

SCENE ONE

Eryn's Room. Student accommodation.

Eryn wakes up. She swings her legs out from her bed and jumps up to her feet. She almost falls over, but manages to catch herself.

ERYN

Alexa play upbeat music.

Okay, Alexa skip.

Eryn shrugs and massages dry shampoo into her hair. Her finger catches a knot. She snaps the knot with a sharp tug, and bites her lip. Eryn sniffs herself and wipes herself with some baby wipes. She sniffs again and gives herself a spray.

Eryn makes for the door, but before she can leave Eryn - Bee enters.

ERYN

/Hey

BEE

/Hey.

Eryn makes for the door, but Bee jumps back blocking the door.

ERYN

Get-

Eryn takes out her phone.

BEE

You forgot your Fabreeze, you'll remember later and you'll figure no one'll notice, but they'll notice.

ERYN

What/-?

BEE

I know you're thinking I'm talking nonsense and that I'm probably on LSD or whatever it was that people did- Mandy? Or was that after all the deaths that put people off, I don't know. I can tell I'm losing you, though.

ERYN

Speed or Coke. Definitely uppers. It seems like you need to take it down/ a notch.

BEE

See, see! That whole thing you came out with you're just trying to get me off guard so you can open the door and- you haven't really thought about what you'll do after that, have you? What if I just decide to sit down?

*Bee strides past Eryn and sits on her bed.
Eryn backs towards the door, never taking
her eyes off Bee.*

BEE

You'll get the friends you're going to see, I suppose.

ERYN

I was gonna get the police.

BEE

Okay...

The lights sharply go out.

POLICE

This woman was here and now she's gone?

BEE

I didn't even go to the toilet.

POLICE

If no one's here, we can't do anything. Maybe try and change your locks or something.

Lights come back up slowly.

Eryn's sitting on her bed. A couple of hours have passed. Eryn's staring into space.

Bee emerges.

BEE

I got to admit I didn't see things going this way.

Eryn jumps up and scurries away from her.

BEE

I'm sorry for how jarring this is. I am. But you had to be ready for what I'm about to say.

Eryn clenches her fists.

BEE

I'm from the future. If you punch me I can go back before you even touch me and reappear when you're sleeping and hit you in the gut.

Eryn draws back her arm but, after looking at Bee for a few moments, she just lets it drop to her side.

BEE

But I'm not going to, you know why...? Because I'm you/.

ERYN

Fuck off/...

BEE

I know, I know- well I don't. I'm guessing that's because I'm the first one to do this, and it takes awhile for those things to make their way upstream, but I'm trying my best to understand, so I'd appreciate if you did the same.

ERYN

Aye. Whatever.

BEE

I'm not sensing the maximum amount of sincerity here.

ERYN

I'm just trying to keep up, eh.

BEE

/Okay.

ERYN

/Okay.

BEE

Right- ... You won't get this yet. You can't because- you think you're an adult now, but- well- it's not that you're not- but you're- you've- not had the chance to get things wrong and really *truly* pay the price for it yet. Now... when that happens, everyone wishes they could go back and change things/-

ERYN

/You think you're me, and think I haven't had made mistakes?

BEE

You have. Of course, you have. But... You haven't set your life dramatically off path because of it.

ERYN

I. Don't. Know, You've still got a time machine.

BEE

... Yeah. Look- I don't think getting into detail'll help, you'll just look for loop-holes. I know because... well, how do you think I got a time machine?

ERYN

Sounds like you've got time to tell me, eh.

BEE

What you need to do is to focus, on your studies. You're going to find that difficult, but doing that, you'll realise some things about yourself, some capabilities you didn't realise you had and hopefully- you'll do it before it doesn't matter.

ERYN

Right...

BEE

Yeah?

ERYN

Sure.

BEE

I *know* you'll still want to look for loop-holes after everything I've said but- it's a waste. Of. Time.

Bee leaves.

SCENE TWO

A toilet. Years later. Eryn comes in, dressed smartly.

She almost hits the sinks. She stops and takes something out of her bag and puts it down. She kneels over and inhales.

Enter Bee, she gets close.

BEE

What do you think you're doing?

Eryn jumps and scurries away from her.

BEE

Okay, hello, or whatever.

ERYN

Okay. What?

BEE

Huh?

ERYN

I've did what you've told me to!

BEE

You're about to lose your job.

ERYN

Oh right...

Eryn goes to leave, but Bee shoves her back.

ERYN

Hey...?

Eryn goes to leave again.

BEE

Everything you do comes upstream to me eventually. Everything.

ERYN

Yeah. I don't want any regrets.

BEE

This. This is the regret.

Eryn stops and examines Bee.

BEE

Things been better for you recently?

ERYN

I mean/-

BEE

Then why's it so hard to listen!?

ERYN

I'm *tired*.

BEE

Yeah, that happens. Get on with it.

Eryn pushes through Bee and leaves.

Lights black out.

SCENE THREE

Eryn's work the next day.

BOSS

These pictures are everywhere, so I'm afraid we'll gonna have to let you go. I don't really have any choice.

Lights up.

Eryn stares into space. Enter Bee, with chocolate. She offers Eryn a piece, but she ignores her.

BEE

I don't even know how much longer I'll be me/-

ERYN

Can't you just go back and tell me/-?

BEE

Already did that remember/.

ERYN

But go back even earlier.

BEE

... The further away you get from a decisive moment, the less likely you are to have an impact.

ERYN

Huh?

BEE

'Don't do this thing now' carries more weight, than 'don't do this Tuesday'.

ERYN

Take me with you, then.

BEE

Oh... That just makes things- complicated.

ERYN

It does?

BEE

Dealing with one future version of yourself can be a bit much, but a second one can be... Look, you still have options here, more than I've got.

Bee exits. Eryn sits with her words. Enter Cee.

CEE

Right don't ask me stupid questions, okay? Okay. You're a good person. You've just hit rock-bottom. Now there's a lot of different ways this can go but the best way, and it took me awhile to end up there, is that you realise you can help with all of this recovery. You share that recovery. You let them know every detail. Well, not every detail. Some of this is a little mad, isn't it? But you let them know the dirty stuff. You'll always seem authentic if you do that, even if you're not, in fact, I don't think it even matters if you're actually authentic or not, just that you really emphasise that general sense of being so.

And-

Okay. Sorry. Going a little fast, aren't I?

ERYN

Was that a question?

CEE

We can only get off that path *now*. Trust me, I've explored other options.

ERYN

It'd be better if I never ended up here, wouldn't it?

CEE

No. Then there'd be nothing to recover from, would there? The thing I'm here for is- I'm trying to maximise how much we can make from this? So we never have to become her.

Eryn points off the way Bee left. Cee nods.

ERYN

Okay. But I don't want to feel this way.

CEE

It- serves a purpose.

ERYN

Oh. Yeah. Does it?

CEE

Yeah. For each and every one of us still possible.

ERYN

That's a lot.

CEE

Yeah.

ERYN

Wait/.

CEE

/That's precisely why we can't/.

ERYN

/Don't worry about that that.

Enter Bee.

CEE

No! *Sake.* What's *wrong* with you!?

ERYN

I realised what none of yous wanted me to know.

BEE

Whatever you're thinking you need to take a step back and/-

CEE

Don't you start this nonsense!

Cee grabs Eryn, who only smiles back at her.

ERYN

So you're catching up?

BEE

I can already feel you ending up in the middle of the road.

ERYN

That doesn't sound very fun.

BEE

Yeah/.

ERYN

I'm not going your way. Maybe a wee bit of yours (*pointing at Cee*), but not the whole way, cause you're a bit intense.

CEE

You can't do *this*!

ERYN

You've really no caught up, have you? I can. *I* can send whatever I want up that stream. I could get rid of both of you, if I fancied it, but I don't. It's much more fun if you find ways to serve me. But then, if you don't, who knows maybe I can find other versions of myself who can. They might be here any moment. So, if I were you two, I'd get thinking, cause I can easily be distracted.

BEE

Can you give us a minute?

ERYN

I think so. I don't really know. Ooh, that's kind of fun, isn't it?

Bee and Cee take a few steps away.

BEE

She's/.

CEE

/Yeah...

BEE

If she has half the control she's implying/-

CEE

/Oh, I know...

BEE

Maybe we can pick up scraps/?

CEE

/Here and there.

They go back to Eryn.

ERYN

I don't think you'll be undermining me.

Bee and Cee flicker out of existence.

ERYN

I guess this is simpler. I do kinda like that. I'm still a bit fucked. Maybe. Maybe, that's alright.