

INDEPENDENT LIVING

1X07

"The Dance"

Story by
Annie Mac Gillis

Written by
Aaron Bielert
Annie Mac Gillis

INDEPENDENT LIVING

"The Dance"

TEASER

*

FADE IN:

INT. KINGSTON LOUNGE - DAY

Aaron, Jack and Sarah are sitting at a table drinking coffee when Christine comes running in and over by the table.

CHRISTINE

I've got some great news.

AARON

What, did the dog outside finally get run over by your bike.

CHRISTINE

No, but your brain did.

JACK

Just tell us, stop the madness, stop the suspense.

CHRISTINE

I've got a date for the Homecoming Dance.

SARAH

You got a date, why can't I ever get a date, Am I ugly or something? I mean...

AARON

We don't want to be here all day, just cut it off.

JACK

Who is the guy, I mean is he in the same grade or is he just some low-life on the bottom of the pole.

CHRISTINE

No Aaron, you guys take good news and turn it so negative.

AARON

That's what we're here to do.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

CHRISTINE

His name is Jim Martin and he's a junior, he's the captain of the football team.

AARON

I don't know Christine, sounds like he wants a little more than just a dance if you know what I mean.

JACK

He means he wants sex.

CHRISTINE

I know what he means, I'm not stupid, and no, Jim's a great guy, sure we don't know each other much but this is where dreams come true.

JACK

No that would be Disney World, or Disney Land, or in some cases anywhere but here.

AARON

All we're trying to say is be careful, I know guys, I mean I've been one for nineteen years, I have a little experience as one, and I know what is on our minds when we go out with a girl.

CHRISTINE

So everytime you went out with my sister, sex was the only thing on your mind, well you did a great job because you're still a virgin.

AARON

Hey I tried very hard, your sister is just stubborn, maybe if she wasn't so stubborn, we could have gotten somewhere.

CHRISTINE

We can spend all day here debating my sister or we can move on.

Amber comes walking in and over to the table.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

AMBER

Hey what are you kiddies doing.

AARON

Just the person I'm looking for, would you please tell your sister that a guy goes to a homecoming dance, looking for more than just dancing, they look for sex.

AMBER

Aaron not all guys are like you a Jack some are actually nice. Why does my sister have a date for the Homecoming Dance.

CHRISTINE

Yes, Jim Martin asked me.

AMBER

The captain of the football team.

JACK

Wait a second how did you know he was the captain of the football team, you don't even go to that school anymore, he would have been a sophomore last year when we were seniors.

AMBER

Sports News Magazine, he was rated number six in Ohio to make the NFL in high school, I guess this guy had a QB rating of like one-hundred in junior high and last year on junior varsity.

JACK

And he asked you out of like a million other girls that go to your school.

CHRISTINE

Hey what can I say when you're a ten, you're a ten.

JACK

I think I need a barf bag.

CHRISTINE

Let's leave these pigs sister.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

AMBER

Yeah pigs.

Amber and Christine get up and leave.

AARON

Hey I am not a pig, hey you think
that's a real pig's skin on the
football?

BLACK OUT.

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

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

Ryan, Dan and Veronica are sitting on the bed with a newspaper on the floor.

RYAN

Do you really think we should do this?

DAN

Why not? When was the last time we went out for the entire night and skipped class the next day. Besides Veronica brings up a point, what do we do besides stay inside all the time.

VERONICA

Yeah I since I've only been here for all seven episodes, I think it's only right we do something I want.

RYAN

What, seven what?

VERONICA

Nothing I was just saying, it's time we had fun for once.

RYAN

Well what movie do we want to go see.

DAN

Well hold on, do we want to do a movie first or dinner first?

RYAN

Well Dan does bring up a good point, if we did a movie first, then we'd want more dinner but the again after the snacks maybe we wouldn't, but if we did dinner first we might not want snacks and...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

VERONICA

Why can't we just be able to go out like normal people without making everything so damn complicated.

DAN

Because this is us and this is how we are, wait is this a trick question.

VERONICA

I give up, you pick what we do.

RYAN

Hey don't get mad, Dan is just complicated sometimes on his own willing.

VERONICA

But why tonight, why on the one night why decide to do something like this.

DAN

Hey can we get cotton candy at the movies, the maybe we can...

VERONICA

You started this, you end it Ryan.

INT. APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - LATER

Aaron and Amber sitting on couch watching TV.

AMBER

Why is Aaron, that you think Jim is such a bad idea, is it because he is better than you are.

AARON

Why why are you so conceded since we broke up.

AMBER

You're calling me conceded, look who's got some bug up his butt because my sister got a good date to the homecoming dance.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

AARON

I was only giving my opinion from what I saw when we were in high school. Amber you should know most of all, before you moved up here with your grandmother, what was it like in Cincinnati schools.

AMBER

That's not what this is about, this is about you thinking that my sister can't protect herself if she gets into that kind of situation.

AARON

No that's not what this is about, when we were dating do you know how many times I tried to get sex by just saying a word or something or kissing you or anything like that.

AMBER

Wow and you're still a virgin, look at that, guess I knew how to protect myself.

AARON

Great, now you have to push it in my face too, not enough, hold on you know, you and your sister are two of a kind, you think like each other.

AMBER

Look I'm not going to stand here and let you bad mouth my sisters date, you can explain to her why I left, I got to go.

Amber starts leaving and gets to the door.

AARON

I think that's a good idea because we don't want to argue on the day of your sisters big day.

AMBER

Can you spell conceded?

AARON

Yes I can, A-M-B-E-R.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

Amber leaves and slams the door on the way out, Sarah comes walking into the living room from the kitchen.

SARAH

What is going on here, I thought I heard the door slam.

AARON

That was the breeze leaving the room.

SARAH

The breeze being Amber I'm guessing.

AARON

How did you figure that out.

SARAH

Well for one I could hear you from the next room over and also you two are the only ones I know who broke up and argue like a married couple.

AARON

Yeah well, she thinks that nothing can harm her or her little sister, who's only living here still because I allow it and a promise I made to her parents, but if it wasn't for me her sister would still be in Cincinnati with her big brother Charlie.

SARAH

Amber has a older brother?

AARON

Yeah, Charlie, he's big boy, and I mean big. But I'm trying to tell Amber that Christine might want to rethink this, I mean you know from earlier at Kingston Lounge.

SARAH

I don't know what to tell you Aaron, I mean you're right, Christine could get hurt tonight, Captain of the football team doesn't sound like a dancing person, sounds like a player to me.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

AARON

Yes but Christine is so caught up in the happiness of even getting a date to Homecoming that she won't listen to any of us.

SARAH

I got an idea, what if we volunteer to be chaperones. People do it all the time, besides we live with one of the students, it shouldn't be that hard. Besides how many people, or I mean kids can actually come to a dance.

AARON

Believe me this is a big gym, we had all but two-hundred students come last year.

SARAH

We only had an average of fifty students a year at our homecoming dance.

AARON

Well at an all-girls school, I hope not a lot of girls go with each other.

SARAH

Shut up.

AARON

Okay.

BLACK OUT.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

INT. KINGSTON LOUNGE - CONTINUOUS

Jack and Melissa sitting together drinking coffee.

JACK

So what did you need me for. I thought you had everything about Aaron that you needed.

MELISSA

Well almost, I know all about him, but now I need to know how to win him over, and I mean win him over good.

JACK

But you're the only woman in his life.

MELISSA

Yeah but I see how all the woman look at him, I want him to be just mine, like my boyfriend, exclusive privileges with him.

JACK

Are you sure you want to go exclusive with Aaron, even though he seems afraid to even go out on a date with you.

MELISSA

Well since he's gotten back from Canada he's seemed different, like that Kelly girl gave him some really good advice, and he seems very different, but he still won't kiss me, he'll hug me, shake my hand, but just not kiss me. I don't understand that one. Does he think my lips are chapped, or that worse, they're not pretty and juicy.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

JACK

Your lips look fine, don't worry about those kind of things, Aaron's got so much with midterms coming up and his ex is bugging him like crazy.

MELISSA

Amber is still bugging him.

JACK

Well right now it's about Christine, Amber's younger sister, the one who lives with us. But back to subject if you really want to win Aaron over just get him alone and be romantic. He loves that stuff.

MELISSA

But what is that doesn't work, say he totally ignores it.

JACK

I don't know then but this should work unless something else or should I say somebody else gets in his way.

MELISSA

Well who else could get in his way of me.

INT. APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - LATER

Aaron and Sarah sitting on couch together.

SARAH

Okay I just called Middlebrook High and they said that we could be there.

AARON

We just can't let Christine or Amber know.

SARAH

Agreed because we know how they would react.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

AARON

Yeah I could see it now, how could you two do this, this is violating to us, blah, blah, blah.

The doorbell rings

SARAH

I'll get it.

Sarah answers the door with Jim Martin standing in the doorway.

JIM

Hi is Christine here, I'm Jim Martin.

SARAH

Hold on one second.

Sarah shuts the door.

AARON

Who is it?

SARAH

It's Jim Martin, Christine's date for the dance.

AARON

Christine get your butt in here.

Christine comes out of the kitchen.

CHRISTINE

What is it, what is so important that you had to get me out of the kitchen where I was doing my make-up.

AARON

Jim Martin is waiting outside for you.

CHRISTINE

Why didn't you have him come in, instead of freezing his ass off outside.

SARAH

Well we thought you were ready to go so we had him wait outside.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

CHRISTINE

Well luckily I'm ready to go, so I
will see you guys later.

Christine walks out the door.

SARAH

She doesn't know what she's
getting herself into does she?

AARON

Well that's why we're going to be
there too.

FADE TO BLACK.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

INT. MIDDLEBROOK HIGH SCHOOL - GYM - NIGHT

Tons of people dancing with Christine and Jim Dancing and Sarah and Aaron spying on them from the punch bowl table.

AARON

Can you believe the way Christine is putting herself all over that guy.

SARAH

Aaron, that's not Christine, and that's not Jim, look over about ten feet that's Christine.

AARON

That would explain why she looked a little under feed.

SARAH

Look would you keep with the task at hand, we need to make sure Christine doesn't get hurt.

AARON

Sorry, I just don't remember this many people at this school when I went here.

CUT TO:

Christine and Jim dancing.

JIM

So what's it like living where you do with all of them.

CHRISTINE

It's not bad most of the time, but these past few days have been pretty bad, I really don't want to talk about it.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

JIM

Well I just wanted to let you know that you don't have to go home after the dance because I got us a hotel room, well actually my parents got it for me, but I thought we could spend the night there.

CHRISTINE

Why would you get a hotel room, why can't we go get food at a restaurant and then say good night.

JIM

We can do that at a hotel, they have a food court and a nice big bed just for two people.

CHRISTINE

You know Aaron was right about you football players and all you want is sex.

JIM

Hey I don't need to take this from some chick like you, There's hundreds of other girls at this school that would love to go to a hotel room with me.

CHRISTINE

Well why don't you go ask one of them you human piece of slime.

JIM

Fine, find your own way home too, I don't need this see ya.

Christine walks over to the punch bowl and pours a glass of punch. Sarah and Aaron walk over to her.

AARON

Could you use a ride home?

CHRISTINE

What are you guys doing here, what are you spying on me.

AARON

No we are actually, what are we doing here anyways Sarah?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

SARAH

Look, we tried warning you about a guy like Jim.

CHRISTINE

I know, I know, now all I'm going to hear about for the next two hours is how you guys were right and I was wrong and how I should learn from my mistakes, well I really don't need that, maybe I'll just take the bus home or walk even. The last thing I want right now is a lecture, what I really need is my sister, she knows how to talk to me in these situations.

SARAH

Well your sister isn't here we are, and we just saw and heard everything that happened, for one what he just did, he should be suspended for, that should not be allowed in any school, not even college.

CHRISTINE

Look I really don't want to talk right now, I would rather talk to my sister.

Amber comes walking up to them.

AMBER

Why would you rather talk to me, and why are you two here at my sister's homecoming dance. Were you spying on her?

AARON

Look Amber, I knew that Christine was going to get in trouble, so I decided to tag behind so we could stop it from happening.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

AMBER

You still have no right. My sister can live her own life and protect herself, I also saw what happened and I think she handled it very well, and Sarah you have no right to even be here, you didn't even go to this high school, and beyond that you're just some little big sister want to be with my sister.

AARON

Hey don't talk to Sarah like that, she's the one who talked me into doing this, you know ever since we broke up Amber, you've been out to get me for some reason, why don't you just stay out of my life, one better let's not even be friends. Let's go Sarah.

Aaron and Sarah walk off and leave.

CHRISTINE

I know what you're going to tell me, and you know what you're right, I should have been more careful on who I went to the dance with.

AMBER

No I wasn't going to say that, I think you handled the situation better than I would have, I don't know Chrissy, maybe you're growing up faster than I did.

BLACK OUT.

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

FADE IN:

INT. APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - LATER

Aaron and Sarah sitting down on couch.

AARON

Can you believe the nerve of Amber, getting mad because I was watching out for her sister. When her and I dated, she would be so happy that I watched out for her sister and now she's mad when I do.

SARAH

Well maybe Amber feels like you're starting to be like a brother to Christine and she's scared that Christine won't need her big sister anymore, besides Amber got lippy with me which I didn't like at all.

AARON

Well that's only because she really doesn't know you well yet. I'm ready to tell Amber to have Christine go move in with her.

Amber and Christine come walking in through the door.

AMBER

Aaron we need to have a talk right now.

AARON

Why because I was looking out for your little sister, because I still have the heart to do that, because I made a promise to you and your parents that I would do that so she could live here.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

AMBER

Well that's what we need to talk about, I don't think Christine should stay here anymore, I think she should go back home and live with mom and dad in Cincinnati.

CHRISTINE

What, why Amber, you know I'm not mad that Aaron was there, besides why were you there at the party is what I should be asking also, In a way Aaron did know what was bound to happen and I thank him for protecting me, but what were you doing there also.

AMBER

Okay fine you caught me, I also knew that something bad was going to happen, remember in Cincinnati when I was a freshman and that football player asked me to prom only to embarrass me.

CHRISTINE

Yeah but just because that happened to you didn't mean it was going to happen to me tonight, I mean it did, but that's only because football players and footballs themselves are both pigs.

SARAH

Look Amber, just because you live on campus now, doesn't mean you're any less a sister to Christine, I could never replace you as a sister to her. I'm an only child, but because she lives here I do care about her and want to do what is best for her.

AARON

Look and I need to say something too, when you moved out, I didn't know what to do about Christine, I can't take your place either, I mean sure I have two sisters, so what, the point is I do what I have to do to watch out for her for you when you can't be here.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

AMBER

Well what about the whole not wanting to be friends comment back at the high school.

AARON

Look I was mad Amber, you really put me in a spot, you just wanted to yell at me because I was doing something right. I'd never give up my friendship with you though. You and I have a long history, we may not be dating anymore but friends are even better.

SARAH

And I may not know you that well but that doesn't mean we can't get to know each other better too, I mean I kind of met Aaron as you two were falling apart, so I don't know much about you besides you treated Aaron pretty good, Aaron's told me a lot and what he hasn't Jack has.

CHRISTINE

And if I moved back to Cincinnati, I'd lose out on seeing my sister everyday. You don't know how much I cherish that, last year when you were up here and I was down there still I really missed you but now that we both live within ten miles of each other, it's great.

AMBER

Well when you put it like that, I guess you can stay and I won't tell mom and dad about this little incident.

CHRISTINE

Thanks sis.

Christine and Amber hug.

INT. KINGSTON LOUNGE - DAY

Jack and Melissa sitting drinking coffee and watching TV when Aaron comes walking in.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

AARON

Hey what are you two doing here?

MELISSA

I had to talk to Jack about this one homework assignment that I have.

JACK

So how did Christine's homecoming dance go, or don't you know yet.

AARON

Yeah that was a bad night, Sarah and I decided to go and follow Christine and what we thought would happen, well you know, happened and Amber ended up being there and flipped out because we were there.

MELISSA

It sounds like what you did was only caring for an old flames sister.

JACK

So Melissa was telling me that you two are going dinner Friday night at ElRoys.

AARON

Yeah we are, I wanted to do something special that night because it will be our fifth date out as just friends and there is something I wanted to ask Melissa.

MELISSA

There's something that you want to ask me, why wait till Friday.

AARON

I have to wait till Friday, By the way I'll pick you up at eight. Come on Jack, we need to get to bed so we can get to class in the morning.

Jack and Aaron leave.

INT. APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - LATER

Aaron and Jack walking in and turn on the lights.

JACK

So the whole time home you said
you'd tell me what you're going to
ask her Friday, so tell me.

AARON

I'm going to ask her to be my
girlfriend, what else could I ask
her, would you like to go out
another time, I mean after five
dates what would be the next step.

JACK

Are you sure you're ready for
this?

AARON

Why not, it's been two months
since Amber and I called it quits,
it's time to move on and right now
is the most appropriate time.

JACK

So no regrets then on anything.

AARON

Jack why should I regret anything,
the only thing I regret is that I
didn't ask Melissa sooner.

JACK

So then why wait till Friday to
ask her, why not go over there
right now to her dorm room and ask
her.

AARON

Well I want it to be the right
moment, you know, candlelight, the
moon, fancy restaurant, expensive
food, and just two people who care
about each other.

JACK

So in other words you love her
don't you?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

AARON

I wouldn't say love but today when I was in the car going to the dance, I kept thinking to myself what's Melissa doing, I want to be around Melissa all the time, I want to be with her, I finally know what I want.

JACK

Good for you.

FADE TO BLACK.

FADE IN:

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

Dan, Ryan and Veronica sitting on the bed with the newspaper on the ground.

RYAN

So does anybody know what they want to do.

VERONICA

Dan have you made up your mind yet between dinner or a movie first yet, it's only ten at night.

DAN

Well my problem is if we go to dinner first we won't want snacks but if we go to the movies first then maybe we won't want dinner.

VERONICA

Make up your mind already it's getting late and I know we're skipping class but this isn't worth it anymore.

RYAN

Dan can I ask, why don't you just flip a coin.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

DAN

No flipping a coin won't help
because it's the luck of the flip
then.

CUT TO:

Ryan and Veronica are sleeping on the bed with Dan sitting
down with newspaper still on the floor.

DAN (cont'd)

Okay I think I got it, what if we
go to dinner first then we go to
the movies, maybe then we can
spend less money. No wait that
won't work because of popcorn,
I'll figure it out don't worry.

CUT TO:

Ryan and Veronica are bones on the bed with Dan still sitting
on the bed thinking.

DAN (cont'd)

Okay I got it dinner first because
they call it dinner and a movie,
no wait because we can call it
movie and dinner though too, I'll
get it soon.

FADE TO BLACK.

END OF SHOW