Really Really
A play by Paul Downs Colaizzo

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Really Really

Characters:

LEIGH
GRACE
HALEY
DAVIS
JIMMY
COOPER
JOHNSON

Scene Breakdown:

ACT I – A Sunday in Spring

Scene 1 – The Girls’ Apartment
Scene 2 – The Guys’ Apartment
Scene 3 – The Girls’ Apartment
Scene 4 – They Guys’ Apartment
Scene 5 – The Future Leaders of America Conference
Scene 6 – The Girls’ Apartment
Scene 7 – The Guys’ Apartment

ACT II – Monday

Scene 1 – The Future Leaders of America Conference
Scene 2 – The Girls’ Apartment
Scene 3 – The Guys’ Apartment
Scene 4 – A Laundromat
Scene 5 – The Guys’ Apartment
Scene 6 – The Girls’ Apartment
Scene 7 – The Guys’ Apartment
Scene 8 – The Girls’ Apartment, The Theater
SCENE 1

Lights up on a college apartment. It is big, mildly messy, and clearly inhabited by women. The girls who live there have tried to decorate the place many times without finishing before they begin redecorating. It is dark outside.

As the pre-show music continues to play full blast, the front door swings open, silencing the music. The two girls that live in this apartment stand outside for a moment before they enter. They are drunk and laughing so hard that you would think that they were high.

GRACE is tall and beautiful. Her hand is bleeding and her attempts to stop the blood are failing.

LEIGH is beautiful in her own right. She is not standing up straight.

They still stand there. Laughing. And laughing.

GRACE enters the apartment, drops her bag, aiming for the kitchen counter but mis-launching it to the floor. She undresses as she pours herself a full glass of water and drinks the whole thing. She has given up and is leaving blood drops wherever she goes.

LEIGH, after a few too many moments, walks into the apartment and slams the door. She stands motionless before heading to the couch and looking for her cell phone. She finds it. It’s a flip phone. She looks to see if she got a text message. Nope. She closes is and sets it down. She picks it back up and looks at it.
She opens the phone. She holds down a button, then puts it on speaker mode.

VOICEMAIL LADY
(from the phone)
There are no new messages in your mailbox.

She closes the phone. She opens it.

VOICEMAIL LADY
(from the phone)
There are no new messages in your mailbox.

She closes the phone. She opens it.

VOICEMAIL LADY
(from the phone)
There are no new messages in your mailbox.

GRACE, now in her underwear, turns off all of the lights as she exits to the bedroom.

LEIGH crosses upstage to the bathroom, turns on the light and starts the shower. She is walking with caution. She walks back to her cell phone. She holds the button.

VOICEMAIL LADY
(from the phone)
There are no new messages in your mailbox.

LEIGH picks up a sweatshirt from the floor and puts it on over her clothes. She sits down on the couch facing outward. She is working to breathe. Her eyes well up. She is motionless.

LEIGH
Ow.
SCENE 2

A college apartment. This one is clearly inhabited by college men who come from money. The apartment is typically clean but the remnants from the party the night before are still contaminating the room. JOHNSON is dressed for the day and playing a racing game on X BOX. COOPER is standing in the doorway to his bedroom and is half asleep and angry. Immediately on lights up -

JOHNSON
(to the game)
NO! Oh my -

COOPER
(eyes almost closed, as loud as a soldier)
Johnson, what the fuck are you doing?!

JOHNSON
What?

COOPER
What the fuck are you-

JOHNSON
I’m playing the -

COOPER
It’s 8:15!

JOHNSON
You told me I could come over here and play the -

COOPER
In the morning!

JOHNSON
(to the game)
OH!
COOPER
You’re yelling!

JOHNSON
(still at the game)
FUCK!

COOPER
I was sleeping. Davis is sleeping. We were drinking all night and you are yelling!

JOHNSON
You’re yelling!

COOPER
I fucking live here!

JOHNSON
Oh so your voice is special? Just cause you live here your voice doesn’t go through the walls?

COOPER
JESUS CHRIST, JOHNSON!

JOHNSON
Shouldn’t you be up anyway? Don’t you have to study for midterms?

COOPER
I don’t have any midterms.

JOHNSON
None?!

COOPER
Nope!

JOHNSON
Ugh. That makes me so jel.

COOPER
What? Jel?
JOHNSON
What? Jel? Jel! It means “jelaous.” How do you not know that?

COOPER
You sound like a douche.

COOPER gets a text.

JOHNSON
Well I think it’s cool, so, like-

COOPER
Oh yeah. Shit.

JOHNSON
Who’s that?

COOPER
Jenny Abrahamson. She lost her tooth last night.

JOHNSON
A tooth?

COOPER
It’s really her fault though. We had bottle openers everywhere.

JOHNSON
She’s hot.

COOPER
She’s fat.

JOHNSON
She’s hot fat.

COOPER
What the fuck is wrong with you, man? You leave our party – Our once-a-year, tunnel of love –

JOHNSON
I made you a cake!
COOPER
—to get a good night’s sleep, and then you bring your
tiny dick over to my house to play your outdated tiny dick video games?!

JOHNSON
Sorry.

COOPER
At 8:15 in the morning?!

JOHNSON
I don’t need your stupid party to get laid. I get laid all year.

COOPER
GO HOME!

JOHNSON
Everyone deserves some time off, Cooper!

COOPER
Not at my house!

JOHNSON
Oh I’m sorry. This visit is sending your day planner into a big fucking tailspin.

COOPER
I’ve got shit to do.

JOHNSON
What shit?

COOPER
I do things.
JOHNSON
Name three.

COOPER
How about three things I didn’t do: Didn’t make a cake. Didn’t wake up early to play video games. Didn’t suck a dick somewhere in the in between.

JOHNSON
You are totes pussy jel.

COOPER
What?

JOHNSON
It’s self explanatory, Cooper!

COOPER
(to the video game)
LOOK OUT!

JOHNSON
Fuck! No! I knew it. I knew he was going to take me out.

COOPER
Keep your eyes on the horizon. That’s the first rule.

JOHNSON
I hate my life.

JOHNSON turns off the game in anger.

COOPER
Hey - Good old Davis got laid last night.

JOHNSON
No.

COOPER
Yes.
JOHNSON immediately turns off the video game and pays COOPER his full attention.

They are both nodding. No one is talking.

JOHNSON
So - go ahead-

COOPER
Who me? Fucking me? The guy who you think doesn’t do anything?

JOHNSON
Ok - I’m sorry - you’re very busy. It’s gotta be hard to look for a job that’s already waiting in your father’s hand.

COOPER
Fuck you. Suck my balls.

JOHNSON
I’m not being derisive.

COOPER
Suck my balls and say I’m king. Derisive, fuck you.

JOHNSON
You know what? It doesn’t even matter who he slept with. I’m just glad he got some this year. I never liked Natalie.

COOPER
I’m king!

JOHNSON
He should be focusing on graduation. He’s too nice to be sludging around like a pathetic heartbroken tool bag. If you had an ounce of the sophistication that Davis has then you might get laid every once in awhile too.
COOPER
I get laid.

JOHNSON
Name one.

COOPER
You don’t know everything!

JOHNSON
Fine by me. I get laid.

A bedroom door opens and a very hung-over DAVIS enters.

JOHNSON
Who’d you bone? Tell me quickly! Who’d you bone?

COOPER tackles JOHNSON to the floor.

JOHNSON
NO! UNCLE! UNCLE! DUDE!

COOPER
I’m the mother fucking king! Say it!

JOHNSON
DUDE! GET OFF! UNCLE!

COOPER
Davis - you say a word I will use your balls for tennis.

DAVIS
Good morning?

JOHNSON bites COOPER.

(screaming)
AHHHHHHH! WEIRDO! YOU WEIRDO!

JOHNSON pulls COOPER’s hair as he locks down on his bite.
COOPER
LEIGH! He slept with Leigh you fucking girl!

JOHNSON releases.

JOHNSON
No way!

COOPER
Jesus!

JOHNSON
No fucking way!

COOPER
You cunt!

JOHNSON
(to Davis)
You dirty! You dirty dirty!

DAVIS
You’re screaming.

JOHNSON
Mum’s the word, Davis. I promise. This is your day, kinda.

COOPER
Johnson I am going to plug your ass with blades so we can all identify the dudes you are fucking!

JOHNSON
Maria, Grace, Jessie, Tiffany. Your turn, Coop.

COOPER
Blow me douchebag.

JOHNSON
So what now? I have eighteen minutes. You want to go to the lawn?
COOPER
Yeah. I’ll get my Frisbee. You coming, Davis? Or you need to throw up a little first?

JOHNSON
I can’t believe you’re back in the game.

DAVIS
What?

JOHNSON
Does Grace know? Does the Jimster know? Oh fuck – am I an accomplice?

DAVIS
Know what?

COOPER
Yeah you and half the block. What kind of kinky shit were you doing in there, Davis?

DAVIS
What are you talking about?

COOPER
Did a trumpet start playing? Did she give you a check? That’s what normally happens when you’re the thousandth customer.

JOHNSON
So how’d it happen? Start from the top.

COOPER
Hey. You expect me to believe that you get laid when you want to hear the details of his night with Leigh? It’s none of our business what happened in there.

DAVIS
What happened in where?
COOPER
Cut it, Davis. I had my ear pressed against the door for the first five minutes.

JOHNSON
Pussy Jel.

DAVIS
Oh Leigh? Jimmy’s Leigh?

COOPER
No one is judging you. We’re just glad you got laid and finally got over Natalie. This is step one. The next step is to get you to sleep with a girl who is cleaner than Ecoli.

JOHNSON
Cooper. Don’t be a dick.

COOPER
What? He fucked her. It’s not like they’re friends. Besides – she was probably the man in the sack anyway. Right, Davis?

DAVIS
Ummm...

COOPER
I mean no offense, Davis, you’re my buddy but you’re more of a Vice President.

DAVIS
Oh come on. That’s bull shit.

COOPER
What’s bull shit?

DAVIS
What the hell did I drink?
COOPER
What didn’t you drink? Your pants were down and your hopes were up about an hour before you even went into the bedroom.

DAVIS
Who was here?

COOPER
When?

DAVIS
Last night.

JOHNSON
At what point?

DAVIS
The party. Who was here during the party?

COOPER
After you went into your bedroom? After a while it pretty much started to clear out. Grace came back for Leigh but by that time the team had all left.

JOHNSON
Mother fucking Grace. She’s good peeps.

DAVIS
Oh Jesus.

COOPER
What all do you remember?

DAVIS
I remember the keg coming.

COOPER
And nothing else besides your tongue bath with Leigh?

DAVIS
OK, I have to go study.
JOHNSON
You’re telling me. Societal Animals midterm tomorrow.

DAVIS
I have to get a B minus or higher.

COOPER
Davis here is trying to graduate Magnum Cum Lady.

JOHNSON
That’s not how you say it. I’ll help you study? I made index cards.

COOPER
On pink paper with flowers.

JOHNSON
On bright futures with dollar signs.

COOPER
(mockingly)
Oh is that right?

JOHNSON
(mockingly)
Yeah that’s right.

COOPER
(mockingly)
Oh, ok.

JOHNSON exits.

COOPER
So, you good?

DAVIS
I just need some coffee and a shower and I’ll be fine.
COOPER
Right. I meant about Leigh. Feel good to get out there again?

DAVIS
Oh. Yeah. I guess. Do we have any pizza left?

COOPER
Cause listen - man to man- I think you really deserve to be happy. That’s awkward.

DAVIS
Thanks man.

COOPER
So - spill it - did you make her scream like she didn’t want it?

DAVIS
I don’t wanna talk about it. I have to figure out what I’m going to say to Jimmy.

COOPER
Don’t say anything. Jim is a pansy, dude. He’s useless in every scrum and then he third halves like he owns the game.

DAVIS
Aw, come on. He’s just showing off for his dad.

COOPER
Umm, his dad is pretty smart. He’s on the fucking board. His son blows and he knows it.

DAVIS
Alright if you’ll excuse me, I have to put all of this on the back burner so that I can pass my exam, graduate college, fight for a good job, or any job, marry a lovely woman and assemble some sort of life.

COOPER
Is that what you want?
DAVIS
Oh I don’t know.

COOPER
You can’t get what you want unless you know what you want.

DAVIS
I want you to shut up so I can study. How about that?

COOPER
Tests don’t matter, Davis, I’m telling you.

DAVIS
Oh really?

COOPER
We’re playing a totally different game than our parents did. You need to learn actual survival things, man. Stop working hard, you idiot. Work smart. Can you do that?

DAVIS
Cooper?

COOPER
Yeah?

DAVIS
You know me. I can do anything.
Scene 3

Back to the girls’ apartment. It is the same day, mid morning. GRACE is making pancakes, listening to the news, and dressed for church. Her once bloody hand is now bandaged.

A bedroom door opens and LEIGH enters, wearing long sleeves and pants.

GRACE
Hey Mess. I made you coffee. And pancakes. I made too many so I hope you’re hungry. My rent check is on the fridge and my Statistics midterm is right here in this folder. And I bought an air horn, since you’ll be here alone for the next few days, that I’m keeping on the shelf. It says “Not for indoor use” but if you need to use it then you use it indoors, outdoors, on tours and through the floors, you understand me?

LEIGH
Huh?

Leigh sits on the couch, reading a home and garden magazine with post-its sticking out of it.

GRACE
Grace to Leigh. Wake up. Also – I just want you to know – we all pitched in to get Jennie Abrahamson that dress she won’t shut up about for her birthday. I took care of your contribution, don’t worry – you don’t have to pay me back. I told everyone it was from you. But you have to sign the card.

LEIGH
I can pay you back.

GRACE
Hell no! That’s sweet and cute and kind but you’re... I mean – I got it. You can’t go throwin’ around money
for designer dresses that you’re not even going to wear.
LEIGH
You don’t have to do that. You look pretty. I like your hair.

GRACE
Really? I feel like I look horrible.

LEIGH
You don’t. You look good. When are you leaving?

GRACE
Now, honey. I have to make it to church before I leave for the conference. And I built in an extra 20 minutes so that I can drive my car with this useless flirp of a hand.

LEIGH
Oh my God I totally forgot about that.

GRACE
Apparently I did too. It must have bled until my alarm clock went off because my 1200 count white sheets are now gross hundred count blood red.

LEIGH
Oh my God – you’re immobile. You’re handicapped now. You could probably get affirmative action points for that thing. Are you going to drop these off before you leave.

GRACE
No I don’t have time. How’d you sleep? Pleasantly, I assume?
LEIGH
Ugh.

GRACE
Oh God. There’s blood on your shirt. How the hell did that happen?

LEIGH
I didn’t want to sleep alone. We cuddled for a little.

LEIGH changes shirts.

GRACE
You WERE in my bed. Oh thank God. I thought maybe I had dreamt that and was discovering a lesbian side of myself. Did I bleed on you a lot?

LEIGH
Do you need to go to the hospital?

GRACE
I’m fine, I’m fine. It’ll just be a little awkward shaking hands with my fellow Future Leaders of America. “Hi – I’m Grace. What happened to my hand? Oh I was drunk last night on my way home from a kegger and I tripped and fell over my slutty heels into a pile of broken glass by the dumpster where I was helping myself to some uneaten pizza while I waited for my roommate to finish up cheating on her boyfriend with a guy she’s had a crush on since freshman year. Why won’t you touch me?”

LEIGH
You were waiting?

GRACE
Don’t mention it. That boy is hot, ok? He’s the perfect man. Half the people at church right now are probably going to worship him.
LEIGH
Yeah, but Grace-

GRACE
No buts. I saw how you were looking at him all night. You were a freaking lioness on the prowl. And if I couldn’t leap on top of him I wanted you to. I bet he is 100 percent pure delicious.

LEIGH
Huh.

GRACE
Now you just have to let Jimmy down easy. It’s about time you let that slug go.

LEIGH
Tsk. Jimmy

GRACE
Out of sight, out of mind, and soon enough for you, out of your life.

LEIGH
Be nice. Don’t say anything.

GRACE
You’re an idiot. We only got home 6 hours ago. Why are you up?

LEIGH
I couldn’t sleep.

GRACE
Were you staring at the ceiling, reliving the night, waiting to tell me every little detail?

LEIGH
Oh, Grace.
GRACE
Because that’s exactly what I want to hear and I want to hear it right now.

LEIGH
I don’t want to.

GRACE
Johnson won’t touch me with midterms coming up. He calls me the fruit of temptation. LET A GIRL LIVE THROUGH YOU, OK?!

LEIGH
You don’t want to hear it.

GRACE
But he’s Davis.

BEAT

LEIGH
How do you not have a hangover?

GRACE
Advil. Is this really happening? Are you not going to tell me about your night?

BEAT

You see this? This thing I used to call a hand? This is covered like a Muslim woman because it fought in the battle of Covering Your Ass. There are pancakes in the kitchen, an air horn on the shelf, and a manageable ounce of curiosity stirring in my sexually deprived yet ever-so deserving soul. So Leigh the day has come - I am in the street, dying of thirst. Spit, Leigh. Spit into my mouth!

LEIGH
Ok. Jesus.
GRACE
But do the Cliff’s Notes because I’m late.

LEIGH
Well we went into the bedroom and – oh God I slept with my contacts in.

GRACE
(referring to her hand)
MUSLIM WOMAN!

LEIGH
Look, Grace, it’s my business, ok? You can feel as entitled as you want but when you take a minute to think about it, it is my business!

GRACE
Ok. Chill out.

LEIGH
I didn’t ask for you to wait for me. I’m not a poor defenseless girl. If you wanted to actually save me, you wouldn’t have let me go in with him, no matter how I was looking at him.

GRACE
Last night you thanked me.

LEIGH
Last night I couldn’t walk home.

GRACE
You followed him into the bedroom.

LEIGH
Well Jesus – what a bad person I must be. If I had known all along that I was in control of everything, I wouldn’t have made myself into such a fuck up! Such a worthless, deserving fuck up.

GRACE
Whoa whoa whoa, honey. Breathe. I’m sorry. You’re
right. I don’t deserve to know anything. Look I gotta go but I love you, OK? You know that. I’ll call you when I get to the hotel.

LEIGH
I made a mistake.

GRACE
We all make mistakes. You just made the hottest mistake on campus. Take it easy today.

*There is a knock at the door. The door opens. JIMMY stands in the doorway.*

JIMMY
Honey?

BEAT

GRACE
I’m late. I’m late. I’m so late.

JIMMY
Are you off the pill too?

GRACE
Jimmy. I missed you. I’m not being sarcastic right now at all.

JIMMY
Where are you off to?

GRACE
Sainthood. *(then to LEIGH)* Goodbye, Lover. Take a bath or something. That’s actually my advice to you too, Jimmy.

GRACE exits.

JIMMY
How’s my baby?
LEIGH
Oh good. I’m tired. But that’s part of it all I guess.

JIMMY
(to her stomach)
And how’s my baby baby?

LEIGH
Kicking and probably screaming if she’s anything like your mother.

JIMMY
Hey no fair. Boys kick too.

LEIGH
Wishful thinking. Do you want some pancakes?

JIMMY
Totally. I’m starving. I missed you. A lot.

LEIGH
Oh, baby.

JIMMY
Did you miss me?

LEIGH
Of course, baby.

JIMMY
Did you tell Grace yet about the situation in the womb?

LEIGH
No. Not yet. I don’t want her to get all Jesus freak on me, you know?

JIMMY
Jesus freak?
LEIGH
Oh whatever.

JIMMY
Did you make these?

LEIGH
Do you like them?

JIMMY
They’re amazing.

LEIGH
That’s all that matters.

JIMMY
So what’d you do while I was gone?

BEAT
Babe?

LEIGH
Yeah?

JIMMY
Are you feeling ok? You seem funny.

LEIGH
Oh- I probably just have a lot on my mind. Midterms and stuff.

JIMMY
Oh. Alright.

LEIGH
But - why didn’t you call?

JIMMY
My phone died.
LEIGH
I kind of needed to talk.

JIMMY
Do you want to talk now?

LEIGH
No. I’ll get over it.

JIMMY
Babe – is this your coffee? Caffeine, babe.

LEIGH
No way. Are you kidding? It’s Grace’s.

JIMMY
Two cups.

LEIGH
I swear to God – she poured me a cup and I didn’t have any. She leaves me so many dishes.

JIMMY
That girl is something else.

LEIGH
She’s alright. She’s good to me.

JIMMY
Really? You can’t even tell her that you’ve got a bun in the oven and she’s supposed to be your best friend.

LEIGH
Oh that’s different.

JIMMY
No. It’s not.

LEIGH
Look, she’s good to me, ok?
JIMMY
Uh - she’s a bitch.

LEIGH
She’s just kidding with you. You know that.

JIMMY
Sure. Yeah. But I’m just saying that, like, after you and I move in together, you know you’re going to have to stop being friends with her.

LEIGH
Blah blah.

JIMMY
No babe, I mean it. I always learned not to allow people you don’t like or don’t trust into your home and I’m sorry but that girl is not welcome in any space that I pay for.

LEIGH
But babe – it’s my space too...

JIMMY
Sacrifices, Leigh. We do what’s best for each other. For example, I went on vacation with my family to the beach house this weekend. I came home a day early to be with you.

BEAT

LEIGH
Ok.

JIMMY
And like right now. The whole team is at Rafter’s eating wings and drinking mid-morning beers and where am I?

LEIGH
Right here.
JIMMY
That’s right. With my lady and our baby. Sometimes God sends us forks in the road and we learn to love the view on the detour.

LEIGH
Is that therapy something you think you’re gonna stick with?

JIMMY
We may have been on shaky ground before this, but knowing that you will have my kid...

LEIGH
I know. It’s amazing. I can’t wait for him to be here.

JIMMY
Aww... No more little girl? You changing your tune?

LEIGH
When should we start looking at houses?
Scene 4

Back to the boys’ house.

DAVIS is studying. He is deep in it. COOPER enters.

COOPER
DAVIS YOU PUSSY! You should have come to Rafter’s. Steve’s MILF was there. She paid the tab. How’s it going?

DAVIS
(reading from his book)
“After copulation, the female praying mantis then bites off the head of the male mate. This decapitation speeds up the ejaculation process.”

COOPER
Ugh. Women.

DAVIS
(still reading)
“This mating ritual, despite popular belief, occurs less than 31% of the time. The female is more likely to eat the male if it is imminent to her survival. This process is referred to as “Sexual Cannibalism.”

COOPER
I read in my Psych book last year that babies gnaw on your finger because they love you so much that they just want to eat you.

DAVIS
Ugh – I’m never going to remember all of this stuff. It doesn’t even relate to my major. I thought it’d be fun to take this class and now I think it’d be just as fun to move back in with my parents.

COOPER
HEY! WE DON’T TALK LIKE THAT IN THIS HOUSE!
DAVIS
Sometimes I really just want a way out of all of this.
And why the hell are you not stressing?

COOPER
What?

DAVIS
Midterms. What’s your deal?

COOPER
I’m not in Societal Animals.

DAVIS
Well Psych or whatever the hell else.

COOPER
Aww, you know, I’m taking my time…

DAVIS
When’s your midterm?

COOPER
No, no. I mean this “college lasts 4 years” thing.
That was just a number some asshole picked out of thin
air, you know? I’m young. I got time.

DAVIS
I hate you.

COOPER
It’s like – I could stress out in my early 20s, and
get work done and get that assignment in and write
down what the professor says, but for what? To go work
with my dad in this crazy market? That doesn’t sound
like fun to me!
So --- what? What’s left? Option One – Pull a Davis.
Stress about what you’re told to do and force an early
life heart attack on yourself. Not judging,
just saying. And there’s option 2: The Cooper way. 4 years? Hell no. 5. 6. 6 and a half.

DAVIS
That’s not even allowed.

COOPER
I know people. And this way, I end up saving time. Why? Because people who opted for Option One work towards retirement, but the blood pressure and the anxiety and the extra bull shit stress decrease the chance of that 401K seeing the light of day. So us Option 2 guys – we’ll cry at your funeral and mutter something about you being too young to die, but those extra 3 years I took in college, they turn into 20 or 40 extra years added to my vacation called “life.” You want a beer?

DAVIS
You have bad parents.

COOPER
I’m doing just fine.

DAVIS
Yeah well in three months some of us have to find a job and then keep working because we won’t get an automatic promotion when Daddy dies.

COOPER
Hey glass house, you better put down those stones.

DAVIS
No. No. Two totally different boats.

COOPER
Like you’re not well off.

DAVIS
I have it just the opposite way.
COOPER
Yeah?

DAVIS
I have a name to uphold. Not a kingdom to take over.

COOPER
Your dad is a CFO!

DAVIS
He’s never helped me at all! And my mom is a philanthropist. Professionally. And she already thinks she’s spoiled me. If you think I’m seeing any of that money, you’re a fucking moron.

COOPER
Do you want to live that life you keep talking about?

DAVIS
I don’t know! Shut up! I want to pass this test!

COOPER
Then you better study.

DAVIS
I can’t. I get a semi every time I read something about those fucked up mating rituals.

COOPER
Ooo – So the ground hog didn’t run away when it saw the light of day? I’m talking about your penis.

DAVIS
Oh. I don’t know.

BEAT

Can I say something that sounds gay?

COOPER
Won’t be the first time.
DAVIS
Seriously -

COOPER
Yes.

DAVIS
I feel like - after last night I guess - whatever last night was - I feel like...

COOPER
Horny?

DAVIS
No. Like, ready. I can’t explain it. I feel like... I don’t know... like I have power again. And I want to be touched.

COOPER
You didn’t mean gay, like, you are trying to be gay with me, did you?

DAVIS
No - Fuck Cooper - No. I’m trying to be vulnerable here. I’m just trying to get you to say you know what I mean and you know the feeling.

COOPER
Of wanting to get laid?

DAVIS
Forget it.

COOPER
No no - of like - wanting to be touched.

DAVIS
I feel like - I don’t know like - open. Like there’s this new space or something. Like - in my lungs. Like not nervous, but like, you know what I mean?
COOPER
Oh. Maybe.

DAVIS
I don’t want to Option One alone.

COOPER
Well today’s a good day then.

DAVIS
Oh yeah?

COOPER
Don’t you see? Now you know that you hate your life.

DAVIS
(sarcastically)
Yeah. You’re right. Today’s great.

COOPER
Look, Davis. You’re the nicest guy I know – and I mean that in a completely negative way.

DAVIS
Help me here, buddy.

COOPER
Take control of one fucking thing.

DAVIS
I’m trying to study.

COOPER
That’s what someone else wants you to do. What the fuck do you want?

DAVIS
I don’t need a fucking coach right now. I need a friend.
COOPER
Fine! Ok, so - ah - give me a hug.
DAVIS
No, Cooper, I’m OK.

COOPER
No really, come here.

DAVIS
I have to study.

COOPER
Give me a fucking hug, dude.

DAVIS
I don’t want a hug.

COOPER
Maybe I want a hug you cunt licker.

DAVIS
Why the hell do you want a hug?

COOPER
Cause you’re my friend!

DAVIS
No shit – we don’t need to hug about it.

COOPER
I’m not putting my fucking arms down until you give me a hug.

DAVIS
You’re a girl.

COOPER
Hey – you said some pretty gay shit to me earlier about wanting to be touched and a new space up your ass.

DAVIS
In my lungs.
COOPER
I heard up your ass and I have a blog.

DAVIS
Let me study.

COOPER
Hug me!

DAVIS
Oh my God!

DAVIS hugs COOPER. After DAVIS gives in, it is a rather comforting, long hug.

JOHNSON enters. And stares.

COOPER
Johnson, I fucked your mother.

JOHNSON
I know. She told me she couldn’t feel a thing. Get far on the Societal Animals, Davis?

DAVIS
What do I care about these crazy female cannibals?

COOPER
This coming from the guy who was chewed up and spit out by a gorilla named Natalie.

JOHNSON
I have note cards, notes, and I highlit.... Highlighted. Sorry. I highlighted everything in the text book that he mentioned in class.

COOPER
There’s also Option 3 which is the Total Fucking Loser Option.
DAVIS
Cooper, play nice.
COOPER
I don’t wanna.

JOHNSON
I want to order food before Jimmy comes. He never rounds up for tax and tip. Never. I’m not kidding. Literally never.

DAVIS
Jimmy comes where?

JOHNSON
I told him he could study with us.

DAVIS
What? Are you kidding me?

COOPER
Oh shit.

JOHNSON
What? Cooper - I thought you said….

COOPER
You’re an idiot.

JOHNSON
Sorry. You’re going to see him at practice tomorrow anyway.

DAVIS
I can avoid him at practice. Fuck, dude.

JOHNSON
Sorry. Well you shouldn’t have screwed his girlfriend. That’s not my fault.

DAVIS
Well what the hell am I supposed to do about it now?
JOHNSON
Maybe he won’t come.

JIMMY enters through the front door. BEAT

COOPER
(fake thrilled)
Jim/my!

JOHNSON
JIMMY!

DAVIS
Jim!

JIMMY
(feeding off of their excitement)
HEY! HEYYY! HEEEEYYYYYYY!

COOPER
Welcome back!

DAVIS
Yeah!

COOPER
How was your trip?

JIMMY
That fucking beach is killer. Nothing but sand and food and stars.

COOPER
And women, right?

JIMMY
I don’t know what factory those women pop out of but fuckin A are they hot.

COOPER
Yeah? You tap any? We won’t tell.
JIMMY
Naw man. I’m committed. I’ll let myself look, but anymore is no more.
COOPER
Christian therapy? Really?

DAVIS
Good for you. Look, Jimmy – bad news. I have to run, I just got a call from the library and I’ve gotta go. But – I’ll see you tomorrow, yeah? Have fun studying and guys – have such a great time studying ok? There’s beer in the fridge.

JIMMY
Aww bummer. Well I’ll see you later m–

Davis exits.

JIMMY
Aight. Peace.

JOHNSON
OK. I’m going to have to change the setup of the study game if it’s just going to be the two of us. Unless, Cooper, you want to join.

COOPER
I thought you’d never… Have you been reading my journal?

JIMMY
You guys are funny together.

COOPER
Beats being funny alone, Jimmy.

JOHNSON
Studying.

COOPER
Let’s do something.

JOHNSON
We are doing something.
COOPER
Let’s play a game or something.

JOHNSON
We are on a schedule!

JIMMY
What kind of game?

COOPER
Something with a ball. Johnson loves balls.

JOHNSON
Pussy jel. Pussy jel.

JIMMY
What’s Pussy Gel? Like KY?

JOHNSON
Oh. No. It’s like. Sometimes when people are going to use the word “jealous” they say jel instead.

COOPER
Isn’t that cute?

JIMMY
Delicious.

JOHNSON
Don’t you have to study for something, Cooper? Like Intro to Being Dumb? Oh - Well you’re actually probably doing really well in that one.

COOPER
Uh. Oooh. Oof. Really rough go at that one, Johnson.

JOHNSON
What is your GPA? Like how are you still on the team?

COOPER
Are you kidding? First of all, they need the players
and we can all agree on one thing: I am vicious. And second of all, my course load is minimal.

JIMMY
Thanks to me.

COOPER
Thanks to he.

JOHNSON
I thought the rule...

COOPER
Fuck rules. Jimmy’s dad is the shit. He understands brotherhood. Pull a few strings...

JIMMY
Anything for a buddy.

JOHNSON
And what?

COOPER
And, well...

JIMMY
Just tell him. It’s cool.

COOPER
And I get to stay in school as long as I damn well please.

JIMMY
Unless, you know, he kills my mother or something.

JOHNSON
If you’re not taking classes, you’re not in school. You’re just living on campus. And not even your campus. Just some campus. That’s like maybe at the top of the most depressing things I’ve ever heard ever.
COOPER
And I love it. Now which ball game will it be, kiddies?

JOHNSON
We have to study, Cooper.

JIMMY
Hey Cooper, did you ever put Gold Bond on your balls?

COOPER
You know, I haven’t. But I’ve always wanted to.

JIMMY
I did it once in high school and it was fucking awesome.

COOPER
You know what? I think I have some.

JOHNSON
It’s like I am the only person on Earth who wants a good future.

COOPER
(retrieving the Gold Bond from the drawer)
Here it is. Dump away.

JIMMY
Here.

COOPER
Johnson? You wanna try?

JOHNSON
(buried in his book)
That does not deserve a response.

COOPER
I can not wait to feel this glory.
JIMMY
Good purchase, Coop.

COOPER
This is actually Davis’.

JIMMY
Steal it.

COOPER
He’ll probably just let me have it if I ask him. He’s, um, really good at sharing. Right, Johnson?

JOHNSON
Umm... yeah.

COOPER
He shares everyone – thing. Sorry – I said one but I meant thing.

JOHNSON
Are you kidding me with that?

COOPER
What? Davis is a great guy.

JOHNSON
OK – shut up – we should probably start studying.

JIMMY
You don’t think so?

JOHNSON
No I do I just think that if we are going to go over everything we learned--- I’m just saying that talking about Davis is just not the most, um, productive way to go about-

COOPER
What? You don’t like Davis?
JOHNSON
OK - Enough Davis talk, please.

JIMMY
What - did he beat you in XBox this weekend or something?

JOHNSON
YEAH RIGHT!

JIMMY
Then what?

JOHNSON
I have a perfectly fine relationship with Davis. It’s this fool I can’t handle.

COOPER
Oh - yeah - I’m the core of your issues. Is it dark in that closet?

JOHNSON
So should we start with the class notes?

COOPER
(picking something up off of the ground)
Johnson, look! I found it!

JIMMY
Is that a tooth?

COOPER
Yeah it’s Jenny fuckin’ Abrahamson’s tooth.

Cooper puts the tooth in an empty beer can.

JIMMY
Why do you have Jenny Abrahamson’s tooth?

JOHNSON
Umm...
COOPER
Dumb bitch broke it on a beer bottle last night.

*Cooper writes on a beer can in Sharpie and says as he writes*


JIMMY
You guys have a party?

COOPER
More like a rager.

JOHNSON
*(reading)*
Humans care for their young far longer than any other animal. We’re going to have to know that.

COOPER
It was our annual one. You know – Tunnel of Love. No cameras. No facebook. You should have been here. You actually, really should have been here.

JIMMY
Who showed up?

COOPER
Everyone. I wouldn’t even be able to pick anyone out of a line up.

JIMMY
Who got laid? Any shockers?

COOPER
Hey Johnson – who would you say lucked out the most last night?

JOHNSON
*(not paying attention)*
Me. Cause I left.
COOPER
No. I mean of who got laid. Besides you-know-who.

BEAT

JOHNSON
Hey Jimmy – if you don’t have your wits about you for this test, you might resort to cheating, and if anybody finds out about the cheating, then they might lose their fucking temper, ok Cooper? And I don’t want any part in that.

JIMMY
So I’m guessing Johnson didn’t get laid.

COOPER
Not by a girl, at least.

JIMMY
So who lucked out?

COOPER
Johnson, you-know-who!

JIMMY
Who, Johnson? Who?

JOHNSON
(slow and livid. Through his teeth)
I don’t know, Cooper. Who?

COOPER
You have no idea who I’m talking about?

JOHNSON
Wait – do I? Wait – now I really have no idea if we are talking about the same person.

COOPER
Well who are you talking about?
JOHNSON
I don’t wanna say.

JIMMY
Why?

JOHNSON
Cooper?

COOPER
I think we’re talking about the same person. Are you talking about...

JOHNSON
(almost whispered)
...Davis?

JIMMY
DAVIS?!

COOPER
JOHNSON!

JOHNSON
That’s why I – Well who were you talking about?!

JIMMY
Aw man! It’s about time! Good for him, man. Who was the lucky girl?

JOHNSON
Uh... You probably don’t know her.

JIMMY
Bull shit. I know everyone.

JOHNSON
Well I’m going to go order some food. Is Chinese good for everyone?
COOPER
Jimmy, you should probably study. I’ll leave you fools alone.

JIMMY
No no no – you can’t tell me that Davis the Good gets laid and then not tell me which bitch got nailed. Was it a freshman?

BEAT
Does that mean I’m right?

BEAT
Spill the shit man. Who was the girl?

BEAT
What’s going on here? Why are you guys pussying out on me?

BEAT
Why don’t you want me to know?

BEAT
Oh fuck.

BEAT
Oh fuck.

COOPER
Way to go, Johnson.

JOHNSON
Oh fuck you.
COOPER
Honestly, Jimmy, I’m glad you heard it from us.

JOHNSON
Jimmy, I’m sorry, but for the record, I was not here. I had gone home and was not present at the time.

BEAT

JIMMY
I’m gonna kill her.
Scene 5
An American Flag. A projection screen. Bizarre, tacky lighting. The sounds of a convention. Almost a carnival. This is a meeting for the Future Leaders of America.

GRACE
Hello future leaders! It is my great honor to welcome you to the 36th Semi-Annual Future Leaders of America Conference. I am Grace Byrnes, your elected President, and I am going to say a couple of words before we begin our retreat. First of all, you’ll have to excuse my hand. In an effort to be well-rounded, I mis-stepped and am now dealing with the consequences. I won’t fully believe in equal rights until I see a man in a business skirt and heels. That said, I want to congratulate everybody here tonight and tomorrow for participating in these events. The people in this room represent a new generation. Growing up we were told, “Don’t worry about what others think of you.” And boy do they regret teaching us that one because now we are facing a generational vice. Research show that amongst our peers the central concern for each individual is on the me. The I. The I. The me. Me. I. Iphone. MEphone. My turn. Me first. A line? I don’t have to wait. A price? I don’t have to pay. A generation of self awareness and self concern – where they make what we want and what we want is more me. Facebook. Twitter. Vine, Klout, Instagram. We are the members of a generation that has been dubbed Generation Me.

But as I stand here, in front of my peers, in front of the best and brightest and the most promising minds, I am forced to find the good in us. The good in me. The good in you. And at the end of my search, I have found our redeeming quality. The gem of this generation, and the upside to our selfishness, is the invincibility we espouse. Sure, we may consider that
the rules do not apply to us, but for those of us still hungry to succeed in this world, our redeeming quality is that we look at obstacles in the same way. How do we do this? The successful members of Generation Me, the iGeneration, have a secret weapon. This weapon is composed of defiance and denial and greed, and yet is more precious than gold. The weapon, our weapon, is the desire and tendency to answer a simple question: What can I do to make this work? In any situation, what can I do to get what I want? Some people, after college, will move back home and sit in their parents’ basements, blaming the unpredictable economy and the truly bizarre job market. That’s how they will make this world work for them. But not us. The ones who refuse to take no for an answer. We will make our way in spite of the fact that the America this generation has been given is not the America that this generation was told we would get. Is this the land of opportunity? No. Now we’re dealing with the land of strategy. Obstacles? We must see none. Dilemmas? They must be all the more fun. We will succeed. We just have to find a way. And if you don’t want to be a victim of this mess, my advice is to find any way. So after the festivities of tomorrow end, and after we adjourn for another half of a year, I will be proud to be a representative of not only the Future Leaders of America, but more importantly of Generation Me. Like us or not, this is what we’ve got. Who knew hell and high water could be exciting! Thank you. And let’s have fun tonight!
Scene 6
The girls’ apartment. Leigh is cleaning the kitchen. After a few moments, JIMMY tries the locked door, and then knocks on it. LEIGH crosses to the door and opens it.

LEIGH
Hey. Come in. I’m just cleaning up.

JIMMY enters and sits on the couch. Leigh continues cleaning. Silence for a few minutes. As Leigh cleans...

LEIGH
I’m screwed for midterms.

She continues to clean. Jimmy sits. Silence.

LEIGH
I called the bank to tell them about my loans, but I completely forgot that today is Sunday so I’m going to call back tomorrow.

Silence.

LEIGH
Jimmy? Pooks – are you listening to me?

JIMMY
You know last night, on the beach, I was at an empty bar. It was one of the best nights of my life. I was sitting in the sand, looking out at the ocean, and just thinking about how small I was, but how big I felt. And I thought about all the times I had fucked up in the past 21 years, and all the things I would take back. And I realized how peaceful I felt. And how I was alone with all of this sand and all of this water to myself. And I didn’t feel lonely at all, because I loved you so much. And I didn’t feel like
I’d fucked up at all because I knew that I was going to love you so much.
BEAT

What did you do last night? I want you to be honest.

LEIGH
Ok...

Silence.

JIMMY
Come on, just say it.

BEAT

Just fucking say it, Leigh.

LEIGH
Where were you just now?

JIMMY
At the party. It might not look like it, but for me it’s still going on.

LEIGH
At Rafter’s?

JIMMY
At your boyfriend’s house, Leigh. At the fucking party of the year.

LEIGH
What did they tell you?

JIMMY
Don’t.

LEIGH
Jimmy - you tell me what they told you.
JIMMY
They didn’t have to say anything. Sadly, I could figure it out all on my own.
LEIGH
Don’t. That’s not fair. You weren’t there.

JIMMY
Ha – That didn’t stop you before.

LEIGH
I don’t need this. You can show yourself out.

JIMMY
You have about this much room to talk right now. And even that might be generous. Come on, Leigh. I want to hear it straight from the whore’s mouth.

LEIGH
You are a spoiled rotten jackass, you know that Jimmy?

JIMMY
I should have left you on the other side of the tracks. I guess you can’t teach a poor dog new tricks.

LEIGH
You are going to feel like such a fool.

JIMMY
Going to? You’ve already played that trick on me, sweetie. There’s not much lower that I can feel.

LEIGH
Just hear me out–

JIMMY
Like Davis did? “Oh fuck me. Fuck me, Davis! Harder! Fuck me harder! My boyfriend is far away, being loyal, so he’ll never hear me screaming your name!”

LEIGH
That’s not how it was.
JIMMY
I have done everything for you! So if you could do me
the honor of telling me the details, you can maybe ruin the idea of “trust” for me a little more.

LEIGH
Everyone was drunk-

JIMMY
And you were drinking?!

LEIGH
Everyone was drunk- That’s the only way I can-

JIMMY
What about you, Leigh?

LEIGH
Please. Please, Jimmy. Please.

BEAT

He wanted to show me a picture from freshman year, he said. So I went into his room and I sat on his bed.

BEAT

JIMMY
Leigh-

LEIGH
He handed me his phone and told me to find it in there. He came around to look with me as I flipped through. His face was right next to mine. I turned to look at him and he kissed me. And I pulled away. He was drunk, Jimmy, and then...

JIMMY
I can’t believe this.

LEIGH
He took my hand and he...placed it. There.
JIMMY
Stop.

LEIGH
And I tried to get out of there. I tried to get Grace, but before I could go his hands were digging into my shoulders and he just like... threw me down, Jimmy. It was really loud in the other room. I tried to stop him but his hand was on my face and I just screamed “NO! STOP!”

JIMMY
Wait—what?

LEIGH
I kept hoping that someone would hear me but I couldn’t breathe in enough air.

JIMMY
Davis?

LEIGH
I couldn’t move.

JIMMY
Good Davis?

LEIGH
Get off. Get off of his side.

JIMMY
I’m not on his side.

LEIGH
I could barely breathe. I couldn’t scream. So I just tried to count down from 200 ‘cause I figured it’d be over by then. And then— you know— when he was done. He loosened his hand from around my neck and I whispered “No”. “Please. Please, Davis. No.” But it didn’t matter. It had happened. And I looked around
the room. And you were out of town. And Grace was out of sight. And I was alone. Being fucked. So fuck you.

JIMMY
That’s a lot.

LEIGH
I fucking hate you, Jimmy.

JIMMY
Leigh -

LEIGH
No. Don’t touch me. You’re one of them!

JIMMY
I don’t know what to think!

LEIGH
Thank you. Thank you for that.

JIMMY
Well I don’t want to believe that’s true. I mean you understand that, right?

LEIGH
How could I? I’m just a poor whore.

JIMMY
Don’t.

LEIGH
You should journal about this and take it to your Christian Therapist

JIMMY
I was clearly flipping out because I was pissed.

LEIGH
But now that you know I was raped, you’re not so mad anymore?
JIMMY
Whoa.

LEIGH
Yeah. Whoa. Fucking whoa. I really thought you were going to save me. I thought the life I lived before you, I thought all of that was in the past and that I grew up with nothing just to balance out how lucky I would become when I met you.

JIMMY
Look – Leigh – you have to see where I was coming from. We were both lucky to find each other. And to have each other. We were meant for each other.

LEIGH
HA!

JIMMY
We’re gonna have a kid together!

BEAT
I mean, right?

BEAT
Leigh?

BEAT
Leigh. What?

LEIGH
I came home and I crawled into Grace’s bed. She had fallen asleep in mine. I woke up and the sheets were soaked in blood. I had to hide them so Grace wouldn’t see.

LEIGH pulls Grace’s bloody sheets out of the laundry bag.
JIMMY
Oh my God.

LEIGH
It just happened.

JIMMY
No.

LEIGH
I couldn’t stop it. I’m sorry.

JIMMY
Leigh no. No.

LEIGH
The baby – our baby-

JIMMY
Oh my God. No. Leigh. Oh fuck. Oh Jesus. Why didn’t you tell me?

LEIGH
Because it just happened.

JIMMY
Oh Leigh. I love you. I love you, sweetheart.

LEIGH
Will you hold me?

JIMMY
I love you so much.

LEIGH
I know.
BEAT as they stay in the hug and he kisses her head.

JIMMY
We have to tell my dad.

LEIGH
No.

JIMMY
We do. He can help. He can take care of Davis.

LEIGH
But we can’t tell him about the baby.

JIMMY
We have to.

LEIGH
That’ll hurt us, Jimmy. Two irresponsible kids?

JIMMY
You have to let me do this.

LEIGH
But nothing will change, right?

JIMMY
What do you-

LEIGH
Promise me that nothing will change.

JIMMY
Nothing will-

LEIGH
You’ll stay. With me. You’ll stay.

JIMMY
Of course I’m going to stay with you.
LEIGH
And the baby. You’ll say nothing.

JIMMY
I’ll-

LEIGH
Promise me.

JIMMY
Ok. All right. I promise.

LEIGH
Good. Ok, good. Oh Jimmy.

BEAT

Now can you help me clean these sheets?


**Scene 7**

The boys’ apartment. It is morning.

DAVIS is asleep on top of his books on the coffee table. COOPER tip toes in, sees that DAVIS is sleeping, and goes for his iPad. In the middle of this, Davis’ cell phone rings. DAVIS abruptly wakes up and COOPER tip toe runs back into his room. DAVIS scrambles to find his phone.

DAVIS
Hello? This is him. Today? Hold on – let me grab a pen and paper. Actually I have a midterm at one, but any time after… umm, Ok. Ok. I’ll be there at one. May I ask what this is regarding? Oh ok. Sure.

DAVIS hangs up and sits. He ponders. He needs an answer.

DAVIS
COOPER! COOPER, GET OUT HERE!

DAVIS runs and opens Cooper’s bedroom door.

DAVIS
Wake up. Cooper wake up!

COOPER
Huh? What man? Get out I’m sleeping.

DAVIS
Cooper, now. Now.

*Cooper comes out of his room as though he just woke up.*

COOPER
Ugh – Can you get the fuck out?
DAVIS
What did you guys talk about last night?

COOPER
Who?

DAVIS
Now, Cooper.

COOPER
You mean Johnson and Jimmy?

DAVIS
Yes. I mean Johnson and Jimmy. What did you guys talk about?

COOPER
Oh you know – we just shot the shit. Johnson read off a few factoids, we talked about some other stuff.

DAVIS
You told him, didn’t you?

COOPER
I’m so tired.

DAVIS
Fuck, Cooper!

COOPER
I didn’t say anything. Johnson is the one who said your name.

DAVIS
What the hell kind of friend are you?

COOPER
All I said was that Jenny Abrahamson lost a tooth and then he asked if we had a party and then –
DAVIS
Does he know enough to actually be mad at me?
COOPER
Oh he knows. But he didn’t even say anything about you, dude. He was just really mad at Leigh. You know Jimmy, he’s a dumbass.

DAVIS
This is not good.

COOPER
Relax, man. You’re not even friends with Jimmy.

DAVIS
I just got a call from the dean’s secretary. He wants to meet today at 1.

COOPER
Oh shit.

DAVIS
Yeah.

COOPER
Well so what? Maybe it’s about something completely unrelated.

DAVIS
He told me not to go to my midterms.

COOPER
That’s bad. Yeah that’s bad.

DAVIS
What the hell am I going to do?

Cooper gets a text message [Are you up?].

COOPER
Just tell him the truth. You can’t get in trouble for having sex with someone. I mean she’s over 18, right? And even though Jimmy’s dad is on the board, that
doesn’t make this an academic issue. So you’re in the clear.
DAVIS
Yeah. It’s not a crime. It was dick of me. But it’s not a crime.

COOPER
Right.

DAVIS
Yeah.

COOPER
But it is weird that he told you not to go to your midterm.

DAVIS
Actually the words were “Suspend attending all of your classes.”

COOPER
Suspend? You’re suspended?

DAVIS
I guess I am. What the fuck?

COOPER
What all did you do to her? Did you fuck her eyes out or something?

Cooper gets another text message. He reads it. [Is Davis there? Stuffs really going on.] He writes back. [What’s going on?] He waits. He gets a response. [Well first I need my 3-hole puncher. Is it there? Please don’t say anything to Davis about anything.]

COOPER
Jesus Christ. Do you see Johnson’s three-whole punch anywhere?

DAVIS
Yeah – here it is.
Cooper looks around the apartment, finds Johnson’s three-whole puncher and sets it on the table. He continues texting with Johnson.

Cooper finishes his text message to Johnson. [I found it. WTF is going on?] He waits. He gets a response. [Leigh is claiming Davis raped her on Saturday.] Cooper tries not to let off that anything is wrong. He types incredibly quickly. [WTF that’s not true.] He waits for a response. He gets one. [How do you know?] Cooper looks at Davis, not saying anything.

DAVIS
What?

COOPER
Hey – Davis – tell me again what happened on Saturday night. With Leigh.

DAVIS
Why?

COOPER
You know, practice. It’ll be good to go over it.

DAVIS
Why are you being weird?

COOPER
Just-

DAVIS
We went into my bedroom... I don’t want to do this right now.

COOPER
It’d be good for you.

DAVIS
The details don’t matter.

Cooper gets a text message. Then another. Then another. He silences his phone.
DAVIS
What’s going on?

COOPER
Was she into it?

BEAT

DAVIS
What?

COOPER
Was she--

DAVIS
Cooper. Stop.

COOPER
Was she ok with it, I mean?

BEAT

Davis - I won’t tell.

BEAT

Davis is frozen.

DAVIS
What? No I -- I didn’t do that, Cooper.

COOPER
Ok.

DAVIS
I don’t think I’d have it in me even if I wanted to.

COOPER
Then tell me what happened.
DAVIS
You know what happened – your ear was pressed against the door you said.

COOPER
Davis – I was pretty drunk and everyone was being loud. Just tell me what happened – and that way I can believe you. If you don’t tell me then I only know one side of the story.

DAVIS
What did Johnson just say to you?

COOPER
Davis-

DAVIS
What did she say to him?

*Davis goes after Cooper’s phone. Cooper shields it from Davis.*

COOPER
(calming him)
Come on. Come on. Come on, man.

DAVIS
Don’t you – you have to be -

COOPER
You should shower before your meeting.

DAVIS
Are you FUCKING KIDDING ME?!

COOPER
Come on.

DAVIS
Are you KIDDING ME?!
COOPER
Davis-

DAVIS
I’ll fucking punch her out.

COOPER
Don’t say that.

DAVIS
No fuck you. I’m not that person. You know I’m not that person.

COOPER
It doesn’t matter if I do or not. I’m your friend no matter what.

DAVIS
I need you to believe me.

COOPER
Then tell me what happened.

DAVIS
Holy shit!

COOPER
Just tell me what happened!

DAVIS
I DON’T KNOW!

BEAT

DAVIS
I don’t remember, ok? Fuck!

COOPER
What are you talking about?
DAVIS
I don’t even remember having sex with her. I just said that stuff so you guys would leave me alone about it.

COOPER
Whoa. Davis – it will all work out.

DAVIS
How? I don’t have a defense. OH MY GOD!

COOPER
Just think.

DAVIS
MOTHER FUCKER! GOD DAMN IT!

COOPER
Davis – just bring it down, buddy.

Cooper tries to put his hand on Davis’ back to comfort him.

DAVIS
FUCK!

Davis takes COOPER by the collar and shoves him against the wall, pinning him.

COOPER
Davis! Davis!

A moment and then, realizing the rage he is capable of, DAVIS backs away.

DAVIS
Oh shit. Cooper.

DAVIS looks at his hands, realizing what he is capable of.

Oh fuck.
END OF ACT I
ACT II

Scene 1

Future Leaders of America Conference.

GRACE
What are you about? In life. In your goals.

Grace searches her pockets one last time.

I had a speech written for this and I just... just keep your belongings close, everyone. I know I yelled this countless times at the mixer but it’s a brown, leather, Louis Vuitton bag and it has everything in it. My glasses, my phone, my speech. So if you find anything that doesn’t belong to you, please return it to... you know, me. Cause - well - because, you know - it’s mine.

Ok. I know it. I have my original notes somewhere I think but I’ll just - I’m going to talk to you all directly. Just sort of wing it. We’re all friends here, right?

Ok.

Future leaders: we have all proven ourselves in some way or another to get here today. Everybody here strives for success. For greatness. Some of us for theft, but most of us for greatness. But as we conclude our conference, I want each of you to put some thought into this question: What are you about? What is the one thing that you want?

We all want to be great, right? Well while a great part of the formula for success is the ability to roll with the punches and say yes to what you are given, a great part of the formula for excellence is knowing when to say no. When to examine an opportunity, no matter how enticing it may be, and have the ability to weigh it next to what you are about.

A balloon is not a Crockpot. Who wouldn’t want to slow cook a delicious dinner with the push of a button? It doesn’t get much better than that. But a balloon cannot be a balloon and a Crockpot.
She takes a cue from someone offstage.

I know I know – we’re running out of time. My mother always told me that I was going to have to deal with her bad karma. She stole Meredith Powers’ science fair project in the early 70s and Meredith failed and my mother – anyway – it’s happening. Ok – what I was saying. A balloon is not a crockpot. It can’t cook a meal.

Back on track.

And even if it could, even if a balloon could say yes to this ridiculous idea, making food in itself, it would never fly quite so high if it was also cooking a turkey dinner at the same time.

It’s not registering but she moves on anyway.

And what about that Crockpot? Say it got balloon envy and floated away. Even if it was the best Crockpot ever made, what good is it now? You have to believe me that this was a very great speech. But I hope you get the point. You have to be a balloon or be a Crockpot. You have to do what you can do best. You owe that to yourself. Your first priority is you, always. That’s what we’ve been taught by those who came before us, and we have learned from the best.

BEAT

Ok. That’s it. The conference has ended. The time has come to return from whence you came. It was an honor to be your president this year. I will be speaking at next year’s conference in an effort to pass on whatever I can to the generation after us. We have got the world at our fingertips my fellow balloons. Or crock pots. Or staplers or wallpaper or tambourines. Anyway. You are young. You are promising. You are you. And we… we are the Future Leaders of America.

BEAT.

She walks off totally disgraced.
Scene 2

The girls’ apartment. LEIGH stands, holding her cell phone. It’s flipped open. Immediately-

VOICEMAIL LADY
(from the phone)
You have 7 new messages. 1st message:

HALEY
(through the phone)
Hey hun it’s Haley. I was wondering-

Leigh hits delete.

VOICEMAIL LADY
Deleted. Next Message.

HALEY
Sorry - I got cut…

Delete.

VOICEMAIL LADY
Deleted. Next Message.

HALEY
I hope you’re OK. I…

Delete.

VOICEMAIL LADY
Deleted. Next Message.

HALEY
Leigh I’m worried that…

Delete.

VOICEMAIL LADY
Deleted. Next Message.
HALEY
Is this...

VOICEMAIL LADY
Deleted. Next Message.

HALEY
You had better...!

VOICEMAIL LADY
Deleted. Next Message.

HALEY
WHY WO...?!?!

VOICEMAIL LADY
Deleted. No new messages.

HALEY
(from offstage, approaching, yelling)
I’m here! LEIGH! LEIGH OPEN YOUR DOOR!

There is a knock at the door.

LEIGH
Shit.

She opens the door.

HALEY is holding a bottle of wine and a balloon.

HALEY
This is for you. Well come on. Put your arms around me and let’s do what normal girls do when they haven’t seen each other in a while.

LEIGH
I’m not going to let you weasel your way into this.

HALEY
Into what?
LEIGH
You need to leave.

HALEY
No. Not gunna happen. I packed up for this and came all the way up here! I can not believe Jimmy had to call me and tell me the check in on you. Were you really not going to tell me this was going on if I hadn’t called?

LEIGH
You are not involved in this, do you understand me?

HALEY
Is that why it took you two hours to pick up one of my calls last night?

LEIGH
Yes!

HALEY
We’re movin’ on up, sis! And I’ll be here to help you deal with your convenient tragedy.

LEIGH
Haley – listen – I would rather you not stay.

HALEY
Well I’d rather be able to afford a Heineken but sometimes bitch just gotta drink Miller Light. What kind of sister would I be if I just let you deal with this whole thing on your own?

LEIGH
One who was respectful of my wishes?

HALEY
Yeah. That’ll be the day. How’s college life? Generations of our ancestors are dying to know. I like
what you’ve done with the place. Very “dressing for
the job you want” of you.

LEIGH
The lease is up in 2 months. Where are you living?

HALEY
With Rico at the Super 8 in Waterbury. You wouldn’t
believe it. More trouble with the lawsuit. Get this—
Apparently… you can’t sue a child.

LEIGH
Why is he trying to sue a child?

HALEY
But he’s promised me a Pomeranian.

LEIGH
Well I hope it works out.

HALEY
Me too. Though we’ve been having trouble
communicating lately. It might just be the language
barrier, but I have this fear that if his English was
better we’d find out that we have nothing in common.
And that scares me, Leigh. It really does. But, you
know, as long as I get my Pomeranian. So… come on…
What’s new with you?

LEIGH
Well I mean the past couple of days have been kind of
rough.

HALEY
No no. Just cause you got raped doesn’t mean that’s
all that’s happening in the world. I want to know
what’s going on with you.

LEIGH
This is so-
HALEY
Have you seen any new movies?

LEIGH
You have to be nicer to me.

HALEY
Oh, Leigh. You know that somewhere, in the back of your mind, tucked under all of your “despair” this ended up being a good thing.

LEIGH
This situation is super fragile, ok? Why did you think that it was alright to come down here?

HALEY
Well I’m going to protect you first and foremost. But I’m also here to watch the girl who always lands on her feet.

LEIGH
I’m just doing what I have to do.

HALEY
Alright – so let’s talk. This guy. The defendant. Is he hot?

LEIGH

HALEY!

HALEY
What is he telling people? Let’s go over there and get a confession out of him. I’m wearing a new bra and my cell phone records things even through my bag.

LEIGH
We’re not going anywhere.
HALEY
We need to lock this up and shut this down, Leigh. If Jimmy leaves you, I’ll have no way to make Rico feel bad about himself. And then how else am I supposed to get things?

LEIGH
I have to go get my laundry before Grace gets back.

HALEY
Fine. Fine. We’ll talk about something else. You’re also being very secretive about what movies you’ve seen so I don’t know what there is left to talk about.

LEIGH
Look – I’m not required to let you stay here.

HALEY
Better to keep me close, girlie. If I’m on the loose, you just don’t know what I’ll do.

LEIGH
Haley?

HALEY
I’m either for you or against you. What’ll it be?

BEAT

LEIGH
Where are you going to sleep?

HALEY
In your bed.

LEIGH
No.
HALEY
Can’t you sleep at Jimmy’s? He’s not leaving you, right?

LEIGH
No.

HALEY
I mean post “miscarriage” he’s still loving you, right?

LEIGH
Lucky enough, yes.

HALEY
Good. The last thing I need is your poor ass all alone in the big bad world. You got any chips?

LEIGH
Chips?

HALEY

LEIGH
You can check the pantry.

HALEY
Pantry. Listen to you. “Pantry.” From food bucket to pantry. Wouldn’t dad be proud.

LEIGH
Who?

HALEY
You know. Think back. Dad. Dad. The man with the belt and the beer.
LEIGH
Nope. Must have blocked him out.

HALEY
I remember him whenever I want to wear a backless shirt.

HALEY laughs, trying to connect with LEIGH on that.
No luck.

Come on. He was always screwing that woman who never fed us. You remember. Asking mom for lunch?

LEIGH
It not something real people eat.

HALEY
It only happened on TV.

LEIGH
How the hell did she come up with that?

HALEY
How the hell did we believe that bitch for so long?

LEIGH
I don’t know. But thank God for Daniel Decker.

HALEY
What? Why?

LEIGH
I would always make sure that I was playing with him around noon so that his mom would invite me in for some food.

HALEY
And you didn’t tell me?
LEIGH
You always tried to kiss Daniel Decker and then he’d run away.

HALEY
I was starving. For years. I used to go to bed early so I wouldn’t be awake to feel the hungry.

LEIGH
Daniel’s mom would make like turkey and cheese sandwiches. Not steak. Chill out.

HALEY
You stupid cunt.

LEIGH
Haley!

HALEY
It will always be the same, won’t it? Everything works out for you. You play tag with Daniel Decker and you get a good meal on the table. You lie to Jimmy about being pregnant so the fool will stay with you and then you are lucky enough to get raped. Everything falls right into your lap.

LEIGH
I wasn’t lucky Haley. That boy rejected me for years and the one time I say “no” he thinks “yes”.

HALEY
Well if you didn’t have something to blame the miscarriage on, you would have to produce a baby in 9 months and we get CNN at the Super 8 and I know that when people steal babies from hospitals, it never works out.
LEIGH
Oh come on, I would never steal a baby.

HALEY
I wouldn’t put it past you.

LEIGH
God – am I a monster? Is that what everyone thinks?

HALEY
Maybe. But that doesn’t mean bad shit can’t happen to you too. Did you do what we used to do?

LEIGH
What?

HALEY
Did you count down from 200?

Leigh nods.

Ok. Anyway, I think I want to start taking classes.

LEIGH
Really?

HALEY
Yeah! Isn’t this exciting?

LEIGH
What kind of classes?

HALEY
Just classes. That’s as far as I’ve gotten.

LEIGH
Hey – that’s step one.
HALEY
And once this is all said and done, I’ll have the money to afford them.

LEIGH
Don’t talk like that.

HALEY
Oh honey, I got no problem being a dog as long as someone throws me a bone. I’ve also decided that I am going to only wear shirts with low low-neck lines. It’s time for me to start taking control of my life.

LEIGH
Alright. You sit here. Don’t move. Don’t touch anything. Don’t talk to anyone. I’m going to get my laundry. You’ve got your chips right? You’re good with the chips? Just sit and stay. Do you understand me?

HALEY

HALEY stares at LEIGH.

LEIGH exits.

HALEY looks around the apartment. She picks up a pillow and looks at the tag on it.

HALEY
Crate and Barrel?

After a beat, she puts the pillow down on the couch, unbuckles her pants and pulls them down just enough so that her butt is out. She rubs her butt on the pillow.

GRACE enters through the front door.
GRACE
(as she enters)
Hello?!

_Haley frantically pulls up her pants._

HALEY
I wasn’t even doing anything!

GRACE
Oh! I’m sorry. Umm... Can I help you with something? Where’s Leigh?

HALEY
She had to go get her laundry.

GRACE
I’m Grace.

HALEY
I figured. I’ve heard so much about you. I’m Haley. Her sister.

GRACE
Oh my God! I thought you’d never come visit!

HALEY
Leigh told me that you didn’t like house guests.

GRACE
What? That’s not true.

BEAT
Well this is great. When did you get in?

HALEY
Not long ago. I like your bandage.

GRACE
That’s weird but thank you.
BEAT

So... What’s been going on?
Scene 3

Boys’ Apartment.

Johnson is playing X Box. A beat and then Davis enters. Johnson does not move his attention. Davis sits on the couch – defeated.

DAVIS
Stupid.

JOHNSON
What?

DAVIS
Everything.

JOHNSON looks at Davis.

JOHNSON
DAVIS!

DAVIS
Yeah? What?

JOHNSON
I thought you were going to be gone all afternoon. That’s what Cooper said.

DAVIS
Well I’m back. Stop flipping out. Play your games.

JOHNSON
No. I should probably go.

DAVIS
No – Johnson – just hang out. I’m not having the best day.

JOHNSON
(hesitantly)
Alright.
DAVIS
Life is crazy, Johnson.

JOHNSON
Yeah.

BEAT

So we good? Can I go?

DAVIS
Johnson-

JOHNSON
Sorry, Davis. It’s just midterms and everything all happening. I’d love to hang out with you it’s just, you know, a bad time.

DAVIS
Yeah – well – I mean go if you have to but I’m kind of up a creek right now.

JOHNSON
Look – don’t do that.

DAVIS
Do what?

JOHNSON
Don’t make me feel bad.

DAVIS
How am I trying to make you---

JOHNSON
Because I don’t want to be around you.

DAVIS
I started to get that feeling.

JOHNSON
It’s nothing personal.
DAVIS
I’m taking it that way.

JOHNSON
Oh bring it on. Bring on the guilt.

DAVIS
I’ve barely said two words.

JOHNSON
God you are so selfish.

DAVIS
What did I do now?

JOHNSON
Look – we get along – we’ve been buddies.

DAVIS
Been?

JOHNSON
I just can’t afford to be with you right now.

DAVIS
Jesus, Johnson, we’re not dating. You were playing video games and I was sitting on the couch.

JOHNSON
Come on. Don’t play dumb. And now Natalie is saying all of these things.

DAVIS
No. No. What is she saying?!

JOHNSON
I’m not getting involved, Davis! You’d do the same thing if you were me.

DAVIS
I’d ditch my friend because he’s upset?
JOHNSON
Davis -
DAVIS
What? Hear that someone was accusing him of something awful and then do my best to stay away from him?

JOHNSON
Come on.

DAVIS
No. Tell me. Tell me what I would do, Johnson. Buddy.

JOHNSON
Look this whole thing is a pretty big deal, alright? A big fuckin deal. I go to bed early every night. I can count on one and a half hands the number of times I’ve been drunk. I am a cautious mother fucker. I haven’t been able to breathe for all 21 years of my life because I am trying, desperately, to become the man that I want to be. And I’m sorry, but there are just too many ways to fuck that up. And I won’t allow it.

DAVIS
So what, you don’t believe me?

JOHNSON
Of course I believe you, Davis. I know you. I know you wouldn’t do that.

DAVIS
Then what’s your deal?

JOHNSON

DAVIS
So what?

JOHNSON
And don’t tell me I’m not a good friend, because I am.
I sit in class and watch you doodle while I scramble to find a blank page in my notebook. And it’s like
clockwork. I schedule time before a test to help you before you even ask. And I’ve never once bitched. I come to your house for parties when you know full well that I hate parties. I hate them. Not exaggerating. But I come because I’m a good friend. And when Natalie dumped you, I was the only one who didn’t curse her out right away because I knew you still loved her and didn’t want to see her get hurt, regardless of the shit she put you through. Why? Because I am a good friend, Davis. You should know that. So, I’m sorry if on the eve of my graduation from college I don’t want to be thrown into the midst of a scandal, and knowing your parents and Leigh’s background quite possibly a national scandal, regardless of who’s right or wrong.

DAVIS
Wow, man. Well good for you.

JOHNSON
Be a good friend, Davis. Don’t bring me down with you.

DAVIS
Alright.

JOHNSON
I’m sorry.

DAVIS
Yeah. You are.

JOHNSON
See you in 10 years.

Johnson exits. Davis picks up the phone and hesitates as he fights back tears. He dials. A few beats.

DAVIS
Hey, mom. It’s me. Sorry I haven’t returned your
phone calls. Umm. I have kind of some bad news. I don’t really know what to tell you. It’s pretty bad.
Just call me back when you get this, ok? I love you. Mom, I love you.

DAVIS hangs up the phone.

DAVIS (to the phone)
Sorry.

Davis is broken. A few beats and then Cooper enters.

COOPER

DAVIS
It’s over.

COOPER
What is?

DAVIS
My life! Done. Bury me now.

Davis is throwing away all of this school items.

COOPER
No it’s not, Davis. Whatever’s going on, we can beat it, man. Did you meet with the dean?

DAVIS
Yeah. I didn’t say anything. He just talked. I have to go to a special hearing tomorrow to plead either way so they can figure out what to do with me.

COOPER
What do you mean?

DAVIS
Well if I say not guilty then they are going to gather all of the evidence and have a trial but if I say
guilty then they are going to have to figure out how to punish me which looks like I might get expelled.
COOPER
Oh God. That sucks, man.

DAVIS
And then there’s the legal matter. Like if she
presses charges then I am done, you know? Game over.
I lose.

COOPER
You just gotta take this one step at a time man.

DAVIS
And then Johnson-

COOPER
Johnson’s a douchebag, man. We hate Johnson.

DAVIS
But he’s doing exactly what I want to do. He’s
running.

COOPER
Don’t worry. We’ll call a lawyer. We’ll fight this.

DAVIS
No.

COOPER
Yes we will.

DAVIS
No – I’m pleading no contest.

COOPER
What? Why? That’s stupid, Davis. You’re thinking
stupid.

DAVIS
Fuck you, Cooper. I don’t have a chance in hell. I
don’t have a case. I fucked up. If this goes to
trial it is just going to draw more attention to the
whole thing and I can’t do that. I can’t put my family through that. Or the team. And then they’re
just going to find me guilty anyway because they are going to ask me what actually happened and I’m just going to like stand there blubbering something because I can’t actually answer the question.

COOPER
You’re rich. You’re white. You shouldn’t have a problem.

DAVIS
That works against me, Cooper. Don’t you get that?

COOPER
You really don’t remember anything?

DAVIS
I really, really don’t.

COOPER
Well then I guess you should do what you need to do.

BEAT

DAVIS
I really thought I was starting to get control over things.

DAVIS goes to exit.

COOPER
Hey man – where are you going?

DAVIS
I don’t know. Don’t wait up.
**Scene 4**

A Laundromat. Leigh is finishing folding her laundry. Grace enters, observing.

**LEIGH**  
Surprise I thought you’d like some fresh linens.

**GRACE**  
Wow. Thank you.

**LEIGH**  
Yep. And I bleached them. Look at that. Completely white.

**GRACE**  
That’s amazing.

**BEAT**  
So. Anything... going on?

**LEIGH**  
Nope.

**BEAT**

**GRACE**  
So who knows?

**LEIGH**  
Who-...?

**GRACE**  
Leigh, come on. It’s me.

**LEIGH**  
Ok.

**GRACE**  
I’ve got you. It’s not too late to fix this. I’m sure you told Jimmy but has it gotten back to Davis yet?

**BEAT**
Come on. It’s fine. Just tell me what you’re saying and we can come up with a plan.

LEIGH
Thank you for your concern, Grace, but you’re making me a little uncomfortable with the way you’re --- I just don’t think it’s any of your business right now.

GRACE
Leigh, baby, the words you’re using—there are incredible ramifications for this. I know you know that.

LEIGH
I do know that. Thank you.

GRACE
So let’s do what’s right here, ok?

LEIGH
Wow.

GRACE
Well you can’t expect me to stand with you on this.

LEIGH
Ok. Got it.

GRACE
Don’t do that to me.

LEIGH
I’m not really worried about you right now.

GRACE
You’re playing with fire.

LEIGH
Is that what I’m doing?

GRACE
You’re making a mess.
LEIGH
I couldn’t walk.

GRACE
When?

LEIGH
We got home, and I couldn’t walk.

GRACE
You were drunk.

LEIGH
Ok.

GRACE
Aww, Leigh, don’t do this. If you want to sleep around, that’s your deal. I praise you for the courage. You want to start throwing around accusations though and I will raise my hand with questions.

LEIGH
Look, I don’t need you to get all pre-law student on me.

GRACE
Well Leigh how am I supposed to react? Your sister, is in the apartment blabbing on about rape. So tell me what is going on.

LEIGH
What do you want to know?

GRACE
What happened at the party?!

LEIGH
You tell me. It sounds like you have a pretty good idea.
GRACE
I have an inkling, yes!
LEIGH
You think I made it up.

GRACE
You’re pretending that you didn’t?

LEIGH
You know what? I think we’re done.

GRACE
You can’t just ignore this, Leigh! You can’t just say it’s done!

LEIGH
Well you and me, Grace? We’re absolutely done.

GRACE
Oh you’re going to throw me out?

LEIGH
I would love for you to be my friend, but it seems you are unable to give me that.

GRACE
That’s not how it looks to me.

LEIGH
Really? And who the fuck are you?

GRACE
I’ll tell you who I’m not. An enabler.

LEIGH
So you came down here to help me with my lie? Is that it?

GRACE
You just don’t even think about what position you’re putting me in, do you?

LEIGH
Don’t make this about you, Grace! Stop trying to be an
example! Just be Grace! Let me get through this. Just hold my hand and let me get through this.
BEAT, Leigh extends her hand. Grace just stares at her.

LEIGH
(hurt)
You really don’t believe me.

BEAT
There’s not even a moment of doubt? You’re that sure?

GRACE
I was there, Leigh.

LEIGH
Not the whole time.

GRACE
I was listening!

LEIGH
Not the whole time!

GRACE
Why are you doing this?!

LEIGH
I’m not doing anything!

GRACE
This is so fucked!

LEIGH
This is right!

GRACE
BUT IS IT TRUE?!

BEAT

LEIGH
What’s the point?
GRACE
I thought we were more than this.

LEIGH
We’re not.

BEAT

So what do you want from me, Grace?

GRACE
I just want you to spread them wider next time. Maybe that way the whole team can fit in.

BEAT

LEIGH
No. You want me to confide in you and cry in your arms and then maybe I’ll realize that the real person I love has been right here all along. Like you’ve dreamt. And you’ll think “I’m glad I paid her rent and took care of her. It finally paid off.” You want me to tell you it’s a lie so that you can help me out of it. And you want me to open my legs wider so that you can fit in.

BEAT

GRACE
Well now we know where we stand.

GRACE goes to exit, but first-

You know, if you’re telling the truth about all of this – I hope it hurt.

GRACE exits.

BEAT

LEIGH
It did.
Scene 5

Back at the boys’ place. A knock on the door. COOPER opens the door and Haley is standing there in sunglasses and pig tails and dressed to show her cleavage. She’s holding her purse and she’s a bit flustered.

HALEY
Did you have a party here on Saturday night?

COOPER
Why?

HALEY
Did you?

COOPER
Yeah.

HALEY
Oh thank God. I couldn’t remember where it was.

COOPER
Do I know you?

HALEY
Is this your place?

COOPER
Yeah. Is there something you need?

HALEY
Name’s Wanda. I was here at that awesome party on Saturday night. I left my pendant here. Would you be kind enough to help me find it?

COOPER
Oh sure. Sorry. Let me put on a shirt.

HALEY
No no, honey, please. The house comes with a great view.
COOPER
What’s it look like?

HALEY
Athletic and protective.

COOPER
No, your pendant.

HALEY
It’s silver. The chain is. The pendant is blue. And red.

COOPER
Blue and red on a silver chain? Do you remember where you were hanging out?

HALEY
Just like here. My God what a party, huh?

COOPER
Yeah. Sorry if I don’t remember you. It was just so crowded.

HALEY
I figured you wouldn’t. You were busy with that girl all night.

COOPER
Which girl?

HALEY
You know. About this tall. Pretty. Could be my sister.

COOPER
I wasn’t really busy with anyone.

HALEY
You live here, don’t you?

BEAT
Cooper stops and looks at Haley. He’s suddenly uneasy about her being there.

COOPER
Hey – listen – why don’t you give me your number and I’ll text you if it turns up.

HALEY
Oh – do you have somewhere you have to be?

COOPER
I have to-

HALEY
I’d like to keep looking.

COOPER
I get that, but now’s not a good time.

HALEY
You mean for the police to come to your house?

COOPER
What?

HALEY
I’d hate to have to call the police and tell them about my stolen pendant.

COOPER
No one stole your pendant.

HALEY
Well there’s only one way to be sure of that, isn’t there?

BEAT as they stare at each other. Cooper starts to look again.

COOPER
I fucking hate today.
Haley strategically places her purse, positioning it so that one side is deliberately facing Cooper.

Haley
So the party -

Cooper
(looking for the necklace)
Fucking stupid party.

Haley
You didn’t have fun? A good looking guy like you? In a great house like this? Do you live here all alone?

Cooper
Do you THINK I live here all alone?

Haley
Was I somehow offensive just now?

Cooper
Can you wait outside, please?

Haley
No! Ooh You hate that word don’t you?

Cooper
What?

Haley
No.

Cooper
I promise you that I’ll look for your pendant but my roommate might come home soon -

Haley
Roommate?

Cooper
Yeah.

Beat
HALEY
He was the one who was busy with that girl all night?

COOPER
I don’t know what you’re talking about.

BEAT

HALEY

She grabs her purse.

You people suck. First, that poor girl leaves this house devastated and now my fucking pendant is missing. You all are gonna get what’s coming to you.

Haley starts to exit.

COOPER
Devastated?

HALEY
What?

COOPER
That girl --- there was a girl who was... devastated?

BEAT

HALEY
Mmhmm. Yeah.

COOPER
Which girl?

HALEY
I was standing outside towards the end of the party there was a girl -- that girl --- and she was crying.

COOPER
She was?
HALEY
Yeah. And limpin’. I almost got her an ambulance but she was so torn up she couldn’t even respond to me.

COOPER
Seriously?

HALEY
Yeah. Do you know what happened to her?

COOPER
What was your name again?

HALEY
Wanda. And yours?

COOPER
Cooper.

HALEY
But the poor girl – short little thing. Her skirt was torn. And I think her leg was bleeding. She musta fell.

COOPER
Her skirt was torn?

HALEY
Yeah. Bitch musta fell down. Busted a cap. No, that’s not right. That’s when someone gets shot.
COOPER
Do you know the girl’s name?

HALEY
Lisa? I don’t know – her tall, pretty friend had to take her home. What a shame. Everyone else had so much fun at the party.

COOPER
And you’re sure about this?

HALEY
Oh honey – I’m damn sure. When someone looks like they’ve been hit by a car, you remember.

COOPER
Did anyone else see her?

HALEY
Tons of people.

BEAT as Haley looks at a crystal clock in the apartment.

Many witnesses. Ummm... is – Christ, Is this Waterford?

COOPER
What?

HALEY
This clock. You have a Waterford clock just sitting in your living room?
COOPER
Oh – yeah I guess – our parents kind of put this place together. Could you hear anything while you were outside? I mean before the girl came out?

HALEY
Sure. Screaming or something, I’m sure. My Lord. I could probably trade in your silverware for a townhouse.

COOPER
Awww no. You could probably just cut through an aluminum can or something.

HALEY
Ohhh! That’s funny! You’re cute and funny! Hey – what are you doing later?

COOPER
I’ll probably be looking for your pendant.

HALEY
You want to take me out for a drink?

COOPER
Oh my God.

HALEY
I put out.

COOPER
Here. Here it is.

HALEY
What?

COOPER
Your pendant.

*Cooper presents Haley with a pendant from the couch.*
HALEY
You are shitting me. HA! Look at that. A blue and red pendant. What are the odds?

COOPER
It was in the couch.

HALEY
I’m amazing. Well thank you. This is actually really pretty. This is made of real silver! There’s a diamond in this!

COOPER
I think you should get going now.

HALEY
You people don’t even know what you have.

COOPER
Ok. Listen - I really can’t grab that drink.

HALEY
Fuck your drink, Cooper. I just got a diamond.

Haley exits. Cooper thinks for a second, and then picks up his cell phone.
Scene 6

The girls’ apartment. A beat and then Haley comes running into the apartment. In a matter of seconds she is back in her original clothes. She messes up the magazines, knocking most of them onto the floor, and starts reading one while eating her chips. Jimmy and Leigh enter.

LEIGH
We’re home, Haley! Sorry I was gone so long.

HALEY
I was going to send a search party. I’ve read all of these magazines.

LEIGH
Why?

HALEY
I got bored. I been sittin’ here this whole time.

JIMMY
Hi, Haley!

HALEY
Hi, Jimmy baby! Long time no see! I missed you.

JIMMY
I missed you too. How’s Rico?

HALEY
He’s great. Great. Just got a promotion at Jamba Juice. He’s the one you have to ask for the bathroom key now. Real proud. Real proud. Do you have any single friends?

JIMMY
Good.

HALEY
Maybe family friends?
JIMMY
Good. I’m happy for you guys. Haley – you’re coming to stay at my place tonight.

HALEY
Oh now. He’s just kidding, Leigh. I’d never sleep with Jimmy as long as you guys are still together.

LEIGH
Oh God, Haley – you’re going to sleep at Jimmy’s house tonight. I just need some alone time. I have to like check in with myself.

HALEY
Ugh. You bitch. Well hold on. Let me use the little girls’ room. I’m a gypsy. A freakin’ gypsy.

HALEY exits into the bathroom.

LEIGH
Thanks for taking her tonight.

JIMMY
Hey – if that’s what you really think you need.

BEAT

JIMMY
So how you feeling?

LEIGH
Tired. But that makes sense, I guess.

JIMMY
With everything that’s going on with Davis, I almost forget that we also need to allow ourselves time to mourn.

LEIGH
How are you doing with that?

JIMMY
I love you.
LEIGH
I know.

Jimmy’s phone rings.

JIMMY
Hey – I’m getting a call. Tell Haley to come out to the truck when she’s done.

LEIGH
Ok.

JIMMY
Sleep tight tonight, ok?

LEIGH
I will. You too. I’ll meet you at the hearing.

JIMMY
Ok. Bye.

Jimmy is in love. He exits.

LEIGH
Haley, hurry up! Jimmy’s waiting and it’s starting to rain.

Haley enters from the bathroom.

HALEY
Ok. Ok. I can’t sleep here. I can’t pee here.

LEIGH
But you’ve made it your job to make a mess here.

HALEY
These fucking magazines. I used to look in these things and think “Fuck you, you rich people with your stupid problems.” But then I was like – “No. You know what? I want that. And that’s ok.” And now, after watching you for all these years, I learned the secret. What it takes to go after what you want. And whenever I see a magazine cover that shows some
beautiful person and says “how they did it,” I just laugh. ‘Cause I don’t need to read it anymore.

Jimmy’s horn honks

LEIGH
Jimmy’s waiting in his truck. It’s really coming down now.

Haley
Ok. Call if you need anything.

LEIGH
Hey - Haley? Thank you for believing me.

Haley hugs Leigh. After a beat, Leigh, for the first time in a long time, hugs her back.

Haley
I admire you.

Haley exits. As Haley exits, Leigh notices a note taped to her front door. She opens the door again, and pulls the note off of the door before closing it. She reads it aloud.

LEIGH
Grace does not live here anymore. She lost her cell phone, so if you need her, send her a message on Facebook. She will check it every hour. If you’re not here for Grace, do yourself a favor and turn around. She’s not worth it.

A knock at the door. The door, which was slightly open already, opens wider with the knock.

LEIGH
You guys! Did you not see this -

LEIGH turns to the door. Davis stands there, drenched.

A beat.
LEIGH
(shouting to the other room)
I’ll be right there, Jimmy!

DAVIS
I saw him leave. I won’t touch you, I swear.

BEAT

LEIGH
I’m surprisingly calm right now.

DAVIS
Can I come in?

LEIGH
Why?

DAVIS
Because it’s raining.

LEIGH
And...

DAVIS
I’d like to talk to you.

LEIGH
Forget it.

DAVIS
No. Not talk. I didn’t mean talk. I want you to talk to me.

LEIGH
What so you can get off to my voice?

DAVIS
Please.

BEAT

It’s just me. It’s just Davis.
DAVIS.

BEAT

LEIGH
When I say leave, you leave.

DAVIS
I promise.

LEIGH
How can I be sure that you’re not going to kill me or something?

BEAT

LEIGH
Come in.

DAVIS
Thanks.

LEIGH
Do you need a towel or something?

Davis nods. She hands him a towel.

DAVIS
Thank you.

LEIGH
What am I supposed to say? You’re welcome?

DAVIS
No I know.

LEIGH
You couldn’t wait until tomorrow to see me?

DAVIS
Look -

LEIGH
Ok.
DAVIS
I’m sorry.

LEIGH
For...

DAVIS
Everything.

LEIGH
Specifically.

DAVIS
It’s hard to say it.

LEIGH
Well it’s harder to feel it.

DAVIS
You’re right.

LEIGH
Aww. Thank you.

DAVIS
How do I make this right, Leigh?

Beat. Leigh shakes her head, looking at the floor.

DAVIS
I’m sorry for Saturday night.

LEIGH
Yes.

DAVIS
And for how I treated you.

LEIGH
Which was how? I’ve come up with my own vocabulary for the occasion but I’d be interested to hear which words you use.
DAVIS
Unimaginable.

BEAT
DAVIS
Leigh - I don’t remember the evening.

LEIGH
I was that forgettable?

DAVIS
I was drunk.

LEIGH
Not an excuse.

DAVIS
You’re right. That’s not an excuse for my actions. But it does explain why I can’t wrap my head around it.

LEIGH
So what are you apologizing for? What do you want from me?

DAVIS
Can you tell me what happened?

LEIGH
If that will make you feel worse.

DAVIS
Please?

LEIGH
Well what’s the last thing you remember?

DAVIS
Nothing to do with you.

LEIGH
Do you remember seeing each other across the crowd?

DAVIS
No.
LEIGH
Do you remember asking me to come into your room?
DAVIS
No.

LEIGH
Do you remember locking the door?

DAVIS
No.

LEIGH
Do you remember kissing my neck?

DAVIS
No.

LEIGH
Do you remember me kissing yours?

BEAT

DAVIS
No.

BEAT

Davis begins to approach Leigh.

LEIGH
Do you... remember my thighs?

DAVIS
No.

LEIGH
My nose on your cheek?

DAVIS
No.

LEIGH
My breath in your mouth?
Beat. Davis is now face to face with Leigh. He leans in. Leigh leans back. After a moment, Davis leans in further and puts his lips on Leigh’s. He kisses her
and after a long moment, she kisses back. They begin to kiss passionately, as Davis leads her off.
Scene 7

The boys’ apartment. A knock. Cooper opens the door and there stands Jimmy.

COOPER
Hey.

JIMMY
If he’s here I’ll kill him.

COOPER
He’s not here.

JIMMY
I swear, Cooper.

COOPER
He’s not here. Relax. Chill out. Hold your horses. We’re just man to man right now.

JIMMY
So what did you want? Why did you call?

COOPER
I just need to say a few things to you.

JIMMY
Go.

COOPER
Jimmy-

JIMMY
Go.

BEAT

COOPER
Jimmy - you’re my friend. We’re both sort of in unfortunate positions here.

No response from Jimmy.
I mean Davis is my friend. He’s like my brother, you know that.

Nothing.

Ok. And generally, I stand behind him in everything he does and everything he says. Earlier he told me that the weather was supposed to be nice today. iPhone said rain, he told me nice. There’s a monsoon outside and I’m wearing shorts. Am I making my point?

No response from JIMMY.

I’m thinking I am. Anyway, at the party on Saturday I had my ear pressed up against the door. Now I was drunk so I don’t remember the whole thing. And the next morning I get curious. I want to know what happened. Whatever Davis says happened, happened. But he doesn’t say anything. There’s nothing for me to believe because he doesn’t say anything. And that scares me. He’s pleading no contest tomorrow, Jimmy. He isn’t pleading guilty, he’s pleading no contest. So all they can go off is what your girl says. And if what she’s saying is not true, then God help her. But if what she’s saying is true, then I want you to accept an apology on my behalf.

JIMMY
Ok.

COOPER
And I anticipate that this won’t affect the deal you set up between me and your father. The elongated enrollment thing.

JIMMY
That’s why you called me.

COOPER
No.
JIMMY
You selfish, classless fuck.
COOPER
No. No no, I wanted to tell you. I wanted to clear the air with-

JIMMY

COOPER
Honestly-

JIMMY
You’re not in the clear, Coop. This is your house. That was your party. You pay rent here. You had your ear pressed against the door?

COOPER
No. Yes but-

JIMMY
And you did nothing?!

BEAT
You get off on that shit Cooper? Huh? You like that? You like it rough? I can play rough.

COOPER
I had nothing to do with any of it. Anything.

JIMMY
You were. You were it.

COOPER
I’m telling you.

JIMMY
We’ll see.
COOPER
Jimmy- we play for the same team, you and me. I mean Rugby, yeah. But in life. We see life as an ocean of
options, we only want to take the ones that lead to happiness. I just want to be happy, man.

JIMMY
Be my guest. Be happy. But not on my campus.

COOPER
Wait.

JIMMY
Leigh’s sister is waiting in the car.

COOPER
There was a girl here earlier, Jimmy. She saw Leigh after the party and she---

BEAT
Listen Jimmy – I don’t date.

BEAT
I don’t plan to.

BEAT
I don’t have much about me that I enjoy. But being part of a team... feeling like you belong. This is rare. You and your dad need to know that I am not responsible and that I am not taking sides.

JIMMY
You had your ear... pressed... up against the door.

COOPER
I’m sorry.

JIMMY
And what...did you hear.

BEAT

COOPER
I told you that-
JIMMY
Cooper - I don’t want you to lie. But I want to know whose side you’re on. So what’d you hear?

COOPER
I...

JIMMY
We’re just figuring out which side you’re on.

COOPER
Fine. I heard it.

JIMMY
What?

COOPER
I don’t know. God, Jimmy. I don’t know! What? What did I hear?

JIMMY
Did you hear her scream?

COOPER
Yes. I heard her scream. I heard her crying.

JIMMY
Did she say anything?

COOPER
Yes.

JIMMY
What? What did she say?

COOPER
She said no. She screamed no and I heard it.

Cooper forces back his sudden emotion.

COOPER
God dammit. Fuck me.

Jimmy goes to exit.
So what? Am I good? Am I safe?

JIMMY
You’re fine. We play for the same team.

Jimmy exits. Cooper is left alone.
Scene 8

The girls’ apartment. It is morning. The room was left a mess. Leigh’s cell phone, sitting on the counter, rings. After a beat she enters from the bedroom. She answers the phone.

LEIGH
Hey baby. Sorry I must not have heard it ring. No I know - Ok. Just honk. Ok. Ok. See you soon.

She hangs up.

DAVIS enters from the bedroom as well.

DAVIS
What’s going on?

LEIGH
Good morning.

DAVIS
Good morning.

LEIGH
Remember last night?

DAVIS
Very well.

LEIGH
Good. Do you want anything? Some breakfast? Cereal or some fruit or something?

DAVIS
No. I’m good.

DAVIS lays on the couch, and as LEIGH starts getting dressed, we see multiple intense markings on her back.
LEIGH
I have to say that last night was amazing.

DAVIS
Really?

LEIGH
Yeah. I don’t think I’ve ever breathed that deep. I feel so good right now.

BEAT. She waits for Davis to weigh in. Nothing. He’s not even looking at her. As she buttons her dress, she slowly waits for DAVIS to respond. She begins to realize that he is not going to say anything, and then, after losing hope-

You need to leave though. Jimmy is on his way over.

DAVIS
Oh Jesus. Ok.

DAVIS gets dressed. LEIGH cleans up. They say nothing. After DAVIS is done, he starts to exit.

DAVIS
Call me later.

LEIGH
Ok. I’ll see you at 2.

DAVIS
At 2?

BEAT--

LEIGH
What?

DAVIS
We just ---

LEIGH
Yeah.
BEAT
You still-

DAVIS
But.

LEIGH
That hasn’t changed.

DAVIS
How could you do that with someone who-

BEAT

Are you kidding?

LEIGH
Oh, God, you’re so good at it.

DAVIS
At what?

LEIGH
Poor Davis.

DAVIS
That’s not who I am.

LEIGH
Poor, sad Davis.

DAVIS
That’s not me, Leigh.

LEIGH
No – I know. You’re actually far more frightening.

DAVIS
I am not.

LEIGH
Have you talked to Natalie lately?
DAVIS
What is sh—

BEAT

Leigh - listen to me. That was one time.

LEIGH
Oh well first times don’t count for you, I guess.

DAVIS
She knew I didn’t mean it.

LEIGH
No. I’m sure it hurt your hand, too.

DAVIS
I feel awful about that.

LEIGH
Aww-

DAVIS
Really. It killed me inside.

LEIGH
Really? Really? That’s good to know.

DAVIS
Don’t throw that in my face, do you hear me? That’s none of your business.

LEIGH
It tells me who I’m dealing with.

DAVIS
I was drunk.

LEIGH
I guess that’s all it takes for you. I wish I had known there was a potential for bargaining before I went public.
DAVIS
That’s what this is about.

LEIGH
You can keep your money.

DAVIS
I don’t have any.

LEIGH
Well it looks like the tables are turning.

DAVIS
You are such a leech.

LEIGH
And they survive on blood. Key word: survive.

DAVIS
You sure you wanna push me?

LEIGH
I’m not afraid of you, Davis.

DAVIS takes Grace’s frying pan and swings it at Haley’s bottle of wine, smashing it against the wall. He turns back to her and looks at her with silent strength and power.

LEIGH
Whoa! There it is. There’s that rage. And you haven’t even had a drink yet! No, Davis. I’m just a little smarter than I let off.

DAVIS
Do you understand what you are doing to me? To my life?

LEIGH
I’m taking logical steps to see to it that you are punished. Unlike Natalie, I prevail.
DAVIS
Is this who you want to be Leigh? Of all the people
you could be. Of all the options. This is what you decided on? Come on. Come on, Leigh! You’re better than this.

LEIGH
No.

DAVIS
You know you are better than this.

LEIGH
(on the verge of angry tears)
Why now? Tell me you fuck. Why now?

DAVIS
You can be better than this, Leigh!

LEIGH
Four years. Four years I was not good enough for you. And what makes me better than this? I will tell you, Davis. What makes me better than this is my future. The life that I can have. With Jimmy. With a protector and a provider and a man who can offer me 4 walls and a roof forever. (BEAT) I am choosing not to fall.

DAVIS
Is that a confession?

LEIGH
It is a promise. What happened happened. It happened, Davis. But my life is waiting. And it is exactly what I want. And you have actually helped me. This whole thing. This whole fucked up thing – is a blessing.

DAVIS
Why?

LEIGH
Jimmy can’t save something that doesn’t need to be saved. Look at me. The poor girl who is almost beautiful. And look what I’m about to have.
DAVIS
I see nothing but a loser. Now and forever. Trash.

LEIGH
I see possibility. Solutions. Power.

DAVIS
So you got your life all figured out, huh?

LEIGH
I do.

DAVIS
And what about me?

Jimmy’s horn honks. He’s in the driveway. LEIGH looks at the door and keeps her cool, trying not to panic.

BEAT

LEIGH
What about you, Davis?! What do you want from me? MORE?!!

LEIGH smacks herself hard across her face.

DAVIS
Bitch.

LEIGH
More Davis?

LEIGH rips her dress down the center.

DAVIS
BITCH!

LEIGH messes up the apartment, throwing Grace’s bull horn out of reach.

LEIGH
STOP DAVIS! OW STOP! YOU’RE HURTING ME!
She begins taking off her shoes.
DAVIS
WHAT ARE YOU DOING? NO!

LEIGH
NOW?!?!

DAVIS
NO! NO!

LEIGH
I SAID NO DAVIS! DO YOU REMEMBER MY TEARS ON MY FACE?

DAVIS
No.

LEIGH
MY CLIT ON YOUR SKIN?

DAVIS
You want this!?

LEIGH
DO YOU DAVIS?

DAVIS
Do you?!?!

LEIGH
DAVIS THE GO-[OD!]

DAVIS grabs Leigh by the throat. She struggles before Davis throws her into the couch. She tries to get away, reaching for the door over the couch.

LEIGH
Jimmy!

DAVIS grabs her. They struggle before Davis gets ahold of her and lays on top of her. Davis lifts up her skirt and pulls down her underwear.

LEIGH
Help!
He pulls down his own pants, holding Leigh in place. She tries one last time to get away.

LEIGH
SOMEBODY!

The lights go black. COOPER appears in a special. He is at Rugby practice.

COOPER
Listen - we need stronger forwards. We ruined that line out, but this our chance. Zwicky, O’Neill, get the ball back!

Dark on COOPER. HALEY, in a different special, appears.

HALEY
I’m so excited I bought him Pomeranianfff food and Pomeranian toys. And baby, he already knows how to roll over. Watch!

Lights back up on Leigh and Davis. He penetrates.

LEIGH
NO!

Dark on Leigh and Davis. JOHNSON in a special.

JOHNSON
Hi - my name’s Johnson - you’ve probably noticed that it’s my first day - and I just wanted to say, this is the only place I wanted to work. I promise I won’t let you down.

Dark on JOHNSON. JIMMY in a special.

JIMMY
We could put in a pool. And in a couple of years we can finish the basement. I think we found it. I think we found the one.
The lighting shifts to light the house, as we see Davis and Leigh recovering from the event.
GRACE
(to the audience)
And so, future leaders, what we have learned is with persistence, grace, a plan of attack, and that secret weapon of ours - healthy selfishness - we can accomplish any feat. We can acquire any goods. And we can get exactly what we want.

DAVIS
Oh fuck. Oh God.

GRACE turns back to the stage. DAVIS is pulling up his pants. DAVIS, weak and emotionally drained, then drops to his knees. LEIGH walks downstage center, worn and ruined.

LEIGH
(facing the audience)
It’s perfect, Jimmy. Thank you. It’s just what I always wanted.

COOPER, HALEY, GRACE, JOHNSON, and JIMMY appear in their specials. Grace walks towards the stage, applauding. She turns back around, to face the audience. Once she finishes clapping -

GRACE
Really.

Blackout.

End of play.