

We're Not Brothers

By

Jamin Lee

INT. DINING AREA - AFTERNOON

The dining hall is filled with several students. It's lunchtime and light is pouring in through the open windows.

There's the sound of students chattering and laughing along with some overplayed pop song playing throughout the building.

DANIEL, 21, is sitting by himself near the window. There's a plate of food in front of him that hasn't been eaten yet. He's wearing a casual long sleeve with jeans and sneakers.

He's talking on the phone looking bored:

DANIEL
(playing around with food with
a fork)
Yes, mom I'm fine.

MOM (V.O)
Good, (beat) and your brother?

Daniel goes quiet and thinks about the previous night.

FLASHBACK

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

The bedroom is an open double. It's 1 AM and the room is dark.

There's a shuffling noise followed by the sound of someone turning a doorknob.

Daniel stirs in his sleep and opens his eyes just in time to see his brother SAM, 19, quietly sneaking out of the room with his backpack on.

The door closes.

END OF FLASHBACK

EXT. DINING HALL - AFTERNOON

MOM (V.O)
Daniel? You still there?

Daniel slightly shakes his head and returns to the conversation:

(CONTINUED)

DANIEL
Yea mom. Sam's fine.

MOM (V.O)
(worried)
You sure?

DANIEL
(puts down fork)
Yea.

MOM (V.O)
(sighs in relief)
Oh thank goodness. You look after
him okay? I heard there's some
dangerous stuff happening around
campus...

DANIEL
(plays with food)
Yea mom, I know...

MOM (V.O)
Okay. Well bye hon.

DANIEL
Bye.

Daniel ends the call and looks down at his plate of food. He sighs and picks up his fork as if to start eating.

FADE OUT:

INT. BEDROOM - MIDNIGHT

It's midnight and the room light is on.

Daniel is sitting on the bed in his pajamas.

He's looking at a picture of him and Sam from when they were younger on his phone. The two look happy and close.

The door opens and Sam enters with his toothbrush and toothpaste in hand. Sam is also in his pajamas.

Daniel quickly turns off his phone and watches Sam put his stuff away.

Sam walks towards the light switch.

(CONTINUED)

SAM

You mind?

Sam points towards the light switch.

DANIEL

No.

Sam turns the light off and climbs into bed. His back is turned towards Daniel.

Several seconds of silence pass.

DANIEL

Sam?

SAM

Yea?

DANIEL

(beat)

You know you can tell me anything right?

SAM

Sure?

DANIEL

(beat)

I know we're not that close anymore but...I still got your back.

SAM

Okay...

DANIEL

(sighs)

Night bro.

SAM

Night.

Daniel stares at Sam's back for a few seconds.

He sighs again, lies down with his back to Sam, and pretends to go to sleep.

An hour later, Sam opens his eyes and turns to look at Daniel who is snoring.

Sam gets up and changes his clothes. He pulls out a backpack hidden in the corner of his closet and quietly leaves the room.

(CONTINUED)

After the door clicks shut, Daniel opens his eyes and looks towards Sam's empty bed.

Daniel quickly changes and leaves the room.

CUT TO:

MONTAGE

- Daniel follows Sam leave the dorm building, walk past campus, and towards a building downtown.

- Sam never realizes he's being followed.

EXT. DOWNTOWN - NIGHT

There's a building that looks kind of shady. It's dark and there's no shop sign.

Sam walks into the building.

Daniel waits for Sam to go in before walking up to the building. He pauses and closes his eyes.

Daniel opens his eyes with determination and walks into the building.

INT. BUILDING'S HALL AREA - 1:20 AM

The interior of the building is plain. There are several rooms and no windows. The only light source is from the lamps in the room.

Daniel sees Sam open one of the doors and walk in.

He sits down on the floor and checks the time. It's 1:20 AM.

10 minutes later the door opens.

Daniel quickly hides behind a wall and peeks out.

He sees the back of a BLONDE woman wearing RED HEELS leave the room.

The woman walks towards the other end of the hall away from Daniel and enters a different a room.

Daniel sighs in relief, smiles a little and then leaves the building.

CUT TO:

INT. STUDY LOUNGE - DAY

Daniel is on his laptop scrolling through Facebook.

He sees a video post about a recent murder near the college.

Curious, he clicks on it and the video plays:

NEWS ANCHOR

Sarah Collins, a 19 year old student attending Syracuse University was found several blocks away from main campus this morning. Authorities found a single stab wound on her back The coroner stated she was stabbed some time between 1:00 AM and 3:00 AM. Her shoes were missing.

The video shows a picture of Sarah Collins whose 19 years old with blonde hair.

Daniel's eyes go wide.

NEWS ANCHOR (CONT'D)

Her death has been determined as murder and officials are looking for suspects. Anyone with any information that might lead to the murderer are encouraged to notify the police immediately.

The video ends.

Daniel shakes his head, and stares at the video post that's no longer playing.

After several seconds, he quickly puts his laptop into his backpack and leaves the study lounge.

INT. BEDROOM - DAY

Daniel enters the dorm room and puts his backpack down by the door.

He walks over to Sam's side and starts looking through Sam's bed, desk, and drawers.

Lastly, Daniel opens Sam's closet and sees a pair of RED HEELS peeking out of a backpack.

He pulls them out and stares at them.

FLASHBACK

INT. BUILDING'S HALL AREA - NIGHT

A woman is leaving the room Sam just entered.

She's BLONDE and wearing RED HEELS.

END OF FLASHBACK

INT. BEDROOM - DAY

Daniel looks down at the pair of heels that are identical to the ones the woman he saw last night wear.

He remembers what the news anchor said:

NEWS ANCHOR (V.O)
Her shoes were missing.

Daniel sits down in shock and drops the heels onto the floor.

He leans against the wall and puts his head down.

DANIEL
(very quietly)
Sam...

FADE OUT:

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

Daniel is not in the room.

Sam enters the room and puts his backpack down on his desk chair.

He sits down on the bed when he gets a text message from his friend CHRIS-TINA.

CHRIS-TINA (TEXT)
Hey, same place same time?

SAM (TEXT)
Sure.

Sam gets up, opens his closet and notices that the heels are on the closet floor instead of his backpack.

He's confused and looks around the empty room.

(CONTINUED)

He shrugs, puts the heels in his bag and leaves the room again.

Daniel enters a few minutes later. He notices Sam's backpack on the chair which wasn't there previously.

DANIEL
(eyes wide)
Shit.

He rushes over to Sam's closet and opens it to see the backpack and heels are missing.

DANIEL
(panicking)
Shit shit shit!

Daniel quickly puts on his jacket and rushes outside.

CUT TO:

INT. BUILDING'S HALL AREA - NIGHT

Daniel is standing outside the room Sam went into.

His hands curl up into fists as he takes a deep breath and closes his eyes.

He exhales and his hands return to their relaxed position.

He opens his eyes and puts his hand on the doorknob.

He takes a deep breath again, and opens the door.

INT. SAM'S ROOM - NIGHT

Daniel takes a step into the room as he opens the door.

He's looking at the floor:

DANIEL
(starts raising his head)
Sam, we need to talk...

Daniel loses his words as he sees Sam.

Sam is dressed as a woman. He's wearing a wig, make-up and holding one of the red heels in his hand as if in the process of wearing them.

Sam freezes, shocked at the presence of his brother.

(CONTINUED)

The room is completely silent as Sam and Daniel look at each other, completely frozen in shock.

There are pictures of transsexual/ transgender celebrities like Isis King and Alexis Arquette plastered over the walls.

There are also TRANSSEXUAL FLAGS and inspiring quotes plastered over the walls.

Sam attempts to run out of the room, face full of panic, but Daniel grabs him and hugs him.

DANIEL

It's okay. I still got your back.

There's a moment of quiet and only Sam's heavy breathing can be heard.

Then Sam relaxes, his face shows relief, and he hugs his brother back.

FADE OUT:

THE END