

SURPRISE!

Written by

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LOGLINE: After a breakup, Jess tries to move on by having a spontaneous one-night stand while babysitting her cousin.

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FADE IN:

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

A YOUNG WOMAN and YOUNG MAN fumble down stairs and into a nicely furnished room. The lights are off.

YOUNG WOMAN
Oh my fucking god. I can't believe
that just happened! You need to get
out of here.

She flips on a light. The young couple is half naked and covered in paint. Suddenly, the woman's face drops in horror.

YOUNG WOMAN (CONT'D)
Mom?! Dad?!

Across the room stands an OLDER COUPLE, holding a birthday cake and wearing party hats.

MOM
(weakly)
Happy Birthday?

YOUNG WOMAN
What're you doing here--

BANG! BANG! BANG! The front door shakes.

MOM
Honey, what was that---

The door SMASHES open! A POLICE OFFICER rushes inside.

POLICE OFFICER
EVERYBODY FREEZE!

The young woman's mom screams.

YOUNG MAN
What the fu--

The scene FREEZES. The young woman addresses the camera.

YOUNG WOMAN
You might be wondering how I got
here. Well, it all started as a
normal Tuesday...

SMASH CUT TO:

TITLE CARD: TWO HOURS EARLIER

EXT. SUBURBAN HOUSE - NIGHT

The young woman, JESS (22), approaches the door. She knocks. A couple, KAREN (30s) and STEVE (30s) open the door.

KAREN

Jess! It's so nice to see you!

The woman wraps Jess in a tight hug. Jess looks up and sees a big security camera with an obnoxious red light, blinking.

JESS

That's new.

STEVE

I know, it looks ridiculous--

KAREN

We figured we'd air on the side of caution.

JESS

Of course, that makes sense.

(to camera)

This is a gated neighborhood.
That's the stupidest fucking thing
I've ever heard.

Jess smiles and walks into...

INT. LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

JESS

Where is Anna?

STEVE

Don't worry about her. She's
asleep. Should be for the rest of
the night.

KAREN

We really appreciate this. I know
it's not ideal, babysitting on your
birthday.

JESS

I don't mind. I'm not doing
anything--

KAREN

I know you usually spend it with
your parents and you know who but--

STEVE

Karen!

JESS

It's alright, Uncle Steve.

(to camera)

My ex-boyfriend Josh and I just broke up. We both decided it'd be better if he saw other people.

Karen and Steve put on their coats.

STEVE

Emergency numbers are on the fridge. Help yourself to anything.

KAREN

Be safe and relax! You *really* deserve it.

They leave, shutting the door behind them. Jess sits down on a couch, pulls out her phone, and sighs.

JESS

(to camera)

This is my first birthday alone. Last year, my parents, Josh and I went to Olive Garden. Josh got me a Tiffany promise ring.

She looks around and sighs.

JESS (CONT'D)

(to camera)

But this is fine too.

She opens Instagram. The first post is Josh posing sexily with another girl. The caption reads: "Out with the old, in with the new."

JESS (CONT'D)

(to camera)

Jesus Christ. Does he really think I care? Because I don't.

She looks back and notices the hashtags. "#byejess #youreugly". Her face turns bright red with anger.

JESS (CONT'D)

(to camera)

This is war.

She opens Tinder and aggressively starts swiping.

TITLE CARD: ONE HOUR LATER

She's still swiping through profiles until, finally, a match!

JESS (CONT'D)
 (to camera)
 Thank, god. I don't need Josh, I
 have...

TREVOR (22), a fucking idiot, messages her immediately.

TREVOR (TEXT MESSAGE)
 You seem lit. Wanna hang?

Jess looks around, contemplating. She closes the app.

JESS
 (to camera)
 Never mind. I'm not *that* desperate.

Her phone buzzes. She quickly grabs it. It's Josh.

JOSH (TEXT MESSAGE)
 You see my new post? She's hot.
 Better boobs too.

This is Jess's last straw. She messages Trevor.

JESS (TEXT MESSAGE)
 Here's my address. Don't use front
 door. There are cameras. *Be sneaky.*

TITLE CARD: TEN MINUTES LATER

A knock at the front door. Jess scrambles to get it.

JESS (CONT'D)
 I told you not to use the front!

TREVOR
 Don't worry, I dodged the cameras.

Jess shrugs.

JESS
 (to camera)
 Fair enough.

She pulls him inside and they immediately start making out.

TREVOR
 Hot. You got a room?

JUMP CUT TO:

INT. MASTER BEDROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Jess closes the door behind them and they make out against the door. She rips his shirt off. He looks her up and down.

TREVOR
Damn, sick tits.

JESS
Yeah, I know.
(to camera)
Fuck you, Josh.

They move awkwardly around the room. Trevor pushes her up against a bookshelf. A bottle of paint falls from the shelf, covering them both in a thick layer of neon pink.

TREVOR
Ah, what the hell?! Why do you have paint in here?

JESS
Don't worry about it. Keep going.

They continue making out, rubbing the paint into each other's clothes and hair. Josh moves towards the edge of the bed.

JESS (CONT'D)
Wait we can't get paint on here--

He quickly gets back up. Suddenly, Jess notices a lump under the covers. She puts a finger over Trevor's mouth.

TREVOR
Oh, fuck. You have a kid?

They back away. ANNA (8) is under the covers.

JESS
(to camera)
Oh, shit.

Anna screams at the top of her lungs. They run out.

JESS (CONT'D)
(yelling behind her)
This is all a dream, Anna! Don't tell your mom!

They continue running downstairs and into...

INT. LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

The lights are off.

JESS

I can't believe that just happened!
You need to get out of here!

She finds a light switch and flips it on. Her faces drops.

JESS (CONT'D)

Mom?! Dad?!

Across the room stands an older couple, holding a birthday cake and wearing party hats.

JESS (CONT'D)

(to camera)
You know what happens next.

The door SMASHES open! A police officer rushes inside.

POLICE OFFICER

EVERYBODY FREEZE!

JESS

(to her parents)
I thought you were out of town!

MOM

We were! But the vacuum convention could never take precedence over your birthday! Plus, we know you've been so upset about you know who--

JESS

Mom!

MOM

But I guess you're not too upset.

Her mom eyes Trevor.

JESS

Oh, god! I'm so sorry you both have to see this. I'm humiliated.

TREVOR

Hey!

POLICE OFFICER

Hello? Scary man in uniform here! I got a call about a kidnapper.

JESS
Kidnapper?!

Suddenly, Steve and Karen burst through the doorframe.

KAREN
ANNA? IS EVERYTHING ALRIGHT??

STEVE
We saw someone on the cameras!

Jess turns to Trevor and slaps him.

JESS
You said you were careful!

TREVOR
I was! I swear!

JUMP CUT TO:

ONE HOUR EARLIER, HOUSE CAMERA POV:

Trevor bear crawls across the front lawn towards the house, in clear view.

JUMP CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM - THAT SAME MOMENT

JESS
(to Karen & Steve)
I am so sorry. I invited him here.
I know it was stupid. I just--

She pauses, her eyes welling up with tears.

JESS (CONT'D)
This was going to be my first
birthday without Josh and you guys--

MOM
We know, honey. But that's why we
wanted to surprise you.

KAREN
You're not alone. We all love and
care about you.

TREVOR
Woah, wait a minute--

In the corner, the police officer is ugly crying.

POLICE OFFICER
We really do. We love you so much.

JESS
(to camera)
Today definitely wasn't what I was
expecting but I guess it wasn't the
worst birthday after all.

Jess, her family and the cop share a big group hug.

TREVOR
Should I leave or...?

CUT TO BLACK.