

INDEPENDENT LIVING

1X10

"All I Want For Christmas Is A Girlfriend"

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TEASER

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FADE IN:

INT. APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Aaron sitting on the couch.

AARON

Can you believe I have one day to pick a girlfriend. That's right, incase you missed the last episode let me refresh you on what happened.

CUT TO:

INT. MCELROYS RESTAURANT - NIGHT

Aaron and Melissa sitting at table eating.

AARON

Okay fine, look, we've been seeing each other for about a month now and in that one month, I've gotten to know a lot about you and you've gotten to know me too, they may have not been the best month but I've learned about you and your life and I thought that it was time that we take it to the next step, I thought we should be exclusive, would you be my girlfriend?

MELISSA

Aaron you know my answer already, you know that I'm in love with you, I wouldn't have stuck around with you being all crazy like you are with the whole Amber thing if I didn't.

CUT TO:

INT. APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Aaron sitting on the couch.

AARON

Well that was only the beginning
because after that my whole life
got turned upside down.

CUT TO:

INT. KINGSTON LOUNGE - NIGHT

Aaron and Amber in bathroom hallway with Melissa sitting at
table.

AARON

This is not seeming important, so
you have about twenty seconds
before I walk back to my table.

AMBER

I want us to start over and get
back together.

CUT TO:

INT. APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Aaron sitting on couch.

AARON

And that wasn't even the beginning
because then I found out that
Sarah, yes that's right my
roommate Sarah likes me too, but
then things got even worse for me.

CUT TO:

INT. APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Aaron and Melissa sitting on the couch

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MELISSA

Well until you make your choice,
you know where I'll be but I'm
only giving you until Christmas to
make it.

AARON

How am I suppose to make my
decision by then, that's in just a
few days.

MELISSA

Well I guess you better figure it
out real quick.

CUT TO:

INT. APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Aaron sitting on the couch.

AARON

And this is where I am today, one
day before Christmas, Christmas
Eve and I haven't even come close
to making my decision.

BLACK OUT.

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

INT. KINGSTON LOUNGE - DAY

Aaron and Jack sitting down at a table drinking coffee

AARON

What am I supposed to do? Who am I suppose to choose, how do I start to choose?

JACK

I don't know on this one man, This is a hard decision, but Melissa does love you, but on the other hand Amber and you have history.

AARON

I don't even know where to start, the day before Christmas dinner at my mom's at that.

JACK

I don't even know what to tell you.

AARON

I'm ready to just pick a name out of a hat.

JACK

Okay well let's weigh the odds okay, I'm going to ask you a question and you tell me the first girl that comes to mind.

AARON

Okay that sounds good.

JACK

Who makes you laugh, who can make you happy when skies are gray type stuff.

AARON

All three of them.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

JACK

Okay never mind this is going to be too hard a decision for this game.

AARON

Now you know where I'm coming from when I say this is a really tough decision.

JACK

I'd tell you to just be with the one who loves you, love is from the heart and they will treat you with what you deserve.

AARON

Maybe you're right, I'll think about what you just said.

JACK

No problem man.

INT. CAMPUS - AMBER'S DORM - CONTINUOUS

Amber and Christine sitting on bed talking.

AMBER

I can't believe it, Christmas Eve and he still hasn't made his decision, how hard can it be, We have a history together, it should be a no contest.

CHRISTINE

Have you ever thought that maybe, just maybe he has feelings for the other two also.

AMBER

Other two, I thought it was just me and Melissa.

CHRISTINE

It is, I messed up sorry.

AMBER

No you didn't, who else wants Aaron?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

CHRISTINE

Okay fine there are three, you ,
Melissa and Sarah.

AMBER

Sarah wants Aaron too.

CHRISTINE

I guess Aaron's like the most
popular guy right now, everybody
wants him.

AMBER

He's not going to choose anyone is
he?

CHRISTINE

I think that this is a very tough
decision for him and it's going to
take him a lot of time.

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

Dan, Ryan and Veronica sitting around on the floor.

DAN

So what time do we have to be at
Jack's?

RYAN

Well Christine said to be there at
four but dinner won't be until
about five or six.

DAN

Okay so we have time to watch
football then right.

VERONICA

Dan, Christmas isn't about
football, it's about getting
stuff.

RYAN

Wow, you are all caught up on the
spirit aren't we

VERONICA

I'm sorry but I have always been
spoiled on Christmas.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

RYAN

Well tomorrow we shall see what
you get.

VERONICA

I hate that you guys put a fifty
dollar spending limit on gifts.

RYAN

Well to us Christmas is more than
just gifts, it's about being with
people that you love.

BLACK OUT.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

INT. CAMPUS - MELISSA'S DORM - LATER

Melissa is sitting on bed crying when Aaron comes walking in.

AARON

Hey Melissa, honey what's wrong?

MELISSA

Nothing, what are you doing here?

AARON

Well I think I've made my decision and I want to let you know to be at my house tonight at eight so I can let everybody know what I have chose.

MELISSA

It's not good is it?

AARON

I don't know if it's good or not but it is what I want, and I want everybody to respect what I want.

MELISSA

I love you no matter what it is.

AARON

I know you do.

FADE TO BLACK.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

INT. APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Aaron standing with Melissa, Amber, and Sarah sitting on couch.

AARON

Okay I've called you all here tonight because I have an announcement to make. I have decided who I want to be with.

SARAH

So who is it?

AARON

Well this was a very hard decision to make but Jack helped me make it and now I know it is the right decision.

SARAH

But who is it?

AARON

Look I care about all of you, but I only love one of you, and you've been there through all of the bad times so far.

AMBER

I knew you'd pick me.

AARON

Melissa, I love you, I want to be with you.

AMBER

You pick Melissa over me.

AARON

Yes I did, I love Melissa, I'm sorry.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

AMBER

That's okay it was a long shot any ways, plus we did break up, but why Melissa.

AARON

Because she loves me and I realized that I love her too. But hold on before we all get mad at Aaron, Melissa I have a question for you, would you like to come with me to my parents house for Christmas dinner?

MELISSA

Yes I would honey, I love you.

SARAH

Well I only have one thing to say to this, let's get to bed so we can wake up for Christmas tomorrow.

AMBER

Hey I'll second that one.

AARON

Good night guys, I'm going to go with Melissa back to her place.

Aaron and Melissa leave.

EXT. A STREET - LATER

Aaron and Melissa walking through snow on the sidewalk.

AARON

I'm sorry I made you go through that, I promise for now on that we will be better prepared for those kind of situations.

MELISSA

I'm just happy that you made the right decision, I knew you would.

AARON

What do you mean?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MELISSA

Well the whole thing a few days ago with the you have until Christmas Day to make your decision thing, I knew if I put pressure on you that you would make the right decision instead of rushing to conclusions.

AARON

So you set me up in other words.

MELISSA

I just wanted to see if you'd make the right choice that's all.

AARON

Well did I make the right choice.

MELISSA

I don't know, I mean I'm a really bad girl on Christmas Eve.

AARON

What do you mean a bad girl?

MELISSA

Well I just guess you'll have to come back to my dorm room and find out.

AARON

I guess I will.

INT. CAMPUS - MELISSA'S DORM - MORNING

Aaron waking up on the floor and Melissa in the bed.

AARON

Okay what happened last night and why am I on the floor and not in the bed with you?

MELISSA

You passed out on the floor while we were designing Christmas cards.

AARON

So nothing happened else last night?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MELISSA

If you are talking about sex, then no.

AARON

Okay good. Oh shoot what time is it, we have to be at my mom's in a few hours.

MELISSA

It's about nine in the morning, by the way, Merry Christmas.

AARON

You two, we have to be at my mom's at two.

MELISSA

Okay no problem.

INT. APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - LATER

Jack, Sarah and Christine all cleaning up the place when Ryan, Dan and Veronica come in through the door.

VERONICA

Merry Christmas, guys.

CHRISTINE

Merry Christmas to you too.

RYAN

So where's the grub at.

JACK

You guys are like four hours early.

DAN

We prefer the early bird special.

VERONICA

We got a call this morning from Christine asking if any of us knew how to cook a ham.

JACK

I don't know how, you don't Christine?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

CHRISTINE

No, I have no idea how to cook a ham. You guys?

RYAN

None of us know how to cook at all, Sarah?

SARAH

No clue.

Amber comes walking in the door.

CHRISTINE

Hey sis, do you know how to cook a ham?

AMBER

Me know how to cook, do I look like I took cooking class?

CHRISTINE

Good point, well now what, none of us know how to cook the ham.

JACK

Well we better find out how to real quick because I have something I need to tell everyone.

SARAH

We don't want to hear this do we?

JACK

Well it's better that you hear it now than later.

SARAH

This is going to be bad.

JACK

See I felt bad for Professor Daniels, so I kind of invited Professor Daniels to dinner.

SARAH

Which one did you invite?

JACK

See that's a real funny thing.

SARAH

Which one did you invite Jack?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

JACK

Don't kill me, both.

SARAH

We're dead, we are so dead.

CHRISTINE

How can we feed nine people when we don't even know how to cook a ham?

VERONICA

Well you know what, we're sure going to learn how to real quick because this is Christmas and it's the time of being with one another, so let me into that kitchen.

CHRISTINE

That's the spirit honey.

VERONICA

I just didn't know what else to say to try to pump everyone up.

SARAH

Any ideas of what we can all do?

VERONICA

Yes, why don't Amber and I work on the ham, Sarah, why don't you and Christine work on the potatoes and you guys can finish cleaning up if that isn't too hard.

JACK

Not too hard at all.

RYAN

Hey let's get started.

INT. AARON'S MOM'S HOUSE - LATER

Aaron and Melissa walking into the house when Aaron's sister Stephanie runs down the stairs.

STEPHANIE

You're here already, who's this?
This doesn't look like Amber.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

AARON

That's because it isn't Amber,
Amber and I broke up, remember?

STEPHANIE

Oh yeah, so who is this hottie?

AARON

This is my girlfriend, Melissa.

STEPHANIE

Nice to meet you Melissa.

AARON

Melissa, this is my annoying
sister, younger sister, Stephanie.

MELISSA

Nice to meet you Stephanie. And
may I say you're a hottie too.

STEPHANIE

Thanks, she's a keeper.

AARON

Thanks any ways, where's mom?

STEPHANIE

Oh she's out running errands and
won't be back until about five,
she wants you and I to finish
cooking dinner.

AARON

You and I cook, we can't cook.

STEPHANIE

Hey I took cooking classes last
semester.

AARON

Okay then you can cook, and I'll
watch.

MELISSA

Aaron, don't treat your sister
like that, I think it would be fun
to cook.

STEPHANIE

Why are you with him?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

MELISSA

Because I love your brother.

STEPHANIE

Wow you two need help.

BLACK OUT.

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

FADE IN:

INT. APARTMENT - KITCHEN - LATER

Veronica and Amber are reading the ham.

VERONICA

I don't get these hams, they don't even say how to put them in the microwave, it says conventional oven, we don't have one of those, we have a regular oven but not one of those.

AMBER

I get it, the ham is made in some other country.

VERONICA

Why would they sell it in the United States if it was from another country.

AMBER

Well because everything has microwave instructions on it.

VERONICA

Well we're just going to make it in the oven and adapt to what we think it should be cooked for.

AMBER

Okay how long should we cook it for?

VERONICA

Well it says here three hours, but that's probably a much more powerful oven and it says four fifty so let's go with five hundred for five hours.

AMBER

Okay sounds good.

INT. APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Jack, Dan and Ryan sitting on couch watching football.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

JACK

See the women are cooking and we are free to watch the game.

DAN

This is suppose to be a good game also.

RYAN

I didn't want to miss this game, oh come on run you jackass, see that, the defense is all over that guy, I could get in there and run faster and score than he can.

DAN

It's just a game, he's doing what he can, remember he earns millions for just showing up.

RYAN

I know what's wrong with that, I show up to class all the time and don't get a dime.

JACK

Maybe you should call the college on that one, tell them you want paid for going to class.

DAN

Yeah, you might get it within a million years.

RYAN

Funny guys, make fun of the thinker.

INT. AARON'S MOM'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Aaron, Melissa and Stephanie sitting at the kitchen table watching TV.

AARON

I never understood why they played football on Christmas.

MELISSA

It's all about money, they get paid good money to play on a day like this.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

STEPHANIE

We weren't allowed to watch football on holidays growing up.

MELISSA

Well how old are you any ways.

STEPHANIE

I'm a senior in high school, I'm sixteen, I skipped the third grade.

MELISSA

Really smart I'm guessing?

STEPHANIE

No they messed up the paperwork.

AARON

See why I'm happy I live in my own apartment with my friends.

STEPHANIE

Well I'll be going to school with you again next year.

AARON

Not if I can help it, one little call and you aren't getting in.

MELISSA

Why don't you want your little sister going to school with you.

AARON

We did for three years, it was hell, they shouldn't put siblings in the same school.

MELISSA

Hey my sister and I loved being in the same school, she wants to come out here and go with us when she graduates in two years.

AARON

I thought you were an only child.

MELISSA

I am an only child, I'm talking about my step sister in my step dads side. We didn't have a choice but to get along.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

MELISSA (cont'd)

We have the same first name at least different last names though.

AARON

That's always the good thing.

MELISSA

Where is your mom?

AARON

I don't know.

INT. APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Jack and Ryan sitting on couch watching TV when both Professor Daniels come in through the front door.

JACK

Hey were so glad you could make it.

PROFESSOR J. DANIELS

Well we didn't think we would at first, there's so much snow on the ground.

PROFESSOR S. DANIELS

So how is the break treating you kids.

JACK

Not much to do, you overwhelmed us with homework to do over the break.

PROFESSOR J. DANIELS

You gave them homework over the break.

PROFESSOR S. DANIELS

Well yes, I figured that it would give them something to do and we can keep schooling and they could keep learning even when they don't have too.

PROFESSOR J. DANIELS

Well my Christmas present to you is no homework, I don't give my students homework over a three week break.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

RYAN

See this is why I don't take Math this year, I was warned about all of this before the school year.

PROFESSOR J. DANIELS

How's dinner coming?

RYAN

Do I smell something burning?

Ryan and Jack run into the kitchen where smoke is coming out of the oven and Veronica opens the oven to see a black ham.

VERONICA

Well who likes dark meat?

RYAN

How long did you cook the ham for?

VERONICA

Well the instructions said that a conventional oven is two hours, I figured this kind of oven would be about five.

JACK

Veronica if I may be blunt, that is a conventional oven.

VERONICA

I beg your pardon.

JACK

Yeah, that's a conventional oven, it's a regular oven.

RYAN

Now what?

VERONICA

Well Christine, Amber and Sarah went to the store to get dessert.

RYAN

We have guests out there who want dinner.

VERONICA

We could call Amber and tell them to pick up dinner.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

RYAN

Now what, any ideas Jack?

JACK

None, we are finished.

Professor J. Daniels walks into the kitchen.

PROFESSOR J. DANIELS

Wow, what happened in here.

JACK

Veronica burned, well we'll say torched the ham.

PROFESSOR J. DANIELS

I can see, well it's good we brought another ham with us.

RYAN

You guys brought a spare ham with you?

PROFESSOR J. DANIELS

You didn't actually think we thought you could cook did you?

JACK

Yes.

PROFESSOR J. DANIELS

We figured you invited us because you wanted us to cook.

JACK

No, we invited you so that you can spend Christmas with people who care about you, what Christmas is about.

PROFESSOR J. DANIELS

Well let's get that ham out of there and get this one put in there.

VERONICA

How do you suppose we get this ham out of there?

PROFESSOR J. DANIELS

That's a good question, maybe we should just order out.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

VERONICA

That might be a good idea.

JACK

Everybody like Chinese?

RYAN

Yeah Chinese.

INT. APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

A table is set up in the middle with nine chairs around it a red cloth on it and Chinese food all around on it with Amber, Jack, Christine, Sarah, Veronica, Ryan, Dan and both Professor Daniels sitting at the table.

SARAH

So as we sit here in front of our lovely Chinese Christmas dinner, who wants to say grace?

CHRISTINE

How did this happen any ways?

JACK

Veronica burned the ham.

VERONICA

Thanks guys, just point me right out.

AMBER

I'll say grace.

VERONICA

That sounds good.

AMBER

Dear Lord, we thank you today, on this Christmas day for bringing us all together here with this lovely Chinese food in front of us, amen.

RYAN

Let's dig in. Someone pass me the spare ribs.

They all start passing food around, when Aaron, Melissa and Stephanie walk in.

SARAH

What are you guys doing here.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

AARON

Have room for a few more people?

JACK

What happened at your mom's?

STEPHANIE

Mom got stuck at work and we
burned the ham.

RYAN

So did we. Who are you.

AARON

This is my sister Stephanie.

CHRISTINE

I'll go get more chairs.

AARON

Don't worry about, we can sit on
the couch, just start passing the
grub, we're starving.

MELISSA

Merry Christmas guys.

AMBER

Merry Christmas Melissa, here have
some Chinese food.

Amber passes a plate to Melissa. Aaron sits down on the couch.

AARON

Merry Christmas from the cast of
Independent Living and Happy
Holidays.

FADE TO BLACK.

END OF SHOW