

ISOLATION
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INT. ROOM - UNKNOWN

RILEY's eyelids flicker before prying themselves apart. Her ears ringing and the room revolving around her, she slowly props herself up. Her hands examine beneath her. She twists herself up to observe her surroundings, but as she looks at the walls, she notices the distinct lack of a door.

RILEY
(quietly)
Where am I?

RILEY catches her breath as the room stops spinning around her. She makes her way onto her feet and stumbles over towards a wall. As she puts her hand to it, she hears a muffled heartbeat. She comes closer to the wall, and places her ear against it to hear the beating more clearly. As she does this, she places two fingers on her neck to feel her pulse, and realises that they're synchronised. The rate of the beating increases.

RILEY steps back from the wall slightly, without turning. She bangs on the wall with the side of her fist a couple of times, which instantly creates a piercing ringing that causes her to wince and clutch onto her head with both hands. As she opens her eyes, she notices yellow post-it note on the wall in front of her, with the word "Ouch!" scribbled on it in thick black marker. As the ringing grows louder, she pulls the note off of the wall and scrunches it up. Simultaneously, the ringing stops completely. She turns around with the post-it note in a fist - throwing it away from her - as she notices a beaten-up cardboard box in the middle of the room. The box is covered with poorly-drawn smiley faces scrawled in black marker.

RILEY gingerly approaches the box - breathing shakily. She slowly reaches down and lifts up the box to reveal a familiar old teddy bear lying face down.

RILEY (cont'd)
Barney?

She picks it up and strokes the matted fur on its back fondly. She runs her fingers along the belly of the old stuffed animal, and begins to turn it over to look at its face. As she turns it over, she sees that the eyes of the bear have been removed. Shocked, she throws it away into the abyss and steps away from it.

As she continues to slowly walk backwards, RILEY bumps into the wall behind her - causing her to exclaim aloud. She hears the same heartbeat; now beating more rapidly. She gasps and looks down as something hits her foot. At her feet lies a severed arm of the teddy bear. Another body part is thrown out of the void ahead of her, then another, and another. Finally, the torso (with the head attached) falls at her feet. She picks it up to see a note on its underside that reads "TIME TO GROW UP".

RILEY throws the bear to the floor and starts to bang repeatedly on the wall.

RILEY (cont'd)
(screaming)
Let me out! Please! Let me-

Flashes of darkness fill the room. When the lights turn back on, the wall in front of RILEY is covered with more post-it notes - all reading things like "NO ONE ELSE CAN HELP", "THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY" among other things.

RILEY turns away from the wall to see herself lying unconscious in the middle of the room. A few metres away from her own resting body is a knife. She slowly makes her way over to the knife and picks it up.

She looks down at her naive self. Her grip on the knife tightens. She knows what she has to do. She stares at the body - inspecting the closed eyes that once belonged to her. Her hands shake, but never waver. She raises the knife for the fatal blow.

CUT TO BLACK

INT. RILEY'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

RILEY wakes up, choking on her own breath...