THIEF

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EXT. MANSION - DAY

If the grass is always greener on the other side, then this is the other side. A beautifully manicured garden sweeps up to a spectacular stone edifice and sign, PLACE DE RA-ZON.

CHERUB "CHERRY" CHAMBERS (28), and still smokin' hot, enters the circular driveway and parks. As she leaves the car she's flooded by the beauty and immensity of the place.

INT. FOYER

A lush entryway as you'd expect. The doorbell rings with fanfare.

GABRIEL RA-ZON (28), fit with tan good looks to match, looks in a mirror and practices his Hollywood smile.

He straightens himself, ready to welcome the guests.

Opens the door to --

A moment of uncomfortable and self-conscious silence as two old friends realize they have nothing to say to one another.

Gabriel's acting talent hits -- his practiced smile is ace.

GABRIEL

Cherub "Cherry" Chambers! You look great.

Cherry should have been an actress too.

CHERRY

It's Cher now.

She mimics a moment of HALF-BREED to which Gabriel lingers on --

GABRIEL

Very good.

He claps politely. Cherry wanders in, still awestruck.

CHERRY

Not really. You should know, I have no talent, but you do, Gabriel. Loved your movies, well, I only actually saw one, but I... this, house is fantastic.
Gabriel closes the door. Cherry turns toward him. Another moment of awkward silence.

    CHERRY
    Anybody else here?

    GABRIEL
    Not yet.

Even more awkward silence. Cherry looks around.

    CHERRY
    Did I tell you this is a fantastic house?

    GABRIEL
    Yes.

    CHERRY
    That's because it is.

    GABRIEL
    Thank --

The doorbell rings. Thank God.

    CHERRY
    Yay! Someone's here!

A weird grimace at Cherry from Gabriel, but it doesn't stop him hurrying to the door and opening it.

Cherry can't see who it is.

More practiced smiles from Gabriel.

    GABRIEL
    Jimmy!

The name hits Cherry like a hot wind.

    CHERRY
    Jimmy?

JIMMY (28), still looks like a boy scout, stands outside the door, reaches in and gives Gabriel a big heartfelt hug.

    JIMMY
    Gabriel!

Gabriel seems uncertain; he manages to act his way through. Then Jimmy spots Cherry. The sparks fly. Gabriel's ignored.
JIMMY
Cherry?! You haven't aged a day...

CHERRY
Sure I have.

JIMMY
You're still just as beautiful as the day I met you.

CHERRY
You think. Really?

JIMMY
Really.

They hug. Gabriel watches uncomfortably. Jimmy pulls in a bit closer to Cherry and they kiss. Gabriel clears his throat.

GABRIEL
I have food to prepare. So why don't the two of you go upstairs, find your rooms and - and - unpack.

They don't seem to hear.

GABRIEL
I'll be in the kitchen.

He waits a moment, then exits.

INT. KITCHEN

The kitchen is big enough and stainless steel enough to feed an army. The blender whirs green stuff. Gabriel's at the refrigerator where he pulls out a large plate of appetizers when the door bell rings.

He places the plates on the island counter top and turns off the blender when the door bell rings again. He exits.

INT. FOYER

The door is opened by Gabriel and RODDY "BURNER" BURNSIDE (28), stands tall and imposing, just outside.

RODDY
(French Accent) Gabriel! Ra-Zon!
Ra-Zon!

Gabriel smiles, a bit tight.

GABRIEL
Roddy Burner! Burnside!
RODDY
Just Roddy now. Great house! How come the butler didn't answer?

GABRIEL
I wanted it to be...

CHERRY (O.S)
Did I hear the voice of a Burner?

RODDY
Is that Cherry? Who else is here?

Roddy pushes past Gabriel, who is used to it now, and hurries in. Jimmy and Cherry walk down a large staircase.

All, except Gabriel, revel in name sharing.

INT. KITCHEN

Cherry, Roddy and Jimmy stand next to the island counter top. They laugh and munch on appetizers while Gabriel hands out perfect Margaritas. Gabriel hands one to Burner but Burner refuses. This action catches everyone's attention.

RODDY
I became sober months ago.

And everyone, including Gabriel, laughs.

CHERRY
You're so funny, Burner.

He tries to hand the drink to Roddy again only to have it refused.

RODDY
You see me laughing? All the drinking and all the drugs, it was making my life crazy. I couldn't handle it anymore so I stopped.

Mood spoiled. Then Jimmy clears his throat.

JIMMY
A toast. To Burner's sobriety.

Everyone's all "Here-Here!" except Cherry.

CHERRY
I'll drink to that.
INT. LIVING ROOM

A large well-stocked bar is a focus point, though it's snug at back of the room. Other furniture's set for close conversations, especially the couch where --

Cherry and Jimmy move closer together -- electric sparks fly.

CHERRY
...and you never said a word?

JIMMY
Never. I wanted to. Oh, man, you were incredible. You are incredible.

Closer still... they kiss. Roddy enters the room and clears his throat.

RODDY
Am I interrupting something?

CHERRY AND JIMMY
Yes!

Cherry and Jimmy scoot away from one another.

RODDY
Good.

He sits on the sofa right in the middle of them. They have to scoot over even more. He puts his arms around them and shakes them.

RODDY
It's so good to be here with my good-old, good-old friends.

CHERRY
You too Burn -- Rod, even if you are still a pain in the --

The doorbell rings.

RODDY
Ooo! Someone else is here. Want to go see who it is?

Both Cherry and Jimmy shake their heads.

RODDY
Guess I'll just have to go on my ownsome.
Burner stands and leaves the room. Cherry and Jimmy stare at each other in amazement then break into laughter.

INT. FOYER

Darnell (29), looking a bit like a lollipop - skinny as a stick with a big afro on top, stands inside the doorway. He profusely shakes hands with Gabriel. He is obviously stoned.

DARNELL
...good to be invited. You look great, so does the house. Who else is...

Roddy enters. Gabriel gives Roddy a look that says "help". Roddy turns to leave and he's almost made it when --

DARNELL
Roddy Burner! Burner!

Darnell grabs him at the waist and gives him a big hug from behind. Roddy watches Gabriel escape toward the kitchen.

Roddy, not enjoying the affections, squirms out from Darnell's grip and turns around.

RODDY
Darnell. Good to see you.

DARNELL
I knew you were coming man.

Darnell pats his bag.

DARNELL
I brought lots of goodies.

RODDY
I don't do that stuff anymore.

DARNELL
What stuff?

RODDY
Any stuff. I don't burn anymore so don't call me Burner. It's just plain Roddy now.

Darnell laughs.

DARNELL
Wicked! You still got it man. You're sense of humor is legendary.
RODDY
It's not a joke!

DARNELL
It's not? You mean you're really sober.

Roddy nods.

DARNELL
Well, that won't last long. So, tell you what...

Darnell opens his bag and fishes around.

DARNELL
I got some Ekkys in here. The perfect cure for sobriety.

Roddy rolls his eyes.

INT. STUDY
Gabriel enters his study as the phone rings. He picks it up.

GABRIEL
Hello, Gabriel speaking.
(beat)
Hey, Johnny my man, how are ya?

INT. KITCHEN
Darnell leans on the bench. Roddy listens to him, bored.

DARNELL
And I ended up spending the night on a bench, which wasn't actually as bad as you would think. Because I grabbed some leaves, and if you place the leaves in the right spot--

Gabriel enters the room as he puts his mobile in his pocket. Roddy seems relieved.

GABRIEL
Johnny's gonna be late. Something about his Mum taking a wrong turn or something.

RODDY
Typical.

A giggling Cherry enters with Jimmy in arm. They part as they see the others.
CHERRY
May we have another drink please, dear Gabriel?

Gabriel nods and goes to work. An awkward silence, which is broken by Jimmy coughing.

JIMMY
I think I might have a cold.

DARNELL
I think I have a tablet or two to fix that!

Everyone except Roddy laughs. Roddy pours water from a jug into a glass.

RODDY
I think I'll pass thanks, who knows what tablets you have!

Every except Roddy laughs again. Gabriel passes a drink to Cherry and Jimmy.

CHERRY
I suddenly feel quite parched!

Cherry drinks unrestrained. More chatter and laughter as --

INT. FOYER
JEANA-MARIE aka Jeana (28), walks straight through the open front door. As if a brash and unfettered librarian, she draws her gaze up to the high ceiling and around the room. Not a librarian, but a calculating cashier; she's impressed.

JEANA
Nice.

She removes a camera from her purse and clicks a photo. Jeana walks towards the stairs as Cherry bursts in --

CHERRY
Jeanie!

Cherry sprints towards Jeana, hugs her. Jeana's taken back.

INT. KITCHEN
Darnell talks to Gabriel, and talks and talks...
DARNELL
I brought coke especially, as I've heard that's what you actors have. Or is that just porn stars? I was watching this doco the other day, and loved it. Probably not as much as cock, but close.
(beat)
And that goes for everyone too, if you want some, just ask.

Everyone smiles as Cherry enters with Jeana.

RODDY
Hey Jeana.

GABRIEL
Hello Jeana, welcome to Gabriel's Place de Ra-Zon. Drink?

JEANA
Jeana-Marie.

GABRIEL
Sorry? Is that with tequila, or...?

JEANA
My name. It's Jeana-Marie, not Jeana. And I would like it if everyone called me by my proper name please.

Awkward silence. Cherry rolls her eyes at Jimmy.

Everyone breaks the silence at once, agreeing to Jeana's request. Jeana smiles.

JEANA
Great. Good to be here Gabriel.

She turns to the others.

JEANA
Have you guys seen the pond? It's really beautiful.

Darnell turns to Gabriel.

DARNELL
Pond? How come I haven't heard about this?!
(to Jeana)
Lead the way!
Jeana grabs Jimmy's drink; leaves the room with Darnell.

JIMMY
She stole my drink!

GABRIEL
I'll make you another.

CHERRY
Me too, please!

GABRIEL
Sure. Then a tour of the house?

RODDY
That would be grand, my dear man! I've been wanting to check this place out fully for ages. I'll lead the way!

Roddy runs off.

INT. FOYER

Jimmy listens as Gabriel talks and points to a large painting which hangs on the wall.

GABRIEL
Handed down in the family for generations. Very important and special to all involved. Not my family, but I've adopted them as my own.

Gabriel chuckles quietly at his little joke.

JIMMY
And the stairs? Have they been redone, or is that original?

GABRIEL
Well --

Loud music interrupts Gabriel. It sounds like it's coming from another room.

GABRIEL
What the hell?

INT. HOME THEATER ROOM

Gabriel enters to find Roddy jumping around the room, and Darnell in a chair laughing at him.
RODDY
(to Gabriel)
Great sound quality you got here man!

GABRIEL
What?

Gabriel grabs the remote and turns the sound down. Roddy stops dancing.

RODDY
Oh come on, don't ruin the party.

GABRIEL
There are other people in this house, not just you.

RODDY
Darnell was enjoying it too, weren't you, man?

Darnell laughs.

DARNELL
Enjoying laughing at you dancing!

Cherry and Jeana enter.

RODDY
Guys, guys, guys, you were just a few seconds too late!

Jeana studies Gabriel. Gabriel, studies her, clears his throat and looks away.

RODDY
Wow, tensions are high! Awkward!

Gabriel huffs and turns to Roddy.

GABRIEL
You know what, I am so sick --

The doorbell rings. Gabriel sighs and exits the room.

RODDY
What the hell's his problem?!

INT. FOYER

Gabriel opens the door to reveal FRANCESCA (28), a sultry beauty. Old luggage in tow.
GABRIEL
Can I help you?

FRANCESCA
Don't you recognize me?

Francesca pouts. Gabriel shakes his head at the old luggage beside her.

FRANCESCA
Let me give you a hint. Drive-in movie...

Gabriel still doesn't get it.

INT. CAR - FLASHBACK

Frances, (the young man) has a round "oh" upon his lips. Gabriel moves in, his eyes inches next to Frances' eyes.

GABRIEL
Shh...

Gabriel slides his head down and out of view.

FRANCESCA
Shh....it.

BACK TO SCENE

FRANCESCA
I lost my virginity to you.

Gabriel is taken aback. Then he gets it, sort of.

GABRIEL
Frances?

Francesca smiles and nods. She drops the luggage and throws her arms out in a girly pose.

FRANCESCA
Francesca, now. I had a sex change.

Her arms move down to cover her crotch like a painting of Venus.

FRANCESCA
It's not complete though.

Then she gets serious.
FRANCESCA
How do I look?
Gabriel smiles.

GABRIEL
You look absolutely gorgeous!

FRANCESCA
I'm so happy you think so.

A enormous hug around Gabriel; she kisses him on the cheek.

INT. HOME THEATER ROOM
Gabriel and Francesca enter, arm in arm.

JIMMY
You've been holding out on us. Who's she?

Cherry knows but says nothing. She watches for the reaction.

Roddy drinks eyeing Francesca like a snake does his dinner.

GABRIEL
Let me introduce Francesca.

RODDY, JIMMY, DARNELL
Hello, Nurse!

Then Gabriel smiles evilly.

GABRIEL
A.K.A. Frances.

Roddy spits, catching everyone's attention. Awkward moment.

DARNELL
Frances?

CHERRY
He had a sex change.

FRANCESCA
Surprise!

Cherry runs over to give her a hug.

INT. FOYER
Johnny (28), overweight, enters swinging his duffel bag. He has a jovial smile on his face.
JOHNNY
Hello... Anyone?

His listens. He hears VOICES down the hall. He hears Cherry's voice.

JOHNNY
Cherry?

He hurries down the hall.

INT. HOME THEATER ROOM

Johnny enters to spy Cherry as she hugs Francesca. Jimmy notices him, smiles, waves him over.

JOHNNY
Who's Francesca?

With the raise of an eyebrow, Jimmy mouths the word "Frances".

CHERRY
Johnny, good to see you.

She hugs him. Johnny's eyes close in bliss.

She gives him a peck on the cheek then she lets go.

JOHNNY
Good to see you...

But it's too late. Cherry has already rushed over to Jimmy's side. She grabs Jimmy and gives him a kiss on the lips.

Johnny's furious.

FRANCESCA
Hello, Johnny.

JOHNNY
Hi... Francesca...?

FRANCESCA
How's everything?

JOHNNY
It... ah...

FRANCESCA
Obviously, not well enough.
JOHNNY
Pardon?

FRANCESCA
Never mind. Cheer up, dunderhead.

She touches Johnny's shoulder, in support. Johnny yanks his shoulder away. Francesca is a bit insulted.

JOHNNY
I'm sorry I'm just not in the mood for this I guess.

Johnny turns and leaves.

CHERRY
What do you think got into him?
I'll go see if he's okay?

JIMMY
No, I'll go. You stay here.

Jimmy rushes off.

Gabriel comes over. He takes Francesca's hand.

FRANCESCA
I don't think Johnny likes me anymore.

GABRIEL
He never liked you.

FRANCESCA
Oh! That's true. Isn't it?

And they laugh.

RODDY (O.S.)
Gabriel...

Roddy stands in front of the sound system.

RODDY
Everyone's here.

GABRIEL
Alright then. Everyone let's go to the living room. We'll be much more comfortable there.

Everyone exits except Gabriel and Roddy.
GABRIEL
Move.

RODDY
What?

GABRIEL
Get out.

RODDY
But it's time to crank up the tunes.

GABRIEL
I don't want you to play with my sound system. You have a habit of breaking things. Just go.

Roddy spoofs.

RODDY
Yes, Dad.

And Roddy leaves Gabriel follows, turning out the lights.

INT. LIVING ROOM

GABRIEL
It's good to have you all here. I hope everyone will have a good time at this very special reunion. Mi casa, su casa, so feel free to do as you please. Except Roddy, Roddy needs to ask permission.

Cherry give Roddy a slap on the shoulder.

RODDY
He thinks he's my father.

GABRIEL
As far as the evening's activities go, well I do have plans - only I'd like to surprise you with them, if you would allow me.

FRANCESCA
Can't you give us a hint?

CHERRY
Please!
GABRIEL
No. I have several bedrooms available so go pick your rooms. I didn't assign anyone a specific room.

FRANCESCA
What time do you want us back?

GABRIEL
When you're hungry, say about 8:00.

DARNELL
I bet the caterer's bring a fantastic feast.

GABRIEL
I'm going to cook.

RODDY
Oh no! That's it, we're all dead.

FRANCESCA
I bet Gabriel is a great cook. Oh my, I must be tipsy already I almost said cock.

The girls laugh the boys are a bit uncomfortable.

Gabriel and Francesca share a look.

The group separates.

RING. Darnell goes through his pocket and takes out his cellphone. He looks at it, shrugs, and puts it back.

INT. GUEST ROOM (JOHNNY'S)
Johnny throws his duffel on the bed and starts unloading.

Jimmy enters.

JIMMY
Huh? All the rooms are the same?

Johnny reverses things and packs again. His lips turn to thin lines.

JIMMY
Where do you think you're going?

JOHNNY
The fuck away from here.
Jimmy grabs Johnny's arm, spins him around.

JIMMY
Just what is your problem?

Johnny pushes Jimmy away.

JOHNNY
You're my problem.


JIMMY
What'd I do?

JOHNNY
You couldn't wait to get your hands on her, could you?

Johnny's breathing heavy now.

JIMMY
Who?

JOHNNY
Oh! Give me a break.

JIMMY
I don't know.

JOHNNY
Cherry!

INT. GUEST WING

Darnell strolls quietly down the hall.

JIMMY (O.S.)
Cherry? Well, uh... We always had this great relationship and...

Darnell stops in front of the open door.

JOHNNY (O.S.)
I knew it. I fucking knew it.

JIMMY (O.S.)
Knew what?

Darnell listens closely.
INT. GUEST ROOM (JOHNNY'S)

JOHNNY
Knew coming here was a waste of time.

Johnny goes to his duffel and starts packing again.

JIMMY
Come on man, don't do this.

Johnny grabs the ring box and opens it.

JIMMY
If I offended you somehow, I'm sorry. But please don't leave, it would spoil the weekend for...

Johnny turns, the open case in his hand.
The ring sparkles in the light.

JOHNNY
I was planning to propose to her.

INT. GUEST WING

Darnell's spying eyes go wide as he sees the ring.

JIMMY (O.S.)
Propose? Uh, that's fantastic.

JOHNNY (O.S.)
I'm not going to anymore. Not after what I saw.

JIMMY (O.S.)
That meant nothing. Believe me. Cherry and I are and always have been just friends.

JOHNNY (O.S.)
She was my first love.

Darnell almost bursts into laughter but maintains control. He strolls away.

JIMMY (O.S.)
All the more reason not to quit. The Johnny I know was no quitter.
INT. GUEST WING

Jeana walks into Darnell as she exits her room. She's clearly agitated.

Darnell won't let her past. He stalls her rush with his devious smile of frivolity.

    DARNELL
    Where ya goin' so fast, Sugar Plum?

    JEANA
    Not now Darnell. I gotta --

Darnell reveals a doobie.

    DARNELL
    Huh? Huh?

Jeana shakes her head, still anxious.

    DARNELL
    It'll be like old times...

She rubs her eye for relief. Looks up to him. A moment.

    JEANA
    Not now. Everything's so messed.

    DARNELL
    How's this for messed? I just heard Johnny say he wanted to propose to Cherry this weekend. He's got a big diamond ring. Big enough to see from the hallway into the bedroom--

    JEANA
    You sure you're not smoking already? Let me see your eyes.

Darnell opens his eyes wide.

    JEANA
    They look okay to me.

    DARNELL
    Come see for yourself. Jimmy and Johnny could probably use a referee right about now.

    JEANA
    I don't know, Darnell
Her cell phone rings. She doesn't bother to look at the caller ID and takes the call.

**JEANA**

Hey it's me! Is father alright?

Darnell starts pulling Jeana along while she talks.

Jeana converses with the voice on the other end while being shuttled around the corner by Darnell.

**JEANA**

No this can't be. I shouldn't have left him. I have to leave.

Jeana breaks free from Darnell. Darnell stands, as she disappears around the corner.

He shrugs. Heads to the pond.

**INT. LIVING ROOM – MOMENTS LATER**

Gabriel and Roddy engage in animated conversation.

**GABRIEL**

So I asked myself: How do I play a con man when I'm a lousy con?

**RODDY**

So what did ya do?

Gabriel's eyes alight.

**GABRIEL**

Pretended I was Darnell!

They both have a good laugh when -- Behind them, the sound of pitter-patter steps clicking the hardwood floors.

Crash in their world! Gabriel sees Jeana's anxiety and shouts.

**GABRIEL**

Jeana!

His voice, so loud and commanding and an apparent coincidence when a SIREN passes in the distance from the street outside.

Jeana's an energetic ball of fire and fear as she tries to escape Gabriel's clutches. Jeana shakes her head "no", ranting about her step father.
JEANA
He's dying, Gabriel! Dying and I left him when he needed me dying I don't know what I was thinking --

At this compressed moment, Gabriel shouts even louder:

GABRIEL
Jeana! Stop!

This causes the others in the mansion to awake from their individual affairs.

INTERCUT:

INT. GUEST ROOM (JOHNNY'S)

Both Johnny and Jimmy look up and jump to action, racing towards the sound of what is erupting as an argument.

EXT. POND

Darnell sits peacefully upon the bench smoking his doobie alone. The birds chirp. He takes his shoes and socks off and dips his feet in the pond.

INT. GUEST WING

Cherry and Francesca catch up behind Johnny and Jimmy, all racing towards the stairs where the sound of the argument grows to earshot.

INT. LIVING ROOM

Jimmy, Johnny, Cherry and Francesca arrive on scene in the middle of the outrage. Roddy's just as confused as the rest.

JEANA
Don't tell me about reason!

GABRIEL
You can't leave!

JEANA
Let me go!

Jeana pulls, but Gabriel grips her firmly.

JEANA
My stepfather...
  ( she corrects)
My father is dying and you won't let me leave?!
GABRIEL
It's just a ploy for your attention, Jeana. He just wants the control. He just wants the sex.

JEANA
(a low voice)
It takes one to know one.

GABRIEL
We had a deal!

JEANA
No you had a deal, Gabriel! And you were too weak to live up to your responsibilities! That's not a deal. That's a cop out.

GABRIEL
How can you judge what I have and haven't done. I've been in L.A. and you've been here.

JEANA
And whose fault is that?!

GABRIEL
You could have come with me.

JEANA
You could have stayed with me.

GABRIEL
Well, now you have a choice, Jeana.

JEANA
My father is dying. I have no choice! My home is here and you'll never know why. You and your posh! It's not just the posh Gabriel!

GABRIEL
Live life to the fullest! That's what you always said, and that's what I did.

JEANA
It isn't just about the posh!

Gabriel releases Jeana's arm. Jeana determines toward the door. Cherry runs after her, grabbing her arm gently.
CHERRY
Jeana at least give yourself some
time to calm down.

JEANA
No Cherry, don't. Nothing ever
happens when you're satisfied.

Jeana surveys the group, staring in disbelief. She pulls her
purse tightly over her shoulder and stares back, unrelenting.

JEANA
I'm outta here.

She exits, slamming the door behind her.

The group stands silent.

INT. LIVING ROOM

Gabriel faces the group with a fake smile.

GABRIEL
Dinner?

CHERRY
Amazing you can think of food at a
time like this.

FRANCESCA
Leave him alone. Hasn't he been
through enough with that bitch?

GABRIEL
Don't you ever call her a bitch!

Darnell arrives on scene.

DARNELL
Hey-hey-hey! What's goin' down on
this planet anywho. Aren't we
supposed to be having --

JIMMY
Shut up Darnell.

DARNELL
Sorry, James?

JIMMY
I said shut --

Darnell flies off. Heads to punch Jimmy. Roddy throws himself
between them.
RODDY
Wait man. Just serious shit went down.

DARNELL
Fuckin' better believe it. And like I deserve that? Fuckin' no way. I'll shut you up you child lover. You just keep on pressing my buttons and see what happens big man --

GABRIEL
Stop it! Look, just blame me okay, Darnell? Jimmy never meant anything.

Pause. Jimmy eases.

DARNELL
Yeah man, just bad shit. Sorry.

JOHNNY
What did she mean by you broke a deal?

GABRIEL
(lying)
Nothing. You know Jeana. She gets crazy confused. Her imagination running wild.

Gabriel clears his throat, looks at the ground. He suddenly looks up.

GABRIEL
Dinner?

INT. KITCHEN
Gabriel grabs stuff from the cupboards. His anger and stress results in the dropping of a glass. It shatters just as Francesca arrives.

Gabriel grabs a broom and she grabs it out of his hand.

FRANCESCA
Here, let me.

She sweeps and, as Gabriel resumes his preparations, she cleans the mess, dumping it in the trash.

She stares at Gabriel as he works.
FRANCESCA
You can tell me.

GABRIEL
I just don't know if I can do this.

FRANCESCA
Do what?

GABRIEL
Jeana's so...

FRANCESCA
So, what?

GABRIEL
So gawdamned...

Crazy?

FRANCESCA
No.

GABRIEL
Stubborn?

FRANCESCA
No.

GABRIEL
Argumentative?

FRANCESCA
No.

GABRIEL
What then?

She's everything. She's so
gawdamned everything. She's too
much.

FRANCESCA
Maybe it's not meant to be.

She sweeps a lock of hair from Gabriel's forehead.

Silence from Gabriel. He looks at the tap. It drips.

GABRIEL
I'm rich and I've got a leaky
faucet.
Gabriel's eyes look slightly wet.

FRANCESCA
Yeah. Happens to the best of us.

INT. GUEST WING

Johnny, Cherry, Jimmy and Roddy stand puzzling over one of Gabriel's paintings: Completely splotchy abstract.

JOHNNY
Whadya think that is?

Roddy smirks.

RODDY
Darnell's brain!

CHERRY
Before or after some speed?!

They laugh, but then turn serious.

CHERRY
I get the feeling Gabe's not telling us something.

JIMMY
What, you turning all Jeana on us now too?

CHERRY
What's that supposed to mean?

JIMMY
Means you've got loads of intuition when you want it, but you can't see who really loves you.

Jimmy walks off.

RODDY
I'm goin' to make amends with Darnell. Score me something. I can't handle this. Sober's over.

Johnny and Cherry are left standing alone.

INT. KITCHEN

GABRIEL
I'm sorry about going on about Jeana.

FRANCESCA
Don't be sorry. Do you... do you like my sex change?

GABRIEL
You asked me that before.

FRANCESCA
I know, but you would have been in shock then... what do you think, now?

Gabriel smiles at Francesca.

GABRIEL
You look very beautiful, Frances, Francesca. I'm happy for you. That you can be you.

FRANCESCA

INT. GUEST ROOM (JOHNNY'S)

JIMMY
Look, I'm sorry. You deserve her more than I do.

JOHNNY
Who am I kidding? She doesn't want someone like me. I'm a fat loser. Well, you're free to have her now, 'cause I just don't care anymore. Whatever, man.

Jimmy points at the ring.

JIMMY
Hey, maybe if I really loved her, I would have been smart enough to bring a ring too.

Johnny chucks the ring across the room.

Jimmy catches it and smiles. He throws it straight back at Johnny.

EXT. POND

Roddy finds Darnell smoking a cigarette.
RODDY
Are we having fun yet?

DARNELL
A blast. Haven't made one drug connection in this la-la land yet.

RODDY
Gabriel gave me this and says happy belated.

Darnell reads a list of connections and phone numbers.

DARNELL
Fuckin' eh! Merry Christmas!

Darnell gives Roddy and big macho kiss!

RODDY
Sometimes it's good to be the messenger?

DARNELL
Yeah, well, here's a message you won't like... Johnny wants to propose to Cherry - like he's walking on dreamy eggshells. A bright and shiny diamond ring no less.

RODDY
That asshole. We're all here trying to chill out and he's gotta cause friction. Completely Johnny.

INT. GUEST WING

Cherry walks back to her room.

JOHNNY (O.S.)
I can't!

JIMMY (O.S.)
You can!

She follows the voices to Johnny's room.

INT. GUEST ROOM (JOHNNY'S)

Johnny and Jimmy look shocked to see Cherry standing there.

CHERRY
What can't Johnny do?
An awkward silence.

JOHNNY
I can't copy season number three of How I Met Your Mother for Jimmy because it's illegal.

Johnny reaches his hand to conceal the ring on the table.

INT. KITCHEN

Darnell and Roddy enter. Darnell's on his cell phone involved in a low rent high style telemarketing drug deal. He's holding the drug connections list, his eyes all a glitter.

Roddy gives a couple of solid pats on Darnell's shoulder as he smiles at Gabriel.

RODDY
We might need to call the Episcopalians or someone just to get him to calm down.

Gabriel's eyebrow rises, and a smile that comes from seeing Darnell and remembering old times.

DARNELL
You bet I've got the A to Z of the best Ds this side of the Pacific.

And then, it dawns on Gabriel.

GABRIEL
Episcopalian?

Darnell ends the call with a bright:

DARNELL
Scoring is never boring!

RODDY
(to Gabriel then Darnell)
Yeah Episcopalian. You've been hangin' with them for a few months now, right Darnell?

DARNELL
Something like that. Good people. Right smack in the middle between the Protestants and the Catholics.
GABRIEL
Darnell? Goin’ to church? And dealing drugs? Are you selling there, too?

DARNELL
Hey they’re people too. A little relief from trouble is like Alka Seltzer for the brain pain.

Gabriel gives a "you got something there" nod.

Roddy switches gears by rapping his knuckles on the table.

RODDY
Knock on wood we don't all wind up in jail. Hated that final episode of Seinfeld you know...

A remembrance washes over the others' faces. Grim's the word.

RODDY
Hey, do you know what Johnny's going to do this weekend?

GABRIEL
Convert to Episcopalian too?

RODDY
Try conversion from being a bachelor over to wedded bliss.

Gabriel doesn’t understand, but shakes his head.

GABRIEL
One plus one.

A look of "aha". Of course it equals three!

RODDY
What I'm sayin' is that Johnny's gonna propose to Cherry.

Darnell gets down on his knees and takes Burner's hand.

DARNELL
You were my first lovey-dove-dove oh will you please-pretty-please with a Cherry on top marry me Cherry.
I know I'm a schmuck, but I'm taking classes and gave my last ten cases of Pringles to the food bank. I'm even going to Weight Watchers.

Gabriel shakes his head again, but this time it's --

GABRIEL
You guys are such knockers.

Francesca comes in out of a huge pantry.

FRANCESCA
Wow you guys should see Gabriel's pantry! He's got Asian and Italian and look at this --

She holds up the book:

"Sexual Cooking: How To Feel Alive And Free"

Darnell stumbles past Roddy and grabs the book. He starts turning the pages obsessively.

DARNELL
Man where do you find this good stuff?

GABRIEL
Membership has its privileges.

But when he says this, he suddenly turns somber.

GABRIEL
And its vexations.

Francesca grabs the book back.

FRANCESCA
You don't want to cook. You just wanna look at the pictures.

Darnell gives a "yeah so" look.

FRANCESCA
So I heard you guys say something about Johnny proposing to Cherry?

RODDY
He's got big plans. Even bought a ring.
FRANCESCA
How do you know?

DARNELL
I overheard.

And?

RODDY
Let's stop this.

GABRIEL
Why?

RODDY
There's already a lot of tension.

GABRIEL
Leave him alone. Everyone can do whatever they want except mess up my home.

RODDY
Gabriel?

GABRIEL
Roddy?

RODDY
We're here to relax.

GABRIEL
And relax means not getting involved in anyone's business.

RODDY
Except if it affects the group.

GABRIEL
I don't have a problem and since this is my house, I win. Conversation ended. Now, why don't you wait in the dining room for dinner?

RODDY
I got a better idea, why don't we--

He snags the book out of Francesca's hands and races out, Francesca's in hot pursuit and Darnell following close.

Roddy's already out the door.
RODDY (O.S.)
Study up and do our homework like good boys and girls!

Francesca stops suddenly, Darnell racing in front of her, stops for a moment, eyes her for that moment.

DARNELL
You really do look good Frances... cesca, I must admit.

And he's gone. Francesca, stares at Gabriel, seriously.

FRANCESCA
I'll... I'll get the others.

INT. GUEST ROOM (JOHNNY'S)

JIMMY
Do you really think Gabriel would donate to my children's group?

JOHNNY
Why wouldn't he?

CHERRY
It's for children.

JIMMY
I'll see about asking him then.

As Jimmy exits, Francesca obstructs his path. Jimmy touches her arm, still fascinated by the change.

FRANCESCA
Dinner is almost ready.

They exit.

INT. GUEST WING

Johnny and Jimmy walk ahead of Francesca and Cherry.

Francesca smiles, waiting to spill it to Cherry.

FRANCESCA
Cherry, have you heard anything?

CHERRY
Like?

FRANCESCA
Anything.
CHERRY

Nope.

FRANCESCA

Not even a marriage proposal?

CHERRY

Who?

FRANCESCA

You and someone close to you.

CHERRY

Jimmy has been flirting with me, but marriage?

FRANCESCA

No not Jimmy. Johnny.

CHERRY

Johnny?

FRANCESCA

Yeah.

CHERRY

You sure?

FRANCESCA

Yeah.

Francesca nods an excited "yes definitely" at Cherry.

CHERRY

Really?

FRANCESCA

What are you going to do?

CHERRY

I don't know.

She walks ahead. Francesca follows.

FRANCESCA

(under her breath)

I know what I'd do.

INT. DINING ROOM

Cherry and Francesca enter and find the others waiting.
RODDY
It's about time. Gabriel wouldn't let us eat until you got here.

DARNELL
And for all my Episcopalian friends, I say we don't eat until we say grace.

Cherry's overcome.

CHERRY
That's beautiful, Darnell!

They all shrug and bow their heads.

DARNELL
We pray in gratitude and even with our crummy attitude, may we be blessed and pass the test and thank you God for...

Silence.

DARNELL
For...

Silence. Cherry peaks. Underneath the table, she rubs Darnell's leg with her foot.

CHERRY
For being the best. Darnell opens his eyes and stares at Cherry.

DARNELL
Salute! Le Chaim! Cheers! And all that! To Episcopalians everywhere!

WHOLE GROUP
To Episcopalians everywhere!

Except Johnny who's engrossed in his thoughts.

JOHNNY
I'll be back. I gotta get something from my room.

He exits.

Roddy and Jimmy take turns looking at each other and then to Darnell and Cherry, who are having some kind of moment.

Francesca watches Jimmy and Roddy watching Darnell and Cherry.
Gabriel watches Francesca watching Jimmy and Roddy watching Darnell and Cherry.

CHERRY
Here, you oughtta try some cream cheese with the salmon.

She spreads it on Darnell's cracker. Darnell watches her intently, not knowing whether to watch the cracker or her.

CHERRY
And then you take a pickle, like so...

The eating continues. And even some drooling from Roddy as his soup trickles out of his open mouth.

JOHNNY (O.S.)
AAAAHHH! It's gone!

INT. GUEST ROOM (JOHNNY'S)

Gabriel storms into the room. The gang files in behind. Tight fit.

Jimmy and Roddy jostle each other.

Johnny has trashed his room.

GABRIEL
(as James Cagney)
You dirty rat! You mess with my room, you mess with me.

Johnny digs through the bed clothes muttering.

JOHNNY
Where is it? Where can that damn thing be?

Gabriel puts his hand on Johnny's shoulder.

GABRIEL
All right, Johnny... Johnny! Calm down and tell us what this is all about.

JOHNNY
Someone took the ring!

GABRIEL
What ring?

Johnny sits down on the bed. No wind in his sails.
JOHNNY
A big diamond surrounded by emeralds. And the band is a swan neck design.

CHERRY
Ooh, that sounds beautiful!

JOHNNY
It was for you, Cherry. All for you.

CHERRY
Whatever for?

JOHNNY
I love you. I always have. Since the first day we met. And that kiss at my house was amazing! My first and only love. I know I am a loser but --

RODDY
Loser is right.

JOHNNY
Shut up Roddy!

Roddy smiles. He's enjoying this.

CHERRY
Johnny, this is so... so grade school! Wait, how many of you knew about this?

JIMMY
It wasn't exactly a secret...

CHERRY
And not one of you told me!

She glares at each one of the gang. One by one, they wilt under her demanding eyes.

Francesca returns her glare with an "I told you so" look.

CHERRY
And you Frances, Francesca, you could have given me more than a hint.
FRANCESCA
I did tell you. You didn't want to hear it since you were too busy flirting with Jimmy.

RODDY
That's true.

Jimmy blushes. Cherry scoffs then moves towards the door. She trips over the mess on Johnny's floor. She lands - hard - on her hands and knees. Darnell attempts to help her.

CHERRY
I don't need your help!

Cherry stomps out of the room.

JOHNNY
Thanks assholes.

Johnny exits.

JOHNNY (O.S.)
Cherry!

Gabriel goes after Johnny.

INT. KITCHEN
Johnny enters.

JOHNNY
Cherry! I'm sorry.

Johnny's voice echoes. Cherry is not here.

Gabriel walks in.

GABRIEL
Let me give you some friendly advice.

JOHNNY
Fuck you, Gabriel. You're not my guardian angel.

Gabriel pins Johnny against the refrigerator door.
GABRIEL
Johnny boy, are you trying to get on my nerves?

JOHNNY
So much effort for nothing.

GABRIEL
Give her some time.

JOHNNY
What makes you the expert? Your argument with Jeana?

Gabriel releases Johnny.

JOHNNY
By the way, James Cagney never said "You dirty rat."

GABRIEL
You are without hope.

INT. GUEST ROOM (JOHNNY'S)

Darnell pulls out a small baggie of cocaine and throws it toward Jimmy and Roddy.

Roddy catches it.

DARNELL
Now would be the time boys.

RODDY
What the fuck is going on around here?

JIMMY
First, Gabriel and Jeana go off the deep end. Then, Johnny and Cherry.

DARNELL
Dr. Darnell prescribes nasal entertainment.

FRANCESCA
Grow up guys!

DARNELL
Lighten up, Frances.
FRANCESCA
It's Francesca, Darnell. And if I have to remind any of you again, you will be testicle free.

Francesca's turn to stomp out of the room.

DARNELL
Always was a strange one.

RODDY
Fuck him. Fuck her. Who gives a shit?

Darnell prepares the cocaine. His hands shake.

INT. GUEST ROOM (FRANCESCA'S)

Francesca enters her room.

She sits at the desk and opens her day planner. She turns to a picture of Johnny in high school, caresses it.

Francesca hears a noise outside and goes to the window.

The page flips to a picture of Gabriel as Francesca opens the window and peers out to see

EXT. MANSION - FRONT

An RV pulls into the massive driveway and parks.

Jeana exits, wearing a black abaya, dressed as a Muslim.

Jeana is alternately nodding "yes" and shaking "no" to someone just inside the RV's entrance. She shuts the door and proceeds toward the mansion's doorway.

INT. GUEST ROOM (FRANCESCA'S)

FRANCESCA
What on earth is going on now?

She exits.

INT. GUEST ROOM (JOHNNY'S)

The Three Amigos are royally trashed.

DARNELL
I can't believe Johnny's meltdown--
JIMMY (mocking)
I love you. I always have. Since the first day we met.

DARNELL
And that kiss at my house was amazing! My first and only love.

JIMMY
I know I'm a loser but --

RODDY
You know you're a loser when --

DARNELL
You call yourself a loser.

More laughter.

Roddy snorts the coke with vengeance then spins around the room in a fit.

RODDY
Fu-fu-fu-fuck Johnny! Fuck my life! Fu-fu-fuck it all!

DARNELL
You taken over by Tourette's?

RODDY
No that fucking Johnny if it weren't for his fucking around, I'd still be clean!

Darnell quite calmly says:

DARNELL
Not with that filthy mouth Rod, darling. Must you be so foul? What would your mother say?

Jimmy laughs.

JIMMY
Actually, his mother was always one to say, "I will love you Roddy Burnside no matter what."

DARNELL
It was your mother who said that!

RODDY
Actually, my mother did say that.
Darnell looks up to the right portion of the ceiling, staring far off as if to the moon.

DARNELL
Actually, my mother said the same thing!

RODDY
See how fucked we are?! And I made this promise to myself and told my mother how I was going to stay clean from now on and now I can't go back to her and lie! Fuck!

Darnell's still staring far off. Silence.

The three of them wind up staring where Darnell is staring, is staring, is staring. That upper right-hand corner of the room has never been so fascinating.

DARNELL
What were we just talking about?

RODDY
You said how you wanted to go somewhere else and party.

DARNELL
I did?

RODDY
Yeah, but I wanna go see what Cherry's up to. Wanna come?

DARNELL
I think I'll go browse the grounds of this fantasy land. You guys go ahead. I'm getting claustrophobia stuck inside this place.

The Three Amigos exit.

INT. LIVING ROOM

Cherry paces back and forth.

GABRIEL
Look it's not so bad as you think. Yes we all knew about it. But what else could we do? Spoil it for Johnny?
CHERRY
Spoil what? He can't possibly be anymore spoiled than he already is. Living at home. Not a single dream going on in that Pop Tart brain of his.

INT. KITCHEN
Francesca tries to rush out the back door through the kitchen where she encounters Johnny.

Johnny senses her rush.

JOHNNY
What's your hurry and where ya going?

FRANCESCA
I just saw Jeana out front and you wouldn't believe what I saw!

JOHNNY
Look, forget Jeana for a moment.

Johnny takes hold of her shoulders.

JOHNNY
Oh Francy, I'm so glad to see you.

FRANCESCA
You are?

JOHNNY
Of everyone here, I think you've always been the one to have your head on straight.

FRANCESCA
You do?

JOHNNY
Yeah and that's why --

Jeana enters, her black attire almost knocking Johnny over.

Francesca holds Johnny's arm. Johnny holds Francesca's in return.

JOHNNY
Jeana? Why are you dressed like a Muslim?
JEANA
I will be changing shortly. It was my father's request when I'm in his company now.

Francesca and Johnny approach Jeana, sympathetic.

FRANCESCA
I'm so sorry, Jeana. Maybe you should go back to be with him. It's only right that he take precedence for your time right now. We're not important.

JEANA
He is here with me.

The light hits Francesca.

FRANCESCA
The RV.

JOHNNY
RV?

FRANCESCA
There's an RV parked out front and, if I'm following correctly, Jeana's dad is inside of it.

JEANA
Father had my uncle bring him here. My uncle kept trying to get a hold of me. And Darnell's brain is too fried. He didn't even remember my uncle Flin. Thought it was a prank.

JOHNNY
I remember Flin. So Flin brought your dad? Isn't he too sick to travel?

JEANA
Private jet. You know father.

FRANCESCA
What I don't know is how he got here so fast.

JEANA
They left right after I did. Took the jet here. Rented the RV. But they couldn't get a hold of me.
JEANA (CONT'D)
Once I got hold of a new phone, I got hold of my father.

JOHNNY
Step father.

Jeana looks down.

JEANA
Yes.

Jean looks up.

JOHNNY
Well why don't you bring him in? What's going on?

JEANA
He won't come in. Not unless he's invited. And it has to do with a deal that Gabriel made with him a long time ago and he's here to demand from Gabriel.

FRANCESCA
Sounds to me if he were demanding anything, and if he had the strength to make it here, he'd also have the strength to come inside and do his demanding.

Jeana puts a hand on Francesca's chest.

JEANA
My father has come all this way and made the first step. Gabriel must make the second step.

She pats Francesca where her heart sits.

JEANA
It must come from Gabriel. From his heart.

EXT. MANSION - FRONT

Darnell turns the corner from the side into the front.

His cell RINGS.

He trips slightly, as he tries to manage answering his phone and walking at the same time. Hard with his level of intoxication.
DARNELL
Hey Brad, baby. How's it --

His face turns serious.

DARNELL
No man, look things are turning up.

BRAD (O.S.)
The only thing gonna be turning up is you in a graveyard if you don't get me my money.

Click.

Darnell puts the phone back in his pocket. He looks up. Sees the RV. Shakes his head.

DARNELL
No way this was here before.

Walks toward it. Touches it.

DARNELL
No this is real. And if it's not. Maybe I'd better lay off the shit. 'Cause it's getting too real and --

GABRIEL (O.S.)
What the hell and where did you get that from, Darnell?

Gabriel's fast approaching toward him.

DARNELL
I didn't. It's not mine.

GABRIEL
Don't give me that shit! You and Roddy are fuckin' around again aren't you? Gawdamn it Darnell!

DARNELL
No really!

INT. KITCHEN

JOHNNY
So anyway, I borrowed money from my parents to buy the ring but I didn't tell them I borrowed it.
JEANA
Johnny, that's not borrowing.
That's stealing!

Jeana, Francesca and Johnny look up to the sound of:

GABRIEL (O.S.)
Gawdamn it! Why can't you give it a rest for once?!

Jeana covers her mouth.

JOHNNY
What?

JEANA
I'm afraid.

FRANCESCA
What?

JEANA
He's gonna be so angry with me when he finds out.

FRANCESCA
Gabriel? No. I'll talk to him for you. He'll listen to me.

Jeana just shakes her head.

JEANA
Why does it have to be this way?

EXT./INT. GUEST ROOM (CHERRY'S)

Roddy knocks at the door. No answer.

He closes his eyes. Presses his forehead upon the door momentarily as if the inanimate might give him support.

He snaps himself out of it; opens the door with confidence.

EXT. MANSION - FRONT

Gabriel pulls the intoxicated Darnell towards the RV.

Gabriel kicks it in a funky martial arts move and hurts his foot.

GABRIEL
Get this gawdamned thing out of my driveway!
DARNELL
Honest as Able! It's not mine!

INT. KITCHEN

Johnny is about to cry. So is Jeana.

Francesca eyes them both for a moment, an indifferent cast glazing over her face.

FRANCESCA
Pull yourselves together. Come on.

Francesca pulls Jeana along, but Johnny stays behind. He stands there for a moment, chugs back a beer and gives a loud belch.

JOHNNY
This weird shit that's goin' on makes me hungry.

He spies the pantry. A devious grin grows along with the noise outside as he starts to stroke his chin. He turns on a radio to dampen the noise of commotion outside.

Dons an apron that says: "Many people have eaten my cooking and gone on to live normal lives."

He rubs his hands together, cracks his knuckles and sets to work.

INT. GUEST ROOM (CHERRY'S)

Roddy rummages through Cherry's things. He finds a makeup bag. His grin also turns as sinister as Johnny's.

EXT. MANSION - FRONT

As Francesca and Jeana come into view. A jaw drops:

It's Gabriel's. In complete shock at the way she's dressed.

GABRIEL
What the hell, Jeana?

JEANA
I went to a costume ball. You know those Hollywood affairs, Gabriel.

GABRIEL
Next time I have an affair like that, I'll call you first...
A dark cloud overhead slices through the sun and the sun pierces through it like a flaming sword, but only Jeana sees.

GABRIEL
...because I love, a good slut, like you.

Jeana smiles fondly.

JEANA
Think-you. Are we human? Or are we dancers?

Francesca shakes her head and glides in front of Jeana to get first row with Gabriel and Darnell.

FRANCESCA
What are you both fighting about?

GABRIEL
This!
(showcasing the RV)
He steals this monster and then parks it in my driveway.

DARNELL
I'm telling you it's not mine.

GABRIEL
'Course it's not yours. It's stolen! Just like the ring. My whole mansion is turning out to be a Den of Thieves.

Jeana sings an amazing rendition of "The Temple Moneychangers" scene from Jesus Christ Superstar.

JEANA
Roll on up, for my price is down.
Come on in for the best in town.
Take your pick of the finest wine.
Lay your bets on this bird of mine.
Roll on up, for my price is down.
Come on in for the best in town.
Take your pick of the finest wine.
Lay your bets on this bird of mine.
Name your price, I got everything.
Come and buy, It's going fast.
Borrow cash on the finest terms.
Hurry now while stocks still last.

Her black abaya swirls.

Gabriel enjoys this and puts on a pair of shades.
The sun gleams upon them as his acting career climaxes along with his vocal gymnastics as he sings.

GABRIEL
My mansion, should be, a place of prayer, but you have made it, a den of thieves.

After the stunning performance by both these two, Darnell works his lips around --

DARNELL
Does that mean you're not angry with me anymore?

Gabriel smiles lightly. Jeana steps up to Gabriel.

JEANA
Of course he's not angry with you anymore. You don't stay angry very long do you Gabriel, darling?

GABRIEL
Not usually...

And then he looks through Jeana. She steps back.

GABRIEL
If the RV isn't Darnell's doing then --

Francesca swiftly moves to Gabriel.

FRANCESCA
I think it has something to do with Jeana!

Thus Jeana yanks on Darnell, trying to pull him aside. True, Gabriel doesn't stay angry for long, but the RV was not in their plans.

Darnell resists, but Jeana's will is stronger than Darnell's intoxication.

Francesca starts rambling, out of character.

FRANCESCA
It makes perfect sense that Jeana would say her father's inside.

GABRIEL
She said that? But Logan called me and --
Gabriel shakes his head.

Francesca has a moment of amusement.

FRANCESCA
It's just like old times, isn't it?
Remember graduation?

EXT. SIMPLY HIGH SCHOOL - AERIAL - FLASHBACK

The street in front of the school is decorated, as tradition with spray painted artwork from the graduating class.

Closer down to the frontage and 'round back to --

EXT. SIMPLY HIGH SCHOOL - FIELD

The graduating students, dressed in their finest, mull about around and underneath huge tents set up for the occasion.

EXT. SIMPLY HIGH SCHOOL - FRONT

A HEARSE pulls up in front. Roddy's driving. At the curb, Cherry, Frances (the young man), Johnny, Jimmy and Darnell all freak at what they're seeing while we freak at what we're seeing:

Cherry = Rich red gown. A cherry tiara.

Frances = Frilled blouse together with a suit. A tam on his head.

Johnny = Not quite pulled together. His suit is only a blazer.

Jimmy = Mild looking comfortable regular suit and tie. Seems normal, but when he turns around, his back is covered like a patchwork quilt. And closer up still, he's missing his shoes.

Darnell = A tuxedo T-shirt and velour pants.

They see and tee-hee:

Roddy gets out first, comes round to the back and opens the back door like a chauffeur, but he's dressed as a magician.

He wears white gloves and sweeps the air gracefully in presentation as he taps his magic stick on the hearse:

Gabriel and Jeana exit the hearse as a White Bride and a Black Priest.

The five of the group at the curb are all giggles and holy shit.
While five of them alternately high five --

Roddy saunters up to Cherry and produces "magic flowers" for her as a gift. They have a moment as he raises her hand and kisses it softly.

Cherry's face melts as we return to:

EXT. MANSION - FRONT

Francesca's and Gabriel's glowing eyes.

GABRIEL
Those were good times weren't they?

FRANCESCA
I have to admit you and Jeana were always planning some sort of madness.

NEAR THE RV

JEANA
Please tell him you stole the RV.

DARNELL
Why?

JEANA
'Cause I'm not ready for him to know that I've been talking with my father about the legacy again.

DARNELL
What legacy?

JEANA
My father, step father, wants Gabriel to take over his entire estate -- That was the deal. It's a long story.

DARNELL
You mean your father really is in the RV?

JEANA
No, but I was talking to the ghost of my father. My real father. I rented the RV because I needed someplace quiet. I can't channel when there's so much commotion going on.
DARNELL
Okay look. I'll do it, but you have to do whatever I ask later. Deal?

JEANA
Deal.

Gabriel and Francesca turn from their reverie, watching Darnell and Jeana watching them with a "something's up".

Darnell approaches Gabriel and Francesca with a hearty:

DARNELL
Okay, look. I did it K? I don't want Jeana taking the blame for my evil deeds.

GABRIEL
I don't believe this!

FRANCESCA
Hey! Why don't we take it for a spin! It'll be like that time-

Weird noises from above:

RODDY (O.S.)
Rooked-me! We-hee-hee!

They raise their heads upward to a high window in the mansion.

Roddy the joker has makeup all over his face and is laughing like a maniac.

GABRIEL
Roddy you better not break even one Ming vase or I'll --

Gabriel storms inside.

Francesca, Jeana and Darnell stand there. They break into laughter.

INT. LIVING ROOM

Very soft inside as Cherry looks through a pile of DVDs. She picks out a sitcom and puts the disk in the DVD player.

She sits back to watch. Everything's perfect except two things. One, she's missing Johnny in a sentimental kind of way.

And Two, she's missing her cigarettes.
As she reaches for a pack that Darnell left, she notices her "empty" left ring finger.

She starts to cry as she tries to speak --

    CHERRY
    Ro... Rah... Rod...

But the name can't quite breathe through her lips. The door squeaks opens just a crack.

Such an expensive mansion, with leaky faucets and squeaky doors.

    CHERRY
    What am I going to do?

EXT. MANSION - FRONT

Francesca exits the mansion and heads towards the RV.

She taps on the window... nothing. Looks inside and spots a backpack. "Jeana" is embroidered on the front.

INT. FOYER

Gabriel sprints up the stairs.

INT. GUEST WING

Gabriel strides down the hallway; arrives at Cherry's room.

INT. GUEST ROOM (CHERRY'S)

As Gabriel gets closer, he calms down. Composes himself -- throws open the door.

Looks left, looks right... empty.

He sees on the mirror "The Ring + Johnny = Loser" written in lipstick. Gabriel cusses while he wipes the mirror off.

He moves to the window, sees Francesca leaving the RV.

    GABRIEL
    Oh, for fuck...

INT. LIVING ROOM

Cherry watches the television.

Jimmy enters quietly and stands behind her. He smiles. Cherry talks to the television.
CHERRY
What about Pete? Are you gonna tell
Pete? You can’t Annie, Pete will
want an abortion...


CHERRY
What the hell? Were you standing
there the whole time?

JIMMY
Just came in then. Didn't know
where you were.

CHERRY
So you didn't hear...

Jimmy nods, cringes, smiles.

CHERRY
Ah...

JIMMY
You are the only person I know who
does that kinda thing... give
advice to the people on screen. You
and... you and Johnny.

CHERRY
Well... Um...

Cherry turns back to the television... she's not really
watching it though. Pause.

JIMMY
Wanna talk about... you know. The
ring and stuff?

CHERRY
Stuff meaning Johnny?

Jimmy sits down next to Cherry. He nods. Pause.

Cherry suddenly hugs Jimmy.

Jimmy, shocked, hugs back after a few seconds.

FROM TELEVISION (O.S)
What do ya mean ya preggas?! We're
getting an abortion!
INT. KITCHEN

Darnell stands by the kitchen bench. He puts on a funny face.

DARNELL
If you don't goddamn take that
goddamn thing outta my goddamn
driveway, goddamn it you better
goddamn watch your goddamn self,
goddamn.

Johnny and Jeana laugh at him. Francesca walks in.

JEANA
He always gets so serious. Be back
soon, I'm gonna find him.

FRANCESCA
Hey. I need to find him too, I'll
help you.

JEANA
Sweet deal.

Jeana and Francesca walk out of the kitchen. Jeana's laugh
is dying down, until she cracks up again, O.S.

Roddy pops his head in the doorway, makeup on his face.

Darnell howls with laughter.

Roddy walks over to Johnny, goes for his shirt.

JOHNNY
No way. Not a chance in hell --

RODDY
Come on! Come here...

Johnny moves towards the door, but Roddy is too quick for
him.

RODDY
Gotcha!

Roddy wipes his shirt on Johnny's face.

JOHNNY
Get the hell off me!

RODDY
Or what, big boy?

Johnny pauses.
JOHNNY
Or I'm going to punch you right in
the nose.

Roddy laughs.

RODDY
Can't wait sunshine.

Roddy laughs as he runs off. Darnell laughs too; silenced by
a stern look from Johnny.

INT. POOL ROOM

Francesca and Jeana walk in the room. The pool shimmers.

FRANCESCA
G-dog, where are you?

JEANA
G-man, you around?

FRANCESCA
What about "Gabs"? Or "Gabby"?!

Jeana laughs.

JEANA
"Gabby". Genius.

Pause.

FRANCESCA
I know about the RV.

JEANA
What do you know about it?

FRANCESCA
It's all part of your master plan
to get Gabriel.

JEANA
I don't have a master plan, or any
plan for that matter! You wouldn't
have a clue anyway.

FRANCESCA
Whatever.

Jeana walks between Francesca and the pool.

JEANA
Gabemeister --
Francesca pushes Jeana --

On the edge of the pool Jeana nearly falls in.

She tries to keep her balance by grabbing onto Francesca's arm.

They both fall in.

JEANA
What the hell was that for!

FRANCESCA
Why did you grab me you stupid --

JEANA
Stay outta my business

Across the room, Roddy walks in.

He spies the girls as they splash and pull each others' hair.

He runs over, as he pulls his wallet from his pocket, chucking it on the ground.

He jumps in -- creates a huge splash.

Gabriel walks in, a shocked look on his face. Pause.

JEANA
Gabester in the house!

With a curious look, Gabriel stands like a guard.

Francesca and Jeana alternate looks between themselves and Gabriel. Roddy does the same.

Makeup colors run down Roddy's face -- not all of it got wiped on Johnny's shirt.

RODDY
Come on guys! Let's have some fun while we're here!

He splashes water at the girls. No one splashes back.

FRANCESCA
(laughs)
You really should look in a mirror, Dark Knight.

Roddy looks at his reflection in the water. It's the Joker having a bad makeup day.
RODDY
(as Heath Ledger)
Why have a pool, if no one is going to play?

He slaps a big splash of water at Gabriel.

Gabriel moves out of the way but still gets wet.

RODDY
Where's the towel boy when you need one?

Gabriel smiles as he calmly wipes the water off his clothes.

GABRIEL
Oops, I think the maturity level in the pool just fell to all-time low.

Gabriel enjoys his wit.

GABRIEL
Have any of you seen the ring? If it's not found, I'll have to call the police. And I don't want to do that.

He shoots a knowing look at Jeana. Francesca spots the look.

Gabriel exits.

Both girls race to the pool ladder.

Jeana exits the pool first despite the awkward abaya she still wears. Water drenches the floor behind her.

JEANA
Wait! Gabriel!

Francesca exits the pool and slips. She regains her footing and takes off her shoes.

She may as well be on ice.

She goes down on her derriere.

As she gets up only to go down again.

FRANCESCA
Damn it.

RODDY
(laughs)
Now, who looks like a joker?
FRANCESCA
Screw you, Roddy.

Roddy dives under the water, cutting off further remarks.

Francesca wobbles as she exits.

INT. FOYER

Jeana hurries to the foyer. No Gabriel.

Jeana hears a door SLAM. Jeana looks up. Johnny and Darnell enter.

JOHNNY
Who slammed the door?

JEANA
Gabriel.

Darnell notes her wet clothes.

DARNELL
Spill your drink, Jeana?

Francesca catches up to the trio.

Johnny eyes Francesca in her wet clothes.

Francesca clearly doesn't mind Johnny looking.

JOHNNY
W-what happened to you guys, I mean girls, I mean women?

Francesca appreciates his discomfort, a gentle pat.

Johnny blushes.

DARNELL
What did you do to piss him off this time?

FRANCESCA
We were just practicing our fully-clothed synchronized swimming with Roddy --

JOHNNY
-- Roddy? --

Johnny exits.
JEANA
-- Gabriel caught us --

FRANCESCA
-- and then he trumpeted in that he was going to --

JEANA
-- Look for your ring, Johnny. Johnny?

FRANCESCA
He gave me the eye. And I gave him the eye. He blushed and left.

DARNELL
(Aussie accent)
Fair dinkum?

FRANCESCA
Damn straight.

Jeana and Francesca head upstairs.

Darnell follows Jeana like a whining puppy.

DARNELL
Hey, Jeana... You remember... that favor... you owe me...

JEANA
I can't talk now, Darnell. I'm wet and I want dry clothes!

Jeana rushes ahead.

Darnell stops on the stairs as Francesca passes.

FRANCESCA
Darn it, Darnell... Good luck collecting on that favor.

INT. POOL ROOM

Johnny enters and spots Roddy in the water.


Johnny goes to the pool edge. No waves.

Johnny reaches for Roddy's arm... Roddy grabs Johnny and pulls him in.
RODDY
What's the rule Johnny? Huh, Johnny? You've seen enough movies to know!

Johnny gasps for air.

JOHNNY
Never touch a floater!

RODDY
That's right, big boy.

Roddy pushes Johnny's head under.

RODDY
Now, it's time to find out if fat lover boy can swim.

Johnny gasps for air.

RODDY
Oh my. "Fat lover" sounds a lot like "flubber" to me.

Roddy and Johnny continue to grapple in the pool.

INT. MASTER BEDROOM

Spy-themed music plays while Gabriel pulls a black turtle neck over his head to complete his black ensemble. He's one mean mother.

A SCREAM and loud SPLASH O.S., catches Gabriel's attention. He smirks.

On Gabriel's bed sits a large black case. He coolly strides over to it. Then he smiles as he pulls out a gun.

RODDY (O.S.)
Fat Boy can swim!

Gabriel turns quickly toward the sound.

He cocks the gun. Aims at the camera. Pulls the trigger. Then everything goes black.

INT. POOL ROOM

Roddy hops on Johnny's back pushing him below the water. Johnny spins around and pops back up coughing.

JOHNNY
You're an asshole.
RODDY
Is that why you're always wanting to kiss me?

Roddy puckers his lips and Johnny seems confused. Then it registers with a vengeance. Johnny takes a swing at Roddy.

Roddy twists into the water and swims away. The swing misses him. Johnny follows quickly.

He grabs Roddy's leg but Roddy kicks him away. Roddy's enjoying himself.

Johnny isn't. He takes the matter seriously, a quick burst of speed and he's on Roddy's back. Johnny brings his elbow down hard against Roddy's spine. Roddy screams out but it quickly becomes bubbles under the water.

JOHNNY
(mutters)
I've always wanted to do that.

And he's falling backwards. Roddy has his leg. Roddy pops above the water.

RODDY
That fucking hurt you know!

And he pulls Johnny by his legs. Johnny lies flat back in the water, thrashing. He tries to get leverage but can't.

RODDY
Thought you were better than me, Fat Boy! Well, whose got the upper hand now?

The crotch of Johnny's pants are against Roddy's belly. Johnny tries to take a swing at him but it doesn't work.

Roddy grabs Johnny's pants by the belt. O.S. Jimmy clears his throat. Both turn to look.

JIMMY
What's going on here?

RODDY
Johnny's decided to marry me instead of Cherry. Didn't you Johnny baby?

Johnny glares at him.

JOHNNY
Fuck --
Roddy lifts Johnny's legs and Johnny's head goes below the water before he has a chance to finish.

RODDY
Always thinking about sex.

Johnny splashes about trying to get his head above water.

JIMMY
Let him go.

And Jimmy and Roddy stare down each other. Meanwhile, Johnny isn't yet above water.

Then Roddy relents. He releases Johnny's legs.

RODDY
What the fuck is it with you two?

And he turns away disgusted.

Johnny has caught his breath. He lunges at Roddy.

JOHNNY
Fucking son of a bitch.

Roddy makes a smooth move and Johnny misses him. Johnny splashes into the water with a belly flop. Roddy swims toward the deep end.

Johnny back again he wades toward Roddy.

JIMMY
Johnny!

JOHNNY
I'm gonna fucking kill him.

JIMMY
Let it go.

JOHNNY
But --

JIMMY
He's not worth it.

Johnny thinks about it for a moment. He looks toward Roddy.

JOHNNY
I wouldn't marry you if you were the last man on earth!

Roddy laughs loudly.
Johnny exits the pool.
Roddy treads water and smiles.

RODDY
(to himself)
Priceless.

INT. MANSION - HALLWAY
Johnny storms through the hallway, muttering his revenge.

INT. POOL ROOM
Roddy spies Jimmy still standing at the side of the pool.
Roddy swims over to the side.

RODDY
Come on in the water's fine!

JIMMY
Sometimes you're such a jerk.

RODDY
Because I invited you for a swim?

JIMMY
Grow up.

RODDY
Never!

And Roddy pushes off from the side and backstrokes across the pool. With a big smile, he watches Jimmy shake his head for a moment and then walk off.

Roddy's smile turns serious.

INT. MASTER BEDROOM
Gabriel examines the gun in his hand. A knock on the door startles him.

JEANA (O.S.)
Everything okay in there?

Gabriel runs over to the bed. Another knock.

FRANCESCA (O.S.)
Open the door, Gabriel. It's Francesca.

JEANA (O.S.)
It's Jeana!
Gabriel sticks the gun back in the bag.

FRANCESCA (O.S.)
Francesca!

JEANA (O.S)
Jeana!

He turns to hear muffled arguing through the door. He smiles.

INT. POOL ROOM

Roddy relaxes in the hot tub. He looks completely exhausted.

DARNELL (O.S.)
What have you been doing?

Roddy opens his prankish eyes to see Darnell.

RODDY
Trying to sober up. I've employed hot cold therapy. You wouldn't believe what you can do with the jets in this hot tub.

DARNELL
I don't think I want to know.

Darnell sits on the edge of the tub. He stick his hand in the water swirls it around thoughtfully.

DARNELL
But I did want to ask you something.

RODDY
Shoot.

DARNELL
How much do you think that ring was worth?

RODDY
What ring?

DARNELL
The ripped off ring, Johnny's ring!

RODDY
How the fuck would I know? You should ask Fat Boy - while you're at it give him a kiss from me.
Darnell gives Roddy a "what the fuck" look. Roddy laughs.

RODDY
I was kidding.

Darnell is relieved. But then he stares at Roddy, like he has something to say but he isn't quite sure how to say it. Roddy's suspicious.

RODDY
Why do you want to know about the ring?

Darnell starts to speak, but stutters.

DARNELL
Because I stole it.

Darnell pulls the ring from his pocket. Roddy's eyes go wide.

RODDY
Shit! Man. Never going to change are you?

DARNELL
Like you've changed.

RODDY
I'm at least trying.

DARNELL
Well, I have debts. Bad debts. You wouldn't know anything about those Mister Nine to...

There is a SCUFFLING sound O.S. Darnell pockets the ring.

DARNELL
What was that?

Darnell goes to investigate. Roddy watches, concerned.

INT. LIVING ROOM

Darnell enters the living room and walks smack into Jimmy. They bump heads.

JIMMY
Sorry.

Jimmy's hands are all over Darnell.

DARNELL
It's okay. Really.
JIMMY
It was clumsy of me.

Darnell pulls away.

DARNELL
Not a problem.

Darnell crosses the room and as an afterthought...

DARNELL
That ring, you know, the one that was ripped off. How much do you think that was worth?

JIMMY
Quite a bit, I think. Johnny spent his entire savings on it.

Darnell smiles.

JIMMY
It was devastating to have it stolen. He might never be the same again.

Darnell looks down, thoughtful. Then he turns and exits.

Once Jimmy is sure Darnell is gone, he looks both ways and then opens his closed hand. In his palm is the ring. He gives it a devious grin; then back to Darnell's direction.

INT. POOL ROOM

Cherry enters. Quiet and empty.

She glides along the floor up to pool side.

Her pants accentuate her hips. Her top highlights her waist and breasts. She looks at the water with longing.

Viewed from behind:

-- She wiggles out of the pants. Her well-toned backside covered by form fitting panties.

-- She takes off her top revealing a jogging bra.

-- Her panties and bra fall behind her.

-- The dim pool lights outline Cherry's athletic build as she pauses a moment.

Someone watches from the changing room.
She dives in.
She takes her time before resurfacing.
She circles around the center of the pool in a soft rhythmic motion. She hums softly.
At the end, Cherry achieves a satisfied smile as she immerses herself in the water.

INT. FOYER
Darnell opens the front door.

GABRIEL
Where do you think you're going?

Darnell jerks back as if caught after curfew.

DARNELL
I was going for a drive. Why do you care?

He gazes at Gabriel in his night commando outfit.

DARNELL
Why are you dressed like that?

GABRIEL
Darnell, my boy... We are going to have some fun...

Gabriel puts his arm around the still edgy Darnell and guides him toward the living room.

INT. LIVING ROOM

GABRIEL (O.S.)
(yelling)
Hey everyone! Meeting in the living room!

Jimmy's surprise shows when Gabriel and Darnell enter.

JIMMY
Hey guys. What's up?

Darnell spots Jimmy putting something in his pocket.

DARNELL
Ask Gabriel, man. He has something against me going for a drive. It's not like I was going into your garage --
Francesca and Jeana enter.

FRANCESCA
What's going on?

JEANA
Why the summons?

Jeana looks at Gabriel's outfit.

JEANA
Gabe-inator? Seriously, what's going on?

INT. POOL ROOM

Cherry starts her laps, back and forth, back and forth and recites a little ditty.

CHERRY
Roddy is a joker, Jeana is a bitch, Frances is a girly now, and Johnny lost his ring. Yeah, we're all fucked up.

The water surges as she gets faster and faster.

CHERRY
Jimmy is a prince, Gabriel is an acting goon, Cherry is so damn lost, and Darnell is a dunderhead. Yeah, we're all fucked up.

INT. LIVING ROOM

JIMMY
What's in the bag?

FRANCESCA
Come on. You know you're just dying to tell us so --

JEANA
-- tell us already.

Gabriel holds the bag tightly.

DARNELL
He ain't gonna to tell us. Look at that shit-eating grin.
GABRIEL
Not until everyone is here. We need Johnny, Cherry and Roddy. Wait, that sounds like trouble brewing.

Roddy wanders in.

RODDY
What the fuck is going on here?

Everyone looks to Gabriel as he reaches into the bag and pulls out a --

GUN
He points it at Roddy.

Roddy gulps.

The rest of the gang appears stunned.

Gabriel waits a moment.

RODDY
Look, Gabriel. I apologize. I --

DARNELL
-- Give him a chance, man.

Roddy tenses.

Gabriel pulls the trigger.

CLICK.

A dark stain appears on Roddy's crotch. Roddy examines himself; his 'painted' fingers rise.

RODDY
Fuck you, asshole!

Darnell slumps into a chair.

DARNELL
A paint ball gun. It was just a paint ball gun.

A murmur of relief escapes from the gang.

RODDY
I am going to kill you.

Roddy lunges for Gabriel.
Gabriel easily sidesteps Roddy.

**GABRIEL**
I take it I have one recruit for paintball?

**RODDY**
Johnny Boy and Cherry don't know yet?

Gabriel shakes his head.

**RODDY**
I am so in. Gabriel, you're still on my list.

Gabriel nods.

Gabriel tosses them each a bag:

**JIMMY**
Me want gun. Me like see Big Chief Gabriel make squaw piss her pants.

**RODDY**
You just made the list, buddy.

**FRANCESCA**
Boys and their guns. Is there one that doesn't shoot piss balls?

**RODDY**
Very funny, Francy. You just made the short list.

**FRANCESCA**
Talking from experience, short stuff?

**JEANA**
I want one that shoots metal pellets, got any of those?

**DARNELL**
I worry about you, Jeana. I really do.

**GABRIEL**
Enough yapping. Go get dressed. Quick. I'll leave a bag for Johnny and Cherry in their rooms.
(as if announcing a wrestling match on TV)
It's time for paintball!
INT. POOL ROOM

Cherry slows her laps down. She's puffing. She floats on her back, closes her eyes... at peace.

Click. The lights go on.

Cherry opens her eyes.

Everyone is dressed as bad mothers -- six shooters, six guns -- pointing at her.

Cherry screams.

Johnny bursts in from his hiding place in the changing room.

His pants are down around his ankles.

He hyperventilates as he looks around the pool.

    RODDY
    (looking at Johnny and Cherry)
    Dear Penthouse, I never thought this would happen to me...

INT. POOL ROOM

Everyone except Cherry points their guns at Johnny. Johnny screams -- it sounds like when Cherry screamed.

Gabriel raises his gun

    GABRIEL
    To the maze, and beyond!

    RODDY
    (to Johnny)
    You, you fat masturbating motherfucker, get your gear and gun and come on!
    (to Cherry)
    You, you sensual lovely woman, get your gear and gun and come on!
    (to Darnell)
    Was that too harsh?

Darnell starts to speak.

    RODDY
    Fuck it, lets go!

Johnny doesn't move.
RODDY
I said lets go, Fat Boy!

Roddy shoots Johnny in the foot.

JOHNNY
Ow! What the hell?!

Roddy runs off, the others except for Cherry follow. Johnny stops to chase a few seconds after, puffed.

JOHNNY
If I was slightly more fit... I would... boy, I would...

Cherry stands behind him, clothed.

She and Johnny lock eyes for a second -- connected -- they rush out of the room.

EXT. MAZE - NIGHT

A huge hedge maze goes off into the distance.

BAM, Roddy sprints left, BAM, Gabriel right. Jeana follows Gabriel.

BAM BAM BAM. Darnell, Francesca and Jimmy shoot off in different directions.

Suddenly, silence. In a different part of the maze, Jeana walks with Gabriel.

GABRIEL
I was expecting the other two to get involved, but oh well. This is still going to look amazing on camera.

Gabriel points out a few cameras with his gun.

Jeana smiles.

JEANA
You, dear Gabriel, really are a mystery.

Gabriel smiles.

INT. GUEST BEDROOM (CHERRY'S)

Cherry rushes to squeeze into the paintball gear.
INT. GUEST BEDROOM (JOHNNY'S)

Johnny is geared up. He grabs a gun on the bed -- checks it. Locked and loaded.

EXT. MAZE

GABRIEL
I'm, me, a mystery?! If anything --

FRANCESCA (O.S.)
Cameras? Are you serious?

Jeana and Gabriel spin to Francesca standing there.

Gabriel laughs, the actor kicking in.

GABRIEL
Um, what?

FRANCESCA
You just mentioned cameras. Are they for security? Or something else?

GABRIEL
Security obviously. Why else?

Francesca walks in Gabriel's face.

FRANCESCA
Don't fuck with me, Gabriel.

Gabriel looks to Jeana for support.

JEANA
Frances - Francesca --

FRANCESCA
Jeana, don't. Gabriel, if you're creating conflict in this house just for the sake of filming it, that's not right. We came here for a relaxing, fun weekend. We trusted you Gabriel. You let us all down.

GABRIEL
They are just security!

Francesca stares at Gabriel. Pause.

FRANCESCA
Whatever, I don't want to play this stupid game anyway...
Francesca turns around, walks away.

BANG. Gabriel shoots a paintball into Francesca's back.

Francesca spins around, raises her gun.

GABRIEL
Go-Go-Go!

Gabriel and Jeana sprint off, Francesca follows. She's mad!

In another part of the maze, Roddy slinks around a corner. He brings his wrist to his mouth.

RODDY
(into wrist)
Bravo bravo, charlie, roger, roger.
What's your position, over, under, through and out.

EXT. MAZE

Darnell huffs and puffs as he plods down the bushy path. He's covered in splotches of paint. Roddy's voice blares from his headset.

RODDY (V.O.)
Wilco Roger alpha alpha ten four twenty, you there?

Darnell stops. Sniffs.

He bends down and eyes a small weedy looking bush.

DARNELL
Gabriel! You naughty beautiful man, you.

And he starts picking buds from the bush. His headset blares.

RODDY (V.O.)
Darnell! Dammit, where the hell are you?

DARNELL
Right here, man.

RODDY (V.O.)
Why didn't you answer. I've been calling?
DARNELL
The fuck you have! You've been
going on and on about some guy
named Roger. Anyway, I gotta go.
I'm busy.

Darnell takes his headset off and throws it to the side. He
smells one of the buds he picked and smiles sweetly.

EXT. MAZE

Roddy calls Darnell's name as he taps the ear piece on his
headset. He turns a corner... Only to find himself looking
down a gun barrel. Johnny holds the gun and he sports the
biggest Cheshire smile ever seen. Roddy instinctively raises
his hands.

JOHNNY
I got you now, you son of a bitch.

Roddy backs up but Johnny matches pace.

RODDY
Johnny! What a surprise.
(into mic)
Darnell! Could use some backup!
Darnell!
(pause)
Shit!

JOHNNY
What's the matter? Did your butt
buddy Darnell switch teams?

RODDY
Heh. Heh. That's very funny Fat...

JOHNNY
Boy?

RODDY
Now Johnny you know I call you that
because...

JOHNNY
Say it!

RODDY
Johnny.

JOHNNY
Fucking say it!
RODDY
Alright Fat --

CHERRY (O.S.)
Boy! Fat Boy!

They turn toward Cherry's voice. Cherry has her gun pointed at Johnny. Johnny and Roddy seem embarrassed. Johnny lowers his gun.

CHERRY
Everyone used to call you that. It was your nickname.

JOHNNY
But I'm not fat anymore.

RODDY
Yeah, you are --

Cherry aims at Roddy both with the gun and her eyes.

RODDY
-- not fat.

CHERRY
No matter what they call you Johnny. There's one thing you can be sure of. We all love you.

Johnny goes starry eyed. He takes a step toward Cherry.

JOHNNY
Even you?

Cherry is uncertain how to answer. Neither pay attention to Roddy and he takes the opportunity to escape. Then Cherry spots him.

CHERRY
Roddy. He's getting away --

But Johnny doesn't care.

JOHNNY
Do you? Do you love me?

CHERRY
Yes, Johnny I love you.

Johnny looks over the moon. Cherry bites her lip.

CHERRY
But not that way.
And she dashes off after Roddy.

CHERRY
I'm gonna get you Roddy.

Johnny deflate. His gun drops to the ground, and so does he.

EXT. MAZE

Jimmy turns a corner. He aims his gun into the distance; then with concern, lowers it.

Johnny's on the ground, crying. Jimmy approaches.

JIMMY
Hey. What's wrong?

Johnny wipes his eyes but still sobs.

JOHNNY
I'm such an idiot. How could I think she could ever love a fat slob like me?

JIMMY
Cherry?

Johnny nods. Jimmy is sympathetic.

JOHNNY
She loves you though.

Jimmy shrugs.

JIMMY
Hey. I got something I'm sure is going to cheer you up.

Jimmy pulls the ring from his pocket. It sparkles in front of Johnny's eyes. Johnny is shocked.

JIMMY
You'll never guess who --

JOHNNY
You mother fucking son of a bitch!

Johnny stands full of anger.

JIMMY
No! Wait! You don't --
JOHNNY
You goddamn bastard!

The sound of Johnny's 'bastard' echoes through the maze.

EXT. MAZE

Darnell sits on the ground sniffing a bud when he hears the echo. He gives it no more than a moment's thought then returns to his precious.

EXT. MAZE

Cherry chases Roddy down a path. They both laugh.

The echo catches Cherry's attention. She stops and turns in the direction of Johnny's voice.

Roddy tackles her. Then he lies on top of her, laughing as she struggles to free herself.

EXT. MAZE

Johnny lunges at Jimmy. But Jimmy hops out of the way. Johnny falls to the ground, his gun lies near him. He eyes it.

JIMMY
I didn't steal it, you idiot.

Johnny winces.

JOHNNY
Bullshit!

Johnny rolls over, his gun in his hand. He aims at Jimmy. Jimmy aims back.

JOHNNY
All this time, you've been playing me. Haven't you?

Jimmy looks sad.

EXT. MAZE (BY FRANCESCA)

Gabriel and Jeana scoot away from Francesca.

Francesca chases them for a few seconds, then stops, puffing.

FRANCESCA
Argh!

Francesca shoots the closest camera.
She turns round a corner, straight into Darnell.

FRANCESCA
Darnell, thank God. I need your help.

DARNELL
Yeah man, WO-man, let's do it, let's hang out or something...

FRANCESCA
See those cameras? Shoot them with your gun.

Darnell shoots at a camera which Francesca just shot.

FRANCESCA
No, you idiot, the ones that haven't been shot at yet.

Darnell shoots at another camera... misses it completely.

FRANCESCA
Useless...

Francesca motions to Darnell to follow. She runs off.

EXT. MAZE (BY JOHNNY AND JIMMY)

Jimmy points his gun at Johnny's face. Johnny points his gun straight back at Jimmy.

JIMMY
It was just one night, man. One awesome night. Then once we came here, it brought it all back.

JOHNNY
What happened to bro's before ho's? Mates before dates?

JIMMY
Yeah, that was in grade five. When we all thought girls had AIDS and stuff. It's different now man, I think you've been watching too much of the Big Bang Theory.

JOHNNY
I love that show! Don't bag out that show!

Jimmy hands his gun to Johnny.
JIMMY
Take it man. I love that show too.

Johnny grabs Jimmy's gun, points it at Jimmy's crotch.

JIMMY
Oh, come on.

JOHNNY
I need to do this.

Jimmy puts his hands over his crotch.

JIMMY
Um, no you don't!

JOHNNY
Yes, I do. Move your damn hands.

Jimmy sighs, removes his hands.

Johnny's about to shoot, when Francesca and Darnell come around the corner.

FRANCESCA
Thank God I found you two -- what the hell? What's all this about?

Johnny lowers his gun... sighs.

JOHNNY
Nothing. Where are the others?

FRANCESCA
Dunno. But we need to get Gabriel back.

JIMMY
Get him back? Why? How?

Francesca puts her arms around Jimmy and Johnny. They disappear into the maze.

FRANCESCA
Follow me and see, boys...

EXT. MAZE (BY RODDY AND CHERRY)

Roddy and Cherry continue to wrestle and laugh. They get close... and kiss.

RODDY
Do you remember... when... you know?
Cherry thinks for a second... bursts out laughing.

Francesca, Darnell, Johnny and Jimmy stop as a group a few feet away from the couple.

JOHNNY
I should have shot you all in the damn crotch.

Roddy and Cherry hear this, and stand up.

Francesca aims her gun at Cherry. Cherry seems taken aback.

Francesca shoots... hits a camera.

FRANCESCA
Guys, Gabriel's been filming this whole game... and probably the whole weekend, for a stupid TV show he's making.

Pause.

RODDY
You serious?

CHERRY
What the hell?!

Francesca nods.

FRANCESCA
So, the question is now... are you ready to get him back?

Everyone agrees. Francesca grins.

FRANCESCA
Roddy, you got some more of that paint you're wearing?

EXT. MAZE - CENTER TOWER (BY GABRIEL AND JEANA)

Gabriel and Jeana look down on the maze from above. A "security" camera is in plain view.

GABRIEL
The lighting could be better in the day, but I like the night --

FRANCESCA (O.S.)
Hey Gabriel!
Gabriel and Jeana turn to the sound; then Gabriel looks at the security camera. He sees the rest of the group with their pants around their ankles, turned away — exposing the gang as they moon Gabriel — his name painted on their six pair of butt cheeks:

"(GA) (BR) (IE) (L S) (UC) (KS)"

Gabriel bends over as if in pain.

GABRIEL

Shit!

Jeana runs to him.

JEANA

What's wrong?

Then she glances at the monitor. She chuckles.

GABRIEL

It isn't funny! They all know!

JEANA

So what? We already have enough footage for ten shows.

GABRIEL

Which aren't going anywhere without an end. And I thought I could convince them once it was done. And I had such a finale prepared! Dammit.

JEANA

Gabriel, you know that some times things don't happen when and where you expect them to. Sometimes there's surprises. Like in poker. Sometimes you have a good hand, sometimes it's bad. Most of the time it's not going to win. That's just life.

GABRIEL

Leave it to you to go all philosophical on me.

JEANA

Well I'm right, aren't I?

Gabriel stares at her for a long moment.
GABRIEL
No.

JEANA
No?

GABRIEL
No. Because you didn't figure in the Gabriel factor.

JEANA
The Gabriel factor?!

Gabriel stands.

GABRIEL
They may think they have an unbeatable flush. But I haven't played all my cards yet.

EXT. MAZE (BY RODDY AND CHERRY)

The six mooners give each other a great high five while they ad lib about how good it was to get Gabriel.

Everyone is giving each other hugs. But when Cherry goes to hug Johnny, there's an awkward moment.

Darnell hugs Francesca. He looks concerned.

DARNELL
You think he taped everything?

FRANCESCA
Yes.

Darnell seems distraught. He pushes Francesca away.

DARNELL
All the rooms. Even Johnny's?

Loud enough to catch everyone's attention, especially Jimmy and Roddy.

FRANCESCA
I'm sure he did.

Darnell wrings his hands.

DARNELL
I got to go.

And he turns to leave but Jimmy runs to meet him.
JIMMY
Whoa! Darnell buddy. Where you going?

DARNELL
I have to see a man about a --

GABRIEL (O.S.)
This game is not yet over!

Everyone turns, confused, they try to locate the voice.

RODDY
It's Gabriel.

Everyone ad libs boos and hisses at the disembodied Gabriel.

GABRIEL (O.S.)
Silence!

CHERRY
Where's it coming from?

RODDY
I would say the middle of the maze.

Roddy and Cherry head off.

GABRIEL (O.S.)
I am the great and powerful Gabriel!

JIMMY
Looks like there's still a bit of fun left.

DARNELL
Yeah, shame I have to go.

JIMMY
Well, you can't miss this. Nothing could be that important.

And Jimmy takes the reluctant but obliging Darnell by the arm and leads him into the maze.

GABRIEL (O.S.)
The beneficent Gabriel has every intention of granting your requests.

Francesca looks toward the centre of the maze and smiles. Then she looks at Johnny. He's looking down, kicking stones with his feet.
FRANCESCA
Come on. Let's go.

Johnny shakes his head.

FRANCESCA
Oh! Come on. There must be something you want from the beneficent Gabriel -- revenge?

Johnny shakes his head.

FRANCESCA
Cherry. You want Cherry, right?

Johnny shrugs.

FRANCESCA
Well, maybe we could do something about that as well.

Johnny looks at Francesca and smiles.

FRANCESCA
That a boy. Come on.

And she runs off into the maze.

Johnny follows.

EXT. MAZE - CENTRE TOWER

Gabriel sits in front of a microphone, Jeana stands behind him with perplexed look on her face.

GABRIEL
Bring me the broomstick of the Witch of the west!

PING! PING! PING!

Paint balls hit the side of the tower. It's under siege.

Gabriel panics.

GABRIEL
Pay no attention to the man in the tower!

PING! PING! PING!

Gabriel throws a number of switches and dials.
PING! PING! PING!

Ad lib shouts from outside calling for Gabriel's head.

GABRIEL
I am the great and powerful
Gabriel!

Then he gives up, exasperated.

PING! PING! PING!

He looks at Jeana, pleading.

JEANA
Let me get this straight, that was
your final card? Quoting lines from
the Wizard of Oz?

PING! PING! PING!

GABRIEL
So it wasn't a great hand, I was
fuckin' bluffing. I'm an actor,
that's what I do.

JEANA
You're on your own.

She turns and starts to walk out.

PING! PING! PING!

GABRIEL
So you know how many times I wanted
to say that to you when we were in
school?

Jeana stops.

GABRIEL
But I didn't and you know why?

Jeana turns, she knows why.

PING! PING! PING!

JEANA
Give me the mic.

Gabriel does.

JEANA
Okay people, listen up.
The noise outside stops.

JEANA
The game is over.

Some disappointed "awww's" from outside. Then a stray PING.

JEANA
It's over, got it?

Quiet.

JEANA
Good! I want you all cleaned up. And afterward we meet in the living room for a discussion of tonight's events.

RODDY (O.S.)
We want Gabriel!

Some "yeahs" of agreement from outside.

JEANA
You can have him in the living room, after you're cleaned up. That is all.

Gabriel looks at Jeana in awe.

GABRIEL
You think they'll calm down?

Jeana nods.

JEANA
As long as you do exactly as I tell you.

Gabriel is interested.

JEANA
How convincing are your tears?

INT. LIVING ROOM

The gang waits for Jeana and Gabriel.

Francesca wipes off some paint from Johnny's face.

Johnny blushes yet his eyes hold with Francesca's --
JIMMY
I just don’t like being filmed for any reason. Creepy.

JOHNNY
Why? Afraid of the toilet cam?

JIMMY
I was thinking of the pool cam when you were caught with your pants down.

Anger simmers in Johnny's eyes.

CHERRY
Pool cam?

Cherry's face turns pale. Then anger comes to town.

Darnell snorts coke in the corner. He relaxes in his chair as his face takes on a serene look.

DARNELL
I really don't care about who pissed who off. Just as long as I get my cut. Preferably in cash this weekend.

Roddy reacts to Darnell's mention of cash and wants to ask Darnell a question but --

Cherry strides over to Darnell and spins his chair so they face each other.

CHERRY
This is serious Darnell! Gabriel breaks our trust so he can make a reality show? And all you can do is whine about getting your cut. You're no different than in high school. You didn't give a shit about any of us then and you don't give a shit now.

Darnell is speechless.

CHERRY
You're a loser!

Cherry looks for another target --

RODDY
If anyone here is still a loser, it's your fiancé, Johnny.
Before Cherry reacts, Francesca pushes Johnny back and jumps into the fray.

FRANCESCA
Everyone's a loser except you
Roddy?! Is that it? Who's the big jock who still acts like he's seventeen?

RODDY
Oh shut up. Francesca. Frances. Whatever the hell you are. You're just another man trying to hide from the past.

Francesca slaps Roddy.

Roddy moves to strike back when Jimmy grabs his arm.

JIMMY
Roddy.

Roddy shrugs Jimmy's hand off.

Francesca cries as Jimmy comforts her.

Roddy's face drains of emotion.

Johnny looks jealously at Jimmy then gives a death ray look to Roddy.

Gabriel strolls in. All eyes center on him. Jeana follows and hides in his shadow.

GABRIEL
(as Bobby De Niro)
You wanna piece of me? Huh?

Gabriel assumes a boxer's pose and shuffles around a bit.

The gang clamors for Gabriel to explain about the cameras.

Jimmy quiets the gang.

JIMMY
Gabriel, we were discussing what you were thinking when you invited us -- your friends -- to the reunion?

GABRIEL
Jimmy, always the peace maker, eh?
JIMMY
Call it a character flaw.

GABRIEL
Except you use it to befriend
people who are down and vulnerable.

JIMMY
What? At least I am not a scared
little boy hiding behind an actor's
façade.

GABRIEL
Anything else?

Everyone shouts at each other, their complaints overlap.

JOHNNY
-- Asshole!

DARNELL
-- What's my cut?

CHERRY
-- We trusted you!

FRANCESCA
-- How could you do this?!

Jeana nods slightly at Gabriel.

Gabriel picks up a vase and hurls it at the wall.

SMASH!

In the silence that follows, Gabriel cries.

GABRIEL
I'm out of money. I'm in debt up to
my hairline...

CHERRY
How can that be? Big expensive
mansion. I don't get it.

Everyone hangs on his next words.

GABRIEL
I made millions and spent millions.
A few bad decisions along the way.
Knowing Bernie Madoff didn't help.
And quite simply, scripts don't
come my way anymore.
Gabriel sobs a bit more. Desperation on his face.

GABRIEL
Then I had this idea for a reality show I could produce and make some money. But it had to a genuine bunch of dysfunctional friends. And I tell each of you as my friends...

Gabriel looks up at each of his friends with tears in his eyes. Jeana wears a concerned mask. Are the tears real?

GABRIEL
I am sorry.

INT. LIVING ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Gabriel's head is hung as he toys with a shard of broken Ming, finally casting it off like yesterday.

Jeana notes the others gazing blankly out the window or at some nameless spot on the ceiling.

Jeana secretly pulls something from her pocket, and places it in Gabriel's hand. Her hands hug his for a moment.

He looks at her, and she, at him.

JEANA
Gabriel, this isn't the end. It's just the beginning.

Francesca turns and looks disgusted.

Gabriel tucks it in his pocket.

GABRIEL
Can I do this? Is it right?

JEANA
You were always there for me, Gabriel. And how do we ever know what's right except --

Francesca stands up. Sick of them both.

FRANCESCA
I'm going to bed. Maybe I can dream you both out of my life forever.

Johnny doesn't feel so harsh and stands up, with the look of forgiveness on his face.
JOHNNY
I'm sorry, Gabriel, Jeana. She never meant it.

Gabriel and Jeana stare searchingly...

GABRIEL
Maybe.

Johnny walks off.

Roddy breaks the silence with a melody from something.

RODDY
Let's play 'Name That Tune'. They're just a bunch of party poopers. Come on the night is young. Name that tune!

GABRIEL
The tune is, it's getting late and I think maybe we should all go to bed.

RODDY
Oh come on Gabe, don't cave now.

GABRIEL
No really. It's late.

Everyone except Roddy and Darnell head upstairs.

INT. GUEST WING

Francesca and Johnny stand outside Johnny's room.

FRANCESCA
Thanks for being there for me. She gives him a kiss.

JOHNNY
I'd like to be there more.

He gives her a kiss. She smiles and turns to her room.

Johnny watches her walk back. The quiet dissolves as Jeana, Jimmy and Cherry appear.

Johnny hurries into his room as if to hide.
INT. GUEST ROOM (JOHNNY'S)

Johnny shuts his door. He leans his back against it, holding onto the door frame for dear life like his world is spinning and he doesn't want to fall off.

INT. GUEST WING

Jeana has apparently forgotten something. She turns back.

Cherry and Jimmy are at the door to their respective rooms. Cherry eyes Jimmy and calls to him. He stops at his door. Cherry saunters over.

CHERRY
Jimmy, you know what we could do --

JIMMY
You, could do. I have a headache.

He enters his room and shuts the door in Cherry's face.

She stands there in cold shock.

INT. LIVING ROOM

Darnell draws out the coke.

DARNELL
Want some?

RODDY
Sure, why not.

DARNELL
My drug man. He might put a bullet in my head anytime.

RODDY
How much do you owe?

DARNELL
Too much, but if I just make a payment, it'll keep him happy enough to maybe just wanna break my arm.

INT. MASTER BEDROOM - OUTSIDE

Jeana knocks on the door. Gabriel opens it.

JEANA
Did you do it?
Gabriel smiles.
She pushes him inside his room and closes the door.

INT. GUEST WING

Johnny exits his room and looks both ways. He tiptoes across the hall to Francesca's room. He knocks on the door.

INT. GUEST BEDROOM (FRANCESCA'S)

Francesca opens. She holds her sheer robe tight at the neck.

    FRANCESCA
    What do you think?

    JOHNNY
    I- I thought that I think that there, then, this...

    FRANCESCA
    Did you come just to stutter?

Johnny leans in and kisses her. A real kiss. She responds as they fall into the room, closing the door behind.

INT. LIVING ROOM

Roddy holds out a grand to Darnell.

    RODDY
    Would this help?

    DARNELL
    You serious? Not a joke?

Roddy nods.

    RODDY
    You've always been my best bud.

Darnell gives Roddy a huge man kiss. The money flies. They both fall off the couch.

    RODDY
    Man, I think that's the second time you've planted those rosy red lips on my face! Just back off a bit, hey!

Darnell laughs.

    DARNELL
    You know I'm just happy, man.
RODDY
What are best buds for!

Darnell looks at Roddy, tilts his head.

DARNELL
Awww, come here...

Darnell moves in for another kiss on Roddy. Roddy puts his hands up to stop Darnell. They both laugh.

INT. LIVING ROOM - LATER

Several bottles of empty beers are scattered on the table.

Roddy and Darnell lie on the floor, completely plastered.

INT. GUEST WING

Cherry waits outside Jimmy's door and reaches up to knock but pulls her arm back when she hears voices from the living room.

She walks toward the voices.

INT. GUEST BEDROOM (JIMMY'S)

Jimmy tosses and turns.

EXT. MAZE - FLASHBACK

Jimmy walks around a corner of the maze. Roddy and Cherry kiss. They stop when they see Jimmy.

Cherry giggles, and kisses Roddy again.

BACK TO SCENE

INT. LIVING ROOM

Darnell is on top of Roddy. Roddy moves beneath him.

Cherry enters and let's out a surprise squeak.

CHERRY
Sorry.

She turns to leave.

RODDY
Cherry? Cherry is that you?

CHERRY
Uh, yes?
RODDY
Thank God. I need help. Darnell passed out. I can't get him off me.

Cherry laughs. She goes over to provide assistance.

CHERRY
I remember a time when you used to say that about the girls.

RODDY
Well times change, we get older.

Cherry grabs Darnell's arms and heaves.

CHERRY
You don't need to remind me of that.

RODDY
You look great. I certainly wouldn't kick you out of bed for eating crackers.

With Cherry's help Darnell's removed from Roddy.

CHERRY
No. You're just trying to get me there in the first place.

Roddy sits up and helps push Darnell onto the couch. This concerted effort leaves them close together.

RODDY
And if I was, would I succeed?

CHERRY
Stranger things have happened, Mr. Burner man. Stranger things have happened.

Cherry pulls away and looks around.

CHERRY
But first you would have to tell me something.

RODDY
You aren't going to make me play truth or dare again? Are you?

CHERRY
No.
Roddy breathes a sigh of relief.

CHERRY
But I was just wondering why
there's money all over the floor?

INT. GUEST BEDROOM (FRANCESCA'S)

Johnny lies shirtless. Francesca lies with her head on his chest. They both smile.

FRANCESCA
It started in high school.

JOHNNY
What did?

FRANCESCA
My crush, on you. Then this weekend it all came back.

JOHNNY
You had a crush on me in high school?

Francesca nods.

JOHNNY
I wish you had told me.

FRANCESCA
It wouldn't have done much good.

JOHNNY
No. I suppose not. No way was I gay.

FRANCESCA
And neither was I.

Johnny pauses a moment, then nervously.

JOHNNY
Am I gay now?

Francesca laughs.

FRANCESCA
No, silly. And I'm not either.

JOHNNY
Oh, good. For a moment there...
FRANCESCA
And you don't suddenly decide you are, either.

JOHNNY
Yes, ma'am.

Francesca beams. She gives him a big kiss.

JOHNNY
What was that for?

FRANCESCA
You called me ma'am.

She puts her head back down on his chest.

INT. MASTER BEDROOM - OUTSIDE

Jeana leaves the bedroom, her head held low. She takes a few steps then she turns back toward the door.

INT. MASTER BEDROOM - FLASHBACK

Jeana enters the room. She throws her arms around Gabriel. Pushes him back into the room with a big wet kiss. Gabriel resists. He pushes away.

GABRIEL
Whoa! What's this about?

JEANA
A reward for a job well done.

She presses against him again. Kissing him hard, pushing both of them onto the bed, her on top. Gabriel gives up the fight.

BACK TO SCENE

Jeana walks past the living room. She looks in. Darnell snores away on the couch. A pile of cash sits on the table in front of him.

INT. MASTER BEDROOM - FLASHBACK

Gabriel is resisting again. He pushes Jeana off of him. Jeana is pissed off.

JEANA
You know, I don't get you?

GABRIEL
You. Don't get, me?
JEANA
I was the one who got you out of trouble. Without me you wouldn't have the show. Without me you wouldn't be able keep the house.

GABRIEL
Thank you, but what am I supposed to do now, give you a thank you fuck?

That pushed her over the edge.

JEANA
A thank you fuck! I'm the one making the concession here. Out of the goddamn goodness of my heart. I was going to give you a congratulations fuck, but after the way you're acting I don't think that I will!

Gabriel sighs.

BACK TO SCENE

INT. GUEST WING

Jeana sighs. She walks down the hallway past the guest bedroom doors.

A grunt from inside of one of them, then a moan. She moves her ear closer to hear Roddy's voice.

RODDY (O.S.)
Oh yeah baby, move that ass.

Jeana pulls her ear away. She spins around 180 degrees, a disgusted look graces her face.

INT. MASTER BEDROOM - FLASHBACK

Jeana shoots a pained look at Gabriel. Gabriel looks back at her sternly.

GABRIEL
You've done this before. Thrown yourself at me. Has it ever worked? Once?

Jeana thinks. It's obvious she doesn't want to go there. She shakes her head.
GABRIEL
There's a reason, Jeana. There's a reason it doesn't work. What's the reason?

This is obviously hard for her. Tears glow in her eyes.

JEANA
I don't know.

GABRIEL
Think.

JEANA
You wanted to be a virgin.

GABRIEL
That's what I told everyone. Everyone except you. I confided in you Jeana and you don't even seem to remember it.

JEANA
I'm sorry. I should remember - I really should. But then Mom died and - flowers - casket - mourners - crowds of mourners - all of them touching me...

Jeana stares at the invisible objects with fear, swipes at their touches with her hands.

Gabriel, with a slight look of regret, crosses and holds her in his arms. At first she resists then she falls into them. Her tears flow freely now.

GABRIEL
This will be our secret.

BACK TO SCENE

EXT. MANSION - FRONT

Jeana is at the front door. She exits, leaving it open. She crosses the front lawn without stopping.

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

Empty beer bottles and a barren coke bag sit on the coffee table.

Darnell lies on the couch, drool running from his mouth. He opens his eyelids with difficulty. He sits up slowly and touches his forehead.
Darnell's eyes focus on the money and he grins. He struggles to his feet then holds up the wad, kisses it, and stuffs it in his pockets.

Darnell paces the room and checks the wall clock. It's early.

INT. GUEST WING

Darnell steps into the empty hallway.

INT. FOYER

Darnell tiptoes as he approaches the front door. He peers behind him.

A guilty grimace crosses his face.

Then he smiles and does a 360 degree spin popping an imaginary hat from his head to his waiting hand.

He exits.

INT. GUEST BEDROOM (CHERRY'S)

Eyes shut Cherry rests in the bed with a serene glow on her face. Her eyelids open and flutter close. She rolls over to reveal a man's back facing her.

Cherry snuggles in, smiles and enjoys the moment.

RODDY

Mm.

CHERRY

Mm.

RODDY

What do you say we split?

Cherry sits upright clutching the sheet to her chest.

CHERRY

What?

RODDY

You know, get out of here. Why?

Cherry chokes on a nervous laugh.

RODDY

What did you think I was talking about?
CHERRY
Split. Break up. Boyfriend and girlfriend stuff.

Roddy sits up while the sheets fall away from his six pack abs and his boxers.

He embraces her.

RODDY
No, not at all. I just wanted to get away from here. I mean, I've had enough of the total drama action of this place.

She gazes thoughtfully.

CHERRY
What about the others?

RODDY
They can get their own ride.

CHERRY
Fresh air does sound good.

INT. GUEST BEDROOM (JIMMY'S)
Jimmy sits up in the bed. Sunlight shines in his eyes and checks his watch on the night stand. It's early.

Jimmy quickly gets out of bed and hurries to the shower.

He packs and rushes to the door.

INT. GUEST WING
Roddy partially dressed steps into the hallway with Cherry, wrapped in the bed sheet, kissing him. Jimmy steps into the hallway. Jimmy drops his bag and slides it in front of Roddy.

Roddy stumbles over the bag.

JIMMY
Oh great, just what I was hoping to see. Roddy always gets the girl.

Roddy steps toward Jimmy. Cherry moves as if to throw herself between the two men. Roddy reaches out and stops her.

RODDY
Anything you have to say Jimmy?
JIMMY
Like speak now or hold your peace?

Jimmy sizes up Roddy. Then he looks at Cherry.

JIMMY
Are you two a couple?

RODDY
(in unison with Cherry)
Yes.

CHERRY
Yes.

Jimmy hugs them.

He picks up his bag and strolls down the hallway.

RODDY
Strange but very...

CHERRY
Jimmy.

RODDY
Yeah.

Roddy stares down the hallway, shakes his head while running a hand through his hair.

CHERRY
Hurry up Burner man or you'll have to catch me all over again.

RODDY
A quick shower and we're gone.

Cherry flashes Roddy a little peek at her backside and a wide smile. She disappears into her room.

Roddy hurries to his room.

INT. GUEST BEDROOM (FRANCESCA'S)

Johnny slumbers in bed.

He opens his eyes. Francesca lies awake next to him.

He rolls out of bed and freaks out.

JOHNNY
I kissed you first, right?
Francesca watches Johnny pace and grins.

    FRANCESCA
        You did more than that slugger.
Johnny blushes but stands taller with a "yeah I did that" grin.

    JOHNNY
        My mom and dad are going to freak.
Francesca coughs mid laugh.

    FRANCESCA
        What?

    JOHNNY
        I know, go slow. Right?

    FRANCESCA
        Yes. Didn't you learn anything this weekend?

    JOHNNY
        Yes I did.
Johnny kisses Francesca.

    JOHNNY
        Come on. Let's get out of here.

INT. GUEST WING

Johnny and Francesca stand in the hallway and note the doors to the other guest rooms are open and obviously vacated.

    JOHNNY
        Looks like everyone is gone.

Francesca has a concerned look on her face.

    FRANCESCA
        Should we say goodbye to Gabriel? Maybe I was too rude?
Johnny pushes her towards the foyer.

    JOHNNY
        No. I've had enough of Gabriel too. Besides, Jeana's with him and I sure don't need that this morning.

    FRANCESCA
        I suppose. Still...
JOHNNY
We can call later. Easier, ya know?

INT. FOYER
Johnny holds the door for Francesca.

FRANCESCA
I could get used to this.

Johnny quickly checks his pocket for the ring. Relief. It's there.

He holds the ring up to the sun. The diamond catches the light and sparkles.

JOHNNY
Me too.

INT. MASTER BEDROOM
Gabriel rubs his head as he wakes. He schluffs to the door.

INT. KITCHEN
Gabriel grabs himself a coffee. He glances around. Something is wrong. It's way too quiet.

INT. GUEST WING
Gabriel opens one of the guest doors. The room is empty.

He opens another. It's empty as well.

GABRIEL
Hello!

No answer. Gabriel opens another door. Empty.

GABRIEL
Where'd they all go?

Gabriel rushes down the hall.

INT. POOL ROOM
Gabriel enters, no one is there.

EXT. MAZE
Gabriel walks the maze.
GABRIEL

Hello?

INT. LIVING ROOM

The room is a mess but no one's in it. Gabriel sits on the couch. He looks a bit thoughtful.

GABRIEL

They didn't sign releases.

Then alarmed.

GABRIEL

Shit! They didn't sign releases!

He stands and rushes out of the room.

INT. MASTER BEDROOM

Gabriel opens drawers pulling out the contents.

GABRIEL

Where'd I put them?

He scans the room. His eyes rest on his bed stand. A small package sits there.

INT. LIVING ROOM - FLASHBACK

Jeana secretly pulls a small package from her pocket, and places it in Gabriel's hand. Her hands hug his for a moment.

He looks at her, and she, at him.

JEANA

Gabriel, this isn't the end. It's just the beginning.

Francesca turns and looks disgusted.

Gabriel tucks it in his pocket.

BACK TO SCENE

Gabriel lifts the package from his bed stand. He shakes it next to his ear, something jiggles inside. He moves it away from his ear with surprise.

Then with a guilty look he tears into it, unwrapping it quickly. It's a box.

He opens the box and inside is a key. He looks at it quizzically.
BEGIN MONTAGE

Gabriel tries the key in his bedroom door, it doesn't fit.

Gabriel tries the key in several other doors, it doesn't fit.

Gabriel stands in the living room. He does a 360, pointing the with the key like an invisible magnet might pull it.

END MONTAGE

INT. LIVING ROOM

GABRIEL

Where is it, Jeana?

INT. FOYER - MOMENTS LATER

Gabriel looks around, out of ideas. Then he opens the front door and steps outside.

EXT. MANSION - FRONT

There is only one vehicle in the driveway. The RV. Gabriel glances at the key, then back to the RV. He heads toward it.

AT THE RV

Gabriel tries the door. It's locked. Tries the key. It fits. He turns the key. Click!

INT. RV

Gabriel opens the door and enters. There's a little kitchen inside. On the table is a pile of papers.

Gabriel walks over to them and picks one up.

GABRIEL

The releases...

CLICK!

Gabriel turns toward the sound. Jeana stands in the back of the RV. She points a gun at Gabriel. Gabriel sticks his hands up.

JEANA

All signed and waiting for you.

GABRIEL

How...
JEANA
I had them signed while everyone
was waiting for you to get dressed.  
Funny, even though they were all
pissed off, they seemed very
excited at the prospect of being on
television.

GABRIEL
Who wouldn't...

JEANA
Too bad you won't get to see the
finished product.

Jeana aims more carefully, one eye closes. Gabriel panics.

GABRIEL
Wait!

JEANA
Wait? Wait? How long am I supposed
to wait, Gabriel? Let's see, it's
been ten years, maybe twenty, maybe
thirty...

She expects an answer, but doesn't get one.

JEANA
...fifty, till we're dead? I can
take care of that right now --
Poison, I see, hath been his
timeless end: O churl! Drunk all,
and left no friendly drop / To help
me after? I will kiss thy lips; /
Haply some poison yet doth hang on
them, / To make die with a
restorative.

Gabriel looks unimpressed.

GABRIEL
You're such a drama queen! We
aren't anywhere near Romeo and
Juliet, they're much younger. And
besides, there's no way I'm going
to have sex with you and that's
final, so you can just let it drop.

JEANA
I should just shoot you right now.

Gabriel stares her down.
GABRIEL
Go ahead. I dare you.

Jeana's finger twitches on the trigger.

GABRIEL
I double dare...

BANG!

A look of surprise on Gabriel's face, an explosion of red on his shirt. He falls backwards toward the ground.

A look of regret crosses Jeana's face. She throws the gun from her hands, runs toward him.

She looks over his motionless body, her eyes fill with tears.

JEANA
Oh! Gabriel. I'm so sorry...

She kneels near his body. She looks puzzled. She shakes him.

JEANA
Gabriel? Gabriel!

She panics.

JEANA
Are you okay? Gabriel, say something!

Gabriel sits up.

GABRIEL
Got ya!

Jeana jumps back.

Gabriel laughs.

Jeana recovers and slaps Gabriel on the shoulder.

JEANA
You son of a bitch. You had me worried.

GABRIEL
Well you shot me.

JEANA
But you knew it was a paint gun.
What makes you think I knew?

You double dared me. You never double dare me unless you know I'm joking.

You know me too well.

Not well enough lately.

Stay around then and help with the show.

I'd like that. And I promise I won't try to seduce you again... Unless I'm drunk... Or feeling in a particularly vulnerable mood... or --

Unless she needs a rebound.

Darnell climbs in the RV. He smiles. Johnny climbs in after him, as does Cherry, Francesca and Jimmy.

Everyone's here! One big par --

Fire this baby up, big man.

Gabriel looks shocked.

The RV starts up -- REVS and REVS and REVS.

The window between the main compartment and the driver's area slides down and Roddy sits in the drivers seat, with a driver's hat on.

No, no, no! Roddy is not driving this thing!

Roddy smiles, changes gears, and pulls out as the window slides up again.
RODDY
You can't fight it Gabriel... don't fight it! This is gotta happen!

Gabriel looks to each of the people one by one in the RV - looking for answers. Everyone smiles back at him.

Pause.

Gabriel sighs, smiles, leans back - relaxed.

GABRIEL
I guess now isn't the right time to tell you all about the sequel...

FADE OUT.

THE END