

TO CATCH A DIARY

I Am Not Okay With This, Season 2, Episode 2

Written by

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FADE IN:

INT. CHURCH - DAY

People trickle into the Church. The casket sits at the front of the room with a large portrait of Brad on an easel in front.

SYDNEY (V.O.)

Dear missing diary, I know I should've gone to Brad's funeral. Better to show face than make myself appear more suspicious.

People settle into their seats.

SYDNEY (V.O.)

Oh well, I'm kinda busy with my own things.

DENNIS LEWIS, Brad's dad, dressed in a suit, stands at the podium.

DENNIS

My son was a good man. He was kind, good-looking, and hecking good at football.

RICKY, wearing a suit, nods in agreement, tearing up.

DENNIS (CONT'D)

Before his...passing...the top dogs were ready to take him. Ohio, Notre Dame, Bama. You name it, they wanted him.

STAN, still with a black eye, pats DINA on the back as she tears up.

Dennis gestures for STACEY LEWIS, Brad's mom, to come to the podium. They hug at the podium.

JENNY sits, twirling gum in her mouth.

STACEY

Brad missed out on all the important things. College, marriage, children...

Jenny leans over to Stan and quietly speaks.

JENNY
(quietly, aside)
Imagine Brad as a father. That baby
would be all sorts of fucked up.

Stan suppresses a laugh. Stacey cries at the podium into a tissue.

STACEY
I can't. I just can't bear it.

Ricky hops up to the podium to comfort Stacey. The room is silent. Ricky steps up to the microphone.

RICKY
Brad was my best friend. My
confidant.

Stan looks at Ricky solemnly. Ricky looks at the portrait of Brad beside him.

RICKY (CONT'D)
I still remember the day we met. I
had just moved to Brownsville in
fourth grade.

(FLASHBACK)

EXT. BROWNSVILLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PLAYGROUND - DAY

Children run around the playground and swing on the play set.

YOUNG RICKY sadly sits alone at a table, far from the other kids.

YOUNG BRAD stands with two classmates, and four other classmates stand opposite of them.

YOUNG CLASSMATE
It's not even. You need one more.

Brad looks around the playground. He sees Ricky sitting alone.

YOUNG BRAD
Hey! New kid!

Ricky looks up in surprise.

YOUNG BRAD (CONT'D)
Catch!

Brad unexpectedly throws the ball, and Ricky catches it. Ricky looks surprised and smiles. Brad approaches Ricky.

YOUNG BRAD (CONT'D)
What's your name new kid?

YOUNG RICKY
Ricky.

Brad stretches out his hand to shake Ricky's.

YOUNG BRAD
Brad. You ever played dodgeball?

Ricky nods.

YOUNG BRAD (CONT'D)
Good. Join my team.

(BACK TO PRESENT)

INT. CHURCH - CONTINUOUS

Ricky cries at the podium.

RICKY
No matter what anyone says, he was a good guy. He took me in when no one else would.

Ricky uncontrollably sobs.

RICKY (CONT'D)
Now I have no one.

Ricky pulls himself together a little bit but grows visibly angrier. He shakes his head.

RICKY (CONT'D)
It just doesn't make sense. No one's head blows up out of the blue. This couldn't have been an accident.

Ricky's face is red and the vein on his neck bulges. Stan is taken aback.

STAN
(under breath)
Jeez.

RICKY

I KNOW someone did this. Maybe even
one of YOU!

He points to the row with Dina, Stan, and Jenny. Dina and Stan are surprised, while Jenny continues twirling her gum.

JENNY

(under her breath)
Hah. I WISH.

Stan looks at her in disgust.

RICKY

Not the time, Jenny.

Jenny shrugs. Ricky's face is even more red, and he spits as he yells into the crowd angrily.

RICKY (CONT'D)

We will stop at NOTHING to find out
how this happened and WHO did this.
This is a STATE investigation, and
I know Chief Bell will find us
answers.

Ricky looks at CHIEF BELL, Dina's dad, for affirmation. He nods. Stan's eyes widen.

RICKY (CONT'D)

So you better watch out if you did
this....

Stan's heart beats once loudly.

(FLASHBACK)

INT. BOWLING ALLEY - AFTERNOON

Sydney uses her powers to fling bowling balls at Stan's head.

(END FLASHBACK)

INT. CHURCH - CONTINUOUS

RICKY

...you sick murdering son of a
bitch...

Stan heart beats loudly again.

(FLASHBACK)

EXT. FOREST - EVENING

Stan sees Sydney use her powers to knock down trees.

(END FLASHBACK)

INT. CHURCH - CONTINUOUS

RICKY
...because you can't hide forever.

Stan gulps.

TITLE SEQUENCE - I AM NOT OKAY WITH THIS

(MONTAGE)

INT. GUIDANCE COUNSELOR'S OFFICE - DAY

Montage of students talking to MRS. CAPPRIOTTI. Dina, Stan, Ricky, and Sydney each individually sit on the couch.

MRS. CAPPRIOTTI
How have you been coping?

Ricky looks sad on the couch.

RICKY
I'm okay.

MS. CAPPRIOTTI
Why don't you try writing your
thoughts down in this diary?

Now, Dina is on the couch. She very hesitantly takes the diary.

MRS. CAPPRIOTTI
I know, there seems to be a stigma
about diaries since Homecoming last
week.

Jenny now sits in the couch chair, loudly and disrespectfully chewing gum with a gaping mouth. She holds the diary far from her body with just two fingers.

MRS. CAPPRIOTTI (CONT'D)
But trust me, it's a great way to
channel your negative thoughts.

Stan now sits in the chair awkwardly holding the diary and
nods.

MRS. CAPPRIOTTI (CONT'D)
Remember, my door is always open to
you.

Sydney now sits in the chair tensely holding a new diary.

(END MONTAGE)

SYDNEY
Mrs. Cappriotti, I don't know if
I'm willing to write in this again.
It didn't go so well last time.

Sydney has soundless flashbacks of Brad getting on the stage
and then his head blowing up.

MRS. CAPPRIOTTI
Just give it one more try, Syd.

SYDNEY (V.O.)
There's no way in hell.

SYDNEY
Alright.

SYDNEY (V.O.)
I don't even know where my actual
diary is. At this point, anyone
could have it...

Sydney imagines where her diary might be.

(MONTAGE)

INT. HIGH SCHOOL GYM - NIGHT OF THE INCIDENT

Montage of worst-case scenarios of various people picking up
the diary and reacting to what's inside.

Dina reads through the diary and vomits.

Stan reads through the diary and curls up into a ball,
crying.

The HIGH SCHOOL CUSTODIAN reads through and grins in a perverted way. He unbuckles the belt on his pants.

(END MONTAGE)

INT. GUIDANCE COUNSELOR'S OFFICE - DAY

Sydney snaps back to reality.

SYDNEY (V.O.)
Blegh. Disgusting.

INT. HIGH SCHOOL HALLWAY - DAY

Sydney walks through the hallway. People glue themselves to the lockers as she walks by, acting like she is some sort of freak.

SYDNEY (V.O.)
This is seriously the last thing I
need right now...

CLASSMATE 1, wearing a chic plaid skirt, tight white top, and two high ponytails with colorful hair ties, holds her books to her chest and stands against the locker as Sydney passes by.

CLASSMATE 1 whispers in CLASSMATE 2's ear. Classmate 2 is dressed very similarly to Classmate 1.

CLASSMATE 1
(whisper)
I heard she gave Dina AIDS and then
Brad got it and the AIDS blew up
his brain.

SYDNEY (V.O.)
...Not only do I have to deal with
this shadow thing and whatever the
hell is going on with me...

Classmate 2 glares at Sydney from the side and whispers back to Classmate 1.

CLASSMATE 2
(whisper)
My dad told me she's in the
Illuminati. He knows because he's a
doctor.

SYDNEY (V.O.)
 ...and people thinking I'm some
 sort of freak...

Sydney locks eyes with CLASSMATE 3, a cheerleader, on the opposite side of the hall. She whispers to a group of four jock boys and cheerleader girls as Sydney passes by. They all stare at Sydney in disgust.

CLASSMATE 3
 (whisper)
 Apparently, she can fly too.
 Lindsay saw her levitating above
 the roof yesterday.

SYDNEY (V.O.)
 ...AND the fact that Dina probably
 never wants to see me again...

CLASSMATE 4, a cheerleader in Classmate 3's friend group, leans into the group circle.

CLASSMATE 4
 (whisper)
 Yeah, she shoots lasers out of her
 eyes. But they're so fast that you
 can't see them.

SYDNEY (V.O.)
 ...but now, of all people, Dina's
 dad is hunting me down...

At the end of the hall is Chief Bell in a policeman uniform, talking to his partner, OFFICER DAVIS. Chief Bell glares at Sydney.

SYDNEY (V.O.)
 ...What if he already knows it's
 me...

Sydney abruptly stops speaking in her voiceover as Stan and Dina approach her.

SYDNEY
 Oh uh, hi.

STAN
 Hey Syd.

SYDNEY
 Hey uh, sorry I didn't come to the
 funeral.

STAN
It's okay. We were just worried.

DINA
I haven't seen you in so long.

SYDNEY
Yeah, since...

DINA
...the night...

SYDNEY
I'm sorry, Dina. I can't imagine
what you're going through.

DINA
Yeah.

SYDNEY
I didn't think you'd want to see
me.

SYDNEY (V.O.)
Why would she want to be around a
freak? That's all I am.

DINA
I always want to see you. You're my
best friend.

Sydney smiles. Dina looks back and sees her dad talking to
Officer Davis but staring at Dina as she talks to Sydney.

DINA (CONT'D)
It's kinda weird that my dad is
investigating the case.

STAN
No offense but he's kinda a
terrifying man. He questioned me
for like an hour. He asked me if I
do drugs?!

Sydney smirks.

SYDNEY
What'd you say?

STAN
Only LSD. Twice a week, max.

Sydney laughs.

SYDNEY

So you didn't even tell him about
the horse tranquilizers?

DINA

Shhh, he's right there. He'll hear
you.

They all look at Chief Bell. He is staring at them intently
from the end of the hallway.

STAN

(lean in, whisper to
Sydney)

Nah, he doesn't need to know THAT
much about my personal life. But I
made SURE to mention the shrooms.

Stan winks. Stan and Sydney giggle.

DINA

You really want to get in trouble
don't you?

STAN

Oh come on, Miss Perfect. Lighten
up. Did he interrogate you yet?

DINA

Technically, no. I feel like that's
illegal or something. But trust me,
he's been questioning me everyday
since the incident.

STAN

How about you, Syd. Did you go to
your interview yet?

SYDNEY

Yeah.

SYDNEY (V.O.)

No.

DINA

Oh, speak of the devil, he's
calling me over.

Chief Bell stares at her. She walks over to him. After she
leaves, Stan leans closer to Sydney.

STAN

(quietly)

Did you tell him the truth?

Sydney pushes him away, and he slams into a locker.

SYDNEY

(yell)

I didn't do anything wrong!

People in the hallway turn their heads to see what the commotion is, and whispers ensue. Sydney walks away, leaving Stan hopeless in the hallway.

Stan looks down the hall and sees Dina. He squints. She has something poking out of her backpack: Sydney's diary. Stan's eyes widen.

INT. SYDNEY'S HOUSE - AFTERNOON

Sydney walks in through the door. MAGGIE MILLER, Sydney's mom, is waiting for her at the door.

MAGGIE

Welcome home. You have company.

Maggie gestures to Chief Bell, sitting at the dining table behind her. Officer Davis stands behind the table with his arms crossed.

CHIEF BELL

Sydney, you didn't come to your interview today.

SYDNEY

I was busy.

CHIEF BELL

This is a full-fledged state investigation, Sydney. You cannot just blow this off.

SYDNEY (V.O.)

GOD! Can he STOP?!

CHIEF BELL

Please, sit down for a few minutes and talk to me.

Officer Davis pulls out a chair for Sydney.

SYDNEY (V.O.)

I swear to God.

Chief Bell gestures that she should sit.

SYDNEY (V.O.)
I can't do this right now.

Sydney clenches her fists. The knives and plates on the table rattle.

CHIEF BELL
(raise voice)
SIT!

Sydney clenches her fists more. The plates and knives rattle more.

SYDNEY
(raise voice)
NO!

One of the plates falls onto the floor. Chief Bell and Officer Davis are bewildered. Sydney immediately runs upstairs. She passes LIAM on the steps, who looks confused. Maggie looks dejected.

MAGGIE
I'm sorry, Chief Bell. She's been having these fits recently. It hasn't been the same since...well...

CHIEF BELL
No worries, Maggie. These things are hard for our kids. But I have a responsibility to this town and to Brad's family. So please, if you can, try to get through to her.

MAGGIE
I know, I know. I'll do my best.

Sydney's mom ushers Chief Bell and Officer Davis out through the door as Chief Bell puts on his hat.

EXT. DINA'S HOUSE - AFTERNOON

Stan rings the doorbell. Dina opens the door.

DINA
Oh hey. I didn't even know you knew my address.

STAN
Eh, I have connections.

Dina is slightly weirded out.

DINA
What are you doing here?

He leans in.

STAN
(quietly)
Listen, Dina. I know you have the
diary.

DINA
What?!

STAN
Dina, I saw it in your bag.

She stays silent.

STAN (CONT'D)
You have to give it to me. Please.

DINA
Stan, even if I HAD the diary, why
would I do that?

STAN
I'm the only one who's supposed to
know about her powers.

DINA
I'm her friend too Stan!

STAN
But she told me I'm the only one
who knows!

Dina sighs and cocks her head to the side. She develops a
more comforting tone.

DINA
Ugh, Stan, I'm sorry. I know this
has been hard for you. Syd really
does care about you. She talked
about you all the time, literally
every time we were together.

STAN
Really?

DINA
Yeah, I was almost scared you'd
replace me as her best friend.

Stan laughs.

STAN

No one could ever replace you. I mean, she's like...

DINA

Yeah, in love with me.

STAN

Yeah...

They laugh, taking the edge off.

DINA

Why don't you come in? Let's talk for a bit.

Dina ushers him into her house.

INT. SYDNEY'S HOUSE - EVENING

Sydney, Liam, and Maggie eat silently at the four-person dinner table. Sydney looks only at her bowl of soup, while Maggie looks directly at her, trying to get her attention. Maggie breaks the obvious silence.

MAGGIE

So how's school, Syd?

SYDNEY

Fine.

SYDNEY (V.O.)

Please make her stop.

The room falls silent again, except for the clinking sounds of spoons against soup bowls. Maggie breaks the silence again.

MAGGIE

Syd, what happened that night?

SYDNEY

Mom! I told you I don't want to talk about it!

MAGGIE

Honey, you came home covered in blood, and now it's a state investigation.

SYDNEY (V.O.)

Shut up. Shut up.

SYDNEY

SHUT UP!

Maggie is taken aback.

MAGGIE

Sydney Novak. Do not raise your voice at me.

Sydney calms down.

MAGGIE (CONT'D)

I'm your mother, Syd. You know I just want to help you. But I can't help you if I don't know what happened.

SYDNEY

I told you, I don't NEED help. I'm fine on my own. It's not like you ever helped me before this anyways.

MAGGIE

Syd, that's not true.

SYDNEY

Don't lie to me, Mom. Dad was the only one who ever cared about me. All you ever cared about was work and Liam.

Sydney raises her voice and clenches her fists. The utensils on the table slightly rattle. Maggie tears up. Liam looks dumbfounded.

SYDNEY (CONT'D)

And now the only reason you care about me is because stupid Chief Bell told you to interrogate me for his stupid case.

MAGGIE

I care because I love you, Sydney. Everything I do has always been for you.

SYDNEY

You liar! Stop meddling in my life! Go back to not caring about me!

Sydney clenches her fists more. The soup bowls on the table shake. The utensils rattle more.

SYDNEY (V.O.)
Calm down, calm down.

MAGGIE
Sydney, you know you can talk to me. I might not be as good as dad, but I'm trying. Ever since dad died, you haven't been the same.

SYDNEY
STOP!

The rattling of the bowls reaches its climax and a drop of hot soup splashes Liam in the face.

LIAM
Ouch!

The rattling immediately stops. Maggie quickly grabs a towel and wipes Liam's face. She comforts him, rubbing his back.

Sydney is on the verge of tears. She stands with her mouth agape, shocked that she hurt Liam.

SYDNEY
Goob, I'm...

Liam looks at her in dismay.

SYDNEY (CONT'D)
I need to go.

MAGGIE
Honey, wait, please.

Sydney runs through the front door. Maggie looks up while still holding a towel to Liam's face. She looks concerned and sad.

LIAM
She's always so angry. Just like dad was.

Maggie looks at him with an affirming but sad face and sighs.

INT. DINA'S BEDROOM - EVENING

Dina and Stan sit on Dina's bed laughing and holding the diary.

STAN
A cat mermaid. Where did Mrs. Cappriotti even get this thing?

They laugh more.

DINA

You know, Mrs. Cappriotti told me to write in a diary too.

STAN

Same. As if that'll solve our problems.

They laugh. There is a moment of silence where they just look at the diary. Then, Dina looks up at Stan.

DINA

How long did you know about...you know?

Stan smiles.

STAN

Well, I knew she wasn't interested in me, that's for sure. And I had a feeling you were the reason.

Dina smiles.

DINA

I wish I knew earlier. When she kissed me at the party, I was just too shocked to do anything.

Stan gives a comforting look.

DINA (CONT'D)

And then by the time I told her at Homecoming, it was too late...

STAN

It's not too late, Dina. I know she's going through a lot, but she needs us now more than ever.

DINA

Do you think she's okay? She wrote something about a man following her in here.

She holds up the diary.

STAN

I hope so. She told me at Homecoming that the man was just in her head, but I'm not sure if that's true.

DINA

I knew something was off, but I didn't know it was this bad.

STAN

I think it had something to do with her powers. I tried to help her control them, but she kept pushing me away.

A moment of silence ensues. Dina breaks it.

DINA

Do you think she killed Brad?

STAN

I don't know what to believe anymore.

Dina sighs.

DINA

This is such a mess.

STAN

Yeah. But I know one thing's for sure. I care about her and don't want anything to happen to her.

DINA

Me too.

STAN

We need to keep this diary safe. Do NOT let your dad find it.

DINA

I won't.

STAN

If it got into the wrong hands, it would destroy her.

Suddenly, Chief Bell, wearing his same policeman clothing from before, shows up in the bedroom doorway. Stan's face goes pale. Dina quickly tucks the diary under her pillow right next to her.

CHIEF BELL

What are you two doing up here?

DINA

Oh, uh, homework.

CHIEF BELL

I didn't know you were in the same classes as Stan.

STAN

Oh, yeah, uh, fourth period U.S. history.

Chief Bell walks around the room suspiciously and glares at Stan.

CHIEF BELL

You know, the investigation at your school's been pretty interesting. You young kids are quick to choose sides, aren't ya?

DINA

Can we not talk about this right now, dad?

CHIEF BELL

I'm just sayin'. Be careful whose side you choose. People can be deceiving.

Stan looks very uncomfortable.

CHIEF BELL (CONT'D)

Saw your dad in the precinct earlier this week, Stan. Fourth time this year.

Stan is reticent.

STAN

Yeah, he gets into trouble a lot.

CHIEF BELL

Don't you think you should be home keeping an eye on your old pop, then?

Chief Bell stops walking.

STAN

Oh. I guess. I'll head out.

Stan silently packs up his backpack and jacket and walks past Chief Bell through the doorway.

Chief Bell looks menacingly at Dina.

EXT. SYDNEY'S NEIGHBORHOOD - EVENING

Sydney runs through the street crying.

SYDNEY (V.O.)
It's gone too far. Goob is the last
one I'd ever want to hurt.

She wipes her tears as she runs.

SYDNEY (V.O.)
I can't control my powers anymore.
I need help.

She approaches the edge of the forest where the watch-tower resides.

SYDNEY (V.O.)
I know he can help me.

SHADOW MAN stands at the edge of the fire watch-tower and sees Sydney approaching through the woods.

SHADOW MAN
Good. Very good.

INT. DINA'S HOUSE - EVENING

Dina sits on her bed as Chief Bell continues to walk around the room and glare at her menacingly.

CHIEF BELL
So you're friends with Stan now,
huh?

DINA
He's a good guy.

CHIEF BELL
You trust people too easily.

Dina is fed up. She rolls her eyes.

CHIEF BELL (CONT'D)
First it was Sydney. I let that
slide. Now, Stan. Who's next? The
weird gay kid next door?

DINA
Dad, enough.

CHIEF BELL

Brad was the kind of person you should be hanging around. Not these weird kids. They're no good for you.

DINA

Please stop.

He pauses for a second.

CHIEF BELL

So about that diary from the gym... You wouldn't happen to know anything about it now, would you?

Dina sits a little higher up on her bed, trying to push the diary deeper under the pillow.

DINA

No, I STILL don't know anything about it, Dad.

Chief Bell walks closer and closer to the pillow on the bed.

DINA (CONT'D)

Maybe you should ask the principal or check in the lost and found.

CHIEF BELL

I did.

DINA

That's all I can suggest.

Dina sits very uncomfortably. Chief Bell plays with the blinds in the bedroom.

CHIEF BELL

You know, you really should be careful where your loyalties lie.

DINA

What do you mean?

CHIEF BELL

Some people shouldn't be trusted. You don't know their motives.

DINA

I don't know what you're talking about. I trust all of my friends.

CHIEF BELL

Some of them might hurt you. One second, you're friends. The next, your head's blown off.

DINA

Dad, can you stop bringing up Brad, please?

CHIEF BELL

Sure, sure. No more Brad. But let's about that Sydney friend of yours.

DINA

(under breath)
Oh god.

CHIEF BELL

She's a real troublemaker isn't she? Refuses to talk to me for the investigation.

Dina doesn't say anything.

CHIEF BELL (CONT'D)

I knew she was gonna be one of the difficult ones. I never really liked that weird girl anyways, since you started hanging out with her.

DINA

She's my best friend.

CHIEF BELL

Be careful, because that's not what she thinks.

Dina furrows her brow.

DINA

What's that supposed to mean?

CHIEF BELL

Just remember that the town looks up to us. Remember what we stand for.

DINA

What does that have to do with me and Syd?

CHIEF BELL

Sydney is...different. Short hair,
boy clothes. She's not what young
girls are supposed to be like. Not
the image we want to give people.

They both raise their voices in frustration and anger.

DINA

Why do you care what she wears,
Dad? No one in this stupid town
cares about our image as much as
you.

CHIEF BELL

SHE'S A DYKE, DINA! And I will not
let my daughter be caught up in her
sick lifestyle.

Dina is shocked. Chief Bell sighs and covers his face with
his hands in frustration.

CHIEF BELL (CONT'D)

I'm sorry, Dina. You know I just
want what's best for you and for
us.

Dina sits solemnly, refusing to look him in the eye. He backs
off and steps farther away from her bed.

CHIEF BELL (CONT'D)

Remember what we always say. Family
first. Always. Right?

She does not respond. Chief Bell clenches his jaw.

CHIEF BELL (CONT'D)

(raise voice)
RIGHT?

DINA

Family first.

CHIEF BELL

Good. And stop hanging out with
that Stan guy. I don't need you
falling under his influence either.
Weird kid.

Dina stays silent.

CHIEF BELL (CONT'D)

Mom made Shrimp Scampi for dinner.
See you downstairs.

Chief Bell leaves the room without another word. After he leaves, Dina puts her face into her hands and quietly cries. She grabs the diary from behind the pillow and holds it tightly.

DINA
(whisper)
I won't let him find you.

She places the diary deep under her bed in a hidden box and closes it shut.

EXT. FIRE WATCH-TOWER - EVENING

Sydney breaths heavily after reaching the top of the watch-tower. Shadow Man is turned away, pressed against the balcony rail and facing the town.

There are nearby sounds of nature mixed with distance sounds of human life (cars, people, commotion).

SYDNEY
I'm ready. Teach me.

Shadow Man smirks evilly. Just his mouth moves as he says the next phrase.

SHADOW MAN
Welcome back.

FADE OUT