## HOPE AND RAIN

"Pilot"

Episode #1001

written by

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## OPEN.

EXT. OUTSIDE OF DAPHNE'S BAKERY - MORNING

RAIN and HOPE PERRIGREEN stand on the street with the bakery owner, DAPHNE JOHNSON. Rain is holding a baby carrier in one hand. They are moving into the condo above Daphne's bakery. She hands Rain a key.

DAPHNE

So here's the key. Obviously, rent is due at the end of every month.

RAIN

Uh... okay.

Rain awkwardly moves to put the key in his jacket pocket. Daphne smiles at the baby.

DAPHNE

And what's this little one's name?

HOPE

Reed. He's three months.

DAPHNE

Well, he is as cute as a button.

Hope smiles.

HOPE

Thank you.

DAPHNE

Now listen, if the two of you ever need anything, I live in a quaint little house just a few streets down. When I'm not at the bakery, which is basically never. So... just come to the bakery.

RAIN

We will. Thank you so much for everything you've done.

DAPHNE

Absolutely. Oh! And I did take the liberty and leave you some cupcakes on the counter. From the bakery. Best in town.

RAIN

I remember.

DAPHNE

Okay. I'm going now. But I'm serious, if you need anything I can be here in five seconds.

RAIN

Daphne.

DAPHNE

Yes?

RAIN

We're fine. You can go back to work.

DAPHNE

Okay. I'll see you both later!

Daphne turns and runs back up the stairs into the bakery. Rain turns to Hope.

RAIN

You ready?

HOPE

Sure.

Rain and Hope begin walking towards the stairs, which lead up to the condo.

INT. HOPE AND RAIN'S CONDO - MORNING

Rain opens the door. Hope enters first, looking around at everything.

HOPE

When's the moving truck supposed to be here?

RAIN

Two o'clock.

Rain sets Reed's carrier on the counter in the kitchen. He strokes the sleeping baby's face with his finger and smiles. He turns to look at Hope, who is blankly staring out of the window. He moves over to her and wraps his arms around her.

RAIN (CONT'D)

How is it today?

HOPE

Remember yesterday when I said it was getting better?

Yeah.

HOPE

Now I feel like it's getting worse. I feel like I'm falling down into a deep black hole and no matter how hard I try to get out, I can't.

RAIN

Oh babe...

HOPE

It's okay. I know eventually it won't hurt as bad... but I've never had to deal with grief like this before.

RAIN

I know. I wish there was more that I could do to help...

Hope turns around in his arms and links her arms around his neck.

HOPE

You help a lot more than you realize.

Rain smiles. They go in for a kiss - but the baby starts crying. They both laugh a bit. Rain turns to go, but Hope stops him.

HOPE (CONT'D)

I can do it.

RAIN

Okay.

Hope moves over and takes the baby out of his carrier. He continues to fuss.

HOPE

Are you hungry, bubba? Yeah I think that you are.

Hope walks back towards the living room area. There is obviously no furniture.

HOPE (CONT'D)

You know, this would be a lot easier if we had a couch.

The baby continues to fuss. Rain looks around for a solution.

I could hoist you up onto the counter?

Hope gives him an 'are you serious' look.

RAIN (CONT'D)

It's either that or the toilet.

HOPE

The toilet it is.

Hope moves towards the restroom.

INT. BATHROOM - MORNING

Hope settles herself on the toilet, then begins to breastfeed the baby. Rain comes in and sits along the wall across from her.

HOPE

You know, I can be alone. It's tough right now, but I need to be here for the baby.

RAIN

Oh, I know. There's just... not much to look at out there.

HOPE

Rain, I'm sorry. That was so rude of me-

RAIN

No, no, it's fine. You have a lot on your plate right now.

Hope nods. It's a bit awkward now.

HOPE

Have you talked to your parents yet?

RAIN

No. First I need to consume an entire bottle of wine... and maybe smash my head through the wall.

HOPE

We need them, hon.

I know. It's just a little hard when the last thing you said to them was that you didn't.

HOPE

What about Alysa? Does she know?

RAIN

Yeah, she said she's coming by after work.

HOPE

Okay.

RAIN

I can't believe they haven't met him yet.

HOPE

Your parents?

Rain nods.

HOPE (CONT'D)

We invited them out. What else could we have done?

RAIN

Lived our lives exactly like they told us to.

HOPE

This isn't going to be easy, is it?

RAIN

Nope. But at least we have each other. And this little guy.

HOPE

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And Daphne.

RAIN

Of course. Cake for breakfast every morning.

(then)

Speaking of, I just remembered those cupcakes.

Rain gets up from the floor.

RAIN (CONT'D)

Want one?

HOPE

No, I'm okay.

Rain shrugs.

RAIN

Your loss.

Rain happily skips out of the bathroom. Hope rolls her eyes and smiles.  $\,$ 

END OF OPEN.

ACT ONE.

INT. HOPE AND RAIN'S CONDO - DAY

Two movers enter with a couch. ALYSA PERRIGREEN is right behind them. Alysa is Rain's older sister.

ALYSA

Who knew you had so much crap?

Rain turns.

RAIN

Hey, Lys.

ALYSA

Hey.

They hug.

ALYSA (CONT'D)

Where's my nephew?

RAIN

Once again taking a nap in his carrier. We got here a little while before the truck did.

ALYSA

Of course you did. Those things are slow as hell.

RAIN

Please refrain from saying that in front of the movers.

ALYSA

Eh. Where's my sister-in-law?

RAIN

In the bedroom, telling them how she wants it arranged.

Alysa moves past him towards it.

INT. HOPE AND RAIN'S BEDROOM - DAY

Hope is standing in the door while men are moving furniture. Alysa comes to stand beside her.

ALYSA

Hey.

HOPE

Hey.

They hug.

ALYSA

Honey, what are you doing?

HOPE

What do you mean?

ALYSA

Aren't you supposed to be telling them where to put things?

HOPE

Yeah, but I mean-

But Alysa turns away from her.

ALYSA

What are you idiots doing? You can't set a dresser in front a window! They'll be no light in the room.

Alysa moves forward to continue to berate the movers. Rain appears in the doorway.

HOPE

Thank god she showed up. I was too afraid of confrontation to say anything.

Rain smiles.

RAIN

You're ridiculous. This is your house, you can say whatever you want.

HOPE

Okay. Then... can you just tell them where you want everything and we'll fix it after they leave?

RAIN

Absolutely. Unless said piece is a washer, dryer, fridge, or any of your haircare products.

HOPE

Fine.

Rain walks away. Alysa comes back.

ALYSA

Hope, darling, let's go into the kitchen. I can't stand the idiocy in this room.

Hope nods then turns and leads Alysa back to the kitchen.

INT. HOPE AND RAIN'S CONDO - DAY

Hope and Alysa stop in the kitchen. Rain is down on the floor putting things in cabinets and drawers.

ALYSA

How are you doing?

HOPE

Today? Not great.

ALYSA

I'm so sorry to hear that. I can't imagine what you're going through. Just let me know if you need anything.

HOPE

I will.

ALYSA

Hey. You.

Alysa kicks at Rain on the ground. He gives her an 'are you serious' look.

ALYSA (CONT'D)

Did you tell mom and dad you moved back yet?

RAIN

No.

ALYSA

Well, what are you waiting for?

RAIN

Them to become more accepting of the fact that I ran off after my wedding and didn't speak to them for five years. ALYSA

You seriously haven't talked to them at all?

RAIN

Obviously not. They haven't even met their grandson. I told mom about the pregnancy over Facebook.

ALYSA

Oh yeah? And she didn't say anything?

RAIN

She left me on read.

ALYSA

Oo. Harsh.

RAIN

And they never talk about me? Or Hope?

ALYSA

They refer to you as 'our son' and 'his wife'. They don't say much other than you're not close with them and moved North.

RAIN

Great.

HOPE

Are you sure you should go over there? Maybe we should just integrate ourselves into their lives slowly?

RAIN

I mean, I don't think writing them a letter will make them feel any warmer towards me.

HOPE

They're your parents. They still love you. They have to! No matter what.

RAIN

My parents aren't like yours, babe. Everything must be done on their terms.

HOPE

Maybe they've changed?

Rain looks at Alysa. She shakes her head.

RAIN

I didn't think so. Just like many other old white people in America, they're stuck in their ways.

HOPE

Maybe you could bring the baby? They couldn't say no to such a sweet face.

ALYSA

Yeah. And maybe a bottle of wine. Mom has really got into the wine since you left.

Hope and Rain exchange a look.

EXT. DAN AND CANDICE'S HOME - DAY - LATER

Rain is standing outside of the door. He is holding Reed's baby carrier and a bottle of wine in his hands.

RAIN

(talking to himself)

Okay... you can do this. You can do this. Just ring the bell. You're grown man, there's no need to be afraid of your mother. Okay.

Rain rings the doorbell.

RAIN (CONT'D)

Oh god! What did I do? What did I-

CANDICE opens the door. She is clearly shocked to see him.

RAIN (CONT'D)

Hi mom.

CANDICE

Rain?

Rain nods.

CANDICE (CONT'D)

What are you doing here?

Um... I needed to talk to you.

CANDICE

Okay... well, come inside then.

Candice turns and Rain follows her back inside of the house.

INT. DAN AND CANDICE'S HOME - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Rain follows his mother into the room. He sets the baby carrier on the couch.

CANDICE

Is this...?

Rain nods.

RAIN

Yeah. Your grandson. Reed.

Rain pulls back the cover so that Candice can get a better view of the baby.

CANDICE

Well where's Hope?

RAIN

She stayed at the house.

CANDICE

The house?

RAIN

I told you that I needed to talk to you.

CANDICE

Fine. Then talk. Sit.

Rain sits on the couch beside the baby. Candice sits on the couch opposite. Rain notices that he's still holding a wine bottle.

RAIN

Oh. I uh... brought you this.

CANDICE

Just set it on the table.

Rain does. Candice waits for him to speak.

Oh! Right. Um... I don't know if you know, but Hope's parents... died in a horrible car accident about a month ago. They had been helping us so much with the baby... (then)

After they were gone, I didn't know what to do. Reed was barely two months and Hope has been dealing with all of this grief. I don't know. I didn't know what else to do. So I moved us out here. We're renting a condo on main street above the bakery. I was just hoping...

CANDICE

You were hoping what?

RAIN

That maybe you and dad could help us out?

Candice looks unsure.

RAIN (CONT'D)

We're not financially scrambling or anything. Yet. We just need some help with the baby. Those things are kind of a handful.

CANDICE

Just wait until he grows up.

RAIN

Mom.

CANDICE

You put me through the worst pain I have ever felt for five years and then just waltz in here and expect me to help you?

RAIN

No. No, actually I didn't.

CANDICE

Excuse me?

RAIN

Originally, I wanted to move back so we could at least be near Alysa. (MORE) RAIN (CONT'D)

The one family member who came to meet my son when he was born. But Hope encouraged me to talk to you. She thought you might want to know your grandson. But you know what? I could care less.

Rain stands from the couch, takes the baby carrier, and quickly leaves the house.

Candice waits for a few moments until she hears his car start up and begins to cry.

And we...

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT ONE.

## ACT TWO.

INT. DAPHNE'S BAKERY - DAY

Hope enters the bakery. Daphne is in the middle of decorating a cake.

DAPHNE

Well, hey sweetie.

HOPE

Hey.

DAPHNE

Do you need something?

HOPE

Well, yes, actually. I was wondering if you had any job openings?

DAPHNE

You're looking for a job?

HOPE

I'm looking for a distraction.

DAPHNE

I thought you already had a job?

HOPE

I did. Back in Chicago. Then the baby was born, and my parents... I quit. Then we moved here. I just want to - do something.

DAPHNE

Can you ice a cake?

HOPE

Sure.

DAPHNE

Then you're hired!

Daphne and Hope both look excited. Then Daphne realizes.

DAPHNE (CONT'D)

Oh. Actually, why don't you fill out an application first? That'll probably look a little more professional.

Hope smiles. Daphne hands her an application over the counter. Hope moves to a table and begins to fill it out. Rain enters.

RAIN

Hey.

HOPE

Hey.

RAIN

I thought I saw you in here. What are you doing?

HOPE

Filling out an application.

RAIN

You're applying for a job? Baby, I told you, you didn't have to work if you didn't want to.

HOPE

I know. But I do want to.

RAIN

Okay. As long as you're up for it.

Rain walks around the table and joins her. Sets the baby beside him on the ground.

HOPE

How did talking with your parents go?

RAIN

It was just my mom. And not well. I guess we'll just have to depend on Alysa for a little while.

HOPE

I just feel so bad. You know, I just need to get over this and then I'll be fine and we-

RAIN

Hope. You lost your parents. No one expects you to bounce back immediately. It's gonna take some time.

HOPE

I know. I know...

Daphne comes over.

DAPHNE

Tart?

HOPE

What?

DAPHNE

Oh, I just made some tarts. Do you want some?

HOPE

I guess. Sure.

DAPHNE

Tell me what you think. This is my first time making them.

HOPE

So we're your guinea pigs?

DAPHNE

If you wanna work here, then you better get used to it.

Hope and Rain exchange a look. They each take one, 'cheers', and then take a bite.

RAIN

Mm. That's really good.

DAPHNE

Thank you!

Daphne takes the tray of tarts and sets them at the next table over.

DAPHNE (CONT'D)

You know, I remember when we were in high school and my mom ran this place. You would come in here everyday and do your homework.

RAIN

I remember.

DAPHNE

(to Hope)

Rain was the only boy who was nice to me in school. Those were some really rough years for both of us.

Amen.

DAPHNE

Well, I'd better get back to decorating that cake. The woman who came in here and ordered for her wedding is a complete bridezilla.

RAIN

(to Hope, joking)
Huh. Just like you were.

HOPE

Do you want to die?

RAIN

No. Sorry.

Daphne walks back to the counter.

HOPE

So do you want to talk about what happened at your mom's?

RAIN

There's not much to say. I came to the door, she answered, she met the baby, we sat down for five seconds, yelled, and then I left.

HOPE

You yelled in front of Reed?

RAIN

He didn't even wake up. Lucky little butt.

They both smile at the baby.

HOPE

You start work tomorrow?

RAIN

Yep.

HOPE

Are you nervous?

RAIN

I don't know. Haven't thought about it much.

HOPE

I'm sure you'll be the best Graphic Designer on all of the East Coast!

Rain smiles.

RAIN

Your optimism is wasted on me.

HOPE

You're so overdramatic.

INT. HOPE AND RAIN'S CONDO - REED'S ROOM - NIGHT

Rain gently lays the baby in his bed. He kisses him on the forehead. He walks over to the light and stops.

RAIN

Goodnight, bubba.

He flicks off the light.

INT. HOPE AND RAIN'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Rain enters the room. Hope is sitting up in the bed. She tries to hide the fact that she's been crying.

HOPE

Is he asleep?

RAIN

Yes, but... babe, are you crying?

Hope finally allows her true colors to show.

HOPE

Sorry. It just happens sometimes.

Rain quickly comes and climbs onto the bed with her. He wraps his arms around her.

RAIN

Don't be sorry. Never be sorry. Cry all you need. I'll be here.

Hope leans into his shoulder and continues to cry. He kisses her head. She suddenly pushes away from him.

HOPE

No. This is pathetic. I'm pathetic.

You are not.

HOPE

(quietly)

I don't want to feel like this anymore...

RAIN

I know you don't, but I'm afraid the only way out is through.

Hope shakes her head.

HOPE

You're gonna hate me after this.

RAIN

No, I'm not. I am never ever going to hate you. Please don't push me away.

HOPE

I'm not trying to. I just don't want to drag you down into the abyss. Who's gonna take care of our baby then?

RAIN

Hope, anything you go through, I go through with you. I'm your husband. That's how this works. But I am not gonna let anything happen to that kid. I know what its like to have parents who suck. I'm not gonna be that for my son.

Hope looks away.

HOPE

I wish I could say the same...

RAIN

Hey... hey, look to me.

Hope finally does.

RAIN (CONT'D)

You don't suck. You're a great mom to Reed.

HOPE

Then why don't I feel like it?

I doubt it's easy for you to feel much besides sadness right now. It's only been a month. Just let yourself feel it.

HOPE

I don't want you to have to do everything by yourself.

RAIN

I'm not. Hey, you are so strong. If something like what happened to you... happened to me, I would have been shattered. I wouldn't have gotten out of bed for weeks. But the next day, you were there. Feeding him, burping him, kissing him on the head. I have never once thought that I was in it by myself.

Hope nods.

RAIN (CONT'D)

Why don't we just sleep? Hm?

HOPE

Okay.

RAIN

Okay.

Hope settles herself down into the bed. Rain turns over and flicks off the lamp light.

INT. HOPE AND RAIN'S CONDO - MORNING

Hope pours a cup of coffee. Rain enters, pulling a jacket onto his shoulders.

RAIN

What are you doing awake?

HOPE

I thought you might want some coffee.

She hands him the cup.

RAIN

Thank you.

HOPE

Also, someone didn't wake up when the baby started screaming at five a.m.

Rain winces.

RAIN

Sorry.

HOPE

It's alright. I got him back to sleep.

They both lean up against opposite ends of the counter.

RAIN

Remember yesterday when you asked me if I was nervous about starting work?

HOPE

Yeah.

RAIN

Well, I thought about it. And I am.

HOPE

Don't be. You're gonna do great. I know you will.

Rain nods.

RAIN

Thanks.

(then)

So what are your plans for the day?

HOPE

Well, I'm gonna go to the store because we have like no food. Then I'm going to rearrange some things. I don't start at the bakery until next week. Daphne wanted me to get settled first.

RAIN

Well, that was very kind of her.

HOPE

It was.

Rain looks at the clock.

Well, I guess I better go.

He sets his coffee cup on the counter. Hope hugs him.

HOPE

Have a good day.

RAIN

I will.

They separate and Rain moves towards the door.

RAIN (CONT'D)

I'll see you tonight.

HOPE

Okay.

Rain closes the door a little too loudly. The baby starts crying. Hope sighs.

INT. STATHAM GRAPHICS - MORNING

Rain has clearly been getting a tour from his boss, KYLE. They stop in front of a cubicle.

KYLE

And this is your space.

RAIN

Great.

KYLE

Just sit down and make yourself comfortable. I'll send Tyler over in just a minute to kind of show you how everything works around here.

RAIN

Okay.

Kyle walks away. Rain settles himself down into the chair. He sets his bag on the desk and begins to unpack his things. TYLER KENNEDY appears behind him.

TYLER

Hey, are you Rain?

Rain turns.

Yeah. You must be Tyler.

Rain stands and they shake hands.

TYLER

That's me. I handle a lot of the social media stuff so we'll be working together a lot, graphics guy.

RAIN

Great. And you can just call me Rain.

TYLER

Got it. So let me give you the run down. On Monday mornings, we have creative meetings. That's where we get a lot of our work assignments. Then the last half of Monday and Tuesday and Wednesday to get everything together. We get notes on Thursday and then take suggestions to finalize everything on Friday.

RAIN

Wow. Sounds pretty busy.

TYLER

Oh it is. But don't worry, if you get overwhelmed or anything just come to me.

RAIN

Okay, great.

TYLER

The last graphics guy we had was really old and grumpy. A lot of the guys we have around here are like that. It'll be nice to have someone young to talk to.

RAIN

I guess I am pretty young, but I do have to warn you, I just had a kid.

TYLER

Whoa. You married?

RAIN

Yep.

Rain shows him the ring on his finger.

TYLER

Nice.

RAIN

So when does the creative meeting start?

TYLER

Here in about twenty minutes. You should probably just sit here and enjoy the few moments of freedom you have before you get yelled at by a bunch of old white guys.

RATN

Wow. This sounds exactly like my old job.

TYLER

Hey, they're everywhere.

Rain smiles.

RAIN

See you in the meeting.

TYLER

See you.

Tyler walks away. Rain sinks down into his chair.

INT. STATHAM GRAPHICS - MEETING ROOM - DAY

Rain is sitting down, ready for the meeting. Tyler enters and sits beside him.

TYLER

(whispering)

You ready for this?

RAIN

(whispering)

What should I expect?

TYLER

(whispering)

Trust me, you'll never expect what happens in these meetings.

In the next few moments, everyone shuffles in and gets comfortable. Rain looks around nervously. Finally, Kyle stands at the head of the table.

KYLE

Alright, lets get started.

(then)

Gentlemen, before we get started we have a new addition to the staff. Everyone please welcome Rain Perrigreen.

The men clap and Rain smiles.

KYLE (CONT'D)

Rain, why don't you stand and say a few words?

Rain looks nervous.

RAIN

Uh... okay.

Rain stands.

RAIN (CONT'D)

Um, hi everyone. I'm excited to join the team and... I'm excited to get to work with all of you.

Rain awkwardly sits back down.

KYLE

Thank you, Rain. We're excited to work with you. Now everyone remember that Rain is new so don't just start throwing things at him.

Kyle sits back down.

KYLE (CONT'D)

Brian, I believe you wanted to begin.

BRAIN leans forward.

BRIAN

Yes...

Brian continues to talk, but we don't hear him. Now we're focusing on Rain and Tyler's conversation.

Doesn't a single woman work in this building?

TYLER

Uh no. But I'm black so there's that.

RAIN

Yeah. Real diverse. I'm suddenly starting to remember why I didn't like living in this place.

TYLER

But you're a white, straight guy. You should thrive here.

RAIN

I know, but how's that fair?

TYLER

It's not.

BRIAN

... so do you think you can do that, Rain?

Suddenly, feeling guilty, Rain nervously taps his fingers on the table.

RAIN

I'm sorry... what?

BRIAN

I said we have a client who needs some options for a new logo. Named Landlines, no yellow, or bright, or too gay.

RAIN

Too what?

BRIAN

Too gay.

RAIN

Um... isn't that a little offensive?

BRIAN

I'm just relaying information. It's what they said. We have to please our customers. You can do it?

Uh yeah, I can do it.

Rain and Tyler exchange a look.

INT. HOPE AND RAIN'S CONDO - DAY

Hope has just packed the baby into a carrier on her chest. She lightly rubs his back.

HOPE

That's right. You just stay asleep baby. Mommy's just gonna run to the store real quick.

Hope pulls her phone out of her pocket.

HOPE (CONT'D)

Let me see.

(then )

Milk, eggs, toilet paper, basically everything under the sun. Great.

Hope grabs her keys from the counter and then walks out of the condo.

INT. SUPERMARKET - DAY

Hope walks down an aisle with a shopping cart. She only has a few things in the cart. She stops and picks up a bottle of laundry detergent. She looks down the aisle at the others.

HOPE

What are these brands?

Hope sets the bottle back on the shelf. She looks around even more.

HOPE (CONT'D)

I guess... I'll just take this one.

Hope tosses it into the cart.

HOPE (CONT'D)

(to Reed)

If that makes your daddy's clothes shrink, I'm telling him you picked it out.

Hope continues walking down the aisle.

She moves onto the next. It's the liquor section.

HOPE (CONT'D)

I should probably not be in this aisle with a baby...

Hope begins to walk out of the aisle and accidentally bumps into a slightly older man. He turns and it's her father-in-law, DAN.

HOPE (CONT'D)

Oh. I'm so sorry. Dan?

DAN

Hope. What are you doing here?

HOPE

Uh... we just moved here. Candice didn't tell you?

DAN

Candice and I don't really talk much anymore.

HOPE

That must make dinner really awkward.

DAN

You really don't know, do you?

HOPE

Don't know what?

DAN

Hope, Candice and I are divorced.

Hope looks shocked.

And we...

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT TWO.

## ACT THREE.

INT. COFFEE SHOP - DAY

Hope and Dan sit at a table. They each have a coffee sitting in front of them. Dan is happily holding his grandson.

HOPE

Dan, you really didn't have to buy our groceries or this coffee.

DAN

Don't be ridiculous. You're my family. I want to do good things for my family.

Dan smiles down at the baby.

HOPE

Um... I'm sorry. This is just so strange. I thought for sure you would hate us.

DAN

I was... angry for a while. But you were both so young. I made mistakes when I was young too.

Hope nods.

HOPE

So, if you don't mind my asking, what happened with you and Candice?

DAN

Well, I suppose our problems started after the two of you left. It hurt us. And neither of us had ever been particularly close to Rain. I always thought that when he grew up, he would be the best of friends.

HOPE

Maybe you still can be.

DAN

I doubt that he wants to talk to me.

HOPE

Actually, he might. Candice didn't say anything about you two being divorced when he went to see her yesterday.

DAN

From what you told me, it didn't sound like they talked long.

HOPE

They didn't.

DAN

Hey Hope, I'm sorry, but I should probably get going. My 'break' from work has lasted way longer than I anticipated.

HOPE

Okay.

Dan hands the baby back to Hope.

DAN

He's precious.

HOPE

He is.

(then)

Dan, would you maybe want to join us for dinner tonight?

DAN

That would be great.

HOPE

Okay, we live in the condo above Daphne's bakery. Does seven sound okay?

DAN

Sounds great.

Dan and Hope smile at each other. Dan goes to leave the store. Alysa starts entering.

DAN (CONT'D)

Hello, darling. Sorry but I have to run.

ALYSA

Hey dad. Okay.

Dan slips out of the door. Alysa looks confused. She and Hope make eye contact. Alysa's eyes suddenly grow wide and she turns and quickly leaves the coffee shop. Hope jumps up and follows after her.

EXT. OUTSIDE OF THE COFFEE SHOP - DAY

Hope is rushing after Alysa.

HOPE

Alysa! Alysa!

Hope stops.

HOPE (CONT'D)

Alysa! I'm carrying a baby!

Alysa suddenly stops and turns back.

ALYSA

He told you?

HOPE

Yes he did. Why didn't you?

ALYSA

Both of you are just dealing with so much. It felt like too much to pile on.

HOPE

Well, it isn't. It's completely essential information.

ALYSA

I guess I should tell Rain...

HOPE

Yes, you should. Especially because I invited Dan over for dinner tonight.

ALYSA

You did?

HOPE

Well, I got a lot more out of him than Rain did out of Candice. If he can sometimes help us out... then I would be grateful. ALYSA

Do you want me to come tonight too? Maybe if I'm there everything will go smoothly.

HOPE

I think it will. Dan said he forgave us.

ALYSA

He did. But there's still a lot of family history between he and Rain.

HOPE

I know...

ALYSA

Okay. Why don't we go to the house now then when Rain gets home, we break the news. He'll have enough time to calm down before dad shows up.

HOPE

Fine. Okay. Let's go then.

Hope and Alysa begin to start walking back to the coffee shop.

HOPE (CONT'D)

And don't think you're off the hook, missy. You're gonna get an earful.

INT. HOPE AND RAIN'S CONDO - DAY

Rain comes home from work, clearly exhausted. He hooks his keys on the hook. Hope and Alysa are standing there, side by side, smiling at him.

RAIN

Uh...

We flash to the three of them sitting in the living room.

RAIN (CONT'D)

So mom and dad are divorced, huh?

ALYSA

Yeah. I just didn't know how to tell you.

When did it happen?

ALYSA

About six months ago.

RAIN

Six months!?

ALYSA

I just didn't think you would care.

RAIN

You didn't think that I would care about my parents getting divorced?

ALYSA

You didn't seem to care much about what they did before.

RAIN

This is different, Lys. Did they think that I knew?

ALYSA

Um...

RAIN

Alysa!

ALYSA

You don't know what its like, Rain. To be everyone's mouth piece.

RAIN

You didn't tell me that mom and dad got divorced! That's major.

ALYSA

I'm sorry! Is that what you want to hear?

RAIN

Alysa. It's been six months. You've had plenty of opportunity to tell me.

ALYSA

I can't change the past, Rain.

RAIN

Okay. I need to breathe for a second.

Rain gets up and leaves the condo. Alysa turns to Hope.

ALYSA

Well, he took that well.

HOPE

He is justified in being upset. That is some pretty unsettling news.

ALYSA

I just didn't think he would care so much.

HOPE

Six months is a long time to keep something that big a secret. Oh god, and I haven't even told him about Dan coming for dinner... You know what, Lys? Thanks for everything. But I think maybe I should just handle this. He needs some time to chill out.

ALYSA

Okay. If you think that's best.

HOPE

I do. I'll text you if I decide that I really can't handle it.

Alysa nods.

ALYSA

Make sure that you do. If anyone knows how to chorale this family, its me.

Hope and Alysa stand. Hope leads her to the door.

HOPE

Seriously, thank you. We really appreciate everything you're doing for us.

Alysa nods.

ALYSA

Let me know.

HOPE

I will.

Alysa moves out and begins to walk down the stairs. Hope walks the door.

HOPE (CONT'D)

Rain? Honey?

RAIN (O.C.)

Yes?

HOPE

Can you come out here please? I have something to tell you. Alysa's gone. I sent her home.

We hear the sound of Rain coming into the hallway. Rain walks into the frame. He clearly feels bad about the way he reacted to his sister.

RAIN

What is it?

HOPE

Maybe we should sit down?

RAIN

Oh god.

Hope grabs Rain's hand and leads him to the bar. They sit down.

HOPE

You ready?

RAIN

Hope, you're freaking me out.

HOPE

Sorry, sorry. I - um - saw your dad at the super market today... and um anyway, we ended up going to coffee. And he met the baby. And he loved him. And then I... invited him to dinner.

RAIN

Okay... when?

HOPE

Tonight?

RAIN

Tonight?

Hope nods.

RAIN (CONT'D)

Geez. I need an aspirin.

HOPE

I'm sorry. He just seemed so calm and I thought maybe we would make more head way with him than with your mom.

RAIN

Okay. Well, I trust your judgement. I guess... we should start making dinner.

HOPE

Pasta?

RAIN

Definitely pasta.

EXT. CANDICE'S HOME - EVENING

Alysa walks up to the door. She knocks on it and waits for Candice, who appears only moments after.

CANDICE

Alysa! I had no idea you were coming over.

ALYSA

I know. I just thought I would come check on you.

CANDICE

Oh. Well, come in. I was just about to order pizza.

Candice leads Alysa into the house.

INT. CANDICE'S HOME - EVENING

Candice shuts the door while Alysa removes her jacket.

ALYSA

Pizza? Mom, who are you?

CANDICE

A woman who wants pizza.

ALYSA

Clearly. What I meant, is that you're not just going to have Sadie whip up something?

CANDICE

I gave Sadie the rest of the evening off. She works to hard.

Candice passes in front of a very confused looking Alysa. Candice grabs a bottle of wine from the cabinet and holds it out to Alysa.

CANDICE (CONT'D)

Do you want some? Rain brought it when he came over. A bit cheap, but actually very good.

ALYSA

Great.

CANDICE

So... did you know that he was moving back?

ALYSA

Yes.

CANDICE

And you decided not to tell me?

ALYSA

He asked me not to tell you. He wanted to do it himself.

CANDICE

Yes, by randomly showing up at my doorstep yesterday.

ALYSA

And from what I heard, he wasn't treated with much kindness.

CANDICE

He didn't deserve much kindness. Coming in here and asking me for help after he put me through hell for the past five years.

ALYSA

He's your son, mom. The past is gone. It doesn't matter anymore.

CANDICE

... what kind of pizza did you want?

Alysa looks a little appalled.

ALYSA

Garlic and anchovies.

Candice gives her an 'are you serious' look.

ALYSA (CONT'D)

If you're going to be ridiculous, then so am I.

CANDICE

Alysa. I want to longue around the house, eat pizza, and drink wine. That's it. So if you'd like to join me, feel free to stay. If you want to continue talking about your brother, please leave.

Alysa places her hands on her hips, then shakes her head.

ALYSA

Give me your phone. I'll order.

Candice hands it over.

CANDICE

There better be absolutely no anchovies.

INT. HOPE AND RAIN'S CONDO - NIGHT

Hope lights candles on the table that she has just set for dinner. Rain enters. They stand back and look over the table.

HOPE

Too much?

RAIN

A little. But I doubt he'll even notice.

HOPE

Where's the baby?

RAIN

In the living room, lying on his little pad thing.

Okay.

Hope moves out and heads for the living room. Rain moves back into the kitchen.

HOPE (CONT'D)

How's the spaghetti?

RAIN

Good. At least, in my opinion. My dad is famous for hating things so we'll see what he thinks.

HOPE

Remember to keep an open mind. He might have changed a lot since the divorce.

RAIN

Highly doubtful, but I will do my best to keep an open mind.

HOPE

That's my boy.

Rain smiles and shakes his head. Hope picks up the baby and smiles at him.

The doorbell rings.

Rain and Hope exchange a look.

HOPE (CONT'D)

He's here.

We jump to Hope opening the door for Dan.

HOPE (CONT'D)

Hi.

DAN

Hello. Hello, little one.

Dan runs his finger across the baby's cheek.

HOPE

Please come in.

Hope steps out of the way and Dan walks in. He sees Rain standing there.

DAN

Son.

RAIN

Dad.

DAN

It's been a while.

RAIN

It definitely has.

DAN

Do you mind if...

Dan indicates that he wants to give Rain a hug.

RAIN

Oh. No.

Rain and Dan hug. It's a bit awkward. Hope jumps into action.

HOPE

Dan, follow me. Let me show you to the dining room. Rain, can you grab the plates?

RAIN

Of course.

Rain heads into the kitchen, while Hope leads Dan into the dining room.

DAN

Well, this looks wonderful, Hope.

HOPE

Thank you. Please, take a seat.

Dan and Hope sit down at opposite ends of the table.

DAN

This place looks wonderful.

HOPE

Thank you. We're still putting it together.

DAN

So far, it seems to be going well.

Rain comes in with the plates. He sets one down in front of Dan. He sets another in front of Hope. Then places one down for himself.

RAIN

Shall we?

DAN

Of course.

The three of them begin eating.

DAN (CONT'D)

Oh. Hope, I meant to ask you earlier, but forget. Why the sudden decision to move back?

Hope and Rain exchange a look.

HOPE

My... uh... my parents passed about a month ago.

DAN

Oh god. Hope, I'm so sorry. What happened?

RAIN

They were in a car accident. And if you don't mind, that's all we'd like to say about it. It's still very fresh.

DAN

I understand.

RAIN

Thank you.

Hope seems significantly less perky now.

DAN

Well, the spaghetti is delicious, Hope.

HOPE

Oh. Actually, Dan, Rain made the pasta.

DAN

Interesting. Back in my day the wife or the maid always made dinner.

RAIN

That's a pretty old-fashioned way of thinking, Dad.

DAN

And what's wrong with old-fashioned?

RAIN

Lots of things.

Hope can tell that something is about to go down.

HOPE

Will you two excuse me? I can smell the baby's diaper.

Hope moves out of the room with the baby.

DAN

Still a raging liberal, I see.

RAIN

Heh. Still an ignorant, sexist, bastard, I see.

DAN

I came here to have a civil dinner.

RAIN

Then don't make misogynistic comments to my wife.

DAN

I was simply making an observation.

RAIN

Great. I didn't care to hear it. And since this is my house, I don't have to. So if you want to come in here and enjoy my family, then you can leave comments like that at the door.

DAN

Do you have to be so sensitive?

RAIN

Do you have to be such a dick? The way that me and my wife choose to live our lives is our decision. If you don't like it... I don't care.

DAN

I just think you're making a mistake.

RAIN

Oh yeah? And how is that, do tell?

DAN

There are roles in place for a reason. Everyone in this country is already confused. Do you want to turn your son into a little gay fairy?

Rain drops his fork.

RAIN

Get out.

DAN

What?

RAIN

I said get out. Then go fuck yourself. I knew that coming back here was a mistake. Stay away from me and my wife. And especially my son.

DAN

You can't stop me from seeing my own grandson.

RAIN

Yes I can. I'm his father and I know what's best for him. Now please get out like I asked you to.

DAN

Gladly.

Dan sets his utensils down and gets up and leaves. Rain stays at the table. Tears sting his eyes. He stands up just as Hope comes around the corner. She doesn't have the baby with her.

HOPE

I'm sorry, I'm sorry...

RAIN

Baby, why are you sorry?

HOPE

I shouldn't have invited him over here. I didn't know he was going to be like that.

RAIN

That's not your fault. He's always been that way.

I shouldn't have asked you to move us back here. We had plenty of help in Chicago.

RAIN

No we didn't.

Hope wipes away a tear.

RAIN (CONT'D)

But hey, we are going to be fine. You know, I have more family than just my mom and dad. More family who are a little more sane.

HOPE

Oh yeah?

RAIN

Yeah. My grandparents and my aunt Kathy. Her kids, my cousins.

HOPE

Do they know you came back?

RAIN

Yeah. I just told them I was gonna try to make amends with mom and dad. They gave me some space.

HOPE

So we're not going under?

RAIN

Never.

Hope and Rain hug. Rain looks a bit worried.

And we...

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT THREE.

## ACT FOUR.

INT. STATHAM GRAPHICS - DAY

Rain is sitting at his desk. Tyler suddenly pops up behind him.

TYLER

Hey!

Rain nearly jumps out of his seat.

RAIN

Whoa. You scared me.

TYLER

Yeah, I can tell. How are you doing so far, partner.

RAIN

Okay, I guess. I'm having a little trouble with this 'not to gay' thing....

TYLER

Yeah, that's definitely a little confusing.

RAIN

What does it even mean? How do I know what that company defines as 'gay'. God, I hate this town.

TYLER

Then why'd you move here?

RAIN

Too many things to explain. I did grow up here.

TYLER

Must of been fun.

RAIN

Yeah, sometimes...

TYLER

Well, do you need a break? I was about to go down the street and get some coffee.

RAIN

Sounds great.

Rain grabs his coat and he and Tyler head out.

INT. COFFEE SHOP - DAY

Rain and Tyler are standing in line for coffee. They are making light conversation. They laugh.

RAIN

Yeah, and then my pants totally ripped while I was on stage. The color of my underwear was the talk of the school for a week.

Tyler laughs.

TYLER

Oh god. That's the worst.

Someone comes in the door. Rain and Tyler turn. Daphne begins to approach them. She waves at Rain.

RAIN

Hey Daph.

DAPHNE

Hey.

RAIN

Oh, Daphne, this is my co-worker, Tyler. Tyler, this is my friend, Daphne.

Tyler and Daphne turn to each other. There is a clear attraction between them.

DAPHNE

Nice to meet you.

TYLER

Uh... you too.

Daphne gets nervous and quickly turns back to Rain.

DAPHNE

Hey, is everything okay? I was in the bakery last night working on some cookies and I heard yelling.

RAIN

Oh. I'm sorry. My dad came over for dinner.

DAPHNE

Oh. No, I'm sorry. He always scared me.

RAIN

Yeah, I'm not surprised.

DAPHNE

Well, I just came by to grab some coffee so I can keep working on a cake I have for a wedding this weekend.

RAIN

Okay. Well, I'm sure we'll see you soon.

DAPHNE

Of course. And remember, anything you need, I'm there.

RAIN

I remember.

Daphne moves in front of them to order her coffee.

RAIN (CONT'D)

So, decide what you want?

Tyler's eyes are clearly locked on Daphne.

TYLER

Yep.

INT. HOPE AND RAIN'S CONDO - DAY

Hope is bouncing around with the baby, who is a little fussy.

HOPE

Please, please, go to sleep, Reed. Mommy needs to rest too.

After a few more moments of bouncing and pleading, the baby finally starts to calm down. Then, he is asleep.

HOPE (CONT'D)

There we go.

Hope gently places him into a small portable crib by her desk. Hope sits down and sighs. She looks at her open computer and turns to face it. After a few moments of decision making, Hope types 'depression' into the search bar.

EXT. DAN'S APARTMENT - DAY

Alysa is outside of Dan's apartment.

ALYSA

I'm getting too old for this.

Alysa reaches forward and knocks on the door. The door suddenly swings open.

DAN

What! - Oh. Alysa. I haven't seen you in a while.

ALYSA

I know.

DAN

Is there something that I can help you with?

ALYSA

Yes. How did dinner with Hope and Rain go last night?

DAN

Horribly. Is that all?

ALYSA

Well, no, it wasn't. But you don't seem to be in a talking mood so it can wait.

DAN

Sounds good to me.

Dan shuts the door. Alysa is clearly a little hurt. She hurries off.

INT. COFFEE SHOP - DAY

Rain and Tyler are sitting in the coffee shop.

RAIN

So how long have you been working in social media?

TYLER

Just the last few years. I went to school for photography and got a hired a few things from the company.

(MORE)

TYLER (CONT'D)

Then when social media really blew up, they hired me because none of them knew anything about it.

RAIN

Sounds about right. What made you interested in photography?

TYLER

My parents are like film freaks and so I grew up learning all about the industry. And my dad was obsessed with cinematography so I guess the obsession just kind of passed over to me. I love that you can tell a story by capturing a moment in time.

RAIN

That's amazing. And you still take photos?

TYLER

Oh all the time. Here, let me show you.

Tyler pulls out his phone and shows some photos to Rain.

RAIN

Oh my god, dude. Those are amazing!

TYLER

Thank you so much.

RAIN

So have you ever considered becoming a cinematographer yourself?

TYLER

It's always been a dream of mine... but I doubt it'll ever happen?

RAIN

Why?

TYLER

What?

RAIN

Why do you doubt it'll ever happen?

TYLER

Well, first of all, I live nowhere near Hollywood. And second, I have no experience.

RAIN

From what I've seen it looks like you have plenty of experience. And it doesn't matter where you live. You can still make short films, put them on YouTube. You can write and direct and of course do the cinematography.

**TYLER** 

Pff, you're crazy. What would they even be about?

RAIN

Whatever you want. You could have complete creative control.

TYLER

I'll have to consider that.

RAIN

I hope you do. I'll be your first subscriber.

TYLER

So you like film too, huh?

RAIN

Oh. Love it. Movies and music are the only reasons I got through my adolescence without driving a screwdriver into my brain.

TYLER

Bad relationship with the parents?

RAIN

Horrible, actually.

TYLER

Wow. That sucks.

RAIN

Eh. I have my wife, my son, my sister, and hopefully a new friend?

TYLER

Oh, absolutely. Finally someone in the office who won't drive me absolutely crazy.

Tyler and Rain smile at each other and cheers with their coffee cups.

INT. DAPHNE'S BAKERY - DAY

Daphne is working on the cake. Hope enters with the baby carrier, she is holding a few things in one hand.

DAPHNE

Oh Hope! You got here so quickly.

Hope smiles and sets the baby on top of a table.

HOPE

Well I do only live upstairs.

DAPHNE

Right. You're so quiet up there sometimes I forget.

HOPE

I brought those things that you asked for.

Hope shows that they are in her hand.

DAPHNE

Oh great!

Daphne looks over herself.

DAPHNE (CONT'D)

Oh. Can you give me one second to clean myself up?

HOPE

Of course.

DAPHNE

Great!

Daphne quickly dashes into the back. Hope decides to take a few moments to look around. Finally, Daphne comes back.

DAPHNE (CONT'D)

Okay, I'm ready.

Here.

Hope hands the things to Daphne.

DAPHNE

Okay, this looks perfect. Hold on. There are some things that I need you to sign.

Daphne turns around and runs back into the back. Hope looks at the baby.

HOPE

I have a strange feeling that this might take a while.

Daphne comes back holding some papers.

DAPHNE

Here you go.

HOPE

Just fill them out?

DAPHNE

Yep!

Daphne and Hope slide into the table and Hope begins to fill out the papers.

DAPHNE (CONT'D)

I heard that dinner last night went pretty badly.

HOPE

You did?

DAPHNE

I ran into Rain on his break. We were both at the coffee shop.

HOPE

Ah, I see. Yeah, it lasted about 10 minutes.

DAPHNE

10 minutes?

Hope nods.

DAPHNE (CONT'D)

Well, Dan Perrigreen has never been an agreeable man.

No he's not.

A slight uncomfortable silence falls over them. Hope suddenly makes a decision.

HOPE (CONT'D)

Daphne?

DAPHNE

Yeah?

HOPE

Do you know of any good therapists in the area?

DAPHNE

Just the one who's in town. Carlos Rodriguez. Why?

HOPE

Oh... um well...

**DAPHNE** 

I'm sorry that was intrusive. You don't have to tell me if you don't want to.

HOPE

Thank you.

DAPHNE

Sure.

(then)

You know I've thought about going to therapy a few times myself. But icing can work wonders.

Hope laughs. Daphne smiles largely.

DAPHNE (CONT'D)

What? It's true!

INT. ALYSA'S CAR/STATHAM GRAPHICS - DAY

Alysa grabs her phone and dials Rain. He picks up quickly.

RAIN

Lys? What's up?

ALYSA

Well, before I say anything else, I want to say I'm sorry. I should have told you about mom and dad.

RAIN

I'm sorry too. I over-reacted.

ALYSA

What time do you get off work tomorrow?

RAIN

I usually get off at 4.

ALYSA

Great. Can you meet me for dinner at 5? Just us? I'll send you the address.

RAIN

Dinner at 5?

ALYSA

I have something later in the evening. So can you make it?

RAIN

I'll have to run it by Hope, but I'm sure it won't be a problem.

ALYSA

Great. Bye.

RAIN

Bye.

Alysa hangs up the phone.

And we...

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT FOUR.

## ACT FIVE.

INT. HOPE AND RAIN'S CONDO - DAY

Rain comes into the condo. He hangs up his keys and coat. He looks around after not seeing Hope or the baby.

RAIN

Babe? ... Baby? ... Hope?

Rain walks further into the condo.

INT. REED'S BEDROOM - DAY

Rain opens the door to the baby's room. Reed is sound asleep in his crib. Hope is in the rocking chair, also fast asleep. Rain smiles and goes over to her. He quietly wakes her up.

HOPE

Hey.

RAIN

Hey. Wanna come with me to the living room?

Hope nods. Rain helps her out of the chair and they quietly slip out of the room.

INT. HOPE AND RAIN'S CONDO - DAY

Hope and Rain come out and sit down on the couch.

HOPE

Ugh. Having a baby is exhausting.

RAIN

Yeah, I saw that. Did you have a good day?

HOPE

Mostly.

RAIN

Well, that's good.

HOPE

Yeah...

RAIN

I had something that I wanted to ask you, actually.

Oh okay.

RAIN

Alysa wanted me to meet her for an early dinner tomorrow. At 5. Is that okay?

Hope sees this as her chance to go and meet with the therapist that Daphne recommended.

HOPE

Yeah, that's fine. Bring me something back?

RAIN

Of course. And the baby?

HOPE

He can't eat solid food.

RAIN

How do you know what he can and can't do?

HOPE

I'm his mother.

RAIN

Seems sound to me.

They smile at each other.

HOPE

Can I go back to taking my nap now?

RAIN

Go ahead. In fact, I'll join you.

Hope smiles. Rain and Hope stretch out on the couch. Hope lays her head on Rain's chest. Just as they get settled, the baby begins to cry from the other room.

HOPE

Do you want to go get him?

RAIN

Hey. You're his mother.

Hope smiles, but whacks Rain. He laughs. Rain sits up.

RAIN (CONT'D)

I've got him, I've got him.

Rain walks out. Hope waits for him and then quickly pulls out her phone. She texts Daphne. "Can you give me the number of that therapist?"

INT. DAPHNE'S BAKERY - AFTERNOON

It's the next day. Hope walks into the bakery with the carrier. Daphne is standing behind the counter.

DAPHNE

Hey honey!

HOPE

Hey!

Hope sets the baby down on top of the table.

HOPE (CONT'D)

Are you sure you don't mind watching him for a bit?

DAPHNE

No not at all. I told you if you needed my help, then I would give it. And I meant it.

HOPE

Well, thank you.

DAPHNE

You're welcome! Excited for your first session with Carlos?

HOPE

No not really, but I think it'll help me cope with... losing my parents.

DAPHNE

Well I hope it helps you.

HOPE

Thanks. Me too.

DAPHNE

Now get out of here. I can't wait to spoil the baby!

Hope smiles and walks out of the shop. Daphne walks over to baby.

DAPHNE (CONT'D)

All I ask is that you don't poop your pants.

INT. THERAPY OFFICE - AFTERNOON

Alysa is sitting in the waiting area. Rain comes in the door. He comes over to her.

RAIN

Hey. Why are we in a therapy office? I thought we were meeting for dinner?

Alysa quickly stands.

ALYSA

Yeah well -

Suddenly Candice comes in the door.

RAIN

Mom?

CANDICE

Rain? Alysa, what's going on here?

ALYSA

Mom, Rain, just give me a second to explain -

Candice's unexpected entrance is followed by Dan's.

DAN

What the hell?

Then Hope and Dr. Rodriguez come out of the office.

CARLOS

I think that's really going to help you, Mrs. Perrigreen.

HOPE

Thank you, Dr. Rodriguez.

RAIN

Hope?

HOPE

Rain, what are you doing here?

CARLOS

Well, it looks like my next appointment is ready. Perrigreen's, are you ready for your first session?

Hope, Rain, Dan, and Candice all exchange looks. Alysa looks nervous. Someone has a lot of explaining to do.

And we...

FADE OUT.

END OF SHOW.