

Episode 4: Lay Down Your Limits

Cheesy MUSIC plays, a synth and guitar vibe, like a super upbeat 90s TV Special showing a turtle. "Episode 4: Lay Down Your Limits" with OWN THE AWK logo appears on screen. In the background, the TV is broadcasting an intense tennis match. Sofia and Emi are on the couch--Emi is fixated on the TV, nervously munching a bowl of popcorn, the tension of the match reflected in her wide eyes. Sofia scrolls on her phone, side-eyeing Emi.

Sofia: Just found your dream girl on Instagram. Does that make me your worst nightmare?

Emi jumps in surprise, spilling the popcorn all over herself.

Emi: What are you talking about?

Sofia aggressively waves her phone into Emi's face, staring at her accusingly. On the screen we see Emi's commented "DREAM GIRL" on a supermodel's post.

Emi: It's a figure of speech.

Sofia: You're full of it. And I'm fed up. Now that's a figure of speech.

Sofia scoffs and tosses Emi's phone in the popcorn bowl, with exaggerated frustration and walks out.

The TV flickers to an infomercial-style scene with the words "The AwkLine with Shan Boodram" pops up in bold, neon letters, with an exaggerated jingle playing. Shan appears, sitting in a chair.

Shan: Need to have a tough conversation with your partner? Are you finding that likes can lead to hurt? Turn that troublesome digital hearting into a heart to heart.

Emi looks around confused by what's going on.

Shan appears on the TV screen with the words "Call Now! THE-AWK-LINE" flashing in bold, neon letters with an exaggerated jingle playing.

Shan: Call The AwkLine now so you can Own the Awk. Call.

Emi, wide-eyed, grabs the remote and frantically changes the channel.

Shan: Emi, stop playing. Pick up the phone. Just go ahead.

Emi: Fine.

She dials the Awkline, frustration mounting.

Shan: You've reached The AwkLine where we turn social media mishaps into relationship wins. What's up, Emi?

Emi: My partner is always getting worked up about whatever I'm doing on social media. How do I get them to chill out?

Shan: Sounds like you and Sofia have different definitions of what being exclusive looks like in practice.

Emi and Shan are shown side by side on the TV in a split-screen. The words "NAVIGATING SOCIAL MEDIA IN RELATIONSHIPS" flash in bold, neon letters on the TV screen.

Shan: Now, there's no official guidebook, so neither one of you is wrong. But you do have to get a sense of where each of you is coming from. So why don't you start by asking how this is impacting Sofia. So you have a better understanding of how she feels.

"EXPLAIN YOUR INTENTIONS" comes on screen.

Shan: And then tell her what your intentions are so she knows where you're coming from.

Emi tucks the phone to her side.

Sofia returns, now with a drink in hand, casting a suspicious glance at Emi and sitting down with crossed arms. Emi scoots closer to Sofia and puts her arm around her. Sofia gives Emi a cold look and Sofia scoots away.

Emi: Look, I know I can be a little extra on Instagram, but I just like hyping people up.

Sofia: Right, but you know that my ex cheated on me with someone online so seeing comments like that makes me feel insecure.

Emi: I get that, but I have to trust you when you post stuff like that. People are probably sliding into your DM's all the time.

Sofia: Oh my God!

Emi: I am sorry I hurt your feelings, but I'd also rather not feel monitored on social media.

Sofia: I don't think we're on the same page. Can we just table this conversation and come back to it tomorrow?

Emi: Okay.

Emi leaves the room.

Shan appears on the TV screen.

Shan: Okay, a little rough. But no matter what plays out in the heat of the moment, sharing your feelings and needs gets you closer to what you're looking for. Either with your partner or someone else.

The TV cuts back to the tennis match. Sofia sadly lays down on the couch looking at her phone. We hear the audio from the tennis match.

TV Announcer: And that's a great save!

We see the turtle is eating lettuce. "Real talk. Real Connection." comes up on screen. Ends with OWNTHEAWK.org logo.