INDEPENDENT LIVING

1X19

“Outraged Prom (Butt Dancing)”

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TEASER

FADE IN:

INT. KINGSTON LOUNGE - MORNING

Aaron, Christine, Amber and Jack sitting drinking coffee.

CHRISTINE
I can’t believe that my prom is tonight.

AARON
You’ll love it, I remember when I went to prom, it seems so far ago.

AMBER
Hey, it was only two years ago and you went with my dummy.

AARON
But it seems so long ago.

AMBER
Well it wasn’t.

AARON
I was just stating a point.

AMBER
A point of what, that we’re old now.

AARON
No, well maybe some of us are, but, no.

AMBER
Well I think you’re going to have great time.

CHRISTINE
You think?

AMBER
Yes you are. Who are you going with any ways?

(CONTINUED)
CHRISTINE
Well I asked Jim, but he said maybe, so then I asked Roger, but he didn’t know, then I asked Henry, but he was deciding between Joanne, and Mary, so then I asked...

AMBER
Okay, are you actually going with anyone to the prom, yes or no?

CHRISTINE
Yes, I’m getting there, so then I asked...

AMBER
Okay who are you going with, that’s all I want to know.

CHRISTINE
Why are you so worried?

AMBER
Because I’m your sister, and I love you.

CHRISTINE
Okay fine, I’m going solo, some friends of mine are going too, we figure let’s make dates when we get there. Well I got to go, because I still have a lot of shopping to do.

Christine leaves.

JACK
So why did you really want to know?

AMBER
Because as a alumni, I’m supervising the prom. What she doesn’t know won’t hurt her, I hope.

BLACK OUT.

END OF TEASER
ACT ONE

FADE IN:

INT. APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - LATER

Aaron and Melissa sitting on couch talking.

MELISSA
You know we never have the apartment to ourselves in the middle of the day.

AARON
I know, can I ask you something?

MELISSA
Yes I want to make-out.

AARON
That wasn’t the question.

MELISSA
Okay, what is the question?

AARON
Well Christine is going to her prom and I was remembering my prom and I don’t think we’ve ever talked about yours.

MELISSA
And we don’t need to.

AARON
But I’ve told you about my prom before.

MELISSA
Right but there’s some things we just don’t need to know.

AARON
But you were the most popular student in Philadelphia area High Schools.

MELISSA
I really don’t want to talk about this.

AARON
Why, are you hiding something?

(CONTINUED)
MELISSA
Why would you think that
sweetheart?

AARON
Because that’s usually when people
don’t want to talk about things.

MELISSA
Can’t I just have some time to
think?

AARON
What?

MELISSA
Nothing.

AARON
C’mon, was it really that bad?

MELISSA
What does it matter?

AARON
It matters to me.

MELISSA
But not to me.

AARON
Just tell me.

MELISSA
Fine, I went with the captain of
the football team.

AARON
That must have been fun.

MELISSA
It was we were out all night, we
got drunk, and we ran down the
street nude and we had sex all
night.

AARON
You didn’t go to your prom did
you?

MELISSA
No, you could tell couldn’t you?

(CONTINUED)
Yeah, that was a really bad story.

Well I’m sorry, but I couldn’t think of anything better.

Why didn’t you go to your prom, you were the most popular kid in school?

I just didn’t feel like it.

Try again.

I was sick.

Try again.

Okay fine, I was on my period, but still, that doesn’t mean a damn thing.

I’m not saying it does, but that will be a hell of a story to tell your kids one day.

Laugh it up, and watch how fast we never get engaged one day.

I’m sorry, but engaged, we’re only dating.

Maybe the thought has crossed my mind.

No dear, not now, I love just dating.

I got you off subject though.
AARON
I hate you.

MELISSA
You too.

BLACK OUT.

END OF ACT ONE
ACT TWO

FADE IN:

INT. MIDDLEBROOK HIGH SCHOOL - GYM - PROM - NIGHT

Amber talking to Professor J. Daniels at the bar.

AMBER
I had no idea that you went to Middlebrook High.

PROFESSOR J. DANIELS
Yeah, I went here before this gym was here.

AMBER
So what was it like back in your day?

PROFESSOR J. DANIELS
It was a lot different. For one if we ever dressed like half of these kids dressed here, we’d be kicked out of the school.

AMBER
So it was a different place, boring.

PROFESSOR J. DANIELS
No not boring, just right for the age.

AMBER
For the forties

PROFESSOR J. DANIELS
No I graduated in 1991, not 1940. What do you think I’m a hundred?

AMBER
Sometimes.

PROFESSOR J. DANIELS
What’s that suppose to mean?

AMBER
Well sometimes when you’re teaching class you can act like an old geezer.

(CONTINUED)
PROFESSOR J. DANIELS
So now I act old?

AMBER
That’s not what I’m trying to say.

PROFESSOR J. DANIELS
Isn’t that your sister over there?

AMBER
Where I don’t see anyone.

PROFESSOR J. DANIELS
Over there, dancing with that guy.

AMBER
That is my sister, and she’s butt dancing.

PROFESSOR J. DANIELS
What is butt dancing?

AMBER
Oh it’s where you rub your butt against his, well you can get the picture.

PROFESSOR J. DANIELS
Yeah, I get the picture, well what do we do?

AMBER
What do you mean?

PROFESSOR J. DANIELS
Well butt dancing isn’t allowed, is it?

AMBER
No it’s not, you’re right.

PROFESSOR J. DANIELS
So should I go and announce it over the mic, or should you?

AMBER
It’s my sister, I’ll do it.

PROFESSOR J. DANIELS
Good luck.

Amber walks over to the microphone and picks it up.

(CONTINUED)
AMBER
Attention Christine Johnson, your sister needs to talk to you over at the bar, Christine Johnson butt dancing is not allowed.

Amber walks back over to the bar.

PROFESSOR J. DANIELS
Well done.

AMBER
You think?

PROFESSOR J. DANIELS
Here comes Christine, I hope she doesn’t kill you too bad, I’ll see you later.

Professor Daniels leaves as Christine walks over and sits down.

CHRISTINE
What are you doing here?

AMBER
I’m a supervisor.

CHRISTINE
Well thank you for embarrassing me like that.

AMBER
Well I’m sorry but this is prom, I don’t want to see you jump into bed with someone.

CHRISTINE
But you’re ruining my prom by doing what you just did.

AMBER
Doing what?

CHRISTINE
Getting on stage like you just did, thank you for ruining my life.

AMBER
I’m only trying to protect you.

(CONTINUED)
CHRISTINE
Is that what you call that,
protecting me, I wish I didn’t
have a sister, or at least not one
that’s like you.

Christine gets up and leaves prom.

FADE TO BLACK.

END OF ACT TWO
ACT THREE

FADE IN:

INT. KINGSTON LOUNGE - DAY

Aaron, Melissa, Jack and Amber sitting at table.

AARON
Hold on, you actually said no butt dancing.

JACK
You actually called it butt dancing.

AARON
Wow, I’m surprised that Christine isn’t killing you.

AMBER
No, instead she won’t talk to me.

AARON
Can you blame her?

MELISSA
I’ll tell you if my sister would have done that to me at my prom.

AMBER
What was I suppose to do? I was trying to protect my little sister.

MELISSA
I’m sorry but your sister isn’t so little anymore.

AMBER
You know what I mean. Look the best thing I knew was to get on stage.

AARON
Remember our prom Amber, it might have been the most boring night of my life, but you had fun and if you remember you butt danced as you like to call it.

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

AMBER
Okay it was funny like the first two times.

AARON
I’m just saying what you did was wrong, on all behalves.

JACK
Look Christine is done with high school next week, she’s all grown up, butt dancing, what a name.

AMBER
Okay, I called it butt dancing, so what, you call it something if you’re so smart.

AARON
Yeah I have a name for it contemporary dancing. New Style dancing, but butt dancing?

AMBER
Get over it.

JACK
I’m just saying don’t be surprised if she never talks to you again.

AMBER
Well I better go try to talk to her, maybe I’ll stop home and talk to Veronica first.

MELISSA
How’s that going any ways?

AMBER
It’s going good, I like having Veronica living with me.

MELISSA
That’s good.

AMBER
See you guys later.

AARON
We’ll butt you later.

Amber leaves.
INT. CAMPUS – RYAN AND DAN’S DORM – DAY

Ryan and Dan sitting watching TV when Veronica walks in.

VERONICA
Hey guys, I just wanted to return the key to the dorm room.

RYAN
Is that all?

VERONICA
That’s all I have to say, why is there something you guys wanted to say?

DAN
There is.

RYAN
I’ll start, I want to apologize for the way I acted at the party, I was out of line.

DAN
I want to say the same, I’m so very sorry for the way I acted, I should have been more considerate of my feelings towards you.

VERONICA
Well I’m sorry things didn’t work out also, I’m living with Amber now you guys know.

DAN
That’s good.

VERONICA
I wanted to thank you guys for everything and tell you that I could have very easily fallen for either one of you. But I knew it was in the living situations best interest that we kept it at a friend level.

DAN
But now neither one of us have any chance in the world with you?

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

VERONICA
I wouldn’t say that, goodbye guys.

Veronica walks out.

DAN
She really makes me feel bad.

RYAN
Me too.

DAN
See I told you she didn’t hate us, and that she would still maybe date us.

RYAN
You’re right, you win the bet, we’ll hang up your poster on the door.

INT. CAMPUS – AMBER’S DORM – LATER

Amber sitting watching TV when Veronica comes walking in.

AMBER
Where the hell have you been?

VERONICA
I was returning my key to the dorm room.

AMBER
So you talked to Ryan and Dan?

VERONICA
Yes, why?

AMBER
So what happened?

VERONICA
They both were sorry for what happened and they wished me well.

AMBER
They wanted to know if you’d still date either of them?

VERONICA
Yeah, can you believe that?
AMBER
That’s terrible.

VERONICA
Oh hey, Aaron called earlier, I guess after you left Kingston Lounge and before you got back here and said something about you and him and Melissa going butt dancing sometime.

AMBER
He did?

VERONICA
I only have one question, what is butt dancing?

AMBER
It’s a long story.

VERONICA
Well it sounds interesting enough to where I really want to know.

AMBER
Well last night I was supervising Christine’s prom and I saw her rubbing her butt against this guys, well any ways I got on stage and said to stop butt dancing.

VERONICA
That must have been embarrassing

AMBER
You think, well now no one will stop making fun of what I said.

VERONICA
I’m sorry could you repeat that, I was to busy butt dancing, is that even a word.

AMBER
Thanks for listening.

VERONICA
Now stop, hold on, I’m sorry, it sounds like a brain fart, but any ways, look you need to stop, and talk to Christine.

(CONTINUED)
AMBER
You don’t think she’ll be mad at me?

VERONICA
No she’s going to be mad, but what you need to do is convince her that you were insane last night.

AMBER
You’re right.

VERONICA
By the way, butt dancing?

AMBER
It was the only thing I could think of.

VERONICA
Butt dancing, how about contemporary dancing?

AMBER
I wasn’t thinking.

VERONICA
No you were thinking out of your butt.

Amber leaves.

BLACK OUT.

END OF ACT THREE
ACT FOUR

FADE IN:

INT. APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Aaron, Jack and Christine sitting watching TV.

CHRISTINE
I’m so mad at her.

JACK
I’ll tell you it’s something to really be mad at someone about.

CHRISTINE
She totally ruined my night, because I was dancing with Tony, I’m suppose to tell my kids one day, mommy went to her prom but Aunt Amber ruined her night.

JACK
I don’t know what to tell you.

CHRISTINE
I’ll tell you this much, I never want to see her face again.

Amber comes walking in.

AARON
Hey look it’s the butt dancing lady.

AMBER
Okay that joke’s old now.

AARON
Sorry, it’s still funny though.

AMBER
Look, Aaron, Jack can I have some time alone with my sister.

AARON
Sure why not.

JACK
Besides we have other things to do.

(CONTINUED)
AARON
Like what dude?

JACK
I don’t know, I thought you knew?

AARON
We’ll figure it out.

Jack and Aaron walk out of the apartment. Amber sits on the couch and Christine moves to the chair.

AMBER
Okay fine, I see you’re mad at me.

CHRISTINE
If that’s what you call it.

AMBER
Look I just want to start out at first by saying...

CHRISTINE
By saying what, that your sorry, that I was butt dancing, that I was too hot and heavy with a guy. Save it Amber, I don’t need to hear it.

AMBER
That’s not what I was going to say.

CHRISTINE
Then what were you going to say?

AMBER
Okay, I was going to say that, but still.

CHRISTINE
I can’t believe you.

AMBER
Hey, I’ve done nothing but been there for you for your whole life. I’ve tried to be the best big sister in the world. I’d give my life for you if I had too. I did one bad thing, and you’re going to hold it against me forever.

(CONTINUED)
CHRISTINE
It wasn’t one bad thing, this was a major thing.

AMBER
This was not a major thing, okay it was, but give me a break.

CHRISTINE
No, I’m not giving you a break, you ruined my prom, my one day of high school I waited for and wanted to happen, now I have nothing to remember high school for. You give yourself a break. I’m glad I’m leaving for Florida.

AMBER
That was mean.

CHRISTINE
Well deal with it. Now please leave.

Amber starts to leave.

AMBER
Just remember I love you.

Amber leaves.

INT. CAMPUS - HISTORY CLASSROOM - MORNING

Professor J. Daniels is grading papers at desk when Christine walks in.

CHRISTINE
Are you Professor Daniels?

PROFESSOR J. DANIELS
Yes, do I know you?

CHRISTINE
Well sort of, not really, I don’t know, I’m Christine Johnson, Amber Johnson’s sister.

PROFESSOR J. DANIELS
I know you, I saw you the other night at your prom.

(CONTINUED)
CHRISTINE
Yeah, well I have a question and need some advice and I know how you always give Amber advice, so I thought I’d come get some.

PROFESSOR J. DANIELS
Just spit it out.

CHRISTINE
Well you know what happened the other night, do you think I’m going to far with being mad with Amber, I mean tell me if I’m wrong, but I have a right to be mad.

PROFESSOR J. DANIELS
Well yes you do, but I talked to Amber earlier and the way you two are dealing with this is unhealthy.

CHRISTINE
I don’t think I understand.

PROFESSOR J. DANIELS
Well you and Amber are both sisters and you have to deal with each other. See by you two not dealing with problems as adults, you two prove that you are not ready to be adults.

CHRISTINE
But I am ready to be an adult.

PROFESSOR J. DANIELS
Then, you should be able to deal with this problem.

CHRISTINE
But it isn’t that easy, I told her that I was glad I’m leaving for Florida.

PROFESSOR J. DANIELS
Did you mean it?

(CONTINUED)
CHRISTINE
No, I feel bad, I mean yes she ruined my prom but I’ll get over it, I made that comment out of anger and felt bad after.

PROFESSOR J. DANIELS
Does she know this?

CHRISTINE
No.

PROFESSOR J. DANIELS
This is something you two need to discuss. Your sisters, don’t let one little thing turn into a major thing, yes your high school prom is the one night to remember but family is family. Unless of course, you have no family, then I don’t know.

CHRISTINE
Thanks.

INT. APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - LATER
Aaron, Jack and Amber sitting watching TV.

AMBER
I’m really kicking myself for doing what I did.

AARON
What was done is done, you two will talk again.

AMBER
I hope sooner than later.

Christine comes walking in.

CHRISTINE
Can you guys excuse me and Amber, we need to talk.

AARON
Sure why not?

JACK
So what are we going to do this time?

(CONTINUED)
AARON
I don’t know but that was a good ball game we were watching.

JACK
I know, I’m getting kicked out of my own house.

AARON
I know, I can’t believe it.

Aaron and Jack leave the apartment.

AMBER
Sit down if you want.

CHRISTINE
No I’ll stand thanks.

AMBER
Haven’t you said enough to me yet?

CHRISTINE
Look I need to tell you something.

AMBER
Hold on, let me be like Christine for a second, save it.

CHRISTINE
No, I won’t, I need to say this to you.

AMBER
What do you have to say?

CHRISTINE
Look, I wanted to say I’m sorry for making this into a big thing, and that I’m sorry for saying I can’t wait to leave.

AMBER
You don’t understand how hard this for me with my baby sister leaving me.

CHRISTINE
I do understand Amber, but what do you want me to do?
AMBER
Look I’m sorry for what I did at your prom and ruining your prom.

CHRISTINE
That’s okay, I wasn’t really having a good time, I was ready to leave, I was only butt dancing as you would call it with Tony, so he would leave me alone.

AMBER
Look, there’s going to be times when we embarrass each other, but we just have to make the best of those times and not forget that we love each other.

CHRISTINE
Also family is family period, unless we don’t have family, then I don’t know.

AMBER
You went and talked to Professor Daniels?

CHRISTINE
Yeah, can you tell?

AMBER
That would be something he said, that’s okay, I went to him also.

CHRISTINE
I know, he told me.

AMBER
So are we better now.

CHRISTINE
I don’t know, maybe a hug is needed.

AMBER
I think it is needed.

Amber and Christine hug.

CHRISTINE
I’ve been waiting for that.

(CONTINUED)
AMBER
Well now what should we do?

CHRISTINE
Well we have the whole house to ourselves.

AMBER
That’s true.

CHRISTINE
Hey I know, let’s try some of that butt dancing.

FADE TO BLACK.

END OF SHOW