

Erin Lynch

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English 112

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Regrets

“BANG, BANG, BANG!” Erin hears a loud noise while she’s in the shower, but the running water is too loud to identify where it is coming from. Erin ends her shower to see what it is. She grabs her towel and starts to dry off. Erin hears the banging again just to realize it’s on her bathroom door. She hears, “Erin come quick!” and she instantly recognizes the voice. Erin is now panicked and begins to rush. She steps out of the bathroom only just to see her best friend Lindsey passed out on the bed and her other friend Maddie just hovering over Lindsey, frantically trying to check her blood sugars. Lindsey is covered head to toe in sand. Her already pale skin has turned to a ghostly white. The panicked feeling returns to Erin.

“I can’t figure this thing out!” Maddie yells as she’s trying to set up Lindsey’s diabetic supplies

“What the hell happened?” Erin asked Maddie, with a crack in her voice.

Maddie replied “I--- I don’t know. I just saw Ryan carrying her off the beach and he said she was throwing up.”

“I was only gone 30 minutes; how could this have happened?”

Erin begins pricking Lindsey's finger to guide the blood onto a small strip that was connected to a monitor, which after a few seconds, would read the sugar levels in her blood. She checks her blood sugars just for her meter screen to read "HI." They've only been in the Bahamas for six hours now, but Erin can only imagine how much alcohol Lindsey has consumed in that time frame not even including how much sugar could've been in those fruity drinks. Senior week was supposed to be different for them. This was meant to be the highlight of their summer. Erin feels frustrated with her. Not only was she scared for Lindsey's life, but this is something Erin would never expect coming from Lindsey. The strong smell of alcohol was radiating off of Lindsey. Lindsey tried to form words together to make a sentence but her intoxicated mind was getting in the way of that. Erin was not there for Lindsey because left the beach early. She went back to the room by herself to start getting ready for the club later on that night but from the looks of Lindsey, she wasn't going anywhere. Erin regrets leaving.

"She's going to be fine right?" Maddie asked Erin.

"Yes, I just have to give her enough insulin to get her normal numbers back."

She tells Erin, "Alright, I'm going to start getting ready. I'll see you later."

"Okay, but what should I do with Linsey?"

Maddie answers back, "Uhm I don't know, leave her?"

"I guess so, should we feel guilty?" Erin asks.

"I don't. I'm not wasting my first night of senior week stuck in a hotel room."

"You're right," Erin replied.

"Great! I'll see you soon," Maddie said with excitement.

Erin's heart ached for Lindsey, but she had made her decision, one that she would soon regret.

About an hour later while Erin was getting ready, Lindsey wakes up.

"I'm sorry," Lindsey mumbles to Erin.

"Sorry? Don't be. Are you going to be fine here alone?" Erin asks

"You're leaving me?" Lindsey said, holding back tears

"Well yeah, what did you want me to do? Sit in and do nothing?"

Lindsey, still not sober yet, lays her head on the pillow and tries to sleep some more.

Erin finishes getting ready and starts getting excited about going out.

"What do I wear?" Erin thinks to herself

She goes to ask Lindsey for her opinion, but she was out cold.

"I should just let her sleep. I'm sure she'll be fine when she wakes up."

Soon after she was finished getting ready, Erin's friends come by to see if she's ready, so they could walk up to the lobby to catch a cab. The three friends knock on the door and without noticing Lindsey, they all leave the room without thinking twice about what could happen to her.

Erin meets up with her boyfriend and he is curious as to why Lindsey wasn't with her

"Where is Lindsey?" he asks.

"Why do you care?" Erin snaps back because she knew in the back of her head, she should have never left her.

“I-- I don't, I just never see you guys without one another, so I was making sure she was okay.”

“Yeah, she's fine, nothing to worry about,” Erin says not fully confident in her answer. Erin tried telling herself that she was happy with her decision even if it isn't not what she should have done. She keeps replaying her and Maddie's conversation to help the guilt fade from her mind, but she can't shake it. After a short ride, the group of friends pull up to the club ready to have a great time. They walk into the building, all grab a drink and start dancing. Not long after being there, Erin had a bad feeling. She can't get Lindsey off her mind and has the need to get back to the hotel as soon as possible. She grabs her boyfriend and they hail a cab back to the hotel. Erin's feeling grew stronger and she can't talk passed the lump in her throat. She stumbles out of the cab and sprints to her room. The walk ack to the room felt like forever. The hotel halls were never ending. Finally she reaches her door, pulls out her room key, and struggles swiping it. She gets it open and runs into the room.

“Lindsey!” She screams before she even sees her.

Then looks at the bed and sees her lying there. A sign of relief falls onto Erin but as she looks closer, she sees what looks like vomit on her clothes. She gets closer and grabs her hand to shake and wake her up. Ice cold. Erin doesn't know what to think. Her boyfriend runs out of the room screaming for help. All of the color in Erin's face left he as she grew pale.

“I'm sorry” Erin sobs as she is laying cross Lindsey's lifeless body.

Unable to catch her breath, Erin lets out a scream. She regrets her decision and wishes she could take it back. After about a half hour went by, her boyfriend returns with

paramedics. A group of men crowd the room and a stretcher follows behind them. One of the men pulls Erin aside to explain what happen to Lindsey.

“She was highly intoxicated and due to that; her body did not react to her vomit reflexes and the liquid went back into her body and into her lungs with caused her to suffocate.” He said in his Spanish accent.

Erin’s worst nightmare just came true. Erin’s boyfriend grabs her and holds her in his arms in attempt to calm her down. Erin did not know what to do. All she could think about is what could have happened if she stayed with her. She picks up her phone about to make the worst phone call of her life. Without thinking, she dials Lindsey’s mother’s number. As she stares off into space waiting for the ringing to end. She finally hears a friendly “hello?” and delivers the bad news.