

Ebony and Moon

S1E1:

Pilot- Sending the Rod

Written by

Corabella Garrey

FADE IN:

The town ST. IGNANCE, MICHIGAN. Colorful, etc. The Mackinaw Bridge stand in a far distance.

EXT. ST. IGNANCE - DAY.

Trucks pass in high speed on the highway. One of them drives to an exit sign that says "St. Ignance."

The truck drives through to a modern town.

An ice cream shop called "Zak & Mac's Chocolate Haus." A group of children are skipping around from their scoops.

Two boys are playing around a fire hydrate that's leaking water. They splash in the formed puddles.

Houses lurk in the hills, hiding in packs of trees. All fancy looking houses, but a few small cabins are found nearby that.

By the window of "Java Joe's Cafe," a woman holds a fan and fans herself.

A few seagulls fly above the lake.

One of the seagulls lands on a sign of "Gal's Sea Grille."

It's sign is hand carved in detail and colored lightly in with a large salmon fish propped on it-- hopping for joy.

EXT. GAL'S SEA GRILLE.

Out on the lake, a lonely boat with one person fishing, ZOEY WESTCOTT (25).

She reels in her rod. At the end of the hook is a small fish. She takes it off her rod-- not caring for it-- and puts it with a smaller bucket of similar fish.

She grabs a bucket and looks inside to find only three worms are left in the dirt. She takes a moment to pick one, but chose the one that has less dirt on them.

She takes out the worm. Putting it on the hook, she throws the line back out to the lake.

She brings the line in, but this time nothing is found on the hook.

She rubs her eyes, tired. She sets the rod down for a moment. She inhales.

She grabs another worm and gets the hook ready. She slowly tries to put it on.

SCOTT (O.S.)  
Hey, Zoey!

Zoey is startled and drops the worm.

SCOTT (O.S.) (CONT'D)  
Zoey! We need your help!

Zoey is startled again and turns around to see SCOTT, one of her employees, waving her down at the restaurant's porch.

Zoey puts down her fishing rod and looks down at the worm.

ZOEY  
I'll be back, little worm.

INT. OFFICE.

Zoey enters and finds a business man, MR. CHEN, sitting at her desk.

He stands up.

Zoey turns around to face Scott.

ZOEY  
Really?

Without a second thought, Scott closes the office door swiftly before Zoey could strangle him.

Zoey inhales.

ZOEY (CONT'D)  
Ah! Mr. Chen.

MR. CHEN  
Told you. Call me Jason.

ZOEY  
Not gonna. That would imply that we're friends.

Mr. Chen brings out a file of legal papers towards her and a pen.

MR. CHEN  
Alright. I have come to give you the purchase agreement for the restaurant.  
(MORE)

MR. CHEN (CONT'D)

Once you sign, it will be all yours. If not, then this place will have to be sold to someone else.

ZOEY

Great. I will send them in the mailbox later. Now, we are a little busy, so you can come back and we can give you the specials. Have you tried the calamari soup?

MR. CHEN

Ms. Westcott, I know you are planning not to stay too long.

ZOEY

You're right.

MR. CHEN

But this is his main spot. His "starter" as you will. He wants you to stay here.

ZOEY

It's home, but it's not mine.

Zoey opens the door and leads him to it. Mr. Chen shrugs and puts down the paper and pen on the desk.

MR. CHEN

Send it by Monday.

ZOEY

Ok, goodbye.

Mr. Chen leaves.

Zoey breathes in and looks at the paper on the desk.

Scott comes by the door and knocks.

SCOTT

Mr. Jameson has returned. You want to handle this?

ZOEY

Yep, let's go. What is the issue this time?

INT. RESTAURANT.

Not a lot of people are found in the restaurant. Only a few families that are a party of three to four;

an old couple that are taking forever to eat their soups; a group of sorority girls praising each other's outfits; and an old man all alone.

Zoey walks up to MR. JAMESON (70s) with a pen and paper all set. He wears a bright red Hawaiian shirt and a floppy summer hat, which seems to bright the whole place up.

MR. JAMESON

The usual for me.

ZOEY

You do realize that the special has been discontinued a few years now.

MR. JAMESON

Well, you are Westcott's granddaughter. You can still make it with those similar talents.

ZOEY

(rolls her eyes)

Sure.

Zoey takes Mr. Jameson's menu.

MR. JAMESON

Don't mock me. I have been around the block. Westcott had the ability to do one meal after another while heading out to that same lake out there to fish five to ten by the line.

ZOEY

Yes, I remember that.

MR. JAMESON

You know I remember when you were a kid, you would always follow your grandfather out of the kitchen to help him bring the food. That smile. You had hope.

(pause)

You were sometimes with that one girl. Annie, was it? Whatever happened to her?

ZOEY

Don't know. That's what happens when you grow apart. I'll take care of that order for you.

Zoey heads back into the kitchen.

INT. KITCHEN.

Zoey enters as a bunch of waitresses and cooks are working hard around the room, making meals, cleaning dishes, and carrying plates all at once.

Zoey walks to a counter where Scott is. She looks at the ingredients from a cook book: two fishes(black and white), rice, green vegetables, and coleslaw.

Two hands cook the black fish in a frying pan, oil smeared from the protein towards the metal in sizzle.

Another cook brings out the stove to a medium heat. He places a mixture of green beans and sliced zucchinis. He moves them around the pan as it sautés to a great burnt crisp.

Zoey places another frying pan on the stove. She puts in the white fish carefully.

Scott stirs the rice. Zoey comes up behind him to see the mixed-in rice.

She sees the actual listed ingredients from the book, noticing one is replaced.

ZOEY

Where is the risotto?

SCOTT

We are out. I know, it's not the same.

ZOEY

Trust me. This guy won't like the fish without the risotto. It has to be the same.

Zoey moves to the middle of the corner of the kitchen.

Zoey whistles and everyone stops what they are doing to focus on her.

ZOEY (CONT'D)

Ok, we got a lot of orders, so let's get moving.

Everyone goes back to work.

Zoey pulls down a calendar schedule.

WAITRESS

Where is Sally? I can't keep doing her tables.

ZOEY

I don't know. But I have an idea.  
Just give me a minute.

SCOTT

Your sister didn't show up again?

ZOEY

Of course. Where's the phone?

Zoey goes over to grab the phone.

Scott grabs the phone from her.

SCOTT

I got it. Everything will be around  
once you get back.

ZOEY

Thank you. Ok, if Sally finally  
does her job, she is set on the  
front door.

Zoey leaves.

INT. GROCERY STORE.

Zoey enters. She waves "hello" to a cash register lady.

She quickly walks toward the back of the store.

She looks closely at every sign hanging on the ceiling in  
each aisle. She finds the one that says, "pasta."

Zoey looks at every shelf with each different pasta type,  
scoping as fast as she can. She finally finds the section of  
risotto, which brightens up once she sees it.

She walks toward it, but stops.

Someone suddenly blocks her path. Half of his face is seen,  
but Zoey knows who it is.

She sees FINN BATES (27).

She starts to feel small and her breathing becomes less.

Zoey walks back to the end of that aisle and runs to the next  
aisle. She hopes to stay there until Finn leaves.

Once Zoey has gotten to the other side, she runs into a pile  
of mayo jugs.

They crash to the floor, creating a loud thump from the whole store to hear. All elderly and creepy eyes on her and the fallen jugs.

ZOEY

You got to be kidding me?

Finn comes by and sees the over-dramatic display. He brushes his stupid hair

FINN

Hey, Zoey.

ZOEY

Oh. Finn.

Finn holds out his hand out for her and picks her up as she stands up straight.

He holds a basket full of fettuccine pasta, mangos, and nacho chips. Zoey nods her head slightly from the mix as if saying, "good mix."

ZOEY (CONT'D)

Yeah. So, what are doing here?

FINN

I'm getting food here.

Zoey closes her eyes, stunned on how stupid that question is.

ZOEY

Right.

Finn looks behind Zoey at the fallen mayo buckets.

FINN

How you've been?

ZOEY

Good. Excuse me.

Zoey starts walking away, but Finn follows. So, Zoey walks backwards while facing him.

ZOEY (CONT'D)

Who told you I was back? I made sure no one--

FINN

A little birdie told me.

Zoey looks at Finn with confusion, but ignores him

ZOEY  
That doesn't help me.

Zoey walks along the pasta aisle and grabs the box of risotto. Finn walks by her, almost blocking her path again.

Zoey and Finn just stare awkwardly.

ZOEY (CONT'D)  
I do got to run.

FINN  
Good seeing you by the way. And I know she doesn't show it, but Annie does misses you.

Zoey's throat tightens.

ZOEY  
Yeah, well good for her.

FINN  
(apologetic)  
Sorry about your fallout all those years ago. It would make me mad, too.

ZOEY  
I'm not mad. Just disappointed.  
(looks down)  
Anyway. Thanks for your help. Now, got to get back to my job.

Zoey leaves Finn alone in the aisle.

She heads to the counter to pay for the risotto.

Finn just stares, pitiful.

EXT. WESTCOTT'S HOUSE - NIGHT.

A small house on the side of a nice river.

CHIP (V.O.)  
(puts cards down on the table)  
And that's why you don't mess with your old man.

SALLY (V.O.)  
Oh, man.

INT. ZOEY'S BEDROOM.

Zoey lays on her bed, exhausted. Her head straight on the pillow.

CHARLES(CHIP), TAYLOR, and SALLY WESTCOTT are sitting downstairs, laughing and having fun.

Zoey takes off her shoes with her feet. She moves her head to turn on the lamp on the nightstand.

The light brightens the place up. Everything is a mess. Most of Zoey's stuff is either packed in boxes and suitcases, or placed in piles like a newspaper and set in garbage bags.

From the light, she sees a red bird figure on the nightstand. She picks it up, almost making it fly towards her.

It looks homemade from a child.

Zoey turns it to it's bottom. Nothing painted on it. It is crisp white.

In black sharpie, it says, "As two birds fly, there will be room for love. Always my best friend forever. Heart Annie."

Taylor enters.

Zoey hides the bird before her mom could notice.

TAYLOR

Hey, sweetie. Do you want something to eat.

ZOEY

No, Scott got me leftovers.

TAYLOR

How was today?

Taylor sits on the side of Zoey's bed.

ZOEY

(groan)

So, exhausting. And I had to talk to a Bates.

TAYLOR

Wait, Bates? Bates, Bates. As in Annie, Finn, and Val Bates? Bates the family.

ZOEY

Yes! Yes. Please stop saying Bates!

TAYLOR

Must be awkward. I remember seeing Mr. Bates earlier this month. He seemed to keep talking on and on about his daughter's engagement. He also said he gave an invitation to us. Seems we might have lost it in the mail.

Zoey turns around to face her mother.

ZOEY

No offense, mom, but thinking I threw away our mail is a low blow. Annie doesn't want us there because I could be there. So, that's her problem.

TAYLOR

Oh, please. She isn't that bad. It's just awkward cause there's nothing left to talk about. You should try seeing how it's going still. You have time.

ZOEY

Not planning to stay.

TAYLOR

You might though. Alright I got to get the leftovers in the fridge.

ZOEY

By the way, your homemade garlic bread smells a little damp.

TAYLOR

Ok, well, I'm not related to your grandfather.

(kiss Zoey's forehead)

Sweet dreams.

Taylor gets off the bed and leaves the room.

Zoey starts snuggling with her pillow. Happy, yet guilty.

Sally enters. She knocks on the open door.

SALLY

Hey, Dad and I are going to play poker. You in. Quick warning. We are using M&M's for payment.

ZOEY

No. And Sally. Just an FYI, if you are going to make an excuse to not go to work, make a better excuse than "I have the bird plague!"

SALLY

Sorry. But I promise, I will come in tomorrow.

INT. COFFEE SHOP - DAY.

Zoey looks on her phone. She reads texts from Sally: "Not going to make it. Sorry."

Zoey types back: "Yeah, no problem. I'll just tell everyone you have worms. Like a bitch."

A notification shows up from Mr. Chen. She opens it up and reads: "Don't forget to sign the papers and bring them to my office. It's always open, so feel free to come by."

Zoey turns off her phone and ignores the text.

A barista makes a coffee from the machine. They place a lid on top and set in on a counter.

Zoey grabs the coffee cup from the counter.

She takes a sip of the warm drink, but stops halfway when she notices two more people she knows.

ANNIE (25) and VAL BATES (22) are sitting at a nearby table. Annie notices Zoey coming towards them.

ANNIE

(remembers)

Oh my god, Zoey. How are you?

Annie stands up with a forced smile. She starts walking towards Zoey for a hug.

Zoey backs out before Annie could touch her.

Tension rises from the two.

ZOEY

(looking on the floor)

Super. Did your brother told you I'm here?

ANNIE

Yeah. Can't believe it's you. I haven't seen you in six years.

ZOEY

Seven.

ANNIE

Wow, time flies by.

ZOEY

Yeah, not fast enough.

ANNIE

Yeah. Do you mind if we talk for a bit?

Annie takes out a resume from her purse.

Zoey gulps.

ZOEY

Yeah, I'm good. I'm busy as it is. And you guys are busy, too.

(points to Val)

Especially that one. How's it going, Val? Heard you graduated from college. Up top!

Zoey raises her hand for a high five.

Val doesn't notices this and only stares at her phone. Only one thing to come out of her mouth:

VAL

No.

ZOEY

Ok.

Zoey puts down her hand in embarrassment.

Zoey tries to leave from the table with some dignity in tact, but Annie stops her from even getting two feet away.

ANNIE

Listen, I actually didn't just come here for the food. As you might have known I'm getting married.

ZOEY

Yes, to Aiden. Sweethearts even after high school.

ANNIE

Yeah. And weddings aren't cheap,  
you know. So, I need an extra job.  
Maybe at your restaurant.

Zoey's eyes widen and she almost loses her balance. She  
snaps out of it.

ZOEY

Why not ask for extra hours at the  
clinic?

ANNIE

We have a lot of people working  
overtime. Please. I would really  
appreciate it.

ZOEY

I don't know. I mean we already  
have enough problems. And look...

Scott is waving Zoey down from the other side of the road.

ZOEY (CONT'D)

Scott is already waving me down, so  
take care--

ANNIE

Can you please--

ZOEY

(grinding her teeth)  
Nope. I gotta go now. Bye.

Zoey leaves the coffee shop. She stares back at the sisters  
with a smile and thumbs up.

Annie shares the same expression. Val not so much as she  
didn't care.

Annie and Val aren't looking at Zoey as she leaves.

So, Zoey rushes across the street to the restaurant. She  
almost gets hit by a sedan, but it stops at its tracks. It  
honks and drives away.

Zoey continues to the restaurant.

Val looks at Annie in all seriousness.

ANNIE

What?

VAL  
You really shouldn't have lied.

ANNIE  
I know.

VAL  
You really ruined her life.

ANNIE  
I know.

VAL  
You better fix it.

ANNIE  
You know maybe you can be a little nicer as my sister. Example: Zoey and Sally. Best siblings I know.

INT. GAL'S SEA GRILLE - KITCHEN.

Zoey enters the room in rage.

She finds Sally sitting on a bucket asleep.

Zoey claps her hands loudly at Sally's face.

ZOEY  
Wake up!

SALLY  
Geez.

Zoey bends down to her knees to be eye level with Sally. She fixes Sally's bathrobe.

Zoey notices sweat from her sister's forehead, making her all moist and wet. Zoey touches Sally's forehead to feel it burning.

ZOEY  
Well, you definitely have some disease.  
(back on topic)  
You said you were going to be here yesterday?! Where were you?!

SALLY  
(mumble)  
I was drinking with friends last night and I lost track of time. Sorry.

ZOEY

Sorry?! You have been late for the past few weeks. And most of the time you are here, you are half asleep or drunk. No, that's it! You're fired!

The sound of her voice scares the other co-workers.

Zoey picks herself up from the ground and brushes off the dirt.

ZOEY (CONT'D)

I have to now find another person to fill your spot and I think I know who, but I really, really don't want to use them. But right now, you need to leave.

SALLY

I'll leave in a bit.

ZOEY

(screaming)  
Why not now?

SALLY

I was hung over last night. I need a minute. Be there around two-ish.

ZOEY

It is two.

SALLY

Yeah, two-ish. Ok, bye-bye.

Sally fakes going to sleep.

ZOEY

Ugh, I hate you.

Zoey walks past Sally. She goes over to one of the counters and starts carrying a heavy metal container of frozen fishes.

Sally opens her eyes back up. She jumps off the bucket to stand and walks out slowly to show a dramatic exit.

SALLY

See ya at dinner?

ZOEY

Yeah, see you at six.

SALLY  
It's a date!

Sally leaves.

*Cough.*

Zoey looks over her shoulder barely-- from the weight.  
The cooks and the waiters are staring at her outburst.

ZOEY  
Out of context.

Scott comes up to Zoey.

SCOTT  
What's going on? People need you.  
Customers. And we are understaff.

ZOEY  
Scott. I got it.

Scott looks over and notices Annie and Val Bates enter the restaurant, recognizing them.

SCOTT  
Wait is that?--

ZOEY  
(biting her lip)  
Not now.

Knowing he crossed a line, he goes back into the crowd of customers.

Zoey inhales.

ZOEY (CONT'D)  
Ok, you can do this. You can do  
this.  
(starts walking towards  
the Bate sisters)  
You can face them. You got this.  
Keep walking and walking and...  
(walks backwards to the  
walk-in-freezer)  
... heading to the freezer cause  
it's safer.

She enters the freezer. Only screams are heard.

One of the waiters exits out of the kitchen and closes the door.

Annie and Val are right by the kitchen entrance.

Annie sees Zoey from the door's window. She comes out of the walk-in freezer and angrily cooks on a stove in front of her.

ANNIE  
(breathes in)  
Ok. Going in.

VAL  
Yeah, don't screw it up.

Annie rolls her eyes and heads into the kitchen.

Val just shakes her head.

VAL (CONT'D)  
She's going to fail.

*Crash.*

INT. KITCHEN.

Zoey slams two pots together and throws them to the ground. A mess has been made by her at one of the stove corners.

Everyone is scared by this.

ZOEY  
I'm okay everyone just keep  
working.

Everyone goes back to work.

Zoey calms herself and goes back to the food. She grabs a cutting board and a knife. She takes out carrots from a basket. She washes the carrot. She uses the knife and cuts the carrot quickly.

Annie enters the kitchen.

Zoey looks up and sees Annie just staring at her with regretful eyes.

Zoey feels boiled inside again, but ignores it and goes back to chopping the carrots.

ANNIE  
You are pretty good with that.

Zoey looks back at Annie and notices a mark on her right wrist. It looks old and more of a cut than a birthmark.

ZOEY

Didn't know you were okay watching  
a knife work its magic.

Annie pulls up her wrist band to hide the mark.

ANNIE

It's a process. So, what can I help  
with?

Zoey hands Annie an apron. Annie puts it on.

ZOEY

If you're going to help, I need you  
to understand the rules I have. I  
like how my kitchen is now, no new  
decor needed and if you tell  
anymore lies about me, you're gone.  
That's my process.

ZOEY (CONT'D)

Why are you really here? It can't  
just be for the job.

ANNIE

I'm sorry for everything that has  
happened and I want to try to make  
it up. Is that okay?

ZOEY

"Okay" would be if you decided this  
back in high school. This is  
psychotic.

Scott comes up to Zoey in a hurry.

SCOTT

Um, Zoey. Mr. Jameson is here.

ZOEY

I thought he was out with his new  
girlfriend today.

SCOTT

Well, a big guy like him has an  
appetite.

Scott heads back out.

ZOEY

Shit.

Zoey goes back to cutting her carrots, but is unfocus. She puts down the knife and walks out of the kitchen, taking off her apron as well.

ZOEY (CONT'D)  
You coming?

ANNIE  
On it.

Annie follows Zoey.

INT. RESTAURANT.

Mr. Jameson sits at the same booth he was at yesterday.

Zoey and Annie walk towards him.

ZOEY  
Mr. Jameson, how are you--

MR. JAMESON  
(piss)  
Let's cut the crap. Give me the usual.

ZOEY  
Right, Ebony and Moon special. The special we don't have anymore.

MR. JAMESON  
You better make it good today. It's hot out there. And I don't want any soggy vegetables again.

Zoey rolls his eyes.

Zoey and Annie walk away.

INT. KITCHEN.

Zoey and Annie come in.

ZOEY  
The usual.

SCOTT  
(to the chefs)  
Mr. Jameson! Special again!

ZOEY  
Ok, do you know how to make it?

ANNIE

No. I just started.

ZOEY

No excuses. It's called the Ebony and Moon meal. It was everyone's favorite here. It's an Alaskan blackfish and whitefish mix together on top of risotto and sides of their choosing. You shall start with the risotto.

ANNIE

Why not one of the fish?

ZOEY

I handle the fish and like you said it is your first time.

ANNIE

Ok.

MOMENTS LATER.

All the cooks start cooking the meals.

Zoey stands in front of a stove and takes out a fish from a bucket.

SCOTT

That's it?

ZOEY

That's all I found again.

SCOTT

Ok, must be a hard week then. But we can work with that.

She grabs a cleaver and chops up the fish's head. It's small head rolls off the cutting board.

She puts the fish in egg yolk batter and then in a frying pan. The steam sizzles loudly as the grease consumes the meal.

The fish turns all black and harden.

ZOEY

Ok, the blackfish is getting cooked. How's whitefish going?

SCOTT

Broiled as we speak.

Scott points to one of the other cooks on another fish.

Annie stirs the risotto. Zoey notices the flames from the stovetop are rising high.

Zoey walks over and turns down the heat.

The heat extinguishes into low.

She slowly places water with the blackened risotto.

ZOEY

Shit.

Zoey grabs the ripped out page of the risotto recipe. She shows it to Annie.

ZOEY (CONT'D)

You're suppose to add water to it  
before boiling it high.

She places a metal pot lid on top of the pot, smashing it down.

Scott places a spoon into the pot. He tastes the risotto, almost delighted it didn't taste like black soil.

SCOTT

No, actually it's really good. New  
could work for this recipe.

The other cooks and waiters are astonish by this new working piece for the meal.

Zoey just nods at the discovery.

INT. GAL'S SEA GRILLE.

Zoey opens the lid again, showing the brunt meal.

Zoey hands Mr. Jameson the plate and his face looks unhappy.

MR. JAMESON

Burnt risotto. Seriously?!

Zoey stares at Annie in disgust, knowing what's to happen.

ZOEY

Very embarrassing. I know, but--

MR. JAMESON

I will try it.

Jameson takes a bite of the meal and slowly chews it.

Zoey holds her hands together in stress.

MR. JAMESON (CONT'D)

Yeah. Close, but still needs that special ingredient. Anyway, good work, whatever your name is.

Annie walks out and Zoey stands there with disbelief.

Zoey then notices more people coming in, admiring the food given to Mr. Jameson.

INT. KITCHEN.

Zoey and Annie stand near each other. Zoey stirs mashed potatoes while Annie places small edible flowers and greens on a white lemon cake.

Zoey stares at Annie in defeat.

ZOEY

I got to admit. You did a nice job today. I appreciate it. More people are coming in.

ANNIE

You know this reminds me of that beach we would go to near the bridge side. Whenever I went surfing out on those small waves. You would always look at me like you did with Mr. Jameson. Full of disbelief that I could do anything so extraordinary.

ZOEY

Yeah. I loved that beach.

ANNIE

That must have been your favorite part. With me being amazing.

ZOEY

Yeah. My favorite thing was actually us sitting by the beach while watching the sunset. Just us standing together being simple things in such a weird world.

Zoey and Annie exchange glances at each other. But Zoey blocks it out.

ZOEY (CONT'D)

But anyway that was a long time ago.

ANNIE

You know you shouldn't leave because of me. I know you are heading back to Kalamazoo.

ZOEY

Annie, not now.

ANNIE

I'm just saying--

ZOEY

Not now.

Zoey starts aggressively stir the potatoes.

Annie smiles slightly before fading back into her new found work.

Scott notices this and suspects something between the two girls.

INT. WESTCOTT'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - NIGHT.

Zoey sits at the kitchen right by Taylor. She has Chardonnay bottle with a block of cheese with a small butter knife.

TAYLOR

Chardonnay?

ZOEY

It's a little late for a "special" drink, mom.

TAYLOR

Oh, not for me.

Taylor hands her the drink.

ZOEY

Geez, okay. I should come home more often.

She blocks the butter knife from behind the cheese away from Zoey's eyes.

ZOEY (CONT'D)

But if you're going to do that.

TAYLOR

Sorry, I know that it's...  
 (she puts it back and has  
 it face straightforward)  
 Speaking of which, have you  
 decided?

ZOEY

Yeah, I'm going. I'll ask one of my  
 friends down there if they have  
 room.

(pause)

I get this is home, but I need a  
 fresh start. And it can't be here.

TAYLOR

Ok. But you owe us a Christmas  
 without any excuses this time.

Taylor and Zoey hug.

Sally enters in a robe and holding a coffee mug.

SALLY

Hello. What did I miss?

ZOEY

Work.

SALLY

Oh, it is definitely pass two.  
 Although I could have made it  
 eight.

Zoey fakes laugh.

ZOEY

You better be there this time!

SALLY

I promise.

EXT. GAL'S SEA GRILLE - DAY.

THE NEXT DAY.

Zoey is out on the lake fishing. She is standing on the boat,  
 feeling a snag on the wire.

She gets a text. From Sally.

ZOEY (O.C.)

Son of a bitch!

She loses her balance and falls down into the water.

INT. KITCHEN.

Zoey enters, all drenched. Everyone noticing this. More people today.

Scott comes up to her.

ZOEY  
Where the hell is she?

SCOTT  
She called in sick. She says she is sorry.

ZOEY  
I don't care. Cause all I'm hearing is that I am stuck with you know who again!

Annie comes up behind them.

ANNIE  
I'm right here!

*Crash.*

A customer comes in and walks up to Annie.

CUSTOMER  
Hey, Annie. Can I burrow you for a second?

ANNIE  
Sure.

They head out to the floor.

ZOEY  
Oh, great. She's only been working here for two days and everyone knows her name.

SCOTT  
Don't worry about it.

Zoey leaves the kitchen.

INT. OFFICE.

Zoey enters the office. She sees inside a box. It's from Annie. A sticky note says, "If you're going to leave, here are some things to remember me by."

She opens the box.

She sees a bunch of stuff belonging to Annie: old uniform skirts, butterfly finger-paintings, pictures of Annie-- mostly in the center-- with Zoey by the side, and yearbooks. She looks into YEAR 2017. She passes to freshman year and see Annie's picture, all circled with love, while Zoey's picture with a line that says, "Love and miss you."

Zoey gets a call. It is from Mr. Chen.

ZOEY

Yeah... yeah, I know, Mr. Chen...  
Yeah, I'm getting it done right  
now. Ok, I'll text you later. Ok.  
Right now I'm drenched.

After moving to look down at her clothes, something drops from the yearbook.

ZOEY (CONT'D)

Yeah, I got it. Listen I'll text  
you later. Got to go. Ok, bye.

Zoey hangs up and looks down at the floor.

She finds a bandaid with dried up blood. The line of blood is too linear to be from a finger, or the backside of a foot. It's from the wrists.

Zoey at this point cannot control her anger any longer.

INT. RESTAURANT.

Finn walks in with Val-- still on her phone-- and sees Zoey. He waves her down.

Zoey sees him and starts to feel more pressure than before. She then hits her head on the coat-rack.

Finn walks toward her to make sure she is okay.

FINN

You really need to stop hurting  
yourself.

ZOEY

Trust me. I think it only happens whenever your family is around.

FINN

I heard about the stove "incident." She is pretty great with food, huh?

ZOEY

Yeah. I get it's her first day, but she needs to try helping this business stay afloat when I'm gone!

FINN

So, you're moving?

ZOEY

Yeah.

FINN

Hey, it's fine. Probably for the best. Annie doesn't want to deal with anymore drama.

ZOEY

Yeah, but weddings aren't that hard as long as you got the cake.

FINN

Wait, she didn't tell you about the house?

ZOEY

What about the house?

INT. KITCHEN.

Zoey walks up to Annie.

ZOEY

You are a full on liar. You know that? The house? It needs to be sold off?

ANNIE

It's not a big deal.

ZOEY

It is once you made a big deal of me leaving.

ANNIE

Because you're not in a great state of mind. You need better closure for yourself.

ZOEY

Yeah, like you know me well enough.

ANNIE

What does that mean?

ZOEY

For fuck sake! You think that I'm leaving because I am scared of my past here.

SCOTT

Zoey?

ZOEY

Not now Scott.

SCOTT

Mr. Jameson. It's the fish.

ZOEY

I got him the fish.

SCOTT

Zoey, we might need another fish that's not still wet and alive.

MR. JAMESON (O.S.)

Um, hello?! I still can report you, you know. WHERE'S MY FISH?!!

ZOEY

Shit. Just wait.

ANNIE

Why don't I take care of it?

ZOEY

No, you've done enough.

ANNIE

I wasn't asking. I'm going.

Annie heads out from the kitchen with the same bucket of fish.

Zoey stops her.

ZOEY

(rolling her eyes)

Look, I may not want you to succeed, but trust me you don't know how to handle a boat like that.

ANNIE

Oh, and I see it worked out for you this morning. I can do it!

ZOEY

God damnit! This isn't about you!

INT. GAL'S SEA GRILLE.

The cry is heard from the whole restaurant.

Finn notices this. Scott comes up behind Finn from also hearing it.

SCOTT

This isn't going to be good.

FINN

Should we watch?

SCOTT

We're at a classy restaurant. Of course, we are going to watch. Come on.

They get closer to the side of the kitchen entrance.

INT. KITCHEN.

Annie is too shocked from Zoey's outburst.

ANNIE

Can you just listen to me?

ZOEY

No, you listen. People have been nice to you and protective to you, but I'm done. You are a pain in the ass with your fucking selfish personality! You are not the only person with a life!

ANNIE

Nothing is wrong with m--

ZOEY

Well, I'm glad you're mentally fine now, too. Oh, wait. You still don't talk about it.

ANNIE

I'm sorry that I told the school--

ZOEY

Oh, good. You remember enough to basically say it in front of everyone.

Zoey points to the employees. They pretend to not hear, but they are listening.

ANNIE

I didn't want people to know.

ZOEY

And throwing me under the bus was so much better, huh?!

ANNIE

I mean they wouldn't believe you were doing it cause you were sad.

ZOEY

Yeah, but saying it made me look like a disease.

ANNIE

I'm sorry.

ZOEY

Annie, your apologize is pointless now coming from your lemon mouth. You made me look like the bad guy at the school. And after, you looked at me like I was a disappointment. For what? For helping you?

ANNIE

I was ashamed of myself, ok? And six years ago, my--

ZOEY

Don't. Don't use her as an excuse. She is better than that and you know it. And it was seven years ago.

ANNIE

I don't know why I even came here?  
You just never will understand  
anything about loss.

Annie walks up to the restaurant and heads inside. People getting out of her way and heads back inside also.

Zoey squeezes her shirt to get the water out. Only a bit comes out, but it is still wet.

INT. GAL'S SEA GRILLE.

Annie goes to her table and grabs her purse. Finn follows her to the table.

ANNIE

Let's go. I don't want to come back here. I want to go home.

FINN

Well, shouldn't we eat now? I still need to decide.

VAL

Not interested anyway.

FINN

Thanks.

Scott comes back to the table with a water pitcher.

SCOTT

Ok, what do we feel like?

ANNIE

He's not hungry, Scott.

SCOTT

Oh.

VAL

Bye.

Annie and Val leave the table.

They head to the door and then to the car.

ZOEY

(coughs)  
Scott.

(MORE)

ZOEY (CONT'D)  
 (Scott leans in behind  
 her)  
 Not hungry means...

SCOTT  
 Send the food in a To-Go bag.

ZOEY  
 Good boy.

Scott goes to the kitchen.

Finn and Zoey sit in silence. Everyone else in the restaurant  
 continue with their own business and eat their own food.

FINN  
 Zoey, I know you hate us--

ZOEY  
 I don't hate you. I never have. I'm  
 just really, really disappointed in  
 how you treated me. And the person  
 she is right now... I can't  
 recognize.

Scott comes back with a bag and hands it to Finn.

SCOTT  
 Already done. Here you are. Enjoy  
 and if I were you, just take five  
 sick days.

Scott leaves.

ZOEY  
 You can go by the way.

FINN  
 Look, I'm sorry again. You got to  
 understand she was--

ZOEY  
 Busy. Had a job, a boyfriend, and a  
 good amount of friends. Right? Same  
 with you?

Finn stares.

ZOEY (CONT'D)  
 Sorry, not the exact same. You  
 dated a girl.  
 (decides to just say it)  
 Ok, why did you show up?  
 (MORE)

ZOEY (CONT'D)

I think you knew Annie didn't need another job. Your sisters really didn't want to see me. So why did you come?

FINN

She needs you.

ZOEY

Yeah, right.

FINN

I mean it. She misses you and you may have drifted apart, but she needs you. And I think you need her, too. And you still looking for a place? Buy our house. We can live together. It would be very helpful... maybe a relief if it was you.

Zoey thinks it over as she starts to turn on a long street.

He looks back at Zoey.

FINN (CONT'D)

Just think about it.

Zoey nods.

Finn walks up.

FINN (CONT'D)

Stay safe next time. Avoid any falls.

Zoey flips him off.

Finn nods in understanding.

He heads out. Zoey drinks water. Scott comes back.

SCOTT

So, what do we think?

EXT. GAL'S SEA GRILLE.

Zoey exits out of the restaurant and sits down by the steps. Her whole looks pressure on pressure.

Mr. Jameson comes up behind her, staring her down until she finally looks at him.

ZOEY  
What do you want?

Mr. Jameson takes a few steps toward her and pats her back.

MR. JAMESON  
Try again.

He places his floppy hat on his head and heads to an old fashion looking car. He leaves her alone on that corner.

INT. WESTCOTT'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM.

Zoey opens the door.

Zoey slams the front door shut.

She notices her folks on the couch, looking at the coffee table that is covered with cards.

ZOEY  
Hey.

CHIP  
Hello, sweetie!

TAYLOR  
Oh, you're home.

ZOEY  
Yeah, it was weird at the restaurant. And I let everyone go for the day. What are you guys doing?

CHIP  
Playing some gin.

ZOEY  
Oh.

Zoey sits on the couch, tired and stressful.

TAYLOR  
Everything good?

ZOEY  
Yeah. Why?

TAYLOR  
Seem stress.

ZOEY

Nothing to really talk about. I got to tell my old friend to suck it. And embarrass myself in front of a bunch of customers. Not only that Mr. Chen needs an answer today. Probably needed it this morning.

(pause)

So do you mind if I join in?

CHIP

Wow. First time to hear you want to play gin. Must be just flowing now in this life.

Chip shuffles the cards and places seven cards for the three of them.

TAYLOR

Honey, I think you know you have to stay.

Zoey picks up the cards.

ZOEY

No, I need to just leave the past behind. I'll be free.

TAYLOR

No, because you know you can't really leave without real closure. Like your grandfather always says.

Zoey places discards cards and adds a few, like a pro.

ZOEY

But I did get closure. It's over.

TAYLOR

Is it?

Taylor plays off her cards faster and wins.

CHIP

Should have expected that.

Zoey sets her cards down in disappointed.

Zoey heads upstairs.

ZOEY

I'm packing.

INT. ZOHEY'S BEDROOM.

Zoey gets an empty suitcase and sets it on her bed. She puts clothes and some toiletries in the bag.

She finds the bird again on her nightstand. She ignores it.

She heads into her closet and finds a black leather jacket from Annie's box. She takes it out of the box.

Then she sees right under the jacket is a picture of a young Zoey and Annie. Together and happy.

On the back it is written: "Our girls are Yin and Yang. They can't go on without the other. All my love for them both, Estelle Bates."

Zoey looks up.

She has made up her mind.

EXT. WESTCOTT'S HOUSE - NEXT DAY.

Zoey grabs her bags and place them in the back trunk of the car. After closing the back trunk, she stretches her back from exhaustion of carrying the bags.

Though tired, she looks peaceful and focus. She walks up to the front porch to give her folks a hug. She waves at the window, where a hand is seen waving back belonging to Sally.

She heads back to the front seat of the car and starts it up. She drives out of the driveway slowly. Her family waves goodbye.

EXT . HIGHWAY.

Zoey is driving, focusing with no doubts to the speed limit of the road. She moves her head to a sign saying "Bridge in 10 miles."

She sees the beach, same place she and Annie use to go. She passes it and ignores it. As hard as she can.

*Screw it.*

No one is around and no cars coming by. She does an illegal U-turn and goes back to the beach. She stops the car and parks it by the clear, sandy parking lot. She walks toward the beach.

EXT. BEACH - EVENING.

The waves brush around the shore.

Zoey sits on the beach. No one else around. Her shoes are off, feeling the sand. It seems to have cool down as she is wearing a jacket.

Cars run back behind Zoey through the highway and wind blowing tall grass from her corners.

Sounds of a car comes up to the beach parking lot.

It is Annie. She comes out of the car and walks up to Zoey.

Annie stares at the sun for a bit and sits next to Zoey.

ANNIE

Thought I would find you here.

ZOEY

Why are you here? Didn't you want to not see me again or something?

ANNIE

I didn't say that.

ZOEY

I did. Or I wanted to.

ANNIE

Well, Finn and Val convince me to come.

(Zoey stares at Annie)

Ok, more Finn than Val. She gave me the silent treatment mostly.

ZOEY

Wow. You need convincing to try talking to me. That's great.

Zoey tries to move herself away from Annie, moving farther towards the endless sand and lake.

Annie confides by sitting still.

ANNIE

Ok, fine but they were right! You shouldn't go just because of me! Not when there is still stuff we have to go over! I mean you're not the only one who can't move on from our past!

(pause)

(MORE)

ANNIE (CONT'D)

I can't get married with this shit going on. It's too hard. And if my mom was here... she would tell me I have to do what I can do make it work. To fight it out but I can't.

Annie moves closer to Zoey. Tears forming.

ANNIE (CONT'D)

I'm sorry I lied. I thought I wouldn't be a burden. And I really wanted to fix this. With you. Can you forgive me?-

ZOEY

Please, just stop. Let me do what I came here to do.

They stare at the waves.

Zoey takes out the picture and shows it to Annie.

ZOEY (CONT'D)

I found this. Your mom must have send it out before we stopped hanging out. Truthfully I thought we lost it over the stuff we kept.

ANNIE

Yeah, I asked her to sent it. I wanted you to have it.

ZOEY

Thanks. You are right. I don't want to leave. Not without real closure.

ANNIE

(crying)

Ok, then you should know that you are right too. I do hog the attention from you and I did... that to myself because I didn't like myself as much. People making it all about me helped my process. I wasn't a great sensation I made myself out to be. Especially out there.

(point to the lake)

I wasn't even amazing riding my board.

ZOEY

Don't say that.

ANNIE

(crying)

No, I wasn't. And I was just a horrible, horrible person to you.

(pause)

And I don't know I just thought you were fine. I'm just so sorry that I made you the bad guy. I was awful.

ZOEY

You were amazing. No matter what. Even if you weren't doing anything.

ANNIE

Thanks. I'm really sorry.

ZOEY

Yeah.

(pause)

I'll stay but not for you, for me. I know your mom would want us to fight for what we had, so I can help you. Besides the restaurant needs me.

Annie looks at her.

ANNIE

Yeah, it does.

They both stare at the setting sun. All quiet, yet full of orange life.

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT.

Zoey comes in through the front door.

Zoey body slams herself on the sofa.

Sally - covered with a blanket - is on the sofa, waken slightly by the loud thud of her sister.

SALLY

Five more minutes.

Sally goes back to sleep.

Zoey lays down on the other end of the sofa, pushing Sally farther on her side. She pulls a blanket from the floor.

Sally pulls the blanket towards her. Zoey pulls it back and the two sisters get stuck in a tug-of-war with the blanket.

Zoey gives up and only has parts of the blanket cover her feet. She grabs a pillow and holds it like a blanket.

They sleep together for a bit.

Zoey opens her eyes and looks over at Sally, still asleep.

Zoey takes out her phone from her pocket. She scrolls through her messages and finds Mr. Chen's number.

She types something to him. We cannot see.

She sends the message and turns her phone off.

ZOEY

(whisper)

I found a place. To live.

SALLY

(mumble)

Really where?

ZOEY

(whisper)

The Bates house.

SALLY

Oh, cool... wait, what?

THE END.