saw him leave this morning from my window.

DARCIE

Me too.

JACQUELINE

She hasn't done that in three years.

TESSA

Yeah. / It's scary behavior.

The corner...

WILMA

It's scary behavior. Darcie is really...

LIZZY

She's overtired. We all are.

WILMA

It's not okay!

LIZZY

I'm sure she didn't mean what she said.

WILMA

That was a completely uncalled for tone-

LIZZY

It wasn't that nice. I agree with you. It wasn't nice-

Wilma sobs.

The table-

JACQUELINE

Liz needs us and she doesn't even *know* how much she needs us.

DARCIE

She told me she rearranged her room today.

JACQUELINE

She must feel really anxious-

The corner-

WILMA

Darcie's literally crazy! You know that right?

LIZZY

Well I don't -

WILMA

Today we were talking about sports bras and I liked this orange sports bra she was looking at online and she literally told me in an abusive tone that I don't look good in Orange-

LIZZY

That's... just... not that big of a deal.

WILMA

I LOOK GOOD IN-

LIZZY

Indoor voice wilma-

WILMA

In orange. I look good in orange.

The table-

JACQUELINE

I'm just happy the four of us are at the same table-

DARCIE

Me too. / So happy.

TESSA

Same.

JACQUELINE

(deeply felt)

It's nice to all feel together. / It's important.

The corner-

WILMA

It's important. I *know* I look good in orange Lizzy-

LIZZY

I don't doubt that for a second-

WILMA

SHE CAN BE SO-

LIZZY

Indoor-

WILMA

Mean. Darcie can be so mean to me.

LIZZY

I just I don't think that's necessarily true.

WILMA

How come you never believe me!

LIZZY

Because sometimes you exaggerate the truth a little bit-

Wilma starts to cry even more.

LIZZY

But that's one of the reasons I love you!

Wilma becomes a vulnerable puppy.

WILMA

Do you really love me?

LIZZY

Yes.

Through her tears...

WILMA

I just want to be a painter. And a democrat.

Lizzy is loving and nurturing to Wil...

LIZZY

You already are! You're already both!

WILMA

I'm already a painter and a democrat?

LIZZY

You're already a painter and a democrat. You're literally the reason Obama won reelection-

WILMA

I am?

LIZZY

You are! He's literally still our president because of how many students you got to canvas!

WILMA

I know-

Wilma sobs.

LIZZY

Okay. Okay. Just try and breathe. I think you need to take a minute.

More sobs.

LIZZY

I think you need to go outside and look at the moon.

Wilma starts to calm at the idea of the moon.

LIZZY

Will you look at the moon and take some deep breaths?

She sort of calms down.

LIZZY

Look at the moon until you feel calm and then you can come back inside.

Wilma obeys. She, and her mullet, freely leave the ballroom, headed towards the glow of the moon just outside.

Lizzy walks back to the table.

An attempt at playfulness...

JACQUELINE

Is our Wilma okay?

LIZZY

She's upset. She's looking at the moon.

TESSA

That does tend to calm her. The moon.

LIZZY

Yeah.

JACQUELINE

I took some of Wilma's Focalin yesterday. I looked up the side effects. It said like rapid or irregular heartbeat, delirium, panic, psychosis, and heart failure.

DARCIE

That's horrifying.

TESSA

That is horrifying.

DARCIE

She takes Focalin *every day*.

LIZZY

She has ADHD. She was prescribed it.

A DING from Darcie's computer. Lizzy looks at Darcie's computer.

LIZZY

Oh Darcie! Are those the psych notes? Did she email them to you?

DARCIE

No. It's a text from Lincoln about our camping trip to Vermont. Look at this tent he's buying for us-

TESSA

Sweet Darc.

DARCIE

I know he's the best.

LIZZY

God I think I'm going crazy I thought I saw an email pop up-

Lizzy grabs another half of an Adderrall.

JACQUELINE

You're already having your other half?

LIZZY

I have to get INVOLVED with this art history paper.

Jacqueline grabs another half as well.

JACQUELINE

I'm with you. I also need to get involved.

TESSA

I think I too need to get involved. Can I have a full pill?

JACQUELINE

You've never had a full one. Wow something's different about you tonight...

TESSA

I-

JACQUELINE

I love when my Tess indulges -

TESSA

I can't get my brain to focus, and there is too much to do-

JACQUELINE

Yes, and you'll need to have something with hummus before you take it.

TESSA

I'll have carrots.

Tessa starts eating carrots and hummus.

DARCIE

Well... now I feel left out.

JACQUELINE

Darcie! Have some!

TESSA

Yes! Please do it with me Darc, it will make me feel safer-

DARCIE

Fuck it. YES! Why not right? I have so much to get done.

LIZZY

JACQUELINE

What?

Darcie I'm so happy!

TESSA

Take this carrot for prep Darc-

LIZZY

Seriously Darcie? Aren't you *morally against them*?

A tiny beat.

DARCIE

Whatever! It's our last all nighter of college! Our last academic venture!

JACQUELINE

Sad, beautiful, and meaningful. You have enough for all of us right?

Yeah-
LIZZY

Thanks Liz.
DARCIE

Lizzy hands her the other half. Tessa and Darcie eat some carrots and hummus. Darcie is excited to be eating the hummus.

I'm eating the hummus-
DARCIE

Cheers.
LIZZY/ TESSA/DARCIE/JACQUELINE

They all take their pill.

JACQUELINE
It's so nice when we are all on the same page.

Lizzy stands up to work in a corner.

Jacqueline decides to follow.

Just Darcie and Tessa are at the table, there is a slight temperature change.

Darcie looks at Tessa, takes her in. Perhaps Tessa moves her head in a certain way. A few seconds later we watch Darcie move her head in the same way.

Darcie is eager to connect.

DARCIE
Are you feeling okay about last night?

Fine.
TESSA

Fine?
DARCIE

Totally fine.
TESSA

Darcie almost says something.. then goes back to her work.

The corner...

Lizzy is sitting in a corner of the ballroom, holding a textbook. Lying flat. Jack is sitting next to her.

The walls are all windows - so at this point in the night, everything is a mirror.

Do you feel stuck-
JACQUELINE

I can't figure out paragraph two.
LIZZY

Bummer.
JACQUELINE

Lizzy nods. Beat.

It's our last round in Johnson.
JACQUELINE

I know.
LIZZY

Beat.

I don't even know what to feel.
LIZZY

JACQUELINE
I feel like crying.

LIZZY
Yeah.

Beat.

JACQUELINE
You and I have spent the most time here together.

LIZZY
Yeah. Definitely.

JACQUELINE
I still remember our “Wizard and I” choreography.

LIZZY
That was also the same all nighter that you straightened your hair.

JACQUELINE
That was weird.

LIZZY
Yeah.

The table-

DARCIE
Do you want to talk about what you told me...or...

TESSA
No, I really don't.

DARCIE
Tess...

TESSA
I think I was really not in my right mind.

DARCIE
It's *okay* Tessa-

TESSA
Please forget what I said.

DARCIE
You have feelings for a girl!

TESSA
Darcie!

DARCIE
She can't hear us.

The corner-

Jacqueline starts to sing *Into the Woods*. She knows it's a safe way to Lizzy's heart. This is done simply, they've done it before, it's without giggles, just two hungover girls who love musical theatre ... trying to connect.

JACQUELINE
*Sometimes people leave you... halfway through the all nighter.
Others may deceive you.
You decide what's right.*

LIZZY
You decide what's good.

JACQUELINE
Remember-

LIZZY
Someone is on your side-

JACQUELINE
Our side-

LIZZY
Our side... someone else is not...

The table...

DARCIE

I just... I want to talk to you... about what you. The feelings you have-

TESSA

I don't know have what I have. I. I really don't know what I have.

DARCIE

...you have feelings for Claire.

TESSA

I don't have feelings for Claire.

DARCIE

Tess, you kissed Claire last night and I think that-

TESSA

God I was so drunk. I hate drinking. It's so mortifying.

DARCIE

It's natural-

TESSA

It's not-

DARCIE

You have feelings for a girl for the first time... that I know about...and I don't want you to shut that off! I understand why it's complicated-

TESSA

It's *extremely* complicated.

DARCIE

Yeah, it is. And that wasn't the right thing to do, but-

TESSA

I'm serious, it's really not okay, and I really want to forget about it.

The corner-

Jacqueline has put her arms around Lizzy.

They look at themselves in the reflection of the window in front of them.

There's a lot of love here. But it's complicated.

JACQUELINE

Do we look like adults?

LIZZY

I think so.

JACQUELINE

Should I cut my hair?

LIZZY

Yeah.

JACQUELINE

Okay.

LIZZY

Will you tell me what happened with you and...Claire?

Jacqueline is slightly punishing here.
Withholding.

JACQUELINE

It's a long story.

LIZZY

Tell me!

JACQUELINE

When we have more time. But basically I. I think I really...really like her. We slept together. It's been a few weeks.

LIZZY

Jacqueline!

Subdued.

JACQUELINE

Yeah. It's good.

LIZZY

(soft, genuine)

I'm so happy! I can't believe I didn't know that you guys had done that!

JACQUELINE

I mean...

Beat.

LIZZY

What?

JACQUELINE

You haven't really asked.

LIZZY

I'm sorry...

JACQUELINE

Yeah. No worries.

LIZZY

I've been / busy

JACQUELINE

(slightly patronizing)

You've been busy! Rehearsal! Your theatre friends!

LIZZY

I want to know what's / going-

JACQUELINE

Or are you afraid of ghosts? Too scared to come home?

LIZZY

Stop.

Beat. They look at one another.

LIZZY

I'm sorry I didn't ask you about it sooner.

JACQUELINE

No worries. Darcie and Tessa have been really supportive.

The table...

Shame seeps into Tessa.

Vulnerable. Vulnerable. Vulnerable.

TESSA

She thought it was a joke anyway.

DARCIE

What do you-

TESSA

Claire thought me kissing her, was a joke... which makes sense... because why would I be trying to kiss my best friend's girlfriend particularly when I'm...not even... I'm not...

DARCIE

But Tessa what if you...

Vulnerable anxiety.

TESSA

Please don't tell anyone Darcie?

DARCIE

Of course not.
Consider it forgotten.

TESSA

Thank you.

Beat. With support and compassion -

DARCIE

I... I think you needed to do what you needed to do.

TESSA

You make me feel a little more sane about it.

The corner...

Jacqueline feels something in her back pocket.

JACQUELINE

Oh. I have an extra half in here. Must be left over from yesterday.

LIZZY

A little blue friend.

JACQUELINE

I think this is a sign.

LIZZY

A sign of what?

JACQUELINE

That we should take it right now. This is like the last time we'll be in our corner taking adderall.

LIZZY

I think I'm fine-

JACQUELINE

Liz! Come on! This is *meaningful!* We have to do it.

LIZZY

Do we?

JACQUELINE

This is it. Like we're out of here in a week. *This is it.*

LIZZY

Okay fine.

JACQUELINE

I'll split it up.

Jacqueline tries to cut the pill in half.

LIZZY

I think after graduation I'm going to stop taking adderall.

JACQUELINE

Why? You're the one who has the prescription.

LIZZY

It sends me on too much of a ride. It's hard to sort out what's real or not. What's a real feeling.

JACQUELINE

I don't think that has to do with the adderall.

Lizzy chooses not to engage.

LIZZY

I don't want to be an adult and have to worry about real or fake feelings.

Jack hands her half a pill.

JACQUELINE

For Johnson?

LIZZY

For Johnson.

The table....

The girls all sit back at the round table.

DARCIE

How was the corner?

JACQUELINE

Beautiful. Corners like that don't exist in the real world.

They work. Time passes. Adderrall hits.
Shaking legs.

LIZZY

Oof. I'm cold. Darc can I borrow your jacket?

TESSA

Does adderall make you cold?

JACQUELINE

Yeah sometimes adderall makes you cold-

LIZZY

And deeply irritable. And madly in love. And nauseous and nibbly and-

Darcie takes her jacket from her chair... looks at
the jacket...she looks surprised.

DARCIE

Oh Tess. I'm so sorry. This is yours.

TESSA

Oh Yeah. Ha. It is!

DARCIE

I must have just grabbed it from the living room in a rush.

TESSA

I'm wearing your shirt so it's totally fine.

JACQUELINE

It will be so weird not sharing each others clothes every day.

LIZZY

Who's going to take home the house dress?

JACQUELINE

We might have to own it in rotation.

Earnest. Dreamy somehow...

LIZZY

Like use the mail?

JACQUELINE

Yeah. Like mail the dress around.

LIZZY

That's sweet. We'll have to buy stamps.

DARCIE

Stamps.

JACQUELINE

We will *have* to buy stamps.

LIZZY

I just love the idea of us all buying stamps.

DARCIE

The sisterhood of the traveling dress.

TESSA

What are we all wearing to graduation?

DARCIE

I ordered a dress online.

TESSA

Oh you finally found one!

DARCIE

Yes! Ordered it just in time I think.

JACQUELINE

What's it look like?

DARCIE

Blue with flowers.

TESSA

Kind of like the one I wore to easter?

DARCIE

Oh! Yeah.

TESSA

That will look nice on you.

JACQUELINE

I'm wearing high waisted navy pants.

DARCIE

What do they look like?

JACQUELINE

Like high waisted navy pants.

LIZZY

Darc is Lincoln going to come for graduation?

DARCIE

I hope! He's waiting to see if he can swing it.

TESSA

We all can't wait to finally meet him!

LIZZY

Yeah!

TESSA

Oooh I just want to nibble chocolate. I'm not even hungry. I just want to nibble.

LIZZY

For the texture.

JACQUELINE

Go to the vending machines. I'll go with you.

TESSA

That's okay, I can go alone-

JACQUELINE

Why? I swear you don't want to be alone with me tonight-

TESSA

That's not true, it's just literally just across the ballroom-

Tessa looks through her wallet.

JACQUELINE

But it's a long and scary walk across the ballroom-

TESSA

Okay, actually, can you spot me? I don't have anymore cash left-

JACQUELINE

You still can't find your credit card in your bag?

TESSA

No, it's not there.

JACQUELINE

I'm sure it's at home.
I don't have any cash-

LIZZY / DARCIÉ

Neither do I.

JACQUELINE

Sorry Tess.

TESSA

It's fine.

JACQUELINE

Let's take a lap.

TESSA

I'm fine-

JACQUELINE

Come on, take a lap with me.

TESSA

I need to focus-

JACQUELINE

Just to take a break. Please.

Jack stands up. Tessa decides to join her. Tessa and Jack start their lap... out of earshot.

The table...

Lizzy has that adderall intensity within her...

LIZZY

I know I talk about it too much... but... do you think I just miscounted my adderall this morning?

DARCIE

I think that's probably what happened, yeah-

LIZZY

Ah. I hate that it bothers me so much but it does.

DARCIE

I'm sorry it feels so upsetting.

LIZZY

I just think someone is taking my stuff you know? And I want to know who! I don't even- I'm not even mad. I'm truly not mad. I just want some *clarity*.

Deeply felt-

DARCIE

I want that for you too.

The ballroom floor...

TESSA

I think my credit card is in the house. You think it's in the house right?

JACQUELINE

Definitely. I'll help you look when we get home.

TESSA

Thanks.

JACQUELINE

Of course.

TESSA

I shouldn't have even brought it up at the table I don't want Lizzy getting paranoid or-

JACQUELINE

I get it. But I think it's totally fine-

TESSA

I'm sure it's fine I just. I have a feeling in my stomach-

JACQUELINE

Don't tap into it.

TESSA

Yeah. Okay.

The table...

DARCIE

Liz, did I ever tell you what happened last summer with my home friend Megan McDuffy?

LIZZY

No... I really didn't like Megan McDuffy when I met her-

DARCIE

Your instincts are so correct! Okay, so I had this beautiful necklace that my parents got me for my high school graduation in my room and I had a party at my house and after the party I couldn't find the necklace... then a week later I saw Megan McDuffy wearing MY necklace at Jared Green's barbeque, and I went up to her and I said "I think that's my necklace do you think you might have taken it by mistake?" And she just said "you're insane this is from my father-"

LIZZY

OY.

DARCIE

RIGHT? I didn't know what to do! It was *horrible*. I felt so helpless. Because I *knew* the necklace was mine. I just *knew* it, but I couldn't prove it. It's such a bad feeling. I'm just so sorry you're feeling so upset.

Darcie takes a sip of her Arizona Iced Tea.

LIZZY

Thank you for not bringing up Anony.

Darcie smiles.

The ballroom floor...

JACQUELINE

So, Claire wants to stay for some of senior week...

Jokingly sort of?

TESSA

She's not going home with all the other freshman?

JACQUELINE

No. Can she sleep in our room? Just for two nights?

TESSA

Yeah sure. No problem.

JACQUELINE

Great.

A decision.

JACQUELINE

Claire said you guys had some funny moments last night.

TESSA

Really?

JACQUELINE

Yeah. Do you remember?

TESSA

Um...some parts of the night are a little blurry...

JACQUELINE

You talked to her a lot.

TESSA

Oh god. I did?

JACQUELINE

Yeah.

TESSA

Did I say anything weird? Or?

Challenging.

JACQUELINE

What would you have said that would have been weird?

TESSA

I don't know! I have no idea! I just don't remember so I'm...

Tessa adjusts her shirt, some gesture to remain in control.

JACQUELINE

She just said you were talking to her a lot....

TESSA

Oh.

Playful... but pushing...

JACQUELINE

And that you might have even been flirty with her...

TESSA

Oh... oh my god...that's a confusing take. I mean I don't remember anything I can't remember but I'm sure I wasn't, I'm sure I wasn't-

Jacqueline takes Tessa in. She feels her vulnerability.

A decision.

JACQUELINE

She probably misunderstood.

TESSA

I. Yeah. I just wanted to get to know her! You like her so much and I think I was probably wanting to connect to her... so I was talking to her a lot and was just so drunk...

Beat. Jack decides that's true.

JACQUELINE

Yeah. She liked the attention from you. She wants your approval, I think.

TESSA

She does?

JACQUELINE

Of course she does.
It's *you!* It's my Tessa!

Guilt and confusion and affection rush over Tess when she looks at her best friend.

TESSA

It's sad you and me are only going to share a room for like...a week. We've shared a room for so long.

JACQUELINE

I know.
My day one.

TESSA

My day one.

The table

DARCIE

You really don't believe in ghosts?

LIZZY

You *really* do?

Tessa and Jacqueline sit back down.

The girls work. A sound from Tessa's computer

TESSA

Oh. Oh shit.

LIZZY

What?

TESSA

I just got an email, and it's an alert from my bank.

DARCIE

What's the alert?

TESSA

My credit card purchased something from a foreign country?

JACQUELINE

Did you?

TESSA

No!

LIZZY

Wait what?

TESSA

I know this company. It's a Swedish company.

DARCIE

How do you know them?

TESSA

I've ordered from them before. I've bought clogs from them.

JACQUELINE

Did you buy the clogs recently?

TESSA

I mean. I'm wearing my clogs right now.

LIZZY

Oh yeah.

JACQUELINE

Yeah. I noticed how good those clogs look on you.

Tension of the sexual sort perhaps?!

TESSA

Yeah. Thanks. They're my favorite.

DARCIE

Could the charge be delayed?

TESSA

No. No. I. I got these clogs over a year ago.

Tessa looking at her computer...

LIZZY

Check your bank statement!

DARCIE

Do you think your card was stolen?

TESSA

I need to remember how to log into my bank account... what's my password-

JACQUELINE

I bet your password is like "freshsalmon92"...

Tessa rolls her eyes.

TESSA

Ignoring that.

JACQUELINE

But am I right?

TESSA

No.

Tessa stands up straighter.

TESSA
(whispered)

Yes.

(loud!)

Okay, I'm logged in...

Wow. Yeah. Okay. My bank statement...

Someone spent 500 dollars on clogs from this Swedish company.

JACQUELINE

Huh...

TESSA

Oh my god... oh my god. My card was used yesterday at the village market. Over 100 dollars at the market. That wasn't me. And 12 dollars this morning at the coffee shop-

LIZZY

Someone's using your card on campus...

TESSA

Someone literally bought a coffee with my card. This morning. On Campus.

LIZZY

Sooo freaky.

DARCIE

That's extremely unsettling-

TESSA

And this person went online shopping. It's over 1500 dollars...

JACQUELINE

Over 1500 dollars?

DARCIE

Oh my god...

JACQUELINE

OH MY GOD our house is haunted!

DARCIE

More proof.

JACQUELINE

This is anony!

DARCIE

It literally tracks.

TESSA

This is a horrible feeling.

JACQUELINE

You can tell the bank it was stolen, cancel the card, and they'll refund you.

DARCIE

It's easily fixable T.

LIZZY

Yeah! That's true, this is so fixable.

TESSA

You're right. I can just cancel the card.

DARCIE

Exactly.

TESSA

Okay, yeah. I'll cancel the card. I can do it online I think-

JACQUELINE

Good!

They work. Time passes. Lizzy looks out-

LIZZY

They're leaving. Janie's-

JACQUELINE

OH MY GOD. Thank GOD. This table was feeling SO wrong-

TESSA

I'm mid thought-

JACQUELINE

Doesn't matter Tess, time is precious

Everyone starts manically grabbing their books, snacks, drinks, and moves tables... but it definitely is still the exact same table. It should feel like an extreme sport just happened. They are settled. They take in the new table.

JACQUELINE

It's better here.

DARCIE

It does feel better here.

LIZZY

I think things will be better here.

JACQUELINE

Tess doesn't it feel better here?

TESSA

I'm just freaked out now-

JACQUELINE

You cancelled your card! Take in the table! It's a special table!

TESSA

It just sort of feels like a table to me.

JACQUELINE

Have some hummus.

LIZZY

Hummus is a good idea.

TESSA

You two should write a book called hummus.

JACQUELINE/DARCIE/LIZZY

I would love to read that book.

JACQUELINE

Now we'll all really be able to focus. New start.

A DING from Darcie's computer.

LIZZY

A text?

DARCIE

Yes. Liz I'll tell you when the psych notes come.

Tessa is on her computer. Beat.

TESSA

The purchases are from all my favorite stores...
Madewell, free people, anthropology, lululemon...

JACQUELINE

Are you sure you didn't go on a drunk binge Tess?

TESSA

Absolutely not.

JACQUELINE

Ah. It sucks Tess, I'm sorry -

DARCIE

Really shitty.

LIZZY

It's freaky!

TESSA

Someone we know... someone we know probably... someone we definitely know took my
credit card.
It's *violating*.

LIZZY

I get it.

TESSA

I *feel* violated.

LIZZY

Tess it's horrible. It's the worst feeling-

Lizzy puts her arm out to Tess, Tess shuts it down. Dismissive-

TESSA

The card is cancelled. It's fine. It's fine.

They work.

Legs shaking. Lizzy looks out at the ballroom.

LIZZY

I think Claire is staring at our table.

Jacqueline's leg starts shaking. Jacqueline stares in the direction of Claire. The Adderall is most definitely in her system.

JACQUELINE

I think I want to tell her I love her.

LIZZY

Oh my god!

DARCIE

Oh my god!

JACQUELINE

Not yet. I just. I feel it. I'M IN LOVE.

LIZZY

You really like her.

JACQUELINE

It's just special. What we have is really special.

TESSA

You *love* her?

JACQUELINE

Yeah.

TESSA

How do you know?

JACQUELINE

I just do.

TESSA

You just started hooking up-

JACQUELINE

I know her.

TESSA

She's so young... it's so new still.

JACQUELINE

So what?

TESSA

We're about to graduate and she has three more years on this campus...

JACQUELINE

I can't even think about that. I can't even think about after graduation.

TESSA

I feel protective of you! Do you really want to stay attached to someone here?

DARCIE

It's a good point Tess.

LIZZY

I think because there's so little time... you have nothing to lose... you should tell Claire how you feel!! Why not!!

DARCIE

I think we all really need to focus. You can plan this out later.

LIZZY

(to Jacqueline)

I'm really really happy for you.

JACQUELINE

Thank you.

TESSA

I'm really really happy for you too, I'm just being honest and protective-

JACQUELINE

I get it.

DARCIE

GUYS. Please. I have so much to do.

Lizzy and Jacqueline exchange a look, they head to the corner.

The corner...

LIZZY

Tessa is kind of on a high horse...

JACQUELINE

She's just tense.

LIZZY

You seem a little upset...

JACQUELINE

I'm not. Not at all.

LIZZY

She always has a boy friend and this is the first time you're really happy in something and she was sort of patronizing to you about it...

JACQUELINE

We're just all stressed.

Beat.

LIZZY

I'm glad you're so happy with Claire. You deserve this.

JACQUELINE

Thanks.

LIZZY

You and I...we get how rare... How/ rare that can feel

JACQUELINE

rare that can feel.

Beat.

Yeah.

Beat.

LIZZY

Maybe Tessa's on an adderall comedown...

I think Darcie was earlier... when she snapped at Wilma...

Jacqueline snaps a little...

JACQUELINE

No, not possible Darcie hadn't taken any adderall yet.

Beat.

And she wasn't rude to Wilma.

Beat. Tension.

LIZZY

She was kind of rude to Wilma, Jacqueline.

JACQUELINE

She was being totally fine to Wilma. She needed to focus, Wilma was annoying.

Beat. Lizzy doesn't say anything.

JACQUELINE

Lizzy please don't.

LIZZY

I'm not doing anything..

JACQUELINE

You're doing that thing where you feel the need to villainize one of us-

LIZZY

No! No, I'm not... I'm just telling you what I'm seeing-

JACQUELINE

(with great intensity)

I really need us to all. I really want us to feel together.

LIZZY

I know.

JACQUELINE

We're like *family*! Do you understand that? It's important that we feel together!

LIZZY

I know.

Lizzy takes Jacqueline in. She's slightly
hesitant...and then guilty.

LIZZY

Did you talk to your mom about graduation?

JACQUELINE

Yeah. The conversation happened weeks ago.

LIZZY

And?

JACQUELINE

She's not coming.

Lizzy fucked up and she knows it.

LIZZY

Jacqueline I'm so sorry I haven't asked I-
I'm here always. Whenever you want to talk about-

JACQUELINE

But you're not Liz! You're not "here always". You come home and shut your door most
nights and go to sleep without talking to anyone-

LIZZY

I really have just been working on my thesis...

JACQUELINE

Same here dude. We all have shit going on. You've pulled away. You know you have.

LIZZY

It's. It's complicated and... and coming home-

JACQUELINE

I know coming home this winter and hearing us shit talk you wasn't fun, but you *misunderstood* that moment. When I said I hated you... I don't *hate* you, Liz.

LIZZY

You've explained that moment to me.

JACQUELINE

I'm sorry you had to hear me say that but you had really hurt my feelings ... you haven't been there for me...and I was... I was angry and I just needed to get it off my chest and I hate that you had to hear that-

LIZZY

You explained and I understand. I totally understand why you were mad. Why you *are* mad...

Beat. Softly...

LIZZY

I just. I started this semester with 150 pills and by week two I only had seventy-

JACQUELINE

Oh my god! I'm worried about you.

LIZZY

I packed twelve adderall this morning I know I did.

JACQUELINE

There are bigger problems in this world than a few missing pills!

LIZZY

I know. I know that-

JACQUELINE

You are looking for the worst in everyone around you.

LIZZY

I'm not... I'm not trying to...

JACQUELINE

It's exhausting! I'm SO exhausted by it Liz everyone in the house loves you and is here for you-

LIZZY

Okay. I know. I just feel-

A crack.

JACQUELINE

You are villainizing everyone except for the one person you actually should.

Beat. Hesitant. Hurt.

LIZZY

What does that mean?

JACQUELINE

I heard you vomiting in the bathroom this morning.

LIZZY

Okay...

JACQUELINE

You were really drunk last night-

LIZZY

I drank way too much last night-

JACQUELINE

Did you talk to Mike?

Lizzy flinches.

LIZZY

No.

Don't lie to me Lizzy.

JACQUELINE

I'm not.

LIZZY

I'm asking you not to lie to me.

JACQUELINE

I. Um. I'm still processing-

LIZZY

I saw you. Outside the house.

JACQUELINE

I don't really remember what we-

LIZZY

You kissed him.

JACQUELINE

Shame washes over Lizzy. She shuts down a bit.

LIZZY

Oh.

Beat.

JACQUELINE

Did you sleep with him?

Beat. Lizzy doesn't say anything. Maybe slightly nods. The answer is yes.

JACQUELINE

Why?

LIZZY

I don't. I don't know.

JACQUELINE

Lizzy he should be kicked out of the school for what he did to you.

LIZZY

(softly)

Eric should be kicked out of the school for what he did to you.

JACQUELINE

We aren't talking about me right now.

It's self destructive behavior and it scares me to watch you do that.

(A breaking point within Jacqueline...)

It is NOT NORMAL to keep hooking up with the person who *sexually assaulted* you.

Beat. Lizzy shakes her head.

LIZZY

I don't really like to call it that.

It was freshman year.

I'm not sure that's what I would call it.

JACQUELINE

What would you call it Lizzy?

Beat. Lizzy feels like she's drowning..

LIZZY

Fuck.

FUCK.

JACQUELINE

We went through the same thing freshman year Liz. Weeks apart. And we wouldn't have *survived* that year without each other.

Don't pull away from me.

LIZZY

I'm not trying to.

Beat. With warmth.

LIZZY

I'm here for you too J. Whenever Eric-

JACQUELINE

I don't even think about it anymore.

I know I just, we both-

LIZZY

Yeah.

JACQUELINE

I love you.

LIZZY

Jacqueline squeezes Lizzy's hand.

I have to write an Art History paper.

LIZZY

They smile... but only slightly.

We've been in worse conditions and written papers.
You're okay Liz.
Let the adderall work its magic.

JACQUELINE

The table...

Darcie and Tessa are alone. They've been working.

A DING from Darcie's computer. Both girls JUMP from the sound.

Sorry my email's always ding!

DARCIE

Tessa clocks this.

Lizzy and Jack return to the table. Settle in.

They work. Time passes.

Wilma returns, walking back in from the outside.
She is very serene.

Hey guys.

WILMA

How was the moon Wil?

LIZZY

Really good.

WILMA

She hugs Lizzy.

Thank you.

WILMA

You've been with the moon this whole time?

JACQUELINE

Mhhhm.

WILMA

Special.

JACQUELINE

So happy you are at the right table.

WILMA

Thank you, we are too.

JACQUELINE

What's going on?

WILMA

We're focusing.

TESSA

Okay. Well. I have sunglasses for everyone.

WILMA

It's night time.

JACQUELINE

Wilma has a large bag full of many things. She passes out sunglasses. She puts a pair on.

WILMA

Trust me. You'll want them by the end of the night. When the sun rises and the harsh light of reality illuminates the ballroom.

Wilma grabs some chips from their table and starts munching them.

WILMA

These are *amazing* chips.

LIZZY

Oh this art history paper will not write itself. And it's FRUSTRATING-

WILMA

Liz did you finish that internship application?

LIZZY

Oh my god. I literally forgot. SHIT. I just absolutely forgot.

TESSA

When's it due?

LIZZY

I don't even-

Liz starts frantically searching her computer.

WILMA

I've applied to at least 20 jobs and internships.

JACQUELINE

If you don't apply to that one Liz, try to find another one in New York. We can at least all try and be in the same city-

DARCIE

Sad for me.

TESSA

You're all set for Teach for America, Darc. Your future is clear. You're the only one with a clear future actually-

Wilma makes room for herself at the table.

WILMA

I also have a clear future. If there's one thing Darcie and I have in common it's the clarity regarding our future. I'm going to be in New York-

JACQUELINE

This conversation is giving me hives.

LIZZY

I missed the deadline. FUCK-

WILMA

You guys need to start seriously getting your ducks in a row for next year. Life doesn't just unfold, you have to PLAN-

LIZZY

I can't believe I missed it-

DARCIE

Wasn't it unpaid anyway Lizzy?

LIZZY

All the internships are unpaid.

DARCIE

That's criminal.

Darcie sips her Arizona Iced Tea.

LIZZY

It's for the experience, I mean I have to learn in some-

JACQUELINE

There will be so many other places to apply.

WILMA

How many have you applied to Jack?

JACQUELINE

None of your business-

WILMA

Sketchy answer. I've definitely opened a can of worms.

JACQUELINE

Maybe I'll travel for a while like Tessa is doing-

WILMA

Tessa didn't you just spend all of last summer traveling?

TESSA

I like to travel.

DARCIE

I want to visit your Italy house Tess.

TESSA

Come this summer!

DARCIE

I have my summer job before TFA-

TESSA

Take a week off!

A ding from Darcie's computer.

DARCIE

Lincoln keeps texting me about this camping trip.

Tessa looks puzzled and almost...

TESSA

Huh.

JACQUELINE

I think you should put your computer on mute. It's a lot of dings.

LIZZY

Still no psych notes Darcie?

DARCIE

Oh sorry they came in a while ago-

LIZZY

Oh my god! Are you serious?

Lizzy goes to look at Darcie's computer. Darcie
shuts it.

DARCIE

I just forwarded it to you. Sorry I got so distracted!

Darcie stands up.

DARCIE

Lincoln's just so into our camping trip he keeps texting me. I'm going to call him real
quick.

Darcie goes to the corner, with her back to the
group, on the phone.

All the focus is on the girls at the table.

WILMA

She literally hates me.

JACQUELINE

Please stop being dramatic.

WILMA

She just left the table when I re-entered!

JACQUELINE

She's calling her boyfriend. It has literally nothing to do with you.

LIZZY

I can't believe she didn't forward me the psych notes when they came in.

TESSA

That is annoying.

I hope to one day meet Lincoln.

LIZZY

Not so loud Liz-

TESSA

I spoke to him on the phone once.

JACQUELINE

Really?

LIZZY

Yeah.

JACQUELINE

Like you heard his voice?

LIZZY

Lizzy!

JACQUELINE

It's a fair question J-

TESSA

I think I heard his voice yeah.

JACQUELINE

You think?

WILMA

We'll meet him at graduation.

TESSA

So you think he's going to come to graduation?

LIZZY

That's what she keeps saying right?

TESSA

I'm parched.

WILMA

She grabs Darcie's Iced Tea and drinks it-

LIZZY

She's feeling sick don't drink it!

Wilma cocks her head. Wilma starts to laugh.

WILMA

That's not iced tea.

Wilma takes another sip.

TESSA

(adderall irritable)

Wil. Yes it is. Stop taking peoples food and drink. I'm having like... a really strong reaction to you just touching everything!

WILMA

That's not iced tea. Try it!

TESSA

She said she's sick I don't want any.

WILMA

Liz, J, try it.

LIZZY

I don't want to get sick either.

JACQUELINE

Same.

WILMA

That's full Pinot Grigio.

LIZZY

What?

Lizzy takes a sip.

LIZZY

Oh...

Jacqueline takes a sip.

Oh shit-

JACQUELINE

Tessa takes a sip.

Oh yeah, wow.

TESSA

That's a sauvignon blanc-

LIZZY

Albarino-

JACQUELINE

It's sweet I think it's a Riesling-

TESSA

It's *definitely* an Albarino-

JACQUELINE

I disagree the grape is complex like a Sav b-

LIZZY

I'm telling you it's an Albarino-

JACQUELINE

No, it's a Riesling because-

TESSA

Wilma has been watching them VERY
DISTURBED...

WILMA

There's literally something wrong with all of you. It's white wine. Like it's definitely white wine. In her iced tea can. And it's a secret! That's very freaky!!

A slight moment.

JACQUELINE

We all love wine.

TESSA

That's true. We do all love wine.

WILMA

It's both extremely dark and incredibly turnt.

JACQUELINE

We ALL have drinking problems at this point.

TESSA

Speak for yourself.

LIZZY

Should we say something?

JACQUELINE

It's just not the time. She won't react well. This is something to address after graduation.

TESSA

I agree.

A confession.

LIZZY

I found an empty wine bottle in her boot the other day.

JACQUELINE

You did? Why were you snooping in her room Liz? Again?

LIZZY

I went into her room to...

JACQUELINE

To what?

WILMA

What do you mean *again*?

LIZZY

To. To return the shoes she lent me last weekend-

JACQUELINE

That's all you were doing in there? Not looking for-

LIZZY

I was returning her shoes and I found an empty wine bottle in her boot-

TESSA

Why didn't you say something then?

LIZZY

I don't know.
I should have.

JACQUELINE

You can't just go into other peoples rooms and look around Liz, that's violating.

LIZZY

I. I was returning shoes. I *am worried* about her-

JACQUELINE

She loves to drink. That's nothing new.

TESSA

Darcie loves wine. Darcie's fine!

JACQUELINE

Maybe she was saving the bottle to recycle it.

TESSA

That's a good point actually.

WILMA

Wouldn't she put it in the recycling bin instead of her boot then?

LIZZY

She passed out really early last night.

TESSA

We were all drinking a lot last night.

WILMA

Darcie is always drinking Arizona Iced Tea's...

LIZZY

I think we should say something-

WILMA

There's no time like the present.

LIZZY

I think we should be worried-

JACQUELINE

Why do you need to make this a big deal?

LIZZY

Because-

JACQUELINE

This actually isn't a big deal.

TESSA

Not a big deal.

Darcie returns to the table.

DARCIE

What's not a big deal?

WILMA

I'm ovulating. That is actually *true*-

TESSA

How's Lincoln Darc?

Darcie is a little hesitant.

DARCIE

Good.

WILMA

(loudly)

Darcie!

DARCIE

Yes Wilma?

WILMA

Orange you glad to see me?

DARCIE

(sharp)

Please stop.

Tender, vulnerable, sweet-

WILMA

I'm just trying to...

Wilma looks at Lizzy, who immediately makes a calming gesture. Wilma takes a breath, calms down. She puts on VERY LARGE HEADPHONES.

Darcie seems visibly down.

LIZZY

Are you okay Darc?

All of a sudden Darcie lets out a burst of emotion.

DARCIE

Oh god I'm sorry I'm just I'm feeling really not okay.

The girls become militant.

TESSA

Darc what's going on?

DARCIE

I'm nervous that Lincoln has feelings for someone else.

JACQUELINE

Why would you think that?

DARCIE

He has this friend that he's become close to and she's this beautiful girl-

The girls get even MORE militant.

TESSA

Um. YOU'RE a beautiful girl.

JACQUELINE

A BEAUTIFUL girl!

LIZZY

An *incredibly* beautiful girl!

DARCIE

I just. They spend all their time together and he's seeing her for dinner tomorrow-

JACQUELINE

This is such a natural result of a long distance relationship.

LIZZY

And if you think about it...you're hooking up with Trevor.

DARCIE

Lincoln and I are in an open relationship!

LIZZY

Right! So it's tricky territory!

DARCIE

But it's different. I don't have *feelings* for Trevor-

LIZZY

Totally. But Trevor *does* have feelings for you.

JACQUELINE

That's complicated Darc and you don't need to think about it right now-

DARCIE

(to Liz)

I'm going to talk to Trevor at some point.

LIZZY

Good.

JACQUELINE

What you're feeling right now Darc is totally valid and that's a horrible thing to suspect...

TESSA

Totally. Horrible Darc.

LIZZY

The reality is, Lincoln is planning a beautiful amazing camping trip for just the two of you. And your long distance is about to come to an end-

DARCIE

You're right.

Lizzy rubs Darcie's back.

Wilma still has her headphones on and she starts singing..

WILMA

(sung, the start of "somewhere over the rainbow")

SOMEWHERE-

TESSA

Wilma! No!

Wilma looks up, nods and goes back to her work.

JACQUELINE

Maybe Wilma's the ghost in our house.

DARCIE

Not a bad thought.

JACQUELINE

Maybe she's just always in the house and we don't even know it.

WILMA

(sung)

THERE'S A LAND THAT I HEARD OF ...ONCE IN A LULLABY

A true horror film.

TESSA

You guys!

LIZZY

ONE DAY I'LL WISH-

WILMA
(sung)

Wilma! Shhhh

TESSA

Wilma takes off her headphones. Wilma perks up.

Are you guys talking about me?

WILMA

Yes.

TESSA

Oh my god!

WILMA

Whenever Wilma is center of attention she revels in it.

What are you saying about me?

WILMA

We're talking about if you're our ghost.

DARCIE

Anony. Our ghost.

JACQUELINE

If I'm Anony?

WILMA

JACQUELINE

Yeah are you?

WILMA

(delighted)

Honestly maybe I am? What if I'm a ghost?

DARCIE

You might be a ghost Wilma.

Darcie takes a sip of her iced tea (wine). They all watch. Tension.

TESSA

Okay let's all get back to focusing.

WILMA

So, how was I born? Who are my parents? Am I beautiful?

JACQUELINE

The birth of Anony... well, truth be told it all began with-

JACQUELINE/ TESSA/ LIZZY/ DARCIE

the vyvance scandal of 2011.

Wilma is CAPTIVATED

WILMA

WHAT'S the vyvance scandal of 2011?

They all get increasingly invested in the story, an excuse to distract themselves and invest fully in something other than work. Adderrall adds to this.

JACQUELINE

Okay... so in 2011 we were sophomores-

WILMA

YES.

JACQUELINE

So sophomore year was our first year in the house-

WILMA

YES

LIZZY

And I was prescribed vyvance-

JACQUELINE

Lizzy was prescribed vyvance

TESSA

She gave some to Jack-

WILMA

Okay-

JACQUELINE

When I had to pull an All Nighter because Vyvance is like 12- hour long release SUPER intense stuff keeps you very awake-

WILMA

I know.

DARCIE

So Jack took the vyvance... and fell asleep.

They want a reaction from Wilma....

WILMA

Okay...so Jack took a nap and then you guys were like “oh theres a ghost in our house?”

JACQUELINE

No no... not only did I fall asleep on the vyvance but I didn't finish the American Studies paper I was supposed to write... got an incomplete AND then slept through my psych test the next day!! I suffered EXTREME consequences it was traumatic for me.

LIZZY

And then Jack had two more vyvance capsules in her back pocket that I'd given her, and she sat down on them and smushed them... and realized there was no powder in the capsules.

DARCIE

That's why she fell asleep because the medication had been taken out!

TESSA

And Liz went back into her room-

LIZZY

I went back to my room and went into my drawer where I used to keep my vyvance, and I found that all the medication had been taken out of every capsule I had-

TESSA

It was INSANE-

LIZZY

So someone had opened each capsule, poured out the actual powder and then put the capsules back together and then put it back in my container and in my drawer.

WILMA

Okay...

JACQUELINE

I mean and then it was just clear... there's a ghost in our house. Like WHO would have done that?

WILMA

A human with hands?

LIZZY

Wow, Wilma really illuminating some excellent counter points to the theory-

JACQUELINE

No, no don't even try Liz! Wil you don't get it. None of us did it... and no one else knew where Liz's med's were... it was really FREAKY...

WILMA

That's a *horrible* origin story.

JACQUELINE

Go look at the moon again Wilma.

WILMA

I'm *so* disturbed by that "scandal", and *so* confused by all of your judgement and-

LIZZY

Sometimes I get confused too-

Lizzy starts looking through her bag.

JACQUELINE

There is a ghost living in our house.

DARCIE

You'll meet her when you meet her Wilma-

WILMA

You guys are being insane.

LIZZY

Where are my special markers?

TESSA

You always have your markers.

LIZZY

I know they aren't in my bag.

JACQUELINE

Why do you need your markers?

LIZZY

I need to color code my study guide. I have visual processing issues.

JACQUELINE

Use my highlighters.

Lizzy is getting quite stressed and tense.

LIZZY

Okay I just don't know where my markers are they are always in my bag.

JACQUELINE

I'm telling you it's Anony.

LIZZY

This isn't funny.

JACQUELINE

Lizzy we are talking about markers.

DARCIE

Liz use my pens.

LIZZY

It's not about the pens. Just where are my markers!

DARCIE

You probably left them in the house Liz.

JACQUELINE

The house is haunted.

TESSA

I'm freaked out.

LIZZY

I'M SERIOUS WHERE-

JACQUELINE

(with love)

Give me your bag Liz.

Jacqueline takes Lizzy's bag and looks through it.

The girls watch her do it. It's slightly tense.

Jacqueline pulls out a pack of markers. Hands them to Lizzy.

Lizzy looks sheepish. Jack and Liz smile at each other.

LIZZY

I have visual processing issues.

JACQUELINE

Yes, you do.

TESSA

The markers have been found.

Moment. Lizzy is frazzled. Everyone gets back to work.

Lizzy moves to the corner to work.

The girls look at each other - Darcie gets up, and goes to meet Lizzy.

Wilma looks at Claire's table.

WILMA

Claire is leaving. Are you sad Jack?

JACQUELINE

I'll survive.

Jacqueline looks at Claire and smiles and waves.

Letting them in on a little secret...

JACQUELINE

I gave Claire one of Lizzy's adderall this morning.

TESSA

Jacqueline! That is so-

JACQUELINE

She needed it for tonight! It's not a big deal.

WILMA

Reckless honestly.

TESSA

I can't believe you did that. Liz gets so paranoid-

JACQUELINE

I only took one! It's so fine!

TESSA

Oh god, not good.

WILMA

It's NOT good, but ... love can confuse our sense of right and wrong.

The corner...

A breath.

LIZZY

Oh god.

I feel a little crazy.

DARCIE

Liz I feel crazy! The house can sometimes make me feel... I just. I get it.

LIZZY

I know. I know you do.

Maybe it really is haunted.

Beat.

LIZZY

I slept with Mike. Last night.

I had sex with Mike.

With love, and no judgement.

DARCIE

How do you feel?

LIZZY

I feel insane. That's obviously an insane thing to do.

DARCIE

Liz. It's okay. It's so okay.

LIZZY

But it's not. It's not normal. I don't know what's wrong with me-

DARCIE

Nothing is wrong with you.

LIZZY

Jacqueline made me feel like it was really destructive and it's-

DARCIE

Don't let Jacqueline make you feel crazy for that.

LIZZY

But isn't it sort of destructive?

DARCIE

I think there's a reason you needed to do it.

LIZZY

I feel so... so stupid and embarrassed...

DARCIE

You're human. Its *so* human. Don't let Jacqueline make you feel any shame about it.

LIZZY

Okay. Okay.

Thank you.

We're all just complicated I guess.

DARCIE

Deeply.

Beat.

Lizzy puts her head in Darcie's lap. There's a safety here They haven't felt this close in a while.

LIZZY

Remember freshman year. That morning after it happened I didn't even go home I just crawled right into your bed. I didn't even say anything. And you knew. You just held me and do you remember what you said to me?

DARCIE

Yeah.

You can decide when your first time is.

Lizzy lifts her head up...

LIZZY

I say that to myself all the time.

DARCIE

I believe that, Liz.

LIZZY

After...after we...last night after we...

Darcie nods, knowingly,

LIZZY

He kissed my forehead. It was sort of... sweet. And he hadn't done that sort of thing before, and that made me feel for a moment like maybe...

Very tenderly....

DARCIE

Maybe what liz?

LIZZY

I think a part of me.... I. A tiny messed up part of me...I want to hook up with him... because I want him to be...I want him to....what if he could be the man I marry... or a serious boy friend? I know I sound crazy I sound crazy but it would be easier if he was ultimately supposed to be my husband... it would mean I just misunderstood the night...

it would mean that the night would have been worth it that that experience would have been... worth something.. you know? It would help me figure out a way to explain it to myself and I... I know I know I sound-

DARCIE

I get that Liz. I get it.

LIZZY

It's stupid.

Lovingly...

DARCIE

I don't think he's your husband.

LIZZY

I don't either.
I'm not crazy right?

DARCIE

If you're crazy then I'm crazy too.

Beat.

Lizzy stares directly at Darcie. A decision.

LIZZY

Darc, why is there wine in your Arizona Iced Tea?

Moment.

Darcie looks at her. A beat, then a smile-

DARCIE

Why.... you want some?

Moment, then... Lizzy smiles back at her.

The table...

Wilma is smashing Focalin with her credit card and her and Jacqueline are snorting it.

WILMA

Times are freaking loose.

JACQUELINE

Incredibly loose.

Tessa is more relaxed. She takes in the ballroom.

TESSA

I like Johnson when it empties out.

WILMA

It's so much better when less people are in here. I really feel like it's my kingdom.

TESSA

Wilma... let's find you a final college lover for this week.

JACQUELINE

YES. Let's pick a final college lover for Wil-

WILMA

(vulnerable)

I. Um.

Yeah.

Well... that's nice.

Jacqueline looks around the ballroom

JACQUELINE

What about Connor Fitz?

TESSA

Wow interesting call!

JACQUELINE

He's been glancing at our table whenever Wilma walks in.

TESSA

Could be for a variety of reasons but... good observation.

WILMA

He's um. He's cute.

JACQUELINE

Yeah?

WILMA

Yeah Connor's cute.

Lizzy and Darcie arms around each other, approach the table. Jacqueline and Tessa watch them. It's a dynamic they haven't seen in a while.

WILMA

You two seem in love. Want a line of focalin?

LIZZY

No.

DARCIE

No thank you.

Lizzy takes a sip of Darcie's Arizona Iced Tea. Darcie takes a sip of the iced tea. We feel an alignment between them. Jacqueline takes this in and perhaps feels slightly threatened.

WILMA

Everyone is being insane. Literally insane.

JACQUELINE

You might get sick if you drink that Liz!

DARCIE

I'm feeling better.

LIZZY

(to Jacqueline)

It's fine.

Everyone gets back into work mode.

Then...Wilma puts the music up on her computer...she starts to sing Wrecking Ball...just the end of the chorus...like 1:45 on the track.

WILMA

(sung)

*Left me crouching in a blaze and fall
all you ever did was wreck me
Yeah, you wreck me*

then Jacqueline takes it...

JACQUELINE

(sung)

*I never meant to start a war
I just wanted you to let me in
And instead of using force/ I guess I should've let you in*

LIZZY

(sung)

*I guess I should've let you in
I never meant to start a war / I just wanted you to let me in*

DARCIE

(sung)

*I just wanted you to let me in
I guess I should've let you in*

They all turn to Tessa in the hopes she'll
deliver...

Beat

TESSA

(sung)

Don't you ever say I just walked away I will always want you

BOOM into the chorus where EVERYONE led by Wilma let's loose. It's that kind of middle of the night energy where you all you want to do is commit. No one is trying to be funny everyone is just trying to express themselves! It's a moment of them together. A welcome release. We feel them feel comfortable occupying the space in the ballroom.

ALL

(sung)

*I came in like a wrecking ball
I never hit so hard in love*

*all I wanted was to break your walls
All you ever did was break me/*

Wilma darts her head around at Connor Fitz
who has just yelled “shut up girls.”

WILMA

NOOOO NO!! YOUUU BE QUIET CONNOR FITZ!!

The girls immediately adjust. Tessa turns off the
music.

They resume a more self conscious nature.

WILMA

IT’S A FREE COUNTRY CONNOR! AND IT’S A REALLY GOOD SONG!

JACQUELINE

Okay, Wilma, don’t scream.

WILMA

So the GOOD NEWS is that I have clementines for everyone.

She passes out clementines.

WILMA

Clementines are a beautiful color of *orange*. A gorgeous orange.

LIZZY

DARCIE

Wilma

Wil can you -

WILMA

I just really do love them, the clementines, you can hold so many in your hands at once
because they’re so small... in truth they’re baby oranges, but *are* they just small oranges?
Why are they called clementines? Do you think Madonna ever eats clementines as a
snack? I’m going to take a lap.

Wilma takes a breath, flips her hair, headphones
back on, starts a lap.

JACQUELINE

Wilma’s newly in love with clementines...

TESSA

Clearly fixating on the color orange today-

Beat. A DING. Tessa's leg shakes.

TESSA

The bank has officially flagged it as fraud.

LIZZY

Good.

JACQUELINE

That's good

DARCIE

Yeah that's good.

Tessa starts to get up-

TESSA

I should call my parents -

JACQUELINE

It's almost four in the morning Tess, call them tomorrow.

TESSA

Okay. Yeah.

Leg shakes...

TESSA

Oooof. 1500 dollars is -

JACQUELINE

Oh Tessa, let's not think about it-

TESSA

That's a lot of money on my card-

DARCIE

But you've cancelled the card now.

TESSA

I'm just creeped out.

LIZZY

It's upsetting!

JACQUELINE

You also have adderall in your system...

DARCIE

Tess, you never have this much adderall in your system-

TESSA

That's true-

LIZZY

Neither do you Darc-

DARCIE

That's true too.

JACQUELINE

It just all feels extra intense, right now, let's see how it feels in the morning-

TESSA

It's just not okay. It isn't okay.

LIZZY

I hear you Tess!

JACQUELINE

You have work to do right now!

DARCIE

Oh there's soooooo much work to do right now-

TESSA

It's all in my name. All the orders are in my name.

DARCIE

That makes sense though.

LIZZY

Yeah, it's your credit card. They would know your name.

TESSA

It just feels direct.

LIZZY

I mean.

It's identity theft.

It's a crime.

Uncomfortable. Wilma has been observing, she takes off her headphones-

WILMA

What's going on... why do you guys look weird-

LIZZY

Tessa's credit card has been stolen.

JACQUELINE

Let's stop giving this so much air-

WILMA

Tragic.

TESSA

Don't be sarcastic!

WILMA

I'm literally not being sarcastic. What's the situation?

TESSA

The person used the card at the village market and village coffee shop. Isn't that freaky?

JACQUELINE

Freaky, but we have work to do-

Wilma starts rummaging in her bag.

WILMA

We can all become detectives now. I'm SO grateful I already passed out the sunglasses. Shits about to get BRIGHT.

TESSA

Please be serious if you're going to sit here. I'm feeling upset.

WILMA

I'm literally being beyond serious. I'm really good at solving crime Tess. What time were the charges at the market?

Wilma takes out a pink furry pen and a notebook.

JACQUELINE

Solving crime?

WILMA

Yeah! What time were the charges at the market?

TESSA

Um. Yesterday at 2pm is when the charge went through.

DARCIE

But she's already cancelled the card.

WILMA

Don't you want to know who took it?

Beat.

They hadn't really considered this as an option.

There should be an active decision here.

TESSA

Yeah. Yes! I do.

LIZZY

Yeah.

JACQUELINE/ DARCIE

Yeah!

WILMA

I'll talk to Steve the market man first thing tomorrow.

TESSA

That's a good idea actually.

Wilma pulls out five almond snack packs from her bag.

WILMA

Everyone take one. We need fuel.

DARCIE

Will you how are you going to figure this out?

WILMA

In sixth grade I located a lost squirrel on the playground. Like I'm very skilled.

JACQUELINE

Literally what?

WILMA

Nothing happens on this campus without my knowledge.

LIZZY

Talking to market man Steve is a really good idea.

WILMA

My nickname is literally detective.

JACQUELINE

That's not true.

WILMA

Let's name our detective squad "The Deli"

JACQUELINE

Like the deli we eat at?

WILMA

Yeah. I'm going to really miss their eggs.

TESSA

They have eggs in the real world.

WILMA

I don't think they will be the same.

JACQUELINE

That honestly makes me want to cry.

Lizzy puts her sunglasses on.

LIZZY

Everything looks so dark with these on.

Jack puts hers on.

JACQUELINE

These sunglasses make me feel kind of safe. I like wearing them.

Jacqueline takes a pair of sunglasses and put them on Tessa.

JACQUELINE

Here. It's helpful.

Tessa takes off the sunglasses.

TESSA

No thanks.

JACQUELINE

You sure?

TESSA

Yeah.

WILMA

Seriously nobody talk to me I need to focus.

Wilma puts her headphones on.

She pauses. Then takes her headphones off.
Very serious. Takes a breath.

WILMA

I have a theory. It's not going to hit well.

JACQUELINE

Oh god-

TESSA

What?

WILMA

Okay. Jacqueline and Tessa... you both share a room.

TESSA/JACQUELINE

Yeah.

WILMA

Who else has been spending a large amount of time in that room?

Blank.

WILMA

Claire.

JACQUELINE

Wilma are you serious-

WILMA

I'm just saying she would have opportunity-

JACQUELINE

I'm actually offended-

TESSA

But why would Claire do that? I don't think Claire would do that-

WILMA

Let's analyze-

JACQUELINE

No. NO. She didn't take Tessa's card-

WILMA

You have to face the reality that she's an amazing suspect.

TESSA

I don't think Claire did it-

JACQUELINE

Of course she didn't.

TESSA

Okay, but...if she did do it... you'd... you'd be on my-

JACQUELINE

This is a pointless conversation.

Trying to mediate-

DARCIE

Too early for suspects. Let's let the investigation unfold.

JACQUELINE

Thank you Darc.

Wilma, alert us when you start making more sense.

They work. Time passes...

A ding. Wilma SCREAMS.

JACQUELINE

Oh my god.

LIZZY

What?

WILMA

Literally I should go to the police academy!

TESSA

Why?

WILMA

I just got an email from Ted Stewart Jenkins.

No response.

WILMA

TED. STEWART. JENKINS.

LIZZY

Oh the Junior on the golf team who's always / at the salad bar in the cafeteria.

JACQUELINE

At the salad bar in the cafeteria.

TESSA/DARCIE

Oh yeah.

WILMA

TED. TED. STEWART-

JACQUELINE

Just explain.

WILMA

Okay. Ted is a junior on the golf team, CORRECT, Ted also LOVES salad that is CORRECT -BUT he ALSO works at the market. I just emailed him to ask when Steve gets to the market in the morning and explained our situation and he just emailed back and said something AMAZING... Actually he said something incredible.

DARCIE

TESSA

What did he say?

What?

WILMA

It's honestly.... life changing?

JACQUELINE

Oh my god dude-

WILMA

CAMERAS have been installed at the market.

JACQUELINE

No way! In this little township?

WILMA

Yes! They just got them installed... and Ted can work them!! We just have to tell him the time of the market charges and he can find the recording and show us the tapes... so we can literally just see who took your card. They will have been CAUGHT on camera! TANGIBLE EVIDENCE.

TESSA

Oh my god wow

WILMA

I'm responding. I'm typing... "you are so amazing Ted."

TESSA

When? Ask him when we can go see the tapes.

WILMA

I'm responding. I'm typing... "when can we see the tapes?"

LIZZY

It's wild he's still awake tonight.

Beat.

A ding.

WILMA

OH MY GOD

OHHHHHHHHH MY GOD

He's literally pulling an all nighter... wants a study break.....he wants to know if we want to go tonight?

TESSA

Yes. Tell him yes.

JACQUELINE

Are we sure? That sounds unproductive work wise.

TESSA

I think for me it will be productive.

DARCIE

Maybe we should wait till morning.

LIZZY

I think we should go tonight.

TESSA

I want to go tonight.

WILMA

I'm responding. I'm typing.. "Ted, we would LOVE to see the tapes tonight it's reckless and fun wow I will miss college so much, in what other environment could you break into a market in the middle of the night and not worry about consequences wow tell us when to head over! xo Wilma"

TESSA

We aren't breaking in, he works there and has a key.

A ding.

WILMA

OH MY GOD he responded, he's so FAST! He's like a cheetah on email. He said "I'll email you when I'm ready to go"

Wilma looks at the group. PROUD. Wanting validation.

TESSA

Amazing. Amazing! Thank you Wil.

JACQUELINE

What are the odds...

LIZZY

Mystery solved.

DARCIE

Incredible!

They are all happy. And slightly scared?

WILMA

I'm responding. I'm typing.. "Ted, we can't begin to express the gratitude -

TESSA

Okay, we don't need a live feed of your email-

JACQUELINE

Do you think that ghosts can be caught on camera?

TESSA

Please Jack.

JACQUELINE

I'm being serious.

TESSA

My card was stolen and used by a *real person*.

LIZZY

Not such a believer in ghosts now Tess?

TESSA

I-

JACQUELINE

We'll find it all out on the tapes / tonight.

DARCIE

Yeah!

LIZZY

It's good we'll find out tonight!

DARCIE

Ah. I feel kind of sick

LIZZY

Maybe a little too much tea tonight Darc?

DARCIE

No-

TESSA

You look a little green.

DARCIE

Just nauseous-

WILMA

I have ginger ale in my bag.

Wilma grabs three ginger ale cans and hands them to Darcie.

DARCIE

It's okay.

WILMA

You're being weird. I'm literally giving you ginger ale.

DARCIE

I just don't really want ginger ale?

Wilma is deeply offended.

LIZZY

I'll take a ginger ale Wilma.

Wilma hands her a ginger ale. She takes a breath.

WILMA

I'm going to the studio to sketch myself at the dentist as a teenager -

JACQUELINE

I'm so confused by your work flow.

TESSA

What happened to your paper on America?

WILMA

I finished it hours ago. I'll text you guys when I hear from Ted. I think everyone should bring their *orange* clementines to the market for a snack in case we get hungry because -

DARCIE

Actually Wilma I will have a ginger ale.

Wilma is MOVED. It's a victory for her.

WILMA

You will?

Darcie is loving. And thoughtful. And tries to connect to Wilma.

DARCIE

I will. Sounds helpful.

Wilma gives her a ginger ale.

DARCIE

Thanks Wilma.

A huge smile from Wilma, all she wants is connection , she milks this-

WILMA

You're so welcome Darcie.

Wilma walks out ... And she walks past Connor's table very vulnerable and very flirty...

WILMA

Goodbye Connor.

Wilma leaves into the moonlight.

A moment. Tessa takes Lizzy in.

TESSA

I am sorry we've been so dismissive about your adderall going missing Liz. It must be a shitty feeling.

Lizzy is taken aback. In a good way.

LIZZY

Thanks Tess.

Beat.

JACQUELINE

Remember when we first met Wilma?

DARCIE

Freshman year, the morning after the four of us got really drunk at Nick Hedges apartment.

TESSA

We were so young then...

LIZZY

Darcie you were so sad that morning-

TESSA

You had just found out your Uncle had died-

LIZZY

Yeah, your uncle had died-

DARCIE

That was such a moment of freshman sadness and confusion and then outside the deli we came across...

TESSA

A special person.

JACQUELINE

A Wilma. Stomping around campus in heels and a pink boa trying to get us to join the student democrats club-

TESSA

That morning I remember thinking she was *truly* a maniac...and yet...

JACQUELINE

DARCIE

Here we are.

Here we are!

They get back to work.

Their phones buzz. It scares them a little.

TESSA

It's Wilma. Ted's ready to go.

JACQUELINE

I'm not sure about this-

TESSA

Why?

JACQUELINE

It feels distracting.

TESSA

I think we should definitely/ go tonight.

LIZZY

I thought we already decided we were going/ tonight.

JACQUELINE

I think we have too much work to do. We can do it in the morning-

TESSA

I really feel like I need to know. I want to know.

LIZZY

We're going! We have a plan, we're going.

Lizzy and Tessa stand up.

TESSA

Jack?

JACQUELINE

Fine. For you, I'll put a pause to my studies-

Jacqueline stands up.

JACQUELINE

Come on Darc-

DARCIE

Um. Tess

TESSA

You coming?

Beat.

DARCIE

I um. Oh god I think I. I think I messed up.
I'm slightly concerned that I might be on the tapes-

TESSA

What do you mean?

DARCIE

I feel so guilty about this Tess... I.. I lost your card.

Beat.

TESSA

What do you-

DARCIE

I took your jacket the other day. I went to the market wearing your jacket and I used the credit card that was in the pocket of the jacket thinking it was mine, bought groceries, then I realized it wasn't mine, and then I lost the card when I was walking home. So basically I'm afraid that I'm going to be on those security tapes.

TESSA

So the card-

DARCIE

I must have dropped it when I was walking back to our house... I never lose things and I'm so mortified. I'm so sorry!

Beat.

Beat.

Beat.

JACQUELINE

People lose things. It happens. That happens.

TESSA

Okay. Okay...

DARCIE

I wanted to tell you in case I'm on the tape, not to misunderstand the situation.

TESSA

So you just lost the card after using it at the market?

DARCIE

Yes. And to think that someone took it and did all this with it...it makes me feel sick. I feel sick.

I'm so sorry Tessa.

JACQUELINE

She dropped the card, someone picked it up. This is just a horrible situation...

TESSA

Yeah. Yeah. It really is.

DARCIE

What can I do to -oh god-

JACQUELINE

It's not your fault Darc-

TESSA

(lightly...)

I just wish you had told me sooner.

DARCIE

I know I'm so sorry Tess. I really really didn't handle this well.

TESSA

I just wish you- I wish you had-

DARCIE

I have made a horrible mistake. The way I've handled this. I never lose things and I'm just. I'm so sorry. I really messed up. I messed up.

JACQUELINE

You're human.

Beat.

LIZZY

So are we going to see the tapes?

TESSA

Um.

Tessa decides to protect Darcie.

TESSA

I don't need to look at the tapes tonight.

LIZZY

Are you sure...

TESSA

We don't need to look at the tapes. I don't need to see the tapes.

Beat.

JACQUELINE

I'll text Wil.

TESSA

Thanks.

Silence. Jacqueline, Tessa and Lizzy sit back down at the table, and join Darcie.

Moment. They settle back into their work.

It's silent. Darcie looks around.

DARCIE

Mike's leaving.

Lizzy nods, she doesn't look up from her work.

DARCIE

You never have to see him in here again.
No more all nighters with him across the ballroom.

This hits Lizzy really hard.

LIZZY

I didn't even think about that.

Darcie grabs Lizzy's hand.

Jack looks around.

JACQUELINE

We're the only ones left.

Beat.

JACQUELINE

Should we build a fort in the living room? The night before graduation? And all sleep there?

DARCIE

Yes! That will be our last night ever in the house.

JACQUELINE

God that's so sad. Our family home.

They work. Tessa, leg shaking, takes a clementine and starts peeling it.

Maybe in an effort to connect-

TESSA

Darc why was Wilma fixating on orange tonight?

DARCIE

She was just on one today.

TESSA
About the color orange?

DARCIE
Truly so random.

JACQUELINE
Classic.

Beat. A decision.

LIZZY
(to Darc)
She told me it's because earlier today you said she wouldn't look good in orange?

DARCIE
What?

LIZZY
Wilma said she was fixating on the orange because you said it wouldn't look good on her-

DARCIE
She's so irrational.

LIZZY
She's not. She's not totally irrational...you were looking at sports bras in orange-

DARCIE
Wilma was just making a big deal about the color orange.

JACQUELINE
Her fixation of the day.

DARCIE
Exactly.

Lizzy finding her voice...piecing something together...

LIZZY

No. No. You were looking at orange sports bras online and said that orange wouldn't look good on her.

DARCIE

I don't know! It's not everyone's color-

LIZZY

And it hurt her feelings. So she fixated. Because that's what she does when she's hurt, she fixates-

JACQUELINE

Liz. What are you doing?

LIZZY

I'm talking to Darcie.

DARCIE

I'm sorry I hurt her feelings, I didn't mean to.

LIZZY

You were looking at sports bras online today...

Darcie maybe laughs it off, looks down at her work.

Beat.

It's like Lizzy is passing a basketball to Tessa...hoping she'll catch the ball and make a basket...

TESSA

You were online shopping today Darc?

DARCIE

Just looking around.

TESSA

Did you buy sports bras online today?

DARCIE

No. I didn't buy anything.

Beat.

TESSA

What company were you looking at?

DARCIE

I don't remember.

Tension.

Darcie sips her iced tea (wine)

Almost jokingly but also yikes...

TESSA

Wasn't lululemon was it?

Darcie just laughs and doesn't really answer.

TESSA

Did you look at sports bras from lululemon?

Darcie laughs again...

DARCIE

Maybe it was lululemon.

TESSA

Can you look it up.

DARCIE

Look it up?

JACQUELINE

Chill Tess-

TESSA

Look at your browsing history-

DARCIE

I don't need to look it up, you're right. It was lululmeon. I was looking at lululemon.

JACQUELINE

Wonderful. You both love lululmeon.

Beat. Tessa's leg is shaking.

TESSA

And you didn't buy anything?

DARCIE

No.

TESSA

Okay.

Can you open up your emails and can I see them?

DARCIE

Um. What?

TESSA

I would like to see your emails.

JACQUELINE

Tess, are you okay?

TESSA

I'm totally fine. When you order something online you get an email receipt. Right?

DARCIE

Yeah.

TESSA

Can I please see your emails?

DARCIE

I don't have any email receipts. I just said I didn't buy anything-

A crack.

TESSA

Someone ordered stuff online today from lululemon on my credit card, in my name, and I just want to make sure it wasn't you.

JACQUELINE

TESSA

DARCIE

That is so hurtful that you could even think that-

LIZZY

Darcie just show her your emails.

TESSA

Show me, Darcie.

Beat.

Darcie is calm, collected, and steady.

A decision.

DARCIE

Okay. Yeah. Of course. Of course! It wasn't me.

Look at my emails! Look at my emails.

Darcie turns her computer to Tessa.

They all watch Tessa. Tessa looks at Darcie's screen.

TESSA

Darcie what is this?

Darcie looks at the screen. She looks shocked.

DARICE

I don't know.

TESSA

Darcie... what is this?

DARCIE

I've never seen that before. I've never seen those emails.

TESSA

Darcie what is this?

DARCIE

I have no idea I have literally never seen those before in my life.

TESSA

Why are there email receipts on your computer with my name on them?

DARCIE

...

TESSA

Darcie...

DARCIE

I don't. I don't know.

TESSA

Dear Ms. Tessa James your receipt confirmation, /Dear Ms. Tessa James your receipt confirmation, Dear Ms. Tessa James your order is on its way-

DARCIE

I don't know how those got there! I don't know how those got there-

Lizzy looks Darcie's computer screen.

LIZZY

Dear Ms. Tessa James your order is on it's way- Dear Ms. Tessa JamesDear Ms. Tessa James your clog order has been cancelled, Dear Ms. Tessa...

TESSA

(piecing it together...)

This entire night you were getting emails... you were sitting next to me... you've been sitting next to me getting email receipts with my name this-

DARCIE

NO. NO I wasn't!

Jacqueline looks at the screen. Tessa and Lizzy stand next to her, we see them take in a screen (that we cannot see) Darcie on the outside watching.

JACQUELINE

Darcie...

DARCIE

I didn't do this.

A moment perhaps of everyone processing.

TESSA

(processing)

Wait... wait... okay... so you bought your groceries on my card yesterday?

DARCIE

I didn't know it was your card-

TESSA

No no no wait. I. I bought you a bottle of wine... to apologize for eating pasta that you bought on my credit card Darcie. You *knew* you bought that pasta with MY money!!

DARCIE

I didn't know!

TESSA

WHAT IS WRONG WITH YOU DARCIE WHAT IS -

DARCIE

I DON'T KNOW WHAT'S HAPPENING AND I'M REALLY REALLY SCARED.

Beat. Beat. Beat.

With patience, and urgency-

LIZZY

Okay... Okay.
You're scared?

DARCIE

Because I did not do this.

LIZZY

Darcie, did you take Tessa's credit card?

DARCIE

No! NO. Not on purpose.

Genuinely hopeful-

LIZZY

I think. I think this can be okay, if you tell us the truth. Just tell us the truth / and-

DARCIE

I don't know how those emails got there!

JACQUELINE

Darcie what's going on, / just explain what's going on-

TESSA

Oh my god.

Tessa turns her back. She won't look at her.

DARCIE

I didn't mean for this...

I. I. I was cold and I needed a jacket.

Oof it's cold in here.

Darcie sits and starts to rock back and forth. She holds herself as if her stomach is in severe pain. She's getting more panicked. Lizzy puts her hand on Darcie-

DARCIE

I was alone in the house a few days ago and the phone just kept ringing and ringing and ringing and ringing and then I answered and there was static and then I heard a door SLAM-

JACQUELINE

Darcie-

DARCIE

And I go upstairs and my journal is suddenly on my floor.
I was literally screaming!

JACQUELINE

No...no Darcie that happened to me...that's *my* story...

DARCIE

No but it happened to me too! It happened to me too! There is something in the house,
there is something in the house and you all know it and it's NOT it's NOT / ME.

LIZZY

Darcie breathe-

DARCIE

Lizzy you feel crazy in that house too I know you do-

LIZZY

But I-

DARCIE

You say you feel crazy all the time, you always say you feel crazy, because-

LIZZY

Darcie but I would never-

DARCIE

I didn't do this-

TESSA

Darcie LOOK AT YOUR COMPUTER-

JACQUELINE

Tessa let's take a second-

TESSA

I don't need a second-

DARCIE

There's something *wrong* with the house-

TESSA

You committed a crime Darcie-

DARCIE

I think I'm going to be sick.

Darcie runs to a trash can. Vomits. The pace becomes rapid and manic.

TESSA

We should call someone. Like a dean or-

JACQUELINE

I really need us to just regroup, let's regroup-

TESSA

I want to call someone-

LIZZY

Maybe we should call someone?

Darcie vomits again, Lizzy goes to hold her hair, rubs her back.

JACQUELINE

She's not okay. She's literally not okay. We have to help her.

TESSA

Don't ask me to do that right now.

JACQUELINE

We're FAMILY TESSA!

TESSA

No we aren't! We aren't family! We never have to see each other again after graduation if we don't want to-

JACQUELINE

Can we just think about this-

TESSA

I don't have anything to think about. She stole from me-

JACQUELINE

She stole from your parents. It's your parents money.

TESSA

Are you serious?

LIZZY

Guys!

TESSA

THIS IS IDENTITY THEFT, I COULD LITERALLY CALL THE POLICE-

Jack directs all her energy to Darc. A
DESPERATE PLEA-

JACQUELINE

Darc we clearly aren't understanding something. So what are we not understanding?

TESSA

There's nothing to understand Jack-

JACQUELINE

There's always something to understand-

DARCIE

I didn't do it.

JACQUELINE

Darcie we can all see the email receipts, we can all... so do better... explain it, you have to explain it-

TESSA

You want her to just... just what? Just explain it differently?

With venom-

JACQUELINE

Should we go through a list of what *you've* explained differently Tess-

TESSA

Oh my god do you not understand what's-

A desperate final plea-

JACQUELINE

DARCIE PLEASE DO BETTER. JUST EXPLAIN IT! EXPLAIN IT-

DARCIE

I need to figure out what's going on because something's going on because I didn't do this. I DIDN'T DO IT.

Not good enough.

Then... almost private moment between Liz and Darc.

Gently -

LIZZY

Just tell *me* the truth.

DARCIE

I-

DESPERATE-

LIZZY

I really think this can be okay if we just all know the truth and take it from there, because I don't think the truth can feel worse than what this feels like right now... if we just, Darcie please just be *honest*-

DARCIE

I didn't do it.

LIZZY

Is that really all you can say?

A moment.

Darcie takes Lizzy in. Then... with extreme intimacy and intensity-

DARCIE

You can decide to believe me.

Lizzy doesn't answer, stares at her.

DARCIE

Decide to be my best friend and decide those aren't my emails and decide to believe me. You can do that. That's in your control, you can... you can decide...

Lizzy unable to respond, feeling herself shrinking.

TESSA

Fuck you Darcie. FUCK YOU-

A decision. Tessa starts packing her bags. Dialogue is fast-

DARCIE

Okay, wait Tessa please-

TESSA

I can't be in the same room as her I need to-

JACQUELINE

Tessa you can't just leave-

TESSA

SHE'S BEEN LYING ALL NIGHT-

JACQUELINE

You can't just walk out-

TESSA

I CAN'T BE IN HERE ANYMORE, I can't do this anymore I can't-

DARCIE

Tessa please-

A crack.

LIZZY

No Darcie *you* need to go home and Tessa you should stay.

JACQUELINE

Liz-

DARCIE

NO. No one can leave yet. This is too... this is too, Tessa you're so upset, I can't just-

LIZZY

Just go home. Go home.

For now, and then-

DARCIE

But my anth presentation, and our psych test Liz, I haven't finished my homework-

LIZZY

I don't think you should worry about that right now.

DARCIE

We graduate in five days, we graduate in five days...

I've worked so hard. I WORK SO HARD.

Freaking out....

DARCIE

This is all going to be okay right? This is all okay?

Tessa I'm sorry, I'm so.... I'm so sorry that this happened to you I just-

Tessa still won't look at her.

LIZZY

Just give her a minute.

DARCIE

Okay. Okay. I. I get that. I'll- this is just so crazy.
I would hate to go to bed like this...
But I get it. If. If Tessa you need a moment.
I'll pack up and we can go home Liz? And figure out this whole thing?
Will you take me home?

She says it firmly because otherwise she might
never-

LIZZY

No. I think you need to go home. And I think that I need to stay. Uh. Here.

A quiet.

Darcie, to Lizzy-

DARCIE

You're gonna stay here?

LIZZY

Yeah.

DARCIE

But, I *need*-

Softly but intensity-

LIZZY

I need you to go home.

DARCIE

Jack?

Moment. She can't really look at Darcie. Jack
looks at Tess. At Liz, who are now standing side
by side.

JACQUELINE

I think you need to go home.

Jack joins them.

Moment. Darcie looks at the three of them,
united, in a clump, her on the outside.

Working hard to turn off her vulnerability.

DARCIE

I'll go home. I'll go home and we'll sleep and we'll figure this out over coffee. Because we
have to. Because this is a misunderstanding.

Standing firm. Darcie packs her things up.
Somehow she appears put together.

DARCIE

My anth presentation is at 9. Then our psych test is at 2 Liz?
We'll sleep and we'll figure this out tomorrow. We'll figure it out.

Darcie walks out into the moonlight.

The door shuts behind her.

The three remain in the empty ballroom. The
fishbowl. The glass box.

A silence. The three look at each other... They
can move. Sit. Breathe. Whatever feels natural
and true.

TESSA

I don't want to go back in the house while she's in it.
I *won't* go back in the house while she's in it.
I don't feel safe.

LIZZY

Okay.

Then...

Beat. Fragile.

JACQUELINE

But I mean...
It's Darc. I
It's *Darc*...

With conviction.

TESSA

I don't want to ever see her again.

Vulnerable.

JACQUELINE

You're going *so. fast.*
Liz you asked her to leave-

TESSA

Which was right.
That was right.

JACQUELINE

I don't know...

LIZZY

What do you mean you don't know?

JACQUELINE

I mean I don't know.

Beat. Tension.

TESSA

I need a drink I think.

They look around the room.

Then... a discovery.

LIZZY

Darcie took home the apology wine.

Moment.

TESSA

What a fucking psychopath-

JACQUELINE

Tessa!

TESSA

I'm sorry but what the actual fuck JUST HAPPENED.

JACQUELINE

We all just need to. To process...

TESSA

I don't think it's actually that complicated.

Working through it..

JACQUELINE

I mean... she needs help... she's really sick...

TESSA

Or maybe she's just a pathological liar?

JACQUELINE

What's the difference? She needs... she needs...

Moment. Moment.

TESSA

Do you think she's calling her parents?

JACQUELINE

Should we call her parents?

TESSA

or Lincoln?

Beat.

LIZZY

I think that if we called Lincoln we wouldn't be able to reach him.

This they all agree on.

Moment.

This isn't that easy to say. It's said with a desire to connect.

LIZZY

I mean... are we that surprised that Darcie did this?
Are we *really* that surprised?

Moment.

JACQUELINE

Yeah. I'm surprised. I'm *really* surprised.

TESSA

I think that's besides the point. It doesn't matter! She did it! So...

Leg shaking.

LIZZY

God. There's something wrong with the house.

JACQUELINE

What's that supposed to mean?

LIZZY

That there's something *wrong* with the house.

TESSA

There's something wrong with *Darcie*.

Beat. Still processing.

JACQUELINE

She's the ghost.

TESSA

Yeah. A freaking spooky ghost.

JACQUELINE

She's *our* ghost.

With intensity-

LIZZY

NO. There is *no ghost*, there is just *us* and *what we do to each other*.

Moment.

JACQUELINE

Can we just... can we decide / how-

LIZZY

We can't decide this doesn't matter... it's like we'll never leave this room, we'll just stay in here forever and lose hold of anything that's real. We can't decide this doesn't matter... *something* needs to matter-

JACQUELINE

No one is saying this doesn't matter, I'm not saying it doesn't matter -

LIZZY

That's what you want right now, you want this to / somehow not matter-

JACQUELINE

Oh my god I'm *worried* about you-

LIZZY

YOU DON'T NEED TO BE WORRIED ABOUT ME. I'D APPRECIATE IF YOU'D START ACTUALLY *LISTENING* TO ME-

JACQUELINE

Well, you don't seem okay-

LIZZY

Yeah well I don't feel okay!

TESSA

I don't feel okay either-

LIZZY

I came to you both WEEKS AGO saying that I found two of my adderall in her room and you guys told me to not think that way, two was a small number, not enough proof, to just love her, that I could be wrong, that-

JACQUELINE

That was paranoid behavior Lizzy-

LIZZY

Okay well *this* isn't complicated Jack. You can print out her receipts, you can literally HOLD THEM in your hand. This is TANGIBLE PROOF THAT SOMETHING IS WRONG HERE. What are you having so much trouble with-

JACQUELINE

I'm asking if we can decide *together* how-

LIZZY

THERE'S NO DECISION. THERE'S NOTHING TO DECIDE, no one is *deciding* that it's wrong it just *is*.

Beat.

JACQUELINE

We can try for a *little* more empathy. We can decide to move through this with a little more empathy-

TESSA

I disagree.

JACQUELINE

Really Tess? Could it hurt you to try?

TESSA

Yes. Right now it actually would. It would actually hurt me to try.

Anger seeping through. A crack.

JACQUELINE

I always decide to give you the benefit of the doubt-

TESSA

This is A CRIME JACQUELINE-

JACQUELINE

YOU'RE ON REPEAT! We know!
 I'm standing here.
 I'm with you.
 I'm staying with you.
 I'm deciding to stay in here, with you, with both of you-
 She's out!
 Lizzy you have your villain. Finally!

LIZZY

Are you serious?

TESSA

I am allowed to draw a line and say that this isn't okay-

JACQUELINE

I KNOW THAT YOU KISSED CLAIRE LAST NIGHT, AND I DECIDED THAT'S OKAY. You've been sitting next to me, lying all night too and I give you the benefit of the doubt because we're best friends and that's how this works.

LIZZY

We've all done that to each other. I've done it to you, and you've done it to me Jack-

JACQUELINE

I am talking to Tessa, I'm saying that I feel hurt but I have decided-

LIZZY

We are *constantly* hurting each other. You screamed "I HATE YOU LIZZY" behind my back and I decided that's okay but we CAN'T DECIDE THAT EVERYTHING IS OKAY! NOT EVERYTHING IS OKAY-

JACQUELINE

We've talked about that! We've already moved on from that-

LIZZY

No, we haven't! And you have shamed me so much, made me feel like such a SLUT-

JACQUELINE

(with sadness, and desperation)

LIZZY I AM NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR HOW YOU *CONSISTENTLY MISUNDERSTAND ME*.

LIZZY

We can keep calling it misunderstandings...but aren't you tired?

Tessa processing, shame seeping through-

TESSA

Jack It's not okay... what *I did*.

You should be mad at me... you should be mad at me.

What I did wasn't okay and I should... I'm sorry. I am *so*...

JACQUELINE

(defiantly)

Well, I don't want to be mad at you.

You're my best friend.

This is what we do for each other...

TESSA

Maybe we should stop... doing that for each other...

JACQUELINE

But that's love... that's how I... Liz, you know that I love you, I don't hate you-

Moment.

TESSA

Maybe we should think about how we love each other. And maybe that needs to-

Wilma enters abruptly-

WILMA

Lovebirds!

Silence. With a sympathetic look-

WILMA

Oh girlies. Don't worry I get it. I just ran into Darcie.

Moment.

TESSA

Did she....

Wilma nods sympathetically.

WILMA

She told me.

Moment.

WILMA

It's so sad her uncle just died.

Moment. Moment. Moment.

The girls look at each other.

The girls are silent.

WILMA

You irresponsible muffins haven't finished your homework.

Oh god. Sadness is just leaking out of this room. I can feel it.

I can't stop thinking about how this is LITERALLY THE END OF OUR COLLEGE EXPERIENCE! I came here to make a plan for tomorrow. I want to meet at the deli at 11 for eggs.

Moment...

WILMA

Tomorrow??

Deli at 11???

Moment.

WILMA

Can no one in this group commit to a plan? Not a one?

Moment.

TESSA

Tomorrow we'll-

JACQUELINE

Tomorrow...

LIZZY

I feel like. Tomorrow...

The sun slowly starts crawling in.

WILMA

I mean... you guys tomorrow's a coming... it's almost here... the real world is just around the bend and...

A pause. Wilma is pensive. Vulnerable.

Do you think we'll be okay in our real lives in the real world? Do you think we'll be okay?

Then-

I haven't slept in two days and I'm CRASHING on my focalin. Deli at 11 lovemuffins.

Wilma leaves in a whirlwind.

The door to the ballroom is left wide open.

Sun continuing to creep in.

It's quiet. Disconnected. Tense.

LIZZY

I wonder...if years from now....

If someone asks us about college, and asks us about our house...

I wonder what story each of us would tell..

Beat. Liz takes in Jack and Tessa.

LIZZY

And if they'd resemble each others at all...

Beat.

Tessa sees the Arizona iced tea can on the table.

Tessa grabs it, she sits on the floor.

A breath. A beat.

The sun is continuing to slowly rise.
Illuminating the space in a way we haven't seen
yet tonight.

TESSA

The sun is almost up.

Beat. Beat.

Vulnerable.

JACQUELINE

But it's not all the way up yet.

LIZZY

No... not yet.

Vulnerable.

JACQUELINE

I'm not really ready for the sun to come up.

TESSA

I hope that... the sun doesn't come up too fast.

The sun keeps rising.

Genuine.

JACQUELINE

How do we make it slow down?

No one has an answer.

Then -

Tessa takes a sip of the Arizona Iced Tea...

A decision.

TESSA

Well, this is... *definitely* a Sauvignon Blanc.

Jacqueline sits down on the floor.

Jack takes the Arizona iced tea, sips it.

She decides that's true.

JACQUELINE

You know... I think you're right.

Jack looks at Liz.

Liz joins them on the floor.

She sips the tea.

She looks at her friends.

She also decides that's true.

LIZZY

I actually agree.

With a complicated sort of love.

LIZZY

It's a Sauvignon Blanc.

JACQUELINE

We're all drinking a sauvignon blanc.

For now...

They sit, all scattered on the floor of the ballroom...

The sun keeps rising.

End of play.