

DISTANCE
a short film

Written By

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INT. DORM ROOM - NIGHT

Very long, silent pause. JUSTIN keeps SCRIBBLING, occasionally peeking up at CALLIE. She now keeps her gaze down, refusing to look up, a little hurt by what has happened so far in the FaceTime call.

JUSTIN
(impatiently)
Look, you called me to talk, and now you aren't even saying anything. What did you call to talk about?

A short pause.

CALLIE
I didn't really have anything specific, I just wanted to talk to you.

JUSTIN
(gesturing towards the papers on his desk)
OK well right now all you're doing is you're just watching me do homework.

CALLIE
I'm sorry. I didn't know I had to have a reason to call you.

JUSTIN
Well, you knew I had work to do, and like I said we also called yesterday already.

CALLIE
(sadly, finally looking up)
We used to call every day.

Justin stops writing and closes his eyes for a second, knowing he has been unnecessarily rude in this exchange. He struggles, trying to find something to say.

JUSTIN
(now the one avoiding eye contact)
I, okay...I'm sorry, I know...I just...

(CONTINUED)

CALLIE

It's okay, Justin. You're busy. I...understand. I'll leave you alone for now, and you can have some space.

JUSTIN

I'm sorry for acting this way, I just had a rough day. You know I don't ever mean to hurt you.

CALLIE

I know.

An awkward pause.

CALLIE

Ok, I'll let you be then. If you're busy now, can you call me later when you're done?

JUSTIN

C'mon Callie, I don't know. It'll be late, probably, by then and -

CALLIE

Ok, that's ok. Don't worry about it then. I guess I'll talk to you later.

JUSTIN

We will. I promise. Love ya Cal.

CALLIE

I...I love you, too.