

CHANGE

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LYRICS BY CASEY LLEWELLYN & MICHAEL
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SCENE 1.

THE SOUND OF A PHONE RECORDER BEING
TURNED ON AND PUT ON A PIANO.

DAMIAN: It's Saturday. January 8th. You left yesterday, so...Break up
song.

DAMIAN PLAYS PIANO.

DAMIAN: (SINGING)

I never thought we'd be forever.

I never thought you'd be right there, grinning
and profound.

All these years my hope's been falling like a
falling like a feather.

I guess it finally found the ground.

You never asked me how my day was

That should have been a sign.

You wouldn't even say I love you

So why do I still feel yours by design?

Maybe if my heart hadn't skipped seeing you
across the bar

Maybe if I'd done more and cared less

Maybe if you hadn't left, my life could progress

Maybe...

Maybe....

Maybe yeah

(SPOKEN) So yeah, that's what I have so far.

A CRACKLING SOUND AS HE PICKS UP THE
PHONE AND STOPS THE RECORDING.

SCENE 2.

THE CRACKLE AND THUMPING OF DAMIAN
TURNING ON THE RECORDING AND PUTTING IT
DOWN HARD ON THE PIANO.

DAMIAN: Sunday the 12th. How do you like my breakup song now, Mark?

(SINGING)

You had my heart in your hand

And you crushed it like a tomato [or a grape]

I let you into my head

I let you into my bed

And now I'm bleeding, broken

Fuck you.

THE SOUND OF SCREECHING TEAPOT IN THE BACKGROUND.

DAMIAN: (SINGING)

Fuck the fucking old timey teapot you gave me!

Fuck being a tea person in a coffee guzzlers world!

I will melt the memory of you down to the dust that. you. are!

ANGRY PIANO EMPHASIS. SOMETHING DROPS.
DAMIAN PICKS IT UP AND HITS HIS HEAD ON THE WAY BACK UP.

DAMIAN: (LOUD) Fuck!

CRACKLING AS THE RECORDING IS STOPPED.

SCENE 3.

THE FAMILIAR CRACKLING OF TURNING ON
RECORDING. A SOFT SIGH.

DAMIAN: It's Tuesday after you left on Friday, so. And...I'm okay.
Pretty well considering. This is probably better. Really.

A CAT MEOWS NEARBY.

DAMIAN: Franklin never liked you anyway, but he likes the new
version of the breakup song.

(SINGING)

You are a planet with strong gravity,

But I won't be pulled down.

I have my own relationship with the sun

On the floor of this place,

Where I live alone now,

And I can grow now

On this block with no blossoms

DAMIAN (CONT'D): (SPOKEN) No.

On this block with all the blossoms

(HUMMING)

You won't ruin Starbucks for me.

MORE MUSICAL EXPLORATION.

THE CRACKLE OF TURNING OFF THE
RECORDING.

SCENE 4.

THE SOUND OF TURNING ON THE RECORDING
AND SETTING PHONE ON THE PIANO. A STRONG
DESPAIRING CHORD.

DAMIAN: It's Thursday. It's not even a week you've been gone, and...

(SUNG)

It's super quiet here without you.

Nothing to do except think about you.

Say a prayer for everyone who sits alone by
the window

Waiting for a call he'll never get.

There are no blossoms here--

(SINGING IS INTERRUPTED BY:)

A KNOCK ON THE DOOR ACROSS THE APARTMENT. A PIANO PUNCTUATION, THEN DAMIAN'S DISGRUNTLED AND DISTRACTED STEPS MOVING INTO THE DISTANCE AS HE WALKS TO THE DOOR AND OPENS IT.

NADIA: (OFF) Hey Damian,

DAMIAN: (OFF) Uh, hi. Can I help--[you with something?]

NADIA: (OFF) It sounds great! You've really been going at the last few days. Really cool.

DAMIAN: (OFF) Thanks. Um I'm--[kinda busy right now]

NADIA: (OFF) Can I come in for a sec?

NADIA'S STEPS WALKING INTO THE APARTMENT AND THE APARTMENT DOOR CLOSING. HER STEPS COMING CLOSER, MIDWAY TO THE PIANO FROM DOOR. DAMIAN'S STEPS FOLLOW HERS.

NADIA: Thanks for having me in here. I know you're probably busy.
(PAUSE) You know I'm really sensitive to energy, right?

DAMIAN: I don't know if I knew that.

NADIA: Yeah, like when an animal's injured or something, even if I've never met them, like, I feel that. So I had to just come over and see what's going on because, right now, you're, like, your energy, you're that injured animal.

DAMIAN: Oh. Kay.

NADIA: Look, this is an intense time. We're all not leaving the building much. And I know you work from home. And we share the wall, so we, I, just wanted to make sure you're okay. (PAUSE) Where's Mark?

DAMIAN: He moved out.

NADIA: Oh no!

DAMIAN: Yeah.

NADIA: Oh man. I'm sorry. So lay it on me. What happened?

DAMIAN: Oh, I don't really want to--[talk about it]

NADIA: That's cool. That's cool. (PAUSE) But your friends know, right? You told them?

DAMIAN: Thanks for coming by, Nadia.

NADIA: Whoa. Whoa. Damian.

DAMIAN: What? I'm really busy.

NADIA: You haven't talked about it. Now I understand the...vibes....You gotta talk about this man. You're sad. I feel it. I hear it. I know it. You're gonna make it through this. You think your heartbreak is unprecedented in the history of the world, but then you realize that's what connects you with all the people who have ever been alive. Know that James' Baldwin quote?

DAMIAN: Um--

NADIA: Look at this place. Cheeto dust all over the place, dishes overflowing, balls of cat hair blowing around like tumbleweeds. But right outside there's all those little buds coming out on the trees. They don't care that it's the middle of winter. They're gonna grow. And that bud doesn't try to hide the process of transformation that it's in. It just is that way. You gotta let the people see you. You're a beautiful bud, who's gonna be a blossom. And part of what blossoms sometimes is sadness. And when the sadness comes, you gotta invite your people to wail with you. Aaaaaahhh! You too. Let's go. Aaaaaaaaaahhh!

DAMIAN: (JOINING IN TENTATIVELY) Aaaaaahhhh!

NADIA: Good. AAAAAAAAAAAAAHHH!

DAMIAN: AAAAAAAAAHHHAAHHHHH!

NADIA: You recording something?

DAMIAN: (SWIFTLY MOVING TOWARD MIC) Oh, that's nothing. Just recording, um, my, um, son--[g.]

RECORDING ENDS.

SCENE 5.

CRACKLE OF TURNING ON THE PHONE. RAIN
OUTSIDE.

DAMIAN: Sunday, January 16th. I figured out a new chord progression for the song. Here it is.

(SUNG)

Yesterday was empty

If I'm honest with myself.

A lot has changed since we were twenty

Though the feeling still swells.

I'll melt the memory of you down

Into the road that lies ahead.

I'll say a prayer for the boy in the window

Who left so many things unsaid.

Maybe I won't wake up anymore cradled by
you.

Maybe it'll be year until I love again.

Maybe my pain will lead me in unimaginable
ways.

Maybe the summer buds will blossom then.

The rain has flowed for years now,

The sidewalk drains taking all they'll allow.

The clouds above let fall all they can't contain,

But as the planet spins, things will change.

And change and change and change.

(SPOKEN) That's what I have so far.

END.