

A Touch of Grey
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1. INT. A BUSY AIRPORT TERMINAL - DAY

Fade In. DK BENARES(55) Is standing in front of a departures board. We hear in Voice Over.

DK
Sometimes I think to myself, what
changed? How did I get here?

2. INT. DK'S APT - EVENING

18 months earlier. Drunk DK, staring blankly forward. He is sitting on a bed. He takes a slug out of a bottle of wine. He passes out, a lit cigarette in his left hand. A woman, MOLLY(25) walks into the room.

MOLLY
DK? DK?!! Come on, DK, not again.

Molly grabs the cigarette. She walks into the bathroom, cursing under her breath.

3. INT. DK'S APT - MORNING

Molly is asleep and DK is still passed out from the night before. He sits up and looks behind him. He walks around his apartment. Wine bottles, beer cans and liquor bottles are everywhere. He walks into the bathroom. He stares into the mirror. His cell phone rings.

DK
Hello.

MISHA
(Though the phone)Hey, Deek.

DK
Misha? Everything ok?

MISHA
My dad died. Marshall didn't want
to bother you, but...

DK
I...Don't know what to say.

MISHA
He's been dying for a couple years
now, Deek. It's cool.

DK
How's Marshall doing?

MISHA

Surprisingly well. Had to be hard to watch your husband fade away, so I think there's some relief.

DK

Should I come home?

MISHA

If you have to ask, probably not. Take care.

She hangs up abruptly.

DK

What a dick thing to say, DK.

4. INT. MARSHALL'S HOUSE - DAY

MISHA(34) is sitting at the kitchen island. MARSHALL(59) is leaning against the counter. Marshall is tall and looks typically "Western"(Sam Elliot type).

MISHA

Your best friend, huh?

MARSHALL

Give him a break. He's got his own problems.

MISHA

I think Katie's kinda right. I like DK, but he's a bit selfish.

From the side bathroom, appears POP(80).

POP

Always has been. He's a prick. You're out of shit paper.

MISHA

Jesus, Pop, what did you eat?

MARSHALL

I can only get him to eat those Salisbury Steak dinners, the frozen ones.

POP

They're easy to fix. Besides, it's just eating.

MISHA

Gross. Pop, why is Dk like that? I mean, you're his dad.

POP

His mother. She wanted him to always be little boy and he couldn't stand it.

MARSHALL

He drank a bit when he was younger, but when he turned 18, full throttle.

POP

I take a lot of the blame. My wife is a train wreck.

MISHA

How's she doing?

POP

Eh, she'll be dead soon. The cancer spread and the crazy keeps getting worse.

MISHA

Crazy?

MARSHALL

She has Dementia. Pop is ... Learning.

POP

Learning shit, she's nuts. Hey, Misha, look, if you need a shoulder. I mean it, I loved ya dad.

MISHA

I know. (Looks at Marshall) I still got my other dad.

MARSHALL

Thanks, Honey. Is your mom coming in?

MISHA

Yep. She wouldn't miss it.

POP

Wish I had your dad's balls. Coming out fag so late in life. Took nerve.

MISHA

Um, Pop.

POP

Oh, I'm sorry Marshall. How do I say that?

MARSHALL

Just came out. That's fine.

MISHA

Maybe you and DK aren't so different.

MARSHALL

Least Pop's willing to learn.

EXT. COFFEE CAFE - DAY

KATIE(50) and CASSANDRA(48) are finishing coffee and getting up to walk away from cafe.

KATIE

Marshall is worried there will be a lot of people so he over did it with the the caterer.

CASSANDRA

Yeah, but 100 people at his house? No chance.

KATIE

His husband knew a lot of people. Got a pretty good idea who won't be there.

CASSANDRA

Come on, Katie. Give him a break.

KATIE

Why do you defend him? He only comes around us when he needs something.

CASSANDRA

DK has always been...Different.

KATIE

He's an asshole.

CASSANDRA

We all are. We all have our...What's the word, Issues.

Katie stares blankly at Cassandra.

KATIE

And what issue do I have.

CASSANDRA

You'll figure it out. Look, have you seen Thomas today?

KATIE

I'm sure he'll show up.

Like clock work, Thomas(54) is running behind the two women.

THOMAS

Hey, Ladies. Katie, I dropped the kids off at school. Did you reach the caterer?

CASSANDRA

Wait, you dropped the kids off?

THOMAS

Yeah.

CASSANDRA

Where's Dylan?

KATIE

He had an early morning downtown.

CASSANDRA

Uh huh.

KATIE

What does that mean?

CASSANDRA

Your search may be over.

THOMAS

What search?

KATIE

Never mind. Has anyone called Elizabeth?

THOMAS

Marshall did. She can't fly back, but she's paying for the party.

KATIE

What? Does she know it's 100 people?

CASSANDRA

Think she cares? She drops a thousand bucks and won't pick it up. The ground's is too far away.

THOMAS

I wonder what that's like.

KATIE

My kinda comfort.

Katie walks on in a haze as Thomas and Cassandra give each other a look.

INT. DK'S OFFICE - DAY

PEGGY(70) is talking and DK is blankly staring at her. All we see is her mouth moving with no sound.

PEGGY

...And we need a show for Christmas since the rights aren't available. DK. DK! Did you hear anything I said?

DK

No.

PEGGY

I've noticed you are ignoring the needs of this company.

DK

No, you want your husband for this job. You guys didn't have a pot to piss in when I came here and now you feel you can run it better.

DK reaches behind him and grabs a folder. He reaches in and pulls out a couple of forms.

DK (CONT'D)

We have a Christmas show and a sponsor already. He hands Peggy the paper.

PEGGY

ELF? Elf won't fit on our stage.

DK

You said the same thing about CATS.

PEGGY

Who's footing the bill for this?

DK

Benson Corp. It's Jon Benson's favorite movie.

PEGGY

I'm not sure how long we will be able to work together.

DK

I'm sure you'll find a way to get rid of me, like you did Mark. But, it's Monday...My day off. You knew that when you asked me in here. So, Christmas is settled and I'm going to the golf course. Get with your husband and come up with another angle. The rest of the board already has the budget, the rights form and the LOI from Jon. (Snooty)I'm off to the club. Love saying that. Golf is a calling.

DK gets up, grabs his golf clubs and walks out.

EXT. GOLF COURSE - DAY

DK and RANDY(70), GARY(50) and JON BENSON(60) are on a tee box. DK hits.

RANDY

You will live dangerously.

DK

What are you talking, that's straight as an arrow.

RANDY

I'm serious, that woman has a vendetta.

JON

No, she has a need to be in control. I recognized that when she first came to the theatre.

GARY

It's true. She tried to tell Jon what he could and couldn't donate to the company.

JON

Till you came in, DK, locals were avoiding the theatre. It mainly survived on tourist.

DK

Explains why they didn't have money when they hired me.

RANDY

You left Chicago for this town?

DK

I grew up in a small town. It was an easy switch.

GARY

Besides, he loves it here. The booze is cheaper.

DK

Can't explain that culture shock. Thought I was in Iowa.

RANDY

What does that mean?

GARY

Field of Dreams, ya idiot. Is this Heaven...It's Iowa.

EXT. GOLF COURSE - DAY

The guys come up to the club house, drunk. There's a cop, JASPER(30), walking out with a styrofoam cup. Randy hits the brakes a bit too hard and DK falls out of the golf cart. Everyone is laughing.

JASPER

Howdy, fellas.

DK

Oh shit...It's ICE. They're gonna deport me, guys.

JASPER

Funny. Who's driving home, fellas?

GARY

Bend over, I'll drive.

JON
I thought they over turned don't
ask, don't tell.

GARY
Hell, I know who I am.

JASPER
Ok, fellas, I'm serious.

Molly comes out of the club house with Sheena.

MOLLY
I'll take this one, Jasper. He'll
be fine.

Molly helps DK to his feet.

DK
Gentlemen, it has been an
enlightening afternoon. I'm off to
be ravished.

MOLLY
My guess is passed out. Be safe
boys. Jasper, get Gary home
safe...Yeah, we all know.

JASPER
Small towns.

EXT. OUTSIDE DK'S APARTMENT - DAY

Molly helps DK out of the car. He's drunk but coming around.
TRAVIS(30) a neighbor and a hunky stud, sweaty from running
and not wearing a shirt, stops.

TRAVIS
Hey. He's pretty banged up,
huh?

MOLLY
Monday Golf.

TRAVIS
Want some help getting him
upstairs?

MOLLY
If you don't mind. That would be
great.

INT. DK'S APT - DAY

Travis helps DK to his bed and Molly follow.

MOLLY

Thank you, Travis. Can I get you a drink?

TRAVIS

I'm gonna make a shake over at my place. I can make you some coffee, if you like.

MOLLY

Sounds great. Let's let DK get some rest.

INT. TRAVIS' APT - DAY

Molly comes in first and Travis follows, turning back to the door, making a clicking noise.

TRAVIS

Want that drink?

MOLLY

Don't need it.

She grabs him and kisses him.

MOLLY (CONT'D)

Let me run to the bathroom. Meet ya in the meeting place.

TRAVIS

You bet.

INT. DK'S APT - DAY

His phone, beside the bed buzzes. The message reads "The Door is open" .

DK

I need some water.

INT. OUTSIDE TRAVIS' APT - DAY

Molly is sneaking out and DK is sitting in a chair in the hall.

DK
I never made you that loud.

MOLLY
You're sober?

DK
Travis told me about you guys a couple days ago. Guess the guilt got to him.

MOLLY
I've tried long and hard to fix you.

DK
So what...We just walk through this with blinders on? You're young. You deserve better.

MOLLY
I'm really sorry.

DK
Don't be. Didn't realize I had gotten so old.

MOLLY
You're not old...

DK
I'm almost 60, Molly. I'm still chasing young woman like trophies.

MOLLY
Thanks.

DK
Saying you're different would just be a shit thing to say. Go back in there.

MOLLY
You gonna be ok?

DK
I'll see ya.

INT. DK'S APT - DAY

DK sits at his computer, typing out a screenplay. On his desk are two photos, one of his group of friends, one of Cassandra. DK narrates the last few words.

DK

"You can't make me love you. I already do. Fin. " Man, that sucks. I need something. Same old freakin' story that's been told a hundred times. I need different. YOU'RE OF FUCKING LOUSY WRITER! What can't I find...I can find a beer.

DK goes into the kitchen and takes out a beer.

DK (CONT'D)

Alright...Give me something. Give me something. Maybe he goes on a trip. Maybe...Maybe... "J.R. stands at an airport departure board, looking at far away places" .

INT. MARSHALL AND DON'S HOUSE - DAY

There are nearly 200 people throughout the house, inside and out. DYLAN(50) is chatting up an "over developed" blond on the back porch. Katie is speaking with Cassandra in the living room.

CASSANDRA

Katie, why did you bring that guy here?

KATIE

He's my partner.

CASSANDRA

He's a cheating dirt bag.

Thomas walks through with with a wine bottle.

THOMAS

Hey Katie, Marshall hid some of that Pinot you like.

Thomas pours some wine and escapes.

KATIE

He apologized for that. It was a mistake.

CASSANDRA

Bless your little, white heart.

Marshall is in the kitchen, sunken into a corner. Thomas is standing with him.

Misha, Marshall's step daughter, walks into the kitchen and grabs another tray of cheese and prosciutto.

MISHA

Hey dad, You Christians have weird traditions.

MARSHALL

Oh yeah, well... My husband, your father, ate shrimp!

MISHA

Oy vey...Vat a Shanda! I love you, dad.

Mischa stares at Marshall then eats a piece of ham. She walks out with the tray towards the buffet.

MARSHALL

Love my daughter, but...

THOMAS

Did you see Katie? Can't believe she brought Dylan.

MARSHALL

Why don't you...

THOMAS

You know he cheated on her, right?

Marshall's cell phone buzzes.

THOMAS (CONT'D)

Heard from DK?

MARSHALL

Speak of the devil...(To DK)Hey!

DK (V/O)

Sorry I'm not there.

As Marshall is on the phone, Pop walks in.

POP

Thomas, when are you gonna kick the shit out of that asshole and lay pipe with Katie.

THOMAS

Pop, you're a true poet.

POP

You don't choose life. You live it.

MARSHALL

Would you two shut up. I can't hear.

DK (V/O)

I just have a feeling.

MARSHALL

(To DK) Then come home. Damn man, you've been running long enough.

POP

(To Thomas) Just shut up. I'm tired of the excuses. (Kisses Marshall on the cheek)

MARSHALL

You're leaving?

POP

Yes. And tell that asshole, I'll buy the plane ticket.

MARSHALL

Did you hear that? Your dad is buying you a ticket home.

DK (V/O)

I don't want him buying me a ticket. I'll get my own ticket.

POP

Drunken welp. (Yelling into the phone) Quit drinking, Asshole!

MARSHALL

Bye Pop. You're not helping.

POP

Bye. Oh, (Back to the phone) I love you...You guys too.

Pop walks out.

MARSHALL

(To Dk) Look, I gotta run. Just keep me up to date and if you need anything, let me know.

DK (V/O)

Alright. Kiss Thomas for me.

INT. SMALL THEATRE - DAY

DK sits in the audience watching and Molly instructs a group of dancers. A short, stout woman, Peggy walks up to DK.

PEGGY
May I speak with you in the office?

DK
THEE office. Not my office, huh?

DK stands up and the two leave.

INT. THEATRE OFFICE - DAY

DK sits at his desk and Peggy sits at one of the chairs in front of him.

PEGGY
...And we are concerned with your drinking around the kids.

DK
Just the kids, not the adults.

PEGGY
Don't be glib.

DK
I'm curious, is this you talking or your husband?

PEGGY
This isn't personal.

DK
Isn't it? Now that you're no longer under water, your 3 time bankrupt husband wants this seat.

PEGGY
We thought this would be your reaction. So, we're offering a severance.

DK
Really? Money I made you?

Peggy places an envelope on the desk.

PEGGY
You may take this or not, however you like.

(MORE)

PEGGY (CONT'D)

Either way, we would like you out by the end of the week. Molly will take over in the interim.

DK

I'll do you one better. You got what you wanted...Hell, maybe I did too.

Dk stands and walks out, leaving the envelope of the desk.

INT. MARSHALL AND DON'S HOUSE - DAY

MARSHALL

The company didn't have any money when he took over but he's got them rolling in it now. But the booze is too cheap there.

THOMAS

Yeah?

MARSHALL

It's like 10 minutes from the North Pole, for Christ's sake.

Cassandra comes in from the living room.

CASSANDRA

Hey, have you heard from Drunky?

THOMAS

He just called. Looks like he's coming home.

CASSANDRA

What? You mean, like...Home, home or just a visit?

MARSHALL

Home, Home...Thinks he's getting fired.

Cassandra looks worried.

THOMAS

Hey, did Katie leave?

MARSHALL

Here we go.

CASSANDRA

(To Thomas) Dude, go grab her, kiss her and whisk her away to a bedroom.

MARSHALL

Not my room. I just changed the sheets. (To Thomas) Just...Tell her.

CASSANDRA

(To Marshall) The rubber sheets?

MARSHALL

Funny. (To Thomas) Seriously, man, I think she feels the same way.

Thomas just stares at him. Mischa sticks her head in the kitchen.

MISHA

Hey...I'm gonna start the "Find the door" process, Dad.

MARSHALL

Thanks, Honey.

MISHA

You guys need anything?

They shake their heads or say no. Mischa leaves. Cassandra walks out.

MARSHALL

Guess I'm gonna have to sign up for scruff.

THOMAS

What's that?

MARSHALL

Gay Tinder.

Thomas grabs a bottle of wine.

THOMAS

Let's get drunk.

MARSHALL

Let's get the house cleared first.

THOMAS

(Politely) Oh, I can help with that. I'll get the food.

Marshall watches Thomas walk away with a "Poor Guy" look.

INT. MARSHALL AND DON'S HOUSE - DAY

Marshall, Thomas, Mischa are sitting in the living room as Katie and Dylan walk in from outside.

Katie and Dylan are walking toward the door.

KATIE

Hey Guys, we're gonna head out.
Marshall if there's anything you
need.

MARSHALL

Thank you, Love. I appreciate your
help setting this all up.

DYLAN

Yeah, took a lot of her attention.
Marshall, I bet you're glad it's
over.

MARSHALL

Dylan, this is one of those moments
you shouldn't speak.

DYLAN

I beg your pardon?

CASSANDRA

What exactly did it take her
attention from, Dylan?

DYLAN

She does have a house to run.

CASSANDRA

Can't help out with that, huh?

DYLAN

I work.

CASSANDRA

Work at being an asshole.

MISHA

Katie, I got something for you in
the kitchen. Come help me grab it.

CASSANDRA

You live there for free. That's her
house.

(MORE)

CASSANDRA (CONT'D)

You cheat on her and she has to
take care of you because you work.

THOMAS

Dylan, probably time to go. We'll
make sure she gets home.

DYLAN

Always the savior, huh Tommy?

There's a silence in the room.

MARSHALL

Dylan, I'm gonna take my right shoe
off and if you don't get out of my
house, I'm going to see how far I
can stick my foot up your ass.

DYLAN

Subtle.

MARSHALL

I wear size 13.

DYLAN

Always, the friends. Jesus. Have
good night.

CASSANDRA

Fuck off.

Dylan leaves.

INT. MARSHALL'S KITCHEN - DAY

Thomas strolls in as Misha and Katie stand in the corner of
the room.

THOMAS

He's gone.

KATIE

Gonna be a long day tomorrow.

MISHA

Pretty sure dad would kick him out
for you.

THOMAS

Grab the wine and let's get started
on forgetting for a while.

INT. MARSHALL'S LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Katie is hanging close to Thomas on the floor, while Misha is sitting with Marshall on the couch. Cassandra is in a wicker chair.

CASSANDRA

...And we're on the river walk. DK says "Can't help it, gotta pee" . Katie tells him to whip it out and let it fly. He says "I am" . Lunatic is walking and peeing, stretched out to the side. Katie looks in horror! God I love that guy.

MARSHALL

We were all shocked. Back then, he was funny.

KATIE

He's passed out naked on my kitchen floor before.

They laugh.

MISHA

What did Dylan say, Katie?

KATIE

Oh, that was before we were together. I think I was still with Carlton.

MISHA

The kids' dad, right?

KATIE

M-hmm. He wasn't there, thank God. Those two drunks together, Jesus! Yep, he was supposed to stay with me during a hurricane but decided to get drunk in the country.

CASSANDRA

He's always felt awful about that.

KATIE

Yet he keeps doing stupid shit.

MARSHALL

(Pointed)We all do stupid shit. We're getting older and we better remember that.

Katie realizing she has her own issues, pipes down.

MARSHALL (CONT'D)

Wish he was here to cook. Hey, any food left, honey.

MISHA

Nope. The vulture took the leftovers.

MARSHALL

I didn't eat. Let's get some Thai food.

CASSANDRA

That's what we need, a colon blow.

MISHA

Jesus.

MARSAHLL

Amen! I'm calling Thai Peppers.

THOMAS

Call 'em, I'll go get it.

MARSHALL

No need. I'm calling my delivery guy. He always picks up that wine Don likes.

The room goes silent.

MARSHALL (CONT'D)

Liked. Don't worry. It's more nostalgia than sadness.

INT. SMALL AIRPORT TERMINAL - DAY

DK is looking through his phone, sitting at a gate. Jon Benson walks up.

JON

What cha drinking?

DK

Hey! Guess good news travels fast.

JON

I been here my whole life, pal. Bailed that theatre out a thousand times. You're the only that's made it work.

DK
Eh, right place, right time. Time's up.

JON
Panther piss. How ya getting your stuff home?

DK
The treasurer is a friend. She was one of the stay votes.

JON
You're gonna miss Mondays.

DK
You're gonna miss my money.

JON
What's more important is you get yourself together. Headed back to Chicago or North Carolina?

DK
My mom's dying. I'm gonna have to face it soon enough. Might as well get started.

JON
How's your dad?

DK
I think he's frustrated, probably hurt I haven't been there.

JON
You need any money?

In that moment, DK starts to understand friendship.

DK
I'm ok, Jon.

Jon pauses.

JON
Ok.

Jon gets up and walks away.

INT. MARSHALL'S LIVING ROOM - DAY

Katie and Thomas are asleep on the couch and Cassandra in the wicker chair. Marshall is on the patio, naked and waking up on the couch. He walks in the house. Everyone is hungover.

MARSHALL
Anyone need anything?

CASSANDRA
Pants...We all need to be wearing pants.

MARSHALL
Oh shit...

Misha is at the top of the stairs.

MISHA
Dad! Jesus!

MARSHALL
I'm taking a shower. (He runs to his room)

KATIE
There are places on my body that hurt I had no idea existed.

THOMAS
Does Marshall have a cat?

CASSANDRA
(Under her breath) Might explain the nudity.

KATIE
Gross.

MISHA
You guys want some breakfast?

THOMAS
Just heat up that Thai food.

MISHA
Dad got into the Thai Food about 3am.

KATIE
Where are you getting breakfast?

MISHA

Garage fridge. Dad hides food there.

MARSHALL

(From his room) Don't mess with my liver sausage!

MISHA

Don't worry. Bacon gonna be ok, maybe pancakes?

THOMAS

Needs some help.

MISHA

Take the day off, Tommy.

INT. MARSHALL'S LIVING ROOM - DAY

The group is gathered other than Misha in the kitchen cooking.

CASSANDRA

...One more facelift, she'll have a goatee.

KATIE

Come on, Cassie, us girls have to stick together.

CASSANDRA

Sandra Babson is not a girl. She's a Barbi Doll manufactured in a small southeast Asian plant.

MARSHALL

By children in diapers.

THOMAS

We've officially crossed the rubicon.

MISHA

(Yelling from the kitchen) Kindness people, Kindness!

CASSANDRA

I wonder how Drunky's doing?

THOMAS

I was just thinking that.

KATIE

I know he's a callous ass, but I'm worried about him.

MARSHALL

Knew it. Cassie, you owe me \$20 bucks.

CASSANDRA

Shit.

Katie looks disappointed in both of them. Misha comes out of the kitchen and places pancakes on the dinette table.

MISHA

Coffee or Juice?

From behind her, DK walks in from the mudroom.

DK

Is both ok?

INT. DINER - DAY

A few weeks later. DK is sitting with his Pop, having breakfast. His father looks exhausted.

DK

...And she won't exercise at all?

POP

You been home 5 weeks. (Pause)No. She does scream sometimes, saying someone is trying to kill her.

DK

Why?

POP

The doctors say it's the mental thing.

DK

Pop, it's dementia. And the cancer doesn't help.

POP

Yea.

DK

Pop...You can't do that by yourself.

POP
Again, 5 weeks, ya selfish prick.

DK
Guilt isn't gonna work. We don't
get on, Pop.

POP
She's sick. Besides, it ain't for
her, it's for me!

DK is silent for a minute.

Thomas walks into the diner with Katie's children ALEX(18)
and AARON(13).

THOMAS
Mr. Benares, How are you?

POP
I'm good. Are you still at the
hospital?

THOMAS
I am. I'm a night nurse now,
though.

POPS
Still in the ICU?

THOMAS
I am.

POPS
Don't know how you do it. Hello,
Katie's kids.

THOMAS
This is Alex and this is Aaron.

POP
I know. (To Aaron)Having breakfast?

AARON
What do you think?

POP
I think I don't give a shit about
who your mother is. If you're
disrespectful to me, I'll whip your
ass.

DK
 Get Aaron the Blueberry Muffin.
 Really sucks up all the salt.(Looks
 at Pop)

THOMAS
 Yeah, I will.

Thomas walks the kids away. Once they're out of ear shot...

POP
 I love that guy, but for 30 years?
 Has he ever told Katie how he feels
 about her?

DK
 I don't know, but I'm pretty sure
 you're not gonna be invited to
 Aaron's Bar Mitzvah.

POP
 I don't like for Borscht. Are you
 gonna help with your mother?

DK
 What should I do, Pop? We don't
 like each other.

POP
 Your mother loves you.

DK
 No, my mother thinks I'm a doll to
 play with.

POP
 As always, no help.

DK
 It's probably a reflection of
 parenting.

Pop's phone rings.

POP
 ...Ok. Yes, thanks. I'm on my way.
 (To DK) I have to go!

DK
 Is everything ok?

POP
 The nurse is freaking out...I gotta
 go.

DK
I'm right behind you.

DK throws down some cash and runs out behind his father.

EXT. DINER - DAY

Pops gets to his car and DK is on his way to his. Thomas comes running out of the diner.

THOMAS
Hey! Is everything ok?

DK
Something is up with my mom.

THOMAS
Let me know. I'm dropping the kids off after breakfast.

EXT POP'S HOUSE DAY

Pop drives up with DK in the car behind him. The house has 4 cars, including an ambulance parked in front of it. The Care Nurse, SHAWN(55) is standing on the front porch.

POP
What the hell is going on?

DK
Pop, calm down. Hey Shawn, what's happening?

SHAWN
We have her sedated and she's resting.

DK
Seems like there's more.

SHAWN
(To Pop) Mr. Benares, I think it may be time.

POP
Time for what?

DK
Pop. Come on.

POP
What, is she dying?

SHAWN
Mr. Benares...

POP
Just say it?!

SHAWN
She's not gonna get better. She'll
be dead in a week.

Pop looks punched.

DK
You asked for it. Shawn, what do we
next?

SHAWN
Put her in the ambulance and take
her to Hospice. With your father's
consent.

DK
Pop?

Pop shakes his head.

SHAWN
Thank you, Mr. Benares.

POP
Wait...Can I see her?

SHAWN
She's unconscious , but sure. Take
your time.

INT POP'S BEDROOM DAY

Pop walks up to his wife. In the back ground we can see DK
standing in the door way. Pop kneels beside the bed.

POP
(To is wife)You know, I'd never do
anything to hurt ya. I...The nurse
thinks this is best. I hope you're
not mad at me. I love you. (To DK)
Alright, get it fuckin' over with.

Pop pushes past DK. Dk stares at his mother.

EXT. CITY STREET - DAY

Katie and Cassandra are walking, drinking coffee.

KATIE

Aren't you tired of this? You can't keep doing this.

CASSANDRA

It's cool.

KATIE

Honey, you're homeless. Have you talked to Marshall?

CASSANDRA

He's already got "Drunky" there.

KATIE

Have you seen DK?

CASSANDRA

What are you asking?

KATIE

If...Have seen your friend.

CASSANDRA

Oh, no. (Flustered)Once or twice.

KATIE

Would it be disrespectful if I...

CASSANDRA

...No, you can't give me any money. I'd never forgive myself if Dylan found out.

KATIE

He's not that bad.

CASSANDRA

You're living with a guy that you hooked up with? It's a Saturday and it's beautiful outside. You're here with me and where are your kids?

KATIE

With Tommy.

CASSANDRA

Tommy, our Tommy, YOUR Tommy.

KATIE
He's not MY Tommy.

CASSANDRA
And Dylan?

KATIE
With his buddies.

CASSANDRA
And later he'll be with you? You,
my love, are an object.

KATIE
That's awful to say.

CASSANDRA
It's true. A no-hands masturbation
tool.

KATIE
You're gonna give me a nose bleed,
punching so hard.

Katie's phone goes off.

KATIE (CONT'D)
(Into the phone) Hey. What happened?
Is she at home?

CASSANDRA
What's up?

KATIE
Ok, no...Bring the kids with you
and we'll meet you over there. No,
go now.

Katie "Hangs up" .

CASSANDRA
What's up?!!!

KATIE
DK's mom is headed to Hospice.

CASSANDRA
Oh, shit. Where'd you park?

KATIE
2nd street.

INT. SITTING AREA/HOSPICE - DAY

Marshall, Thomas, Cassandra and Katie are seated. Aaron is playing a game on a phone and Alex is looking out a window.

CASSANDRA

I...We better watch DK. (she mimics drinking a bottle)How is Pop dealing with it?

MARSHALL

I don't think he fully understands what it is. There was no "Mental Disease" when he was growing up.

THOMAS

I'm not sure anyone really understands it. It's different with everyone.

CASSANDRA

Did you guys study it in nursing school?

THOMAS

Best we could. It's an individualized disease.

MARSHALL

They call it the long goodbye. The patient slowly disappears. With the cancer, it's twice as hard on Pop.

THOMAS

Right. I can't help but think that it accelerated the dementia.

KATIE

And DK lives with you...

Marshall stares at Katie for a second.

MARSHALL

What's your problem with DK?

KATIE

Nothing. I just think it's selfish of him.

MARSHALL

Says the woman who lives with a guy that cheats on her.

KATIE
Dylan loves me.

MARSHALL
Dylan OWNS you!

CASSANDRA
Marshall!

MARSHALL
Why are you here? Because you think, for some strange reason, you're showing support?

KATIE
That's not fair!

MARSHALL
What's fair? I agree with you, DK should be with his father, but do you think you're one to actually throw stones?

THOMAS
GUYS!

DK has come out of his mother's room and witnessed all of this.

DK
They say she has a couple of days. Pop is staying here and I'm going to take care of the puppy.

DK starts for the exit. Cassandra runs to grab his hand. They stare at each other for a second.

MARSHALL
Whoa, Whoa, Whoa, where are you going?

DK
I'm leaving. Sounds like you guys have some issues to work out.

DK looks over to Katie, let's go of Cassandra's hand and looks at her for a second. He bows his head and walks out.

MARSHALL
Alright, enough. I'll stick around with Pop. You guys get out of here.

Katie stares at Marshall and Cassandra walks in front of her, pulling her toward the exit.

THOMAS

You sure?

MARSHALL

Yea.

THOMAS

Give me a call if you need a break.

MARSHALL

You bet.

INT. POP'S HOUSE - DAY

DK walks in with a case of beer. Lily the puppy dog walks up to him.

DK

Hey, Pretty girl. Still living in this place of heartbreak. (To himself) I hate this fuckin' place.

He walks in and heads to the back porch.

EXT. COFFEE SHOP - DAY

Cassandra, Thomas and Katie are sitting outside a local coffee shop. Katie is sulking.

CASSANDRA

He does have a point. It's like a year ago, you started taking shots at DK.

KATIE

Why is it...

CASSANDRA

Hold on. I'm pointing something out.

KATIE

Why did he have to bring Dylan up?

CASSANDRA

Well, I mean, Dylan has been caught in the past. Katie, you have to remember, Marshall has known DK longer. Hell, his husband was one of DK's teachers.

KATIE
DK is a drunk!

THOMAS
And you're a constant victim!

There is a silence.

THOMAS (CONT'D)
You have no idea how much DK worries about you. No one ever tells you because you have such an anger towards him. No, you have an anger towards yourself. He has threatened on more than one occasion to "Handle" Dylan. It becomes difficult to defend you when you constantly talk bad about him...But DK never wavers. He never gives up. Even though you frustrate him quite a lot.

KATIE
How do I frustrate him?

THOMAS
THAT'S what you heard?!

CASSANDRA
He thinks you deserve so much more.

Cassandra sees Dylan walking with a blond. Dylan walks up to the table.

DYLAN
I thought you were with DK.
Someone's dying or something.

KATIE
Hey. His mother is in hospice.

DYLAN
Yeah, dementia, right? She won't be suffering anymore.

CASSANDRA
That's an interesting cologne you're wearing. What is it?

THOMAS
Sweat and Shame.

Long hush.

DYLAN
 (To Katie) Well, I'll see you at the house. Where are the kids?

KATIE
 They're with my parents.

DYLAN
 I'll be home in a while.

CASSANDRA
 Yours or hers?

Dylan walks away.

KATIE
 I guess he was out for a run.

THOMAS
 I have to go too. Bye.

He gets up and leaves.

CASSANDRA
 Whatcha thinking?

KATIE
 Tommy.

CASSANDRA
 Oh, sweetie.

INT. COFFEE LOUNGE/HOSPICE - DAY

Marshall and Pop are sitting and drinking coffee at the HOSPICE cafeteria. Pop is eating.

MARSHALL
 You really like that stuff?

POP
 Damn straight. Look, Katie's just lonely.

MARSHALL
 I know. I shouldn't let her get to me. I just get tired of hearing how selfish DK is.

POP
 Well, he is. I'm his father and I know that.

MARSHALL

I know he is too, but I get tired of hearing it.

POP

His mother, not so different than Katie. His mom threw money at him to try to be his friend.

MARSHALL

Why do you think that is?

POP

She didn't have a mother worth a damn, so she never learned to do it herself. How's your mom?

MARSHALL

She's getting better. She's still not used to being alone.

POP

How long were she and your father married?

MARSHALL

52 years.

POP

Was his death a shock? It was a heart attack, right?

MARSHALL

It was. It was a shock, but not like my brother. THAT was a shock.

POP

You've had a rough go, buddy.

MARSHALL

But I still have you.

POP

I think I'm the one that's gonna need you, Pal.

EXT. POP'S HOUSE - DAY

Sitting in a chair on the back porch, DK is surrounded by beer cans. He is looking at a computer screen and an email notice goes off. The puppy is at his feet.

DK

Another pass. What do you think, Lily? Think I'll ever write a good story? (Blech) Sure tastes better going down.

EXT. CEMETERY - DAY

A group of folks are walking away from a gravesite where a funeral just took place. Pop and DK sit. Marshall walks up to Pop and DK.

MARSHALL

You guys ok?

POP

I was supposed to go first.

DK

If you were, Pop...You would have.

POP

That's a dick answer.

MARSHALL

Ok. Come on fellas. Why don't we grab some lunch?

DK

The family is coming to the house.

POP

To hell with the family. They didn't come to see her. To hell with those people. To hell with everyone. And for what it's worth, to hell with you. You never liked your mother.

DK

Alright...I'm gonna go. I'll call the family and tell them no one's home. Marshall, take him to get something to eat.

MARSHALL

How are you getting home?

DK

My feet. He likes Jimbo's.

MARSHALL

I know.

DK walks away. Marshall sits down beside Pop.

MARSHALL (CONT'D)

You know why, right?

POP

Because he was always the most independent little bastard she knew. It wasn't his fault, but she's dead so I can take it out on him. At least for a week or so.

MARSHALL

You have a lot of faith in him.

POP

I do. Just can't seem to tell him Did you know he's a writer?

MARSHALL

I knew he wrote a couple of scripts.

POP

6. He's written 6. And they're good. I think they're good.

MARSHALL

I didn't know that.

POP

Gotta be tough on him. Choosing a business that everyone wants to be in, but no one has an easy path. Well, unless you're a nepo-baby like the big stars. He was always given everything he wanted and now, no one that can give him a break will talk to him. Weird business. But, he'll get there.

MARSHALL

Ya hungry?

POP

Yeah, and I'm glad he's calling those family fuckers off. I don't like those people.

MARSHALL

I'm sure he can handle it.

POP

He is good at being an asshole.

MARSHALL
Good breeding.

EXT. POP'S HOUSE - DAY

Marshall is dropping Pop off at his house.

POP
Thanks for lunch. You should save
your money.

MARSHALL
Gonna be ok?

POP
Yeah, I'm fine. Tell Drunky I love
him.

MARSHALL
You bet. Get some rest and give me
a call if you need anything.

Pop walks away. As Marshall drives off.

INT. MARSHALL'S TRUCK - DAY

Marshall is driving and his phone, mounted to his windshield,
rings. It's Elizabeth.

MARSHALL
HEY STRANGER!!!

ELIZABETH(V/O)
Hello, my darling. Have you ever
seen the Tuscan sunset?

MARSHALL
Sometimes I think you are the worst
person I know.

ELIZABETH(V/O)
Well, I can tell you, I need a
break from it. I think we're coming
home for a little bit.

MARSHALL
I finally get to meet Gianna?

ELIZABETH
I must tell you, my darling, she's
more manly than you.

MARSHALL
Everybody's gotta eat.

ELIZABETH(V/O)
Oy...Look, how's Drunky doing?

MARSHALL
I just dropped off Pop from the funeral and lunch. They got into another fight.

ELIZABETH(V.O.)
He's a stubborn drunk. How's Pop?

MARSHALL
A little crushed I think. Hey, when was the last movie you did?

ELIZABETH(V/O)
Well, our little firemen documentary is stalled. The Peruvian government is giving us shit. Why? Wait, not DK's stuff?

MARSHALL
Liz...

ELIZABETH(V/O)
How can we depend on him? This is my business.

MARSHALL
I don't think a small budget indie film would cost you everything.

ELIZABETH(V/O)
I have to think about reputation.

MARSHALL
Since when? You have more money than God.

ELIZABETH(V/O)
We can talk about it later.

MARSHALL
When are you back?

ELIZABETH(V/O)
I think 6 weeks.

MARSHALL

Why the hell are you calling me now?

ELIZABETH(V/O)

I'm a planner, you oaf. Now, go tell my tenant they have 6 weeks to get the hell out of my house.

MARSHALL

Ah. Now I get it. Alright. I'll call you Monday.

ELIZABETH(V/O)

Make it Tuesday. Sunday is a going away party for the exiting mayor.

MARSHALL

I thought you hated him.

ELIZABETH(V/O)

He's not invited.

INT MARSHALL AND DON'S HOUSE DAY

Marshall walks into DK's room. DK is packing his bags.

MARSHALL

Missed you at Pop's house. Going somewhere?

DK

Can't let Pop live by himself. He's a horrible cook. Plus, I miss the puppy.

MARSHALL

You know, he loves you a lot.

DK

Of course, he does. He's my father.

MARSHALL

He worries about your drinking.

DK stops.

DK

I'll tell you what, if it's that important, I'll stop.

MARSHALL

Hey, listen...

DK

Stop. I drink because I like it. Sure, it kills the loneliness and the disappointment. My writing, making movies. I get it, I'm a failure. If I'm hurting you and my father...

MARSHALL

And Katie...

DK

Yeah, what is that?

MARSHALL

You're an easy target in a life that's just shit for her.

DK

Alright...AND KATIE, you want me to stop? Done.

MARSHALL

No AA?

DK

My father, he quit smoking because one day he said he didn't want to do it anymore. If I'm hurting him and you...

MARSHALL

And Cassie? I mean, she worries too.

Pause

DK

Nothing hurts Cassie.

MARSHALL

You don't mean that.

DK

Yeah, well... Yeah. Kinda wish she wasn't so independent.

MARSHALL

Your father says the same about you. Says you're gonna surprise us one day.

DK

Today is the day, Sugar Bear.

MARSHALL

Ever think we just missed our opportunities?

DK

Yep. We love each other but we're too stupid to know it.

MARSHALL

Still have your scripts?

DK

Yeah, why?

MARSHALL

I'd like to read them.

EXT. STRIP MALL - DAY

A few days later, Marshall, DK and Pop are in a parking lot, walking toward a strip mall where a Mexican restaurant is. Cassandra and BRENT(30) are walking out of the restaurant.

CASSANDRA

HEY!!! How's it, fellas?

Pop hugs her right away.

POP

Hiya, sexy. (To Brent)How old are you, 15? (To Cassandra)Don't you know my boy loves you?

MARSHALL

Pop, if you're anything, you're subtle.

CASSANDRA

Your son can have any woman he wants. He doesn't need to hang on to childhood puppy love, (To DK) Right, Stud?

DK is embarrassed.

DK

I guess we're going in.

MARSHALL

We'll see you, sweetheart. Good seeing you, Brent.

BRENT

Yeah.

CASSANDRA

I'll call later.

Marshall goes in and Cassandra's eye follows DK.

INT. MEXICAN RESTAURANT - DAY

Marshall, DK and Pop are dipping chips and talking.

MARSHALL

And which one do you think would be a great starting point?

DK

The romcom is the one with the least amount of locations. I imagine that would save us the most money.

BRANSON(35-40) walks up. He/She is an indie film producer.

MARSHALL

Hey Branson. What are you doing here?

BRANSON

You invited me.

MARSHALL

So much for playing along. This is my buddy, DK. DK, this is...

DK

I know who you are, Branson. Heard your last indie went international.

BRANSON

I got lucky. Marshall says you're a writer.

DK

He said that, did he?

MARSHALL

I'll sit here and keep my mouth shut. You guys talk. Pop, you just look interested.

POP

In what?

MARSHALL

I have no idea, but we'll listen.

BRANSON

I've heard you're a great actor,
too.

DK

Surprised you haven't heard that
I'm a drunk.

BRANSON

I have.

MARSHALL

He says the romcom would be the
easiest to shoot.

BRANSON

I thought you were just gonna
listen.

MARSHALL

Sorry.

BRANSON

In the indie world, romcoms are
tough to find an audience. How many
locations do you have?

DK

10 or so.

BRANSON

Small cast?

DK

13 or so.

BRANSON

What kinda budget?

DK

Hadn't even really thought about
it. You young whipper snappers are
much smarter than us old schoolers.

BRANSON

Got anything in the bank?

MARSHALL

I may have that covered.

DK
Is that right?

MARSHALL
Elizabeth is coming back to town.

Marshall shakes his head yes.

POP
LIZZY!!! I love her! She's insane!

BRANSON
Elizabeth?

MARSHALL
Elizabeth Mulgrew.

BRANSON
Broadway Elizabeth Mulgrew? You
know her?

MARSHALL
For 30 years.

BRANSON
She's...Um...

MARSHALL
Flamboyant.

BRANSON
If you're into understatements. I
hear she's a bit of a tyrant.

MARSHALL
You just don't know her. She's a
teddy bear.

DK
Where are you buying your teddy
bears?

POP
She's the best...She's got balls!

MARSHALL
And she has money. When can we
start?

BRANSON
So much for just listening. Let me
read it.

(MORE)

BRANSON (CONT'D)

IF I like it, it'll probably take 3 to 6 months or so to get to production, IF the money is there.

DK

You really think so?

BRANSON

Yeah. Think you can handle that?

DK

I don't know what to say. Thank you?

BRANSON

I have to LIKE the script first. Gotta say, I admire you still chasing it.

POP

I have a group of friends with crooked noses that say you'll like it.

BRANSON

What?

DK

He's kidding, Branson. I can get you the script today, if you like.

BRANSON

Great! When does Elizabeth get in?

MARSHALL

Should be soon.

POP

She's great! (To DK) Now, keep that drinking promise.

INT. KATIE'S HOUSE - DAY

Katie is in the kitchen cutting up vegetables. Dylan comes in and grabs her around the waist. Katie pushes him away.

KATIE

Get away from me.

DYLAN

What's your problem?

KATIE
Are you serious? You stink of
pussy.

Katie turns and punches him.

DYLAN
Why so mean? You don't have to show
off for me. The friends aren't
around.

Dylan turns and walks out of the kitchen toward the living
room. Katie walks out the kitchen door to the garage.

INT. LULA'S BAR - NIGHT

Katie has been hitting the booze pretty hard. The Bartender
tries to speak to her.

BARTENDER
Hey Katie, need a ride home?

KATIE
I'm fine. Just needed to get out of
the house.

BARTENDER
I think you've reached the limit.

KATIE
Ever feel like you can't get out of
your own way?

BARTENDER
Maybe you don't want to. Maybe
you're stuck by choice.

KATIE
And maybe you could get me another
drink.

BARTENDER
I think that's it, Katie.

KATIE
Maybe not.

EXT. LULA'S BAR - NIGHT

Katie is walking out of the bar and is looking at her phone.
She walks out in the street without looking.

A car swerves to miss her but clips her, sideswiping her. As she lays in the street, we hear tires squeal to a stop. Fade Out. Fin Episode 2 Start Episode 3

INT. MARSHALL'S TRUCK - MORNING

Marshall is going into work. Windows are down and The Grateful Dead is playing LOUD!

EXT. ER PARKING LOT - MORNING

Marshall is walking in wearing scrubs. An ORDERLY(25) runs up to him.

ORDERLY
Hey, Marshall...

MARSHALL
Hey Tig. Something wrong?

ORDERLY
You're friends with Katie Henson,
right?

MARSHALL
Yeah...

ORDERLY
I'm really sorry, man. She's in
surgery.

MARSHALL
What happened?

ORDERLY
She came out of a bar and walked in
front of a car.

MARSHALL
What O.R. is she in?

ORDERLY
6...Paxton is running it.

MARSHALL
Ok. Um, I'll run up there and maybe
get the latest. Thanks, Tig.

INT. O.R. 6- DAY

DOCTOR PAXTON(45)is on Katie's head with a number of nurse's and technicians working along side as Marshall looks through the window. A Nurse, CAROL(60's) notices Marshall. Carol walks toward the door.

INT. O.R. PREP ROOM - DAY

Carol comes through the door and takes off her mask.

CAROL
Hey...You know her, right?

MARSHALL
Yep.

CAROL
Drunk, coming out of a bar. The driver must have been drunk too. They drove off.

MARSHALL
What are we looking at.

CAROL
Pretty nasty bruise on her hip. Gonna hurt to walk for a while, but the big issue, relieving the pressure on the brain. She hit pretty hard.

MARSHALL
Was she unconscious when she came in.

CAROL
Yep. Being, well...That lubricated, she probably didn't feel it.

MARSHALL
What time did she get here?

CAROL
Bout 3. Thank god Pax was here.

MARSHALL
Was he ER'ing?

CAROL
He's trying to get into heaven.

MARSHALL

Mmm K. I got some calls to make,
plus I gotta make rounds. Thanks,
Carol.

CAROL

You bet.

INT. NURSE'S STATION - DAY

Marshall is holding Katie's phone. He just looks at it when there is no answer. The phone is cracked but still works.

INT. RECOVERY ROOM - DAY

Marshall walks up to find Carol standing at the window.

MARSHALL

How's she looking?

CAROL

We have to wait until she wakes up,
but Pax thinks she's gonna be
fine...Physically. I imagine you
would know her mental state better.

MARSHALL

She only gets drunk like this when
something is really dragging her
down.

CAROL

How's life without Don?

MARSHALL

I thought it would be quiet. Then
DK came home.

CAROL

I didn't know Drunky was back.

MARSHALL

He quit.

CAROL

Get the hell out!

MARSHALL

It's only two weeks, but I see that
stubborn streak in him.

CAROL

I wouldn't believe it. I gotta get going.

MARSHALL

Hey, if you were in this state, would you mind someone taking a photo?

CAROL

I gotta go.

MARSHALL

Thanks, Carol.

Marshall takes out Katie's phone and takes a photo of her. It's a little blurred, but you can make her out. He sends it to Dylan.

INT. DYLAN'S HOUSE - DAY

Dylan is putting on his suit coat and Sierra is walking out the front door.

SIERRA

Give me a call when you want another ride.

DYLAN

I may need time to recover. I'm getting older you know.

As Sierra shuts the door, Dylan grabs his phone.

DYLAN (CONT'D)

What the hell does she want now?

He opens the phone and the attachment. He looks at the photo of Katie in a hospital bed.

DYLAN (CONT'D)

What the fuck?

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - DAY

Katie is sleeping in a bed. She has a small area on her head shaven where the doctor drained fluid. She starts waking up and Marshall is sitting on her bed. She's very groggy. Alex is in the corner.

KATIE

Hey.

MARSHALL

You snore.

KATIE

Do I?

MARSHALL

I'd ask you how you're feeling, but I'm a nurse.

KATIE

I remember them talking about my brain.

MARSHALL

They took it out.

KATIE

What will become of me?

MARSHALL

Presidential campaign? Oh, and I've now seen you naked.

KATIE

What'd ya think?

MARSHALL

Still gay.

Dylan comes in with a bouquet of flowers.

DYLAN

Hey honey, how are you?

MARSHALL

(To Katie) Want me to stick around?

DYLAN

I literally just learned of this and I had to make sure the kids were ok.

MARSHALL

Look behind you. (Dylan sees Alex) And how is Aaron?

DYLAN

He's fine. I have him with a neighbor.

MARSHALL

Hmmm. Here I thought Aaron was with Pop...I mean, according to Thomas.

Marshall stands up aggressively.

KATIE
Marshall!!! I'll be ok.

Marshall starts to exit the room. Stops.

MARSHALL
Come on, Alex...How about some
Lunch?

Marshall and Alex exit.

DYLAN
How are you feeling?

KATIE
I need rest. And I need you to
leave.

DYLAN
I'll sit here with you, if that's
ok.

KATIE
It's not.

INT. HOSPITAL WAITING ROOM - DAY

Marshall grabs his phone and makes a call. On the line is
Thomas.

MARSHALL
She's awake. Dylan is here... Yeah.
She's really groggy, but I think
she kicked him out. No, Alex is
with me. Sure, but what are you
thinking? I hope you're not
thinking DK.

INT. THOMAS' KITCHEN - DAY

Thomas is sitting in his kitchen.

THOMAS
No, I wanna scare him, not kill
him. Here's what I think we can
do...

INT. HOSPITAL HALLWAY - DAY

MARSHALL
ARE YOU OUT OF YOUR MIND?! We'll
lose our licenses not to mention,
probably go to jail.

INT. THOMAS' KITCHEN - DAY

THOMAS
He's vindictive! Besides, he's been
abusive to our friend. She can't,
we can. You always say I never take
chances.

INT. HOSPITAL HALLWAY - DAY

MARSHALL
I gotta remember to keep my mouth
shut.

INT. THOMAS' KITCHEN - DAY

THOMAS
Come on...It'll be fun!

INT. HOSPITAL HALLWAY - DAY

MARSHALL
I wanna know what I did in a past
life that was so bad to be stuck
with you guys as the best friends I
could find.

EXT. HOSPITAL PARKING LOT - DAY

Thomas and Cassandra arrived in one car and DK arrives in
another. Everyone gets out and starts waling toward the
entrance.

DK
Do you know what room she's in?

THOMAS
Marshall says 8th floor.

CASSANDRA
And Dylan is here, right?

THOMAS

Yep.

CASSANDRA

He gonna let us see her.

DK

I'll take care of him. (To
Cassandra) New dress? Looks great.

The guys keep walking. Cassandra stops for a second. Smiles,
a bit.

INT. HALLWAY OUTSIDE OF KATIE'S ROOM - DAY

As Thomas, DK, and Cassandra are walking up, Dylan comes out
of the room.

DYLAN

Hi friends. Katie is sleeping. We
will give you a call when she's
feeling better. Really appreciate
your concern.

CASSANDRA

We can sit with her, give you a
break.

DYLAN

I'm fine. (Looks at DK) Why are you
here?

DK

Thought I'd check on Katherine.

DYLAN

You two gonna share a bottle?

DK

You know, you gotta lotta balls.

DYLAN

Tough guy, huh?

DK steps closer to Dylan. Reaches to grab his throat.

DK

You bet, Fucko...

Thomas pushes DK out of the way.

THOMAS

Whoa, Whoa...Way too much red
meat.(Stands face to face with
Dylan) Look, we just want to see
her.

As Thomas and Dylan discuss visitation(Improv). Marshall
sneaks up behind Dylan and gives him a shot. Dylan falls into
Thomas' arms passed out. Thomas, with the help of Marshall,
drags Dylan into the bathroom.

THOMAS (CONT'D)

You guys go in. We'll take care of
this.

DK

Did you kill him?

THOMAS

Oh, no...No...He's just sleeping, I
swear. We'll take care of it.

DK

What are you...

MARSHALL

(Loudly whispering)Just get in the
damn room.

THOMAS

It'll be ok.

As Thomas and Marshall, along with Dylan disappears into the
bathroom.

INT. HOSPITAL BATHROOM - DAY

Thomas starts underdressing Dylan and Marshall is removing
his shoes. After his shoes are off, Marshall starts removing
Dylan's pants.

THOMAS

How much trouble do you think we
can get in?

MARSHALL

A lot, but it was your idea, so if
we get in trouble...

THOMAS

Are you gonna help me get this done
or not?!

INT. HALLWAY OUTSIDE OF KATIE'S ROOM - DAY

As Marshall and Thomas are discussing the task, Tig walks up with a gurney, leaves it by the door and continues to walk.

INT. HOSPITAL BATHROOM DAY

Thomas and Marshall have stripped Dylan and put him in a hospital gown. They pick him up and head for the door.

INT. HALLWAY OUTSIDE OF KATIE'S ROOM DAY

The door opens and Marshall is first out. SHEILA(50), head nurse on the floor is standing there. Sheila is expressionless.

MARSHALL

Hi Sheila.

SHEILA

I'm gonna grab some coffee.

She turns and walks away.

MARSHALL

Morgue.

THOMAS

Sure?

MARSHALL

About what?

They load Dylan onto the gurney and wheel him to the elevator.

INT. MORGUE - DAY

Elevator doors open and the Orderly, Tig, grabs the gurney and puts it in a corner then walks away.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - DAY

Katie is laying in her bed. DK is standing at the edge of the bed and Cassandra is sitting on the bed.

KATIE

Marshall said I banged my leg.
Bruised hip or something.

CASSANDRA
You did a lot of things.

KATIE
I'm sorry I scared you guys. I
guess I blacked out.

DK
You need a new therapist. The quack
you have ain't finding what needs
to be found.

Cassandra looks at him like he has 5 heads.

KATIE
Why would you say that?

DK
Well, you're pissed off at me for
something I have no idea about. I'm
just wondering if you're mad at
yourself for dating a dickhead.

CASSANDRA
DAVID!!!

DK
Call me that one more time...

CASSANDRA
It's your name!

KATIE
Wait...He may be right. Go on DK.

DK
When we were younger, we didn't
keep secrets. When we were angry at
each other we would tell why.

KATIE
I guess you're right. I guess I'm
angry at how you land on your feet.
DUI, you get out of it. Lose your
job, you bounce right back. I love
you but I hate you. Eh, I don't
hate you...I'm jealous of you.

DK
Katie, You're smarter than me. I'm
messed up, you're messed up.
EVERYONE is messed up.

CASSANDRA

I hear that.

DK

(To Cassandra) Don't help. It comes down to you trusting YOURSELF.

KATIE

Think so?

DK

Somewhere down the line, you've forgotten how to do that. But, if you let us in, we'll do it with ya.

Thomas and Marshall walk in, looking suspicious.

THOMAS

Hey...(To Katie) Are you comfortable? Do you need anything.

KATIE

I'm fine. Where's Dylan?

THOMAS

Hmmm?

KATIE

Where's Dylan?

THOMAS

Oh, yeah...He's in the morgue.

KATIE DK CASSANDRA

What? I'm sorry?

THOMAS

He's fine.

DK

Why is he in the morgue?

MARSHALL

Thomas knocked him out.

KATIE

WHAT?!

THOMAS

Wait, you gave him the shot!

MARSHALL

Thomas made me give him a shot to knock him out.

Alex in the window, smiles.

CASSANDRA
Oh, this is delicious.

THOMAS
He wouldn't let us see you and well, we knew that was going to happen...So we played a gag on him.

DK
And what sort of gag was that?

THOMAS
Well, we ... We gave him a shot, undressed him to look like a corpse....

MARSHALL
He's really small, Katie.

THOMAS
(Parroting)He's really small, Katie. And then we put him on a gurney and put him on the elevator to go to the bottom floor.

MARSHALL
He's fine. It was a sedative. We checked his chart.

CASSANDRA
YOU WHAT?!

DK
Talk about go big or go home.

MARSHALL
We wanted to be safe and not poison him. Tig sent me a text. He picked him up and put him in a corner.

DK
We're gonna need to figure out our scheduling.

CASSANDRA
What scheduling?

DK
When we're gonna visit these two in prison.

KATIE
Hand me my phone.

Cassandra grabs it off the end table. Katie sends a message.

KATIE (CONT'D)
They're not going to prison.

CASSANDRA
No?

KATIE
No. Dylan cheats on his taxes.

DK
(Mockingly... As in "I knew it")And
the plot thins.

KATIE
I just sent him a message. They'll
be fine. (Pause)Look at you guys. I
keep screwing up and yet... You're
here.

DK
We don't have anyone else that will
put up with us as a group.

KATIE
(Looks at Alex)How about you?

ALEX
(Looks at Cassandra)Always thought
he was a dick. Men, huh? Am I
right?

DK
I didn't know she could speak.

CASSANDRA
She's colorful.

KATIE
Why didn't you say anything, honey?

ALEX
I guess I thought you were happy.

KATIE
I have to find a place to live when
I get out of here...And get a
job...And find a school.

THOMAS

Why a place to live? It's your house.

KATIE

I can't afford that. Not until I get a job.

CASSANDRA

Don't sell it, rent it.

KATIE

Ya think?

DK

I'll keep it up.

KATIE

Don't you have a movie coming up?

DK

It'll give Pop something to do. He likes that stuff.

KATIE

Still gotta find a cheap place to live.

Everyone looks at Marshall.

MARSHALL

(After a long pause) Oh for god's sake. Fine! Katie, I have three extra rooms.

Cassandra and Katie smile. Sheila comes in and they turn.

SHEILA

Your friend woke up. You white people are a strange bunch. Now, get the hell out of here. I have to wash her ass.

DK

As pleasant as ever, Sheila.

SHEILA

Out, Drunky.

They start heading out.

SHEILA (CONT'D)

Marshall and Thomas, I wanna a cup of coffee and one of those pot pies from the cafeteria.

Thomas turns and tries to speak.

THOMAS

Hey Sheila...?

Marshall grabs him and pulls him out the door.

EXT. ANOTHER CITY STREET - DAY

A few weeks later. Katie(With a cane) and Aaron are walking toward a restaurant and coming out of the restaurant is Dylan with a Red-Headed woman (20's).

DYLAN

Well, there you are. The woman with the funny friends. Katie, this is...

KATIE

(To the woman)It doesn't matter. Hello, Dylan.

DYLAN

How's the gang? Heard you're living with Broke Back Marshall.

KATIE

Yep.

DYLAN

He and Tommy still full of pranks? I could have been poisoned, you know.

KATIE

I'm not that lucky.

DYLAN

That's cute.

KATIE

(To the Red headed woman)Speaking of cute, listen Red, he cheats on his taxes nearly as much as he cheats on women.

DYLAN

You really are a bitch.

Aaron tugs on Dylan's pants.

AARON
Have you ever thought of being a
farmer?

DYLAN
What?

AARON
Here's a couple of ache-ers.

Aaron, standing right in front of Dylan, hauls back and punches Dylan in the balls.

DYLAN
EYEEEEEE!

KATIE
(To the woman) He'll be
fine. Just grab some ice. (To
Aaron) You wanna hamburger, honey?

AARON
I didn't think I was allowed.

Katie and Aaron start walking toward the restaurant.

KATIE
Let's live on the edge a bit.

EXT. BENCH BY THE RIVER - DAY

DK and Cassandra are sitting on a bench, looking at the sunset.

CASSANDRA
Tomorrow's the last day...Excited?

DK
Never thought I'd make a movie.

CASSANDRA
The hard parts over.

DK
The hard part is just starting.
Branson says this is when you
actually make the movie.

CASSANDRA
But you see it, right?

DK

I do. I like the guy editing. I really like he's been on set everyday.

CASSANDRA

That's important?

DK

I think so. I think he sees the movie, that's a plus.

CASSANDRA

I'm proud of you.

DK

I can't begin to tell you how much I've missed y...

They look at each other.

DK (CONT'D)

I mean...You know, how we all are...

Cassandra shakes her head and smiles.

CASSANDRA

I got a gig tonight. I'd say drop by, but you got a big day tomorrow. We're comin' by, I think.

DK

I'd love it. You haven't seen Lizzie, have you?

CASSANDRA

Nope. She got in last week?

DK

Yeah. If possible, she's even more looney.

EXT FRONT YARD OF A "NICE" HOUSE DAY

On another section of the set is ELIZABETH(65) a straight shooter. Her spouse, GIANNA (40) is bringing her a bag of croissants. Elizabeth is on the phone.

ELIZABETH

(Into the phone) You tell that little flea I gave you a lot of money so that your boss can be Wilmington's first gay mayor. Do you know what that says to North Carolina, moron? Yeah, well, get off your ass, and go tell him to start knocking on doors. That's why I gave the money. DO YOUR FUCKIN' JOB!

GIANNA

Here are the pastries. What did he say?

ELIZABETH

Oh, we'll be fine. I think we're leading in the polls by seven points.

(MORE)

ELIZABETH

Tuesday should be a walk. Small Town Politics. Why do I come back here?

GIANNA

Thought they were like family.

ELIZABETH

They are, the town's not.

Branson walks up.

BRANSON

Hey, Elizabeth. I hope everything is ok.

ELIZABETH

We're fine, Branson. I heard cut and had to make a point. How's the kid doing?

Branson turns and finds DK.

BRANSON

Hey, Director, Your friend wants to speak to you.

DK walks over and hugs Gianna and Elizabeth.

ELIZABETH
Hello, my love. How are you
feeling?

DK
Sober, ma'am.

ELIZABETH
Great! Start writing more. The more
you write, the more we work...

DK
I understand.

A box truck shows up with a few cars following behind. Folks
get out and start setting up tables and placing catering
items (Food) on the tables.

DK (CONT'D)
What the hell is this?

ELIZABETH
I'm sorry, dear...Your caterer is a
bloody nightmare. I fired them.

DK
You what?

ELIZABETH
My money, love. These folks are
incredible.

BRANSON
We have about 50 people here!

ELIZABETH
Yes, we're catering for 75. A
couple of folks from City Hall are
coming over.

BRANSON
Elizabeth, you can't...

DK
Branson, it's fine. Go back. I'll
take care of this. Go...

Branson looks at her and turns. Branson walks back to the
crowd.

ELIZABETH
And...?

DK
He'll be ok. Once he eats he'll be
ok.

INT MARSHALL AND DON'S HOUSE - DAY

With his room right off the living room, Marshall is making his bed. He opens the door and sees Alex sitting on the couch. She is watching TV and we hear from the TV...

MALE VOICE
Oh yeah, tell me Hector, do you
like lollipops?

Marshall is in complete horror.

ALEX
Found your tape. 5 to 1, Hector
likes lollipops. You really should
start dating again.

MARSHALL
Think so?

As Alex shuts off the TV, we hear Katie coming down the stairs with Aaron.

KATIE
Whatcha watching?

MARSHALL
I didn't notice!

ALEX
Public Access.

KATIE
(To Marshall) Didn't notice what?

MARSHALL
I...Eh...

ALEX
Some of the almond milk was missing
in the fridge. Marshall thought it
was me.

KATIE
Oh...(To Marshall) I'm sorry. Aaron
had some. I should have told you.
Alex doesn't like nuts.

ALEX

So very true.

KATIE

What are you up to today?

MARSHALL

I was gonna go to the set and see DK. Plus, I haven't seen Elizabeth yet.

ALEX

Can I go?

MARSHALL

Why? I...I mean, sure. I don't mind.

KATIE

Are you ok?

MARSHALL

Yeah. Sorry. I was in a rush. Yeah, Alex can hang out with me today.

KATIE

Great! We gotta run. Give Elizabeth my best. Thanks for all you do for us.

MARSHALL

You're family. I don't mind.

INT. MARSHALL'S TRUCK - DAY

Marshall and Alex are driving in a rural area outside of town.

ALEX

How old were you the first time you had sex with a guy?

MARSHALL

Oh dear god, where are we going with this?

ALEX

Come on, Marshall. I'm almost 17 and I have 3 girls in my school that are pregnant. I need advice.

MARSHALL

Jesus. I have to do the sex talk?
Why ask me?

ALEX

My girlfriend and I have gotten hot
and heavy and we're thinking of
moving forward. But, I'm not sure.

MARSHALL

You're gay?

ALEX

Thus, me not liking nuts.

MARSHALL

I wouldn't have guessed. Does your
mom know?

Alex just looks at him.

MARSHALL (CONT'D)

Your mom doesn't know? Why do I
have to be the one... (Long Pause)
Why don't you give her a chance?

ALEX

She's straight. She doesn't
understand us.

MARSHALL

It's us now, is it? (Silence) Do
you drink coffee?

ALEX

We've lived with you for months.

MARSHALL

We'll hit the set later. Let's grab
some coffee.

EXT. FRONT YARD OF A "NICE" HOUSE - DAY

Elizabeth is sitting in a chair as Thomas and Gianna are
speaking. DK and Branson are on a different place of the same
set.

THOMAS

Did you grow up in Macau?

GIANNA

No. I grew up in upstate New York. We met in the city at a Hotel I was working at. Elizabeth had produced a play over at The Music Box. She came in for a drink in the lounge. Fell in love and she got me out of the rat race and got me into this.

THOMAS

Ever wanna go back?

GIANNA

Nah. This is a lot of fun. It's frustrating, but fun.

THOMAS

You sound like DK. How's that even possible?

GIANNA

I like him. He's weird.
(She winks)

DK

CUT!

BRANSON

That's a wrap.

INT LUNA CAFE - DAY

Marshall and Alex are sitting with a cup of coffee. Cassandra comes in.

CASSANDRA

Hey guys. How's things?

ALEX

Fine. Wanna join us? Marshall, do you mind?

MARSHALL

No, not at all..PLEASE.

Cassandra has a confused smile on her face.

CASSANDRA

Ok. Let me grab a coffee.

Cassandra walks away.

MARSHALL

Look, I can give you all the regular speeches, but at the end of the day, you have to make the decision. Only you know if you're ready for the next step. But you have to make sure you're willing to get hurt. 'Cause at your age, I doubt you and your girlfriend will be together forever.

As Cassandra returns to sit down as Alex responds to Marshall.

ALEX

I don't wanna get hurt. I mean, she just wants eat my box.

CASSANDRA

Whoa, this is gonna need a lot more cream!

Cassandra pops right back up and walks away.

MARSHALL

Look, I'm not the one to talk to. You have to speak to...

ALEX

Please don't say my mother.

MARSHALL

No, not necessarily. You're gonna make your choice one way or another.

ALEX

I need to piss.

MARSHALL

And maybe cut down on the shock speak.

Alex walks towards the bathroom. Cassandra walks back to the table.

CASSANDRA

What the hell kinda whirlwind did I walk into?

MARSHALL

She's 17 and horny.

CASSANDRA

I guess.

MARSHALL

I walked in on her watching my private stash.

CASSANDRA

The Hector Factor?

MARSHALL

Right at the lollipops.

CASSANDRA

Damn! She's freaky.

MARSHALL

She just needs someone to talk to, hint, hint.

CASSANDRA

Is she gay?

MARSHALL

You didn't know?

CASSANDRA

I would have never guessed.

MARSHALL

Wow, your gay-radar must be broken.

Alex sits down.

CASSANDRA

Honey, are you ok?

ALEX

Yeah. I just don't know the right thing to do. I don't want anyone to get hurt.

CASSANDRA

You have to be willing to get hurt. 'Cause this will change the relationship. It's guaranteed.

ALEX

(To Marshall) Did you tell her you said the same thing?

MARSHALL

No. We're both just old and have lived it.

CASSANDRA

Honey, you have to tell your mom.
And I'm not old.

MARSHALL

My love, you're as dry as a
saltine.

Alex spits out coffee and Cassandra laughs.

EXT. FRONT YARD OF A "NICE" HOUSE - DAY

Marshall, Cassandra and Alex get to set as clean up has begun. Elizabeth is in her seat, Gianna is close by and Thomas is there; In the background, we see DK.

MARSHALL

Shoot, we missed it.

ELIZABETH

Marshall, darling. I have missed you. And Cassie, my angel. (She hugs Marshall and whispers in his ear) I am so sorry we missed Donn's memorial.

MARSHALL

Thank you for suggesting counseling. The grief was bearable with your doctor's help. You look fantastic.

ELIZABETH

I look like a bag lady. The airport certainly hasn't improved here in the port city. Hello, Cassie(They hug). I told Drunky you're working on the music with this. Meet Gianna...Gianna!

Gianna and Thomas walk over.

ELIZABETH (CONT'D)

This is my lover. Cassie, you will appreciate this. She's younger and she can do it every night...

GIANNA

You're Marshall, right?

MARSHALL

I am.

GIANNA
How do you keep these guys
straight?

MARSHALL
Gurl, lord knows I've tried to turn
'em.

Elizabeth turns and looks at Alex.

ELIZABETH
And you...You're Alex? Katie's
beautiful daughter?

ALEX
I am.

ELIZABETH
I'm your crazy Auntie Lizzy. (They
hug)

ALEX
You're the flamboyant one, right?

ELIZABETH
Yes...(Matter of factly)And you're
a lesbian.

ALEX
THANK YOU!

Cassie and Marshall look indignant.

THOMAS
You're gay????!!!

EXT. RIVER WALK - EARLY EVENING

Marshall, Thomas, Elizabeth, Gianna, Cassandra and Alex are walking toward the bench from earlier. They all are carrying various types of drinks. Elizabeth sits.

ELIZABETH
Ah, Drunky's bench.

CASSANDRA
It's not just his.

ELIZABETH
I know, my darlin'. You artsy types
and your sunsets. It is a beautiful
spot.

MARSHALL

How did you know Alex was gay?

ELIZABETH

Weren't you at the last meeting? We now have classes on how to meet one another.

Alex leans over to Gianna and whispers.

ALEX

Are there meetings?

Gianna smiles and puts her arm around Alex.

ELIZABETH

When are you gonna start dating again? It's time to rough it up a bit.

MARSHALL

I don't need to be dating. Besides I rough it up on my own just fine.

CASSANDRA

Oh, dear god.

ELIZABETH

The therapist was a hand up, not the gospel. There are no 12 steps.

MARSHALL

Should I get a t-shirt made? "I'm open for business"?

ALEX

You could take Hector's advice. Buy some lollipops.

ELIZABETH

OH DEAR GOD! You didn't show this child that movie, did you?

Cassandra cackles, Thomas looks confused.

MARSHALL

She found it! I didn't offer it!

ELIZABETH

You have to lock those up. Alex, are you ok? I know a therapist.

ALEX

I'm...I'm ok.

ELIZABETH

Ok. Those things come back to haunt you later in life.

CASSANDRA

Ok...I think we've scared her enough. Let's get you home, Alex. Your mom's gonna worry.

MARSHALL

Kinda worried myself. (To Elizabeth and Gianna) Tomorrow night?

ELIZABETH

We wouldn't miss it. DK cooking?

MARSHALL

Did I have a choice?

ELIZABETH

God, I hope it's not Italian. I'm up to my wax line in pasta.

THOMAS

Told me, Southeast Asian. In honor of Gianna.

ELIZABETH

Taking a chance. She's a snob about home cooking.

GIANNA

I am not. I'm sure he'll just fine.

MARSHALL

(To Elizabeth)She doesn't know?

ELIZABETH

Nope.

GIANNA

Know what?

INT. MARSHALL'S KITCHEN - DAY

Marshall is grabbing his backpack and Gianna is watching DK prep for the party.

DK

You have to search in this town and if you can't find what you need, ie Fish Oil or Sour Vinegar, you have to make it.

GIANNA

How do you know how to do this?

MARSHALL

He's always done this. He doesn't cook food. He makes it an experience.

GIANNA

Do you need any...

MARSHALL

DON'T!!!

GIANNA

Help?

DK slowly turns and faces Gianna. Gianna's face goes white.

DK

Have you ever separated eggs?
Rolled Spring Rolls? Deep Fried
dough and chicken?

GIANNA

Oh god.

MARSHALL

Welcome to the life of being a
psycho's kitchen bitch.

GIANNA

(To Marshall)He usually does this
on his own.

MARSHALL

It will be a race. Lots of folks
you know. And he will make you feel
so awful about your inadequacies.
Off to see Pop!

Marshall flies through the door. Gianna turns to see DK looking at her like Jack Nicholson from The Witches of Eastwick.

DK

Ready?

INT. DINER - DAY

Marshall and Pop are having lunch.

POP

And so I told him, he shouldn't dismiss the thought. He and Cassie look good together.

MARSHALL

When it comes to those two, they can't get out of each other's way.

POP

Couple of dumb kids.

MARSHALL

They're in their 50's.

POP

Always gonna be kids to me. What the hell are you doing hanging around me? You should be out banging some guy.

Just as Pop is saying this, the waitress, ESTER(60) comes with their lunch.

ESTER

Meat with gravy?

POP

See, Ester gets it. Oh, the food.

ESTER

Pop, I don't know I've ever met anyone so subtle.

MARSHALL

Like a landmine.

POP

I'm serious. You're still young.

MARSHALL

I'll get there, Pop. I like hanging out with you. Besides, we're both widowers.

POP

Doesn't change the fact, you could be beatin' guys off left and right.

MARSHALL

It's like you don't even have to try, Pop.

POP

You know what I mean.

MARSHALL

You coming to the party tonight?
He's whippin' up a storm.

POP

Nah. I already place my order.
Vietnamese food is always better
the next day. Eat your lunch. It's
gettin' cold.

EXT. DOWNTOWN SIDEWALK - DAY

The Streets aren't very busy with foot traffic. People are coming in and out of shops. Cassandra and Alex are just strolling.

ALEX

...But DK talks like that all the time.

CASSANDRA

The last person you want to be like is DK.

ALEX

How so?

CASSANDRA

He's got a lot of demons.

ALEX

Maybe he's exercising them out. He quit drinking.

CASSANDRA

You don't really talk like a 17 year old, do you?

ALEX

How do 17 year olds talk?

CASSANDRA

I guess I didn't think 17 year olds noticed these kind of things?

ALEX

In all fairness, you don't really know me all that well. I kinda tried to stay out of the way most of my life.

CASSANDRA
Why is that?

ALEX
My mom's train wreck, my dad
doesn't exist and the only father
figure I've had is Thomas.

CASSANDRA
Do you like Thomas?

ALEX
I don't think he gives himself a
chance to live. He works too hard.
But, I like him a lot.

CASSANDRA
He loves you and your brother.

ALEX
I know. And I love him. He's the
only dad I've had.

CASSANDRA
That's sweet.

ALEX
He's not my favorite out of your
little gang.

CASSANDRA
That's me, right?

ALEX
I love ya, but not even close.

CASSANDRA
Darn...Lost another one to...Let me
guess...DK?

ALEX
At his age and he is still chasing
his dreams. Mark my words, that
movie of his, it's gonna blow up.
Gonna be HUGE!

CASSANDRA
Think so?

ALEX
You guys won't know what to do with
that. What's weird, is he'll never
leave you guys.

CASSANDRA
How do you mean?

ALEX
He'll always want you with him.
Something is missing in his
internal life...Brothers and
Sisters.

CASSANDRA
And you're sure you're 17?

ALEX
He'll never get married
either...Unless it's you.

CASSANDRA
What?

ALEX
You two standing beside each
other...Electric.

CASSANDRA
First thing you've gotten wrong.

ALEX
No I haven't. Time's gonna show ya.

EXT. TO INT MARSHALL'S DRIVEWAY TO KITCHEN - DAY

Elizabeth and Marshall are getting out of Marshall's car and heading into the house.

ELIZABETH
Thanks for picking me up. I hate
Pop didn't come with you.

MARSHALL
Yeah, he wanted to watch a ballgame
or something.

ELIZABETH
He's a funny guy. Not sure how DK
is his son.

MARSHALL
You're not around him enough.
They're just alike.

They reach the kitchen and Gianna is putting the finishing touches on a dish as DK watches. Elizabeth grabs her from behind.

ELIZABETH
Hello, my beautiful lover.

GIANNA
WHAT THE HELL IS WRONG WITH YOU?
CAN'T ARE YOU SEE WE'RE WORKING
HERE? THESE QUAIL EGGS! HOW DO
EXPECT ME TO SERVE THIS GARBAGE
AFTER YOU DISTRACT ME?

Elizabeth is in shock. Marshall is shaking his head while laughing.

ELIZABETH
(Looking at DK) What have you done
with my wife?

DK
(Very Dramatic) I made her a chef.
And now, your life belongs to me!

MARSHALL
Sweet Christ.

EXT. MARSHALL'S BACK DECK - DAY

Thomas walks up and Elizabeth and Marshall are lounging.

THOMAS
Hey, y'all...

ELIZABETH
Don't go into the kitchen. It's a
war zone.

THOMAS
What?

MARSHALL
DK got hold of Gianna.

THOMAS
Oh, shit. There's no coming back
from that. Lizzy, did she ever cook
in Italy?

ELIZABETH
We would cook together.

THOMAS
That's changed forever now.

ELIZABETH
I forgot how insane he was.

THOMAS
Takes it seriously.

MARSHALL
He oughta take with Valium.

ELIZABETH
Well put.

THOMAS
Ok. I got the drunk bus tonight. I
know DK is done for the night.
He'll be cleaning dishes. Anybody
got house pick up?

ELIZABETH
Um...

THOMAS
Yes, I know. Not you.

MARSHALL
Cassie and I can do it.

ELIZABETH
What about Katie?

THOMAS
She needs a break.

MARSHALL
From what? (To Elizabeth)She'll be
drunk with you.

ELIZABETH
Hey!

MARSHALL
What did I say wrong? Besides, I
like things my way and Cassie knows
what that is.

ELIZABETH
Katie lives here.

MARSHALL
Don't I know it.

THOMAS
Ha!

INT. MARSHALL'S HOUSE - DUSK

People are entering from different spots in the house, the back door, the front door. A lot of the same faces from the set. A woman is playing with her her, talking to DK in the kitchen. Cassie is speaking with Marshall.

CASSANDRA

I didn't know you invited hookers.

MARSHALL

What the hell are you talking about?

CASSANDRA

All that make up, gotta be a hooker talkin' to DK.

MARSHALL

Listen, THOMAS...Why don't you whisk him away into a bedroom?

CASSANDRA

WHAT? It's different. I'm looking after my friend while he's newly sober.

MARSHALL

Right, and the Pope's a Jew.

CASSANDRA

That man is my friend and I want him to stay healthy.

MARSHALL

Alright. Hey, did you try that pork thing he made with noodles?

CASSANDRA

You mean the pork lo mein?

MARSHALL

Great...Got the subject changed. I'm getting a drink.

41 INT MARSHALL AND DONN'S HOUSE NIGHT

DK is in the kitchen cleaning with a few folks hanging around, including Gianna. Marshall and Thomas are in the dining room, picking at the buffet with a few stragglers doing the same.

Cassandra is talking to a couple of folks out on the back porch and Elizabeth and Katie are talking in the living room, decorated for Christmas, with a few folks sitting and standing around.

ELIZABETH

Oh, you have to be proud of her.

KATIE

I am! She is so mature. DK is letting her work on the film.

ELIZABETH

I know, we were there today.

KATIE

She's auditioning, doing great in school. She's incredible!

ELIZABETH

And so brave. Embracing her sexuality.

KATIE

What do you mean?

In the background, around the entire house, you hear Fleetwood Mac's The Chain. The mandolin entrance starts and Elizabeth's eyes grow big. Cut back to the kitchen.

DK

"Listen to the wind blow, watch the sun rise"

MARSHALL & THOMAS

"Running in the shadows, damn your love, damn your lies"

ELIZABETH & KATIE

"And if you don't love me now"

Cassandra jumps in. The entire group sings/yells.

INT. MARSHALL AND DONN'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Elizabeth is in the recliner and Cassandra, Marshall and Gianna are on the couch. DK is in the kitchen, cleaning up and Katie is in the bathroom. Thomas, standing in the foyer and shouts back to the room.

THOMAS

I'm gonna run Syndee and Mitchell home really quick.

(MORE)

THOMAS (CONT'D)
I'll be right back.

Thomas walks out with a couple of guests.

ELIZABETH
Gianna, Would you go make me a sandwich.

Gianna starts to stand. Marshall pulls her down. DK walks in from the kitchen.

DK
My sous chef and I busted our asses for hours and you want a sandwich.

ELIZABETH
Oooo, no! I want one of those egg rolls. Are there any left?

DK huffs back into the kitchen.

ELIZABETH (CONT'D)
He's is like a bad dream.

A Dramatically Drunk Katie comes out of the bathroom.

KATIE
Hello, my dearest friends. Let's discuss.

CASSANDRA
(To Marshall) This is new.

MARSHALL
(To Cassandra) Jesus, she's hammered.

KATIE
I found out tonight, my daughter is dating a girl! And THAT'S ok. What is NOT ok is that YOU people knew she was queer before me!

DK comes in with an egg roll on a plate, hands it to Elizabeth and sits on the arm of the chair.

KATIE (CONT'D)
(Pointing to DK) THIS booze hound quits drinking because he wants to.
(Pointing to Elizabeth) THIS one lives in Italy. (Pointing to Marshall) This one just bought a business...

MARSHALL

Shit...

CASSANDRA

You bought a business?

MARSHALL

It's a transport company. Don't mention it again.

KATIE

ANNNNDDDDDD, MY DAUGHTER HAS A GIRLFRIEND!!! So, you ALL have accomplishments and secrets. Fine! You have secrets, I have a secret too!

Alex is at the top of the stairs and is coming down, slowly.

KATIE (CONT'D)

Eighteen years ago, I FUCKED Thomas! That's right, I fucked Thomas and Alex is Thomas' daughter. How about THAT?!

DK

Oh, this is delicious.

ELIZABETH

With a side of roasted bone marrow and Foie Gras.

DK

Jesus, you are rich.

KATIE

And ladies...He's a two hander.

MARSHALL

(Pearl Clutch)Oh!

CASSANDRA

She has small hands.

Marshall slap Cassandra's leg and chuckles. Alex is now at the bottom of the stairs and standing right behind Katie.

ALEX

Mom?

Katie makes a very dramatic, very drunk turn.

KATIE

Oh, honey...How was your night?

ALEX
Is this true, mom?

KATIE
You didn't hear that, did you?

ALEX
The neighbors heard it, Mom.

KATIE
Oh honey, I'm so sorry.

Katie starts to sob as Thomas comes in the door.

ALEX
Hi Dad.

THOMAS
Oh god.

INT. MARSHALL AND DONN'S HOUSE - NIGHT

The group, including Alex, is sitting around Thomas on the couch, while Katie is laying with her head in his lap.

THOMAS
We were drunk and her husband was
deployed.

CASSANDRA
Why didn't you tell us?

THOMAS
I didn't know for sure! But... I
can't say I didn't hope. Always
being the friend or puppy or
WHATEVER!!!

Thomas starts to get animated, then stops himself. The group
smiles.

DK
Hey...Don't do that to yourself.
Funny seeing her on the drunk side
for a change.

THOMAS
I just can't let you guys hate
Katie.

Katie snores like a moose.

MARSHALL

What the hell does that mean? She just made everything great! Now, the door is open for you two to FINALLY get together. Lord knows it's time.

ELIZABETH

Hoping they'll move in together, Marsh?

MARSHALL

More than a handjob from Prince Harry.

Cassandra roles her eyes and chuckles.

DK

(To Alex)How are you doing, kiddo?

ALEX

Not sure how I feel about her having to get drunk to tell me, but...

Alex stares at Thomas for a minute. She gets up and lays down by her mom, moving her to the back of the couch and she wraps her arm around Thomas' leg. Katie's arm goes around Alex and even in her drunken stupor, she smiles.

KATIE

(In drunkenese) Tommy, let's go to bed. I'm horny.

Alex pops up. Different reactions from the group.

DK

I bet that's been said before.

CASSANDRA

Lizzy, still got that therapist.

ELIZABETH

Not sure she does group sessions.

DK

Thought I was a mood killer.

ELIZABETH

Til that, it was a tender story. I need a tissue?

As Elizabeth reaches for a tissue, she grabs Cassandra's hand with her other hands and puts it on DK's knee.

INT. DINER - DAY

4 Months on. Pop and Marshall arrive in the diner, seeing a couple folks are sitting in their normal booth.

POP

Ester, how long those folks been there?

ESTER

You know people normally have reservations to their favorite restaurant.

Pop walks over to the table. Marshall leans into to Ester.

MARSHALL

I'll pay for their meal.

Pop arrives at the table. A MAN(28) and a WOMAN(25) are looking up at him.

POP

You guys gonna be here long? This is my favorite table and I'm old. Mind moving?

MAN

We're just waiting on our food, sir.

POP

What did you get to eat?

MAN

Couple of salads, salmon and veg. Why?

POP

Ester, have John piss in this guy's dressing.

Marshall runs to the table.

MARSHALL

Sorry about that, folks. My father has a serious disease and he can't control himself.

WOMAN

Dementia?

MARSHALL

Asshole-ia. Look, if you'd be so kind, I'll buy your lunch.

WOMAN

Of course. Come on, Honey.

The couple gets up and moves. Ester is right behind them with water and a smile.

ESTER

John says you do that again, Pop, and you're out of here.

POP

What are you talking about? We've known each other our whole lives. I banged his sister.

ESTER

She's dead.

POP

She was alive then.

MARSHALL

Ester, could I please have some coffee. I fear we're looking at a rabbit hole.

ESTER

Sure. Pop?

Pop nods.

MARSHALL

Today's the big day?

POP

What'dya mean?

MARSHALL

Your son has a movie screening tonight?

POP

It's Thursday? I can't keep days straight anymore.

MARSHALL

Me neither. Alexa told me.

POP

Who's Alexa?

MARSHALL
My speaker thingy.

POP
Oh, Oh, yeah, DK got one of those things. Plays music. Say, I thought movies take forever to make?

MARSHALL
From what Branson says, indies are shorter.

POP
And tonight is a release thing?

MARSHALL
It's a screening thing, but, Steve over at the cinema asked if we could make it an event.

POP
Is that normal?

MARSHALL
It's a community thing. But, it could gain attention for the movie.

POP
Ok. I think I want some Key Lime Pie today.

INT KATIE'S HOME DAY

Katie is coming down the stairs into the living room to the kitchen. In the kitchen, Alex is sitting on the counter with a bagel, Aaron is at the kitchen table eating a bowl of cereal and Tommy is pouring a cup of coffee for Katie. He has his own beside him.

KATIE
(Coming down the stairs) Everyone, we have a long day ahead...Oh, you're all up.

ALEX
We have a movie to watch, remember?

THOMAS
Wants some coffee?

KATIE

I do. How strange on a Sunday morning to walk into a full kitchen.

AARON

Mom, I need underwear. I'm free balling right now.

ALEX

Gross.

THOMAS

Shoot.

Thomas runs into the laundry room next to the kitchen.

THOMAS (CONT'D)

Finished the laundry this morning. Here ya go, Aaron. (Hands Aaron briefs)

ALEX

Awfully small.

AARON

I got hair.

ALEX

I shave.

KATIE

ENOUGH! What is wrong with you people?

AARON

Good breeding.

THOMAS

You have 3 more emails you need to answer from new clients and I've installed a new version of photoshop for the new contracts.

KATIE

Mister, you need to take a break. You have enough on your plate.

THOMAS

Gotta pee.

KATIE

STOP!!! I'm jealous of Cassandra's singleness.

EXT. CAFE - DAY

Cassandra and DK are having brunch outside.

CASSANDRA
Nervous?

DK
Would it help?

CASSANDRA
I'd be terrified. I so admire you.

DK
I don't think you'd be terrified.
You're the bravest person I know.

CASSANDRA
How so?

DK
You don't take hand outs. You don't
ask for help. You always know the
right answer.

CASSANDRA
Weird.

DK
How so?

CASSANDRA
I think that about you. You always
land on your feet.

DK
Two peas.

There's a silence as their stare at each other.

INT ELIZABETH'S HOUSE DAY

Elizabeth is sitting on her couch with Gianna in the kitchen.
Elizabeth has wine.

ELIZABETH
Darling, what time are we meeting
DK at the cinema?

GIANNA
I think it's like 3. I'll check my
calendar.

ELIZABETH
So, do we have time to get brunch?

GIANNA
It's 8 in the morning. Wanna get a regular breakfast?

ELIZABETH
We have to wait until ten. Eggs this early are sub par eggs.

Gianna walks into the living room.

GIANNA
You know, you really are a snob.

ELIZABETH
Only to the right people.

GIANNA
I'm the right people?

ELIZABETH
Oh, heavens no. I love you. And that's kinda still new for me.

GIANNA
Cause I'm a woman?

ELIZABETH
Cause I've never loved anyone before.

Gianna kisses her and heads back to the kitchen.

ELIZABETH (CONT'D)
May I have some more wine?

INT. DINER - DAY

Marshall is with Pop. They're having lunch.

MARSHALL
Yeah, but it is pretty cool, right? Your son made a movie.

POP
I'm proud of him. I wish I understood what the hell was going on, but I know he's happy.

The waitress comes over.

ESTER

Hey fellas. Marshall, you having
the Key Lime?

MARSHALL

He is. I'm having banana pudding.

Marshall's phone rings.

MARSHALL (CONT'D)

Excuse me, Ester.

WAITRESS

Pop?

Pop has a blank stare on his face, facing Marshall and his
face is dipping.

WAITRESS (CONT'D)

Pop? MARSHALL!

Marshall looks up.

MARSHALL

Pop? POP?!

Marshall runs around the table and grabs Pop.

MARSHALL (CONT'D)

I gotcha buddy. I gotcha. (To the
waitress) Call 911, NOW!

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - DAY

Marshall is sitting with Pop laying in a bed.

MARSHALL

Hey, DK. Look, I'm with your dad.
He's had a stroke.

EXT. CAFE - DAY

DK is on the phone. Cassandra is behind him.

DK

Is he gonna be ok?

MARSHALL(VO)

You better hurry, buddy.

DK's phone just falls to his side.

CASSANDRA
Hey...What's up?

DK
My father is dying.

Cassandra grabs him.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - DAY

Marshall is standing on one side of Pop's bed as DK is on the other, holding Pop's hand. Pop is unconscious. Cassandra is in the back of the room with Katie. Katie has her arm around Cassandra. Gianna is sitting with Elizabeth. Thomas walks in with coffee. He sits it on the serving tray.

THOMAS
So he just went blank?

MARSHALL
It was exactly like they described it in class years ago. He just stopped talking and looked like he was struggling to finish a thought. I don't think I've ever been more scared.

ELIZABETH
Was it his look that scared you?

MARSHALL
I think it was more the phone call I knew I had to make.

ELIZABETH
And he hasn't spoken at all?

MARSHALL
I'm not sure he can. He's...

Pop's eyes open. DK looks right at him.

POP
(Barely Audible) Thank you for being my son.

Pop exhales with his eyes open, almost smiling.

INT. HALLWAY OUTSIDE POP'S HOSPITAL - ROOM DAY

Cassandra and Katie are sitting on a couch. People are moving back and forth. Thomas is standing.

CASSANDRA

Have you ever seen anything like that?

THOMAS

I've never even heard of anything like that.

Elizabeth and DK come out of the room.

DK

Ok, I have to get to the cinema and solidify the guest list tonight.

ELIZABETH

Honey, I can do that. You need to be with your father.

DK

Why? If he taught me one thing it's we have responsibilities. He'd go work. So will I.

DK walks away, headed toward the exit.

THOMAS

I guess the next chapter is off to a rough start.

Gianna and Marshall come out of the room.

GIANNA

Ok, he signed all the paperwork. I'm driving us over to the cinema and Marshall is going to the house to take care of the puppy.

MARSHALL

Let's get through tonight and then, we'll deal with whatever.

INT. CINEMA LOBBY - DAY

The GENERAL MANAGER(35) of the cinema is standing with Elizabeth, Gianna and DK.

GENERAL MANAGER

...And we're finishing the 3rd room. We have well over 1000 prepaid. I've even brought in a few more staff to open all the registers.

ELIZABETH

Thank you, Steve. (To DK) I think I wanna go check out the dress store over there. Cool?

DK

Gianna, do you mind running me to the house?

GIANNA

Not a problem.

INT. GIANNA'S CAR - DAY

Gianna and DK are walking to Gianna's car and there's a liquor store across the street.

DK

Hang on a second.

GIANNA

Look, man...

DK

I'm not asking. Wait.

Gianna stands by as DK goes into the store.

INT. CINEMA LOBBY - NIGHT

Elizabeth is speaking with local news personality, JON EVANS(55-60). Gianna is with her.

ELIZABETH

He was the first man I brought into my theater company years ago.

JON EVANS

Well, thank you Elizabeth, for not only your time but for bringing this to town.

The interview ends.

JON EVANS (CONT'D)

Think he's gonna make it?

ELIZABETH

I couldn't say it on air, Jon, but his father died this morning.

JON EVANS

Oh no. I'm sorry to hear that. Of all nights. Have you spoken to him?

ELIZABETH

Not since the hospital. Gianna said he picked up a bottle.

JON EVANS

I thought he quit drinking.

GIANNA

He did.

JON EVANS

Well, let me know if there's something I can do.

Jon walks away.

GIANNA

Ok, I'll go.

ELIZABETH

No. I'm just gonna call Marshall. He was there this afternoon, right?

INT. POP'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Marshall is staring at DK(We never see DK)

MARSHALL

He's not gonna make it. He'll be fine. He's...Dealing. I promise.

EXT. POP'S HOUSE - NIGHT

The group walk up to Marshall standing on the front porch.

MARSHALL

How'd it go?

KATIE

It's a beautiful little movie.

MARSHALL

I saw the rough cut. It looked great.

Cassandra walks by Marshall and Marshall stops the rest of the group.

INT. POP'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Cassandra walks in and sees DK sitting on the floor with his chin on the coffee table. There is a bottle of unopened scotch in front of him and he's staring at it. Cassandra sits down at the corner of the table.

CASSANDRA
(Delicately) Wanna open it?

DK
Did you know, my dad had covid?

CASSANDRA
I did.

DK
I don't think I've ever been that scared in my life. He's had a rough ride. He had open heart surgery. He suffered from vertigo. His hearing faded. Covid. Then my mom died. He never complained. It's amazing to me how nothing ever fazed him. When he finally got to the other side of covid, he just wanted to go to lunch...with Marshall.(DK chuckles) I can't begin to explain how lucky I am Marsh was with him. He always loved you guys like you were his own kids. I've always felt like I let him down a bit. I never wanted to do anything else but him being a working class guy, I don't think he ever really understood me. And then...And then that last line. Once again, he showed he was wiser than me. How's that for writing?
(Long Pause) My dad's gone. (He finally cries)

Cassandra moves towards him and comforts him. The group has slipped in. A long silence is broken by Elizabeth.

ELIZABETH
The crowd loved the movie.

Everyone turns to Elizabeth in shock except DK.

DK
Did they like it?

ELIZABETH

Oh, they were crazy about it. Even
Scott Mavis wanted you to flop,
but...

DK

Did you tell him my dad died?

ELIZABETH

I didn't.

DK

Would have loved that guilt.

ELIZABETH

Damn! Good call.

Finally, a laugh.

ELIZABETH (CONT'D)

I loved your dad.

DK

He thinks you're insane. Thought
you were insane. You should have
seen his face light up when
Marshall said you were coming home.
"She's got balls" .

THOMAS

Wanna open that bottle?

CASSANDRA

I've already asked.

DK

Doesn't mean you guys can't.

EXT. CEMETERY - DAY

Folks walk by Pop's grave and toss in flowers. A young man,
EMMANUEL(25), is in the middle of the line as "The Group"
sits. Marshall notices him. There is no dialogue during the
precession, just "Songbird" .

EXT. AWAY FROM GRAVE - DAY

Marshall is standing with Thomas.

MARSHALL

Who is that boy?

THOMAS

That's Emmanuel. He's DK's little brother.

MARSHALL

And how do you know that and I don't?

THOMAS

I didn't know it either until he came up to me. DK only found out about 6 months ago.

Marshall is a bit flush.

MARSHALL

I can see me on him at a beach. I mean, I can see me with him on a beach.

THOMAS

And?

MARSHALL

I can't fool around with family.

THOMAS

We're back to foolin' around? I'm fooling around with Katie!

MARSHALL

Good point. Probably straight.

DK walks by with Cassandra on his arm. Gianna walks with them by Marshall and Thomas.

DK

Probably not.

Marshall gasps.

GIANNA

We have GOT to work on his Gay-Dar.

CASSANDRA

(Playfully whispering) He is single. Oh, and a yoga instructor.

DK

All sorts of bendy.

Marshall "Clutches the pearls". DK and Cassandra stops. Gianna keeps walking.

MARSHALL

But wait...You're sure he's your...

DK

Yep, Pop had a lot of secrets.

MARSHALL

Um...

DK

Yeah.

THOMAS

What about his mother?

DK

Ovarian Cancer. My date and I are going to Marshall's house.

CASSANDRA

Date...That's cute.

DK and Cassandra walk away.

MARSHALL

(To Thomas)Are they...

THOMAS

No.(To DK and Cassandra) I'll make sure "Sadie" gets there.

DK

Thanks.

INT. MARSHALL AND DON'S HOUSE - DAY

Marshall's house is scattered with mourners and friends.

DK

Seems Marshall hasn't forgotten his chase skills.

THOMAS

He hasn't dated since Don died, right?

DK

Yeah, but I guess it's like riding a bike. Oh, did you hear about Dylan?

THOMAS

No, what...

DK
Got arrested.

THOMAS
For what?

DK
Blowing a guy in a city hall
bathroom.

THOMAS
WHAT?!

DK
He got arrested for fraud. Know
anything about that?

THOMAS
Can't help ya. (They chuckle) How
late is this going go on?

DK
I don't know. I didn't think we
needed it.

Cassandra and Alex walk over.

CASSANDRA
Do you know these people?

DK
Not many. But, Marshall always has
a wonderful buffet. Alex, make
these people leave.

ALEX
Any suggestions?

DK
Improvise.

Alex turns towards the crowd.

ALEX
GET THE FUCK OUT OF HERE, YOU FREE
LOADING SCUMBAGS!

CASSANDRA
That should do it.

DK
Gotta love her.

DK and Cassandra smile at each other for a moment.

INT. MARSHALL AND DON'S HOUSE - DAY

Most folks have left.

ELIZABETH

Jesus, those people are exhausting.

DK

The food was great.

ALEX

Marshall always has a wonderful buffet.

DK

Well said.

THOMAS

What is that banging?

From the bedroom, we hear Marshall's rabid dog voice.

MARSHALL(VO)

Yeah, YEAH...Do it! Get me pregnant! Yeah...Yeah. Damn...Grab me a towel. No, the bathroom is there.

THOMAS

(Sheepishly)Anybody want a sandwich?

The entire group turns their attention to Thomas, looking at him like he has 9 heads.

INT. MARSHALL AND DON'S HOUSE - DAY

As the group sits in the living room, we hear a voice coming from the bedroom. It's Marshall.

MARSHALL(VO)

Ok. I'm gonna walk out and you count to 10 and then you come out.

Marshall opens the door to see the group.

MARSHALL (CONT'D)

Hey. Where'd everybody go?

DK

Get me pregnant?

MARSHALL

Oh for god's sake. I knew I should have moved my bedroom upstairs when Donn died.

EMMANUEL

Hello.

ELIZABETH

Hello, Manny. I'm Elizabeth. Where do you live? And how old are you? Honestly, the second question is the most important. I want to know if we are calling the police on Marshall.

EMMANUEL

I'm 25 and I live in Florida.

KATIE

(To DK) When was your dad in Florida?

DK

He wasn't. My little brother was born in Winston-Salem. My dad poked a nurse while my mom was having heart surgery.

ELIZABETH

How so very Donald Trump of him.

DK

Classy, right? She was at Baptist Hospital.

CASSANDRA

(To Emmanuel) How did you find out about your father?

EMMANUEL

My mother told me he lived in Wilmington and his son was an actor. The movie kinda made it easy.

DK

When he contacted me, we did a blood test. And yes, my doctor did it.

ELIZABETH

And you didn't want us to know?

DK

I wanted to finish a movie. And then, Pop sped up his coming out, so to speak.

EMMANUEL

I'm going back to Florida for a bit. But...I wouldn't mind coming back...Maybe even to live...If that's ok.

ELIZABETH

Darlin', you are more than welcome. I'll give you work.

KATIE

Doing what? Cabana boy?

ELIZABETH

Shut up!

KATIE

Gianna?

GIANNA

She goes back and forth so much...At least I'll get a break.

ELIZABETH

You can shut up too.

EMMANUEL

You folks are funny.

MARSHALL

Welcome to the weird part of your family.

THOMAS

I still can't get past Get Me Pregnant.

DK

Eat a sandwich.

EXT. POP'S HOUSE - EVENING

DK and Cassandra pull up in DK's Jeep. They both get out and head to the door.

DK

You know, I'm a big boy.

CASSANDRA
Think you should be by yourself
tonight?

DK
I don't know. I got Lily the puppy.

CASSANDRA
You have me too. I'm not leaving. I
worry about you.

DK
Marshall said something about that
a while back. (Pause) Mind I tell ya
something?

INT. POP'S HOUSE - EVENING

DK drops the keys in a bowl by the door. They enter the house
and Cassandra pops down on the couch.

CASSANDRA
What is it?

DK
You ever miss someone so much, you
realize you're running from them,
from your feelings for them?

Cassandra jumps off the couch. Kisses DK. Then pulls back,
slightly.

INT DK'S BEDROOM MORNING

Cassandra is quietly walking around the house, fully dressed
and comes in the room. DK is still asleep.

CASSANDRA
(Whispers) I made you some
breakfast. I'll see you, maybe.

Cassandra gets up and DK's eyes open. She leaves the room and
we hear the front door shut.

EXT. CAFE ON FRONT STREET - DAY

(Months pass) Marshall and Cassandra are having lunch.

MARSHALL

I love this Tropic Thunder Beer.
What are you doing for work these
days?

CASSANDRA

A gig here and there. I could
always marry DK. He's got money
these days.

MARSHALL

Not the worst idea. Can't believe
how that movie took off. And he
still dresses like an out of work
Uber driver.

CASSANDRA

He's always been his own man. How's
your love life?

MARSHALL

Dear god, I'm a slut.

CASSANDRA

Have you seen Manny again?

MARSHALL

Once, but we're not a couple. He
stayed in Florida. DK set him up.

The Server comes out with a tray.

SERVER

Large Basket?

MARSHALL

(Sarcastically) That's the rumor.

The server looks confused.

CASSANDRA

Jesus. (Server leaves)

MARSHALL

You know, that DK idea isn't a bad
one.

CASSANDRA

What? Marriage? We hardly speak
these days.

MARSHALL

Why is that?

CASSANDRA

Press tour, new projects. He's a busy guy.

MARSHALL

Wouldn't it be cool to travel with him?

CASSANDRA

I'm not an ornament. (Pause) I don't know.

MARSHALL

God I do. I'd love it. Ever really noticed those big green eyes?

CASSANDRA

What?

MARSHALL

Those BIG GREEN EYES. Ever notice them?

CASSANDRA

I...Just stop. (Pause) He does amaze me, how far he's come. I just wish....

MARSHALL

What?

CASSANDRA

Nothing.

MARSHALL

Cassie...You know he's crazy about you.

Cassandra ignores him.

CASSANDRA

I gotta go.

MARSHALL

Cassie, are you ok?

CASSANDRA

Yeah, just...Gotta run.

She scurries off. Obviously, the DK thing has made her uncomfortable.

MARSHALL

Cassie?

Cassandra runs off.

INT. ELIZABETH'S HOUSE - DAY

Elizabeth is drinking coffee, wearing a sleeping mask. She is four steps beyond hungover. Gianna is walking in the front door.

ELIZABETH

I can't help but think that Kettle
One was spoiled last night.

GIANNA

Vodka doesn't spoil.

ELIZABETH

Will you give me my dignity.

GIANNA

I haven't seen you bend your arm
like that since Pop passed away.

ELIZABETH

(Taking off the mask) Think they're
gonna be ok?

GIANNA

They're adults...Kinda. Are you
gonna watch over them forever?

ELIZABETH

Pop's gone.

GIANNA

Yep, and you'll be a phone call
away. And I'll make sure you get
back here as quick as they need.

ELIZABETH

Always?

GIANNA

And forever. But ya wanna know a
secret?

ELIZABETH

DK is his father's son?

GIANNA

Yep. Over night success at 58 or
59, I can't remember.

ELIZABETH

He's the surprise we never saw coming. Just wish Cassie...Well, none of my business.

GIANNA

Strange those two. I think they'll figure it out.

EXT. ANOTHER CAFE - DAY

The group is having "Lunch" mostly drinks with most folks. Appetizers are hardly touched on the table.

THOMAS

(To Elizabeth) When do you leave?

ELIZABETH

We're driving to Raleigh tonight. We're seeing Gianna's niece and then off to Peru.

CASSANDRA

You're telling us this now?

ELIZABETH

Darlin', I'll only be gone a year and then I'm back. We have a wonderful documentary that Gianna has been working on for a few years. It's about the little firemen.

GIANNA

The government ignores their needs and certainly their safety and THEY RISK THEIR LIVES EVERYDAY...

ELIZABETH

GIANNA! breathe, my love. (To the group) She's a bit passionate about it.

GIANNA

I'm sorry everyone. Besides, my liver needs to deflate.

MARSHALL

Just wish I'd known.

KATIE

When are you leaving, Big Brother?

DK

I don't know. I didn't wanna bring it up. Just got Pop's house rented and I wanna see some things.

THOMAS

Sounds exciting!

MARSHALL

Take Cassie with you. She's never left this town.

CASSANDRA

The hell does that mean?

MARSHALL

I was joking.

DK

I'm not. Wanna go?

CASSANDRA

And have you support me?

DK

No. I just...Thought we could...

CASSANDRA

We could what?

ELIZABETH

Darlin', he's just asking...

CASSANDRA

You all have your plans. You all have changes. I don't want things changing. I like my life!

GIANNA

Do you?

Katie cringes.

ELIZABETH

It is a great question, Cassie...Do you?

CASSANDRA

Why do you guys keep me around? The one that continues to be a failure.

THOMAS

WHOA!!! Hold on a second!

MARSHALL

Cassie!!!

THOMAS

How fucked up is that? When, and I fucking mean it, WHEN have we treated you like a failure? How dare you! We love you...We love everything about you and you bring up that? You know what, you're right. Go ahead. Feel sorry for yourself. I think I speak from experience. Better yet, how long do you two have to really want something to happen, waiting for the other to do it? Who did he open up to when his father died? Who is he always standing beside when we're together? And NOW, when he has worked his ASS off and can live comfortably and wants to take a trip...And he finally has the balls to ask YOU to join him and you get your ass on your shoulders because YOU'RE THE FAILURE? How self absorbed are you?

Cassandra stares at Thomas. All other eyes are on her. DK has his head down. Cassandra turns to DK. DK's eyes meet hers. She turns and runs away.

THOMAS (CONT'D)

I'm sorry everyone.

MARSHALL

Who the hell was that?

GIANNA

Is it true, DK?

DK

I never wanted to get in her way.

ELIZABETH

She's gonna be fine, my love. She's just afraid of being alone.

KATIE

(To Thomas) Take the car. I'll be home later.

Alex is stuck on watching her mom.

ALEX
Mom...Can I come with you?

The entire group looks at Alex.

KATIE
Come on...

EXT. RIVERWALK - DAY

Cassandra is sitting on a bench, looking at the river. Katie and Alex walk up behind her and stop. Cassandra doesn't look at them.

CASSANDRA
I'm not gonna bite.

Katie and Alex walk up. Katie sits beside her and Alex sits on the boardwalk.

CASSANDRA (CONT'D)
You know, I met him right here.

KATIE
I do. And I also know you come back here when you're feeling alone.

CASSANDRA
Can you believe that movie?

KATIE
It's not a bad movie.

CASSANDRA
NEVER thought it would take off like that.

KATIE
I think the comedy and silliness of the characters is what sold it.

CASSANDRA
Funny how they kept missing each other.

KATIE
Is it?

CASSANDRA
They're so different, but exactly the same. Just...Weird.

KATIE

Weird or familiar? You really didn't see it?

CASSANDRA

I don't...I...I guess I didn't want to.

KATIE

He's always loved you. The way he looks at you...Most women would kill to have a man look at the like that. He only has eyes for you.

CASSANDRA

Then why not say anything?

KATIE

Didn't he?

CASSANDRA

What?

KATIE

Going home with him the night of Pop's funeral. Please. Maybe that's the last bit of business we have with each other.

CASSANDRA

And that's the end?

KATIE

Nooooooo. That's the beginning. We're older now. It took us to 50 to realize, we're not friends...We're closer than that. We're closer than family. Marshall, our cornerstone. Elizabeth, the older sister that steps on the tracks first, defending us. Thomas, the worker bee, always keeping us comfortable. Me, I'm the drama queen. DK is our storyteller.

CASSANDRA

And me.

KATIE

You're the most important of all...You're our spirit of bliss and happiness.

(MORE)

KATIE (CONT'D)

The blessed gift that we continue to learn from...The one in the world, teaching us how the world changes.

CASSANDRA

But, I don't like change.

KATIE

No one likes change. But, we don't really control that.

CASSANDRA

I don't want to say good bye.

KATIE

You're not. We're just turning a page. New time with new eyes, new eyes on new adventures.

CASSANDRA

Has DK ever heard you talk like this?

KATIE

I don't know that I've ever heard me talk like this.

CASSANDRA

That old romantic bastard is contagious. I love you.

KATIE

I love all of us.

CASSANDRA

Me too.

Katie and Cassandra embraces. Alex looks at both of them with great admiration.

ALEX

(Whispers) Me too.

EXT. ANOTHER CAFE - DAY

The group that is left hugs each other, saying good bye to Elizabeth and Gianna. Thomas turns to walk away and Aaron follows him. Elizabeth and Gianna get into a cab/uber(Depending on if I can get money from Uber) and Marshall and DK wave good bye. DK kisses Marshall leaves the him standing there.

INT. A BUSY AIRPORT TERMINAL - DAY

DK walks into the terminal. He finds a departure board.

DK(V/O)

And that's my story. Everything
fell into place. Well, almost
everything.

The camera drops to his hand. Cassandra's hand grabs his. He
stares at the departure board.

DK (CONT'D)

Where you headed?

CASSANDRA

Anywhere.

He turns and looks her in the eyes.

DK

Never been there.

CASSANDRA

I think we'll love it.

They kiss.

Fade out.