SWEET TEA AND COGNAC

written by

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INT. BARTON NATURE AREA - DAY

Black screen.

HARRY (V.O.) O all you host of heaven! O earth! What else? / And shall I couple hell? Oh fie! Hold, hold, my heart, / And you, my sinews, grow not instant old / But bear me swiftly up. Remember thee?

FADE IN on a woman, DIANA MORTIMER (19), walks through nature, perhaps in slo-mo, for forty-five seconds. What matters is that we can tell she is youthful, innocent, caring.

MONTAGE of her in this and other settings.

HARRY (V.O.) (CONT'D) Ay, thou poor ghost, whiles memory holds a seat / In this distracted globe. Remember me? / Yea, from the table of my memory / I'll wipe away all trivial, fond records / All saws of books, all forms, all pressures past / That youth and observation copied there, / And thy commandment all alone shall live / Within the book and volume of my brain, / Unmixed with baser matter.

INT. TEA SHOP - DAY

We see the face of the voice.

HARRY SUMMERS is twenty-two, well-groomed, well-dressed, and moderately handsome. He is at once bright-eyed and cynical, charismatic and downbeat. When we meet him he is dominated by an unmistakable characteristic of melancholy, and relaxation which is reflected in his calm demeanor. Anyone can understand that he is in a pensive state of mind, but no one could guess what he's thinking.

The hand of AVERY BEAUFORT places a teapot and teacup on a bar. Three other twelve-ounce glass teacups sit in a row on a bar.

HARRY SUMMERS puts down his bookmarked copy of *The Picture of Dorian Gray*. He adds sugar to a glass, stirs it, and takes a sip. He savors it before sipping a completely different glass.

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AVERY

So. Long time, no see. You study abroad?

HARRY

No. I was in North Carolina. My aunt and uncle have a business on Topsail Island. Their son was doing a gap year in London and they needed some help downsizing and I happened to be available. How've you been?

AVERY Tired. Overworked.

HARRY Did you graduate yet?

AVERY

Nope! One more year! And I'm taking advanced semantics this semester so I'm triple fucked.

HARRY Is that the hardest linguistics course?

AVERY

By a mile.

HARRY Ah, You'll be fine.

AVERY How do you like the Mokalbari?

HARRY It's great. Nice and strong. Smoky. Notes of burnt caramel. Almond. A little tobacco, but not like a

rooibos...more...subtle and pleasant.

She checks. He's right.

AVERY You sound like the label.

HARRY (chuckling) What are the others again?

AVERY You got Arabian Days, Gyokuro, and Yellow Dragon.

AVERY

Yeah.

He sips it.

HARRY

Holy fuck, that's incredible. It's--it's flavorful, slightly spicy, but also subtle. Seems like it has a little oxidization, which adds a bit of astringency without overpowering the spice. Where's it from?

AVERY China. The Tang dynasty used to drink it as a sign of their royalty.

HARRY Can you do me a favor and get me 200 grams of it?

AVERY Yeah, I'll put it on your tab.

His phone buzzes. He looks at the message.

HARRY

Actually, can you close my tab and put these in to-go cups? I gotta go in like 5 minutes.

AVERY No problem, Harry.

She hands him a bag of loose leaf tea. He inserts a credit card into the computer.

HARRY Thank you. Nice seeing you again.

He walks outside.

EXT. TEA SHOP - DAY

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Harry walks up Ann Street. Everything about his expression suggests that he feels he is an outsider in a city which once felt like home.

INT. HARRY'S APARTMENT - DAY

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Harry walks inside his apartment.

It feels lived-in already, but there's also moving boxes scattered about what would be the natural pockets of space.

Inside already are OLIVIA SUMMERS and DAVID ROTHSTEIN. Olivia, Harry's sister, just turned 21. She is a brunette and dressed in all purple. In a casual situation like this, she wears the type of leisure outfit that probably cost a hundred bucks for no reason and has probably never been used for actually working out. She carries a sunnier disposition than Harold but is no less intelligent or sardonic, and has much more of a head on her shoulders in regards to practical matters.

David, also 21, has a style which is clean-cut yet colorful. He has the genetic map of Israel all over his face but tries his hardest to conceal that part of his identity by wearing artsy outfits. David is kind of all over Olivia.

> OLIVIA Hey, what's up? Where have you been?

HARRY TeaHaus. I thought you guys weren't coming till 3.

OLIVIA

It's 3:15.

HARRY Well, I didn't think you meant like exactly 3.

OLIVIA Maybe not on the dot, but...

HARRY My mistake. But then again, the whole concept of time is a relic of more...antiquated, vaguely fascist organizations.

SEAN BANNISTER walks out of the bathroom, wearing jeans and a white wife-beater. He is 20, muscular, and obviously far more accustomed to manual labor than anyone else in the room.

SEAN Yo. What's up, Harry?

They hug.

HARRY Hey man, how you been?

SEAN Hungover. You know -- welcome week.

HARRY Sorry to bother you when you're --

SEAN

No, it's fine. It's good for me. Got up early. Ate breakfast. Went to the gym. Got here at 1:30.

HARRY (to Olivia and David) Okay that one's definitely not on me.

SEAN Well, the door was unlocked, so I thought...let's get to work.

HARRY Yeah. Thanks a ton, man. Can I get you anything? Water? Tea?

SEAN I'm good. I'll go return the U-Haul. Somebody mind helping me out?

DAVID

I'll do it. You guys get started with the reorganization.

HARRY

Thanks, guys. I owe you one.

Harry hands Sean a \$100 bill. Sean takes it, somewhat hesitantly. He and David leave.

SEAN No problemo. Peace.

He goes outside.

David stops in his tracks and picks up a bracelet on the floor.

DAVID Hey, uh, Harry. You're keeping this, right?

HARRY Probably not. Why, you want it? DAVID

Uh-

HARRY Take it; it's yours.

DAVID Thanks. Wait. Harry. You know this is real silver, right?

HARRY Yeah, I do. Let's go.

David leaves. Harry sits. He and Olivia look at each other. We linger a moment.

OLIVIA So, I figured we'd start in the living room.

HARRY

Okay.

They go into the living room. There are two piles of clothing.

OLIVIA I took the clothes and separated them. This is your pile and these are --

HARRY (interrupting on a pause) Yeah.

OLIVIA What do you want to do?

HARRY I dunno. You want any of it?

She chuckles gravely. Is he serious?

OLIVIA

No.

HARRY I dunno. I don't wanna throw it away. Seems--

OLIVIA

Yeah.

Harry indicates a sweatshirt that says "Holly High School Bronchos"

You know anyone who went to Holly High School?

OLIVIA Not...that I know of.

HARRY We'll just put all that stuff to the side right now, okay?

INT. DAVID'S HOUSE -- DAY

Olivia, with a laptop, sits at her laptop. She sends an email to JIMMY, a theater major, with the subject line "STAGEPLAY FOR TABULA RASA THEATRE COMPANY".

David fiddles with Harry's bracelet in hand. He's on the phone and decides to go to his bedroom. As he talks, he puts the bracelet on.

DAVID Lots of people go into the arts. I don't have to be Picasso to do all right for myself.

INT. IRA'S OFFICE -- DAY

INTERCUT -- PHONE CONVERSATION

IRA What does "all right" look like to you?

DAVID

Uh... --

IRA You can't even answer the question.

DAVID It's a vague question!

IRA

Look, all I'm saying is if you want to get an art degree, that's fine, but you gotta have a back-up plan. So all I'm asking you to do is get a BFA in art **and** a BA in economics, and that way, you can come help me out with the company for a little while while you get your art stuff in focus --

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DAVID

Dad...

IRA It's important to me. It'd be important to your grandfather too.

This crosses an invisible line for David, whose face changes.

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INT. DAVID'S HOUSE - BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

INTERCUT -- PHONE CONVERSATION

DAVID

Look, I don't want to get suckered into working literal 12-hour days as a financial planner for the rest of my life.

IRA

Come on. Who said anything about the rest of your life, huh? I mean, you certainly got the potential to do a lot of great things --

DAVID

Yeah, but still, why should I spend such a significant amount of my twenties taking care of people's finances when the opportunity cost is improving myself as an artist?

IRA

Look, I gotta go. I got lunch with a big client coming up. He's investing \$50 million. Don't do anything yet. You got time.

DAVID I'm not doing anything this second, Dad.

IRA Great. Thank you.

DAVID Love you, Dad.

Ira hangs up. He observes his new bracelet.

CUT TO:

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A chill party in full form. We hear chatter and light music. David's bracelet is visible as he cuts a cake, which is very pink and says "WELCOME BACK HARRY" on it.

> DAVID (to IZZY) Take this to Harry.

Izzy takes the cake slice and walks to a couch where Harry sits with NEIL, Sean's roommate and friend of Harry.

IZZY First slice for the man of the hour.

HARRY Oh, Thank you.

Harry sets down his plate.

IZZY How was Topsail?

HARRY

Really nice. I actually have some stuff I brought back I need to get rid of -- My uncle has a friend who owed me a favor, he gave me all these cardboard boxes of these offbrand energy drinks.

NEIL (sardonically) Nice gift.

HARRY Yeah, I know. But hey! -- Each can has more Vitamin B than five fillets of salmon.

NEIL Yeah. I already got enough energy.

HARRY

You both do. Izzy, you want 'em? You can feed 'em to your horses in Wyoming.

IZZY I'm from Utah, you prick.

HARRY I thought you were Italian. IZZY

Eat your cake.

NEIL So Topsail was fun? Throwdowns 25/8?

HARRY

Not for me.

NEIL Too busy working with your uncle?

HARRY Something like that.

NEIL (catching Harry's vibe) Y'all wanna get an actual drink?

HARRY

Sure.

The three get up.

We pan to David checking in on Olivia, typing furiously on her phone.

DAVID Just so you know, Ira called me today...

OLIVIA Baby, not now. Why don't you see what Harry's up to?

David takes note of Olivia's anxiety.

DAVID You all right, babe?

OLIVIA

Yeah, I just forgot to fill out this final response evaluating my internship and if I don't fill it out I won't get credit for it and it's due at midnight and these questions are really thorough for no reason whatsoever--

DAVID

Will it really be end of the world if you do it tomorrow morning?

OLIVIA

YES.

DAVID I don't think it needs to be too elaborate.

OLIVIA Just let me do this... wait, what were you saying?

DAVID It can wait. Just...Ira called me. He's upset with me for wanting to drop economics and transfer.

OLIVIA We'll talk about it later. I promise. Why don't you go intoxicate my brother?

DAVID Sounds like a plan.

Olivia smiles.

David turns away from Olivia. He starts making a drink at the counter, but is confronted by Izzy and Gemma.

IZZY David! Why is this our first time seeing each other?!

She hugs David, as we cut to Sean and Avery conversing.

SEAN You know, I helped him move today. And I don't know, he almost seems too normal? Does that make sense?

Izzy screams over something David says.

AVERY Oh. So, you guys are close?

SEAN

Yeah, I know him through Neil. He tried to pay me for helping, he always does shit like that, make me feel weird. Love him, but--

AVERY Did you take it?

SEAN He don't need it.

AVERY Given how much he spends on tea... Sean laughs.

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CUT TO:

EXT. NEIL AND SEAN'S HOUSE -- PORCH -- NIGHT

Izzy walks out the door and onto the porch to find Olivia, smoking weed.

IZZY Jeez girl, you're missing all the fun. What's up?

OLIVIA I had to finish some dumb final wrap up for my internship.

IZZY

Ok, but now you're just smoking alone, which by the way, can I hit that?

OLIVIA

Of course.

Olivia passes a bowl.

IZZY

So you finished the wrap up thing, right?

OLIVIA

Yeah.

IZZY

Wanna tell me why you still look like you're about to pop?

OLIVIA

I don't know. The summer was great and now there's the comedown. Life hits you in the face.

IZZY What do you mean?

OLIVIA

I don't know... It's nothing, really. Do you get what David's thing is about not doing economics?

IZZY

I actually haven't heard about this--

OLIVIA Like they're not mutually exclusive. I got the same major as him. I just submitted a play I been writing to a student org.

IZZY He was telling me and Gemma about how he asked you out. Care to fill in the gaps?

OLIVIA Aww. I don't know -- Later. Let's go inside.

Izzy and Olivia head back inside.

CUT TO:

10 INT. NEIL AND SEAN'S HOUSE -- CONTINUOUS

They walk through the door and see Harold, who is at the center of the room, talking to Gemma.

GEMMA

I'll take it. I have a roommate who drinks a lot of like, health-foodslash-energy-drink things. She's always drinking like maté and vitamins and stuff.

HARRY

Great. She can have it. I can actually get it to you on Tuesday.

GEMMA

Sounds great!

David reenters the space, handing Harry a drink and Olivia a Jack Rose.

DAVID Now that you're rejoining the festivities, wanna take my drink? I'll make myself another.

OLIVIA

What is it?

DAVID Jack Rose. Your favorite.

OLIVIA Thanks, babe. You're such a wittle sweetie pie. Olivia pinches David's cheek, and she and David kiss. Harry takes a sip of his drink.

HARRY Thank you. I agree. You're a wittle sweetie pie.

A couple people around him laugh, but Olivia doesn't notice his remark, because she and David are too busy walking to the couch, where they continue to make out. Then they look at Harry, who stares neither at them nor away from them. Olivia sees Harold in her peripheral vision and they awkwardly break apart. The focus blurs. Harry smiles almost apologetically at the couple as we...

CUT TO:

11 INT. MORRIS'S CLASSROOM -- JUST OUTSIDE -- DAY

Harry and Izzy exit an elevator and walk into a classroom.

HARRY I still can't believe you're taking this.

IZZY To suck my dick or to not suck my dick--that is the question.

She punches his shoulder lightly.

12 INT. MORRIS'S CLASSROOM - DAY

A classroom, about an hour later. Sitting around a table are 12-15 students, including Izzy and Harry. PROFESSOR HERMAN MORRIS (early 70s) addresses the class.

Close-up of Morris's hand as he writes on the chalkboard "Who's There," and -- on a line underneath -- "Stand and Unfold Yourself."

MORRIS "Who's there?" "Nay, answer me. Stand and unfold yourself." For those of you who've done the reading, you know that those are the first two lines of Hamlet. (MORE)

MORRIS (CONT'D) Now, I've never done this before, but I'm tempted -- every year I'm tempted -- to have a final exam where all I ask is "What's the first line of every play we read in this class?" Because if you can tell me about the first line or two, then you can tell me about the play. If you can answer the question, "Who's there?" in reference to every single moment of the play, then you can answer 95 percent of your questions about the play. Problem is you can't. You wanna know how I know you can't? Because I can't, and my teachers couldn't, and neither can anyone else. Except Shakespeare. And in case you haven't realized, he's not in any position to answer your questions. Now, of course, if you wanna be a smartass and say the answer's Barnardo and Francisco, the sentinels, then there's the door, and I wish you great success with your engineering degree. But for the rest of us, so many of the questions with which we grapple in this text lead back to these two lines. "Who's there? Unfold yourself!" And that's already our time. Any questions? (beat) All right. First assignment is posted on Canvas! Thank you. See you next week.

The class gathers their belongings and begins to file out the classroom. One of the students, CLAUDIA (21), approaches Morris.

CLAUDIA

Hey, Professor Morris. Can I talk to you for a second?

MORRIS

Sure.

CLAUDIA I wanted to say I really enjoy your angle on the text of Hamlet and I'm interested in pursuing an independent study on just Hamlet. Would you be able to fit that in? Sure. Especially if other people would be interested, we could turn it into a small class.

We linger on Harry as we...

CUT TO:

13 INT. CAFE -- DAY

David and Olivia sit at a table, each with their drinks. Olivia looks lost in space.

> DAVID What are you thinking about?

OLIVIA Life's like not real.

DAVID

What?

OLIVIA You asked me what I'm thinking.

DAVID Alright... care to expand on that thought?

OLIVIA

Do you ever just get in this dissociative headspace? And you're like "wow".

DAVID No... I'm already so done with this year.

OLIVIA Lolll. Already tired of me?

DAVID That's actually not true at all, I'm so hyped.

OLIVIA Obviously. How was Greenwood last night?

CALLUM COLBY, David's ex-boyfriend, into the coffee shop.

CALLUM Oh my god, hi!!

DAVID

Hey!!

Callum touches David's arm.

CALLUM How's the hangover?

DAVID (with a strained voice) So good.

CALLUM

You were crazy last night. And we keep running into each other, it's like cosmic. Anyway, I need to order. I gotta be at this club in like 10. But hit me up. (to Olivia) Nice meeting you!

Callum heads to the counter.

OLIVIA Was that Callum?

DAVID

Yeah.

OLIVIA

Okay.

DAVID

What?

OLIVIA Nothing, he seems nice.

DAVID I feel like you're mad.

She is.

OLIVIA

I'm not.

DAVID We're just friends now.

OLIVIA

Yeah, I know.

DAVID

With queer guys, it's like more normal for us to become friends again.

OLIVIA No, I know. DAVID (playfully) Are you mad? OLIVIA I'm not mad! DAVID Are you?? OLIVIA Noo! (beat) Well, I dunno, a little. Life's just not-- I been feeling weird--

14 INT. NEWMAN STUDIO -- NIGHT

Olivia with the same expression, sits in the audience with a PRODUCER, each with notebooks open.

PRODUCER Alright, It's 7:00. I love this script, everyone out there loves it too. And this monologue excerpt is killer. You ready?

OLIVIA

Yeah.

The Producer goes outside the door as we hear him say...

PRODUCER First up is Alexa O'Connor.

ALEXA O'CONNOR, an actor in her early twenties, enters. She takes a few breaths.

OLIVIA Hi Alexa. Which roles are you auditioning for?

ALEXA Rebecca and Amy.

OLIVIA Which one do you want to start with?

ALEXA Let's do Rebecca first. Great. Whenever you're ready.

ALEXA

Thanks.

(she takes a beat and then gives her monologue) And the stoplight just turned red. 'I'm gonna miss it. I can't keep running late.' All week I've had this foreboding sense that something terrible is going to happen. I find myself straightening my rearview mirror compulsively. I realize my side mirror is pointed at the road. My boyfriend's calling me wondering where I am and for some reason, I really don't want to hear his voice right now... but I also do. At a red light, I have all the time in the world. -- "Hey, I'm stuck in traffic. I'll be like 10 minutes." And then 'Wham!" Someone hit my back bumper, my head slammed the steering wheel, my phone flew out of my hand. I elbowed the horn as I lifted my head up, my car screaming for me. Blood that's gonna stain the steering wheel, dripping down my forehead. Fuck, the insurance. Fuck, I'm so late. These little "hellos?" from my phone on the dash, struggling for my ear. And the feeling won't go away.

15 INT. HARRY'S APARTMENT -- EVENING

A variety of miscellaneous objects piled up, gathered together somewhat untidily for the purpose of sorting. A few trash bags of personal pile up by the door.

The objects are vaguely organized into four piles, which have index cards under them which say "Giveaway," "Keep," "Trash," and "Undecided."

Harold sits on the couch looking anxious. Olivia adds a small decorative pillow to the pile of miscellaneous objects, the "give away" pile, at Harold's side.

OLIVIA You hate decorative pillows, right?

Harry doesn't answer.

OLIVIA (CONT'D) Harold Nathaniel Summers, I do not know what to do with like half of these things and I need your help sorting them out.

HARRY

Um...

OLIVIA One at a time. I know it's not easy--

HARRY Yeah. I'm going to make myself some tea. You want some too?

OLIVIA

Sure.

HARRY

What kind?

OLIVIA Whatever you're having.

We watch Harold, plainly distraught, make tea. The act of tea making almost seems to calm him, a familiar act, something he's done thousands of times before.

Olivia flunks down on the couch. She lets out a heavy sigh. Shortly, Harold arrives with cups.

HARRY

Here.

OLIVIA Thanks. Are you ready to start?

Harold nods. Olivia holds up a miniature potted plant which is dead and rotting. The plant is in a cat-shaped mini-pot.

> OLIVIA (CONT'D) Ok. What about these cats?

HARRY Which cats? There's cats all over the place.

We see several cutesy cat-themed objects strewn around in various piles.

OLIVIA These ones. The ones with the dead plants inside them. HARRY Well, I'm not gonna keep a bunch of dead plants.

OLIVIA I know. But you can keep the pots.

She hands him one. He looks at the dead potted plant in his hands.

MATCH CUT TO:

16 EXT. BARTON NATURE AREA - DAY - FLASHBACK SEQUENCE

Harold, looking slightly different and younger, is holding the same potted plant in the middle of the Barton Nature Area. He is kissing Diana Mortimer, the woman from the opening montage, on a bridge. Even while embracing her, though, he is holding a cardboard cup of tea from TeaHaus.

> HARRY This place is beautiful.

DIANA Yeah. Mom thought it'd be nice for me to know where the best nature areas are.

HARRY Your mom has good taste.

DIANA Speaking of good taste...what's that you're holding? Could that be a gift, Harold?

HARRY Who told you about this?

DIANA

Izzy.

HARRY That woman is a menace.

DIANA

Indeed she is. But she wouldn't tell me what you got me.

He gives her the cat-shaped potted plant.

HARRY There's four more waiting for you at the apartment. DIANA Which apartment? Mine or yours?

HARRY Ours. Not mine. Ours.

DIANA What are these little things? They're so cute.

HARRY

You put little plants in them. They're like a little... housewarming....thank-you gift.

DIANA What do you mean "thank-you gift"? I'm the one who should be thanking you.

HARRY Babe you gotta stop that. Okay? It's my pleasure.

DIANA No, but seriously. I mean, I'd get it if I paid r--

HARRY These things cost a lot less than half the rent.

DIANA I know that, silly.

HARRY Besides, You do the dishes every night. That's enough for me.

DIANA No, but it's like the principle---

HARRY

I know what you mean.

DIANA

But what are you thanking me for?

HARRY

It's a thank-you in advance. For spending our lives together. Being with me, you know? So can you just take the fucking potted plant before this turns into *Pretty Woman*? They kiss again. He places it in her hand.

DIANA Okay. But no more gifts, got it? Bad boy.

She jokingly cat-scratches him.

MATCH CUT TO:

17 INT. HARRY'S APARTMENT - EVENING

Harry places the cat-pot in Olivia's hand.

HARRY Put them in the giveaway pile.

Harold finishes his hot tea. Then he gets some iced tea from the fridge. He pours it in a glass.

HARRY (CONT'D) All right. Let's do the rest of this shit.

OLIVIA Don't forget. We have plans tonight.

HARRY Oh. Right. Yeah. You still free for the next hour? Do as much of this as we can?

OLIVIA Yeah. Let me just text David to meet us there.

18 EXT. STREET -- DAY

Neil and Izzy walk down the street. His arm is around her. Perhaps she kisses his cheek.

> NEIL (almost a whisper) That was really sexy when you told me to put your hands behind your back.

She smiles mischievously.

IZZY (too loud, given what she's saying) (MORE) IZZY (CONT'D) My birthday's coming up. You should buy me some handcuffs.

They turn a corner and Izzy bumps into a woman. This is EMILIE DE WYNTER. She's 22 or 23 years old and stressed but stylish. Maybe she heard about the handcuffs. Maybe not. They all stop.

> IZZY (CONT'D) (wayyy excited to see her friend) Emilie! EMILIE Izzy, Neil, hi! NEIL Hey. IZZY Are you going anywhere right now? EMILIE Just home. But got a lot to do. IZZY Already? Damn girl-- have you had dinner? EMILIE No, that's actually what's next--IZZY I'm headed for dinner with some friends right now. Come with! EMILIE Sorry, I can't. I got a lot to do--IZZY Babe, it'll be fun. NEIL We're not trying to force you or anything. IZZY I am! NEIL Okay maybe she is. EMILIE (to Izzy)

Girl, I love you but--

IZZY I love you too which is why you're coming with me. Izzy grabs Emilie's arm and pulls her along.

EMILIE

Ok then.

IZZY

Emilie, the Countess of Santena is demanding you get dinner with her. Let's go.

EMILIE Well then, if Your Highness desires it...

IZZY

Contessa.

EMILIE

Excuse me?

IZZY My title is Contessa.

EMILIE

Contessa.

They walk away together, arms linked.

19 INT. RESTAURANT - EVENING

David, Olivia, and Harry are sitting at a restaurant, reading the menus. Sean walks over, wearing a waiters' uniform and holding a pad.

> SEAN (with deadpan fauxearnestness) Greetings and salutations! My name is Sean, I'll be your server today.

David and Olivia share a laugh. Harold, still reading the menu, looks up upon hearing the laugh and smiles.

DAVID What's up, Sean? I didn't know you worked here.

SEAN Yeah, usually here from 6 am to noon but they needed me tonight. HARRY Jesus Christ, man, good for you. SEAN Gotta rake in the dough somehow. (beat)

Speaking of which, can I get you guys started with bread?

A laugh.

HARRY

Sure. Yeah.

SEAN Great! And drink? Or you guys need a minute with the menu, or...?

OLIVIA Can I have an Arnold Palmer?

SEAN Uh, yeah. I guess.

OLIVIA Something wrong with the Arnold Palmer?

SEAN (discreetly) It's Minute Maid and Gold Peak.

OLIVIA

I'll have a cranberry juice with soda water.

DAVID

Same

HARRY A Manhattan on the rocks.

SEAN All righty. Are we ready to order some food?

OLIVIA (in a royal voice) We're still expecting another guest. Well, at least one other.

SEAN Gotcha. I'll circle back to you guys. OLIVIA Why can't this bitch ever be on time??

Sean disappears in the way waiters do without you really noticing.

DAVID That man has ten different jobs, I swear.

HARRY Poor guy. How does he keep up with school?

20 EXT. RESTAURANT -- EVENING

Izzy, Neil, and Emilie are coming up to the door of the restaurant, Izzy skipping as she does so. Emilie stands back.

IZZY Here we are!

EMILIE I gotta answer this email. I'll be right inside. Grab me a chair?

Izzy just walks inside.

NEIL

Um, sure.

Neil walks inside.

21 INT. RESTAURANT - EVENING

Izzy and Emilie approach the table occupied by Olivia, Harry, and David.

OLIVIA Mia Contessa! And Neil! (mildly apologetically) Hi, Neil!

NEIL Don't worry about it. No shame in being upstaged by royalty.

Olivia hugs him, then Izzy. They all sit down. Emilie walks in.

IZZY Guys, this is Emilie. She's my bestie. Izzy pulls out the chair next to or across from Harold and invites Emilie to it, before sitting closer to Olivia and David. OLIVIA Nice to see you! I'm ---EMILIE Olivia, right? And, um... DAVID David. OLIVIA Good memory. This is my brother. Harry. HARRY Hello. IZZY How's the play going? OLIVIA No details until you can see it. IZZY David, how's her play going? DAVID She won't tell me jack shit. They continue talking about Olivia's creative exploits, leaving Harry and Emilie to each other. HARRY Okay. So. You're the famous Emilie de Wynter. How do you like my energy drinks? EMILIE Oh! Thanks! Drank one this morning and I drafted like 20 pages of my poli-sci thesis. Not trying to imply an exact causation, but the correlation's a good sign. HARRY

Ah, so we have a genius on our hands.

EMILIE

A genius? Hardly.

HARRY

Well, I mean, from what I hear, you're very bright, but the thing is there's two types of bright people: the kind who knows she's bright, which I call "the genius," and the kind who doesn't, which I call "the intellectual."

EMILIE

Well, I don't know if I...

IZZY

Harry, don't listen to her. Emilie's basically a genius. Remind me, how many majors do you have again? Eight?

EMILIE

Three - Business, philosophy and political science. So which are you, genius or intellectual?

Harry toasts her and sips his drink.

HARRY

I'm a drunkard.

EMILIE What's that? An intellectual who parties?

HARRY Not quite. You ever see Casablanca?

EMILIE

No.

HARRY I was quoting it. Basically what I meant was "I'm neither."

EMILIE

So you don't know it -- you're an intellectual.

HARRY Do you know something about me that I don't know you know?

EMILIE No. I just know what you know I know.

HARRY

Say that again. Once more with feeling.

EMILIE Now you're talking nonsense.

HARRY Do you have a boyfriend?

EMILIE

Um....

HARRY

I'm not asking you out. I'm asking if you have one, because if you don't, then I know for one hundred percent certain that Emma Woodhouse over there's trying to set us up.

EMILIE

Really?

HARRY Let me guess. She begged you to come?

EMILIE Begged me. Ordered me.

HARRY I'd bet my left hand she's trying to turn this into When Harry Met Emilie.

EMILIE Don't they get together in the end?

HARRY

Yeah.

EMILIE Wrong movie then.

HARRY

Ouch.

EMILIE No, it's not you.

HARRY

You sure?

EMILIE It's not--I didn't mean that. What I meant was, I'm not looking for anyone right now.

HARRY

Me neither. But Yente is as Yente does.

EMILIE

It's like she expects the waiter to come out and play havanagila on the violin.

HARRY Look, if Izzy teed us up any better, she'd have to buy herself a club set. (beat) She say anything in particular about me?

EMILIE What would she say?

HARRY Doesn't matter. You'd know.

EMILIE

Well now that you've built up my curiosity, don't you think you should tell me?

HARRY

I'll make you a deal. Let me buy you a drink and maybe I'll tell you.

EMILIE Sounds like you're setting us up now.

HARRY I am. 'Cause Izzy won't stop trying either way.

She smiles. Sean comes back with food.

22 EXT. NEIGHBORHOOD STREET - NIGHT

Harold and Emilie walk down the street, holding hands.

EMILIE Thanks for getting my dinner. HARRY

Don't worry. I've been coerced into doing stuff with Izzy before too. Hope I at least made it tolerable.

EMILIE

It's refreshing to have a conversation that's actually about something.

HARRY

What do you mean?

EMILIE

Most people I meet through Izzy talk about the same five things over and over again.

HARRY Like what?

EMILIE

"What classes are you taking"... And I don't know -- "Which frat has the best throwdowns"... Then there's "the frat boys are so fun" to the "I hate frat boys" pipeline, which really only refers to one specific frat boy, so once you've heard it enough times, you lose all patience.

HARRY What about "What are you dressing up as for Halloween?"

EMILIE I love Halloween. Don't fuck with me on that.

HARRY

Really?

She gives him a playful death stare.

EMILIE

Yes.

They walk for a moment.

HARRY Y'know, this was fun. We should do this again sometime.

EMILIE Yeah. Of course.

He lets go of her hand.

HARRY As friends.

EMILIE Yeah, of course.

HARRY

I'm sorry, I didn't -- you're really cool. And I like you a lot so I'm sorry if I'm sending, like, crazy mixed signals, but I'm not ... ready for a relationship right now.

EMILIE No, of course.

HARRY And also you could do a hell of a lot better than me.

EMILIE

Stop that.

HARRY I'm sorry! It's true!

EMILIE

Well, if this was a date, which of course it's not --

HARRY Especially because we were

literally chaperoned by my friends-

EMILIE Well, anyway, if it was, it'd be one of the best first dates I'd ever had.

HARRY Was that a compliment or a polite way of insulting your exes?

., EMILIE

You decide.

HARRY Well, I'll take it as a compliment. So thank you.

EMILIE But it's not.

Not what? EMILIE A date. HARRY I know. EMILIE Because I'm going to law school next year. Need to focus on that. HARRY That's awesome. Do you know where you're going yet? EMILIE Hopefully Yale. Or Harvard. HARRY Whoa. EMILIE Yeah. HARRY What kind of law do you want to

HARRY

EMILIE EMILIE Well, eventually, I want to be the President. (beat)

So Izzy doesn't get to pull the Countess card every time she wants me to go to dinner.

They share a moment. She bursts into mischievous laughter.

HARRY I thought you were serious!

EMILIE

You did?

HARRY

Yeah! I mean, it's not...crazy. It's not unrealistic for someone to go to Michigan, get three fucking majors, then Yale Law, clerk for some Supreme Court Justice, run for governor or state Senate or whatever, and win and then run for President. So it's not...I mean, it very well could happen.

EMILIE

I doubt it. But thanks.

HARRY

Seriously, though, what do you want to study?

EMILIE Constitutional law.

HARRY

Oh, that's cool.

EMILIE

Yeah. I mean, think about it like this. When you strip down the government to its purest, barest form, it's 4 pages written by a bunch of men who wanted to create a nation of unprecedented freedom and liberty while also creating a functioning governmental system based not on domination or violence but on liberty without anarchy. I wrote essays longer than 4 pages in high school. But these 4 pages carry the weight of the country on their shoulders not in spite of but because they mean something slightly different to everyone, and still -- somehow, someway, it still works out.

HARRY

What about all the amendments? I mean, I don't even think Clarence Thomas thinks the Constitution is perfect just the way it is.

EMILIE

Of course not, but that's why they wrote that the document's amendable. The founders knew that one day that this system would transcend everything else going on, including themselves. Just imagine how much self-control it would take to say "Look, we can't be under England's thumb the rest of our lives BUT at the same time we KNOW that our system won't be much better unless it's changeable. (MORE)

EMILIE (CONT'D)

We're just as susceptible to human error as our enemies, and history won't forgive us for the blood we shed unless we prove that it was necessary to create something better than any other form of government we've ever had, dating all the way back to Aristotle."

HARRY

Funny you mention all that.

EMILIE

Why?

HARRY

When I was in high school, I directed a couple plays that are about as American as you can get.

EMILIE

You directed them?

HARRY

Well, co-directed. With my drama teacher.

EMILIE What were they?

HARRY

One was 1776. And I remember analyzing the play and looking at the history and... I felt a ton of sympathy with the Loyalists.

EMILIE

Really?

HARRY

Well, yeah. I mean, imagine if I told you now, "I don't like this. Our taxes are too high. Our government is walking all over us. Let's overthrow the government." Who do I sound like?

EMILIE

Oh.

HARRY

Exactly! And I thought, "these guys are literally voting on starting a war they're already losing! The odds are like a thousand to one! (MORE)

HARRY (CONT'D)

Why on earth would anyone with any money or any kind of a decent life risk their lives or livelihoods for this? How the hell did these guys convince a nation to martyr themselves on what must have seemed like a pipe dream!"

EMILIE

I mean, to be fair, I don't think the average colonist was educated enough to really understand the issue.

HARRY

Well honestly, I never thought of that, but regardless, they must have had some sense of the difference in size between the armies.

EMILIE

True.

HARRY

So I realized the only way they could have done it was by appealing to emotion and charisma. So I had the actors playing John Adams and Ben Franklin really go for it with their performances, like they have an almost complete lack of selfpreservatory instinct. I told them, "the basis for your argument is anger!" Then I had the loyalists play it very rationally and subtly, you know? And I told them, "The basis for your argument is fear. You guys are scared shitless! They're telling you not to worry, but you're right to be! Because if these crazy bastards get their way, then you could all be on a firstclass trip to the gallows!" You know?

EMILIE

Yeah.

HARRY

But I never considered the fact that the Loyalists probably did show more hubris.

EMILIE Well that's where I coulda helped. HARRY

Betcha could've.

EMILIE It's all about risks, you know.

HARRY

What do you mean?

EMILIE

When I face any decision in life, I always have to think....at my core....is this a moment where I can take a risk? Does the reward outweigh the risk? Because everyone takes risks. Even you.

HARRY How do you know?

EMILIE

You walked me home tonight, didn't you?

HARRY

Sure.

EMILIE Well, I don't know. Was that a risk?

HARRY I don't know. Was it?

EMILIE

Yes.

HARRY So...by your logic. If I'm engaging in so-called risky behavior...what should I do next?

EMILIE Well, my logic says it's your decision. Is this worth taking a risk?

HARRY What if I want you to make the decision for me?

EMILIE I already have. She kisses him.

DISSOCIATE TO:

A 10-SECOND MONTAGE OF HAROLD AND DIANA, INCLUDING SHOTS OF:

DIANA AND HAROLD AT A RESTAURANT.

DIANA AND HARRY LAUGHING TOGETHER.

HARRY SHOOTING A VIDEO OF DIANA.

HARRY AND DIANA IN A PLAY TOGETHER.

DIANA GIVES HAROLD A STUFFED PINK RABBIT. HE KISSES HER AS WE...

CUT BACK TO:

EMILIE AND HAROLD'S KISS ENDING.

EMILIE (CONT'D) Good night. Harold.

HARRY Good night.

He walks her to her door and waves. She responds in kind. We linger on each of them for a moment as they part ways.

23 EXT. DAVID'S HOUSE - DAY

YAAKOV "JAKE" ROTHSTEIN (24), dressed nicely and with a briefcase in hand, David's financial advisor and older brother, walks up the steps of the porch of David's house.

24 INT. DAVID'S HOUSE - DAY

A knock on the door. David quickly approaches to answer, seeming to expect someone. He answers the door.

DAVID Hey, what's up? C'mon in. JAKE

Hey! You know, Martha — my secretary — just asked me how my <u>older</u> brother's doing.

DAVID That joke never gets old. C'mon in.

25 INT. DAVID'S HOUSE - DAY

Jake and David sit on the couch.

DAVID

How's work?

JAKE

Super fucking busy, dude. I actually just got my WMS designation so I had to study like crazy.

DAVID Congrats, so what's the next designation you're working to?

JAKE That's it. I'm fully licensed.

DAVID Oh! Congrats!

JAKE

Thanks... um, I got off the phone with Dad earlier today.

DAVID Bet he's thrilled.

JAKE

Not quite.

DAVID

Look, Jake, it's fine. I mean, I'm sorry he sent you down here to scold me, I really am, but I can deal --

JAKE NO! Dude, look, he didn't send me

down. I don't give a shit about that, alright? I just wanna look out for you.

DAVID What do you mean? Jake gets out his laptop out of his bag.

JAKE

Have you ever considered what might happen if Dad cuts you off?

DAVID Don't you think you're being a bit dramatic?

JAKE Davey, you're 21 years old, the guy's not fiduciarily obligated to keep giving you money.

DAVID I'm in college! What am I supposed to do, work a 9 to 5?

JAKE No, but it would be good if you had some savings put together.

DAVID I thought that was your job.

David looks at laptop.

JAKE

Well it is, but if Dad cuts you off, then you don't have access to your trust, the money I work with, anymore.

DAVID Why do you think he's gonna do that? What did he say?

JAKE It's not what he said.

DAVID Then what is it?

JAKE

David...

DAVID

What?

JAKE I just talked to the guy.

DAVID ... Well, okay, let's say he decided to try that. (MORE)

DAVID (CONT'D) How am I supposed to pay for school? And rent?

JAKE Student loans, part-time job, maybe some scholarships, you know.

DAVID

So you're telling me I'd have to come up with tuition and rent out of my own pocket? I can't just pay for that! He's not gonna do that!

JAKE

Dave, calm down. I'm not saying this is happening tomorrow. But if you're asking my advice --

DAVID

How do you even know this is gonna happen?

JAKE Look. How much do you have in your savings?

David whips out his phone. After a moment, she shows it to Jake.

DAVID

I don't know. Like 10 grand.

JAKE

Dude, that's more than enough to start. What I would do is I would start depositing 3/4 of your bimonthly income from the trust into your savings. Just in case. Okay?

DAVID

3/4? That's like 1000 dollars. You want me to just casually spend 1000 dollars less than normal?

JAKE

You can adjust your lifestyle. We can get into specifics when sitting down and looking at numbers. I just wanted to get on your schedule.

DAVID

Look, what the fuck did he say to you?

JAKE

I don't think it's best to get into it. It should be from him--

DAVID Not best to get into the very thing that's relevant to me, ok.

JAKE He said he doesn't want his money to be abused.

26 INT. HARRY'S APARTMENT -- NIGHT

Harry, at his computer, googles 'EMILIE DE WYNTER'. LinkedIn and Instagram pages pop up.

MATCH CUT TO:

27 INT. EMILIE'S APARTMENT -- NIGHT

Emilie has typed 'HARRY SUMMERS' into her search bar. Gemma, Emilie's roommate, wanders into frame, a few tortilla chips in hand.

> GEMMA Did you submit? Is it safe?

EMILIE It's done. I did it.

GEMMA

Oh my god!

EMILIE

What?

GEMMA You submitted!! To Harvard Law!!

EMILIE I know. I'm terrified. I definitely fucked something up.

Gemma approaches Emilie to hug her.

GEMMA (Singsongy) Can I say Congratulaaatioonss?

EMILIE No -- Yes -- Thank you. GEMMA You're Elle Woods.

EMILIE No, I'm not. I just applied.

GEMMA

Yeah, with like ten pages of writing for those insufferable essays. I would've given up by your second panic attack, but you pushed through. Not everyone does that. Look at you, you're still doing work after applying to Harvard Law-

Gemma looks at Emilie's computer.

GEMMA (CONT'D) How do you know Harry Summers?

EMILIE Met him through Izzy.

GEMMA You think he's cute, right?

EMILIE It's not like that.

GEMMA

Ok.

EMILIE Ok, well it is kinda like that.

GEMMA

In what way?

EMILIE

He walked me home. We had a 'not a date', that's what we called it cus neither of us planned it. He's witty, kinda formal and selfdeprecating but I can't tell if it's actually self-deprecating or if he's always joking -- He's weird.

GEMMA Are you seeing him again?

EMILIE No... maybe. Neither of us say we're in a place for a relationship right now. GEMMA So maybe good for something fun?

EMILIE I don't really do fun.

GEMMA Smart. Ends up the worse heartbreak.

EMILIE I guess. I don't really know...

GEMMA

Cus you don't do fun. That's fine. You don't need no man!

EMILIE Don't say that! Every time you say that I somehow end up texting them.

GEMMA I'm sorry. You do need a man.

EMILIE

Thanks.

GEMMA We have to do something tonight to celebrate.

EMILIE Oh my god, but I haven't done anything yet. I just applied.

GEMMA You need to work on that.

EMILIE

I know.

GEMMA You're literally the most talented person I know.

EMILIE Maybe I should text him.

GEMMA No, if you say he's weird, he's probably deranged. ... Wait, you have seen Legally Blonde, right?

EMILIE No, actually.

GEMMA That's what we're doing tonight.

28 EXT. MICHIGAN UNION -- COURTYARD GARDEN -- DAY

ALTERNATE LOCATION: INT. MICHIGAN LEAGUE -- Kutsche Tea Room OR Conference.

Harry and Emilie sit at a table together with their computers and notebooks. Harry's energy seems a little scattered.

HARRY

You never GOT TO IT!?

EMILIE

I always meant to! It just didn't happen for some reason. Doesn't everybody have a famous movie they've never seen?

HARRY

Legally Blonde isn't just a famous movie though. It's quite literally your life as a romcom.

EMILIE

Doesn't Elle end up becoming the valedictorian of Harvard Law? All I've done is apply.

HARRY Look, when you leave for Cambridge-

EMILIE If I leave for Cambridge --

HARRY

When you leave for Cambridge, or New Haven, or New York City, or -where's Stanford -- Palo Alto --

EMILIE

Ohmigod stop -- I just <u>applied</u> to Harvard. Doesn't Elle become valedictorian after almost failing her first class?

HARRY

Did I just hear you say "ohmigod?" Pretty sure that's the title of the opening song of Legally Blonde: The Musical.

EMILIE

Okay this has gone too far. Why do you know the first song of Legally Blonde The Musical?

HARRY

If you must know, I played Callahan in high school. The law professor.

EMILIE You can sing?

HARRY

I'm alright. With help. I'm certainly no Michael Bublé.

EMILIE

That's alright, Michael Bublé is off-brand Frank Sinatra. He's all tone - no phrasing, no emotion.

HARRY

Mm. What are you doing tonight? Wanna get dinner at the Earle?

EMILIE Sorry. Me and the girls are going out. Getting me to properly celebrate.

HARRY

Oh...

EMILIE We can call for like goodnight.

HARRY No, it's fine. Unless you want to.

EMILIE

I will.

Club music starts to play.

29 INT. CLUB - NIGHT

Gemma, Izzy and Emilie are at the bar. Emilie and Izzy are going CRAZY, dancing like no one's watching. Gemma is definitely keeping up, but without quite as much energy and enthusiasm.

Gemma turns her head.

CUT TO:

GEMMA'S POV: In the center of the dancefloor, David and Callum are dancing together. A bit too close.

CUT BACK TO:

Gemma realizes who's there and stops dancing for a moment. She walks away in the direction of the bar. Emilie and Izzy just keep dancing.

30 INT. NEWMAN STUDIO -- NIGHT

The house lights and stage lights are up. Olivia sits in the front row of the theater. TOM, an actor, is sitting onstage across from Neil, who is acting in the play as a lawyer.

TOM (as Raymond, drunkenly) What do you even know?

NEIL

(as Larry) I'm not saying that you did it, ok?

TOM

Then why do you insist on taking a trip straight into this hell mouth just to tell me there's more evidence that I did something you claim you know I didn't do?

NEIL Because it's my job to know every relevant detail in this case that we're dealing with.

TOM I'm sorry. It's just...you can't find anything to back me up.

ALEXA enters as "Rebecca". Tom walks to her. Neil addresses Tom in character but looks toward the audience.

Tom heads towards her as she mimes taking a gun and killing herself in the exact awkward position described.

NEIL I know. But the way the bullet went through her head isn't like what'd we see in a suicide--

OLIVIA All right. So let's stop there for a moment.

TOM Can I ask you a question?

OLIVIA

Sure.

TOM Did I do it? Did Raymond kill his wife?

OLIVIA

You decide.

TOM I mean, I get that you want everyone to decide for themselves. But how do you want me to play it?

OLIVIA You feel like you did.

31 INT. HARRY'S APARTMENT -- NIGHT

> Harry looks through what's left of the 'maybe' pile, which now has its own box.

He picks something out. His gaze turns somber. He puts it back. Around him, the apartment looks vaguely lonely.

A text from Olivia. We see it read:

"Hey, been debating about whether to give this to you but since you mentioned it, I got the contact info for the man who was driving. Tell me if you want to talk about it.

"RICHARD HOWELL"

(734) 555 - 0551

ADDRESS TO BE INSERTED UPON SECURING OF LOCATION

Harry stares at the text for a minute but instead of responding sets down his phone.

He goes to his kettle and makes a cup of tea.

He boils the water, steeps the tea, adds some honey...and goes to the liquor cabinet, where he liberally pours brandy inside the boiling tea as he takes a sip. Somewhere inside all of this, he takes a shot.

Then on a coffee table or lamp stand or something of the like, Harry notices his copy of Hamlet.

Harry picks it up and reads.

In a montage of visual metaphor, something that straddles idealization and depression. The definition of a false hope.

HARRY (V.O.)

Oh god, I could be bounded in a nutshell and count myself a king of infinite space were it not that I have bad dreams. ... I have of late, but wherefore I know not, lost all my mirth, forgone all custom of exercises, and indeed it goes so heavily with my disposition that this goodly frame, the earth, seems to me a sterile promontory, this most excellent canopy, the air, look you, this brave o'erchanging firmament, this majestical roof fretted with golden fire, why, it appeareth nothing to me but a foul and pestilent congregation of vapors. What piece of work is a man! How noble in reason, how infinite in faculties, in form and moving how express and admirable, in action how like an angel, in apprehension how like a god! The beauty of the world, the paragon of animals! And yet to me, what is the quintessence of dust?

FADE TO:

32 INT. MORRIS'S CLASSROOM -- DAY

Claudia, Harry, and another student sit with Morris in the same classroom.

MORRIS

So, first of all, I just want to say thank you to the three of you for continuing your studies of Hamlet with me. So I thought we'd start with going over Hamlet's goal. 'Course, on some level, it's very simple -- Hamlet wants revenge! But, if we look at Act One Scene Two, where Hamlet muses that Claudius is "no more like my father than I to Hercules!" Well, newsflash: Hamlet's not a warrior! He's nothing like Hercules! And yet in order to satisfy his ultimate goal, he has to change. (MORE)

MORRIS (CONT'D)

Because I know that for us ivorytower thinkers at the University of Michigan, this is a great disappointment, but it's true: if you want to achieve something, you can't just be an intellectual and sit there thinking about it!

CLAUDIA

But isn't that who Hamlet is? Isn't that what makes him different?

OTHER STUDENT Well, that's who he is in his natural habitat. That's where he belongs. But in this story, in this world, Hamlet's challenge is trying to use his set of skills and his knowledge of theatre and psychology and mythology to solve this very political and personal problem where none of that is immediately relevant.

33 EXT. RICHARD'S HOUSE - DAY

Harry walks up to a house and knocks on the door.

34 INT./EXT. RICHARD'S HOUSE - DAY

RICHARD HOWELL, a 75-year-old man, answers the door.

RICHARD Can I help you?

HARRY Hi. Sorry to bother you. I'm Harry Summers. I was... um....

RICHARD Are you selling something?

HARRY No! I was Diana Mortimer's boyfriend.

RICHARD What do you want?

HARRY Nothing. I just wanna talk.

RICHARD

I'm sorry. I'm not comfortable speaking to you without an attorney present. Have a nice day.

He shuts the door halfway. Harry stops him.

HARRY

Look, sir, I'm not here to harass you or berate you.

RICHARD Then why are you here?

HARRY

I just...I really want to know the last person she saw. I want to know what happened, from your point of view. I need this. Please.

35 INT. RICHARD'S HOUSE - DAY

Harry sits at a table. Richard pours them each a cup of coffee and hands Harry the cream. Harry pours some in his cup.

RICHARD You really wanna know?

HARRY

I need to.

RICHARD

I'd really like to tell you it was instant. But I'm not gonna bullshit you. So...what do you already know?

HARRY

She left a party at my friend Neil's place. She got on the -scooter thing. And she crashed into your car on the way back to our apartment. But what I'd like to know is... did she say anything? Did somebody--

(only now does he cry) stay with her. And --- look, I know it's stupid. It's so fucking stupid but I don't think anyone else was there to see her or hear her or feel her. Just you. So I had to ask you. You know? And I know that her parents hate you and shit but I don't care -- I just... miss her ---I gotta know. HARRY (CONT'D) I need to know if she said anything. Or if she was in pain. Or...I don't know....did you stay with her?

RICHARD

Like I said, I wish I could say it was guick. But I can't. I can't do that. She just...she was on one of those scooters, and she was going fast, and she made a tight left turn, and all of a sudden she was coming right at me and I didn't see her. I had a green light and I was about to go right through it and by the time I did see her, it was just too late. She crashed right into me. Head on. She must have flown in the air for a couple seconds because I pulled over and put my hazards on and called 911. Then I ran over to her. She was about two car-lengths back. And I was just trying to... trying to see what the hell happened, but she was just laying there. She had a cut all across her leg and--and there was blood. Everywhere. I'm not gonna tell you any more about what she looked like, because -- well frankly it's because I wish I never knew. You're just a kid. You don't want to know this--Maybe you think you do. But you don't. Anyway, after I finished calling 911, I looked back down, and she was going quick. And there was blood all over my hands. And I looked at the blood on my hands as I held this kid I never knew and I just thought "No matter what, every day, for the rest of my life, I'm gonna have this blood right here. Right on my hands. It's not gonna wash off. Ever. You know?"

HARRY I do know. I know exactly how that feels.

Harry is shaken. The chilling description washes over him for a moment before he speaks.

HARRY (CONT'D) Did she...did she tell you anything? Did she say anything?

RICHARD

I don't know if she had the--the energy. She just looked right into my eyes. The whole time. And there was so much blood--it must have been--musta been hell for her, but she grabbed onto my hand for a moment real tight, you know? Like she was gripping my hand. To stay alive. But then she stared into my eyes and looked at me and --- I know it sounds crazy but it almost looked like she was comforting me. Like she was as worried about me as I was about her. I don't know much about Diana, but something tells me...I mean, she looked like the sweetest. And she looked right into my eyes in a way where it was like she was trying to say something, you know? Maybe like "it's okay" but then maybe that look was just shock or maybe she wasn't seeing anything at all. I don't know. And I ... I sang to her. You know? I mean, I didn't know how to do anything else. I tried to put some pressure on the bleeding but I knew I ... I just sang her to sleep, you know? And when her parents came and sued me--you knew that, right?

HARRY

No. They--they never told me. What happened?

RICHARD

Well, when they served me, I got a lawyer and basically he said there's no need to settle because I could win the case because it was one hundred percent her fault, and I had proof of that, but I just looked at him and said, "If this is winning, I'd hate to see what losing looks like to you." And I just gave them what they wanted.

HARRY

What did they want?

RICHARD It's not important. I had enough saved up. I'll be fine.

Harry doesn't know what to do. He looks at Richard with disbelief.

HARRY

That....that---I don't even...yeah.

Richard gets up to grab some Kleenex for Harry. Harry notices a limp in Richard's walk as he walks back. Richard offers, Harry accepts, then grabs one for himself.

HARRY (CONT'D)

Thanks.

RICHARD You're welcome.

HARRY Is your knee alright? You got a little bit of a--

RICHARD Yeah, it's fine.

Richard rubs his knee cap. Silence.

HARRY What song did you sing?

RICHARD "Someone to Watch Over Me." You know...

He sings a bit of the song (THE PUBLIC DOMAIN VERSION) as we cut to....

36 EXT. LAW QUAD - DAY

Harry reads Hamlet in the Law Quad.

The following will be a montage of visual metaphor. The hope of the images from earlier are gone. Now somber and bitter.

HARRY (V.O.) (quoting Hamlet) O, that this too too sullied flesh would melt, / Thaw, and resolve itself into a dew, / Or that the Everlasting had not fixed / His canon 'gainst self-slaughter! O God, God, / How weary, stale, flat, and unprofitable seem to me all the uses of this world! / Fie on't, ah fie! 'Tis an unweeded garden / That grows to seed. Things rank and gross in nature / Possess it merely. That it should come to this: / But two months dead -- nay, not so much, not two. (MORE)

HARRY (V.O.) (CONT'D) / So excellent a king, that was to this / Hyperion to a satyr; so loving to my mother/ That he might not beteem the winds of heaven / Visit her face too roughly. Heaven and Earth, / Must I remember? Why she would hang on him / As if increase of appetite had grown / By what it fed on. And yet, within a month / Let me not think on't. Frailty, thy name is woman! / A little month, or ere those shoes were old / With which she followed my poor father's body, / Like Niobe, all tears ... / O God, a beast that wants discourse of reason would have mourned longer!, married with my uncle, / My father's brother. But no more like my father/ Than I to Hercules. ... O, most wicked speed, to post with such dexterity to incestuous sheets! / It is not, nor it cannot come to good. / But break, my heart, for I must hold my tongue.

37 INT. MORRIS'S CLASSROOM -- DAY

Morris addresses the class, book in hand.

MORRIS

The way I go about studying a speech like this is I ask myself: "Is this a reactive speech? A metaphysical speech"? Well, of course, this is a reactive speech. Hamlet isn't king; Claudius is. But now that Hamlet sits alone in the court, he feels the emptiness of this stage. This is a space which Hamlet associates with his father. And if you've ever been to a space which you associate with a person who's no longer with you, it hollows something out inside you. And of course, in this moment, it is empty. The room is there. The physicality is there. But the soul of the room is not.

We see Harry's face here. Visibly distraught.

MORRIS (CONT'D) Hamlet doesn't want to be here, on this stage. (MORE)

MORRIS (CONT'D) And that state of mind is perhaps the most dynamic in all of theatre. And what's his first line? "O that this too, too solid flesh would melt" -- or "that this too, too sallied flesh would melt", or that this, too, too sullied flesh would melt", depending on the version you're reading. Hamlet is a work that is very heavy on ambiguity. Hamlet is ambiguous. Even what Hamlet says is ambiguous! Shakespeare didn't oversee the publication of his plays. Other people published Quarto versions and Folio versions, and the fact of the matter is nobody knew which ones -- if any -- Shakespeare would have approved of! So did Hamlet say "O that this too too solid flesh would melt"? Could be. That works with the imagery of the rest of the first few lines. The flesh is solid, but he wishes it would melt. But some people say it's "O that this too too sallied flesh would melt" -- and that's possible! At the time, the word "Sallied" meant "attacked" or "assailed" -- so did Hamlet say he sees the death of his father as a personal attack against him? If so, by who? By God? By Claudius? By the expectations that fall on him? Or was it "O that this too too sullied flesh would melt." In the original text, that was read as "sallied" because people often confused the lowercase "a" and "u" due to how they wrote in the 1590s! And "sullied" means "dirty" or "unclean." If Hamlet compares his father to Hyperion, the sun god, then calls his own flesh "too too sullied" -- maybe that's yet another comment on his mother's incestuous tendencies. Or maybe he believes he is sullied with cowardice. Or maybe he tripped and fell in the mud on the way to court. The point is, I don't know. And neither do you. You'll never know. So you'll have to decide what works best for you. Or if it even matters to you, because I don't want to assume that it does. Maybe you just took this class for a writing credit. But if not, if you're as crazy as I am, you might just wonder about this for the rest of your life. So have a good weekend.

Harry, Olivia and David are hanging out, drinking. Music softly plays. David is looking through Harry's copy of Hamlet. Olivia brings David a cocktail and Harry some tea. Harry, perhaps already drunk, takes out a flask from his jacket. He takes a swig and then pours some cognac into his tea.

> DAVID I never understood why Shakespeare isn't taught as a foreign language credit.

> HARRY Because it's English, Early Modern English.

> > OLIVIA

It's an acquired taste. Our parents took us to see a lot of Shakespeare plays growing up. I think they thought it'd make us smarter.

HARRY And I'm so smart.

DAVID

Ok, Harold.

HARRY Not really. I'm a dumbass.

OLIVIA

Tell me when you make up your mind.

HARRY

I have! I'm a really smart dumbass.

OLIVIA And he reconciles the seemingly contradictory statements.

HARRY Emilie didn't want to hang out tonight.

DAVID Oh, so he settled for us! How come?

HARRY Celebrating the Harvard app with the girls.

OLIVIA Is there anything wrong with that? HARRY (a little confused by this) No. I don't know. (beat) When did you start smoking?

OLIVIA

Why?

HARRY I didn't see that coming from you.

OLIVIA I guess, I really started in New York.

DAVID It's probably my fault.

OLIVIA No, it was before you.

HARRY

I feel like... you're not... you... anymore. Not that the smoking thing is an issue. It's not about that. It's like...you're you, but when I talk to you it doesn't feel like you. But you're you. It's different. You know?

OLIVIA

No, I don't know.

HARRY

You speak in--like--platitudes. Like an amateur psychologist.

OLIVIA

Excuse me?

HARRY I don't need a therapist, Olivia.

OLIVIA

Okay... I've never tried to be...

HARRY

You never called me in Topsail. Do you know how fucking...isolated....that place is? OLIVIA I don't know, I thought you needed space. I thought you loved it there.

HARRY

I don't know. I didn't do shit. I couldn't feel shit. I couldn't think.

OLIVIA I mean, wasn't that part of the point?

HARRY What point?

OLIVIA Just get away from everything.

HARRY

Yeah. I wanted to go somewhere different, but...a call would have been nice. Just...you know...."Hey, how you doing?" But no, it was just -- like time was frozen and everyday was somebody's birthday at Declan's 'cause it's always somebody's birthday.

DAVID Hey, dude, this stuff is tough--

HARRY And she's fucking nowhere. Nowhere. So happy fucking birthday.

Harry starts crying. Olivia approaches him for a hug. He hugs her but says...

HARRY (CONT'D)

I'm fine.

OLIVIA It's okay not to be "fine" all the time.

HARRY Look, I don't need you people to tell me how to beha--

OLIVIA What do you mean?

HARRY You need a fucking "pause" button. OLIVIA Pause from what?

HARRY

Can't you just....do nothing? Please? Just do nothing. Say nothing. Because what do you know? Nothing.

OLIVIA I'm just trying to being helpful...

HARRY

Stop trying! You don't know what it's like. You're...you're patronizing--

OLIVIA Hey! I knew her too! You think I'm not grieving?! You think we're all just fucking immune?

He takes out the flask to take another swig but thinks better of it.

OLIVIA (CONT'D) What's in there?

HARRY

Cognac.

OLIVIA Can I have it?

HARRY

Why?

Olivia doesn't respond.

DAVID

You're gonna get through this, Harry. You're gonna come out the other side and feel like you're living fully again.

HARRY

Wow. Thanks, Doctor Rothstein. I mean honestly, you know what you sound like?

David sighs.

HARRY (CONT'D) (laughing bitterly) You sound just like someone who's never had a loved one die, but now you want to feel included in the big family drama so you take a couple lines from a Hallmark movie and pass it off as advice.

OLIVIA

Harry!

HARRY That's what you sound like. It's fucking great. You should hear yourself.

OLIVIA Harry, shut your --

DAVID Babe, it's fine--

OLIVIA No it's not!

......

DAVID HEY! He doesn't know what he's saying he just... Let's just get him to bed, alright?

Harry gets up, but stumbles.

HARRY I shouldn't be with people, not when I---

OLIVIA She would want you to have someone to talk to.

HARRY

Yeah. I just think it'd have been easier for everyone if...if she was here crying and if I was-- I think she'd stand it better.

OLIVIA If she was in your position, she'd say the same thing.

HARRY Grass is always greener on the other side.

A long beat.

OLIVIA So. You wanna sleep here tonight?

HARRY I'm gonna go home. Actually, I'll get going.

OLIVIA Are you sure? You can sleep here.

HARRY No, I'll go home.

Harry sits up and straightens himself out. He rises to go.

OLIVIA Do you want me to come with?

HARRY No, it's not far.

OLIVIA I really think it'd be better if one of us came--

She's cut off by her front door slamming shut.

DAVID

Fuck.

OLIVIA I'm texting him to tell me when he's home.

DAVID

Good idea.

Olivia takes up the couch where Harry was laying.

DAVID (CONT'D) Do you still want to go out tonight?

OLIVIA No, I can't.

DAVID It still might be good for you--

OLIVIA

I can't.

DAVID Have you seen him like that before?

OLIVIA

Not since right after... I gave him the guy who hit her contact info.

DAVID

You what!?

OLIVIA He asked for it! I don't know.

DAVID

Well why do you think he's so set off all the sudden?! Do you know if he's talked to him?

OLIVIA

I don't know! Look, I can't do this all on my own! Our parents are being no help. He's isolating himself except for Emilie. He's not seeking help. I don't know if I ever seen him drink from a flask. I don't know how to do this. I don't think I have it in me.

DAVID Look, I love Harry, but--

OLIVIA CAN YOU JUST SHUT UP?!!

DAVID

I feel like I'm losing you to this.

OLIVIA I don't want my brother to kill himself!!

DAVID

You can't expect yourself to always know how to be there for him. Or be the only one.

OLIVIA But I don't know how to help him at all.

DAVID

You're great with him, just you have to have boundaries.

OLIVIA

You don't know what you're asking of me.

DAVID I'm just asking for you to take care of yourself.

OLIVIA

I know.

DAVID

I miss you.

Silence.

OLIVIA He's finally getting in to see a therapist in two weeks.

DAVID That's really good.

OLIVIA Can we just stay in and watch something dumb? Like Legally Blonde?

David turns on the tv. Olivia looks at her phone.

OLIVIA (CONT'D) He's liked my text about getting home safe and he said sorry about tonight.

39 INT. HARRY'S APARTMENT -- DAY

Harry lies in bed. He groans as he awakens, maybe still in his clothes from the previous night. Surprisingly, he vaguely smiles as he turns over.

MONTAGE

- Harry changing into new clothes

- Harry making tea and breakfast
- Harry brushing his teeth
- Harry out the door

40 EXT. RICHARD'S HOUSE - DAY

Harry arrives at Richard Howell's house and spots a 'For Sale' sign outside this house.

This gives him pause, but he proceeds to the door anyway. Harry knocks. Harry knocks again. He waits, but not for long.

Harry leaves.

41 EXT. DAVID'S HOUSE - PORCH -- DAY

David checks his phone and we observe several missed calls from Ira. He's working on a painting. Jake walks up to the house, in a suit with a briefcase.

> JAKE Hey Davey, what you working on there?

DAVID So the other shoe dropped?

Jake sits in a porch chair at a table.

JAKE

Not yet, but it's looking that way, so I just came down to help you figure out your financial future without Dad's help. But first, as your brother... dude, come on.

DAVID What do you mean, "come on"? This is what I want to do.

JAKE I get that. But we're talking Dad here.

DAVID So what I want with my education doesn't matter?

JAKE No, it does. But you know, getting an Economics degree doesn't mean you have to stop painting.

DAVID Painting is my passion. It's not just some hobby -

JAKE

I know that. Look, the way I see it -- if you get the economics degree, work for Dad --

DAVID

So, I'm just supposed to do financial advising for a decade and be okay with it?

JAKE Yeah but you can still paint!

DAVID

This isn't about what I want to do. It's about what I don't want to do.

JAKE

It's not that bad. Once you're independent, trust me, you'll really value a boring job with good income.

DAVID

Why do you and Dad think that I'll be happy with financial planning just because you guys are? I'm not you! I'm a different person, alright?

JAKE I don't want to argue with you. We can go forward with this or not.

DAVID I want to go forward with this.

Jordan opens his briefcase.

JAKE Alright, let's at least set a plan-

DAVID Do you want to take a look at what I'm working on?

JAKE

Sure.

Jordan walks over to David's canvas. Whatever is on the canvas is clearly a depiction of David and Jake's father Ira. Perhaps it isn't overly flattering.

JAKE (CONT'D) That's actually good.

DAVID I know. Thanks.

JAKE

Is that...

DAVID

Yup.

JAKE You captured him well.

DAVID

I know.

JAKE (laughs) That's absolutely crazy. He can't ever see that.

DAVID I'd like to think he will. Someday.

JAKE Whatever you say, bro. Um, are you able to leave that for a second so we can get started?

DAVID

Sure.

Jake and David sit down at the porch table.

42 INT. NEIL AND SEAN'S HOUSE -- EVENING

Sean, Olivia, David and Izzy all sit at a table for dinner. Neil, clearly a cook, sets various serving dishes on the table. A bottle of wine also gets passed around.

> OLIVIA Oh my god Neil this looks amazing.

> > IZZY

For real.

SEAN

Y'all should come here for dinner more often. Gordon Ramsay here? Always has leftovers.

NEIL Not that many. Not that y'all aren't welcome to share bread.

SEAN No you're literally eating that shit throughout the week.

NEIL I guess. We should do this more often though. DAVID I wouldn't mind. Neil, goddamn.

Everybody eats. Suddenly quiet.

IZZY

I do have a bit of an announcement that I feel like I should just get out of the way.

OLIVIA Oh, Izzy has an announcement everyone.

IZZY I'm moving to Italy next year.

NEIL

What?

OLIVIA

What?!

IZZY

Once I turn 25, I'm required to live in the province where I serve and I've been thinking about it for a really long time, but I think it's better for me to just settle in right after school.

OLIVIA

(in disbelief) You're fucking with me right now.

IZZY

Why start something new when you can only do it for a few years.

OLIVIA You're fucking with me.

IZZY

No.

SEAN Wait, I'm confused, what's this about?

NEIL She's a countess.

SEAN I thought that was a joke??

NEIL No, she's a literally an actual countess. IZZY I do joke about it a lot, but yeah, I'm a countess. SEAN Damn. And you're leaving to basically do that next year? IZZY Yup. SEAN For, like, the rest of your life? IZZY Yup. SEAN Damn. IZZY I'm going to miss everyone so much. OLIVIA I'm going to miss you too. IZZY Oh my god. Both hug and start crying. OLIVIA Sorry. IZZY

No, it's nice to know you'll be able to barely manage without me.

OLIVIA Shut up. We already barely manage without you. Why are you going??

IZZY I mean, it's not all bad. I'll get to travel a lot. But I have to stay in Santena at least 180 days a year and it has to be my permanent residence.

NEIL You'll be a good countess.

IZZY It's really not that hard. NEIL For you. IZZY I can fly you guys out by the way. I can do stuff like that. OLIVIA Give us a tour of the castle! IZZY I've wanted to for freaking ever. DAVID That'll be fun. OLIVIA Anyone else have news that'll make me tear up? NEIL I just realized the potatoes have dairy in the sauce. OLIVIA Ok, Neil. I'm crushed. NEIL I thought you were lactose intolerant? DAVID She is, she just doesn't care. IZZY David, how's that painting you're working on? DAVID How's Italy? Already moving on, huh? IZZY While I'm here, there's no use being sad about me. DAVID The one that's a bull with a nose modeled after my Dad? OLIVIA Am I the only one that thinks that's insensitive?

DAVID I'm Jewish! He's my Dad -- I'm reclaiming.

OLIVIA And Harry gave me that Merchant of Venice quote when I tried to get him to take my side.

NEIL Is it still the bull?

OLIVIA No he painted that over. Now it's a cow.

NEIL Oh! That's huge. Is that your third animal now?

DAVID Yup, and it's oil too, so I got a ridiculous amount of layers on there now.

IZZY You're literally so creative. I don't know how you come up with these things.

SEAN I'm quitting my job.

IZZY Oh my god, why?!

SEAN

I got an internship with Apple starting January that goes all the way to August and I'll be making about 75k. Plus bonuses. So I don't really need it.

DAVID All that for an internship??

SEAN

The tech companies dish out, even for part-time and remote internships. And it should turn into a full time job after the summer -- that's like double the salary.

NEIL That's awesome dude! Why didn't I know this? SEAN I found out this morning. DAVID That's...amazing. Congrats. SEAN Yeah, I'm thinking of going to the Bahamas at some point. DAVID Would Cava's be hiring? SEAN They're literally always hiring. Why? DAVID I was thinking of getting a job. SEAN Damn, really? Well, I can get you in contact with my manager. DAVID I haven't decided yet, but I'll let you know. OLIVIA We're going to Italy. We're going to the Bahamas. We're gonna be so well traveled. IZZY Yes. OLIVIA On second thought, I probably should set the potatoes aside.

43

EXT. NEIL AND SEAN'S HOUSE -- NIGHT

Olivia and David are leaving. Sean has walked them out.

OLIVIA Tell Neil Thank you so much!

SEAN 'Course. Anytime, guys. Bye! DAVID

Bye!

44 INT. NEIL AND SEAN'S HOUSE -- NIGHT

Sean walks inside.

NEIL I can't believe you.

IZZY

I know.

NEIL What am I gonna do without you.

Izzy kisses Neil.

NEIL (CONT'D) We're gonna head up.

SEAN Alright, goodnight.

Neil and Izzy head up the stairs. We linger on Sean, a little lighter than we seen him before and still a little lonely.

45 INT. NEWMAN STUDIO -- DAY

Alexa and Tom sit in a domestic scene. Olivia directs.

ALEXA I'm trying to talk to you.

TOM You're not trying, you're succeeding.

ALEXA If we want to move in together, we need to start planning now--

TOM I know, I know.

ALEXA Then why won't you talk about it?

TOM It's-- I don't know.

ALEXA Do you not want to do this? TOM

I wish you were here.

ALEXA If I'm not here, where am I then?

TOM No, I wish you could live here. In Traverse City.

ALEXA I can't just pick up my career--

OLIVIA Let's stop there. Rebecca, what's happening here?

ALEXA

I mean, he thinks I'm a ghost. I'm confused. I'm trying to figure why it's as if he's trying to resist me.

OLIVIA

And are you a ghost?

ALEXA

It's hard to say. As I've gained comfort with the character, I've stopped feeling like it really matters. What's real anyway, you know?

OLIVIA

I love that. But I was also hoping to feel the irony. A neglected woman now very possibly haunting her husband.. That's a little bit hilarious, isn't it?

46 INT. ROSS SCHOOL OF BUSINESS - EMPTY CLASSROOM - DAY

Emilie pulls up a PowerPoint on her laptop.

It is titled "ASBS RECRUITMENT PRESENTATION."

She hooks up her laptop to a large screen and the three of them begin setting up for a meeting. Ashley and Samantha are sitting down. Ashley looks at her laptop.

> SAMANTHA Emilie! What time did you want us at the mass meeting?

EMILIE It starts at seven. So like maybe six-thirty?

SAMANTHA How long do you have the room reserved?

EMILIE We got the room from six to ten.

SAMANTHA Six to ten?

EMILIE Just in case.

SAMANTHA

Can I leave at 9:30? Joe and I are meeting at 10 to help him with his essay on economic democracy.

EMILIE Yeah, That's totally cool.

ASHLEY Hey, Em! Did you get your Harvard response today?

EMILIE Yeah. How'd you know?

ASHLEY

My email from Harvard came in right now.

EMILIE What does it say?

ASHLEY Should I check it? I don't know. I'm scared.

EMILIE Yeah, check it.

She does so, and...

ASHLEY HOLY FUCK I GOT INTO HARVARD BUSINESS SCHOOL!

EMILIE That's absolutely amazing! Oh my god you're -- like -- so cool! ASHLEY Oh God. Please tell me you got in too. Otherwise I'mma feel really bad....

EMILIE Nope. I got waitlisted, but...no.

ASHLEY Well, Harvard's loss.

HARD CUT TO:

47 INT. DANCE STUDIO - DAY

Emilie does an intense dance routine of some kind with a couple other DANCERS, including Ashley and/or Samantha. Emilie does it very well.

HARD CUT TO:

48 EXT. MICHIGAN LEAGUE - NIGHT

Harry walks inside.

49 INT. MICHIGAN LEAGUE - HUSSEY ROOM - NIGHT

ALTERNATE LOCATION: INT. MICHIGAN LEAGUE - HENDERSON ROOM - NIGHT

Emilie is finishing her recruitment presentation for the Adam Smith Business Society, along with Ashley and Samantha, who are by her side, and four or five other business students.

> EMILIE And that's all we got for the introduction to our club! Thank you so much for coming. Please stay for our social hour! Myself and the rest of the Executive Board will be here and answer any questions you may have...

The room's chatter becomes louder and louder as people stand.

Harry stands. He is nursing a glass of iced tea. He spikes it with a little cognac from his flask.

He starts for Emilie, but moves past people in his row.

A young man in a suit, MELVIN, walks up to him.

MELVIN Haven't I seen you somewhere before? I'm Melvin.

Harold does not recognize him.

MELVIN (CONT'D) What's your name again, man?

HARRY

I'm Harry.

MELVIN Didn't you used to hang around with Diana Mortimer and Neil Jensen and that whole group?

HARRY

Um, who?

MELVIN Diana Mortimer?

HARRY

Yeah.

MELVIN I lived across the hall from her. Our freshman year. She was really nice.

HARRY Yeah. She was.

MELVIN

I always wondered what happened to her. It's funny, you run into people so often, and then all of a sudden you just...don't. How's she doing?

HARRY

Sorry. Excuse me.

Harry walks away and faces a corner, trying not to cry or do anything too noticeable. All around him is a classy college party which he is currently trying not to spoil with his mere presence.

He takes a breath. Then another. Surprisingly, his breathing starts to slow. He turns back around.

He walks up to Emilie, who is leaving a conversation with pleasantries to join a new one.

HARRY (CONT'D) Nice meeting. Ran smoothly.

EMILIE Thank you -- hey, are you okay? HARRY Yeah. I'm fine. EMILIE You sure? HARRY It's -- we'll talk about it later. EMILIE Okay. HARRY So, where do I sign up? EMILIE What do you mean? HARRY Well, I want to join the Adam Smith Business Society. EMILIE You goofball. HARRY No, it's true. This club means a lot to you. I want to support that. EMILIE Thank you. Trust me, though, you don't have to. It's mostly econ, business, and poli-sci majors. HARRY What's the matter? Don't think I could keep up?

50 EXT. MICHIGAN LEAGUE - NIGHT

Harry and Emilie are walking outside of the Michigan League.

EMILIE I don't think they could keep up. If you joined the Adam Smith Business Society, you would significantly raise the average IQ.

HARRY Well clearly, members of the Adam Smith Business Society are wellversed in flattery.

EMILIE

That's not flattery. That's the truth.

HARRY What's it like to be someone who thinks deeply but lives quickly?

EMILIE What do you mean?

HARRY

You....do so much. At such a fast pace. But when I look behind your eyes -- I can see you actually considering the implications. You plan so thoroughly for the future while you live the most hectic life, -- I swear, I can see it -you actually take time to consider who you are and what you want. But that doesn't stop you from being decisive.

EMILIE

What...what is this? Did the Wicca group slip you something?

HARRY No, no. I-- you amaze me.

EMILIE

Thank you.

He slows down.

HARRY Wait, can we stop walking for a second?

EMILIE

Why?

HARRY I just wanna kiss you.

They both smile. She stops walking. They kiss.

HARRY (CONT'D) Okay, now we can walk again.

Laughing, they walk.

51 INT. HARRY'S APARTMENT -- NIGHT

Harry and Emilie walk inside the apartment.

They put their stuff down.

Harry pulls out a chair for Emilie.

EMILIE Why, thank you.

He clicks "on" on his kettle.

HARRY Sorry I didn't have time to buy a tablecloth.

He starts his mise-en-place: cutting board, pot, vodka, packaged fresh pasta, shallots, garlic, butter, oil, chef's knife.

He chops the shallots and garlic.

He opens the canned tomatoes.

EMILIE You're literally making me dinner. I should be like, bringing you a bottle of wine.

He adds the now-boiling water to a pot with liberal amounts of salt, opens the pasta, and throws it in.

HARRY

All I want from you is you. Here. With me.

They kiss. Harry throws the oil, garlic and shallots in a pan.

EMILIE

Hey, by the way, what happened tonight? Like remember how you were like -- you looked like you were about to cry and you were like "I'll tell you later."

HARRY

There was this guy there who was like "Hey! Weren't you Diana's friend? And he ... I mean, he had no idea that she's ... she's dead, and I just...it stopped me in my tracks for a second. You know? EMILIE Yeah, you don't talk about her much. But I can tell when she's on your mind.

HARRY

How?

EMILIE

I can see it behind your eyes. They stare into space for a bit. And you get a little quiet. And you sit in your own world for awhile. And then, when you're ready, you come back. Good as new. All I have to do is let the clouds pass, and the sun shines brighter than ever.

HARRY

Yeah.

EMILIE Was she the first woman you loved?

HARRY Technically, that was Scarlett Johansson. Lost in Translation was huge for me.

Emilie and Harry chuckle in spite of themselves. Harry adds the vodka to the pan and lets it reduce for a moment.

> EMILIE No, really. Was she?

> > HARRY

Yeah.

The vodka reduces. They look in each other's eyes for a moment. They are about to kiss. Then Emilie breaks the silence.

EMILIE

Thank you.

HARRY

For what?

Harry adds the vodka, shallot, and garlic mixture to a midsize simmering pot. Then he adds the canned tomatoes.

> EMILIE For giving me the chance to be with you. To spend time with you. To fall in love with you. (MORE)

EMILIE (CONT'D)

I don't expect you to be ready to say that back to me. I get that you're on a lonely road, Harold, and I can't always walk down it with you. But I want -- no, I need you to know that I love you, and I'll be here for you to lead you by the hand -- or maybe drag you by the hand, kicking and screaming -whenever you need it.

Harry is teary-eyed, speechless. There is no verbal response that can do this justice. Maybe "I love you too," but he can't say that yet. Not really. But he wishes he could.

He plays a song on his phone. HOPEFULLY, it's a song by Jerry Vale like "Old Cape Cod" or "I Have But One Heart" or even "O Sole Mio" -- let's see if we can get the rights. Harry invites Emilie to dance with him.

They dance. It's beautiful.

FADE TO:

52 INT. HARRY'S APARTMENT -- DAY

The next morning. An alarm goes off. Harry and Emilie are in bed together. She is in his arms.

Emilie wakes up and gets out of bed.

Harry feels her loosen herself from his arms and wakes up.

HARRY

Hey.

EMILIE

Hey.

HARRY What time is it?

EMILIE 8 o'clock.

HARRY Jesus Christ, I haven't been up this early since high school.

EMILIE Well, wake up, sleepyhead.

HARRY (groggy) No... EMILIE I got to go to class soon.

HARRY You have class at eight o'clock?

EMILIE No. I have class at nine o'clock. So I gotta get going.

HARRY You want some tea? I want some tea.

He goes to his kettle, grabs some loose leaf, and starts to make tea. She's already dressing

EMILIE I'm sorry, I really do have to go in a bit.

HARRY

One sec.

EMILIE

Yeah?

HARRY I just...I think you're one of the most understanding, sensitive, beautiful people I know.

EMILIE Ohmigod stop. You'll make me want to kiss you again. Mwah!

As she blows him a kiss, she's already halfway out the door.

53 EXT. THE ARB -- EVENING

Olivia and David are walking together in an open field. David gets a text. He opens up his phone and Olivia looks over his shoulder.

OLIVIA

WHAT!?

DAVID ... What the fuck?!

Olivia grabs David's phone. They stop.

OLIVIA Why the fuck is Callum in his underwear!? DAVID I don't know, he's been acting weird to me!

OLIVIA

WEIRD?

DAVID Flirty. These are out of the blue.

OLIVIA So I'm really suppose to believe he just sent basically a NUDE to you OUT OF THE BLUE??

DAVID YES! Ok, I know it's hard to believe. I'm as dumbfounded as you!

Olivia takes a breath.

OLIVIA Are you lying to me?

DAVID

No.

OLIVIA You promise?

DAVID Yes, if you actually give me my phone, I can tell him I'm in a relationship-

OLIVIA He doesn't know??

DAVID No, he does. He just needs reminding.

OLIVIA Can you block him instead of texting him?

DAVID

... yeah, of course.

Olivia hands the phone to David. An uneasy gaze on text messages that could be perfectly ok, but are too frightening to read.

OLIVIA Can you do it now?

DAVID

Yeah.

David fiddles with his phone and shows Olivia.

DAVID (CONT'D)

Done.

OLIVIA

Thanks.

Silence.

OLIVIA (CONT'D) Why were you at the club with him?

DAVID

What? When?

OLIVIA Like two weeks ago.

DAVID ... We were in a group. Mutual friends. Wait. Were you there??

OLIVIA

Gemma was.

DAVID We were in a group.

OLIVIA

Ok.

You do.

DAVID Do you not trust me?

OLIVIA I don't know, I just feel like you have more fun than me. And for a while you kept saying I'm not there enough--

DAVID I don't actually have that much fun.

OLIVIA

DAVID No, you've always had that impression of me and I mean, I think it's kinda cute.

OLIVIA Don't say that right now. DAVID What do you mean? OLIVIA You don't think you party hard because there's always somebody that parties harder. But you do. It's part of who you are. DAVID Who am I? OLIVIA You're my boyfriend. You're usually really sweet. DAVID Usually? OLIVIA If you were always sweet, it'd be ... weird. DAVID Glad I get a couple days off. Olivia laughs, but then her expression turns more serious. OLIVIA You... nevermind. DAVID What? OLIVIA He really sent those pics out of the blue? DAVID Yes.... I love you. OLIVIA How do I know I can trust you? DAVID How am I supposed to have a succinct answer to that? I don't know, you tell me... Olivia sighs. A beat. She looks out into the wilderness.

OLIVIA The sunset's pretty through the trees today.

DAVID We're all alone out here.

OLIVIA

It's nice.

DAVID My Dad's coming to Ann Arbor and I'm having lunch with him in a few days.

OLIVIA Oh! How are you feeling about that?

DAVID Nervous, I haven't been consistently taking his calls.

OLIVIA I'm sure you'll do great. You'll sort something out.

Silence.

DAVID

I'm sorry.

OLIVIA

For what?

DAVID Just... everything.

54 INT. HARRY'S APARTMENT -- DAY

Harry's POV:

Harry picks up his drink and takes a sip. We pan to the cat shaped mini-pot. He picks that up too and places it in a cardboard box that's packed with other miscellaneous items. There're several sealed cardboard boxes about the door. With a roll of packing tape, he seals the box.

Harry takes another swig of his drink. There's a knock on the door. Harry opens the door to a man in a delivery uniform with a uniform.

DELIVERY MAN All of these?

Seeing him disheveled and drunken for the first time, Harry nods.

DELIVERY MAN (CONT'D) Alright. Can I have you sign this?

The delivery man hands the clipboard to Harry with its pen. As Harry signs his name, the delivery man picks up the first box.

55 INT. MORRIS'S OFFICE -- DAY

Professor Herman Morris sits across from Harry at a table in his office.

HARRY

... exactly, and that's what I've been thinking about doing as my final project. Discussing some of the great ambiguities of the text and how they affect the psychology of the characters. I mean, you were talking about how almost every death in the play might not be exactly what it seems. I'm not really super interested in if Gertrude and Ophelia killed themselves, but -- if they did -why'd they do so? What'd they know? Why did Claudius kill King Hamlet? Was it out of ambition and cunning or out of desire for Gertrude? Like...who knows? And that's the beauty of it.

MORRIS

That's a great idea, Harry. I can't wait to see what you do with it.

HARRY

Thank you.

MORRIS

I don't know if you know this, but there's a theater group on this campus that's performing *Hamlet*. My wife and I have tickets, but she's going to be out of town. And I tell her about you all the time -- about how much you actually think about what you glean from dramatic texts -- and she suggested I invite you. As my guest.

HARRY I'm flattered. Thank you. When is it? INT. RESTAURANT -- DAY Ira fixes a cold, if not slightly hurt gaze on someone. It's David, who looks small in his chair. IRA Food's good. DAVID My friend, Sean, use to pick up some shifts here. Or actually, I think he still does... he's quitting soon. IRA How come? DAVID He don't need it anymore. Got some tech internship. IRA Good for him. Awkward silence. IRA (CONT'D) Your brother said he took a look at a painting you were working on and thought it was pretty good. DAVID Yeah, he saw some stuff I was doing. IRA What was it? DAVID It's...um...abstract. IRA You know, I know you feel like when planning your career, its black and white. But it's not. Most people have all sorts of jobs through life. DAVID I know.

56

90.

IRA Then I just don't get it. I'm giving you a leg up here -- why do you insist on throwing that security away? You know, your mother has been sick all week with stress-

DAVID Wait, you and mom still talk?

IRA Of course we still talk, why would you ask that?

DAVID No, I didn't mean anything by it, I just didn't know.

IRA Does she never mention me?

DAVID

No.

IRA Is she offering to help you out? Is that what this is?

DAVID No! I never even asked.

IRA

I'm sorry.

DAVID The painting's of a sheep.

IRA I'd love to see it... Do you know how your grandfather started our business?

DAVID Yeah, you used to tell me all the time--

IRA Well, then let me tell you something I haven't told you... As you know, your grandfather was a poor Jew from the south of Brooklyn. (MORE)

IRA (CONT'D)

And one day, he discovered he had a knack for telling his friends what to do with their money and as you know, from there, he started a business which he incorporated only a few weeks after I was born, but do you know what he wanted to do before all that?

DAVID

What?

IRA

Baseball. He wanted nothing more than to play for the Dodgers, but your Zayde, even at your age, he was five-foot-five and scrawnier than a New Jersey rat. He trialed at all these major and minor league teams for years and years, but being the best kid with a bat in Brooklyn doesn't always get you anywhere, especially with his size.

DAVID

So why did he quit?

IRA

The Dodgers moved to L.A. in 1957. He never watched a game again.

DAVID

What does this have to do with me?

IRA

You might be the best painter there is. But if you don't know how to market and sell the goods you've crafted, then it's worthless.

DAVID

That's something I'll learn. That's not permanent like how tall you are.

IRA

I don't want you to spend your life on an education in one specific niche and realize years later that you can't support yourself. Ok?

DAVID

You don't get it.

IRA Money is finite, David. This painting stuff...it's a big risk.

DAVID What if painting is what I'm supposed to do? It's like... my purpose.

IRA Your purpose changes over time. It doesn't stand still. I know you got this really strong opinion right now -- I just ask you give yourself time.

DAVID I can't keep having the same conversation with you.

IRA Me either, son.

A waiter takes some food.

IRA (CONT'D) I've frozen your trust. It goes into effect on the 2nd, so you'll get your last payment on the 1st.

DAVID (WHOA - that hurts) Why did you do that?

IRA I told you. I can't do it forever.

DAVID What do you mean?

IRA

The company's having a serious downturn in profits. I'm still President of the Board of Directors, but I'll be stepping down as CEO at the end of the year. Esther and I need to start reprioritizing so that we can continue to live the life we've always lived. We've earned that. Now it's time for you to do the same.

DAVID Okay, so you're just taking the money? IRA

It's my money. And I can't let you live your life like your decisions don't have consequences.

DAVID What if I got a dual degree?

IRA

If you got a dual degree, I wouldn't have to do this.

DAVID

Why not?

IRA

Because I'd hire you. You'd be getting your checks from the company by the end of next year. Once you get your license for New York or California or wherever you wanna go, you'll start out as a financial advisor, and then I could put in a good word for you, and if you do well, you'll be a senior financial planner in five to ten years. Tops. You'd make over a million a year and that would only go up with experience as long as you continue to work hard --

DAVID

But that's the thing, Dad. I'm not like you. I don't want to work hard.

IRA You don't mean that.

DAVID

(thoughtfully) No. I don't. But I don't want to work hard in classes I don't give a shit about just to work twelve hours a day at your company because I didn't have the balls to take a risk!

IRA The fact that you have those balls is exactly why I want you with us!

DAVID But I'm not going to be useful doing something I hate! Jesus Christ, you have SEVEN HOUSES! (MORE)

DAVID (CONT'D)

Don't pretend you can't afford my tuition.

IRA Houses are investments. This is a mistake.

57 INT. EMILIE'S APARTMENT -- DAY

The dawn rises, but Emilie's apartment remains mostly dark. Emilie, already out of bed, pulls down a shirt as Harry lies asleep in her bed. She scrambles around, trying to find different makeup appliances without much light. She keeps dropping things. Taking all she needs, she heads for the bathroom.

Harry still sleeps.

58 INT. EMILIE'S APARTMENT -- DAY

Later, Harry comes out of Emilie's bedroom, half-dressed, groggy. Emilie's on her computer. Harry kisses her.

HARRY Morning, beautiful. (beat) Could you make me some tea?

EMILIE I need to put some final touches on this presentation and then actually prepare for it.

HARRY Right, and that's for economics?

EMILIE

Polysci.

HARRY

Right.

EMILIE Did you hear back from that internship?

HARRY Yeah. Um, why does where you keep the tea packages keep moving?

EMILIE

It's never moved. It's just in the cabinet to the right of the stove.

Yeah, I found them. You know, I can make you some recommendations --No, I meant, did you get the

Yeah.

internship?

Oh.

EMILIE That's great!

Did you get it?

HARRY I didn't accept the offer.

HARRY

EMILIE

HARRY

EMILIE

HARRY

EMILIE

Oh... why?

HARRY The timing of it just isn't right.

EMILIE What else are you doing this summer?

HARRY No, it's not like that, it's...

EMILIE

What?

HARRY I don't know.

Emilie sighs

EMILIE What are you doing, Harry?

HARRY What do you mean?

EMILIE You're actually smart. You have all these opportunities and then you just...

It's not that easy.

EMILIE I'm not saying it is easy. But everyone fucking does it.

HARRY

No for you it is easy. You know what you want and how much you want it. Some of us aren't like that.

EMILIE

Do you think I don't have doubts about the work I'm doing?

HARRY

Yeah. I do.

EMILIE

Just because I got a few extra words on my resume, doesn't mean I always know what I'm doing. But you're not even trying--

HARRY

So??

EMILIE So fucking try! -- You can make your own tea, right?

HARRY

Yeah. What are you saying?

EMILIE

Why can't you get your shit together?

HARRY

Oh, sorry, I'm not as accomplished as the 'high priestess'--

EMILIE

Excuse me?? I wrote half that application for you.

HARRY I didn't ask you to.

EMILIE No, but you let me do it! I don't like feeling like I'm above you! And I'm not. I shouldn't be-- EMILIE No, I just said I sometimes feel like it because you won't put effort into your life.

HARRY (he's hurt) Once my tea's done, I'm going.

EMILIE Harry, I'm sorry. FUCK!

HARRY Do you really think I don't put any effort into my life?

EMILIE

Look, babe...

HARRY It's a yes or no question.

Harry goes back to Emilie's room to finish getting dressed. On the way back out, he pours his tea into a paper cup and heads for the door, slamming it behind him.

EMILIE

Bye!

Her face changes.

CUT TO:

59

EXT. THE ARB -- AMPHITHEATER -- DAY

Emilie -- with a slightly more relaxed expression. She sits in the Arb Theater with Gemma and Izzy.

> GEMMA You know, I acted in a Shakespeare play here my freshman year.

> > EMILIE

Oh, what play?

GEMMA Much Ado About Nothing.

EMILIE What's that one about again? I should know because Harry, buut... GEMMA

It's like there's a lot of plot, but not much actually happens. Until everyone gets married in the end.

EMILIE What was your part in it?

GEMMA

I was Margaret. She's like a servant but she also kinda sets up Benedick and Beatrice. It's complicated.

EMILIE

Harry and I had a fight yesterday.

IZZY

Oh, what happened?

EMILIE

I think we both woke up in bad moods. I was trying to tell him he needs to get his shit together, but he's so defensive, like I swear he trying to get on my nerves on my purpose, so I wasn't as nice as I wanted to be and the whole thing just blew up.

GEMMA

I'm sorry. Have you guys done anything to make up?

EMILIE

No... I think he needs space, but when he does, I get worried--

IZZY

No, I think that's the right instinct. He's a sensitive boy. He always has been.

EMILIE

Yeah.

GEMMA What, like, started the argument?

EMILIE

You know that internship with the modern philosophy journal I told him to go for? He turned it down.

GEMMA

Why?

EMILIE That's the thing. He didn't really have a reason. It's so dumb.

GEMMA I'm sorry... glad I wasn't there. Was it at our place?

EMILIE

Yup.

GEMMA And suddenly I love my 8 AMs.

EMILIE I texted him this morning these fights make us stronger. No response so far.

IZZY Give him another day. I feel like he processes shit more slowly since, you know...

EMILIE

Yeah.

GEMMA What'd be fun for you?

EMILIE Do you remember any of your lines from the play?

GEMMA Noooooo, I can't do that.

EMILIE

But do you?

IZZY We're waiting.

GEMMA

Fine.

IZZY You can't do it sitting.

Gemma stands.

GEMMA Emilie, I'm blaming your man for making me do this.

EMILIE He'd actually love that.

GEMMA

Fine.
 (she switches into
 character)

You may think, perchance, that I think you are in love. Nay! I am not such a fool to think what I list; nor I list not to think what I can; nor, indeed, I cannot think, if I would think my heart out of thinking, that you are in love, or that you will be in love, or that you can be in love. Yet Benedict was such another, and now is he become a man. He swore he would never marry, and yet now, in despite of his heart, he eats his meat without grudging. And how you may be converted I know not, but methinks you look with your eyes as other women do.

Somewhere through the delivery of her monologue, we begin to follow the camera through the woods. The sun shines through. It's idyllic. As we do, we catch David and Olivia, either against a tree or on a bench, making out.

Return to the three girls as Emilie and Izzy applaud Gemma's performance.

60 INT. TEA SHOP -- EVENING

Harry sits at the bar in TeaHaus.

HARRY I actually don't know what to order for once.

AVERY Yellow dragon?

HARRY That actually sounds perfect.

Avery starts preparing the tea.

AVERY

It's what you always end up getting in this mood.

HARRY And what mood is that?

AVERY

Either tired or glum, I'm not sure. But I can still kinda tell when it's a Yellow Dragon day. Want anything else?

HARRY

Actually, yeah. How about a Kabusecha? Twelve ounce. Hot. And let's do, a twenty-ounce hot of Assam Mangalam.

AVERY

You don't have Kabusecha very often, do you?

HARRY No. I usually do Gyokuro. But I wasn't really feeling the butteryness of it right now. The grassy note really comes through in the Kabusecha. (beat) Yeah, I come here a lot, don't I?

AVERY

Ya think?

They share a laugh as they move to the counter where Avery makes tea.

HARRY Everyone thinks there's something wrong with me.

AVERY I mean, it's tea, not...crystal meth.

HARRY It's not really about the tea. I think they feel like I've become really comfortable living in this stasis. Maybe they're right.

AVERY What do you mean? HARRY

Everyone I know is reaching, for impact and money and meaning. I just want to read. And drink tea.

AVERY

There's nothing wrong with just wanting to read and drink tea.

HARRY

Is there?

AVERY I don't think so. Do you find meaning in what you read?

HARRY

Yeah.

AVERY Then that's enough.

Silence.

HARRY What if it turns out I want more than just reading?

AVERY Well, that's different.

Silence. Avery finishes the first cup, places it on the counter.

HARRY

I guess I just... want so many things, none of them useful to me. Except the tea is great. Sometimes it's hard to tell what you want, or even if you want something...

AVERY

Sometimes it's also about what you need. For example, in my current stage of life, I think I need to work here. Sometimes I don't want to, but there's so many little things about the job that keep me going.

HARRY Like free tea--

AVERY Yes. And that's good for me right now. But who knows? (MORE)

AVERY (CONT'D)

In a couple years, after I graduate, I'm probably gonna outgrow this job. After I've had all this luxury tea for free, maybe I won't even like normal tea anymore. I don't know. And that's okay. Because nobody does.

HARRY

Some people do.

AVERY

Well, good for them. But it's okay not to have some highly-detailed concrete plan to turn your passions into one singular career-centric purpose in life by the time you're 25.

EXT. LAW QUAD -- DAY

Harry and Diana are having a picnic.

DIANA Look at me.

HARRY (not looking) Yeah?

DIANA Hey, look at me.

HARRY

M-hm.

DIANA I'm pregnant.

HARRY

What?!

DIANA (laughing) Your face right now. Priceless.

HARRY Don't say that.

DIANA Seriously though, I wanted to tell

you something. HARRY

Ok, what?

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DIANA My parents are coming to town this weekend and we're gonna get dinner and... I was wondering--

HARRY If I wanted to meet them?

DIANA Get dinner with us.

HARRY Fuck...um, Yeah. I'd love to.

DIANA No pressure if you're not ready--

HARRY No, I want to. Just you don't really talk about your parents... is there anything I should know? Like...does your dad--I dunno -collect back scratchers or...anything?

They both die laughing. Then the laughing stops as we...

HARD CUT TO:

62 INT. HARRY'S APARTMENT -- DAY

A knock on the door. Harry answer's it.

The delivery man with the same boxes Harry sent away earlier. He hands Harry a clipboard.

> DELIVERY MAN Harry Summers, right? Sign here please. You want these inside?

HARRY Not really. I just sent these away.

DELIVERY MAN Yeah. Looks like it's been sent back. With this.

The delivery man hands Harry a letter.

HARRY Can you do me a favor? Go take 'em to the dumpster behind the building. Here's a 10.

Harry fumbles with his wallet.

DELIVERY MAN Sorry. I can't really do that.

HARRY Fine. Just leave 'em there.

The delivery man leaves and Harry's left alone. A pile of boxes crowding his doorway. Harry opens the letter. The letter's from Holly, Michigan, and is addressed "To Diana's Ex". Inside is a single printed piece of paper. He becomes increasingly visibly upset as he reads.

Then we cut to a MONTAGE of various events in the past and present and whatever. Harry with Diana. Harry with Emilie. David walking around. David studying. David painting. David doing some soul-searching. Olivia directing Tom and Neil in the play. Maybe we even see Neil, Gemma, and Sean choosing to do the things that matter to them. Possibly even Richard Howell driving off into the unknown. We see lots of David in the action. Hopefully more David even than Harry.

HARRY (V.O.)

How all occasions do inform against me / And spur my dull revenge! What is a man, / If his chief good and market of his time / Be but to sleep and feed? A beast, no more. / Sure he that made us with such large discourse, / Looking before and after, gave us not / That capability and godlike reason / To fust in us unused. Now whether it be / Bestial oblivion, or some craven scruple / Of thinking too precisely on th'event -- / A thought which, quartered, hath but one part widsom .. And ever three parts coward--I do not know / Why yet I live to say "This thing's to do" / Sith I have cause, and will, and strength, and means / To do't. Examples gross at earth exhort me: / Witness this army of such mass and charge, / Led by a delicate and tender prince, / Whose spirit with divine ambition puffed ... Makes mouths at the invisible event, / Exposing what is mortal and unsure / To all that fortune, death, and danger dare, Even for an eggshell. Rightly to be great / Is not to stir without great argument, / But greatly to find quarrel in a straw / When honor's at the stake. ... Oh, from this time forth, / My thoughts be bloody or nothing worth!

63 EXT. NEIL AND SEAN'S HOUSE -- NIGHT

Harry and Emilie walk up to a homestead that's clearly already buzzing. Harry's being broody.

EMILIE

You okay?

HARRY Yeah... no. Yeah... Am I insensitive?

EMILIE Not at all.

HARRY Who knows? Maybe I am.

EMILIE What do you mean? (beat) Wait a sec, is this--? No. No, no, no, no, no. That letter is the Newsmax of personal correspondence. It is not reliable. I reject your source. I REJECT IT!

They burst into laughter as they continue walking.

HARRY

Thank you.

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INT. NEIL AND SEAN'S HOUSE -- NIGHT

It's a fiesta. Neil, Sean, Harry, Izzy, Olivia, David, Emilie, Callum, Gemma, Jimmy, Samantha, Ashley, perhaps even Tom and Alexa are there. This is a proper party, not like the gathering welcoming Harry back.

Izzy is dancing on top of a table or sum.

IZZY Where my bitches aattttt??

Music blares. The house bustles with bodies. We see Harry, Emilie and Gemma talking by Izzy. We see Sean and Olivia yammering drunkenly to each other. Neil on the couch in a complete daze.

David's moving through the crowd when he hears a familiar voice.

CALLUM (joking) You blocked me, you bastard. David turns around to be greeted by a very drunk Callum.

DAVID Excuse me? (noticing him) Oh.

CALLUM It's okay, I forgive you. I so forgive you. How are you doing?

DAVID Good. My Dad's this close to cutting me off from my college fund.

CALLUM (with slight sarcasm) Wowww, I'm so sorry.

DAVID (not picking up on it) No, it's ok. I'll be fine.

CALLUM That must be hard for you though.

DAVID It's been a journey.

CALLUM

I bet. (beat) Do you want to do shots? The bar's still got some tequila left.

DAVID

I don't know--

CALLUM C'mon, it'll be fun.

As we follow Callum and David, we pan to Izzy and Gemma.

IZZY I'm so drunk right now.

GEMMA No, literally, I'm so drunk right now.

IZZY Oh my god! Literally.

As David and Callum move through the crowd, Olivia spots them.

OLIVIA Hey, look! It's two handsome men. CALLUM Oh my god! We've met. I think we've met. I'm Callum. OLIVIA I'm Olivia. His girlfriend. CALLUM His what?! OLIVIA His girlfriend. David? DAVID I--CALLUM Wait, you're bi?? DAVID Yes! You didn't know that? CALLUM I had no idea! (to Olivia) I just didn't know he was bi. That's all. OLIVIA Oh. CALLUM I have a friend -- I need to find -- somewhere here. Callum makes as quick an exit from the couple as he can. OLIVIA We need to talk. DAVID About what? OLIVIA I think you know. DAVID No, what? Olivia's on the verge of tears. She makes a rush for the door.

DAVID (CONT'D) Where are you going??

David follows Olivia. Sean, who has been 'there' through this whole exchange, follows.

IZZY

Everybody!

No response.

IZZY (CONT'D) EVERYBODY!

65 EXT. NEIL AND SEAN'S HOUSE -- NIGHT

DAVID You see where she went?

SEAN

No, man.

DAVID Fuck! Go left. I'll go right.

They split up.

66

INT. NEIL AND SEAN'S HOUSE - NIGHT

IZZY

EVERYBODY!!! I have an announcement to make!! I've been standing on this table because I had an announcement but I couldn't remember what it was until now!!

GEMMA What's your announcement?!

IZZY

If I've told you during the past few months I have to live in Italy starting next year, guess what!?

EMILIE

... what?!

IZZY

I was fucking with y'all. I can literally live anywhere I want. YOU ALL WATCH TOO MUCH TV. Also, me and Neil have been boinking.

GEMMA Hold on. You and Neil have been WHAT? Gemma is at Neil's side on the couch, practically shaking him. GEMMA (CONT'D) Neil! Neil! Wake up! NEIL Whaat? GEMMA Have you and Izzy been fucking? NEIL Yeah. GEMMA Oh my god! For how long? NEIL Since September. EMILIE Ohmigod!! Izzy?! IZZY What? GEMMA EMILIE How could you keep this from How could you keep this from us?? us? IZZY I wanted to be more mysterious this year. GEMMA More mysterious? What does that even mean? IZZY Exactly! GEMMA Are you even a countess?? IZZY Yes! I just lied about having to live in Italy. GEMMA Oh my god, I'm so happy.

EMILIE Why did you lie? IZZY For fun! EMILIE I don't get you sometimes. IZZY Do you not think it's funny? EMILIE No!! IZZY

Sorry...

Gemma climbs up onto the table. Emilie follows. The three hug.

> GEMMA No, I'm just so happy you're staying.

EMILIE I need some air. I'm literally crying right now.

Emilie starts makes her way for the exit. We close in on Harry. He's stressing real bad.

DISSOCIATE TO:

INT. NEIL AND SEAN'S HOUSE -- NIGHT

A party is in full swing, with different music and lighting.

HARRY Baby, I'm really tired. I'm gonna head home.

DIANA

0k...

HARRY

Don't walk alone if you can. I want you back safe. Or use one of those scooters, I don't know, but I'm about to fall asleep and I don't want to here--

Diana laughs.

DIANA

I'll be fine. Go home, get some sleep. I won't be far behind you.

BACK TO:

68 INT. NEIL AND SEAN'S HOUSE -- NIGHT

IZZY

I'm gonna be in the U.S. next year!!

Cheers from across the room. Izzy jumps down and follows Emilie out. Gemma joins so the three of them can have their moment together.

As we close up focus on Emilie walking out the door...

MATCH CUT TO:

69 EXT. NEIL AND SEAN'S HOUSE - NIGHT

We see Diana do the same. She stumbles for a bit before finding a scooter on the sidewalk. She starts it up.

A little bit later, we watch Diana cross the street on the scooter. Tires screech.

BACK TO:

70 EXT. NEIL AND SEAN'S HOUSE -- PORCH -- NIGHT

Harry rushes out the door and onto the porch where Emilie, Izzy, and Gemma -- as well as maybe 2-3 others -- are celebrating.

HARRY Are you going home right now?

EMILIE No, I was just talking to Izzy.

HARRY Promise me you won't use a scooter.

EMILIE I... won't?

HARRY Just...Promise me you'll be careful? EMILIE

Of course.

HARRY Where's Olivia?

IZZY I saw her leaving.

Harry dashes off the porch and begins walking.

EMILIE Harry, where are you--?

71 EXT. STREET -- NIGHT

Harry walks very quickly, in a panic.

72 EXT. DIAG -- NIGHT

David has caught up to Olivia, still teary. Sean lags far behind.

OLIVIA Just leave me alone. I'm not feeling well, ok?

DAVID I just don't want you mad at me.

OLIVIA I'm not mad at you! You're just stressing me out!

DAVID Then I don't want you all stressed with me.

OLIVIA (yelling, teary) I don't want to be either!!

DAVID

I love you.

OLIVIA Do I have reason to be?!

DAVID

What?!

OLIVIA

Stressed.

DAVID Oh my Goddddd!

OLIVIA

What!?

DAVID

Nothing.

OLIVIA Is there something to tell me or isn't there something to tell me?... DAVID.

DAVID

WHAT?

OLIVIA You're avoiding the question.

DAVID I don't even know what the question really is anymore.

OLIVIA

Do you?!

Silence.

OLIVIA (CONT'D) Are you cheating on me?

DAVID At this point -- does it really matter what I say?

OLIVIA That doesn't answer the question.

Sean catches up to couple.

Sorry.

SEAN Next time text me that you found her.

DAVID

OLIVIA How many people are looking for me??

DAVID

Just us.

OLIVIA I think I need to just go home. Clear my head.

DAVID Do you want me to come with?

OLIVIA No. Go back to the party. Have fun.

She starts walking.

DAVID

Olivia...

OLIVIA DON'T follow me.

She disappears into the night, so to speak.

SEAN

I'm sorry, dude. I hope y'all work things out.

DAVID Yeah. I gotta get my head straight. I can't even focus on this. I need to work things out with my Dad.

SEAN He really doesn't want you going into art?

DAVID

No, man.

SEAN I kinda get it. He wants to make sure you have security.

DAVID

What do you mean?

SEAN

Being broke sucks. A lot. But at the same time, if you really love painting, and you're willing to make sacrifices for it, that's more credit to you. A lot of people aren't that brave.

DAVID Yeah. Guess I just don't care. The longer I consider it, the more it makes sense to me. (MORE)

DAVID (CONT'D)

My brother was talking to me about waiting until I had independence. Why can't I have independence now?

SEAN Wait, you're giving up guaranteed work at your Dad's firm? How much does that pay?

DAVID I think post grad I would've started at about 250k.

A beat. Sean chuckles in mild shock and not-so-mild envy.

SEAN (bitterly) Dude... you're unbelievable.

DAVID

What?

SEAN Are you stupid? You gotta take that job.

DAVID I have to finish my econ degree to take that job.

SEAN Oh boo hoo, you dumb fuck.

DAVID You just said you respected me for

it.

SEAN You didn't say what you were throwing away! You'll be able to do more painting with that money than you ever could --

DAVID No, you don't know how the hours work in finance--

SEAN

Who gives a fuck how the hours work?! Dude, you'll still have more time this way. Just trust me.

DAVID You don't get how that industry works. I won't have time to-- SEAN

It doesn't matter! I get it's a lot of work--

DAVID I really don't think you do, man.

Harry approaches.

SEAN

Look, maybe I don't know how the hours work, but I do know that people would kill for that opportunity and you're too stupid or - too LAZY - to take it!

DAVID You're probably right.

Harry's within earshot. He continues his approach as David and Sean stare at each other in silence for a moment.

> HARRY Hey. Where's Olivia?

DAVID That way. But I'm not sure if it's a good idea to talk to her right now.

HARRY (pissed at the situation) Thanks.

Harry starts running again. In not too long, he catches up to Olivia.

OLIVIA What do you want?

Harry needs to catch his breath. He stops, grabbing her arm to indicate their stopping, and they sit on a bench.

HARRY

I just wanted to walk you home. I thought --well y'know, about the scooters and shit and I'm realizing I'm being really stupid now...

Harry breaks down.

HARRY (CONT'D) I don't know what the fuck I'm doing.

Olivia gets teary.

OLIVIA Hey, Harry, hey. It's ok. HARRY No it's not. OLIVIA No, that's so... normal. HARRY It doesn't feel like it. OLIVIA That's normal too. HARRY I know.. They sent them back. OLIVIA What? HARRY Her parents. They sent her stuff back to me? Why would they do that? OLIVIA Did you ship it to them? What happened? HARRY Yeah. They were mad at me for not telling them in advance--OLIVIA Oh, Harry. They hug. HARRY How are you? OLIVIA (going gently) I think David might be cheating on me. HARRY What? OLIVIA

I think he's seeing Callum again. I keep being told they're everywhere together... I just feel like I can't trust anything anymore. It's not just David. (MORE)

OLIVIA (CONT'D) I always thought getting through the day was kinda like keying in numbers on a vending machine and waiting for a snack. Like, a series of causal relationships. But recently, it's like...the vending machine's always broken. It's all just random and nothing ever works like it's supposed to and there's no clearly identifiable cause-andeffect relationships anymore and it's like it's all gone haywire because everything everywhere's completely fucked! And, Jesus Christ, why the fuck did she have to...go?

HARRY

You know I can't answer that.

A beat. Then Emilie catches up to the siblings.

EMILIE Hey, are you okay?

HARRY Better. Sorry about tonight.

EMILIE (as if practiced) No, I want to talk about it. I want to be there for you. I want to let you be there for me.

HARRY

Ok.

EMILIE We can both not be perfectionists. We just have to try.

OLIVIA (to Harry) Are you alright if I go home?

HARRY

Yeah.

EMILIE Do you need someone to walk with you?

OLIVIA No, I'm really close.

HARRY

Bye.

OLIVIA

Bye.

Olivia heads off, leaving Harry and Emilie looking at each other, as if for the first time.

73 EXT. EMILIE'S APARTMENT -- DAY

Emilie walks out of her room and into she and Gemma's common space. Gemma is sitting on the couch.

EMILIE I think I'm gonna do it.

GEMMA You think you're gonna accept...

EMILIE

Michigan.

GEMMA

Awesome!

EMILIE I want you to watch me do it.

GEMMA

Ok.

Gemma follows Emilie to her room.

EMILIE Here's my laptop.

GEMMA

Love it.

EMILIE And the accept button and accept.

Emilie clicks accept.

EMILIE (CONT'D)

Yay!

GEMMA Yay! I'm so happy for you.

EMILIE

Me too.

EMILIE I just texted him.

Emilie can't stop smiling.

GEMMA So things went well last night?

Emilie nods. Slightly.

74 INT. STUDIO TWO - NIGHT

Harry sits in the second row next to Herman Morris during a production of Hamlet.

The scene in the production is the middle of Act V, Scene I. The roles of the Gravedigger and Hamlet are played -excellently -- by drama students. Horatio is played by JIMMY. Maybe we see parts of Ophelia's funeral and burial off to the side, silently. The cast will include HAMLET, GRAVEDIGGER, and HORATIO (played by Producer) at the very least; possibly GERTRUDE, CLAUDIUS, DOCTOR OF DIVINITY, and LAERTES.

We will hear most of the scene but concentrate visually on Harry for some places. The exact lines delivered from the scene may vary, but we certainly hear some part of "Alas, Poor Yorick!" and see the extremely famous moment where Hamlet holds Yorick's skull in his hands.

75 INT. ROSS SCHOOL OF BUSINESS - INTERCUT - DAY

At an Adam Smith Business Society meeting with Samantha, Ashley, and the others, Emilie checks her phone.

76 INT. DANCE STUDIO - INTERCUT - DAY

Emilie practices her routine with some other dancers.

77 INT. EMILIE'S APARTMENT - INTERCUT - DAY

Emilie checks her texts. She navigates to Harry's text chain. She's texted him seven times over the course of the day without reply.

78 INT. HARRY'S CAR - INTERCUT - DAY

We see Harry's phone buzz. Emilie's calling him. He doesn't even check who it is. He silences the phone.

123.

We see several miscalls and texts from Emilie and Olivia on his lock screen.

Now seeing Harry plainly, he's driving somewhere.

He passes a sign. "Holly, Michigan".

79 INT. CAFE -- DAY

Olivia and Emilie sit at a table, eating.

OLIVIA And you're sure he's not at his place?

EMILIE I went there.

OLIVIA How did things go after I left you guys the other night?

EMILIE They were good.

OLIVIA What did you talk about?

EMILIE

I guess that we love each other as who we are right now, works in progress. But also we're gonna put in effort. It was really sweet.

OLIVIA

Was there any indication that he might...

EMILIE I don't think so. But I'm second guessing everything.

OLIVIA

Yeah.

EMILIE Maybe I scared him off-

OLIVIA No, you didn't. Don't think like that.

EMILIE How can I not? OLIVIA This isn't the first time he's done this.

EMILIE What? Disappear off the face of the earth?

OLIVIA

Yeah. Freshman year of high school, he and our parents got in an argument and he just dipped. Spent the whole day at the movies, watching *The Hateful Eight* projected on 70-millimeter. Like... three times in a row. Freshman year, he decided one day to drive to Wisconsin, and he didn't tell anybody about it till he was there.

EMILIE What's in Wisconsin?

OLIVIA

Cheese. (Beat) Point is, he goes AWOL.

EMILIE

Yeah. You know, I really want to love him for where he's at. That's what we figured the other night.

OLIVIA

And that's great.

EMILIE

But I'm totally blindsided.

OLIVIA

Yeah. I mean, he hasn't completely disappeared. He's just being Harry.

EMILIE

What, doing his own thing and making everyone worry?

OLIVIA

Basically.

EMILIE

I literally texted him I chose Michigan and he didn't respond. There's no way this isn't about him and me. I fucked something up.

OLIVIA No. You're normal. He's the one being weird right now. As usual. EMILIE (laughing) Maybe. (beat) Yeah. (beat, more serious now) I just don't want my boyfriend running away from me. (beat) Do you think he's not ready for ... us? OLIVIA I think he'll tell you if he's not ready. EMILIE Will he? OLIVIA Yeah. EMILIE Ok. You and David fought at Neil's, right? OLIVIA Yeah... EMILIE Are you guys ok? OLIVIA I... keep thinking he's cheating on me, but then I think I'm crazy for thinking that but then I think what if I'm not... EMILIE Have you guys talked since Neil's? OLIVIA No... EMILIE You're just as bad as Harry! OLIVIA

I just feel like, if I talk to him, I can't trust myself. But I also feel like, the longer I wait, the more I'm killing the relationship-- EMILIE Then let's figure out what to say. Keep my mind off Harry.

OLIVIA I don't know what to believe. I feel like I'm terrible.

EMILIE

You're not.

OLIVIA Do you have any sense?

EMILIE I don't think I'm in a position to really have a sense.

OLIVIA I can't keep ghosting him.

EMILIE Maybe just set up a time to talk. Do something to clear your head before you do. Of course, you'll both be sober which is a plus--

OLIVIA What if he is? With Callum?

EMILIE Then he doesn't deserve you.

OLIVIA I want it to be that easy.

EMILIE Do you really think he's cheating?

OLIVIA

Who knows?

EMILIE Only him. So eventually, you'll just have to trust your gut.

80 EXT. CEMETERY IN HOLLY, MICHIGAN - DAY Harry's car pulls in.

81 EXT. CEMETERY IN HOLLY, MICHIGAN - DAY

We see Harry walk a distance through the graveyard. He arrives at a grave. And stands for a bit, meditative.

IZZY Hey! HARRY Hi. IZZY Probably didn't know I come here. HARRY This is actually my first time here since... IZZY Oh. HARRY The service. IZZY Well, you're here right now. Um, do you want to be alone? HARRY No, it's ok. Silence. She walks closer to Harry. HARRY (CONT'D) I miss her. IZZY Me too. HARRY I don't know why it took me so long. IZZY No, that's dumb. HARRY I don't really deserve her. IZZY That's even dumber. And this is dumb. It's like the world didn't care. HARRY We're just afraid of how we feel. IZZY What?

HARRY That's why I haven't stood here until now. IZZY I've actually found it very healing -- going here. HARRY Really? IZZY But that's just me. HARRY No, I understand that. Silence. HARRY (CONT'D) It's just you. Remembering. IZZY It's funny how all our memories just cluster together. HARRY When staring at a stone. IZZY That's the point, isn't it? HARRY I'm trying to be more comfortable with it. IZZY Me too. HARRY But you always seem so ready for the world. IZZY You know, a part of me wanted to be tied to that Italian province. HARRY What? IZZY I get tired of feeling like I'm everywhere, everything to everybody, I know that doesn't really make sense--

HARRY It does. IZZY Maybe no one is 'so' ready. HARRY I'm certainly not. IZZY Nah. HARRY 'Nah' what? IZZY You're so ready. HARRY What do you mean? IZZY I think you're so ready. HARRY For what? IZZY For everything. HARRY That's a lot. IZZY And you're going to do great. HARRY And are you so ready for everything? IZZY Not as much as you so are. HARRY Maybe you're right. IZZY Of course I am. HARRY Okay then... We're both so ready for everything? IZZY Yeah.

Beat.

HARRY

Yeah.

FADE TO:

82 EXT. DAVID'S HOUSE -- PORCH -- DAY

SUPERIMPOSE: A month later.

David's putting the final touches on his painting, which now resembles a self-portrait with his father's nose.

An alarm from his phone sounds.

David begins putting away his brushes.

83 INT. DAVID'S HOUSE - BEDROOM - DAY

David buttons up a black button-down shirt. He also has changed into black pants and black shoes.

84 EXT. RESTAURANT -- DAY

Emilie and Harry sit a table outside, all smiles. David comes over with a notepad.

DAVID Oh, hey guys!

HARRY

Hey, man!

DAVID Can I start you off with something to drink?

EMILIE Can I have a cup of coffee?

HARRY Same, with cream.

DAVID Coming right up.

HARRY Good seeing you.

David just walks away.

85 INT. NEWMAN STUDIO -- EVENING

We see Harry and Emilie sitting close together in the dark. Olivia, David, Sean, Izzy and Gemma, sit in various places.

The lights are up on Olivia's play. Neil and Tom are onstage, in character.

TOM Have you ever genuinely considered murder?

NEIL

Of course not.

TOM

Exactly. Why would you, right? But when everyone thinks you've already killed someone, it's different. Recently, I came to the conclusion that I'd kill myself and everyone in the whole city to get back the woman they say I killed. Because I loved her more than you can imagine, you selfish prick!

NEIL

Hey, you--

TOM

No, I don't want to hear it! You want me to take a deal because you want to win. But you get to go home to people who love you and look them in the eye and know that you've never done anything to hurt them. Even by accident. And I lose. Because I don't. And maybe I deserve that. But I would have died for her. Would you die for anyone, Larry? Would anyone die for you? Are you worth that much?

86 INT. HARRY'S APARTMENT -- DAY

SUPERIMPOSE: Three months later.

Harry & Emilie are moving boxes of stuff into Harry's apartment. She hands him a box.

EMILIE Be careful with that one. It's fragile.

HARRY

Got it.

131.

Izzy and Olivia knock. Emilie answers the door.

IZZY Hi, we were wondering if we could be any help.

EMILIE No, we're set. I get a big, strong man to help me now.

HARRY (from the background) Ha-ha.

OLIVIA So can you help me move in this afternoon then or are you going to tell me I need to go man-hunting?

EMILIE Stop, single Olivia is thriving.

OLIVIA

Thank you.

IZZY Call us if the big, strong man needs help.

EMILIE (laughs) Okay.

Emilie turns back around to Harry. She observes a lack of boxes moving or being unpacked. Instead, Harry's making tea.

EMILIE (CONT'D) What are you doing?

HARRY

Making tea.

EMILIE But we're in the middle of unpacking.

HARRY

And?

EMILIE (under her breath) So we're taking it slow.

HARRY Do you want me to make you a cup? EMILIE No. Thank you though.

HARRY You're welcome.

EMILIE Should I go take the U-Haul back?

HARRY Sure. If you want.

EMILIE Be back in a bit.

HARRY

Love you.

They kiss. She walks out the door. Harry brews a cup of tea. As he does so, he begins to sing to himself, "Someone to Watch Over Me." He takes his flask, measures half a shot of cognac, and spikes his tea.

THE END