

Faith McQuinn: Hi, I'm Faith McQuinn, the creator of Boom. I'd like to take a moment to ask for your support through Patreon. For as little as one dollar an episode, my kick-ass crew, exceptionally talented cast, and I, can continue to produce quality content for you to hear. You could also get cool rewards, exclusive content, early access to season two, character art prints. So, please, visit patreon.com/boompodcast and become one of our patrons.

Faith McQuinn: And now, here's the show.

Narrator: Observer Pictures presents Boom, a serial drama podcast, written and directed by Faith McQuinn. This is episode five, Recovery.

Narrator: The first session with Dr. Melissa Abbott had been the hardest. This is session number six, and Porter has become slightly more comfortable.

Dr. Melissa A.: Alright. Let's talk about sleeping. Are you doing the relaxation exercises?

Porter Owens: Yes.

Dr. Melissa A.: Are they helping?

Porter Owens: Somewhat.

Dr. Melissa A.: Are you still having the nightmares?

Porter Owens: It's just the one now.

Dr. Melissa A.: Which one is that?

Porter Owens: Her.

Dr. Melissa A.: Who?

Porter Owens: Gen. She's screaming at me in my room, at the foot of the bed.

Dr. Melissa A.: What does Gen look like?

Porter Owens: What do you mean?

Dr. Melissa A.: Well, before you told me she'd be covered in blood, or dust. What does she look like when she's standing at the foot of your bed?

Porter Owens: There's ... nothing. She's just-

Dr. Melissa A.: Who?

Porter Owens: ... Genevieve. She's wearing the outfit she had on at the bowling alley. H- h- her hair is ... she's perfect.

Dr. Melissa A.: Good.

Porter Owens: ... I don't know how that's good.

Dr. Melissa A.: Genevieve's image in your mind is no longer distorted, which means your memories of her are no longer distorted.

Porter Owens: But she's screaming at me. She's so ... mad at me.

Dr. Melissa A.: Why?

Porter Owens: Because I fu... I messed up. I should have stayed with her.

Dr. Melissa A.: But you had to go get help.

Porter Owens: I didn't have to leave. I could have figured out something.

Dr. Melissa A.: You did have to leave. You said your phone didn't work.

Porter Owens: I should've gone up the night before. I should've thought something was weird because she didn't, she didn't text me back.

Dr. Melissa A.: Porter, you did everything you could... Say it.

Porter Owens: ... I did everything I could.

Dr. Melissa A.: Again?

Porter Owens: I did everything I could.

Dr. Melissa A.: Good. I want you to say that every time you start to feel guilty, okay? Can we talk more about the man?

Porter Owens: ... We can.

Dr. Melissa A.: Porter, it's important for you to work through this.

Porter Owens: Look, Dr. Abbott, someone attacked her. Genevieve. I'm obviously not making this up.

Dr. Melissa A.: Okay, I know that. But you know that's not what I wanna talk about. Why do you believe it's someone she knew?

Porter Owens: Because she said so!

Dr. Melissa A.: She said, "I won't let him hurt you."

Porter Owens: Yes.

Dr. Melissa A.: What else did Genevieve say?

Porter Owens: She said something about him being in the apartment when she got home.

Dr. Melissa A.: Okay.

Porter Owens: She didn't want him to hurt me. Why would she say that about a stranger?

Dr. Melissa A.: Why wouldn't she-

Porter Owens: Why doesn't anyone believe me? I thought -

Dr. Melissa A.: Okay, okay. Alright. She knew him. Who is he?

Porter Owens: I don't know. I've gone through everyone so many times. No one we knew ... I know ... could do something like that! I mean ... I wouldn't think.

Dr. Melissa A.: So, isn't it possible that this man was a stranger?

Porter Owens: ... Maybe?

Dr. Melissa A.: He could've been stalking Genevieve.

Porter Owens: I guess.

Dr. Melissa A.: She wanted to protect you.

Porter Owens: I know.

Dr. Melissa A.: That doesn't mean she knew the man. But she did know you. She loved you. We protect the ones we love, Porter. You wanted to help her because you loved her. She wanted to help you ... because she loved you.

Porter Owens: I know.

Dr. Melissa A.: So maybe that's all it was. Genevieve loving you, and trying to protect you.

Porter Owens: Yeah. Maybe that's all it was.

Dr. Melissa A.: Good. ... Well, our time is up for this week. Please keep up with the relaxation exercises. Until next week, then?

Porter Owens: Yep.

Dr. Melissa A.: Do you have weekend plans?

Porter Owens: No. Maybe watch a movie or ... something.

Dr. Melissa A.: Porter.

Porter Owens: Not yet, Dr. Abbott. Maybe soon.

Dr. Melissa A.: Alright. We'll discuss that next week.

Porter Owens: Oh joy.

Dr. Melissa A.: Have a good day, Porter. Alright?

Porter Owens: Sure thing.

Porter Owens: ... Shit. This is Porter.

Det. Hailey: Mr. Owens. It's been a while.

Porter Owens: Not long enough, detective.

Det. Hailey: I'd like you to come down to the station today, if you can.

Porter Owens: For what?

Det. Hailey: I just have a few things I'd like to discuss. I can always come by your apartment instead.

Porter Owens: No. No, I'll be there. I can come now, I guess.

Det. Hailey: Great.

Narrator: Porter sits in the meeting room. Across from him sits Detective Santos. Santos is petite with dark skin, dark eyes, and a severe bun. Her face is soft and kind. Porter finds himself wishing she had been the lead on his case.

Det. Hailey: I brought you a cup of coffee.

Porter Owens: For me? Wow.

Det. Hailey: What, I can't be courteous?

Porter Owens: I didn't think so.

Det. Santos: It's rare.

Det. Hailey: I just wanted to let you know that we finally received a report on Miss Reynolds' phone and computer.

Porter Owens: Okay.

Det. Santos: Mr. Owens? Porter. There was nothing.

Porter Owens: What do you mean, nothing?

Det. Santos: Nothing out of the ordinary. We checked all the numbers, and everything checks out.

Det. Hailey: It means, we're done. Your story holds up.

Porter Owens: Well that, I already knew.

Det. Hailey: Well anyway. The rest of the evidence brought no leads. I was hoping for something from this, but ... the person who set off those explosives is a ghost. Or at least really good at making us think he is.

Porter Owens: I guess I should be happy. This gets you off my case.

Det. Hailey: For now.

Porter Owens: Wow. Whatever.

Det. Santos: If anything new surfaces, we'll revisit.

Porter Owens: So that's it?

Det. Santos: Porter, sometimes this happens.

Porter Owens: Fuck that! She knew who did this! Did you talk to her parents?

Det. Santos: Mr. and Mrs. Reynolds are aware, yes.

Porter Owens: Alright ... alright ... I did everything I could.

Det. Santos: I understand how you feel.

Porter Owens: Hm, oh yeah? Someone you love blown up in her apartment by some psychopath? Awesome. We should form a club. Why the hell did you have me come down here? You couldn't do this over the phone? ... I gotta get to work.

Det. Santos: Well that went well.

Det. Hailey: I told you he was a hothead. He seem a little too defensive to you?

Det. Santos: Rebecca. He's not good for this.

Det. Hailey: Maybe.

Porter Owens: Hey, guys.

Luke: Took you long enough, your beer's getting warm.

Porter Owens: Thanks. I got to work a little late this morning, so I had to make it up.

Dax: Appointment with, uh, Melissa run long?

Porter Owens: No, um ... I had to go to the police station.

Luke: Wait, what?

Porter Owens: Yeah. Supposedly Gen's case ... is done.

Dax: Shit. They found somebody?

Porter Owens: No. They found nothing.

Luke: Wow that sucks, man.

Porter Owens: Yes it does. Yes ... it does.

Dax: Are ... are you okay?

Porter Owens: No! But I'm here, right? I didn't ditch you guys.

Dax: It's progress.

Luke: You know what would be better?

Porter Owens: Don't you say it, Luke. Jesus.

Luke: What? I was gonna say more beer. A pitcher or two, maybe? (laughs)

Dax: (laughs) As long as you're paying.

Porter Owens: (laughs)

Narrator: Porter lies in bed. Sleep, as always, comes slowly. When he finally falls asleep, he begins to dream, an actual dream. He is sitting atop a cliff, gazing out over lush, green treetops. Lakes are propped up against a boulder. Next to him, with her hair blowing in the breeze, is Genevieve.

Porter Owens: Got a bit of hair in your face there.

Genevieve R.: (laughs) Just a little. ... You okay?

Porter Owens: I'm fine.

Genevieve R.: Don't lie to me, Porter.

Porter Owens: ... I miss you.

Genevieve R.: I miss you too. You're not you anymore.

Porter Owens: Of course I'm not.

Genevieve R.: You can still be you, just ... a few more battle scars. Chicks dig scars.

Porter Owens: (laughs) Oh, ha ha.

Genevieve R.: ... Hey. Look at that. You do smile.

Porter Owens: (laughs) It's hard.

Genevieve R.: So what? Life isn't fun if it's easy, right? And it's pretty damn easy to just sit on your ass and yell at everybody.

Porter Owens: I'm not doing that so much anymore.

Genevieve R.: Oh yeah. Dr. Abbott. How's it going by the way?

Porter Owens: It's awful.

Genevieve R.: At least you're telling someone now.

Porter Owens: Yeah. ... Plus I think it's helping.

Genevieve R.: That's good. ... You look a little pale, Porter, maybe ... you know, go outside?

Porter Owens: Not yet.

Genevieve R.: Why not?

Porter Owens: It's not the same.

Genevieve R.: No shit.

Porter Owens: ... I- I'm scared.

Genevieve R.: There are zero things wrong with that. ... You have to try, okay? ... I love you. ... You pick the ugliest spots, you know?

Porter Owens: (laughing) Ah. Yeah. Blue skies and rolling hills are disgusting.

Genevieve R.: The absolute worst.

Porter Owens: I love you.

Narrator: Porter wakes slowly. This is the first time in months that he's woken to the sun instead of screams in the middle of the night. He feels rested. He feels almost content.

Dax: What's up, Porter?

Porter Owens: Hey, Dax. Sorry, I know it's early, but... you free to hit Natch's this weekend?

Dax: Wait, seriously? Maybe we should just hit a greenway or something, first. Don't, start easy.

Porter Owens: Nah, I'm good. Life isn't fun if it's easy, right?

Narrator: Join us in two weeks for another episode of Boom.

Narrator: This episode featured the voices of Garrett DeLozier as Porter, Charity Spencer as Genevieve, Brian Irwin as Luke, Avalon Herron as Dax, Theren Womack as Dr. Abbott, Wendy Keeling as Detective Hailey, Dalila Ferrer as Detective Santos, and me, Michael Ahr, as the narrator.

Narrator: Production sound, Matthew L. Hankins. Assistant director, Amanda Lorraine. Sound design, Joshua Suhy. Original music, Brian Irwin. Editing, Faith McQuinn. Sound mixing, Joshua Suhy. Production assistant, Dalila Ferrer. Casting, Courtney Edwards.

Narrator: If you enjoyed this episode, please subscribe and consider giving us a rating and review on Apple Podcasts. For more information on the show, including a full list

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