

DON'T GO

by

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1 INT. MASTER BATHROOM - DAY 1

JAMES (35) stands in the bathroom doorway, numb, staring. He steps inside, hesitant, and unnecessarily tidies up the already immaculate space.

His eyes linger on the empty bathtub.

2 INT. KITCHEN - MORNING 2

James sits at the table, picking at his eggs.

EMILY (35) stands with her back to James, drying dishes.

The silence is palpable.

JAMES

A position opened up in the Denver office. I'm going to apply for it.

Emily doesn't acknowledge him. James picks at his eggs once more, then sets down his fork.

When Emily finally turns around, James is gone. She hears the soft SLAM of the front door.

3 INT. CAR - MORNING 3

James drives in silence. Here, in his sanctuary, his emotions creep closer to the surface.

He looks in the rearview mirror. He struggles to keep the breakdown at bay.

4 INT. OFFICE - MORNING 4

James stares at his computer screen, unable to focus, unable to move. He watches another minute tick by on the clock, not that it matters.

Nothing matters.

He opens his web browser and stares at the JOB APPLICATION screen. He hovers over the "Apply Now" button.

And then he closes the browser.

JESSICA (28) walks by his desk, pausing for the briefest moment. She's checking on him, her eyes full of concern.

If only there was something she could do...

(CONTINUED)

She moves on. James doesn't even notice her. He's staring out the window.

In the park below, he sees Emily, sitting at a table.

Waiting. Alone.

5 EXT. PARK - DAY 5

Wordlessly, James eats a packed lunch. Emily sits across from him. She speaks without looking up.

EMILY

I don't want to go.

James takes another bite. He doesn't look up either.

JAMES

I decided not to apply.

Emily nods.

From the window high above, Jessica watches the scene.

6 INT. CAR - EVENING 6

James drives home from work. The numb mask is back.

7 INT. CAR - EVENING 7

James sits in his driveway, the car turned off. He considers going inside, but doesn't move.

He peers out through the windshield, towards the house.

Emily's face stares back at him, half-hidden by a curtain. She releases the curtain and disappears.

James sighs and gets out of the car.

8 INT. KITCHEN - EVENING 8

James eats his dinner in silence.

Emily watches him. She's not eating. She doesn't even have a plate set.

The DOORBELL rings.

They exchange a look. James stands.

9 INT. FOYER - EVENING

9

James answers the door. Jessica is standing on the porch.

JESSICA

Hey.

JAMES

(flustered)

Hi.

An awkward moment.

JESSICA

Gotta minute?

James motions for her to come in.

Emily watches from down the hall, remaining silent.

10 INT. LIVING ROOM - EVENING

10

James and Jessica sit on the couch, not touching, but not too far apart. Just far enough.

JESSICA

You doing okay?

JAMES

Been better.

Jessica inches closer.

JESSICA

I know the timing isn't the best,
but... do you ever think about...
you know... getting back together?

JAMES

It was a mistake.

He rubs at the GOLD BAND on his ring finger.

JESSICA

You deserve to be happy.

She puts a hand on his knee. He doesn't move, doesn't react.

JESSICA (cont'd)

(crestfallen)

Maybe I shouldn't have-

James puts his hand on hers.

(CONTINUED)

Jessica smiles. She leans in and kisses him on the cheek.

She lingers, her lips searching for his. She kisses the corner of his mouth.

She pulls away, staring into his eyes.

11 INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT 11

James and Jessica are in bed, making love. James is beneath her, his hands around her waist.

Emily stands at the foot of the bed, watching.

James tries to ignore her, tries to focus on the beautiful woman in his arms.

He fights back tears.

12 INT. BEDROOM - MORNING 12

Jessica wakes, reaching for James. He's not there.

She looks around the room.

James stands in the bathroom doorway, wearing only his boxers, his back to the bed.

JESSICA
Morning. (beat) Is everything-

JAMES
Leave.

JESSICA
(confused)
I'm sorry?

JAMES
(furious)
GET OUT!

Jessica starts, frightened. She scrambles to gather her clothes and runs out of the room.

James stands perfectly still. He listens for the front door, for the familiar SLAM.

James lets the ensuing silence engulf him.

He steps into the bathroom.

13 INT. MASTER BATHROOM - MORNING 13

James is wearing his work clothes.

JAMES

Emily?

He sees her face first. Did she fall asleep in the bathtub?

Then he sees the POOL OF BLOOD on the floor beside the bathtub. It's still dripping from her fingertips.

James rushes to the bathtub. The water is crimson with Emily's blood. He pulls her limp body to his chest.

He's crying, panicked, broken.

JAMES (cont'd)

(begging)

No. Emily, please. No. Don't go.
Don't go. Don't go.

EMILY'S GHOST steps into the bathroom and looks down on James, cradling her lifeless form.

14 INT. BEDROOM - MORNING 14

James stands in the bathroom doorway. The memory fades.

Emily's ghost appears behind him, her face imploring.

She waits. He doesn't look at her. She turns to leave.

JAMES

Wait.

15 CUT TO BLACK 15

JAMES (V.O.)

Don't go.