

DIRTY MARTINI

Written by

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INT. DINGY APARTMENT COMPLEX - NIGHT

An aging paint-chipped door swings open. JAYDEN (19); beetroot red and glowing with sweat; stumbles out with his phone to hand.

STRANGER (O.S.)

Thanks for that, mate.

The door slams. Jayden stretches his back out. Examines his reflection upon a blank phone screen. The phone pings, with a unique tone.

Display reads; *"Tweak: New Photo Received"*.

Jayden swipes to open. His expression brightens. He pinches to zoom. Examines. Smiles.

INT. GAY BAR - NIGHT

A colourful disco ball spins above a flashy sign titled "SAPPHIRE". Upon a small garish corner-stage, a tipsy Jayden is belting out lyrics from a feel-good 80s karaoke anthem. The crowd go wild.

EXT. SMOKING AREA - MOMENTS LATER

Few people around. Jayden sparks up a cigarette. Takes a single drag. His phone pings. He scrambles. Grabs his phone from his back pocket. His wallet falls to the floor. Jayden is oblivious.

Display reads; *"Tweak: New Message Received"*.

From behind, a tattooed forearm - of angel wings - quickly swipes the wallet from the ground. Peering inside, the ANONYMOUS individual briefly looks at Jayden's ID. Places the wallet in their pocket.

They walk back into the bar. Jayden's phone rings.

INT. BUS - NIGHT

Upon the upper deck. Near-empty. Jayden is on the phone with MATT (21).

MATT (V.O.)

... Besides, he's so fucking dramatic. He's only got the clap, it's not exactly life-threatening.

JAYDEN

Love a bit of drama, though.
Remember when he "accidentally"
sent us his boyfriends nudes?

MATT (V.O.)

Oh my god, speaking of photos, why
were you messaging me on Tweak the
other night?

Jayden's expression turns confused. He laughs.

JAYDEN

I wasn't.

MATT (V.O.)

Declaring your love for me.

JAYDEN

Oh, I do love you. Think you're
being cat-fished though, babes.

MATT (V.O.)

Fucking knew it. Lovely photos of
you though. Feel bad for the poor
fucker who falls into that trap.

JAYDEN

Same. Couldn't be me.

Jayden's phone buzzes audibly. He looks to see a new Tweak Notification.

Display reads; *"SIMON: Hey. We still on for tonight?"*

He accidentally clicks the EMERGENCY button. Quickly cancels. Swipes open to unlock.

INT. JAYDEN'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

On a television in the background, "Would I Lie to You" is softly playing within a cosy conjoined living area/kitchen.

Jayden is experimenting with a variety of spirits and mixers in a cocktail shaker. Meanwhile, LISA (20) - Jayden's flatmate - is preparing a variety of healthy meals for the week ahead. Both have a glass of wine on standby.

Jayden's phone pings. He picks up.

Display reads; *"SIMON: Nice pics. Can't wait to see you tonight xxx"*.

JAYDEN replies; *"Can't wait. Leaving soon x"*.

LISA
Who's that?

JAYDEN
Just a guy.

He strains the beverage into a martini glass.

LISA
A guy, or a Tweak shag?

He takes a sip, and is pleasantly surprised.

JAYDEN
My god, this is actually nice! I'm basically a fucking mixologist at this point.

Lisa glares at him disapprovingly.

JAYDEN (CONT'D)
Here. It'll change your life.

He hands Lisa the glass. She takes a minute sip. Recoils. Quickly washes the taste away with wine.

LISA
That's strong as fuck.

JAYDEN
I know. To answer your question: it's a guy from Tweak.

LISA
What's your body count at now?

JAYDEN
Think it's in triple digits, babe.

LISA
God. Truly don't know how you do it.

JAYDEN
I'm horny, Lisa. That might give you a clue.

LISA
Last time I hooked up with a guy, he snapped his banjo and-

JAYDEN
 (Shivers)
 Not the snapped banjo!

Jayden unlocks his phone. Shows Lisa a picture of his hookup.

LISA
 Wow. He's fit. Could be a catfish,
 though.

JAYDEN
 Stop it, someone's already using my
 pics.

LISA
 Gives me the fear, babe. Do you
 have 'Find my Phone' turned on, at
 least?

Jayden sighs, and pours two glasses of the same cocktail.

JAYDEN
 Tell you what. I'll turn it on, if
 you do this drink down-in-one.

Lisa accepts the drink. They clink glasses. Drink.

JAYDEN (CONT'D)
 It's already on, babe. I just
 wanted to see you down-in-one just
 once. You know, in case I don't
 make it.

Lisa rolls her eyes. Jayden heads for the door.

JAYDEN (CONT'D)
 Love you!

LISA
 Don't die, dickhead.

EXT. SIMON'S FLAT - NIGHT

The second floor above an estate agents office, somewhere out-of-place amid an affluent North West London neighbourhood. The area is quiet. Inside is even quieter. Jayden is stood outside of a pale white door.

He knocks, looks around briefly, and waits. Fiddling with his phone to type a message.

Display reads; "JAYDEN: I'm outside".

Hits SEND. The door slowly creaks open.

Stood opposite Jayden is a physically attractive, muscular male in his thirties. He smiles. This is SIMON (32).

SIMON
Hi, you alright?

Jayden is almost in disbelief that he is real.

Simon stands back. Gestures towards the Bedroom.

INT. SIMON'S FLAT - HALLWAY - SAME TIME

Interior is immaculate. An angelic crystal ornament sits centrally. Jayden steps inside. Without hesitation. He starts down the hallway towards a wooden door. The front door slams. Jayden is taken aback, and swings round.

SIMON
If you wouldn't mind taking your shoes off, please. I hate mess, especially dirt. Bit of a clean freak, I am.

JAYDEN
Oh, sorry. Didn't realise.

SIMON
You're absolutely fine.

Jayden quickly kicks his shoes off. Simon is locking the door.

INT. SIMON'S FLAT - BEDROOM - NIGHT

Simon's bedroom is large. Similarly impeccable. Dimly lit. Candles upon the windowsill. Curtains drawn. A kingsized bed is placed centrally, facing a (sealed shut) walk-in closet.

Jayden is sat on the bed, texting Lisa.

Display reads; *"JAYDEN: He's real. Like, an actual person. Told you! No need to worry. See you when I get in!"*

Simon gently closes the door, closely observing Jayden.

JAYDEN
Smells like roast chicken in here.

SIMON
I just ate. Can I take your coat?

JAYDEN

Good thing you're on top.

Jayden stands and pulls Simon in. They passionately kiss, lusting after each other.

Simon squeezes Jayden's buttocks. Jayden's knees buckle. They undress each other, leaving nothing but underwear. Jayden pulls away.

JAYDEN (CONT'D)

I want you to fuck me.

SIMON

You got a condom?

JAYDEN

I don't fucking care.

SIMON

Clean?

JAYDEN

Obviously.

Simon forcefully pushes Jayden upon the bed. His smile seduces Simon. Simon's dominance seduces Jayden. He pounces on Jayden, kissing his neck. Jayden grunts. He caresses Simon's back and buttocks.

Both are now entirely naked, straddling each other. They are lost in dangerously passionate foreplay.

Simon takes the lead, and effortlessly flips Jayden over. Jayden grabs the closest pillow. He moans.

INT. SIMON'S FLAT - BEDROOM - NIGHT

An hour has passed. Jayden is cradled in Simon's arms. Both are now wearing underwear.

SIMON

Drink?

JAYDEN

Go for it.

Simon stands. Exits.

Jayden reaches into a pile of clothing laying on the floor to find his phone. He discovers TWO unread Tweak Notifications and SEVEN unread MESSAGES from Lisa.

Display reads; *"LISA: I stand corrected. Have fun, my love."*

"LISA: You having fun, babe? What time do you think you'll roughly be home?"

"LISA: Jayden, babe, you there?"

"LISA: Matt is FREAKING OUT. He says you might be in trouble. What the fuck is he talking about?!"

"LISA: Jayden, what the fuck is going on?!"

"LISA: JAYDEN! PHONE MATT WHEN YOU GET THESE PLEASE!"

"LISA: JAYDEN???"

"LISA is typing--"

Jayden is glued to his phone. Confused.

The door opens. Simon returns. With two martini glasses.

SIMON

Dirty Martini?

He extends the drink to Jayden, revealing a forearm tattoo of angel wings. Jayden accepts. Drinks the entire thing in one gulp. Recoils. It is strong.

Simon places his drink on the windowsill. Exits unannounced.

Jayden's phone rings. It is Matt. He picks up.

JAYDEN

Yeah?

MATT (V.O.)

JAYDEN! What the fuck is going on?!
Why are you in my area?

JAYDEN

I met up with this guy from Tweak.
How do you know where I am?

Jayden's speech slurs. He becomes drowsy.

MATT (V.O.)

Because I see two of you. I'm
literally seeing fucking double.

His vision is hazy.

JAYDEN

W- What?

MATT (V.O.)

You and your fucking catfish are in
the same fucking location! You need
to leave!

He removes his phone from his ear. Swipes to the lock screen. Spots a very faint EMERGENCY button. He pushes it. Loses consciousness.

INT. SIMON'S FLAT - KITCHEN - NIGHT

Simon is sat alone. Blankly stares ahead. He eats leftovers from a roast chicken with his bare hands. A series of ropes are laying on the table next to Jayden's phone. Jayden's karaoke song from SAPPHIRE is playing loudly.

INT. SIMON'S FLAT - BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Jayden slowly wakes. He explores the space with hazy vision, as if for the first time. Simon's wardrobe is open. A shrine-like series of paparazzi-style photographs of Jayden and his friends on various nights out are revealed.

Jayden can hear the muffled song. He scrambles in search of his phone. It is gone. Disorientated, he stands and notices his missing wallet laying on the floor.

INT. SIMON'S FLAT - KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

Simon's head turns in the direction of his bedroom. His fist clenches around the ropes. He stands.

INT. SIMON'S FLAT - BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Jayden stumbles towards the door. He manages to find his balance, barely.

INT. SIMON'S FLAT - HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

The bedroom door swings open. Jayden emerges. He spots the front door. Charges.

SIMON appears from the kitchen, blocking his exit.

SIMON

No, no.

He pushes Jayden against the closest wall. Restraining him with his left hand gripped around his neck. He is eerily calm.

SIMON (CONT'D)

Look what you've done, Jayden.
You've been so reckless. So stupid.

Jayden struggles for breath. Simon stares at him dead in the eyes.

SIMON (CONT'D)

I only ever cared about you. Wanted
nothing but the best for you.

Jayden scratches him across the cheek. Simon notices a small amount of seamen on Jayden's cheek. He wipes it on to his finger, and slides it into Jayden's mouth.

SIMON (CONT'D)

Missed a bit. I had a good time
tonight. And so did you. I can
tell.

He licks Jayden's earlobe.

SIMON (CONT'D)

Thanks for that, mate.

SMASH! The front door swings open. All sound turns into white noise. Simon lets go of Jayden. Jayden crashes to the floor. The angelic ornament falls upon impact. Smashes. Three POLICE OFFICERS immediately restrain Simon. He is hysterical. Jayden loses consciousness.

EXT. BLOCK OF FLATS - NIGHT

Simon is taken away in a POLICE VAN leaving the crime scene. Jayden, perched on the back of an ambulance, watches. He is wrapped in an emergency foil blanket. Two paramedics are tending to his wounds.

Lisa and Matt are stood by his side. Matt is staring blankly ahead. Lisa looks at Jayden, holding back tears. She places her hand softly on his shoulder. He looks at her. She smiles.

A Police Officer approaches.

POLICE OFFICER

Lisa? Matt? Would you two mind
following me? We have a few quick
questions regarding the case.

They both nod.

Lisa picks up her bag. She takes a few steps. Her PURSE drops to the floor. Jayden notices.

JAYDEN

Lisa!

He stands and stumbles over to Lisa's wallet. Picks it up. Notices two CONDOMS sticking out. Hand's it to her.

LISA

Oh, shit! Thank you, Jayden.

Her and Matt walk away with the officer.

From behind, Jayden's phone pings with a recognisably unique tone.

JAYDEN picks up his phone.

Display reads; *"Tweak: New Message Received"*.

He swipes to open. Stares at the APP ICON on the home screen.

Contemplates.

END