

PROVE YOU LOVE

Written by

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FADE IN:

INT. NIGHTCLUB - NIGHT

Busy, loud dance music playing.

LEILAH, 28, short, cute with large brown eyes and short cut black hair sits at a table with REISS, 30, stocky, large arms and shoulders, obviously works out.

Each with a drink in hand, staring hard at each other, tense.

LEILAH  
You think this should continue?

He nods.

REISS  
I do.

LEILAH  
I don't believe you.

REISS  
So?

LEILAH  
All we do is argue?

REISS  
No, that's just you.

She has some of her beer.

LEILAH  
I don't know.

REISS  
Do you love me?

She scared, falls silent.

He snaps.

REISS (CONT'D)  
I asked if you love me, for fucks  
sake answer me?

LEILAH  
Yes.

REISS  
Prove you love me.

She doesn't understand.

She shrugs.

LEILAH

I love you, I don't know how else I  
can prove it other than just to  
tell you?

He shakes his head, not convinced.

A beat.

LEILAH (CONT'D)

I'm just wondering if we should  
just have some time apart. We're  
always so stressed at each other.

REISS

No. Bullshit.

INT. NIGHTCLUB - DANCE FLOOR - NIGHT

Leilah moves into the middle, swaying her arms and hips to  
the music.

She's trying to get away from Reiss.

He following, keeping close.

Leilah dumps into a MAN, 20, ignores it. She keeps dancing.

The man turns around to face her, smiling, drunk.

He reaches out and grabs a hold of her bum, starts laughing.

Leilah leaps away from him, grossed out.

She spins around to face him, but before she can get a single  
word out Reiss rushes towards him, headbutting him as hard as  
he can.

Busts open the mans nose, blood splattering all over his  
face.

The man collapses down to the floor, knocked out cold.

Reiss doesn't stop there.

Now kicking him in the face and stomach.

Leilah grabs onto his arms trying to pull him away as other  
partygoers are left to watch on, horrified.

INT. LEILAH'S HOUSE - FRONT ROOM - NIGHT

Reiss is sitting in the middle of the sofa, half asleep.

Leilah's pacing back and forth in front of him, worked up.

LEILAH

You can't keep doing things like that.

He yawns.

REISS

I was protecting you.

LEILAH

No you weren't!

REISS

Don't fucking shout at him.

She stops, looks down at the floor, scared.

LEILAH

I'm sorry.

REISS

He wont do anything like that to you again, so I was right.

LEILAH

No, you need to change.

REISS

No I don't, you just need to calm down.

LEILAH

I can't keep going on like this.

REISS

You've just drunk too much is all.

LEILAH

No, you need to change or else.

REISS

Or else what?

She's terrified, shaking, still looking down at the floor.

LEILAH

I'll leave you.

He leaps up off the sofa, delivering a hard slap with the back of his hand across her face.

Knocking her down to the floor.

He screams at her.

REISS

I was protecting you, understand,  
dumb bitch. You're my girlfriend,  
you think I can be OK watching that  
happen!!!

EXT. LEILAH'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Two MALE POLICE OFFICERS dressed in uniform are standing outside the front door to Leilah's house, waiting.

INT. LEILAH'S HOUSE - FRONT ROOM - NIGHT

Reiss in face down on the floor with both police officers on top of him, his arms behind his back and his wrists handcuffed together.

Leilah's watching on from the sofa, shocked.

Reiss is screaming and spitting for them to let him go free, but it's no good.

He's under arrest.

INT. LEILAH'S HOUSE - BEDROOM - DAY

Leilah's at the wardrobe, she's pulling out all of Reiss's clothes and dumping them down into a large open cardboard box. Smiling excited as she does so.

EXT. LEILAH'S HOUSE - DAY

Leilah's carrying a large removal box in both hands, staggers out through the front door with it, struggling, the weight of it getting to be too much for her.

She tries to get to the curb where there's a stack of three other boxes, doesn't look like she's going to make it.

JUDAH, 32, tall and handsome jogs across to her, already smiling.

JUDAH  
Would you like a hand?

She nods, relieved.

He stops in front of her.

She let's go.

The box lands down on his foot.

He yells out in pain.

The box collapsing and falling apart, lot's of weights for working out with spilling out across the ground.

INT. LEILAH'S HOUSE - FRONT ROOM - DAY

Judah's on the sofa, his shoe and sock pulled off from his left foot.

Leilah has it down on her lap and places on a plaster over his badly bruised big toe.

He smiles.

JUDAH  
I don't think it's broken.

She shakes her head.

Finished with the plaster.

LEILAH  
The weights were my ex-boyfriends.  
But they never looked that heavy.

He pulls his foot off her.

JUDAH  
Big guy?

She nods, gets up off from the sofa.

LEILAH  
He's kind of a meathead.

He laughs softly. Puts his sock then his shoe back on.

JUDAH  
What's a cute girl like you doing  
dating a meat head?

This catches her off guard.

A beat.

LEILAH

What?

JUDAH

I like your hair.

She scowls.

LEILAH

Who are you anyway?

JUDAH

I've just moved in next door. I'm  
your new neighbour.

INT. POLICE STATION - JAIL CELL - DAY

Reiss is down on the cold concert floor working out, pushups.

He's working hard and fast, rapid.

INT. JUDAH'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY

Judah's at the counter, pouring the hot water from the kettle  
into three colourful teacups. Three cups of tea.

At the table behind him sits Leilah and SETSUKO, 27,  
beautiful with long blonde hair and pale skin.

INT. JUDAH'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - NEXT

All three at the table together, each with one of those  
teacups in hand and drinking.

Silence, tense.

But everyone's still smiling politely, it's just that no one  
has anything to say.

EXT. JUDAH'S HOUSE - DAY

Judah's waving off Setsuko as she moves over to and climbs  
inside her parked car.

She waves back at him and drives away.

INT. JUDAH'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY

Judah's back at the table with Leilah, back to drinking his tea.

LEILAH

Who was she?

JUDAH

A friend of mine. Known her since college.

LEILAH

A Girlfriend?

He smiles.

JUDAH

No.

LEILAH

Are you sure. She kept looking at you. Kept smiling at you.

JUDAH

No, she just wanted to see where I've moved to.

LEILAH

You like her?

He nods.

JUDAH

I like all my friends.

LEILAH

That's not what I mean. You think she's cute?

JUDAH

Why does it matter to you?

She shrugs, picks her cup back up, drinks some more of her tea.

INT. SUPERMARKET - DAY

Judah and Leilah are moving through the ready made food aisle.

Judah holds onto the basket and Leilah's filling it up.

INT. JUDAH'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - NIGHT

With candles lit, wine poured, a romantic meal for two.

Judah and Leilah push their empty plates away and into the centre of the table.

JUDAH

Why date someone like that, you probably don't want to hear me judging him but he sounds horrible.

She shrugs.

LEILAH

It's not simple.

He smiles.

JUDAH

The nights still early, I'm willing to listen if you're willing to explain?

She nods.

LEILAH

My first boyfriend. Met me when I was a sixteen year old fat spotty teenage girl. Made me feel sexy at a time when everyone else made me feel like a freak. To know he desired me like he did was an overwhelmingly powerful invitation into a world that I never thought I'd get to.

JUDAH

What kind of world was that?

LEILAH

A world on which I was loved. I guess I had convinced myself that I really was ugly and so needed him. That's as best of an explanation for dealing with all his other shit as I can come up with right now.

JUDAH

I can't picture you ever been ugly.

LEILAH

Thanks...I guess.

He drinks some of his wine.

LEILAH (CONT'D)  
Why did you move here?

JUDAH  
My wife left me. For a year I  
waited for her. The second year I  
spent watching her.

She smiles.

LEILAH  
A stalker?

JUDAH  
No. Just watching her leave for  
work every morning. Nothing more.

LEILAH  
Then what happened?

JUDAH  
I decided to leave. So now I'm  
here.

INT. JUDAH'S HOUSE - BEDROOM - NIGHT

Judah and Leilah are on his bed, kissing and undressing.  
Caught up in a heat of passion.

EXT. HIGH STREET - DAY

Judah and Leilah hold hands as they're walking through the  
rush hour crowds.

EXT. TRAIN STATION - DAY

Reiss walk out through the automatic sliding doors, he's  
free.

INT. PUB - DAY

Reiss sits away in a quiet corner with AEDAN, 38, fat and  
balding.

Reiss watches him finishing off the last of his beer.

REISS

I tried to get inside my house but  
couldn't. Changed locks, never  
thought they were going to be the  
first things to meet me.

Aedan smiles.

AEDAN

Sorry to hear it.

REISS

Where is she?

AEDAN

With her boyfriend. Tall skinny  
youth.

Reiss snarls, fuming. Points at Aedan accusingly.

REISS

That's the kind of gossip that's  
likely to get a man killed.

AEDAN

If you say so.

REISS

I don't want gossip I want the  
truth.

AEDAN

I haven't seen her since you left,  
gossip is all you're going to get  
from me because that's all I have  
to offer.

EXT. LEILAH'S HOUSE - DAY

Leilah unlocks the front door and pushes it open.

Reiss then appears behind her, reaching out he grabs onto the  
back of her neck and forces her inside.

INT. LEILAH'S HOUSE - HALLWAY - NEXT

Reiss kicks the front door closed behind them.

He holds her up against the wall, both hands around her neck.

REISS

Who is he?

LEILAH  
I don't know.

He shakes his head.

REISS  
Either you've cheated on me or were  
raped. Cheated and I'll kill you  
both. Raped I'll only kill him.

She screams at him.

LEILAH  
You're not going to hurt him!

Reiss squints, a few tears escaping.

REISS  
It was true love between us.

LEILAH  
No, I never loved you.

He lets go of her neck, but then delivers a hard punch to her stomach.

She collapses down to the floor gasping to get her breath back.

He exits.

INT. JUDAH'S HOUSE - FRONT ROOM - DAY

Reiss and Judah are both down on the floor wrestling with each other.

Punches and kicks thrown, but neither is able to get control of the fight, canceling each other out.

INT. LEILAH'S APARTMENT - KITCHEN - DAY

Leilah bursts in, rushes over to the drawer, pulls it open and fetches out a large heavy knife.

INT. JUDAH'S HOUSE - FRONT ROOM - DAY

Leilah and Judah out of breath both stand over Reiss, on the floor, knife in his back and bleeding heavily.

INT. TAXI - DAY

Leilah and Judah are on the backseat, Judah with his arm around her as she rests her head against his chest.

LEILAH  
I didn't want him to hurt you. I  
was so scared.

JUDAH  
He didn't.

LEILAH  
But he was going to.

JUDAH  
I know.

LEILAH  
But I just couldn't let that  
happen.

INT. TRAIN STATION - DAY

Judah's at the machine, buying two one way tickets.

INT. TRAIN - DAY

Traveling fast.

Judah and Leilah sit together, Leilah at the window and gazing out at the passing countryside.

JUDAH  
I'm not going to let anything bad  
happen to you.

LEILAH  
They'll want me to go to prison for  
what I've done.

He shakes his head.

JUDAH  
Not if they don't find you.

LEILAH  
You're a runaway too?

He nods.

JUDAH  
I'm going to stand by you no matter  
what. I promise.

They kiss.

FADE TO BLACK

THE END