

Really Really
A play by Paul Downs Colaizzo

Contact:

Val Day
ICM
730 5th Avenue
New York, NY 10019
T: (212) 556-5600
VDay@icmpartners.com

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Really Really

2

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 it 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!

6

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?

7

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.

10

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.

14

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.

15

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.

16

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.

24

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.

25

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.

26

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?

27

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?

28

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.

29

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.

30

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..

30a

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.

40

JIMMY enters through the front door. BEAT

COOPER
(fake thrilled)
Jim/my!

JOHNSON
JIMMY!

DAVIS
Jim!

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

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

Jenny. Abrahamson's. Tooth.

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.

50a

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.

78

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?

79

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*?

80

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.

81

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

Chips. Salty. Tostitos. Doritos. Chips. You got chips?

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.*

82

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.

83

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?

84

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?

85

HALEY

Woof woof. Tail wag. Ear flop. Poop in your bed.

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.

85a

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

Not everybody knows you. Not the dean. Not my parents. Not the press.

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? Holy shit. Davis? Oh - what happened? Hey man
- what happened?

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.

102

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 -

103

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.

104

BEAT

HALEY

Ugh. You know what? Just forget it.

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

Mhmm. 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?

105

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.

107

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!

107a

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.

BEAT

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

How about, I'm sorry Jimmy. How about Jimmy do you need anything? I'm so sorry man. I'm so sorry for you. Nope. None of that - just good old Cooper. Watching out for himself.

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.