

The Runner

written by

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INT. STUDENT SHARE HOUSE - NIGHT

The runner comes into the house after a run.

The runner looks at the Strava running tracker app and sees the latest posts from other runners in the area.

Someone in her area, Larry has a new personal best on 'The Park Run'

She leaves for another run, her friends protest, the Runner pauses, hesitant then insists on leaving.

EXT. THE STREET - NIGHT

The runner stands under a streetlight, dressed in a black hoodie and GAA shorts. She bounces on the balls of her feet, puts in her earphones, starts tracking her run on Strava and runs down the street.

Begin training montage to the song the runner is listening to

EXT. THE PARK - NIGHT

The runner pushes herself to run faster and faster, effort contorting her face, she finishes the park run, and checks her phone. She is the 6th fastest person to run this loop, Larry is still at the top. She grunts and shakes her head.

INT. APARTMENT - MORNING

She leaves her room early in the morning and heads out.

INT. THE GYM. DAY

The runner walks in with a bag over her shoulder.

She runs on a treadmill, does pull ups and boxes a punching bag.

EXT. BACK GARDEN. EVENING

She skips with a skipping rope

EXT. THE PARK. NIGHT

Match cut to her running the loop. The skipping's paying off, she's kicking off the ground faster.

EXT. LARRY'S STREET. NIGHT

Larry steps out of his house. He has flashing lights clipped to his waist. He stretches and begins his run.

EXT. THE PARK BOTTOM OF THE HILL. NIGHT

The runner is on her fifth loop of the track.

She stops at the bottom of the hill and takes a breath.

Larry runs by her going up the hill.

Music 'You're the best around' increases it's volume.

The Runner prepares herself and start running up the hill

EXT. THE PARK HALFWAY UP THE HILL. NIGHT

Larry is running up the hill with ease

He hears a cry behind him

He turns and sees the runner.

The runner speeds past him

LARRY

Good job

The runner disappears at the top of the hill

Music ends

EXT. THE PARK. TOP OF THE HILL - NIGHT

Larry stops at the top of the hill

He looks for the runner but can't see her

He continues on his run going down the hill now

EXT THE PARK OTHER SIDE OF THE HILL - NIGHT

Larry reaches halfway down the hill

He hears a noise from behind him

Larry looks around and the runner kills him

The runner sprained her foot

The runner, limping, drags Larry into a nearby ditch

Music plays the lyric "you're the best around Nothing's ever gonna ever keep you down"

The runner runs home

Music ends

INT. THE HOUSE. NIGHT

The Runner limps through the door and goes upstairs.

INT. LIVING ROOM. NIGHT

Her friends turn to see her limping up the stairs, momentarily concerned, they turn back to tv.

ROOMMATE

How was your run?

INT. THE RUNNERS ROOM. NIGHT

She enters, the room, locking the 2 bolts on the door. The room is completely bare of furniture except for a sleeping bag and a lawn chair facing a wall with 3 pictures of smiling people blue tacked to it. Her hairs wet from a shower. She takes out a picture of Larry printed on a piece of paper. She sticks it next to the others.

In neat handwriting beneath each smiling face it reads different titles, 'The Baker', 'The Singer', 'The Painter' and under Larry's, 'The Runner.'

She sits down on the lawn chair. Sighing with relief, relaxing and looking at the pictures. She smiles.

End.