

If I Am Not Myself
episode 3 – Uncomfortable.

BLACK SCREEN

VIRGINIA (V.O.):
And now I crave more.

QUICK CUT

INT. ROONEY'S ROOM - NIGHT

Virginia laying on her back, smiling, carefree. The happiest she has ever been. Is this what she has been missing out on?

VIRGINIA (V.O.):
I have opened the flood gates to my future. I see it more clearly every day.

Virginia looks at Rooney as she lays besides Virginia on the bed, both are laughing.

VIRGINIA (V.O.):
I feel it around me, the uncomfortable feeling of growth.

She closes her eyes and...

BLACK SCREEN

VIRGINIA (V.O.):
But I feel something coming to ruin it all.

TITLE CARD: IF I AM NOT MYSELF

UNCOMFORTABLE

INT. VIRGINIA'S APARTMENT – DAY

Virginia sits down, laptop open. She is getting her application materials together. Virginia gets all her files attaches to the application.

Virginia stares at the application that's all filled out. She hovers her mouse over the submit button. Should she send it?

Virginia hits send.

CUT-TO

INT. TYLER'S BEDROOM – DAY

Tyler sits on his bed, a pen and paper laying out in front of him.

What is he feeling? Tyler doesn't know where to start. He thinks about Julie constantly, but Virginia has been with him forever. He loves her. But Julie understands him.

He hesitantly grabs the pen and picks up the paper.

ON PAPER: VIRGINIA

He doesn't know what else to write. What is there to say, other than what he already knows?

He crunches up the paper and throws it. He grabs a new sheet and starts writing again.

ON PAPER: JULIE

He thinks. How does he feel about Julie? All he really knows is how he feels after their times together.

JULIE SMILING AND LAUGHING FLASH ON THE SCREEN.

Tyler smiles. He can't get those images out of his head.

He starts to write about those moments. Those moments that are ingrained in his head.

CUT-TO

INT. VIRGINIA'S APARTMENT – DAY

Virginia just pressed send on her application. She is smiling ear to ear. This is the first time she has done something for herself. Something that she was so scared to commit to.

And now here she is.

She picks up her phone to message Tyler about it. But then she remembers.

Virginia opens the message that he left on read the night prior. She re-reads it.

VIRGINIA: HEY TYLER, I KNOW IT'S LATE, BUT I NEED TO TELL YOU SOMETHING. I AM GOING TO APPLY TO A JOB IN NEW YORK CITY. I HAVE TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY.

She should have told him in a better way. In person even. She dropped a bomb on him knowing that they had future plans.

She decides to call him.

CUT-TO

INT. TYLER'S BEDROOM – DAY

Tyler is still writing about Julie when his phone starts to ring.

It's Virginia.

Tyler looks at the cellphone for a couple rings, eventually giving in and picking up.

TYLER:
Hi.

VIRGINIA:
Hi.

Silence fills the space between them.

INTERCUT: VIRGINIA AND TYLER

Virginia breaks the silence.

VIRGINIA:
How are you?

TYLER (quick):
Good.

Silence again. Might as well talk about last night.

VIRGINIA:
Look, Tyler... I should have talked to you sooner about it.

No response.

VIRGINIA:
I know we have plans; we were going to be together in Madison... but this job is a really good opportunity, and it would be a dream. Last night I just needed to get it off my chest and... and that was the only way I could...

Tyler doesn't want to respond, but he knows he should.

TYLER:

Look, V... I'm really upset about this but... but it's not that big of a deal. I just wish we could talk about this more.

VIRGINIA:

Yes, I agree. Maybe you can come over tonight? We can talk about this job and everything about it.

Tyler looks down at his letter to Julie while thinking about what to say to Virginia.

TYLER:

Yea, yea... I can come over tonight.

VIRGINIA:

Okay, great. I'll see you tonight.

TYLER:

Yeah. Bye.

VIRGINIA:

Bye.

Virginia hangs up and smiles with relief. Maybe things aren't ruined after all.

CUT-TO: TYLER

Tyler looks down at the letter. He picks it up and folds it into a smaller note and puts it into his pocket.

CUT-TO

INT. VIRGINIA'S APARTMENT – NIGHT

Virginia sits in her apartment, just waiting. She decides to call Rooney. Maybe she will help her think of what to say.

The phone rings a couple times and then Rooney picks up.

ROONEY:

Hey! What's up?

VIRGINIA:

Hey! I just wanted to let you know that Tyler is about to come over to talk about the New York position.

ROONEY:
Oh, nice! Everything okay?

VIRGINIA:
I think things may be okay between us.

ROONEY (over-the-phone):
That's great! Hopefully tonight you two are able to actually talk.

VIRGINIA:
Hey! We talk, just not always about the future.

ROONEY (over-the-phone):
Well, make sure you don't just say what he wants to hear. Stand up for yourself, Virginia. You need to do this for yourself, not for your relationship.

Virginia looks down and tries to take those words to heart.

A knock on the door.

VIRGINIA:
I gotta go, he's here.

ROONEY (over-the-phone):
Good luck.

VIRGINIA:
Thanks.

Virginia hangs up with Rooney and gets up to answer the door.

VIRGINIA:
Hi.

TYLER:
Hi.

Tyler comes in, but this time he doesn't make himself comfortable like he usually does. He walks in stands, waiting for Virginia to direct him.

VIRGINIA:
Um, should we sit down?

Virginia motions to the couch and Tyler sits. Virginia follows.

VIRGINIA:
So...

TYLER:
What's this job?

Virginia's eyes widen. He actually wants to know about the job. She smiles and thinks of where to begin.

VIRGINIA:
Well, um, it's in New York City, for a media company. They are looking for a young creative to help with the brand's image, well, to recreate the brand's image.

TYLER (quickly, impatient):
When did you apply?

VIRGINIA:
Well, just this morning.

TYLER:
When will you hear back?

VIRGINIA:
Hopefully in a few days, to schedule an interview. Then they make decisions after that.

Tyler looks down while Virginia looks at him. She wants him to respond, to encourage her. She wants him to believe in her. Virginia starts.

VIRGINIA:
Tyler th-

TYLER (upset):
Why didn't you tell me?

Tyler interrupts her and looks Virginia in the eyes. He doesn't look pleased at all. Virginia didn't expect to see Tyler upset; he usually never gets upset. But right now, that look hit her hard.

VIRGINIA:
I – I didn't know how...

TYLER (slightly more aggressive):
You didn't know how? V, it's pretty simple to say.

VIRGINIA:
Well, we never talk anymore...

TYLER (angry):

If you told me earlier, you know before we made future plans, I wouldn't be this upset.

VIRGINIA (reserved):

How was I-

TYLER (interrupting):

Goodness, Virginia, we had it all planned out! We have talked about this for months! You didn't even tell me that you were even looking for jobs outside of the state! And to find out that you are... well that just hurts... and you didn't even tell me, you just did it.

VIRGINIA (more forward):

Will you just listen to me Tyler?! We don't talk! We never talk! How was I supposed to tell you! I tried... I really did try to tell you about this opportunity and tell you how excited I am, but you just ignored me...

Tyler looks at her in disbelief. Virginia has never been like this before.

VIRGINIA (con't):

I know, okay, I know I should have told you, but I didn't okay. I didn't think that I would even apply to the job. But Rooney told me that-

TYLER:

Rooney? Who is Rooney?

VIRGINIA:

She's my friend. She encouraged me to apply.

TYLER:

Oh, so you tell someone you just met and take their advice over our future plans?

VIRGINIA:

But Rooney think-

TYLER:

I don't care what Rooney thinks! I don't care what Rooney says for you to do! What about my word? *Our* plans!

VIRGINIA:

They were never my plans! It's always been your plans! I never fit into the future you planned out!

TYLER:

Goodness, Virginia this isn't like you, you don't do things like this. It caught me completely off guard. You didn't think of me. You didn't think of us...

Tyler looks at Virginia awaiting an answer, but she doesn't say anything.

TYLER (disappointed):
I-I don't even know who you are anymore...

Virginia doesn't want to appear weak around him, but she feels the tears rushing to her face. She resists the feeling.

Tyler stands up from the couch and moves towards the door. The note in his pocket slips out and lands on the floor.

Virginia notices the note and picks it up.

VIRGINIA:
What's this?

Tyler turns around and looks at what Virginia is holding. She starts to open it up.

TYLER:
No! V, don't open that!

VIRGINIA:
Why not?

TYLER:
Because... because you're not going to-

But it was too late. Virginia opens the note fully and started reading it from the beginning.

VIRGINIA (under her breath):
To Julie...

Tyler looks scared now. He looks down to the ground.

VIRGINIA:
Julie? Your project partner?

Virginia reads the note in more detail. She realizes what it is after reading the first line.

The note contains Tyler's feelings for Julie.

I ONLY LIKE SPENDING TIME WITH YOU

YOUR LAUGH IS STUCK IN MY HEAD

I CAN'T STOP SMILING AT THE THOUGHT OF YOU

Virginia stops reading. Was it because of the tears or she knew she couldn't read another word.

Tyler chimes in.

TYLER:

I am so sorry, V... I was just writing it out to make sense of my feelings... I didn't – Nothing has happened...

Tyler's words fade out and Virginia can't focus on anything. Everything around her is blurry again. Once again in a space she doesn't belong.

Tyler takes the note from her hand and rips it up.

TYLER:

Virginia say something...

She can't even look up at him. She feels the red in her face the anger boiling in her stomach.

VIRGINIA:

Get out.

Tyler is shocked. He doesn't know how to respond or what to do.

TYLER:

What?

VIRGINIA (angry):

I said get out!

Tyler stares at Virginia. She's not crying, but the tension in her shoulders shows her anger, and the red in her face shows how much she is holding back. Tyler recognizes this Virginia, the girl he once fell in love with freshman year.

She wasn't angry then though. No, she was scared. But is there really a difference?

Tyler stands up and walks to the door. Before he leaves, he says something to Virginia.

TYLER:

I love you.

Tyler walks out the door.

Virginia breaks down the second the door shuts.

Her mind is blank. All she knows is the anger she feels. The sadness she feels.

How lonely she feels.

BLACK SCREEN

ROLL CREDITS