

FADE IN:

1 INT. DIANA'S BEDROOM - NIGHT**1**

Open on DIANA LEWIS, an enigmatic teenage girl. She's lying in bed, with sultry eyes, lips like a corpse's, and her nose red like they tend to get when they're cold.

She rolls over to the side of her bed and checks the time.

12:00 am.

She rolls back

PHOEBE
Can't sleep?

Suddenly, another girl appears in bed next to Diana, she obviously wasn't there before. She has brighter eyes and color to her cheeks. Something about her is intriguing, one can't help but feel drawn to her.

Diana turns to face PHOEBE, now face to face.

DIANA
Course not, you know me.

PHOEBE
Lol yea but I'm getting the feeling
that it's extra bad tonight

DIANA
(sitting up)
It's probably something I ate.

PHOEBE
(now appearing out of
bed, across the room)
Probably something your dad made.

DIANA
Nah, it's probably just that new
Sushi place he dragged me to.
That was so gross.

PHOEBE
Orrrrr something your dad MADE.

DIANA

Hey, ya know what? My dad is NOT that bad of a cook, he's just...experimental.

PHOEBE

You sure? 'Cause I don't think he was experimenting when he made us those nasty, ass eggs.

DIANA

Those were old.

PHOEBE

That doesn't excuse the fact that we were literally shitting for days.

DIANA

(with a laugh)

OH MY GOD! I literally missed two whole class periods 'cause I was stuck in the bathroom.

The girls spend a moment laughing together.

This is nice.

Sounds of muffled yelling interrupt the moment. A woman and a man in the room next door, Diana's parents.

PHOEBE

Oh my God, they're still fighting??

DIANA

Yea, probably just about finances and shit. We're broke.

Diana shrugs.

PHOEBE

Still? Haven't you guys been broke for like, a year?

DIANA

That's what they said. But if I'm being real with you I honestly just think they get a kick out of fighting with each other.

PHOEBE

Oh...they aren't...splitting...are they?

DIANA

No way, they've been together for 2 decades, God knows they would split less than a year before I go to college.

Diana falls back on the bed, and Phoebe disappears.

DIANA

It's kinda ironic though, cause like, I don't even really want to go to college.

PHOEBE

What? Why not? College is like the "key to an essential future". Didn't you learn ANYTHING from your mentorship program?

DIANA

Yea but like...I wanna be an author, you know that.

PHOEBE

You still need school for that.

DIANA

I didn't SAY school. I SAID college. But like, I just feel so bad 'cause they've been saving up for years just so I can go to UCLA or Columbia or something, and they're practically tearing each other apart over it, and...I don't even wanna go. Like, I don't care at ALL. (break)
I wonder what would happen if I just...left. Not much probably, I mean in a month I'll legally be able to own a house so...(break)
It'd honestly probably be easier for everyone, they'd be able to spend the thousands they've saved up to pay off the mortgage, and they wouldn't have to deal with me and my "crazy" mood swings.

Diana fiddles with her thumbs

PHOEBE

(in response)
So why don't you?

Phoebe is now across the room, facing Diana.

DIANA
Why don't I what?

PHOEBE
Run away, stupid!

DIANA
(confused)
What? Because- I have a LIFE, I have friends and of course I was exaggerating when I said my family wouldn't care for God's sake they'd probably call the police!! There'd be a state-wide search!

PHOEBE
Then get out of the state.

DIANA
Phoebe no! I was being completely hypothetical, I'm not gonna run away, like...I still love my parents, and I still wan-

PHOEBE
Okay okay okay, not forever, we won't run away FOREVER, just, a day, or a week, or a month, maybe a year if we really enjoy it.

DIANA
WE? I thought this was about ME.
Why are you so insistent on this?

Phoebe is now intimately close to Diana

PHOEBE
Because the truth is Diana, I want to run away too. I have for months. But like I said, not forever, just a little while, cause like, I still wanna go to college. With the inflation in this country, it's basically impossible to make any substantial amount of money without a college degree.

But like- I also wanna see the world, and I wanna GO places before it's too late. Before I'm stuck with three snotty kids in some lower-middle class house in a neighborhood full of druggies and harlots for the rest of my life.

DIANA

Phoebes-
You're being impulsive-
This isn't a good idea

PHOEBE

C'mon...Please? Just for a week, that's it. And- and- we can go to the city! Rent a motel room or sneak into the mall after hours and fall asleep.
C'mon, I know it's crazy but...
I know you want to got too

Diana thinks

and thinks

and thinks

and thinks

and thinks.

DIANA

One week?

PHOEBE

One week...or more, depending on what happens.

DIANA

(sighing)
...okay

Phoebe's face lights up

PHOEBE

Okay?! OKAY!!

The girls giggle and share smiles.

DIANA

Okay, just lemme grab a few things.

Diana turns around and shoves some things into her pack.

Such as:

A few loose dollars

Light makeup

A sweater and extra clothes

A bra

A notebook

A phone charger

As she's gathering her things, Phoebe disappears from sight.

Diana doesn't notice

DIANA
(to Phoebe)

I can't believe I'm doing this-
Like- this is the most insa-

D turns around

Where's Phoebe?

Diana stares into her room, like a deer in headlights.

Music intensifies as Diana stares.

What does she remember?

CUT TO

2 EXT. DIANA'S NEIGHBORHOOD - NIGHT

2

The girls are walking, laughing, and smiling. It feels like a dream

Phoebe shivers

DIANA
You cold?

PHOEBE
A lil bit, it's not that bad though.

DIANA

Phoebe, you're such a bullshitter!
You're like covered in goosebumps.
Here, I brought a sweater.

Diana sets down her bag and starts digging through it, she pulls out a big sweater and hands it to Phoebe, who puts it on.

It looks big and scratchy, sort of like something a Grandma would have. It's very camp.

Diana continues to dig through her bag, she's looking for something.

Phoebe examines the sweater, it's huge!

PHOEBE

(giggling)

Diana this thing is gigantic! Where the hell did you get it from?

Diana is barely paying attention, she's still digging through her bag.

DIANA

Uhh- Idk I think it was Sam's or something.

PHOEBE

SAM?? AND YOU STILL HAVE IT? Didn't you guys break up like ages ago?

DIANA

Uhm...yea
(under breath)
Where the fuck is-
shit

PHOEBE

(laughing)

Diana, you must be obsessed or something cause I ain't ever heard of a girl actively wearing her ex-boyfriend's sweater
AND JESUS how much did that dude weigh?? Goddamn, this thing could fit a titan!

Phoebe keeps ranting, not seeing Diana struggling to find whatever it is she needs to find.

DIANA

SHIT! Shit shit shit.

Diana tosses herself and any stuff she was holding onto the ground.

She sits back and almost starts to cry.

Phoebe finally notices.

PHOEBE
What? What happened?

DIANA
Nothing...I just-
Ugh
It's just...
I'm on my period.

PHOEBE
And???

DIANA
And I- I left my tampons at home.

PHOEBE
Do you have a pad?

DIANA
No.

PHOEBE
A menstrual cup?

DIANA
(shocked Phoebe would
even mention the mythical
menstrual cup)
NO.

Suddenly, Phoebe appears right next to Diana

PHOEBE
Okay well, it's really no big deal
at all we can just like- go to a
gas station or something and get
some.

DIANA
(annoyed with herself)

No, but it's like they're so expensive, and I'm already like broke, and...and UGH I could've just brought them from home and it would be so much easier and cheaper and it's just so stupid of me to forget something so important. Like, we need money for food and shit and I'm wasting it on stupid pads and UGH I just feel-

PHOEBE

(calming Diana down)

Hey hey, it's okay. Actually, it's like, whatever. Pads are totally essential and not a waste of money. And like goddamn if I ever remember to bring them anywhere, I always just end up wasting a quarter on the female vending machines. Seriously. It's okay.

Diana looks up at her, she doesn't believe Phoebe's reassurance but she's willing to put up with it.

DIANA

Actually?

PHOEBE

Yea, actually. Plus I could go for a can of Pringles.

Diana gives Phoebe a hug, practically knocking Phoebe down.

PHOEBE

Okay okay!! I know you're having really strong hormones right now but it's really not that big of a deal

DIANA

(wiping her tears)

Yeah hehe, I know.

Diana begins shoving her stuff back into her bag, and Phoebe helps.

Diana stays still for a moment

Thinking.

Finally, she grabs Phoebe's hand and they continue walking.

CUT TO:

3 INT. GAS STATION - NIGHT**3**

The girls shuffle through gas station snacks and drinks, making their way to the Women's Health section of the aisles.

The station is dimly lit and dirty, the floor is littered with dirt and trash.

Surprisingly, it's not empty. There are people, all of whom look extremely tired, but they're there.

They make their way throughout the station looking for their items. They seem ghostly in this dim-lit room. Alive but, not.

Their footsteps mimic that of ballroom dancers.

They laugh and sigh with each other as if they had just gotten married.

Their fantasies colorize the lights of the station to vibrant greens and purples. Their faces beam with bright makeup and extravagant hair.

Riches and glitter seem to surround them, but they only notice each other.

Looking into each other's eyes, they feel a euphoria that they've never felt before.

Music alludes to great symphonies and serene slumbers.

Nothing needs to change.

CASHIER
(calling out)
Are you two going to check out or
what?

The lights return to normal, the music stops, and they're back in their old clothing.

It's bleak.

They make their way to the check out and Diana pulls out a wad of cash from her pocket. It's damp and ripped.

They hand the wad over to the cashier, and without taking any change, they head out.

FADE TO:

4 EXT. ROADSIDE CURB - NIGHT

4

Phoebe and Diana sit on a roadside curb, eating their snacks and sticking out their thumbs to the few passing cars, trying to catch a ride.

It's calm. The sky seems to be the loudest thing awake tonight.

PHOEBE
(eating the Pringles)
UGH THESE ARE SO GOOD!

DIANA
Eh, I prefer Lays.

PHOEBE
What?? They're like not even comparable. Two completely separate things.
It's like gold vs. silver, one is OBVIOUSLY better.

DIANA
Yea, gold.

PHOEBE
I was talking about silver.

DIANA
Okay, I think you're just a little delusional because you're speaking nonsense right now.

PHOEBE
(playfully)
Hey, I'm not the one crying over a tampon.

DIANA
Lmao okay okay

It's silent for a moment.

Phoebe lays back down on the grass behind the road and begins looking at the sky.

The stars are ominously bright, it's pretty.

Suddenly, Phoebe is standing in the middle of the road, pointing at the sky.

PHOEBE
(pointing)
Hey, look! The Big Dipper!

DIANA
Oh wicked!!
And there's the Little Dipper right there!

PHOEBE
Lol, it's such a weird coincidence that there's a big dipper AND a little dipper.

DIANA
Lol, Phoebe are you high?

PHOEBE
No, I'm serious. Like is it not crazy to you that out of the INFINITE possibilities for the locations of the stars, they somehow end up forming exact recreations of each other, just one bigger than the other?

DIANA
I mean...I guess, but you and I are just as equally crazy to me.

PHOEBE
What do you mean?

DIANA
I MEEAANN, out of all the infinite possibilities for who we could be, we're ourselves.
Does that make sense??

Phoebe looks confused. Awkwardly shifting her gaze.

DIANA
Okay uhmm...

Diana picks up a stone from the ground and sits herself down.

Phoebe appears to sit next to her.

DIANA

Take this rock. This rock has been on Earth for who knows how long, probably billions of years. And for billions of years, it was probably attached to a bigger rock, until one day, it broke off, and it probably rolled through tons of desserts and down a bunch of hills, and it probably experienced World War II and 9/11 and the Great Depression and stuff and now...its here, in MY hand, on this night, at this time, in this universe. We are like this rock. You and I could be anywhere right now. Like, you could be some African chick living off of one meal a day, and I could be some Polish princess with a super rich dad and stuff and we would have never even met.

PHOEBE

Why am I the one dying in Africa??

DIANA

Phoebe that's not the point. The point is, I think it's insanely amazing that you and I are together. Right now, right here. Because if any of the other infinite possibilities occurred, you and I would've never met.

PHOEBE

Shit. That's pretty deep D.

DIANA

Yea. I know.

It's silent again.

Silence is nice. It always is.

DIANA

We're gonna be friends forever right?

PHOEBE

(shocked)

What? Of course! Why would you even ask such a stupid question?

DIANA
Lmao idk, just forget it.

PHOEBE
Yea like c'mon of course we're always gonna be friends.

...

PHOEBE
Unless you like totally and utterly betray me or something stupid like that.

DIANA
(laughing)
Lmao how would I even do that? Like, I can't ever imagine any sort of situation where I'd "betray" you. And even if I DID it'd only be because I had to or something.

PHOEBE
Lmao why would you ever HAVE to betray me? That's a choice, not a necessity.

DIANA
Okay but like, what if you were a drug addict or something? Or were going to kill yourself? And, you were like
(mocking)
"Don't you ever tell anyone it'll literally ruin my life."

Diana laughs, Phoebe tries to giggle but can't muster it.

PHOEBE
Well, I mean if I told you not to tell anyone you kinda...shouldn't

DIANA
Phoebes if you were literally going to commit suicide I'd tell someone.

Suddenly, Phoebe is behind Diana.

This time, Diana notices the change and swiftly turns to face Phoebe, distraught and confused. How'd she get there?

PHOEBE

D, you know I'm way too scared to ever ACTUALLY do that. It'd get solved by itself.

DIANA

Ho- Wh-

Whatever

DIANA

But what if it didn't

PHOEBE

But it would.

DIANA

But what if it didn't

PHOEBE

It would.

Diana turns her back to Phoebe

DIANA

Okay well, that's too much of a risk to take. If you died or left me I just- I- I don't know what I'd do.

(trying to change subjects)

Whatever it doesn't even matter, let's talk about something else.

Phoebe is suddenly directly in front of Diana.

Diana jumps.

DIANA

Can you PLEASE stop doing that?

PHOEBE

No! You can't just tell me that you're willing to ruin my life just because of the slight possibility that I might kill myself even though you KNOW I would never.

DIANA

Phoebes tons of people think they'd

(mocking)
 "never commit" and you know where
 those people are now?? Dead. Like
 I-

PHOEBE
 What if I had to go to a hospital?
 What if they kept me there for
 years? What if I was never allowed
 to see you again? What if my
 parents locked me in my room and
 never let me leave? What if I was
 introduced to this new kind of
 drug, or self-harm, or some pedo
 therapist tried to rub up on me
 HUH? Would that be BETTER? Would
 you be PROUD of yourself Diana?

DIANA
 ...at least I'd know you were
 alive.

Silence.

Phoebe walks over to Diana, they are once again, intimately
 close.

PHOEBE
 Why'd you do it?

DIANA
 (shocked, confused, etc.)
 What?

Diana's eyes begin to water as memories come flashing in.

PHOEBE
 Why'd you call the police? I was
 fine. Just a little upset.

DIANA
 (crying)
 I don't know I...I was scared. You
 said "goodbye" and I didn't know
 what to do. You had seemed serious
 that time and I...

PHOEBE
 I wasn't though. You know that.

close up, Diana.

DIANA

I just wanted you to get better.

Diana is bawling into her arms. It's ugly, there's snot and sweat, and her hands are covered in dirt from the ground.

Other than the sound of Diana's wails, it's silent.

Phoebe is gone.

She's not coming back.

Diana looks up and notices Phoebe's gone. With no idea where she went, she's sent into a panic.

Still crying, she begins running around the neighborhood, searching for Phoebe.

She gets lost in the abundance of trees and winding roads.

DIANA
(calling out)

Phoebe?

Phoebe?? Where are you?

I'm sorry! Please come back! I
didn't mean to...I-

I-

Please! I need you! Please come
back! Where are you? C'mon, this
isn't funny! I'm scared!

Diana continues searching, walking for hours

and hours

and hours

and hours

DISSOLVE TO:

5 EXT/INT. BUS STOP - NIGHT

5

Diana has been searching for hours. Her face is dripping with mascara and her legs are shaking. She's tired.

She finds a blue-lit bus stop and sits next to another boy who looks to be around her age. He's cute. With fluffy hair and a good body, he doesn't look very cool though. Dressed in what some would consider to be rags, he also appears extremely tired.

Sounds of rustling leaves and police sirens flood the scene. It isn't loud though, just a peaceful sort of quiet.

Not wanting to cause a scene, she tries to keep it together, holding in her tears and her pain.

Fail.

She bursts out in tears again, screaming and bawling. Ashamed, she turns away while doing so.

The boy turns towards her.

He hesitates for a moment,
and then...

FINN
Hey...are you okay?

DIANA
(barely able to speak
through the tears)
Yeah... yeah I'm just...

She bursts out again

FINN
Tough night huh? Yeah, me too. Just
got off the night shift.

Diana, both trying to distract herself and genuinely intrigued, continues the conversation, still crying.

DIANA
Night shift?? You look like you're
like...15.

FINN
Lol, 16 actually. And yeah it's
super young to work the night, but
the manager is my cousin and he
said he'd just pay me in cash.
Don't tell the IRS ha!

Diana stays silent. Her tears are dying down,

FINN
...That was a joke, it's legal. I
think...

DIANA
(sniffling)

Hehe no I don't care it's just...why the hell are you working the night shift at 16?

FINN

Tough times ya know? I got three siblings and both my parents are out of work so I'm kind of the breadwinner right now.

Diana turns to face him finally.

He jumps a little at the current state of Diana's face, but he isn't rude.

DIANA

Yea...I get it.

Looking at his face, she recognizes him.

DIANA

Hey.. what's your name?

FINN

Finn Smith, why?

Diana's face lights up

DIANA

FINN SMITH? HEY, I KNOW YOU!

FINN

You sure?

DIANA

YEA, WE PRACTICALLY GREW UP TOGETHER! I'M DIANA, DIANA LEWIS. YOU REMEMBER?

FINN

Wait OMG? DIANA? God sorry I didn't recognize you it's been so long.

DIANA

Yeah, it really has. I can't believe we never got back in touch.

FINN

Heh... yeah.

Finn is reluctant to agree.

DIANA

Hey, what's the matter?

FINN

Nothing it's just...to be honest
you were always kind pf a bitch to
me.

DIANA

What? No, I wasn't.

FINN

Lol yea, you were.

DIANA

C'mon, you used to ring my doorbell
like EVERY day and beg to play with
me.

FINN

Yeah, and we always ended up
playing Barbies.

DIANA

And you loved it!

FINN

Did I?
And I only ever hung out with you
so much because I had a major crush
on you.

DIANA

(in complete shock)
No way.

FINN

Heh. Way.

Diana is engaged

FINN

I remember I used to bring you
bouquets of dandelions I picked in
my front yard. You barely ever
actually took them from me, and I
think the one time you did you
ground them into "dandelion soup".

And I really only ever agreed to play Barbies because I knew it was what you wanted to do haha. I know we were just like 8 but I thought I was like a mini Romeo, and you were my Juliet. Or at least I IMAGINED you were.

DIANA

Oh my god, I can't believe I never figured it out.

FINN

Yea haha, You had no clue I liked you, I knew that. But I always tried to tell you in my cute little-kid-type ways. Like I remember making you paper hearts and passing them to you in class, and I always wanted to pick you for partners for the in-class activities. You didn't appreciate it though.

DIANA

Huh?

FINN

You told everyone I was weird and that I was "stalking" you. Which I mean, was true, but everyone ended up thinking I was crazy until like 7th grade. Idk if you remember why we stopped talking or not but one day I just woke up and decided "I don't need this bullshit anymore", and...I stopped calling, and ringing your doorbell, and bringing you flowers. Because even though I thought I was doing the right thing, I also knew you didn't appreciate it, and you never would. So I just...stopped. It was too much for me to always be worrying about being a "stalker" or trying to be the most romantic fourth grader ever.

DIANA

Jesus, I'm so sorry I did that. I like don't remember that at all.

FINN

Yeah, I know. And... it's okay. I let it go. I mean it was tough for me to accept it at first because I was like OBSESSED with you, and I can totally admit that. But, after a while, I just..let it go. And I'm doing just great now so, I think I did the right thing.

DIANA

Huh...

Diana is thinking again.

The bus starts to pull to the station, the headlights get brighter and brighter as it pulls in.

Finn sees it and begins to prepare to leave, gathering his thoughts.

DIANA

(trying to keep his attention)

Hey seriously...I'm sorry

FINN

(getting ready to leave)

Huh? Oh, it's totally chill, like I said, I'm doing great. And- I don't know why you're crying or why you're here so late but...It'll be okay. Sometimes, it's better to just...accept it ya know?

The bus pulls in

DIANA

Yeah..thanks.

Finn picks up his bags and leaves

Diana tries to catch him before he gets on

DIANA

Hey, we should talk again some-

He's gone

DIANA

time.

The bus leaves.

Diana looks around.

It's silent.

The glow from the light seems like it's glowing brighter than it was earlier. And there are even fewer cars than before. No one's out anymore

She gets up, takes her bag, and walks away.

MATCH CUT TO:

6 INT. DIANA'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

6

Diana walks into her room, it's still silent. She sets down her bag.

The room is still cluttered from when she left. There are piles of clothes and trashed makeup bags spread across the room.

The bathroom light is on, it's the one on. It feels sort of eerie but, in a good way. Kind of like when you're at a sleepover and you pull out the Ouija board. You're scared but...you don't wanna stop.

Without changing or anything, she gets into bed, under the covers. The same place she was at the beginning.

She rolls over to look at the clock.

4:00 am.

She rolls back and closes her eyes.

She has fallen asleep.

FADE TO BLACK.

Eliza Sible