

# UNCERTAINTY

Written by  
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EXT. STREET - DAY

A pair of feet ride a skateboard down the street. They step hard and aggressively. LEO (18) wears headphones, looking straight ahead while kicking the ground.

NICK (O.S.)

...I know that you know what's been going on. And... I don't know, like, I asked you about it before, and-

Over the voice, we hear the same voice on top. And then another.

INT. DORM ROOM - NIGHT

NICK (18) sitting in a dorm room, talks to someone off screen. Cutting from one part of the spiel to another, all while all the voices overlap.

NICK (CONT'D)

So we went out downtown last weekend, I told a little about it already, but, um... we grabbed some coffee,

NICK (CONT'D)

And I feel like that's just part of being at a place where everything is just a self contained vacuum, we grow so close so quickly,

NICK (CONT'D)

And we both know we only have like three months-

NICK (CONT'D)

I don't really know what changed, just from a certain point she just seemed different. Like I saw her differently. I don't know. I was really happy,

NICK (CONT'D)

But I just want to make it clear, you know. I want to know that you're okay with it.

NICK (CONT'D)

I think I'm really falling for her.

NICK (CONT'D)

I want to be just upfront about it.

Leo sits in front of Nick, listening, dazed and speechless. He lets the words fall on him.

NICK (CONT'D)

So... I think I'm gonna ask her out tomorrow.

EXT. STREET - BACK

Leo LAUNCHES off the skateboard and lands on the ground, rolling down the concrete. His headphones fly away and his board flies back.

He dusts himself off and slowly sits up.

TITLE CARD: 30 DAYS TO GRADUATION

EXT. PATIO - MORNING

Leo and Nick sit on chairs, holding a cup of coffee each. The morning is still rolling in with some fog in the distance.

They sit in silence admiring the view. Leo breaks the silence.

LEO

Plans for today?

NICK

I got class at 10, probably gonna do some work during my free period after lunch. Block, dinner, then probably hang out with Maisie.

LEO

Are you going out for groceries?

NICK

Maybe. You?

LEO

Yeah.

NICK

I'll see if Maisie wants to. She might be busy.

LEO  
I know Frank's going with us.

NICK  
Nice.

They sip their coffee. It's not an awkward silence, but a familiar and comfortable one.

LEO  
How's that going?

NICK  
It's nice. Really nice.  
(pause)  
I'm really happy.

LEO  
That's good.

NICK  
I finally feel like I'm doing something right, you know?

LEO  
Yeah.

Another silence falls. This time it's heavier - not so comfortable.

NICK  
Am I making a mistake?

LEO  
I don't know.

NICK  
I'm not doing long distance.

LEO  
Does she know?

NICK  
We've talked about it.

LEO  
Does she agree?

NICK  
As much as she can, I think.

INT. GROCERY STORE - EVENING

Nick drives a cart full of ginger ale. Frank walks by him, trying to find some chips. Leo, down the aisle, looks through the sodas.

NICK

And she started texting me one day. Just about calc stuff, and we just started talking more. So like a month of this passes.

Leo's gaze start to lose focus as he starts to eavesdrop.

NICK (CONT'D)

And I'm thinking, fuck. I can't just let this pass. Like I'll regret this forever.

FRANK

I remember this.

NICK

Yeah, I was freaking out at Jess. You were there.

FRANK

(laughing)  
Yeah.

NICK

So, I started spending actual time with her, and we went downtown a couple times, did homework together, all that shit. And I was like, she's having fun, you know? Like she actually enjoyed spending time with me. Like, she seemed happy.

CUT TO:

EXT. WATERFRONT - EVENING

No sound.

Maisie is in tears.

NICK (V.O.)

So I decided that I was gonna ask her out. I couldn't not.

Leo sits next to Maisie, at a loss for words.

LEO

I'm sorry. I know it seems...  
sudden...

Leo tries his best to find the right words.

NICK (V.O.)

We start talking about stuff. About  
stuff from our childhood, we got  
really intimate. And I say, hey, I  
really like you.

LEO

I don't know, I... I feel like I'm  
entering a new chapter in my life,  
and I don't want... to... It  
doesn't feel right to drag this  
into it.

MAISIE

Am I a burden? Is this weighing you  
down?

LEO

Not like that, it's... Fuck. I need  
more time. I just need time, to be  
able t- It's senior year. There's  
college shit, there's new friends  
and old friends and Nick, and... I  
just need more time to... live  
that.

NICK (V.O.)

She says I like you too, but she  
kinda goes quiet, so I'm like,  
what's wrong?

Maisie's tears start to quiet down. She sniffles through her  
words.

MAISIE

I get it. And I want to be okay  
with it. I want to be a good  
person, and- and- I just don't get  
it.

LEO

You don't have to be.

MAISIE

How long have you felt like this?

LEO  
... I don't know.  
(pause)  
I just feel like things are  
different now.

NICK (V.O.)  
She was scared. We have like a  
couple months left together.

MAISIE  
Do you remember when you used to  
tell me,

NICK (V.O.)  
So I told her that this feels  
right. Right now. And what comes  
after is maybe inevitable, so maybe  
we should just be happy now. We're  
here now.

LEO  
Yeah.

MAISIE  
We're here now, aren't we?

LEO  
...I still love you.

CUT BACK TO:

INT. GROCERY STORE - BACK

NICK  
And she said...

Nick pauses to really remember what she said.

NICK (CONT'D)  
Okay. I'm here.

Leo grabs a box of Canada Dry and brings it over to the cart.

NICK (CONT'D)  
You're not getting Reeds?

LEO  
I don't like them.

NICK  
HOW? HOW?

LEO  
It's too gingery for me-

NICK  
No. We're putting this shit back,  
and getting some REAL ginger ale  
for you.

LEO  
I don't like them-

NICK  
I didn't either at first! But once  
it grows on you, it's the best  
thing.

Nick comes back with two four-packs of bottled ginger ale.

EXT. GROCERY STORE - LATER

The three guys sits on the curb of the grocery store with  
their bags of stuff. They laugh and yell.

INT. CAFETERIA - NIGHT

Leo sits at a booth with a large group of friends. It's loud,  
cacophonous, and energetic.

Leo looks across the room to Nick and Maisie sitting  
together.

Nick kisses Maisie on the forehead.

MATCH CUT TO:

INT. DORM ROOM - NIGHT

Leo kisses Maisie on the forehead.

They touch foreheads.

They kiss. Slow. Tender. Soft.

They part, still touching foreheads.

LEO  
(softly)  
I have to go soon.

MAISIE  
You can be a little late.



LEO  
I really have to go.

MAISIE  
I have to go too.

LEO  
So we should go.

MAISIE  
But we don't have to. For a little  
bit.

LEO  
(worriedly)  
We have five minutes.

MAISIE  
(assuringly)  
We have five minutes.

They kiss again. She blows into his mouth, throwing him off.

LEO  
(laughing)  
This isn't gonna work, is it?

MAISIE  
That's entirely your decision.

MATCH CUT TO:

INT. DORM ROOM - NIGHT

The full frame is now empty.

Leo sits on the floor, alone.

INT. DORM ROOM - LATER

A dark room with only the computer screen lighting Leo and Nick. They watch a movie.

Leo turns his head to see Nick.

He's sound asleep in his chair.

Leo pauses the movie.

He watches him for a moment. With loving eyes, like he's a sleeping baby. His eyes turn low. They fall with melancholy.

LEO

Nick.

He doesn't move.

Leo gently taps him on the legs.

LEO (CONT'D)

Nick.

Nick wakes up. He rubs his eyes.

NICK

What'd I miss?

LEO

A lot.

Nick recomposes himself.

LEO (CONT'D)

Wanna finish it later?

NICK

Yeah.

Leo turns the computer off and turns on the desk light.

A calm, quiet silence. Only the sound of their presence. They talk quietly and effortlessly.

LEO

... Did I ever tell you why I broke up with Maisie?

NICK

A little, I think.

Leo slowly gathers the words.

LEO

I think I was scared.

(pause)

Of the real breakup.

NICK

What do you mean?

LEO

It had to at some point, right?

(pause)

I think I couldn't face that. So I took it to my own hands.

His eyes oscillate between Nick's eyes and the floor.

LEO (CONT'D)

Like killing myself because I was  
scared of death.

Nick hesitates.

NICK

Are you not over her?

LEO

I am, it's just... I don't have a  
resolution. I left before the end,  
so there is none.

His words pierce Nick.

NICK

Am I making a mistake? Breaking up  
with her when graduation comes?

Leo doesn't have an answer.

NICK (CONT'D)

Am I leaving her before it really  
ends?

LEO

What would that end even be? Like  
it was with Abby?

NICK

But she's not Abby. You know that.

LEO

How?

NICK

I wasn't in love with Abby.

LEO

And you love Maisie?

NICK

Yes.

LEO

You love her or are you in love  
with her?

NICK

What's the difference?

LEO  
I love Maisie. I'm not in love with  
Maisie. I love you. I'm not in love  
with you.

NICK  
What would you do?

CUT TO:

TITLE CARD: 20 DAYS TO GRADUATION.

EXT. BUILDING - NIGHT

Leo makes out with a girl that we haven't seen yet, SAM (17).

It's intense. It's intimate. She's up against a wall as he  
runs his hands around her body.

SMASH CUT TO:

EXT. PATIO - MORNING

Leo sits alone in the patio with a bottle of Reeds ginger  
ale.

An empty chair sits next to him.

MAISIE (V.O.)  
Where is he?

EXT. PATIO - NIGHT

Leo sits in one of the chairs while Maisie sits on a column  
base. They both hold Reeds.

LEO  
I think he's still at dinner.

MAISIE  
Tell his ass to come over here.

LEO  
You do it.

MAISIE  
You're right.

She pulls her phone out and begins typing. Leo turns to the  
view and starts sipping his ale.

MAISIE (CONT'D)  
So, how'd it go with that girl?

LEO  
Sam? It was weird.

MAISIE  
Elaborate?

CUT TO:

EXT. BUILDING - BACK

Leo and Sam kiss passionately.

They slowly separate. Leo speaks quietly, still only an inch away from her.

LEO  
Hey, I think you should know that  
I'm not looking for anything  
serious.

SAM  
...Who said I did?

Leo inches back a little.

LEO  
... I just thought you should know.

SAM  
I don't think you need to tell me  
that.

LEO  
I'm just trying to be clear here.

SAM  
Don't you think you're jumping the  
gun a little?

LEO  
I-

He loses his words.

She looks down, then slips away from him.

SAM  
I think we should call it a night.

LEO

Okay.

She walks away.

He stands there alone in the dark. He wipes his lips.

MAISIE (V.O.)

He says he'll be here in like 5 minutes.

EXT. PATIO - BACK

LEO

I don't even really know what happened.

MAISIE

I think she was just hurt.

LEO

Did I do something?

MAISIE

I don't think so. It's just... maybe she thought it could have been something serious.

LEO

We have like three weeks.

MAISIE

But still. Or maybe she also didn't want anything serious. Like she was just as scared as you-

LEO

I'm not scared.

MAISIE

-And seeing her own fear in you scared her.

LEO

I'm not scared.

MAISIE

We all are.

Leo pauses. He's trapped.

LEO

Where's Nick?

MAISIE

He's coming.

(pause)

What's up?

LEO

Nothing. I just haven't seen him  
much lately.

MAISIE

You guys are out here every  
morning.

LEO

... He's with you most of the time.

MAISIE

(teasingly)

Are you jealous?

LEO

(laughing)

No. You guys have the right to  
spend time together.

Maisie lets this hit her.

MAISIE

Yeah...

LEO

Sorry.

MAISIE

No, it's fine-

LEO

I know you don't want to think  
about it.

MAISIE

How can't I? It's all we ever think  
about. All of us.

Leo drops his gaze.

MAISIE (CONT'D)

I know you're hurting.

(pause)

You guys say "we're here now" like  
it means something. Like it's not  
just you guys trying to convince  
yourselves.

Leo's eyes fall to the ground and they build a little home there.

LEO  
I am here.

MAISIE  
No you're not.  
(pause)  
I see you trying to run. You don't want to be here.

LEO  
... I'm sorry.

MAISIE  
We can be here. I'm here.

Nick comes in through the lobby door behind them.

NICK  
I'm here. What's up?

Maisie smiles at Leo.

Leo starts laughing. Maisie starts laughing.

NICK (CONT'D)  
What? What'd I miss?

MAISIE  
Nothing.

LEO  
Nothing.

NICK  
Okay...?  
(turns to Leo)  
How was Sam?

LEO  
Weird.

NICK  
Elaborate?

Leo smiles at Maisie. She smiles back.

EXT. WATERFRONT - LATER

On a picnic table, the three sit eating dinner.

They talk about the things they plan on selling away at the end of the year. Things that meant a lot to them but no one else- their furniture, speaker systems, clothes, instruments, souvenirs, memories.



INT. BUS - EVENING

Leo sits in the bus with his arms slung over the seat in front of him, where Nick and Maisie sit.

They talk and laugh.

The sunset shines through the window into their hair.

EXT. MALL - LATER

Nick and Leo sit in an empty shopping cart while Maisie pushes them around in a parking lot.

EXT. WOODS - NIGHT

Under a lone light in the woods sit a pair of swings and a picnic table.

Leo sits in the swing while Nick sits on the table. They both hold a bottle of ginger ale.

LEO  
So he has edibles?

NICK  
Yeah.

LEO  
Do we pay him?

NICK  
I think it's like 40?

LEO  
We'll give him a 50.

NICK  
That'll probably do it.

LEO  
So it's a plan. When?

NICK  
Prom night.

LEO  
Yesssss.

NICK  
It's gonna be amazing.

Nick takes a sip from the ginger ale.

NICK (CONT'D)  
Remember when you hated these?

Leo smiles.

LEO  
Yeah. Remember when I hated you?

NICK  
(laughing)  
Yeah. What a time.

LEO  
You were an ass.

NICK  
YOU were an ass.

LEO  
We were both terrible. But you  
started it all.

NICK  
No, you're the one who went all emo  
on me. I was just sad on my own.

LEO  
I was just trying to care.

NICK  
I know.

LEO  
That's what being a friend is. You  
were going through shit, I'm  
supposed to be there for you. But  
you didn't let me in.

NICK  
I know. But you were a dick about  
caring.

LEO  
Yeah.

NICK  
You still cared though.

LEO  
I try.

NICK  
You're still a dick.

LEO  
You too.

They smile.

LEO (CONT'D)  
Where were you this morning?

NICK  
Breakfast with Maisie.

LEO  
Okay.

NICK  
I'm sorry.

LEO  
You're fine.

NICK  
So during breakfast, she-

LEO  
(cutting him off)  
So is it over?  
(pause)  
The morning coffees?

NICK  
... It's been a while. We can bring  
it back.

LEO  
We don't have to.

NICK  
We can. We still have like three  
weeks, right?

Leo finishes his bottle.

LEO  
Yeah.

He throws the bottle deep into the woods.

CUT TO:

TITLE CARD: 10 DAYS TO GRADUATION.

EXT. PATIO - MORNING

Leo sits alone with a bottle of Reeds. An empty chair next to him.

EXT. PATIO - EVENING

Leo stands on his skateboard, trying to do an ollie. He keeps getting close, but he still needs time.

Maisie walks down the street in front.

LEO

Hey.

MAISIE

Have you seen Nick?

LEO

I though he was with you.

MAISIE

I can't find him.

She walks up the grass. Leo sits down on his board.

LEO

What?

MAISIE

He was acting weird, and I was trying to comfort him, then he just dropped. Didn't answer my texts, calls, FaceTime-

LEO

Is he okay?

MAISIE

I don't know. All he said was he has to go and that he was sorry.

LEO

Oh fuck.

Leo gets up from his board.

MAISIE

I thought you'd know where he was.

LEO

I do.

He runs off with his skateboard.

EXT. STREET - CONTINUOUS

Leo skates down the street in lightning speed.

INT. OUTDOOR AUDITORIUM - LATER

Leo walks down the aisle of a huge open auditorium, out of breath. The setting sun shines through the windows onto the stage, where Nick lays.

LEO  
(yelling)  
Nick!

Nick sits up.

Leo gets closer to the stage.

LEO (CONT'D)  
What's up?

He jumps onto the stage and stands next to Nick.

NICK  
Not much.

LEO  
Not much? Are you okay?

NICK  
Yeah. Why?

LEO  
"I'm sorry"? Maisie couldn't reach  
you at all. She was fucking  
worried.

NICK  
Oh. I left my phone in my room.

LEO  
So what happened?

NICK  
Nothing. I was just in a mood.

LEO  
Well it sounded like you were gonna  
kill yourself.

Nick laughs.

LEO (CONT'D)  
What happened?

Leo sits down next to him.

Nick looks away from Leo onto the audience seats.

NICK  
I was working on my graduation  
speech. I can show it to you later.

LEO  
Why was she worried?

NICK  
I was just spaced. I just had a lot  
going through me.  
(pause)  
This is gonna be the last prom  
night of our lives. This stage  
right here. We'll be walking down  
here and that's gonna be it. That  
day, I'll kiss Maisie one last time  
and that's gonna be the last one.  
We're gonna go to college, and  
we'll never be here right now.  
Everything right now just feels  
like a distant memory. Like I'm  
looking at these hallways and these  
people, and this stage right now  
like it's already gone. We're never  
gonna be the same.  
(pause)  
And I don't know if I'm ready.

Leo turns his eyes from Nick to the audience seats. The sun's  
almost done setting.

He turns back to Nick. He punches him in the arm.

NICK (CONT'D)  
What?!

LEO  
Nope. Not a memory. Had to test it  
out.

Nick starts chuckling.

He punches Leo back.

LEO (CONT'D)

Ah! Fair.

They look onto the seats together.

INT. DORM ROOM - DAY

Leo and Nick put on their suits for prom. Nick helplessly fails at tying his tie, so Leo ties it around his neck and hands it over.

They spray cologne on each other.

EXT. CAMPUS - LATER

Leo, Nick, and Maisie all stand together as someone takes a picture of them.

They go around taking pictures with all of their various friends.

CUT TO:

INT. DORM ROOM - NIGHT

A tiny zip-lock bag with a couple gummy bears sit on the floor.

Leo and Nick laugh their asses off.

LEO

So last night I had this dream,  
right? I'm on a bus, and I'm  
reading a marine biology magazine.  
And one of the articles say "This  
inbred horse is the frog of frogs."

They start laughing so hard they can't breath.

LEO (CONT'D)

First of all, why is this in a  
marine biology magazine? Neither of  
them are fishes!

NICK

Why were you reading a marine  
biology magazine in a bus?

LEO  
What is the frog of frogs?

SMASH CUT TO:

EXT. BATHROOM - NIGHT

The laugh is gone, and so is Nick's voice.

The bathroom door is creaked slightly open. Through a sliver, we see the tiles of the floor.

We hear the shower running.

After a bit, the shower shuts off, and wet footsteps make their way to the toilet.

Sounds of vomiting and pain. The toilet flushes.

The eyes of Leo fall into the sliver. He lies on the floor, wet and defeated, breathing hard. He stares into the ceiling.

INT. DORM ROOM - BACK

Leo and Nick sit on chairs.

Nick has his phone out.

NICK  
Okay. Ready?

LEO  
Yeah.

NICK  
Okay. It's not finished.  
(clears throat)  
This is my last day as a high schooler. Four years. Four years I spent at this place, and I don't regret a second of it. I look out at this audience and I see so many friends I made along the way, so many talented, smart, and unbelievably kind-hearted people.  
(pause)  
I wasn't sure if I could do this speech without crying. Because as much as people like to make fun and complain about the food, the cold, or the rules, I wouldn't be who I am now without this place.

(MORE)



NICK (CONT'D)

I've constantly moved from place to place and home to home. I would make friends that I'll know for a year and never again. Then I came here. And I found a home. And I found my lifelong friends.

(pause)

And now that it's time to move on and find another place, I don't know if I will ever find a place like this. If I'll ever meet people like I have here.

Nick stops abruptly.

LEO

Is that it?

NICK

It's not loading. I'll read the rest to you tomorrow.

LEO

God damn it.

NICK

But yeah. That's the start.

LEO

I love it.

Nick puts his phone away.

LEO (CONT'D)

... You'll come to New York, right?

NICK

Yeah. Of course.

LEO

We'll see each other again, right?

NICK

(reassuringly)

Yes.

LEO

We're not gonna fall out, right?  
We're not gonna forget each other,  
right?

NICK

(pleadingly)

... Yes.

Leo tries to say something. Anything.

Anything but -

LEO  
...I don't want to leave.

CUT TO:

TITLE CARD: GRADUATION

INT. DORM ROOM - DAY

Leo takes his gown and cap off and throws them on his empty bed. He puts his diploma on top.

He sits amidst the giant mess of almost-packed belongings.

EXT. WATERFRONT - DAY

Nick and Maisie sit on a bench, facing each other. They don't say a word. Their eyes pierce each other's like they're digging deep to hide treasures within.

NICK  
My parents are waiting.

MAISIE  
You should go.

NICK  
Okay. This is it.

MAISIE  
This is it.

They slowly kiss.

NICK  
Okay. One last kiss. Okay?

MAISIE  
Okay.

They kiss. They separate, foreheads still touching.

They kiss again.

Maisie begins to cry. She puts her hands around his shoulders. He wraps his around hers.

They kiss again.

NICK  
Okay. Last one.

They kiss.

They separate, then Maisie pulls him back in. He begins to cry.

Their hands caress each other, trying to store their silhouettes in their muscle memory.

MAISIE  
I love you.

NICK  
I love you.

MAISIE  
I love you.

NICK  
I love you.

MAISIE  
(choking)  
I love you.

NICK  
I love you.

They kiss again.

NICK (CONT'D)  
Last one.

He kisses her.

The kiss lasts all the way as a tear makes its way down to the chin, and to the floor.

They slowly separate.

He gets up, and hastily walks away as Maisie is left alone with her hands, finding nothing to hold onto.

INT. DORM ROOM - NIGHT

Leo and Nick sit on the floor of the half-empty room. Boxes and things are strewn around the room.

LEO  
You remember Gina Haines?

NICK  
Oh my god, yes. She was the best.

LEO  
I miss her.

NICK  
Remember Bella?

LEO  
OOOOOOOH.

NICK  
Freshman year was crazy.

LEO  
It was so wild. Remember the purge?

NICK  
Yeah. That feels so long ago.

LEO  
Yeah.

They look at each other. It hits them. It hits them hard.

Nick puts his head on the wall. Leo's eyes start to water a little.

They make eye contact. They laugh a bit. All this is too much for them to handle.

Leo moves over next to Nick.

He leans on Nick's shoulder. Nick puts his arm around Leo. Leo starts to break down. He hugs Nick.

Nick hugs Leo. He starts to slowly break down.

They hold each other on the floor.

CUT TO BLACK.