

INDEPENDENT LIVING

1X14

"Big Trouble?"

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TEASER

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FADE IN:

INT. APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Aaron, Jack and Christine sitting on couch talking.

AARON

This is really bad.

CHRISTINE

Why would you have Jessica over  
after what Sarah told you.

JACK

I don't know what I was thinking.  
Jessica said she would be gone by  
the time you guys got back and  
then bang, you guys were here. I  
don't know what went wrong.

AARON

Well something went wrong, I think  
that's the last time we have a  
party for a very long time.

JACK

So how did your dinner go with  
Melissa?

AARON

I got the cold shoulder for most  
of the night, she kept questioning  
why I would let Jessica in and why  
I would not talk you into her  
going home.

JACK

Twenty questions?

AARON

You think. C'mon you think  
otherwise.

JACK

It wouldn't surprise me.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

CHRISTINE

So you got the bitch side just for being there?

AARON

Why is this so hard to comprehend?

JACK

This is Melissa we're talking about.

AARON

Look she's okay now, she's no longer mad at me, but I think Sarah's a little more than mad at you Jack.

JACK

Yeah, I screwed up, really bad at that.

AARON

Hey we all make mistakes, it's just how we deal with them that determines the outcome of them.

JACK

You're right, I'm going to go down to Kingston Lounge right now and make everything better.

Jack gets up and walks out the front door.

CHRISTINE

He has no chance of everything being better.

AARON

I know.

INT. KINGSTON LOUNGE - MORNING

Sarah is sitting at table with her work uniform on as Jack comes walking up to her and sits down at table.

JACK

Hey are you still mad at me?

SARAH

What do you really think, use your brain.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

JACK  
I'll take that as a yes.

SARAH  
I don't know what you expect me to think or even do after this one.

JACK  
I don't know what you think happened. Nothing happened.

SARAH  
I understand that, but I told you not to see her anymore or we had to end, now I have to decide what to do.

JACK  
Do nothing, I'm sorry, you're sorry, all's better.

SARAH  
It doesn't work that way, you think this is one big joke don't you?

JACK  
No, I know that you're very serious.

SARAH  
Look, just give me time to make my decision.

BLACK OUT.

END OF TEASER

**ACT ONE**

FADE IN:

INT. APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - LATER

Aaron and Melissa are watching Television, while sitting on the couch.

MELISSA

So what time is everybody suppose to be home?

AARON

Who cares, why does it matter?

MELISSA

Because I want to buy tickets to the Sarah and Jack fight.

AARON

Well that fight is over, I think, I'll let you know how much front row seats are.

Doorbell rings, and Aaron gets up and answers the door to see Stacy Werwig standing at it.

STACY

Hey Aaron, long time.

MELISSA

Who's at the door sweetheart?

AARON

It's nobody.

MELISSA

Nobody doesn't talk.

STACY

I'm not disturbing you am I? What is she your girlfriend.

Stacy walks into the apartment and sits down on the chair.

AARON

Just come in and make yourself comfortable. Why are you here?

MELISSA

Who is this?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

STACY

Hi, I'm Stacy, Aaron's long time ex-girlfriend from high school.

AARON

Long, long time ago.

STACY

Well it was only about three years ago.

AARON

Only three years ago, it seems like decades ago.

MELISSA

I believe she said three years ago.

STACY

I'm sure he talks about me all the time.

MELISSA

Actually he has never really mentioned you at all, never.

STACY

Really, wow, that's weird.

AARON

No it's not, it's really not, go home now, please, why are you here?

MELISSA

I would love to know all about who you are.

AARON

No you wouldn't, she's so much of the past, she doesn't exist anymore.

MELISSA

Then why is she here sitting on your chair.

STACY

I'm guessing you don't live here, I don't even know your name yet.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

MELISSA

My names Melissa Stevens, and no I live on campus in a dorm room, by myself.

AARON

Well since I'm not even in this conversation, I might as well not even be here, see you guys later.

Aaron gets and leaves.

MELISSA

Well where you do you live?

STACY

I live in Middleburg Heights with my parents and brother. I go to Middlebrook High School, I'm a senior.

MELISSA

Why are you here instead of school?

STACY

I never thanked Aaron for what he did for me last time I saw him and wanted to say thanks, and we don't have school today.

MELISSA

We should go get lunch, I know this great coffee shop called Kingston Lounge down the street.

STACY

Sounds good.

BLACK OUT.

END OF ACT ONE

**ACT TWO**

FADE IN:

INT. CAMPUS - AMBER'S DORM - LATER

Sarah walks in to the room with Amber laying on her bed reading.

SARAH

Hey Amber, you have a few minutes?

AMBER

I've got a couple, why?

SARAH

It's about me and Jack, I know you've known Jack for a long time.

AMBER

Look I know what he did already, Christine told me last night, I don't know what to tell you.

SARAH

Well I don't know if us being together is good anymore.

AMBER

Look for what I've known of Jack over the years I've known him, he doesn't like being told what to do, but he makes mistakes too, he just wants to do his own thing.

SARAH

Thanks.

INT. KINGSTON LOUNGE - CONTINUOUS

Aaron and Jack sitting at booth talking when Ryan and Dan come walking in and sit down with them at the booth.

RYAN

Hey any news on the Jack and Sarah situation.

JACK

I'm here aren't I?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

DAN  
Is that a good or bad thing  
though?

JACK  
That I'm here?

DAN  
That you're here and not with  
Sarah.

JACK  
I don't know. At least it's not as  
bad as Aaron's situation.

RYAN  
Now what is wrong with Aaron?

AARON  
I just have some female problems.

RYAN  
Female problems?

AARON  
Well remember Stacy?

RYAN  
Yeah, why what happened?

AARON  
Well she kind of showed up today  
and now her and Melissa are  
actually getting along.

RYAN  
That's really bad news, not.

AARON  
How isn't that bad news.

DAN  
Dude, that's good news, your ex  
and your current getting along,  
that's like a dream, no questions  
about ex relationships anymore, no  
more secrets.

AARON  
So that's a good thing?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

RYAN

I think Dan's saying it is and I agree, he took the words right out of my mouth.

AARON

Yeah, but five months ago, I thought that Stacy was out of my life and that's quite frankly the way I wanted and liked it.

RYAN

Sometimes things happen for a reason.

AARON

How is this happening for a reason?

DAN

Maybe you haven't seen the reason yet.

AARON

No I know the reason, God hates me and wants to see me suffer. At least you're lucky Jack, You don't have this problem.

JACK

No I have worse problems, which in part is your fault too.

INT. APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Aaron, Jack, Sarah, and Stacy sitting around the living room.

AARON

So what time are you leaving Stacy, because I don't even know if you've noticed, but I didn't invite you here.

SARAH

You know Jack I've been doing some thinking about our situation and I've come to my decision.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

STACY

Well actually that's what I wanted  
to talk to you about, I was  
thinking about staying for a  
while.

SARAH

Jack, I think I should move out.

FADE TO BLACK.

END OF ACT TWO

**ACT THREE**

FADE IN:

INT. APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Aaron, Jack, Sarah and Stacy sitting around the room.

JACK

Did you just say that you think  
you should move out?

SARAH

Yes, I just don't think that  
living here with us being together  
is a good idea anymore.

JACK

How isn't it a good idea?

SARAH

Well with Jessica living, right  
there, I don't even know if we  
should be together anymore, You  
must have feelings for her.

AARON

Hey guys, if your fighting could  
wait for a second, I need to freak  
out for a second, What do you mean  
you're wanting to stay for a  
while?

STACY

I'm having some problems at home  
right now and want to stay here  
for a while. Besides Melissa  
thought it would be a great idea.

AARON

Melissa also thinks that men  
shouldn't use hair spray. There is  
no justice in anything that  
Melissa says...

(doorbell rings)

Now what the hell?

Jack goes and opens the door to have Jessica standing at it.

JESSICA

Hey, we need to talk.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

JACK

You know right now is not really a good time, I'm kind of in the middle of a few things right now.

JESSICA

Look, I need to say I'm not sorry for the problems between you and Sarah, I really like you Jack.

JACK

Right now is not a good time.

Sarah walks over to the door next to Jack.

SARAH

I'm sorry, I don't mean to be ease dropping, but did you just say you like Jack?

JACK

Sarah, right now is not a good time for any of this. Can't we do this later? Like in three years when we graduate?

SARAH

You know I thought you were worth my time, I guess I was wrong. I'll see you later.

Sarah walks out the door.

JESSICA

Did I come at a bad time?

INT. KINGSTON LOUNGE - LATER

Amber and Veronica sitting at booth when Sarah comes rushing in there and sits at booth also.

SARAH

You know I'm so mad right now.

AMBER

How come you're so mad now.

VERONICA

Let me guess, Jessica?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SARAH

Well this time Jack and I were talking and the doorbell rings, well guess who?

VERONICA

Look, is Jack really listening to her though?

SARAH

I don't know, All I know is that she told Jack that she really liked him.

AMBER

So now she's being a damper on your relationship with Jack.

SARAH

Exactly, I mean until she moved in there, Jack and I were inseparable, and now he doesn't even want to be around me.

VERONICA

Hey don't blame your self on this, that will only cause heartbreak. What do you really want?

SARAH

That's funny, I don't even know the answer to that question anymore.

VERONICA

Do we ever really know the answer to that question.

SARAH

What?

VERONICA

Oh nothing, just talking to myself.

AMBER

Right, any ways, maybe Jack and you aren't meant to be together, if he really wants Jessica, then give her to him. Maybe he'll come back and maybe he won't. Maybe you'll be there when or if he does, maybe you won't be.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

AMBER (cont'd)

See that's what is good with this world, it's an endless journey of anything being possible, and it will be that way until you get up one day and say, I don't want to be here anymore.

SARAH

Okay, now I'm even more confused, I think you've both had too much caffeine. Try bringing it down or switching to decaf.

INT. CAMPUS - HISTORY CLASSROOM - MORNING

Jack and Aaron walking into the classroom with Professor J. Daniels sitting at his desk grading papers.

PROFESSOR J. DANIELS

Aren't you two here at school a little late?

AARON

Remember when you said if we need advice to always come to you first? Well we both need some advice.

PROFESSOR J. DANIELS

Okay, look, we're going to play a game, you give me advice, then I'll give you some, because it seems to me that I always give advice and get none in return.

JACK

But you're the Professor, we're just the students.

PROFESSOR J. DANIELS

And did you ever happen to think that Professor's need someone to talk to sometimes?

JACK

It never really crossed my mind. So what do you need to talk to us about?

PROFESSOR J. DANIELS

I'm just joking with you guys, you're my best students.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

AARON

Well we do try our best to pay attention in class.

PROFESSOR J. DANIELS

Now I know I'm dreaming.

JACK

Yeah, that was funny Aaron, C'mon us pay attention, we didn't even in high school.

AARON

That's because you were too busy throwing spitballs at that student with all the hives on him because they just stuck on them.

JACK

Actually those were the spitballs.

AARON

Wow, I actually thought they were hives.

PROFESSOR J. DANIELS

You know I'm really busy, so if you could get to the point before I turn one-hundred.

AARON

Well the truth is that we're both having women problems right now.

PROFESSOR J. DANIELS

Why is whenever you need advice, it's always no matter what, has to deal with a woman or even women sometimes? Why can't it ever actually deal with school?

AARON

I'll have to get back to you on that one.

JACK

Can you help us?

PROFESSOR J. DANIELS

It might help if I knew what the problem was.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

JACK

Well there's actually two problems, he has one too.

PROFESSOR J. DANIELS

Oh goody, a two for one deal.

JACK

Okay, do you want to go first or should I?

AARON

Flip a coin?

JACK

I don't have one.

AARON

Professor, you have a coin?

PROFESSOR J. DANIELS

This is ridiculous. Aaron you go first.

AARON

Okay fine, well see remember I came to you one time about Stacy, well she showed up the other day and now she doesn't want to leave and for some reason she's taken over my girlfriend Melissa.

PROFESSOR J. DANIELS

How about you go first Jack.

JACK

Well Sarah and I have been having problems since Valentine's Day when I let Jessica come over and she caught me.

PROFESSOR J. DANIELS

Okay, who's Jessica? Is she in one of my classes?

JACK

No, she just moved in across the hall from us, and she likes me and I have to admit I like her too, but I like Sarah, but Sarah wants to move out now because of the situation.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

PROFESSOR J. DANIELS

I hate teaching, I really do, too many student problems, I feel like I'm on the Young and Restless, except you're the young and I'm the restless.

AARON

Hey we can be restless too.

PROFESSOR J. DANIELS

Look, you only have four years in this school, unless you're in the medical part, you're already in your second year here, why are you going to not enjoy yourself and keep your worries from yourself.

AARON

What are you trying to say?

JACK

I think he's trying to say we shouldn't let stuff bother us, what is meant to be will happen.

PROFESSOR J. DANIELS

My god, you got something right, I think I'm having a heart attack.

JACK

Well, it had to happen sometime within my life.

PROFESSOR J. DANIELS

The point is why spend your four years here worrying all about girls, and don't believe every magazine you read about college being all about girls and partying.

AARON

I prefer not reading.

PROFESSOR J. DANIELS

Anyways, you should be focusing more on having fun and wanting to learn something because I won't be here forever, neither will your counselor or other teachers or even your parents at that, if you even still talk to them.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

AARON

Why wouldn't we still talk to our parents, they're the ones who pay for us to go here.

PROFESSOR J. DANIELS

Some students just forget they exist during college. They're either too drunk or too high.

JACK

Hey I'm sure their are students like us that do the work.

PROFESSOR J. DANIELS

Don't kid yourself. If they made dating based on grades, you'd get the bottom of the crop.

JACK

What are you saying?

PROFESSOR J. DANIELS

I'm saying you wouldn't be dating.

AARON

You know you're right Professor, we've been focusing too much on fun with women, we need to just worry about us for a change.

PROFESSOR J. DANIELS

Anytime you need me, you know where to find me.

BLACK OUT.

END OF ACT THREE

**ACT FOUR**

FADE IN:

INT. APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Sarah, Stacy and Melissa sitting on couch watching TV.

MELISSA

So have you made a decision about Jack yet?

SARAH

Actually I have and I plan on telling him it as soon as he gets home.

MELISSA

So Stacy, are you coming here to Cleveland University next year?

STACY

Not planning on it, I thought I'd take a year off from school. It's sad I have to go home tomorrow, the joke was fun on Aaron.

MELISSA

I know, that should get him back for letting Jack have Jessica over. In a way I'm going to miss you, but I can't wait to see Aaron reaction when we tell him that you're not really staying and it was a play.

SARAH

Where did Aaron and Jack go, usually they're home by now from class.

STACY

Well I can't wait around, I have to get home, I hope we get to talk again Melissa.

MELISSA

I hope so too.

Stacy gets up and leaves.

SARAH

Nice girl, how did you find her?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MELISSA

I found this black book Aaron had in his top drawer and I saw her name crossed out and asked Ryan about her.

SARAH

Pretty slick, you've got talent.

Aaron and Jack walk in.

MELISSA

Where have you guys been, we've been worried.

AARON

We had some places to go, look Melissa we need to talk.

MELISSA

No actually I need to talk to you, look I found your little black book and talked to Ryan and Stacy was the get back for letting Jessica in here, she's not coming back again, she knows you don't want anything to do with her. I'm sorry.

AARON

I'm going to kill you.

MELISSA

Hey you did deserve it, I mean you're supposed to be Jack's best friend, I felt bad for him.

AARON

I didn't do anything though, I told him it was a bad idea.

SARAH

Jack, look, I know you didn't mean for everything that's happened to happen.

JACK

I don't want you to move out Sarah.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

SARAH

I've thought a lot about it, and then I had some coffee, and then some chips and dip, and then I took a nap, and then I thought about it some more.

JACK

And...

SARAH

Look, I'm not going to move out, I'm going to stay living here, but we need to end here.

JACK

What, why?

SARAH

The other day when I heard Jessica say she liked you, it made me think that she isn't going to quit, plus the fact that you see her means you like her too.

JACK

I'm not going to lie to you, my name is Jack and I'm a women lover. Yes I do like her.

SARAH

See, so why shouldn't we end.

JACK

Are you sure we're doing the right thing.

SARAH

People that wait too long to break up, always end up hating each other, and we live together, we have to be friends.

JACK

So you're saying we should break up right now, so we can stay friends.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

SARAH

Right and this way we leave the door open that one day, we could get back together, one day long after Jessica is moved out and long gone.

JACK

So this is it then.

SARAH

Yeah, we're officially broken up.

JACK

Now what?

SARAH

Now we go on with our lives.

JACK

So I'll see you later?

SARAH

Yeah, I'll see you later.

Jack walks out the door and leaves.

INT. KINGSTON LOUNGE - LATER

Aaron, Jack and Melissa sitting at booth drinking coffee.

MELISSA

You going to be okay Jack?

JACK

I'll get over it, plus Jessica wants me to stop over after school tomorrow.

AARON

Well you know if things get really bad, you can always hang out with us.

JACK

I know, I'll be okay.

Ryan and Veronica walk in and sit down at booth with Veronica pulling up chair to booth.

RYAN

So how you taking it Jack.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

JACK

Look everything is fine in my life right now.

VERONICA

You and Sarah just broke up, you can't be just okay.

JACK

I said I'm fine, and I'm going to be fine, I'm just going to be friends with her and with Jessica also. Now let's just drop it.

Jack gets up and leaves.

VERONICA

Do you guys think that he'll be okay.

AARON

I've known Jack for a long time, sometimes I feel like it's been ninety years. I know he gets over a lot of road blocks, but this is one I don't know about.

RYAN

Well he can come hang out over at the dorm anytime he wants.

AARON

I think it's going to be a long time before Jack starts to be the same again.

RYAN

Do you think Sarah and him will ever get back together?

AARON

I really couldn't tell you.

MELISSA

I never thought Sarah would get this serious over another girl liking Jack.

VERONICA

I think that Jack likes her too though.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

AARON

The last thing we need to do is  
treat Jack different.

MELISSA

I know he'll be fine, he's strong  
minded.

AARON

I'll know he'll be too.

FADE TO BLACK.

END OF SHOW