Last Day On Earth

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EXT. TERRACE. DAY

Four friends sit around a table in the morning sun. MIA, early twenties, dressed in a white t-shirt and dungarees splattered in paint. ANNIE, late teens, dressed in blue jeans and a white blouse. NICO, early twenties, dressed in an oversized black hoodie and green basketball shorts. SAM, early twenties, dressed in a similar attire to Annie. the four friends are all eating breakfast.

NICO

(groans in delight)

Annie! you gotta try this turkey bacon man! it's awesome.

ANNIE

(disgusted.)

Ew no. I told you guys, I'm going vegan.

Nico rolls his eyes at Annie. He stops and thinks for a moment and then throws the turkey bacon at Annie's face. Annie shrieks in horror.

ANNIE

NICO! YOU ASSHOLE!

Nico and Mia howl in laughter at Annie's outburst while Sam chuckles quietly to himself.

MIA

Lighten up Annie, at least it didn't go in your mouth, in the eyes of the law, you're still vegan.

ANNTE

No I won't lighten up! you're pigs! This is why I never try anything new, you guys never respect my decisions

NICO

That's because your decisions are dumb and boring. can't you wake up for once and do something cool?

The group laugh and agree while Annie pouts. The laughter quickly dies down when they each get an alert on their phone.

What the fuck? Are you guys seeing this?

Nico finds a news channel and turns his phone around for his friends to see. NEWS REPORTER, mid thirties, serious demeanour begins the breaking news story.

NEWS REPORTER

Just moments ago, Physicists at the Houston Space Centre, detected a Meteor, 10 km in diameter heading directly towards earth at rapid speed. they predict it will reach earth in just under 24 hours and it will cause world ending damage. people are being advised to prepare for their last day on earth.

The four friends look at each other with all the colour drained from their faces.

CUT TO: BLACK

EXT. TERRACE. DAY

Mia, Nico and Sam are all seated at the table staring blankly while Annie paces back and forth in sheer panic.

MIA

Annie, please sit down, your pacing is making me feel sick.

ANNIE

(Stops walking)

My pacing? My pacing is making you feel sick?!

MIA

Yes. It is. So please knock it off.

ANNIE

Not the fact we're gonna be dead in 24 hours!

Might be time to try the turkey bacon. You know. Before we kick it.

No one laughs this time.

NICO

I'm kidding.

ANNIE

You think this is the time for your shitty jokes Nico?

NICO

(coyly.)

I just think it's more important to laugh now. It's not like we can even do anything about this!

ANNIE

(scoffs.)

Everything is always a fucking joke with you! well this time nobody is laughing! But I supposed when smoking weed's the only thing that gives your depressing life meaning, the end of the world doesn't seem so fucking bad!

Nico goes quiet. Hurt by Annie's harsh words, he gets up and leaves the table

MIA

What the fuck Annie! Asshole.

Mia gets up and follows Nico to comfort him. Annie looks down at the floor, wishing she could take that back.

SAM

Nico's right, we can't stop this, so don't waste the little time you have, turning people against you.

Annie looks at Sam, regret in her eyes, she sits down in defeat. Mia and Nico come back and sit back down once again. Annie tries to reach out her hand and apologise to Nico but he pulls away. The friends sit in silence contemplating the situation at hand.

We always used to talk about what we'd do if this day ever came.

Nico, Annie and Sam nod in agreement

ANNIE

guess we didn't think it would happen in our lifetime.

NICO

I guess this is our chance.

SAM

What do you mean?

NICO

I mean let's do something we've always wanted to do, if we're gonna die let's go out with one less regret than what we woke up with.

They all look at each other and slowly nod in agreement.

MIA

okay but where do we start.

NICO

What is your biggest regret Mia?

Mia thinks to herself and chuckles quietly.

MIA

Felicity Andrews.

The friends look at Mia confused. Nico waves his hand signalling Mia to expand.

MIA

We went to High School, together. I sat behind her in AP History all four years. She was beautiful, the first person I ever fell in love with.

NICO

You got her number?

I don't know, even if I did I'm not calling her.

ANNIE

(excitedly.)

Why not! call her and tell her how you feel!

MIA

This is stupid, I can think of something else.

Nico takes Mia's phone off the table and starts looking through her contacts. Mia runs over and tries to take the phone from Nico, but he holds her off with one hand.

MIA

Nico knock it off, I don't have it!

NICO

Don't lie.

Nico turns the phone around to reveal Felicity's contact details. Mia's face goes red, Annie beams with excitement and Sam gives Mia a kind, reassuring smile. Mia snatches the phone off Nico and walks back to her seat.

ANNIE

Call her Mia, give yourself some closure.

MIA

I'm not embarrassing myself over some silly high school crush.

SAM

Can't be that silly if you still think about her.

Mia tries to refute but doesn't have a comeback. Sam turns towards Mia.

SAM

I have never known you to back down from a challenge Mia. This is the last chance, don't let it go.

Mia sighs, gets up from her chair and leaves the terrace

INT. APARTMENT. DAY

Mia sits down on the sofa and looks for Felicity's number. Her thumb hovers shakily over the call button. She lets out a nervous sigh and presses the button. Mia waits for the ringing to stop, praying that she doesn't answer.

FELICITY (O.S)

Hello?

Mia scrambles to place the phone near her ear.

MIA

Felicity?

FELICITY (O.S)

Who's this?

MIA

It's Mia. From high school.

FELICITY (O.S)

Oh. Hey Mia. Can't lie, this isn't who I was expecting to hear from today.

MIA

(chuckles.)

I guess not. How are you?

FELICITY (O.S)

Considering the world is about to end, not bad. You?

MIA

Right yeah, about the same I suppose.

FELICITY (O.S)

Good.

A beat passes as Mia fights to find her words

FELICITY (O.S)

Is there a reason you're calling me and not your family?

Mia jumps up and starts pacing.

Right yes! There is. I just thought... you know end of the world, lemme get something off my chest.

FELICITY (O.S)

okay.

Mia once again loses her confidence and the ability to put a sentence together.

FELICITY (O.S)

And that something is...

MIA

I just wanted to say... you were my biggest regret.

FELICITY (O.S)

What do you mean by that? (Mia sits back down.)

MIA

I mean I let four years of high school go by without telling you I loved you. I don't wanna die with that feeling.

Another beat passes.

MIA

You still there?

FELICITY (O.S)

Yeah. I'm still here.

MTA

(sighs.)

Okay cool. Thought I scared you off.

FELICITY (O.S)

(chuckles.)

It's definitely a surprise.

They both laugh together.

FELICITY (O.S)

As flattered as I am, You know I'm not-

I know. And I didn't think you were, I just... I just wanted you to know.

FELICITY (O.S)

Maybe in our next life.

Mia smiles warmly.

MIA

I'm gonna hold you to that.

FELICITY (O.S)

(laughs.)

I know you will.

(beat.)

Bye Mia, Take care of yourself.

MIA

Bye Felicity. See you in our next life.

The phone hangs up and Mia sits with her accomplishment before returning to her friends.

EXT. TERRACE. DAY

Mia closes the door behind her and turns to see her friends staring back at her.

MTA

What did you guys expect? A fucking wedding invite.

The friends sigh and Mia sits down.

ANNIE

How do you feel?

Mia smiles.

MIA

Surprisingly, better.

Awesome, Whose next?

Everyone goes quiet. Mia looks over at Sam

MIA

What's yours Sam?

Sam looks up.

SAM

None that I wanna dig up now

NICO

come on dude, there has to be some thing!

SAM

What about you Nico? Anything you wanna fix?

NICO

Nothing I can fix in 24 hours friend, back to you.

Sam thinks for a minute.

SAM

My dad left us when I was two. Didn't want anything to do with me. For years I thought he moved across the country. turns out he only lived 10 minutes away.

The friends go quiet. Mia places her hand over Sam's knee. Nico thinks carefully.

NICO

What would you say to him.

SAM

I guess, I would ask him why. Why wasn't I enough of a reason to stay?

NICO

Let's do it.

SAM

What?

Let's go. We're not that far away we can go and you can ask him.

SAM

I'm not doing that.

NICO

Why not! Get the answer you need so you can die with some God damn peace Sam.

MIA

I loathe saying this, but he's right Sam. You're at least an answer.

Sam knows they're right, but the thought is much too painful.

SAM

I can't do it guys, you know me, I don't make waves, I'm not like you guys.

NICO

(grabs his car keys)
Well, you know what they say. No time like the end of the world.

Nico walks out the terrace, Mia and Annie follow close behind and Sam hesitates before walking out with them.

EXT. HOUSE. DAY

Nico drives up towards the house and stops the car. The friends all climb out but Sam is met with a nasty surprise. He notices kids toys scattered across his dad's driveway.

ANNIE

You never said you had siblings.

SAM

I didn't know I had any.

Bubbling with anger, Sam marches up to the front door, Mia tries to go after him but Nico stops her. Sam knocks on the front door, he is met with DALE, early fifties, typical suburban dad.

DALE

Sam.

SAM

Hey Dale.

Dale looks hurt at the use of his real name but lets it slide.

DALE

It's been a while.

SAM

Why'd you do it?

DALE

Sam, listen I was young, I never meant to hurt you or your Mom.

SAM

You know, I dunno what hurts more, that fact that you're lying to my face or that you have more kids, that they got a dad and apparently I wasn't worthy of that.

Dale hangs his head in shame, Sam scoffs and he turns to walk away but quickly turns back.

SAM

You know what, I don't even care. Mom and I did amazing without you, I thought I wanted closure but the reality is you were always just an idea until this moment, now that you're standing in front of me, you're just a stranger. this was really fucking anti climactic.

Sam walks away, the friends get back in the car and drive away leaving Dale at the door.

INT. CAR. DAY

The friends drive back home in silence. Nico looks over at Sam.

You good man?

A beat passes.

SAM

Yeah.

(turns to Nico.)

Yeah I am.

EXT. TERRACE. DAY

Everyone is sitting out in a peaceful silence, Sam is sitting what he's just experienced, Mia as well. Nico sits on the balcony wall with joint ready, Annie slowly walks up and joins him.

ANNIE

Hey.

NICO

Hey.

A quick awkward silence passes.

ANNIE

I'm sorry about what I said before Nico. The way you helped Mia and Sam today was amazing and I was completely wrong.

Nico looks over at Annie and smiles.

NICO

You weren't wrong.

ANNIE

What do you mean?

NICO

I spent my entire time at college, smoking and skipping classes. I wasted my opportunity and I can't get it back anymore.

ANNIE

Nico, academic intelligence means jack shit at the end of the day, you are a great friend and you are just as much an over achiever as I am, you just do it in the places that matter.

Nico wraps an arm around Annies shoulder.

NICO

You're sweet Annie. Doesn't mean I didn't envy your success.

ANNIE

There's nothing to be envious about. I worked so hard my whole life to get my parents praise and affection, I thought if I worked hard, they would love me more. That was the real waste of time.

Beat.

ANNIE

All I've ever wanted was to let go and feel free for once in my life.

Nico smiles cheekily.

NICO

Well Annie, may I introduce you to the first and last love of my life?

Annie cocks her eyebrow.

NTCO

Annie,

(Lights up joint, takes a drag.) meet the great Miss Mary Jane.

Nico hands the joint over to Annie, she starts to protest but stops quickly, she reluctantly takes the joint and takes a big drag. Annie holds it for a second before coughing like hell.

NICO

(Laughs loudly.)

There you go! Welcome to the pothead life Annie, I hope you enjoy it.

The two start laughing together, Annie takes another big drag and starts coughing immediately.

NICO

Alright Marley, take it easy. (takes joint from Annie.) Save some for the rest of us.

Mia and Sam join Annie and Nico by the balcony.

MIA

Check you out Annie!

ANNIE

(High as a kite.)
I feel like I could fly up and punch that meteor away all by myself.

The mood quietens as they remember what's about to happen.

MTA

I just wanna say that. Despite this being our last day alive. It has by far been the best day of my life. I love you guys with all my heart.

The friend embrace each other in a tight hug.

NICO

Come on now, no use wasting this Caligold.

They each take a drag of the joint and they make fun of how high Annie is, their jokes and laughter fades out as they continue smoking.

NEWS REPORTER (O.S)
In a stunning turn of events, the meteor hurling towards earth has missed by a mere 1,600km. It looks like our little blue planet lives to fight another day.

END.