

All for Love

By

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INT. COLLEGE DORMROOM- MORNING- SPRING 2013

CUE MUSIC: *What is Life* by George Harrison

Elise (Early-20's, brown hair, British) is lying in bed as she cries over a break-up she had recently experienced. Belle (Mid-20's, Blond, American) walks into the room carrying a box of donuts with her.

BELLE

Twenty-four Chocolate Donuts. I had to call in a special order from Dunkin's so if this doesn't cheer you up about Alex dumping you, then I give up on trying.

Elise gets out of bed and starts devouring the donuts one by one.

BELLE

Woah, Elise take it easy on that, I don't want you to choke.

ELISE

Oh please Belle, you're certified in CPR, you know how to deal with things if I do end up choking!

BELLE

You know what I'm not certified in though? Nursing. That means if you become diabetic one of these days, I won't know how to help you.

ELISE

They have an invention called Insulin, look it up.

Belle takes the box of donuts away and tries to have a one-on-one conversation with Elise.

BELLE

I've got an idea, how about you go on a double date with Trevor and I. Trevor has a roommate who he believes will be the perfect match for you.

ELISE

No thank you, I'm not ready to get back in the dating game after four days.

(CONTINUED)

BELLE

Well, I'll make it easy on you then. You go on this double date with me or else I'm filing a complaint to have you removed from my dorm. You'll be stuck living with your parents again after that.

ELISE

Well, if you put it like that, then you aren't really giving me a choice are you? I'll come.

INT. DAVE AND BUSTERS- NIGHT

Elise and Belle meet up with Howard (early-20's, tall, glasses) and Trevor (early-20's, African-American, goatee) at a table. Elise and Trevor introduce their roommates to each other.

BELLE

Well, this is my friend Elise.

TREVOR

And this is my roommate...

ELISE

I know who Howard is, we've had a couple of classes together.

BELLE

Oh really, which classes?

ELISE

Do we really need to talk about school tonight? I mean, this date was meant to be an escape from that.

BELLE

Exactly...lets start with ordering drinks, shall we?

TREVOR

How about Belle and I order the drinks, while Howard, you go into the arcade and keep yourself busy.

HOWARD

Sure, order me a Sprite.

Howard heads over to the arcade. Meanwhile, Belle hands Elise a bag full of arcade tokens.

(CONTINUED)

BELLE

Now's the perfect opportunity for you two to get to know each other.

ELISE

Don't do this to me, not tonight.

BELLE

Listen, you're never going to find any success with guys unless you put yourself out there. So, unless you want the life of a crazy cat lady, fucking scram!

Elise joins Howard in the arcade where Howard is playing a round of Super Shot.

HOWARD

Thank god, I was just looking around for someone who could beat my high score.

ELISE

Well, take it easy on me, I haven't played basketball since Grade 10.

Howard shoots a basketball which bounces back and hits Elise square in the face. Howard is shocked and focuses all his attention on Elise.

HOWARD

I swear, that was an...

ELISE

Its fine, it was made of plastic anyway so it didn't do much damage.

Howard runs away to get help from Trevor. A half hour later, Elise and Howard are sitting across from each other.

ELISE

So what's it like living with Trevor?

HOWARD

Trevor and I are like brothers, so its great. How's your face?

ELISE

I'll be fine, honestly it doesn't even hurt one bit.

(CONTINUED)

HOWARD

That wasn't the impression I wanted to give you, I'm sorry;

ELISE

Don't worry about it, a lot of men have strong throwing arms. Its just too bad that Belle wasn't around to film that. I think you could have gained a career as a pitcher if she had.

HOWARD

I'll try and be more careful.

ELISE

Lets change the subject, how are your classes going?

HOWARD

Fine...just fine.

ELISE

Just fine? Well, if you put it like that, you must not really be into your classes. What are you taking this semester?

HOWARD

I'm taking...

Howard begins to stutter which is a condition he has.

HOWARD

I'm sorry I don't mean to...

ELISE

Its fine, I have a childhood friend who stutters, so I'm used to this.

HOWARD

So, where did you grow up?

ELISE

West London on Knightsbridge. We grew up living in a place with my aunt and uncle before my parents and I moved to America.

HOWARD

Was Austin your first choice?

(CONTINUED)

ELISE

No, we lived in Seattle when we first moved to America. My parents and I only moved to Austin after I made them a PowerPoint about how I wanted to be a writer.

HOWARD

What kind of writer?

ELISE

Any kind of writer is fine with me. I just want to be able to tell the stories I want to tell and share my creativity with the world.

HOWARD

I'll buy your first book when it gets published.

The waiters arrive and place four meals on the table.

HOWARD

You think we should tell them that the food is here?

ELISE

No, let's share all four of these plates. I'm sure they won't mind since you snooze you loose.

EXT. UNIVERSITY OF AUSTIN, FALL 2013- NIGHT

Elise parks her car in the dormitory parking lot; Howard is in the passenger seat. It is raining heavily outside, forcing Elise to stay in the vehicle.

ELISE

I don't really want to go out in the rain again, do you?

HOWARD

And ruin my jacket, no fucking way.

ELISE

Exactly. I've always been terrified of the rain growing up in London. There was so much rain there some days, that they issued flood warnings. That's why I've always been afraid to go out in the rain.

(CONTINUED)

HOWARD

Trevor is a complete idiot for going out bowling on a night like this.

ELISE

So is my roommate for going with him. Out of all the days they could have gone bowling, they picked tonight.

HOWARD

I'm glad we went to the movies instead. I suck at bowling.

ELISE

Yeah, that was a perfect movie. If you didn't notice, I got teary eyed near the end.

HOWARD

And Rachel McAdams was...

ELISE

Rach is my ultimate girl crush. My goal from now on is to follow her beauty tips.

HOWARD

You don't have to, you already look stunning.

Elise glares at Howard with a wide grin.

ELISE

So what did you want to do to kill time because it doesn't look like this rain is going away anytime soon.

HOWARD

I don't want to do anything that you don't want to do, that's for sure.

Elise is surprised and moved by how Howard is treating her.

ELISE

You know, most guys would reach in to kiss the person that they're on a date with right about now.

(CONTINUED)

HOWARD

I didn't know that was what you wanted, so I didn't make a move. I'd hate myself if I violated your...

Elise reaches in to kiss Howard passionately as the camera pans away from the parking lot.

EXT. ZILKER PARK- AFTERNOON- 2015

Dan Hoffman (Early-40's, tall, dashing) is in the middle of officiating Howard and Elise's wedding ceremony.

MR. HOFFMAN

And do you, Howard take Elise to be your lawfully wedded wife?

HOWARD

I do.

MR. HOFFMAN

Then by the great state of Texas, you may kiss the bride.

Howard and Elise kiss while the attendees erupt in applause.

ELISE

Does it matter to you that we're just getting married in our mid-twenties?

HOWARD

It doesn't matter, so long as I get to wake up and see you when I turn around every morning. That's all that matters.

Howard and Elise embrace each other once more before celebrating with their close friends and family.

INT. SINGLE FAMILY HOME- HOLLYWOOD- MORNING- 2019

Howard and Elise are getting ready to leave for work. Elise's mom, Emma (mid 50's, brown hair) is left in charge of looking after their baby boy Austin.

ELISE

Remember, the baby powder is in the cabinet beneath the bedroom sink. When Austin starts crying, it

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ELISE (cont'd)
usually means that he needs a
change of diaper, therefore baby
powder...

EMMA
I know the steps, don't forget that
I went through this process while
raising you.

ELISE
Just making sure you remember, mom.

EMMA
Trust me, parenting skills aren't
something you'd ever forget.

HOWARD
I'll be back at around six, think
you could handle him for that long?

EMMA
Your wife used to wake me up at 2
A.M. when she was a toddler. If I
can deal with that, I can deal with
him for nine hours.

Elise hugs and kisses her mom goodbye before her and Howard
walk out the door.

INT. FOUNTAIN THEATRE- NOON

Howard works as a theater director. He is examining the
performances of four male actors on stage as they rehearse
the musical number *Who Loves You* from *Jersey Boys*. Howard
pauses the performance to hand out pointers.

HOWARD
Jacob, your pitch has to be higher.
Its out of sync with the voices of
Michael, Jordan, and Blake.

Jacob raises his pitch but it still isn't loud enough.

HOWARD
What are you a toad? Higher! Come
on, this is the grand finale. Hit
it off with a bang.

JACOB
Could we take a break for lunch
now? I think I could really nail
this after a half hour break.

(CONTINUED)

Howard receives a phone call all of the sudden.

HOWARD

If you really feel that way, then
meet back on stage in half an hour.

Howard answers the call and the voice on the other end is
Danny DeVito.

DANNY DEVITO

Hello, is this Howard McPherson?

HOWARD

You bet.

DANNY DEVITO

Its Danny DeVito, did I catch you
at a bad time?

HOWARD

Not at all Mr. DeVito, I'm actually
on my break so this is perfect. How
may I help you?

DANNY DEVITO

I'm about to start production on my
new film and we're looking into
actors to audition. I saw you
in *Mary Goes Round*, and I wanted
to offer you the chance to star in
this.

HOWARD

What scene in particular captured
your interest, sir?

DANNY DEVITO

The argument in the garage
featuring you and Shailene Woodley.
What a great scene. I loved the
tension you brought to the scene
with your display of frustration
and subtle nuance.

HOWARD

You could thank my wife, sir. She
helped train me to perfect every
scene I was in.

DANNY DEVITO

You graduated drama school from the
University of Austin, right?

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HOWARD

That's correct, sir. Right now I'm working as a theater director, so I've been meaning to step back into the game.

DANNY DEVITO

That's great. I taught theater in Austin for a while in the 80's, so we could share stories about our experiences there if you get the job. We're holding auditions tomorrow at Dust Studios. Be there at 9 A.M. sharp.

HOWARD

Thank you for the opportunity, sir.

INT. DORRANCE PUBLISHING- LOS ANGELES- AFTERNOON

Elise is sitting in an office while a publisher reads her manuscript for her new book.

PUBLISHER

What age group is this supposed to appeal to again?

ELISE

Horror buffs. Its a Gothic horror featuring a blend of...

PUBLISHER

That's the problem right there. Those types of books don't really sell because there's no market for it. If you were to come in and tell me that you had an entirely original concept that was marketed towards kids and teenagers, then I'd listen.

ELISE

I'm sorry, I thought I'd try something different for a change.

PUBLISHER

I've read both your books. *The Journey Home* and *Greta's Wish* worked because they appealed to an audience. A story about a boy and a girl who first meet on an adventure during their final days of

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(CONTINUED)

PUBLISHER (cont'd)

adolescence appeals to pre-teens. A story about an orphan girl who gets adopted by a high working class American family during the depression era. Both stories worked because many teenagers can identify with the themes of adolescence, cultural ethnicity, and class.

ELISE

I didn't know that you were such a fan of my work.

PUBLISHER

Those two stories felt like they were written by THE Elise McPherson. This manuscript that you just handed me...its you trying too hard to be something that you aren't. Please find your true self again.

INT. MCPHERSON RESIDENCE- NIGHT

Elise is feeding Austin apple slices. Howard returns home after and sets his keys on the table. He kisses Elise on the cheek and makes funny faces to comfort Austin.

ELISE

How did the dress rehearsal go?

HOWARD

It went lovely. We're all set to open production on Saturday night.

ELISE

I can't wait to be in the audience.

HOWARD

That isn't even the best part, I'm going to direct *Les Miserables* next. Therefore, you haven't even seen the best of Howard McPherson yet.

ELISE

I don't doubt it.

HOWARD

Also, I should mention that I have an audition I need to get to at

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(CONTINUED)

HOWARD (cont'd)
Dust Studios tomorrow morning. Do you think you could watch Austin tomorrow morning?

ELISE
I could do that. What kind of audition is this?

HOWARD
I don't know anything about it other than its directed by Danny DeVito.

ELISE
Well, give me a few minutes and I'll help you with your stuttering exercises.

HOWARD
No thanks honey, I think I've got the hang of it now. I memorized all the pointers you gave me.

ELISE
I just don't want you to go in there unprepared, that's all. Don't they wait till after you arrive to show you the script for the first time?

HOWARD
Babe, you don't need to worry about me, your man is going to nail this.

INT. MCPHERSON RESIDENCE- MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT

Howard and Elise are forced awoken due to Austin's crying. Elise gets out of bed to help calm Austin, but Howard prevents her from going.

ELISE
Don't you have to get up early tomorrow?

HOWARD
You get to share the entire day with him tomorrow. Let me deal with this.

Howard gets out of bed while Elise goes back to rest.

INT. AUDITION ROOM- DUST STUDIOS- AFTERNOON

Howard shows up tired for the audition, which the producers in the room notice.

PRODUCER

Late night, Mr. McPherson?

HOWARD

Just the struggles of being a parent. And please, call me Howard.

PRODUCER

I'm hoping you had the chance to read over your monologue in the waiting area?

HOWARD

Forty-five minutes gave me enough time to nail this, I think.

PRODUCER

Alright, whenever you're ready.

Howard does some warm ups before performing the dramatic monologue.

HOWARD

I had a choice...my devotion to Leah has been my choice ever since I got married, but I also wanted to catch up with the childhood friend who's stuck by me till high school! And that lead to an unexpected turn of events because I shouldn't have asked for your number that night...

The pressure put on Howard causes him to stutter once more. The producers are unamused with Howard's performance, and cut his time short.

PRODUCER

You can go now, thank you.

INT. MCPHERSON RESIDENCE- NIGHT

Howard returns home and joins Elise and Austin in the living room as they watch TV.

ELISE

How did the audition go?

(CONTINUED)

HOWARD

They said they'd call back if they were interested.

ELISE

You didn't get the part, did you?

HOWARD

No, that's not what I said. Look, can we talk about this after dinner?

Elise puts Austin to sleep after dinner. Afterwards, she joins Howard in the kitchen where he is washing the dishes.

ELISE

Do you want to talk about what happened today? And don't give me any of that the audition went fine bullshit because I'm not letting this go until you open up to me.

HOWARD

Fuck this, OK, if you really want to know, I stuttered during...

ELISE

That's what I figured. Why didn't you just let me spend time helping you last night?

HOWARD

I thought I was capable enough with handling this on my own.

ELISE

When are you going to realize that no one ever makes it on their own? Asking for help doesn't make you a wimp, it makes you successful!

HOWARD

Let me ask, who helped you with the manuscript you just wrote? You did it all on your own and now you're begging for a publisher to pick it up, so you're not exactly doing things right either.

ELISE

You know that's not fair, stop dragging me into your situations when you have to man up and face them on your own.

(CONTINUED)

HOWARD

You're my wife, dragging you into my situations is something you should be used to!

Howard walks away from doing the dishes, leaving Elise with a look of absolute shock.

CUE MUSIC: *It's So Hard to Say Goodbye to Yesterday* by Boys II Men.

- Howard focuses his attention on directing *Les Miserables*.
- Elise starts developing writers block and is unable to even type anything on her laptop some days.
- Howard takes a job as an assistant director for a film. He spends a few days on set at Warner Bros. studios.
- Elise begins teaching an online course at home for the University of Austin.
- Howard and Elise start drifting apart from one another. They have another fight and remain emotionally distant from each other on some nights.

INT. CHINESE RESTURANT- DOWNTOWN LOS ANGELES- NOON- SIX MONTHS LATER

Elise and Belle are sitting down as they discuss Elise's marriage to Howard.

ELISE

I thought I could carry the burden of being a house wife when Howard and I got married five years ago, but now I'm realizing that I got married too young. I have zero experience in the field and I wished that I had known that about myself before I decided to settle down.

BELLE

What are you going to do now that you won't settle for a divorce?

ELISE

The ideal thing to do is to continue carrying the burden just for Austin. No kid has to go through a broken up family at age four.

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BELLE

You're also saving hundreds and thousands of dollars too because that's literally how much a divorce process costs nowadays. You don't want to burn through hard earned money like that.

ELISE

Exactly. The ideal thing to do is just to pay the price for my idiotic decisions.

Belle starts thinking and comes up with an ingenious idea all of the sudden. Elise notices the look on Belle's face and begins questioning her.

ELISE

You only give that look when you have ideas. Share with the group.

BELLE

Its not the best idea ever, but I think you and Howard should spend a night together at the Delta Inn on Valentines Day coming up.

ELISE

I don't think my parents can stand looking over Austin for another night.

BELLE

Hell, Trevor and I stay over at your place and look over him for you.

ELISE

What's so special about the Delta Inn? Out of all the hotels you could have suggested, why does this one stand out in particular?

BELLE

We know the manager who works there. She actually served Trevor and I when we visited on Valentines Day last year.

ELISE

What does this manager know about failed marriages?

(CONTINUED)

BELLE

You're just going to have to figure that out for yourself. I'll actually call her up right now to make arrangements for you two.

ELISE

Wait, you kept her number?!

BELLE

Of course, she's like a mother figure to me.

Belle runs back to her car to make a private phone call. She calls up the hotel on her phone and asks the front desk for a Renata Weitz.

INT. THE GYM- SANTA MONICA- AFTERNOON

Trevor is aiding Howard with his bench presses. All of the sudden, Trevor receives a phone call from Belle prompting him to leave and take the call.

HOWARD

Hey man, don't leave me like this!
For all I know these weights could
crush my throat any moment now!
Golfers Elbow! Golfers Elbow!

One of the members runs over to aid Howard with his bench presses. Trevor runs back to help help Howard once he is finished with the phone call.

TREVOR

You and Elise are going on an
all-expense paid night out at the
Delta Inn on Valentines Day.

HOWARD

Hold on, you can't just drop a
bombshell on me just like that.
Who's going to looking after Austin
and the house?

TREVOR

Belle and I will take care of it.
Come on, roll with this for the
sake of your marriage.

HOWARD

Can we discuss this further after
I've finished my workout?

(CONTINUED)

TREVOR

How much do you bench anyway?

HOWARD

200 pounds.

TREVOR

Then pay attention to me, this is some serious shit.

INT. DELTA INN- EVENING- VALENTINES DAY

Howard and Elise walk over to the front desk on arrival.

ELISE

Hi, we're looking for Renata Weitz. She helped make a reservation for us two weeks ago.

CLERK

She's in the dining room, she'll be back any minute.

Howard and Elise take a sit down on the sofa as they wait for Renata to return. Renata (early 50's, tall, African American) arrives five minutes later and is made aware of Howard and Elise's arrival. Renata makes her way over to them and makes herself acquainted.

RENATA

You must be the famous couple who Belle spoke highly about. Renata Weitz, pleasure to meet you both.

ELISE

I'm Elise McPherson. This is my husband Howard. Belle suggested that you might be able to help us fix our marriage.

RENATA

Of course, but its not something I can tell you about. Its something I have to show you.

HOWARD

I'm sorry Mrs. Weitz, but could it wait till after dinner? I'm starving, and I'm sure my wife is too after the hustle it took to get here.

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RENATA

Of course...this way to the dining room.

INT. DINING ROOM- EVENING

Elise is agitated by Howard's decision to order dinner in the lounge. Shrimp Rings and Garlic Bread are already placed on the table.

ELISE

Couldn't you have ordered room service instead?

HOWARD

And make a mess on the bed? No thank you. That means extra work for the maids, and I want to make things easy for them.

ELISE

But they're maids...cleaning shit up is what their job entails. You give the less work, that means less money in their paychecks.

HOWARD

Did you get that from one of Trump's speeches?

A waiter delivers a plate of Spaghetti and Meatballs to the table.

ELISE

Why on earth did you order Spaghetti and Meatballs when they serve Steak and Lobster here?

HOWARD

I want to reenact the dinner scene from Lady and the Tramp. Maybe that will help set the mood for us.

ELISE

Why do we need to help set the mood when Renata already said that she's willing to help us accomplish that?

HOWARD

Yeah well, what if she can't help us after doing whatever she's about to do? Come on, take a chance.

(CONTINUED)

Howard and Elise go through with re-enacting the scene from *Lady and the Tramp* where they share a piece of spaghetti and kiss. However, things go terribly wrong when both of them turn away from each other due to Elise's breath smelling like garlic and Howard's breath smelling like seafood.

ELISE

Who told you to order shrimp rings
as an appetizer?!

HOWARD

Who told you to have so much garlic
bread?!

ELISE

That's it...the moment's ruined.
Can we just go to our room now?

INT. ROOM 408- NIGHT

Howard and Elise are settled down in a king sized bed while maintaining distance from each other. While watching *Love Actually* on TV, they are interrupted by a knock on the door. Howard opens the door to let Renata in.

HOWARD

Ah, just who we were hoping to see.
Dinner was a disaster, so lets pray
that your plan saves us.

RENATA

Trust me, if this doesn't work,
then nothing will.

ELISE

Do you want us to do anything to
help get prepared.

RENATA

Just sit back and relax.

Howard jumps back the bed and makes himself comfortable. Afterwards, Renata takes out a broomstick from her housekeeping cart.

HOWARD

You want us to help you re-enact a
scene from *Mrs. Doubtfire*, is that
it?

Renata directs the broomstick at Howard and Elise as she shouts out a spell. As green smoke fills the room all of the sudden, all three people in the room vanish without a trace.

INT. COLLEGE DORMROOM- MORNING

Howard wakes up alone in a single person folding bed. He is confused as to why he is in a bed made for one person, and he gets out of bed after putting on his glasses. After taking a quick walk around, he realizes that he's awoken in a college dorm room. While Howard searches for his phone, a younger version of Trevor storms into the dorm room and stares awkwardly at Howard.

TREVOR

I'll be right back with an orange juice. You look like you're hungover again, Howard.

Howard doesn't recognize Trevor when he acknowledges him.

HOWARD

Wait, how the hell do you know my name? Also, how did I wake up in a fucking college dorm?

TREVOR

I have a question for you, what's the last thing you remember before waking up?

HOWARD

Elise and I checked into a hotel room last night. I don't remember anything else after that. Speaking of Elise, where the hell is she?

TREVOR

Knowing her, she's probably having breakfast in the cafeteria with Alex like she does every morning.

HOWARD

Wait, all this time she's been fucking a college jock behind my back?!

TREVOR

Look, get your shit together, get dressed, and rehearse your lines as we walk to class because I'm not having my roommate look like a

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TREVOR (cont'd)
fool. If you look like a fool on
Tarantino day, then your acting
career is out the window.

HOWARD
Roommate? I barely even know you.

TREVOR
You obviously tripped out on acid
last night. Get dressed, and change
out of the ridiculous Mickey Mouse
tee. Its September, not July.

HOWARD
I don't have another shirt to wear.
I woke up here without the
slightest clue on how I got here,
and now you're asking me to change
when I don't even know where the
drawers are? Also, its February.

Trevor rushes over to the drawers, pulls out all the
essential clothing, and throws it directly at Howard. Howard
removes his shirt and realizes that he has a big belly.

HOWARD
Wait, what occurred to the pecks I
worked so hard to achieve?

Howard rushes to find a mirror and panics minutes after
examining himself.

HOWARD
What's your name, guy who just
barged in out of nowhere? What year
is it?!

Trevor walks over to comfort his roommate.

TREVOR
Howard, buddy...I'm your roommate
Trevor Baker. Its September 15th,
2011. You have a class to get ready
for in two hours.

INT. DIFFERENT COLLEGE DORMROOM- MORNING

Elise wakes up in a queen sized bed, while Alex (mid 20's,
red hair) has his arms around her. Elise takes one look at
him and freaks out when she discovers that she woke up in
bed with complete stranger.

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ALEX

I'm sorry babe, I thought you'd be used to having my arms around you while we rest.

ELISE

Babe?! I have a husband, and you certainly aren't him!

ALEX

Honey, I'm trying day after day to look more like Daniel Craig. I even started wearing contact lenses to make my eyes look blue when my eyes are brown.

ELISE

Why do you keep addressing me like I'm your sweetheart?! And how did I get here in the first place?

ALEX

Don't you remember? We kicked out your roommate Belle last night so I could bunk with you for the first time ever.

ELISE

Belle hasn't been my roommate since 2014, dickhead!

ALEX

Since 2014? Babe, its September 15th, 2011.

Elise rushes around the dorm room to find a mirror. She freaks out after taking time to examine herself.

ELISE

How the fuck did I become 5'2 again all of the sudden?!

All of the sudden, someone bangs loudly on the door as if he's desperate to come in. Elise opens the door and immediately recognizes Howard. Howard however doesn't recognize Elise at first glance.

HOWARD

Are you Elise McPherson?

ELISE

Yes, who else would you be married to you moron?

(CONTINUED)

HOWARD

I need confirmation, what's the last thing you remember?

ELISE

I can't remember anything after Renata came into our room last night.

Howard storms inside and searches around the dorm. He is shocked to find another man resting on Elise's mattress.

ELISE

Babe, I'm so sorry, something like this wasn't supposed to happen till after we got divorced.

HOWARD

Who the fuck is this dude, another contact you have listed under spam?

ELISE

That's a good question...who the fuck are you?!

ALEX

Babe, I'm Alex Carifelle. We've been dating since last November.

HOWARD

Hold on, you're Alex Carifelle?! Didn't you used to date...

ELISE

We dated nine years ago. Shit, if what he's saying is true, then we must have traveled back in time to nine years ago.

A younger version of Belle storms into the room and witnesses Howard, Elise, and Alex gathered around the bedroom.

BELLE

Eww, did you guys participate in a three-some last night?

ELISE

No, why would you even suggest that something like that happened?

(CONTINUED)

BELLE

There's a semen stain on the carpet beneath the bed. Oh wait, never mind, the yogurt stain you forgot to clean up last week.

HOWARD

We need to get in touch with everyone who works at the Delta Inn right now. Someone working there must have been involved with this.

BELLE

Well, get the Discount Gronk out of my bed, and I'll help you guys out.

ALEX

Wait, just let me rest for...

HOWARD

Get out of bed now Ed Sheeran!

ALEX

Who the hell is Ed Sheeran?

HOWARD

A ginger headed fuck like you, now beat it!

After Alex gets kicked out, Howard, Elise gather around as they watch Belle track down the number for the "Delta Inn." After minutes of searching, Belle discovers that there are zero hotels named Delta Inn across town.

BELLE

There isn't a single Delta Inn in the entire United States. There are Delta Inns in Canada though. I know because my dad ran one while I was growing up in my hometown of Regina, Saskatchewan.

HOWARD

Wait, what was the name of the manager who served us last night?

ELISE

Renata Weitz. I remember her full name since her and I hit it off really well.

(CONTINUED)

HOWARD

Belle, could you try and track down a Renata Weitz for us? Remember Elise and I have had it harder since unlike you, we actually have to pay for health care.

BELLE

I'll do that at noon, I've gotta get to class in fifteen minutes. Speaking of which, shouldn't you guys head off to class too?

EXT. UNIVERSITY OF AUSTIN, TX- MORNING

Howard and Elise take a stroll across the campus and discover that they're not in Los Angeles anymore.

ELISE

Time travel is the only logical explanation for all of this. How else could we have wound up as University of Austin undergraduates like we were nine years ago?

HOWARD

Or we could have been living in the Matrix for the past nine years, and finally woke up back in the real world.

ELISE

Stop it with the movie references, you're not helping! OK, Renata could have been the only person who sent us back in time because she was the only person who was in our room last night. She delivered room service, she took out her broom, she...

HOWARD

Cleaning our room...its all coming back to me now! That's the last thing I remember. She came in and was about to clean our room.

ELISE

That's it, we're going to get some answers out of this Renata lady as soon as Belle finds the address.

INT. CLASSROOM- MORNING

Howard and Elise are seated next to each other in a classroom featuring a stage directly in front of the seating area. Meanwhile, Trevor is seated right behind Howard.

HOWARD

We're both in the same acting class...what a plot twist.

ELISE

I can't believe you've forgotten all about our history together.

HOWARD

Its only our college days I chose to forget all about. If you knew anything about the person I was in college, you would understand.

ELISE

So, us falling in love in 2013, did you forget about that too?

HOWARD

No, but its kind of hard to think when I'm stuck in a scenario I don't want to be in!

ELISE

You think this doesn't annoy me either? I hate this situation we're in more than I hate Brexit!

TREVOR

What the hell is Brexit?

HOWARD

Its a fancy name for being served eggs for breakfast.

Mr. Hoffman arrives in class before Howard and Elise could finish their conversation.

MR. HOFFMAN

Howard, Christina; front and center, you two are rehearsing the diner scene from *Pulp Fiction* first.

HOWARD

Actually, could I make a suggestion? Could we have Trevor

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

HOWARD (cont'd)
reenact the scene featuring the
Ezekiel first? I haven't finished
warming up yet.

TREVOR (WHISPERING)
Your character is in that scene
too, dumbass!

MR. HOFFMAN
Guys, what do I always tell you? If
you aren't ready when your
opportunity to shine comes along,
then you don't have any right
becoming an actor. That's not the
impression you want to make today
is it, Howard?

HOWARD
No it isn't, Mr...?

MR. HOFFMAN
Hoffman, Dan Hoffman.

HOWARD
Fine, and who's my scene partner
again?

TREVOR (WHISPERING)
Jesus, just like that you're
forgetting everyone already?

HOWARD (WHISPERING)
Its only the third week of school,
throw me a fucking bone here.

Christina (mid-20's, short, brown hair) walks towards the
stage...Howard is somewhat attracted to her. Elise pinches
him in the arm so that he could snap out of it.

ELISE (WHISPERING)
Make an excuse to escape this
session right now. If you go up
there, you're doomed.

HOWARD (WHISPERING)
Relax honey, I've seen *Pulp Fiction*
seven times, I can handle this.

INT. HOWARD'S DORM ROOM- NOON

Howard and Elise are seated across from each other at a coffee table as they try and figure things out.

HOWARD

You know when Trevor and Belle said that spending a night at the Delta Inn would fix our marriage problems, I didn't know that this is what they meant. What good could possibly come out of being sent back in time?

ELISE

Think of it this way, maybe we were sent back in time to re-experience how we fell for each other in the first place, which would in turn save our marriage.

HOWARD

God, why didn't Renata just send Austin back in time instead? Then we could allow him to try and save our marriage while we don't have to do any of the fucking work!

ELISE

Stop freaking out, we'll find Renata and interrogate her for info.

HOWARD

What if we don't end up finding her? We'll be stuck in a time period that I don't ever want to...

The chair randomly collapses, leading to Howard falling on his ass.

HOWARD

Seriously, who the fuck still uses rocking chairs?!

ELISE

You don't weigh 190 anymore darling, you should start working out.

Elise tries to open the kitchen cabinets but realizes she can't reach them because they're too high up.

(CONTINUED)

HOWARD

You're not 5'8 anymore honey, you should start maintaining a balanced diet.

ELISE

Taking jabs at each other isn't going to help. We just have to live like this till the point where we learn to fall for each other again, then we could travel back to 2020.

HOWARD

I won't last two days in my nineteen year old self without being picked on! I was that overweight nerd who the bullies would pick on, and you were the cute, popular girl who every guy in class dreamt of marrying one day. You have a lot to gain from this, but I don't!

ELISE

But you were my overweight nerd, and you were the man I ended up marrying in the future. If you won't live through this hell hole that we're trapped in, then do it so that we could live out the life we once had. Just do it for me.

Belle storms into the dorm room and hands Elise the info she gathered on Renata Straits.

BELLE

I devoted a half hour of my lunch break to help you track down this Renata lady. That's a half hour in the library instead of the student union pub where I could have been sipping down on a Mimosa. Now, what do I get in return?

ELISE

You're Canadian...Canadians are genuinely nice and don't ask for any favors for being nice. Come on honey, lets track down this Renata lady.

(CONTINUED)

BELLE

Wait...who's going to cover for you in class if you guys just take off?

ELISE

Right...what does my course schedule for this afternoon look like?

BELLE

Its on the fridge, love.

Elise takes a peek at her course schedule, and notices that all her classes are vital to her obtaining an English diploma.

ELISE

Honey, can this wait till after class? I'll be done by 3 PM the latest, and then we could track down Renata.

HOWARD

That's a great idea...not allowing our ambitions as scholars to deviate from our plans from getting back to 2020. If we do that, we could...

ELISE

Alter our lives in the present day, exactly. We wouldn't want that now, would we?

HOWARD

I'll just head back to my dorm and meet you back here at three.

EXT. GUEST HOUSE IN WEST AUSTIN, TX- MID-EVENING

Elise, Howard, and Trevor arrive on the drive way of a Guest House via Trevor's van.

ELISE

This has to be the place. If Renata's running a guest house now then her role as a hotel manager nine years from now would make sense.

(CONTINUED)

TREVOR

I'll go in and distract her while you two wait in the car until I say that its safe to go in.

HOWARD

No, this involves Elise and I, not you Trev.

TREVOR

Look, if what you told me was true, and Belle and I advised you two to stay at the Delta Inn, then it was partially my fault that you two got sent back in time. Therefore, consider this an apology.

Trevor walks towards the doorstep and rings the bell. A younger version of Renata answers the door.

TREVOR

Hi, we're with the city council and we're going door to door getting opinions from everyone in this neighborhood on how they feel about life in Austin, TX.

RENATA

Show me some I.D., and I'll let you in.

Trevor accidentally pulls out his University I.D. and hands it over to Renata.

RENATA

This is an Austin Film School card, and it says that you're a film student. You're not going to bullshit me, kid.

TREVOR

Alright fine, if you want the truth, my film making class is doing a fundraiser so that we could make a group project that's passionate to us. Therefore we're going door to door asking for donations.

RENATA

What's your film about?

(CONTINUED)

TREVOR

A group of young native teenagers who stand up to a cooperation who have plans to demolish their land in order to build a pipeline.

RENANA

Its about time they made a film about Indigenous rights. My sister in law is also from the Metis community, so I think I can offer you some pointers on their way of living. Come on in and tell me more about your project.

Trevor gives Elise and Howard the signal to join him.

TREVOR

If you don't mind, I invited two of my colleagues along who are working on the project with me.

RENATA

What roles have they assigned each of you on the project?

TREVOR

I'm in charge of screenwriting duties, Howard over here is the director, and Elise is our production assistant.

RENATA

Come on in and have a seat on the sofa while I heat up some pizza rolls.

INT. GUEST HOUSE- LIVING ROOM- MID-EVENING

Renata heads over to the kitchen while Elise, Howard, and Trevor head inside as an argument begins.

ELISE (WHISPERING)

Production assistant, really?!

TREVOR (WHISPERING)

Yes, that way you could search around the house while Howard and I interview her.

(CONTINUED)

ELISE (WHISPERING)
Why do I have to be the one who searches the house?!

TREVOR (WHISPERING)
Because you're the production assistant, you have the least important job on set.

ELISE (WHISPERING)
If I get caught, then I'm the one who ends up getting shot to death!

TREVOR (WHISPERING)
What reason do you have to suspect that the lady has a gun?

HOWARD (WHISPERING)
We're in fucking Texas, dude...everyone here has a gun!

TREVOR (WHISPERING)
You know what, lets just break the ice right now. Howard, you and I will make ourselves comfortable on the sofa while Elise, you go down to the basement to see if there's a time machine.

Elise breaks apart from the gang just as Renata joins Howard and Trevor in the living room.

RENATA
Hey, what happened to the girl who was with you?

HOWARD
She has PMS.

RENATA
Guys, I know all about anxiety, and its nothing to joke about. Where is she so we could offer support?

Renata searches around and finds Elise trying to break into the basement.

RENATA
Can you explain to me what you're doing trying to break into my basement that's locked?

(CONTINUED)

ELISE

I'm also in charge of location scout. We were thinking of shooting all the group hang out scenes in your basement.

RENATA

I think its better if all three of you leave.

ELISE

You're Renata Weitz aren't you? I'm Elise McPherson. Last night, my husband and I were sent back in time, and we figured that you might have had something to do with it.

RENATA

So you're Elise. I thought you and your husband looked familiar.

ELISE

Wait, so if you recognize us, then why didn't you acknowledge us right away?

RENATA

I needed confirmation that you were the Elise I met last night, and not a decoy from 2011. If you showed up as your 2011 self then I'd freak you our right away if I acknowledged you as if I knew you.

ELISE

That's a reasonable explanation.

HOWARD

Wait, how do you have the memories of your present day self just like my wife and I?

RENATA

Isn't it obvious? I was the person who sent you two back in time to 2011, and I sent myself back to 2011 as well to offer you guidance.

ELISE

Speaking of sending us back in time, how did you manage to send us all back in time in the first place?

INT. GUEST HOUSE- ATTIC- MID-EVENING

Renata takes out a broomstick to try and offer explanations.

HOWARD

So you sent us back in time, and cleaned up our ashes to cover up your involvement in this. It all makes sense. What did you do with your ashes though if you were sent back in time with us?

Renata shouts out a spell that magically turns off all the lights in the house.

HOWARD

Great, now we've got to live like we're Aumish for the rest of the night.

Renata casts another spell that magically turns all the power back on in the house.

ELISE

That's the shortest blackout I've ever witnessed.

RENATA

No, don't you guys get it? What you just experience was a sacred spell. I shut the power on and off again using the form of magic. To put it simply, I'm a descendant of a fifth generation of sorcerers.

ELISE

Do something else just to prove your point.

Renata further demonstrates her magic by casting a spell on Howard. Howard levitates as high up as the ceiling one moment and falls to the ground moments later.

HOWARD

Now I can finally take that dump I've been meaning to take all day.

ELISE

So if you're really a sorceress then how would you know to send us back to September 15th, 2011...that exact day? What's so special about today?

(CONTINUED)

RENATA

Time traveling spells send people back in time to random dates in the past, and can't be controlled. For example, I could choose to send someone back in time to 2015, and they'd probably only wake up on a random date back in 2017.

HOWARD

So is there a three strikes and you're out policy in which you use the spell a deliberate amount of times, and then the broomstick just runs out of energy afterwards?

RENATA

Yes, you each have five chances to use the spell, then you're shit out of luck.

HOWARD

Great, let's use one of those time travel chances tonight to travel back in 2020.

ELISE

Hold on, what if we were sent back in time to this exact moment so that we could learn to fall in love again. I mean the spell could have sent us to 2015 when we first got married, but it sent us back to 2011 when we were still in college. What if fate wanted us to find the magic spark that brought us together? This is a lucky opportunity for us, so lets not let it go to waste.

HOWARD

Or we could just make love when we get back to the campus tonight and then this spell could wear off.

RENATA

No, don't you get it? Rushing this entire plan to fall in love could cause alternate parallels in the time line that shouldn't exist...all of it leads to dire consequences for you here and now. You guys have to take time to allow

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

RENATA (cont'd)
the opportunity for romance present
itself to you, and not force it.

ELISE
So you're saying I have to date
Alex Carifelle till my future
husband could learn to sweep me off
my feet?

HOWARD
And I have to live the life of a
fat, hopeless, nerdy college
student again?

RENATA
I'm afraid so otherwise I cast the
spell for no reason.

ELISE
Howard and I barely said a word to
each other back in 2011, are you
telling me that I have to pretend
not to notice my future husband?

RENATA
I'm afraid you have to forget about
the future that you have together
and let fate work itself out unless
you want to alter the time line.

HOWARD
Renata, you don't happen to work
for The Adjustment Bureau do you?

INT. ELISE'S DORMROOM- NIGHT

Elise looks dissatisfied as she jots down pointers for a
creative writing assignment. Belle storms in after a long
day and hugs Elise from behind.

BELLE
Any luck tracking down that Renata
lady?

ELISE
Yep, and she told us things that
Howard and I didn't want to hear.

BELLE
Let me guess, you cheated on Alix
with Howard, and now you're
pregnant with Howard's child?

(CONTINUED)

ELISE

What's with you and all these inappropriate accusations? No, that's not what she told us!

BELLE

Whew, thank god. To think you'd actually wind up with failure like fat piece of lard.

ELISE

Hey, I actually don't mind Howard, so take it easy on him, please.

BELLE

Look, what's really going through your mind? I'll spend all night trying to get through that thick little head of yours if I have to.

ELISE

Let me ask you a question, if you loved a boy but you knew you had to do everything you could to stay away from him because your parents wouldn't allow you two to be together; would you still take the risk of seeing him?

BELLE

You can't follow the rules, you have to follow the heart and what it wants. That's what my mom always told me.

INT. HOWARD'S DORM ROOM- NIGHT

Howard is hard at work writing a scene for an original screenplay while Trevor begins to ask him about the future.

TREVOR

So, nine years from now, do we still remain pals?

HOWARD

You bet, buddy.

TREVOR

Alright, just wanted to make sure that we don't end up becoming rivals nine years from now.

(CONTINUED)

HOWARD

You were the only person who was there for me during college, so trust me...we're going to be pals for a really long time.

TREVOR

So, what else happens in the future?

HOWARD

I'll tell you during drama class tomorrow. I want to make wagers with the classmates.

INT. DRAMA CLASS- MORNING

Howard is sharing his predictions for the future with his classmates right before class starts.

TREVOR

Get out of here...that motherfucker who mistakes Mountain Dew for hair conditioner everyday becomes our next president?

HOWARD

Come November 8th, 2016 you'll see everything I said was true.

CHRISTINA

What are some of his presidential policies?

HOWARD

He builds a wall across the Mexican border in order to reduce illegal immigration.

CHRISTINA

No fucking way, America would never elect someone with that type of rhetoric.

HOWARD

Want to bet \$200 on it?

CHRISTINA

Fine, but I'm giving you a warning to back off on making this wager. There is no way that could happen.

(CONTINUED)

HOWARD

I'll be outside your door in 2016
to collect my winnings.

Mr. Hoffman arrives in class at 9 AM sharp.

MR. HOFFMAN

OK class, today, we're going to
learn tips on how to make audiences
connect with the character on a
personal and emotional basis by the
power of acting.

TREVOR

Actually, Mr. Hoffman, Howard here
has a scene from a screenplay he's
writing, and he wanted to give the
class a little sneak peek of it.

HOWARD (WHISPERING)

Damn it man, I was holding off till
the right moment came along, you
ruined the momentum of it!

MR. HOFFMAN

Is that so? What is this, a one man
show you're working on?

Trevor pats Howard on the back to encourage him to speak up.

HOWARD

No sir, its actually a drama that
chronicles the fifty-seven year
cycle of the relationship between a
married couple.

MR. HOFFMAN

Christina, you know what to do.

HOWARD

I'd actually prefer it if Elise
would come on stage since I did the
dinner scene with Christina
yesterday.

MR. HOFFMAN

Elise, you have fifteen minutes to
rehearse with Howard behind the
stage since we're not letting his
dreams walk out the door. The rest
of you, turn your text books to
page 27.

Elise is shocked and speechless as she follows Howard.

INT. STAGE- MORNING

Elise and Howard are having a discussion regarding Renata's warnings from last night.

ELISE

If we do this, we could open the door for a lot of unexpected possibilities.

HOWARD

I don't care. I was thinking long and hard about it last night. I'm not going to say that I'm going to make a dash for it when it comes to winning you back, but that doesn't mean that I'm not going to stop trying to fight for you. Fate won't punish people who try, right?

Elise is moved by Howard's determination to win her back.

HOWARD

We've got work to do, and we don't have all day. Stop letting your feelings for me get in the way.

Elise and Howard begin to rehearse a scene from Howard's unfinished screenplay. They step out on stage in front of everyone once they're ready to perform.

MR. HOFFMAN

For the last time, somebody turn on the fucking spotlights and aim it towards the stage. We've had ten acting sessions, I shouldn't even have to ask you guys to do this by now. Alright, feel free to begin whenever you guys are ready.

HOWARD

My dad needed me to...

ELISE

Don't even explain it to me! You did what you needed to do.

HOWARD

What's your problem? We moved here, you found a job, and we've settled down in my hometown just like you wanted, I mean what more can you ask for?!

(CONTINUED)

ELISE (SOBBING)

What's my problem; what's my problem?! Take a look around, you show up at home after 11 PM leaving nothing but a text telling me you're with your dad, while I'm here to do all the cooking and cleaning on my own! Do you know what that does to a married woman?! It makes her so god damned sick fearing that she's going to lose her husband!

HOWARD

What, I can't spend time with my dad just because you tell me to?! Now that he's trying to become sober, I finally have a chance at rekindling with the one man I've wanted to know all my life, and you want me to put that all away so I could spend more time with you...and for what?!

ELISE

That's not what I'm saying...I just want you to stay with me once in a while! How the hell are we going to start a family together if I can't trust you to be home on time!

HOWARD

Oh, don't give me that shit about starting a family again! Last time I checked, you didn't want a child due to the extra stress it would put onto our marriage!

ELISE

Well, now I want one! If it'll teach you to be mature and responsible in order to keep our marriage alive, then I want to raise a child!

HOWARD

Well, I'm not ready to commit to that yet, but when I am, it has to be after you stop giving me crap for being considerate of someone other than you! I'm doing this just so I could learn how to become a better father than my dad once was.

(CONTINUED)

ELISE

Can't you at least try and manage your time and split it between him and me?!

HOWARD

I don't run like fucking clock work. And besides, how would you know what the relationship between a father and son is like? It's not like you still keep in touch with your parents...so don't lecture me about something you know nothing about!

ELISE

You know what, why don't you get out of this house and spend the rest of the night with that dirtbag if that's really what you want! I beg of you to go stay with him!

HOWARD

Fine, if you beg of me to do so, I'll leave. I won't be back for a while, so if you have anything to fucking so, do it now!

ELISE

Call me when you're ready to be a man, and not a boy who sucks up to his father!

HOWARD

And end scene!

The entire class erupts in applause.

MR. HOFFMAN

The students have become the Oscar Winners. How did you manage to write a scene like that, and bring that kind of gravitas to the stage?

HOWARD

I never reveal my secrets, sir.

MR. HOFFMAN

Well, keep it up and you'll pass my class with flying colors.

(CONTINUED)

TREVOR

I can't wait to see Mr. Hoffman's performance as the father when they have to reenact one of the father and son scenes.

MR. HOFFMAN

Trevor, that's whitewashing and its totally uncalled for. Don't ever fucking suggest something like that again.

Mr. Hoffman turns on the TV and prepares to show the class a scene from *American Beauty*.

MR. HOFFMAN

Now back to class...guys pay your attention to the way Kevin Spacey...

Howard immediately rushes over to turn off the TV.

MR. HOFFMAN

Howard, what the hell, dude?

HOWARD

You guys don't want to be studying Kevin Spacey...trust me.

EXT. UNIVERSITY OF AUSTIN- NOON

Howard and Elise are having a discussion about the screenplay that Howard is working on.

ELISE

I can't believe that out of all the scenes you chose to work on last night, the fight scene is the one you chose to work on.

HOWARD

I'm just trying to make a good impression in class. Besides, didn't Renata say that we can't force the relationship? If I wrote a passionately romantic scene for us to act out, wouldn't that just be forcing it?

ELISE

I guess you're right. But seriously, you're working on this project for me?

(CONTINUED)

HOWARD

Why do you look so surprised?

ELISE

I'm just saying that this is the first thing that you've done for me in nearly two years.

HOWARD

If only there was more I could do more for you.

Alex sees Elise on campus and runs towards her. Elise breaks apart from Howard and leaves him on his own.

HOWARD

Wait, you're not actually going to spend noon hour with him are you?

ELISE

If only there was more I could do to help you.

Elise runs into Alex's arms, which disturbs Howard.

INT. STUDENT UNION PUB- NOON

Howard, Trevor, and Christina are gathered around a table as Howard continues to share predictions about the future.

HOWARD

The Ben Affleck Batman movie is coming out five years from now, I guarantee it.

TREVOR

The guy who couldn't even fight to save his relationship with JLO is fighting criminals in Gotham City. Yeah, right...keep dreaming, pal.

CHRISTINA

What scares me more is your prediction on how Fifty Shades of Grey is going to be turned into a movie adaptation. I find it appalling how out of all the books that women could read on their kindles, that's the one they've chosen. I mean the guy takes advantage of the woman for sexual pleasure. What kind of world are we living in if we're making that OK?

(CONTINUED)

HOWARD

You'd be surprised by the amount of people who get away with taking advantage of women for sexual pleasure. Hollywood A-Listers in particular.

Trevor reaches in to grab some peanuts from a bowl placed in the center of the table, but Howard slaps his hand before he could grab some peanuts.

HOWARD

Wash your fucking hands before you touch that! There's a global virus pandemic coming in 2020, so you're going to thank me in the future for encouraging you to wash your hands!

INT. DRAMA CLASS- MORNING

Christina walks in and take a seat right next to Howard.

CHRISTINA

Did you do any prep last night for the Romeo + Juliet scene we have to rehearse today?

Howard tries to engage in conversation, but is instead baffled because he can't make out what to say. He instead starts slurring his words and comes across as looking shy/awkward towards Christina.

CHRISTINA

What? I've been your scene partner three times thus far, you should be comfortable with me sitting next to you by now.

Meanwhile, Elise is seated two rows in front of Howard. She notices Howard acting up and rushes up to drag him out of the class; Trevor follows them.

INT. HALLWAY- MORNING

Elise is trying to make sense of why Howard is acting up.

ELISE

What have you eaten so far this morning?

(CONTINUED)

HOWARD

I had an egg and cheese...

Howard tries to finish the sentence, but instead stutters.

TREVOR

Egg and cheese croissant...come on man, French isn't so difficult to pronounce.

ELISE

An egg and cheese croissant is what they sell at the cafeteria, so they couldn't have laced it with recreational drugs. When did you start feeling like this?

HOWARD

Five minutes ago.

ELISE

That was when you just started conversing with Christina.

TREVOR

Maybe he's just experiencing what guys go through when they finally reach puberty.

HOWARD

I hit puberty when I was thirteen jackass, that's not the point here!

TREVOR

See, he didn't stutter when I asked him a question.

ELISE

That's it...Howard was always shy around girls during college. So much so that he stuttered most of the time when it came to talking to women. It also flared up whenever he felt nervous or scared.

HOWARD

Well, how the flying fuck could that have happened already?! I was doing so good for the past two days.

(CONTINUED)

ELISE

You messed with the time line yesterday by writing that scene and choosing me as your scene partner in an attempt to win me back. That never happened during 2011, therefore by altering the events of the past, karma's come to bite you in the ass.

TREVOR

Or maybe the Howard from two days ago required a update, therefore his iOS system modified itself automatically while Howard was asleep last night. And the system update altered Howard's personality in order to make him more like the person he was back in 2011.

HOWARD

Whatever the fuck happened, how am I supposed to perform Romeo + Juliet when I can't even talk to a girl?!

TREVOR

I'll cover for you, I'll tell Mr. Hoffman that you have the stomach flu and you needed to head back to your dorm room.

Howard and Elise take off while Trevor heads back to class.

INT. ELISE'S DORMROOM- MORNING

Elise takes Howard back to her dorm room and pours him a cup of tea. Afterwards, Elise begins to massage Howard, which makes him feel very uncomfortable.

HOWARD

What the hell are you doing?

ELISE

I'm performing massage techniques on you to help you calm yourself.

HOWARD

How is that going to help me calm down? If anything being sexually aroused going to contribute to the fact that I'm just hitting puberty, which leads to more stuttering!

(CONTINUED)

Elise backs away from Howard and tries to think of other ways to help Howard.

ELISE

Start speaking slowly. It'll help with the stuttering. I've got all day, so I can be patient.

Howard follows Elise's advice as they continue to converse.

HOWARD

Remind me again how I overcame this phase of my life during college? I mean I must have been open with you about it in the future?

ELISE

I can't, if I give you any hints on how you swept me off my feet, we're going to face harsher penalties!

HOWARD

Hey, don't forget that if I stay like this, there's no possibility of a future where you and I end up together.

ELISE

Do you think I don't know that?! Do you think there isn't one moment in the past 48-hours in which I wished both of us had tried harder so that we wouldn't have had to end up like this?!

HOWARD

We got married too young, what did you expect was going to happen? We were 24 when we wed, and five years later, we couldn't find ways to keep each other satisfied. If we couldn't keep each other satisfied in the present day, then how long do we have to keep living like this?

ELISE

The time travel spell sent us back to the perfect moment, which rarely occurs...what do you think that means for us?

(CONTINUED)

HOWARD

Maybe we were sent back four years before our wedding date so that we could try to map out different lives for ourselves.

ELISE

Are you telling me you believe that we should begin to pave our way for an alternate reality? One that you and I don't fall for each other?

HOWARD

I think that's what fate is telling us to do because now we know the consequences of messing with time.

Elise walks over to the teapot and throws it against the wall, instantly breaking it.

HOWARD

I don't want this anymore than you do, so just learn to live with it!

ELISE

Well neither did I! I knew I wanted you beside me. I knew it the moment you took the extra measure to sweep me off my feet. But I didn't want the extra burden it took to map out the rest of my life with you! If I could choose a future where I could remain close to you but where I don't have to experience the everyday frustrations of being a wife, I'd gladly take it!

HOWARD

What is it that you want now?

ELISE

I want you to leave my dorm, its best that we stay away from each other as much as possible.

HOWARD

No, we were sent back...

ELISE

We were sent back in time because Trevor and Belle believed that we still had a future together. But if this experience has taught us

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

ELISE (cont'd)
anything, its that if we're falling
apart nine years from now, then we
don't have any business ever
falling in love. Now please get
out, I'm asking you nicely.

Howard leaves the dorm room per Elise's request. Moments
after Howard leaves, Belle takes her time to walk in and
looks at Elise with a stunned look.

ELISE
Don't tell me you listened in on
that?

BELLE
I have a recording of it on my
phone.

INT. SWIMMING CENTER- NOON

Howard is in the pool doing the breast stroke. Trevor storms
in all of the sudden and confronts him.

TREVOR
What the hell are you doing
swimming when you have another
class in forty-five minutes?

HOWARD
First off, how did you find me
here? And secondly, Dory told
everyone to just keep swimming when
life gets you down, so that's what
I'm doing.

TREVOR
Christina texted me and told me
that you were here. And I think I
know why you're out here and not at
the pub. You're here to combat your
emotions.

HOWARD
How did you figure that out?

Trevor hands Howard a pair of ear buds, and starts playing
the recording of Howard and Elise's fight on his iPhone.

HOWARD
Did you skip drama class earlier
just so you could stalk Elise and
I?

(CONTINUED)

TREVOR

No, Belle sent this over to me.

HOWARD

How is that possible? Nobody even had the data capable of transferring files via phones in 2011.

TREVOR

Dropbox dude, Dropbox.

HOWARD

Great, now everyone on campus who has an account knows that Elise and I are married. How is Alex going to cope with all of this?! Here in Texas, his arms register as legs!

TREVOR

Relax brother, Elise took it down as soon as I was able to download the file. I downloaded the file five minutes later. That's not what you should be most concerned about though. What you should be worried about is Alex stealing your future bride away from you.

HOWARD

Maybe he should because we obviously weren't meant to end up together if we had a fight that's already being shared on social media.

TREVOR

You can't think like that. You can't give up on something that's passionate to you. What if Stephen King gave up when he was writing *Carrie*? He wouldn't be the billionaire he is right now, and he wouldn't have earned the nickname, Master of Horror.

HOWARD

Stephen King had a voice while I don't. I don't even know how to talk to girls.

(CONTINUED)

TREVOR

You let me deal with that. I know how women work and I'm going to teach you how to sweep Elise off her feet. You can't give up on love because its a feeling that knows no boundaries. Remember that.

HOWARD

Why do you care if Elise and I end up together? What's in it for you?

TREVOR

If we remain best friends in the future, then that's more than enough for me to help you out. If I don't try and help you, then fate will create a path to a future where we don't end up becoming pals. So please do this to save our friendship? Come on man, I'm depending on you.

HOWARD

Fine, where do we start?

TREVOR

First we've gotta get you in shape, so let's start tomorrow afternoon. Today is cheat day.

HOWARD

Seems reasonable enough. Now excuse me, I need to do my breathing exercises.

TREVOR

How did you become so good at swimming all of the sudden to begin with?

HOWARD

My mom has been taking me to the pool since I was eight. I watched from the best, and I learned from the best. Now, time this dive for me, will you?

Howard performs the breast stroke while underwater as Trevor keeps track of the time on his phone. However, Howard only makes it half way through before calling it quits.

(CONTINUED)

TREVOR

Two minutes and twenty-three seconds. Still, not bad for someone who's not wearing protective gear.

HOWARD

I can make it up to four minutes, I just know it.

TREVOR

I believe you. Now, let's try this again.

INT. ELISE'S DORMROOM- NOON

Elise has explained to Belle everything that's been happening between her and Howard. Belle looks at Elise with the most distinctive look of absolute shock.

ELISE

Would you stop staring at me like that? Everything I told you was the truth.

BELLE

In the future, do you and Howard end up with children?

ELISE

No, we didn't have the time to raise a family.

BELLE

Damn, I was so looking forward to being a godmother.

ELISE

You still might one day; the child might not be Half-Asian, but one day I'm going to have a child and name you the godmother.

BELLE

I know exactly what you need to do. You might not have been able to fight to save your marriage in the future, but there's another way you could fight.

ELISE

Show me.

INT. ROCK CLIMBING GYM- EVENING

Elise is unsure of Belle's advice for her to train to be a rock climber.

ELISE

How is being a rock climber supposed to help me?

BELLE

You need to be open to accepting challenges. Your future marriage is falling apart, but you could learn to move past it by climbing on top of all the obstacles being hurled directly at you.

ELISE

I can't do this, I'm afraid of heights.

BELLE

You know what that is...that's fear. Fear is what killed everything between you and Howard. Don't let fear kill the next great thing you come across.

Elise allows herself to be tethered to a rope, and begins learning how to rock climb. Elise gets the hang of it, and after three hours of climbing multiple courses, she finally gains a feeling of empowerment she never had.

BELLE

See, told you, you'd crush it. Tomorrow, we're comes the swimming lessons, so be prepared.

INT. HALLWAY- MORNING

Howard is being bullied by a group of teenage boys for wearing a T-Shirt featuring a portrait of Arthur the Aardvark.

HOWARD

This was honestly the only shirt I had left to wear, everything else is

Howard begins to stutter mid-sentence.

(CONTINUED)

BULLY

Your mommy should have bought you more clothes. Seems like she doesn't care about you otherwise she would have helped you overcome your speech impediment. Guess who else doesn't care about you? Us!

The bully is about to physically abuse Howard, but Elise steps in to help when she witnesses Howard being bullied.

ELISE

Are you sure you want to be sent to detention today, darling?

BULLY

Look, cheer leading tryouts are in the gym, and I think you want to ace that audition, so fuck off.

Elise grabs the bully by the waist and strips down his sweatpants, causing onlookers to laugh hysterically as the bully runs off ashamed.

ELISE

Next time pack jeans and a belt you fucking dumbass!

HOWARD

Now you know why I'm afraid of being back here.

ELISE

It'll get better. Now bugger off.

INT. AQUATIC CENTER- FOLLOWING DAY

Howard and Trevor walk into the aquatic center and witness Belle coaching Elise as she preforms butterfly strokes. Belle becomes alarmed when she sees them approaching.

BELLE

You know I think its time to wrap it up pal!

Elise is unable to hear Belle due to her ear plugs.

TREVOR

Looks like you're gonna have to go in and get her.

(CONTINUED)

BELLE

Why don't you do it yourself. Oh I forgot, you can't because it will change the future!

HOWARD

Hey, don't talk to Trevor like that. You two will get married one day, you know!

TREVOR

How have you not dropped that bombshell until now?

Elise experiences difficulty breathing, and begins drowning all of the sudden. Howard notices this immediately as he makes his way towards the pool area. He runs towards Elise's position in an attempt to rescue her. Trevor and Belle notice it shortly after and aid Howard in the rescue.

BELLE

I knew I should have made her wear nose plugs too!

TREVOR

Then why the fuck didn't you, do you know how serious dry drowning is?

BELLE

I thought that occurs only in children!

TREVOR

As well as ten percent of adults! Fucking Google it!

Howard dives underwater, swims towards Elise's position and drags her by the hand as he pulls her to surface. Trevor and Belle aid Howard in the rescue by helping him carry her.

HOWARD

You two back off, I know CPR!

Howard performs CPR on Elise, and is able to resuscitate her in a matter of moments.

HOWARD

Good god, I was beginning to think I might have lost you.

(CONTINUED)

ELISE

Belle, after today, I've had it with your fucking training exercises, you could have killed me!

BELLE

Fine, we'll try running tomorrow, no chance of you getting injured at all if we do that.

TREVOR

You should have seen this guy jumping into the pool and pulling you to the service. It was unlike anything I've ever seen.

ELISE

Bullshit, are you telling me that Howie was the one who pulled me to the surface?

LIFEGUARD

I filmed it on my phone, so there's your proof!

INT. HOWARD'S DORM ROOM- NIGHT

Howard and Elise are socializing with beer and pizza. The two seem to be hitting it off.

ELISE

I honestly can't believe she forgot to get me nose plugs too. I expected a Science and Physics undergraduate to have a bigger brain.

HOWARD

Yeah, and I had to use all my strength to pull you out of there. Luckily I did that without breaking a single rib.

ELISE

How did you manage to pull off the rescue though? Saving me in the condition that you're in must have taken a miracle.

(CONTINUED)

HOWARD

I just grabbed onto you for dear life and wouldn't let you go because if I did, I knew that I'd lose a piece of myself as well.

ELISE

And you didn't care if you were going to drown during the process?

HOWARD

My longest underwater dive was three minutes. It took five minutes to pull you to the surface and I'm nowhere near as strong as I am in 2020, so we should consider ourselves lucky that our mutual pals pitched into help. Besides, if I did drown earlier, at least I did it while trying to save you.

As Elise and Howard are about to kiss, Trevor barges in and interrupts the tender moment.

TREVOR

Did you leave any beer and pizza for me?

ELISE

Yes, in fact we did. I'll just get out of your hair so that way I won't end up hogging all the pizza.

Elise leaves the dorm room as Trevor helps himself to some deep dish pizza.

TREVOR

Actually, why don't you stay...we could use your help in helping Howard getting rid of his stuttering.

HOWARD

Actually, I think she has...

ELISE

No, that's a perfect idea. How is he supposed to make it through an year of college if we don't help him overcome it now?

(CONTINUED)

TREVOR

How did you help him overcome his stuttering issues in 2020?

ELISE

I'd rather not try that method here because I'll have to pay the price for altering the past.

TREVOR

Right. Now, for our first lesson, lets begin the session with the exercise routine. Exercise helps produce endorphins in the brain, which in turn relieves stress. Lift up that counter top until I tell you to stop.

Howard quickly lifts up the glass counter top table, and spends the first ten seconds enjoying it.

ELISE

Now, repeat after me. Lovely weather for a workout, eh ol' chap?

HOWARD

Lovely weather for a work out...

Howard stutters all of the sudden and accidentally drops it, causing all the glass within the table to be shattered.

ELISE

Would it kill you to do cardio once in a while?!

HOWARD

Don't blame me, the table was Made in China!

Moments later, Trevor is teaching Howard about how to properly kiss a lady. Trevor kisses a poster of *Lara Croft: Tomb Raider* to give Howard an example.

TREVOR

Kissing relieves feel-good hormones in the brain. Everyone feels calm after they're kissed. Now I want you to kiss Angelina Jodie slowly, and not at all passionately like I showed you.

Howard slowly leans in and slowly kisses the poster. Saliva spills all over the carpet while he kisses the poster which disgusts Wendy.

(CONTINUED)

ELISE

Have you forgot what its like to
kiss a woman all of the sudden?

HOWARD

My twenty year old self had never
kissed...

Howard stutters mid-sentence once again, annoying Elise.

ELISE

Why don't you let me help him with
the next lesson?

TREVOR

One only has to wonder what Brad
Pitt is going to make of you
kissing Angie like that. I mean
look at the amount of saliva.

ELISE

Oh, he won't give a shit...they
divorce five years from now.

For Howard's next lesson, Elise turns on classical music via
Youtube.

HOWARD

How is this supposed to help me?

ELISE

Classical music helped sooth me
mentally throughout high school. If
it could do that for me, it could
do that for you too. Now repeat
after me, I would like extra
marmite on the toast and beans,
please.

HOWARD

I would like extra marmite on the
toast and beans, please.

Howard completes the sentence without stuttering.

TREVOR

Holy shit, he actually did it. Now
say, the hood ain't no good if you
don't know fatherhood.

HOWARD

The hood ain't no good if you don't
know fatherhood.

(CONTINUED)

ELISE

Keep at it while I film this and
create a remix!

TREVOR

Do it louder! Do it faster!

Howard follows Trevor instructions as Elise smiles wholeheartedly, realizing another way to help Howard overcome his stuttering in the future.

INT. HOWARD'S DORM ROOM- MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT

Howard wakes in the middle of the night, suddenly feeling the urge to breathe. As he begins showing symptoms of coughing, and shortness of breath, Trevor runs out to get help from others living in the dormitory.

TREVOR

Does anyone have an inhaler!
Please, my roommate is choking!
Somebody, help!

INT. UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER- MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT

Howard carries an inhaler when he is released from a first aid room. Elise and Trevor accompany him as they help get him back to his dorm room.

HOWARD

The doctor said it was an asthma
attack. That means I won't be able
to take part in drama days in class
anymore.

TREVOR

That whole you saving Elise from
drowning stunt...that never
happened nine years ago did it?

ELISE

No it didn't. Its just another way
of fate punishing us for messing
with relativity. He saves me from
drowning, and now he carries the
burden of not being able to breath
as much as he'd like to, it makes
perfect sense.

(CONTINUED)

TREVOR

Yeah, its like God is smiting him with a plague every time he alters the past. Its from the Book of Exodus, you should read it.

HOWARD

Why did it have to be asthma?

ELISE

Could have been worse though. You could have gotten the Coronavirus and risked passing it onto us.

TREVOR

The Corona what?

ELISE

Oh right...I'm sorry, that doesn't exist yet, never mind what I said.

INT. HOWARD'S DORM ROOM- MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT

Elise helps Howard get into bed, and even does him the favor of tucking him in.

HOWARD

I'm sorry it isn't the other way around. I should be doing this for you, instead...really.

ELISE

Oh shush, think of it as me repaying the favor for saving my life.

HOWARD

Look, you're alright though...right?

ELISE

Yup, all thanks to you.

HOWARD

Then that's all that matters.

INT. HOWARD'S DORM ROOM- MORNING

Elise, Trevor, Belle, and Renata are gathered around Howard. The window is open, and it is pouring wet and cold outside.

HOWARD

Someone broke in here through the window last night! Quick, check the fridge!

RENATA

No dummy, we opened the window so that we could see if you still had asthma. I cast a spell on you which allowed for your Bronchus to be unblocked.

HOWARD

I needed the lungs to be unblocked, that's how treating asthma is supposed to work!

BELLE

The Bronchus is located between the lungs, dumbass!

HOWARD

Well, how is opening the window supposed to help me?

RENATA

An asthma attack is usually triggered by cold, dry air making its way into your airways. And since you're not swelling up or showing any symptoms of asthma so far, you seem to be doing fine.

HOWARD

And what about my problems with stuttering around girls, did you get rid of that yet?

RENATA

Oh right, thanks for the reminder.

Renata aims her broomstick at Howard's brain and casts a spell to cleanse the mind.

BELLE

How do I look today?

(CONTINUED)

HOWARD

Like a princess who just stepped
out of the pages of a fairy tale.

Howard is astonished that he finished the sentence without
ever stuttering.

INT. CAFETERIA- NOON

Elise walks towards the table where Alex and his gang of
friends are gathered, but there are no seats left at the
table. She instead lifts up a chair and moves it closer to
the table, capturing the attention of everyone at the table.

ELISE

What, I'm allowed to sit here,
right?

ALEX

No, not after that shit you pulled
off two days ago. I heard the
recording. Seems like you were
really hitting it off with that guy
you were arguing with.

ELISE

How did you find out about that? I
watched Belle delete that link from
Dropbox five minutes after
uploading the recording.

ALEX

Babe, over fifty-thousand people go
to this university. That means
within those five minutes, at least
three hundred students could have
downloaded that recording.

ELISE

Oh so all of the sudden you're good
at math. Why didn't you bring this
up with me yesterday?!

ALEX

I needed time to pick out a new
girlfriend, also known as your
replacement. I couldn't dump you
till I replaced you.

ELISE

Where is she now?

(CONTINUED)

ALEX

Oh manners...Madison meet Elise,
Elise this is Madison.

ELISE

Typical you'd leave me for a
double-d. Mines were just in the
process of perking, fucker!

Belle finds Elise in the cafeteria and escorts her away from
the table.

INT. ELISE'S DORMROOM- NOON

Elise and Belle have a fight regarding Alex's actions.

ELISE

I told you that sharing that
recording on Dropbox was a bad
idea!

BELLE

I did it so Trevor could motivate
your husband into keep fighting for
you! Isn't that what you wanted?

ELISE

Couldn't you have done it
discreetly? Now something terrible
is going to happen because
something from the past got
altered! Don't you see, I wasn't
supposed to break up with Alex
until March, 2013!

BELLE

So? We could just get that Renata
lady to reverse the curse. Besides,
now that you and Alex are no longer
together, that gives you time to
patch things with Howard.

ELISE

Its not that simple! The curse
won't wear off till we discover
what it was exactly that made us
fall in love in the first place.

BELLE

The important thing is that you're
not Alex's prized possession
anymore. That means that you and

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

BELLE (cont'd)

Howard could keep trying till you find the spark again. Besides, Alex breaking up with you was my fault and I'm not from the future, therefore you did nothing wrong, hence you have nothing to lose.

ELISE

Jeez, I never thought of it that way before.

BELLE

I know right, I'm a master thinker.

Belle steps out of the room, and discovers that a female student has filmed the entire argument on his phone. She hurls towards her and smashes her phone. Afterwards, she starts hitting the student.

BELLE

You little brat, do you think breaching people's piracy is funny?!

ELISE

Bring it down just a little bit, she's going to learn all about how it isn't funny once her private photos get leaked three years from now.

INT. ELISE'S DORMROOM- NIGHT

Elise is spoiling future episodes of The Bachelor for Belle as Belle is blow drying her hair.

ELISE

So in Season 23, this dude name Colton is The Bachelor, and he's still a virgin.

BELLE

Get the fuck out of here! How does he get his cherry...

The blow dryer gets stuck in Belle's hair all of the sudden.

ELISE

Um...bestie, a little help here?

(CONTINUED)

Belle examines ways to get the separate the blow dryer from Belle's long hair. Seeing no possible option, Elise begins to pull the dryer with force.

BELLE

Are you serious, do you know how much money it cost me to get hair like this?!

ELISE

Do you want to look like this for the rest of your life? If not, shut your fucking mouth and let me work!

Using all her force, Elise manages to pull the dryer away from Belle's hair. However, Belle screams as loud as she could when a giant portion of her hair becomes bald as a result of the incident.

ELISE

See, I told you that consequences occur to those who alter the past!

INT. WILD ORCHARD SALON, DOWNTOWN AUSTIN- NOON

Trevor gives Howard, Elise, and Belle a lift downtown the following day. They walk into a hair salon and everyone is frightened by Belle's appearance.

ELISE

My BFF Belle experienced a hair disaster last night. We need your help in helping us fix it.

EMPLOYEE

I'm sorry hon, but no one could avert a disaster like that. Check back with us when the hair has fully grown back in six months.

BELLE

I can't walk around campus looking like this! Please, there's got to be some wigs that I could try on.

EMPLOYEE

Help yourself to our rack over there.

As Belle is browsing the rack, Elise intentionally places a wig that's half blonde and half black over Belle's face.

(CONTINUED)

ELISE

Turn around, I want to tweet this out to Sia.

Belle starts going off on a wild rant while Howard and Trevor watch Belle go through a meltdown.

TREVOR

You and Elise should take off...I'll handle this for the next two hours.

HOWARD

Don't forget, you and Belle get married in the future, so don't make her any more agitated.

Howard runs over to Elise and drags her away while Trevor tends to Belle.

INT. ITALIAN RESTURANT- DOWNTOWN AUSTIN- NOON

Howard and Elise are waiting for the food that they ordered to come. Meanwhile they are enjoying a fancy bottle of wine while they converse.

ELISE

I was just thinking back to the moment when we first met.

HOWARD

Oh yeah remind me about that again. I remember that night, but maybe not as vividly as you do.

ELISE

Actually, I want to hear your side of the story.

HOWARD

Well, our mutual friends set us up on a date at Dave and Busters. That's all I can remember.

ELISE

We went on a round of arcade basketball, and one of the balls bounced back and hit me square in the face.

(CONTINUED)

HOWARD

Thinking back to it, I still feel embarrassed about that.

ELISE

I'm just saying that you could have made it as a pitcher. Its not too late to take up a hobby when we get back to the future.

HOWARD

I'll give it some thought. You know what's on mind right now though?

ELISE

Tell me.

HOWARD

I'm trying to recall what it is that made you fall in love with me. It can't be because I'm a handsome hunk who ladies would swoon over since I'm obviously not handsome. I'm just trying to figure it out that way I know what I need to work.

ELISE

You remember that night when we went out to see *About Time* starring Rachel McAdams? That was the night that Trevor and Belle went out bowling, and we had no plans so we decided to keep each other company.

HOWARD

That sounds familiar, but go on. What was it about that night that a lasting impression on you?

ELISE

Well, it was our second date together, and it was on our second date when I began to see how innocent and sweet you were.

HOWARD

Give me one example of how I was innocent and sweet.

ELISE

Just the way you seemed so nervous about going on a date with me was

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

ELISE (cont'd)

what caught my attention. While most men would pretend to be know it all's who want full control over the date, you didn't try to change anything about yourself. That's what I liked about you, your shy, nerdy personality.

HOWARD

If you liked that part of me so much, why did you freak out when I developed stuttering the other day?

ELISE

I freaked out because I know that's the side you hated most about yourself. I wanted to do all I could to save you the humiliation of having to deal with that side of you again.

HOWARD

Had I know you liked that side of me so much, I wouldn't have made such a big scene about it the other day.

ELISE

Look, if the stuttering comes back one of these days, and I'm not around to help you, tell yourself you are enough, and you are right where you need to be. Please just do that for me.

INT. COCKTAIL BAR- AFTERNOON

After lunch, Howard and Elise walk into a cocktail bar. The bar is special since its the only bar in Austin that features live karaoke. The open bar is currently packed, therefore Howard walks over to the karaoke machine to await his turn.

ELISE

I really don't want to do a duet tonight.

HOWARD

You have to. Otherwise why else would have walked in here in the first place?

(CONTINUED)

ELISE

If I start a duet, I'm going to puke. You saw the amount of liquor I consumed earlier, and being that I'm about to consume more, I won't make an ass out of myself. I advise you to make the same decision.

HOWARD

Yeah, that's understandable given that you're 5'2...your tiny little body can't take all the pressure.

Once it comes down to Howard's turn to shine, *The One that Got Away* by Katy Perry is the song of choice on the machine.

HOWARD

Oh come on! Did I go to high school with that guy who was just on here?! This has to be some kind of elaborate prank.

ELISE

You're a big guy, you could stomach it.

After Howard does a rendition of the song, him and Elise settle down to enjoy their cocktails.

ELISE

Oh come on, it wasn't all that bad. Have you ever heard of the phrase *Carpe Diem*? It means seize the day, and you seized the moment by going up there and trying anyway.

HOWARD

If that son of a bitch hadn't set me up for a Katy Perry song, I would have slayed the song so hard they'd be giving us free drinks by now. But I get your point.

Elise takes a moment to examine the bar and re-live the nostalgia of 2011.

ELISE

You know what I miss about being back in 2011? Everyone was calmer. People weren't starting protests, rather they just lived out their day in solitude and embraced everything about their day when it ended.

(CONTINUED)

HOWARD

If you could stay here in 2011,
would you?

ELISE

Not really since I lived it all
before, and I'd rather spend the
rest of my days living in the
present because I don't know what
tomorrow has in store for me. But
being back here in 2011 has made me
learn to appreciate all the
intricate details I forgot about
when I was living in 2011. That's
what I love most about traveling
back here, I get to embrace it all
and gain a new perspective of nine
years ago.

HOWARD

Well, I'm glad you're taking
something out of this entire
experience.

ELISE

What would you say is your favorite
part of being back in 2011 so far?
I know that this entire experience
sucks, but there's a positive to
every negative.

HOWARD

The one that comes to the top of my
head was being right here with you,
and us going through this entire
experience together. When I woke up
here the other day, I wanted
nothing more than to be back home.
But being back here brought me
closer to something that I wouldn't
have realized I needed so much if I
was stuck in the present day...you.

Howard and Elise smile and stare at each other.

EXT. CAPITAL CRUISES- AFTERNOON

Howard and Elise manage to book the final seats on an
afternoon boat tour. The boat passes by the Austin Skyline
on the bright, clear, and lively day. Elise rests her head
on Howard's shoulder, and Howard kisses her on the forehead.

INT. ELISE'S DORMROOM- MORNING

Howard and Elise are sleeping next to each other in bed. They are awoken when Trevor and Belle storm in.

BELLE

I can't believe you guys made love on the bed last night. Do you know how much damage that does to the springs?

TREVOR

Besides, do you know how much the noises of rocking and moaning annoys the neighbors?!

ELISE

Oh please, wasn't this what both of you wanted? For both of us to share an intimate moment together.

BELLE

I didn't mean in my fucking dorm room!

HOWARD

What about you guys, how did your night together go?

BELLE

Our chemistry needs some work.

ELISE

Give it some time. Believe it or not, nine years from now you two are the people who encourage us to visit Renata, which is how we ended up here. So, if you two can manage to hatch up a plan to get us back together, you two belong together.

HOWARD

I'm starving, therefore I'm going with breakfast with these two, and I'll meet you back here afterwards. What do you two want for breakfast?

TREVOR

I vote Brexit.

EXT. UNIVERSITY OF AUSTIN, TX- AFTERNOON

Howard and Elise take a stroll around the campus. They have a discussion about the everything that transpired the past night.

HOWARD

It baffles me how we're still stuck back in 2011. I thought we would have been back in 2020 by now.

ELISE

Well, what if the curse could only wear off once we discover why we've decided to stick together for seven years. For example, discovering what we've taken away from each other in this relationship, and what staying together meant to us as a whole.

HOWARD

Well, I learned that...

ELISE

I didn't mean it like that! We have to discover the meaning for ourselves. Besides, don't you remember what Renata said about forcing things?

HOWARD

We kind of forced things last night, come to think of it.

ELISE

Exactly, and now we have proof that even though our relationship has grown stronger since when we first ended up back here, we have to take the time to discover what it was that brought us together. Doing anything else drastic will still lead us back here to the past.

INT. CREATIVE WRITING CLASS- FOLLOWING AFTERNOON

Elise is in class listening to her professor deliver a very important announcement.

(CONTINUED)

PROFESSOR

I'm going to drop a giant bombshell on you guys; I would like each of you to partner up with a classmate for the duration of the rest of the semester. Together, you and your partner will team up to work on a sixty page Creative Writing project. Great minds think alike, so pick the partner seated next to you, and get to brainstorming.

Elise is partnered up with Garrett (Mid 20's, British, Handsome.) Elise looks slightly disturbed that she's partnered up with another man. However, she doesn't want to cause a scene therefore she accepts that she's working with Garrett on the Creative Writing project.

GARRETT

I don't think I've properly introduced myself, and if we're going to be working together, an introduction is in order. I'm Garrett Atwell.

ELISE

Elise McPherson, pleasure.

GARRETT

Well now that we've got to know each other, what's the subject of our story going to be?

INT. HOWARD'S DORM ROOM- EVENING

Howard answers a knock on his door, and sees that Elise has payed him a visit.

ELISE

Do you want to grab some dinner at the pub?

HOWARD

Seriously, its 8:00 and you still haven't eaten yet?

ELISE

I had a long day.

HOWARD

So have I. Let me tell you about the amount of assignments I have to work on.

(CONTINUED)

ELISE

Don't tell me...show me what you're working on.

Elise walks over to Howard's study table and sees multiple papers on the table.

HOWARD

All these projects have to be completed by Mid-October. I haven't even begun working on them yet since I've spent all last week in panic mode about being back here.

ELISE

How is it you have so many classes? Isn't your schedule the same everyday?

HOWARD

That's only for acting class. I have a total of four other classes after lunch. Two of them fall on Mondays and Wednesdays, and the other two on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

ELISE

What is it you're working on now?

HOWARD

I'm pulling double shifts. I'm doing an essay on Dracula for my Gothic Literature class. On the other hand I'm doing research paper about *The Book of Exodus* for my Romance Literature class.

ELISE

Seems like you really are busy. I'll get out of your hair.

HOWARD

Is everything alright with you?

ELISE

Yup, I have a Creative Assignment that I need to start working on anyway, so its ironic how both of us are keeping busy.

(CONTINUED)

HOWARD

Oh, that's great. What's the plot of it so far?

ELISE

Its about a married couple who move into a new home, only unbeknown to the husband, its actually a ghost house.

HOWARD

Oh that sounds like it'd be right up my alley. Bring me a copy of it when you're done, will you?

ELISE

Sure will.

Elise walks out of the dorm leaving Howard to get back to work.

INT. PRIVATE ROOM- LIBRARY- NOON- THREE WEEKS LATER

Elise and Garrett are having a brainstorming session in the library. Elise is taking notes while Garrett is drawing storyboards for the story on the dry erase board.

ELISE

Diana, the wife knew all along that the house was haunted since its part of her elaborate scheme to get revenge on him for cheating on her for the past four months. As it turns out, there's a book of curses in the house that Diana has been using to control the evil spirits that haunt her husband Bennett. Therefore, Bennett has to find a way to take the book out of Diana's hands and learn to how to control the spirits in order to kill her.

GARRETT

Well, Bennett cheated on his wife and isn't at all grateful for what he has, so taking that direction makes the readers root for Bennett.

ELISE

So you want me just to go the traditional route where the evil spirits terrorize Bennett till the

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

ELISE (cont'd)
point where he starts to realize
how much of an asshole he is?

GARRETT
No, because then Bennett wouldn't
face any consequence of his actions
and would walk away clean.

ELISE
How about if the evil spirits just
haunt Bennett till the point where
he's driven insane which eventually
leads to his death?

GARRETT
That idea sounds perfect, let's go
with that.

Elise continues typing on her laptop while Garrett draws storyboards. While Howard is on the second floor looking for a book, he witnesses Elise and Garrett in the private room working on a project. He watches as Elise is laughing at Garrett's jokes and having open discussions with him during the brain storm session. At ten to one, Howard is awaiting for Elise and Garrett outside the private room.

HOWARD
Hey dude, I don't believe we've
met. I'm Elise's pal, Howard.

GARRETT
Garrett Atwell, the pleasure's all
mines.

HOWARD
Do you mind if I follow you and
Elise to class? My class is just
two buildings down anyway.

GARRETT
Actually, I'm going to grab a
pastry from the cafeteria on my way
there so I'll let you two catch up

HOWARD
Much appreciated, thanks dude.

Howard and Elise part ways with Garrett. Howard and Elise grow agitated towards each other as they make their way to class.

(CONTINUED)

ELISE

You don't have a class two buildings down, do you?!

HOWARD

No, I just made that up so I could ask you about the guy who you didn't introduce me to.

ELISE

How could you possibly think there's something going on between Garrett and I?

HOWARD

You looked more comfortable with him than you do with me during the present day.

ELISE

I was assigned to work with him during Creative Writing. Its not like a fucking buffet where I could choose whatever I want.

HOWARD

Did you tell him about us in the future?

ELISE

No, what good would that do...it would just freak him out! Besides, since when have you started paying attention to my personal life. You're more concerned about finishing your essays now just like you're more concerned about perusing film roles in 2020!

HOWARD

I need to put my work first when I'm back in 2011 so that it will open the doors for more opportunities for me in 2020! Don't you get that I'm doing this so we could still find success even if my acting career goes down the shithole?

ELISE

And I'm doing the same! I'm devoting my time to my classes just like you, so I'd appreciate it if

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

ELISE (cont'd)
you stop giving me shit about the
people who I have to work with!

HOWARD
Fine...nothing happens if I try to
win you over anyway, so we might as
well choose this path for
ourselves.

ELISE
What's that supposed to mean?

HOWARD
You mind your own business while I
mind my own. If we can't manage to
stay out of our own business, then
we'll only become more
dysfunctional in the future.

Howard separates Elise while Elise stands in the middle of
the library appearing frustrated.

INT. DRAMA CLASS- NEXT MORNING

Christina happily takes a seat next to Howard once she
arrives in class.

CHRISTINA
Ready to re enact the scene from
your screenplay which we rehearsed
last night?

HOWARD
You bet your ass we are.

Elise overhears the conversation and becomes agitated.

ELISE
Wait, I thought we were working as
scene partners.

HOWARD
Hey, the decisions I make are none
of your business, Lis.

Mr. Hoffman arrives in class on time.

MR. HOFFMAN
Howard, Elise...front and center.
We're going to witness more of your
screenplay today.

(CONTINUED)

HOWARD

Actually, Elise was unavailable to rehearse with me last night, so do you mind if I choose Christina for the project today?

MR. HOFFMAN

By all means. Do you guys need time to rehearse?

HOWARD

No, we clocked in about an hour of rehearsing last night, so we're good.

Howard and Christina make their way to stage as Elise watches closely.

CHRISTINA

I'm sorry for lashing out at you last night. You must think I'm a shitty wife right now.

HOWARD

Well, married couples fight, but we eventually find a way back to each other in the end. Look, I've been thinking a lot about what you said last night, and if it means making me a more responsible parent, I'm willing to start a family, because I'm not ready to give up on you yet. If a child is going to be the one piece of the puzzle that keeps us together, then I'm ready.

CHRISTINA

I don't want you to stress out more, so I think we should put it on hold.

HOWARD

I'm not stressed out one bit. If it means doing all the work, then I'm up for as much stress as it takes, because if that's what it'll take to grow old with you, then I know it's worth it.

CHRISTINA (SOBBING)

I'll always love you, you're the love of my life. I just want you to come home every so often.

(CONTINUED)

HOWARD

I swear, whatever it takes to keep you around, I'd be up for it.

Christina stands up and caresses Howard.

CHRISTINA

I didn't know when you were coming home, so I borrowed more of that Spanish wine from our neighbor. I think I'm going to head over for some more, since it truly is irresistible.

As Christina rushes toward the door, Howard grabs hold of her and catches her in his arms.

HOWARD

End scene!

Everyone in class except Elise erupts in applause. Elise stares at Howard with a look of devastation.

INT. HOWARD'S DORM ROOM- NOON

Elise breaks into Howard's dorm room without warning.

HOWARD

What the hell? How did you manage to get in here?

ELISE

Lock picking. You should know all about that since you were busy picking Christina's lock by the looks of it.

HOWARD

Wait, you're going to give me shit for that? You were looking really comfortable around your writing partner yesterday, so its not fair that I don't get my share of Tender Loving Care.

ELISE

At least I didn't lock lips with Garrett and allow him to sweep me off my feet!

(CONTINUED)

HOWARD

Oh really, then let's make that happen right fucking now, lets go to his dorm room and...

ELISE

This EXACTLY why we're falling apart in the future! If you allow something like jealousy get the best of you, then its no wonder why you can't fight to keep me happy.

HOWARD

Oh please, I've been trying to make you happy ever since we got married. Who do you think is busting his ass off trying to land film roles so that we could have millions of dollars in our accounts to raise Austin and be set for the rest of our lives?!

ELISE

I meant trying to keep me happy! Not for child or our doomed marriage! Take me into consideration by doing things to help me instead of doing whatever the fuck you think is best for us!

HOWARD

How could I know that you wanted me to care about what you wanted?! You never open up! If I knew you wanted me to do more things that were beneficial to you and only you, I would have happily done it! If only I knew because then I wouldn't be back here in 2011 when I could do things to satisfy you in the present day!

Elise sits down in order to take a breather.

ELISE

Do you think fate set us up for this? We slept together the other night which didn't happen back in 2011. Do you think this is karma for altering the past?

(CONTINUED)

HOWARD

Or this could just be the universe showing us that we weren't meant to end up together after all. If every little problem we have is going to lead to us fighting, then we can never make each other happy.

ELISE (SOBBING)

I wished I never said yes to your proposal when you asked me to. If I refused then we wouldn't where we are trying to work out a situation that has no resolution.

HOWARD

Then what do you want to do?

ELISE

I think we should just go our separate ways. What if we were sent back here so that we could do everything differently? That way we don't end up hapless in 2020. You said it yourself...there's no future in store for us.

Howard and Elise share one final tender moment as Howard pulls Elise closer for a hug.

CUE MUSIC: *Why* by Annie Lennox

- Howard and Elise stay apart from each other and manage to move on with their lives in the coming months.
- Howard takes up an interest in blogging in between studying for exams and writing essays.
- Elise and Garrett grow closer as they continue to work on their Creative Writing project.
- Howard's devotion to his schooling earns him a spot on the semester's Dean's List.
- Elise receives more opportunities to shine in drama class. She is cast as Lady Macbeth, Mary Magdalene, and Belle from *Beauty and the Beast* in upcoming stage projects.
- Howard is noticeably absent from drama class following everything that transpired between him and Elise.
- Howard celebrates his birthday on the first of November with only Trevor keeping him company.

INT. CAFETERIA- NOON- NOVEMBER 15TH

Elise and Belle are having lunch in the cafeteria. Garrett finds them both in the cafeteria and decides to join them.

ELISE

Ah, you made it. What was it you needed to talk to me about?

GARRETT

I apologize if this sounds inappropriate because of how drastic it is for me to suggest something like this. But I was wondering if you would be willing to join my family and I for Thanksgiving dinner in nine days from now.

ELISE

Why me? I mean, we've only worked together. I don't know anything about you, and you don't know anything about me.

GARRETT

I know, that's why I'd like to invite you to dinner with my parents that way you could get to know me more, and I could get to know you. I mean that is unless you have any other plans this Thanksgiving.

ELISE

I mean, that sounds nice unless Belle has anything planned for Thanksgiving.

BELLE

John Hughes Marathon.

ELISE

Seriously, patch things up with your family, please!

GARRETT

So, what do you say?

ELISE

On one condition. We have to celebrate Thanksgiving lunch with my parents during the afternoon. We

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

ELISE (cont'd)
celebrate it during the day due to
the eight hour time zone difference
between us and the U.K.

GARRETT
Gonna be a lot of packed bellies,
but sure...lets do it.

INT. BEDROOM- MORNING

Elise wakes up in a king sized bed next to a man she doesn't recognize. Her panic wakes up the man on the other side of the bed.

STRANGER
Honey, whats the matter? Did you
have a bad dream again?

ELISE
Stop calling me honey, I don't
recognize you!

STRANGER
Its OK now, you're back in reality.
You're no longer in a dream.

ELISE
If I'm back in reality, then I need
confirmation of who you are!

STRANGER
I'm your husband. Honey, its
me...Garrett Atwell.

Garrett (now late-20's, bearded, glasses) begins calming Elise down by patting her on the back. All of the sudden, the baby monitor stored in one of the drawers makes a noise, which prompts Garrett to get out of bed.

GARRETT
That's our little Lucy acting up
again. I'll take care of it, don't
worry.

ELISE
Who keeps a baby monitor in a
drawer?! When did I become
pregnant? And how the fuck did I
end up here all of the sudden?!

Elise grabs Garrett's phone placed on the nightstand and turns it on to see the date read 2-14-20.

INT. DIFFERENT BEDROOM- MORNING

Howard wakes up in a king sized bed next to a woman with light brown hair. He is surprised all of the sudden since he doesn't remember bringing a woman to bed last night.

HOWARD

Elise, what did we do last night?

The woman turns around and stares at Howard with a confused look.

CHRISTINA

Elise? I'm Christina...your wife.

Christina (late 20's) and Howard exchange confused looks for a minute before Howard finally speaks up.

HOWARD

This has to be some kind of a joke,
I don't ever remember...

Howard begins to stutter once again which annoys Christina.

CHRISTINA

You don't ever remember what? You stammer so much sometimes that I think you do it to deliberately piss me off. Now help me make the bed. We don't want to come back to a messy bed after our homemade Valentines Day Dinner we have planned for tonight.

HOWARD

Valentines Day? Its close to Thanksgiving in the year 2011.

CHRISTINA

Please tell me you're joking right now. Its Valentines Day 2020.

Howard immediately gets dressed and leaves the house without helping Christina make the bed.

INT. DELTA INN- LOS ANGELES- MORNING

Howard arrives outside the Delta Inn via an Uber. He rushes towards the check-in desk and waits in line to speak with an employee. Elise rushes in a minute after him and notices Howard in the lineup. She hugs him from behind as soon as she gets close to him, leading to them both embracing each other.

(CONTINUED)

ELISE

Looks like we finally made it back to where we were in the future.

HOWARD

But I woke up with a different wife. Did you wake up with a...

Howard begins to stutter again, leading Elise to personally lift up Howard's left arm as she forces him to put his arm over her.

ELISE

For your information, I woke up with a different husband. Don't worry though, we're going to get some answers out of Renata. You let me do all the talking.

Howard spots Renata as she has just stepped out of an elevator. Renata runs as fast as she could after she's spotted, but Elise manages to catch up to her and pin her up against a wall.

ELISE

Tell us how we ended up here, now!

INT. HOTEL ROOM- MORNING

Howard and Elise lie next to each other in bed as Renata begins offering a reasonable explanation as to what transpired.

RENATA

You broke up with each other, and the course of your history together was altered. That's the logical explanation for it all.

ELISE

We decided to separate in October 2011! Why did we wake up here on what was supposed to be November 16th, 2011?

RENATA

Do you remember doing anything drastic the last time you were in 2011?

(CONTINUED)

ELISE

I accepted Garrett's invitation to have dinner at his family's place.

RENATA

By accepting Garrett's offer, you created a parallel universe in which you and Garrett end up together.

HOWARD

Hold on, I made a move on Christina in October, 2011, why didn't we get sent back to present day in October?!

RENATA

Fate was waiting for both of you to pick your respective partners.

ELISE

So what you're telling me is that the timeline where Howard and I end up together...

RENATA

Never existed. You mess with time, it tends to mess back. I'm sad that this experience has taught you two that you two just weren't meant to end up together, but hey...the heart wants what the heart gets.

HOWARD

What else has changed since we were back in 2011?

RENATA

Turn on the news and you'll see.

Howard turns on a news channel, and sees Hillary Clinton addressing the nation as the President.

ELISE

Babe, did you blow the whistle on Donald Trump's presidency while you were back in time.

HOWARD

Of course I did, no one believed me.

Elise kisses Howard on the cheek.

ELISE

That's why I love you.

CUE MUSIC: *That's Entertainment* by The Jam.

For the next hour, Howard spends time Googling the following topics, only to find pages with zero results.

- Coronavirus
- Ben Affleck Batman
- Fifty Shades of Grey adaptation
- Brexit
- Celebrities Nude Photos Hack
- Times Up Movement
- Brad Pitt Divorce

INT. HOTEL DINING LOUNGE- NOON

Howard and Elise share a meal together as they discuss all the awful things they helped prevent.

HOWARD

We should be credited with a humanitarian award. For all we know, we just saved over a hundred million lives by preventing the Coronavirus.

ELISE

How did you even manage to prevent that?

HOWARD

I started up a blog, and one of my subjects was the the slaughtering of animals in Central China. They keep animals in cages and sell them as food. Something needed to be done about that.

ELISE

You prevented the extinction of half the universe. Iron Man would be proud.

Howard and Elise glance at each other in a romantic manner.

(CONTINUED)

ELISE

Hey, what's your favorite memory about our past life before the whole time travel thing occurred?

HOWARD

Waking up next to you every morning. I mentioned in our wedding vows that it was what I was looking forward to the most while we spent to spend the rest of our lives together.

ELISE

Oh so all of the sudden you remember your wedding vows?

HOWARD

I had some help from Trevor and Belle.

ELISE

Speaking of Trevor and Belle, lets go check up on them after this!

HOWARD

Oh lets not waste our time in doing that. Didn't we tell them that they were going to end up together while we were in 2011? Well, with all things considered, its likely they don't end up together because we spoiled the future for them.

ELISE

Let's text Trevor to find out, he answers his phone the fastest.

Elise texts Trevor to evoke a response from him. Elise receives a reply back a minute later.

ELISE

Trevor is confused as to who the hell Belle is.

EXT. APARTMENT COMPLEX- BEVERLY GROVE- AFTERNOON

Elise parks her vehicle outside Howard's new apartment.

ELISE

What a trip that was, huh?

(CONTINUED)

HOWARD

Yeah, a trip I'd only go on again
if you went on it with me.

ELISE

If only we lived in a reality where
it was possible for us to go back
to nine years ago again. Think of
all the other things we would be
able to change if we had more time.

Howard and Elise exchange a long, final glance at each other before embracing each other for a tearful goodbye. After parting, Howard watches as Elise drives off.

INT. HOWARD'S APARTMENT- NIGHT

Howard is typing on his laptop while sitting on the sofa. The smoke alarm goes off all of the sudden, prompting him to run to the kitchen. A frustrated Christina storms in and discovers that the crab cakes they baked are now burnt.

CHRISTINA

Jesus Christ, couldn't you have
just moved your laptop to the
kitchen instead.

HOWARD

I don't know how...

Howard stutters mid-sentence once again.

CHRISTINA

Exactly, you don't know how this
could have happened. How could you
if you can't even finish a fucking
sentence?!

Christina spends time trying to clean up the mess while Howard reflects back this morning when Elise did all she could to comfort him as they were waiting in line.

INT. ELISE'S HOUSE- NIGHT

Elise is feeding her child baby food while Garrett is on the phone with a client. Elise signals to Garrett that she needs his help in feeding the baby, but Garrett points directly at the phone and walks away to another room. When Garrett returns to the living room, he finds that Elise has left.

EXT. APARTMENT COMPLEX- BEVERLY GROVE- NIGHT

Elise walks into the apartment building and speaks directly to the clerk.

ELISE

Hi, could you give me the number of the Wallington apartment?

CLERK

Room 208, but if you're looking for the husband, he's taken off. Him and his wife got into a really nasty fight apparently. I actually think I appreciate his company more than his wife does.

ELISE

Do you think you could direct me to where he was going?

CLERK

Yeah, he said he was going to Tramp Stamp Granny's for to drink himself to death. Which is on 1638 N Cahuenga Blvd if I could recall.

Elise tips the clerk a hundred dollar bill and leaves.

INT. TRAMP STAMP GRANNY'S- NIGHT

Elise runs inside Tramp Stamp Granny's and looks around to find Howard. After five minutes of searching, Howard is nowhere to be seen, prompting Elise to give up all hope. She waits for the piano player on stage to finish his song before she runs up on stage.

ELISE

Do you mind if I perform a song?

PIANO PLAYER

Please go right ahead, my fingers are killing me.

Elise sits on the bench as she performs *The One That Got Away*; appearing somber and devastated as she plays the piano while singing. Following her performance, she witnesses Howard in the crowd, having witnessed her entire performance. They run towards each other and passionately embrace.

(CONTINUED)

ELISE

I looked everywhere for you.

HOWARD

I know, I was in the staff area.

ELISE

Wait, so they just let you back there?

HOWARD

Once I told them about my plans to win you back, they complied.

ELISE

Look babe, I don't care anymore whether or not you make me your biggest priority because at least you're still husband! Garrett chooses work over me as well, and it agitates me more when he does it because he isn't you.

HOWARD

Christina can't stand my stuttering...only you can. Maybe we do belong together after all.

Howard and Elise share a passionate kiss in front of everyone. Renata appears out of nowhere and shouts out a spell after aiming a broomstick at Howard and Elise.

INT. ELISE'S DORMROOM- MORNING

Elise wakes up in bed next to Alex once again.

ELISE

GET OUT OF MY FUCKING BED NOW!

ALEX

Do you really need to yell?

Elise beats Alex repeatedly with her pillow forcing him to get out of bed. She continues to attack Alex until the point where he runs out of the room in his boxers.

INT. HOWARD'S DORMROOM- MORNING

Howard awakens in the exact same single person folding bed. He gets out of bed and realizes that he's arrived back in the same place in 2011. He cheers gracefully and celebrates by running around the house. Once Trevor storms into the room, Howard rushes over to hug him which confuses Trevor.

TREVOR

Is it International Best Friends
Day already?

Elise arrives in Howard's dorm room moments later, leading to a passionate kiss. Renata steps into the room while the two embrace, leading Howard to become agitated.

HOWARD

The fuck is she doing here?

RENATA

We need to find a room that's
soundproof, now.

INT. PRIVATE ROOM- LIBRARY- MORNING

Howard and Elise are gathered around a table as they watch Renata draw sketches on an Eraseboard.

RENATA

The last time we were here, you two created a parallel reality by spoiling events that hadn't yet occurred. The man upstairs can't allow for that to happen since you'd be building a path to a future that doesn't exist.

ELISE

So you sent us back here so we could just allow for all the awful things that occur from now till 2020 to just happen?

RENATA

Trust me, I don't like this any more than you do.

HOWARD

How did you even manage to get us back here to September 15th 2011, again?

(CONTINUED)

RENATA

It took five tries, but the fifth time was a charm.

HOWARD

Any way we could fast forward in time after we undo all the wrongs we made the last time?

RENATA

Can't do it, I've used up all my spells on you two.

ELISE

So you're telling me that we're given another chance to fall in love with each other all over again?

RENATA

Some people would be grateful for a second opportunity to start over again, so use it wisely. Also, I don't need to remind you what occurs if you mess with the past again.

CUE MUSIC: Rock Around the Clock by Bill Haley

- Over the next two years Howard and Elise re-do things in the past as according to plan.
- Elise and Howard manage to maintain their distance from each other. They smile at each other whenever they have a run in on campus.
- Elise and Alex end their relationship in March, 2013.
- Howard deliberately annoys Christina in Drama Class, leading to them never sharing a single scene together after the third time.
- Trevor and Belle begin a relationship as planned.
- Elise and Howard go on a double date with Trevor and Belle in April, 2013. One of the plastic basketballs bounces back and hits Elise in the face, a callback to the opening scene.

INT. MCPHERSON RESIDENCE- THANKSGIVING 2013- NOON

Howard's family celebrate Thanksgiving with Elise's family.
The group of six are gathered around the table.

ELISE'S DAD

Howard, we can't say how much we appreciate you inviting your family over for Thanksgiving lunch. It's just unfortunate that all the extended family members on our side decided to celebrate Thanksgiving at home in the U.K. instead.

HOWARD

Oh please, its my pleasure.
Thanksgiving means nothing if you can't break bread with new allies.

HOWARD'S DAD

So, Elise, how are your brothers and sisters enjoying it over there in the U.K.?

ELISE

Oh, I'm an only child.

HOWARD'S MOM

No kidding, just like Howard here.

HOWARD

Yeah, its no wonder why her and I get along so well.

ELISE'S DAD

So, Mr. Zhang, what do you do for work?

HOWARD'S DAD

We manage an Italian Restaurant downtown. Its how we could pay for Howard to go to college.

ELISE'S DAD

No kidding, my wife and I were thinking about opening up a bakery downtown. How much is the lease to operate a business downtown?

Howard's father and Elise's father hit it off as Howard and Elise sit back and relax.

(CONTINUED)

HOWARD

You think our families getting along is a sign that we were made for each other?

ELISE

If I told you, then it won't happen.

EXT. MCPHERSON RESIDENCE- NIGHT

Howard and Elise are lying in the backyard as they stare at the night's sky. Elise catches a shooting star in the sky.

ELISE

Look, a shooting star right there, do you see it?

HOWARD

Yup, perfect timing too given that its Thanksgiving.

ELISE

If you want to make a wish, now's the time to do so.

HOWARD

I have all that I wished for right next to me.

Howard and Elise share a kiss as the camera pans to another shooting star the night's sky.

INT. DELTA INN- LOS ANGELES- MORNING

Elise awakens the next morning with Howard by his side. After opening up the curtains, Elise discovers that they are back in Los Angeles. The date is March 15th, 2020.

ELISE

Honey, wake up! Its 2020 again!

Howard turns the TV to a news channel after waking up. Howard cries tears of joy after seeing Trump on TV again, knowing that him and Elise have finally beat the curse.

HOWARD

Still, shame about that Coronavirus Outbreak, though.

(CONTINUED)

ELISE

Yeah, if only we could have prevented it from happening in the past.

Someone knocks on the door all of the sudden. Elise checks the peek hole and it turns out to be Renata. Elise opens the door to allow Renata to come inside.

RENATA

Sorry for sending you guys back in time unannounced. But it needed to be done to save your marriage.

ELISE

No worries Renata. Thank you for saving us. My husband and I wouldn't be as close as we are now if you didn't step in.

HOWARD

How did we end up back here all of the sudden? Last thing I remember, it was Thanksgiving, 2013.

RENATA

The curse wears off when the subject learns his or her valuable lesson. I'm guessing you realized yours just last night, otherwise the curse wouldn't have worn off just like that.

HOWARD

Speaking of which, I realized something during Thanksgiving dinner last night.

RENATA

Well, go on...share with the group.

HOWARD

I learned that I don't need to build a successful future for myself. I have to embrace all the surprises that the present day has in store for me. Besides, I could lose all that I've fought to achieve and everything that's valuable to me if I don't stop to appreciate the present day.

(CONTINUED)

RENATA

Looks like you've learned your lesson. What are you guys going to do now?

HOWARD

I need to check my answering machine and see if Danny...

Renata aims her broomstick at Howard which causes him to rethink what he's about to say.

HOWARD

I was just kidding around. I'm going to go home and celebrate all the time I have with my wife.

RENATA

Don't ever forget how thankful you are to have each other.

Renata leaves the room as Howard and Elise spend their time cuddling in bed.

EXT. MCPHERSON RESIDENCE- AFTERNOON

Howard picks up Elise and carries her towards their doorstep. Trevor and Belle witness this and show extreme enthusiasm that they've rekindled their love.

TREVOR

Son of a bitch, the plan actually worked!

HOWARD

You bet your sweet ass it did.

ELISE

Do you guys mind if we use the bedroom for a moment?

BELLE

Seriously, you couldn't have pulled that shit off back at the hotel?!

ELISE

Not when there's a witch working there.

BELLE

Well hold on, give me a minute while I clean up the bed. Trevor

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

BELLE (cont'd)
and I made a mess in there last
night.

HOWARD
Don't take too long, my arms aren't
all that strong.

INT. MCPHERSON RESIDENCE- MORNING- NOVEMBER, 2021

Austin and a baby girl are playing in a crib while Howard's
Parents and Elise's Parents team up to look after the
children. Meanwhile, Howard and Elise are getting ready to
go on a vacation to Austin, TX.

HOWARD
I can't say how much we appreciate
you four stepping in and taking
care of this for us.

ELISE'S DAD
Oh please, all of us are more than
happy to help. Its for an important
cause anyway.

ELISE'S MOM
Now go on and enjoy yourselves. And
send us lots of photos.

Howard and Elise get in the car parked in the garage,
smiling at each other before driving off.

EXT. ZILKER PARK- AUSTIN, TX- AFTERNOON

Howard and Elise renew their vows in front of an arch.
Renata acts at the officiant. In attendance are Trevor,
Belle, and Mr. Hoffman.

HOWARD
I vow to devote every inch of your
heart and soul into taking care of
you for as long as I live.

ELISE
And I vow to overcome any struggle
we face, so long you're with me
till the very end.

RENATA
As the officiant, I officially
declare Howard and Elise
re-married!

(CONTINUED)

The attendants erupt in applause as Howard and Elise kiss. Trevor takes the multiple photos while Belle helps cut out pieces of the wedding cake.

HOWARD

I don't know how we could repay you, Renata. This wouldn't be possible if you didn't step in to help.

RENATA

Just promise me that you two will never lose sight of what's most important ever again.

Elise hugs Renata as Howard looks around and takes time to appreciate how happy everyone is at the ceremony.

ELISE

Do you think we'll have it in us to stay married for sixty more years?

HOWARD

I don't know, but I know that I'm here in the present with you, and there's nowhere I'd rather be.

Howard places his arms around Elise as they stare out in the sky and take time to embrace the present. The Camera pans out from Zilker Park as the screen fades to black.