

CHRISTMAS DELIVERY

Written by

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FADE IN:

EXT. NEW YORK CITY - STREET - DAY

A beautiful spring afternoon. Congested traffic moves at a snail's pace past the majestic steel buildings lining both sides of the busy avenue.

INT. INSURANCE OFFICE - DAY - SAME

A large, hectic office on the 10th floor of a skyscraper. The city view through the large windows is breathtaking. Many desks occupied by dedicated EMPLOYEES take up the vast space. Enclosed offices are down a long hall.

EMILY PARKER (25), a ray of sunshine on a gloomy day, works at the computer on her desk. CLAIRE WILLIAMS (24), party girl, hurries over.

CLAIRE
Morning, sunshine.

EMILY
You're awful chipper.

CLAIRE
Chipper? Really? I haven't heard that word since I visited my grandma in the nursing home last year.

Claire sits on the edge of the desk and crosses her legs.

CLAIRE
A few of us gals are going out for a drink after work, you included.

Emily looks uneasy.

EMILY
I can't. Roger has to work over and wants dinner ready when he gets home.

Claire sours at the name "Roger".

CLAIRE
You're his wife, not his maid. Just tell him to pick up something on his way home.

EMILY
But...

Claire jumps up and hurries away.

CLAIRE
You're going.

Emily sighs. She removes her cell phone from her purse and hits speed dial.

EMILY
(into phone)
Hi. I have to stay late so you'll
need to grab a bite on your way
home.

EXT. BAR - DUSK

MUSIC and CHATTER from the bar reverberate on the street.

INT. BAR - DUSK - SAME

Claire, Emily, JOAN (24), and SARAH (23) sit at a table, each with an alcoholic drink. Emily has barely touched hers while her companions have no trouble downing theirs.

JOAN
Did you girls see that new hottie
in accounting?

CLAIRE
(dreamy)
Adam Reynolds. I think I'll have an
accounting issue on Monday that
he'll need to take care of.

Joan, Sarah, and Claire laugh. Emily barely cracks a smile. Claire nudges her.

CLAIRE
Hey, you should be enjoying your
time away from Roger since you have
so little of it.

EMILY
What's that supposed to mean?

SARAH
You're always with him, Emily. We
knew marriage would change you, but
we never thought you'd abandon your
friends.

EMILY
We see each other almost everyday.

JOAN
Yeah, at work. That doesn't count.

A new upbeat SONG plays. Claire is the first on her feet.

CLAIRE
I love this song!

Joan and Sarah also spring up.

JOAN
Me, too.

Joan and Sarah move away from the table to dance. Claire pulls Emily up by the arm.

CLAIRE
Come on.

Emily is very reluctant but allows Claire to tug her over to the others. Emily barely moves to the music while her friends are overly into it.

Suddenly, Emily looks ill. A hand over her mouth, she dashes off to the ladies room. Her friends stop dancing to stare after her.

INT. BAR - LADIES ROOM - DUSK - MOMENTS LATER

Behind a closed stall door, Emily THROWS UP. Claire enters.

CLAIRE
Emily?

O.S. A toilet FLUSHES.

Emily steps out of the stall, still looking ill. She washes her mouth out with water from the sink.

CLAIRE
What's wrong with you?

EMILY
I don't know. I've been feeling sick the past few days.

CLAIRE
Good thing it's the weekend. You can stay in bed and rest.

EMILY
I could be in bed right now resting if someone hadn't dragged me to a bar.

CLAIRE
Sure, criticize your best friend if
it makes you feel better.

Emily softens.

EMILY
Sorry. I think I'll go.

Emily moves toward the door.

CLAIRE
Do you want me to drive you?

EMILY
I'll manage. See you Monday.

Emily leaves the room. Claire touches up her makeup before the mirror.

INT. DRUG STORE - FEMININE AISLE - NIGHT

Emily turns the corner into the aisle and searches for something specific. She stops before the pregnancy tests. There are several brands and types.

She chooses one that gives quick results and can be taken any time of the day. Chews her bottom lip as she studies the packaging.

INT. EMILY'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

A very nice two bedroom apartment with an open floor plan. ROGER PARKER (28), his good looks overshadowed by a crass personality, sits before the TV with fast food and a beer, watching a football game.

Emily enters through the main door, toting a small bag from the drug store.

ROGER
Where have you been?

EMILY
I told you. I had to work over.

ROGER
My location app says you were at
Bransen's before stopping at a drug
store on your way home.

Emily lays her purse on a side table.

EMILY

I should have known you'd check up on me.

ROGER

Like you don't do the same.

EMILY

I don't, Roger. You could be having an affair and I'd never know it.

The statement makes Roger uneasy. He turns back to his game. Emily eyes the fast food.

EMILY

Did you bring me anything?

ROGER

You could've gotten something while you were out.

Emily rolls her eyes and heads for the master bedroom.

INT. EMILY'S APARTMENT - MASTER BATHROOM - NIGHT - MOMENTS LATER

Emily enters the swanky bathroom and locks the door behind her. She removes the pregnancy test from the bag and opens it. Takes out the test strip and studies it.

MOMENTS LATER

Emily gets off the toilet and zips up. She lays the test strip on tissue and washes her hands. Then wipes the strip off.

She closes the toilet lid and sits down with the strip in her hand. With laser focus, she watches the test window. One blue line appears to show the test is working.

After a long, tense moment, a second line appears. She's pregnant. Emily swallows hard.

INT. EMILY'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Roger has finished eating and now relaxes. Emily walks over.

EMILY

We need to talk.

Roger fails to hear her.