

"LIVES OF LUXURY"

BY

SAMUEL GERKIN

BLUE DRAFT:10/28/2019

SAMUELGERKIN@GMAIL.COM

1, 2 INTERCUT INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY / EXT. BACKYARD - DAY

1, 2

A TV switches on.

TOM (O.S.)
You're gonna love this.

TV: A young man and a young woman smile at the camera as the title is displayed: "Lives of Luxury".

The same young man slips out the back door of a suburban house. Loud music from inside cuts out when he slams the door. This is DYLAN (early 20s). Always looks cool without trying, but he's tired of it. He turns to the backyard and sees the same young woman, who leans on the back of the house trying to look discreet. This is JULES (early 20s) - she does not want to be flirted with again tonight. He doesn't pick up on it, and walks over.

DYLAN
Excuse me. Are you an actress?

Across from the TV: SARAH (early 20s) sits on the couch, occasionally glancing at the TV skeptically while typing on her laptop. She always needs everything to be exactly how she likes it. Beside her, TOM (early 20s) leans towards the TV, excited. He's got a kind heart and enjoys the simple pleasures of life. A fastidiously kept green plant sits on a table nearby. Everything in this house is in perfect order.

JULES (O.S.)
No. Look, I've had enough awkward conversations tonight.

Dylan is taken aback for a moment.

Sarah becomes less and less interested in what she is typing.

DYLAN (O.S.)
Actually, me too.
(a beat)
You know what?

JULES (O.S.)
What.

DYLAN (O.S.)
Let's be friends.

Jules looks at Dylan incredulously.

Tom smiles at Sarah. She slowly closes her laptop as she smiles back.

3, 4 INTERCUT INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY / EXT. PORCH - DAY

3, 4

TV: Dylan storms away from a house as Jules chases after him.

JULES

What's wrong with you? What changed?

DYLAN

You really want to know?

Across from the TV: Sarah sits on the couch with Tom. The green plant sits on the table nearby. Sarah is intensely focused on the TV.

JULES (O.S.)

Yes!

DYLAN (O.S.)

You've become my best friend-

JULES (O.S.)

-And why is that a problem?

DYLAN (O.S.)

-but I feel like I love you.

Tom smiles at Sarah. She's too engrossed to notice.

5, 6 INTERCUT INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY / INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

5, 6

TV: Dylan runs through the doorway. Jules follows him.

JULES

How could you? How could you?

DYLAN

I was drunk!

Across from the TV: Sarah sits on the couch alone, beside a pile of tissues. She's been crying. The green plant is slightly wilted. The house, a bit messier.

JULES (O.S.)

That's not an excuse!

Dylan doesn't answer.

JULES (O.S.)

I'm leaving you.

Sarah blows her nose.

7, 8 INTERCUT INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY / INT/EXT. PORCH - DAY 7, 8

TV: Jules opens the door. Dylan stands on the other side.

JULES
What now?

DYLAN
I've come to apologize. What I
did... there's no excuse for that.

Across from the TV: Sarah sits on the couch alone, eating from a takeout tray. She's not crying, but the dirty tissues are still piled next to her. A dirty paper plate sits on the couch. The plant is more wilted.

DYLAN (O.S.)
I'm a new man now. I'm not asking
for you to take me back. I'm
asking for a friend.

A beat.

DYLAN (O.S.)
Want to play a board game
together, like we used to?

Sarah smiles tiredly.

9, 10 INTERCUT INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY / INT. HALLWAY - DAY 9,
10

TV: Dylan looks around an empty home.

DYLAN
Jules? Jules?

He sees Jules lying on the ground.

DYLAN
Jules!

Across from the TV: Sarah sits on the couch alone, looking pale and sickly. The trash is taller than she is. The plant is dead. Her house is a complete mess.

DYLAN (O.S.)
Help! Help! Somebody, help!

SIRENS wail from the TV.

Sarah doesn't even blink.

11,12 INTERCUT INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY / INT. JULES' ROOM - DAY 11,
12

TV: Jules lies in bed, looking sick. A DOCTOR stands nearby.

DOCTOR
Surgery would be risky, but it
might be the only way to save your
life.

Jules is worried and tired.

JULES
What do you think, Dylan?

She turns to Dylan-

But sees a glitching white tear in reality.

The screen glitches and jumps.

And the power goes out.

Sarah sits in the darkness, stunned.

Slowly, she raises the remote to turn the TV back on.

She feebly presses the on button again and again.

Nothing happens.

Sarah slowly drops the remote-

And the TV flashes on. Sarah sees-

TV: a flash of herself sitting on the couch.

Another flash - THERE'S SOMEONE WITH HER ON THE COUCH.

Sarah turns to see DYLAN.

Dylan's eyes are white. His face is distorted. His edges
aren't even. He doesn't belong here.

Sarah jumps in fright.

She TURNS OFF THE TV and runs away.

13 INT. KITCHEN - NIGHT

13

Sarah runs in and slams the door behind her. The lights
flicker back on.

LATER

Sarah sits at the counter, stirring up some chocolate milk.

She stares at the clock. It TICKS.

She glances at the poster on her wall:
"Lives of Luxury" - Dylan and Jules smile at her.

Dylan's eyes bore into Sarah.

Her stirrer CLINKS against the glass more and more
frantically as the clock TICKS.

14,15 INTERCUT INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT / INT. FAMILY ROOM - NIGHT 14,
15

The TV switches on.

TV: Jules and Dylan laugh together in Jules' family room.

Across from the TV: Sarah sits down on the couch.

TV: The screen glitches. Again. Again.

Jules stares at Sarah, her face pressed against the screen.

Dylan sits next to Sarah. Sarah doesn't look away from the
TV.

Dylan reaches out for Sarah.

The world GLITCHES around her-

-until Sarah is in another room. It looks strangely familiar...

...it's Jules' family room.

She looks at the TV to see:

Dylan and Jules sit on her couch in her living room,
laughing.

TV: Sarah pounds on the screen, screaming for help.

Still laughing, Dylan takes the remote and TURNS THE TV OFF.

CUT TO BLACK.