

INT. NO. 30 REBECCHI HOUSE - MORNING X

MACKENZIE, JAY(G)

JAY SHARES HIS BODY IMAGE ISSUES

Mackenzie has just made a surprising discovery about Jay.

MACKENZIE

It never occurred to me you'd be uncomfortable with girls.

Jay tries to keep up his bravado, despite the difficult subject matter.

JAY

I'm good at talking to them... just not all the other stuff.

MACKENZIE

The way you act it seems like you've had loads of girlfriends.

JAY

A carefully curated image, I'll admit.

MACKENZIE

Sounds like a lot of effort. Why bother?

JAY

You've never lived at a boarding school, have you? If you want cred with the guys, you've gotta be good with women.

MACKENZIE

Have you had any serious relationships?

Jay pauses, uncomfortable.

JAY

I mean, there was one girl. Fiona.

Mackenzie looks expectantly. Jay forces himself to talk.

JAY

She was... beautiful. Really. I thought I was so lucky. I couldn't stop thinking about her.

MACKENZIE

Sounds like love?

JAY

(clarifies)

I was kind of obsessed.

(beat)

She'd been going out with this older guy before me so she was really confident and I was just trying to pretend like I was the same.

He pauses, hesitant.

JAY

Couple of weeks in, things were progressing. I thought we were going to go all the way. But when I took my shirt off, she told me to put it back on. She said it was a turn off that I didn't have abs. She said I was hotter if you couldn't see too much.

MACKENZIE

That's horrible.

Not used to being this vulnerable, Jay quickly tries to put the mask back on.

JAY

Anyway, turned me off the whole dating thing for good. Just as well. Who wants to date a freak anyway.

MACKENZIE

Don't.

(sympathetic)

You can't let one idiot ruin things for you like that.

JAY

Easy for you to say. You're gorgeous.

MACKENZIE

(dry)

Seriously? You want to play that game?

Jay suddenly remembers who he's talking to, sheepish.

MACKENZIE

I've had people call me all kinds of mean, nasty things because of my body. It hurts like hell. I get it.

(beat)

But I found someone who doesn't just accept me. He loves me. Celebrates me.

Jay nods, told.

JAY

Lucky you.

MACKENZIE

(shakes head)

I'm not lucky. I deserve it. You
deserve it too.

On Jay, thoughtful.