

PLEASE HOLD

Written by

Solaine Carter

INT. AIRPORT. MYKONOS. LATE AFTERNOON.

One of those small regional, three room airports. Late summer, 2017. ELLE (18) and her mom, GRACE (54) stand at lost luggage counter.

There is a pile of 10 suitcases. Elle searches through them.

ELLE

Shit! Where's my suitcase?

LOST LUGGAGE AGENT

The Munich luggage handlers left 5 bags behind.

ELLE

What in the fuck?

The shrill of Elle's "FUCK" grabs Grace and Kay's attention. They run over.

GRACE

What's the matter?

KAY

Is everything okay?

ELLE

No. Apparently my suitcase is still in Germany.

GRACE

Oh my god. Than't bad.

KAY

Yeah. That sucks.

The lost luggage agent taps his pen to get Elle's attention.

LOST LUGGAGE AGENT

I don't know what to tell you.
There is no more I can do.

Elle crosses her arms and juts her hip.

ELLE

What do you mean you can't help?

LOST LUGGAGE AGENT

After 5 days, the airport that lost a piece of luggage is no longer responsible for its finding.

Elle begins to panic and leaves the room to find a seat.

GRACE

Well, can I at least use your phone
to call the airline?

The lost luggage agent reluctantly hands Grace the phone
while rolling his eyes.

CUT TO:

Elle sits with her sister KAY (23) and her father SID (58).
The waiting area looks like it is from the 50s. The seats are
dirty and the leather cushions are splintering.

ELLE

Shit. FUCK. I have really important
stuff in there and they just lost
it. How does that happen?

Elle storms off.

SID

What stuff?

KAY

Uhh, don't think she wants to talk
about it.

INT. PLANE. SOMEWHERE ABOVE GREECE. EARLY EVENING.

One of those propeller planes with small back-to-back navy
blue seats. Elle sits next to Kay across from Grace who sits
next to Sid.

GRACE

Good news! I called Volotea and the
bag will be in Skiathos by
tomorrow!

KAY

Did you hear that, Elle?

ELLE

Huh?

KAY

Mom called Volotea and they're
sending your bag to Skiathos!

ELLE

(in a monotone pitch)
Wahoo.

CUT TO:

CLOSE UP ON SID AND GRACE.

SID

Elle seems pretty upset. She keeps insisting that she's missing something super important.

GRACE

Did she tell you what?

SID

Nope.

Grace reaches through the seats to tap Kay's shoulder.

GRACE

Kay, do you know what Elle's upset about?

Kay looks at Elle who is still staring out the window. Kay nudges Elle to talk but instead she puts in headphones.

KAY

Yea..., but I don't think Elle would appreciate me telling you.

Grace and Sid look at each other with confused expressions on their faces.

EXT. BEACH. MID MORNING. 7 DAYS LATER.

Elle relaxes on beach with sister in their Cabana drinking daiquiris. Elle wears her mom's shape wear one-piece.

ELLE

Ugh. Why book tickets on a no-name budget airline?

KAY

They were ch--

ELLE

Fuck cheap! We could have at least flown EasyJet.

CUT TO:

Sid sits next to an asleep Grace. Sid takes out sunscreen and starts to apply it.

He begins to apply a tick strip across his nose. Then attempts to get his back.

He struggles for a few minutes and finally decides to wake Grace. He places his hand on Grace's left shoulder and shakes it.

GRACE

What is it, Elle? It's not the end of the world not having your swimsuit, just borrow mine.

SID

Thanks, hunny. Don't think it'd flatter my figure.

Grace is confused to see her husband looming over.

GRACE

Whoops! I must've really been out!

SID

Guess no more late nights at the Taverna!

The sunscreen on Sid's shoulders begins to drip off. Grace tries not to laugh.

GRACE

Can I help?

SID

Please.

Grace begins to rub the sunscreen into Sid's back.

GRACE

Her special sunscreen! I bet that's what she's so upset about.

SID

Too obvious. Bet it's her medical marijuana!

Sid winks.

EXT. STREET. SKIATHOS. NIGHT.

Back street, slightly wider than alley. Sidewalk only in some spots. Only about 2 feet away from runway. Traffic lights for humans not cars. No streetlights insight.

SID

How much further?

ELLE
We just left!

GRACE
Told you not to wear sandals.

KAY
Hey, why don't we all go for a hike tomorrow?

GRACE
Sounds great! Tomorrow is supposed to be nice and sunny!

ELLE
Uhh, might sit this one out.

GRACE
Don't worry, I have plenty of sunscreen.

ELLE
Wha--

SID
I might need to sit this one out, too. Think my feet just fell off my legs.

ELLE
Dad, we told you to wear your tevas!

The group proceeds to walk in silence. A curve in the road appears. A motorcyclist zooms by leaving a trail of exhaust. Once the cloud of exhaust fades, a drug deal is revealed.

SID
Elle, look! Marijuana! Want some?

ELLE
Uhh, I mean yes, but I feel like this is a set up.

Sid approaches the drug deal.

SID
(in a muffled voice)
This is what us common folk gotta do without a card.

ELLE
Wait, what? You thought I had medical marijuana?

Elle begins to laugh. Sid is getting closer to the drug deal. She notices that one of the parties pulls a knife and sprints to rescue her father.

ELLE (CONT'D)
(almost inaudible)
Dad, you're pretty fucking stupid,
you know that?

INT. SKIATHOS AIRPORT. NIGHT

The family enters through censored glass doors. The airport appears to be closed. Elle, Grace, and Kay look for help; Sid sits in the lounge.

ELLE
Where is everyone?

KAY
Maybe they went home.

Grace walks into the other room and finds a agent.

GRACE
(in a muffled yell)
Found someone! Be right there.

Grace approaches ADRIAN, airport agent.

ELLE
Umm, my suitcase came in on the 7
o'clock Volotea flight. Can you
take us to the lost and found?

AGENT
VOLOTEA! Hah, we haven't had one of
their flights in months.

GRACE
Why?

AGENT
They don't pay their fees.

ELLE
Nice! Love when airlines lie!

INT. APARTMENT BALCONY. SKIATHOS. LATE MORNING. 9 DAYS LATER.

A Balcony overlooks the northern section of the Aegean Sea. Grace, Sid, and Kay sit around table.

GRACE
Has anyone seen Elle?

KAY
She wasn't in the room when I got up.

Elle stomps up to balcony.

SID
Morning! What have you been up to?

ELLE
I had a long night.

SID
Meet someone?

ELLE
No.

There is a pause in conversation.

GRACE
Remember, we're leaving for Bulgaria tomorrow!

ELLE
Shit! I still don't have my suitcase.

GRACE
Elle, I'm sorry. We have to leave with or without it.

ELLE
What?! We can't just forget about it.

SID
It's been 15 days, I think they've pronounced it lost.

EXT. AIRPORT. SKIATHOS. EARLY MORNING.

Lines to check bags sprawl with tourists. Grace, Sid, and Kay stand at front of line. Elle sits with her computer in the waiting area.

Elle drafts an email to Gloria, the CEO of Volotea. It reads:

"Gloria, 15 days without luggage. Totally unacceptable! Send bag straight to Sofia in next 5 days or else..."

ELLE
PERFECT!

Elle presses blue send button.

INT. BULGARIA. HOTEL. NIGHT. 19 DAYS LATER.

Elle gets ready for bed. She is about to turn off the lights,
when her phone rings.

ELLE
Hello?

VOICE
Is this Elle?

ELLE
Yes. Who is this?

VOICE
Gloria. Your suitcase will be in
the Sofia tomorrow.

ELLE
Ok, thanks.

VOICE
And, Elle?

ELLE
Yea.

VOICE
My sincerest apologies.

INT. AIRPORT. BULGARIA. AFTERNOON. 20 DAYS LATER.

The family arrives at the Sofia airport. Elle rushes to find
lost luggage office.

Elle walks up to a big black door labeled "lost luggage."

ELLE
Doesn't look suspicious at all.

Grace walks over to Elle and knocks on the door. A Bulgarian
woman appears.

GRACE
My daughter needs to check the lost
luggage office.

There is a pause before one of the women responds.

BULGARIAN WOMAN

OK. 20 minutes please. The boys are on a smoke break. They will be right back.

ELLE

20 fucking minutes? How about the boys skip their smoke break, huh?

"The boys" exit from the two large black doors.

ELLE (CONT'D)

No smoke break today, boys.

"The boys" stop and stare dumbly at each other.

BULGARIAN WOMAN

(to the "boys")
Please, take them inside.

One of "the boys" beckons to Elle to follow through the two large black doors.

CUT TO:

Elle approaches the lost and found. One of "the boys" opens the curtains.

ELLE

That's my bag!

Elle sprints out of the airport clutching her bag.

INT. SOFIA AIRPORT. PLANE. AFTERNOON.

Elle sits next to Grace. Elle pops little blue pill. Grace shrieks.

GRACE

Drugs!

A group of flight attendants rush over.

ELLE

Mom, chill. It's just birth control.

