

"9J 9K 9L"

Pilot

By

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COLD OPENING

FADE IN:

INT. JOSH'S (SPACIOUS STUDIO) APARTMENT - MORNING (DAY 1)
(JUDY, HARRY, JOSH, GREG, EVE, BEN)

CLOSE ON: JUDY (68, PASSIVE AGGRESSIVE, LOVES TOO MUCH) AND
HARRY LIPMAN (70, LOUD, LARGER THAN LIFE) LOOKING DOWN AT
SOMEONE SPECIAL.

HARRY

Would you look at this gorgeous baby?

JUDY

I just wanna eat him and squeeze him
and chew on his squishy little tushie!

HARRY

Shh, Judy, you never wake a sleeping
child.

JUDY

Oh I just have to! (THEN) Josh? Joshy?
Joshua?

REVEAL: A 41-YEAR-OLD MAN, JOSH LIPMAN STIRS AWAKE IN HIS
QUEEN SIZE BED. HE IS STARTLED BY HIS PARENTS' SMILING FACES
BEAMING DOWN AT HIM. REVEAL HARRY'S IN TIGHTY-WHITEY'S, DRESS
SHIRT AND KNEE SOCKS. JUDY'S IN HER NIGHTGOWN.

JOSH

What are you guys doing?!

JUDY

Just smelling you.

HARRY

What a day. We've been waiting fifteen
years for you to leave Los Angeles and
move back to New York!

JOSH

Well it's good to be back. I feel like I'm getting a fresh start, a second-- (THEN) Whoa, didn't see *that* when I came in last night.

ANGLE ON: A HUGE POSTER FOR THE TV SHOW "BLIND COP." JOSH, IN A COP'S UNIFORM, STARES BLINDLY OFF IN ONE DIRECTION BUT POINTS HIS GUN IN THE OTHER. THE TAGLINE: *SEE NO EVIL*.

HARRY

Detective Mike Dent. You were fabulous.

JUDY

I'll never understand why they cancelled that show.

JOSH

Oh, I don't know. It might've been the episode in which my character, who is blind, performed an emergency tracheotomy. Or the one in which he landed a commercial jet on Sunset Boulevard.

JUDY

The wheels came down just in time! Chills!

HARRY

Well it's good to have you home, Josh. And I was thrilled to get rid of our tenant. I got my closet back!

HE GESTURES TO AN OPEN CLOSET FULL OF HIS SUITS.

JOSH

Again-- and I cannot stress this
enough-- I'm only staying here
temporarily.

JUDY

You are exactly where you should be.
Surrounded by your loving family.

GREG LIPMAN (43, NARCISSISTIC BALL-BUSTER) BURSTS IN.

GREG

Didn't want a prenup! (DIVES INTO BED,
STARTS LOVINGLY MAULING JOSH) Mr. Nice
Guy here was too worried about
"hurting her feelings."

JOSH

(SMILES THROUGH MAULING) Hello Greg.

GREG

Now, in addition to your balls, she's
got your house and you're living next
to your parents like a ten-year-old.

JOSH

You are also living next to our
parents like a ten-year-old.

GREG

As you well know, Eve and I are only
staying here til we finish the
renovations on our Park Avenue duplex.

JOSH

We know it's on Park Avenue. You don't have to say that every time.

GREG

Yeah, but I like to. (THEN) It's gonna be sick. We're knocking down walls, flying in marble. TV's and heated toilets in every bathroom.

JUDY

(EXCITED) Ooh, do they have the water that shoots--

SHE MAKES AN UPWARD GESTURE WITH HER HAND.

GREG

Nothing but the best for you, Ma. You'll use the one in the hallway. Never my bedroom. (THEN) I'm glad that tenant's gone. I got my gym back!

HE GETS ON THE TREADMILL NEXT TO JOSH'S BED AS EVE CHANG (32, SMART, NO NONSENSE PEDIATRICIAN) ENTERS WITH BEN (6 MONTHS).

HARRY

Morning, Evelyn!!

EVE

Morning! Welcome home, Josh! (SOTTO, RE: TIGHTY-WHITEY'S) Isn't it great your dad feels so comfortable in front of me? I saw his balls yesterday.

SHE KISSES HIM HELLO. HE TURNS TO THE BABY.

JOSH

What's up, Benny-boo?

JUDY

Eve, are you laying the baby on his side? I don't want him to have one of those flat heads like the boy in 8C.

EVE

His head's fine, Judy.

HARRY

Greg, stop stomping. You are going to bother the people downstairs.

GREG

JUDY

What? Can't hear you.

Did you ask a Pediatrician?

HARRY

EVE

Stop stomping!

I am a pediatrician.

HIS FAMILY ARGUES ON EITHER SIDE OF HIM FOR A BEAT.

JOSH

Well, I'll just let you guys work all that out. (THEN, SARCASTIC) Please, stay as long as you want.

AS THEY CONTINUE ARGUING, JOSH, IN HIS BOXERS, GETS OUT OF BED AND HEADS TO THE BATHROOM. AND WE...

FADE OUT.

END OF COLD OPEN

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

INT. LOBBY - LATER
(JOSH, NICK, DIEGO)

DOORMAN NICK (20'S, URBAN, SMOOTH) IS AT HIS STATION. DIEGO (12, PRECOCIOUS, CINEPHILE) SITS ON THE SOFA READING. JOSH ENTERS WITH GROCERY BAGS.

NICK

There he is! Lookin' good. Ladies of
the East River House, watch out!

AN ELDERLY FEMALE TENANT CROSSES BY.

JOSH

Hey, Nick, great to see you.

NICK

Yo Josh, can I make a confession to
you? You know Barbara De Fina in 8K?

JOSH

Yeah she and her husband are just
below me.

NICK

(SOTTO) Well last week she was below
me. It's been going on for months.
Then a couple days ago, she tells me
she's leaving Anthony. I'm like *don't
leave Anthony!*

BEAT.

JOSH

Nick you know how sometimes people assume a familiarity they haven't yet earned?

NICK

Tell me about it. My cousin has IBS and every time I see him it's like--

JOSH

Yep, you get it, you get what I mean.

NICK

(TO KID ON COUCH) Hey, Diego! You now live in the same building as a real live TV star. You ever hear of a show called *Blind Cop*?

DIEGO

I can't watch TV.

JOSH

You're not allowed?

DIEGO

No, it's an insult to my intelligence. I prefer film. (THEN) Have any movies coming out?

JOSH

Not at the moment, no... My plan is to get back into theater. That's why I moved back to New York.

NICK

I thought you moved back 'cause your wife took all your money and you're staying in your parents' apartment for free.

DIEGO

You live with your parents?

JOSH

Not with, next to.

DIEGO

Same thing.

JOSH

No it's not! It's not the same thing at all!

DIEGO

Alright, guy, sounds like this is a sensitive topic for you so, cool, you live next to your parents.

JOSH

And don't you forget it.

JOSH HEADS FOR THE ELEVATOR.

CUT TO:

INT. 9TH FLOOR HALLWAY - MOMENTS LATER
(JOSH, JUDY)

THE DOOR TO JOSH'S APARTMENT (9K) IS AT THE VERY END OF THE HALLWAY, FLANKED ON EITHER SIDE BY HIS PARENTS' DOOR (9L) AND GREG/EVE'S DOOR (9J) SUCH THAT THE THREE DOORS MAKE A "U"-SHAPE. JUST AS JOSH'S HAND TOUCHES HIS DOORKNOB, JUDY WHIPS OPEN HER DOOR. JOSH REACTS WITH A START.

JOSH

Wow, that was good timing...

JUDY

Heard the elevator. I got Tate's
Cookies. Wanna come in for a visit?

SHE LOOKS AT HIM WITH SUCH HOPE AND NEED HE CAN'T SAY NO.

JOSH

Sure, just a quick one though.

CUT TO:

INT. HARRY AND JUDY'S APARTMENT - AN HOUR LATER
(JOSH, JUDY, HARRY)

JOSH SITS AT THE TABLE, SURROUNDED BY STACKS OF MAGAZINES AND
NEWSPAPERS.

JUDY

...Then I ran into Lynn Ratner. David
got into Johns Hopkins for his
Residency. He didn't talk till he was
four, so... And I walked all the way
from Lincoln Center to the 92nd Street-
Y? How many's that?

JOSH

Uh... About fifty blocks, Ma. Wow.

HARRY (O.C.)

Judy, what did you do with the number
for the podiatrist?

PULL BACK TO REVEAL HARRY IS BEHIND THEM, STARING AT THE
WALL, WHICH IS COVERED FLOOR-TO-CEILING IN SMALL WEATHERED
YELLOW POST-IT NOTES.

HARRY (CONT'D)

My pinky toe is attempting a hostile
take-over of the rest of my foot.

JUDY

I hid it in the freezer just to
torture you. I have no idea, Harry.

HE SPOTS THE NUMBER, FROWNS, THEN RELOCATES IT.

HARRY

I'm putting it back where it belongs
(POINTED) next to Dr. Gribetz.

JUDY

(TO JOSH) Oh and know who's single?
Carol Hochman's daughter, Rachel.
(SELLING) She lost a lot of weight...

JOSH

I gotta go, Ma. Greg and I are going
for a jog.

BEFORE JOSH CAN STAND HARRY SWOOPS IN.

HARRY

Josh, I need a favor.

JOSH BRACES HIMSELF.

HARRY (CONT'D)

I had an idea for a way to promote the
firm's Estate Planning business. We're
going to make a viral video!

JOSH

You can't *make* a video viral. It just goes viral or it doesn't.

HARRY

Okay, well, this one does. And it would be so terrific if you could star in it.

JOSH

Oh, Dad... I... uh... you know, I'm busy. I have scripts to read, I'm meeting with theater agents, I have a voice-over audition Monday...

HARRY

No problem. I'll tell everyone you don't have time.

JOSH TRIES TO TOLERATE THE DISCOMFORT OF SAYING NO. BEAT.

JOSH

I'll do it.

HARRY

Don't be crazy.

JOSH

No, I want to do it.

HARRY

I don't want you to do it.

JOSH

I'm doing it! Please, Dad, let me be in this viral video for you!

BEAT.

HARRY

Okay, if it means that much to you.

CUT TO:

EXT. EAST RIVER PROMENADE - EARLY EVENING
(JOSH, GREG, MAN, CHRISTINA)

GREG AND JOSH ARE STRETCHING, GETTING READY TO JOG.

GREG

Such a sucker!

JOSH

They do so much for us and it's twenty
minutes of my life. How can I say no?

GREG

You can't. That's your problem.

A MAN WALKS BY AND RECOGNIZES JOSH.

MAN

Hey, it's Blind Cop!

HE CLOSES HIS EYES, DIRECTS HIS HEAD ONE WAY AND POINTS A
FAKE FINGER GUN IN THE OTHER.

MAN (CONT'D)

"I got him, Chief. I got him!"

GREG LAUGHS. JOSH IS NOT AMUSED. AS THEY CONTINUE TO STRETCH,

GREG

So I figured out which partner tried
to screw me out of my bonus. I'll be
seeing him at this Escape Room thing
Wednesday night and I am going to
annihilate him.

JOSH

Sounds like fun. (THEN) Remember, I'm not racing.

GREG

I know, I know, just a mellow jog.

CHRISTINA (37, ABSOLUTELY GORGEOUS) JOGS BY BUT SLOWS WHEN SHE RECOGNIZES JOSH. BEFORE SHE CAN SAY ANYTHING--

GREG (CONT'D)

Yes, it's him, the Blind Cop.

CHRISTINA

No, Josh, it's--

JOSH

Christina Goodwin! Oh my God. (TO GREG) We went to Michigan together. (TO CHRISTINA) Hi! You look great!

GREG

("CALM DOWN") Settle. (THEN, ANSWERING PHONE, STEPPING AWAY) Go for Greg--

CHRISTINA AND JOSH LOOK AT EACH OTHER FOR A BEAT.

CHRISTINA

I don't think I've seen you since Nude Olympics. You streaked across North Quad and did push-ups outside my dorm.

JOSH

Yes, well, for the record, it was mid-January and the push-ups were into snow, so... just food for thought.

CHRISTINA

(LAUGHS) So how are you?

JOSH

Things are great. I got divorced and my show ended-- both good things-- and just moved back to New York. How bout you?

CHRISTINA

Really good. I'm a philosophy professor at Columbia. (THEN) I actually leave town Thursday for a three month Sabbatical at Stanford.

HUGE BUMMER. THEY LOOK AT EACH OTHER. DEFINITE CHEMISTRY.

JOSH

CHRISTINA (CONT'D)

Let's meet up before you-- I'm free Wednesday night...

CHRISTINA (CONT'D)

Great. Give me a call.

SHE HANDS HIM A CARD AND JOGS OFF AS GREG TURNS BACK...

JOSH

I'm going out with Christina Goodwin! Don't tell Mom and Dad, I don't need a million questions. (THEN) Christina Goodwin! I had the biggest crush on--

GREG

And go!

GREG SPRINTS OFF. JOSH CALLS AFTER--

JOSH

I said I'm not racing! I'm not racing!

JOSH FUMES FOR A BEAT THEN RACES AFTER GREG.

CUT TO:

INT. LOBBY - LATER
(JOSH, NICK, DIEGO)

NICK IS THERE WITH DIEGO. JOSH, SWEATY AND WINDED, RUNS IN.

JOSH

(OUT OF BREATH) Did I beat him?

NICK

Yeah. If you started another race
since he got in ten minutes ago.

DIEGO CRACKS UP. JOSH HEADS FOR THE ELEVATOR, THEN TURNS
BACK, REMEMBERING...

JOSH

(TO NICK) Is my mother home?

NICK

("SULTRY DJ") Oh, yeah. She went to
Hot and Crusty, got a nice big Rye
Bread waitin' for you, my friend.

DIEGO

I think that's how Daniel Day Lewis
prepared for *Lincoln*. By sharing a
nice loaf of bread with his mother
every day.

JOSH

Yeah? Well maybe I'm bulking up for a
new boxing movie.

DIEGO

Are you?

JOSH

No.

DIEGO

(THROWING HIM A BONE) My friend Sam's father is financing Inarritu's next film, *Los Desaparecidos*. Really solid script. You should ask your reps about the role of the doctor. Get the Blind Cop stank off you.

JOSH

Thank you, Diego, but I don't need career advice from a twelve-year-old.

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. BUILDING STAIRWELL - MOMENTS LATER

(JOSH)

JOSH CLIMBS THE STAIRS, OUT OF BREATH, ON HIS CELL PHONE.

JOSH

Los Desaparecidos. The role of the doctor. ... Because I'm walking up nine flights of stairs. ... So my mother doesn't hear me. Just get me an audition, Steven!

JOSH HANGS UP. PAUSES TO REST.

CUT TO:

INT. 9TH FLOOR HALLWAY - MOMENTS LATER
(JOSH, JUDY)

JOSH TIP-TOES OUT OF THE STAIRWELL AND DOWN THE HALL. AS SOON AS HIS FINGERS GRAZE HIS DOORKNOB, JUDY WHIPS OPEN HER DOOR.

JUDY

Hi Joshy.

JOSH

How?!

JUDY

I guess I just love you so much, I can feel when you're close.

JOSH

You can, huh? Okay. Okay.

SUSPICIOUS, JOSH SIZES HER UP AS HE ENTERS HER APARTMENT.

BEGIN MONTAGE - 9TH FLOOR HALLWAY

-JOSH MAKES HIS WAY DOWN THE HALL STEALTHILY, FLAT AGAINST THE WALL LIKE A NINJA. WHEN HE PUTS HIS HAND ON HIS DOORKNOB, JUDY OPENS HER DOOR.

-JOSH SPRINTS FROM THE ELEVATOR TO HIS DOOR. WHEN HE PUTS HIS HAND ON HIS DOORKNOB, JUDY NAILS HIM.

-JOSH CRAWLS ON ALL FOURS PAST HIS PARENTS' DOOR AND REACHES UP FROM THE FLOOR FOR HIS DOORKNOB. THE MINUTE HE GETS HIS HAND ON IT, JUDY NAILS HIM.

-SURRENDERED TO HIS INEVITABLE FATE, JOSH GETS TO HIS DOOR, WITH ONE FINGER, TOUCHES HIS DOORKNOB THEN DUTIFULLY HEADS THROUGH JUDY'S DOOR AS SHE OPENS IT. SHE'S "SURPRISED" TO SEE HIM.

INT. JOSH'S APARTMENT - A COUPLE DAYS LATER (WEDNESDAY)
(JOSH, HARRY)

JOSH, DRESSED UP FOR HIS DATE, TALKS ON THE PHONE.

JOSH

...Stevie, any word on the Inarritu movie? ... They don't believe I could play a doctor?! I look like every doctor I've ever been to! ... Alright, onto the next. I know you'll find me something great.

HARRY (O.C.)

Joshua.

AS JOSH HANGS UP, HE SPINS AROUND, STARTLED.

JOSH

How long've you been standing there?!

HARRY

It just so happens my old Law School friend, Herbert Mendelson, represented the director Alejandro Inarritu's brother, Hector, in his divorce. Would you like me to ask Herb to set up a meeting for you and Alejandro?

JOSH

Uh, Dad, four-time Academy Award winning director Alejandro Inarritu is not going to meet with me because of his brother's connection to Herbert Mendelson.

HARRY

Well if he saw how handsome you
looked, no question he'd give you the
part. Hot date tonight?

JOSH

(COVERING) Nope! No date. This is just
me... immersing myself into the role of-

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. HERRICK FEINSTEIN CONFERENCE ROOM - LATER
(JOSH, HARRY, INTERN)

HARRY AND JOSH SIT AT THE CORNER OF THE CONFERENCE TABLE.

HARRY

(OVERACTING) David! I am so sorry for
your loss. Luckily, your father was
prepared for-- Nope! Don't have it!

THE INTERN WHO VIDEO-TAPES HANDS HARRY A SCRIPT.

JOSH

Just want to remind you I have to be
out of here by six-thirty.

JOSH LOOKS AT THE CLOCK AS IT DISSOLVES FROM 5:50 TO 6:34

HARRY

David, I am so sorry for YOUR loss.
Luckily, your father WAS ready for
just THIS moment and hired (INTO
CAMERA) HERRICK FEINSTEIN TO PREPARE
THE DOCUMENTS!

THE INTERN COVERS HIS FACE WITH HIS HANDS.

JOSH

Oh my God, Dad, you nailed it!

JOSH BOLTS.

CUT TO:

EXT. MANHATTAN STREET - NIGHT

(JOSH, MOLLY, BEN)

JOSH IS RACING ON HIS BICYCLE WHEN HIS CELL RINGS.

JOSH

(ANSWERS PHONE) Hello?

SPLIT SCREEN WITH MOLLY, 16, HYSTERICAL, HOLDING BEN.

MOLLY

Josh? This is Molly, Greg and Eve's
babysitter? You need to come home.

JOSH

What? Oh my God! Did something happen?

MOLLY

Yes something happened! My boyfriend
just hooked up with my best friend!

JOSH

O-kay and you're calling me because...

MOLLY

I have to go hook up with his best
friend, like, right now! Greg and Eve
are at some Escape Room and aren't
answering their phones and they left
you as the emergency contact.

JOSH

Well I'm on my way to a date. Go get my mother. (QUICKLY) But don't tell her about my date!

MOLLY

She's not home. You have ten minutes.

JOSH

This isn't my prob-- Hello? Hello?!

SHE HAS HUNG UP. FURIOUSLY JOSH TURNS HIS BIKE AROUND.

CUT TO:

INT. 9TH FLOOR HALLWAY - NINE MINUTES LATER
(JOSH, MOLLY, BEN)

WHEN JOSH STEPS OFF THE ELEVATOR MOLLY HANDS OVER BEN, THEN LOOKS AT HIM, WAITING. HE REALIZES...

JOSH

You don't get paid for this!

SHE ROLLS HER EYES, STEPS ON THE ELEVATOR AS THE DOORS CLOSE.

JOSH (CONT'D)

You know who I list as my emergency contact, Ben? Nobody. Nobody wants that burden. (SOFTER) If you want to put me down that's fine, but just you. I mean, why should my date be ruined cause your parents hired a crazy babysitter? (THEN, MAKING A DECISION)
You know what? It shouldn't.

SMASH CUT TO:

EXT. STREET - LATER

(JOSH, BEN)

JOSH RIDES HIS BIKE WITH BEN STRAPPED TO HIS CHEST IN A BABY BJORN, FACING OUT WITH JOSH'S ADULT BIKE HELMET COVERING HIS EYES. AS JOSH WEAVES IN AND OUT OF BUMPER TO BUMPER TRAFFIC, HE NOTICES A VACANT CAB.

JOSH

Sure, now there's a cab. (TO CAB)

Where were you ten minutes ago, pal?!

ON JOSH'S EXTREME CAUTION, WE...

CUT TO:

INT. RESTAURANT - LATER

(JOSH, CHRISTINA, BEN, GREG, EVE)

JOSH RACES IN, BEN STILL STRAPPED TO HIS CHEST, AND FINDS CHRISTINA AT A TABLE WITH A BOTTLE OF WINE AND TWO GLASSES.

JOSH

Sorry! So sorry! Hi. You look
incredible.

HE SINKS INTO THE SEAT OPPOSITE HER.

CHRISTINA

You know you're wearing a baby, right?

JOSH

I do, I do. Little baby-sitting snafu.
My brother and sister-in-law should be
here any minute.

CHRISTINA

He's cute.

JOSH

Cute? He's a bad-ass. He can Pop-and-
Lock. Check this out.

JOSH TAKES BEN'S HANDS AND DOES THE ELECTRIC WAVE WHILE BREAK-DANCING/BEAT-BOXING. GREG AND EVE RACE IN.

EVE

Why're you making my baby break-dance?

JOSH

That's one way to go. Here's another:

"Oh my God, Josh, thank you so much for saving the day! I'm really sorry I made you my emergency contact without asking." (THEN INTRODUCING) Christina, this is Greg and Eve. Guys, this is Christina.

AD LIB HELLOS.

GREG

I crushed the Escape Room. (TO JOSH) Remember the partner who tried to screw me out of my bonus?

JOSH

Wait... was he the one from our last interaction that you made all about you?

GREG

I destroyed him. He got no clues, I got all of them.

EVE

Meaning you took credit for the clues that I solved.

GREG

No "I" in team, Babe.

JOSH

Hey, I have an idea... How 'bout you
both escape this room, like, now?

THEY AD LIB GOOD-BYES AND EXIT. JOSH SETTLES IN AND SMILES.

CHRISTINA

You...

JOSH

(LIFTS HIS GLASS) You!

CHRISTINA

...Have spit up on your shirt.

INTERNAL DISSOLVE:

INT. RESTAURANT - LATER

(JOSH, CHRISTINA)

DINNER HAS BEEN CLEARED, CHECK PAID, WINE GLASSES EMPTY.

JOSH

...Hands down the best Black and White
cookie in Manhattan is Pick-A-Bagel.

CHRISTINA

Maybe if the William Greenberg bakery
is closed. (THEN) So... should we get
outta here?

JOSH

Yes we should. Where do you live?

EVE

I already sublet my apartment. I'm on a friend's sofa tonight. Should we go to your place?

JOSH

How do you feel about scaling the side of a building and crawling through a window?

CHRISTINA

What?

JOSH

Nothing. My place is great!

OFF JOSH'S CONCERN, WE...

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

INT. LOBBY - LATER
(JOSH, CHRISTINA, NICK)

JOSH AND CHRISTINA ENTER. NICK TAKES CHRISTINA IN.

NICK

Damn. Welcome to the East River House.
I am the Captain of this fair
establishment so if you need anything,
anything at all, you just holler.

JOSH

Thanks, Nick, but I don't think she's
having any packages delivered tonight.

NICK

(UNDER HIS BREATH) I'll deliver her a
package tonight.

JOSH USHERS CHRISTINA INTO THE ELEVATOR. THE DOORS START TO
CLOSE AS-

NICK (O.C.) (CONT'D)

Yeah, Mrs. Lipman, he's--

JOSH RACES OUT OF THE ELEVATOR JUST BEFORE THE DOORS CLOSE,
TRAPPING A CONFUSED CHRISTINA ALONE INSIDE.

NICK (CONT'D)

...on his way up. And he's got--

JOSH WRESTLES THE PHONE OUT OF NICK'S HANDS AND COVERS THE
MOUTHPIECE.

JOSH

What are you doing?!

NICK

Letting your mom know you're home.

JOSH

(HANGS UP PHONE) Why?!

NICK

Cause of the money she gives me.

JOSH REACTS TO THIS AS THE ELEVATOR DOORS RE-OPEN.

CHRISTINA

Um... Everything okay?

JOSH

(PLAYING IT COOL) Yeah, it's all good!

(SOTTO TO NICK) Don't call my mother
back. I'll make it worth your while.

(BACK TO CHRISTINA, "COOL") And away
we go!

HE JOINS HER BACK IN THE ELEVATOR.

CUT TO:

INT. ELEVATOR - SECONDS LATER
(JOSH, CHRISTINA)

JOSH

So I just have to run in and say a
quick hello to my elderly neighbor.

CHRISTINA

Now?

JOSH

She's lonely and kind of expects me to
check on her every night.

CHRISTINA

That's so sweet. Should I come with?

JOSH

No! No! She's very possessive! If she knows you're here she might go all Fatal Attraction on you. Meet me in (HANDS KEY) 9K. Wine's in the fridge.

THE ELEVATOR OPENS AND HE RACES OUT BEFORE SHE CAN RESPOND.

CUT TO:

INT. HARRY AND JUDY'S APARTMENT - A SECOND LATER
(JOSH, JUDY)

JOSH RUNS IN AND BUMPS INTO JUDY WHO'S WAITING BY THE DOOR.

JOSH

Okay, let's do this!

HE GRABS HER HAND AND PULLS HER OVER TO THE TABLE.

JUDY

I got some of your favorite--

JOSH

(NOTICES) Cheese. Yum. Love cheese.

(PUSHES MAGAZINES OFF CHAIR, SITS, RAPID FIRE) So who'd you run into today? Harriet? Emily?

JUDY

Oh my God, yes, Emily Scheinmel. At the watch guy on-

JOSH

That's at least forty blocks! Way to go, Ma. Alright, well, great visit, I'm exhausted. Going to bed.

HE STANDS.

JUDY

You didn't have any cheese!

JOSH

(SHOVES HANDFUL IN HIS MOUTH) Mmmm, delicious, good-night!

AND HE'S GONE.

CUT TO:

INT. JOSH'S APARTMENT - A SECOND LATER
(JOSH, CHRISTINA, JUDY (O.C.))

JOSH ENTERS, STILL SWALLOWING. CHRISTINA SITS ON THE COUCH WITH TWO GLASSES OF WINE. HE CLOSES THE DOOR, DOUBLE LOCKS THE DOOR, PUTS THE CHAIN ON THE DOOR.

CHRISTINA

Has there been a lot of crime in this building?

JOSH

Sure!

HE HEADS OVER TO THE COUCH, SITS DOWN, TAKES HER IN.

JOSH (CONT'D)

Okay, can I just say, I had the biggest crush on you in college.

CHRISTINA

I had the biggest crush on you!

JOSH

You did?

CHRISTINA

Totally. I mean, your ponytail? That
took guts.

HE LAUGHS. THEY START TO MOVE IN FOR A KISS AS:

JUDY (O.S.)

Josh?

CHRISTINA PULLS BACK. JOSH GRITS HIS TEETH.

JOSH

It's just my crazy neighbor. Ignore
her.

THEY LEAN IN AGAIN. THE DOORBELL RINGS SEVERAL TIMES.

JOSH (CONT'D)

She'll go away eventually.

HE PULLS CHRISTINA'S FACE TOWARDS HIS WHEN A KEY TURNS IN THE
LOCK. THE DOOR OPENS TWO INCHES UNTIL THE CHAIN CATCHES.

JUDY (O.C.)

(CONCERNED) Joshua? What is going on?!

JUDY'S HAND NOW REACHES THROUGH THE OPENING OF THE DOOR AS
SHE TRIES UNSUCCESSFULLY TO UNDO THE CHAIN.

CHRISTINA

Perhaps I don't quite understand your
relationship with your neighbor...

JUDY'S HAND FINDS THE LIGHT SWITCH AND BEGINS FLICKING THE
LIGHTS ON AND OFF, ON AND OFF. FURIOUS, JOSH RACES OVER.

RESET TO:

INT. 9TH FLOOR HALLWAY/INT. JOSH'S APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

HIS ANGRY FACE APPEARS IN THE CRACK OF THE OPEN DOOR.

JOSH

(FURIOUS WHISPER) We had our moment!
What do you want?!

JUDY

Oh thank God you're okay. (THEN) I
forgot to give you this. (STICKS
NEWSPAPER ARTICLE THROUGH DOOR) That
actor you always go up against got a
terrible review in his new play.

JOSH

Okay-thank-you-now-goodbye.

HE TAKES THE ARTICLE AND TRIES TO CLOSE THE DOOR. JUDY PUTS
UP A SURPRISINGLY STRONG FRONT BUT HE FINALLY MANAGES TO GET
IT CLOSED. HE TURNS BACK TO CHRISTINA.

JOSH (CONT'D)

Know what's romantic? The terrace.

HE USHERS HER TOWARDS THE TERRACE, SNEAKING A GLANCE AT THE
REVIEW.

JOSH (CONT'D)

(DELIGHTED) Ooh, that's not very nice.

CUT TO:

EXT. TERRACE (9K) - A LITTLE LATER
(JOSH, CHRISTINA, HARRY, GREG)

[NOTE: THE TERRACES OF 9J, 9K, AND 9L SIT IN A ROW] JOSH AND
CHRISTINA STAND LOOKING OUT AT THE STREETS BELOW.

JOSH

And back on Taxi Cab Wars, it's the guy on the NW corner versus the lady by the tree. Who's gonna get that cab?

CHRISTINA

Corner's a strong position, Josh, but the cab's headed south, the lady's gonna get it.

JOSH

Oh! And the gentleman sprints across seventy-ninth for the steal. Yes, folks, chivalry is officially dead.

CHRISTINA LAUGHS AND TAKES IN THE CITY.

CHRISTINA

It's really beautiful up here.

JOSH

Yeah. (LOOKS AT HER) It really is.

THEY FINALLY LEAN IN FOR THEIR KISS. CLOSER AND CLOSER AND...

HARRY (O.C.)

Can you hear me now?!

HARRY, IN TIGHTY-WHITEYS AND A *BLIND COP* T-SHIRT, HAS STEPPED ONTO THE ADJOINING TERRACE, CRADLING A CELL PHONE AND HOLDING A PLATE OF SLICED MELON. JOSH WANTS TO DIE. HE MOTIONS FOR CHRISTINA TO FOLLOW HIM BACK INSIDE BEFORE HARRY NOTICES BUT,

HARRY (CONT'D)

Hello, children! (INTO PHONE) I'll call you back. I'LL CALL YOU BACK!

CHRISTINA

I thought your neighbor was a woman?

JOSH

This is her very loud husband. C'mon.

HARRY

(EXTENDS HAND) Hello, I'm Harold Li--

JOSH

Llllove it! Love it. This guy. Okay,
good night, Harold Lovett.

JOSH GENTLY PUSHES CHRISTINA TOWARDS THE DOOR, BUT:

HARRY

Young lady, have you ever had a
gorgeous piece of honeydew melon?

CHRISTINA

Um, I've had melon. It looked good. I
don't know if it was "gorgeous"...

HARRY SELECTS A SLIVER OF MELON FROM THE PLATE.

HARRY

Well this is a gorgeous piece of
honeydew melon.

WITH HIS BARE HAND, HE BRINGS THE MELON TOWARDS HER MOUTH.

CHRISTINA/JOSH

Uh.../ Harold, no!

JOSH WATCHES IN HORROR AS CHRISTINA HAS NO CHOICE BUT TO
OPENS HER MOUTH AS HARRY SHOVES THE MELON IN. SHE GAGS A BIT.

CHRISTINA

(CHEWING "THUMBS UP") Mmmm.

JOSH

(TO CHRISTINA, CALM) Know what I'm
really in the mood for?

(MORE)

JOSH (CONT'D)

A much stronger drink. Would you go
make us some?

CHRISTINA

Sure... What do you want?

JOSH

Anything. Be creative.

SHE HEADS IN. JOSH SHUTS THE DOOR AND TURNS ON HARRY.

JOSH (CONT'D)

(FURIOUS WHISPER) What are you doing?!
You never come on the terrace!

HARRY

Trying to get reception. How was I
supposed to know you were out here
giving some girl a Wowie? Mommy said
you went to sleep.

JOSH

Can you not call her "mommy!" I didn't
tell you guys because I wanted to
avoid... exactly this! And I didn't
tell Christina about you guys cause--

HARRY

"Christina?" She must not be--

JOSH

Do not start with me.

GREG STEPS OUT ONTO HIS BALCONY ON THE OTHER SIDE OF JOSH'S.

GREG

Would you morons shut up? You're gonna wake the baby! (TO JOSH) How was the rest of the date?

JOSH

It's still going! Very badly! Mom tried to break in and Dad just shoved his melon down her throat!

GREG

Relax. You're just nervous 'cause you haven't gotten laid in ten months.

HARRY LAUGHS AS IF GREG IS KIDDING. THEN REALIZES...

HARRY

It has been ten months since you've had intercourse?

JOSH

Can you not say 'intercourse'?!

HARRY

I mean, your mother and I aren't like we used to be, but we still do it on New Year's, the first and last nights of Chanukah, and on both your birthdays.

JOSH/GREG

Dad, please!/Birthday ruined!

HARRY

Ever since I had that varicose vein removed from my testicle, I produce a lot more semen so you can imagine--

JOSH/GREG

Don't want to imagine!/I am seriously going to jump.

HARRY

Well, it's very exciting then that intercourse is on the table. You need me to make a condom run?

JOSH

All I need is privacy. And, don't tell Mommy. (QUICKLY) Mom! We call her Mom.

HARRY

Okay. Go have some nice sex, son.

JOSH DISAPPEARS BACK INTO...

RESET TO:

INT. JOSH'S APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

(JOSH, CHRISTINA, JUDY (O.C.), GREG (O.C.), HARRY (O.C.), EVE (O.C.), BEN (O.C.))

JOSH IS CLOSING THE CURTAINS TO THE TERRACE AS CHRISTINA ENTERS FROM THE KITCHEN WITH TWO COCKTAILS.

CHRISTINA

(RE: HARRY'S T-SHIRT) I guess Harold was a big fan of Blind Cop.

JOSH

The biggest. (THEN) So. Where were we?

SHE SITS, PUTS THE DRINKS DOWN. THEY ARE ONCE AGAIN ABOUT TO KISS WHEN, FROM OUTSIDE ON THE TERRACE:

JUDY (O.C.)

A girl! Why would my son lie to me?

JOSH

I told her she could call me her son because... well... you know... (THE JIG IS UP) Fun fact, I am her son.

GREG (O.C.)

Could you two keep it down?!

CHRISTINA

Who's that?

JOSH

My brother. He, Eve and the baby live on the other side.

CHRISTINA

Wait, I'm so confused.

JOSH

I know. I'm sorry. I just... Look, I think you're awesome and my living arrangement is not exactly an aphrodisiac. I was gonna tell you on our second date. Or third. Fourth tops.

BEAT AS CHRISTINA TAKES IT ALL IN.

CHRISTINA

I think you're awesome, too. It's not that big of a deal. So you live next to your family.

JOSH

I live next to my family *temporarily*.

HE SMILES. THEY INCH TOWARDS EACH OTHER FOR A KISS. THE BABY STARTS TO CRY FROM GREG AND EVE'S TERRACE.

EVE (O.C.)

You guys woke Ben!

JOSH

(SEXY) Just pretend they're not there.

JUDY (O.C.)

Was he sleeping on his side? A baby's head can flatten in a couple hours, you know.

EVE (O.C.)

Not according to the American Medical Association. Of which I am a member.

JOSH

Are your ears cold? They look cold to me.

JOSH COVERS CHRISTINA'S EARS "ROMANTICALLY."

GREG (O.C.)

Josh is about to get laid.

EVE (O.C.)

Good for him. She seemed great.

JUDY (O.C.)

(WOUNDED) So everyone knew about this
girl except me. How nice.

JOSH SOLDIERS ON, HANDS STILL COVERING HER EARS, HIS LIPS
ABOUT TO REACH CHRISTINA'S.

HARRY (O.S.)

Judy, are you aware that Joshy hasn't
had sexual intercourse in ten months?!

JOSH'S HANDS CLAMP DOWN ON CHRISTINA'S HEAD. SEETHING, HE
FLINGS OPEN THE CURTAIN, OPENS THE DOOR, AND STEPS ONTO...

RESET TO:

EXT. TERRACES (9J/9K/9L)/INT. JOSH'S APARTMENT

JOSH

What. Is. Wrong with you people?! This
is my first date in eight years and
you're ruining it! With your video and
your babysitter and your loudness and
your whole, just your, YOU! I am a
grown man! I need space!

JUDY

We give you space.

JOSH

Paying the doorman to tell you every
time I get home is not giving me
space!

GREG

(TO JUDY) You pay the doorman to tell
you when Josh gets home?!

JOSH

Insane, right?

GREG

(TO JUDY) Why don't you pay him to
tell you when I get home?!

JUDY

You don't like to visit with me.

JOSH

NEITHER DO I!

A BEAT OF TENSE SILENCE.

CHRISTINA

Sooo, I'm gonna go...

CHRISTINA HAS STEPPED ONTO THE TERRACE TO GET HER JACKET.

JOSH

Of course you are. I'm so sorry. When
you get back from Stanford maybe we
could give it another shot?

CHRISTINA

(SOTTO) I can see your father's balls.

EVE

(SOTTO) Welcome to the family.

CHRISTINA

Good luck, Josh.

AS SHE PUTS ON HER JACKET, JOSH NODS AND TAKES A LONG SIP OF
HIS DRINK.

JOSH

(DELICIOUS) What is this?

CHRISTINA

Kahlua and Cream.

JOSH

I don't have any cream.

CHRISTINA

What was in those weird plastic
bottles then?

JOSH TAKES ANOTHER SIP, TRYING TO IDENTIFY THE TASTE.

EVE

My breast milk.

HE SPRAYS BREAST MILK EVERYWHERE. CHRISTINA LOOK AT HER
MOSTLY EMPTY GLASS ON THE TABLE, THEN TAKES IN THE LIPMANS.

CHRISTINA

Yeah, I feel good about this decision.

SHE EXITS INTO THE APARTMENT. JOSH TURNS TO EVE, EERILY CALM.

JOSH

Why is your breast milk in my fridge?

EVE

Because your mother put her Welcome
Home fruit salad in ours.

JOSH

(POINTING AT EVE, GREG, HARRY, JUDY)
Boundaries! Boundaries, boundaries,
boundaries!! I require a modicum of
respect and--

SFX: HARRY'S CELL PHONE RINGS.

HARRY

(ANSWERING PHONE) Hello?

JOSH

(SARCASTIC) Feels good to be heard.

HARRY

(INTO PHONE) Uh huh, uh huh, uh huh,
thanks Herb. (HANGS UP) That was
Herbert Mendelson. He spoke to Hector
Inarritu who spoke to his brother.
(WITH GRAVITY) Mr. Alejandro Inarritu
will meet you if you are at The Soho
Grand bar in the next twenty minutes.

JOSH

What?! Are you serious? Oh my God!
That's amazing! And horrible. It's all
the way downtown. I'll never make it!

HARRY

(DETERMINED) Yeah, you will.

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. HARRY LIPMAN'S CAR - MOMENTS LATER
(JOSH, HARRY, GREG, JUDY)

HARRY DRIVES. JOSH RIDES SHOTGUN.

JOSH

Waze says go right on Mott. (PASSING
MOTT) Right on Mott!

HARRY

I'm taking Houston. I know these
streets better than some computer.

REVEAL GREG SITTING IN THE BACK.

GREG

Right. Waze just has brilliant algorithms harnessing thousands of drivers' input. You have your instinct.

JOSH

("WATCH OUT!") Old couple on your left! Old couple on your left!

HARRY SWERVES. THEY SCREAM. THEN, SILENCE.

JUDY

So. You don't like to visit with me.

REVEAL JUDY, NEXT TO GREG IN THE BACKSEAT.

JOSH

Of course I do, just not every--
(THEN) Remind me why you two are here.

JUDY

I am your greatest fan and this is a very big moment for you.

GREG

Inarritu is building a sound stage in Brooklyn and I want the deal.

JOSH

You're not meeting Inarritu tonight.

GREG

I also want John's Pizza.

HARRY

Joshua, speak to Mr. Inarritu in Spanish. You speak beautiful Spanish.

GREG

Can we get some air in here? I'm
dying.

HARRY OPENS THE WINDOWS, LETTING IN A LOUD BREEZE.

JUDY

Harry, my hair! Roll up the windows!

GREG

Windows haven't been "rolled" in
twenty years.

HARRY

Don't get smart with your mother.

JOSH

Pull up here. Here. HERE!

HARRY STOPS SHORT. JOSH TAKES A DEEP BREATH.

HARRY/JUDY/GREG

Go get 'em./You're perfect./Mention me.

JOSH GETS OUT AND STARTS TO RACE IN, THEN TURNS AROUND.

HARRY

Uh, oh. What'd we do now?

JOSH

No, nothing, it's just... you guys
have always been there for me.

HARRY

And we always will be.

JUDY

Always.

JOSH

I know. Thank you.

GREG

Alright stop shlobbering our knobs and
go get me that deal.

JOSH RACES TOWARDS THE HOTEL.

CUT TO:

INT. SOHO GRAND BAR - MOMENTS LATER
(JOSH, INARRITU)

JOSH SPOTS INARRITU. HE GOES OVER, NERVOUS AND EXCITED.

JOSH

Señor Inarritu! Mucho gusto! I'm Josh
Lipman. My father's a friend of--

INARRITU

I know who you are, Josh.

JOSH

You do?

INARRITU

Yes. You are the Blind Cop.

JOSH

(BUMMED) Oh. You've seen the show.

INARRITU

Yes. (BEAT) It was genius. Detective
Mike Dent could see the darkness in
humanity, yet he couldn't see!

JOSH

Yes! That's exactly what drew me to the script in the first place! (THEN) Mr. Inarritu, I am such a huge fan of yours. I, I... Look, I know it's a huge long shot, but if there's any way I could get in to read for the role of the doctor in Los Desaparecidos--

INARRITU

There is no way. Matt Damon is playing that role. But you, you were a great blind cop.

HE STANDS.

JOSH

Right. Of course. Well, thank you for meeting me. It was a huge honor.

JOSH EXTENDS HIS HAND. INARRITU SHAKES IT.

INARRITU

There is a part of an incontinent peasant whose daughter goes missing. Only a few lines, mostly grunts, but--

JOSH

I'll take it!

ON JOSH'S EXCITEMENT, WE...

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT TWO

TAG

FADE IN:

INT. LOBBY - A FEW DAYS LATER

(JOSH, NICK, DIEGO)

NICK AT HIS PODIUM, DIEGO READS ON THE COUCH. JOSH ENTERS.

JOSH

(HOLDS UP ENVELOPE) Box seats
Knicks/Lakers Saturday night!

NICK

For me? For real?

JOSH

My father's firm has a box and they
owe me one. They're all yours. If you
stop telling my mother about my
comings and goings.

NICK

Done, Son.

JOSH SLAPS THE ENVELOPE ON NICK'S PODIUM AND HAPPILY CROSSES
OFF. DIEGO LOOKS UP FROM HIS BOOK.

DIEGO

I bet the mom can beat Knicks tickets.

NICK

(SMILING) Looks like we got ourselves
a bidding war up in this piece!

CUT TO:

INT. 9TH FLOOR HALLWAY - MOMENTS LATER

(JOSH)

JOSH BREEZES PAST HIS PARENTS' DOOR AND INTO...

INT. JOSH'S APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS
(JOSH, JUDY, HARRY, GREG, EVE, BEN)

JOSH SHUTS THE DOOR, LEANS AGAINST IT, AND CLOSES HIS EYES,
RELISHING HIS VICTORY. BEAT.

JUDY (O.C.)

Hi, Joshy.

HIS EYES POP OPEN. JUDY AND HARRY ARE ON THE COUCH, DEVOURING
A ROTISSERIE CHICKEN.

JOSH

What are you doing in here?!

JUDY

We keep the DVD player here.

HARRY

We're about to watch the viral video!

EVE AND BEN ENTER FROM THE BATHROOM.

EVE

(TO JOSH) Hope it's okay I left a
pretty full diaper in the garbage.

JOSH

Okay?! It's fantastic!

GREG ENTERS CARRYING JUDY'S GIGANTIC FRUIT SALAD.

GREG

(IMITATING HARRY) Joshua, how would
you like some gorgeous cantaloupe?

JOSH

Too soon, too soon.

THEY SQUEEZE ONTO THE COUCH. HARRY PUSHES PLAY. ANGLE ON: THE
TV - JOSH AND HARRY IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM.

JOSH (ON TV) (CONT'D)

(AS BEREAVED SON) I'm gonna miss my father so much and I need help with all the decisions I have to make.

EVE

Oh, no!! I hope they prepared a will!

JUDY SHUSHES HER.

HARRY (ON TV)

Luckily your father was ready for just this moment and hired...

HARRY, FROM THE COUCH, SAYS HIS LINE WITH HARRY ON TV.

HARRY (CONT'D)

HERRICK FEINSTEIN TO PREPARE THE DOCUMENTS!

JOSH (ON TV)

Thanks, (POINTS UP) Dad.

GREG

Well, if ever there was a video that was going to go viral.

HARRY

We're releasing the video at the firm's Fall benefit. Josh, how would you feel about MC-ing that event?

JOSH TURNS TO HARRY. A SLOW BURN.

JOSH

Get out.

GREG

(TO JOSH) You're gonna do it. You know
you're gonna do it.

JOSH

Get. Out. All of you.

GREG

Good, this is good, you're asserting
yourself.

JOSH

Oh my God, I have the most annoying
family in the history of the world.

HARRY AND JUDY LOOK CRUSHED.

JOSH (CONT'D)

You're not the most annoying. I'm sure
somewhere there's another family
that's more... (SIGHS) What day's the
benefit?

HARRY AND JUDY BEAM AT THEIR BOY. GREG SHAKES HIS HEAD
"SUCKER." JOSH GRITS HIS TEETH. EVE CATCHES A GLIMPSE OF
HARRY'S BOXERS AND QUICKLY LOOKS AWAY. AND WE...

FADE OUT.

END OF SHOW