CHRONICLES OF A BOY

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EXT. HOUSE- BACKYARD - DAY

COLTON(23) and EMMETT(17) wrestle in the beating sun. Their LEVI JEANS stained with mud and grass. Sweat glistens off their chests.

COLTON Anyone I know?

EMMETT No... you don't know her.

COLTON Than what are you waiting for? Ask her out already.

EMMETT It's not that easy.

COLTON It ain't that hard neither. What's wrong with you boy? You a fag?

EMMETT

No!

COLTON Then there ain't noth'n to worry about. You gotta be tough. Like me.

EMMETT I'm tough, almost as tough as you.

Emmett changes his grip.

COLTON (grunts) I don't think so.

Colton shifts his stance.

COLTON (CONT'D) Ha! Good, good! Lasting a lot longer this time.

JENNY(21) cheers from the sideline.

JENNY C'mon Emmett! Give it to him!

Jenny punches the air.

JENNY (CONT'D) Take him down! WOOOOoooooo!

COLTON Don't choke now kid, looks like you got yourself a fan.

Emmett glances towards Jenny. Girl next door type of beauty.

COLTON (CONT'D) (smirks) Focus on me Twig Boy.

EMMETT I told you not to call me that!

Emmett shoves Colton.

COLTON Woah-ho! Where did that come from?! (smirks)

Colton slams his shoulder into Emmett's. Emmett thrown off balance.

COLTON (CONT'D) Come on E! Hit me! HIT ME!

Emmett swings. Colton dodges his fist and throws Emmett to the ground. Colton straddles him, pinning him down.

EMMETT Get off of me!

COLTON RAAAHHHHHHHGGGGGggggghhhhhh!

Emmett squirms underneath his weight. Colton rubs Emmett's face with the PALM of his hand. The most embarrassing brotherly tactic.

COLTON (CONT'D) You like that don't ya?!

Emmett turns his head every which way.

JENNY Colton, let him go, you made your point!

COLTON Not yet Jenny baby. Not until he submits. Emmett tries to buck him off... without success.

COLTON (CONT'D) (to Emmett) All you gotta do, is tap out little brother.

Emmett struggles.

EMMETT N000000000000

Colton slams his weight down on Emmett's WRISTS.

EMMETT (CONT'D) (whimpers) OWWWwwwww! Ok, I give! I give!

COLTON That's what I thought.

Colton brushes himself off. Emmett lays in the GRASS, out of breath. Defeated.

COLTON (CONT'D) This is for your own good. It's my job you know... to teach you how to look after yourself. What are you gonna do when I'm not around, huh?

EMMETT

PSSSSshhhh.

COLTON You gotta learn how to protect yourself, you hear me?

Colton's HAND reaches out.

EMMETT

I know.

Emmett slaps Coltons HAND away and brushes himself off. Colton walks over to the sideline. He slides his hand around Jenny's waist and plants boastful kiss onto her LIPS.

> COLTON The defending Heavy Weight Champion Of The World maintains his title once again!

Colton flexes his MUSCLES as Emmett sulks to the sideline.

JENNY

Неу...

Jenny places her hand on Emmett's shoulder.

JENNY (CONT'D) You'll get him next time Emmett.

Emmett shrugs her off. He walks away.

JENNY (CONT'D) You don't think you were a little too hard on him?

COLTON Life's hard. I'm just prepping him for the real world. (to Emmett) Ask that girl out little man! Before I go over there and do something about it! (to Jenny) You think he heard me?

JENNY Of course he heard you. He looks up to you.

Colton boastful.

JENNY (CONT'D) Go easy on him next time... ok?

EXT. SIDE STREET - DAY

Emmett rides his BIKE through side streets.

EMMETT (mocking) "Ask her out before I do something about it..." (to self) I'll show you.

EXT. SKATE PARK - AFTERNOON

Emmett throws his BIKE to the ground. He nervously walks across the park.

EMMETT (to self) This is a bad idea. Very bad.

EXT. SKATE PARK- BOWL - AFTERNOON

Emmett spots Samantha(17) as she sits at the edge of a SKATE RINK. KNEEPADS... bloody.

EMMETT (to self) Oh fuck me... I mean fudge....

Emmett walks towards Samantha. He stops behind her. He can't decide if he should tap her on the shoulder or-

SAMANTHA

Emmett?

EMMETT H- Hey... Samantha, how's it going?

SAMANTHA Alright I guess, can't complain. You?

EMMETT Good, I think. Mind if I sit?

SAMANTHA

Go for it.

They sit in silence. Emmett watches her stare out at the skaters as they jump off QUARTER- PIPES and FLAT- RAILS. She catches his stare.

SAMANTHA (CONT'D) (smiles) What?

EMMETT (embarrassed) Oh- uh... nothing.

The sound of WHEELS scrape against the concrete. Emmett slowly slides his HAND across the concrete. His FINGER- TIPS brush against hers. Sweat drips down Emmett's forehead. He interlaces his FINGERS with hers.

> SAMANTHA What took you so long?

Samantha smiles. They both watch skaters skate in the orange glow of the sunset.

CUT TO: MONTAGE

EXT. INGLEWOOD- KIA FORUM - DUSK

Emmett and Samantha run through a STADIUM PARKING LOT squealing like kids.

EXT. BASEBALL FIELD - NIGHT

FLOODLIGHTS shine through the darkness. Emmett and Samantha sprint across an empty BASEBALL FIELD. Dirt kicks up around them. Emmett spins Samantha around. They collapse onto the dirt and kiss.

EXT. SEPULVEDA BASIN - AFTERNOON

Emmett and Samantha walk through the desert, on top of CONCRETE PIPES.

CUT TO: END OF MONTAGE

EXT. SAMANTHA'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Emmett and Samantha stand in the middle of the street, drenched in RAIN. Samantha screams at him. [IN SLOW- MOTION]

> EMMETT(V.O.) How cliché.

RAIN trickles down his face.

EMMETT Tell me what you want!

SAMANTHA What I want?! What I want is nothing... nothing to do with you.

EMMETT

But-

SAMANTHA I think it's best if we both move on with our lives... don't call me, I don't want to hear from you.

Samantha walks away into the night.

EMMETT(V.O.) And then... it ended... just as quickly as it began.

EXT. SPORTS PARK- BASEBALL FIELD - DAY

Emmett and Jenny sit on METAL BLEACHERS.

JENNY Well that's a pretty shitty story.

EMMETT

(sarcastic) Thanks.

JENNY And you haven't talked to her since?

EMMETT

Nope.

JENNY

Hmmmmm.

EMMETT What do you think I should do?

JENNY What do you want me to say?

EMMETT I don't know, you're a girl.

JENNY Yeah... but that's not-

EMMETT I need your advice.

JENNY Well, how did she look at you when she left.

EMMETT

She looked... like... she had already moved on without me. You know? She didn't even let me know before it was too late, you think I should try to win her back?

JENNY

(sigh)
I'll tell you a secret... sometimes
it's better to let em go, and if
it's truly meant to be, they'll
come back... in time...

Yeah?

JENNY And sometimes, sometimes you find someone better when you least expect it.

EMMETT

Maybe...

Jenny leans back against the BLEACHERS.

JENNY

Maybe...

INT. HOUSE- HALLWAY - EVENING

Emmett walks through a hallway. Colton's BEDROOM- DOOR, slightly ajar. Emmett peers inside.

INT. HOUSE - COLTON'S BEDROOM - EVENING

Jenny sat on Colton's lap, her thighs wrapped tightly around his waist as they kiss on the edge of a BED. Colton spots Emmett in the doorway.

> COLTON Get out of here you creep!

Colton chucks a PILLOW across the room.

EMMETT

(gasps)

Emmett darts away. THUD! A PILLOW slams the BEDROOM- DOOR shut.

EXT. OVERLOOK - DUSK

Emmett and Colton, BEER in hand, silhouetted by the countryblue, sky.

> COLTON There ain't noth'n to do round here no more.

EMMETT Everything feels backwards.

COLTON I heard what happened... everybody goes through shit kid. That's life. I'm the last one to judge. EMMETT Maybe... maybe it's not my time. COLTON It's never the right time for any us. Beat. Emmett lost in thought. COLTON (CONT'D) Hey, I'm to talking to you. Colton nudges Emmett. EMMETT (sighs) All I've ever wanted is to be like you... COLTON Don't be like me. You do different, you hear? Emmett nods. COLTON (CONT'D) I haven't told Jenny yet, but, as soon as I save up enough... we're get'n out of here. Until then... it's just you and me. Colton takes a swig of a BEER. COLTON (CONT'D) You're my brother.

He passes the BEER to Emmett. Emmett drinks. Colton takes Emmett under his wing.

INT. HOUSE- LIVING ROOM - DAY

Jenny, asleep on a LIVING- ROOM COUCH. Emmett stays up beside her.

INT. EMMET'S HOUSE- BATHROOM - NIGHT

TOOTHBRUSH in hand, Emmett stands in front of the BATHROOM-SINK as he scrapes away at his GUMS. He hears the FRONT DOOR open and close...

> JENNY(O.C) Got room for one more?

Jenny stands in the doorway.

EMMETT (muffled)

Uh-

Jenny snatches her TOOTHBRUSH from the SINK COUNTERTOP and spreads TOOTHPASTE across its BRISTLES. She jams the BRUSH into her mouth and scrubs.

Emmett looks Jenny up and down. He notices her pale legs, slightly bruised, pressed up against the COUNTERTOP EDGE. Her FLYAWAYS trapped at the edges of her LASHES.

EMMETT (CONT'D) (muffled) You're real pretty.

Jenny spits TOOTHPASTE into the SINK.

EMMETT (CONT'D) You know, in a couple years... when I get older, I'll look just like my brother.

JENNY (chuckles) Huh-

She wipes the PASTE off her LIPS.

JENNY (CONT'D)

When I was your age, all I ever wanted to do was grow up. Hated the way people looked down on me. I'm sure you know what that feels like.

EMMETT Everyone treats me like I'm just some stupid little kid. I hate it!

JENNY Tell me about it. Always felt so small. Those fuckers. Emmett's nose crinkles.

JENNY (CONT'D) Hated it enough to run away.

EMMETT

Does Colton know?

JENNY

(to self) I don't think I've ever said that out- loud before.

EMMETT Don't worry, I won't say anything.

JENNY

This world- it isn't... it's not exactly what I thought it would be. I know I probably shouldn't be saying that to you, but-

EMMETT

So what'd you do?

JENNY

I grew up. (sighs) That's all you really can do. Things don't really change, people don't change. They all still look down on me.

EMMETT

I don't.

JENNY You're sweet Emmett. Treat the pretty ones the kindest... (sad chuckle) They're the most broken.

Jenny bends down and kisses Emmett's CHEEK.

JENNY (CONT'D) (whispers into ear) Don't grow up too fast... ok?

Jenny places her TOOTHBRUSH back onto the SINK COUNTERTOP and walks out of the BATHROOM. Emmett mesmerized.

EMMETT

(to self) Wow. Emmett walks his BIKE down side streets. He spots Jenny, alone, plopped down on a SIDEWALK CURB.

EMMETT

Jenny?

JENNY

Emmett?

Jenny brushes off her TEARS.

EMMETT Whatchya doin' sit'n out here all by yourself?

JENNY Minding my business.

EMMETT

Oh...

Jenny sniffles.

JENNY What are you looking at?!

EMMETT Uhh... wanna go for a ride?

JENNY

No.

Emmett pats the back of his BIKE SEAT.

EMMETT It'll be fun!

JENNY

I can't.

EMMETT You just gotta hop on.

JENNY (playful) No, I'm scared.

EMMETT I'll protect you... I promise.

Jenny looks at him. Skeptical.

EXT. SIDE STREET - AFTERNOON

Jenny stands on the BACK WHEELS of Emmett's BIKE, her hands placed on top of Emmett's shoulders. She screams with joy as they ride down hills. She wraps her arms tightly around him as he peddles.

INT. HOUSE- HALLWAY - DAY

Jenny pins Emmett against the HALLWAY WALL, she kisses down his face and neck.

EMMETT Hey... Jenny? Jenny?

JENNY (muffled kisses) Hmmmmmm?

EMMETT You think... you think this is a good idea?

JENNY Shuuuuuuuuuuuu.

Emmett pulls away.

EMMETT (softspoken but stern) Jenny... I mean it!

JENNY (muffled) It's over...

EMMETT

Is it?

JENNY (muffled) It's been for a long time now.

Emmett and Jenny continue to kiss, they slide across the WALL, intertwined.

INT. BAR - AFTERNOON

Colton drinks alone at a BAR COUNTER.

COLTON Fuck... FUCK!

Colton throws a GLASS across the room. It shatters on impact.

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. HOUSE- BATHROOM- SHOWER - DAY

Jenny stands under a SHOWER FAUCET. Water splashes across her bruised face. The BATHROOM DOOR opens.

COLTON (O.S.) Not gonna wait for me?

Colton steps inside the SHOWER.

JENNY

I was just-

Jenny cowers in fear as Colton looms behind her.

COLTON What's been going on with you?

JENNY I've... had a lot on my mind...

COLTON Oh? Like what?

JENNY

Nothing...

COLTON Is that right?

JENNY

Yes...

COLTON You wanna tell me?

JENNY Tell you what?

COLTON

Who it is?

JENNY I don't know what you're talking about.

Colton grabs Jenny's CHIN and twists it towards himself.

COLTON Don't lie! Not to me. I know when you're lying.

JENNY What do you wanna know?

Colton leans FACE to FACE with her.

COLTON

Everything...

INT. HOUSE- COLTON'S BEDROOM - DAY

Jenny bursts into the bedroom. Drenched.

JENNY Emmett... we gotta get outta here.

EMMETT

What? Why?

Jenny spins around the room searching for any items she can take with her. Her forehead, bruised, bloodied.

EMMETT (CONT'D) Jesus what happened to your face?!

JENNY No time to explain...

EMMETT

Colton.

Jenny places her hands on Emmett's shoulders

JENNY If I don't get out of here now, something bad is gonna happen.

EMMETT Yeah, no, ok.

JENNY Hurry up. Grab your stuff.

EXT. SIDE STREET - AFTERNOON

Emmett pedals down the street, Jenny pressed against his back.

JENNY Anywhere but here.

EXT./INT. CAR - AFTERNOON

Colton stumbles into his CAR. He drunkenly fixes the REAR VIEW MIRROR... he slams his fist against the WHEEL. HORN blares.

COLTON

EMMETT!!!

EXT. SIDE STREET - AFTERNOON

Emmett pedals harder.

EMMETT There's a bus stop up ahead. We're close!

CAR HEADLIGHTS encroach them.

JENNY Emmett, watch out!

CRASH! CAR BUMPER hits the back of their BIKE. They fall to the ground. CAR DOOR swings open. Colton steps out. Jenny grovels.

JENNY (CONT'D) Colton... Colton! He didn't do anything! Colton! It was me!

COLTON Get out of my way!

Colton shoves Jenny to the ground. HEADLIGHTS shine behind Emmett as he hops over a FENCE. Colton jumps after him. He lands in the...

EXT. DEAD- GRASSY- ENCLOSED FIELD - DUSK

THUD! Colton lands on the other side of the FENCE.

COLTON Get back here you fucker, you think you can run away from me?! Emmett sprints across a FIELD. Colton Sprints after him. He tackles Emmett to the ground. They tumble through the dirt. COLTON (CONT'D) Why? WHY?! EMMETT I was the only one that cared about her! The only one! Nobody else! COLTON I did! I cared! EMMETT No... you didn't. Look at her! Look what you did to her! I see it! We all see it! Emmett looks to Jenny. Her face splashed in purple and blue. EMMETT (CONT'D) (to self) I love her... (to Colton) I, love her! COLTON ARRRGGGGGGGHHhhhhhhh! Colton sprints towards Emmett. They wrestle for their life. COLTON (CONT'D) Do you now ?! Would you die for her... like I would ?! JENNY Colton, stop it! COLTON You know nothing about love! Grow up! EMMETT I'm more of a man than you'll ever be! Emmett throws a punch. He knocks Colton to the ground. Colton wipes the BLOOD from his LIP. EMMETT (CONT'D) I'm sorry, I never meant to... you have to know that was never my intention.

Colton picks up a heavy STONE and bashes it across Emmett's head.

JENNY Stop it! It wasn't his fault!

Emmett collapses to the ground.

JENNY (CONT'D) You're hurting him!

COLTON This... this is what he deserves! (to Emmett) You took... everything from me!

Colton bashes Emmett's head, Again, and AGAin, and AGAIN.

JENNY

STOP IT!

Colton stops. STONE bloodied. It falls to the ground with a loud THUD. Colton stands over Emmett's twitching BODY.

JENNY (CONT'D) Colton... what have you done?

Jenny rushes to Emmett's aid. She clutches his BODY, her arms wrapped tightly around him.

JENNY (CONT'D) Emmett... I'm so sorry.

COLTON C'mon Jenny! We gotta go!

Beat.

COLTON (CONT'D)

JENNY!

JENNY

I hate you!

Colton drags her away from the scene as she screams.

We linger on Emmett's CRUMPLED BODY.

EMMETT (V.O.) Love is a funny thing. At first it's nothing, nothing at all. Then, out of nowhere, it hits you like a freight train. And everything changes... if only for a moment. Life has purpose, until... one day... it dosen't.

THE END