

TITLE: "The City of Dreams"

EPISODE 1: "NYC Bound"

FADE IN:

INT. NEW YORK CITY APARTMENT BUILDING - DAY

Roger hauls his suitcase up the stairs to his new apartment. He meets his neighbor, Claire, on the landing. She's a bubbly, free-spirited woman with a friendly smile.

CLAIRE

(smiling)

Hi!

Narrator: Oh, I guess I forgot to tell you how I got here.

*Rewind sequence*

*of all the scenes below*

FADE IN:

INT. ROGER'S LIVING ROOM - DAY

Roger sits on the couch, staring blankly at the TV. On the TV screen, monkeys can be seen engaging in sexual activity. Empty beer bottles and take-away boxes litter the coffee table in front of him. He looks defeated.

CUT TO:

INT. ROGER'S LIVING ROOM - DAY (LEFT SCREEN)

INT. OFFICE BUILDING - DAY (RIGHT SCREEN)

Roger stares blankly at his phone as it rings. He slowly gets up off the couch and reaches for it. As he takes the call, he walks towards the window. The sun is shining through the blinds onto his face as he frowns. He closes the blinds and walks back to the couch.

Roger's boss, MR. JENSEN, sits at his desk, looking sympathetic.

MR. JENSEN

(into phone)

Roger, I'm sorry to have to tell you this, but we've had to do some downsizing. Unfortunately, we have to let you go.

INT. ROGER'S LIVING ROOM - DAY

Roger drops the phone on the couch and it slides off, still connected to the call. His boss's voice can be heard in the background as the audio fades out.

CUT TO:

INT. ROGER'S LIVING ROOM - DAY

A timelapse shows several days passing with Roger still on the couch, in various positions and surrounded by empty beer bottles and take-away boxes. The sun rises and sets several times.

CUT TO:

INT. ROGER'S LIVING ROOM - DAY

Roger is watching TV when a show about the American Dream comes on. He becomes inspired and picks up his phone. He texts his friend Tom, "Maybe I should just move to New York, to restart my life." You can see the dots on the screen as Tom types a reply. Tom writes back, "What the hell would you do there?" Roger writes, "I don't know" and then adds a shrugging smiley. Tom writes back, "Why not?"

*Fast forward sequence*

A montage of the events leading up to Roger's arrival in New York

CUT BACK TO WHERE IT STARTED:

INT. NEW YORK CITY APARTMENT BUILDING - DAY

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CLAIRE

(smiling)

Hi!