

**FIGMENT**

EPISODE 2

"alone in a crowd"

Story By:

Bianca Roth

Written by:

Bianca Roth & Jaxson Power

A box of envelopes sits on a desk. Each is titled with a number- 23 and up; others say "wedding day," "graduation," "first born," etc.

Pull out to reveal ELIZABETH sitting at the desk chair holding the letter titled "22." She sits and stares at it before sliding her finger under the envelope when suddenly...

HANNAH

Birthday girl!! Get up, it's time to celebrate.

Elizabeth's roommates HANNAH (22) and SYDNEY (21) barge into her room with a bottle of tequila and shot glasses.

Elizabeth gathers herself and turns to face them.

ELIZABETH

Thanks but nah, I'm gonna stay in tonight. Today isn't-

Hannah and Sydney turn to each other and exchange a concerned look.

SYDNEY

You're gonna regret it if you don't do something, you'll have fun once you start getting ready.

HANNAH

Nobodies seen you in weeks and it's going to start effecting your social relevance--

Sydney hits Hannah to stop talking.

SYDNEY

She doesn't mean that. Come on, get up.

Sydney goes to physically pick up Elizabeth.

ELIZABETH

I honestly don't want to. Please can we just stay in.

Hannah checks her make-up in Elizabeth's mirror.

HANNAH

Who said anything about leaving home?

ELIZABETH

What.

HANNAH

People are coming over in 45 minutes to celebrate **you** so drink up!

Hannah pushes the tequila bottle closer to Elizabeth.

Elizabeth stares at the bottle, then looks up to Sydney as if she's asking for help.

SYDNEY

It's just a few friends, I promise.

Hannah still fixes her make up in the mirror.

HANNAH

Plus Austin is coming with the guys so I'll need you both to be my wing ladies tonight.

ELIZABETH

Hannah... Austin's still with Grace.

HANNAH

Yeah but she's studying abroad in France, c'est la vieeeee.

Elizabeth and Sydney go silent, exchange a look and then look to Hannah. Hannah stop fixing her make up and looks to them.

HANNAH (CONT'D)

What?  
Oh, a girl can't flirt a little?  
Jeez.

Sydney scoffs. Hannah walks back to the bedroom door.

HANNAH (CONT'D)

Alright, we need to hide all the furniture, you need to take a shot, get ready, and meet us out there in ten!

Hannah exits. Sydney stays in the door way.

SYDNEY

You're going to have a good time, really.

Sydney smiles, shuts the door and leaves Elizabeth alone. She takes a beat by herself.

She looks to the tequila bottle before pouring a shot. She then notices her pill bottle and wonders what it would be like to mix the two when her phone dings- AUSTIN: *"Hey! Happy Birthday, excited 4 tonight."*

Elizabeth smiles slightly at her phone before giving in and taking a pill with the tequila. She looks at the 22 letter and puts it aside for later.

2

INT. KITCHEN - PARTY - NIGHT

2

Elizabeth sits on the couch holding drinks with Hannah and Sydney when the door bell rings.

HANNAH

I'll get it!

Hannah exits.

Elizabeth looks again to Sydney for help.

SYDNEY

I'm right here if you need anything tonight. Come on weirdo.

Off Elizabeth's smile-

3

INT. KITCHEN - PARTY - NIGHT

3

Music is blasting. We see Elizabeth standing alone in her kitchen as we hear the party around her.

As she stands alone she smiles unenthusiastically at her friends.

Periodically people reach for drinks in the kitchen fridge, hitting Elizabeth with the fridge door as they reach inside.

She takes an unenthusiastic shot with Hannah and Sydney. Hannah pours them both another one. Sydney takes it immediately.

ELIZABETH

No, no, I'm good.

HANNAH

Bitch, take the shot it's your birthday!

Elizabeth rolls her eyes and takes the shot followed by a look of pain on her face.

Hannah tries to pull Elizabeth to the dance floor, she says no and pulls away. Sydney and Hannah go dance.

After a beat, she notices Austin from across the room. He catches her eye, nods and raises his drink at her. She smiles to herself. When she looks back up, he is dancing with Hannah and Sydney. Hannah starts flirting.

Sydney notices what Elizabeth is looking at and they exchange a look.

ELIZABETH

I can't believe her sometimes, the fact that she would do that to Grace is just-

Elizabeth makes a disgusted face.

SYDNEY

I know, but that's Hannah for ya... Trust me though, she's not like a bad person, she just likes the attention.

Sydney shrugs.

SYDNEY (CONT'D)

Come on let's dance

ELIZABETH

I'm gonna go to the bathroom.

4

INT. BATHROOM - NIGHT

4

Elizabeth enters and leans against the bathroom wall for a beat before pulling out the 22 letter.

She stares at it before opening.

DAD (V.O.)

Wow! 22 years old, feels like just yesterday I was dropping you off at your first day of school. As you grow into the incredible young lady you are becoming, remember to never hold yourself back, if you see something you want, take it because you only have one life to live...

LINDA (O.S.)  
He's right ya know!

Elizabeth jumps. The camera pans to the shower curtain where Linda emerges in her diner uniform holding a Shirley temple.

LINDA (CONT'D)  
It's okay to be a little selfish.

Elizabeth stares, processing.

LINDA (CONT'D)  
Well don't look so stunned! Did you really think I wouldn't come wish ya a happy birthday?

ELIZABETH  
(Still stunned)  
Um.. HI!

Elizabeth meets Linda by the shower- she feels relieved and comfortable. She holds onto Linda for a long time before pulling away.

LINDA  
Now, tell me. What's the birthday girl doin hiding in the bathroom all alone?

ELIZABETH  
Oh, um. I'm not hiding,

Linda looks at her. They both know she's lying.

ELIZABETH (CONT'D)  
I just feel very... alone in there.

Linda lets out a understanding sigh with a smile.

LINDA  
Your father was a smart man you know. You outta take his advice.

ELIZABETH  
What do you mean?

LINDA  
Come on. You and I both know that, things sometimes slip through your fingers. You gotta reach out and grip what makes you happy.

ELIZABETH

I don't have a lot of things that  
can make me happy right now.

LINDA

Well, thats offensive! You got me!

Linda laughs off some tension. Elizabeth can't fully buy in yet.

LINDA (CONT'D)

Your dad was a fearless man, and  
you got to live life *just* the way  
he did. *That's* how he's always be  
with you.  
If you don't, then he'll be gone.  
Take what you want, Liz, otherwise  
it disappears.

A beat. Linda looks at the 22 letter...

Linda pushes the Shirley temple towards Elizabeth. She picks  
it up and drinks it. Linda walks to the bathroom door

LINDA (CONT'D)

Now, get going, everyone's waiting.

Linda opens the door. Bright diner light shines on  
Elizabeth's face as she exits the bathroom.

5

INT. ELIZABETH'S HOUSE - NIGHT

5

Her once college house party is now a diner themed party- old  
music plays in the background, all guests wearing diner  
uniforms. Elizabeth walks up to her roommates (also dressed  
in diner attire). They each hand her a Shirley temple and  
Elizabeth drinks both at the same time.

Their words sound robotic-(They are saying what Elizabeth  
wishes to hear from them)

SYDNEY

Hey, I am your best friend, and I  
am always here for you.

HANNAH

We are sorry for throwing this  
party. We know your birthday is  
really hard on you.

SYDNEY

Your dad made everything special,  
and we are sorry he's gone.

Elizabeth loves what she's hearing.

SYDNEY (CONT'D)

I will support anything that will  
make you happy.

HANNAH

We invited someone special who  
wants to see you.

Hannah and Sydney smile and motion for Elizabeth to turn around. She turns and sees RAY dressed in his diner outfit dramatically approaching her. Elizabeth looks starstruck at the sight of him.

RAY

Hey.

Hannah and Sydney take the two drinks out of her hands, then all the party guests but them disappear.

ELIZABETH

Hi.

Ray takes her hands while maintaining eye contact. He then brings her close to him and the two begin to dance around the room; their eyes locked together. The scene looks like the end of a 40s movie- Iris out in the shape of a heart around the Ray and Elizabeth.

CUT TO BLACK.

6

INT. ELIZABETH'S BEDROOM - MORNING

6

The same awful iPhone alarm rings. Elizabeth turns it off, and she opens her eyes a little. Hungover, she looks around her room. It's a mess.

She turns and her eyes go wide. She stares, astonished at something in her bed. We pan to see AUSTIN, shirtless, waking up.

He notices she is already awake.

AUSTIN

Morning.

Austin smiles at her. Elizabeth is realizing what has happened.

ELIZABETH

Hi.



AUSTIN  
So. Last night was...

He trails off into a smile and a laugh... She smiles back at him.

AUSTIN (CONT'D)

AUSTIN (CONT'D)  
Look, it was a great time, but  
probably a mistake. So let's just  
keep this as one fun night, between  
us. Cool?

Elizabeth's smile falters. She nods a yes.

ELIZABETH  
Oh, um, yeah that's... cool.

AUSTIN  
Thank you. I should go.

Austin gets up and starts to put his clothes on. Stay on Eliz  
as she watches him get ready to leave.

AUSTIN (CONT'D)  
Can you hand me my phone?

He refers to the nightstand on her side. It is sitting atop  
the 22 letter. She stares at the letter, remembering what she  
wants as she picks up his phone.

She turns and holds it out to him. He grabs his it, but  
Elizabeth doesn't let go. She looks up to him from the phone,  
then pulls Austin in and kisses him. He kisses her back.  
After a moment they back down to the bed...

7 INT. BEDROOM/KITCHEN - MORNING

7

Elizabeth exits her bedroom with a smile we have never seen  
on her face before. She closes the door and turns around to  
find Sydney standing in the kitchen.

Elizabeth's smile fades as they exchange a knowing look.

CUT TO BLACK.

**END OF EPISODE 2.**