

Chasing the Fall

Season 1

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Chasing the Fall - Season 1

Chasing the Fall - S01E01 - "Pillow Talk"

INT. BEDROOM

DOMINIQUE (25, LA DJ) and CLARA (25, NYC photographer) just finish having sex for the first time. It has happened quite unexpectedly. Clara after all has a long term boyfriend in New York. Dominique is quite satisfied with her performance. Clara is a bit shaken by the entire experience.

DOMINIQUE
Oh my god.

CLARA
Yeah ... yeah ... that ...

DOMINIQUE
Was great.

Dominique stretches for round 2. Clara checks her phone.

CLARA
What time is it? Oh, I have to go?

DOMINIQUE
Where?

CLARA
Um, home.

Clara puts on her clothes. She will not look at Dominique.

DOMINIQUE
Your flight's not until tomorrow.

CLARA
Today's not Sunday?

DOMINIQUE
No.

CLARA
(laughs nervously)
Those mojitos have me a little
loopy.

Dominique looks at her suspiciously.

DOMINIQUE
Are you ashamed of what we did
here?

CLARA
Noooooooooooooooooooo.

DOMINIQUE
Is it Frankie?

CLARA
Don't mention Frankie after what we
just did.

DOMINIQUE
Why not? Does Frankie have
supersonic ears all the way in New
York?

Clara stops to give her a death stare.

CLARA
Just don't.

Clara goes back to packing. Dominique tries a softer
approach.

DOMINIQUE
Are you surprised that it happened?

CLARA
A little. Aren't you?

DOMINIQUE
No.

CLARA
Do you see my other shoe?

DOMINIQUE
This has been building for months.

CLARA
It most certainly has not!

DOMINIQUE
Late night calls, long emails,
flirty texts. What did you think
we were doing?

CLARA
Building a friendship! Not a
fucking romance [whispers] an
affair ...

Dominique shakes her head in shock and disappointment.

DOMINIQUE
I thought I was forging an
emotional connection and you
thought what ... this was
summercamp.

CLARA
Kind of

DOMINIQUE
Oh my god, you're insane.

CLARA
What do you want me to say?

DOMINIQUE
I want you to say "Come back to
bed", "Fuck me again," "Let's stay
up all night and eat marshmallows."
I don't want you to say, "I had sex
with you by accident."

Clara's face says "my bad." Dominique loses it.

DOMINIQUE (CONT'D)
Are you serious?

CLARA
Not ... by accident ...

DOMINIQUE
I can't.

Dominique finds Clara's shoe.

DOMINIQUE (CONT'D)
You're all set.

Clara's reluctant to leave now that Dominique wants her gone.

CLARA
I'm sorry.

DOMINIQUE
No need.

CLARA
I don't want to leave it like this.
I don't want this to be the last
time we see each other.

DOMINIQUE
It won't. You'll call me when you
get a clue.

Clara leaves.

Chasing the Fall - S01E02 - "Frankie's Song"

INT. LOFT - NYC - NIGHT

Clara walks in front her long stand by flight from LA.
FRANKIE (30, PAINTER) - her boyfriend - is working intently
on his latest piece for his show. Clara is not in the mood.
She's been stewing and running Dominique's words in her head
for hours.

FRANKIE
Hey babe.

He goes in for a kiss hello, she dodges it and gives him a
dry kiss on teh cheek.

FRANKIE (CONT'D)
What's that all about?

CLARA
My flight was delayed. I'm tired.
I smell. I just want a shower.

She escapes his embrace to make her way to the bathroom. He
pulls her back to him.

FRANKIE
Oh, I like you stinky.

CLARA
Gross.

She makes her way to the bathroom. He winces because he
knows what she's going to find - a tub full painting
equipment.

CLARA (CONT'D)
What the fuck, Frankie?

FRANKIE
Sorry, I thought you were coming
home tomorrow.

Clara instantly surveys the apartment. It's a mess.

CLARA
The whole house is a mess.

Clara instantly starts cleaning.

FRANKIE

You sure have a bug up your butt.

CLARA

I'm cleaning up after you all the time like I'm your flipping mother.

FRANKIE

That's not true and you know it.

CLARA

Do I?

Frankie narrows his eyes and laughs a little.

FRANKIE

Are you picking a fight with me?

CLARA

No.

FRANKIE

You sure?

CLARA

I'm just tired.

FRANKIE

Uh-huh. Your mom called. She asked if we were coming up next weekend. I said yeah. You don't have anything planned do you?

CLARA

Not any more.

Frankie knows something's up. He goes to the calendar. Looks from Clara to the calendar and back.

FRANKIE

No, I've got 10 more days before Godzilla makes an appearance. What the hell is wrong with you?

CLARA

(sighs)

Nothing.

He pulls her into a hug.

FRANKIE

You just a grouchy puss?

She lays her head on his shoulder.

CLARA

Yes.

FRANKIE

Grouch on with your grouchy self.

He kisses her forehead. She raises her head to face him.

CLARA

I'm sorry.

FRANKIE

It's okay, Oscar.

He kisses her. She kisses back. He sticks his hand down her pants and she wigs out. She pushes him away harshly.

CLARA

Damn, Frankie. I don't want to have sex right now!

He looks around like there is an audience that is equally stunned as he is at her reaction.

FRANKIE

You ALWAYS want to have sex.

CLARA

Oh you own my vagina now? I'm always supposed to be in the mood for you? Is that it? Always open for business huh? Am I 7/11?

FRANKIE

You're losing it.

Clara storms over to the bed and takes her shirt off. She lays down on the bed w/ her legs open. Not sexy at all.

CLARA

Do me. Do me now.

FRANKIE

You're ridiculous.

CLARA

That not doing it for you?

Clara flips over doggy style.

CLARA (CONT'D)

How about now?

FRANKIE
That's not sexy.

Clara flips over sideways.

CLARA
How about now?

FRANKIE
No thank you.

She acts like she's on top.

CLARA
Now?

She starts moaning like a porn star fool.

CLARA (CONT'D)
Do me, do me big daddy. All I is
good for is a nice lay!

Frankie looks at her like she's crazy.

CLARA (CONT'D)
Can I take a goddamn shower now?

She goes into the bathroom. She's banging shit around like a fool. He is exasperated. What just happened here?

INT. BATHROOM

Clara takes all the stuff out of the tub and turns on the shower. But instead of getting undressed, she pulls out her cell and calls Dominique. She moves away from the door, sinks to the floor and talks in a whisper.

CLARA
I'm sorry. I freaked out. I was a
jerk. [Pause] No, no, no ... it was
wonderful.

Chasing the Fall - S01E03 - "I Hate Clara Fan Club"

EXT. CAFE - DAY

Dominique is sitting at a table talking on the phone to Clara in New York. Dominique's best friend ESTELLE (25, MODEL) walks up annoyed that she is on the phone. Dominique wraps up her call. She is quite giddy which only further annoys Estelle.

DOMINIQUE
Say it ... say you miss you me ...
I know you do.

Dominique smiles. Estelle looks at her like she's a fool.

DOMINIQUE (CONT'D)
Fuck him ... you're such a punk ...
when are you coming for the photo
shoot? Yeah, yeah Estelle's super
stoked about the shoot.

Estelle puts her 2 thumbs.

DOMINIQUE (CONT'D)
Shut up. Okay, I gotta go. Fuck
you then ... yeah yeah yeah bye.

Dominique hangs up the phone.

DOMINIQUE (CONT'D)
(smiling)
I hate Clara.

ESTELLE
Yeah, we should start a fan club.

DOMINIQUE
I told her you were giddy about the
shoot. I hope that was okay.

ESTELLE
I'm only giddy after 3 diet pills
at a cafe americana, but whatever.
The photos in her book were hot so
I'll let you speak for me this once
though you are using odd words to
express my enthusiasm. [Pause] What
was that?

DOMINIQUE
What?

ESTELLE
Why were you so nervous talking on
the phone to this girl? You're
freaking me out. You're tweaking.

DOMINIQUE
She drives me fucking crazy. I
don't know. She makes my palms
sweat.

ESTELLE
That's gross.

DOMINIQUE
You know what I mean. I think of
her and my heart beats out of my
chest. I'm afraid to say the wrong
thing, I don't want to scare her
away. She can be skittish.

ESTELLE
What is she a pony?

DOMINIQUE
Shut up.

ESTELLE
You're revving up to something.
Spit it out so I can get on with my
life.

Dominique struggles to say her words.

DOMINIQUE
I think I want to marry this girl.

Estelle looks at Dominique like she grew horns out of her
head.

DOMINIQUE (CONT'D)
I'm serious.

Estelle takes a big gulp of her coffee and looks wise and
otherwise.

DOMINIQUE (CONT'D)
I'm going to need some sort of
response.

Estelle thinks long before she speaks. She fidgets and
fondles her coffee cup.

ESTELLE
You're ready for a relationship ...
you.

DOMINIQUE
Yes.

ESTELLE
You've only known her 3 months.

DOMINIQUE
Sometimes that's all it takes.

Dominique sees where this conversation is heading, but it's too late. The train has already left the station.

ESTELLE

We were together 3 years .. and I use the term "together" loosely.

DOMINIQUE

I know.

ESTELLE

I didn't care about the other women. Really, I didn't. Just as long as you didn't fall in love with them.

DOMINIQUE

And I didn't.

ESTELLE

But this Clara?

Dominique bows her head. She does not want to have this conversation. She does not want to be there in the moment.

ESTELLE (CONT'D)

I see ... married ... wow ... okay.

Estelle gets up to leave.

DOMINIQUE

I'm sorry, I didn't think ...

ESTELLE

I couldn't eat for 3 weeks I was so nervous about proposing to you.

Dominique clams up.

ESTELLE (CONT'D)

I broke out in that weird rash. You don't even believe in marriage.

DOMINIQUE

I didn't.

ESTELLE

My dad would have paid for our wedding. It would have been beautiful. Autumn on the cape, the swans, yellow buttercream frosting. Honeymoon in Vail.

DOMINIQUE
Where is this going?

ESTELLE
Everything I wanted you to be with me, you are with this chick. This Clara.

DOMINIQUE
She changed the way I look at relationships.

ESTELLE
She possesses this power? Is this one of her many superpowers? Can she fly? Teleport? Keep you faithful?

DOMINIQUE
Can't you just be happy for me without turning this back to you, to us, our failings.

ESTELLE
Your failings.

Estelle starts to hyperventilate. She just had an epiphany about why she's acting this way.

ESTELLE (CONT'D)
Oh my god, I'm still in love with you. Fuck!

DOMINIQUE
I don't know what you want me to say. What am I supposed to do with that information?

ESTELLE
Respond!

DOMINIQUE
You're not going to get the response you want.

ESTELLE
You are such a bitch.

DOMINIQUE
Then why are we still friends?

ESTELLE
We're not.

Estelle finally makes her exit.

Chasing the Fall - S01E04 - "Vermont Sleeper Cell"

INT. NYC LOFT - BED

Clara is in bed alone. She hangs up the phone finishing a call with Dominique. Frankie comes out of the bathroom in boxer shorts still rubbing his eyes from sleep. He gets back in bed and spoons with Clara. This she allows. She is in a good mood.

FRANKIE

Why are you so smiley?

CLARA

No reason.

FRANKIE

Uh-huh.

CLARA

You, you make me happy.

FRANKIE

Do I?

CLARA

Yes.

FRANKIE

Where do you see us in 5 years?

CLARA

What?

FRANKIE

Where do you see us?

CLARA

I don't know.

FRANKIE

You never think about it.

CLARA

Not really.

FRANKIE

I see a dog, Vermont, an art gallery ... twins.

CLARA

Twin dogs.

FRANKIE
Babies ... a little you, a little
me.

CLARA
Are you high?

Frankie sniffs her shoulder.

FRANKIE
Yes.

CLARA
Let's just see where the road takes
us.

FRANKIE
Is the road taking us closer
together or farther apart.

Clara doesn't say anything. He turns her over.

FRANKIE (CONT'D)
Closer together, or farther apart.

CLARA
I don't know what that means.

Frankie is getting worked up.

FRANKIE
Are we on the same road, going in
the same direction or are we on two
different freeways in two different
states .. different countries.

CLARA
Hey, hey, hey calm down.

Clara kisses him softly.

CLARA (CONT'D)
We're on the same road.

She hugs him tight.

CLARA (CONT'D)
The same road. The road to Vermont.
We'll make our own maple syrup,
open a B&B and raise dalmatians.

FRANKIE
Babies.

CLARA
Dalmatian babies.

He laughs.

FRANKIE
Be serious.

CLARA
Frankie, I love you.

FRANKIE
I know.

CLARA
Nothing has changed.

FRANKIE
So, we're still partners in crime.

CLARA
Yes.

FRANKIE
Bonnie and Clyde.

CLARA
Yes.

FRANKIE
Thelma & Louise.

CLARA
Can I be Thelma?

FRANKIE
Yes, Louise is a better shot and a better driver.

CLARA
Brak and Zorak?

FRANKIE
Plantonic friends?

CLARA
With sex.

FRANKIE
That' not platonic. I'm Zorak, Brak is an idiot.

CLARA
Are you calling me an idiot?

FRANKIE

(laughs)

No ... you're cute and naive ...
just like Brak.

CLARA

That is not a compliment. Let's be
Spike and Vicious.

FRANKIE

Mortal enemies. I'm Spike, you're
Vicious.

CLARA

I think I would look good with
platinum silver hair.

FRANKIE

You'd look hideous.

CLARA

What are we going to do in Vermont?

FRANKIE

Be sleeper cell spies.

CLARA

You've really thought this out.

FRANKIE

You be Sid and I'll be Nancy.

CLARA

Doomed from the start.

He frowns in thought. Clara kisses him long and hard.

CLARA (CONT'D)

Stop worrying. You got me.

FRANKIE

JFK and Jackie O.

CLARA

I'll be Marilyn.

Frankie kisses on her neck as a pretext to making love.
Clara zones out. Frankie looks at her and she's back in the
game. She flips him over and she's on top. She nuzzles his
neck. His face is blank - something's wrong.

FRANKIE

(whispers)

You got me.

Chasing the Fall - S01E05 - "I Like Booty Cracks"

INT. PHOTOSTUDIO

Clara is photographing Estelle in her swimsuit. They are getting along peachy. Clara obviously doesn't know about the fight Estelle and Dominique had in the previous episode.

CLARA

Poke your butt out a little. Not too much.

ESTELLE

I don't want to sell my booty crack. I'm trying to sell the suit.

Clara laughs.

CLARA

I like booty cracks. I'd buy your booty crack. I'd buy 10.

Dominique walks in on this last statement. Her presence changes the entire tone of the room. She sucks all the positive energy. Estelle tenses up defensive. Clara is still sunny, not quite aware of what's going on.

DOMINIQUE

What's this?

CLARA

Hey babe.

Clara keeps taking photos of Estelle.

DOMINIQUE

Nice to see you guys getting along.

CLARA

What does that mean? You didn't think we'd get along.

Estelle doesn't say anything, her face says it all.

CLARA (CONT'D)

Relax your face for me.

DOMINIQUE

Yesterday, Estelle was president of the "I Hate Clara Fan Club"

Clara laughs. She thinks it's a joke.

CLARA

Really?

No one else is laughing. Clara stops taking pictures. She looks from Estelle to Dominique.

CLARA (CONT'D)

What's going on?

ESTELLE

Yeah. What is going on?

DOMINIQUE

You tell her.

ESTELLE

Tell her what? That we used to fuck.

CLARA

Is that true?

DOMINIQUE

Don't listen to her. She's still in love with me.

CLARA

Is THAT true?

Estelle says nothing. Dominique says nothing. Clara walks out. Dominique follows.

INT. HALLWAY

Dominique catches up to Clara. Clara turns around furious.

CLARA

What the hell. What is this? Who is she to you?

DOMINIQUE

She used to be my best friend.

CLARA

And lover.

DOMINIQUE

A long time ago.

CLARA

You sent me out on this job without telling me that?

DOMINIQUE

You're in a relationship with
someone else!

CLARA

That's not fair.

DOMINIQUE

No. No, it's not fair. It's not
fair that I'm the only one that's
faithful in this relationship and I
get reamed for some chick I used to
sleep with before we met.

CLARA

I'm not having this conversation
with you right now.

DOMINIQUE

Then when? When are we going to
have THAT conversation?

CLARA

When you grow the fuck up.

Clara walks away.

Chasing the Fall - S01E06 - "Back to New York"

INT. LOFT

Clara is sitting on the bed looking at prints. She is not in
an especially good mood. Frankie is finishing up a painting.
They are listening to music.

Clara's phone keeps ringing. She doesn't even look at it who
it is, she kicks it to voicemail. This happens repeatedly
which annoys Frankie to no end. It's Dominique and Clara
knows it. She has no desire to talk to her. Her phone rings
again.

FRANKIE

Answer your damn phone.

Clara gives him the stink eye. She kicks it to voicemail and
it rings again while in her hand. He's not backing down.
She answers still looking at him.

CLARA

What do you want?

DOMINIQUE

You left your camera in LA.

CLARA
FedEx it to me.

DOMINIQUE
I'm sorry.

CLARA
For what?

DOMINIQUE
I should have told you.

CLARA
Yes, you should have.

Frankie's listening. Something is off about this conversation.

DOMINIQUE
You can't get jealous of Estelle
and you're fucking Frankie in New
York.

CLARA
Anything else?

DOMINIQUE
He's right there isn't he.

CLARA
Yes.

DOMINIQUE
I miss you.

CLARA
As you should.

DOMINIQUE
Come back to LA. Save me some
shipping.

CLARA
What's in it for me?

DOMINIQUE
I have an event I'm spinning for.
I'm hot shit if you didn't know.

CLARA
Not convinced.

DOMINIQUE
No drama. We can chill and hang
out and have sex.

CLARA
I'm hanging up now.

DOMINIQUE
Seriously. We can talk.
Uninterrupted. No Frankie, no
Estelle. Just us. I'll tell you
everything.

CLARA
I don't know.

DOMINIQUE
Come on. I don't want to do this
over the phone.

Silence.

DOMINIQUE (CONT'D)
I fucked up. Let me make it right.

CLARA
And you think you can do that?

DOMINIQUE
Is that a yes?

CLARA
Maybe.

DOMINIQUE
I miss you.

CLARA
Sure, sure. Good-bye.

Clara hangs up on Dominique before she can respond. Frankie
definitely heard that last part.

FRANKIE
Who was that?

CLARA
Work.

FRANKIE
That didn't sound like work.

Clara snuggles up behind Frankie while he's painting. She
kisses the nape of his neck.

CLARA

What does work sound like?

FRANKIE

I'll tell you what it doesn't sound like. It doesn't sound like you on the phone with some other dude.

CLARA

That was a work thing. What's gotten into you?

FRANKIE

What's gotten into me? You're moody, you're secretive, you're whispering into the phone.

CLARA

It's just work.

FRANKIE

Everytime I fuck you your eyes are million miles away.

CLARA

They are not.

FRANKIE

You used to scratch my back and bite my neck and now I barely get a goddamn whimper.

CLARA

The sex is still good.

FRANKIE

Oh, I know I'M still good. You barely look me in the face anymore like you're afraid I will find some evidence there of something you don't want me to know. What the hell is going on?

CLARA

Nothing.

FRANKIE

Who the hell was that on the phone?

CLARA

Dominique.

FRANKIE

Dominique? Not Domingo or Donovan
or Don Juan DeMarco?

CLARA

Dominique. She wants me to come to
LA.

FRANKIE

To hang out with your new man.

CLARA

To shoot her show. I don't have a
new man.

FRANKIE

You barely have an old one.

Frankie goes into the bathroom and shuts the door.

Chasing the Fall - S01E07 - "Jealous Bitch Dance Party"

INT. CLUB

Dominique and Clara are in a hot night club. Dominique
maning the DJ booth. Clara is in the crowd dancing and being
supportive. Estelle is in the wings.

INT. LIVING ROOM

Dominique and Clara are lying on the floor in a sea of
pillows. A very romantic intimate scene. They snuggled up,
listing to music and sharing.

DOMINIQUE

What lie did you tell Frankie to
get back to LA?

CLARA

Does it matter?

Dominique hands her a burned CD.

DOMINIQUE

I made you a mixtape.

Clara laughs.

CLARA

I didn't know it was 1993.

Dominique pouts. Clara laughs even harder. She takes the CD
and reads the play list. She stops laughing.

CLARA (CONT'D)
I Know Places - Lykke Li

DOMINIQUE
It's kind of an apology gift.

CLARA
"Be Alone" - Childish Gambino,
Mansions on the Moon - "Love is
going to destroy me" ... subtle

INT. CLUB

Clara orders drinks at the bar. A dude tries to pick her up.
She's polite, but she's not flirting back.

INT. LIVING ROOM

DOMINIQUE
It's lame I know.

CLARA
No, its sweet. No one has ever
done that for me before.

DOMINIQUE
It's nothing.

CLARA
Frankie's idea of a gift is giving
head.

Dominique laughs.

DOMINIQUE
I'm sorry, that's not funny.

CLARA
No, it's not.

Clara gets sad.

DOMINIQUE
Tell me about him.

INT. CLUB

Clara drunkenly chats up people in line for the bathroom.

INT. LIVING ROOM

CLARA
He's a really talented artist. He
paints.
(MORE)

CLARA (CONT'D)

Sometimes its all consuming for him. I call it his mistress. I always know when he's been with her. She's territorial like that. Leaves her mark all over him.

DOMINIQUE

I'd love to see his work.

CLARA

I'll send you a piece so you can hang it over your couch. It can judge us while we have sex.

DOMINIQUE

That's creepy.

CLARA

Not as creepy as you asking to see his stuff.

INT. CLUB

Clara is dirty dancing in the middle of the dance floor with girls and guys. Dominique watches more than a little peturbed.

INT. LIVING ROOM

DOMINIQUE

I don't want to his "stuff." I was just curious about his art.

CLARA

Do you still see Estelle's "stuff."

Dominique bows her head.

DOMINIQUE

I was wondering when that was going to come up.

CLARA

I'm just saying, she must have some Grade A "stuff" to see.

DOMINIQUE

Her stuffs okay.

CLARA

Oh, I bet it's more than okay.

DOMINIQUE

It's not better than your stuff.

CLARA

Lies.

Dominique shakes her head seriously.

DOMINIQUE

It's about the girl attached to the stuff that makes the stuff good.

INT. CLUB

Estelle and Dominique are arguing at the DJ Booth. Estelle is pointing vigorously at Clara drunk dirty dancing on the dance floor. Dominique tells her it's none of her business.

INT. LIVING ROOM

CLARA

What happened to you two?

DOMINIQUE

We wanted different things.

CLARA

Like us.

DOMINIQUE

No, we want the same thing. One of us is just scared to want.

CLARA

What did she want?

DOMINIQUE

Me.

CLARA

And what did you want?

DOMINIQUE

You.

CLARA

You didn't even know me then.

DOMINIQUE

But I knew you existed.

CLARA

Be serious.

DOMINIQUE

I wanted someone who didn't like me as much as I like them.

Clara gets uncomfortable.

CLARA
Is that what you think you have
with me?

Dominique smiles a sad smile.

INT. CLUB

Clara is now making out with RANDOM people in front of a
fuming, working Dominique.

INT. LIVING ROOM

CLARA
Where did you just go? That sad
place.

DOMINIQUE
I don't know the address. I've
never been there before.

Clara runs her head through Dom's hair.

CLARA
I've got a present of you.

DOMINIQUE
Oh yeah.

Clara lowers her head into Dom's lap and starts unbuttoning
her pants.

CLARA
Yeah, it'll cheer you right up.

Dominique smiles, a little less sad.

Chasing the Fall - S01E08 - "Food Fight"

INT. LOFT KITCHEN - NIGHT

Clara steps out of the bathroom dressed to the 9s. Frankie
has the whole apartment set up romantic. Table for 2 with
candles. He's cooking dinner, pouring wine. Clara is
shocked and scared.

CLARA
I thought we were going out.

FRANKIE
I thought we would stay in.

Chasing the Fall - S01E07 - Food Fight

INT. NEW YORK LOFT KITCHEN - NIGHT

Clara steps out of the bathroom dressed to the 9s. Frankie has the whole apartment set up romantic. Table for 2 with candles. He's cooking dinner, pouring wine. Clara is shocked and scared.

CLARA

I thought we were going out.

FRANKIE

I thought we would stay in.

Clara picks up her wine glass and gulps it down. Frankie looks at her concerned.

FRANKIE (CONT'D)

Shouldn't I be the nervous one?

Clara's paranoid.

CLARA

Why would you be nervous?

Frankie takes a healthy gulp from his glass.

FRANKIE

No reason.

INT. CALIFORNIA KITCHEN - DAY

Dominique is in the kitchen cooking eggs pissed. Clara stumbles in still drunk. She's a vampire - shying away from the sun, but she's in good spirits - she remembers nothing of last night.

CLARA

Ooo eggs.

Dominique gives her the death stare. Puzzled, Clara steals some eggs off the plate. Dominique throws the pan into the sink.

CLARA (CONT'D)

Something wrong.

DOMINIQUE

You tell me.

CLARA

Sorry, I got a little drunk last night.

INT. NEW YORK LOFT - NIGHT

Frankie shows Clara to her seat at the table. She looks like lamb being escorted to slaughter. She sits. He massages her shoulders which makes her even more tense.

FRANKIE

Relax.

CLARA

What is all this?

Frankie plates the bruscetta.

FRANKIE

We've been off lately. This is me trying to put things back into balance.

Clara plays innocent.

CLARA

Off?

Frankie looks unamused.

FRANKIE

Off.

INT. CALIFORNIA KITCHEN - DAY

Dominique's phone rings. She immediately kicks it to voice mail without looking to see who it is.

DOMINIQUE

That's not all you did.

CLARA

What?

DOMINIQUE

You seriously don't remember.

CLARA

Honey, I don't remember what I did last week. Was it that bad?

DOMINIQUE

It wasn't good.

INT. NEW YORK LOFT - NIGHT

Frankie brings the plate to Clara and returns to the kitchen. They can't occupy the same space anymore. Clara shoves tomato bread in her mouth.

CLARA
This is good.

Frankie smiles weakly.

FRANKIE
Do you not love me anymore?

Clara almost chokes on her bread.

CLARA
No! I mean yes. Of course I love you.

He pours her another glass of whine.

FRANKIE
What is it then? Are you not happy?

She looks up into his face sadly.

CLARA
Ecstatic.

FRANKIE
Am I not attentive enough? Too attentive?

CLARA
Just right.

INT. CALIFORNIA KITCHEN - DAY

Phone rings. Clara picks up Dom's cell. It's Estelle. Clara gets angry.

CLARA
What is Estelle calling you for?

Dom snatches her phone.

DOMINIQUE
Probably to see how I'm doing.

CLARA
And how are you doing?

DOMINIQUE

You made out with anyone with lips
last night ... in front of me ...
at my job ... all night. And there
was nothing I could do about it -
without getting fired or causing
serious damage to my reputation.

INT. NEW YORK LOFT - NIGHT

Frankie kneels beside her and stares deeply into her eyes.

FRANKIE

Is ... is there someone else?

Long pause. Her eyes well up in tears.

CLARA

I could search the moon and stars
and not find another you.

One lonely tear streams down his face.

FRANKIE

No one.

She shakes her head no.

INT. CALIFORNIA KITCHEN - DAY

Clara is stunned. No memory.

DOMINIQUE

Guys ... girls .. I should have
left you there. Estelle, told me
to leave you there. But you were
too gone. I didn't want to get a
call in the morning saying that you
were in the hospital finishing up a
rape kit. Or worse, a call from the
police saying that they found your
body. Though that call would have
probably gone to Frankie. Well, I
didn't want that hanging over my
head all night just the same. So,
I brought you home so you would be
safe. You look safe to me. Get
out.

Clara has already started to cry.

INT. NEW YORK LOFT - NIGHT

Frankie pulls a small box out of his pocket. Her breath catches in her throat. She backs out of her chair afraid. He is undeterred.

FRANKIE
You're in love.

CLARA
Yes.

FRANKIE
It's written all over your face.

She kisses him lightly.

INT. CALIFORNIA KITCHEN

CLARA
I'm sorry ... I didn't ... I don't
know what to say.

Dominique packs all of Clara's stuff.

DOMINIQUE
There is nothing to say. Go home.

CLARA
I don't want to go home ... I ... I
love you.

INT. NEW YORK LOFT

FRANKIE
And it's not with me.

CLARA
What?

INT. CALIFORNIA KITCHEN

Dominique scoffs.

DOMINIQUE
Love? No, I love you ... love-d
you. You don't love me. You love
you.

CLARA
Can't we talk about this?

DOMINIQUE
I'm all talked out. Your actions
spoke loud enough.

Dominique goes and opens the door and throws Clara's bags
outside.

INT. NEW YORK LOFT

Clara starts to shake in fear.

CLARA
I love only you. I swear to god.

FRANKIE
Prove it. Will you marry me?

Clara's face is panic stricken. (POV Frankie, start low angle
on the ground and stand up and move in like he's approaching
her, closing in on her) FADE OUT.

INT. CALIFORNIA KITCHEN

Dominique guides Clara into the hallway.

CLARA
What does this mean? What is this
Dominique?

DOMINIQUE
This is me breaking up with you.

Dominique slams the door. Last frame on Clara's face side by
side with last shot of previous scene.