

"THE ATTIC" ROLE: EMMA (EARLY 20'S WOMAN)

INT. DEN - AFTERNOON

Emma lies on the couch. She's wearing a cut-off T shirt and pajama pants. DR. PERRY, young and studious, sits facing Emma, a clipboard in his lap.

DR. PERRY

You know, you don't have to lay  
down

EMMA

It makes me feel officially nuts.

Dr. Perry smiles. Emma's too sweet to be offensive.

DR. PERRY

Whatever makes you comfortable.

They sit in silence. Perry waits. Finally...

EMMA

I hate his guts. He's cheap, he's  
mean to my brother, his socks  
smell, and he's a frustrated middle  
management uncreative asshole.  
More?

DR. PERRY

Okay.

EMMA

I hate this place.

DR. PERRY

Go on.

Emma sits up.

EMMA

What kind of cheap quack makes  
house calls?

DR. PERRY

I'm a friend of your mother's. I'm  
a family therapist, but I have a  
specialty in phobias, in  
agoraphobia. So when I treat  
someone who has it, I have to come  
to them.

(CONTINUED)

EMMA

Good, so you're not a cheap quack.  
How do you like this dump?

DR. PERRY

How long have you felt unable to  
leave? Have you ever had this  
problem before?

EMMA

Never. Hell, you could have even  
called me a camper. I used to love  
going outside.

DR. PERRY

Then what's the problem?

EMMA

(Smiling)

Isn't that your job to figure out?

Beat.

EMMA (CONT'D)

I just need to sort some stuff out.  
I promise...4 or 5 sessions from  
now, I'll be completely normal.

DR. PERRY

It may take longer. You should  
prepare for that. Your mother says  
you've also stopped eating. Is that  
true? That can be serious.

EMMA

The truth is doc, I'm seriously  
bored. So let's end this session...

DR. PERRY

We just began.

Emma lays back down on the couch.

EMMA

Fine. I'll take a nap. You ever  
fall asleep during a session?

Perry refuses to answer.

DR. PERRY

What frightens you about the  
outdoors?

(CONTINUED)

EMMA

There is something... someone...  
out there.

DR. PERRY

What or who do you think is out  
there?

EMMA

A girl who looks exactly like me.  
Dr. Perry raises his eyebrows.

DR. PERRY

Like a mirror image, an alter ego?

EMMA

An identical twin.

Dr. Perry makes a note. Emma laughs.

EMMA (CONT'D)

What did you write... "Crazy", and  
then underline it?

DR. PERRY

When did this fear begin?

EMMA

The day I set foot in this house.

DR. PERRY

And your fear of the outside is  
greater than your fear of the  
inside?

EMMA

I can't go and I don't want to  
stay.

DR. PERRY

A real dilemma.

EMMA

Maybe it's hormonal. What do you  
think?

DR. PERRY

Why don't you tell me?

EMMA

I don't trust you.

(CONTINUED)

DR. PERRY

I believe everything you tell me.

EMMA

And then you'll judge it, try to  
analyze and change it, and you'll  
confuse me more.