

Remembrance

written by

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FADE IN:

INT. CHILI'S BAR - NIGHT

The chatter of the restaurant surrounds a group of soon to be college graduates, who sit next to each other in a semi circle.

IVY

Can you believe we graduate on Friday?

OPHELIA

Not at all whatsoever. I'm still reeling from the fact that I got into Harvard in the first place. My grades were-

Cian rolls his eyes, waving it off with a floppy hand.

CIAN

Yeah, yeah. 'Mediocre;' we've heard all that before. But you managed to graduate WITH honors. Top of our class. I don't want to hear it from you.

OPHELIA

Just because I'm smarter than you doesn't mean you have to be a douche-

CIAN

You've got a pretty nasty mouth. Your girlfriend must LOVE that.

Ivy smacks both of them on the arms from sitting in her place in between them. They wince, glaring at each other before turning to their mutual friend.

IVY

Can you two just shut up and drink your two dollar margaritas? I didn't bring you two here to argue. If I wanted to hear that, I would've invited you to my apartment.

The three fall silent for just a moment, Cian stifling a giggle. He gets a firm kick in the calf from Ophelia, making him glare.

OPHELIA

So... what did you bring us here for? I highly doubt it was for two dollar margaritas; you hate drinking and driving.

CIAN

Speaking of, we'll need you to drive us home tonight. I'm ten dollars deep in these two dollar margaritas and I don't plan on stopping too soon.

Ophelia nods in agreement with this, making Ivy roll her eyes and mutter something about putting the two in AA for their drinking habits.

IVY

I'm trying to talk about something serious here, guys! If I had known you two would get drunk, I would've chosen some place with less of a deal on their alcoholic beverages.

CIAN

A lot of words are coming out of your mouth, but I'm not really soaking them in.

OPHELIA

(Exasperated)

Cian, would it kill you to not get drunk for once? Our friend is trying to talk about something very serious - I assume - with us.

She pauses, placing a gentle hand on Ivy's back.

OPHELIA (CONT'D)

You can tell us, honey. What's on your mind?

IVY

It's about a dream I had last night..

Ophelia's face drops from her gentle expression, shooting a knowing look to Cian.

OPHELIA

Never mind, Cian. Order another one of those drinks if you want.

CIAN
Bartender!

Cian raises a hand to flag down said bartender, but Ivy smacks it down onto the bar, shooting him a glare.

IVY
No! No bartender! I'm serious, guys, this time it meant something.

CIAN

(Obviously not believing her)
Uh-huh, sure, love. While you tell us about the monster that's a sloth with your ex's face on it, I think I'll have another drink.

IVY
That's not fair - that monster was scary.

OPHELIA
You just hate sloths... and your ex... and you're kind of a wimp.

IVY
I'm not a- okay, we're getting off topic, here! I'm trying to tell you two something that's important to me.

Cian takes a sip of a new margarita, making Ivy scoff in both confusion and frustration.

CIAN
Go for it. I'm a little too drunk to care.

IVY
Okay, well, I want you guys to promise not to laugh.

OPHELIA
I promise, babes. Go ahead and talk about your dream.

IVY
I'll make it pretty brief. Long story short, I saw the rest of our lives laid out.

CIAN

Ten bucks says Ophelia gets a job that pays mostly in singles.

OPHELIA

Can you not throw shade at me for five seconds and let our friend talk?

Cian raises his hands in a surrender position.

CIAN

I digress.

IVY (CONT'D)

We graduated and promised to stay in touch. For a while, it worked. The three of us still shared fried mac and cheese balls at The Cheesecake Factory and I drove the two of you drunk losers home.

Ivy pauses, her hands beginning to shake with emotion. Her voice does the same.

IVY

But after a while, Cian moved to Brazil for an amazing position in the medical field, promising to stay in touch. He didn't, though.

She takes a deep breath, visibly getting more and more upset by recounting her dream.

IVY (CONT'D)

It was okay - I still had Ophelia. We remained roommates until her girlfriend proposed and they moved to New York together. And then I was... alone.

Long beat of silence. Then, Ivy begins to sniffle, tears falling down her cheeks.

Ophelia and Cian exchange looks, both placing a hand on her back.

OPHELIA

(Soothing)

Ivs, it's okay... we aren't going to just leave you.

CIAN

Yeah, who will drive me home when I get drunk? Or do my laundry?

OPHELIA

(Hushed)

Not the time, Cian.

IVY

(Laughing slightly)

No, no, it's okay. I know it's silly to cry over this.

CIAN

Hey, it's not 'silly' to cry. Crying is a human reaction to human emotions. It's natural - even I cry.

OPHELIA

We're well aware that you cry, Cian. My Girl is living proof.

CIAN

(Sniffling)

Even hearing the title makes me tear up.

OPHELIA

No more margaritas for you. Okay, point is, Ivy, it's okay for you to be worried about the future. Our future as friends.

IVY

So what can I do?

CIAN

Nothing really.

OPHELIA

He's right, for once. There's not really anything we can do.

A beat.

IVY

That's... terrifying.

CIAN

It is, yeah. Life is terrifying, but we still have to go on, because life doesn't stop to wait for us to catch up. The best thing you can do is keep your chin up and your eyes focused on what helps you.

IVY
Yeah, you're right.

Ivy dries her tears, Ophelia dabbing the runny mascara off her cheeks with a nearby napkin.

OPHELIA
And, if it makes you feel any better, Cian becoming a vet in Brazil is not on the table. He's not smart enough for that.

Cian opens his mouth to protest, but stops when he sees Ivy laughing. Being the blunt of Ophelia's jokes and losing his pride is worth it to see Ivy feeling better.

The three are silent for a bit, Ivy slowly calming down.

IVY
Alright, I better get you two home. That hangover tea won't make itself.

CIAN
Thank God. I wanted to ask but you were crying.

IVY
You don't have to ask. You guys are my best friends. Thank you for the advice, by the way. Even if we aren't always together, I'll always remember you as some amazing people.

OPHELIA
I'll remember you as my favorite roommate.

CIAN
I'll remember you as my very pretty caretaker.

Cian flashes her a smile, to which Ivy rolls her eyes. Cian stumbles out of his chair, Ivy and Ophelia propping him up as they leave Chili's.

Fade to black.