

THE VOW

Based on a true story

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Spyglass Entertainment
10900 Wilshire Boulevard
Los Angeles, CA 90024

FADE IN:

EXT. CHICAGO / MUSIC BOX THEATER - MARCH NIGHT

The movie theater doors open, and PAIGE (28, pretty, hip dresser) and LEO (30, scruffy-handsome and offbeat), still finishing off his Junior Mints, emerge.

Suddenly, they both stop. Their eyes fill with awe.

PAIGE

Oh, Leo...

The street is SILENT, covered in a velvet blanket of WHITE SNOW. There aren't any tire tracks in the road nor any footprints on the sidewalks. She takes his arm, and they watch the snow accumulate before their eyes. It's a truly romantic moment.

PAIGE (CONT'D)

There was only an inch when we went in.

LEO

It's so quiet...

Just then, the rest of the MOVIEGOERS push through the doors behind our couple, breaking the moment. Some folks notice the two feet of snow but most just trudge off.

LEO (V.O.) (CONT'D)

*Each of us is the sum of all the moments
we've ever experienced with all the
people we've ever met, loved, sexed, or
hated.*

Leo pulls Paige close to keep her warm as they make their way to the car.

LEO (V.O.) (CONT'D)

*And those experiences give us theories we
really like to get behind.*

EXT. SOUTHPORT AVE. - NIGHT

Paige gets in a late '90s Saab and cranks the heat, while Leo quickly scrapes the windshield.

LEO (V.O.)

*My friend, Lily has one about how the
elliptical trainer at the gym makes her
fatter.*

INT. SAAB - NIGHT

Leo gets in, rubbing his hands to get warm. Paige rubs them for him, they kiss. He starts the car.

LEO (V.O.)

My old roommate, Kyle, has a theory that they put sedatives in the food at HomeTown Buffet, so people get too tired to go back for seconds.

INT/EXT. SAAB - NIGHT

They drive through Wrigleyville - slushy outside, but nice and warm inside.

LEO (V.O.)

And Kyle's girlfriend, Sonia, thinks that you only get jetlag if you eat meat at 30,000 feet.

Leo reaches out and hits the radio - scans through the stations. He finds a song he likes - BABE by Styx (or I WOULD DO ANYTHING FOR LOVE by MEATLOAF or MMMMBop by Hanson - you get the idea.)

LEO (V.O.) (CONT'D)

I have a theory, too, which is that life's all about moments...

PAIGE

No! You do not like this.

LEO

I do.

PAIGE

I am married to a cheezer.

Leo SINGS along. He's good, even if the song isn't.

PAIGE (CONT'D)

I think I saw some Ella Fitzgerald back here-

Leo STOPS at a stoplight. Paige snaps off her seatbelt, and turns to root around in the back seat. From the back seat:

PAIGE (CONT'D)

Yes!

She turns back around, a CD in hand. But before she can put the CD in, they hear the sound of SCREECHING TIRES and a CRASH come from behind them. They look at each other, not sure what to think.

LEO (V.O.)
Moments. Of impact.

Then, a second later - THEIR CAR ROCKS - A DEAFENING CRASH. WE-

CUT TO BLACK.

LEO (V.O.) (CONT'D)
...and how they change our lives forever.

FADE UP:

START FLASHBACK SEQUENCE:

INT. PARKING PERMIT OFFICE - DAY (SPRING)

Your typical DMV shit-show.

DMV WORKER
Next in line...?

We see Paige, with longer and blonder hair, standing at the parking permit window. Her hair is wet, she's wearing cut off sweats and flip flops. She smiles at the woman behind the glass, and turns to leave.

As she turns to go, she sees Leo (hair a little more scraggly, wearing baggy shorts, a wallet chain, checkerboard vans) who has been watching her.

THEIR EYES LOCK. We can almost feel the air being sucked out of their chests.

LEO (V.O.)
One of my absolute favorites - impact but with no actual physical contact.

Paige finally pulls her eyes off of Leo and heads to the door.

EXT. PERMIT OFFICE - DAY

Paige, a little dazed, makes her way to her car. She fishes her keys out of her bag, and just as she's about to open the car - she FREEZES IN PANIC. She turns to head back into the permit office, and turns directly into Leo.

LEO
You forgot your permit.

He hands it to her.

PAIGE
Yeah, well. I come down here just to
enjoy the two and half hour line. The
permit is kind of a bonus.

Leo SMILES, sees the A.I.C. parking sticker on her car
window.

LEO
The Art Institute? You work there?

Paige looks over her shoulder, sees the sticker, puts it
all together...

PAIGE
No, I'm a student there, actually. I
work part-time over at Café Mnemonic.

They stand, smiling at each other for a moment.

PAIGE (CONT'D)
I'm Paige.

LEO
Leo.

PAIGE
K, well, thanks for grabbing this for me,
Leo.

She waves the permit as she starts to get in her car.

LEO
I saw, in a totally non-threatening way,
that we are in the same RPP zone.

PAIGE
Is that right?

LEO
Yes.

PAIGE
You have impressive powers of
observation.
(beat)
What's an RPP zone?

LEO

Residential Permit Parking zone.

PAIGE

Sounds pretty intimate.

LEO

I'm just thinking, we probably owe it to ourselves to go grab a drink - you know - out of respect to our zone compatibility and all.

Paige looks at him, sizing him up.

LEO (CONT'D)

And I can see here on your receipt that you just spent \$375 dollars on your annual parking permit, so I'm guessing a free drink might feel pretty good right about now.

PAIGE

(with a smile)

Okay.

Leo tries to hide his smile as the two head out of the parking lot together.

CUT TO:

INT. CAFÉ MNEMONIC - DAY (SPRING)

Paige is "in the weeds" waitressing at this busy café. She is clearly suffering from a bad cold. She finishes taking an order, drops the ticket off, then spots a PACKAGE next to the cash register with her NAME ON IT.

She carefully opens up the box to find a PHARMACY TREASURE TROVE, a POST-IT NOTE stuck to each item. She picks up each product, reads the note: Advil: "For Your Head" Robitussin: "For Your Cough" Klennex: "For Your Nose" Purell: "For Your Hands" and a PHOTO OF LEO: "For Your Heart"

At the bottom of the package, is a BOX OF CONDOMS with a PostIt that reads: "For Later"

Paige looks up and spots Leo standing outside, across the street. He SMILES, waves, and goes.

Despite her red nose and her sinus headache, Paige is completely smitten.

CUT TO:

EXT. RESTAURANT - NIGHT (SUMMER)

Paige and Leo are obviously on a date. He opens the car door for her.

INT/EXT. LEO'S SAAB - LATER

It's a beautiful evening. Paige's window is down, and her hair blows, care-free, in the wind. She and Leo chat away in a manner that gives the impression that they'll never run out of anything to say to each other.

Leo LAUGHS at something that Paige says and accidentally FARTS. Leo FREEZES in the hopes that not moving will erase what just happened from history.

PAIGE

Did you just fart?

LEO

No?

(beat)

Maybe a little.

Paige looks over at him and [in SLOW-MOTION] ROLLS UP HER WINDOW. [RESUME SPEED] Leo can't believe it, his mouth drops open. He stares, blinks, then smiles.

LEO (CONT'D)

You did not...?

Paige shrugs.

LEO (CONT'D)

Twisted...

(beat)

...but totally romantic!

LEO (V.O.) (CONT'D)

Believe me, that moment had impact.

Paige GIGGLES.

LEO (CONT'D)

(enthusiastic)

I am so god-damn in love with you, it's insane.

CUT TO:

INT. LEO'S APARTMENT - DAY

A typical old-school Chicago apartment. It's Sunday morning, and Paige sits at the kitchen table, sipping coffee, looking totally content. Leo and SEVERAL ROOMMATES (all 20s) - KYLE, JOSH, and JIM mill around in the kitchen, getting coffee, etc. Leo sets a plate of waffles in front of Paige.

PAIGE

*Anyone want blueberries on their waffles?
I bought some at the farmer's market.*

She starts to get up. Leo takes her plate with him.

LEO

I'll get 'em for you, babe.

JIM

Buying groceries. Bad sign.

PAIGE

What?

KYLE

She's moving in.

PAIGE

I am not.

Leo watches, smiling, as Paige banters with his friends.

JOSH

I like her. She's like a mascot.

PAIGE

Thank you.

JIM

*And she buys toilet paper. Let's keep
her.*

KYLE

*I'd rather have her than that ferret you
tried to make us adopt.*

JOSH

*It was Yom Kippur. I was trying to be a
good person.*

PAIGE

You are a good person.

KYLE

Thank you.

PAIGE

You're welcome.

Leo gently places Paige's plate back on the table and looks at Paige expectantly...but the waffles are missing. In their place is a pool of syrup that loosely holds down fresh blueberries that spell out: MOVEIX?

PAIGE (CONT'D)

You want to go to a movie? You spelled "movie" wrong.

LEO

No!

Leo quickly rearranges the last letter. Now the blueberries spell out: MOVE IN?

KYLE

Told ya!

LEO

Another moment of impact...

*[SLOW MOTION] She leans in close to Leo, nose to nose.
[RESUME SPEED]*

PAIGE

Yes...

LEO (V.O.)

Letting someone who isn't your mom or your dad, someone who doesn't have to, love you.

Paige charmingly eats the sticky blueberries with her fingers, beaming.

CUT TO:

EXT. LOLLAPALOOZA - DAY

A gigantic, undulating mass of people. Paige and Leo are in the middle of the fray, smiling and moving with the teeming crowds as they listen to the music. Paige is rocking it out. Leo is trying to take her picture.

LEO

Stop moving. It won't focus.

She PAUSES dramatically. He SNAPS a photo of her, smiling, loving the day. A perfect moment.

The music gets harder, the dancing gets more frenetic. Paige and Leo hold hands, in the air, getting into it with total abandon.

Paige jumps in the air with the crowd but comes down awkwardly, twisting her ankle and falling to the ground. Leo immediately crouches down to her.

LEO (CONT'D)

Are you okay?

PAIGE

I'm fine. I'm tough.

She tries to get up, and winces in pain.

[SLOW-MOTION] A DRUNK GUY steps directly on Paige's swollen ankle. Her face flashes extreme pain. [RESUME SPEED]

PAIGE (CONT'D)

Or not...

LEO (V.O.)

Not my favorite moment of impact.

Leo leaps up, aggressively.

LEO (CONT'D)

Dude! There is a person here!

(to Paige)

Put your arms around my neck.

PAIGE' POV OF LEO - BACKLIT BY THE SUN the effect of which gives him an angelic glow. He crouches back down.

BACK TO SCENE

Paige tries to cover her smile.

LEO (CONT'D)

What?

PAIGE

Nothing, it's just that the "glare of your shining armor is particularly blinding, Sir Leo."

LEO

*What can I say? Romance is alive and
well at Lollapalooza.*

She LAUGHS.

LEO (CONT'D)

Hold onto me before we get trampled.

*She puts her arms around his neck, and he hoists her up.
He then PULLS HER IN TIGHT.*

*Leo makes his way through the crowd of hipsters, carrying
Paige like a bride.*

CUT TO:

INT. THE ART INSTITUTE OF CHICAGO - DAY

*Paige wears a cute pink dress and a cascading pink veil
and holds a bouquet of wild flowers. Leo stands opposite
her wearing a handsome-looking suit. They are surrounded
by their funky, young, and somewhat motley-looking friends
(including Jim, Josh and Kyle.)*

*We PULL BACK to reveal that they are in the middle of the
museum's main gallery.*

Several SECURITY GUARDS enter.

LEO

I do.

PAIGE

I do, too!

The guards rush in...

KYLE

*(clocking the guards,
talking super fast)*

*By the power vested in me by the State of
Illinois, I now pronounce you man and
wife and best friends for life!*

(beat)

Runnnnnn!

EXT. THE ART INSTITUTE OF CHICAGO - DAY

*All of the wedding guests flee. Paige and Leo, LAUGHING
the whole time, hang a quick right down the steps, past
the famous lion statues.*

EXT. MILLENNIUM PARK - DAY

Paige and Leo, out of breath, finally stop running.

LEO (V.O.)

Knowing who you're going to be with
forever...

They kiss [SLOW-MOTION/RESUME SPEED], and we PULL BACK to reveal that they are standing underneath the giant steel "Bean" sculpture.

LEO (V.O.) (CONT'D)

...A true moment of impact.

CUT TO:

INT. ART STUDIO - NIGHT

It's late. Paige sits on the floor, on a tarp, surrounded by her SCULPTING MATERIALS. She has the STEREO BLARING, full blast. She's fully focused as she tries to get her clay to take shape -- but does not look particularly pleased with her progress.

Leo walks in, sees Paige, kisses her on the head.

LEO

(yelling over the music)
I'm gonna turn in early tonight, babe. I
just wanted to stop by on my way home.

She looks up at him, turns down the VOLUME.

PAIGE

I have one piece. One piece.

LEO

The show isn't for seven weeks.

PAIGE

It's not happening. I swear to god, I
need to call them and say I can't do it.

Leo sits next to her.

LEO

I don't know. I think this one is coming
together.

He looks at the piece in progress. Studies it.

LEO (CONT'D)

I know it's not done - but I'm already seeing a mood. Kind of like a darkening curtain over here - and a competing light element over here. It's abstract but it's powerful already.

Paige looks at him, smiling and starting to cry.

LEO (CONT'D)

What?

PAIGE

You totally love me.

LEO

Yeah, I do.

PAIGE

I know. Because my piece is over there.

She points to a different mass of clay.

PAIGE (CONT'D)

That is the scrap pile. Which I'm now saving.

She pulls him to her, and they kiss, on the floor, surrounded by clay and sculpting materials and the glow of her work lamp.

LEO (V.O.)

And another one - a moment of total physical, mental, and every other kind of love.

END FLASHBACKS.

DISSOLVE TO:

THE SCENE OF THE ACCIDENT

We now see what has happened - Leo's car at the front of a three car pile up. Everything is frozen in time.

LEO (V.O.)

These "moments of impact" are important 'cause they change our lives forever.

As the CAMERA winds through the wreckage, only Leo moves freely through the scene. The effect is surreal.

LEO (V.O.) (CONT'D)
But what I never took into account in
contemplating my theory...

We end on a shot of Leo looking at his own body crushed between the steering wheel and the door.

LEO (V.O.) (CONT'D)
...was what if one day, you could no
longer remember any of them.

We RACK FOCUS to Paige in the foreground, unconscious.

CUT TO:

INT. HOSPITAL - DAY/NIGHT

[NOTE: the following MONTAGE plays out under MUSIC without the corresponding voices, foley, SFX, etc.]

ENTRANCE - Paige and Leo, both unconscious, are rushed in on gurneys by EMTs/ORDERLIES.

EMERGENCY ROOM - ER DOCTORS/NURSES frantically fight to stabilize Paige and Leo.

WAITING ROOM - Kyle, Josh, Jim, LILY and SONIA (Kyle's can't-tell-her-ethnicity-but-she's-gorgeous girlfriend) (all 20s) wait and pray.

RADIOLOGY LAB - Paige and Leo are each given CAT SCANS.

DARK ROOM - Paige and Leo's BRAIN SCANS are up on side-by-side monitors. While Leo's is uniformly dark, Paige's scan indicates a LARGE WHITE SPOT.

ICU / BED #1 - Leo's arm is in a SLING (dislocated shoulder) and his face is CUT and BRUISED, but he looks all right. He sleeps.

O.R. - Doctors and Nurses hook up Paige to various brain-monitoring devices.

ICU / BED #2 - Paige is asleep. A NURSE changes her IV bag.

ICU / BED #1 - Leo is now awake. A NURSE redresses his wounds with band-aids instead of bandages. A DIFFERENT NURSE hands him an ENVELOPE with Paige's name on it, which he opens. Inside is Paige's WEDDING RING.

WAITING ROOM - Kyle, Josh, Jim, Lily and Sonia confer with a NURSE, checking in on their best friends.

ICU / BED #2 - Paige is still unconscious. A NURSE gives her a dose of medication, cleans her wounds, and feeds her ICE CHIPS. Leo appears at the door. The sight of Paige hooked up to all of machines is tough for Leo, but he holds strong. The Nurse offers for Leo to feed Paige the ice chips instead. He sits and does.

After a moment, he pulls out the WEDDING RING from the envelope and slips it back on her finger where it belongs.

END MONTAGE

INT. HOSPITAL / HALLWAY - DAY

A female emergency room physician, DR. FISHMAN (50s), confers with a sullen Leo.

DR. FISHMAN

Your wife's CT Scan showed what's called an "intracranial hemorrhage." Because of the rigidity of the skull, brain swelling can cause a compression of the blood vessels and lead to a stroke. In severe cases, we remove a large portion of the skull until the swelling subsides, but in Paige's case that wasn't necessary.

LEO

That's good, right?

DR. FISHMAN

Very.

LEO

But she's still in a coma.

DR. FISHMAN

At this point, it's induced. We purposely keep patients with TBIs - Traumatic Brain Injuries - in a comatose state in order to calm their systems and allow the brain to heal itself. Then we wean them off of it, slowly adding stimuli, and observing their reactions.

(beat)

The good news, is that we're prepared to do that now with Paige.

LEO

You're ready to wake her up?

DR. FISHMAN

Yes.

INT. ICU / BED #2 - DAY

Paige lies, asleep. Despite the bandages and tubes surrounding her, she looks angelic and surprisingly peaceful. Leo wears a "scrub top" and jeans, and Dr. Fishman stands behind him.

Paige stirs, and Leo immediately leans in. Dr. Fishman gently pulls Leo back. Paige stirs again - and then OPENS HER EYES. Leo looks at her, tears welling up.

LEO

Hey.

Paige looks at him, confused. SIGHS. She acts stoned.

PAIGE

Hmmmmmm?

LEO

We were wondering when you were gonna wake up. It's really good to see you.

Paige notices the IV in her arm, starts to panic.

PAIGE

What the- ?

She looks around, taking in the hospital room, etc.

PAIGE (CONT'D)

Where am I?

DR. FISHMAN

There was a car accident. But you're okay. No broken bones, no pieces missing. You just stayed asleep for a little while.

Paige takes this in, calming down a bit. SIGHS again.

PAIGE

(slow)

So I'm okay?

LEO

You're perfect. Honestly, I wish we had a mirror here, because you with head trauma is like most girls on their best day.

Paige forces a tight smile, touches her head gingerly.

LEO (CONT'D)

How do you feel? Do you have any pain at all?

PAIGE

My head hurts.

DR. FISHMAN

I'll get you something for that.

Dr. Fishman steps out.

PAIGE

That would be good. But tell her I'm allergic to aspirin.

LEO

I know.

PAIGE

Oh...?

LEO

Just like I know you say you're allergic to cilantro - but really you just don't like it.

Paige looks confused, and uneasy.

PAIGE

Why would I tell you...that I'm allergic to cilantro?

LEO

You tell me everything.

Paige looks at Leo desperately trying to focus. Something is NOT RIGHT. This is sinking in for Leo.

LEO (CONT'D)

Paige, do you know who I am?

PAIGE

Of course.

LEO

Okay. Good.

PAIGE

You're my doctor.

Leo's face falls. We watch as he tries to cover his panic.

LEO
I'll be right back...

INT. HALLWAY - DAY

Leo stands against the wall arms crossed. He looks devastated. Dr. Fishman gently gets him to look at her.

DR. FISHMAN
A brain injury is different from a broken bone or laceration. Brains are much less predictable.

LEO
(snapping)
But you said things were "very good."
This is not "very good."

DR. FISHMAN
Look, Mr. Cowen, I understand your frustration... Sometimes, due to the way the swelling tissue presses against the skull, it can cause impairment - anything from erratic mood swings to loss of motor skills to, as in her case, minor memory loss.

LEO
You get that there are some *significant* holes, right?

INT. ICU / BED #2 - DAY

Leo and Dr. Fishman are, once again, at Paige's bedside. She holds up her hand, staring at the WEDDING RING on her finger.

DR. FISHMAN
And you have no recollection of being married at all?

PAIGE
I know I'm engaged, but, no, I don't remember marrying Jeremy.

She trails off. Dr. Fishman just looks at her, not sure what to say.

LEO
Paige, I'm your husband...Leo.

PAIGE
You're not a doctor?

LEO

No, I'm not.

PAIGE

You're my husband?

LEO

It's okay if you can't remember now. You will.

DR. FISHMAN

I'll give you two a moment.

Fishman goes. Paige looks around, still very out of it.

PAIGE

Where are my parents?

LEO

I don't know. I didn't call them.

PAIGE

(abrupt, very angry)

Why not?

LEO

I didn't think you'd want me to.

Leo pauses, thinks twice about what he's about to say...

LEO (CONT'D)

Paige, you haven't spoken to them - *in years.*

Now Paige starts to freak out a little.

PAIGE

(increasingly hostile)

Can you go? And just give me a minute?
JUST GO!

Leo takes a breath, decides not to push it.

LEO

Yeah. I'll check in again later. I'm just glad you're finally awake, babe.

She flinches at the "babe." He turns and goes, leaving Paige to take this all in.

INT. LEO'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Leo returns home. By the looks of the place, he hasn't been here much at all since Paige has been at the hospital. The space feels very empty, very lonely. A bruiser of a cat, HERNIA, greets him with a hungry series of MEOWS. Leo feeds the cat, refills his water. Leo crashes onto the bed, exhausted.

INT. ICU / BED #2 - NIGHT

Paige sits twisting her wedding ring, when BARB, a nurse, 40s, enters. Paige has less tubes in her now.

BARB

I knew I recognized this chart. Would you please stay out of my ER?

Paige looks up, clearly no recognition.

PAIGE

Sorry, I -

Barb, smiling, pulls Paige up for a hug.

BARB

It's great to see you, honey.

Paige looks completely mystified by the whole exchange. Barb catches on, starts taking her vital signs. Barb looks around.

BARB (CONT'D)

Where is that handsome man of yours?

Paige looks around for the handsome man. She's not sure who Barb is talking about.

BARB (CONT'D)

I've never seen anything like it -- you were in a crowded ER, with a badly fractured ankle - and you were sitting on your man's lap, smiling and playing hangman like you were the only two people in the world.

PAIGE

When was that?

Barb looks at the chart.

BARB

About two years back. It's all here in black and white.

Paige peeks over to look.

PAIGE

That's my handwriting.

BARB

Mmmm-hmmm.

CLOSE ON: PAIGE'S INTAKE FORM. Her emergency contact is LEO. However, in the space for PARENTS NAME AND ADDRESS she has written, very clearly in all caps: *NOT APPLICABLE*.

BARB (CONT'D)

I'll be back in a couple hours. Try to get some rest, honey.

She goes leaving Paige lost in thought.

INT. APARTMENT - LATER

Leo sits drinking a beer in his apartment with his friends - Kyle, Josh, Jim, Lily, and Sonia.

JIM

I think you need to look at it like a win.

LEO

Traumatic Brain Injury? A win?

JIM

If there's anything I learned when I worked at the Olive Garden -

KYLE

For *nine days* -

JIM

I work.

JOSH

On your eHarmony profile.

Jim ignores him.

JIM

What I was trying to say is that you have to look at problems as opportunities.

JOSH

You're an idiot.

JIM

I'm just saying, if she doesn't remember you - she also doesn't remember any of the stupid shit you ever did - so you can start over, wipe the slate clean.

LEO

I didn't do anything that I'd want her to forget.

SONIA

You left her in the Las Vegas airport.

Leo shoots her a look.

LEO

I thought she was looking for an overhead bin.

SONIA

How could she be looking for a bin on the plane if you had her boarding pass?

LEO

It was a mix-up.

Sonia LAUGHS.

JOSH

Look, I'm just worried if she doesn't remember you, how is she gonna remember that she likes you?

JIM

I was frankly a little stunned that she went for you the first time.

LEO

(laughing)

Me, too.

KYLE

It'll never happen again.

LILY

Never. If anything, you've become *less* attractive.

LEO

You guys are a real support system.

Leo goes to the fridge to grab another beer.

LEO (CONT'D)

But seriously, guys - what if she doesn't remember me? Then what?

SONIA

She's gonna remember you. She's gonna remember all of us. We're her family.

Leo pops open his beer, heads into the other room. His friends all share a look of concern.

INT. ICU / BED #2 - DAY

Leo enters Paige's room to find Paige's room EMPTY. The sheets on the bed are crisp. She is gone.

INT. HOSPITAL CORRIDOR - CONTINUOUS

Panicked, Leo looks into each room, searching for her.

INT. ICU / NURSES STATION - DAY

Leo rapidly approaches a NURSE at the front desk of the Traumatic Brain Injury Center. Behind the desk is a giant, state of the art physical rehabilitation room.

LEO

Hi. I'm looking for my wife, Paige Cowan? She was in Room 157 yesterday...?

The nurse taps some keys on her computer.

NURSE

Is she in-patient?

LEO

Yeah.

The Nurse keeps searching.

NURSE

Paige Thornton?

LEO

It's actually Cowan now but -

NURSE

Looks like they moved her up to the VIP floor.

LEO

That sounds more expensive...?

NURSE

You could say that. It's the donors' wing, sweetheart.

Leo looks up, confused.

NURSE (CONT'D)

Just take that elevator up to the third floor and take a right.

CUT TO:

INT. PAIGE'S UPGRADED HOSPITAL ROOM - DAY

Leo sees Dr. Fishman talking to Paige.

DR. FISHMAN

Leo, I'm glad you're here. We did some further evaluations this morning, and we were just discussing the findings.

As he rounds the corner, Leo realizes that they are joined by A MAN AND WOMAN both in their 60s.

Leo looks VISIBLY SHAKEN, frozen for a moment.

LEO

Oh, umm, okay, fine. But I really think I should be a part of this discussion, too.

DR. FISHMAN

Great. Why don't you have a seat?

She pulls up another chair but Leo just stands next to it, looking at Paige, TRYING TO WILL HER TO SAY SOMETHING.

Finally, Leo extends his hand:

LEO

This is - bizarre - but I'm Leo. Paige's husband.

PAIGE

Sorry, I --

Bill, Paige's dad, shakes his hand.

BILL

Bill Thornton. Paige's dad. My wife Rita.

Leo shakes her hand, too. Not knowing what else to do, Leo finally ends the uncomfortable moment and sits. Bill puts his arm around Paige.

BILL (CONT'D)

(to Leo)

I don't understand why we weren't called. Do you know how disconcerting it was to hear second-hand that my daughter had been in the ICU for weeks and we didn't know?

LEO

I- I'm sorry.

DR. FISHMAN

What I was explaining before you arrived is that Paige's fine motor and gross motor skills are fairing perfectly well. And she's able to form new memories - ones since she's been out of the coma. She does however, seem to be suffering from "retrograde amnesia" which means that some events prior to the trauma aren't currently being accessed.

LEO

Will her memory improve with time?

DR. FISHMAN

Honestly, it's too early say whether it's permanent or reversible, but I'm very hopeful.

BILL

Whatever she needs, therapies, specialists - I'll make sure she has the best.

DR. FISHMAN

I'm going to recommend she see a neuropsychologist who will oversee Paige's further rehabilitation as the brain heals. For now, getting a lot of rest will help her tremendously...

BILL

Mom can help her with that. She keeps the house so warm people nod off immediately upon entry.

Paige and her dad share a smile. Leo is growing more agitated.

DR. FISHMAN

...And just getting back to her normal routine as much as possible. The more she settles back into her life, the better.

BILL

Okay, well, you just outline it for us. Write everything down. We will follow it to a tee.

LEO

What do you mean?

BILL

I just want to make sure that when we get Paige home, we know exactly what needs to be done.

LEO

Look, I don't mean to be disrespectful, but her doctor just recommended that she go back to her normal routine. I'm her normal routine. Her life with her husband is her normal routine.

BILL

A husband she doesn't remember.

LEO

She will. That's what her doctor just got done telling us.

BILL

She said "maybe" Paige would remember. Until then, why not let her recover with people she knows. And loves. I just want to do what's best for her.

LEO

Well, it's interesting that you haven't even asked her.

Leo looks at Paige. Paige can't commit either way.

LEO (CONT'D)

I know it's hard, babe. You've been through a lot, but I think you should be the one to decide where you want...

PAIGE

(hostile)

What I really want is to go lay down. Can you guys take this somewhere else?

Leo looks from Bill to Paige, decides not to press it further.

INT. PAIGE'S UPGRADED HOSPITAL ROOM - DAY

Paige lays down. Her head slowly presses into the foam pillow. She looks lost, sad, and confused. She closes her eyes and we-

FADE TO BLACK.

INT. HOSPITAL CORRIDOR - NEXT MORNING

Paige heads down the hall when she passes the waiting room. She sees Leo slumped in a chair, dead asleep. He's surrounded by magazines, newspapers, food wrappers - he's clearly been here for quite a while.

She watches him for a moment, continues down the hall, then stops, returns to the waiting room. She looks at Leo intently for a second, then approaches.

She nudges his chair a little with her hip. He doesn't wake.

Finally, she taps him on the arm. He looks up at her.

LEO
(still coming to)
Hey...

PAIGE
What are you up to?

Leo looks a little confused.

LEO
Uhhh, sleeping...

PAIGE
You hungry?

Paige just stares at him. Leo smiles.

INT. HOSPITAL CAFETERIA - DAY

Leo and Paige move side by side in line, perusing various flavors of jello.

PAIGE
So, I wanted to - verify - a few things
with you. About us. About me.

LEO

Great.

PAIGE

We're married.

LEO

Yes.

PAIGE

I have a weird haircut.

LEO

I think that's taking a narrow view.

PAIGE

I live - wait - where do I live?

LEO

We have an apartment in Wrigleyville. We have a cat named Hernia. Your studio is in a warehouse near Chinatown. What else? We gave up Thai food when you saw the fat content of coconut milk --

PAIGE

My studio? Why do I have a studio?

LEO

Well, right now you're working on four pieces for the lobby of the Tribune Tower. Which is huge. Everyone in town wanted that commission, but your show at the MCA's 12x12 was amazing, so you won it.

Leo looks at Paige, sees she's totally lost.

LEO (CONT'D)

You're an artist. A sculptor. A really good one.

Paige doesn't get it.

PAIGE

That's what I did with my law degree?

LEO

Umm --

PAIGE

I don't have a law degree?

LEO

I think you were a few credits shy.

Leo heads off towards a table. Paige stands there, trying to process this information.

INT. HOSPITAL CAFETERIA - A LITTLE LATER

Paige and Leo sit across from each other at a table. Paige looks at him - not quite understanding.

PAIGE

The last time I was interested in art I was like - 9. What I remember is being in law school, being close with my family, being engaged to Jeremy -

Leo winces at that - Paige notices.

PAIGE (CONT'D)

I'm sorry, but that's all I know.

LEO

It's okay. I can't even begin to imagine what this must be like. And what I don't want is to make this harder for you...

Leo looks Paige in the eyes.

LEO (CONT'D)

But I really think that the best thing to do at this point is go back to your life. With me. You heard what the doctor said - that's what's going to help you recover.

Paige thinks about this.

PAIGE

Okay...So...I don't know you at all, and what - I'm just supposed to get in your car, and go live in your apartment -

LEO

Our apartment -

PAIGE

Whatever. Without any - evidence? Of us being in love?

LEO

Other than our marriage?

PAIGE

Lots of people get married for reasons other than love. Like maybe I married you for money -

LEO

I'm broke.

PAIGE

Or to get you a green card -

LEO

I'm from Cincinnati.

Paige takes a different tack.

PAIGE

Did I keep a journal?

LEO

I don't think so.

PAIGE

Do you have any pictures of us together?

LEO

On me? Uh...no. I do at home...?

Paige looks Leo in the eye, sizing him up.

PAIGE

So you've got nothing?

She walks off and we HOLD ON Leo who looks upset at himself.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - LATER

Paige comes out of the bathroom in her room in a short dress, long cardigan and boots. She is clearly not happy with her outfit. Paige's parents look on.

PAIGE

This was all he could find?

RITA

You look fine, dear.

Dr. Fishman enters before Paige can respond.

DR. FISHMAN

I hear you're leaving us, Mrs. Cowan.

PAIGE

That's what they tell me.

DR. FISHMAN

I'd like to see her again in a week.

He hands Bill a card.

DR. FISHMAN (CONT'D)

Just to be clear, Paige's kind of brain injury can have an adverse affect on a her ability to operate a vehicle safely, so shouldn't be driving until she's assessed by a certified specialist. Some patients are ready to resume driving within a few months of their injury, others may not be ready for years. We have to take it case by case.

LEO (O.S.)

Hold on.

Paige turns to see Leo in the doorway. He pulls out his CELL PHONE.

LEO (CONT'D)

I saved a voicemail from you. From when we started dating. You said you wanted evidence...

Paige considers this.

PAIGE

Okay. Let's take a listen.

Leo calls his voicemail, puts it on speaker.

VOICEMAIL (O.S.)

(on speaker)

First saved message.

BEEP.

PAIGE'S RECORDED VOICE

(on speaker)

Hey - it's me. Paige. Wow. I think this was our first "it's me" message. Too soon? Probably. Considering I had to follow it with my name I guess I would say definitely. Anyway. Just calling to see what's up. Call me. It's Paige.

BEEP. Leo looks somewhat disappointed by the message.

LEO

Okay - so in listening to it again I
guess it doesn't really prove anything -
but -

PAIGE

No - it's cute. I sound - happy.

Leo smiles. Even Paige gives a small smile, but she still
appears un-convinced. He steps closer, lowers his voice.

LEO

Okay. Think about this. You, Paige,
quit law school. You broke off your
engagement. You moved up into the city
and cut off all contact with your family.
What if you go back to your old life and
then suddenly remember what made you
leave it all behind? You left because
you wanted to forget.

Paige takes this in - what he said has clearly affected
her.

LEO (CONT'D)

Come home with me. We'll figure this out
together.

Leo looks at her, determined. Paige is definitely
considering it. She nods.

BILL

This is a mistake, Paige.

LEO

I will take very good care of her, Mr.
Thornton.

He ignores Leo, and looks right at Paige.

BILL

You're coming home with us. It's final.

PAIGE

Dad. We'd just be trying this out. To
see if it will help my memory.

Bill huffs.

PAIGE (CONT'D)

I can always change my mind and come
home. But I have to try. I married him,
right? I'm sure I had *some* reason.

LEO

A guarded endorsement - but I'll take it.

Leo takes a few steps in, picks up Paige's bag. They all stand there, looking at each other.

INT. HOSPITAL CORRIDOR - DAY

Dr. Fishman confers privately with Leo.

DR. FISHMAN

Try to stick to as normal of a routine as is possible. Don't push her. Just let the memories come back to your wife naturally. It'll happen. Her brain just needs time. Answer any questions she raises, but don't try to induce memories. It could make things worse.

Leo nods, dutifully.

EXT. LAKE SHORE DRIVE - DAY

Establishing early spring - receding snow, early buds.

INT. CAR (STATION WAGON) - DAY

Leo drives, Paige sits in the passenger seat. TOTAL SILENCE. FOR AN UNCOMFORTABLE LENGTH OF TIME.

Leo flips on the radio to the same song that was playing just before their accident.

LEO

I can change this -

PAIGE

No, it's fine.

Leo nods, and keeps driving.

PAIGE (CONT'D)

What day is it?

LEO

Saturday.

PAIGE

Who's the president?

LEO

Of the country? Obama.

PAIGE

The senator?

LEO

Yeah.

Another pause while Paige processes.

PAIGE

I still don't understand. Why don't I
talk to my parents?

LEO

(evasive)

That all went down before we met.

PAIGE

We never talked about it?

LEO

We did. You said your dad had some very
strict ideas about who you should be. He
wanted you to stay in law school - you
wanted to come to the city and go to the
Art Institute.

Paige digests this, still sensing that there is more to
the story.

EXT. BRICK APARTMENT BUILDING - DAY

Leo and Paige hike up the back stairs (i.e. fire escape)
of a typical, old style Chicago apartment building. They
make it to their back door.

LEO

Welcome home.

He opens the door for her.

LEO (CONT'D)

After you...

Paige sets foot inside to:

CROWD

SURPRISE!!!!!!

A GROUP of about 25 friends has gathered. Leo looks over
to Paige, expectant. Paige looks confused and tired - but
definitely surprised.

INT. APARTMENT - A LITTLE LATER

Leo loads some ice into a bucket - keeping one eye on Paige, who stands, uncomfortable at the small party, sipping a drink. Sonia and Kyle approach. Sonia envelops Paige in a long, hard hug.

SONIA

Oh my god, is it good to see you.

She looks at Paige, tearing up, and hugs her again. Paige clearly has no recognition.

SONIA (CONT'D)

We were there every day at the hospital -
but Leo didn't want to overwhelm you.
Shit - we miss you.

She hugs her a third time.

PAIGE

I'm guessing we're close.

Sonia looks at her, gauging her seriousness.

SONIA

Right. I'm Sonia. This is my boyfriend
Kyle.

KYLE

Hey, Paige.

SONIA

And -- let me introduce you to some more
people.

PAIGE

That's okay.

But she's already waving them over.

SONIA

This is Jim. And Lily.

Paige nods, growing more uneasy by the second.

JIM

You look great, Paige.

LILY

Were you like working out at the
hospital? This is ridiculous. You look
perfect.

Lily hugs her. Josh approaches, too.

SONIA

And Josh. Also a good friend of yours.

LILY

If that's what you call getting drunk and putting your hand on her boob.

JOSH

One time. I was reaching for the remote.
(to Paige)
You know I didn't mean it, right?

Paige is now beyond overwhelmed.

PAIGE

Sorry - I - excuse me.

She walks away from the group. Leo watches as Paige heads down the hall, alone, looking for the bedroom.

INT. BEDROOM - A LITTLE LATER

Paige sits at a vanity table in the bedroom. She's looking with interest at "her" things - notes and pictures slipped into the mirror frame, the makeup on the table, etc. - when Leo knocks and enters.

LEO

You okay?

PAIGE

What do you think?

LEO

I know. It's a lot to take in.

Paige looks up at him. She is not smiling.

PAIGE

No. A lot to take in would have been coming home to a strange apartment, with a man I don't know, surrounded by shit I don't remember. That would have been a lot to take in. But coming home to all of that, plus a house full of people hugging me and pulling at me and crying in my face and talking to me about more shit that I don't remember -- that's not a lot to take in. That's total bullshit.

LEO

I wanted the party to be smaller - but everyone really wanted to see you.

PAIGE

Oh, really? Is that what they wanted? Because at the hospital I thought you were selling me on how you were going to help me, protect me, take care of me. Isn't that what you said?

LEO

You're right. I just --

PAIGE

JUST GET OUT PLEASE!

LEO

Paige -

PAIGE

Please! I HAVE A CLINICALLY BAD GODDAMN HEADACHE! HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO REMEMBER ANYTHING IF YOU ARE ALWAYS TALKING?

Leo looks momentarily stunned by the outburst. He doesn't move.

PAIGE (CONT'D)

Are you seriously not going to leave me alone?

LEO

Sorry. Of course, I will.

Leo, still looking blindsided, leaves and softly shuts the door behind him.

Paige looks back at the vanity - at the notes she has written to herself - and then at her own face, with the frightening sensation that she does not altogether recognize what she sees.

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

The room is littered with the remnants of a party that ended hastily. Leo makes a bed for himself on the couch. The light under the bedroom door goes out.

INT. APARTMENT / BEDROOM - THE NEXT MORNING

Paige, freshly showered and wearing just a towel, rifles through her underwear drawer which contains exclusively thongs. She looks dismayed, but with no options she slides a pair on under her towel.

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

Leo gets up, scratches the way men do.

INT. BEDROOM - DAY

Paige, in her bra and thong panties, stands looking at her clothing options. She flips through some hangers, not seeing anything that pleases her - when Leo walks in.

LEO

Morning.

PAIGE

What are you-

Leo is momentarily thrown.

LEO

Sorry, I didn't know you were-

Paige quickly pulls on a shirt.

PAIGE

You didn't knock.

LEO

I just needed to use the, ya'know... I didn't realize you were-

He squeezes by her to get them.

LEO (CONT'D)

I'm used to us both coming and going.
It's just - habit. I'm sorry, babe.

There's that word again - "babe." They stand in silence - in the close quarters - for a moment. Leo goes into the bathroom, closes the door.

INT. APARTMENT - LATER

Paige, looking slightly more relaxed, wearing jeans and a Chicago JazzFest sweatshirt. Leo is cleaning up from the party. He looks at her, not sure of her mood given last night's outburst and the morning's awkwardness.

LEO

You look nice.

She manages a smile.

PAIGE

This sweatshirt is about the only piece of my clothing that I feel comfortable wearing.

LEO

It's actually mine.

Paige LAUGHS and wanders into the kitchen, opening up every cabinet searching for a glass. Leo watches her as she pours a glass of orange juice, sits down, drinks it. She looks up - he's still just watching her.

PAIGE

Is this our usual morning routine?

LEO

Hmmmm?

PAIGE

I drink orange juice, you watch silently but with interest.

LEO

No. I just, I'm still figuring this out, too.

PAIGE

There's nothing to figure out. Do your thing. Go about your day. You work, right?

LEO

I think so. If I'm still in business. I haven't been there in a while. Things may have totally imploded.

PAIGE

I can imagine.

Leo considers this.

LEO

You remember what I do?

PAIGE

No. But imploding is descriptive.

Leo sits down.

LEO

I actually went into business for myself because of you. You were really the one who encouraged me to do it. See, I was working on Division Street for this --

She stops him.

PAIGE

You don't have to rehash it all for me now. Go to work.

(teasing)

You can make me some flash cards later.

LEO

You sure?

PAIGE

Yeah. I'm fine.

He gets up - not sure whether to hug her or shake her hand. He awkwardly taps her shoulder - then clears her juice glass. The awkward tension is palpable.

LEO

If you need me, all my numbers are on the fridge.

Paige nods but doesn't say anything.

Leo leaves, and Paige wanders off to explore the apartment for clues about her life.

QUICK CUTS OF PAIGE:

- STARING, CONFUSED, AT TWO BLACK AND WHITE NUDE PHOTOGRAPHS ON THE WALL OF THE BATHROOM
- FLIPPING THROUGH THEIR DVD COLLECTION, LOOKING CURIOUSLY AT AN ENTIRE SHELF OF TITLES IN VARIOUS FOREIGN LANGUAGES
- PERUSING THEIR BOOK COLLECTION - HER EYES FINALLY LANDING ON SOMETHING SHE LIKES -- HER HIGH SCHOOL YEARBOOK. SHE OPENS IT, FLIPS THROUGH IT - FINALLY A SMILE OF RECOGNITION.

She starts excitedly looking up names in the yearbook index - names she remembers.

INT. RECORDING STUDIO - OFFICE - DAY

Leo enters a tiny office outside a small - but seemingly well equipped - recording studio. Lily sits on a chair across from him. He unwinds his scarf.

LEO

What'd I miss? Fill me in.

LILY

That guy - "Pointy Shoes" - he's a really bad kisser. I don't think I'm gonna keep him in rotation.

LEO

I meant around here, the last six weeks.

LILY

Honestly? It's been hell. Yesterday Dune Advertising and Treble were somehow double-booked...? I fired that "receptionist" - she gives blondes a bad rap.

LEO

Too many clients is a high-class problem.

LILY

Yeah, well with only one studio, it was pretty impossible to take both gigs.

LEO

Dune's a big account. They should always be prioritized. You know that.

LILY

Treble was IN the studio when the Dune dudes showed up. They weren't flexible and re-booked over at SoundSpace.

LEO

What the hell, Lil?

LILY

Look, I can't run the sessions and handle account services. This isn't a one-woman operation.

LEO

It's not like I flaked. Come on! It's been hard for me, too.

LILY

I get it. I'm not mad. I'm just saying
I need you back. Shit's slipping.

LEO

Well, I'm back now.

LILY

(concerned)

What about Paige?

LEO

She's getting there, thanks. It's gonna
be fine.

Lily nods, "okay."

EXT. STREET - DAY

Paige comes out of their building, clutching her yearbook.
She looks down the street both ways - up at the street
signs - and decides to just start walking.

She makes her way through a gritty section of Chicago -
head shops, bars that don't open for several hours, etc.
Finally, she spots "EL BURRITO MEXICANO" and makes a
beeline.

INT. EL BURRITO MEXICANO - DAY

Paige blows inside. She stands and squints at the hand-
scrawled menu, which is mostly in Spanish. AN OLDER LADY
stares blankly at her from behind the counter.

PAIGE

Do you have just like a plain cheese
enchilada without sauce?

OLDER LADY

(puzzled)

So you don't want the usual?

PAIGE

I have a usual? Perfect. The usual.

OLDER LADY

Extra guac extra cholula?

PAIGE

Uh. Okay.

Paige watches with trepidation as the older lady assembles
a giant tostada with all kinds of weird looking stuff on
it.

She puts that on a tray, then fills a glass with some white liquid she ladles from a big, old Sparkletts jug. She puts both items on a tray - and hands it to Paige.

PAIGE (CONT'D)

So what exactly is in the -

She points to the glass of white stuff -

OLDER LADY

The horchata? It's a milk drink. But not milk.

Paige feigns understanding, pays, and sits. She takes a tentative sip. She looks pleasantly surprised.

PAIGE

It's good.

The older lady smiles, and nods, and goes back to work. Paige happily sips her newly discovered treat, and goes back to flipping through her yearbook.

EXT. CHICAGO STREET - DAY

Not many people are out on the street. Paige barrels down to the end of the block, squints to see across the street, and then doubles back. She looks up at the street sign, then doubles back again. She is clearly lost.

EXT. ANOTHER CHICAGO STREET - A LITTLE LATER

Paige, frustrated, walks past a record store/gallery/T-shirt shop. She passes it, then goes back and goes in.

INT. T-SHIRT SHOP - DAY

Paige pretends to look at the merchandise for a moment, and then turns to the FUNKY CLERK.

PAIGE

Do you think I could borrow your phone for a sec? I know this sounds totally Paddington Bear but I don't even know my address, and I'm lost.

He looks at her.

FUNKY CLERK

Yeah. No problem. What's the number?

She stares at him.

FUNKY CLERK (CONT'D)

Do you know the number?

PAIGE

I do. It's 309-497-8558.

He dials, and hands her the receiver.

PAIGE (CONT'D)

(into phone)

Hi. It's me.

EXT. T-SHIRT SHOP - DAY

Paige stands outside. A BLUE LEXUS pulls up and parks.

We see Paige's face visibly change - all of the stress and worry falls away - and she just looks PEACEFUL. CONTENT. SHE SMILES WIDE.

PAIGE

Thank you for coming. I didn't know who else to call.

REVEAL Rita walking towards Paige. They hug tight.

RITA

I'm your mom. I'm always who to call.

Paige fights tears as she hugs her mom.

INT. APARTMENT - EVENING

Leo is alone in the apartment, on the phone, pacing - clearly concerned.

LEO

(into the phone)

Okay, yes, please keep an eye out for her...thanks, Sonia.

Just as he hangs up, we hear a KEY slide into the lock.

Paige walks in. Her hair pulled back in a low ponytail, she's wearing tailored pants and a thin cashmere sweater - she looks nice, but different.

LEO (CONT'D)

(covering anger)

Hey...

PAIGE

Hey.

She seems - almost - happy.

LEO

(stern)

Where were you?

PAIGE

I wasn't sure what time you get home.

LEO

I was worried. I thought something might have happened to you.

PAIGE

I called my mom. I was lost. Physically. I mean, mentally also, I guess, but...

LEO

You should have called me. Was it awkward, with your mom I mean?

PAIGE

No, it was good. Great. She came and got me - we did a little get reacquainted shopping at Banana -

She does a little Vanna White-ing to show her new outfit -

PAIGE (CONT'D)

And all of a sudden it made no sense that I'm not spending time with them.

Leo is clearly thrown, but tries to roll with it.

LEO

Okay....

Paige looks at him.

PAIGE

She invited us over for dinner.

LEO

We're having dinner with your parents?

PAIGE

You don't have to go.

LEO

Well, you can't drive, so I do have to go. But that's not the point.

PAIGE

Then what's the point?

LEO

The point is that I just want you to be sure about getting back in with them.

PAIGE

They're all I can frickin' remember. I don't remember you, and I don't remember "us." So they're the only thing I *am* sure about.

This clearly stings Leo but he covers.

PAIGE (CONT'D)

(softening)

Maybe my memory will come back tomorrow, and I'll remember what a great guy you are and everything, but for now all I know is that these are the people who love me.

Leo takes this in.

LEO

Okay. We'll go.

Leo turns around and grabs his keys.

PAIGE

But you should probably change.

Leo rolls his eyes. This is going to be a long night.

INT. CAR - DUSK

The quiet streets of Bloomington, Illinois. Leo drives, Paige navigates, a bouquet of flowers in her lap.

PAIGE

It's just a left here at the Caldwell's -

Leo looks at her, amazed at her recall.

PAIGE (CONT'D)

And then right at the cul-de-sac and we're six houses in on the right. With the green front door.

(beat)

Hey, look. The Prestleys got a new mailbox. Cute.

She looks out the windshield expectantly -

PAIGE (CONT'D)

Does this arrangement say "I'm sorry we haven't spoken, but now that I have a brain injury maybe you can overlook it"?

Leo smiles.

PAIGE (CONT'D)

What?

LEO

You might have considered a bouquet of "forget-me-nots"...?

Paige isn't used to his sense of humor. She manages a half-smile. Leo SIGHS.

Leo pulls up in front of the house - a classic suburban dream home built in the '60s. Paige looks like she's just reached nirvana.

EXT. HOUSE - SAME

Paige and Leo make their way up the walkway. Paige, chatters excitedly.

PAIGE

So, you met my mom and dad. My dad will say to call him Bill, but I'd just stick with Mr. Thornton. And my sister's name is Gwen. She's younger.

LEO

We're married. I know a lot about them.

Paige shows a look of concern at what she might have told him as she RINGS the doorbell. GWEN, 24 and very pretty, opens the door.

INT. HOUSE - SAME

Gwen looks at Paige for a long moment. She is not smiling, and it's hard to read her.

GWEN

(flat)

It's been a long time.

PAIGE

(genuine)

It's really good to see you.

Paige pulls Gwen into a hug, and then takes in her sister.

PAIGE (CONT'D)

You look great.

GWEN

You look like you've been attacked by a mountain lion.

Paige LAUGHS. Gwen gently touches her bandage, trying to be nicer.

GWEN (CONT'D)

How are you feeling?

PAIGE

A little tired. But fine.

Rita and Bill file into the hallway.

RITA

Hi, sweetheart.

Bill goes to hug Paige.

BILL

It's really nice to have you here, honey.

Paige looks around at the house.

PAIGE

I know it's been a while - but for me it feels like I was just here, sitting around in the den listening to a well meaning lecture about early contributions to your 401K.

GWEN

See, my favorite was always the lecture on getting regular teeth cleanings.

Bill takes the ribbing well.

BILL

I just want to make sure my girls are well taken care of.

Leo stands there - feeling on the outside once again. He extends his hand to Gwen.

LEO

I don't think we've met. I'm--

PAIGE

Sorry. Gwen, this is Leo. My - uh - husband.

He and Gwen exchange an awkward handshake/hug hybrid. No one knows quite what to say. Finally:

RITA

Well - come on in, everyone. I don't know why we all stand around in the foyer - it's the draftiest spot in the house.

The rest of the family follows, Leo bringing up the rear.

INT. DINING ROOM - NIGHT

Leo and Paige are seated at the dining room table with Rita, Bill, Gwen and Gwen's fiancée RYAN. It's subtle, but throughout the scene, Gwen essentially ignores Paige.

RITA

Well, I would love for you all to dig in - but I think we need a toast. Bill?

She looks at Bill. He lifts his glass.

BILL

I would like to drink to this family.

They all lift their glasses. Leo's not sure whether to join in, but finally lifts his glass, too.

BILL (CONT'D)

Leo...what about your family? Do you see them?

LEO

Uh, no.

BILL

That's a shame. I am so fortunate to have these three ladies in my life - and when we are all together - that fortune just multiplies.

LEO

My parents are both dead. Paige is my family now.

Paige looks around. Rita digs into her food. Bill isn't about to apologize. Gwen deftly changes the conversation.

GWEN

So, at first Ryan and I were thinking of the Caribbean for our big day-

BILL

But I just don't think it's fair to have our friends pay all that money just to go to the wedding.

RYAN

My parents think the same thing.

BILL

So, they're doing it right here at our beautiful courthouse in Bloomington.

For some reason, they look to Leo.

LEO

Oh. Great!

GWEN

Dad's a judge, so he can officiate - but I'm leaving that decision up to Ryan.

Leo looks to Bill, trying to give him a conspiratorial wink.

LEO

Right. But if he doesn't let you, you can really nail him in unpaid parking tickets, right?

Leo smiles at his joke. No one else does. Paige tries to disappear, but Rita takes pity.

RITA

So, what do you do, Leo?

LEO

I actually just opened my own recording studio in the city.

Paige seems surprised.

PAIGE

You did?

Leo nods, amused. Ryan pipes up.

RYAN

Isn't that sort of a dying field?

Gwen shoots Ryan a look.

RYAN (CONT'D)

I just mean - you know - can't people just record stuff at home on the their computers that sounds just as good?

GWEN

Ryan -

LEO

It's okay. He's right. But -

(he thinks about it)

I don't know. I play guitar, used to be in a band, and over the years I started collecting, you know, vintage amps and mics, old sound boards and stuff - a Quad Eight, an RCA 76D, a few Shure 55's - just cause I liked the way they looked - I liked fixing them up, became sort of a passion. And it was Paige actually who convinced me to turn it into a business.

PAIGE

I did?

BILL

A born corporate litigator - Paige. She has always had a head for business.

Paige and her dad share a smile. Leo forces one too as he barrels ahead.

LEO

Anyway. The records I like - they have space - and air - and - heart. I mean - like - the slapback on Scotty Moore's guitar on "Mystery Train" - you can't get that in your bedroom on your computer. You need a live room. You *need* magnetic tape. You need a couple of 2 inch machines running at 15 ips. So - to answer your question - yeah, this may be a dying field. You can record high quality stuff at home. But, I mean - come on. You're not gonna get the Sun Sessions on a Mac.

Leo looks around, pretty pleased with how he's made his point. But no one has any idea what the hell he's been talking about so no one knows how to react - especially Paige.

INT. RUBY TUESDAY'S - NIGHT

Leo and Paige follow, single file, behind Gwen and Ryan as they make their way through the very crowded bar, as Jimmy Buffet blares.

GWEN

(shouting over the music)
I heard everyone was gonna be here tonight, but I know you guys have to drive back to the city...

LEO

Yeah, we might want to call it a night.

Just as Leo turns to look at Paige for an answer, they make it to a CROWDED TABLE. As soon as they see Paige, most of them get up to hug her. There is SHRIEKING and a flurry of very similar looking sweaters. Leo stands by as Paige hugs it out. Again, it takes a moment before she remembers Leo.

PAIGE

Sorry. It's so loud in here. Leo, these are my friends from high school - Shana, Lizbet, Carrie.

She points to a couple guys at the table.

PAIGE (CONT'D)

Oh my god, are you still with Mitch?

Shana nods.

PAIGE (CONT'D)

That's awesome. That's Mitch and -

She turns around, and she's face to face with a tall, handsome guy in suit. They lock eyes. There is clearly something there. She forgets to keep talking.

LEO

(under his breath)
Jeremy.

PAIGE

Jeremy. This is Jeremy.

Leo nods hello.

JEREMY

Paige. It's been a long time.

PAIGE

Has it? Gosh, it doesn't feel like it.
You have not changed a bit.

She's FLIRTING.

LEO

I'm Leo. Paige's husband.

Shana pulls them over.

SHANA

(sotto to Paige)

Hottie!

(to them both)

Sit, you guys. What is happening? Did
you hear that Leigha North already had
baby #2? And Mara is getting divorced?

PAIGE

Really?

LIZBET

I know. Crazy, right?

Leo is grasping.

LEO

So, what do you guys do?

LIZBET

Pharmaceutical sales.

CARRIE

Insurance adjuster.

SHANA

HR.

LEO

Cool.

JEREMY

I'm gonna grab a drink. Anyone need
anything?

PAIGE

A blueberry mojito.

JEREMY

I remember.

LEO

Blueberry mojito? Really?

She nods.

JEREMY

Anyone else?

Jeremy heads to the bar. Paige watches him go. And Leo watches Paige.

SHANA

Oh my god, Paige, remember the time I was curling your hair for the ninth grade Christmas dance, and I got the curling iron stuck? I panicked, and couldn't get it out, but I didn't turn it off, and we ended up burning off like half your hair.

PAIGE

I *do* remember.

Paige LAUGHS.

PAIGE (CONT'D)

I had to wear a beret to the dance. Why can't I forget *that* stuff?

LIZBET

Wasn't that the dance with the weird DJ with that giant puppet? That guy freaked me out.

They all LAUGH. Leo looks on, completely out of the conversation.

INT. CHICAGO CONVENTION CENTER - DAY

Leo and Lily walk through the lobby of the convention center. Leo wears a badge around his neck, Lily carries a folder.

LEO

It was bizarre. She was like this sweater-set wearing, mojito-drinking, ex-sorority girl person - not the Paige I moved in with three years ago and asked to marry me.

LILY

Like a Stepford wife?

LEO

Basically. And she was even flirting with Jeremy right in front of me -

LILY
Ex-fiancee Jeremy?

LEO
Well, in her mind, he's still current-fiancee Jeremy, which is why it probably annoyed her that her stranger-husband was cock-blocking him.

LILY
That's a lot to get my mind around.

They sit outside the meeting room.

LEO
As she remembers it, she was about to marry Jeremy. And I could literally see her heart go pitter-pat when she saw him. I think she's still in love. With him.

LILY
Shit.

LEO
I know.

They sit and ponder for a moment.

LEO (CONT'D)
So I guess it's time to go in there and network with the fascinating members of the pro audio world.

They get up. She smooths his hair, straightens his badge.

LILY
For what it's worth, I think you just have act "as if."

LEO
"As if" what?

LILY
As if everything's normal. Don't pussy-foot around her. She's your wife. You've gotta show her who's boss.

LEO
You sound like a marriage counselor from 2000 BC.

LILY
I'm telling you women love that shit.

Leo honestly can't tell if she's being ironic or not.

INT. APARTMENT - NIGHT

The living room furniture has been moved to the edges of the room. And there is a line down the center of the room - made from papers, photos, books, etc. - which Hernia steps across. Paige sits on the floor of the room, arranging things in the line, when Leo walks in. He studies her, and what she's doing, and looks a little mystified.

LEO

Hey...

PAIGE

Oh, hey. How was the trade-show thing?
Sorry about this.

He puts down his things.

LEO

No. No problem. Overwhelming. Glad to
be home. With you.

He leans down and KISSES her. She involuntarily stiffens. Leo notices, SIGHS, then leans in to see her handiwork more closely.

LEO (CONT'D)

Are you collaging?

PAIGE

Did I ever collage?

LEO

Not that I remember.

PAIGE

Seeing everybody last night inspired me.

LEO

To collage?

PAIGE

So many memories came flooding back at
the bar, so I'm making a timeline.

LEO

(excited)

Oh, that's great. That's a great idea.

He sits next to her, notices a pile of photos of the two of them (including the SNAPSHOT from Lollapalooza) discarded off to the side.

PAIGE

I hope you don't mind, I rifled through some things.

LEO

It's fine. What's mine is yours. I have the certificate from the state of Illinois to prove it.

Paige points to the floor.

PAIGE

Yeah. I found that. It's here - in "The Lost Years."

Paige points to a pile of stuff, separate from the rest.

PAIGE (CONT'D)

See, I started over here. I found some pictures of my family when I was little, a spelling bee trophy, my yearbook, a bronze bust I did of our family dog - but that was easy to put into chronological order because I remember all of that stuff.

LEO

That's good.

PAIGE

I guess. But I was trying to pinpoint the time when my memory stops. Like trying to find the very last memory I have before it went blank.

LEO

How'd you do?

PAIGE

I think I was at Macaroni Grill.

LEO

Why?

PAIGE

I love that place.

LEO

Oh, it's just, you never mentioned it -

PAIGE

And I was asking if they had those special toasted ravioli, and I don't even remember the answer. That is the last memory I have - until I woke up at the hospital.

LEO

Oh no. How will we ever know if they had the ravioli?

Paige points back at the timeline.

PAIGE

It was the summer after my first year of law school, which makes it almost five years ago. I was doing a clerkship and spending most of my weekends at my parents' cottage in Michigan. And I was eating at Macaroni Grill with my mom. That's the last thing I remember.

LEO

So that was here -

He points to the timeline, covered with report cards, etc.

LEO (CONT'D)

And I came in here -

He looks at the BIG PATCH OF NOTHING that is Leo's presence in her life. Leo and Paige both stand there for a long moment.

Finally:

LEO (CONT'D)

It'll all come back.

PAIGE

Right.

LEO

We just have to keep doing what we're doing. Let you settle into your life. It'll take care of itself.

Paige nods in agreement, but we see that neither of them is so sure. Leo crosses into the

BATHROOM

and closes the door. His shoulders slump, he drops his messenger bag, and his eyes tear up.

INT. LEO'S APARTMENT - THE NEXT DAY

Leo and Paige are eating breakfast - something that seems to becoming a new routine for them.

PAIGE

So you said at the hospital that I have
some kind of a studio...?

Leo nods.

PAIGE (CONT'D)

Will you show it to me?

Progress...Leo smiles.

EXT. ART STUDIO - DAY

Leo pulls open a giant sliding door leading to a big, raw space. We see several pieces of sculpture, some completed bronze pieces, some unfinished in clay - and giant pieces of equipment for making wax molds, silica molds, pouring bronze, etc. Paige takes it in.

LEO

Isn't it a cool space?

She doesn't answer. It doesn't seem to dampen Leo's spirit.

LEO (CONT'D)

It's the first studio you've ever had to yourself. You weren't sure if you'd like it at first. But then you got the idea to burn this smudge stick that you bought from that guy on the corner of Diversey, so we came in one night and lit it and waved it around, until we realized it was just some pieces of old lettuce. We were waving around burning lettuce. But - it did the trick because after that - I couldn't get you out of here. You cranked your music and get lost in a project and I'd have to call and remind you that it was nighttime.

Leo looks to her, clearly searching for some kind of recognition. Nothing.

LEO (CONT'D)

This is one for the new Tribune Tower series you're doing.

Paige checks it out, runs her fingers down it.

PAIGE

What is it supposed to be?

LEO

I don't know. I don't know if you even knew yet.

Leo hands her a sculpting tool.

LEO (CONT'D)

Here. You wanna try? Help it figure out what it wants to be?

PAIGE

I don't know how to use this.

LEO

Sure you do.

He goes over to the stereo, cranks the stereo. PHOENIX comes BLARING out.

LEO (CONT'D)

That's more like it.

Paige sets the sculpting tool down. Leo picks it back up and hands it back to her.

LEO (CONT'D)

Come on. Try it out. It might be fun.

PAIGE

Please turn the music down.

LEO

I swear, you would listen to it even louder. I never understood how you could-

PAIGE

JUST TURN IT DOWN!

Leo calmly walks over to the stereo, and turns it down. There is a long moment of silence.

PAIGE (CONT'D)

I'm sorry. I don't know why I'm acting like this. Is this what I was like?

LEO

No. You've just been through a lot.

PAIGE

Right. The doctor actually said this was a possible side effect.

Paige sits on a stool, exhales.

PAIGE (CONT'D)

I don't remember feeling this angry.

LEO

I don't think I've seen you this angry.

They consider that.

LEO (CONT'D)

It's a little bit hot.

She looks up at him, and cracks a smile.

PAIGE

What?

LEO

I mean, your eyes get a little bulgy -
and that's not super attractive. But the
passion is sexy.

Paige softens a bit. Leo checks his watch.

LEO (CONT'D)

Shit. I gotta get over to the studio.
You okay here?

She looks around.

PAIGE

Yeah. You go. I'm gonna stay for a
minute.

Leo goes to the door.

LEO

You remember how to get back to our
place?

PAIGE

I'll figure it out.

Leo closes the big sliding door behind him. Paige takes
another look around the studio. There are photos from
magazines, swatches of fabric, flyers for art shows on one
wall.

She runs her fingers over the finished bronze pieces,
impressed that she, apparently, created them.

Next she picks up a "sculpture" off a small pedestal that
is the PILE OF CLAY SCRAPS Leo mistook for her art.

She sets the thing down, slightly perplexed by it and goes over to a row of sculpting tools on a small rolling cart. She pulls one out. And grabs a mound of sculpting clay.

She pulls up a stool, sets the clay down, stares at it.

She hops up, and turns the MUSIC back on. She returns to the clay. And stares at it. And stares at it. She looks around to the works in progress, and then stares at the clay. She is clearly becoming agitated.

She turns the clay over in her hands. Bangs it back down. Finally she picks up the clay - HURLS it across the room.

Her cell phone RINGS. The caller ID reads: MOM.

PAIGE (CONT'D)
(relieved)
Hi, Mom.

INT/EXT. TAXI - DAY

A taxi drives down a quaint suburban street. Paige rides in the back seat.

We see a '70s-era ranch home, with a SOLD sign out front. It has a similar look and feel as Paige's parents' house, only smaller.

INT. SPLIT LEVEL RANCH HOUSE - SAME

There's no furniture yet. Paige's parents, Ryan, and a REALTOR stand around in the kitchen, going over some paperwork. Paige approaches Gwen.

GWEN
What're you doing here?

PAIGE
I had to come see my baby sister close escrow on a house. I hope it's okay I tagged along.

Gwen gives Paige a strained smile. Paige walks over to the sliding doors, looking into the big grassy yard.

PAIGE (CONT'D)
Wow, Gwen. This is really nice. You and Ryan are gonna be so happy here.

She steps out into the yard, taking it all in. Gwen follows.

GWEN

You think?

PAIGE

Yeah. It's perfect.

GWEN

So, do you think you still know what's perfect for me?

Paige looks up at Gwen. She's not smiling.

PAIGE

I don't know - I just think the place looks nice.

GWEN

It is. Thank you. But you don't know Ryan. And you really don't even know me anymore. So I don't think you could know what would make us happy.

Paige takes a moment to process.

PAIGE

That's true. There's a lot I can't remember since the accident.

GWEN

I'm not talking about that. You stopped knowing me a long time before that. It was your choice.

Gwen's voice starts to shake.

GWEN (CONT'D)

I was seventeen, Paige. You left and never spoke to me again.

PAIGE

I'm sorry. I guess I needed out...

GWEN

Yeah? Well, I needed you. I graduated from college. I went to live in Portland for a year even though everyone said I'd never leave home.

PAIGE

I wish I could explain...

GWEN

I had a lump in my neck and it was really scary for a few weeks until the biopsy came back clear. I got my heart broken. I got engaged. I really needed you.

Paige fights tears.

PAIGE

I don't know what I was thinking.

Gwen looks at her sister.

GWEN

When Ryan was going to get transferred to Minneapolis, dad pulled strings, got him a job here, and bought us a house - all because he couldn't handle losing me too.

Paige is not exactly sure how to respond.

PAIGE

Well, that's good, right? I mean, for you?

GWEN

No, it's not good, Paige. I needed my sister. Not a house.

Gwen heads back inside before Paige can even formulate a reply.

EXT. BLOOMINGTON, IL - DOWNTOWN SQUARE - DAY

Paige strolls through downtown Bloomington, looks up at the office buildings surrounding the square. She spots the one she's looking for, and heads towards it.

INT. OFFICE BUILDING - SAME

Paige gets out of the elevator and opens the wide double doors marked THE DAVIDSON GROUP.

INT. THE DAVIDSON GROUP - SAME

Paige waves to the RECEPTIONIST.

PAIGE

Hey, Lisa.

The receptionist smiles and looks confused.

RECEPTIONIST

Hey, Paige...?

Paige keeps walking down the hallway, until she gets to an open office door.

INT. OFFICE - SAME

Paige walks into the office, to find Jeremy behind the desk, on the phone.

PAIGE

Hi-ya.

Jeremy looks up, and motions for her to sit.

JEREMY

(into phone)

Can we talk about this later? Something important just popped up...

Jeremy hangs up, smiles at Paige.

PAIGE

It's good to see you.

He gets up from behind his desk.

JEREMY

You, too.

He leans against his desk in front of her. She looks at him, and they hold the gaze for a very long time.

PAIGE

Do you remember that time up at the lake house when you told me you'd always have my back, no matter what?

JEREMY

Yeah, the night in the boathouse.

PAIGE

Right, so can you please tell me what went down? Why I left.

JEREMY

Only you, Paige, can dump a guy and then come back and demand answers.

She looks honestly surprised.

PAIGE

Did I dump you?

JEREMY

A cruel, hard pre-wedding dumping.

PAIGE

No! Why?

Jeremy LAUGHS.

JEREMY

A question that I, and all my friends,
and the two rebound girls, would have all
liked to have the answer to.

Paige looks legitimately confused by this.

PAIGE

Did I have some kind of psychotic break
or something? It seems like I had a
great family, a place in a very
competitive law school, a hot boyfriend,
and I just ditched it all.

JEREMY

Yes. And you sandwiched my compliment in
there, but I got it.

PAIGE

Gwen is pissed, my mom's got her head in
the clouds, my dad fawns all over me -
but no one will just tell me what the
hell happened.

(beat)

So, what the hell happened?

JEREMY

I wish I knew. You started fighting with
your family. You dressed different. You
talked different. You weren't sure about
law school. And you definitely weren't
sure about me anymore.

Paige considers this.

PAIGE

Did I give your ring back?

JEREMY

As a matter of fact, you did.

PAIGE

Who has it now?

Jeremy studies her, knows what she's asking.

JEREMY

No one. Yet. But I've been with Rose - remember - from Gwen's class - for about a year now.

Paige tries to cover any reaction.

JEREMY (CONT'D)

I couldn't wait forever, Paige.

PAIGE

You couldn't have had the foresight to know that I'd have head trauma, forget the breakup, and appear in your office demanding answers? What is wrong with you?

Jeremy looks at her and LAUGHS. He obviously can't help but be charmed by her.

PAIGE (CONT'D)

I guess I should let you get back to work. I honestly didn't even know where I was headed, until I ended up here.

She gets up, so does he. She leans in to give him a hug, but instead turns and KISSES HIM WARMLY ON THE LIPS.

They hold the kiss for a long moment, before he pulls back. He looks at her, trying to figure out what is going on. She does not look away.

JEREMY

I was not expecting -

PAIGE

Sorry. Habit, I guess.

She's smiling, still holding his gaze.

INT. EL TRAIN - DAY

Paige rides alone, lost deep in thought.

INT. LEO'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Paige is writing a LONG NOTE. Hernia nuzzles her. Leo enters through the front door with a bouquet of flowers, and Paige crumples up the note and pockets it.

LEO

I thought it was getting a little dreary looking in here, so I got us some-

Leo stops, notices a packed DUFFLE BAG at Paige's feet.
We also hear A TOILET FLUSH in the bathroom.

LEO (CONT'D)
(re: the person in the
bathroom)
Someone's here?

PAIGE
(a little guilty)
Yes.

LEO
Jeremy?

PAIGE
What? No. My dad.

LEO
So, you're moving back to your parents'?

Bill joins them.

PAIGE
Not moving. My sister is up to her
eyeballs in wedding planning.

BILL
We all thought Paige could come home and
help her out.

Leo looks at Paige, stung.

PAIGE
It seemed like the right thing. To be
there for Gwen.

LEO
Okay. But what about your life here?
What about the work you have to finish?

PAIGE
The people at the Tribune were really
understanding about the accident. And my
dad loaned me the money to pay back their
advance. I just - I don't know. I can't
do it.

As they're talking, Leo notices PAIGE'S LEFT HAND. WITH
NO RING ON IT. He tries hard not to overreact.

BILL
Look, we know you've had to chauffeur her
around.

(MORE)

BILL (CONT'D)

And that can't be easy for you,
especially when your business is
struggling. Let me help you out.

Bill pulls out this wallet.

LEO

I'm not taking your money.
(beat)
And you don't know anything about my
business.

It is starting to get a little heated.

BILL

I just think you might need to think
about what's best for Paige.

LEO

What's best for Paige is for her memory
to return, which won't happen if she's
not living her life.

BILL

And if it doesn't come?

LEO

Then it doesn't. But she's still Paige.
And she's still my wife.

PAIGE

It's just until the wedding, Leo.

BILL

Exactly. And Rita and I have discussed
it, and if you can come out and see us as
much as you like.

LEO

Can we just talk about this?

Bill smiles, affable.

BILL

You know what? I'll take Paige's bag to
the car. Honey, you just come out when
you're ready.

He takes Paige's bag and leaves.

PAIGE

I should have told you the plan.

LEO

It's okay. I just want you to be careful.

PAIGE

I'm not joining a cult. I'm going to stay with my parents.

LEO

I know. And I know your dad means well. But-

PAIGE

But - what?

Leo looks at Paige for a beat, thinking, then brushes it off.

LEO

But nothing. It'll be fine.

(then)

Can I give you an awkward hug?

She smiles.

PAIGE

The more awkward the better.

They hug. She goes, leaving Leo alone. He looks brokenhearted.

INT. RECORDING STUDIO - DAY

FOUR SEXY GIRLBAND CHICKS are in the studio, with their instruments. Lily sits in the control booth, when Leo comes in. Beard shaven, hair cut, wool sweater over an oxford shirt. He looks good - but more conventional.

LILY

Hey. You look different.

LEO

Yeah? I was going for a Vampire Weekend kind of thing -

LILY

I'm gonna say more "Father Knows Best" but whatever. Still good.

Leo looks into the booth, sees the girls.

LEO

Whoa, where'd you find them?

LILY
I'm a woman of mystery, Leo.

Leo motions to the girls in the booth where the bass player, SHELLY, is playing one note OVER AND OVER.

LEO
And these girls are...

LILY
The Wasteoids.

Lily talks into the mic to the girls in the booth.

LILY (CONT'D)
(into mic)
Okay. Levels sound good. Let's just go for it.

GINA
She is going for it.

Leo and Lily look at each other.

LILY
(into mic)
The bass line is one note? Okay. Cool.
Take 2.

Shelly rocks out to his one note. Leo grabs some papers.

LEO
Last night I realized - things might not go back to normal. I know the doctor said that we should just go back to our lives, but it's not working.
(beat)
I'm constantly on eggshells around my own wife.

Lily leans over to the mic again.

LILY
(into mic)
Nice job, Shelly. Let's just take it again from the top. Or the middle. Wherever.

Shelly nods, into it.

LEO
I'm gonna be in and out for a while.

Lily cocks her head, concerned.

LEO (CONT'D)

If Paige is with her family in
Bloomington, that's where I have to be.

LILY

Okay, this may seem like an odd question -
but how do you feel about her?

LEO

What do you mean? She's my wife. I love
her.

LILY

I know. But, if what you're saying is
right, and things don't go back to
normal...you just need to make sure that
this Paige is the one you're in love
with. You know?

Leo looks determined.

LEO

I need to go make my wife fall in love
with me again.

INT. THORNTON HOUSE - NIGHT

Paige sits, in comfy sweats, watching TV. Bill comes in
with a pizza, Rita's got the plates.

RITA

I couldn't resist getting your favorite,
honey. Stuffed with sausage and spinach.

PAIGE

(smiling)

Isn't that kind of your favorite?

Rita LAUGHS, guilty, as they dig in to the pizza.

RITA

After this, Paige, you and I really have
to start writing out those placecards.

BILL

Before you ladies get started on that, I
have a little surprise for Paige.

He puts a stack of papers in Paige's lap.

PAIGE

What's this?

BILL

You know Ray Porter, taught constitutional law at U of I? He and I were on law review together and have known each other for a thousand years.

PAIGE

Okay...

BILL

He's the dean of the law school now, honey.

Bill looks to Rita, who smiles expectantly.

BILL (CONT'D)

So they are gonna let you back in, no questions asked.

Bill smiles, clearly proud of his work.

PAIGE

But I didn't even apply.

BILL

I took care of all that stuff. I didn't want to bother you with it.

PAIGE

What? Wow that is --

BILL

And they're gonna give you credit for the coursework you completed. Of course, the classes you took an incomplete in, you'll have to retake. But I think that is a very generous deal.

Paige is speechless.

PAIGE

Wow. Dad. Thank you.

She gets up and hugs him.

BILL

Look, honey, I just want to help get you back on your feet. So you stay here with us as long as you want, you can start classes as soon as Monday if you think you're ready. All your friends have been calling again, I know Jeremy is very concerned about your recovery. Everyone just wants to be here for you.

PAIGE

This is so crazy. It's like I'm getting
a free do-over in life.

Bill looks at her.

BILL

You deserve a second shot. I'm just
happy to share it with you.

Paige smiles at her Dad, genuinely happy.

INT. DOCTOR'S OFFICE - DAY

Paige sits, in a paper gown, in the examining room. Rita
casually reads a magazine in the corner. Dr. Fishman
comes enters holding Paige's chart.

DR. FISHMAN

So, how are you feeling, Paige?

PAIGE

I'm actually feeling fine.

DR. FISHMAN

Good. No headaches, disorientation,
sleepiness, dizziness?

She shakes her head.

DR. FISHMAN (CONT'D)

This is great. I'm really happy. Your
CT scan looks excellent.

PAIGE

So, I just come back in three months?

She starts to get up.

DR. FISHMAN

Hold on, there.

She sits back down.

DR. FISHMAN (CONT'D)

Any memory recovery?

PAIGE

Not really.

RITA

(quickly)

Otherwise, Paige seems perfectly herself.

PAIGE

This isn't normal, is it?

DR. FISHMAN

The brain is actually very poorly understood because no two brain injuries are the same, so there's no telling exactly what the response will be. Have you been going to the TBI center on an outpatient basis?

PAIGE

Off and on.

DR. FISHMAN

Doing brain teasers, crosswords, that kind of thing?

She shakes her head "no." He looks at her.

DR. FISHMAN (CONT'D)

Do you want to regain your memory?

PAIGE

Of course.

Dr. Fishman looks at her, trying to make sense of her responses.

DR. FISHMAN

I know some patients fear that when their memory comes back, so will memory of the trauma. But, mercifully, that's rarely the case.

PAIGE

It's not that. I'm not afraid of the accident.

DR. FISHMAN

So what are you afraid of?

PAIGE

It might be easier to just keep things the way they are. What if I don't like the life I had? Or what if I like it too much? I don't know.

Dr. Fishman considers this.

DR. FISHMAN

I only did one psych rotation, so this may be terrible advice. But I think you have to try to fill in the holes. You can still decide you want a different life. But if you don't at least open yourself up to remembering, I'm afraid you'll live in fear of your own past.

Paige looks at her mother, then at him.

PAIGE

That sounded very knowledgeable.

DR. FISHMAN

It did, didn't it? I guess one psych rotation can have a real lasting effect.

Paige LAUGHS, and hops off the table.

INT. THORNTON HOUSE - NIGHT

Gwen and Ryan's engagement party is underway. The crowd is young, casually dressed, with alcohol flowing. The SERVERS circulate with food and drink.

Leo enters, takes it in. Then sees Paige, standing with Jeremy. He watches for a moment as Paige and Jeremy stand close and talk, Paige laughing at something Jeremy said. Leo steels himself, and makes a beeline for them.

LEO

Hey.

She turns, and is clearly a little surprised to see him.

PAIGE

Oh. Hey. Leo.

Leo looks at Jeremy.

LEO

Hey, man. Good to see you again.

They shake hands, as ROSE (20s) joins them. Leo waits a brief moment to see if he will be introduced.

LEO (CONT'D)

(to Rose)

Hey. I'm Leo.

JEREMY

Sorry. This is Rose. My girlfriend.

Leo REALLY PERKS UP upon hearing this.

LEO

Rose. Awesome to meet you. You are pretty, and that is -- great. Really great.

Leo smiles an absurdly big smile.

LEO (CONT'D)

Hey, would you guys mind if I had a little private word with Paige?

JEREMY

Just get her back here for bachelor bingo. She kills.

Leo leads Paige away from the group.

PAIGE

Is everything okay?

Leo steels himself, trying to gain courage.

LEO

So, I've been thinking about something.

PAIGE

Okay....

LEO

What's your favorite book?

She thinks about this.

PAIGE

Well, it'll probably be different than you remember.

LEO

That's fine. It's not about that.

PAIGE

The Beach House by James Patterson.

LEO

(before he can stop himself)
Really?

She shoots him a look.

LEO (CONT'D)

Okay. The Beach House. So, you know how right after you finished The Beach House, maybe you were talking about it with a friend who hadn't read it, or maybe you even lent it to a friend - and you thought "I loved that book so much, I wish I could be that friend who hadn't read it so I could experience it all over again."

PAIGE

Ummm, yeah.

LEO

That's how I think we should look at this. Yeah, you can't remember how we met, or how we fell in love. And in one way, that sucks. But then I thought about it and I thought, how cool it could be if I could experience it all again like it hadn't happened. It was the greatest time in my life - how cool to be able to do it again. It's like being able to read your favorite book for the first time.

Paige thinks about this.

PAIGE

Okay. I like the sound of that.

LEO

So, I want to ask you out on a date. Like any other two people who are just meeting.

Paige smiles.

PAIGE

A date.

LEO

Yes.

PAIGE

Just like every other amnesiac wife has with her husband.

Leo LAUGHS.

LEO

Yes.

PAIGE

I don't know. We've got the wedding coming up...

LEO

Exactly. If we go out before then, you may have the chance to take me as your date.

PAIGE

You think I'd have a shot?

LEO

I can't promise anything.

She LAUGHS. As she thinks about this, she scans the party, where she sees JEREMY STANDING WITH ROSE, HIS ARM AROUND HER. He gives her a kiss on the forehead. Paige takes this in, looks back to Leo.

PAIGE

Okay. A date.

Leo smiles.

INT. LEO'S APARTMENT / BEDROOM - NIGHT

Leo gets dressed. He's nervous like a high school boy readying for his first date - ever. Leo changes outfits several times, tries his hair various ways, checks his breath. He SIGHS big - as in "here goes nothing" or, in his case, "everything." He goes.

EXT. PAIGE'S PARENT'S HOUSE - NIGHT

In the car. Leo's behind the wheel, Paige sits shotgun.

LEO

So, I had an idea. But it would mean going into the city. You up for it?

PAIGE

Uhh - sure. I just need to be back by 10 in the morning so I can --

Leo mocks horrified.

LEO

My god. On a first date already inviting yourself to stay the night. I'm a little scandalized.

PAIGE

I just meant --

LEO
I'll have you back tonight. Don't worry.

Beat.

LEO (CONT'D)
I mean, unless you really want to stay over. You know what? Let's just see how the night goes.

PAIGE
Sounds good.

He starts the car and pulls away.

EXT. PERMIT OFFICE - NIGHT

Leo's car pulls into the permit office parking lot. He pulls into a stall.

INT. CAR - SAME

Leo turns off the car. They sit there in silence. Paige is confused.

PAIGE
Do we get out?

Leo looks at her.

LEO
We don't have to.

PAIGE
Is this the part of the date where I find out you were never really my husband, but just some crazy stalker, and then you strangle me with my purse?

Leo LAUGHS out loud.

LEO
No, it's the part of the date where I tell you that this parking space is the place where we first met.

PAIGE
That's cute.

LEO
Yeah. You were.

Paige looks a little uncomfortable.

PAIGE

I'm sure you also looked very handsome.

Leo LAUGHS again.

LEO

Thanks for saying that. That's sweet. I think this date is gonna go really well.

Paige deadpans.

PAIGE

There's more?

Leo smiles, and they actually share a moment.

LEO

I thought I'd take you on a little retrospective of us.

He starts the car.

INT. GERMAN DELI AND GROCERY - DAY

Leo and Paige stand amid giant barrels of candy. Paige studies a few different kinds.

PAIGE

How do you know the flavors of any of these? It's all in German.

LEO

I don't know. Although I think we figured out the one with the see-saw on it has almonds. And the one with the little bearded guy is gross.

Paige gauges his seriousness.

LEO (CONT'D)

What? It's part of the fun. We used to buy a bunch of different kinds, then be surprised by the ones we liked.

PAIGE

Okay...

She starts putting handfuls of different candies in a bag.

PAIGE (CONT'D)

Did we like the two dancing girls on a wheelbarrow?

LEO
I can't remember.

She opens it, and pops it into her mouth.

PAIGE
(joking)
That makes two of us.

Leo smiles. Paige's face goes sour.

PAIGE (CONT'D)
(mouth full)
We do not like it.

Leo LAUGHS.

LEO
You're right. That face looks very
familiar. Here - try the soccer ball one
- I think you'll like it.

He gives her another candy.

PAIGE
Better.

LEO
See? Fun!

She LAUGHS.

INT. CAR - NIGHT

They sit in the car, heat cranked, looking at Lake Michigan.

PAIGE
So we would come down and look at the
lake at night? It's nice.

Leo nods.

LEO
It is. But that's not exactly what we
would do.

PAIGE
Hmmm?

He reaches into the back seat, and pulls out towels,
robes, bathing suits, etc.

PAIGE (CONT'D)

What's that?

LEO

We decided we were gonna go in once a month, every month. We didn't do April yet.

PAIGE

Go in what?

LEO

Lake Michigan. We said we'd go in every month. We started in July.

Paige LAUGHS.

PAIGE

How did we feel in December and January?

LEO

Slightly more apprehensive.

Leo hands Paige a wetsuit.

LEO (CONT'D)

We said, "No wetsuits," but I'll make an exception for you.

PAIGE

And why did we do this?

LEO

I don't know. We had a waiter at this spaghetti place who said he did it and he was like 70 - so we thought we could do it.

Paige looks at him for a long moment.

PAIGE

Turn around.

He does. Paige pulls off her sweater, and wriggles out of her jeans. She then pulls on a BATHING SUIT.

PAIGE (CONT'D)

Okay.

Leo turns back around.

LEO

No wetsuit?

PAIGE

We said no wetsuit, right?

And with that, Paige gets out of the car. Leo follows, tugging off his shirt and pants as he runs.

EXT. LAKE MICHIGAN - CONTINUOUS

Paige runs full speed to the rock piling separating the grass from the water, scrambles down it. She starts to slip - and Leo catches her by the hand.

They share a quick look, and then RUN INTO THE LAKE HAND IN HAND. They run into the water, until we can just see their heads above the water. And then they come running full speed back to shore. Leo grabs towels and blankets and wraps Paige up, and then himself.

They run back to the car.

INT. CAR - NIGHT

They quickly pile into the car, and shut the doors. They are breathing hard, LAUGHING and shivering, all at the same time.

PAIGE

Oh my god. Oh my god. Is my face still on? I can't feel it!

LEO

I don't know. I think my left eyelid is frozen shut.

PAIGE

Heat! Crank it!

He does, and then starts rubbing Paige's hands to get them warm.

LEO

Somehow it felt warmer in January than it does now!

PAIGE

It's April. That makes no sense.

LEO

I know! It makes no sense!

They continue to LAUGH and shiver as Leo rubs her hands.

INT. APARTMENT - NIGHT

Leo unlocks the front door, and leads Paige inside. They are both still a little wet and shivery.

LEO

Let me get you some dry clothes.

He grabs a blanket from the couch, wraps it around Paige, then heads down the hall. He returns, shirtless. He quickly pulls on a dry t-shirt - but not before Paige takes notice. He hands some clothes to Paige.

He turns around, as Paige starts to pull off her wet clothes, leaving her in her bra and panties. She stands this way for a moment, looking at the dry clothes, but not pulling them on.

PAIGE

(softly)

Okay.

Leo turns back around. He is clearly surprised to see her undressed, but he cannot take his eyes off of her. She walks right to him, puts her hands under his shirt. He pulls it off. She looks at him, touches him, taking it all in.

She leans in to kiss him but then pulls back for a moment, looks at Leo.

PAIGE (CONT'D)

Okay. I don't know what your Paige did on a first date - but with me - you're only getting to first base.

She smiles. Then he leans in, and they KISS. A long KISS. Paige finally pulls away.

LEO

I can do better. My lips are still numb.

She LAUGHS.

PAIGE

It was nice.

Leo looks ecstatic.

PAIGE (CONT'D)

Second base tops.

Now Leo LAUGHS.

LEO

This is perfect.

They go back to kissing.

INT. CAR - LATER

Leo and Paige, sit in the car in front of her parents' house.

LEO

Thanks for coming out with me tonight.

PAIGE

It was fun.

She leans in, gives Leo a kiss on the cheek, and as she puts her hand on the door handle:

LEO

I miss you, Paige.

Paige stops, door halfway open, looks back at him.

LEO (CONT'D)

I miss being with you. I miss our life together. I love you.

He looks at her, blindly hopeful. She doesn't know what to say.

PAIGE

I should probably get inside.

She manages a smiles, and disappears out the car door.

INT. PAIGE'S PARENTS' HOUSE - NIGHT

Paige walks into the dark house, quietly shutting the door behind her. She starts to walk upstairs, but sees the TV on, and pokes her head into the den. Gwen sits, watching TV.

PAIGE

Hey. I didn't know you were gonna be here.

GWEN

Ryan is out with "the boys," so I thought I'd hang with mom and stay over.

PAIGE

Oh. I would've stayed if I-

GWEN
Were you out with Jeremy?

PAIGE
No, Leo actually.

Gwen looks up at Paige.

PAIGE (CONT'D)
I like him.

GWEN
Yeah? Me, too.

Paige stands in the doorway and starts to quietly CRY. It takes Gwen a moment to notice - and another to figure out what to say. Paige just stands there - TEARS running down both cheeks.

GWEN (CONT'D)
Are you OK?

Paige shakes her head. Then sits on the ground, puts her head in her lap - and SOBS.

PAIGE
I'm so sorry, Gwen. I don't know what I was thinking, leaving you like that.
(beat)
I'm really sorry. Do you know that?

Gwen looks at her sister, wipes her face with her sleeve, and hugs her.

GWEN
I know. It's OK.

She looks at Paige...

GWEN (CONT'D)
So, I want to ask you something...I want to know if you'll be my maid of honor?

PAIGE
Honestly, I'm touched - obviously - but you're not obligated.

GWEN
I want you in my wedding.

Paige starts to CRY again.

GWEN (CONT'D)

I don't think -- I mean, I've never seen
you like this...

Gwen looks at her sister, wipes her face with her sleeve.

GWEN (CONT'D)

Is the crying seriously the new you?
It's bizarre.

Paige LAUGHS.

PAIGE

Maybe this is who I am now. I don't
know. I don't know what's me anymore.

Gwen puts her arm around Paige. Paige hugs her back.

INT. LEO'S APARTMENT - DAY

Leo sorts through the mail. The PINK ENVELOPES from the hospital clearly indicate that payment for Paige's treatment is overdue. He tosses the bills in a pile and heads out the door.

EXT. SPRING STREET FAIR - DAY

A funky crowd - lots of tattooed people and alternative rock-types. Leo walks with Jim, Kyle, and Sonia.

LEO

It was just like it used to be. Better,
actually. Everything I fell in love with
about her is still there. It was so
obvious that - even with all this crazy
shit going on around us - we still belong
together.

KYLE

Obvious to her - or to you?

JIM

Aren't we supposed to meet Lina at the
grog place?

Sonia shoots him a look. Jim looks chastened.

LEO

To both of us.

SONIA

I don't know. To you, I'm sure it seemed
like confirmation of your love.

(MORE)

SONIA (CONT'D)

Or your marriage. But to her - it probably seemed like a really good first date.

KYLE

Exactly. Which is why I think you gotta wait the requisite three days before you call -

Leo LAUGHS.

LEO

I've gotta wait three days to call after a date with my own wife?

JIM

At least. This is a unique case - maybe longer.

LEO

Well it can't be longer - I'm gonna see her at the rehearsal dinner on Friday.

As they reach the Beer Garden - LINA, 20s, cute and funky, approaches.

LINA

Hey, guys.

JIM

Lina! Good to see you.

They hug.

SONIA

We were just about to invest in some adult beverages. Want to join?

LINA

I already started - but I'll continue.

SONIA

Lina, this is Leo.

Leo smiles and nods.

LINA

Hey Leo. I've heard a lot about you.

LEO

Really?

He looks up to see Sonia watching them with interest.

SONIA

Lina is actually a singer, so I thought -

LEO

Are you looking to book studio time?

Lina looks to Sonia for help.

LINA

Not exactly...

Now Leo looks to Sonia.

SONIA

I just thought you might have a lot in
common.

Leo starts to get it. And he looks pissed.

LEO

Are you serious?

KYLE

Leo, she just --

LEO

What the hell, you guys? You're really
trying to fix me up?

JIM

We're just hanging out.

LEO

Bullshit.

(to Lina)

I'm really sorry, Lina. You seem cool
and actually totally my type - but this
has nothing to do with you and everything
to do with these assholes -

KYLE

Okay. Take it easy.

Leo does not calm down.

LEO

You seriously think I should just give
up? Paige isn't just some girl I was
dating. She's my wife. I'm not just
gonna let her go.

Leo looks at his friends, trying to manage his rage. But
he can't hide it in his voice.

LEO (CONT'D)

Not one of you is married. You have no idea what that means. You don't know what it's like to commit yourself to someone else and mean it for life. You have your stupid four-month relationships, and your little one-night stands, but that shit does not add up. Not to what I have with Paige.

At long BEAT, no one says a word.

KYLE

We were just looking out for you...

Leo turns and leaves.

EXT. THORNTON HOUSE - DAY

Leo stands alone on the stoop.

INT. THORNTON HOME - DAY

Gwen answers the door to Leo.

LEO

Hey.

GWEN

Hey.

LEO

I'm - uh - your brother-in-law.

GWEN

(duh...)

I know who you are, Leo. We had dinner for like - three hours...?

LEO

(awkward, insecure)

Right, sure.

He waits.

LEO (CONT'D)

So do I just go find her -

GWEN

She's actually over at the college, doing some - you know - stuff.

LEO

For the wedding?

GWEN

What?

LEO

She said she was here to help you with wedding stuff.

Gwen looks at Leo. He looks so earnest. She softens.

GWEN

She is. And she's also gonna, you know, take a class or two at the law school.

Leo looks gutted but tries to roll with it.

LEO

Oh, wow. Back to the law school thing.

She nods.

GWEN

Yeah. But she'll be back soon. I'm just in the middle of getting a bunch of stuff together for the rehearsal thing.

LEO

So, should I just wait here for her - or...

GWEN

Well...I do need to get these dinosaurs from the party back up to the attic.

She's standing next to THREE ENORMOUS FOLDING TABLES.

GWEN (CONT'D)

Mom's been riding me all week to put 'em away, but Dad wants them left out. I'm pretty sure it's so that she has something to fixate on and won't nag him to clean up his office.

LEO

Very strategic.

INT. ATTIC - SAME

Leo trails behind Gwen as they heave the tables back up to the attic.

LEO

These are huge. How were you gonna get these up by yourself?

GWEN

I wasn't. That's what family is for.

LEO

Really?

GWEN

Yes. Family's all about trapping each other into performing annoying tasks. I can't believe your family doesn't do that. What's wrong with them?

LEO

Yeah, well...

Gwen looks at him with horror.

GWEN

Oh god. I'm an asshole. I forgot that they're, uh, gone.

LEO

It's fine.

Leo starts to move a stack of large boxes, which are blocking the tables. Gwen watches for a long, silent moment, and then:

GWEN

I followed you once.

He looks up at her.

LEO

What?

GWEN

I followed you and Paige. It had been over a year since she'd left, and I was in the city getting my bike fixed, and I saw the two of you. You were drinking coffee. I mean, not from Starbucks cups, but from like real mugs from home. Like you must have lived right near by. You were holding hands, and you looked happy, and I was gonna say something, but you guys were off in your own world, and you had already changed her so much --

LEO

Wait, what? That's what you thought? That *I* changed *her*?

Gwen nods.

LEO (CONT'D)

Really? I promise you, I never changed her. If anything, I wanted to change into whatever she liked, so she'd like me.

Gwen smiles.

LEO (CONT'D)

I wore a freaking bowler hat for two months because I thought she liked guys in bowler hats. I looked like Charlie Chaplin. I was ridiculous.

She LAUGHS.

GWEN

I always wanted her to like me, too. I stole some clove cigarettes once to impress her.

LEO

Shit! I should have tried that. Did it work?

GWEN

No. My dad found them on me, and he made me eat one.

Leo LAUGHS.

LEO

No!

GWEN

Or he threatened to. It didn't go well.

They share a real smile, a real moment. Gwen then turns to move another box - and on top of it is a LARGE SKETCH PAD. Gwen lifts it up - looks at a PENCIL DRAWING. Leo looks on, too.

LEO

Wait - did Paige do that?

Gwen nods.

LEO (CONT'D)

In 1991? Wow. She was like - ten.

GWEN

She was real into art until the fifth or sixth grade - when she decided she wanted to be just like my dad. Or maybe my dad decided that.

Leo considers this. The two of them continue leafing through the sketch pad.

LEO

I'm really sorry we haven't been in touch with you. I wish we had.

She looks at him, and nods.

GWEN

Yeah. So do I.

Leo sets the sketchpad back down where he found it.

INT. OFFICE - DAY

Jeremy sits behind a desk piled with papers, when Paige pokes her head in. He smiles.

JEREMY

Wow. Where did you get those earrings? Those are - serious.

PAIGE

Oh - I just - I found them with some of my old stuff.

Jeremy grabs his coat.

JEREMY

Looks really nice out - should we walk?

EXT. DOWNTOWN BLOOMINGTON - DAY

They stroll through the downtown square.

JEREMY

I actually have something that I wanted to tell you.

PAIGE

Okay...

He looks at her.

JEREMY

Things are over with Rose.

PAIGE

Oh, man. I'm sorry. Are you okay?

JEREMY

Yeah. I'm okay. I ended it, Paige.

PAIGE

Not for me? You didn't end it for me?

He doesn't say a thing, but it's clearly a "yes."

PAIGE (CONT'D)

Gwen told me you were gonna get engaged this summer.

JEREMY

We were. But that was before - you.

PAIGE

No. It wasn't. It was after me.

JEREMY

Well, okay, after you. But before this you. Before the old you came back.

HOLD ON Paige.

INT. MICHAEL'S - NIGHT

A local restaurant - the family's favorite - now dressed up for Gwen and Ryan's rehearsal dinner. About 45 people enjoy cocktails, passed food, etc.

Leo stands, mingling with Gwen and Ryan, and a few FRIENDS.

FRIEND #1

So, man, sure you're ready to do this tomorrow?

RYAN

I think so. I do feel a little dizzy though.

GWEN

What?

FRIEND #1

Dude...

RYAN

But I think it's a good dizzy. Like panic. Or excitement.

GWEN

Panic and excitement are different.

RYAN

But there's gonna be like four hundred people there.

Leo spies Paige across the room, talking to her dad. They meet eyes and smile.

LEO

Dizzy, huh?

RYAN

Yeah...

LEO

Do you also have a little tingling in your fingers?

RYAN

(nodding)

Is that bad?

Ryan's panic seems to be increasing. Gwen looks at Leo, annoyed.

LEO

You'll be fine. It just means tomorrow'll be one of the most important days of your life - 'cause you know you're going home with the greatest person on the planet.

Leo lifts up to shots, hands one to Ryan. They CLINK glasses and down the shots. Ryan actually seems to relax slightly, grabs Gwen tighter.

And Gwen beams at Leo, says "thanks" with her eyes. Leo excuses himself and leaves.

EXT. PATIO - NIGHT

No one is on the patio except Leo, who sits alone.

BILL

Looks like you could use a drink.

Leo turns to see Bill, Paige's dad, approaching, holding a bottle of Laphroaig 31-year old scotch and two glasses. Leo smiles politely.

LEO

I've actually already had several.

Bill sits next to Leo, starts to open the bottle.

BILL

Well, you haven't had this.

He pours. Leo takes a glass from Bill, they do a perfunctory clink of glasses, both take a sip.

LEO

Nice.

BILL

Yes, it is.

They both sit there for a second in silence.

BILL (CONT'D)

I'm glad we're having a moment alone. I haven't gotten a chance to really talk to you, Leo.

LEO

Yeah. Cool.

BILL

I have been thinking, and I think that it's probably time to let us take it from here.

Leo doesn't get it.

LEO

Hmmm? I'm not sure I ---

BILL

With Paige. Look, I know Paige didn't have any health insurance because you chose to live a certain way, I know you must be drowning in debt -- and I also know a way out.

LEO

And what is that?

BILL

Divorce her.

Leo looks like he's been punched.

LEO

I don't think so.

BILL

The bills have only just begun, Leo. If Paige doesn't have a documented spouse, the government has to pick up the tab.

LEO

Mr. Thornton, I don't think this is the right time or place to discuss this -

BILL

Fine, if you don't care about losing your business, which clearly you don't, what about Paige? What about doing what is obviously right for her?

LEO

And you know what's right for her?

BILL

As a matter of fact, I do. I know about putting my own selfish needs aside and putting my family first.

LEO

(sotto)

You are so full of shit.

BILL

What did you say?

LEO

I said you are full of shit. You are so full of shit that it's an insult. To me. To your wife. To your daughters.

BILL

What are you talking about?

Leo gives him a long, hard stare.

LEO

You put your family in front of your selfish needs? I know all about it, Bill.

Bill is speechless, starts to fume.

LEO (CONT'D)

And now, it's like you've won the lottery. You've got your daughter back, and she doesn't remember what a fraud you really are.

Bill's bravado evaporates.

BILL

And you haven't told her?

LEO

No, I haven't.

BILL

Thank you.

LEO

I didn't do it for you. I did it because I love Paige. I didn't want her to hear anything that might upset her while she was recovering.

BILL

Well, you made the right decision.

Leo downs the rest of his scotch and heads back inside.

INT. MICHAEL'S - SAME

Leo enters from the patio, scanning for Paige. She's nowhere to be found. He approaches Ryan, who stands talking to some of his (obviously frat) buddies.

LEO

Hey man - have you seen Paige anywhere?

RYAN

Uh - no. Not recently. Everyone's meeting up at the hotel bar in like 20 though. I'm sure she'll be there.

Leo nods, a bit frustrated, and heads off.

INT. RADISSON HOTEL BAR - NIGHT

A chain hotel bar. A bunch of people from the wedding are hanging out. Leo sits, away from the group, nursing a drink at the bar. Another group of wedding guests enters and Leo perks up, scanning them for Paige - but she isn't among them. He goes back to his drink.

Jeremy, who is across the bar, notices Leo and approaches.

JEREMY

Can I introduce you around a little?
Can't feel good to be the odd man out.

LEO

I'm not the odd man out.

JEREMY

If you say so. You just seem a little creepy over here, all by yourself.

LEO

I'm waiting for Paige.

JEREMY

Okay. Good luck with that.

As Jeremy turns to walk away -

LEO

You like this, right? Paige leaves you behind, goes and has this life without you, with this weird dude that no one really understands - and now you get to see her reject all that?

Jeremy LAUGHS.

JEREMY

I like it a little.

Leo is not laughing. He stands up - now he's face to face with Jeremy. Things are getting a little tense.

LEO

Well, this is what I like. I like the fact that Paige told me about you, Jeremy. She told me that you thought small. You lived small. She told me how, when she was with you, she would sometimes wake up in a panic, thinking "Is this all there is?" She wanted more, Jeremy. More than you could give her.

Jeremy stands there, not backing down. A small smile crosses his face.

JEREMY

She told you everything, huh?

LEO

Yup.

JEREMY

Did she tell you how she threw herself at me the other day? Or did she stop telling you things when she forgot who the hell you were?

Leo is clearly stunned. He takes this in, then calmly looks up at Jeremy.

LEO

Look man, I get why you're being such a dick. You've got this one in a million chance to get back this girl that you obviously loved. But the thing is -- that same girl --- she outgrew you. Are you really willing to bet everything that she won't do that again? I wouldn't take that gamble.

Leo finishes his drink, puts some money down on the bar.

JEREMY

Thank you for that advice. I'll mull that over while I'm in bed with your wife.

Before Jeremy can process what's happening - LEO LUNGES AT HIM, PUNCHING HIM IN THE FACE. It's a melee for a moment as stunned Jeremy tries to attack Leo back before OTHER GUESTS rush over. Ryan finally jumps in, separates them.

Leo stands there, silent, all the wedding guests STARING HIM DOWN. Looking at him like he's a crazy person. He's slowly realizing what he's done.

Then he turns and sees PAIGE STANDING THERE. SHE'S SEEN THE WHOLE THING. She looks at him, tears welling in her eyes. Then she turns and rushes off. Leo follows.

INT. HOTEL LOBBY - SAME

Leo chases Paige as she moves through the lobby.

LEO

Paige, wait.

Paige stops, turns around. Really crying now.

LEO (CONT'D)

Don't cry, please. I'll apologize to Gwen and Ryan. It'll all be fine.

PAIGE

You just don't get it, do you? This won't all be fine.

LEO

It might not seem like it now. But wedding disasters always end up being great stories. It just takes time. They'll thank me later.

PAIGE

No - it's not that.

We can see she doesn't like what she's about to say, but steels herself, and almost blurts:

PAIGE (CONT'D)

Leo. I can't do this. I can't see you anymore.

Leo looks like he's been slapped. He's stunned. But he quickly tries to recover.

LEO

Okay. I gotta be honest - it's hard to hear your wife say that. But I know that's just your dad talking. And I know you love him, and respect his opinion, but once the memories start coming back --

PAIGE

This has nothing to do with my dad. It's me. And I have to be realistic, Leo. I don't think the memories are coming back.

Leo looks at her, undeterred.

LEO

So we'll just start over. We'll assume it's not coming back and start over.

PAIGE

But only one of us would be starting over. You're in a relationship with me, you're in love with me, which is wonderful and flattering, but the fact is -- I'm just meeting you. I can never catch up.

Leo takes a step closer to her.

LEO

But if you could just - try. To see me like you used to see me.

Paige looks at him, sadly.

PAIGE

I don't even know you.

Leo, desperate, won't give up.

LEO

Okay, look-

Paige, now truly upset, cuts him off.

PAIGE

Leo, please. Just stop. I don't want to know. I don't want to know anything else. Because in the end - none of it matters. Who I was, what we were - that's always going to be everything to you. And to me it's always going to be just --- information.

Leo looks at her, the resolve in her eyes. He sits down on a chair in the lobby, Paige just stands there. A moment of silence passes as Leo stares straight ahead.

He looks beaten down, exhausted. He closes his eyes, takes a deep breath, then opens them again. He looks at his wife and asks, almost hopeful that the answer will be different:

LEO

You really don't remember?

She shakes her head, tears streaming down her face. He gives her one last look, gets up and walks through the lobby alone.

EXT. RADISSON HOTEL - SAME

Leo exits the hotel, running directly into Bill, who's trying to enter. Leo stands in front of him - Bill looks ready for a fight.

Leo looks at him, defeated.

LEO

You win.

With that, Leo pushes past him and goes.

INT. RECORDING STUDIO - NIGHT

Leo sits in the recording studio. He looks emotionally broken as he plays A MELODIOUS AND BEAUTIFUL GUITAR SOLO that slowly becomes one full of ANGER and RESENTMENT.

He doesn't even notice when Lily comes in to the control room, sees him through the soundproof glass. She looks confused. She goes over to the control board, hits the intercom button and speaks into the mic.

LILY
(into mic)

Hey buddy. Just came in to grab my
phone. Left it.

Leo startles slightly, looks up to see Lily in the control room, but then goes back to his tapping. She picks up her phone from the console. No response from Leo. She looks at him, starts to put it together.

LILY (CONT'D)
Shit. You're here. Not there. What
happened Leo? Are you okay?

LEO
I - I'm done. It's over. I give up.

LILY
I refuse to believe that. You never give
up.

Leo continues to tap at the drums, not really looking at Lily as he talks.

LEO
I just - I was thinking about the first
time she said she loved me. We were
walking down to that farmer's market they
have on Wednesdays, and we passed the
Greek diner on the corner. They had a
new banner that said "Now Serving Soup."
That's it. And I just start going on and
on about it - what drove the owner of
this establishment to actually go down to
the printer and pay for this banner to be
made? What sort of obstacles did he have
to overcome so that he could finally
achieve his lifelong dream to serve soup?
That sort of thing. When I was finally
done she didn't say anything for a few
seconds - and then she just sort of
exhaled it, almost to herself. I love
you. And it just hung there. I didn't
even want to respond - I just wanted to
keep hearing it.

(then)
That was two weeks after we met. It only
took her two weeks to love me before.

He looks up at Lily now, her eyes welling up with tears.

LEO (CONT'D)
She doesn't love me.

Leo gets up, nearly knocking over the drum set, and heads out of the studio. Lily watches him go.

INT. LEO'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

The dark, pre-dawn hours. We wind our way through the apartment. Down the hallway, through the kitchen, until we finally find Leo, in the living room, sitting on the couch - staring straight ahead.

FADE OUT.

EXT. WRIGLEYVILLE - DAY

Establishing - we spot Lily approaching.

INT. RECORDING STUDIO - DAY

Leo sits at the control panel, as THREE GUYS mill around in the booth - two of them in suits.

LEO
(into mic)
You guys need a few more minutes to
rework the copy?

One of the guys in a suit nods to Leo.

LEO (CONT'D)
(into mic)
That's fine. Take your time. Just let
me know when you're ready to roll.

Lily rushes in.

LILY
Hey, I'm so sorry I wasn't here. You
said that since it was so slow -

LEO
It's fine. It was kind of a last minute
thing.

Lily looks at the guys in the booth.

LILY
They're a band?

LEO
No. They own three auto dealerships.
We're recording their new jingle.

LILY
And how did they find you?

LEO

I found them.

Lily looks at him, kind of impressed.

LILY

Really?

LEO

Yeah.

LILY

Wait a second - are you doing this to impress me? Like in a rebound capacity, 'cause you being assertive is kinda sexy.

He LAUGHS. So does she.

LILY (CONT'D)

I don't know why I said that. I just came from the chiropractor, and maybe that brought up some weird feelings -

LEO

It's fine --

LILY

I really don't like you like that.

LEO

I get it. It's going around.

LILY

Coffee.

She LAUGHS, and heads out the door.

INT. RUBY TUESDAY'S - NIGHT

The bar is PACKED. It is standing room only, four deep. Paige stands, nursing a drink, with her friends.

SHANA

(re: the bar)

I can't even get up there. Let's head back to my place. I have supplies.

LIZBET

We can't go yet.

SHANA

Yeah, we can.

CARRIE

You can. You have a boyfriend. She's still cruising.

LIZBET

Exactly. I know it's crowded and annoying - but it's easy to leave any party when you've already found someone.

Jeremy approaches.

LIZBET (CONT'D)

How about this - singles stay, couples go.

PAIGE

What about separated from estranged husband? Kind of a middle ground...

Jeremy smiles. Paige pushes a return smile.

EXT. CHICAGO STREET - DAY

Leo heads down the street, two coffees in hand. It's sunny out. He bypasses the recording studio, and keeps walking, turning at the corner.

EXT. CLOTHING STORE - DAY

Leo heads inside, with his two coffees. Working there is Lina, the funky girl from the street fair. She lights up when she sees Leo. He hands her a coffee.

LINA

You're the best. I had no idea your studio was only a couple blocks away.

LEO

I underestimated. It was more like eighteen.

LINA

That was incredibly fast.

LEO

I'm actually pretty winded.

She LAUGHS, and offers him a big armchair. He sits, she sits down, too. They seem to vibe as they drink their coffees.

INT. LAW OFFICE - DAY

Leo sits in small conference room, in a downtown Chicago high rise office. He sits across the table from a YOUNG LAWYER. The lawyer slides a stack of papers towards him.

Leo looks down at the signature page. There are two "SIGN HERE" tabs where he should sign. He looks to the top of the page - Paige's signature is already there.

Leo grabs a pen, signs, pulls off the tabs. He repeats the process with the next copy.

INT. ART STUDIO - NIGHT

Leo, surrounded by boxes, packs up the last few things from Paige's studio including Paige's PILE OF CLAY SCRAPS SCULPTURE.

EXT. ART STUDIO - NIGHT

The boxes are stacked next to the door. Leo secures the lock, looks down at the CLAY SCULPTURE. He picks it up, looks at it, sets it down at the base of a small, nearby tree. He leaves, carrying the boxes.

INT. APARTMENT - DAY

Leo stands in the kitchen, leaning against the counter, appearing to do absolutely nothing. His cell phone is out on the counter. He checks the time. Puts it back down. He opens a cabinet, stares inside, closes it again. Then looks at his cell phone to check the time.

Finally, there is a KNOCK at the door. Leo collects himself, and goes to answer it.

INT. DOORWAY - SAME

Leo opens the door, to find Paige standing there. She looks good - she's wearing a short dress, boots - a little more stylish than when we last saw her. Leo takes her in for a moment.

PAIGE

Hey.

LEO

Hey. Uh - come in.

He looks to see if there's anyone with her.

PAIGE

It's just me.

LEO

Oh, I just thought you needed someone to drive so...

PAIGE

I'm breaking the rules. I'm on the lam.

LEO

(a little impressed)

Nice. But, seriously, you should be careful.

Paige sees the NEATLY PACKED STACK OF BOXES.

PAIGE

Thanks so much for packing up my things. I could have done it.

LEO

It was no problem.

They stand in silence for a moment.

LEO (CONT'D)

You have someone to help you on the other end?

PAIGE

Yeah. I'm good.

LEO

So, should I help you load this stuff up?

PAIGE

Yeah. That'd be great.

They share a long, quiet moment. Finally, Paige gently pulls out her WEDDING RING, puts it in Leo's palm. Leo looks at her quizzically.

PAIGE (CONT'D)

Maybe sell it to keep your head above water with the business, or something.

LEO

Actually, things are finally picking up on that front. I'm not in such dire straights any more.

PAIGE

Oh, well, that's good then.

Leo hands her back the ring.

LEO

I know I haven't done everything right in the last few months. And I know I didn't do everything right when we were together, but-

PAIGE

Well, I doubt that. From what everyone says we were the perfect couple.

LEO

(smiling)

We were.

(beat)

So, please, keep it?

She nods, pockets the ring, picks up another box, and heads to the door.

EXT. ART STUDIO / YARD - DAY

Paige's PILE OF CLAY SCRAPS SCULPTURE is nestled at the foot of the tree where Leo left it.

SUMMER ... gives way to FALL ... then WINTER sets in as the sculpture becomes covered in snow ... the snow recedes as SPRING arrives and ... finally, new SUMMER grass grows up over its base.

INT. JEWEL GROCERY STORE - SUMMER DAY

Paige stands in the vegetable aisle, picking over some tomatoes. As she turns to get a bag she notices DIANE, a woman in her 50s, standing next to her in the aisle with a MAN about her same age.

They meet eyes, recognition clearly crosses Diane's face. Paige gives her a small smile. When she looks back at her again, Diane is still nervously looking at her. Paige gives her a smile again.

PAIGE

You should definitely try the snap peas.
They're amazing this time of year.

Diane smiles uncomfortably as Paige moves off.

EXT. JEWEL GROCERY STORE / PARKING LOT - DAY

Paige heads out of the supermarket holding a couple of bags. She goes to her bike and starts to unlock it as Diane approaches.

DIANE

Thank you so much for what you did in there.

PAIGE

Really? It was nothing.

DIANE

No, it wasn't. You didn't say anything in front of my husband when you had every opportunity.

Paige stops putting her bags on her bike, slowly turns to Diane, very confused now. But before she can respond -

DIANE (CONT'D)

I don't know if you know this, but it truly almost destroyed your father when you confronted him about us.

Paige is stunned, slowly putting this together.

DIANE (CONT'D)

I understand why you left, and I've always felt responsible for that. I'm sorry, Paige.

Paige literally has to steady herself.

PAIGE

I - ummm - I -

DIANE

Are you okay?

PAIGE

Yeah. It's just - it's painful stuff that I haven't - you know - thought about for a while, but I'm glad you said something.

DIANE

I don't mean to open old wounds. I just wanted to thank you.

Paige smiles, and gets on her bike. But as she rides away, her smile FADES. Paige is clearly lost in thought, just pedaling FASTER AND FASTER.

INT. THORNTON HOUSE / KITCHEN - NIGHT

Paige loads the dishwasher, when her mother comes in the back door. Paige barely looks up.

RITA
(enthused)
Well, hello there, stranger.

Paige doesn't say anything, keeps loading the dishwasher.

RITA (CONT'D)
I've barely seen you the last couple of weeks.

PAIGE
I need to talk to you about something that might, upset you...

RITA
All right... What happened?

PAIGE
Nothing - medical. I met someone today. A friend of Dad's...

RITA
Oh...?

PAIGE
(nervous, quick)
I'm really sorry that it has to be me who has to tell you this, but...I think that last time I kept the whole thing to myself and that it ended up tearing us apart, so I'm just going to say it.
(steadied)
Before I left, Dad was having an affair.

Rita pauses. Paige waits for the devastated reaction she expects, but it never comes.

RITA
Look, I'm not going through this with you, not again.
(beat)
How does lasagna sound for dinner?

PAIGE
That's so you - just "W.A.S.P it away."

Something dawns on Paige.

PAIGE (CONT'D)
Wait - "again"? You *knew*?

RITA
I just don't want to discuss it.

PAIGE

You said, "again" - you knew about it.

RITA

You're confused.

Paige SMASHES a plate on the floor. Rita is snapped into silence.

PAIGE

Don't fuck with me. Don't use my accident to rewrite history.

Paige stares daggers into her mother's eyes.

PAIGE (CONT'D)

(disgusted)

You've been hiding this from me since the accident? Why?

Rita looks down, guiltily.

RITA

All I wanted was for you to have a good life again.

PAIGE

By your standards.

RITA

I'm sorry honey, but those are the only standards I have.

PAIGE

Which are totally screwed up beyond all recognition.

Paige puts it all together in her mind.

PAIGE (CONT'D)

So then I didn't leave because I was keeping it a secret. I left because you wouldn't do anything about it.

Rita's eyes tear up.

PAIGE (CONT'D)

How could you stay with him after that?

RITA

Because I took a vow.

PAIGE

Well, so did Dad, and he obviously *broke* it. One person does not just get to opt out.

RITA

Our marriage is our business. It doesn't concern you, Paige.

PAIGE

Of course it does. Who am I supposed to look up to?

Paige grabs the car keys off the counter and runs out the door.

EXT. THORNTON HOUSE - DAY

Paige drives off. Rita calls after her to stop, but Paige keeps going.

EXT. GWEN & RYAN'S SPLIT LEVEL RANCH HOUSE - DAY

Paige BANGS on the door, no answer. She goes, let down.

INT/EXT. LAKE SHORE DRIVE - DAY

Paige drives erratically. Once again, she looks out of it (almost stoned) as she did in the hospital. She turns and drives down a ONE-WAY STREET the WRONG DIRECTION. On-coming cars HONK and SWERVE. Paige swerves the other way and comes to an abrupt STOP.

EXT. ALLEY / BRICK APARTMENT BUILDING - DAY

Leo and Lina, arm in arm, walk up the alley behind Leo's building. He looks up at spots Paige sitting on his back staircase. Lina and Leo exchange a few silent looks.

LINA

I'll, ummm... Why don't we just-

LEO

I'll call you...

LINA

Yeah.

Lina goes.

LEO

Everything okay?

PAIGE

Can I ask you something?

LEO

Yeah, of course. You can always ask me anything.

Paige clearly looks uncomfortable.

PAIGE

Did you know about my dad's affair? Did I tell you?

(reasoning it out)

I've thought about it a lot. And you were my husband and from everything I can gather we were close - so I figure you must have known, right?

Leo pauses, not answering. Sits next to her.

PAIGE (CONT'D)

And yet you didn't tell me.

LEO

I thought about it.

She looks at him for an explanation.

LEO (CONT'D)

That's not how I wanted to get you back. Win the battle, lose the war.

Paige seems to understand. She nods to herself.

PAIGE

I don't think I can afford to lose them right now.

LEO

Then don't. You always have a choice, but just don't forget who you are, Paige.

PAIGE

Who am I?

LEO

That's not something that you can forget - it's just something you uncover.

She lifts her head.

LEO (CONT'D)

You did it once - you can do it again.

Paige looks at him like he's her best friend in the entire world. Her eyes say "thank you" and "I'm sorry" at the same time. The moment is extremely bitter-sweet.

CUT TO:

EXT. THORNTON HOUSE - NIGHT

Establishing.

INT. ATTIC - NIGHT

Paige rummages through a few crates of Christmas ornaments, old notebooks - until finally spotting what she came for - SKETCHBOOKS, ART SUPPLIES, ETC. - that have been long forgotten. Paige picks up one, and then another, studying them. TEARS WELL IN PAIGE'S EYES.

PAIGE'S POV of the sketchpad/pencil drawing - A *HUMAN FIGURE, SUSPENDED ON A SINGLE OCEAN WAVE*. The similarity between this early sketch and the sculptures we know Paige later made (the ones we saw in her studio) is impressive -- like the emerging figure is Paige's own artistic talents fighting to find the light of day.

EXT. LARGE UNIVERSITY CAMPUS - DAY

Establishing.

INT. LARGE UNIVERSITY CLASSROOM - DAY

Paige sits in the front section of a very large law school class. A PROFESSOR is mid-lecture.

Paige appears to be taking notes diligently. As we get closer, we see what she's actually writing in her notebook: A detailed drawing of A BUST OF THE PROFESSOR. She looks at it, pleased, before she turns her attention back to the lecture.

EXT. BLOOMINGTON / DOWNTOWN - DAY

Paige and Jeremy stroll along the river. We enter in the middle of their conversation.

JEREMY

Whichever it is - the old you or the new you - I know you remember what we were like together. And this is our chance to get that back.

Jeremy smiles, takes her hand. Paige looks at him. Stops walking.

PAIGE

But I'm also not the old me, Jeremy. I'm just me. The same me who's still just trying to figure it out.

She drops his hand.

PAIGE (CONT'D)

What we had together -- those are wonderful memories. But those are also my only memories. Everything after you has been erased. And I still need to rediscover what it's like - to be without you. To try it on my own. Does that make sense?

Jeremy looks at her for a long time, and then seems to have the tiniest hint of a smile.

PAIGE (CONT'D)

What?

JEREMY

Are you sure you don't remember breaking up with me the first time?

PAIGE

No. Why?

JEREMY

Because it sounded a hell of a lot like that.

Jeremy smiles. So does she. They continue to stroll.

EXT. UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS - SPRING DAY

Idyllic campus. Paige sits on a bench, her bookbag beside her, staring ahead, a look of concentration on her face.

WE PAN AROUND HER to see that she is sitting in the university's SCULPTURE GARDEN, clearly in no hurry to move.

ANOTHER ANGLE: Bill tentatively walks up to Paige, his tough facade broken.

BILL

Been looking all over for you. Got worried when you weren't outside the library.

PAIGE
(trying for love)
Hey, Dad. I thought it was Mom's day to
pick me up...?

BILL
She thought it was best if I came.
(sitting)
So, how's that intellectual property
class going?

PAIGE
Actually, I wanted to talk to you about
that.
(steeling herself)
I'm leaving law school. And I'm gonna
look for a place in the city.

Paige looks at her dad who is starting to well up.

BILL
Just tell me what to say...so I don't
lose you again.

PAIGE
It doesn't matter what you say.
(beat)
You won't.

Bill exhales as his eyes release tears. As he pulls her
into a HUG, we go into SLOW MOTION.

LEO (V.O.)
A moment of impact...

[RESUME SPEED] A wave of relief overcomes Paige.

LEO (V.O.) (CONT'D)
*A moment of impact...whose potential for
change has ripple effects far beyond what
we can predict.*

BEGIN MONTAGE:

EXT. STREET - WINTER NIGHT

CLOSE ON: TWO CARS (Leo's old SAAB and the TRUCK from the
crash), SMASHING TOGETHER.

LEO (V.O.)
Sending some particles crashing together -

NO SCREECHING METAL, JUST A BRIGHT FLASH OF LIGHTS AND
REFLECTIONS - ALMOST LIKE FIREWORKS AGAINST A NIGHT SKY.

INT. BABIES-R-US - DAY

Paige, clearly in a giddy mood, walks around the store with a six-months-pregnant Gwen.

*LEO (V.O.)
- making them closer than before.*

Paige tosses baby things in their cart with abandon. Gwen looks on, smiling.

INT. NEW RECORDING STUDIO - DAY

A beautiful, two story modern space - with several studios off a main lounge.

*LEO (V.O.)
While sending others spinning off into
new places -*

Leo directs the movers to load a gigantic sound board into one of the studios. Lily unpacks moving boxes.

INT. PAIGE'S STUDIO APARTMENT - DAY

A very small studio apartment, with an equally tiny kitchenette. Paige stands in the kitchenette, tossing some peanuts into a big, homemade bowl of pad thai.

*LEO (V.O.)
- landing where you never thought you'd
find them...*

We PAN AROUND to find her parents, Bill and Rita, sitting on pillows on the floor at the coffee table, which appears to be set for dinner. Paige brings in the pad thai and joins them.

INT. LEO'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Leo lays in bed, awake, looking up at the ceiling.

*LEO (V.O.)
...in either case, changing lives
forever.*

INT. PAIGE'S STUDIO APARTMENT - NIGHT

Paige lays in the pull-out bed, awake.

LEO (V.O.)

*You see, that's the thing about moments
like these...you can't -- no matter how
hard you try -- control how they're going
to affect you.*

EXT. EL BURRITO MEXICANO - WINTER NIGHT

A heavy snow falls, blanketing the sidewalks and the streets. Leo heads up to the door of his favorite burrito place, tries to pull it open. IT'S LOCKED.

LEO (V.O.)

*You've just got to let the colliding
particles land where they may, and
wait...*

He sees the sign on the door "SNOW DAY." He smirks and turns back around -

LEO (V.O.) (CONT'D)

...until the next -- collision.

He starts to walk away, walking right into PAIGE. They take each other in for a moment.

LEO (CONT'D)

Paige. Hi.

She smiles.

PAIGE

Hi.

Another beat - but no awkwardness.

PAIGE (CONT'D)

You look great.

LEO

Thanks. You, too.

They continue to take each other in.

LEO (CONT'D)

I hope you didn't come all the way into
the city for a burrito.

She LAUGHS.

PAIGE

No. I moved back in about 6 months ago.
I'm in Rogers Park.

LEO

Really? That's great.

PAIGE

Yeah, I'm actually *back* at the Art Institute now.

LEO

You're kidding me. That's amazing.

PAIGE

They're letting me sit in on some classes. It's weird how much my hands remember that my mind has forgotten.

(beat)

So thank you.

LEO

I didn't do anything.

PAIGE

You accepted me for who I am and not for who you wanted me to be. That was everything to me.

He's clearly moved, TEARING UP.

LEO

I realized I couldn't push my way into your heart...

Paige nearly tears up herself. She looks down the street.

PAIGE

Isn't there some Cuban place down the street we used to go to when this one was closed?

Now Leo looks STUNNED. SHE REMEMBERS.

LEO

Wait...you *remember*?

PAIGE

No. I wish. The memory stuff still hasn't come back. But I've been hanging out with Sonia a little. And asking her about us.

LEO

And what has she been telling you?

PAIGE

That she doesn't think you're seeing
anyone right now...

Paige looks up at Leo, tentatively.

LEO

Well, it just so happens that she's
right. And you? Are you with someone?

Paige just shakes her head. Leo breaks out into a wide,
unabashed smile.

PAIGE

So, what 'bout that Cuban place up the
street?

LEO

What would you say to trying someplace
haven't been to before...someplace new?

Paige smiles.

As they both turn and head down the block, just before we
CRANE UP, Leo catches a quick glimpse of the charm on
Paige's necklace - her WEDDING RING.

And then we...

FADE OUT.

THE END