

INDEPENDENT LIVING

1X05

"Amber Returns"

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TEASER

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FADE IN:

INT. KINGSTON LOUNGE - DAY

Aaron sitting at table drinking coffee with Melissa.

AARON

So what brought you to Cleveland?

MELISSA

Well for one it was a chance to leave home, take it from me Philadelphia is not one of the best cities, and it was a chance to embark on a new journey in life.

AARON

Well when you put it that way it makes sense. But Cleveland isn't one of the best cities either, I mean sure we have the Rock Hall and the suburbs, but we have the worst sports teams.

MELISSA

Well I really don't watch sports, but with the way I've heard LeBron is playing those Cavs have a chance.

AARON

I was surprised you agreed to come here with me, it was just finished like a week ago, it's a really nice place though, I think a gas station used to be here.

MELISSA

Well I was surprised you asked me, I mean I haven't been out much since I moved on campus.

AARON

Someone as beautiful as you, I'm shocked, you not dating.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MELISSA

I'm serious, no one's asked me, I thought maybe it was because I was new here but when you asked me, I knew that wasn't true.

AARON

Well I got to get home, I mean I have a big test in Latin tomorrow.

MELISSA

How about a good night kiss?

AARON

Um, my ride is outside....

FADE TO:

INT. APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Jack and Aaron sitting on couch talking.

JACK

..... And that's how it ended?

AARON

I totally screwed up, I have no idea why I couldn't kiss her.

JACK

Could it be the fact that Amber get's home tomorrow and she'll be moving into her new on campus dorm room.

AARON

That's tomorrow? I totally forgot about it. What do I do Jack? I don't want Amber to know I'm suffering.

JACK

Well for one you can stop overreacting, and for two you can grow up, It's not that big of a deal, just pretend she doesn't exist.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

AARON

That should work, but if it
doesn't I go to Plan B., Play sick
for the rest of the year.

BLACK OUT.

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

INT. KINGSTON LOUNGE - DAY

Aaron, Jack and Sarah sitting at a table talking with there books open.

SARAH

So Aaron, excited about Amber's stories of how San Diego was?

JACK

I don't think Aaron really wants to talk about this.

SARAH

Why wouldn't he, Amber is his ex-girlfriend, oh, okay now I see why.

AARON

Look it's okay, I'll get over it, it's been a month already.

Melissa walks in and walks towards Aaron.

MELISSA

Hi Aaron, I was thinking about last night and....

AARON

I was too and last night was just really bad dream, See this is my girlfriend Sarah, we had some problems and we worked them out last night.

MELISSA

Oh, I thought you were single, that's why you asked me out to start fresh.

SARAH

Yeah, Aaron, my boyfriend, I thought you wanted to start fresh after Amber.

AARON

Thanks for helping me.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MELISSA

What's going on Aaron?

Ryan walks in and grabs a bagel.

AARON

Hey Ryan, I'll have to talk later
Melissa.

Aaron walks over and sits down with Ryan.

RYAN

What's up, you look like you've
had a really bad morning.

AARON

More like a bad life, see last
night I went out with Melissa over
there, and it ended really bad,
she wanted a good night kiss and I
just couldn't do it. Then when I
got home, I remembered that Amber
return's today.

RYAN

I'm sorry man, bad year so far.

AARON

Hey where's Dan and Veronica?

RYAN

Veronica's getting ready for class
and Dan's there still, oh my god,
I have to get back there, that
jackass.

Ryan gets up and runs out the door.

CUT TO:

Sarah, Jack and Melissa sitting at table.

MELISSA

So what's Aaron's problem, why is
he avoiding me?

JACK

I've been Aaron's best friend for
a long time, maybe it's not my
place to tell you.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

SARAH

Hey I will, See about a month ago, Aaron's ex-ex-girlfriend came and paid him a visit, and on her way out she decided to kiss Aaron and Amber saw the whole thing, well she didn't take it well, and she broke up with him even though she kissed him, then she left for this internship in San Diego, well today she returns and Aaron's trying to avoid life right now.

MELISSA

So Aaron's actually innocent in all of this and he's being treated like the victim.

JACK

Actually yes.

MELISSA

Then how do I get close to him, I really like him, I'd like to go out with him again.

JACK

I know Aaron, I'll talk to him.

INT. AIRPORT - BAGGAGE CLAIM - CONTINUOUS

Christine waiting for Amber who is walking down the hall right now.

CHRISTINE

Welcome back, how was your trip?
Bring me anything?

AMBER

My trip was great but I'm glad I'm home too, I can't wait to see Jack and Ryan, and Dan.

CHRISTINE

Aren't you forgetting someone?

AMBER

No, I know who I know and that's it, besides you.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

CHRISTINE

What about Aaron? Don't you remember Aaron? The one you dumped before you left.

AMBER

Aaron who? And even if I did know of this Aaron you're talking about, which I don't, I did not dump him, we broke up because of what he did with another girl, but I don't know any Aaron's so I don't know what you're talking about.

CHRISTINE

You're being a child, younger than me right now.

AMBER

Am not.

CHRISTINE

You have to confront him at some point, you do have some of the same classes together, even though you're not living with us anymore, I'm never going to see you am I?

AMBER

Of course you will, I'm just on campus that's all.

CHRISTINE

What about you coming to see me at the apartment?

AMBER

I don't think that's a good idea. Let's just see how it goes.

INT. KINGSTON LOUNGE

Aaron, Jack, Sarah sitting and talking.

AARON

So what did you say to her.

SARAH

Nothing, we didn't say nothing at all.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

AARON

I know you guys, what did you say to her?

JACK

Okay, I'll just tell you what she told us. She really likes you, and she wants to go out with you again.

AARON

Even though I embarrassed to hell out of myself.

JACK

That's what she says.

Christine and Amber walk in and start walking over by Jack and Sarah.

AMBER

Hey how are you all, I've missed all of you.

JACK

We're doing real well, you?

AMBER

I'm great, I got all of you San Diego shirts.

AARON

Yeah well I have to get going, I have a lot of things to do.

JACK

Aaron, don't give up on her, Go after Melissa, she wants you, go get her.

Aaron leaves.

BLACK OUT.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

INT. KINGSTON LOUNGE - DAY

Amber, Christine, Jack and Sarah sitting together.

AMBER
Who's Melissa?

CHRISTINE
Aaron went out with a girl named
Melissa last night and I heard the
date went bad but I guess not as
bad as I was told.

JACK
Melissa came here a little while
ago and Aaron avoided her and she
told us that she really liked
Aaron and wanted to go out with
him again.

AMBER
So then Aaron's happy without me?

JACK
No it's just when you two broke
up, you both agreed to move on
with life and that's what Aaron's
doing, moving on, going out and
dating other people. You should do
the same.

INT. CAMPUS - RYAN AND DAN'S DORM - CONTINUOUS

Dan and Veronica sitting and talking.

DAN
So when I was in tenth grade I
decided to change my look again
and I.....

Ryan comes barging into the room

RYAN
You thought you could fool me
didn't you Dan, you thought if I
went to Kingston Lounge I wouldn't
know, you thought...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

DAN

What are you talking about, we've been sitting here talking about high school for over an hour, we figured you went to class.

RYAN

Nothing happened, you mean it's actually safe for me to go out of the room without having to worry?

VERONICA

Why wouldn't it? What you actually think that when someone leaves I'm just going to jump into bed with the other person? I'm sorry but I'm not like that anymore.

RYAN

I'm sorry, I'm such an idiot.

VERONICA

No don't worry about it, I completely understand, there's nothing to be sorry about.

RYAN

No really, I'm an idiot to think that low of a beautiful young woman like you.

DAN

Hey dude, remove your lips from her butt and wipe that brown stuff off your nose while you're at it.

INT. CAMPUS - MELISSA'S DORM - CONTINUOUS

Melissa is just reading a book, sitting on her bed when Aaron knocks at the door. Melissa gets up and answers the door.

MELISSA

Aaron, I wasn't expecting you.

AARON

Well I had some advice from a good friend, he told me what you said, Look....

MELISSA

Why don't you come in and make yourself comfortable.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Aaron enters the room and takes his coat off and sits down at a chair by the desk. Melissa sits down on her bed.

AARON

Look I'm so sorry about last night, I have a lot going on in my life right now, I just broke up with my fiancée and this dating thing is new for me right now and then when you asked me to kiss you last night, all I had was memories of why Amber and I broke up and then....

MELISSA

Save your breath, Sarah explained it all to me, I know what happened, the only question I have is why do you still let it linger on you. It wasn't your fault.

AARON

Sarah told you, Thank god it wasn't Jack, I knew I could trust Jack, I was a little scared about...

MELISSA

Who cares who you can trust, I really like you Aaron, but if we are to continue this relationship, you need to confront your feelings about the Amber thing and move on, you can't keep putting things off, they're only going to keep building up inside of you.

AARON

You're the first outsider to care, I haven't even known you a week and you care, why?

MELISSA

Well you know I have to keep my part somehow, I mean in your little circle I'm just a supporting friend.

AARON

Well I want you to stay, I care about you too, I feel connected to you.

INT. APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Amber, Christine, and Jack all sitting around talking.

AMBER

I have to leave as soon as Aaron gets home, I really don't want to confront him yet, besides I want to put some more stuff away at my new dorm room.

JACK

Well Sarah should be back from class soon.

CHRISTINE

I never understood why she took a night class, any ways, so what was it like out there in San Diego, I bet it was warm everyday and just awesome.

AMBER

Well actually it's very different, you need a lot of money to live out there and the people I think become vultures at night.

JACK

Sounds like our old high school at finals time.

CHRISTINE

I remember last year when Amber and Aaron feel asleep in the library studying and when security woke them up the school thought they did something together.

AMBER

That was in the past, Aaron was different then, maybe college changed him.

JACK

Gees, you think, College changes everyone, people meet new friends and old ones and the feelings that were just seem to change.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

AMBER

So you're telling me that I was
wrong for how I treated Aaron?

JACK

I'm not saying that.

AMBER

So I was right?

CHRISTINE

He's not saying that either.

AMBER

Okay you both are confusing me,
what do I do?

CHRISTINE

You have to figure that out, but I
think Aaron already made the
choice.

AMBER

You're right, Aaron moved on, he's
dating, all that's left is the
confrontation.

FADE TO BLACK.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

INT. CAMPUS - HISTORY CLASSROOM - DAY

Aaron walking into the classroom where Professor J. Daniels is grading papers.

AARON

Did I not cherish Amber?

PROFESSOR J. DANIELS

Here we go to Aaron Land.

AARON

I mean until the point we broke up did I not love her and take care of her like a good man should do?

PROFESSOR J. DANIELS

Who talks like you?

AARON

Look I come to you, and you always give me the advice that I need, that's who you are my advice guy, even though everytime I ask you for advice your sister seems to interrupt us.

PROFESSOR J. DANIELS

You're right, my apologies, what can I do for you?

AARON

Well see I started dating this girl...

PROFESSOR J. DANIELS

Melissa Stevens.

AARON

How'd you know that? Anyways now she wants me.....

PROFESSOR J. DANIELS

To confront Amber before you continue your relationship.

AARON

Right, wow that's amazing, two for two.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

PROFESSOR J. DANIELS
I've seen this before, she's
right, you have to finish one
relationship before you start
another one.

AARON
But it is over and finished, we
broke up, she went to San Diego
and now she lives in the dorms,
far away from me.

PROFESSOR J. DANIELS
Are you two avoiding each other
since she got back or are you two
on good terms?

AARON
We haven't talked since she left.

PROFESSOR J. DANIELS
Well that's the problem, you have
unfinished problems to work out. A
relationship isn't over until the
last confrontation, when the two
involved both agree to move on and
either stay friends or not, which
I'm guessing you haven't done yet?

AARON
No I haven't, I know what I have
to do, thank you Professor.

PROFESSOR J. DANIELS
Anytime Aaron, you're one of my
best students.

AARON
That's the first time we didn't
get interrupted.

Professor S. Daniels walks in.

PROFESSOR S. DANIELS
Hey John....

AARON
I take that back.

INT. CAMPUS - RYAN AND DAN'S DORM - CONTINUOUS
Sarah and Veronica talking on the bed.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SARAH

You don't have any idea what you're going to do after graduation?

VERONICA

None, and I love what Ryan and Dan did to take me in.

SARAH

I've heard a lot about both Ryan and Dan from Aaron and Jack, I don't know a lot about them myself only because I'm new to this group like you.

VERONICA

So I heard that Aaron's dating again?

SARAH

He went out with Melissa Stevens, nothing big, you have no idea after graduation?

VERONICA

It's hard living with two guys, I know.

INT. CAMPUS - AMBER'S DORM - CONTINUOUS

Amber is sitting looking at pictures of her and Aaron as there is a knock at the door. She gets up and gets the door and Aaron is standing in front of it.

AARON

We need to talk.

AMBER

I know we do, why don't you come in and sit down, I'll get you a pop.

Aaron sits down on Amber's bed, Amber grabs a pop out of the mini fridge and sits down next to Aaron and hands him the pop.

AARON

What happened to us? We were so happy and then we just fell apart.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

AMBER

I think college happened to us, we never thought about things that could happen.

AARON

I guess you know about Melissa, look I'm sorry, I had to get my mind off of the break-up some how and to just sit around and do nothing.

AMBER

Maybe we were just too young to be thinking about marriage. Maybe we were never meant to be together and the Stacy thing was the way of showing us.

AARON

College is not high school, not in a big way, we depended on each other more in high school, here we're more independent. We just didn't adapt, and many people don't, that's why you here of high school couples breaking up within college. Plus now we get a chance to start our lives fresh, we get to go our own ways.

AMBER

So there's nothing let between us, you feel nothing for me?

AARON

I'll always love you and care about you in some way but as far as us go, you ended it, you said it was over, you told me to move on and start over, for two weeks all I thought about was us and how much I missed it, but then it went away.

AMBER

I'm sorry I blamed it on you, I know it wasn't your fault she kissed you.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

AARON

I could have pushed her away,
what's done is done, we had a good
run, besides what would have
happened if we were married and
that happened, aren't we glad it
did now.

AMBER

So where do we go from here? I
don't want to be one of those
couples who break-up only to end
up hating each other.

AARON

That won't happen to us, we were
good lovers, but we're even better
friends, but what happens,
happens, we're adults now, so I'll
see you.

AMBER

Yeah, I'll see you.

Aaron walks out of the room.

AMBER (cont'd)

The only problem is I came home to
start over with you.

INT. APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM

Sarah, Jack and Christine sitting around and talking.

SARAH

Amber deserved it, she broke up
with him when he didn't do
anything.

CHRISTINE

Yes, but she came home to start
thing over and he didn't even give
her a chance to tell him, he moved
on with Melissa.

JACK

But what's done is done, he felt
it was over and we should be happy
for Aaron, he did what he wanted,
He's happy and we should be happy
for him too.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SARAH

Jack's right, if Melissa is what Aaron wants then it's okay, he's single and has the right to date her.

CHRISTINE

I guess so, maybe I only feel this way because Amber's my sister, besides Aaron's known for non lasting relationships, I say two weeks.

SARAH

Three weeks tops.

JACK

That's just wrong, betting on how long a relationship will last for, put me down for a month.

BLACK OUT.

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

FADE IN:

INT. CAMPUS - MELISSA'S DORM - NIGHT

Melissa is sleeping when there is a knock at the door, she gets up turns on the light and answers the door, Aaron is there.

MELISSA

Aaron, it's like three in the morning, what are you doing here, come in.

Aaron comes in and closes the door and sits on Melissa's bed and Melissa next to him.

AARON

I couldn't sleep, I went to Amber's and talked to her, and we both agreed that our break-up was a good thing, it's a chance to move on with life.

MELISSA

I know you did, Jack called me and let me know, I'm proud of you, so maybe you are worth something.

AARON

I'm worth a lot.

MELISSA

Like what, mister I can't kiss you because my ride is waiting outside, I mean that was a really dumb

(Aaron kisses Melissa)

Wow, I felt that.

AARON

I think I'm ready to start over with you, so what if we go on a first date again, say tomorrow night?

MELISSA

Well I had plans with this guy who was too afraid to kiss and had some problems with an old flame but I think I'm free now, I'd love too Aaron.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

AARON

Good because I wasn't taking no
for an answer.

INT. CAMPUS - AMBER'S DORM - NIGHT

Christine and Amber talking on the bed.

AMBER

He's over me, he moved on in just
one month.

CHRISTINE

So you burned all of his pictures
and almost set the dorm on fire
I'm guessing.

AMBER

Yeah, my night was very festive,
and I'm guessing you made bets on
how long him and Melissa will
last?

CHRISTINE

We know each other way too much.
So you want to go to Kingston
Lounge and get some breakfast?

AMBER

No I think I'm going to just lay
low for a while.

INT. APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Aaron enters the apartment to Jack sitting on the couch
watching TV

JACK

Where the hell have you been all
night?

AARON

I spent the night at Melissa's, we
decided to start over and take
things slow. I did it, I actually
confronted Amber.

JACK

You realize that she probably
almost burned down the dorms last
night burning your pictures.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

AARON

Yeah, but we did break up, and maybe now it's a chance to make names for ourselves here in college. Oh by the way, thanks for calling Melissa to let her know I was going to confront Amber, I wanted to tell her.

JACK

Hey you're my best friend and I know that you'd be there for me in the same situation.

AARON

See Melissa is so much different than Amber, she's like the anti-Amber, Melissa takes everything for what it is..

JACK

What is it that she takes?

AARON

No it's a metaphor.

JACK

But why would she take stuff for what it is?

AARON

Never mind, I'm just saying with Amber in the dorms now and Sarah living here, college is turning out a lot different than we first thought, it's better than what we first thought.

JACK

I'm sorry things didn't work out between you and Amber.

AARON

Hey don't even worry about it, what's done is done.

JACK

We all learn from our mistakes, I'm not saying Amber was a mistake, I'm not saying she wasn't, I don't know what I'm saying, I need to shut up and end this, best friends dude?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

AARON

Forever.

FADE TO BLACK.

FADE IN:

INT. CAMPUS - RYAN AND DAN'S DORM - NIGHT (TAG SCENE)

Dan and Veronica are sleeping as Ryan comes barging in the room.

RYAN

You thought you could do it, you thought that if I, why isn't anything going on. I set this one up perfectly I even left candles, thinking I could catch you.

Dan and Veronica are snoring.

RYAN (cont'd)

Oh, I guess Veronica was right, I should be more trusting, I leave for three minutes to go to the snack machine and everybody's sleeping, I guess the jokes on me.

Ryan gets into bed and blows the last candle out. Veronica gets up and wake Ryan up.

VERONICA

Wake up, Ryan, I told you I'm not like that but with you I don't know I just can't control myself.

Veronica starts to kiss Ryan as he wakes up.

RYAN

Bad Ryan, bad dreams, wet dreams. I so need a cold shower.

Dan and Veronica pour a bucket of cold water on Ryan.

DAN

There's your cold shower.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

RYAN
Thank you, good night.

FADE TO BLACK.

END OF SHOW