

THIEF

Written by

Michael Cornetto
Sandra E. Watson
Thomas Pascal
Gary Rademan

With the assistance of

Gabriel Moronta
Jeff Bush
Elisabeth DuBois
Toby Elmers

FADE IN:

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 own.

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?

He 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.

And pushes again. Jimmy raises his hands for peace. Johnny stares him down.

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...

FRANCESCA
Crazy?

GABRIEL
No.

FRANCESCA
Stubborn?

GABRIEL
No.

FRANCESCA
Argumentative?

GABRIEL
No.

FRANCESCA
What then?

GABRIEL
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

Dinner is coming along. Platters of vegetables and dip. Smoked salmon. Caviar. Antipasto. Intricately woven crackers and Melba toast.

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

Thank you. Gabe. Gabriel.

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.

DARNELL (CONT'D)

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.

GABRIEL
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.)

AAAHHHH! 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 breath 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 laughs. Jimmy coughs. Cherry jumps, turns around.

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.

Face down. Arms outstretched. Not moving.

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 take 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's 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 deflates. 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 a
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. 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. LIIIVNG 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 - 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.

GABRIEL

What makes you think I knew?

JEANA

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

GABRIEL

You know me too well.

JEANA

Not well enough lately.

GABRIEL

Stay around then and help with the show.

JEANA

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 --

DARNELL (O.S.)

Unless she needs a rebound.

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

GABRIEL

Everyone's here! One big par -- Hold on, where's Roddy?

JOHNNY

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.

GABRIEL

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