

COVERT COINHABITANT

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INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

HALLIE plays a video game on the couch when her roommate SAM wanders in. Hallie is distracted by Sam's aimless drifting and she pulls her headset down around her neck.

HALLIE

Hey Sam.

SAM

Hey Hallie. Whatchya up to?

HALLIE

Nothing much.

SAM

Cool. Any luck with your acting work?

HALLIE

Nah, I'm getting auditions but no callbacks. It'll pick up though.

SAM

That's good. Grand Theft Auto? Sick.

There's a thick, awkward, lingering pause.

SAM (CONT'D)

Do you ever think about it?

HALLIE

About what? Sex, ice cream, death? You've gotta be more specific with your line of questioning babe.

SAM

Robbing a bank.

HALLIE

No?

SAM

Not once?

HALLIE

Well, not seriously. Why? Have you?

SAM

If you were to, hypothetically -
how do you think you'd do it?

HALLIE

Ah, hypothetically? I guess I
wouldn't want to make too much of a
scene. And I'd definitely be in and
out to avoid a hostage situation.

SAM

Covert. Good strategy.

HALLIE

How would you do it?

SAM

I'd probably hand a note over the
counter with the name of the
teller's children and subtly flash
a knife or something to that effect
I guess.

HALLIE

Right... You good hun?

SAM

Yeah I'm good.

HALLIE

Everything going okay at work?

SAM

Nah I lost my job. But that's okay.
I'm onto bigger and better things.
(beat)

They get the money back anyway.

HALLIE

Who?

SAM

The bank. They're insured for theft
so even if the thief got away they
get every cent back. Isn't that
wild?

HALLIE

Yeah I hadn't really thought about
it before. Listen Sam, I only have
today off so I'm just going to get
back to doing my own thing if
that's cool?

SAM

Yeah sure, no problem.

Hallie puts her headset back over her ears. Sam leaves but then reappears with a home-made balaclava over her face.

HALLIE

(startled)

Jeez Sam. What the hell is that?!

SAM

It's my balaclava. Do you like it? I cut out the holes myself. If I had my time again I'd cut the eye holes smaller though and maybe get a more breathable fabric.

HALLIE

What's it for?

SAM

It's just nice to have. Would you like me to make you one too?

HALLIE

No I'm alright. Ah, going back to your hypothetical, I don't think robbing a bank has ever worked out well for anyone.

SAM

No?

HALLIE

Well, best case scenario, even if the robber got away, what kind of life would they have? Waking up every day stressing about what the day will bring. If today's the day it all falls apart for them.

SAM

Isn't that just life anyway?

Hallie ponders this. Sam grabs a small knife and heads out.

SAM (CONT'D)

Well, have a good day. Bye Hallie.

HALLIE

See ya Sam.

(beat)

I really need to get my own place.