

FADE IN:

INT. HOTEL ROOM - DAY

FLORENCE (16) wakes up, peaceful for a moment before she remembers the night before. She scrabbles out of bed and starts to walk around the apartment, slightly frantic.

FLORENCE

Laur?

She walks into the kitchen but it is empty.

FLORENCE

Laura? Where are you?

INT. ROOM DOOR. HOTEL CORRIDOR - DAY

Two girls stand in front of a hotel, LAURA (16), Florence's best friend, is struggling to turn the key in the lock. Florence stands behind, hand on her shoulders and egging her on, as if it's a race.

The door unlocks and the girls whoop, Florence jumps onto Laura's back and pretends to kick her.

FLORENCE

Go, go, go!

Laura laughs, seemingly unperturbed.

LAURA

I'm going!

INT. HOTEL ROOM - DAY

The girls rush into the room, Florence on Laura's back and both shrieking as they enter. Florence jumps off her friend's back and smiles, looking out the window.

FLORENCE

Tell you what I'm looking at, Laur.

Laura and Florence turn to each other and smile.

LAURA

Freedom.

Florence and Laura start to look around the room, messing around and teasing each other as they investigate.

Laura jumps up to sit on a table.

LAURA  
How about the beach?

Florence frowns, puzzled.

FLORENCE  
What, now?

Laura grins at her best friend, certain.

LAURA  
Yes. Now.

Florence grins back.

FLORENCE  
That's what I love about you.

Laura jumps down from the counter and walks out the room, yelling back to Florence from the corridor.

LAURA  
What, my dazzling good looks and awe-inspiring spontaneity?

Florence smiles and replies quietly under her breath.

FLORENCE  
Yeah, something like that.

EXT. BUS STOP - DAY

Florence and Laura are sat at the bus stop. Laura is on her phone, and Florence is staring at the bus timetable.

FLORENCE  
Emma?

Laura replies, still staring at her phone.

LAURA  
Mm-hmm.

Florence eyes her friend's phone over her shoulder.

FLORENCE  
Any updates?

Laura smiles at her phone, suppressing a giggle.

LAURA

Nope.

EXT. BEACH - DAY

The girls dump their stuff on the sand. Florence looks at Laura. Laura nods.

Florence and Laura head straight for the sea, SCREAMING and WHOOPING as they arrive at the water and both run in, fully clothed.

CUT TO:

EXT. BEACH - DAY

Florence and Rose are wrapped up in towels, sat on the sand side by side. Laura is leaning her head on Florence's shoulder, and both girls are staring out at the horizon.

FLORENCE

Maybe we should have a marriage pact,  
you know?

LAURA

What, like if we're 40, haven't found  
anyone and have become completely  
unlovable to everyone but each other?

FLORENCE

Exactly.

Laura is silent, considering for a moment.

LAURA

No.

Florence stares at her, her brow furrowed.

LAURA

It doesn't work like that, and you  
know it Flo.

Florence sighs in defeated frustration, not angry, but slightly regretful.

FLORENCE

You're right.

INT. HOTEL ROOM - DAY

The girls lie on the sofa and overlapping so that Florence's head lies on Laura's stomach. Florence is fast asleep, but Laura is on her phone again, texting.

Florence wakes up for a moment, sleepy and cranes her neck to face Laura.

FLORENCE  
What you doing?

LAURA  
Nothing. Just go back to sleep.

Laura continues texting as Florence shuts her eyes again.

INT. HOTEL ROOM - EVENING

The door SLAMS shut, and Florence jerks awake from the sofa. Laura walks into the room, takeaway bag in hand.

LAURA  
Hey. I got dinner.

Florence smiles sleepily and slides down the sofa to sit on the floor. Laura sits down opposite her, putting the bag in between them.

FLORENCE  
Thank you.

LAURA  
Figured we deserved it.

The girls start eating off the paper, using takeaway wooden forks.

FLORENCE  
What were you doing on your phone earlier?

Laura hesitates. The atmosphere is uneasy now.

LAURA  
Talking to Emma.

FLORENCE  
Oh yeah?

Laura is unable to make eye contact. Stares at the floor.

LAURA

Yeah.

Laura has stopped eating, and is now staring at the floor. Florence is unaware of her friend, and is busy eating her food.

LAURA

She's asked me to be her girlfriend.

Florence appears unconcerned, and doesn't look up, dipping a chip in ketchup.

LAURA

Flo?

FLORENCE

(eating nonchalantly)

What? It's cute. So have about 6 other girls.

Laura's voice is quiet and soft, as if trying to prevent a bomb going off.

LAURA

I think I'm going to say yes this time.

Florence looks up, her expression suddenly cold, her mouth frozen. Laura looks at her with pleading eyes, and Florence glaring at her food on the floor.

LAURA

Please Florence, nothing has to change.

Florence looks up at Laura with a piercing glare.

FLORENCE

Like fuck. You do realise what this will do to us, don't you?

LAURA

It doesn't have to.

FLORENCE

(callous laugh)

Of course it does.

She becomes increasingly angry.

FLORENCE

Do you think you'll be able to go on holiday weekends with your best friend? Sleep in the same bed? Dance with me?

She takes a painful breath, as if gasping for air.

FLORENCE

God, do *anything* we fucking do, Laur?

Laura says nothing, as if trying to figure out her own emotions.

LAURA

(finally angry)

Why do you always do this Florence?  
It's actually like you don't want me to be happy.

Florence gets up and looks down at Laura, cold.

FLORENCE

I just don't understand why you need something else.

Florence turns around and walks out of the room, her footsteps are audible as she walks away.

Laura flinches as the door SLAMS.

EXT. BEACH - EVENING

Florence is stood on the beach, arms folded, kicking stones and glaring at the floor.

EXT. COLLEGE FIELD - DAY

FLASHBACK:

Florence, Laura and another girl, BECK, are on the school field together, Laura on one side of Florence and Beck on the other. Florence turns to kiss Beck, Laura laughs and starts to tease the couple.

EXT. INSIDE COLLEGE HALLS - DAY

FLASHBACK:

Florence and Beck are playing ping pong table, Laura is refereeing the game at the side of the table. Suddenly Laura jumps into the air, cheering and running to give Beck a

congratulatory high five.

INT. COLLEGE BEDROOM - DAY

FLASHBACK:

Laura is sat on a college bed, Florence's head in her lap, Florence is sobbing, and Laura is comforting her and stroking her hair.

EXT. BEACH - EVENING

Florence is sat on the wall at the edge of the beach, looking out at the horizon.

FLORENCE  
(to herself)  
Shit.

She breaths a deep breath out, shaky, and jumps off the wall, leaving the beach.

INT. APARTMENT - DAY

Florence walks down the corridor, increasing her pace, and walks into the living room. No-one is there.

EXT. OUTSIDE APARTMENT - DAY

Florence walks outside to see Laura sat on the floor, a cup of tea in her hand and her back against the wall.

She sits down next to Laura, and this time Florence puts her head on Laura's shoulder.

FLORENCE  
I'm sorry.

Laura is staring out straight ahead, not looking at Florence.

LAURA  
I know.

Florence simply nods, not triumphant or angry, simply accepting.

LAURA  
I still love you.

FLORENCE  
I know.

8.

FADE OUT.