

FRIENDS
"PILOT"

Written by

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INT. DAYTIME EMMY AWARDS SHOW - NIGHT

The AWARD SHOW is underway. In the audience is an anxious JOEY TRIBBIANI and sitting next to him is an equally anxious PHOEBE BUFFAY.

Actors MARIAN REYNOLDS and JAMES WINSTON are announcing the award for the BEST ACTOR in a SOAP OPERA.

JAMES

And now the award for best actor in a daytime soap. From "Days of our Lives," Ronald Roy!

MARIAN

From, "The Young and the Restless," Maxwell Potts!

JAMES

Juan Jefferson, from, "The Bold and the Beautiful!"

MARIAN

And from, "General Hospital," Joey Tribbiani!

MARIAN (CONT'D)

And the winner is, one of my favorite actors, one of the nicest guys in this business, Joey Tribbiani!

The room erupts as Joey, surprised, jumps up followed by Phoebe screaming at the top of her lungs in his face. The crowd, shocked, focuses on Phoebe.

PHOEBE

Joey! I knew you could do it. I knew you could do it! Yeah, Joey!

Joey is a little embarrassed as they hug.

Joey ascends the stage and hugs Marian and shakes Jame's hand.

Joey at the podium.

JOEY

I am so surprised. Nominated ten times and finally, I'm here.
(MORE)

JOEY (CONT'D)

So many people to thank. You've met
my screaming agent, Phoebe.

Phoebe smiles and waves to the crowd.

PHOEBE

(loud)

Yeah, Joey!

The crowd laughs.

JOEY

I want to thank my parents in
heaven and all of my sisters, too
many to mention! And many good
friends.

Joey turns solemn.

JOEY (CONT'D)

Friends I haven't seen for a while.
Chandler and Monica Bing were there
from the start, feeding me, lending
me money, all those things an actor
needs starting-out in this
business.

A chuckle from the crowd.

A tear forms in Phoebe's eye.

JOEY (CONT'D)

(choking up)

And Rachel who's busy raising Emma
now. And Ross who went into a
jungle and got lost, I guess.
Anyway, thank you for this honor!

He holds the trophy over his head. The crowd roars.

Phoebe is tearing more as he reaches his seat. They hug.

PHOEBE

I miss those guys!

JOEY

Yeah, me too.

PHOEBE

Good times.

JOEY
Great times.

INT. RACHEL & EMMA'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Rachel, beautiful as ever and Emma, an equally beautiful twenty-two-year-old with hair that matches Rachel's, are watching the award show. Rachel has a tear in her eye.

EMMA
(excited)
Uncle Joey won mom!

RACHEL
Yes, he did.

EMMA
We haven't seen him since my
sixteenth birthday.

RACHEL
Well, he's a big star now, hun.
He's in demand.

EMMA
And you knew him when he put a
turkey on his head.

Rachel giggles.

RACHEL
Yeah, fun times. The best of times.
. Have you tried to Skype
your father today?

EMMA
I try every day. He's out of reach.

RACHEL
When did you hear from him last?

EMMA
Not since he went into the jungle,
at least ten months.

RACHEL
I hope he hasn't been eaten by a
gorilla.

EMMA
Gorilla's don't eat meat mom,
Natives do.

INT. CHANDLER AND MONICA'S HOME - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

CHANDLER and MONICA are watching the award show.

MONICA
(excited)
He did it, he did it, our Joey is a
big star!

CHANDLER
Yeah, and here we are living in
suburbia raising our kids.

MONICA
You don't have any regrets, do you?

CHANDLER
No, no, not at all. This is my
dream, you and the kids. I just
miss those days.

MONICA
It's been so long ago. I wonder how
Rachel and Emma are doing?

CHANDLER
I wonder if Ross will ever come
home?

MONICA
He will. He's my only family now
that mom and dad have passed.

Monica yells over her shoulder.

MONICA (CONT'D)
Kids, kids, come and see uncle
Joey!

The twins, Erica, and Jack, age seventeen, run into the room.

ERICA
Who's uncle Joey?

CHANDLER

You know, we told you we had a friend who is a big star.

JACK

Uncle, Joey? Oh, he came here once when we were really small.

CHANDLER

He used to come a lot until you took his room.

MONICA

It has been a while. . . .How are you doing on your math?

JACK

(sarcastic.)

Could it BE any more lame!

He runs back to his room. Monica gives Chandler a look.

MONICA

He's you.

CHANDLER

So proud.

MONICA

Maybe being a show-off is in his blood. Maybe he'll go into show business.

CHANDLER

Like daddy always wanted to.

INT. RACHEL & EMMA'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Emma is on the couch studying. Rachel is watching T.V. A knock on the door.

EMMA

I got it.

Emma opens the door, shrieks, and slams the door shut startling Rachel.

RACHEL

What, what was that!

EMMA
Bigfoot, bigfoot is here!

RACHEL
What?

A voice from behind the door.

ROSS
Guys. It's not bigfoot, it's me.

Rachel and Emma exchange a knowing look.

RACHEL
Ross?

EMMA
Daddy!

Emma rushes to the door and throws it open. Rachel is right behind her.

Finding Ross with very long mangled hair and a long scraggly beard. He is dressed in ragged, baggy clothes and is carrying a duffle bag.

Emma runs into his arms.

ROSS
Oh, I missed my little girl!

EMMA
Daddy, daddy, . . . you stink.

He keeps hugging her.

ROSS
I know. I came straight from the airport. The people on the plane were not happy.

RACHEL
Oh, I've got to get a picture of this. Does Monica know you're back?

ROSS
No, this is my first stop.

She shoots a picture on her phone and sends it.

RACHEL
She will now.

INT. CHANDLER AND MONICA'S HOME - KITCHEN - DAY

Monica is in the kitchen baking when she receives the picture from Rachel.

Her eyes widen.

MONICA
(yells)
Chandler!

Chandler comes running in.

CHANDLER
What! What! What!

MONICA
Ross is back! . . . I think.

She shows him her phone.

CHANDLER
Oh my god, he turned into a bush!

MONICA
Or something.

CHANDLER
You don't think he married a native, do you?

MONICA
Oh, god! - Maybe!

CHANDLER
Time to go to the city?

MONICA
I think so. Now we have two reasons.

CHANDLER
I'll call Joey.

MONICA
I'll line up a sitter.

INT. FRIEND'S APARTMENT BUILDING - HALL - DAY

The hall is as it was except for the door to Monica's old apartment. On this door is a large ten-inch SILVER STAR. Under the star, also in silver, are the words, PHOEBE'S TALENTS. Under this are the words in a much smaller font, "Formally Estelle's."

Monica and Chandler arrive on the landing and are instantly drawn to the door.

MONICA

What's this?

CHANDLER

Joey owns the building, Phoebe must live here.

They put their ears to the door. From inside the apartment, small dogs can be heard barking and circus music can be heard. Monica and Chandler look puzzled keeping their ears to the door.

Minutes later, Ross, still unshaven but cleaned up, and Rachel and Emma appear on the landing behind Chandler and Monica. Still, with their ears to the door, they do not notice.

Rachel motions for Ross to move behind Chandler and Monica. Rachel and Emma stand behind him.

ROSS

Hi, guys.

Startled, Chandler and Monica, turn. Shocked, Chandler falls to the floor. Monica falls against the door. Chandler, cowering on the floor, pulls out his wallet and attempts to hand it to Ross.

CHANDLER

Here, here, here!

Monica shields her face. Ross takes the wallet.

ROSS

Well, thanks, I am a little short.

Becoming aware, Chandler and Monica react. Monica steps over Chandler and hugs her brother.

MONICA

I'm so glad you're back safe.

Chandler stands scanning Ross up and down.

CHANDLER

Woe!

He then cautiously hugs Ross. Monica hugs Rachel and Emma.

MONICA

(tearing)

You're back, for good I hope.

CHANDLER

We thought you had gotten your head
shrunk. It does look smaller.

ROSS

Oh, yeah, it's the hair and beard.
I like the beard, don't you think?

Altogether the group lets out an Ewuu and shakes their head.

CHANDLER

You look very New York. . . If you
lived under the subway.

Suddenly the door opens. Parading out of the apartment are
four clowns of various shapes and sizes followed by six
dachshunds jumping through a hoop held by their trainer and a
circus barker playing music on an ipod. Phoebe follows a
second later. Seeing her friends in the hall she is shocked.

PHOEBE

(screams)

Oh my god! It's you guys!

MONICA

Hi, Phoebe.

PHOEBE

Monica, Rachel and Emma, Chandler,
you're here! And who's this
stranger?

Phoebe hugs everyone except Ross.

ROSS

It's, it's me, Ross.

PHOEBE
No, no, it's not.

ROSS
Yes, it's me.

PHOEBE
It sounds like Ross but it looks like the guy who wipes windshields on the corner.

ROSS
I missed you Phebes. I missed all you guys.

Ross and Phoebe hug.

PHOEBE
Why did we part?

CHANDLER
We all grew up. Speaking of growing up, where's Joey?

PHOEBE
Oh, he didn't grow up, he's still Joey.

MONICA
And you're his agent?

PHOEBE
That's right, well Estell couldn't do it anymore, she died and never came back, not yet, anyway.

CHANDLER
That's good you're looking after him.

MONICA
Has fame changed him?

PHOEBE
Oh, no, he's still our Joey.

CHANDLER
Only richer.

PHOEBE

You wouldn't know it. Wait till you see his apartment.

MONICA

Speaking of apartments, is there a circus living in yours?

PHOEBE

Yes, well no, well sometimes. They're my clients. You don't know how easy it is to get a job for a bearded lady.

She opens the door to Joey's apartment.

INT. JOEY'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - DAY

PHOEBE

Come on.

They all follow.

Once inside they all look in wonder. The apartment has not changed. From the foosball table to the recliners.

CHANDLER

Holly time warp!

Chandler picks up a hamburger wrapper.

CHANDLER (CONT'D)

This was here when I left.

Rachel points to a pizza box on the counter.

RACHEL

And so was this.

PHOEBE

No, that's new. The wrapper's not. He likes to have things around that reminds him of you guys.

MONICA

So he hasn't cleaned in over ten years?

PHOEBE

Oh, no! He has a cleaning lady, she just can't touch certain things. Like the wrapper. Put it back, put it back! And she can't move the recliners or the foosball table.

Chandler places the wrapper back on the floor where it was.

MONICA

Speaking of clean, what does my old apartment look like?

PHOEBE

Come on, see. It's so much better now.

MONICA

(under her breath)
Hard to believe.

PHOEBE

What!

MONICA

I can't wait to see it!

PHOEBE

Well, come on.

Phoebe leads the group back to her apartment.

INT. PHOEBE'S APARTMENT LIVING ROOM - DAY

The apartment has Phoebe's imprint all over it. An office desk is where the kitchen table used to be. And the kitchen has been converted into an office with the microwave and refrigerator as they were.

Upon entering they encounter Mona the bearded lady and Lydia the tattooed lady.

PHOEBE

Everyone, I would like you to meet my clients, Mona and Lydia. Mona has a beard and Lydia has tattoos.

EMMA

Wow! Neat! Mom, can I get a tattoo?

LYDIA
I could take you to my guy.

RACHEL
No. We'll talk about it later, much
later. Hi, I'm Rachel.

Offers her hand.

CHANDLER
That's quite a beard, have you met
Ross?

Mono slowly approaches Ross. She gets within inches of his
beard.

MONA
Very impressive. Are you seeing
anyone?

Ross backs his head up.

ROSS
I, well, not really, well maybe.

MONA
Have you ever made love to a lady
with a beard?

ROSS
A beard, no. A mustache, sometimes.

He snickers and looks over at Rachel. She puts her hand over
her upper lip.

Monica offers her hand.

MONICA
Hi, I'm Monica. I'm with this one.

She grabs Chandler's hand.

CHANDLER
And I'm Chandler, were the Bings.

MONA
(still close to Ross)
I didn't get your name handsome.

ROSS

I'm, I'm, a, Ross. I was in the
jungle.

MONA

You Tarzan, me Jane.
Maybe see you later, we have to
catch up with the other circus
freaks, audition time.

PHOEBE

Good luck. Later, girls.

Mona and Lydia depart. Phoebe giggles.

PHOEBE (CONT'D)

(to Ross)

I think she likes you. She's real
nice.

ROSS

I need a barber.

A knock on the door.

PHOEBE

Come in.

Enters Carl, a twenty-two-year-old, very handsome, tall,
actor with wavy long blonde hair.

Everyone stares. Emma stares with her mouth open.

Chandler reaches over and gently pushes her chin up.

PHOEBE (CONT'D)

Hi, Carl.

CARL

Hi, am I interrupting?

Emma moves closer to Carl.

EMMA

Not at all. I'm Emma.

She held out her hand. He reciprocates.

PHOEBE

Carl is one of my clients. A little different from the others. He's good looking, like Joey.

EMMA

I'll say.

PHOEBE

Carl, these are my old friends.

CARL

Hi, everyone. I just wanted to drop off this audition tape. It's better than the last one, It shows my good side.

RACHEL

There's a bad side?

MONICA

Not from where I'm standing.

CHANDLER

Ah, married life. Hi, I'm Chandler and this is my wife and mother of my children, Monica. You remember our children, don't you dear.

MONICA

What, who, oh, yes, our children. Two of them.

RACHEL

I'm Rachel and the one swooning is my daughter.

ROSS

I'm Ross, dad to Emma.

RACHEL

But not with me, I mean she's our daughter but he's not with me, too much hair. I'm free, available and mature.

PHOEBE

Okay, down girl.

She takes Carl by the arm and leads him to the door.

PHOEBE (CONT'D)
I better get you out of here.

She leans in and whispers.

PHOEBE (CONT'D)
You're not safe.

She opens the door and lets him out.

EMMA
So, aunt Phoebe, are there more
like him?

PHOEBE
No, thank god. He's too hard to
place. He's a dime a dozen in this
business. I do better with the
freaks.

ROSS
You mean the lady with the beard
gets work?

PHOEBE
She sure does. She's My best
client. Well, her and the other
circus freaks.

CHANDLER
So all of this started with Joey?

PHOEBE
Yeah, this was Joey's idea when
Estelle died. After a while, he
bought the building and let me move
in for free.

CHANDLER
Speaking of our star, where is he?

PHOEBE
He's working. He should be home
soon. He'll be so surprised. He
misses you guys.

CHANDLER
We heard him on the Emmys. That was
nice.

PHOEBE

And look, we're all here together
except for Ross.

ROSS

I'm, I'm, right here.

PHOEBE

Sure you are.

In the door burst Joey. A shocked look on his face.

JOEY

You're here! You're all here!

Congratulations and hugs all around as Phoebe smiles wide.

CHANDLER

Well, Joe, we had to come and
celebrate with you.

MONICA

That was some speech. It made me
cry.

RACHEL

We are so proud.

ROSS

Yeah, guy, we knew you could do it.

JOEY

Thanks, Ross. Thanks, everyone. And
there's my little Emma, growing up.

EMMA

You're amazing uncle Joey.

PHOEBE

Isn't this great, all together
again.

CHANDLER

And you haven't moved.

JOEY

Why would I! I own the building.
And I have Phoebe across the hall.
(MORE)

JOEY (CONT'D)

Hey, you guys aren't thinking about moving back, are you? I can kick someone out.

PHOEBE

Not me!

JOEY

Of course not you Phebs.

CHANDLER

Well, the kids are almost grown.

MONICA

They would love that. They are seventeen, the crazy age. How about Ross?

PHOEBE

I could use a roommate. I have an extra bedroom. But no monkeys and the beard has to go. It looks good on Mona but not you.

ROSS

Right. Well maybe. Unless Rachel and Emma,

RACHEL

No, Ross, at least not until Emma is on her own. We don't have room.

EMMA

Mom, I'm in college. I could move in here with aunt Phoebe.

RACHEL

Yeah, I think we all seen why you want to move in here. He just left.

MONICA

She's the same age we were when we all first met.

CHANDLER

That's right.

PHOEBE

And Ross and Rachel have been on and off for a long time.

JOEY
How about we go to Central Perk?

CHANDLER
It's still there?

PHOEBE
Oh, sure. Except there's no music.
I hung up my guitar. You guys left
and my fan died.

INT. CENTRAL PERK - DAY

The group walks in looking around. The decor has been updated. The couch is different. They settle on the couch. Ross is sitting on a chair next to the couch.

CHANDLER
Just like old times.

The bartender spies them and approaches Ross.

BARTENDER
We have a dress code in here. No
homeless.

ROSS
I'm a professor.

BARTENDER
Oh! Well, that makes sense.

He returns to the bar.

MONICA
Ross, maybe a haircut.

ROSS
Yeah, I think you're right. Back to
the old Ross.

PHOEBE
Mona will be disappointed! Maybe
you should keep the mustache.

To the rest of the gang.

PHOEBE (CONT'D)
She's real nice.

The waitress approaches.

WAITRESS

(flirting)

Hi, Joey.

JOEY

Hi, Belinda. Give my friends anything they want and put it on my tab.

CHANDLER

Well, that's different.

JOEY

(excited)

Joey's rich now. . . Are you all going to move back here? Are we getting the gang back together? I kept Chandler's room.

CHANDLER

No, Joey, we love our house and the kids love their school.

MONICA

We're happy there. Rachel is here and so is Phoebe and now Ross is back.

CHANDLER

Yeah, we have to think of those darn kids.

MONICA

Of course, the kids are teenagers now. We could spend some time in the city.

JOEY

Yeah, that's what I'm saying. You could stay in Chandler's old room.

EMMA

And I could move into Phoebe's.

RACHEL

I don't know, across from Joey.

JOEY

Hey, she's my niece.

EMMA

Yeah, mom, Joey and Phoebe would take care of me.

PHOEBE

We would, we really would. It would be like having Rachel back. And you would have to come by. You and Ross both.

ROSS

That might not be so bad.

EMMA

Mom, I am 22.

RACHEL

I guess you are. But then I would have to live alone. I've never done that before.

ROSS

Well.

All turn to Ross.

PHOEBE

Isn't it about time you guys got together for real?

ROSS

I think so. What do you say, Rachel?

MONICA

Oh, come on! You have an adult child in college.

ROSS

And we have one together.

CHANDLER

Talk about doing things backward.

RACHEL

I don't know, living with a guy who has been married five times.

ROSS

Three, that's three times!

PHOEBE

Where is Ben these days?

ROSS

California. He's finishing up at USC.

RACHEL

Well, maybe we could date.

CHANDLER

There's that backward thing again.

ROSS

I do need a place to live.

EMMA

Come-on mom! Aunt Phoebe and uncle Joey would take care of me. I don't need your permission.

PHOEBE

Yeah, we would take care of her.

JOEY

It would be great. You and Ross could stop by, like old times.

RACHEL

I do miss those days.

ROSS

She's an adult, we can't stop her.

RACHEL

I guess.

PHOEBE

And let's face it, you two are made for each other.

RACHEL

Maybe, I guess.

INT. FRIEND'S APARTMENT BUILDING - HALL - DAY

Moving day and Emma and Rachel and Ross are carrying boxes into Phoebe's apartment. Ross is back to his old self.

INT. PHOEBE'S APARTMENT LIVING ROOM - DAY

They open the door to find the circus people practicing their acts. A juggler is in the corner throwing balls into the air two clowns are squirting each other with a seltzer bottle. The dachshunds are running around. Rachel and Ross look around the room suspiciously. Emma has a big smile.

PHOEBE

Come on in guys. My clients are getting ready for an audition.

EMMA

Isn't this great mom.

RACHEL

Well, I don't know. You have to be able to study.

EMMA

I know. I have my room, it's quiet.

ROSS

(to Phoebe)

Are they always here?

PHOEBE

No, no. They come to get assignments and then they're off. It's fun really.

ROSS

That's what I'm afraid of, too much fun.

PHOEBE

Kind of like us at that age.

RACHEL

She's got us there.

PHOEBE

Okay, everyone off to your auditions.

She claps her hands and everyone heads for the door.

EMMA

See mom, they are well trained.

PHOEBE

Yes, they are. And they're nice,
hard-working, serious entertainers,
like Joey.

ROSS

They're not the ones I'm worried
about. Is that Carl lurking about?

RACHEL

Now, Ross, we were that age once.
And what were we doing?

PHOEBE

Yeah, remember.

ROSS

I guess. That's what I'm worried
about. Remember Vegas.

EMMA

It'll be all right daddy. What
happened in Vegas?

ROSS

Never mind. All right, but no
getting married. Not yet anyway. I
don't want her marrying some clown.

Ross snickers.

PHOEBE

Not to worry, all my clowns are
married.

ROSS

They are?

RACHEL

She's not going for the first
pretty face she sees and besides
she's at a college full of pretty
boys.

EMMA

That's, right daddy. I could never be with anyone who wears more makeup than me.

RACHEL

Stop worrying, Ross, we raised a smart girl.

ROSS

Yes, we did. Okay.

In burst Joey. A big smile on his face.

JOEY

You're here!

EMMA

Thanks, uncle Joey. This is exciting the first time I lived on my own.

ROSS

Now, Joey, we're trusting you to look after her.

JOEY

You know you can count on me, Ross.

ROSS

Keep the actors away from her.

JOEY

What's wrong with actors.

ROSS

I mean the out of work actors. She's going to be a lawyer someday. She doesn't need to be distracted. And not too much partying.

JOEY

Gotcha, no partying, studying.

EMMA

Stop worrying, daddy, uncle Joey and aunt phoebe will take good care of me.

RACHEL

Yeah, Ross.

ROSS

I know, I'm just being a dad.

JOEY

And you two will be over a lot now.

ROSS

Yeah, like old times.

RACHEL

Ross, we better get you moved in.

Phoebe and Joey looked surprised.

PHOEBE

You're moving in together, yeah!

JOEY

That's great! Like old times, only better.

RACHEL

Well, we thought we would give it a try.

ROSS

We're older now.

PHOEBE

How exciting, like finding an old pair of shoes.

JOEY

And getting the gang back together!

PHOEBE

We should have a party or a wedding. Ross hasn't been married for a while.

ROSS

I don't think so, or maybe, Rachel.

RACHEL

One step at a time sailor. We did that once remember.

ROSS

Not sober.

PHOEBE

Oh, you two. Some things never change.

RACHEL

Let's just see how things go.

PHOEBE

That's a good reason to have a party, Rachel and Ross not getting married, yeah!

INT. PHOEBE'S APARTMENT LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

A party is underway. A hanging banner reads, " Ross and Rachel are not getting married!" All of the gang are present along with Emma and the circus freaks, " not in costume."

CHANDLER

(to Ross)

So, you are finally not taking the big leap.

ROSS

That's right, taking that big step backward. I think I finally got it right.

CHANDLER

Whatever works.

ROSS

Marriage works for you and Monica.

CHANDLER

That's because we both wanted it and she tolerates my humor.

ROSS

Yeah, that would be hard.

Joey approaches Chandler and Ross.

JOEY

Does this mean we can have a bachelor party?

CHANDLER

No, I don't think I can get that pass Monica.

ROSS

Yeah, I don't think I want to go there with Rachel. I'm afraid to ask.

Monica walks by.

CHANDLER

Hey, hun, we were thinking of having a bachelor party.

MONICA

Well, I thought you would. I know we are. We're hiring that cute long-haired Carl as a stripper.

CHANDLER

So, no bachelor party then.

JOEY

Ahh!

CHANDLER

Did you see that guy? He's like Adonis on steroids.

Mona approaches Ross.

MONA

So, you're taken, maybe. Well, that's best. I don't take to the new you.

ROSS

This is the real me. The old me.

MONA

Too bad. You were my type, not like this. If you ever decide to be my Tarzan again, call me.

ROSS

If I ever start liking ladies with beards, I will.

MONA

You don't know what you're missing.

Mona walks away.

CHANDLER

It makes you kind of curious, sort of.

ROSS

No. I'll stick with Rachel.

Joey approaches and puts his arms around Chandler and Ross.

JOEY

Just like old times.

CHANDLER

Only Ross is not getting married.

ROSS

Maybe this will work out, not marrying Rachel.

CHANDLER

Could be you're not the marrying kind.

ROSS

I guess. Joey's not married. Phoebe's divorced.

CHANDLER

Yeah, what's up with that?

JOEY

I haven't found the right one, like you and Monica or Ross and Rachel.

ROSS

Yeah.

CHANDLER

Too many to choose from, with all those starlets?

JOEY

Hey, I'm Joey!

INT. RACHEL & ROSS'S APARTMENT - DAY

Ross and Rachel are sitting on the couch.

RACHEL
Well, she's gone. Off on her own.

ROSS
She'll be all right. We raised a smart girl.

RACHEL
And she's with our friends.

ROSS
Yeah, Phoebe and Joey may be a little flaky but they'll look after her.

RACHEL
They haven't changed a bit. Have we?

ROSS
You mean have I.

RACHEL
No, we. I was pretty demanding back then.

ROSS
Where do we go from here?

RACHEL
I don't know. We try again, I guess.

ROSS
How about California.

RACHEL
California!

ROSS
Yeah, I got a job offer at the La Brea Tar Pits.

RACHEL
Tar pits, sounds messy!

ROSS
Not really.

RACHEL
I could get a really good tan.

ROSS
There you go.

RACHEL
What would I do? I spent the last years raising Emma.

ROSS
Anything you want. Become a movie star.

RACHEL
An actor? I could do that.

ROSS
Sure you could. Joey did it.

RACHEL
Yeah, and it's Joey.

ROSS
And Phoebe is an agent. She could help.

RACHEL
She could. I could take classes out in California. I could get one heck of a tan.

ROSS
Joey might be disappointed. He wants us to stay.

RACHEL
He could come out there to visit, so could Phoebe. And Monica and Chandler can take the kids to Disneyland on vacation. Emma would be coming out to visit. Maybe for Spring break.

ROSS
Yeah, Spring break.

RACHEL
You went on Spring break, remember,
with that young chippie.

ROSS
Don't remind me.
It was fun though.

RACHEL
I bet it was. It could be time to
move on, leave New York behind.

ROSS
That's what I'm thinking. Lots of
memories but an uncertain future.

RACHEL
Start over.

ROSS
It could be good for us, no
distractions, just us.

RACHEL
Wow! Something to think about.

ROSS
In the jungle, all I could think
about was a future with you. It's
all I want.

She looks into his eyes and they kiss.

INT. CENTRAL PERK - DAY

Joey, Phoebe, Monica, and Chandler are present.

MONICA
Does anyone know what this is
about?

PHOEBE
No, Rachel just wanted us all here.

CHANDLER
It must be important.

JOEY
I bet they're finally getting
married.

PHOEBE

No, I bet she's pregnant again.
They do it like rabbits.

CHANDLER

She's kind of old for that.

JOEY

She would have a really old baby.

CHANDLER

Joey, that's not how - never mind.

PHOEBE

Her eggs are old, anyway.

MONICA

Many women her age have had healthy
babies.

JOEY

Yeah, but, I'm too old to be an
uncle.

PHOEBE

There, there, Joey. . . I'm not!

Rachel and Ross enter.

ROSS

Hi, guys. Thanks for coming.

PHOEBE

I want you to know, I will make a
great baby sitter.

ROSS

What, what, oh no. No babies here.
I think?

RACHEL

No, I went through that once, not
again.

MONICA

I'm kind of glad we don't have to
worry about that.

PHOEBE

Yeah, try three at once.

RACHEL
Why are we talking about babies?
Who's pregnant?

MONICA
Aren't you?

RACHEL
No! Never again!

CHANDLER
Then, why are we here?

ROSS
We're moving.

JOEY
No, you just got here! We just got
the gang back together!

MONICA
Moving where? Close to us, I hope.

RACHEL
Not close. More like far.

MONICA
Far, how far. What about Emma.

ROSS
Emma is on her own now. The little
bird must fly on her own. Your kids
will too, soon.

RACHEL
Boy, that's dramatic.

JOEY
So, where then!

RACHEL
California.

JOEY
California! That place is full of
fruits and nuts.

RACHEL
And lots of actors and palm trees
and sunny beaches.

JOEY

Yeah, but all the good actors are in New York!

ROSS

I think California has a few good ones, and besides Ben is out there and he loves it.

JOEY

But we just got back together.

ROSS

Now, Joey, not really.

RACHEL

And just think, you guys can come out and visit.

PHOEBE

It would be nice to getaway in the winter. I could be an agent out there! Joey could do movies.

JOEY

That's true. I always wanted to do movies. I almost did that one, remember.

ROSS

Yeah, see.

CHANDLER

We're stuck here.

MONICA

I wouldn't call it stuck. We wanted kids, remember.

RACHEL

Aren't they almost grown?

MONICA

Yes, they are.

CHANDLER

And we'll be free! California does sound nice.

MONICA

You're kidding.

CHANDLER

Why, why not drop them off at some college and we'll be free. Free, free, free.

ROSS

Rachel and I could start over. Maybe that's what we need, a change of scenery.

CHANDLER

They have restaurants in California, lots of restaurants. They must need Chefs.

ROSS

They sure do.

MONICA

And advertising, they make commercials in California.

ROSS

Wouldn't it be something if we all moved to California?

RACHEL

I do miss you guys.

JOEY

I can't go. I would have to quit the show.

CHANDLER

But what if Phoebe got you a part in a movie?

JOEY

Still, if you knew how much money I make off the soap.

ROSS

Really! That much.

JOEY

Yeah, a lot.

MONICA

Then you could come out to visit,
you and Phoebe.

JOEY

We could.

RACHEL

The visits would be so much fun.

JOEY

Like the olden days.

ROSS

Well, it's California here we come.

