

Lifeless Party

Written by

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FADE IN:

EXT. TOWNHOUSE APARTMENT - EVENING

Riley turns off their car. While exiting their car, Riley gets a phone call. They answer it while walking towards their apartment.

RILEY
Hey, what's up-

JORDAN (V.O.)
Lucy definitely knows you didn't invite her.

RILEY
That's what you're calling me for?
It's really not a big deal. I'll say I forgot or something. You know how she is.

JORDAN (V.O.)
She's not returning any of your messages. That doesn't worry you?

RILEY
Why should it? If she doesn't want to talk to me, that's her decision.

JORDAN (V.O.)
But-

Riley stops in front of their front door.

RILEY
I'm hanging up now. Byeaaaaa.

JORDAN (V.O.)
Hey, wait a minute-

Riley hangs the phone up and shoves it in their back pocket. They then unlock the apartment door.

INT. APARTMENT - DUSK

Riley closes the front door to their apartment and puts their things away. While doing so, they hear a knock at the door. Riley goes and opens the door. Lucy is standing outside.

RILEY
Hey Lucy, what are you doing here?

LUCY
Can I come in?

Lucy shoves past Riley, and Riley shuts the door.

RILEY (UNDER THEIR BREATH)
Yeah, I guess.

Lucy takes a seat on the couch and beckons Riley over.

Oh, it's alright. I'll stand. So...
what are you doing here? You didn't
respond to my texts.

LUCY
I was in the neighborhood.

The conversation is very awkward. Lucy is being short with
her words.

RILEY
Well, I kind of have something to do,
so if there is nothing else, I think
you should leave.

LUCY
Always so rude.

Riley scoffs in disbelief.

RILEY
I am not rude!

LUCY
Sure, then what are you doing tonight?

RILEY
I just have a lot of homework. Really,
nothing personal.

Lucy gets up and begins walking towards Riley.

LUCY
You're doing homework? On a Saturday?

Lucy gets really close to Riley's face. It is very tense.

LUCY (CONT'D)
Must be important.

Lucy leans back.

LUCY (CONT'D)
Can I at least use the bathroom before
I go?

RILEY
Yeah, fine, whatever. Then, you leave.

Lucy walks down the hall and enters the bathroom, closing the door behind her. Riley lets out a sigh and sits down on the couch. They get out their phone and scroll.

CROSS DISSOLVE:

15 minutes pass, and Riley checks the time on their phone.

RILEY (YELLS)
Everything alright in there?

Riley gets no response. They get up from the couch and walk towards the bathroom. They knock on the door.

RILEY (CONT'D)
Lucy? I'm coming in.

Riley pushes open the door to find an empty bathroom and the door to their bedroom open.

RILEY (CONT'D)
Hey! Who said you can go in there?
What the fuck?

Riley walks into the bedroom, pissed off, but finds nothing, except that the sliding glass door which leads outside has been left open. There's no sign of Lucy. Riley walks out onto the porch, looking for her.

RILEY (CONT'D)
Lucy, are you out here?

Riley gets no response and doesn't see Lucy anywhere. They go back inside, closing the door behind them. While Riley does this, they hear music begin to play from upstairs. This startles them. They quickly walk out of the bedroom and head up the stairs. They go into the upstairs room and turn off the speaker.

RILEY (CONT'D)
I hate this thing.

Riley starts to head out of the room and to the stairs. They hear the front door swing open. They go to look downstairs over the loft railing. They see an open door but no one is there.

RILEY (CONT'D)
Lucy? This isn't funny.

RILEY (UNDER THEIR BREATH)
So immature.

Riley takes a deep breath and slowly walks down the stairs. Once downstairs, Riley walks to the open front door and looks outside. They see nothing. Riley shuts the door and pulls out their phone. They send a text to Lucy.

RILEY (TEXT MESSAGE)
Where did you go?

Riley hears a text message notification coming somewhere from the back of the apartment. They whip their head around, looking freaked out.

RILEY
Did she leave her phone?

Riley gets up and heads to the back of the apartment. They find the phone on the floor right outside of the bathroom. Riley bends down to pick it up. Lucy steps out of the shower and walks up to Riley. Riley looks up at Lucy. Lucy stands above them, holding a metal bar. She kicks Riley in the face, and Riley falls back into the laundry room door.

LUCY
You really are a shitty friend, you know that?

Riley is disoriented. Lucy walks closer to Riley.

RILEY
Get away from me!

LUCY
I'll leave. I've just got to do one more thing.

RILEY
Lucy-

Lucy swings the bar back and hits Riley in the head.

CUT TO:

EXT. TOWNHOUSE APARTMENT - EVENING

Jordan and Abigail are walking up to Riley's apartment.

JORDAN

Let's just knock. They probably aren't checking their phone anymore since we were supposed to be here an hour ago.

ABIGAIL

I'm sorry, okay. I tried to get off work, but someone was sick.

They can hear music as they walk up to the door and knock.

JORDAN

You're right, sorry. Let's just try to enjoy this. I've been freaked out since Lucy stopped responding to everyone.

ABIGAIL

I know, but it's her fault. You can't get blackout drunk at every party.

Jordan knocks again.

JORDAN

I guess that's fair. Ugh, why aren't they answering the door?

ABIGAIL

Hm, maybe they can't hear over the music? Just go in. It's probably unlocked.

JORDAN

Isn't that a little rude?

ABIGAIL

Maybe a little, but we can't stand out here all night.

JORDAN

Alright, fine.

Jordan opens the door.

JORDAN

Riley-

Jordan and Abigail see Riley's dead body set up on the couch with a party hat on and a drink in one hand. Jordan and Abigail both scream.

CUT TO BLACK