PRIDE FLOATS

written by

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EXT. VANCOUVER - DAY

A sunny summer day in one of the most beautiful cities in the world. The North Shore mountains give the city the most majestic backdrop. We fly over the congested streets. A motorcycle zips through the traffic.

KIP CASEY (36), a bearded man with a killer smile, cruises the streets of Vancouver on a FAT BOY 114 Harley Davidson with his nephew, SETH DURRANT (14), a tall, lanky kid on the back.

Seth holds Kip and gleams with joy.

INT. CORY'S BEDROOM - DAY

A typical teen's messy room. Dirty clothes, carpet, the floor. Rock Band posters and track and field memorabilia cover the walls. Cory(15), a trans-boy with a blue mullet and fat metal hoops through his ears, sits at his desk in front of his computer.

There's a picture of a naked, sculpted man on the screen. Cory uses Photoshop to put his face on the man's body. His phone's alarm goes off. Cory looks at the time. It's 12:30.

Cory picks up a flyer from the mess on his desk. It reads: Queer Aligned Youth, 1 pm, Britannia Community Center. All are welcome.

Cory stands and walks to his mirror; with a defeated look, he binds his chest.

EXT. MOLLY AND KIP'S HOUSE - DAY

An old two-story farmhouse set back from the road. A massive willow tree shades the front of the house. Towards the back of the house sits a lush flower garden decorated with metal sculptures of Alice in Wonderland characters.

MOLLY DURRANT (34), a walking canvas of tattoos, crouches in the garden as she tends to a giant rose bush. She dances and sings along to PRINCE, playing on her portable speaker.

Molly looks up when she hears the thunderous roar of Kip's Harley approaching.

Moments later, Kip pulls into the driveway, slowly pulls up to the garage-turned-art studio, and parks his bike.

Seth hops off the bike and removes his helmet.

Kip gets off his bike and removes his helmet.

Seth hands his helmet to Kip and removes his backpack.

Molly waves as she exits the garden and walks towards the studio.

Kip walks to the double bay doors of his studio and uses a key fob to activate the door's pulley. The door slowly retracts into the ceiling to reveal several partially finished sculptures.

Kip hangs the helmets on his wall.

Molly walks up to Seth and hugs him.

MOLLY

How was your last day?

Seth reaches into his backpack and produces a report card.

SETH

Sucked butt.

Kip laughs.

KIP

Well, buddy, it's your own fault.

Molly grabs the report card.

Molly swells with pride and hugs Seth.

MOLLY

A 'B,' way to go!

KIP

I knew you could do it. Maybe next year you'll pay attention.

SETH

I don't ever want to do summer school again.

Kip puts his arm around Seth.

KII

Well, it's done now, and there's still plenty of summer left.

SETH

Do you think I can play on my Xbox?

MOLLY

Finish your reading first.

Seth rolls his eyes.

SETH

I will.

Seth runs into the house.

Molly turns to Kip.

MOLLY

You home for dinner? I'm making carbonara.

KIP

For a few hours, I've gotta finish welding that Queen of Hearts sculpture. It's already paid for.

MOLLY

So, yes, for dinner?

KIP

That's a no for me. I'm heading to Denny's tonight; we're going to a Pride party.

MOLLY

What kind of party? Can I come?

KIP

Sorry, Mom, it's not really your scene. An all-night thing, hot men on ecstasy sweating on you. Hence, the no food thing.

Molly gags.

Kip laughs.

KIP (CONT'D)

Besides, Denny really wants me all to himself tonight.

MOLLY

Really? Sounds like things are getting serious.

KIP

Oh gawd, I don't know if I'm ready for serious. I like things as they are, you know?

MOLLY

Simple?

KIP

Exactly!

(beat)

You guys still coming to the parade on Sunday?

Molly replies Wizard of Oz style.

MOLLY

Are you kidding? Drag Queens, bikers, and bears, oh my!

Kip laughs.

Molly loses her balance.

Kip catches Molly and helps steady her.

KIP

You okay?

MOLLY

Yeah, just a spell, I'm fine.

KIP

Another one?

Kip looks at Molly with a hint of concern.

EXT. COMMUNITY CENTER - ENTRANCE - DAY

Cory walks up the stairs to the entrance to Britania Community Center. He's holding a flyer in his hand. He stops to read it. 'Queer Aligned Youth group meeting in the conference room at 1 pm. ALL ARE WELCOME'.

As he approaches the doors, two teens wearing basketball jerseys exit the community center. MARK(17), an aggressive teen with over-styled hair, sees Cory and recognizes him from school.

MARK

Well, look who it is.

COOPER(17), a dark-haired clone of Mark, who clearly follows his lead.

COOPER

It's the he-she. She must be here for the queer club.

Cory rolls his eyes and walks past them.

Mark blocks his path.

CORY

Go fuck yourself.

Cory tries to shove his way through.

Mark trips him on his way in.

Cory hits the floor.

DENNY LAFLURE(40), a tall, stately man with a manicured beard, walks down the hall and sees the altercation.

DENNY

Is there a problem here?

Cooper offers his hand to Cory.

COOPER

She tripped on her way in, just helping her up.

Cory declines Cooper's hand and gets up on his own.

Denny looks at Cory, waiting for his side of the story.

Cory shrugs it off and walks past them.

CORY

It's fine; just forget about it.

Mark and Cooper leave the community center laughing, acting proud of themselves.

Denny escorts Cory to the conference room.

INT. COMMUNITY CENTER - CONFERENCE ROOM - DAY

An inspirational room. Posters with positive messages of hope and inclusion plaster the walls. A colorful collection of queer teens sit in a circle.

Denny, the counselor, enters the room with Cory.

DENNY

Hey gang, this is Cory.

The teens wave in unison.

Denny introduces the group, starting with MARSHA(17), big and bold with combat boots and pigtails.

DENNY (CONT'D)

That's Marsha.

DEVERO(17), confident and sassy, the kind of guy you don't mess with, stands up and introduces himself.

DEVERO

Hey, I'm Devero, but you can call me Miss D.

Cory shakes Devero's hand.

DEVERO (CONT'D)

The uptight one is William.

Devero points to WILLIAM(16), a well-dressed preppy jock.

Cory and William nod at each other.

DENNY

And this lovely person to my right is Jorjie.

Jorjie(16), a non-binary person with purple curls and lips that look like candy apples, offers their hand.

JORJIE

I'm Jorjie; just so you know, my pronouns are they and them.

CORY

Um, okay.

DENNY

Pull up a chair, Cory, so we can get started.

Cory sits next to Devero.

DEVERO

I can't believe it's here already.

DENNY

Oh crap, I almost forgot.

Denny jumps up from his chair, exits to his office, and returns Moments later with a bag of T-shirts. He tosses them to the group.

Marsha catches the shirt and holds it up. A bright rainbow frames the words: QUEER ALIGNED YOUTH on the front.

Marsha flips the shirt around to reveal the back, which reads: HAPPY PRIDE 2021.

MARSHA

Hey, these turned out great. Thanks, Denny.

WILLIAM

Do we have to wear them?

JORJIE

Yes! It's a keepsake from our first Pride.

DENNY

No, but it wouldn't be much of a group if we didn't all match.

(beat)

That's like, gay 101.

Cory laughs.

CORY

Good one.

DEVERO

Is your boyfriend going to come?

JORJIE

Yeah, will we finally get to meet your boyfriend?

DENNY

He better.

(beat)

Let's get cracking on that banner; I have dinner plans tonight.

INT. KIP AND MOLLY'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - NIGHT

A classic farmhouse kitchen complete with flowery wallpaper and country craft fair knick-knacks on the walls.

Molly listens to "LITTLE RED CORVETTE" by PRINCE while pasta boils on the stove.

Seth wipes down the counter.

SETH

Can I play on my Xbox?

Molly turns to Seth and takes his hands in hers.

MOLLY

Dance with me.

Molly dances with Seth and sings along to Prince.

Seth sings along with Molly. The song ends.

MOLLY (CONT'D)

Now you can Xbox.

Seth kisses Molly's cheek.

MOLLY (CONT'D)

I love you kid.

SETH

Love you too.

Seth exits.

INT. DENNY'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

A posh pad full of windows. Plants and antique furniture stylishly fill the spacious abode. Denny lights some candles.

Denny calls out to Kip.

DENNY

Hey, hon? I'm going to put on some music. Should we pre-party

KIP (0.S.)

Fuck yes!

Denny turns on his stereo and puts on some electro-house music. Base beats fill the apartment.

Kip enters the living room with two glasses of wine and a bag of ecstasy. He dances as he makes his way to the sofa.

Kip sits on the sofa next to Denny and hands him a glass.

Kip places his glass on the coffee table and then opens the bag of pills. He takes one for himself and hands one to Denny.

Kip and Denny pop the pills in their mouths.

DENNY

Cheers!

They clink glasses and swallow the pills with a mouthful of wine.

DENNY (CONT'D)

How's the sculpture coming?

KIP

I sold the Queen of Hearts the other day. Got \$1900 for her.

DENNY

Wow, incredible.

(beat)

If you build it, they will come, right?

Kip laughs.

KIP

I'm so excited for this party. I hear the DJ is a god.

DENNY

I sure hope so because this bitch needs to dance.

KTP

Give it a half-hour, and so will I.

They both laugh with a devious tone.

INT. KIP AND MOLLY'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

A cluttered room complete with a leather sofa and matching chair. Seth sits in the armchair in front of the massive flat-screen TV mounted on the wall.

Seth starts his Xbox and loads up CALL OF DUTY. He puts on his headset and mic.

SETH

Garret, are you online? Send me an invite to your game.

Silence

SETH (CONT'D)

Hello?

A voice comes over the headset.

GARRET (FILTERED)

Hey man, one sec, I'm sending it

The game starts, and Seth joins a game in progress.

Seth's game avatar runs through a war-torn village.

SETH

There's a sniper in the church; he's got me pinned down.

(beat)

Oh crap, I need someone to take him out. I can't move.

A loud crash from the kitchen.

Seth looks at the kitchen. He lowers his mic but not the headset and calls out to his Mom.

SETH (CONT'D)

What was that?

Seth waits a Moment for a response before returning to his game.

On the screen, another player sneaks up to a small church and fires an RPG into the chapel and burns it to the ground.

SETH (CONT'D)

Sick! Thanks man.

INT. KIP AND MOLLY'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - NIGHT

The pasta boils over and sizzles on the stove. Sauce on the stove burns and fills the kitchen with smoke. The smoke detector goes off.

Molly lays on the floor, unconscious.

INT. DENNY'S APARTMENT - BEDROOM - NIGHT

A posh room with a king-size bed centered in the room with an antique wooden headboard pushed up against the wall. Kip lays on the bed in his underwear while Denny pulls clothes out of his walk-in closet.

Denny emerges from the closet and sees Kip.

DENNY

Damn, you're gorgeous.

Kip blushes.

DENNY (CONT'D)

What do you think?

Denny holds up a pair of leather chaps and a leather harness.

KIP

That looks hot. Both sexy and way too hot for the sweat-fest. I'm wearing shorts and a tank.

DENNY

You're no fun, It's pride!

Kip grabs Denny's hand, pulls him onto the bed, and straddles him.

KIP

I'll show you fun.

Kip looks deep into Denny's eyes with a grin. The Moment lingers, then they kiss.

INT. KIP AND MOLLY'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

The smoke detector screams while a fog of smoke fills the air and billows into the living room. Seth removes his headphones when he notices the smoke.

SETH

Mom?

Seth gets up and rushes to the kitchen.

INT. KIP AND MOLLY'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - NIGHT

The thick cloud of smoke fills the kitchen. Molly lays on the floor. Seth enters the kitchen and sees the collection of chaos. He immediately removes the smoking pot from the stove and throws it in the sink, then runs water over it.

SETH

Mom? What happened?
 (beat)
Get up.

Molly doesn't move.

Seth jumps up and hits the smoke detector, and knocks it off the ceiling. The noise stops.

Seth rushes to Molly's side.

SETH (CONT'D)

Mom? Mom? Wake up, please?

INT. HOSPITAL WAITING ROOM - NIGHT

Seth sits alone in the ER waiting room. Two paramedics burst through the entrance with a pregnant woman screaming in labor. People in mid-traumas of their own surround him and make him invisible. He clutches a phone in his hands and stares at the screen.

INT. DENNY'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Empty wine glasses and drug residue cover the once-pristine coffee table. Kip's phone lights up and rings. Molly's name appears on the screen's caller ID.

The phone goes dark.

Molly's name appears on the caller ID as the phone rings again.

INT. NIGHT CLUB - NIGHT

Flashing strobe lights pierce the blackness. House music consumes the crowd of shirtless men grinding on each other. Kip and Denny dance together; their eyes look like giant saucers with fireworks exploding inside. Kip kisses Denny on the dance floor.

Denny leans in and speaks into Kip's ear.

DENNY

How are you doing, babe?

Kip pulls his face away and gives Denny an elated two thumbs up.

Denny smiles.

DENNY (CONT'D)

Do you know what time it is?

Kip searches his pockets and then gets a panicked look on his face.

KIP

Oh shit, I don't have my phone.

Denny smiles.

DENNY

Relax, babe, you left it at my place.

INT. HOSPITAL WAITING ROOM - NIGHT

Seth, still alone, sits stunned with a look of terror on his face. He holds the phone and stares at the screen. The phone battery dies, and the phone shuts down. Tears roll down Seth's cheeks as he quietly whimpers in his seat.

INT. DENNY'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

The sound of the deadbolt lock turning. The door opens, and Denny and Kip spill into the apartment and make their way to the sofa in the living room. Denny falls onto the sofa and pulls Kip down beside him.

Kip sees his phone, picks it up, and looks at the screen. It reads thirty missed calls from Molly. Kip calls Molly. He puts the phone to his ear.

MOLLY (FILTERED)

Hey, this is Molly; you know how this works.

A loud BEEP.

Kip immediately calls his voicemail and listens to his messages. The color washes away from his face.

KIP

Oh my god! (beat)

I've got to go.

Kip exits the living room to Denny's bedroom.

DENNY

Sweetness, is everything okay?

Denny gets up from the sofa and exits to his bedroom.

INT. DENNY'S APARTMENT - BEDROOM - DAY

Denny enters the bedroom to find Kip refreshed and changed into appropriate clothing. He walks to Kip and puts his hands on Kip's shoulders.

DENNY

Slow down. What's going on?

KIP

Molly's in the hospital, and Seth is there by himself waiting for her.

DENNY

Holy fuck. What happened?

KIP

He said she passed out. He's been there all fucking night while we were out partying.

DENNY

Come on, hon, how could you know?
 (beat)

Do you want me to come?

KIP

No, you have your kids today. Just go do that, and I'll call you when I know what's going on.

Kip rushes out of the room.

INT. HOSPITAL WAITING ROOM - DAY

Seth sleeps in a chair in the ER waiting room. The chaos has given way to early morning calm. Kip, looking pretty rough, walks into the waiting room and sees Seth.

Kip walks up to Seth and wakes him.

KIP

Hey buddy.

Seth takes one look at Kip and falls apart. Tears flow down his cheeks.

Kip grabs ahold of Seth and enfolds him in a hug.

Seth tries to speak through his sobs but makes very little sense.

SETH

I don't know what happened.

(beat)

There was so much smoke, and she wouldn't wake up.

Kip tries to calm Seth.

Seth pulls away and snaps at Kip.

SETH (CONT'D)

And where were you? I've been calling and texting you all night.

Kip has a look of shame but stays silent.

DOCTOR FELIX(64), a serious woman with a tight bun and a staunch demeanor, enters the waiting room.

DR.FELIX

Mr. Casey?

Kip stands up.

DR.FELIX (CONT'D)

I'm Dr. Felix. Can you come with me, please?

KIP

Hey buddy, can you chill here while I talk with the doctor?

Seth nods.

Dr. Felix leads Kip to another room off of the main waiting room and closes the door. Seth can still see Kip and the doctor talking but can't hear them.

INT. HOSPITAL - PRIVATE WAITING ROOM - DAY

A small private room with a small sofa and an armchair but otherwise void of décor. It's a space reserved for delivering bad news to people. Dr. Felix stares at her clipboard and barely looks up at Kip.

Kip looks stunned and holds back tears.

DR.FELIX

I have you listed as Molly's next of kin.

KIP

How is she?

DR.FELIX

I'm sorry to tell you Molly has suffered a brain stem stroke, and she's in a coma.

Kip collapses into the armchair as tears roll down his cheeks. He buries his face in his hands.

INT. HOSPITAL WAITING ROOM - DAY

A man with a bloody bandage wrapped around his head sits next to Seth. Moments later, paramedics rush through the emergency room doors with a bloody car accident victim. Seth stares at Kip and barely notices the insanity around him.

INT. HOSPITAL - PRIVATE WAITING ROOM - NIGHT

Dr. Felix stands over Kip, not phased by his pain and distress.

Kip calms himself enough to speak again.

KIP

What does that even mean?

DR.FELIX

She's not breathing on her own and shows no brain activity. I need to know what you want to do.

KIP

Do?

DR.FELIX

I need to know if you want to keep her on life support or not.

KIP

Will she wake up?

DR.FELIX

It's doubtful. If she does, she will be severely disabled and possibly vegetative.

Kip glosses over. He covers his face with his hands and weeps. Seth enters the private room.

Seth rushes to Kip's side and hugs him.

Kip looks up with terror in his eyes.

SETH

Is Mom going to die?

Kip hugs Seth back. He looks into Seth's eyes.

KIP

I don't know. I'm so sorry, buddy.

Seth bursts into tears and sobs while Kip consoles him.

Dr. Felix interrupts.

DR.FELIX

Mr. Casey, I realize this is difficult, but I need an answer.

KIP

Can I see her?

DR.FELIX

Come with me.

KIP

Buddy, I need you to stay here while I see Mom. Can you be brave for me?

Seth nods.

SETH

Tell Mom I love her.

INT. MOLLY'S HOSPITAL ROOM - DAY

The room echoes with beeps and machine noise. Molly lies in a hospital bed with various tubes and sensors connected to her. A respirator breathes for her.

Kip stands at Molly's side and holds her hand.

KIP

Molls, it's Kip, I'm here.

Dr. Felix stands beside Kip and explains the situation.

DR.FELIX

The brain stem controls the body's automatic functions like breathing and swallowing, all the stuff we do without thinking. Molly's brain stem is damaged, and those signals can't reach the body.

INT. MOLLY'S MIND - STADIUM - NIGHT

A crowd fills a massive stadium. Molly stands in the middle of the sea of people as they move with an ebb and flow. Molly searches the faces for Kip's face when she hears his voice echo in the air.

KIP (V.O.)

Can she hear me?

Molly looks around but continues to be jostled by the crowd. She shouts for Kip.

MOLLY

Kip? Where are you?

The crowd closes in around her so that she is unable to move. She struggles to get free.

Molly covers her face with her hands and screams. When she opens her eyes, her world has changed.

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. MOLLY'S MIND - BEACH - DAY

A perfect pink sandy beach. The azure sky kisses the deep purple waters on the distant horizon. Molly walks along the shoreline. Her footprints wash away as she makes her way along the endless shore.

The setting calms Molly. Another voice blows in with a breeze.

DR. FELIX (V.O.)

As I said, Molly has no brain activity. My main concern is her breathing.

The sky darkens with thick black clouds that block out the sun. Fear once again fills Moly's voice.

MOLLY

Hello? Who is that?
 (beat)

Kip? What's happening?

INT. MOLLY'S HOSPITAL ROOM - NIGHT

We jump back to the real world, where Dr. Felix and Kip hover over Molly.

DR. FELIX

Typically, in cases like this, we know that if Molly doesn't start breathing on her own soon, I'm afraid she never will.

Kip leans over Molly and whispers in her ear.

EXT. MOLLY'S MIND - OCEAN - NIGHT

Molly finds herself transported to the middle of the ocean. She treads water as the waves crash over her. She cries out for Kip.

MOLLY

Kip? Where are you?

A massive wave sinks Molly under the water. She frantically kicks her legs in an effort to resurface to get some air.

INT. MOLLY'S HOSPITAL ROOM - NIGHT

Kip grips Molly's hand. He shakes from fear and anxiety. Kip waits, but there's no response.

KIP

Okay, Molls, I know you can hear me. You had an accident, and you're in the hospital. Right now, I need you to take a breath for me.

Molly lays lifeless.

KIP (CONT'D)

Come on, Molls, you can do it; just breathe.

(beat)

BREATHE.

INT. MOLLY'S MIND - OCEAN - NIGHT

As Molly sinks further in the water, she manages to claw her way to the surface and gets her head above the water. Molly takes a breath.

INT. MOLLY'S HOSPITAL ROOM - DAY

From her near-lifeless state, her chest expands as Molly takes a deep breath and then another.

Kip jolts up, elated.

KIP

That's it, girl. Breathe in. Good, that's it. Again!

Molly fills her lungs and exhales.

Kip turns to Dr. Felix.

KIP (CONT'D)

See, I knew she was in there. She heard me.

EXT. VANCOUVER - PRIDE PARADE - DAY

Masses of cheering spectators line the streets of the parade route. The people watching look almost as colorful as the parade floats themselves.

The kids from the QAY, all in matching t-shirts, form a loud group of marchers.

Denny and Marsha walk in front of the QAY and their families, holding up the massive banner they made. Devero, Jorjie, and Cory dance in the streets and toss colored beads into the crowd.

Marsha notices Denny's subdued smile.

MARSHA

Shame about William not showing up.

(beat)

Where's your boyfriend?

Denny takes a Moment to answer.

DENNY

Much like William, He's not coming.

(beat)

Family emergency.

MARSHA

Are you okay?

Denny shrugs his mood off and plasters a smile on his face.

DENNY

I'm fine. Let's not dwell, it's
Pride!

Devero and Jorjie link arms and dance in a circle. Cory struts along with the group for a while, then spots William in the crowd.

Cory runs up and pulls William out of the crowd.

CORY

Come on, dude, don't be a pussy,
it's pride!.

WILLIAM

I can't. I'm not-

JORJIE

Dude, it's M F'N PRIDE!!!!!

Denny and the rest of the group march along.

Devero yells at Cory and William as they march away.

DEVERO

Cory, grab his late-ass and move it.

Cory takes a handful of his colored beads and hands them to William.

CORY

Here.

William thinks, looks down at his feet, and doesn't respond.

CORY (CONT'D)

Sorry, dude, I gotta go.

(beat)

Happy Pride!

INT. KIP AND MOLLY'S HOUSE - ART STUDIO - NIGHT

Kip works in his studio with the garage door open. He stops to light the half joint sitting in the ashtray on his workbench.

Denny's SUV drives down Kip's driveway and comes to a stop. Momentary blinding light fills the studio, and then the car turns off and kills the headlights. Denny steps out of his SUV and walks over to Kip.

DENNY

How is she?

Kip shrugs.

Kip uses a marker to draw out the body parts for his Cheshire cat sculpture.

KIP

How was the parade?

Denny shrugs

DENNY

You know I had to go.

KIP

Yeah, I get it.

Denny hugs Kip and kisses his cheek.

DENNY

Poor Seth.

KIP

He's a mess; he barely said a word since this morning.

The marker runs out of ink.

DENNY

What's going to happen to him?

KIP

What do you mean?

DENNY

I mean long term, like what if-?

Kip cries and snaps at Denny.

KIP

I'm all he's got; his grandparents are dead. Technically, this is his house if she dies.

DENNY

You're going to be a full-time parent to a teenager just like that?

(beat)

It's not really your responsibility.

Kip looks at Denny with a look of disapproval.

Kip searches his workbench for a new marker. He opens the drawer of his workbench and digs through the contents. He comes across a tattered photograph of Molly before her stroke.

Kip cries.

PUSH INTO PHOTO

INT. KIP AND MOLLY'S APARTMENT - DAY - 14 YEARS AGO

A small two-bedroom apartment. The top floor of an old threestory renovated house. Bay windows in the living room fill the apartment with beams of sunlight. The sound of a coffee machine brewing a fresh pot echoes from the kitchen. Kip has massive bed-head and morning-wood when he opens his bedroom door. Before Kip can step out of his room, Molly bursts out of her bedroom and barrels past him for the bathroom.

KIP

Morning Molls.

Molly throws up.

KIP (CONT'D)

Or maybe not? (beat)

Rough night?

MOLLY (O.S.)

Fuck off.

KIP

I'll make coffee.

Kip walks into the kitchen to make coffee. We hear a toilet flush, and then Molly enters the kitchen.

INT. KIP AND MOLLY'S APARTMENT - KITCHEN - DAY

An older-style kitchen with mosaic tiled counters. Kip grabs two coffee cups from the cupboard and brings them over to the coffee pot.

Molly takes a seat at the kitchen table.

MOLLY

How was your night? Did you get laid?

KIP

No, my date was a dud. He looked like a short, hairy hedgehog. Didn't even let him past the front door.

Kip pours two cups of coffee.

MOLLY

Carla dumped me last night.

(beat)

Because she found out I cheated on her at Paula's wedding.

Kip looks as though he's recalling the night in question.

KIP

Holy shit! Did you have sex with the hot bartender?

(beat)

You did! Oh my god, you slut! How'd she find out?

MOLLY

I'm pregnant.

KIP

Say what? Wait, the wedding was like two months ago. How long have you known?

MOLLY

'bout a month.

(beat)

I'm keeping it.

KIP

Wow, okay, wow. Does the bartender know?

MOLLY

Yeah, but he sort of freaked out. He offered to pay to have it taken care of, so whatever. That's all I need, a douchebag boyfriend.

(beat)

I can't explain it; I just know I'm supposed to do this.

Kip stirs his coffee and watches a bubble swirl around the top. He looks at Molly, a good, long look.

KIP

Then I guess I'm doing this too. Can I be the dad?

MOLLY

Like, for real?

KIP

Yeah, why not? What else am I going to do with my life? Spend the next 20 years going to circuit parties and working on my abs?

Kip grabs his POLAROID instant picture camera.

KIP (CONT'D)

Smile.

Molly covers her face.

MOLLY

Fuck off, I look hideous.

KIP

No, come on. I want to remember this Moment. It's a whole new game now.

Molly poses and cracks a shy smile.

Kip snaps a picture, and the camera spits out a blank photo that develops into the picture Kip is holding.

PULL OUT OF PHOTO

INT. KIP AND MOLLY'S HOUSE - ART STUDIO - NIGHT

Kip holds the picture of Molly and weeps.

KIP

I'm sorry, I'm so sorry.

Denny hugs Kip.

DENNY

Think about it. Do you honestly think you can do this on your own?

Kip reaches into his pocket and pulls out a small baggy of white powder.

Kip opens the bag, pours a small pile on his fist, and snorts it. He offers it to Denny.

KIP

Take the edge off?

Denny declines with a look of disgust.

DENNY

Seriously?

(beat)

I need to go.

Kip looks confused.

KIP

What? What are you talking about?

Denny lashes out.

DENNY

Your best friend just had a stroke, and you offer me drugs? I gotta go.

KIP

Relax! A bump or two is the least of my worries.

(beat)

But if you're going to sit there and fucking judge me, then maybe you should go.

Denny gets up and leaves without another word.

Kip shouts.

KIP (CONT'D)

And don't bother coming back!

INT. HOSPITAL CORRIDOR - DAY

The busy corridor bustles with nurses tending to their patients. Seth and Kip stand outside Molly's hospital room. Seth holds a vase a fresh cut flowers but has a look of trepidation on his face.

SETH

Can we wait here for a minute? My stomach hurts.

KIP

We don't have to go in if you really don't want to.

Seth stammers for his words.

SETH

No, it's not that. (beat)

I just-

KIP

Let's just go in and sit with her so she's not all alone.

Seth nods.

INT. MOLLY'S HOSPITAL ROOM - DAY

The bright summer sun cuts through the leaves on the maple tree outside Molly's window.

Molly sleeps in her bed, lulled by the sound of monitor beeps. Her eyes move under her eyelids, indicating that she's dreaming.

Kip and Seth enter Molly's room. Seth places the vase of flowers on Molly's side table.

Kip walks to the other side of Molly's bed and takes her hand in his. He leans down and kisses her cheek.

KIP

Hey Molls. It's Kip and Seth; it's time to wake up.

Seth stands beside Molly and stares at her. He starts to cry.

SETH

KIP

That's what they say.

Seth looks frustrated.

SETH

Why doesn't she wake up?

Kip walks over to Seth and hugs him.

KIP

No one really knows. All we can do is hope. She'll wake up when she's ready.

SETH

Do you think she dreams?

INT. MOLLY'S MIND - BEACH - DAY

The beach has returned to its pristine paradise. Molly and Kip lounge under an umbrella. Seth plays in the sand at the water's edge. His sand castle melts away as the tide encroaches.

Molly sits up and looks at Kip.

MOLLY

I just had the strangest dream.

Kip smiles at Molly.

KIP

This is the dream. It's time to wake up.

Molly laughs.

Molly lays back down and closes her eyes.

EXT. MOLLY AND KIP'S HOUSE - DAY

It's a gloomy day. The once lush garden has withered and died. The yard looks cluttered with garbage and rusted sculptures. A school bus stops in front of the house. Seth exits the bus with his friend GARRET(15), who looks like an elf with long white hair pulled into a ponytail.

They walk down the driveway, and Garret sees Kip's Harley parked in the driveway and walks over to it.

GARRET

Holy shit balls, that's a nice bike.

SETH

I know, right? It's fucking sweet.
 (beat)

My uncle said he's going to give it to me when I graduate.

GARRET

No way!

The two head into the house and walk past two jack-o-lanterns sitting on the stairs.

INT. KIP AND MOLLY'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY

The house is an unkept mess. Seth and Garret enter the kitchen. The sinks overflow with dirty dishes. Clutter covers every available surface. Clearly, no one gives a shit.

SETH

You want a Coke?

Garret nods and continues to the living room.

Seth walks over to the fridge and opens the door. The fridge is basically empty except for a case of coke. Seth grabs two cans and closes the door.

INT. KIP AND MOLLY'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

The living room is consistent with the clutter in the kitchen. Garret turns on the TV and the Xbox, sits on the sofa, and picks up a controller.

Seth enters with the cans of coke and hands one to Garret.

Seth puts his can down and opens an old pizza box sitting on the table. He takes a slice of cold pizza and eats it while he clears the coffee table by moving the pizza box and clutter to the floor.

Seth plops down beside Garret and picks up a controller. The game appears on the TV screen. On the screen, the boys play INJUSTICE 2, a fighting game. Seth plays with THE FLASH, and Garret plays with BATMAN.

Garret has Seth's player pinned in the corner. Garret keeps him trapped there by repeating the same move over and over.

SETH

Stop spamming! That's fucking cheating.

Garret chuckles a deviant laugh.

Seth can't break free.

Garret taunts with more laughter.

SETH (CONT'D)

Fuck you.

Seth picks up a couch cushion and hurls it at Garret's head.

Garret recoils at the last Moment, and the cushion flies past him and knocks a lamp off the end table. The lightbulb goes out.

GARRET

Sorry dude.

Garret uses his super move to destroy Seth and wins the match.

SETH

Doesn't count, cheater. (beat)

Be right back.

Seth picks up the lamp and puts it back on the table. He removes the lightbulb and heads to the kitchen.

INT. KIP AND MOLLY'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY

Seth digs around under the kitchen sink.

Seth searches a junk drawer and then calls out to Garret.

SETH

Hey Garret, I have to go to my uncle's studio to get a new lightbulb.

GARRET (O.S.)

So?

SETH

So, come with me. I can show you my uncle's studio. It's really cool.

Garret enters the kitchen, and the two exit through the back door behind them.

INT. COMMUNITY CENTER - DAY

The community center, mid-holiday transformation. Marsha, William, and Jorjie pull Halloween decorations from the various boxes.

JORJIE

What time is the rest of the gang getting here?

MARSHA

Denny is out with Devero, getting pizza. I'm not sure where Cory is. I saw him at school today, and he said he was coming.

EXT. VANCOUVER - INTERSECTION - DAY

It's a rainy day in Vancouver. Cory walks along with his umbrella and pays it none. He approaches the flooded intersection just as the light turns red. He stands and waits in front of a massive puddle.

INT. PICKUP TRUCK - DAY

A modern, clean cab with a touchscreen stereo blaring rock music. The driver, Mark, wearing a varsity football jacket, sees Cory.

While he waits for the light to change, he stares at Cory and gets enraged as he regresses into his mind.

BEGIN FLASHBACK

INT. MARK'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

A typical pre-teen boys' room, filled with Legos and Hot Wheels. 12-year-old Marc hides in his room to avoid the war erupting between his mother, Jeanne(36), and his father, Paul(38).

He covers his head with his pillow to drown out their words with little success. He can hear everything, from the breaking dishes to his mother's sobbing.

JEANNE (O.S.)

I can't even look at you; you disgust me, you sick pervert!

PAUL (O.S.)

Please try to understand.

JEANNE (O.S.)

Understand what? I came home and caught you fucking a man in the ass.

PAUL (O.S.)

Keep your voice down, Mark-

JEANNE (O.S.)

Don't you say his name. You're never going to see him again.

(beat)

You need to go. Get Out! Get Out! Get Out!

There's a long silence, then the front door opens, then slams shut.

Mark rushes to his window and watches his father get into another man's car and drive away.

END FLASHBACK

INT. PICKUP TRUCK - DAY

Mark sits staring out the window with a dazed look.

Cooper, wearing the same team jacket, nudges Mark to get his attention.

COOPER

Dude, tranny alert.

MARK

Watch this!

The light turns green, and Mark floors it. The truck's tires squeal as it bolts forward.

EXT. VANCOUVER - INTERSECTION - DAY

Just as Cory leaps over the puddle and makes it safely to the sidewalk, the black pickup truck sounds its horn as it speeds through the puddle.

A giant tidal wave splashes over Cory, soaking him thoroughly. As the truck speeds away, Cooper hangs out the window, laughing at Cory.

MARK

Tranny-faggot-bitch!

Cory yells back.

CORY

FUCK YOU, YOU FUCKING FUCK!

INT. PICKUP TRUCK - DAY

Cooper cheers and applauds while he laughs uncontrollably. He raises his hand in anticipation of a high-five from Mark.

Mark doesn't reciprocate. Instead, he speeds off with a sullen look on his face.

INT. COMMUNITY CENTER - DAY

Marsha and William hang paper Halloween decorations on the windows.

Jorjie removes one of the decorations William put up and moves it to the center of the window.

William snaps at Jorjie.

WILLIAM

Back off, stop being such a control freak.

JORJIE

I'm not! Don't you think it looks better centered?

WILLIAM

I thought it looked fine where I put it.

MARSHA

Is it really that upsetting?
 (beat)
No need to yell.

William rolls his eyes.

WILLIAM

You call that yelling? (beat)

No fair, two against one.

Cory enters, still soaked, pissed.

William bursts into laughter.

WILLIAM (CONT'D)

You look like a used tampon. What the fuck happened to you?

Cory glares at William.

William offers some old Halloween candy to Cory.

CORY

Not now.

Cory looks at Marsha and holds back tears.

CORY (CONT'D)

It was Mark and Cooper from school. They fucking sped through a puddle. (beat)

Called me a tranny-faggot bitch.

WILLIAM

Wow, pick an insult already.

Jorjie walks up to Cory and hugs him.

JORJIE

Jeez, I'm so sorry. Can I do anything?

CORY

Yeah, get me ten minutes alone with them.

MARSHA

You should tell the police.

Cory laughs.

INT. KIP AND MOLLY'S HOUSE - ART STUDIO - DAY

Seth and Garret enter the art studio. The light from the windows illuminates a thick layer of dust that covers everything.

Seth flicks the light switch and reveals several unfinished metal sculptures of Alice in Wonderland characters.

GARRET

Holy shit, there are so many of them.

(beat)

What does he do with them?

Seth searches through Kip's workbench for a new lightbulb.

SETH

Give me a hand. There are some boxes on the shelves. Look over there.

Garret walks over to a shelve full of boxes and milk crates.

SETH (CONT'D)

He used to sell them out of the yard, but he stopped after my Mom's stroke.

Garret pulls a BOX off the shelf and searches through it. He finds a new lightbulb.

GARRET

Found one.

Along with the lightbulb, Garret pulls out an aluminum ALTOIDS MINTS TIN. Inside the tin, he finds three joints and a small amount of unrolled weed.

GARRET (CONT'D)

Holy shit! Seth, check this out.

Garret shows Seth the tin.

Seth grabs the tin.

SETH

Sweet, that's my uncle's weed.

GARRET

Put it back, dude.

SETH

Put it back? Are you fucking kidding?

(beat)

We gotta take at least one. Don't you want to at least try it? No one will know.

GARRET

Fuck that! If we get caught, I'm dead.

SETH

Don't be such a pussy.

Seth grabs a lighter off Kip's workbench, walks over to the window in the far back corner of the studio, and opens it.

GARRET

Seth, what are you doing? You better not-

Seth lights the joint.

GARRET (CONT'D)

Dude, seriously, put that out.

SETH

Not until you try some. Come on, one pull? Then we'll put it out, promise.

Garret walks over and takes the joint from Seth. He takes a long drag from the joint and has a coughing fit.

Seth takes the joint from Garret and tokes on it.

Garret stops coughing and takes another hit.

Garret exhales and coughs violently; he falls to the floor.

Garret screams.

GARRET

FUCK!

Garret finally stops coughing and raises his hand to reveal a gash in the palm of it. Blood drips from the wound.

SETH

Fuck, dude! What happened?

Garret holds up a piece of scrap metal.

SETH (CONT'D)

Fuck, dude, you're going to need stitches.

GARRET

It fucking hurts like a mother fuck'n fuck. FUCK!

Seth grabs a towel and wraps the hand.

SETH

Keep it elevated while I call your Mom.

GARRET

Fuck, don't call her. If she knows I'm stoned, she'll cut my hand off.

SETH

Relax. She won't know shit, I'll just tell her you cut it on a piece of glass or something.

(beat)

Give me your phone.

Garret withholds his phone.

SETH (CONT'D)

Fine, don't let me help you, but you're not even supposed to be here, and you still need to be gone before my uncle gets home.

INT. COMMUNITY CENTER - DAY

Devero and Denny enter the community center. Devero holds several pizzas. They look around the room.

DEVERO

Wow, you guys, this is starting to look great.

Denny smiles.

DENNY

And you're all still alive.

CORY

Barely.

Denny sees the serious look on Cory's face.

DENNY

You okay?

WILLIAM

He got splashed.

JORJIE

Splashed William? I'd say it was a bit worse than that.

Cory approaches William and gets close to his face.

CORY

They ran me down and soaked me on purpose!

(beat)

Aren't they your friends?

Denny separates William and Cory.

DENNY

Everybody just take a breath and chill.

(beat)

Do you want to call the police?

Cory shakes his head no.

DENNY (CONT'D)

I really think you should.

(beat)

William, do you know these guys?

WILLIAM

I'm not getting involved.

MARSHA

I wonder how they'd feel if they knew you were gay.

William falls silent.

CORY

Yeah, you're not even out at school.

Denny comes to William's aid.

DENNY

Hey, you guys, William's not the bad guy here. Those assholes from your school are.

(beat)

You know the rules, we don't out people. William will come out when he's ready.

INT. KIP AND MOLLY'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Kip enters the living room through the front door to the mess he's grown all too used to. As Kip moves through the house, he hears music coming from Seth's bedroom. Kip calls out to Seth.

KIP

Hey, kid, I'm home.

No answer.

Kip takes off his jacket and hangs it on the back of a chair as he makes his way to the kitchen.

INT. KIP AND MOLLY'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - NIGHT

Kip enters the kitchen, walks over to the fridge, and opens it only to be reminded of how much he's slipping. Kip closes the fridge and stares at the mess.

Kip cleans out the sink of dirty dishes and fills the sink with water.

Seth enters the kitchen.

SETH

Hey.

KIP

Have you eaten?

SETH

Eaten what? There's no food.

Kip stares at his feet.

KIP

Pizza or Chinese?

Seth walks over to the fridge and grabs a can of Coke. He opens it and takes a drink.

SETH

Whatever.

Seth turns and exits the kitchen.

As soon as Seth leaves, Kip pulls a large baggy of coke from his pocket and uses a key to snort a big bump.

Kip continues washing dishes. From the window, Kip sees the headlights of a car pull into his driveway.

Kip watches from the window as a woman exits the car and stomps up to his front door.

The doorbell chimes.

Kip walks to the front door.

INT. KIP AND MOLLY'S HOUSE - FOYER - NIGHT

Kip walks into the foyer and opens the door. On the other side waits CALLAN(40), an angry woman with a bone to pick.

CALLAN

Are you Seth's father?

KIP

I'm his uncle. What's this-

CALLAN

I'm Callan Rush, Garret's mother.

Kip waits.

CALLAN (CONT'D)

Garret came home today with a gash on his hand. He fell when he was here getting high on the marijuana.

Kip chuckles.

KIP

I'm sorry, I just got home-

CALLAN

Garret told me Seth found your pot and made him smoke it.

Kip scoffs.

KIP

Made him? I realize you're upset, but they are teenage boys.

(beat)

It's just some pot.

CALLAN

Look, I don't know what kind of parent you are, but we don't use drugs in our home. Garret won't be coming back here again.

(beat)

I just thought you should know what your kid is getting into.

Kip gets defensive.

KIP

Well, thanks for coming by. I will certainly be having a talk with Seth.

Callan turns and leaves without saying goodbye.

Kip closes the door.

INT. KIP AND MOLLY'S HOUSE - SETH'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

The dim light of the moon illuminates a bookshelf that displays Lego replicas of The Millennium Falcon and The Deathstar. Seth sits on his bed in the dark and scrolls through photos of Molly. He wipes his glossy eyes and sniffles.

There's a pounding on his door, then Kip opens the door and turns on the light to reveal the absolute pigpen of dirty clothes and old moldy dishes.

SETH

What the heck?

KIP

Get up.

Seth looks confused.

KIP (CONT'D)

Just had a visit from Garret's Mom.

(beat)

We need to talk.

SETH

Oh fuck!

INT. MOLLY'S HOSPITAL ROOM - DAY

The once vibrant tree outside the window has withered and lost its leaves. The bright sun has turned to dark, foreboding skies.

Kip sits with Molly, holds her hand, and cries.

KIP

I need you to wake up, Molls. I can't do this without you. I have no idea what I'm doing, and Seth, he's a mess, and I don't know how to help him.

A light knock on the door startles Kip, who quickly dries his tears.

In walks NURSE NANCY(55) a tiny woman with kind eyes and a friendly voice.

NANCY

Sorry to disturb you. I just need to change Molly's IV.

Kip stands up.

KIP

It's okay, I have to get going anyway.

Kip leans over and kisses Molly's forehead.

KIP (CONT'D)

Love you, Molls.

Kip exits.

Nancy changes Molly's IV and talks to her as though she were awake.

NANCY

I really like him. You're lucky to have him.

(beat)

There, all done. I'll see you tomorrow.

Molly sleeps in her bed. The only sign of life is her eyes moving under her eyelids.

INT. KIP AND MOLLY'S HOUSE - ART STUDIO - NIGHT

Kip sits alone at his workbench—a joint burns in the ashtray. Kip pulls out his wallet, takes a bag of cocaine out of it, and pours it on his desk. He uses a credit card to form it into a big fat line.

Kip rolls a twenty-dollar bill and snorts the line in one go.

The sound of a knock on the door startles Kip, and he quickly clears the drugs from his workbench.

Denny enters the studio.

DENNY

Hey.

KIP

You scared me. I didn't hear you pull up.

DENNY

Hybrids. Go figure.

Kip sniffles.

Denny looks at Kip with suspicion.

DENNY (CONT'D)

Where's Seth?

KIP

Pouting in his room. He's not talking to me. He's being an asshole.

DENNY

You grounded him and took away his Xbox. What did you expect? Don't take this the wrong way, but you're not exactly setting the best example.

Kips snaps at Denny.

KIP

What's that supposed to mean?

DENNY

Babe, look at you. I'm worried about you. It's Tuesday and you're high on coke.

Kip scoffs.

KIP

No, I'm not.

Denny rolls his eyes.

DENNY

Seriously? You're telling me that you're not high right now?

KIP

What? I'm not.

DENNY

Wow, babe, I can't do this anymore. You are out of control when you should be stepping up like you said you would.

KIP

So what are you saying?

Denny turns to leave.

DENNY

I'm saying goodbye.

Denny exits the studio.

Kip yells to Denny as he leaves.

KIP

WHATEVER!

INT. KIP AND MOLLY'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - NIGHT

Kip enters the kitchen and takes a good look at the state of it and his life.

Kip reaches into his pocket, pulls out his drugs, and washes them down the sink.

Kip puts on his earbuds and plays music by Prince.

BEGIN SERIES OF SHOTS

Kip cleans the dishes.

Kip scrubs the floors on his knees

Kip collects bag after bag of trash and throws it out.

Kip cleans the living room and vacuums.

Kip dusts the furniture.

Kip scrubs the bathroom.

END SERIES OF SHOTS

INT. KIP AND MOLLY'S HOUSE - UPPER-LEVEL HALL - DAY

Seth exits his bedroom. We follow Seth as he descends the stairs.

INT. KIP AND MOLLY'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Seth enters the living room and sees it's spotless, which piques his interest.

Seth continues through the living room and heads towards the kitchen and the sound of Kip whistling.

INT. KIP AND MOLLY'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY

Seth enters the kitchen and finds Kip whistling away as he makes the two of them breakfast. Bacon sizzles in one skillet while Kip whips pancake batter and then pours a small amount into another waiting pan.

Seth stands at the kitchen entrance with a look of shock on his face.

SETH

I thought I smelled bacon.

KIP

Have a seat; I'm making pancakes.

Seth sits at the table but says nothing.

Kip talks to Seth while he cooks breakfast. He flips the pancake.

KIP (CONT'D)

So listen, I wanted to apologize for losing it on you last night. I shouldn't have yelled like that.

(beat)

Truth is, I'm not even that pissed about you trying pot, but seriously? Stealing from me and lying about it? Not cool.

SETH

I'm sorry, too.

(beat)

Am I still grounded forever?

Kip makes a plate for Seth and puts it on the table in front of him.

Kip smiles, returns to the stove, and pours more batter into the frying pan.

KIP

Do you want another one?

SETH

Absolutely.

KIP

No, not forever, but you're grounded for a month, straight home after school, and no Xbox.

Seth rolls his eyes and scoffs.

Kip serves Seth another pancake and then makes one for himself.

Kip makes his plate and joins Seth at the table.

KIP (CONT'D)

I'm also sorry I haven't been around much lately. From now on, we're going to get back to normal around here.

Seth looks at his food. He drops his fork and pushes his plate away.

SETH

Normal? Like things will ever be normal.

KIP

True, but you know what I mean. I know you're pissed about your Mom, and that's okay, but we have to do better.

Seth rolls his eyes And gets up from the table.

Seth exits the kitchen.

EXT. MOLLY AND KIP'S HOUSE - DRIVEWAY - DAY

It's a sunny spring day. The sound of birds chirping fills the air. Seth and Garret hide behind the side of the studio and smoke a joint. Neither of them has a big coughing fit.

GARRET

Is this your uncle's stuff?

SETH

Fuck no. After the last time, he lost it. He was more pissed that I took his weed than he was that I smoked it.

(beat)

I got it from Gino.

GARRET

Holy shit, I didn't even know he smoked. Good to know.

Seth takes the last toke and throws the roach away. They walk out from behind the studio to the front, where Kip's Harley sits parked.

Garret walks up to Kip's Harley to admire it.

GARRET (CONT'D)

Fuck, your uncle's bike is so sweet.

SETH

I know. I can't wait till I graduate.

GARRET

That'll be awesome. You'll score so much puss you won't know what to do with it.

Seth laughs.

Seth enters the studio from the side door. Moments later, the double bay doors retract. Seth stands in the open doorway, holding his helmet.

Seth exits the studio and puts on the helmet.

Garret has a look of trepidation.

GARRET (CONT'D)

What are you doing?

SETH

Take my picture so I can use it as my profile pic.

Garret takes out his phone and opens his camera app.

Seth sits on the Harley and poses as though he's riding it.

Garret snaps photos with his phone.

GARRET

Awesome, you look super bad-ass. (beat)

Do you know how to drive it?

SETH

Totally my uncle taught me.

GARRET

You should start it up and rev the engine so I can film it.

Seth thinks for a moment, then gets off the bike and heads into the studio. He returns a moment later, holding a set of keys.

Seth walks over to the Harley and mounts it once more. He puts the key in the ignition and starts the bike.

Garret laughs and holds his phone up to record Seth on the bike.

GARRET (CONT'D)

Holy shit, that's loud.

(beat)

Total gangster. Rev it up.

Seth revs the engine a few times and poses like he's about to take off.

Seth looks over to Garret.

Garret lowers his phone.

SETH

Keep filming. I'm going to drive to the end of the driveway.

Garret gets a serious look on his face.

GARRET

Dude? Seriously?

SETH

I've done it before.

(beat)

It'll be fine. Just keep filming.

Seth puts the bike in gear and then gently turns the throttle; the bike moves forward.

Seth pulls the throttle harder to speed up but over torques it and the powerful Harley Davidson shoots forward like a rocket. Seth tries to hold on as the bike nears the end of the driveway, very out of control. The bike warbles violently.

Seth flies off the back of the bike and hits the asphalt hard.

Garret yells to Seth as he runs after him.

GARRET

FUCK DUDE!

Kip's Harley veers to the right, jumps the curb of the driveway, and flies into the ditch at the end of the yard.

Seth lies on his stomach, motionless. He has his arms crossed with his face buried into them.

Garret runs to Seth's side and crouches down beside him.

GARRET (CONT'D)

Oh my god! Are you okay?

Seth weeps.

Garret panics.

GARRET (CONT'D)

Are you hurt? Can you get up? Should I call an ambulance?

Seth rolls over and sits up. His knees and hands are raw and bleeding.

Garret escalates.

GARRET (CONT'D)

Seth! Say something, man.

Seth looks at Garret.

SETH

I'm so fucked.

INT. DENNY'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

An unusually cluttered room. Magazines and pizza boxes litter the coffee table. Clearly, a pity party. Denny lays on his sofa, wrapped in a fuzzy blanket. Rupaul's drag race plays on the TV. Denny sits up to grab another slice of pizza.

A knock at the door. Denny rolls his eyes and ignores it.

EXT. DENNY'S APARTMENT - FOYER - NIGHT

A turn-of-the-century foyer with dark burgundy carpet and a four-foot-wide staircase with a masterfully carved handrail. Kip stands at Denny's door. He listens with his ear close to the door. He hears the muffled sound of the TV.

Kip knocks again, this time more insistent.

KIP

Please Den? It's me.

Kip waits in silence for a few moments, finally, the sound of the deadbolt unlocking. The door opens, and Denny appears, dressed in baggy sweatpants and a matching top.

Kip breaks down.

KIP (CONT'D)

He crashed my bike.

DENNY

Come in.

Denny opens the door and grabs Kip to hug him.

Kip enters Denny's apartment.

Denny closes the door behind him.

INT. MOLLY'S HOSPITAL ROOM - DAY

The sun outside Molly's window kisses the blooming maple tree.

Inside the room, flowers and get-well cards fill the room and almost mask the medical equipment that surrounds Molly. Nancy gives Molly a sponge bath and talks to her as though she's awake.

NANCY

Good morning, Molly; how's our sleeping beauty today?

INT. MOLLY'S MIND - BEACH - DAY

Molly's ethereal world, made of dreams. Molly lounges on her perfect pink beach with the endless purple seas without a care in the world. A passing breeze carries a voice into Molly's dream.

Molly sits up and looks around.

MOLLY

Hello?

The breeze becomes wind. As Molly focuses on the voice, it becomes more clear.

NANCY (V.O.)

It's such a beautiful day today. I can't think of a better day for getting up.

Clouds roll in and block out the sun. Suddenly, Molly's world melts like a Salvador Dali painting.

INT. MOLLY'S HOSPITAL ROOM - DAY

Jump back to the real world, where Nancy holds a warm cloth and uses it to bathe Molly.

NANCY

Oh, jeez, I forgot my hair scissors, and those bangs need a trim.

(beat)

No sense kicking up such a fuss about-

Nancy gasps from shock when Molly opens her eyes.

We hear Molly's thoughts as she realizes she can't move or speak.

MOLLY (V.O.)

What's happening? I can't move. Why can't I move?

Molly screams, but she's the only one who can hear it.

Nancy sees the terror in Molly's eyes and tries to comfort her.

NANCY

Oh my God! It's alright. Try to stay calm. You're in the hospital.

Nancy takes Molly's hand.

Tears stream from Molly's eyes.

NANCY (CONT'D)

I'll be right back with the doctor.

Nancy disappears.

Molly opens her mouth and screams with slurred speech.

MOLLY

Kill me!

INT. MOLLY'S HOSPITAL ROOM - DAY

The sun beams into Molly's room with a renewed sense of hope. Kip and Dr. Felix stand at Molly's bedside. Molly's eyes are open, but she cannot move.

DR. FELIX

Molly's swallowing on her own, so even though her speech is labored, I'm confident this will return with time and therapy.

Kip holds Molly's hand while he talks to her.

KIP

Hear that, Molls? You'll be sassing me again in no time.

Molly cries.

DR. FELIX

I think it's important to be realistic about Molly's prognosis. Even though we can expect Molly to regain some movement and speech, I'm afraid it will be limited.

Molly speaks with great difficulty.

MOLLY

Just kill me.

Kip's face sinks and he takes Molly's hand in his.

KIP

Don't say that, Molls. You'll get better.

MOLLY

Will I ever walk again?

DR.FELIX

I'll be frank with you. It's possible but not likely. Although I should say that you waking up after ten months in a coma already beats the odds.

KIP

You hear that Molls? You're a fucking miracle.

Molly's eyes flutter from fatigue; she drifts off to sleep.

Kip whispers.

KIP (CONT'D)

Let's let her sleep.

Kip and Dr. Felix walk towards the door.

INT. HOSPITAL CORRIDOR - DAY

Kip and Dr. Felix enter the hall. The lifers - elderly patients who know they will never leave the hospital alive sit in their wheelchairs and stare at Kip.

Kip and the doctor pay them none.

DR. FELIX

Next week, Molly is being transferred to our stroke rehabilitation wing. She'll be starting a six-week intensive to see how she responds to therapy.

Kip's eyes brighten.

KIP

That sounds excellent.

DR. FELIX

I'm glad, but just remember, Molly's in for the most difficult journey of her life.

KIP

Don't count her out just yet. That woman is tough as nails.

INT. COMMUNITY CENTER - DAY

The queer kids, all one year older, sit in a circle. Denny leads the group discussion.

DENNY

The next thing we need to discuss is this year's Pride.

Cory vibrates with excitement.

Jorjie, now purple-haired, notices Cory.

JORJIE

Damn, Cory, you look like you're going to piss yourself.

Cory looks to Denny.

CORY

Can I tell them?

William can't resist the chance to make a dig.

WILLIAM

Tell us what? That you're a boy? (beat)
We know.

Marsha snaps at William.

MARSHA

We should call you Willy instead of William because you're a dick.

Devero chimes in.

DEVERO

What did I tell you about that mouth?

(beat)

One of these days, I'm going to slap the shit out of you.

DENNY

Okay, gang, there's no need to get nasty. Cory's just excited. (beat) Go ahead, Cory. CORY

Well, when I told my dad that we raised \$2000 for our own float, he got his company to make a \$3000 donation.

The room breaks into applause.

DENNY

Isn't he amazing? I'm so proud of you guys. For the first time in Queer Aligned Youth's history, we will have an actual float in the parade.

Marsha raises her hand.

DENNY (CONT'D)

Marsha?

MARSHA

I have a great idea for the theme. Have you guys ever heard of Unicorn Planet?

EXT. MOLLY AND KIP'S HOUSE - DRIVEWAY - DAY

A sunny summer day. The trees and flowers are in bloom. Kip's Harley sits in the driveway on a hoist. The front end has been disassembled.

Kip works under the bike while Seth assists.

KIP

Hand me a 9/16 socket, please?

Seth crouches down and searches Kip's socket set. Seth puts the socket on the ratchet and hands it to Kip.

SETH

Here you go.

KIP

I hope you know you're going to pay me back for this.

SETH

Seriously? I don't have any money.

KIP

(MORE)

KIP (CONT'D)

If you think I'm just giving this to you after the stunt you pulled, think again. You cost me \$2500.

SETH

So if I pay you back, I can still have it?

KIP

Now's not the time to ask. I'm still too pissed off about it. You're lucky you didn't kill yourself.

Seth lowers his head.

SETH

I know. I'm sorry.

(beat)

I swear I'll never do anything like that again.

Kip gets up from under the bike.

KIP

Grab that tire. You can help me put it on.

INT. MOLLY'S HOSPITAL ROOM - DAY

Molly sits in her wheelchair. Kip sits in a chair at her side and talks to her while he uncurls her hands and helps move them around.

Molly smiles from the attention.

MOLLY

That feels nice.

KIP

The doctor says it's important to keep your range of motion.

Kip turns his attention to the TV. He picks up the remote and flips through the channels.

KIP (CONT'D)

Have you watched THE BOYS yet?

(beat)

I'm telling you, it's fucking gaymazing. Super dark though.

Molly smiles.

MOLLY

Why don't you want to talk about Denny? You know you love him.

KIP

It's complicated. Seth needs me.

MOLLY

What about your needs?

KIP

What about them? All I need is for you to get better, for you to get your life back.

Dr. Felix enters.

DR. FELIX

Am I interrupting?

KIP

Hi, Dr. Felix.

DR. FELIX

Hello, I'm glad you're here. I need to speak with you both.

Kip gets an uneasy look on his face.

KIP

That doesn't sound good.

DR. FELIX

I'm afraid it's not.

Kip takes hold of Molly's hand.

DR. FELIX (CONT'D)

It's regarding Molly's recovery.

KIP

What about it?

DR. FELIX

Molly's insurance will no longer be paying for her therapy. They monitor her progress and feel that she has progressed as far as she can.

Molly cries.

DR. FELIX (CONT'D)

I understand your frustration, and frankly, I agree with you, but ultimately, it's not my decision. She will be moving to the long-term wing next week.

KIP

Well, how much does it cost if we want to pay for her therapy?

DR. FELIX

\$4,000 a month.

Kip looks at Molly.

KIP

Don't cry, angel face. We'll figure something out. Doctor, I can get the money. Can you please keep Molly in therapy?

Molly looks totally defeated.

MOLLY

Don't bother.

KIP

Don't say that, Molls. You can't give up.

DR. FELIX

I will talk to the administrator, and they will contact you about billing.

Dr. Felix places her hand on Molly's.

DR. FELIX (CONT'D)

I'll be by tomorrow.

(beat)

Have a nice day.

Kip dries Molly's cheeks.

Dr. Felix exits.

MOLLY

You can't put your life on hold for

(beat)

All I really need is to know that you and Seth are happy.

KIP

Happy, how can I be? All I do is think about you here like this, and it kills me. How am I supposed to just go fall in love? I mean, this is my fault.

MOLLY

It's not your fault I had a stroke. It's no one's fault.

KIP

Yeah but the night it happened and the doctor asked me what to do, I told them to save your life even though they told me you'd be-(beat)

like this. I knew you wouldn't want to be saved, but I did it anyway. I was so scared.

MOLLY

I would have done the same thing.
 (beat)

But it's time to move on. If I have to keep doing fucking rehab, so do you. Call Denny.

Kip sits with Molly's words, then smiles in agreement.

INT. KIP AND MOLLY'S HOUSE - ART STUDIO - DAY

The double bay doors are open while Kip tidies his studio. Music blares from the stereo. Kip stops cleaning to take a break when his phone rings.

Kip looks at the screen and sees it's Denny calling.

Kip turns down the music and answers his phone.

KIP

Were your ears burning?
 (beat)

I was literally just thinking about you. How have you been?

INT. COMMUNITY CENTER - OFFICE - DAY

Unlike his home, Denny's office is somewhat disheveled as it is used as both an office and a storage room. Denny sits at a large wooden desk covered in paper with his phone to his ear.

DENNY

You were? Good stuff, I hope?

INTERCUT PHONE CONVERSATION

KIP

You know it. I was thinking how much I missed you.

DENNY

I know I miss you too, but things just got so messy.

KIP

I'm back, baby! I've been getting it together, you know, with Molly awake, she tore a strip off me. She reminded me that life's too short, and the first thing I thought of was how much I wanted to see you.

Denny pauses to search for the words.

DENNY

I'm sorry, I'm not ready to just jump back in, but I'll always be your friend.

Kip gets a sullen look on his face and quickly changes the subject.

KIP

We just found out they want to take her out of therapy. The doctors don't think she's getting better fast enough.

DENNY

That's terrible. Who gets to make that decision? Fucking assholes.

Kip sulks.

KIP

I'm going to pay to keep her in therapy. I just don't know how yet.

DENNY

Well, I have something that may cheer you up.

(beat)

We're building a float for Pride, and I need some welding done.

EXT. KIP AND MOLLY'S HOUSE - DAY

A bright sunny morning, Kip stands in the driveway and sprays his Harley with the hose. "NEVER TAKE THE PLACE OF YOUR MAN" "By Prince plays on the stereo in Kip's art studio.

Kip shouts for Seth.

KIP

HEY KID!

Seth pops his head out the backdoor of the house.

KIP (CONT'D)

Come give me a hand.

SETH

This song makes me think of Mom.

Seth rolls his eyes.

KIP

That's why I'm playing it.

(beat)

Cheer up; you're acting like I beat you.

Kip fills a pail with soapy water.

KIP (CONT'D)

Now, come outside and stop pouting.

Seth emerges from the kitchen and walks over to Kip.

Kip pretends to spray Seth.

Seth has a hissy fit.

SETH

UNCLE KIP, DON'T!

KIP

Relax, I was just kidding. I promise not to spray you. In fact, here.

Kip hands the hose to Seth.

KIP (CONT'D)

The deal is, if you spray me, I will wait till you're asleep, and I'll soak your entire bed. Got it?

SETH

Dark A.F.

(beat)

So why are you washing your bike? Or should I say my future bike?

Kip's face sinks.

KIP

Actually, I need to talk to you about that.

(beat)

I'm sorry, but I have to sell it.

Seth looks stunned.

SETH

Seriously?

Tears well up in Seth's eyes.

SETH (CONT'D)

But you said-

KIP

Buddy, don't cry.

Kip hugs Seth.

KIP (CONT'D)

I know what I said, and it sucks, but I have no choice.

Seth pushes Kip away. He can't stop his tears.

SETH

What about me? Don't I ever get anything? It's the only thing I had to look forward to.

(beat)

It's not fair.

Kip snaps at Seth.

KIP

Do you think I want to sell it? Do you think I asked for any of this? Do you?

(beat)

If you want to talk to someone about what's fair, try talking to your mother!

Seth storms off into the house.

Kip kicks the bucket of water over with frustration.

INT. HOSPITAL - REHAB GYM - DAY

A physiotherapy room filled with various specialized exercise machines specifically designed to help the mobility challenged. Molly sits upright on a motorized stationary bike that assists her with peddling.

Seth stands off to the side and watches.

SETH

Mom, do you mind if I record you?
 (beat)
I'm going to make a video for my
GOFUNDME page.

Molly smiles while she pushes the pedals.

MOLLY

Of course, you can.
(beat)

I'm so proud of you for helping.

Seth opens the camera app on his phone and records Molly.

MOLLY (CONT'D)

Kip told me about the float. Are you going to help?

SETH

Totally, Unck says I get to ride on it for the parade if I help build it.

Molly smiles and then turns her attention to her therapist.

ARCO(34), a very tall blonde man with sculpted arms, assists Molly on the bike. He pushes Molly with inspirational coach speak.

ARCO

That's it, Molly; you're doing great.

(beat)

Okay, I'm turning off the pedal assist.

Arco silences the machine.

The pedals stop moving.

SETH

Come on, Mom, push!

Molly strains in her face as she pushes. She lets out a defeated exhale.

MOLLY

Fuck, I can't.

ARCO

Don't say can't. We never say can't.

Molly takes a deep breath and pushes with her legs. She lets out a huge power cry, and the pedals move forward the tiniest bit at first.

ARCO (CONT'D)

You're moving them. Keep pushing.

MOLLY

Fuck you.

Seth and Arco laugh.

SETH

Push Mom!

Molly moves the pedals with great effort and manages to make a full rotation.

ARCO

YES! Don't stop now.

Molly grunts as the pedals make another rotation and then another.

Seth shouts from excitement.

SETH

Holy shit! You're doing it!

Kip walks into the gym to see Molly pedaling the bike and smiles.

KIP

Way to go, Molls; I'm so proud of you.

(beat)

Hey, kid, are you ready to go?

Seth stops recording and kisses Molly's cheek.

Molly looks at the two of them.

MOLLY

You guys go, have fun.

Kip and Seth say goodbye to Molly and Arco and exit the gym.

INT. COMMUNITY CENTER - DAY

Kip and Seth arrive at the community center and enter the conference room. The teens work on float decorations.

Devero blasts house music from his mini-speakers.

Kip and Seth approach in silence and watch Denny dance with Devero.

Devero tries to teach Denny to 'floss. He doesn't see Kip and Seth approach. He looks hilarious trying but doesn't care.

The teens notice Kip and Seth but say nothing.

Kip and Seth finally burst into laughter.

Denny blushes.

DENNY

Of course, you're standing there. (to the teens)

Evil little bitches, all of you.

Denny and Seth hug.

SETH

Hey Denny.

Denny addresses the group.

DENNY

Hey everyone, these are my friends Kip and Seth.

Denny introduces the youth group.

DENNY (CONT'D)

Okay, starting on the left is Jorjie.

JORJIE

FYI, my pronouns are they and them.

Seth nods.

SETH

Okay, cool.

Denny continues.

DENNY

Then there's Cory.

Cory shakes Kip and Seth's hands.

CORY

S'up.

DENNY

That's Marsha, William, and Devero, A.K.A Miss D.

KIP

Hi everybody. Forgive us if we screw your names up at first. I'm old, and he's dense.

SETH

Hey!

Seth punches Kip in the shoulder.

KIP

Should we get started?

CORY

So, you're the welder?

(beat)

I'd love to learn how to do that.

KIP

Torch is in the back of my truck. If you're serious, we should talk.

(beat)

What needs welding?

CORY

Gears, for a hoist to raise the unicorns.

KIP

Unicorns? Sounds cool as shit.

Marsha explodes with excitement.

MARSHA

Not just unicorns, but Unicorn Planet. That's our theme.

DENNY

Oh, my gawd, gang, I don't think my friend here knows about Unicorn Planet.

Jorjie plays the animated video on their phone.

Kip and Seth see three animated unicorns in a silly YouTube video.

CLOSE ON SCREEN

We hear the opening theme song.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

(sings)

A gay boy wished for a planet full of unicorns. Give it up for FEATHERS, oooh, CADILLAC and TOM CRUISE, Planet Unicorn, HEY.

Kip watches the cartoon and laughs uncontrollably.

PULL OUT OF SCREEN

KIP

I so get the float now. It's fucking brilliant.

DENNY

Isn't that show hilarious? Tom Cruise, too funny.

Seth belts out huge laughs.

SETH

Oh my gawd, that's gaymazing.

CORY

So, my idea is to have the unicorns flying around us. That's where your welding cred gets put to the test.

WILLIAM

Do you think you might be dosing the T a little hard? If your voice drops any deeper, your balls will be at your knees.

DENNY

Hey Suzie-Sunshine, zip it! And William, if you want to pick on your queer peers, maybe you should chill with Mark and Cooper.

William cowers.

WILLIAM

Just kidding, GAWD!

(beat)

Sorry, Cory.

Cory smirks and flips his middle finger to William.

CORY

Bite me, asshole.

EXT. COMMUNITY CENTER - PARKING LOT - DAY

The parking lot's primarily empty, with the exception of the large flatbed truck. The youth group has moved their decorating out into the sunshine.

Kip stands on a ladder on top of the flatbed and welds a piece of metal to a large mast. Sparks fly up around Kip as he works.

On the ground near the flatbed, the kids from the youth group work on the decorations for the float. They have paired off, and each group works on a different unicorn.

Each unicorn consists of wire-mesh frames covered with glue-soaked strips of paper.

JORJIE

These are going to look so cool.

SETH

Who built the frames for these?

CORY

Me and Miss D.

Devero clicks his teeth.

CORY (CONT'D)

Well, mostly her.

MARSHA

This stuff is nasty when it gets cold.

WILLIAM

It's getting too thick.

CORY

It's thick like schmag.

SETH

Sick.

JORJIE

Here, let's make some more.

Jorjie stands up and nudges William.

WILLIAM

Why me?

Jorjie rolls their eyes, picks up the pail of paste, and walks over to the hose.

MARSHA

So, what's the deal with your uncle and Denny?

Seth shrugs.

SETH

I dunno. They used to date a while ago, but then my Mom had a stroke, and well, they sort of just stopped.

WILLIAM

Seriously? Is she okay?

DEVERO

Oh, sweetie, that's rough.

SETH

Yeah, it sucks. She was in a coma for ten months.

CORY

Was in a coma? So she's awake?

SETH

Yeah, but she's still in the hospital. She can talk but can't move very much.

DEVERO

Oh, my gawd.

Marsha has tears in her eyes.

MARSHA

Your poor mother.

SETH

It's okay, don't be sad. She's getting better and better all the time.

CORY

Still? Holy fuck!

Jorjie returns with a fresh pail of paste and a garbage bag full of precut paper strips.

EXT. COMMUNITY CENTER - BBQ PIT - DAY

Denny stands behind a BBQ and cooks lunch for the group. He stares at Kip while he welds another piece of metal to the float.

Kip finishes the weld and turns his torch off. He descends the ladder and lifts his face shield to reveal a soot-covered face.

Kip sees Denny and returns the look with a smile.

Denny jolts back from the BBQ when flames flare up from the sizzling meat.

Kip laughs and calls out from the flatbed.

KIP

You should probably keep an eye on those burgers.

Denny chuckles. He grabs a spray bottle and sprays the flames down with water.

DENNY

It's hard when you're standing there.

Kip smiles at Denny and then sparks his torch. He flips down his face shield and returns to his work. Sparks fly.

EXT. COMMUNITY CENTER - PARKING LOT - NIGHT

The youth group gathers around their finished float and toasts to its splendor.

The flat deck has been transformed. Green faux grass covers the deck. Giant foam-core flowers frame the stage. Three massive paper mache unicorns attached to the top of the mast take center stage under a giant rainbow made from streamers. CORY

That's tits, yo. When the float moves forward, the gears will make the unicorns fly in a circle.

MARSHA

Be right back.

Jorjie and Marsha disappear for a moment.

Jorjie and Marsha return moments later, holding a large banner.

DENNY

The gang has a surprise for you guys.

Kip and Seth give their attention to Jorjie and Marsha.

KIP

What's this?

DEVERO

We wanted to do something to say thanks for all your help.

Jorjie and Marsha each hold an end of the banner and walk far enough apart so that it can be read in its entirety.

The banner reads: WWW.GOFUNDME/HELPMOLLY.COM

Seth gasps and then applauds.

Kip tears up.

SETH

Holy crap, you guys, that's freakin awesome.

Kip, nearly speechless, stammers his words.

KIP

I, I, I don't know what to say.

Thank you.

(beat)

Molly's going to love it.

Marsha and Jorjie get the banner in place along the side of the float while William and Devero secure it to the flat deck.

William snaps at Jorjie.

WILLIAM

Make sure it's centered.

Jorjie chuckles.

JORJIE

Ha, so funny, and of course, it's centered.

Denny pulls out his phone.

DENNY

Okay, everybody, gather around the float. I want to get a picture.

The gang huddles around Kip and Seth.

DEVERO

Cory, you should be in the front.

WILLIAM

Yeah, you're the smallest.

MARSHA

Once again, you're the biggest dick.

JORJIE

Probably with the smallest dick.

Kip rolls his eyes.

KIP

Seriously, you guys?

DENNY

Smile!

The flash goes off.

EXT. COMMUNITY CENTER - ALLEY - NIGHT

Mark and Cooper approach the parking lot. They call out to the youth group but stay on the sidewalk outside the gated lot.

MARK

Hey Cooper, check it out; it's the he-she's, pussy-boys, and dick-chicks. They've made themselves a fag-day float.

COOPER

Bunch of fucking queers!

EXT. COMMUNITY CENTER - PARKING LOT - NIGHT

Cory, bursting with testosterone, grabs a hammer and rushes to the gate.

Cory smashes the fence with the hammer.

CORY

I'll fucking kill you, you fucking cunts.

MARK

Speaking of cunts, don't you have one, Bro?

Cooper high-fives Mark. They both laugh.

COOPER

Did you actually cut your tits off?

Mark notices William exit the community center and join the crowd.

MARK

No fucking way! William? You're a homo?

William sees Cooper and stares him down.

Cooper clams up and looks scared.

BEGIN FLASHBACK

INT. TENT - NIGHT

William's fast asleep, wrapped in his sleeping bag.

Beside him, Cooper lays wide awake, fixated on William.

Cooper stealthily gets out of his sleeping bag, creeps over to William, and slowly unzips his sleeping bag. Then he reaches his hand under the sleeping bag.

William wakes up while Cooper is masturbating him.

William smiles at Cooper and, without saying a word, opens his sleeping bag to invite Cooper to join him.

Cooper crawls into William's sleeping bag and kisses him.

END FLASHBACK

EXT. COMMUNITY CENTER - ALLEY - NIGHT

Cooper stares back at William with fear in his eyes. He steps back from the fence.

William stares into Cooper's eyes as he responds.

WILLIAM

Yep, I'm queer, and it's time I stop hiding.

Marsha grabs Cory's hand and pulls him away from the fence.

DENNY

Everybody get back from the fence. I'll handle them.

The gang steps back and huddles together. They focus their energies on Cory.

Devero whispers to William.

DEVERO

I'm proud of you; that took balls.

William thanks him with a smile.

Kip hands Seth his phone.

KIP

Stay here and call the police; tell them we're at the community center on Parker.

Denny and Kip put themselves between the jocks and the kids.

Tears of rage rain down Cory's face.

DENNY

Why don't you both just fuck off? Like always, the police are on their way. Fucking queer-ass-selfhating homophobes.

Kip grabs Denny's arm.

KIP

Maybe you shouldn't egg them on?

Denny pulls his arm free.

DENNY

I'll never back down from hateful fucks like them. NEVER!

COOPER

Dude, let's get out of here; I can't get arrested.

Mark shrugs Cooper off. He sees the sign for the float that reads: HAVE PRIDE.

MARK

Have Pride? So, is that ass-fucker pride? Cock-sucker's unite?

The glow of the approaching patrol car's flashing lights sends Mark and Cooper running. They disappear into the shadows.

INT. KIP'S TRUCK - NIGHT

Kip and Seth sit in Kip's truck, the lights of the city pass by out the window.

KIP

What a day. Did you have fun?

SETH

Oh yeah, well, except for those guys.

KIP

Tell me about it. I can't believe people are still like that. It's 2021.

SETH

Well, the float looks gaymazing. (beat)

What time do you want to go back tomorrow? I promised Miss D that I'd help paint the unicorns.

KIP

Denny wants to make us breakfast in the morning before we head back, but we will be front and center by 9:30 or so. Trust me, Denny takes a while to get ready in the morning. SETH

I like him.

(beat)

Are you guys getting back together?

KIP

It's complicated.

Seth laughs, then goes silent.

Kip notices Seth's sudden nervous behavior.

KIP (CONT'D)

What's up?

SETH

Huh?

KIP

You're acting like a weirdo.

Seth stares at the floor.

SETH

Um-

Seth can't find his words.

KIP

Dude! What is up? Spit it out.

SETH

Um, do you think I can call you Dad?

Kip gasps but tries to play it down.

KIP

Sure buddy.

SETH

Thanks, because I never got to say that before.

KIP

It's like I always say: you call me anything you like. Truth is, I'm not even your uncle. I'm just some guy, but I love you more than me, and I will always be here for you.

SETH

Are you crying?

Kip lets it out.

KIP

You know what? That's the nicest thing anyone has ever said and could ever say to me. I fucking love you, buddy.

INT. DENNY'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Seth, Kip, and Denny sit in the living room. A couple of empty pizza boxes sit on the coffee table.

Denny stands up and picks up the empty pizza boxes as he exits the living room.

DENNY

I'll be right back with some sheets and blankets. You sure you don't mind the sofa?

(beat)

I'll clean up my guest room for next time, I promise.

Denny exits.

KIP

You'll be fine out here?

SETH

Sure, but what about you? Where are you sleeping tonight?

Seth smirks.

Kip blushes.

KIP

Ha ha, cute, and mind your own business.

Denny returns with a stack of pillows and blankets.

As Denny and Kip leave the living room-

SETH

Goodnight Dad.

KIP

Love you, buddy.

Denny gives Kip a tender look.

Kip and Denny exit.

EXT. COMMUNITY CENTER - PARKING LOT - NIGHT

In the blackness of the night, the newly finished Pride Float sits alone in the otherwise empty parking lot. Mark and Cooper stand on the other side of the fence surrounding the lot.

Cooper throws a duffle bag over his shoulder and scales the fence.

COOPER

Fuck, dude, the bag is fucking heavy.

Mark laughs.

MARK

Keep your voice down.

Cooper drops the duffle from the top of the fence. The bag crashes to the ground.

COOPER

Sorry.

Mark scales the fence. He pulls a flask from his back pocket and takes a swig before handing it to Cooper.

MARK

Take this.

Cooper chugs a huge gulp from the flask. He chokes and gasps for air to cool his burning throat. He hands the flask back to Mark.

Cooper opens the duffle bag, pulls out two small sledgehammers, and hands one to Mark. The two teens climb on top of the float.

Mark flashes a truly deviant smile.

MARK (CONT'D)

Time to fuck shit up.

We watch in dread as the two men smash the decorations with sledgehammers.

BEGIN SLOW MOTION

Cooper tears down one of the unicorns and pretends to hump it, then stomps it into nothing.

Mark rips up the grass and throws it off the float.

Mark snaps pictures while Cooper smashes the foam core decorations.

Marc and Cooper urinate on the float.

Mark smashes the other two unicorns to pieces.

END SLOW MOTION

INT. DENNY'S APARTMENT - BEDROOM - DAY

The early morning sun seeps in through the crack between the two curtains covering the window. The clock on the end table reads 6 am. Denny and Kip lay asleep on top of the blankets.

Denny wakes first; he nudges Kip.

DENNY

Morning kitten.

KIP

Snuggle me immediately.

Denny spoons Kip.

DENNY

Okay, but only for ten minutes, don't forget-

 \mathtt{KIP}

This is quiet snuggle contemplation time, shh.

EXT. COMMUNITY CENTER - PARKING LOT - DAY

It's early morning, and Denny arrives at the community center. Kip and Seth arrive in a separate vehicle a moment later. As soon as they enter the parking lot, they notice the float lying in ruins.

Denny loses it and yells into the air.

DENNY

Those little fucking nazis.

Kip and Seth stand shocked and silent.

Kip runs to Denny and hugs him.

Denny pushes Kip away.

Kip looks rejected.

KIP

It's going to be okay.

Denny lashes out.

DENNY

How is everything going to be okay? Unless you can rebuild the float in two days, it will most definitely not be okay.

(beat)

Don't egg them on, you said.

Kip gets defensive.

KIP

What? So this is my fault?

DENNY

Do nothing; that's your go-to.

(Beat)

When Molly had her stroke, you just shut down. Gave up on everything, including us.

Seth walks back to the car in silence, invisible to Kip and Denny.

KIP

Fuck yourself; you have no idea what this has been like.

DENNY

Because you shut me out, how could I?

(beat)

I should have kicked their asses.

KIP

What would that have accomplished? You'd be in jail.

(beat)

Not to mention the bad example you'd be sending to the kids.

Denny's energy refocuses.

DENNY

The kids!

(beat)

Fuck this. I need you to go.

KIP

Seriously?

Denny starts to cry.

DENNY

I've got to call the gang and break their hearts, so yeah, I'm serious.

Denny turns and walks away without saying goodbye.

Kip storms over to his truck.

SETH

Dad, are you okay?

Kip shakes his head.

KIP

Not at all. I think I need a time-out.

Kip and Seth get into the truck and drive away.

EXT. KIP AND MOLLY'S HOUSE - ART STUDIO - DAY

The studio doors are open. Kip stands out by his studio and smokes a joint. As he puffs, he stares at all of his sculptures. Then his eyes light up like he's having an epiphany. He puts out his joint and runs toward the house.

Kip opens the kitchen door and yells into the house.

KIP

SETH! Come quick.

Seth runs through the kitchen to the back door with a panicked look.

SETH

Is everything okay?

KIP

Come help me load the truck. We're going to save Pride!

Seth and Kip fill the back of Kip's pickup with As many sculptures as will fit.

Kip pulls out his phone and calls Denny.

DENNY (V.O.)

(FILTERED)

Hey.

KIP

I'm coming to see you. I've had an epiphany. I think we can save the float.

DENNY (V.O.)

(FILTERED)

What do you mean?

KIP

I don't have time to explain; Seth and I are on our way. Can you just get the gang to meet you at the center in an hour?

INT. COMMUNITY CENTER - DAY

The teens from the group sit in a circle. Heads hung low; no one says a word. Kip barges into the room, excited and out of breath.

Seth follows behind.

Seth waves at his friends from the youth group.

SETH

Hey everybody.

The room-of-gloom-and-doom turn their sad faces to Kip. They all look confused.

Kip pants as he speaks.

KIP

Hey everybody,

(beat)

Sorry to barge in on your pity party, but I just had an idea so bright and gaymazing that I may shut down or explode after telling you all.

(beat)

Actually, never mind, you guys would think it was stupid.

Everyone looks at Kip, not sure what to make of his erratic behavior.

Finally, after waiting it out.

DENNY

Okay, you spaz, spill it.

Kip gives Denny a flirtatious look.

KIP

That's for later, and don't talk that way in front of the kids.

(beat)

I think we should clean up my sculptures and use them to make a new float.

CORY

How-

SETH

We brought them with us; they're outside in the back of my dad's truck.

Denny hugs Kip.

Everyone starts clapping and cheering.

DENNY

Thank you, handsome.

SETH

Can you guys do that later? Gawd, there are kids here.

Marsha laughs.

MARSHA

We should probably get started if we're going to pull this off in two days.

DEVERO

And cue montage.

EXT. COMMUNITY CENTER - PARKING LOT - DAY

BEGIN SERIES OF SHOTS

Seth, Marsha, and William paint Kip's sculptures, which brings them back to life.

Denny washes the truck and gets into a water fight.

The gang loads the sculptures on the truck.

They arrange and rearrange the sculptures.

The sun sets on day one.

It's a bright new day; Devero and Seth build giant mushrooms out of foam core.

Cory shows up with balloons and a tank of helium.

Cory and Jorjie hook up the speakers for the sound system.

William and Marsha fill balloons and tie them together with string to make a giant balloon rainbow.

A delivery driver shows up with a stack of pizzas.

The gang sits in lawn chairs in the parking lot as the sky darkens. Everyone's exhausted.

END SERIES OF SHOTS

EXT. COMMUNITY CENTER - ALLEY - NIGHT

Mark and Cooper walk up to the entrance to the community center parking lot but stay off the property.

COOPER

Hey Mark, look, they built another fag-day float.

MARK

What happened to the other one?

The jocks laugh and high-five.

Denny sees the jocks and rushes to the gate.

DENNY

You're the pathetic cunts that destroyed our float.

The jocks laugh and high-five again.

EXT. COMMUNITY CENTER - PARKING LOT - NIGHT

Kip calms the kids.

KIP

You guys stay here. (beat)

(MORE)

KIP (CONT'D)

Son, get your phone out and record them.

Kip runs over.

Seth pulls out his phone and starts recording.

MARK

Told ya I was going to take a shit on it.

COOPER

Wish it was your face.

KIP

Did you just say you want to sit on his face?

Denny spits on Mark.

DENNY

I'm not afraid of you, you little bitch.

MARK

Don't spit your aids on me, you fucking fag.

KIP

You realize telling gay people they're gay isn't an insult, right?

Denny laughs.

DENNY

I never thought of it that way.

Mark steps into the parking lot and lunges at Kip and Denny.

Kip grabs Mark and, with very little effort, throws him to the ground.

Denny kneels on top of Mark's back and pins him to the ground.

Cooper takes off when he hears an approaching police car.

A police car arrives on the scene, and two police officers get out of the car.

Seth rushes over to the police officers, holding up his phone.

SETH

I've got the whole thing on video.

EXT. PARADE STAGING AREA - DAY

The teens from the youth group stand huddled together amongst the massive crowd. They're all decked out in festive Alice in Wonderland-themed costumes.

DIANA ROSE(65), a Diana Ross impersonator, stands with the gang.

Marsha introduces her.

MARSHA

This is my neighbor, Diana Rose. She's driving the float for us.

The kids from the youth group greet her.

Devero looks at his phone.

WILLIAM

Where the fuck are those guys?

JORJIE

I tried calling Denny, but he didn't pick up.

CORY

They'll be here, you guys; just calm the fuck down.

MARSHA

You're one to talk.

(beat)

Someone try him again.

EXT. COMMUNITY CENTER - PARKING LOT - DAY

Kip sits in the driver's seat. Seth and Denny sit beside him. Kip turns the key. The truck doesn't start.

KIP

What the actual fuck?

DENNY

Shit, we don't have time for this.

Kip hops out of the truck.

KIP

I'll grab my truck. Have you got jumper cables?

DENNY

I'll grab them.

Kip and Denny run to their vehicles at top speed.

Seth sits stunned and panicked in silence.

EXT. PARADE STAGING AREA - DAY

MAJOR(56), the parade's Grand Marshall, a big old queen in a tuxedo jacket and a poodle skirt, walks over to the youth group.

MAJOR

I hate to be the bearer of bad news, but we're closing the entry gates. I'm sorry it's too late for this year's parade. They've already started marching.

DEVERO

They're on their way; they'll be here. Just give us a bit more time. We worked so hard to rebuild our float. You've gotta let us in, please?

MAJOR

I wish I could help, but I'm sorry I can't. You'll just have to wait till next pride.

Two security guards move large wooden barricades at the parade entrance.

As the last float starts down the parade route, the kids turn and see their float coming into the staging area.

Kip parks the float and exits with Denny and Seth. They run over to the youth group.

DEVERO

You're too late; they've started without us.

Kip stands with Denny and the kids from the Queer Aligned Youth group on the wrong side of the barricade.

Cory fights back tears.

CORY

Seriously? That's It? We build two fucking floats and still get denied?

(beat)

Happy fucking pride.

DENNY

Cory, we're all feeling the same way right now.

Jorjie, punked out with thick black eye makeup and bright pride purple hair, tries to lighten the mood.

JORJIE

Don't let it ruin your pride, Cory, or else they win.

DEVERO

Jorjie's got the right idea.

Their faces couldn't look longer.

The cheering crowds can be heard swelling as the parade progresses.

William gets emotional And tears up.

WILLIAM

News flash, everyone. That's the parade, and we're not in it. THEY HAVE ALREADY WON. No amount of patronizing bullshit will spin this into a win.

(beat)

I came out to my family for this.

DENNY

They're probably jealous because, clearly, we have the best float.

Kip looks around at the hung, low faces and snaps.

KIP

Fuck this fucking bullshit!
 (mutters)

It's my pride too.

(to the group)

You know what, you guys? William is right. Sometimes, you turn the other cheek; other times, you bulldoze your way to the front of the line.

Seth leans over and whispers to Denny.

SETE

My Dad's about to get a little nuts.

KIP

This is one of those times. Everyone stand clear, and when I give the signal, hop on.

DENNY

What are you going to do?

KIP

Be the bulldozer; what else?

INT. FLAT DECK TRUCK - DAY

Kip and Seth sit in the cab of the truck.

Kip starts it up and revs the engine.

SETH

You're awesome, Dad.

KIP

Don't try this at home.

Kip sounds the truck's horn—the few stragglers near the barricade scurry to the side of the road.

Kip puts the truck in gear.

EXT. PARADE STAGING AREA - DAY

The youth group teens realize what Kip's about to do. They jump up and down, making a ruckus.

Kip drives through the barricades.

The truck stops momentarily and sounds its horn again.

The youth group gang swarm the float and get in place.

Kip is about to start driving when Denny stops him.

DENNY

Get out of that truck and onto this float with me, you nut.

Kip pops his head out the door.

KIP

Someone has to drive this thing.

DENNY

Yeah, Diana Rose, the drag queen I hired to drive the float.

KIP

Oh yeah, where is she?

SETH

Dad, she's right outside my door. You almost ran over her.

KIP

Well, that would have ruined the day for sure. Come on, kid, hop out—time to get our pride on.

EXT. PRIDE PARADE - DAY

The float speeds down the starting route and falls in place a few feet behind the Grand Marshall.

Dance music blasts from their float's speakers.

Kip stands next to Denny while Seth dances and waves at the crowd.

The crowd begins to cheer for the elaborate float.

The QAY gang dance and cheer as they toss colored beads to the masses.

KIP

Hey.

Denny grabs Kip's hand to get his attention.

DENNY

Hey you.

Kip smiles.

KIP

Haven't got to do this yet.

(beat)

Happy Pride, handsome man; I love you.

Kip kisses Denny. They linger in the moment.

Denny pulls away when he sees the news cameras.

DENNY

Hey, look up there; the cameras are coming up. Get Seth.

INT. MOLLY'S HOSPITAL ROOM - DAY

Molly and Arco watch the parade on the TV. Arco applies pressure to Molly's leg.

ARCO

Okay, Molly, push my hand.

Molly pushes her leg forward and moves Arco's hand.

Molly speaks, and her words come more naturally. She still struggles, but it's clear she's getting better.

MOLLY

Okay.

On the TV, we see a massive crowd of people celebrating Pride. In the center of it all are the parade floats making their way down the parade route.

ARCO

Wow, that sure is a lot of people down there.

(beat)

I've never been. I'd love to support it, but the crowds just aren't my thing.

As the parade procession nears the end, the Queer Aligned Youth group's float passes the news cameras.

MOLLY

There they are.

Molly smiles and kicks her legs, and claps her hands.

MOLLY (CONT'D)

It looks gaymazing.

Arco laughs.

MOLLY (CONT'D)

I'll be there next year, walking.

ARCO

I don't doubt it!

EXT. PARADE FINISH POINT - DAY

We're in a stadium parking lot. All the floats are parked and displayed for the spectators to take photos and cast their votes for the best in show.

There's a noticeable crowd around the QAY Float.

EXT. OUTDOOR STAGE - DAY

A crowd of thousands stands in front of the giant outdoor performance stage. Major walks to center stage.

MAJOR

Good afternoon homos and nomos and everything in between.

The crowd cheers.

MAJOR (CONT'D)

Happy F'n Pride bitches.

(beat)

So, before we get the entertainment started, there's the matter of the BEST IN SHOW.

The crowd screams and cheers.

MAJOR (CONT'D)

And I'd like to tell you how close it was.

(beat)

But I'd be lying if I did. I'd like to present the award for this year's best in show and a cash prize of \$5000 to QUEER ALIGNED YOUTH.

The entire QAY crew rushes the stage.

Devero grabs the microphone.

DEVERO

We'd like to say something.

The crowd bustles.

Devero shouts into the mic.

DEVERO (CONT'D)

HEY! We have something to say. It's important.

The crowd falls silent.

DEVERO (CONT'D)

That's better. We want to give a special shout-out to Kip Casey and his son Seth. Without their help, none of this would have been possible.

The crowd cheers.

Jorjie runs to the side of the stage and drags Kip and Seth onto the stage.

Devero hands the mic to Jorjie.

JORJIE

Two days ago, two homophobic dicks trashed our first float.

A collective gasp resonates from the crowd.

JORJIE (CONT'D)

Kip and his son, Seth, helped us rebuild it with the sculptures Kip makes.

Devero leans toward Jorjie.

Jorjie holds the mic at Devero's mouth.

DEVERO

Which are all for sale, by the way.

The crowd applauds and cheers.

Jorjie puts their hand in the air to silence the crowd.

JORJIE

Wait, there's more.

Silence lulls.

Marsha nudges Jorjie for the mic.

Jorjie turns and hands the mic to Marsha.

MARSHA

We just found out that the whole time they were helping us with our float, Kip has been paying for private stroke rehabilitation therapy for Seth's Mom. Marsha hands the mic to Cory.

CORY

So Kip, on behalf of the QAY, would you please accept this cheque for five thousand dollars to help with Molly's recovery?

Kip, a blithering mess, can barely find the words to thank them.

The crowd ignites.

EXT. CHANNEL 6 NEWS TENT - DAY

One of several TV stations that have meet and greet booths set up in the parade congregation area.

GREG AUBURN(45), Channel Six reporter, and Geraldo Rivera lookalike, schmoozes the crowd. When he sees Kip, he flags him down. Kip, Seth, and Denny make their way to the tent.

Greg bursts with excitement.

GREG

Kip, I'm so glad I found you. How would you like to do a feature piece for our local news segment? You are by far the most interesting story here.

DENNY

Can he plug his best friend Molly's funding site?

Greg turns to Kip.

GREG

What's it for?

KIF

She had a brainstem stroke, and her rehab isn't covered. We started a funding thingy online.

GREG

Wow, I could do an entire show dedicated to you.

(beat)

(MORE)

GREG (CONT'D)

Tell you what, I need a Pride piece for the show tonight, but we can leave some time at the end of the interview to talk about Molly, and you can plug your site. It'll be seen by two million viewers tonight at six and nine.

KIP

That would be amazing.

Kip turns and kisses Denny.

KIP (CONT'D)

Thank you for having a big pushy mouth; you're the best.

INT. MOLLY'S HOSPITAL ROOM - DAY

Kip, Seth, and Denny sit with Molly. Seth has his laptop open in front of Molly.

CLOSE ON SETH'S LAPTOP SCREEN

Seth opens up YouTube and searches for Kip's news story.

Seth plays the video.

Greg Auburn, the Channel 6 reporter, interviews Kip.

KIP

(filtered)

I'd also like to send a very special hello to my best friend, Molly.

GREG

We have a few seconds; why don't you tell our viewers about Molly?

KIP

Molly is recovering from a brainstem stroke that left her mostly paralyzed. Please visit www.gofundme/helpmolly.com for more information and to make a donation for her recovery.

GREG

You heard it, folks—a local hero in need of a little heroic magic for his own family.

(MORE)

GREG (CONT'D)

Check out gofundme/helpmolly.com. (beat)
Sonja, back to you.

The number of views is in the millions and climbing.

INT. COURT ROOM - DAY

In a closed courtroom sits openly gay family court Judge Tammy Bellaire(47). Mark and Cooper sit as co-defendants and await the judge's ruling.

JUDGE BELLAIRE

As a gay woman, I'm appalled at your behavior. As a judge, I'm tasked to deliver a ruling that best fits the crime and also, hopefully, teaches you both some compassion and tolerance.

Mark and Cooper stand expressionless, staring at the floor.

JUDGE BELLAIRE (CONT'D)

So, I am sentencing each of you to one year of community service, which is to be served in the LGBTQ+ support center.

Mark scoffs at her sentence.

JUDGE BELLAIRE (CONT'D)

As part of your sentence, you will each attend twelve weeks of anger management and sensitivity training.

(beat)

Failure to comply with either part of your sentence will result in your incarceration for a term of one hundred and eighty days in a juvenile detention center.

The sound of the gavel crashing down echoes in the room.

SUPER: ONE YEAR LATER

EXT. PRIDE PARADE - DAY

Once again, the streets are overflowing with spectators cheering and applauding at the floats as they pass by. At the head of the parade is the QAY float. It's a Wizard of Ozthemed float, hosting more of Kip's metal sculptures.

As the float passes by, we see Molly standing with crutches around her wrists. She dances with Seth, Kip, and Denny.

The QAY gang surrounds them as they dance and cheer to the crowd.

William kisses his new boyfriend, Cooper, who finally finds his pride.

Kip looks at Molly and smiles, and then hugs her.

Seth sees them hugging and joins in.

FADE TO BLACK.