

TRANSPLANT

"Pilot"

Written by

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EXT. ULYSSES BINGO HALL - NIGHT

An aggressively dull bingo hall in rural South Dakota.

PRE-LAP: DING! DING! DING! Clinking of a fork against glass.

APRIL (O.S.)

Hello everyone. For those who don't know me, I'm April, the sister of the bride.

INT. ULYSSES BINGO HALL - NIGHT

Friends and family are assembled for a rehearsal dinner.

APRIL, 28, dressed in couture, stands at the main table.

APRIL

I haven't seen much of my sister since I moved away from Ulysses but I'm proud to see she has grown into a savvy, intelligent young woman. I don't know Tyler well but I think he's... swell. I know I'm not the most loved person here in town but since we're all here together, I thought I'd announce: I'm officially moving back home. So if you'll join me in raising a glass-
(the crowd does)
To Ulysses and to the happy couple!

Everything FREEZES.

APRIL (V.O.)

Everything I just said is a lie. My sister's an idiot. Tyler's not swell, he's weird. As for moving back to Ulysses; I would never move back here. I hate this town and this town hates me. So why am I lying? It all started yesterday...

INT. APRIL'S STUDIO, NEW YORK CITY - DAY

BRENT, 22, a muscular model enters holding a full breakfast plate and a pile of letters. April's fixing her hair.

BRENT

I made breakfast! Your mailbox was overflowing, so I got the mail too!

APRIL
I have a mailbox?

Brent puts the food down in front of her. There are CARBS!
The pile of mail is mostly bills except for a PINK ENVELOPE
with flowery writing, which April holds.

BRENT
Before you go, I thought maybe we
could talk about my contract?

APRIL
(dropping the letter)
Your what?

BRENT
You said you'd sign me to your
modeling agency. Last night,
remember?

APRIL
(laughing, leaving)
Oh darling, no. No, no, no. Close
the door on your way out.

Brent sulks and eats some carbs.

INT. PHOTOGRAPHY STUDIO - DAY

April's followed by GUY (pronounced 'GEE', hard-G), 30's and
dressed right off the runway. One of those *weird* runways.

GUY
Honey, you've got to stop sleeping
with them fresh off the bus. Let
someone else welcome them to New
York. Like me.

APRIL
Hot dumb guys are my guilty
pleasure and I've been feeling sick
all week, so back off.
(to Andres)
Andres!

ANDRES, the middle-aged photographer in a singlet top turns
from shooting a stunning MODEL and sees April.

ANDRES
(Spanish accent)
April! Good to see you, ma chérie!

APRIL

Cut the crap, Andres. You're meant to be Spanish, not French.

Andres waves away the model, who teeters away on her heels.

ANDRES

(American accent)

OK, what do you want?

APRIL

Have you forgotten our agreement? You've been shooting models from other agencies.

ANDRES

You take good care of me, April. I would never do that.

APRIL

Guy!

Guy shows Andres an iPhone - instagram open.

ANDRES

(trembling)

I- She- she said she didn't even have an instagram.

April gets in real close to Andres. Noses almost touching.

APRIL

If I ever see you again, I will end you and your little insta-friend. I will break your lenses. I will slash your reflectors. I will have your fake Spanish family killed. If you want to shoot in this city, you'll have to go buy a gun like everyone else. Now get out!

Andres runs away. Guy crosses himself. *April clutches at her stomach and staggers for a moment.*

GUY

How about we get you a massage? We could fit one in before meetings.

APRIL

Good idea. I think I need to... need to lay down.

April collapses.

INT. NEW YORK HOSPITAL - DAY

April wakes in a bustling emergency room. She pulls an IV from her arm and solemnly fingers the ripped sleeve.

She tries to flag down a doctor. Nobody stops for her.

APRIL

Excuse me? Can anyone-? Hello?

April turns back to her bed and it's already taken by a crotchety OLD MAN.

OLD MAN

This is my bed and I'm dying in it.

She flags down a YOUNG DOCTOR, fresh from med school.

APRIL

Excuse me, I'm looking for a doctor.

The doctor snatches a clipboard from April's bed.

YOUNG DOCTOR

Stomach pain. Fainting. No health insurance. Diagnosis; acute bilateral kidney failure. Report to 3rd floor for nephrology consult.

The doctor thrusts the clipboard in to April's hands, leaves.

OLD MAN

Kidney failure? Tough break.

INT. NEW YORK HOSPITAL, THIRD FLOOR - DAY

The elevator doors open, April steps into a line of people.

IMPATIENT PATIENT

Hey! No cutting!

April walks over to a staffed desk.

APRIL

Excuse me, I was told to report to the third floor for a consult?

The nurse indicates a sign: "Please be seated while you wait". April obliges.

Beside her, a KINDLY PATIENT, 70's, reads a magazine.

KINDLY PATIENT

Just diagnosed, huh. It's always hard at first but you'll get through it. You're what, 35?

APRIL

(fixes her hair)

I'm 28.

KINDLY PATIENT

Good. Under 30 is much better for the transplant list.

APRIL

How much better?

KINDLY PATIENT

In New York? You could be waiting as little as 5. Maybe 10.

APRIL

5 to 10 YEARS?!

KINDLY PATIENT

Don't worry, you get used to it. There aren't enough dialysis machines so there's a lot of waiting but now I've got my 10-year-old grandson to help me out.

Sure enough, her 10 year old GRANDSON is waiting "on" the dialysis line. He looks over and waves.

KINDLY PATIENT (cont'd)

(waving back)

To think, when I was diagnosed, he was growing in his mother's womb. *And now, only eight more years until his kidney's mine for the taking. 'Organ from a family member?' I'll be good as new.*

(cheery again)

Magazine?

April shakes her head and slowly slides towards the exit.

INT. APRIL'S STUDIO, NYC - NIGHT

April pulls her comforter over her as she collapses on her bed to a 'SQUELCH'. She rolls over and she's lain down on the BREAKFAST PLATE. There's EGG all over her nice dress.

April spots the pink envelope on top of the pile of mail. She opens it and reads, her face breaking in to a vicious smile.

INT. APRIL'S STUDIO - DAY

April zips up her suitcase as Guy enters.

GUY

You're alive! Thank God. I was so worried, I haven't updated my resume in years.

APRIL

I need you to take care of things for a little while. Collect my mail, feed my dog...

(looking around)

First, find out if my dog is alive. If she is, feed her. Address.

She hands Guy a piece of paper, which Guy reads.

GUY

Ew. What's in *South Dakota*?

APRIL

(sighs, ashamed)

Home.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. ULYSSES, SOUTH DAKOTA, MAIN STREET - DAY

The bus departs, leaving April and her Louis Vuitton bags at the side of the road.

The snow-capped Black Hills loom behind the Mom & Pop shopfronts of the small town.

SUPER: ULYSSES, SOUTH DAKOTA, aka. "HOME"

Across the street, outside HUNTER'S HAVEN, the only bar in town, sits a plaid-wearing 60-something IRATE FARMER.

IRATE FARMER

You're that Johnson girl, ain'tcha.

APRIL

April Johnson. Do I know you?

IRATE FARMER

Boo! Booooooooooooo! BOOOOOOOOOOOOOOO!
Booooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooo!

April picks up her bags and leaves.

INT. GRACE'S FLOWERS - DAY

Flower arrangements are tended to by GRACE, 50. The bell above the door rings.

GRACE

Closed. Pick your own flowers.

APRIL

Hey Mom.

Grace drops a vase and it SMASHES on the ground, spreading water across the floor all the way to April's Prada pumps.

Grace turns and stares at April, stone-faced. April's smile falls. The silence is deafening until:

CARLY (O.S.)

MOOOOOM! Wedding emergency! We've got Ms. Durney seated next to Mr. Stanton but they're still fighting about the '72 election.

CARLY, 23, excitable and adorable, sees her sister.

CARLY

APRIL?! I knew you'd come! AAAAAH!!

Carly tackle-hugs her sister and almost smothers her.

GRACE

We didn't get your RSVP.

APRIL

Yeah, uh, my mailman died.

Carly lets go, does a jumpy-up-and-down excitement dance.

CARLY

Mom said you wouldn't come but I knew you wouldn't miss my wedding! I had to invite Jennifer to be my backup bridesmaid, which was the worst but now she's out because you're here! AAAAGH! Ohmygawd, wait right here.

Carly exits.

GRACE
Still in New York?

APRIL
Yup.

GRACE
Still single?

APRIL
Yup.

Grace nods and exits.

APRIL (cont'd)
(under her breath)
Good talk, Mom.

Carly re-enters, holding a dress bag. She senses the tension.

APRIL (cont'd)
What's up with Mom?

CARLY
She's been in a bad mood lately.

APRIL
For how long?

CARLY
About ten years.

April grimaces as Carly shrugs and hands her the bag.

CARLY (cont'd)
Ta-daaaa! What do you think, Maid
of Honor?

APRIL
Seriously? Maid of Honor? I
couldn't possibly...

April unzips the bag and finds a disgusting hot pink frilly dress with feathers coming out of the shoulder pads.

APRIL (cont'd)
(lying)
Oh, I love it! And the wedding's
tomorrow, so even if I wanted to
change this, I couldn't. Right?

GRACE

We need to go prep the rehearsal dinner.

(to April)

You coming?

APRIL

Rehearsal dinner? I might need a shower, the guy next to me on the bus was licking his scabs...

CARLY

Pleasepleasepleeeeeease?!

April reluctantly allows Carly to pull her up the stairs.

INT. ULYSSES BINGO HALL - NIGHT

April helps Carly and Grace arrange flowers.

CARLY

(super-fast)

I thought Jennifer was going to complain about the dress but she said she loved it. Then, yesterday, Mrs. Stanton told me she came in and asked to have it taken up. Above the knee. For a bridesmaid. Can you believe that? April?

APRIL

(totally not listening)

Huh? Oh, Jennifer's the worst.

CARLY

Exactly! See? You get me.

GRACE

Carly, I know you're not eating this week but perhaps you could go see if the food's arrived?

CARLY

Sure.

(to April)

I'm so glad my big sister is here. We have so much to catch up on! AH!

APRIL

Aaah.

Carly leaves.

APRIL (cont'd)
I guess Carly never grew out of her
over-talking thing, huh.

Grace gets in real close to her daughter. Noses almost touching. This must be where April got the tactic from.

GRACE
What are you doing here, April? Is
it money? Are you running from
people? Gangsters? Drug dealers?

APRIL
Jeez, Mom. Glad to see you too.

GRACE
You haven't been back in ten years,
so what is it? How much do you owe
them? Is it Russians?

APRIL
Mom, I'm here for my sister's
wedding. Nothing else.

GRACE
It's always something with you.
What are you not telling me?

APRIL
I don't want it to distract from
the wedding but if you must know,
I've been thinking about moving
home.

GRACE
Home. To Ulysses. You. Here. Home-

APRIL
-YES! Is that so crazy? Sure, New
York is the perfect city in every
way, but maybe it's time I came
back and mended some fences. You
only get one family. And one Mom.

Grace stares in to her daughter's eyes. Her daughter's *soul*.

GRACE
Well I've got two daughters.

Carly enters with LIAM, 28 and ruggedly handsome, who is carrying a massive tray of turkeys.

LIAM
Where do you want these? Oh.

Liam spots April and stops in his tracks.

GRACE
(finally stepping back)
I'll give you two a moment. We'll
talk about this later.

Grace exits.

APRIL
Hi Liam. Long time no see.

LIAM
Ten years. I didn't know you were
coming.

APRIL
Surprise! I would've sent you a
warning text but I think we broke
up before cell phones were a thing.
How've you been?

LIAM
Good. Busy. I'm running things at
the butcher now.

APRIL
I heard about your Dad, I'm sorry.

LIAM
It was a nice service. Four years
ago. Where d'you want these?

APRIL
(pointing)
Over there. Say, we should get
drink tonight and catch up. I was
thinking I'd go to Hunter's and-

Liam puts down the tray and exits, ignoring April.

APRIL (cont'd)
I deserve that.

PRE-LAP: DING! DING! DING! A fork against glass.

INT. ULYSSES BINGO HALL - NIGHT (LATER)

UNCLE TEDDY, 50's and drunk, stands at the main table.

UNCLE TEDDY

My nephew Tyler is a friggin
delight and a true Ulyssian, born
and raised. I remember when he was
a kid, he would sing 'South Dakota'
to the tune of 'Oklahoma'.
Remember? Come on, sing it with me.
"SOOOOOOOOUTH-DAKOTA, where the
wind comes sweepin' down the"-

Uncle Teddy's singing wanes.

UNCLE TEDDY (cont'd)

If your parents could see you now,
they'd be proud to see you marry
this lovely **girl**. To be honest, we
always thought Tyler was a little
too into his musical theater, if
you know what I mean.

April takes fork to glass and Teddy is pulled down to his
seat. April stands and we rejoin the opening scene.

APRIL

Thank you Uncle Teddy. Hello
everyone. For those who don't know
me, I'm April, the sister of the
bride.

April's speech continues but we only hear the voice-over.

APRIL (V.O.)

Ulysses, the town I left the minute
I turned 18. And here I am, sucking
up like the prodigal daughter.
Pretending I want to move back to
this God-forsaken nothing of a
town. Why?

APRIL

To the happy couple! And to
Ulysses!

APRIL (V.O.)

**Because one of these suckers is
gonna give me a goddamn kidney.**

Everyone drinks and April fakes a spectacular fainting
spell.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

INT. DR. HAYES' OFFICE - NIGHT

April is lying on a hospital bed awake. The door opens and April immediately fakes she's asleep.

NED (O.S.)
See if we can rush that from
Pierre. Thanks Angie.

DR. NED HAYES, 32, charming and clean-cut, enters.

April checks him out through one open eye before she "wakes up", which brings Ned to her.

APRIL
Wh-wha-where am I?

NED
You're in the Ulysses Health
Clinic, Ms. Johnson. I'm Doctor
Hayes, you were brought here
because you fainted. Follow the
light. Good.

April sits up and Ned tests her pupil response with a light. He starts to take her blood pressure.

NED (cont'd)
A young woman like you shouldn't be
fainting after a flight from New
York. I want to run some more
tests.

APRIL
How'd you know I came from New
York?

NED
You don't recognize me? High
school!
(as April looks closer)
I'm messing with you. I moved here
a few months ago. Your sister's out
there talking up her Maid of Honor
from New York. Talking quite a lot.

APRIL
Yeah, she does that.

NED
She says you're moving back for
good?

APRIL
That's the plan.

NED
You don't sound so sure.

APRIL
Well people in this town don't
really like me.

NED
A whole town? Why? Did you burn
down a church?
(off April's look)
Wait, seriously?

APRIL
When I was 18, there was a fire,
ripped through the church roof.
(off Ned's wary look)
An accident. Honestly. Lightning
strike, act of God-type thing. I
ran the fund-raiser to fix it. I
got the whole town involved and we
raised it all in one week.

NED
And they hate you for that?

APRIL
I think they hate me because I
stole that money and used it to get
to New York.

NED
Ah.

APRIL
Makes moving back a little hard.

NED
You made a mistake at 18. At least
you're honest and trying to make up
for it.

APRIL
That's me! Honest April.

INT. WAITING ROOM - NIGHT

Carly waits in her dinner dress, talking to the NURSE.

CARLY
Miss Ulysses 2005. She's an agent
for models out there but she
totally coulda been one herself.

April enters, rubbing her arm, followed by Ned.

CARLY (cont'd)
I was telling the nurse about your
pageant win.

APRIL
My crowning achievement.

CARLY
(laughing too loud)
Crowning! See? She's funny too.
(to Ned)
And single.

NED
We're going to rush these results.
I'll call when they're in.

APRIL
(overly earnest)
I sure hope it's nothing serious,
Doctor Hayes. I'd hate to miss my
sister's wedding or really disrupt
her life at all.

NED
Uh, OK. We'll hope for the best.
And it's a small town, call me Ned.

April and Ned shake hands. Ned and the Nurse confer and
exit.

CARLY
Look at you and Doctor Feelgood.
Sparks flying like crazy over here.

APRIL
He's only being polite.

April exits, Carly following as she mutters:

CARLY
Tyler's never that polite to me.

INT. CAR - NIGHT

Carly's driving and April's in the passenger seat.

CARLY

(super quickly)

Jennifer got his number off her test results and called him at home to ask him out but he said no. To JENN-I-FER, who does not take rejection well. Anyway, now that Tyler's off the market, Doctor Hayes is by far the hottest bachelor in town. He's hot, right?

APRIL

'Ulysses hot' maybe.

CARLY

I can't imagine all the hot New York guys you must have dated.

APRIL

Dated? Sure. Let's go with 'dated'.

CARLY

You know, I always thought I'd join you in New York.

APRIL

(laughs)

New York. You? Oh, you're serious.

CARLY

I could get out there and see the world. Maybe go to college or something. I'm sure Mom could run disco bingo by herself for a while.

Carly parks the car. April tries the door - it's locked.

CARLY (cont'd)

(laughing nervously)

Hey, what if I postponed the wedding and we both went to live in New York? Ha, could you imagine? Crazy, right? That'd be craaaaaazy.

APRIL

Are you having second thoughts about marrying Tyler?

CARLY

No, no, no. Maybe?

APRIL

Well... don't. You want to see the world?

(MORE)

APRIL (cont'd)

Take it from me, the world ain't so great. It will use you up and spit you out. It took me a long time to realize this but family is what matters. Which is why I'm moving back. Because...

(taking Carly's hand)

I'd do anything for you.

CARLY

I know.

APRIL

And you'd do the anything for me, right?

CARLY

Anything!

APRIL

Good. Then we agree! We're both great, kind people. Now let's go inside, I'm freezing my nips off.

INT. GRACE'S FLOWERS - NIGHT

April comes downstairs to see Grace searching for something. April grabs the PRUNING SHEARS from under a flower and hands them to her mother.

APRIL

Aside from me collapsing, I think the dinner went well.

GRACE

Were you serious about moving back?

APRIL

If you'll have me. Like I was saying; you only get one family in this life and-

GRACE

Have you thought about where you'll live?

APRIL

I thought maybe my old room--

GRACE

I'm not running a hotel, if you want to stay, you'll earn your keep. If you remember how.

APRIL
Cut flowers, not fingers.

GRACE
(handing her the shears)
Good. Grab some Baby's Breath and
help fill these out.

April obliges, following her mother's lead.

INT. HUNTER'S HAVEN - NIGHT

Liam enters the bar and leans over to the bartender.

LIAM
Whiskey, double, thanks.

APRIL (O.S.)
Make that two.

April's at the bar, swaying on her stool.

LIAM
You sure you should be drinking?
That was quite a fall at dinner.

APRIL
Nope.

April finishes her drink and gestures for her refill.

APRIL (cont'd)
I always wanted to come in here.
The town drunks made it sound so
great. What a disappointment.

LIAM
(raises his glass)
To disappointments.

Liam takes a sip and watches as April finishes her drink.

LIAM (cont'd)
Speaking of town drunks--

APRIL
Hey, they're not so bad once you
buy them a drink. Right, guys?

April gestures down the bar, where the Irate Farmer is
surrounded by empty bottles of beer, still yelling at April.

IRATE FARMER
Boooooooooo(hic!)oooooooo. Booooooo.

The farmer's head hits the bar.

APRIL
What can I say? He likes his
"booze".

April laughs in to her martini glass as she lifts it to her mouth before noticing it's empty.

She raises her hand to order another drink but Liam grabs it.

LIAM
I think you should call it a night.

APRIL
You're nice. Nobody's ever this
nice in New York. C'mere.

April grabs Liam's flannel shirt and pulls him in for a kiss but he turns away. April braces herself against the bar.

APRIL (cont'd)
Wooaah. Did you feel that? Felt
like 2006 in here for a second.

LIAM
Which means you'll be leaving now?

APRIL
Ooh burn. Wait, this is your nice
flannel. Are you wearing cologne?
Are you trying to impress me? Or
are you--

A-HEM - a woman clears her throat from the door.

Liam and April both turn to see JENNIFER, 22, her sharp features complemented by the daggers she's staring at April.

APRIL (cont'd)
On a date.

LIAM
Jennifer! Hi. Grab a table, won't
be a moment.

Jennifer sits at a table, not breaking eye contact.

APRIL
You're here with *Jennifer Hanson*?
(MORE)

APRIL (cont'd)

Seriously? I mean, I know I'm a hard act to follow but surely after 10 years--

LIAM

Exactly. You leave without a word **10 years ago** and now you think you can just come back here and kiss me? It took me a long time to get over you but I'm not your little lovesick puppy dog anymore. I'm a *full grown* dog now. Man. I'm a full grown man now.

APRIL

Yes, sir. Full grown.

LIAM

Go home and get some sleep, April. Big day tomorrow.

Liam sits with Jennifer, who is still staring at April.

April smiles sheepishly at her - no response.

April puts down some cash and begins her exit. The farmer lifts his head, ready for more:

APRIL

Back to sleep, drunkie.

April pushes the farmer's head back down and exits.

INT. DR. HAYES' OFFICE - DAY

April's faux-shocked face:

APRIL

A transplant?

April is flanked by Grace and Carly, across from Ned. Carly clutches April's hand.

GRACE

Are you sure that's necessary?

NED

I'm afraid that eventually she will need a transplant. Fortunately, we can slow the process with treatment.

(MORE)

NED (cont'd)

There's a good regional dialysis clinic a few miles away in Renshaw and, of course, we'll get you on the transplant list. Good news is that it's a lot shorter here than back in New York.

CARLY

Good thing you're moving home.

NED

I understand this kind of news can be shocking but I'm available to answer any questions you may have.

APRIL

I only have one question, Doc. Will I be able to go to my sister's wedding this afternoon?

April stares doe-eyed at her sister then back to Ned.

INT. GRACE'S FLOWERS - DAY

April ties bows around the arrangements as Grace and Carly enter.

CARLY

Mom and I talked about it and we have something we want to say.

APRIL

If it's about my kidneys, can we leave it until after-(the wedding?)

CARLY

We're going to give you our kidneys.

GRACE

Slow down, Carly.

(to April)

If your sister or I are a match-

CARLY

Then we'll give you our kidneys.

APRIL

I can't ask you to do this.

GRACE

You didn't. We're offering.

APRIL

Even after all these years of not speaking? After the Church money? No, I can't accept this.

April stands and TURNS AWAY from them both.

CARLY

Like you said. "Family's what matters."

GRACE

"You only get one family."

April turns her SMILING, VICTORIOUS, SMUG face in to a QUIVERING MESS and turns around, hugging them both.

APRIL

This is so unexpected!

Carly and April are both sobbing but Grace stays calm.

INT. APRIL'S STUDIO, NYC - DAY

Guy, playing with a small dog, answers his phone.

GUY

Hey honey, Muffins says hello!
How's South Dakota?

INT. BEDROOM - DAY - INTERCUT WITH APRIL'S STUDIO

April closes her bedroom door behind her and wipes at her eyes, fixing her running mascara with a tissue.

APRIL

Boring. Luckily everything is going to plan here. I might be gone for a few weeks but I'll be back and stronger than ever.

GUY

Stronger than ever? Is this about that letter from the hospital?

APRIL

What letter?

GUY

I don't know but it looked serious, so I sent it express to that address you gave me.

April's face falls. She DROPS her phone and exits.

GUY (cont'd)
 Wait a minute...
 (looking at the collar)
 This isn't Muffins. Hello? April?
 Are you there?

INT. GRACE'S FLOWERS - DAY

April rushes in to see Grace and Carly's backs turned to her.

APRIL
 (playing it cool)
 Heeeeeey, out of curiosity, has the
 mail come in today?

The two turn around, holding the open letter. One RED pamphlet sticks out, reading 'KIDNEY TRANSPLANT INFORMATION'.

GRACE
 You knew. Before you even got here,
 you knew.

APRIL
 If you'll give me a second to
 explain-

CARLY
 I was going to give you my kidneys.
 And I've only got TWO!

GRACE
 You've been lying to us since the
 moment you got here. Why? To con us
 in to giving you a kidney?

APRIL
 I may have *misled* you about what I
 knew and when but who cares? I
 really am sick. That part's true.
 If I don't get a kidney, I'll die.

CARLY
 Are you even moving home?

APRIL
 For my recovery.

GRACE
 Get out.

APRIL
 Hey, come on. "You only get one
 family", remember?

GRACE
 GET OUT!

CARLY
 GET OUT!

April exits.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

INT. DR. HAYES' OFFICE - DAY

Ned retrieves a folder from his desk and passes it to April.

NED
 If you insist on treatment in New
 York, I can't stop you.

APRIL
 It's not so bad. Maybe someone I
 know there die soon. Ooh, I hope
 it's Andres. Unless you've got a
 spare kidney lying around?

Ned lifts his shirt to reveal a scar on his abdomen.

NED
 Afraid I'm all tapped out.

APRIL
 Of course you are, Doctor Perfect.
 I'd better get going, I moved up my
 flight.

NED
 I thought you had a wedding today.

APRIL
 They don't want me there and I hate
 conga lines. It's a win-win.

NED
 What did you do? No, don't tell me.
 You burned down another Church.

APRIL
 Something even worse, if you can
 believe it.

NED
And your solution is to run away.

APRIL
I've done it before.

Ned sits next to April.

NED
When you stole all that money and left, did you ever wonder why nobody in town pressed charges? Why nobody followed you to New York or demanded you pay it all back?

APRIL
Fear of flying?

NED
Let me tell you one thing I've learned about people in small towns. To them, it's not about the money. It's about honesty. Honesty and family. That's what matters. That's *all* that matters.

April takes the folder and stands.

APRIL
Thanks for the help, Doc. You'll make some hick girl very happy one day.

April pats his shoulder and exits as Ned closes her file.

INT. GRACE'S FLOWERS - DAY

Grace is helping Carly carry her enormous wedding dress when April enters.

CARLY
April! You came! AAAH!
(beat)
Wait, we're mad at you. ARGH!

GRACE
We told you to leave.

APRIL
I'm just here to get my stuff.

Grace crosses her arms but stays silent. Carly copies. April walks past them, hanging her head. She stops. Turns to them.

APRIL (cont'd)

When they told me I was sick, I was more scared than I have ever been in my life. Not because of what's happening to me but because it made me see how alone I am. And when you don't have anyone, all you have is family. Right when I needed you most, I lied to you. And that was wrong. I'm- I'm sorry.

GRACE

Are you done?

APRIL

I had a little more about family and love but you go ahead.

GRACE

You come back home in your high heels and you think you're above us. You know what your problem is? You're too proud to ask for help. Did you ever think to just ask us for a kidney?

APRIL

Like... for money?

(Grace shakes her head)

I leave without a word then show up 10 years later looking for a kidney? Why would you help me?

CARLY

Because we're family.

GRACE

So... is there something you want to ask?

April ponders. She *almost* speaks, then thinks more before:

APRIL

Carly, you look beautiful. You deserve the most amazing life and I hope you find it with Tyler.

(to Grace)

You raised one incredible daughter. And one work in progress. I hope you both have a great day and the happy lives you deserve.

April exits. Carly stares after her.

LIAM

Jennifer had to go home and change.
Apparently the Maid of Honor bailed
at the last minute.

APRIL

I'm sure she had her reasons.

LIAM

I heard what you did. Lying about
being sick like that.

APRIL

Technically that wasn't a lie. I
really am sick.

LIAM

I defended you. After you left,
people were saying those mean
things about you and what kind of
person you were. "She didn't do it.
Not my April." I did it because I
thought I knew the real you - the
person that you kept hidden from
everyone but me. That good, caring,
scared person. Now I know I was
wrong and you are what they said.
Selfish and a liar. Trying to kiss
me last night? I suppose you must
need a lung from me. Or a heart.

APRIL

Please, that's not what it was.

LIAM

Have a nice life, April. Whatever's
left of it.

Liam enters the church. April pauses on the steps and then
CRIES OUT in pain and doubles over, clutching her stomach.

She sits on the Church steps as the pain subsides, taking
deep breaths. When she's finally calm:

APRIL

I don't want to die.

Hearing herself finally admit her fear, April drops what's
left of her composure.

April's full-on ugly crying, the sobs only making her
stomach pain worse. It's rock bottom.

Behind her, the window to the side of the church opens and a GIANT CREAMPUFF of a wedding dress starts squeezing out.

After plenty of heaving, the pile of white fabric containing Carly falls out in to a hedge. Carly rolls her way out, hitches up the dress and starts running from the church.

Carly passes April and enters the 'JUST MARRIED' car.

APRIL (cont'd)

Carly?

INT. CAR - DAY

Carly valiantly pulls her dress in to the driver's seat and closes the door. April gets in the passenger seat.

APRIL

Hey Carl. Whatcha doin'?

CARLY

I'm running. I figured that was pretty obvious.

APRIL

Where are you going?

CARLY

I don't know. I hadn't thought that far ahead. New York, maybe? Wait, I can't go there, my lame lying sister lives there.

APRIL

I deserve that.

April puts on her seatbelt.

APRIL (cont'd)

If you want to go to New York, that's where we'll go.

CARLY

You mean it?

APRIL

You start this car and drive. We can go anywhere you want.

CARLY

Seriously?

APRIL
 Seriously. New York, Alaska,
 Mexico...

CARLY
 Hawaii! Australia!

APRIL
 Well...

CARLY
 Let's do it!

Carly starts the car.

APRIL
 Wait.

INSERT: EXT. ULYSSES CHURCH - DAY

Jennifer scampers to the church entrance in her above-the-knee, disgusting pink, feathered dress. She's met at the entrance by Liam, who opens the door for her.

Liam scans the area - looking for April. With no sign of her, he shakes his head and enters the church.

APRIL (cont'd)
 You can't run away.

CARLY
 You're seriously going to try and convince me to stay? You, the Queen of Running Away.

APRIL
 I'm new to this honesty thing, could you cut me some slack?

CARLY
 I've never even been to New York! Look at you, all the stuff you've done! Statue of Liberty, riding the subway, bikini waxes! I want to run away and live like you!

APRIL
 You don't want to live like me. When I left, I had to get out. I wasn't running to anything. I was just running away scared.

(MORE)

APRIL (cont'd)

Scared of getting serious with Liam, scared of growing old and dying in Ulysses and I've been too scared to stop running ever since. You can run and run but your problems will still be here waiting for you, stronger than ever. Look at me; here in Ulysses, a decade later, and I'm dying.

CARLY

What should I do?

APRIL

You don't have to marry Tyler but you don't have to run either. Either way you need to face your problems.

CARLY

I want to marry him. I'm... scared.

APRIL

The offer's still on the table. Anywhere in the world. Where do you want to go?

Carly looks up at April, who's smiling earnestly for once.

INT. ULYSSES CHURCH - DAY

'Here Comes the Bride' starts playing and all the heads in the Church turn to see Carly with April at her side.

The two are joined by Grace, who picks a twig out of Carly's dress and the three women walk arm-in-arm down the aisle.

The same faces that SMILE at Carly turn to SCORN as April spots them.

In the front pew, Jennifer pouts with her arms crossed.

April takes her place as Maid of Honor next to Carly and smiles at Liam, the Best Man, who gives nothing back.

PRIEST

Dearly beloved, we are gathered here today to witness...

Above them, the sun shines through the PLASTIC SHEET covering the BURNED HOLE in the CHURCH CEILING.

INT. ULYSSES BINGO HALL - DAY

April watches Carly dance with Tyler. The song finishes and Carly comes over to April, trying to get her to dance.

APRIL

I can't. My flight's in a few hours. I have to go.

CARLY

Without even one dance?

APRIL

I really have to-
(notices something)
Is that Ned?

Across the room, Ned approaches Grace, who waves for Carly.

CARLY

Quick! Come with me!

Carly pulls April in to a side room.

INT. STORAGE ROOM - DAY

Carly and April enter, joining Grace and Ned.

APRIL

What are you doing here?

NED

Special request. Your sister asked me to come find her the second their results were in.

APRIL

What results?

CARLY

To see if we're matches for you. Mom and I got tested when you got diagnosed. The second time.

APRIL

(to Ned)

I appreciate you coming down here but things have changed. We no longer need those results. I'm going back to New York.

CARLY

Dr. Hayes, you were saying that the transplant list is a whole lot shorter here. And she'll need people to take care of her after surgery, right?

NED

Correct. We recommend round-the-clock care from friends. Or family.

CARLY

Then that's what she'll have. Right, Mom?

GRACE

Right.

APRIL

Even after everything I did?

GRACE

You're still my daughter.

CARLY

You're still my sister.

NED

I'll leave this with you.

Ned winks at April, hands her the envelope, and exits.

No more messing around, April's frozen.

APRIL

I can't.

CARLY

We'll all do it. Together.

April, Grace and Carly stand together and open the envelope.

They read the results. Line by line. Word by word.

April's face falls.

APRIL

Ah crap.

END OF PILOT