

THE SOUND OF
THE LIFE OF
THE MIND OF
SUMMER

Written by

BUTT3R5

WGAW Registered

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INT. A BOY'S MESSY ROOM - AFTERNOON

A man CAYDEN "CAY"(19) lays down on a bed with a platinum-blonde-haired-girl LAUREN "LORE"(17) half-resting on his chest. Fresh from just having sex, the weakened couple let a rotating fan cool them off on this hot, muggy day.

Cayden is simply wearing swim trunks and a tanktop, Lauren's in a fashionable two-piece bikini with the lace on the back of her top undone so Cayden can thinly run his fingers up and down her back.

LAUREN
(dragging)
It is so. Fucking. Hot.

Cayden hums, agreeing with the littlest effort as if any big movement will make this heatwave worse.

LAUREN (CONT'D)
Like, we can't even swim in your pool out there. We'd cook! The world is an oven today and we're all thanksgiving turkeys, waiting to be thankful for a gust of wind.

Lauren quickly rolls off of Cayden. She fidgets like a baby.

LAUREN (CONT'D)
The body heat is making it worse!

CAYDEN
(exhaling a storm)
I just realized, there's freezies in the deep freeze out there.

LAUREN
Don't torture me. Are you for real?

CAYDEN
I would never torture you.

LAUREN
(under breath)
... never torture me. Please. If we ever have sex on a hot-dry day like this again, buy me some lube that has a least 50 fps or higher.
(gasping sigh) Like, we live in Eastern Canada, how in the FUCK do we get immolated like this.

Lauren sits up, holding her top from any unwanted "slippage".

LAUREN (CONT'D)
Tie me up. I'm makin' a run for the
freezer.

Cayden secures Lauren's top. She turns around.

LAUREN (CONT'D)
Don't try and stop me.

CAYDEN
(with uninterested
concern)
No. Please don't go. It's suicide.
You're crazy...

LAUREN
What flavor do you want?

Lauren hovers her hands in the direction of the fan like a
hobo warming by a fire.

CAYDEN
Get me, hmmm... blue. If there's no
blue left get me white, and if
there's none of that then get me
orange and don't you DARE bring me
back watermelon.

LAUREN
Okay. So, blue. No blue, white. No
white get orange. Fuck watermelon.

CAYDEN
(confirming order)
Fuck, you're some good.

Lauren leans in for a kiss, Cayden dips his head away.

CAYDEN (CONT'D)
Woah!

LAUREN
What?

CAYDEN
If I wasn't with you the whole day,
I would've thought that was plaque
stuck to your braces.

Lauren is shocked, she quickly picks at her braces.

LAUREN
There's still some there? The
fuck?...

CAYDEN
(with a Seinfeld smirk)
I guess on a hot day like today
things dry as quick as they "come".

Lauren's too paranoid and worried to smile.

LAUREN
I don't wanna go out there now...
(picking teeth)... and you don't
realize how effing gross that is,
by the way. I can still feel some
in my throat.

CAYDEN
It's a great deed that won't go
unnoticed.

LAUREN
Why do guys enjoy that so much?
What are they getting out of it? I
understand doing it once,
experiencing it but what girl would
really enjoy that a 2nd time! Jeez!

CAYDEN
It shows a sign of respect between
two lovers. Guys think of it as the
pinnacle of a personal bond... like
bowing in China.

LAUREN
If you have a lust for me
swallowing so much, you could just
watch me drink water and eat food
at supptime. It's a swallow-fest.

CAYDEN
Would you rather go back to me
ruining your socks?

LAUREN
My socks?! Are you fucking kidding
me Cayden, you were using MY
goddamn socks all this time? I'm
missing so many pairs too.

CAYDEN
Remember last week after
Stephanie's party, we came back
here?

LAUREN
Yea. Why?

CAYDEN

Remember those pink toe socks with the cats on them? You were texting me about them and I said I never seen em'... Well...

LAUREN

Are, you, kidding, me? I got them for Christmas when I was like 4, Cayden. I would've "took the bullet" if I'd've known you were-- that's it! Condoms from now on.

CAYDEN

Why are you being so cranky, Lauren?

LAUREN

I'm not cranky, just like I'm not swallowing anymore. The same goes for using my socks as catcher mitts.

Cayden stares at Lauren. She frustratingly smiles.

LAUREN (CONT'D)

Cayden, I'm serious. I'm not doing it anymore.

CAYDEN

I didn't say anything. It's your choice. You're a big girl, so how about them freezies.

LAUREN

(shakes head "no")

Uh-uh. I'm not going out there now.

CAYDEN

Why, cause' you're still being a sour crank box?

LAUREN

Please stop saying that... You go get the freezies. You bow to me now. You show me some respect.

CAYDEN

After this personal family shit I've been dealing with this month, fuck going out there. I don't want to be seen by any of them.

LAUREN

Neither do I. I haven't talked to your sister in a week or so, and it'd be so awkward running into her out there with your "model glue-like" cum stuck to my braces.

CAYDEN

She hates you for dating me, eh?

LAUREN

Hate is too watered-down of a word. Braun would be better.

CAYDEN

Braun?

LAUREN

The wife of Hitler. Eva.

CAYDEN

So, you're calling me Hitler.

LAUREN

No. I'm implying that THIS is what Sarah thinks of our relationship. That we're just poisoning each other.

CAYDEN

It's that bad eh?

LAUREN

Ugh, it's annoying. She thinks I've changed since we've hooked up but I'm still the same person, except--

CAYDEN

--except, instead of coming over to hang around with her and talk about boys, you come over to smoke pot and talk photography with me.

LAUREN

And lose countless numbers of socks. (beat) Hey, wait! I had these frilly pair of socks that my Grandmother knitted for me and I can't find them. Please don't tell me that you "used" them.

CAYDEN

I think they're in the deep freeze.

LAUREN
No Cayden, seriously.

CAYDEN
No seriously. They're in the
freezer.

Lauren stands up and heads to the door.

LAUREN
Well, I'll go check for them in the
freezer and since I'm out there
I'll grab a freezie for MY self.

CAYDEN
I think you should grab some
Listerine and give your mouth a
good swish for a solid 30 seconds.

LAUREN
Do you actually have mouth wash? Is
it in the bathroom?

CAYDEN
Ahh, I'm not sure. Check the deep
freeze.

Cayden laughs, Lauren just leaves the room.

INT. KITCHEN - MOMENTS LATER

Lauren struts her figure lightly in a fast motion to the deep
freeze in the porch. It's like the fan was supplying her
oxygen and she's losing air being outside the bedroom.

-- Lifting the lid of the freezer, Lauren's staring back at
an oasis of rainbow colored, ice cold freezies.

The sound of a door opening and dishes clinging pull Lauren
out of her dazing stare into the freezer. It's SARAH(17),
Cayden's younger sister, carrying about a week's worth of
dishes.

Sarah's not too happy to see Lauren, but the feeling is the
opposite to Lauren. She doesn't change her tone for no one.

LAUREN
Hey, what's up?

SARAH
Nothing. Just taking out some
dishes. Clearly...

LAUREN

I noticed. That's quiet the pile.
It's impressive actually.

SARAH

Yea, well whatever.

Sarah never faces Lauren as she slowly places her dishes into the dishwasher. Lauren rolls her eyes at Sarah's bitterness and grabs some freezies.

A car horn can be heard honking.

The honking gets more rapid, with a few long ones in the mix.

LAUREN

Is that in your driveway?

SARAH

Fuck sakes Mom!

Sarah peeks out a large window above the sink. Lauren appears behind her, looking out the window too.

EXT. HOUSE DRIVEWAY - CONTINUOUS

In a parked car, an older woman named JANET(42), has no emotion on her face. She simply just sits and keeps honking the horn in no particular pattern.

-- On the front step, Sarah and Lauren watch Janet in the car. Sarah's puzzled but Lauren gives a vibe like she knows the reason for Janet's behavior and is more concerned.

SARAH

She's been acting so goddamn crazy lately. For no fucking reason.

LAUREN

Stay here. I'll go get Cay--

Sarah runs down the stairs and knocks on the car window.

SARAH

Mom! What the fuck are you doing?

INT. CAYDEN'S MESSY ROOM - AFTERNOON

Lauren enters the room and drops the freezies at the foot of the bed.

LAUREN
Cayden, your Mom's losing it out
there.

CAYDEN
Is she? Fuck...

They both exit the room.

EXT. DRIVEWAY - AFTERNOON

Cayden slowly walks around the car. Lauren and Sarah look on.

SARAH
It's locked!

LAUREN
(whisper-like/to Cayden)
Cayden, why didn't you tell your
Mom what happened the other night?

SARAH
What's happening? Cay, tell me?!

Cayden tries the passenger door, it's locked. He looks back
at the girls.

CAYDEN
Sarah, go inside. I need to talk to
Mom.

SARAH
I'm not a baby. I want to know
what's going on!

CAYDEN
Lauren take Sarah inside.

Lauren lightly pats Sarah's shoulder.

LAUREN
Come on, you don't want to see your
Mother like this.

Sarah starts to cry. Lauren walks her back into the house.

SARAH
I don't understand. Why is she
acting so crazy?

Cayden knocks on the passenger window.

CAYDEN
Mom? Let me in.

Janet reaches over and unlocks the door.

INT. PARKED CAR IN DRIVEWAY - CONTINUOUS

Cayden sits down and looks over at his teary-eyed Mother.

JANET
Where's the keys?

CAYDEN
I hid them. It's not healthy for
you to drive when you're like this.

JANET
I'm fine. I just want to see where
your Father's at, is all.

CAYDEN
I told you I would look after that.
Last night was the last wedding me
and Lauren have to shoot for a
while, so my free time will be
dedicated to this.

JANET
He didn't come home last night. He
didn't even call. He won't answer
my calls.

CAYDEN
You can't breakdown like this, you
can't do this in front of Sarah.
You're scaring her. (beat) This
whole thing could be what you think
it is, but it could also be the
complete opposite. For some
unexplained reason, Dad could be
stressed with work and decided to
stay at Uncle Russell's for a
night. He is ignoring his calls
because he doesn't want to be
disturbed. (beat) We won't know
until I follow him, like we
planned. I promise you, the next
time he leaves this house, I'll
tail him. I even got Lauren to let
me use her car, but she thinks it's
for another reason. She doesn't
know and Sarah can't either.

(MORE)

CAYDEN (CONT'D)

So for now, just keep your cool. I know it's hard on a hot day like this...

Janet just stares straight ahead.

CAYDEN (CONT'D)

Go for a swim. Make yourself a drink, or I could make it for you if you'd rather hop in the pool now. It's just the heat that's making this worse Mom.

JANET

A drink huh?

CAYDEN

You go get your bathing suit on, I'll remove the tarp and make you that drink, okay?

Janet opens the car door. She seems lifeless, like a robot.

JANET

Okay. Sounds great. I love you Cay.

INT. CAYDEN'S CAR (MOVING) - AFTERNOON

Cayden is a bit tense behind the wheel. Lauren has the window down, looking relaxed with her head on her hand that's leaning on the door.

LAUREN

Sorry I hafta split. It has nothing to do with your Mother, it's just the Ross' want their reunion edits done for Tuesday. My procrastination will drag it out till Wednesday or Thursday.

Lauren chuckles until she looks at the seriousness of Cayden.

LAUREN (CONT'D)

What's wrong?

CAYDEN

I'm gonna tail my Dad again.

LAUREN

(angered)
Again? You told me he wasn't cheating.

(MORE)

LAUREN (CONT'D)

And why didn't you tell your mother what you found out when you followed him the last time. She's still a mess, Cay. She needs to know that there's nothing going on.

CAYDEN

My Father's an alcoholic and I tailed him to a bar. That wouldn't ease frig' all off her mind.(beat) He never came home last night and I'm now just as suspicious and pissed off as my Mom. So, this time I want you to come with me. Bring your camera and we're gonna use your car.

LAUREN

Why my car?

CAYDEN

He's never seen it before.
(beat/emotions cool down)You didn't tell Sarah did ya?

Lauren thinks then bursts out laughing.

CAYDEN (CONT'D)

What. What's so funny?

Lauren's laugh is prolonging, she can't speak a word.

CAYDEN (CONT'D)

Did you tell her or not?

LAUREN

(between laughing gasps)
No I didn't... but-but she was wearing my pink toe socks with the cats on them.

CAYDEN

Ew, I hoped she washed them cause' I destroyed them.

LAUREN

I hope they weren't washed. Jealous bitch. If those socks are as sticky as my braces, she's gonna be stuck wearing those cocksuckers for the rest of her life.

Lauren's laugh kicks back up again as if she's picturing Sarah being 90 years old and still wearing those pink socks.

EXT. LAUREN'S HOUSE/CAYDEN'S CAR - AFTERNOON

Cayden pulls over to the curb in front of the house.

An older platinum-blonde-haired woman, FRAN(39) is working away on some hedges in Lauren's yard. She looks like a taller version of Lauren.

Fran tips her sunglasses down and looks over at Cayden's car. She smiles and waves when she notices Lauren in the car.

INT. CAYDEN'S CAR (PARKED) - CONTINUOUS

Lauren excitedly waves back to Fran. Cayden just raises his hand in acknowledgement Fran's wave.

CAYDEN

Ooh la-la, is that your Mother?

LAUREN

Yeap! In her O C D glory. The hedge tops always have to be waist high and flat like dropped Pepsi. She claims that it: "(impersonating Fran's voice) lets the neighborhood in". Everyone thinks that I'm a younger version of her. I don't see it.

CAYDEN

The hair is bang on, but she makes your barely passable B-Cups look as flat as those hedge tops she's working on.

Lauren shockingly gasps and playfully smacks Cayden on the shoulder.

LAUREN

You dick! I've still got growing to do! This time next year I'll be able to kick your scrawny little Ethiopian ass, you asshole...

CAYDEN

You wanna fight me? Just name the time and the place dear, and bring extra socks too cause' I'm gonna fuck you up!

LAUREN

Ya, thanks for making me feel like shit. I appreciate it, good job.

CAYDEN
You're a helluva photographer *doe'*!

LAUREN
So what's the dealio? Do we even
have a game plan here, errrrr...

CAYDEN
Um... I'll text you when my Dad
comes home then you drive over to
my house and we'll go from there.
Don't make plans with anyone.

LAUREN
Nah, I won't. I'll only be
editing.(while stretching) Probably
grab a shower and sand blast your
shit from my braces.

Cayden can't help but laugh at Lauren's braces situation.

LAUREN (CONT'D)
It's not funny! I won't be able to
open my mouth to talk to my
parents. I'll have to mime out my
whole day to them. (gets the
chills/sour face) Fuck, I can still
taste it, Cay! Fuckin' fuck!

Cayden's laugh only gets more cruel to Lauren. She calms
down, taking a deep breath.

LAUREN (CONT'D)
Alrighty, I'm leavin'. Gimmie a
kiss!

Lauren leans in, Cayden's not dumb.

CAYDEN
No. I'll throw up Lore, seriously--

LAUREN
Just on the lips. Quickly, come on.

Cayden grudges up the courage to peck Lauren.

CAYDEN
There. Happy?

Lauren exits the car.

LAUREN
Always!

Lauren walks to Fran and greets her. Cayden look at them talking and pointing at him.

Cayden rolls down the window.

CAYDEN
Hi Mrs. Delaney!

FRAN
Hey Cayden! Nice to meet you!

CAYDEN
Same! Your Daughter's got a beautiful smile, by the way!

Fran confusingly turns to Lauren who smiles with her mouth shut.

FRAN
(slight/awkward laugh)
Um, I'd like to talk more but I must finish with these hedges. They let the neighbourhood in!

CAYDEN
So I've heard!

Fran continues up the hedge line away from Lauren.

Lauren sports a "you fucking asshole" face that Cayden can't help but to silently laugh at. Lauren gives him the finger and smiles back at him, then she heads for her front door.

FADE TO:

INT. CAYDEN'S MESSY ROOM - EVENING

Cayden's still in his swimming trunks, cooling down during this muggy night with his trusty fan and a blue freezie.

-- The patio door can be heard opening and closed with force.

Cayden hops out of bed and puts his ear to the door.

The sound of shoes chugging down the hall scare Cayden back into bed.

Blasting into the room is his Father, THOMAS(47). He's slightly drunk and leans against the wall to stay up.

THOMAS
I'm thinking about ordering some food.

(MORE)

THOMAS (CONT'D)

Your Mother didn't cook supper,
again. Do you want something?

CAYDEN

Nah, I'm good Dad. I made a little
munch before.

THOMAS

You did, did ya? Well then, I
should've grabbed something while I
was in town... I'm gonna go to The
Burrito Truck or whatever and grab
a bite. I shouldn't be too long.

CAYDEN

Okay. Just be careful where ever
you decide to go.

THOMAS

Cayden. I'm always careful.

CAYDEN

I know...

Thomas leaves the room. Cayden picks up his phone and types
up a text.

EXT. CAYDEN'S DRIVEWAY - EVENING

Cayden anticipates Lauren's arrival. He paces back and forth.

It's 8pmish, but this hot day continues to shine bright like
it's still midday, everything has a strong orange tint.

-- Lauren flies up the road and stops for Cayden.

INT. LAUREN'S CAR (MOVING) - MOMENTS LATER

Lauren's behind the wheel. She's in short-jean-shorts and
wears a cute see-thru shirt that shows that she's still
wearing her bikini top underneath.

Cayden nervously shakes his leg, like he's playing the kick
drum of an invisible drumset.

CAYDEN

Where's the gear?

LAUREN

It's all in the backseat.

Cayden reaches into the back and sorts through a box.

LAUREN (CONT'D)

I didn't know what type of lens or camera to bring or how much zoom we needed or didn't need. The lighting. The motion, blah-blah. So I brought pretty much everything. You know I'm a Canon whore, so don't expect any fancy Nikon shit in there.

CAYDEN

That's fine. I'm going with the 5D Mark II, telephoto lens to get right into the business of things.

LAUREN

You're lucky, cause I was gonna bring only the 60D, in case we wanted to get some video too.
(beat) So, anywhere in town specific or are we gonna drive around to the bars until we spot his car?

CAYDEN

Try the burrito truck first. Drive it like it's stolen babe.

Lauren speeds up!...

EXT. BURRITO TRUCK - EVENING

A large ice cream truck with beautiful murals painted on it is greeted by a crowd of people. This truck serves the type of greasy/deep fried food you crave after a hard night of drinking or recovering from drinking.

-- Across the street, Lauren pulls into a parking lot and slowly drives as Cayden leans over Lauren, looking through the 5D Mark II camera like binoculars at the Burrito Truck.

LAUREN

See his car?

CAYDEN'S CAMERA P.O.V.: We see a steady scan of the crowd. The camera pans back and focuses in on Thomas and A REDHEADED WOMAN sitting at a picnic table.

CAYDEN

Boom. I got him. Park in the next empty space. We'll stake-it-out for now.

FADE TO:

INT. LAUREN'S CAR (PARKED) - NIGHTTIME

Cayden's alone in the car, snapping pictures with the camera. Lauren returns with a boxed tray with food in it.

CAYDEN

What's the situ?

Lauren divides the food up between them.

LAUREN

You were right about her being a redhead. She looks, I'd say, to be in her early 30's.

CAYDEN

Did you recognize her?

LAUREN

I'm not 100%, but she looks like a substitute teacher I had once. Probably not, but who knows.

CAYDEN

And they were just talking?

LAUREN

More than that. I could tell they were flirting. They shared one Quesadilla special. Like *Lady And The Tramp*.

CAYDEN

That lying, cocksucking pig.

LAUREN

You get any photos yet?

CAYDEN

Yea, I did. Hopefully they go all the way. I really hope...

LAUREN

Huh? You mean-- you wanted your Dad to cheat on your Mom?

CAYDEN

Not initially, but now... as fucked up as that sounds... I do. My Mom deserves the peace of mind and by witnessing THIS, I can give her that peace. Otherwise she'll always have suspicions and I'd rather not waste my summer chasing this cocksucker around. I just want this to be over, more than anything.

LAUREN

I understand. You didn't want him to cheat but now that he is, you want to catch him.

CAYDEN

Exactly...

Nothing but the sound of food wrappers contouring, chewing and drinks being drank fills the car.

LAUREN

(burp)

I'm such a pig. I've never sweated from eating before.

CAYDEN

Well, the way you mentioned "Swallow-Fest" earlier, I kinda expected there to be some sweat related activity involved.

LAUREN

(like a pornstar)

Oh burrito. Get in my fucking mouth! Oh yea! Digest my food stomach!

Lauren picks up her drink. Cayden stops eating after having a spit take to Lauren's "routine" that she's doing.

LAUREN (CONT'D)

(still like a pornstar)

Oh soda! Fill my pretty little whore mouth with your phosphoric acidity goodness! (over reacting to flavor of drink).

Lauren bounces in her seat.

LAUREN (CONT'D)
Fuck yea! Now I'm hydrated!

FADE TO:

-- Sometime has passed, Cayden is looking through the camera. Lauren has a camera too, but is toying with it to fight boredom.

FADE TO:

-- More time has passed, both cameras are resting on the dashboard. Lauren texts away while Cayden flips through a random magazine.

LAUREN (CONT'D)
Do I have anything in my braces?

Lauren gives Cayden a big smile, looking like a silly little kid during picture day at elementary school.

Cayden doesn't say anything. He leans in to investigate Lauren's braces and answers her question with a big, slow moving kiss. The passion Lauren gives back to Cayden with this kissing session means that he gave her the perfect answer.

They pull apart, with Cayden quickly picking the camera back up and Lauren studying Cayden without him noticing.

CAYDEN
Shit! They're gone!

LAUREN
What?

Cayden's camera P.O.V.: The camera jumps from the picnic table Thomas and the Redhead were sitting and frantically pans around the crowd in search of Thomas.

Like a cheap horror movie scare, Thomas' car bursts into the left side of the frame and speeds down the street.

CAYDEN
Got him! He's driving further into town.

LAUREN
I see his car.

Lauren starts up her car and makes a quick escape from the lot.

EXT/INT. LAUREN'S CAR (MOVING) - EVENING

Lauren's car tails Thomas' car. She keeps her distance, like any professional would.

Cayden's Camera P.O.V.: He zooms his camera in on the two heads of his Father and the mysterious redhead, and snaps some pictures.

-- Lauren is really concentration on driving. Her tongue unknowingly sticks out of her mouth a little bit.

CAYDEN

You're getting too close.

LAUREN

I hafta be this close, otherwise we'd get passed and then there'd be cars blocking our view.

Cayden slinks down in his seat. Lauren smiles at his cowardliness.

CAYDEN

Just as a precaution...

EXT. SLEEP INN BEAUTY (MOTEL) - EVENING

Ahhh, Sleep Inn Beauty... A Motel with a clever name that hopes to attract attention away from the ugliness of things. A Motel that only accepts cash and ignores complaints.

-- Thomas pulls into the parking lot, Lauren parks across the street, in a good-open view of the Motel's outdoor-mall-like layout.

-- Thomas and the Redhead exit the car. The Redhead walks up to room number 12, while Thomas goes to the front desk to check in to the inn.

All of this is visible to Lauren and Cayden from the car. The front desk office is walled in by big window panes and all the room's front doors face towards Lore's car.

INT. LAUREN'S CAR (PARKED) - CONTINUOUS

Lauren uses the 5D camera to snap the pictures this time. Cayden is on the edge of his seat. Although they're out of ear shot of the Motel, they still choose to whisper their words.

CAYDEN

Be sure to get a close up shot of the woman's face too.

LAUREN

The lighting is fucking brutal over there. I can't see her face at all.

CAYDEN

Well, we're gonna hafta get closer.

Lauren looks at Cayden with anxiety.

LAUREN

Closer as in, what... You want to actually take pictures of them in bed?

CAYDEN

Yes. Eating a Quesadilla is not "having an affair".

LAUREN

Well then YOU can take the pictures then.

Lauren forcefully hands the camera to Cayden.

CAYDEN

Why are you being so cranky?

LAUREN

I'm NOT cranky. But if THAT was my Dad and I was in your shoes, I'd drive home right now and confront him the first chance I can get.

CAYDEN

(not whispered)

You don't know my Dad though. If he was dying of cancer and on his last few breaths in a hospital bed, he'd blame the pain and suffering on bad Chinese food.(beat) 8 months. My Mom's been suspicious about THIS for 8 months... and to lie to your family for that FUCKING long, you deserved to be shot and pissed on... I need you to take these pictures, Lore. I-I can't see my Father like this, as this other person that he has become. Please...

Lauren sighs and thinks to herself...

LAUREN

I'll do it if you take half of my editing load for the summer.

CAYDEN

Done.

Cayden eases the camera to Lauren. She looks over at the Motel to see Thomas and the Redhead enter room number 12.

EXT. SLEEP INN BEAUTY (MOTEL) - MOMENTS LATER

Lauren, with the camera around her neck, sneaks down an alley... She finds the back of the Motel's stairwell that leads to the upper floor of the Motel.

-- A slow fade in of moans can be heard from Thomas' room as Lauren edges closer to the room number 12.

The curtains are completely shut. Lauren palms the window and slowly slides it open. She's surprised it was unlocked. Next, Lauren lifts up the edge of the curtain and sticks the camera lens into the room.

The bed is on the opposite side of the room and the way the affairing couple are positioned, they wouldn't see the camera lens unless it was pointed out to them.

Lauren's Camera POV: She takes a few wide shots of the bed and then quickly gets close ups of the Redhead and Thomas.

The camera pans over to some cocaine diced up on a broken bathroom tile. The Redhead, out of breath, picks up the tile and shares a line with Thomas. He tries to sniff a line but there's barely any left.

Thomas punches the Redhead and kneels on top of her as he goes through her purse. Thomas pulls out a small sample-like bag of "something". He snorts a bit from the bag and then roughly positions the Redhead across the bed for another bout of drug induced sex.

Since seeing the drugs, Lauren hasn't snapped a picture--

-- Lauren's in shock, her face is pale, like she's about to faint. But she doesn't. Adrenaline kicks in and she quickly hops down the stairs, not even bothering to close the window back at the room.

-- After barreling back into the alleyway, Lauren stops like she hit an invisible wall and vomits, the tension was too much for a girl who is used to photographing the complete opposite (weddings, family reunions, etc.).

EXT/INT. LAUREN'S CAR (PARKED) - MOMENTS LATER

Lauren walks back to the car and heads for the passenger side. Cayden is frightened, he didn't hear her coming.

CAYDEN
JESUS! Did you get them?

LAUREN
Just let me in. I want you to drive.

Cayden opens the door for her and scoots across to the passenger seat. Lauren hops in and is gripping her camera.

CAYDEN
You alright?

LAUREN
(sigh of relief)
I'm just not used to this. I capture wedding vows and this is the other end of the stick...

CAYDEN
You want me to drop you off? I'll bring the car around tomorrow?

LAUREN
I want you to stay the night... with me.

CAYDEN
Okay. Here...

Cayden takes the camera from Lauren and stashes it in her gear box in the back seat.

Cayden hugs Lauren with concern... they don't say anything. They let go with Cayden starting up the car. We focus on Lauren resting her eyes on Cayden.

FADE TO BLACK.

FADE IN:

INT. LAUREN'S SHOWER - NIGHTTIME

Lauren's caught up in deep thought. The strong images that she witnessed inside the room occupy her mind. Cayden enters the shower and notices her discomfort. He hugs her...

FADE TO BLACK.

FADE IN:

INT. LAUREN'S ROOM - MORNING

On a sunny, yet cooler day. Our couple lays cuddling under the blankets. Lauren's watching tv, Cayden's still asleep...

... or he was... Cay rolls over and opens his eyes.

LAUREN

I didn't wake you did I?

CAYDEN

Depends. What time is it?

LAUREN

Like, quarter-to-nine-ish.

CAYDEN

Then yes, you woke me up!

Cayden pinches Lauren from under the blanket. She nearly falls out of bed.

LAUREN

(giggling)

Stop it! You're gonna wake everybody up.

CAYDEN

Sorry, sorry...

LAUREN

Thanks for staying the night.

Lauren kisses Cayden. He reacts very proudly.

CAYDEN

And thank you for taking those pictures last night. Like I said, I just couldn't see it happening live.(beat) But I'd like to see the highlight pictures we took last night?

LAUREN

I don't think you should see them, Cay. It wouldn't be right. I'm just gonna delete them anyway.

CAYDEN

Delete them? No. I need to see these. I need the closure.

Lauren reaches for her nearby laptop and hands it to Cay. They both sit up in the bed.

LAUREN

Here ya go. Don't snoop around either.

CAYDEN

(joking)

Why, you gotta couple dick pics eh, Lore? That's my girl.

LAUREN

Ugh, if you ever ask me to send you a nude pic, that's it. I'll be done with you.

CAYDEN

You already sent me like 3.

Cayden boots up the laptop.

LAUREN

No I didn't. When?!

CAYDEN

Last week, you sent me some tit pics.

LAUREN

I sent you those because I thought I had some form of skin cancer. Didn't you read the texts that went with the pictures?

CAYDEN

It was "*too hard*" for me to read.

LAUREN

How hard is it to read a text-- oh I get it. You made a dick joke. El-Oh-Fucking-El.

Cayden clicks around on the laptop and opens a photo browser.

-- The first photo shown is of Thomas and the Redhead eating at the Burrito Truck.

CAYDEN
This picture just makes me hungry.

LAUREN
Samesies (meaning: Same (for people who aren't familiar with the hipster terms))

-- Cayden scrolls through the photo viewer and lands on a picture of Lauren, sleuthing next to his Father and the Redhead at the Burrito Truck.

CAYDEN
(Referring to Lauren/with calm Mike J. Nelson voice, from MST3K)
"Tara Reid - Two-Timing Hanky-Panky Spousal Investigator MD. AN A&E original series coming this fall to FOX".

Lauren cracks up!

LAUREN
An A&E original series on FOX?
Que'est-que fuck?

-- Cayden flips to a few pictures of he took while tailing his Father's car.

LAUREN (CONT'D)
I like how my steady driving helped bring this photo to life.

CAYDEN
I'd solely credit the photographer with bringing the photo to life.

Lauren, as she always does with these flirty arguments, lightly slaps Cayden on the shoulder.

LAUREN
You're harping my photo buzz man.

-- The next photo are blurry and dark photos of the Redhead waiting by the door of room number 12.

CAYDEN
Did you get a better view?

LAUREN

From inside the room. A few more pictures from this one.

Cayden scrolls and scrolls and lands on the wide shots of Thomas and the Redhead fucking on the bed.

Cayden doesn't let the picture settle in his mind, he flips to the close up of the Redhead.

CAYDEN

Wait... I know her!

LAUREN

You do? How?

CAYDEN

She works at the grocery store up the street. She's works in (thinking/snapping finger)... the produce section! Holy shit...

LAUREN

You sure? I was thinking of looking up that substitute teacher on Facebook.

CAYDEN

I'm gonna go to the grocery store. You can look at her on Facebook on the way... But I think this Produce Worker-Chick IS the Redhead. I'm gonna confirm it.

Cayden gets up and throws on a pair of Lauren's least girly looking pajamas.

LAUREN

What? Now?

CAYDEN

They're open, aren't they? Where's your keys?

LAUREN

We can't take my car. My Dad needs it to run it to the shop for an oil change.

CAYDEN

Well, it's only a chip and a putt away from your house. We'll walk it. Get some exercise in!

LAUREN

Toss me my bra and give me a couple of seconds. I need to get ready.

Cayden grabs her bra and hands it to Lauren.

CAYDEN

Get ready? It's just up the street. Fraid' someone's gonna Instagram you without you knowing?

Lauren tosses her bra on the floor and gets out of bed.

LAUREN

Live as a couple. Die as a couple. And in between, look like shit as a couple.

EXT. DESOLATE STREET - MORNING

Cayden and Lauren walk side by side. They're not using their phones but they still carry them because their bedtime apparel is pocketless.

CAYDEN

You wanna grab breakfast at Mickey D's on the way back?

LAUREN

I already ate before you woke up.

CAYDEN

When DID you wake up?

LAUREN

6ish.

CAYDEN

... someone's gotta wake up the roosters.

They walk down the empty road, sun beating hotter and hotter... there's silence between them...

A car goes by, a helicopter flies by... the nearby ocean, crashing against the cliff...

EXT. LARGE FIELD - MOMENTS LATER

Our couple is taking a short cut through a large field, the store is in sight...

Cayden and Lauren playfully keep kicking a small rock while remaining in a persistent walking pace. Cayden almost loses the rock but kicks it out in front for Lauren. She punts the rock back over to Cayden but the pass is too hard and escapes into the tall grass.

Lauren and Cayden continue to walk. Cayden's eyes are set towards the store. Lauren looks around, impatiently... she wipes her face again and again, as if there's something in her eye. She doesn't make a peep. She doesn't want to break Cayden's curious stare at the grocery store.

While wiping a tear from her eye, Lauren accidentally sobs a loud! Cayden looks over. They stop walking.

LAUREN

It's my Mom...

Dropping her shoulders in defeat, Lauren hugs Cayden, caving into him. He's the only thing holding her up at this emotional climax for Lauren.

CAYDEN

Why are you-- What did your Mother do? Cut a hedge to short?

Lauren pushes Cayden away, almost knocking him over.

LAUREN

(very rapid)

IT'S MY MOM!(beat/more intense) MY MOM'S FUCKING YOUR DAD!... And before I met you, I thought it was only for 2 weeks!... Not 8 months.

.... Cayden slowly strokes his hair and exhales a storm...

CAYDEN

Why didn't you tell me?

LAUREN

8 months Cay. You said your Mother was suspicious for 8 months! That's a blanket that covers mine, my Dad's and my sister's birthday. Christmas too!

Cayden moves in close, but keeps his distance. He feels like he doesn't know Lauren now.

CAYDEN

The Blonde. The Hedge Girl. Who is she?

LAUREN

My Aunt. Her husband died of cancer in February, she lives with me and my parents now... My real Mother DOES work at the grocery store, but she said she was going out of town with friends this weekend. That's how I knew she wouldn't be home when you spent the night last night.

CAYDEN

You still should've told me sooner Lore, I'm a bit upset that you didn't--

LAUREN

HEY!

Lauren shoves Cayden again then marches at him.

LAUREN (CONT'D)

You've had half the fucking summer to digest this shit! You didn't see them up in that room last night! DID YA?!

CAYDEN

What happened in the room?

LAUREN

You were right. Your Dad deserves to be shot and pissed on.

Cayden steps up.

CAYDEN

What happened Lore?! Tell me!

LAUREN

They were doing coke. When there was none left... your father knocked my mother out and... he kept fucking her...

Cayden is shocked, he turns his head and thinks...

LAUREN (CONT'D)

(cocky)

Not right away though. He had to position her unconscious body to meet his fucking requirements...

Cayden exhales...

CAYDEN

Mom is never gonna believe this...

Lauren fires back--

LAUREN

You're gonna tell your Mom?

CAYDEN

Yeah.

LAUREN

Everything?

CAYDEN

Yes, why do you think I asked you to bring the cameras?! And get the close-ups!

LAUREN

I thought you just wanted the pics as confirmation for YOUR-self because you were TOO PUSSY to go up to the room yourself!

CAYDEN

You saw my Mom, laying on that FUCKING horn yesterday, Lore... I'm hiding the car keys now, and if I don't tell her "all of this" soon, next I'll be hiding knives, taping up sharp corners. Supervising bathroom visits, shit like that!

LAUREN

My point exactly! You tell her everything, she'll somehow try to contact my Mother. I can't say the same for your family, but mine ISN'T SUSPICIOUS! And I'm fine to keep things this way. At the most I'll talk to my Mother about it, privately... Your Mother WOULD tear my family apart out of spite.

CAYDEN

My Mother deserves the truth!

LAUREN

Why can't you confront YOUR Dad about this?

CAYDEN

I can't!... My Mom needs the peace of mind!

LAUREN

Fuck your Mom and her peace! I'm looking out for what's best for us to remain together and for our families to remain together...

Lauren leans in, she places her hand on Cay's shoulder.

LAUREN (CONT'D)

... Cay. I fucking love you. I'm a lucky girl to be with you. But I couldn't continue THIS, what WE have built this summer thus far, if you told your Mom everything...

Cayden starts laughing. He walks away, ROARING HIS HEAD OFF and stumbling back to Lauren weak and hysteric.

CAYDEN

When I told you I tailed my Dad the first time and came up with nothing but him at a bar, did you know your Mother and my Father were seeing each other?

LAUREN

Yes.

CAYDEN

So... and approximately guesstimate here, I'm not looking for an answer that's down to the millisecond... How long would you say it took for you to blow me after you got suspicious of me following my Dad around town?...

LAUREN

Cayden, why would you EVER think I'd use our relationship a-a-as an ultimatum?!

CAYDEN

And you swallowed too! Wow, at the time I was shocked. But now... now it's all so clear!(fake thinking)
Hmmm...

(MORE)

CAYDEN (CONT'D)
 should I trade my cum swallowing,
 tight as fuck, wet as fuck GF, for
 my mentally unstable Mother who is
 one sleepless night away from
 harming anyone including herself...
 Hmmm....

LAUREN
 I'll make the decision easier for
 you...

Lauren begins to walk away, Cayden runs and grabs her. She turns around.

LAUREN (CONT'D)
 Let me go! I'm fucking done with
 your bullshit. Just because YOUR
 life and YOUR family is falling
 apart, doesn't mean that you can
 destroy mine! (tries to break free)
 GET THE FUCK OFF ME--

Cayden hits Lauren twice in the face. The first one is a slap across the face. The second hit comes a few seconds later and it's a white-knuckled fist to Lauren's mouth.

The second punch knocks Lauren to the ground and leaves Cayden's knuckles bleeding...

CAYDEN
 Your fucking braces cut me!

Lauren gets up, she's not crying anymore...

... she confidently walks away from Cayden, the opposite direction of the grocery store... Cayden jumps, almost frolics around for joy. He thinks this "walking away act" by Lauren is a way to make him feel sympathy for her and apologize for hitting her, but Cayden is *NEVER* wrong.

CAYDEN (CONT'D)
 THAT'S IT?! You're just gonna walk
 away you lying cunt?! You gonna go
 suck your Dad off to get even with
 that drug-addicted-punching-bag
 Mother of yours?!

Cayden's face retains a smile, but his screams get more concerned. She's coming back to him, right? Maybe if he says something so offensive, something so repulsive about Lauren, it'll grab her attention and stop her in her tracks.

CAYDEN (CONT'D)

Why don't you go dig up your cancer-ridden Uncle and FUCK HIM?! I hope you swallow his load and ya get FUCKING CANCER TOO, YOU SLUT!

Cayden's smile turns to fright. His taunting shouts of anger turn into teary-eyed, emotional yelps as Lauren keeps walking, giving him a full realization of an empty feeling that she is never coming back.

There's an angered/emotional DiCaprio-esque tone to his shouts with every hauler punctuated with a stressed vocal crack.

CAYDEN (CONT'D)

KEEP WALKING! KEEP SUCKING! KEEP SWALLOWING... COME BACK-- you cun...

Lauren's far in the distance, almost completing a turn to get off the short cut path and out of Cay's sight.

Cayden wipes his face, he turns and looks at the grocery store in the distance. He starts to breathe heavily...

FADE TO BLACK:

FADE IN:

INT. CAYDEN'S PARENTS HOUSE (KITCHEN) - AFTERNOON

Cayden's sitting at the kitchen table enjoying a late brunch bowl of cereal. His scruffy facial hair testifies to the passing days since he hurt Lauren. A napkin-taped bandage covers two fingers on his right hand.

The deep blue sky and hot sun make the patio screen door look like a painting.

A figure, obscured by the bright sun, walks up the front steps and knocks on the screen door. It's Lauren, who doesn't enter the house.

Cayden stares at Lauren... waiting for her to say something.

LAUREN

(confident/no shit attitude)

Look, just by standing here, I'd violating my restraining order that I'm WILLING to take to court... So can you get your sister?

Cayden eats his cereal. Lauren's on edge.

LAUREN (CONT'D)

SARAH!

CAYDEN

Just fucking call her. You have a phone. (underbreath) Jesus.

LAUREN

Once I tell my parents where my black eye came from they said they'll give me my phone back.

Cayden looks up at Lauren with euphoria... Why is she keeping his assault a secret from everyone? Is she too scared to tell anyone or is she still in love?...

CAYDEN

SARAH!

SARAH (O.S.)

I'm gonna be a few more minutes!
Come help me get ready!

Lauren slides the screen door open and enters the house. She closes the door. She has to walk past Cayden at the table to get down the hall.

Cayden goes back to his cereal bowl, Lauren begins to walk, flipping her key ring in her hand. When she's passing Cayden, he reaches out with his bandaged hand and grabs Lauren's hand with the keys in them, bringing it's annoying jingle to a halt.

They look at each other.... Lauren's looking down like an angel... and Cayden's looking up at her for forgiveness.

CAYDEN

I'm sorry. I was just ang--

Lauren smiles and slips her hand out of Cayden's well-meaning grip...

Lauren doesn't look twice as she heads into Sarah's room. We still sit in on Cayden and his bowl of cereal, listening in on Lauren and Sarah's conversation...

LAUREN (O.S.)

Hey! Happy Birthday girl!

SARAH (O.S.)

THANKS BABE! Oh my god! What happened to your eye?!

LAUREN (O.S.)
 Soccer with the little cousin.

SARAH (O.S.)
 Jacob?

LAUREN (O.S.)
 (chuckling)
 Yea, the little cute bastard Chuck
 Norris'd me right across the face.

Cayden smiles at her lie... but again, why IS she lying?...

INT. CAYDEN'S CLEAN ROOM - AFTERNOON

Cayden reads a letter he received in the mail. The note is unclear and unspoken, but the letter head is from an AA Rehab Center in Central Canada.

Laughter and water splashing makes Cayden put the letter down and move to his thick-curtained window.

Cayden peeks out and watches Lauren, Sarah and a few of their friends play in the pool/tan.

Cayden's Mother, Janet, brings out a cake for Sarah for Sarah's birthday! Janet seems happy. There's no paranoia in the back of her mind.

EXT. CAYDEN'S BEDROOM WINDOW - CONTINUOUS

Cayden disappears behind the curtain...

He returns with his camera, sticking the lens outside of the curtain and looking through the camera's viewfinder.

Cayden's Camera P.O.V.: The camera frame is a wide shot on all of the girls. They're gathered around a patio table with the birthday cake on it. The girls finish singing happy birthday. As Sarah begins to blowout the candles, the frame slowly pans in... and keeps panning and zooming in on Lauren....

Finally it's only Lauren in the frame. She laughs at Sarah's failed attempts at blowing out all the candles. Lauren quickly glares up at Cayden's window and smiles as if everything is fine...

Cayden snaps a picture of Lauren's comforting smile.

EXT. POOL DECK - AFTERNOON

Lauren sits alone, the girls are all in the pool. Some of them are relaxing, others toss a frisbee around.

Cayden slowly enters from a side entrance to the deck and walks over to Lauren. There's one slice of cake left on the table.

CAYDEN

Can I sit?

Lauren grips a knife laying on the table and slides it across to Cayden.

LAUREN

Have yourself whatever is left.

Cayden scoops the final slice onto his plate and sits next to Lore, so they can talk and not worry about anyone hearing their conversation. But Lauren won't look at him.

Cayden looks down to his slice of cake, he's about to stick his fork in and take a bite, but he can't. He needs to expel something from tormented mind.

CAYDEN

I'm sorry. I don't know what happened to me the other day. (beat) I love you and you know that I would never mean to hurt you. I DIDN'T mean that Lore. (beat) You won't even look at me? I'm trying to apolo--

Lauren looks at Cayden. She leans in and slides Cayden's last slice of cake over to her and grabs a fork. She begins to eat it nonchalant like no one was watching. Cay's very confused.

CAYDEN (CONT'D)

If I could take that day back. I would. It was the heat, the mound of lies that made me crack. I love you... I want you back. Will you come bac--

Lauren, still not looking at Cayden, interrupts his speech by lightly swishing her fork in the air with a "let me swallow this food and I'll say something" fashion.

LAUREN

You should learn when to shut the fuck up, Cayden.

(MORE)

LAUREN (CONT'D)

(beat) I'm enjoying this cake. (she looks to Cayden) And you should have too.

Cayden ease back in his chair, thinking...

Lauren gets out of her seat and heads off to the pool.

Cayden notices that Lauren didn't finish the last slice of cake she stole from him... He debates if she's finished or not...

THE END