

LEILANI NEEDS HER HAIR DONE

Written by

Cadence Callahan

A rebellious and willful teenage girl, races against time and her controlling mother to make her hair appointment.

Cadence Callahan
Email: Cacallahan@chapman.edu
Phone: (323)762-6549

INT. LEILANI'S ROOM - MORNING

A door SLAMS, waking LEILANI(19F), who exemplifies the degree of recklessness that accompanies adolescence and then some. She's wearing a hair bonnet.

Startled, she checks her barely-charged phone. Her eyes widen. On the phone is a calendar notification of a hair appointment that's in...23 MINUTES.

LEILANI
(panicked)
Oh, shit!

She jumps out of bed, and her legs get tangled in the sheets as she makes her way to her closet. She trips over piles of clothes splayed across her floor. While maneuvering, she feverishly dials a number of her phone.

INT. CAR - DAY

TOYA(43F), Leilani's Mom, sits in traffic. She's semi-young looking and in fashions more suited for someone Leilani's age.

She quietly sings along to a SONG in a Britney Spears-eque baby voice. The MUSIC stops, and a call from Leilani appears on the car's dash. She answers.

TOYA
You managed to wake up before noon.

INT. CLOSET - MORNING

Leilani frantically searches for an outfit. Colorful clothing further decorates the floor as Leilani throws garments everywhere.

LEILANI
(frustrated)
I thought you were going to wake me up, Mom!

INTERCUT LEILANI/ TOYA

TOYA
No, Leilani. I said that I'd give you a ride to the salon before I went out to run errands. You didn't wake up in time, so I left.
(then)
But, yeah, make me the bad guy.

LEILANI

(frustrated)

I'm not *making* you the bad guy, To-Mom. You are! I'm going to be late, and you *know* how bad I need this.

TOYA

Yeah...you do need your hair done. You know, I don't understand why you're so hellbent on that particular style. I mean the color, length, it's not you.

LEILANI

What'd you suggest I get then? A press, trim, and bumped ends? I'd leave the salon looking like some 90s thug. Not me, Mom.

TOYA

Watch your tone, Le. And, I'm just saying, something a bit less flashy. I don't know what you're trying to prove, or rebel against, but it's tired.

LEILANI

(impassioned)

I'm not trying to prove anything! I'm experimenting with my style- my sense of self!

TOYA

So you'd call last week's *catastrophe* "experimenting with your sense of self"?

Leilani's dressed and putting on her shoes.

LEILANI

"Catastrophe"'s a bit much. I mean, it doesn't look *that* bad. And, besides, the box said "sunset yellow"- it was misleading!

TOYA

Whatever, Leilani. If I'm paying for this, you're getting something simple. End of story.

Toya hangs up.

INT. LEILANI'S ROOM - DAY

LEILANI
 (mocking)
 You're getting something simple.
 (normal voice)
 Yeah, right.

Leilani stuffs her phone into her pocket and makes her way toward the door, but before exiting, she stops at a mirror and takes off her bonnet to reveal an awful dye job.

Leilani grabs a hoodie and throws it on, covering the dyed disaster, and continues out the door, leaving her wallet on the nearby nightstand.

EXT. LEILANI'S HOUSE. SIDEWALK - DAY

Leilani leaps from the steps of her home to the nearby sidewalk. Anxious, she checks her phone.

LEILANI
 Shit! 13 minutes. Okay, okay. A car shouldn't be that expensive, it's barely noon.

Leilani selects a nondescript ride share app on her phone. Her expression goes from worried to shocked .

LEILANI (CONT'D)
 (exasperated)
 \$62! They're out of their minds.
 (then)
 Okay, maybe Myles can give me a ride.

She attempts to dial the number, but just then, her phone dies.

LEILANI (CONT'D)
 Ah, God damn it! Piece of shit!

During her outburst, TWO NUNS walk past. A look of horror etched on their faces.

LEILANI (CONT'D)
 Oh! Sorry, sisters.

Leilani quickly bows.

LEILANI (CONT'D)
 What am I doing! I'm agnostic.

Leilani sees an electric scooter and approaches it. She first interacts with the scooter as though it's a foreign object. She attempts to ride it but it barely moves, and makes a loud BEEPING NOISE instead.

A MAN passes by.

LEILANI (CONT'D)

Why won't this thing move?

MAN

You gotta to pay to ride it.

LEILANI

Of course! Does it take coins-card?

MAN

Uh, I think either.

Reaching into her pocket, Leilani feels for her wallet. It isn't there.

LEILANI

(frustrated)

I don't have my wallet.

MAN

Well, there's a bus stop not too far from here.

He points to a bus stop in the nearby distance and continues walking.

LEILANI

Okay! Thank you!

(then, calling out to the man)

Wait, how do I ride the bus with no money?

EXT. BUS STOP - DAY

Standing at the stop is an OLD WOMAN; she's sweet-looking and unassuming. Leilani approaches her.

LEILANI

Hi! Do you happen to know when the next bus'll come?

(then)

And, do you have any spare change I could use to ride the bus?

OLD WOMAN

Do I look like the transportation station to you, bitch? And find your own change!

LEILANI

(shocked)

Okay, then, chill.

Skittish, Leilani walks away from the woman. She approaches an OLD MAN.

LEILANI (CONT'D)

Excuse me, could you tell me what time it is?

OLD MAN

No.

LEILANI

(to herself)

Why are all the older people here so mean?

Leilani moves toward a WOMAN who is struggling on rollerblades. Leilani is now much farther from the stop.

LEILANI (CONT'D)

Oh, I used to have a pair of those.

WOMAN

Yeah, I got these for my birthday a couple years ago and thought, "You know what, today's the day I learn to use these things."

LEILANI

Yeah...Anyway, do you know when the next bus'll come?

WOMAN

It's right there.

LEILANI

What?

The woman points, and Leilani swiftly turns around to discover that the bus has come and gone. She attempts to chase after it before giving up. She's lost out on another mode of transportation.

EXT. BUS STOP - DAY

Defeated, Leilani sits on a bench. She begins softly crying.

LEILANI
I'm not gonna make it.

The woman on rollerblades joins Leilani on the bench.

WOMAN
Oh, no! Is it cancer?

LEILANI
What? I'm not going to make it to
my *appointment*.

WOMAN
(sincere, nodding)
With the cancer specialist.

LEILANI
(frustrated)
I don't have cancer! I'm going to
miss my *hair appointment*.

WOMAN
Oh! Well the next bus should come
in 15 minutes.

LEILANI
I don't have 15 minutes.
(then)
Hey, could I use your phone to call
someone?

WOMAN
(hesitant)
You're not going to run off with
it, are you? Because I'm just
getting used to these, and I don't
think I'd be able to chase you.

LEILANI
No?

The woman gives Leilani the phone. Leilani dials a number.

INT. CAR - DAY

Still sitting in traffic, Toya now listens to an AUDIO BOOK,
entranced.

AUDIO BOOK

(high-pitched, southern
accent)

"But, I've never done this before,
Elias, and with the farmhand no
less. What'll my family think of
me?" Josephine clutched her pearls
as Elias lessened the space between
them.

AUDIO BOOK (CONT'D)

(low-pitched, southern
accent)

"They don't have to know." Elias
grabs Josephine and kisses her
before-

The AUDIO BOOK stops, and an UNKNOWN call appears on Toya's
dash. She declines it, and the AUDIO book resumes.

AUDIO BOOK (CONT'D)

Elias then places Josephine on a
hay bell, and the two engage in
sweet, passionate-

EXT. BUS STOP - DAY

LEILANI

I don't know what I am going to do.

The woman thinks, then takes off her rollerblades and hands
them to Leilani.

WOMAN

Here.

LEILANI

What; are you sure?

The woman nods, and Leilani replaces her shoes with the
rollerblades. The woman stands barefoot.

WOMAN

Just make sure to bring them back!

Leilani rolls away.

WOMAN (CONT'D)

(to herself)

I'll be here waiting. Barefoot.

EXT. SIDEWALK - NOON

Leilani cuts through passerby on the blades. She approaches a crosswalk- the final blockade between her and the appointment destination.

Leilani waits for the light to turn red. She's there for what seems like infinitum. The cross man signal appears, but before Leilani can cross, people appear to block off the street. A cross-country team appears.

Leilani hesitates before braving the runners. It's not an easy go; she's bumped into, pushed down, and partially trampled, but she makes it across and into the appointment destination.

INT. SALON - NOON

Exhausted, Leilani burst through the salon doors- still wearing the rollerblades. A WOMAN is in being styled in a chair. The woman turns around and it's Toya adorning a style consisting of a colorful assortment of braids and extensions.