

INDEPENDENT LIVING

1X12

"Meet Jessica"

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"Meet Jessica"

TEASER

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FADE IN:

INT. APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Aaron comes walking in with Christine sitting on couch watching Television.

AARON

What's going on across the hall,
all I see is lots and lots of
boxes.

CHRISTINE

There moving out, I guess.

AARON

I wonder who's going to move in.

CHRISTINE

Well rumor has it the Pope was
looking here the other day at an
apartment.

AARON

In other words you have no idea.

CHRISTINE

You got it.

AARON

I bet you it'll be some business
person, someone important.

CHRISTINE

Why do you say that?

AARON

It usually is, besides we live in
Ohio.

Jack comes walking into the apartment.

JACK

What is going on, all I see is
boxes?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

AARON

There moving out across the hall.

JACK

Any clue who's moving in?

AARON

Well Christine said the Pope, but I think he's too busy with Italy or whatever he does.

CHRISTINE

It was suppose to be a joke stupid. See this is so why I can't wait to get my college acceptance letters back.

AARON

You will be getting those back soon won't you?

CHRISTINE

Duh. What are you stupid or something.

AARON

What happened to the sweet innocent little sister of Amber's?

CHRISTINE

She grew up...

AARON

I know, I know, stupid right.

CHRISTINE

You got it.

Sarah comes walking in through the front door.

SARAH

What is going on across the hall...

CHRISTINE

Let me guess, boxes and boxes right.

SARAH

No I was going to say movers.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

AARON

They're moving out across the
hall.

SARAH

Wonder who the new neighbor will
be?

AARON

That's what we're all wondering.

SARAH

So why are we sitting around here.

CHRISTINE

Well in most cultures, someone has
to move out before one moves in,
dumb one.

SARAH

What happened to the sweet girl
that used to live here.

AARON

She grew up.

BLACK OUT.

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

INT. KINGSTON LOUNGE - DAY

Aaron and Ryan sitting at booth talking.

AARON

So now according to Christine, I'm stupid and Sarah's dumb one.

RYAN

What is she giving you guys Indian names? I mean what happened to the sweet innocent girl that used to live with you guys?

AARON

Well according to her she grew up.

Sarah comes walking over in her waitress uniform.

SARAH

Hey guys, what do you guys want to drink today?

RYAN

Hey Sarah, we order the same thing all the time, a good waitress would know that.

SARAH

Hey Ryan, I'm doing what I'm told in my job description.

AARON

Ignore him Sarah, he's just upset because Dan and him still can't get along.

SARAH

You two are still fighting over Veronica?

RYAN

I'm just trying to show Dan I'm going to get her in the end.

SARAH

I feel bad for Veronica.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

RYAN

Why do you feel bad for Veronica,
what about me, I have to deal with
Dan.

SARAH

Because Veronica has to deal with
you two bozo's.

RYAN

How am I a bozo?

SARAH

Well all you need is the make-up
and big red nose, I mean you're
already funny looking.

RYAN

Are you going to let her talk to
me like that Aaron?

AARON

Yes I am, she takes our order plus
gives us free drinks.

SARAH

Thank You Aaron. By the way may I
say your hair looks good.

AARON

Thanks, I figured I let it grow
out for a while, not too long
though, medium length.

RYAN

Why are you growing a beard
though, wasn't the goatee enough?

SARAH

Why do you care what Aaron does
with his face?

RYAN

Why do you care what I ask?

SARAH

I think the beard looks good, I
think the hair and beard will look
good.

AARON

I'll have my usual, Sarah.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

SARAH

Okay, I'll be right back.

Sarah walks away.

RYAN

I can't stand her sometimes.

AARON

Why can't you stand her, because she's right?

RYAN

Okay you make a good point, but she just gets on your nerves sometimes, always being right, how could you deal with that?

AARON

I don't know, ask Jack, he's the one that has to be with it everyday.

INT. APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - LATER

Jack and Christine sitting on couch reading when the doorbell rings.

JACK

I'll get it.

Jack gets up and answers the door and it's a girl who's about twenty wearing a pink shirt and black pants.

JESSICA

Hi, I just wanted to introduce myself.

JACK

Me first, I'm Jack Vander, I'm a sophomore at Cleveland University and not married.

Christine gets up and comes to the door.

CHRISTINE

Yes but he's in a relationship with a great girl who wouldn't like him right now at this moment. Hi I'm Christine.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

JESSICA

Hi I'm Jessica Cambridge, I just rented the apartment across the hall. You all go to Cleveland University?

CHRISTINE

They all go to Cleveland University, I'm a senior at Middlebrook High School.

JESSICA

But they, I'm assuming you two are brother and sister and the they is you Jack, are sophomore's at Cleveland University?

CHRISTINE

Actually no we're not brother and sister, this is the only three bedroom here in the complex, but our friends Aaron and Jack's girlfriend Sarah live here also. And yes they are all sophomore's.

JESSICA

Good because I'm a sophomore too. Maybe we have some of the same classes Jack, I'd love for you to come over and we can talk and get to know each other.

JACK

Sure I'd love that too, but I have to get to class right now, but I'll be back in about an hour, I'll stop by then.

JESSICA

Okay, I'll make some snacks.

Jack closes the door.

CHRISTINE

What are you doing?

JACK

What do you mean?

CHRISTINE

You have a girlfriend, Sarah, remember. And now you're going over another girls apartment.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

JACK

Well what you're going to do is
not tell Sarah.

CHRISTINE

You're right I'm not, you're going
too.

JACK

I will when the times right.

BLACK OUT.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

INT. CAMPUS - MELISSA'S DORM - NIGHT

Melissa is laying on her bed reading a magazine when Aaron comes walking through the door and sits on the bed.

AARON

Okay, I got some good news and more good news.

MELISSA

I thought the saying goes good news and bad news?

AARON

But I really have good news and more good news.

MELISSA

Okay what is the good news.

AARON

How would you like to go to the Superbowl?

MELISSA

Are you serious?

AARON

Just ask me what my other good news is.

MELISSA

Okay sweetheart, whom I love, what is the other good news?

AARON

All we have to do to go to the Superbowl on Jacksonville is to find the tickets buried somewhere in the zoo.

MELISSA

I'm thinking no, I'm not going to spend my day looking all over the zoo for some tickets that they buried somewhere just to go to Florida.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

AARON

But I thought you loved football and one of your dreams was to go to the superbowl?

MELISSA

It is but I'd rather us actually buy tickets, plus I'd rather go when the Cleveland Browns go.

AARON

Well that will be never, but your hometown team is in it.

MELISSA

Look yes, the Philadelphia Eagles are my favorite team of all time, but why don't we just have a superbowl party instead, my real dream is to just be with you during the superbowl.

AARON

That's an even better idea because I really couldn't see myself digging in the snow to find tickets.

MELISSA

Well we should have the party at your house.

AARON

Good idea, I'll buy the chips and dip and yes I'll get cheese sauce, mild right?

MELISSA

I love you.

INT. APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Christine sitting on couch reading a book when Sarah comes walking in through the front door.

SARAH

Hey where's Jack, I have some great news.

CHRISTINE

Jack, who's Jack, I've never heard of him.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SARAH

Okay stop playing, no seriously,
where is he, I really need to tell
him something.

CHRISTINE

I don't really know where he is.

SARAH

You know something don't you?

FADE TO BLACK.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

INT. JESSICA'S APARTMENT - DAY

Jack and Jessica sitting on plastic covered couch in living room, talking.

JESSICA

So how is it that you got to live with three other people?

JACK

Well Aaron has been my best friend for like as long as I remember and then Christine is his ex-girlfriend's sister and Sarah is my girlfriend who moved in when Amber moved out after she and Aaron broke up. It's a really long story and would take much too long to tell, maybe I'll tell you some other time. So how did you come to live here?

JESSICA

Well I was living in the city of Cleveland with my mom and dad and two brothers, but got tired of it, so I decided to start looking into moving and found this building here in Parma Heights, and ta da, I'm here.

JACK

So you're a sophomore at Cleveland University also?

JESSICA

Yeah, it wasn't my first choice, my first choice was Ohio University but then I figured what the hell, I'll stay here in hell for longer.

JACK

Hey what time is it?

JESSICA

A quarter to five, why?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

JACK
Oh crap, I got to go.

Jack jumps over the couch and opens the front door and runs out it.

INT. APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Sarah and Christine sitting on couch watching Television as Jack comes walking in through the front door.

SARAH
Hey, you're only two hours late,
where have you been?

JACK
Actually I was at the library, I
had some looking up something to
do.

SARAH
Well what did you have to look up?

JACK
I had to learn how to cook, it was
something on my to do list in
life.

SARAH
Oh well maybe you can cook dinner
tonight then.

JACK
She knows doesn't she?

CHRISTINE
Yes she does.

SARAH
Please explain to me why you would
be two hours late because you
wanted to go over the new
neighbors and play house with her.

JACK
Hey, I was just getting to know
the new neighbor, I was greeting
her.

SARAH
With what? Your good looks?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

JACK

Why do you have to go to the extreme on every little thing, see Christine, this is what drives people crazy.

CHRISTINE

Hey I'm having fun watching this, I only wish I had some popcorn and pop.

JACK

Look Sarah, why do we have to fight at every little moment.

SARAH

I want you to promise me that you won't go over to her house again.

JACK

Why do we have to go to those extremes. We only talked, can I help it if I'm an overly attractive young male.

SARAH

You make me sick sometimes.

JACK

Look I'm done with this.

SARAH

Why because you can't come up with a come-back.

JACK

No it's because I want to get things for the superbowl party.

SARAH

You know about the party already.

JACK

Yeah, Aaron told me about it at school earlier.

SARAH

Well let's go then.

Jack and Sarah walk out the door.

INT. KINGSTON LOUNGE - CONTINUOUS

Aaron and Dan sitting down at table.

DAN

So you and Melissa are hosting a party this Sunday?

AARON

How did you find out about it?

DAN

The lady at the grocery store told me about it.

AARON

So does like everybody know about this party.

DAN

Pretty much, Jack told...

AARON

...everybody, I know. This is why I don't tell Jack things right away, they tend to get told to everybody, then we have a hundred million people at our party.

DAN

Well look at it in this way, You'll be famous the next day at school.

AARON

That is true now, I would be one of the most popular kids at Cleveland University.

DAN

Why are we sitting here then, why aren't we out there getting stuff for the party?

Veronica walks in and sits down with them.

VERONICA

Hey guys, hey Aaron, I heard that you're having a superbowl party on Sunday?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

DAN

Aaron is.

AARON

Okay this small party with like ten people is going to turn into a huge gathering of half the school isn't it?

DAN

Well there's a good chance of it.

VERONICA

Well I'm not into football, Actually Ryan asked me to go with him.

DAN

Ryan asked you to go, I was going to ask you to go.

VERONICA

Why do you two have to fight over me? Why can't we all just be friends and not worry about who's going out with who or what or when or why?

DAN

Because you're hot.

AARON

Hey Dan, never ever tell a women there hot.

DAN

Why, she is.

VERONICA

So that's all you think of me as is hot. I'm just some piece of meat to you, some prize that you want to win?

DAN

No, I think of you more than that, you're more like a goal.

VERONICA

Oh that makes me feel so much better, You really don't understand what this makes me feel like do you?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

AARON

Dan, don't answer that, if you want to ever have a chance, just don't answer what you're going to say because you have the wrong answer.

VERONICA

It's okay, I'm not coming to the party any ways, In fact, I think you and Ryan both need to get this straight, I wouldn't go out with either one of you if my life depended on it.

Veronica gets up and walks out.

AARON

See, she made the decision for you.

DAN

No she didn't, I made the wrong decision.

INT. CAMPUS - RYAN AND DAN'S DORM - LATER

Veronica is sitting at the desk when Dan walks in.

DAN

Hey Veronica, we need to talk.

VERONICA

What did you run out of fights with Ryan over me, or did you decide on a new trophy.

DAN

No, I wanted to say that, that's not how I think of you at all. Look if it wasn't for you, I wouldn't have half of the fun that I have in my life. I don't want you to think that all I care about is trying to go out with you, because that's not all I care about, I care about you. I would rather be your friend then not be anything at all with you.

VERONICA

You mean that?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

DAN

Yeah I mean it. Why wouldn't I?
When you moved in here, this
became the sanctuary. You're one
of the guys now.

VERONICA

So you won't fight over me
anymore, we're just friends, and
you'll let me make my own choice
on who I want to date even if it's
not either of you, not saying it
won't be, but if it's not?

DAN

Right, that's what I'm saying.

VERONICA

Okay then, that's how it should
be.

Veronica and Dan hug when Ryan comes walking in and sees them
hugging and then turns around and walks right back out.

BLACK OUT.

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

FADE IN:

INT. JESSICA'S APARTMENT - DAY

Jack sitting on couch next to Jessica.

JACK

So then she got mad at me because
I came over here to welcome you
into the building.

JESSICA

It sounds like your girlfriend
gets mad at you a lot.

JACK

She does whenever she thinks she
is right. She's cool the rest of
the time.

JESSICA

Why don't you just dump her then,
it sounds to me like she is very
controlling.

JACK

Well she does make my life more
full, plus she's always there when
I need somebody, but she's also
there when I don't need anybody,
and I hate it how she tells me who
I can and can't be friends with.

JESSICA

Well you need to make a choice
because I do want to be your
friend, I would love to be friends
with all of your friends.

JACK

So have you met Professor Daniels
yet?

JESSICA

Which one, I know there are two of
them.

JACK

Both of them?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

JESSICA

Yes, I've met them both, very weird brother and sister.

JACK

I just don't know how they came to both be Professor's at the same school. I mean we pay to go to school, and we pay for that right.

JESSICA

I agree, so what time do you have to be home tonight?

JACK

At or around four, why?

JESSICA

It's a quarter to five.

JACK

Oh crap, I got to go, I'm going to be in so much trouble.

Jack gets up and jumps over the couch and opens the door to have Sarah standing there.

SARAH

You don't know how much trouble you're in.

JACK

Can I make a guess?

SARAH

Why don't you just sit back down on her couch. Why don't you sit down too blondie.

JESSICA

I have brown hair, not blonde, you should really get your eyes checked.

SARAH

I don't care.

Jack and Jessica sit down on couch. Sarah sits down in the chair next to the couch.

JACK

Can we play 20 questions?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

SARAH

Oh we're going to play 20 questions, see Jessica, Jack and I are an item and we would both like it if you would keep your dirty little paws off my boyfriend.

JESSICA

Maybe he wouldn't be all over me if his girlfriend treated him like a man instead of a human meatball.

SARAH

Okay I'm only going to say this once, you're not allowed over here with this tramp anymore, okay Jack. I don't want to see this tramp at all, anywhere.

JACK

Look, Sarah, this was my idea, not Jessica's. I came over here to help her unpack some things, plus we never finished our conversation from the other day.

SARAH

I don't care.

JESSICA

Look, Jack and I aren't doing anything that is going to break up your little clique. I know he is with you and I don't need you to tell me you are.

SARAH

Shut up, this is an AX and BZ conversation, so why don't you see your way out of it.

JACK

I'm so sorry Jessica, my girlfriend is just a little overreacting.

SARAH

Let's go Jack, I hope I never see you again, Jessica.

Sarah and Jack get up and start towards the door.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

JESSICA
Go to hell.

JACK
I'm so sorry.

Sarah pulls Jack out the door and slams the door.

INT. APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Aaron and Jack are sitting on the couch with about fifty other people in the room with the superbowl on the television.

AARON
So she was really that mad at you just for going over Jessica's again.

JACK
She was pissed, she told me I'm not allowed over there again.

Amber walks over and sits down.

AMBER
Who's winning the game?

AARON
New England is winning ten to nothing. Hey did you hear about Sarah and Jack?

AMBER
Yeah, I heard that she tore your head off with tweezers.

JACK
She was just mad at me.

AARON
I call that a little more than mad.

AMBER
If I were you I would exit and enter this apartment through the back window.

JACK
Funny, I can see Jessica if I want, Sarah can't do anything about it.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

AMBER

I wouldn't test it.

Christine comes running into the room with a letter in her hand.

CHRISTINE

I got in!

AARON

You got what?

CHRISTINE

I got in to FSTU.

AARON

You got in to what?

AMBER

She got in to Florida State of Tallahassee University. They have one of the best media arts programs in the country.

AARON

So you'll be leaving us at the end of the year?

CHRISTINE

Yeah, I have to be there by the end of July to register.

AMBER

Congratulations.

CHRISTINE

Thank You!

FADE TO BLACK.

FADE IN:

INT. CAMPUS - MELISSA'S DORM - NIGHT (TAG SCENE)

Aaron and Melissa sitting on the bed watching a tape of the superbowl.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

AARON

Well I guess Christine's acceptance into FSTU was more important than the Superbowl.

MELISSA

I think the Superbowl is the most important thing.

AARON

Wow, look at that hit, ouch, he must be hurting.

Ryan comes walking in.

RYAN

Hey you're watching that game again, It was a great ending, New England over Philly 24 to 21.

AARON

Thank you, Ryan.

RYAN

Hey no problem, you want to go see a movie?

MELISSA

Sure now that we don't need to watch the game.

AARON

I swear this was not my fault.

MELISSA

No I can't believe Philly lost the game.

FADE TO BLACK.

END OF SHOW