

BETTER LATE THAN NEVER

Written by

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OPENING SCENE

Film flashes "Sometime in February... California" on the screen.

NADINE lays awake on her back in her bed, her mind racing. She is average size height and weight, but with a little extra cushioning in her thighs and buttocks. Being of Italian/Irish descent, her nose has slight hook in it, and her eyes are green. She has freckled skin and long, wavy, dark auburn hair. Overall, she's what would be called 'pretty.' Not beautiful or gorgeous, although once she reveals her personality, people are always intrigued to know her.

NADINE (V.O.)

Make sure not to miss the call with Ronald tomorrow. Need to make sure I'm doing everything he needs from me for this job.

This job... A professional screenwriter. Did I make a mistake walking away from my cushy corporate job a few years ago?

She smiles brightly at first, but then self doubt kicks in.

NADINE (V.O.)

I can do this, right?! Right! I can do this.

She has a worried look on her face but nods her head to convince herself.

I wonder if I'll meet any other famous people, besides Kate, once they are cast in one of the other scripts?

Humble, Nadine. Stay humble!

She rolls over to see if her change in position forces sleep, but no such luck.

NADINE (V.O.)

Don't forget to take the dress for Brittany's wedding to the tailor. I mean the wedding is in 3 months so I've got time. But do it this week just to be safe.

Aww... Brittany. I can't believe that she's 31 and getting married.

(MORE)

NADINE (V.O.) (CONT'D)
 I remember when she was born! It
 will be good to get back to Jersey
 to see everyone.

She rolls over to her other side and views her clock on her
 night stand.

NADINE (V.O.)
 3:33. What does 3:33 mean again
 according to the angels? And who
 came up with that stuff anyway? Is
 it just the time or does it really
 mean something? Stephanie from
 college would know. I should ask
 her.
 College. God I miss those days. I
 still remember it like it was
 yesterday. Stephanie. Krista.
 Lennie. Ronald. Dylan. Lord, I was
 so in love with him, and his bad
 boy ways. And Enzo! What ever
 happened to Enzo? We lost touch
 when he left after my junior, no,
 sophomore year. Aww, Enzo... I miss
 him. I'm gonna look on Facebook
 tomorrow to see if I can find him.
 Hopefully, he'll be on there.
 Did I turn the dryer on? I need my
 workout clothes for the gym
 tomorrow. I think I did.
 Don't forget.. Hair appointment is
 on Friday. I've got to get these
 gray hairs covered.

Her eyes finally grow heavy again and she falls asleep.

2A INT. NORTHERN CA. NADINE'S HOME. OFFICE. NEXT MORNING 2A

Nadine walks with a cane in her left hand and an AFO (Ankle-Foot Orthoses) on her right leg, to help stabilize her walking after a stroke. She carefully carries her cup of hot tea over to her desk with her right hand. Once seated, she begins her computer search via Facebook (predominantly with her left hand).

NADINE
 Let's see if we can find you, Enzo
 De Luca.

Nadine types his name in the search prompt, hits return and views the 6 recipients listed. Enzo is the first person on the list.

NADINE (CONT'D)
(flabberghasted)
What?... Is that you, Enzo?

She selects him to see a larger picture.

NADINE (CONT'D)
Holy shit. That is you. But a
little different. More seasoned.

Enzo looks like a model, and nothing like he did when they
were in college.

NADINE (V.O.)
Good God, is it getting hot in
here?

Nadine fans herself, to calm the feeling of attraction the
picture has evoked in her.

NADINE
What the hell.
Good for you, Enzo. Good for you!

Nadine views the Friend Request button and allows her mouse
to hover over it. She hovers a little longer and then pushes
the button.

NADINE (CONT'D)
Let's see if you remember me, Enzo,
you manly, hunk of a man, you.
Mmmm. Mmmm. Mmmm.

She then views the clock on her desk and sees it's 8:30am PT.
She clicks on the 'Join Zoom Call' button and connects to the
virtual call.

INTERCUT

2B INT. NYC, NEW YORK - RONALD'S OFFICE. SAME TIME (+3 HOURS) 2B

RONALD is first seen on Nadine's computer. Then flashes to
him in person in his office in a NYC high rise building, with
the movie production company 'Infinite Films' logo shown on
the wall behind him. Ronald is a 6' tall, handsome, gay,
black man that wears long dreadlocks that are often pulled
back in a hairclip/fabric band.

RONALD
Sweetie! How are you today?

NADINE

Ronald! I'm good! How about you?
How are things on the East Coast?

RONALD

Same shit, different day. You know
how it goes... When are you going
to move back east anyway?

NADINE

Oh God, Ronald. Not you too.

RONALD

It's just a thought. My bosses keep
asking me. We could always justify
the move as work related. Get
someone else to pack up all your
stuff.

NADINE

I don't want to think about that
right now.

RONALD

Okay, well just know, I'm going to
keep asking.

Nadine smirks.

RONALD (CONT'D)

Anyway, I just heard some great
news on you! Want to hear it?

NADINE

Yes, please!

RONALD

Your second screenplay starts
production on Monday. It should be
a while before everything is said
and done but it's finally getting
started, so that's good!

NADINE

(elated)

That is awesome news, Ronald! Thank
you!

RONALD

Of course. Anything for you! And
your first screenplay starts the
press tour in 6 months, so in
August you might be needed for
that.

NADINE

What? What does that mean?... I might be needed for that... Press tours usually involve only the actors from the film. Maybe the director.

RONALD

I know. I know. But this film is different because it's inspired by the person who is also the writer of the film. So there's a twist that the company can generate more interest on. Kate Kinsale actually suggested it to the producers. She thought it would be good for the viewers to see the person she plays. She truly loves you! You may have to make some appearances. Just a few though, I promise. And don't worry about navigating your way around with your disability from the stroke. There are more than enough people willing to help.

NADINE

(uncertain)

Ronald...

RONALD

Look, think it over. You have plenty of time to prepare. Okay?

NADINE

(hesitant)

Okay.

RONALD

And how's your current screenplay coming?

NADINE

It's coming... Just a few more scenes left and then I'll send it over.

RONALD

Perfect! I look forward to it!

NADINE

Okay. Now do you have time for some personal stuff?

RONALD

Always.

NADINE

Do you remember Enzo De Luca from college? Use to be roommates with Dylan Smith?

RONALD

Enzo... Didn't he leave school half way though?

NADINE

He did! He was with my sophomore year roommate at the time and they both decided to go to other colleges, so they left and then she broke up with him once they got home. It was so sad.

RONALD

That is sad. And weren't you like best friends with him? I remember you were always with him and Dylan, you know, the guy you were secretly in love with but I knew.

NADINE

You did?

RONALD

Honey, the gays always know and you had it so bad for him.

NADINE

(embarrassed, she puts her head in her hand)

I don't know what I was thinking.

RONALD

(laughing)

Nay, you weren't.

NADINE

Anyway... I looked up Enzo today on Facebook. Want to see?

RONALD

(intrigued)

Of course.

Nadine opens Facebook and shares it on the zoom call. She then selects Enzo's picture and Ronald leans forward to see his picture.

RONALD (CONT'D)
Get the fuck out of here!

NADINE
(laughing)
I know, right?! I was shocked.

RONALD
He was from New Jersey, right?

NADINE
Yes, we both were. And according to
Facebook, he still lives there.

RONALD
Well my panties have been thrown
into the wind facing NEW JERSEY.
I'll let you know if he knows CPR
cause I fully intend on passing out
at his feet.

NADINE
(laughs before continuing)
I sent him a friend request on
Facebook.

RONALD
You did? Good for you! Let me know
if you hear anything.

NADINE
I probably won't but it was worth a
shot.

RONALD
You never know!

Ronald is seen on the screen looking at someone beyond his
screen, and nodding his head.

RONALD (CONT'D)
Hey Sweetie, I've got to run but
keep me posted on Enzo. I'm curious
to know what happens!

NADINE
Will do! I'll talk to you soon!

Nadine and Ronald end the zoom call.

3A EXT. NORTHERN CA. STARBUCK'S. OUTSIDE PATIO. SAME DAY. 3A
AFTERNOON

Nadine is waiting for Sunny on the patio of the coffee shop. She is seated at a table, has a cup of tea in hand and is reminiscing about Enzo while she waits.

3B INT. FLORIDA. FRAT HOUSE/CIRCA 1990. LIVING AREA. NIGHT. 3B
FLASHBACK

The frat house is filled with drunk college kids. Red solo cups, kegs of beer and hard alcohol run amuck.

In one corner, there is YOUNG ENZO, flocked by 4 other guys and two girls, with one of them firmly clasping his arm. Young Enzo is 6'1" tall, extremely good-looking with a muscular/athletic build. He's 100% Italian with hazel/light brown eyes, olive toned skin and short, dark brown hair.

On the other side of the room, there is DYLAN, who is successfully making his moves on his current target; a girl he will cheat on his long distance girlfriend with. Dylan is average height for a man, good looking and also has a muscular/athletic build. He has short, light brown hair, dark blue eyes and fair skin.

STEPHANIE, KRISTA and LENNIE stand in another circle talking to their friends and boyfriends. All three girls are pretty with each varying in height and overall coloring, in skin, hair and eye color. YOUNG NADINE stands in the circle with the girls, where she can go unnoticed in watching Dylan's every move. Although her features remain pretty consistent with today, the one difference is her body size, as she is easily a size 16 at this particular time.

Young Nadine keeps watching Dylan and grows more upset.

YOUNG NADINE (V.O.)
Why are you in love with him?!
He'll never want to be with you!

Lennie nudges her to pull her attention back to the group, so she nods and pretends to listen, only to look back in Dylan's direction a few seconds later.

YOUNG NADINE (V.O.)
You need to lose weight. You know
that's why you can't have him.
But then there's Doritos. And
Snyder's Sourdough Hard Pretzels.
And Coke. Ugh...

STEPHANIE
 (interrupting Young
 Nadine's thoughts)
 Hello? Earth to Nay. Are you in
 there?

YOUNG NADINE
 What? Oh, yes. I'm sorry.

STEPHANIE
 (smiles sarcastically)
 Pull it together, Nay.

Young Nadine nods her head to affirm she will, but not long
 after that her thoughts begin again.

YOUNG NADINE (V.O.)
 Maybe part of the problem is that
 you're still a virgin. And probably
 the only one left on campus.
 Jesus, my mom used to joke about
 getting me a chastity belt, but who
 needs one at this point. It's here
 for the taking and Dylan still
 doesn't want it.
 That's it... Tonight's the night.
 I'm gonna get laid... It's going to
 happen. But with who?

Young Nadine starts to look around the room but knows
 everyone in there. She decides to go outside to view the
 prospects.

YOUNG NADINE
 I'll be back in a little bit.

Young Nadine says good-bye to her friends and heads to the
 front door.

Cut to: Young Enzo watches her leave from afar.

Young Nadine opens the front door to go outside.

3C EXT. FLORIDA. FRAT HOUSE. FRONT LAWN. SAME NIGHT.

3C

FLASHBACK CONT'D

The front lawn of the frat house is also filled with drunk
 college kids. Young Nadine stands on the front porch, she
 hones in on a group of 5 guys standing about 10 feet from her
 and sees JOHN MYRTLE. John is average height/weight, has
 above the shoulder, blonde hair, blue eyes and sun-kissed
 skin. Think typical 'Beach Boy' circa 1990.

John sees her, smiles and waves her to come over. She walks over to them and inserts herself into the circle, just two guys away from John.

JOHN

Hey Nay! Can I get you a drink?

Young Nadine smiles at John and holds up her cup.

YOUNG NADINE

Already have one, but thanks.
So what are you guys talking about?

JOHN

(smiling)

Flip was just telling us how he clogged up the toilet in the guys dorm bathroom yesterday. For the third time! Weren't you, Flip?

FLIP looks embarrassed that Young Nadine is now part of the group. Everything about Flip is average. Average height, weight, appearance and he gives off a 'Nerdy' vibe.

YOUNG NADINE

Please, Flip, go on... I'm sure that is a very interesting story?

The 5 guys laugh. Flip continues with the story. John looks at Young Nadine and they both smile at one another. As Young Nadine is listening to Flip, Young Enzo appears in the circle, on the opposite side of Young Nadine.

FLIP

Enzo!

YOUNG ENZO

Hey Flip.

Young Enzo then addresses the rest of the group with the customary 'Hey.' He then he addresses Young Nadine a little aggressively.

YOUNG ENZO (CONT'D)

No... Let's go.

The remaining 5 men all look to Young Nadine, who is now embarrassed.

YOUNG NADINE

What?

YOUNG ENZO

I said let's go.

Young Enzo motions his arms to make Young Nadine move. Trying to hide her mortification, she says her good-bye's to the group, to which they reciprocate. Young Nadine begins to follow behind Young Enzo back to the house.

YOUNG NADINE

Enzo! What the hell! What was that for?!

Young Enzo keeps leading the way, while Young Nadine follows. People start to notice something is wrong, so Young Enzo just smiles and keeps his head down while Young Nadine is too pissed to notice.

YOUNG NADINE (CONT'D)

Enzo?! I wasn't doing anything wrong!

YOUNG ENZO

Oh you weren't? Not with one of those guys. No way. Not on my watch.

They reach the front door and Young Enzo places his hand on the door knob.

3D

INT. FLORIDA. FRAT HOUSE. LIVING AREA. SAME NIGHT.

3D

FLASHBACK CONT'D

Young Enzo begins to enter the frat house, with Young Nadine following. They are both yelling at each other.

YOUNG NADINE

Enzo?! What do you mean 'not with one of those guys?'

YOUNG ENZO

I said no!

The crowded room is quieted by Young Enzo's loud voice. Young Enzo and Young Nadine realize they are causing a scene, so Young Enzo tries to soften his approach just a little and puts his hand on Young Nadine's shoulder. The room quickly returns to it's usual elevated sound level.

YOUNG ENZO (CONT'D)

Go sit over there and I'll get you when we're ready to go. Okay?

Young Nadine is still pissed but does not want to cause a scene again so she speaks softer.

YOUNG NADINE

(forcefully)

I can do whatever with whomever I want. You know that, right?! You can't just push me around, Enzo. I'm not like all of the other girls.

YOUNG ENZO

Yeah. I know. Now go sit. Please.

Young Nadine gives Young Enzo one more look of disapproval and then walks over to an empty seat on a couch, while Young Enzo resumes back to his regular spot from before. Krista interrupts Young Nadine's thoughts when she comes over and sits next to her on the couch.

KRISTA

(smiling sarcastically)

Well. That was fun. What happened?

YOUNG NADINE

I have no clue! I was just talking to some guys outside and Enzo came up, told me 'No!', and made me come back inside with him!

KRISTA

Aww. Nay, that's just because he cares.

YOUNG NADINE

(confused)

I don't get it. He's allowed to be with whomever he wants but when I want to do something...

KRISTA

Yeah, because he cares about you. He's just looking out for you.

YOUNG NADINE

Well I left my big brothers at home, thank you very much.

KRISTA

Do you know how much the rest of us would kill to have what you have with him? Yes, we all have boyfriends and are thankful for that. But how many of us have that one guy friend who watches out for you even when they don't have to?

(MORE)

KRISTA (CONT'D)

That one friend who always makes
 sure you're good, you're safe, with
 no strings attached.
 The rest of us, we have strings.
 And sometimes that gets
 complicated. But you and Enzo are
 different. And it's nice to see.

Young Nadine looks over at Young Enzo, who has been looking
 at her as well. He gives her a slight smile, to which she
 sarcastically puckers her lips and squints her eyes. His
 smile grows wider because of her action. Krista watches Young
 Nadine and Young Enzo's interaction.

KRISTA (CONT'D)

See. He cares.

YOUNG NADINE

Yeah... We'll see.

Krista and Young Nadine look to one another and begin to
 converse about a different topic.

Cut to: Young Enzo is back with his circle of friends and
 stares at Young Nadine every few seconds.

RANDOM GUY

Enz... is everything good with you
 and Nadine?

YOUNG ENZO

What? Yeah. It's all good now.
 So what were we talking about?

Young Enzo listens as the random guy goes back to his
 conversation but still glances at Young Nadine.

3E

INT. FLORIDA. FRAT HOUSE. LIVING AREA. SAME NIGHT.

3E

FLASHBACK CONT'D

Young Nadine is sitting on the couch talking with Krista,
 Lennie and Stephanie. Young Enzo comes up to the couch and
 addresses Young Nadine.

YOUNG ENZO

Ready to go, Hot Shot?

Young Nadine repeats the same action of puckering her lips
 and squinting his eyes. The 3 girls all laugh. Young Enzo
 just smiles.

YOUNG ENZO (CONT'D)
(smiling)
Come On. Let's go.

YOUNG NADINE
Where's Dylan?

YOUNG ENZO
Where do you think?

Young Nadine looks at the girls who don't look surprised at all.

LENNIE
That's Dylan for you. Always making
new 'girl' friends!

Young Nadine looks at Young Enzo a little disappointed.

YOUNG ENZO
Come On.

Young Nadine gets up from her spot and exchanges
hugs/salutations with the girls. She then stands directly in
front of Young Enzo.

YOUNG NADINE
You're still on my shit list.

YOUNG ENZO
Aren't I always?

YOUNG NADINE
Yeah. That's true.

They grin at one another and take their exit.

3G EXT. NORTHERN CA. STARBUCK'S. OUTSIDE PATIO. SAME DAY. 3G
AFTERNOON

Nadine is deep in thought, when SUNNY is seen making her
entrance onto the patio, with her coffee in hand. Sunny is 6'
tall and has a gorgeous face that frame beautiful light green
eyes. She is Irish/Scandinavian mix with long brown hair and
an extremely fit body from all the hours she puts in at the
gym.

SUNNY
Hello? Nay? Are you in there?

NADINE
Oh. Sorry.

SUNNY

What were you thinking about?

NADINE

Oh it's nothing really, just this guy I used to be best friends with in college, but he left after my sophomore year and we lost touch. Anyway, I looked for him on Facebook today. Want to see?

SUNNY

Of course.

Nadine opens Facebook on her phone and searches for Enzo. Once she finds him, she shows Sunny.

SUNNY (CONT'D)

(in awe)

Oh. My. God.

NADINE

I know, right?! And I made out with him!

SUNNY

You did?

NADINE

Yes! It only happened once and he had a girlfriend at the time. She had decided to go out clubbing that night and he didn't want to go. My freshman year roommate and I decided to get shit-faced on tequila that same night, and at some point, I was in my dorm bathroom trying to pull my drunken ass together, Enzo came in and the next thing I knew we were making out!

SUNNY

Wow. He's hot!

NADINE

I know! He looked a little different in college but was still cute. Anyway, we were going at it. Plus, he was totally sober, by the way, so it's all his fault. But my roommate barged into the bathroom a few minutes in and freaked out on us.

(MORE)

NADINE (CONT'D)

Enzo left and I felt totally guilty about it because I was friends with his girlfriend and was scared to death she would find out.

SUNNY

So what happened?

NADINE

Well, the next day I was totally hungover and riddled with guilt so I wanted to stay in my bed all day. But Enzo came in my room, told me to get over it, and forced me back into reality.

SUNNY

Hmmmm.

NADINE

And that was the end of that. Anyway, I sent him a friend request so we shall see if he remembers me.

SUNNY

Interesting. Well definitely let me know if you hear anything!

NADINE

Oh I will!

Both smile.

SUNNY

And how are things going with Infinite Films? Have you heard anything else from Ronald?

NADINE

Yes! I did... He wants me to...

Scene zooms out with Nadine explaining things to Sunny, who looks extremely interested.

4A INT. NORTHERN CA. NADINE'S HOME. KITCHEN. NEXT MORNING 4A

Nadine enters from her bedroom in workout clothes. Before putting it in her purse, she looks at her phone and sees her friend request to Enzo has been accepted. She thinks for a moment and decides to send him a Facebook message.

ON THE SCREEN - A Facebook DM from Nadine: "Well, well, well... If it isn't Enzo De Luca! Do you remember me? How have the last 30+ years been treating you? I hope well!"

Satisfied, she hits send.

Nadine is seen heading out of the kitchen with her cane in hand, her AFO on, and her purse and cell phone.

4B

EXT. NORTHERN CA. GYM. PARKING LOT. SAME MORNING

4B

Nadine exits the gym entrance and navigates the curb down to her car. She then opens her car door and carefully gets in by backing in with her right leg. Once in, she pushes the start button to her green, 4 door hardtop Mini-Cooper and fastens her seatbelt. She then takes her phone from her purse and sees she has a new Facebook Messenger message.

ON THE SCREEN - A Facebook DM from Enzo: "Well. Hello to you!! Wow - I've always wondered how you were. I'm down the shore with my girlfriend. And I have two grown boys, 25 and 23 years old. And how are you? Where are you living?"

NADINE
(smiling)
Aww. He remembers me.

Nadine places her phone back in her purse and puts her car in Reverse to leave the parking lot.

NADINE (CONT'D)
Let's see what you've been up to
since we lost touch, Enzo.

Nadine puts her car in Drive and leaves the parking lot.

5A

INT. NORTHERN CA. NADINE'S HOME. FAMILY ROOM. SAME DAY-DUSK 5A

Nadine sits on her couch in her pj's smiling as she is watching an old episode of Schitt's Creek. Her cell phone rings and she sees it's Marie, her best friend from New Jersey. Nadine accepts the call and puts it on speaker.

NADINE
Hey! What's going on?

INTERCUT

5B INT. NEW JERSEY. MARIE'S HOME. KITCHEN. SAME DAY - EVENING 5B

MARIE, like Sunny, is also 6' tall. She is of German/Italian descent, with a beautiful face. Medium length, blonde hair. Green eyes. Fit body. And lives an affluent life due to husband's occupation but remains extremely humble.

MARIE

Nay! Not much... Nick and I just got back from dinner so I thought I'd give you a call and check-in. How's everything going out there?

NADINE

Funny you should ask... Do you remember that guy I used to always talk about in college? En...

MARIE

Yeah. Dylan? That guy was a jerk.

NADINE

(sighs)

Ugh. I'll never live that down. No, not Dylan. His name was Enzo De Luca. He was also from New Jersey and we were the best of friends.

MARIE

Vaguely.

NADINE

Well we're Facebook friends now. I was thinking about him the other night and decided to look for him. Want to see his picture?

MARIE

Yes! Let me see.

Nadine pulls up the picture in her phone's photos and sends it via text. She waits a few seconds for Marie to respond.

MARIE (CONT'D)

What?!?!

NADINE

I know!

MARIE

Holy shit.

NADINE

Yep.

MARIE

And if anyone were to ask me to identify your type, I'd give them this picture.

NADINE

(blushing)

I know, but we're ignoring that part because he has a girlfriend.

MARIE

Dammit.

NADINE

And he still lives in Jersey.

MARIE

Does he now...

NADINE

Don't.

MARIE

What? I didn't say anything about you moving back to Jersey, did I?

NADINE

No. But you thought it.

MARIE

(laughing)

Hey, you can't hurt me for trying.

NADINE

Yeah... 22 years later and you're still trying.

Anyway, Enzo and I have been messaging back and forth all day.

MARIE

Oh really... What did he have to say?

NADINE

Well, he was married for almost 20 years but that ended a few years back. He has two boys, 25 and 23. He works as a cop but is getting ready for retirement. Both of his parents are still alive, which is very fortunate. And oh yeah, he has a GIRLFRIEND.

MARIE

Okay... Okay... So what updates have you given him?

NADINE

I told him about my stroke, where I live in California, that I'm an author and screenplay writer now, that I've never had kids but I have a little sister through the Big Brothers/Big Sisters of America. Oh and that my mom, two dad's, Aunt Rita and Uncle Frank have all passed.

MARIE

Did he know your mom?

NADINE

He did! He came to my house over one of the summer breaks and brought a pie for her. My mother loved him!

MARIE

Oh wait... Now I remember him! Your mom talked about that for days!

NADINE

I know!

MARIE

So where did you guys leave things?

NADINE

I gave him my phone number and told him to call if he gets the chance. That it would be easier to connect that way.

MARIE

Atta girl!

NADINE

Marie.

MARIE

What? Can't I have a little fun? Come On now... I'm married. I need to live vicariously through you.

NADINE

Yeah, yeah...

MARIE
Hold on, okay?

NADINE
Sure.

Marie hears her husband yelling for her in the background.
She takes a deep sigh and returns to the call.

MARIE
I have to go. But let me know what
happens with Enzo. Did you tell him
you are coming home in 3 months?

NADINE
I may have mentioned that, yes.

MARIE
Oh goodie! I can't wait to hear
what he has to say to that!

Marie hears her name being yelled again in the background.

MARIE (CONT'D)
I've got to go. I'll talk to you
soon.

NADINE
Okay. Bye.

MARIE
Bye.

Nadine hangs up and turns her attention back to the T.V.

6A EXT. NORTHERN CA. STARBUCK'S. OUTSIDE PATIO. NEXT DAY. 6A
AFTERNOON

Nadine is seated at an outside table, laptop in front of her,
working on a screenplay. A cup of hot tea and her cell phone
also sit on the table. Her cell phone rings. She picks up her
phone and looks at it. A 908 number. New Jersey. She answers.

NADINE
Hello?

INTERCUT

6B

EXT. NORTHERN NJ. ENZO'S CAR. SAME DAY. EVENING

6B

ENZO is calling from his car while driving on the NJ Parkway. Most of his features remain the same as college, except his hair is grey now and resides just above the shoulders, he has a light beard, and oh yeah, the male model thing is still applicable.

ENZO

Nadine? Is that you?

NADINE

Enzo?! Oh my God... How are you?

ENZO

(laughing)

Nay, you sound exactly the same!

NADINE

Yeah? So do you!

ENZO

I was so glad that you reached out.
I've always wondered how you've
been.

NADINE

Me too. I couldn't sleep the other
night so I did some investigating
on Facebook.

ENZO

That's great. You sound like you
could work for the police too. I
tried looking for you a few years
back but I couldn't remember how to
spell your last name.

NADINE

You did?

ENZO

Yes. I did.

NADINE

Well, now we found each other... So
how are you?

ENZO

I'm good! No complaints! What about
you? You're in California now? How
did that come about and for how
long?

NADINE

Oh god, for over 20 years now. I was working at the time on a temporary assignment in Ireland for 9 months. While I was there, my former boss offered me a promotion in California, so once Ireland was finished, I literally moved home to Jersey for a month to pack up my stuff and then moved out here permanently.

ENZO

Wow. Do you like it out there?

NADINE

I do. It's beautiful here. I'm in the northern part, near Sacramento, but I don't feel like this is my final spot.

ENZO

No? Where's your final spot?

NADINE

I'm not sure, but I know it's not here. Have you ever been to California?

ENZO

Once. A few years ago when I was dating this bougee woman who moved to L.A. I hated it. I also hate flying, so there's that... I think it may be a claustrophobia thing. Oh and I'm sorry... you're not bougee are you?

NADINE

(laughing)

No, I'm not bougee. But let's talk about this fear of flying. Have you always had it?

ENZO

I don't know, but it's gotten progressively worse. My kids live in Florida now and I have to drive down whenever I want to see them because I won't get on an airplane.

NADINE

Oh no, Enzo. We're going to have to work on that.

ENZO

Yeah... Good luck with that.

They both laugh.

ENZO (CONT'D)

So you said in one of your messages that you're coming home in 3 months for a wedding?

NADINE

Yes! My niece, Brittany is getting married so I'll be there for that.

ENZO

We should get together!

NADINE

We should?

ENZO

Yes. Shouldn't we? It's been so long and I want to see you.

NADINE

Yes, we should! I'll text you the days that work for me and then we can decide from there?

ENZO

That's perfect!

NADINE

Oh Enzo... Hearing your voice makes me realize how much I've missed you!

ENZO

Me too!

NADINE

We had such a special bond, you know? We just clicked.

ENZO

We did click!

NADINE

And I can say this because I almost died from a stroke and I don't want to leave things unsaid anymore but I really do love you. And I mean that in the most appropriate way...

(MORE)

NADINE (CONT'D)

I'm not saying anything that would disrespect you or your girlfriend in any kind of way.

ENZO

(laughing)

Oh Nay, you haven't changed at all.
I love you too!

NADINE

Ha. Well remember how I didn't filter very well in college?

ENZO

Yes.

NADINE

It's gotten worse. Much, much worse.

They both smile and laugh. Nadine goes to grab her tea and it spills onto her laptop.

NADINE (CONT'D)

Oh shit! I just spilled my tea on my laptop. Enzo, I've got to go and try to get this cleaned up, but I'll text you later okay?

ENZO

(smiling)

Yes, definitely text and we'll decide a time to meet when you're home.

NADINE

Perfect... Okay... Bye, Enzo!

ENZO

Bye, Nay.

Nadine ends the call and begins to look for napkins. A barista from inside the store sees Nadine has no more than two napkins so she rushes outside with a stack in hand. The two try to get the tea cleaned up.

7A INT. PRINCETON, NJ. MOUNTAIN LAKES HOUSE-WEDDING TENT. 7A
AFTERNOON

Film flashes "3 months later... New Jersey" on the screen.

The wedding tent for Brittany's wedding is beautiful and elaborate. All of the guests are dressed in black tie wedding attire and total ~175 people.

Nadine is seated at one of the tables that is just a few feet from the bride and groom, who are currently having their main dance on the dance floor. Marie is seated next to Nadine, and her husband, NICK is next to her. Nick is 6'3" tall, extremely attractive and carries himself well as he has spent thousands of hours as a lawyer, standing in front of courtrooms, arguing physical injury cases.

All 3 are watching the bride and groom dance, while KYM makes her way over to Nadine, and JIMMY stops by to talk to Nick. Both are dressed appropriately as the parents of the bride and their level of attractiveness suits one another.

KYM

Nay, I'm so glad you could make it for this!

NADINE

Of course... You know I could never miss any of the kids weddings. No matter where I live.

KYM

That's true. Gosh, we've known each other since we're 3 years old so you really are family at this point.

MARIE

Have you told Kym about your date tomorrow?

NADINE

Marie... One word: GIRLFRIEND.

KYM

Oh yes! With Enzo... I've heard all about it. Are you excited?

NADINE

I am. I'm nervous too. We've only texted a few times and it's hard to think I'll see him when I'm walking like this.

KYM

What?!

MARIE

You'll be fine! And besides, if he can't handle it then we don't like him anyway!

KYM

Unless of course, he gets you to move back to New Jersey. Than he's golden.

MARIE

Oh yeah. For sure!

NADINE

Stop... It should be fine. Hopefully I'll look okay considering what he looks like.

MARIE

What?! You are beautiful! Here, let's get a picture of the three of us and then you can post it to Facebook. Give him a little sneak peek.

NADINE

What?... I don't know.

KYM

(yelling over to Jimmy)
Jim, come take a picture of us girls!

Marie gives Jimmy her phone. The three women pose for a picture. Marie shows Nadine the picture.

MARIE

See... Beautiful!

KYM

Oh yeah! Marie can I get a copy of that?

MARIE

Sure. I'll send it to both of you now.

Nadine's cell phone is sitting on the table and the text alert goes off. She picks up her cell phone and looks at the picture.

MARIE (CONT'D)

See... Post it now.

Nadine takes a second to think about it and then shrugs any hesitation away.

ON THE SCREEN - A Facebook post from Nadine: "Having drinks with these beautiful ladies at the most beautiful wedding, with the most beautiful bride and groom. Have I mentioned everything is beautiful yet?"

Nadine shows Marie, who smiles and gives her nod of approval.

MARIE (CONT'D)

Do it.

Nadine posts the picture to Facebook and then places her cell phone back on the table.

7B INT. PRINCETON, NJ. MOUNTAIN LAKES HOUSE. WEDDING TENT. 7B
EVENING

Nadine is standing at the bar, just a few feet from her table. The bartender has just poured her a Long Island Iced Tea. She grabs it and looks at the distance between the bar and her table. She convinces herself that she (and her cane) can do it and takes one step before she is interrupted by BRITTANY and her husband, TREVOR. Both are beautiful beyond belief and make the perfect couple.

TREVOR

Here. Let me get that for you,
Nanny Nay.

Nadine wants to refuse but figures she can't, since he's the groom to this event. Nadine hands Trevor her drink.

NADINE

Thank you, Trevor!

Brittany smiles.

BRITTANY

Are you good, Nanny Nay?

NADINE

So good, Britt! Are you two having
fun?

BRITTANY

We are having the best time!

The three of them slowly walk over to the table, with both, Brittany and Trevor making sure Nadine can walk the distance.

NADINE

Thank you, again.
You guys go ahead now and mingle
with your other guests.

BRITTANY

Are you sure?

NADINE

Of course! Marie and Nick are just
dancing to this slow dance and then
they'll be back. Plus I have this
nice Long Island Iced Tea to keep
me company.

Nadine takes a sip of her drink from the inserted straw and
smiles. Brittany and Trevor smile in return.

BRITTANY

Well... Okay then. I love you,
Nanny Nay!

Brittany and Nadine hug.

NADINE

Love you too, Britt!

TREVOR

Chat with you later, Nanny Nay.

NADINE

Okay, Trevor.

Brittany and Trevor depart. Nadine sits down and takes
another sip of her drink. She looks at her cell phone to
check the time and sees she has a text message.

ON THE SCREEN - A text from Enzo: "I can't wait to see you
tomorrow! :)"

She also checks her Facebook notifications and Enzo has liked
her picture from the wedding.

Nadine is smiling and takes another sip of her drink.

8A

EXT. PRINCETON, NJ. NJ DINER. PARKING LOT. NEXT DAY.
AFTERNOON

8A

Marie and Nadine are sitting in Marie's Audi SUV, which is
parked just outside the entrance to the diner. Nadine is
dressed in a nice casual outfit, with her hair and makeup
done for the occasion. Marie is dressed in low-key yoga pants
and hoodie.

MARIE
Are you ready?

NADINE
Yes. I think so.

Marie looks beyond Nadine to an incredibly good looking man that is walking towards the diner entrance.

MARIE
Whoa. Is that him?

Nadine turns and sees Enzo, who is dressed in a black short sleeve shirt, jeans and black shoes.

Nadine quickly rolls down her window.

NADINE
Hey Enzo. I think you might be looking for me.

Enzo looks over at them and then turns to head in their direction. Nadine opens her car door to carefully get out, but is distracted by Enzo. They both have huge smiles on their faces. Enzo comes up to Nadine, who is halfway out of the car and gives her the greatest hug of all time. They are both hugging and when they stop, Enzo realizes Nadine has started to cry. He looks at her concerned.

NADINE (CONT'D)
Sorry, Enzo. I should have warned you... but I'm going through menopause so now I cry at the drop of a hat. For any reason at all. Happy. Sad. You name it and I'll cry for it.

MARIE
(smiling)
It's true and it's hilarious.

NADINE
Oh yeah. Marie will tell you. It happens regularly.
This is Marie, by the way.

Enzo looks to Marie.

ENZO
Hi Marie. It's nice to meet you.

MARIE
It's nice to meet you too, Enzo!

Nadine wipes her face and turns to Marie.

NADINE
Marie, how's my mascara look?

Marie checks out her face.

MARIE
All good!

NADINE
Okay. Enzo, ready to go have the
greatest dinner ever?

ENZO
Ready!

Enzo looks at Nadine, now that she has her cane in her hand.

ENZO (CONT'D)
What can I do to help?

NADINE
I'm okay. I can take it from here.

MARIE
Nay! Take the man's arm for God's
sake!

Nadine looks at Marie and gives her a disapproving look.

MARIE (CONT'D)
(smiling)
Do it! Enzo, she thinks she doesn't
need anyone's help on anything!

Nadine looks annoyed at Marie. Enzo smiles.

ENZO
Let me help you... Take my arm.

Nadine looks at him, hesitates, then complies.

NADINE
Okay. Marie, I'll call you when
we're done and you can come pick me
up.

MARIE
Okay. Bye, Enzo!

ENZO
Bye, Marie.

Enzo closes the door once Nadine has made it out, and then positions himself on her right side so she can take his arm. They walk up the curb and to the restaurant entrance. Marie rolls down her window.

MARIE
Hey Enzo?

Enzo and Nadine turn to Marie.

MARIE (CONT'D)
Make her come home!

Nadine is shocked.

NADINE
Good-bye, Marie!
I'll kill you when we get to your house later!

Marie laughs and drives away. Nadine looks at Enzo embarrassed.

ENZO
(smiling)
So I guess she really wants you to come home.

NADINE
Ugh. You have no idea...

Enzo opens the entrance door to the restaurant.

8B INT. PRINCETON, NJ. NJ DINER. A TWO PERSON BOOTH. SAME DAY. DUSK 8B

Nadine and Enzo are seated in a booth. Both are seen laughing hysterically at something Nadine has just said.

NADINE
It's true! I swear... What are those games they have down the shore where you have to hit the animal's head as he pokes it through one of the holes?

ENZO
Whack-a-Mole.

NADINE
That's it! Whack-a-Mole! That's what I look like now when I'm treading water.

(MORE)

NADINE (CONT'D)

The stroke has had it's fun with me, that's for sure.

Enzo looks at her for a moment, and then compassionately smiles. Nadine senses his empathy and feels the need to change the subject. She see the diner receipt in Enzo's hand.

NADINE (CONT'D)

Hey... Let me pay!

ENZO

No way!

NADINE

Let me pay for my half, at least!

ENZO

Absolutely not. I haven't had this much fun talking to anyone since, I don't know... you!

They both laugh again, and then smile and look pensively at each other.

ENZO (CONT'D)

So let's talk about you and your relationship status.

NADINE

My relationship status? What relationship are you referring to?

ENZO

So you've never been in anything serious? You can't tell me that you've never gotten over Dylan and have stayed alone pining for him after all of these years...

NADINE

Oh man. I'm never going to live that down. Is that what you think I've been doing all of this time?

ENZO

Well, you've never said...

Enzo smiles at Nadine, and she gives him a look of stunned amusement.

NADINE

Okay, well Dylan was just the beginning of my bad boy phase, which lasted until my late thirties when I finally started to realize my self worth. Sorry to get all 'Oprah Winfrey' on you, but it's true.

Enzo smiles at Nadine's Oprah reference.

NADINE (CONT'D)

Anyway, when I graduated college, I started working at my first professional job. I was there for about 6 years, and I'd say the last 2 years there, I became best friends with this guy, Seth, who made Dylan's bad boy ways look like pre-school for dysfunctional men. But me, and my major daddy issues, believed I could fix him and he'd fall madly in love with me.

Enzo slightly smiles at Nadine.

NADINE (CONT'D)

Yeah, you know where this is going. Anyway, I fell for him. Hard. And when he didn't feel the same way, I had to say my good-byes to him and then I fell apart. Again, really, really hard. Like 'anti-depressants, and fleeing the country for 9 months' hard. And once I got over him, I tried again, very sporadically, with some players and assholes and then... AHA... the Oprah moment happened and I started to see my worth. But by then I had the stroke, became disabled and I was over 45... and the pickings are slim so now the best company I can find is my own... and my vibrator... which makes sure I'm satisfied every time.

Enzo's face is stunned.

NADINE (CONT'D)

Haha! Sorry! No filter, remember?!

ENZO
(laughing)
Yes, I remember!

NADINE
And what about you?

ENZO
What about me?

NADINE
What's the status with your
girlfriend? I know you were married
for almost 20 years, which, hats
off to you because I don't know if
I could ever do that. I literally
choke on my commitment issues just
thinking about it...

Enzo laughs again.

NADINE (CONT'D)
But do you have plans on marrying
her?

Enzo looks at Nadine for a minute, and then smiles.

ENZO
We haven't talked about that yet.

NADINE
I see. Well can I make a
suggestion?

ENZO
(hesitantly)
Sure.

NADINE
Make sure you really want to be
with her for the duration. Make
sure it's your decision and not
some sense of obligation. Because I
remember in college, you would say
you were done with a relationship,
but then the girls dog would die,
or her parents were getting a
divorce, or I don't know, the
nuclear bomb threat was real and
how could she live like that all
alone.
You always held on to them longer
because you never wanted to hurt
them more than the breakup would.

(MORE)

NADINE (CONT'D)

And I was always thinking 'Just rip the damn band-aid off already!'

They both laugh but then get quiet again.

NADINE (CONT'D)

How did your girlfriend... Rachel, right?

Enzo nods his head.

NADINE (CONT'D)

How did Rachel handle the fact that you were having dinner with me today?

Enzo looks at Nadine carefully for a second and then replies.

ENZO

She's alright about it.

NADINE

Just alright?

Enzo smiles slightly at Nadine's disgruntled look.

ENZO

What?

NADINE

We were always causing problems with the ladies in college.

ENZO

What do you mean?

NADINE

Come On. You remember... Joann. Lisa. Darla... They all wanted the bond we had. And I would try to explain the bond to them as a brother/sister thing but it never helped.

ENZO

Yeah, I remember.
Why didn't we ever go out together?

Nadine looks at Enzo and puckers her lips and squints her eyes. Enzo smiles big.

NADINE

Oh I don't know... Maybe Joann. Or Lisa. Or Darla.

(MORE)

NADINE (CONT'D)

You were always hooking up with the hot, skinny ladies, and I had my head so far up Dylan's ass I couldn't see straight. Plus I thought I looked like the female version of Shrek. So that didn't help.

ENZO

I wish you could have seen yourself the way we did. You had this light about you. It was infectious. Still have it, in fact.

They both look at each other in silence.

ENZO (CONT'D)

Anyway... I just think the timing was off. For both of us.

Nadine stops and contemplates what Enzo has said.

NADINE

Yeah...
So what are you going to do with your life once you become a retired cop?

ENZO

Still deciding. Maybe a private investigator? Or security for New York's most elite.

NADINE

Most elite?

ENZO

Yep.

NADINE

Well, I better go to the bathroom and call Marie to come get me.

ENZO

Okay. I'll finish up paying here.

Nadine carefully gets up from the booth. Enzo starts to move out of his side of the booth.

ENZO (CONT'D)

You need help?

NADINE

Nope. I'm a pro at this by now.

8C INT. PRINCETON, NJ. NJ DINER. UNISEX ONE PERSON BATHROOM. 8C
SAME DAY. EVENING

Nadine finished washing her hands and grabs her cane. When she opens the door, she sees Enzo on the other side.

NADINE

Enzo?

Enzo slowly walks towards Nadine and backs her into the bathroom. He locks the door behind him, turns around towards Nadine, backs her up against the wall, takes her face in his hands and kisses her. The kiss is long, passionate and both of them give into the feelings. Neither one of them hold back. The kiss finally ends and Enzo leans down and puts his forehead so that it's touching Nadine's.

NADINE (CONT'D)

Whoa...

ENZO

I know. I'm sorry but I had to. I had to see if it felt the same way as it did in college.

Nadine tries to catch her breath.

NADINE

You remember?

ENZO

Of course I remember. I was the sober one. Are you okay?

NADINE

I think so?

ENZO

I shouldn't have done that. I am sorry.

Enzo pulls back from Nadine, who still looks shocked.

ENZO (CONT'D)

Are you ready to go?

Nadine nods her head at him, not able to speak. Enzo takes her right hand in his.

ENZO (CONT'D)

Come on. The check is paid so we can go.

Nadine is looking at Enzo, shaking her head and then exiting the bathroom.

8D EXT. PRINCETON, NJ. NJ DINER. PARKING LOT. SAME DAY. 8D
EVENING.

Marie pulls up to the diner and sees Enzo and Nadine walking down to meet her. She rolls down the passenger side window so she can hear their good-bye.

When they get to the passenger side of the car, Nadine turns to Enzo. She looks at him for a moment and is still reluctant to speak since their kiss in the bathroom, so Enzo decides to speak.

ENZO
I had a really great time tonight.

They both look at each other and smile hesitantly.

NADINE
I did, as well.

They are still standing there, not really sure of what to say.

NADINE (CONT'D)
Well, I better be going.

ENZO
Yeah, me too.

Nadine extends her right hand out to shake Enzo's hand. Enzo looks at Nadine's hand confused, but he ends up taking it. They shake hands, but hold each other's hand long after the shake.

NADINE
(flustered)
Okay then. I'll text you. Or maybe
Facebook message you?

ENZO
Okay.

NADINE
Okay, well, bye then.

Nadine turns around to open the door, but Enzo is a step ahead of her and opens the door.

MARIE

Hey Enzo! Did you guys have a nice time?

Nadine is trying to get into the SUV, and Enzo insists on helping her in.

ENZO

We did. I personally had the best time I've had in a long, long time.

Nadine is now positioned in her seat, and looks at Enzo.

NADINE

(hesitantly)

Me too.

They both smile at one another.

ENZO

Okay, well don't be a stranger.

NADINE

Yeah. Don't you be one either.

Enzo nods his head.

ENZO

Bye, Marie.

MARIE

Bye, Enzo!

Enzo looks at Nadine.

ENZO

Bye, Nay.

NADINE

Enzo.

Enzo shuts the passenger's door, looks at Nadine one last time and then takes his exit. Nadine rolls up the window, turns her head to look straight ahead and takes a deep breath.

MARIE

What the hell happened?

NADINE

He kissed me.

MARIE

What?!

NADINE

Yes. I was in the bathroom and he came in and kissed me.

Marie is stunned, but is about to start laughing at the apparent shock Nadine is in.

MARIE

And how was it? How did it make you feel?

NADINE

(hesitantly)

Like I want to throw up.

MARIE

(puzzled)

Like in a bad way?

NADINE

No. Like in a 'I've never felt that way before with anyone and I didn't want him to stop' kind of way.

MARIE

Oooohh... I see. Well let's get you home for some tea so we can talk about it then.

Marie drives forward, looking at Nadine who is staring out the window, deep in thought.

9A INT. NORTHERN CA. NADINE'S HOME. OFFICE. TWO WEEKS LATER. 9A
EARLY MORNING

Film flashes "2 weeks later... California" on the screen.

Nadine is seated at her desk with a hot tea in hand. She clicks on the 'Join Zoom Call' button and connects to the virtual call. Ronald is seen in his office in NYC.

INTERCUT

9B INT. NYC. RONALD'S OFFICE. SAME DAY. LATE MORNING 9B

RONALD

Hey, Nay. Hold on okay...

INTERCUT (Cont'd)

9C

INT. DUBLIN. KATE'S HOME OFFICE. DUSK.

9C

Nadine waits for a moment when the screen flashes and another caller enters the screen; KATE KINSALE. Kate is a famous Irish actress and activist on all things women related. She is absolutely stunning, standing at 5'7" tall, has shoulder length, wavy, dark auburn hair, bright blue eyes and a woman's body, who shows it off in the most stylish ways.

NADINE

Kate! I didn't know you'd be joining us!

KATE

Nay! Of course! I haven't talked to you in a while so I wanted to hear how you're doing!

NADINE

I'm doing great! How are you?

KATE

I'm good! Although I can't wait for this press tour to start so I can get a break from my kids.

KATE'S DAUGHTER (OC)

I heard that!

KATE

(looks beyond her computer screen)

What? Like you don't feel the same way?!

Kate is seen smiling to the invisible person.

KATE (CONT'D)

Right... That's what I thought. Anyway, so Ron has told you about the press tour? Yes?

RONALD

Yes. She has been briefed.

Ronald and Kate are both smiling, while Nadine looks a little unsure.

KATE

Oh come on, Nay! It will be fun! Just us girls... You, me and Ron!

NADINE

Oh Ronald, I think she's got your number.

KATE

Of course I do! Now I'll let Ron go through the details with you, but I just wanted to get on this call and make sure you were willing to do this. You think you can do it?

NADINE

(hesitant)

Yes. But only for you, Kate.

KATE

Oh splendid! You just made my day! Right, I've got to run. Have to take my daughter to her singing lesson but I am so happy! I'll see you in a few months!

NADINE

Okay! Bye, Kate!

KATE

Bye-bye! Ronald, I'll talk to you next week, yes?

RONALD

Absolutely! Talk to you next week. Nay, stay on the line okay?

NADINE

Sure.

KATE

Okay. Bye!

Kate disconnects from the zoom call.

RONALD

Okay. Now before I start to go into the press stuff with you, how was your dinner with Enzo?

NADINE

(chokes on her tea)

That was almost two weeks ago...
It was good.

RONALD

Just good? I don't believe you.
Spill please.

NADINE
Well... he looks amazing!

RONALD
Mmmm Hmmm. Go on...

NADINE
And I felt totally safe and secure
with him like I used to. Like
nothing can hurt me when he's near.
He's a cop you know.

RONALD
A cop. Girl... Can you imagine what
he can do with handcuffs.

NADINE
And...

RONALD
Yes...

NADINE
Well...

RONALD
Girl, you better spit it out!

NADINE
And he kissed me.

RONALD
(shocked)
What? You lucky bitch!
So where did you leave things?

NADINE
We didn't. I haven't talked to him
since.

RONALD
What?!

NADINE
Ronald... he has a girlfriend. And
he apologized because it was a
mistake.

RONALD
I don't get it... How did it make
you feel?

NADINE
Confused. And like I want something
that I can't have so I'm just
ignoring it until it goes away.

RONALD
(eyebrow raised)
And how's that working out for you?

NADINE
How about we start talking about
the press tour now?

Ronald looks at her through the screen and gives her a look
of empathy.

RONALD
Okay. Well I'm not done with this
yet, but yes, we can talk about the
press tour.

10A INT. NYC. INFINITE FILMS HEADQUARTERS. MAIN CORRIDOR. 10A
AUGUST. MORNING

Film flashes "3 months later... New York" on the screen.

Typical high-rise office building with open cube spaces and
glass covered conference rooms on each side. Nadine and
Ronald are dressed professionally. Nadine is wearing sneakers
and is using her Alinker, which is a walking mobility device.

They come to a conference room door and Ronald begins to
address Nadine.

RONALD
So your flight was okay? No trouble
traveling with your Alinker?

NADINE
Nope. Everything went great.

RONALD
Excellent. So before we go into the
conference room, I need to tell you
about the security person we've
gotten for you...

NADINE
Security?! What do you mean
security. I don't need that. That's
reserved for the famous people.

RONALD

Well, yes, it usually is. But I needed, scratch that, we, Infinite Films, needed to feel secure that you could get from place to place with no issues. And although I will be there with you most of the time, I would also have to be there for Kate and the other actors, so this is my way of making sure you are taken care of at all times.

NADINE

(perturbed)

Ronald...

RONALD

You know you can trust me, right?

NADINE

I guess...

Ronald nods his head at her, takes a deep breath and opens the conference room door.

10B INT. NYC. INFINITE FILMS HEADQUARTERS. INSIDE CONFERENCE 10B ROOM. SAME DAY. MORNING

Ronald walks into the conference room. Nadine follows him. She sees the back of a man who is staring out the window. When he turns around, she sees it's Enzo. He is handsomely dressed in a black suit. Nadine's mouth drops.

RONALD

Surprise!

NADINE

Enzo?

Enzo and Ronald smile.

ENZO

Hello, Nay.

NADINE

What are you doing here?

RONALD

It's funny you should ask that... I knew you would have a hard time trusting just anyone.

(MORE)

RONALD (CONT'D)

I also know how close you two were in college and that you trusted him more than anyone. So I reached out on Facebook and sent him a message.

Nadine looks at Ronald like she wants to kill him.

NADINE

Facebook, huh?

RONALD

Yep. And it's only for a month. Since Enzo just retired from his work as a police officer we figured this would be a great opportunity to determine if he wants to do the private security thing. Oh, and he'll get paid by Infinite while he's here. So really it's a win, win for everyone.

Ronald is still smiling a huge smile at Nadine, who is still deciding if she will kill him or not.

ENZO

Come on now, Nay. It will be fun.

She looks at Enzo, and then to Ronald who is still smiling.

NADINE

But what about flying? We'll have to fly to L.A., and you hate flying.

RONALD

Oh yeah, that... Well Enzo has agreed to try flying in first class with the rest of us to see if that helps.

NADINE

Has he now?

ENZO

Yes, he has.

Nadine looks back at Enzo, who is smiling at her from across the room. His smile begins to soften her disposition. Enzo begins to make his way over to her, he extends his hand to her. She looks down at his hand and then up to his face. She shakes his hand but he holds it a little bit longer.

RONALD

Aww. See... All's well that ends well.

Nadine gives Ronald the same nasty look.

RONALD (CONT'D)

Okay then, let's get you introduced to the people you'll be working with for the next few weeks. Then you two can head back to the hotel to get some rest. It's going to be a crazy next few weeks.

NADINE

Wait, hotel? Enzo is staying at the hotel?

RONALD

But of course. Where else would he stay?

NADINE

I figure at home while we're in New York.

RONALD

Oh, no. Starting now, he's on the clock. He stays where you stay. Separate rooms of course.

Nadine looks confused.

RONALD (CONT'D)

Anyway, let's go meet everyone.

NADINE

Wait. Is Kate going to be there?

RONALD

No. She'll meet us at the airport tomorrow.

NADINE

Okay.

Ronald starts to make his exit from the room.

NADINE (CONT'D)

(turns to Enzo and speaks quietly)

Are you okay with this? If you're not, I'll tell Ronald we need to make other arrangements.

ENZO
Hey, I wouldn't be here if I wasn't
okay with this.

NADINE
But what about your girlfriend? Is
she okay with this?

ENZO
Don't worry about her. She's fine
with this.

Nadine looks at him suspiciously.

ENZO (CONT'D)
I promise. Come on. Let's go meet
some people.

Enzo waits for Nadine to make her exit before making his own.

11A INT. NYC. EMPIRE HOTEL. NADINE'S HOTEL ROOM. SAME DAY. 11A
LATE AFTERNOON

Nadine is unpacking items from her suitcase when she hears a
knock at her door. She grabs her cane and walks over to
answer it. It's Enzo. He is dressed in swimming trunks, a t-
shirt and flip flops.

NADINE
Hello...

ENZO
Hey.

Nadine notices Enzo has a hotel gift bag in his hand and is a
bit curious.

NADINE
What's up, Enzo?

ENZO
Do you trust me like Ronald said?

NADINE
I think so?

ENZO
Then put this on.

Enzo hands her the bag. She takes out a black bathing suit.

NADINE
What's this?

ENZO
A bathing suit.

NADINE
I know that, but what is it for?

ENZO
It's for you. When we went to dinner, you said you have a hard time staying afloat ever since you had the stroke. I figured we could work on that since they have a pool here.

NADINE
And how do you know this will fit me?

ENZO
There was a woman in the gift shop who looked to be the same size as you so I asked her which suit she would wear.

NADINE
She looked to be my size?

ENZO
Yes. I'm a guy. We notice how women look.

Nadine smiles slightly but still hesitates.

ENZO (CONT'D)
Come on, put it on. I'll be waiting right here for you.

She thinks about it.

NADINE
Okay. Just give me 5, maybe 10 minutes.

ENZO
Okay.

She starts to close the door, but then stops.

NADINE
Thank you, Enzo.

ENZO
You're welcome.

Nadine closes the hotel room door, looks at the bathing suit, and smiles.

11B INT. NYC. EMPIRE HOTEL. HOTEL POOL. SAME DAY. LATE 11B
AFTERNOON

The hotel pool is covered with a roof. The lounge chairs that surround the pool are exposed to the outdoors and the sun. The pool area is empty except for three other guests and two staff. Their towels, and Enzo's shirt and shoes lay by the lounge chair.

Enzo stands on the steps of the pool, while Nadine sits on the lounge chair to remove her sneakers and AFO. She then carefully walks over to the steps with her cane. Enzo is already in the pool. His chest is chiseled and glorious and Nadine tries not to look at it.

ENZO
You got it?

NADINE
Yep.

She gets to the pool steps, lays her cane on the ground and starts to put her right foot down on the first step.

ENZO
Hold on. What are you doing?

NADINE
What do you mean? I'm getting in the pool.

ENZO
Not with that t-shirt you're not.

Nadine looks down and sees the Psychedelic Furs t-shirt that she's wearing.

NADINE
Enzo.

ENZO
Nay. No, you are not wearing that. You used to do that in college and it would piss me off.

NADINE
Oh yeah, we used to fight about that. And I was a lot bigger then.

ENZO
Yeah, exactly. So take your shirt
off. I want to see the bathing suit
I paid for.

NADINE
I can pay you back for it.

ENZO
Take it off. Now.

NADINE
(contemplating the
situation)
Okay but turn around.

ENZO
No.

NADINE
But I'm shy!

ENZO
Ha! You are not shy.

NADINE
If you want me to get in the pool
without my shirt on then turn
around.

Enzo puckers his lips, squints his eyes and turns around.

NADINE (CONT'D)
Thank you.

Nadine discards her shirt and throws it onto the lounge chair
and as quickly as her disabled body can, jumps from the steps
into the pool. Enzo turns around to see her.

NADINE (CONT'D)
Ta Da!

Enzo smiles and shakes his head at her.

ENZO
Okay, now let's see you swim to the
deep end.

Nadine starts to swim.

NADINE
You remind me of my trainer at
home, you know... Trying to boss me
around and stuff.

ENZO
Something tells me he doesn't get
very far with that.

NADINE
Ha. Nope. He doesn't.

They are both smiling. They get to where the water is deep enough for Nadine to tread water. Enzo points to the watch on his wrist.

ENZO
Okay, now I'll time you so whenever
you're ready, just tell me and I'll
start the clock.

Nadine starts to tread.

NADINE
Okay. Go.

She continues treading but is feeling a bit playful too.

NADINE (CONT'D)
So I told my trainer that I'm not
as 'bendy' as I used to be. Even
after the stroke, I used to be more
bendy.

Enzo looks at her and then looks around to make sure no one can hear them.

NADINE (CONT'D)
That I want to be able to straddle
a guy again and be more bendy.
That's what we were working on.

Enzo looks at her in the eyes. He's a bit shocked.

At that point, Nadine can barely keep her head above the water.

NADINE (CONT'D)
What?

Her head starts to go under, so Enzo grabs her and pulls her above, keeping his hands on her waist.

ENZO
Nay, you're not supposed to say
that kind of stuff to guys. They
could take it the wrong way. Or
people in general will think it's
inappropriate.

NADINE

But I wasn't telling just any old guy, I was telling you. In my security/trainer guy kind of way because you need to know that I need help with that.

ENZO

Right... In the security/trainer guy kind of way. Okay. Point taken.

They both look into each others eyes and smile.

ENZO (CONT'D)

Come on. Let's try it one more time but no more talking this time.

NADINE

(nods her head and starts to tread)

Okay. Go.

Nadine treads water for about 15 seconds and starts to go under, so Enzo grabs her and pulls her back up by her waist. With his hands still on her waist, he begins to talk.

ENZO

Okay, I think that's good for today. What do you think?

NADINE

I think I'm good.

Enzo nods his head and begins to walk back to the steps with Nadine following.

NADINE (CONT'D)

Hey Enzo?

ENZO

(turns to face her)

Yeah?

NADINE

Thank you for agreeing to do this. The security/trainer guy thing.

ENZO

(smiling)

Thank you. I think I needed this as well.

11C INT. NYC. EMPIRE HOTEL. HALLWAY TO NADINE'S HOTEL ROOM. 11C
SAME DAY. LATE AFTERNOON

Nadine and Enzo are seen walking up the hallway back to her room. They stop outside her door.

NADINE
Well, here we are.

ENZO
Yep. Here we are.

NADINE
Ronald said our flight leaves for
LAX at 3 tomorrow so we've got to
be ready to leave here by 11 at the
latest.

ENZO
So should I just come to your room
by 11 to help get your stuff.

NADINE
I can take my stuff or call the
bellman.

ENZO
(frustrated)
Nay...

NADINE
Okay. Sorry. Yes, please do that.
11 o'clock. I'll meet you here.

ENZO
Okay. Good. I'll see you then.

She nods her head at him. He starts to walk away as she begins to enter her room.

ENZO (CONT'D)
Hey Nay?

She turns around to look at him.

ENZO (CONT'D)
Security/trainer guy aside, I
peeked at you when you were getting
out of the pool and I think you
should know that you've got a
really nice ass. Top notch
actually.

Nadine's mouth drops as Enzo smiles.

NADINE
That's good to know.
Thank you?

Enzo laughs.

ENZO
See you tomorrow, Nay.

NADINE
Yep. See you tomorrow.

Nadine opens her door and sticks her head back out to make sure Enzo makes it to his room.

12A INT. NYC. EMPIRE HOTEL. NADINE'S HOTEL ROOM. NEXT DAY. 12A
MORNING

It's almost 10am. Nadine has everything prepared to go for her 11am pick up from Enzo. She had sent a zoom invite to Marie and Sunny for 10am ET call so she could brief them on everything, especially Enzo. She has her laptop on the desk and dials in to the zoom call.

INTERCUT

12B INT. NEW JERSEY. MARIE'S HOME. KITCHEN. SAME DAY/TIME 12B

MARIE
Sunny!!!

12C INT. NORTHERN CA. SUNNY'S HOME. HOME OFFICE. SAME DAY/ 12C
TIME 3HRS BEHIND

SUNNY
Marie!!!

MARIE
How are you? It's so good to see you!

SUNNY
I'm good! How about you?

MARIE
I'm good too!

NADINE
Hello Ladies.

MARIE

Well hello. Is everything okay? You scheduled this call out of nowhere.

SUNNY

Yes, and it's extremely early on this side of the country so this better be good.

NADINE

I know... I'm sorry but I thought you'd want to know that they hired me a security person, scratch that, basically a babysitter so I don't hurt myself and didn't tell me until I got here.

SUNNY

Okay, well that's good right?

MARIE

Definitely. Better to be safe than sorry.

NADINE

Yes but let me tell you who it is...

MARIE

Okay...

SUNNY

Who is it?

NADINE

Enzo!

SUNNY

What?!

MARIE

No way!!!

NADINE

Yes! Ronald contacted him via Facebook and asked him if he'd be willing to do it and he said yes.

MARIE

Whoa. Well how do you feel about it?

NADINE

I don't know. I'm totally confused.

SUNNY

Well, let me ask you this... Does he still have a girlfriend?

NADINE

Yes. He does.

SUNNY

Well then I think that's your answer. He's got a girlfriend so you just treat him like that. Nothing more.

MARIE

I agree with Sunny. You wouldn't treat him any other way anyway. To you, he's still that guy from college that you love like a brother. Minus the two kisses you've shared.

SUNNY

Oh but they were good kisses though... right, Marie?!

MARIE

Oh my god, they were the best.

NADINE

Ladies! Focus!

MARIE

Come on. You've got this. Just stay focused on work.

SUNNY

And the fact that he's got a girlfriend.

MARIE

Oh yes. Very important point, the girlfriend thing.

SUNNY

Are we helping any?

NADINE

Yes. Act professional and don't forget about his girlfriend.

SUNNY

You got it!

MARIE
You can do this!

NADINE
Okay... I can do this!

SUNNY
Yay!!!

NADINE
All right... well I better run.
We're leaving for Los Angeles in a
few hours and I need to be ready
but thank you! I knew you two would
put me on track.

SUNNY
Of course!

MARIE
Any time!

NADINE
Love you both!

Sunny and Marie reciprocate the love gesture and they all disconnect.

Nadine takes her laptop and puts it in the laptop bag sitting on her bed. She goes to grab the electrical cord from the desk and begins to fall. She tries to stop the fall but ends up doing a face plant onto the corner of her night stand, clipping the temple of her left eye, and then landing her whole body on the ground. She lays there for a few seconds and then brings her face up so she can feel the gash by the corner of her eye.

NADINE (CONT'D)
Fuck.

Nadine is lying on the floor, cupping her face in her left hand.

12D INT. NYC. EMPIRE HOTEL. ENTRANCE TO NADINE'S HOTEL ROOM. 12D
SAME DAY. MORNING

Enzo is seen at the entrance of Nadine's hotel room door. He knocks and then looks to his right to see the 3 people walking down the hallway. Nadine opens the door and Enzo turns his head to look at her. He abruptly begins to come toward her, cupping the left side of her face with his right hand.

ENZO
What happened?!

NADINE
Ugh. I fell. I tried to cover it up
with makeup but I'm guessing it
didn't help.

Enzo inspects the gash while still holding her face.

ENZO
That must hurt. Are you in pain?

NADINE
I've got a minor headache but
nothing that I haven't dealt with
before. I tend to fall quite
frequently now, I just don't
normally hit furniture on my way
down.

Enzo is looking at her with great concern, but then realizes
he's still holding her face so he releases it.

ENZO
Does Ronald know?

NADINE
Not yet.

ENZO
Well, he's not going to be happy
about it. You know that, right?

NADINE
Yep.

ENZO
Okay, well let's get your stuff and
head down to tell him.

Nadine nods her head and lets Enzo into her room to get her
stuff.

12E INT. NYC. EMPIRE HOTEL. HOTEL LOBBY. SAME DAY. MORNING 12E

Nadine and Enzo exit the elevator. Nadine is on her Alinker
and Enzo is wheeling their two suitcases. Ronald is off in
the distance talking on his cell phone, while there are a few
people in their group also waiting. Ronald turns to look at
the two of them and then freezes with his mouth gaping open.
Nadine and Enzo look at each other.

Ronald speaks to the person on his cell phone.

RONALD

Hey. I've got to call you back.

He hangs up and then rushes to Nadine.

RONALD (CONT'D)

Oh. My. God. What the hell happened to you?!

NADINE

It's fine. I fell this morning but I'm okay.

RONALD

You're not fine. That looks horrible!

Ronald looks at Enzo, who nods his head to agree with Ronald. Ronald then talks to a nearby bellman.

RONALD (CONT'D)

Excuse me but can you get us some ice please. And some napkins.

The bellman nods and scurries off to get the ice and napkins.

NADINE

Ronald, I'm fine.

RONALD

No. You're not. You know it's only going to get worse before it gets better. And tomorrow we have the first press conference. Oh God. Think Ronald, think...

NADINE

Ronald...

RONALD

Shhhh.

Nadine and Enzo look at one another because Ronald is deep in thought, walking in circles and coming up with strategies on how to fix the situation.

RONALD (CONT'D)

Okay. Okay. We can get the makeup artist assigned to Kate to put some makeup on it so it's not that noticeable.

Nadine nods her head. The bellman comes back and hands the ice and napkins to Nadine, who thanks him for it and then she applies it to her temple.

RONALD (CONT'D)

And from now on you're getting an adjoining room with me or one of the other ladies in the crew.

NADINE

Absolutely not.

RONALD

(voice raised)

Don't you 'absolutely not' me! You do not have a say in this! You are now a liability, and I cannot be worried about the next time it will be that you fall. No way! Not on my watch!

Nadine's embarrassed now since everyone in the lobby is looking at them. Ronald senses her embarrassment and reigns in his approach.

RONALD (CONT'D)

Please. I need...

Ronald looks at Enzo, and then back to Nadine. Ronald put his hand on Nadine's shoulder.

RONALD (CONT'D)

We need to make sure you are okay.
Yes?

Nadine looks at the both of them, and nods her head in agreement.

RONALD (CONT'D)

Okay. Then let's go. Our chariot awaits...

Ronald turns and begins to walk with the others. Nadine looks at Enzo, who shrugs his shoulders, and Nadine smiles reluctantly.

13

INT. NYC. UNITED AIRLINES. FIRST CLASS CABIN. SAME DAY. 13
AFTERNOON.

Nadine and Enzo walk onto the plane and make a right to get to their first class seats. Ronald follows behind them. Nadine and Enzo get to their row, while Ronald sits in the row in front them.

NADINE

How are you feeling? Are you okay?

ENZO

I'm not sure.

Nadine takes her seat next to the window. She looks at Enzo concerned, while he is putting their stuff away in the overhead bin.

NADINE

Do you want me to get you something to drink?

Enzo sits and fastens his seat belt. He closes his eyes, clasps his hands onto the armrests and is sweating profusely.

ENZO

Nope.

He keeps his eyes shut the whole time.

NADINE

Do you want some crackers?

ENZO

No, thanks.

Nadine looks at him very concerned. Ronald is standing up in his chair and looks to both of them. He shakes his head at Nadine. Nadine tries to change the subject.

NADINE

Where's Kate?

RONALD

She's on her way. Her flight from Dublin just arrived a few minutes ago.

Ronald and Nadine both stare at Enzo again, who appears to be breathing, but could be mistaken for dead because his body is extremely stiff and his eyes are still closed.

RONALD (CONT'D)

Kate!

Kate is seen making it to her seat next to Ronald. Her 2 Personal Assistants (PAs) are seated in the row ahead of her. Kate gets to her seat and exchanges a European kiss with Ronald, and then looks to Nadine and Enzo behind her. Enzo opens his eyes and begins to stand up for Kate.

KATE
Don't bother.
You must be Enzo?

Enzo resumes to his seated position and clasps his hands to the armrests.

ENZO
I am. It's nice to meet you.

Kate looks amused and nods her head.

KATE
Ron, you neglected to mention how scrumptious this one is to look at...

Ronald smiles big. Nadine smiles awkwardly, but Kate looks at her and gives her a wink.

KATE (CONT'D)
Hold up, hold up... You mean to tell me that you two went to university with this one and neither of you tried to shag him? Have you lost your minds?

Enzo smiles, while Nadine and Ronald laugh.

KATE (CONT'D)
Well that's just a travesty, I tell ya. Nay, nice work of your face. Are you okay?

NADINE
Yes, I'm fine. Just a little souvenir from the trip.

KATE
Nothing my trusty makeup artist can't fix.

They both smile at one another. Then Kate starts to notice Enzo's discomfort.

KATE (CONT'D)
What's wrong?

NADINE
Enzo doesn't like to fly.

KATE
Ahhh. Well can we get you something to drink?

ENZO
I'm okay. Thank you, though.

Kate tries to think of what else they can do.

KATE
Nay, sing him a song or something.
One of the Irish ones in honor of
me!

Ronald's face grows bright in agreement. Nadine's mouth drops open and Enzo looks at her confused.

ENZO
You sing?

NADINE
No. No, I do not!

KATE
Yes, she does and she's brilliant.

NADINE
I don't.

Nadine looks at Kate, silently telling her to shut it. Ronald looks to Enzo.

RONALD
She does.

NADINE
Ronald!

The captain comes on the overhead speaker and welcomes everyone on board. Ronald and Kate take that as their cue to sit. Enzo is still looking at Nadine.

ENZO
When did you start to sing?

Nadine takes a deep breath before answering.

NADINE
It was one of the goals I had on my
list of things to achieve after the
stroke.

ENZO
Ahh.

The plane starts to make its departure and Enzo closes his eyes and becomes stiff again.

The plane continues out of the gate and then onto the runway. Enzo remains in the same position the whole time.

NADINE

The take off is the worst part, but
once we are in the air you'll feel
better.

Enzo nods to acknowledge what she has said. She continues to stare at him and feels helpless. The plane continues to taxi down the runway and then slowly lifts off the ground. Nadine notices Enzo grip on the armrests gets even stronger. Not knowing what else to do, Nadine begins to sing [DEVILS BACKBONE by Jax The Bard] a cappella, very softly so only Enzo can hear.

Nadine finishes the first verse and notices a small grin on Enzo's face. She smiles and then turns her head to look out the window, singing the rest of the song. Enzo opens his eyes and begins to look at Nadine singing while she stares out the window. When she is finished, Enzo speaks to her.

ENZO

Thank you. I feel better now.

Nadine looks at him and smiles.

ENZO (CONT'D)

Who knew you could sing...

Nadine is slightly embarrassed and continues to look out her window. Enzo closes his eyes again, but looks much more relaxed. Ronald and Kate are listening through the crack in the middle of their seats and toast their champagne glasses as if to say mission accomplished.

14A EXT. LOS ANGELES. BEVERLY WILSHIRE. HOTEL ENTRANCE. SAME 14A DAY. LATE AFTERNOON

Kate, Ronald, Enzo, Nadine and 3 other staff members disembark the 2 hired black SUVs outside the main entrance of the Beverly Wilshire hotel. Enzo makes sure Nadine's exit goes well. The men hired to drive the cars are busy getting everyone's luggage out of the trunks of the cars and handing it over to the 2 hotel bellman.

KATE

Ron, I need a drink. Meet me in the
hotel bar?

RONALD

Sure thing. I just need to make sure we're all checked in and then I'll meet you there.

KATE

Okay. Bye Nay and Enzo. I'll see you in a bit.

Kate smiles and takes her exit as Nadine and Enzo are saying their good-byes. Ronald and the 3 staff members head toward the hotel entrance and to the front desk.

RONALD

I'm going to head in and make sure they've got our rooms straight. I'll see you inside.

Nadine nods her head to Ronald as he exits. Enzo is putting Nadine's Alinker wheels back onto the body, as well as the seat. Once he is finished, Nadine puts her right leg over the seat, sits down and makes sure it feels secure.

ENZO

Is it good?

NADINE

Yep. It's perfect. Thank you.

Nadine walks on the Alinker towards the entrance of the hotel with Enzo following behind her.

14B INT. LOS ANGELES. BEVERLY WILSHIRE. HOTEL LOBBY.
SAME DAY. LATE AFTERNOON

14B

Nadine and Enzo walk into the hotel to find Ronald and one of the staff members at the front desk making arrangements with the Front Desk Associate. Nadine is taken back by how beautiful the hotel is and is shown staring around and taking it all in. Enzo is still behind her, checking his phone. Ronald finishes with the front desk and is handed several room keys. He takes them and walks towards Nadine and Enzo.

RONALD

Okay, so here are your keys and the bellman has already taken your bags to your rooms so they should be there by the time you get there. I'm going to meet Kate in the bar now because lord knows I could use a drink! You're more than welcome to join us if you'd like?

NADINE

Thanks, Ronald, but I think I'll just go to my room and chill so I'm ready for tomorrow. But you go, Enzo, if you want.

ENZO

Nah. I'm good. I have to make a few phone calls anyway.

RONALD

Okay then. I will see you two down here in the lobby tomorrow at seven.

NADINE

Seven? Why so early? I thought the press conference started at 10?

RONALD

It does, but someone has to get makeup applied to a gash on her face and lord knows how much extra time that will take, so we'll get breakfast first, then makeup, then press tour. Sound good?

NADINE

(embarrassed)

Yes. Sounds good.

RONALD

Okay then... I hear the bartender calling my name... and let's hope he serves more than just drinks.

Ronald laughs big.

NADINE

Oh geezz... Ronald!

RONALD

Okay! See you bitches later.

Ronald turns and begins to walk fast to the bar, with the 3 staff members in tow. Nadine and Enzo head towards the elevator and take the one that is available. Nadine gets on first and then Enzo. Nadine pushes the number 12 on the elevator buttons.

NADINE

Which floor do you want?

ENZO
I'm on the same floor as you.
Twelve.

She nods her head and then backs away on her Alinker so she is standing next to Enzo. And then a look of shock flashes across her face.

NADINE
Wait a minute. What room are you
in?

ENZO
1214. Why?

She looks down at her key holder and sees her number. 1212.

NADINE
I'm going to kill Ronald.

Nadine looks straight ahead annoyed. Enzo looks confused.

14C INT. LOS ANGELES. BEVERLY WILSHIRE. NADINE'S HOTEL ROOM. 14C
SAME DAY. LATE AFTERNOON

Nadine enters her room and sees that the bellboy has already brought up her luggage. She dismounts from her Alinker, puts it in the corner, gets her cane, goes over to her suitcase and wheels it to the couch. She then lifts the suitcase onto the couch, opens it up and starts to remove her toiletries so she can bring them into the bathroom. On her way there, she sees the door to the adjoining room, knowing that Enzo is on the other side. She looks at the door and rolls her eyes.

NADINE
(sarcastically)
Ronald...

She then hears Enzo talking on the phone on the other side of the door. She can't really make out what he's saying so she leans her head against the door to see if she can hear better. She listens for a few seconds and realizes her attempt to be nosey is ridiculous, so she gives up and begins to walk to the bathroom.

14D INT. LOS ANGELES. BEVERLY WILSHIRE. ENZO'S HOTEL ROOM. 14D
SAME DAY. LATE AFTERNOON

Enzo hangs up his phone and is then seen taking clothes out of his suitcase and placing them in the dresser drawer. He then calls RACHEL on his phone.

INTERCUT

14E INT. NEW JERSEY. RACHEL'S HOME. FAMILY ROOM. SAME DAY. 14E
NIGHT

Rachel is seen sitting on her couch, watching Real Housewives of New Jersey and drinking a cold drink. She is 2 inches shorter than the average height of a woman and has a buxom body. She is quite attractive, being 100% Italian, with medium length brown hair, brown eyes and full size lips.

Her phone rings, sees it's Enzo and picks it up.

RACHEL

Hey baby.

ENZO

Hey. I got your voicemails but this is the first chance I've had to call. How's everything going back home?

RACHEL

(insecure)

Everything's okay. I was getting worried I hadn't heard from you yet. How was your trip? Did you do okay flying?

Enzo sits on the bed, looking like he doesn't want to be there at that moment. His eyes are planted on the door that separates him from Nadine.

ENZO

I survived it so that's good.

Rachel struggles to find something to say.

ENZO (CONT'D)

Hello?

RACHEL

(hesitantly)

Yeah, I'm sorry I was watching Real Housewives.

Enzo rolls his eyes.

RACHEL (CONT'D)

How's the hotel? Is it nice?

ENZO

Yeah. It's really nice actually.

RACHEL

(somber)

Well that's good. And how is your friend? Nadine. Is she doing well?

ENZO

She's good. Just gearing up for all of the engagements set to happen over the next few weeks.

Silence comes between the two of them for a few seconds.

ENZO (CONT'D)

(sighing)

What?

RACHEL

Nothing.

ENZO

Rachel? What is it?

RACHEL

Nothing. I just don't know why you are there and not here. With me. I don't understand it. At all.

ENZO

Rachel. We talked about this. I'm trying to figure out my next step with a new job and taking this seemed to make the most sense.

RACHEL

And is that all it is? Just a job?

ENZO

We're not talking about this again. If you want to discuss it more, than it will have to wait until I get back home. I'm tired and discussing it now will get us no where.

More silence comes between them.

ENZO (CONT'D)

Hello?

RACHEL

Yeah. I heard you. Well what are your plans for tomorrow?

ENZO

They start the press tour so
they're doing some PR thing at a
local hotel.

RACHEL

(tries to sound upbeat)
Well that sounds fun. Are you
nervous?

ENZO

Nervous? Why would I be nervous? I
just have to make sure Nadine gets
from point A to point B in one
piece.

RACHEL

(agitated/jealous)
Well I'm sure you can handle that.

ENZO

Rachel.

RACHEL

What?

ENZO

(sighing)
Look, I've got to go.

RACHEL

Okay. I'm sorry.

More silence.

RACHEL (CONT'D)

Well, I love you.

Silence.

ENZO

I love you too. I'll call you
tomorrow.

RACHEL

(feeling insecure again)
Okay. Bye.

ENZO

Bye.

Enzo looks at the adjoining door again.

14F INT. LOS ANGELES. BEVERLY WILSHIRE. NADINE'S HOTEL ROOM. 14F
SAME DAY. LATE AFTERNOON

Nadine gets a few steps away from the adjoining door when she hears a knock on it. She stops and looks at the door, then steps to it and opens it. Enzo is standing there, looking as handsome as ever.

NADINE
(smiling)
Enzo...

ENZO
So we should probably talk about
these adjoining doors.

NADINE
Okay...

ENZO
My door is going to stay wide open,
24/7. And I know you might not be
comfortable with doing that on your
side, but can we agree that you
will at least keep the door
slightly ajar, so that if you need
help, or God forbid you fall again,
I will have access to you?

NADINE
(pensively)
Okay... I can agree to that.

ENZO
Good. What are you doing?

NADINE
Unpacking. You?

ENZO
I'm contemplating going for a swim
or maybe to the gym. Want to come?

Nadine looks at him but then hears Sunny and Marie in her head.

SUNNY/MARIE (O.C.)
He has a girlfriend.

Nadine shakes her head to clear it.

NADINE

That sounds great, but I think I just want to unpack, order room service and then prepare for tomorrow.

Enzo looks a little disappointed but then nods his head.

ENZO

Are you nervous for tomorrow?

NADINE

Ummm. Why, yes. I am very nervous for tomorrow. I'm not a huge fan of public speaking.

ENZO

You'll do fine. I remember back in college, you never had any issues with getting up in front of people?

NADINE

Ahh yes, but that was before Seth.

ENZO

Seth?

NADINE

Yes. The guy I told you about?

ENZO

Yeah, I remember. But what does he have to do with public speaking?

Nadine motions for Enzo to take a seat in the desk chair and he does.

NADINE

It was strange, but for some unknown reason, when I had to break things off with him I developed this horrible fear of public speaking. Maybe it was the vulnerability of getting up in front of people and being judged? Who knows. I was fine with it up until that point. I actually enjoyed it but then it became my worst nightmare. And my career was really taking off at the time and I knew it would eventually hurt me professionally if I didn't get over the fear.

ENZO

So what did you do?

NADINE

Well, I told my boss at the time. He thanked me for letting him know and then said he would figure something out. Soon after that, we were in Brazil meeting with the people there to talk about taking ownership over part of their process. Anyway, we had to give a presentation, and I was the expert in their process, so he asked me the night before if I would present. I was really nervous but knew there was no one else that could do it. So the next morning, there I stood, in front of forty plus Portuguese speaking people talking about our process.

Enzo raises his eyebrows in surprise.

NADINE (CONT'D)

And the best part was that no one in the audience spoke English very well so they had this female translator that sat in a booth and would translate everything I said from English to Portuguese, and the audience wore headsets so they could hear the Portuguese version.

ENZO

Nice.

NADINE

Totally. But then I would say something in English that wouldn't easily translate to Portuguese so the translator and I would have our own comedy act of trying to make sense of it. She was pretty funny actually, and before we knew it, we had the VPs coming in to see what was going on. And that was my first step back into public speaking. So now, every time it comes up, I know I can get through it, but it doesn't mean I'm not nervous as hell about it. So what about you?

ENZO
What about me?

NADINE
You and your fear of flying. I
think what you did today was a
major accomplishment. Yeah?

Enzo shrugs his shoulders.

NADINE (CONT'D)
Come on! Give yourself some credit.

Enzo looks at her for a few seconds. Nadine notices and gets
a little uncomfortable.

ENZO
I think it was just the company I
was with.

Nadine looks at him and smiles, but then starts to get
uncomfortable again. Enzo decides to lighten the mood and
starts to tease her.

ENZO (CONT'D)
And the singing! Who knew?!

NADINE
Oh God...

ENZO
I mean really... we should start a
band!

NADINE
All right, Hot Shot. That's enough
out of you.

They both smile and sit in awkward silence. Enzo gets up from
his chair.

ENZO
Right. Well, I'm off to the gym.
You sure you don't need anything
before I head out?

NADINE
Nope. I'm good. Thanks though.

ENZO
Okay. I'll see you tomorrow at 7.

NADINE
Yes. Seven it is.

Enzo walks from the chair to the adjoining door.

ENZO

Okay. I'll close this so that it's open only a crack. Sound good?

NADINE

Yes. That sounds good. I'll see you in the morning.

Enzo smiles one last time to Nadine and then closes the door as he indicated. Nadine sits on her bed, with a smile on her face, shaking her head.

14G INT. LOS ANGELES. BEVERLY WILSHIRE. HOTEL LOBBY. NEXT 14G
DAY. MORNING.

The elevator opens and Enzo and Nadine (with Alinker) are seen exiting. When they step into the lobby, Ronald is seen about 10 feet away pacing. He sees them and stops.

RONALD

Hey...

Nadine is looking at him quite annoyed.

ENZO

(speaks quietly to Nadine)

I know you want to have words with Ronald so I'll meet you guys for breakfast in the restaurant.

Nadine nods her head to him.

ENZO (CONT'D)

Do you need anything from me before I leave?

NADINE

Do you happen to have a baseball bat?

ENZO

(smiles)

No. I left mine at home.
I'll see you in a bit.

Again, Nadine nods her head at him.

Enzo starts to walk pass Ronald, but stops and pats him on the back.

ENZO (CONT'D)
Good luck, Buddy.

RONALD
Yeah. Thanks.

Enzo continues to proceed out of the lobby toward the restaurant. Nadine then begins to walk towards Ronald.

NADINE
(annoyed)
You! What were you thinking?!

RONALD
About?...

NADINE
About putting Enzo in the adjoining
room to mine!

RONALD
Oh that. Well it was all about your
safety, and I thought who would Nay
be the safest with in the event of
an emergency...
I mean you would be safe with me
but I have way too many other
things that would need to be cared
for and I just can't handle all of
that stress. For example, do you
know how much this Armani suit
costs? I definitely wouldn't be
able to help lift you with the way
this suit is tailored. The thought
of that gives me shivers just
thinking about it. And putting you
with one of the other women on the
press tour just doesn't make sense.
So I thought Enzo. Most definitely,
Enzo.

NADINE
(still annoyed)
Ronald...

RONALD
Oh come on, it will all work out in
the end anyway.

Ronald gives Nadine a big smile and puts his arm around her. Nadine's frustration begins to subside since she knows she has entered a losing argument.

RONALD (CONT'D)
So... which is it?

NADINE
Which is what?

RONALD
Does Enzo wear boxers or briefs?

NADINE
Oh Jesus.

RONALD
That's a legitimate question, and
inquiring minds want to know.

NADINE
I have no idea! My door is open
just a crack.

The elevator door opens and it is Kate with her two PAs.
Ronald and Nadine both look at her.

KATE
(speaking to the PA's)
Girls, go ahead to the restaurant
and I'll be right behind you.

The two PAs take their exit and Kate walks towards Ronald and
Nadine. Kate addresses Nadine.

KATE (CONT'D)
Well? What's the verdict?

NADINE
With?

KATE
Boxers or briefs? Ron and I have a
bet. I said boxers. Ron said
briefs. So which is it?

Nadine closes her eyes in frustration, while Kate and Ronald
both grin at each other.

NADINE
What part of 'he has a girlfriend'
are you both not understanding?

KATE
For now, maybe. But you're a much
better catch.

NADINE

What? We don't even know her. I'm sure she's great.

KATE

Yeah, well we're not trying to be best friends with her now are we.

NADINE

Kate...

KATE

Oh be quiet. Let Ron and I have our fun. Now, speaking of fun, Ron did you end up making any strides with that delicious man you were talking to last night?

Kate links her arm into Ronald's and walks towards the restaurant, while Nadine follows right behind them, shaking her head.

15A INT. WEST HOLLYWOOD. KIMPTON LA PEER HOTEL. BACK ENTRANCE TO THE DRAWING ROOM. SAME DAY. MID-MORNING. 15A

There are about 10 people, including Kate, Ronald, Nadine, Enzo, the remaining 3 other stars from the film and the director standing at the back entrance of The Drawing Room, waiting to make their grand entrance into the press event.

ENZO

(quietly to Nadine)

Now I'll walk with you until we get to the stairs of the platform that you guys will be addressing the audience. Okay?

Nadine is nervous and deep in thought so she barely hears him but nods her head in agreement.

ENZO (CONT'D)

I'll take your Alinker and bring it to the side where Ronald and I will be watching. And then I'll bring it back to you once you are finished.

Again, Nadine nods her head, half listening.

ENZO (CONT'D)

Hey. Look at me.

Nadine looks at him.

ENZO (CONT'D)
You've got this. Yeah?

Nadine looks at him like it's her first time seeing him. He's trying to give her comfort and she was too caught up in her thoughts to notice, but now she sees him and is grateful so she smiles.

NADINE
Yeah. I've got this.

ENZO
And if you get a little too nervous, just look at me. I'll be that Portuguese translator getting you through.

NADINE
(smiles big)
Okay. Obrigado.

ENZO
What's that?

NADINE
It's thanks in Portuguese.

ENZO
Ahh. How do you say you're welcome?

NADINE
Who knows. That's all I got.

They both start to laugh quietly. Ronald and Kate exchange a happy look. Kate then looks back at Nadine.

KATE
Ready Nay?

NADINE
Ready.

KATE
Okay then. Let's go.

The doors open and they all make their way through them.

15B INT. WEST HOLLYWOOD. KIMPTON LA PEER HOTEL. THE DRAWING ROOM. SAME DAY. MID-MORNING. 15B

The room is setup from the middle of the room to the back with 6 rows of 10 chairs, with an aisle separating the 5th and 6th chair for the Press to easily access their seats.

There is also a platform at the front of the room with 6 chairs, a black table in front of the chairs, with nametags indicating everyone's name and the role they filled. There is also a huge banner behind the chairs with the name of the film; How The Light Got In. The press seats are packed full and the actors, as well as the director, make their way up the stairs to the platform to find their seat. Kate, Nadine and Enzo are the last people standing at the bottom of the stairs.

KATE

Ready? You follow my lead, okay?

NADINE

Yes.

Nadine dismounts the Alinker and passes it to Enzo. She then grabs her cane from him.

ENZO

Good luck.

Nadine smiles, as does Kate.

NADINE

Thanks.

Enzo then takes her Alinker and moves to the side of the room, where Ronald is standing. Kate grabs Nadine's right arm. With Nadine's cane in her left hand, they slowly make it up the stairs and find their seats. Once they are seated, Kate speaks to the audience.

KATE

Right, before we begin I just wanted to make you all aware of Nadine, who is sitting here to my right. She is not only the writer of this screenplay but the person in which the story was inspired by, so I thought who better to represent the film than her. Yeah?

The audience either gives a nod or verbally agrees.

KATE (CONT'D)

But I should warn you, there is not a question she won't be able to answer and if anyone gets cross with her, like we know some of you sometimes tend to do, either she or I will make sure you regret it. Okay?

Everyone laughs at Kate's remark.

KATE (CONT'D)

Then let's begin. Who wants to ask
the first question?

Kate looks to the moderator, who then selects the person with
the first question.

Nadine is smiling in awe at Kate. She then looks at the
audience to see who has the first question, which goes to
Kate. Nadine looks to the side of the room at Enzo, who is
also looking at her. He nods his head to her and she nods her
head slightly back to him. She then gets snapped back into
reality as she hears the next question.

INTERVIEWER

My question is for Nadine.
Nadine, what inspired you to write
your story down so that it could be
brought to people's attention in
this film?

NADINE

What inspired me? I think it was
that I was still alive... which I
do not have to be. I could be dead
right now because of the stroke,
but I'm not. And I feel I was truly
given a second chance to do things
right. To do what I love, and for
me, that is to write.

I did not want to be that person
that always talks about the novel
or the screenplay they're going to
write, and they live their entire
lifetime without ever doing it.
I just didn't want that for myself.
So I guess that's what inspired me
and continues to inspire me
everyday.

Nadine finishes her answer and looks to Kate to make sure it
was okay. Kate grabs Nadine's hand and smiles at her. The
audience nod their heads and smile as well.

KATE

See. I knew you'd like her.

They smile at one another and then go back to listening to
the audience. Nadine looks over at Ronald and Enzo again, who
are both smiling. Ronald gives her a thumbs up.

Scene ends as another interviewer begins to ask one of the other actors a question.

BEGIN PRESS TOUR MONTAGE

16A INT. LOS ANGELES. BEVERLY WILSHIRE. HOTEL BAR. SAME DAY. 16A
EVENING.

Everyone is seen in the bar toasting/celebrating the first day. A man is talking to Nadine, expressing interest. Nadine is oblivious, but Enzo is not and quickly steps in to let him know that his interest is not wanted. Same thing happens with Enzo. One of KATE'S PAs starts to flirt with him. She is Caucasian/African American mix, 5'7" tall and attractive, with medium length, curly, brown hair, brown eyes and a slender body. Enzo is very nice to her but means nothing by it. Nadine sees this and it just reinforces her thought he is unavailable.

16B INT. ACCESS HOLLYWOOD. DAY 16B

Kate and Nadine are being interviewed by Kate Hoover and Mario Lopez, with Ronald and Enzo watching by the sidelines.

16C EXT. BEVERLY WILSHIRE HOTEL. DAY 16C

Nadine and Enzo are in the pool swimming. Kate's PA comes and asks Enzo if he wants to go touring LA. Nadine gets quiet, with her head barely staying afloat. Enzo rejects her request and goes back to Nadine. Enzo dunks Nadine's head under water and then she tries to do the same with him.

16D INT. ENTERTAINMENT TONIGHT. DAY 16D

Kate and Nadine are seen being interviewed by Kevin Frazer, with Ronald and Enzo watching by the sidelines.

16E EXT. BEVERLY WILSHIRE PATIO RESTAURANT. DAY 16E

Nadine, Enzo, Ronald and Kate are having lunch on the patio. A hotel staff member is walking a French bulldog when the dog gets away on the leash and runs up to Enzo, who picks up the dog and begins to scratch his head. Nadine leans in and the dog kisses her face. Kate and Ronald look at each other and smile.

16F INT. BEVERLY WILSHIRE GYM. DAY 16F

Nadine and Enzo are in the gym. Nadine is on the stationary bike, while Enzo lifts weights. Once Nadine is finished on the bike, she moves to do weights on the machine and Enzo is there to guide her.

16G INT. BEVERLY WILSHIRE. NADINE'S ROOM. NIGHT 16G

Nadine and Enzo are seen lounging on her bed, eating pizza and drinking Stella Artois from room service. They are watching the latest Avenger's movie on the TV. Nadine looks especially tired so Enzo tells her to lay down. He covers her with a blanket. She is asleep within seconds. When he gets up to go to bed, he walks towards the adjoining door. Nadine tells him to leave it open. He smiles and does what she has told him.

16H INT. BEVERLY WILSHIRE GYM. DAY. 16H

Repeat of previous gym scene but both are wearing different clothes and doing different activities. Nadine looks exhausted from the tour but she's trying to keep up. Enzo notices.

END OF PRESS TOUR MONTAGE

17 INT. LAX. UNITED AIRLINES. FIRST CLASS CABIN. DAY. 17

Kate, Ronald, Nadine and Enzo walk onto the plane and make a right to get to their first class seats. Nadine appears to be dragging a little from her exhaustion and both Enzo and Ronald notice. Ronald and Kate sit in the row in front of Nadine and Enzo. Once they're all seated, Ronald stands up in front of his seat to address Nadine.

RONALD

Hey Honey. What's wrong? Are you feeling okay?

NADINE

(closes her eyes, takes a deep breath & smiles slightly)

I think just trying to keep up with everyone when I'm not functioning at 100% is wearing me down. But I'm fine. I promise.

ENZO

Can I get you anything?

NADINE

Look at you... Aren't I supposed to be taking care of you since we're about to take off in this airplane?

ENZO

I'm okay. Unless you think you can sing for me again?

NADINE

Ha. Fat chance that's going to happen today. Sorry but I just don't have the energy.

Nadine runs her hand down Enzo's arm that sits on the armrest. When she gets to his hand, Enzo takes her hand into his and holds it. Nadine looks down and sees their clasped hands. She looks at Enzo, then Ronald, and then closes her eyes, leaving her hand in Enzo's.

NADINE (CONT'D)

I'm going to try to rest now.

RONALD

Okay. Well just let me know if you need anything.

Nadine nods her head. Ronald resumes to his seated position. Enzo looks at Nadine for a few brief seconds and then closes his eyes.

Pilot begins speaking on the overhead system announcing the flight and its take-off.

18A INT. NYC. EMPIRE HOTEL. HOTEL LOBBY. SAME DAY. NIGHT 18A

Everyone arrives to the hotel. Nadine, Enzo, Ronald and Kate are all standing in the lobby with the rest of the crew.

KATE

Hey, once we all get situated in our rooms, a bunch of us are going to meet in the bar for a little celebration to mark the west coast portion of the press tour complete. Ronald's going to come, of course. Do you guys want to join us?

Kate and Ronald both smile at one another. Nadine looks hesitant, and Enzo is waiting to hear her response.

NADINE

Ummm. What time is everyone meeting?

KATE

Seven.

Nadine is still hesitant but feels she has to go.

NADINE

Okay. We'll meet you down here at 7.

Nadine looks at Enzo to make sure he agrees. He nods his head.

KATE

Okay then! See you at 7!

Kate and Ronald turn around and walk arm and arm together, with Ronald laughing hysterically at something Kate has said.

ENZO

Nay, are you sure about this? We can just order room service and hang out in your room.

NADINE

No. As tempting as that sounds, I feel like we have to show our face. You know?

ENZO

Okay then. Let's get settled in our rooms and then we'll head down to the bar.

Enzo and Nadine walk towards the group of people in the lobby.

18B

INT. NYC. EMPIRE HOTEL. HOTEL BAR. SAME DAY. EVENING

18B

Everyone is in the bar, enjoying drinks and appetizers. Enzo and Nadine are sitting at a 4 person table, with Ronald and Kate on the opposite side. Nadine's Alinker is parked beside her. The place is packed with everyone trying to steal Kate's attention for a few minutes.

There is a beautiful antique clock that hangs over the bar. It's 9 o'clock and Nadine has already had too much to drink. The impact it's having is evident, as Ronald and Enzo take notice and look with concern. Kate's PA is talking to Enzo, and Ronald and Kate are talking to other people.

Nadine is looking at her drink. She starts to crack up at something she has thought of.

RONALD

Hey, Nay... You okay over there?

NADINE

(she responds drunkenly)

Yeah. Why wouldn't I be?

Nadine puts her straw in her mouth and misses. She finds this amusing. Enzo and Ronald both look concerned. Nadine notices and addresses them both.

NADINE (CONT'D)

What?

They shake their heads.

RONALD

Nothing...

Ronald goes back to talking to someone on his side of the room and Enzo goes back to conversing with Kate's PA. Nadine notices Enzo and Kate's PA.

NADINE

Hey. No, no... what do you think you're doing?

Kate's PA realizes she is talking to her.

KATE'S PA

Me?

NADINE

Yes. You. You've been talking to him every chance you get and I just want to make sure I understand what you're trying to accomplish.

Enzo steps in. Ronald and Kate start to listen in.

ENZO

Nay...

NADINE

No. I want to know because it's really starting to get on my nerves.

Kate tries to hide her amusement, while Ronald and Enzo are still concerned.

NADINE (CONT'D)
So? What are they? Your intentions,
that is?

KATE'S PA
We were just talking...

NADINE
Umm. No you weren't. YOU have
'intentions' and let me be clear,
the only person that's allowed to
have intentions would be me.
Understand?

Kate and Ronald are trying to hide their amusement, while
Enzo is still concerned.

NADINE (CONT'D)
So run along now, you hot, young
thing. There is a long line of
women waiting for this one to
become available, and I was in line
first. Even if I may not be able to
compete with you physically, I was
still here first.
Ronald, I can compete with her.
Can't I?

RONALD
Of course you can, darling. You're
hot as fuck.

Ronald looks at Enzo and shrugs his shoulders. Kate is loving
the whole scene. Enzo then speaks to Kate's PA.

ENZO
(quietly)
I'm sorry but I think you better
go.

Kate's PA nods her head to him and then walks off. Nadine
assesses the situation and decides she's not done with Enzo.

NADINE
That wasn't very nice of you...

ENZO
Me?! That wasn't very nice of ME?

NADINE

Well yeah. It's not very nice how you're so nice to all of these women, knowing they want you but can't have you. That 'Hero' complex of yours needs to go.

Ronald and Kate are now fully engaged.

ENZO

Please, Nay. Just stop.

NADINE

No. No, I don't want to stop!

Enzo then tries to ignore her. A waiter comes to the table to ask them if they'd like more drinks.

NADINE (CONT'D)

Yes, please. I'll have another Long...

ENZO

No, she won't. We're good. Thank you.

The waiter leaves their table. Ronald and Kate are still glued to the entertainment provide by Nadine and Enzo.

NADINE

Hey! You better stop. You're being just like you were in college.

ENZO

Yeah, well maybe you need it!

NADINE

I'm doing just fine on my own. Thank you very much.

ENZO

Are you?!

NADINE

I am!

Enzo looks at her and decides to ignore her. But Nadine won't have it.

NADINE (CONT'D)

What? What do you want to say?

ENZO

Nothing. Forget it.

NADINE

No! Tell me. What is it?!

Enzo shakes his head to calm himself down and then responds to her quietly and more intimately, as his face is about 6 inches from hers. Ronald and Kate struggle to hear him.

ENZO

You know you talk about how I treat women, but what about how you treat men?

NADINE

(confused)

What? What do you mean?

ENZO

You go around acting like no one is interested, or the people that are left aren't worth it, but you have no idea who would kill to be with you because you keep your blinders on. So you can stay independent, but alone. So you can stay safe, but always wanting something more. When really, you just need to take a leap of faith and let someone in. Let the right one in.

Enzo ends his statement by putting his hand on her shoulder. Nadine looks at him as she processes what he just said. She notices how close he is and thinks about kissing him. Enzo is thinking of doing the same. Kate grabs Ronald's arm and they hold their breath, waiting for it. But then Nadine pulls back.

NADINE

Ronald, I think I need to go to bed now. Can you take me to my room?

Ronald looks heartbroken.

KATE

He can't. He has to stay here with me. Enzo can take you.

NADINE

No.

KATE

Yes, Nay. Let Enzo take you. Enzo, you can take her, right?

Enzo nods to Kate, gets up from his chair and begins to take Nadine's Alinker out so she can get on it.

NADINE
(indignant)
I got it!

Nadine gets on her Alinker and then decides she's too drunk to walk on it.

NADINE (CONT'D)
(humbled)
Enzo, can you push me, please?

ENZO
Yes. I'll push you.

The 4 of them say good night to one another and then Enzo pushes Nadine out of the bar.

18C INT. NYC. EMPIRE HOTEL. NADINE'S HOTEL ROOM. SAME DAY. 18C
NIGHT.

Enzo pushes Nadine through the room entrance and over to her bed. Nadine then dismounts from the Alinker and lands face down on her bed.

ENZO
Let's get your pajamas on.

NADINE
No. Just leave me here.

ENZO
Come on.

NADINE
No. I'm serious. I'm already
falling asleep. Just leave me.

ENZO
Well at least let me take off your
sneakers and AFO.

Nadine lies there as Enzo takes them off.

NADINE
Thank you.

Enzo stands above her, just watching her fade into sleep.

NADINE (CONT'D)
Enzo?

ENZO

Yeah?

NADINE

Can you come here?

Enzo walks over to the bed and kneels down so they are face to face.

NADINE (CONT'D)

I'm sorry I was such a jerk tonight.

ENZO

Yeah. I'm sorry too.

Nadine looks at his face and takes her left hand to touch his temple.

NADINE

You know I love you in the most appropriate way, right?

ENZO

Yes.

Nadine takes a deep breath and closes her eyes to fall to sleep.

ENZO (CONT'D)

I love you too.

Enzo stays in the same spot so he can stare at her a little longer. He moves a section of hair away from her face and kisses her on her forehead. He then stands up and begins to walk to the adjoining door.

Enzo is standing at the adjoining door entrance, taking one last look at Nadine. He then leaves the door open and enters his room to sleep.

19A INT. NYC. EMPIRE HOTEL. HOTEL LOBBY. NEXT DAY. MORNING. 19A

Nadine, Enzo and Ronald are all waiting in the hotel lobby for Kate. Nadine is seated and holding her head in her hands, while Ronald has his hand on her shoulder. Enzo is standing next to them, staring at Nadine. The elevator door opens and Kate, along with KATE'S NEW PA, disembark. Kate sees Nadine and inquires.

KATE

Hey ya, Pet. How are you feeling today?

NADINE

I'm okay. Thanks.
Sorry about last night.

KATE

It was all good. Just the bit of
entertainment this actress needed
when she was off duty.

Kate smiles at Nadine and Nadine reciprocates. Nadine stands,
with Enzo watching to make sure she's okay. She then mounts
her Alinker and is prepared to go.

KATE (CONT'D)

Now let me debrief you on The Joe
and JoJo Podcast we're doing today.
As you know, they're one of the top
podcasts in the country.
JoJo is a star. An absolute
delight. She'll ask a lot of
questions and will be very
interactive. She's very funny,
actually. And Joe, well he's an ass
if I'm being honest. Likes to be
the gruff one and push people's
buttons. But you don't have to
worry about that. I'll make sure he
behaves. Yeah?

Nadine nods her head to show she agrees.

KATE (CONT'D)

You're going to do great. Just like
you have on all of the other
events. Just stick with me.

Kate puts her arm around Nadine's shoulders and they walk out
the hotel entrance, with Ronald and Enzo following.

19B INT. NYC. NYC NEWSSTAND STUDIOS AT ROCKEFELLER CENTER. 19B
THIRTY FOURTH FLOOR. CORRIDOR HALLWAY. SAME DAY. AFTERNOON.

Nadine exits a women's bathroom on her Alinker to meet Enzo,
who has been waiting for her outside.

ENZO

Ready?

NADINE

Yep.

They begin to walk down the hallway and are about to pass the men's bathroom, when the door opens and JOE comes out quite aggressively, almost crashing into Nadine. He is average height with a medium build. Moderately good looking, he has short, brown hair, fair skin and 'Star' quality arrogance that Nadine finds annoying. He smells like whiskey and Enzo protectively comes closer to Nadine, but she puts her hand on his arm to stop him.

Joe looks at Nadine quite sexually, which makes Nadine a little nervous. Enzo moves in closer to Nadine, standing behind her and giving Joe a cautionary look. Joe sees this and puts himself in check.

JOE

Oh. I didn't see you.
You must be Nadine.

NADINE

I am.

JOE

Is Kate Kinsale here as well?

NADINE

She is. I think she's getting setup
in your studio. That's where we're
headed now.

Joe looks at Nadine one last time, and then to Enzo.

JOE

He can't be in the studio when
we're recording.

NADINE

We know. He's going to be outside
listening with the other people
from our group.

Joe looks at Enzo once again. Enzo just keeps staring at Joe so he knows not to pull anything.

JOE

Hmmm. Okay. See you in there then.

Joe abruptly turns around and continues to walk towards the studio. His walk sways just a little, but to someone who hadn't smelled his breath, they wouldn't notice the state of him. Nadine looks at Enzo.

NADINE

Is he drunk?

ENZO
I don't know but I don't like him.

NADINE
Me either.

Nadine and Enzo make their way towards the studio.

19C INT. NYC. NYC NEWSSTAND STUDIOS AT ROCKEFELLER CENTER. 19C
THIRTY FOURTH FLOOR. STUDIO. DAY.

Kate and Nadine sit in the studio, across from JOJO and Joe. JoJo is a beautiful black woman with milk chocolate colored skin, full lips and almond shaped eyes. Her body type is often called 'Thick,' while she has Senegalese twisted hair that comes below her shoulders.

All 4 wear headphones and are deeply engaged in the show, except for Joe, who can't seem to be bothered and keeps his stare planted on Kate and then Nadine. JoJo looks to him every once in a while to see what his problem is.

They are midway through the show when JoJo asks her next question.

JOJO
No way! How did the director handle it when the horse took off?

KATE
Well I don't think the director knew what to do... he couldn't really yell cut and expect the horse to come back to its position. And that horse didn't care what the set trainer had to say. He wanted to run and that was the end of that!

JoJo, Kate and Nadine all laugh.

JOJO
And how about you, Nadine? Did you guys have as much fun making this film as Kate says?

NADINE
I think Kate is underexaggerating a bit.

KATE
Me underexaggerate? Well I've never heard that before.

NADINE

I just mean that it was a wonderful experience and that Kate is not only one of the best actresses there is today, but she is an exceptional person. Sorry, Kate, if I'm letting the cat out of the bag but that's the truth of it and people need to know.

Kate looks to JoJo with a touched look and then grabs Nadine's hand.

KATE

Ahh, Pet. The feeling is totally mutual. You know I love you.

Nadine nods her head to Kate.

JOJO

Awww... This is so nice to see. Isn't Joe? Isn't this nice to see?

JoJo looks to Joe to get some kind of response.

JOE

Yeah, it's nice and all, but I have one question for Nadine.

NADINE

Okay?

JOE

How do you respond to all of the haters when they question your disability?

JoJo and Kate look horrified at his question and Nadine looks confused.

19D INT. NYC. NYC NEWSSTAND STUDIOS AT ROCKEFELLER CENTER. 19D
THIRTY FOURTH FLOOR. OUTSIDE OF THE STUDIO. SAME DAY/TIME.

Ronald, Enzo and Kate's New PA are standing outside of the studio, looking through the glass that separates them from Kate and Nadine. A speaker plays overhead so that they can listen in on what transpires in the studio.

RONALD

Oh no.

Ronald sees Enzo eyeing the door.

RONALD (CONT'D)
It's locked from the inside so we
can't get in there. She'll be okay.
She will. It will be okay.

All 3 of them look concerned at what is about to transpire in
the studio.

19E INT. NYC. NYC NEWSSTAND STUDIOS AT ROCKEFELLER CENTER. 19E
THIRTY FOURTH FLOOR. STUDIO. SAME DAY/TIME.

KATE
What kind of question is that?

JOJO
Really, Joe.

JOE
What? It's a legitimate question.

Kate starts to say something, but Nadine quickly cuts her
off.

NADINE
So have these haters started to
question it?

JOE
What if they did?

NADINE
But have they?

Joe and Nadine have just engaged in war according to their
facial expressions, and Kate and JoJo don't know what to do.

JOE
Let's just say for arguments sake,
they have.

NADINE
Ahh, okay, for arguments sake. So
which part of my disability are
they questioning? The fact that I
can't write or type, or basically
do anything that requires small
motor skills with my right hand or
that I can't rely on any part of my
right leg the way I can my left?

JOE

I'd say both. I mean whose to say you won't walk out of here today and act totally normal? Who's to say that you haven't concocted this idea up, along with Kate, to bring more attention and money to this movie.

KATE

That's enough, Joe.

JOJO

Really, Joe. Let's move on, shall we.

Nadine looks at Joe like she wants to kill him.

NADINE

Well then I have one question for you, Joe.

All 3 of them look at Nadine.

19F INT. NYC. NYC NEWSSTAND STUDIOS AT ROCKEFELLER CENTER. 19F
THIRTY FOURTH FLOOR. OUTSIDE OF THE STUDIO. SAME DAY/TIME.

Ronald, Enzo and Kate's New PA are still watching concerned.

RONALD

Oh shit. She's going to let him have it.

Ronald looks to Enzo, who is holding his breath.

19G INT. NYC. NYC NEWSSTAND STUDIOS AT ROCKEFELLER CENTER. 19G
THIRTY FOURTH FLOOR. STUDIO. SAME DAY/TIME.

NADINE

For arguments sake of course...
How are you going to explain to your bosses that you were totally drunk on the job today?
I mean how much whiskey did you actually have when you almost ran me over in the hallway? A half a bottle? A full bottle?
Inquiring minds want to know because if it's help you need, then let them get you some help, Joe.

JoJo and Kate's mouth's are open in shock. Joe is pissed off beyond belief.

JOE

Well aren't you a fucking bitch.

Nadine looks at Joe and immediately regrets what has just happened. She looks to Kate and JoJo to see what she should do next.

KATE

Go... I'll handle it from here.

Nadine quickly nods her head, takes her head phones off and grabs her cane so she can make her exit. She looks to JoJo, who gives her a look of sympathy, and then to Joe, who hates her to the core. Nadine then makes her exit from the studio.

19H INT. NYC. NYC NEWSSTAND STUDIOS AT ROCKEFELLER CENTER. 19H
THIRTY FOURTH FLOOR. OUTSIDE OF THE STUDIO. SAME DAY/TIME.

Nadine walks out of the studio with her cane and shuts the door. She can barely hear how Kate and JoJo are repairing the damage over the speaker because she is in her head with thoughts of guilt. She looks like she's going to cry.

NADINE

I'm sorry, Ronald.

Ronald puts his hand on her shoulder while Enzo brings over her Alinker so she can mount it.

RONALD

I know. But don't worry too much about it. I'm sure Kate will work her magic.

Ronald smiles at her slightly to see if he can get a response but Nadine just looks at him.

RONALD (CONT'D)

Look, why don't you and Enzo go back to the hotel now and get some rest. Seriously, don't even worry about this. Yeah?

NADINE

(hesitantly)

What time is the Kelly Clarkson Show tomorrow?

RONALD

We have to be ready to go at noon.

NADINE

Okay.

RONALD

Go get some rest.
And all things considered, you did
well today!

Ronald smiles again but Nadine knows he's not being truthful. She begins to walk away on the Alinker, with Enzo following. Nadine and Enzo get halfway down the hallway and Enzo puts his hand on her shoulder. Nadine immediately tenses.

NADINE

I'm okay. You don't need to do
that.

Enzo looks at her confused. The two of them continue down the hallway. Nadine in front, with Enzo following.

20A INT. NYC. EMPIRE HOTEL. NADINE'S HOTEL ROOM. SAME DAY. 20A
LATE AFTERNOON

Nadine walks through the room entrance with her Alinker, with Enzo following.

ENZO

Nay, do you want to talk about it?
You have barely said a word since
we left the studio.

Nadine dismounts from the Alinker, puts it off to the side, and looks at Enzo, who can see she's about to cry again.

NADINE

What's there to say? I fucked up.
Period.

ENZO

Nay, you didn't.

NADINE

No... You know what, I can't do
this right now. I want to take a
shower and clear my head. Okay?

Enzo looks at her and nods his head.

NADINE (CONT'D)

I'm going to go into the bathroom
and shower and be done with this
day.

Nadine grabs a hotel robe from the closet and heads into the bathroom. She closes the door and Enzo is standing there trying to figure out what to do. And then he hears Nadine sobbing on the other side of the door. Enzo begins to think of his next move.

20B INT. NYC. EMPIRE HOTEL. NADINE'S HOTEL ROOM BATHROOM. 20B
SAME DAY. LATE AFTERNOON

Nadine is seen in the shower, her hair pulled up in a messy bun so it doesn't get too wet. She runs the water down her face and is still crying pretty heavily. She stands there for a few seconds just letting the water rush down the front of her. Enzo comes in the shower, behind her. He wraps his arms around the front of her. Nadine is startled at first but then allows her body to sink into his.

NADINE
(quietly)
What are you doing?

ENZO
You're not alone, Nay. I'm here for
you.

Nadine bursts into more tears, but she tries to hide it from Enzo since her back is towards him.

ENZO (CONT'D)
You're going to be okay. I'm right
here. I will always be with you.

Nadine then turns around and hugs Enzo tightly. She is still crying. They stand there for a few seconds, embracing one another, with Enzo kissing Nadine's forehead.

NADINE
Thank you.

Enzo kisses her forehead again. Nadine looks up at him and they both stare at one another. Then Nadine looks down and notices that Enzo has his briefs on.

NADINE (CONT'D)
Wait. Are you wearing your briefs?

ENZO
Well, I had to figure out how I
could do this so that you would be
comfortable with it.

NADINE
So you wore your briefs?

Enzo looks at her and shrugs his shoulders.

NADINE (CONT'D)
But Enzo, I am totally naked!

ENZO
I know. But I barely looked.

NADINE
Barely, huh?

ENZO
Well maybe just a little.

Nadine smirks and then pulls herself in a little closer to Enzo for a final hug.

ENZO (CONT'D)
Feel better?

NADINE
Yes. Thank you.

ENZO
Okay well then I'm going to get out
of the shower first and then I'll
meet you in the room.

Nadine nods her head in agreement. Enzo exits the shower and Nadine stands there watching him leave.

20C INT. NYC. EMPIRE HOTEL. NADINE'S HOTEL ROOM. SAME DAY. 20C
EARLY EVENING

Nadine walks with her cane out of the bathroom, wearing the hotel robe only. She gets further into the hotel room and sees Enzo dressed in the same garb. He is standing by the bed with beef jerky, pretzels and pringles.

ENZO
I figured we could eat like crap
for dinner?

Nadine smiles and heads towards the bed. Enzo puts the food on the nightstand and goes to help Nadine into the bed. She looks at him and is about to reject his offer because it's foreign but complies. She gets onto the bed and lets Enzo help her get her right leg up. Once in, she turns to the side in a fetal position. Enzo takes a throw blanket that lays at the end of the bed and covers her with it.

NADINE

Grab those chips and jerky and get in here.

Enzo grabs the food and gets in on the opposite side of the bed. They are then laying face to face.

ENZO

Which would you like first? Jerky?

NADINE

No protein for me. I need carbs right now. Pringles please.

Enzo hands her the pringles, while he takes the jerky and they begin to eat in that position.

NADINE (CONT'D)

Hey Enzo.

ENZO

Yeah?

NADINE

Thank you. For everything. I can't tell you how much it means to me.

ENZO

No problem. Like I said to you that one day, I think I needed this too.

They both stare at each other.

NADINE

Okay, so tell me something that I don't already know about you and you don't really like to talk about with just anyone.

ENZO

And why would I want to do that?

NADINE

Because you 'barely' saw me naked in the shower and for that I deserve some dirt.

They both smile at one another.

ENZO

Okay... Okay...

Enzo thinks for a moment and takes a deep breath.

ENZO (CONT'D)

My best friend died two years ago from cancer and I have felt pretty lost from it until recently.

NADINE

Oh my god. I am so sorry. How long did he have cancer?

ENZO

He fought it for a couple of years but eventually lost the battle. But he was so great, Nay. He was the funniest guy you'd ever meet. He could make you laugh at any situation. I sometimes would have to stand away from him at certain events because just being near him made me laugh. He was a great husband, a wonderful father, a hard worker. Just the best guy in the world.

Enzo looks like he's is going to cry so Nadine places her hand on his and he clasps it.

ENZO (CONT'D)

I always felt like I was 'home' when I was with him, if that makes any sense at all.

NADINE

It totally does.

ENZO

I finally felt like that again when you and I met for dinner a few months ago. You know?

NADINE

Yes. I do. You always want to have that feeling when you're with someone but as we get older, you realize that right is reserved for only a few people in your life.

They both stare at each other for a few seconds.

NADINE (CONT'D)

What was his name? Your best friend...

ENZO

Geno.

NADINE

No way! That is probably the
greatest Italian name in the world!

They both begin to speak in over exaggerated Jersey/Italian accents.

NADINE (CONT'D)

Geno, you want some ravioli?

ENZO

Geno, did you bring the sausage?

NADINE

Geno, where you at?

ENZO

You're giving me agita, Geno!

They both start laughing hard, then calm down and stare at one another.

ENZO (CONT'D)

Thank you.

NADINE

Thank you.

Enzo kisses Nadine on the forehead and is still holding her hand. They then look at one another until they fall asleep.

20D INT. NYC. EMPIRE HOTEL. NADINE'S HOTEL ROOM. NEXT DAY. 20D
EARLY MORNING.

The hotel room is dark but only the sheers have been closed on the windows so the nighttime lights from city can be seen. Nadine rolled onto her other side and Enzo is spooning her, with his one arm wrapped tight around her waist. Nadine begins to wake up and sees 3:33am on the nightstand clock. She looks down to Enzo's arm wrapped around her. She slowly begins to rotate her body to face Enzo. When they are face to face, she sees that Enzo is now awake.

ENZO

Are you okay?

Nadine nods her head. She looks at Enzo's face once more and then leans in to kiss him. The kiss is long and passionate, and Enzo then starts to untie her robe.

ENZO (CONT'D)

Are you sure?

Again she nods her head and gives permission. He unties her robe, she unties his, and ample foreplay begins. He then positions himself over her and enters her. She gasps at first but then follows his movements. He then takes hold of her by the waist.

ENZO (CONT'D)
Put your hands around my back and
hold tight, okay?

Nadine looks a bit confused at first but does what he says and he rolls over so that Nadine is sitting on top of him; straddling him. It takes her a few seconds to adjust. Enzo now sits up too so that they are face to face.

ENZO (CONT'D)
Is this okay?

NADINE
Yes. It feels fine. It's perfect
actually.

They kiss each other again with all of the desire that's running through their veins and then begin to thrust until they both climax. Once they are done, they both are on their backs, laying next to one another.

NADINE (CONT'D)
My god, Enzo, if we had done that
in college I would have never let
you go.

ENZO
I know.

They each turn on their side so they are facing one another. Both are still wearing their robes but they remain untied.

ENZO (CONT'D)
Nay?

NADINE
Yes.

ENZO
I...

Enzo stops because his cell phone rings. He looks at the phone on the night stand.

ENZO (CONT'D)
That might be one of my sons.

NADINE

You better get it. No one usually
calls at this time.

Enzo sits up and grabs his phone from the nightstand.

ENZO

Hello?

There is a woman frantically talking on the other end of the
phone, but Nadine is unable to make out what she's saying.

ENZO (CONT'D)

Hold on. Hold on. I can barely make
out what you're saying. Just slow
down and start again.

Enzo gets up from the bed and goes over to look out the
window as the woman on the phone continues to ramble. Nadine
sits up and tries to fasten her robe, while still watching
Enzo's every move.

ENZO (CONT'D)

Uh-ha. Well how badly was she hurt?

He pauses so the woman can ramble on hysterically.

ENZO (CONT'D)

Right. And the cops came to the
scene?

Woman still rambling.

ENZO (CONT'D)

Okay.

Woman still rambling.

ENZO (CONT'D)

Well I can catch a train and then
take an uber. Which hospital are
you at?

Woman is still talking but has quieted down a bit.

ENZO (CONT'D)

Okay, well I'll be there as soon as
I can.

Woman says a short sentence.

ENZO (CONT'D)

Okay. Bye.

Enzo hangs up the phone and turns to look at Nadine.

NADINE
What happened?

ENZO
That was Rachel. Her daughter got
into a major car accident tonight
and she's in intensive care.

NADINE
Oh no.

Enzo is standing there, his mind racing.

NADINE (CONT'D)
You should go.

Enzo looks at her confused.

NADINE (CONT'D)
Enzo, she needs you, so you should
just go.

Enzo is still looking confused, but Nadine nods her head to
him as if he needs permission.

NADINE (CONT'D)
Go...

Enzo looks to her one last time and then moves to the
adjoining door.

NADINE (CONT'D)
Can you close the door on your way
out, please?

Enzo looks back at Nadine. She gives him a slight smile to
tell him it's okay. He looks at her one last time and then
closes the door behind him. Nadine is sitting on the bed,
looking like she's about to cry.

21 INT. NYC. EMPIRE HOTEL. NADINE'S HOTEL ROOM. SAME DAY. 21
MORNING.

Nadine lies awake in her bed. She's obviously been crying but
now has just one singular tear running down her face. She
hears a knock on the door. She looks at the clock on the
nightstand, which reads 8:30am. She gets up from her bed,
makes sure her robe is still tied tight, grabs her cane and
goes to the door. She opens it and finds Ronald standing on
the other side.

RONALD

Oh Honey, what happened?

Nadine immediately starts to tear up again. Ronald hugs her and then they both begin to walk into her room. Once in the room, they both sit on her bed, with Ronald placing his arm arounds her shoulders.

NADINE

We slept together.

RONALD

Yeah, I kind of got that impression. Enzo called me and said he had to leave early because of an emergency but that he was worried about you and could I make sure you're okay.

Nadine looks at him and nods her head.

RONALD (CONT'D)

And then he said that he got the phone call about the emergency at the worst possible time and that he didn't want to leave you. I actually thought he was going to cry if I'm being totally honest.

NADINE

Did he tell you what the emergency was?

RONALD

No.

NADINE

His girlfriends daughter is in intensive care because of a car accident. So he had to go.

RONALD

Ahh.

NADINE

But I didn't want him to.

Nadine looks at Ronald, then looks down and starts to cry.

RONALD

I am so sorry.

NADINE

I just want to go home.

RONALD

Well let me text my assistant now
and see what she can do.

Ronald takes his phone from his pants pocket and begins to text.

NADINE

But we have the Kelly Clarkson
show?

RONALD

Kate can handle that.

NADINE

But...

RONALD

Nay, no. You're hurting and aren't
up for it. Kate will take care of
it. In fact, I'll text her now too
and let her know.

Ronald is still texting on his phone, while Nadine just sits there and stares at the floor.

RONALD (CONT'D)

Did you and Enzo make a plan of
when you two will talk again?

NADINE

No. He's back where he needs to
be... with his girlfriend, living
his normal life. This was just a
fantasy for both of us.

RONALD

Nay, I don't believe that. The
chemistry between you two is real.
We all could feel it. You two
should be together.

Ronald looks at Nadine and she begins to cry again.

NADINE

It wouldn't work anyway. I have
commitment issues.

RONALD

That's because you haven't been
with the right guy yet. And I
believe that Enzo is the right guy.

Nadine looks at Ronald and believes him at first, but then shakes her head.

NADINE

No. It is what it is. He had to go.

Ronald looks at her and is about to argue his point but then decides the point is moot. His phone alerts him to incoming texts. He reads them and then lets Nadine know.

RONALD

My PA got you on a flight to Sacramento at 3:15 pm today. I'll send you the details as soon as she sends them over.

Nadine nods her head. She then hears the text alert go off on her phone. She picks it up off the nightstand and reads it out loud to Ronald.

NADINE

It's from Kate... 'Aww Pet, sometimes life gives us the shittiest of things to deal with, but you and I both know that you are not someone to let it get you down for long. Go home, find your happiness again and I'll deal with Kelly Clarkson! Much love, XOXO, Kate.'

RONALD

See... All's well that ends well.

Ronald looks at Nadine, who he can tell is trying to pull it together but is still struggling.

NADINE

Thank you, Ronald.

They both hug one another.

RONALD

Of course. I'll have a car waiting for you outside at 11:30 to take you to the airport. Yeah?

Nadine nods her head.

RONALD (CONT'D)

And I want you to call me as soon as you get home to let me know you arrived safely.

NADINE

Will do.

RONALD

Okay well I'm going to go. Don't bother getting up. Just call me when you get home.

NADINE

Okay. Thank you.

Ronald gets up from the bed, and nods and then begins to walk towards the door. He sees a pair of men's briefs on the floor and grins. He then exits the room.

Nadine sits on the bed, looking worn and exhausted but tries to pull it together so she can get home.

22 INT. NYC. UNITED AIRLINES. FIRST CLASS CABIN. SAME DAY. 22
LATE AFTERNOON.

Nadine is seated in her first class seat, next to a window. The flight attendant has just brought Nadine a glass of champagne. Nadine thanks her for it, takes a sip and stares out the window. Tears slowly stream down her face.

23 INT. LINCOLN, CA. NADINE'S HOME. MASTER BEDROOM. SAME DAY. 23
AFTERNOON

Nadine is seen entering her bedroom. She is walking with her cane and wheels her suitcase next to her closet. She then goes and sits on her bed. She looks worn down and it takes only seconds for her to start to weeping uncontrollably.

24 INT. LINCOLN, CA. NADINE'S HOME. NADINE'S OFFICE. NEXT 24
DAY. MORNING

Nadine is seen sitting at her desk with a cup of tea in hand. She looks horrible due to lack of sleep and a major downpouring of tears. She turns on her computer and checks her email.

ON THE SCREEN - An email from Ronald:

"Hey Sweetie! Thought you might like to see this news clip that was featured on the Today Show this morning. This story is making the rounds but I know you like Today so I sent you what they are saying. I guess some good has come from the trying experience you had with Joe.

(MORE)

NADINE (CONT'D)

See... All's well that ends well!
Talk Later!
XOXO
Ron"

Nadine then clicks on the link that is embedded in the email. It's a YouTube video that shows Al Roker tossing the show over to Carson Daly so he can begin his Pop Start Plus segment. Carson Daly starts to discuss what happened on the Joe & JoJo Podcast a few days earlier.

CARSON DALY

A couple of days ago, Kate Kinsale was on the Joe & JoJo Podcast to promote her latest film "How The Light Got In", along with Nadine Keaton who not only inspired the film but wrote it as well, and during the interview, Joe decided to question Ms. Keaton's disability.

AL ROKER

What? No way!

CARSON DALY

Yes, I know. It was pretty brutal. But Ms. Keaton held her own and apparently forced Joe's drinking problem come to light. Since then, Joe and his employer have decided that Joe does need some intense rehabilitation and therapy. That said, he's taking a temporary leave of absence from the show to get the help he needs.

He wrote a statement that day that says "I am truly sorry for what transpired on the show today. I was in fact inebriated, which has become my normal state these days, and I aimed my drunken rage at Ms.Keaton, which I should never have done. I hope she, as well as my fellow podcaster, JoJo, Kate Kinsale and all of the podcasts fans out there know I deeply regret my actions and plan on making amends. Thank you for showing me how the light gets in for me. I promise to do better in the future."

(MORE)

CARSON DALY (CONT'D)

So we do wish Joe the best as he tackles what may come his way, and we also should let everyone know that the podcast will go on and although it may eventually go through a name change, JoJo is still fully engaged and is looking forward to future shows.

That ends the YouTube clip, so Nadine closes it. Nadine takes a sip of tea from her cup and then looks out of her window.

25 EXT. HIGH HAND NURSERY, LOOMIS, CA. OUTSIDE GARDEN PATIO - 25
MID-SEPTEMBER. DAY

Film flashes "Mid-September... California" on the screen.

Nadine is sipping her tea, seated at one of the tables on the outside garden patio of the nursery. On one side of the patio there is a cash register stand, and on the other a Starbucks kiosk. The cash register is surrounded by several bins with different floral arrangements individually bound and available for purchase, plus a barrage of different plants, both hanging or free standing. The Starbucks kiosk is located outside the main entrance of the building, and Sunny is seen waiting for her coffee to be served. Once her coffee is ready, Sunny takes it and slowly approaches the table where Nadine is sitting. She places it on the table and takes a seat.

SUNNY

I love this place! I think I want to go look at those hibiscus shrubs when we're done here.

Nadine is taking a sip of her tea and looks over at the hibiscus shrubs and nods her head. She looks like she's been crying forever. Sunny notices.

SUNNY (CONT'D)

You still haven't heard from Enzo?

Nadine shakes her head.

NADINE

No. And I won't. But it's not like you didn't warn me. I should have listened to you and Marie. I don't know what I was thinking.

SUNNY

Well you weren't because you fell in love with him.

(MORE)

SUNNY (CONT'D)

And all the advice in the world
wouldn't have made a difference.

Nadine looks at Sunny and her eyes fill up with tears. She quickly wipes the few that make it down her face.

NADINE

Ugh. Sorry.

SUNNY

Nay, don't apologize. You're
hurting and it's totally
understandable.
And you've decided that you're not
going to reach out to him?

Nadine nods her head.

SUNNY (CONT'D)

Okay, well then let's forget about
him for a bit.
Has Ronald asked you to move again
lately?

NADINE

Ha. When has he not asked me to
move...

SUNNY

Well maybe you should...

Nadine looks at her confused.

SUNNY (CONT'D)

Don't get me wrong. I do not want
you to go. Like at all. But you
have always said this is not your
forever home, and maybe this is a
chance to put your focus on
something else.

Sunny looks to see if Nadine is comprehending.

SUNNY (CONT'D)

To focus on the move, and the new
place to live in New Jersey, and
going into the office in New York
City a few days a week to work on
new writing projects. It would be a
different change of pace for you
and maybe just what you need to get
your spark back.

Nadine looks down at her hands that are sitting on the table and Sunny grabs one of Nadine's hands with her own.

SUNNY (CONT'D)

Because I know that spark is still
in there.

Sunny smiles at Nadine, who is still on the verge of tears but gives Sunny a little smile as well.

NADINE

Ugh, but I can't even think about
packing all of my stuff.

SUNNY

Let the movers do that... I'm sure
Ronald can work his magic and get
that worked into the deal.

Nadine's mood lightens a bit because she now feels like she has a plan to work on.

SUNNY (CONT'D)

And when you are ready to fly out
and get settled, maybe me and my
sister can fly out with you and
help you unpack and get settled,
and then go into New York City and
do all the tourist type stuff!

Nadine smiles at the excitement that is coming from Sunny.

NADINE

I could take you to a Broadway
play...

SUNNY

Oh yeah! Let's go see Wicked! And
we need to go to the Empire State
Building!

Nadine smiles again and Sunny notices.

SUNNY (CONT'D)

You're going to get through this,
right? I mean you survived a stroke
for goodness sake. You just need a
little more time.

Nadine nods her head.

SUNNY (CONT'D)
 Now let's stop thinking about all
 of this life stuff and go check out
 the flowers. Yeah?

Nadine nods her head again. Sunny starts to get up from the table.

NADINE
 Hey Sunny?

SUNNY
 Yeah?

NADINE
 Thank you.

SUNNY
 No problem! And now I didn't say I
 wouldn't be a mess when you go but
 we'll deal with that when the time
 comes.

They both laugh at her last statement.

SUNNY (CONT'D)
 Now let's go find some plants!

Sunny stands next to the table, waiting for Nadine to mount her Alinker so they can look at plants in the nursery.

26 EXT. LINCOLN, CA. NADINE'S HOME. OUTSIDE FRONT LAWN. 26
 FIRST WEEK OF OCTOBER. AFTERNOON

Scene shows the front of Nadine's house with a for sale sign planted in her front lawn and a SOLD sign sitting on top of the sign.

27 INT. JERSEY CITY, NJ. NADINE'S NEW HOME. MAIN LIVING 27
 AREA. SECOND WEEK OF DECEMBER. LATE AFTERNOON

Film flashes "Mid-December... New Jersey" on the screen.

Nadine's loft style apartment is located in Jersey City, right next to the Hudson River, and opposite NYC with a view of the city through the ceiling high windows on the wall that face the river. Everything has its place, including Nadine's Alinker. Nadine is currently decorating her Christmas tree, which is in the living area next to the windows.

There are a few boxes out with the remaining decorations and Nadine is about to put the next ornament on the tree when the doorbell rings. Nadine puts the ornament on the tree, grabs her cane and begins to walk toward the front door.

NADINE
Just a minute.

She finally gets to the front door and looks out the peep hole, but can't see anything because the Christmas wreath she's hung on the other side of the door.

NADINE (CONT'D)
Well that's just great.

She opens the door and finds Ronald standing on the other side, with a brown miniature-poodle puppy and a large bag from PetSmart loaded with puppy pads, dog food, dog treats and a couple of small dog toys.

NADINE (CONT'D)
Ronald!

RONALD
Well hello, Honey! Let me come in
and see your new place!

As Ronald walks in, he hands Nadine the puppy, sets down the PetSmart bag and continues on into the living area. Nadine looks at the puppy and it kisses her on the face.

RONALD (CONT'D)
Oh my god, Nay, this place is
perfect for you! And the view is
spectacular!

NADINE
Yeah... I thought you'd like that.

Nadine makes her way over to where Ronald is, still holding the puppy.

RONALD
How have you gotten setup so
quickly?

NADINE
I had help. Sunny and her sister
flew out with me to help, and Marie
came over, so between the 4 of us
we had everything in it's place
within a day and a half.

RONALD

Very nice!

Nadine goes to give Ronald the puppy back and he puts both hands up in rejection.

RONALD (CONT'D)

Oh no. I don't want that. He's yours. It's a housewarming gift from me and Kate to help you get over your 'commitment' issues.

Ronald smiles at her. Nadine looks at Ronald suspiciously.

NADINE

Ronald. I don't think I want the responsibility of a dog.

RONALD

But look how cute he is!

Ronald pats the puppy on his head and then the puppy looks at him and then Nadine, giving her more kisses on her cheek.

RONALD (CONT'D)

Look, keep him for a week and if you still don't want him then I'll call the breeder and we can give him back. Okay?
Now let me see what you've done with the place!

Again Nadine looks at the puppy, who is more than happy to stay in her arms.

NADINE

Want me to order a pizza?

RONALD

Yes, please... I'm starving! I barely had time to eat lunch today!

Nadine looks at the puppy again, and then grabs her cell phone to call for pizza, while Ronald is checking out her kitchen.

28

INT. JERSEY CITY, NJ. NADINE'S NEW HOME. MAIN LIVING AREA. THIRD WEEK OF DECEMBER. LATE AFTERNOON

28

Nadine is sitting at the desk of her apartment, with her sleeping puppy in his bed perched on an over-sized bench that sits next to her desk. It's snowing outside and she has all of her Christmas decoration lights on, including the tree.

She finishes typing her last sentence for the day and then picks up the puppy so he can snuggle up to her. She sits there for a minute, staring out the window. She hears the doorbell ring, puts the puppy down on the ground, gets up, grabs her cane and goes to answer the door. The puppy follows her over to the door.

NADINE

Hold on...

Nadine gets to the door and opens it. It's Enzo. Nadine is in shock but tries to keep it together.

NADINE (CONT'D)

Enzo...

ENZO

(smiling)

Nay...

NADINE

Let me guess. Ronald. Ronald told you where I was. How long have you been getting information on me from Ronald?

ENZO

Who said I ever stopped.

Nadine looks at him again.

NADINE

Want to come in?

ENZO

Sure.

Nadine starts to leave the entrance, while Enzo makes his way in.

NADINE

You can put your jacket and scarf on my Alinker if you'd like.

Enzo starts to take his jacket off but can't help but notice the puppy at his feet, dancing around, begging to be picked up. He puts his jacket and scarf on the Alinker and then picks up the puppy, who licks his face over and over. Enzo starts to walk into the living area with puppy in hand and sees Nadine over in the kitchen area. Nadine grabs a Stella Artois beer from the refrigerator and places it on the counter.

NADINE (CONT'D)
Here you go...

Enzo looks at it and smiles. He walks over and grabs the beer with the hand not holding the puppy.

ENZO
Thank you.
This place is really nice.
So when did you get a dog?

Enzo looks down at the puppy and the puppy gives him more kisses.

NADINE
Umm. About a week ago. It was a
housewarming gift from Kate and
Ronald.

ENZO
What's his name?

NADINE
(hesitantly)
Geno.

Enzo looks from the puppy to Nadine. Nadine can see she struck a cord. Enzo tries to shrug it off. He looks at the puppy and addresses his comment to Geno.

ENZO
Geno, huh. Well that's the best
Italian name she could give you.

Nadine feels like she's going to tear up a little so she turns around in the kitchen to get a bowl from a cabinet so she can put some chips in it. Enzo then puts the dog down and comes up from behind her. Nadine senses him.

NADINE
I don't think that's a good idea.

ENZO
Why?

NADINE
Because you have your girlfriend
and I'm not into making that
mistake again.

ENZO
Mistake? That was not a mistake.
And I'm not with Rachel anymore.

(MORE)

ENZO (CONT'D)

We broke up about a month and a half ago.

NADINE

(turns to look at him)
You did?

ENZO

Yes.

Nadine is looking around, trying to make sense of what he's saying.

ENZO (CONT'D)

You see, I had my Oprah moment.

Nadine looks up at him and she can see that he is smiling while on the verge of tears.

NADINE

Oprah?

ENZO

Yeah, Oprah. I realized I was staying in a situation, not because of what I wanted, but so I could alleviate any pain from them if I left. And I didn't want to do that anymore. Because I wanted to be happy. And I wanted so desperately to have that sense of home that I had felt before... with you.

Nadine looks around because she is unsure of what to do or say.

ENZO (CONT'D)

I was going to tell you that night before I got the phone call. I was going to say that I wanted us to be together. I think I've always wanted us to be together. Ever since college, but it scared me so much back then that I never would try. And you know, there was always Dylan.

Enzo smiles at Nadine, who is stunned and extremely uncomfortable by what he just said.

NADINE

Umm. Yeah but I don't think it would work now or ever for that matter.

Nadine is extremely nervous now, and Enzo senses it.

ENZO

Why? Tell me why it wouldn't work.

NADINE

It just wouldn't. I... I have
commitment issues.

ENZO

Yes. I know you do, and we can
spend the rest of our days working
through them.

NADINE

(flustered)

And well I'm extremely independent.
Like fiercely independent.

ENZO

I know. And I love that about you.

NADINE

(extremely vulnerable and
on the verge of tears)

And I have this disability, and I
don't want to ever be a burden to
anyone. Especially not you.

ENZO

(takes her face into his
hands)

There is absolutely nothing
'disabled' about you. You just may
walk a little funny but again, I
love that about you.

Nadine looks up at him with tears clouding her eyes.

ENZO (CONT'D)

Nay. I want to be with you.

Forever.

Will you have me... forever?

Nadine gives him a partial smile. A million thoughts run
through her head but then she takes a deep breath and nods
her head.

ENZO (CONT'D)

Yeah? You will?

NADINE

Yes. I will. But it might be a little messy at first as I sort through everything.

Enzo smiles, leans down and kisses Nadine long and hard. She reciprocates. Once he's done, he caresses her face and kisses her forehead.

ENZO

We should get married!

Nadine looks at him shocked, which he finds amusing.

NADINE

Married? Settle down there, Hot Shot. I just told you I have commitment issues, remember?!

Enzo kisses her again.

ENZO

And what better way to get over them than marriage?

NADINE

Let's see how I do with the dog first. Yeah?

Enzo leans in and kisses her again, and then reaches down for the puppy, who licks Enzo and Nadine's face.

ENZO

Hey Geno, your mom and I are getting married. Isn't that great?!

Enzo looks at Nadine and smiles. Nadine smiles back at him sarcastically.

29 INT. NYC. TAVERN ON THE GREEN RESTAURANT. FALL TIME. LATE 29 AFTERNOON

CLOSING SCENE

Enzo and Nadine stand in front of a clergyman as he says vows to them. Nadine is wearing a crochet lace wedding dress that reaches the floor so she can wear sneakers and her AFO. Enzo is in a navy blue suit, white shirt and brown shoes. They both say 'I do' and kiss.

The credits for the film roll while [FEELS LIKE HOME by Bonnie Raitt] plays in the background.

Camera pans out to 50 guests cheering for them and throwing confetti. All the guests are dressed in casual wedding attire. Among the guests are Marie (holding Geno) Sunny, Ronald and Kate and their significant others.

Ends with Enzo and Nadine holding hands, and going in for one more kiss.

THE END.