

YOU'RE MY BEST FRIEND

Written by

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INT. PARTY HOUSE - NIGHT

A group of teenagers stand in a semi-circle intently listening to LILY (14 going on 15, heart of gold, with an untarnished adolescent innocence in her eyes, and it's important to note she's wearing an oversized tee shirt with a painting of MARY SHELLEY on it). A rambunctious high school party is happening around them - music, dancing, fog for some reason. Lily holds a red solo cup as she finishes a story. They all break out in laughter. Someone hands her a shot. She takes it like a pro, doesn't even flinch.

LILY
Mind if I bum a drag?

She takes a cigarette from her friend and smokes it.

PARTY FRIEND
Oh my god. That is so funny. You are so good at storytelling.

LILY
Aw. Thank you so much. Love you, girl.

PARTY FRIEND #2
Want to sleepover my house?

PARTY FRIEND #3
Yes, please, come! It'll be so much more fun with you there!

LILY
Of, course. I love sleepovers! I go to them all the time.

She takes a puff of her cig. The sound of the brakes on a school bus cuts through the noise and...

INT. LILY'S BEDROOM - EARLY AFTERNOON

Lily is alone in her quiet bedroom. Her laptop is playing *Project X* faintly in the background. That was all in her head. She holds an empty glass from the kitchen and a crayon. Out her window, Lily sees her neighbor, a popular girl, get off the bus surrounded by a gaggle of friends. Lily's shoulders drop as she longingly watches them. She takes a drag from her crayon and throws it on the ground like a kicked cigarette.

In her room, there is an unfinished miniature REPLICA OF MANHATTAN on a large table.

A collection of Harry Styles posters hang on the wall alongside a smattering of artistic recreations of horror movie posters and her bookshelf - home to the biographies of historical figures. This is a young woman with very diverse tastes in the morbid and loves pop music. (We exist.)

She sighs and sits for a moment in her loneliness, then goes to pick up the crayon on the ground.

INT. LILY'S HOUSE - MOMENTS LATER

Downstairs, Lily passes her sister, STEPH (11), in the living room, playing a video game and talking to her friends.

STEPH

Hey, Kyle. Is your grandma still in the hospital? I'm sorry. That sucks-
-Oh, yes! The light sword. You are about to get absolutely wrecked.

Lily goes into the kitchen where her mom, REBECCA (38, kind eyes, short hair) and dad, CHARLES (40s, goofy, himbo), discuss something, quietly. They stop when Lily enters.

Her other sister, CHLOE (8, very serious), sits at the kitchen table with her ventriloquist doll, CHESTER (creepy Statler looking old man puppet wearing a hoodie), in her lap. They all perk up with smiles to greet her, including Chester.

REBECCA

Hey, birthday girl! We haven't seen you all day.

LILY

I've just been upstairs working.

CHARLES

Feeling any older?

LILY

No.

Lily pulls out a kitchen stool and sits down.

CHLOE

I made your cake this morning.

REBECCA

It looks amazing. You're gonna love it.

LILY
I was thinking... maybe we should
just cancel the party.

CHARLES
What?! No way. We have to celebrate
your life! All 15 years of it!

LILY
I just think it's unnecessary. You
guys are the only people who
actually care it's my birthday.

REBECCA
Not true. A lot of people care.
Your sisters care.

STEPH (O.S. TO LILY)
You're missing the party we're
throwing for you in Roblox right
now!

Lily forces a smile. It's sweet but not what she wants.

LILY
I'll be right in, Steph!

CHARLES
And look! You got this postcard.

Lily looks down at it. It is for her birthday but...

LILY
That's from the dentist.

CHARLES
Oh! Very thoughtful.

CHLOE
Don't worry, Lil. Chester's coming!

Chester speaks. Chloe is disturbingly good at ventriloquy.

CHESTER
Yeah, Lily. I'll make sure your
party is da bomb.

Lily gives her a tight-lipped smile. *Great.*

REBECCA
Your Aunt Beth is coming!

LILY
(sarcastically)
I won't hold my breath.

REBECCA
She is! She promised.

LILY
She's bailed on every important
event in our lives for, like, the
past 10 years! She didn't meet
Chloe until she was 6 months old.

CHESTER
What a bitch.

CHLOE
(gasps)
Chester!

LILY
I still don't have my ears pierced
because of her. She's always saying
she's gonna take me and yet...

CHARLES
Well, buttercup, your Aunt Beth has
a very strenuous job.

LILY
I guess making movies does seem
like a lot of work.

STEPH (O.S.)
All I ever see on her insta are red
carpet photos and beaches in
Cannes!

CHARLES
Let's just give her a chance!

REBECCA
You have your friends from your
feminism club, too!

CHARLES
I'm sure they'll come! Women
supporting women!

Lily looks defeated.

INT. SCHOOL THEATRE AUDIENCE - SAME TIME

AUNT BETH (35, high status, wears all black and always has the same perfect red nail polish, drives a Tesla) walks into a high school auditorium. She multi-tasks answering emails that are flooding in while looking for a seat. Her phone rings - it's "REBECCA (SISTER)".

AUNT BETH
Hey! How are you?

REBECCA
Good! *Where* are you?

AUNT BETH
Oh... uhh... just getting some last minute work done.

REBECCA
You're still in the City?!

AUNT BETH
No, of course not. The head of our crisis management PR firm asked me to see her daughter in her school play in Greenwich. She saved our asses when Brad Pi-

The woman next to her perks up to eavesdrop.

AUNT BETH (CONT'D)
When one of our actors really fucked up. So I owed her a favor.

REBECCA
You're still coming to the party though, right?

AUNT BETH
Wouldn't miss it!

REBECCA
You missed grandma's funeral to go to *The Avengers* premiere.

AUNT BETH
Grandma loved Liam Hemsworth!

REBECCA
Chris Hemsworth is the Avenger.

AUNT BETH
There are so many Hemsworths. See you soon.

Aunt Beth hangs up and is immediately back to emails.

INT. SCHOOL THEATRE BACKSTAGE - SAME TIME

The commotion of opening night is in full swing behind the curtains. ROSIE (15, cool girl, warm but guarded, Latinx) sits in front of a mirror in stage makeup, adjusting her wig. Student actors and stage hands rush around behind her. A fellow actor, SARAH MCDONALD, who is playing the lead calls over to her.

SARAH MCDONALD

Rosie! You have a flower delivery.

She turns around to see a guy holding a bouquet of flowers. She takes them and looks at the card. *"Sorry, I can't make it to opening night. Break a leg, you're a shining star. Love, Dad."* She looks at the flowers, disappointed. Sarah (nosey) reads over her shoulder.

SARAH MCDONALD (CONT'D)

Opening night? This isn't the West End. Doesn't your dad know we do these shows for one night only?

Rosie shoots her a glare through the reflection in the mirror. Sarah scurries off.

ROSIE

(under her breath)

At least he remembered.

DIRECTOR

Okay. People! Curtains up in five minutes! Look alive, thespians!

Rosie walks to the side of the stage and peaks out. She looks around the audience, but does not find who she is looking for. Sarah comes up behind her.

SARAH MCDONALD

Oh my god. I'm like so nervous. I'm gonna throw up. You're so lucky you only have a few lines, Rosie. It's so much more nerve wracking when you're a lead.

Sarah is annoying. The lights dim. Places everyone!

INT. SCHOOL THEATRE AUDIENCE - CONTINUOUS

It's showtime. Sarah McDonald comes running onto stage shrieking over dramatically. It lasts several moments too long.

SARAH MCDONALD
They killed my boy!

Aunt Beth has a look of "What the fuck am I about to watch?"

INT. RESTAURANT PRIVATE ROOM - LATER

Lily sits in the back room of her favorite restaurant where her bizarre party is. GRAMMY and GRAMPY (60s, put together but not in a country club way) are there. Combined with Steph and Chloe's friends they make an odd bunch. The gift table is sparse. There is an unboxed blender with a bow on it.

Lily looks out to the main part of the restaurant where she sees a table of teen girls sitting and having fun without their parents, laughing and looking grown up.

REBECCA
Sweetie, when are your feminist girls coming? We are going to do the cake soon!

LILY
They can't make it. They have to go to a last minute protest. A guy admitted to brutally raping four girls and got a full ride to college because of it.

REBECCA
Oh... that does sound important.

A waiter (early 20s, trendy, gender non-specific) walks by.

WAITER
I'm sorry for your loss.

REBECCA
Oh, no one died.

WAITER
Are you sure?

Rebecca, desperate to save the "party"...

REBECCA

Let's take some pictures! Make some memories!

LILY

Do I really need to remember this?

REBECCA

Yes. Steph, Chloe, get over here with your friends for the photo. Chester, too!

The random bunch gather around Lily. Lily forces a smile as her mom snaps the photo. Steph sidebars to Lily.

STEPH

You know, I can get you drugs, if you want to liven things up. Scotty has severe ADHD and he hoards all his adderall.

She looks over at a boy who is shoving as many slices of pizza in his mouth as he can. He starts eating napkins, too.

LILY

Thanks, Steph. I think I'm good.

INT. SCHOOL THEATER LOBBY - AFTER THE SHOW

Rosie watches all her fellow cast mates being greeted and congratulated by their family and friends, including Sarah running around like she is doing press interviews on a red carpet. Rosie gets a text and walks outside, tossing her flowers in the garbage on the way.

EXT. SCHOOL THEATER - CONTINUOUS

A Lexus SUV pulls up and Rosie gets in.

INT. CAR - CONTINUOUS

Rosie climbs into the backseat. Her friends, NIKKI (16, thinks of herself as the queen bee, mean) and MALLORY (16, sweet but lacks common sense) are in the front seat.

MALLORY

How was the show?

ROSIE

Good. Great, actually. You guys couldn't make it?

Rosie scoots in as they drive off.

NIKKI

You could not pay me to sit through
two hours of Sarah McDonald
pretending she's the next Anne
Hathaway.

MALLORY

And my phone was on like 20%.
Needed that sweet, sweet juice!

NIKKI

Yeah and it's a school play, it's
not like... serious. Call me when
you get an Oscar.

Mallory hands a vape back to Rosie, who takes a pull.

ROSIE

Yeah, it's no big deal. I was just
wondering. What's everyone doing
tonight?

NIKKI

Josh is having a couple people
over. Just a small gathering.
You're coming obviously.

MALLORY

I brought some Goldschlager I found
at my house. I heard it makes your
shit gold!

NIKKI

Ew, Mallory. Don't talk about your
shit. That's gross.

MALLORY

Everybody shits, Nikki.

Rosie looks down at a text from MOM. *"Working late in the city. Hope the play went well. Surprise for you tomorrow!"*
She sighs.

INT. RESTAURANT PRIVATE ROOM - LATER

Aunt Beth comes in late bringing a totally different energy
into the room. Rebecca is lowkey and calm where Aunt Beth is
high-strung and loud. Aunt Beth has her AirPods in.

AUNT BETH

No, you are NOT going to shave your head. You're under contract until the end of the year. And you need to choose a PR boyfriend by the end of the week. I sent you a list. Goodbye!

She takes her AirPods out.

AUNT BETH (CONT'D)

Sorry to miss all the fun! Where is the birthday girl?

Aunt Beth and Rebecca do an air kiss. The gamers have made swords out of paper towel rolls they found out back and Chloe's friends are playing/watching chess, silently. Chloe is making Chester dance with her to jazz music. Everyone is having fun except Lily who is sulking alone in at a table.

AUNT BETH (CONT'D)

Hi, mom!

GRAMMY

Nice of you to join us.

AUNT BETH

I thought so, too.

She hugs her dad.

GRAMPY

Well, if it isn't my favorite youngest daughter.

Aunt Beth clocks that Lily is bummin' in the corner.

AUNT BETH

(whispers to Rebecca)

I can see why Lily is upset. There's a lot of nerds here.

Aunt Beth greets Charles with a hug.

CHARLES

Those are Steph and Chloe's friends.

AUNT BETH

Right. Hey Steph!

Steph is preoccupied with the LARPing.

STEPH
(teasing her)
Who are you again?

AUNT BETH
She's adorable. Hey, Chloe. Come
give your favorite aunt a hug.

Chloe and Chester stop dancing and look at her.

CHESTER
Favorite aunt? You missed her
birth. Don't think I've forgotten.

AUNT BETH
Chester.
(side bar to Rebecca)
She still has that doll. I thought
it was just a phase.

REBECCA
Be nice.

Aunt Beth makes her way over to Lily who hugs her cautiously.

AUNT BETH
Hey, kiddo.

The lights dim. The waitress brings in the cake, a gorgeous
custom confection, with 15 candles on it.

THE PARTY
Happy Birthday to you. Happy
Birthday to you. Happy Birthday
dear Lily. Happy Birthday to you!

Charles really gives it his all. Baritone. Lily thinks about
her wish and blows the candles out without much enthusiasm.
Rebecca knows this isn't going well.

AUNT BETH
Now is the perfect time to give you
your gift!

She hands Lily an envelope with a tiny bow on it. Lily opens
it and her face lights up.

LILY
Harry Styles tickets?! OH MY GOD.
THANK YOU, AUNT BETH!

Maybe this birthday isn't so bad after all.

LILY (CONT'D)
Mom, Dad, will you go with me?

AUNT BETH
No! Don't take your parents. You're not a loser. I got you 3 so you can bring your *friends*.

The word friends seems to roll out of Aunt Beth's mouth in slow motion. Lily looks around at her party - one of the old people blowing their nose, Steph's friends beating each other with swords, Chester getting up in her face.

CHESTER
I'll go to the concert with you, Lily!

Lily takes Chester and throws him across the room and runs to the bathroom. Rebecca shoots Aunt Beth a look.

AUNT BETH
Did I say something wrong?

REBECCA
Well, you did just call my daughter a loser.

AUNT BETH
I didn't think she actually was!!
...I'll fix this.

INT. BATHROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Lily is crying in the bathroom stall. Aunt Beth enters.

AUNT BETH
I'm sorry, Lily.

LILY
Just go away.

AUNT BETH
Are you okay?

LILY
No! I'm not okay. I have no friends. I'm the weird girl who doesn't go to school and I have no friends.

AUNT BETH
Well isn't being weird cool nowadays?

(MORE)

AUNT BETH (CONT'D)

That's what it says in all the scripts I'm reading. Quirky is in?

LILY

Not in Connecticut.

(beat, through sniffles)

It's fine. It's whatever. Today is just a lot. Thanks for the tickets.

Lily exits the stall, then the bathroom without making eye contact. Aunt Beth feels bad. She catches herself in the mirror.

AUNT BETH

You are never having children.

INT. AUNT BETH'S OFFICE ON THE STUDIO LOT - NEXT DAY

Aunt Beth is on the phone with Rebecca, sitting in her entirely glass office. The placard outside her office reads SENIOR VP OF PRODUCTION.

AUNT BETH

I'm sorry! I didn't mean to upset her. This is the consequence of homeschooling your kids.

REBECCA

It's unschooling.

(Unschooling is a real thing. About 200,000 kids in the US are unschooled.)

AUNT BETH

Right. Whatever. I know you had a horrible time in school because they didn't diagnose your learning disabilities. But why make your kids suffer because of it? Don't you think you're projecting just a little?

REBECCA

You have no right to judge my decisions as a parent. It has nothing to do with school. Look at Steph and Chloe. They are so good at making friends. Lily has the choice to go to school if she wants. She just doesn't put herself out there. She's always in her own little world.

Outside Aunt Beth's office sits Rosie, on her phone, texting a mile a minute. Aunt Beth clocks it.

AUNT BETH

Well, maybe she's just not meeting the right people.

REBECCA

She's in a feminism club on Zoom.

Rosie is taking a selfie on her phone and uploads it to social media.

AUNT BETH

I said what I said.

REBECCA

I've tried to set her up on friend dates. They just... never go very well. Like with the neighbor across the street. When she got there she immediately threw up... a lot.

AUNT BETH

Ew.

REBECCA

Something about the pressure of it. Lily doesn't do well under pressure. And you know she's very blunt and says exactly what she's thinking.

AUNT BETH

Just like dad.

REBECCA (CONT'D)

Just like you.

Beat.

REBECCA (CONT'D)

Anyway, it was nice having you there even though you made my daughter cry on her birthday. Come for dinner soon?

AUNT BETH

Definitely. Carrie will set it up.

Aunt Beth's assistant CARRIE (23, could be male/female/NB, ultra professional) knocks on the window and points to Rosie, her next appointment.

AUNT BETH (CONT'D)

I gotta run. I hope Lily is okay!

REBECCA
She will be. Love you!

Call ends. Aunt Beth makes eye contact with Carrie and nods to send Rosie in.

Rosie enters. They shake hands and sit opposite one another.

ROSIE
So nice to meet you. Thanks for taking the time to see me. I'm Rosie.

AUNT BETH
Of course! Anything for the woman who keeps this studio from getting sued. Your mom's a superhero.

ROSIE
Yeah. The invisible woman.

Aunt Beth peers outside to the waiting area.

AUNT BETH
Did she not come with you?

ROSIE
Nope. Too busy working.

Aunt Beth laughs. Rosie's phone keeps lighting up with notifications.

AUNT BETH
Great job in the play last night. Was the main girl as annoying as she seems?

ROSIE
Yes.

AUNT BETH
You were a breath of fresh air. How long have you wanted to be an actor?

ROSIE
Well, I've wanted to perform since I was a kid. Performing felt like the only way to get my parents' attention. That or breaking one of my bones. And acting seemed like the less painful option. But I did see an understudy poison an actor's green juice once.

(MORE)

ROSIE (CONT'D)

Glinda the good witch was in the hospital for three weeks so... acting can be pretty dangerous.

Aunt Beth is distracted by Rosie's phone going off.

AUNT BETH

Well, it's not easy being a teenager.

Aunt Beth glances at a pile of headshots labeled PR BOYFRIEND OPTIONS on her desk. She gets a glint in her eye. An idea...

AUNT BETH (CONT'D)

Would you say that you're popular?

ROSIE

Uhh... I mean I do have a finished basement and absentee parents so... yeah. I'm pretty popular.

Aunt Beth smiles. She's thinking... this could be perfect.

ROSIE (CONT'D)

My two best friends and I get invited to everything. We basically rule the sophomore class.

Aunt Beth now has blinders on.

AUNT BETH

Okay. Let's cut the shit. You've got talent but you need more seasoning. I have a project I think you'd be perfect for.

Rosie lights up.

ROSIE

Really? Like a movie? TV series?

AUNT BETH

Uh, no. This one is much more... personal.

ROSIE

Oh, like an indie? A24? I'll do nudity but my parents need to sign off on it.

AUNT BETH

What? No. Gross. I need you... to become best friends... with my niece.

Rosie stares at her, not fully understanding.

ROSIE
What do you mean?

AUNT BETH
She's really creative, really
sweet. But she has no friends.

ROSIE
So you want me to befriend your
weird, loser niece. What do I get
out of it? I don't need money.

AUNT BETH
She's not a loser. If you agree to
become her best friend... I will
get you a role in one of the
studio's upcoming movies.

ROSIE
Oh! Is this *What Would You Do?*!
Where's John Quiñones? Where are
the cameras? I wanna get my angles
right.

AUNT BETH
This is 100% real.
(beat)
Look, this industry is cut throat.
If you won't do it, I'll find
someone who will.

Aunt Beth looks over to a pile of headshots of teens for
UNTITLED LUCA GUADAGNINO PROJECT. Rosie is thinking. This
could be a good deal but...

ROSIE
How will we know if I'm her best
friend?

Aunt Beth thinks. She is making this up as she goes along.

AUNT BETH
If she invites you to the Harry
Styles concert in August. You
definitely wouldn't go see Harry
Styles without your best friend. I
met him when I was with my best
friend and well, hah, uhh...
nevermind.

ROSIE

Okay. And how long do I have to pretend to be her friend for?

AUNT BETH

Well, most of my friendships last 6 months? A year tops?

Rosie is skeptical but she nods.

AUNT BETH (CONT'D)

As long as you get to the concert I don't really care. It can fizzle. You get busy, you get cast in a movie that films in New Zealand, develop a drug addiction, go to rehab, lose touch, blah, blah, blah. You know how it goes.

ROSIE

Damn. Brutal. Don't you think this could, like, end badly?

AUNT BETH

Why would it end badly? I do this all the time and no one ever finds out. You have no idea how deep this goes. Zendaya and Jacob Elordi. Franklin D. and Eleanor Roosevelt. Kermit and Miss Piggy - all for show.

Rosie downplays her surprise.

AUNT BETH (CONT'D)

Look, all I'm asking you to do is help my niece spread her wings, put herself out there, and make some memories. You are the opposite of shy and that's exactly what she needs. Get her invited to some parties. Maybe kiss someone. Alcohol. Just no hard drugs. That's where I draw the line... MDMA max. In exchange, I will literally make your dream a reality. And you get to go to a Harry Styles concert! Seems like a great deal to me.

Beat. Rosie thinks.

ROSIE

Fine. Deal.

They shake on it.

ROSIE (CONT'D)

If I'm gonna do this, I need to be prepared for the role. Can you send me everything you know about your niece? What's her name, again?

AUNT BETH

Lily. Right... of course. Everything I know and I know so much cause she's my niece... Carrie will email that over to you.

Rosie goes to exit.

AUNT BETH (CONT'D)

One more thing.

Rosie stops, turns to listen.

AUNT BETH (CONT'D)

If you don't get the concert invite, you will be relegated to a long career of Lifetime movies! And women don't fare very well in those!!!

Rosie nods and leaves. Aunt Beth yells to Carrie, freaking out a bit about what she has just done.

AUNT BETH (CONT'D)

Carrie, come!

Carrie runs in.

AUNT BETH (CONT'D)

You talk to Lily on the phone sometimes. I'm planning something for her and I want it to be really special. Tell me everything you know about my niece.

CARRIE

She's a Taurus. She's allergic to bees. She has Raynaud's Syndrome, which is mostly just inconvenient. She's never had a cavity. She-

AUNT BETH

Hmm less of her medical history. What are her passions? What. Does. She. Do?

CARRIE

Well, she loves reading about history, specifically the big wars. She's a miniatures artist - she actually made a miniature of my parents' front door for their anniversary. So sweet.

AUNT BETH

Wow. She sounds like a great kid.

CARRIE

You could just try talking to her. Lily calls when you're busy and I talk to her. That's the only reason I know her so well. I think she's really lonely.

AUNT BETH

That is such a great idea and in the meantime why don't you send all this over to me via email???

Carrie nods and scurries back to her desk.

EXT. ATROCITIES OF WAR EXHIBIT AT THE MUSEUM - DAY

Rosie sits in the museum lobby, looking over an email on her phone with the subject "LILY//CHARACTER BREAKDOWN". She looks over the notes. Included is a picture of Lily. She gets a notification from her mom and opens the text. It's a disappointing reply to a text Rosie sent earlier.

ROSIE: I miss you

MOM: That's sweet. I'm at the office all day

Rosie looks up at the front entrance as Lily enters and walks through the lobby, up a set of stairs. Rosie stands and follows behind her at a safe distance. She takes a pull from her vape--her phone rings.

ROSIE

Hello?

AUNT BETH

Well??? How's it going?

ROSIE

She literally just got here.

AUNT BETH

Go follow her!

ROSIE

I will once I'm off the phone! I
have to go! Goodbye.

She takes a deep breath.

ROSIE (CONT'D)

You got this, Rosie. You can make
friends with anyone. You are cool
and popular.

One more hit of the vape pen. A few vocal warm ups - she's an
aspiring actor after all.

She heads into the exhibit - a dark room with videos of the
Vietnam War being projected on the walls like that recent Van
Gogh exhibit but instead of *Starry Night*, it's gunshots,
soldiers getting hit, blood. The girls stick out, as most of
the people there are old men. Rosie walks over to Lily who is
watching intently. She lands at an awkward distance and
almost says something, then gets nervous. She moves closer.

ROSIE (CONT'D)

(her voice cracks)
Very educational.

LILY

What?

ROSIE

(clears her throat)
I just said it's very educational.

LILY

Oh. Yeah.

Lily nods, giving Rosie nothing.

Rosie's phone DINGS. It's a text from Nikki. "*bitch where are
you?? Lets hang*" Rosie replies, "*I'm at a museum*". Nikki is
shocked by this and replies "*why?is Gossip Girl filming
there?*" Rosie shakes her head and puts her phone on silent,
then back in her pocket. It's go time.

ROSIE

I'm actually here to do research
for a play I'm in.

LILY

Really? What play?

ROSIE

My theatre company is doing Anne
Frank The Musical...

(MORE)

ROSIE (CONT'D)
I'm not playing Anne, obviously.
(beat)
I'm not a Nazi either. I'm one of
the campers.

Lily continues walking. Rosie follows.

LILY
I don't think that's what they
called them. And that's World War
II.

ROSIE
What?

LILY
Anne Frank. She died in World War
II. This is the Vietnam War.

ROSIE
Oh. I thought those were, like, the
same thing.

LILY
They were about thirty years apart.

ROSIE
So, this is like Dunkirk?

LILY
No. That's also World War II.

Rosie isn't pretending. She really doesn't know.

ROSIE
Wow. The school system has really
failed me.

Lily notices Rosie's Greenwich High sweatshirt.

LILY
Greenwich High?

ROSIE
How did you know??

Lily points to the sweatshirt.

ROSIE (CONT'D)
(embarrassed)
Oh. Duh.

LILY
I live in Greenwich, too.

ROSIE

Oh! What school do you go to?

LILY

I actually don't go to school.

ROSIE

No way! Cool! I've never met one of you before. So, your parents are like your teachers?

LILY

That's homeschooling. I'm actually unschooled. It's more like I'm my own teacher. I get to choose what I learn about.

ROSIE

Ohh got it. My parents don't care what I do either.

LILY

Oh, that's not--

ROSIE

Speaking of *Dunkirk*, have you seen it?

LILY

(in a burly British
accent, quoting the
movie)

It's a war, George.

Rosie doesn't get the reference and stares blankly at her.
Now Lily is embarrassed.

LILY (CONT'D)

Yeah, I've seen it.

ROSIE

Me, too! Well, I watched the Harry Styles scenes. I'm a huge fan. What about you?

LILY

(excited)

Yeah!

(pulls back)

I enjoy his music.

A beat of awkward silence. Lily is not quite sure how to bond with someone over a common interest.

LILY (CONT'D)
I'm gonna go to the next room.

ROSIE
That's a great idea!

Rosie follows Lily into a simulation of makeshift hospital in the war. Loud booms, men screaming in agony. Lily walks around in fascination, while Rosie is terrified - hand over her mouth in shock. She jumps at the loud noises and is genuinely disturbed by the images but she tries to hide it. Lily is unphased.

ROSIE (CONT'D)
I've always wondered what it would be like to be shot at. This kid Eric brought a gun to school once because Corrine didn't want to go to Homecoming with him but he didn't know how to load it. Lucky, right??

She tries to speak over the loud noise.

LILY
What did you say?

ROSIE
Nevermind!

WTH? Rosie is usually good at this stuff. Is Lily's awkwardness contagious? They move through a quieter room with art and weapons. Rosie pulls out her phone to check her email of Lily facts. She slides it back in her pocket.

ROSIE (CONT'D)
You know what I hate? Bees.

LILY
I actually really love bees, even though I'm allergic to them.

ROSIE
(under her breath)
Of course.

The girls make their way to the end of the exhibit. Rosie is scarred.

LILY
Okay. Well. Bye.

Rosie doesn't want to miss her chance.

ROSIE

Wait! I gotta go stop by my mom's office now but do you want to hang out sometime this week?

LILY

Why?

ROSIE

Oh, um, you seem really cool.

LILY

I do?

ROSIE

Here, I'll give you my Snap.

Rosie puts her hand out.

LILY

I don't have Snapchat.

ROSIE

I'll give you my number. Vintage.

Lily takes her phone off Airplane mode and hands it to Rosie who seamlessly adds her number and takes a selfie with the perfect angle as the contact photo. She texts herself.

ROSIE (CONT'D)

I'll text you!

LILY

(confused)

Right. Okay. Bye.

Lily leaves. Rosie takes a deep breath. She looks at her phone which has been on silent. She has 14 texts from "CRAZY LADY" also known as Aunt Beth. Rosie calls her.

ROSIE

14 texts? Really?

AUNT BETH

How'd it go?

ROSIE

It went great! We exchanged numbers. I'll text her this week. But if I'm gonna do this, you need to give me space. I'm not used to being smothered. Absentee parents. Remember? You need to chill out and trust me.

AUNT BETH

Sure, of course. The happiness of my niece is in the hands of a 15 year old. Totally chill.

ROSIE

Just let me do my thing.

AUNT BETH

Okay, okay fine. But keep me tediously updated.

INT. ROSIE'S MOM'S OFFICE - LATER

Rosie sits at her mom's office waiting to see her. Rosie's mom's ASSISTANT comes out.

ASSISTANT

Hey, sweetie. Your mom is in a meeting so she's not able to make it out to say hi.

ROSIE

I was hoping she could maybe leave early since it's Saturday?

ASSISTANT

She's really busy. Huge NFL scandal just dropped.

ROSIE

Another one?

ASSISTANT

I'm afraid so. But she says the driver will take you back to Connecticut!

ROSIE

Oh. I could always stay in The City with her tonight?

ASSISTANT

She's on an early flight to Stockholm tomorrow.

ROSIE

(disappointed)

Right. Of course. No problem.

INT. ROSIE'S HOUSE - THAT AFTERNOON

Rosie walks into her large house. Silence. Her housekeeper, WHITNEY (wholesome, tiny Italian woman), startles her.

WHITNEY

Oh, you're home? I thought you wanted to stay with your mom tonight?

ROSIE

She has other obligations more important than her only child, so.

WHITNEY

Well, there is lasagna in the fridge. Your dad had me order your favorite cookies. They're in the pantry.

ROSIE

Thanks, Whitney.

Whitney gives Rosie a kiss on the head before leaving the house. Rosie goes into the kitchen, grabs the cookies and eats one as she sits alone. Nikki calls her on video chat.

NIKKI

Hey. Frankie wanted to hang so I said we could come vibe at yours. We are on our way, betch. Can you open the jacuzzi??

ROSIE

I'm not really--

Nikki hangs up. Rosie continues eating her cookie in silence.

INT. LILY'S HOUSE - THAT EVENING

Lily enters as Charles is leaving to take Chloe to her karate lesson. They say hi and bye. Steph is playing video games in the living room. Rebecca calls to her from the kitchen.

REBECCA (O.S.)

Steph! Your snack is ready!

Lily enters the kitchen.

REBECCA (CONT'D)

Hey, honey. How was the museum?

LILY

Good.

Steph comes into the kitchen with her headset still on. She looks at her lunch on the counter. A charcuterie of sliced meats and nuts.

LILY (CONT'D)

That's a lot of deli meat.

STEPH

I'm in training for the masters tournament this weekend. Need to show those incels who the GOAT is.

Steph walks into the living room, platter in hand.

REBECCA

Did you have fun?

LILY

Yeah! It was pretty disturbing. Really gruesome. I had a blast.

REBECCA

Good.

LILY

I met a girl there.

Rebecca is putting away cheese and deli meat packages.

REBECCA

(shocked and a tad concerned)

You did? There was another teenage girl at a Vietnam War exhibit?

LILY

Yeah. I know. I was surprised, but she said she was there for research for a play she is in about Anne Frank, but she had mixed up the Vietnam war with World War II, so she was confused. It was actually kinda funny.

A potential friend? A smile grows on Rebecca's face.

REBECCA

Was she nice?

LILY

Yeah! She seemed cool. She wants to hang out sometime next week.

REBECCA

She does?! Oh, honey! That's amazing! You have a playdate!

LILY

Mom! We are not five.

REBECCA

What are you going to do together?

LILY

I don't know. She said she'll text me so we'll see if she even follows through. Where do teens go to hang out?

REBECCA

I know just the place.

INT. MALL - DAYS LATER

Rosie and Lily walk around the barren mall, passing shut down stores and deserted kiosks. Flickering fluorescent lights.

ROSIE

I don't think I've been to a mall since I was like three.

LILY

Sorry. My mom suggested it.

Rosie ignores the uncool nature of this admission.

ROSIE

Oh! I assumed you wanted to go here because it's creepy. All these fluorescent lights and empty stores. Who knows what's lurking?

In one of the abandoned stores there is an all-male acapella group practicing melodies.

LILY

Had I known the only stores left were Best Buy, a GNC, and Big Bob's Magic Carpets, I probably would have suggested somewhere else.

Rosie takes her vape out and hits it.

ROSIE

It's okay. I'm in the market for a new rug.

INT. BEST BUY

The girls browse around the movie selection. Lily picks up a DVD of *I Spit on Your Grave* (1978) and shows it to Rosie.

LILY

Have you seen this? It's one of my faves.

Rosie makes a face at it, but remembers her role.

ROSIE

Uh, no. I haven't, but it looks good. We should watch it together sometime.

Rosie continues down the aisle. She spots *12 Years a Slave*.

ROSIE (CONT'D)

Oh, I need to watch this!

Lily gives her a questioning look.

ROSIE (CONT'D)

For the upcoming play I'm in.

LILY

Anne Frank The Musical?

ROSIE

Oh, no. We scrapped that because the director thought it may be too insensitive, so now we are doing his rendition of *12 Years a Slave*.

LILY

Ooh.

ROSIE

Yeah. There aren't many POCs in the Greenwich Theatre Company so I actually get to be a lead. Cause I'm one of the darker ones.

(beat)

Don't worry. We aren't doing blackface or anything like that. It's actually really woke. Do you want to see a little snippet of one of my songs?

LILY
(unsure)
Sure.

Rosie hands her DVDs to Lily and gets into character.

ROSIE
6, 7, 8...

She breaks out into full dance and song in the Best Buy.

ROSIE (CONT'D)
I am strong and black and
proud//and won't let you bring me
down! I will not be defeated//One
day I'll break these chains.

LILY
Wow. It sounds like a Fleetwood Mac
song, doesn't it?

ROSIE
What's that?

LILY
You know, Stevie Nicks?

ROSIE
I've never heard of him.

LILY
Lindsey Buckingham?

ROSIE
No idea who she is!

Lily shakes her head.

ROSIE (CONT'D)
Mr. Daniels wrote it for the
slaves. You really have to see the
full production. It all comes
together when it's the whole scha-
bang with the props and the sets.
Pyrotechnics too if he can get the
permits. There's this giant cotton
cloud I get to ride on.

LILY
I'll have to come see the show.
When is it?

ROSIE
It's in June.

LILY

Cool. Let me know when tickets go on sale.

ROSIE

Oh, you don't actually have to come, if you don't want to. I was just saying.

LILY

No, I want to. You seem really excited about it and I love supporting the local arts.

ROSIE

Yeah. Okay. Cool. I'll let you know.

Rosie reaches back for the DVDs.

ROSIE (CONT'D)

I should probably pay for these.

A BEST BUY EMPLOYEE (mid-40s, harmless) comes out of nowhere.

EMPLOYEE

You can just take them. The store is shutting down.

Large men in the background are taking pieces of the store and removing it. The girls shrug and leave.

INT. MALL FOOD COURT (WETZEL'S PRETZELS)

Lily and Rosie sit at a table in the empty food court. A large rolled up rug next to them. They eat their soft pretzels. Rosie dominates the conversation, telling a story.

ROSIE

And he was like so into me, but like I was like I don't know, but then my best friend Nikki gave him an OTPHJTC so I was like ew, bye.

LILY

What is that?

ROSIE

Over the pants handjob to completion?

LILY

Your best friend? Gave him a handjob? Did she know you had a crush on him?

ROSIE

Yeah, but she usually doesn't care about that stuff and besides, it's not like we were exclusively together. You can't call dibs on a person. And I don't even really care about boys that much anyway. They're a distraction.

LILY

I don't know. Still seems kind of messed up for her to do.

ROSIE

Yeah, it kinda was.

A beat as Rosie lets that sink it. She dips another pretzel nugget in melted cheese.

ROSIE (CONT'D)

Well, what about you? Do you have any boy drama in your life?

LILY

No. I don't know many boys besides my dad and he hates confrontation.

ROSIE

Wow. So you must have a lot of free time?

LILY

Yeah. I spend most of my time working on my art.

ROSIE

Oh, your miniatures!

LILY

(confused)

Yeah. How did you know about that?

ROSIE

Oh, um... You have such tiny hands. I figured you must love to work on tiny things.

LILY

I do!

Lily opens up a little bit.

ROSIE

That's so cool. I'd love to see some of them.

LILY

Really? I have a few photos.

Lily pulls out her phone and shows Rosie pictures of her work. Rosie is surprised.

ROSIE

Wow, these are amazing.

LILY

Thanks.

ROSIE

I've seen people make Tik Tok accounts for stuff like this and their videos get so many likes. You should make one for your stuff! You could do like some time lapse videos while you work on them.

LILY

Oh, I don't know.

ROSIE

I could help you? I have a tripod and everything. I help my friend Mallory with her stop motion expressive dance series.

LILY

Wow. Mallory sounds so... unique.

ROSIE

Well, she's an Aquarius so...
(excited about her idea)
Wait, this is actually such a good idea. People go nuts for mini things!

LILY

My art has always been private. I don't really like being perceived.

ROSIE

Yeah. Being perceived can be stressful. That's why I wanna be an actor. Then, I can be anybody but myself.

LILY

Yeah, my Aunt Beth works with a lot of actors. They can be really fake.

Rosie's phone vibrates. A video call on Snap from Nikki.

LILY (CONT'D)

You can take it. I gotta pee.

Lily gets up. Rosie answers.

NIKKI

Hey, slut. Where are you? Let's hang. Mallory is being so fucking annoying right now.

ROSIE

Uh... I can't right now.

Nikki notices Rosie's backdrop.

NIKKI

Are you at the mall?! Ew. I thought that place got condemned.

ROSIE

That was a rumor. I had to buy a rug.

NIKKI

Okay. Ditch the carpet. Come over.

ROSIE

I can't.

NIKKI

Why not?

ROSIE

I just can't, Nikki.

NIKKI

Are you with a boy? Who is it?

ROSIE

I'm not with a boy. I don't have to tell you every detail of my life.

Lily comes out of the bathroom and rejoins Rosie.

NIKKI

Who is that?

ROSIE
My friend, Lily.

NIKKI
Lily? I have never heard you talk
about a Lily before.

ROSIE
She's a new friend. I gotta go,
Nikki. I'll text you later.

She hangs up on Nikki and gives Lily a forced smile.

LILY
That was Nikki?

ROSIE
Yep.

LILY
(sarcastic)
She seems lovely.

ROSIE
She is better once you get to know
her... sometimes.

LILY
I should probably head home.

They throw out their Wetzel's Pretzels garbage and go toward
the mall exit. They pass one of those horsey rides that cost
\$0.25. Lily gasps with excitement.

LILY (CONT'D)
Let's do it.

ROSIE
Um, no. Those are for children and
probably coated in germs and like
COVID-19.

LILY
Come on. It'll be fun.

ROSIE
Who even has change now a days? I'm
pretty sure quarters have gone
extinct--

She shuts up when Lily pulls out a coin purse.

LILY
I take my coin purse everywhere
with me.

Rosie nods. Lily puts change in and gets on one of the horses. Rosie looks around to make sure no one can see them and gets on the other one. They rock back and forth next to each other. Lily is enjoying herself.

ROSIE
I can feel myself catching an STI.

LILY
That is not how STIs are
transmitted. Do they teach you
anything at school? Don't be such a
Debby Downer. It's fun. Giddy up!
Giddy up, horsey!

The horses pick up pace and Rosie can't help the smile that appears on her face. The two girls laugh together, truly enjoying each other's company. Fade out.

INT. LILY'S HOUSE - MORNING DAYS LATER

Lily is at home working on a miniature. She grabs her phone and takes a photo. She dabbles with the idea of sending it to Rosie, who would be in school. They've texted a bit since the mall but nothing crazy.

Lily puts Rosie's name in the "TO" field and adds the photo. She quickly deletes it and puts her phone down. She continues working for a moment. She mentally says "fuck it" and sends the text. It's received by...

INT. SCHOOL - SAME TIME

Kids are bouncing off the walls. A football coach/history teacher blows his whistle at them. It's pandemonium. Sarah McDonald walks around with a mic, interviewing kids for the school's talk show. Rosie is at her locker swapping out some textbooks when Nikki approaches.

NIKKI
Hey, bitch. How was history? I
skipped to go get a latte.

ROSIE
I thought you don't like the taste
of coffee?

NIKKI

It's not about how it tastes. It's about how it looks. Don't I look like a full on celebrity? Let's take a pic.

Nikki grabs Rosie's phone and takes a selfie. They both immediately put on selfie face, perfect angle, perfectly smiling with their eyes. Nikki posts it to Rosie's Snapchat as the text comes in from Lily. Rosie grabs the phone back.

NIKKI (CONT'D)

Oh! Is that your new little friend? Where did you meet this girl again?

ROSIE

A museum.

NIKKI

And then you went to hang out with her at the mall?

ROSIE

So?

NIKKI

Is this some kind of volunteer program I haven't heard about where you hang out with dorks? Are you doing it to put on your college applications?

ROSIE

She's just a cool girl I met and became friends with. It's as simple as that. Not everything has to have an angle, Nikki.

NIKKI

You should invite her to the sleepover on Saturday. I gotta meet her. A friend of yours is a friend mine.

ROSIE

I don't think that's a good idea. She's... kinda shy.

NIKKI

I'm sure we can pull her out of her shell, if she's as cool as you say.

ROSIE

Yeah... maybe.

Nikki grabs the phone and types. She hits send.

NIKKI

There. It's settled. See her
Saturday.

Rosie looks at the chat and sees that Nikki has invited Lily.

Lily replies "*I gotta ask my mom but I'd love to!*"

NIKKI (CONT'D)

She has to ask her mom?? Yeah, she
sounds real cool, Rosie.

Sarah comes over to them, shoving her mic in their faces.

SARAH MCDONALD

What are your thoughts on the
cafeteria getting rid of pork chop
day, ladies?

Nikki grabs the mic from Sarah and throws it down the hall.
Sarah chases after it. Rosie's phone rings. It's Aunt Beth.

ROSIE

It's my dad. I'll meet you in
class.

Nikki rolls her eyes and leaves. Rosie picks up the phone.

ROSIE (CONT'D)

I can't really talk. I'm at school.

AUNT BETH

That's fine. I am about to be at a
lunch meeting. Just wanted a quick
check in. How is it going?

ROSIE

It's good. She's coming to a
sleepover at my house this weekend.

AUNT BETH

Excellent. Keep me posted. I gotta
go!

(her voice trails off)

Leo! Baby! How are you?

Rosie hangs up and closes her locker.

INT. LILY'S HOUSE - SATURDAY MORNING

Lily is ecstatic about the sleepover. She's letting her guard down slowly and is excited that Rosie thought to include her. She has a meticulously packed rolling suitcase laid out on the floor. Rebecca knocks lightly on the door.

REBECCA

How's the packing going?

LILY

Great! I just hope I don't forget anything. I'm bringing 6 movies, 3 bags of popcorn - stovetop, not the cheap stuff - a few outfit changes depending on how cold Rosie's dad keeps the house, what else? Do you think I should bring the blender for smoothies ...? No, you're right, they'll probably have one.

Rebecca looks down at the suitcase.

REBECCA

An epipen? You don't have any food allergies.

LILY

But what if someone else does? I googled "what to bring to a socially responsible sleepover." Do we have a defibrillator?

REBECCA

I'll check the garage.

Rebecca's heart is WARMED by her little nerd daughter spreading her wings. Chloe comes in.

CHLOE

I found a fresh pack of carabiners!

EXT. ROSIE'S HOUSE/REBECCA'S CAR - NIGHT

Lily, in the front seat, looks at Rosie's front door.

REBECCA

Have fun tonight. Call me if you need anything.

LILY

Thanks, mom. Love you.

They hug and Lily exits. She pulls a large suitcase out of the trunk and wheels it behind her. She makes her way to the tall front doors and rings the doorbell. Rosie opens it and looks down at the large suitcase.

ROSIE

Hey Lily.

Mallory and Nikki come up behind Rosie.

MALLORY

Hi! I'm Mallory.

She says with a smile while Nikki gives Lily a stank face. Nikki clocks the luggage.

NIKKI

Are you moving in or something?

Lily is a little embarrassed as she enters with her stuff.

INT. ROSIE'S DAD'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Rosie's dad's house is very modern and minimalistically decorated. Flat screen TVs built into the walls and shit like that. The rug Rosie bought at Bob's is in the middle of the floor. Lily takes it all in.

LILY

Where are your parents, Rosie?

ROSIE

My parents are divorced. My mom lives with her boyfriend in the city.

MALLORY

He's so old.

ROSIE

This is my dad's house and he's in LA on a 6 week business trip.

The girls settle in on the couches in the living room. They're all scrolling through their phones half listening.

LILY

So, we have no adult supervision?

ROSIE

Well, my housekeeper comes every few days to clean and drop off food. She's an adult.

Mallory takes out her vape and hits it, passes it to Nikki.

LILY

But like right now? There's no adults here?

MALLORY

Technically, I'm an adult. I'm 16 and an organ donor. Also, my dad is a volunteer firefighter, so I have all the bases covered. Remember stop, drop, and roll, ladies.

NIKKI

I'm 16, too.

MALLORY

(not malicious, just matter-of-fact)

Yeah, but I'm two months older than you. Rosie is 15 but she's in our grade because her birthday is in October. Scorpio queen.

Rosie sometimes gets quiet around Nikki because of her big personality. Lily notices. Nikki is suspicious.

NIKKI

Whatever. So, Lily, what school do you go to?

LILY

Oh, I'm actually unschooled.

NIKKI

What the hell does that mean?

LILY

I don't go to school and I just get to learn whatever I want.

MALLORY

That's sick!

NIKKI

That sounds so fake. So are you like, really dumb?

Lily is getting steamrolled by this girl.

LILY

(flustered)

Oh... I... uh... maybe?

Rosie looks helpless in the corner. She can't stand up to Nikki and just needs to change the subject.

ROSIE

Why don't we go the basement?

They nod and move to walk to the basement.

LILY

Are we gonna watch a movie? Cause I brought a bunch of DVDs.

NIKKI

DVDs? Is this the 1950s?

MALLORY

DVDs? Oh no. I'm trying to stay away from hard drugs for a while. I had the craziest trip last week. I thought a tiger jumped through my window and then I blacked out and let's just say my neighbor's cat is missing...

Lily and Rosie look at each other and hold back a laugh.

NIKKI

We have cool sleepovers, Lily. We drink, smoke, talk about guys, make Tik Toks. We aren't lame.

INT. ROSIE'S BASEMENT - CONTINUOUS

The basement is SPRAWLING with a ping pong table, pool table, couches, a massive TV, and a bar. They sit on the floor with some pillows.

Nikki pulls out a flask and passes it around. The girls make faces at how awful it is (straight vodka) but they drink through the pain.

LILY

I'm okay. Thank you though.

Nikki takes a second swig.

NIKKI

I think we should get to know our new 'friend'.

MALLORY

Yeah! Girl talk!!

NIKKI
(to Lily)
Truth or dare.

Lily is out of her depth.

LILY
Uhhh... truth.

NIKKI
How far have you gone with a guy?

LILY
I went to Texas with my dad once.
That's like 1500 miles?

Nikki and Mallory laugh at her. Rosie laughs, uncomfortably.

NIKKI
Wait, are you serious?

LILY
What?

MALLORY
She meant like how far have you
gone in the... bedroom.

LILY
Oh... I... I, um, not very far.

NIKKI
Have you ever even kissed a guy?

Lily is uncomfortable.

NIKKI (CONT'D)
You totally haven't! You're like a
mega virgin.

MALLORY
That's so precious and wholesome!
Kids should be allowed to be kids
these days.

ROSIE
Why don't we do something else,
guys? I hate truth or dare.

MALLORY
Oh, let's try to learn that new Tik
Tok dance I showed you earlier.

NIKKI

I don't know. It seemed like it might be too complicated for some of us.

(looking at Lily)

We are trying to go viral.

MALLORY

(completely sincere)

Give her a chance, Nikki. Literally give people a chance to exceed your expectations.

NIKKI

Fine.

She rolls her eyes and pulls up the Tik Tok to show the girls. It's professional dancers doing it. It does look kind of complicated.

They get up off the floor and begin learning the steps.

MONTAGE of them practicing and learning. Lily is actually having FUN. Mallory is, too. Nikki is a drill sergeant, obvi.

Sexy hands! Point your feet! What is that?? Do better.

NIKKI (CONT'D)

Are you guys ready for a take?

They nod and get into a formation while Nikki sets the phone up. The first attempt is a bit of a mess. Rosie isn't learning the steps as fast.

NIKKI (CONT'D)

Ugh. Let's do it again.

MALLORY

Lily's actually good.

NIKKI

(defensive)

I guess she's fine.

They get back in formation. Action. Rosie misses a move.

NIKKI (CONT'D)

CUT. Rosie, you are fucking it up. You literally can't dance. How are you going to be an actress when you choke in front of the camera?

ROSIE
I'm sorry! I can just hold the
phone if you want.

LILY
(to Mallory)
I thought dancing for Tik Tok is
supposed to be fun?

MALLORY
Nikki just takes things really
seriously. Her mom is a judge.

Rosie sits behind the phone and presses record.

INT. ROSIE'S BASEMENT - LATER

The girls sit around on the couches with their blankets
getting ready for bed. Lily is brushing her teeth in the
basement bathroom. Nikki presses a button on her phone to
post the Tik Tok. Nikki sees that Lily will be back in
earshot soon.

NIKKI
You know what? Lily is really cool.
I don't know why you didn't wanna
invite her tonight.

Lily hears this, walking back in.

ROSIE
I didn't say that.

NIKKI
Yes you did. By the lockers.
Remember?

Rosie tenses up, unsure of how to save this. Mallory is
watching the Tik Tok with sound on.

MALLORY
Wait you guys! Do I kinda have a
butt now?

NIKKI
Let's go smoke this joint.

LILY
I'm pretty tired. I'm gonna go to
bed.

ROSIE
You sure?

Lily nods. The three girls leave her. She tucks herself in, a little hurt, and goes to sleep.

INT. ROSIE'S HOUSE - MORNING

Lily wakes up to all of the girls texting on their phones. Lily gets her phone to text Rebecca.

INT. ROSIE'S KITCHEN - MORNING

They enter the kitchen to find that Whitney has brought over a breakfast feast with eggs, bacon, potatoes, caviar, toast points, etc. Mallory, Nikki, and Rosie serve themselves.

LILY
My mom is here. I'm gonna head out.

NIKKI
Bye.

MALLORY
It was nice meeting you!

LILY
You, too. Rosie, tell your dad I said thanks for having me.

Lily leaves. Rosie puts her plate down and walks to the door.

ROSIE
Lily, wait.

Lily stops.

ROSIE (CONT'D)
I'm sorry about Nikki. I did want to invite you. I was just worried she would scare you off.

LILY
Why are you even friends with her?

ROSIE
She wasn't always like this. And I just... I don't know. We've been through a lot together.

LILY
Like what? Her hooking up with people you like?

ROSIE
It's complicated. You wouldn't
understand since you don't have
friends.

Lily is taken aback.

ROSIE (CONT'D)
I didn't mean it like --

LILY
You're right. I definitely don't
understand. Have a fun week at
school.

Lily exits. Rosie closes the door.

Shit. Rosie gets a text from Aunt Beth. *"Sending you the scenes for a big audition coming up. Learn the lines and plan to come into the office on Thursday to prep with me."*

Rosie replies excitedly. *"I'll be there!!!"*

Aunt Beth sends another text. *"Great. And what's the latest with Lily?"* Rosie responds *"Working on it!!!!"*

INT. REBECCA'S CAR - SAME TIME

Rebecca pulls away from the house.

REBECCA
Did you have fun?

Just then, Lily gets a text from Rosie. It's a picture of Nikki and Mallory sitting at the kitchen counter. *"First she steals my crush, then she steals my seat???"*

Lily giggles. She thinks.

LILY
Yeah, I did actually.

INT. AUNT BETH'S OFFICE - DAY

Rosie sits on the couch and Aunt Beth sits in an adjacent chair. They're talking intensely.

ROSIE
Do you think what we are doing is
wrong?

AUNT BETH

How could it be wrong if it's for
the greater good?

ROSIE

I don't know. It just feels...
immoral.

Aunt Beth breaks character.

AUNT BETH

You really need to hit that line,
Rosie. Remember this character is
bold, self assured, she's not
afraid to speak up, and she's also
extremely single-minded.

They're running lines from the script, not talking about what
they're doing to Lily. It's some Marvel movie about an amulet
that could end the world or something.

AUNT BETH (CONT'D)

Break time. I need a Lily update.

ROSIE

It's good! I think? She's coming to
a party with me on Friday.

AUNT BETH

Oh! Will there be teen drinking?

ROSIE

Yeah. It's like a cool party. Don't
worry.

Carrie peeks her head in, unaware of the chaos that's about
to ensue.

CARRIE

Reception just called - Lily is
here to see you. I told them to
send her right up!

AUNT BETH

WHAT? Why?! That wasn't on my
calendar.

CARRIE

She was at The Whitney and decided
to stop by.

AUNT BETH

Shit! Fuck! Rosie, quick, you need
to hide.

ROSIE
Where? All of the walls in here are glass?!

CARRIE
You can fill me in later, boss.

They look under the desk but it's not concealed at all. Aunt Beth sees Lily turning the corner. PANIC.

AUNT BETH
Quick! In here!

Aunt Beth shoves Rosie in a tiny closet filled with boxes and other crap just in the nick of time.

LILY
Hi, Aunt Beth!

Lily comes in for a hug. Aunt Beth spins around, short of breath.

AUNT BETH
Hi, sweetheart! So nice to see you!
What a surprise.

LILY
I was in the neighborhood.

AUNT BETH
How is everything? Sit, sit.

They both sit down.

LILY
So good actually. The Whitney has a new floor on gore art of the 1970s. One of the artists used blood for paint.

AUNT BETH
Hah. So cool!

LILY
And. I... have a friend!

Lily's face lights up.

AUNT BETH
Oh??

LILY

Her name is Rosie and she's also
15. We met at the Atrocities of War
Exhibit a few weeks ago.

AUNT BETH

(still flustered)

That's so great! I love atrocities
of war! Well... you know,
exhibits... about them. I'll have
to check it out. So tell me about
Rosie, was it?

LILY

I slept over her house last
weekend. My first sleepover. She's
so nice. She's helping me make a
Tik Tok for my art. She's also
super popular. I can't believe she
wants to be my friend.

Lily is excited but clearly also cautious.

CUT TO:

Rosie smushed up against jackets and a yoga ball. She's
really touched, a tad guilty, too.

CUT BACK:

AUNT BETH

I can believe it!

Lily notices the vape on the table next to the couch. She
doesn't realize it's Rosie's. She thinks it's very odd.

LILY

I didn't know you vape?

Aunt Beth is spooked and acts quick to cover it up.

AUNT BETH

Yes! I love vaping.

Aunt Beth grabs it and sucks out of the wrong end.

LILY

I think it's the other way.

AUNT BETH

Right! Of course.

She takes a massive rip from the vape and coughs intensely.

AUNT BETH (CONT'D)
I love this stuff. Don't tell your
mom.

She pounds on her chest to get the coughs out.

AUNT BETH (CONT'D)
Banana cream pie. Yum.

LILY
So funny. That's the same flavor
Rosie has! I think she only vapes
because all of her friends do.

CUT TO:

Rosie is impressed by this astute observation.

CUT BACK:

LILY (CONT'D)
She wants to be an actress. You
should come see her play next
month. It's a staged production of
Twelve Years A Slave.

AUNT BETH
(nervously)
Interesting.

LILY
And it's a musical.

AUNT BETH
Edgy.

LILY
Sounds a little problematic to me
but I'm not going to judge before
seeing it. Rosie seems really
excited. And I've never seen her
act but I'm sure she's really
amazing. She has a captivating
presence.

Aunt Beth nods.

CUT TO:

Rosie is now feeling even more guilty. Suddenly, her phone
starts vibrating. Shit. It's her mom. She drops the phone.

CUT BACK:

Lily hears the clatter and the vibrations.

LILY (CONT'D)
What's that?

Aunt Beth looks to the closet and springs up to stand.

AUNT BETH
Oh... haha. My... uh... vibrator
must've fallen out of my bag!

She bangs on the closet door twice and the vibrating stops.
Lily doesn't pick up on anything strange.

AUNT BETH (CONT'D)
Sometimes I get a little tense at
work. You know how it is! Don't
have much time for fun. Ha ha.

LILY
Sure, Aunt Beth. Well, the real
reason I came by is... Rosie
invited me to this party on Friday
and I have no idea what to wear.
I've never been to a party with
people my own age.

Aunt Beth is touched.

AUNT BETH
And you need your cool and
fashionable aunt to help you?

LILY
Yeah... and I was hoping I could
borrow your credit card? You said
to always come to you for this
stuff.

AUNT BETH
Of course you can.
(she remembers Rosie is
still in the closet,
quick get Lily out)
Actually, Carrie was just saying
how she was going to go down to
Bergdorf's for a new bag, didn't
you Carrie?

Carrie is at her desk, through the glass, she's eating a
croissant and mid-bite...

CARRIE

Yes! I was. I was just saying that moments before you got here. And you were saying how you wanted to pay for it since I've been working so hard.

AUNT BETH

Ha. I did say that. I'm just so generous! Why don't you and Carrie go over there and pick out whatever you want?

LILY

You're coming, too, right?

Aunt Beth can see how much she really wants her to come.

AUNT BETH

You know what? Sure. Carrie, clear my afternoon. I'm just going to send one email and I'll be right over.

LILY

We can wait!

Rosie is still in the closet...

AUNT BETH

It's going to take me a minute so you go get started! I'll be right there.

LILY

Right.

Lily looks to the closet (the vibrator). Nods knowingly.

LILY (CONT'D)

Take all the time you need, Aunt Beth.

Aunt Beth realizes what she's insinuating.

AUNT BETH

It's really an email!

LILY

Sure, sure. See you there!

Lily and Carrie head down the hall.

AUNT BETH
(yelling)
I'm not tense!!! I'm actually VERY
relaxed!

Veins in her neck popping out. When the coast is clear, Aunt Beth releases Rosie from the closet - cheeks red. But Aunt Beth is all business.

AUNT BETH (CONT'D)
You are pulling yourself out of 12
Years a Slave. The footage of that
could haunt you for decades. Maybe
even centuries.

ROSIE
Yeah, there's been a lot of push
back from parents. So he is
changing it to Sound of Music. I
guess since it's only a few Nazis,
they said it's fine.

AUNT BETH
Great. And keep working on the
lines for this audition.

ROSIE
I thought you had clout?

AUNT BETH
You still have to convince the
producers! And the head of the
studio.

Rosie nods and heads to leave.

AUNT BETH (CONT'D)
Wait! Don't forget your cancer
stick.

ROSIE
Thanks.

Rosie takes it from Aunt Beth and throws it in the garbage.
Rosie exits.

AUNT BETH
Great work today! Sorry about the
closet!

Aunt Beth grabs her coat and bag and starts walking.

INT. STUDIO OFFICE HALLWAY, ELEVATOR - CONTINUOUS

Aunt Beth texts Carrie *"THAT WAS CLOSE. I'll explain later. Rosie befriending Lily as part of my plan - it's complicated"* She then sends "!!!!!!!!!!!!" Then she realizes the text sent to LILY!!!! She gets into the elevator.

AUNT BETH
SHIT! SHIT! FUCK!

The other people on the elevator give her a strange look.

AUNT BETH (CONT'D)
I just sent something to... Liam
Hemsworth that was meant for Chris.

The other execs in the elevator nod on with understanding.
Aunt Beth dials Carrie's number as she gets off the elevator.

INT. BERGDORF'S WOMEN'S SECTION

Carrie answers her phone on the first ring like a good assistant. Her and Lily are browsing the clothes.

CARRIE
Hello?

AUNT BETH
CARRIE! I just sent Lily a text
that was meant for you. I need you
to delete it before she sees it or
else I'm fucking dead.

CARRIE
You got it, boss.

Carrie turns to Lily, cool as a cucumber.

CARRIE (CONT'D)
Lily! Give me your phone. I'll take
pictures for Beth until she gets
here.

LILY
Yeah! Oh, wait. Aunt Beth texted
me.

Carrie panics and throws a dress at her, covering her head.

CARRIE
No! Here! Try this one on.

She snatches the phone from Lily's hand before she can look. Lily takes the dress off her head and holds it up. A skimpy club dress with cut outs all over. Carrie is focused, not looking up from the phone, and deletes the text.

CARRIE (CONT'D)
Beth just sent a bunch of
exclamation points. Must be a butt
text.

Carrie looks up. Lily holds up the dress Carrie threw at her.

LILY
Seems a bit much for a high school
party?

CARRIE
Huh? Oh yeah. That's awful. Why
would you even pick that one?
You're not going to the strip club.
Or are you? I don't know what kids
are up to these days. Sex
positivity and all that.

Lily looks confused just as Aunt Beth rushes in. Carrie gives her a wink to say "All good." She lets out a sigh of relief and then looks at the dress Lily is holding.

AUNT BETH
Geeze, Lily! Is this party at a
strip club? Your mom would kill me.

Aunt Beth grabs the dress and puts it back on the rack where it came from.

INT. BERGDORF'S DRESSING ROOM AREA - LATER

Carrie is on her phone tapping away at emails. Aunt Beth is ignoring calls for once.

AUNT BETH
Ready when you are, Lily.

Shopping montage! Music plays over as Lily comes out in a series of outfits that are dressy, wacky, fun, streetwear, etc. Carrie and Aunt Beth hold up YAY or NAY paddles that they somehow magically have. Carrie is always prepared. Everyone is having FUN. More outfits that aren't quite right.

AUNT BETH (CONT'D)
Why do you have these?

CARRIE

We use these when my roommates
Airplay their Hinge to our tv.

AUNT BETH

Dating sounds fun...

CARRIE

Yeah. It's hell.

Lily steps out in a cropped PRADA button down and a cool pair of black jeans, complete with amazing bright blue shoes. The outfit is totally her. Two "YAYS" are held up on the paddles. Lily is so happy with her reflection in the mirror.

INT. BERGDORF'S CHECKOUT

Aunt Beth is paying for Lily's new outfit and Carrie's YSL bag as Carrie comes up and throws some shoes in, too. Aunt Beth gives a side smile like "you cheeky b*tch."

LILY

Aunt Beth, do you have time to make
one more stop?

EXT. SUBWAY ENTRANCE

Carrie and Aunt Beth walk Lily to the subway to get to Grand Central. Lily shows off her freshly PIERCED EARS, proudly. They hug.

LILY

Thank you so much, Aunt Beth. I
can't wait for Friday.

AUNT BETH

You'll look amazing. Send pictures!
Have fun at the party with all your
new friends!

Lily goes down into the subway. Carrie looks to Aunt Beth.

CARRIE

So do you want to tell me what the
hell is going on?

AUNT BETH

Walk with me.

CUT TO:

EXT. NYC SIDEWALK - LATER

Aunt Beth has finished explaining her plan.

CARRIE

I know you mean well, boss, but don't you think this is a little risky? If Lily finds out she will be crushed.

AUNT BETH

She's not going to find out.

CARRIE

She almost found out like three times... today.

AUNT BETH

We'll be more careful!

Carrie gives Aunt Beth a judging look.

AUNT BETH (CONT'D)

Don't look at me like that. I just bought you a very expensive purse.

CARRIE

Not everything is a business deal, Beth. It's not a transaction.

AUNT BETH

In my world, it is. In our world.

CARRIE

Okay but, Lily is a sweet girl.

AUNT BETH

And you saw how happy she was to finally have a friend. Sometimes the end does justify the means. Now go home and take the night off.

CARRIE

Huh?

AUNT BETH

I think hanging out with teens is making me soft. Enjoy it.

CARRIE

See you tomorrow!

INT. REBECCA AND CHARLES' ROOM - THURSDAY NIGHT

Rebecca and Charles lay next to each other in bed, sat up.

CHARLES

Fashion show! Fashion show! Let's
see.

Rebecca takes out her phone and texts Aunt Beth. *"Thank you for taking Lily shopping today! And to get her ears pierced. Come for dinner at ours tomorrow so you can distract me from worrying about my grown up teenager being at a party?"*

A bubble with three dots from Aunt Beth appears, then disappears. Rebecca sends another text. *"Not taking no for an answer."*

Lily turns the corner into their room. She looks very grown up and very happy. Rebecca smiles from ear to ear.

CHARLES (CONT'D)

Whoa! You look totally cool and
your ears look great. So shiny!

LILY

Thanks, dad.

REBECCA

Excited for tomorrow?

LILY

Yes! And it was so fun hanging with
Aunt Beth today.

Aunt Beth replies. *"Fine. But I can't stay too long! Early spin class on Saturday."* Rebecca rolls her eyes lovingly.
Back to Lily.

REBECCA

You look great sweetie. Rest up!
Big day tomorrow.

Lily goes in to kiss them both on the cheek.

LILY

Thanks, mom. I love you.

CHARLES

Love you. Goodnight jitterbug!

LILY

Goodnight, dad!

Lily leaves the rooms. Rebecca shouts after her,

REBECCA

Don't forget to clean your ears!

LILY

I won't!

Charles and Rebecca turn their lights off and go in to cuddle. They hear a LOUD video game sound effect of a bomb going off.

MOM/DAD

STEPH! GO TO SLEEP.

INT. LILY'S BEDROOM - FRIDAY NIGHT

Lily is getting ready - a little anxious for her first party. She follows a tutorial for a high school party makeup on Youtube. It's a little complicated with rhinestones but she's nailing it. She practices introducing herself.

LILY

Hi! I'm Lily... Sup? I'm Lil.

She fakes laughs at an imaginary person and pretends to have a casual conversation with them, when Charles knocks and pushes the cracked door open.

CHARLES

Nervous for your first high school party?

LILY

A little.

CHARLES

Just be the awesome person you always are. You'll have the best time.

Lily nods and looks at herself in the mirror again, pulling at her shirt.

CHARLES (CONT'D)

You know, I had a reputation for being quite the party animal back in the day. I could cut up a rug. I can show you my signature moves?!

He starts to do some old school dance moves.

LILY

Oh, dad you don't have to! I don't want you to pull something. Again.

Charles continues dancing wildly, grinning from ear to ear.
Chloe comes in with Chester.

CHLOE
You look so pretty, Lily.

CHESTER
Yeah, if I were thirty years
younger...

LILY
Ew, Chester. Perv.

INT. PARTY HOUSE - LATER

Rosie and Lily show up to the party. It's a high school rager with socializing in every room and music blasting. Red cups, ping pong balls, cheering, more fog (?). Sarah MacDonald giving a Powerpoint about why she should've replaced Beanie Feldstein in *Funny Girl*. Theater kids listen intently.

LILY
So, whose house is this?

ROSIE
His name is Marshall. He's on the football team. But he's out for the season because he got a concussion.

LILY
Football? I think that's in the fall.

ROSIE
Oh. That explains why they were using bats at the last game I went to. Anyway, his family is totally Russian oligarchs or something. His parents are gone till tomorrow.

They move into the kitchen to get drinks. In the middle of the living room there is a glass box with a gallery-grade spotlight light on it. Inside is an intricate Faberge egg. Linger on EGG a moment while the girls pass. Chekhov's gun ;)

INT. PARTY KITCHEN - LATER

Rosie has her drink and pours one for Lily.

ROSIE
I can't believe you're actually going to drink?

LILY

I've gotta get the whole party experience! But, we have to supplement each drink with a glass of water, so I don't get hungover. Hydration is key. I researched it.

ROSIE

Yeah, I don't think fifteen year olds get hangovers? But, I support you.

They cheers their red cups. Lily takes a sip and almost gags.

LILY

Disgusting! I can feel it burning my insides. Awesome! Let's take a picture to document my first drink!

Lily takes out her phone to take a selfie. Rosie strikes her perfect selfie face.

LILY (CONT'D)

Okay, now let's do a silly one.

Lily makes an ugly face and takes the photo. Rosie still posing like it's *America's Next Top Model*.

ROSIE

No way. I can't look bad in a photo. Are you insane? Here, let's do a lap.

Rosie takes Lily's arm and they walk around the kitchen island towards the living room. A boy, FRANKIE (16, tall, lax bro) steps in front of Rosie. She rolls her eyes.

ROSIE (CONT'D)

Leave me alone, Frankie.

Lily whispers into Rosie's ear, but loud enough so Frankie can hear.

LILY

Is this the one who Nikki gave a OTP...XH4R2D2...L?

ROSIE

OTPHJTC. Yes, it is.

FRANKIE

Come on. You're seriously still mad about that?

LILY
(in his face)
You had the chance to go to Paris
and you chose Florida.

FRANKIE
What?

ROSIE
It's okay, Lil. I got this.

Rosie turns back to Frankie.

ROSIE (CONT'D)
When are you gonna get it through
your head that you blew it with me?
You are not interesting enough for
me to give you a second chance...

Lily stands behind Rosie, giving Frankie a stank face. As Rosie lets him have it, Lily notices TWO GUYS (16, baggy tee shirts, stoners, one has an eyebrow piercing, one is wearing cookie monster sweatpants) smoking. She approaches them.

LILY
Excuse me. Is that weed?

STONER 1
Yeah, girly.

She's prepared for this alone in her room countless times.

LILY
Think I could bum a hit?

STONER 1
Sure.

She takes a big inhale and immediately coughs out a cloud of smoke.

LILY
Wow. That's spicier than I thought.

STONER 2
That's the angel dust, baby.

Lily feels the effects. It's like she is in a dream. Hazy. All of the sudden, a boy, AIDEN (16, perfect features, young Josh Hartnett) walks by in SLOW MOTION. The light hitting him just right. Heavenly. Lily is struck by his symmetrical face and beautiful hair.

LILY
(to herself)
Now, that's an angel.

Lily chugs the rest of her drink and throws the empty cup over her shoulder, before following the angel. Rosie watches her in disbelief.

INT. REBECCA'S KITCHEN - SAME NIGHT

Aunt Beth and Rebecca sit drinking wine as Charles clears the table from dinner.

AUNT BETH
That was delicious, Charles.

CHARLES
Thank you. I got the recipe from
The Pioneer Woman cookbook.

AUNT BETH
Of course.

REBECCA
It's really good to have you here,
Beth. I don't think you've been
over since we redid the kitchen.

AUNT BETH
I've just been so busy with work.
The kitchen looks great!

Charles pokes his head back in.

CHARLES
Well, I'll let you two have sister
time. I'm going to go up and do my
crosswords. There's trail mix on
the counter if you want to snack.

Charles and Rebecca kiss on the mouth.

REBECCA
I love you!

CHARLES (O.S.)
I love you, too, light of my life.

AUNT BETH
I mean this with love, Rebecca, it
makes so much sense that you
married a dork.

REBECCA

I'm lucky. I found the perfect guy and together we made three perfect kids.

Beat. Aunt Beth looks at her wine.

REBECCA (CONT'D)

I've really missed you the last few years. We all have. I wasn't sure we'd ever get you back.

AUNT BETH

I know. I'm sorry. I've been a shitty sister. I just couldn't have things like family commitments and personal obligations slowing me down. Men never do. And my job is really important to me.

REBECCA

You put so much pressure on yourself.

AUNT BETH

(matter-of-factly)

I do blame Mom and Dad. They're the best but... they put so much pressure on me. I think because I was the academic one, I felt like I needed to make them proud, needed to be the best or what's the point?

REBECCA

Do you think you'll ever... you know... take a breath and settle down?

Aunt Beth shrugs.

AUNT BETH

I figure I'll have time for that once I get appointed studio head. I just need to stay focused and work my ass off until my boss retires.

REBECCA

And when will that be?

AUNT BETH

I don't know. Ten years?

REBECCA

Ten years?!

AUNT BETH

Maybe eight! I just think with my job, it's easier this way. Cleaner. I have no one waiting for me at home.

REBECCA

Having someone waiting for you at home is one of the best parts.

Steph makes a big noise from the other room. An explosion.

STEPH (O.S.)

DAMMIT, KYLE!!!

They chuckle.

REBECCA

You have us. And we'd love to see you more.

AUNT BETH

I want to be around more. I just... don't want to disappoint anyone.

REBECCA

You could never disappoint me, Bethy.

Rebecca puts her hand on Beth's hand. Tender!!!!!! Tone could not be more different from...

INT. PARTY HOUSE - LATER

The party - getting rowdy. Balls flying, music is louder, is that a teacup pig? Lily is on the couch flirting with Aiden, much more talkative than usual because of the drugs.

LILY

...so, like, I never really had friends before Rosie because I don't go to school. Not that I'm a loser, but like I'm kind of a loser and I'm like super introverted and have a hard time talking to people my age. My dad says it's cause I'm wise beyond my years.

AIDEN

Really? I would not have guessed that. You seem fine talking to me.

LILY
Well, you're not a real person!
You're an angel.

AIDEN
Thank you? My therapist would not
agree.

Lily is too high and distracted by his beauty.

LILY
You have the most chiseled jawline.
You could probably cut a block of
cheese with it.

AIDEN
Thank you. I mew.

LILY
Like a cow, cool. Can I ask you a
favor? Will you be my first kiss?

She leans in for a kiss. Aiden stops her.

AIDEN
Oh! I'm gay.

LILY
I don't care. I just think it'd be
cool to say my first kiss was with
a face cut from marble.

AIDEN
Good point.

They kiss a little. Rosie spots them from a few feet away.
Nikki is next to her.

NIKKI
Is Lily kissing... Aiden? Hahaha oh
my god. That is too good.

Nikki stops playing flip cup to get a video of them kissing.

ROSIE
Nikki, what are you doing?

NIKKI
I have to post this. The
homeschooled girl and the gay kid
making out? This is better than
when Mallory's hair got caught in
the hot tub at the ski weekend.

MALLORY

You posted that video?

NIKKI

Like you care. You got tons of followers from that.

MALLORY

Yeah, creepy guys who messaged me about buying my used bikinis.

NIKKI

You could have capitalized on that and made a fortune. A real missed opportunity. You're just not business minded like me.

ROSIE

You know what Nikki? You're a bad person. You have no loyalty. You have to make other people feel small so you can feel big.

NIKKI

You're the self-centered one who thinks you're gonna be some big actress. It's time you face the fact that you're not cut out for the lead role.

ROSIE

I actually have an audition for a really big part coming up and I'm working directly with someone at a huge movie studio.

She looks over to make sure Lily didn't hear that.

NIKKI

You think you're gonna get that? You can't even book the role of "daughter" in your own house.

Ouch. Lily hasn't heard any of this since she's drinking and smooching on the couch.

ROSIE

Fuck you, Nikki.

Rosie goes over to Lily who is telling Aiden a super in-depth story, but drops it when Rosie joins them.

LILY

Hey, Rosie! Do you know Aiden? We just made out! He's gay though! But, like how could I pass up an opportunity to kiss those pouty lips.

ROSIE

Hey, Aiden.

Rosie clocks Lily's red eyes and hyper energy.

ROSIE (CONT'D)

You okay?

LILY

Great, actually! Oh, I forgot to tell you I smoke weed, now!

ROSIE

You do?

LILY

Yeah. I joined a smoke circle like they do in That 70s Show. I'm a total pothead. And I kissed a boy! This night is so awesome! We should get more weed from those two nice boys! I think the strain is called angel something?

Lily points out the two stoner boys across the room, both tweaked out, and Rosie realizes what has happened. Lily is rubbing her face.

LILY (CONT'D)

This stuff is great! I can't feel my hands anymore. Do I have a face? I'm a human being. Do you hear those bells?

ROSIE

Okay, Lily, don't freak out, but you smoked a laced blunt.

LILY

What? No, the blunt didn't have lace on it. I think I would have noticed. Lace doesn't burn very well since it's a fabric. Duh.

ROSIE

No, laced as in PCP. Angel dust is just a street term for PCP.

LILY

I smoked PCP. That's like a hard drug. That explains why I have the urge to smash my head into that wall.

ROSIE

Most likely. Didn't your research tell you not to take drugs from strangers?

LILY

It did but I just wanted to follow my heart for once, you know? SCREW what they say! I'm FREE! Nothing can stop me! Where are those effing bells?!

In that moment, a rogue football flies across the room and hits the Faberge egg. It knocks the whole thing over and a few of the little details get smashed. Record scratch. Music stops. The entire party crowds to see the damage.

MARSHALL

NO! Not the egg. ANYTHING BUT THE EGG. My mom is going to kill me.

ОНИ убьют меня. [Russian for "They will kill me."] They will kill us, all!

Lily looks at the damage. Rosie tries to pull her away.

ROSIE

Come on. Let's get you home.

LILY

No, wait! I can fix this.

MARSHALL

Who are you?

LILY

I'm your saving grace.

ROSIE

I don't know, Lily. You are violently high right now.

LILY

I got this.

Marshall is confused. She pulls out her coin purse.

ROSIE

I don't think a roll of nickels is going to fix the egg, girl.

Lily ignores her and opens the purse. She pulls out a mini tool kit, glue, and small bifocals.

LILY

I'm going to need food dye, corn starch, and a sweet treat.

Marshall looks at her, still confused by this little girl yapping orders at him.

LILY (CONT'D)

Chop, chop. We don't have much time if we want this glue to dry before your parents get home.

He runs off to the kitchen. Aiden comes over.

LILY (CONT'D)

Aiden, put the egg and its broken pieces on the table. Carefully.

Aiden nods and obeys. Mallory comes over.

MALLORY

What can I do?

LILY

Get me a shot.

MALLORY

On it!

Mallory runs out as Marshall comes back with her items. Lily puts her glasses on and opens her tool kit. She pulls out a small flashlight and hands it to Rosie.

LILY

Will you shine this on the egg for me?

Rosie nods and takes the flashlight. Someone also brings a ring light from the corner. (All teens have ring lights right?) Lily pulls out a lipstick from her bag and draws lines under her eyes like war paint.

LILY (CONT'D)

Ready for battle.

The party circles around her, as she gets to work. All are silent as she meticulously performs surgery on the egg. Nikki watches on with her arms crossed.

Lily is glueing, hyper-focused. The room still watches in awe. Marshall dabs the sweat off her head with a paper towel.

LILY (CONT'D)

Pliers.

Aiden hands her the pliers.

LILY (CONT'D)

Shot.

Mallory hands her a shot glass. She throws it back.

LILY (CONT'D)

Yodel.

Marshall holds a yodel cake in front of her. She takes a bite. She attaches the last broken piece of the egg, leans back in triumph, and lifts her glasses off proudly.

MARSHALL

You fixed it! You are the GOAT!

The crowd goes wild in celebration. Mallory starts a chant. Lily! Lily! Lily! Marshall picks her up and puts her on his shoulder as they all cheer for her. She beats on her chest. Nikki's jealousy grows.

INT. REBECCA'S KITCHEN - LATER

Aunt Beth and Rebecca are pretty buzzed at this point. A couple of bottles of wine in and Rebecca goes to open a third.

AUNT BETH

He got caught smuggling illegal peacocks and coffee mugs into the country. BOTH WHICH HE STOLE FROM SET. So then I got him cut from the movie.

They both laugh hysterically.

REBECCA

After it was filmed?

AUNT BETH

It's amazing what they can do with CGI these days.

REBECCA

I can't believe he was my celebrity crush in high school.

AUNT BETH

We live and we learn.

Rebecca refills the wine.

REBECCA

You're so busy wrangling man-babies. No wonder you have no time to date.

AUNT BETH

And I have no interest. It's not worth it. I think my relationship with dad fucked me up. He's always been reliable, loyal, present. I'll never have what Mom and Dad have.

REBECCA

I found it somehow.

AUNT BETH

If only the perfect guy fell out of the sky and into my lap... I just want someone with a good job, responsible, work-focused, my age. But I refuse to go looking for it. He has to come to me. Is that so much to ask?

REBECCA

If the perfect friend can fall out of the sky and into Lily's lap, anything is possible.

Aunt Beth, feeling drunk and emboldened, decides to reveal her plan to Rebecca.

AUNT BETH

Yes, everything is going according to my plan.

She smirks as she sips her wine.

REBECCA

What do you mean? What plan?

Aunt Beth is feeling proud with her purple teeth.

AUNT BETH

Rosie is the daughter of the head of the studio's PR agency. She's the girl whose play I was seeing the night of Lily's birthday party! And when I met with her the next day, I told Rosie I would put her in a movie if she became friends with Lily.

Rebecca is shocked, stunned, angry.

REBECCA

Are you insane, Beth? I mean I know you're insane but are you really this insane? That is wrong on so many levels. This will crush Lily. I can't let this go on.

AUNT BETH

Why? She's having fun and making memories! She's learning what it's like to be social! In a few months it'll fizzle out and she'll be a natural at making friends by then.

REBECCA

Fizzle out or crash and burn?

Aunt Beth shrugs.

REBECCA (CONT'D)

Why didn't you ask me first?

AUNT BETH

You would've said no. You hate taking risks. And so does Lily. That's why she had no friends in the first place. You never could put yourself out there, either. And now, you are so protective of her that it's holding her back.

REBECCA

I know you had good intentions but when she gets back tomorrow morning, you have to come clean. About everything.

AUNT BETH

Don't be a wet blanket, Becks.

REBECCA

I'm not being a wet blanket. I have to protect my kids. Something you would know nothing about.

AUNT BETH

You think because I don't have kids, I don't know what it's like to protect people?

REBECCA

I think you've never let yourself get close enough to anyone to find out.

This lands with Beth. Who is drunk and now a little upset.

REBECCA (CONT'D)

You can't solve everything with a contract and a signature. You just can't. That's not how it works in real life.

AUNT BETH

You're wrong.

REBECCA

I can't believe you would do this.

AUNT BETH

You just said I could never disappoint you.

REBECCA

Well, you always did love proving me wrong. Congratulations. You've done it again. You will tell Lily everything tomorrow. I'm going to bed. You can sleep in the guest room.

Rebecca gets up from the table and leaves Beth alone in the kitchen. She pours the rest of the bottle into her glass.

INT. ROSIE'S HOUSE - AFTER THE PARTY RIGHT BEFORE BED

The girls are tucking in at Rosie's house, drunk and giggly. Lily has scavenged Rosie's kitchen and eats chips.

ROSIE

That was so amazing, what you did back there.

LILY
I'm just glad I could help.

ROSIE
You missed it while you were
sucking face with GAYden (he told
us to call him that) but I totally
stood up to Nikki. It felt good to
finally confront her about being
such a bully.

LILY
You go girl! Tonight was the best
night, even if I did smoke an
illegal substance that could have
killed me.

ROSIE
An oversight. Now you know for next
time.
(beat)
We should get some sleep.

A beat and then...

LILY
Rosie?

ROSIE
Yeah?

LILY
I'm not saying this because I'm
high and anyway according to my
internet search the effects will
have worn off by now... you're my
best friend.

Rosie enjoys this moment for a second. Then, darkness hides
the guilt on Rosie's face. She turns over in bed.

LILY (CONT'D)
You don't have to say it back cause
I know you've known Mallory and
Nikki longer but --

ROSIE
(frazzled)
What? Ha ha, no. You're my best
friend, too, Lily.

LILY
I'm so glad we met. Goodnight,
bestie.

ROSIE
Goodnight, bestie.

Rosie, turned away from Lily, looks on.

INT. LILY'S HOUSE - MORNING AFTER PARTY

Rebecca is frying eggs in a pan, looking concerned. Aunt Beth stumbles out of the guest bedroom, disheveled and in the clothes from the night before, as she was not intending to sleep over.

REBECCA
I thought you had an early spin
class this morning?

AUNT BETH
Yeah. The room is spinning enough
for me right now.

She takes a seat at the counter with her head in her hands. Chloe comes in with Chester and puts him up to Beth's face.

CHESTER
Hi, Bethy.

AUNT BETH
Beat it, Chester.

Chloe leaves with Chester. Rebecca is about to chastise Beth when Lily comes in, walking on a cloud.

LILY
Hey, Aunt Beth!

Aunt Beth waves with her head still down.

REBECCA
How was the party?

LILY
It was so, so fun.

REBECCA
Really? What did you guys do?

LILY
Mostly just a lot of hanging out.
We did drink, responsibly of
course.
(beat)
Rosie is just so awesome.

REBECCA
I'm happy for you, sweetie.

LILY
It's so crazy. At my birthday, when
I blew out the candles, I wished
for a best friend. And it came
true!

Rebecca gives Aunt Beth a knowing look. WELL SHE CAN'T SAY
ANYTHING NOW! CAN SHE?

AUNT BETH
(smug, to Rebecca)
I'll have my eggs scrambled,
please.

INT. AUNT BETH'S OFFICE - THE NEXT WEEK

Aunt Beth sits at her desk. Carrie is holding up two nearly
identical movie posters for ULTIMATE EXTREME DANGER starring
Gerard Butler and Emilia Clarke and a gun.

AUNT BETH
It's so tough.

CARRIE
I know.

AUNT BETH
This poster could make or break the
opening weekend.

Her phone lights up. A text from Rosie. *"I am starting to
feel so guilty. I think we should tell Lily. I'm going to her
house for dinner on Friday and I could tell her then."*

AUNT BETH (CONT'D)
Siri, text Rosie Garcia.

SIRI
What would you like it to say?

AUNT BETH
Do not tell Lily under any
circumstances. That is final.

Carrie looks back at her disapprovingly.

SIRI
Do not tell Lily under any
circumstances. That is final. Ready
to send?

AUNT BETH
Send. Siri, text Rebecca (Sister).

SIRI
What would you like it to say?

AUNT BETH
I'll be in Connecticut on Friday
location scouting. I'll come by for
dinner? Feel bad how we left
things.

INT. LILY'S HOUSE - THE NEXT WEEKEND

Lily is in her room working on a miniature of Aunt Beth's
glass office. Rosie comes in.

ROSIE
Knock, knock. Your dad let me in.
He is so nice.

LILY
Yeah. He's a bit of a dweeb but
he's the best. How was rehearsal?

ROSIE
Good. It's fun to pretend to have a
loving family unit.

Rosie sees what Lily is working on.

ROSIE (CONT'D)
Oh, is that...

She almost slips up.

ROSIE (CONT'D)
Glass walls... I've never seen
anything like that in my life.
Never even been close to being in a
office like that. Is it even an
office? I don't know. I was just
guessing.

LILY
It's my Aunt Beth's office in The
City. I wanted to make a replica of
her home, but I've actually never
been there. She has a big fancy job
at a movie studio. Which I guess is
important? The one I was telling
you about!

ROSIE

Right. I completely forgot about her because we are strangers.

LILY

She's kinda hard to pin down but I really want you two to meet!

ROSIE

Sure! Yeah. Sounds great.

LILY

She said she would try to come to the play next week. And I actually think she'll show! It's so nice. I have seen her more these past few months than I have my whole life.

ROSIE

Hm... wonder why? Best not to overthink it I guess!

Rosie takes a deep breath, working up the courage to confess as Lily opens her desk drawer and takes out a small box.

ROSIE (CONT'D)

What's this?

LILY

I made you a little something.

Rosie opens the box. Her jaw drops when she pulls out an ornament. It is a miniature of Lily and Rosie riding the mechanical mall horses together.

ROSIE

Wow. Lily, this is amazing.

LILY

You like it?

ROSIE

I love it... We should put this on your Tik Tok. Here, give me your phone.

Lily hands her phone over. Rosie records a close up video of the ornament, adds a trending song, some hashtags, and posts it. She checks Lily's profile.

ROSIE (CONT'D)

You gained like two thousand followers overnight. That's awesome.

LILY

And a little nerve-wracking.

ROSIE

I told you people would love your stuff, Lil. You are so freaking talented.

Rosie scrolls through some of the Tik Toks they have posted. A comment from a verified account catches her eye. *"Hey! We love your work! Any interest in showing it at our miniature gallery? Rosie clicks to see it's a legit art gallery."*

ROSIE (CONT'D)

Wait, Lily, did you see this comment?

She holds up the phone to show her.

LILY

Oh, yeah. I saw that.

ROSIE

Did you respond? How cool would it be to have your stuff displayed in a real gallery in New York City?

LILY

I don't know. I'm cool with people seeing my work online, but in person? That seems ten times more daunting. What if I actually have to speak with people and like old, professional people who wear thick framed glasses and smoke cigarettes.

ROSIE

I think this could be a really cool opportunity for you and for me. I get to tell everyone my best friend has her art on display at a gallery in downtown Manhattan. It sounds so posh. Like Emily in Paris!

Lily laughs at Rosie as she gets lost in her daydream.

LILY

Fine. I'll respond, but you have to come with me.

ROSIE

Oh, absolutely. I bet you celebrities go this gallery.

(MORE)

ROSIE (CONT'D)
It's so chic. What if, like, Jon
Hamm buys one of your miniatures?
We are going places, Lily.

Out the window, Aunt Beth pulls up in her Tesla, parks, and gets out of her car. The girls don't notice.

LILY
Don't get too ahead of yourself.

ROSIE
We'll be like the next Selena and
Taylor.

LILY
Okay, now you're really getting
ahead of yourself.

ROSIE
We have to take a pic so we can
remember this moment. The beginning
of our journey and then they can
show it when they do a documentary
on us.

She holds up her phone and gets her face selfie ready.

LILY
How about a silly one?

ROSIE
Okay. Yeah. Silly.

Lily makes a crazy face, but Rosie's face stays the same. She tilts her head a little different.

LILY
No, like goofy. Like stick your
tongue out.

Rosie nods and Lily holds up the phone. Rosie peaks her tongue out, but still serving model face on her good side.

ROSIE
I could take one where I'm doing my
same face but on my bad side?

LILY
Give yourself a double chin, like
this.

Lily pulls her chin back so she has neck rolls.

ROSIE
I don't think my face is even
capable of that.

LILY
Come on. I'm not gonna post these
anywhere to embarrass you! I'm not
Nikki.

ROSIE
Okay, fine.

She makes goofy faces with Lily as she snaps pictures. They
laugh at how ridiculous they look. Lily puts on music and the
girls goof around. They haven't laughed this much ever.

REBECCA (O.S.)
Girls! Dinner!

INT. LILY'S KITCHEN - DINNER

Rosie and Lily enter the dining room. Aunt Beth is there.
Rosie's eyes grow wide seeing her but she tries to act cool.

LILY
Aunt Beth! What are you doing here?

AUNT BETH
Well, I was nearby for work so I
thought I'd come see my favorite
nieces.

LILY
This is my friend, Rosie. The
actress!

AUNT BETH
Nice to meet you, Rosie. I've heard
so much about you, already. I feel
like I know you.

They shake hands and everyone sits down. People start serving
themselves food. Rosie looks around at Lily's family. She's
never experienced this before. Steph plays on her DS.

REBECCA
Steph, you can play after dinner.

STEPH
I can't let my fingers cramp up,
Mom.

CHARLES

So Rosie! You're doing a play?
That's so cool! Your parents must
be so proud of you.

ROSIE

Um, yeah. I guess. They both want
me to be successful and make a lot
of money. They're workaholics. They
don't do something unless there is
a profit to be made.

CHARLES

Sounds like Beth!

Charles winks. Rebecca looks at her husband, then at Rosie,
then at Lily, uncomfortable with the knowledge she hides.
Rosie can sense that Rebecca may know something.

REBECCA

Yes! Cut from the same cloth.

LILY

Aunt Beth, you're going to try to
come to Rosie's play next week,
right?

AUNT BETH

Absolutely! I will try.

CHARLES

(sings)

The hills are alive!

(then)

Who do you play, again?

CHLOE

She's Brigitta, Dad. Lily's told us
like ten times already.

CHARLES

Right. The one that's always
reading. Lily had us watch it our
last movie night, in preparation.

STEPH

I liked the part when it was over.

She says deadpan, not looking up from her game.

LILY

She's joking. I saw her crying when
Maria married the captain.

STEPH

I told you, it was sugar from a
Sour Patch Kid in my eye!

LILY/CHLOE

Sure./Right.

CHARLES

So, Beth, do you have any advice
for an aspiring young star?

AUNT BETH

Uh, sure.

(deadly serious)

My advice would be to do whatever
it takes to get the role. No matter
what it is you have to do to get
it.

Aunt Beth glares at Rosie. Tension. Charles steps in.

CHARLES

Nothing like a little good old
fashioned determination! Yes queen!

INT. LILY'S TV ROOM - AFTER DINNER

Lily is setting up a movie for the girls to watch. Rosie
holds the popcorn.

LILY

Sorry about my family. They can be
a bit much.

ROSIE

No, I like it. I think it's nice
that you eat dinner together and
have movie nights.

LILY

Yeah, my dad is big on bonding
time.

ROSIE

I wish I had that. My mom doesn't
even care that I exist.

LILY

That must be really hard.

ROSIE

All my friends think it's so great that I'm always home alone and I can do whatever I want, but it's not. I used to leave weed and vapes out at home just so she might ground me or something. So I would know she actually gives a shit.

LILY

Your parents are missing out. They don't even know they have the coolest daughter.

Rosie rolls her eyes like "no way."

LILY (CONT'D)

It's true! Steph even said how cool you were tonight and she is like super hard to impress.

Lily goes back to setting up the movie.

ROSIE

Mallory and Nikki hate talking about things like this. It's all surface level stuff that doesn't matter.

LILY

That's what best friends are for.

Rosie sees a notification pop up on Lily's phone.

ROSIE

Nikki just texted you?

LILY

Ugh. Yeah. She's been texting me all week. She wanted me to go over her house tonight. She was having people over, I guess. I thought she would have texted you.

ROSIE

She didn't.

LILY

Well, I told her no because we are hanging out.

ROSIE

Would you have gone if we weren't? Cause you could have.

(MORE)

ROSIE (CONT'D)
(lying to seem tough)
I wouldn't care.

LILY
No way. I know you're close with
her but I just don't get good
vibes, like she always has a
motive. I'm sure she just invited
me to get back at you.

As Lily sits down, Rosie gets a call from "Crazy Lady" on her phone. Seeing the name light up on her screen, she bolts up and rushes for the bathroom.

ROSIE
I'm gonna go pee, real quick.

Lily clicks around with the 12 different remotes to set up the movie.

INT. BATHROOM - CONTINUOUS

Rosie closes bathroom the door behind her and whispers.

ROSIE
What is it?! I'm busy.

AUNT BETH
You got a callback for the Marvel
movie. Congrats. It's the 21st at
noon, okay?

Rosie bites her cheek. She feels guilty.

ROSIE
I don't know. I feel really dirty
about this whole thing.

AUNT BETH
Welcome to show business. You can't
quit now. We are almost at the
finish line!

ROSIE
Yeah, but Lily--I didn't plan on it--
-but she actually is my friend,
now, and if she ever found out--

AUNT BETH
She's not going to.

ROSIE
I think her mom is on to me.

AUNT BETH

Oh, yeah, about that... she knows.

ROSIE

She knows?! Well, great. She probably thinks I'm such a cold-hearted bitch. I have to tell Lily before she does.

AUNT BETH

No, don't do that. That's the dumbest thing you could do. Rebecca's not going to tell her. She sees how your friendship is blossoming. She won't ruin that for Lily. You and Becks and I are the only ones who know... And Carrie. As long as it stays that way, we are fine.

A beat as Rosie contemplates.

AUNT BETH (CONT'D)

Look, Rosie, if you really want to call off the deal, we can. I will have Carrie cancel your callback. We can drop the whole thing. But, it seems like a waste to me. You did all this work for nothing. This could be your big break.

ROSIE

I guess you have a point.

AUNT BETH

Great! You'll need a legal guardian to bring you since it is in person.

ROSIE

Okay. I'll bring my dad. He'll be back by then.

AUNT BETH

Perfect. It's new scenes. I'll have Carrie email them over to you. Run the lines a lot, okay?

ROSIE

Okay.

AUNT BETH

Don't worry, Rosie. We will all take this to the grave.

(MORE)

AUNT BETH (CONT'D)

And when you go to accept your first Oscar, you won't even think twice about it.

ROSIE

Yeah. You're right. Bye.

Rosie hangs up and flushes the toilet to cover her tracks.

INT. LILY'S TV ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Rosie returns from the bathroom.

LILY

Everything okay?

ROSIE

(paranoid)

Yes! Why wouldn't everything be okay??

LILY

Just joking! It was a long pee. You know you can tell me if you have to poop? I won't judge.

Lily teases her as she joins her on the couch.

ROSIE

Oh. Hah! Yeah.

Lily presses play on the movie. Title Card: DUNKIRK. She pauses it.

LILY

Rosie? There's something I've been meaning to ask you.

Rosie grows nervous. For a second, she thinks maybe the jig is up.

ROSIE

What's up?

LILY

I... have these tickets to Harry Styles in August that my Aunt Beth got me and I was wondering if maybe you would want to go with me? ... If you're not busy, obviously.

ROSIE

Of course. I'd love to go.

LILY
Yeah? And I was thinking of
inviting Aiden, too. We've been
texting.

ROSIE
It'll be so fun.

Lily nods, relieved and happy. She presses play. Rosie has a
moment of guilt, shakes it off.

ROSIE (CONT'D)
So, which war is this?

Lily looks at her, popcorn nearly at her mouth.

ROSIE (CONT'D)
I'm kidding!

They both laugh.

INT. GREENWICH THEATRE COMPANY - A WEEK LATER

Lily and Aiden enter the dark theatre and look for a seat
with the rest of the spectators. Lily is on the phone.

LILY
You are sure you won't be able to
make it at all? It's okay if you're
a little late.

AUNT BETH
Sorry, Lily. I'm super backed up at
work, but I'll make sure to make it
to her next play. Yeah? Promise.

LILY
Okay.

She hangs up and her and Aiden find a seat as the lights dim.

CUT TO:

INT. NAIL SALON - SAME TIME

Aunt Beth is getting her nails done with Carrie. She has a
tiny bit of guilt for missing the play.

AUNT BETH
Do you think it's bad that I --

Someone comes over to give her a massage while she gets her nails done. Nirvana. She doesn't complete her sentence.

INT. GREENWICH THEATRE COMPANY - LATER

The play has just ended, audience claps. Curtain falls. Lily is giving a standing ovation. Aiden stands up to join her.

Rosie proudly takes her bow and spots them in the audience. She waves. Sarah McDonald keeps trying to upstage her.

INT. GREENWICH THEATRE COMPANY LOBBY

Rosie meets Aiden and Lily for hugs. She brings flowers from backstage that her dad sent her. Lily hands her flowers that she brought, too.

AIDEN

Hey! You were amazing! The show was... interesting but you were seriously, so good. A standout! And I don't even like musical theater.

ROSIE

Thank you. That means the world.

Rosie and Lily hug.

LILY

I'm so sorry my Aunt Beth couldn't get here. She promised to come to the next one.

ROSIE

Oh! That's okay-

She is interrupted, and turns. Surprised to see Nikki.

NIKKIE

Wow, Rosie. That was *actually* really good.

ROSIE

I didn't know you were coming?

NIKKI

Yeah. You always talk about how seriously you take acting, so I thought I'd see for myself.

Rosie is still wary of her, as are Lily and Aiden.

ROSIE

Thank you?

NIKKI

Hey! Why don't we go out to eat?
Celebrate Rosie's spectacular
performance! My mom's treat.

The three of them look at one another, still unsure of Nikki's motive, but hesitantly agree.

INT. DINER - AFTER THE PLAY

The four teens sit in a booth eating fries and burgers and pizza. They are laughing and goofing off, except Nikki, who watches them in the corner with judging eyes. Lily clocks a PHOTO BOOTH in the back of the diner.

LILY

Hey! Let's take pictures in the
photo booth.

NIKKI

No way. The lighting in those
things is terrible. Gives you a
double chin and under eye bags. You
can't even put a filter on it.

She looks at Rosie waiting for her to agree, but she doesn't. Instead, she gets up from the booth with Aiden and Lily.

ROSIE

Fine. Then you don't have to be in
them.

Nikki watches with anger as the three of them squeeze into the photo booth. She catches Rosie's phone light up on the table. A text from CRAZY LADY. She grabs the phone.

CUT TO:

Inside the photo booth they are being wacky and fun, making the ugliest faces possible with reckless abandon.

CUT BACK:

Back at the table, Nikki is enthralled by what she sees on Rosie's phone. An evil grin perhaps?

NIKKI

I'm gonna head out you guys.

The flash continues to go off in the booth. Nikki slinks out.

EXT. DINER - LATER

Lily and Rosie say goodbye to Aiden as he gets in his mom's car. They walk down the street together, laughing at the photo booth pics on Lily's phone.

ROSIE

Oh my god. Hate to say it, but Nikki was right. The lighting is terrible. I look like an old man in these.

LILY

Don't worry. I won't post them.

ROSIE

No, you should! I don't care!

Lily posts the photos to her Snap story and types "My bestest friends!" in the corner. She shows Rosie with a smile. Rosie's smile turns to guilt.

ROSIE (CONT'D)

Lil, there's something I need to tell you.

Lily, distracted, checks a notification on her phone. It's an email. She gasps.

LILY

Oh my god! I got accepted into the miniatures exhibition.

ROSIE

Oh my GOD! That's awesome! When is it again? I'm so there.

LILY

The opening is next week.

ROSIE

I'll put it in my calendar.

She reaches to get her phone out of her jacket pocket. It's not there.

ROSIE (CONT'D)

That's weird. Did I leave my phone at the diner?

Rosie continues to turn her pockets inside out looking for her phone.

LILY
Wait, sorry. What did you want to tell me?

ROSIE
Oh, um....

But, before she gets the guts to confess, Nikki appears.

NIKKI
Probably that she's being bribed to be your friend.

They both turn around to see Nikki behind them holding Rosie's phone with the email from Aunt Beth pulled up.

LILY
What is she talking about?

She says with a chuckle, thinking Nikki is up to no good. She sees Rosie's grim face and her smile falls.

LILY (CONT'D)
Rosie? What is she talking about?

Rosie can't get the words out.

ROSIE
She-I-I...

NIKKI
(mocks Rosie)
I-I-I-What? You have stage fright now? I thought you were an actor, Rosie. I mean, you've been putting on quite a show with Lily this whole time, pretending to actually like her.

ROSIE
I do like her.

NIKKI
See for yourself. Texts with your Aunt about their big plan, meeting at the museum - all of it.

She hands Rosie's phone to Lily and she scrolls through.

NIKKI (CONT'D)
I knew you two meeting was sketch. All of the sudden you wanted to hang out with some rando instead of me? It made no sense.
(MORE)

NIKKI (CONT'D)

I really couldn't wrap my head around it because everybody wants to be friends with me.

ROSIE

Everybody is scared of you. Because you're a selfish, self-centered, social climber who will throw anyone under the bus to get what you want.

NIKKI

I'm the social climber? You're the one who is fake friends with somebody to get famous.

Lily is flushed and then turns ghostly white. She cannot believe what she's reading.

LILY

Is this true?

Rosie looks ashamed.

ROSIE

It started that way, Lily, but that's not how it is anymore. I promise.

NIKKI

How can you trust a word she says, Lily? She's a liar. Your whole friendship is a lie.

Lily starts crying, shoves the phone into Rosie's hand, and runs away. Rosie runs after her but it's no use.

ROSIE

(yelling back to Nikki)
Why did you do that? Why does it kill you to see me happy?

NIKKI

I just hate liars! You know my mom is a judge.

ROSIE

We are so done, Nikki. I don't care what you think of me anymore. Don't call. Don't text. We are not friends.

Rosie walks away. Maybe a light stomp.

NIKKI
Fine! Your loss!

INT. LILY'S HOUSE - LATER THAT NIGHT

Lily is crying on her bed. Her phone lights up with calls from Rosie but she doesn't answer, she just turns over.

INT. ROSIE'S DAD'S HOUSE - SAME NIGHT

Rosie is on her couch visibly upset. Her calls to Lily go unanswered and unreturned. She looks down at the rug they bought together and stewes in her guilt.

INT. LILY'S HOUSE - DAYS LATER

Rebecca answers the door and Aunt Beth is there.

REBECCA
Hi.

AUNT BETH
I'm so sorry, Becks.

REBECCA
I know I can't protect my kids from everything but I definitely didn't think it would be an inside job.

AUNT BETH
I know. I fucked up! Everyone else was right, okay? It was a bad idea. Can I talk to Lily?

REBECCA
You can try. She's in her room.

Aunt Beth walks upstairs.

INT. LILY'S ROOM - LATER

Lily sits on her bed, scrolling through her phone with a pillow on her lap. A knock at the door.

LILY
Who is it?

AUNT BETH
It's me.

LILY
Don't come in!

AUNT BETH
Lily, please. I just want to talk.

LILY
Well, I don't want to! Please, just go away. You've done enough damage to my psyche, already.

Aunt Beth sighs. Chloe comes out of her room with Chester on her arm. Chester gives her a comforting pat on the back.

CHESTER
Just give her some time. It'll be okay.

CHLOE
Yeah, even though you royally messed up.

AUNT BETH
Thanks, guys. Always a such a big help.

INT. ROSIE'S DAD'S HOUSE - SAME DAY

Rosie is home alone eating cereal. Her phone buzzes. She clamors for it hoping it's Lily. It's Nikki. Womp. She ignores it. The front door opens. It's her dad ANDREAS (hot, late 30s, well dressed). She runs to give him a hug.

ANDREAS
I missed you, my Rose!

ROSIE
I missed you, too, dad. So much!

Wide on their embrace.

INT. LILY'S ROOM - A WEEK LATER

Lily, a little downtrodden, gets dressed in her party clothes - the outfit that makes her feel most confident.

INT. FOYER AT LILY'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

She walks downstairs where Rebecca and Charles greet her with a smile and a hug.

CHARLES
You ready, champ?

LILY
I guess so.

REBECCA
(into the other room)
Steph, time to log off. Chloe, put
Chester in his cage. Let's go.

STEPH
You got it, mom.

CHLOE
Sorry, Chester. Time for your nap.

Chloe and Steph come into the kitchen with smiles. Weird.
Chloe hates leaving Chester and Steph hates logging off. Lily
gives them a confused look.

CHLOE (CONT'D)
Today is gonna be so great! We're
so proud of you.

STEPH
Mom said we have to be extra
supportive today since you got
totally hoodwinked by Aunt Beth.

REBECCA
Steph!

CHLOE
You weren't supposed to tell her!

CHARLES
I see you're putting that
Vocabulary of the 1500s workshop to
good work.

LILY
Let's just go and get this over
with.

INT. MINIATURES EXHIBITION LES - DAY

The sprawling warehouse is lined with incredibly detailed
works of miniature art. These artists are diverse and from
all over the country/world.

Lily and her family arrive, tiny dots among the crowd as they
look to find her submission.

INT. ROSIE'S CALLBACK MIDTOWN - DAY

Rosie is in the waiting room of her callback. There are a few other people in the room with her, one being her dad. The girl before her gets called into the room. She peeks in to see execs on one side of the room sitting at a long table.

She looks down at her phone. Her background is still a picture of her and Lily. She opens the lock screen.

INT. MINIATURES EXHIBITION LES - DAY

Back with Lily and her family, they find her piece and marvel at it. It's not revealed to us yet.

INT. ROSIE'S CALLBACK MIDTOWN - DAY

Rosie is scrolling through pictures of the last few months. She misses Lily a lot. A notification pops up at the top of her phone screen. It's a text from Lily.

*"Good luck at your audition today. *a bunch of fun emojis*"*

INT. MINIATURES EXHIBITION LES - DAY

Grammy and Grampy arrive. Hugs and kisses. Rebecca and Charles give each other a knowing glance as they stand in front of Lily's work. It's a perfect reconstruction of Madison Square Garden, all of the stadium seats filled with individual people. A mini Harry Styles on stage wearing belly bottoms. In the center of the floor seating, Rosie and Lily stand, arm in arm.

REBECCA

Lily, it's amazing.

GRAMMY

We're so proud of you, sweetie.

LILY

Thanks.

Lily, having just sent the "good luck" text, puts her phone away and looks around.

INT. ROSIE'S CALLBACK MIDTOWN - DAY

Rosie stares down at the text rereading it. The girl who went in before her comes out, looking a little defeated.

The casting assistant goes back in side as Rosie is panicking, not sure of what to do.

Is Lily so pure that she could wish Rosie well even after the betrayal? Isn't a friend like that worth more than anything in life?

ROSIE
Dad, we gotta go.

ANDREAS
Is everything okay, Rosie?

ROSIE
Yeah, we just have to get to the Lower East Side. Right now.

Just then, the casting assistant comes back out.

CASTING ASSISTANT
Rosie Garcia?

ROSIE
I'm so sorry but we have to go!!!

The casting assistant peers down the hall to see them racing out the door.

INT. YELLOW CAB - MOMENTS LATER

Rosie makes a call as her and her dad scooch into a cab.

CUT TO:

EXT. NYC SIDEWALK - SAME TIME

Aunt Beth and Carrie are walking to the miniatures exhibition.

AUNT BETH
What do you mean you left the audition?

CUT BACK:

ROSIE
I'm sorry. I couldn't do it. I just have to be there for Lily.

CUT TO:

AUNT BETH
I'll handle it. See you there.

Aunt Beth hangs up and puts up her hand to call a taxi.

AUNT BETH (CONT'D)
(to Carrie)
Fucking TEENAGERS!

They get into a cab.

INT. MINIATURES EXHIBITION LES - DAY

Lily is beaming as she watches the gallery goers stop and compliment her work. As angry as she is, Lily misses Rosie.

A woman, NANCY, (any age/any vibe) gets on the microphone to welcome the guests.

NANCY
Good afternoon, everyone, and thank you so much for joining us at The Newsome Gallery for our Manhattan Miniatures Exhibition. We have so many talented artists here today.

INT. ROSIE'S CAB - SAME TIME

Andreas pays for the cab while Rosie runs to triumphantly open a warehouse door. She finds herself in a huge, nearly empty room with one woman behind a desk toward the back.

ROSIE
Is Lily here?

WOMAN
Who is Lily?

ROSIE
Is this not the Manhattan Miniatures Exhibition?

WOMAN
This is the Supreme store.

Oops! Rosie tries next door.

INT. MINIATURES EXHIBITION LES - DAY

Rosie busts in while Nancy is speaking. No one really notices until she starts running towards the microphone. Lily sees Rosie. What the hell?

GRAMPY

(quietly to Grammy)

Is this a protest? I can't stay if there's going to be property damage.

Rosie gets to the front and grabs the mic from Nancy.

In that moment, Aunt Beth walks in with Carrie and a small group of people behind her.

ROSIE

Hi Everyone.

(she takes it all in)

Whoa. There's actually a lot more people here than I thought there would be... no offense. Anyway, my name is Rosie and that, right there, is Lily. She's my best friend. She is the best, nicest, most talented person I know. I've learned so much from her. Like, did you know that World War II and the Vietnam War are different? They were actually 30 years apart. Lily taught me that. Before I met Lily, I didn't even really know what it meant to be a friend, since all of mine were shit. I learned from her that it's better to have one quarter friend than a hundred penny friends... and that quarters are not extinct and actually very good to have on hand.

As this is happening, Lily, MORTIFIED but also touched, gets up and makes her way to the microphone.

ROSIE (CONT'D)

Lily showed me friendships are about more than just group chats or tagging people in a photo or a Snap Score. Friendship is about showing up. And that's why I'm here today to say that I think you should give Lily first prize in the competi--

Lily grabs the microphone from Rosie.

ROSIE (CONT'D)

Let me finish! I think Lily should win--

LILY

There are no prizes! This isn't a competition. It's just an exhibit.

ROSIE

Oh... uhh... okay. Well...if there were a prize. She would win. Thank you for coming to my Ted Talk.

Rosie gives the microphone back to Nancy. Lily, tears in her eyes, gives Rosie a big hug.

NANCY

Well, that was... interesting. I love how fervent our youth is!

She continues talking. Back to Lily and Rosie.

LILY

What the hell are you doing here? What about your audition?

ROSIE

I didn't want to miss this. I had to be here for you.

LILY

The exhibition is two weeks long. You could've come after?

ROSIE

Shit. I guess I had some of the specifics wrong in my head. But it's fine. Roles come and go. Friendships are forever.

Aunt Beth approaches with her group behind her.

AUNT BETH

Rosie, meet Dan S., Dan M., and Monica. They're the producers of the movie you skipped out on auditioning for.

They all shake hands.

DAN S.

We're just glad we got to see your performance here today at least.

ROSIE

Thanks. And sorry for leaving. As you can see it was really important.

MONICA

Totally. I would do anything for my besties. That's why I only have one kidney.

DAN M.

I've gotta go say hi to a friend over there. But we'll be in touch.

Dan M. walks toward his friend who waves.

CHARLES

(under his breath)

Oh my god. That's Luke Hemsworth.

Rebecca and Aunt Beth look over.

GRAMMY

Aww. Grandma Aggie would've loved this. I'm gonna go get a picture with him.

ROSIE

(to Aunt Beth)

How did you get them to come down here?

AUNT BETH

Monica owed me a favor because I got her son into Stanford.

Carrie smiles but shakes her head.

GRAMPY

(to Rosie)

That was quite a speech. I think it's great when women take control of the narrative. Lily sends me articles from her feminism club and I just think we need more women in leadership. We never would've gone to Vietnam if a woman was in power.

ROSIE

(surprised)

Oh. Thank you! Yeah, Henry Kissinger really screwed us. Lily has taught me so much, too.

Aunt Beth and Lily make eye contact. Lily smiles.

AUNT BETH
Ready to talk to me yet?

Lily nods.

AUNT BETH (CONT'D)
I'm sorry, Lily. I really didn't
think it--

LILY
(asserting herself)
Well, it's very clear that you
didn't think at all.

AUNT BETH
I wanted to do something nice for
you. I felt so bad about what
happened at your birthday. And I've
been such an absentee family
member.

LILY
I know what you were trying to do
and your heart was in the right
place, but I'm mortified my aunt
had to buy me a friend.

AUNT BETH
I can understand that. And I know
you're only 15 but this whole thing
has taught me a lot. I think... I
just realized... I've built my
entire life and personality around
shit that doesn't matter.

Lily puts her hand on Aunt Beth's shoulder lovingly.

LILY
(softening)
That must be hard to realize at
your big age.

Lily smiles.

LILY (CONT'D)
I forgive you.

AUNT BETH
You are so much like your mom. I
would've definitely held a grudge
about this for several years.
(MORE)

AUNT BETH (CONT'D)

You sure you don't want to shave
off one of my eyebrows or make me
eat dog food?

LILY

Tempting. I know you feel guilty.
Carrie told me you cried at your
desk yesterday.

AUNT BETH

Fucking glass walls.

LILY

Just promise you won't lie to me
again... and try to be around more?

AUNT BETH

It's a deal. I mean... you got it.

LILY

Oh! One more thing. You're gonna be
a guest speaker in my feminism
club. I want them all to know that
my Aunt Beth is a HBIC.

AUNT BETH

Tell me when. I'll be there.

Andreas approaches. Hot dad enters the chat.

ANDREAS

You must be Beth.

They shake hands. Chemistry??? Everyone has fun socializing
at the exhibition. Steph's and Chloe's friends even show up.

INT. CONCERT AT MSG - AUGUST

Lily, Rosie, and Aiden arrive at MSG in their Harry Styles'
merch. Looking very COOL. Aunt Beth and Andreas closely
behind them.

They get to the ticket lanes.

AUNT BETH

Why don't you guys go ahead?

ROSIE

I thought you got two more tickets?

AUNT BETH

We're going to grab some dinner and
we'll meet you in there.

LILY
That works.
(jokingly)
We wouldn't want to walk in with
two old people anyway. We are young
and cool!

Aunt Beth smiles back. The teens go to head into the concert
as Aunt Beth and Andreas start walking. Aunt Beth then feels
two arms around her waist. It's Lily going in for a big hug.
She turns around.

LILY (CONT'D)
I love you, Aunt Beth.

AUNT BETH
I love you, too, Lily.

Lily runs back to her friends.

[IF HARRY STYLES AGREES, WHICH HE PROBABLY WILL BECAUSE WHY
WOULDN'T HE, WE CAN SHOW CLIPS OF THE THREE TEENS HAVING FUN
AT THE CONCERT AND MAYBE MEETING HIM BACKSTAGE WHO KNOWS. THE
WRITERS WILL BE ON SET THAT DAY.]

BLACKOUT. TITLE.

EXT. MOVIE PREMIERE - A YEAR LATER - CREDITS SCENE

REDITS SCENE
Montage. Lights flash. Step and
repeat. It's the movie premiere.
Rosie is on the red carpet posing
in a cool dress for pictures. She
waves someone over and it's Lily,
who comes to join her. They're both
proudly having their picture taken.
They do a goofy one. Rosie is
talking to an interviewer.

ROSIE
It was a dream come true.

INTERVIEWER
And who is your date tonight?

ROSIE
This is my best friend.

REAL BLACKOUT.