

ROOMMATE WANTED

by Japheth Gordon

INT. APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

KENDALL (19) studying. EMILY (19) on her lap-top, reading through Craigslist ads:

EMILY

What the...?

KENDALL

What is it?

EMILY

This can't be right? I was searching for -- doesn't matter -- on Craigslist there's a post for our apartment.

KENDALL

Oh. Okay.

EMILY

How weird is that? It's says "Two-bedroom, balcony" blah blah blah. "Looking for female roommate with steady job. No drama please." Seems like someone is trying to rent out one of our bedrooms.

KENDALL

It's probably for some other apartment.

EMILY

No. Our apartment is the only one with a balcony. And I care because there are already two of us living here. So either you're planning to move out without telling me or you're planning to kick me out.

KENDALL

You're being paranoid.

(beat)

Why do you even care?

EMILY

Shit! It's you!

KENDALL

Calm down.

EMILY

I have to find out you don't wanna live with me anymore by seeing my room posted on Apartments for Rent!

KENDALL

Why were you looking at apartments?

EMILY

What?

KENDALL

Why were you on Apartments for Rent in the first place Emily?

(beat)

You were searching for a new place!

EMILY

So?

KENDALL

You were gonna move out and not tell me!

EMILY

No, no, no -- this is not about me.

KENDALL

Of course it is! You're blaming me for going behind your back, but you were just gonna abandon me... with one-hundred percent of the rent?!

EMILY

I was gonna tell you when I found a new place!

KENDALL

I was gonna tell you when I found a replacement roommate!

EMILY

Wow... This is --

KENDALL

Fucked up?

EMILY

Extremely.

(then)

Why?

KENDALL
(shrugs)
Just wanted a change.

EMILY
"No drama please"?

KENDALL
I almost failed my midterm.

EMILY
That was my fault?

KENDALL
Kinda. Two a.m. with what's-his-face?

EMILY
You can go to sleep anytime. No one's forcing you to stay up with us.

KENDALL
I don't want people to think I'm some shut-in that can't hang out.

EMILY
But you can't hang out.

KENDALL
Not with you.

BEAT.

Emily closes her laptop and starts to leave.

EMILY
Well, I'll be gone next week.

KENDALL
No. You can stay until you find a place.

EMILY
I don't want to. And don't worry, I'll pay my half for February.

KENDALL
It's not personal.

EMILY
Just...

Emily EXITS. Kendall alone.