

Scene 3

Omar slides Emily's bed in and also a rocking chair next to it. Em climbs into the bed.

EM

Everything's okay.

Sometimes, I think it's not. Okay, I mean.

Sometimes, I kinda don't feel safe. Like, just out of eye line there's something watching. Seeing our happiness. Seeing our family. Leering.

But that's not real. Everything's okay. Under the glow of the TV I leave on for company, how could things not be okay?

Even if something is... watching... that's okay. It doesn't hurt to look. Lookin's free. Don't cost nothin'.

Omar starts to rock the creaky chair. She never looks at it.

EM

Everything's okay.

I don't need to look. Nothing's happening back there. Doesn't bother me.

Let's watch more TV. I just, don't want to think, ya know. I know we've watched like 8 episodes, but just one more. Please? I know how late it is, but... I'm not ready. One more. Please?

The chair stops.

EM

See? Everything's okay. It never wasn't. Just ignore it, and it'll go away. I don't have to deal with it. I mean, we all have to deal with unpleasantness in our lives from time to time. Some people are in abusive relationships. Some people have got it much harder than me. Most people, probably. Cuz, this isn't a real problem. Not really.

Omar rocks the chair more violently and creepy cartoon music accompanies it. Em covers her head with the sheet and rocks back and forth while she chants.

EM

(screaming)

DON'T FEEL! DON'T THINK! DON'T MOVE! DON'T FEEL! DON'T
THINK! DON'T MOVE! DON'T FEEL! DON'T FEEL! DON'T FEEL!

The chair stops. Silence. Em uncovers her head.

EM

And it's over. That's how you do it. Safe. Easy.
Effective. Nobody got hurt.

Everything's okay.

Blackout.

Scene 4

Diner. Penny enters and approaches Em.

PENNY

I'm sorry.

EM

I can't talk about this. Not right now.

PENNY

Do you believe me?

EM

I don't know. I just have to go. I have to pick up my
kids, okay?

PENNY

Are they with Mom?

EM

WHY?! Am I a bad Mom for leaving them there?

PENNY

...No, hun. I-

EM

I have to go.

Walking off.

EM

We'll talk soon!

Em exits.

Penny stands alone and Omar brings on a mic stand.