

~~CHRIS~~

~~Yeah, you too.~~

~~Chris is skeptical. Missy shows Phil and Logan out. Andre and Phil leave.~~

~~DEAN~~

~~Let's do sparklers shall we?~~

~~Brighten the mood?~~

~~He gives Chris and Rose sparklers and to other people who light them.~~

~~ROSE~~

~~Let's go.~~

~~Rose takes Chris' hand.~~

~~MISSY~~

~~Anybody need a drink?~~

~~ROSE~~

~~We're going on a walk.~~

Rose grabs Chris' hand and leads him out the front door. The party guests in the living room, Dean and Missy included, go silent. As their sparklers burn they approach the window, watching Rose and Chris leave the front yard.

EXT. LAKESIDE - AFTERNOON

Rose and Chris walk by the lake. Their sparklers fizzle.

CHRIS

My cousin is epileptic. That wasn't a seizure.

ROSE

Honestly? That was one of the strangest things I've ever seen in my life.

CHRIS

Also, this is gonna sound weird, but when he got up in my face like that, I got the feeling like I knew that guy.

EXT. BACK YARD. SAME TIME

With Chris and Rose are away, the party guests have all gathered in the back yard facing Dean who stands by a large picture of Chris on an easel. Everyone is silent.

Dean raises his hand and makes numbers with his fingers: "Three and three." Several party guests raise their hands. Dean points to the Waldens.

This is an auction.

EXT. LAKESIDE - SAME TIME

CHRIS

Let's go back home tonight.

ROSE

What? Wait, no.

CHRIS

I'm just... Something doesn't feel right.

ROSE

You mean with us?

CHRIS

No. With this whole situation! I just... I can't explain but I need you to trust me. Let's just go. It doesn't even have to be a big deal.

ROSE

It is a big deal. It's my family. I wouldn't even know what to tell them.

INT. BACKYARD - SAME TIME

Dean raises his hand again making more numbers with his fingers: "4, 5."

Gordon Greene raises his hand. Dean points to him accepting his bid.

EXT. LAKESIDE - SAME TIME

ROSE

Yes, it's weird. There are a lot of ways I wish this was going different. I wish my brother wasn't a cock. I wish my parents friends were chill; but just because it's tough, it doesn't mean you run away...

Rose cries.

CHRIS

Baby, I--

ROSE

...I'm late.

CHRIS

Late?

ROSE

I should've got my period like last week.

CHRIS

Oh.

ROSE

I mean, I did change my birth control, so it could just be that, but...

Chris thinks silently.

ROSE (CONT'D)

So...?

CHRIS

I don't know what to say.

ROSE

Okay... Try any emotional response whatsoever.

He's silent. Rose wipes her tears.

ROSE (CONT'D)

If you wanna go then go. I'm not going to force you to stay but I'm not leaving.

EXT. BACKYARD - SAME TIME

The auction is flying now. Dean's hand signals are going fast. It's down to three couples.

Dean signals "5, 6." Mr. Greene raises his hand. Dean points.

Dean signals "5, 8." Mrs. Deets raises her hand. Dean points.

Dean signals "6." Jim Hudson raises both his hands and signals "10." His chauffeur stands beside him whispering in his ear. Dean points at him.

Dean scans the crowd signalling "10, 2?" "10, 2?" The crowd looks around. No one is challenging. Dean smiles. Finally Dean bangs his fist onto his open palm and points to Jim Hudson. Jim's chauffeur whispers in his ear.

The guests clap in a mixture of delight and disappointment.

EXT. LAKESIDE - DUSK

Chris and Rose sit watching the sunset over the lake. Chris kisses her hand. He hears the faint APPLAUSE in the distance. He looks in the direction of the house.

CHRIS

I told you about the night my mom
died. How I didn't call 911;
didn't go out looking for her.

ROSE

Baby--

CHRIS

One hour went by, then two,
three... I just sat there... I
just watched TV.

ROSE

It wasn't your fault--

CHRIS

I found out later she had survived
the initial hit.

CHRIS (CONT'D)

She laid there bleeding by the
side of the road all night, cold
and alone. And that's how she died
in the early morning... Cold and
alone. And I was watching TV.

(MORE)

CHRIS (CONT'D)

There was time. If someone was
looking for her, there was time.
But no one was looking.

Chris cries. Rose embraces him.

ROSE

You were just a kid.

CHRIS

Yeah... yeah. So, I'm not gonna
leave here without you. I'm not
going to abandon you. Never.

They share a moment of pure love.

ROSE

Fuck it. Come on. Let's go back
home.

CHRIS

Yeah?

ROSE

Yeah. I mean, you're right. This
sucks. I'll go back with you. I'll
make something up.

CHRIS

I love you.

ROSE

I love you too.

The two get up and walk back toward the house.

EXT. FRONT LAWN - DUSK

Chris and Rose approach the house as the last of the guests
get into their cars and drive off. The fireflies are out.

CHRIS

That was fast.

ROSE

Yeah.

The guests wave to Dean and Missy, who stand at the front
door, and then to Chris and Rose. Lisa Deets, the trophy wife,
is tipsy. Nelson is in their car.