

EXT. STREET - LATER

Koda comes outside and sits on the curb outside Bella's house. The music thumps loudly inside, muted by the walls.

JAMIE (21) comes up the street. He has a wise, neutral presence.

JAMIE

Hey.

KODA

Hi.

JAMIE

You good?

KODA

Yeah.

JAMIE

Okay. You look...never mind.

(then)

I wanted to know if you could tell your friends to quiet down? I live next door, I'm trying to sleep.

KODA

It's not my house. Not my party. Besides it's spring break, just keep in tomorrow.

JAMIE

Yeah, well spring break doesn't exist in the real world and I have work in the morning.

KODA

Then put a pillow over your head? I don't know.

JAMIE

I might suffocate.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

KODA

If only we could all be so lucky.

JAMIE

You are so no okay. Shitty
night...?

KODA

Koda.

JAMIE

Koda.

(then)

Shitty night, Koda?

KODA

The shittiest.

JAMIE

Sorry.

KODA

Yeah, whatever.

JAMIE

You want to talk about it?

KODA

Not with you.

JAMIE

Fair enough.

He turns to leave.

KODA

You know what? Fuck it. Let's talk.

JAMIE

Okay.

He sits beside her.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

KODA

Why are you being so nice?

JAMIE

You're sort of pitiful.

KODA

Wow, thanks.

(then)

What's your name?

JAMIE

Jamie.

KODA

Jamie.

(a dig)

Isn't that a girl name?

He's unfazed by her unpleasant attitude.

JAMIE

Could be...It's fucking freezing out here.

KODA

Yeah, but I don't want to go back inside.

JAMIE

What's going on?

KODA

My...

(she searches for the word)

My guy. Nolan. He came with another girl.

JAMIE

That sucks. Why?

KODA

Why not? He's not my boyfriend.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

JAMIE

Do you wish he was?

KODA

I'm not sure.

JAMIE

Hmm.

KODA

Hmm? That's your advice?

JAMIE

I don't know, sounds shitty.

KODA

It is shitty. That's life though, right? The things that you want are always better before you actually get them.

JAMIE

Really? Why?

KODA

Because nothing is ever as good as it's supposed to be.

JAMIE

Maybe your expectations are just too high.

KODA

Maybe.

JAMIE

I mean, who are you to decide what things are "supposed" to be?

KODA

I don't know.

JAMIE

The more you expect something to be a certain way the more likely you're going to be disappointed.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

KODA

So I should just expect the worst
so at least I won't be
disappointed?

JAMIE

Everything's basically meaningless.
Unless we choose otherwise. So.
(then)
Just like, get over it, I guess.

She bristles at this.

KODA

I think that things are what they
mean. Like the fact that you're
trying to go to bed at eleven
thirty on a Friday night means
you're a loser.

JAMIE

Maybe your "guy" came with someone
else because you're kind of a dick.

KODA

You don't know me.

JAMIE

I don't really want to.

KODA

You came over here.

JAMIE

Yeah, well, the road to hell is
paved with good intentions.

KODA

Are you calling me hellish?

JAMIE

If it walks like a duck...

Silence.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

KODA

You're really weird...but kind of interesting.

JAMIE

Hey - you're welcome.

He stands up.

KODA

(grudgingly)

Thanks.

JAMIE

Yeah, yeah. Feel any better?

KODA

Marginally.

JAMIE

Great. So, could you tell your friends to turn down the music?

KODA

I'll ask.

Koda gets up, disappearing into the house. Jamie waits easily. After a moment the volume subsides substantially.

Koda emerges from the house, smiling.

JAMIE

Thanks.

KODA

You're welcome.

JAMIE

Night, Koda.

KODA

Good night.