

START

INT./EXT. LILA & MAX'S APARTMENT — EVENING

Since graduating college, Max and Lila have been living together in the Big Apple. Even though he's in his mid twenties, Max looks lean and gaunt after years of struggling in the big city. To the contrary, Lila still remains cheerful and upbeat since they met as college freshman; and seems to like her life.

Toothbrush in hand, Lila stares into the mirror of the master bathroom.

CUT TO:

Lila spits into the sink and rinses her mouth.

Max slowly climbs up and over the railing on the outdoor balcony. On the ledge, Max stares down from the apartment complex.

MAX

Lila, I've made up my mind. Don't say no. We couldn't keep dating forever anyway. I have to take the leap. This phase is over.

Oblivious, Lila continues her nightly routine.

LILA

Oh honey, are you sure!?!

Max begins to shiver. Snowflakes slap his cheeks.

MAX

Yes. I've thought about it a lot.

Lila's eyes widen as she imagines a ring on her finger.

LILA

Oh my! This - this i-i-is so much to handle.

(Spits)

Wait! I gotta floss! We gotta figure this out!!

MAX

His head down, talking more subtly now.

No. There's nothing to figure out. I'm just gonna take the next step — and leap. I can't continue like this.

LILA

Yup! That's just what I'm saying! Just take the leap. One step forward. I knew you could do it!

Max looks confused as to why she sounds so content.

MAX

Wait, you agree??

LILA

Absolutely!

MAX

I just don't wanna cause you more stress or hurt your family. It's the right thing to do.

LILA

What are you kidding?! I've been thinking about this day for a looonnggg time. It's best for both of us.

She stares down at her hand again.

Yes honey, take that leap, already.

MAX

(startled)

Wha-Wait...So... it is the right thing to do??

(He pauses)

Max stares down to the concrete sidewalk with a constant flow of pedestrians.

MAX

Is it the right time though? There's a lot of people down there you know! They'll all be affected.

LILA

I mean, you don't have to do it now...But I think this is the right time. Look, we've been dating forrrrrrr...what, seven years now? I mean, how long could we really keep doing that? Yeah, seven years. Wow...

Lila pauses. She realizes...

For god sakes I'm 25!

She yells out through the bathroom door to Max.

Just go with it! Do it already!

MAX

I will! I'm taking the next step Lila! Remember, I love you. Always remember that! Thanks Lila.

LILA

This is such a relief – Finally!

Max steps off the balcony and goes out of frame. A distant thud followed by increased chaos from the street below is

heard. Faint screams, cars honking, and sirens begin to fill the cold air.

Lila walks into the bedroom, chilled by the air running from the open balcony doors.

LILA

Honey I'm so happy.  
(looks around in confusion)  
Wait! Where'd you go??

Confused, she walks back and forth calling his name thinking he his hiding somewhere to surprise her with a gift (a ring). The sirens grow louder and closer drawing her attention to the open balcony doors. She goes to look and view the street below for an answer, but does not put the pieces together. Slowly, the realization grows and hits her at once as she breaks into a scream of shock and horror at the tragic miscommunication that just took place.

LILA

(lifts her hands above her head)  
Oh Max! Why can't you ever say what  
you mean.

CUT TO: BLACK