

INT. STEVE'S HOUSE - HALLWAY - DAY

A cast on her broken arm LAURA, 22, tall and pretty leans back against the closed front door behind her. STEVE, 29, dark hair and handsome moves forwards and stands in front of her, he tries to reach out for the door handle but she blocks him.

LAURA

I don't feel too good, can just lie down?

STEVE

Come on, we need to get ourselves back outside. We have to go and see mom and dad.

Laura lifts her head up a little, sniffing at the air.

LAURA

What have you been cooking. It smells amazing.

STEVE

Don't do that.

She pushes past him and hurries to the other side of the hallway.

LAURA

No seriously, what is it? It smells great.

INT. STEVE'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY

Clean and modern Laura is at the counter. She quickly gets herself a bowl of homemade looking chicken and vegetable soup.

The sink is filled with dirty dishes.

She takes her bowl over and sits down at the table. With some chunky bread she's eating. Enjoying it. Bobbing her head, humming to herself.

LAURA

This is so good.

STEVE

No, you're not eating.

He takes the bowl from her.

LAURA

What the hell?

STEVE  
I'm serious. You can't do this.

LAURA  
Steve I need to keep a low  
profile.

STEVE  
Since when?

LAURA  
I've learnt something today.  
Sometimes it's better to be  
hidden than to be seen.

Steve still holds onto the bowl of soup. Sits down at the  
table with her.

STEVE  
I want you to come with me.

LAURA  
I can't. I missed their wedding  
anniversary. I'm not going  
anywhere. But I'm also here  
because I need a place to sleep.

He gives her back the food.

Her face lights up, she finishes it off fast.

STEVE  
How did you break your arm?

LAURA  
Well it's a kind of funny story.

STEVE  
Kind of?

LAURA  
I tired to break into Jake's  
apartment.

STEVE  
Ex-boyfriend?

LAURA  
Yeah, he's got my bike. I need my  
bike. I almost got my hands on it  
when his dog who didn't even seem  
to recognise me comes charging at  
me barking like he'd gone crazy.  
I run out of there but trip down  
the fire escape staircase. That's  
how I did it.

Steve reaches out for the cast to touch it but Laura pulls it back out of his reach.

STEVE

I just wanted to feel it.

LAURA

Well I don't want you to. I'm not in the mood to be poked at and prodded at.

STEVE

You should ask mom and dad for money if that's what you need?

LAURA

I don't want anyone to know where I am. So you need to keep this a secret.

STEVE

Ask them.

LAURA

No chance. I don't want to own anyone anything. I'm sick of it. I'm turning over a new leaf.

STEVE

But you've got no money?

LAURA

I'll get a job.

STEVE

Where?

LAURA

I'll work for you. Looks like you need a maid anyway.

STEVE

I'm fine on my own, I'll manage. And I wouldn't hire you no way.

LAURA

You live like a pig. You need someone to help you so why not me? That is unless you like living in filth.

INT. STEVE'S HOUSE - BATHROOM - DAY

A toilet, a sink and a shower, not much room but Steve and Laura are squeezed in. He hands her a toilet brush.

STEVE

So here is your challenge. Clean my toilet and I mean make it spotless and I'll pay.

LAURA

How disgusting.

STEVE

What do you think a maid does?

With her one good arm Laura tries and fails to scrub the toilet clean. She can't keep the toilet seat up and scrub it at the same time. She's making it look way harder than it actually is.

Steve laughs, enjoying it.

INT. STEVE'S HOUSE - FRONT ROOM - DAY

A leather sofa, lazy boy chair and a flat screen television. A room that is very minimalist.

Steve sits down in the chair. Laura carries over a bunch of blankets and dumps them down onto the middle of the sofa. She looks over at him.

LAURA

If you're going to go just go. I'll be just fine on my own.

STEVE

I'm not going without you.

LAURA

Why, you'll have more fun on your own. They hate me but they love you.

STEVE

OK, that's not true but tell me why that might be. Why maybe they might like me a little more than you, even though they don't.

LAURA

They just hate me, they always have.

STEVE

Alright if you don't want to try and answer I'll do it for you. You're always getting into trouble and they're always having to bail you out.

(MORE)

STEVE (CONT'D)

You're a headache and compared to  
you I'm an absolute joy.

She laughs to herself.

LAURA

Yeah, I guess I have done some  
crazy things. I need to change  
and believe me I really want to.

Laura now lays out the blankets across the sofa getting it  
ready to sleep on.

STEVE

You're turning that into a bed?

LAURA

It'll do just nicely. It's crazy  
how tired I am.

STEVE

I'm not going to let you sleep  
there. So don't even try it.

LAURA

I just want a bottle of wine and  
to be left well alone. Is that so  
much to ask for?

Steve gets up from his chair.

STEVE

I've got a better idea.

He goes over to a small set of drawers, he searches and  
finds a black marker pen.

He takes off the lid and aims for her cast.

LAURA

What are you doing?

STEVE

I want to draw on you.

LAURA

No. I just want to be left alone.

STEVE

Laura, come on. I thought you  
were way stronger than this?

He pushes her down onto the sofa, she tries to fight him  
off but it's no good. To starts to write on her cast.

In big letters 'happy anniversary mom and dad.'

He does a real good job of it.

LAURA

Why?

STEVE

Now you can come with me. Show mom and dad you're cast, it's a nice message for them and you've got a good story.

LAURA

I don't want to go anywhere. I just want to avoid everybody.

INT. STEVE'S HOUSE - HALLWAY - DAY

Steve drapes a coat over Laura's shoulders and opens the front door.

STEVE

Just trust me. You can do this I know you can. They'll be happy to see you. You've only got one arm now. You're going to need your family looking out for you.

Laura looks down at the writing on her cast, she smiles to herself before looking back across at Steve.

LAURA

Alright. And thanks. I don't know what I would do without you.

STEVE

And I don't know what I would do without you.

**FADE TO BLACK**

**THE END**