EMMA

Drama

Fernanda García

fergarciaaf@gmail.com
834 151 6293

2025

1. EXT. LAKE - DAWN

EMMA (32) is painting in front of the lake. A painting supply bench sits beside her.

CARO (O.S.)
Emma!

CUT TO:

2. INT. BEDROOM/BATHROOM - NIGHT

EMMA is dozing on the toilet, her forehead sweaty, her chest and jacket stained with vomit.

CARO (28) enters the bathroom. Her eyes adjust to the light.

CARO
Emma?

EMMA doesn't respond, only lets out a tired sigh. Caro crouches down and rubs Emma's back. She opens her eyes.

CARO
Come here, let me help you.

Emma nods. She closes her eyes again.

Caro gets up, takes the hand towel, wets it, and moves closer to clean the vomit from Emma's chest. Emma opens her eyes and looks at Caro. She smiles faintly.

Caro finishes cleaning her and helps Emma stand. Emma limps slightly. Carefully, Caro removes her jacket.

Caro guides Emma to the sink. She picks up one of the toothbrushes, but before she can put toothpaste on it, Emma stops her with trembling hands.

EMMA
I'm tired.

Caro looks at her. Emma shakes her head again.

Caro, displeased, puts everything down.

Caro carefully guides Emma to bed. They lie facing each other.

3. INT. KITCHEN - DAY

EMMA observes the pill bottle in front of her. There are dark circles under her eyes. She bites hard on one of her dry lips.

CARO enters, drying her hair with a towel. In her other hand, she looks through several bills.

CARO
(Reading the bills)
See? They charge us like we are a family of seven.

Emma turns, she laughs. Caro approaches her, she strokes her shoulder.

EMMA
I think I'll go paint later. I need to get some air.

CARO
Wait till I get back and I'll help you, okay?

Emma rolls her eyes, smiling.

EMMA
I'm gonna be fine.

Caro laughs.

CARO
Don't be so stubborn.

EMMA
Nothing will happen if I go out... And if it does, maybe they'll start charging you like you're a family of four.

Caro doesn't laugh.

CARO
Don't say that.

Emma sighs, nods. She wraps her arms around Caro.

EMMA
I'm sorry.

Silence.

CARO
Did you take your pill?

Emma looks at the bottle again. She doesn't answer.

Caro pulls away and looks at Emma. Emma avoids her.

Caro strokes her cheek. Emma becomes anxious.

CARO
Honey, please.

Emma doesn't move. She gives in and takes the bottle. She tries to open it, her hands are trembling.

She pushes the cap. The pills rattle inside the glass.

Caro just watches her. Emma struggles, she can't do it.

Caro stops her. She takes the bottle and opens it without difficulty.

Emma simply watches. Caro takes out a pill and carefully places it in Emma's hand. She strokes them, then turns away to open the refrigerator.

Emma stares at the pill, biting her lip hard. Finally, she takes it.

4. INT. PAINTING STUDIO - DAY

The room is filled with boxes of painting supplies. EMMA looks at the canvas in the middle of the room.

There are paintings of different landscapes on the floor, others are brand new.

Emma looks at her painting bench. With trembling hands, she picks up the brush and awkwardly dips it into paint.

Emma tries to calm herself, breathes, and brings the brush toward the canvas. Just before it touches, she holds her hand with the other. It's useless.

Someone knocks on the door.

CARO (O.S.)
Can I come in?

Emma stops abruptly and puts the supplies down, she approaches the door with some difficulty.

She opens it halfway, her body blocking the painting behind her. Caro stands in the doorway.

CARO
Are you gonna let me in now?

EMMA
No! not until I finish it. It's a surprise.

Caro rolls her eyes.

CARO
But I'll love it whether I see it now or later. Please, I just want to stay with you in case you need anything.

Emma shakes her head. Looks down.

EMMA
It's fine. I'll let you know if I need anything.

Caro is uncomfortable.

CARO
Okay... I'll finish up some work.

Caro approaches and kisses Emma. Emma closes the door.

She looks at her hands. They're still trembling. She looks at the painting. Sighs. Decides to leave the room.

5. INT. BEDROOM - DAY

EMMA is napping. She slowly wakes up.

Emma shields her eyes from the sun. She rests on her back. She breathes, uncovers her eyes, rubs them, and stares at the ceiling for a moment.

Emma gets up. She rubs her face to finish waking up. Emma turns to sit on the edge of the bed, only one of her feet touches the floor.

Emma notices. She is confused. She looks at the leg that didn't move. She touches it. It doesn't move.

She sits completely on the bed again. She touches her leg with her hands. She can't feel anything.

She rubs her skin, scratches and pinches it. Nothing. Emma panics, lies back on the bed, breathing heavily in a panic attack, her gaze lost.

6. INT. PAINTING STUDIO - DUSK

EMMA sits on a bench in front of the canvas. Beside her is a walker. Her eyes look more tired than usual.

Emma pulls her brush away from the canvas with trembling hands.

She looks at the painting. It's finished.

Emma looks out the window. The lake she was painting can be seen in the distance.

Emma sighs and looks at the canvas again.

7. INT. DINING ROOM - NIGHT

EMMA and CARO are having dinner.

Emma quickly swallows the food in her mouth.

EMMA
I forgot to tell you, I finished the painting. I just need to sign it.

Caro smiles and drinks some water.

CARO
How do you feel?

Emma picks at her food. She stops, looks at her plate. Smiles.

EMMA
Free.

Caro furrows her eyebrows and lets out a laugh.

CARO
Free? Free from what?

Silence. Emma hesitates to answer.

EMMA
From staying here, I guess.

Caro stops. She looks at Emma, angry.

CARO
Don't say that, Emma.

Emma says nothing. She doesn't look at her. They both go back to eating in silence.

EMMA
Haven't you thought about it?

CARO
Thought about what?

EMMA
You know what I'm talking about.

Caro shrugs it off. She keeps eating. Hides her eyes.

CARO
Don't ask me that.

EMMA
Caro...

Emma reaches her hand toward Caro's. Caro pulls hers away.

EMMA
Please, listen to me.

CARO
I'll be gone for a bit tomorrow...
I have a few things that I...

Emma grabs Caro's arm. Caro looks at her with tearful eyes.

CARO
That's it? You finish a painting
and now you want to die?

EMMA
Caro, I'm already dying. Look at
me.

Emma points to her leg. She shows Caro her trembling hands.

EMMA
Is that what you want?

CARO
(Bothered)
Want what?

EMMA
To be laid up in bed with me.

CARO
(Angry laugh)
And you think asking me to kill you
is better?

EMMA
I'm not asking you to do that.

CARO
Then what is it, Emma? What do you
want?

EMMA
I want you to let me go.

Silence. Caro looks at Emma, doesn't respond.

EMMA
Honey...

Caro gets up with her plate and takes it to the sink. Emma gets up after her, without grabbing her walker.

EMMA
Caro...

Emma catches up to Caro and grabs her arm. Caro turns.

CARO
Emma... I love you.

Caro stares at Emma. Silence.

EMMA
I love you too.

Caro cries. Emma holds her and lets her cry on her shoulder.

8. INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

CARO sleeps facing EMMA. Emma plays with Caro's hair.

Emma takes in every one of Caro's features, caressing her cheeks.

Emma pushes herself up on her arm, wincing slightly. Once upright, she leans over and kisses Caro on the forehead.

Emma moves to get up. Caro reaches for Emma's hand.

Emma is confused. Caro opens her eyes, they are filled with tears. She nods slightly and squeezes her hand.

Emma looks at their hands. She brings them closer and kisses them, then slowly lets go. She gets out of bed with difficulty.

Caro watches her leave through the door, crying silently.

FADE TO:

9. EXT. LAKE/EMMA AND CARO'S HOUSE - DAY

It is a quiet morning. The lake's water is still. Birds can be heard in the distance.

Emma's walker is at the edge of the lake.

10. INT. PAINTING STUDIO - DAY

Caro opens the door to the empty studio.

The painting of the lake is in the center of the room. A fresh painted signature can be seen across the landscape, the strokes trembling: *For Caro. Forever. — Emma.*