UNCANNY VALLEY

Episode 1.08

"One Room"

Written by

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53. Audrey and Izzy in Audrey's city apartment bedroom. Audrey's been crying for hours.

IZZY

Do you want to talk about it?

AUDREY

(through tears)

Really don't.

IZZY

I get it.

Some silence.

IZZY (CONT'D)

Now do you want to talk about it?

AUDREY

Leave me alone, Izzy.

IZZY

If you really wanted me to leave you alone, you'd lock me in. That's not an invitation, though. Let me stay out. You shouldn't be alone.

AUDREY

I am alone.

IZZY

Ouch.

AUDREY

Don't make this about you.

IZZY

Audrey. My love. I will be seventeen forever. I will always make everything about me.

AUDREY

You can't help this.

No, but I can help you help this. And look at your progress! You can speak again. No more wailing and ugly crying.

AUDREY

Because I can't anymore. Every muscle hurts. In my chest, in my stomach...

IZZY

Well, duh. You know how much diaphragm action it takes to reach those volumes? I'm surprised Mrs. Smith next door didn't call the cops.

AUDREY

Nobody gives a shit about me anymore.

IZZY

Again with the ouch.

AUDREY

You're different, Izzy. I know you're always here and that you care. But it's just different. Lucas was the last living person I had.

IZZY

I know.

AUDREY

And now he's gone, too.

IZZY

Which isn't your fault.

AUDREY

I didn't say it was.

IZZY

Well, in case you're blaming yourself for not going along on his Alaska quest.

AUDREY

I'm not. Like I could have done anything to save him even if I'd been

there. I would have just died, too. What good would I be in a survival situation? Or doing anything that matters at all?

TZZY

You can do a lot.

AUDREY

What can I do? Talk to dead people and look insane to everyone else? Make an impractically large and heavy sculpture that no one can afford?

IZZY

About that. What if you try miniaturizing? Teeny baby sculptures. Just, like, three gears and some googly eyes.

AUDREY

You're an idiot.

IZZY

You could sell them on Etsy! The gears don't even have to turn or anything.

(beat)

Okay, okay, I'll stop trying to make you smile. That can be tomorrow's goal.

AUDREY

No.

IZZY

Today's goal is to eat something.

AUDREY

No.

IZZY

You haven't eaten for days, Audrey. That's not good for you.

AUDREY

I don't care.

That's okay! I can care <u>for</u> you. Just call me Funshine.

(bear voice)

Don't you want something to eat?

AUDREY

Stop.

IZZY

Okay. Fine. No eating right now. That can be tomorrow, before or after the smiling.

AUDREY

Izzy.

IZZY

Right, right. Before the smiling. But you need to re-enter the world, Audrey.

AUDREY

I'm still in the world. Nobody else is, but I am.

IZZY

Nope. This doesn't count as being in the world. You need to go out and get coffee. You need to ignore creepy guys by listening to pretend earbuds. At least leave the room, Audrey. You can't stay in one room for the rest of your life.

PAST TO PRESENT TRANSITION

54. Audrey's bedroom at the cabin.

CODY

How did you sleep?

AUDREY

Like my hands and feet were zip-tied.

You were the one who tried to push me into the snow and run away. How else was I going to get you to listen to me?

AUDREY

Clearly by holding me hostage. The only way people communicate.

CODY

You ran away from me. Hello?!

AUDREY

I didn't really want to talk. I still don't.

CODY

That's okay, Audrey. I get it. You're a loner. An introvert. It would take a lot for a guy to get through your shell. But that's okay! I'm a patient man. When you finally decide to give me a chance, you'll see that. Trust me.

AUDREY

I'd trust you more if I weren't tied up.

CODY

Can you honestly tell me that you'd listen and not just run away again?

AUDREY

I promise I'll listen to you. Really. Just take these off.

CODY

I wish I could believe you. I just don't think you understand me yet. I'm sorry other men have hurt you before, Audrey, but I'm not them. You'll see that. And then you'll trust me.

AUDREY

Well, you don't trust me, either.

I do trust you, Audrey.

AUDREY

You trussed me up.

CODY

I trussed...

Ha! Trust and trussed. That's hilarious! You're always so funny. You wouldn't think an engineer would be so good with words. But my Audrey's special.

AUDREY

I'm not yours.

CODY

Like I said. I know you'll get it once you see I'm not like those other guys.

AUDREY

What other guys? No one else ever kidnapped me.

CODY

Oh, come on. You're not kidnapped. We're in your house.

AUDREY

Yeah.

(beat)

We are. And you clearly just want to talk because you didn't hurt me. You wouldn't hurt me, right?

CODY

Hurt you? Why would I hurt you? I'm not that kind of man.

AUDREY

I know you're not. So untie me so we can talk.

CODY

I don't think so.

How am I supposed to talk to you when I'm tied up and scared?

CODY

Why would you be scared?

AUDREY

Because I'm tied up. And you don't want me to be scared, do you?

CODY

Goddammit. You do realize what my job is, right? You know that I pick out liars professionally. Your expression turns on a dime, and you think I'm just gonna be all swoony? I'm not some stupid, manipulative girl. You, on the other hand...

AUDREY

I'm not--

CODY

Shut the fuck up! Do you think I'm stupid, huh? Do you think I'm an idiot?

Cody punches the wall.

CODY (CONT'D)

Hello?! Do you think I'm stupid, Audrey?

AUDREY

N-no. Sorry, I thought--

CODY

You thought? What did you think, hmmm? That it was a rhetorical question? That I just ask questions and don't want answers? Men don't play mind games, Audrey. When we ask a question, we expect a goddamn answer. Got it?

AUDREY

Yes. Yes. I get it. I'm sorry.

Jesus!

(beat)

Shit. I'm sorry, Audrey. I just don't like games, you know? Can't we just be real with each other?

AUDREY

Of course. I...I shouldn't have ignored your question.

CODY

You shouldn't have tried to lie to me.

AUDREY

No. I'm really sorry.

CODY

"I'm really sorry, Cody."

AUDREY

What?

CODY

Call me by my name. Don't make me feel like some stranger.

AUDREY

I'm really sorry. Cody.

CODY

See? We're communicating already. This is awesome. By the time the storm blows over, we'll be ready to go back home.

AUDREY

Yeah. That sounds great. Back home. (beat)

Is the storm bad?

CODY

Oh, yeah. I've never seen anything like it. There's easily a foot of snow already. I see why everyone has a snowmobile around here!

Everyone around here calls...

(beat)

Everyone has a snowmobile. It's required by law or something.

CODY

Crazy that you'd want to live like this. You were always so into city life. How are you surviving without your hot grande vanilla almond milk latte every day?

AUDREY

Yeah. I'm severely caffeine deprived.

CODY

Really? Caffeine deprived?

AUDREY

Without the Starbucks.

CODY

What about the Folgers?

AUDREY

Huh?

CODY

The Folgers? In your pantry?

AUDREY

Oh. Right. I--

CODY

You don't know that you have coffee in your fucking pantry?

AUDREY

I just didn't think--

CODY

Didn't think? Or didn't buy it yourself? Who else is going out shopping for you? Huh? Someone sleeping over who wants their morning coffee?

No one sleeps here except--

CODY

Did I look like I was done talking? Huh?

(beat)

I asked you a fucking question!

AUDREY

No, I mean...you were asking me, so--

CODY

Goddamn it! What the fuck, Audrey?!

Just fucking listen. Is that so hard for you to do? <u>Listen</u>! Pay fucking attention to the conversation we are having. Pretend you're a big girl with big girl ears and <u>pay fucking</u> attention! You think you can do that?

AUDREY

Y-yes.

CODY

Shut up! I said to listen. Listen.

Cody paces.

CODY (CONT'D)

I really thought you were different. That's on me. I take responsibility. I should have planned better for this. Sometimes I get all excited about something, you know? And then it doesn't go the way I imagined it, and I get pissed. I know it's a flaw. My therapist has been helping me with it. Managing expectations.

AUDREY

You have a therapist?

CODY

Department mandated. Not like I want to go or whatever. But it isn't all that

bad. Are you surprised that I have a therapist?

AUDREY

I mean...a little?

CODY

It's the twenty-first century, Audrey. Men can talk about their feelings.

AUDREY

I know.

CODY

Or you just meant that I don't seem like the therapy type? Cuz why? Cuz I'm crazy?

AUDREY

I never said that.

CODY

Amazingly, you didn't need to. Your body language is screaming at me.

AUDREY

I'm zip-tied on the bed. What body language?

CODY

So you think I'm crazy. Yeah? Crazy Cody, right? Huh?

AUDREY

No.

CODY

Yeah. I'm the crazy one in this room, right? I'm the one who talks to my dead best friend non-stop. Oh. No. Wait. That would be you!

AUDREY

What?

You talk to your best gal pal Izzy, don't you? Like all the goddamn time? When you're walking around the city, when you're on the subway, even when you're in your apartment.

AUDREY

How do you know--

CODY

I just thought you were always on the phone. But imagine my utter surprise to learn that Izzy <u>died thirteen years</u> ago. I mean, what the fuck, Audrey? Who's the crazy one now? Hmmm? Maybe you need to see a therapist.

AUDREY

Talking to Izzy comforts me.

CODY

Oh, no, I totally get it. Saying your prayers at night, visiting the grave, maybe even when you watch her favorite movie. Talk to your dead best friend. But just sitting in your apartment, eating DoorDash by yourself? That's fucking crazy, Audrey. You realize I have the power to have you committed, right? I put crazy people in institutions. It's my job.

AUDREY

I'm not crazy. I just...sometimes I
miss her.

CODY

If sometimes is every day, then yeah, you do. If you'd told me about her, I wouldn't have embarrassed myself in front of Ellie.

AUDREY

Ellie?

I hate being humiliated in front of a woman.

AUDREY

Who is Ellie?

CODY

Your friend? From high school?!

AUDREY

Oh my god. You spied on me in my home. You tracked down classmates I haven't spoken to in over a decade.

CODY

How else was I supposed to find you?

AUDREY

How did you find me?

CODY

Don't worry about that. We can talk about it later.

(beat)

Seriously, what the hell do you keep looking at?

AUDREY

Nothing.

CODY

Every few seconds, you're glancing over at the nightstand. What's in it?

AUDREY

Nothing. I wasn't looking at it.

Cody crosses the room and opens the drawer.

CODY

Oh. There is literally nothing in here.

AUDREY

I told you.

I thought maybe you had a second gun or something. So what are you looking at? Your necklace here?

AUDREY

No.

CODY

I've actually never seen you take it off. Even at night. I found it in the other room and put it here for you.

AUDREY

Can I have it?

CODY

Why?

AUDREY

I just...like it.

CODY

Yeah? Whose picture is that in there?

Cody unsnaps the locket.

IZZY

And I'm back. When are...oh, shit. What the--

Cody snaps the locket closed.

AUDREY

Izzy!

CODY

That's Izzy?

AUDREY

Yes. It was her locket. I put her picture in it.

CODY

Huh. She's cute. Got that elfin thing going on, though. I prefer softer features.

She was seventeen.

CODY

Jesus, Audrey. I don't want to fuck her. I was paying you a compliment.

AUDREY

Oh. Of course.

(beat)

Thank you.

(beat)

Can I have the locket?

CODY

Why?

AUDREY

Just open it. I'd like to see her picture.

CODY

Okay, so you're going to call me a pedo for looking at her, but you want to stare at her?

(beat)

Oh. Fuck. You've gotta be fucking kidding me.

AUDREY

What?

CODY

All this time...I just thought you were an introvert, had a tough exterior. But you're a fucking dyke.

AUDREY

No, I'm not.

CODY

And you're still in love with your high school sweetheart. The one you still talk to every day. Motherfucker!

It isn't like that.

CODY

No? Tell me how it is, then, Audrey. This is why you never went out with any men, isn't it?

AUDREY

I'm not a romantic person. Izzy was just my friend. That's all. I...I like men.

CODY

Sure.

AUDREY

No, seriously. I do.

CODY

Yeah. I bet you love getting railed.

(beat)

Fuck. Fuck! I need to think.

AUDREY

Wait, can you please leave the--

CODY

Here's your fucking pedophile necklace, you bitch!

Cody throws the necklace on the floor. He stomps across the room and slams the door behind him.

Cody is moving in the other room. He stomps around and then slams the exterior door. Moments later, her snow machine starts up and then drives off.

55. Audrey wriggles around on the bed.

AUDREY

Damn it. This is gonna hurt.

She rolls off the bed and slams onto the floor.

AUDREY (CONT'D) (pained oof)

Audrey wriggles on the floor. She connects with the necklace multiple times before unsnapping the locket.

IZZY

Oh, no. Audrey! How long?

AUDREY

Just a few minutes from last time. It's the next day from when I locked you in.

IZZY

He found you! Where did he go?

AUDREY

I don't know. He took the snow machine and drove off.

IZZY

Hang on.

(long beat)

Oh, shit. There is <u>so</u> much snow. And more is coming down. It's insane. We need to get out of here before he comes back!

AUDREY

Yeah, in case you haven't noticed...

IZZY

You're tied up.

AUDREY

Plastic zip ties. I can't get loose.

IZZY

Shit. What are we going to do?

AUDREY

I have no idea. I'm really scared, Izzy.

IZZY

We can figure this out. Hang on. I know something about zip ties.

What could you possibly know about --

IZZY

Shhh. I'm thinking.

(beat)

I watched a TikTok about zip ties.

AUDREY

What?!

IZZY

I'm pretty sure you can break them with your shoelaces.

AUDREY

That is the stupidest thing I have ever heard.

IZZY

I'm serious! I know what I'm talking about!

AUDREY

You watched a TikTok! You don't know shit!

IZZY

Just do it! We don't know where he went or how long he'll be gone.

AUDREY

Even if I could get free, where would we go? You said how bad the storm is.

IZZY

You could shoot him!

AUDREY

He has a gun.

IZZY

So do you! I could watch and tell you when he's outside the door. You shoot when I tell you, right as he opens it. Bam! Dead stalker.

(beat)

Okay. Go make sure he didn't break it or something.

IZZY

On it.

(long beat)

Shit. I don't see the gun.

AUDREY

He hid it?

IZZY

Or he took it. Okay. New plan. You break free, and we run for the nearest house.

AUDREY

In this storm? He can follow the tracks.

IZZY

So come up with a better idea!

AUDREY

(breaking down)

I don't know, Izzy. I don't know what to do.

IZZY

Shit. I'm sorry.

(beat)

I can use the radio!

AUDREY

Huh?

IZZY

The radio! Like I did at Dahlia's.

AUDREY

You made it crackle. How can that help us?

Well, maybe if I focus and shit, I can send a distress signal.

AUDREY

I don't know.

IZZY

Just get a shoelace out of your shoe and start rubbing it against the zip ties. Over and over. Use pressure. I'll work the radio. We're going to get out of--

From the other room, the exterior door opens and shuts.

IZZY (CONT'D)

Shit.

AUDREY

He's back. Oh god.

IZZY

Don't panic. I'll work the radio.

AUDREY

Izzy, if he hears a bunch of static coming out of it, he might turn it off. Or smash it.

IZZY

Ugh. You're right.

(angry yell)

What are we gonna do?

AUDREY

I don't know.

Bedroom door opens. Cody enters.

CODY

(sigh)

Yep. Of course you tried to get out. What were you going to do? Roll all the way out to the snow? Then roll down the hill? Brilliant plan.

Yeah. I'm a genius.

IZZY

You tell him! Fuck you, motherfucker!

CODY

Look. Audrey.

(beat)

I don't know what your deal is with Izzy. But that was a long time ago. And even if you two had a fling, you were just dumb kids.

IZZY

We had a fling?

CODY

You didn't know what you wanted. But I can show you. I want to be that for you.

IZZY

Is he serious? If I had a body, I would cancel you like Harvey Weinstein. With my fists. Piece of shit.

CODY

Can I be that for you, Audrey?

AUDREY

I don't know. This is a lot. I need some time to think.

CODY

Trust me. I know that change can be hard. But sometimes, we don't know how good of an opportunity is in front of us until it goes away. And then we regret it for the rest of our lives. I don't want you to regret this, Audrey. I really don't.

AUDREY

I...I appreciate that. Cody. I don't know what to say.

How about tell him to get fucked?

CODY

Well, obviously, I hope you'll say yes. That you'll go back with me. That you'll let me show you what you've been missing. The opportunity is right in front of you.

(long, plaintive beat)
Of course, if you say no, I'll cave in your skull and leave you down the hill beside the tree I crashed your snowmobile into. It will be found at some point. Probably not for months, buried under snow. And either they'll assume that you crashed it and wandered off or that you crashed it and died horribly beside it. Convulsing. Unable to form words anymore. Just staring at the snow turning red.

(beat)

Really hoping you say yes, though.

IZZY

He's insane.

AUDREY

You're insane.

CODY

That's not a yes. But it's not a no, either. We need to wait for a break in the storm to leave, so you can have a little more time to think. Here, let me help you back onto the bed.

AUDREY

Don't touch me.

CODY

For fuck's sake, Audrey. Can't you see that I'm just trying to...

(beat)

Are you shitting me right now? You didn't roll off the bed to escape. You rolled off to get this stupid necklace.

Oh, shit.

AUDREY

Leave it alone.

CODY

Jesus. You can't go a few hours without looking at her face? The only way you're going to get over her is a clean break, Audrey.

AUDREY

No, please. Don't.

IZZY

Audrey...

CODY

Trust me. I'll put it in the stove, and we can watch it melt together.

IZZY

Audrey!

AUDREY

No! No, don't. Please. I'll go with you. Yes. I'll go. I won't complain. I'll do whatever you want. I'll be whoever you want me to be. Please.

CODY

Wow. You realize this necklace is a piece of shit, right? Like, is that even real gold? You are way too hung up on this. It's going to keep coming between us.

AUDREY

Please. Please, Cody. Just leave it. Leave it here in the cabin. I don't need it. Just don't destroy it.

IZZY

Audrey, no!

Please.

IZZY

I am not letting him take you away from me.

AUDREY

It's the only way.

CODY

The only way? Listen to me. I decide what the way is. If there's only one way, it's because I chose it. And if I want to get rid of this dollar store locket, then I--

Sound of an approaching snow machine outside.

CODY (CONT'D)

What the fuck is that?

IZZY

Oh my god.

CODY

Who is coming out here?

AUDREY

I don't know.

CODY

We're miles from anyone. You don't have friends. You never make friends!

IZZY

Audrey! It's Dahlia!

Snow machine parks outside.

CODY

You lived in a huge city, surrounded by people, and you never made a friend!
You mean to tell me that you moved out to the middle of nowhere, population seven, and made a fucking friend?

(beat)

Is it the one who bought the Folgers?

Banging on the exterior door from the other room.

DAHLIA

(distant)

Audrey?

CODY

Who the fuck is that?

AUDREY

Dahlia.

CODY

Why is she here?

AUDREY

I don't know!

CODY

Fuck.

DAHLIA

(distant)

Audrey!

Cody pulls his gun.

AUDREY

No! No, don't shoot her. Then they'll come after us.

CODY

Will she go away?

AUDREY

Probably.

DAHLIA

(distant)

I'm not going away! Open up!

AUDREY

Untie me. I can get rid of her.

You'll try to run.

AUDREY

I won't. I can make her leave. She won't suspect anything.

CODY

I don't believe you.

AUDREY

What choice do you have?

CODY

(beat)

Stay here. Don't move. Don't make a fucking sound. If she hears anything, if she suspects anything, she's dead. Do you hear me?

AUDREY

Please, just let--

CODY

(furious whisper)

Do you hear me?

AUDREY

I do. Don't hurt her.

CODY

Don't make me.

Cody leaves the room and shuts the door.

IZZY

Oh, no. Dahlia is way too smart. No way he convinces her to leave.

AUDREY

I know.

IZZY

He'll kill her.

AUDREY

I know.

Or worse, he <u>does</u> convince her to leave, and then she leaves.

AUDREY

How is that worse?!

IZZY

Then who's going to save us?

AUDREY

How is Dahlia supposed to save us? Best case scenario: she suspects something and goes for help.

IZZY

Where is she gonna find help? You think Sage and Lonnie are gonna roll up in here with machine guns?

(beat)

Well, maybe Sage...

AUDREY

We need to do something.

Audrey pulls her shoelace out.

IZZY

Is it a good idea to escape now? What if he comes back?

AUDREY

Dahlia might need my help. And I definitely need hers. If I'm free, maybe we have a chance.

IZZY

Okay. Okay! I like the team spirit! Let's do this!

Audrey repeatedly rubs the shoelace against the zip tie.

AUDREY

Go out there and check it out. Let me know what's happening.

56. Banging on the exterior door from the main room. Cody opens it mid-knock.

DAHLIA

Audr...uh, who are you?

CODY

Hi. Dahlia, right? Audrey told me about her Alaska bestie.

DAHLIA

Okay. Who are you? Why are you in Audrey's house?

CODY

Oh. Right. She must not have called you. Stupid storm. I'm Lucas. Her brother.

DAHLIA

You're who?

CODY

Lucas. Audrey's brother.

DAHLIA

I thought her brother was dead.

CODY

Yeah. So did she. It's a long and crazy story.

DAHLIA

What's the book jacket synopsis?

CODY

Well, this guy who was pursuing her, trying to date her?

DAHLIA

Yeah. Heard about him.

CODY

He was a cop. I had an accident out here with my buddy, and when we went missing, the cop forged a death certificate and sent it to her. Made her think I was dead.

DAHLIA

Oh, wow. That's disgusting.

CODY

Yeah.

DAHLIA

And you've been living in Alaska this whole time? Hasn't it been over a year?

CODY

I was in the hospital for a long time. Head injury.

DAHLIA

I see. Where's Audrey?

CODY

She's not here.

DAHLIA

She left? In this storm?

57. Back in Audrey's bedroom. Still working the zip tie.

TZZY

Shit, Audrey. I think she's buying it.

AUDREY

Stupid zip ties. I don't think this is working.

IZZY

We need to get a signal to her. So she goes for help.

AUDREY

How? If I make noise, he'll kill her.

(beat)

Does Dahlia have her rifle? It's always on her snow machine.

Hang on.

(beat)

It's still on the back of her snow machine. Probably twenty feet from your door. Or more. I'm bad at distance.

AUDREY

We need to alert her without alerting him.

T77Y

Dahlia has her walkie talkie on her. (beat)

I have an idea.

58. Back in the main room.

CODY

Yeah. She said she needed something from town to help wait out the storm.

DAHLIA

That doesn't sound like something she would do.

CODY

I don't know what to tell you.

Static crackling faintly from the radio in the background.

CODY (CONT'D)

Her snowmobile's gone. You can go look if you don't believe me.

DAHLIA

She took her...snowmobile?

CODY

Yep. I'm surprised you didn't pass her on the way here.

DAHLIA

So am I.

Louder static crackling.

Maybe if you hurry, you can catch her before she makes it to town.

DAHLIA

Yeah. Good idea. I think I'll do that.

CODY

Good luck.

DAHLIA

It was nice to meet you, Lucas. I'm glad you're not dead.

CODY

Me, too! Nice meeting you.

Cody shuts the door.

59. POV shift to Izzy, also in main room.

IZZY

That's not her brother, Dahlia! He's not her brother.

Static crackles from the radio, in time with her words.

IZZY (CONT'D)

It's not working, Audrey! Dahlia's
leaving!

(beat)

Dahlia! That's not Lucas! That's not her brother! Get help! He's not her brother!

60. Dahlia walking through the storm and deepening snow. Her radio crackles. She pauses. It crackles again, in the pattern of Izzy's words. Dahlia pulls it out.

DAHLIA

This is Dahlia. Is someone there? Audrey?

More crackling. In a pattern. Dahlia starts walking again. The static crackle becomes more distinct, fuzzing in until Izzy becomes clear-ish.

(through radio)
Not...her...brother!

Dahlia freezes.

DAHLIA

Shit.

Dahlia runs as best she can to her snow machine. She reaches it and grabs her rifle. She works the bolt action. The cabin door behind her opens and then slams open from the wind.

61. Audrey's bedroom. The zip tie snaps.

AUDREY

(hushed but excited)

Izzy! It worked!

Audrey stands and runs to the bedroom door.

AUDREY (CONT'D)

Izzy?

From Audrey's POV, the exterior door slams open as in previous scene. Rapid gunfire from outside. Two different guns.

THE END