

WHERE'D YOU GO, BERNADETTE

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Based on the novel by Maria Semple

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FADE IN ON:

ICEBERGS.

As far as the eye can see. Nothing but Icebergs.

Beautiful. Blue. Trippy as hell. The unconscious come to life. AND OVER WHICH, WE HEAR:

BERNADETTE'S VOICE  
To whom it may concern...

INT BERNADETTE'S SUV - DAY

BERNADETTE BRANCH is 40s, effortlessly beautiful, a silk SCARF around her neck, big black SUNGLASSES on her face. Her FINGERS drum nervously on the steering wheel and as she drives, we hear:

BERNADETTE'S VOICE  
My name is Bernadette Branch. Wife,  
mother, dog owner, bibliophile...

A car is moving very slowly in front of Bernadette in the passing lane. This drives Bernadette crazy. She beeps her HORN. No response. She leans on her horn, long, loud, obnoxiously, until the car changes lanes.

Bernadette shouts to the DRIVER as she passes.

BERNADETTE  
Lady I have somewhere to be!

The Driver shoots her a dirty look in return. We ride on:

BERNADETTE'S VOICE  
...and 14 year resident of the 10th  
circle of hell - or as its more  
commonly known in this country,  
Seattle.

SERIES OF SHOTS: "SEATTLE, WASHINGTON"

- The Space Needle (naturally), The Fish Market, Centurylink Field, Times Square Building, Pacific Science Center, Starbucks, Starbucks, Starbucks. Over which we hear:

BERNADETTE'S VOICE (CONT'D)  
Where women are "gals," people are  
"folks," a little bit is a "skosh,"  
nobody swears but someone might  
drop the occasional f-bomb. And  
every request, reasonable or  
unreasonable, is met with the same  
nauseating:

VARIOUS SEATTLE-ITES DIRECTLY TO THE CAMERA:

BARISTA

No worries.

FISH MONGER

No worries.

PETE CARROLL

No worries.

INT BERNADETTE'S SUV - SAME

She continues to drive.

BERNADETTE'S VOICE

God I hate it here.

Bernadette is stopped at a five-way intersection. DRIVERS have no idea who has the right of way.

BERNADETTE'S VOICE (CONT'D)

This is a city that never met a four-way intersection it didn't turn into a five-way intersection.

Through the window, she sees SEVERAL VAGRANTS on the sidewalk, all of whom have WHEELIE SUITCASES and DOGS.

BERNADETTE'S VOICE (CONT'D)

A city so overrun by runaways, drug addicts, and homeless people, I think one of them's running for Mayor this year. And what's with the pit bulls? Why does every beggar in Seattle have a pit bull?

EXT BERNADETTE'S SUV - MOMENTS LATER

At a GAS STATION, filling her tank. Finished, Bernadette circles back to get in her car when she steps in dog shit. Her head rolls back on her neck.

BERNADETTE'S VOICE

Seattle - the only city where you step in shit and pray, please god, let this be dog shit.

EXT GALER STREET SCHOOL - MOMENTS LATER

Bernadette's SUV arrives at what's probably Seattle's third or fourth best private elementary school.

BERNADETTE'S VOICE

In any case, I was very excited to learn about your company and I think the two of us are going to be very good friends.

Her car sits in a long line of SUVs - mothers, nannies, a dad or two - waiting to pick up kids at the end of the day.

BERNADETTE'S VOICE (CONT'D)

My husband doesn't think I need an internet personal assistant. But my husband doesn't seem to realize just how much I do not like other people.

As if on cue, a KNOCK on the window. AUDREY GRIFFIN (late 40s, gray-hair in a ponytail, uptight, intense). Bernadette makes no effort to hide how much she does not want to lower it. Audrey crosses her arms. Bernadette realizes she isn't going anywhere. She sighs.

BERNADETTE

Yes, Audrey?

AUDREY

Hello Bernadette. I was just wondering why we didn't see you at the bake sale last Sunday.

BERNADETTE

I made a contribution.

AUDREY

Yeah you sent cupcakes from a bakery. I was up all night making croissants. It's not the same thing.

BERNADETTE

Did the kids like the cupcakes?

AUDREY

Is that really the point?

BERNADETTE

Oh there's a point?

AUDREY

(ignoring her)  
It's about participation.

BERNADETTE

And I thought, at best, it was about selling baked goods.

It's at this point that BEE BRANCH gets into the car. 14, smiling, twinkle in her eye - her mother's daughter in every way. Bee rolls up the window in Audrey's face while Audrey is trying to get some more words out.

AUDREY

It's always something --

BEE

Bye Mrs. Griffin.

Audrey is shocked. Unsure what to do, she just backs away.

Back in the car, Bernadette turns to Bee, smiles.

BERNADETTE  
Thanks, Butch.

BEE  
You know I've got your back,  
Sundance.

The car pulls out of the driveway. CUT TO:

INT BERNADETTE'S SUV - MOMENTS LATER

The car drives. Bee is talking a mile a minute about her day.

BEE  
Have you ever heard such a thing?  
Our school is so lefty that we have  
to take BOTH sides of the  
Chinese/Tibet occupation debate.  
Like, here are some wonderful  
advantages of the genocide of the  
Tibetan people...

BERNADETTE  
If you think it's better at  
boarding school, just you wait.

BEE  
I'm not getting in to boarding  
school.

BERNADETTE  
Of course you are. You're a  
masterpiece, a marvel, the 8th  
wonder of the world --

BEE  
Mom. Please.

Bernadette smiles. Bee seems to have a powerful calming effect on her mother. We hear an NPR story in the background:

RADIO ANNOUNCER (O.S.)  
"More than one thousand women and  
girls are raped each month in the  
Congo. From women in their 80s to  
baby girls --"

BEE  
Jesus!

Bee tries to change the channel. Bernadette stops her.

BERNADETTE

We live a life of privilege,  
Balakrishna. We can't just switch  
off the world.

Bee understands this, nods, even if she isn't happy about it.

RADIO ANNOUNCER

"And now comes word of a new  
campaign - to find the women they  
have already raped and re-rape  
them."

BERNADETTE

Holy --!

Bernadette is horrified. Quickly shuts it off. Looks at Bee.

BERNADETTE (CONT'D)

I draw the line at re-raping.

EXT BRANCH HOME - MOMENTS LATER

The car pulls up to a MASSIVE BRICK BUILDING that sits on a  
huge sloping lawn overlooking Elliott Bay. It was once a  
Catholic School for wayward girls but is now the Branch  
family home. In the driveway sits an AIRSTREAM TRAILER.

Bernadette and Bee arrive at the front door. They key fits in  
the lock but the DOOR just won't budge.

BERNADETTE

Jammed again.

BEE

Hold on...

Bee gets down on her hands and knees. Due to her small size  
she easily fits through the doggie door. We follow her in and  
we hear:

BEE'S VOICE

After everything happened, there  
were a lot of articles written  
about us in the paper and what not.  
Almost every journalist referred to  
us as a "dysfunctional family."  
Which was completely untrue. We  
were odd, sure. But we were  
functional. We functioned.

From the inside Bee opens a window and Bernadette boosts  
herself up and in. It's all so nonchalant, we realize, it  
must be a common occurrence.

INT BRANCH HOME - CONTINUOUS

And it's in even WORSE shape on the inside.

BEE'S VOICE

It was sort of like our house. Were there leaks in the ceiling? Of course there were. So what?

BOARDED-UP rooms, CRACKS in the walls, scattered BUCKETS to stop LEAKS in the ceiling.

BEE'S VOICE (CONT'D)

Mom had a very elaborate system to deal with them so it wouldn't flood or smell or make a lot of noise when you're trying to sleep.

Yet despite all of this, the place has a certain charm. Hung from the walls are family photos, Bee's accomplishments from school, her art, etc.

BERNADETTE

Will you take Ice Cream for a walk?

BEE

Ice Cream!

A large shaggy DOG appears, greeting Bee with enthusiasm.

BERNADETTE

Oh and what would you like for dinner tonight? I should order soon.

BEE

Chinese. Er, no, how about pizza?

BERNADETTE

How bout Chinese and pizza?

BEE

But that's crazy.

BERNADETTE

Why is that crazy?

BEE

Cause nobody does that.

BERNADETTE

Does that make it "crazy" or does that make it "unique?"

BEE'S VOICE

That's what it was. Unique.

Bee smiles. It's clear as much as Bern loves her daughter, the feeling is perfectly mutual. CUT TO:

ELGIN BRANCH (40s, tall, rail thin, wearing a wireless headset) is standing up on a stage addressing a large crowd. PULL BACK TO REVEAL we are:

INT TED CONFERENCE - SAME

PULL BACK further to REVEAL, next to Elgin, is a MAN-SIZED ROBOT. Elgin speaks to the robot.

ELGIN  
Samantha, fetch me my glasses.

The Robot lights up.

ELGIN (CONT'D)  
(to the PACKED AUDIENCE)  
We named her Samantha after the character on Bewitched.

The audience laughs. Sure enough, the robot glides to a TABLE, picks up a pair of EYEGLASSES, brings it to Elgin.

ELGIN (CONT'D)  
I'm always losing these. Thank you, Samantha.

SAMANTHA  
You're welcome.

The rapt audience laughs some more.

ELGIN  
We taught Samantha 500 commands. She could have learned 500 more, but her thousands of moving parts kept holding us back. So Samantha was canceled. But then I thought... if the complicating factor in creating a personal robot is the robot itself... why not lose the robot?

Elgin takes out of his pocket and holds up what looks like a simple 3-inch BAND-AID.

ELGIN (CONT'D)  
Meet Samantha 2.

Elgin puts the BAND-AID it on his forehead then sits in a recliner. We see some MEMBERS OF THE AUDIENCE buzzing with excitement. There's no way he's going to...

But he does. Elgin looks at a VACUUM. Without ever moving or speaking, the vaccuum turns on and starts moving around. He looks at a TV - same thing happens.

ELGIN (CONT'D)  
For you skeptics, something in real time.

The TV changes to a live basketball game. And the big screen becomes Microsoft Outlook. Elgin, still without moving, begins "writing" an email to Bernadette.



ANGLE ON THE SCREEN, these words appear: "HI, BERNADETTE. TED TALK WENT WELL. LAKERS LEADING BY 3 IN THE 3RD QUARTER. SEE YOU FOR DINNER. LOVE, ELGIE."

The AUDIENCE can't believe their eyes! Still only using his mind, Elgin sends the email. Then he removes the band, holds it up for all to see.

A beat. And now the AUDIENCE goes fucking insane! Elgin smiles, still holding up the Band-Aid for all to see. He seems to revel in the attention.

ELGIN'S VOICE  
I am a simple man.

INT AIRPLANE - FIRST CLASS CABIN - DAY

Elgin wears noise-cancelling HEADPHONES under his MICROSOFT BASEBALL CAP and is typing furiously on a PC. The STEWARDESS reminds him (again) that it's time to shut down. Elgin doesn't like to shut down.

ELGIN'S VOICE  
I never wanted money. Or fame. I definitely never wanted attention.

INT SEA-TAC AIRPORT - LATER

Elgin walks through the terminal. He's traded the PC for a WINDOWS PHONE but hasn't missed a beat. He's interrupted by some TECHIES who nervously approach to shake his hand. Elgin does so, then signs an autograph.

EXT AIRPORT - TAXI LINE - SAME

Never looking up from the phone, Elgin gets into a CAB, takes out a WINDOWS SURFACE tablet, removes his glasses, starts working on that.

ELGIN'S VOICE  
Some people might let this world changing stuff go to their heads.

EXT BRANCH HOME - LATER

Elgin pays the fare, puts his tablet back in its case, and exits the taxi cab.

ELGIN'S VOICE  
I'm not one of those people.

It's not until the car is halfway out of the driveway that he realizes he's forgotten his glasses. He races back to retrieve them.

INT BRANCH HOME - SAME

As Elgin enters we see the front door is now propped open with a loose brick. He too doesn't have much of a reaction.

ELGIN  
Something smells good...

INT BRANCH DINNER TABLE - CONTINUOUS

Elgin sees the unusual array of food on the table. He is both surprised and not.

ELGIN  
Well OK then.

INT BRANCH DINNER TABLE - LATER

The family is in mid-meal. We hear:

ELGIN  
All I really care about are the girls.

BERNADETTE  
Bala once again outsmarted a velociraptor.

BEE  
More like a praying mantis.

BERNADETTE  
Flying monkey?

They laugh. Elgin has no idea what they're talking about but he's genuinely happy to see them in good spirits.

ELGIN  
(beat, trying)  
Well if you see any gremlins, don't get them wet.

Bernadette and Bee exchange a look, start laughing again. On another wavelength entirely. Elgin shrugs it off to himself.

ELGIN'S VOICE  
I just never understand what they're talking about.

And instead of asking, or trying again, he just says:

ELGIN  
Can you pass the salt?

INT BERNADETTE'S LIVING ROOM - LATER

Bernadette reads "The New Yorker." Elgin watches the Mariners on TV. Nothing is too out of the ordinary. We hear:

BEE'S VOICE

I don't think what happened was avoidable. But if there's one thing - looking back - I wish I didn't do, it's this:

Bee comes in from another room, something behind her back.

BEE

Ahem.

They both look at her.

BEE (CONT'D)

Since I have you both here... I have an announcement to make.

BERNADETTE

Are you engaged?

BEE

What?

ELGIN

Who is he? I'll kill him.

BERNADETTE

It's that Howard boy, isn't it?

BEE

What? No! Ew!

BERNADETTE

Why? He's cute.

BEE

He's not - stop it, I'm being serious right now.

BERNADETTE

(to Elgin, playfully)  
She's being serious.

ELGIN

Ok. Serious.

Bee takes a dramatic beat. Whips out her REPORT CARD. She hands it to Bernadette.

BERNADETTE

"Bee Branch is a pure delight. Her love of leaning is as infectious as her kindness and humor..."

BEE

You can skip that part.

Bernadette looks to Elgin, raising her eyebrows, impressed. Elgin too looks at her proudly.

BERNADETTE

"It's only November but I am already mourning the day Bee graduates from Galer Street and heads out into the world."

BEE

Yeah yeah, read the bottom...

BERNADETTE

The bottom?

BEE

(pointing)  
All S's.

BERNADETTE

Is that better or worse than all A's?

BEE

This is Galer Street, Mom. An A means "Achieves Excellence." An S means "Surpasses Excellence!"

BERNADETTE

Why look at you...

Bernadette and Elgin share a proud look between them. But Bee is now officially annoyed. She folds her arms.

BEE

You don't remember do you?

Parents look at one another. Remembering nothing.

BEE (CONT'D)

You told me when I started Galer Street - if I got perfect scores the whole way through I could have anything I wanted when I graduated.

BERNADETTE

Don't tell me you still want a pony.

Bee shakes her head, excitedly hands them a BROCHURE featuring a CRUISE SHIP.

BEE

Antarctica!

BERNADETTE

I'm sorry, what?

BEE  
There's a ship leaving at  
Christmas.

BERNADETTE  
Christmas. Like in a month...

BEE  
It's their Summer. Warmest time you  
can go.

BERNADETTE  
Because ponies are pretty cute...

Bernadette rises from the couch. Starts pacing frantically. Clearly this idea is giving her fits. She looks at her husband. He looks back. Neither really knows what to say. Bee watches all of this.

BEE  
I don't hear a "no."  
(beat)  
Dad?

ELGIN  
I was waiting for Mom to say it.

BERNADETTE  
I was waiting for you!

ELGIN  
You hate to travel.

BERNADETTE  
You have to work.

Silence for a beat. Bee realizes.

BEE  
Holy shit, that's a yes!

BERNADETTE  
Don't say shit.

BEE  
Fucking A that's a yes!

Bee hugs her dog ICE CREAM and the two of them run joyfully:

EXT BERNADETTE'S HOME - SAME

Bee continues to shout at the top of her lungs.

BEE  
That's a yes! That's a yes! Woo hoo  
that's a yes!

INT BRANCH DINNER TABLE - SAME

Back inside, Bern and Elgie are alone.

ELGIN

Is that really a yes?

Bernadette hears the glee in her daughter's voice from outside. She'd do anything for her. She throws her hands up in the air.

BERNADETTE

I guess it's a yes.

AND WE CUT TO:

INT BERNADETTE'S AIRSTREAM TRAILER OFFICE - LATER

Where Bernadette has sat down to type an EMAIL. She takes a deep breath. Begins to type. We see what she writes:

BERNADETTE'S VOICE

Dear Manjula, it appears something has come up that will require your further assistance.

EXT BERNADETTE'S DRIVEWAY - SAME

Where the Airstream trailer is literally rocking back and forth from Bernadette's furious email typing.

BERNADETTE'S VOICE

Very soon my family and I will be taking a trip to - of all places - Antarctica. That's right, Antarctica.

We see the Antarctica of Bernadette's wild imagination:

- imposing Polar Ice Caps.
- desolate blocks of nothingness as far as the eye can see.
- freaky looking penguins waddling to and fro.

BERNADETTE'S VOICE (CONT'D)

Of the many reasons I don't want to go to Antarctica, the biggest one is that it will require me to leave the house. As I'm sure you've figured out by now, that's not something I much like to do.

INT BERNADETTE'S AIRSTREAM TRAILER OFFICE - SAME

She's still at it...

## BERNADETTE'S VOICE

The second biggest one is that you cannot get to Antarctica but by "cruise ship."

EXT CARNIVAL PARTY BOAT - A WAY TOO SUNNY DAY

Another nightmare for Bernadette. A gaudy party boat featuring a smiling BEARDED SHIP CAPTAIN, fans of Jimmy Buffett doing limbo in a conga line, Fellini-esque TOURISTS talking at her eating chicken wings.

## BERNADETTE'S VOICE

Even the smallest ship holds 150 passengers which means being trapped with 147 strangers who will annoy the living shit out of me and/or turn their curiosity my way and expect me to be nice in return. I'm breaking out in hives just thinking about it.

INT BERNADETTE'S AIRSTREAM TRAILER OFFICE - SAME

Bernadette has her wallet open and ready.

## BERNADETTE (V.O.)

If I give you the info, could you please take over the paperwork, visas, plane tickets, everything involved so I can concentrate on getting through the next month without having a complete mental breakdown.

INT COMMUNICATION BULLPEN - SOMEWHERE IN INDIA - SAME

A huge bullpen of cubicles. We TRACK DOWN a row of them...

## BERNADETTE (V.O.)

Oh and one more thing. For your own salary, use my personal account so my husband won't see the bill. He made me promise I wouldn't hire you so it's best we keep our romance an illicit one. Thanks in advance!  
Bernadette Branch.

... until we wind up in the one belonging to MANJULA (30s, Indian, female, soft-spoken, headphones). She types. We hear:

## MANJULA (V.O.)

(thick Indian accent)

Dear Ms. Branch, it would be my pleasure to assist.

(MORE)

MANJULA (V.O.) (CONT'D)  
 The total fee is \$30 dollars  
 American. Warm regards, Manjula.

AND WE CUT TO:

INT GALER STREET SCHOOL - CLASSROOM - DAY

Audrey Griffin sits in the back of a PTA meeting.

Addressing the parents is OLLIE-O, a fast-talking pony-tailed CONSULTANT wearing a hands-free microphone headset as if he too is at a Tedtalk. (He's ridiculous.)

OLLIE-O  
 Our objective is to move the needle  
 on Galer Street, to kick it up from  
 its current status as a second tier  
 private school...

Ollie-O hits a button on his POWER POINT presentation. We see a slide that says "FCC = First Choice Cluster.

OLLIE-O (CONT'D)  
 ... into the "FCC" of the city.  
 Grab your crampons people cause it  
 won't be easy.

We see Audrey in the back taking copious notes. She writes "crampons" on a sheet of paper.

OLLIE-O (CONT'D)  
 But fear not - I do underdog. We  
 need to mount a "PPB"...

CU slide - "PPB" stands for "Prospective Parent Brunch."

OLLIE-O (CONT'D)  
 ... that we can fill with Seattle's  
 elite. Galer Street has enough  
 Subaru Parents. What it needs are  
 Mercedes Parents. For example,  
 Pearl Jam. I hear they have kids  
 entering kindergarten. Anyone in  
 touch with those guys? Anyone?  
 (beat)  
 Doesn't have to be the singer.

Audrey writes "Pearl Jams?" Very serious. CUT TO:

EXT QUEEN ANNE DISTRICT - LATER

Audrey drives her SUV through the upscale, exclusive, slightly self-important section of Seattle. We hear:

AUDREY'S VOICE  
 "Love thy neighbor as thyself."  
 Mark 12:31.



She arrives at her Craftsman home, parks, walks towards the front door - and then she sees something in the background.

AUDREY'S VOICE (CONT'D)

As a Christian Woman, I try to abide by all the Lord's commandments. But I think even Jesus himself would have had trouble with that one if he found himself living next to Bernadette Branch.

She walks to the side of her house - BLACKBERRIES everywhere. She picks one up, looks at it. She's furious. CUT TO:

EXT AUDREY'S HOUSE - BACKYARD - LATER

Audrey stands with TOM THE LANDSCAPER, irate. She berates him and he can't get a word in edgewise.

TOM

Mrs. Griffin --

AUDREY

No you listen to me Mr. Barnes. I have graciously agreed to host a PPB in less than two weeks and it is very important. To my son. To his school. Do you understand what I'm saying to you?

TOM

Honestly...?

AUDREY

I can't be hosting a function at my house - at my home - if it's overrun with these godforsaken blackberry vines.

TOM

Mrs. Griffin, if you'd just -

AUDREY

Good thing for you I'm a Christian woman, Mr. Barnes, because most people when they hire someone to remove blackberry vines from their property, they expect those vines removed from their property.

A beat. The Landscaper is totally exasperated.

TOM

May I speak now?

Audrey gestures for him to go-ahead.

TOM (CONT'D)  
I did remove the blackberry vines  
on your property.

AUDREY  
Really? Hm. So what are these then?

TOM  
Those are your neighbors. Up on the  
hill.

Tom points. Audrey looks up to the house he's referring to.  
It's Bernadette's, which looks down on Audrey's home both  
literally and figuratively.

TOM (CONT'D)  
Gonna have to take it up with them,  
I'm afraid.

Audrey scowls at the house. Fuming. CUT TO:

EXT GALER STREET SCHOOL - THE NEXT DAY

Bernadette's SUV again in line to pick Bee up from school.  
Audrey, on foot, is staring right at it.

She fixes her hair, straightens her posture, psyches herself  
up to approach. And then, like a shot, she's on her way  
towards the car.

We don't see what happens next because as she's heading over,  
we hear the SQUEAL OF TIRES and abruptly SMASH CUT TO:

BLACK.

INT STARBUCKS - ANOTHER MORNING

Audrey, CRUTCHES by her side, sits at a Starbucks with her  
close friend SOO-LIN LEE-SIEGEL (late 30s, put-together).

SOO-LIN  
She ran over your foot!?!

AUDREY  
Right over my foot.

INT GALER STREET - SAME

Bee walks down the hallway with her best friend KENNEDY (14,  
but taller, more mature).

BEE  
She did not run over her foot. I  
was there. See what happened was...

INT STARBUCKS - SAME

AUDREY  
What happened was...

EXT GALER STREET SCHOOL - THE DAY BEFORE

SPLITSCREEN: on the left, Bee's version of events. On the right, Audrey's version of events.

For a while, it's the same set up with only subtle differences. Bernadette is in her car, pensively drumming her fingers on the steering wheel as we've seen her do.

Bee comes out of the school and hops in the front seat. In Bee's version, we see her Bernadette kiss her hello on the forehead. Bee scoots the dog from the front seat to the back. The dog grunts.

BERNADETTE  
Don't be such a drama Queen.

(In Audrey's version, there's none of this. She can't quite see what's going on in the car.)

In Bee's version, Bernadette and Bee see Audrey coming through the window. She looks her usual agitated, holier-than-thou self, huffing and puffing.

In Audrey's version, it's the same shot only Audrey is smiling, pleasant.

In Bee's version, we hear:

BERNADETTE (CONT'D)  
Oh lord, what now?

BEE  
Do you even want to know?

BERNADETTE  
Not really.

And as the CROSSING GUARD waves for them to move, Bernadette shrugs, steps on the gas and off they go.

In Audrey's version, the car runs right over her left foot.

In Bee's version, Audrey Griffin is a good five feet away!

In both, Audrey reacts like she's been severely injured.

AUDREY  
MOTHER OF CHRIST!!

And it's on that note, we CUT TO:

INT STARBUCKS - SAME

SOO-LIN  
My God, Audrey.

AUDREY  
I might file a lawsuit.

SOO-LIN  
You should.

AUDREY  
I'm thinking about it.

INT GALER STREET - SAME

Bee and Kennedy.

BEE  
It was kind of hilarious.

EXT BERNADETTE'S AIRSTREAM - LATE AT NIGHT

3am. Bernadette's trailer the only source of light on the block. We hear:

BERNADETTE'S VOICE  
Dearest Manja, can I call you Manja now that we're pals? I need you to work your Indian magic for me.

INT BERNADETTE'S AIRSTREAM - SAME

Bernadette scans a HOSPITAL BILL.

BERNADETTE'S VOICE  
Attached is a scan of an emergency room bill I "suppose" I should pay.

A quick glimpse of the bill shows the word "elective" all over it. Clearly Audrey didn't need very much of this.

BERNADETTE'S VOICE (CONT'D)  
I would laugh at the whole thing but I'm too bored. These gnats - sorry that's what I call the mothers at Galer Street...

- QUICK CUTS to some HOITY-TOITY Queen Anne neighborhood snobs, including Audrey and her friend Soo-Lin.

BERNADETTE'S VOICE (CONT'D)  
... they've done all they can to provoke me into a fight since we moved here. But now that Bee is graduating, it's not worth waging a gnat battle over.

(MORE)

BERNADETTE'S VOICE (CONT'D)  
 Let's just straight up pay the  
 thing and never think of it again.

INT BRANCH HOUSE - SAME

RAIN drips from leaks into BUCKETS AND SPAGHETTI POTS strategically placed to catch them. T-SHIRTS LINE the pots to prevent noise. SPLINTERED WOOD has been scotch taped in the FLOOR. DOORS are WARPING, METAL is RUSTING.

It's certainly strange that no one is doing anything about any of this.

INT BERNADETTE'S AIRSTREAM - SAME

Bernadette types. Next to the computer - a glossy pamphlet regarding the Antarctic cruise and the family's passports.

BERNADETTE'S VOICE  
 In other news, this Antarctica  
 stuff you sent is fantastic! I'm  
 scanning our passports, where  
 you'll find our birthdates... exact  
 spelling of names, etc.

Back in the house, Elgin sleeps peacefully in his empty bed.

BERNADETTE'S VOICE (CONT'D)  
 I've thrown in driver's licenses  
 and Social Security cards just to  
 be safe.

And Bee sleeps peacefully in hers. ZOOM IN on sleeping Bee:

BERNADETTE'S VOICE (CONT'D)  
 You'll see on Bee's passport that  
 her given name is Balakrishna  
 Branch.

And from here, we CUT TO a classic image of ARTWORK - the "divine child" Bala Krishna.

BERNADETTE'S VOICE (CONT'D)  
 Let's just say I was under a lot of  
 stress and it seemed like a good  
 idea at the time.

We are now SPLITSCREEN on the two, Bala Krishna and Bee. MATCH various images of them, the mythical figure and our little heroine.

END SPLITSCREEN. Bernadette holds up a sheet of paper, studies it. Then resumes typing.

BERNADETTE'S VOICE (CONT'D)  
 As for the packing list, why don't  
 you get us three of everything?

We see QUICK CLOSE UPS of SURVIVAL ITEMS for such a trip - snow hats, boots, gloves - presented in the action-pose style of a J-Crew catalog.

BERNADETTE'S VOICE (CONT'D)

And I'd also like a fishing vest.

INT AIRPLANE - YEARS BEFORE

Bernadette sits next to a MAN IN A FISHING VEST. Intrigued.

BERNADETTE'S VOICE

Back when I actually enjoyed leaving the house, I once sat on a plane next to an environmentalist who spent his life zigzagging the globe. He had on a fishing vest, which contained his passport, money, glasses, everything in one, handy, zipped-in place.

A CLOSE-UP of all of his pockets containing these items.

BERNADETTE'S VOICE (CONT'D)

I always said to myself: next time I travel I'm going to get me one of those. Seems that my time has come.

INT BERNADETTE'S AIRSTREAM OFFICE - SAME

Bernadette is unable to sit still. She bounces from one side of the trailer to the other in an almost manic fit. We hear:

BERNADETTE'S VOICE

I recognize it's slightly odd to ask you to purchase these items from India when most of them are available at stores I can see out my window. But here's the thing...

(beat)

I fucking hate Seattle.

Bernadette remembers something. Walks back to the computer.

BERNADETTE'S VOICE (CONT'D)

Which reminds me, shit! Could you find a place for us to have Thanksgiving dinner? It's tomorrow night. I may have forgotten to make reservations...

INT BERNADETTE'S KITCHEN - NEXT MORNING

Bee comes down the stairs to find Elgin having just returned from a bike ride. He is wearing Tour De France style cycling gear from head to toe, complete with a shoulder brace around his chest that's holding an electronic heart monitor.

ELGIN  
Good morning Bala.

Bee looks at her father oddly.

BEE  
Are you wearing a bra?

ELGIN  
It's a heart monitor. I designed it myself.

BEE  
It looks like a bra.

Bernadette comes in from the other room, carrying some of the rain filled spaghetti pots. She drops them by accident.

BERNADETTE  
Shit, sorry. My bad.

BEE  
You ok Mom?

BERNADETTE  
Fine, I'm just, I'm so tired this morning. So tired. Elgie why are you wearing a bra?

ELGIN  
It's not a --

BEE  
Mom, did you get to sleep last night?

BERNADETTE  
No - yes - I think so I can't remember.

Elgin seems slightly concerned by this but lets it go.

ELGIN  
I've got to go to the office for a few hours today but I can swing by the grocery if we need anything.

BERNADETTE  
For what?

ELGIN  
For dinner tonight. It's Thanksgiving.

BERNADETTE  
Oh, no, I made reservations.

This surprises both Elgin and Bee. That is unheard of.

BERNADETTE (CONT'D)  
Don't look so surprised, people.

Father and daughter are impressed. CUT TO:

INT. THE DUDE RANCH - THANKSGIVING NIGHT

No one would ever go here for Thanksgiving dinner. There's a player piano. The WAITERS are in spurs. In a corner booth, the Branch family takes in the spectacle. Bee is loving it.

BEE'S VOICE  
See, the thing is, Mom was awesome.  
She wasn't like other moms.

Then the food arrives: STEAKS bigger than their heads! 24 oz SODAS, heaping plates of FRIES. Easily a meal for a dozen. Bee and Elgie have to admit she's right. They all dig in.

Elgie looks at his wife, bemused. He takes her hand. Holds it. A nice moment between them. Bee notices. Smiles.

BEE'S VOICE (CONT'D)  
I think that was threatening to  
some people.

INT AUDREY GRIFFIN'S HOME - SAME

A more traditional Thanksgiving feast. Audrey has cooked a meal for her family - husband WARREN (50s, bearded, hefty, on his fifth glass of wine) and son KYLE (14, Bieber haircut, obvious asshole).

Also with them are Soo-Lin and her son LINCOLN (14, slight, nerdy, possibly mute). They hold hands to pray before eating.

AUDREY  
Jesus Lord, may you continue to  
keep us in your heart. Make us  
strong and protect us. From sinful  
neighbors... Diabetes...

Warren rolls his eyes.

AUDREY (CONT'D)  
Downsizing...

SOO-LIN  
Thank you Audrey.

AUDREY  
And is there anything you'd like to  
pray for Lincoln?

Lincoln looks up. Shrugs. Looks back down. Kyle, possibly high on something, starts to chuckle. Audrey looks at him sternly. He stops.



WARREN

Can we eat now?

AUDREY

In the name of the father, son, and  
the holy ghost, we thank you and  
praise you amen.

Everyone starts to eat. Kyle spoons heaps of food onto his  
plate - munchies in full effect. Audrey notices.

AUDREY (CONT'D)

Good boy, Kyle. I'm glad to see  
you've brought your appetite.

Kyle ignores her, digs in hungrily. Audrey watches it a beat,  
is a little taken aback. Decides to ignore it.

AUDREY (CONT'D)

So when is that peer review, Soo-  
Lin?

INT MICROSOFT CAMPUS - ESTABLISHING

Sprawling. Organized. Well-manicured.

INT CONFERENCE ROOM - SAME

Soo-Lin sits across from the HR WOMAN.

HR WOMAN

-- your entire team is being RIFed.

SOO-LIN

Oh god!

Soo-Lin looks like she's going to vomit.

HR WOMAN

It's ok, Soo-Lin. Don't panic. You  
rank so well as an admin that we'd  
like to assign you to a special  
project.

(beat)

In Studio C.

SOO-LIN

But that's --

HR WOMAN

Yes.

(beat)

You'll be assisting Elgin Branch on  
Samantha 2.

And Soo-Lin is stunned. This is major. CUT TO:

INT BERNADETTE'S OFFICE - ANOTHER DAY

Another manic fit finds Bernadette typing in the Airstream.

BERNADETTE'S VOICE

I gotta be honest Manja... I'm getting really scared about this trip business. And not just because I hate people, which, for the record, I still do. I just read about the Drake Passage, the most treacherous body of water on Earth. We have to sail through that?!

EXT BERNADETTE'S AIRSTREAM - SAME

Meanwhile, Audrey Griffin and Tom the Landscaper crawl through a hole in Bernadette's backyard.

TOM

Are you sure we should be doing this?

AUDREY

It's fine. There's no one home.

INT BERNADETTE'S AIRSTREAM OFFICE - SAME

Bernadette types.

BERNADETTE'S VOICE

Maybe you can find me something really strong for seasickness? And I don't mean Dramamine. I mean strong. I'm talking NASA shit --

She hears a noise from outside. That's strange. CUT TO:

EXT BERNADETTE'S BACKYARD - SAME

Bernadette makes her way around to the back of the house, catching Audrey and Tom. Audrey has her CRUTCHES with her.

BERNADETTE

Can I help you?

Audrey turns, stunned.

AUDREY

Bernadette! I... didn't think you'd be home.

BERNADETTE

Obviously.

(beat)

How's your leg feeling, Audrey?

Meanwhile, Bee is up in her bedroom doing homework. She hears the commotion outside - Audrey talking incessantly about her upcoming brunch. She looks out the window and watches the rest of this unfold.

BERNADETTE (CONT'D)

And you're sure you want me to cut them down? You're absolutely sure?

AUDREY

No I want you to leave them cause they add so much to the neighborhood.

A beat. Bernadette ignores that.

BERNADETTE

I'd be happy to hire this gentleman to remove my blackberry vines. Do you have a card, kind sir?

The Landscaper, surprised at how easy that was, starts rifling through his pockets. Bernadette never takes her eyes off of Audrey, who is growing more and more uncomfortable by the second. Bee, upstairs, is loving every minute of this. Finally the Landscaper hands his card to Bernadette.

BERNADETTE (CONT'D)

Thank you Tom. I'll gladly write you a check.

Bernadette starts walking back to the Airstream. Audrey can't help herself. She blurts out:

AUDREY

Why don't you have an internet presence?

Bernadette stops.

AUDREY (CONT'D)

I googled Bernadette Branch.

(beat)

Nothing came up. Not one thing.

(beat)

How is that even possible?

There's a story there but Audrey isn't going to get it. What she says instead:

BERNADETTE

Should have used "Bing."

Audrey doesn't know what to say to that. Bernadette turns to go. But she has one more thing to add.

BERNADETTE (CONT'D)

Audrey - next time I catch you creeping through my garden, it's gonna take waaay more than Vicodin to ease the pain I inflict on you. Do I make myself clear?

Audrey is mortified. Bee chuckles to herself. We hear:

BEE'S VOICE

Everybody thinks my Dad is a genius. And he is. But the real genius in our family was always my Mom.

CUT TO:

THE COLORFUL MAIN TITLES OF A PBS DOCUMENTARY SERIES.

BEE'S VOICE

She never talks about it. I mean like ever...

TALKING HEADS appear on screen.

TALKING HEAD #1 (PAUL JELLINEK)

She was a visionary.

TALKING HEAD #2

She was an artist.

TALKING HEAD #3

She was a total inspiration.

MALE NARRATOR (V.O.)

Today on "Artforum..."

INSERT a PHOTO of Bernadette, her face blurry and hard to make out, as if she was the Yeti. A TITLE reads:

MALE NARRATOR (V.O.)

"Saint Bernadette: The Most Influential Architect You've Never Heard Of."

OVER IMAGES of VARIOUS FAMOUS BUILDINGS, we hear:

BEE'S VOICE

She was extraordinary for many reasons.

INSERT OLD PHOTO of Bernadette Fox from the 1980s - she looks radiant, all smiles and mischief. Her arm around a CLASSMATE.

MALE NARRATOR (V.O.)

A woman practicing in a male-dominated profession. A MacArthur winner at age 32. A pioneer of the green building movement...

INSERT MORE PHOTOS of Bernadette in the 80s - clowning around on a building site, scrubbing a floor on her hands and knees, on the roof of a house wearing a tool belt. This is a very different woman than the Bernadette we've gotten to know.

BEE'S VOICE

And then something bad happened.

INSERT MORE RECENT PHOTOS of Bernadette. She's not posing for these. In fact she doesn't know they're being taken. They might not even be her. She's like Bigfoot.

MALE NARRATOR (V.O.)

But who was Bernadette Fox. What happened to her? And where is she now?

BEE'S VOICE

So here's what I know...

EXT DISNEY LOT - DAY - LATE 1980S

YOUNGER BERNADETTE (20s) is a fresh-faced post-grad in overalls and a funky hat. Construction has begun on the Team Disney building and Bernadette, being the most junior of the team, is responsible for what looks like a lot of tape measuring. We watch her in action a few beats.

BEE'S VOICE

After graduation, Mom got a job with a building firm in California.

Something has frustrated her. Bernadette walks over to her SUPERVISOR. This is PAUL JELLINEK.

BEE'S VOICE (CONT'D)

Sounds like she made everyone nuts.

YOUNGER BERNADETTE

Of course it's important.

PAUL JELLINEK

Bernadette.

YOUNGER BERNADETTE

It's essential, Paul! How can I do my job if I don't know the number of men, the number of women, how often they host meetings on site --

PAUL JELLINEK

It's the bathrooms for Chrissakes.

YOUNGER BERNADETTE

Just tell me this: wat problems am I trying to solve with this design?

PAUL JELLINEK

What problems? Michael Eisner needs to take a piss and he doesn't want everyone watching.

BERNADETTE

(beat)

That is less than helpful, Paul.

Paul shrugs, walks off, leaving her to figure it out.

BEE'S VOICE

This is where she meets my Dad.

As she's about to walk away, she sees someone come out of the Animation Building across the path - it's a YOUNGER ELGIN. Barefoot. As he passes, she calls to him:

YOUNGER BERNADETTE

Excuse me.

ELGIN

Hello.

YOUNGER BERNADETTE

How come you never wear shoes?

ELGIN

Sorry?

YOUNGER BERNADETTE

Every time I see you walking around here, you're barefoot. I assume that's by choice?

ELGIN

Yeah, I just... I'm an animator. It helps me focus.

Bernadette nods. She understands that. He continues to walk on. Bernadette follows after him.

YOUNGER BERNADETTE

We're going to be drilling and sheathing these next few months and I was thinking... you might want to consider at least wearing socks. Safety purposes.

Elgin looks her over. He likes her immediately.

ELGIN

Thank you I will.

He's about to walk on.

YOUNGER BERNADETTE

Do you have any?

(beat)

Socks, I mean.

Elgin doesn't. Bernadette reaches into her pocket, takes out a pair, tosses it to him. He looks them over.

ELGIN  
What's this?

YOUNGER BERNADETTE  
I knitted you some.

ELGIN  
You knitted me socks?

Bernadette shrugs.

YOUNGER BERNADETTE  
I knit from time to time.  
(smiles)  
Helps me focus.

Elgin smiles.

ELGIN  
I'm Elgin Branch.

YOUNGER BERNADETTE  
Bernadette Fox.

EXT SANTA MONICA BEACH - SUNSET - LATE 1980S

Bernadette and Elgin are married on the beach. Barefoot. He kisses the bride.

EXT PACIFIC AVENUE - VENICE - LATE 1980S

Bernadette and Elgin come out of a TOWNHOUSE FOR SALE. With them is their real estate agent JUDY TOLL.

BERNADETTE  
Small kitchen, no outdoor space...

ELGIN  
Plus we'd have to look at this  
every morning.

He's referring to the property across the street - a vacant, disreputable plant with a 'For Sale' sign in the window.

BERNADETTE  
Wait, what is that?

INT BEEBER BIFOCAL FACTORY - MOMENTS LATER

Bernadette, Elgin, and Judy are inside what used to be a bifocal factory, its remnants still scattered about the place in boxes and dusty trash heaps.

Bernadette takes it all in, a look on her face like she's just seen God.

BERNADETTE  
The whole roof is skylights.  
Imagine how much light we could get  
in the Summer.

Elgin navigates around the dusty boxes. To him, to Judy - and to us - it looks uninhabitable. But not to Bernadette.

BERNADETTE (CONT'D)  
Somebody just left all these frames  
here? And these machines, I could  
really do something with these.

ELGIN  
Bern... I thought we were shopping  
for a home, not an art project.

Bernadette looks up, wearing bifocals. She smiles broadly.

BERNADETTE  
Why not have both!?

Elgin's skepticism is no match for his adoration of this woman. He locks eyes with Judy. Shrugs. They're buying it.

SERIES OF SHOTS: Bernadette transforms the Beeber Bifocal Factory into their home.

- On her hands and knees, squeegee-ing the floor.
- Scattering the lenses and frames from the boxes onto the floor. Standing over them, getting ideas.

BEE'S VOICE  
Dad thought it was crazy.

- Paul is now assisting Bernadette in her grand vision. He along with OTHER WORKERS are being shown how to turn lenses into tabletops, glue catalogues together into cubes which then become seats for the tabletops. Brilliant stuff.

BEE'S VOICE (CONT'D)  
But he learned early on - get  
between Mom and her enthusiasm and  
you'd better watch out!

- A SHOT of the completed Beeber Bifocal House from the outside. A truly remarkable transformation.

BEE'S VOICE (CONT'D)  
The result was the famous Beeber  
Bifocal House in Venice Beach. I've  
never seen it but supposedly it's  
really something.

Elgin carries Bernadette over the threshold.



EXT MULHOLLAND DRIVE - LOS ANGELES - EARLY 1990S

A VACANT LOT with an amazing view of the city below. Elgin and Bernadette walk the grounds holding hands.

BEE'S VOICE

Then it was on to her next challenge.

Bernadette - brimming with enthusiasm, confidence, buoyancy - is talking a mile a minute.

BERNADETTE

The game is... can we build a house, a great house, using NOTHING but material from these 20 miles?

She points to the city skyline. Elgin looks it over.

ELGIN

What's hard about that? There's a Home Depot right over --

BERNADETTE

Bzz! Unacceptable. That's wood from Mexico, steel from China. I'm saying you can't you use anything in the design or construction of this house that isn't sourced locally.

ELGIN

Why would you do that?

BERNADETTE

For fun!

Bernadette smiles. And on her face, we CUT TO:

SERIES OF SCENES - Bernadette building the 20 Mile House

- Bernadette, Paul, and a WORKING CREW collecting material from dumpsters.

- Bernadette with a shovel digging a trench on the grounds.

- Wearing overalls and a tool belt, Bernadette helps TREE TRIMMERS cut down loose branches.

- The House begins taking shape. It's extraordinary. People drive by slowly to look at it, take pictures, etc. CUT TO:

EXT 20 MILE HOUSE - EARLY 1990S

Another day. Bernadette is hammering when she hears the sound of a CONSTRUCTION TRUCK backing up next door.

She walks around to the neighboring property only to see the truck dumping all sorts of material into the dumpster. She runs out in front of it.

BERNADETTE

Excuse me! Hey!

She finally gets their attention.

BERNADETTE (CONT'D)

You're just dumping all this?

TRUCK DRIVER

Not me. Little Lord Fauntleroy changed his mind. Again.

Bernadette looks in the dumpster. It's filled with brass hardware - handles, knobs, hinges, bathroom fixtures. Her eyes go wide. It's like Christmas came early. CUT TO:

A 1980s TV SHOW called "You Catch it, You Keep It."

BEE'S VOICE

There was this guy. This Nigel Mills-Murray. His claim to fame was some stupid game show that was big in the 80s. He bought the place next door.

Cash is being dropped onto contestants. If they catch it... well you get the idea.

EXT 20 MILE HOUSE - NIGHT - EARLY 1990S

Bernadette and company are raiding this dumpster under cover of darkness. She looks at an ornate brass handle.

BERNADETTE

...if we solder the pieces with wire, they might make a terrific --

Suddenly, there's a FLASHLIGHT trained on them. A short, angry Englishman (think Phil Collins) wearing pajamas has caught them in the act. This is NIGEL MILLS MURRAY.

MILLS-MURRAY

The fuck are you doing?

BEE'S VOICE

He was a huge a-hole.

Bernadette's crew are alarmed. But she's cool as a cucumber.

BERNADETTE

Sorry. Hi. Are you Nigel? I'm Bernadette. I own the --

MILLS-MURRAY

I don't care who you are. I'm calling the police.

BERNADETTE

I just figured, since you're tossing all this --

Mills-Murray whips out an oversized 1990s cell phone...

MILLS-MURRAY

This is Nigel Mills-Murray, 10963 Mulholland. I have several intruders --

BERNADETTE

Ok, ok we're leaving. Don't have to be a dick about it.

Bernadette looks at Paul. Nothing to say.

EXT 20 MILE HOUSE - DAY - EARLY 1990S

As Bernadette works, we see Mills-Murray has a CREW erecting a fence around his property. Bernadette watches the fence going up. The wheels turning in her head. She smiles.

EXT MULHOLLAND DRIVE - LOS ANGELES - ANOTHER DAY - 1990S

A TRUCK arrives at a traffic light. Bernadette pulls up alongside it. Waves a \$100 bill. CUT TO:

EXT 20 MILE HOUSE - LATER

Bernadette has turned the tacky brass handles into her front gate. Mills-Murray drives by in his Rolls-Royce. She smiles and waves at him. He can see what she's done.

EXT 20 MILE HOUSE - LATER

Murray and Bernadette at the gate with TWO COPS. Paul has to keep Bernadette from lunging at Mills-Murray. She hates him so much right now!

MILLS-MURRAY

These are MY bathroom fixtures! I paid for them! She stole them!

BERNADETTE

You threw them away! Do you know how wasteful that is?

The two of them continue to bicker intensely in front of the bewildered police. We hear:

## BEE'S VOICE

The whole time, this douchebag  
tortured my mother. Threatening  
lawsuits, calling the cops...

EXT 20 MILE HOUSE/ MILLS-MURRAY PROPERTY - DAY - 1990S

Both homes are huge. Murray's is a tasteless McMansion.  
Bernadette's is a masterpiece.

We see a HELICOPTER lowering palm trees onto the driveway  
shared by the two houses. Bernadette desperately tries to  
stop their work. Mills-Murray stands there, arms crossed.

## BERNADETTE

Now you've gone too far. Seriously.

Mills-Murray doesn't say anything.

## BERNADETTE (CONT'D)

You want to look like you live in a  
Ritz-Carlton, that's your business,  
but this is a shared driveway --

## MILLS-MURRAY

(takes out documents)

This states very clearly that my  
easement over your property is for  
"ingress and egress." All  
landscaping decisions and  
maintenance are mine and mine  
alone.

She takes the papers and angrily looks them over.

## MILLS-MURRAY (CONT'D)

(smiling)

If you have an issue, take it up  
with my attorney.

With that he turns and walks away. She watches him go, tongue  
in her cheek. Plotting her revenge. CUT TO:

EXT 20 MILE HOUSE/ MILLS-MURRAY PROPERTY - ANOTHER NIGHT

Spotlights shine. Limousines line the street. A PARTY is in  
full swing at the Mills-Murray home. Meanwhile, a FLEET of  
TOW TRUCKS are lifting expensive cars onto tow beds.  
Bernadette is leading them, pointing and gesturing.

Eventually Mills-Murray, having been alerted, comes out.

## MILLS-MURRAY

What is it you think you're doing?!

Bernadette whips out some documents and hands them to Murray.

BERNADETTE

"Ingress and "egress." Not parking cars.

Bernadette smiles. GUESTS are coming out, furious, realizing their cars are being towed. Murray looks like he's going to explode. He points at her - "you'll pay for this."

INT BEEBER BIFOCAL - BEDROOM - NIGHT - 1990S

Bernadette and Elgin in bed. She's watching the game show, annoyed as hell. Elgin finally looks up from his paperback.

ELGIN

Why are you watching that?

BERNADETTE

I want to see what they throw at them next. Hopefully feces.

ELGIN

Bernadette --

BERNADETTE

Can you imagine a life where this is your greatest achievement? I mean, really. How does he sleep at night?

ELGIN

Let's sell the House.

BERNADETTE

What?

ELGIN

He's making you crazy.

BERNADETTE

We can't sell the house.

ELGIN

Of course we can. Between the MacArthur prize and that write up in the Times, we'll get 20 offers. At least.

BERNADETTE

Elgie --

ELGIN

You set out to make something extraordinary, something that would stand the test of time - and you did that. But I can't let you live in that house, Bernadette. Not if he's living next door.

Bernadette sees from the look on his face that Elgin means business. She nods, sadly.

INT SPAGO RESTAURANT - NIGHT - 1990S

Bernadette and Elgin celebrating the sale along with Judy. They hold hands, a picture of happiness. They clink glasses.

ELGIN

I have something for you.

Elgin takes out a jewelry box. Bernadette excitedly opens it. It's a LOCKET - inside a photograph of a SAINT.

BERNADETTE

It's beautiful.

ELGIN

St. Bernadette could make miracles - 18 miracles, so they say. And you Bernadette - your first miracle was Beeber Bifocal. Your second is the 20 Mile House. "The Crowning Achievement of the American Green Movement."

(tearing up)

Here's to sixteen more.

Bernadette has tears in her eyes too. She kisses him.

BERNADETTE

I love you Elgie.

ELGIN

I love you too.

BEE'S VOICE

They went to Europe to celebrate. To visit the home of St. Bernadette.

(beat)

That's when it happened.

INT BEEBER BIFOCAL FACTORY - NIGHT

Bernadette and Elgin, giddy, arrive home from their trip.

As Elgin wheels in the suitcases, Bernadette notices the blinking light on the answering machine. She presses play.

MALE VOICE

"Bernadette, it's Paul. I'm just... I'm outraged. I don't know how you could do such a thing."

She looks at Elgin, confused. He is too. CUT TO:

EXT 20 MILE HOUSE - NIGHT

A car careens around Mulholland until it pulls up in front of the 20 Mile House. Or what used to be the 20 Mile House. For now the entire thing has been razed to the ground. Both Bernadette and Elgin don't understand what they're seeing.

EXT STREET - MOMENTS LATER

Bernadette at a pay phone on the side of the road. Elgin has to hold her from shaking so badly.

BERNADETTE

(into phone)

What do you mean "Nigel?" You said a man named John Sayre bought the house.

Bernadette sinks against the glass in the phone booth. Elgin has to hold her up. On this image, we hear:

BEE'S VOICE

John Sayre was Nigel's business manager. It was purchased in his name but Nigel was the buyer all along. Fucked up, right?

INT BERNADETTE'S HOUSE - LATER

Bernadette sits on the floor staring at a blank piece of paper. She wants to write something on it. She really does.

BEE'S VOICE

That was the last time Mom made anything.

Nothing happens. We get the sense this happens a lot.

A noise, like the SLAMMING OF A DOOR, interrupts her concentration. She looks up.

BERNADETTE

Ice Cream?

FULL SCREEN of Bernadette upstairs in her (enormous) bedroom. There's a row of what used to be CONFSSIONALS which is now being used as Bernadette's CLOSETS. The door to one of them is closed and she can't get it opened. She hears barking from behind it. This isn't good. CUT TO:

LATER. Bernadette and Bee staring at the door. Bernadette has TOOLS scattered about but nothing has worked yet.

BEE

Can't we just kick it in?

BERNADETTE

The door opens out. Although... if we kick it from the INSIDE...

Bee doesn't understand. Bernadette excitedly grabs her hand and races out of there with Bee in tow.

EXT BERNADETTE'S HOME - MOMENTS LATER

Bee helps Bernadette drag a LADDER across the wet lawn. They lean it against the house.

BERNADETTE

You hold it. I'll climb.

BEE

She's my dog. You hold it.

BERNADETTE

Absolutely not, Bee. Its dangerous.

Bee rolls her eyes but Bernadette isn't budging. Bern takes off her SCARF and wraps it around her hand. She starts to climb. Bee watches, can't help but smile. Bern punches the STAINED GLASS WINDOW with her scarf-wrapped HAND, unlatches it from the inside, and climbs in. A few moments pass.

BEE

Mom!?

Another few moments. No response. Bee decides - fuck it. Now she starts to climb up. She makes it up to the top and climbs over the windowsill. We are:

INT BERNADETTE'S CLOSET - SAME

Where Ice Cream is chilling, completely content. Meanwhile Bernadette is karate kicking at the door. She eventually manages to get it open.

BEE

Go Mom!

Bernadette turns to see Bee.

BERNADETTE

I told you to stay down there.

At which point they both hear a CRASH. They look out the window - the ladder has crashed to the ground. With their heads still out the window, Bernadette turns to Bee.

BERNADETTE (CONT'D)

Hey, I almost forgot...

Bernadette hands her an envelope labeled "Choate Rosemary."



BERNADETTE (CONT'D)  
 Congratulations.  
 (beat)  
 You've been accepted to Choate.

INT BERNADETTE'S CAR - NIGHT

Bern and Bee driving across the bridge over Lake Washington.

BERNADETTE  
 Do you have any idea how strong I'm  
 being? How much my heart is  
 breaking that you'll be going off  
 to boarding school?

BEE  
 I might not, you know. Just wanted  
 to see if I could get in.

BERNADETTE  
 You're going. You're so going. I  
 can smell it on you.

BEE  
 If you didn't want me to go you  
 shouldn't have made it sound like  
 so much fun.

BERNADETTE  
 I guess I never thought through the  
 actual implications of your  
 applying i.e. that you'd be leaving  
 us. But it's fine, really, I'll  
 still be seeing you every day.  
 (off her look)  
 Oh, I didn't tell you? I got a job  
 at the dining hall?

BEE  
 Don't even joke about that.

BERNADETTE  
 Nobody will know. You won't even  
 have to say hi. I just want to look  
 at your gorgeous face every day.

BEE  
 Oh my god, stop!

EXT CAMPUS OF MICROSOFT - ESTABLISHING

The car arrives. They park in a space labeled "No Parking."

INT STUDIO C - SAME

Bernadette and Bee enter the building. They have take-out  
 boxes in hand. Above the door Bee sees a giant DIGITAL CLOCK.

BEE  
What's that?

It's counting down 119 Days, 2 Hours, 4 Minutes, 3 Seconds.

BERNADETTE  
They call it a ship clock. It's  
supposed to be inspiring or  
something.  
(beat)  
No comment.

They walk down the hall, past a series of offices, all the same size, none of them bigger than your average cubicle. Some have STANDING DESKS, others the more traditional seated ones. Most have more than one laptop (all PCs obviously). And some have stacks of BLACK CUBES lining their desks.

BEE  
And what do the cubes mean again?

BERNADETTE  
Anyone who files a patent on behalf  
of the company gets rewarded with  
one of those big black eyesores.

Eventually they round their way to Elgin's office. His eyes light up when he sees them.

ELGIN  
Hi girls!

We'll notice, behind, his office has triple the CUBES of everyone else. CUT TO:

SOON AFTER. The family is eating the take-out together in one of the communal areas talking about the dog incident.

BEE  
Ice Cream was laughing the whole  
time like we were two idiots.

BERNADETTE  
Which we totally are.

BEE  
It was so fun!

Elgin smiles, turns to Bernadette.

ELGIN  
Weren't you planning to do  
something with those beams?

BERNADETTE  
(with an edge)  
I will. I told you...

Bernadette looks away. The mood immediately having changed. Clearly this is some kind of sore subject among them. Elgin feels shitty having even broached it.

ELGIN  
Celebrating! Yay!

Bee smiles, appreciating the attempt. But it doesn't bring things around. They eat in silence a few more seconds until a Co-Worker, PABLO, pokes around the corner, signals to wrap it up. Elgin gets his meaning. Sees Bee looking up at him.

ELGIN (CONT'D)  
Skype session with Tokyo.

BEE  
I understand.

Elgin squeezes Bern on the shoulder as he stands.

ELGIN  
We'll celebrate this weekend, ok?

Bee nods, smiles. He kisses Bee on the cheek.

ELGIN (CONT'D)  
I'm very proud of you.

He walks off, leaving Bernadette and Bee alone together. We stay with them for a beat. CUT TO:

INT BERNADETTE'S AIRSTREAM OFFICE - DAY

Bernadette typing.

BERNADETTE'S VOICE  
I'm gonna need a sign. The loudest,  
ugliest, red sign you can find.  
Here's what I want it to say...

INT SOO-LIN'S NEW OFFICE - DAY

Soo-Lin is unpacking her things in a brand new office in Studio C. MUGS with positive sayings on them, PHOTOS of Lincoln, a collection of SNOW BABIES, and a heavily dog-eared book called "Victims Against Victimhood". We hear:

SOO-LIN'S VOICE  
If my divorce has taught me  
anything it's you can't let life  
happen to you. You have to happen  
to life.

Out of the corner of her eye, she catches Elgin Branch, barefoot, at the VENDING MACHINE.

SOO-LIN'S VOICE (CONT'D)  
 So here I am in Studio C. Working  
 on Samantha 2 which Bill Gates  
 himself called his favorite project  
 in all of Microsoft.

He seems to be having a very difficult time choosing a SODA.

SOO-LIN'S VOICE (CONT'D)  
 And I have to work for a tyrant.  
 But that's ok. I take the good with  
 the bad. I roll with the punches.  
 I'm a survivor. And besides...

Eventually, he does so and walks to his office. Soo-Lin  
 watches him go.

SOO-LIN'S VOICE (CONT'D)  
 He can't be half as rude and anti-  
 social as his wife. Can he?

Soo-Lin takes a deep breath. Makes a decision. She walks down  
 the hall to Elgin's office. When she gets there, he's  
 searching frantically for something. She knocks.

ELGIN  
 I've lost my goddman glasses again.

SOO-LIN  
 I... um, maybe they're --

Soo-Lin finds them on top of his computer monitor.

ELGIN  
 Thanks. Sorry, who are you?

SOO-LIN  
 I'm Soo-Lin Lee-Segal, the new  
 admin.

ELGIN  
 Oh thank god! We've been drowning  
 here for days without you. Welcome.  
 It's nice to meet you.

SOO-LIN  
 Actually, we've met. Um... I have a  
 son, Lincoln, he's in Bee's class  
 at Galer Street --

ELGIN  
 Great. Yeah. Listen, I need you to  
 call Mason in Sunnyvale, see where  
 he is on the Q9 delivery. Get me  
 the latest specs from packaging...

Soo-Lin frantically takes notes. Not surprised that Elgin is  
 a heartless taskmaster.

ELGIN (CONT'D)

... book me on a 6pm flight to SFO,  
and confirm with Sanjay at Logitech  
that the 11am is still happening.  
If it is, make a reservation for  
the team at Wild Ginger. Pablo  
loves that place. You got all that?

SOO-LIN

(reading it back)  
Mason in Sunnyvale... specs from  
packaging... 6pm flight,  
reservation for 5, Wild Ginger.

ELGIN

5?

SOO-LIN

Hmm?

ELGIN

Not 5, Soo-Lin. 6.  
(off her confused look)  
You're part of the team now, aren't  
you?

Soo-Lin smiles, surprised - and elated. Maybe she's misjudged  
this man. CUT TO:

INT GALER STREET SCHOOL - PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE - SAME

Audrey and her son KYLE (14, one of those kids you just know  
is an asshole) sit across from the PRINCIPAL.

PRINCIPAL

We found this in Kyle's locker this  
morning.

The Principal holds up an ORANGE PILL BOTTLE - Vicodin - in  
Audrey's name. Audrey is not pleased.

PRINCIPAL (CONT'D)

As I'm sure you're aware, Galer  
Street has a zero tolerance drug  
policy --

AUDREY

But those aren't drugs! They're  
prescription drugs.

The Principal thinks about that. Moving on...

PRINCIPAL

I'd like to hear from Kyle please.

KYLE

(shrugs)  
Whatever.

The Principal sighs. Audrey quickly comes to his defense.

AUDREY

I don't think I like where this is going, Gwen. Are you accusing Kyle of something? Are you accusing me? Or doesn't it matter that I'm hosting a brunch this week for sixty prospective Mercedes parents?

Audrey gets up in her face.

AUDREY (CONT'D)

Now that I think about it, what were you doing in Kyle's locker? Wasn't it locked? Isn't that why it's called a "locker?"

The Principal again has no response for this woman.

AUDREY (CONT'D)

Yeah. That's what I thought. Come on Kyle, we're leaving.

Audrey turns and walks away. Kyle, trying to hide the smile forming on his face, follows her out. The Principal just watches them go, shaking her head. CUT TO:

INT GALER STREET SCHOOL - HALLWAY - LATER

Bee turns a corner to find Audrey Griffin leaning up against the wall, breathing heavily. The second she sees Bee her fake smile returns.

AUDREY

Bee! How are you dear?

BEE

Ms. Griffin.

AUDREY

I hear you might be going to boarding school. Is that true?

BEE

Might be.

AUDREY

I could never send Kyle to boarding school.

BEE

(shrugs)

Well I guess you love Kyle more than my Mom loves me.

Bee keeps walking. Audrey doesn't know what to make of that.

EXT DOWNTOWN SEATTLE - DAY

Bernadette's car driving down the block. Her fingers drum incessantly on the steering wheel. She looks in the rearview mirror. A BLACK SUV is behind her, driven by a CREW CUT MAN IN A SUIT. She takes notice of this. Drives on.

INT BERNADETTE'S CAR - SAME

Bernadette wears her new FISHING VEST (NOTE: she'll be wearing it in pretty much every scene from now on). She's circling the block, looking for a place to park which, in Seattle, sure aint easy. Eventually she sees a space in front of the PUBLIC LIBRARY. She PARKS.

EXT BERNADETTE'S CAR - SAME

Bernadette exits the car and has to walk pretty far down the block to the TICKET DISPENSER.

When she gets there, it's of course surrounded by more VAGRANTS with PIT BULLS. She avoids them, slides her credit card in the machine. Waits impatiently for the receipt.

She then has to take the receipt BACK to her car and put it on the window. She's not sure if it goes on the front or the back or the side. She puts it one side, then the other, then she says, screw it, PASSENGER SIDE and if she gets a ticket, fuck everyone. She shakes her head at the absurdity of it all. This is why she hates going out.

INT WALGREENS - MOMENTS LATER

Bernadette approaches the PHARMACY COUNTER.

BERNADETTE  
Bernadette Branch.

The PHARMACIST looks at the computer, then up at Bernadette. Her eyes flashing mischief.

PHARMACIST  
One moment.

She goes in the back for a sec. Bernadette waits. Eventually, the First Pharmacist returns with a SECOND PHARMACIST.

PHARMACIST #2  
Ms. Branch.

BERNADETTE  
Didn't realize this was a 2-man job.

The Pharmacists both blink twice. No sense of humor.

PHARMACIST #2

I've received a prescription from your doctor. ABHR?

BERNADETTE

That's right.

PHARMACIST #2

You realize ABHR is basically Haldol with some Benadryl, Reglan, and Ativan thrown in.

BERNADETTE

Sounds good to me!

PHARMACIST #2

It's an anti-psychotic. It was used in the Soviet prison system to break prisoners' wills.

BERNADETTE

Are you two familiar with the Drake Passage? That's the strait you have to cross to get to Antarctica. Well according to the internet, the Drake Passage is the very most turbulent body of water on planet Earth. And since I will be crossing it in less than a month's time, I don't really care what you give me as long as it's really effing strong.

They look at one another again. Not sure what to say next.

PHARMACIST #2

The thing is... ABHR has some severe side effects, tardive dyskensia being the worst.

BERNADETTE

And what is that?

PHARMACIST #2

Uncontrollable grimacing, tongue protrusion, lip smacking.

BERNADETTE

You obviously don't get seasick. Cause a couple hours of that is a day at the beach --

PHARMACIST #2

It can last forever.

BERNADETTE

Forever?

(he nods, gravely)

Oh man.



PHARMACIST #2

I spoke to your doctor. He wrote a new prescription: a patch and some Xanax. I can fill that for you in a couple minutes if you'd like to wait.

BERNADETTE

(disappointed)

Party poopers.

Bernadette sits on the couch, bummed. She leans back, puts her feet up, gets comfortable. CUT TO:

EXT DOWNTOWN SEATTLE - MOMENTS LATER

Elgin, Pablo, and Soo-Lin exit a restaurant, laughing about something. Soo-Lin seems to be easing in well.

As they walk towards their car, they wind up passing right by the Walgreens. Something catches Soo-Lin's eye in the window. Whatever it is, it's alarming. Elgin sees the alarm on her face. Turns to see what she's looking at. CUT TO:

INT WALGREENS - MOMENTS LATER

ANGLE ON Elgin, looking at us and saying:

ELGIN

Bernadette.

No response. He tries again, growing very concerned.

ELGIN (CONT'D)

Bernadette, wake up.

REVEAL Elgin is standing over his wife who has completely passed out on the Walgreens couch. She comes to, groggily, and for a second isn't sure where she is.

BERNADETTE

(getting her bearings)

Elgie.

ELGIN

What are you doing asleep in here?

BERNADETTE

Oh, uh, they wouldn't give me the one thing I wanted so I have to wait for the other thing. It's a long story.

ELGIN

Can you stand up?

BERNADETTE

What? Yeah, I'm fine.

ELGIN  
What's that you're wearing?

BERNADETTE  
I got it off the internet.

Elgin calmly looks her over. She looks unhinged.

ELGIN  
I have a meeting in Simi Valley. Do  
I need to cancel it?

BERNADETTE  
I'm fine, Elgie. I'm just tired. I  
haven't slept.

But Elgin is far from sure. He makes a decision.

ELGIN  
I'll cancel it.

BERNADETTE  
Elgie --

ELGIN  
I'm cancelling it. We'll have  
dinner tonight. Just the two of us.

Bernadette nods. Elgie turns, walks back towards the  
entrance. Bernadette watches him go.

And that's when she sees, through the window, Soo-Lin staring  
back at her. Bernadette furrows her brow, unnerved. What's  
Elgie doing with a Gnat? CUT TO:

EXT DOWNTOWN SEATTLE - STREET - MOMENTS LATER

Bernadette, pharmacy bag in hand, walks back towards her car.  
Sure enough there's a TICKET. She shakes her head, furious.  
And then:

MALE VOICE  
You're Bernadette Fox.

Bernadette turns to see a GRAD STUDENT (20s, wispy beard).

GRADUATE STUDENT  
Sorry to bother you but... well I'm  
a grad student at USC. I can't even  
tell you how much your work has  
meant to me. I've been to Beeber  
Bifocal like twenty times. I even  
entered the Bernadette Fox  
Competition.

BERNADETTE  
The what?

GRADUATE STUDENT  
The Prize that Paul Jellinek  
launched. In your name.

Bernadette frowns at this.

GRADUATE STUDENT (CONT'D)  
You really... I mean... you're an  
inspiration. Thank you. For  
everything.

Bernadette just looks at him with a vacant stare.

BERNADETTE  
I have to go.

Without looking back, she gets in her car and pulls out,  
leaving the Grad Student aghast. CUT TO:

INT STARBUCKS - DAY

Audrey and Soo-Lin are huddled in a corner.

AUDREY  
So she's not just rude and  
disrespectful. She's batshit  
insane!

SOO-LIN  
Ap-parent-ly!

AUDREY  
How interesting...

INT PURPLE RESTAURANT - NIGHT

Elgin and Bernadette having a rare dinner out. Bernadette  
still wears the fishing vest.

ELGIN  
Haldol is an anti-psychotic.

BERNADETTE  
I know what Haldol is.

ELGIN  
Then why are you taking it? And who  
is prescribing it?

BERNADETTE  
Oh my god do you hear these people?

ELGIN  
Who? What --?

BERNADETTE  
Shh. Behind us. They're pronouncing  
it "mole." Like the mammal.

(MORE)

BERNADETTE (CONT'D)  
 As if this restaurant served a  
 sauce made out of mole. That is  
 just... I don't want to look but I  
 have to look. Are they Canadians?

ELGIN  
 Bernadette. We haven't talked about  
 this but are you... is something...

BERNADETTE  
 I can't contain myself. Mole sauce.  
 Jesus Christ.

Bernadette looks quickly, then looks back.

BERNADETTE (CONT'D)  
 Ha! I should have guessed. Covered  
 in tattoos. How original. Remember  
 when a tattoo was for bikers and  
 rebels? Times sure have changed,  
 haven't they.

ELGIN  
 Bernie --

BERNADETTE  
 Nowadays the only way to rebel is  
 to NOT get a tattoo.

ELGIN  
 Bernadette --

BERNADETTE  
 I'm telling you, that's the only  
 way.

ELGIN  
 Bernadette!!  
 (that shuts her up)  
 Why do you have Haldol?

Bernadette exhales. More fidgeting in the chair.

BERNADETTE  
 Can I ask you a question?  
 (beat)  
 Why were you with a gnat?

ELGIN  
 What?

BERNADETTE  
 At the pharmacy. There was a gnat  
 with you. From Galer Street.

ELGIN  
 Soo-Lin is my new admin.

Bernadette drops her fork and throws her hands in the air,  
 loud enough to attract some attention.

BERNADETTE

Oh boy. That's it. That's the end.

ELGIN

What are you talking about?

BERNADETTE

They're gonna turn you against me.

Elgin is too keyed up to get into that right now.

ELGIN

When was the last time you slept?

BERNADETTE

(like he's an idiot)  
At the pharmacy, remember?

ELGIN

I mean before that.

BERNADETTE

(ignoring that)  
Are you gonna finish your "mole"  
sauce?

ELGIN

I think you should see someone.

BERNADETTE

Oh god, we tried that, remember.  
Look, it's.. I'm just anxious about  
the trip is all. Fuck there he is  
again!

Elgin doesn't know what she's talking about. She leans in.

BERNADETTE (CONT'D)

Don't look... but there's a man  
outside the window in a suit. This  
is the fourth time I've seen him  
today. He might be following me.

Elgin can't help himself. He turns - but no one's there.

BERNADETTE (CONT'D)

What did I --!

ELGIN

You think someone's following you?

Bernadette recognizes how crazy that sounds.

BERNADETTE

Let's just forget it.

But Elgin can't forget it. It's even worse than he thought.

INT BERNADETTE AND ELGIN'S BATHROOM - THAT NIGHT

Elgin tiptoes into the bathroom. He opens the medicine cabinet. Sees several bottles - Xanax, Klonopin, Ambien, Halcyon, and others. Every one of them is empty.

BEE'S VOICE  
That was not a good day.

Elgin is floored. We hear THUNDERCLAPS.

BEE'S VOICE (CONT'D)  
And then it got worse.

EXT AUDREY'S HOUSE - DAY - ESTABLISHING

A steady rain falls. Thunder in the distance. WORKERS hurry to finish erecting a tent. CATERERS hustle to and fro. And then there's Ollie-O, ponytail wet.

OLLIE-O  
Our biggest get is officially a no-show.

AUDREY  
Pearl Jam?

OLLIE-O  
The sun.

A PIZZA GUY appears. Audrey gestures for him to follow her.

INT AUDREY'S HOUSE - SAME

Audrey, still "hobbling" with crutches, leads them through the living room, which has been assembled with chairs for the arriving guests. They arrive at the kitchen.

AUDREY  
Just put it on the table.

Audrey goes to the sink. Pours herself a water. Quickly pops a pill to steel her nerves. Looks out the window and that's when she sees SOMETHING AWFUL.

Ollie-O comes in, sees Audrey in distress. Then he sees what she sees. (We don't.)

OLLIE-O  
What the shit is that!?!

He quickly closes the blinds. CUT TO:

INT AUDREY'S LIVING ROOM - LATER

KINDERGARTNERS shake marimbas and sing a song about fish. There's about 50 PARENTS in the room. With all the curtains and shades down, no one can see outside. (A good thing.)

Still, Audrey and Ollie-0 are clearly nervous about the situation. When a MOTHER tries to open the shades:

OLLIE-0  
That's a non-starter.

She knows not what he means but by the look on his face, he means business. The Mom sits back down.

The kids finish their performance and the Parents applaud. The Principal stands up in front of the Parents.

PRINCIPAL  
As you can see, music is just one  
of the many creative departments we  
offer --

VOICE FROM OUTSIDE  
(very faint)  
Holy mother --!

The Principal pauses. Did anyone else hear that? They don't seem to have. She continues.

PRINCIPAL  
Ahem. Galer Street is one of the  
city's premiere learning centers  
for art, creative writ--

ANOTHER VOICE FROM OUTSIDE  
(louder)  
Fucking hell!

They definitely all heard that.

Audrey, incensed, hobbles on crutches through the hallway towards the laundry room to see what the commotion is about.

INT AUDREY'S LAUNDRY ROOM - SAME

She grabs the BACK DOOR and turns the handle to go outside when suddenly --

She feels a FORCE pushing against her. Something is trying to get in. She fights it off a few beats as best as she can - using her leg, then her whole body, but it's growing in intensity.

At which point, there's a CREAKING SOUND, a few POPS and PINGS. Uh-oh.

INT AUDREY'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - SAME

Meanwhile, Ollie-O and the rest of the GUESTS, are hearing the noises as well. Pops, pings, then the SHATTERING of GLASS. Everyone is getting a little nervous. But before they can do anything about it, Audrey runs (totally crutch-free) back into the room covered in mud.

A loud RUMBLE and then, like a tidal wave...

AUDREY  
MUDSLIDE!

Everyone freaks the fuck out as MUD comes RUSHING through the house.! Screaming muddy PARENTS and KIDS run in all directions. A wall gives way! Mud is now filling up the entire room! People and party remnants fly in all directions.

And then there's THE SIGN. What Audrey had attempted to cover. It's now in the middle of her destroyed living room. 4 feet by 4 feet and bright red. It reads:

**"PRIVATE PROPERTY! NO TRESPASSING! Galer Street Gnats Will Be Arrested and Hauled Off to Gnat Jail!"**

Ollie-O looks at this in horror. He looks at Audrey. Runs.

AUDREY (CONT'D)  
Hey!

OLLIE-O  
Sorry lady. I don't do "Black Swan."

And Audrey is alone. The ruins of her party - her house! - all around her. She looks at the sign, seething.

INT BERNADETTE'S CAR - SAME

Bernadette driving Bee home. ANGLE ON Bee's fingers, drumming incessantly on her lap. Just like her mother - who notices.

BERNADETTE  
What are you doing?!

BEE  
Hmm?

Bee didn't even realize she was doing it. Bernadette tries not to be alarmed by this connection to her own behavior. Lets it go. For now. The car drives on. Eventually, they arrive in their driveway. Audrey is standing there.

BEE (CONT'D)  
Watch out for her foot.

Bernadette laughs until she notices that Audrey is entirely covered in mud. That's not good.



EXT. BERNADETTE'S DRIVEWAY - SAME

Bernadette gets out of the car. Audrey already in her face.

BERNADETTE  
What happened?

AUDREY  
Your hillside slid into my house!

Bernadette looks at where the blackberry vines used to be. It's barren now. Clearly the vines were the last bastion of support keeping the cliff from collapsing.

BERNADETTE  
Was anyone hurt?

AUDREY  
Thank the lord no.

BERNADETTE  
Ok that's good. That's good...

AUDREY  
Is it? Good? My backyard is six feet high in mud. Windows were broken, plants were destroyed, trees, hardwood floors, my washer and dryer ripped RIGHT OUT OF THE WALL!

Audrey is so hysterical it's actually kind of funny. Bernadette tries not to smile. Bee too. Both of them trying to be mature about this.

AUDREY (CONT'D)  
Are you laughing at me?

BERNADETTE  
No.

BEE  
No.

BERNADETTE  
Of course not. No.

Both Bee and Bernadette are having a hard time keeping it together. Audrey watches them another beat.

AUDREY  
And that sign! Who does that?

BEE  
What sign?

BERNADETTE  
I'm sorry about the sign. I'll have it taken down.

AUDREY

The mud took care of that for you, Bernadette. It's in my living room.

BERNADETTE

Let me just... I'll pay for the damage.

AUDREY

Oh. How nice.

BERNADETTE

Audrey --

AUDREY

Is that all everything is about for you, Bernadette?! Money?! Up here in your gigantic house looking down on all of us --

BERNADETTE

You're obviously emotional, Audrey. I understand that. But you need to remember - that work was done at your insistence. I used your guy and had him do it on the day you specified.

AUDREY

So none of it is your responsibility? Is that it? How about the sign? Did I put you up to that too?

BEE

WHAT SIGN?!

BERNADETTE

Buzz, I -- I did something stupid. I'll tell you about it later.

AUDREY

Nobody likes you, Bernadette. You know that, right?

Bernadette doesn't say anything.

AUDREY (CONT'D)

You come in here with your Microsoft money and think you belong. You don't belong. You'll never belong.

BERNADETTE

Amen to that.

AUDREY

And I hope you enjoyed your Thanksgiving at "The Dude Ranch?"

BERNADETTE

You know what, Audrey, fuck you.

That surprises Bee.

AUDREY

Dropping the F-Bomb in front of a child. Nice.

BERNADETTE

Fuck you again for bringing my daughter into this.

AUDREY

This poor child, with everything she's been through --

And now Bee's getting angry.

BEE

Hey!

AUDREY

No wonder she applied to boarding school. She can't wait to get away from you people.

BEE

You don't know a thing about us.

AUDREY

I know a bad mother when I see one.

Bee makes a decision right then and there. She walks up to Audrey and SLAPS HER ACROSS THE FACE!

A beat as Audrey processes that moment.

AUDREY (CONT'D)

I am a Christian woman so I'll forgive that.

Bee, herself shaken by what she's done, jumps back into her mother's car and shuts the door. Audrey, not sure what else to do now, turns to go.

Bernadette sees Bee crying through the window. She opens the door and joins her in the car in the driveway. They sit there for a second in silence.

BERNADETTE

Thanks for having my back.

BEE

(through the tears)  
I always have your back, Sundance.

Bee rests her head on Bernadette's shoulder. Bernadette holds her head as she cries into her arm. CUT TO:

INT BERNADETTE'S OFFICE - MOMENTS LATER

Still wet, Bernadette sits down at her computer.

BERNADETTE'S VOICE

I tried Manjula. I really tried.  
But I can't go to Antarctica. We  
have to find a way out of this. We  
have to find an escape.

Bernadette hits "send." BACK TO FULL SCREEN for a BEAT.  
Bernadette disappointed in herself. She closes her eyes, sits  
very still.

Something occurs to her. She clicks on "Google." Types  
"Bernadette Fox Competition." Up comes a PRESS RELEASE about  
a \$100,000 architecture prize. There's a contact email for  
Paul Jellinek. Bernadette clicks on it. An email comes up.  
She begins to type and we hear:

BERNADETTE'S VOICE (CONT'D)

Paul Jellinek, you big lug. Been a  
long time, hasn't it? You must be  
wondering what I've been up to  
these last 20 years. Well I've been  
very productive.

(beat)

Kidding! I've been ordering shit  
off the internet! Losing my mind.

BERNADETTE'S VOICE (CONT'D)

I never expected to grow old in  
this dreary upper-left corner of  
the lower forty-eight. But the  
strangest thing happened...

SERIES OF SHOTS:

- Elgin cycling over a scenic bridge.
- Elgin burning the midnight oil in Studio C.

BERNADETTE'S VOICE (CONT'D)

Elgie fell madly in love with it.  
Who knew our Elgin had a bike-  
riding, Starbucks-drinking, Keen-  
wearing alter ego just waiting to  
bust out of him?

- Elgin riding the Microsoft Connector to work.

BERNADETTE'S VOICE (CONT'D)

He even takes the Microsoft  
Connector to work every morning  
when he have not one, not two, but  
three cars in the driveway he could  
easily use. I can't explain why he  
does that.

A RIDER gets on. Passing Elgin, he does a double take. Holy shit that's Elgin Branch. Elgin smiles to himself without looking up. (That's why he rides the tram). CUT TO:

BERNADETTE'S VOICE (CONT'D)  
When we first moved here in '91...

EXT QUEEN ANNE NEIGHBORHOOD - 1990S - FLASHBACK

Bernadette and Elgin drive with a REALTOR, passing one Craftsman style house after another. She points to them as they drive, commenting.

BERNADETTE  
Turn of the century Craftsman.  
Beautifully restored Craftsman.  
Reinterpretation of Craftsman...

The Realtor and Elgin share a glance. This isn't going well.

ELGIN  
Maybe we should try a different  
neighborhood.

Bernadette is doing the drumming thing with her fingers. Elgin gently reaches over and holds her hand - if not to relax her then at least to stop the tic. A brief, knowing moment between them - and then:

BERNADETTE  
Wait - there.

Bernadette sees the BIG BRICK BUILDING at the top of the hill. Her future home.

REALTOR  
That's Straight Gate. Used to be a  
Catholic school for wayward girls.

BERNADETTE  
And what is it now?

REALTOR  
Now? It's nothing. They plan to  
tear it down to build condos.

BERNADETTE  
(beat)  
We'll take it.

INT STRAIGHT GATE - LATER - 1990S

Elgin and Bernadette in their younger days, walking through what will become their house. We hear:

## BERNADETTE'S VOICE

The plan was to flee Los Angeles,  
lick my wounded ego in solitude,  
and when I determined that everyone  
felt sufficiently sorry for me, I  
would unfurl my cape and swoop in  
to launch my second act.

## BERNADETTE

Just needs some weatherproofing,  
refinishing, painting - come on,  
it'll be fun!

Bernadette leans up against his body. There's that spark  
again. Elgin is hopeful.

## BERNADETTE'S VOICE

What really happened was...

## INT BERNADETTE'S BATHROOM - NIGHT - 1990S

Younger Bernadette crumpled on her bathroom floor, weeping.  
Elgin holds her for dear life.

## BERNADETTE'S VOICE

I had four miscarriages.

## BERNADETTE

I can't make anything without  
destroying it.

## ELGIN

Stop it.

## BERNADETTE

I'm a monster.

## ELGIN

You're not a monster.

## BERNADETTE

How can you possibly love me?

## ELGIN

I'll love you forever.

## BERNADETTE'S VOICE

Try as I might, it's hard to blame  
that on Nigel Mills-Murray.

## INT DELIVERY ROOM - LATE 1990S

Bernadette giving birth. Elgin is there to hold her hand.

## BERNADETTE (V.O.)

When Bee were born it was the best  
day of both of our lives.

(MORE)

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

(beat)

And the worst.

From the DOCTOR'S reaction, it's clear something is wrong.

EXT HOSPITAL PARKING LOT - NIGHT

It's pouring rain and Bernadette is sitting in the front seat of her car in her hospital gown, inconsolably sad. Elgin is outside looking for her. He finally finds her in the car. Knocks on the windshield, excitedly! We don't need to hear the words to know he's saying she's going to be ok.

INT NICU - LATE 1990S

Bernadette and Elgin look at their daughter in an incubator.

BERNADETTE

Balakrishna.

Elgin smiles, nods. And Bernadette drops to the ground, grabs the locket of St. Bernadette, and prays.

BERNADETTE (CONT'D)

I will never build again. I will renounce my other 16 miracles if you will please, god, please keep my baby alive.

INT BERNADETTE'S KITCHEN - DAY - 2000S

The family sits to breakfast. Bee is a healthy-looking adorable kid. The house, by contrast, remains in terrible shape. And will continue to do so.

BERNADETTE'S VOICE

If you couldn't tell, that was an excuse.

- She stares at something in the living room. She moves a chair to a particular angle. Decides it's all wrong and moves it back. She's paralyzed.

BERNADETTE'S VOICE (CONT'D)

The reason I don't create anymore has nothing to do with my daughter. Or Seattle. Or anything else. It's all because I'm afraid. And I'm angry. And I've never gotten over what happened to me at the 20 Mile House. Most of which, I know full well, was my fault.

INT BERNADETTE'S AIRSTREAM OFFICE - SAME

Bernadette, tears in her eyes, continues typing.

## BERNADETTE'S VOICE

You're the only person I could ever tell this to, Paul. And maybe you don't understand either. Maybe no one does. Maybe I'm alone with my shame and my anger, my childishness, self-pity, and everything else. Maybe I'm alone.

Bernadette looks at the this long email she's just composed.

## BERNADETTE (V.O.)

I hope this email finds you well.

Nods at it. Hits "send." CUT TO:

BLACK.

A few beats of silence is followed by CHEERFUL XMAS MUSIC. FADE IN on a CHRISTMAS CARD:

A PHOTO of the Griffin Family - Audrey, Warren, and Kyle - all smiling in matching red sweaters with reindeer on them. A poem has been printed on the image and we hear:

## AUDREY (V.O.)

"Twas the week before Christmas/  
When all through the house/ So much  
mud began flowing/ our things it  
did douse."

INT SEATTLE WESTIN - LOBBY - ESTABLISHING

It looks nice enough.

## AUDREY (V.O.)

"We moved to the Westin/ But did  
not despair/ When we saw that the  
rooms here/ Are beyond compare."

INT SEATTLE WESTIN - FIFTH FLOOR HALLWAY - SAME

A JANITOR vacuums. A DRUNKEN COUPLE walks to their room to have sex. It's starting to look a little less nice.

INT SEATTLE WESTIN - AUDREY'S ROOM - NIGHT

And now it's clear that Audrey is full of shit. The room is cramped, the walls thin, the radiator clicks. Audrey is miserable trying to drown it all out. (Warren, on the other hand, sleeps soundly).

## AUDREY (V.O.)

"So whatever you've heard/ which  
has given you fright/ We Griffins  
are grand/ Have a swell Christmas  
night!"



SPLITSCREEN: on the left, this shot of Audrey; on the right, Soo-Lin rides the Connector to work in the morning. She types an email. And we hear:

SOO-LIN (V.O.)

Dear Audrey, I just received your fabulous holiday card! Who knew the Westin was so luxurious! I'm so glad you're ok. And if you ever get bored, don't forget, you can always move in with Lincoln and I. Love ya, Soo-Lin.

The image on the left becomes Audrey in the lobby having coffee and reading the email. As she starts to write back:

AUDREY (V.O.)

Oh Soo-Lin, the Westin is nothing like I described. The rooms are small, the beds are terrible, the walls so thin you hear everything.

The image on the right becomes Kyle, happily playing video games in his room, clearly high.

AUDREY (V.O.)

Even Kyle - two rooms over - is feeling the stress. His eyes are always so bloodshot from the lack of sleep.

The image on the right becomes Audrey again writing this email. And on the left we see Soo-Lin in her office, reading Audrey's email as she works.

AUDREY (V.O.)

Amazing to think this is all one woman's fault. I sure hope her husband isn't torturing you too badly.

EXT MICROSOFT CAMPUS - PICNIC AREA - MORNING

FULL SCREEN of Elgin and Soo-Lin by the SOCCER FIELD at the back of campus having breakfast. She takes something out of her bag lunch. It's a NECK CORD.

SOO-LIN

So you don't lose them anymore.

Elgin ties it to his glasses, puts them on. Likes the feel.

ELGIN

Wow, Soo-Lin, I don't know what I'd do without you.

Soo-Lin beams. Elgin sees the way she's looking at him. He tries not to acknowledge that it makes him feel good.

ELGIN (CONT'D)  
Can I ask you a question...

SOO-LIN  
Anything.

ELGIN  
About Bernadette?

SOO-LIN  
(disappointed)  
Oh.  
(then, upbeat)  
Is something wrong?

ELGIN  
I don't know. Maybe. I mean... if  
there is, it's as much my fault as  
it is hers.

SOO-LIN  
Oh Elgie, you need to CRUSH that.

ELGIN  
I need to what?

SOO-LIN  
CRUSH it. It's something we say at  
Victims against Victimhood. It's an  
acronym - the C means "confirm your  
reality," the R means --

ELGIN  
(enough of that)  
Let me ask you - when you see her  
at school, does she seem...  
different? Have you noticed a  
change?

SOO-LIN  
She hasn't changed, no, but... the  
truth is, she's never participated  
in anything Galer Street.

ELGIN  
We write a check every year.

SOO-LIN  
That's financial participation. But  
there's more meaningful  
participation. Like baking for  
Cakemia, hair brushing on Picture  
Day.

ELGIN  
That's a thing?

SOO-LIN  
A wonderful thing.

ELGIN

Bernadette isn't really like that.  
Nor am I --

SOO-LIN

But that's what leads to tragedies  
like the one from this weekend.

ELGIN

Sorry?

SOO-LIN

Well you must have heard about the  
mudslide.

(he hasn't)

Aren't you getting the emails? From  
Galer Street.

ELGIN

God no. I had them take me off that  
list serve years ago. What are you  
talking about, tragedy?

SPLIT SCREEN: on the left, Soo-Lin finishes writing; on the right, the email.

SOO-LIN (V.O.)

Audrey, he had no idea! She never  
even told him what she'd done!

The image on the right becomes Audrey on the elliptical  
reading this on her blackberry. She becomes incensed.

AUDREY (V.O.)

Do you think I woke up this morning  
and drank a big cup of stupid? Of  
course he knows. That's bulldoodle.  
And you're a fool to believe it.

FULL SCREEN takes over. Audrey starts writing a second email  
to "Galer Street Administration."

AUDREY (V.O.)

Is Elgin Branch on the all-school  
list serve? Imperative that you  
confirm. ASAP.

She hits "send," confident in her indignity.

INT SOO-LIN'S OFFICE - MOMENTS LATER

Soo-Lin types another email. We hear:

SOO-LIN (V.O.)

I'll ignore the tone of your  
previous email and chalk it up to  
the stress of your living  
conditions. I just have to say...

INT STUDIO C - BOARDROOM - DAY

Elgin and Pablo in a meeting. Soo-Lin pours the coffee. She looks at Elgin, adoration in her eyes. Elgin nods to her, thank you.

INT ELGIE'S OFFICE - DAY

Soo-Lin in the doorway. Elgin in his office, still wearing socks. He says something and she laughs hysterically.

SOO-LIN (V.O.)  
... you're really quite wrong about Elgie.

EXT MICROSOFT CAMPUS - DAY

Elgin and Soo-Lin walk down the pathway. People stop and stare at him as he walks by. He pretends not to notice.

SOO-LIN (V.O.)  
Yes he's like a rock star on campus. And yes he won the Outstanding Technical Leadership award, given to the ten most outstanding visionaries at the company, and yes his Ted talk is the fourth most watched Ted talk of all time. But the truth is, he's really just a decent, loving man.

INT ELGIN'S OFFICE - DAY

We see Elgin typing an email to a DR. JANELLE KURTZ at Madrona Hill Hospital and Wellness Center. All we see is "I am deeply concerned about my wife, Bernadette." We don't see the rest but we can tell this is hard for him. CUT TO:

INT AUDREY'S HOTEL ROOM - NIGHT

Audrey's feet dangle over the bed. She looks like she might explode. She reads an email that says "neither Elgin nor Bernadette are members of the listserve."

Audrey hits "delete." Soo-Lin's email comes up next. She looks at it angrily and composes this:

AUDREY (V.O.)  
So he's Elgie now, is he? I'm spending Christmas in a hotel and you're praising my evil tormentor. Why don't you go back to Cuckooland where you came from. Oh and another thing, I don't give a fig who Ted is. Screw Ted!

She hits "send," and then, loudly:

AUDREY

Bitch.

INT SPACE NEEDLE RESTAURANT - SAME

Meanwhile, Bernadette has taken Bee and Kennedy to the revolving restaurant at the top of the Space Needle. They're loving every minute. Bernadette takes out a pen and some paper. She scribbles "IT'S MY BIRTHDAY!" then props it up against the window.

BERNADETTE

When it comes back around, the whole place will have wished you happy birthday!

KENNEDY

(to Bee)

You have, like, the coolest Mom.

BEE

I know.

KENNEDY

Should we go to the bathroom again?!

The girls run off, leaving Bernadette to look out the window on the city she despises. Here's the thing: it looks amazing. She's thinking about something but this thought is interrupted when:

ELGIN

Did you do it on purpose?

Bernadette looks up to find Elgin, livid.

LATER. Bee and Kennedy come out of the rest room. They look around in happy confusion.

BEE

And again, our table is not where we left it.

KENNEDY

This is truly the best birthday ever.

They look around until they finally find their booth. Bee is shocked to see her father there. And from the looks of it, he's angry at her mom.

BACK AT THE BOOTH:

ELGIN

-- why you would strip an entire hillside in the middle of the wettest winter on record?

BERNADETTE

Let me guess, your admin told you.

ELGIN

Keep Soo-Lin out of this. She's the only reason we're even talking about going away for 3 weeks.

BEE

Hi Dad!

Bee and Kennedy sit back in the booth.

BERNADETTE

If you're interested in the truth, I had the blackberries removed at the personal request of the Wicked Witch of the Pacific Northwest.

The girls laugh at this. Elgin isn't having it.

ELGIN

This isn't a joke Bernadette!

BEE

Stop freaking out.

KENNEDY

Seriously. Happy birthday to me.

BERNADETTE

Elgin, it's Kennedy's birthday. This is not the time --

KENNEDY

(reaching out)

Here comes the card! Get it get it!

Kennedy tries to climb over Bee to grab the birthday card from the window. Both Bernadette and Bee turn their attentions away from Elgin. He throws his hands up.

ELGIN

I'm trying to have a conversation --

BEE

No, you're yelling. Don't yell at Mom! Audrey Griffin already did that and it was horrible.

Kennedy leans over the chairs to snatch the card.

ELGIN

Bee, this is a conversation between me and your mother.

(MORE)

ELGIN (CONT'D)

It was a mistake to interrupt Kennedy's birthday dinner and I'm sorry. But I didn't know when I'd have the time otherwise.

BEE

(under her breath)  
Cause you're always working...

ELGIN

What's that?

Bee looks down, embarrassed. Shouldn't have said that.

ELGIN (CONT'D)

I am always working. Yes. But I'm for you. And for Mom. And because the work I do has the potential to help millions of people --

KENNEDY

(looking at her card)  
Oh, no!

The birthday card has been "defaced" by crosses and sayings like "Jesus died for your sins." Kennedy is bummed. Bernadette looks at it.

BERNADETTE

Don't worry Kennedy. I'll hunt down those Jesus freaks.

KENNEDY

Do it. I want to watch.

BEE

Yeah, Mom. Me too.

ELGIN

(stands up to go)  
Nobody cares, nobody listens, nobody wants me here. Fine.  
Goodbye, girls. I give up.

Elgin storms out. Bernadette slaps a larger piece of paper on the window that reads: "IT'S A CHILD'S BIRTHDAY! WHAT THE HELL IS WRONG WITH YOU PEOPLE?" The girls smile and give Bernadette high fives. Bernadette watches Elgin leave over their shoulders.

INT SOO-LIN'S OFFICE - DAY

Soo-Lin nervously taps her fingers on her desktop. She's staring at an OPEN IM WINDOW - for "ELGINB." She wants to type something but she's nervous about it. Finally she gets up the nerve. We see the following IM conversation:

Soo-LinL-S: "Everything ok? You seemed distracted this morning."

Soo-Lin waits. The three seconds before a response seem like an eternity. Finally, she gets one.

ElginB: "Home stuff. Starting to question my sanity."

This is just what Soo-Lin was hoping for. Her fingers at the ready, she types:

Soo-LinL-S: "if you were to share your stories about Bernadette at a VAV meeting, you wouldn't get through two sentences without getting TORCHed."

She pauses.

Soo-LinL-S: "TORCHed means Time Out, Reality CHeck!"

No response. Soo-Lin continues.

Soo-LinL-S: "Any time a speaker starts to make excuses, the crowd will shout TORCH! and TORCH them."

No response.

Soo-LinL-S: "That teaches us to separate our reality from the abuser's story, which is the first step toward ending the abuse cycle."

Still no response. Soo-Lin waits. Waits a little more. Then gets tired of waiting.

Soo-LinL-S: "Elgie, you are a Level 80 at the most successful company in the world. Yet you live with a woman who has no friends, destroys homes, and falls asleep in drug stores. I'm sorry but you are hereby TORCHed!"

Still no response. Soo-Lin gets nervous. Did she go too far? A few seconds later, she receives this:

ElginB: "Sorry, have to concentrate, will read later."

Soo-Lin deflates. There's a KNOCK.

Soo-Lin turns to find a MAN IN A SUIT. (If our powers of recall are strong, we may recognize him as the MAN IN THE WINDOW Bernadette said was following her.)

MAN IN A SUIT  
I'm looking for Elgin Branch.

SOO-LIN  
He's in a meeting right now.

The Man holds up an ID BADGE: Special Agent MARCUS STRANG.

AGENT STRANG  
I need to speak to him right away.



INT BOARDROOM - STUDIO C - MOMENTS LATER

The electronic calendar is blank but there's definitely a meeting going on inside: Elgin, Agent Strang, and Soo-Lin.

AGENT STRANG  
(one eye on Soo-Lin)  
Everything we're about to discuss  
is strictly confidential.

ELGIN  
She can stay.

AGENT STRANG  
Some of it is of a rather personal -

ELGIN  
It's ok. I trust her.

The Agent nods. Soo-Lin tries to hide her excitement.

AGENT STRANG  
Mr. Branch, do you know an  
individual by the name of  
"Manjula"?

ELGIN  
I've never heard that name before.

SPLIT SCREEN: on the left, this conversation; on the right,  
we TRACK DOWN the row of cubicles in Manjula's bullpen...

AGENT STRANG  
For the past 3 months your wife has  
been communicating via email with a  
virtual assistant in India calling  
herself "Manjula..."

...only this time, when we arrive there, Manjula is not a  
soft-spoken Indian female but a BURLY RUSSIAN MAN!

On the left, Agent Strong holds up a photograph: the Russian  
Man's MUG SHOT.

AGENT STRANG (CONT'D)  
... claiming to work for Delhi  
Virtual Assistants International.

Elgin sits back in his chair, trying to make sense of this.

AGENT STRANG (CONT'D)  
A company which doesn't exist.  
They're a shell organization for a  
crime syndicate operating out of  
Eastern Russia. We've spent the  
past year building a case against  
them which has led us to your wife.

ELGIN

Agent Strang, if Bernadette has broken the law, I assure you it wasn't intentional.

AGENT STRANG

Our concern isn't what laws were broken, Mr. Branch. Our concern - at this point - is your safety.

Elgin doesn't understand. The image on the right now becomes a COLLECTION of HIGHLIGHTS from Bernadette's emails to Manjula. Filled with personal information such as:

AGENT STRANG (CONT'D)

In the last 3 months you wife has turned over credit card information, bank wiring instructions, social security numbers, drivers licenses, passports, photographs of your entire family, and a great many personal confessions to this complete stranger...

FULL SCREEN again in the Boardroom. The severity of the situation is dawning on Elgin. Even Soo-Lin looks worried.

AGENT STRANG (CONT'D)

Yesterday "Manjula" asked for power of attorney while your family is away in Antarctica. Thankfully, we were able to intercept the email before it was delivered.

Elgin closes his eyes. This is a nightmare.

AGENT STRANG (CONT'D)

Mr. Branch, these are criminals we've spent seven years building a case around. It is imperative that you do not share this information with anyone, especially your wife, as she has proven herself to be... unreliable.

(beat)

Do you understand?

Elgin nods. Agent Strang hands Elgin a RED FILE labeled "CONFIDENTIAL."

AGENT STRANG (CONT'D)

This is the warrant along with those emails in question. There's some personal... your wife...

(beat)

I hope she gets the help she needs.

Elgin nods, looks at the emails - the ones from Bernadette to Manjula. He closes the red file and hands it to Soo-Lin.

AGENT STRANG (CONT'D)  
 Thank you again for your  
 cooperation. We'll be in touch.  
 (gets up to leave)  
 By the way, all of us down at the  
 office love your TEDTalk.

Elgin can only nod as way of thanks. The Agent leaves. Elgin sits in stunned silence. Soo-Lin doesn't know what to do. Elgin looks up at her.

ELGIN  
 That was way out of your job  
 description.

SOO-LIN  
 I am honored you trust me. I  
 promise I won't let you down.

Elgin lapses back into silence. Soo-Lin wants to help.

SOO-LIN (CONT'D)  
 What are you going to do?

ELGIN  
 I've been talking to a doctor at  
 Madrona Hill.

SOO-LIN  
 (shocked)  
 Madrona Hill?!  
 (covering)  
 I mean... ok.

Elgin's shoulders sag. A defeated man. Soo-Lin reaches out and takes Elgin's hand. He holds it for a beat. A rather long beat. We hear:

BERNADETTE'S VOICE  
 I've got it!

INT BERNADETTE'S AIRSTREAM - MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT

Bernadette types up a storm. More manic now than ever.

BERNADETTE (V.O.)  
 My dentist keeps insisting I have  
 my wisdom teeth removed... so why  
 not schedule that surgery for the  
 day before the cruise! I can claim  
 it was an emergency and that I'm  
 devastated, but the doc forbids me  
 from flying yadda yadda. Husband  
 and daughter set sail, I avoid the  
 Drake Passage. Everybody wins!

INT SEATTLE WESTIN HOTEL - 2AM

FULL SCREEN as the HOTEL NIGHT MANAGER wobbles down the hallway towards a particularly loud room - voices, rap music, laughter. He stops outside room 1605, smells the air, knocks.

NIGHT MANAGER

This is the Night Manager --

The music is lowered, followed by giggles. The door doesn't open, however. He's about to knock again when two doors down, Audrey comes into the hallway, in a bathrobe and slippers.

AUDREY

Not 1605. 1602! Are you a moron?

NIGHT MANAGER

Ma'am, 1602 is unoccupied. It's clearly coming from --

AUDREY

That room belongs to my son. Who is asleep. What kind of incompetent mongoloids do they hire around here?

NIGHT MANAGER

Again, ma'am, I'll remind you the Westin has a policy regarding verbal abuse.

AUDREY

Oh really? This dump has a policy?

A squinting Warren appears in the hallway, dressed in boxers.

WARREN

Audrey! Go back to bed.

AUDREY

I'm not going anywhere. This idiot is slandering Kyle and our family.

WARREN

He's not slandering anyone --

NIGHT MANAGER

If you could please keep your voices --

AUDREY

I'll listen to you when you stop having 5 drinks at dinner!

Warren returns to their room, slamming the door shut. With Audrey distracted, the Night Manager inserts his MASTER KEY in Kyle's door. Audrey sees what he's doing, grabs his hair and YANKS him back.

AUDREY (CONT'D)  
Don't you open that!

NIGHT MANAGER  
Ow - you crazy bitch!

AUDREY  
Now who's being verbally abusive!

The door opens and they both fall to the ground in the room. Audrey pops up first and is stunned to see Kyle and a pack of STREET KIDS surrounded by all sorts of DRUG PARAPHERNALIA: bongos, rolling papers, Rx bottles, spoons, vaporizers.

AUDREY (CONT'D)  
(to the Kids)  
Don't harm my son! Kyle, just do what they say.

A beat. And then the entire room bursts into laughter.

KYLE  
Relax, Mom. This is my, uh, study group.

Some more laughs.

AUDREY  
You know these people?! Kyle! This is... this is unacceptable. You are hereby grounded, mister.

A GIRL with a plush bear pinned to her jacket looks at Kyle.

GIRL  
"You are hereby grounded, mister!"  
Add that to your imitation, Kyle.

A beat. And Audrey LUNGES at this Girl. The Night Manager attempts to separate them. And that's when the POLICE rush in! The Kids freak out. A COP tries to subdue Audrey. Over which we hear:

AUDREY'S VOICE  
Hello stranger! Turns out you were right. Hotel living has finally lost its luster.

EXT SEATTLE POLICE STATION - HOLDING AREA - LATER

Warren leads Audrey out. When he attempts to put an arm around her she shrugs it off. We hear:

AUDREY'S VOICE  
I think it's time to take you up on your generous offer to stay at your beautiful home!

INT SOO-LIN'S OFFICE - SAME

Soo-Lin receives this email in horror.

AUDREY'S VOICE  
Don't worry. I'll let myself in  
with the key under the Cupid.

She responds frantically.

SOO-LIN'S VOICE  
Not a good time. Emergency at work.  
Housekeeper already staying in  
spare bedroom. So sorry.

INT SOO-LIN'S KITCHEN - MOMENTS LATER

Audrey has already moved in and made herself comfortable. She types into her Blackberry.

AUDREY'S VOICE  
Too late! I told Maura she could go  
home. Place looks great by the way!

INT BERNADETTE'S HOUSE - BEE'S BEDROOM - LATER

Bee is reading on her bed. She looks up and sees Elgin standing in the doorway.

BEE  
You're home early.

ELGIN  
Yeah I, uh... I wanted to see how  
you're faring.

BEE  
(shrugs)  
I'm good.

Elgin smiles. He really does love her a lot.

ELGIN  
Listen, Bee... I'm sorry about  
Kennedy's birthday dinner. I  
shouldn't have barged in like that.  
I hope you guys will let me --

BEE  
We're not friends anymore.

ELGIN  
What happened?

BEE  
We got into a fight.

ELGIN  
Oh. Well I'm... sorry to hear that.

BEE  
It's fine. I don't really need her.  
I don't need any friends.

ELGIN  
What - Bee, don't say that.  
(beat)  
Why would you say that?

BEE  
(shrugs)  
You guys don't have friends and  
you're fine.

Elgin is disturbed to hear his daughter say this. He reaches out to Bee, putting an arm on her.

ELGIN  
Everything will be better soon, I  
promise. Starting with Antarctica.  
The two of us are going to have the  
best time --

BEE  
Three of us.

ELGIN  
Hmm?

BEE  
You said two.

At which point, Bernadette comes in from her office. She too is surprised to see Elgin.

BERNADETTE  
Look who's home!

Elgin is immediately uncomfortable for some reason.

ELGIN  
Bernadette.

BERNADETTE  
Yes Elgie?

ELGIN  
I just...

Elgin takes out his Microsoft Phone.

ELGIN (CONT'D)  
I need to talk to you about... we  
need to...

He pulls up a NOTE he's typed. Starts scrolling.

ELGIN (CONT'D)  
I have some things to say.

BERNADETTE  
And you wrote them down?

ELGIN  
So I wouldn't forget. I didn't  
wanna... I have to find... wait.

BERNADETTE  
Elgin.

ELGIN  
Hold on a second...

BERNADETTE  
Why can't we just talk like normal  
people?

ELGIN  
Because we're not normal people,  
Bernie! Look at us. Look at this  
house.

BEE  
Dad!

ELGIN  
You know what...

Elgin throws his phone on the ground.

ELGIN (CONT'D)  
Nevermind.

And he storms down the hall. Bernadette looks at Bee like  
'what's going on.' Bee just shrugs. They hear:

ELGIN (O.S.) (CONT'D)  
Ow! Dammit to hell!

INT BERNADETTE'S LIVING ROOM - SAME

Elgin has just walked into a bevy of boxes.

ELGIN  
What is all this?

BEE  
For the trip.

UPS boxes are everywhere. All are half-opened with gear  
spilling out. Elgin looks around. He sees THREE SUITCASES.  
Two are filled, one is decidedly empty.

ELGIN  
I see my suitcase. I see Bee's  
suitcase. Where's your suitcase?



Bernadette points to one.

ELGIN (CONT'D)  
Why is it empty?

That's an accusation.

BERNADETTE  
Why are you shouting at me?

ELGIN  
Because! I don't know how to talk  
to you!

BERNADETTE  
Try.

But Elgin doesn't know what to say. And with that, he steps over some boxes and heads toward the door. He looks back at them one more time before leaving. They look at each other like "that was very weird."

INT PIKE PLACE MARKET - MAIN ARCADE - LATER

Bernadette and Bee picking up dinner. Bernadette wears her usual hat and dark glasses.

BEE  
It's no big deal --

BERNADETTE  
It's a huge deal! Since when do you  
choreograph dances?  
(Bee shrugs)  
You need to tell me these things.

BEE  
I didn't tell you on purpose.

BERNADETTE  
What?

BEE  
It's too cute. You might die of  
cuteness.

BERNADETTE  
But I want to die of cuteness.  
That's like the best thing to die  
of!

As they turn a corner, there's a BUSKER playing "Here Comes the Sun" on an acoustic guitar. Bernadette stops, overcome with emotion.

BEE  
Mom?

BERNADETTE

Oh Bee. This song always reminds me  
of you.

BEE

And this is why you're banned from  
the recital.

But this is a real moment Bernadette is having right now.  
Tears are forming in her eyes. This moment, right now, she's  
turning a corner.

BEE (CONT'D)

Ok, ok, you can come. I'll put your  
name on the --

She reaches out and grabs Bee's hand.

BERNADETTE

I need you to know something.

Bee stops, looks up at her.

BERNADETTE (CONT'D)

I need you to know how hard it is  
for me sometimes.

BEE

What's hard?

Bernadette doesn't answer. She wipes her eyes.

BERNADETTE

Sometimes it works, sometimes it  
doesn't. But, I promise you, I'm  
trying. I'm really trying. I love  
you, Bee. More than anything.

BEE

(beat)  
I know that, Butch.  
(beat)  
We're best friends.

Bernadette smiles at her. Wipes the tears from her eyes. Nods  
and starts walking. Bee watches her go a moment, not entirely  
sure what she just saw happen.

EXT MICROSOFT CAMPUS - LATER THAT NIGHT

A WOMAN (40s, glasses, serious) walks towards the entrance to  
Studio C. The GUEST BADGE on her lapel says "JANELLE KURTZ."

INT STUDIO C - SAME

Kurtz looks at the sign on the wall pointing her towards the  
office she's come to visit. "Soo-Lin Lee-Siegel." She peeks  
her head in and says to the WOMAN sitting there:

WOMAN

Dr. Janelle Kurtz to see Elgin  
Branch.

REVEAL the Woman sitting at Soo-Lin's desk isn't Soo-Lin.  
It's Audrey, holding a tin of home-cooked meat she's  
apparently brought for Soo-Lin to enjoy.

AUDREY

Sorry who are you?

DR KURTZ

Janelle Kurtz. From Madrona Hill.

Audrey's mouth drops to the floor. Madrona Hill!

It's at this point that Soo-Lin comes around the corner. She  
was not expecting - and is not happy - to see Audrey.

SOO-LIN

Audrey, what the --

Audrey is still processing the words "Madrona Hill" and  
doesn't answer. Soo-Lin shoots her an angry look, quickly  
tries to usher Kurtz out of there.

SOO-LIN (CONT'D)

Dr. Kurtz, if you'll come with me  
please.

Soo-Lin looks at Audrey. Doesn't have to say the words "get  
lost" for Audrey to get the point.

AUDREY

I'll just... leave this here.

The Women walk towards a conference room. We see Audrey peek  
her head into the hallway. Did she just see what she thinks  
she saw? CUT TO:

INT CONFERENCE ROOM - LATER

Dr. Kurtz now sits across from Elgin and Soo-Lin.

DR. KURTZ

Your description suggests social  
anxiety, agoraphobia, poor impulse  
control, untreated postpartum and  
possibly bipolar disorder. To the  
best of your knowledge, is she a  
threat to herself or others?

ELGIN

I... I don't know.

SOO-LIN

Yes.

They both look at Soo-Lin.

SOO-LIN (CONT'D)

She ran over Audrey Griffin's foot  
with her car.

DR. KURTZ

Intentionally?

ELGIN

What?!

Soo-Lin nods her head confidently. Elgin looks like he's  
about to cry. Dr. Kurtz furrows her brow.

DR. KURTZ

Mr. Branch, I don't want to take up  
any more of your time than I  
already have. From the information  
provided, I agree that the best  
course of action is a staged  
intervention.

ELGIN

How does that work?

DR. KURTZ

It's a three step process. First,  
we forcefully present reality to  
Bernadette. Her recent behavior,  
her decision to self medicate, etc.  
Along with this, you, as her  
closest family member, will then  
express love and support. Finally,  
Bernadette herself will be given an  
opportunity to seek treatment  
voluntarily.

ELGIN

And if she refuses?

DR. KURTZ

We can cross that bridge when we  
come to it.

He exhales, nods in agreement, looks back down at his bare  
feet. Like it or not, this is really going to happen.

MUSIC UP: "Oh Holy Night" sung by a children's choir. Which  
plays over the following:

- Bernadette sits on the ground next to her still empty  
suitcase. Much on her mind.
- Soo-Lin and Elgin see Dr. Kurtz out of the building. Once  
she's gone, Soo-Lin puts her hand on Elgin's back. He shows  
no reaction.
- Audrey in Soo-Lin's kitchen, the food uneaten on the table.  
She too is deep in thought. She seems lost.

- Bernadette returns to her computer in the Airstream. She's shocked to find Paul Jellinek has responded. She clicks on his email. All it says is this: **"Dear Bernadette, you're the strongest woman I've ever met. Get over yourself."** We see Bernadette react - he is absolutely right.

- Elgin sifts through the dossier. WE SEE all those Manjula emails, receipts, Antarctica info, etc.

And then he finds the email to Jellinek. He takes it out of the stack, sits back and begins to read. CUT TO:

INT SOO-LIN'S CAR - LATER

Soo-Lin drives a shell-shocked Elgin into the valet area of the Bellevue Hyatt.

ELGIN

I'd be fine sleeping at the office.

SOO-LIN

Absolutely not Elgie. You need a good night's sleep.

(touching his hand)

You've been through so much.

Elgin nods in thanks. He steps out of the car. Turns towards the entrance. He hears:

SOO-LIN (CONT'D)

Can I help you with anything else?

Elgin turns back towards her. A beat. And a decision to make.

INT GALER STREET CLASSROOM - THE NEXT MORNING

"Oh Holy Night" continues and we now see it's being performed by the Galer Street First Grade Class. Bee is leading them in a choreographed dance. It's actually quite beautiful.

Bee looks up and thinks she sees Bernadette in the door frame. Long coat, dark glasses, could it be? Bee cranes to get a closer look. No one's there.

BEE'S VOICE

And that was the last time I saw her.

END MUSIC/SEQUENCE.

BLACK.

EXT BERNADETTE'S HOME - MORNING

Dr. Kurtz arrives to find a number of cars, including a POLICE CAR, parked in the driveway. That's strange.

She walks towards the front door where she sees Soo-Lin.

DR. KURTZ  
What's going on?

SOO-LIN  
It's the Russians. They've stolen  
all of the miles.

Kurtz has no idea what that means. She follows Soo-Lin inside where several UNIFORMED COPS are stationed. Agent Strang is explaining to Elgin:

ELGIN  
You think they're coming here?!

AGENT STRANG  
We've intercepted several emails asking your wife to confirm that she'd be alone in the house while you and you daughter were away.

ELGIN  
Jesus Christ.

BERNADETTE (O.S.)  
Elgin?

Bernadette appears through the back kitchen. From the tumult, she knows something's wrong.

BERNADETTE (CONT'D)  
What's wrong? Is it Bee? I just saw her at school --

ELGIN  
Bee is fine, Bernadette.

BERNADETTE  
Then... who are all these people?

Elgin doesn't answer. Not prepared for it yet. Bernadette looks around the room, seeing a lot of people she doesn't recognize and the Gnat she most certainly does.

DR. KURTZ  
We're here because we care about you. And we want you to get the help you need.

BERNADETTE  
(looking at Elgin)  
Elgin?

DR. KURTZ  
Bernadette, please, sit. We need to present you with the "reality of your situation."

A beat.

BERNADETTE

Elgie, ask them to leave. Let's you and I talk about this in private.

ELGIN

I know everything, Bern. They all do.

BERNADETTE

If this is about the dentist, I called it off. I'm going on the trip. I'm going with you.

ELGIN

You can stop lying now.

BERNADETTE

(hands him her cell)  
Check my phone. Outgoing calls. Dr. Neergaard.

Elgin looks at the "Outgoing calls." Seems to check out.

ELGIN

What about the pills?

BERNADETTE

What pills?

ELGIN

In the medicine cabinet. Every vial is empty.

BERNADETTE

I dumped them all in the trash.

ELGIN

Why? Were you going to swallow them?

Bernadette looks away from him, caught.

BERNADETTE

A long time ago. But I changed my mind --

Elgin looks to Kurtz for some guidance.

DR. KURTZ

Bernadette... we're concerned for you. Your ability to care for yourself --

BERNADETTE

Is this a joke? Is this about Manjula?

AGENT STRANG

There is no Manjula.

BERNADETTE  
What do you mean?

AGENT STRANG  
I mean there is no Manjula.

BERNADETTE  
Now who's this guy?

AGENT STRANG  
I'm Special Agent Strang.

BERNADETTE  
(not expecting that)  
Agent Strang.

AGENT STRANG  
Manjula is an alias for an identity-  
theft ring operating out of Russia.  
They've been posing as internet  
assistants to capture your family's  
banking information.

BERNADETTE  
(beat)  
I'm sorry, WHAT?!

ELGIN  
And now they're coming to Seattle  
to make their move while we're in  
Antarctica.

BERNADETTE  
What kind of move?

ELGIN  
Cleaning out our bank accounts,  
brokerage accounts, property title -  
none of which should be all that  
hard since you gave them all our  
personal information.

BERNADETTE  
Oh God, I did.

ELGIN  
They even asked for power of  
attorney.

BERNADETTE  
I haven't heard from Manjula in  
days. I was getting ready to fire  
her actually.

AGENT STRANG  
The FBI has been intercepting the  
emails.

BERNADETTE  
My personal emails?



DR. KURTZ  
Maybe we should sit --

BERNADETTE  
Not there!

Too late. Dr. Kurtz has sat.

BERNADETTE (CONT'D)  
Sorry. It's wet.

Kurtz looks at her skirt which is now wet and stained with some orange color.

BERNADETTE (CONT'D)  
That's from the rust on the roof.  
It usually comes out with a little  
Tide or something. Also, if I may,  
who the fuck are you?

DR. KURTZ  
Dr. Janelle Kurtz.

That doesn't answer anything.

DR. KURTZ (CONT'D)  
Can we get back to presenting  
reality to you now?

BERNADETTE  
I don't know what that means.

DR. KURTZ  
We're here because of your mental  
condition.

BERNADETTE  
My mental condition.

DR. KURTZ  
You've pondered suicide in the  
past. You're hoarding prescription  
drugs. You tried to run over a  
woman at your daughter's school.

BERNADETTE  
Oh don't be ridiculous.

Soo-Lin audibly guffaws. That's the last straw.

BERNADETTE (CONT'D)  
Will somebody please open a window  
and let the gnat out?

ELGIN  
Don't call her that.

BERNADETTE  
Sorry. "The admin."

ELGIN  
I want her to stay.

BERNADETTE  
Really?

ELGIN  
She's a friend.

BERNADETTE  
Is she now. What kind of friend?

Both Elgin and Soo-Lin look away at that moment - obviously guilty of something last night. Bernadette snaps!

BERNADETTE (CONT'D)  
You're a Seattle born secretary and you have no place in this house!

ELGIN  
Bernadette!

DR. KURTZ  
Maybe this should be family only...

SOO-LIN  
I'm happy to go --

AGENT STRANG  
I'm even happier --

BERNADETTE  
Nobody's going anywhere! Now you've got my curiosity, Captain -- sorry, Dr. Kurtz. Please, go on...

DR. KURTZ  
Here's the reality. Your aggression towards your neighbor led to the destruction of her home and possibly the post-traumatic stress disorder of 30 odd children. You planned to have voluntary oral surgery in order to get out of a family vacation. You are incapable of even the most basic human interaction, relying on an internet assistant to conduct your personal life. Not to mention this house...  
(she means its disarray)  
...all of which indicates to me serious depression, type two bipolar disorder -

BERNADETTE  
Are you still presenting reality or can I say something now?

DR. KURTZ  
We're not up to that part yet.

BERNADETTE  
What part are we up to?

DR. KURTZ  
Now is when your husband should  
express his love for you. Mr.  
Branch...

Elgin takes a deep breath.

ELGIN  
Bernadette...

Elgin looks at Bernadette a beat. And then, everything  
finally bubbling up to the surface, he explodes!

ELGIN (CONT'D)  
WHAT THE FUCK IS WRONG WITH YOU!?

Even Dr. Kurtz is taken aback.

ELGIN (CONT'D)  
You could spill your guts out to  
Paul Jellinek but never, not once,  
did you even think you could come  
to me? Your husband!

DR. KURTZ  
Remember what we discussed, Elgin.  
Now is the time for expressing your  
love --

Elgin ignores her completely, finally letting it all out.

ELGIN  
Do you realize how selfish that is?  
How hostile?

DR. KURTZ  
Another example of love is a hug.

ELGIN  
And why? Because you're blocked?  
Because 20 years ago some English  
asshole tore down your house and  
you're still not able to deal with  
that? Christ Bernadette! Shit  
happens! That's a fact of fucking  
life!

BERNADETTE  
You're right.

ELGIN  
Stop agreeing with me!

BERNADETTE  
Sorry.

DR. KURTZ  
Elgin, maybe we should --

ELGIN  
I don't even know who you are anymore! It's like aliens came down and replaced you with a replica but the replica is some demento version of you --

BERNADETTE  
Elgie --

AGENT STRANG  
(to Dr. Kurtz)  
Whose intervention is this?

ELGIN  
I really believed that, you know. One night while you slept I reached across and felt your elbows. I thought no matter how good those aliens made the replica they wouldn't get your pointy elbows right. You woke up when I did that, remember?

BERNADETTE  
Yes I remember.

ELGIN  
And god damn it if they weren't your elbows. God fucking damn it!

Beat.

DR. KURTZ  
How bout we put a pin in the love portion and move on to --

ELGIN  
Do you even realize the damage you're causing?

BERNADETTE  
I'll pay for the Griffin's --

ELGIN  
I'm talking about Bee!

BERNADETTE  
What about Bee, Bee's fine!

ELGIN  
She is not fine, Bernadette.

BERNADETTE  
Don't tell me about Bee, Elgie! You're never around. You wouldn't know the first thing --

ELGIN

I know her behavior's changing. I know she's acting... strange. Or have you missed that?

(off Bernadette's silence)

Did you know she's no longer friends with Kennedy?

(she didn't)

And when I asked her about it, she said we don't have friends, why should she? Does that sound "fine" to you? Is that what you want for our daughter?

The words land like a hammer on Bernadette. She's speechless, stricken. The fight is draining from her.

ELGIN (CONT'D)

This is why she has to go to Choate - in January. Not in the Fall.

BERNADETTE

Elgie --

ELGIN

(starting to cry)

It's the best thing for her, Bernadette. You know it is. You're not well...

The world is closing in on Bernadette. She looks like she might fall over. There's no escaping the truth:

BERNADETTE

You're right, Elgie. I'm not.

ELGIN

(tearing up)

I just want you to get some help. So you can get better. So we don't have to live like this. So Bee doesn't...

Elgin doesn't want to finish the thought but Bernadette does it for him anyway:

BERNADETTE

... end up like me?

A pall descends on the room. A very uncomfortable silence. No one knows what to say or do.

BERNADETTE (CONT'D)

Can I just... I need some air. May I use the bathroom please?

Bernadette walks towards the bathroom. En route:

BERNADETTE (CONT'D)  
 You're him, aren't you? The one  
 who's been following me?

Beat. Everyone turns to Strang.

AGENT STRANG  
 You weren't supposed to know that  
 but yes.

BERNADETTE  
 (to Elgin)  
 See I'm not crazy. Not entirely.

Elgin finds this information odd. It doesn't compute with the rest of the evidence. Bernadette looks back one last time before she enters the bathroom. Says to herself:

BERNADETTE (CONT'D)  
 I would have done it too.

ELGIN  
 What's that?

BERNADETTE  
 Power of attorney. I would have  
 signed it over.

Bernadette thinks about that. It's horrible to think of. She shakes her head, walks into the bathroom. Shuts the door.

ELGIN  
 Wait, so, she was being followed?  
 And she did call the dentist?

DR. KURTZ  
 Doubt is a natural, even necessary  
 component of interventions.

Elgin walks over to her SUITCASE. Now filled with clothes.

ELGIN  
 It's packed. Her bag is packed!

Elgin walks over to the bathroom door. He knocks on it.

ELGIN (CONT'D)  
 Bernadette, I'm sorry! I was  
 just... I was worried about you!

He waits. Silence on the other side of the door.

ELGIN (CONT'D)  
 Bernadette! Bernadette open up.

More silence. Elgin starts banging on the door. Then frantically trying to open it.

ELGIN (CONT'D)

What if she had pills or broke a  
window and slit her wrists?  
Bernadette!!

Strang and Dr. Kurtz join him to try and push open the door.  
Still nothing. Elgin takes a step back and then leaps at it,  
crashing through the door and into the bathroom to REVEAL...

NOTHING. No one is there.

They all walk towards the window...

AGENT STRANG

The window is closed.

And it's a long way down the hill for someone to even try  
jumping. If she did she'd have at least broken a limb.

SOO-LIN

Is there any other way out?

ELGIN

No.

DR. KURTZ

But how is that...?

A long beat. And then:

AGENT STRANG

(beat)

Fuck. Me.

And off their stunned faces, SMASH CUT TO:

BLACK.

TITLES: "JANUARY - 3 1/2 WEEKS LATER"

EXT CHOATE ROSEMARY HALL - ESTABLISHING

It's cold and wintry on the famed campus grounds.

INT BEE'S DORM HALLWAY - DAY

Bee opens her mailbox to find a LARGE PACKAGE. She opens it  
to find a MANILA ENVELOPE filled with papers, post-it notes,  
handwritten memos, and other assorted documents. She looks  
for a return address but there isn't one. Weird.

INT MICROSOFT - STUDIO C - ELGIN'S OFFICE

Elgin at his desk on the phone.

ELGIN  
 (into phone)  
 I'd like to contest a charge on my  
 Visa bill... \$1300 for  
 "incidentals" on January 10th. We  
 never actually made it to the ship  
 so I can't...  
 (realizing)  
 I'm gonna have to call you back.

Elgin hangs up, almost jumps out of his chair and we CUT TO:

EXT PORT OF USHUAIA, ARGENTINA - DAY - MONTHS AGO

Elgin stands with some ARGENTINIAN COPS on the docks as the  
 H&H Allegra cruise ship sails into port and its PASSENGERS  
 begin to disembark. MORE PASSENGERS pour from the ship onto  
 the docks. Eventually the LAST of the CRUISERS disembark. But  
 no Bernadette.

Finally the CAPTAIN disembarks with more ARGENTINIAN COPS.  
 They walk towards Elgin tentatively. He realizes.

INT H&H ALLEGRA - MOMENTS LATER

Elgin walks with the Captain and the Cops down a hallway.

CAPTAIN  
 I assure you, we've searched top-to-  
 bottom for your wife.

The Captain opens the door to a SMALL CABIN. It's empty  
 except for an insane number of LIQUOR BOTTLES.

CAPTAIN (CONT'D)  
 Our only lead is this notepad here.

On the desk is a small NOTEPAD, the top pages torn off. The  
 Captain holds it up.

CAPTAIN (CONT'D)  
 You'll see the top page is  
 indented. It would appear that your  
 wife wrote a note of some kind  
 before she...  
 (beat)  
 We don't know what she wrote.

ELGIN  
 You think she killed herself?

CAPTAIN  
 Perhaps we can send this to a  
 forensic specialist who might be  
 able to read the indentation.

ELGIN  
 Thank you.



The Captain swallows nervously before he says:

CAPTAIN

And this was found beneath the bed.

The Captain hands Elgin Bernadette's PASSPORT. The weight of its meaning registers on Elgin.

CAPTAIN (CONT'D)

I'm very sorry Mr. Branch.

INT HEADMASTER'S OFFICE - MOMENTS LATER

Bee sits across from the Choate Rosemary HEADMASTER. Flanking him are two other PROFESSIONAL EDUCATORS and the school ATTORNEY. They all seem rather nervous.

BEE

What's this about?

The Headmaster looks to the Lawyer. Gets a nod in return. He clears his throat and begins:

HEADMASTER

Miss Branch. Bee. Under normal circumstances, private school can be a very stressful environment and these, as we know, are not exactly normal circumstances.

Bee shrugs. Totally unfazed.

HEADMASTER (CONT'D)

You're a bright girl, Bee. Creative, sociable, enthusiastic. Yet for whatever reason, you have... refused to adapt to the private school environment.

One more look to the Lawyer. One more nod.

HEADMASTER (CONT'D)

You've stopped attending classes. You refuse to eat with the other kids. You broke into the bio lab. Set free all of the animals.

BEE

Allegedly.

HEADMASTER

Your dorm mistresses woke up on Tuesday to find indecent pictures of her on the internet. And this is not to mention all the physical altercations -- your roommate...

BEE

She made fun of my Zune.

The suits look at one another.

HEADMASTER

We think maybe it's best if you  
withdraw yourself from Choate  
Rosemary. Effective immediately.

Bee thinks about this. All she says is:

BEE

I'm gonna need a ride home.

EXT/INT BEE'S DORM ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Elgin approaches a dorm with some EXTREMELY LOUD PUNK ROCK  
blaring from inside. He knocks, tentatively. Bee answers.

BEE

Took you long enough.

INT BEE'S DORM ROOM - SAME

Elgin enters the room. As shocked to see how she LIVES as he  
was to see how she LOOKS. Place is a shit hole. Half-eaten  
sandwiches, wrappers, and other trash strewn about. Bee turns  
down the music. Elgin is more sad than angry. And then his  
eyes look past Bee to the back wall.

ELGIN

Are you ok, Bee?

RACK FOCUS to REVEAL the wall is covered with those documents  
- PAPERS, PHOTOGRAPHS, DATES, ARROWS - almost like an  
EVIDENCE WALL in a police station.

BEE

Heck yeah! I've figured it out!

Elgin moves to get a closer look, drawn to one IMAGE in  
particular - Bee in the arms of a her mother not long ago.

BEE (CONT'D)

I know what happened, Dad.

ELGIN

No one knows what happened.

BEE

I do. I know where she is. And I  
know how to find her.

Elgin takes a closer look at the rest of the wall.  
Handwritten POST-IT NOTES, something labeled "PRIVATE" with  
his signature, personal emails, private IM conversations. Bee  
should not have these.

ELGIN

Where did you get all this?

BEE  
In the mail.

ELGIN  
What? From who?

BEE  
I don't know. What's the  
difference? I know where she is.

Elgin waits for it.

BEE (CONT'D)  
Antarctica!

Elgin sighs, afraid to tell Bee what he's just learned. He sits. She continues.

BEE (CONT'D)  
I have no idea how she got out of  
the house. That is a mystery. But  
once she did, she must have gone  
straight to the airport. You said  
so yourself, she cancelled the  
dentist, her bags were packed, she  
was going on the trip, Dad. I mean  
think about it.

ELGIN  
Bee --

BEE  
She must have got on the plane,  
waited for us to arrive - which we  
never did because you wouldn't let  
us - and then the plane took off --

ELGIN  
Bee --

BEE  
-- and before she knew what to do  
about it she was in South America  
waiting to get on the cruise --

ELGIN  
(loudly)  
Bee!

Bee quiets down. Elgin holds her gaze for a beat. He has something to tell her. He's afraid to.

ELGIN (CONT'D)  
I know you loved her. I know the  
two of you had a special bond --

BEE  
Don't talk about her like she's  
dead.

ELGIN

She was an amazing mother --

BEE

You're not listening to me. She got on the boat --

ELGIN

She loved you more than anything --

BEE

She's there, Dad! She's waiting for us. We've gotta go find her!

ELGIN

I already went.

A beat. Bee is stunned to silence.

ELGIN (CONT'D)

You're right. Somehow she got on that plane and somehow she boarded that ship. Just like you said. But she didn't come back.

(beat)

They found this.

Elgin holds up her passport. Hands it to Bee.

ELGIN (CONT'D)

The Captain's log says she ordered nine cocktails, some drink called a "Pink Penguin." Nine of them, Bee. Then she went out on the deck --

BEE

No.

ELGIN

They don't know what happened next.

BEE

She didn't kill herself. She wouldn't do that.

ELGIN

(nods, sadly)

That doesn't mean she didn't have too much to drink one night and fell overboard.

Bee considers this. Sure it's possible. But then again...

BEE

No.

ELGIN

Why wouldn't she reach out to somebody, anybody --

BEE  
Because --

ELGIN  
Because why?

BEE  
Because... she's...

ELGIN  
Why? Nobody's heard from her --

BEE  
Because she's Mom! And she's...  
unique... and she doesn't always do  
the smartest things --

ELGIN  
Bee --

BEE  
You don't know anything, Dad! While  
you were at work, Mom and I were  
having the funnest time ever! We  
lived for each other. And if you  
think she'd do anything close to  
getting drunk and walking near a  
ship's balcony that shows how  
little you know her.

ELGIN  
We need to go home --

BEE  
You want her dead, don't you?

ELGIN  
What?

BEE  
This is your fault. All of it.

Elgin is hurt.

ELGIN  
Let's go home, Bee.

Bee holds his gaze, angry. She doesn't want to go with him,  
doesn't want anything to do with him. But she knows there  
isn't a choice. Bee starts un-tacking the evidence. It's  
coming with her. CUT TO:

INT CHURCH - DAY

A sign reads "Victims Against Victimhood." Soo-Lin stands in  
front of the sign addressing a GROUP.

SOO-LIN  
 He was my boss. I was his admin. He  
 would praise me. I could feel us  
 falling in love.

GROUP  
 TORCH!

This stops Soo-Lin.

SOO-LIN  
 (nods)  
 I was falling in love, he wasn't.  
 (beat)  
 Then his wife got into trouble, he  
 confided in me. One night when he  
 was planning to sleep at the  
 office...

INT HYATT HOTEL - LOBBY - NIGHT

Soo-Lin and Elgin get into an elevator.

SOO-LIN (V.O.)  
 I booked him into a suite at the  
 Hyatt. I didn't intend to share the  
 bed with him.

GROUP (V.O.)  
 TORCH!

INT CHURCH - SAME

Soo-Lin is liking this group less and less by the minute.

SOO-LIN  
 You're right. I knew exactly what I  
 was doing. I was preying on an  
 emotionally vulnerable man.

INT HYATT - HOTEL ROOM - SAME

Soo-Lin opens the door for Elgin. They walk in. Elgin  
 immediately falls on the bed, gets under the covers dressed.

ELGIN  
 I'm so tired.

Soo-Lin watches him. Makes a decision. Walks to the bed. Sits  
 down on it. A beat goes by.

LATER. Soo-Lin is now under the covers. Elgin, eyes closed,  
 trying to sleep, seems like he really couldn't care less. Soo-  
 Lin starts rubbing his back.

SOO-LIN (V.O.)  
 I made the first move.

Soo-Lin kisses him on the forehead. He still doesn't budge.

SOO-LIN (V.O.)  
And the second.

Soo-Lin reaches beneath the covers.

SOO-LIN (V.O.)  
I made all the moves actually. It was awkward. Obviously he just wanted to get it over with.

INT CHURCH - SAME

SOO-LIN  
And then he fell asleep. We haven't been intimate since. Now I'm pregnant with his child. His wife is presumed dead. He's agreed to take care of us but he won't get close to me and I don't know why --

GROUP  
TORCH!

SOO-LIN  
No it's true! We're really very compatible. He's into gadgets. I'm in gadgets. He loves Presidential biographies. I named my son Lincoln-

GROUP  
TORCH!

SOO-LIN  
Stop TORCHing me!

GROUP  
TORCH!

SOO-LIN  
What kind of support group is this?  
You church basement sadists!

Soo-Lin storms out of there. CUT TO:

INT BERNADETTE'S KITCHEN - LATER

A family dinner. Except the family is Soo-Lin, Elgin, Lincoln, and punk rock Bee. Soo-Lin tosses a salad, trying to be upbeat despite the obvious tension.

BEE  
What happens when Mom comes home and sees you with a gnat?

ELGIN  
Don't call her that.

Soo-Lin puts some salad on Bee's plate. Bee gives her a dirty look. She ignores it.

SOO-LIN

If your Mom comes home, won't she be the one with some explaining to do?

Soo-Lin sits. They begin eating the salad.

SOO-LIN (CONT'D)

(to Bee)  
Pass the pepper please.

Bee doesn't move.

SOO-LIN (CONT'D)

Bee.

BEE

Oh, were you talking to me Yoko?

ELGIN

Bee!

Bee rises from the chair. Jets out of the house.

ELGIN (CONT'D)

She's just grieving.

BEE (O.S.)

(shouts from outside)  
I'm not grieving!  
(beat)  
CAUSE NO ONE IS DEAD!

The DOOR to the Airstream slams. Everyone slowly, awkwardly, returns to eating.

INT BERNADETTE'S AIRSTREAM - NEXT DAY

Bee is miserable. We see she's watching the "Artform" documentary on her mom. Again.

PAUL JELLINEK (ON SCREEN)

"...someone like Bernadette, they simply have to create. If they don't create, they'll just become a menace to society."

The phone rings. Bee doesn't answer. Voice-Mail comes on.

AGENT STRANG (V.O.)

Strang here. The results are in on the document analysis. Not much I'm afraid - your wife's note was only two words - but I think we've managed to decipher them. I'll fax you what we got.



INT ELGIN'S OFFICE - SAME

Bee snatches the fax out of the machine. She looks it over. We don't see what she sees - but her eyes go wide! CUT TO:

EXT AUDREY GRIFFIN'S HOME - MOMENTS LATER

Bee knocks, the fax in her hand. Warren opens the door. Surprised to see her.

BEE

I'm here to see Mrs. Griffin.

Warren isn't sure how to respond.

WARREN

She isn't... she doesn't...

(beat)

She's gone away for a while.

BEE

Away?

INT CLINIC - UTAH MOUNTAINS - DAY

Audrey sits in a CIRCLE at an Alcoholics Anonymous meeting. With her is Kyle (buzz cut, totally cleaned up). The room is filled with Mothers, Fathers, and their troubled kids. They all hold hands and say:

TOGETHER

...the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, the courage...

Audrey sees Kyle isn't participating. She shoots him an awesome "I mean business!" look. Kyle snaps right in line.

KYLE

...and the wisdom to know the difference.

EXT. CLINIC - UTAH MOUNTAINS - DAY

Audrey looks out at the mountains. Inhales. Exhales. More at peace than we've ever seen her.

Someone calls to her from inside the clinic.

CLINIC MEMBER

Audrey!

(she turns)

Telephone.

INT CLINIC - SAME

Audrey answers. Who could this be?

AUDREY

Hello.

INTERCUT w/ Bee, seated on Warren's couch in their living room. He walks away to give her some space.

BEE

Mrs. Griffin. It's Bee. Bee Branch.

We see the fax by her side. On it is written, in Bernadette's handwriting: "Audrey Griffin is an angel." Audrey takes a beat before answering.

AUDREY

I've been expecting you.

INT MICROSOFT - STUDIO C - MONTHS AGO

Audrey sits in Soo-Lin's chair, the tin of food on her lap. She can't help but finger through folders she's not supposed to see. Dr. Kurtz knocks on the door. Audrey learns she's from Madrona Hill. She's shocked.

INT SOO-LIN'S HOME - THAT NIGHT - MONTHS AGO

Audrey is staying at Soo-Lin's home and thus has access to more than she should. Her interest piqued, we see her enter Soo-Lin's home office, turn on the light, start rifling through her work files. She finally comes upon the red file marked "CONFIDENTIAL" - by the FBI. Jackpot!

She looks through it - the FBI report, Bernadette's emails, Elgin's post-it notes - some of the stuff from Bee's wall.

As Audrey scans the contents, we see snippets of what she sees. Things like "sting operation," "identity theft," "Russian Mafia," and finally "harmful to herself and others."

This last one gets Audrey's attention. She looks more intensely at the document until she comes across the "EVIDENCE" for that designation in BIG BLOCK LETTERS:

"INTENTIONALLY RAN OVER NEIGHBOR'S FOOT."

Audrey looks horrified. CUT TO:

THE PHONE CALL. INTERCUT btwn Audrey and Bee:

AUDREY

See, the thing is --

BEE

I know.

AUDREY  
I made it up. All of it.

Bee nods, sadly.

AUDREY (CONT'D)  
I hated your mother. She was my sworn enemy. But even I knew she didn't deserve to be thrown in the nut house.

INT SOO-LIN'S LIVING ROOM - THAT NIGHT - MONTHS AGO

Audrey sits catatonic on the couch. She closes her eyes.

AUDREY  
Please, Lord, tell me what to do.

A moment passes. And then she opens her eyes. CUT TO:

INT SEATTLE SAFEWAY - THAT NIGHT - MONTHS AGO

Audrey is surreptitiously photocopying all the documents. A Woman on a mission.

LATER. Audrey prints out some of her own emails - the ones between her and Soo-Lin.

LATER. Audrey compiles all of this into an ENVELOPE - the same envelope Bee will soon possess at Choate - and walks out of the store.

INT SOO-LIN'S HOME - THAT NIGHT - MONTHS AGO

Kyle is sound asleep when Audrey pops into the room and turns on the light.

KYLE  
What the --

AUDREY  
I need to hack into somebody's email. Is that something you can help me with?

KYLE  
I don't know how to hack into an email account.

Audrey shoots him a look. She is done being naive and guileless. Kyle quickly gets the message.

LATER. Kyle works his evil magic on the computer.

KYLE (CONT'D)  
Ok I'm in.

We see that he is looking at Soo-Lin's MICROSOFT in-box.

AUDREY  
Look for any emails relating to  
Bernadette Fox and Madrona Hill.

KYLE  
The loony bin?

AUDREY  
Just do it.

Kyle pulls one up. Audrey looks it over.

AUDREY (CONT'D)  
Print it. Print them all.

EXT STRAIGHT GATE - THE NEXT MORNING - MONTHS AGO

Audrey is on her hands and knees carrying the dossier and crawling through that hole in the fence. She hoists herself up onto Bernadette's lawn. Creeps up to the house, still unseen. She looks up at the window, about 12 feet above her. Bernadette is being screamed at by Elgin. The intervention already underway. Shit.

Audrey sees Bernadette walk into the bathroom on the same floor. Bernadette seems stricken, despondent.

Audrey wants to get Bernadette's attention but she's too far down. Audrey walks a few steps towards the bathroom window before she TRIPS.

When she looks at what she's tripped over, it's a LADDER. Audrey looks up to the sky.

AUDREY  
(silently)  
Thank you Jesus.

INT BERNADETTE'S BATHROOM - THAT DAY - MONTHS AGO

Bernadette stares at herself in the mirror. The weight of her situation heavy on her face. Then she hears a voice.

AUDREY'S VOICE  
(whispering)  
Bernadette! Bernadette!

Bernadette looks out the window to see Audrey down below. And she has a ladder. It's a miracle!

Bernadette is about to climb out when she stops. She searches the cabinet for something to write with. Finds a MAKE-UP PENCIL and begins to write on TISSUE PAPER:

"Dearest Bee, don't worry about me. Go to boarding school. I need to sort some things out.

I'll be back as soon as I can." She hesitates. Finishes with "Everything is going to be fine. I promise."

She goes back to the window where Audrey is waiting. Smiles.

EXT BERNADETTE'S HOUSE - MOMENTS LATER - MONTHS AGO

Bernadette slides the note under Bee's bedroom window. Then she and Audrey sneakily carry the ladder across the lawn towards the hole in the fence.

BERNADETTE  
Why are you doing this?

AUDREY  
Because I'm a Christian.

BERNADETTE  
(beat)  
Fuckin' A.

INT AUDREY'S LIVING ROOM - MOMENTS LATER - MONTHS AGO

Bernadette reads the dossier in Audrey's living room. When she's finished, she looks up at Audrey:

BERNADETTE  
Will you do me a favor? Send this to Bee. I know it's a lot. But she can handle it.

AUDREY  
What are you going to do?

The question lingers in the air. She reaches into her fishing vest, pulls out a PASSPORT, PLANE TICKETS. Looks them over.

EXT BRANCH HOME - SAME

Bee runs back to her house to search for the note. CUT TO:

THE PHONE CALL. INTERCUT btwn Bee and Audrey:

BEE  
Why didn't you tell anyone?

AUDREY  
She just wanted you to know. She was very clear about that.

INT BRANCH HOME - BEE'S BEDROOM - SAME

Bee races up the stairs, tears across her bedroom towards the window in search of that note. BACK TO:

THE PHONE CALL. With Audrey, as she says:

AUDREY  
And besides, I've been trying hard  
to mind my own business for a  
change.

INT BEE'S BEDROOM - SAME

Bee looks and looks, seeing nothing. She collapses against  
the wall in defeat.

SLOW ZOOM IN to REVEAL:

Right next to her, hidden in the decay and splintering of the  
wood, and erased from the leak of the rain - a small section  
of TISSUE PAPER. BACK TO:

THE PHONE CALL. INTERCUT btwn Audrey and Bee:

Bee says, sadly.

BEE  
They think she's dead.

Audrey isn't sure how to respond.

AUDREY  
You know her better than anyone,  
Bee. What do you think?

Bee still believes. On her face, CUT TO:

INT MICROSOFT - STUDIO C - DAY

Bee enters the building, walks towards her Dad's office, sees  
him in a conference room with Soo-Lin and OTHER EMPLOYEES.  
Elgin sees her, excuses himself, exits. Not expecting this.

BEE  
I think we should go to Antarctica.

Elgin doesn't know what to say.

BEE (CONT'D)  
You made me a promise. I lived up  
to my end. Mom lived up to hers.  
Now it's your turn.

Elgin takes a second before answering.

ELGIN  
She isn't there, Bee.

And now Bee takes a second to respond.

BEE  
Is that a yes?

Soo-Lin is watching intently from the window. Having heard this, she frowns and backs away. Knows now she'll never have this man. Elgin nods to Bee.

BEE (CONT'D)  
Thank you.

BACK OUTSIDE, Bee turns to go. One more thing:

BEE (CONT'D)  
This doesn't mean we're friends  
again.

Elgin nods. Bee nods in return. We TRACK with her as she turns and walks down the hall. And we CUT TO:

ICEBERGS.

As far as the eye can see. Nothing but Icebergs.

And then a HUGE BOAT, the H&H Allegra, cuts through some choppy water on its way towards the South Pole.

INT CRUISE SHIP - SAME

Bee and Elgin are settling into their cozy yet cramped room. Bee lies on her single bed, seemingly engrossed in a book.

ELGIN  
I'll take the top two and you can  
have the bottom two. And I'll take  
this side of the closet.

BEE  
You don't have to comment on every  
boring thing you do. This isn't  
Olympic curling. You're just  
unpacking a suitcase.

ELGIN  
(beat)  
There's a welcome tour of the ship  
in an hour. Sounded pretty cool...

BEE  
It did, yeah. Do you want to go on  
it?

ELGIN  
(hopeful)  
Sure!

BEE  
Have a great time.

Bee turns back to the book. Elgin sighs. This aint gonna be easy. CUT TO:

INT CRUISE SHIP - LATER

Bee wanders the maze of corridors, alone, taking it all in. When the boat sways Bee grabs a handrail to steady herself. She rounds a bend and practically BUMPS into the CAPTAIN.

CAPTAIN  
Excuse me, young lady.

BEE  
(excited)  
Are you Captain Altdorf!? I'm Bee Branch. My mother -

CAPTAIN  
(interrupts, smile)  
My apologies, I'm Captain Varela.

Bee is crestfallen. She continues on.

INT CRUISE SHIP - SHACKLETON LOUNGE - LATER

The decor is 30 years out-of-style, as is the music. At the end of the bar THREE CREW MEMBERS (tan, under-dressed) are drinking. Bee passes DANCING TOURISTS and approaches the bar.

BEE  
Were you on the trip that left just before Christmas?

CREW MEMBER #1  
No. Why do you ask?

BEE  
I was wondering if you knew anything about one of the passengers. Her name is Bernadette Fox.

CREW MEMBER #2  
(perks up)  
The lady who killed herself?

BEE  
She didn't kill herself.

CREW MEMBER #2  
Eduardo was there. Eduardo, weren't you here when that lady jumped? The New Year's trip.

CREW MEMBER #3  
I heard she escaped from a mental institution before she got here.



CREW MEMBER #1  
Is that true?

CREW MEMBER #2 (O.S.)  
How do they even let someone like  
that on board?

Bee slams her hand down on the bar to silence them.

BEE  
She's my mother!

The Crew Members are embarrassed.

CREW MEMBER #2  
Sorry... we didn't know.

BEE  
None of you know anything!

Bee kicks one of the chairs and storms off. She bumps into  
Elgin at the door.

ELGIN  
There you are!

Bee shoves past him and continues out of the room.

INT HALLWAY - CRUISE SHIP - LATER

Bee tries not to cry as she quickly moves to avoid other  
people. At times she has to grab onto the handrail as the  
boat rocks. Eventually she finds herself in an empty  
corridor. She gathers herself. Still refusing to cry - or  
accept that her mother is gone.

INT GIFT SHOP - CRUISE SHIP - LATER

Bee enters. The middle-aged GIFT SHOP CLERK smiles warmly.  
The boat jerks and Bee falls into a basket of sweatshirts.

BEE  
Whoa. Is it always this bad?

GIFT SHOP CLERK  
This is pretty rough. We're getting  
thirty-foot swells.

BEE  
A woman was on the Christmas trip.  
She purchased some things from this  
gift shop on December 26th. If I  
give you her name and room number  
could you look up the receipt so I  
can see exactly what she bought?

The Clerk looks at Bee with curiosity.

BEE (CONT'D)

It's my mother. She bought like  
\$400 dollars worth of merchandise.  
It would really mean a lot to me to  
know what she purchased.

GIFT SHOP CLERK

Are you here with your Dad?

BEE

Yeah.

GIFT SHOP CLERK

Why don't you go back to your cabin  
and I'll dig up the receipt...

Bee flashes the first smile we've seen from her in a while.

INT BEE'S CABIN - LATER

Bee hums to herself as she tidies up. When there's a knock on  
the door Bee races over. She opens it to find not only the  
Clerk, but also Elgin. Bee's hope begins to evaporate.

ELGIN

Polly said you asked to see a copy  
of Mom's receipt?

Bee scowls at the Clerk.

GIFT SHOP CLERK

(shamed)

We were instructed to get your  
father... but I did bring some  
origami paper.

Bee crumples the paper, then collapses onto the bed. Elgin  
dismisses the Clerk with an appreciative nod. Once alone:

ELGIN

You're still looking?

BEE

(head in the pillows)

I want to find her.

ELGIN

I know you do, baby. So do I.

BEE

Why aren't you doing anything? We  
should be searching for her!

ELGIN

Now? On the ship?

BEE

If you look at the Captain's Report with an open mind, it proves that Mom loved it down here. She was having such a good time, drinking cocktails and stuff, that she decided to stay. And she wrote me a note telling me so I wouldn't get worried.

ELGIN

But it got lost in the mail.

Bee shrugs, exactly. Elgin sighs.

ELGIN (CONT'D)

Can I give you another interpretation? I see a woman who kept to herself and drank a bottle of wine at dinner, and then moved on to the hard stuff. That's not having a fun time. That's drinking yourself to death. And I'm sure Mom did write you a note. But we'll never know. Cause she never mailed it.

BEE

Maybe she gave it to a passenger to mail when he got back home or something.

ELGIN

And this guy failed to report that during the interrogation?

BEE

Because Mom told him to keep quiet.

ELGIN

Bee... there's a saying, "when you hear hoofbeats, think horses, not zebras." Do you know what that means?

(she doesn't answer)

It means that when you're trying to figure something out, don't start off being too exotic in your reasoning.

BEE

I know what it means.

ELGIN

Nobody's heard from her.

BEE

She's somewhere waiting for me. It's a fact.

ELGIN

(frustrated)

Where is she hiding then? On an iceberg? Floating on a raft? What's she been eating? How's she keeping warm?

BEE

That's why I wanted the receipt from the gift shop. To prove that she bought warm clothes. They sell them there. I saw them. Parkas and boots and hats. They also sell granola bars --

ELGIN

(throws up his hands)

Granola bars?! That's what this is based on? Parkas and granola bars? Have you been outside yet?

(he stands)

Come with me.

BEE

What? No!

Elgin practically drags her out of the room.

EXT DECK OF ALLEGRA - DRAKE PASSAGE - CONTINUOUS

The wind howls in all directions while the freezing cold temperatures instantly sting any exposed skin.

ELGIN

(yelling over the wind)

We're not even in Antarctica yet!  
Do you feel how cold it is? Do you?

Elgin puts Bee down. She scrambles to cover her hands, face, any exposed skin.

BEE

What was her big crime, anyway?! That she had an assistant in India doing errands for her? What's Samantha 2? It's just something so people can sit around and have a robot do all their shit for them. You spent ten years of your life and billions of dollars inventing something so people don't have to live their own lives. Mom found a way of doing it for 75 cents an hour and you tried to have her committed to a mental hospital!

ELGIN

That's what you think?

BEE

You were a real rock star, Dad,  
walking down the aisle of Microsoft  
Connector.

ELGIN

I didn't write that!

BEE

Your girlfriend did! We all know  
the truth. Mom ran away because you  
fell in love with your admin.

ELGIN

The only truth here is that Mom was  
safely on board January 5th at 6pm  
and then she started drinking. The  
waters were too rough to anchor.  
And that was it. You're looking for  
facts? Feel this. This wind, this  
cold... these are the facts.

Bee wants to cry but she's still fighting it. She's stares  
him down, stoic.

ELGIN (CONT'D)

I won't let you do this, Bee! It's  
not good for you, constantly  
searching for something that isn't  
there!

BEE

It's all I have!

ELGIN

It's not all you have. You have me-

BEE

I don't want you! I want her.

Bee runs back inside. Elgin stays in the cold for a moment.  
The first chunks of ice are visible in the black water. She's  
just confirmed what he's always feared about his family.

INT BEE'S CABIN - THE NEXT MORNING

Bee flips through the channels on the TV, in a near catatonic  
state. No interest in getting out of bed. She comes across an  
old episode of "You Catch It, You Keep It" in Mandarin  
Chinese. Watches it for a few beats before being repulsed,  
turning it off. She hears:

PA VOICE (O.S.)

Good morning passengers! Many of  
you are already on deck relishing  
the clear, still day. We should  
have our first glimpse of land any  
moment now.

Bee's curiosity gets the better of her. She slowly manages to sit up. Pulls open the curtains.

ANGLE ON ANTARCTICA - the vast nothing of gray water, gray rock and gray sky extends as far as the eye can see. If anywhere can be called the end of the world it's here.

BACK TO Bee. Staring at it. A knot in her stomach.

PA VOICE (O.S.) (CONT'D)  
The temperature is minus 13 degrees Celsius, 8 degrees Fahrenheit. Good morning and, again, welcome to Antarctica. The Zodiacs will begin loading at 9:30am.

Bee gets back into bed. Pulls up the covers.

QUICK SERIES OF SHOTS AS DAYS PASS:

- Rubber Zodiac boats ferry TOURISTS from the cruise ship to the arctic continent. WE SEE Elgin among them. Not Bee.

- Elgin excitedly shares his photos of PENGUINS and WILDLIFE with Bee. She doesn't even pretend to care.

- From the glass windows of the Library, Bee marvels at the GIGANTIC CARVED OUT ICEBERGS. Watches more Zodiacs come and go. Part of her wishes she could be on one. But the other part is stronger.

PA VOICE (O.S.) (CONT'D)  
Good afternoon! Today you'll have plenty of opportunities to be up close and personal with the region's exotic wildlife.

- From a Zodiac, Elgin excitedly takes photos of a WHALE rising out of the water. And then his joy is tempered, probably because Bee is not there with him.

- Bee scans the snow covered ebony beaches with BINOCULARS. She's looking for her mother but of course any semblance of human life is totally impossible. She's losing hope.

- Night in the Dining Hall - Passengers swap tales of their daily adventures. Bee takes food back to her room so she can eat alone. Elgin, dining with STRANGERS, watches her sadly.

INT BEE'S CABIN - ANOTHER DAY

From her bedroom window Bee watches icebergs float by. She finds the views both majestic and haunting. The PA crackles:

PA VOICE (O.S.)  
Good day passengers! Our next stop is a British military outpost left over from World War II, now an Antarctic heritage museum.  
(MORE)

PA VOICE (O.S.) (CONT'D)  
 Come visit the gift shop or the  
 post office. That's Port Lockroy,  
 next.

Bee thinks about this. Gift shop, POST OFFICE? A town!

EXT DECK OF ALLEGRA - MOMENTS LATER

Bee, in a parka and snow pants, makes her way across the deck and down a ramp towards a Zodiac. She's stopped by a CREWMAN.

CREWMAN  
 Did you scan out?

The Crewman points Bee to an upright computer terminal. Bee scans her ID badge. ANGLE ON THE SCREEN: "ENJOY YOUR TIME ASHORE, BALAKRISHNA!" pops up.

EXT ZODIAC - CONTINUOUS

Bee's small craft navigates the choppy waters on its way towards an outpost. This is Port Lockroy. Bee is encouraged.

EXT/ INT PORT LOCKROY - MOMENTS LATER

It's a very small SHACK, not exactly the bustling metropolis Bee was imagining. The entrance opens into a small, rundown gift shop. Maps, flags, stuffed animals, postcards. TWO BRITISH GIRLS (20s) enthusiastically greet Bee and the other PASSENGERS, who cluster together.

BOTH COLLEGE GIRLS  
 (over and over)  
 Welcome to Port Lockroy!

BEE  
 Where is everyone who lives here?

COLLEGE GIRL #1  
 You're looking at it.

Bee inspects the room. Aside from the entrance there's only one other door, marked "DO NOT ENTER." As the Girls begin a history lecture, Bee sneaks over to the door, pushing it open despite the warning. She walks through:

INT PORT LOCKROY - SAME

The door leads to a cramped kitchen with rusty pots. At the other end is a second door marked "DO NOT ENTER." Bee heads right for it, still hoping for signs of life on the other side. She opens the door - to the SNOW SHOCK AND COLD AIR OF THE OUTSIDE. Bee heads back in.

INT PORT LOCKROY - MAIN ROOM - SAME

Bee comes back in, more desperate. Interrupting the lecture:

BEE  
I don't understand. How many people  
live here?

COLLEGE GIRL #1  
Just the two of us.

BEE  
But where do you live?

COLLEGE GIRL #2  
Here.  
(off her look)  
We roll our sleeping bags out in  
the gift shop.

BEE  
But where do you go to the  
bathroom? Where do you do your  
laundry? Where do you shower?

An ANNOYED TOURIST turns on Bee:

ANNOYED TOURIST  
This is how they live. Now stop  
being rude.

BEE  
(ignoring her)  
It's just the two of you? Nobody  
has, like, gotten off one of the  
ships to live with you or anything?

The College Girls look at each other, totally baffled by the  
line of questioning.

And it's at this moment, the demise of Bee's optimism and  
hope, she can't stay strong anymore. She falls to pieces,  
racing out of there.

ANNOYED TOURIST  
Dear God, what is wrong with her?

EXT PORT LOCKROY - CONTINUOUS

Bee walks climbs onto the adjacent rocks, away from  
everything and everyone. She sits at an inlet, bundled up,  
sobbing like the fragile 15 year old she is. After some time:

ELGIN (O.S.)  
Bee, darling?

Elgin appears. He carefully scampers to Bee's position, then  
sits beside her.



BEE  
 (beat, looks down)  
 I really thought she was here...

Bee snuffles. Then hears crying. She looks up: Elgin is crying. Bee is moved by her Dad's show of emotion.

ELGIN  
 (through tears)  
 I miss her too, Bee.  
 (beat)  
 I know you think you have a monopoly on missing her. But Mom was my best friend.

BEE  
 She was my best friend.

ELGIN  
 She was my best friend first. I loved her, I just... I couldn't talk to her.

Elgin cries some more. Bee puts an arm around him.

BEE  
 It's going to be OK.

Elgin wipes the tears, tries to gather himself.

ELGIN  
 I know this trip has been hard on you. You were hoping for something different --

BEE  
 I don't care about Antarctica. I never did. I just wanted us to be together. Somewhere Mom couldn't hide in the Airstream and you couldn't hide in your office. And we could be happy again. Now we'll never be happy.

ELGIN  
 (beat)  
 We can be. In a different way. People bounce back, Bee. I know. I've done some research on the subject.  
 (beat)  
 Did you know the human brain is a discounting mechanism?

Bee doesn't understand.

ELGIN (CONT'D)  
 When you buy a new dress, at first you're over the moon with it.  
 (MORE)

ELGIN (CONT'D)

It's the greatest dress you ever bought, every day you're gonna wear that thing. But then some time goes by and it just doesn't have that same glow anymore. Then eventually it's just another dress in the back of the closet you never wear.

(beat)

It works the same way with negative emotions. When tragedy strikes, a person may think the world's gonna end. How can I possibly go on? What's the point? But then some time will go by and you'll think about that thing that happened, that horrible thing, and it just won't hurt the same way. Don't get me wrong - the pain will still be there, it'll always be there - but the brain will discount it so it doesn't destroy you.

Bee takes that in. She nods.

BEE

I'm sorry Dad.

ELGIN

I'm sorry. You've got nothing to be sorry about.

BEE

I'm sorry I've been kind of bitchy lately. And I'm sorry I called So-Lin "Yoko." I only called her that cause she broke up the Beatles, not because she's --

ELGIN

I know.

BEE

I felt bad.

ELGIN

You're the best kid, Bee. You're our biggest accomplishment.

Both of them are crying freely now.

ELGIN (CONT'D)

I love you so much.

BEE

I love you too, Dad.

(beat)

I'm sorry if you didn't know that.

Bee pulls her Dad close and they hug. On this, we CUT TO:

INT H&H ALLEGRA - LIBRARY - LATER

Elgin and Bee look out the window through binoculars.

BEE

I think my favorite part of Antarctica is just looking out.

ELGIN

You know why? When you look at the horizon for a long time, your brain releases endorphins. It's the same as a runner's high. We spend so much time these days staring at screens 12 inches in front of us. This is a nice change.

BEE

Maybe you should invent an app that makes your brain think its looking at the horizon when really you're just looking at your phone.

Elgin thinks about that. He puts the binoculars down. Bee looks at him.

BEE (CONT'D)

You're totally gonna steal my idea!

She shoves him, smiling. He smiles back. The thaw of their relationship beginning. CUT TO:

EXT ANTARCTICA - DAY

A GUIDE shows Bee and Elgin how to feed a PENGUIN. They do so. Bee laughs. Father/daughter thawing continues. CUT TO:

EXT PORT LOCKROY - MOMENTS LATER

A Zodiac heads back to the Allegra. Elgin's arm around Bee.

EXT DECK OF ALLEGRA - MOMENTS LATER

They make their way up the gangplank. Bee scans her ID card and like before a message pops up: "WELCOME BACK, BALAKRISHNA." Elgin scans his badge but instead of a greeting the machine makes a buzzing sounds, followed by: "ELGIN, PLEASE SEE OFFICIAL."

ELGIN

That's weird.

CREWMAN

Did you scan out?

ELGIN

I must have forgot.

CREWMAN

Because you didn't scan out, the computer thinks you're still on the ship. It's no problem. I'll fix it. You guys go ahead.

Bee and Elgin head inside.

INT SCHACKLETON LOUNGE - LATE THAT NIGHT

Bee and Elgin are playing the board game RISK while generally enjoying each other's company. A few CREWMEN relax at the next table, but for the most part the Lounge is quiet.

BEE

(rolls the dice)

And now Kamchatka is mine!

Suddenly a few SCIENTISTS enter the Lounge. Rambunctious and craving drinks, they head to the bar. Bee and Elgin are surprised by the disturbance.

BEE (CONT'D)

Where'd they come from?

Elgin shrugs. A CREWMAN at the next table eavesdrops.

CREWMAN

We must be at Palmer.

(points to the window)

Look...

ANGLE ON PALMER STATION: like a tiny Arctic city, with rows of squat metal buildings and shipping containers.

BEE

The chart says the Allegra never stops at Palmer.

CREWMAN

Not officially. But if we're close enough, we'll let the scientists come on board for a drink. Sort of a tradition here.

ELGIN

And then what happens?

CREWMAN

Then they go home.

Bee and Elgin see a few Zodiacs cruising back and forth from the Allegra. They both have the same thought. Bee approaches a SCIENTIST at the bar.

BEE

Are you from Palmer?

(off his nod)

This might sound weird...

(MORE)

BEE (CONT'D)  
 but is there any chance you've seen  
 my Mom? She's not a scientist but --

SCIENTIST #1  
 Sorry, love.

BEE  
 You're sure?

SCIENTIST #1  
 No civilians allowed. Scientists  
 and essential personnel only.

BEE  
 (deflating)  
 I understand. Thanks anyway.

Elgin and Bee shrug to one another. It was worth a shot.  
 They're about to return to their table when they hear:

SCIENTIST #1  
 Can I get a Pink Penguin please?

Bee and Elgin stop dead in their tracks.

BEE  
 What did you say?

SCIENTIST #1  
 The Pink Penguin? That's what we  
 all drink at Palmer. They make 'em  
 better here than the lab.

But Bee and Elgin aren't paying attention to him anymore. Bee  
 looks at her father, eyes open wide.

ELGIN  
 (don't get excited)  
 That doesn't prove anything.

BEE  
 It proves she was here. It proves  
 she met some Palmer people. What if  
 she made a friend?

ELGIN  
 Your mother?

BEE  
 She always could when she wanted  
 to. Plus, these aren't tourists  
 we're talking about... these are  
 geniuses.

ELGIN  
 She did love talking to those.

BEE  
 Say she met someone on board...  
 Someone from Palmer.

(MORE)

BEE (CONT'D)

They got to talking. Drinking...  
And maybe she got off the ship with  
them?

ELGIN

She couldn't. You heard the man -  
essential personnel only.

BEE

What do you think Mom would do if  
they told her she wasn't essential?

Elgie smiles at the thought. They both look outside again.  
Even at night Palmer Station buzzes with life.

ELGIN

But if she left, she would have  
scanned out...

BEE

You didn't scan out...

ELGIN

...and the computer thought I was  
still on board! Holy shit, Bala!  
It's possible!

INT LOWER DECKS - MOMENTS LATER

Bee rushes to keep up with her Dad.

BEE

Wait! Hey! What - Dad, where are  
you going?

ELGIN

Shh.

BEE

But Dad... tourists aren't allowed  
on Palmer.

Elgin holds up a BLACK PARKA belonging to a Palmer Scientist.

ELGIN

That's why we're stealing their  
boat.

EXT DECK OF ALLEGRA - MOMENTS LATER

Bee follows Elgin as they sneak towards the remaining  
Zodiacs. When no one is looking they jump on board. Bee  
unties the rope while Elgin fires up the engine.

EXT PALMER STATION - CONTINUOUS

Elgin steers. Bee sees something, tugs at her Dad's sleeve.

ANGLE ON the water. A SECOND ZODIAK is coming towards them.

ELGIN

Get down.

Bee does as she's told. Elgin merely waves as the other Zodiac passes. Nobody thinks twice. Bee pops up again.

ELGIN (CONT'D)

Now where do I dock this thing?

BEE

Just ram really fast up onto the rocks and I'll make a break for it.

Elgin isn't sure. So Bee ignores him, slamming on the gas and pushing the Zodiac forward. The Zodiac CRASHES up onto land!

Bee flips out of the boat, but still holding the ropes she is cushioned by the outer rubber of the Zodiac. She springs up. Elgin is shocked.

BEE (CONT'D)

How many times do I have to tell you guys - I'm totally fine!

And she means it. Elgin nods.

ELGIN

Go. Find her.

He crouches behind a LARGE ALUMINUM DRUM, out of sight.

ELGIN (CONT'D)

I'll be right here holding them off.

Bee nods, is about to leave when:

ELGIN (CONT'D)

Wait Bee...  
(hands her a satchel)  
If you find her...

Bee puts the SATCHEL in her pocket, nods, turns, and scrambles up the rocks. Elgin watches her go.

INT PALMER STATION - MOMENTS LATER

Bee enters into an anteroom of equipment. She passes this into a long hallway. Suddenly she hears VOICES APPROACHING. Bee looks for a place to hide but there's no obvious place.

ANGLE ON THE SCIENTISTS. They walk by, chatting, totally unaware. As soon as they're gone Bee emerges from behind a ROW OF COATS hanging on the wall.

At the end of the hallway is a Communications Center. Bee uses her size to navigate around bulky equipment.

The Scientists stare with boredom at their monitors, no idea she's there. She arrives at a fork in the hallway. She hears a bubbling noise and smells something, then decides to head in that direction. She enters:

INT PALMER STATION - KITCHEN AREA - SAME

Something is cooking but the room is empty. Bee walks through it, taking stock of things. Nothing in the room indicates her mother is or has even been near this place. Losing hope.

She's about to walk on when she spots something out of the corner of her eye. It's a T-SHIRT hanging on the back of a chair. She walks over, picks it up, turns it around, and sure enough: the shirt says GALER STREET ELEMENTARY.

Her eyes open wide. And she hears:

VOICE (O.S.)  
You. Little. Rotter.

Bernadette stands there with her arms crossed. She looks completely transformed - smiling, serene, totally at peace.

BEE  
MOM!

Bee, tears in her eyes, races towards Bernadette who drops to her knees to embrace her. Bee buries herself in her arms.

BERNADETTE  
Oh Bala, it's so good to see you! I missed you like crazy!

BEE  
I missed you too, Mom.

BERNADETTE  
What are you doing here?

BEE  
(looking up at her)  
What am I doing here?

BERNADETTE  
Shouldn't you be at Choate Rosemary? I wasn't expecting to see you till May.

BEE  
We've been looking for you.

BERNADETTE  
Didn't you get my note? I told you not to worry. That I'd be back soon.

BEE  
I never got your note.



BERNADETTE  
 You never got my...  
 (she shakes her head)  
 If you never got it, then how did  
 you (find me)?

BEE  
 (beat, shrugs)  
 We're Butch and Sundance.

Bern smiles, squeezes her again, brushes hair from her face.

BERNADETTE  
 Your hair looks beautiful.

Bee doesn't respond, just keeps hugging her.

BEE  
 Mom.

BERNADETTE  
 Yes love.

Bee pulls away from her.

BEE  
 Don't ever do that again.

Bernadette nods.

BERNADETTE  
 I won't have to. I'm getting  
 better, Bala.

BEE  
 Better how?

BERNADETTE  
 (smiles)  
 I've been working.

And that makes no sense to Bee.

BERNADETTE (CONT'D)  
 Wanna see?

EXT BACK OF PALMER STATION - MOMENTS LATER

Bernadette and Bee exit the BACK DOOR. Bernadette points and  
 Bee looks up to see a MASSIVE GEODESIC DOME under  
 construction along the horizon.

BERNADETTE  
 I met some scientists on the ship.  
 Let me tell you, those broads can  
 DRINK. One night they mentioned  
 their plans to dismantle a geodesic  
 dome and turn it into a research  
 station.

(MORE)

BERNADETTE (CONT'D)

I used to have an interest in such things. And as they were talking about it, my heart started to race. Not the bad kind of heart racing like you had as an infant, but the good kind, the kind where you want to roll up your sleeves, kick off your shoes and say step aside people cause I'm about to kick the shit out of life!

Bee smiles. She loves her mother but, even more than that, she loves seeing her mother like this.

BERNADETTE (CONT'D)

I bribed my way down here, told them who I was - or at least who I used to be - shared some ideas I came up with... got to work.

BEE

It's amazing.

BERNADETTE

It's coming along.

Bee wraps her arms around Bernadette again.

BEE

They said you were dead.

BERNADETTE

No --

BEE

Or you ran. To get away from us.

BERNADETTE

(sighs)

I did run. I had to run. But I didn't run FROM you, Bee... I ran FOR you. For both of us.

Bee doesn't understand, not entirely.

BERNADETTE (CONT'D)

You know how they say on airplanes, "secure your own mask before assisting others." This was me - securing the mask. I needed to find myself, I needed to... well, I needed to create. I'm not me when I'm not creating. I'm a lunatic, a wild woman, a --

BEE

Menace to society.

BERNADETTE

Exactly. Took me going halfway  
around the world to realize that -  
but it's true.

BEE

And you're better now?

BERNADETTE

I can be. I will be.

Bee looks at the velvet pouch in her hand.

BEE

What about Dad?

BERNADETTE

(bitterness in her voice)  
What about him?

Bee is about to hand her the pouch. She doesn't.

BEE

Don't go anywhere.

Bee turns and races back into the station. On her way, she  
stops, turns back to Bernadette.

BEE (CONT'D)

I'm serious!

Bernadette doesn't move.

EXT PALMER STATION - FRONT ENTRANCE - MOMENTS LATER

Elgin continues to hide. Bee emerges. Shouts to him:

BEE

Dad! DAD!

Elgin sees the look on her face. It can only mean one thing.  
He's stunned! CUT TO:

EXT PALMER STATION - BACK DOOR - MOMENTS LATER

Bernadette continues to stand there alone. Bee reappears, now  
with Elgin in tow. She's holding her father's hand. Bee walks  
him towards Bernadette. They stand face-to-face, neither one  
sure what to do.

BEE

Say something.

No one speaks.

BEE (CONT'D)

See? No! No more of this! We need  
to talk to each other.

(MORE)

BEE (CONT'D)  
 This is what happens when families  
 don't talk to each other.

A beat. And then:

ELGIN  
This is what happens?

Another beat. The three of them taking in their surroundings.

BEE  
 Ok, not exactly this. But something  
 like this.

That helped break the ice a little. Bernadette laughs, Elgin  
 too. Bee keeps on going.

BEE (CONT'D)  
 (to Elgin)  
 It's like you were saying, Dad, the  
 brain as a discounting mechanism.  
 (off Bernadette's look)  
 I thought about it and it's true.  
 We get used to things. Like we did  
 with our house. Everything was  
 falling apart around us -  
 everything - and what did we do? We  
 got used to it.  
 (beat)  
 We have to not do that any more.  
 Can we all, the three of us,  
 promise to not do that anymore?

Elgin and Bernadette stare at one another. So much to say  
 that's never been said. Bee hands Elgin the satchel.

BEE (CONT'D)  
 Give her the thing.

Elgin looks at it. Looks back at his wife. Hands it to her.  
 She unties the cord, pulls out locket of St. Bernadette. And  
 inside is a NOTE.

BERNADETTE  
 What's this?

Bernadette is about to open it when Bee quickly snags it from  
 her, tears it in pieces, and throws it in the snow.

BEE  
 AH! No more notes!

Bee pushes him towards Bernadette. They stand face to face.  
 He clears his throat. Another beat...

ELGIN  
 St. Bernadette had 18 miracles. Now  
 you've had 4.

BERNADETTE

4?

ELGIN

Your first two houses, our daughter, and your escape. That makes 14 to go.

(looking at the dome)

And I'm glad to see you've gotten started, Bern. Really glad.

Bernadette is touched. She takes his hand, tenderly, and pulls him in for an embrace. They hug. Elgin closes his eyes. He's wanted this a long time.

ELGIN (CONT'D)

I'm sorry. I didn't... I should've -

BERNADETTE

Elgie, I'm sorry. It was never you.

And when it's over. Elgin looks down at his shoes. Then back up at his wife.

ELGIN

So what do you say, Bern? Can we sit down... talk about things?

BERNADETTE

(beat)

We do have a lot to discuss.

ELGIN

Maybe more than you know...

Bernadette shoots him a curious look. Elgin looks at Bee. Bee's face says "now's not the time." She grabs her Dad - and her Mom - and pulls them all into a family hug. MUSIC UP: "Here Comes the Sun. We CUT TO:

EXT PALMER STATION - LATER

Bee and Elgin wave to Bernadette as they ride a Zodiac back to the cruise ship. She waves back. Shouts to them:

BERNADETTE

I'll see you in another 3 weeks.

BEE

We love you Mom!

BERNADETTE

I love you more!

Bernadette watches them sail towards the horizon. Once out of sight, she turns back to the Dome. Takes a deep breath. And it's back to work, finally.

BERNADETTE (CONT'D)  
Let's go people, we got work to do!

BEE'S VOICE  
The geodesic dome became big news  
once people found out who was  
behind it.

SERIES OF SHOTS:

- Headlines from around the Globe, a CNN report, profiles in Dwell and Evolo. All hailing the return of Bernadette Fox.

BEE'S VOICE (CONT'D)  
And that, of course, led to a great  
deal of press about Mom and our  
family and what happened that  
Christmas.

- Bee and Elgin at the airport. Bee holds up a sign that says "Butch Cassidy." Bernadette emerges from the security line, lights up upon seeing her family. Hugs all around.

BEE'S VOICE (CONT'D)  
But like I said, most of it was an  
exaggeration.

- Outside Straight Gate, the three of them look at the dilapidated home. They look at one another. A decision.

BEE'S VOICE (CONT'D)  
Then again, isn't everything?

INT STUDIO C - DAY

The shipping clock ticks down from 00:02 to 00:01 to 00:00. Elgin looks at it, sadly. We hear:

ELGIN'S VOICE  
When we missed the deadline, the  
program was cancelled. Our  
division...

- We see some GAMERS now using the BAND-AID as a joystick while playing XBOX.

ELGIN'S VOICE (CONT'D)  
... was merged into games.

INT ELGIN'S OFFICE - SAME

Elgin packs up his many "Patent Cubes" into banker's boxes.

ELGIN'S VOICE  
I could have stayed on and  
consulted - but this is better.  
This gives me time to focus on the  
important things. Like my family...

INT BRANCH DINNER TABLE - SAME

Bernadette and Bee laughing hysterically at something Elgin clearly doesn't get. Seeing the look on his face, Bee stops to explain it.

ELGIN'S VOICE  
And my other family...

INT LAMAZE CLASS - SAME

Elgin and a very pregnant Soo-Lin practice breathing.

INT LAMAZE CLASS - LATER

Elgin explaining who he is to ANOTHER COUPLE. Probably for the fiftieth time.

ELGIN  
I'm not the husband, just the father.

SOO-LIN  
We're not together.

ELGIN  
Actually I'm married.

SOO-LIN  
To someone else. Not me.

The Couple cannot understand this.

ELGIN  
It's complicated.

ELGIN'S VOICE  
Plus I've got some new ideas that I'm excited about.

INT BOARDROOM - DAY

Elgin pitches an idea to some VENTURE CAPITALISTS. He has a killer Power Point Presentation.

ELGIN'S VOICE  
It's an exciting time.  
(beat)  
For all of us.

We see the idea is for Bee's "Horizon App." CUT TO:

INT STUDIO C - DAY

Soo-Lin, pregnant, also packs up her belongings.

SOO-LIN'S VOICE  
 Webster's defines a "victim" as an individual who is harmed, injured, murdered, or worse. I disagree.

INT STARBUCKS - DAY

Soo-Lin reads "Lean In."

SOO-LIN'S VOICE  
 I think a "victim" is someone who doesn't learn from their mistakes. And I'm happy to say that I'm not a victim - not anymore.

EXT CITYLINK STADIUM - ESTABLISHING

Home of the Seahawks.

INT CITYLINK - SAME

Soo-Lin moves into her new office, labeled "Soo-Lin Lee-Siegel, Administrative Assistant." She unpacks the "VAV" book. Looks it over. Throws it in the trash.

SOO-LIN'S VOICE  
 I have a new job, some newfound financial stability...

- Soo-Lin walks past some hulking Defensive Lineman in the hallway. They slap her five. She smiles.

SOO-LIN'S VOICE (CONT'D)  
 I've even made some wonderful new friends in the months since Bernadette stole my - came back into our lives.

- Soo-Lin brings some papers in to Pete Carroll's office. He's on the phone so she drops them on his desk.

SOO-LIN'S VOICE (CONT'D)  
 Best of all, I've learned my lesson. It's all coming up Soo-Lin from now on.

Soo-Lin ducks out of the office. But before she can:

PETE CARROLL  
 Hey Soo-Lin.  
 (she turns back around)  
 Thank you.

And Soo-Lin's heart skips a beat. She looks at Carroll longingly. Uh-oh. CUT TO:



INT AUDREY'S KITCHEN - NIGHT

Audrey says "Grace" with Warren and Kyle.

AUDREY'S VOICE  
I'm still a Christian woman.

EXT BOARDING SCHOOL - DAY

Audrey hugs Kyle goodbye outside his new dorm. She watches him walk away, knowing it's good for him. Proud.

AUDREY'S VOICE  
But I've realized that being a  
Christian isn't about throwing  
stones, or passing judgment.

EXT BERNADETTE'S HOME - DAY

Audrey stands outside Bernadette's front door with a CASSEROLE. Bernadette answers. Sees Audrey. Hugs her.

BERNADETTE  
Come in.

AUDREY  
Are you sure?

BERNADETTE  
I promised Bee I'd learned to cook  
something. Can you help?

Audrey smiles. Follows Bernadette into the house.

AUDREY'S VOICE  
It's about forgiveness.

And from the look on her face, we can see there's still some work to do on the place.

AUDREY'S VOICE (CONT'D)  
Forgiveness and love.

INT BERNADETTE'S SUV - DAY

Bernadette drives in the passing lane behind a very slow moving car. She grits her teeth.

BERNADETTE'S VOICE  
Did I learn anything? Yeah. A great  
deal actually.

She takes a deep breath. Waits for her opportunity to go around. Passes the car without incident.

BERNADETTE'S VOICE (CONT'D)  
 Going halfway around the world to  
 the most desolate place on the  
 planet kinda made me realize the  
 importance of human contact.

EXT PIKE PLACE MARKET - DAY

Bernadette walks down the path by herself.

BERNADETTE'S VOICE  
 Trust me, I still value my space. I  
 like to be left alone. But there's  
 a very big difference between being  
left alone - and actually being  
 alone.

She sees a PEDESTRIAN about to step in dog shit. Helps the  
 person narrowly miss it.

PEDESTRIAN  
 Thank you.

BERNADETTE  
 No worries.

Bernadette realizes what just came out of her mouth. She  
 can't help but smile.

BERNADETTE'S VOICE  
 Fact of the matter is, unless you  
 live on an ice floe in the middle  
 of the Drake Passage, you're gonna  
 be surrounded by people.

EXT BERNADETTE'S (BRAND NEW) HOME - DAY

Bernadette, Elgin, and Bee play a game in the grass outside a  
 NEW HOUSE in a different part of Seattle. Ice Cream runs  
 freely between them. We see MOVING VANS in the driveway,  
 suitcases all around, and no Airstream in sight.

The three of them are running around, laughing, having a  
 great time. Closer than we've ever seen.

BERNADETTE'S VOICE  
 And though we cant pick everyone we  
 come into contact with, we can  
 choose who we come into contact  
 with most.

EXT BERNADETTE'S SUV - DAY

Bernadette, with Elgin in the front seat, Bee and Ice Cream  
 in the back, pulls out of her new driveway. We hear:

## BERNADETTE'S VOICE

If you can stand one or two of those people, hell, if you actually love some them, well then... you've really got nothing to complain about, do you?

As the car drives, Bernadette sees a NEIGHBOR is installing ALUMINUM SIDING on their roof.

## BERNADETTE

Aluminum siding. Seriously?

This is extremely offensive to Bernadette whose fingers immediately start drumming on the steering wheel. A quick look between Elgin and Bee and then Elgin grabs Bernadette's hand to hold it. She looks at him. His eyes say "relax." Her eyes say "I'll try." That's the best it can be, really.

## EXT STRAIGHT GATE - DAY

A RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY for the Galer Street School. The song continues to play as Bernadette cuts the ribbon. PULL BACK TO REVEAL the new Galer Street Campus is actually Bernadette and Elgin's old house - completely redone and looking fantastic.

The assembled CROWD applauds. Most of them are Gnats - Audrey among them. Soo-Lin is there too, with Lincoln and an INFANT in her arms.

In another part of the lawn, Ollie-0 is trying to get in with EDDIE VEDDER - who clearly wants nothing to do with the guy.

And in the back, Elgin stands with his arm around Bee. As Bernadette joins them. A PHOTOGRAPHER shouts:

## PHOTOGRAPHER

Let's get a photo of the family.

Bernadette looks over at Soo-Lin. She thinks about it. Sighs. Gestures for them to join in. All together, Bernadette looks at her brand new family unit. Elgin and Bee, Elgin's infant, Soo-Lin, Soon's Lin son.

Jesus. But this is her family now, like it or not.

Bernadette shakes her head at the absurdity of it all, smiles, puts her arm around Bee and they pose for the camera.

"Here Comes the Sun" plays us out on the six of them and as George sings "it's alright" we CUT TO:

BLACK.