

"PIPE UP!"

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FADE IN:

EXT. STATE FARM STADIUM, GLENDALE, AZ - DAY

Balloons on some of the vehicles in the full parking lot mean a festive atmosphere around this Bush 2-era stadium on this nice-looking September Sunday.

INT. FOOTBALL FIELD - DAY

A CAPACITY CROWD adds to the festive look as these cheering fans watch THE ARIZONA CARDINALS' offense move the football down the field with tremendous ease against THE WASHINGTON COMMANDERS' defense.

The Cardinals reach Washington's red zone...first and goal!

When Arizona takes the ball into the end zone for six more points to put this NFL season opener out of Washington's reach, the crowd erupts!

INT. CARDINALS' SIDELINE - DAY

THE ARIZONA CARDINALS CHEERLEADERS (twenty-four women ages 20-35), in their revealing red-black-and-white costumes, strut their stuff and shake their groove things while the fans cheer a successful extra point.

INT. FOOTBALL FIELD - DAY

Now the seconds tick the game toward the end...and the jumbotron tells the happy story.

INT. CARDINALS' SIDELINE - DAY

KALEY DECORREVONT (24, stuck-up) leads her fellow Cards cheerleaders off the sideline and toward the locker room. As the crowd continues to whoop it up, all cheer squad members high-five it with the first row of fans.

A DRUNKEN FAN tries to fondle the breasts of Cardinals cheerleaders KARYN ANNE KLEMME (25, independent, a bit eccentric) and ELENA DELGADO (21, levelheaded)...who show blank looks Kaley catches.

KALEY

It's all in the game...remember?

Karyn Anne grimaces at Kaley.

ELENA

Kaley...have you been watching the same game?

Elena trades high fives with Karyn Anne.

EXT. STATE FARM STADIUM, GLENDALE, AZ - DAY

In the parking lot, Karyn Anne, Kaley, and Elena gather around Karyn Anne's 2006 Mercury van when three more Cards cheerleaders run toward the van: DAWNELLE HAYNES (35, fun-loving, Black), ANGELIQUE LIN (21, nurturing, Asian), and MISTY ROWBOTTOM (26, analytical, sweet-voiced, White).

All six women now wear casual clothes.

KARYN ANNE

My turn to take us out to dinner!

Kaley cringes while Angelique, Dawnelle, Elena, and Misty look gleeful.

DAWNELLE

C'mon, Kaley DeCorrevont! Where's your sense of adventure?

KALEY

I lost it when
(points to Karyn Anne)
Little Ms. Adventurous took us to that sushi bar in Phoenix.

KARYN ANNE

Now wait just a minute--

KALEY

I got sick from the raw catfish.

MISTY

Wait a minute, Kaley...it was the extra helping of hot mustard that did it. Not the raw catfish.

The six women climb inside the van, with Karyn Anne going for the driver's seat.

ANGELIQUE

Okay, Karyn Anne Klemme...where are you taking us this afternoon?

KARYN ANNE

I know of a really cool place where we can eat!

INT. KARYN ANNE'S VAN - DAY

Karyn Anne and her passengers fasten their seat belts before the driver turns the ignition on.

ELENA

(to Karyn Anne)

As long as it really is a really cool place to eat, that's what really counts.

A smiling Karyn Anne nods at Elena.

EXT. INTERSTATE 10, PHOENIX, AZ - DAY

Karyn Anne's van winces along with the rest of the TRAFFIC.

INT. KARYN ANNE'S VAN - DAY

Everybody looks excited but Kaley.

KALEY

Where the hell are you taking us, Karyn Anne?

KARYN ANNE

Don't worry. It's not a sushi bar.

DAWNELLE

Or a restaurant here in Phoenix.

Kaley points to her own stomach while she points to Dawnelle.

EXT. LOOP 202, MESA, AZ - DAY

The snail's pace continues for Karyn Anne and other drivers.

INT. KARYN ANNE'S VAN - DAY

Kaley points to the passenger(s) next to her.

KALEY

You got a stick of gum or something?

Those around Kaley shake their heads "no."

KARYN ANNE

But anyway, my maternal granddad used to work at the restaurant we're going to.

ANGELIQUE

Karyn Anne, was he a food server?
Was he a cook?

KARYN ANNE

Well, actually, Angelique, he had
an even cooler job there.

At last, the van reaches its destination:

EXT. PIZZA POWER, MESA, AZ - DAY

Karyn Anne's van pulls into the half-full parking lot of a
glassy, modern-looking building.

MAIN TITLES APPEAR OVER ACTION.

INT. PIZZA POWER LOBBY - DAY

Angelique, Dawnelle, Elena, Kaley, Karyn Anne, and Misty
enter a light, airy-looking space whose walls feature picture
after picture of silent movie stars.

Once inside, the six cheerleaders HEAR the sound of a theater
pipe organ. Five of the women grab a plate, napkins, and
utensils each and head for the dining room.

Kaley (the exception) stops in her tracks.

MISTY

(to Kaley)

Aren't you coming?

Kaley shakes her head "no" at Misty and points to Karyn Anne.

KALEY

You've taken us to a mausoleum!

Short of the dining room, Karyn Anne, Misty, Dawnelle, Elena,
and Angelique quit walking.

KARYN ANNE

You see any dead bodies?

KALEY

No, but I hear a lot of dead music!

SOME MORE CUSTOMERS enter the place...and focus their
attention on the cheerleaders.

DAWNELLE

I'm going on in, Kaley!

As they AD LIB their agreement with Dawnelle, Angelique, Misty, and Karyn Anne walk toward the dining room.

ELENA
 (eyeballing Kaley)
 It's your choice: You can grab a plate or you can starve while watching the rest of us eat.

Elena stomps toward the dining room.

KALEY
 All right! I'm going on in and I'm gonna listen to this dead music!

As Kaley grabs a plate, utensils, and napkins before she strides toward the dining room, the new customers look at each other in puzzlement.

INT. PIZZA POWER DINING ROOM - DAY

It's as light and airy-looking as the lobby...even if the restaurant's famed four-manual Mighty Wurlitzer and its pipe chamber dominate the room.

LEW THOMSEN (66, fatherly) exudes fun, fun, fun as he presides over the Wurlitzer's console.

The six Cardinals cheerleaders find a table in the middle of a dining room that's HALF FULL OF CUSTOMERS.

ELENA
 You know, I could go for a large pizza.

Karyn Anne, Angelique, Dawnelle, and Misty AD LIB their agreement with Elena as the six women sit down.

KALEY
 Elena, does the name Brandie Biemesderfer ring a bell to you? Any of you?

DAWNELLE
 (pointing to Kaley)
 Don't you wanna live a little?

KALEY
 If any of us orders a pizza here, Brandie's gonna know it tomorrow. And you know that, Dawnelle!

Red-shirted JARED EASTON (20), a Pizza Power food server, strides over to the arguing sextet.

KALEY (CONT'D)
And then Brandie will kill us!

JARED
Kill who?

ANGELIQUE
(to Jared)
Don't worry about them. They're just arguing about the effects of alcohol.

Jared nods at Angelique, then turns to Karyn Anne.

JARED
Nice to see you here again, Karyn Anne...and nice to see you brought some friends with you.

KARYN ANNE
Thanks, Jared.

KALEY
(eyeballing Karyn Anne)
You know him?

Karyn Anne nods...Lew ends one song and launches another.

KARYN ANNE
Jared...meet Kaley,
(points to each colleague)
Dawnelle, Angelique, Elena, and Misty.

MISTY
Jared, it's very nice to meet you.

JARED
Thanks, Misty.

Jared removes a notepad and a pen from his shirt pocket.

JARED (CONT'D)
Way back in the day, Karyn Anne's grandfather played the organ here.

Five mouths fly open. (Karyn Anne's doesn't.)

JARED (CONT'D)

The very same organ you're hearing
right now.

As Jared puts pen to paper, WENDELL GIVEHAND (68, folksy) and
TOM WULK (69, straightforward), Pizza Power's two owners,
arrive at the six cheerleaders' table.

KARYN ANNE

Jared...

Karyn Anne eyeballs her colleagues, then turns to Jared.

KARYN ANNE (CONT'D)

We'd better make it six chef's
salads and six waters.

Jared writes the order down.

JARED

Got it.

(pockets pad and pen)

I'll be right back with your salads
and drinks.

Karyn Anne and Co. gesture their approval when Jared heads
toward the kitchen.

WENDELL

Hey, Karyn Anne, it's nice to see
you back here again.

TOM

And it's cool that your friends
came over, too.

Karyn Anne nods.

DAWNELLE

Thanks...we're in a club that likes
to meet ten times a year at State
Farm Stadium.

ELENA

(pointing to Dawnelle)

Nice way to put it!

KARYN ANNE

Wendell and Tom...I'd like you to
meet Kaley,

(points to each colleague)

Dawnelle, Angelique, Elena, and
Misty.

WENDELL

Really nice to meet you all. Hope
you like it here.

Kaley receives withering stares from Dawnelle and Elena.

TOM

Karyn Anne, I've got something
monumentally important to tell you.

KARYN ANNE

Okay.

TOM

As of eleven fifty-nine PM on
December thirty-first, Pizza Power
will close its doors...for good.

Karyn Anne looks mortified...and Kaley flashes a huge smile.

WENDELL

It's just that Tom and I wanted to
enjoy...I mean kick back during the
final years of our lives.

TOM

And I wanted to get back to my
birth state of Wisconsin and spend
some time fishing there.

WENDELL

On top of that...Pizza Power's
still trying to recover from the
hit the coronavirus pandemic gave
it. And most of the restaurants
around here.

TOM

Yeah.

ANGELIQUE

Tom...who's gonna take over the
building?

KARYN ANNE

What's gonna happen to the organ?

WENDELL

Well, the Department of Homeland
Security wants to buy this
building.

Misty, Karyn Anne, Elena, Dawnelle, and Angelique look staggered...Kaley shakes her head "yes."

TOM

And move both of its Phoenix offices into this building here in Mesa.

Misty rests her fists on her chin...and, at the Mighty Wurlitzer, Lew fires up a livelier number.

MISTY

You mean to tell us the same people who conduct all those ICE raids...want to operate out of this building?

ANGELIQUE

The same people who spy on anybody who's ever participated in a Black Lives Matter rally?

Tom slowly nods.

DAWNELLE

Let me get this straight: The same people whose agents run around in masks...they wanna operate here?

KALEY

Yes!

ELENA

Kaley...how'd you like to eat all by yourself?

Kaley stares in anger at Elena.

TOM

Well...Pizza Power's got the space the DHS is looking for.

The customers elsewhere in the dining room enjoy Lew's music...especially the youngest eaters in the place.

Dawnelle and Karyn Anne notice the youngest customers in the eatery. The former eyeballs Wendell.

DAWNELLE

I...I don't know about this.

KARYN ANNE

Wendell, has any money exchanged hands? Have you or Tom gotten any money? Has there been a transaction yet?

WENDELL

Well...no. Not yet.

TOM

But it's just a question of time.

MISTY

(to whoever's next to her)
The key word is "time."

ELENA

Yeah...time bomb.

KARYN ANNE

Wendell...Tom...if there was a way we could save Pizza Power from the DHS and Immigration and Customs Enforcement...how would you feel?

Kaley fumes while Tom and Wendell eye each other and shrug.

LATER

Karyn Anne, Kaley, Elena, Dawnelle, Angelique, and Misty finish eating when...a queasy Lew finishes his latest tune.

Through the crowd's applause, Lew grabs a cordless mike from the organ console.

LEW

(into mike)
Thanks so much, everybody...if you'll excuse me, I'll be right back.

Lew puts the mike back on the console and jogs toward the men's restroom.

Tom and Wendell watch Lew jog away...then Pizza Power's two owners jog to the six Cardinals cheerleaders' table.

WENDELL

Karyn Anne, how'd you like to take our world-famous Mighty Wurlitzer for a spin until Lew gets back?

Karyn Anne's tablemates stare right dead at her. (Kaley's is a "don't you dare do it" look.)

KARYN ANNE

Aw, what the heck? I'd love to.

Karyn Anne jumps up from the table to head for the console...and Misty turns to the eatery's two chiefs.

MISTY

What happened to Lew?

TOM

Lew? Well...those extra anchovies on the pizza he ordered got to him.

WENDELL

(nodding)

Yeah. And extra mushrooms.

(toward the console)

Go get 'em, Karyn Anne! Knock 'em dead!

At the organ, Karyn Anne finds and activates the percussion stops...and immediately stomps out a chugging, rockin' beat on the pedalboard.

She flicks a bunch of red (horns) stops to bring sound to the manuals...and turns that chugging beat into Gary Glitter's "Rock and Roll, Part 2."

Karyn Anne's playing perks up most of the eaters...and surprises some of the others.

To add depth for the second verse, Karyn Anne selects some 16-foot and 32-foot bass stops, then pushes some white (flutes) stops to the manuals for extra treble.

Tom and Wendell nod at each other in approval.

LATER

Karyn Anne shows increasing confidence at the organ while she plays "Celebration," by Kool and the Gang.

Dawnelle records the whole thing on her cell phone; she, Misty, Elena, and Angelique look delighted.

And Kaley looks ready to throw up.

Lew returns to the dining room...and finds an empty seat at the table where BURT BOYER (60s, high-strung), wife MARGE BOYER (70s, calm), and friend BEN KENNERLY (60s, quiet, Black) sit and eat together.

BURT
Lew, aren't you gonna go back up there?

LEW
(sitting down)
Nah...I just wanna see how the other half lives.

Ben and Marge nod.

MARGE
No offense, Lew...but it's always nice to hear different people...especially younger ones...up there playing.

LEW
No offense taken.

Some of the other eaters clap to the beat.

LEW (CONT'D)
(eyeballing Marge)
And you do have a point about younger people playing our organ.

An exasperated Burt points toward Karyn Anne while he looks at Marge.

BURT
Marge, you've gotta be kidding! That girl up there's got a lot to learn! I don't care if she's Buddy Link's granddaughter!

BEN
Burt, she's just doing her own--

BURT
There's just no way in the world you can make Earth, Wind, and Fire sound good on a Mighty Wurl--

Marge and Ben wag fingers at Burt.

MARGE

That's not Earth, Wind, and Fire.
That's Kool and the Gang.

Now "Celebration" ends...and Karyn Anne's version triggers tremendous applause (but not from Kaley or Burt).

At the console, Karyn Anne gestures her appreciation while Lew, Tom, and Wendell approach the console.

TOM

(shakes Karyn Anne's hand)
Karyn Anne, that was awesome!

KARYN ANNE

Well...thanks.

Wendell and Lew look ecstatic as the former and Karyn Anne engage in their own handshake.

KARYN ANNE (CONT'D)

Thanks for the chance to get up
here and play.

LEW

(shakes Karyn Anne's hand)
You're welcome!

WENDELL

When can you come back and play?

A huge grin forms on Karyn Anne's face while she stares into space before she gazes at the cheering audience.

EXT. FITNESS CENTER, GLENDALE, AZ - DAY

This generic-looking chain operation stands next to a supermarket in the heart of Glendale.

INT. LOCKER ROOM - DAY

All the Cardinals cheerleaders unite around a hospital digital scale when Dawnelle breaks out her cell phone.

When the phone plays A VIDEO of Karyn Anne in concert at Pizza Power, Elena and Kaley crowd around Dawnelle.

Karyn Anne, Misty, and fellow cheerleader LUCIANNA MONA LISA "LUCKY" MORETTI (23, clever) join the threesome.

LUCKY

(to Karyn Anne)
Is that you?

KARYN ANNE
Well...yes, it is.

A smile forms on Lucky's face.

LUCKY
Well, I'll be a...

DAWNELLE
Lucky, that's her, all right.

Elena points to a scowling Kaley.

ELENA
Now...does that sound like dead
music to you?

MISTY
(to Kaley)
Remember: That's "Celebration," not
"Funeral March of a Marionette."

Some cheerleaders crack up in laughter.

The laughter draws Angelique away from the scale and to the group around Dawnelle when BRANDIE BIEMESDERFER (68, tyrannical) marches into the room.

BRANDIE
All right, everybody! Break it up!
Line up at the scale!

Music continues to blare from Dawnelle's cell phone when the cheerleaders scurry into a single line.

BRANDIE (CONT'D)
Dawnelle, shut that phone off!

Dawnelle shrugs and turns her phone off.

BRANDIE (CONT'D)
And line up in alphabetical order!
Angelique first!

The Big Red's cheer squad reassembles the line...with Angelique closest to the scale.

Before Brandie can reach the scale, Angelique steps on it.

BRANDIE (CONT'D)
We don't need any dead music in a
place like this!

Karyn Anne's and six...seven...eight other mouths fly open.
Kaley titters.

Brandie watches the scale record Angelique's weight. Both women look satisfied.

BRANDIE (CONT'D)
That's more like it, Angelique!
Next!

Angelique walks away with a sigh of relief.

LATER

Dawnelle weighs in under Brandie's hawklike gaze.

DAWNELLE
Brandie, it could've been worse.
For the scale.

BRANDIE
How's that?

DAWNELLE
That large deep-dish pizza at Pizza
Power looked awfully good.

Dawnelle steps away from the scale as Elena climbs on it.

ELENA
(eyes on Brandie)
You know...Dawnelle had a point.

BRANDIE
Don't go there, Elena.

Elena watches the scale...and Brandie watches Elena.

BRANDIE (CONT'D)
By the way...do you know what your
last name means?

ELENA
Sorry, Brandie. When I was younger,
my parents didn't allow me to speak
Spanish.

Some cheerleaders break out in laughs.

BRANDIE
Your last name is Spanish for
"thin."

Elena and Brandie note the former's weight a la the scale.

BRANDIE (CONT'D)
 You lived up to your last name.
 This time.

Elena walks away from the scale and high-fives it with a few other cheerleaders.

BRANDIE (CONT'D)
 Kaley! You're next!

Kaley jumps on the scale; Brandie watches it record how much Kaley weighs.

BRANDIE (CONT'D)
 Kaley...you're two pounds lighter
 than last week. Great job!

KALEY
 (to the rest of the line)
 See that?

Karyn Anne moves up to the scale and watches Kaley strut.

KARYN ANNE
 What if you hadn't eaten last
 night?

Brandie watches Karyn Anne climb onto the scale.

EXT. PHOENIXBANK, EAST CAMELBACK BRANCH, PHOENIX, AZ - DAY

A sprawling, ample-sized building near one of Phoenix' busiest intersections.

INT. PHOENIXBANK LOBBY - DAY

A FEW CUSTOMERS wait in a serpentine line while TELLERS and OTHER CUSTOMERS do business at the counter.

Karyn Anne's one of the tellers; she stands across the counter from RUBEN MACHADO (65, witty).

RUBEN
 It's just good news and bad news,
 Karyn Anne: Next June, DHS is gonna
 be moving into this really big,
 really cool space in Mesa.

Ruben slides a check underneath the glass. Karyn Anne accepts the check and examines it.

KARYN ANNE
How would you like that back, Mr.
Machado?

RUBEN
Any way's cool with me.

Karyn Anne nods.

RUBEN (CONT'D)
It's all going to the car
dealership, anyway.

Now Karyn Anne processes the check and slides the money toward a grateful Ruben. She counts each bill and/or coin OUT LOUD while Ruben nods.

RUBEN (CONT'D)
Thanks a bunch.
(pockets his loot)
Here's the thing about it: I'm sure
gonna miss Pizza Power.

A grin decorates Karyn Anne's face.

RUBEN (CONT'D)
Me and my grandkids used to go
there whenever there was something
special going on in their
lives...like when they beat up the
neighborhood bully...

KARYN ANNE
Wait just a minute.

While the line barely moves, Karyn Anne breaks out her cell phone and positions it to record Ruben...while teller KLAYTON RAY "KLAY" STURMEY (43, a bit kooky) watches Karyn Anne.

Klay gestures to THE CUSTOMER opposite him.

KLAY
I'll be right with you.
(to Karyn Anne)
What in the world are you doing?

KARYN ANNE
Well, Klay, I'm making a video
about Pizza Power...and Mr.
Machado's one of its best
customers.

Karyn Anne flashes Klay a huge smile.

KARYN ANNE (CONT'D)
 Don't worry. I told Lucinda, and
 she said it was okay...how do you
 feel about Pizza Power?

Klay's mouth flies open.

KARYN ANNE (CONT'D)
 Have you heard about Pizza Power?

Karyn Anne watches Klay's timid nod.

KARYN ANNE (CONT'D)
 How do you feel about being in this
 video? Would you like to be in it?

Klay shakes his head "no."

KLAY
 Go ahead and make that video. Just
 include me out!

Klay turns to the customer on the other side of the glass
 while Ruben leaves the counter.

KARYN ANNE
 Thanks, Mr. Machado! Have a great
 day!

Ruben nods at Karyn Anne. On his way out of the bank, he
 eyeballs Klay.

RUBEN
 You oughta go there! The food's
 great!

The customer opposite Klay shrugs.

EXT. FITNESS CENTER, GLENDALE, AZ - DAY

Angelique, Dawnelle, Elena, Karyn Anne, and Misty congregate
 in the parking lot before the cheer squad's rehearsal.

Karyn Anne breaks out her cell phone and turns it on.

KARYN ANNE
 All right! Who's ready to dish
 about Pizza Power?

Karyn Anne's four colleagues AD LIB their eagerness.

KARYN ANNE (CONT'D)
 Well, let's see...let's go in
 reverse alphabetical order.
 (puts phone in cam mode)
 Misty...you're up first.

MISTY
 Thanks, Karyn Anne...I really
 enjoyed my first visit to Pizza
 Power. Loved the chef's salad.

As Misty testifies, a 2020 Lexus sedan pulls into the lot.

MISTY (CONT'D)
 Dawnelle's got a point about the
 deep-dish pizza. I'd love to try
 it.

Once the Lexus reaches a parking spot, Kaley climbs out from
 behind the wheel and struts toward the quintet.

MISTY (CONT'D)
 After all, what's a pizza parlor if
 you don't get to try its pizza?

A beaming Karyn Anne nods, then turns to Kaley.

KARYN ANNE
 Kaley, I'm shooting footage for a
 video about Pizza Power. And you're
 more than welcome to be part of it.

KALEY
 Go take a flying leap!

Kaley strides her way to the fitness center's front door.

INT. WORKOUT ROOM #1 - DAY

ROCK/HIP-HOP MUSIC powers out of a laptop or MP3 player while
 Brandie guides Arizona's twenty-four cheerleaders into a hard-
 kicking routine.

BRANDIE
 Come on! Can't you kick higher than
 that?

The cheerleaders try their best to kick higher.

Now, one by one, Angelique, Dawnelle, and Co. turn around,
 backs to Brandie.

The cheerleaders dance in place before each member turns around, one by one, to face Brandie.

The twenty-four women link arms and high-kick it for the duration of the tune.

When the tune ENDS, Brandie shuts the device OFF...and the cheerleaders cool off.

BRANDIE (CONT'D)
You women need to work on this routine again.

Most of the Cardinals cheerleaders stand openmouthed and stare at Brandie.

BRANDIE (CONT'D)
You've been moving around like you've been eating that doggone pizza from Pizza Power.

KARYN ANNE
Wait a minute, Brandie--

BRANDIE
I can take some cardboard and make a pizza that tastes better than what they make at Pizza Power!

LUCKY
Hey, Brandie! I like their pizza!

Brandie's mouth flies open.

Some cheer squad members eyeball Lucky in shock.

ANGELIQUE
Lucky...when did you eat at Pizza Power?

BRANDIE
Yeah, Lucianna! When?

Lucky flashes a cocky grin...

BRANDIE (CONT'D)
Have you been sneaking pizza behind my back?

...that grows into a smile.

LUCKY
It was five years ago.

Brandie and some of her charges breathe relief.

LUCKY (CONT'D)

The night after I graduated from high school.

KARYN ANNE

Lucky, we've gotta talk about that.

LUCKY

(with a nod)

You know, I wouldn't mind going back there.

(points to colleagues)

Karyn Anne gets to play the organ over there once in a while...and she's pretty darn good.

Some of the cheerleaders switch their gazes from Lucky to Karyn Anne.

DAWNELLE

Yeah! And now, she's making a video to try to save the restaurant from becoming DHS' new headquarters!

A fuming Brandie strides over to Karyn Anne.

BRANDIE

Karyn Anne Klemme, what are you trying to do? You trying to show up the other cheerleaders?

KARYN ANNE

No! I'm just doing something I really enjoy...and don't get to do all that often.

The rest of the squad gathers around the twosome.

MISTY

(to Brandie)

She's just following in her maternal grandfather's footsteps. He was a famous organist around here, and--

BRANDIE

Karyn Anne...isn't being an Arizona Cardinals cheerleader enough?

KARYN ANNE

Well...the New England Patriots
have a couple of cheerleaders who
play the piano.

Some cheerleader heads nod.

KARYN ANNE (CONT'D)

And the Denver Broncos have a
cheerleader who plays four
different instruments...one of
which is the piano.

BRANDIE

Are you trying to request a trade?

A few cheerleaders laugh.

KALEY

(eyeballing Brandie)
That'd be no skin off my teeth.

ANGELIQUE

Be careful what you wish for,
Kaley...you might end up saying
"hello" to one of New England's
piano-playing cheerleaders.

While most of the cheer squad laughs, Elena turns to Brandie.

ELENA

I went online...and found out they
don't have any pizza-and-pipes
restaurants in Boston or Denver.

Elena's remark cracks up most of the squad.

EXT. DHS/ICE/ERO, PHOENIX, AZ - DAY

This is a medium-sized building in the heart of town.

INT. DHS/ICE/ERO CONFERENCE ROOM - DAY

DILLON MASTERSON (32, hyper), the man in charge at DHS
Phoenix, sits in impatience at the head of a large table in
this otherwise sparsely-furnished space.

Ruben and EIGHT (OR SO) OTHER DHS AGENTS sit alongside Dillon
and sip coffee/water/tea/pop.

DILLON

Damn! How long's it take to work
out in a gym?

Ruben and fellow DHS agent BRYAN WESSON (31, mellow, Black) catch Dillon's look.

Dillon fidgets with his coffee cup.

RUBEN
C'mon, Dillon. Joel's gonna show up pretty soon.

BRYAN
Yeah. Joel's just being Joel.

DILLON
Well, I told him: Ten o'clock. On the nose.

Another agent, DANA REMINGTON (46, motherly), starts a box of donuts around the table.

DILLON (CONT'D)
On the damn nose!

DANA
Here, Dillon...why don't you have another donut?

Dillon looks inside the box...only to cringe.

DILLON
You people took all the good ones!

Dillon shoves the box out of the way. Ruben catches the box and grabs a donut.

RUBEN
(taking a bite)
We didn't take all the good ones!

Bryan and ANOTHER AGENT take a donut apiece when JOEL HANNAN (28, acts like a stud) sprints through the door.

Joel makes a beeline for Dana to grab her shoulders...but she shoves him out of the way. He takes the nearest empty seat.

BRYAN
Joel...maybe you better close the door.

Joel bolts up, shuts the door, and returns to his seat.

DANA
(wags finger at Joel)
I'm old enough to be your
mother...so if you ever try that
crap again, I'm gonna stuff you in
a cage.

Dana catches Joel's smirk.

DANA (CONT'D)
I'm serious!

JOEL
Okay...Mom.

Nobody laughs.

DILLON
Joel, you're six minutes late! What
the hell happened?

Joel stares into space.

DILLON (CONT'D)
Did you stop by the ICE field
office instead of here?

An embarrassed Joel nods.

JOEL
But you should see who works there
now.

The other agents and Dillon watch Joel gesture out the
measurements of His Dream Woman.

JOEL (CONT'D)
I mean...she looks like one of
those Arizona Cardinal
cheerleaders...

DILLON
You know damn good and well we're
not gonna have that kinda crap when
we move both offices to Mesa next
summer.

Ruben rests his chin on his fists.

EXT. KARYN ANNE'S HOUSE, PHOENIX, AZ - DAY

This spacious-looking house features a driveway.

INT. KARYN ANNE'S LIVING ROOM - DAY

Hers is a well-furnished living room that owes a lot to her own tastes and the rest to Granddad Buddy Link's tastes.

Seated at a 1910-19 orchestral upright (five-pedal) piano, Karyn Anne jazzes up a classical piece. The music rack's removed and the piano's hammers stand exposed.

If needed, sheet music is taped, page to page, onto the piano action's frame.

When Karyn Anne pushes the far-left pedal to produce a dulcimer-like sound, A RINGTONE blares from her pants pocket...and forces her to stop her own music.

She shoves her cell phone against her ear.

KARYN ANNE

Hi. This is Karyn Anne.

EXT. ORPHEUM THEATER, PHOENIX, AZ - DAY

Cell phone up to his ear, Lew stands at the front entrance of this Jazz Age landmark of Baroque architecture.

LEW

Hi, Karyn Anne. This is Lew Thomsen. Did I catch you at a bad time?

INTERCUT - PHONE CONVERSATION

KARYN ANNE

Heck, no! What can I do for you?

LEW

You got time this morning to come over to the Orpheum? Brett and I are gonna be there...and we wanna hear you play.

KARYN ANNE

You're...kidding.

LEW

You see, we think you've got potential...enough of it to become Pizza Power's third organist.

KARYN ANNE

I'll be glad to come over.

(gets up from piano)

(MORE)

KARYN ANNE (CONT'D)

But...I thought Pizza Power was closing for good on New Year's Eve.

Lew looks through the Orpheum's front-entrance doors.

LEW

Like my grandma used to say: "Never shake a Christmas present to see if it's ticking. Just open it up."

Karyn Anne looks bewildered.

INT. ORPHEUM STAGE - DAY

The curtain's up, and a three-manual Mighty Wurlitzer pipe organ stands in the middle of an otherwise-bare stage.

Lew, Karyn Anne, and BRETT SALYERS (39, jovial) stand next to the organ.

KARYN ANNE

(shaking Brett's hand)
Brett, it's nice to see you again.

BRETT

Nice to see you, too, Karyn Anne.

KARYN ANNE

I so remember when you took over Granddad Buddy's spot at the Pizza Power organ back in 2009.

BRETT

Yeah. He died doing the two things he loved the most: Playing the organ and--

KARYN ANNE

Following the Cardinals.

LEW

Matter of fact, Buddy died watching Super Bowl 43.

BRETT

I heard Buddy died in his bowl of popcorn.

KARYN ANNE

He'd been following them ever since they won the 1947 NFL title when they...and he...still lived in Chicago.

Karyn Anne takes a seat at the organ bench.

KARYN ANNE (CONT'D)

After sixty-one years of near-misses and awful teams, the shock of seeing his favorite team finally play in a Super Bowl was too much for him.

Lew and Brett nod.

LEW

You see, Karyn Anne, just as Brett took over for a legend, you've got a chance to take over for one, too.

KARYN ANNE

Charlie Olson!

BRETT

We've been trying to replace him ever since he died in 2019.

LEW

Charlie had a stroke right at the Pizza Power console.

BRETT

And ever since then, finding a third organist has been like a storyline from "Murphy Brown."

LEW

Wait a minute, Brett...you remember "Murphy Brown?"

KARYN ANNE

They had a different secretary every week.

Brett slowly shakes his head up and down.

LEW

(gesturing)

Well, let's cut to the chase. Karyn Anne, let's hear what you've got...besides what you played when you filled in for me that Sunday.

KARYN ANNE

No problem!

(selects her organ stops)

(MORE)

KARYN ANNE (CONT'D)

Just wanna let you two know that I like to do my own thing and play what I like...like Sierra McCormick when she was on "A.N.T. Farm."

Brett and Lew eyeball each other in puzzlement.

LEW

Wait a minute! Sierra McCormick doesn't play a theater pipe organ!

KARYN ANNE

We don't really know that!

BRETT

Let's hear you play "Star Wars."

KARYN ANNE

Sorry, Brett...I'm not into sci-fi.

Lew grimaces while Brett shrugs.

LEW

Okay...how's your Disney repertoire?

Karyn Anne shakes her head "no."

KARYN ANNE

I dropped them after they suspended Jemele Hill for rightfully calling Donald Trump a White Supremacist.

Brett's face freezes.

KARYN ANNE (CONT'D)

Disney owns Jemele Hill's old network, ESPN.

Lew buries his head in his hands.

LATER

With Lew and Brett seated in the front row, Karyn Anne finishes a medley of themes from some of "Star Wars" fellow 1977 movies...films like "New York, New York," "You Light Up My Life," and "Which Way Is Up?"

Karyn Anne's version of "You Light Up My Life" is a driving, uptempo effort...not the familiar waltz.

Both men stand up. Brett claps...but Lew stares him out of the action.

Karyn Anne turns away from the console and eyeballs her fellow organists.

LEW
Well...you're right, Karyn Anne.
You really do do your own thing.

The two men catch Karyn Anne's enthusiastic nod.

INT. ORPHEUM LOBBY - DAY

Karyn Anne's playing CONTINUES O.S. as Brett and Lew head toward the men's restroom.

BRETT
Lew, you've gotta admit: Karyn Anne's music's a bit offbeat...but it's still unique. And there's--

LEW
(pointing at Brett)
She's gonna be a tough sell! If she's gonna be a regular at Pizza Power, she's gotta give the customers more than "Celebration," by Kool and the Gang!

BRETT
Give her time. She'll--

LEW
Look, Brett: She doesn't do "Star Wars." She doesn't do Disney anymore. I was afraid to ask her if she does any patriotic songs!

Brett and Lew stop in their tracks.

LEW (CONT'D)
Did Greta Thunberg sneak in here somehow?

BRETT
If she did, it wouldn't be in a 2006 Mercury Monterey minivan.

Brett and Lew break out in grins.

EXT. STATE FARM STADIUM, GLENDALE, AZ - DAY

A full parking lot...a festive look...Buddy Link would've been proud.

INT. FOOTBALL FIELD - DAY

This time, the atmosphere isn't very festive as the Arizona Cardinals struggle against THE DETROIT LIONS...whose offense more than has its way against the Big Red's defense.

INT. FOOTBALL FIELD - NIGHT

With the game now over, the jumbotron shows the Lions have every reason in the world to celebrate.

INT. CARDINALS' SIDELINE - NIGHT

Despite the Cards landing into the "L" column, their cheerleaders strut on and shake their groove things.

The routine ends...and Kaley leads her fellow cheerleaders off the sideline and into the locker room.

Along the way, Kaley, Karyn Anne, and Co. high-five it with FANS in the first row...and the same drunken fan from the Washington-Arizona game fondles Karyn Anne's, Lucky's, and Elena's breasts.

Lucky, Elena, and Karyn Anne stop to point at the drunken fan...but Kaley gestures them toward the locker room.

KALEY

You've gotta go along to get along!

Lucky points in anger at Kaley.

EXT. STATE FARM STADIUM, GLENDALE, AZ - NIGHT

Now back in their casual clothes, the Cardinals cheerleaders sprint out of the stadium and go toward their own vehicles.

KARYN ANNE

Who wants to go to Pizza Power with me?

Misty, Elena, Dawnelle, and Angelique veer off and follow Karyn Anne to her van.

A second or so later, Lucky follows the quintet.

EXT. PIZZA POWER, MESA, AZ - NIGHT

Karyn Anne's van pulls into an almost-full parking lot.

INT. PIZZA POWER DINING ROOM - NIGHT

Tonight, Brett provides his lively brand of organ music.

Angelique, Dawnelle, Elena, Karyn Anne, Lucky, and Misty locate a table toward the back of a dining room where, this time, CUSTOMERS fill two out of every three seats.

Five of the women sit down.

Misty eyeballs the exception, Lucky.

MISTY
Is everything all right?

LUCKY
I'm just looking for football
players, that's all.

Jared comes over to the table. He spots Lucky.

JARED
Is everything okay?

LUCKY
(sits down)
Just looking for football players.
'Cause if any show up...we've gotta
leave.

DAWNELLE
Jared, she means Arizona Cardinal
football players.

KARYN ANNE
(gesturing to Jared)
We'd like you to meet
Lucianna...better known as Lucky.

LUCKY
Jared, it's nice to meet you.

Jared pulls his notepad and pen from his shirt pocket.

KARYN ANNE
Jared, I found out Lucky last ate
here five years ago.

LUCKY
And that was before I joined the
club that likes to meet ten times a
year at State Farm Stadium.

Now Jared puts his pen and notepad back in his shirt pocket.

JARED

I guess it's salads and water all
the way around again.

The six women nod.

JARED (CONT'D)

Karyn Anne...would you like to play
our Mighty Wurlitzer tonight?

Karyn Anne receives encouraging gestures from her buddies.

KARYN ANNE

Well...if Brett wants to take a
break...and if he proves he can't
handle extra anchovies and extra
mushrooms on his pizza.

Some cheerleaders laugh.

ANGELIQUE

Good answer.

ELENA

Yeah.

Elena and Karyn Anne fist-bump each other.

EXT. ORPHEUM THEATER, PHOENIX, AZ - DAY

A FEW PEOPLE file inside.

INT. ORPHEUM LOBBY - DAY

Karyn Anne reaches the lobby and finds CONRAD and MYRNA
CONZELMAN (both 70s, both Native), who sit behind a folding
table that features an open notebook and a pen.

CONRAD

Hey...you're Buddy Link's
granddaughter!

Karyn Anne nods.

MYRNA

Welcome to the Valley of the Sun
chapter of the American Theatre
Organ Society, Karyn Anne.
(gesturing)
Sign your name right here.

KARYN ANNE
 Conrad and Myrna Conzelman! I read
 about you in the paper!

Karyn Anne adds her signature to those already on the
 notebook's open page.

KARYN ANNE (CONT'D)
 So very nice to meet you...your
 dads were two of the Code Talkers
 from World War 2.
 (puts pen in notebook)
 And I'm looking forward to coming
 to your house for the December
 Christmas party.

MYRNA
 We're looking forward to it, too!

INT. ORPHEUM STAGE - DAY

The organ's still at center stage...but now, the bright red
 curtain's down.

Cordless mike in hand, club president GARNER TED WILLIAMS
 (50) looks out at Ben, Brett, Burt, Conrad, Karyn Anne, Lew,
 Marge, Myrna, and TWENTY OTHER CLUB MEMBERS...all seated in
 the front rows of the lower level.

GARNER TED
 (into mike)
 Well, that's the business part of
 the meeting. If you've got
 something to add before we get to
 the music, well...just pipe up!

Karyn Anne slowly stands up.

KARYN ANNE
 How many of you have--

GARNER TED
 Wait a minute, Karyn Anne!

INT. ORPHEUM LOWER LEVEL - DAY

Garner Ted rushes off the stage. He hands Karyn Anne the mike
 and sits in an empty seat.

KARYN ANNE

(into mike)

Thanks, Garner Ted...how many of you have heard that Pizza Power's gonna close for good on New Year's Eve? Raise your hands.

Marge, Lew, Burt, Brett, Ben, and three other members raise their hands.

KARYN ANNE (CONT'D)

Eight people...well, let's get together to get the word out.

BEN

I can dig it!

KARYN ANNE

(nodding at Ben)

If we don't fight to save Pizza Power, only two pizza-and-pipes restaurants will be left in the entire United States.

Some VOTS members eyeball each other.

KARYN ANNE (CONT'D)

What would you rather have in that building on Southern Avenue in Mesa: The happiest restaurant in Metro Phoenix...or Homeland Security's new local digs?

Myrna and Conrad eye each other and gasp.

INT. ORPHEUM STAGE - DAY

Lew and Garner Ted wrap up the concert phase of the meeting by teaming up at the theater's Mighty Wurlitzer to play "Ben," by Michael Jackson.

When "Ben" wraps up, the place rocks with applause...and Garner Ted grabs the cordless mike from off the console.

He and Lew bow.

GARNER TED

(into mike)

Let's hear it one more time for Lew Thomsen!

Lew soaks up applause that heats up.

GARNER TED (CONT'D)
I know that you've gotta go over to
Pizza Power right now and play.

LEW
Yes, I do...otherwise, I'd love to
stay for open console.

A nodding Lew makes his way off the stage.

GARNER TED
Lew...stay away from the extra
anchovies and extra mushrooms.
They're rippin' you off!

Garner Ted watches a shrugging Lew leave the theater.

GARNER TED (CONT'D)
How many of you out there would
like to do open console today?

Nobody (not even Brett!) makes a move for a few
seconds...until Karyn Anne makes her way to the stage and
heads right for a seat at the organ.

Mike still in hands, Garner Ted moves over to the organ, too.

GARNER TED (CONT'D)
Congratulations, Karyn Anne Klemme!
What would you like to play today?

Garner Ted points the mike at Karyn Anne.

KARYN ANNE
(into mike)
Hey, everybody, see if you remember
this one from 1965.

Karyn Anne selects her stops before eyeballing her peers.

KARYN ANNE (CONT'D)
ONE! TWO! UNO, DOS, TRES, QUATRO!

With a blaring four-bar intro, Karyn Anne fires up "Wooly
Bully," by Sam the Sham and the Pharaohs.

Ben, Brett, Garner Ted, and Marge are all smiles.

As "Wooly Bully" chugs along and Karyn Anne emphasizes the
Wurlitzer's two top manuals and its percussion stops, Burt
shakes his head "no."

Garner Ted, mike in hand, finds a seat at:

INT. ORPHEUM LOWER LEVEL - DAY

Club members CHESTER ANDERSEN and wife MARGARET ANN KELLY "PEGG" ANDERSEN (both 60s) catch Burt's look.

BURT
Marge and I don't play. We just
listen.

CHESTER
Get out!

Marge chuckles...Burt cringes.

PEGG
Burt...relax. Chester was only
kidding.

Karyn Anne's powerhouse rendition reaches the midpoint, where she goes to the bottom manual to deliver the song's sax solo.

MARGE
Burt...where's your sense of humor?

Burt shows Marge an angry look.

Elsewhere in the audience, RYAN KIPPER (56), his wife MIA (52), their son MEENO (15), and their daughter SOLEIL (14) watch Karyn Anne closely.

RYAN
Soleil...Karyn Anne's showing real
enthusiasm up there. That's what
your mom and I want to see from
you.

SOLEIL
I'll try...just don't make me drink
a gallon of Red Bull.

This brassy, percussive version of "Wooly Bully" barrels into the third verse.

MIA
Meeno...watch Karyn Anne's
footwork.

MEENO
(nodding)
That's just what I need...a case of
whiplash.

The rest of the club watches Karyn Anne bring "Wooly Bully" to a blaring, brassy, rousing end.

Everybody else but Burt applauds...and the cheering stops when A CIPHER not only rings out, but GROWS LOUDER.

Burt stands up to wag a finger at Karyn Anne, who rises from the organ bench and catches his wrathful look.

And Brett gazes at the floor.

EXT. ORPHEUM THEATER, PHOENIX, AZ - DAY

Brett and Karyn Anne stroll toward their respective vehicles...his 2017 Infiniti sedan and her Mercury van.

KARYN ANNE

Do they always treat newcomers like that?

Brett stops in his tracks to eyeball Karyn Anne.

KARYN ANNE (CONT'D)

(stops in her tracks)

I'm truly sorry about the cipher.

BRETT

Well...it's the first time we've had somebody cause a cipher at their first open-console session since...

(shrugging)

February 2009...my first VOTS meeting.

Karyn Anne nods.

BRETT (CONT'D)

I felt like I let the rest of the club down.

KARYN ANNE

Not you, too.

Brett shakes his head up and down as the two organists resume their walk.

BRETT

You wanna hear about the time Bob Ralston from "The Lawrence Welk Show" came to town and played here at the Orpheum?

KARYN ANNE

Don't tell me he hit a cipher, too!

BRETT

Bob lucked out: He brought his organ from "The Lawrence Welk Show" with him and finished the concert...otherwise, Burt Boyer would've given him the evil eye.

Karyn Anne and Brett fist-bump each other.

EXT. PHOENIXBANK, EAST CAMELBACK BRANCH, PHOENIX, AZ - DAY

Two lines of vehicles dominate the drive-up station.

INT. PHOENIXBANK DRIVE-UP STATION - DAY

Karyn Anne and fellow teller MONICA HOUSTON (40, spontaneous, Black) work this suddenly-busy station.

MONICA

(eyeballing Karyn Anne)
You got any hundreds in your drawer? That's all he wants back.

KARYN ANNE

How many?

MONICA

Ten!

KARYN ANNE

Yow!

Karyn Anne checks her cash drawer, where she pulls out six one-hundred-dollar bills.

KARYN ANNE (CONT'D)

(hands Monica the loot)
That's all I've got, Monica.

Monica accepts the six hundreds with a shrug.

MONICA

Thanks...he's already cleaned my cash drawer out of hundreds.

Monica yanks the last four Franklins from her cash drawer, stuffs the ten hundreds into a PhoenixBank envelope, and puts the envelope into a tube.

She sends the tube up a chute and turns to Karyn Anne.

MONICA (CONT'D)

He just renegotiated his contract
with the Phoenix Suns.

Karyn Anne nods while she and Monica watch the tube reach the middle lane, where A MAN (20s) in a brand-new Lincoln rolls down his car's window.

He takes the money from the tube and sends the tube back up.

MAN

(into speaker)
Thanks a bunch!

As Monica leans into a mike in front of her on the desk, a 2000 Cadillac pulls into the near lane.

MONICA

(into mike)
You're welcome! See you again soon!

Behind the wheel of the Caddy, A WOMAN (70s) rolls down her car's window and spots Karyn Anne...who leans into the mike in front of her on the desk.

KARYN ANNE

(into mike)
Hi! Welcome to PhoenixBank!

WOMAN

(into speaker)
Aren't you that girl who plays the
organ at Pizza Power?

An enthusiastic Monica nods while she points to Karyn Anne.

MONICA

(into her mike)
She is! She is!

Still at her own mike, Karyn Anne addresses the woman in the 2000 Cadillac.

KARYN ANNE

She's absolutely right.

Karyn Anne breaks out her cell phone and sets it to record.

WOMAN

(into speaker)

I thought people your age liked
Lady Gaga and Ed Sheeran and Justin
Timberlake and that act, uh, called
the Weeknd.

Monica and Karyn Anne eye each other; their mouths fly open.

EXT. FITNESS CENTER, GLENDALE, AZ - DAY

Now in her workout clothes, Karyn Anne sprints out of her van
to report for cheer squad rehearsal.

INT. WORKOUT ROOM #1 - DAY

The remaining Cardinals cheerleaders chill out when Karyn
Anne joins the throng.

Elena breathes relief when she eyeballs Karyn Anne.

ELENA

So glad it's you.

Karyn Anne nods.

ELENA (CONT'D)

If Brandie had come in before you
did, I probably would've thrown up.

LUCKY

(to Karyn Anne)

I'm glad you're here, too.

KARYN ANNE

Well...thanks.

LUCKY

I meant to ask you: How's your
video coming?

KARYN ANNE

It's coming along great. It's
almost done.

Dawnelle, Misty, and Angelique hurry over to Elena's, Karyn
Anne's, and Lucky's side.

DAWNELLE

Karyn Anne, how's that video coming
along?

KARYN ANNE

Well, I'm almost done with it.

Some cheerleaders AD LIB their joy.

KARYN ANNE (CONT'D)

This morning, I met this woman who
recognized me from Pizza
Power...and she told me: "I thought
people your age liked Lady Gaga and
Ed Sheeran and Justin Timberlake--"

With a whistle around her neck, Brandie rushes into the room.

A long toot from Brandie cuts all conversation.

BRANDIE

Break it up! Line up!

The twenty-four cheerleaders scurry into line.

BRANDIE (CONT'D)

And I don't wanna hear a word about
pizza, organs, videos, or dead
music!

ANGELIQUE

(snapping her fingers)

Aw, shoot!

Brandie whistles Angelique into silence.

Misty shrugs...and earns a whistle serenade from Brandie.

EXT. PIZZA POWER, MESA, AZ - NIGHT

A YOUNG FAMILY heads for the restaurant.

INT. PIZZA POWER LOBBY - NIGHT

Tom and Wendell show Bryan and Dillon around the restaurant
while the eatery's Mighty Wurlitzer PLAYS O.S.

BRYAN

(to Wendell and Tom)

I'm really impressed by this place.

WENDELL

Bryan, we're glad you like it.

BRYAN

I've gotta admit: This is the first
time I've been here.

Dillon gives Bryan the evil eye.

DILLON
It won't be the last time, you can
believe that.

The four men stroll down the lobby.

DILLON (CONT'D)
Tom, have you found a buyer for all
those pictures on the wall?

WENDELL
Well...not yet.

TOM
Well, Dillon...I was thinking about
taking them home and putting them
on my walls.

DILLON
Make sure they come down by the end
of the year.

Dillon receives sharp nods from Wendell and Tom.

WENDELL
By the way...is that fiscal year or
calendar year?

Wendell catches Dillon's severe look.

WENDELL (CONT'D)
Calendar year. Of course.

Tom leads Bryan, Dillon, and Wendell into:

INT. PIZZA POWER DINING ROOM - NIGHT

Wendell gestures his cohorts into seats at a table...but:

DILLON
We're fine, Wendell.

BRYAN
Right.

The foursome stand off to the side and watch Lew work his
mellow Mighty Wurlitzer magic.

Tom and Wendell look proud.

Bryan looks at the pipe chamber in awe.

An infuriated Dillon turns to Bryan.

DILLON
That thing's gonna be the first
thing to go when we move in.

BRYAN
Well...it might not be as easy as
it looks.

Dillon wags a finger at Bryan.

BRYAN (CONT'D)
One thing about it: This place will
be quieter after we move in.

DILLON
A lot quieter.

Now Dillon heads for the door...he wags a finger at Wendell.

DILLON (CONT'D)
Doesn't he know anything by, uh,
Post Malone? Or Justin Timberlake?

Pizza Power's two owners just shrug.

EXT. INTERSTATE 10, PHOENIX, AZ - DAY

A 2015 Honda van follows Karyn Anne's 2006 Mercury van on an
already-crowded I-10.

INT. HONDA VAN - DAY

EDNA CASILLAS (63) navigates a van whose SEVEN PASSENGERS
(ages 8-16) look antsy.

Two or three children AD LIB their restlessness.

EDNA
Don't worry! We'll get there!
Besides, today's Saturday!

PIPER ANNE SNAVELY (16), who rides shotgun, turns to Edna.

PIPER ANNE
Whatever you do, Edna, don't lose
sight of Karyn Anne.

Edna gives Piper Anne a sly look.

INT. KARYN ANNE'S VAN - DAY

Karyn Anne chauffeurs FIVE PASSENGERS (ages 9-15).

In the next row, FINN REPLOGLE (12) and his sister SAWYER REPLOGLE (10) try to converse with the driver.

FINN

We're eating pizza, aren't we?

KARYN ANNE

If that's what you want, Finn.
We're going to a pizza place.

SAWYER

Make sure they've got gluten-free
crust.

Karyn Anne shoots Sawyer a quick dumbfounded look.

SAWYER (CONT'D)

I can't handle regular crust.

KARYN ANNE

Sawyer...is that right?

FINN

Don't worry, Karyn Anne. She
brought a note from Mom and Dad.

Finn watches Karyn Anne nod. He tries to lean toward her.

FINN (CONT'D)

As a matter of fact...did you bring
your smartphone?

KARYN ANNE

Is Kyler Murray a quarterback?

Karyn Anne's passengers cheer themselves hoarse.

EXT. PIZZA POWER, MESA, AZ - DAY

The two vans pull into the parking lot at last. When their
drivers find parking spaces, the occupants scurry out.

INT. PIZZA POWER LOBBY - DAY

Edna and Karyn Anne lead the twelve children through the
restaurant's lobby while the unmistakable SOUND of that
Wurlitzer fills the place.

KARYN ANNE

(to Edna)

How'd you like to take that organ
for a ride?

EDNA

That organ's big enough to kick me
from behind...I'm more used to the
organ at our church.

KARYN ANNE

I've got an idea.

(to the youngsters)

Why don't we take a peek inside the
pipe chamber?

All the children but one shake their heads "yes" or cheer.

Karyn Anne breaks out her cell phone and puts the device in
"RECORD" mode.

Sawyer looks scared.

SAWYER

Will I need to wear earplugs?

PIPER ANNE

Will tissues work instead, Sawyer?

Piper Anne hands Sawyer a bunch of tissues.

INT. PIZZA POWER DINING ROOM - DAY

At midroom tables, Karyn Anne, Edna, and their young
entourage chow down on pizza and other goodies while Lew
plays the Mighty Wurlitzer.

Piper Anne gazes at the pipework, then at Karyn Anne.

PIPER ANNE

So...this is the world's biggest
Mighty Wurlitzer organ?

KARYN ANNE

You bet it is, Piper Anne.

Karyn Anne rises from her seat and pulls out her cell phone.

KARYN ANNE (CONT'D)

Everybody...keep eating. Keep being
yourselves.

She shoots video footage of the children and of Edna.

Lew's music changes to a livelier tune...one that involves the toy counter.

Twelve young heads turn their attention to the toys in the pipe chamber: Xylophones...glockenspiels...drums.

And just above the console: Four life-size dancing puppets known as "The Alley Cats."

EDNA

Sawyer...how do you like your
pizza?

A grin forms on Sawyer's face while she continues to eat. She turns around and gives Edna two "thumbs up."

And Karyn Anne catches Sawyer's endorsement on video.

EXT. PIZZA POWER, MESA, AZ - NIGHT

SEVERAL FAMILIES (most members decked out in Arizona Cardinals apparel) stroll through a packed parking lot.

INT. PIZZA POWER DINING ROOM - NIGHT

NOT A SINGLE SEAT IS EMPTY!

Customers of all ages chow down this Sunday as they watch Brett weave his own lively brand of Mighty Wurlitzer magic. Tonight, he treats the folks to some 1960s rock.

Angelique, Dawnelle, Elena, Karyn Anne, Lucky, and Misty eat at a midroom table as close to the organ as possible. (Once again, it's salads and water.)

At a table a few rows down from the cheerleaders' table: Joel and wife ERIKA HANNAN (28); both split a large pizza.

ERIKA

So, Joel...you've never been here
before.

JOEL

(with a listless nod)
Next time we go out to eat, I'll
pick the place.

(gestures toward organ)
All of our grandfolks oughta feel
at home with that music up there.

Erika and Joel take a few bites each.

ERIKA
At least the food's good.

JOEL
Erika, don't you know me?

ERIKA
Damn right I do!

JOEL
Well, if you did, you'd know I'm
into Lady Gaga and Ed Sheeran and
Post Malone. And Justin Timberlake.
AND the Weeknd.

Brett's tune comes to a rousing end...and triggers a rousing
round of applause (but not from Joel).

Brett lifts the cordless mike from the organ console and
addresses the eaters.

BRETT
Hey, thanks, everybody! I'm gonna
take a little break right now...but
I'll be back in fifteen minutes.

As the applause kicks back in, Brett sets the mike back on
the console and heads out...only to come back to the organ
and grab the mike.

BRETT (CONT'D)
I see Karyn Anne Klemme's in the
house...and she brought her BFFs
with her.

The six Cards cheerleaders eyeball each other with their
mouths open.

ANGELIQUE
BFFs.

MISTY
Well, Angelique...Brett's right.

Karyn Anne and Dawnelle nod.

BRETT
Hey, everybody, how would you like
to see Karyn Anne take this, the
world's largest Mighty Wurlitzer
theater organ, for a ride?

Most of the customers cheer.

Marge, Ben, Mia, Piper Anne, and Ryan cheer as they dine at the same table(s) as Burt, Meeno, and Soleil.

PIPER ANNE
She...goes to my church!

BURT
Is the organ at your church all
locked up?

Karyn Anne sprints toward Brett, who hands the mike to her as he heads for a table.

KARYN ANNE
(into mike)
Thanks, Brett! Thanks, everybody!

Erika looks dumbfounded.

Dawnelle breaks out her phone and sets it in "RECORD" mode.

Joel's eyes light up as Karyn Anne sits at the console, sets the mike down, and...powers out a barnburner a la Dave "Baby" Cortez' "The Happy Organ" or a la Jimmy Smith's "The Champ."

Tom and Wendell look awed.

Elena, Misty, Lucky, and Angelique look at each other in I-told-you-so enthusiasm.

An enthused Marge eyeballs Burt.

MARGE
Come on. Give Karyn Anne a chance.

BEN
Yeah, Burt. She's got it going
on...and getting better on that
organ.

BURT
I don't like her.

Ryan's mouth drops open.

MIA
Why not?

BURT
She doesn't play the stuff I really
like...you know, the music the
great classic theater organists
play. Or played.

Piper Anne shows confusion...Ryan nods in boredom.

BURT (CONT'D)

You know: Jesse Crawford...George Wright...Lyn Larsen...Walt Strony.

RYAN

Come on, man. Everybody can't measure up to them.

Elsewhere in the dining room, Karyn Anne's playing continues to turn the other customers on.

As the cheerleader-bank teller's music heats up, Joel stands up and...takes his T-shirt off!

Some of the customers around the Hannans AD LIB comments, laugh, or gasp.

The tumult grows when Joel cocks his arm to fling his T-shirt toward Karyn Anne.

Erika looks up from her food and catches a now-topless Joel, who's about to launch his T-shirt.

ERIKA

(grabs Joel's waist)

Joel...put that T-shirt back on!

Joel gestures in defeat as he holds his T-shirt.

JOEL

Oh, all right.

Many of the other eaters watch Joel stick his T-shirt back on...but he puts it on backwards. He sits back down.

LATER

Karyn Anne's music changes to Jessi Colter's "I'm Not Lisa."

Under Karyn Anne's hands and feet, the tune sticks to its original form...but once the opening chorus gives way to the first verse, she turns the number into a bit of burlesque.

BURT

(to Marge)

That's Karyn Anne's tribute to a local legend?

MARGE

Well...it's kinda...really cute.
And Jessi Colter was born next door
in Phoenix.

RYAN

And she really is a local legend.

Every chance she gets, Karyn Anne adds a car horn here...a
train whistle there...a bass drum here...

ELENA

(to Lucky)

You know...Jessi Colter oughta be
here to check this out.

LUCKY

Who?

MISTY

She was a famous country singer-
pianist from here in the area.

(points toward organ)

This was her signature song.

Dawnelle nods while she continues to tape Karyn Anne...who
activates The Alley Cats (and sets younger eaters abuzz).

Burt watches the younger customers and glowers at Ryan.

BURT

Let me tell you something, Ryan
Kipper: The only local legend
around here is Randy Johnson.

RYAN

Wait a minute, Burt--

BURT

Randy Johnson helped his Arizona
Diamondbacks win the 2001 World
Series. He won three
games...including the seventh game.

RYAN

I know, but--

BURT

And now he's in the Baseball Hall
of Fame. And don't you forget it!

Now "I'm Not Lisa" ends...and triggers tremendous applause
from everybody but Burt and Soleil.

Meeno stares dumbfounded at Soleil.

SOLEIL
I don't like her.

Mia, Ben, Marge, and Ryan join Meeno in doubletakes.

MEENO
Say what?

PIPER ANNE
She's good, Soleil!

SOLEIL
She doesn't play the stuff I like.

BURT
See?

SOLEIL
She doesn't play stuff by Lil Nas X
or Lizzo...or H.E.R. Or the Weeknd.

Now Burt looks dumbfounded!

LATER

Elena, Angelique, Lucky, and Misty watch Dawnelle copy her newly-shot video footage into Karyn Anne's phone (or laptop).

DAWNELLE
Well...that's all I shot tonight.

KARYN ANNE
(nodding)
Thanks for all your video work,
Dawnelle.

DAWNELLE
You're very welcome! Great job,
Karyn Anne!

Karyn Anne and Dawnelle trade high fives.

LUCKY
Yeah! You really rocked that organ
tonight!

Lucky and Karyn Anne high-five it when Brett joins the group.

BRETT
 (to Karyn Anne)
 Really proud of you
 tonight...especially when you
 turned those Alley Cats loose.

KARYN ANNE
 Thanks, Brett...but I couldn't have
 done it without you showing me how.

Brett's all smiles.

BRETT
 Oh, uh, how's your video coming?

KARYN ANNE
 Thanks to Dawnelle, there's now
 enough footage to put the thing on
 YouTube!

Angelique, Brett, Misty, Lucky, and Elena congratulate Karyn Anne and Dawnelle.

INT. PIZZA POWER LOBBY - NIGHT

Ben, Burt, Marge, Meeno, Mia, Piper Anne, Ryan, and Soleil stroll their way out of the restaurant.

MARGE
 You know, watching Karyn Anne play
 tonight got me wondering: Why
 aren't more women playing theater
 organs these days?

BURT
 Marge, don't start that again!

MIA
 Burt, she's right!
 (to Marge)
 You and Ryan and I and the kids saw
 Donna Parker play here in 2017.

Marge nods.

BEN
 I was there, too! She turned the
 place out!

RYAN
 Yeah, Ben! And there was the time
 Patti Simon came to town and played
 at the Orpheum!

MARGE

I mean, we used to have a lot of great women doing their thing on the Mighty Wurlitzer: Ann Leaf, Rosa Rio, Pearl White, Helen Crawford, Edna Sellers, Irma Glen--

BURT

Marge, you're boring the kids!

MEENO

I'm not bored!

PIPER ANNE

Same here.

MARGE

Barbara Sellers, Rosemary Bailey, Melissa Ambrose, Candy Carley Roth, Helen Westbrook...what in blue blazes happened to all the women at the console?

BEN

Well, I know a lot of 'em died.

MIA

And some are dying.

The eight of 'em watch Erika and Joel hurry out of the place.

SOLEIL

Or maybe they're in hiding.

Piper Anne's is a slow nod.

INT. WORKOUT ROOM #1 - DAY

Brandie takes the Arizona Cardinals cheer squad through a grueling, rather demanding rehearsal.

The cheerleaders breathe relief at the end of the rehearsal's final routine.

BRANDIE

That's it! Hit the showers and call it a day!

The two dozen younger women stroll toward the locker room when Brandie approaches Karyn Anne.

BRANDIE (CONT'D)

I wanna see you in my office.

KARYN ANNE
Funk and all?

BRANDIE
(with a sharp nod)
The key word is "funk."

The musical cheerleader follows the cheer squad coach.

INT. FITNESS CENTER CONFERENCE ROOM - DAY

Karyn Anne and Brandie sit next to each other at a folding table in this sparse space whose door is closed.

Brandie opens her laptop and turns it on.

BRANDIE
I wanna show you something, Karyn Anne.

A few mouse clicks put Brandie online.

She jumps onto YouTube, where she pulls up Karyn Anne's video: "SAVE PIZZA POWER."

BRANDIE (CONT'D)
Recognize this?

Karyn Anne and Brandie stare at the screen...which shows the Pizza Power facade under KARYN ANNE'S V.O. NARRATION.

After a few seconds, Brandie hits "PAUSE."

KARYN ANNE
Well, I'll be a...I uploaded that video a week ago, and it's got a thousand views already!

Brandie's scowl wipes Karyn Anne's smile away.

BRANDIE
You do realize what happened on September eleventh, 2001, don't you?

KARYN ANNE
Of course I do, Brandie.

BRANDIE
Tell me what happened.

KARYN ANNE

Two jet airliners that were supposed to head for California struck New York City's World Trade Center...one airliner for each of the twin towers.

Brandie nods.

KARYN ANNE (CONT'D)

Another plane struck the Pentagon in Washington, DC, and a fourth plane crashed in a field near Shanksville, Pennsylvania.

BRANDIE

Right! How many people died?

KARYN ANNE

About three thousand...two thousand seven hundred fifty in New York City alone.

BRANDIE

And do you know what ultimately resulted from those attacks?

KARYN ANNE

Well...every newsgathering network or sports-reporting network puts a scroll on the bottom of our TV--

BRANDIE

Besides that!

KARYN ANNE

The federal government created the Department of Homeland Security.

BRANDIE

That's right! All the major cities have DHS offices. And Phoenix is no exception!

Karyn Anne shakes her head "yes."

BRANDIE (CONT'D)

Phoenix's DHS office is in two buildings on Central Avenue...and they want to combine the two for a smoother operation.

KARYN ANNE

They could've found a better place.
They could've found something right
there in Phoe--

BRANDIE

They want the Pizza Power building!
In Mesa! Pizza Power has the space
the Department of Homeland Security
is after!

KARYN ANNE

Pizza Power's the happiest
restaurant in the area, and one of
just three pizza-and-pipes
restaurants in the whole United
States of--

BRANDIE

Let me tell you something, Ms.
Klemme: One of the things the
National Football League is
proudest of doing is setting out to
honor America.

Brandie and Karyn Anne HEAR the door open.

BRANDIE (CONT'D)

GET OUTA HERE!!

The door immediately closes...Karyn Anne rises.

BRANDIE (CONT'D)

Not you. Not yet.

Karyn Anne sits back down.

KARYN ANNE

Listen, I know about honoring
America. My granddad...the one who
played the organ at Pizza
Power...served in the Air Force
during the Korean War.

BRANDIE

And you're stabbing him in the back
with this effing video--

KARYN ANNE

(rising back up)

No, I'm not! In fact, he wouldn't
have let Pizza Power go to an
agency whose agents wear masks!

Brandie's mouth flies open.

KARYN ANNE (CONT'D)
 He died while watching Super Bowl
 43. He died in his bowl of popcorn.

Karyn Anne wags her finger at Brandie.

KARYN ANNE (CONT'D)
 You tell me, Brandie Biemesderfer:
 How does breaking up refugee
 families and putting their children
 in cages to die honor America?

A still-stunned Brandie jumps out of her seat and points
 toward the door.

BRANDIE
 Karyn Anne...you're off the squad.
 You're not honoring America by
 putting this video on YouTube.

Karyn Anne steams her way out of the room.

BRANDIE (CONT'D)
 Turn in your uniform tomorrow!

The young organist eyeballs Brandie and grabs the door knob.

KARYN ANNE
 Can I ship it to you instead?

Brandie watches Karyn Anne slam the door shut.

INT. HALLWAY OUTSIDE FITNESS CENTER CONFERENCE ROOM - DAY

Lucky holds a jug of antifreeze while she watches Karyn Anne
 (belongings and all) stride down the hall.

The former runs to catch up with the now ex-cheerleader.

LUCKY
 Is everything all right?

KARYN ANNE
 It's just as well I got fired for
 putting up that video.

The two women stop in their tracks.

KARYN ANNE (CONT'D)
At least I don't have to worry
about drunken men touching my
breasts anymore.

Karyn Anne and a newly-shocked Lucky resume their walk.

KARYN ANNE (CONT'D)
Looks like you're having car
trouble.

With Lucky nodding, she and Karyn Anne stroll, arm in arm.

EXT. DHS/ICE/ERO, PHOENIX, AZ - DAY

Dillon, Bryan, Ruben, Joel, and Dana file out of the building
on their way to the parking lot.

RUBEN
Dillon, I think there's something
you really oughta know.

DILLON
As long as it has to do with what's
the best restaurant in Phoenix, I'm
all ears.

Ruben shakes his head "no."

JOEL
Hey, everybody...how about Pizza
Power?

BRYAN
They're not open right now, Joel.
They open at four thirty.

DANA
Another thing, Joel: We've only got
an hour for lunch.

DILLON
Okay, Ruben. Shoot.

RUBEN
Dana and I did some scouting
around...and we found several
buildings for lease around here.

DANA
And they can do the job better than
Pizza Power can.

DILLON
Are you two trying to make me
retch?

Dana, Joel, and Ruben reach their respective vehicles.

Bryan observes Dillon's slow burn.

BRYAN
You sound like Mike Johanns when he
was in the Senate...trying to
prevent the Affordable Care Act
from becoming law.

DILLON
Bryan...who the hell is this Mike
Johanns?

BRYAN
Let's ride in my car and I'll tell
you.

Dillon and Bryan stroll toward the latter's 2012 Chevy.

INT. PHOENIXBANK LOBBY - DAY

In this bit of downtime, Klay and branch manager LUCINDA PALACIOS (54, caring) stand behind the counter, where they flank Karyn Anne...who fondles a stack of flyers.

Karyn Anne looks up at the twosome.

KARYN ANNE
Don't worry, Lucinda...I made these
up yesterday after work.

Lucinda nods.

KARYN ANNE (CONT'D)
You're both welcome to grab one.

LUCINDA
Aw, what the heck. Why not?

Monica joins the trio as Lucinda and Klay grab a flyer each.

LUCINDA (CONT'D)
Karyn Anne, I'd be honored and
delighted to attend your open
house.

KLAY
Me, too!

KARYN ANNE

Thanks!

MONICA

(to Karyn Anne)

You're having an open house?

KARYN ANNE

You betcha! On the twenty-eighth of this month.

(gesturing)

You're welcome to grab a flyer.

MONICA

Thanks a bunch!

(grabs a flyer)

Are you gonna show that YouTube video...the one Klay didn't wanna be in?

A flummoxed Klay stares at Monica.

KLAY

That's not fair!

MONICA

What's not fair?

KLAY

Monica...I'd never been to Pizza Power before!

Klay catches Monica's and Karyn Anne's grinning nods.

INT. KARYN ANNE'S LIVING ROOM - DAY

Karyn Anne, at her five-pedal upright piano, transforms a movie theme into a rousing rag.

For good measure, she activates the piano's second pedal from the left...and brings forth a harpsichord-like sound.

The former cheerleader looks pleased as she brings the tune to an end...tinny sound and all.

She stares at the piano's exposed hammers.

KARYN ANNE

I wonder how this would sound on the organ at church...

EXT. FIRST CHURCH, PHOENIX, AZ - DAY

Karyn Anne's United Methodist congregation meets at this modern-looking building in North Phoenix.

INT. FIRST CHURCH OFFICE - DAY

Edna and office manager DEBRA TOPAUM (70s) engage in AD LIBBED chit chat with lead pastor MANUEL CABRERA (50s) and children's ministry coordinator GERDA PFEIFFER (60s).

Everybody's seated around Debra's desk.

GERDA

Manuel, I'm thinking about bringing in a rapper...for one of our Advent services. Or for one of the children's Sunday school classes.

DEBRA

Oh, my gosh...

GERDA

Don't worry, Debra. He'll be clean.

MANUEL

Or she.

The three women's heads nod.

MANUEL (CONT'D)

One of our most active teens is into Megan Thee Stallion and--

Karyn Anne enters the church, music books in hands, and stands just short of the office door.

EDNA

(gesturing)

Come on in, Karyn Anne! We're so glad to see you!

KARYN ANNE

Thanks, Edna!

Edna turns to Gerda while Karyn Anne comes inside the office, where Manuel shakes Karyn Anne's hand...

EDNA

It's been a long, long time since she came in to practice on our organ.

...and Debra slumps in her seat from shock.

INT. FIRST CHURCH SANCTUARY - DAY

Manuel, Gerda, and Edna sit in a back pew while Karyn Anne plays the church's three-manual Sipe/Casavant pipe organ.

Karyn Anne's fare changes from her movie theme-turned-rag into...some classic rock (maybe something by Queen)!

Edna and Manuel look impressed...Gerda looks shocked.

MANUEL

Gerda...it's all good.

Gerda slowly nods.

EDNA

You should hear Ron Ricker...our regular organist.

MANUEL

Yeah. He likes to end every practice session in here with a Disney tune.

GERDA

You don't say...

Karyn Anne's music heats up...Edna looks proud.

EDNA

You know...I was her second piano-and-organ teacher, after her Granddad Buddy.

Manuel nods.

GERDA

Yeah, but...did you teach her how to play like that?

Edna shakes her head sideways and points toward Karyn Anne.

EXT. NORTH 20TH STREET - U-HAUL TRUCK - DAY

A large rental truck tools along this residential street.

INT. U-HAUL TRUCK - DAY

SUGAR LINK KLEMME (64, a bit kooky) drives the truck while her husband, RON KLEMME (62, rolls with the punches), rides.

SUGAR

Ron, honey...are you ready to help me give Karyn Anne the surprise of her life?

RON

(nodding)

I just hope my back is ready, too.

EXT. NORTH 20TH STREET AND LUKE AVENUE - DAY

The U-Haul truck turns onto Luke and...

EXT. KARYN ANNE'S HOUSE, PHOENIX, AZ - DAY

...tries to pull into Karyn Anne's driveway, only to back into a spot alongside the house.

INT. U-HAUL TRUCK - DAY

Ron and Sugar breathe relief.

INT. KARYN ANNE'S LIVING ROOM - DAY

Sugar's and Ron's daughter bangs out something lively on her orchestral upright piano when the doorbell RINGS.

Karyn Anne doesn't hear the doorbell.

A SECOND RING of the doorbell doesn't pry Karyn Anne off the piano bench, either.

EXT. KARYN ANNE'S HOUSE, PHOENIX, AZ - DAY

Ron and Sugar remain at the front entrance...where the latter lifts her cell phone from her pants pocket.

Both HEAR Karyn Anne's playing.

RON

Sugar, if you think that'll help...

SUGAR

She's home.

(hoists phone to her ear)

Nobody else in the world sounds like our daughter.

Ron nods.

INT. KARYN ANNE'S LIVING ROOM - DAY

Karyn Anne's lively tune continues...until A RINGTONE from her pants pocket stops the music.

The musical bank teller yanks out her cell phone and shoves it to her ear.

KARYN ANNE
Hi. This is Karyn Anne.

EXT. KARYN ANNE'S HOUSE, PHOENIX, AZ - DAY

Ron watches as Sugar, phone still against her ear, leans against the front door and gabs with Karyn Anne.

SUGAR
Hi, Karyn Anne. This is your mother...and your father and I are at your front door right now.

INT. KARYN ANNE'S LIVING ROOM - DAY

An embarrassed Karyn Anne runs to open the front door; when Sugar and Ron enter the house, it's Hug City.

When the threesome break their embrace, Karyn Anne gestures her folks into a seat on the sofa.

KARYN ANNE
So very sorry about not hearing the doorbell.

SUGAR
(heads for sofa)
Oh, it's all right.

RON
(goes to sofa, also)
We heard you playing while we were outside...and you still sound pretty darn good.

KARYN ANNE
Well...thanks...can I get you two anything?

Ron shakes his head in the negative.

SUGAR
Nah. We're fine.

RON
(to Karyn Anne)
We didn't see you on TV last
Sunday. Is everything all right?

Karyn Anne nods while she joins her parents at the sofa.

KARYN ANNE
Mom...Dad...it's just that Brandie
kicked me out of the Arizona
Cardinals cheerleaders for putting
up that YouTube video.

Sugar and Ron eyeball each other in puzzlement.

KARYN ANNE (CONT'D)
My "Save Pizza Power" video.

RON
Oh, man, that's right!

KARYN ANNE
I just don't want 'em to turn Pizza
Power into the next headquarters
for DHS Phoenix.

SUGAR
Karyn, honey...you're taking on one
heck of a dragon.

KARYN ANNE
Hey, Mom, it's so worth it.

Ron breaks out in a grin.

KARYN ANNE (CONT'D)
I mean, the atmosphere at Pizza
Power produces a lot of happy
faces...and that sure beats the sad
faces I keep seeing on the news
when it comes to ICE splitting up
families.

RON
(to Sugar)
She makes a lot of sense.

Sugar and Karyn Anne hold hands.

SUGAR
As long as you've got a sword long
enough and sharp enough to slay
this dragon, that's all right.

KARYN ANNE
Thanks, Mom...and Dad.

SUGAR
In case a sword doesn't work...make
sure you've got an AR-15.

A nodding Karyn Anne chuckles.

SUGAR (CONT'D)
And a Uzi.

Karyn Anne and Ron bust out in laughter.

KARYN ANNE
One thing about not being a
cheerleader anymore...okay, two
things: I'm gonna miss the
gang...but I won't miss drunken men
grabbing my breasts.

Sugar nods at Karyn Anne.

KARYN ANNE (CONT'D)
And I get to spend more time making
music.

Now Karyn Anne and Ron high-five it.

RON
Your mom and I remember when you
played piano in Phoenix North's
jazz band when you were in high
school.

SUGAR
Yeah! And you brought the house
down every time!

KARYN ANNE
(nodding)
And then...my boyfriend Aidan got
so jealous that I ended up
quitting...and then came college. I
took business and history at
Arizona State.

SUGAR
But look what it got you!

RON
(rising from sofa)
Speaking of got you...your mom and
I got you something...

Sugar rises from the sofa...then Karyn Anne jumps up from it.

SUGAR
It's out in the truck.

INT. U-HAUL TRUCK - DAY

Karyn Anne, Ron, and Sugar congregate at the back of the truck...where they behold a large, tarp-covered object.

RON
Karyn Anne...you and your mom get
on opposite sides, and I'll get in
the middle.

The threesome take their places around the big object.

SUGAR
And we'll all pull the tarp up.

They grab for the tarp...but can't budge it.

KARYN ANNE
Uh...let's take the lock off first.

SUGAR
Uh...okay.

KARYN ANNE
Better yet...let's move this out of
the truck first.

INT. KARYN ANNE'S LIVING ROOM - DAY

That large object now rests along the same wall as the piano.

Karyn Anne sets the lock aside, then joins Sugar and Ron at the still-covered object.

RON
Everybody...grab hold of the tarp!

Six hands grab hold of the tarp.

SUGAR
One...two...three!

Sugar, Karyn Anne, and Ron pull the cover off and reveal...a 1989 three-manual Lowrey G-7000 electric organ!

Karyn Anne's mouth flies open.

RON
It's all yours.

Still in shock, Karyn Anne points to the organ...to Ron...to Sugar...to herself.

SUGAR
Granddad Buddy's organ is now
yours...you deserve it...big time.

Karyn Anne winces over to her parents and wraps her arms around them.

KARYN ANNE
Oh, my gosh...thank you both...and
Granddad Buddy.

Ron and Sugar complete the embrace and make it a group hug.

EXT. ORPHEUM THEATER, PHOENIX, AZ - DAY

Heavy traffic surrounds the theater.

INT. ORPHEUM PIPE CHAMBER - DAY

Karyn Anne, plugs in her ears, turns to a surprised Brett while THE SAME CIPHER from before plagues the theater's Mighty Wurlitzer. (If it's needed, she uses a ladder.)

KARYN ANNE
Brett...did you bring earplugs with
you?

Brett shakes his head back and forth.

KARYN ANNE (CONT'D)
No problem.

Karyn Anne opens her toolbox and pulls out a small plastic package. She hands the package to Brett, who removes a pair of earplugs from it.

KARYN ANNE (CONT'D)
Hopefully, it won't be necessary to
use the screwdrivers in my toolbox.

BRETT
(dons his earplugs)
Amen to that!

Before long, Brett and Karyn Anne find the offending pipe(s).

KARYN ANNE
Well, uh, not long after he taught
me how to play a pipe organ,
Granddad Buddy took me inside the
Pizza Power pipe chamber.

Karyn Anne digs into her wallet and yanks out a dollar bill.

KARYN ANNE (CONT'D)
When it comes to organs, he taught
me everything he knew...but he
didn't teach me everything I know.

The ex-cheerleader drags the dollar bill across the
troublesome pipe(s). She keeps it up until the sound wavers.

KARYN ANNE (CONT'D)
Have you ever heard of my Aunt
Sissy?

BRETT
Aunt Sissy...Sissy Link...was she a
musician?

KARYN ANNE
Sure was! She not only sang
country...she also played banjo,
saxophone, piano, and steel guitar.

BRETT
Uh...huh.

KARYN ANNE
My Aunt Honey played bass and
fiddle in Aunt Sissy's band...and
Mom played drums in the band until
she went to work for HUD in
Atlanta. That's where she met Dad.

Karyn Anne looks satisfied with the results. She stuffs the
buck back into her billfold.

KARYN ANNE (CONT'D)

Well, anyway, Aunt Sissy learned to repair her own instruments because she got tired of getting ripped off. She got to be good with a screwdriver.

Now she pulls out a handheld vacuum cleaner and turns it on.

KARYN ANNE (CONT'D)

Another thing about being handy with a screwdriver: It came in handy every time men got fresh with Aunt Sissy...or Aunt Honey...or Mom.

Brett watches Karyn Anne run the vac over the top of the pipe(s) in question.

At the end of the chore, Karyn Anne shuts the vacuum off.

BRETT

Karyn Anne...you did it...the cipher's gone.

Karyn Anne slowly nods.

She and Brett fist-bump each other before she grabs the vac. The twosome head for the nearest wastebasket, where they throw their earplugs away.

Karyn Anne empties the handheld vac into the wastebasket and finds...a rat!

Brett's mouth flies open.

BRETT (CONT'D)

That rat must've gotten spooked when Garner Ted and Lew played "Ben."

The two organists stroll their way out of the pipe chamber.

KARYN ANNE

Speaking of rats...Aunt Sissy must've fired an orchestra full of men for trying to hit on her.

Brett shakes his head "yes."

INT. ORPHEUM STAGE - DAY

Brett wraps up his VOTS concert on a Mighty Wurlitzer that now sounds like two million dollars.

As Brett's fellow organ club members applaud like crazy, Garner Ted leaves the Orpheum's lower level to go onstage.

Garner Ted and Brett high-five it before the former grabs the cordless mike from the organ console.

GARNER TED
(into mike)
Let's hear it one more time for
today's guest artist, Brett
Salyers!

VOTS members lay on the applause as Brett leaves the stage and waves at his cheering colleagues.

When the cheering dies down:

GARNER TED (CONT'D)
All right! Who's ready for open
console?

Nobody responds for a few seconds...until Karyn Anne rises from her seat, waves her arms, and gains Garner Ted's attention.

GARNER TED (CONT'D)
Karyn Anne...come on up!

Karyn Anne jogs her way to the console...only to earn boos from Burt, Soleil, and a few other club members.

Garner Ted looks shocked...Karyn Anne looks unaffected.

GARNER TED (CONT'D)
Come on! That's no way to treat
someone who just got rid of the
cipher in this organ!

And the boos become cheers from the whole throng.

Garner Ted hands the mike to a now-seated Karyn Anne.

KARYN ANNE
(into mike)
Thanks a bunch, Garner Ted.

The club president returns to his lower-level seat.

KARYN ANNE (CONT'D)
 How many of you club members grew
 up between, uh, 1965 and, uh, 1980?
 Raise your hands.

INT. ORPHEUM LOWER LEVEL - DAY

Chester, Ben, Pegg, Marge, Burt, Ryan, Myrna, Conrad, and Mia
 raise their hands...as do some other VOTS members.

Garner Ted doesn't...and Pegg notices.

PEGG
 Raise your hand, Garner Ted! You're
 just about as old as Mia!

GARNER TED
 You got me, Pegg!

The throng watches Garner Ted raise his hand.

BEN
 Go ahead, Karyn Anne! Testify!

KARYN ANNE
 Thanks, Ben!

A smiling Ben nods.

KARYN ANNE (CONT'D)
 Those of you whose childhood fell
 during that time...maybe you
 said...or heard somebody else say:
 "I wanna do my own thing!"

Some VOTS heads nod.

KARYN ANNE (CONT'D)
 Well, here's a little tune from
 1965 that reflects that wanting to
 do your own thing.

Burt looks agitated.

KARYN ANNE (CONT'D)
 See if you remember this...

INT. ORPHEUM STAGE - DAY

Karyn Anne faces the organ console, sets the mike on it, and
 plays "Let Me Be," by the Turtles.

She slows this otherwise rousing-and-rebellious rocker way down...and uses the Orpheum Wurlitzer's church-organ stops in the first verse to create a reverent mood.

Burt's mouth flies open.

In the second verse, Karyn Anne adds kinura stops and tibias to the churchy stops.

Brett looks impressed as he watches Karyn Anne play.

In the third verse, the organ-playing bank teller brings in more of the stops that make a theater organ unique...and that includes percussion stops. (The churchlike stops remain.)

Marge meets Burt's stunned look with her own I-told-you-so kind of expression.

When Karyn Anne reaches the chorus at the end of the third verse, she pushes the expression pedals halfway down to heighten intensity.

"Let Me Be" changes keys (and grows even more intense) when Karyn Anne repeats the chorus.

The ex-cheerleader reprises the chorus' last two bars...but in a quieter, hushed way.

A single chime ends the number...and brings hearty applause.

Marge rises from her seat...Ben follows suit...Brett does, too...the whole audience gives Karyn Anne a standing ovation.

A stunned-and-flattered Karyn Anne bows and bows.

INT. ORPHEUM LOWER LEVEL - DAY

A few club members dab moist eyes.

Pegg and Chester hug each other and sob and bawl away.

CHESTER

Pegg...I've got a confession to make.

PEGG

What...is it, Chester?

CHESTER

I...I used to smoke pot back then...

PEGG
You...WHAT?

Chester's and Pegg's crying intensifies.

CHESTER
Don't worry...I didn't inhale...

And Marge wags her finger at a humbled Burt.

INT. KARYN ANNE'S LIVING ROOM - DAY

Family and friends fill the place up...everybody eats pizza and snacks...nonalcoholic drinks flow...the TV's ON...AD LIBBED chatter and Lew's organ playing add to the atmosphere.

Everybody wears casual clothes.

It's Karyn Anne's open house!

Manuel, Karyn Anne, Gerda, Garner Ted, and Debra converse.

GERDA
Karyn Anne, you throw quite a party!

KARYN ANNE
Thanks!

GERDA
It's just that I've gotta head home...my cats are fighting each other.

Debra points to Gerda and eyeballs the host.

DEBRA
And I'm Gerda's ride!

KARYN ANNE
It's okay. Thanks for coming!

Debra and Gerda head for the front door when Sugar and Ron watch the twosome.

Manuel excuses himself to go to the kitchen.

RON
You sure you two don't wanna take some food home?

SUGAR
 There's lots of Pizza Power pizza
 left!

DEBRA
 We're good! Thanks, though!

As the two First Church staff members leave, Garner Ted turns to Karyn Anne.

GARNER TED
 You still work in a bank?

KARYN ANNE
 I sure do!

Manuel, now with a can of pop, returns to the living room.

GARNER TED
 Since you work in a bank, and you
 still wanna save Pizza
 Power...here's what you do: Just
 embezzle the money.

Manuel's eyes widen and his mouth drops open.

KARYN ANNE
 Manuel...Garner Ted didn't mean
 that.

Elena, Dawnelle, Angelique, Lucky, and Misty burst through the front door. The five women receive AD LIBBED greetings from Ron and Sugar...then spot Karyn Anne and Manuel.

KARYN ANNE (CONT'D)
 Oh, my gosh...Angelique, Dawnelle,
 Elena, Lucky, Misty!

DAWNELLE
 We're just so glad to see you
 again!

ANGELIQUE
 And that you're all right!

Hugs, high fives, and fist bumps abound among the six BFFs.

KARYN ANNE
 (to Manuel)
 You remember my five buddies from
 the club that meets ten times a
 year at State Farm Stadium?

MANUEL

Oh...you mean the Arizona Cardinals cheerleaders?

LUCKY

We don't do that anymore.

Manuel and Karyn Anne look surprised.

ELENA

(eyeballing Manuel)

Well, you see, uh--

MANUEL

Manuel. I'm the lead pastor at Karyn Anne's church...First Church.

Elena and Manuel fist-bump each other.

ELENA

So nice to meet you, Manuel...well, anyway, we found out Karyn Anne got fired from the Cardinal cheer squad because she made that video.

DAWNELLE

And the cheerleading coach talked about how the video supposedly didn't honor America...'cause it's about keeping the local DHS office from buying Pizza Power.

MISTY

So, in protest, the five of us walked out on the cheerleading squad.

(to Karyn Anne)

And we're going all in to save that restaurant.

Misty and Karyn Anne gesture Manuel, Elena, Dawnelle, Angelique, and Lucky into forming a circle.

KARYN ANNE

Let's put our hands in a circle.

The six women and the one man put their hands in a circle.

MISTY

You guys...if locking children in cages to die is honoring America, then Jordin Sparks didn't win "American Idol."

The six guests and their host whoop it up.

LATER

Edna (at the Lowrey organ) and Karyn Anne (at the five-pedal piano) bang out "Stagger Lee" or some other 1950s rocker...and have the crowd spellbound.

Brett, Lew, Ron, and Sugar look ecstatic.

So do Ruben and his wife, EVA MACHADO (65).

LEW

(to Ron)

I thought Edna was a church organist.

RON

She is!

SUGAR

And she sure knows how to get down with it.

Halfway through the tune, Karyn Anne and Edna trade places.

LEW

'Bout time the belle of the ball took the wheel!

Some of Karyn Anne's guests applaud.

LEW (CONT'D)

You know, Brett...she's beginning to sound more like her granddad.

BRETT

As long as she stays true to herself, Karyn Anne can sound like anybody she wants to.

Lew nods.

EVA

(to Ruben)

For a bank teller, she's a pretty darn good musician.

RUBEN

Eva...she's a pretty darn good musician and a pretty darn good bank teller.

Dillon and Bryan enter the house (both wear their work duds); Sugar and Ron rise to meet them.

SUGAR
Hi! Can we get you two anything?

DILLON
Nah. We're good.

Bryan and Dillon show their DHS badges.

DILLON (CONT'D)
We're friends of Ruben.

BRYAN
(almost interjecting)
We're coworkers of Ruben.

RON
Well, Dillon, Bryan...make yourselves at home.

The two DHS/ICE/ERO men nod as they head for:

INT. KARYN ANNE'S KITCHEN - DAY

While Edna's and Karyn Anne's music CONTINUES STRONG O.S., Bryan and his boss break out their cell phones to snap photos of the musical ex-cheerleader's kitchen.

Dillon looks disgusted as he studies all the magnetized signs on Karyn Anne's refrigerator door.

The fridge door boasts signs like "LOVE IS LOVE," "SCIENCE IS REAL," "END GUN VIOLENCE," "IMPEACH TRUMP," "BIDEN/HARRIS," and the biggest one of all: "BLACK LIVES MATTER."

Bryan puts his own phone away and grabs a can (or bottle) of pop as well as a few snacks.

BRYAN
Dillon, don't you want something to drink?

DILLON
Yeah, but she doesn't have it here.

Dillon and Bryan saunter out of the kitchen.

DILLON (CONT'D)
She's got nothing here that's eighty-six proof.

INT. KARYN ANNE'S LIVING ROOM - DAY

Bryan and Dillon return to the living room, where Karyn Anne and Edna end their jam with a bang.

The church organist and her former student wave at their grateful, applauding audience.

KARYN ANNE
Thanks, everybody!

EDNA
Well...that's enough of that!

Some crowd members groan.

EDNA (CONT'D)
Just kidding, just kidding, just kidding!

KARYN ANNE
Anyway, folks...we've got something special we'd like to show you.

Karyn Anne leaves the organ to grab her TV's remote control.

KARYN ANNE (CONT'D)
Grab one of the folding chairs in the corner...and make sure you can see the TV.

With just a few clicks, the belle of the ball puts her TV in YouTube mode while guests who aren't seated pick out folding chairs and places to sit.

Conrad and Myrna spot Bryan and Dillon.

CONRAD
Is everything all right?

Dillon doesn't react...but Bryan nods.

MYRNA
Don't worry. We're not hiding any refugees.

Monica, Lucinda, and Klay sit next to each other with the "Save Pizza Power" video about to PLAY on YouTube.

MONICA
Well, Klay, this is it.

Lucinda's jaw drops when she notes the number of views "Save Pizza Power" has now racked up.

LUCINDA
Twelve thousand hits! You go, Karyn
Anne!

The guests watch the video as it depicts the Pizza Power facade under KARYN ANNE'S V.O. NARRATION.

KLAY
(in a slight whisper)
Who's been watching this?

MONICA
(whispering, too)
Well, if you scroll down in the
comments, you'll find a comment
from somebody in Pyongyang--

A seething Dillon bolts out of his seat. He motions Bryan into following suit.

Ben notices the two government figures as they leave.

BEN
You're missing a great video.

DILLON
We're just going out for a smoke.

Bryan looks flummoxed.

EXT. KARYN ANNE'S HOUSE, PHOENIX, AZ - DAY

Bryan and Dillon stand in the backyard, where they dredge their phones out of their pockets.

BRYAN
You and I don't smoke. Remember?

DILLON
Well, I had to tell 'em something!

Dillon puts his phone to his ear...and Bryan stuffs his own phone back in his pocket.

DILLON (CONT'D)
Bryan Wesson, what the hell is
wrong with you? Start calling!

BRYAN

I can't get mad at a White woman who's got a "Black Lives Matter" sign on her refrigerator.

DILLON

(almost to himself)
Tough toenails.

Dillon punches a phone number and puts the device back against his ear.

DILLON (CONT'D)

Hello...we've got some stuff on the chick who made that "Save Pizza Power" video.

Bryan casts a suspicious look at Dillon.

EXT. CONRAD'S AND MYRNA'S HOUSE, PARADISE VALLEY, AZ - DAY

The Conzelmans' place is a mansion!

INT. CONRAD'S AND MYRNA'S MUSIC ROOM - DAY

Myrna and Conrad have created an interesting blend of Navajo and European cultures...especially with the artwork.

An ornate grand piano and a five-manual Midmer-Losh pipe organ stand in a prominent spot in this humongous room decorated for the holidays.

VOTS members and GUESTS help themselves to refreshments while OTHER FOLKS sit among the rows and rows of folding chairs.

Darn right the local ATOS club's annual Christmas party boasts music: Soleil and Meeno sit at the big ol' organ and deliver a rollicking yuletide duet.

Piper Anne, Dawnelle, and Karyn Anne gab with DUSTIN SNAVELY (47), Piper Anne's dad.

PIPER ANNE

Great video, you two! Put 'er here!

Karyn Anne and Dawnelle trade fist bumps with Piper Anne.

DUSTIN

You know, I got to thinking about a surefire way to keep the DHS from buying the pizza place.

KARYN ANNE

I'm all ears.

Dawnelle nods.

DUSTIN

See if you can get Kyler Murray, James Conner, Larry Fitzgerald, Devin Booker, Kahleah Copper, and Corbin Carroll and, uh, Ketel Marte to chip in and buy the place.

Dustin watches three mouths fly open.

PIPER ANNE

Dad?

DUSTIN

Well, Piper, they've got the money.

DAWNELLE

Sounds like a great idea, Dustin...but I've got a feeling they just might wanna get rid of the organ.

Angelique, Conrad, Elena, Lucky, Misty, and Myrna join the three adults and the lone teenager.

LUCKY

Get rid of what?

KARYN ANNE

(to Lucky)

Dustin...Piper Anne's dad...had a great idea about getting Kyler Murray, James Conner, Larry Fitzgerald, Devin Booker, Kahleah Copper, Corbin Carroll, and Ket--

DUSTIN

Let them buy Pizza Power from Tom Wulk and Wendell Givehand!

Some heads nod.

MYRNA

You know, that does sound good...civic pride and everything.

CONRAD

Yeah, but they might wanna get rid of the organ over there...

MISTY
 (nodding at Conrad)
 And replace it with a couple of
 turntables.

Meeno's and Soleil's organ duet ends...and yields a strong
 amount of applause.

ANGELIQUE
 And bring in a DJ.

ELENA
 Or two.

ANGELIQUE
 Huh?

ELENA
 Angelique...Pizza Power has two
 full-time organists right now. If
 those big-name local pro athletes
 wanted to buy the place, they'd
 hire two full-time DJs to spin--

Soleil and Meeno approach the group of ten; Burt and Marge
 make it a group of twelve.

Meeno taps Karyn Anne on the shoulder. She turns around and
 eyes him.

MEENO
 We'd be so honored...it'd be way
 cool if you took ol' Midmer-Losh
 for a ride.

KARYN ANNE
 Meeno, I'd love to!

Most in the throng around Karyn Anne AD LIB their agreement
 with Meeno.

BURT
 Karyn Anne...make sure you don't
 play "Grandma Got Run Over by a
 Reindeer."

KARYN ANNE
 I don't even know that one.

SOLEIL
 (hugging her brother)
 Meeno and I do!

As Karyn Anne heads for the organ, Marge turns to Burt.

MARGE

Burton Robert Boyer, if you're gonna start that again, you can go home.

Burt does a doubletake...Piper Anne counts on her fingers, then gazes at Dustin.

MARGE (CONT'D)

On foot.

PIPER ANNE

Dad...you didn't name any Arizona Coyotes.

Dustin turns in a doubletake.

BURT

(to Dustin)

Just in case my wife drives off without me, can you give me a lift home?

DUSTIN

Ask my daughter.

Now it's Piper Anne's turn to look puzzled!

EXT. PHOENIXBANK, EAST CAMELBACK BRANCH, PHOENIX, AZ - DAY

A traffic jam plays out along East Camelback Road.

INT. PHOENIXBANK LOBBY - DAY

Seated behind a desk, Karyn Anne works with Finn, who occupies the seat on the opposite side.

FINN

Sawyer and I...and Mom and Dad...we were watching the news, and the reporter talked about eminent domain.

KARYN ANNE

That's where the federal government and state governments can seize private land if it's for the good of the general public.

FINN

(nodding)

Don't worry. We watched the five
o'clock news...not the ten o'clock
news.

Karyn Anne scribbles "\$200.00" into the "DEPOSIT" column in a
savings passbook. She hands the passbook to Finn.

FINN (CONT'D)

(accepts passbook)

Thanks!

KARYN ANNE

You're welcome! Speaking of good...

A RINGTONE sounds out of Karyn Anne's pants pocket.

KARYN ANNE (CONT'D)

We're so very glad you've opened up
a savings account with us at
PhoenixBank.

Karyn Anne extends her hand to Finn while THE RINGTONE
CONTINUES. Teller and customer rise from their seats to shake
hands (or bump fists).

KARYN ANNE (CONT'D)

Thanks so very much, Finn...welcome
to the PhoenixBank family.

FINN

You're welcome!

(heads for the door)

And thank you!

The two First Church members wave at each other.

Once Finn's out the door, Karyn Anne sets her STILL-RINGING
phone to "VIBRATE."

With no more customers in sight, Karyn Anne, Klay, Lucinda,
and Monica congregate behind the counter.

KARYN ANNE

When I was working with Finn,
Wendell from Pizza Power called.

KLAY

Did he like the video?

KARYN ANNE

Actually, Klay...he called to ask me if I wanted to be the featured organist at Pizza Power this weekend.

MONICA

What'd you tell Wendell?

Eva and Ruben stroll into the lobby, where they stop to fill out a slip.

KARYN ANNE

Well, Monica, I texted him back and said: "I'll be glad to do it! If not, then Arizona isn't a border state."

LUCINDA

Great job, Karyn Anne!

The three tellers and their boss high-five it when Ruben and Eva step up to the counter.

MONICA

Hi, Mr. and Mrs. Machado!
(points to Karyn Anne)
She's playing at Pizza Power this weekend!

KARYN ANNE

And they're letting me play the whole weekend!

RUBEN

Well, I'll be a...

EVA

Congratulations, you musical bank teller!

The Two Machados raise their fists in jubilation.

While Monica waits on the couple, Lucinda and Klay turn to their musical colleague.

LUCINDA

I'm so darn happy for you...I wish I had some pom poms.

Karyn Anne and Lucinda hug.

KLAY
 Lucinda...did you check the
 shredder?

Ruben and Eva eyeball each other.

EXT. COUNCIL CHAMBERS, MESA, AZ - DAY

This is an ultra-modern, sprawling building.

INT. COUNCIL CHAMBERS UPPER LEVEL - DAY

SIX CITY COUNCILMEMBERS (four men, two women) and MESA'S
 MAYOR sit at a desk at the front of the room. Across from
 them in five rows of seats, OTHER PEOPLE fill every chair.

In between: A podium.

CAMERA OPERATORS from all of Metro Phoenix' newsgathering TV
 stations stand in the very back to record it all.

Bryan, Dana, Dillon, and Ruben occupy the front row of
 spectator seats. Misty, Lucky, Karyn Anne, Elena, Dawnelle,
 and Angelique sit in the middle of the spectator seating.

And Tom and Wendell have seats in the back row.

MESA'S MAYOR
 We now open the matter of DHS
 Phoenix's move into the Mesa Pizza
 Power building for public
 discussion.

At least a dozen people lick their chops.

Dillon jumps out of his seat and eyeballs his DHS colleagues.

DILLON
 Slam dunk.

The local DHS chief strides to the podium.

LATER

At the podium, Dillon addresses the throng.

DILLON (CONT'D)
 At present, ICE alone has twenty-
 four field offices nationwide.

Some city councilmembers nod.

DILLON (CONT'D)

We thought that moving the local ICE field office into the same building as the area's DHS/ICE/ERO office would enable a more streamlined operation...and, of course, save money.

CITY COUNCILMEMBER #1
Mr. Masterson, this seems reasonable...have you discussed this with anyone in Washington?

DILLON
Would Penn and Teller give away their secrets?

Some Mesa councilmembers look confused.

LATER

Both Wendell and Tom stand at the podium.

TOM
Well, councilmembers and Mr. Mayor...Wendell and I both own Pizza Power.

WENDELL
So it stands to reason that both of us need to be here at the podium together.

Some spectators break out in hearty laughter.

CITY COUNCILMEMBER #2
Mr. Wulk and Mr. Givehand...I can't help but ask you this.

WENDELL
Fire away.

CITY COUNCILMEMBER #2
Has any money exchanged hands between the federal government and Pizza Power?

Pizza Power's two owners eyeball each other before they turn to the councilmembers.

TOM
No.

WENDELL

But we've been told it's just a question of time.

Wendell's disclosure generates a buzz among the crowd.

LATER

It's Karyn Anne's turn to occupy the podium.

KARYN ANNE

I've done a lot of research these last eleven weeks about Pizza Power's history, DHS, ICE...so much research.

Four or five councilmembers shake their heads "yes."

KARYN ANNE (CONT'D)

The way the building on East Southern Avenue was put together, it won't be all that easy to fit a second floor in the present dining room, despite what the local DHS people argue.

Dillon turns to those around him.

DILLON

She's wrong.

But Ruben, Dana, and Bryan ignore Dillon and listen hard as Karyn Anne continues.

KARYN ANNE

Now, Pizza Power has a four-story building for the organ's diaphones...how that'd work as office space for the DHS is another issue.

Karyn Anne's fellow former cheerleaders nod in agreement.

KARYN ANNE (CONT'D)

I just got to thinking about how all of this sounds like the weeks and months prior to the Challenger space shuttle disaster back in 1986.

Brandie's in the audience...and she bristles.

KARYN ANNE (CONT'D)
 Remember how much of a hurry NASA
 and the Reagan White House were in
 to launch the Challenger and get
 Christa McAuliffe up there?

While Wendell and Tom eye each other, the buzz in front of
 and around them begins anew.

ELENA
 (to those around her)
 Well...she's a history buff.

LATER

Brandie brings her brand of fire and brimstone to the podium.

BRANDIE
 Come on, people! Get a clue! What's
 more important...eating a
 tasteless, no-good pizza to the
 sounds of a wheezy old, useless
 pipe organ...or protecting your
 country?

AD LIBS fly all over the chamber...and it forces the mayor to
 bang the gavel.

Once things quiet down:

CITY COUNCILMEMBER #3
 Ms. Biemesderfer, my children and I
 have eaten at Pizza Power before.

Brandie looks smug.

CITY COUNCILMEMBER #3 (CONT'D)
 And they really dig those Alley
 Cats.

Applause breaks out among the spectators.

CITY COUNCILMEMBER #4
 (to Brandie)
 Now, if you sprinkle lots of
 Parmesan cheese on your pizza...

Laughter replaces the applause.

Misty makes her way to the podium as Brandie leaves it.

MISTY
 (softly)
 Hello, everybody. My name is Misty
 Rowbottom--

CAMERA OPERATOR #1
 SPEAK UP! WE CAN'T HEAR YOU!

CAMERA OPERATOR #2
 YEAH! WE'RE TRYING TO GET A READ!

Misty leans closer to the podium's mike and raises her voice.

MISTY
 Can you hear me now?

People nod or AD LIB their acknowledgement.

MISTY (CONT'D)
 My name's Misty Rowbottom, and I'm
 a cost analyst for the Valley of
 the Sun Construction Company.

Dillon turns to those around him.

DILLON
 Yeah. Right.

MISTY
 Part of my job is to analyze
 blueprints...and I found the Pizza
 Power Mesa blueprint online.

Dillon's mouth flies open.

MISTY (CONT'D)
 If DHS goes through with its plan
 to move into the Pizza Power
 building here in Mesa, the
 department will create a ton of
 structural problems.

DILLON
 (to those around him)
 She doesn't know what she's talking
 about.

Dana gestures her boss into quiet...and angers him.

CITY COUNCILMEMBER #5
 Ms. Rowbottom...how did you get
 hold of the blueprint online?
 (MORE)

CITY COUNCILMEMBER #5 (CONT'D)

The Pizza Power building here was completed in 1995.

CITY COUNCILMEMBER #6

And that was just before the dot-com era began.

MISTY

Both the architectural firm that designed the building and the construction company that put it up went on to digitize their blueprints.

Quite a few attendees nod.

MISTY (CONT'D)

And I Googled.

DAWNELLE

(to those around her)

Makes plenty of sense.

MISTY

Well, ladies and gentlemen, the building will have to be torn down and a new one built to satisfy DHS.

Ruben and Dana slowly nod...Dillon burns inside.

MISTY (CONT'D)

And it's gonna take longer than the six-month window DHS Phoenix and Pizza Power Mesa worked out.

Misty's findings generate crowd buzz as Bryan eyes Dillon.

BRYAN

Still think this'll be a slam dunk?

Dillon stares in anger at Bryan.

EXT. DHS/ICE/ERO, PHOENIX, AZ - DAY

Traffic picks up along Central Avenue.

INT. DILLON'S OFFICE - DAY

Joel watches Dillon surf the Web on the latter's laptop.

JOEL

I checked out that Rowbottom chick you told me about.

DILLON
Airhead City.

JOEL
Nope. She's the real deal.

A shocked Dillon turns to Joel.

JOEL (CONT'D)
She not only used to be an Arizona
Cardinal cheerleader...her folks
are teachers.

DILLON
Huh?

JOEL
Her dad teaches arithmetic at an
elementary school here in town, and
her mom's a professor at Arizona
State.

DILLON
What's she teach? Basketweaving?

JOEL
Nope...nuclear physics.

Dillon's mouth drops.

He recovers long enough to show Joel Pizza Power's Website.

DILLON
Joel, check this out: That Karyn
Anne Klemme's gonna be playing at
Pizza Power this weekend.

JOEL
HOT DAMN!

DILLON
I want you to go there this weekend
and check her out.

Joel's in seventh heaven.

DILLON (CONT'D)
Then...I want you to find out about
that chick's sex life...see how
good she is in bed.

JOEL
YEAH!

DILLON
 If that's what it takes to bring
 her down, well then, do it!

JOEL
 You've got it!

Joel heads out of the office...but before he reaches the
 door, he eyeballs Dillon.

DILLON
 And don't forget to take, uh, Erika
 with you.

JOEL
 (pointing to his boss)
 You've got it, Dillon!

Dillon watches Joel leave.

EXT. PIZZA POWER, MESA, AZ - DAY

Monica, Lucinda, and (at last!) Klay reach the eatery.

INT. PIZZA POWER DINING ROOM - DAY

Karyn Anne (she's in a tuxedo) gabs with Dawnelle, Angelique,
 Misty, Elena, and Lucky (all seated) when Klay, Monica, and
 Lucinda (all three with plates, napkins, and utensils) enter.

DAWNELLE
 Karyn Anne, I've got to learn how
 to play that organ. I've got this
 tune--

KLAY
 (eyeballing Karyn Anne)
 You! Look! Dapper!

KARYN ANNE
 Well...thanks.

LUCKY
 It's just like Rod Stewart would
 say: You wear it well.

ANGELIQUE
 (pointing to Karyn Anne)
 Better than my own dad!

LUCINDA
 Mine, too!

Now Karyn Anne's all smiles.

KARYN ANNE
Well, I figured: "It works so well
for Janelle Monae."

A few heads nod...but Monica's mouth flies open.

MONICA
Wait a minute! Janelle Monae
doesn't play a theater pipe organ!

KARYN ANNE
We don't really know that!

The throng around Karyn Anne breaks out in laughs.

LATER

THE DINING ROOM IS PACKED!

Karyn Anne opens her show with "My Favorite Things."

Fellow organists Lew and Brett munch pizza and nod in approval while Karyn Anne plays the opening sixteen bars as done in "The Sound of Music."

After that, she uses a glissando (and the use of percussion stops) to put the tune in a pulsing, driving, groovin', Jimmy Smith-like direction.

Lew looks dumbfounded...but Brett and tablemates Wendell and Tom cast we-told-you-so looks.

Klay, Lucinda, and Monica now sit (and eat) alongside Burt, Marge, Ron, and Sugar.

BURT
Her granddad never played it like
that!

MARGE
Burt...would you like to hitchhike
back to Phoenix?

Burt shakes his head "no."

SUGAR
Well...she does like to put her own
spin on the music.

RON
And she did play in her high school's jazz band.

KLAY
Karyn Anne likes to talk about her granddad. She told me his name one time...I think she told me his name was Bud Light.

Klay's tablemates try to stifle their own laughs.

"My Favorite Things" heats up...and at yet another table, Joel reaches into his pants pocket for...a pair of briefs!

Erika barely looks up from her food to notice Joel.

ERIKA
Joel Jeffrey Hannan, you put that back.

JOEL
Don't worry! It's clean!

Erika wipes her hands with a napkin, then extends her hands out to Joel.

ERIKA
Better yet: You give those underpants back to me.

JOEL
Oh, all right.

A defeated Joel hands those briefs to Erika while Karyn Anne's tune changes keys.

LATER

Karyn Anne weighs in with her jazzed-up classical tune from earlier...and Angelique catches it all with her cell phone.

Angelique and her fellow ex-Cards cheerleaders not only eat salads...they also chow down on pizza.

At a different table, Edna, Garner Ted, Manuel, Meeno, Mia, Ryan, and Soleil dine...and look impressed with the music.

From the console, Karyn Anne sets those Alley Cats in motion.

And at yet another table, Ben, Chester, Dustin, Eva, Pegg, Piper Anne, and Ruben listen and eat.

CHESTER

Burt, eat your heart out!

The seven tablemates bust out in high fives...but Ruben comes away confused.

RUBEN

Who's Burt?

Pegg points toward Burt's table.

PEGG

Well, Ruben...he's the treasurer of our local theater organ club.

DUSTIN

And the textbook definition of cranky.

Ben and Pegg grin while Eva and Ruben nod.

Piper Anne does a doubletake.

INT. PIZZA POWER LOBBY - NIGHT

Now in casual clothes, Karyn Anne (suit bag over her shoulder) strolls toward the exits with some of the crowd.

EVA

Karyn Anne, you put on quite a show!

Eva bumps fists with the featured organist.

EVA (CONT'D)

(to Ruben)

Too bad Erika couldn't stay. She said something about needing to catch a Lyft or Uber home or something.

RUBEN

Eva...maybe she had too many mushrooms and too many anchovies on her pizza.

KARYN ANNE

Thank you two for coming. Glad you could make it!

The throng strolls on.

EXT. EAST SOUTHERN AVENUE, MESA, AZ - NIGHT

Karyn Anne's minivan pulls out of the Pizza Power parking lot...as the next-to-last vehicle in the lot.

Not far behind that Mercury, a 2009 Chevy Camaro roars out of the parking lot.

INT. CHEVY CAMARO - NIGHT

Joel's at the wheel...and in pursuit of Karyn Anne.

INT. KARYN ANNE'S VAN - NIGHT

And she doesn't know yet that the DHS agent is after her.

EXT. LOOP 202, PHOENIX, AZ - NIGHT

Sure enough, the chase is on.

To stay with Karyn Anne and her van, Joel and his car weave past OTHER WESTBOUND DRIVERS and their vehicles.

EXT. LOOP 202-24TH STREET INTERCHANGE - NIGHT

Karyn Anne expertly leaves Loop 202 and sets herself up for a right turn...seconds later, Joel makes the same moves.

EXT. NORTH 20TH STREET - NIGHT

His Camaro trails her Monterey minivan by a few feet.

EXT. KARYN ANNE'S HOUSE, PHOENIX, AZ - NIGHT

Karyn Anne pulls all the way into her driveway...Joel steams his way into the driveway, where his car comes within inches of her van.

She grabs her suit bag and climbs out of the Mercury to head for the front door...he jumps out of the Chevy and runs toward her.

JOEL

Hi! I'm a fan of yours!

Before Karyn Anne can open her house's front door, Joel grabs her shoulder.

KARYN ANNE

(shakes Joel off)

Wait a minute! What can I do for you?

JOEL
Well, uh...I've got a little organ
I want you to play.

She turns around and faces him.

KARYN ANNE
Sorry...I've had a big night, and I
just want to turn in.

JOEL
Let me help you, Karyn Anne, baby--

KARYN ANNE
No. I'm okay. I'm good.

She grabs her keys to (she hopes) open her house...but he sticks his hand back on her shoulder.

Karyn Anne turns around again to eyeball Joel.

All this time, she hangs on to her suit bag.

KARYN ANNE (CONT'D)
NO!

Joel frowns...until Karyn Anne puts a smile on her face.

KARYN ANNE (CONT'D)
(jingles keys)
Wait a minute...I've got something
in my van you might like.

The DHS agent's eyes light up.

KARYN ANNE (CONT'D)
Just close your eyes.

JOEL
Oh...kay.

He reluctantly closes his eyes.

KARYN ANNE
And stay right where you are.

JOEL
Oh...all right.

KARYN ANNE
Better yet, you'd better cover your
eyes, too.

Joel stays in place and slowly puts his hands over his eyes while the organ-playing bank teller watches him on her way to her van.

With one eye on Joel and the other on the rear of her van, Karyn Anne opens her vehicle.

She sticks the suit bag back in her van, pockets her keys, zips the bag open and shut, and...pulls a pair of long screwdrivers out of the van.

A screwdriver now in each hand, Karyn Anne jogs toward Joel.

KARYN ANNE (CONT'D)

Now you can open your eyes.

A smiling Joel nods.

As soon as he opens his eyes, Karyn Anne flails away at him.

JOEL

WHAT...THE...

He tries to grab the screwdrivers...but Karyn Anne puts on her best Betsy Palmer: The ex-cheerleader flails so fast and so hard she backs a now-dumbfounded Joel into his Camaro.

KARYN ANNE

Get your hind end in the car!

JOEL

WHAT...THE...

KARYN ANNE

GET IN!

Joel hurries into his Camaro.

He starts his car...only to find a knock on his car's left-side window.

The still-shocked agent rolls that window down.

KARYN ANNE (CONT'D)

You stay away from me, you stay away from this house, you stay away from this neighborhood...or you're gonna be Phoenix' own version of John Bobbitt!

Joel speeds out of the driveway and onto the street.

INT. PHOENIXBANK EMPLOYEE LOUNGE - DAY

A highly-subdued Karyn Anne sits at a table, where she sips from a twenty-ounce bottle of water/pop/tea/thirst quencher.

Lucinda comes into the lounge and sits next to Karyn Anne.

KARYN ANNE

I had to do it, Lucinda...and I don't care what Bob Knight said.

The branch manager looks dumbfounded...for a few seconds.

LUCINDA

Come to think of it...I remember the interview.

KARYN ANNE

After all the things I learned from Aunt Sissy...I wasn't gonna sit back and enjoy--

Monica enters the lounge. She takes a seat next to her two fellow employees.

MONICA

A DHS agent tried to hit on you.

Karyn Anne nods.

MONICA (CONT'D)

And you fought him off.

KARYN ANNE

I had to do it. I needed to confront him.

MONICA

Listen...you did the right thing.

KARYN ANNE

I...I did my best.

MONICA

And we're very, very proud of you.

The threesome rise from their seats and make it a group hug.

LUCINDA

Karyn Anne, take all the time you need. We've got you covered.

Karyn Anne's nod is slow.

INT. PHOENIXBANK LOBBY - DAY

Monica returns to her spot behind the counter; Klay (in his spot in back of the counter) gives her a "thumbs up."

Kaley strolls into the bank and reaches the counter.

MONICA

Hi! Welcome to PhoenixBank. What can we do for you?

KALEY

I just wanted to speak with Karyn Anne Klemme.

Klay frowns.

MONICA

She's busy right now. What can I do for you?

Kaley removes a folded-up sheet of notebook paper from her jeans pocket. She hands the note to Monica.

KALEY

Don't worry. This isn't a stickup.

KLAY

(eyes locked on Kaley)
Do you have an account with us?

KALEY

No...but I heard about what happened last Friday night...I hope she's all right.

Monica nods while she accepts Kaley's note.

MONICA

I'll see that she gets your note.

As Lucinda emerges behind the counter, Kaley makes her own way out of the building.

KALEY

Thank you...and I wish her all the very best.

MONICA

Thank you. You take care.

Kaley grabs the front door...and ANOTHER CUSTOMER walks through to head for the counter.

The three employees watch Kaley leave.

LUCINDA
(to Monica)
Who was she?

KLAY
One of the Arizona Cardinal
cheerleaders Karyn Anne used to
work with.

MONICA
He's right, Lucinda.

That new customer reaches the counter.

KLAY
I saw her on TV...hi. Welcome to
PhoenixBank! How may we help you?

Klay attends to the new customer as Karyn Anne comes out of
the employee lounge and to the teller side of the counter.

Lucinda, Monica, and Karyn Anne huddle up away from Klay for
a hush-hush conversation.

MONICA
(hands note to Karyn Anne)
One of the Cardinal cheerleaders
wanted me to give you this note.

LUCINDA
According to Klay, she's still with
the Cardinal cheerleaders.

KARYN ANNE
(nods and accepts note)
Must be Kaley DeCorrevont.

Monica and Lucinda shrug.

Karyn Anne walks to the shredder...

MONICA
Aren't you gonna read the note?

...and throws the note into it.

KARYN ANNE

Kaley's one of those people who preach that you've gotta go along to get along...and if you're a Cards cheerleader, that means letting drunken men fondle you.

Karyn Anne watches with glee as the shredder pulverizes Kaley's note.

KARYN ANNE (CONT'D)

See where going along to get along got me?

Lucinda and Monica point to the shredder...and Klay and Karyn Anne exchange smiles.

EXT. DHS/ICE/ERO, PHOENIX, AZ - DAY

Bryan and Dillon climb out of their newly-parked cars on this early morning. The two men look glum as they briskly walk toward the DHS/ICE/ERO front entrance.

BRYAN

So...sending already-married Joel out to get it on with Karyn Anne didn't work, did it?

DILLON

Don't remind me, Bryan.

BRYAN

Not only did she chase him away with screwdrivers...when Ruben found out what happened, he...Ruben...decided it was time to retire from DHS. Even Dana quit!

Dillon and Bryan notice Garner Ted, Myrna, Conrad, Chester, Pegg, Manuel, Edna, Marge, and (of all people!) Burt right in front of the front entrance.

The nine demonstrators wield professional-looking picket signs...whose messages read "SAVE PIZZA POWER" and "DON'T MESS WITH A GOOD THING."

DILLON

(to the protestors)

Get off this property right now!
We're trying to get to work--

BURT

NO!!

Dillon reaches for his cell phone.

MYRNA
Put that phone away!

DILLON
Lady, do you know who you're
talking to?

GARNER TED
Yeah, Dillon Masterson! Myrna's
talking to you! A man who employs
sex offenders!

DILLON
Why you--

Bryan gestures Dillon into an opposite direction. Dillon, in
reluctance, puts his phone away and follows Bryan.

DILLON (CONT'D)
Look, Bryan, I could fire your A-S--

BRYAN
Those people have a right to
peacefully assemble and peacefully
picket. And you know it!

Dillon stares angrily at Bryan.

BRYAN (CONT'D)
Come on. Let's try the back
entrance.

The DHS agent and his boss walk toward the back entrance.

At the back entrance, Ryan, Mia, Dustin, and Ben march; all
four picket with the same signs as their nine colleagues.

The back-entrance picketers grow in number when Gerda and
Debra come over...as do SAMUEL REPLOGLE (early 50s) and wife
LANGHORNE REPLOGLE (late 40s). They carry homemade signs.

SAMUEL
(to Debra and Gerda)
Anyway...Langhorne decided the
other day to have her tubes tied.

LANGHORNE
Well, I had to, Sam. We couldn't
afford to bring another child into
the world.

DEBRA

Makes sense.

(eyeballs Langhorne)

I remember the trouble you had when you gave birth to Finn...and you giving birth to Sawyer almost killed you.

LANGHORNE

One thing about it:

(to Samuel)

If we'd had another baby, it would've been your turn to name it.

SAMUEL

Yeah...and I was so looking forward to naming him Thatcher.

Ben eyeballs the four newcomers.

BEN

Come on over! Blend right in!

MIA

(gesturing)

We're glad you're here!

All eight back-entrance picketers hoist their signs aloft as the four men and four women march.

GERDA

(to those next to her)

Well, I was looking for excitement.

A livid Dillon tries for the front entrance again...but he and Bryan see Misty, Lucky, Dawnelle, Elena, Karyn Anne, Angelique, Ron, and Sugar (with their own picket signs) join the nine front-entrance protestors.

Misty's sign reads: "WHAT'S NEXT? ARE YOU GOING TO FILL IN THE GRAND CANYON?"

Garner Ted and Co. cheer when Karyn Anne and Co. arrive.

CHESTER

We're so damn...

(looks at Manuel)

I mean...so darn glad you came.

MANUEL

It's okay, Chester.

ANGELIQUE

We're lucky to all get today off so
we can be here!

EDNA

(to Karyn Anne)

And we're glad you're all right.

Ex-teacher and ex-student bump fists with each other.

Bryan eyes a still-incensed Dillon.

BRYAN

Listen: Why don't we both work from
home?

Dillon casts a shocked look.

BRYAN (CONT'D)

Like we did during the pandemic.

DILLON

All right then, damn it, we'll work
from home.

The two DHS figures stroll back to the parking lot.

BRYAN

You know, Dillon, you could've sent
Joel to Nogales to supervise the
raid on that factory.

Dillon groans.

BRYAN (CONT'D)

And it's like I keep saying: I
can't get mad at a White woman
who's got a "Black Lives Matter"
sign on her refrigerator.

When Bryan and Dillon reach their cars, the back-entry
protestors cheer themselves hoarse.

INT. KARYN ANNE'S LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

No Christmas tree to be found in the living room...but the
windows feature holiday lights. And an electric guitar and
its amp rest in the middle of the floor.

Dawnelle, Karyn Anne, and Misty stand in the middle of the
room...where the latter two women watch Dawnelle play a jazzy
number on her trombone.

When the tune ends, Misty's and Karyn Anne's applause kicks in...and Dawnelle breathes a sigh of grateful relief.

DAWNELLE

I can't believe it's been seventeen years since I last tried to play this thing.

KARYN ANNE

And you sound wonderful.

DAWNELLE

Thanks.

Dawnelle rests her trombone by the amp.

DAWNELLE (CONT'D)

Last time I played trombone, I was in high school back home in San Diego. I was in the marching band.

MISTY

Dawnelle, what made...actually, who made you quit?

DAWNELLE

The boyfriend I had at the time.

Misty and Karyn Anne nod.

DAWNELLE (CONT'D)

He...Warren...told me to quit blowing a horn or he'd leave me.

Dawnelle pulls a stack of sheet music from her trombone case.

DAWNELLE (CONT'D)

And I bought in. Biggest mistake I ever made.

The three ex-cheerleaders look over Dawnelle's sheet music.

MISTY

You brought it..."Toccatà and Fugue in D Minor," by Johann Sebastian Bach.

DAWNELLE

I kept hearing it in TV commercials when I was little.

Dawnelle walks over to Karyn Anne's Lowrey organ.

DAWNELLE (CONT'D)

And I wanna be able to play it on
the Pizza Power organ before they
take the thing down.

A huge smile forms on Karyn Anne's face.

MISTY

(to Dawnelle)

And you're in good company.
(walks over to piano)
My "who" was my maternal
grandmother...a chemistry professor
at the University of Washington.

KARYN ANNE

Misty, didn't she like your
playing?

MISTY

She loved it!

Misty tries some arpeggios...and finds the going rusty.

MISTY (CONT'D)

She thought I could be another
Vanessa Carlton or another Alicia
Keys...but when I was twelve, my
maternal grandma came to our middle
school back home in Tacoma.

The cost analyst pushes the five-pedal upright's second pedal
from the left for that harpsichord-like sound. She attempts
her arpeggios again.

MISTY (CONT'D)

I love how this old piano sounds!

Misty tries a tune from her childhood years. That does it!

MISTY (CONT'D)

Anyway, after two years of piano
lessons, it just seemed more fun to
pour a bunch of chemicals into a
beaker and watch 'em explode.

KARYN ANNE

Speaking of chemistry...I'd like to
try something.

Karyn Anne grabs her guitar and plugs it into the amp.

Buddy Link's granddaughter straps her guitar on, then places a harmonica holder on her neck.

Misty remains seated at the piano and Dawnelle's still seated at the organ.

KARYN ANNE (CONT'D)
Dawnelle...you got your chords
down?

DAWNELLE
Yes, I do!

KARYN ANNE
Misty...you ready with your
arpeggios?

MISTY
From C to shining C! And back!

Dawnelle and Karyn Anne laugh. The latter stuffs a harmonica into the holder and moves closer to her two pals.

KARYN ANNE
Okay, then...here we go with "Away
in a Manger." In four-four time.

Karyn Anne strums out a four-bar intro that leads to Misty's arpeggios and Dawnelle's chording.

One verse (sixteen bars) later, Karyn Anne toots out the melody on her harmonica.

It sounds ragged at first...but the three women exude fun as they play those four instruments.

EXT. PIZZA POWER, MESA, AZ - DAY

It's New Year's Eve...and the parking lot's full!

INT. PIZZA POWER BREAK ROOM - DAY

Casually-clothed Brett and suit-and-necktie-clad Lew chow down on one of two or three large pizzas on the table where the two musicians sit.

Not one single slice has an anchovy or a mushroom on it.

Lew stares at the pizza slice he's about to eat.

LEW
Pizza Power pizza...I'm gonna miss
you.

(MORE)

LEW(CONT'D)

(to Brett)

Before we knock off tonight, I'm gonna have to talk to the cooks to get the recipe.

BRETT

Lew, are you thinking about extra mushrooms and extra anchovies--

Karyn Anne enters with three twenty-ounce bottles of pop/water/tea/juice. She's in a tuxedo that screams 1970s...bigger bow tie, ruffled shirt, and gaudy colors.

LEW

Karyn Anne, I've heard of partying like it's 1999...but you're dressed to party like it's 1979.

KARYN ANNE

(sets bottles on table)

Actually...I'm ready to party like it's 1974. That was the year Pizza Power Phoenix opened.

Lew and Brett nod as each man grabs a bottle.

BRETT

(gestures to Karyn Anne)

Plenty of pizza left...help yourself.

KARYN ANNE

Thanks, Brett. Thanks, Lew.

Karyn Anne sits down, opens her bottle, and grabs a pizza slice. Her fellow organists open their bottles, too.

KARYN ANNE (CONT'D)

Now that the Mesa City Council voted to send Pizza Power Mesa the way of Pizza Power Phoenix, have you both been able to land gigs to replace--

BRETT

(through his bites)

I was gonna ask you that.

Lew points to Karyn Anne.

LEW

I mean...you've come a long way since we started working together three months ago.

KARYN ANNE

Well, it's gotten easier since I put my pom poms down last month.

The three organists chow down for a few moments...then:

LEW

I got to thinking: Martin Ellis, Jonas Nordwall, and Donna Parker have a great thing going as Trio con Brio.

Brett and Karyn Anne eyeball Lew in puzzlement.

LEW (CONT'D)

Three different organists with their own bag...their own distinctive groove. Just like the three of us.

BRETT

Lew...you mean to tell me...

LEW

Brett, we can do it. You and Karyn Anne and I can be another Trio con Brio.

Now Karyn Anne's all smiles.

KARYN ANNE

If that's the case...let's do it!

Karyn Anne raises her bottle...Brett and Lew follow suit.

KARYN ANNE (CONT'D)

To us...to a new chapter in our musical careers...to good times forever and ever.

Brett, Karyn Anne, and Lew click their bottles.

INT. PIZZA POWER DINING ROOM - DAY

While Lew jams a train song (maybe "Chattanooga Choo Choo") on the Mighty Wurlitzer, Soleil and Meeno arrive with plates, utensils, and napkins...and Mia and Ryan tote a full plastic storage bin.

The Kippers don't stop until they find the closest table to the organ as possible.

RYAN

Perfect.

Jared hurries over to the table as Meeno, Mia, Ryan, and Soleil sit down.

JARED

Hi, everybody! Welcome back to
Pizza Power! How's everybody?

The foursome AD LIB their answers while Jared whips out his notepad and pen.

JARED (CONT'D)

What can I get...what's in the bin?

MIA

Let's just say we've got a special
treat.

SOLEIL

For the building's new owners.

At a middle table, Dillon and Bryan (they eat spaghetti) watch Wendell and Tom greet OTHER CUSTOMERS.

Now the two DHS figures turn to one another.

BRYAN

Did you bring the checks...for
Wendell and Tom?

Dillon takes a bite of spaghetti.

BRYAN (CONT'D)

Come on. Make like Tom Cruise and
show me the money.

DILLON

Oh, all right, Cuba Gooding Jr.

The local DHS chief grabs a briefcase from underneath the table. He opens the briefcase, dredges up a check for each Pizza Power owner, and dangles the checks in front of Bryan.

BRYAN

That's more like it.

Langhorne and Samuel (toting their own plastic storage bin) enter the dining room; Sawyer and Finn follow with plates, utensils, and napkins.

The Four Replogles find seats next to the Four Kippers.

SAWYER
That's it, Finn...no more gluten-free pizza crust.

Finn, Langhorne, Samuel, and Sawyer sit down.

LANGHORNE
(to Mia and Ryan)
We did it. We brought our own anchovies and mushrooms.

RYAN
That's great!

MEENO
Those DHS people won't know what hit them!

SAMUEL
We would've brought sardines...but they smell worse when they're left out than anchovies do.

Both moms and both dads look gleeful.

FINN
That's what my history teacher calls civil disobedience.

Now the four children show their own brand of glee!

LATER

THE DINING ROOM IS PACKED!

Brett's the new organist; his locomotive song is..."Choo Choo Train," by the Box Tops (or a similar number).

Dawnelle looks ecstatic: She, Elena, Karyn Anne, Angelique, Lucky, and Misty enjoy a large deep-dish pizza at another table in the middle of the place.

KARYN ANNE
That's enough for me...I already had four slices in the break room.
(points to Dawnelle)
But you were right about this deep-dish pizza.

MISTY
Yes, you were, Dawnelle.

LUCKY

Yeah! No matter what that ol'
Brandie says!

Some ex-cheerleader heads nod.

ELENA

Speaking of Brandie...I think I
know why she's so uptight.

ANGELIQUE

Okay...

ELENA

Her brother and sister-in-law were
on one of the planes that hit the
twin towers on September eleventh,
2001.

DAWNELLE

Oh, boy...

MISTY

But that's no reason to take it out
on the cheerleaders.

ELENA

Misty, here's some more dirt on
Brandie: When the Cards moved here
from St. Louis in 1988, she wanted
to be one of their cheerleaders.

DAWNELLE

She got cut.

Marge and Burt saunter over to the ex-Cardinals cheerleaders'
table. He holds a greeting-card-size envelope.

ELENA

And they told her she was too old.

MARGE

Karyn Anne, do you have a minute?

KARYN ANNE

You bet, Marge. What can I do for
you and Burt?

BURT

Marge and I chipped in and got you
this...

Burt hands Karyn Anne the envelope. She opens the envelope and removes...well, a greeting card.

Lucky looks suspicious.

BURT (CONT'D)
Read what it says!

KARYN ANNE
Okay.

When Karyn Anne opens the card...a check falls out.

KARYN ANNE (CONT'D)
(reads card)
"All the best to you, Karyn Anne Klemme! You're the most beautiful theater organist in the whole wide world...not only on the outside, but, most important...on the inside! From: Burt and Marge."

Karyn Anne pockets the check, closes the card, and jumps up to hug Burt and Marge.

KARYN ANNE (CONT'D)
Thank you two so very much!

MARGE
It's our pleasure!

The ex-cheerleaders' table erupts in hearty applause.

LATER

Now Karyn Anne presides over the Mighty Wurlitzer's keys and pedals. Her salute to the rails is "The Train Kept a-Rollin'," by Tiny Bradshaw.

At a back table, Ben's, Chester's, and Pegg's eyes light up. Edna, Garner Ted, and Manuel look overjoyed...and Sugar and Ron look jubilant. (All eight enjoy lasagna and/or pizza.)

PEGG
When Chester and I played in a rock band back in the day, we played that song.

Also toward the back, Dana, Eva, Klay, Lucinda, Monica, and Ruben split a pizza or two.

EVA

Dana, I knew Ruben was ready to call it quits...but I didn't expect you to throw in the towel.

DANA

I just got sick and tired of working with two highly-immature people...I mean manchildren.

Klay's mouth flies open.

DANA (CONT'D)

My three dogs have more maturity than Dillon and Joel. Much more.

LUCINDA

Wow! Ruben's right about you, Dana: You don't mince words.

MONICA

I like that!

As Monica and Dana trade fist bumps, Kaley enters the eatery (plates, utensils, napkins, and all)...and strains to find an empty seat.

RUBEN

I had to quit DHS...I couldn't walk in here knowing I couldn't come in here and order a pizza unless I'd downloaded an app.

Klay nods.

RUBEN (CONT'D)

And knowing what's now the kitchen in here might be a war room or something next June.

At the back of the dining room, Kaley finds an empty seat...at the table where Conrad, Debra, Dustin, Gerda, Myrna, and Piper Anne chow down on pizza and/or sandwiches.

KALEY

Anybody sitting here?

DEBRA

No, child...be our guest.

CONRAD

It's all right.

Kaley sits down in the empty seat.

DUSTIN
You must be Kaley.

Dustin and Piper Anne catch Kaley's nod.

GERDA
(eyeballing Kaley)
I think I saw you on TV a few
Sundays ago.

PIPER ANNE
Hi, Kaley...welcome back to the
mausoleum.

And Kaley looks stung.

LATER

Wendell and Tom wield a cordless mike each as they stand in front of the now-unoccupied organ console.

WENDELL
(into his mike)
Well, uh, folks, that's it. Give
yourselves a hand!

Table by table, customers applaud. When the cheers die:

TOM
(into his own mike)
You made Pizza Power what it is...I
mean what it was.

Tom gestures the audience into more kudos.

WENDELL
And folks, let's hear it for our
three organists tonight: Lew
Thomsen, Brett Salyers, and Karyn
Anne Klemme!

From their spots in the audience, Karyn Anne, Brett, and Lew rise up and soak up the continuing applause.

TOM
Thank you three for making this
joint jump!

The eaters lay on even more adulation. The moment the cheers subside, the three organists sit back down.

WENDELL

Let's bring up Dillon Masterson and
Bryan Wesson...both from the local
offices of the US Department of
Homeland Security!

Some customers applaud...some boo...some look stunned.

Nevertheless, Bryan and Dillon (both barehanded) head for the
front of the room.

BRYAN

Dillon...the briefcase.

Dillon returns to his and Bryan's table, grabs the briefcase,
and joins Bryan, Tom, and Wendell up front.

The Kipper and Replogle families look gleeful.

Wendell hands his mike to Dillon; Tom gives his to Bryan.

DILLON

(into mike)

Thank you. Mr. Givehand...Mr.
Wulk...Pizza Power performers...

Mia and Samuel open their plastic storage bins.

DILLON (CONT'D)

Pizza Power staff...Pizza Power
customers...

Langhorne and Ryan immediately grab unopened packages of
mushrooms and unopened bags of anchovies...

DILLON (CONT'D)

On behalf of the United States
Department of--

Ryan, Langhorne, Samuel, and Mia hurriedly fling the bags and
packages at Bryan and Dillon.

DILLON (CONT'D)

On behalf of the United States
Department of Homeland Secur--

WHACK! WHACK! Some bags hit the two DHS officials.

Finn, Meeno, Sawyer, and Soleil join in with their parents in
hurling bag after bag after bag of pizza toppings at the
Homeland Security officials.

Wendell looks some kind of shocked.

TOM
STOP IT! STOP IT RIGHT NOW!

WHACK! WHACK! WHACK! More bags pelt Dillon and Bryan...who finally step away from the volleys.

DILLON
You know what? We can't do this.

Bryan shakes his head "yes" as the pelting ends at last.

BRYAN
(into his mike)
Judging by your reaction...all the emails and text messages we've received over the last three months...

DILLON
And all the dead fish up here...

BRYAN
Turning DHS Phoenix into DHS Mesa just won't work.

While some eaters look stunned, the rest of the crowd erupts in boisterous applause.

DILLON
Two of our now-former agents drafted a backup plan...and this plan will go into effect on January second.

BRYAN
The City of Gilbert has decided to allow the Department of Homeland Security to move into a presently-vacant office building...

DILLON
One with the space the department's local field office and the local ICE field office need and more.

The cheering heats up even more...Tom and Wendell eyeball each other in total shock.

Dillon and Bryan hand the mikes back to Wendell and Tom.

TOM
Wendell...you know what this means?

WENDELL

Those fish you've been itching to catch up in Wisconsin can wait.

Bryan watches Dillon retrieve the briefcase. The two men slink out of the dining room.

Wendell addresses the customers.

WENDELL (CONT'D)

Well, folks...it's just like Mr. Wesson and Mr. Masterson said...this restaurant here on Southern Avenue...the one you're in right now...will be open tomorrow! And beyond!

Pandemonium reigns among the eaters.

TOM

Let's bring our organists up one more time!

Lew, Karyn Anne, and Brett reach the stage once more as the applause picks up again. This time, they high-five it with Tom and Wendell.

Wendell hands his mike to Lew.

LEW

(into mike)
Thank you, Wendell,
Tom...everybody. Your support means so much to us.

Lew hands the mike to Brett.

BRETT

(into mike)
How many of you remember Charlie Olson? Clap your hands!

Most of the patrons applaud.

BRETT (CONT'D)

We've had so much trouble trying to find a third full-time organist since Charlie died in 2019...this search started to resemble an episode of "Murphy Brown."

A few eaters laugh.

BRETT (CONT'D)

Well, tonight, our search is over.

(to Karyn Anne)

We'd like you to be our third full-time organist!

KARYN ANNE

I gladly accept!

Ron and Sugar hug each other...Misty, Dawnelle, Lucky, Elena, and Angeliqye high-five each other...Wendell and Tom exchange I-told-you-so looks, as do Edna and Ben.

The restaurant goes wild!

Brett gives Karyn Anne the mike.

KARYN ANNE (CONT'D)

(into mike)

I'm only up here right now because a bunch of people mentored me...from Granddad Buddy to Mom and Dad to Aunt Sissy to Edna to Lew to Brett.

Customer eyes turn to Edna, Ron, and Sugar.

KARYN ANNE (CONT'D)

I thank every last one of 'em...and now it's time to pay it forward.

Lew and Brett nod at Pizza Power's newest full-timer.

KARYN ANNE (CONT'D)

How many of you in the audience would like to do open console up here?

Nobody in the audience makes a move.

A few moments later...Kaley saunters up to the stage (and causes a hush in the restaurant).

KARYN ANNE (CONT'D)

Kaley...Kaley DeCorrevont?

KALEY

It's taken me a month to learn this song I'd like to play...but first, I want to apologize for being mean to you.

KARYN ANNE
Of course. Apology accepted.

Karyn Anne (mike still in hands) and Kaley hug.

KARYN ANNE (CONT'D)
And I hope you can forgive me for
shredding up the note you tried to
give me.

A smiling Kaley nods.

SERIES OF SHOTS

INT. PIZZA POWER DINING ROOM - NIGHT

It's open console time on the Wurlitzer at Pizza Power!

CLOSING CREDITS APPEAR OVER ACTION.

Kaley opens with Brenda Lee's "I'm Sorry" or a similar tune.

Garner Ted plays a movie theme from the 1960s...Myrna comes up with a semiclassical piece...Chester weighs in with some 1960s-1970s psychedelic rock.

Soleil plays some contemporary rock/hip-hop...Ben does a jazz number...Misty performs a Christmas carol...Edna plays a salsa number...Pegg's tune is a 1970s rocker.

Meeno plays a "Weird Al" Yankovic-styled novelty...Sugar tries out the organ's percussion stops...Wendell takes the Mighty Wurlitzer through some 1950s rock.

Dawnelle (at last!) plays "Toccata and Fugue in D Minor."

FREEZE FRAME halfway through Sawyer's version of "Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star."

END SERIES OF SHOTS

FADE OUT.

THE END