

KEY CHANGE

PILOT

Written by

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ABRAMS ARTISTS AGENCY

TEASER

FADE IN:

INT. LARGE CONCERT ARENA - NIGHT

On stage performing is KALI KING, 17, Ariana Grande looks with Taylor Swift's depth. She dances and sings her massive pop hit with backup dancers, lights and all the glitz of a huge stage production. Sweat drips from her petite body. She's dressed in a sparkly bodysuit with high leather boots.

She shakes her long, brown locks as she dances. Her signature headband sparkles under the lights.

The crowd sings along. Many of them also wear her headband and emulate her look.

Kali takes her final bow, flipping her hair as she does. She exits the stage.

INT. KALI'S DRESSING ROOM - BACKSTAGE - MOMENTS LATER

Kali enters her dressing room and immediately grabs some makeup wipes. She washes the heavy makeup off her face. She uses wipe after wipe, making sure to get every drop. She takes off her boots and jumpsuit. She puts on an oversized T-shirt and baseball cap. She looks in the mirror and pauses.

An image of a BOY, who looks a lot like Kali, looks back at her. A tear rolls down her cheek. She takes off the hat and looks around the makeup table. She spots a pair of scissors and picks them up.

INT. GOODWILL STORE - 12 YEARS EARLIER - FLASHBACK

Chryon: 12 Years Earlier

A 5-YEAR-OLD KALI and her mom, ANNIE KING, mid 20s but looks as if life hasn't been kind to her, dig through some clothing bins at Goodwill. Annie holds up a pink dress.

ANNIE

What do you think? It's only a dollar.

Kali spots a cowboy vest in a nearby bin. She puts it on.

YOUNG KALI

Hey, darlin'. Call me Jack.

ANNIE

Your name is Kali. And you know we
don't have any money for costumes.

Annie walks toward the front of the store carrying the dress and a few other pieces of feminine clothing. Kali pauses, then takes off the vest. A look of disappointment on her face.

INT. KALI'S DRESSING ROOM - BACK TO PRESENT

Close up on Kali's long hair in piles at her feet. Widen to reveal Kali, now with a boy's haircut and looking a lot like the boy she saw in her reflection. Suddenly, Kali's mom, Annie, now older but looking like life has been extremely kind, enters the room. She sees Kali.

ANNIE

No! Your beautiful hair! What have
you done? This is a disaster!

FADE OUT.

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

INT. HOTEL ROOM - THE NEXT MORNING

Kali enters Annie's hotel room.

ANNIE

Oh, Kali, I'm so glad you're here.
I've got some wigs for you to look
at. Now come in before anyone sees
you.

Annie quickly pulls her daughter inside and motions toward
the bed where several wigs are laid out.

ANNIE (CONT'D)

I had vendors working all night.
You can pick what you like best.
You can even mix it up if you'd
like. You'll wear them for work and
then can take them off at home. No
big deal.

KALI

It is a big deal. I cut my hair for
a reason.

ANNIE

Yes, but your hair is your thing.

KALI

I'm tired of the hair and the
costumes-- all of it. I'm just, I'm
tired, Mom.

Annie pauses for a moment and takes a deep breath. She then
changes course, going into mom-ager mode.

ANNIE

Okay, new strategy. How about we
use your new look to take your
career to the next, adult level?
We'll get you another TV series.
That's more your speed now, right?
I've had plenty of writers reach
out to me with ideas for a more
adult show for you. I'll make some
calls. Get some meetings set for
when we get home.

Annie picks up her cell phone.

KALI

Are you not listening to me? I said
I need a break.

Ignoring Kali, Annie scrolls through her phone, then puts it
to her ear.

ANNIE

You know, *this* might be exactly
what you need right now.

EXT. GOODWILL STORE - **12 YEARS EARLIER** - FLASHBACK CONTINUED

Young Kali and her mom exit the Goodwill store and walk to
the bus stop. Annie holds a bag of clothes.

KALI

Mom? I'd still like to be called
Jack.

ANNIE

Oh Kali, you're gonna grow out of
that.

Annie fiddles around in her purse collecting change for the
bus fare counting the coins as she goes.

ANNIE (CONT'D)

Come on, I know I had two more
quarters in here...

INT. KING HOUSE - KITCHEN - PRESENT - A FEW DAYS LATER

Kali and Annie sit at the kitchen table. Dinner plates in
front of them. Annie eats with a smile on her face. Kali
simply pokes at the food with her fork. Totally checked out.

ANNIE

I was thinking we should start
binge-ing a new show tonight. Have
you heard about the Bodyguard? It's
a British show, and the lead is
super handsome. And not just
because of his accent.

Kali doesn't respond.

ANNIE (CONT'D)

We could do something else. Maybe a
baking show? I hear the Great
British Baking Show is supposed to
be fantastic. (laughs) I must
really be craving some Brits, huh?

Still nothing from Kali.

ANNIE (CONT'D)

Hon? You okay? You know I'm not still mad about your hair. I admit I was shocked at first, but it's fine. Everybody likes a change... And it'll grow back.

KALI

I'm gonna head to my room.

Kali takes her still full plate and puts it in the sink, then heads up to her room.

INT. KING HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - LATER

Annie sits on the couch alone watching a baking show on TV.

INT. KALI'S ROOM - SAME TIME

Up in her room Kali watches a YouTube video on her laptop. It's a TRANS TEEN BOY. He sits on his bed and talks directly to the camera.

TRANS TEEN BOY (ON COMPUTER)

So I've been on T for two months and I had a bit of a setback today. I got my period. I gotta say, it was really shocking at first. And I didn't handle it well. But then I reached out to some friends and they assured me it's all part of the journey. And I feel a lot better now. Although I do wish I could speed up time. You know?

Kali nods, then opens another window on her computer and Googles "TRANS SUPPORT GROUP NEAR ME." A list pops up.

INT. CHURCH - SUPPORT GROUP - THE NEXT DAY

Kali, now in a baseball cap pulled far down to conceal her face, a long coat and sunglasses enters the church. She stands in the back of the room and listens to a trans support group meeting already in progress. JESSICA, 17, mtf, super bubbly and positive, talks.

JESSICA

My Mom and I went bra shopping yesterday.

(MORE)

JESSICA (CONT'D)

It was legit the best day ever. I'm so happy my boobs are finally the perfect size.

SASHA, 20, ftm, super smart and intuitive, though a little broodish, chimes in.

SASHA

I went shopping for a new binder with my sister last week. It's kinda the same thing.

JESSICA

Only you want to hide your boobs and I want giant ones!

The other teens in the group laugh.

SASHA

Well, I almost have enough money saved for top surgery. So hopefully this is my last binder.

Jessica spots Kali in the back of the room.

JESSICA

Hey! Come join us!

Kali panics, ducks her head and quickly runs out.

INT. KING HOUSE - OFFICE - DAY

Kali sits in the office with her mom. They are listening to a call on speakerphone. It's the voice of TROY SIMMONS, her manager.

TROY (ON SPEAKERPHONE)

I've booked you an appearance in Tulsa. It's big money. You just need to show up and sign autographs for an hour. In and out.

ANNIE

That sounds easy.

TROY (ON SPEAKERPHONE)

It's stupid easy. (beat) But you need to wear a wig, Kali. One that looks good. Not some cheap one.

Kali mouths to her mother: "How does he even know?" Annie shrugs, but it's obvious she told him.

EXT. STREET NEAR CHURCH - A FEW DAYS LATER

Kali, wearing the same baseball cap, long coat and sunglasses as before, walks toward the church. She notices someone following her, snapping pictures.

KALI

Crap.

Realizing she can't go to the group, she ducks into a nearby nail salon.

INT. NAIL SALON - MOMENTS LATER

Kali enters. A MANICURIST calls out to her.

MANICURIST

Pick color!

Kali walks toward the nail polish rack. She takes out her phone.

KALI

(into phone) Hey... I need your help... It's kind of a big deal...

INT. JADE'S MAKEUP STUDIO - A FEW DAYS LATER

Kali sits with her longtime makeup artist, JADE, 20s, free-thinking and artsy.

KALI

I've always felt like... off. Like my insides didn't match my outsides. I know it sounds crazy--

JADE

Not at all.

KALI

...but I finally realized I can't live a lie anymore. I need to be me. And me is a man.

Jade pulls Kali in for a hug. They squeeze tight and long.

KALI (CONT'D)

Wow. I can't believe I just said that out loud.

JADE

What can I do? Whatever you need.

KALI

Thank you. That means so much.
You're the first person I've told.

They hug again.

KALI (CONT'D)

I have to meet people going through
the same thing as me. They have
these support groups... And I want
to go so badly. I need to know that
what I'm going through is normal.

JADE

It is normal.

KALI

It's just that it's impossible to
go as me. Like what if paparazzi
get pictures of me there? And what
if someone in the group outs me to
the press? It's so risky.

JADE

Ah, so you want me to help you with
a disguise?

Kali nods.

JADE (CONT'D)

Then let's do it.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. JADE'S MAKEUP STUDIO - A LITTLE WHILE LATER

Kali sits in the makeup chair as Jade applies some
prosthetics and faux facial hair to her face.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. JADE'S MAKEUP STUDIO - A LITTLE WHILE LATER

Kali, now with a masculine looking face, including a larger
nose and a beard, tries on some oversized, men's clothing.

JADE

You look like a completely
different person.

KALI

I do, don't I?

They smile.

KALI (CONT'D)

There's still another step we need to figure out.

EXT. KING HOUSE - A FEW DAYS LATER

Kali, now fully disguised (prosthetics, facial hair, sunglasses and hat), exits the back of her house with Jade.

KALI

Thank you so much for helping me and for not telling anyone. I honestly don't know what I'd have done without you.

JADE

I got you. Always.

They walk to the alley behind Kali's house and get into Jade's car.

INT. JADE'S CAR - MOMENTS LATER

Jade drives as Kali looks at a map on her phone.

KALI

Let's try the Raymond Station. It's usually busy, so I can just blend in.

Jade nods and continues driving. Kali is smiling, a look of hopefulness we haven't yet seen. But that quickly fades as she notices Jade continually checking in the rearview mirror.

KALI (CONT'D)

What is it? Are we being followed?

Kali looks behind them. Sure enough, as Jade switches lanes, the car behind them switches too.

KALI (CONT'D)

Dammit.

JADE

It's okay. I'll circle around here a few times. I can lose 'em.

Jade drives around the block, switching lanes as she goes.

JADE (CONT'D)
Sometimes, not being a great driver
has its perks.

Kali laughs then looks out the window, nervously.

JADE (CONT'D)
I think he's gone. I'm gonna drop
you at the south entrance. Head
straight underground.

Jade pulls over. Kali takes a moment, looking at her friend.

JADE (CONT'D)
Don't make a big deal, just go.

Kali nods, grateful. Then quickly exits the car and
disappears into the train station.

INT. CHURCH - SUPPORT GROUP - A LITTLE WHILE LATER

Trans support group. This time Kali sits in the circle with
the rest of the teens. She smiles. ELIOT, 19, ftm teen with
cerebral palsy (which is noticeable as his right arm doesn't
do much) begins to speak.

ELIOT
I've been staying with my aunt and
my uncle for a few weeks now and
man, it's been life changing. I
thought my mom kicking me out would
be a tragedy, but I think it was
exactly what I needed.

INT. ELIOT'S HOUSE - **A FEW WEEKS EARLIER** - FLASHBACK

It's a dark and dingy living room. Eliot is sleeping on the
couch. His MOM, early 40s, comes in, fired up.

ELIOT'S MOM
Where's rent, Emily? It was due
yesterday.

Eliot wakes up.

ELIOT
Good morning.

ELIOT'S MOM
Where's rent?

ELIOT

I don't have it. I lost my job at the store. They said I wasn't performing efficiently or whatever.

ELIOT'S MOM

So you were being lazy again?

ELIOT

No! It was too hard stocking the shelves with my disability.

ELIOT'S MOM

You always have an excuse, don't you? You going to blame your disability for failing school? Or the fact that you think you're a dude?

ELIOT

(sotto) I am a dude.

We hear a baby crying off screen. Eliot's mom starts to walk away.

ELIOT'S MOM

If you don't have rent by tomorrow, you need to find somewhere else to live.

INT. CHURCH - BACK TO PRESENT

Everyone is listening intently to Eliot.

ELIOT

I literally left with the clothes on my back and haven't spoken to my mom since.

SASHA

I'm sorry, man.

ELIOT

You know? It's okay. My aunt and uncle have been so supportive. They call me Eliot. My mom never did that.

The teens smile encouragingly. Kali takes a deep breath and speaks.

KALI

Hi. I'm... Kay.

Everyone says hello.

KALI (CONT'D)

This is my first time here so I just wanted to say thanks for letting me come. I needed this. (beat) It's weird. I have so many advantages that others don't... Money isn't really an issue, so I'll be able to afford therapy and testosterone treatment and, god willing, surgery. But... coming out to my mom and well, a lot of people, is gonna be a major obstacle. And I'm still not really sure how or honestly, if, I'm gonna be able to do it.

JESSICA

Well, you're here. That's step one. Not that this is some twelve step program. We're not alcoholics or anything.

A TEEN in the circle shouts out.

TEEN 1

Speak for yourself!

Everyone laughs.

SASHA

I wanted to continue our discussion on pronouns from last week. Kay, why don't you tell us what your pronouns are.

KALI

Um, wow, I guess I haven't even thought about that yet.

SASHA

That's okay. We'll give you a quick lesson. I use the pronouns he/him.

JESSICA

I proudly use the pronouns she/her.

ELIOT

I go by he/him.

TEEN 1/SKY

I identify as male but use the pronouns they/them.

KALI

But there's only one of you?

Everyone laughs.

SASHA

Don't laugh, guys. Sky, you want to explain?

Teen 1, SKY, a ftm teen who has not started hormone therapy yet, explains.

SKY

First, they is actually recognized as a singular pronoun. What up 2019?

Jessica looks toward Kali.

JESSICA

Don't worry, it's totally confusing to me too.

SKY

Jess.

JESSICA

Sorry, keep going.

SKY

Even though I identify as a male and will begin my transition once the darn insurance company approves my T, I felt a gender neutral pronoun was more appropriate for me. Society makes such a big deal about he, her, she, they... so I was like f it. I'm a they.

KALI

Do you think I should be a they?

SKY

You should be you. And if you is they, then that is you.

Kali looks at Sky, even more confused.

JESSICA

It's okay to laugh now.

Kali giggles. The group continues the discussion. Kali is beaming.

INT. CHURCH HALLWAY - A LITTLE WHILE LATER

Group has ended. Sasha approaches Kali who is making her way toward the door.

SASHA

Hey, Kay.

Kali stops and turns around.

SASHA (CONT'D)

I'm glad you came today.

KALI

So am I. Thanks.

SASHA

If you need someone to talk to or have any questions, feel free to reach out. I can be like your trans sponsor or whatever.

KALI

Thanks.

Sasha takes out his phone.

SASHA

Do you want to give me your number and I'll text you mine?

Kali looks nervous.

KALI

Um...

SASHA

Totally up to you.

KALI

Yeah, sure.

Kali takes Sasha's phone and puts her number in. We hear her phone beep. She hands Sasha back his phone.

SASHA

Sweet. Oh and also, you don't need to wear a disguise here. Everyone's cool. It's a safe place.

KALI

I've got a lot more at stake than anyone can imagine.

Sasha nods.

SASHA

Okay, but the facial hair looks super fake. Don't worry though, once you're on T, that will change.

INT. KING HOUSE - KALI'S ROOM - LATER THAT NIGHT

Still dressed in men's clothes and a baseball cap, but now without the fake facial hair and prosthetics, Kali looks at pictures of her superstar-self on her laptop. Her phone beeps. It's a text from Sasha.

It's a link to a list entitled: "Steps to Transitioning". Sasha follows with a text that reads: "It's a lame list, but a good reference. I know how confusing and hard the beginning can be. If things get rough, don't hesitate to reach out. Head high, bro."

Kali pauses then texts back. "I like being called bro."

Kali clicks open the link and looks at the list. There are 8 steps.

INT. TRANS SUPPORT GROUP - FANTASY

Chyron: Step 1: Accept Yourself. The first major part of your transition will be accepting who you are.

Kali and the rest of the group members stand and raise their right hands. They face a Trans flag.

KALI AND TRANS GROUP MEMBERS

I am Trans. I accept myself. I love myself.

INT. LIVING ROOM - FANTASY

Chyron: Step 2: Come out.

Kali, looking like a male, is with DIANE SAWYER (in a room that looks a lot like the one Caitlyn Jenner "came out" in). Annie sits next to him, holding his hand.

KALI

Thank you for coming, Diane. I felt it was important to tell my truth to the world.

Kali looks at Annie who nods reassuringly.

KALI (CONT'D)

Diane, the truth is, I am a man. I am transgender.

EXT./INT. MEN'S BATHROOM - FANTASY

Chyron: Step 3: Pass as a Guy.

Kali, looking like a man, is in a public place staring at the two bathroom choices. A MAN walks up. He points to the men's room.

MAN

This one's the men's.

Kali smiles and walks in.

INT. DR. DREW'S OFFICE - FANTASY

Chyron: Step 4: Find a Therapist.

Kali is laying on the couch. DR. DREW sits in a chair across the way.

KALI

You know, Dr. Drew, if I'm being honest, I've always known I was a male.

DR. DREW

I see. Tell me more about that...

INT. TRANS SUPPORT GROUP - FANTASY

Chyron: Step 5: Make a Plan.

Sasha stands in front of a whiteboard and draws up a plan for Kali. It looks like a flowchart. Therapy - Testosterone - Top Surgery - Bottom Surgery???

He starts drawing a penis. Kali gets embarrassed and wipes it away.

INT. DOCTOR'S OFFICE - FANTASY

Chyron: Step 6: Start Hormone Therapy.

Kali gives herself a shot in the butt with the help of a NURSE. She then steps to a mirror and in **super-spiced-up** film we see the changes happen. Facial hair starts, more facial hair, body shape changes, more muscles, etc.

INT. COURTROOM - FANTASY

Chyron: Step 7: Change Your Name.

Kali, now fully looking like a man, stands before a JUDGE.

JUDGE

What name would you like to be called?

KALI

Kyle.

The judge bangs the gavel.

JUDGE

Kyle it is!

Everyone in the courtroom erupts into applause and cheers.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - FANTASY

Chyron: Step 8: Undergo Surgery.

Kyle squeezes Annie's hand as he's wheeled off for surgery.

MOMENTS LATER he's wheeled back out, a giant smile on his face. He dramatically tears open his hospital gown to reveal a manly, boobless chest (no signs of surgery either).

INT. KALI'S BEDROOM - BACK IN REALITY

Kali smiles then takes some selfies in her male look. She uploads them to a new Instagram account with the name... Kyle.

INT. LET'S ROCK/TV SHOW SET - **FOUR YEARS EARLIER** - FLASHBACK

Chyron: Four Years Earlier

It's a bright, colorful Disney Channel type set. Kali finishes filming a scene.

DIRECTOR

And cut. That's lunch everyone.

Kali walks back to her dressing room.

INT. KALI'S DRESSING ROOM - FLASHBACK CONTINUED

Kali puts on baggy, masculine clothes, pulls her hair into a low ponytail and puts on a baseball cap. Her manager, TROY SIMMONS, 30s, typical smarmy manager, sees dollar signs, not people, enters.

TROY

Jeez, Kali. Could you be more of a tomboy?

KALI

Nice to see you too, Troy.

TROY

Yeah yeah.

KALI

I keep getting recognized by fans everywhere I go. This makes it easier.

TROY

Well you better get used to it. You're only going to get bigger.

Annie enters.

TROY (CONT'D)

I'm glad you're here. I've got some big news. As you know, Kali's first single dropped last week, and it's already climbing the charts. So... I booked you on a tour opening for Five Seconds of Summer this summer! You leave once we wrap here in a few weeks!

Annie squeals with excitement and hugs Kali who looks less than thrilled. Off Kali's disappointed look, we:

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

INT. KALI'S DRESSING ROOM - **FOUR YEARS EARLIER** - FLASHBACK

Back as we left them. Annie is overjoyed at Troy's announcement.

ANNIE

I can't believe it! Your first big tour!

She picks up her daughter and spins her around. She then looks at Troy.

ANNIE (CONT'D)

You're amazing, Troy.

KALI

But Mom, I was planning to go to sports' camp over hiatus. You promised.

TROY

Well that is not an option.

ANNIE

(shrugs) Sorry.

TROY

If we don't capitalize on your music success now, you can kiss your singing career goodbye.

Annie puts her arm around Kali.

ANNIE

Look, I know you wanted to go to that camp, but Troy knows what he's doing. And you love singing, right?

Kali nods.

ANNIE (CONT'D)

How about we bring along a portable basketball hoop and you can shoot around outside with the crew when you're not rehearsing and stuff?

TROY

And we'll get you that set teacher who played college ball. What's his name?

ANNIE

Danny. Great idea. Kali loves him.
Right, honey?

Kali forces a smile and nods her head, but we can tell she is deeply upset.

INT. CHURCH - SUPPORT GROUP - DAY

Back in group (and back in disguise) Kali speaks.

KALI

I think it's time to tell my mom.

JESSICA

Hell yeah!

SASHA

It's a big step.

KALI

Anyone have any pointers?

ELIOT

Not really. But I'm happy to share my story with you.

SASHA

Same.

JESSICA

We don't want to scare him.

SASHA

No, but he's gotta know that everyone's story is different. And they aren't all good. Honestly, most are pretty rough.

KALI

Well, I'm just hoping it's not too rough.

A new member, a TRANS TEEN GIRL shouts out.

TRANS TEEN GIRL

You and me both.

SASHA

I knew who I was from a young age, like four or five. But my parents are super religious. To them a trans child was dealt from the devil.

INT. CHURCH OFFICE - **NINE YEARS EARLIER** - FLASHBACK

Chyron: Nine Years Earlier

SARAH, an 11-year-old preppy girl, is with her PARENTS, 30s, very proper looking, and a PRIEST.

SARAH

I just know in my heart and my soul
that I'm a boy.

SARAH'S MOM

So you like sports and cars, that
doesn't mean anything. Right,
Father?

SARAH

This isn't about liking boy things
or boy clothes. This is real. I
believe I was given the wrong body.

SARAH'S DAD

You see, Father? We don't know what
to do anymore. How can this be a
thing?

PRIEST

God doesn't make any mistakes,
Sarah. You are a girl. God built
you that way, and that is the way
it is.

INT. CHURCH - SUPPORT GROUP - BACK TO PRESENT

SASHA

The next few years were rough.
Finally I couldn't take it anymore.
I left home. Haven't heard from my
parents since.

The group is a bit somber until Jessica chimes in.

JESSICA

My story's not so bad news bears.

INT. JESSICA'S TODDLER BEDROOM - **13 YEARS AGO** - FLASHBACK

Chyron: 13 Years Earlier

A 3-year-old little boy, JAMES, is in a very blue, boy's
bedroom. James wears truck pajamas as his MOM, late 20s,
super crunchy/hippie, digs through his drawers for some
clothes. Mom pulls out pants and a shirt.

JAMES

I want to wear a dress, Momma.

JAMES' MOM

(with a big smile) Okay, then let's go get you a dress.

INT. CHURCH - SUPPORT GROUP - BACK TO PRESENT

JESSICA

From that moment on, we never looked back. I've been Jessica ever since.

KALI

That's amazing.

Eliot then raises his hand.

ELIOT

I'll go.

INT. ELIOT'S MOM'S KITCHEN - **TWO YEARS AGO** - FLASHBACK

Chryon: Two Years Earlier

EMILY, 17-years-old, sits across the table from her mom, who is holding a BABY and not fully paying attention to Emily.

EMILY

I've been feeling this way for a long time and I finally have the courage to say it out loud. So here goes. I'm a boy.

Emily's mom laughs.

EMILY'S MOM

Good one.

EMILY

I'm serious, Mom. I am a boy.

EMILY'S MOM

No. You're a girl. Are you confused about something?

EMILY

That's just it. I've been confused for so long, but I'm not anymore.

EMILY'S MOM

I don't know what you're talking about. Do you have a vagina?

EMILY

Yes.

EMILY'S MOM

Then you're a girl. It's science.

EMILY

But inside, I'm not a girl. I know it.

EMILY'S MOM

I don't want to talk about this anymore, Emily. Go to your room.

EMILY

But--

EMILY'S MOM

Go!

Emily walks to the living room and plops down on the couch, which is covered in blankets. Aka her "room."

INT. CHURCH - SUPPORT GROUP - BACK TO PRESENT

ELIOT

I lived like that for a couple of years. I think that's why I started doing so crappy at school and... everything.

SASHA

I hear that.

KALI

Thank you guys so much. No matter what happens, I know I have to do this. My mom has always been the closest person in my life. I mean, I never even met my dad. (then) I don't want to live a lie anymore.

Sasha pulls a TRANS FLAG PATCH out of his pocket and hands it to Kali.

SASHA

You can do it.

JESSICA

He sure can.

Jessica winks at Kali.

INT. KING HOUSE - KITCHEN - LATER

Kali comes home from group, still in her boy clothes but with her prosthetics and facial hair removed. She sees her mom in the kitchen and walks right up to her.

KALI

Mom, I have something to tell you.

ANNIE

(big smile) You're trans. I know, honey. Look, I even got you new clothes.

She motions to a clothing rack full of men's clothing.

ANNIE (CONT'D)

And a lifetime supply of testosterone.

She motions to an outrageously large stack of boxes labelled TESTOSTERONE.

They hug. Blue streamers and confetti fall from the ceiling.

INT. TRAIN CAR - SAME TIME

We reveal Kali, sitting on the train coming home from group. She has been imagining this whole thing. She shakes her head as the train comes to a stop. She exits.

INT. KING HOUSE - FOYER/LIVING ROOM - LATER

Kali enters her house and sees her mom sitting in the living room. She quickly hides in the foyer and removes her prosthetics and beard. She holds up her phone to check that she got it all.

ANNIE

Hey, hon.

KALI

Hey! Be right in.

Kali takes a deep breath then enters the living room. She sits down next to her mom on the couch.

KALI (CONT'D)

Can we talk?

ANNIE

Sure. What's up?

KALI

This is going to be a lot to hear,
but I ask that you just hear it.
Okay?

Annie nods.

KALI (CONT'D)

I've done a lot of soul searching
these past few months and I've come
to realize that I can no longer
hide who I truly am. Like, on the
inside.

ANNIE

Okay?

KALI

I identify as a man, Mom. And I'd
like to begin the process of
transitioning.

ANNIE

This again?

KALI

Yes, this again. I told you it
wouldn't just go away.

ANNIE

Wasn't cutting your hair enough?

KALI

Do I even have to answer that?

ANNIE

Well, have you considered that
maybe you're just a lesbian?

KALI

This has nothing to do with my
sexuality. This is about gender
identity.

Annie stands up and walks across the room.

ANNIE

You know, I always thought you'd
get over this.

KALI

I think deep down I hoped I would.
But I didn't. That's how I know
it's real.

ANNIE

Please. There's nothing real about
this. You want to get into a debate
about what's in your soul versus
biology?

KALI

I know this isn't easy, Mom.

ANNIE

You don't know the half of it! This
is bigger than just you, Kali. What
about your career?

KALI

I know. It's a big deal.

ANNIE

You're still under contract with
Troy and the record label. You
can't just change who you are.

Annie sits back down, but this time not on the couch with
Kali.

KALI

Trust me, I have a lot at stake
too. Singing is my life. It's my
outlet. I don't know anything
different. And it scares the crap
out of me to think that I could be
giving that up.

ANNIE

Why would you give it up?

KALI

Well, my voice is gonna change.

ANNIE

What?

KALI

The testosterone will deepen my
voice. I might not be able to sing
anymore. And if I can, I won't
sound the same.

ANNIE

Then why risk it?

KALI

I have to. The thought of continuing on like this hurts a lot more than knowing I might not be able to sing again.

ANNIE

This is... This is too much to hear right now. Let's talk about it another time.

KALI

There is no other time, Mom. I've waited my whole life to be who I truly am. I can't wait anymore.

ANNIE

Look, I love you and I've always supported you, but this is... big. And it will be messy and I'm just not ready for it.

They both sit silently for a few beats.

KALI

When you are ready, I'd like you to start calling me Kyle. And using the pronouns he and him.

ANNIE

I don't know if I can do that.

Annie looks at Kali, almost disgusted. She gets up and exits the room without saying another word.

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

INT. CHURCH - SUPPORT GROUP - DAY

The group is already in session. Kali is in her usual disguise, minus the sunglasses.

KALI

And that was it. She walked away. It's been three days and she's barely said a word to me.

SKY

But she didn't kick you out?

KALI

No.

ELIOT

And she didn't disown you?

KALI

Not really.

SKY

Seriously? Doesn't sound so bad to me.

Kali shrugs.

SASHA

Guys, remember, everyone's journey is different. And everyone has a different relationship with their folks. So if Kay is feeling down about how his coming out went, then he has a right to feel that way.

JESSICA

I'm sorry, Kay. I hope she comes around.

Sky looks at Kali.

SKY

I feel like there's more you're not telling us. You just seem really down for the reaction you got.

KALI

That's what happened. (a long pause) I told you guys everything.

SKY

Really?

SASHA

Sky, let it go.

SKY

No. What about that disguise you wear? It's over the top. Everyone knows it, they're just too nice to say anything.

Kali fidgets nervously, not knowing what to say.

KALI

I just have a lot at stake.

SKY

Like..?

Kali is worked up.

KALI

It's none of your business!

SKY

We share everything here. And *you* get to choose what you want to keep from us.

JESSICA

Sky!

SKY

No, seriously. If he doesn't tell the truth, he shouldn't be here.

KALI

I'm telling the truth!

SKY

But not all of it.

JESSICA

Sky!

SKY

Okay, I'll let it go. But something's not right.

Sky shoots Kali a look and then quickly exits. There's a long period of silence. Jessica looks to Kali.

JESSICA

You okay?

KALI

Yeah. I guess.

JESSICA

He's going through a lot too.

KALI

I know.

SASHA

So, do you want us to call you Kyle now?

Kali perks up.

KALI

Yeah. That would be cool.

NOTE: FROM NOW ON KALI WILL BE REFERRED TO AS KYLE IN THE SCRIPT.

INT. TROY SIMMONS' OFFICE - A FEW DAYS LATER

Kyle and Annie meet with Troy. As Kyle tries to muster up the nerve to speak, he looks to Annie for help.

ANNIE

No, no. This is your thing. You tell him.

KYLE

I don't know how much my mom's told you.

TROY

Not much.

KYLE

Well, I've decided I don't want to hide from my truth anymore. I identify as a man. I'm about to turn 18 and I want to transition.

There's a long period of silence. Then Troy bursts out laughing.

TROY

You guys got me good. All the boy clothes, the hair cut, you really committed to this one.

KYLE

I'm serious, Troy.

Troy turns to Annie. She nods.

TROY

And you're just fine with this?

ANNIE

I didn't say that.

TROY

Look, I'm gonna be straight with you. You are a singer. A damn good one at that. And right now not only are you still under contract, but you're on top of the world. If you think you can just throw that away, you got another thing coming.

Kyle takes a deep breath.

KYLE

This choice-- it's not even a choice-- it's who I am. And my decision to be me, has nothing to do with music and everything to do with my life.

Again Troy laughs.

TROY

Oh, throw up. You have no life. This is your life.

ANNIE

Troy.

KYLE

What about Kim Petras? She's trans and out and a huge star.

TROY

Kim was always a girl in the public's eye. It's a completely different scenario.

KYLE

But everyone knows. It doesn't hurt her.

TROY

Why are we even discussing this? You are Kali King. And that's it.

ANNIE

Troy's right. This cannot happen.

Kyle now gets worked up.

KYLE

It has to happen!

ANNIE

Stop being so dramatic.

KYLE

I'm not being dramatic. I can't live a lie anymore.

TROY

We all know what a good actor you are. So fake it. Act. Do whatever you need to do to continue being Kali King. Cause that's who you are. And nothing is going to change that.

KYLE

You can't force me--

TROY

Yes, we can.

Kyle looks to his mother, desperate.

ANNIE

It is what it is. I'm sorry, Kali.

KYLE

It's Kyle.

TROY

Like hell it is.

INT. CAR - AFTER THE MEETING

Annie drives as Kyle sits in the passenger seat, staring blankly out the window. There's an uncomfortable period of silence. Finally, Annie speaks.

ANNIE

I think you need to forget all this trans stuff and move on.

Kyle doesn't respond. A few more beats of silence.

ANNIE (CONT'D)

Kali, you're just going to have to find a way to express yourself without becoming a boy.

KYLE

What if we fire Troy?

ANNIE

Excuse me?

KYLE

What do I even need him for? I'm gonna have to take a break from music while I transition anyway. Then when I'm ready, we can find a new manager.

ANNIE

You wouldn't have the career you do without Troy. You owe him a lot.

KYLE

You're just saying that cause you're sleeping with him.

ANNIE

Watch your mouth.

KYLE

It's true. And honestly, I'm the one who got us where we are today. I'm the one who's been working since I was eleven to get us out of that disgusting apartment. I'm the one who goes on stage every night and works my ass off to give us everything we have. Not Troy. Not you. Me. I do it all. So shouldn't I get to decide who I want to be?!

ANNIE

No! You shouldn't!

KYLE

You know, he's never leaving his wife.

ANNIE

Shut up.

KYLE

He probably doesn't even love you.

ANNIE

Shut up! And enough! You're not firing Troy and you're not becoming a boy. That's it. Now I don't want to hear about it anymore!

Kyle is stunned. We go tight on his face as Annie rambles on. Her words muffled as we are now in Kyle's POV and he is blocking her out.

ANNIE (CONT'D)

(barely audible) It is just so silly if you think about it. Dress like a boy, cut your hair, okay, maybe I can see that... But hormones and god knows what else? That's just preposterous...

As Annie continues, Kyle takes out his phone. He pulls up his text chain with Sasha and starts to type: "Could use someone to talk to." He then stops typing, takes a moment and deletes the text without sending it.

INT. KING HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Kyle and Annie are with GRETA, a very-chic looking stylist, who has a clothing rack full of clothes.

ANNIE

So I told Greta to lean in to your new look.

GRETA

I love the hair cut. And I've created several looks that will play off it's structure and maturity.

Greta holds up an outfit. It is sophisticated but still quite feminine.

ANNIE

Loving that.

A checked out Kyle shakes his head.

GRETA

Too business caj? How about this?

Greta holds up another look. A sleek, all leather number. Kyle immediately shakes his head again.

GRETA (CONT'D)

The leather's a lot. I get it.

Greta pulls one more outfit from the rack. A denim pants jumper with a bow around the waist.

GRETA (CONT'D)

Powerful, yet flirty.

ANNIE

Oooh, try that one on, hon.

Kyle shoots his mom a look.

ANNIE (CONT'D)

You can take the bow off.

Kyle unhappily grabs the jumper and exits the room. Annie turns to Greta.

ANNIE (CONT'D)

Don't mind her. These are all fabulous.

EXT. LOCAL CHURCH - DAY

Kyle, in his full disguise, arrives outside the church for group. Sky runs over to him.

SKY

I figured it out.

KYLE

What?

Sky holds up his phone which is opened to a picture of Kali King.

SKY

That's you. Right?

KYLE

I don't know what you're talking about.

SKY

Come on. Your eyes are the same. You said money's not as issue. You wear this crazy costume. You're Kali King.

KYLE

That's the most ridiculous thing
I've ever heard.

Sasha and Eliot walk up.

SKY

You guys. You're not gonna believe
this.

Kyle looks at Sky, desperately.

KYLE

Sky, please. Don't.

SKY

Check this out.

As Sky goes to show the others his phone, Kyle grabs it and
smashes it to the ground. Everyone looks stunned.

KYLE

I'm sorry.

Kyle runs off. Sky picks his phone off the ground.

SKY

Shit. He broke it.

Sasha and Eliot look stunned and confused.

INT. TROY'S OFFICE - DAY

Kyle, Annie and Troy meet with a TEAM OF WRITERS, one male,
one female.

WRITER 1

Okay, so you're a babysitter for
monsters.

Kyle rolls his eyes. Troy looks to the writers.

TROY

Remember, we're looking for a more
mature role for Kali.

WRITER 2

Noted. How about a traditional rom-
com? Kali plays a music teacher who
falls for the newly widowed dad of
one of her students.

WRITER 1

She's torn about what to do. He just lost his wife. It's one of her best students. But her heart is telling her she has no choice. She has to jump in. Head first.

TROY

Boom!

ANNIE

Now we're getting somewhere. Right, sweetie?

Kyle stares out, blankly.

KYLE

Sure.

INT. KING HOUSE - KYLE'S ROOM - DAY

Kyle logs onto his "Kyle" Instagram account. There's a ton of positive feedback in the comments under his most recent picture. But then he sees a few negative comments: "U don't look like a dude." "Gross tranny fag." "Jesus hates you." He scrolls down and sees even more negative comments.

Kyle deletes the account.

INT. CHURCH - SUPPORT GROUP - A FEW WEEKS LATER

The meeting has ended. Sasha, Eliot, Jessica and Sky have gathered by the door.

JESSICA

Has anyone heard from Kyle? He hasn't been to a meeting in weeks.

ELIOT

No.

SASHA

Not a word.

JESSICA

I'm worried. We need to do something. Does anyone know where he lives?

SASHA

No, but it's not like we can just show up at his house anyway.

SKY

I shouldn't have pressed him about everything. Maybe he doesn't feel safe here anymore.

SASHA

Yeah, what happened with you guys outside that day? You never really told us.

SKY

I just gave him a hard time about something. I should have let it go.

SASHA

It's not your fault.

JESSICA

Let's all just reach out and let him know we love him and we hope he comes back.

They nod in agreement.

INT. KING HOUSE - KYLE'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Kyle lies on his bed, staring off into space. The room is dark. He's completely checked out. We see his phone beeping with texts. One from Jessica "Missed you at group the past few weeks. You ok?" with several heart emojis. And one from Sasha "Call if you need to talk. I'm here for you."

Annie pops her head in.

ANNIE

I'm heading to dinner with Troy. You sure you don't want to come?

KYLE

Mm hmm.

ANNIE

O-kay, cause we're gonna discuss some of those new show ideas. You should be apart of it.

KYLE

Nope.

ANNIE

Why don't you turn on some lights? It's depressing in here.

INT. HOTEL ROOM - TULSA - DAY

Kyle sits in a chair while Jade does his very feminine makeup. His hair is pulled back in a wig cap.

JADE

You haven't called me for rides to your group lately. You still going?

KYLE

Not really.

JADE

I thought it was helping.

KYLE

Yeah, well, look at me now.

Kyle looks in the mirror as his face becomes more and more done up.

JADE

It does seem wrong to be doing this look again, huh?

KYLE

I feel like a prisoner.

JADE

What does your mom say?

KYLE

She's just all about my career. You know that.

JADE

I also know she loves you.

A few beats of silence as Jade continues Kyle's makeup.

JADE (CONT'D)

There's this quote I really like. It's a little cheesy but I think it's true. "Every setback is a setup for a comeback."

They look in the mirror Kyle's finished makeup. He looks more feminine than ever. A tear rolls down his cheek.

JADE (CONT'D)

You gotta have hope, Kyle. There's always hope.

INT. GREEN ROOM - TULSA MEET AND GREET - A LITTLE WHILE LATER

Kyle is now wearing a long wig, similar to his old hair, his signature headband and a sparkly outfit. Troy and Annie are there as well.

KYLE

I thought you said we could embrace my new look? What happened to all our "leaning in?"

TROY

We will lean. Just not when you're getting paid 100 K for an hour of autograph signing.

KYLE

Mom, don't make me do this.

ANNIE

Stop being so dramatic.

KYLE

Please. I'm begging you!

For a moment Annie looks sympathetic. Then she looks at Troy.

ANNIE

I'm sorry, hon. But you have no choice.

Kyle angrily exits the green room.

INT. KING HOUSE - KYLE'S BATHROOM - NIGHT

Kyle stands in front of the mirror and takes off his clothes. Wearing nothing but his chest binder and underwear, he stares into the mirror. He touches his bound chest. He looks back toward the mirror. The same image of the boy from earlier looks back at him.

He grabs a large handful of painkillers. Tears begin to stream down his face. He puts the pills in his mouth, then drinks a large glass of water, swallowing the pills.

He takes a knife out from the vanity drawer. With a dead look in his eyes, he brings the knife to his wrist.

FADE TO BLACK.

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

FADE IN:

INT. HOSPITAL - LATER THAT NIGHT

Tight on eyes as they blink open. We hear the beeping of monitors. Eyes close. More beeping. Eyes open again. Through his blurry POV, we see Kyle look around and realize he's still alive and now strapped down to a hospital bed. He closes his eyes once again, then opens them and sees his mom and Troy whispering in the corner of the room.

TROY

How am I going to keep this from the press? They'll think she's Britney 2.0.

ANNIE

You'll think of something. You always do.

Annie looks over at Kyle. He closes his eyes.

ANNIE (CONT'D)

I can't believe she did this.

TROY

Kali's always been on the dramatic side.

ANNIE

This is different. How could I not have seen how bad it had gotten for her?

Troy begins to show a bit of a human side.

TROY

You couldn't have known.

ANNIE

Look at her. Look at my baby.

Troy pulls Annie in for a hug. We see there is love between these two.

ANNIE (CONT'D)

I can't believe I'm saying this, but maybe we don't have a choice anymore.

TROY

About what?

ANNIE

Maybe it's time to rethink our approach. (then) I think we need to let her... be him.

Troy fumes for a moment, removing any semblance of empathy he briefly had.

TROY

(loud) Have you lost your mind?!
(then, back to whisper) Think about what you're saying.

ANNIE

I know. Trust me. I know. But what choice to do we have? I almost lost her.

TROY

You're not thinking straight, Annie.

ANNIE

Troy.

TROY

I don't have time for this now. I gotta go do damage control.

Troy storms off. Kyle watches as his mom hopelessly stares off at Troy.

INT. HOSPITAL - THE NEXT MORNING

Kyle wakes up and sees Annie sitting next to him.

ANNIE

Honey! You're awake.

Annie puts her head on Kyle's heart.

ANNIE (CONT'D)

Oh, hon. I'm so sorry. I'm so so sorry.

KYLE

It's okay.

ANNIE

No, it's not. I almost lost you. I don't want to lose you. Ever.
(then) I am so sorry I dismissed your feelings and didn't take this as seriously as I should have. But I know now. I know how real it is.

Annie breaks down crying. A few tears begin to fall from Kyle's eyes as well.

KYLE

I'm sorry too, Mom.

ANNIE

No. This was my fault. I'm your mom. It is my job to protect you. Instead, I put your career first.

Annie stands up.

ANNIE (CONT'D)

Your career? It's all I know. It gave us a life that I never thought we'd have. We had nothing and now we have everything. (then) But none of that matters.

She grabs Kyle's hand.

ANNIE (CONT'D)

You are what matters. Not money or fame or any of it... Just you. Just you.

Annie hugs Kyle, sobbing. Kyle takes it all in.

ANNIE (CONT'D)

I'm so sorry.

KYLE

It's okay, Mom. It's okay.

INT. TROY'S OFFICE - DAY

Troy and AMANDA BLOOM, 30s power publicist, are huddled together.

TROY

We need to spin a story. And fast.

AMANDA

Super fast. The paparazzi saw the ambulance leaving Kali's house. They've been camped out outside the hospital for two days.

TROY

Dammit.

AMANDA

We can say it was really bad food poisoning. Some tainted romaine or whatever.

TROY

All Kali's fans know she hates Caesar salad.

AMANDA

Okay, so she was doing a little post tour celebrating, had a few too many and took a bad fall.

TROY

Her fans are young. She can't be a drunk.

AMANDA

Sleepwalking?

TROY

You're better than that.

AMANDA

What about all the hospital workers? How do we keep them quiet? Everyone sells out for a buck these days. (beat) This is a nightmare.

TROY

No shit.

A few beats of silence as they try and formulate a plan.

TROY (CONT'D)

I've got an idea.

AMANDA

Yeah?

TROY

First, I need to go down to the hospital and scare the living hell out of everyone who works there.

AMANDA

If anyone can do that, you can.

Troy takes a dramatic breath.

TROY

Okay. What if... we fake her death?

AMANDA

Excuse me?

TROY

It seems this whole trans thing isn't going to just go away.

AMANDA

It usually doesn't.

Troy shoots her a look.

TROY

So since we don't have much of a choice but to let her do it, then we'll just have to kill her.

AMANDA

Troy!

TROY

Fake. Fake kill. I'm not really murdering her. Jesus. (then) Look, everyone knows musicians make a lot more money posthumously.

AMANDA

Especially when they die young and tragically.

TROY

That's right. So she gets to be a dude, and I still get rich. Everyone wins.

AMANDA

One small problem. How are you gonna get Annie and Kali on board?

TROY

You're right. They will not like this.

AMANDA

Got any other ideas?

TROY

Oh, we're doing this one. We're just not telling them first.

Amanda's jaw drops. Troy smiles confidently.

INT. CAFÉ - A FEW DAYS LATER

Kyle, in his disguise, and with a visible bandage on his wrist, sits at a table in the back corner with Sasha and Jessica.

SASHA

I tried a few years ago too.

KYLE

You did?

SASHA

(nods) Apparently it takes more than 20 Tylenol to do the trick.

KYLE

Good to know.

JESSICA

Hey!

KYLE

Kidding.

SASHA

I'm happy it didn't work, you know? Things have gotten better. Certainly not perfect, but... It does get better.

Kyle nods, taking this in.

SASHA (CONT'D)

Unfortunately attempting suicide is pretty common for trans teens. Like half of us try. It's crazy.

KYLE

That's nuts.

JESSICA

Well, not to turn this super morbid discussion around or anything, but I have some good news.

SASHA

You got the new Kylie lip kit before it sold out?

JESSICA

No. Well, yes, but that's not my news. Although my lips are already feeling fire if you know what I mean.

SASHA

Luckily I do not.

JESSICA

Kyle, I spoke to my gender therapist, who is like the best in the biz-- Anyways I spoke to her about you and it turns out she finally has an opening in her schedule, and she said she can get you in for an appointment tomorrow.

Kyle smiles, subtly.

KYLE

Wow. Thank you, Jess. That's really cool of you.

Jessica grabs his hand.

JESSICA

You worried me. Don't do that again, okay?

Kyle nods. His phone beeps. It's a text from his mom: "Troy wants to talk ASAP." Kyle looks up.

SASHA

Everything cool?

KYLE

Look, there's something I've been keeping from you guys. And it's kind of a big deal. I think it's gonna change the way you feel about me.

SASHA

Dude. There is nothing you could tell us that would change the way we feel about you.

JESSICA

Yeah, we're your friends. Nothing can change that.

KYLE

Okay, well--

SASHA

Stop. You don't need to tell us anything now. Seriously.

JESSICA

Sasha's right. Right now you need to focus on your health. Nothing else matters.

KYLE

Yeah, but--

JESSICA

Nothing.

Kyle reluctantly accepts this, knowing he likely couldn't handle any more drama right now anyway.

KYLE

Thank you, guys. For everything.

INT. GENDER THERAPIST'S OFFICE - THE NEXT MORNING

A large trans flag hangs on the wall next to framed degrees and signs about trans rights. Kyle, in a hat and boy clothes, sits on the couch across from DR. COLLINS, 50s, impressive looking but with an obvious warmth.

DR. COLLINS

You need to know that everything we say here is confidential unless I think you're going to harm yourself again. That, I cannot stay quiet about. You understand?

KYLE

Yes.

DR. COLLINS

Please, don not try to harm yourself again.

Kyle nods.

DR. COLLINS (CONT'D)

Do you want to tell me how you got here?

KYLE

Shockingly, my mom drove me. Well, we Ubered. She didn't want us to get followed.

DR. COLLINS

No, not to the appointment. How you got... (a beat, as she points to his wrist) here?

KYLE

Right. (deep breath) I guess, it just seemed if I couldn't be me, then why be anything at all?

DR. COLLINS

Why can't you be you?

KYLE

You're not gonna tell Jessica anything, right?

DR. COLLINS

You can trust me.

KYLE

Well, I'm actually Kali King.

Kyle takes off his hat.

KYLE (CONT'D)

I'm like a singer or whatever.

DR. COLLINS

Oh, yes. I recognize you now.

KYLE

So, being me comes with a lot of complications.

DR. COLLINS

Are you worried about disappointing your fans?

KYLE

Yeah... I guess that's part of it. But I don't even know how I'll get that far. My mom and my manager are just so not on board.

DR. COLLINS

Even now?

KYLE

I mean, my mom says she wants to support me now. But Troy, that's my manager, I don't see him ever coming around.

DR. COLLINS

Okay, so you have some obstacles. But so does everyone. Transitioning is a big deal whether you're a pop star or just a regular teenager.

KYLE

I know.

DR. COLLINS

I want to talk more about your mom and your manager, but let me get up to speed on a few things.

Dr. Collins takes out a notepad.

DR. COLLINS (CONT'D)

Have you met with an endocrinologist yet?

KYLE

That's the hormone doctor, right?

DR. COLLINS

Yes.

KYLE

Not yet. You're the first doctor I've seen about any of this.

DR. COLLINS

Okay. Well, I can recommend some endocrinologists when you're ready. I do think it's important for us to meet several times before that.

Kyle nods.

DR. COLLINS (CONT'D)

But your doctor will get you going on testosterone and discuss all your other options as far as surgeries and what not.

(MORE)

DR. COLLINS (CONT'D)

If you were a bit younger you'd start puberty blockers, but I assume you've already begun menstruating?

KYLE

Yeah, I got my period when I was like 12.

DR. COLLINS

Of course. I only ask cause sometimes with dancers it's delayed.

KYLE

I dance, but nothing that serious.

DR. COLLINS

Right.

KYLE

I wish I had started all this years ago. It just seems impossible now.

DR. COLLINS

Medically, would it have been easier to start this before puberty? Maybe a little. But most trans people don't have that opportunity. And so, you'll have to take a few extra steps physically... assuming that's what you want. Transitioning is a very personal decision. You can do as much or as little as you need to be happy about your physical self.

KYLE

Right.

DR. COLLINS

And I'm here to work with you on your mental health.

KYLE

I'm not sure which is more daunting.

INT. LET'S ROCK/TV SHOW SET - 5 YEARS EARLIER - FLASHBACK

Chryon: Five Years Earlier

Kali is on the set of her TV show rehearsing a scene in the living room. She stands up from the couch but quickly notices a red spot on the cushion where she was sitting. She looks down at her pants, also spotted in red. Super embarrassed, she runs off the set.

STAGE MANAGER

I guess that's a five.

Annie rushes off after Kali.

INT. KALI'S DRESSING ROOM - FLASHBACK CONTINUED

Annie enters the dressing room. She walks up to the bathroom door, turns the door handle and realizes it is locked, Kali obviously inside.

ANNIE

Hon? You okay?

KALI

No!

ANNIE

It's just a period. Everyone gets it.

KALI

Boys don't.

ANNIE

That's true. (beat) You need a pad or a tampon? I can show you how to use a tampon if you want. Or you can just use a mirror.

We hear some rustling around inside, cabinets slamming, etc.

KALI

I want to be a boy!

ANNIE

Of course you do. Everyone says that when they get their period for the first time. Periods suck.

Kali exits the bathroom in clean pants.

KALI

This is different. And you know that.

ANNIE

Kali, come on.

KALI

No. I've always wanted to be a boy.

ANNIE

Not always.

KALI

Yes, I have. And all this does is confirm that it's never going to happen.

ANNIE

You're right. It's not.

KALI

Please leave.

ANNIE

Fine, but I don't want to hear about this ever again.

Annie turns to leave then stops. She turns back to Kali and slaps her across the face.

KALI

Ow! What was that for?

ANNIE

It's good luck. The Jews do it when a girl gets her period for the first time.

Kali holds her cheek, in pain.

KALI

We're not Jewish.

Annie shrugs and exits the dressing room.

EXT. KING HOUSE - NIGHT - BACK TO PRESENT

Annie and Kyle exit an Uber. They walk up the driveway and enter the house.

INT. KING HOUSE FOYER - NIGHT - CONTINUOUS

Kyle and Annie enter to find Troy and Amanda waiting inside.

ANNIE

Jeez! What are you two doing here?

KYLE

You have a key?

TROY

No, I'm just surprisingly good at picking locks.

AMANDA

He has a key.

ANNIE

What's going on?

TROY

It's time for you guys to take a little trip.

ANNIE

Excuse me?

TROY

I've packed your bags.

AMANDA

Technically I did the packing.

TROY

You're booked on the next flight to Costa Rica - which I hear is beautiful this time of year.

KYLE

What are you talking about? (to Annie) Mom, what is he talking about?

ANNIE

I don't know. Troy, what is going on?

TROY

I solved your problem.

KYLE

What?

TROY

You want to be a man. I want my reputation and my finances in tact, so I came up with a plan.

(MORE)

TROY (CONT'D)

And if you don't leave now and follow along, then shit is going to get bad.

Troy hands Annie the plane tickets.

ANNIE

What the hell are you talking about?

AMANDA

We faked Kali's death.

ANNIE

You what?

KYLE

Excuse me?

AMANDA (CONT'D)

Well, we're about to. Right now the police are responding to a fiery car crash near Malibu. Car burst into flames and went right off the PCH, into the ocean. Super tragic.

KYLE

What?!

TROY

Didn't you notice your car was missing?

Kyle and Annie look out the front window at the empty driveway.

KYLE

You can't do this. I never agreed to this.

TROY

This isn't about what you want or agree to. You're about to be richer than ever and then you can be he, she, it, whatever you want.

ANNIE

This is insane.

AMANDA

I thought so at first too. But it's actually pretty genius.

TROY

All you have to do is disappear. Be dead.

ANNIE

For how long?

TROY

I said dead. That kind of means forever.

KYLE

You can't do this, Troy.

TROY

Oh, I already have. And if you don't play along, there will be lawsuits, fraud investigations and god knows what else.

AMANDA

It would be bad.

TROY

Not to mention, I'd make your life a living hell.

KYLE

This doesn't make sense. We don't have to go along with this.

TROY

Did you not hear what I just said? Kali King is going to die in five minutes. You have no choice but to leave.

KYLE

But there's no body.

AMANDA

The car explodes.

KYLE

What about teeth? They always look for teeth.

TROY

I know where your mom hid her tooth fairy stash.

Kyle looks to Annie, panicked.

KYLE

Mom. Say something. We can't do this.

ANNIE

(to Troy) What about us? You're fine never seeing me again?

TROY

You and I both know you won't leave your daughter.

EXT. KYLE'S HOUSE - BACK ALLEY - MOMENTS LATER

Amanda loads suitcases into the trunk of a beat-up car that's parked out back. Troy quickly pushes Kyle and Annie into the front seat.

TROY

Don't let anyone follow you to the airport. And use these passports.

He hands them two passports.

TROY (CONT'D)

You gotta be untraceable.

ANNIE

Troy, stop. There has to be another way.

TROY

There's not. You can thank me later. Send me a postcard or something. But don't use your real name.

Troy closes the door and gives the car a couple taps.

TROY (CONT'D)

Adios!

INT. BEAT UP CAR - CONTINUOUS

Kyle and Annie drive off. Kyle fumes as Annie drives.

KYLE

How can he do this? We can't go along with this!

Annie doesn't speak, she just gets more tense and angry.

KYLE (CONT'D)

We have to do something. We can go to the police. We can fix this.

ANNIE

No, we can't.

Annie drives on, switching lanes frantically making sure they aren't being followed.

KYLE

So that's it? We're playing along?
You're okay with pretending I'm
dead?!

ANNIE

No! I'm not okay with any of this!
(beat) I told you to bury this
years ago. But no, you just
wouldn't give up. Well, now look at
what you've done.

KYLE

You're blaming me? You're angry
with me?!

ANNIE

This is your fault.

Annie looks at the road, furiously. As they continue driving in silence, we:

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT FOUR

ACT FIVE

FADE IN:

INT. RUSTIC BEDROOM - COSTA RICA - **A FEW MONTHS LATER**

Kyle, who looks a little more masculine now as he's started his testosterone, sits on his bed in his new room in Costa Rica. He picks up his phone and hits the button to FaceTime Jessica.

After a few rings, Jessica appears on the screen.

JESSICA (ON FACETIME)

Oh my god, Kyle! It's you!

KYLE

Hey.

JESSICA (ON FACETIME)

Are you okay? Where have you been?
Everyone's been so worried.

KYLE

Yeah, I'm fine. We moved and...
Well, there's a lot I need to tell
you.

JESSICA (ON FACETIME)

You look different.

KYLE

I started my testosterone. And I'm
not in that crazy disguise.

JESSICA (ON FACETIME)

You look good.

Kyle takes a deep breath.

KYLE

My real name is Kali. Kali King.

Jessica's eyes widen. She is completely shocked.

JESSICA (ON FACETIME)

Holy shit. But she's dead?

Kyle shakes his head.

KYLE

Like I said, I've got a lot to tell
you.

JESSICA (ON FACETIME)

Wow. Okay, yeah, tell me everything.

KYLE

You're the only person who can know this.

JESSICA (ON FACETIME)

Your secret is safe with me. Promise.

KYLE

Well when I came out to my mom, I also had to come out to my manager, Troy.

JESSICA (ON FACETIME)

Sorry, can we pause for a sec? I can't believe I actually know Kali King.

Kyle laughs.

JESSICA (ON FACETIME) (CONT'D)

This is major.

KYLE

You don't even know...

As Kyle continues to tell the truth to Jessica, we:

FADE OUT.

END OF SHOW