

SEVENTEEN

By

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D13

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Black

Music in

1 EXT. STREET - NIGHT

Someone is flipping through songs on an IPOD. It stops on 'Seventeen' by the Blue Eagles.

Click, Click

2 EXT. STREET - NIGHT

Everyone gets into the car.

3 EXT. STREET - NIGHT

A young boy with a BLUE TIPPED SNAPBACK and an EAGLE CHAIN stands from seated position.

4 EXT. STREET - NIGHT

He is walking through the streets.

He goes to cross the road. A CAR zooms past him into a car park.

Music out

5 INT. CAR PARK - NIGHT

A small group of people are huddled in the corner of the car park, car headlights light the scene. LIAM JAMES (24), a menacing looking young male dressed from head to toe in black. CASSANDRA RENAE (17), a young girl with a look of exhaustion struck across her face. AALIYAH HARDY (18), a young Latino girl conveying a sense fake bravery. A young boy KAY DONTAE (14) stands timidly behind them. Two BAGS lay on the ground behind them.

Chris is hiding behind a pillar. His eyes emerge from the shadows.

Another car pulls up, a MYSTERIOUS MAN (40's) gets out. Chris slides down the wall and peaks around the corner.

KAY
(Whispers)
Can I go now?

(CONTINUED)

BOY 1
(Laughs)

No

Liam chuckles with him. Cassie looks at them, annoyed. The Man shuts the car door and walks towards Liam. He looks at Liam's group pathetically.

Boy 1 pushes Kay forward, shakily he drops a BAG at the mans feet and scurries back. The man looks down. Chris holds out his hand and squints.

MYSTERIOUS MAN
We made a deal. Take what you
want from them, this is all I
wanted. Where's the rest?

LIAM
It's here, I just wanted to make
sure..

MM throws a wad of money at Liam. Boy 1 pushes Kay. Kay turns around to grab the other bag.

KAY
It's gone.

Liam turns around, looks at Boy 1 and back to Kay. Liam looks back at the Mysterious Man.

KAY
It was here.

Liam fiercely goes to grab him, Cassie stops him.

CASSIE
Don't!

MYSTERIOUS MAN
(Chuckles)
So it just disappeared?

Kay backs up, he stops and see's Chris in the shadows holding the bag.

MYSTERIOUS MAN
It disappeared?

LIAM
We'll get it back, we just need
time.

The Man grabs the bag and starts to walk backwards to the car.

MAN

Never send a boy to do a mans
job.

LIAM

Where are you going? I said I'd
get it back for you.

He gets into the car and drives off. Liam looks around in
anger. The boys look around.

LIAM

Where is he?

CASSIE

Liam..

Liam grabs her neck and pushes her against the car.

LIAM

(Shouts)

Where is he?

Chris pulls a piece of CARDBOARD with his powers, it
covers Kay.

BOY 1

Who's that?

Chris is running off into the distance.

LIAM

Don't just stand there! Get him!

Liam see's something on the floor, a picture. He picks it
up. It's a picture of Chris' little sister. Liam stares at
the picture.

Chris runs off into the distance with the bag.

OPENING TITLES - SEVENTEEN

6 EXT. PARK - DAY

FLASHBACK

A child's Laughter - Sunlight.

7 INT. CHRIS' ROOM - DAY

Chris is stirring in his sleep.

8 EXT. PARK - DAY

AMBER NOBLE (10), a young girl, with curly hair giggles.

Flashes of a young girl's smiling face. She throws daisy's at Chris.

AMBER
Chris, your so boring. Your
supposed to be playing with me.

Hands stacking pebbles.

AMBER
I bet you can't do this.

He plays with his dads watch.

AMBER
Chris!

The young girl is hanging from the jungle gym.

CHRIS
Amber what are you doing? Amber?

He holds out his hands, a strong ripple of wind shoots from his hands. Knocking Amber from the gym.

CHRIS
Amber? Amber? .. Amber?

Amber is laying on the ground, daisy's lay by her chest.

9 INT. CHRIS' ROOM - DAY

His eyes shoot open, his ears ring.

Sweat drips down his knitted brows, out of breath, his body shakes.

He sits up. He takes off his wet shirt and throws it behind him. He looks at Liam's backpack on the floor.

Disorientated, he looks around his room.

He throws on his work clothes, tip toeing around the room. Footsteps.

10 EXT. ESTATE - DAY

Music changes to - Hip Hop with strings.

Liam is talking his boys. He looks at Cassie. She stops talking to Aaliyah and walks over. Liam wraps his arm around her protectively.

(CONTINUED)

He strokes her face lovingly and play fights with her.

Aaliyah comically bops towards the group. Kay dressed in his school uniform, follows her.

Cassie smiles.

Kay approaches Liam, he stares at the ground. Everyone stops to watch.

LIAM
Big man's ready to show his face.

KAY
I'm sorry.

LIAM
What? I can't hear you.

KAY
I'm sorry.

A car rolls up beside them. Liam holds out his hand, one of the boys places a package in Kay hands.

LIAM
Get it right this time.

Kay nods.

CASSIE
Liam! He's just a kid..

LIAM
So.

Chris dressed in a black shirt, blue jeans and scuffed converses. Quick and nimble, bounds across the pavement.

The car drives away. Kay runs back.

LIAM snaps his head around to silence Cassie. He pins her to the wall.

LIAM
Don't, ever..

...He kisses her gently on the forehead.

An intense stare. She looks away. She notices Chris. Liam notices Cassie watching him.

LIAM
Oi bruv!

Chris continues walking, his head down. Liam crosses the road.

LIAM
Bruv, I'm talking to you.

Chris keeps walking, Liam runs in front of him. Chris stops.

LIAM
I thought I'd come and introduce myself.

CHRIS
I know who you are.

LIAM
Good, cause we'd have a problem if you didn't.

Liam jokes.

LIAM
Do you know who this belongs to?

He pulls out the picture. Chris glances at it and looks forward.

CHRIS
No. Why?

LIAM
Who ever dropped this, stole something from me. Where you off to?

CHRIS
Work.

LIAM
Where?

Chris looks across the road at Cassie, she smiles. He smiles.

CHRIS
I'm just trying to stay out of trouble.

Liam moves to the side, blocking Chris' gaze.

LIAM
Then I guess you'd better get to work.

Chris looks at Liam and back to the floor. He continues walking. Liam turns to look at Cassie. She looks away. Kay passes Chris as he walk off. Chris holds on to his pendant, flicks it open. The picture is missing.

11 INT. CAFE - DAY

COOK
Late, again.

CHRIS
Sorry. Just, busy, you know.

COOK
(Concerned)
How are you doing?

CHRIS
What time are you closing
tonight?

COOK
I think I'll make it an early
one, around 6. Why?

CHRIS
Just asking.

Chris serves a woman, YASMIN HAYNES (20's) lunch, she gives a sweet smile.

YASMIN
Thanks. How's your family?

CHRIS
(Hesitates)
Yeah really good, they travel a
lot.

YASMIN
Always having the flat to
yourself.. it's not such a bad
thing.

Chris smiles.

CHRIS
I guess..

COOK
Chris, to the front.

Chris grabs the plate and walks over to the back table. A man reading the NEWSPAPER wearing a shirt and jeans sits at the table. He laughs. His RING bares the crest of an eagle. Chris puts the food down and smiles clueless. The man puts the paper down.

MAN
I can never keep a straight face
when I lie.

(CONTINUED)

CHRIS
What do you mean?

MAN
Now you, your a pro. Right?

Chris' smile fades.

MAN
You must have told a few lies
right? Your young..

CHRIS
Erm, I..

MAN
Am I making you feel
uncomfortable?

CHRIS
No.

The Man smiles.

CHRIS
Would you like anything else?

MAN
I'll let you know.

Chris walks off, confused.

12 EXT. CAFE - DAY

Cassie pulls out an empty BOX OF CIGARETTES. She chucks it
on the floor in frustration. Aaliyah stops and pulls out
HER BOX.

AALIYAH
Here..

Cassie lights it.

CASSIE
Thanks.

AALIYAH
That's a fiver..

CASSIE
What?

AALIYAH
We're not all Liam's girlfriend.
I still need to make another £50.

Cassie pushes her hands away and walks off.

(CONTINUED)

CASSIE
Don't you want to have a life,
like bigger, more than this one?

AALIYAH
Are you high?..

CASSIE
..No, I just want more. I need to
get away from here.

AALIYAH
..But what about me? You can't
just leave me behind.

CASSIE
I can't stay here.

AALIYAH
..But what about Liam? Will he
let you go?

Cassie and Aaliyah share a concerned look.

CASSIE
I can handle him.

13 INT. CAFE - DAY

Chris holds a TRAY WITH FOOD. He turns and notices Cassie from behind. His hands shake, the food spills. It falls towards the ground, he swiftly removes one hand from underneath the tray and faces his palm in line with the food, it stops in mid air. Chris awkwardly places the tray on the table, the food jet towards his hand. He places them on the tray next to the Man and walks off.

MAN
Impressive, but you missed one.

Chris turns around. The Man looks at the floor. Chris bends down to pick it up.

CHRIS
Sorry..

The man grabs Chris' arm before he can walk off.

MAN
How about you take a seat,
Chris..

CHRIS
How about you tell me who you
are? You think I wouldn't
recognise you? Your the man from
last night. What do you want?

They share an intense stare.

14 EXT. CAFE - DAY

AALIYAH
Are you hungry?

CASSIE
No.

AALIYAH
Good.

Cassie glances over.

Beat.

CASSIE
I belong to him.

AALIYAH
(Laughs)
That's cute.

CASSIE
Aaliyah..

Aaliyah watches her, concerned.

AALIYAH
Cass?

15 EXT. CAFE - DAY

AALIYAH
..Think fast.

Cassie turns around and catches a glimpse of Chris through the window. Aaliyah walks up to Yasmin and takes her bag, delayed, Cassie runs after her.

16 INT. CAFE - DAY

Chris rushes out of the cafe and pushes past Yasmin.

CHRIS
(Shouts)
I'll get it.

17 EXT. STREETS - DAY

Chris follows the girls down the street.

They turn into an alleyway, he follows. He reaches out his hand, aiming for the bag but pulls down dustbins, boxes and other pieces of debris on the grotty streets. Something hits Cassie.

CASSIE

Ow!

Cassie looks back in awe and confusion. Her arm is bleeding. She watches Chris outstretch his hands, objects shake as she passes.

CASSIE

He's following us!

Aaliyah looks back.

Cassie looks back again, Chris is huffing and puffing as he struggles to keep up. A determined look is struck across his face.

Chris stretches out his hand once more, a force ripples through the air and hits the bag, it drops from Aaliyah's grasp. Cassie turns as it flies towards Chris.

Cassie gasps as Chris stops and slickly catches the bag.

AALIYAH

Shit!

Chris slows down.

Cassie slows down and turns to face him, they share a look.

He see's her arm.

CHRIS

I'm sorry

He starts to hyper ventilate.

AALIYAH

Leave it, let's go!

Cassie runs off into the distance. Chris breathes deeply and collapses to his knees.

18 EXT. ESTATE - EVENING

Liam is on his phone texting, he looks around annoyed.

19 INT. LIAM'S FLAT

Cassie is sitting on the sofa in shorts and a top watching TV. She wipes her wound with a cloth.

20 EXT. ESTATE - NIGHT

Aaliyah and Kay walk towards Liam, Kay looks guilty. Aaliyah looks worried.

21 EXT. STREET - EVENING

Chris is sitting alone, looking at his watch. He looks at his hands and points at some dirt, it starts to vibrate. He stops abruptly and breaks down.

Amber's voice resonates in his mind.

He looks at his watch, it's 6pm. He makes a move.

22 INT. LIAM'S FLAT - EVENING

Liam walks in with Boy 1. He grabs a beer. His boy looks at Cassie and smirks. He looks at Liam, Liam nods. He grabs Cassie and takes her into the bedroom, Cassie protests fiercely.

23 INT/EXT. A CAR - NIGHT

The car lights glow in the dark. The Mysterious Man receives a text message. 'Did you find him?' He texts back 'It's him'. In the distance, Chris walks across the street.

24 INT. LIAM'S FLAT

Cassie is sitting in the bedroom, covering her bruises with makeup. BOY 1 blurred in the background is sprawled out on the bed. She walks out of the bedroom in a tight red dress, she grabs a CIGARETTE from Aaliyah.

Liam leans back and enjoys the view. She puts on her jacket and heads for the door.

LIAM
What's the rush?

(CONTINUED)

He takes the cigarette from her mouth, pulls her in and talks quietly into her ear.

LIAM
Keep that on for tonight yeah?

CASSIE
Please don't make me do this.

LIAM
We made a deal..You keep that on
and then I'm gonna take it off.

Cassie winces. He kisses her, everyone watches.

LIAM
2 hours.

She walks out.

Liam walks back to the sofa, Aaliyah looks down, guilty.

25 EXT. ESTATE - NIGHT

Chris walks through the eerie estate. He stops and turns around, he looks around behind him and continues to walk.

Lights flicker on and off. He passes through the dirty courtyard. He pulls stands in front of the side door to the cafe, holds his hand over the key hole and turns the lock. The door opens.

26 INT. CHRIS' ROOM - NIGHT

He runs down the wooden steps, drops his bag on the floor and trudges around the dark room it's a mess. He switches on a light. He picks up his sister's picture, pulls out a bag and shoves it in with some clothes.

He hears something move above him. He puts his things into the backpack and cautiously climbs the stairs.

27 INT. CAFE - NIGHT

He emerges in the dark cafe. Chairs are stacked upside down on tables. He moves past them slowly.

CHRIS
Who's in here?

He pulls down one of the chairs from the table without touching it.

CHRIS
I said who's in here?

He pulls down another.

CASSIE
It's me! It's me..

Cassie reveals herself from a dark corner. She stares back at him, her heavy breathing pierces the silent room.

CHRIS
Cassie? What are you doing here?

Chris moves towards her, she jerks backwards.

CHRIS
What are you doing here? How did you get in?

CASSIE
I just want to talk.

CHRIS
About?

CASSIE
I need to tell you that.. that thing you did today?

CHRIS
I don't know what your talking about.

CASSIE
I think you do!

He stares at her.

CHRIS
Please leave, I don't need this right now.

He starts to pick up the chairs.

CASSIE
Where are you going?

CHRIS
Nowhere.

CASSIE
Do you live here? I mean you walk about the estate like.. why?

CHRIS
What do you want?

CASSIE
I've seen you watching me.

CHRIS
And?

CASSIE
You shouldn't. Why don't you ever
talk to anyone?

CHRIS
I prefer my own company.

CASSIE
Is it cause of that thing you can
do?

CHRIS
I..

Cassie slowly begins to walk towards him. She turns around
and pulls down the straps on her dress. Chris stops her.

CHRIS
Stop.

Cassie edges forward.

CHRIS
You need to go.

She looks at Chris warmly but desperate.

CASSIE
I'm not leaving.

She edges forward again. Chris' arm begins to shake.

CHRIS
Please. You don't understand.

CASSIE
No, you don't understand.

She edges forward again. Her face inches away from his. As
she steps into the moonlight the bruises on her face
become clear. Chris tenses his brows and lowers his hands.

He strokes her face. Cassie catches his hand and kisses
him.

CHRIS
What are you doing?

They kiss again, a tear falls down her cheek.

(CONTINUED)

CASSIE

I'm so sorry.

A loud bang. They jerk away from each other. A loud bang.

The door flings open.

LIAM and his boys appear at the door. They move in, slowly surrounding Chris.

CHRIS

What is this?

He looks at Cassie.

LIAM

(To boys)

So he thinks he can run around unnoticed? And he's messing with my girl!

CHRIS

What? What are you talking about.

One of the boys grabs the bag. Liam looks at Chris.

LIAM

I don't know how you did it but no one makes me look like a fool, understand?

The boys surround and jump on Chris, viciously beating him up.

Cassie watches in disgust.

CASSIE

Liam, please stop!

LIAM

What?

Liam looks at Cassie confused, he walks towards her, slaps her and pins her against the wall. Chris watches Liam from the ground. Amber's screams resonate in his head. Her voice is getting louder.

CHRIS

Leave her alone.

Suddenly, his brows begin to tense, his fists curl, the blows begin to have no affect. His face tenses, he bares his teeth and lets out a loud scream of rage. He knocks everyone onto their feet with a burst of energy.

CHRIS
(Shouts)
Leave her alone!

He stands and fights off the remaining goons. He reaches out his hand to Liam. Liam turns to fight.

LIAM
What the fuck are you?

Liam pushes him in to a large pile of boxes behind him. He looks back at Chris, stands and pulls a knife on Cassie. She screams, trembles, cries.

CHRIS
(Shouts)
Don't!

CASSIE
Liam please!.. Liam!

LIAM
Shut up!

CASSIE
Chris run!

LIAM
Shut up!

Liam presses the knife up against Cassie's neck.

CHRIS
No!

Liam looks at Cassie, Chris pushes him to the ground, they fight again. Liam grabs the knife and lunges at Chris. Chris pushes out his hand. Silence. Liam has stabbed himself in the chest. He looks up, Chris is standing in front of him with a fierce gaze. Liam gasps and drops to the ground.

Cassie throws herself onto Liam's body, crying and screaming out. She looks at Chris. He bends down. Police sirens.

CASSIE
Run.

Chris backs up and bolts out of the door.

He runs through the estate, into the courtyard, through alleyways, into a park. He drops onto his knees and throws up. He stops, his breathing is heavy, the scenery spins, he throws up again.

The Mysterious Man appears above him. Chris looks up, exhausted, he attempts to fight. The Mysterious Man overpowers him easily.

MYSTERIOUS MAN

Stop. I'm not here to hurt you.
I'm here to help you.

The man grabs the bag from Chris and opens it. Chris notices the ring. Chris looks at the Man.

Black Out.

End - Credits Roll