INDEPENDENT LIVING

1X13

“The Boys Are Back”

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FADE IN:

INT. KINGSTON LOUNGE - DAY

Aaron and Jack sitting at table talking.

AARON
So what do and Sarah have planned for Valentine’s Day?

JACK
Well, actually, I have no clue, see the problem is Sarah is talking about her and Christine going out Downtown and going to some concert.

AARON
So you mean, we would have the whole house to ourselves, for mostly the whole night, without interruption?

JACK
If they go.

AARON
We so have to make sure they go, and that Melissa goes with them.

JACK
I thought you wanted your first V-day with your new girlfriend to be special.

AARON
Think about this one, if we have the house to ourselves, we can have a special valentines day.

JACK
What do you mean we, you mean you and Melissa.

(CONTINUED)
AARON
No I mean me and you and the P. word.

JACK
What is the P. word?

AARON
You can’t be serious, you actually don’t know what the P. word is, the word that men have thrived on for years, the one thing that men love to do when women aren’t around, the one thing that all college students experience when they go to college, the one thing my friend, and you’re telling me you don’t know what the P. word is.

JACK
Yes I Jack Vander are telling you what the hell are you talking about?

AARON
Party, the P. word is Party.

JACK
Why would we have a party if the girls aren’t home?

AARON
Because they aren’t home, that’s part of the point, just a night to us guys.

JACK
But it’s Valentine’s Day, the day where couples are suppose to be together.

AARON
Jack, if God meant for all couples to be together all the time, he wouldn’t have created college, he would have just had us get married right out of our mother’s womb.

JACK
But once again it’s the one day couples are suppose to be together.

(CONTINUED)
AARON
I know this, but one Valentine’s Day not being together is not, I repeat, is not going to kill the relationship of any man alive.

JACK
I think you need to go get your brain re-examined.

AARON
Jack, just trust me, we are going to have the time of our life, however small or big our lives may be.

BLACK OUT.

END OF TEASER
FADE IN:

INT. CAMPUS - MELISSA’S DORM - DAY

Aaron and Melissa talking sitting on her bed.

MELISSA
So you won’t be mad if I go with Sarah and Christine?

AARON
Why would I be mad, I mean, Christine only gets into college out of state once in her life, besides you need a ladies night out, trust me.

MELISSA
But the fact that it’s Valentine’s Day?

AARON
It’s Valentine’s Day? I know it’s Valentine’s Day, but we have so many more in our life and one isn’t going to hurt us, so go out and have fun.

MELISSA
You won’t be mad?

AARON
I’m telling you to go aren’t I?

MELISSA
Yes, but how do I know this isn’t a trick?

AARON
Trust me, this isn’t a trick, I’m not like that, I’m telling you, no I’m ordering you to go out and have fun and we will get together afterwards, I promise.

MELISSA
Okay, but we have to go to Amelia's afterwards.

AARON
What’s Amelia’s?

(CONTINUED)
MELISSA
It’s this great French place I know that’s open twenty-four hours in Mayfield Heights.

AARON
Okay, if that’s where you want to go, then, that’s where we will go.

MELISSA
Oh I love you, thank you, thank you, thank you.

AARON
Your welcome, welcome, welcome.

INT. CAMPUS - AMBER’S DORM - CONTINUOUS

Amber and Christine talking on Amber’s bed.

AMBER
I don’t think that you always hanging out with Sarah is a good thing for you, I’m your sister and are bond is going downhill.

CHRISTINE
Look, I’m fine, I only have a few more months here and want to enjoy these last few months, but I swear if you ruin them.

AMBER
I’m not going to ruin them but when we didn’t have dates for Valentine’s Day, we used to always spend them together.

CHRISTINE
I’m sorry, but I’m not ten anymore. I’m going out with Sarah, she one of my closest friends and my roommate.

AMBER
Then maybe the thing of you living there isn’t working anymore.

CHRISTINE
Okay let’s play your little game, what do you want me to do?

(continuing)
AMBER
I want you to spend Valentine’s Day with me but I know you won’t if even if tell you because you’re only going to do what you want to do any ways.

CHRISTINE
You’re right, so why even lecture me, why waste your breathe.

AMBER
Because I’m your older sister.

CHRISTINE
Yeah, and I’m your younger sister, so what, that doesn’t make a difference. I’m going with Sarah and there’s not anything you can do about it.

INT. CAMPUS - RYAN AND DAN’S DORM - CONTINUOUS
Ryan and Dan talking to Veronica who’s on her bed.

RYAN
So Dan tells me that there’s no chance in hell of you dating either of us.

DAN
That’s how he puts it, I told him how you said it.

RYAN
No, no, no, I’m trying to make my Valentine’s Day plans.

DAN
Don’t Ryan, you really don’t want to pressure her like that, she does has feelings.

RYAN
No I want to know if everything’s I done has just been a big waste of time.

(CONTINUED)
VERONICA
Okay, look Ryan, I have feelings for both of you, and I really don’t know how to control those feelings right now except to shut them out right now.

RYAN
I don’t want you to just shut them out, why don’t you just follow them.

VERONICA
Because I know that wouldn’t be the right thing to do.

DAN
Why don’t you just come over Aaron’s party for Valentine’s Day.

RYAN
Wait a second, Aaron’s having a party? What about Melissa?

DAN
Well I guess that Sarah, Christine and Melissa are going out for the night.

RYAN
So it’s like a guys night.

DAN
I guess you can call it that.

RYAN
This is exactly what we need.

VERONICA
Look I’m not trying to hurt you Ryan, let me sort things out.

RYAN
Sort what out.

VERONICA
Look give me some time to decide what I want, that’s all I’m asking.

(Continued)
CONTINUED: (2)

RYAN
Take as much time as you need.

BLACK OUT.

END OF ACT ONE
FADE IN:

INT. APARTMENT – LIVING ROOM – DAY

Aaron sitting on couch with Jack standing next to Sarah and Melissa and Christine standing by the door.

SARAH
Are you sure you don’t want to come with us?

JACK
No trust me, I want to stay here, besides girly things aren’t really my thing, and at that I don’t like the group you’re going to see.

SARAH
Well if you need me just page me on my cell.

JACK
Hey nothing is going to go wrong, trust me, it’s just going to be me and Aaron here.

SARAH
It better be.

JACK
Hey what time do you think you’ll be home?

SARAH
We should be back by twelve at the latest.

JACK
Okay, go have fun get out of here.

Sarah and Christine walk out the door with Melissa still standing there.

MELISSA
Are you sure you don’t want me to stay and we can have a nice Valentine’s Day, Aaron?

(CONTINUED)
AARON
I’m sure sweetheart, go have fun, do the girl thing, have fun, trust me.

MELISSA
You sure you’re not mad?

AARON
I’m getting mad with you not going, get out of here.

MELISSA
Okay, love you.

Melissa walks out the door and Jack closes it behind her.

AARON
Finally, we are girl free.

JACK
The boys are back.

AARON
Oh yeah, so what should we do first?

JACK
Well I already set up the poker table in the kitchen.

AARON
Okay well they said they’ll be home around midnight.

JACK
Right so we have seven hours.

AARON
Ryan and Dan said they’d be over about six.

JACK
Great, pizza’s suppose to be here around seven.

AARON
This is going to be a great night, just the boys, and boys being boys.

JACK
And men being men.

(CONTINUED)
AARON
I just said the same thing.

JACK
No you said boys being boys, I said men being men.

AARON
It’s the same thing, just shut up.

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

Veronica sitting on her bed when Amber comes walking in.

AMBER
Are you busy Veronica?

VERONICA
No what did you need?

Amber sits down on Ryan’s bed.

AMBER
I need some advice, say you have a sister that’s younger than you are, and she just got accepted into a college out of the state, but ever since that she just treats you like you don’t exist anymore, what do you do?

VERONICA
Well it sounds to me like the younger sister is trying to feel what life is like without her older sister, since she won’t have her anymore.

AMBER
But she’s only going to be a phone call away.

VERONICA
Look she just is going through a happy time, she’s trying to breathe the last few gulps of air she has left here, I’m sure once she settles in down where ever it is she’s going, thing will be different.

(Continued)
AMBER
Thanks, I’ll, I mean I’m sure my friend will use that advice.

VERONICA
Anytime.

AMBER
Hey can I ask where Ryan and Dan are?

VERONICA
They went over Aaron’s for some kind of guy’s night.

AMBER
So Aaron’s throwing a party on Valentine’s Day?

VERONICA
Yeah, I guess Melissa went to the concert with Sarah and Christine.

AMBER
Just perfect.

VERONICA
Something wrong?

AMBER
No.

VERONICA
Are you sure?

AMBER
I just can’t take it anymore, my sister and I used to have the best relationship and now she’s leaving for college in just a few months and it’s like I don’t know her at all.

VERONICA
So you and Christine are the sisters you were talking about?

AMBER
Yeah, it was me and Christine, it’s like we live on different planets.

(CONTINUED)
VERONICA
It’s always hard between sisters, especially when they get older, there relationship gets split by boyfriends and schools and all sorts of different things, but that doesn’t mean she doesn’t love you, it just means she’s busy living her life.

AMBER
But why does she have to live her life, why can’t we just lock her up in her house.

VERONICA
Well for one, she’d probably find a way out and for two, it’s against the law.

AMBER
This is just so hard, I don’t want her to go to Florida, it’s just so far away. It’s like she’ll be in another area code.

VERONICA
She will be, they don’t have 440 or 216 down there.

AMBER
Yeah I never did understand that.

VERONICA
Understand what?

AMBER
Why here in Cuyahoga County, we have the suburbs 440, and the city of Cleveland 216, and then right before Medina County it’s 330, why do we need that many area codes for one damn county.

VERONICA
Well we are the third largest city in America, that I don’t know, may just have something to do about it.

AMBER
I just don’t understand it.

(CONTINUED)
VERONICA
Hey you forgot about the sister thing, see.

AMBER
I did, didn’t I? Hey maybe I’m on to something.

INT. APARTMENT - KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

Aaron, Jack, Dan and Ryan sitting at poker table with chips and cards on the table and cards in there hands and chips and pop on the table.

AARON
So I was thinking, next year, right, what if we have Melissa move in.

JACK
But then it would be too much like family, like we’d all be married, I mean it would probably drive us crazy, I’m crazy enough with Sarah.

DAN
Yeah, besides this guy night thing is good, maybe you should get another guy to move in here.

AARON
It would be too hard, for some reason, there’s an easier time moving chicks in here.

RYAN
Well that could be because you live next door to the place where all the good looking guys work.

JACK
What is the name of that place, I never did know?

RYAN
I don’t know.

(Continued)
CONTINUED:

DAN
Hey maybe if they build a place
next to that where all the hot
girls work. Then we could find
one.

AARON
Hey I’ll take two cards.

Jack hands him two cards as Aaron puts down two.

JACK
Ryan or Dan, any cards needed?

DAN
No I’m fine.

JACK
Ryan?

RYAN
I’m good.

Doorbell rings.

JACK
I’ll go get it.

Jack gets up and walks out into living room.

FADE TO BLACK.

END OF ACT TWO
ACT THREE

FADE IN:

INT. APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Jack goes to front door and opens it to see Jessica standing there.

JACK
Hey what are you doing here.

JESSICA
Well I saw the girls leave earlier, and was wondering what you guys were doing.

JACK
It’s guys night for us.

JESSICA
On Valentine’s Day?

JACK
Well they all went to a concert.

JESSICA
Well I know Sarah said we couldn’t see each other anymore, but I would really love to join you guys.

JACK
I don’t think you heard me ten seconds ago when I said it’s kind of like guys night.

JESSICA
I heard what you said, but I promise I’ll be gone before Sarah even gets back.

JACK
Something tells me to say no but okay come in, we’re in the kitchen playing poker.

Jessica walks in and towards the kitchen and Jack closes the door and walks towards the kitchen.

BACK TO:
INT. APARTMENT - KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

Jack and Jessica walking into kitchen.

AARON
Hey Jack, why is Jessica here?

JACK
She’s going to join us, she didn’t want to spend the night alone.

AARON
Sarah’s going to kill you.

JACK
No she isn’t, because Sarah is going to find out.

DAN
I thought this was guy night though.

JESSICA
Just out your money where your mouth is loser.

Jessica sits down at the table and Jack takes a seat also.

RYAN
I don’t know Jack, I think she’s a little better than Sarah.

JACK
Hey Sarah is a nice person once you get to know her.

JESSICA
Then why isn’t she here on Valentine’s Day?

JACK
I told you once, she had a concert to go to.

JESSICA
But if you were that important to her, she would have cancelled her concert to spend time with you.

RYAN
She does have a point Jack.
Hey I’m not complaining, my girlfriend is out also and I’m fine with it.

Dude, why would you talk Melissa into going to the concert?

So we could do this right here. Besides, we’re going out after she gets home.

What are you stupid?

I don’t think so.

Aaron, I would never talk a girl into going somewhere, you have one of the hottest girls at Cleveland University, take advantage of it.

Look I needed this tonight, we need to set aside one night a week that we get together somewhere and have a guys night.

You date Melissa Stevens, don’t you Aaron?

Yeah, so?

Melissa Stevens was voted prom queen at her school in Philadelphia, she was also at the cheerleader competition on cable. I watched it, I remember.

Well I knew she was a cheerleader and I knew she went to prom and was nominated for prom queen, but I never knew she won.
JESSICA
You’re lucky to be dating Melissa.

AARON
I love her like crazy.

JESSICA
Then why are you here instead of out with her on Valentine’s Day.

AARON
I don’t know, you’re right.

RYAN
Wow, I never knew you dated like a celebrity Aaron.

AARON
She’s not a celebrity, just being on TV, does not make you a celebrity.

RYAN
In my book it does.

DAN
Well Ryan, we don’t count your book.

RYAN
You know, you’ve been busting my chops for the longest time now Dan. I thought you were my friend.

DAN
I am your friend and your roommate, it’s just that maybe we don’t understand each other anymore.

RYAN
Maybe we’ve been friends for too long, maybe you’re right.

AARON
Guys, knock it off. You guys are great friends.

JACK
Exactly, it’s just that you guys both like one girl, that you are fighting over.

(CONTINUED)
RYAN
I’m just upset because I really wanted to be in a relationship this year.

DAN
Exactly, I see you and Aaron so happy in your relationships and then look at myself and say who the hell am I?

AARON
Guys, it’s not a race to get into a relationship, it’s better to take your time and make sure you’re ready, then going into one every two months because you can’t make it work.

JACK
You’re friends because you have things in common and like doing things together, that right there is your best relationship, build off of that.

RYAN
Maybe they’re right Dan, we’ve been fighting for the past month over someone we may never have.

AARON
Hey guys, remember Veronica is a senior, she won’t even be here next year.

DAN
He’s right, she may not be here next year.

RYAN
Yeah, but I’d at least like to keep my options open with her.

DAN
Me too, what do you think I’m crazy.

RYAN
Don’t make me answer that.

BLACK OUT.

(Continued)
END OF ACT THREE
ACT FOUR

FADE IN:

INT. OUTSIDE APARTMENT DOOR - CONTINUOUS

Sarah, Christine and Melissa standing, talking.

SARAH
That was a great concert, even though Jack was probably upset with it being Valentine’s Day and all.

MELISSA
Aaron didn’t seem to upset, he was actually wanting me to go, they’re probably having some guys night or something.

CHRISTINE
Aaron did seem and little more happier than he usually is. Jack seemed like he was hiding something as well.

SARAH
You know Jack did seem like he was rushing us out the door earlier.

MELISSA
Well Aaron and I have plans to go to dinner tonight. Have any plans Sarah.

SARAH
Well I was thinking about making dinner for Jack, you know a homemade dinner from the heart, just because he wasn’t mad that I went to the concert.

CHRISTINE
I’m going to bed, that’s my own Valentine’s Day gift to myself, a nice clean bed with a nice girl in it sleeping until tomorrow.

SARAH
Sounds like fun. How come you and Aaron are going out?

(CONTINUED)
MELISSA
Well we went to this place a while back and he loved it so I thought we’d go there tonight.

CUT TO:

INT. APARTMENT - KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

Aaron, Jack, Jessica, Ryan, and Dan sitting at poker table still.

AARON
It’s only eleven, we have one hour until the girls get home.

JACK
Let’s play one more hand then we have to clean up.

RYAN
Sounds good.

Sarah, Christine and Melissa come walking into the kitchen.

SARAH
What in the hell is going on in here?

CHRISTINE
Hey cool, poker night with the guys.

MELISSA
Hey sweetheart, you do know you have a girl at the table.

SARAH
I can’t believe you Jack, after I told you no more Jessica, you still see Jessica.

JACK
Sarah, I can explain, this isn’t my fault.

SARAH
You know, I guess the joke’s on me, Happy Valentine’s Day, I think I need to think about us and our relationship.

(CONTINUED)
Sarah walks out of the room.

AARON
Things just got really bad.

FADE TO BLACK.

FADE IN:

INT. CAMPUS - RYAN AND DAN'S DORM - NIGHT (TAG SCENE)

Ryan and Dan standing by Dan’s bed and Veronica laying on her bed.

RYAN
So we were talking about it and we want you to take your time with your decision.

DAN
That’s right we don’t want to rush you at all.

RYAN
Right and even if you don’t make a decision that’s okay, because we know that you’re a senior and that you probably won’t be here next year

DAN
And we don’t want you to make the wrong decision.

VERONICA
Okay, that’s fine, but just for you two to know, I already made my decision, but you’re right, I should re-examine and make sure it’s the right decision.

DAN
No, no, tell us what your decision is.

VERONICA
No you guys are right, I need to make sure, glad we had this talk.
CONTINUED:

RYAN
You idiot, now we’ll never know.

DAN
Hey this isn’t my fault.

FADE TO BLACK.

END OF SHOW