THE LOTUS (RESORT & SPA)

"ARRIVALS"

written by
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FADE IN:

INT. AIRPLANE - DAY

SHANE, 30's is handsome but looks like he's been through the ringer. A FLIGHT ATTENDANT hands him a cocktail, which he gulps down. Sitting next to him is an OLDER COUPLE.

OLDER WOMAN

Headed home?

Shane nods, absently.

OLDER WOMAN

Us, too. I hate the end of things. Especially vacations.

OLDER MAN

What are we going back to?! World's gone crazy!

Shane forces a curt smile.

OLDER WOMAN

We were at the Amanari. It was fine. Food was good. Not much to do, but we just like to sit around anyway. What about you? Which hotel were you at?

SHANE

The Lotus.

OLDER WOMAN

Oh, honey, isn't that... We heard there was...

OLDER MAN

Someone was killed there, no? Our guide was telling us...

Shane turns and looks at them, gravely.

SHANE

The body's on the plane.
 (off their reaction)
You didn't see them load it on the plane?

They shake their heads.

OLDER WOMAN

What? Is it on ice or...?

OLDER MAN

What happened?

Shane just shakes his head, at a loss.

OLDER WOMAN

(changes subject)

Well, other than that, did you have a good vacation?

The Woman smiles. Shane finishes his drink, then...

SHANE

It was my honeymoon.

OLDER MAN

Ah! Congratulations.

OLDER WOMAN

How wonderful. Was it everything you hoped?

OLDER MAN

Where's your wife?!

Shane says nothing. But the anguished look on his face silences the inquisitive couple.

The FLIGHT ATTENDANT passes. Shane taps her as she passes.

SHANE

(mumbles)

Can I get another drink?

The Attendant gives a perfunctory nod, heading off.

OLDER MAN

Here, take mine!

The Older Man, sensing Shane's state, reaches over and drops his cocktail on Shane's tray.

Shane doesn't even smile. He just gulps it down - as the Older Couple observes with concern.

Shane sets down the empty glass and exhales, deeply.

THE ROAR OF THE PLANE'S ENGINE DISRUPTS THE MOMENT and we...

SMACH CUT TO:

EXT. BOAT - DAY

A picture-perfect tropical day. A small boat transports ARRIVING HOTEL GUESTS across a placid bay toward the hotel's dock. At the bottom of frame: "TEN DAYS BEFORE"

CLOSER ON DECK

Shane is here with his new bride, RACHEL, 30s. His arm around her, they soak up the beautiful surroundings, looking very much in love, wind whipping their hair.

INSIDE THE CABIN

Two college girls, OLIVIA and PAULA, 19, sit in the cabin, side-by-side, observing the passengers out on the deck. Olivia wears a BARDO COLLEGE sweatshirt. Paula wears a t-shirt with "POST-HOPE" written across it. They size up Shane and Rachel, under their breaths, rat-a-tat.

OLIVIA

Elyse and Chad. Just got married in the Hamptons - her parents have a house there.

PAULA

She's still thinking about her maid of honor's toast, calling her out for being a total slut in college.

OLIVIA

She's in fashion, marketing. She feels her talents are being wasted.

PAULA

She wants her own Goop site - so she can hawk skin cremes.

OLIVIA

She loves him, but...

PAULA

He's got a small dick.

OLIVIA

Her last boyfriend was hot as fuck - threw her around in bed...

PAULA

Stole her money, took a surfing trip to Bali, never came back.

Then she got serious. Joined Raya. Met Chad.

PAULA

He went to Dartmouth - International Finance.

OLIVIA

Her dad loves him.

PAULA

She loves her dad.

OLIVIA

He's a closet Adderall snorter.

PAULA

Gives him an edge at work.

OTITVTA

Makes his dick even smaller.

PAULA

They'll have a baby in a year.

OLIVIA

She'll have major post partum. Which begins a series of phantom illnesses she'll bring awareness to on her insta.

PAULA

Hash-tag pain. Hash-tag believe all sufferers.

OLIVIA

Munchausen's is real.

PAULA

He'll become disgusted with her.

OLIVIA

He'll never forget the maid of honor's toast at the wedding.

PAULA

How many guys did you fuck? Huh, Elyse?

PAULA

One day, in an Ativan haze, she insults his little penis. He loses it. Clocks her.

She jumps out the tenth-floor window. That'll show everyone.

PAULA

See! I really was in pain.

OLIVIA

Their baby is raised by her parents in Montauk.

They stare in silence at Rachel and Shane for a moment.

PAULA

Sad.

OLIVIA

Totally.

They now turn their attention to a woman traveling alone, in her 50s, sitting on the deck. Her name is TANYA, looking glamorous in sunglasses and a fashionable outfit.

PAULA

Walmart heiress.

OLIVIA

Republican bundler.

PAULA

Meeting her friends for a girls trip.

OLIVIA

She gets on their nerves. But she pays for everything so they put up with her.

PAULA

She's got Crohn's. She keeps having surgeries - they've taken out half her large intestine.

OLIVIA

The flatulence is deadly.

PAULA

Sepsis farts. She's rotting inside.

Out on the deck, an attractive couple in their early 50's, MARK and NICOLE, cross Olivia and Paula's eye-line.

A pair of high-end pimps for a billionaire sex pervert. They masquerade as well-meaning corporate-woke fucktards.

PAULA

They're coming to recruit us into their *Illuminati* pedophile ring.

The couple opens the door and pops their head into the cabin.

NICOLE

Having fun, girls?!

OLIVIA

Yeah, Mom. What?

NICOLE

Come out here, Liv! You can see the resort!

Nicole waves them over, insistently.

Olivia and Paula dutifully rise and cross out to the deck.

EXT. DOCK - DAY

The hotel's assistant manager, ARMOND, 40, is training an overweight, meek woman, CARMEN, mid-20s. They stand on the dock. As they talk, other EMPLOYEES begin to line up beside them, waiting to greet the new arrivals.

ARMOND

I don't know how it worked at your other properties, but at the Lotus, self-disclosure is discouraged. So if you're asked - like, where are you from, you can say, I'm from Panama City or wherever you're from...

CARMEN

I'm from here. I'm local.

ARMOND

Oh, right. You're a local. That's right. I mean, if a guest asks where you got your hair cut - I don't know why they would - but you can answer them. You don't want to make things awkward - naturally.

(MORE)

ARMOND (cont'd)

But the guests don't need to know the funny story about your uncle who drank a bottle of Mezcal and got run over by a Mexican childrens theater troupe or whatever.

Carmen nods, emphatically.

ARMOND

You don't want to be too specific as a presence - as an identity - you want to be more generic.

CARMEN

Generic.

ARMOND

It's a Japanese ethos, where we are asked to disappear behind our masks as pleasant, interchangeable helpers. It's tropical kabuki. The goal is to create for the guests an overall impression of vagueness that can be very satisfying. Where they get everything they want - but they don't even know what they want or what day it is - or where they are - or who we are - or what the fuck is going on.

(sours; spots something)
Looks like there's a dollop of
mayonnaise on your top, Carmen.

There is some kind of yellow stain on Carmen's shirt, right above her left breast. Carmen looks down.

ARMOND

What is that? On your left tit.

Armond grabs a rolled wet face towel off the tray of another worker, BELINDA, early 40s. He tries to wipe the smudge from Carmen's top but only succeeds in spreading it around and creating wet marks.

ARMOND

Oh, god. The boat's here. Shit, I don't know. Now it looks like you're lactating. Here, you hold Belinda's tray. And then Belinda you use the tong to give out the face towels. Hold the tray up high, Carmen - it's to cover the stains on your boobs.

The boat pulls up to the dock. Much activity as the Guests step off - and BELLBOYS help unload their luggage.

Armond - all smiles - greets the guests with his clipboard. The first to step off are Mark, Nicole, Paula, Olivia and QUINN, 16, wearing a hoodie, listening to music on his ear buds. Belinda hands them all face towels.

ARMOND

Mr. and Mrs. Rohrbacher. Hello, I'm Armond - guest services. Welcome to the Lotus. How was your journey here?

NICOLE

Long - but honestly fine.

MARK

We're happy to be here.

ARMOND

Traveling is absolute madness right now - but we're so glad you braved the journey - and we are going to do everything we can to ensure you have a fabulous time here with us. I'm sure you'll want to get straight to your room and freshen up - Dillon will be escorting you to the Tradewinds Suite.

DILLON, 25, steps up and motions to the family to follow.

ARMOND

And in a little while we can go over food preferences, activities, everything under the sun. Okay?

MARK

Great. Thank you, Armond.

The family heads off after Dillon. Rachel and Shane are next to approach Armond - both exuberant - Rachel is almost giddy.

ARMOND

I'm presuming Mr. Shane Patton and Mrs. Rachel Patton.

RACHEL

(big grin)

Mrs. Rachel Patton, oh my god.

ARMOND

Is that not correct?

RACHEL

No, it's correct. I'm just getting used to that still. We just got married the day before yesterday.

ARMOND

I am aware! Congratulations!

RACHEL

And I... thank you... I was Miss Rachel Henderson and now I'm... am I really changing my name? I mean, what?

SHANE

We don't need to decide this now, baba.

ARMOND

Yes, why don't we get you to your room and let you settle in, get you a daiquiri before you make any major life decisions. Maeve will escort you to our Gardenia suite, I'm sure you will just love it...

SHANE

Awesome.

ARMOND

It is. And I will check in with you in a little while, okay?

Rachel and Shane follow one of the WORKERS to their room. The last to step off the boat is Tanya. She seems a bit disoriented.

ARMOND

Are you Ms. MacQoowod?

TANYA

MacQuoid (MAC-WAD)

ARMOND

Macuhwaaad?

TANYA

Wad. One syllable.

ARMOND

(in one burst)

Mqwad!

TANYA

Well, two syllables. But the second part is just one syllable. Wad. Mac-Quoid.

ARMOND

Ah! Is it Gaelic?

TANYA

I don't know. No. Listen, I'm just desperate for a massage - is that possible? Like anything available right now? I have a herniated nucleus pulposus in my lower back and it's like a dagger in my spine...

ARMOND

Belinda, behind you.

TANYA

What?

ARMOND

Belinda, who is behind you - is our spa manager.

Tanya turns and Belinda steps forward.

ARMOND

Belinda, Ms. Macuhwad is in need of treatment. Would there be any openings for her this afternoon?

BELINDA

(checks her clipboard)
We are totally full - that's so...
awww... you didn't happen to book
anything in advance, did you?

TANYA

No. I don't...

BELINDA

Online maybe?

TANYA

I figured if I asked first thing when I got here, there would be something...

BELINDA

The spa is short staffed right now because of the pandemic and the hurricanes. The south side of the island was completely decimated.

TANYA

Doesn't have to be deep tissue. I'm not picky. Anything but reiki.

BELINDA

Let me see what I can do.

ARMOND

Belinda is a miracle worker - with her healing hands and her organizational trickery. There'll be no openings and she'll finger her way in - and find an opening.

BELINDA

Come by the spa - and if I can't get you in today, we can discuss creating a holistic program for you that will suit all your needs.

TANYA

Okay, yeah, that sounds great. I'm just falling apart here.

Belinda nods, suitably concerned.

Armond notices all the towels have been taken from Carmen's tray, exposing her wet, stained shirt. He motions for her to cover herself with the tray. She does.

ARMOND

Carmen is our trainee. She's a local hire. The Lotus is very involved in the local community, ummmm...

Armond suddenly goes blank. A hint of silent panic.

ARMOND

I forgot what I was going to say. Oh, yes! Carmen, please escort Ms. MacKwad to the Palm Suite.

(to CARMEN, sotto)

You know the Palm Suite, yes?

Carmen nods and, clutching tight to her tray, leads Tanya away. Armond watches them go.

INT. GARDENIA SUITE - DAY

Rachel is lying on the bed, studying the hotel menu.

RACHEL

They're having a lobster bake tonight. Yummy.

Shane, now in a bathing suit, gets on the bed and crawls over to her, pulling the menu from her hand and tossing it.

SHANE

Let's get this honeymoon started.

Shane starts kissing her. They are all over each other.

Then, Shane suddenly stops and sits up, looking around the room with a dissatisfied expression.

RACHEL

What is it? What's wrong?

Shane continues surveying the room, grimacing.

RACHEL

Shane?

SHANE

This is the wrong room.

RACHEL

What do you mean?

SHANE

We're supposed to be in a honeymoon suite. This isn't the honeymoon suite.

RACHEL

Maybe it is. Why isn't it?

SHANE

Because I did a virtual tour of it on their website - and this is not it. This is just a regular room.

RACHEL

This is like the swankiest hotel room I've ever been in, Shane.

SHANE

But we're paying for the Honeymoon suite.

RACHEL

Technically, we're not paying for anything.

SHANE

Okay, my parents are paying for it. Still - we should get the room we booked. I'm gonna talk to the guy.

RACHEL

We just put everything away. I think it's fine. Great view. We're near the restaurant. It's convenient - we can stuff ourselves then go drown in the ocean.

SHANE

We were supposed to have our own pool.

RACHEL

The pool's literally right there.

SHANE

Our own pool, Rachel.

RACHEL

In the room?

SHANE

On our private deck!

RACHEL

What, like a plunge pool?

SHANE

That's fucked up. They screwed us on the room.

RACHEL

I wouldn't go that far. Just talk to the guy. Is it a big deal?

SHANE

Yeah. It's our once-in-a-lifetime honeymoon. I want this to be perfect for ya, baba.

RACHEL

Awww.

SHANE

I'm gonna go talk to him. Let me get a blowjob first.

RACHEL

Are you serious?

SHANE

(flirty)

It was a twelve hour flight. You got me so horned up.

(off her look)

All right, yeah, let's save it for the right room.

Shane heads out. Rachel hops up from the bed.

RACHEL

Wait, I'm coming.

The door closes on her. She opens it and follows him out.

INT. PALM SUITE - DAY

Carmen, clutching the tray to her chest, has delivered Tanya to her room. Carmen looks ashen, something's bothering her.

CARMEN

Will you be needing anything else at this time, ma'am?

TANYA

Where are my bags?

CARMEN

Right there by the closet.

TANYA

(looks over; distressed)

There was a small white plastic bag - I don't see it.

CARMEN

Plastic bag?

TANYA

Yes! It's very important.

CARMEN

I can call the bellman.

TANYA

It has my mother's ashes in it!

CARMEN

Oh!

TANYA

Oh my god. Are they lost?

Tanya panics. Carmen spots the bag, tucked behind Tanya's oversized luggage. Carmen picks it up.

CARMEN

Is this it?

TANYA

Yes. Yes, thank god. Thank you. I can't lose this.

Tanya hands Carmen a TWENTY. Carmen takes it, smiles, then exits.

Outside the room, Carmen's expression changes - she looks nauseated, clutching her belly in pain. After a moment, she keeps walking.

INSIDE THE ROOM

Tanya sits down on the bed - and takes out her mother's ashes in a WHITE PORCELAIN BOX. She places the box on the bedside table. Staring at her, a wave of sadness comes over her.

INT. LOBBY BATHROOM - DAY

Carmen is changing her shirt in the lobby stall. She takes off the stained shirt, revealing a pregnant belly. This is the first time we realize she is pregnant.

Carmen, sweaty and stressed, takes out a clean shirt and quickly puts it on.

INT. LOTUS LOBBY - MOMENTS LATER

Carmen returns from the bathroom, putting on a brave face.

ARMOND

Make a note for the chef that the Rohrbacher's daughter is a strict vegan and her friend is something, too - I forget what she said.

Something about grains, shoot.

(notices CARMEN)

You changed your shirt, good. What

You changed your shirt, good. What was that anyway? Looked like tuna fish?

CARMEN

Yeah...

ARMOND

Are you a messy eater? It's beachy casual but we must always be groomed with a clean look...

Shane, followed by Rachel, appear, interrupting.

ARMOND

Mr. Patton! Ms. Undecided!
Finding everything to your liking?

SHANE

Actually, I think you put us in the wrong room. We booked the honeymoon suite, I'm pretty sure.

ARMOND

There is no honeymoon suite.

SHANE

Well, we were supposed to have our own plunge pool on a private deck.

ARMOND

That would be the Pineapple Suite, but...

(checks computer)

...I don't have any record of you booking that room. No.

SHANE

My mother sent me a virtual tour of the room... She booked the room.

ARMOND

You're paying for a king ocean view suite. The Gardenia. Very nice room. Totally unique.

RACHEL

It's really nice.

ARMOND

The Pineapple Suite does have the plunge pool but it doesn't have the ocean view. It's very closed in.

SHANE

Well, the privacy would be nice. Maybe I should call my mother?

ARMOND

You want to call your mother? What do you think she'll say?

SHANE

She'll say we're in the wrong room.

ARMOND

The Pineapple Suite isn't available I'm afraid anyway.

RACHEL

It's not?

ARMOND

There's a German couple staying there. They also just got married.

SHANE

See - it is a honeymoon suite.

RACHEL

Shane. It's not that big a deal. The room is awesome.

ARMOND

The Gardenia's everyone's favorite. I prefer it to the Pineapple.

Armond gives them an emphatic smile. Shane relents.

SHANE

All right, well, that's a bummer. I saw the virtual tour and... And we're definitely not paying for the more expensive room, right?

ARMOND

No. I mean, yes - you are not. Anything else I can help you with?

Shane shakes his head and shuffles off. Rachel follows.

RACHEL

Thank you!

Armond turns to Carmen, conspiratorially.

ARMOND

I think I might have fucked up and double booked the Pineapple Suite. I changed their booking just now...

(anxious cringe)

Hopefully he'll just get over it. Situations like that - always stay positive - remind these people of all the fabulous things they already possess.

(MORE)

ARMOND (cont'd)

Unique room, ocean view. You must treat these people like sensitive children, Carmen. They always say it's about the money. It's not. It's not even about the room. It's about their need to feel seen. They want to be the only child - the special chosen baby child of the hotel. And we are their mean mommies, denying them their Pineapple Room.

Carmen nods, but she looks a bit troubled and sickly. Armond scrutinizes her, then gets distracted with other things.

INT. TRADEWINDS SUITE - DAY

Nicole is putting her things away in the large family suite. Paula and Olivia are heading out in their bathing suits.

NICOLE

Livvy, we're not putting the foldout bed in the closet.

OLIVIA

Why not?

NICOLE

Cause your brother isn't gonna sleep in the closet.

We SEE Quinn, sitting on the couch, playing air drums as he listens to music through his earbuds.

OLIVIA

Mom, it's fine. Look, he's stimming. He can entertain himself for hours with his own hand gestures. He's fine in the closet. (off NICOLE's look)
What, you want him sleeping in the

What, you want him sleeping in the bedroom with us? He's gonna jerk off to Paula while she's sleeping.

PAULA

I don't really feel like waking up to that, Mrs. Rohrbacher, to be honest.

NICOLE

Call me Nicole, Paula. And you do have a beautiful body.

Mom.

NICOLE

You do also, Olivia. But I'm pretty sure your brother can control himself.

OLIVIA

Why doesn't he sleep in the room with you and dad then? Too Oedipal?

NICOLE

Quinn and your dad have opposite sleep schedules - and your dad is hardly sleeping at all - he's got a lot of anxiety right now.

OLIVIA

Why?

NICOLE

It's - nothing to worry about. I just don't feel like it's fair that your brother is having to spend his vacation in a closet. We let you bring a friend...

PAULA

And I'm very appreciative, Nicole.

NICOLE

And we're so happy to have you...

QUINN

(blurting)

I'm fine in the closet!

OLIVIA

See, Mom - he's fine - he can be himself in there - gaming and fapping and bye, see ya later!

Olivia and Paula head out to the pool. Nicole turns her attention to Quinn.

NICOLE

Honey, are you sure? It's your vacation, too.

QUINN

I really don't care.

NICOLE

Okay. Do you want to do something?

QUINN

(matter-of-fact)

With you? No.

Nicole nods then starts tidying up.

INT. TRADEWINDS SUITE - BEDROOM - DAY

Mark is in a bathrobe, sitting on the hotel bed. He looks gut punched - as if he's just received some horrible news.

Nicole enters with some of her clothes. She puts them away in a drawer, when she turns and sees Mark's grim expression.

NICOLE

What is it?

MARK

(distracted; looks up)

Huh?

NICOLE

Mark?

They lock eyes for a moment. She senses his distress.

MARK

My balls are definitely bigger.

NICOLE

Why do you say that?

MARK

Because I've been looking at them.

(beat)

You want to see them?

NICOLE

Okay.

MARK

Well, come here then.

Nicole rises and approaches him on the bed.

Mark opens his bathrobe and pulls back his penis with his hand to display his balls.

CLOSE - ON MARK'S BALLS - they look inarguably swollen.

NICOLE

Are they bigger?

MARK

You tell me.

NICOLE

I can't really tell.

MARK

Nicole - they're huge.

NICOLE

Huh. I wonder what's going on.

MARK

It's cancer, Nicole. I have testicle cancer.

NICOLE

We don't know that yet. We haven't gotten the results. Shouldn't we be getting them?

MARK

Tomorrow.

NICOLE

Well, isn't tomorrow now?

MARK

No - it's tomorrow.

NICOLE

No, but tomorrow there is what here?

MARK

Still tomorrow.

NICOLE

He said it could be a lot of other things.

MARK

He said it could be maybe other things. There's not a lot of things it could be. It can't be a family of mice that burrowed their way into my ball sack. It's cancer - or I don't know, maybe something even worse.

NICOLE

Like what? Baby spiders? Let's just wait to see what he says. Let's not, you know...

MARK

It's cancer! It's cancer!

NICOLE

Why are you so sure?

MARK

Because my dad died of cancer - and he was only 46!

NICOLE

But it wasn't testicular cancer, was it?

MARK

I don't even know. I should call my Uncle Charlie and ask him. The point is I'm predisposed to cancer. I come from a long line of cancerous, disease-prone men. It's just very disturbing for it to be in my balls and for them to get so big like this. It's very Gogol.

NTCOLE

Mark - whatever it is - it's gonna be okay. People get cancer, they deal with it. It's not like it was when your dad got cancer. They're making breakthroughs all the time. It's a non-stop parade of progress.

MARK

The timing is terrible. Coming here was nuts.

NICOLE

We planned it so long ago, honey. It was a lot of money...

MARK

I'm not saying you guys shouldn't have come. I'm saying I shouldn't have come.

NICOLE

Mark, tomorrow we get your results - whenever tomorrow is - you have one day to hang in there.

(MORE)

NICOLE (cont'd)

You need to take your mind off this and get out of this dark, dark hole.

MARK

It's kinda hard to forget my balls are the size of a small cantaloupe.

NICOLE

Look, your son is sitting out there - alone - he looks like he's killing time in a waiting room before a root canal. Go take him and do something fun.

MARK

(hit with realization)
Oh my god, Nic. Quinn is exactly
the age I was when my dad died.

Mark shakes his head with abject dread. Nicole has reached her limit.

NICOLE

Well, all the more reason to pay him a little attention now - while you're still with us.

Nicole returns to putting away their things.

INT. TRADEWINDS SUITE - MOMENTS LATER

Mark emerges from his bedroom - and approaches Quinn, sitting on the couch.

MARK

Hey, pal.

Quinn takes out his earbuds.

MARK

Whaddya say - should we go explore?

QUINN

What do you mean?

MARK

Let's get out there. Come on. Little father-son time.

OUINN

(lackluster)

Really? Umm, all right.

MARK

Put on your suit.

Mark heads off to put on his bathing suit. Quinn rises.

Nicole, still unpacking, is pleased by their interaction.

INT. SPA RECEPTION - DAY

Tanya arrives at the spa. She approaches Belinda, who is behind the desk.

TANYA

Hi. Remember me? Any luck getting me in today?

BELINDA

All my masseuses are fully booked, buuuut... I actually have time right now myself.

TANYA

You do massage?

BELINDA

For many years. But there are no treatment rooms free right now. This was my thinking, Tanya. We could do a consultation in the office - and I could just get a better sense of what's going on with you and your body. And then I could give you a little cranial sacral massage which I always recommend as an initial treatment - because it just opens you up. And we could do some meditation, light energy work - and just kind of go wherever feels constructive.

TANYA

So no massage?

BELINDA

You have a massage booked tomorrow. But I really think you'll find this cathartic.

TANYA

(skeptical)

Oh. Okay. Will I be nude?

BELINDA

We'll put you in a bathrobe so you're comfortable and we can do a little movement, 'kay?

Belinda leads Tanya back into the inner recesses of the spa.

INT. SPA OFFICE - LATER

Tanya and Belinda sit on the floor, across from each other. Belinda has moved the office furniture to the side.

BELINDA

What I'm hearing is you have a lot of pain.

TANYA

Yeah.

BELINDA

Both localized and amorphous. (off TANYA's nod)

And fatigue.

TANYA

I feel like taking a nap right now.

BELINDA

Why do you think you're so tired?

TANYA

I think it's cause I'm so close to the floor.

BELINDA

No, in general.

TANYA

Oh. Well, my mother passed away in June...

BELINDA

I'm sorry.

TANYA

And dealing with just the logistics of the whole thing was exhausting. I'm still dealing with it. I brought her ashes here - she loved the ocean and I thought I'd scatter them - not sure where.

BELINDA

You're still grieving.

TANYA

I just feel this sense of decay - you know? And I'd just love to feel rejuvenated in some way. I haven't really felt fresh in forever. My love life has been a ruin and - I've driven every man away because - I'm a little needy and...

Tanya becomes emotional as she thinks about her life.

TANYA

There's just this empty feeling - I've tried everything and it - it just doesn't go away...
(crying)

... I can't keep living like this.

Belinda nods with compassion, really taking her in.

BELINDA

Tanya. Why don't we try something, okay?

TANYA

(wiping her tears)

Okay.

BELINDA

Will you trust me?

Tanya nods, embarrassed by her emotional outburst.

INT. GARDENIA SUITE - DAY

Rachel lies on the bed watching as Shane paces the room, on the phone with his mother.

SHANE

(into phone)

Yeah. Exactly. Plunge pool on a private deck.

RACHEL

We don't need a private deck, Shane. We're not nudists.

SHANE

You must have it in an email? Will you look, Mom, then forward it to me?

RACHEL

The room's occupied, Shane.

Shane shushes her, putting a finger to his mouth.

SHANE

The guy was real condescending, too. And full of shit. He was like - there is no honeymoon suite, but then sure enough there's a couple on their honeymoon staying in that room.

Rachel is getting increasingly annoyed. She gets up from the bed and grabs a few things and heads for the door.

SHANE

Anyway, it's not a huge deal - but I know you put a lot of effort into this and chose the hotel, which is actually super nice - totally decent. And we love it, we're happy - I just think maybe, if this other couple leaves, we can get in there, you know? So why don't you forward me the booking. How's Dad?

Shane is too absorbed to notice Rachel exiting the room.

EXT. POOLSIDE - MOMENTS LATER

Rachel walks around the pretty pool and puts her stuff down on a reclining chair.

Nearby, Olivia and Paula are lounging. Olivia is reading Camille Paglia's Sexual Personae - Paula is reading Freud's Interpretation of Dreams. They spot Rachel - exchange curious looks - then prop up in their chairs, watching her with interest.

Rachel sees them staring at her - and gives them a smile.

Olivia and Paula don't smile back - they just keep watching.

INT. SPA OFFICE - DAY

Tanya is now lying on the floor, her head in Belinda's lap. Belinda is massaging Tanya's scalp.

TANYA

Ahh. That feels nice.

BELINDA

Tanya...

TANYA

Yes.

BELINDA

I want you to repeat after me, okay?

TANYA

Okay.

BELINDA

Every moment...

TANYA

Every moment...

BELINDA

I am being born into this life.

TANYA

I am being born into this life.

BELINDA

The world around me is alive and full of wonder.

TANYA

The world around me is alive and full of wonder.

BELINDA

I will drop the story.

TANYA

I will drop the story.

BELINDA

And feel the newness of each moment.

TANYA

And feel the newness of each moment.

BELINDA

I am my own phallic mother.

TANYA

(slightly thrown)

I am my own phallic mother.

BELINDA

My own vaginal father.

TANYA

My own vaginal father.

BELINDA

I fill my own cup.

TANYA

I fill my own cup.

BELINDA

Nothing is ever lost and all will be returned to me - except those things that are inessential.

TANYA

Nothing is ever lost and all things will be returned to me except the... umm...

Tanya forgets what she's supposed to say. Belinda just keeps going - her massaging movements getting more intense.

BELINDA

I have the power to heal myself.

TANYA

I have the power to heal myself.

BELINDA

My failing body is immaterial - the child in me is as alive and fresh as the day I was born...

TANYA

My failing body is...

BELINDA

...and I will connect with that child at all times and feed and nourish her.

TANYA

I... okay.

Belinda starts speaking in some kind of foreign tongue.

BELINDA

Aum bhur bhuvah svah...

TANYA

Aum bhuverer...

BELINDA

You don't need to repeat this.

TANYA

You don't... ya, okay.

BELINDA

It's a Hindi mantra. Shh...

(chants)

Aum bhur bhuvah svah tat-savitur varenyam bhargo devasya dhimahi dhiyo yo nah pracodayat...

Belinda keeps chanting - while making adjustments to Tanya's head and neck. Tanya seems overwhelmed. Tears fall from her eyes - it's having some powerful effect.

INT. LOTUS LOBBY - DAY

Carmen is at the concierge desk. She looks unwell. Her brow is sweaty, she clutches her stomach.

Suddenly a SPLASH of water hits the floor beneath her.

Carmen, horrified, looks down. Her water has broke. She doesn't know what to do, but she's panicking.

Armond arrives, oblivious. Carmen struggles to speak.

CARMEN

I... I think I...

Armond looks her over and grimaces.

ARMOND

Carmen, you all right? You're white as a sheet.

CARMEN

I should sit down.

ARMOND

We can't have you sitting in the lobby. Wouldn't look right.

(MORE)

ARMOND (cont'd)

Go take a break in my office. Food poisoning, do you think? Maybe the tuna?

Carmen stumbles into the back. Armond rolls his eyes.

Mark and Quinn appear at Armond's desk.

ARMOND

Mr. Rohrbacher, how can I help you?

MARK

My son and I are looking to do some kind of activity.

ARMOND

Wonderful. Of course. Fantastic.

MARK

I was thinking it'd be fun to try scuba diving.

ARMOND

Amazing diving out there! A few of the reefs are still thriving. Do you have your PADI license?

MARK

No.

ARMOND

Then that would be impossible. You can get your accreditation here though - in the pool.

MARK

In the pool? Really?

ARMOND

Takes five days.

MARK

Oh. What about waterskiing?

ARMOND

Yes! Very fun! The swells are too great right now unfortunately. We just had a hurricane pass through so it's a bit Biblical out there.

MARK

Oh, that's too bad.

ARMOND

Maybe later in the week.

MARK

Jetskiing?

ARMOND

(shakes his head) Same. The swells. It's a

liability issue.

MARK

Surfing lessons?

ARMOND

The surfing team leaves first thing in the morning. I could sign you up for tomorrow? Six AM.

Mark looks at Quinn - who doesn't appear too keen.

MARK

We'll think about that. So - what do you suggest we do?

ARMOND

I would suggest snorkeling in the bay - not too many fish in the afternoon - but you'll definitely see something. You can get your masks and fins and things at the Beach Shack.

QUINN

Are there sharks?

ARMOND

There actually are a family of sharks that hang out in the bay but they're quite small.

Mark and Quinn appear troubled.

ARMOND

(hands out)

Like this big. They're cute. Enjoy yourselves. See you tonight at the lobster bake.

Mark and Quinn nod and head out. Armond looks down and notices... a POOL of WATER at his feet.

Armond turns to a cluster of EMPLOYEES.

ARMOND

What is this? Did somebody spill soup? Can somebody clean this up please? Dillon!

Dillon nods and gets busy.

EXT. POOLSIDE - DAY

Rachel, on a lounge chair, can feel Olivia and Paula's eyes still on her. She abruptly sits up and turns to them.

RACHEL

Hi. I saw you guys on the boat. And the plane.

Olivia and Paula perk up and begin to interrogate her.

OLIVIA

Where are you from?

RACHEL

New York.

OLIVIA

What neighborhood?

RACHEL

East Village. But I'm letting go of that apartment - moving into Shane's apartment. My husband.

PAULA

Where'd you meet him?

RACHEL

Through friends.

OLIVIA

Not Raya?

RACHEL

(amused)

Raya? No.

PAULA

How long was the engagement?

RACHEL

We actually just met last September.

Whirlwind romance.

PAULA

How did you know that he was the one?

RACHEL

I dunno... the chemistry was there and...

OLIVIA

(whispers to PAULA)
His dick's not small.

RACHEL

And I don't know. Shane really wanted to get married. He's very decisive - and convincing - and it just felt right, I guess.

OLIVIA

What does he do?

RACHEL

He's in real estate.

PAULA

Commercial or residential?

RACHEL

Commercial. That's what his father does.

PAULA

He works for his father?

OLIVIA

What do you do?

RACHEL

I'm a writer. Freelance mostly - profiles, some opinion stuff and...

OLIVIA

Where'd you go to school?

RACHEL

SUNY. Potsdam?

Olivia's and Paula's eyes narrow.

RACHEL

I was a journalism major. Then I moved to the city to make my name - which I have yet to do...

(embarrassed smile)

...and pay off my loans - which I have also yet to do - and yeah, that's...

OLIVIA

Won't he pay off your debts?

RACHEL

(shrugs)

Shane? I...

PAULA

But he could?

RACHEL

Of course, he could.

PAULA

Right - of course - cause he's super rich.

RACHEL

His family is, yeah. I mean, yeah, compared to me - and my family and... compared to most families, I guess.

PAULA

Rich guy. Good chemistry. You scored.

OLIVIA

Yeah, congrats. He's hot.

Rachel doesn't know what to make of these girls.

RACHEL

So you guys go to school together?

They don't respond.

RACHEL

Bardo College. I saw your sweatshirt. Good school.

Olivia and Paula just stare at her.

RACHEL

What year are you?

OLIVIA/PAULA

Sophomores.

RACHEL

You know, your mom... (points to OLIVIA)
I assume it's your mom.

(no response)

She looks very familiar. Is she... what does she do?

After a pause...

PAULA

Her mom is the CFO of POOF.

RACHEL

(puts it together)
Oh, yeah! Right. Nicole
Rohrbacher. That's your mom? I
did a profile of her, actually.
Well, it was a repurposing of
someone else's profile of her "Ten Women Kicking the Corporate
World's Ass" - that kind of thing.

Rachel waits for some kind of reaction.

RACHEL

She's a big deal.

Still not much from them. Rachel's over it.

RACHEL

Okay. Well, nice to meet you. I'm gonna go... check on Shane.

She rises and gets her things together.

Olivia and Paula whisper to each other.

PAULA

We were totally off.

OLIVIA

Yeah. Epic fail.

As Rachel turns to leave, Olivia calls out...

OLIVIA

Hey, wait! So where was the wedding?!

RACHEL

Oh. In the Hamptons. Shane's parents have a house there and... it was really nice.

Olivia and Paula nod, masking their elation.

PAULA

Cool.

But after Rachel turns her back to them, they exult, high-fiving, huge grins of satisfaction.

INT. SPA RECEPTION - DAY

Tanya emerges from the changing room, looking like a new woman. She clearly has had some kind of numinous experience. She approaches Belinda at the desk and gives her a deep, meaningful smile. Belinda however is occupied on the phone.

BELINDA

(into phone)

Yes, we could do that. I can get you in for the massage at three and then we can do the scrub after.

Belinda smiles at Tanya then slides over a form for Tanya to sign. Tanya takes a pen and looks down at the form.

ON FORM - Tanya gives Belinda a 100.00 tip, then signs. Over this, we HEAR:

BELINDA

(into phone)

No, we can't do scrubs in the room, yeah. We have our water room for that. Okay, great. And you said you wanted a wrap, too?

Tanya lingers, hoping to converse with Belinda.

Belinda apologizes for the phone call and mouths...

BELINDA

Thank you so much.

TANYA

No, thank you! Thank YOU!

Belinda returns to her call. Tanya hesitates.

BELINDA

All right so we have you in at three for the massage, then the scrub, then the wrap. And then you're getting a facial on Friday. Did you know what type of facial you wanted?

Finally, Tanya gives up and backs from the room, all the while smiling gratefully at Belinda.

BELINDA

We have an exfoliating facial that's more intensive - it's an hour and a half - or if you want something more relaxing...

INT. GARDENIA SUITE - LATE DAY

Rachel has returned from the pool. Shane is on his phone, reading emails. He looks up.

SHANE

Where'd you go?

RACHEL

To the pool. Those girls that were on the boat - you know, the young ones? They made me feel weird just now.

SHANE

Baba...

RACHEL

What?

SHANE

The guy lied to us. We did book the room with the pool. AND we paid for it. My mom forwarded me the booking.

RACHEL

(annoyed)

Okayyyy.

SHANE

Don't worry. I'm gonna handle it.

RACHEL

How?

SHANE

I'm gonna tell that guy what the fuck is what. I got receipts.

RACHEL

Shane!

SHANE

I'm not gonna let him fuck up our honeymoon.

RACHEL

He's not! You are.

(off SHANE's look)

I mean, let's just enjoy this room. It's nice! Forget about the other room.

SHANE

But we paid for it.

RACHEL

Jesus, get over yourself.

SHANE

Get over myself?

RACHEL

I mean, get over *it*. It's so irritating. Why are we even thinking about this? Let's just enjoy our honeymoon. There's no problem.

Rachel shakes her head. Shane smiles.

SHANE

Baba - our first marital spat.

RACHEL

What, is that what you want? Are you looking for fights?

SHANE

I'm not fighting. Come here.

Rachel approaches. He pulls her close and grins.

SHANE

I just want you to have the best. I'm not gonna bring it up again. I'll handle it - so don't you worry your pretty little head. Big charming grin. Rachel smiles back.

Shane kisses her. He pulls her back on the bed with him and they start to make love.

EXT. BEACH - SUNSET

Mark sits on the sand with his mask and snorkel hanging from his neck. He watches...

...Quinn, holding his fins, walk toward him from the water.

MARK

See anything good?!

QUINN

Nah, not really.

Quinn arrives and sits down beside his dad.

QUINN

A lot of seaweed out there. Kinda gross.

Mark stares at Quinn, contemplatively, saying nothing.

QUINN

(feeling awkward)

What?

MARK

Quinn - being a man, being a young man - in this time - right now - it can't be easy.

QUINN

Why? Cause we can't harass girls anymore?

MARK

No. Well, yeah, but... I just think every guy, deep down, wants to be a hero - to his family and - I mean, my dad was my hero. But the modern world is just very... emasculating, you know?

QUINN

You mean, like, we're cucked?

MARK

Yeah, unless you're a fireman or something.

(MORE)

MARK (cont'd)

Growing up, you want to be the superhero of the story. But in the end, you're happy if you're just not the villain. Do you know what I'm saying?

QUINN

Is this about Mom making more money than you?

MARK

(thrown)

No. It's not about that. What?

QUINN

Oh. Sorry.

MARK

I'm just proud of you, Quinn.

QUINN

Thanks.

MARK

And I just hope that you think of me - and remember this time - in some positive way, you know?

QUINN

(confused)

Okay. Sure.

Mark musters a big smile for Quinn.

MARK

I love you.

QUINN

(after a BEAT)

I love you, too.

Quinn smiles, but he's finding this all a little weird.

They then both stare out at the water, watching the sunset.

EXT. LOTUS RESTAURANT - NIGHT

All the GUESTS have gathered for the buffet-style lobster bake. Armond is busy supervising the dinner, greeting guests and ordering around the staff.

At a table, sit Mark, Nicole, Olivia, Paula, and Quinn. Paula and Olivia chat, ignoring the others.

PAULA

Like she cared about the working poor. She was a neolib war hawk.

OLIVIA

She was a neolib and a neocon.

NICOLE

(buts in; sharply)
What's that, girls?

Olivia and Paula stop talking and turn.

NTCOLE

What was that about Hilary Clinton?

OLIVIA

Nothing, Mom.

NICOLE

Is that the trendy thing they're teaching now - to hate on Hilary Clinton?

OT₁TVTA

Mom, don't get triggered.

NICOLE

Say what you want, but you can't deny Hilary Clinton was one of the most influential women of the last thirty years - and many women of my generation very much admire her.

Olivia and Paula nod in condescending unison.

OLIVIA

Don't worry about it, Mom. Eat your lobster.

They are interrupted by the arrival of Armond.

ARMOND

How was the snorkeling?! Did you see the little sharks?

MARK

No, we didn't see much.

ARMOND

Go first thing in the morning. Take a little bread and they'll swim right up to you. It's like a Disney movie.

Hotel employee, Dillon, sidles up to Armond. Dillon looks distressed.

ARMOND

What? What is it?

DILLON

(whispers; wide-eyed)

Carmen is in your office - having a baby.

ARMOND

What? Who's Carmen?

DILLON

The trainee.

ARMOND

What do you mean, she's having a baby?

DILLON

She's in labor.

ARMOND

(confounded)

Carmen, the trainee is having a baby in my office? That's not possible.

Dillon nods emphatically. Just then, Tanya walks up.

TANYA

Good evening. How are you?

Armond, reeling, just looks at her, blankly.

TANYA

I have to tell you - I have had a lot of treatments in my life - I mean, a lot - but the one I had today was just incredible. I mean it.

ARMOND

I'm sorry but I'm needed in the office, Madam...

TANYA

Listen, I have a massage scheduled tomorrow - I'd like to request Belinda again. She was amazing. Could you help arrange that?

ARMOND

I'll make a note.

Armond and Dillon hustle off toward the hotel, leaving Tanya alone, holding her plate of food.

INT. ARMOND'S OFFICE - MOMENTS LATER

Armond and Dillon enter the office, where a cluster of HOUSEKEEPERS are attending to Carmen, who is lying on a leather coffee table, letting out anguished moans.

ARMOND

(approaching)

Carmen! What's going on?

Carmen just stares up at him, GROANING.

ARMOND

Why didn't you tell me you were pregnant?

CARMEN

(through WHIMPERS)

I'm sorry. I needed work.

ARMOND

You can't have a baby the first day on the job!

CARMEN

I didn't know. She's early.

ARMOND

Do you have a doctor?! Carmen!

FEMALE EMPLOYEE

Dr. Furst's on his way - but he's coming from the other side of the island.

Armond takes it all in - has a thought.

ARMOND

Somebody get Belinda up here! She seems like she might have dabbled in midwifery.

Dillon approaches and they pow-wow.

DILLON

Maybe one of the guests is a doctor.

ARMOND

What, I'm supposed to walk around the lobster bake - is there a doctor?? Our trainee's having a baby in the lobby!

Dillon shrugs, at a loss. Carmen lets out a LOUD GROAN.

EXT. LOTUS RESTAURANT - NIGHT

Rachel and Shane are seated with their food at a table.

SHANE

You look beautiful.

RACHEL

(pleased)

Thank you.

Rachel sees Olivia and Paula walking past to the buffet.

RACHEL

Hi, quys.

Olivia and Paula respond with a perfunctory half-wave and continue on. Rachel turns to Shane, annoyed.

RACHEL

Those girls are just rude.

SHANE

Look over there.

Shane points - a young, attractive COUPLE at a nearby table are speaking in German.

SHANE

Those German fuckers got our room.

Rachel, exasperated, rolls her eyes at him.

AT THE BUFFET

As Olivia helps herself to more salad, Paula's attention is grabbed by...

...a young local employee - KAIMI, looking very sexy and manly as he works the fire pit, where the meat is grilling.

Olivia notices Paula gawking. She looks up and over...

... and watches Kaimi, too - also instantly taken by him.

Kaimi, stoking the fire pit, looks up, catches them staring.

Olivia and Paula look away, then at each other. Suddenly, it's uncharacteristically awkward between them. Olivia goes back to dishing salad. Paula sneaks one last look at Kaimi.

BACK AT SHANE AND RACHEL'S TABLE

Shane and Rachel are eating and enjoying the ambiance. Shane then spots Armond hurriedly walking past.

SHANE

Sir. Sir!

ARMOND

(reluctantly stops)

Yes?

SHANE

I found an email about our booking!

ARMOND

(grimacing)

Could I talk to you about this in just a minute?

Shane feels the heat of Rachel's disapproving look on him. Shane turns casual, waving Armond off.

SHANE

No problem. We can talk about it whenever.

Armond heads off. Shane gives Rachel a blithe smile.

SHANE

Or never. It's all good.

Rachel shakes it off and they keep eating.

Armond hustles to intercept Belinda, who is walking up the lawn, out of uniform. He grabs her with urgency.

BELINDA

What's going on?!

ARMOND

I need you!

Armond pulls Belinda toward the hotel. They pass Tanya. She sees Belinda and instantly lights up.

TANYA

Belinda? Hi! Belinda!

But Belinda and Armond don't hear her and keep walking. Tanya watches them go, still sporting a fawning smile.

INT. ARMOND'S OFFICE - LATER

Belinda is now helping Carmen with her breathing. Other EMPLOYEES make themselves useful. A stricken Armond hovers by the door.

BELINDA

You're doing great, Carmen! Just keep breathing - deep in, deep out! There you go!

Dillon enters the room with a local doctor - DR. FURST.

DILLON

Doctor's here!

Everyone reacts with audible relief - especially Carmen.

ARMOND

Thank god!

The doctor gets to work, approaching the bed.

Armond exhales and turns to Dillon, who stands beside him.

ARMOND

I just thought she was chunky.
 (full of self-reproach)
Poor woman was having a baby - I
didn't even notice.

Armond looks stricken. Another PIERCING MOAN from Carmen.

INT. PALM SUITE - NIGHT

Tanya is in her bed, looking energized as she reads a HOTEL SPA BROCHURE.

ON BROCHURE - it's the "ABOUT OUR STAFF" page. There's a headshot photo of Belinda, smiling beatifically.

Tanya studies Belinda's bio, with deep interest. She then puts the brochure down on the bedside table.

She lifts up the porcelain box with her mother's ashes and places the brochure underneath.

She sits back and thinks about today's breakthrough - smiling to herself, then reaches over and flips off the LAMP LIGHT.

INT. TRADEWINDS SUITE - NIGHT

Olivia and Paula, in their nightwear, both in bed, scroll through their phones. Without looking up...

OLIVIA

So you thought that guy was hot?

PAULA

(never looks up)

What guy?

OLIVIA

The one at the fire pit. The one you were gawking at?

PAULA

I don't remember any guy at the fire pit.

Olivia's brow furrows - she finds this suspicious.

There are NOISES coming from the closet. Olivia looks over.

OLIVIA

Quinn, what are you doing in there?! Are you fapping??!

INSIDE THE CLOSET

Quinn is trying to get comfortable on his fold-out bed. He's trying to find room for himself amongst all his electronics.

QUINN

FUCK OFF!

OTHER BEDROOM

Nicole and Mark are getting ready for bed, when MARK'S CELL RINGS. He crosses to the table where his CELL VIBRATES.

ON PHONE - the CALLER ID reads "MARIN COUNTY MEDICAL CENTER".

Mark sees this and turns to Nicole.

MARK

Shit, it's the doctor, Nicole.

Nicole looks up, sharply.

NICOLE

I told you. Today is tomorrow. Answer it.

Mark picks up the phone and answers the call.

MARK

Hello?

NURSE'S VOICE

Mark Rohrbacher?

MARK

Yes, this is he.

NURSE'S VOICE

Do you have a minute for the doctor?

MARK

Yes, of course.

NURSE'S VOICE

One second and I'll put him on.

Mark is put on hold. He and Nicole exchange expectant looks.

Their expressions run the spectrum of hope, anxiety, forced smiles...

After an excruciating few moments, the Nurse hops back on.

NURSE'S VOICE

I'm so sorry, Mark. I just lost him.

MARK

What?

NURSE'S VOICE

Can we call you back in a few minutes?

MARK

I'm on vacation, uhhh... It's late here. Can't you just get him back?

NURSE'S VOICE

So sorry. Just be a few minutes. I promise. Call you right back.

She hangs up.

Mark and Nicole are left hanging. Mark gives Nicole a look of dread and disbelief.

NICOLE

It's gonna be okay, Mark. It's gonna be good news.

Mark nods, but he looks like he might throw up. He sets the phone back down and stares at it. It doesn't ring.

INT. GARDENIA SUITE - NIGHT

Shane is in bed, reading. Rachel enters the room and climbs into bed with him.

SHANE

You good?

Rachel nods and gives him a satisfied smile.

RACHEL

We're married. We're on our honeymoon.

SHANE

(smiles, lovingly)

Yep.

RACHEL

I just hope we don't ever become one of those old, depressing couples with tons of baggage and resentments and regrets and... I just hope it always stays like this, you know?

SHANE

It will, baba.

RACHEL

Really? Promise?

He pulls her close to him and holds her, tight.

SHANE

We'll always feel this way. We'll always be young. We'll always be in love. And there will be days and days - just like this.

They share a warm smile, then a passionate kiss - and continue holding each other as we...

FADE TO BLACK.