

One More Lap

Written by

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BLACK SCREEN: subtle drone, alarm rings

INT. BEDROOM - MORNING

Alarm ringing, Rue reaches over to turn it off, she's annoyed. She slowly gets up and out of bed and goes to the bathroom to get ready.

BATHROOM

Faucet dripping as Rue walks in, we see her skincare but she doesn't reach for it. She quickly rinses her face in a half ass manner and leaves the bathroom in a hurry.

HOUSE

She quickly grabs something to eat, grabs her work bag and heads out.

CAR

The car is cluttered with take out bags and energy drinks, as we slowly see her open the door and get in. She puts music on and drives off.

*As the car drives off, we see the title: **One More Lap.***

EXT. PARKING LOT

Parks the car, gets out in a rush while dropping her stuff. She quickly scrambles into the building.

INT. OFFICE

Scrambles to get to her desk. Once she sits, the boss shows up next to her.

BOSS

Morning Rue, are you ok?

RUE

(Stutters) Yeah I'm fine.

BOSS

Well you're behind, I need you to catch up on reports.

RUE

Yeah, I'm so sorry I'll get on it.

BOSS

I want a report by the end of week

RUE

You'll have it, I promise.

OFFICE DESK - MID DAY TO AFTERNOON

We see Rue working all day. She barely takes breaks and doesn't speak with her coworkers. The day goes by.

She starts getting ready to leave when some coworkers walk over to see her.

COWORKER/FRIEND

Hey Rue, We are going out for a drink tonight. Do you want to join?

RUE

I'm busy, maybe next time?

COWORKER/FRIEND

Ok, sounds good.

changed version

EXT. PARKING LOT - AFTERNOON

Rue walks out to her car, she gets in takes a moment (zones out or rests her head on the steering wheel) before actually driving away. We see her drive home (drives through a tunnel...)

She arrives home, the sun is setting.

INT. HOUSE - AFTERNOON/EVENING

At home, she orders food and we see her doomscrolling. Some time passes as she is clearly doing nothing productive. She stumbles upon a video and she compares it to her life. Frustrated and with a surge of new motivation, she walks up to a past moodboard for her life.

She erases the old date (months ago) and writes the new date showing that she is determined to make a change in her life.

MONTAGE of her updating the moodboard.

Happy with this, she goes to bed with new found motivation and sure that this is a turning point in her mundane life.

BEDROOM - NEXT MORNING

Alarm rings, same Rue no motivation, nothing's changed. She goes through the same morning routine(snoozes clock) as the previous day. This shows she's stuck in a cycle she can't break.

MONTAGE of her daily life.

HOUSE - RANDOM DAY

The day starts the same way, Rue's alarm rings and she turns it off. As she's scrambling to get ready, she gets a call from work.

BOSS (On speaker phone)

Hi Rue, I was just giving everyone on the team a call to let you know that a pipe at the office burst. So everything's on pause for now, we have contractors working on it to make sure it's safe electrical wise. We won't be needing you for today but we'll keep you posted, thanks for understanding.

RUE

(Surprised) Oh ok, thanks for letting me know, see you next week.

We see the phone in focus while she's scrambling in the background to get ready. When the phone call ends, she abruptly stops what she's doing. We see her look at the moodboard and it cuts to her finally doing what she's been wanting to do.

MONTAGE of her having a good day.

(makes bed, skin care, makes breakfast, goes for a walk)

EXT. NEIGHBOURHOOD - MID-DAY

She decides to take a walk outside, when a runner bumps into her.

RUNNER

(Annoyed) Watch where you're going!

Rue looks at him as he runs away. She looks intrigued and decides it's time to head back home.

INT. HOME

Once home, we see her looking for old running shoes she might already have. She finds some and decides she's going to try running as a hobby.

EXT. STREET

We see her put on some headphones and go on a run. As she's running we see her enjoying the exercise and understand this is what she's been looking for.

MONTAGE of her going on daily runs and starting to turn her life around.

(starts doing her skincare, she's writing in her journal, she's making plans with friends...)

Change of pace tonally

One day, as she's going on her daily run, she takes a different path through the forest. As she's running, she trips and falls and hits her head on a rock.

CUT TO BLACK

EXT. FORREST

Match cut of the same frame when she fell, she gets helped up by a mysterious woman wearing all white. She's disoriented and confused on what exactly happened.

WOMAN (O.S)

Looks like you hit your head pretty hard.

RUE

Who are you?... What happened?

WOMAN

You fell on your run.

RUE

Oh. Well thanks for helping me.

WOMAN

My pleasure, Rue.

RUE

(Still a little dazed)

Wait. How do you know my name?

The Woman doesn't answer and Rue looks around, still confused.

WOMAN

You run like you're trying to get somewhere.

RUE

(half confused, half defensive)

I mean... yeah. That's kind of the point.

WOMAN

Or are you just trying to get away?

(Rue pauses. Slight tension.)

RUE

(Defensively) I just started, alright?

RUE (CON'T)

I think I hit my head.

WOMAN

Yeah, I think you did.

RUE

So this is... what? A concussion?

WOMAN

If that makes you feel better.

(Rue stares at her.)

RUE

You're not real.

WOMAN

Okay.

RUE

...You don't sound offended.

WOMAN

Should I be?

(A long pause.)

RUE

...Do you know me?

WOMAN

Sometimes.

RUE

Sometimes? What the fuck does that mean??

(Silence.)

RUE (CON'T)

I don't like this.

WOMAN

I'm not doing anything.

Rue

Can I go now?

WOMAN

That's not how this works, unfortunately.

RUE

What do you mean "not how this works"?
It's not like I'm dead.

(Silence.)

RUE (CON'T)

(Panicked) Wait. AM I DEAD???

The Woman doesn't answer but instead changes the topic.

WOMAN

Are you happy with how you lived
your life?

RUE

(Surprised) Uhm, I guess?

WOMAN

No, were you truly happy with your life?

RUE

Well it was just starting to get better and then I fell on this stupid rock and YOU appeared.

WOMAN

Do you have any regrets?

RUE

I don't know... I guess, I wish I had done more.

WOMAN

Like what?

MONTAGE of everything she wishes she would have done/done differently.

RUE (V.O)

I don't know, I guess I wish I lived more, went out more, saw more, you know? I was always so caught up with things that seemed so important but really weren't, like work. I never went out with my friends, I never gave myself the chance to make new memories. I guess I thought I would have more time...

End of montage.

RUE (CON'T)

Wow, that sounds really depressing.

(awkward chuckle)

extended version added

The Woman doesn't say anything. In the background there is a faint beeping noise. Rue looks around confused.

RUE (CON'T)

What's that noise?

WOMAN

Our time together is almost up.

RUE

What do you mean? Are you leaving?

WOMAN

Don't forget about what we talked about.

RUE

Wait what? Where are you going? What's going to happen?

WOMAN

We will meet again some day.

The beeping gets louder and we cut to a hospital where Rue wakes up with a scar. We realise she's been in a coma.

NURSE (V.O)

Oh good! You're awake!

Rue smiles remembering what the Woman said and understanding that she has a second chance.

CUT TO BLACK

ROLL CREDITS

THE END.

Extended version:

The Woman doesn't say anything. In the background there is a faint beeping noise. Rue looks around confused.

RUE (CON'T)

What's that noise?

WOMAN

Our time together is almost up.

RUE

What do you mean? Are you leaving?

The woman looks at her for a second before she answers.

WOMAN

You already know what you need to do.

RUE

No I don't. That's the problem. I never know what to do, I just keep starting over and nothing I try ever sticks.

Her voice breaks. She stops herself.

RUE (CON'T)

I thought I finally figured it out. The running. It felt like...it felt like me, you know? For the first time in a long time, something felt like me.

RUE

(Quietly) I feel like I was just getting started.

A long pause. The forest is still. The beeping is faint but growing.

WOMAN

You know, you were never as lost as you thought.

RUE

You don't know that.

WOMAN

I know you changed your moodboard seventeen times.

RUE

(Looking down) That's embarrassing.

WOMAN

It means you never stopped trying.

The light in the forest begins to shift, golden, diffused, the way light looks just before it disappears. Something is weird. The beeping is getting louder.

RUE

What is that noise?

WOMAN

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We will meet again some day.

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ROLL CREDITS

THE END.

Running change:

COWORKER

Yeah, yeah. Hey, before you go, I have something for you.

She pulls out a pair of running shoes in a bag and sets them on Rue's desk.

RUE

What's this?

COWORKER

I won these at a raffle and I already have a pair at home, so they're just going to collect dust with me. Thought you could use them more than my closet would.

Rue looks at the shoes, a little caught off guard.

RUE

I've never really... run before.

COWORKER

(walking away) First time for everything.