

GIRL INTERRUPTED

Susannah – Ruby? Ruby? Ruby! Ruby!

Lisa – “If I spread my fingers, my hand looked more human...so I did that. But it was tiring holding my fingers apart, so I let them relax...and then, I turned my hand over.

Susannah – Oh, my God.

(The two other girls make noise.)

Lisa – “And the back of my hand wasn’t much better. My veins bulged.” Shut up. I’m reading. Shut up!

Susannah – Lisa!

Lisa – “I can honestly say that my memory has been transformed. So, by Freud’s definition, I have achieved mental health. And my discharge sheet reads, ‘recovered.’ ‘Recovered.’ ‘Recovered.’”

Susannah – Don’t do this!

Lisa – “Whatever it was I just didn’t want it. Find something new. Had I stopped arguing with my personality? ‘Recovered.’”

Polly – We were just reading your book.

Lisa - We figured since it’s your last night, we’d have a little read – aloud. Celebrate all the wisdom you’re carrying into the world. You know, try to learn something, grow as people. We read how when you were a baby they strapped you to a board. And how you think Georgina doesn’t really want to leave and Polly never will ...and that I’m criminally insane.

Susannah – What are you guys doing here?

Lisa - “Lisa’s eyes, once so magnetic, now just look empty.”

Susannah – Lisa, that is mine.

Lisa – Georgina. Georgina lies only to people who keep her here. Sometimes I think she wants to live in Oz forever.” How perceptive.

Georgina – You better erase that thing...’cause my father is the head of the CIA and he could have you dead in minutes!

Lisa – “In this world, looks are everything.”

Susannah – Oh, God.

Lisa – “Sometimes I think Polly’s sweetness and purity aren’t genuine at all...but a desperate attempt to make it easier for us to look at her.” So nice of you to pass judgment on us now that you’re cured.

Susannah – Why the fuck are you doing this, Lisa?

Lisa – I’m playing the villain, baby, just like you want. I try to give you everything you want.

Susannah – No, you don’t.

Lisa – You wanted your file, I found your file! You wanted out, I got you out! You needed money, I found you some! I'm fucking consistent! I told you the truth! I didn't write it in a book! I told you to your face! And I told Daisy to her face, what everybody knew and wouldn't say, and she killed herself. And I played the fucking villain, just like you wanted.

Susannah – Why would I want that?

Lisa – Because it makes you the good guy, sweet pea. It makes you the good guy and you come back here all sweetness and light and sad and contrite and everybody sits, wringing their hands congratulating you and all your bravery. Meanwhile, I'm blowing guys at bus stations for the money that was in here fucking robe!

Polly – Stop it Lisa!

Georgina – Shut up, Polly!

Lisa – Where are you going? I'm talking to you! Susannah! What, you don't like me anymore?

Susannah – No, I don't!

Lisa – 'Cause you're free?

Susannah – Shut up!

Lisa – You think you're free? I'm free! You don't know what freedom is!

Susannah – Please, Lisa!

Lisa – I'm free! I can breathe! And you – you're gonna go choke on your average fucking mediocre life! - You know, there are too many buttons in this world. There's too many buttons, and they're just – there's way too many just begging to be pressed. They're just begging to be pressed. You know? They're just begging to be pressed. And it makes me wonder. You know, it really makes me fucking wonder...why doesn't anybody ever press mine? Why am I so neglected? Why doesn't anybody reach in and rip out the truth and tell me...that I'm a fucking whore and that my parents wish I were dead?

Susannah – Because you're dead already, Lisa! No one cares if you die, Lisa, because you're dead already. Your heart is cold! That's why you keep coming back here. You're not free. You need this place. You need it to feel alive. It's pathetic.

Lisa – God.

Susannah – I've wasted a year of my life. And maybe everyone out there is a liar. And maybe the whole world is stupid and ignorant. But I'd rather be in it. I'd rather be fucking in it than down here with you.

(Lisa acts like she's going to kill herself.)

Georgina – Lisa. Don't. Please don't.

Lisa – Oh, God.