

To Whom It May Concern
"The Pilotsburgh"

By Mike Metz



3rd Draft
January 7, 2019

CBS / CBS Television Studios / The Jackal Group

ACT ONE!

INT. EVAN/KATE/TANNER'S APARTMENT - 2ND FLOOR WALK-UP ABOVE
RESTAURANT - LAWRENCEVILLE AREA OF PITTSBURGH, PA - MORNING
(EVAN, KATE, TANNER, CROZ)

A THREE-BEDROOM, LOFT-LIKE TIMEWORN APARTMENT OLDER THAN YOUR GRANDMOTHER THAT CHARMS SOME (*EXPOSED BRICK! BEAMS!*) AND NOT OTHERS (*DEFINITELY BODIES IN THE DRYWALL*). ACCOUTREMENTS HINT THIS COULD ONLY BE IN PITTSBURGH. **EVAN ENFORD** (28, A MODERN GEORGE BAILEY), IN RED "HEINZ" POLO AND KHAKIS, SURVEYS AN AMPLE CEREAL BUFFET. *LIKE THE BELLAGIO BUFFET OF CEREAL.*

EVAN
(earnestly)

I just, I don't know. Am I too old to
eat Cookie Crisp?

ACROSS THE BUFFET: **KATE DAY** (28, READ "HANDMAID'S TALE" BEFORE YOU DID), IN A T-SHIRT AND JEANS SO RATTY THEY'RE COOL, AND **TANNER MARTIN**, 28, WHOSE DRESS SHIRT, HANDKERCHIEF, SUSPENDERS AND FINE-COMBED 'DO HINT HE MAY BE THE MOST INTERESTING MAN IN PITTSBURGH. THROUGHOUT, THE COUPLE BUILD AND SHARE EACH OTHER'S BOWLS WITH LOVING SYNCHRONICITY.

KATE
Impossible.

TANNER
Impossible.

TANNER (CONT'D)
You're never too old to eat *any*
cereal. It's ageless. Like the Paul
Rudd of morning foods.

EVAN
Ehh. Maybe I'll just go with the ushe.

TANNER
We have a whole buffet and you're--
Why don't you try something different
today. How about... Special K?

EVAN
Special K-- How old do you think I am?

*

KATE

What about Life?

EVAN

I mean, I would, sure, but...

KATE

I forgot. It's too--

EVAN

Too metaphorical.

TANNER

And Cinnamon Toast Crunch isn't...

EVAN

Toasted. They're not toasted. So it's all a scam from the get.

KATE

Go Lean Crunch it is, again. For people like you who want a cereal *that provides no joy whatsoever*. Every day.

EVAN

I've been *really* craving Cookie Crisp though...

HE RELUCTANTLY GRABS GO LEAN CRUNCH -- AND ADDS LIKE TWO MARSHMALLOWS -- AS **CROSBY "CROZ" WALKER**, 24, BUSTS IN, ADORNED IN HER "HEINZ" POLO/KHAKIS. BUT, LIKE A COOL UNIFORMED PRIVATE SCHOOL GIRL, IT'S GUSSIED UP. SMILING, SHE ASSEMBLES A BOWL OF EVERYTHING. SHE'S ALWAYS SMILING.

*
*

CROZ

What up, bitches?-- *Uh oh*. Evan, you broke up with another one?

EVAN

Why would you say that?

CROZ

The cereal buffet. We only have cereal buffet when you break up with someone.

EVAN

Do we?-- No. Tanner and Kate did it to celebrate the one year anniversary of their restaurant. Right, guys?

KATE AND TANNER TRY TO LOOK AWAY...

*

TANNER

*

Well... I mean that's what we told you. Out of love, dude.

*

*

EVAN

Guys. Come on. You didn't have to do all this. I'm fine.

*

CROZ

You're the only person I've ever met who takes breaking up with someone harder than being broken up with.

Also, for the record, she was WAY too hot for dudes anyway.

*

EVAN

I had no choice. Samantha was a closet Ravens fan. I just couldn't date someone who owns a Joe Flacco jersey and doesn't hate themselves for it. I just can't.

*

CROZ

*

Gross.

EVAN

Besides, she just didn't have *that*...

CROZ

TANNER

Oh God.

Oh no.

KATE

It's way too early on a Monday for this.

EVAN

I didn't say anything.

CROZ

Yeah, but we all know what you mean. She doesn't have that...

KATE

Lea Carter-ness.

CROZ

(jokingly annoyed)

I've never even met Lea Carter and I want to *murder* Lea Carter. Nothing gruesome - maybe like, *slightly bump her off the side of a cruise ship?*

*

*

EVAN

I didn't say anything about Lea Carter!

TANNER

Just like you didn't "say anything" in high school - to your true best friend - about Lea Carter and her 'magical smelling hair' and 'freckles for days.'

KATE

And in college. To your truer best friend.

*

EVAN

Fine. What's wrong with me comparing girls to the one who got away?

*

CROZ

Because, Evan Almighty, she didn't get away. There was no 'got' to get away from.

EVAN

You *know* I blew it graduation night--

CROZ

My ears are already bleeding...

EVAN

It would just be nice, you know, to meet someone I have a similar connection with, that's all. Like you two.

*

TANNER

Well, have your high school best friend visit you at Pitt and then leave him in your teeny dorm room with your hot "college best friend" for an entire sociology class.

KATE

There were two options: "Madden" or sex.

TANNER

We did both.

TANNER AND KATE SHARE AN ADMIRING AGREEING GLANCE.

*

CROZ

*Whattaya say we blow this cereal
stand?*

*

CROZ DRINKS HER BOWL AND EVAN'S AS THEY ALL GET UP-- WHEN THEY REALIZE THE CHEERY **SWEDISH AIRBNB'ER** HAS BEEN EATING WITH THEM THE WHOLE TIME. PUTTING HIS CEREAL BOWL IN THE SINK, HE QUIETLY RETURNS TO HIS ROOM.

EVAN

Whether they speak English or not, we
need to reconsider this AirBnB thing.

KATE REACHES FOR HER KEYS, WHICH ARE ATOP SOME MAIL. IN THE PROCESS, SHE GRABS A LETTER AND TRIES TO HAND IT TO EVAN:

*

KATE

Oh, I forgot. Ev, you got mail - that
somehow isn't a Bed, Bath & Beyond
coupon. Your Mom forwarded it from her
house...

*

*

EVAN

I'm only interested if it's a check.

Does it feel like a check?

KATE MAKES HIM TAKE IT. NOTICING HIS NAME (IN ADOLESCENT SCRIBBLE) LISTED AS THE SENDER AND THE ADDRESSEE, HE OPENS:

EVAN (CONT'D)
(laughably perusing)

Wait. *I know what this is.* Tanner.

*

Dude. *Remember that English assignment
senior year? "Write A Letter To Your
Future Self" or whatever?*

*

*

TANNER

That's it? No way-- I don't think I
turned mine in.

EVAN

That crazy bird-lady sent them ten
years later after all.

TANNER

Ms. Goodson named all of her birds
after celebrities - with 'bird' in
them. *Alec Birdwin, Birdtney Spears-*

KATE

What does it say?

EVAN

It's stupid. "*Dear Future Evan, when
you get this, it is my hope you will
have achieved all of the following...*"
(somewhat proudly)

I was kinda a dreamer back then--

CROZ HITS THE LIGHTS...

CROZ

Dear Evan Hansen, sorry, but it's time
for us to go save the world. And in
'save the world,' I mean do a minimal
amount of work, take excessive coffee
breaks and aggressively stare at the
clock until lunch.

EVAN PUTS THE LETTER IN HIS BACKPOCKET AS HE AND KATE EXIT.
WITH KATE GONE, TANNER PULLS PARTY SUPPLIES FROM THE CLOSET
AND HE AND CROZ HASTILY STUFF HER BAG WITH THEM BEFORE
WALKING OUT...

EXT. APARTMENT/PIEROGI BEAR - CONTINUOUS
(EVAN, CROZ, KATE, TANNER)

OUTSIDE, KATE AND TANNER IMMEDIATELY SAY "LATER" AND MAKE A SHARP RIGHT TO THE FIRST FLOOR RESTAURANT TO UNLOCK THE DOOR.

EVAN

CROZ

Happy One Year!

Cheerio.

*

EVAN AND CROZ NOD AND HOP ON BIRD SCOOTERS (A HELMETED EVAN STEERS CAUTIOUSLY, WHILE CROZ IS A HELMET-LESS DAREDEVIL, KHAKIS FLAPPING IN THE WIND) - THE DOWNTOWN SKYSCAPE IN THE FOREGROUND, THE "PIEROGI BEAR" NEON SIGN LIGHTS UP BEHIND.

INT. HEINZ KETCHUP FACTORY FLOOR - LATE MORNING
(CROZ, EVAN, MELVIN, SUIT TYPE, KELLEN)

EVAN ("QUALITY ASSURANCE SPECIALIST" TAG) AND CROZ ("QUALITY ASSURANCE ASSOCIATE") SET UP THE DAY'S KETCHUP SAMPLES.

CROZ

I'm going to tell you something that
is going to piss you off, but it's
time you know: I don't like ketchup.

*

*

*

EVAN

What? We *literally* sample ketchup for
a living.

CROZ

I don't like ketchup. Too tomato-ey.

EVAN

Why have you worked here all this time
then?

*

*

CROZ

Besides our charming lesbian-straight
dude repartee?

EVAN

Well, *of course...*

CROZ

Love this job. Good hours. Benefits.
An unlimited supply of toilet paper to
borrow for my apartment...

EVAN

(maybe speaking to himself?)

*And you're sure this wasn't just a
temporary job you took after college
because it seemed cool or whatever?*

*
*
*
*

CROZ

No. It's really good toilet paper.

MELVIN, THEIR FOREMAN, APPROACHES. SPEAKING IN HIS USUAL
INCREDIBLY THICK PITTSBURGH ACCENT:

MELVIN

*Yinz need to gitda special morning
meeting ennat.*

*

WHAT'S THAT? AFTER A BEAT, LOCAL EVAN TRANSLATES FOR CROZ:

EVAN

Apparently there's a morning meeting.

*

CROZ

You think Melvin's from Pittsburgh?

THEY STROLL OVER (WE NOTICE EVAN'S LETTER IN HIS BACKPOCKET) -
AND REACH THE MEETING AS A **SUIT-TYPE** KICKS IT OFF:

SUIT TYPE

Quick special announcement! One of our
young stars from European Operations
is returning home to the factory he
interned at back in college!

*
*
*

(MORE)

SUIT TYPE (CONT'D)

I'd like to introduce our new General
 Manager of Development and Quality
 Assurance... Kellen Peters!

*

IN RESPONSE TO **KELLEN** WALKING UP, EVAN'S DESPONDENT. NO WAY:

*

EVAN

This is hell. I am in hell.

*

INT. OPEN KITCHEN - PIEROGI BEAR - SAME TIME
 (TANNER, KATE, CROZ, EVAN, HELENE, JUSTIN)

*

KATE AND TANNER PLAYFULLY BANDY ABOUT WHILE RHYTHMICALLY
 PREPPING AT THEIR NOUVEAU PIEROGI JOINT. IT'S HIP IN A GOOD
 WAY - *LIKE THE TIMOTHEE CHALAMET OF 'ROGI JOINTS*
 (AESTHETICALLY A PGH-VERSION OF SANTA MONICA'S HUCKLEBERRY).

TANNER

Ninety-percent of restaurants fail in
 their first year. We didn't. Makes no
 sense.

KATE

Packed every day. I don't get it.

TANNER

We're just awesome, I guess.

KATE

That's the only possible explanation.

TANNER

And probably the good food.

KATE

That's possibly a factor as well.

TANNER TRIPS OVER HIS LACES AND ALMOST GOES DOWN.

KATE (CONT'D)

That's probably why the other big
chefs in the city don't wear laces...
or button-down shirts. Or suspenders.

TANNER NODS TO A NEWSPAPER CLIP OF HIM & KATE ON THE WALL
(AMONGST OTHERS). HEADLINE: "REAL CHEFS DON'T WEAR CROCS."

TANNER

Baseball managers used to wear suits.
Wool. Every game.

CHARMED, SHE SNEAKS A KISS. TANNER TRIES TO EVOLVE TO A MAKE
OUT SESH. BUT SHE HALTS - AND TRIES TO GRAB HIS FANCY ASS
HANDKERCHIEF...

*
*
*

TANNER (CONT'D)

What do you think you're doing,
m'lady?

KATE

The onions are making me tear up.

TANNER

You know one doesn't actually *use* a
handkerchief like this.

*
*

KATE

Wait. You were serious? I thought you
were joking when you said you never
use it.

*

TANNER

It's hand-printed Florentine silk--

*
*

KATE

So you've never used it?

*
*

TANNER

*You know it's for show-- Use it? Use
it for what?*

*
*

KATE

Wiping onion tears? Sneezing?

TANNER

Sneezing?! I would never.

KATE

*So... you're going to let me use it
or...?*

HE GRABS HER A PAPER TOWEL:

KATE (CONT'D)
(fondly)

You must *really* love me.

TANNER

Well, why don't you give me an
opportunity to prove it? Maybe we
finally take a night off later this
week? We could have that talk we said
we'd have when we reached our one-year
milestone and then make out and then
make out plus and then watch *maybe*
half a "Floribama Shore" - before
passing out at 8:30.

*
*
*
*
*
*

KATE

I wish. Tanner, we own a restaurant.

We can't just *take a night off*.
(beat)

*
*

Who would run the restaurant anyway?

*

TANNER GLANCES AT **HELENE**, A BABUSHKA-WEARING, PIEROGI-MAKING "STUDDABUBBA," WHO FROWNS BACK. **JUSTIN**, A WET-BEHIND-THE EARS TEEN, TRIES TO HELP HER. HELENE SLAPS HIS HAND AWAY.

TANNER

You're right. We'll put a pin in it.

KATE SLIPS ANOTHER KISS. AND TRIES TO STEAL THE HANDKERCHIEF. TANNER STOPS HER AND "STERNLY" WARNS NOT TO TRY IT AGAIN. *

INT. HEINZ KETCHUP FACTORY - MINUTES LATER
(EVAN, CROZ, KELLEN)

EVAN/CROZ GRADE THE SAMPLES WITH OFFICIOUS NON-OFFICIOUSNESS.

EVAN

KELLEN, bro. Kell-en. *Kellen...* *

CROZ

You just keep saying his name.

EVAN

We were rivals. High school, then Pitt together. Both star interns here. It was ruthless.

CROZ

How ruthless could it be? This is a ketchup factory.

EVAN

RUTHLESS, man. He would try to lock me in the bathroom so I'd be late and throw me off during meetings by talking about how in high school he used to go over to Lea Carter's house--

CROZ

Lea Who?

EVAN

-- Then right before graduation they announced there was a job opening in development in Europe and they offered it to me. Which was incredible because you know I always wanted to travel. See the world. Eat foods I didn't know the names of or whatever--

*

*

CROZ

Why would you want to do that? Just ask someone or look at the menu.

EVAN

But, you know, that was when my Dad got sick-- so... I turned it down and they gave it to Kellen. I mean, *I did the right thing*. And then sticking around after to be near Mom. It's just...

CROZ

You're The Good Wife. But a son.

*

EVAN

Sure-- I just hadn't heard anything about Kellen in years. I assumed he fizzled out.

*

*

CROZ

Until today.

EVAN

Until today. And now he's my BOSS. My boss, dude. The person I report to. My superior.

CROZ

Ohhhh. I thought you were using the early 2000s definition of 'boss,' as in 'cool.'

EVAN

Beating Kellen for that job was, like, the greatest moment of my life.

CROZ

I'm pretty sure I've seen grainy cell phone video of you yelling "*This is the greatest moment of my life!*" at a Black Eyed Peas concert.

EVAN

I regret that period of my life.
(beat)

Honestly though, even after passing on the job, I assumed I'd get out of here eventually. Maybe start my own company, or whatever. Something. But here I still am, doing the most Pittsburgh job ever: sampling freaking ketchup.

*

*

*

*

CROZ

He's behind you.

EVAN

EXACTLY! All these years, I know it's petty, but I looked at him in my rear-view. And now that turd burg is in the fast lane.

CROZ

Seriously, the *boss-boss* is behind you.

EVAN

That turd burg is behind me? He's right behind me? Like, I'll turn around and he'll be standing there?

THERE'S NO WAY, RIGHT? RIGHT? EVAN SLOWLY ABOUT FACES. KELLEN IS THERE. EVAN BRACES, BUT AFTER A LONG BEAT... KELLEN WARMLY HUGS HIM (WE NOTICE THE LETTER IN EVAN'S BACKPOCKET AGAIN).

KELLEN

This turd burg is excited to see you!

INT. PIEROGI BEAR - LUNCH TIME
(EVAN, CROZ, TANNER, KATE)

EVAN, CROZ AND KATE IN "THEIR" U-SHAPED FOREST GREEN HERRINGBONE BOOTH. THE RESTAURANT BUSTLES HEARTILY ABOUT. *

EVAN

Kellen Peters hugged me! He HUGGED me.

CROZ

I was there. Kellen Peters hugged him.

TANNER APPROACHES WITH SALADS.

TANNER

Pittsburgh Salads all around. And, of course, the most important ingredient.

TANNER HANDS HIS PHONE TO KATE:

TANNER (CONT'D)

Boomerang me, babe.

KATE "BOOMERANGS" AS TANNER SHOWILY SPRINKLES FRIES ATOP THE SALADS (ALA "SALT BAE")...

EVAN

Today I feel like you guys are just trying to make me feel better with food.

TANNER

Never.

HE DISCREETLY SPRINKLES MORE FRIES ONLY ON EVAN'S SALAD.

EVAN

'Pierogi Bear, where we put more fries on salads than they do.'

TANNER

I'm using that on The Gram!

TAKING HIS PHONE, TANNER TYPES THE CAPTION INTO INSTAGRAM. *

TANNER (CONT'D)

'... more fries on salads than they do!' HASHTAG ONE YEAR ANNIVERSARY, *

HASHTAG FRYPORN. *

CROZ

By the way, we're honored to be your lunch guests on this HASHTAG GLORIOUS OCCASION.

KATE

You're *always* our lunch guests.

CROZ

Food tastes best when it's free.

TANNER
(sitting down)

So... what'd I miss?

KATE

Kellen Peters hugged him. Croz was there.

TANNER

Kellen P-- That turd burg from high school? *He's nice now?*

EVAN

He was too nice. Like when *you meet a friend's cat for the first time.*

CROZ

I've never trusted a cat in my entire life.

EVAN

He thought I was *joking* when I called him '*turd burg!*' *Can you believe that?*
And he's married! With kids! Has a mortgage! *He's been to France.*

*

KATE

Those all seem like normal things normal people do.

EVAN

And get this. He's gay. He said when he used to talk about going over to Lea Carter's house... it was to hook up with her brother.

TANNER

Connor Carter? Dude, I saw Connor Carter in the locker room without his shirt on once. I GET IT.

EVAN

He got promoted within a year - after he took the job *they offered me*. He's Heinz royalty. I HAD NO IDEA. Worst of all, it doesn't seem he EVER thought of me as a rival. Ever.

KATE

Not to be a dick, but... *isn't this all good news?*

EVAN NOTICES THE SWEDISH AIRBNB'ER AT A VERY NEARBY TABLE, ALSO EATING A SALAD. THE AIRBNB'ER NODS.

EVAN

No, it's the worst.

TANNER

What level Evan 'it's the worst' we at here? The Pirates lost to the Cubs, the Penguins lost to the Flyers or... the Steelers lost to the Browns?

EVAN

Worse. Like that time I was dating that girl that said Pittsburgh Salads were 'unhealthy.'

THEY ALL GASP. A FRY FALLS OUT OF CROZ'S MOUTH.

EVAN (CONT'D)

It's just-- My rival, who apparently isn't a rival at all, so let's say, my *rival-adjacent*, who I always assumed was living in some unheated, windowless basement with only a "The Hangover Part II" poster on the wall, is actually living the life I always envisioned. Meanwhile, I'm floating aimlessly, like an udderless ship.

KATE

Rudderless.

EVAN

What?

KATE

It's 'rudderless.' If you were 'udderless,' you would be without *an udder to suckle milk from*.

CROZ

To be clear: since he broke up with Samantha, he doesn't have that either.

TANNER NOTICES A HARRIED HELENE IN THE KITCHEN...

*

TANNER

I guess I have to go do my job.

*

TANNER GETS UP, BUT IN DOING SO, TRIPS ON HIS LACES. AGAIN. HE NOTICES AN ENVELOPE NEXT TO THE TABLE. PICKING IT UP:

TANNER (CONT'D)

Believe this is yours?

EVAN

Must have fallen out of my pocket...

HUH. WHAT IS THE DEAL WITH THIS THING? EVAN RE-EXAMINES, THIS TIME A LITTLE MORE INTENTLY...

KATE

So that's like a list of things your younger self wanted you to do? How many things?

EVAN

Looks like... One hundred and twelve.

CROZ

One hundred and twelve? That's a creepy ass number.

EVAN

What?

CROZ

I'm just saying that's a random, creepy ass number. I'm now *certain* when you kill me, they'll find my hair reconfigured next to my body in the numbers 1-1-2.

EVAN

I think I was just putting down everything that came to mind...

CROZ

Like what?

EVAN

I'd rather not--

CROZ GRABS THE SECOND PAGE OF THE LIST. STARTS READING...

CROZ

"Throw a Quinceanera." "Make out with
the chick from 'Twilight.'" "Score a
touchdown for the Steelers."

*

*

CROZ ALLUDES EVAN'S GRASP, HANDING IT TO TANNER.

TANNER

"Survive an upside down
rollercoaster." "Start a charity."
"Solve a murder."

TANNER ALLUDES EVAN'S GRASP, HANDING OVER TO KATE.

KATE

"Celebrate Chrismukkah - 'OC-style."
"Save someone's life." "Travel the
world"--

EVAN GETS THE SECOND PAGE BACK. SURVEYS THE WHOLE LIST...

EVAN

You know what's funny? I don't think
I've done any of these. Maybe one--
nope. Not one thing my high school
self assumed I would have done. None.

*

*

BEAT. MAYBE ANOTHER.

CROZ

Yet.

EVAN

What?

CROZ

You haven't done them... yet.

EVAN

You're serious?

CROZ

Michael Shannon serious.

KATE

You know what? You should do them. We should do them. I mean, Tanner and I both certainly would welcome something to do outside of this place. It'll give us all a little dose of our younger selves. Hell, I miss high school Kate. She was a straight up bitch. It was glorious.

TANNER

My high school self almost dunked one time.

CROZ

Aside from liking dudes, dressing goth and an unhealthy obsession with Alba-Stiles early-2000s dance movies, I was kick ass in high school.

WARMING TO THE IDEA, EVAN SCANS THE LIST TO #1. SMILES.

TANNER

Dude, it arrived today for a reason. You wrote it for a reason. You just said you're udderless--

KATE

Rudderless.

TANNER

This is your rudder - and udder.

Suckle that milk.

CROZ

Suckle it.
(beat)

It will take you back to the time when
Kellen was in your rear view...

KATE

And you could eat the whole box of
Cookie Crisp.

LOOKING AT #1 AGAIN, EVAN PONDERES FOR A FEW BEATS. THEN:

EVAN

(coyly)

Maybe I could give number one a try
and see how it goes. *And if I did, you*
guys would, like, totally support it?

*
*
*

THEY ALL NOD "YEAH."

EVAN (CONT'D)

Guess I'm finding and marrying Lea
Carter then.

*

END OF ACT ONE!

ACT TWO!

INT. PIEROGI BEAR - SECONDS LATER
(KATE, EVAN, TANNER, CROZ)

OH, HE'S REALLY GONNA DO THIS...

KATE

Marry Lea Carter?

EVAN

Marry Lea Carter.

TANNER

Marry Lea Carter?!

EVAN

Marry Lea Carter.

CROZ

Marry... what's her name again?

EVAN

I mean, I know marrying Lea Carter is kinda nuts, but like Tanner said, I wrote this for a *reason* and it arrived today - after a break up and Kellen - for a *reason*.

TANNER

Did I say that? Because *reasonably* speaking, I'm one of the more *unreasonable* people I've ever met.

EVAN

And Kate, I miss my high school self too. I was ambitious, spontaneous. I want a taste of *that* Evan again.

KATE

Ev, no joke, I was a *bee-atch* in high school.

EVAN

I mean, you're passionate, sure--

KATE

I stole my Mom's birth control pills from her purse - and just threw them out to screw with her.

EVAN

Guys. The more I think about it, I've been waiting for something just like this. Cereal buffets only go so far. I'm doing this. And I need your help.

TANNER, KATE AND CROZ EXCHANGE A LONG GLANCE. THEN, OFF EVAN:

TANNER

Fine.

CROZ

Yeah, I'm in.

KATE

You know I'm in. But this better not be like the time you tried to convince me the "Lost" finale was good.

EVAN

I regret that period of my life.

CROZ

When was the last time you talked to bae?

EVAN

Tanner was there. Graduation night party. Ten years ago.

CROZ

Christ.

EVAN

Dude, I know I'm not going to marry
her today. It'll take time. But that's
exactly *why* I've got to get going,
IMMEDIATELY. I'm already ten years
behind. You guys are right. Every girl
I-- *at our age is it girl or woman?*

TANNER

KATE

Girl.

Woman.

EVAN

Okay, every... *girl-woman* I meet, I
compare to Lea Carter. Why spend my
life comparing them all to '*the one*
with the magical smelling hair and
freckles for days' when... *the girl-*
woman could freaking be THAT GIRL-
WOMAN?

EV'S GOT A POINT...

EVAN (CONT'D)

So, should I just Facebook Message
her?

CROZ

*

FACEBOOK MESSAGE HER? Like, on
Facebook?

*

EVAN

*

Yeah.

*

KATE

Guys are idiots-- what are you, a
psychopath?

*

EVAN

I don't *feel like a psychopath.*

CROZ

That's definitely what a psychopath
would say.

EVAN

I didn't say I was going to call her
on the phone.

KATE

Because if you did, you'd be a serial
killer.

EVAN

So how do I reach out to her then?

CROZ

Dude, it's 20-18. There are literally
millions of ways to passive
aggressively reach out, without *really*
reaching out.

(MORE)

CROZ (CONT'D)

It's the Golden Era for dude-bitches
just like you to randomly touch base
after a decade with your high school
dream girl.

EVAN

Just as long as I don't Facebook or
call her - because then I'd be...

KATE

A psychopath and/or serial killer. Or
Tanner's Dad.

*

EVAN

So, from the female perspective, I...

*

CROZ

Slide into her DMs.

KATE NODS IN AGREEMENT.

*

EVAN

Instagram?

CROZ

Instagram. Where photos are either a
hot girl's legs - or two hot dogs. WHO
KNOWS?

EVAN

But I don't follow her.

KATE

None of us believes that.

EVAN

Seriously. I thought it would be
 creepy if a dude who blew it at a
 party ten years ago randomly added her
 out of nowhere. Well, and, maybe, I
 don't know... *I can't figure out her*
handle. For the life of me.

*
*
*
*
*
*

KATE

So we'll help you find it.

*

EVAN

I guess. I think it's obscure--

*

TANNER

Dude, combined we have four times as
 many mutual friends' accounts to
 infiltrate.

*
*
*

SEEING THEY'RE ALL CONFIDENT IN THIS APPROACH:

EVAN

(to Croz)

How much time left on our lunch break?

CHECKING HER WATCH, DOING COMPLEX SKY MATH:

CROZ

Five minutes... PLUS five minutes for
 a bathroom break... PLUS five vending
 machine minutes pretending to buy a
 Coke Zero... PLUS five post-vending
 machine minutes for a smoke break.

EVAN

We don't smoke.

CROZ

WHY DO THEY GET A BREAK AND WE DON'T?

EVAN

Guess we have twenty minutes to find
Lea Carter's Instagram then.

LONG BEAT.

EVAN (CONT'D)

That meant "go."

PHONES OUT, THEY'RE OFF AS A "24"-ESQUE CLOCK NOISE BEGINS.

"20 MINUTES."

INT. PIEROGI BEAR - LATER
(TANNER, CROZ, EVAN, KATE)

"18 MINUTES."

TANNER

... no pics of Lea Carter on her old
best friend, Melanie Penn's page.
Think they hate each other's guts now?

INT. PIEROGI BEAR - LATER
(CROZ, EVAN, KATE, TANNER)

"14 MINUTES."

CROZ

Good news! She's not boning that Ross
Finck from the lacrosse team anymore.
His entire account is shots of his
Ukrainian girlfriend in *extremely*
skimpy dresses and him in a Steelers
jersey. He has a beer belly.

INT. PIEROGI BEAR - LATER
(KATE, CROZ, EVAN, TANNER)

"10 MINUTES."

*

KATE

Unfortunately no mention of her on
English class buddy Yolanda Topper's
page either. Yolanda's pet potbelly
pig, Gregory, is missing though. And
she's really torn up about it.

*

*

INT. PIEROGI BEAR - LATER
(CROZ, KATE, TANNER, EVAN)

"6 MINUTES."

DISMAYED, THEY DON'T KNOW WHAT ELSE TO SEARCH. UNTIL--

CROZ
(OFF Evan's Heinz polo)

Wait. *Didn't you say Kellen dated Lea
Carter's older brother?*

THEY ALL FURIOUSLY SEARCH FOR KELLEN'S ACCOUNT.

KATE

Found it. @KoolKellen112.

THEY ALL QUICKLY GO THROUGH HIS PICS. FOR A FEW BEATS. THEN:

CROZ

Boom. @carterconnor89.

EVERYONE MOVES TO CONNOR'S ACCOUNT...

CROZ (CONT'D)

Even for a gay guy he has *too many
pics of his abs--* HOLY CRAP, HOLY
CRAP, IS THIS HER?

CROZ HANDS HER PHONE TO EVAN. IT'S A FAMILY PHOTO. NEXT TO CONNOR: LEA CARTER. *LEA FREAKING CARTER*. HE'S PARALYTIC. COMING TO, HE NERVOUSLY CLICKS HER TAG (@LCNOTTHEHILLS):

IT'S PRIVATE.

EVAN'S HEAD SINKS...

*

TANNER

You can still message her.

EVAN

What do I say?

CROZ

Whatever it is, make it snappy. I want time to get a Coke Zero.

EVAN TAKES HIS PHONE OUT AND REALIZES ALL EYES ARE ON HIM:

*

EVAN

I need to concentrate.

*

THE "24" CLOCK PICKS UP BRIEFLY AS HE GETS UP AND WALKS ACROSS THE RESTAURANT...

*

*

KATE

You ever think it's weird - no matter how busy the restaurant - *how the best table is always open for us?*

CROZ

I assumed you reserved it.

KATE

Nope.

CROZ

Huh. That's cool.

INT. MEN'S BATHROOM - PIEROGI BEAR - SAME TIME

WHAT TO SAY. WHAT. TO. SAY. EVAN, STARING AT A BLANK DIRECT MESSAGE SCREEN. **THE 24-CLOCK RUNS THROUGHOUT...**

*

*

EVAN

Don't be creepy. *Don't be creepy.*

LEAVING THE MESSAGE SCREEN, HE GOES BACK TO CONNOR'S PAGE. FLIPPING THROUGH HE COMES UPON A PIC OF LEA CARTER, TAKING A PHOTO OF HER DINNER: "LITTLE SIS IS A FOODIE NERD!"-- WAIT.

EVAN (CONT'D)

That's it!

*

BACK TO THE MESSAGING SCREEN, EVAN STARTS TYPING CONFIDENTLY - SPEAKING AS HE TYPES (ITALICS/QUOTES):

EVAN (CONT'D)

*"Hey - been a while and this is
random, but wanted to"--*

HOLY CRAP. OUT OF NOWHERE/A TOILET STALL: SWEDISH AIRBNB'ER, WHO FLASHES A SUPPORTIVE THUMBS UP. STARTLED, EVAN BOBBLES AND DROPS HIS PHONE. NONCHALANTLY THE SWEDISH AIRBNB'ER SPRAYS HIMSELF WITH POTPOURRI AND EXITS.

PICKING UP HIS PHONE, EVAN CLEANS IT - AND DELETES/RE-WRITES.

EVAN (CONT'D)

*"Lea Carter - been a beat and this is
super random, but noticed you're sorta
a foodie. You tried Pierogi Bear?"*

HE SENDS IT.

THEN REALIZES IT AUTOCORRECTED/CAPITALIZED 'LEA CARTER.'

EVAN (CONT'D)

Oh no.

AFTER A BEAT, HE TYPES:

EVAN (CONT'D)

*"Sorry. Didn't mean to yell. It
autocorrect capitalized your name
because that's how it's usually used
in my phone I guess."*

*

*

SENDS.

EVAN (CONT'D)

*"Not that I have used it that way. Or
any way at all."*

SENDS.

EVAN (CONT'D)

*"I have no idea why it capitalized
your name."*

SENDS.

EVAN (CONT'D)

*"I just wanted to tell you about the
pierogi shop."*

SENDS.

IT AUTOCORRECTED 'PIEROGI' TO 'PITIFUL.'

EVAN (CONT'D)

*"*pierogi"*

SENDS.

EVAN (CONT'D)

"Anyway, it's @PierogiBear."

SENDS.

EVAN (CONT'D)

"@PierogiBearPGH."*

SENDS.

ABOUT TO TYPE AGAIN, EVAN REALIZES, OH GOD, HE'S ECLIPSED THE *
ENTIRE SCREEN IN MESSAGES AND **THE 24-ESQUE CLOCK CRESCENDOS.** *

EXT. PIEROGI BEAR/APARTMENT - MINUTES LATER
(TANNER, CROZ, EVAN, KATE)

FRIENDS IN PURSUIT (CROZ STRUGGLES TO DISCREETLY KEEP THE *
PARTY FAVORS IN HER BAG), A FRUSTRATED EVAN TRUDGES TO A BIRD *
SCOOTER, HOPS ON AND SPEEDS DOWN THE BLOCK...

TANNER

It'll be fine!

EVAN'S GOING TOO FAST, HITS A POT HOLE AND AWKWARDLY TUMBLES.
THE GROUP GASPS/HOLDS BACK CHUCKLES:

*
*

TANNER (CONT'D)

It'll be fine.

EXT. PIEROGI BEAR/APARTMENT - MINUTES LATER
(EVAN, KATE, TANNER, CROZ)

IN ASSEMBLY LINE FASHION, THE FRIENDS APPLY MR. ROGERS BAND-AIDS ON EVAN (CROZ UNWRAPS, TANNER PEELS AND KATE APPLIES).

EVAN

I just -- got excited. So excited I
probably blew it and Lea Carter almost
certainly will get a restraining
order. But for the first time, in like
forever, I had a goal. It was far-
fetched, but it was a goal.

*
*
*
*
*

KATE

Ev, it's fine. This is what best
friends are for.

TANNER

She means 'best *college* friends.'

KATE

College is a more formative, impactful
experience, thus college best friends
are more valuable and everlasting than
mere *high school* best friends.

TANNER

College years are only formative if one hasn't already *come of age* with their high school best friend, who, in turn, is more valuable and everlasting. There's a reason John Hughes films didn't take place in college.

*

KATE

Yeah. Because he didn't graduate college.

CROZ

Fun fact!

EVAN

I made this whole day about me - and it should be about you two. One year restaurant anniversary is a big deal.

TANNER

I mean, it's whatever.

EVAN

You don't mean that.

TANNER

No, I don't. It's a big freaking deal.

*

EVAN

I remember you guys first talking about it.

TANNER

I believe I said, "*I like pierogies a lot.*"

*

*

KATE

And I said, "*Let's open a restaurant that serves them.*" POOF. MAGIC.

*

*

CROZ

So... Evan Rachel Wood, what's the plan with number one and the list now?

*

EVAN

Well, marrying a girl you haven't seen in a decade is... tough. Marriage in general is a *long game*.

*

TANNER TAKES NOTE, SNEAKING A LONG GLANCE AT AN UNAWARE KATE.

CROZ

So you're just gonna give up?

*

SHAKING HIS HEAD "NO," EVAN PULLS OUT THE LIST:

EVAN

When was the last time I committed to something I *really* cared about?

KATE

There was that one week you committed to bringing Carpenter Jeans back.

EVAN

I regret that period of my life --
But, I owe it to my younger self to continue on.

(MORE)

EVAN (CONT'D)

And high school Evan wouldn't have worried about what just happened. He would have, honestly, just gotten a Slurpie-- but then moved on from number one to...

(OFF no response...)

Number two.

KATE

I'm almost afraid to ask: what is it?

ALREADY BACK ON THE BIRD SCOOTER...

EVAN

"Have A Job You Love That Doesn't Suck Balls."

INT. HEINZ KETCHUP FACTORY - LATER
(CROZ, EVAN, MELVIN)

EVAN PACES BRISKLY THROUGH THE FACTORY, CROZ AT HIS SIDE.

CROZ

Bro! Think about this for a second!

EVAN STOPS. THINKS - FOR A SECOND.

EVAN

I'm doing it.

CROZ

Fair enough. That's all I asked.

You're a good, honest man.

EVAN APPROACHES MELVIN:

EVAN

Melvin, we need to talk.

MELVIN

Can we do this later?

EVAN

Why, are you busy right now?

MELVIN

I am not.

EVAN TAKES A DEEP BREATH. THEN ANOTHER. FINALLY:

EVAN

I QUIT! I'm not happy and I owe it to
my younger self to pursue 'a job I
love that doesn't suck balls!'... So,
yeah, I'm quitting.

A BEAT OR TWO OF SILENCE.

MELVIN

Ehh-- No thanks. Yinz don't mean it.

EVAN

Yinz does mean it!

MELVIN

Yinz don't. But how's abaht yinz humor
me and go tell da new boss man anyway?

INT. KELLEN'S OFFICE - HEINZ KETCHUP FACTORY - MINUTES LATER
(KELLEN, EVAN)

EVAN SITS ACROSS FROM KELLEN, THE ENERGY SLIGHTLY DAMPENED.
KELLEN'S DESK IS *ALREADY* ADORNED WITH TRAVEL/FAMILY PHOTOS.

KELLEN

Evan Enford, you're valuable to us
here at Heinz. Are you sure--

EVAN

There's nothing you can say. I quit.

KELLEN

Fair enough. What do you plan to do next?

EVAN

Not sure. First, collect Unemployment, you know, for rent and everything--

KELLEN

You can't collect Unemployment.

EVAN

What's that now?

KELLEN

If you quit, you can't collect Unemployment.

EVAN

You sure?

KELLEN

Positive.

EVAN

Okay, okay... No biggie. Then fire me.

KELLEN

I'm not going to fire you.

EVAN

Why not?

KELLEN

Because from your reports, you're good enough at your job.

EVAN

The reports say I'm good at my job?

KELLEN

It says, 'good enough.'

EVAN

Is that better or worse than 'good?'

*

INT. HEINZ KETCHUP FACTORY - EARLY EVENING
(CROZ, EVAN)

AS THE SUNLIGHT FADES THROUGH A NEARBY FACTORY WINDOW, EVAN SAMPLES KETCHUP. TRYING TO ACT COOL, CROZ SAUNTERS UP WITH MULTIPLE TOILET PAPER ROLLS STUFFED UNDER HER SHIRT.

*

INT. OPEN KITCHEN - PIEROGI BEAR - EVENING
(TANNER, KATE)

KATE AND TANNER WORK FEVERISHLY AS THE RESTAURANT HUMS. TANNER OBVIOUSLY IS TRYING TO EXPRESS SOMETHING. FINALLY:

TANNER

WHY ISN'T ZOEY SEATING ANYONE ON THE
BACK PATIO?

KATE

Why are you yelling? Maybe we should
just go check?

EXT. BACK PATIO - PIEROGI BEAR - CONTINUOUS
(EVAN, CROZ, KATE, TANNER, HELENE, JUSTIN)

*

THEY STEP OUT TO BANNERS AND STREAMERS AND TOILET PAPER STRUNG ABOUT. AND EVAN AND CROZ.

*

*

EVAN

CROZ

Congrats!

... It's a party thing!

*

CROZ (CONT'D)

*

I didn't know what to say because

*

Tanner said you hate surprise parties -

*

and I should pretend this wasn't one

*

by not yelling, "surprise."

*

KATE
(to Tanner)

*
*

You know it's bad business to close
our entire back patio when the weather
is actually good in Pittsburgh.

*

TANNER

Seemed worth it.

AN ENAMORED KATE LOOKS AROUND. *SHE DOESN'T DISAGREE.* HELENE,
JUSTIN AND A FEW EMPLOYEES JOIN WITH A TRAY OF COCKTAILS.
EVERYBODY TAKES ONE. CHEERS:

*
*
*

TANNER (CONT'D)

KATE

To one year!

To one year!

*

EVERYBODY SIPS AND CONVERSES, LEAVING KATE AND TANNER ALONE.

*

KATE (CONT'D)

I know I don't say it often, but: I'm
a lucky lady--

TANNER IS DOWN ON BENDED KNEE:

KATE (CONT'D)

WAIT. What are you doing? You're not
proposing are you?

TANNER

I am not. I was tying my shoe.

KATE

Whew.

TANNER

Whew?

KATE

You just scared me a little?

TANNER

You know I would never-- you've made it clear. But now that we're talking--

KATE

You know what-- can we just enjoy this beautiful evening?

TANNER

No, let's talk. We said we would when we got here - and here we are. I know you have been pushing it off, but let's go. Let's lay it out, sister.

KATE

It makes me uncomfortable when you call me 'sister' after the things we've done to each other's bodies.

TANNER

Noted.

(beat)

Evan's letter got me thinking. He got this out of nowhere, right - and it affirmed what he's known since he was eighteen: the girl he no doubt wants to spend the rest of his life with. I've felt the same way since the day we met and we...

(*BANGING HANDS TOGETHER*)

... in Evan's dorm room bunkbed.

*

KATE

For me, Evan's letter affirmed
something too: marriage is not for me.

*

TANNER

I hear you - and I know we'll never do
formal titles and two and a half kids
and dogs and Suburus and a white
picket fence and all that stuff. *But*
what about an abbreviated version?
Like, a kid and lizards and Hondas and
a chain link fence?

KATE

You know with my parents' divorce, I
don't-- What we have right now. RIGHT
NOW. Is awesome. Admit it. It's
absolutely awesome.

*

*

TANNER

It's pretty awesome.

KATE

Exactly! We're already married anyway -
to this stupid, amazing restaurant.
Tan, this is the last time we're going
to fall in love. *Can't we forget about*
everything and just enjoy it while
it's happening?

TANNER

Yeah. We can. You know I love you,
Kate Elizabeth Day.

KATE

And I you, Tanner Benjamin Martin.

THEY MOVE TOWARD A KISS WHEN KATE SNEEZES.

KATE (CONT'D)

Is there lavender in this?

TANNER PUTS HER DRINK ASIDE. AND HANDS HER HIS HANDKERCHIEF.

TANNER

Gesundheit.

KATE DOESN'T SAY ANYTHING, BUT SHE'S SMITTEN. WIPING HER NOSE, SHE THEN GOES IN FOR A KISS. THEN A MAKE OUT...

INT. FLOOR/OPEN KITCHEN - PIEROGI BEAR - LATE NIGHT
(EVAN, TANNER, SWEDISH AIRBNB'ER, CROZ, KATE, LEA CARTER, IDIOTICALLY HANDSOME GUY)

KITCHEN-ADJACENT, EVAN AND CROZ AWAIT GRUB FROM KATE/TANNER.

EVAN
(candidly)

Maybe-- maybe the life I have is what
I was meant for-- and high school
dreams are just that: high school
dreams.

TANNER

I don't know, man. I'm still confident
I'll dunk *some day*--

NO IDEA HE WAS STANDING WITH THEM...

SWEDISH AIRBNB'ER

Evan. DUDE. WAKE UP. WAKE UP. As your
AirBnB'er and dear friend the past few
days I can't watch this anymore.

*

(MORE)

SWEDISH AIRBNB'ER (CONT'D)

You're like, *'My life is like whatever* *
and I'm like whatever about it!' You
 got this FREAKING LETTER-- FOR THE *
 LOVE OF-- go for it, man! *Peace.* *

FLASHING A PEACE SIGN, THE SWEDISH AIRBNB'ER, BACKPACK ON,
 LEAVES HIS KEYS AND EXITS.

CROZ

One, I think he *does* speak English.
 Two, I'm gonna miss the hell out of
 him. Third, he's right about the list.
 Maybe, like the best dance movie, or
 even *movie-movie*, of all time, "Save
 The Last Dance"... you should go the
 Stiles route. Save the best for last.

TANNER

Exactly. Work your way up, or maybe *
 just start with the easy stuff? Are *
you even ready to date the girl of *
your dreams, let alone marry her? *

KATE

And, right now, *what would you do if* *
you quit your job? Honestly? *

EVAN PONDERES FOR A BEAT. AND THEN IT HITS HIM.

EVAN

Holy crap. I *do* need to wake up. I *
 mean, I'm not ready to quit my job.
 Eating ketchup is the only thing I
 currently do *at a professional level.*

(MORE)

EVAN (CONT'D)

And I'm certainly not ready for Lea
Carter. *I suck at dating.* But I was
going about it wrong. There's... one
hundred and twelve things on this
list. If I save the best for last--

CROZ

Like Stiles.

EVAN

Like Julia Stiles-- I can use the time
and the experiences to figure out what
I *actually* want to do with my life.
Maybe even grow into the sort of guy
who knows what he wants and doesn't
need cereal buffets -- *although I love*
them dearly and hope they continue.
You know, evolve into a guy a Lea
Carter would *actually* go for. That's
it. *That's what I'm gonna do.*

TANNER

Cool. Here's your Anniversary Special.
The first pierogi I ever made: turkey,
green beans and Thin Mint cookies. I
was super high and emptied my Mom's
pantry, but trust: it tastes sublime.

EVAN TAKES THE PLATE AND AMBLES ACROSS PIEROGI BEAR TO
"THEIR" BOOTH, WHEN HE NOTICES... IT'S OCCUPIED. *WHAT THE--?*
APPROACHING FROM BEHIND, ABOUT TO TELL THIS PERSON OFF WHEN--

EVAN'S NOSE CATCHES A SHAMPOOED WAFT.

THE SHAMPOOED WAFTS OF SHAMPOOED WAFTS. COULD IT BE?

EVAN

Lea Carter?

THE GIRL IN THE BOOTH RISES AND TURNS. *

AND THERE'S THOSE FRECKLES. FOR DAYS. *

AND THAT... EVERYTHING.

LEA CARTER VERY MUCH IS A LEA CARTER.

LEA CARTER

Enford?

SHE HUGS HIM - AS HE AWKWARDLY JUST STANDS THERE. HE'S NO LONGER BLOOD AND BONES. HE'S NOW 100% PUTTY. EVENTUALLY:

EVAN

Heyyyy there.

LEA CARTER

What are you doing here? It's been
forever!

EVAN

What am I doing here? What are you
doing here?

LEA CARTER

Instagram.
(long beat)

For that.

SHE POINTS TO HER PITTSBURGH SALAD.

LEA CARTER (CONT'D)

I follow the restaurant and when I
saw, '*Pierogi Bear, where we put more
fries on salads than they do!*,' I was
just like, '*Yep. That's where I need
to be. IMMEDIATELY.*'

HIS WORDS? EVAN BITES HIS LIP. HARD.

LEA CARTER (CONT'D)

I know what you're thinking, but, it
is a salad. Without the fries, it
wouldn't be a meal.

EVAN

And that's why you're here?

LEA CARTER

What do you mean?

EVAN

There weren't any messages or
anything... or whatever?

LEA CARTER

I stopped checking my DMs years ago.
Too many dick pics, you know.

EVAN

Totally. Personally, I send elbow pics
- just to keep it exciting.

SHE LAUGHS, BRUSHING HIS ARM. NOW OFFICIALLY 110% PUTTY, EVAN
CAN'T HELP BUT TAKE NOTE. EVENTUALLY COMING TO, THEY SIT.

LEA CARTER

*When was the last time we saw each
other?*

EVAN

You know... I'm not totally sure,
but... I think, maybe, probably--

LEA CARTER

Graduation night party.

EVAN

Graduation night party.

LEA CARTER

Oh man, *we were so much fun back then,*
weren't we?

RIGHT THEN KATE, TANNER AND CROZ APPROACH.

LEA CARTER (CONT'D)

Tanner Martin!

TANNER

Lea Carter.

LEA CARTER

The answer is no.

TANNER

What's that?

LEA CARTER

You can't copy my biology homework.

TANNER

Harsh. Lea Carter, this is my lady
person lover slash co-owner of this
fine food-ery, Kate.

KATE CURTSIES.

EVAN

And this is Crosby.

CROZ

Croz. What up.
(beat; whispering to Evan)

Her hair *really does* smell magical.

LEA CARTER

Nice to meet you. Join us.

THEY SIT. EVAN HAS A SILENT, OUT OF BODY EXPERIENCE WATCHING THEM ALL CO-MINGLING: *IS THIS REAL LIFE?* THEN IT'S BROKEN:

IDIOTICALLY HANDSOME GUY

Hun. Hey Hun.

EVAN NOTICES AN **IDIOTICALLY HANDSOME GUY** STANDING TABLESIDE.

LEA CARTER

Honey! I'm so sorry. Guys, this is
Kevin. My boyfriend. Your stomach
feeling better?

IDIOTICALLY HANDSOME GUY

I apologize. I think there were a few
too many fries on my salad.

TANNER
(stone-faced)

There's no such thing.

IDIOTICALLY HANDSOME GUY JOINS THE BOOTH, SQUEEZING EVAN
TIGHT. AT FIRST DISMAYED AT THE SIGHT OF HIS ARM AROUND LEA
CARTER, EVAN NOTICES LC PICKING AT THE FRIES ON HER SALAD.
RALLIED, HE DISCREETLY PULLS OUT THE LIST. FLIPS TO THE BACK:

"#112: SPEND A NIGHT IN JAIL."

AND HE SMILES. WIDE.

GOOD OLD WAR'S "SMALL WORLD" PLAYS.

WE CONTINUE TO HOLD ON THAT SMILE FOR A WHILE.

STILL ON IT.

AND *RIGHT* BEFORE IT'S ABOUT TO CRACK...

FADE TO BLACK.

END OF ACT TWO!

THE TAG!INT. PIEROGI BEAR - LATER

(TANNER, KATE, CROZ, LEA CARTER, EVAN, EVERYBODY,
IDIOTICALLY HANDSOME GUY)

THE RESTAURANT EMPTY, THE GROUP ALL STARE AT AN ENVELOPE IN
FRONT OF THEM. IT HAS TANNER'S NAME AS ADDRESSEE/ADDRESSER.
THROUGHOUT CROZ SLYLY SNIFFS LEA CARTER'S HAIR.

TANNER

Someone did their homework after all!

*

Think, like Evan's, *it's an inspiring,*
transformative missive that will
provide a new lease on life?

KATE

CROZ

Probably not.

Not a chance.

*

LEA CARTER

You know what? My Dad texted me the
other day about some mail at home. If
it's my letter I'll totally bring it
here so we can all read it. Enford,
you get yours?

*

*

*

*

*

EVAN

Uhh-- I uhh--

*

TANNER

HERE. WE. GO.

TANNER OPENS IT... IT'S ONLY TWO LINES FROM A COLDPLAY SONG:
"LOOK AT THE STARS. LOOK HOW THEY SHINE FOR YOU."

*

*

TANNER (CONT'D)

Whoa. What do you think it means? Is
it a metaphor or--

EVERYBODY

No.

END OF THE TAG!