

STAY THE NIGHT

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Episode 4

INT. AVA AND BEN'S ROOM - NIGHT

NARRATOR

Ava is sitting on the bed her face away from Ben's.

BEN

What was that about?

NARRATOR

He sits on the bed behind Ava. She's wiping tears from her eyes.

BEN

They didn't know. Okay. They were just joking around.

AVA

It wasn't funny.

BEN

No it wasn't. I'm sorry.

NARRATOR

Ben tries to put his arm around her shoulder and she shrugs him off.

AVA

Don't.

BEN

I can't do anything right.

AVA

You never stand up for me.

BEN

You never give me a chance. You're good at fighting your own battles. If there's ever a situation where the odds are against you, Ava. I bet on you every time. Besides, do you really want to have a kid like Todd?

Ava lets out a chuckle.

AVA

What's wrong with people? I went on this stupid trip to get away from everything that's happened, not to get it all thrown in my face.

BEN

It's been a long day. We'll get up really early and leave.

AVA

I'm not doing breakfast with them.

BEN

I don't think we have anything in the car that's breakfasty.

AVA

I mean it. I can't sit through another shit show.

BEN

Even if there's bacon?

AVA

That meatloaf tasted weird. What kind of meat was that?

BEN

Pork?

AVA

I don't know. I hope we don't get sick.

BEN

I feel fine.

AVA

You're saying that now. I'm going to get ready for bed.

NARRATOR

Ava grabs a toiletry bag out of her suit case and heads to the bathroom.

AVA

Can you ask for some clean towels, please?

BEN

Sure.

NARRATOR

Ava goes into the bathroom and peeks her head out.

AVA

No smoking.

BEN
I told you I quit.

CUT TO:

EXT. NEWMAN HOUSE - NIGHT

Noises of crickets, owls, the trees rustling in the wind fill the air.

NARRATOR
Ben is on the porch smoking a cigarette. The moon beams across the driveway and house. He looks up and sees lights on in Richard and Regina's room. The lights go out.

INT. RICHARD/REGINA/TODD'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

NARRATOR
Richard and Regina are in bed trying to sleep. Todd is on a cot. The light from his phone floods his face.

INT. BATHROOM SHOWER - NIGHT

NARRATOR
Ava is in the shower. She's scrubbing herself with body wash. She looks down at the stretch marks on her stomach.

INT. BATHROOM - NIGHT

NARRATOR
Ava gets out of the shower and putting on a robe. Loud intrusive knocks echo from the door. Water drips from Ava's head as she approaches the door slowly.

AVA
Who is it?

MARTHA
It's Mrs. Newman dear. I've got your towels.

AVA
Don't come in.

NARRATOR
Martha starts to open the door and
Ava lightening fast, slams it shut.
She locks it. The door rattles.

MARTHA
Let me in. I've got towels.

The door keeps rattling.

AVA
You can leave them outside. I'm not
decent.

NARRATOR
Ava wraps her self tightly
shivering.

MARTHA
It's just women here. You don't
think I never seen a woman naked
before.

NARRATOR
Martha is still rattling the door.
Ava opens the door, and peeks her
head out. Water is still dripping
from her hair.

MARTHA
I just wanted to give you the
towels.

AVA
Yes thank you.

MARTHA
You didn't finish your dinner.

AVA
What?

MARTHA
Did you like it? The meatloaf?

AVA
Yes. Yes. Thank you so much for
cooking.

(Pause.)
I'm sorry. I'm sorry I stormed off.
I hope it didn't ruin dinner.

(MORE)

AVA (CONT'D)

You put a lot of work into it. I really did appreciate everything you did. I just. I just don't see things the way Richard does.

NARRATOR

Martha passes her a towel through the door.

MARTHA

Oregano.

AVA

What?

MARTHA

In the meatloaf. That's my secret ingredient.

(Whisper)

Don't tell anyone.

AVA

I won't. Thank you.

INT. HALLWAY - NIGHT

NARRATOR

Martha walks off down the hallway, humming. Ava, still in her room, she pauses till the humming fades away. She then peeks her head out into the hallway and sees Wyatt's bedroom door slightly open. She can hear a lullaby being hummed from inside. Martha suddenly appears in Wyatt's doorway. She gives Ava a glare and slams the bedroom door. Startled, Ava goes back into her room and shuts the door.

INT. RICHARD/REGINA/TODD'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

NARRATOR

Todd is laying on a cot on the other side of the bedroom. Richard is snoring. Regina is asleep.

TODD

(Irritated.)

Dad you're snoring.

NARRATOR

Richard doesn't move. Todd sits up.

TODD

Dad. Come on.

NARRATOR

Richard doesn't stop snoring. Todd, annoyed, gets up.

TODD

(Under his breath)

Fuck this.

INT. HALLWAY - NIGHT

NARRATOR

Todd uses the light from his phone to make his way down the hall.

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

NARRATOR

Todd pokes at the WIFI router. Red lights flash across the router taunting him. His hand starts shaking. He pulls out a small device from his pocket to check his glucose levels in his blood. He pricks his finger. He makes a sigh, annoyed and unhappy with the results. Todd attempts to put the device back in his pocket, but it falls on the ground.

INT. KITCHEN - NIGHT

NARRATOR

Todd opens the fridge looking for food. The smell of decay hits him. He sees rotting meat molding wrapped up in suran wrap, and shuts the door. Todd turns around quickly and knocks into the kitchen table causing an ornate dusty vase to fall over and break.

TODD

Shit.

NARRATOR

He starts kicking the shattered vase under the kitchen table. A weird noise comes from the basement door.

The sound of metal scraping.

NARRATOR (CONT'D (CONT'D))

The door is ajar. Todd pauses to listen. He goes back to kicking the vase pieces, but hears another noise, and pauses. Todd abandons the vase. Large chunks of jagged glass still lay across the kitchen floor, shining in the light. Todd opens the basement door. White light cutting through the darkness. Slowly he walks downstairs.

INT. BASEMENT - NIGHT

NARRATOR

Soft moans come from the basement. Todd makes it to the bottom of the stairs and he looks around. Storage boxes, old furniture, and stuffed animals preserved through taxidermy cast long shadows. Light emits from a room with a door slightly open. Todd walks closer to the room as the light brightens his face. He opens the door and a bright white light washes over him.

TODD

(In a hushed whisper)
Holy shit!

INT. BASEMENT - SURGICAL ROOM - NIGHT

NARRATOR

Todd feels as if for a moment he's walked back in time, to a surgical office in the 1950's. A white bed is in the middle of the room surrounded by lights tools, and equipment. Todd walks toward the tools. They appear pristine. He notices a scalpel, an antique surgical knife, and several other dated tools.

(MORE)

NARRATOR (CONT'D)

There are stalls with hospital beds each surrounded by mint green curtains. Old blood stains the floor and the curtains. Todd walks farther down looking. He see's a walk in freezer. Todd's hand shaking reaches out to the handle. Terrified of what he might find inside Todd breathing becomes jagged. But he cannot be stopped. He must know what's inside the freezer. Slowly Todd opens the door and looks inside. His eyes widen in horror. Bile rises from his throat. He doubles over retching as vomit spews from his mouth. Todd shuts the freezer door, and he wipes his mouth with his sleeve. The door slamming shut behind him breaks the silence. Startled, Todd whips around, but no one is there. A moment passes. Todd shaking stumbles across the room. He reaches the entrance, and puts a hand on the handle. Todd yanks the door open. In the door way the surgeon looms one gloved hand holding a syringe, mask covering his face. Ice blue eyes cut into Todd filling him with a terror he has never known. Todd backs away as the surgeon advances. He squeezes the syringe letting some of the liquid squirt. Todd puts his hands up. The Surgeon strikes grabbing a fist full of Todd's thick hair and plunging the syringe deep into his neck. Tears roll down his face as he gags, collapsing on the floor.