

WE'LL ALWAYS HAVE WHATEVER THAT WAS

Written by

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FADE IN:

INT. BEDROOM. SIMONE'S APARTMENT - DAY

An Apartment in the Los Angeles area.

The sounds of simulated ocean noises play on a Sonos speaker. The room is dark and the shades are tightly shut. Despite that, the sun shines through anyways.

Two bodies lie in a queen-sized bed. Clothes are scattered across the bed. Clothes piled up next to the closet. The room is really disheveled.

A vibrating alarm awakens the GUY, about late 20s, his name is ARI. The girl across from him, SIMONE, late 20s is slumped and sprawled out.

Ari wakes up and grabs his clothes. He does it quietly and softly.

Simone turns over and reaches for Ari. Her hand pats the empty side of the bed.

SIMONE
Are you leaving?

Ari stops at the door.

ARI
I got some work to do.

SIMONE
Oh, okay. Call me later. Love you.

ARI
Yeah, will do.

EXT. SIDEWALK - DAY

Ari rides an electric Byrd Scooter down the long path. It looks like there is nothing ahead.

He notices the sky is cloudy and takes a whiff. It might rain.

Ari hits the brakes and hops off the scooter. He sighs deeply and paces back and forth.

ARI
What am I doing?

INT. LAUNDRY ROOM. SIMONE'S APARTMENT - DAY

Simone pulls some clothes out of the dryer. She is in a bra and shorts combo. She reaches into the dryer and finds a T-shirt two sizes larger than her.

SIMONE

Perfecto!

She takes a sniff. Still lingers of his cologne. She throws it on.

INT. KITCHEN. SIMONE'S APARTMENT - DAY

The kitchen is also untidy, but better than the bedroom. It overlooks the living room which is just a sofa and some beanbag chairs. Cups sit on TV trays and a large flat screen is leaning up against the wall on the floor.

Boxes sit in the corners halfway unpacked.

Simone enters the kitchen of her apartment. She sees the two plates and two cups in the sink.

She opens the fridge and there is hardly anything in there. She takes the jug of orange juice with a swallow left, shrugs, and drinks it.

INT. DE NU MO CAFE - DAY

Ari and Simone sit together, across from LUKA and DIARA both in their late 20s, looking like two fashion models who got lost and missed the runway.

Empty glasses of Mimosas sit on one end of the table, with two empty pitchers. It's the wind-down.

ARI

And so I said to him, "Whatchu mean by that my boy?" To which he got hella uncomfortable.

Everyone laughs.

Simone moves her hand to Ari's inner thigh and lays her head on his shoulder.

DIARA

Aw, y'all so cute. Luka aren't they cute.

LUKA
 Exceptional.

DIARA
 So, are you both going steady now,
 or...?

Both Simone and Ari share a look. Ari looks into Simone's eyes questioningly. Simone looks and grins into a surprised smile.

LUKA
 Maybe we shouldn't delve into their
 business babe.

DIARA
 Oop, I'm so sorry-

ARI
 No! No, it's fine. We're all
 friends here. I'm with her and, uh,
 she's with me.

Simone rubs his thigh and kisses Ari on the cheek. Ari puts his arm around her. OFF the both of them sitting pretty.

Pretty uncomfortable.

INT. LIVINGROOM. SIMONE'S APARTMENT - DAY

Ari pushes the door open and Simone rushes in taking off her heels. Ari pushes her down on the sofa and gently kisses the nape of her neck. Simone reaches into his pants.

ARI
 Not yet.

SIMONE
 I want you.

ARI
 I want you too, but I wanna love on
 you before I'm in you.

Simone pushes him off.

SIMONE
 No, I want that.

She points to his crotch.

ARI
 Before-play, remember?

SIMONE
Corny ass. I want you inside me
now.

Simone shakes and jitters. Like a maniac, a sex-crazed
maniac. Ari is taken aback.

ARI
Hey, can I ask you something?

SIMONE
Can it wait until after you cum?

ARI
No.

SIMONE
Oh my fucking- you're sobering me
up.
(beat)
Ask.

ARI
What are we?

SIMONE
What do you mean, we're just
together, it's really nothing.

ARI
But it's not really nothing. I've
been driving myself crazy because
this is something. Right?

Beat.

SIMONE
I don't know...we're having so much
fun, but I can't be tied down to
whatever this is. Not right now.

ARI
Have you ever been tied down? I'm
just tryna make sense of what we
got going, because I do like you-

SIMONE
But you'll take up space in my
heart, and I'm not sure if I can
carry the fears it comes with.

ARI
Fuck it, if this is just a tour,
say so.

SIMONE

I think you should go.

ARI

Simone, we can't let upsets turn us away from important conversations. That proves this isn't really that serious.

SIMONE

It wasn't supposed to be.

Ari exits the apartment with swiftness.

EXT. BEACH - DAY

The sun is about to rise. The waves move with the wind. The push and pull back is unsettling. When does it end?

Ari sits alone, no one but seagulls around, on a towel. He takes out some sunglasses and puts them on. The sun reaches its zenith.

ARI

God, why can't I quit this girl?

A moment passes.

Simone walks by and takes her seat next to him. He wraps his arms around her and kisses her head.

SIMONE

I'm sorry. I do want this.

ARI

It's okay, I'm patient, baby. I'm patient.

They both sit in the center of the beach, as the sun has risen on a new day.

INT. 2WO LANE LOUNGE - NIGHT

A spray-painted sign with the alphanumeric "2WO" is cast on the wall.

Diara and Simone sit chatting in the corner of the booth of their section. Ari is on his phone texting someone about business.

Luka comes back with a table marker and a bottle in an ice bucket.

LUKA
Bottle service.

DIARA
Come over here and give me some lip
service.

LUKA
Don't mind if I do.
(to Simone)
Excuse me.

SIMONE
No, sure.

Simone slides over to Ari, busy, typing away.

ARI
Hey, baby.

SIMONE
Hey. What's going on?

ARI
Work stuff.

SIMONE
Tell them you're in the club and
busy.

ARI
This one is serious. Hold on.
(on the phone)
Hey, Junko.

Ari gets up and steps away.

Simone turns to Diara getting her whole life from Luka on the other end. She sits there by her lonesome watching the club bump up and down.

The music moves as fast as her heart, racing. She takes the fresh bottle and pops it open. She watches the foam run down her wrist.

A dirty thought.

She pours into the glass and takes a stroll.

INT. HALLWAY. 2WO LANE LOUNGE - NIGHT

In the cut, dimly lit, and not visible to anyone, Ari paces the back of the club between the restrooms and the backdoor.

With a phone in one ear and a finger in the other, Ari takes a look at the club's history and memorabilia.

The music and cheers of the club are loud and distracting. It's a bit too much.

Simone stands at the end of the hall, staring in a seductive look as if Ari's in his birthday suit.

She walks down the hall and places the now empty glass on a nearby table.

Ari stands against the wall listening to his call. He waves at Simone and gestures "1 minute."

Simone walks up to him and turns around. The song playing is slow and sensual. She grinds against him. Taking him on. She moves just right to turn him on.

He moves his phone away.

ARI

Babe, I love you, but not now.

Simone gyrates faster. Ari's growing harder and giving in. Her hypnotic motion is trapping him. He begins to moan on the phone.

ARI (CONT'D)

Fuck. Don't stop.

(on the phone)

I'm sorry I'm at the club, the people next to me are loud. Carry on.

Simon reaches down and grabs her ankles and continues this motion. This is getting her off just as much as it does him.

ARI (CONT'D)

Babe, stop. Let me- Bye Junko.

Now's not a good time.

Ari hangs up. Ari sighs deeply. He slides against the wall, weakly, and looks up at Simone.

SIMONE

Don't ever leave me hanging.

ARI

Come again?

SIMONE

You left me sitting there, by myself.

ARI
You were with Diara and Luka, I was coming back.

SIMONE
Was work really that important?

ARI
I think it's time we address the elephant in the room? Your past.

Ari stands up. He feels his pants.

ARI (CONT'D)
Fuck.

Simone runs her hand against his crotch. It's wet.

SIMONE
I'm good.

ARI
No, you're fucking insane.

Simone slaps Ari. She walks off.

ARI (CONT'D)
Oh, great hit me and then run away. You're always running away.

Simone flicks him off.

EXT. TWO LANE LOUNGE - NIGHT

Luka holds Diara as they walk to their car, respectively, Ari and Simone are walking apart from one another to theirs.

LUKA
Are you two okay?

SIMONE
We will be. Just a hiccup.

ARI
I say more than a hiccup. But we'll be fine.

Luka and Diara share a look.

DIARA
We should go to In n Out, I want a milkshake. You two wanna come?

Ari looks at Simone. She looks back at him.

SIMONE

I'm good. We'll see you later. Love you guys.

LUKA

Love y'all too. Get home safe.

DIARA

Bye loves!

ARI

Night.

Ari and Simone walk to his car. The car is at the tail end of the parking lot, where a party bus is obstructing views.

INT. CAR - NIGHT

The doors slam shut.

SIMONE

Take me home.

Ari pushes the Start button. Music comes on, something smooth. He turns down the volume.

ARI

We need to talk. Why can't I know that part of you that's hurting? How do I even know this is real?

SIMONE

It's the two-part question for me.

(beat)

It's real because we say it is. And besides, I am not opening that door. Never again.

ARI

Why can't we unpack this, baby I'm here for you. I want to know you. I'm strong enough to help you carry your shit.

SIMONE

I don't want you to carry more than you have to.

ARI

Well, now I can't assist in this technical issue they needed my help in, so now I do have more to carry. I wanna do the work, just let me.

SIMONE

No.

Beat.

Ari pulls in Simone for a kiss. He pulls his seat back and starts undoing his pants. Simone is slightly turned on.

ARI

Get back there.

She moves to the backseat and pulls up her dress. He unbuckles his pants.

WRAP. He wraps his soldier up and slides back with her. He enters her and pounds away.

ARI (CONT'D)

We're gonna work through this. Your way or my way.

Simone moans. She's loving this. She starts putting pressure on him.

They both stop, Ari breathes deeply against her back as she tightly holds his hand. He kisses the back of her neck tenderly.

ARI (CONT'D)

You're a combative lover.

SIMONE

You love too hard.

Ari pulls out. He can't believe what he's heard.

SIMONE (CONT'D)

Not that that's a bad thing. It's just I don't wanna open up to you, that way, yet. I just -not all dark corners need light, Ari.

Beat.

ARI

I don't need to know everything, but I want to know who or what hurt you.

SIMONE

Take me home. We can talk another time.

ARI

When is another time? Because if the thing that's hurting you is why we can't call this what it is, then we're never going to have "us."

Simone stays quiet. Ari moves back to the driver's seat.

Simone stays in the backseat.

Ari pulls out of the parking space and takes her home.

INT. BEDROOM. SIMONE'S APARTMENT - DAY

Simone lies in bed, her room is clean, her clothes are neatly stacked, and everything is in place. Even her bed is clear, except for the comforter covering her body.

Simone sighs. She checks her phone notifications, there are only messages from Diara, Luka, her Mom, Dad, and other random people. She scrolls to find Ari. He hasn't texted back in 2 weeks.

Simone rolls out of bed and walks out of her room.

EXT. SIDEWALK - DAY

Ari rides a Lime Scooter down the sunny path and clear sidewalk. He smiles to himself. Tears stream down his face. He laughs.

His exasperated breaths come as just laughs. He's hysterical.

EXT. BEACH - EVENING

The sun is setting, the waves are calm, and the sky is a rich deep red and orange color.

Simone takes a drink of her "water." She watches the sun fall and go to rest.

Walking along the beach is Ari, he looks at the semi-stillness of the waves. He sees Simone, sitting on the beach drinking.

Simone turns and sees Ari standing there.

MONTAGE OF SIMONE AND ARI'S RELATIONSHIP

Now Playing: *BARCELONA* by **River Tiber**, or something similar.

- Ari's driving and Simone is rapping the words of a song in his ear. He smiles.

- Simone is bouncing on the beanbag chairs in her living room and Ari picks one up and smothers her.

- Ari holds a blindfolded Simone from behind as they're performing a tantric exercise. He caresses her hair and kisses her neck. He runs his fingers gently down her arms stimulating her.

- Simone barges into Ari's room and twerks in front of him in a Teddy Bear suit.

- Ari holds Simone and Luka holds Diara as they ride an amusement park ride.

OFF the excitement on Ari and Simone's faces as they move in for a kiss.

END OF MONTAGE

EXT. BEACH - NIGHT

Ari stands there taking a good look at her. Simone sits there, taking a good look at him.

The sound of the waves and retiring seagulls is all that we hear. They are in the along.

Ari walks past Simone and continues his walk.

Simone turns and faces the ocean. Now, it is night. The moon comes and takes the sun's place, apart but not far from one another.

THE END...