

EXT. BALCONY AND STREET - MORNING

Closing the door to her apartment, Izzy places a hand on the glass and presses her nose to it.

FIREMAN 1 (O.S.)
(through a megaphone)
All tenants in building three,
please exit calmly.

Izzy turns and looks down at the street stories below. She heaves labored breaths.

Tenants evacuate from various exits below, and EMTs examine them.

FIREMAN 1 looks up at Izzy and points her out to FIREMAN 2

FIREMAN 1
(pointing)
Shit--there's a lady up there! Get
a ladder while I get her attention.

Fireman 2 runs to the truck for a ladder, and Fireman 1 waves his arms at Izzy.

FIREMAN 1
(through a megaphone)
Ma'am! Ma'am! We're coming with a
ladder. Try to stay calm.

Izzy shakes and pants.

The firemen set a ladder at the base of the building.

Izzy squeezes her eyes shut.

The top of the ladder hits the balcony, and Izzy's eyes snap open. She clenches her fists.

Fireman 1 climbs up and faces Izzy.

She stands with all of the muscles in her body clenched.

FIREMAN 1
Ma'am? Ma'am?

Izzy slowly looks at him and grimaces.

FIREMAN 1
I need you to come to me so you can
go down the ladder.

Izzy stares but does not respond.

FIREMAN 1
Ma'am?

IZZY
(quiet--to herself)
I don't want to.

FIREMAN 1
Huh?

IZZY
(shouting)
I don't want to!

The fireman's mouth gapes open.

FIREMAN 1
We need to go. Now.

Izzy shrinks away from him.

IZZY
No!

FIREMAN 1
What do you mean, no? There's a
fire, lady!

IZZY
I can't.

FIREMAN 1
Would you at least step towards me?
That glass has gotta be hot by now.

Izzy drops her gaze and shuffles toward the fireman.

FIREMAN 1
Was that so hard?

IZZY
Yes.

FIREMAN 1
We have to go now. It's not safe.

IZZY
Don't you think I know that?!

FIREMAN 1
We'll do it together. I'll stand on
the outside, and you'll be on the
inside, so you won't fall.

IZZY
I can't. I can't do this.

FIREMAN 1
Would you like me to carry you down
ma'am?

IZZY
Absolutely not!

FIREMAN 1
Come on! What am I supposed to do
here?

Izzy whimpers. She shuts her eyes and tries not to cry.

The fireman grabs Izzy and slings her over his shoulder. He begins to descend as Fireman 2 spots them.

Izzy screams.

FIREMAN 1
Come on! Shut your eyes and it'll
be over soon.

IZZY
No! I hate you!

When they reach the street, the fireman sets Izzy down.

IZZY
(to Fireman 1)
I don't like you.

Fireman 2 chuckles.

IZZY
(to Fireman 2)
He's a bad person!

FIREMAN 2
There's some EMTs across the street
who'll check you out.

Izzy hears the fireman but turns away before he finishes.

Her eyes lock on the EMTs, and she takes a few steps toward them. She pauses, and her eyes glaze over as she breaths much too fast. She faints in the middle of the street.