

THE LIST

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FADE IN:

1

INT. SULLY BURGER - EVENING

1

In a short order burger joint where you can help yourself to all the pickles, you can eat, JACOB, a skinny 17-year-old in a white t-shirt and blue apron wipes down the stainless steel counter. MOLLY, 28 puts an order together for a customer.

MOLLY

(to Jacob)

So you are cool to stay till Tanya gets here?

JACOB

Yeah.

MOLLY

Cool. Thanks. Sick kids are a pain. Lucky she's coming in at all.

JACOB

Yeah. Just a half an hour, right?

MOLLY

Should be.

Molly motions her head to the counter. There are two boys in nice jackets covering their expensive polos standing there. TED 17, and his brother WILLIAM 16 have football player builds. William is on the huskier side. They look down at Jacob wiping the counter. When he looks up at them, they laugh.

Jacob stands up quickly embarrassed.

JACOB

Ugh. Hey guys. What's up.

TED

(mocking)

Ugh. We're hungry.

JACOB

Ha. Yeah. That makes sense.

Molly rolls her eyes. Finishes her transaction at her register and heads to the back.

WILLIAM

When'd you start working here?

JACOB
Uh. I've been here for a little
while.

WILLIAM
Why?

JACOB
Um. To make money...

TED
Aren't you dating Veronica?

Jacob smiles.

JACOB
Yeah.

TED
Huh. I don't get it.

WILLIAM
Veronica huh? You guys coming to
Shane's party tonight. Kicking off
spring break with a lit party.

TED
You going south too?

JACOB
Cancun? No?

TED
Ha. You're letting your girl go
without you? Well, shit what am I
talking about? You work at Sully
Burger.

Jacob tries to keep his cool but is pissed.

JACOB
Yeah. I do. What do you want to
eat?

TED
Shit Jacob relax.
(beat)
We'll take two Sully's with the
works. Medium fry and onion ring. A
couple of cokes too.

Jacob turns back to the kitchen.

JACOB
 (yells to the back)
 Two Sul's, works. Med fry. Med O-
 ring.

COOK (O.S.)
 Yup!

Ted elbows William in amusement. Jacob turns back around to the boys.

JACOB
 What size cokes?

TED
 Large.

Jacob grabs two cups and goes to the fountain. Fills the cups and puts them on a tray.

WILLIAM
 So what's the deal? You going to
 Shane's?

JACOB
 No. We have other plans tonight.

TED
 (bursting a smile)
 Oh yeah? Gonna give Veronica an O-
 ring too? Haha. Yeah you should do
 that before she leaves town.

JACOB
 Fifteen-fifty.

Ted takes out his phone.

TED
 You have Apple pay?

JACOB
 No.

TED
 Figures.

Ted takes out a silver credit card and hands it to Jacob. Jacob swipes it and gives it back.

COOK (O.S.)
 Sul's one, two, up.

Jacob turns around, grabs them, and puts them on the tray. Jacob, Ted and William stand in an awkward silence. Ted pulls out his phone and starts texting. William follows suit.

COOK (O.S.) (CONT'D)
Med Fry. Med O. Up.

Jacob turns around. Ted holds up his phone and as Jacob turns back around with the food in his hands Ted snaps a picture.

Jacob rolls his eyes.

JACOB
C'mon man.

Jacob sets the food on the tray.

TED
You on snap?

JACOB
Course.

TED
We connected?

JACOB
Doubt it.

TED
Well my Instagram is open. You can find it there.

Ted puts his phone away and picks up the tray.

JACOB
(sarcastic)
Enjoy your meal.

WILLIAM
Later.

As Ted and William head to a table. Jacob takes a fry from the counter and chucks it angrily into the garbage.

2 EXT. ROGER'S HOUSE - EVENING

2

A chain-link fence surrounds a small ranch house. In the front yard sits a broken picnic table with beer cans and a couple of overflowing ashtrays. A light dusting of snow coats everything. A CLANKING is heard in the distance. There is a sedan parked in front of the house against the curb. GAIL, 35, grabs a bag from the trunk.

Benny 16 a chubby boy and small for his age sits in the car wearing a brown corduroy jacket.

GAIL
Come on Benny.

Benny doesn't budge.

GAIL (CONT'D)
Benny!

BENNY
Why?

GAIL
You have to Benny.

Benny scowls at his mother. He gets out of the car. The air is crisp and steam is released in the air with each breath.

BENNY
This is unfair Ma.

They walk through the gate to the front door.

GAIL
Tell me about it, but it's court ordered. We don't have a choice.

BENNY
(quiet)
He doesn't even like me.

Gail runs her hand through his hair and looks at him sympathetically. She rings the doorbell then knocks.

No answer. Gail looks at her phone for the time. CLANKING.

GAIL
Ugh. Asshole. That is probably him in the backyard.

Gail and Benny walk around the house to the backyard where they find ROGER, 40, Benny's father pounding a metal pole with a sledgehammer into the ground. Roger wears a Carhartt jacket and a baseball cap.

GAIL (CONT'D)
Roger!

Roger continues hammering.

GAIL (CONT'D)
Roger!

Roger continues hammering.

GAIL (CONT'D)

ROGER!!!

Roger stops. Slowly turns to her. He wipes his forehead his jacket sleeve.

ROGER

Lord, how I don't miss that witch squeal of yours.

Gail puts her hand on her hip.

ROGER (CONT'D)

(to Benny)

Throw your shit in the house and come out to swing this thing. We need to build some muscle on that soft body of yours.

Benny grabs his bag from his Mom, gives her a glare, and heads in the house.

GAIL

Fuck you Roger. Can't you be nice to him for once.

ROGER

You are raising him into a pussy.

Roger begins to swing his sledge again. CLANK.

GAIL

The only reason he is here is cause that judge is as much as an asshole as you are.

CLANK.

GAIL (CONT'D)

If you talk shit to him or lay a hand on him this will be the last time ever!

Roger keeps swinging. CLANK.

GAIL (CONT'D)

Do you even care--

The back screen door SLAMS. Benny walks toward them.

CLANK.

Gail turns to Benny. She hugs him with her back to Roger. She leans in.

GAIL (CONT'D)
 (quietly)
 I'll be checking my messages all
 the time. And you have Aunt
 Melissa's number.

CLANK.

GAIL (CONT'D)
 If anything happens, you call her
 immediately and she'll get you.

She looks and stares in the distance with a worried look. She looks back down. CLANK.

GAIL (CONT'D)
 You should call some of your old
 friends.

Roger stops and watches.

ROGER
 Enough. Get the hell out of here.

Gail releases her hug of Benny still holding his shoulders. She quickly wipes a tear from her eye. She leans down and gives him a kiss.

GAIL
 Love you.

BENNY
 I love you too.

ROGER
 (disgust)
 God.

Gail spins around.

GAIL
 (goodbye)
 Roger.

Gail walks away. Wipes another tear.

ROGER
 (mutters)
 Bitch.

She pauses but doesn't turn around. Continues on.

ROGER (CONT'D)
 Have fun on your fucking cruise
 with your fucking boyfriend!

She doesn't stop.

3 INT. SULLY BURGER - EVENING

3

Jacob wraps a couple of burgers and fries in aluminum foil. He shoves them in a white paper to-go bag. Turns to the counter and hands the bag to an OLDER COUPLE who are in front of a sizable line.

OLDER MAN
 (smiles)
 Thanks kid.

JACOB
 Yep.

OLDER MAN
 Hey kid a smile wouldn't kill ya.
 It makes you feel better and could
 get ya tips. Ya know?

Jacob annoyed does a tight-lipped sarcastic smile to appease.

OLDER MAN (CONT'D)
 Good try.

Older man leaves a dollar on the counter and walks away. Jacob turns to Molly wide-eyed as she puts together an order.

JACOB
 (through gritted teeth)
 Where is Tanya!

MOLLY
 She should totally be here. Sorry
 Jacob.

JACOB
 Veronica is gonna kill me!

Jacob turns to the next CUSTOMER 1.

JACOB (CONT'D)
 What can I get for you?

CUSTOMER 1
 I'll have a...

Customer 1 searches the menu.

JACOB
Mam' we have like five items...

MOLLY
Jacob!

JACOB
Sorry.

Customer 1 smirks then looks back to the menu.

CUSTOMER 1
A chicken sandwich with cheese and
bacon. Um... with onion rings...
medium please.

Jacob yells to the back while facing the customer.

JACOB
Chick. Cheese. Pig. Med O-ring!

CUSTOMER 1
Oh yeah to-go.

JACOB
(louder)
Make it for the road!

CUSTOMER 1
Oh and a medium coke.

JACOB
Yes 'mam you got it.

Jacob grabs a cup and heads to the fountain. From the back rushing in is TANYA, 25.

TANYA
Oh my, Jacob. Thank you for
staying. Ugh babysitter.

Tanya finishes tying her apron. Then grabs Jacob and gives him a quick hug.

TANYA (CONT'D)
You know your on my squad you know
if you need. I got you.

JACOB
Thanks Tanya. I gotta run. This one
still needs to pay.

TANYA

Got it. You're a sweetheart. You let that girl know she's gotta treat you good doll.

4

INT. SULLY BURGER - KITCHEN - MOMENTS LATER

4

Along the wall in the back is a line of coat hooks. Jacob quickly takes off his apron and hangs it on one. Then grabs his winter coat and puts it on. Molly comes in back.

MOLLY

Hey! Sully just got here. Wants to talk to you.

JACOB

Molly! I have got to go!

He pulls his phone out of his jacket pocket and looks at it.

"VERONICA TEXT MESSAGE (5)"

"VERONICA MISSED CALL (1)"

JACOB (CONT'D)

Tell him I already left.

Jacob opens his phone.

"VERONICA: Did you see what Ted posted?!?!"

Next message is a screenshot of the post. It is the photo of Jacob with food in his hands and a funny expression on his face. With the caption "Look at the grease monkey that served me today #SULLY'S #WHEREPOORPEOPLEWORK."

JACOB (CONT'D)

(to himself)

Fuck.

SULLY

Boy!

Jacob looks up from his phone to see Sully, 70, a cheerful rotund man that is wearing a thick red and black checkered flannel jacket and a baseball cap.

SULLY (CONT'D)

Got a minute kid?!

JACOB

I really don't Sully.

Jacob put the phone in his pocket.

SULLY

Sure you do just a minute. My office.

5 INT. SULLY'S OFFICE - MOMENTS LATER

5

Sully's sitting at his desk that is flooded with papers. His flannel jacket now hangs on a hook on top of aprons, chef jacket, sports coat and other clothing. Sully motions to Jacob to take a seat as he takes off his hat and sets it on a pile of papers. Jacob hesitates to sit but does so.

SULLY

Jacob, Molly has been in contact with me throughout the day.

Sully with a serious face leans in and puts his elbows on the desk. A few papers fall off. Jacob shifts in his seat.

SULLY (CONT'D)

That Molly she's a good one. Ya know?

JACOB

Yeah. Sure... She's nice.

SULLY

Good apple. Good apple.

Sully smiles.

SULLY (CONT'D)

And so are you my boy. Molly said how you were such a good sport staying late for Tanya you know?

Sully leans back in his seat.

SULLY (CONT'D)

Rough situation, sweet girl, rough situation.

JACOB

I don't really know sir.

SULLY

And you know I appreciate the fact you keep your phone away while you work for me. Those things are going to make your generation zombies.

Jacob looks to the clock on the wall.

SULLY (CONT'D)
Ah, do you have somewhere to be?

JACOB
Um. Well I'm late picking up my
girlfriend.

SULLY
Oh, Jacob why didn't you say so!?

Sully gives a hearty chuckle.

SULLY (CONT'D)
Keeping a woman waiting is one of
the seven deadly sins.

Jacob stands up.

SULLY (CONT'D)
Before you go.

Sully reaches into his back pocket and pulls out his wallet.
It looks to have as many papers in it as is on his desk. He
flips through a multitude of bills.

SULLY (CONT'D)
What are you two doing tonight?

Jacob exhales.

JACOB
Plan is just a movie. There is
nothing really to do in this city.
It's pretty lame.

Sully gives another hearty chuckle, as he pulls out a five
dollar bill.

SULLY
Really? Boy this city has hidden
treasures all over the place.

Sully puts his hand out with the bill. Jacob looks at the
bill, gives a closed-mouth smile, and takes it.

JACOB
Thanks.

SULLY
You bet. Thank you.

Jacob starts to leave.

SULLY (CONT'D)
 You know what I'm gonna do?

Jacob stops at the door and turns with an annoyed face. Sully doesn't notice.

SULLY (CONT'D)
 Never mind. Go. Go.

Sully shoos him away.

6 EXT. SULLY BURGER - PARKING LOT - EVENING

6

Frost in the air snow begins to float down as Jacob runs through small full parking lot, he stops at an old maroon hatch back. He uses his keys to open the back. Pulls out a button up shirt. Sniffs it recoils a little bit. Digs through the trunk a little more but gives up. He takes off his coat rips off his Sully's t-shirt. His breath can be seen as he exhales a shivers.

JACOB
 Shit. Shit. Shit.

He throws the cold button up on.

JACOB (CONT'D)
 Damn.

He runs to the driver's side door. Goes to open the door. Locked.

JACOB (CONT'D)
 Shit.

Runs back to the open tailgate. Grabs his coat, digs in a pocket to grab his keys. Slams the tailgate closed. Quickly gets to the driver's side door and unlocks it. Tosses his coat in. Grabs a bottle of cologne out of the door pocket. He sprays his neck, pits, wrists, and pants then gives one more shot to his coat. He tosses it back in the door. Throws his jacket back on and hops in the car.

7 EXT. ROGER'S HOUSE - BACKYARD - NIGHT

7

Benny's face is covered with sweat. CLANK as the sledgehammer lands on the metal pipe. He's red face floats between rage and almost crying. He yanks the handle, and the head of the sledge hits the ground next to where his jacket lay. Roger looks on with a beer in his hand. Benny lifts the handle and puts it on his shoulder. Benny swings it again CLANK. He yanks the handle, and the head of the sledge hits the ground.

ROGER
 C'mon you can't let it hit the
 ground. You're killing the
 momentum.

Roger sets his beer on the ground. Grabs the sledge, and
 begins to swing.

ROGER (CONT'D)
 (grunts)
 You swing.

CLANK. The sledge lands on the post.

ROGER (CONT'D)
 Then when you pull it off start
 your next. Make gravity help.

As he pulls it off he swings it around and hits the post
 again. CLANK.

ROGER (CONT'D)
 Got it?

Benny grabs the sledge. Swings. CLANK. Steam puffs out
 Benny's mouth as it lands. Roger picks up his beer. Benny
 pulls and swings again like he was shown. CLANK.

ROGER (CONT'D)
 (that's right)
 Mmhmm.

Benny goes right into his next swing. CLANK.

8 EXT. VERONICA'S HOUSE - NIGHT

8

Jacob's Maroon hatchback quickly pulls into the driveway of a
 modern castle of a house. A thin layer of snow starts to
 accumulate. Jacob jumps out of the driver's side and runs up
 the pathway to the door as VERONICA exits. Veronica is a
 pretty girl with blonde hair wearing a furry vest on her
 white ribbed long sleeve.

VERONICA
 You're late.

She passes right by him and he follows to the car.

JACOB
 Yeah. I know. Sorry. I had to stay
 late at work.

Jacob rushes by her. Slips a little. Then opens the passenger door for her. She sits down without even looking at Jacob. He pauses then closes the door. Jacob walks behind the car then takes a deep breath before getting in.

9 INT. JACOB'S CAR - CONTINUOUS

9

As Jacob closes his door he leans over to Veronica for a kiss. She continues to stare out the front window.

VERONICA
You smell like a fryer.

JACOB
Yeah. Sorry I didn't have time to stop home and shower.

Veronica huffs.

VERONICA
A fryer that got a bottle of cheap body spray dumped in it.

JACOB
Ha.

Veronica gives him a death stare.

VERONICA
That wasn't meant to be funny.

JACOB
Ok.

Jacob starts the car and puts it in reverse.

10 INT. JACOB'S CAR - MOMENTS LATER

10

Jacob and Veronica sit in silence as Jacob drives. Veronica taking a selfie with an angry face followed by typing.

Jacob turns on the radio.

VERONICA
Can you turn that down? I am trying to finish this snap.

Jacob turns the volume down.

JACOB

We still have time to catch the movie. We'll grab some snacks there, then get food after.

Veronica puts her phone down and looks at him.

VERONICA

I don't want to go to the movies anymore. I want to go to Shane's party.

JACOB

But we were going to spend some time together before you leave.

VERONICA

We can spend time together at Shane's.

JACOB

C'mon Veronica.

VERONICA

All my Mexico fam will be there and I don't want spend all day tomorrow traveling with them hearing about what I missed.

Jacob exhales.

VERONICA (CONT'D)

It's not my fault you can't afford to go.

JACOB

It's not that. One of my Mom's friend got abducted in Mexico.

VERONICA

Yeah right. And we will be in and all inclusive resort.

JACOB

Yeah that's the type of place.

Veronica slaps his arm.

VERONICA

Was not!

Jacob smirks.

VERONICA (CONT'D)

Jerk.

She smiles too. Jacob catches it.

JACOB

What's his address.

VERONICA

I'll put it into maps.

11 INT. ROGER'S GARAGE - NIGHT

11

The garage door opens. Benny walks in and turns on the pull string light. He has his jacket back on; his hair is wet from sweat. He sets the sledgehammer on a workbench and begins to look around. He finds his old dirt bike. He squats down and looks at it. Roger leans on the frame of the garage door.

ROGER

Yep. Still have it.

Benny dusts it off a little.

ROGER (CONT'D)

Pump should be in here somewhere. I don't plan on driving you around so you might as well get reacquainted.

Benny stands up and looks at Roger. Walks over to the tool bench and looks around.

ROGER (CONT'D)

What are you looking for?

Benny bends over and looks underneath the bench.

ROGER (CONT'D)

Hey! What are you looking for?

BENNY

The pump.

ROGER

Check the corner bucket.

Benny walks over to the corner bucket moves some tools around and pulls out the bike pump.

ROGER (CONT'D)

You eat?

Benny walks the pump to the bike.

BENNY

Yeah.

ROGER

Yeah ok of course. Well, I'm gonna eat something if you're hungry

BENNY

Thanks Dad.

Roger goes to leave the garage. Then turns back.

ROGER

The sledge hammer hangs next to the rake.

Benny watches his Dad walk away.

12

INT. SHANE'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

12

Music is thumping in a beautiful mansion. Teens are partying and having fun. Jacob exits the kitchen into the living room and looks around feeling pretty different than everyone there. Across the room he sees Veronica talking to AARON a stoner jock that in the middle of winter has a perfect tan. Veronica giggles at something Aaron says.

TED

Hey grease monkey.

Jacob turns to see Ted, William, and a few other teens grinning at him.

WILLIAM

So you made it. Huh?

JACOB

Yep. I made it.

Jacob raises his bottle to them as he turns toward Veronica.

TED

Wait a minute.

Jacob turns back around.

JACOB

What?

TED

Don't you want to know how many likes you got?

A COUPLE OF GIRLS giggle. One guy pulls his phone out to film the interaction.

JACOB
Not really.

Jacob starts to turn again.

TED
248.

JACOB
Probably cause I look good in a uniform.

Jacob winks at the girls. They scoff at that then laugh at his boldness. Ted doesn't like it.

TED
Probably out of pity for minimum wage workers.

JACOB
Ted I get it. I am poorer than all of you. Thank you for letting me be in the presence of you aristocrats.

The term flies over some heads.

JACOB (CONT'D)
And after your fine soiree, you will all go to your castles and me my lowly shack, and you can continue to laugh at my misfortune. Good day.

With that Jacob turns his back to them a little shocked that he said that. He heads to Veronica and Aaron.

TED
What a dick.

Jacob across the room sits on an ottoman in front of Veronica and Aaron. Veronica looks annoyed that Jacob has joined them.

AARON
We will totally hit that up and maybe swim with some dolphins. Ugh I totally have to do that high.

Veronica giggles.

VERONICA
Yeah that would be fun.

JACOB
I wonder if the dolphins would
sense that you are high? They are
some intuitive animals.

AARON
That'd be wild.

JACOB
What if in your altered state you'd
be able to talk to them with your
mind.

Aaron chuckles.

AARON
Yeah. Totally.

VERONICA
Jacob just stop.

JACOB
Stop what?

VERONICA
Never mind. I'm going to the
bathroom.

She stands up.

VERONICA (CONT'D)
Jacob, can you get me another
drink?

JACOB
Yeah sure.

Veronica hands him her red solo cup.

VERONICA
Grey goose and cranberry.

JACOB
Ok

VERONICA
Lot's of ice.

JACOB
Yep.

She leaves.

Jacob stands up and looks to the kitchen door where Ted and his group of friends are hanging out. Aaron stands with him.

AARON
So man. I've got a question.

JACOB
Yeah? Shoot.

AARON
How did a guy like you get a girl like Veronica?

Jacob stares at him for a second.

JACOB
I tutored her.

AARON
You tutored her?

JACOB
Yeah in Spanish.

AARON
Shit man! You know Spanish?

JACOB
Yeah.

AARON
Can you teach me something?

JACOB
What?

AARON
Ugh I totally am going to need to know how to order a beer.

JACOB
Sure.
(then speaks in spanish)

SUBTITLE: CAN I HAVE ORAL SEX PLEASE?

Aaron does his best to repeat the phrase

Jacob looks around and says it again. Aaron repeats.

JACOB (CONT'D)
You're getting it.

As Jacob walks to the kitchen, Aaron continues to repeat it to himself. When Jacob gets to the doorway of the kitchen, he is hit in the ear by a potato chip. He looks at Ted and his friends laughing. Jacob shakes his head and wipes his ear. William waves him to continue on. Jacob does.

13

INT. SHANE'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

13

The kitchen is filled with stainless steel appliances. The center island and countertops are covered with booze, mixers, empties, and pizza boxes. A COUPLE makes out in a corner. SHANE, a tall brown haired jock, and HENRY are by the sink and down a shot. Jacob walks over to the counter with the booze on it and looks through the bottles.

SHANE

Jacob! Who you let you in here?

Shane with a kind smile laughs. Jacob looks to him and looks back to the bottles. Henry walks out of the kitchen and slaps the Male of the make out couple on the ass as he walks by.

JACOB

Hey Shane. I'm with Veronica.

Shane comes over and pats him on the shoulder.

SHANE

Hey man I know I was just giving you a razz.

JACOB

Yeah yeah.

SHANE

What are you looking for?

Jacob squints at the bottles.

JACOB

Grey Goose.

SHANE

Shit we are out. Here grab some of this. Ketel One is just as good if not better.

JACOB

Cool. Thanks.

Jacob grabs the bottle and pours some into the cup. Shane walks to another counter and grabs the bucket of ice and brings it over.

SHANE
What's the matter?

Jacob grabs a few cubes and puts them in the drink.

JACOB
Nothing. Nice house man.

SHANE
Yeah. My mom got it in the divorce.
Asshole dad you know?

JACOB
Yeah.

Jacob looks around the massive kitchen.

JACOB (CONT'D)
Cranberry?

SHANE
Yeah. Here.

Shane grabs a container off the center island amongst all the mixers.

SHANE (CONT'D)
Wanna do a shot?

JACOB
Nah man. Thanks. I'm driving.

SHANE
Want to smoke some pot?

JACOB
I'm good.

SHANE
There some dudes upstairs with coke
if you want, or there are pills
going around.

JACOB
Thanks man. I am good. You are
quite the host.

Shane raises his hands in the air.

SHANE
Thanks dude. I try.

Jacob looks at Shane as he lowers his hands. There is a second of awkward silence.

SHANE (CONT'D)
I hear you tutor.

JACOB
Yeah sometimes.

SHANE
Man, I am struggling at AP lit.

JACOB
Tough class. Who do you have?

SHANE
Jefferson.

JACOB
Crap.

SHANE
Yeah. If I can't get my shit together after break I may have to see you. My ma won't let me even go to Mexico.

JACOB
Me neither.

Jacob heads to the door.

JACOB (CONT'D)
Let me know about lit.

SHANE
Yeah will do and if my house is still standing after tonight will probably do a few more of these shindigs if you are around.

JACOB
Cool man.

14 INT. SHANE'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

14

Jacob walks with the red cup and his beer toward Aaron and Veronica who are engaged in conversation.

VERONICA
What took you?

Jacob hands the cup to Veronica.

JACOB
I was talking to Shane.

VERONICA
He is so nice.

JACOB
Actually yeah. Kinda is.

VERONICA
What's that supposed to mean?

JACOB
Nothing.

VERONICA
Aaron needs a ride. Mind?

Jacob looks at Aaron then to Veronica.

JACOB
Sure.

15 INT. JACOB'S CAR - NIGHT

15

Jacob drives. Veronica, in the passenger seat, is turned back talking to Aaron who is behind Jacob.

VERONICA
It's going to be so much fun.

AARON
I know! I'll be so turnt the whole of it.

VERONICA
Yeah. Same. I wish Shane was coming.

Jacob looks to Veronica.

AARON
Yeah me too. That'd be a blast.

VERONICA
So much fun.

AARON
(speaks in spanish)

SUBTITLE: CAN I HAVE ORAL SEX PLEASE?

VERONICA
What's that?

AARON
Your man taught me that. Right,
Jacob?

Aaron hits the driver seat.

AARON (CONT'D)
Means can I have a beer! You know
right? You were tutored.

VERONICA
Right.

Veronica turns to Jacob. Jacob smiles at her.

VERONICA (CONT'D)
It takes your car so long to warm
up.

Jacob turns up the fan.

VERONICA (CONT'D)
That's just blowing cold air!

Jacob turns the fan down.

AARON
Turn right here. Do you guys have
any gum?

Jacob turns down the street. Veronica digs in her purse.
Pulls out a piece and hands it to him.

AARON (CONT'D)
Right here man on the right. Don't
pull into the driveway though.

JACOB
Ok.

Jacob pulls up to the house. Aaron pops the gum and opens the
door.

AARON
(speaks in spanish)

SUBTITLE: CAN I HAVE ORAL SEX PLEASE?

Veronica giggles. Jacob smirks to himself. Aaron slams the
door and runs to the house. Veronica keeps her eyes on him as
Jacob turns the car around.

JACOB
Do you want to grab some food?

VERONICA
No I should get home.

JACOB
Ok.

16 EXT. VERONICA'S HOUSE - NIGHT

16

Jacob's car sits in the driveway running. Jacob and Veronica sit in silence. Jacob turns to Veronica and leans in. Veronica stops him.

VERONICA
You know how I'm going to Mexico
with everybody?

JACOB
Of course, yeah.

VERONICA
Well. I don't know.

Beat.

VERONICA (CONT'D)
I've been thinking... I think we
should take a break.

JACOB
Take a break?

VERONICA
Yeah while I'm away.

JACOB
While you're away?

VERONICA
Yeah.

JACOB
That sounds kinda shitty.

VERONICA
Shitty?! It's spring break Jacob. I
am young and I don't want to feel
guilty having fun.

JACOB
We've only been boyfriend
girlfriend for like three weeks and
you want to take a break?

VERONICA

It's been fun but we are kinda very different you know? And maybe it'd be different if you came down. And maybe we'd be back together when I come back. I kinda want to see where things will go with Aaron. I don't know.

JACOB

(frustrated)
Aaghh.

Jacob looks forward out the front window.

VERONICA

I just know I don't want to hold back from the best time of my life.

JACOB

(you got to be kidding me)
Really?

VERONICA

Yeah.

Beat.

VERONICA (CONT'D)

Think about it. I'll text you tomorrow. Well, I gotta go.

She leans over and gives him a peck on the cheek.

VERONICA (CONT'D)

Have a fun break.

She leaves and shuts the door.

JACOB

Thanks.

17 INT. ROGER'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM

17

Roger and his two buddies, DOUG and EDDIE, play cards on a small circular table filled with beer cans. Benny sits on the couch watching TV. Roger and his buddy's joke around.

DOUG

You think we can put on the game?

ROGER

Yeah. Which one?

DOUG
Duke, Tar heels.

ROGER
Benny. Put on the Duke game.

BENNY
I'm watching something.

Roger stands up pissed.

ROGER
What did you say to me fat ass?

BENNY
(defeated)
What channel?

DOUG
Forty-six.

Benny types it into the remote. SQUEAKS from basketball shoes on hardwood floors comes from the TV. Benny stands up blocking the TV.

ROGER
Hey!

Benny moves to leave the room.

ROGER (CONT'D)
(to his friends)
Guess he can't even stand the site
of people exercising.

Doug and Eddie laugh. Benny overhears but acts like he doesn't.

ROGER (CONT'D)
I just wish I could smack the fat
off of that kid.

18 INT. ROGER'S HOUSE - BENNY'S BEDROOM - NIGHT 18

In a small dark room, Benny lays in bed. He wears his earbuds and scrolls through music. He selects a song. As it begins to play and he closes his eyes escaping his reality.

19 INT. JACOB'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT 19

Jacob sits on the couch under a blanket watching a movie from the 80's.

The front door opens and enters his mom KRISTEN, 39 in a black winter coat. She shivers as she takes her coat off revealing her nursing scrubs.

KRISTEN
Is this winter ever going to end?
It's late boo.

JACOB
So?

KRISTEN
No work tomorrow?

JACOB
Not till Sunday.

KRISTEN
Right.

Kristen enters from the foyer into the living room. She stares at her son.

KRISTEN (CONT'D)
What's wrong?

Jacob shrugs. Kristen walks to the kitchen and reenters with a beer in hand. She takes a swig.

KRISTEN (CONT'D)
How many beers have you had?

JACOB
One.

KRISTEN
Really?

JACOB
Yeah Ma.

Kristen takes another swig as she sits down next to Jacob on the couch. She hands him the beer. He takes a swig and hands it back.

KRISTEN
What's a matter my Jackie-poo?

She pulls him in to lean on her.

JACOB
(quietly)
I think Veronica broke up with me.

KRISTEN
You think?

JACOB
Yeah.

KRISTEN
Dumb girl. I never liked her
anyway.

Kristen rubs his shoulder. They sit in silence watching the movie. Kristen takes a sip of the beer.

KRISTEN (CONT'D)
You know who called today?

No response from Jacob.

KRISTEN (CONT'D)
Gail, Benny's mom. I guess he'll be
here this week with his Dad. You
two should get together while he's
here.

JACOB
That sounds horrible ma.

Kristen laughs and passes him the beer.

20

INT. JACOB'S HOUSE - KITCHEN

20

Jacob sits at the kitchen table in a gray hoodie with a bowl of cereal poured. He scrolls through his Facebook feed. He comes to a group photo of Veronica and her friends at the airport reading #OMGSOEARLY #SOWORTHIT #MEXICOHEREWECOME. Jacob frowns at this. Scrolls further and see a selfie Veronica took with Aaron with the tag #isnthecute.

JACOB
Shit.

TEXT CHIME rings. Message reads "VERONICA: I hope u had time to think about it and realize it's for the best we break up."

Jacob stands up and chucks his phone across the room at the couch. His body knocks the table and spills the milk out of his bowl. He sits back down and puts his head in his hands with his elbows soaking in milk.

21 INT. ROGER'S GARAGE - DAY 21

The garage door is open and daylight streams in on Benny pumping up the tires on his bike. His breath is seen as pushes down each time on the pump. He looks out of the garage at the snow coming down.

22 INT. SULLY BURGER - DAY 22

Tanya leans on the counter as Jacob cleans tables in the dining room. Snow can be seen streaming down through the front windows.

TANYA
You're foolin'!

JACOB
Nope.

TANYA
That bitch. Over text?

JACOB
Well she kinda gave me the heads up on Friday.

TANYA
I don't care that girl has no class. I hope that girl gets a parasite down under.

JACOB
She's in Mexico not Australia.

TANYA
I know. I mean in her cooch. Lil tramp messin' with my Jake.

JACOB
Oh wow. Ha that's pretty cruel.

TANYA
You know I got your back.

JACOB
Yeah. Tee I do. Thanks.

BELL RINGS on the front door. Sully enters.

SULLY
Hey ya Tanya! Hey ya Jacob!

JACOB AND TANYA

Hi Sully.

SULLY

How's business.

TANYA

Slooow.

Sully walks behind the counter.

SULLY

This damn weather in March! People need some comfort food. Don't they know?

TANYA

Guess not.

SULLY

Alright. Alright. Jacob I'll probably cut you soon.

JACOB

K.

SULLY

Why don't you stay till two, then head out? But stop in my office before you go I have something for ya.

Sully gives him a big smile. Then exits into the kitchen.

TANYA

Ooo. Whatcha gonna get?

JACOB

I don't know.

BELL RINGS on the front door. Benny enters in his corduroy coat. He walks up to the counter. Jacob notices it's Benny, puts his head down to avoid being seen and cleans the table.

TANYA

What can I get for you?

Benny looks over the menu.

BENNY

How is the veggie burger?

TANYA

Oh wow. I don't know. Never had it.
You a vegetarian? You don't look
like a vegetarian.

BENNY

I'm a vegetarian.

TANYA

(yells)
Jacob! You try the veggie burger?
Is it good?

Jacob answers without looking up.

JACOB

Never had it.

Benny looks at Jacob.

BENNY

Jacob? Jacob Page?

Benny steps toward him. Jacob looks up.

JACOB

Yep. Hey Benny.

BENNY

Hey man. Been awhile.

JACOB

Yeah.

BENNY

You work here?

TANYA

Yeah he works here.

JACOB

Thanks. Worked here for a little
while now.

BENNY

Cool.

Beat.

BENNY (CONT'D)

So you've never tried the veggie
burger?

JACOB
Yeah. No. I hear it's pretty good
though.

BENNY
Cool.

JACOB
The onion rings are good though.

TANYA
The o-rings are lit.

Benny turns to Tanya.

BENNY
I take a medium.

TANYA
(to the kitchen)
Med. O-ring.
(to Benny)
Anything else?

BENNY
Medium coke.

TANYA
Sure.

Benny turns back to Jacob.

BENNY
You still play ball?

JACOB
No. You?

BENNY
No.

Tanya puts the coke on the counter and watches the awkward
conversation.

BENNY (CONT'D)
What are you up to for break?

JACOB
Not much. Maybe working.

BENNY
Cool. We should hang out.

JACOB

Yeah. Maybe. I don't know whats going on yet.

BENNY

Sure. Right. I'm.. I'm staying at my Dad's for the week. It'd be cool to get out for a beat. You know?

JACOB

Yeah. Yeah.

BENNY

Let me give you my number.

JACOB

Sure. My phone's been acting a little weird.

TANYA

He messed it up when his bitch girlfriend dumped him.

BENNY

Crap man that sucks. Sorry.

JACOB

My phone is in the back. Our boss doesn't like us having them on us while we work. I'll just give you my home phone anyways.

BENNY

Sure.

TANYA

You still have one of those?

JACOB

Yeah.

COOK (O.S.)

O-ring up!

Tanya turns and grabs them and puts them on a tray with the coke for Benny. Jacob takes a pen out of his apron and a napkin from the holder on the table and writes down his number. He hands the pen to Benny. Benny smiles and takes the pen and jots down his number. Tanya raises her eyebrow at Jacob. Jacob shrugs.

BENNY

Cool.

Benny turns back to Tanya.

TANYA

Three dollars. Soda's on the house
for friends of Jake.

BENNY

Wow. Thanks.

Benny digs into his pocket and pulls out a few bills and
gives three of them to Tanya.

JACOB

Alright man. It was good to see
you. I have to do some stuff in
back.

BENNY

Yeah. Good to see you too. Shoot me
a text when you're free.

JACOB

Yeah. Will do.

Jacob shoves the napkin in his apron and walks to the back.

23 INT. SULLY BURGER - KITCHEN - MOMENTS LATER 23

Jacob hangs up his apron and looks to Sully's office and
exhales.

24 INT. SULLY'S OFFICE - MOMENTS LATER 24

Sully is doing paper work in his messy office. Jacob quietly
knocks. Sully looks up sees Jacob and gives a big smile.

SULLY

Jacob. Sit down.

Jacob goes to the chair that has a stack of papers on it. He
lifts them up.

SULLY (CONT'D)

Give those here.

Jacob hands them to Sully. Sully puts them on top of another
pile. They both sit.

SULLY (CONT'D)

Okay. Okay. Ready?

JACOB
Ready for what?

Sully releases a big smile. He opens a drawer and pull out an big white envelope and hands it to Jacob. Jacob holds it in his hands and looks at it. It reads "THE LIST"

SULLY
It's a list!

Jacob looks up at him a little confused.

SULLY (CONT'D)
Remember when you said this city is so lame? Well I made you a list of some of my favorite places. Hidden gems.

Sully notices that Jacob is not enthused.

SULLY (CONT'D)
Jacob, I've lived here my whole life, and I count myself lucky to have truly experienced this city, it has blessed me with many adventures.

Jacob forces a smile.

SULLY (CONT'D)
You got to check some out my boy. Make some memories!

JACOB
Sure, Sully I will.

SULLY
You have break this week, right?

JACOB
Yeah.

SULLY
Perfect. I bet you your girl will enjoy some adventure with you.

JACOB
Well. She's actually in Mexico now.

SULLY
Oh.

JACOB
And she isn't really my girl
anymore.

SULLY
Ooo.
(not sure what to say)
Well that was fast.

Beat.

JACOB
Actually. Do you need me to fill
here in at all this week?

SULLY
Aw Jacob. We are pretty set. Just
your usual Wednesday night shift.

JACOB
Yeah. Ok.

Jacob stands to leave and holds up the envelope

JACOB (CONT'D)
Thanks for the list.

SULLY
Of course. Of course. You know
Jacob if you need to talk. Want to
talk. Here. I'm around. You know?

JACOB
Thanks.

SULLY
You don't need a girl for those
places. I went by myself all the
time or with friends, whatever.
Don't worry about it kid you'll be
good.

JACOB
Yeah thanks.

Jacob leaves the office.

25 INT. JACOB'S CAR - DAY

25

In wet slushy Sully burger parking lot Jacob enters his car.
He tosses the envelope in the center console. He takes out
his phone.

He scrolls through his timeline and catches pictures of Veronica and her crew having fun in the Mexican sun. He tosses his phone in the console cup holder next to the envelope and starts his car. He looks up and sees Benny unlocking his bike. He hops on and pedals slush sprays up and get his pants wet. Jacob watches him pedal away.

26

INT. JACOB'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - EVENING

26

Jacob is sitting at the kitchen table head in his phone. Kristen is cooking some dinner on the stove. With glances at her depressed son.

KRISTEN
Come on Jakie-poo.

Jacob ignores her.

KRISTEN (CONT'D)
Jakie-poo?

JACOB
Ma! Stop it. Ok?

Kristen's a little shocked by the attitude. The house phone RINGS. Kristen walks over and picks it up.

KRISTEN
Oh hi Benny!

Jacob looks at his Mom wide-eyed frantically shaking his head and mouthing "No".

KRISTEN (CONT'D)
Jacob? No he can't come to the phone right now. He's in the shower.

Jacob exhales a sigh and goes back to his phone.

KRISTEN (CONT'D)
I think he'd love to see you. I am cooking dinner right now why don't you come over and join us.

Jacob grabs his head. Stands up and walks out of the room.

KRISTEN (CONT'D)
Great. Yeah in about thirty-minutes. See you then.

Kristen hangs up the phone.

KRISTEN (CONT'D)
 (yells)
 Stop being such a brat!

Jacob comes rushing back in.

JACOB
 Ma! What the hell Ma? I'm not
 friends with Benny anymore. Shit. I
 wasn't even friends with him when
 we were kids. You forced me to hang
 out with him then just like you are
 doing now. Just let me have my
 shitty break on my own.

KRISTEN
 Jacob! Watch your shitty mouth.

She smiles. Jacob defuses a little but walks back out.

KRISTEN (CONT'D)
 Wanna make the salad?

27 INT. JACOB'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - LATER

27

With food on the kitchen table Kristen, Jacob, and Benny sit
 around it. Kristen serves herself some pasta and passes it to
 Benny. He serves himself some and passes it to Jacob.

KRISTEN
 So what is the school your are
 going to?

Kristen passes the meatballs. Benny passes them on. Kristen
 gives him a questioning look.

BENNY
 Uh. Vegetarian.

KRISTEN
 Oh.

Kristen looks over the table to make sure there's enough to
 eat. She passes Benny the garlic bread.

BENNY
 Thanks. Williamson School of the
 Arts.

KRISTEN
 Ooo. That sounds cool. Doesn't that
 sound cool Jacob?

She gives him a look. Jacob squints back.

JACOB
Yeah ma. Cool.

KRISTEN
What are you doing there?

BENNY
You know the regular schools stuff
plus I am doing a focus in dance.

Jacob chuckles.

JACOB
Really dance?

BENNY
Yeah. I love it.

KRISTEN
Wow Benny that's great. What made
you choose dance?

BENNY
I don't know. I love music. It
makes me move and when I do, I
guess the rest of the world goes
away for a bit.

Kristen is into it.

KRISTEN
That's great.

BENNY
(to Jacob)
What about you? What've you been up
to?

JACOB
Nothing really.

KRISTEN
Jacob. C'mon.

Jacob plays with his pasta.

KRISTEN (CONT'D)
Jakie-poo.

Jacob's eyes shoot up at his mom.

KRISTEN (CONT'D)
He's been doing great in school top
five of his class. Makes money
tutoring and working at Sully's.
And he has won many staring
contests with his phone.

Jacob stands up.

KRISTEN (CONT'D)
Where are you going?

JACOB
To the bathroom Mom.

KRISTEN
Oh ok.

Jacob leaves the room.

KRISTEN (CONT'D)
You have got to forgive Jacob. His
girlfriend just broke up with him.

BENNY
Yeah I heard. That sucks.

KRISTEN
Really, she was kinda a bitch.

Benny laughs. A moment of silence while Kristen thinks of
conversation.

KRISTEN (CONT'D)
So your Mom is on a cruise huh?

BENNY
Yeah with her new boyfriend.

KRISTEN
Do you like him?

BENNY
He's fine. You know the usual.
Crazy about her, tolerates me. He
doesn't bother me much. And that's
cool.

KRISTEN
Oh good. Good.

Jacob comes back into the room and sits at the table.

BENNY

Do you have a boyfriend?

Kristen looks at Jacob quickly then to her food.

KRISTEN

No. Haven't had much time for dating. Nursing has horrible hours.

JACOB

Wow. How'd we get here?

BENNY

Your Mom was asking about my Mom's new boyfriend so I asked your Mom if she's dating anyone.

JACOB

Oh.

Beat.

JACOB (CONT'D)

Yeah Ma. You should get out there. It's 'bout time.

KRISTEN

Thanks kid.

Kristen picks up the salad and passes it to Benny.

KRISTEN (CONT'D)

Salad?

BENNY

Sure.

JACOB

Why did you become a vegetarian?

BENNY

Remember that show Veggie Tales with the cute animated christian vegetables?

JACOB

Yeah.

BENNY

That's why.

The table laughs. Kristen notices Jacob has lightened up.

KRISTEN

What are you boys doing tonight?
You should go out.

JACOB

Ma, it's Sunday. Nothing is going
on. I'm sure Benny needs to get
back.

Jacob gives his Mom a dirty look. She gives him a dirtier one
back. He turns to Benny.

JACOB (CONT'D)

You have stuff to do?

BENNY

No. Nothing.

JACOB

Fine.

28

INT. JACOB'S CAR - NIGHT

28

Jacob driving. Benny plays with the radio.

BENNY

Can't believe you don't have an aux
jack or anything.

JACOB

Yeah. Sucks.

BENNY

What do you do for music?

JACOB

Radio or I have a couple of CD's
around.

BENNY

Cool.

Benny looks in the door pocket and flips through a few CD's.

BENNY (CONT'D)

What do you wanna do?

JACOB

I don't know there's nothing to do.

BENNY

We can go to the mall in the burbs.

JACOB
Closes early on Sundays.

BENNY
I guess we can just drive around
and listen to music till we figure
it out.

Benny pulls out a CD.

BENNY (CONT'D)
Eddie Nebula and the Plague! Ha. I
totally forgot about these guys.
Cool if I put it in?

JACOB
Sure.

Benny presses eject on the stereo and pulls out the CD.

BENNY
Miley? Really?

JACOB
Veronica was into it.

Jacob grabs it out of his hand and opens the window and
flings it out. Benny laughs and puts in the CD. Jacob tries
to close the window but it won't.

JACOB (CONT'D)
Shit.

BENNY
What?

Punk rock starts blaring.

JACOB
Fuck. My window get's stuck.

BENNY
Dude it's cold.

JACOB
Yeah I know thanks.

Jacob keeps trying the button to close it as he's driving.
Benny starts bobbing his head to the music.

BENNY
It's cool man if you want to pull
over to figure it out.

JACOB
It usually works after a few tries.

He pushes it down and the window goes down further.

BENNY
It opened more.

JACOB
Fuck Benny I know!

Jacob wiggles the button and pushes it over and in. The window raises. They both watch it close then notice they are approaching a car stopped at red light. Jacob slams on the breaks. They stops right before hitting the car in front.

BENNY
Shit!

They both exhale relief. As the music rocks on.

BENNY (CONT'D)
Well that is the most excitement
I've ever gotten out of a Miley
Cyrus CD.

Jacob gives a nervous laugh.

JACOB
Yeah.

29 INT. JACOB'S CAR - LATER

29

Still driving. Benny still looking for more CD's.

BENNY
Have you listened to Edward R. at
all?

JACOB
Edward R.? No.

BENNY
Oh man you have got to hear "Wolves
and the Water!" So good.

JACOB
Yeah?

Benny looks at the cup holder and spots Sully's envelope.

BENNY
Yeah. What's this?

He picks it up and reads it.

BENNY (CONT'D)

The List.

JACOB

Ugh. My boss Sully, I told him that I think this city is boring so he wrote me a list of his favorite things to do.

BENNY

That kinda sounds cool. We should open it.

JACOB

No man its dumb.

Benny taps the envelope on the palm of his hand.

BENNY

It has some heft to it. Has to be be a pretty elaborate list.

JACOB

He's like 70. It's probably a list of bingo halls and senior citizen centers.

BENNY

They might have free coffee there..

JACOB

Forget it.

30 INT. JACOB'S CAR - LATER 30

Jacob drives through the city as Benny stares out the passenger window. Different music is playing.

31 INT. DINER - LATER 31

At a typical diner Jacob and Benny sit in a booth quietly. Jacob looks at the wrapped silverware he plays with. Benny sips his water as he looks at the people at the other tables.

BENNY

What was it like after your dad died?

Jacob gives a look in disbelief that he asked that.

JACOB

It sucked.

BENNY

In which way?

Beat. Jacob looks back down at his silverware.

JACOB

I don't know. I felt different than everybody.

Benny looks at Jacob as he continues to play with his silverware.

JACOB (CONT'D)

Everybody felt sorry for me. I felt sorry for me. Shit I still do. I miss him.

BENNY

Yeah he was a cool guy.

Jacob looks at Benny and smiles.

JACOB

Yeah.

BENNY

Remember that time he was driving us home from little league and he took us to Seven-Eleven got us slurpies that were as big as our heads. Told us to mix it however we wanted.

JACOB

Yeah mine tasted horrible and he gave me his.

BENNY

Then he bought a bag of hot dog rolls and took us to Trion Ponds to feed the ducks.

JACOB

Yeah that was fun. We'd dip the roll bits in our slurpies to give the ducks a "revolutionary" taste sensation.

Benny laughs. The WAITRESS comes over carrying three plates.

WAITRESS
Lumber jack?

Jacob raises his hand. She sets it down in front of him.

WAITRESS (CONT'D)
(annoyed)
The three-cheese omelet with the
bacon on a separate plate not
touching the omelet at all.

Benny raises his hand. She sets them down.

WAITRESS (CONT'D)
Anything else?

BENNY
We're good thank you.

She leaves. Benny puts the bacon plate in front of Jacob.

JACOB
Thanks.

They start to eat. After a bit of silence.

BENNY
I never did anything like that with
my dad.

Beat.

BENNY (CONT'D)
I always wished... I always thought
he was really cool.

JACOB
Thanks man.

BENNY
So why'd you stop playing baseball?
You were pretty good. I sucked, but
you were pretty good though.

JACOB
I don't know it got kinda weird I'd
see the other guys with their dads
and it just made feel... I don't
know.

BENNY
I get it. Sorry man.

32 INT. JACOB'S CAR - NIGHT

32

Jacob drives down Benny's dad's street.

BENNY

I have Edward R. on a usb drive
with some other music in my bag.
I'll grab it for you when we get
there.

JACOB

Nah Benny that's ok.

BENNY

Really you have to listen to this
song tonight plus there's other
good ones on it too.

JACOB

Really man some other time.

BENNY

I insist. Do you have a CD burner?
You should burn some of those songs
for your car and we can listen to
them later this week.

JACOB

Yeah man. Not sure if I'm all that
free later.

Jacob pulls into Benny's driveway.

BENNY

Yeah man. I understand.

Beat.

BENNY (CONT'D)

(insisting)

Come on. Grab it anyways.

Jacob reluctantly turns off the car and follows Benny through
the snow to the door.

33 INT. ROGER'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

33

The front door enters right into the living room. Benny kicks
off his shoes and runs to his room. Jacob waits on the
doormat and looks around the disheveled room.

ROGER (O.S.)

Benny!

36

INT. JACOB'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - MORNING

36

Jacob enters the kitchen. Kristen in scrubs pours herself some coffee.

KRISTEN

Want some?

Jacob opens some cabinets looking for something to eat.

JACOB

Sure.

Jacob pulls out some cereal. Kristen grabs a mug out of the cupboard and pours a cup.

KRISTEN

How was the night out with Benny?

Jacob goes to the fridge and grabs the milk. Kristen grabs a bowl out of the cupboard for him.

JACOB

Fine.

KRISTEN

Did you warm up to him?

She hands him the bowl.

JACOB

Not really.

Jacob sits down at the kitchen table and makes his cereal. Once his milk is poured he leans back in his chair.

JACOB (CONT'D)

Ma, Dad never hit me right?

KRISTEN

Why do you ask that?

JACOB

Just wondering.

Kristen leans back against the counter and stares at Jacob.

KRISTEN

Once.

JACOB

Why?

KRISTEN

Well when you were three, you had pink eye...

Kristen sits down at the table.

KRISTEN (CONT'D)

And the doctor gave us these drops to put in your eyes... You were so freakin' strong as little kid. I had to hold you down as your Dad tried to give you your drops. But you fought so hard I couldn't really hold you, and you held your eyes so tight...

Kristen takes a sip of her coffee.

KRISTEN (CONT'D)

And this was after we tried to explain how the drops were supposed to help you get better. But you were three, you didn't understand. Your Dad was so frustrated, and you kicked me and hurt me a little. And your dad slapped you. He was so sad after that. He regretted it deeply Jacob. He swore he never would again, and he never did. He loved you so much.

JACOB

What did you do about the pink eye?

KRISTEN

It went away by itself.

JACOB

It does?

KRISTEN

Yeah. Which made your Dad feel even worse. Ha. I'm glad it's something you don't remember. He'd probably be so embarrassed that I'm even telling you this.

JACOB

Yeah.

Jacob leans forward and takes a bite of cereal.

JACOB (CONT'D)

And he never hit me again?

KRISTEN

Never.

37 INT. JACOB'S CAR - DAY 37

Jacob sits in his running car and looks at the envelope from Sully. Jacob Shifts his car into gear and takes off.

38 INT. JACOB'S CAR - LATER 38

Jacob pull up to Roger's house. Puts the car in park, takes the envelope and gets out.

39 EXT. ROGER'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS 39

Jacob walks up to the door. Takes a deep breath, and rings the doorbell. After a few moments the door opens, Jacob jumps back a bit. It's Benny. He has a slight red mark on his face.

BENNY

(surprised)

Hey.

JACOB

Hey.

Beat.

JACOB (CONT'D)

Your Dad home?

BENNY

No. He's at work.

JACOB

Good. I mean cool.

BENNY

Yeah. What's up?

JACOB

I was thinking... We should check out this list.

Jacob holds up the envelope.

BENNY

Ha. Really?

Benny leans against the door frame.

BENNY (CONT'D)

I thought you said it was stupid.

JACOB

I changed my mind. And maybe there's enough stuff on this list that will keep you away from this place for awhile.

BENNY

And piss the old man off even more?

JACOB

I'm sure my Ma would let you stay over incase.

BENNY

Yeah ok. I do want to see what's on that thing.

40 INT. JACOB'S CAR - DAY

40

Jacob drives. Benny holds the envelope toward Jacob.

BENNY

You sure you don't want to do it?

Jacob laughs.

JACOB

Just do it.

Benny opens the envelope. Pulls out the multiple sheets that are tri-folded. He sifts through them.

BENNY

One of them's even a map!

JACOB

Hm. Kinda cool.

BENNY

What should I look for?

JACOB

I'm kinda hungry. You hungry?

BENNY

Yeah I can eat.

Benny scans the list.

BENNY (CONT'D)
World's best hot dog.

JACOB
World's best hot dog?

BENNY
Yeah.

JACOB
Aren't you a vegetarian?

BENNY
I'm sure they have fries.

41 EXT. HOLLAND PARK - DAY

41

SUPER: "Best Hot Dog - Mack's Dog Cart: Mackie Dog with the works. Tell Mack Sully sent you".

Benny sits on a bench with a bag of chips disappointed. Jacob comes to join him with a hot dog heaped with "the works". The hot dog cart that it came from is in the background.

BENNY
That looks amazing!

Jacob cautiously sits trying not to lose any toppings.

JACOB
Yeah.

BENNY
I can't believe a place that serves hot dogs doesn't have fries.

Jacob shimmies his phone out of his pocket. He holds out the hot dog in his hand to get a picture of it.

JACOB
This is totally insta worthy.

Jacob then goes through a few filters and types.

JACOB (CONT'D)
I should probably find out if this *is* the best before I post.

Jacob sets down his phone. Benny takes a chip out of the bag. Jacob leans in for his first bite carefully. Benny watches on with envy. Jacob sinks his teeth in through the layers of toppings then through the hot dog. Benny puts a chip in his mouth and CRUNCHES. Jacob's eyes widen.

BENNY

How is it?

Jacob chews and nods.

JACOB

Holy shit it's good! Wow. Wow.
Really. So different.

Jacob looks at Benny.

JACOB (CONT'D)

You want to try?

BENNY

No. Well yeah. Ugh. I'm gonna see
if he can do a bun with all the
toppings.

Benny gets up and heads back to the cart. Jacob goes in for
another bite.

42 INT. SONG SANCTUARY - DAY 42

SUPER: "Majestic record store - Song Sanctuary: Old church
converted to a record store. Has everything cool."

Jacob and Benny walk into the converted church with high
ceilings and arches. There are rows upon rows of records,
used and new CDs, second-hand clothes, and quirky gifts
filling the floor and nooks. They are in awe. Jacob and Benny
pull out their phones and take a picture.

43 INT. SONG SANCTUARY - MOMENTS LATER 43

Jacob and Benny flip through vinyl.

BENNY

Do you have a record player?

JACOB

No. Do you?

BENNY

No. It'd be cool though.

JACOB

Yeah.

BENNY

Let's check out some CDs and see if we can find some good ones for your car.

44 INT. SONG SANCTUARY - LATER 44

Jacob and Benny are at one of the stores listening stations. Jacob stands with headphones on while Benny sits working the CD player. Benny presses play. LCD Soundsystem's "Oh Baby" plays.

Jacob is hypnotized by the music and the atmosphere he stares at the faded paintings on the domed ceiling.

45 JACOB'S POV - SLOWLY SCANS FROM SIDE TO SIDE 45

Jacob lowers his gaze to his surrounding as two cute ALTERNATIVE GIRLS walks by him and smile, then giggle. Jacob straitens up and shakes out of his daze. He peels off one ear of the headphones.

JACOB

(to Benny)

This is good.

BENNY

Right?!

46 INT. SONG SANCTUARY - LATER 46

Jacob and Benny at the counter. Jacob sets down five CDs to purchase.

47 INT. JACOB'S CAR - DAY 47

Jacob and Benny rocking out to music taking sips out of to-go cups.

SUPER: "To die for to-go milkshakes - Daily's Drive thru: My favorites vanilla or chocolate banana."

48 EXT. APARTMENT BUILDING - DAY 48

Getting late in the day Jacob and Benny stand outside a tall apartment building in the city.

SUPER: "Sunset spot #1 - Sibley Lofts: WARNING a little risky. Wait till someone exits and catch the door."

A Woman exits the building and walks past them. Benny catches the door.

49 INT. APARTMENT BUILDING - ELEVATOR - MOMENTS LATER 49

Jacob and Benny stand in silence holding their breath next to a Businessmen.

SUPER: "Take the elevator to the top floor."

The elevator DINGS and the door opens the Businessman exits. Jacob and Benny exhales.

50 INT. APARTMENT BUILDING - HALLWAY - MOMENTS LATER 50

Jacob and Benny walk the top floor hallway.

SUPER: "Use the staircase at the end of the hallway for roof access."

51 INT. APARTMENT BUILDING - STAIRWELL - MOMENTS LATER 51

At the top of the stairwell they stare at the exit door that reads "Emergency Roof Access - Alarm will sound." Jacob and Benny look worried. Benny looks at the list.

SUPER: "Don't worry the door is usually never alarmed."

They take a deep breath.

JACOB
Ok. Ready?

Benny nods.

JACOB (CONT'D)
Three - Two -- One.

They both burst through the door and stumble onto the roof.

52 EXT. APARTMENT BUILDING - ROOFTOP - CONTINUOUS 52

Jacob and Benny enter the rooftop that has an stunning view of the city and the sun as it is getting ready to set.

JACOB
Holy crap.

BENNY
Awesome.

53

EXT. APARTMENT BUILDING - ROOFTOP - MOMENTS LATER

53

Jacob and Benny lean against the rooftop ledge as the sun sets sending a glow through the city onto their faces. Jacob pulls out his phone to take a picture Benny follows suit.

JACOB

It's pretty beautiful.

BENNY

Ok if I tag you in this?

JACOB

It's kinda too romantic don't you think?

BENNY

Ha. Yeah I guess. I shoulda tagged you in the church.

Beat.

BENNY (CONT'D)

Thanks man.

JACOB

For what?

BENNY

For coming to get me to do this.

BANG. The rooftop door slams open. Jacob and Benny flinch and spin to see FOUR COLLEGE KIDS burst onto the rooftop laughing. TONY, charming smile. ALTON, hipster with an afro. SANTIAGO, the quiet one. HAROLD, with a hippie vibe.

TONY

Woah. Hey guys.

ALTON

We interrupting something?

Jacob and Benny still recovering from the scare.

JACOB

Uh. No.

HAROLD

Man this is the place! Love this place.

ALTON

Gorge.

TONY

Almost worth all those stairs.

BENNY

Why didn't you take the elevator?

TONY

Shit. Kids got a point why don't we take the elevator?

SANTIAGO

I don't like elevators.

HAROLD

He don't like elevators.

BENNY

Oh.

The college kids laugh all except Santiago. They all line up on the ledge and look over the city. Santiago at the end lights up a joint, takes a couple of puffs and passes it down the line. They each have a couple drags then pass once it gets to Tony he hands it to Benny. Benny looks at Jacob. Jacob shrugs. Benny takes a hit then gives it to Jacob. Jacob stares at it then looks down the row of the crew that is enjoying the view. He takes a hit then starts coughing. Tony chuckles.

TONY

Alright man?

Jacob nods. Tony takes the joint and walks it to Santiago and gives him a tap on the back.

54

EXT. APARTMENT BUILDING - ROOFTOP - MOMENTS LATER

54

The line up of boys all smiles as the sun dims and the buildings begin to light up. The joint is again at Jacob as he takes a hit. The sunlight says it's last hoorah.

HAROLD

You boys are lucky. Mother nature put on a spectacular show for you.

BENNY

Pretty damn cool.

ALTON

Pretty damn cool is right.

Alton pats Benny on the shoulder.

TONY
Where do you guys go?

BENNY
What do you mean?

TONY
School.

BENNY
Oh. Williamson School of the Arts.

HAROLD
Ooo. Fancy.

BENNY
Not really.

TONY
(to Jacob)
You?

JACOB
Jefferson High.

TONY
Oh yeah. Harold went there. We're
all at Athena University.

BENNY
Nice. You guys on break too?

ALTON
Yep.

TONY
Hey Santi.

Santiago takes off his back pack and opens it up.

HAROLD
You guys sticking around to see the
city lit up in the night sky?

Jacob and Benny look at each other.

JACOB AND BENNY
Sure.

Santiago pull out a bluetooth speaker and hands it to Alton.
Then he pulls out a six pack of tall boys and hands one to
each of his friends. Then a beer to Jacob.

SANTIAGO
 (introducing himself)
 Santiago.

JACOB
 Jacob. Thanks.

Then a beer to Benny.

SANTIAGO
 Santiago.

BENNY
 Benny. Thank you.

BEEP. BEEP. Alton connects his cell phone to the speaker and nods with satisfaction.

55 EXT. APARTMENT BUILDING - ROOFTOP - LATER

55

Music is rocking the boys sit around in a circle while Alton is in the center doing dance moves. He's good. Harold stands up.

HAROLD
 I'm in.

Harold bobs and feels the vibe and gets into it and goes for a while. Jacob looks at Benny embarrassed for Harold, but Benny is into it.

TONY
 Jacob. You're in.

Jacob shakes his head no.

JACOB
 I don't dance.

TONY
 This is the place to try before you have to do it in front of girls.

JACOB
 I'm good.

TONY
 Benny?

Benny smiles. Harold offers his hand and pulls Benny up. Harold backs out of the circle. Benny gets into it and is good. Some moves are a little too rehearsed.

Jacob embarrassed for him looks to the others, but they smile on watching the moves. It comes to the point in the song where each time the beat stops Benny claps his hands and stops in a pose. Music begins and dances again till, clap, pose. He gets the crowd into it they clap with him. Then Harold claps then poses with him. Alton stands Claps, and the three of them pose. Tony follow suit. Jacob looks to Santiago. Santiago smirks and shrugs, takes a swig of his beer and stands up to join in. Jacob takes a swig of his beer stands, but walks to the edge and looks at the city lights.

56

EXT. APARTMENT BUILDING - ROOFTOP - LATER

56

Everything is packed up and Santiago has his backpack on. They all are getting ready to leave.

TONY

So how did you guys find out about this place?

JACOB

My boss told me about it.

BENNY

He gave him a list.

ALTON

A list?

BENNY

Yeah of cool places in the city.

TONY

And your boss knew about this place? Seems like a pretty cool boss.

JACOB

Turns out that way.

HAROLD

What else is on that list?

BENNY

Have you been to Song Sanctuary?

HAROLD

That place is Lit!

TONY

What is it?

ALTON

It is a music mecca smack dab in
the middle of a church!

TONY

That's pretty damn cool. So what's
next?

JACOB

What?

TONY

What are we gonna do next?

Benny pulls out the envelope.

BENNY

Gentleman what are you in the mood
for?

SANTIAGO

Someplace indoors. I'm freezing.

TONY

And preferably with no elevators.

57 INT. BLACKLIGHT BOWLING ALLEY - NIGHT

57

SUPER: "Surreal glow - O'Dell Lanes: Blacklight Bowling"

In the purple light, Jacob and Benny sit stoned. They stare
at neon bowling balls passing by and clothing aglow. Some
groups bowling have on wigs that radiate in the blacklight.
Tony and the group laugh and take turns bowling.

ALTON

Jacob, you're up!

Jacob snaps out of his daze and jumps to the ball repository.
Benny slowly scans the room and laughs. Jacob gets a gutter
ball the group laughs with him.

58 INT. HAROLD'S APARTMENT - MORNING

58

Amongst tie-dye wall hangings and pot posters, Jacob and
Benny sleep on couches. Alton sleeps in a recliner. Jacob's
phone DINGS. He groans and pulls out his phone. "Text
Message: Mom" Jacob's eyes widen.

JACOB

Shit.

Benny starts to stir. Jacob opens his phone. "Mom: Where are you?". Jacob writes back "With Benny". "Mom: Where!?" Jacob writes "Slept at friends. Sorry I didn't text Ma." She sends him an angry emoji. "Mom: Better not happen again!" Benny's eyes are open watching Jacob. Jacob writes "Yes mom. Sorry".

BENNY
(whispers)
What's up?

JACOB
Never texted my Ma.

BENNY
Ah shit. Yeah. My Dad is probably raging.

JACOB
Did you text him?

BENNY
Ha I think I did...

Benny checks his phone.

BENNY (CONT'D)
Yeah. No reply. He doesn't text.

Jacob sits up and rubs his head.

JACOB
Food?

BENNY
Food.

Benny tosses the list to Jacob.

59

INT. HAROLD'S APARTMENT - MOMENTS LATER

59

Benny is at the kitchen counter writing on a piece of paper. "Thanks for letting us crash here."

BENNY
Should we leave them some places from the list?

JACOB
Sure.

Jacob pulls out the list. Benny starts jotting some down.

60 INT. JB'S DINER - MORNING 60

SUPER: "Best Breakfast - JB's Diner: Try a heap or one of the P.O.Ss"

Inside of a small diner that has a dozen tables and an exposed kitchen where you can see the cooks do their thing, Jacob and Benny sit at the counter watching the cooks.

JACOB

Last night was pretty wild.

BENNY

Those guys were pretty cool.

JACOB

Yeah.

Benny looks through the list.

JACOB (CONT'D)

What do you want to do today?

BENNY

Do you have a flashlight in your car?

61 EXT. ABANDONED SUBWAY TUNNEL - ENTRANCE - MORNING 61

SUPER: Graffiti Galore - Abandon Subway Tunnel - Bring a flashlight and go to the end.

The entrance for the subway tunnel exposed under a bridge. One at a time Benny and Jacob hang from a ledge to drop in to the tunnel.

62 INT. ABANDONED SUBWAY TUNNEL - CONTINUOUS 62

They look around. One end is blocked off and the other is a tunnel into darkness. Plenty of daylight streams in this section and it is covered in magnificent graffiti.

BENNY

Rad.

Jacob and Benny both pull out their phones and start snapping away.

63 INT. ABANDONED SUBWAY TUNNEL - MOMENTS LATER

63

Benny stares into the blackness of the tunnel as Jacob finishes off his Instagram post. Jacob posts then looks up at Benny then looks into the darkness too.

JACOB

You wanna?

BENNY

Not really. You?

JACOB

Not really.

Benny turns on his phone flash light. Jacob pulls a flashlight out of his pocket. They begin to walk in.

64 INT. ABANDONED SUBWAY TUNNEL - MOMENTS LATER

64

Now surrounded by darkness, the boys close together walk straight with their eyes on the ground in front of them. Their flashlights hit spray painted words on the ground that read "Look at the WALLS." A little freaked out the shine the light at each other to see each other's reaction. They slowly move their light to the wall. They illuminate a continuous array of street art. They walk forward and scan the walls.

JACOB

How did they do this in the dark?

BENNY

I don't know. But it is freaking amazing. Just think there are a million people above us right now that have no idea that this exists.

JACOB

Wild.

65 INT. ABANDONED SUBWAY TUNNEL - LATER

65

Still scanning the wall with their flashlights. Jacob and Benny move forward toward a tiny spill of daylight at the end of the tunnel. There is a sound like a CONTINUOUS RUMBLE that increases in volume as they get closer to the end.

BENNY

Is that a train?

JACOB

I don't know.

66

INT. ABANDONED SUBWAY TUNNEL - MOMENTS LATER

66

They approach the exit; the daylight gets stronger on their faces. The RUMBLE has turned into a ROAR. The floor abruptly drops off above a ROARING waterfall. A city bridge is overhead where traffic goes by barely heard over the raging water. Jacob and Benny stare at the magnificence of nature.

JACOB
(yelling over the sound)
Shit! Is this city falls?

BENNY
I'm guessing so. We're still in the city and it's supposed to be impressive. I'd say this fits.

JACOB
This is scary as hell but I can't back away.

Jacob takes a step closer.

BENNY
This floor will hold right?

Jacob looks down.

JACOB
Yeah I think its just the cliff's rocks under this pavement.

Benny steps next to him. Takes a deep breath in and closes his eyes. He opens them and shoots his arms in the air.

BENNY
Whoohooo! Whoohooo!

Jacob looks at him and laughs.

BENNY (CONT'D)
C'mon Jacob! This feels great!

Benny gives him a nudge. Jacob raises his arms but bends at his elbows.

JACOB
(weakly)
Whoohoo.

BENNY
C'mon man.

Jacob shakes his head no.

BENNY (CONT'D)
Close your eyes for a second.

Jacob closes his eyes.

BENNY (CONT'D)
Feel that power?

The water rages. Jacob lets the energy fill him up. He opens his eyes rejuvenated. He shoots up his arms in a V.

JACOB
(yelling)
Yeah! Yeah!

BENNY
Wooohooo!

They bend over and shout into the waterfall letting everything in them, out. The scream echoes down the tunnel.

67

INT. ABANDONED SUBWAY TUNNEL - ENTRANCE

67

Jacob and Benny exit the darkness into the entrance where they started.

BENNY
How far of a walk to you thing that was?

JACOB
Maybe a mile?

BENNY
Sounds right.

JACOB
Fuck!

BENNY
What?

JACOB
Did you even take a picture?

BENNY
Shit. No.

JACOB
Me neither.

They both look back into the darkness. Benny looks at his phone.

BENNY

My battery is almost dead.

Jacob looks at his phone.

JACOB

Yeah. Me too. I have a charger in the car.

68 INT. WALKEN ART GALLERY - DAY 68

SUPER: "Art fills your soul - Walken Art Gallery"

69 SERIES OF SHOTS 69

Jacob and Benny in different rooms of the gallery.

Phones are out again.

Benny stands in front of a painting impersonating a pose. Jacob snaps a picture.

They stare at a tall painting of a soldier from opposite corners of a room.

JACOB

Is he staring at you?

BENNY

Yeah you?

JACOB

Yeah. Weird.

70 INT. ARTHUR'S CINEMA - EVENING 70

SUPER: "Classic movie theater - Arthur's Cinema - catch a classic"

71 SERIES OF SHOTS 71

Jacob and Benny watch the *Dead Poet's Society* eating popcorn.

Part of the film where the students each walks to their own drum.

Part where they "YELP". Benny nudges Jacob.

Part when each stands on the desk saying "Oh Captain, My Captain" Benny and Jacob each wipe a tear from their eye.

- 72 EXT. LIHN'S GARDEN - NIGHT 72
- SUPER: "Best take out Chinese - Lihn's Garden: My favorite is Kung Pao Chicken and Hot and Sour soup"
- 73 SERIES OF SHOTS 73
- Jacob and Benny enter the exterior of Lihn's.
- Inside there is only a small space to stand and wait at the counter. The boys order from the menu above the register to KIDS that looks seven and twelve.
- They watch as the chef cooks with hibachi pizazz.
- The kids bag up the food and hand it to Jacob and Benny.
- 74 INT. JACOB'S HOUSE - KITCHEN 74
- 75 SERIES OF SHOTS 75
- Jacob, Benny, and Kristen sit around the table eating the Chinese food laughing.
- Benny has trouble with the chopsticks. Kristen shows him how.
- Jacob holds up a red chili pepper. Benny joins. They convince Kristen to grab one. All three pop them in their mouths. Faces turn red. They begin laughing at each other's face.
- 76 INT. JACOB'S BEDROOM - NIGHT 76
- Kristen peers into Jacobs room and sees both boys asleep. Jacob in bed, Benny on an air mattress on the floor the list spread across his chest.
- SHOPKEEPERS BELL RINGS
- 77 INT. NEVERMORE BOOKS - DAY 77
- The shop door closes behind Jacob and Benny. They stand on a doormat made out of what looks like crow feathers. They scan the store.
- SUPER: "Magical bookstore - Nevermore books: like stepping into your favorite fairytale"
- Made out of dark wood. There are nooks and crannies everywhere. Skulls on bookshelves.

Fairies hang from the ceiling. A dragon head is mounted on the wall. Old military weapons, steampunk goggles, capes, creatures, suits of armor are all scattered around decorating the place.

A CLERK 50s, wearing Ben Franklin type glasses and a v-neck sweater looks up from behind the book he is reading to look at the boys. He speaks in a voice that sounds much older than he looks.

CLERK

If you need anything, Catherine is around here somewhere.

BENNY

Ok.

They look at each other with raised eyebrows and continue in. They walk through pulling a book off here and there to flip through.

They come to a graphic novel section, and each pulls one off to flip through. Benny's eyes widen. He whistles and shows Jacob his. It is filled with scantily clad women playing cards holding men on dog chains. Jacob shows Benny the drawings in his book of a man's head smashed open in graphic detail.

BENNY (CONT'D)

(whispers)

Where's the superheroes?

JACOB

I feel like we're in an alternate universe.

Jacob and Benny put the books back on the shelf and move on. They come to a nook that has hats, wigs, and props from every century. Benny puts on a tall black British guard hat. He stands at attention. Jacob pulls a wizard hat out and puts it on. Pretends to flick a wand at Benny. Benny quickly takes off the hat and puts on a creature mask.

BENNY

(dramatically)

What did you do to me!?

JACOB

(in a wizard voice)

That is for talking to the princess.

BENNY

(normal)

Hey, there's a beard there too.

Jacob puts the beard on. They both laugh. Benny looks around for something else. He finds a top hat and a cane. Jacob pulls out his phone and takes a selfie. Benny starts humming to himself and dancing like Fred Astaire. CATHERINE a pretty 17-year-old with dirty blonde hair and a free people hippie vibe approaches slowly and observes. Jacob works on texting his mom the picture of himself.

CATHERINE

Nice moves.

Jacob looks next to him to see Catherine in awe. Benny stops.

BENNY

Thanks.

Catherine looks Jacob up and down and laughs. Jacob pulls at the beard embarrassed. Catherine glances at a shelf, grabs a flapper hat and puts it on. She reaches out her hand to Benny who takes it. Jacob removes his hat and beard and watches as Catherine and Benny begin to dance. They do a little swing jive, Catherine gracefully moves around Benny as he snaps his fingers. He grabs her hand spins her in for a final dip. Catherine and Benny laugh. Jacob has a wince of jealousy but claps at the performance. Benny stands Catherine up.

BENNY (CONT'D)

Hi.

CATHERINE

(laughs)

Hi.

BENNY

Um. I'm Benny.

CATHERINE

Nice moves Benny. I'm Catherine.

BENNY

You too. You have nice moves too.

She turns to Jacob. Jacob stares.

BENNY (CONT'D)

That's Jacob.

CATHERINE

Hi Jacob.

JACOB

Hi.

CATHERINE

Can I help you guys find anything?

BENNY

Um. Not really. Well, we're just kinda here for the experience. But this place is so cool.

JACOB

You work here?

CATHERINE

Yeah. Well my parents own it so I'm more like an indentured servant.

JACOB

(loud)

Ha!

Jacob realizes how loud and awkward his laugh was.

JACOB (CONT'D)

Well. I love books. I mean I'm good at lit.

CATHERINE

Well this is a good place to find some books. Let me know if you need anything.

She looks to Benny.

CATHERINE (CONT'D)

Thanks for the dance.

BENNY

Thank you.

She starts to walk away then turns back.

CATHERINE

You came here for the experience?

BENNY

Uh yeah. See...

Jacob gives Benny eyes to stop but Benny continues anyways.

BENNY (CONT'D)

Jacob's boss gave him a list of cool places around the city and we are checking them out.

CATHERINE
That sounds cool.

BENNY
Want to join us?

Jacob's eyes could kill.

CATHERINE
Ride around the city with a couple
of strange guys doing random
things?

She looks at each of them. Benny smiles.

CATHERINE (CONT'D)
Sure.

JACOB
Don't you have to work?

CATHERINE
My parents really don't care. They
just let me do what I want. And I
want to see what's on that list.

78 INT. JACOB'S CAR - DAY

78

Jacob and Benny sit in the car staring at the entrance of
Nevermore books.

JACOB
I can't believe you invited her.

BENNY
She seems cool.

JACOB
We don't even know her.

BENNY
You get to know someones soul when
you dance with them. I think she's
a good person.

Catherine exits Nevermore Books putting on her jacket and
throwing her army green knapsack on her back.

JACOB
Here she comes. Hope you're right.

79

INT. JACOB'S CAR - MOMENTS LATER

79

Jacob's driving, Benny has the list spread out in front of him, Catherine sits back and looks out the window oddly comfortable in Jacob's car.

BENNY

Where do you want to go?

JACOB

Wasn't there an indoor sports park on there?

BENNY

Yeah.

CATHERINE

That doesn't sound fun to me.

JACOB

(disbelief)
Really?

Jacob shoots Benny a look. Benny gives an innocent face.

CATHERINE

Yeah. Anything artsy on there?

BENNY

I'll check.

CATHERINE

Your car smells like a french fry.

JACOB

(unapologetically)
Ugh yeah sorry.

CATHERINE

(sincerely)
Nah. I love french fries. Ha.

JACOB

Oh cool.

BENNY

Jacob works at Sully's on Ridge.

CATHERINE

Ah, that's cool.

Jacob relaxes.

BENNY
Twisted root conservatory.

JACOB
What?

BENNY
That is our next stop.

CATHERINE
This is exciting.

80 INT. JACOB'S CAR - LATER

80

They pull off to the side of the road in an industrial part of the city.

JACOB
This is where it should be. This looks like a pretty rough part of town. Sure we should check this place out?

CATHERINE
Seriously? Of course.

JACOB
K.

Jacob turns off the car and they get out.

81 EXT. CITY SIDEWALK - DAY

81

Jacob, Benny, and Catherine walk along the sidewalk looking for an entrance. Along all the dirty brick walls and metal doors is an inset doorway. They look in to see a door that is covered in an ornate carving of tangled knotted tree bark.

CATHERINE
That's beautiful.

JACOB
This must be it.

He reaches for the handle and it opens.

SUPER: "Beautiful gardens - Twisted Root Conservatory: like escaping to another world."

82 INT. TWISTED ROOT CONSERVATORY - ENTRANCE - CONTINUOUS 82

They enter a tunnel lined with warm white Christmas lights. Their intrigued faces are illuminated by the soft glow. The end of the tunnel opens up to a glass-roofed foyer.

83 INT. TWISTED ROOT CONSERVATORY - FOYER - CONTINUOUS 83

The foyer has a small brown counter the rest is filled with green and pops of color from flowers. MARIGOLD 60s, with gray hair, wearing an apron, and funky eyeglasses pops up from behind a plant she was working on.

MARIGOLD

Well hello!

The kids jump back.

CATHERINE

Hi!

MARIGOLD

Well my children are you hear to explore my garden?

BENNY

I think so.

MARIGOLD

Great! It is just two dollars a piece.

JACOB

Oh. OK.

Jacob reaches into his pocket and pulls out some cash. Benny starts reaching into his pocket, and Catherine opens her backpack. Jacob flips through a couple bills and hands them to Marigold.

JACOB (CONT'D)

Here's six.

MARIGOLD

Oh great! Great! Great!

CATHERINE

Well, what a gentleman.

Marigold takes the money and goes behind the counter to put it in her money box. A vase on the counter holds a mixture of cut flowers.

She looks it over and selectively takes three out. She takes her scissors out of her apron and snips the three stems in half.

JACOB

Um. Do we just go in?

MARIGOLD

What? No. These are for you!

Marigold comes back from around the corner. She walks in front of Catherine and takes a beautiful pink lily and puts it behind Catherine's ear sprinkling water across her face.

MARIGOLD (CONT'D)

We call that the flower blessing.

CATHERINE

(laughs)

Ah, thank you.

Catherine politely wipes her face. Marigold goes to Benny and puts an Allium a red-purple puffy ball flower into his corduroy jacket pocket. Then she goes to Jacob and looks him over. Marigold takes his jacket and slides the branch with three spectacular red leaves from a Palmate Maple through a buttonhole. She tidies him up.

MARIGOLD

Handsome.

Jacob looks at the leaves and blushes. Catherine smiles at his embarrassment.

MARIGOLD (CONT'D)

Well now you all look ready for your story tour.

JACOB

Oh, our story tour?

MARIGOLD

Well of course. Shall we?

She motions the group to enter the next room.

Marigold walks through waving her arms gracefully toward the surrounding plant-life as if she is sprinkling fairy dust as she talks. She waves her hands to a dense group of lilies like the one that Catherine wears.

MARIGOLD

The proud and clever Lily Princess
was the daughter of King Allium.

She waves her hand to a dense group of Allium flowers like
Benny wears.

MARIGOLD (CONT'D)

The Lily Princess longed to explore
the world around her. The forests
the seas and the sky. She dreamed
of dancing on all the lands she
read about with her Grandmother,
Allium's mother, the once great
Queen Cleome.

She waves to a garden of Cleome flowers purple with thin
strands that protrude out from under the flower that is crown-
like. Jacob gives a nervous chuckle in relief that his leaves
didn't represent the Queen.

MARIGOLD (CONT'D)

Her stories spread in the
Princesses mind as she grew older
and her hunger for adventure
sprouted. One day after a fiery
squabble with King Allium.

They walk under a Magnolia tree. Jacob, Benny, and Catherine
take in the beautiful pink canopy.

MARIGOLD (CONT'D)

She raced out of the castle to grab
the pedals of the Magnolia tree's
flowers as a stupendous wind
gusts...

Marigold makes a WOOSH sound, as she blows on the group they
close their eyes.

MARIGOLD (CONT'D)

...and takes her away from the home
where she had spent her whole life
up to that point.

They walk under the tree...

In the center of an exquisite courtyard the group is around a
Koi pond that Marigold has her fingertips swirling in the
water.

The fish seem to get excited and cause little splashes with their tails.

MARIGOLD (V.O.)

And the princess dances in the
ocean where all the sea life fall
in love with her.

Jacob looks at Catherine who has an ear to ear smile listening to the story. She looks at him bites her lip and smiles. He smiles back.

Faces of bewilderment as they walk through dangling Spanish Moss into a shady room of black dangerous looking plants.

MARIGOLD (V.O.)

In the dark forest of Quilrid, Lily
finds herself facing wickedness
that puts her cleverness to the
test.

86

INT. TWISTED ROOT CONSERVATORY - ROOM 3 - MOMENTS LATER 86

Deep into the room sunlight pierces through the glass roof to illuminate a spectacular Palmate Maple tree with the same red leaves that Jacob wears. The Palmate Maple stands next to a dark Black Locust tree covered in vicious thorns.

MARIGOLD

The reserved, once powerful Knight
of the forest, called Palmate,
observed as the Princess outwitted,
charmed, and beaten much of the
wickedness around. He saw her pride
swell which lead her into the
thorns of the evil locust tree.
When Lily finally felt all was lost
she let go of her pride and yelled
"help".

Marigold pauses.

MARIGOLD (CONT'D)

Knight Palmate ordinarily would
never interfere with what the
inhabitants of the forest carry
out. For he came to the forest long
ago to hide from a quest he feared
he would not survive. But he was
enchanted by Princess Lily.

Benny looks to Jacob and Catherine and raises his eyebrow.

MARIGOLD (CONT'D)

He felt that she held a beauty in the bravery she had shown. Compelling him to intervene. He wraps his branches through the locust tree's branches to pry them open, trying to release Lily from the thorns. As he does, the Locust thorns strip his magnificent leaves. Branch after branch wrap into the locust as blood red leaves rain on the forest floor.

The three kids are captivated.

MARIGOLD (CONT'D)

As he runs his last branch through the locust, it shreds the last of his life. The locust releases the Princess. Lily, beaten and bruised lands on a bed of Plamate's leaves. She looks up at the magnificent skeleton of Palmate. She is remorseful that her adventure had cost a life. A tear rolls down and drops on a root of Palmate. She says "Thank you". She leaves the forest to return to her father. But that tear that had soaked in to a root and fed through the veins of Palmate to one very tip. And a single bud began to form.

87

INT. TWISTED ROOT CONSERVATORY - ROOM 4 - LATER

87

Under a white Cherry blossom tree, Marigold holds court with her three attentive subjects.

MARIGOLD

And as King Allium marries Lily to Palmate, the souls Lily touched from her adventures come to witness the matrimony and to become the loyal subjects of the kingdom her and her new husband are to grow in splendor. The end.

Benny quickly wipes a tear from his eye and starts to clap. Catherine and Jacob quickly follow.

CATHERINE

That was amazing. Thank you so much.

MARIGOLD

Thank you so much for coming.

JACOB

Did you create that yourself?

MARIGOLD

Well I spend a lot of time here my imagination goes a little kooky.

She smiles.

JACOB

Brilliant.

Catherine gives Marigold a hug.

MARIGOLD

Oh that is sweet.

Benny gives her a hug.

MARIGOLD (CONT'D)

Thank you. Your Majesty.

Benny smiles. Jacob a little awkwardly steps toward Marigold, hesitates, then steps in to hug her.

MARIGOLD (CONT'D)

Palmate.

Marigold gives Jacob a sweet smile.

MARIGOLD (CONT'D)

Well I will leave you now to explore some on your own. Enjoy yourselves now.

CATHERINE

Yes. Yes we will. Thank you. Thank you.

88 INT. TWISTED ROOT CONSERVATORY - LATER

88

Montage of Jacob, Benny and Catherine - Playing - pretending - smelling flowers - Swirling their finger tips in the Koi pond.

89 EXT. TWISTED ROOT CONSERVATORY - LATER

89

The city street is cold and blue compared to the warm conservatory.

Jacob, Benny and Catherine walk toward the car in an elated state. Up ahead there is a WOMAN 50s, that looks like she's headed home from work. A hooded YOUNG MAN 20's rapidly passes by the teens brushing against Jacob's shoulder. As the three teens reach the car Jacob opens the passenger door for Catherine.

JACOB
Princess.

CATHERINE
Why thank you Palmate.

WOMAN (O.S.)
HEY!

The Jacob, Catherine, and Benny look at the Woman fighting the Young Man for her purse.

WOMAN (CONT'D)
Help!

Catherine looks to the boys who are frozen at the sight. Catherine starts rushing to the Woman's aid.

CATHERINE
Hey! Stop it!

The Woman is hugging the purse and is on the ground. The Young Man is lifting her up by it trying to rip the bag out of her hand. Catherine charges to them.

CATHERINE (CONT'D)
Let it go.

Catherine gets within arms reach.

YOUNG MAN
Fuck you!

As the Young Man begins to run away, he reaches out pushing Catherine. That snaps Jacob and Benny out of their frozen state and run to Catherine who is helping the Woman up.

CATHERINE
You OK?

WOMAN
No.

CATHERINE
Are you hurt?

The Woman begins to cry.

WOMAN

I don't know. No. I don't think so.

CATHERINE

Ok. You're ok. That asshole. You still have your purse.

WOMAN

I hate this place.

The woman wipes tears from her eyes and looks at the boys who are staring at her. She looks down defeated.

JACOB

Should we call the police?

WOMAN

There's no point.

She straightens her jacket and tries to brush off some of the dirt and snow from the ground. Catherine gives her a brush. The woman motions for her to stop.

WOMAN (CONT'D)

No. That's alright. I'm fine. Thank you for your help.

CATHERINE

Sure.

WOMAN

No really. Most people wouldn't have done what you did. Your parents should be proud. But if you were my daughter I would be mad as hell at you for putting yourself in danger for a stranger.

Another tear wells in the woman's eye. She wipes it quickly.

WOMAN (CONT'D)

Be careful out here. Ok?

CATHERINE

Ok.

The boys nod. The woman leaves pulling mace out of her purse.

JACOB

She OK? Should we call the police?

CATHERINE

No. And No.

90

INT. JACOB'S CAR - LATE AFTERNOON

90

Jacob drives as Benny and Catherine ride.

CATHERINE
So what's next?

JACOB
Well, I have to work tonight.

CATHERINE
Aw, come on.

JACOB
Workin' man.

CATHERINE
Skip.

JACOB
I can't.

CATHERINE
Pleeease.

JACOB
I wish I could. Should I drop you
back at the bookstore?

CATHERINE
I suppose.
(to Benny)
What are you gonna do?

BENNY
I don't know. I can't go home.

CATHERINE
Benny! Why don't we do something?

Benny looks at Jacob who is staring at the road.

BENNY
Sure.

CATHERINE
Great! Can we do something on the
list?

BENNY
Jacob, that OK?

JACOB
 (lying)
 Yeah, sure I don't care.

CATHERINE
 Great. That is sweet!

She leans in from the back seat and gives a hug around Jacob's shoulders as he drives.

CATHERINE (CONT'D)
 Let's get each other's numbers so I
 can send you some pics.

91 INT. SULLY BURGER - EVENING 91

Jacob stands at the counter staring out. Molly finishes with a customer.

MOLLY
 How was your day?

JACOB
 (stunned)
 Cool. It was great.

MOLLY
 Really the way you said that was
 really weird.

Jacob turns to Molly

JACOB
 I had a really cool day but I feel
 weird right now.

MOLLY
 You OK Jacob?

JACOB
 Fine.

92 INT. CATHERINES PARENT'S CAR - SAME 92

Catherine drives a black Toyota Camry. Music plays over the stereo.

BENNY
 Who is this?

CATHERINE
 Kevin Morby.

BENNY
Never heard of em.

CATHERINE
Mellow right?

BENNY
Yeah.

CATHERINE
So where do you want to go on the
list?

BENNY
I don't know.

Benny looks down at the list. Beat. Looks back at Catherine.

BENNY (CONT'D)
I feel bad doing something on here
without Jacob.

CATHERINE
He said it was fine.

BENNY
I know but-- It's kinda his list.
Feels kinda wrong.

CATHERINE
Fine. What about taking me to one
of the places you guys already went
to?

BENNY
Yeah. Ok cool.

93 INT. SULLY BURGER - LATER

93

Tanya is putting on her apron as she gets behind the counter.

MOLLY
Jacob you're good to take your
break.

JACOB
K.

Jacob grabs food off the window to the kitchen and walks to
the back.

94 INT. SULLY BURGER - KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

94

Jacob walks to his coat where he gets his phone out. He brings it to a table in back where he sets down his food and looks at his phone.

BENNY TEXT MESSAGE (2)

SHANE TEXT MESSAGE (1)

MOM TEXT MESSAGE (1)

Jacob opens his phone.

BENNY: "We aren't doing a new one. Taking her to the catch the sunset and then to JB's diner. Won't do a new one without u buddy!" His message is followed up with a selfie of Benny and Catherine on the rooftop heads leaning in toward each other with the sunset behind them.

JACOB

Fuck Benny.

Jacob frowns. Opens his Mom's text.

MOM: "Miss you Jakie Poo! Hope you are having fun."

Jacob opens Shane's.

SHANE: "Party tonight my man. Stop by. Let's melt the snow!"
Jacob half smiles.

95 EXT. APARTMENT BUILDING - ROOFTOP - NIGHT

95

Just after the sunset Benny and Catherine stare at the city lights coming on.

CATHERINE

So do you have a girlfriend?

BENNY

No.

CATHERINE

Have you ever had a girlfriend?

BENNY

Sure.

Beat.

BENNY (CONT'D)

Well no not really.

Beat.

BENNY (CONT'D)
Do you have a boyfriend?

CATHERINE
No. I recently broke up with a
jerk.

BENNY
Ah.

CATHERINE
What about Jacob?

BENNY
He recently broke up with a bitch.

CATHERINE
Hey!

BENNY
Well, that's what it seems like. I
never met her.

CATHERINE
Well, that's unfair you shouldn't
call her that.

BENNY
I was just trying to match the jerk
comment. And really from what I
heard she really was. Plus she had
bad taste in music.

CATHERINE
Sure. Maybe but he could have been
just as much a jerk.

BENNY
I doubt it.

CATHERINE
How good of friends are you?

BENNY
I don't know. I don't really know
if he likes me all that much.

Catherine looks at Benny as he looks at the skyline.

BENNY (CONT'D)
We were friends a long time ago
before I moved.

(MORE)

BENNY (CONT'D)

I think it was one of those things where our Moms got along, so it kinda forced us together. I always thought he was pretty cool.

CATHERINE

Well, I think you both are pretty cool.

Catherine leans over and gives a kiss on his cheek flustering him. He turns red and tries not to smile, but smiles.

96 INT. SULLY BURGER - KITCHEN - NIGHT 96

Jacob puts on his jacket walking to the front pulling out his phone.

97 INT. SULLY BURGER - COUNTER - CONTINUOUS 97

Molly wipes down tables. Jacob looks at his phone.

BENNY TEXT MESSAGE (1)

Jacob opens his phone.

BENNY: "At JB's. What are you up to? Shift done? Come join us!"

MOLLY

What are you up to tonight?

Jacob's phone DINGS he looks.

BENNY: "Catherine says hi."

JACOB

Going to a party.

MOLLY

Oooh a high school party. Have fun. Don't do anything I wouldn't do.

JACOB

I don't even know what that means.

MOLLY

Yeah. Ha. Me neither.

98 EXT. SHANE'S HOUSE - NIGHT 98

New cars line the street Jacob pulls in and parks.

99 INT. JACOB'S CAR - CONTINUOUS 99

Jacob's phone DINGS twice. He looks.

BENNY TEXT MESSAGE (2)

He opens it. It's a picture of two milkshakes. Followed by-
BENNY: "Should we order you one?" Jacob pauses. He then
scrolls up his messages and sees the sunset picture of Benny
and Catherine. He turns off his car.

100 EXT. SHANE'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS 100

Jacob exits his car. As he walks toward Shane's house he
types "Heading to a party at Shane's house. Phone's about to
die..." Battery life on his phone reads over fifty percent.

101 INT. JB'S DINER - SAME 101

Across from Catherine in a booth, Benny looks up from his
phone.

BENNY

He's going to a party.

CATHERINE

Where?

BENNY

At Shane's.

CATHERINE

Where's Shane's?

BENNY

He didn't say.

CATHERINE

Ask him.

BENNY

He said his phones about to die. I
don't know that he's inviting us.

CATHERINE

Maybe he's thinking we are having
too much fun.

BENNY

Yeah.

Benny smiles.

CATHERINE
Or... He is a big jerk.

102 INT. SHANE'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - NIGHT

102

Jacob walks into the kitchen. He walks by a COUPLE OF TEENS they look him up and down but don't acknowledge him with a hi. Shane is huddled in a corner with Henry. Hands on Henry's shoulders looking like he is giving serious advice. Jacob walks over to the counter and grabs a Solo cup PLOPS a couple of ice cubes in. The noise causes Shane to look. Shane changes from serious to cheerful.

SHANE
Jacob! You made it!

Shane turns to Henry.

SHANE (CONT'D)
Henry! You know Jacob right?

Henry nods at Jacob.

SHANE (CONT'D)
Henry and I were just discussing
the woes of women. Shot?

Shane puts his arm around the bummed Henry's neck.

SHANE (CONT'D)
We need shots. Shots!

JACOB
OK.

SHANE
Pour us some Jamo señor.

Jacob livens up and steps to it. Grabs a bottle of Jameson and pours shots into three cups. He hands one to Shane and one to Henry. Shane puts his other arm around Jacob's neck.

SHANE (CONT'D)
(to Henry)
You know Jacob just got dumped by
Veronica. You got dumped by Kailey.
I got dumped by my Dad. Life can be
shitty.

He takes his arms off Jacob and Henry and raises his glass.

SHANE (CONT'D)
To the people who dump us. Fuck em!

HENRY

Fuck em!

JACOB

Fuck em!

They cheers and down the shots. Shane and Henry slam the cups down on the counter. Jacob sets his cup next to theirs. Shane exhales a sigh of "that was good". Jacob winces at the taste. Shane notices, grabs a beer from an ice bucket, and opens it.

SHANE

Chase it.

Hands the beer to Jacob. Jacob takes a big swig. Shane grabs the bottle and takes a chug then hands it to Henry who finishes the bottle.

HENRY

(to Jacob)

What the hell is up with Veronica she's such a snot man. You're a good dude. Let's do another shot.

SHANE

Yeaasss!!!

Henry grabs the bottle of Jameson and pours another round. Shane grabs another bottle of beer and cracks it open. Henry hands out the cups and raises his glass. He freezes as he tries to think of what to say.

HENRY

To all the ones who've been dumped... Fuck 'em!

Shane and Jacob look at each other and smile. Shane shrugs.

SHANE

Fuck 'em!

JACOB

Fuck 'em!

SHANE

Ok time for a bong hit.

103 INT. JB'S DINER - NIGHT

103

Catherine looks out of the diner window. Benny eats a fry.

CATHERINE

You know Shane's last name?

BENNY

If it's the Shane from baseball,
it's Wilmot.

CATHERINE

Come on. Let's go.

Catherine grabs the check off the table and heads to the register. Benny grabs his shake and slurps the last of it.

104

INT. SHANE'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

104

The house is filling up with people. Jacob is drunk sitting on the couch. On the couch opposite him is Henry barely conscious. Shane is seen through the kitchen entertaining other guests. The front door opens, and a group enters the living room including Ted and William.

TED

Now the party can start fuckers!

A couple of his group holler a few at the party join in. Ted looks around the room and takes in who's there. Spots Jacob.

TED (CONT'D)

Hey ass-face, what are you doing
here?

Jacob raises his heavy hand waving hi. Ted puffs his chest.

TED (CONT'D)

Your invite expired when Veronica
dumped you.

This stirs Henry awake.

HENRY

Fuck 'em.

TED

See.

William puts a hand on Ted's shoulder trying to calm him.

SHANE (O.S.)

Ted you cock knocker get in here
and do a shot with me!

William pushes Ted into the kitchen the rest of the group follows. Jacob closes his eyes then opens them. With blurry vision, he can see in the kitchen Ted laughing with friends tossing something red across the counter with one of his buddies. Jacob closes his eyes again. WACK!

Jacob's eyes open. He looks to his right as he sees an apple bounce off the couch onto the floor. LAUGHTER from the kitchen. Jacob is too wasted to react quickly.

SHANE (O.S.) (CONT'D)
What are you doing?

TED
Nothing. Just having a little fun.

Jacob slowly gets up.

HENRY
Where are you going?

JACOB
I think I gotta go.

HENRY
You sure?

Jacob looks at the apple on the floor .

JACOB
Yeah.

Henry holds out his hand. Jacob hits it as he walks by.

HENRY
Later.

JACOB
Yeah.

Jacob slowly shuffles past the kitchen doorway. He scratches his head with his middle finger toward Ted and smiles to himself.

105 INT. SHANE'S HOUSE - FOYER - MOMENTS LATER 105

Jacob grabs his coat from the stair railing and stumbles out the front door.

106 EXT. SHANE'S HOUSE - DRIVEWAY - MOMENTS LATER 106

Jacob leans against his driver-side door as he tries to get his keys out of his pocket.

TED (O.S.)
Hey Page.

Jacob looks up and sees Ted, William, and a couple of their buddies exiting the house.

TED (CONT'D)
You fucking flick me off you piece
of shit?

JACOB
(mumbles to himself)
Yeah. I did.

Ted reaches Jacob and shoves him into the car.

TED
You think you're better than me?

JACOB
Nah man.

WILLIAM
Ted. He's just wasted.

TED
I don't give a fuck.

Ted pulls his arm back to punch Jacob.

CATHERINE (O.S.)
Hey!

Catherine rushes in and pushes herself in-between Ted and Jacob. She shoves Ted, backing him up.

TED
Who the fuck are you?

CATHERINE
Who the fuck are you?

Benny catches up but stays on the outskirts of the crowd.

TED
Get out of the way.

CATHERINE
No.

Ted looks to his friends.

TED
Can you believe this bitch.

JACOB
Hey!

He tries to get off his car Catherine pushes him back.

BENNY
Not cool man.

The group looks at Benny. Ted laughs.

TED
Is that big-boned Benny?

WILLIAM
Hey Benny.

Benny waves.

TED
What the hell is going on here? A girl protecting you and from out of the blue big-boned Benny reappears to tell me "not fucking cool".

Ted steps to Benny.

SHANE (O.S.)
Ted! If you want to drink at my place ever again you'll get your angry ass back in here.

Ted looks at Shane who is in his t-shirt, warm-up pants, and flip-flops in the doorway.

TED
(to himself)
Fuck.
(to his friends)
Come on.

Ted waves them in. Then walks toward Jacob.

TED (CONT'D)
Next time I see your face--

Catherine shoves him. Ted pushes her back. Benny shoves Ted.

TED (CONT'D)
Fucker.

Ted starts to go for Benny. Shane grabs Ted by the shirt and starts dragging him away.

SHANE
You make me come out in the cold with my flops on?

Shane notices Catherine and pauses.

SHANE (CONT'D)
Hi.

CATHERINE
Hi.

Jacob rolls his eyes then doubles over and vomits. Shane looks to Benny and Catherine.

SHANE
(referring to Jacob)
You got him?

BENNY
Yeah.

SHANE
Cool. Thanks. Sorry 'bout this.

Shane continues to lead Ted back to he house.

SHANE (CONT'D)
(to Ted)
You know I like to keep a chill
vibe at my place man, and you keep
ruining it.

Catherine looks to Benny then bends down to Jacob and pats him on the back. Jacob wretches again.

CATHERINE
Get it all out.

107 INT. NEVERMORE BOOKS - LOFT - MORNING

107

In an upstairs area of the bookstore that looks over the lower level Jacob sleeps on a couch as Benny and Catherine sit on the ledge looking down.

BENNY
So she just left?

CATHERINE
She said she had to find herself.

BENNY
How long?

CATHERINE
Nine months. But things were better
when she came back.
(MORE)

CATHERINE (CONT'D)

My Dad was nicer and they opened up this place. I don't know, I like it here. It's kind of an escape for all of us.

BENNY

And so you all are cool now.

CATHERINE

Yeah. I mean everyone has spats now and then but really it's pretty chill for the most part.

Jacob GROANS from the couch.

CATHERINE (CONT'D)

He awakes.

JACOB

Ouch.

CATHERINE

Come on slacker get up. We have adventures to be had. And we need to pick up your car.

Jacob groans.

CATHERINE (CONT'D)

Can you drive his car?

BENNY

Probably.

108 INT. JACOB'S HOUSE - HALLWAY - DAY 108

Jacob moves like Frankenstein through the house. He goes to a closet and pulls out blankets and sleeping bags. He leaves them on the hallway floor.

109 INT. JACOB'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - SAME 109

Benny lays on the couch tossing a baseball in the air and catching it. Catherine walks around the living room looking at family pictures.

BENNY

So you know you are pretty badass right?

CATHERINE

What do you mean?

BENNY

You run after a mugger and you step up to Ted Nickels. He's an asshole.

CATHERINE

(yells to Jacob)

Why does that guy Ted hate you so?

JACOB (O.S.)

I don't know. I think it's cause when we were eleven I was the starting pitcher on our travel team and he sucked.

CATHERINE

Well that's a dumb reason.

Catherine picks up a picture of young Jacob, Kristen, and his FATHER.

CATHERINE (CONT'D)

What happened to Jacob's Dad?

Benny catches the ball and holds it.

BENNY

(in a low tone)

He died when Jacob was twelve.

CATHERINE

(whispers)

How?

BENNY

Cancer.

They hear Jacob's FOOTSTEPS down the hall. He enters kicking the blankets he carries a duffle bag and throws it on the living room floor.

JACOB

Toss what you can in here.

Jacob walks away back down the hall.

110 INT. JACOB'S BEDROOM - MOMENTS LATER

110

Jacob puts some clothes in a backpack. He walks to his dresser and lifts a camping knife. He opens it and looks at it. Engraved is "Steve Page". He moves it to catch the light.

BENNY (O.S.)

Hey Jacob?

Jacob quickly closes the knife. Benny enters the room.

JACOB

What's up?

BENNY

You think you have any t-shirts or something I can wear? Have had this shirt on for a couple of days now.

JACOB

Yeah sure. I might even have some old boots. What size are you?

111 INT. JACOB'S CAR - DAY

111

Jacob is more with it now, driving through farmland while a light snow falls. Benny's looks at the list.

BENNY

So this one is a five parter and has maps.

JACOB

Cool.

CATHERINE

When will winter end?

BENNY

We really camping in the cold? This doesn't sound as fun as the other stuff.

CATHERINE

It'll be fine. You guys camped before?

BENNY

Not really. My dad took me to NASCAR once and we stayed in a tent outside his buddy's trailer.

CATHERINE

Yeah. Doesn't really count. Jacob?

JACOB

Yeah. A bit. Used to go with my Dad. He loved the outdoors.

CATHERINE

Do you like it?

JACOB

I don't know anymore. Haven't gone
since I was a kid.

Benny grabs a CD and reaches his hand from the back seat.

BENNY

Put in this Tame Impala CD.

Catherine grabs it and puts it in. They all are quiet until
it plays. Then they all start bobbing their heads to the
music. Catherine stares at the farmland passing by.

112 EXT. FOREST - PARKING LOT

112

Music continues. Jacob's car is parked in a parking lot at
the edge of a forest. Jacob, Benny and Catherine are all
outside the car around the open tailgate. Jacob finishes
attaching a sleeping bag to Catherine's backpack with bungee
cords. Benny wears the full duffle as it's as a backpack.
Jacob closes the tailgate all three walk into the woods.

SUPER: "Series 1 of 5 Enchanted forest - Chimney Woods:
Doorway into another world."

113 EXT. FOREST - DAY

113

The sun shines through the tall symmetrical rows of pine
trees. Jacob and Catherine walk uphill ahead of Benny all
looking around in wonderment as a small amount of snow
trickles through the pines. Jacob stops and picks up a big
stick and breaks off a few branches and hands it to
Catherine. He does the same for Benny.

JACOB

Hiking sticks.

Catherine smiles.

BENNY

Thanks.

114 EXT. FOREST - LATER

114

Ahead of them up a last incline then the forest opens. They
are all breathing a little heavy. Jacob first approaches a
boulder at the opening and looks out. His eyes open wide.
Catherine a few steps behind joins him.

CATHERINE

Oh my.

Jacob and Catherine look at each other and smile then look back out. Benny is many steps behind.

BENNY

Does anyone want to switch? This bag is heavy and chaffing me.

Benny looks at the couple ahead.

BENNY (CONT'D)

Why'd you stop?

Benny joins them the light hits his face as he steps out of the forest.

BENNY (CONT'D)

Shit.

They all look out over a cliff that reveals a lake and gigantic red spire shaped rocks towering over them that cut the sky.

SUPER: "Series 2 of 5 Mars on Earth - Chimney Bluffs: Welcome to another planet."

115

EXT. CHIMNEY BLUFFS - LATE AFTERNOON

115

Jacob leads Catherine, and Benny along a cliff that goes downward to the rocky beach of the lake.

JACOB

So what's it like to be Home schooled?

CATHERINE

I don't know, it's a cool way to learn, but it gets lonely you know? I mean I am essentially done with school at this point. I just learn what I want to learn now.

JACOB

Do you get a diploma?

CATHERINE

Yeah, my parents make one.

JACOB

Your parents make one? Isn't that a little biased? Do they grade you too?

CATHERINE

Yeah.

JACOB

Let me guess all A's?

CATHERINE

Actually no. My Mom is a tough grader. I've gotten a bunch of B's and one C.

JACOB

What did you get a C in?

CATHERINE

Piano. I hated practicing. That's a problem with having your parents be your teachers they really know when you don't study or practice.

BENNY

How'd you meet friends?

CATHERINE

Some sports and music groups. Kids of friends of my parents and such. But I really don't have that many. Most normal people are boring. But you two are ok.

JACOB

Gee, thanks.

BENNY

You consider me normal?

CATHERINE

I wouldn't be hanging out with you if I thought you were.

116 EXT. BEACHES OF THE BLUFFS - LATE AFTERNOON

116

Jacob, Benny, and Catherine sit on a boulder in the middle of the rocky beach watching the sunset.

SUPER: "Series 3 of 5 Sunset spot #2 - Chimney Beach: Find the big boulder and plant your ass there to let nature put on a show fer ya."

Pink, purple and pastel blue surround a fiery orange. All reflect off of the rippling water. Catherine looks over at Jacob's glowing face he looks at her she smiles and so does he. She looks back at the sunset. He does the same.

Jacob slides his hand on top of hers. Catherine turns her palm up to meet his and squeezes his hand.

117 INT. BEACH CAVE - NIGHT

117

SUPER: "Series 4 of 5 Cave camping - Chimney Beach: In the beach cave east of the boulder set up camp."

The group has spread out their blankets and sleeping bags. A little fire is supplemented with a camping lantern. Catherine lights a joint and passes it to Jacob. Benny unpacks a couple of boxes of cereal and bottles of water. He grabs a handful of cereal and passes the box to Catherine.

CATHERINE

What was your favorite childhood item?

BENNY

Huh?

CATHERINE

Like a blanket, stuffed animal..
Jacob go.

Jacob takes a hit and passes it to Benny.

JACOB

Ha. I don't know.

CATHERINE

C'mon sure you do.

JACOB

Ok well, I had this stuffed monkey.
Named Clint.

BENNY

Clint the monkey.

The joint continues to get passed.

JACOB

Clint the Chimp.

CATHERINE

Nice.

Catherine turns to Benny but Jacob continues.

JACOB

Clint wore a cape and was all about adventures.

(MORE)

JACOB (CONT'D)

He would make me go outside and we'd explore all the corners of my backyard. I guess I forgot about that. I guess Sully is my new Clint.

BENNY

Ha yeah. You should get Sully a cape.

JACOB

Yeah. Maybe.
(to Benny)
What about you?

BENNY

My bike. It was my way out. Even my tricycle I'd take that to the end of my driveway, and it'd feel like another world. Once I could go off on my two-wheeler, I felt like I had a little control over my life. At least for a little while.

The boys look to Catherine.

CATHERINE

I guess for me it was books. It was my escape. It's where I had friends. Where I felt like I belonged.

BENNY

Kinda weird how we all have escape items huh?

CATHERINE

Kinda like we were meant to be on this adventure together.

Catherine digs in her bag and pulls out a small bluetooth speaker.

CATHERINE (CONT'D)

Put on some music Benny.

She hands the speaker to Benny. Benny pulls out his phone and starts working on it. Catherine looks at Jacob and they share a moment looking in each other's eyes. Benny gets the speaker connected and a song starts and he looks up and catches the look between Catherine and Jacob.

BENNY

What? What's that, about me?

CATHERINE

No. Just a weird high staring contest. You gonna dance for us?

BENNY

What? You don't want to see that.

CATHERINE

Sure we do.

Catherine looks at Jacob.

JACOB

Yeah. Show us your moves.

BENNY

K.

Benny stands up looks to his phone and starts a song. The songs is a modern song with a 40's swing. Benny starts his routine. It looks like a cross between Fred Astaire and Charlie Chaplin. Catherine is enthralled Jacob looks embarrassed for him. He looks to Catherine and notices her admiration and scowls. Benny does a spin, throws his hands out, and raises them above his head.

CATHERINE

So good!

Catherine jumps up and gives him a hug.

BENNY

Really? Thanks.

Benny beams a smile.

JACOB

Really good. Must be hard being so good you must get teased a lot.

Benny's smile fades.

BENNY

Yeah. Thanks. That happens.

Benny sits down.

CATHERINE

Aw c'mon Benny.

Catherine grabs his hands to try and get him up. He doesn't budge. She gives Jacob a dirty look. Lets go of Benny's hands. Catherine walks to Benny's phone searches for a song and quickly puts one on.

She starts to dance waving her hands. Jacob and Benny avoid looking at first but can't resist. She moves her arms hypnotizing the boys but still bopping around. She goes to Benny, takes his hand, and stands him up. She begins to dance with him. Jacob looks out of the cave. Catherine and Benny start dancing on their own to the song. Catherine goes to Jacob reaches for his hand to pull him up. Jacob shakes his head no.

JACOB

Sorry. I don't dance.

CATHERINE

You have to.

JACOB

No. I don't think so.

CATHERINE

You'll love it.

JACOB

Nope.

CATHERINE

You were a jack ass.

She turns to Benny.

CATHERINE (CONT'D)

Benny help me.

Benny hesitates, then comes. They each grab an arm and yank Jacob up. They each start moving his arms to the beat. He pulls them away smiling.

JACOB

Ok! Ok.

Jacob starts moving to the beat on his own. At first comically then he starts getting into the groove. Their shadows dance on the cave walls with them.

118 EXT. BEACHES OF THE BLUFFS - NIGHT 118

The waves CRASH and the music from the cave can be heard.

119 INT. BEACH CAVE - MORNING 119

Sunlight streams into the cold cave. The three are closely lined up in their sleeping bags. Jacob opens his eyes to see Catherine's sleeping face. He stares.

Benny rolls over behind Catherine. She opens her eyes and sees Jacob staring. He closes them quickly then opens them again knowing he's busted. He smiles. She laughs and sits up.

CATHERINE

Creepy.

BENNY

(groggy)

What?

CATHERINE

Get up. Time for part five.

120 EXT. FOREST - DAY

120

Jacob takes a look at the map and leads the way to a clearing. All are using their hiking sticks they exit the forest to a valley with a river being held by a large dam.

BENNY

Nice.

JACOB

This is it. Ok, now we go down.

121 EXT. VALLEY DAM - DAY

121

The group works their way down the steep terrain.

122 EXT. VALLEY DAM - LATER

122

On a landing they approach a cave opening. They hear a VOICE in the distance. They look up to the opposite side of the valley. A MIDDLE-AGED MAN waves his arms.

MIDDLE-AGED MAN

Hey! Hey!

He continues to yell something else, but it is inaudible to the teens. He looks panicked and crazy. They wave back.

BENNY

What's he saying.

CATHERINE

I don't know.

They keep waving.

JACOB
 Maybe he's crazy.

They turn and enter the cave.

123 INT. ICE CAVE - CONTINUOUS 123

Jacob leads Catherine and Benny in the dark entrance way that opens to a surprisingly lit cavern. In the center is a giant ice pyramid that has formed from a large hole in the ceiling of the cave where water has dripped through three stories up.

SUPER: "Series 5 of 5 Ice Cave - Genne Valley: A natural ice pyramid. NOTE: only available in the winter."

JACOB
 Woah.

They walk to the pyramid and run their hands against the sculpture.

CATHERINE
 Amazing.

There are ice chunks and stalagmites around the base of the pyramid. Benny uses them to carefully climb as high as he can. On he slides down the side of the pyramid.

JACOB
 Haha awesome!

CATHERINE
 I'm gonna try that.

Benny puts on some music that echoes throughout the cave.

124 EXT. VALLEY DAM - SAME 124

Gates on the dam open to release water into the valley it rushes down raising the water level quickly.

125 INT. ICE CAVE - SAME 125

Catherine slides down the pyramid as Jacob starts to climb.

126 EXT. VALLEY DAM - SAME 126

The water level approaches the mouth of the cave.

127 INT. ICE CAVE - SAME

127

Jacob slides down the side of the pyramid that faces the cave entrance as he lands he sees the first gush of water enter the cave.

JACOB
(to Benny)
Shut off the music!

Benny is already climbing.

BENNY
Why?

JACOB
Just shut it off Benny!

BENNY
Alright.

Benny steadies himself as he pauses the music. They all hear the sound of RUSHING WATER. Then a continual flow starts entering the cave. Jacob runs and gets his backpack and the duffle.

JACOB
Climb!

Catherine steps up on an ice chunk.

BENNY
Shit. Shit.

Benny starts to panic and slips he falls to the base where there is now an inch of water he starts climbing again. Jacob helps to steady him then follows him up. They catch up to where Catherine is.

CATHERINE
(verge of tears)
I can't go any further.

They are about 10 feet up and, the water is about 3 feet below them. Jacob opens the duffel and as he pulls out a blanket the pages of the list fly out and float down. The three watch as they soak in the water. Jacob snaps out of it.

JACOB
Spread out the blanket and maybe we
can use it as some traction.

Catherine grabs the blanket and spreads it out and over. She hesitates from going. The ice begins to CRACK and POP.

BENNY

I'll go first.

CATHERINE

Ok.

Benny nods to Jacob. Jacob gives him a reassuring nod. Benny steps on the blanket where it seems like he has the most traction. Jacob gets out another blanket and looks above his head. He then drops an end into the water below and whips it above him it WACKS against the ice and stays in place. Benny continues to that one.

BENNY

There is a bit of a ledge up here.

Jacob reaches into his backpack and takes out his knife and puts it in his pocket. He looks down the water is a foot away from where he and Catherine are. He nods to her to go. She begins her climb. She works her way around and up. Jacob leaves the duffle behind and follows her. His hands out to steady her and himself. Benny now about 25 feet up is on a small ledge in the pyramid structure, close to the ceiling. He gets on his knees and reaches out for Catherine's hand, as she gets closer she grabs it. Benny guides her up to the ledge. Once she is up, Catherine and Benny help Jacob up. Jacob grabs the blanket from below and lays it down for better traction. He takes out father's knife and starts to chip away at the ice in the ceiling to make a hole. Little chunks of ice break away. The water has filled to two-feet from where they stand. Jacob chops with all his might. He pulls away, then SMACK, from above the ice cracks and chunks fall into the water. Again SMACK. They see an ax end show through the ice and again. A FIREMAN'S face appears through the hole created.

JACOB, CATHERINE, BENNY

Help!

FIREFIGHTER 1

Ok. Hold on.

He backs away from the hole then multiple axes start chopping. CHOP, CHOP, CHOP, CHOP. The hole is person size. The water is less than a foot away from their feet. The firefighters drop a harness attached to a rope down.

FIREFIGHTER 1 (CONT'D)

Ready?

CATHERINE

Yes!

The teens quickly put the harness on Catherine. She slowly gets heaved out of the cave. The harness gets dropped back in. Water splashes onto their landing.

JACOB
You're next.

BENNY
No.

JACOB
No time to argue.

Jacob grabs the harness and holds it for Benny to step in. Benny shakes his head no but steps in. Jacob buckles him in.

JACOB (CONT'D)
Ok!

The rope tightens, and Benny raises out. Jacob is now standing in an inch of water. A few moments later the harness drops back down. As Jacob reaches for it he slips on the ice and falls into the water. The firefighters watch as he goes under. Jacob's eyes bulge under the water he releases his father's knife from his hand and swims to the surface. Seeing this a firefighter drops in the harness.

FIREFIGHTER 2
Grab it!

Jacob swims to it and grabs on. They pull him up.

128 EXT. VALLEY DAM - ABOVE CAVE - SAME 128

Jacob gets pulled out of the hole to see Catherine and Benny worried wrapped in blankets standing with firemen. The Middle-aged Man who was waving his arms at them is explaining something inaudible to a police officer.

129 EXT. VALLEY DAM - PARKING LOT - AFTERNOON 129

Firetrucks, ambulances, and police cars are in the parking lot Jacob sits on the back of an ambulance wrapped in a blanket with an EMT checking him out.

An old black Lincoln car pulls up. Catherine who is talking to a POLICE OFFICER stops and looks as her PARENTS exit the car. Her MOM runs to her. Her DAD walks over and joins the hug. He says something inaudible to the officer and guides his family to the Lincoln. They drive off. Benny walks over to Jacob still with the blanket on him.

BENNY
You doing ok?
(to the EMT)
He doing ok?

EMT
He's looking good. You kids were
lucky.

BENNY
Yeah. Hell yeah.

The EMT raises an eyebrow at Benny. Benny gives a nervous laugh. A blue sedan pulls up. Kristen in scrubs jumps out of her car looks around spots Jacob and rushes over to him.

KRISTEN
Baby!

JACOB
Ma. I'm fine.

EMT
He's lucky. No real signs of
hypothermia or trauma, vitals are
fine but, he should get checked
out.

KRISTEN
I'll take him to the ED. C'mon
let's get going. Do I need to sign
him out or something?

EMT
Kid is this your mom?

JACOB
Yeah.

EMT
You can go.

Kristen looks at Benny.

KRISTEN
I'll take him too.

EMT
His Dad has already been called.

Benny gives a nervous smile and stands on his tiptoes as he pulls on his blanket as if it was suspenders.

KRISTEN
Really, it's ok I'll take him.

An old Ford truck comes into the view. The group looks.

BENNY
Welp. Time to face the music.

Roger gets out and stands next to open driver's side door.

ROGER
Benny!

BENNY
(to Jacob)
See ya.

JACOB
Yeah. See ya Benny.

Jacob and Kristen watch as Benny walks with his head down toward the truck. Roger gets more irritated as Benny gets closer and walks to the other side of the truck.

ROGER
I had to leave fucking work.

Benny reaches arms distance from Roger.

BENNY
Sorry Dad.

ROGER
Don't call me Dad, you shit.

A couple of COPS take notice of Roger. Roger grabs Benny by the arm tight and pushes him to the passenger door. Opens it and shoves him in.

COP
Hey.

Roger turns to the Cop with rage in his eyes.

ROGER
What!?

COP
Cool it man.

Roger tones it down a bit but answers with sarcasm.

ROGER
Of course officer.

Roger gets in his truck. Benny has his head down as they drive off. Kristen has her arm around Jacob as they are standing watching them drive away.

KRISTEN

What an asshole.

- 130 MONTAGE 130
- 131 INT. CATHERINES PARENT'S CAR - AFTERNOON 131
- Catherine in the back seat looks out the window tear in her eye. Her mother looks lovingly at her. Her father inaudibly lovingly lectures her.
- 132 INT. ROGER'S CAR - AFTERNOON 132
- Roger is screaming at Benny. Benny's fights off tears. He stares straight out the window.
- 133 INT. KRISTIN'S CAR - AFTERNOON 133
- Jacob stares out the front window while Kristen drives in silence. Her hand pets his hair. She looks over at him.
- 134 INT. NEVERMORE BOOKS - EVENING 134
- Catherine stares out as her parents set down some hot cocoa.
- 135 INT. ROGER'S HOUSE - EVENING 135
- CU Benny's face with tears of pain. He winces. Roger's arm wipes frame landing. Benny doubles over out of frame.
- 136 INT. EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT - EVENING 136
- Jacob stares out as a doctor listens to his lungs. Lots of activity pass by the room, he doesn't seem to notice. Kristen talks to another nurse that must be a friend of hers.
- 137 INT. CATHERINES PARENT'S HOUSE - NIGHT 137
- Catherine sleeps eyes closed and peaceful.

138 INT. ROGER'S HOUSE - BENNY'S BEDROOM - NIGHT 138

Benny's eyes are closed, but he winces in pain.

139 INT. JACOB'S BEDROOM - NIGHT 139

Jacob lays awake staring out.

140 INT. JACOB'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - MORNING 140

Jacob walks to the kitchen table pulls his phone out of a big bowl of rice. He pushes the power button but nothing happens.

141 INT. NEVERMORE BOOKS - DAY 141

Jacob walks up to Catherine's father at the counter. He looks at Jacob with a grimace and points over to Catherine stocking some books onto a shelf. Jacob looks over to Catherine who doesn't notice him. She looks more beautiful than ever.

142 EXT. PIRATE PLAYGROUND - DAY 142

Jacob and Catherine sit next to each other rocking slowly on swings next to a giant wooden playground in the shape of a pirate ship. The wind lightly RINGS a bell in the playground.

CATHERINE

How's Benny?

JACOB

I don't know.

The sit in silence for a bit.

JACOB (CONT'D)

His Dad hits him.

CATHERINE

What?

JACOB

He's not a good man. That's why I was doing the list with him. I was trying to keep him away from his Dad. Now he's probably beaten up.

CATHERINE

No.

Jacob looks at his shoes.

JACOB
Catherine we all could have died.

CATHERINE
We didn't.

She stops her slight swing and looks at Jacob.

CATHERINE (CONT'D)
You saved us you know?

JACOB
I got us into this.

She stands up and faces Jacob. He looks up at her.

CATHERINE
You're my hero.

She leans down and kisses him on the lips and holds as Jacob melts. She stands up.

CATHERINE (CONT'D)
Now let's go save Benny.

Jacob stands up flustered.

JACOB
Or we could stay her and kiss a little more.

CATHERINE
Jacob.

She starts walking.

JACOB
Just kidding.

After a few steps of he catches up to walk alongside her and reaches for her hand. Their fingers intertwine as they leave the pirate ship behind.

143 EXT. ROGER'S HOUSE - DAY

143

Jacob's hatchback slowly pulls up to the curb.

JACOB
I don't see his Dad's truck.

Jacob takes a breath and turns off the car. Catherine unbuckles.

JACOB (CONT'D)

Would you mind waiting here? I'll go get him.

CATHERINE

I mind.

JACOB

Please. If you see his Dad pull up honk. Old black truck.

CATHERINE

Ugh. I suppose.

144 EXT. ROGER'S HOUSE - MOMENTS LATER

144

Jacob lightly knocks on the door. He looks back to Catherine in the car. She gives him a thumbs up. Jacob knocks again louder. DOOR UNLOCKS. Benny opens it. His right eye and cheek are swollen. He leans to one side holding his ribs.

JACOB

Hey Benny.

BENNY

Hey.

JACOB

You ok?

BENNY

Do I look ok?

JACOB

No man. Sorry. Let's get you out of here.

BENNY

No.

JACOB

What? Really we need to get you away from this place and never come back.

BENNY

He'll find me. It's not worth it. I just have to wait out two more days and he'll drop me off at my Mom's.

CAR DOOR CLOSES. Jacob and Benny look and see Catherine walking up.

CATHERINE

Benny get your stuff. You are coming with us.

BENNY

You told her?

JACOB

Told her what? She just has to look at you to see.

CATHERINE

Please Benny. C'mon.

She smiles at him.

BENNY

Ugh. Fine.

Benny turns into his house. Jacob gives Catherine a nervous look she smiles.

145 INT. SULLY BURGER - DAY

145

Jacob, Catherine, and Benny sit at a table. Benny eats a veggie burger and onion rings. Jacob and Catherine share fries.

BENNY

Could have been a lot worse. He got called into work mid-beating.

Benny shoves a onion-ring in his mouth.

CATHERINE

I guess that's looking on the bright side.

BENNY

(mouthful)

I'm a pretty positive person.

Bell on the door RINGS. Henry walks in with FERNANDO and spots Jacob.

HENRY

Hey Jacob!

JACOB

Hey Henry.

Henry smacks a handshake.

HENRY

This is Fernando. This is Jacob.

JACOB

Hey man. This is Catherine and Benny.

They all awkwardly wave or nod. Henry and Fernando notice Benny's black eye but don't mention it.

HENRY

(to Jacob)

You get my texts?

JACOB

What? No. Well, my phones out of commission right now.

HENRY

Oh cool. Thought you curved me.

JACOB

No man. What's up?

HENRY

Having a party tonight. You all should come. End of break party man.

JACOB

Sure man maybe. We've kinda have had a rough week but sounds cool.

HENRY

It'd be cool to have you there. Nice to meet you guys. We got to grab some food and go finish prepping. Ya know? Hide some of the breakables. Hope you can make it.

He winks. Then He and Fernando walk away. Jacob looks at Catherine and Benny. Benny shrugs.

BENNY

Maybe.

Looks to Catherine.

CATHERINE

Maybe.

JACOB

Yeah.

146 INT. HENRY'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

146

Party is happening. In their own group on couches. Jacob sits next to Catherine and Benny sits next to Shane red solo cups in hands. Shane and Benny are deep in conversation.

SHANE

My dad was a dick too. Sometimes you have to just stand up for yourself.

BENNY

Yeah.

SHANE

Maybe punch him in the throat or something.

Benny looks to Jacob and Catherine. He notices the romantic connection and purses his lips annoyed.

SHANE (CONT'D)

I don't know, when my Dad bailed I was pissed and somewhat relieved. But mine was a totally different situation. Just wish he was better you know?

BENNY

I think so.

Shane rocks back then puts his hands on his knees.

SHANE

(to the group)

Ok! I need a shot. Who's in?

He stands.

JACOB

Out.

CATHERINE

I'm good thanks.

BENNY

Gonna pass too.

SHANE

Well damn. Ok.

(shouts)

Henry! Where are ya?!

HENRY (O.S.)

Yo!

Shane gets up pats Benny on the shoulder.

SHANE

Hang in there man.

BENNY

Thanks man.

Shane walks out of the room Benny looks at Jacob and Catherine. Jacob and Catherine feeling caught straighten up and face Benny.

JACOB

So.

BENNY

Yeah?

Sunburnt Veronica walks in with a couple of GIRLS and Aaron. Aaron sports a black-eye, he leaves the group to head straight for the kitchen.

VERONICA

Jacob!

JACOB

Veronica.

Benny turns to look.

BENNY

Ooo Veronica?

JACOB

What happened to Aaron?

VERONICA

Punched by some Mexican bartender
after he ordered a beer.

JACOB

Shit.

VERONICA

(referring to Catherine)
Who's this?

JACOB

Uh yeah this is Catherine. And this
is Benny.

BENNY

Hey.

Veronica ignores.

VERONICA

Did you get my texts?

JACOB

No. No phone.

VERONICA

Oh. What happened? Never mind. Want to go somewhere and talk?

Jacob looks at Benny and Catherine and hesitates.

JACOB

Not right now. Kinda hanging out here.

Veronica huffs.

VERONICA

Really?

Catherine scoots closer to Jacob and puts her arm around him.

CATHERINE

Really.

Veronica turns even redder.

VERONICA

Well ok.

Veronica walks away. Catherine giggles and taps Jacob on the nose with her finger. She pulls Jacob even closer. Benny annoyed stands up.

BENNY

I'm grabbing a beer.

147

INT. HENRY'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - NIGHT

147

Benny goes to the keg and gives it a couple pumps and fills his cup. Veronica, Aaron, the girls, and a few others are in the kitchen chatting.

TED

Big-boned Benny!

Annoyed Benny turns around.

BENNY

Hey Ted.

Benny tries to walk by him but Ted stops him with his arm.

TED

Woah there tiger. And woah whats
that shiner from? You and Aaron get
in a little scuffle?

Ted nods over to Aaron who frowns and flicks him off.

TED (CONT'D)

Fuck you too Aaron.

Benny tries again to go by Ted. Again Ted stops him.

BENNY

Leave me alone.

TED

I don't wanna. Where's your boy
Jacob? He here?

BENNY

Yeah. So?

TED

I have some unfinished business
with him.

BENNY

Yeah well leave me out of it.

Benny pushes by Ted. A little beer spills out of Ted's cup.
Ted puts his drink down.

TED

Fuck. You slob!

Ted grabs Benny and puts him in a headlock. Benny struggles
to get out spilling his beer everywhere then drops the cup.

TED (CONT'D)

I feel like I'm in a rodeo. Squeal
little piggy!

Veronica laughs. Benny uses both hands and yanks his arm off
of him. Benny shoves his shoulder into Ted's stomach and
slams him to the ground then stands up looking down on him.

TED (CONT'D)

Fuck.

Ted stands up and shoves Benny. Jacob enters the kitchen.

JACOB
What the hell Ted!?

Ted stands tall.

TED
Ah, wondering where you were.
Where's your bodygal?

Catherine enters behind Jacob.

CATHERINE
Here asshole.

TED
You are a real bitch. You know
that?

Quickly Jacob punches Ted in the Jaw. The crowd "oohs". Ted holds his jaw in pain. Irritated but defeated he walks out of the kitchen. Catherine puts her arm around Jacob. Benny wipes a tear from his eye and walks out.

148 EXT. HENRY'S HOUSE - NIGHT

148

Benny exits the front door upset. Henry and Fernando are on the front steps having a smoke. Benny blows by them.

HENRY
Hey Benny you ok?

Benny walks faster. Fernando chases after him.

FERNANDO
Yo. Yo.

Fernando catches up to Benny.

FERNANDO (CONT'D)
You ok man? You need a ride?

Benny turns to Fernando.

149 INT. HENRY'S HOUSE - NIGHT

149

Henry walks up to Jacob and Catherine.

HENRY
What the hell happened to Benny?

JACOB
 Ted was being an asshole as usual.
 Where is he?

HENRY
 He was pretty upset. Fernando is
 driving him home.

JACOB
 Shit.

Jacob starts to bolt. He turns back to Catherine.

JACOB (CONT'D)
 I got to go after him. You good?

CATHERINE
 Go. I can get home.

Jacob runs back to her and gives her a kiss. Then takes off.

150 EXT. ROGER'S HOUSE - NIGHT 150

Roger's truck is in the driveway. Fernando's car parks at the curb. Benny stares at the truck. Fernando looks at Benny.

FERNANDO
 You ok man?

Benny opens the door not breaking eye contact with the truck.

BENNY
 Yeah man. Thanks for the ride.

Benny exits the car.

151 INT. JACOB'S CAR - NIGHT 151

Jacob driving quickly.

JACOB
 Shit. Shit. Shit.

152 INT. ROGER'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT 152

Roger leans against the wall that separates the kitchen from the living room eating noodles out of a bowl. Benny stands a few feet in from the door way.

ROGER
 Since when did you get balls?

Roger slurps up some noodles.

BENNY

When did you stop loving me?

ROGER

Wup. Their gone again.

BENNY

You're a fucking asshole you know that?

Rogers face goes from amused to angry.

ROGER

I'm a fucking asshole? You faggot.

Roger throws his bowl at Benny. It misses and smashes on the wall. Roger start storming toward Benny. Benny determined, charges and puts his shoulder into his Dad's stomach. He doesn't go down like Ted. Just pauses him. Stunned at Benny, he grabs him and throws him into the wall. Benny crumbles to the ground. Roger grabs him and lifts him up. Jacob comes in the front door, notices, and jumps on Roger's back pulling him backward away from Benny. Roger pulls him off and throws him across the room. Jacob lands on the floor hitting the tv stand. Roger turns back to Benny. SMACK! Benny punches Roger in the throat. Roger goes down on one knee making him about eye level with Benny. For the first time Roger sees rage in Benny's eyes and Benny fear in his Dad's eyes as he grasps his neck and gasps for air. Jacob rushes over to Benny.

JACOB

C'mon Benny.

Jacob pushes Benny out the door as he looks back at his father.

153 EXT. JACOB'S HOUSE - LATER

153

Police cars in the driveway. Roger comes storming up to the door and pounds.

ROGER

Kristen! Let me see my kid!

The door is opened by a POLICEMAN.

ROGER (CONT'D)

My kid is in there.

The Policeman give him a "you got to be kidding me" look. Roger looks past him and sees in the living room Benny, Jacob, and Kristen sitting on a couch where they were talking to a WOMAN in business clothes and another POLICE OFFICER, they now all look toward the front door.

ROGER (CONT'D)

Benny! Benny you get out here!

Kristen put her arm on Benny's shoulder. The Policeman steps out the front door.

POLICEMAN

I don't think so. I think you should calm down.

ROGER

I don't *think* you should tell me what to do.

POLICEMAN

Step away from the house and go home.

Roger starts to push past the policeman.

ROGER

Let me see my Son!

The policeman grabs Roger's arm. Trying to get out of the grip he elbows the policeman in the face. The Police officer from the living room runs to assist. She takes out a tazer and shoots Roger. He goes down on his knees. The policeman holding his nose quickly cuffs Roger.

154 INT. JACOB'S CAR - MORNING 154

Jacob driving Benny staring out the window, MUSIC plays on the stereo.

155 MONTAGE OF SHOTS: 155

LAND PASSING BY

BENNY STARING OUT WINDOW

THE ROAD AHEAD

JACOB LOOKING AT BENNY

THE HATCHBACK ON THE HIGHWAY

156 INT. JACOB'S CAR - LATER 156

Jacob pulls up to a row of town houses and slows down.

JACOB
This is it?

BENNY
Yeah this is it.

They get out of the car.

157 EXT. JACOB'S CAR - CONTINUOUS 157

Jacob and Benny walk to the back of the hatchback. Jacob opens it and pulls out Benny's bags and hands them to him. They stand there for a moment awkwardly not knowing what to do. Benny puts out his hand to shake.

BENNY
Thanks for everything Jacob really.

Jacob takes Benny's hand and pulls him into a hug. Jacob starting to tear up.

JACOB
Dance your fucking heart out. Okay man? You're a good guy. You're a good friend.

BENNY
Okay.

They squeeze then release. Benny starts to walk away.

BENNY (CONT'D)
Come see me on Broadway someday.
Okay?

JACOB
Okay.

BENNY'S MOM steps out the townhouse front door. Jacob watches as Benny walks up the steps. She grabs him by his shoulders looks at him then pulls him in for a hug. Jacob gets into his car. Starts it. He looks down and grabs one of the CD's he got with Benny, looks back then puts it on and drives off.

FADE OUT.