INDEPENDENT LIVING

1X07

“The Dance”

Story by
Annie Mac Gillis

Written by
Aaron Bielert
Annie Mac Gillis

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FADE IN:

INT. KINGSTON LOUNGE - DAY

Aaron, Jack and Sarah are sitting at a table drinking coffee when Christine comes running in and over by the table.

CHRISTINE
I’ve got some great news.

AARON
What, did the dog outside finally get run over by your bike.

CHRISTINE
No, but your brain did.

JACK
Just tell us, stop the madness, stop the suspense.

CHRISTINE
I’ve got a date for the Homecoming Dance.

SARAH
You got a date, why can’t I ever get a date, Am I ugly or something? I mean...

AARON
We don’t want to be here all day, just cut it off.

JACK
Who is the guy, I mean is he in the same grade or is he just some low-life on the bottom of the pole.

CHRISTINE
No Aaron, you guys take good news and turn it so negative.

AARON
That’s what we’re here to do.

(CONTINUED)
CHRISTINE
His name is Jim Martin and he’s a junior, he’s the captain of the football team.

AARON
I don’t know Christine, sounds like he wants a little more then just a dance if you know what I mean.

JACK
He means he wants sex.

CHRISTINE
I know what he means, I’m not stupid, and no, Jim’s a great guy, sure we don’t know each other much but this is where dreams come true.

JACK
No that would be Disney World, or Disney Land, or in some cases anywhere but here.

AARON
All we’re trying to say is be careful, I know guys, I mean I’ve been one for nineteen years, I have a little experience as one, and I know what is on our minds when we go out with a girl.

CHRISTINE
So everytime you went out with my sister, sex was the only thing on your mind, well you did a great job because you’re still a virgin.

AARON
Hey I tried very hard, your sister is just stubborn, maybe if she wasn’t so stubborn, we could have gotten somewhere.

CHRISTINE
We can spend all day here debating my sister or we can move on.

Amber comes walking in and over to the table.

(CONTINUED)
Hey what are you kiddies doing.

Just the person I’m looking for, would you please tell your sister that a guy goes to a homecoming dance, looking for more than just dancing, they look for sex.

Aaron not all guys are like you a Jack some are actually nice. Why does my sister have a date for the Homecoming Dance.

The captain of the football team.

Wait a second how did you know he was the captain of the football team, you don’t even go to that school anymore, he would have been a sophomore last year when we were seniors.

Sports News Magazine, he was rated number six in Ohio to make the NFL in high school, I guess this guy had a QB rating of like one-hundred in junior high and last year on junior varsity.

And he asked you out of like a million other girls that go to your school.

Hey what can I say when you’re a ten, you’re a ten.

I think I need a barf bag.

Let’s leave these pigs sister.
AMBER
Yeah pigs.

Amber and Christine get up and leave.

AARON
Hey I am not a pig, hey you think that’s a real pig’s skin on the football?

BLACK OUT.

END OF TEASER
FADE IN:

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

Ryan, Dan and Veronica are sitting on the bed with a newspaper on the floor.

RYAN
Do you really think we should do this?

DAN
Why not? When was the last time we went out for the entire night and skipped class the next day. Besides Veronica brings up a point, what do we do besides stay inside all the time.

VERONICA
Yeah I since I’ve only been here for all seven episodes, I think it’s only right we do something I want.

RYAN
What, seven what?

VERONICA
Nothing I was just saying, it’s time we had fun for once.

RYAN
Well what movie do we want to go see.

DAN
Well hold on, do we want to do a movie first or dinner first?

RYAN
Well Dan does bring up a good point, if we did a movie first, then we’d want more dinner but the again after the snacks maybe we wouldn’t, but if we did dinner first we might not want snacks and...

(CONTINUED)
VERONICA
Why can’t we just be able to go out like normal people without making everything so damn complicated.

DAN
Because this is us and this is how we are, wait is this a trick question.

VERONICA
I give up, you pick what we do.

RYAN
Hey don’t get mad, Dan is just complicated sometimes on his own willing.

VERONICA
But why tonight, why on the one night why decide to do something like this.

DAN
Hey can we get cotton candy at the movies, the maybe we can...

VERONICA
You started this, you end it Ryan.

INT. APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - LATER
Aaron and Amber sitting on couch watching TV.

AMBER
Why is Aaron, that you think Jim is such a bad idea, is it because he is better than you are.

AARON
Why why are you so conceded since we broke up.

AMBER
You’re calling me conceded, look who’s got some bug up his butt because my sister got a good date to the homecoming dance.
AARON
I was only giving my opinion from what I saw when we were in high school. Amber you should know most of all, before you moved up here with your grandmother, what was it like in Cincinnati schools.

AMBER
That’s not what this is about, this is about you thinking that my sister can’t protect herself if she gets into that kind of situation.

AARON
No that’s not what this is about, when we were dating do you know how many times I tried to get sex by just saying a word or something or kissing you or anything like that.

AMBER
Wow and you’re still a virgin, look at that, guess I knew how to protect myself.

AARON
Great, now you have to push it in my face too, not enough, hold on, you and your sister are two of a kind, you think like each other.

AMBER
Look I’m not going to stand here and let you bad mouth my sisters date, you can explain to her why I left, I got to go.

Amber starts leaving and gets to the door.

AARON
I think that’s a good idea because we don’t want to argue on the day of your sisters big day.

AMBER
Can you spell conceded?

AARON
Yes I can, A-M-B-E-R.
Amber leaves and slams the door on the way out, Sarah comes walking into the living room from the kitchen.

SARAH
What is going on here, I thought I heard the door slam.

AARON
That was the breeze leaving the room.

SARAH
The breeze being Amber I’m guessing.

AARON
How did you figure that out.

SARAH
Well for one I could hear you from the next room over and also you two are the only ones I know who broke up and argue like a married couple.

AARON
Yeah well, she thinks that nothing can harm her or her little sister, who’s only living here still because I allow it and a promise I made to her parents, but if it wasn’t for me her sister would still be in Cincinnati with her big brother Charlie.

SARAH
Amber has a older brother?

AARON
Yeah, Charlie, he’s big boy, and I mean big. But I’m trying to tell Amber that Christine might want to rethink this, I mean you know from earlier at Kingston Lounge.

SARAH
I don’t know what to tell you Aaron, I mean you’re right, Christine could get hurt tonight, Captain of the football team doesn’t sound like a dancing person, sounds like a player to me.

(CONTINUED)
AARON
Yes but Christine is so caught up in the happiness of even getting a date to Homecoming that she won’t listen to any of us.

SARAH
I got an idea, what if we volunteer to be chaperones. People do it all the time, besides we live with one of the students, it shouldn’t be that hard. Besides how many people, or I mean kids can actually come to a dance.

AARON
Believe me this is a big gym, we had all but two-hundred students come last year.

SARAH
We only had an average of fifty students a year at our homecoming dance.

AARON
Well at an all-girls school, I hope not a lot of girls go with each other.

SARAH
Shut up.

AARON
Okay.

BLACK OUT.

END OF ACT ONE
ACT TWO

FADE IN:

INT. KINGSTON LOUNGE - CONTINUOUS

Jack and Melissa sitting together drinking coffee.

JACK
So what did you need me for. I thought you had everything about Aaron that you needed.

MELISSA
Well almost, I know all about him, but now I need to know how to win him over, and I mean win him over good.

JACK
But you’re the only woman in his life.

MELISSA
Yeah but I see how all the woman look at him, I want him to be just mine, like my boyfriend, exclusive privileges with him.

JACK
Are you sure you want to go exclusive with Aaron, even though he seems afraid to even go out on a date with you.

MELISSA
Well since he’s gotten back from Canada he’s seemed different, like that Kelly girl gave him some really good advice, and he seems very different, but he still won’t kiss me, he’ll hug me, shake my hand, but just not kiss me. I don’t understand that one. Does he think my lips are chapped, or that worse, they’re not pretty and juicy.
JACK
Your lips look fine, don’t worry about those kind of things, Aaron’s got so much with midterms coming up and his ex is bugging him like crazy.

MELISSA
Amber is still bugging him.

JACK
Well right now it’s about Christine, Amber’s younger sister, the one who lives with us. But back to subject if you really want to win Aaron over just get him alone and be romantic. He loves that stuff.

MELISSA
But what is that doesn’t work, say he totally ignores it.

JACK
I don’t know then but this should work unless something else or should I say somebody else gets in his way.

MELISSA
Well who else could get in his way of me.

INT. APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - LATER
Aaron and Sarah sitting on couch together.

SARAH
Okay I just called Middlebrook High and they said that we could be there.

AARON
We just can’t let Christine or Amber know.

SARAH
Agreed because we know how they would react.

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

AARON
Yeah I could see it now, how could you two do this, this is violating to us, blah, blah, blah.

The doorbell rings

SARAH
I’ll get it.

Sarah answers the door with Jim Martin standing in the doorway.

JIM
Hi is Christine here, I’m Jim Martin.

SARAH
Hold on one second.

Sarah shuts the door.

AARON
Who is it?

SARAH
It’s Jim Martin, Christine’s date for the dance.

AARON
Christine get your butt in here.

Christine comes out of the kitchen.

CHRISTINE
What is it, what is so important that you had to get me out of the kitchen where I was doing my make-up.

AARON
Jim Martin is waiting outside for you.

CHRISTINE
Why didn’t you have him come in, instead of freezing his ass off outside.

SARAH
Well we thought you were ready to go so we had him wait outside.

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED: (2)

CHRISTINE
Well luckily I’m ready to go, so I will see you guys later.

Christine walks out the door.

SARAH
She doesn’t know what she’s getting herself into does she?

AARON
Well that’s why we’re going to be there too.

FADE TO BLACK.

END OF ACT TWO
ACT THREE

FADE IN:

INT. MIDDLEBROOK HIGH SCHOOL - GYM - NIGHT

Tons of people dancing with Christine and Jim Dancing and Sarah and Aaron spying on them from the punch bowl table.

AARON
Can you believe the way Christine is putting herself all over that guy.

SARAH
Aaron, that’s not Christine, and that’s not Jim, look over about ten feet that’s Christine.

AARON
That would explain why she looked a little under feed.

SARAH
Look would you keep with the task at hand, we need to make sure Christine doesn’t get hurt.

AARON
Sorry, I just don’t remember this many people at this school when I went here.

CUT TO:

Christine and Jim dancing.

JIM
So what’s it like living where you do with all of them.

CHRISTINE
It’s not bad most of the time, but these past few days have been pretty bad, I really don’t want to talk about it.

(CONTINUED)
JIM
Well I just wanted to let you know that you don’t have to go home after the dance because I got us a hotel room, well actually my parents got it for me, but I thought we could spend the night there.

CHRISTINE
Why would you get a hotel room, why can’t we go get food at a restaurant and then say good night.

JIM
We can do that at a hotel, they have a food court and a nice big bed just for two people.

CHRISTINE
You know Aaron was right about you football players and all you want is sex.

JIM
Hey I don’t need to take this from some chick like you, There’s hundreds of other girls at this school that would love to go to a hotel room with me.

CHRISTINE
Well why don’t you go ask one of them you human piece of slime.

JIM
Fine, find your own way home too, I don’t need this see ya.

Christine walks over to the punch bowl and pours a glass of punch. Sarah and Aaron walk over to her.

AARON
Could you use a ride home?

CHRISTINE
What are you guys doing here, what are you spying on me.

AARON
No we are actually, what are we doing here anyways Sarah?

(CONTINUED)
SARAH
Look, we tried warning you about a guy like Jim.

CHRISTINE
I know, I know, now all I’m going to hear about for the next two hours is how you guys were right and I was wrong and how I should learn from my mistakes, well I really don’t need that, maybe I’ll just take the bus home or walk even. The last thing I want right now is a lecture, what I really need is my sister, she knows how to talk to me in these situations.

SARAH
Well your sister isn’t here we are, and we just saw and heard everything that happened, for one what he just did, he should be suspended for, that should not be allowed in any school, not even college.

CHRISTINE
Look I really don’t want to talk right now, I would rather talk to my sister.

Amber comes walking up to them.

AMBER
Why would you rather talk to me, and why are you two here at my sister’s homecoming dance. Were you spying on her?

AARON
Look Amber, I knew that Christine was going to get in trouble, so I decided to tag behind so we could stop it from happening.

(Continued)
AMBER
You still have no right. My sister can live her own life and protect herself, I also saw what happened and I think she handled it very well, and Sarah you have no right to even be here, you didn’t even go to this high school, and beyond that you’re just some little big sister want to be with my sister.

AARON
Hey don’t talk to Sarah like that, she’s the one who talked me into doing this, you know ever since we broke up Amber, you’ve been out to get me for some reason, why don’t you just stay out of my life, one better let’s not even be friends. Let’s go Sarah.

Aaron and Sarah walk off and leave.

CHRISTINE
I know what you’re going to tell me, and you know what you’re right, I should have been more careful on who I went to the dance with.

AMBER
No I wasn’t going to say that, I think you handled the situation better than I would have, I don’t know Chrissy, maybe you’re growing up faster than I did.

BLACK OUT.

END OF ACT THREE
ACT FOUR

FADE IN:

INT. APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - LATER

Aaron and Sarah sitting down on couch.

AARON
Can you believe the nerve of Amber, getting mad because I was watching out for her sister. When her and I dated, she would be so happy that I watched out for her sister and now she’s mad when I do.

SARAH
Well maybe Amber feels like you’re starting to be like a brother to Christine and she’s scared that Christine won’t need her big sister anymore, besides Amber got lippy with me which I didn’t like at all.

AARON
Well that’s only because she really doesn’t know you well yet. I’m ready to tell Amber to have Christine go move in with her.

Amber and Christine come walking in through the door.

AMBER
Aaron we need to have a talk right now.

AARON
Why because I was looking out for your little sister, because I still have the heart to do that, because I made a promise to you and your parents that I would do that so she could live here.
AMBER
Well that’s what we need to talk about, I don’t think Christine should stay here anymore, I think she should go back home and live with mom and dad in Cincinnati.

CHRISTINE
What, why Amber, you know I’m not mad that Aaron was there, besides why were you there at the party is what I should be asking also, In a way Aaron did know what was bound to happen and I thank him for protecting me, but what were you doing there also.

AMBER
Okay fine you caught me, I also knew that something bad was going to happen, remember in Cincinnati when I was a freshman and that football player asked me to prom only to embarrass me.

CHRISTINE
Yeah but just because that happened to you didn’t mean it was going to happen to me tonight, I mean it did, but that’s only because football players and footballs themselves are both pigs.

SARAH
Look Amber, just because you live on campus now, doesn’t mean you’re any less a sister to Christine, I could never replace you as a sister to her. I’m an only child, but because she lives here I do care about her and want to do what is best for her.

AARON
Look and I need to say something too, when you moved out, I didn’t know what to do about Christine, I can’t take your place either, I mean sure I have two sisters, so what, the point is I do what I have to do to watch out for her for you when you can’t be here.

(CONTINUED)
AMBER
Well what about the whole not wanting to be friends comment back at the high school.

AARON
Look I was mad Amber, you really put me in a spot, you just wanted to yell at me because I was doing something right. I’d never give up my friendship with you though. You and I have a long history, we may not be dating anymore but friends are even better.

SARAH
And I may not know you that well but that doesn’t mean we can’t get to know each other better too, I mean I kind of met Aaron as you two were falling apart, so I don’t know much about you besides you treated Aaron pretty good, Aaron’s told me a lot and what he hasn’t Jack has.

CHRISTINE
And if I moved back to Cincinnati, I’d lose out on seeing my sister everyday. You don’t know how much I cherish that, last year when you were up here and I was down there still I really missed you but now that we both live within ten miles of each other, it’s great.

AMBER
Well when you put it like that, I guess you can stay and I won’t tell mom and dad about this little incident.

CHRISTINE
Thanks sis.

Christine and Amber hug.

INT. KINGSTON LOUNGE - DAY
Jack and Melissa sitting drinking coffee and watching TV when Aaron comes walking in.

(CONTINUED)
AARON
Hey what are you two doing here?

MELISSA
I had to talk to Jack about this one homework assignment that I have.

JACK
So how did Christine’s homecoming dance go, or don’t you know yet.

AARON
Yeah that was a bad night, Sarah and I decided to go and follow Christine and what we thought would happen, well you know, happened and Amber ended up being there and flipped out because we were there.

MELISSA
It sounds like what you did was only caring for an old flames sister.

JACK
So Melissa was telling me that you two are going dinner Friday night at ElRoys.

AARON
Yeah we are, I wanted to do something special that night because it will be our fifth date out as just friends and there is something I wanted to ask Melissa.

MELISSA
There’s something that you want to ask me, why wait till Friday.

AARON
I have to wait till Friday, By the way I’ll pick you up at eight. Come on Jack, we need to get to bed so we can get to class in the morning.

Jack and Aaron leave.
INT. APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - LATER

Aaron and Jack walking in and turn on the lights.

JACK
So the whole time home you said
you’d tell me what you’re going to
ask her Friday, so tell me.

AARON
I’m going to ask her to be my
girlfriend, what else could I ask
her, would you like to go out
another time, I mean after five
dates what would be the next step.

JACK
Are you sure you’re ready for
this?

AARON
Why not, it’s been two months
since Amber and I called it quits,
it’s time to move on and right now
is the most appropriate time.

JACK
So no regrets then on anything.

AARON
Jack why should I regret anything,
the only thing I regret is that I
didn’t ask Melissa sooner.

JACK
So then why wait till Friday to
ask her, why not go over there
right now to her dorm room and ask
her.

AARON
Well I want it to be the right
moment, you know, candlelight, the
moon, fancy restaurant, exspenive
food, and just two people who care
about each other.

JACK
So in other words you love her
don’t you?

(_CONTINUED)
AARON
I wouldn’t say love but today when
I was in the car going to the
dance, I kept thinking to myself
what’s Melissa doing, I want to be
around Melissa all the time, I
want to be with her, I finally
know what I want.

JACK
Good for you.

FADE TO BLACK.

FADE IN:

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

Dan, Ryan and Veronica sitting on the bed with the newspaper
on the ground.

RYAN
So does anybody know what they
want to do.

VERONICA
Dan have you made up your mind yet
between dinner or a movie first
yet, it’s only ten at night.

DAN
Well my problem is if we go to
dinner first we won’t want snacks
but if we go to the movies first
then maybe we won’t want dinner.

VERONICA
Make up your mind already it’s
getting late and I know we’re
skipping class but this isn’t
worth it anymore.

RYAN
Dan can I ask, why don’t you just
flip a coin.

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

DAN
No flipping a coin won’t help because it’s the luck of the flip then.

CUT TO:
Ryan and Veronica are sleeping on the bed with Dan sitting down with newspaper still on the floor.

DAN (cont’d)
Okay I think I got it, what if we go to dinner first then we go to the movies, maybe then we can spend less money. No wait that won’t work because of popcorn, I’ll figure it out don’t worry.

CUT TO:
Ryan and Veronica are bones on the bed with Dan still sitting on the bed thinking.

DAN (cont’d)
Okay I got it dinner first because they call it dinner and a movie, no wait because we can call it movie and dinner though too, I’ll get it soon.

FADE TO BLACK.

END OF SHOW