

The Balcony Boys

by

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ACT I: DYSANIA

FADE IN:

EXT. BEACH - NIGHT

A man and a woman sit together on an empty lifeguard stand on a typical summer night.

The man is young and handsome. His hairs flows down to his shoulders and his beard perfectly outlines his chiseled jaw.

The woman's face is covered by large, black-framed glasses. And behind those glasses is nothing short of a beautiful face full of perfect features.

The breeze is calm and the waves are crashing down on the shore as the two of them look out at the moon in the distance.

The girl, AMY, 20, turns her attention back to a NOTEBOOK where she is reading the last page. The man, SEB, 22 is still looking at the moon while AMY is reading in his arms.

AMY closes the notebook as a tear falls down her face.

AMY

Seb...

SEB looks over at her and smiles as he wipes her tear away,

AMY (CONT'D)

... I'm falling in love with you.

SEB, noticing that AMY is not able to control her emotions, pulls her closer to him.

SEB

I fell in love with you a year ago
when I first met you.

AMY let's go of SEB so she is able to see his eyes.

AMY

I can't believe you wrote all of
this about me. I had no idea.

AMY acknowledges the notebook and fingers through it again looking at all the words that filled every single page.

SEB

I never thought I had a chance.
You don't seem like the type of
girl who would settle for less
than she deserves. And if any guy
ever left you then he's got
something seriously wrong with
him.

AMY digs herself back into SEB'S arms.

SEB looks back at the moon and smirks. Soon, his smirk
disappears.

SEB (CONT'D)

Amy...

AMY

What?

SEB

You think we'll be together for a
while?

AMY lets go of SEB again so she can look him in the eyes
once more.

AMY

I know we will.

AMY leans in to kiss SEB but right before their lips touch,
the scene cuts.

CUT TO:

EXT. BEACH - DAY

SEB is sitting on the same lifeguard stand by himself in
the rain.

He looks down at his wrist and notices there is a gash
along it. He pulls up his sleeve so the cut is hidden. He
hops down from the lifeguard stand and walks until he is
off screen.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. UPSTAIRS LOFT - DAWN

SEB wakes up on the floor in a wide shot in a t-shirt and
his underwear. There is a couch above him and a girl
sleeping in it.

SEB sits up right and grimaces at a pain in his head. He slowly brings himself to his feet and looks at the girl on the couch. He becomes noticeably confused.

Then he looks at his wrist to see if the cut from his dream was still there. It is absent.

CUT TO:

INT. BATHROOM - DAWN

SEB saunters over to the toilet, gets down on his knees and nonchalantly vomits.

He then washes his hands in the sink and exits.

CUT TO:

INT. UPSTAIRS LOFT - DAWN

SEB walks back through the room. He passes the couch again and next he passes a table covered in debris from the night before.

The table is covered in empty pizza boxes, empty beer cans, half empty bottles of vodka and whiskey, and a hat.

SEB walks past the table and over to the sink where a half empty bottle of water is sitting. He grabs the bottle and takes a sip. He immediately spits it out and notices the bottle of vodka that was next to it.

Not taking any chances, SEB drinks water from the sink to rinse his mouth.

After rinsing, SEB fills a cup with water from the sink. Then he grabs his hat and puts it on backwards. Then he grabs his phone and a pack of cigarettes off the corner table.

SEB

Where the hell are my pants?

SEB searches all over the room for his pants but he cannot find them. He gives up and decides to continue without pants.

He does, however, find his shoes and proceeds to put them on. Before putting them on, though, he pulls out a small bag of pills. He puts one in his mouth, closes the bag and puts it back in his shoe before putting his shoes on.

He walks past the couch and observes the girl once again as he walks by.

CUT TO:

EXT. BALCONY - DAWN

The balcony is narrow with a white railing along its edge. There is a chair in the corner and an ashtray below the chair.

SEB walks out to the balcony, and observes the backyard. There is a fire pit in the middle of the concrete layout. Beyond the backyard's fence are other homes and in the distance he can see cars on the road making their early morning commute.

SEB ambles over to the corner of balcony, places his cup on the ground, takes a seat, and lights his cigar. He stares off into the distance as he exhales.

While he is sitting down on the chair in the corner, pulls out his phone and sends a text.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. DORM ROOM - NIGHT

A young man is sitting in front of his computer typing and writing in separate notebooks with a pen. TRAV, 19, has very bloodshot eyes, you can tell he hasn't gotten a good night's sleep in days. His build is very lanky, most of his frame is skin and bones.

There is a knock at his door as another young man appears in the doorway.

STUDENT

Hey Trav, you coming out tonight?

TRAV

I can't. I have to finish this essay and then study for three tests I have tomorrow.

STUDENT

Whatever, brain. Your loss.

TRAV

It'll be my gain when I get into Harvard for grad school.

STUDENT

Okay. Keep dreaming, buddy.

The student slams the door and TRAV grimaces at the loud sound.

TRAV closes his laptop and lifts himself out of his chair. He walks over to a nightstand full of academic excellence awards. He lifts up one of the plaques and retrieves a syringe.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. DOWNSTAIRS AREA - DAWN

TRAV wakes up on a couch with no one else around him. He peaks around the room to see if the coast is clear.

He reaches into a backpack on the floor and pulls out a syringe and a rubber tube.

CUT TO:

EXT. BALCONY - DAWN

SEB stares out into the distance again and hears the door below him open.

His friend, TRAV, walks out of the door and into the corner of the backyard.

TRAV ties a tube around his arm and SEB takes interest in what he is doing.

CUT TO:

INT. HOSPITAL - NIGHT

An elderly woman lays in a hospital bed accompanied by an oxygen tank and her grandson, BEAR, 22. This woman is who BEAR refers to as NANA.

BEAR has a beer belly that seems to naturally fit him. He is dressed as what some may call a "bum." He is in sweatpants with a stained sweatshirt and a beanie.

The woman takes BEAR'S hand.

NANA

No matter what you do with your life, Benjamin, just know that I would've been proud of you.

BEAR

You're going to be around to see it, Nana. You're going to pull through. Just believe in yourself and believe in these doctors. You're going to be okay.

NANA

Oh, I'm afraid my days are past their expiration date, kiddo. But I just want you to remember to always be happy no matter the situation. And always believe you're the best, because you are.

NANA'S eyes close and her heartbeat on the monitors flat lines.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. BEDROOM - DAWN

BEAR wakes up on a bed and throws the covers off of him. He hears his phone go off but he reaches for his wallet, ignoring the text message he received.

He opens his wallet and pulls out a picture of his grandmother.

The picture is laminated and on the bottom it says, "In Loving Memory of April Dover.

SEB stands up to get a clearer view of TRAV. The door opens behind him and it is their friend BEAR, who comes out in a robe.

BEAR

Yo Seb, who's that girl on the couch?

SEB

Shhh, Bear look at this.

SEB signals down towards TRAVIS in the backyard. The two guys on the balcony watch his process.

BEAR

Is Trav shooting up right now?

SEB

I think so.

BEAR

What the fuck. We can't have
heroin at my house. Did you know
he had that?

SEB

I've never even seen Trav smoke
weed before, I never would've
suspected this.

TRAVIS prepares a needle and tightens the not around his
arm.

BEAR

What do we do?

SEB

Just let him be for now, we'll
talk to him later.

TRAVIS continues to inject the heroin into his veins while
SEB and BEAR watch.

BEAR

What if he ODS?

SEB

It seems like he has a meticulous
process so hopefully he's safe.
Also if he finds out we know he's
an addict then he'll avoid us and
we won't be able to talk to him.

BEAR

How do you know he's an addict?

SEB

He's shooting heroin and the sun
is barely even up.

TRAV slouches down in the corner of the backyard where he
injected the dope into his veins.

SEB and BEAR watch him essentially lose consciousness.

BEAR

We can't leave him in the backyard
like that. What if my neighbors
see him?

SEB

Alright, let's go bring him
inside.

BEAR
Maybe you should get some pants on
first.

SEB
Good observation Mr. Dover.
Unfortunately, I can't find my
pants anywhere.

SEB puts his cigar down next to his cup and the two exit
through the door.

CUT TO:

EXT. BACKYARD - MORNING

BEAR and SEB leave the back door open as they walk into the
backyard.

SEB is carrying an empty pizza box and BEAR has a plastic
shopping bag.

BEAR takes the needle and rubber tube and places them in
the shopping bag then ties it shut. He throws it in the
garbage can and SEB places the pizza box on top of the bag.

SEB
Check his pulse.

BEAR places two fingers on TRAV'S neck and gives SEB a
thumbs up.

The two go to TRAV and take him in the arms. They lift him
off the ground and carry him inside.

CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM - MORNING

BEAR and SEB place TRAV on the couch and then go back to
the door to close it.

BEAR
I need to smoke, dude.

CUT TO:

INT. CARL'S BASEMENT - NIGHT

A young man is sitting on a couch in an unfinished
basement. The couch and a few lawn chairs are the only
furniture decorating the room.

The man, CARL, 21, is counting money and putting it in stacks while simultaneously smoking a joint. He is very much in shape to say the least. His arms are muscular and his pecs are popping out of the tank top he is wearing.

He hears a loud bang come from upstairs. He hurriedly puts his joint into a water bottle, puts the money into an envelope, seals it, then runs upstairs.

CUT TO:

INT. CARL'S LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

A middle-aged man in his late forties, early fifties, seems to have collapsed on the floor

CARL finds him in the living room struggling to get to his feet while simultaneously coughing heavily.

CARL runs over to the man and takes him in his arms.

CARL
You're okay, dad. You're going to
be fine. Just breathe.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. UPSTAIRS LOFT - MORNING

CARL wakes up on a couch adjacent to the one the mystery girl is sleeping in. He looks around and notices none of his friends are still around. He slowly gets off the couch and feels a vibration underneath the cushions.

He reaches under the cushion and find his phone. He has a text message from an unidentifiend number that reads, "I'LL HAVE ADDRESSES BY 10 AM. YOUR CUT SHOULD BE AROUND 500."

CARL walks into the bathroom.

CUT TO:

INT. UPSTAIRS LOFT - MORNING

SEB and BEAR almost reach the top of the stairs and run into CARL whose bottom half is bare after he exits the bathroom. CARL greets SEB and BEAR when they reach the step that makes them eye level with his midsection.

CARL
Good morning, fellas.

BEAR
Uhh, what's up, Carl?

CARL
Where are you guys coming from?

BEAR
Don't worry about it. We're going
to the balcony to smoke, you wanna
come?

CARL
Yeah I'll come chill.

CARL turns around flashing his rear end to SEB and BEAR.

SEB
Hey, Carl?

CARL
What's up?

SEB
Where are your pants?

CARL analyzes SEB up and down. Then analyzes himself.

CARL
Where are *your* pants?

SEB
I can't find my pants. Where are
your pants?

CARL
I think I left them in the
bathroom. Hold on.

CARL re-enters the bathroom. SEB and BEAR wait for him to
return.

BEAR
(whispers)
Did you see that thing?!

SEB
Dude, it was the size of my femur.

BEAR
We could play shuffleboard on
that!

SEB
Shuffleboard?

BEAR
I don't know. Cut me some slack. I
just had a humongous schlong in my
face.

CARL re-emerges from the bathroom, SEB and BEAR both look
at him quietly.

CARL
You guys ready to go?

SEB
Yeah, let's go.

BEAR
(as they exit)
Hey, Carl, You ever play
shuffleboard?

CUT TO:

EXT. THE BALCONY - MORNING

SEB, BEAR, and CARL all walk out on to the balcony.

SEB relights his cigarette and hands the lighter to BEAR.

SEB
You want one?

SEB extends the pack to CARL and BEAR offers him the
lighter.

CARL
No, actually...

CARL reaches into his pocket and pulls out a blunt.

CARL (CONT'D)
Wake and bake, baby.

BEAR
You sharing that?

CARL
Of course, that's what boys are
for.

CARL lights his blunt and inhales it.

CARL (CONT'D)

Did anyone else notice that girl
on the couch?

SEB

Yeah, who is that?

CARL

No idea, I thought you guys knew
who she was.

BEAR

She's an intruder.

CARL

I'm sure she'll explain everything
when she wakes up.

BEAR

Come to think of it, I can't
remember shit from last night.
Either of you guys have the
slightest idea what happened?

CARL

Nope.

SEB

(shakes head)

No.

BEAR

You're telling me all three of us
got blackout drunk last night?

CARL

I guess so.

BEAR

(beat)

Hell yeah!

CARL and SEB laugh then CARL passes the blunt over to BEAR.

CARL

So what were you guys doing up so
early?

SEB

I couldn't sleep so I texted
everyone to come join me out her
on the balcony. You didn't get my
text?

CARL

I didn't even check my phone.

CARL reaches into his pocket to check his phone and when he finally gets it out of his pocket, he loses his grip and his phone falls off the balcony.

CARL'S jaw drops and he places his hands on his head in disbelief. BEAR starts laughing and SEB chuckles along.

CARL (CONT'D)

Dude! This isn't funny! I just dropped my phone two stories! Lucifer was supposed to text me addresses for drops today!

SEB

Lucifer?

CARL

The drug dealer I work for. I'm his distributor.

BEAR

Don't you already have a decent paying job at the post office?

CARL

I mean yeah but Lucifer pays me under the table. A little extra cash doesn't hurt.

SEB

It might if you get caught doing a drop.

CARL

I'll never get caught. I'm smooth as a baby's bottom baby.

SEB and BEAR laugh and shake their heads.

CARL looks down at his phone again. Then he looks back over at SEB and BEAR and realizes they're laughing so he starts laughing along with them.

CARL (CONT'D)

Fuck it, I think I have an upgrade anyway.

BEAR tries to pass the blunt over to SEB but SEB rejects the offer.

CARL (CONT'D)

You're not smoking Sebastian?

SEB
Nah this is doing just fine for
me. (acknowledges cigarette)

CARL takes the blunt from BEAR and inhales it once more.

CARL
So what were you guys doing
downstairs? Making breakfast or
something?

SEB
I wish, I would kill for a pork
roll, egg, and cheese on an
everything bagel right now.

BEAR
Bro, stop that sounds so good.

CARL
What were you guys doing
downstairs then?

SEB and BEAR look at each other and then the door to the
balcony opens behind them.

CUT TO:

INT. APARTMENT - NIGHT

A short man, RALPHIE, 22, has trouble unlocking his door to
his apartment because he is intoxicated.

He gives up and tries opening it without unlocking. He
succeeds and stumbles into the apartment.

He turns on the lights and he is covered in mud from neck
to toe. Walking in a straight line seems like an impossible
feat as he bumps into everything inside the apartment.

CUT TO:

INT. APARTMENT BEDROOM - NIGHT

RALPHIE falls into a bed next to a girl who had been
sleeping.

RALPHIE
Sorry, babe, I'm a little dirty. I
fell in a lake walking home from
the bar.

The woman turns on a lamp next to her bed and slowly turns around to look at RALPHIE. She comes face to face with him and screams in terror. RALPHIE screams too.

WOMAN

Who the fuck are you?! Get out of my fucking apartment you creep!
Get out!

RALPHIE

Lisa! It's me! Ralphie! I must've thought I was dreaming about being with you again!

LISA

What the fuck are you talking about?! Get out!

LISA throws the lamp at RALPHIE and before it hits RALPHIE, the scene cuts.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. BEDROOM - MORNING

RALPHIE wakes up in a bed alone and looks around. He rapidly feels his body to see if the lamp did any damage. He has no marks on him.

RALPHIE

Okay, it was just a dream.

He reaches under his pillow and pulls out a high school photo of the girl in his dream. Then he folds it up and puts it in his pants pocket as he puts his pants on.

CUT TO:

EXT. BALCONY - MORNING

RALPHIE emerges from the door and out on to the balcony.

SEB

We'll tell you later, Carl.

RALPHIE closes the door behind him.

RALPHIE

Hey do you guys remember anything at all from last night?

SEB
Nope.

BEAR
Nope.

CARL
Not at all.

RALPHIE nods at everyone's responses.

RALPHIE
Gnarly... Hey, Seb where are your pants?

SEB
Your guess is as good as mine.

RALPHIE
You lost your pants?! Ha! We must've had one hell of a night fellas!

SEB puts his foot over the railing and finagles his way onto the roof.

SEB
It's getting crowded on the balcony.

SEB sits down on the roof.

RALPHIE
Seb. Seb, please get down from there. If you fall I'm going to be so upset.

SEB
I'm good Ralphie, I'll be fine.

RALPHIE
SEB, please?

BEAR
Yeah dude, just stay on the balcony.

SEB
If you guys insist.

SEB attempts to get off the roof and his phone slips out of his pocket as he attempts to pull his leg over the rail.

The phone falls to its imminent death after sliding off the roof.

All of the guys stand there in shock as they watch it hit the ground.

This time, CARL is the first to laugh.

SEB (CONT'D)
Son of a bitch.

CARL
That's two casualties on the day.

RALPHIE
What do you mean two?

CARL
I dropped my phone off the balcony too.

RALPHIE
(shaking his head)
You guys are idiots.

All the guys sit on the balcony for a moment, basking in the morning sun.

BEAR
Who else is here?

SEB
Trav... that girl on the couch...
I think that's it right?

CARL
No, I think Andre is still here.

RALPHIE
Brian and his girlfriend are here
somewhere too.

BEAR
Damn, we've got a packed house.

SEB finishes his cigarette and takes a sip of his water.

BEAR (CONT'D)
That's a good idea, Seb. Anybody
else want a water?

CARL
I'll take a water.

RALPHIE
I'm good.

BEAR goes back inside to get water for him and CARL.

SEB

So you guys are telling me that no one here remembers what happened last night?

CARL

(laughs)

No.

SEB

Damn... Isn't that hauntingly beautiful when you really think about it?

RALPHIE

What getting blackout drunk?

SEB

No. Just waking up not remembering anything from a certain amount of time. You'll never know if you did something bad and you'll never dwell on it because, well, you don't remember it.

CARL

I mean I guess. But I'd rather know what happened. What if last night was epic? We'll have no idea.

SEB

There's a chance for that. But I mean if I could live my life not knowing what I did the day before I think I would be more progressive. There are so many things in life that can paralyze you emotionally that make it hard to go about your day. But if I never remembered those things then I would always wake up with a fresh start.

RALPHIE

You'd have to tattoo reminders all over your body like in that movie... What's it called?

BEAR walks out on to the balcony with the waters in his hands and his phone pressed between his ear and his shoulder.

RALPHIE (CONT'D)

Bear, what's the name of that movie with the guy that has tattoos of reminders all over his body?

BEAR

Memento?

RALPHIE

Memento! You would have to be like the guy in Memento.

BEAR

I'll call you back later, mom. Love you, bye... Who's like the guy from Memento?

RALPHIE

Seb. He said he wants to get blackout drunk every night.

SEB

That's not what I meant, Ralphie.

BEAR hands CARL his water while trying to position the phone so it does not fall. Unfortunately when he hands CARL the water bottle, his phone slips out from its previous position and tumbles to the floor and off the balcony.

BEAR looks down at his phone while shame overcomes his face.

BEAR

Okay. No one bring their phones out here.

CUT TO:

EXT. PLAYGROUND - DAY

Two little boys are running around with each other on the playground. One of their fathers is watching from a nearby bench while drinking a beer covered by a brown paper bag.

One little boy, BRIAN, 7, is chasing the other with his lips puckered as if he is trying to kiss him. The other boy is running away, yelling and laughing.

When the boy who is being chased outruns the other. He takes time to hide and catch his breath.

BRIAN catches him by surprise and kisses him on the cheek right in the father's line of vision.

The father becomes visibly angry and throws his beer can into the trash before walking over to the boys. When he reaches them, BRIAN'S face lights up.

BRIAN
Hi, daddy!

BRIAN'S DAD
Come here, Brian!

BRIAN'S DAD drags BRIAN off the playground.

CUT TO:

INT. CAR - DAY

BRIAN'S DAD and BRIAN are sitting in the backseat of a car. BRIAN'S DAD is livid.

BRIAN'S DAD
What fuck are you doin' kissing
boys, huh?!

BRIAN'S DAD shoves BRIAN into the door and BRIAN starts hysterically crying.

BRIAN'S DAD (CONT'D)
My son ain't gonna be no faggot!
You hear me?!

BRIAN'S DAD raises his hand as if he is getting ready to slap BRIAN but during his backswing, the scene cuts.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. BEDROOM - MORNING

BRIAN, now 22, wakes up and gasps for air. He looks next to him and he sees LISA, the girl from RALPHIE'S dream.

BRIAN'S heavy breathing wakes LISA up.

LISA
(mumbling)
You okay, Bri?

BRIAN
Yeah, I'm fine. Go back to sleep,
babe.

LISA lays back down and BRIAN kisses her on the cheek before getting out of bed.

He gets dressed and walks out of the room.

CUT TO:

INT. KITCHEN - MORNING

BRIAN walks into the kitchen to find his friend, ANDRE, laying face down on the kitchen table.

BRIAN
You wanted to talk to me?

ANDRE pops up and his face lights up when he sees BRIAN.

ANDRE
Yeah. But not in here, people
might be around. Let's go out
back.

The two exit the kitchen together.

CUT TO:

The four guys are laughing as they situate themselves in their positions on the balcony until...

The backdoor opens beneath the four friends on the balcony.

ANDRE and BRIAN enter the backyard.

SEB, BEAR, RALPHIE, and CARL all look down. SEB signals for everyone to be quiet.

CARL
(whispers)
Don't they know we're up here? You
sent the text to everyone right?

SEB
Not them. I forgot they were even
here.

RALPHIE
What are Andre and Brian doing
together? I thought they hated
each other.

BEAR
Well be quiet and maybe we'll see
them fight.

ANDRE and BRIAN embrace each other in the corner of the backyard for a few moments and then they kiss.

The four friends on the balcony look at each other completely baffled.

CARL
What the fuck?

CUT TO:

EXT. BACKYARD - MORNING

ANDRE and BRIAN are standing face to face holding each other's hands.

ANDRE
Brian, we've been doing this for a year. Aren't you tired of sneaking around? I want to show the world how in love with you I am.

BRIAN
I know, Andre. But our friends won't look at us the same if they find out. Plus think about Lisa, it'll break her heart if she ever finds out.

ANDRE
But me and you have been together longer than you and Lisa. I don't care what anyone else thinks. If we're happy together then who the hell cares?

BRIAN
Andre, if my dad finds out that I'm gay he'll either murder me or I won't have a place to live.

ANDRE
You can live with me, Brian. I'm going to have my own apartment soon and we won't have to answer to anyone.

CUT TO:

EXT. BALCONY - MORNING

BEAR signals for everyone to go inside. The other three guys follow and close the door as silently as possible.

CUT TO:

INT. BEDROOM - MORNING

BEAR

Yo. What the fuck just happened?

CARL

How can one two of our best friends be gay?

RALPHIE

For each other?!

BEAR

I'll tell you one thing. They aren't two of my best friends anymore.

RALPHIE

Hell no! What if they try to come on to us?!

SEB

Are you guys serious? Brian and Andre are our best friends. Just because they have a different preference than us doesn't mean we should disown them. They need us to accept them. That's what a good friend would do.

BEAR

Do whatever you want, Seb. But I'm not hanging around two gay guys.

RALPHIE

Yeah, me either. You know how appaled we are by people like that.

SEB

What about you, Carl? Are you still going to be friends with them?

CARL

I don't know. This happened so all of a sudden, I need some time to process it. I mean yeah we've been friends with those guys for years but for those years we've been friends with them we've been under the impression that they were straight.

SEB

You guys are unbelievable.

SEB storms out back to the balcony and leaves the other three in the bedroom.

BEAR

We gotta tell Lisa about this.
Brian is cheating on her.

RALPHIE

Dude, good call. Then her and
Brian will break up and I can
finally fuck Lisa... I would fuck
the *shit* out of Lisa!

BEAR

Who wouldn't, dude?

CARL

Maybe not Andre.

The three of them laugh and hear BRIAN and ANDRE come back inside the house.

They all bolt back outside to the balcony.

CUT TO:

EXT. BALCONY - MORNING

SEB is sitting on the roof when everyone gets back outside. He is looking away from the house and doesn't acknowledge anyone when they get back outside.

RALPHIE

SEB, please get off the roof.

SEB

I'm fine here.

SEB still does not look at everyone else and sits in silence.

RALPHIE

How are we going to tell Lisa
about this?

BEAR

Someone call her and tell her to
come out here.

CARL

I'll call her.

CARL reaches into his pocket then remembers he dropped his phone.

CARL (CONT'D)
Never mind, I dropped my phone off
the balcony.

RALPHIE
I'll call her.

CUT TO:

INT. BEDROOM - MORNING

BRIAN is quietly getting undressed so it seems as if he never left the bed. LISA is sleeping soundly.

BRIAN is slowly getting back into bed with LISA so he does not wake her up. As soon as he lays back down, her phone starts to ring.

LISA opens her eyes and reaches for her phone. She yawns and then answers it.

LISA
Hello?

RALPHIE
Lisa?

LISA
What's up Carl?

RALPHIE
Umm... can you come out to the
balcony? We have something we want
to talk to you about.

LISA
Can it wait until later?

RALPHIE
It's kinda important.

LISA
Okay I'll be out in a couple
minutes.

LISA hangs up the phone and plops her head back down on the pillow.

BRIAN
Who was that?

LISA
It was Ralphie. He said he has
something important to talk to me
about on the balcony.

BRIAN
Oh. I'll go with you.

BRIAN starts putting back on the clothes that he just
changed out of and LISA puts on a pair of sweatpants.

CUT TO:

EXT. BALCONY - MORNING

RALPHIE hangs up his phone and puts it back in his pocket.

RALPHIE
She's coming out.

CARL
Yeah and so is Brian, if you catch
my drift.

The rest of the gang laughs while SEB still looks away on
the roof and shakes his head.

After a few quiet moments, RALPHIE'S phone rings and he
reaches in his pocket to answer it.

RALPHIE
Hey do you guys know this
number?... 732-

The door opens behind RALPHIE which startles him. He loses
grip of his phone and it falls off the balcony.

RALPHIE (CONT'D)
God dammit.

RALPHIE turns around and it is BRIAN and LISA coming to
join the balcony.

SEB turns his attention to the rest of the balcony from the
first time since coming back outside.

The atmosphere becomes very awkward with eyes wandering all
around.

CARL
Good morning, guys.

BRIAN

Good morning... Forget to put pants on this morning, Seb?

SEB

I forgot where I put them.

BRIAN

What pants were you wearing? Maybe I can help you find them.

SEB

They were tan jeans, like yours... A lot like yours actually. I think they're the same ones.

BRIAN

Oh. I'll keep an eye out.

Everyone remains silent for a little bit until LISA breaks the silence.

LISA

So, Ralphie. What was so important that you had to wake me up to tell me?

RALPHIE

Oh.. uhhh.. nothing really... just uhh-

SEB

We saw your brother shooting heroin this morning.

LISA

Who? Travis? Good one. He's never touched a drug in his life.

CARL

Yeah, Seb. Let's not start rumors like that just to get out of an awkward situation.

SEB looks over at BEAR and BEAR nods at him.

BEAR

He's telling the truth. I saw Trav shooting up this morning too. Seb and I had to carry him inside from the backyard.

RALPHIE

Wait... are you guys serious?

BEAR

Yeah.

RALPHIE

Seriously? You guys aren't jerking me off right now? You really saw Trav shooting up in the backyard.

SEB

No, Ralphie. We are not jerking you off. I wish we were but we both saw it.

LISA looks at SEB and BEAR with a blank face. After a few seconds she bursts out in tears.

LISA runs into the house covering her face and BRIAN goes to follow her.

SEB (CONT'D)

Brian.

BRIAN turns around and looks at SEB.

SEB (CONT'D)

Can you stay out here and talk for a minute?

BRIAN

I would but you saw how Lisa reacted to that. I gotta go be with her.

SEB

It'll only be a few minutes. Besides there's no consoling her right now, she's in shock.

BRIAN closes the door and walks fully out of the doorway.

BRIAN

What's up?

SEB looks over at RALPHIE, BEAR, and CARL.

SEB

Can you guys give me and Brian a couple minutes?

RALPHIE and BEAR walk off the balcony immediately but CARL lingers looking down at his feet.

SEB (CONT'D)

Carl?

CARL
I-I want to be here for this.

SEB
Okay.

CARL does not take his eyes off the ground. SEB comes off the roof so he is standing face to face with BRIAN.

BRIAN
What-What's going on?

SEB
Brian... Carl, Ralphie, and I have been out on the balcony essentially all morning.

BRIAN realizes what SEB is getting at and takes a seat on the corner of the balcony.

BRIAN
So you guys saw me and Andre? Is that what you're saying?

SEB
Yeah. That's what I'm saying.

BRIAN places his head in his hands and sighs.

SEB (CONT'D)
Listen man, it's alright. You're still our best friend. We'll never look at you differently no matter what. Andre too. You guys shouldn't be afraid to be yourselves around us. Right, Carl?

SEB looks to CARL awaiting an assuring answer.

CARL
Yeah. So what if you're gay? It's probably a hell of a lot easier than being straight sometimes. Girls suck.

BRIAN
What about Bear and Ralphie? They're the two biggest homophobes I know. That's why me and Andre didn't want to tell you guys.

SEB

I'm working on it. But no matter what, I promise you I'll support your lifestyle. I don't look at you any differently.

CARL

Yeah I support you too.

SEB and BRIAN both look at CARL awaiting more from him.

SEB

And you don't look at him any differently either right?

CARL

Well, I mean-

BRIAN starts to cry. He slowly gets up and throws himself into SEB placing his head on SEB'S chest. SEB wraps his arms around him with a blank face.

CARL stands away from them in bewilderment, he is clearly still uneasy about his friend's newly discovered sexual orientation.

SEB

Umm, I really wish I had pants on for this moment... but I'll just go with it.

The balcony door opens and ANDRE appears in the doorway. BRIAN, CARL, and SEB all look at him.

ANDRE

Oh, looks like you faggots are having a moment. I'll give you some space.

ANDRE goes back inside the house and closes the door behind him.

CARL

Looks like Andre didn't get the memo... Is this why you guys always acted like you hated each other?

BRIAN leaves the embrace and sits back down in the chair in the corner.

BRIAN

At one point we really did hate each other for whatever reason.

(MORE)

BRIAN (CONT'D)
 But one night me and him got into
 an argument and instead of
 swinging at me, he kissed me. I
 guess he knew all that time.

CARL
 Damn. His gaydar was on point.

SEB
 Carl. Not now.

Shattering glass is heard inside which startles the three
 guys on the balcony.

CUT TO:

INT. UPSTAIRS LOFT - MORNING

SEB, BRIAN, and CARL all run into the room. A picture that
 was hanging on the wall has fallen and the glass frame has
 shattered.

LISA is screaming and throwing beer cans and bottles all
 over the room while RALPHIE, BEAR, and ANDRE take cover
 while simultaneously trying to stop her.

The girl sleeping on the couch has not moved and seems not
 to be affected by the commotion.

LISA
 Why won't Travis wake up?!

LISA throws a glass bottle against a wall.

LISA (CONT'D)
 Why is my boyfriend gay?!

LISA smashes more bottles on the ground.

SEB
 What the hell is going on?!

RALPHIE
 We told her Brian was cheating on
 her with Andre. Andre confirmed it
 and now Lisa is going haywire!

SEB
 Why the fuck would you do that?!

RALPHIE
 I don't know! I thought maybe I
 could offer her sympathy sex!

SEB
 (sarcastically)
 Great plan, Ralphie.

CARL looks over to the couch and sees the girl sleeping.

CARL
 How is that girl still sleeping?!
 It's so loud in here!

BRIAN and SEB run over to LISA to try and calm her down.

SEB
 Lisa! Lisa! Lisa! Listen! I know
 this is a lot to handle right now
 but once we calm down we can
 figure this all out!

LISA ignores SEB and looks right past him to BRIAN. She runs full speed at BRIAN and tackles him to the ground. After landing a few punches to BRIAN'S face SEB pulls her off of him.

SEB (CONT'D)
 Lisa everything is going to be
 fine!

LISA
 I'll give you fine!

LISA turns around and takes a gun out from under one of the empty pizza boxes on the table and points it at BRIAN.

RALPHIE
 Where the fuck did she get a gun?!

CUT TO:

INT. UPSTAIRS LOFT - MORNING

CARL is standing away from the commotion and just shouting at the girl on the couch.

CARL
 Seriously, how is she still
 sleeping?!

CUT TO:

INT. UPSTAIRS LOFT - MORNING

SEB steps in front of BRIAN so LISA is now pointing the gun at him instead of her actual target.

The room grows quiet.

SEB

Lisa... put the gun down... we can
talk about all of this... but
first please put the gun down.

RALPHIE, ANDRE, and BEAR all come out from where they were
taking cover and step between BRIAN and SEB.

CUT TO:

INT. UPSTAIRS LOFT - MORNING

CARL is still standing by the couch amazed that the girl
has not woken up.

CARL

That's incredible... How did she
not wake up?... Oh no.

CUT TO:

INT. UPSTAIRS LOFT - MORNING

LISA is trying to hold back her tears while pointing the
gun. All of the guys have their hands up in defense.

ANDRE

I'm sorry Lis-

LISA

Fuck you, Andre!

BRIAN

I wish there was an easier way to-

LISA

Fuck you too, Brian!

The rest of the guys remain silent, each of them looking at
each other to see if anyone knows how to get out of this
situation.

CUT TO:

INT. UPSTAIRS LOFT - MORNING

CARL slowly walks over to the girl sleeping on the couch
and slowly raises his hand to check her pulse. The moment
he touches her neck, she scratches at where he touched
which causes CARL to scream loudly and femininely.

CUT TO:

INT. UPSTAIRS LOFT - MORNING

CARL'S scream startles LISA and causes her to fire the gun and subsequently drop it. Everyone in the room jumps to the ground and chaos ensues again.

LISA chases after BRIAN while BEAR and RALPHIE try to separate them.

LISA
I fucking hate you, you fucking
homo! You couldn't fucking tell me
six months ago that you were gay?!

BRIAN
If my dad found out I was gay he
would literally kill me! I needed
to fool him!

LISA
Well now he won't have to kill you
because I will!

BEAR lifts LISA off her feet and carries her away from BRIAN.

RALPHIE becomes jealous of this action.

RALPHIE
You trying to make a move on my
girl?! I called dibs, bitch!

RALPHIE tackles BEAR, sending the two of them and LISA to the floor.

CUT TO:

INT. UPSTAIRS LOFT - MORNING

SEB crawls over to the gun and picks it up. He looks to his side and sees ANDRE cowering in fear against the wall.

SEB
Andre take the gun!

ANDRE catches the gun and looks back at SEB.

ANDRE
I don't want the gun! You take the
gun!

ANDRE tosses it back to SEB.

SEB
Andre take the fucking gun!

SEB and ANDRE repeatedly throw the gun back and forth to each other, adding to the commotion.

CUT TO:

INT. UPSTAIRS LOFT - MORNING

CARL is still on the ground near the couch taking cover from the bullet.

CARL
How is she still sleeping?! I just don't understand!

BEAR
Shut the fuck up, Carl!

CARL brings himself to his feet.

CARL
You shut the fuck up!

ANDRE
Carl take the gun!

ANDRE tosses the gun CARL'S way and it hits CARL in the face causing him to fall back down.

CUT TO:

INT. UPSTAIRS LOFT - MORNING

BEAR picks the gun up off the ground, swiftly spins through the commotion, opens a window and tosses the gun out.

BEAR
Okay, it's over.

Glass is heard shattering off screen and a car alarm goes off.

Everyone sighs in relief, they all slump down where they are and breathe heavily. They are all exuberant that the situation is over.

CARL
(out of breath)
How... How is she still... asleep?

ANDRE

Where did she get the gun?

BEAR

Yeah, who the hell brought a gun
to the party?

All of the guys analyze each other trying to pick their
purpatrator.

RALPHIE

None of us remember anything. It
could've been any of us.

SEB grabs his car keys off the table and presses the button
to make the alarm on his car stop.

CARL

She even slept through the car
alarm... I just don't get it.

SEB observes the room and swivels his head rapidly, looking
everywhere.

SEB

Hey guys... Where are Brian and
Lisa?

Everyone panics and rapidly look around the room. They all
rush out to the balcony.

CUT TO:

EXT. BALCONY - MORNING

Everyone who was inside rush out to the balcony to see
BRIAN looking over the railing motionless.

When everyone reaches him all of their faces are overcome
with shock one by one. Each of them looking down at what
BRIAN is looking at...

LISA'S motionless, face-down body in a puddle of blood.

FADE OUT:

END ACT I

ACT II: DYSFUNCTION

EXT. BALCONY - NOON

The day is quiet, the sun has risen, and the balcony is empty. Everything remains still for a long moment.

The balcony door opens and the balcony boys file in one by one with brown paper bags filled with their breakfast in their hands.

RALPHIE

(laughing)

I can't believe they let you in the bagel shop without pants.

SEB

Me and the owner are tight. The no pants no service rule doesn't apply to me.

SEB goes to his spot on the roof while BEAR, CARL, RALPHIE, and ANDRE all fill in making their own seats on the crowded balcony.

BRIAN does not sit down, instead he stands over the railing and stares at where LISA'S BODY had landed. All that remains is a red stain of blood, LISA is no longer there.

CARL comes behind BRIAN with a mouthful of his bagel and pats BRIAN on the back with his free hand.

CARL

Kinda looks like a giraffe doesn't it?

BRIAN

Huh?

CARL

The blood. It looks like a giraffe.

CARL moves closer to the railing to get a better look at the blood and starts pointing at what he sees.

CARL (CONT'D)

Look. Over there is the long neck and the head. Down there are the legs. And you can kinda see a tail over on the side.

BRIAN stares at CARL in disgust.

CARL (CONT'D)

What? I'm just trying to get your mind off things. And it really does look like a giraffe.

RALPHIE is slouched against the wall, eating his breakfast while he interjects.

RALPHIE

Giraffes aren't real.

CARL and BRIAN both look at RALPHIE for a second and then turn back to each other.

BRIAN

How is comparing Lisa's blood to an animal going to keep my mind off of things, Carl? Please tell me. I'm not sure if you forgot about what happened a few hours ago, but that blood down there is why all six of us are murder suspects!

CARL

Yeah but none of us did anything, so we have nothing to worry about. Lisa jumped off the balcony herself. Like you told the police.

BRIAN looks away from CARL and looks back down at the blood on the cement.

ANDRE is sitting in the far corner of the balcony, away from everyone else. His face is overcome by deep thought.

ANDRE

Ralphie, did you say giraffes aren't real?

RALPHIE

Yeah, because they're not.

ANDRE

How aren't giraffes real?

RALPHIE

Giraffes are robots made by the government to make people care about Africa. It's like a tourist attraction.

(MORE)

RALPHIE (CONT'D)

The government places them strategically so they're near poor countries and everyone who goes to Africa sees how devastating it is for the people living there so they donate money to organizations who say they'll "help" save these people when really they keep a percentage of the profit and only give those people a case of water and a loaf of bread to live off of every month.

All of the guys on the balcony just stare at RALPHIE. RALPHIE looks up from his food when he feels all their eyes on him.

RALPHIE (CONT'D)

(with his mouth full)

What?

BEAR

Ralphie, I love you. But that is the dumbest fucking thing I have ever heard.

RALPHIE

No seriously. Think about it. Has anyone here ever seen a giraffe to prove my theory wrong.

SEB

We live in suburban New Jersey and our zoo is smaller than our high school was. How the hell do you expect us to see a giraffe around here.

RALPHIE

Exactly. And have you ever seen another animal with useless antennae like a giraffe? They have those two little bumps between their ears for no reason!

RALPHIE looks around to see if the guys are listening to him. They are all shaking their heads but giving RALPHIE their full attention.

RALPHIE (CONT'D)

Guys! I'm serious! According to research a giraffe gives birth standing up and the baby giraffe comes out fully functional and also survives a six foot fall on its first day of life! That's impossible! No animal is born ready to run and play. That's just something the government made up when people were like, "Well how are we going to say they produce offspring if we're making them ourselves?" and they thought of this blasphemy!

All the guys are now crowding around RALPHIE as they have taken a keen interest in his theory now.

RALPHIE (CONT'D)

Also, don't you guys find it weird that giraffes are supposed to live in Africa with predatory animals such as lions, hyenas, and cheetahs and not get eaten? Giraffes can only run at a top speed of thirty miles per hour. If I were a lion and I saw a giraffe I would be like "Ooh, dinner for a week!" But since they're robots, other predators don't take any interest in them!

All the guys look around at each other as if they just discovered hidden treasure.

BEAR

Guys... I think Ralphie is right.
Giraffes are fake.

BRIAN turns around and looks at the small gathering that has formed behind him. His face grows angry.

BRIAN

What is wrong with you guys?! How can you all sit here and talk about giraffes and what not when Lisa died hours ago?! Did this morning not happen to you?! Trav is on the couch possibly suffering from a heroin overdose! There is a girl that no one knows sleeping upstairs! And Lisa's dead! She's fucking dead!

BRIAN begins to sob. SEB and ANDRE comfort him while all the other guys watch.

SEB
(whispers)
How about you guys go inside?...
On a positive note, you guys can
spend time together guilt free
now.

BRIAN nods his head and ANDRE takes him in his arms and guides him into the house.

Everyone except for SEB tentatively watches them enter the house to make sure they are out of sight.

BEAR
Do you guys really think Lisa
jumped?

SEB
What?

BEAR
Brian was the only one out here
when she "jumped" off the balcony.
Don't you guys think it's possible
Brian pushed her off the balcony?

SEB
No way... We-we would've heard her
struggle, right?

CARL
I don't know, man. It was really
loud in the house for a while. It
would've been easy to miss.

RALPHIE
Guilt can do crazy things to a
man. It's possible Brian got so
overwhelmed that he was inevitably
leaving her for Andre that it
would've been easier for him to
handle without Lisa around. So why
not fake her suicide on the lowest
day of her life?

SEB
You all think Brian killed Lisa?

BEAR
I'm not saying he did, I'm saying
its possible.

(MORE)

BEAR (CONT'D)

The police are investigating all of us for Lisa's death. If there's a chance Brian killed her I'd rather save my own ass.

SEB runs his hands through his hair and looks around almost in a panic. He leans on the railing and looks out into the distance.

CARL

Hey, weren't we supposed to do something today?

RALPHIE

Oh yeah. It was something kind of important, right? What was it?

SEB lowers his head and closes his eyes. He takes a deep breath while listening to his friends' conversation.

He turns around and looks at all of his friends.

SEB

Ashley's funeral was today...

BEAR

Well what time is it? Maybe we can still make it.

CARL

We all dropped our phones so I have no clue what time it is... I'm guessing it's around noon.

RALPHIE

The funeral isn't until three. We can still go.

SEB looks bothered by RALPHIE'S statement.

SEB

I'm not going.

BEAR

Woah. Chill out, Seb. You're the only one that remembered her funeral was today, we figured you wanted to go.

SEB turns back around and looks into the distance again.

BEAR (CONT'D)

Hey, man. Ashley was a big part of your life. You dated her for what, four years? Shouldn't you show respect by going to her funeral.

SEB

The last time I talked to her... She said she'd rather die than talk to me again... She got her wish.

RALPHIE

Ha! Karma's a bitch!

SEB

No, Ralphie. Karma would've been her getting into that accident and having to pay loads of money for the damage done to her car. Not her dying from it. Unexpected death should never be looked at as karma.

RALPHIE

Yeah but she cheated on you, right? That used to be a crime punishable by death so I guess history repeats itself.

SEB

Why do you have to bring that up? She cheated on me, right? Yeah! She fucking cheated on me!

RALPHIE

I didn't mean it like that, Seb.

SEB

You always know how to piss me off, Ralphie.

RALPHIE

Seb. I was just-

SEB charges RALPHIE and pins him against the wall. SEB lands a punch to the side of RALPHIE'S face before being restrained by CARL and BEAR.

BEAR

Seb! What the fuck is going on?!

SEB rips free of BEAR'S grip and sucker punches the wall. He sits down in the chair and places his head in his hands and holds back tears.

BEAR (CONT'D)

What's the matter, man?

SEB

I started dating Ashley when I was fourteen. She was all I ever knew. When I was with her, my future was so certain. I was going to go to college, I was going to get a degree, and most importantly I was going to be successful... Then when we split up I lost all direction in my life. I really lost myself for a while, not really knowing what I wanted in life... I mean yeah I met Amy last year but she knew about Ashley and couldn't get over the fact that I'd been with Ashley so long. Ashley was the only girl I dated who I was certain was smarter than me. I felt like if I became successful and she took notice then I'd have proven myself. But now she's dead so who do I do it for now?

RALPHIE

Do it for yourself.

SEB

Why should I do it for the person that hates me more than anyone?... I'm sorry about that just now Ralphie. I lost my mind.

RALPHIE

It's cool.

CARL

Didn't you date another girl after Ashley, though?

SEB

Yeah. Amy. She left me too. Both of them didn't think I was ambitious enough to sustain something long term.

CARL

Then why were you so fixated on proving yourself to Ashley?

SEB

She was the source. If it weren't for what happened with her I don't think I would be in the position I am now.

The four guys gather around near the corner of the balcony where SEB is sitting.

CARL reaches into his pocket and pulls out another blunt. He lights it himself and hands it over to SEB.

CARL

Come on. You need it.

SEB laughs and snatches the blunt from CARL'S hand.

CARL (CONT'D)

Atta boy.

CARL pulls out another blunt from his pocket and lights it for himself.

BEAR

Damn, dude! How many you got stashed?

CARL

These are my last two. I'll share mine with Ralphie and you two can share.

The balcony door opens and BRIAN and ANDRE emerge from the doorway.

BEAR

Come on over, fellas.

SEB is very clearly surprised by BEAR'S invitations. He stares at BEAR with confusion prominent on his face.

BRIAN and ANDRE sit down near the rest of the group.

BEAR (CONT'D)

So... You guys are gay?

SEB

Bear, that's a bit forward, don't you think?

ANDRE

It's fine, really. Yes, Bear. Brian and I are gay.

BEAR

You guys aren't going to like kissing and stuff when you're around us, are you?

ANDRE

No. We don't indulge in PDA.

BRIAN

Wait... when we're around you? I thought you said you'd never be friends with a gay guy.

BEAR

Listen. I saw Lisa's dead body today. Are days here are numbered. There's a chance that this is our last time on this balcony together. I don't want to spend my time avoiding two of my best friends.

BRIAN

What about you, Ralphie?

RALPHIE

Seb knocked some sense into me, if you couldn't tell by my face... I want you guys around too.

BRIAN and ANDRE smile at each other.

BRIAN'S phone rings startling everyone on the balcony. BRIAN pulls his phone out and looks confused.

BRIAN

Any of you guys know this number?

BRIAN shows his phone to the group. RALPHIE leans in and examines the number closely.

RALPHIE

That looks like the number that was calling me before.

BEAR

Dude. Answer it.

BRIAN answers the call and puts it on speaker.

BRIAN

Hello?

CALLER

Is this Brian Thompson?

BRIAN
Uhh y-yes it is. Who's this?

CALLER
I'm nobody. You're boys with Carl
Wheeler right?

CARL'S eyes widen as he gulps in fear.

BRIAN
Umm yes I-

CARL motions to BRIAN to say no by shaking his head and
mouthing the word "No."

BRIAN (CONT'D)
No. No I'm not.

CALLER
Yeah. Alright. Well if you talk to
him. Tell him his time ran out.

BRIAN
Will do, sir.

CARL motions to BRIAN again.

BRIAN (CONT'D)
I mean no. I can't do that because
I do not know Carl Wheeler.

The caller hangs up.

BRIAN (CONT'D)
Umm... Carl. Your time ran out.

CARL stands up and starts pacing back and forth on the
balcony.

CARL
(frantically)
I'm fucked. I'm so fucked. He's
going to kill me. He's going to
find me and he's going to kill me.
Just like Liam Neeson in Taken...
I'm dead. I'm so dead. I'm
freaking out, man. I'm freaking
the fuck out!

BEAR
Calm down, man! Who was that?

CARL stops in his tracks.

CARL

That was Lucifer! I didn't do any drops today because I never got the addresses because I dropped my fucking phone off the balcony! And I couldn't call Lucifer myself because he's a smart drug dealer and uses a different number daily! I'm gonna die, man! He's gonna kill me!

BEAR

He doesn't know you're here, right?

CARL shakes his head through his hyperventilation.

BEAR (CONT'D)

So as long as you're here, you're fine.

CARL

I can't stay here forever, Bear! I have to go home! But Lucifer is there waiting to put a bullet in my fucking head!

CARL goes back to pacing while the others gather to try to establish a plan.

BEAR

Did anyone take the gun off Seb's windshield?

RALPHIE

Yeah. I snagged it before the cops showed up. It's on the pong table.

BEAR

Who wants to take a trip?

RALPHIE

Are we going to a gun fight?

BEAR

If that's what it comes down to. Who's coming?

ANDRE

I'm out.

BRIAN

I'm out.

BEAR rolls his eyes at their immediate response.

RALPHIE
I'm definitely in.

BEAR
There we go, Ralphie... What about
you, Seb?

SEB
You guys have one gun and three
guys. I'll just make the ratio
even worse if I come... Plus a guy
with no pants isn't very
intimidating.

BEAR
Alright, Ralphie. Looks like me,
you, and Carl are the only real
men here.

RALPHIE
Let's go kill the devil.

CUT TO:

INT. BATHROOM - NOON

BEAR stares at himself in the bathroom mirror while he ties a bandanna around his head. He then takes a gun and points it at the mirror as if he is practicing aiming at someone.

CUT TO:

INT. UPSTAIRS LOFT - NOON

RALPHIE is staring out the window with a stern look on his face while he rips the sleeves off of his shirt. With the same look he proceeds to write the words "Thug Life" on his bicep with permanent marker. When he is finished writing, he picks up a baseball bat and tosses the marker over to CARL who is once again standing over the sleeping mystery girl.

CARL draws lines under his eyes with the marker to imitate eye black. When he is done he throws the marker over his shoulder and picks up a tennis racket.

CARL
Sleep tight, mystery girl.

CUT TO:

INT. UPSTAIRS LOFT - NOON

CARL, RALPHIE, and BEAR all meet each other outside of the bathroom and give each other a nod. They all head out to the balcony together.

CUT TO:

EXT. BALCONY - NOON

Outside on the balcony SEB, ANDRE, and BRIAN are all sitting together and laughing. The balcony is now somewhat of a mess containing the remnants of everyone's breakfast and half-smoked cigars.

CARL, RALPHIE, and BEAR all enter the balcony acting tough.

SEB, ANDRE, and BRIAN all stare at them.

SEB
Halloween isn't for another couple months, guys.

RALPHIE
We're gangsters, dog. If you're gonna fight gangsters you gotta be gangsters.

BRIAN
Seb's right. You guys look ridiculous.

BEAR
Shut up, Brian. You didn't even volunteer to come with us.

ANDRE
Carl, your choice of weapon is... interesting.

CARL
What do you mean? Tennis rackets hurt.

CARL rears back and hits ANDRE with his tennis racket.

ANDRE
Ow! What the fuck?!

CARL
(smirks)
Told ya.

An awkward silence comes over the balcony while everyone looks around and nods at each other.

BEAR

Alright, well. Time to kill or be killed.

RALPHIE

Yeah! Let's kill this mother fucker!

CARL

Well, only if he tries to kill us. We're already murder suspects. If we're connected to two murders then I don't like our chances.

BEAR, RALPHIE, and CARL all slowly and hesitantly head for the door.

SEB

Hold on a second.

The gang of three turns around.

SEB (CONT'D)

We've been through a lot today, guys. If there's any chance at all that you guys won't come back I just ask that I get to share a potential last moment with my best friends.

BEAR, RALPHIE, and CARL all come sit over by the rest of the group again.

SEB (CONT'D)

Anyone ever tell you guys to live everyday like it's your last?... Well that's bullshit. I've done that plenty of times and it's only gotten me into trouble.

CARL

What's your point?

SEB

My point is. You guys are about to go toe to toe with a ruthless drug dealer. Today could very well be your last. Just make sure nothing goes left unsaid if you guys have anything to say. Or the guilt and anxiety will kill you before Lucifer does.

Everyone sits in silence for a while until...

CARL
My dad's dying.

Everyone is shocked when they look over at CARL.

CARL (CONT'D)
He was diagnosed with leukemia a while back. I never talked about it because I never wanted anyone to pity me. If people knew my dad was dying, they would treat me differently, they would be more sensitive towards me. I didn't want that... Anyway, that's why I started distributing drugs. My dad couldn't afford treatments himself and I could tell he was deteriorating. Seeing how weak he was made me feel helpless. I just locked myself in my room and cried. So when I found Lucifer I took the opportunity. I started being able to pay for my dad's chemo myself and he never asked where the money came from. He was just grateful that he wasn't in pain anymore... I just don't want you guys to remember me as greedy if I die someday. I got into this mess so I could help my dad, not just for extra cash.

CARL looks down at his feet as if he is ashamed of himself. The rest of the group remains in shock.

BEAR
I don't even know what to say,
Carl. I'm so sorry.

CARL just nods, holding back tears.

RALPHIE
I was going to try to bang Lisa minutes after you and her broke up, Brian.

BRIAN
Huh?

RALPHIE

I had a crush on her since third grade but since I knew I'd never get her I eventually distanced myself from her so I didn't get hurt. But that was hard to do once she started dating one of my best friends. I was always so envious of you, Brian. You had the girl of my dreams, you graduated in the top ten of our high school class, and you're handsome as shit... I always kind of resented you so when I found out you were gay, I planned to use that as a reason to explain my newfound hatred towards you rather than tell the truth. So I'm sorry for that.

BRIAN

You are very easily forgiven, Ralphie.

SEB smiles at this reconciliation and looks over at BEAR.

SEB

What about you, Bear? You're the one with the gun after all. You got anything you want to say?

BEAR spends a moment in deep thought.

BEAR

Nah. My life is pretty great. You guys should remember me the way you know me now.

SEB

That's a bit arrogant, isn't it?

BEAR

Nothing wrong with being proud.

SEB

It's one of the seven deadly sins. There's probably something slightly wrong with it.

BEAR

Okay, fine. If I don't come back then I want you guys to know you all saved me from a world of hurt by calling me Bear.

RALPHIE
What do you mean?

SEB
(laughs)
Bear isn't his real name.

RALPHIE
What?! This is news to me. What is it?

BEAR
My real name is Benjamin.

CARL
Benjamin Dover?! Your name is actually Ben Dover?!

CARL starts hysterically laughing and falls to his side.

BEAR
Shut up twat rocket. At least my name isn't Carl.

BEAR looks over at SEB, ignoring CARL'S laughing fit.

BEAR (CONT'D)
What about you, Seb? What if I never see you again?

SEB
Me? I just want you guys to know that I appreciate every moment we spend together. If it weren't for you guys I could be dead right now... but there is a story I've never told anyone that I want to share with those closest to me in case I don't see you guys again.

All attention turns to SEB.

SEB (CONT'D)
One time before school... I think I was like seventeen or something... It was like six-thirty in the morning and two of my dogs who were pretty much puppies back then were wrestling downstairs while I was trying to get a couple more minutes of sleep.

(MORE)

SEB (CONT'D)

All of a sudden one of them starts yelping and crying, so I go down stairs and try to help my dad separate them. Seconds later my mom comes out of the bathroom with just a towel on which is already mortifying as it is and she tries to separate the dogs too. It turns out the one dog's tooth was caught on the ring of the other dog's collar and my dad set them free eventually. My mom then proceeds to go back to the bathroom and points out a turd on the floor. It was the worst smelling shit I've ever smelled too. But it was far away from the dogs so it definitely wasn't theirs. Turns out my mom left the bathroom mid-shit to separate the dogs and shit on the floor... And my dad cleaned it up.

RALPHIE

Seb... That's fucking disgusting.

BEAR

Why the hell would you tell us that, dude?!

SEB

(laughs)

I never told anyone! I had to get it off my chest. It was one of the worst moments of my life!

CARL

You're such an asshole, Seb
(laughs). We're leaving.

CARL, RALPHIE, and BEAR all get to their feet and collect their weapons.

All three of them head toward the door.

SEB

I love you guys.

BEAR

(beat)

Don't be gay. (looks at Brian and Andre) No offense.

BRIAN
None taken. That was pretty gay,
Seb.

SEB
(laughs)
Shut up.

CARL, RALPHIE, and BEAR all wave goodbye to their friends as they enter the house, closing the door behind them.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. BALCONY - AFTERNOON

SEB leans on the railing and stares out into the distance in deep concentration.

BRIAN and ANDRE are sitting in the corner of the balcony together.

ANDRE
You guys think the guys are okay?
It's been like an hour.

BRIAN
Should we go to Carl's house? To
check up on them?

SEB talks to ANDRE and BRIAN with his back turned to them.

SEB
Good things happen to good people
and bad things happen to bad
people when it's all said and
done. Carl, Ralphie, and Bear
while they may have their
priorities mixed up sometimes
they're good people. This Lucifer
guy doesn't sound too great. I bet
they're fine. None of them have
phones so they can't call us to
tell us they're okay though I'm
sure they are.

ANDRE
Why do you have to be so
philosophical all the time? You're
always saying shit like that and
trying to let fate run its course.
It seems like laziness rather than
wisdom sometimes...

(MORE)

ANDRE (CONT'D)

I mean look at Trav, if you really saw him shooting up in the backyard why didn't you stop him? It seems like more times than not you'd rather than do nothing than do something.

SEB

Maybe you're right, Andre.

ANDRE seems to have expected a different response as he was about to say something then just accepts SEB'S response.

SEB is clearly bothered by something else. He turns around and looks at them for a moment.

SEB (CONT'D)

Brian...

BRIAN

What's up?

SEB

... Lisa really did jump off the balcony herself, right?

BRIAN

Yeah... she did.

SEB

You were the first one out here when she jumped. I was just wondering if-

BRIAN

Are you accusing me of murdering my girlfriend?

SEB

Well... the guys just find it a little suspicious that it occurred after your secret was revealed.

BRIAN stands up and gets in SEB'S face.

BRIAN

No, Seb. I didn't kill Lisa if that's what you were asking.

SEB

I was just-

BRIAN

You were just accusing me of murder! I can't believe you would assume something like that about me!

SEB

I'm sorry, Brian. I just-

BRIAN

Let's get out of here, Andre. I can't even look at Seb right now.

BRIAN walks into the house and ANDRE stares down SEB as he follows BRIAN.

ANDRE slams the door behind them.

SEB is alone for the first time since that morning. Realizing his situation, he takes off his shoe and pulls out the small plastic bag with his pills in it.

As he is opening the bag, he looks down and sees LISA'S BLOOD STAIN. Then he looks back to the bag and puts it back in his shoe.

SEB looks down and remembers he still doesn't have pants on.

SEB

I gotta find my fucking pants.

CUT TO:

INT. UPSTAIRS LOFT - DAY

SEB walks through the same mess he walked through early that morning. Passing the girl sleeping on the couch multiple times before he gives up looking upstairs.

CUT TO:

INT. BATHROOM - DAY

SEB opens every cabinet in the bathroom in search of his pants. He checks the back of the toilet, behind the shower curtain, and in the closet. He still cannot seem to find them anywhere.

CUT TO:

EXT. BACKYARD - DAY

SEB stands outside the back door looking around for his pants. He walks over LISA'S BLOOD STAIN and stops in his tracks for a moment to look at it. He sighs and moves on.

He finds each phone that has dropped off the roof and checks to see if any of them work.

RALPHIE'S, CARL'S, and BEAR'S are all shattered and don't turn on.

When SEB checks his, it his shattered but his still works. He has two missed calls from the same number that called BRIAN.

He peeps over the fence to see if his pants are in another yard but still can't find them.

What he does see is a plus-sized man in sunglasses sunbathing naked in his backyard.

The MAN lifts up his glasses and looks over at SEB.

MAN

Hey young fella. Can I help ya?

SEB

Umm no... Well, uh, have you seen my pants anywhere? They're tan jeans.

MAN

Nope. As you can tell, I'm not a big fan of pants. Wanna join me?

SEB

No, thanks.

MAN

Your loss, brother.

SEB hops down from the fence and walks toward the backdoor to enter the house again.

Before SEB reaches the door, he looks up at the balcony. It is empty for the first time all day.

CUT TO:

INT. KITCHEN - DAY

SEB walks past BRIAN and ANDRE who are sharing a meal. SEB looks over at them but the two of them make sure SEB knows they aren't acknowledging him.

SEB sighs and continues on his path.

INT. DOWNSTAIRS AREA - DAY

SEB walks through the living room where he had carried TRAV earlier in the day. As he is about to walk up the stairs, he realizes the television is turned on.

He steps down from the stairs and walks over to the couch where TRAV is sitting upright watching TV.

SEB takes a seat perpendicular to TRAV.

SEB
Sleep good, Trav?

TRAV
Mhm.

SEB
Do you know how you got into the
living room?

TRAV just shakes his head. SEB sits back and watches the TV with TRAV for a moment.

TRAV
Where is everyone? Lisa was
supposed to drive me home.

SEB is in total despair as he turns towards TRAV. He can't bring himself to look at TRAV and tell him the news so he looks back at the TV.

SEB
Brian came out today.

TRAV
Came out where?

SEB
He admitted to us that he was gay.

TRAV
Yeah, right. He's dating Lisa.

SEB

He was dating Lisa. Turns out she was his cover up.

TRAV

No way. Let me ask Lisa. Where is she?

SEB holds his head in his hands trying really hard to think of a way to tell TRAV what happened to his sister.

SEB pulls off his shoe and throws his bag of pills on the table.

TRAV (CONT'D)

What's that?

SEB

When I was diagnosed with depression, a psychiatrist prescribed me anti-depressants. When I took those, I experienced anxiety for the first time in my life. After telling my psychiatrist about the burning in my arms and my stomach, he prescribed me my gateway drug, (points) Those pills right there... I'd never felt such a quick relief from anything in my life. It's kinda funny how feeling nothing is the best feeling I've ever had. But I never felt nothing for as long as I wanted to. I wanted to feel the ultimate nothing... So I intentionally overdosed. Needless to say, it didn't work. What it did do was earn me a trip to a mental institution and kept me from getting another prescription for anti-anxiety pills. So now, I buy my pills from dealers. All because a licensed professional opened up a world of nothing to me... I've been thinking about quitting though. I've seen the effects drug addiction can have on the people around you. Friends, loved ones, people who really care about you are affected by your own drug use just as much as you are.

TRAV searches for the TV remote. When he finds it, he turns off the TV and turns his full attention towards SEB.

TRAV
Why are you telling me this?

SEB
Lisa found out that her perfect,
genius, loving brother is addicted
to heroin this morning...

TRAV
That's crazy. I've never touched a
drug in my life.

SEB
Bear and I saw you in the backyard
this morning... And Lisa found out
about it too.

TRAV
How?!... How did she find out?!
Did you-

SEB
It doesn't matter Trav!

SEB looks down at his feet and tries his best to hold back
tears.

TRAV
Seb?... You okay?

SEB
I wish I wasn't the one telling
you...

TRAV
Telling me what?

SEB
Promise me you'll stop using
heroin.

TRAV
Seb, you don't understand
sometimes the stress gets the best
of me and it feels like-

SEB
Promise me you'll stop! Promise me
God dammit!

TRAV
Okay, okay. I'll stop! Just tell
me what's going on.

SEB completely loses control of his emotions as he starts sobbing. He fights as hard as he can through his tears to tell TRAV what he has to tell him.

SEB
Lisa jumped off the balcony
today...

TRAV
What?

SEB
She's dead, Trav...

TRAV just stares blankly at the TV. He is in shock.

TRAV
Seb... Can you bring me home?

SEB nods his head.

FADE OUT:

END ACT II

ACT III: VALEDICTION

FADE IN:

EXT. BEACH - NIGHT

SEB and AMY are sitting on the same lifeguard stand on the same beach they were sitting on in SEB'S dream.

Except this time, they are sitting as far apart as they can rather than as close as can be.

SEB
So you're saying you just lost all
your feelings for me in a month?

AMY
I don't know, Sebastian.

SEB
Why do you keep saying "I don't know?!" Whenever I ask you something that's all you've been saying!

AMY
Please calm down.

SEB
I spent a year waiting for you! And this is what I'm rewarded with?! Did you even love me at all?!

AMY
Of course I did, Sebastian. I just... I just, I don't know, I'm not really used to having a guy be obsessed with me.

SEB jumps off the lifeguard stand.

SEB
You used to love that I always cared about you and worried about you and thought about you all day everyday. Now you're saying that's the thing that's making you consider leaving me?!

AMY
Please sit down. And stop yelling. You're scaring me.

SEB
Let's work this out, Amy. We were really good together at one point. We can be like that again.

AMY
We already tried. It's too far gone. It's over.

SEB nods his head and starts crying, he backs away from the lifeguard stand and turns toward the ocean.

He pulls out a gun from his pants and points it at his head.

AMY (CONT'D)
Seb!

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. UPSTAIRS LOFT - DAY

No one is in the house. There is only the mystery girl sleeping on the couch at this point of the day.

She rolls over, it is AMY, the girl from SEB'S dream in the first act. She stretches and looks around becoming familiar with her surroundings. She slowly gets up off the couch and notices there are pants on the couch where she was sleeping. She shrugs off her discovery, puts her glasses on and walks down the stairs.

CUT TO:

EXT. FRONT YARD - DAY

The girl walks out of the house and reaches her car. When she goes to unlock it, she looks over at SEB'S car, the one with no windshield.

The girl stops and turns back towards the house.

CUT TO:

INT. UPSTAIRS LOFT - DAY

The girl walks back up the stairs and takes the pants off the couch. She heads outside towards the balcony...

CUT TO:

INT. CAR - DAY

CARL, BEAR and RALPHIE are all driving in a car. CARL is driving, BEAR is in the passenger seat, and RALPHIE is in the back.

BEAR is examining the gun.

CARL
Put that away, dude.

BEAR
I need to occupy myself. You've been driving around in circles for like an hour.

CARL

I'm scared, okay? Lucifer is one bad mother fucker.

RALPHIE

Is that his real name? His parents must've been psychopaths.

CARL

I think his real name is Randall or something. But he identifies as Lucifer to sound intimidating... And it works.

BEAR

Carl, can we please just get this over with? I'm hungry and I really have to pee.

CARL

Okay, fine. If you say so. As long as I'm pleasing you, Bear.

The car arrives in front of a house with a short man, who could be considered a dwarf standing in front of it.

RALPHIE

Hey, Carl, who's the elf standing in front of your house?

CARL

That's Lucifer.

RALPHIE and BEAR burst out laughing.

RALPHIE

Wait, timeout. That's the *really* scary drug dealer we've been hiding from for an hour?!

BEAR

I'm not even taking this gun with me. I can beat this guy with my pinky if I have to.

CARL

Bring the gun!

BEAR

No way! What's this guy gonna do? Hump my leg?

CARL

Did you not hear what he said on the phone? He said my time ran out. He's going to try to kill me!

BEAR

Okay. Okay. If it makes you happy I'll bring the gun.

RALPHIE

Hey if we negotiate with this guy you think he'll wanna come play mini golf?

BEAR and CARL just stare at RALPHIE after his failed attempt at a joke.

RALPHIE (CONT'D)

Get it? Because he's short... Come on guys, if you don't laugh then I'm the asshole here.

BEAR and CARL get out of the car.

RALPHIE (CONT'D)

Yup. I'm the asshole.

RALPHIE gets out of the car and follows CARL and BEAR. The three of them meet LUCIFER and tower over him.

LUCIFER

Carl... I see you brought companions.

CARL

Um, yeah. This is Bear and Ralphie.

LUCIFER

So one's named after an animal and the other has a child's name. Nice.

RALPHIE

At least I'm not the size of a child.

CARL looks over at RALPHIE as if he's trying to warn him of something.

LUCIFER chuckles and walks over to RALPHIE.

LUCIFER

Your words don't hurt me. You think I haven't heard insults worse than that one? Here's a lesson for you...

LUCIFER head butts RALPHIE in the groin causing him to hurl over. Then LUCIFER lands a punch the RALPHIE'S jaw. RALPHIE falls to the ground.

LUCIFER (CONT'D)

Carl. I no longer need your services, would you kindly return the items I've asked you to distribute?

CARL

Yes, sir. They're in my car.

CARL walks back to his car while RALPHIE lays on the ground and BEAR and LUCIFER just share awkward looks.

As soon as CARL opens his car door, police sirens are heard. LUCIFER smiles at BEAR.

LUCIFER

(melodically)

Whatcha gonna do when they come for you?

BEAR

Shit.

BEAR helps RALPHIE to his feet and they run towards CARL'S car.

CARL

Where are you guys going?

BEAR

There coming for us! Lucifer set us up!

RALPHIE

Drive the fucking car, Carl!

CARL looks over to where LUCIFER was standing and he is nowhere to be found.

CARL floors it and flees the scene before the police show up.

CUT TO:

EXT. BALCONY - DAY

SEB is in the corner of the balcony smoking and writing in a notebook. He seems to be comfortable in his solitude.

The balcony door opens and it is the mystery girl carrying SEB'S pants.

SEB looks over at her but keeps his focus on his notebook.

SEB
Good morning sunshine.

GIRL
Shut up, you know I'm a heavy sleeper... Are these your pants?

SEB
I think so. Where'd you find them?

GIRL
I guess I was sleeping on them.

The girl walks closer to SEB and places his pants near where he is sitting, she walks out to the railing of the balcony and looks down at LISA'S blood stain.

GIRL (CONT'D)
What's that?

SEB
Do you remember Lisa from last night?

GIRL
Yeah, she was really nice. She's dating that other guy that was here, right?

SEB
Yeah, she was dating Brian... She jumped off the balcony this morning. Died before the ambulance got here.

GIRL
That's terrible!... But you said that rather calmly.

SEB
I can't dwell on it, Amy. She's dead. Nothing I say or do or feel will bring her back. No matter what happens, life goes on.

(MORE)

SEB (CONT'D)

It would've gone on for me and with or without Lisa. It's tragic that she died but the world doesn't stop for anyone under any circumstance.

AMY

Or maybe you're just heartless.

SEB

You of all people knows that's not true.

AMY chuckles showing SEB that she believes he is right. She stares at the stain longer as if she is trying to figure something out.

AMY

Why'd she jump?

SEB

She found out that her brother is a heroin addict then minutes later she found out her boyfriend was gay and was cheating on her with our friend, Andre.

AMY

Oh.

AMY turns back toward the house and looks back at SEB whose eyes are glued to his notebook.

AMY (CONT'D)

What are you writing?

SEB

Nothing good.

AMY

Yeah right. You know how much I loved everything you wrote.

SEB

Loved.

The girl can only nod as a response as if she saw it coming. SEB looks up from his notebook and out over the balcony.

SEB (CONT'D)

Why'd you come last night?

AMY

What do you mean?

SEB

You know what I mean, Amy. For nearly a year after we broke up, I've invited you to every party we've had like some sort of modern-day Jay Gatsby hoping I could finally see you again, you ignored every text I ever sent you and you decide to show up to this one.

AMY slouches walks to the other side of the balcony where the concrete meets the house and rests her back against the house.

AMY

I don't know, I guess I wanted to see the person you've become. You were so great for the two years I knew you and last night I felt like I needed that Seb in my life.

SEB

Well, you wasted your time. I'm nothing like I used to be.

AMY

I can see that... You never used to smoke when we dated.

SEB

I quit for you. I even quit getting high for you. I tossed my pills and my weed in the garbage after our first date. I knew I didn't need them anymore. Nothing could've given me the euphoria and the rush I got from being with you... And nothing has since.

AMY

Well, Seb. Maybe if you weren't crazy then things would be different.

SEB closes his notebook with the pen inside and stands up so he comes face to face with AMY.

SEB

I'm so fucking tired of people calling me crazy.

(MORE)

SEB (CONT'D)

Maybe I'm just more realistic than most people. Maybe I'm one of the few people in this world that believes you shouldn't be able to tell someone you love them and then leave them the same day. And maybe I'm the only one who thinks if you make plans for the future with someone you try as hard as you can to live out that future with them. Maybe I'm the only person who stands behind every word I say in the best of times... Or maybe that's the definition of crazy nowadays.

SEB walks away from AMY and heads towards the door.

AMY

Seb.

SEB

Don't "Seb" me! Alright? You have no idea the pain I put myself through waiting for you. I was so convinced I would never love anyone again after Ashley and I broke up. But then I met you and I spent a year hoping I'd get my chance. I filled up an entire fucking notebook with letters I thought I'd never send to you. And when I finally got to be with you I was never going to let you go. And after all we went through all I was to you was a fucking rebound. So I'm sorry if I lost my mind a little bit or went crazy. I'd never experienced unrequited love before I met you and it was the worst fucking feeling I've ever experienced. It's worse than depression and it's worse than anxiety. It fucking sucks. And I wish you understood that.

SEB puts his hand on the doorknob but seems to remember something and lets go.

SEB (CONT'D)

You really fucked me up. You know that?

(MORE)

SEB (CONT'D)

And I feel so pathetic blaming all of my sorrow on Ashley cause it's more practical to be upset over a girl I spent four years with. I spent a little over a month with you and I have to act like you didn't tear me apart because it's laughable that I'm so torn up over a girl I was only technically with for a month. And if it weren't for the way you treated me my life probably would've continued in its upward direction. I probably wouldn't have been here today. Lisa might not have died and my friends wouldn't be face to face with a ruthless drug dealer right now. I'm so mad at myself for always inviting you so I could see you again. I forgot what you did to me.

SEB turns around and opens the door.

AMY

Seb...

SEB looks over at AMY with his hand still on the doorknob.

SEB

(disgusted)

What?

AMY

Do you remember last night?

SEB looks into the house to see if anyone is around to hear him.

SEB

Yeah. Why?

AMY

Wait, why'd you look inside the house?

SEB

Everyone else doesn't remember last night. I didn't want to admit it to them because if they knew I remembered then they would've blamed me for everything that happened today...

(MORE)

SEB (CONT'D)

They also probably would've been pretty mad at me for inviting you.

AMY

I don't understand, why-

SEB

They're my best friends, you broke my heart. It's an unwritten rule that they have to hate you. Of course they didn't care last night because they were already falling down drunk when you showed up but if they remembered you were here when they were sober then it wouldn't have been pretty.

AMY

No, no I get that. Why would they blame you for what happened today?

SEB

A couple of us were playing Never Have I Ever or something and Trav admitted that he's done heroin before. Then I saw him shooting up in the backyard this morning and I should've seen it coming. I should've found him this morning and talked to him before it was too late. Now because of my laziness I've made all of my friends suffer a day from hell.

SEB keeps his hand on the door and looks down at his feet. He is clearly disgusted with himself and AMY takes note of this.

AMY

Seb, do you remember what you said when we were talking about what you'd do if it was your last day on Earth?

SEB closes the door and laughs to himself remembering what he said.

SEB

Yeah. I remember.

AMY

Prove it.

SEB

I said I'd find you, wherever you are. And spend my last hours talking to you. Because the days I spent hours talking to you were the best days of my life.

AMY

That's why I'm still here. That's why I didn't leave when I woke up. I saw your car outside and I came to find you because there's no one in the world who would want that, other than you.

SEB and AMY slowly move closer to each other. Their hands touch on the railing. AMY leans in to kiss SEB but then it is as if a light bulb goes off inside his head.

SEB

Do you remember when we were talking about assassins last night?

AMY

I think so. It was after we watched The Professional then we all took turns coming up with hypothetical situations about whether we'd kill someone for a certain amount of money. Why?

SEB turns his body toward the railing and looks over at the blood stain on the ground.

SEB

Do you remember what Brian said?

AMY

Which one was Brian.

SEB

The feminine one with a girlfriend.

AMY

Oh I remember him... Didn't he say he would kill someone if they paid him \$5,000 to do it?

SEB

That's what I remember too. Do you remember what the circumstances were for him to do it?

AMY leans on the railing, looking off the balcony along with SEB.

AMY
You don't think he killed her, do you?

SEB
What else do you remember him saying?

AMY
Well, he said he wouldn't kill just anyone. He said they'd have to be a terrible person or someone he hated more than most people.

SEB storms off the railing and over to the corner where AMY left his pants.

AMY (CONT'D)
Where are you going?

SEB
I'm going to talk to Brian.

AMY
Why? You still don't know if he did anything.

SEB finally gets his pants on and begins walking towards the door. He stops in his tracks and looks down at his ankles. About an inch of his legs are exposed

SEB
These aren't my pants...

SEB reaches into his pockets and pulls out a huge wad of cash from each pocket. AMY'S jaw drops.

SEB tosses one of them to AMY.

SEB (CONT'D)
Count that.

AMY gives him a dirty look.

SEB (CONT'D)
Please, count that.

AMY and SEB begin rapidly counting the money SEB found in his pants.

CUT TO:

INT. UPSTAIRS LOFT - DAY

BRIAN and ANDRE are rummaging around the entire room, looking everywhere the can and lifting every item to find something.

ANDRE

I swear, I put the money in your pants!

BRIAN

Well I didn't find anything in my pants, Andre!

The two of them start flipping couch cushions and even the couch.

ANDRE

It's gone! The money disappeared or something. It's not downstairs, it's not upstairs... I don't know what to say.

BRIAN

You promised me five grand. You said if I got Lisa out of the picture everything would be easier. And I believed you.

ANDRE

Yeah I didn't expect you to throw her off a fucking balcony where everyone could see her!

BRIAN

It was the best option. Everyone thinks she committed suicide.

ANDRE keeps looking around the room. He looks under tables and behind doors. He seems to be defeated when he realizes he won't find anything.

BRIAN (CONT'D)

Did you even have five thousand dollars? Or did you lie to me?

ANDRE

I swear I had it. I remember putting it in your pants last night. That's the last thing I remember.

BRIAN

Well if that's true then we better find it before anyone comes back.

CUT TO:

EXT. BALCONY - DAY

SEB is sitting down in the corner again counting half of the money while AMY is on the other side of the balcony counting the other half.

SEB
How much you got?

AMY
Twenty-five hundred.

SEB is infuriated as he gets up out of his chair.

SEB
Son of a bitch.

AMY
Where are you going?

SEB
Stay here. I'll be out in a few minutes.

SEB takes the money from AMY'S hand storms into the house.

CUT TO:

INT. UPSTAIRS LOFT - DAY

BRIAN and ANDRE hear the balcony door open. They look at each other and then rush down the stairs.

After they are out of sight, SEB enters the room. Looking around to see if they were in there. He spends little time upstairs before continuing on his path.

CUT TO:

INT. DOWNSTAIRS AREA - DAY

SEB walks towards the front door but stops after he opens it. He hears voices coming from the kitchen.

SEB creeps over to the kitchen and sees BRIAN and ANDRE. SEB hides so they don't notice him.

CUT TO:

INT. KITCHEN - DAY

BRIAN and ANDRE are sitting across from each other at the kitchen table as they are in the middle of a heated argument.

ANDRE
(whispering)
I told you. I put the money in
your pants!

BRIAN
(reaching into pockets)
There's no money in these pants,
Andre!

ANDRE
Then we won't leave until we find
that fucking money!

BRIAN
We better find it! I didn't do
what I did for you for free!

SEB saunters over to the kitchen table and throws the money on the table in front of BRIAN and ANDRE.

BRIAN and ANDRE look at SEB dumbfounded.

SEB
You're wearing my pants.

SEB stares down BRIAN while BRIAN looks SEB up and down noticing that BRIAN'S pants leave his ankles exposed.

BRIAN
Seb, I can explain-

SEB slams his hand down on the table.

SEB
You fucking killed Lisa!

BRIAN
Andre paid me to do it!

SEB
You wanted to do it asshole! All
it took was five thousand dollars!

ANDRE gets up out of his chair and attempts to restrain SEB who is face to face with BRIAN.

ANDRE
Seb, calm down!

SEB throws ANDRE off of him and ANDRE lands on his back.

SEB rears back as if he is going to punch BRIAN but stops himself in his back swing. He becomes surprisingly calm.

SEB

You guys need to leave.

BRIAN

What?

SEB

Leave. Get out of here. Go somewhere far away... I have to call the police. I won't be able to live with myself if I don't turn in the people responsible for a murder. Please just go.

ANDRE

But Seb, we're your friends. You can't-

SEB

And since I'm your friend I'm giving you a head start. Get the fuck out of here.

BRIAN gets up out of his chair.

BRIAN

Seb, if you do this and they find us, our lives are over. We'll never see each other again.

SEB

Lisa's life is over and she didn't kill anyone. No one will ever see her again either.

BRIAN

Come on, Seb. Let's just-

SEB

Leave!

BRIAN and ANDRE gather themselves and slowly walk towards the door. After they open the door, they turn and look back at SEB who has been watching them the whole time.

SEB (CONT'D)

Get out of here, God dammit!

BRIAN and ANDRE close the door behind them and SEB waits until he hears a car drive away.

SEB pulls out his phone and dials 911. He puts the phone to his ear anticipating the stress this phone call will cause him.

DISPATCHER
911, what's your emergency?

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. BALCONY - DAY

AMY is sitting in the corner of the balcony on her phone when SEB walks back outside.

SEB walks over to her and grabs his notebook. He begins frantically writing in it.

AMY
Rough day, huh?

SEB stops writing and looks over at AMY with a questioning look.

AMY (CONT'D)
I read what you wrote.

SEB returns to writing in the notebook.

SEB
Yeah. Rough day.

AMY
Well, when you're done writing do you want to go somewhere? This balcony seems to have caused you enough trauma for one day.

SEB
Yeah. I'd like that.

CUT TO:

EXT. FRONT OF HOUSE - DAY

CARL'S car skids on the street in front of the house before he parks it. CARL, RALPHIE, and BEAR all sprint into the house.

CUT TO:

EXT. BALCONY - DAY

SEB puts his pen inside the notebook and sets the notebook down on the chair.

SEB
You ready to go?

AMY
Where are we going?

SEB
You'll see.

SEB extends his hand out to AMY and she takes it, the two of them walk towards the door.

As they reach the door, SEB gets hit in the face by the door that was just rapidly opened by BEAR.

SEB (CONT'D)
Son of a fucking whore! God damn
titty toes!

BEAR
Seb! We need you to drive us!

SEB
What?

CARL
The cops are on our tail, they'll
be here any minute.

SEB
What did you guys do?

RALPHIE
Lucifer fucked us! No more
questions alright?! Are you gonna
drive us or not?!

SEB
Of course. That's what friends are
for... They're coming for Brian
and Andre anyway.

BEAR
What?

SEB
I'll explain later.

CARL
Great! We have no time for
stories! Everyone to Seb's car!

SEB is holding his nose as he turns to AMY.

SEB
Sorry, my friends need me.

AMY
Can I come with you?

SEB looks at AMY a little confused. This was not the
response he expected.

SEB
Absolutely.

SEB and AMY rush into the house and try to catch up the the
other three guys.

CUT TO:

INT. DOWNSTAIRS AREA - DAY

SEB and AMY are about to run out the door which was left
open until SEB turns around towards the kitchen. When he
reaches the kitchen table, he picks up the money that he
left there earlier to expose ANDRE and BRIAN.

Then he runs out the door and closes it behind him.

CUT TO:

EXT. ROAD - DAY

SEB and AMY get in the car and SEB peels away from the
house. Seconds later when SEB'S car is out of sight,
multiple police cars swarm the house.

Multiple officers get out of their cars and break into the
house.

CUT TO:

INT. HOUSE - DAY

The police are looking all over the house and turning the
house upside down as they search.

CUT TO:

EXT. BALCONY - DAY

One officer walks out onto the balcony to see if he can find what he is looking for. He spots SEB'S NOTEBOOK in the corner on the chair.

He slowly walks over to it and opens it to the page that SEB marked with his pen.

At the top of the page the words "Dear Nobody" are crossed out and replaced with the words "Dear Officer."

A wide shot of the balcony is shown while the officer begins to read SEB'S LETTER.

SEB (V.O.)

Dear Officer, Maybe I should've just went home after I woke up today. Maybe if I wasn't around none of this ever would've happened. Lisa might still be alive, we wouldn't be suspects of murder, and my friends wouldn't have to be face to face with a man than might kill them...

CUT TO:

EXT. BEACH - AFTERNOON

All scenes on the beach in slow motion.

CARL, RALPHIE, BEAR, AMY, and SEB all run onto the same beach SEB and AMY were on in SEB'S dream in the first act.

SEB (V.O.)

Or maybe I was meant to be here. Maybe this experience meant something. Only time will tell...

SEB takes the money out of his pockets and throws all of it into the air while everyone jumps, cheers, and dances as it falls down on them.

SEB (V.O.) (CONT'D)

I guess instead of feeling sorry for myself in all this mess, I should be grateful. So what if my friends are a little fucked up? My friends consist of murderers, drug addicts, and drug distributors...

CUT TO:

EXT. BALCONY - AFTERNOON

The officer is still on the balcony reading SEB'S notebook.

SEB (V.O.)

We all have our struggles with infidelity, greed, depression, and anger among other things. That doesn't make any of us love each other any less...

CUT TO:

EXT. BEACH - AFTERNOON

Still in slow motion.

Everyone gathers the money and makes it into one big pile. BEAR takes out his lighter and lights the pile of money on fire.

They all scatter so they aren't hit by the flame.

SEB (V.O.)

One of the hardest things to do in this life is to find yourself. Although, it's a hell of a lot easier with people you love by your side. Yes, you may struggle, but it's important to find the people worth struggling with...

CUT TO:

EXT. BALCONY - AFTERNOON

CLOSE ON OFFICER

SEB (V.O.)

We are all hopeful at this moment in our lives, yourself included. We are hopeful things will get better and we will see better days. We are hopeful that life will sort itself out and we are hopeful that life has something extraordinary planned for us. And I sure hope you find yourself before you find us...

CUT TO:

EXT. BEACH - AFTERNOON

SLOW MOTION

The five friends all ring around the burning money before the run back off the beach. They all get into the car and drive off screen.

SEB (V.O.)
We'll be trying to find ourselves
as well... Yours truly, The
Balcony Boys.

FADE OUT:

END ACT III