

DAISY

Written by

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Logline: When a young woman pushes her situation to be more open, she discovers a heartbreaking truth that forces them to confront the ideas of love, grief, and vulnerability.

INT. HOUSE(LIVING ROOM) - NIGHT

There are red solo cups everywhere. Knocked over empty bottles lie on the floor. NOA (20s), stubborn, emotional sits next to FINN(20s), closed off, sits next to her. There is a gap between them.

FINN

That party was insane last night.

NOA

I can't believe that many people were actually in here.

Finn groans. Noa giggles.

FINN

I don't even wanna know what the bathroom looks like.

They both laugh and roll around on the couch. They are interrupted by a DING from Finn's PHONE. He pulls it out of his pocket. There is a message from "MOM". The message reads:

"MOM"

Are you coming this year? Daisy's anniversary is Friday.

Noa notices the contact name. Finn pulls up his sleeve and fidgets with a worn, pink SHOELACE tied around his wrist.

NOA

Hey, is that your Mom?

FINN

Yeah. Why?

She notices Finn pulling at the SHOELACE. He reveals the name "Daisy" which is embroidered on it.

NOA

Finn, who's Daisy?

Finn doesn't respond. His expression hardens.

NOA (CONT'D)

Eight months. I've met your frat bros and your favorite bar tender, but not your family.

FINN

Yeah. Right.

NOA

What? I think that's a reasonable request

Finn rolls his eyes.

FINN

Playing house and getting grilled by my family? Pass.

Noa looks taken aback. She stands up.

NOA

Let me know when you're ready for a real conver-

FINN

Look my family is complicated and it hasn't been that long. I just don't think it would be appropriate-

Noa throws her hands up.

NOA

Appropriate? Appropriate. Finn there's been at least 20 gatherings since we got together. And don't think I don't notice every time you refer to me as your "friend" when you're on the phone.

Finn's PHONE DINGS again. He ignores it. He twiddles with the SHOELACE again and taps his foot.

NOA (CONT'D)

And what's with that? Every time I try to ask about it you shut me down.

FINN

It's nothing. I'm fine.

NOA

Finn, if you're not going to be honest with me, at least be honest with yourself.

He runs his hand through his hair. He puts on a smirk and grabs Noah's hand pulling her between his legs.

FINN

I could really use a distraction. Why don't we go upstairs and we can-

She rips her hands out of Finn's and steps back.

NOA

I'm not doing this until we can have a real conversation.

FINN

Noa, come on. You know it's not like that.

NOA

I know exactly how it is.

She leaves. Finn sits there. He messes with the SHOELACE.

INT. NOA'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

A message from "FINN" pops up on her phone it reads:

FINN

I'm sorry. Let me make it up to you tomorrow night. I'll bring your favorite.

Noa hesitates. She hearts the message. She puts her phone down and closes her eyes.

INT. HOUSE(KITCHEN)

The table is set. The NAPKINS are folded neatly. Noa looks put together. There is a KNOCK at the door. Noa opens the door. Sweat rolls down Finn's forehead. He holds flowers and a takeout bag.

FINN

Hey I brought your favorite pasta.

She puts her arm over the door and blocks it.

NOA

A bribe? There better be a side of truth in that bag.

He laughs and gulps. He hands her the flowers.

NOA (CONT'D)

They're...nice.

They walk over to the table and sit down. Finn pulls out Noa's chair. He sits down and puts some food on her plate.

NOA (CONT'D)
So tell me about them?

FINN
Well my dad works as a lawyer. He was out of the house a lot as a kid, but he always made time to do things with us one on one.

Noa nods and listens.

NOA
And your mom?

FINN
Before she had kids, she had an office job, but eventually she realized she loved flowers so she opened up a little shop to work at while we were at school.

NOA
We?

FINN
Mhmm there's me, Atticus, and...

Noa brace's herself.

NOA
And?

Finn shakes his head and continues talking.

FINN
Well you know there's the extended family like my crazy Uncle Dave who thinks the Martian's are coming to get us-

NOA
What about Daisy?

Finn takes a bite of his food and ignores her.

FINN
This pasta is really delicious I mean have you ever had anything like it?

NOA
Finn?

FINN

Hmm?

NOA

She's obviously important to you.
Tell me.

His eyes gloss over. He shakes and plays with the SHOELACE.

NOA (CONT'D)

Finn?

She puts her hand in his. He pulls away like he's been burned.

FINN

(Whispers)

I can't.

NOA

Just try.

He opens his mouth to speak. No words come out.

FINN

I'm sorry I can't.

Noa get's up.

NOA

Then I can't either.

He grabs her hand with pleading eyes. His expression hardens

FINN

Please. I'll tell you anything
else.

NOA

We don't stand a chance if you
don't let me in. If you can't trust
me enough to show me all of you, I
need to rethink this.

She leaves.

INT. NOA'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Noah lies on her couch. She is in her pj's. Her hair is in a messy bun. She stares at the TV. A KNOCK comes from the door. She opens it to reveal Finn

NOA

What are you doing? I thought I told you-

Finn walks past her. She wipes her face

FINN

I love you.

NOA

I love you too. But that's not enough.

She looks torn.

NOA (CONT'D)

I don't wanna to revert to our old routine. I want to be more than the girl you hide with and the girl you occasionally show off at parties. I want in on all of it. Even the worst parts.

FINN

I know I just-

He runs his hand through his hair. He takes a deep breath.

FINN (CONT'D)

Her name was Daisy because we all used to call her our little flower.

He swallows. Noa waits for him to continue.

FINN (CONT'D)

One day, while Mom was in the garden, and Dad was at work, she locked herself in the kitchen. She figured out how to turn on the stove. By the time we all got there she was gone. She was 7. Her death anniversary is on Friday.

Finn looks at the floor. Tears fall down Noa's face. She engulfs him in a hug. He looks shocked at first, but then melts into it.

NOA

Oh, Finn. I'm so sorry.

He pulls out of the hug.

FINN

No I'm sorry. I shouldn't have been pushing you away like that. It's just-

NOA

Just what?

FINN

You scare me. I've been hiding from everyone since that day. You can practically read my mind. I can't hide from you.

He drops to his knees. She looks shocked. He laughs.

FINN (CONT'D)

Oh wait no this probably looks a little-

They both giggle. He continues.

FINN (CONT'D)

Noa Marie Willson. Would you do me the honor of coming to my family barbecue this weekend?

NOA

Will the whole family be there?

Fin nods and gets gets up. He takes Noa's hands in his.

FINN

You know she was always asking me when I would bring a girlfriend home?

NOA

Well how could I say no to that.

NOA (CONT'D)

Before, I forget what are your Mom's favorite flowers?

FINN

I think you know.

THE END.