

PALO ALTO STORIES
(working title)

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Based on the Stories
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FADE IN:

EXT. PARKING LOT - NIGHT

It's January in the San Fernando Valley.

WIDE on a '94 Cadillac Deville parked facing a brick wall with its engine still running.

The SOUND of sports radio faintly drifts from the car radio.

INT. CADILLAC DEVILLE - NIGHT

TEDDY (16), an awkward but handsome teenager, and his best friend FRED (16), a gangly teenager with a devilish smile, sit in Fred's grandfather's Cadillac Deville. Fred and Teddy are smoking weed and sharing a quart of a Jack Daniels.

FRED

If you lived in the olden times,
what would you do?

Fred playfully presses the gas pedal while the car is in park. Teddy is startled at first, but gets used to it.

TEDDY

(thinking)
Which olden times?

FRED

Like, King Arthur, with knights
and horses.

TEDDY

I'd be the king.

FRED

You can't be king. No one is
king. That's like winning the
lottery.

TEDDY

If I went back, I'd be king. And
I'd fuck every virgin in the
kingdom.

FRED

You can't be king, asshole. You
couldn't even be *duke*. The fact
that you even said that shows
you're not royalty. You're a
fucking peasant.

(CONTINUED)

TEDDY

Whenever people time travel, they go back and they are friends with the king, or they are the king.

FRED

Because those are stories. When people tell stories, they're always about the king; it's Aristotle shit. But it's not real.

TEDDY

Neither is time travel.

FRED

There very few kings and you wouldn't be one of them.

TEDDY

Fuck you.

FRED

Fuck you, you're an idiot.

TEDDY

You're an idiot.

FRED

I know.

A beat.

TEDDY

If you were king, I'd kill myself.

Fred looks over to Teddy.

CLOSE on Fred.

FRED

Then you better die, mo'fucker, cuz I'm the king round these parts.

Fred puts the car in drive and crashes into the brick wall in front of them.

EXT. WIDE on car crashed into a wall. The tires are spinning and the engine steaming.

CLOSE on Fred, he looks beat up, blood drips from his mouth.

(CONTINUED)

He still has his foot on the gas pedal trying to go further into the wall. He looks over at Teddy.

CLOSE on Teddy, he is hurt with a gash in his forehead

TEDDY
(delirious)
Why the fuck did you do that?

Fred starts laughing like a lunatic.

CUT TO:

OPENING TITLES

FADE TO:

EXT. PARKING LOT, SOCCER FIELD - DAY

CLOSE of APRIL's (15) ponytail, she has auburn colored hair. She is a tomboy, but beautiful. She's smoking a cigarette in her soccer uniform. The rest of her team is blurred in the background running laps.

April finishes her cigarette and throws it on the floor, putting it out with her foot. She exits frame.

EXT. SOCCER FIELD - DAY

LONG SHOT April walking to rejoin her team on the soccer field.

One of April's teammates and long time friend, SHAUNA (15) yells out to her. Shauna has perfect pale white skin, black hair, and a Jewish nose.

Shauna and Shauna's sidekick, CHRISSY (15), laugh. Chrissy is pretty, blonde, and an airhead.

SHAUNA
Bad-ass!

April starts to run over to where her teammates are doing their cool down stretches.

CUT TO:

EXT. SOCCER FIELD - DAY

April, Shauna and Chrissy gossip while they stretch. Their soccer teacher, MR. B (32), a fit jock, with a lot of charisma, instructs them.

(CONTINUED)

CHRISSY
Mr. B is so fucking hot.

 SHAUNA
Ugh. I know. Too bad April's
his little pet.

 APRIL
What? Not true.

 CHRISSY
He lets you get away with
everything. You just went to go
have a cigarette during
practice?!

 SHAUNA
I'd go for it, if I were you.

 APRIL
I babysit for his kid.

 CHRISSY
I bet he makes a really ugly face
when he comes.

They all laugh.

 APRIL
Ew Chrissy.

 SHAUNA
What? Just saying...

 APRIL
I bet it's like this.
 (making a constipated
 face)

 MR. B (O.S.)
Alright! Great job today girls!

 APRIL
Oh shit!

The girls giggle. They stand up, brush off their knees and
walk off-screen.

 SHAUNA (O.S.)
Are you coming to my party
tonight, April?

TRACKING SHOT girls walking towards soccer field benches.

(CONTINUED)

CLOSE on EMILY (15), the school slut, stripping off her soccer uniform down to her wife beater T-shirt. Emily is a skinny, pretty blonde but wears too much makeup.

April, Chrissy, and Shauna look at her with fascination.

APRIL

Um. I don't know. I--

SHAUNA

Why?! You never come out with us. Don't be a Debbie Downer.

CHRISSY

Yeah. It's going to be fun.

SHAUNA

You can sleep over.

MR. B

(walking over)

April, can I talk to you for a minute?

Shauna and Chrissy look at each other with wide eyes.

APRIL

Sure Coach.

SHAUNA

April?

APRIL

Sure. I'll be there.

MR. B

Would you be able to baby-sit Michael Saturday night? I have a date.

(beat)

I know, stupid.

APRIL

It's not stupid.

MR. B

I don't know why I even try anymore, it's going to be dumb.

Shauna and Chrissy wave goodbye to April.

SHAUNA

Bye April! See you tonight!

(CONTINUED)

APRIL

Bye!

(brings her attention
back to Mr. B)

Um. Sure. I can do Saturday.
(smiles)

MR. B

Awesome!

(beat)

So how are you feeling about
being goalie? You doing okay?
Because I just wanted to let you
know I understand it's the
hardest position. You get all
the glory when you win, but all
the blame when you loose. You
okay with that right?

(looks at her
compassionately)

APRIL

(smiles)

Yeah. I'm fine.

MR. B

Good.

(touches her on the
arm)

See ya Saturday, Kiddo.

April looks down at her arm, turns around and walks away.

CUT TO:

EXT. SCHOOL - DAY

April waits for the bus outside of school. She's the only one at the bus stop. April looks bored, but she's used to being the last one picked up from school. She sits on the curb biting her fingernails and playing on her iPhone. She's wearing a hooded zip-up sweatshirt over her soccer uniform; her backpack rests on the ground.

EXT. SCHOOL - DAY

The empty street. The SOUND of a bus becomes louder.

WIDE on a bus pulling around the corner.

April stands up and grabs her backpack.

CUT TO:

EXT. IN N' OUT BURGER - DAY

Teddy and Fred hang out with their friends: RYAN (16) the suave lover-boy with tan skin and expensive clothes, IVAN (16) a scrawny, pimply kid that giggles a lot, and JACK-O (16) a slow and chubby kid, that is always the brunt of everyone's jokes.

They are hanging out at In N' Out Burger, goofing around.

Ivan and Ryan are laughing as they put their fingers through Jack-O's missing front tooth.

Ivan has a raspy, hyena-like laugh.

IVAN
(laughing)
We should call you Jack-O!
Because you look like a fucking
Jack-O lantern!

JACK-O
Stop! I gotta go to the dentist.

CLOSE on Teddy who is more focused on playing with a lighter, tempting how long he can hold his hand by the flame before it hurts.

Fred hits Ivan in the nuts, so he spits up his soda all over himself. All the boys laughs.

IVAN
(in pain)
You're such a dick. I just got
these pants.

FRED
Don't be a dingus.

RYAN
What's a dingus?

Teddy laughs.

IVAN
It's probably some stupid word
they made up.

RYAN
Wait. I don't get it? What's a
dingus?

FRED
A dingus.

(CONTINUED)

A black Prius pulls up.

JACK-O

(to Ryan)

Oh! Look who it is! Your
girlfriend.

RYAN

She's not my girlfriend.

CLOSE on Prius window rolling down to reveal Emily, with giant sunglasses on, chewing gum and smoking a cigarette at the same time.

EMILY

(smug)

Hi boys.

BOYS

Hey Emily.

Ryan gets into the car. Emily looks over at Teddy, who's further away.

EMILY

Hey Teddy.

TEDDY

Hey.

Fred throws a milkshake at the car and yells "faggot!" as Ryan and Emily drive away. Fred's milk shake misses and splatters against the asphalt

Jack-O looks at his cell phone for the time.

JACK-O

I gotta go home. My Mom is
cooking dinner.

IVAN

Me too.

TEDDY

See ya tonight?

JACK-O

Ya.

FRED

Later, fools.

Teddy and Fred stand around the empty In n' Out burger, the sun is setting.

(CONTINUED)

TEDDY
Let's get out of here.

FRED
Yeah, this place is dead anyway.

CUT TO:

EXT. APRIL'S HOUSE - DAY

April walks inside her house. The house is pretty average middle class.

Her little dog, MEATBALL, is whining for her at the door.

APRIL
Aw Meatball. You miss me?

April's step-dad, STEWART (45), peeks his head from around his "office" door and gives her a big smiley wave. Stewart's skin is pale white and he has ringlet brown hair that is gelled and held back with a cloth headband. He talks with a Brahmin accent.

STEWART
Hi, silly thing!

APRIL.
Hey Stewart.

April enters Stewart's office.

INT. STEWART'S OFFICE - DAY

April enters into a dimly lit room. The air is thick with Benson and Hedges cigarette smoke. There is a giant tupperware bowl filled with day old Spagettios. Coke cans and Gatorade bottles are scattered throughout. In the back of the tiny room is a cot piled with homemade crochet blankets and a Tempur-Pedic pillow.

Stewart sits at his desk in his swiveling office chair reading a book behind his computer with the TV paused on a video game. Even though it is late afternoon, he is wearing a grey terry cloth bathrobe over striped Gap pajamas.

STEWART
(looks at Meatball in
April's arms)
Ugh! Get that dreadful rodent
out of here!

(CONTINUED)

April laughs and puts Meatball on the floor to escape the room.

CLOSE on Meatball crawling away.

April looks around at the mess; her eye settles on a book the size of a dictionary resting on Stewart's desk.

APRIL

What are you reading?

STEWART

Oh! I'm just re-reading this great book "Ivanhoe." In fact, I think you might like it...

APRIL

(uninterested)

Looks complicated.

STEWART

I think you could pull it off.

APRIL

Maybe.

April focuses her attention on the TV.

APRIL (CONT'D)

Were you playing a video game?

(beat)

Shoot any hookers?

STEWART

(lets out a high pitched haughty laugh)

Yes! Brilliant! Oh speaking of brilliant. I corrected your paper for you. I think I did a really nice job. I entitled it "Alexander the Dubious."

He hands her a dense stack of papers.

INSERT: Judging by the first few lines, the paper is too wordy to have been written by any fifteen-year-old.

APRIL

Thanks, but you were just supposed to correct it, not rewrite the whole thing.

(CONTINUED)

STEWART
Yeah, but it needed quiet a bit
of work sweetie.

APRIL
(insecure)
OK. Thanks

April leaves Stewart's office and heads up the stairs to her
bedroom.

CUT TO:

EXT. TEDDY'S CAR - LATE AFTERNOON

Driving around the San Fernando Valley.

CUT TO:

INT. TEDDY'S CAR - LATE AFTERNOON

Teddy and Fred drive around in Teddy's car in silence.

FRED
Would you rather smoke a bong
full of boogers --

Teddy laughs.

FRED (CONT'D)
-- or have permanent diarrhea.

TEDDY
Smoke a bong of boogers
obviously. That one wasn't good.

As Fred thinks, everything goes quiet again.

FRED
(breaking the silence)
What would you do if you got into
a car accident?

TEDDY
Uh, I'd be pissed.

FRED
I know, but what if it was a
drunk-driving accident, and you
were the one who was drunk?

TEDDY
I'm on probation. I would go to
juvie.

(CONTINUED)

FRED

I know, shit face, so what would you do? Fess up or drive away?

TEDDY

How bad is the accident?

FRED

It's bad, you crashed right into another car. But your car still runs.

TEDDY

Oh really?

FRED

Yeah, the other person could be dead, or they could just be a little whiplashed. You don't know.

TEDDY

Who's the other person?

FRED

Dude, you don't know! You can either wait around and help the other person, and maybe it's Giselle and you guys fall in love, or you can get the fuck out of there. But you have to decide. Pretend like it just happened right now. What would you do?

TEDDY

Uh, I guess I would drive away.

FRED

Really? Drive away? That's your final answer?

TEDDY

(shrugs)
Fuck it.

FRED

What a cowboy.

CUT TO:

INT. APRIL'S HOUSE - LATE AFTERNOON

April walks through the hallway to her room. She can hear her Mom's voice talking on the telephone becoming louder as she gets further up the stairs. April looks down at Meatball following her.

CLOSE on Meatball struggling to jump a stair twice the size of him.

When April reaches the top of the stairs she sees her mother, JANE (40), an attractive but weathered woman, pacing back and forth in her bathrobe and with her hair wrapped in a towel, like a turban, talking on the phone, while she smokes a Marlboro Light cigarette.

JANE

(into the phone)

I know, can you believe him?! I mean *believe*! He sits down there smoking pot all day long. He tells me not to bother him, that he's working on his novel, but I know he's just smoking pot...

April waves "hello" before quickly running into her room.

JANE (CONT'D)

Oh hang on a sec. April just walked in. Hi Honey! How are you?

APRIL

Fine. I'm tired. I need to lie down for a bit.

JANE

(still holding the phone to her ear)

Is something wrong?

APRIL

Nope. Just tired...

JANE

Are you sure? Are you depressed?

APRIL

(embarrassed)

Ah! No! I'm just tired!

April runs into her room to avoid any more awkward confrontation. As she's leaving Jane yells out to her.

INT. APRIL'S BEDROOM - LATE AFTERNOON

The walls of April's room are covered with The Ramones and Julian Casablancas posters, tear outs from fashion magazines, and photos that she's taken of her friends, clouds, her dirty Converse sneakers, Meatball.

Her bookshelves are stocked with art books, little junky trinkets scattered all around

JANE (O.S.)

Are you mad at me?

April flops onto her bed face first. Meatball starts to cry because he wants to get on the bed with her. Only moving her arm, she picks him up with one hand and puts him on the bed. Her mother's chatter resumes.

CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM, SHAUNA'S PARTY - NIGHT

MUSIC blares.

The house is filled with teenagers. There's is a little area where a few girls dance and one drunk boy jumps around like a pogo-stick with his shirt off.

With a red party cup in hand, Shauna runs to turn down the music and yells:

SHAUNA

(drunk)

Alright! Who wants to play never
have I ever...

The crowd "ooohs."

Shauna dances over to the middle of the living room where she sits down. A bunch of girls crowd around in a circle on the floor.

The boys are too cool to play, but they watch the game anyway.

Ryan, and Ivan laugh as they push Jack-O into the center of circle of girls.

April leaves to have a cigarette out on the porch.

SHAUNA (CONT'D)

April! You're not going to play?

(CONTINUED)

APRIL
(gestures to her
cigarette)
No thanks.

CHRISSY
(sad face)
Sad face.

SHAUNA
Okay, so everyone knows the rules
right? Someone says "never have
I ever.." And if you've done the
thing then you have to drink...

CHRISSY
Like if you cheated on your
boyfriend then you have to drink!

SHAUNA
K. I'll start. Never have I
ever given Ivan Monkarsh a blow-
job during free period in the
senior parking lot.

Chrissy is the only one who drinks. Everyone laughs.

CHRISSY
Rude.

CUT TO:

EXT. BACKYARD - NIGHT

Teddy and Fred sit outside. Fred hammers bullets into the
ground. Teddy drinks Apricot Schnapps.

April walks outside.

TEDDY
Hey April.

APRIL
Hey Teddy.

She notices Fred.

APRIL (CONT'D)
Should you really being doing
that?

FRED
Shut the fuck up! They're my
brother's.

(CONTINUED)

APRIL

So?

TEDDY

(laughs)

Well, they're not even working.

April sits down next to Teddy and starts to light a cigarette.

FRED

(bored)

This party is whack.

TEDDY

Let's go over to Gunn and drink, then.

(to April)

Wanna come?

APRIL

Sure.

CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

April, Teddy and Fred sneak out as the girls still play the "never have I ever" game.

GIRL

My turn. Never have I ever masturbated.

April and Teddy try to cover their laughter.

Shauna and some of the other girls drink.

EMILY

I've never had sex.

Fred coughs the word "bullshit!" as he walks past. A bunch of boys start laughing.

EXT. SHAUNA'S HOUSE - NIGHT

WIDE Teddy, April, Fred exit the house running and laughing down the street, then slowing to catch their breaths.

FRED

This way.

(CONTINUED)

Fred turns a corner. April and Teddy follow.

CUT TO:

EXT. CEMETERY - NIGHT

Teddy, Fred, April walk through a cemetery to Gunn.

FRED

Remember that kid who suicided
himself in eighth grade? I think
he's buried here.

TEDDY

He is, or what's left of him.

CUT TO:

EXT. GUNN HIGH SCHOOL - NIGHT

Teddy, Fred, April slide down a hill to get to Gunn High School. They make their way through the shadows to a grassy area. In the center is a huge oak tree. The ground is a little wet so they all sit on the big roots and lean their back against the tree. Teddy passes around his bottle of Apricot Schnapps.

CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM - PARTY

CHRISSY

I've never had a lesbonic
experience.

SHUANA

A what?

CHRISSY

(unable to pronounce
the word because
she's too drunk)

A lebianic. Lesbonic. You know!
Like with another girl.

Some girls drink.

GIRL 2

I've never been to Europe.

EMILY

This game is stupid.

Emily gets up to go to the kitchen.

(CONTINUED)

CLOSE on Shauna and Chrissy rolling their eyes.

CHRISSY

Rude!

CUT TO:

EXT. GUNN HIGH SCHOOL - NIGHT

APRIL

I have a joint.

She pulls out a joint from inside her Marlboro Red pack of cigarettes.

APRIL (CONT'D)

Why do you think that kid
committed suicide?

TEDDY

I think his parents made him do
it.

FRED

He was Asian.

APRIL

What's that supposed to mean?

FRED

That they worked his ass off like
crazy and pressured the shit out
of him.

APRIL

Do you think it hurts shooting
yourself?

CLOSE on Fred annoyed.

TEDDY

Probably for a second, but if
it's all going to be over anyway,
then does it matter? Pain only
matters if it's prolonged.

FRED

If I was going to kill myself, I
wouldn't waste it. I would do a
bunch of crazy shit first. Maybe
kill some people I didn't like
and take 'em down with me.

(CONTINUED)

APRIL

Wouldn't it be better to do a bunch of really crazy good things before you died instead of killing people?

TEDDY

Like what?

APRIL

I don't know. Give your life to save a bunch of kids or something.

TEDDY

But that's what you're supposed to do every day. When you're suicidal you're probably only thinking about yourself.

APRIL

I try to be good.

TEDDY

Me too.

FRED

Fuck good.

They all laugh.

Fred and Teddy start carving into the tree.

TEDDY

Here, you write something.

APRIL

I feel bad, the tree's so old.

FRED

Fuck you. Do it.

INSERT: April carves a heart next to SUICIDE RULES and FUCK GUNN.

April's cell phone vibrates. She reads a text message.

APRIL

Shit, I should go back. Shauna's getting P.O.-ed

They get up.

(CONTINUED)

TEDDY

I don't why you hang out with those girls?

APRIL

I've known them since elementary school. Our families have gone on vacation together.

CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

April, Teddy, and Fred enter through the front door. Shauna spots April right away and grabs her.

SHAUNA

Biatch! Where have you been?

Before April even gets a chance to answer Shauna is already pulling her to the bathroom.

CLOSE on Teddy.

Teddy's POV of April bashfully looking back at him as she's being dragged away into the bathroom.

Teddy walks aimlessly around the party observing the chaos until he finds Fred, Ivan, Ryan, and Jack-O in the kitchen. They joke around, making a suicide cocktail out of all the alcoholic beverages they can find: Four Locos, Smirnoff, Budweiser, Jack Daniels etc.

They take shots of their suicide cocktail.

Teddy is drunk. He leaves to go outside to throw up.

CUT TO:

EXT. BACKYARD - NIGHT

Teddy is puking outside, his hand resting on a fence and his head hanging low. The sounds he's making are extremely exaggerated.

Emily turns around the corner. She stops to help him.

EMILY

You okay?

Emily puts her hand onto his back.

EMILY (CONT'D)

You got it all out?

(CONTINUED)

TEDDY

(weak)
Shut up.

EMILY

You want some water?

Teddy nods.

Emily lifts his arm over her shoulders and carries him back to the party.

INT. PARTY LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

April walks around aimlessly. She plops on the couch bored, watching a boy plays the song "Stars are Blind" by Paris Hilton on the piano. He sings some of the words softly.

Ryan sits down next to her. He tries to talk to her, but she is uninterested, paying more attention to her beer cup.

INT. KITCHEN - NIGHT

Emily and Teddy go to the sink. Emily gets a glass from the cupboard, fills it with water and hands it to him. As Teddy drinks the water, Emily looks around. She notices Chrissy talking to Ivan and some other guys through the kitchen door. They look over at Emily. Ivan makes a sexual gesture and they all start laughing. Emily turns back to Teddy.

EMILY

You feeling better?

TEDDY

(finishes gulping down
his water)
Scope?

Emily grabs his hand.

EMILY

Probably in the bathroom. Follow
me.

She leads him out of the kitchen.

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

They pass by April who's sitting on a couch.

(CONTINUED)

TEDDY

Hey April!

April notices Emily and him holding hands.

APRIL

(confused)

Hey.

Emily drags Teddy up the stairs into a bedroom and shuts the door.

CLOSE On April, she switches gears and starts talking with Ryan and gulping down her beer.

CUT TO:

EXT. STREET - NIGHT

Fred, Jack-O, and some other boys are outside trying to light fireworks and explode things.

CUT TO:

INT. PARENTS BEDROOM - NIGHT

Teddy zips his pants up. He rubs his face to wake himself up. Emily is in the bathroom gargling Scope. Teddy leaves the room.

INT. BATHROOM - NIGHT

CLOSE on Emily gurgling her mouth out with Scope in the sink. She looks up and sees herself in the mirror. She tucks a loose strand of hair behind her ear.

WIDE Emily looks over to see that Teddy has left her.

CUT TO:

INT. PARTY - NIGHT

Teddy wanders the party looking for April. Everything feels wavy. There aren't that many people left. Some kids are drinking beer on the couch where April used to be. He walks through the sliding glass doors to the backyard to smoke a cigarette.

EXT. BACKYARD - NIGHT

Teddy accidentally lights the cigarette backwards.

(CONTINUED)

A tall kid with a baseball cap, ED (17) is sitting on a wooden bench hunched over some tin foil with the clear shell of a Bic pen. He is lighting the bottom of the foil and trying to suck up the smoke.

TEDDY

What are you doing?

The jock sucks in, then stops, holding the smoke in.

ED

Smack.

Teddy is surprised, but tries to hide it.

TEDDY

Have you seen April?

Ed looks around the empty yard.

ED

There she is.

Ed points towards the house. Through the sliding glass doors, Teddy sees April and Ryan kissing under a doorway.

CUT TO:

EXT. PORCH - NIGHT

Teddy walks to the front of the house. Fred is sitting on some steps, spacing out to his fireworks.

TEDDY

Let's get the fuck out of this place.

FRED

OK.

They walk down the driveway to Teddy's car.

CUT TO:

INT. TEDDY CAR - NIGHT

Teddy is driving fast.

FRED

Where are we going?

Teddy stops at a stop sign at an intersection. He waits there a while, his mind elsewhere.

(CONTINUED)

WIDE EXT when he drives forward his car sinks into the back end of a white station wagon. The two cars skidding.

INT. CLOSE on Teddy very still, taking in what just happened.

FRED (CONT'D)
Do something!

Teddy pushes on the gas and speeds off.

CLOSE on Teddy looking into his rearview mirror.

EXT. STREET - NIGHT

The crumpled up white station wagon is still in the center of the intersection. Some other cars pull up to it.

EXT. SIDE STREET - NIGHT

Teddy turns onto a side street, his tires screeching and slipping as he turns the corner. When he pulls straight he speeds down the block.

INT. TEDDY CAR - NIGHT

FRED
What the fuck is going on?

TEDDY
(yelling)
How the fuck did you know?

FRED
What? Know what?

TEDDY
How did you know I'd get into a fucking accident?

FRED
What? I didn't! What are you talking about?

TEDDY
Fuck you, Fred! What *if?* What *if?*

Teddy doesn't say anything, letting the speed fuel his anger.

(CONTINUED)

FRED
(calm and quiet)
Can I get out now?

Teddy stops really fast so that the wheels screech and the car slides. They stop in the middle of the street. Teddy looks straight out the windshield, refusing to make eye contact with Fred. Fred gets out of the car.

FRED (CONT'D)
(before closing the
door)
I'll see ya.

Teddy speeds off.

EXT. SIDE STREET - NIGHT

The car starts growling, the front right tire rubbing against something. Then the hood starts vibrating. He keeps driving till he reaches his house. All the lights are out and the driveway is empty.

EXT. TEDDY'S PARENTS HOUSE - NIGHT

As soon as Teddy pulls into his driveway, red, white, and blue police car lights flash behind him. Teddy puts his car in park, composes himself and gets out of the car. A POLICEMAN (40) walks over to him.

POLICE MAN
Hello.

TEDDY
Hey Chip.

The police man doesn't hear Teddy, he is too busy looking at Teddy's car.

CLOSE on the front of the car smashed in with white paint mixed into the mangled gray metal.

POLICE MAN
Whoo-eee! Seems like you're the
one I'm looking for.

TEDDY
Yeah, Chip.

(CONTINUED)

POLICE MAN
Someone got your plates, buddy.
(into the radio)
I got 'im.

The policeman reads off the plates into his radio. Another cop car pulls up with a fat woman, SALLY GROSSMAN (27) in the front seat, she nods her head; "yes, that's him." The POLICE WOMAN (31) gets out of the car.

POLICE MAN (CONT'D)
Can I see your license?

Teddy hands it to him.

INSERT: Neighbors peek out their windows to see what is going on.

POLICE WOMAN
Walk along this line.

Teddy tries to walk along a crack between two slabs of cement in the driveway, but he can't; his head is too busy and spinning.

TEDDY
I can't.

Teddy notices a crowd forming around to watch.

POLICE WOMAN
Recite the alphabet backwards
from Z to A.

TEDDY
You mean backwards?

POLICE WOMAN
Yes.

TEDDY
You say it.

POLICE WOMAN
If you're trying to get wise --

POLICE MAN
(interrupting)
Looks like we got a wise one here

TEDDY
I'm not wise, Chip. I just can't
say the ABC's backward, I can't
even do that normally.

(CONTINUED)

POLICE WOMAN

Listen smart ass. You can do this sobriety test, or we can go down to the hospital and they can do a blood test. Your choice.

TEDDY

I'm drunk. Take me downtown or wherever. I give in.

POLICE WOMAN

(arms crossed)

Sir, I want you to say the alphabet backwards. Now.

Teddy looks around, his audience has grown larger. He looks back at the female police officer.

TEDDY

Z-Y-X...F-U-C-K U! U! U! U!

Teddy keeps saying the letter "U" while the cops bend him over the smashed-up hood of his car. They cuff him and walk him into one of the cop cars. He yells "U" at all his onlookers, setting off an old lady's hearing aid.

CUT TO:

INT. SHUANA'S BEDROOM - DAY

April wakes up, Shauna and Chrissy are still asleep next to her.

April walks downstairs to the kitchen, looking at all the wreckage from the night before.

CUT TO:

INT. KITCHEN - DAY

April walks into the kitchen. She looks through the cupboards for a glass, but it's empty. She walks over to the sink and picks up the same glass of water that Teddy used last night. Someone put a cigarette in it, so she cups her hands and drinks from the faucet.

CUT TO:

EXT. BACKYARD - DAY

Shuana, April, and Chrissy sit by the pool sunbathing, listening to music, drinking Diet Coke, gossiping.

Shauna is writing in a notebook.

(CONTINUED)

SHAUNA

April, your nickname is Golden Showers.

Chrissy and Shauna laugh. April is hung over.

SHAUNA (CONT'D)

Get it? Like April showers.

(laughing)

Chrissy, yours is

(beat)

Pussy!

CHRISSY

Ew! I don't want to be that.

SHAUNA

What am I?

CHRISSY

Sweaty hairy balls!

April laughs.

SHAUNA

That doesn't even make sense Chrissy. The whole point is it has to sound like my name.

CHRISSY

Fine. What about Squirter.

Chrissy and April both laugh.

SHAUNA

That's just disgusting.

CHRISSY

What? It starts with an "S."

SHAUNA

Whatever. Moving on.

CUT TO:

EXT. BASKETBALL COURTS, PARK - LATE AFTERNOON

Ryan, Ivan, Jack-O, and Fred play a game of two-on-two. Ivan keeps driving past Fred to the hoop. Fred starts fouling him out of frustration, clipping Ivan in the back out or hitting his hand when he tries to shoot. When Ivan tries to check the ball, Fred throws it hard into his chest. After an especially blatant foul, Ivan yells:

(CONTINUED)

IVAN
What the fuck Fred!?

FRED
Call it, bitch.

IVAN
I am.

FRED
What? A bitch?

IVAN
No, I'm calling a foul.

FRED
Well that makes you a bitch.

RYAN
Easy guys.

IVAN
(to Fred)
You play dirty.

FRED
Only pussies call fouls in pick-up games.
(to Ryan)
Am I playing dirty?

RYAN
Yeah, Fred, kind of.

FRED
Whatever.

Fred walks off the court.

Fred gets a sip of water from the water fountain. He is drenched in sweat. He looks over

CLOSE on Emily and her mousey friend PAM (15) sitting on the benches sharing a cigarette.

Fred walks over to them.

FRED (CONT'D)
How's the smoking?

PAM
(annoyed)
Fucking fine.

(CONTINUED)

She passes the cigarette back to Emily. Fred flashes a big winning smile.

FRED
(mocking)
Can I try some of that fucking
fine cigarette?

Emily laughs and hands him the cigarette.

FRED (CONT'D)
Mmmm, that is fucking good.
Fucking fine.

Pam isn't paying attention, she's too busy texting.

FRED (CONT'D)
(to Pam)
Hey, here's your cigarette.

Pam doesn't notice.

FRED (CONT'D)
You know, you kinda look like a
praying mantis, Pam. You're all
long and mantis like.

Emily laughs but then catches herself. Pam flashes her a dirty look.

PAM
I'm going, Emily.

FRED
Don't go.

PAM
Fuck you! Emily, are you coming?

FRED
I don't think Emily wants to go
with you, mantis.

PAM
Screw you!

She looks over at Emily in disbelief.

PAM (CONT'D)
Emily?

EMILY
I'm going to stay.

(CONTINUED)

Pam turns and storms off.

FRED
(yelling back at Pam)
Why don't you go prey and eat
some more of your mates!

CLOSE on Fred proudly puffing on Pam's cigarette.

LONG on Ryan, Ivan, and Fred looking over from the
basketball courts.

RYAN
(yelling across the
courts)
Fred?

CLOSE on Fred coolly waving them off and focusing his
attention back to Emily. He hands back her cigarette.

CLOSE on Ivan.

IVAN
Sometimes, I really don't like
him.

RYAN
Shut up Ivan, you do anything he
says.

Ivan punches Jack-O in the arm.

JACK-O
(delayed)
Ow.

CLOSE on Fred and Emily.

FRED
I guess I ruined your friendship.

EMILY
She wasn't really a friend, just
a girl.

FRED
I know.
(beat)
Wanna smoke some pot?

EMILY
Sure.

EXT. PARK, PARKING LOT - LATE AFTERNOON

Fred leads Emily to his car and opens the door for her. The Cadillac Deville is still smashed in from before. When the car drives away it makes a terrible screeching sound.

CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM, MR. B HOUSE - NIGHT

April is baby sitting Mr. B's son, MICHAEL (6) a bratty kid with a haircut that always hangs over his eyes. April sits on the couch bored. Michael sits on the floor playing with his Nintendo DS.

APRIL

What are you playing?

MICHAEL

Doodle.

APRIL

What's that?

MICHAEL

(annoyed)

You just have to like get the turtle to the other side.

APRIL

Oh.

April slouches into the couch. After a moment, she gets up and walks off camera. Michael remains unfazed, playing his game.

EXT. PORCH, MR. B HOUSE - NIGHT

April leans on the wooden railing and lights a joint. She smokes half the joint, then licks her fingers and puts out the end and puts the unsmoked half in her Marlboro Red pack.

CUT TO:

INT. FRED'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Fred and Emily smoke a joint on Fred's bedroom floor.

FRED

(inhaling)

What do you parents do?

He hands her the joint.

(CONTINUED)

EMILY
They're both doctors.

FRED
(exhaling the smoke
and smiling)
That's cool.

EMILY
Yep. So, where's Teddy?

FRED
What? Am I not your type?

EMILY
No it's not that--

FRED
Is it because I look Asian right
now?

CLOSE on Fred squinting his eyes, and grinning.

Emily laughs.

CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM, MR. B'S HOUSE - NIGHT

April walks back inside. She plops onto the couch.

Michael hasn't moved. He's still playing his game.

APRIL
(turning on the TV)
K Michael, stop playing your game
so we can watch a movie.

Michael sits on the couch next to April. April puts on *Fast Times at Ridgemont High*.

MICHAEL
I don't think I'm allowed to
watch this movie.

APRIL
It's okay.

INSERT: sex scene in the dugout from *Fast Times Ridgemont High*.

When April looks over, Michael is totally engrossed.

(CONTINUED)

APRIL (CONT'D)
 (laughs)
 Maybe you should just go to bed.

MICHAEL
 I don't wanna go to bed.

APRIL
 C'mon.

April drags Michael to his bedroom.

CUT TO:

INT. FRED'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Emily and Fred awkwardly make out on Fred's messy bed in the corner of his room.

Fred starts stripping Emily's clothes.

CUT TO:

INT. MR. B'S HOUSE - NIGHT

CLOSE on key entering a keyhole.

Mr. B opens the front door and enters the house.

SOUND of the TV playing in the background.

INT. MR B'S LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

CLOSE: A reality show. A 20-year-old girl, with lots of mascara, is speaking about her feelings to her friend.

April sits on the couch watching TV.

Mr. B enters.

MR. B
 Hey.

APRIL
 (looks up)
 Hey Mr. B.

MR. B
 (walking over)
 What are you watching?

Mr. B sits on the couch, leaving space between him and April.

(CONTINUED)

APRIL

This reality show called Bel Air.

CLOSE on the girl crying, mascara dripping down her face.

MR. B

Well, that was a shitty date.

APRIL

What happened?

MR. B

Nothing. That's the thing with teachers, it's always *nothing*. Boring. It feels like I'm back in school or something. I can't believe you have to listen to those people every day. At least I can go home if I want to.

APRIL

I don't listen.

MR. B

You don't? You listen to me.

APRIL

(bashful)

Well yeah, of course I do *that*, Coach.

MR. B

You *better*.

They both laugh.

APRIL

Well. I guess I should go?
(getting up from off
the couch)

MR. B

(getting up to walk
her to the door)
Thank you so much for watching Michael tonight. I know it's a Saturday night and all...

APRIL (V.O.)

That's okay. It's not like I had anything better to do.

INT. FRONT DOOR, MR B HOUSE - NIGHT

April and Mr. B walk up to the front door. Mr. B steps forward to open the door for her. He stops and turns to face her.

MR. B
Thanks again.

APRIL
(looks down at her
feet)
Sure. I'll see you at practice--

Mr. B leans into April. He puts his hands on the bottom of her face and tilts his head to the side to kiss her.

When he pulls away, he stops and stares deep into April's eyes.

MR. B
You shouldn't smoke so much.

Mr. B leans back in to kiss her again.

MR. B (CONT'D)
April.

APRIL
Yeah?

MR. B
I really like you.

APRIL
I like you too.

MR. B
When you know life like I do, you
know that there isn't much good.
But you're good.

April smirks.

Mr. B leans in one more time to kiss her on the cheek.

MR. B (CONT'D)
You should go.

Mr. B opens the door for her and April exits.

CUT TO:

EXT. FRED'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Emily stands in the doorway, Fred gives her a suave kiss on the hand goodbye. She leaves, and Fred shuts the door.

He walks over to his bedroom to fix the sheets, he stops when he notices a red spot of blood.

INSERT: Red spot of blood on the converter

Fred grabs a pair of scissors and cuts out the spot. He safely places it in his bedside drawer.

CUT TO:

INT. COURT - DAY

CLOSE Teddy mouthing a song in his head.

His DAD (50), with grey hair and a tired face, sits patiently besides him.

The JUDGE (60), with white hair and glasses enters, sits in his chair and scans Teddy's police and school record.

JUDGE

You know Teddy, normally I get kids in here who can't multiply fifty by two, but you, you're smart. AP English, straight A's. I can see that you're a good kid.

TEDDY

Thank you, Your Honor.

JUDGE

Technically, you should be put in Juvenile Hall, but I'm going to give you one last chance and make you a ward of the court. Do you know what that means? It means that you belong to the state. So if you do anything, if you get caught jay-walking, I will put you right into Juvenile Hall. Is that clear?

TEDDY

Yes ma'am.
(beat)
I mean sir.

(CONTINUED)

JUDGE

And as part of your probation,
you'll do sixty hours of
community service.

(beat)

I recommend you work at the
children's library. Is that
alright with you?

TEDDY

Yes sir.

JUDGE

(writing it down)

Good. The children's library it
is. And you'll need to make an
official apology to Miss Sally
Grossman, the woman whose car you
hit.

TEDDY

Yes sir.

INT. CAR - DAY

Teddy's father drives Teddy back home. They sit in silence.
Teddy's Dad pulls into their driveway.

EXT. TEDDY'S HOUSE - DAY

WIDE Teddy's Dad walks straight into the house, Teddy
follows.

INT. TEDDY'S HOUSE KITCHEN - DAY

Teddy's father enters, he looks tired. Teddy's MOM (47)
kisses him and helps him with his coat. Teddy's Mom has
nice bone structure and frizzy hair.

MOM

How'd it go?

Teddy enters. Both his parents look at him, disappointed
and concerned.

Teddy exits to his bedroom.

Teddy's father mutters something to Teddy's mother.

CUT TO:

INT. HISTORY CLASS, HIGH SCHOOL - DAY

The teacher, MRS. STEVENSON (50) is giving a lecture. She's Hispanic, with short black hair and wears red lipstick. April doodles in her notebook, daydreaming.

MRS. STEVENSON

April.

APRIL

(coming back to
consciousness)

Yeah.

MRS. STEVENSON

According to Roman mythology, can
you tell me who's the mother of
Romulus?

APRIL

I don't know.

MRS. STEVENSON

Think.

APRIL

(long pause)

Umm...

April looks around the room, her classmates are anxiously
whispering out different answers.

IVAN

A she-wolf!

CLOSE on April embarrassed, looks back down at her scribbled
paper.

MRS. STEVENSON(O.S.)

Thank you Ivan, but I was asking
April.

(beat)

Okay. Moving on. So Rome...

The bell RINGS and everyone hastily grabs their things to
run out of the classroom.

MRS. STEVENSON (CONT'D)

April can I talk to you for a
minute?

APRIL

Sure.

(CONTINUED)

April walks up to her desk.

Mrs. Stevenson pulls out April's Alexander the Great paper.

MRS. STEVENSON

I read your paper. It doesn't seem like your writing. Did someone help you with this?

APRIL

(worried)

Yeah. My step-dad. I asked for help, but then, I don't know--

MRS. STEVENSON

I can't give you a passing grade on this, do you understand?

APRIL

Yes.

MRS. STEVENSON

(pulling out her grade book)

I'm going to have to give you an "F" on this paper, and what worries me is that you're already making pretty low marks on all the pop quizzes we've had. With this failed paper, you won't be able to pass.

April takes a deep breath.

MRS. STEVENSON (CONT'D)

Here's what we can do. I'm willing to let you re-write this paper, but I'll have to bring it down a full letter grade from whatever you get. Meaning, if you get an "A" you can have a "B".

APRIL

Okay.

MRS. STEVENSON

And if you really step up your class participation, that will help a lot. Because as I keep trying to tell you guys, class participation is 50% of your initial grade.

(CONTINUED)

APRIL

I know. I just really have a hard time speaking up in class. I've always just liked to listen.

MRS. STEVENSON

I understand that, but there are plenty of kids who are just as nervous as you.

APRIL

Okay.

MRS. STEVENSON

Alright. What's your next class? I'll write a slip.

APRIL

(frazzled)

Umm...

April looks at her class schedule.

APRIL (CONT'D)

(disheartened)

College counseling.

Mrs. Stevenson writes her a pass.

MRS. STEVENSON

(hands her a hall pass)

There you go.

April takes it and exits the classroom.

CUT TO:

INT. COLLEGE COUNSELOR OFFICE - DAY

MRS. GANEM (62), a wacky woman wearing giant glasses that make her eyes look huge, ruffles around in her cluttered office. The door is open. April stands by the doorway and gives the wall a little knock.

APRIL

Mrs. Ganem?

MRS. GANEM

Hello! Come in dear.

April walks in.

(CONTINUED)

MRS. GANEM (CONT'D)
Just sit right in that chair over there.

APRIL
K.

Mrs. Ganem sits down in a chair next to her.

MRS. GANEM
So. Let's look at your file real quick.

Mrs. Ganem scans through the papers. Occasionally she lets out an "hmm," and "I see."

April stares up at the ceiling.

MRS. GANEM (CONT'D)
(looks up at April)
OK. So, tell me, do you have any ideas where you'd like to go to college?

APRIL
Not really. I still have three years.

MRS. GANEM
I know sweetie, but it's important to get a head start.
(beat)
What can you tell me about yourself? You seem to excel in your art classes. Would you be interested in going to art school?

APRIL
I guess so.

MRS. GANEM
What do you want to be?

APRIL
I don't know.

MRS. GANEM
(looks back down at her file)
It's good you're on the soccer team. That could help.

CUT TO:

INT. SCHOOL BATHROOM - DAY

Shauna and Chrissy enter the bathroom.

SHAUNA

I'm like dying over that dress we
saw yesterday. I can't stop
thinking about it.

CLOSE on April sitting in the corner of a bathroom stall.
She hears Shauna and Chrissy's voices and nervously wipes
the tears from her face.

CHRISSY (V.O.)

You have to get it. Like how
cute would it be, when you ride
around on your scooter in it.

Shauna and Chrissy both go in their own stalls and talk
while they pee.

INSERT: girls' feet under the stall.

INT. HALLWAY, HIGH SCHOOL - DAY

April walks down the hallway alone.

FRED (V.O.)

You haven't seen it! Oh man,
it's my favorite movie.
Christian Bale is my hero.

CUT TO:

INT. EMILY'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Emily lies on her back and talks on the phone with Fred.

EMILY

That's cool. I don't know who my
hero is.

INT. FRED'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Fred is staring at himself in the mirror shirtless and
lifting weights.

EMILY

Wait. Am I on speaker phone?

(CONTINUED)

FRED

Yeah. Maybe your hero should be
someone who's adopted you know,
because like you're adopted.

EMILY

Yeah. I guess so.

FRED

(picks up the phone)
So, when can I see you again?
(smiling to himself)

INT. EMILY'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

EMILY

(happy)
Whenever. I'm around.

CUT TO:

INT. SANDWICH SHOP - DAY

Teddy drinks coffee at a sandwich shop with Sally Grossman,
an overweight woman who looks older than her age, and
Sally's FRIEND (27), who is also overweight with a hook
nose, and a moderator named JAKE (39) who's balding and
dresses like he's stuck in the '80's.

JAKE

Teddy meet Sally. Sally meet
Teddy.

Uncomfortable silence.

TEDDY

I'm really sorry about what
happened.

Sally seems happy to hear an apology but her fat friend, on
the other hand, still looks angry.

SALLY

You don't need to apologize.

TEDDY

I don't?

SALLY

No. And you know why?
(beat)
Because you have a problem.
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

SALLY (CONT'D)
You're an alcoholic. You know
that, right?

Teddy furrows his brow in confusion but nods his head "yes."

SALLY (CONT'D)
I pick up on these things because
I have a problem too, eating. In
some ways your problem is easier
to deal with. I have to deal
with temptation at least three
times a day. You know?

TEDDY
Yeah.

JAKE
Exactly, in fact we all have
problems. I have problem too. I
have to deal with a gambling
addiction.

Teddy looks over at Sally's fat friend to see if she's going
to announce her struggle, but she just sits there looking
angrily at Teddy.

Teddy sips his coffee.

JAKE (CONT'D)
Have you ever considered the
twelve-step program?

CUT TO:

INT. LOCKERS, HIGH SCHOOL - DAY

April sits in a bottom locker with the door open eating her
lunch. Mr. B walks by.

MR. B
April.

APRIL
Hey Mr. B.

MR. B
What are you doing sitting in a
locker?

APRIL
I don't know. I like it
sometimes.

(CONTINUED)

MR. B

That's impressive you can fit in there.

APRIL

I guess.

MR. B

You okay? You haven't been at practice all week.

APRIL

I'm sorry. I needed to catch up on some school work. I promise I'll be there next week.

MR. B

Okay, but if you need someone talk to you know I'm here for you. Isn't that partly what coaches are for?

APRIL

(bringing a smile to her face)

Thanks Mr. B.

MR. B

And if you need any help with homework. I'm great at that.

APRIL

OK.

MR. B

Just bring your stuff over when you come babysit Michael next time.

APRIL

Sure.

MR. B

Alright kiddo. See at practice.
(points his finger at her as he walks away)

CUT TO:

INT. EMILY'S HOUSE - DUSK

Emily's parents kindly bicker over their bills in the kitchen. Emily spoon feeds her little baby sister who's sitting in her highchair.

(CONTINUED)

DAD
What does a bottle of shampoo
cost?

MOM
(nervous)
It depends how big it is.
(to Emily)
Emily. Be careful please.

Emily rolls her eyes, looking at her sister.

DAD
How much are they?

MOM
(guilty)
It can be like a 125 dollars for
a big family size.
(to Emily)
You know what, Hon, just let me
do it.

Emily's Mom takes the baby into her arms.

Emily gets up and walks to the living room to watch TV.

DAD
(shocked)
125 dollars? For the stuff
that's in our bathroom?

MOM
Yeah.

DAD
The size we have in our bathroom?

MOM
Yeah.

DAD
125.

MOM
Yeah. It lasts for months.

The doorbell RINGS.

EMILY
I'll get it.

Emily gets up from off the couch to open the door.

(CONTINUED)

Her parents continue their conversation.

DAD
What's the difference? Shampoo.
You get it at--

MOM
(annoyed)
No! There's a difference between
good shampoo and bad shampoo.
It's because you have little hair
that's why you don't care.

Dad scans over the bills again.

DAD
(mumbles)
Two hundred at Fitness....

MOM
(quick)
That's you!

Emily opens the door, sees it's Fred and steps outside.

EMILY
My parents are home.

She closes the door behind her.

CUT TO:

INT. KITCHEN

DAD
What's Rose Petals ...

MOM
(thinking)
Umm... I don't know?
(a beat, then
laughing)
Oh colonic.

Dad shakes his head laughing

CUT TO:

EXT. EMILY'S HOUSE - DAY

Emily and Fred walk around to the backyard to her old
playhouse.

INT. PLAYHOUSE - DUSK

Emily and Fred make out.

WIDE Fred pushes Emily's head down to his crotch.

FRED
Do you love me?

CLOSE on Emily from Fred's POV

EMILY
Yeah.

FRED
Say it.

EMILY
(helpless)
I love you.

FADE TO:

EXT. HIGH SCHOOL - DAY

(INSERT DIALOGUE) Fred sits surrounded by a group of younger boys. He talks about Emily. He says they can all hang out with her but they need to bring him beer.

CUT TO:

INT. CHILDREN'S LIBRARY - DAY

Teddy walks in confused. The old librarians, MAGS (70) and JUDY (74) look up at him.

TEDDY
Hi. I'm here for the --

Mags and Judy smile.

JUDY
You must be Teddy. We're happy to have you. Come on over, I'll show you around.

WIDE Judy walks Teddy through the library.

JUDY (CONT'D)
So you know how the Dewey Decimal system works don't you?

TEDDY
Yes ma'am.

(CONTINUED)

JUDY
 (doesn't hear)
 Oh! Well it's very easy. All
 you have to do is... And please
 don't call me ma'am. No need.
 Judy will do just fine thank you.

FADE TO:

INT. FRED'S CAR - DAY

Fred and two boys; SETH (15), TOM (15) and ride around in the
 car bored, looking for something to do.

SETH
 Last night I was so bored I read
 all the Snapple facts.

Fred doesn't hear. He reaches for his cell phone and calls
 Emily.

SETH (CONT'D)
 Like, did you know that
 porcupines can float in water?
 Or that almonds are a part of the
 peach family? Or that the dot on
 the letter "i" is called a
 tittle?

FRED
 Shut up!

SETH
 (mumbles)
 The color red makes you hungry.

FRED
 (grinning)
 Hi Emily.

CUT TO:

EXT. EMILY'S HOUSE - DAY

Emily walks out of her house wearing a men's brown leather
 jacket, a white T-shirt and sweatpants. She gets into the
 car full of boys.

SETH
 (putting out his hand)
 Hi I'm Seth.

Everyone laughs.

(CONTINUED)

EMILY
(shakes his hand)
Hi.

All the boys stare down at her with hungry eyes.

EXT. PARK - LATE AFTERNOON

Emily and the boys walk across a vast field of empty green looking for a secluded spot. Seth is excitedly bobbing around and Tom has cans of Budweiser in his pocket.

CUT TO:

Fred and Tom laugh and drink beers as they watch Seth get a blow job.

SETH (O.S.)
Baby, baby, baby, Seth is gonna
explode on you!

TOM
(laugh)
Seth? Why is he talking in third
person!

SETH (O.S.)
Ow!

WIDE Seth pushes her off and walks to where Tom and Fred are sitting. Seth looks mad. Fred slaps him on the back and gets up to take his turn.

FRED
Good job. You lasted longer than
ten seconds.

CLOSE on Emily wiping her face with her T-shirt.

CUT TO:

INT. MR. B. HOUSE, LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Mr. B and April sit at the kitchen table. He is helping her with her paper.

MR. B
Step one to doing your homework
is turning off your phone.

April turns off her phone.

CUT TO:

INT. SCHOOL HALLWAY - NIGHT

ANSWERING MACHINE (V.O.)
Hi, you've reached April. Leave
a message!

Teddy hangs up his cell phone and puts it back into his pocket.

He walks into his art class.

INT. ART CLASS - NIGHT

Teddy sits down in the art class

CAMERA PANS along all the adults focused on drawing a model in the center of the room. The model is an old man, he sits in a thinking pose. The teacher, MR. WILSON (50), who has long braided hair, a beard, and dresses in all denim, walks around the room occasionally leaning over a student to give suggestions.

Teddy sits down in his chair and starts drawing.

Mr. Wilson stops at Teddy.

MR. WILSON
You're drawing fast.

TEDDY
(drawing)
Yeah.

MR. WILSON
You know, Picasso drew fast. He
could draw a dove in sixteen
seconds, and they're great,
right?

TEDDY
The doves? Yeah.

MR. WILSON
But that sixteen seconds had six
decades of work behind it.

Mr. Wilson drops his hand from his chin and smiles through his beard. Most of the other students hear him because he talks pretty loudly.

(CONTINUED)

MR. WILSON (CONT'D)
Picasso started off painting in classical style, but it was only after he had mastered the masters that he broke tradition and became Picasso. He knew he had all the skill of Raphael at age sixteen, but that wasn't enough. Technical skill is never enough. He needed to find his voice. We all have a voice or a style, but it takes practice, practice to find it. The technical stuff needs to become second nature.

Everyone agrees.

MR. WILSON (CONT'D)
(to Teddy softly)
You remind me of Sylvester Stallone.

Teddy stops.

MR. WILSON (CONT'D)
I used to go to art classes with him. He was always trying to break away from classical form.

One of the ladies from the class speaks up.

LADY
Sylvester Stallone, the actor?

MR. WILSON
That's right. He's a huge art enthusiast and not a bad artist either.

Everyone is surprised and starts whispering to each other.

Teddy tries not to listen and keeps drawing.

LADY 2
Underneath all that muscle he's actually a really intelligent guy. He did write Rocky, after all.

CLOSE on model still frozen in his thinking pose.

CUT TO:

INT. MR. B. HOUSE - NIGHT

MR. B

The way to write a history paper, April, is to explain why certain events happened. Because everything is caused by something.

APRIL

But, I don't think there's a cause for everything.

MR. B

April, that's because you're not thinking about it hard enough.

APRIL

But, I do things all the time for no reason.

MR. B

That's because you're too young. You're probably just acting that way because you're mad at your parents or something.

APRIL

I'm not.

MR. B

Sure...

Beat.

APRIL

If you wanted to, couldn't you just say that everything that's ever happened all goes back to one thing that happened at the beginning of time.

MR. B

Uh, yea, I guess.

(beat)

Stop being such a smartass.

Mr. B sensuously kisses April.

CUT TO:

INT. SCHOOL HALLWAY - NIGHT

WIDE Teddy walks out from the classroom, tossing all his drawings from class into a trashcan near the men's bathroom.

As Teddy walks away, the male model comes out of the bathroom zipping up his jacket, he turns and notices the portraits of himself shoved in the trash.

CUT TO:

EXT. STREET - DAY

Fred walks to get coffee and cigarettes from a magazine rack across from an Italian restaurant. All the waiters sit outside smoking cigarettes, when they see Fred they start to whisper. ESTEBAN (17), a Hispanic waiter who knows Fred from elsewhere gets up to talk to him.

CLOSE on Fred as he buys a Playboy magazine. When he goes to pay for all his things he pulls out a large wad of cash.

ESTEBAN (O.S.)

Hey Fred!

FRED

Aw! Hey man how's it going!

ESTEBAN

Not bad. Not bad. Just working over there for bit, trying to get some money while the band's coming together.

FRED

Yeah? That's great man.

ESTEBAN

Yeah.

(pause)

Yeah. I hear you're not doing too bad yourself. Seth told me you got yourself a foxy broad and all.

FRED

(understanding)

I did.

ESTEBAN

You should bring her over. Meet the manager. Get you a free meal.

(CONTINUED)

FRED
Sounds good. I'm gonna take you
up on that.
(winks)

ESTEBAN
OK.

Esteban runs across the street and high-fives the other waiters.

CUT TO:

INT. CHILDREN'S LIBRARY - DAY

Teddy pushes a cart full of books, shoving the books into whatever crevice he sees.

Teddy finds a secluded spot, sits down and reads *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*.

Fred appears and sits next to him.

FRED
What are you doing?

TEDDY
(surprised)
Fred. You can't be here.

FRED
Why not?

TEDDY
Because I'm working.

FRED
Pshaw. Yeah right.

Fred sits down and starts looking at the books.

FRED (CONT'D)
What's this one? The Rainbow
Goblins? Tight.

TEDDY
That used to be my favorite.

They flip through the book together. Fred is high and is tripping out over the pictures.

INSERT: Pages from *The Rainbow Goblins*.

(CONTINUED)

FRED
Shit. This book is stupid. This
was your favorite book?

TEDDY
Yeah.

FRED
Faggot.
(pause)
Those fucking goblins were gay!

TEDDY
(shhh)
Dude! Not so loud.

FRED
Dude. They *suck* the juice out of
rainbows. Get it?
(beat)
Rainbows are gay!

TEDDY
So?

FRED
So, don't get all worked up over
it. It's just a fact, you and
the Rainbow Goblins are *gay*.

TEDDY
Shut the fuck up, Fred. You're
an idiot.

FRED
What? They're bunch of dudes,
and they all hang out all the
time. That's all they *did*, hang
out together. All those dudes.

TEDDY
So? That's what we do...

FRED
But they all live together in a
cave.

TEDDY
So?

FRED
All in a cave dude! Gay! *Dirty*
and fucking gay.

(CONTINUED)

TEDDY

Great fucking point, Fred. I mean, what children's book character isn't gay?

FRED

(thinking)

A lot of them.

TEDDY

Cat in the Hat? Gay. The Grinch? Gay. Hungry Caterpillar? He turns into a butterfly, gay!

Fred thinks harder.

TEDDY (CONT'D)

The Runaway Bunny, the bunny in Goodnight Moon, the Velveteen Rabbit, Peter Rabbit, all gay. All Rabbits are gay.

FRED

No.

TEDDY

They're sensitive, but different, but also like boys, but then also not.

FRED

Yeah, I guess they are.

TEDDY

The little boy who flies around naked in Night Kitchen, and Max from Where the Wild Things Are, gay!

FRED

Bullshit, Max isn't gay.

TEDDY

Yeah he is, he dresses up in his little white wolf suit, so gay. And then he tells his Mom to fuck off...

FRED

That's not gay. That's cool.

(CONTINUED)

TEDDY

... And then he goes to an island and hangs around with a bunch of monsters who party with him all night, dancing and parading him around on their backs.

(beat)

All little-kids' stories have to be like that. They have to be all soft and gay, so that the moms are okay with it.

FRED

I want a wolf suit.

A beat.

TEDDY

Yeah, me too.

FRED

I can't think of anything sexier than a skintight, furry wolf suit.

Fred starts laughing. Reveal that he's drawing a dick in one of the children's books.

TEDDY

Dude don't do that.

Teddy can't help himself.

TEDDY (CONT'D)

(laughing)

You need to finish that line. Like this.

Teddy makes a sound effect when he completes Fred's drawing.

They both start laughing as they draw dicks all over the children's library books.

CUT TO:

EXT. LIBRARY - DAY

Teddy and Fred smoke weed in a secluded spot outside the library.

FRED

Wanna go see a movie?

(CONTINUED)

TEDDY
Nah. I gotta stay.

FRED
What am I supposed to do?

TEDDY
I dunno.

FRED
Fuck man. Well I guess I'll see
ya later.

Fred and Teddy pound fists.

TEDDY
Bye.

Teddy moves to sit in a chair out in the sun. He sits and
relaxes thinking to himself. Unconsciously, he carves
"April" into the bench.

CUT TO:

EXT. SOCCER FIELD - DAY

Mr. B leads the girls in a motivated pep talk before their
big championship game. April realizes Emily is missing.
She whispers to Shauna:

APRIL
Where's Emily?

SHUANA
Whatever. That slut.

As April and her team run out onto the soccer field, April
turns around to Mr. B.

APRIL
(yelling out to him)
Mr. B, where's Em--

MR. B
(interrupts)
Not now April! Get your head in
the game!

CLOSE on April shocked.

CUT TO:

INT. FRED'S CAR - LATE AFTERNOON

Fred is driving Emily to Cafe Buon. Emily is sitting in the front seat with her feet on the dashboard looking out the window chewing gum and not saying anything. She is dressed in sweatpants, a white shirt, and a brown men's jacket.

Fred pushes her feet off the dashboard.

Emily glares at him.

FRED
It's not safe.

Emily rolls her eyes.

FRED (CONT'D)
Here I bought you this.

CUT TO:

EXT. CAFE BUON - DUSK

WIDE Fred parks the car. He leads Emily over to the kitchen entrance.

MEDIUM SHOT they walk up there is an orange glow that spills out the side door where the kitchen is.

Fred pulls from the back seat a sexy outfit for Emily to wear.

Emily gives him a look like "really?"

FRED
What? This is a nice restaurant,
you could at least wear something
decent.

Emily reluctantly strips off her brown men's jacket.

CUT TO:

INT. CAFE BUON - DUSK

Two cooks are busy cooking and joking around. Esteban, the head waiter, takes notice of Fred and Emily waiting outside by the screen door, he smiles and says something in Spanish that makes the whole kitchen look over. JUAN (35), the greasy-looking head cook, says something back in Spanish making the whole kitchen laugh. Juan then goes to open the door for them. Fred introduces Emily to Juan.

(CONTINUED)

Juan leads Emily over to the door next to the men's bathroom. Emily acts like a professional and grabs Juan's hand.

Fred goes to sit at a table in the corner of the kitchen, the waiters bring him pasta and a glass of wine.

CUT TO:

EXT. SOCCER FIELD - LATE AFTERNOON

April plays goalie. The other team scores.

April walks off to sit on the benches.

CLOSE on April sitting, she is flushed and tired.

Shauna and Chrissy sit near by, they're upset.

April watches Mr B on the soccer field consoling RAQUEL (15). Raquel is petite with tan skin.

APRIL

Why is Raquel crying?

SHAUNA

Probably for attention.

Mr. B walks over to them.

MR. B

It's okay girls. Next time we'll get 'em. Do you need a ride?

SHAUNA & CHRISSY

Um. We're OK.

MR. B

April?

APRIL

(upset)

Yeah.

CUT TO:

INT. CAFE BUON, KITCHEN

Fred has a few bites, but it doesn't take long for Juan and Emily to return looking visibly upset.

(CONTINUED)

Juan walks over and whispers something to Estaban. Estaban nods his head and walks over to Fred. Juan takes his position back at the kitchen.

ESTEBAN

I think it's time you go.

Fred looks over at Emily who is standing next him, but won't look at him. Fred angrily grabs Emily's hand and they leave.

CUT TO:

INT. FRED'S CAR - LATE AFTERNOON

Fred and Emily sit in silence parked outside Emily's house.

Emily, visibly depressed, gets out of Fred's car.

CUT TO:

INT. MR. B. HOUSE - NIGHT

APRIL (V.O.)

Where's Michael?

Mr. B opens the door to his house.

MR. B

He's at his Mom's.

April walks in and throws her bag on the floor.

APRIL

Oh.

Mr. B thinks her attitude is a little stranger than normal, but goes with it.

INT. MR. B'S LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

April is roaming around.

MR. B

Would you like a glass of water?

APRIL

I'm okay.

April turns around and kisses him hard. They furiously kiss each other. April takes off her top. Mr. B picks her up and carries her to the couch. April lies on her back.

(CONTINUED)

CLOSE on April's crotch. Mr. B pulls down April's sweatpants. April is wearing little girl underwear with stars.

CUT TO:

INT. TEDDY'S HOUSE, KITCHEN - MORNING

The phone rings. Teddy's Mom picks up the phone. It's Janice, Teddy's parole officer.

TEDDY'S MOM
Hello? Sure. Who's calling?

JANICE (V.O.)
This is Janice, his parole officer.

TEDDY'S MOM
Sure. Hold on a second.
(yells to Teddy)
Teddy!

INT. TEDDY'S BEDROOM - MORNING

His room is messy, there are stolen children's library books everywhere.

TEDDY'S MOM (V.O.)
Teddy! It's Janice! Your parole officer.

CLOSE on Teddy kicking a graffitied children's library book onto the floor.

INT. TEDDY'S HOUSE, KITCHEN - MORNING

Teddy walks into the kitchen looking groggy, his Mom flashes him a "pissed-off" look and then hands him the phone.

TEDDY
Hi Janice.

JANICE (V.O.)
Teddy, I'm going to need you to come to my office after school.

TEDDY
But I'm going to the children's library.

(CONTINUED)

JANICE (V.O.)
You're not going there any more

TEDDY
What do you mean? I love that place.

JANICE (V.O.)
Well you screwed it up. I'll see you at three twenty. Don't be late and you better not *drive* here.

CUT TO:

INT. SCHOOL HALLWAY - DAY

Kids walking through the hallway.

CLOSE on drinking fountain exploding. The ALARM goes off.

CUT TO:

EXT. HIGH SCHOOL - DAY

All the students evacuate. Paramedics arrive.

A half-Asian kid named BRIAN (16) is being handcuffed and led into a police car.

Teddy, Fred, Ryan, Ivan, and Jack-o find this as the perfect opportunity to go smoke weed.

TRACKING

RYAN
Whoa. Who knew the science nerd was such a baller?

FRED
That was fucking tight man.

CUT TO:

EXT. TRAIN TRACKS - DAY

Ryan, Ivan, Jack-o, Fred, and Teddy smoke weed.

Teddy coughs.

RYAN
See, I got the good shit.

(CONTINUED)

JACK-O
(coughing)
How'd you grow it?

IVAN
(reaching for the
joint)
Pass the dutchie!

RYAN
I just ordered the seed from
Amsterdam and followed
instructions.

Teddy sits down and stares at the graffiti on the trains.

TEDDY
What's up with you and April?

IVAN
(punching Ryan in the
shoulder)
Oh yeah! You guys were sucking
face at Shuana's party a while
back.

RYAN
Yeah. I think I'm gonna try and
fuck her next time.

IVAN
Yeah *fuck* that shit!

All the boys start laughing except for Teddy, he just keeps
staring at the graffiti.

Teddy stands up and starts marking the wall with black
sharpie: SHIT FUCK COCK SUCK DIE ASS NOTHING MEANINGLESS CRY

Everyone looks at Teddy oddly.

RYAN
What does all that mean?

TEDDY
Nothing.

IVAN
Dude. Let me use some of that
Visine before we go back.

RYAN hands them the eye drops.

CUT TO:

EXT. HIGH SCHOOL - DAY

WIDE Teddy walks out to head towards Janice's office. Fred catches up with him.

TRACKING

FRED

Where we going right now?

TEDDY

I gotta go meet that chick
Janice.

FRED

Who's that?

TEDDY

My parole officer.

FRED

Oh. That weed is fucking strong
man.

TEDDY

Yeah. Fuck.

A beat.

TEDDY (CONT'D)

Do you believe Ryan is going to
fuck April?

FRED

Probably.

TEDDY

Ryan? Like I mean why Ryan?

FRED

I don't know. Maybe because he
plays the drums?

TEDDY

Whatever.

CUT TO:

INT. JANICE'S OFFICE - DAY

Teddy sits in Janice's office, playing with her pencils,
drumming them on his knee.

(CONTINUED)

JANICE (38) enters closing the door behind her. Janice is short, with beady eyes and a big butt.

JANICE

OK Teddy.

Teddy stands up. Janice turns around and notices his shirt pocket is ripped and dangling off his red plaid shirt.

INSERT: shirt pocket

JANICE (CONT'D)

(sarcastic)

Nice shirt.

(gathers her thoughts)

So.

Janice sits down.

JANICE (CONT'D)

Are you high?

TEDDY

(defensive)

No.

Janice doesn't believe him.

TEDDY (CONT'D)

You can test me if you want.

JANICE

You drew a dick on the Runaway Bunny?

TEDDY

No. That was Fred.

JANICE

Did you have friends visit you while you were doing community service at the Children's Library?

TEDDY

(covering his tracks)

No, no one came, it was me. I'm sorry I drew the dick. It was really stupid, I'll pay for the book.

(CONTINUED)

JANICE

Yes, of course you will, but
you're not doing the rest of your
hours there anymore.

TEDDY

They like me.

JANICE

No they don't! You're lazy and
you carved "ape" into the bench
outside.

TEDDY

(mutters)
April.

JANICE

What?

TEDDY

I wrote "April."

JANICE

Why the hell did you write April?

TEDDY

I don't know.

JANICE

Well, you're paying for that too.
I mean, what's wrong with you?
What kind of jerk defaces a
Children's Library?

TEDDY

I don't know.

Janice pushes forward a piece of paper with a list of places
on it: Goodwill, clean up graffiti, Planned Parenthood, etc.

JANICE

You have thirty two hours left.

TEDDY

Goodwill sounds okay.

Janice looks at her own copy of the list

JANICE

No, you don't get to choose.

FADE TO:

EXT. SYCAMORE TOWERS - DAY

Teddy stands outside of Sycamore Towers. He turns around to see his Mom drive away and then looks back over to Sycamore Towers. He walks towards it.

INT. SYCAMORE TOWERS - DAY

Teddy walks through the building. It feels and looks like death. He walks into the elevator. He looks down at the piece of paper in his hand and pushes for the 12th floor.

INT. ELEVATOR - DAY

Teddy waits in the elevator watching the numbers go up. The elevator doors open to REVEAL a bunch of old people sleeping in wheel chairs with the TV on. Teddy walks towards them.

CUT TO:

INT. SCHOOL HALLWAY - DAY

April walks down the empty hallway towards the gym lockers. When she turns around the corner she sees Mr. B talking to Raquel. April immediately turns around hoping they didn't see her.

INT. GYM ROOM LOCKERS - DAY

Shuana, Chrissy, and April are changing into their gym clothes.

Emily walks in, in her usual sweatpants and brown men's leather jacket. The room goes silent as Emily cleans out her locker.

CLOSE on April, she feels sympathetic towards Emily but also a little frightened.

CLOSE on Shauna anxiously trying to hold in reaction.

Emily exits.

SHUANA

Ew! She touched my locker, I'm never going near it again. It probably has AIDS. Chrissy go get my stuff.

(CONTINUED)

CHRISSY

What? No! I don't want to get
AIDS either.

April rolls her eyes.

CUT TO:

EXT. SOCCER FIELD - DAY

MR. B

(to the whole team)

All right girls, we are going
stir things up today. Raquel you
go out between the pipes. April,
you get on defense. Cool?

CLOSE on April clearly not cool.

MR. B (O.S.) (CONT'D)

Great. You know what to do,
start running laps!

FADE TO:

INT. SYCAMORE TOWERS - DAY

Teddy sits in the living room helping an old man make a
beaded necklace. The male orderly, ANTHONY (25), who wears
his uniform too tight and has spiked black hair with
matching waxed eyebrows, comes over.

ANTHONY

Teddy. Can you grab some toilet
paper from the basement.

TEDDY

Yeah. Sure.

ANTHONY

Thank you.

TEDDY

(to old man)

Be right back.

OLD MAN

(grunts)

Teddy walks to the basement to get toilet paper. On his way
back up he comes across the other juvenile delinquent,
Brian, in the elevator.

INT. ELEVATOR - DAY

Teddy smirks.

BRIAN

It wasn't a bomb.

Teddy pretends he doesn't understand.

BRIAN (CONT'D)

It was supposed to be a joke. I mean, I'm good at chemistry and I knew what I was doing, I've done it a bunch of times before. It was supposed to be a smoke trick, that's it. All this smoke was going to come out of the drinking fountain, and everyone would get scared, big deal. But the guy I did it with fucked up and put the pipe too far into the fountain, so there was no room for the smoke to get out and whole thing exploded.

TEDDY

(laughs)

Oh shit.

BRIAN

Yeah. What's worse is I got expelled. And I was supposed to go to Duke next year, and they pulled my scholarship.

TEDDY

Dang.

BRIAN

Do you like old people?

TEDDY

(walking out of the
elevator)

They're okay. They're just like big children.

BRIAN

They fucking smell.

The elevator door opens.

Teddy walks out and nods good-bye to Brian.

INT. SYCAMORE TOWERS - DAY

Teddy walks by the orderlies; Anthony stands to the side talking to a short platinum blonde, JOY (23).

CLOSE on Anthony and Joy

JOY
(Southern accent)
Who's like you're ideal woman?

ANTHONY
Carmen Electra! No question.

JOY
Yeah! She's on fire.

ANTHONY
What about you? Who's you're
ideal man?

JOY
Really anyone with dark hair and
a little bit of a pack.

CUT TO:

Teddy draws and sits next to the old people as they do their
arts and crafts.

Brian sneaks up from behind Teddy.

BRIAN
Those are cool pictures. They
make me think of death.

TEDDY
I'm trying to draw them with some
dignity. It doesn't seem like
anyone cares.

BRIAN
It's hard, man. Who wants to
care for someone who has lost his
mind and motor skills and can't
take a shit without help? That's
why you have all these stupid
assholes here, to wipe their
asses for them.

CLOSE on Anthony and Joy laughing and not caring.

(CONTINUED)

TEDDY

But the orderlies don't care
about these people.

BRIAN

No shit, because they have to
wipe their asses and change their
bedpans and listen to their
insanity every day. We only have
to be here twice a week. Imagine
if you were here every day.

TEDDY

I hope I die before I ever have
to come to a place like this.

BRIAN

You probably will because you
smoke cigarettes.

Brian walks away.

Teddy looks down at a drawing he's just done of an old
woman, she bears a slight smile.

CLOSE on TANYA (90), sitting by the window in a wheelchair.
Tanya is frail and skinny with white hair.

Teddy walks over to her and hands her the drawings he made
of her.

Tanya observes the pictures. One is a portrait of her and
the other is her in her wheelchair.

TANYA

(cooing)

Ooooooh, these are nice, very
nice. I don't play with games,
but I like this so much.

She puts the pictures of her down, Teddy assumes she's
already forgotten about him and his drawings.

TEDDY

(confused)

Sure.

TANYA

(warm smile)

Sure.

Teddy smiles and walks away.

CUT TO:

INT. MR. B. HOUSE - NIGHT

April is sitting on the floor doing her homework on the coffee table. Mr. B walks in carrying two beers.

MR. B

Want a beer?

APRIL

(without looking up)

No thanks.

Mr. B plops on the couch. He stares at the blank wall.

MR. B

Wanna hear a joke?

APRIL

(looks up, annoyed)

Sure.

MR. B

A horse falls into a mud puddle and can't get out. So a chicken ties the horse to the bumper of his Mercedes and pulls him out. Later, the *chicken* falls into the mud, but the horse just stand close and says, "Grab onto my thingy and pull yourself out."

APRIL

Funny.

MR. B

You get it? The moral is, if you're hung like a horse you don't need a Mercedes to pick up chicks.

APRIL

I get it.

MR. B

Ah. Maybe you're too young.

APRIL

No. I get it.

MR. B

Geez.

(CONTINUED)

APRIL

Why don't you talk to me at school anymore?

MR. B

April. You know why.

APRIL

I know, but you could at least be nice to me. It's like you don't even like me anymore.

MR. B

Are you crazy? I'm in love with you, April.

APRIL

(confused)

I should go.

April gets up to leave, but Mr. B grabs her shoulders.

MR. B

Listen to me, I love you okay? I love you. I just have been weird because I didn't want anything bad to happen. But I don't care now. I want to be with you. We'll work it out. You can just come and babysit all the time or something.

Mr. B laughs a little and tries to get April to laugh by looking into her eyes and squeezing her shoulders.

APRIL

(pushing against him)

No. I should to go, I should be hanging out with people my own age.

MR. B

April, why? So you can hang around a bunch of little boys? Come on, you're better than that. Stay here, with me. We'll just watch a movie, I'm sure there is something scary and stupid on.

April wants to stay but she pushes his hands away and leaves.

CUT TO:

EXT. HIGH SCHOOL - NIGHT

Teddy and Fred sneak onto Gunn Campus to cut down the old oak tree. Fred calls or text messages Emily -- but no response.

WIDE Fred and Teddy fight over the best way to cut the tree.

SOUND of the chainsaw revving up.

CUT TO:

INT. APRIL'S BEDROOM - MORNING

April sleeps, the morning sunlight peacefully waking her up. She turns over.

CLOSE on Meatball looking at her.

April jumps.

APRIL
(smiling)
Good morning Meatball.

Something seems different, like a weight has been lifted.

She slowly gets out of bed and heads out to the hallway. She can hear her Mom's voice in the distance talking on the phone.

April walks out of her bedroom towards the kitchen, noticing her Mom isn't in there.

April enters the kitchen she sees her Mom laughing and gossiping on the phone. April stands in the doorway watching her Mom.

Her Mom notices her and pulls the phone away from her ear.

JANE
Good morning sweetie!

APRIL
Hi Mom.

April walks over to sit in a chair at the kitchen table.

JANE
Would you like some breakfast?

April picks up a copy of US Magazine that was left on the table.

(CONTINUED)

APRIL

Um.

JANE

(excited)

I can make you some eggs and
bacon.

APRIL

(laughs)

Okay.

JANE

(into the telephone)

Linda! Let me call you back.
I'm going to make April some
breakfast.

She hangs up the phone and goes to stroke April's hair.

JANE (CONT'D)

What else can I make you? Would
you like some freshly squeezed
orange juice?

APRIL

Yeah. That sounds great.

JANE

You want pancakes too? I can
make pancakes.

APRIL

No thanks, eggs and bacon sounds
good.

JANE

Or what about a waffle?

APRIL

Mom, eggs and bacon is enough.

JANE

OK. I love you.

She kisses April on the head. April smiles.

CUT TO:

INT. SYCAMORE TOWERS - DAY

Teddy is drawing and making beaded necklaces with all the
old people at the arts and crafts table.

(CONTINUED)

An orderly named ROBERT (25), with a kind face comes up to Teddy.

ROBERT

Hey, Tanya's daughter came by and saw the pictures you made of her. She liked them.

TEDDY

Really?

ROBERT

Yeah, you should go see her. Room twelve twenty-six.

Teddy walks over to Tanya's room.

Teddy knocks outside on door to Tanya's room.

Looks into the room before he enters.

Tanya is sitting at the edge of the bed staring at the floor.

TEDDY

Hello.

Tanya looks up and smiles when she sees that it's Teddy.

Teddy walks over and sits on the empty mattress across from her. He notices the two pictures he's made for her are framed on the wall behind her.

TEDDY (CONT'D)

How are you?

TANYA

I'm fine.

TEDDY

I see you put the picture up.

TANYA

Pretty. You draw so well.

TEDDY

No. I think I'm crap. Sorry, I mean, I'm no good.

Tanya reaches over and takes his hand and cradles it.

(CONTINUED)

TANYA
You're a good boy. You captured
me good.

CUT TO:

INT. APRIL'S HOUSE, MOM'S BEDROOM - DAY

April sits on her Mom's bed doing her homework and watching
a movie with her Mom. April laughs as her Mom laughs at the
movie. They seem happy and loving.

April's phone RINGS.

APRIL
Hello?

MR. B (V.O.)
April.

April gets up to walk away from her Mom.

APRIL
(startled)
Jesus.

MR. B
April, I'm sorry. I know you
aren't talking to me right now,
but I need a favor.

APRIL
(annoyed)
What?

MR. B
I need you to watch Michael for
me. I have something really
important I need to do.

APRIL
No.

MR. B
Please, he likes you.

APRIL
No he *doesn't*.

MR. B
Yes he *does*. If you don't do it
for me, do it for him. He's used
to having you around.

(CONTINUED)

APRIL
Are you really going out?

MR. B
Yes, I'd rather spend time with
you, but I guess you won't let
me.

APRIL
Fine.

MR. B
Thank you.

April hangs up the phone and starts to get dressed into her
jeans.

JANE (O.S.)
April? Is everything okay?

April walks towards the front door.

APRIL
Yeah sorry Mom, Shauna's having a
meltdown. Gotta go.

April shuts the front door.

CUT TO:

INT. SYCAMORE TOWERS - DAY

Teddy walks out to the main room where the arts and crafts
table is, he notices Brian trying to carry the TV that now
has a giant crack in it. The TV is big, and Brian is
struggling.

BRIAN
Hey, help me with this thing.

Teddy grabs the other end and they carry it together into
the elevator.

BRIAN (CONT'D)
One of those zombies fell on it
and knocked it over.

TEDDY
Is everyone okay?

BRIAN
Yeah I think so. The guy was
fine. They won't even miss it;
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

BRIAN (CONT'D)
they can't understand what
they're watching anyway.

TEDDY
Yes they can.

BRIAN
Are you kidding? Those people
are *gone*. They don't know what's
happening. Two of them thought I
was their son and I'm *Chinese*!

TEDDY
They're still people.

BRIAN
Whatever that means. The more
time I spend here, I think more
and more about how they're just
these bags of guts being wheeled
around, and it's like the gears
are turning inside, but just out
of habit, nothing is alive.

The elevator doors open.

CUT TO:

INT. MR. B. HOUSE - DAY

April is sitting on the couch watching Michael play Mortal
Kombat. She lights a cigarette.

MICHAEL
You're not allowed to do that.

April ignores him and smokes her cigarette. Then stubs it
into her Coke can.

APRIL
Can I play?

MICHAEL
Okay...

April sits down on the floor next to him.

APRIL
So what do I do?

MICHAEL
You have to pick a character
first.

(CONTINUED)

APRIL
I want to be the girl.

MICHAEL
Chung Li? She sucks.

APRIL
I don't care. I want to be her.

The game begins.

APRIL (CONT'D)
So, now how do I fight?

MICHAEL
You press the buttons.

Michael's character wins.

MICHAEL (CONT'D)
(proud)
Two cookies please!

APRIL
What?

MICHAEL
I get two cookies because I won.

APRIL
Um...

MICHAEL
Those are the rules.

APRIL
Says who?

MICHAEL
Raquel lets me.

APRIL
Raquel?

MICHAEL
She's my other baby sitter. She
lets me have two cookies.

April gets up and walks over to the kitchen. Michael
follows.

MICHAEL (CONT'D)
I want one Oreo and one chocolate
chip.

(CONTINUED)

April grabs the whole pack of cookies and shoves them at Michael.

APRIL

Here.

April exits through the back door.

MICHAEL

(confused)

Where are you going?!

CUT TO:

EXT. SYCAMORE TOWERS - DAY

Teddy and Brian reach the ground floor and walk outside to the back where the dumpsters are. Teddy and Brian do "wind-up heaves" and toss the TV into the dumpster.

EXT. STREET - DAY

April is sitting on the sidewalk crying. People walk by looking at her like oddly, like she's just a dramatic teenager.

FADE TO:

INT. HOUSE PARTY, KITCHEN - NIGHT

Fred and Teddy hang out at a house party. They smoke pot, drink, and watch Menace II Society.

CUT TO:

INT. EMILY BATHROOM - NIGHT

Emily sits in her bathtub. She contemplatively looks at her razor. She puts the razor down, plugs her nose and dunks her head under water.

INT. EMILY BEDROOM - NIGHT

Emily is in bedroom wrapped in a towel blow drying her hair upside down.

CUT TO:

INT. HOUSE PARTY - NIGHT

Fred looks very drunk. He texts Emily.

(CONTINUED)

Emily walks through the house party. She dressed in all white, with her hair perfectly tied back in a bun.

Fred finds her.

FRED

Whoa! Where do you think you're going... Stay. We can go swimming. We have to go swimming.

EMILY

(flirty)

Sure. Let's go swimming.

They walk outside to the backyard and hop the fence to get into the neighbors pool.

CUT TO:

INT. HOUSE PARTY - NIGHT

April walks through the party. She sees Shuana and Chrissy but they are preoccupied talking with the older boys. April hangs around for a little while, she pretends to laugh at the older boys' jokes.

April walks around aimlessly. She walks through the living room noticing a bunch of boys sitting on the couch and getting high and eating Fritos with Cheese Wiz. The movie *Menace II Society* is playing, all the boys laugh.

EXT. PORCH - NIGHT

Teddy is outside smoking a cigarette. There are a few other people off in the distance. April sits down next to Teddy and pulls out her fresh pack of Marlboro Reds.

TEDDY

You should flip one over for good luck.

April looks at him confused.

TEDDY (CONT'D)

(flips the cigarette
for her as he speaks)

When you get a new pack, you flip one over and save it for last so then you can make a wish.

(CONTINUED)

APRIL
I've never heard of that.

April puts a cigarette to her mouth.

CLOSE on Teddy as he leans in to light it for her. April looks up at him and they catch eyes. April blushes.

APRIL (CONT'D)
That's a stupid movie.

TEDDY
(laughs, he's a little
drunk)
Why is it stupid?

APRIL
Because, we know the ghetto is bad, that's why it the ghetto, but that movie is making it look cool. Like Ivan and all those guys are getting excited about O-Dog because he shoots innocent people and laughs about it. That's not cool -- the guy is a fucking murderer.

TEDDY
(laughs again)
I like the part when the crack addict guy says, "I'll suck ya dick."

APRIL
You like *that* part?

TEDDY
Yeah, it's funny because it's like this part from *Boyz n the Hood*, where this woman crack addict says, "I'll suck your dick" -- it's like the exact same scene, but in *Menace* it's a *guy* crack addict who says it. It's like they're trying to make the movie even crazier than *Boyz n the Hood* because a *guy* says "I'll suck your dick."

APRIL
I guess.

(CONTINUED)

TEDDY

And then O-Dog shoots the guy.
He thinks the offer somehow make
him gay. And it's like the movie
is saying gay people are the
worst kind of people. Like even
if everyone is living in a ghetto
and it's hell, the gay person is
the worst. Like a man sucking a
dick is the most desperate you
could get.

APRIL

Maybe. But why the hell would
that make you like that scene?

TEDDY

I just mean I think it's funny, I
don't *like* it.

APRIL

I just think it's a stupid movie,
I think most movies and TV shows
and video games are stupid.

TEDDY

Okay.

Teddy sucks on his cigarette hard and then lets out a big
exhale of smoke.

TEDDY (CONT'D)

(through the smoke)
You're crazy, right?

APRIL

I'm not.

TEDDY

Yeah you are.

APRIL

Why do you think I'm crazy?

TEDDY

(takes another drag
from his cigarette)
Because you don't care about
anything.

APRIL

I *do* care, I care too much, but
it never works.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

APRIL (CONT'D)

Like now -- I'm trying to be here, I'm trying to do things. But it doesn't work, I can't find anything, so maybe that's what makes me crazy.

TEDDY

What do you mean?

APRIL

Nothing. I think you don't care about anything, Teddy, not me.

TEDDY

(quietly)

I care about *you*.

He looks at April from the corner of his eye.

APRIL

(laughs)

Oh, shut up. You hardly even see me.

TEDDY

Well I wish I did. I try to call you all the time, but you're always gone.

APRIL

I have soccer and shit.

TEDDY

I love you.

April laughs because she's not sure how to react, but also because she can't tell if Teddy is just drunk or if he's serious about what he's saying.

APRIL

Remember that night at Shauna's party, we went to Gunn and sat under that tree? And I carved a heart in it?

TEDDY

Yeah.

APRIL

I wish we could go back to that night.

TEDDY

Fred and I cut it down.

(CONTINUED)

APRIL

The *tree*?

Teddy nods.

APRIL (CONT'D)

You cut down the whole tree? But it was huge!

TEDDY

I know. One night we used his brother's saw. Just me and him. It took a long time. That thing was probably there since the Civil War. Now it's gone.

CUT TO:

EXT. NEIGHBOR'S POOL - NIGHT

Emily and Fred climb a fence to get into the neighbor's yard.

Fred strips down and jumps into the pool.

FRED

Get in the pool Emily.

EMILY

No.

FRED

Come on! Get in the fucking pool!

EMILY

No. I don't feel like it.

FRED

You can be a real cunt sometimes, you know that?

Fred swims to where she's standing. Emily backs away like he's a shark in water. Fred grabs her foot and drags her in.

FRED (CONT'D)

Get in the pool.

Emily kicks and screams. When she resurfaces, Fred is already out of the pool putting his clothes. He is laughing. Emily splashes him, trying to get his clothes wet. Fred just laughs more. Emily jumps out of the pool grabs a Malibu Rum bottle from her purse and chases Fred.

(CONTINUED)

Fred runs around the pool jumping and screaming like a lunatic cartoon character.

INSERT: Two boys look through the fence laughing:

BOYS
(giggling)
Ah! Young love!

Fred turns around and grabs Emily. Emily tries to squirm out of his arm, but Fred has too tight of a hold around her. Fred kisses her on the lips. Emily manages to get a hand free and smashes the bottle of Malibu RUm onto Fred's head.

FRED
Ow! You bitch!

Emily looks at him shocked.

Fred's head is bleeding. He climbs over the fence.

Emily walks picks up her purse that's lying on the floor. She takes out a cigarettes and smokes it at the edge of the pool running her feet through the water. She feels liberated.

INT. PARTY LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Fred limps back into the party, he looks crazy, one of his eyes is bloodshot from when Emily broke the bottle on top of his head.

CUT TO:

EXT. STREET - NIGHT

Teddy and some friends play music from their car and skateboard around. April is leaning on a car watching and eating Spicy Hot Cheetos.

All the boys take a cigarette from April. April looks at her pack of cigarettes. Teddy walks over to her.

APRIL
I just got this pack.

INSERT: her one upside-down cigarette.

TEDDY
Well at least now you can make
your wish.

(CONTINUED)

APRIL

Oh yeah.

TEDDY

What're you gonna wish for?

LONG PAUSE. April thinks about it, but she has no idea what to wish for -- Fred approaches interrupting them.

TEDDY (CONT'D)

(to Fred)

Dang! What happened to you?

FRED

Nothing. Let's go buy some weed.

TEDDY

OK.

(to April)

Wanna come?

APRIL

I should stay here so I can get a ride home.

(beat)

Maybe tomorrow?

TEDDY

(smiles)

OK.

Teddy walks away blushing and happy. He waves good-bye.

Teddy and Fred get into Fred's car.

TEDDY (CONT'D)

I'll call Hector.

CUT TO:

INT. FRED'S CAR - NIGHT

Fred and Teddy are driving to get onto the freeway.

FRED

If you were an Egyptian, what would you do?

TEDDY

Don't start that shit again, Fred.

(CONTINUED)

FRED

Remember when you called me
Manuel?

TEDDY

I never called you Manuel, idiot.
I would be a Pharaoh.

FRED

You can't be a Pharaoh.

TEDDY

Why not? I don't want to be an
Egyptian anyways: pyramids and
mummies and shit, and sand, and
all that, fuck it, it's boring,
man. I would be an Aztec, or a
Mayan, and I'd cut your fucking
heart out, homes.

FRED

Maybe we should try it.

TEDDY

Fred, I'm serious, don't do
something crazy just because
we're talking about your olden-
time things again. Just let me
the fuck out if that's what
you're thinking.

FRED

No, man. I'm just saying that
maybe those Mayans were onto
something. Maybe if we take
someone's heart out and sacrifice
it, then something special will
happen.

Fred stares intensely at Teddy.

Teddy looks confused.

FRED (CONT'D)

Maybe we could take Hector's
heart.

TEDDY

Hector would fuck you up.

FRED

Not if I stabbed him in the
stomach first.

(CONTINUED)

Fred reaches under his seat and pulls out a foot-long kitchen knife and starts pointing it at Fred.

TEDDY

(screams)

Fuck you, Fred! Fuck you, Fr-ed!

Fred laughs with a glimmer of crazy in his eye.

TEDDY (CONT'D)

Why do you have to be like this?
Why do you have to be Jack the
Ripper psycho? Why are you
trying so hard to seem crazy? I
just want to buy some weed, I
don't want to kill anyone, and I
don't want to take their heart!

FRED

You said you wanted to. So, I'm
just saying...

TEDDY

Put that fucking knife down man!
And watch the fucking road!

Fred pokes the knife lightly at Teddy's stomach.

TEDDY (CONT'D)

Stop it!

Fred stops and turns his eyes back on the road.

CUT TO:

EXT. PARKING LOT - NIGHT

Fred, Teddy, and their drug dealer HECTOR (22) are smoking weed by some dumpsters, coughing every time they inhale.

Hector is a Hispanic, has a shaved head and tattoos. He wears the collar of his shirt buttoned to the top.

FRED

Hector. Would you rather be a
pope or Pablo Escobar?

HECTOR

Escobar, for sure. He gets to
have all the fun.

FRED

Pope gets to live in the Vatican,
see Michelangelo all the time.

(CONTINUED)

TEDDY

(high)
Escobar.

FRED

Shut up Teddy. We know what you want. You want the knife.

HECTOR

Huh?

FRED

This guy wanted to cut your heart with this knife.

Fred takes out the knife from under his shirt. He holds it up for Hector to see. It reflects a little in the dark.

HECTOR

(to Teddy)
If you try, I will fucking kill your ass.

TEDDY

(angry, but also
tired)
I didn't say I wanted to--

HECTOR

(to Teddy)
Fuck you!

Fred and Hector laugh. Teddy is upset and angry but too lazy to do anything about it.

TEDDY

No, Hector, this fucker is always asking me stupid questions and trying to kill me. He wanted to cut your heart out.

FRED

Hector.

HECTOR

Yes.

FRED

Would you rather be gay or a girl?

HECTOR

(chuckles)
Neither.

(CONTINUED)

FRED

Just saying, if you had to choose
because a genie said so, what
would you choose?

Teddy looks down at his feet kicking dirt.

TEDDY

Both of 'em still have to suck
dick.

HECTOR

Exactly.

Teddy laughs to himself.

FRED

Would that be so bad? Don't you
ever get jealous of those girls
in pornos that get to be on their
knees in the middle of all those
dicks?

HECTOR

Are you fucking serious?

TEDDY

Don't, this faggot is always asking
stupid questions and giving stupid
answers, he doesn't mean it.

HECTOR

(to Fred)
No, this faggot is fucking serious.

FRED

Yeah, don't you like the idea of
an Around-The-World blow bang?

HECTOR

I like to have a girl suck my dick.

TEDDY

(mumbles)
Me too.

FRED

Why don't you want to suck dick?
What's the difference?

HECTOR

What's the difference?! Because
I'm going in, and she is being
got inside of.

(CONTINUED)

FRED

And why is one better? Why does
going inside, make you better?
Aren't you, like, on her turf
inside her, isn't she in control
of you? Like a mommy with a
little baby making him feel good?

HECTOR

(speechless)

Because...

CUT TO:

INT. CAR - NIGHT

Music plays. April looks out the car window. Everything
feels peaceful.

CUT TO:

EXT. APRIL'S HOUSE - NIGHT

WIDE April gets out of the car and runs to the front door.
She pauses and remembers her last cigarette.

INT. APRIL'S HOUSE, KITCHEN - NIGHT

April sneaks into the house. She goes to the fridge to grab
a bottle of water.

Stewart walks in and gasps.

STEWART

Oh! Hi silly thing! You scared
me.

APRIL

Sorry, Stewart.

STEWART

You just get home?

APRIL

Um. No. I couldn't sleep, so I
came to get some water. Are you
just waking up?

Stewart notices she's still in her jeans and sneakers.

(CONTINUED)

STEWART

Yeah, I was thinking about going to get some Taco Bell. Want anything?

APRIL

Really? But isn't it like three in the morning?

STEWART

Best time!

APRIL

(laughs)
You're a nut! I'm okay, but thanks.

Stewart pats April on the head and exits out the kitchen door, keys in hand, wearing his grey terry cloth bathrobe, Gap pajamas and UGG slippers.

April remembers her last cigarette. She reaches into her pocket, grabs her Marlboro Red pack and pulls out her last cigarette. She holds the cigarette tight, making her wish.

CUT TO:

INT. FRED'S CAR - NIGHT

Fred and Teddy drive back home on the empty freeway. Fred looks directly into all the streetlights as they pass by.

FRED

Let's drive down the wrong way.

Teddy is asleep in the passenger seat.

FRED (CONT'D)

I'm going over to that side.

WIDE on Fred's car as he U-turns down the wrong direction on the freeway.

Fred's POV driving down the highway, the streetlights passing by.

MUSIC comes in.

FADE TO BLACK.

THE END