

HALF-EMPTY

Written by

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1

EXT. BOSTON STREET - DAY

1

EVELYN DECKER (21) exits a school building. She walks down the street, holding books in one hand and her phone in the other. She accidentally swipes to the notification screen. It shows five disturbing headlines in a row.

"CNN: A SANDWICH NEARLY KILLED ME"

"WASHPO: FATHER OF 4 DEPORTED AFTER 30 YEARS IN US"

"NYTIMES: 93% OF THE AIR WE BREATHE IS POLLUTED"

"BUZZFEED: 13 TIMES GIGI HADID WENT BRALESS"

"NBC: 11 KILLED BY GUNMAN ON SEATTLE STREET."

Evelyn drops her phone into her coat pocket. She takes note of every movement around her. She's completely paranoid, her eyes dart from person to person. A WOMAN sips coffee. A TODDLER cries. An umbrella opens. A MAN walks towards her, he's about to sneeze. Evelyn stealthily ducks underneath it as it comes out in slow-motion. She leans against the building to avoid the germs. He passes and she breathes a sigh of relief.

A DRUGGED UP PERSON limps and yells at people. Evelyn crosses the street to avoid him, when a MAN passing by reaches into his pocket and pulls out...

Evelyn's eyes go wide.

The Man pulls out a gun and raises it. The street turns into complete chaos as people scream, duck, and run in different directions. He shoots everyone in sight.

Evelyn turns to run away and he shoots her in the back.

THE SCREEN GOES BLACK.

2

EXT. BOSTON STREET - CONTINUOUS

2

Everything is as it was right before the "shooting."

The MAN, instead, pulls out his CELLPHONE from his jacket pocket and raises it to his ear.

Beat.

MAN
Miss? Are you okay?

Some confused PEDESTRIANS have gathered around Evelyn, who lies on the ground. She clutches her stomach and groans in pain.

3 INT. THERAPISTS OFFICE - PRESENT DAY

3

Evelyn sits across from a psychologist, JOANNE, who sifts through paperwork on a clipboard. A PUPPY with a therapy vest on it that reads 'PET ME I'M CHESTER' runs around the room.

JOANNE

So I was told you're taking a semester off from college and starting our psychological treatment because you gave yourself... an ulcer?

EVELYN

That would be correct.

JOANNE

And how did that happen?

EVELYN

I have a tendency to constantly think about the worst case scenario for every given situation.

Joanne writes a note down.

EVELYN (CONT'D)

Which I was fine with, but then I learned anxiety can give you an ulcer and now I have anxiety about having anxiety.

JOANNE

Have you ever suffered from suicidal thoughts?

EVELYN

Noooo, no. I'm like, the opposite of suicidal. My whole life is trying to prevent death. I basically wish I was never born so I don't have to die.

JOANNE

What do you mean by that?

EVELYN

I think it's unfair fetuses aren't given a choice, ya know?

(MORE)

EVELYN (CONT'D)

Like how you see a commercial for a medication and it tells you the side effects. The commercial for life would be like:

(fast pace)

The things that can happen to you in life are: nausea, rape, murder, cancer, watching your family and friends die, alzheimers...

Beat.

EVELYN (CONT'D)

Personally, I'd be like you know what, that doesn't sound like it's for me. Thank you for the opportunity of life, but give it to the next person.

JOANNE

The unknown future is something you're going to have to try and be less aware of.

Joanne's puppy rubs up in between Evelyn's legs. Evelyn pets him and holds his face in her hands. He wags his tail.

EVELYN

But how do you not think about this
(in a baby voice) (at dog)
perfect little angel dying one day.

Joanne looks horrified.

JOANNE

When your mind goes to worst case scenario, I want you to practice saying something positive to yourself. It will help realign your brain to start living in the present. Only in the present can your mind be at ease.

EVELYN

No even worse things are happening in the present: mass incarceration, global warming, famine... Twitter.

Joanne starts to look exhausted.

EVELYN (CONT'D)

It's all bad. Future. Present. Don't even get me started on the past...

JOANNE

I am so glad you decided to come here. We have a *lot* of work to do, but I'm certain by the time you go back to school next semester, you will be a happier, more positive person.

TITLE CARD - HALF-EMPTY

4

INT. CLASSROOM - DAY - SIX MONTHS LATER

4

About TWENTY STUDENTS sit in desks in a semi-circle around the PROFESSOR. They're all exaggerated liberal arts school types: Flannels, offbeat haircuts, combat boots...

Evelyn looks bored and miserable as a GIRL speaks -

GIRL

(British accent)

I'm Julie, I'm a senior. I'm from London but I've lived in Maine since I was two.

(beat)

The best adjective that describes me is... creative. And my fun fact is I once met Tom Hanks at the airport.

The students make a collective "Ooooh" sound. A BOY begins his introduction.

BOY

I'm Luke. I'm a junior. I'm from Western Connecticut. I would say I'm... unique? And my fun fact is, I can solve a Rubix cube.

The class "ahhhhs." Evelyn's next. She's on her phone underneath her desk. She's reporting all of Emily Ratajkowski's (@EMRATA'S) Instagram photos.

The class looks at her expectedly. The professor clears her throat. Evelyn looks up and hides her phone.

EVELYN

What are the questions again?

PROFESSOR

We're saying our name, year, one adjective that best describes us and a fun fact about ourselves.

EVELYN
I'm Evelyn. Senior.
(beat)
My name isn't Evelyn senior, I just
am a senior.

Evelyn waits for a laugh. No one does.

EVELYN (CONT'D)
And I'm from LA.

Beat.

PROFESSOR
One adjective and a fun fact.

EVELYN
Can I skip those?

PROFESSOR
Um... No.

EVELYN
I can't name an adjective about
myself. It feels really
egotistical.

PROFESSOR
So perhaps you would say your
adjective is, "humble."

EVELYN
No if I said I was humble, I
wouldn't be humble.

PROFESSOR
You can't think of one adjective to
describe yourself?

EVELYN (V.O.)
Awful! Unpleasant. Hypersensitive.
Angry. Freakishly self-conscious.
Almost pretty but not.

EVELYN
No.

PROFESSOR
Okay, do a fun fact.

EVELYN
My fun fact is, I think naming a
fun fact about yourself is
embarrassing.

The class looks offended.

PROFESSOR

Al-righty!

An ARTSY STUDENT, who wears the same glasses as Evelyn, turns to her.

ARTSY STUDENT

I love your glasses, where did you get them?

EVELYN

Uh, I think I got them at the optometrist.

ARTSY STUDENT

Oh. They're for seeing?

EVELYN

Yeah... What kind of person wears fake glasses?

ARTSY STUDENT

(insulted)

They're not fake, they're *real* glasses. They're just not prescription.

(beat)

That sucks you actually need them though.

EVELYN

Obviously I need them. It's not like this looks cool?

ARTSY STUDENT

I mean, everyone else seems to think otherwise.

Evelyn looks around to sees all of the students around her wearing the same style of fake glasses.

5

INT. EVELYN'S APARTMENT - LIVING AREA - LATE AFTERNOON

5

On the smaller side, with an open layout. A tiny kitchen overlooks a couch and table.

Evelyn's black, gay, and intimidatingly stylish roommate/cousin HUNTER (21) sits on the couch. They tolerate each other because they're family, but Evelyn and her anxieties are a huge pain in his ass.

Hunter's friend AMELIA (21, fake glasses) sits next to him. She stares at a picture on her phone of her and friends gathered in front of their school sign "HENDRICKSON COLLEGE."

AMELIA

Should I just give up and make the caption emojis?

HUNTER

No, emojis are for the weak. We're not giving up yet.

AMELIA

(awkward)

What about, "we back" ... "in this bitch."

HUNTER

...That makes me wanna die.

AMELIA

This girl I know is so lucky. She's in China for her semester abroad and she can just make all of her captions Chinese symbols and never has to think of anything.

Evelyn enters.

EVELYN

Ugh.

HUNTER

Same.

AMELIA

Oh my God, you're back! How was rehab? I've never been but have always wanted to go.

EVELYN

It wasn't rehab. It was, a mild psychological treatment.

HUNTER

Nothing a little R&R can't fix.
(under his breath)
Priiiiivilege...

EVELYN

You're literally my cousin.

AMELIA
That's really cool. Girl
Interrupted is my favorite movie.

Evelyn looks at her dubiously.

EVELYN
Have you always had glasses?

AMELIA
No, I got them this summer. Cute,
right?

EVELYN
No. Now people think I'm like every
other pretentious art school kid
here wearing fake glasses to be
trendy. Like is it cultural
appropriation? Maybe, yeah.

HUNTER
Um no. There's no *glasses culture*.

EVELYN
I'm just saying it's wrong to turn
a handicap like bad vision into a
fashion statement. I don't think
people who need canes would be very
happy to see people using them to
look cool.

AMELIA
Snoop Dogg has a cane. Scott Disick
has a cane.
(beat)
Madonna wore a cane. Jared Leto
wore a cane.

HUNTER
(sarcastic)
Maybe you should wear a cane to the
party.

AMELIA
Maybe I should.

EVELYN
What party?

HUNTER
First party of the semester. Gonna
be so lit.
(twerks)
Wanna come?

EVELYN

Would rather not leave the safety of this apartment to surround myself with sweaty, offensive strangers.

HUNTER

I was kidding, you haven't come out once in the past three years.

EVELYN

No I went to one.

HUNTER

That wasn't a party that was an orientation event.

EVELYN

Oh. Well there were people there.

Hunter and Amelia go back on their phones. Hunter FaceTunes a photo of himself holding a baby. He FaceTunes his legs to be thinner and then the baby's nose to be smaller.

EVELYN (CONT'D)

Okay I'm going to shower.

Evelyn exits.

AMELIA

(to Hunter)

I'm making the caption,
"appropriating glasses culture."

6 INT. EVELYN'S APARTMENT - BATHROOM - EVENING

6

A small bathroom with old tiles and a shower/tub combo. Evelyn stands in a towel and stares at the bathroom lock.

She locks it.

SUPERIMPOSE: Thought bubble. Evelyn's in the shower. Suddenly, she slips and hits her head on the tub. She's unconscious. Hunter tries to open the bathroom door but it's locked. He walks away. She's left to bleed out.

END SUPERIMPOSE.

Evelyn unlocks the door. She thinks...

SUPERIMPOSE: Evelyn's in the shower. Hunter is tied up to a chair, while an INTRUDER puts tape over his mouth.

The intruder then opens the bathroom door with ease and walks right in. He pushes the shower curtain over to the side creepily.

END SUPERIMPOSE.

Evelyn re-locks the bathroom door. She groans as...

SUPERIMPOSE: The apartment is on fire. Hunter tries to open the bathroom door to get her but it's locked and she can't hear him over the water. The apartment gets too smokey and he's forced to leave. Evelyn obliviously shampoos her hair while the apartment goes up in flames.

END SUPERIMPOSE

Evelyn groans. She leans her head back against the wall and takes a deep breath.

Her phone DINGS. It's an unread e-mail. She opens it:

Hope you're having a great first day back at school! Here is the list we talked about of goals to accomplish in order to have a happy, healthy semester. Let me know when you've crossed some off! Joanne.

ANXIETY FREE TO DO LIST:

Evelyn rolls her eyes.

1. Leave your apartment! Participate in college extracurricular activities.
2. Go to a party! Take advantage of campus life. You only go to college once (YOGOCO)!
3. Make a friend! Having friends to talk to can help lighten the load of life.
4. Meditate. Train your mind to let go and your anxieties will walk out the door.
5. Doodle! If you feel anxiety coming on take a pen to paper. Drawing is a fast way to get to relaxation."

The list goes on... Evelyn looks back at the shower and then to the lock on the door.

She looks back down at the list and sighs.

7

INT. HUNTER'S ROOM - EVENING

7

Hunter sits at his desk. He looks back and forth from @LILMIQUELA's photos on Instagram, to his face in the mirror. He pulls his cheekbones back with his hands to stretch out his face. He drops them. Repeat.

EVELYN

I'm coming to the party.

HUNTER

You're. Coming? To the party.

EVELYN

(unenthused)

Yeah.

HUNTER

Seriously? I'm shooketh. Why?

EVELYN

Just want to, participate in the college experience.

HUNTER

You're being weird.

EVELYN

So can I come?

HUNTER

Uh sure. Okay yeah.

(then)

Full disclosure, Andrew is always at these parties.

EVELYN

Oh. That's fine? Right?

HUNTER

You tell me. For all he knows you're still dating.

EVELYN

No it was so early on it would have been weird for me to be like, "I'm leaving." He would've been like, "Whoa, you're not my girlfriend, you don't have to update me with your every move."

HUNTER

Is he an Aquarius?

Evelyn shrugs.

HUNTER (CONT'D)
Few notes before we go.

EVELYN
Let's hear em.

HUNTER
Be nice to people.

EVELYN
Obviously.

HUNTER
It's not obvious.
(beat)
And be fun.

EVELYN
You can't tell someone to be fun.
It then makes it impossible to have
fun. It's like telling someone to
relax.

HUNTER
Yes that too! Be fun and relax.

8 INT. APARTMENT - LIVING AREA - CONTINUOUS

8

Hunter and Amelia down a shot. Evelyn enters. Hunter gestures to a shot glass on the table.

HUNTER
For you.

Evelyn takes a tiny sip of her shot and shudders.

HUNTER (CONT'D)
You look different. Did you get a
haircut?

Hunter tilts his head.

AMELIA
Did you get contacts?

EVELYN
No that's horrifying. I'm just not
wearing my glasses.

HUNTER

You'd really rather be blind than
look like some of your classmates?

EVELYN

Definitely. It'll be fine. It's
like having a superpower. But
instead of me being invisible I've
made others invisible because
they're so annoying.

9 INT. HOUSE - PARTY - NIGHT

9

A group of artsy BOYS do their best to act fratty. GIRLS with
an array of florescent colored dyed hair and facial piercings
scream the lyrics to nineties alternative hits.

Evelyn squints her eyes to see the party. Her, Hunter and
Amelia watch the dance floor.

EVELYN

(to Hunter)

So what now? We just stand here?

HUNTER

You're supposed to dance and stuff.
That's what *parties* are for.

EVELYN

My body wouldn't even obey the
order. Everyone here should
consider themselves lucky to be
able to turn their brains off and
go -

The song changes. Hunter and Amelia run off to the dance
floor.

EVELYN (CONT'D)

Dance...

Evelyn stands alone for a moment, uncomfortably. She squints
and sees through blurred vision a table with handles and red
solo cups.

10 INT. PARTY - CONTINUOUS

10

All of the handles are empty. Evelyn picks one up and sets it
back down. TWO GIRLS IN HEELS make cocktails.

EVELYN

So what's there to drink here?

GIRL ONE
It's BYOB.

EVELYN
Cool, cool, cool, cool.

One girl finishes pouring her drink.

EVELYN (CONT'D)
Do you guys go to Hendrickson?

GIRL ONE
Nooo BU. Our friend is hooking up
with someone here and made us come.

GIRL TWO
(looks around)
Everyone's super weird and artsy...

EVELYN
Trust me I know, I go here and
think it's the worst. You're lucky
this isn't an open mic.

They laugh.

GIRL ONE
If you hate it so much why don't
you transfer?

EVELYN
I'd probably hate anywhere I'd go.
Plus they have a really good
writing program.

Beat.

GIRL ONE
Oh, babe.
(beat, serious)
Do you really think the world needs
more white writers?

EVELYN
Uh... Probably not. But you know,
sorry I'm white and I want to
write?

The girl looks at her disapprovingly.

EVELYN (CONT'D)

I'm with you. It's one of the most self-involved things a person can do. I just actually have no other skills.

GIRL TWO

That sucks I'm sorry.

Awkward silence.

Evelyn notices the girls heels.

EVELYN

Whoa your heels are so high.

GIRL ONE

Thanks.

GIRL TWO

Thank you!

EVELYN

What if you need to run away?

GIRL TWO

What would we need to run away from?

EVELYN

Uh... danger?

GIRL ONE

I walk fine in these.

EVELYN

I don't think girls should ever wear heels. All they do is slow us down. If anything men should be the one's to wear heels to make *them* slower. *They're* the ones doing most of the chasing.

Evelyn shows off the sneakers on her feet.

EVELYN (CONT'D)

I always wear sneakers, so I'm not at a disadvantage.

GIRL TWO

Well sneakers don't make you look hot.

Evelyn's offended for a moment but drops it.

EVELYN

If anything that's just another advantage of them. The hotter you look the more someone might want to chase you.

GIRL IN HEELS

(appalled)

You're not supposed to think that way... That's literally the definition of rape culture.

EVELYN

I know. But you still have to *think* like a rapist to *beat* a rapist.

Evelyn taps her noggin. The girls trot away, disgusted.

Right behind where they once stood is ANDREW (21) tall and nerdy but cute. They're close enough where Evelyn is able to recognize him. They make direct eye contact, but Andrew averts his eyes.

EVELYN (CONT'D)

Well look who it is!

Andrew passively nods.

EVELYN (CONT'D)

I'm sure it's no surprise, but you're the only person I know here.

Andrew stares blankly.

EVELYN (CONT'D)

It's good to see you!

ANDREW

No offense, but I don't really feel like talking to you.

Beat.

EVELYN

Wait really?

ANDREW

Yeah, sorry I'm not going to make this an easy ghosting experience for you.

EVELYN

What does that mean?

ANDREW

When someone decides to never speak to you again, you have a choice. You can either make it an easy experience for the Ghoster by pretending it never happened, letting them completely off the hook. Or you can punish them by behaving as though you were ghosted.

EVELYN

So you're going to haunt me for ghosting you?

ANDREW

Yeah, I guess I am.

EVELYN

Wait. I'm sorry. I didn't even think-

Evelyn scrambles for what to say. Andrew starts to turn around.

EVELYN (CONT'D)

If it changes anything, I *really* wasn't on my phone that whole time.

ANDREW

Everyone is always on their phones!

Andrew walks away.

11 EXT. HOUSE - PATIO - CONTINUOUS

11

There are about TWENTY STUDENTS smoking cigarettes outside. Evelyn approaches a group of SMOKERS, who wear the same thrifted style mistaking bizarre for cool.

EVELYN

Hey, could I bum a cigarette?

SMOKER ONE

No.

EVELYN

Just no. Not even gonna give an excuse?

He shrugs.

EVELYN (CONT'D)

I respect that.

(beat)(to another group)

Do any of you have a cig I can have?

EIGHT SMOKERS all at the same time say:

SMOKERS

Sorry it's my last one.

Evelyn walks over to another group of KIDS smoking.

EVELYN

I'll pay a dollar for a cigarette.
Anyone?

A smoker, FREDDIE, hands Evelyn a cigarette. She puts it in her mouth and he lights it for her.

EVELYN (CONT'D)

I actually don't smoke. I just don't know what to do with myself here.

SMOKER TWO

Feel that.

FREDDIE

I'm jealous. I need to cut down.

EVELYN

It doesn't matter. I just read an article that the occasional social cigarette is just as deadly as smoking a pack a day.

SMOKER THREE

I'm going to quit after graduation.

SMOKER TWO

I'm quitting the first May after I get a job.

FREDDIE

I'm quitting once I move to LA. I read smokers make less money there because people think less of them.

Evelyn holds her cigarette without smoking it.

EVELYN

Smokers are stereotyped as fuckups but I highly respect smokers.

(MORE)

EVELYN (CONT'D)
They're risking their lives!
(beat)
Mountain climbers risk their
lives... *They're* praised.

SMOKER TWO
You know what. You're right. We're
taking a risk most people are too
afraid to take.

SMOKER THREE
Yeah! Like firemen.

FREDDIE
Wow, we really are brave!

EVELYN
(cringing)
Don't say that.

SMOKER THREE
Why? We're agreeing with you.

EVELYN
*I can call you brave, but you can't
call yourself brave. Just like you
could call me smart for coming up
with that theory, but a smart
person would never call themselves
smart.*

SMOKER TWO
You *just* called yourself smart.

EVELYN
No, you don't get it.

A DRUNK GUY approaches Evelyn.

DRUNK GUY
Do you have a cigarette?

EVELYN
No I got it from someone else.

DRUNK GUY
Oh shit you were in my class last
year.

EVELYN
Oh. Yeah! How are you?

DRUNK GUY

You were in my group and bailed on us two days before our presentation! All of our fucking posters were in your apartment.

EVELYN

Oh God.

DRUNK GUY

You brought my average down 7 points.

EVELYN

You know what, I don't think that was me now that I think about it. I'm a very studious person.

Evelyn puts out her cigarette.

SMOKER TWO

(mocking)

A studious person would never call themselves studious.

Evelyn backs up right into the girl with heels. Her heel gets stuck on a small rock. She screams as she topples over dramatically.

EVELYN

Ah fuck I'm so sorry!

She hits the floor. Evelyn reaches down to help her, but she refuses Evelyn's hand.

EVELYN (CONT'D)

To be fair this probably wouldn't have happened in sneakers.

The drunk guy helps the girl in heels up, as they both shoot Evelyn dirty looks. Evelyn scurries back into the party.

KATIE

(to drunk guy)

I think she's a rapist.

12 INT. HOUSE - PARTY - LATER

12

Hunter and Amelia dance in a crowd of people. From across the room Evelyn squints and yells:

EVELYN

Hunter? Hunter?

Amelia and Hunter hear and turn to Evelyn.

HUNTER
Shit she's gonna make us leave.

AMELIA
 But I'm not ready!

HUNTER
 Me neither!

Evelyn moves closer to where Hunter is but everyone is blurry.

Amelia is about to call out to her when Hunter puts his hand over her mouth from behind.

HUNTER (CONT'D)
 (whispers in her ear)
 She can't see us.

Evelyn walks right in front of them as they stay still.

Once she passes they enthusiastically dance again.

13 INT. PARTY - BEDROOM - NIGHT 13

Evelyn opens a door. There are two people making out on the bed. She squints her eyes.

EVELYN
 Hunter?

14 INT. PARTY - HALLWAY - NIGHT 14

Evelyn walks through a tight hallway jammed with people.

EVELYN
 Does anyone know Hunter and if so,
 has anyone seen him?

No response.

15 INT. HALLWAY - NIGHT 15

Girls wait in a long line for the bathroom. Evelyn walks up to the bathroom door and knocks.

EVELYN
 Hunter? Are you in there?

16 INT. BATHROOM - NIGHT

16

Three BOYS do lines of coke off the sink, while Evelyn aggressively KNOCKS on the door. BOY ONE does a line and jerks his head up.

BOY ONE
(screams out)
We're taking a shit!

Beat.

BOY TWO
(deadpan)
We're?

17 EXT. HOUSE PARTY - NIGHT - LATER

17

Evelyn calls Hunter on her phone for the twentieth time.

SUPERIMPOSE: an old text from "MOTHER, FUCKER" of an article entitled "DO CELLPHONES CAUSE BRAIN CANCER?" with a text underneath that says: *ALWAYS* use speaker phone!"

Evelyn puts the call on speaker. Still no answer.

She decides to look up the closest T station on her phone.

SUPERIMPOSE: A slide-show of past Apple news headlines:
"THREE PUSHED IN FRONT OF TRAIN ON LONDON METRO" "MAN STABS WOMAN ON F TRAIN" "BOMB SET OFF AT PORT AUTHORITY STATION"
"TRAIN DERAILED - 14 KILLED" "SIX TIMES MORE GERMS ON TRAINS THAN TOILETS"

END SUPERIMPOSE.

She exits out and opens the Uber app. She waits for it to load when...

SUPERIMPOSE: Evelyn imagines being in the backseat of the Uber. She looks at the map on her phone and notices the driver is going the wrong direction.

EVELYN
Um... Sir this isn't the right way.

The driver ignores her and slams his foot on the gas pedal.

EVELYN (CONT'D)
(terrified)
Can you pull over? This is fine right here!

The driver ignores her and locks all of the doors. She panics and aggressively pulls on the door handle. The driver has an evil look on his face.

END SUPERIMPOSE.

18 INT. HOUSE PARTY - CONTINUOUS

18

Evelyn re-enters the party. It's cramped, steamy and blurry inside. Evelyn looks disgusted moving her way through people. Thankfully Andrew is in the same place she left him. He fills up his beer from a keg.

She approaches him from behind.

EVELYN

Hey you!

Andrew is startled, he loses control of the nozzle and it squirts beer onto his pants and the floor. He groans.

EVELYN (CONT'D)

How much longer are you planning on staying here?

ANDREW

Uh... I don't know. Why?

EVELYN

Would you, want to leave together?

Andrew processes this.

ANDREW

Are you being serious?

EVELYN

Yes.

ANDREW

Why are you asking me this?

EVELYN

Cause... I... uh,
(awkward)
miss... ya.

Beat.

ANDREW

I don't think it's a good idea.

EVELYN
Why? Actually you can tell me why
you don't think it's a good idea on
the ride back.

Evelyn gestures to leave.

ANDREW
(reluctantly)
We, can't.

EVELYN
We can. We should.

ANDREW
Listen, Evy... Obviously our sexual
chemistry is palpable.

EVELYN
Ew please don't say palpable.

ANDREW
But you don't get to just like,
have sex with me now.

Beat.

EVELYN
Right, that's fine. But let's just
drive back together and catch up?
We don't need to do anything...

ANDREW
We both know that won't happen.

EVELYN
MMhmmmm.

Andrew touches her shoulder.

ANDREW
Goodnight.

He walks back over to his friends.

ANDREW (CONT'D)
(smug)(smiling)
They always come crawling back.

19 EXT. PARTY - CONTINUOUS

19

Evelyn stands alone outside, once again. A group of girls, all in heels, waddle away together on the sidewalk at the pace of snails.

Evelyn looks down at her sneakers.

She looks at the closest street sign but it's too blurry to make out. She pulls out her phone, clicks on the camera and zooms in on the sign to read it. She puts the address into MAPS and gets directions home. It's a fifteen minute walk. She looks up and takes a deep breath.

EVELYN (V.O.)
You're gonna die.

EVELYN (V.O.)
No people walk home all the time.
It's why we have legs! This is a
normal thing people do. It's so
fine! I'm fine.

20 EXT. STREET - NIGHT - LATER

20

Evelyn anxiously speed walks in the dead of night. She pretends to talk to someone on the phone.

EVELYN
(loudly into phone)
I mean being able to stab that
bastard was worth the six months in
juvie!

MAPS (V.O.)
(loudly)
Turn right onto Boylston Street.

Evelyn looks around to make sure the fake conversation is keeping her safe from strangers. No one is around.

21 EXT. STREET - NIGHT - LATER

21

Evelyn starts to hear FOOTSTEPS behind her. She hastens into a zig zag formation.

EVELYN
(into phone)(her voice
trembles)
Yeah I'm still strapped. I never
leave the house without the
(MORE)

EVELYN (CONT'D)
 (struggles to think)
 glock in my rari.

She looks behind her to see a BLURRY MAN. Evelyn looks terrified.

The footsteps become faster and begin to match her speed. They both begin to jog.

EVELYN (V.O.)
 Well, you're about to be raped and murdered. You might as well stop running...

Evelyn remembers...

JOANNE (V.O.)
 When your mind goes to worst case scenario you need to practice saying something positive to yourself.

EVELYN (V.O.)
 Positive... Something positive about this situation.

She runs.

EVELYN (V.O.)
 Nothing is positive about being raped or murdered! If I could think of something I would be a really fucked up person.
 (beat)
 I guess it's positive that I'm not a fucked up person..?

22 EXT. STREET - NIGHT - CONTINUOUS

22

She sprints.

EVELYN (V.O.)
 At least you won't have to worry anymore about how and when you're going to die. Murder isn't the worst way... Drowning might be worse. A lot of diseases would be worse.
 (beat)
 I won't have to do homework anymore...

23 EXT. STREET NIGHT - CONTINUOUS 23

Evelyn runs down a street. Through blurred vision, she sees the lights of a luxury apartment building up ahead. She stops for a second to catch her breath and turns around to see the blurry man still on her tail. She darts towards the apartment.

24 EXT. LUXURY APARTMENT BUILDING - CONTINUOUS 24

Evelyn tries to open the glass door, but it's locked. She bangs on the door.

A wise looking, old DOORMAN approaches, he's frightened.

EVELYN

Let me in! Please! I'm being
chased! He's going to kill me!

The doorman looks at her suspiciously.

EVELYN (CONT'D)

He's about to catch up! *Hurry!*

The Doorman opens the door for Evelyn, she bursts in.

25 INT. LUXURY APARTMENT BUILDING - LOBBY - CONTINUOUS 25

DOORMAN

Should I call the police?

EVELYN

Yeah *duh!*

The doorman dials 911. Evelyn is still panicking and out of breath.

They cautiously look out the doors.

Right then, the Blurry Man jogs up in front of the glass doors.

EVELYN (CONT'D)

(horrified)

That's him!

He stops, pulls out a Nalgene water bottle from his fanny pack and gulps it down.

Evelyn can see him up close now. He has on headphones, a sweatband and other running gear. He tucks his water back away, runs in place for a moment and jogs off.

The Doorman skeptically looks at Evelyn.

DOORMAN

The jogger?

Evelyn bites her lip until it makes a squeaky noise. Police sirens can be heard in the distance.

EVELYN

Classic mixup.

The cop car pulls up in front of the glass doors, the red and blue lights reflect on Evelyn's face.

26

INT. EVELYN'S APARTMENT - NIGHT - LATER

26

Evelyn turns the key and enters her apartment, exhausted. She locks the door behind her and tosses her keys onto the kitchen counter.

Hunter and his FRIENDS sit around the coffee table, laughing and drinking. They suddenly stop what they're doing.

EVELYN

What the fuck? Where were you? I looked all over for you!

HUNTER

I went looking for you when we were ready to leave. Everyone said you left! So weird.

EVELYN

I called you a hundred times!

HUNTER

Oh. Yeah I've been trying not to be on my phone while I'm out.

EVELYN

Everyone's always on their phones!

Hunter slyly blocks Evelyn's Instagram account from seeing his story.

Evelyn storms into the kitchen. All of Hunter's friends are on their phones. Evelyn picks up her glasses and puts them back on.

FRIEND ONE

Is my story too long?

FRIEND TWO

Let me check.

FRIEND THREE

Same.

They all click through the same eight Instagram stories: a group mirror pic, a 360 video of the party, Hunter dancing, other people dancing and "wooing," a Wes Anderson movie playing on a projector, etc.

FRIEND TWO

Wait I wish you tagged me in this video, now I can't repost it.

FRIEND THREE

I think it's too long.

HUNTER

Don't delete it I love it of me.

FRIEND FOUR

It's not too long, it's just too drunk.

FRIEND ONE

Fuck I can't delete it now, Conor already watched it. Wait what the fuck he used to be the first name, now he's seventh on the list!

FRIEND THREE

What does that mean?

FRIEND FOUR

(to friend three)

He stopped engaging with her profile as much.

HUNTER

(to friend one)

I think the algorithm includes DM-ing, so maybe you've just been DM-ing less.

FRIEND TWO

(to friend three)

No one actually knows what it means, we just know it's bad.

Evelyn walks towards her bedroom, passing the living room.

FRIEND TWO (CONT'D)
 (has fake glasses on)
 Oooh I love your glasses!

Beat.

EVELYN
 Thanks.

27 INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

27

Evelyn's in bed. She puts headphones into her ears and scrolls through ten different meditation apps on her phone. She clicks on a sleep meditation and closes her eyes.

SLEEP MEDITATION
 You are standing in the middle of a peaceful meadow on a pleasant day.

She takes a deep breath.

28 EXT. MEADOW - DAY

28

Evelyn stands in the middle of a beautiful meadow.

SLEEP MEDITATION
 You walk through the trees. It's lush and green.

Trees appear. The sun shines through the branches. Evelyn walks.

SLEEP MEDITATION (CONT'D)
 Find a clearing where you can sit down and take in the beauty.

Evelyn finds a nice spot. She sits down and takes in her surroundings. She's relaxed.

SLEEP MEDITATION (CONT'D)
 See the blue sky above you. Watch the clouds drift slowly by.

Evelyn looks up at the clouds in the sky.

SLEEP MEDITATION (CONT'D)
 You can hear the birds chirping...

Small, perfect Cinderella-type birds chirp and dance around Evelyn delicately. She smiles.

Then more and more birds begin to swarm around her. At first they are sweet, but suddenly the sheer number of them becomes intensely overwhelming.

Suddenly, they transform into large, terrifying BLACK CROWS. They aggressively start to peck at her.

Evelyn gets up and tries to run away but they follow, biting every part of her and pulling at her hair. She winces in pain.

29

INT. EVELYN'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

29

Evelyn opens her eyes and immediately pulls out her headphones. She drops her arms down next to her in aggravation.

END.