

TO EMMY

written by

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Address
Phone
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OVER BLACK - CREDITS AND TITLES

We hear footsteps down a long corridor. A girl is on the phone, though we can't see her yet.

EMMY (V.O.)

Yea. I'm on my way! I just have to pick up a couple of things.
(pause) Dad, I've been busy! The guests can wait. It'll be quick I promise. (pause) Yea, I'll see you soon.

INT. DORM ROOM - DAY

Emmy walks down the corridor to the entrance of her nearly empty dorm room. The only thing left is a box with assorted items. She tilts her head nostalgically, as if she can't really believe she's leaving. She walks over to the box and peruses it.

Inside the box, she sees a small jewelry box and opens it. There are random knick knacks that seem insignificant to anyone else. But to her, they're something special. The objects range from the mundane (a pin, an old bracelet) to more interesting (a strange trinket).

She picks up some of these objects fondly and then notices an envelope at the bottom of the box. She picks it up confused and then reads the face of it. The letter reads "To Emmy". She peers closely and sees in the corner in small print "Open at graduation".

Confused, she turns the envelope and opens it. She starts reading in her head.

YOUNG EMMY (V.O.)

Dear Emmy, If you're reading this, you just graduated college. Congratulations! What does that even feel like?

Emmy giggles to herself. Emmy moves to her bed while reading the letter.

YOUNG EMMY (V.O.) (CONT'D)

Honestly, I feel like that time is so far away. Everyone says that college seems like it will be a long time but it'll be over before you know it.

Emmy is now sitting down, continuing to read the letter.

YOUNG EMMY (V.O.) (CONT'D)
 I didn't believe that before I
 started but it's only been a couple
 days -

The camera pans away from Emmy and transitions to...

EXT. STANFORD OBSERVATORY - DAY

...a younger version of Emmy, YOUNG EMMY, writing outside with the view of STANFORD UNIVERSITY in front of her. She continues writing the letter and looking out at the beautiful view.

YOUNG EMMY (V.O.)
 - and it's already going by so
 fast! Anyways, I doubt you'll even
 read this - maybe it got lost
 somewhere. It has been 4 years
 after all. Right now, I'm at
 freshman orientation and it's
 pretty crazy. It's just kind of
 overwhelming picking our classes so
 I decided to take a break from it
 all and write to you. Or me...in
 the future.

INT. DORM ROOM - DAY

Emmy folds up the letter and continues packing up her belongings. She goes to her closet door where the last of her college photos remain. She picks them off one by one and puts them in a large box.

YOUNG EMMY (V.O.)
 Everyone seems so intimidating here
 but I'm sure I'll meet people. It's
 funny to think how some of the
 people I'm meeting now could be my
 friends for the next 4 years or for
 life. What was your favorite
 memory? Did you go to concerts and
 football games?

EXT. STANFORD OBSERVATORY - DAY

Young Emmy keeps writing. Pauses. Then folds the letter and puts it in an envelope and writes on the envelope cover "To Emmy".

YOUNG EMMY (V.O.)

I hear the football games are so much fun. I mean, watching football in high school was alright I guess but college football is so much more legit. I have to admit, I was a little nervous about going to school so close to home -

INT. DORM ROOM - DAY

Emmy continues to pack up her room. The photos she picks up correspond to the reading of the letter.

YOUNG EMMY (V.O.)

- but there's so much to explore here! I hope I went to really cool parties (I hear there's this Full Moon party. Sounds pretty nuts!), meet cool people, maybe join a club. Who knows?

Emmy has everything packed. She picks up her gown and diploma and a bouquet of flowers. She opens the diploma. We see that she majored in HUMAN BIOLOGY.

YOUNG EMMY (V.O.) (CONT'D)

What did you end up majoring in anyway? I was thinking pre-law or pre-med. Dad says I'd make a good doctor.

She closes it and starts carrying the box out the room.

EXT. STANFORD OBSERVATORY - DAY

Young Emmy walks down the hill and approaches her bike. We see her start to bike and follow her as she bikes through Stanford's campus.

YOUNG EMMY (V.O.)

Mom says she just wants me to be happy. She was balling her eyes out when they dropped me off at the dorm. Everyone was looking at me and I was so embarrassed. The RAs were really nice about it. Fortunately, Mom kept it together and even offered to help unpack. It was nice that she was there to help.

EXT. OUTSIDE STANFORD DORM - DAY

Emmy walks out the door and into her car. When she sits in the driver's seat, she lays out a bouquet of flowers and her cap and gown. A moving box is in the back seat.

YOUNG EMMY (V.O.)
She said since she's so close
she'll probably drop by and see me.
I hope she doesn't do it too often.

EXT. BURIAL GROUND ENTRANCE - DAY

Emmy drives into the entrance way of a resting place. To a passerby, it looks like a nature park but upon closer inspection, one can see flowers scattered throughout.

EXT. BURIAL GROUND - DAY

From a distance, Emmy lays down her bouquet of flowers at a plot.

YOUNG EMMY (V.O.)
Do you see her much? I bet you've
been busy with school but I hope
you made time to drop by every now
and then.

INT. FRESHMAN DORM HALLWAY - DAY

Young Emmy walks into her dorm hallway where she is surrounded by people her age. She smiles and waves at some people in passing.

YOUNG EMMY (V.O.)
Well, I'm practically all moved in
now. My dorm is really nice and
everyone is super friendly.

INT. EMMY'S CHILDHOOD HOUSE - DAY

Emmy walks into the front steps of the house carrying the box and her cap and gown.

YOUNG EMMY (V.O.)
It's just that I miss my friends
from high school. Especially Lisa.

INT. EMMY'S CHILDHOOD ROOM - DAY

Emmy walks into her room and sets the boxes down along with the other boxes she brought in from packing before. She looks around her room - not much has changed.

She goes to her desk and inspects the pictures on her desk. She grabs a framed one that catches her attention. It's a picture of her hugging a girl with blonde hair and a bright smile.

YOUNG EMMY (V.O.)

We spent the last week in Tahoe before she left for Yale. Do you still talk to her? I hope so. We promised we'd still be friends in college and visit each other often. But I'm happy I'm here. At first I was mad that I didn't go to the East Coast with Lisa and some of my other friends.

Emmy looks at the picture at first with subtle tenderness. Then her eyebrows furrow with annoyance and places the picture face-down on her desk. She goes to her dresser and starts looking for what to wear.

INT. FRESHMAN DORM ROOM - DAY

Young Emmy walks in from the hallway into her room. She goes to her side of the room and takes out the same jewelry box we saw earlier.

YOUNG EMMY (V.O.)

But I feel right at home here, even though it's a little overwhelming. Lisa already sent me a Facebook message with all the crazy fun she's having.

She takes the labelled envelope and is about to place the envelope in the box when she stops herself. After a moment, she shrugs and puts the letter in the box, smiling.

YOUNG EMMY (V.O.) (CONT'D)

I hope college is that much fun for me. I mean. I hope I did some amazing things. So, what are you going to do next? I bet something epic like a cool job or a crazy trip somewhere like Tanzania or India.

INT. EMMY'S CHILDHOOD ROOM - DAY

Emmy, now in a new dress, is putting on the last touches of her outfit.

YOUNG EMMY (V.O.)

If Dad will let you go! But seriously, I bet you had an awesome time in college. Hopefully not that many regrets. The most important thing is that you're happy.

Emmy touches up her makeup and hair and looks in the closet mirror, studying her face intently.

YOUNG EMMY (V.O.) (CONT'D)

Are you happy Emmy? Truly happy? I hope so. If you are, then that's all you need.

Emmy smiles briefly yet returns to a neutral, almost sad expression.

CUT TO BLACK.

YOUNG EMMY (V.O.) (CONT'D)

Love, Emmy.