

chocolate & strawberry

by

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INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

BAILEY (21, quiet, sweet) hides behind a wall, covered in framed family pictures, that separates living room and kitchen.

Silence.

Shock is written all over Bailey's face while her quick heartbeat echoes through her ears.

INT. KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

Bailey's mother, CAROLINE (41, strong-minded) sits at the dining table with Bailey's best friends father, PETER (52).

Bailey eavesdrops on them.

PETER
(emotional)
I should have seen it coming.

INT. LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Bailey's heartbeat quiets down slightly and she notices the loud TV and her little brother Jonah (11, cheeky). He sits on the near-by, stained couch.

JONAH
(re: her expression)
Bailey?

Bailey counts the stains in her head.

-Whenever Bailey counts a stain, a red number appears above her head. (It looks like someone writes ON THE AIR above her head with a sharpie.)- ONLY WE CAN SEE THIS.

BAILEY (V.O.)
1, 2, 3, 4...

JONAH
Bailey.

She snaps out of her trance-like state, her head turning towards her brother.

JONAH
You're not supposed to listen to private talks.

BAILEY
I'm sorry--

THE SOUND OF CRYING ECHOES THROUGH THE HOUSE.

Bailey peeks around the corner into the kitchen and finds...

INT. KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

Peter crying like a baby with his head in his hands.
Caroline tries to comfort him, failing miserably.

INT. LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Bailey sits down next to her brother.

JONAH
What's going on?

BAILEY
You ask to many questions.

Bailey takes the remote and changes the channel.

JONAH
I was watching that.

INT. BAILEY'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Bailey cries quietly in her bed, her head pressed down into her pillow.

Just like Bailey, her room is a organized mess.

Her alarm clock reads: 22:31

INT. BAILEY'S BEDROOM - MORNING

Bailey lays in the same position as the night before.

Her alarm clock reads: 06:12.

Disheveled, she gets up slowly and takes out a box from under her bed.

Bailey goes through the box and takes out a bunch of drawings of supernatural beings. In between those she finds a picture.

WE CAN'T SEE WHAT'S ON THE PICTURE.

INT. KITCHEN - LATER

Caroline sits at the dining table, holding a cigarette between her yellowed fingers while on the phone.

CAROLINE
I told you, she's not talking.

She takes a hit of her cigarette while the person on the other line talks.

WE CAN'T HEAR THE PERSON ON THE OTHER LINE.

CAROLINE (CONT'D)
She's not a child anymore. I'm praying it--

Bailey, dressed in sweats, pops into the kitchen.

BAILEY

--I need you to stay out my room
now.

She's about to leave the kitchen when..

CAROLINE

Wait!

Bailey stops in her tracks.

CAROLINE (CONT'D)

That's not what people wear to
work.

BAILEY

It's just Gwen.

CAROLINE

At least put a bra-

SLAM!

Bailey left the kitchen. Caroline takes another hit of her
cigarette.

INT. BAILEY'S BEDROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Bailey sits at her cramped desk, her chunky laptop in front
of her. The wall behind her old PC is covered in sticky
notes.

Bailey goes through a few when she gets interrupted...

ON PC:

GWEN (24, a worried colleague) sits on her gaming chair in
her tidy room. A stark contrast to Bailey's room.

GWEN

Did you read it?

BAILEY

Not yet.

GWEN

Maybe it would be good for you.

Bailey glances at the box sticking out from under her bed.

-The name ERIC appears next to her head, written in red
sharpie.- ONLY WE CAN SEE THIS.

GWEN

B?

BAILEY

Did you get the e-mail I send you?

GWEN

(sigh)Yeah...yeah I did. I'm sorry
for your loss.

Pause.

BAILEY

Whatever.

EXT. GRAVEYARD - DAY

Bailey opens the creaky gate to the, not so taken care of,
graveyard, immediately being hit by a sense of sadness.

She walks past a few trees and bushes getting caught in one
and tearing a hole in her sweats.

BAILEY

Fuck.

EXT. GRAVEYARD - MOMENTS LATER

Bailey stands in front of a grave which is completely
covered in flowers, notes and pictures from grieving
relatives, friends, and strangers.

The big cross at the end of the grave carries the name ERIC
JOHNSON.

Carefully she touches some of the flowers and notices a
laminated photograph of Eric with his Dad holding a blow-up
ALIEN PLUSHY while wearing a area51 shirt, cheesing into the
camera.

Bailey checks her surroundings before taking the photograph
and putting it in her pocket.

EVE

What are you doing?

Bailey turns around in panic.

Eric's little sister Eve (18, confident) stands behind her,
her arms crossed.

BAILEY

(nervous laughter)

You came out of nowhere.

EVE

Next time I'll announce my presence
by screaming when I walk through
the gates of this shithole.

BAILEY

...why not.

EVE
You're being weird.

BAILEY
Sorry.

Bailey tries to look anywhere but Eve's eyes.

EVE
What were you doing at my brother
grave?

BAILEY
I don't have any pictures of him.

Silence.

BAILEY
I'm sorry.

Bailey puts the picture back and quickly walks past Eve.

EVE
Wait!

Bailey stops in her tracks...again.

EVE
You can't keep the picture but...

EXT. GRAVEYARD - MOMENTS LATER

Eve opens her car and takes out a small wooden box.

EVE
He told me to give this to you.

Eve hands Bailey the box.

BAILEY
He wrote you a letter too, didn't
he?

Eve looks at her with teary eyes, a clenched jaw. He
didn't...

EVE
He told me to give it to you before
he left.

Bailey looks at the wooden box in her hands.

EVE
Have fun with it.

Eve gets in her car.

BAILEY

Don't you wanna-

SLAM!

Eve slams her car door shut and quickly drives off almost crushing Baileys feet.

INT. LIVING ROOM - LATER

Bailey walks through the living room past Jonah who sits on the couch watching TV and snacking on gummy bears.

JONAH

Mom's mad.

Bailey stops in her tracks...again.

BAILEY

Why now?

Bailey sits down next to Jonah.

JONAH

You didn't tell her where you went.

BAILEY

It's none of her business.(sigh)
What are you watching?

JONAH

You never get home this late.

BAILEY

I had to visit a friend.

JONAH

What friend?

BAILEY

To many questions.

Jonah puts a whole handful of gummy bears in his mouth.

BAILEY (CONT'D)

I think he is trying to tell me something.

INT. BAILEY'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Bailey, now in her PJ's, is surrounded by newspaper articles, magazine clippings and the wooden box.

She pushes the box under her bed. A specific article catches her eye.

-The words "LOCAL BOY WENT MISSING" appears behind Bailey's head, written in red.-

BAILEY (V.O.)
Parents believe their child was
abducted by aliens.

THE WOODEN DOOR CREAKS. A small shadow is visible under the door.

BAILEY (CONT'D)
Go to bed Jonah.

The shadow from under the door disappears.

EXT. GRAVEYARD - MORNING

Bailey stands in front of Eric's grave. She touches the gravestone.

BAILEY
(whisper)
Where are you?

Bailey closes her eyes.

EXT. GRAVEYARD - MOMENTS LATER

As Bailey leaves the graveyard she notices Eve walk to her brother's grave with flowers in her arms.

BAILEY
I don't think he's in there.

Eve stares at Bailey.

EVE
Excuse me?

INT. BAILEY'S BEDROOM - LATER

Bailey puts a magazine clipping on her wall.

INT. KITCHEN - LATER

Caroline cooks carelessly.

BURR.

The phone rings.

She picks it up.

CAROLINE
Hello? (pause) You're kidding.

INT. KITCHEN - LATER

Bailey leans against the fridge with her arms crossed.
Caroline sits at the dining table.

CAROLINE

I'm just trying to understand your thought process.

BAILEY

I didn't mean to freak her out.

CAROLINE

Well, you did.

Bailey visibly tenses up.

BAILEY

I didn't mean to.

CAROLINE

You can't just go around telling grieving people that their dead loved ones are not in their grave. Who does that?

BAILEY

We don't really know if he is in there.

CAROLINE

Listen to yourself, you're a mess.

BAILEY

And only everyone but me is allowed to be a mess. I know.

CAROLINE

Not true. You can grieve as much as you want but don't let out on other people.

BAILEY

(yell)

I'm not letting it out on anyone.

CAROLINE

(yell)

Don't you dare scream at your mother.

Bailey runs up the stairs to her room.

BANG!

Bailey slams the door to her room shut.

INT. LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Jonah sits on the couch with misty eyes.

INT. BAILEY'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Bailey stands in front of her desk, breathing heavy. She takes a framed picture and throws it on the ground.

EXT. GRAVEYARD - NIGHT

Bailey walks up to Eric's grave, the article from earlier in her hand.

She looks up at the sky.

BAILEY

Eric. Let your friends take me.
Please.

Bailey raises her hands and takes a few steps back, almost falling over another grave.

BAILEY (CONT'D)

(yell)

Take me.

She lets go of the article.

BAILEY (CONT'D)

(whisper)

Take me.

Bailey lets her arms fall to her side.

She turns around to leave. At the end of the graveyard stands a woman with her baby, watching her.

BAILEY (CONT'D)

Sorry.

The woman quickly walks away.

INT. BAILEY'S BEDROOM - MORNING

Bailey's head is leaned against the wall. She looks at another magazine clipping while tears silently run down her red cheeks.

A NOISE FROM HER LAPTOP.

ON PC:

A message from Gwen.

Bailey gets up and closes the laptop without reading the message.

INT. BAILEY'S BEDROOM - LATER

Bailey stands in front of her wall.

Now mostly plastered in magazine clippings, pictures, drawings, and articles.

One small space remains unused.

Bailey gets the box from under her bed. She takes out a photograph and puts it onto the unused space on the wall.

We can now see what is on the photograph for the first time.

ON THE PHOTOGRAPH:

Eric and Bailey work on a small model which looks a lot like a messy UFO.

Bailey sits down on her bed and takes out an envelope. She opens it and reads the letter.

The sentence "I'M SORRY" appears in red above Bailey's head.

INT. LIVING ROOM - LATER

Bailey and Jonah sit on the couch. Jonah excitedly articulates with his hands.

JONAH

And after that he kicked him
between his legs.

BAILEY

That's who your friends with?
Bullies?

JONAH

The other guy deserved it. He was
being mean.

BAILEY

Let's hope you don't start kicking
people.

JONAH

What if they're mean?

BAILEY

Don't.

Caroline walks into the living room, changing the mood instantly.

JONAH

His mom made two cakes for him. One
chocolate and one strawberry.

BAILEY
What a privileged little bully.

CAROLINE
Let's go Jonah, put on your shoes.

Bailey's smile fades as Jonah does as he is told.

CAROLINE (CONT'D)
(to Bailey)
I'll meet up with Pamela after
dropping Jonah off.

Pause.

CAROLINE (CONT'D)
Bailey?

BAILEY
I heard you.

CAROLINE
(to Jonah)
Let's go.

JONAH
(to Bailey)
Bye-bye.

BANG!

Caroline closes the door.

It's just Bailey and the TV.

INT. BAILEY'S BEDROOM - LATER

Bailey lays calmly in her bed wearing her PJ's and a rope.

INT. KITCHEN - LATER

Bailey stands in front of a window across. Emotionless, she watches a person walk by.

A bowl stands in front of her, next to it, a pack of cereal.

She puts some cereal in her bowl and eats one out of the box.

Pause.

Bailey takes the bowl and slams it onto the kitchen counter, cutting herself in the process.

She throws the pieces into the sink.

Blood drops on the carpet.

INT. KITCHEN - LATER

Bailey is on her knees trying to get the blood stain out of the carpet with a sponge. Her hand now wrapped up.

BURR.

Bailey picks up the phone.

BAILEY

Hey Gwen, (beat) I'm sorry, totally forgot to check my e-mails today.
(beat) Yeah I'm fine.

Bailey chokes up and starts playing with the phone chord.

BAILEY (CONT'D)

I'll go back to it tomorrow.(beat)
Ok, bye.

Bailey hangs up the phone and leans her head against the wall.

INT. KITCHEN - NEXT MORNING

Bailey walks into the kitchen wearing her sweats. The hole now covered with duct tape and her hand wrapped more tightly.

Bailey opens the fridge but quickly notices a plate on the dining table and on it...

A piece of strawberry cake and a piece of chocolate cake.

INT. LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Jonah sits on the couch watching TV.

Bailey leans around the corner.

BAILEY (CONT'D)

Who is the cake for?

JONAH

Oh, for you, chocolate and--

BAILEY

--strawberry. Did Mom not want any?

JONAH

You ask to many questions.

CUT TO:

BLACK.