

LEARNING TO LIVE

by

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FADE IN

INT. MIAMI - HOTEL ROOM - NIGHT

The palm trees are swaying back and forth outside of the window in the hotel room, showing the beach front. Turquoise walls and pineapple paintings hang the wall. White lights hang from the ceiling.

ARIA (28) sits on the toilet lacing up her nude high heels. She wears an orange satin dress that is hugging her curves. She wears her hair in a high ponytail detailing her bone structure.

ARIA

I just have to call Simone and fix my makeup before we go. My mom texted and said she's asking about me.

MELODY (26) has always enjoyed dressing like a tom boy. She wears a black crop tank top, skinny leg utility pants and some Nike dunks.

MELODY

I'm sure she's fine, I hope you plan to enjoy yourself and not focus all of your attention on Simone this trip.

ARIA

I just want to let her know I'm okay and that I'll be back in Dallas in a few days. I'm still going to call her every day though.

MELODY

I understand, well hurry up, I'm ready to go! You already took forever to get ready!

ARIA

You are always complaining! Maybe if you tried to dress more feminine you wouldn't have to worry about me taking too long.

MELODY

Honestly, I could care less about makeup and heels, but you knew that though.

SASHA (27) is a mix between Aria and Melody in personality and fashion sense. She wears a brown two piece mesh pants set with her platform Gucci slides.

SASHA

Oh lord, here y'all go! We don't mind that you want to call Simone and check on her. Don't pay Melody any mind, you know she is too ready to go out and have fun.

MELODY

It's been entirely too long since we've been out together at a club. Ever since -

ARIA (Interrupts)

Don't you dare bring it up!

MELODY

It's true, we haven't been anywhere since you and Simone's dad broke up.

ARIA

It has been a lot for me to deal with, I really thought we would be a family.

SASHA

It's okay, we don't have to relive that. You and Simone are fine, and someone will come that will show you what you deserve! Let's go have fun!

ARIA

Okay, let me call my mom really fast and touch up my makeup then we can go.

She looks in the mirror while putting lip gloss on, waiting on her mom to answer the phone. She pops her lips and walks out of the bathroom.

ARIA

She's sleep, let's go!

They look at one another, smile, and walk out the door towards Aria's car.

EXT. NIGHT CLUB - NIGHT

The club is packed and the music was loud. They are ready to have a good night.

They walk to the bar and order 3 shots of Tequila and lime.

ARIA

That is so nasty!

(MORE)

(CONT'D)

SASHA

Girl, just keep taking them and they will  
begin to lose the taste, trust me.

Melody laughs and nods her head.

MELODY

Exactly! The more you think about it, the  
less fun you will have.

ARIA

Yeah, yeah, someone has to get us back to  
the hotel tonight.

MELODY

We suggested an Uber Mama Aria, but noooo  
you insisted on driving, so we let you.

Aria rolls her eyes at the nickname Melody uses for her  
sometimes. She was tired of being the "mama" out of the  
group. She always wondered if they treated her that way  
because she was the only one with a child or if that was  
just the way they perceived her.

MONTAGE - MELODY AND SASHA HAVE FUN

-- They are dancing with the guys in the club.

-- Ordering more shots of tequila.

-- Melody is dancing on the bar.

BACK TO THE CLUB

Aria is sitting at the bar swirling her finger around the  
drink she had been holding onto for a while.

MALE BARTENDER looks up at Aria and smiles.

BARTENDER

You haven't taken a sip from that drink  
in a while, do you want something else?

ARIA

Oh no, I'm okay. I just have a lot on my  
mind. I'm here on vacation with my  
friends.

(MORE)

(CONT'D)

(She points in their direction on the dance floor)

ARIA (CONT'D)

We haven't been on vacation, let alone to the club in a while, so I'm not really hip to the dancing and getting drunk.

BARTENDER

How come?

ARIA

The last time I really enjoyed myself out, I also lost someone I really loved all in one night.

BARTENDER

Ahh okay, well I will make you another drink, on me! That one has to be watered down by now. Don't feel pressured to drink, but you should have some fun.

Aria smiles at the bartender and takes the drink.

ARIA

Thank you, I'll keep that in mind.

Sasha and Melody walk up to Aria laughing.

Melody was stumbling over as she walked.

ARIA

I hope this means you are both ready to leave, it's been hours.

SASHA

I-I-I can use another drink.

She is stumbling over some of her words.

ARIA

You are out of your mind. You both are drunk. We're leaving, let's go!

INT. ARIA'S CAR - NIGHT

Aria taps her finger on the steering wheel.

SASHA

Can we get some music please?

Aria says nothing, nor does she turn on the radio.

(MORE)

(CONT'D)

MELODY  
Hellooooooooo? Music?

ARIA  
No, just enjoy the silence. You've heard  
enough music. Go to sleep or something.  
We'll be back in the room in 15 minutes.

INT. HOTEL ROOM - NIGHT

Aria unlocks the room door and lays Melody on the bed.

SASHA  
This could be you, but you refuse  
to have fuuuuun!

MELODY  
Ye-aaaah... tomorrow you have to  
loosen up a bit!

She walks into the bathroom to start getting ready for bed.

ARIA  
Good night y'all.

MELODY  
Y-Y-You know we're right!

Aria takes off her makeup in the mirror. She thinks about the  
night and Melody's words play in a time loop in her head.

ARIA  
Tomorrow night, I am going to have fun.  
No limits, I'll show them what a good  
time is!

INT. HOTEL ROOM - DAY

Melody pops open a bottle of Tequila for shots.

Aria fixes her hair in the bathroom.

MELODY  
Aria, come take this shot!

ARIA  
I rather not.

Sasha shakes her head, takes her shot and extends her arm  
for Melody to pour her another.

Melody laughs.

MELODY

So, are you going to have another night like last night?

ARIA

What do you mean by that?

MELODY

I just want to know if you plan on having fun today or not. I think it would really benefit you to loosen up a bit.

ARIA

I plan on having fun, I just don't want a shot right now.

SASHA

Okay, so when we get to the party, don't say anything when the shots are coming!

She starts dancing; Melody and Aria hype her up.

ARIA

Aye! Okay, I see what type of day we are about to have. Let's go have some fun.

She picks up her purse, looks down to make sure her shoes are tied and takes one final look in the mirror.

ARIA

I'm ready!

SASHA and MELODY (In unison)

Let's goooooo!

Before they step out the door, Melody pulls Aria into the bathroom.

MELODY

Listen, if you promise me to have some fun today and actually enjoy yourself, I'll buy you those shoes you have been wanting, but hesitant to buy!

ARIA

Really?! Can you buy me and Simone a pair? I want to match.

She smiles hard at Melody and holds her hands together as if she is a kid begging to stay up for five more minutes.

ARIA

I plan on having fun today, but this just made it even more interesting for me.

MELODY

Fine! Just promise me.

ARIA

I promise!

She says with a smile on her face.

INT. NIGHT CLUB - DAY

SASHA

Oh yes, it is lit in here! We are about to have a great time!

She walks to the bar to order the first round of shots.

SASHA (CONT'D)

Alright Aria, you can't back down now. You are either all in or all out.

Melody looks at her and smiles, raises her shot glass and cheers to the night.

MELODY

To us!

SASHA and ARIA (In unison)

To us!

ARIA

Yeah, I'm about to have so much fun!

Sasha and Melody look at each other in shock.

MELODY

Okay miss lady, let's do it then!

Aria is throwing back another shot that someone bought her at the bar. She is standing and talking with the guy with a big smile on her face.

MELODY

Aww look at our girl actually having fun and enjoying herself. I'm so proud of her.

Aria comes back over to their table.



ARIA

Well he gave me his number and wants to take me out when we both are back in Dallas.

MELODY

So are you going to let him?

ARIA

Yes, probably, he's a sweet guy.

MONTAGE - THE GIRLS ARE DRINKING AND HAVING FUN

-- They order more rounds of shots.

-- The same guy who asked for Aria's number invites them into his section with his friends.

-- Aria wants to go dance on the dance floor with her friends.

BACK TO THE CLUB.

ARIA

Let's go dance!

They dance for hours. Melody starts recording a video of Aria dancing on the bar. She is having the time of her life. Then she starts to fall over, so Melody asks Sasha to help get her down.

They call for an Uber and leave the club.

INT. UBER - DAY

They hop in the Uber and dance to the music.

ARIA

Can you stop? Can you stop the car? NOW please!

The driver stops, Aria swings her door open and immediately starts throwing up.

MELODY

Are you okay? I've never seen you like this before.

ARIA (LAUGHING)

Yes, I'm fine, this is what you wanted. I'm just ready to go back to the hotel.

She dozed off.

INT. HOTEL ROOM - DAY

Melody is holding Aria's hair up as she sits at the toilet throwing up.

Aria looks up, grabs some toilet paper and wipes her mouth. She smiles and gives Melody a hug.

Sasha brings her a bottle of water.

SASHA

Why are you smiling?

ARIA

Because I had such a great time.  
Regardless of, well, you know... me being sick now.

MELODY

I really am glad you enjoyed yourself,  
but moving forward we have to know your limits!

ARIA (LAUGHING)

DEFINITELY! But I would do it all again.  
Thank y'all for pushing me to step  
outside of my comfort zone.

MELODY

Of course girl! We still have 2 more days  
here, so let the fun continue!

ARIA (LAUGHING)

Especially you Mama Melody! Oh how the  
tables have turned.

The girls all laugh and walk into the bedroom to take a nap before dinner later.