

FREEZE

written by

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FADE IN:

INT. CHARLIE'S BEDROOM - NOON

CHARLIE, 21, a scrawny, tall girl. Awakened from the aggressive buzzing of her alarm, she jumps up from her pillow and frantically looks at her surroundings. She sighs after a few moments and puts her head in her hands, turning off the alarm on her phone.

Charlie lazily strides across the room stepping over a bunch of clothes covering the floor, she winces when she spots herself in the mirror.

CHARLIE

Oh my god, I look terrible.

She attempts to mat down her bed-head and wipes her eyes. She turns to look at the clock on her wall above her, her eyes widen.

CHARLIE

Oh crap! How did I sleep until noon?

She drags herself to her closet and grabs sweatpants that have holes at the bottom of them and a baggy, stained tee-shirt.

Once she changes, Charlie takes a long look at the clock on the wall, shuts her eyes, and concentrates. The little hand stops moving entirely. Time is frozen.

CHARLIE

I don't know how I keep forgetting I can do that.

INT. DOWNSTAIRS BATHROOM - MORNING

With the clock still frozen, Charlie heads to the bathroom downstairs and starts rummaging through all the drawers to find her toothbrush, she finds it in the last drawer she looks in.

The mirror is stained with fingerprints and hard water and the walls have brown stains all over them.

She starts brushing her teeth and looks at her police uniform hanging on the doorknob with a badge on it that said "JR. POLICE ACADEMY" on it. She rolls her eyes.

She concentrates hard again and closes her eyes. She watches

the time on her phone to make sure the time rolls over and goes to shoot a text to her friend.

CHARLIE (TEXT)

Hey Veronica, i'm on my way.

Charlie spits out her toothpaste, wipes her mouth and heads for kitchen.

INT. KITCHEN - MORNING

There's pots and pans all in the sink and various holes in the wall by the front door. She struggles to move around her small kitchen and rams into the tv stand that she was using as her kitchen table. Charlie winces

CHARLIE

Ow...

She reaches for her keys sitting by the sink and shuffles her way through the kitchen to exit through the front door.

EXT. VERONICA'S FRONT YARD - AFTERNOON

Charlie parks in the driveway, gets out and sees VERONICA, 21, tall and lanky with brown hair, laying on a blanket in the grass. Veronica lifts her head when she sees Charlie and pats the ground next to her.

CHARLIE

Sorry I'm so late, I totally lost track of time and my house is falling apart more by the day.

VERONICA

Girl, you're totally good! Hey speaking of losing track of time....

CHARLIE

Yes, yes I can still do the thing.

Charlie closes her eyes and thinks really hard. When she opens them, the bird that was flying above them was stuck in motion and the breeze around them halts.

VERONICA

Woah. This is still insanely cool, dude.

Charlie shrugs.

CHARLIE

It's convenient when I'm running late.

VERONICA

Running late? Girl, the possibilities of things you could do with this are endless. I mean hell, you could rob a bank and no one would blink an eye.

Charlie looks up at Veronica sternly.

CHARLIE

I'm literally in police training right now. I will not be doing anything like that.

Everything around them goes back to normal.

Veronica looks at Charlie with puppy dog eyes.

CHARLIE

Look, I know that doing stupid shit was fun when we were teenagers, but I promised my parents I'd quit it with that stuff.

VERONICA

Why do your parents even have a say in what you do? You haven't talked to them in months.

CHARLIE

I don't want to get caught up in crap like they did, why do you think i'm even at the police academy in the first place? I'm trying not to repeat their mistakes.

VERONICA

C'mon! Live a little before you go off in the world...at least for me?

CHARLIE

...I don't know. I could get into serious trouble.

Veronica puts her arm around Charlie's shoulder.

VERONICA

Not when nobody knows it's happening.  
Also, you're apartment is three days  
away from collapse, you need this  
money more than anyone.

CHARLIE

Hey!

Charlie punches Veronica in the shoulder playfully.

DISSOLVE TO

EXT. CITY BANK - EVENING

Veronica and Charlie are outside of their local bank watching people go in and out of the big glass building. Both of them wearing colorful hoodies.

CHARLIE

This is so stupid-

VERONICA

(whispers)

Shh! Just follow my lead!

Veronica pretends to be having a conversation with Charlie while the bank SECURITY GUARD greets people coming up the stairs. Veronica ushers Charlie to go up the stairs. Charlie reluctantly agrees and heads up the stairs while pulling down her hood slightly.

She waves a polite hand to the guard and everything around them freezes.

Veronica walks up to the security guard and pokes him. He doesn't respond and she tries to slap him lightly a few times.

VERONICA

(light chuckle)

Like I said dude, this is insanely  
cool.

CHARLIE

Let's just get this over with.

INT. CITY BANK - EVENING

They both walk into the building and split up in opposite directions. The interior is nice, everything seems polished from the finished wood on the floor to the shiny marble on the counters.

They eventually meet up in the center of the main hall after scoping out the place.

VERONICA

You take the registers on the left, I  
take the ones on the right, move out!

Charlie nods in agreement. She climbs over the counters and looks for the key to unlock to registers.

CHARLIE

Aha!

Charlie finds the key hanging on the side wall. Veronica is already shoving a bunch of money into her tote bag. Charlie shakes her head but does the same.

EXT. CITY BANK - EVENING

Veronica and Charlie high five as they exit the building and walk down the steps. Something white drops from Veronica's pocket onto the ground. They both put their hoods up and run towards the car on the other side of the building.

Charlie closes her eyes for a moment again as they hop into the car. All the cars on the road start driving again.

CHARLIE

There's no way anyone saw us, right?

VERONICA

No, you got it, girl! We were so  
discreet not even the FBI could know  
we were here.

Charlie gives a slight smile of relief and closes her eyes. The adrenaline is still pumping.

CHARLIE

I will admit that was kind of fun.

VERONICA

Soooo do you want to do more? Or are  
you good? Because we could totally

just stop here...

CHARLIE

I mean...I don't see why not?

They both laugh at the ridiculousness of what they both just said and Charlie speeds off.

MONTAGE - VARIOUS -

A) EXT. BANK - MORNING - Charlie freezes time again as they rob another bank and escape successfully.

B) EXT. PARK - MORNING - Veronica and Charlie steal candy from a baby. They high five.

C) INT. CASINO - AFTERNOON - Veronica and Charlie are gambling. They win multiple times after Charlie starts freezing time and cheating.

Charlie can be seen crossing her fingers behind her back as a joke.

Veronica is still smiling and fist bumps to the air.

D) EXT. STREET - AFTERNOON - Charlie steals someones purse and Veronica gives Charlie a slightly worried glance.

END OF MONTAGE

INT. LIQUOR STORE - AFTERNOON

Charlie and Veronica stumble into a liquor store. Both clearly high on adrenaline while they're laughing and breathing sighs of relief. A wave of realization comes over Veronica as she realizes where they are.

VERONICA

No way.

CHARLIE

Um, yes way! We did a lot of work today, let's celebrate!

VERONICA

(dramatically)

Look at you! I've created a monster.

They both laugh again.

The store has dimmed, yellow-tinted lights and half empty aisles of liquor. Charlie starts pacing up and down the aisles. She thinks closes her eyes as if she's in deep focus, then furrows her eyebrows in concern.

She opens one of her eyes to peak at the store and sees an overhead light in mid-swing.

CHARLIE

That took longer than usual.

Charlie shakes her head and grabs a bottle from the shelf in front of her, and comes around to the aisle where Veronica is holding up the huge bottle of liquor with a smile on her face.

CHARLIE

Score.

EXT. LIQUOR STORE - LATE AFTERNOON

Both Veronica and Charlie slump down on the steps right outside of the liquor store, each taking turns taking swigs straight from the bottle. Veronica turns to Charlie.

VERONICA

So this has obviously been super fun, but I feel like maybe this shouldn't become routine.

CHARLIE

I can't believe you're the one saying this. Miss maturity out here.

VERONICA

I know it's a little out of character for me, but I do actually care about you. I know you have your job and all to worry about.

Charlie gives her friend a sympathetic glance. Then looks up to the sky.

CHARLIE

(sighs)

I know, you're right. It's just...the police force hasn't been as fulfilling as I hoped and I feel like im right back at square one.



VERONICA

Char, that's okay! We're 20-years-old!  
Everyone feels that way right now I  
promise you. Screw everyone else, just  
do you.

There's a moment of silence between them.

CHARLIE

This...was a bad idea. I didn't ask to  
have this ability in the first place  
and now look what I'm using it for.  
I'm turning out just like my parents.

VERONICA

Stop! What you can do, is so dope. I  
dreamed of being able to do something  
as cool as stopping time when I was a  
kid. You just need to start using it  
for the right reasons. Let's go home.

Charlie nods. They both put their arms around each other, and  
head to Charlie's car in the parking lot.

EXT. VERONICAS HOUSE - NIGHT

Charlie pulls into the driveway and is greeted with the sight  
of a POLICE OFFICER standing in front of Veronica's door. Her  
body freezes up.

CHARLIE

(panicked)

What the hell are the police doing  
here?!

The officer starts to walk up to her car and Veronica  
whispers in Charlie's ear.

VERONICA

Oh crap! Hey, why aren't you using  
your power? We gotta go!

Charlie is aggressively opening and shutting her eyes.

CHARLIE

I-i can't! I think we used it too much  
today, I don't know whats happening!

The police officer walks up to the window as Charlie rolls it  
down.

POLICE OFFICER

Excuse me miss? Is this your driver's license? We found it outside of the city bank shortly after two grand was stolen. I'm gonna need to bring you in for questioning.

Veronica and Charlie both cringe at the mistake.

POLICE OFFICER

Charlie, is that you? What are you doing with a criminal?!

CHARLIE

Officer, I can explain, this was all my-

VERONICA

-my fault. I told her to bring me home first so I could grab my things and then turn me in, I got greedy, im sorry.

CHARLIE

What the hell are you-

OFFICER

You can just come with me then ma'am.

Veronica steps out of the car with her hands in front of her ready to be cuffed. The officer looks away for a second to talk into his radio.

VERONICA

(whispers)

Charlie, you have a great gift, and a good job. I can't let you blow this over something that was my idea.

CHARLIE

Roni, no!

VERONICA

I'll be fine. Just promise to visit me?

Tears well up in Charlie's eyes as she watches her friend get into the back of the cop car.

INT. OUTSIDE OF POLICE - MORNING

TEXT ON SCREEN: "2 WEEKS LATER"

Charlie's in uniform sitting on the steps of the doors to the police station holding an empty coffee cup in her hands and holding her head down. A co-worker walks up to her.

CO-WORKER

It's good to have you back Charlie.  
Sorry to hear about your friend.

CHARLIE

Oh it's fine, better that she's behind bars than in the streets, right?

Charlie laughs nervously but has a look of guilt in her eyes as she says it. Her co-woker shoots her a sympathetic glance.

CO-WORKER

Have you talked to her since?

CHARLIE

Yeah, I visit everyday. It seems like she gonna get out on good behavior in a few months.

The office nods and walks away.

Charlie gets up to throw out her coffee cup when out of the corner of her eye, she sees a figure in a hoodie sneaking up the stairs of the city bank with a gun.

Charlie furrows her brows in determination and starts shouting. She speaks into her walkie talkie for backup.

CHARLIE

Hey...hey! Stop right there!

She runs across the street and starts bolting after the figure on the stairs as she struggles to get the handcuffs she had off of her belt loop.

The figure reaches for his gun but fumbles it and the security guard grabs him from behind. Charlie draws her gun.

CHARLIE

Freeze, dirt-bag!

FADE TO BLACK