## UNCANNY VALLEY

Episode 1.02

"Securely Insecure"

Written by

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7. Busy police station.

POLICE OFFICER

So, you think you have a stalker?

IZZY

This guy. Is. A. Genius.

AUDREY

Cody is a stalker. He is stalking me.

POLICE OFFICER

(typing, distracted)

Yes. Yes. I see it. You filed a complaint...last month.

(beat)

Oh, and I see that you've...okay, filed additional complaints the last three weeks. That's good.

IZZY

Good?! Why are we even talking to him? Hello, brick wall.

**AUDREY** 

I don't think I'd say any of this is "good." And I don't know why your department doesn't take me seriously.

Stops typing.

POLICE OFFICER

I'm sorry. I didn't mean it was good...
I mean...listen, stalking cases are
hard. Hard to prove. Harder to stop.
But you're documenting a pattern.
That's a good step. Do you think things
are escalating?

IZZY

Nope. We just like the atmosphere of a dingy cop shop on a sunny day.

AUDREY

I mean, he's calling and following me more and more, so yes?

POLICE OFFICER

Have any proof?

**AUDREY** 

Beyond me telling you that he is stalking me?

IZZY

I told you this was a waste of time. All cops do is shoot things. That's all they're good for.

POLICE OFFICER

Did you get a camera for your apartment?

IZZY

So you can see who to shoot?

AUDREY

I don't have a camera. I'm afraid he'd hack it to spy on me.

POLICE OFFICER

That's probably a smart move. Hmmm. (typing)

It doesn't look like you have any witnesses in your reports. Have you been able to get anyone to corroborate what you're experiencing? Do you have records of the calls? Threatening messages?

IZZY

What are you going to do with phone records? Shoot 'em?

AUDREY

No. Cody's smart. Too smart. It's like he knows how much he can push.

IZZY

Or he's watched Law and Order.

POLICE OFFICER

What do you mean?

His messages are vague, and the "gifts" are all anonymous. And the calls are from new numbers every time.

POLICE OFFICER

Okay. Well, there isn't a whole lot that we can do right now, but let's fill out another report and check into a restraining order.

T77Y

Ooo. A fancy piece of paper that you hold up and say, "quit being bad!"

**AUDREY** 

A piece of paper? What is a piece of paper going to do to keep him away?

POLICE

Let's start with the report. If we create a strong paper trail, it can help with prosecution if he's caught escalating his behavior.

IZZY

Ah. The pre-shooting paperwork. So they know who to shoot after he murders you. Excellent.

**AUDREY** 

Fine.

POLICE OFFICER

His name again?

AUDREY

Cody. That's all I know. And I have a picture I took. Here.

POLICE OFFICER

 $\label{eq:hmmm.he...seems} \mbox{ familiar. Is it...}$ 

(types)

This might just be a...oh, shit. Sorry for cursing, ma'am.

IZZY

He called you ma'am. Ha!

**AUDREY** 

What?

POLICE OFFICER

I...I don't know.

AUDREY

You know who he is? Did you find him?

IZZY

I'm looking.

(beat)

Oh, shit. Audrey. He's a cop.

AUDREY

What?

POLICE OFFICER

No, I didn't find--

AUDREY

He's a cop.

IZZY

Cody Larsson.

**AUDREY** 

Cody Larsson.

POLICE OFFICER

I thought you  $\operatorname{didn}'$  t know who he was.

**AUDREY** 

Great. A cop. So I'm screwed?

IZZY

I told you. I told you he knew way too much about stalking!

POLICE OFFICER

He's not above the law, but...yeah.
Shit. Sorry again. I'll report this up
through my chief. She'll likely have to

ladder it up to Internal Affairs. It's gonna take some time.

AUDREY

I don't have time. I can't just wait for him to snap and kill me.

IZZY

At least then they could do their job.

POLICE OFFICER

I never realized this kind of training would make a very skilled stalker.

IZZY

Shooting. Shooting is their job.

**AUDREY** 

Yep. Great. Not helping.

POLICE OFFICER

I'm not trying to scare you, but do you have a safety plan?

**AUDREY** 

Safety plan? Right. Telling my friends and colleagues. Packing my go bag. Oh yeah, and hoarding cash? All making me feel so safe right now. And he's a fucking cop?! How can I possibly feel safe from this?

POLICE OFFICER

I know this is scary, but is there a location where you have no known connections?

**AUDREY** 

I don't know.

IZZY

Yes. Yes. Let's move! Somewhere fun!

POLICE OFFICER

If I were you...

Yeah?

POLICE OFFICER

It's time to get out of the city. Disappear for a while, and he'll move on.

**AUDREY** 

Yeah.

IZZY

Vegas, here we come!

## PAST TO PRESENT TRANSITION

8. Audrey and Izzy are in the house. Audrey is rummaging through her art supplies.

IZZY

Can you keep it down over there?

AUDREY

Excuse me. This is my house. Remember?

IZZY

And I'm kinda stuck here with you. So help a girl out, okay?

AUDREY

Uhh. Sorry. You know how I get when my art supplies aren't in their place. I have a...

IZZY

System. Yes. Yes. I've seen the system many times. You need to loosen up.

AUDREY

Loosen up? If I were any more loose--

IZZY

Uh, where is this going?

AUDREY

Oh, Izzy. You know what I mean. I just need my supplies in order to work on my

next commission, and my art is... complicated.

IZZY

And whose fault is that?

AUDREY

I can't control the fact that my sought-after work results from deftly piecing together metal and wood in what some might call equal parts engineering feat and kinetic mysticism.

IZZY

Wow. Did you just quote a review of your artwork?

**AUDREY** 

Maybe. It's nice to be seen.

IZZY

I guess it would be.

**AUDREY** 

Oh, Izzy.

(beat, rummaging through boxes)
Yep. I'm missing parts. Do you see
anything in those boxes by the table.

IZZY

Empty. Just like my life here in Alaska.

**AUDREY** 

Quit being so dramatic and help me find my supplies. Maybe I'm missing a box?

IZZY

Welp. They don't have reliable shipping in Alaska. We'll have to move.

AUDREY

No. I know Nora got everything from my list.

Pulls out piece of paper.

That. And uh huh. Yes. Actually. I have everything from my list, but I'm missing some items from the apartment.

IZZY

Do you think it was...he who shall not be named?

AUDREY

Who? Oh.

(takes deep breath) I'm just going to have to create a new list.

IZZY

Oooo! Do we get to go shopping?! I'll even take a trip to a hardware store.

AUDREY

Yes, and we'll go out later. After I take a proper inventory.

IZZY

But I'm bored now.

AUDREY

You want something to do? How about you read these instructions for the wood burning stove. I'm getting cold in here.

IZZY

Put the wood in the stove and set it on fire. Boom. Fire.

AUDREY

I think it might be a bit more complicated than that, so let me get some logs while you read the
instructions.

Walking to the door. Door opens.

AUDREY (CONT'D)

Be right back.

IZZY

Nope. Never say that again.

Audrey closes the door and goes outside to get some wood.

AUDREY

(deep breath)

I can build a fire, right? Of course I can. If cavemen could...I am woman. Hear me roar.

She starts to pull a few logs from the pile.

WIND

Audrey...

**AUDREY** 

Huh?

The wind picks up. Audrey turns and takes a few steps.

WIND

Audrey...

AUDREY

Hello?

WIND

Audrey...

**AUDREY** 

Rett?

WIND

Audrey...

AUDREY

No. No. Not happening.

Audrey hurries back to the door. Clumsily gets into the cabin, shuts the door and drops the wood.

IZZY

Whoa! Let's keep it clean in here.

(out of breath)

Sorry. Let's uh. I'll just push these logs over here out of the way, and let's head out. Okay?

IZZY

I'm all for the change in scenery, but are you okay? You look like you've seen a ghost.

(laughs)

You know what I mean. Wait, did you see a ghost?

**AUDREY** 

Izzy. This isn't funny. I heard that voice again. The one from last night. You didn't hear anything?

IZZY

No. Busy reading about putting logs into a stove, remember?

(beat)

Setting them ablaze. Fire. Audrey?

AUDREY

It's really creeping me out.

IZZY

And it wasn't an actual ghost voice?

AUDREY

I've heard them enough to know the difference.

IZZY

I know. What about like PTSD? Stalking survivors can have moments. Flashbacks and PTSD stuff.

AUDREY

That is not what this is.

IZZY

I believe you, Audrey. It's probably just us city folk who aren't used to all of the noises out here in the wild.

Do you think that's what it is?

IZZY

Totes. Remember the stars? We never could see stars with all the light pollution from the city.

AUDREY

You're right.

IZZY

Duh! So take away all the car horns, sirens, subway sounds, and what's left?

AUDREY

Creepy disembodied voices?

IZZY

Creepy-ass wilderness noises.

AUDREY

Right.

IZZY

You're right. Let's get out of here. Let's go to "town." Hear some Alaskan "town" noises instead.

**AUDREY** 

Yeah. I wouldn't mind being around more people for once.

IZZY

Who are you?

**AUDREY** 

Right?

## TRANSITION MUSIC

9. The snow machine comes to a stop. Engine cuts. Audrey and Izzy have made it to the town center.

AUDREY

I can get used to the snow machines.

IZZY

It's that unadulterated testosterone-infused power, isn't it?

AUDREY

And the sounds. I can't hear creepy nature voices over this magnificently loud engine.

IZZY

Ah, the simple things. Wait.

**AUDREY** 

What?

IZZY

This is it?

AUDREY

I think so. Why?

IZZY

This "town" is like 3 buildings.

AUDREY

And a couple homes over there. Can you see? Right there...and there.

IZZY

Oh, yes. Are we on the set of one of our high school plays?

AUDREY

Oh, come on. It's not that bad. They're 3D. Like real buildings.

IZZY

Um, Audrey.

AUDREY

Yes, Izzy.

IZZY

They're staring at us. And by us, I mean you.

Well, I must look like a marvelous new addition to their town.

IZZY

Or you're the next member of their cult.

AUDREY

Oh, look. They're waving. How nice.

IZZY

Very culty.

**AUDREY** 

Smiling. And waving. They better not be a cult.

IZZY

Definitely a cult.

DOYLE

(from afar)

Totally unfair. Some new chick arrives, and they drag out the welcome wagon. They ignored me from day one.

AUDREY

Huh? I don't think everyone is happy to see me.

Audrey spins to find the owner of the voice. And bumps into Dahlia.

AUDREY (CONT'D)

Ack!

DAHLIA

(chuckles)

Whoa, there. I told Rett I was hoping to run into you. Looks like you beat me to it.

AUDREY

I'm so sorry! I just thought I heard someone--did you say something?

DAHLIA

Just some of my poorer material. Were you talking to someone?

AUDREY

Oh. It was just me. Talking to myself again. Trying to remember everything I wanted to pick up.

DAHLIA

Winter on the horizon and you haven't been hoarding propane and toilet paper since April? You must be City Girl Audrey. I'm Dahlia. I pilot.

IZZY

She is so cool. Befriend her.

**AUDREY** 

Oh, wow. A pilot? You're...

DAHLIA

A woman?

**AUDREY** 

I was going to say "so young to be a pilot." Obviously, women make amazing pilots.

DAHLIA

Thank you. I certainly do my best. Can't be torpedoing into the sea with the whole town's booze shipment in your cargo. There'd be riots.

AUDREY

I've never met a pilot, so it is pretty cool to meet one in person. Which I guess is how you meet anyone.

DAHLIA

(laughing)

Well, for me, it's so refreshing to welcome someone new to our humble town.

**AUDREY** 

It's kinda smaller than I expected.

DAHLIA

Small but mighty, as my grandma would say. We can take care of all your basic needs...just in more of a multi-tasky way.

They walk towards the town center.

AUDREY

Oh, that's Ice Scraper!

DAHLIA

You've heard of our dive?

AUDREY

Its reputation preceded my seeing it. In all its glory.

IZZY

It's so old looking.

DAHLIA

She's a beaut. Packed with lively conversations, stale peanuts, and an impressively small selection of liquor.

AUDREY

Can't wait.

DAHLIA

But seriously. It is  $\underline{\text{the}}$  place to hang out, and you arrived just in time to be a regular before it shuts down for the season. First beer's on me.

**AUDREY** 

Right. The town shuts down for winter.

DAHLIA

Yes, ma'am. And out here? Westeros has nothing on us.

AUDREY

Ha!

IZZY

You have no clue what she's talking about, do you?

DAHLIA

Winter is coming! Yeah. Uh. There isn't a lot to do up here during winter, so my TV gets a lot of use.

(beat)

I apologize for the incoming Star Wars references in advance.

(beat)

There are current bets on when old Father Frost will strike this year. But I'm just remembering now that you had to pick up a few things, and here I'm just talking your ear off.

**AUDREY** 

I don't mind. I don't use my ears much, anyway.

IZZY

Okay, weirdo. Act normal.

AUDREY

Uh. I mean. That was a joke.

DAHLIA

(kind laugh)

Of course it was, and can I let you in on a secret? I'm horrible at telling jokes, but Roxanne, you'll meet her soon, is the queen of bad puns. And business ventures. Don't let her corner you just because you're new. You'll end up with a new bank account.

## **AUDREY**

Thanks for the tip. I might need your help with a few things on my list. I mean, if you don't mind? Of course, you're probably too busy piloting and all. I'll head--

DAHLIA

Oh, come on. Did we miss a part of your shipment? I'm kinda meticulous about my deliveries, but some of the part-timers in Anchorage? Geesh.

AUDREY

Oh. Yeah, those kids in Anchorage...they're the worst.

IZZY

What are you talking about?! We didn't run into "kids" in Anchorage. If you could see me face-palming right now. And if I could actually slap my face.

**AUDREY** 

But no. I somehow overlooked some parts that I need for my artwork.

DAHLIA

You're an artist? I feel so unworthy.

AUDREY

Says the youngest pilot I've ever met.

IZZY

The only pilot you've ever met.

DAHLIA

(laughs)

So humble, Ms. Van Gogh. Let's go over to Roxanne's. And while we're there, I can show you our hardware store, our credit union, and my personal favorite— -the shipping center.

They open the door with a bell.

**AUDREY** 

It's...uh...

IZZY

A dump.

DAHLIA

When you only have one store, it has to serve multiple purposes. You'll note the cleverly named sections.

**AUDREY** 

I spy a few items on my list over there in the "Nail It" section. Hardware store, I presume?

DAHLIA

Exactly.

They walk a few steps over to the hardware portion of the store.

AUDREY

Did Roxanne come up with the name?

DAHLIA

Wow. I'm impressed. You've got us figured out already.

Audrey starts picking items off of the hardware shelves. Nuts, bolts, wire.

DAHLIA

Psst. I wouldn't get that one.

AUDREY

Oh. But this wire is crucial. I'm actually kinda--

DAHLIA

Nope. Back on the shelf. Quickly. Before she sees. She's charging you triple its worth. I can get some for you on my next supply run.

**AUDREY** 

Okay, cool.

10. ROXANNE

(through overhead speaker)
Nail It will be closing in the next
fifteen minutes. Please conclude your
shopping and bring all purchases up to
the register.

DAHLIA

Roxanne, we're the only ones here.

ROXANNE

Dahlia, this is a professional establishment. And I want to make a good first impression. What are you at my ducky. It's Audrey, right? It's a delight to meet our newest Haven resident. I hope you packed your sunscreen. And if not, we have some in aisle two.

**AUDREY** 

Are you a part of the welcoming crew, too?

ROXANNE

It's not every day--heck, month...year-we get a new resident.

AUDREY

Speaking of, do you know...I mean, have you seen Rett? I was looking for him.

ROXANNE

Juneau, I haven't! But I'm sure he'll be at the Ice Scraper. The man doesn't miss an opportunity to network with some foam.

**AUDREY** 

Okay. I'll have to swing by. Dahlia and Rett have already sung its praises.

ROXANNE

Totally mismanaged by Lonnie, that cheap bastard, but it's something. Dahlia, you haven't been spinning any tales about my wares, right?

DAHLIA

What could I possibly say about an upstanding businesswoman like yourself?

Cash register noises to scan and charge Dahlia.

ROXANNE

Well, Audrey, your total is \$27.42. Not bad, eh? We're only open for a little while longer: until winter comes. But if you need something, you just let me know. I'm happy to special order anything for a small additional charge.

**AUDREY** 

Thank you, Roxanne. Nice to meet you.

ROXANNE

(through an overhead speaker)
Nail It will be closing in 10 min--

DAHLIA

Seriously, Rox.

ROXANNE

What? I'm trying to run a business.

Audrey and Dahlia head to the door. Audrey's phone alerts, several times.

AUDREY

Oh. Oh, wow.

DAHLIA

Ah, the familiar sound of a phone finally connecting. Our cell service is so spotty.

**AUDREY** 

Yes. I've noticed. I should probably...

DAHLIA

I'll meet you outside. Gotta get Roxanne's list for my next run. BRB, City Girl Audrey. Shop door opens and closes as Audrey exits.

IZZY

Don't. Don't do it.

AUDREY

What? Check my voicemail like a normal human being?

IZZY

You know who it's from.

Phone clicking. =

IZZY (CONT'D)

And we were having such a nice day.

CODY

Hey. I missed you at the coffee shop but thought you deserved to start your day off right with your favorite cold brew. Special delivery.

Button Press.

CODY

Thinking about you. I was busy working all morning and sad I wasn't able to catch a glimpse of your beautiful smile.

Button Press.

CODY

It's so silly, but I've gotten used to bumping into you at the Post Office every Wednesday. Do you need me to pick up your mail?

Button Press.

CODY (

I hope the soup helps! And some quality time in bed. I miss seeing you.

Button Press.

CODY

Hello? I'm starting to get really worried. Where are you, Audrey? Call me.

Button Press.

CODY

Mr. Flowers just called. They said they couldn't deliver the daisies I sent to brighten your day. How could you turn away such a beautiful gift?

Button Press.

CODY

I'm beginning to think you don't appreciate everything I do for you.

Button Press.

CODY

Have the guts to answer your phone and talk, Audrey.

Button Press.

CODY

Answer.

Button Press.

CODY

Your.

Button Press.

CODY

Fucking phone, you ungrateful--

Hangs up.

IZZY

Oh, Audrey. Why do you torture yourself?

What can I do? I need...this is why we moved. To Alaska. To be--

Dahlia approaches.

DAHLIA

Hark. I feel the summons of cold beer and stale peanuts.

(beat)

Oh. Oh no, Audrey. Bad news?

**AUDREY** 

No. Nope. Just some much needed closure.

DAHLIA

Glad to hear it. Fresh Alaskans...can be a bit of a mixed bag. Most of the people who weren't born here have something they're trying to escape by being here.

**AUDREY** 

That fits, and is exactly why I...let's get over to the Ice Scraper. I think I need a drink.

DAHTITA

That you do. Follow me, Miss Audrey. And let's skip the beer. I'm sure our newest city transplant knows plenty of obscure cocktails that'll make Lonnie earn his tips.

11. Bar door swings open. Audrey and Dahlia step inside to a heated argument between Lonnie, Bess, and Gareth.

GARETH

(definitely a few drinks in)
No. No. Aliens. Aliens aren't real, so
Bigfoot would definitely win. Cuz. Real
versus fake wins.

(hiccup)

Therefore, Bigfoot wins.

BESS

Gareth, I thought this was all hypothetical.

LONNIE

I agree with Bess. This is just a thought experiment. But of course aliens are real. Have you heard the noises the sky makes? Also, the people who go missing?!

BESS

You're saying people are abducted? By aliens? Lonnie, no.

LONNIE

Irregardless, the technology alone from the aliens would dazzle and distract a hairy Bigfoot way before their laser gun went pew pew.

GARETH

You're idiots. The lot of you.
Those voices you hear. They aren't the sky. They're coming from the wind.
Carrying the voices of the cryptids.
Ooooo.

(hiccup)

Yup. Bigfoot might seem all skittish. But he's a cryptid...and they're not afraid to attack when needed.

(hiccup)

And. And. If he

(hiccup)

were to face off against an "alien," he would attack or the government would just jump in to protect their experiment.

BESS

Oh, the government is experimenting now?

GARETH

Have you not been paying any attention?

LONNIE

About the aliens or the Bigfoot?

GARETH

Yes.

BESS

I'm so glad we cleared that up. Another round, Lonnie?

(whispers)

Maybe go a little lighter for Gareth?

LONNIE

Light as water.

Pours beer from a tap and water from a pitcher.

DAHLIA

I'm sorry we missed out on debate night!

BESS

You mean every night with these two?

LONNIE

Drinks and spirited debates go hand in hand.

GARETH

And it's not really a debate when I'm always...right. But confirm. You. Stranger. Bigfoot or aliens?

AUDREY

Uhh. What?

BESS

Who would win in a fight?

IZZY

Wow.

AUDREY

Well, I guess...aliens? They're lightyears ahead, so they must be able to outsmart Bigfoot. Right?

Gareth enraged, tries to stand up and push out his barstool at the same time.

GARETH

Wrong! Stupid girl. You're going to get us all killed.

AUDREY

Oh. I don't...I didn't--

DAHLIA

Pump the brakes, big guy. No one is going to get us killed from debating aliens versus Bigfoot. And Audrey here is our newest resident. Show some respect.

GARETH

You're all fools. The lot of you! You're not paying attention to the right things in life.

BESS

Like drinking until you're pass-out drunk?

GARETH

I oughta.

LONNIE

You oughta sit down and shut up. Only friendly banter in ye old Ice Scraper.

GARETH

But the Bigfoots--

BESS

Shut it, Gareth.

IZZY

Would two of them be Bigfeet?

DAHLIA

Let's scrounge up a bit of hospitality, people. Audrey, here is Gareth, the man who always has to be right. About dumb shit. And who cannot control his temper. Lonnie, who's good for a drink. And Bess, the pragmatic one.

BESS / GARETH / LONNIE

Hi! / meh. / Hello.

LONNIE

Pull up a stool. What can I do you for?

**AUDREY** 

Uh. I don't know.

DAHLIA

I was telling Audrey that you make the most exotic drinks.

LONNIE

Uhhh.

BESS

Ha!

AUDREY

Rett did tell me you have the best, um exotic...beer.

LONNIE

Oh. Well, I have the exotic beer on tap, or we could get fancy with beer in a bottle.

**AUDREY** 

Tap sounds perfect.

DAHLIA

Make it two.

IZZY

Ooo. He's right, he has beer in bottles, too. Also, uh, Audrey...there is a rifle behind the bar. I guess Rett was right about bears and shit.

LONNIE

If Gareth bothers you any more, I'll kick him out. And ban him from the premises...just like I did to Roxanne.

DAHLIA

Oh, Lonnie. Not again.

LONNIE

Cheapskate was jealous that the Ice Scraper outperforms all her stores combined, so she refused us her wi-fi. So I just refused her my tap.

BESS

Hey, hey, hey. We're all just getting a little too sick of each other. Thank god for winter. Am I right?

GARETH

God has nothing to do with it.

Lonnie sites down two mugs of beer onto the bar.

LONNIE

Anywho. Two of my world-famous drinks, m'ladies.

DAHLIA

Aren't you extra chivalrous tonight? Don't get any ideas, sir.

BESS

He never gets ideas, Dahlia. Even when I try.

LONNIE

Ouch. You know, my love, I'm just in it for the tips.

**AUDREY** 

Is that what this jar is for? I have some change from Roxanne.

LONNIE

Yes! That is the tip jar. I put it out, but Rett is the only gentleman in town. He keeps it full.

BESS

It's looking mighty empty to me!

LONNIE

Yeah. This is the second evening Rett hasn't been in.

AUDREY

I've been looking for him, too. Rett got me all set up in my new place but didn't come back to pick up the paperwork. Should we be concerned?

GARETH

Uh oh. Maybe the "aliens" got him.

LONNIE

Shut up, Gareth. He's probably just busy. Maybe he went to Anchorage to celebrate his latest commission.

DAHLIA

Maybe, but unless he stowed away, I didn't fly him there. We can swing by his office later to drop off the paperwork. Let's go find a quieter spot. Away from the conspiracy nuts.

Dahlia and Audrey head over to a table a little away from the bar. Bar door opens. Woman enters.

SAGE

The farmer's market is now open. Come and give me your medium-earned cash for my tasty produce.

BESS

Ohhh. Yes, please.

LONNIE

Don't overdo it, Bess.

BESS

Oh, but I plan on canning.

Rummaging sounds through the veggies.

BESS

Can I swing by to get more? Please, oh please! I want to do a larger canning

sesh than last year. I cannot run out of my world-famous pickled beets, veggie soup, and sauerkraut.

SAGE

Of course, my dear. I just harvested the most delicious candy cane beets. Oh, oh. Pardon me. I have to head over to my granddaughter. The prices are on the paper. And no stealing, Gareth. I've got my eye on you!

GARETH

Eh. What'd I do?!

Walks toward Audrey and Dahlia.

SAGE

Dahlia, my dear. And Audrey?

AUDREY

Uh, yes. This is so weird that everybody knows my name.

SAGE

Small towns'll do that. I'm Sage.

IZZY

A little on the nose, huh?

**AUDREY** 

What a lovely name.

SAGE

Thank you. Yes. I think my mother looked at me as soon as I was born and saw my green thumb.

DAHLIA

Not kidding. Her produce is killer.

SAGE

The trick is Alaska. Over the summer, all of the extra sunlight works magic on my crops. Producing some of the sweetest and most plentiful, but the

growing season is short. Small but mighty, as I say!

Audrey and Dahlia laugh.

AUDREY

Dahlia was right. This town is small but mighty.

SAGE

And part of our might is looking out for each other. So we gotta get you some of my harvest. Don't tell all of those hooligans, but I have a stash in a basket just outside.

IZZY

I just checked. She's not lying. That bag is thick. Thiccc.

**AUDREY** 

Oh, that sounds like too much. You don't--

SAGE

I insist. Us girls gotta stick together.

AUDREY

Thank you. Wow. The two of you make me feel so welcome.

IZZY

Maybe you should've met some of your neighbors back in the city.

**AUDREY** 

But I think I should start to head home.

SAGE

Oh, no. I forgot the winter squash.

DAHLIA

That's okay, Grandma. I'm sure we can meet up with Audrey again. I still need

to pick her brain about all this mysterious artistry.

SAGE

Yes. Yes. I mean no! Winter could come at any moment. Don't worry, Audrey. I'll have Dahlia make a run out to you. And she can make sure you're all set up at your place. That house, well, nobody stays there for long. Who knows what needs fixing, and Dahlia is just a wiz!

**AUDREY** 

Oh, well, I'm not trying to be a hassle. You have all of your work and your business.

DAHLIA

I agree with Grandma Sage. We ladies gotta stick together to be our best, bad ass selves.

SAGE

Dahlia, language. Bad ass bitches.

Scribbling on some paper.

DAHLIA

Here are a few ways to get ahold of us. My cell obviously only works on a good day, so stick to texts as they are more likely to get through. And here's the channel we use on the CB. Forgive the antiquity.

SAGE

Reach out any time, dear.

**AUDREY** 

Thank you so much.

DAHLIA

To bad ass bitches...cheers!

Beer mugs clink.

TRANSITION

12. At home. We hear the crackling of fire.

IZZY

We did it. We made fire.

AUDREY

Yeah. I think we can make this whole Alaska thing work.

(breathes in to boost her courage) Okay, Cody. Let's hear it. Hit me with your best shot.

VOICE MAIL VOICE

You have two missed messages. Press 1 to listen to the first--

Presses 1.

CODY

I realized something interesting. You haven't blocked me yet. So, either you're enjoying hearing my voice, or you're not using this number anymore. Or you don't have access to your phone.

(beat)

Then, I thought to myself...the dasher was able to deliver the coffee and soup, but the flowers were a no go. Mr. Flowers always requires a person to accept them. To be present. So, here I am with the daisies instead. Knock knock.

AUDREY

Oh, asshole, you're going to be so disappointed.

VOICE MAIL VOICE

You have one missed message. Press 1 to listen to the first--

Presses 1.

CODY

How could I forget? You moved. I'll just have to take these daisies to the

cemetery. That little one on Oakwood. Don't worry, though. I'll bring some fresh flowers as a housewarming gift for you.

**AUDREY** 

I hear you. Trying to scare me. Sure. Go take the flowers to their graves. Dead parents tell no tales.

IZZY

Well...

**AUDREY** 

You will never find me. But thank you. Thank you for reminding me to change my cell account and number and hell, probably phone. Goodbye, Cody.

Some kind of phone hanging up noise.

TRANSITION

13. Birds chirping and gentle breeze at the cemetery. The breeze creates a meditative soft clinking from the sculpture.

CODY

Stephen and Margaret, you've raised such a beautiful and talented daughter. I'm jealous that you get to spend so much time right next to one of her pieces of art.

It's so mesmerizing. Just like her. She would make any man the envy of all. She has a few things to learn here and there, but I'd love to teach her. I think we will have a lovely life together. So...I'm here to ask your permission.

THE END