

**THE LONG D**

**By**

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**Based on an idea by**

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EXT. POINT GREY SECONDARY - DUSK

The school is holding a bustling Hawaiian carnival and dance. Most of the kids mill around, enjoying the food and games. Some begin to stroll into the gymnasium where the dance is.

We focus in on three 15 yr. old boys - Clean-cut, studious MARTIN CHUDNOFSKY - virile, excited BILLY FOGELL, and relaxed, collected, DAVE HAYWORTH.

Dave is next in line for the GOOFY BOXING game, where two people wear cartoonishly large boxing gloves and go at it in an inflatable ring. Two girls aimlessly flail at each other while the boys talk.

FOGELL

You assholes! We totally could have gotten drunk!

DAVE

No way! We would have gotten caught no matter what. Martin's with me, two against one. Eat it.

MARTIN

I would have been nervous the whole time. Now I can relax. And anyways, I can't drink more of your mom's Drambuie. It's sick.

DAVE

Yeah! And it's safer to constantly expect something terrible will happen. Remember when Rob Short was drunk at the last dance? The strobe lights came on, he got dizzy, and puked everywhere.

MARTIN

That smoke machine almost makes me puke anyway.

Fogell points over Dave's shoulder.

FOGELL

(chuckling)

Hey Dave, check out who you're up against.

Dave looks to the other side of the ring to see RENA SLAWSON, a cute, prim, sanguine, and cheerful 15 yr old, standing next in line. He starts panicking.

DAVE

Oh my god! Rena! No! This is the exact shit I'm talking about! This is terrible! What should I do?

ANGLE ON: Rena, noticing that Dave is next. She immediately looks away and starts talking to her best-friend, TRISTAN FRASIER, a tall, thin girl with excess energy and a business-like demeanor, who is staring at Dave, Fogell, and Martin.

RENA

(excited)

Is he looking at me?

Tristan continue staring at the boys.

RENA

Tristan?

TRISTAN

He was but...Oh! Wait...yes. He definitely just snuck a peak. Now...he's talking with his friends. And now...he kinda looks like he's about to sneeze.

The look Dave has is in actuality is that of a kid who is about to hyperventilate.

MARTIN

Calm down, man. This is a good thing. Just...uh...flirt with her a lot.

DAVE

How am I supposed to flirt with her while I'm punching her?

FOGELL

You don't punch her, idiot. Do a lot of clinching and grabbing. I don't know. How do you usually flirt with her?

DAVE

I don't! The only things I've ever said to her are, "can I borrow a pencil," and, "thanks for letting me borrow your pencil." One of you has to go.

MARTIN

Are you crazy? She knows that you know you're next. You'll look like a jerk.

FOGELL

Dude, just look like you know what you're doing. Both of the chicks that touched my dick did it on a look. If we'd talked a lot, nothing would have happened. Looks are fucking powerful.

The REF puts the gloves in front of Dave.

ANGLE ON: The Girls

Rena is tightening her gloves.

TRISTAN

Yep. He's strapping on the gloves. Now Rena, make sure yours are tight. Nothing's worse than a loose giant boxing glove.

RENA

What should I do when I get in there? Should I actually punch him? Where?

TRISTAN

Just go at him! Dave's a nice guy, but he's not a pussy. And he's got, like, forty pounds on you.

REF

Next!

Rena climbs into the ring.

ANGLE ON: The Boys.

DAVE

Help me! What do I say? Just give me one suggestion!

FOGELL

Just ask her if you can borrow a pencil. Hahaha! Get in there you chicken shit.

(to Martin)

What a fucking chicken shit!

Dave masks his pessimism as he climbs in the ring and is led into the middle, face to face with Rena. She smiles at him. He tries to look casual.

REF

Okay, I want a clean fight. To the lady, no low blows, to the gentleman, watch for the low blows. Alright, let's do this dance.

WHAM! Rena clocks Dave in the face! He stumbles backwards and falls onto one knee.

Fogell and Martin recoil in vicarious pain as Tristan jumps with joy.

TRISTAN

Yes! Feed it to him!

MARTIN

Come on, Dave! Remember, top of the head, hardest part of the human body!

FOGELL

Get up, man! Don't embarrass yourself!

Dave picks himself up as Rena swings and hits him in the shoulder. It hurts him a little more than it should. Dave shoves away as he cowers.

TRISTAN

Rena, hit him in the junk!

FOGELL

Fuck that. Dave! Hit her in the boob!

Dave looks towards Fogell and Martin.

TRISTAN

There's your opening!

Rena swings as hard as she can. Right before she's about to hit him, her glove flies off! Rena's fist SLAMS into Dave's face!

DAVE

AHHH!!!

MARTIN

SHIT!!!

FOGELL

OH!!!

TRISTAN

BOOYAH!!!

Dave falls backwards, clutching his face as his nose starts to bleed.

RENA

Oh my god! Dave! I'm so sorry.

DAVE

Ahhh!!!

The Ref calls out to a nearby student.

REF

Claire, go call the nurse!!!

Rena kneels beside Dave and takes hold of his hand, trying to calm him as he flails. Tristan, Fogell and Martin look on, shocked.

RENA

Oh my god! Is it bad?

DAVE

It's broken!

RENA

That's impossible.

DAVE

I can't see! The bone's sticking out, I know it!

RENA

No it's not. It's going to be fine.

DAVE

I'm bleeding!

The NURSES runs towards them, awkwardly entering the inflatable rings.

RENA

It'll be okay.

The Nurse firmly grabs hold of Dave's head and checks out his nose.

NURSE

Just a nose bleed. It'll pass.  
Pinch the bridge for thirty seconds.

The Nurse gets up and leaves as Dave regains his composure. He looks to Rena, who is smiling at him.

RENA

I told you it'd be okay.

Dave gathers his confidence.

DAVE

Yeah...(whimper, sniff)...Ain't no thing.

(beat)

You really clocked me there.

Rena laughs and pinches the bridge of Dave's nose. He smiles nervously.

DAVE

(nasal)

Rena, do you want to go get a taco,  
or, like...see a movie sometime?

MUSIC UP: "OLD FASHIONED LOVE SONG" by THREE DOG NIGHT

OPENING CREDITS SEQUENCE:

- Dave and Rena eat tacos in a movie theatre parking lot. As Dave bites into his taco, it crumbles and the toppings fall into his shirt. Rena laughs as he tries to shake the food out.
- Dave, a terrible driver, shakily tries to parallel park. Rena moves in and they kiss, causing Dave's leg to jerk. The car smashes into the one in front of it.
- Tristan laughs hysterically as Rena tells her about the kiss.
- In the school library, Rena does homework while Dave reads a comic book. Dave puts down his comic and attentively listens as Rena excitedly reads him something from her text book.
- Dave and Rena make-out in Rena's room. Dave touches one of her breasts over-top her T-shirt.
- With zeal, Dave dramatically re-enacts the touching-Rena's-boob incident for Fogell and Martin.
- Dave gives Rena a mix-tape labelled, "Lovin' 80s Style" "Best of 80s Love Songs." Rena hugs Dave, puts the tape in her stereo, and then forces him to dance with her.

- Dave knocks on Rena's front door. She opens the door and then immediately starts crying, revealing her new braces, numerous large elastics stretching across her mouth. Dave grabs her and gives her a big kiss.
- Dave and Rena are in Dave's room. Rena unzips Dave's pants and starts to give him a hand job.
- Rena re-enacts the hand job incident for Tristan, laughing extremely hard as she explains the finale.
- Rena is at Dave's house for dinner, looking very uncomfortable in the conservative household. Rena drops her fork and everyone stops talking and looks at her.
- Dave is at Rena's house for Sunday brunch on a sunny summer day. The liberal household is full of joy and vitality. Dave tells a joke and Rena's DAD spits his food out he laughs so hard.
- Dave and Rena are out for her birthday with all their friends. Dave hands Rena a gift. She unwraps it and finds a clay mug with what looks like a deformed woman's face sculpted on the side. Dave hands Rena the photo of her it was supposed to resemble and everyone laughs.
- Dave is in the waiting room of a clinic. He has lots of acne. Rena comes out holding birth control pills. They leave together.
- Dave and Rena have sex for the first time.
- Dave re-enacts the first time for Martin and Fogell, making it seem awesome, like he experienced perfect bliss.
- Rena re-enacts the first time for Tristan, showing her how much it hurts and walking like a cowboy.
- Dave and Rena hold hands in class. Rena is writing with her other hand, and Dave is trying to, but he can't do it.
- It snows outside as David and Rena fill out numerous college applications together. Dave starts to kiss Rena and they are beginning to fool around, when they hear something and immediately separate. Dave's MOTHER peaks in to see how they are doing.
- Dave and Rena are in a huge auditorium filled with kids taking their SATs. Dave is clearly freaking out, whereas Rena has a focused yet serene look on her face.

- Dave and Rena dance romantically at the prom. Martin throws up in the background while Fogell makes out with a small girl beside them. Tristan wobbles through the background looking for something, clearly too drunk.

- Dave and Rena cuddle in Rena's basement, drinking Slurpees and watching TV.

EXT. POINT GREY SECONDARY - SUNNY AFTERNOON

The graduation ceremony has just ended and all the kids are walking over to the front of the school with their parents. Pictures are being snapped in every direction. A massive banner hangs over the crowd reading, "Grads of 2000 - Love the Future".

Rena, carrying a massive bouquet of flowers, rounds the corner with her MOM, DAD, and younger BROTHER walking proudly beside her.

Dave, with his MOTHER, FATHER, older brother GARY, and little sister ANNIE beside him, round the corner after Rena's family.

The grads begin to gather at the front steps of the school for the class photo.

Dave sees Fogell wandering through the crowd.

DAVE

Fogell!

FOGELL

Dave, dude, that was ridiculous.  
How many people was that?

DAVE

Two hundred and fifty-seven.  
There's no way I'm going to my  
college grad. Reading, like, five  
thousand names.

Rena can be seen coming towards them. Fogell turns away and heads towards Martin.

RENA

Hey Dave.

She gives Dave a quick peck on the cheek.

A photographer climbs up a ladder and pulls out his camera.  
All the kids start to gather into rows.

DAVE  
Did you see the yearbook? We got  
second best couple.

PHOTOGRAPHER  
ALRIGHT! EVERYBODY, STRAIGHTEN UP  
AND GET READY! ON THREE, SAY -  
"JUCKFUGGLER!"! 1, 2, 3...

GRADS  
(laughing)  
JUCKFUGGLER!

FLASH!

RENA  
Lemme guess who beat us.

Rena motions over at TWO GRADS who have their own baby.

PHOTOGRAPHER  
AND ONE MORE TIME! MAKE SURE TO  
THROW YOUR HATS HIGH UP IN THE AIR!  
1, 2, 3..."GRAD 2000!!!"

The kids hurl their grad caps into the air as the photo is  
taken - FLASH!

Rena and Dave walk away from the school's front steps holding  
hands. They walk towards their families, who are talking with  
one another.

RENA'S DAD  
Well, that's that.  
(pointing at Rena's little  
BROTHER)  
We got two years with this one and  
then we can end this twenty year  
hiatus and get back to our lives.

Rena's family chuckles, Dave's Father forces himself to crack  
a smile.

DAVE'S FATHER  
So, Rena, have you heard from the  
school yet?

RENA  
Dave! He should have told you. Yes.  
I got in.

DAVE'S FATHER  
Congratulations!

DAVE'S MOTHER

Yes. Well done Rena. Gary, Anne?

GARY

Oh, way to go Rena.

ANNE

Way to go.

RENA'S MOM

What about you Dave? Have you heard anything?

DAVE

(pretending to be excited)  
Uh...actually, I wasn't going to say anything...the letter's at home.

Dave and Rena share an excited look of love, but there is fear in Dave's eyes.

INT. DAVE'S HOUSE - AN HOUR LATER

Dave runs into his house and grabs the letter off the kitchen counter.

DAVE'S FATHER

Settle down, Dave. It's never good to get too excited.

GARY

Yeah, you probably blew it any ways.

DAVE'S MOTHER

Shut up, Gary! We don't need that kind of down-talk in this house!

Dave tears open the letter as his family pays half their attention.

DAVE

(reading)  
Please God, let me...oh no.

Dave read something bad. Very bad.

EXT. HOME TOWN HOUSE PARTY - THAT NIGHT

The entire grad class and then some are partying hard at the final party of their senior year.

Dave comes in the front door with an utter look of defeat on his face. He meekly walks through the party looking for Rena until he spots her in the center of the main living room talking with Tristan, Fogell, Martin, and a bunch of other kids. Dave walks towards her.

RENA

...and on that final question, the one on algebraic abnormalities, I had, like, no idea what to think.

MARTIN

It was a decahedron.

TRISTAN

I'm just glad I won't have to take any more of that useless crap. The only time I'll need math is at the grocery store choosing between the two cheapest 8% beers.

FOGELL

Yo! Look whose finally here.

They all turn to see Dave.

EVERYONE

Dave!

RENA

Hey baby!

Rena kisses him on the cheek.

FOGELL

Grab a beer. Ours are the MGDs on the fridge door.

RENA

(in anxious anticipation)

So?

DAVE

What?

RENA

Did you read your letter?

DAVE

Um...yeah. I...uh...

A sudden look of dread comes across Rena.

DAVE  
I...uh...we should talk somewhere  
else, because-

RENA  
You didn't get in?

Suddenly everyone looks awkward.

RENA  
Are you kidding me? You didn't get  
in?!?!

Dave can't even respond.

RENA  
You had the grades? Right? We  
studied together? You had the  
grades.

DAVE  
Except my...my biology.

RENA  
Your biology? You're doing general  
arts. You got rejected because of  
biology?

People start looking at them.

DAVE  
Maybe we should take this-

RENA  
Dave! How could you?!

Rena starts to cry.

DAVE  
I didn't mean to. I did my best.

Rena stares at Dave. Everyone is watching them.

Dave grabs Rena by the hand and tows her into the kitchen; a  
group of people are playing a drinking game. Dave hugs Rena.

DAVE  
It's going to be fine.

Rena pushes him away.

RENA

What do you mean...

(mocking voice)

..."It's going to be fine?" It's  
not going to be fine, you fucking  
didn't get in. You didn't get in.  
We aren't going to school together.  
We aren't going to be together!

Now Dave looks like he's about to cry. He notices the people  
playing drinking games staring. One of them bounces a quarter  
into a cup.

PARTYGOER

Drink!

They all drink as Dave tows Rena out of the kitchen and  
across the living room, where Tristan, Fogell, and Martin are  
clearly talking about them. They stop in mid-conversation to  
stare as Dave and Rena storm by.

EXT. HOME TOWN HOUSE PARTY - CONTINUOUS

Dave pulls Rena onto the front steps.

RENA

(crying)

Well, where did you get in? Close  
to me?

DAVE

So far, just my safety school.

RENA

Your safety school? That's on the  
opposite side of the country!!! Why  
don't you just go to school in  
India? Or on the moon?

Dave bursts into tears and hugs Rena.

DAVE

I love you. I love you. What do we  
do, Rena? What do we do?

Rena wipes Dave's tears away, he returns the favour. They  
kiss, sniffing loudly as they do.

RENA

I love you too. I do. We'll make  
it, won't we? If it's meant to be,  
we'll figure something out.

Dave looks at her with fear in his eyes.

DAVE

From what? A million miles apart?

(Dave starts crying  
profusely)

Rena, I'm sorry I'm so stupid. So  
fucking stupid. I...I shouldn't  
have doodled in class, or drank on  
the weekends. I shouldn't have  
played so many video games,  
or...or, gone on Spring vacation.  
So fucking stupid!

Dave, crying much harder than Rena, lets out a yelp.

In the background, about forty kids are watching them from  
the living room windows. Rena notices and quickly tows Dave  
onto the sidewalk and down the street. They sit together  
beneath a street lamp.

RENA

Dave, we can do this. If it was  
meant to be, it'll be.

DAVE

I wish I could say that Rena, but  
life doesn't work like that. You  
said it, we won't actually be  
together.

RENA

Dave, if I say anything like that  
again, it means I've gone  
completely crazy. I'm serious. If I  
ever give up like that again, you  
take me to an asylum, because  
that's where I'll belong.

They share a passionate kiss.

Suddenly, the GRAD COUPLE WHO HAD THE BABY come stumbling  
around a hedge, making out furiously as they try to undress  
each other.

GRAD GUY

What the hell is wrong with these  
pants?

GRAD GIRL

They're button-fly, just-

They notice Dave and Rena staring at them.

GRAD GIRL

Hey! Dave and Rena! I totally think that we should have tied for best couple.

GRAD GUY

(to his girl)

Screw that, Tina! We fucking whooped 'em!

EXT. 7-11 - NIGHT

Dave, Fogell, and Martin are hanging out in front of the 7-11. They each have a Slurpee. Depressed, Dave hurls his drink at a passing bus and watches it explode.

DAVE

Stupid fucking life blows.

Beat.

MARTIN

Man, that sucks.

FOGELL

Yeah dude, sorry.

Fogell pulls out some tin foil, opens it up, and pulls out a single cigarette that's 1/3 smoked. He awkwardly lights it, instantly inhaling too much.

DAVE

Fuck. I just don't know what to do. Well, I know what to do, keep going out with Rena, but, like, I don't know what to do, you know?

FOGELL

I do.

(to Martin)

We should buy him epic amounts of porn. He's going to need it.

MARTIN

(ignoring Fogell)

Hey man, look on the bright side, you'll still get to see us.

FOGELL

Yeah! Was Rena going to get messed up with you five times a week?

(MORE)

FOGELL (cont'd)  
Probably not. But we will. Look at Martin.

DAVE  
Why?

FOGELL  
Because, you can count on Martin.  
He's a fucking rock.

DAVE  
Yeah, I know. It's still gonna be sweet. I just never imagined it without Rena.

INT. STARBUCKS - NIGHT - CONTINUOUS

Rena and Tristan are sharing a slice of cheese cake at Starbucks.

RENA  
This could be healthy, right?

TRISTAN  
Fuck no.

Rena looks shocked.

TRISTAN  
It's fucking cheese cake, do you know how many calories are in this?

RENA  
No, I'm still talking about me and Dave.

TRISTAN  
Oh, haha. Yeah. I don't know.

RENA  
Well, like, last night I was thinking, this is a good test. If we're really meant to be, it'll work. I know it'll be really hard, but these next years are when we really grow as people, and I want to do that with him.

TRISTAN  
I see what your saying, and you could be right, but...I don't think you are.

(MORE)

TRISTAN (cont'd)

You're essentially going to be having a relationship with a telephone, which sucks. Unless it's set to vibrate.

RENA

It shouldn't be that hard if we're actually soul mates.

Tristan looks at her like she's crazy.

TRISTAN

Please, never say that again. You're souls don't "mate", your vagina and his penis do.

RENA

(joking)

Well, maybe that's where our souls live.

INT. HOMETOWN AIRPORT - MORNING

Dave, crying profusely, walks with Rena ahead of her family.

RENA

I found a phone card that gets you 400 minutes for five dollars.

DAVE

(trying to hold back tears)

That's...that's real good.  
That's...just such a great deal.

Dave starts crying harder. Rena hugs him. In the background, Rena's brother points at Dave and whispers something to his dad. They both laugh.

RENA

Just give me a minute to say goodbye to my family.

Rena leaves Dave and walks over to her family. They hug and kiss and say their good byes as Dave watches, tears streaming down his cheek.

DAVE

(whimpers to himself)

...so beautiful...

Rena walks back to Dave as her family leaves while waving goodbye.

RENA'S DAD

See you later, Dave! Good luck at school.

DAVE

Thanks...\*achem\* \*achem\*...thanks.  
I can't wait to see you guys again.

Rena's family leaves. Dave and Rena walk to the gate. Dave puts down Rena's bags. They kiss and shed a few tears together. Rena picks up her bags and walks through the gate.

Dave stands there for a moment staring, and then starts sobbing like a two year old. A SECURITY GUARD approaches him.

SECURITY GUARD.

Sir, you're either gonna have to calm down or leave. You're making people sad.

CUT TO BLACK.

TITLE CARD UP: **FIRST YEAR.**

INT. DAVE'S DORM ROOM - DUSK

Dave is at college and is unpacking all his stuff in his small dorm room. It is the size of a large closet with a mini-fridge, a single bed, and a thin desk built into the wall. Dave manages to put one poster up, when the phone rings. He quickly snatches it.

DAVE

Rena? Hello? Hello?

INTERCUT WITH:

INT. RENA AND ALEXA'S DORM ROOM - NIGHT

Rena is on her bed while her roommate, ALEXA, an anal yuppie, unpacks a giant suitcase of clothes. Alexa's side of the room is immaculately decorated and she has a huge amount of clothes.

RENA

(excited)

Hey baby.

Alexa rolls her eyes. Dave lets out a sigh of relief.

DAVE

Oh. It's so good to hear your voice.

RENA

I know. I miss you already. This is so weird.

DAVE

Yeah...

There is a sad little moment of silence.

DAVE

So...so, how is it?

RENA

It's great. My roommate's really nice. Her name's Alexa, she's from San Jose.

(whispers)

...and she's a bit of a bitch...

(normal voice)

And Tristan lives a floor above me.

DAVE

Wow. That sounds great. Except for the bitch.

RENA

What about you? Have you three finally been separated to some small degree?

DAVE

No! We're all in the same building! Martin can pour beer in my mouth from his room!

RENA

I wish I could see that.

At that moment, Fogell and Martin stumble into the room with a bottle of whisky in hand.

DAVE

I wish I could see you.

FOGELL

(to Dave)

Come on, ma! I wanna puke after I drink.

RENA

Okay, I can't take this. Your too cute and I can't-

(excited)

Oh! We should set up our web cams tonight! Then we can watch the same movie together.

DAVE

Whoa, slow down. I just got here, I don't have a web cam yet.

RENA

I thought you bought one at home.

DAVE

No...I-

FOGELL

(to Dave and Martin)

Dudes, that chick across the hall has the most massive fucking tits I've ever seen in my entire fucking life. They're, like, quintuple Ds or some shit.

RENA

Who is that?

DAVE

(into phone)

It's Fogell and Martin.

MARTIN

Does it stop at the Ds?

RENA

Oh! Tell them I say hi!

FOGELL

I swear to god, I sucked a pair of Rs once.

DAVE

I will.

(to Fogell and Martin)

Rena says hi guys.

MARTIN

Oh. Hey Rena.

Fogell shoves a shot of whisky into Dave's hand.

DAVE

So, how's the work load? Have you had any classes yet?

RENA

I've had two so far, and already I know I'm going to be buried under a fucking mountain of work. My oceanology lab is, like, three hours long. The class looks like an alien autopsy room.

MARTIN

Fogell, I don't understand; we gave him the shot, we even poured it for him.

Dave takes the hint and throws back the shot. He covers the phone as he viciously gags.

RENA

How are your classes?

Fogell shoves Martin into Dave.

DAVE

I...uh-

(covers the phone and gags)

-haven't really been to any. Apparently the first class totally doesn't matter.

RENA

Dave! Come on, this is college.

DAVE

What about your biology class?

Fogell and Martin start to wrestle, bumping into Dave time and time again.

RENA

It's great, my teacher dressed a skeleton like Austin Powers and-

Dave watches Fogell pin Martin.

FOGELL

Submit, motherfucker! Submit!!!

MARTIN

AAAHHHHH!!! Stop it, Fogell!

Dave laughs heartily, and Rena sees that his attention is being diverted from her.

DAVE

Um...what was that you said?

RENA

I said "submit motherfucker,  
submit!"

Rena's roommate Alexa shoots her a worried look.

DAVE

I'm sorry. It's like the scene in  
"Home Alone" after the parents  
disappear.

RENA

It's okay. Go have fun.

DAVE

I'll call you later tonight. Bye,  
babe.

Dave hangs up the phone.

MARTIN

Dave, Fogell almost stepped on your  
laptop!

FOGELL

Shut up, Martin. Now can we please  
go get faced?

Fogell holds out the bottle of whisky.

INT. RENA AND ALEXA'S DORM ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Rena hangs up the phone.

ALEXA

So that was Dave?

RENA

Yeah.

ALEXA

You miss him already?

RENA

(emotional)  
Yeah.

ALEXA

I know how you feel. I had a long distance boyfriend for, like, three or four weeks after summer camp once, but it was, like, way too hard...

Three distinctive, LOUD STOMPS can be heard from above.

ALEXA

...and there was this unbelievably cute Italian guy in my math class, you know? Have you ever dated an Italian guy?

RENA

No, I've been with Dave since grade nine.

ALEXA

Jesus Christ! Why don't you just join a monastery?

Alexa pretends she's hitting a gong.

ALEXA

GONG!

Alexa starts to eye the walls and ceiling with disgust.

ALEXA

Uck! How disgusting is the color of this room? It's puke green. It's like we live in a little ball of puke.

RENA

It's not that bad. It's kind of like broccoli.

Alexa eyes the room again.

ALEXA

Snot.

At that moment, Tristan bursts into the room.

TRISTAN

Did you hear that? That stomp? That was me - "knock three times on the ceiling if you want me." Get it?

RENA

Great Tony Orlando reference.

ALEXA

Who's Tony Orlando?

RENA

Oh crap. How rude. Sorry, this is Tristan, Tristan, my roommate, Alexa.

TRISTAN

Hey, nice to meet you. If you ever need any booze, my fake ID is flawless. I went to the Christian girl's dorm and made them pay me fifty bucks to buy them a keg. I'll cut you a break, though.

ALEXA

What color are your walls?

TRISTAN

Um...baby blue...with purple trim.

ALEXA

We can paint it? Oh my god, you have to show me!

TRISTAN

(hesitantly)

Okay.

Alexa drags Tristan out of the room.

ALEXA (O.S.)

Rena! Don't hang up anything!

Rena rolls her eyes, then gets comfortable on her bed and whips out a study book. She lines up four different colored hi-lighter pens and begins underlining.

DORM BUILDING - HALLWAY - LATER THAT NIGHT

MUSIC UP: ROXANNE by THE POLICE plays over a boom-box.

Dave, Fogell, Martin, along with a hundred other students, are crowded on the floor, each with a cup of booze in hand.

Every time Sting sings the word "Roxanne", the kids take a swig from their cups.

By the time the first chorus hits, Fogell and Dave are enthusiastically singing along with other students. A circle of people are playing instruments; Martin drunkenly dances in the middle.

Dave wobbles through the madness towards a keg. He passes Fogell, who is dancing with a hot girl; Fogell spills his drink all over her dress. Dave turns to see Martin being yelled at by a big guy, a broken lava lamp at his feet.

A DRUNKEN STUDENT walks up to Dave and hands him another beer.

DRUNKEN STUDENT

Dude! Is this not the best fucking time ever!

DAVE

(unbelievably drunk)

Whoever invented college is a genius!

As Sting says "Roxanne" for the millionth time, Dave takes another massive swig of beer.

INT. DAVE'S DORM ROOM - LATER THAT NIGHT

Dave, drunk off his ass and smoking a cigarette, stumbles into his room. He sees Fogell walk by with the girl he was dancing with, a huge punch stain covering the front of her blouse.

DAVE

(slurred chanting)

Four more years! Four more years!

Fogell laughs as he walks with the girl. With great effort, Dave manages to find the phone under a heap of school books and dials.

STRANGER (O.S.)

(through phone in Danish)

Sommerhilsen?

DAVE

(mega-drunk)

Rena?

STRANGER (O.S.)

Hvad? Le den opad, ven. Suge mine bolden!

DAVE

Rena, what're you talkin' about?

The STRANGER hangs up. Dave dials again.

INTERCUT WITH:

INT. RENA AND ALEXA'S DORM ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Rena has clearly fallen asleep while studying. Her phone rings and she jerks up. She answers.

DAVE

Rena? Rena? Rena?

RENA

(groggy)

Dave? What are you doing?

DAVE

(singing)

"Calling my lovely, calling my  
lovely. Cause she's far away, and  
telephones connect us to people..."

Rena looks around, getting situated.

RENA

(groggy)

Dave...whoa. I guess I fell asleep  
studying. I'll call you tomorrow,  
okay?

DAVE

Come on, baby. Let's dance  
together...

Dave begins to gyrate a bit on his bed.

DAVE

I got drunk baby. It's ca-razy.

RENA

I have class at eight thirty. It's  
three hours later here, remember?

DAVE

That's not true. No one would do  
that...let's talk...what are you  
doing?

Rena laughs.

DAVE

I love you, my sugar star bright!

Rena chuckles.

DAVE

I fucking love you!

RANDOM GUY (O.S.)

I fucking love you too, asshole!

RENA

Good night, Dave. I love you too.

She hangs up the phone and smiles, then climbs into bed.

INT. DAVE'S DORM ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Dave looks at the phone confused, and then drops it without hanging up.

As the off-the-hook single beeps loudly, Dave passes out; his cigarette stabs into his mattress, starting a small fire.

Martin stumbles by and wobbles into Dave's room, drunk as hell. Beer in hand, he looms over Dave, watches the small fire grow, and then pours his beer directly on it, sufficiently putting it out.

MARTIN

Heh.

He stumbles out of the room and walks away.

INT. STUDENT UNION CENTER - DAY

Rena, Tristan, and Alexa are in a huge room filled with different booths proselytizing different athletic, charitable, and political organizations.

The girls walk past the Queer/Gay Council booth.

QUEER GAL

Hey! Ladies! Every Thursday, cheap drinks and non-stop all girl fun at The Camel Toe! No queerness required, just hormones and a menstrual cycle!

ALEXA

Oh my god, talk about YUK.

Tristan grabs a pamphlet.

TRISTAN

Cheap drinks are never bad. And I could fully see myself wanting to party without entering a god damn meat market for once.

ALEXA

Whoa. Girls, check out that booth.

RENA

Which one?

ALEXA

Which one? That one!

Alexa points at the THE STUDENT FILM ASSOCIATION counter, run by two artsy guys.

RENA

Screw that. I don't want to sit and watch movies all day.

ALEXA

Yeah, neither do I.

Alexa grabs Tristan and they walk over to the guys as Rena surveys the room for a booth that interests her. She doesn't see one at first and is a little upset.

She looks over at Tristan and Alexa, who are already in full flirt mode with the artsy guys.

Rena sees the Advocates for Oceanic Protection (AOP). She walks over. There is a guy and a girl behind the counter.

RENA

Hi, can I ask what you guys do?

The GUY eagerly jumps in before the girl can respond.

GUY

Yeah, for sure. Uh...we, we're all about protecting the oceans, our greatest natural resource. Yeah, so, we have a focus each year, because the ocean's a pretty big place, and this year we're trying to ensure the continued survival of the Artesian Bottom Mollusk.

RENA  
And that is...?

GUY  
As far as fertilizing the sea weed  
beds of Fiji goes, it's pretty much  
the most important mollusk out  
there.

RENA  
Then the little guy deserves some  
protection, doesn't he?

They both laugh. Tristan and Alexa run up to Rena.

TRISTAN  
(laughing)  
Reens! We met two, like, artsy  
guys. They want to go out tonight.  
Apparently museums show movies.

ALEXA  
They say they have a friend they  
can bring for you.

RENA  
(sarcastic)  
Yeah, sure. Just let me tell my  
boyfriend.

The guy she was talking to overhears this and gets a dejected  
look.

TRISTAN  
Who cares? Be our wing-woman.

RENA  
No, no. It's cool. I've gotta start  
writing a Humanistic paper anyway.  
I guess one of you will just have  
to get double teamed.

ALEXA  
Ew! That's disgusting!

TRISTAN  
Not it!

INT. HALLWAY OUTSIDE RENA AND ALEXA'S DORM ROOM - NIGHT

Rena is seated outside her room with her laptop. There is a hair band around the door handle and the noises of Alexa fooling around with some guy can be heard.

Rena logs onto MSN Messenger and types: "Dave?"

INTERCUT WITH:

INT. DAVE'S DORM ROOM - DAY

Dave is on his computer searching for music files when his computer \*dings\*; he sees that Rena is on MSN messenger.

DAVE  
(typed)  
Hey baby. How was your quiz?

RENA  
(typed)  
Good. I think I got at least a B+.

DAVE  
(typed)  
That is great.

RENA  
(typed)  
Thank you.

A happy face appears at the end of Rena's sentence, an "Emoticon".

RENA  
(typed)  
Did you by any chance look over my Humanistics paper?

DAVE  
(typed)  
Sorry Rena. I will get to it tomorrow, this weekend at latest.

Rena shakes her head, disappointed.

RENA  
(typing)  
Its due tomorrow, Dave.

He begins downloading another song.

DAVE  
(typing)  
Oh crap. Haha. Sorry.

RENA  
(typing)  
It doesn't matter. Tomorrow I'm  
going on a door-to-door walk-a-thon  
with the AOP.

DAVE  
(typed)  
Great. I hope you find a cure.

RENA  
(typing)  
We're not looking for a cure. We're  
trying to save mollusks.

He begins downloading yet another song.

DAVE  
(typing)  
Oh. Well...good. I hope you save  
them.

There is no response from Rena for a few seconds. Dave  
eventually notices.

DAVE  
(typing)  
Hello?

Rena's next message appears. It has no words, just a small  
emoticon with a strange sad/angry face. Dave is really  
confused.

DAVE  
(to himself)  
What the hell does that mean?  
(typed)  
What does that mean?

Rena doesn't respond.

DAVE  
(typing)  
I'm sorry. I have no idea what that  
means.

The same face appears again. Dave notices a guy walking by.

DAVE  
Yo! Chuck! Chuck! Would you check  
this out?

CHUCK awkwardly enters Dave's room.

CHUCK  
Yeah?

Dave points at the screen.

DAVE  
Any clue as to what that might  
mean?

Chuck looks at the emoticon for a moment.

CHUCK  
It looks hungry to me.

DAVE  
Really?

CHUCK  
Yeah man. Look at its cheeks.  
Definitely hungry.

DAVE  
(typing)  
Are you hungry?

Rena signs off.

DAVE  
Shit. I think I fucked up.

CHUCK  
She probably signed off so she  
could get something to eat.

EXT. CITY STREET - DAY

An exhausted Rena - clipboard in hand, a fanny pack tied around her waist, and an Advocates for Ocean Protection pin on her chest - walks up to a random house and knocks on the door. The owner opens the door.

RENA  
Hello sir, I'm here on behalf of  
the Advocates for Ocean Protection.  
(MORE)

RENA (cont'd)

We're trying to raise awareness and money for the Artesian Bottom Mollusk. Our goal is-

HOME OWNER

The what?

RENA

The Artesian Bottom Mollusk. It's integral in the bottom feeding cycle of the Artesian-

HOME OWNER

Wait, wait. What's Artesian?

RENA

(frustrated)

\*sigh\*...you know Fiji?

HOME OWNER

Yeah.

RENA

That's Artesian. Anyway, so we're trying to-

HOME OWNER

I know what you're trying to do, raise money, but I still don't get what it does.

Rena looks really frustrated.

RENA

It eats all the other sea creatures poo that's lying on the bottom; and then, it poos out really fertile poo. In Fiji.

The Home Owner slams the door in her face. Rena walks away, disgruntled. Her cell phone rings. She takes it out and answers.

RENA

Hello?

DAVE (O.S.)

Rena, it's me. I'm sorry about yesterday. I blew it. In my defense, I can't imagine I could have made your paper any better than it already was.

RENA

It's fine, you know, but, it's just...you never did anything like this before.

DAVE

I know. I'm sorry. I felt terrible all day.

Rena smiles, pleased that he's been thinking of her.

RENA

Well, I wasn't exactly in the best mood.

DAVE

Well, I may or may not have sent you an apology package. I think you'll be pretty happy with it, if I did.

RENA

(further pleased)

Really? I'm excited. Thanks. But, I can't really talk right now. I'm fund-raising. Could you call me back later tonight?

DAVE

I will definitely call you back later tonight. Sober.

INT. DAVE'S DORM ROOM - LATER THAT NIGHT

Dave, Fogell, and Martin are playing a drinking game that involves them all having forty-ounce bottles of ice-cold beer duct-taped to both of their hands. They have each drank about half of their beer and are very drunk.

FOGELL

Beta...Gamma...Epsilon...fuck...

DAVID

And you have to know the entire alphabet by next week?

MARTIN

I think omega should have been in there somewhere.

FOGELL

I know, I'm fucked! These frat guys  
make me work harder than school.

Dave sees that Martin is trying to use his teeth to remove  
the duct-tape from his hand.

DAVID

Whoa! What the fuck are you doing?

MARTIN

I've got to go, I'm supposed to go  
study with Azazel Margolis, and you  
know I can't study when I'm really  
drunk. The test for next years lab  
position...

DAVID

Well, I understand. But,  
unfortunately we're playing Edward  
Fortyhands...and you can't break  
the fucking rules! You can't take  
them off 'till you're done drinking  
them! These are ancient rules!

FOGELL

Yeah, come on man! This is like  
that time we played Risk for five  
hours and you left in the middle!

MARTIN

All I had was Australia!

DAVID

If you do this, you lose all  
credibility in any sort of-

MARTIN

Fine! Fine! Fine!

DAVID

Good, now lets-

The PHONE RINGS. Dave leans over to see that it's Rena.

DAVID (cont'd)

Oh dudes, it's Rena! I promised I'd  
call her tonight! Sober!

MARTIN

Fuck that! If I can't take mine  
off, you can't take off yours!

Dave tries to pick up the phone, spilling beer everywhere. He manages to lift his portable off the ground, but quickly finds it impossible to keep hold of, much less turn on.

Dave stares at the phone thinking.

DAVID

Fuck it. I'll call her tomorrow.

FOGELL

Freon, is that a greek letter?  
Freon?

Dave's answering machine picks up.

INT. RENA AND ALEXA'S DORM ROOM - THAT NIGHT

Alexa is walking out the door and Rena is in her pajamas.

ALEXA

Alright. I'll try to convince  
Silvio to go back to his place.  
What are you going to do?

RENA

Dave said he'd call me, so, you  
know.

ALEXA

Well, just so you know, it's fifty  
cent slippery nipple night at  
Weatherbees.

RENA

Well, I think he'll call, but if he  
doesn't, I'll probably go to the  
library.

Alexa skips out the door.

MUSIC UP: "IF YOU WANT ME TO STAY" by SLY AND THE FAMILY  
STONE.

DAVE NOT CALLING RENA MONTAGE:

- Rena gets Dave's answering machine. Disgruntled, she picks up her books, piles on numerous layers of winter clothes, and leaves her dorm room.

- Fogell wanders over to the communal dorm bathroom and Dave and Martin watch as he tries to take a piss with the bottles still taped to his hands. He pisses all over the bathroom.

Another person on the floor walks in, and awkwardly enters a stall. They all laugh.

- Rena walks through the snowy campus lugging a massive backpack. She shivers in the cold night air.

- We see Dave passed out in his incredibly messy dorm room. Several pizza boxes are scattered around the room and a 40 is sitting in the burn hole on his mattress.

- Rena diligently studies at a small cubicle in the corner of the library study room. Every slight noise she make prompts a dirty look from someone in the room.

- Dave has woken and is drinking a huge cup of coffee in Fogell's dorm room playing Mario tennis with Martin, Fogell, and Jim. Jim and Fogell score, forcing Dave and Martin to take a shot of whisky.

- Rena walks into her dorm room and peels off her numerous layers. She picks up the phone and calls Dave.

- We see Dave's answering machine pick up. We then move down the dorm hallway to find Dave, Martin, Fogell and a few other guys crowded into the shower room passing four joints around in a circle. Only Martin isn't smoking, looking rather uncomfortable. Dave laughs heartily as Fogell blows smoke rings in Martin's face.

EXT. RENA'S CAMPUS - DAY

Rena and Alexa walk through the snow covered campus.

RENA

It's tough. We both just seem to want different things out of college, and it's hard to, you know, connect sometimes.

ALEXA

If I'd gone as long as you without, "connecting", I'd be humping a chair by now.

They arrive at the Student Union building.

INT. STUDENT UNION BUILDING - CONTINUOUS

Rena and Alexa head to the MAIL COUNTER and hand the woman behind the counter their student ID cards.

RENA  
Well, I bought a vibrator.

ALEXA  
You never owned one before?

The WOMAN BEHIND THE COUNTER looks disgusted as she hands the girls their mail.

RENA  
(looking at a parcel)  
Hey! It's the package from Dave.

EXT. RENA'S CAMPUS - MOMENTS LATER

As they exit the Student Union building, Rena opens the envelope and pulls out a card.

ALEXA  
Open it.

Rena opens the card and reads.

RENA  
(reading)  
"What do I have to say about Rena?  
I like it. I love it. I want more  
of it. Sorry about your thing. Keep  
it real. Love Dave."

As Rena and Alexa walk by some cardboard boxes, Alexa sees four students inside, dressed in rags, pretending to be homeless people. A big sign in front of them reads, "HELP THE HOMELESS - STOP HATRED - STUDENTS ALLIANCE FOR THE HOMELESS IN OUR HEART"

STUDENT IN RAGS  
(to Alexa)  
Excuse me! Excuse me! Miss! Did you  
know that every night, in this city  
alone, five thinking, feeling,  
loving human beings die of  
exposure?

Rena digs a coupon out of the envelope.

RENA  
What the hell is this?

Alexa is no longer listening to Rena; in utter shock, she attentively stares at the Student in Rags

ALEXA  
 (to the Student in Rags)  
 How many?

STUDENT IN RAGS  
 Five.

RENA  
 (reading)  
 "30 free music downloads from e-  
 music"?

Alexa looks pained. Rena looks pissed.

RENA  
 Music downloads! I don't even know  
 how to-

STUDENT IN RAGS (cont'd)  
 Five humans.  
 (beat)  
 Some as young as six.

RENA  
 (to Alexa)  
 He used to make me mixed tapes, now  
 he can't even do that; drinking  
 'till his dick's in the dirt!

ALEXA  
 (to Student in Rags,  
 emotional)  
 Not even ten years old. What can I-

The Student in Rags hands Alexa a pamphlet.

INT. RENA AND ALEXA'S DORM ROOM - NIGHT

Rena sets up her web-cam, adds a bit more make-up, and then  
 calls Dave.

RENA  
 Hey, Dave?

DAVE (O.S.)  
 (through phone)  
 Rena! Did you get my package?

RENA  
 Uh...yeah, I got it. Thanks.

DAVE  
You're welcome. Just a little  
smooth-her-over, to let you know  
how I feel about you.

Rena scowls.

RENA  
Dave, did you get a web cam yet?

DAVE (O.S.)  
Uh...yeah.

INT. DAVE'S DORM ROOM - DUSK - CONTINUOUS

Dave is on the phone with a worried look on his face.

DAVE  
Just gimme one second.

Dave puts down the phone and runs out of his room.

INT. FOGELL'S DORM ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Fogell is preparing to masturbate to internet porn when Dave bursts into his room.

FOGELL  
Ah! What the fuck!

DAVE  
I need your web-cam.

FOGELL  
Why?

Dave unplugs it very quickly and runs out.

FOGELL  
Oh, what a stupid question.

INT. DAVE'S DORM ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Dave bursts back into his room and picks up the phone as he begins setting up the camera.

DAVE  
Rena? I'm almost ready.

RENA  
Alright.

Dave activates the web-cam.

INTERCUT WITH:

INT. RENA AND ALEXA'S DORM ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Rena watches as Dave appears on her computer screen. She gets really excited.

Dave watches Rena appear and also gets really excited.

They both watch each other on their computer screens. They hang up the phones and talk over the computers. There is a slight delay in the response time.

RENA  
Wow. Did you get taller?

DAVE  
No. My room's really small.

Rena can't believe she's seeing Dave.

RENA  
This is really incredible, how do they do this?

DAVE  
Everything comes from the military.

Dave watches as Rena leans towards her web cam.

DAVE  
Wow. What a clear picture, I can see that mole on your left collar bone. I love that mole.

RENA  
Dave...it's so good to see you.

DAVE  
Yeah. But it's almost worse, you know?

RENA  
Well, it's better than nothing.

DAVE  
Yeah, I guess.

There's a moment of silence.

RENA  
So, let's-

DAVE  
Uh...yeah, what'd we-

RENA  
Why don't I start, uh, start  
dancing a little? Would that turn  
you on?

DAVE  
Yeah. That'd definitely turn me on.  
Let's listen to Otis Redding.

RENA  
Agreed. I have Sitting on the Dock  
of the Bay.

DAVE  
Me too.

The both click on the album.

RENA  
Ready?

DAVE  
Yep.

RENA  
One, two, three, click!

They hit play, but Dave is a beat behind. They ignore it and  
Rena starts dancing.

RENA  
(sexy)  
I've really missed you.

Dave enjoys watching Rena dance. She's not very good, but  
makes a nice effort. She takes off her top and only has a bra  
on. Dave gets really excited, but he still doesn't know what to  
do.

RENA  
(trying to coax Dave on)  
Have you been thinking about me?

DAVE

Uh...Uh...yeah. I, uh, what do I do?

RENA

Why don't you, uh, you know, dance a little too. Just move a bit, take of your top and, uh, stuff, I don't know.

They both do a little awkward dancing.

RENA

Should I take off my top?

DAVE

Yeah...should I...you know?

RENA

What?

DAVE

I don't know, pull out my...my penis?

RENA

Sure. Yeah.

Dave pulls out his penis (of course, we don't see it). He doesn't do anything.

RENA

What are you waiting for? Go for it.

DAVE

Well...I need material, give me something to work with. Words of encouragement.

RENA

Okay...um...I really miss you, and, uh, sometimes when you're...I miss you're big shoulders, the way they...bounce, when you're on top of me, deep inside me.

Dave starts to snicker but tries to hold it in.

RENA

Is that good?

DAVE

Yeah...

Dave Struggles to stifle a laugh.

RENA

Hey! We agreed not to laugh! This is fucking embarrassing.

DAVE

Embarrassing? I'm the one masturbating on video!

RENA

Oh come on! Don't be an asshole.

DAVE

I'm an asshole now? Where did that come from?

RENA

You never call me back! You're barely paying attention when we talk, and you're acting like an idiot right now!

DAVE

What are we even arguing about? You know, I knew this web-cam thing wasn't going to work out.

RENA

That's right, Dave. Nothing ever works out. Just might as well not try anything.

DAVE

Is that what you're busy studying all the time, condescension?

RENA

Well, I'm just going to hang up before I get more pissed!

DAVE

Maybe you should! It wouldn't be a first.

They both click "Disconnect."

## INT. FRAT COSTUME PARTY - NIGHT

We find hundreds of outrageously dressed college kids partying their asses off in the wild, frat sponsored keg party. A huge banner reads: "MASQUERADE BALLS!"

Dave dressed as Zeus, long-bearded, wearing a toga, lightning bolt in hand, pounds a beer with Martin, who is dressed like the hundred-handed Vishnu.

Fogell, dressed as Jesus, takes a shot with a few frat boys who are dressed as pop culture icons (Austin Powers, Puff Daddy, the Dead Presidents bank robbers, and more).

Dave laughs hysterically as Martin dances the robot, all his Vishnu arms moving in unison. Fogell walks over with four FRAT GUYS in tow.

FOGELL

Alright guys, I'd like you to meet my friends. This is Martin and Dave. This is Darrel, Winston, Ewin and Jake.

JAKE

Hi, we're from Kappa Kappa Theta Kappa, how do you guys like the house?

DAVID

(joking)

It's no Mt. Olympus, but it's cool.

JAKE

(to Martin)

So, are you guys in a frat yet or are you still floaters?

MARTIN

Yeah, I...uh...I wish I could, but I can't. Maybe next year. See, I'm actually working to get this lab position with Globalworks and-

The frat guys immediately focus all their attention on Dave.

DARREL

Well, we really hope you come with Fogell to our first rush event. I think you'd have a really good time. Lot's of chicks, cheap booze.

The frat boys point at a group of unbelievably hot girls.

FOGELL

(to Dave and Martin)

They're not kidding, man! I've made out with four chicks tonight.

Darrel leans over to Dave.

DARREL

You join our frat, you'll get more pussy than the actual Zeus.

The Frat brothers walk away. One of them whispers into a hot girls ear as the boys watch. The girl looks over at them and waves sexually. Fogell turns to Dave.

FOGELL

Now I'm dead serious here. You need to drop Rena and become my other wing man. Martin isn't cutting it.

MARTIN

Fuck you, man.

FOGELL

I love Rena to pieces, but she's holding all of us down by holding you back.

DAVE

Don't bug me about this shit.

FOGELL

But think about it: you're apart, getting hornier and hornier, talking on the phone, getting hornier and hornier. Then she's getting mad and you're not calling enough, she's starts nagging, which pisses you off, and it builds and builds and builds until it absolutely must blow! And when it does blow, it's liable to take somebody's fucking head off!

DAVE

I hope it takes your head off.  
Let's go grab a beer.

The boys walk towards the keg where there is a guy doing a keg stand. The guy slips and falls onto the keg chin first. Everyone laughs hysterically.

## INT. STUDENT UNION CENTER - DAY

Rena, in mid-discussion with the guy beside her, is putting letters in envelopes with numerous other members of the AOP. We see that they are letters to the Fijian monarchy pleading to their better judgement in preserving the precious bottom mollusk. Although it is clearly the most mundane task on the planet, they both look happy doing it.

AOP GUY

...science, third year, majoring in biophysics. How about you?

RENA

Well, I'm only in first year Arts, and I haven't declared my major yet, but as hokey as it sounds, I think I'll do oceanic sciences.

AOP GUY

Oh yeah? Alright. You're in the right group.

They both laugh.

AOP GUY

Yeah, my girlfriend back home got into a Street Cleaning Society and now she's in Urban Planning.

RENA

Cool. So, you've got a long distance girlfriend?

AOP GUY

Yeah. How about you?

RENA

Yeah, same. Where does she go to school?

AOP GUY

She's going to Indiana State.

RENA

Wow. Three years, long distance?

AOP GUY

Yeah, it's tough. We only get to talk a few times a day, and-

RENA

A few times a day?

AOP GUY

Yeah. And, because she's on the other side of the country, I only get to fly out every other weekend. That's the worst part. I mean, I don't mean to get too personal with you-

RENA

No, go ahead.

Rena could not be more engrossed.

AOP GUY

But without those, 'physical encounters,' I don't think I'd make it another semester.

RENA

What about phone sex? Does that...alleviate anything?

AOP GUY

If anything, it just makes you want the real thing more. After all, we're only human. There's no substitute for the old "P" in the "V".

The guy laughs at his joke as Rena looks off, lost in thought.

MUSIC UP: "NO SUGAR TONIGHT" by THE GUESS WHO.

DAVE AND RENA GETTING SEXUALLY FRUSTRATED MONTAGE:

- Rena, on the way to class in the morning, stops to buy a bagel. A guy reading The Economist talks to her in line. She has to brush him off.

- Dave enters the cafeteria for breakfast. He sees a pretty girl sitting alone, thinks about it for a moment, and then sits at another table alone.

- Rena and the AOP guy are sitting at a booth on campus handing out fliers. A cute guy comes up to the booth and engages Renā. Rena gets the AOP guy to deal with him.

- Dave is drunk, late at night in a pizza parlour. A girl knocks the hot sauce off the counter.

Just before it lands on her shoe, Dave grabs it! She thanks him. As Dave walks away, he looks back to see her watching him. He keeps walking.

- Rena is jogging through a park. There are four other single joggers, all attractive young men, running around her. She has to perform an intricate dance of speeding up and slowing down to avoid the guys hitting on her.

- Dave is at a bar. He spills his beer and a bit gets on a girls dress. She is going to get mad, but sees Dave and stops, finding him cute. They talk for a brief moment.

- Rena, Tristan, and Alexa are at a school art exhibition. A handsome INTELLECTUAL GUY starts talking to Rena about a particular piece.

- Dave is still at the bar. The girl is really into him.

GIRL

So...are you doing anything later?

DAVE

I...uh...well I'm kind of seeing this girl.

GIRL

Oh...well, thanks for wasting my time.

- Rena is still at the art exhibition talking with the Intellectual Guy.

INTELLECTUAL GUY

You know, they just opened a splendid exhibit on by-products at the Dobson Center. Would you care to go sometime?

RENA

Uh...well, I would, but I've kind of got a boyfriend.

Taking off his glasses and closing his eyes, the guy pretends to look around.

INTELLECTUAL GUY

I don't see him anywhere.

Rena smiles and walks away.

INT. DAVE'S DORM ROOM - NIGHT

Dave is on the phone, in mid-argument with Rena.

DAVE

It's not like I'm not calling because I'm sitting around here drinking all day. I'm busy! This is really hard for me. You know I'm not great at school to begin with, and there's an ass-load of distractions here.

INTERCUT WITH:

INT. RENA'S DORM ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Rena, on the phone, is pacing around her room.

RENA

You don't think this is hard for me, too? I'm going insane! I can't keep depriving myself of everything fun because I'm sitting around waiting for you!

DAVE

I don't want you to! I want you to be having fun; I don't want to be what holds you back.

RENA

And I don't want to hold you back.

DAVE

So, we both know that something's wrong, but...I don't want to...

RENA

I don't want to either! No, no, I don't mean that! I don't know what I mean, I...just...can you imagine three more years of this? Maybe we owe it to ourselves to...

A moment of silence.

RENA

...explore.

DAVE

Explore?

They both think.

DAVE

To what degree are we exploring?

RENA

I guess...I guess we could, make a clearly defined plan, right? Set, boundaries that we're both happy with...within which to...explore. And then...

DAVE

We...see how we feel in the summer?

RENA

I feel like that might be the smart choice. Like, a test, I guess.

DAVID

(deep breath)

Okay, boundaries...to explore in. First, we need to stop using the word "explore". It's really gross when you think about it.

RENA

Okay. I'm just going to throw some stuff out there, so, don't be judgemental. So...like...we can, like, kiss and touch, but-

DAVE

Touch? Like hand to...uh...genital touching?

RENA

Uh...yeah.

DAVE

Whoa. Well...uh...okay...and...

There is an awkward moment of silence.

RENA

Wait. Let's just start by agreeing on no sex of any kind. No oral, no actual - none of it.

DAVE  
Well...okay. Those boundaries  
sound...acceptable. Anything else  
need to be clarified?

RENA  
Nope. I...I just...I still love you  
Dave.

DAVID  
I know. Me too.

Beat.

DAVE  
So...are we going talk, or should  
we...

RENA  
We probably shouldn't...at least  
for a while, right?

DAVE  
Yeah...so...I guess we shouldn't  
make this hard. I'll call you in a  
few weeks?

RENA  
Do you mind if I make the first  
call?

DAVID  
No. It's fine.

Beat.

RENA  
Alright...talk to you later.

Dumbstruck, they both hang up.

INT. DAVE'S DORM ROOM - DAY

Fogell and Martin sit across from Dave, listening intently.

DAVID  
At first I was a little thrown. It  
seemed a little extreme. But then I  
realized, I get to have my cake and  
have a hand job while I'm eating  
it! I've only ever gotten with  
Rena.

(MORE)

DAVID (cont'd)

Now, I could potentially get with a Hispanic girl, or an Italian girl, a Middle Eastern girl, even a Tibetan girl.

FOGELL

I can't believe you pulled this off. You fell ass-backwards into pussy.

MARTIN

Yeah man, and, who knows? Maybe she'll like, promote you or something? Bump you up to blow jobs.

DAVE

Hey man, I'm thankful for what I've got. A happy man is he who is content with what he has. And I've got it all!

MARTIN

So, exactly how far can you go?

FOGELL

Can you do anal? That's devoid of all emotion, so, it's like the least threatening.

INT. RENA AND ALEXA'S DORM ROOM - NIGHT

Rena, Tristan, and Alexa are all sitting on Rena's bed eating popcorn.

TRISTAN

That's awesome! You know, if he's always going to give you so much room for "exploring", he may actually be a keeper after all.

RENA

Yeah, I guess. It feels good, though, to know I can, you know...

ALEXA

Get finger-banged?

The girls all laugh.

TRISTAN

But seriously, you can dry hump a dude!

(MORE)

TRISTAN (cont'd)

Done properly, that can get pretty hot. You got a way better bargain than Dave.

RENA

Yeah, I guess I do.

MUSIC UP: "KISS" by PRINCE

RENA AND DAVE GETTING WITH OTHER PEOPLE MONTAGE:

- We see Rena talking with a cute guy in a class conference.
- We see Dave in the dorm cafeteria. He spots a PRETTY GIRL sitting alone, takes a seat beside her, and strikes up a conversation.
- Rena is studying with the intellectual guy from before. He looks up at Rena and smiles.
- Dave, goofing around with Martin at the college swimming pool, accidentally backs into a HOT SWIMMER swimming laps behind him. They smile and apologize to one another.
- The MONTAGE continues as Rena passionately makes-out with the cute guy from her conference, their study books still on the bed. His hands starts to move down her body, but she stops him.

RENA (cont'd)

Not yet. Not yet.

GUY

Of course. I respect that.

The guy pulls his hand back and they continue to kiss.

- Dave is in his dorm room making out with the Pretty Girl from the cafeteria. She unzips his pants and moves down to give him a blow job, but Dave squirms and pulls back. She follows his crotch, but he keeps maneuvering it away from her.

RANDOM HOOK-UP GIRL

What the hell are you doing? Is there something wrong with your dick?

- Rena is in the corner of the library with the Intellectual Guy. They each have a hand down the other ones pants. The guy looks around, nervous.

INTELLECTUAL GUY  
I think I...I think I hear  
something.

RENA  
(in ecstasy)  
No...just...just shut up...you  
don't hear anything...

- Dave is under the covers with the hot Swimmer GIRL he ran into in the pool. They are making out, Dave is naked, she still has her underwear and top on.

SWIMMING GIRL  
Alright, my turn. Tit for tat.

She starts to push his head between her legs, but Dave squirms free.

DAVE  
Normally I would, with great,  
great, great joy, but, I...I can't  
exactly...go down there. I-

SWIMMING GIRL  
What do you mean you "can't go down  
there"?

DAVE  
I just, there's this-

SWIMMING GIRL  
I just jerked you off!

DAVID  
I mean, I'll do anything with my  
hands, but-

SWIMMING GIRL  
I got hands of my own, I don't need  
you for that!

DAVE  
I'm sorry, I have this girl, and we  
have an agreement-

The swimming girl gets up and puts her pants on.

SWIMMING GIRL  
You're cheating on your girlfriend?  
That's disgusting!

She heads for the door.

DAVE  
I'm not cheating! We've just got  
boundaries-

She leaves.

DAVE  
Shit.

Dave hangs his head low. He thinks for a minute, in deep deliberation, and then decides to screw it; he sits at his computer, opens MSN Messenger, and then writes a message to Rena.

DAVE  
(typed)  
Rena? How are you doing?

For a long moment there is nothing and Dave looks really upset. Then there is a \*ding\*.

RENA  
(typed)  
Dave, we aren't supposed to talk,  
but I'm doing good, you?

DAVE  
(typed)  
Really great.

Dave sheds a tear. He starts to type more.

READS:  
I just want you to know that I  
still love-

Before Dave can finish and send it, Rena's next message pops-up.

RENA  
(typed)  
Well, summer's coming up. I'll see  
you then. Good luck with school :)

Rena sends a happy emoticon and signs off. Dave stares at the screen miserably until his photo-screensaver turns on, flashing an image of him with Martin and Fogell, drunk off their ass, pointing at the camera and laughing hysterically.

CUT TO BLACK.

TITLE CARD UP: **SUMMER.**

EXT. 7-11 - NIGHT

Dave, Fogell, and Martin are purchasing Slurpees and candy at 7-11.

DAVE

Is it so crazy? I think I have a pretty good shot of getting everything back to normal.

MARTIN

I don't know. No, it's not crazy. Where the hell is Fogell?

DAVE

Yeah, I mean, we explored. And now I know there ain't nothin' better out there.

MARTIN

I don't know, Dave.

(beat)

I'm sick of waiting for Fogell.

DAVE

Man, I can't wait till she gets back-

FOGELL (O.S.)

Yo!

Fogell runs over to Dave and Martin.

MARTIN

Where have you been? You're twenty minutes late.

FOGELL

Back off, man! I went to Target to buy socks, and I ran in to Mike Snider.

DAVE

Mike Snider. Good guy.

FOGELL

Yeah, he said he was hanging out with Tristan and Rena last night.

DAVE

Wrong, dude. She's still at school.

FOGELL  
No, man. Apparently she's been back  
for, like, a week.

DAVE  
No she hasn't. What the fuck does  
Mike Snider know?

FOGELL  
Apparently more than you, 'cause  
she has.

DAVE  
I called her house. Are you saying  
that her parents lied to me?

FOGELL  
I guess so. Good thing you're not  
marrying into that family.

Dave is flabbergasted.

DAVE  
Well...well, why didn't she call  
me?  
(to Martin)  
Do you think she's, like...too  
excited?

MARTIN  
Uh...maybe.

DAVE  
Well, whatever. It doesn't matter.  
I'll talk to her, and as soon as I  
do, I know every thing will work  
out for the best. Look what I got!  
I'm going to give it to her.

Dave pulls something out of his pocket and shows it to Martin  
and Fogell. It is his pass to the Hawaiian Carnival that  
started it all.

DAVE  
Her heart'll melt. Don't you worry.

Martin and Fogell share a concerned look.

INT. HOUSE PARTY - SUMMER AFTER 1ST YEAR COLLEGE - NIGHT

People catch up and reminisce at a party held at the same  
house the kid's grad party was the previous summer.

Martin, Fogell, Tristan and Rena fix themselves drinks in the midst of it all.

MARTIN

So are you guys going to be living together, or-

RENA

Yeah, we're getting a place with this girl Alexa, from back East. She's tree planting in Canada for the summer.

Fogell looks at Tristan.

FOGELL

A tree-planter? Make sure she delivers when she comes back.

Tristan doesn't laugh.

RENA

Martin, did you get that lab position?

MARTIN

I wish. The placement testing is first semester next school year. I've been studying my ass off, but...

Martin trails off, his attention diverted over Rena's shoulder. Rena turns around to see that it's Dave!

DAVE

(to Rena)

Hey.

RENA

Hey. □

DAVE

What's going on? How are you doing?

Everyone can feel the awkwardness. Dave bends over and gives Rena a hug, which she meagerly responds to.

DAVE (cont'd)

So...when did you get home?

RENA

I...uh...I got home, like, a week ago.

Dave looks confused.

DAVE

Really?

Fogell clearly can't deal with the tension.

FOGELL

Hey, uh, Tristan, you want to come  
grab a drink or take a piss or  
something?

Tristan eagerly agrees, leaving Dave, Rena, and Martin.

DAVE

Well...why didn't you call me?

Martin just gets up and leaves.

RENA

I...Dave, can we go talk somewhere  
private?

EXT. HOUSE PARTY - PARENTS BEDROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Rena and Dave sit on the bed.

DAVE

Rena, taking this time apart has  
really given me time to think, and  
through thinking, I've realized  
some things-

RENA (cont'd)

Me too, Dave. I've realized a lot  
of things too.

Dave gets a happy look on his face as he reaches for his  
pocket.

DAVE

Really?

He's pulls the carnival ticket out of his pocket and is about  
to hand it to Rena, when--

RENA

I think this break has helped me  
realize that we aren't meant to be.

Dave's heart breaks, but he does his best to hide it.

DAVE

Yeah...?

RENA (cont'd)

We're just not, Dave. We live on opposite sides of the country, and we're just so...different. I mean, you're obviously a great guy, but I just need someone with a little more hope in their heart.

DAVE

Yeah...hope.

Dave shoves the carnival ticket back in his pocket.

RENA

And we were just so young when we decided to do this.

DAVE

(trying to agree)

Yeah, I mean, after all, it was ten whole months ago...

RENA

Are you being serious?

DAVID

Uh...yeah.

RENA

So, you agree?

Dave looks like he's about to cry, but he takes a few deep breaths and pushes the pain deep down inside, trying to save face.

DAVID

(dying inside)

Yeah. You know, I'm just... glad...that you could articulate my thoughts for me...the ones that I couldn't...I'm just so happy we're both mature enough to...uh...to handle this. It's great. Whew! I thought this was going to be awkward, but it's not! Because you want to break up with me...too.

Rena looks delightfully surprised.

RENA

We both knew it, deep down in our hearts.

Dave continues stifling back his tears, but one drop rolls down his cheek regardless. He angles his face so Rena can't see it, and then sucks the lone teardrop into his mouth as it dribbles by.

DAVID

Yeah. Our hearts.

INT. DAVE'S HOUSE - BEDROOM - LATER THAT NIGHT

Dave is crying on his bed, hugging his Hawaiian Carnival ticket. The phone rings. He ignores it, but then grabs it at the last second.

DAVE

Hello?

RENA

Dave?

DAVE

(hopeful)

Rena!

RENA

Dave...I just wanted to call to make sure you were okay. I mean, it's such a big thing, I just want to make sure you've said everything you wanted to.

Dave's hopes are dashed.

DAVE

Oh...um...yeah. No, I'm...I'm great. I was just thinking about...um...how much fun we had. We, uh, we had lots of fun, huh?

RENA

Yeah. You've been my best friend for so long and, I still want to be friends, don't you?

DAVE

(hiding sobs)

Yeah, of course. Friends. I'd really love that.

MUSIC UP: "JUST A FRIEND" by BIZ MARKEY

RENA AND DAVE TRYING TO BE FRIENDS MONTAGE:

- Dave, Rena and their friends are having coffee together. Fogell tells a joke - everyone laughs except Dave.
- Dave, Tristan, and Rena are at an art gallery. Dave holds it together better, but keeps glancing at Rena when she is not looking. Tristan sees him do it every time and looks on sympathetically.
- They are all having a barbecue with friends at the beach. Rena is playing chicken on another guy's shoulders, while another girl is on Martin's shoulders. Dave looks angry as he WAILS a football to Fogell.
- Martin, Tristan, Rena and Dave stumble off a roller coaster together. Dave looks ill, wobbles back and forth, then pukes into a garden. He looks to Martin and Rena for help. Martin comes forward to help him as Rena, grossed out, walks over to Tristan.
- Ten people, including Rena, Dave, Tristan, Fogell, and Martin are camping. Dave is chopping the fire wood. Some guy is talking to Rena. With every swing of the axe, we see that Dave is furious.

CUT TO BLACK.

TITLE CARD UP: **SECOND YEAR.**

INT. DAVE, FOGELL AND MARTIN'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Fogell and Martin are drunk on the couch. Dave can be heard stomping up the stairs. He bursts in with a slice of pizza in one hand and a soda in the other.

FOGELL  
(looking at the pizza)  
Wow. Lucky bastard.

DAVE  
Hey man, I invited you to come.

MARTIN  
What were we talking about?

FOGELL  
Dave.

DAVE

Why?

Martin clearly doesn't want Fogell to say anything.

FOGELL

We were wondering if you were okay  
or not, we both thought you were  
but, are you?

Dave is slightly taken aback by Fogell's concern.

FOGELL

Not to sound like a fag or  
anything.

DAVE

Um...yeah. I'm fine. I feel, you  
know, a bit sad, but what can I do?  
It happens to everyone. We're going  
to be friends, so, if that's the  
best I get, that's what I'll take.

(beat)

Thanks, man.

FOGELL

Cool. That sounds good enough.

MARTIN

Yeah. Here, catch.

Martin grabs a beer and tosses it to Dave.

DAVE

And, you know, I can fully get with  
any girl now. I'm entirely free.  
So, that's cool.

MARTIN

Yeah, you could meet a girl that's  
more your style.

FOGELL

Yeah, like one that's closer then a  
fifteen thousand hour walk, who'll  
come out and drink and stuff.

DAVE

Yeah. Rena was too restrained.  
Yeah. I'm fine.

INT. DAVE'S BEDROOM - DAY

Dave is sitting at his desk playing Snood on his computer with his school books open. The phone rings.

DAVE

Hello?

INTERCUT WITH:

INT. RENA, TRISTAN AND ALEXA'S APARTMENT - EVENING

RENA

Hey Dave. How's it going?

Dave gets excited.

DAVE

Great. How about you? How's the, uh, single life?

RENA

Oh...uh, not bad. How about you?

DAVE

Um...good, I guess.

Silence.

DAVE

What've you been up to? Any thing new with the Sea Mollusk Association?

Rena laughs.

RENA

Yeah, we raised a couple thousand last year and this year we've set up a counter in the student union building, so that should raise awareness.

DAVE

Awesome. Cool.

RENA

Yeah...but, um, before we keep talking, I thought I should tell you so you didn't find out through hearsay-

DAVE  
Through what?

RENA  
Hearsay...the, uh, the grape vine?

DAVE  
Oh, yeah. I get it. Cool.

RENA  
I, um, I kind of started seeing  
this guy a bit, and, yeah, you know-

Dave laughs loudly to hide his rage.

DAVE  
Rena! Don't worry, it's no big  
deal. We're broken up. It's fine.  
You can do whatever you want now.  
I'm happy for you! I totally...did  
this girl...also. Now look, I have  
to go. I'll talk to you a little  
later though, okay?

RENA (O.S.)  
Uh...okay. I'll talk to you lat-

Dave hangs up.

He slumps into his chair and breathes heavily for a moment,  
then springs to his feet, grabs his lamp, and breaks it in  
two over his leg. He throws the top half at the wall, and it  
bounces back and SMACKS him in the head. He falls onto his  
bed clutching his head and begins to cry.

INT. THE GUY'S APARTMENT - A FEW DAYS LATER

Dave is curled up in a ball in the middle of his unbelievably  
messy bedroom, crying hysterically.

DAVID  
I'm fine! Go away!

Martin and Fogell can be heard from the other side of the  
door.

MARTIN (O.S.)  
Maybe we should call his parents?  
He literally hasn't come out for  
days.

FOGELL (O.S.)  
Yeah, man. He must be pissing in  
beer bottles or something.

MARTIN (O.S.)  
Here, let me try.  
(to Dave, through door)  
Dave, you need anything? You wanna  
beer or something?

They wait for a response, but only hear sobbing.

FOGELL (O.S.)  
Dude, you didn't tell me you have  
beer. Fuck him, let's go drink it.

MARTIN (O.S.)  
(to Dave)  
Well, if you need anything just  
ask, okay?

Dave rocks back and forth, crying harder and harder.

DAVID  
(sulking)  
I can't go on...I can't go on...

EXT. CITY STREET - NIGHT

Rena is walking hand in hand with the Intellectual Guy from  
the museum, ARIEL.

RENA  
...and, well, I guess my ex-  
boyfriend's pessimism kind of...  
evolved. Into laziness. We just saw  
the world too differently.

ARIEL  
Don't judge him too harshly. I'm  
sure he'll figure things out.

As Ariel passes a homeless guy, he gives him ten bucks.

ARIEL  
Get yourself a warm meal, friend.

They arrive in front of Rena's apartment. There is a moment  
of silence, their eyes lock, and they kiss.

ARIEL  
Can I call you tomorrow?

RENA  
Don't be stupid.

Ariel laughs as Rena walks up the stairs, looks back, and walks into her apartment.

INT. GROCERY STORE - 2ND YEAR COLLEGE - DAY

Fogell, Dave, and Martin walk down the aisles together filling a large cart. Dave looks miserable and exhausted, in need of a shower and some fresh clothes.

FOGELL  
(to Dave)  
You say anything! Like, "Dirty Dancing's my all-time favorite movie," or some bullshit like that. They love it! Then you take them back home and nail 'em. It's that easy; you'll feel a million times better.

DAVID  
I don't know, man. I just don't feel like-

FOGELL  
What? Doing anything, at all? You've been moping around for, like, two weeks, just watching your penis slowly whither away. You gave up way too fucking fast - and it's pissing me off, man!!! Even Martin's pissed off!

MARTIN  
Hey, I'm not pissed off-

FOGELL  
Sure he is! He's just being nice because you're already so fucking miserable.

Dave looks to Martin.

MARTIN  
Well...you should do something. You don't even go to class. It's not healthy. You're like Brian Wilson in there.

FOGELL

Well, irregardless, I've already vouched for you to get into my frat. Dude, sorority chicks will fuck anything!

Dave lends half-hearted thought to it.

FOGELL (cont'd)

Come on, man. Do you have any idea how much ass you're gonna see?

INT. FRAT HOUSE - BACKYARD - NIGHT

A PLEDGE (JASON), is bent naked over a chair, his hairy ass covered in hot wax strips. Behind him stands the frat's HEAD BROTHER.

HEAD BROTHER

PULL!

Two of the frat Brothers yank the hot wax strips off!

PLEDGE JASON

AAAAAAHHHHHHH!!!!

FRAT BROTHERS

DRINK!!! DRINK!!! DRINK!!!

One of the brothers hands him a tequila shot with a goldfish swimming in it. GULPS! He swallows it down! He takes a deep breath, then is handed two more - GULP! GULP! - He shoots them back.

On the other side of the yard, Dave, miserable as hell, stands in a line as one of twenty drunk pledges. Everyone to the left of him has had something terrible done to them - painted yellow, stripped naked, shaved bare, etc.

The frat Brothers, Fogell being one of them, stand across the yard laughing. The Head Brother steps forward.

HEAD BROTHER

SNAP TO IT YOU FUCKING FAGGOTS!!!

You cock-eating, sister-banging, shit-fucking motherfuckers!?! You think you're gonna be Kappa Kappa Theta Kappa?

Dave shoots an angry look at Fogell, who shrugs back. The Head Brother sees Dave isn't paying attention.

HEAD BROTHER (cont'd)  
 (to Dave)  
 What the fuck are you looking at  
 you dick-licking knob blower?  
 You've got a week of pledging to  
 make up for - let's get it on!  
 Step forward, queer!

Dave grudgingly steps forward.

HEAD BROTHER (cont'd)  
 (to the pledges)  
 To be a Brother of Kappa Kappa  
 Theta Kappa, you have to understand  
 what binds us - trust.

The Head Brother produces a carrot.

HEAD BROTHER (cont'd)  
 To demonstrate this trust, Pledge  
 David will now eat a carrot out of  
 Pledge Jason's freshly waxed ass.

Pledge Jason begrudgingly bends back over the chair.

The Head Brother stares at Dave, awaiting a response.

DAVID  
 No way, man. No fucking way...no...

Everyone gasps!!!

HEAD BROTHER  
NO?!? Did you say NO???

Fogell looks in horror as Dave shakes his fist at the Head Brother.

DAVID  
 Fuck this...fucking bullshit. I'm  
 miserable enough as is, buddy. Last  
 thing I need is to eat a fucking  
 carrot out of Pledge Jason's ass,  
 waxed or not.

The Head Brother turns to Fogell.

HEAD BROTHER  
 Brother Fogell! You vouched for  
 Pledge Dave?

FOGELL  
 Uh...yeah...

PLEDGE JASON

(to Head Brother)

Sir! Excuse me, Head Brother - I seem to be bleeding from the mouth.

HEAD BROTHER

Shut up! It's just goldfish blood. It happens - get back in line!

(turns to Fogell)

Brother Fogell, having vouched for Pledge Dave, you must complete his task to regain your honor.

FOGELL

Are you fucking kidding? I ate a banana out of a guys ass last year. I'm done with that stuff!

HEAD BROTHER

Then both of you can leave, you fucking faggots! If you break our ancient traditions, you are no longer welcome!

FOGELL

(panicked)

What? Dave! Think about all the girls! It's just one carrot!

DAVE

No way!!!

FOGELL

Eat it!!!

DAVE

I don't want to! I want Rena!

(watery-eyed)

I'd eat a million carrots out of a million asses for just one kiss from Rena.

INT. RENA, TRISTAN AND ALEXA'S APARTMENT - DAY

Rena walks through the front door of the nicely decorated apartment. Tristan is talking to Alexa, who looks dramatically different. She looks like a hippy.

TRISTAN

...it was really soft.

ALEXA

Rena! You gotta hear this! Tristan just told me the most beautiful thing!

RENA

What?

ALEXA

She-

TRISTAN

-I fooled around with Tracy!

RENA

Holy shit!!! That's insane!

TRISTAN

I know! It was amazing!

RENA

What does that mean? Whoa...are you, like, a lesbian?!?

ALEXA

We don't need titles for this! It's a beautiful exchange between two souls, and that's all that matters. We should celebrate.

Alexa reaches under the table and pulls out a little glass bong and some weed. She starts packing a bowl.

RENA

(to Tristan)

Are you gonna do it again?

TRISTAN

Definitely. For sure. Like, soon. I'd get on it if I were you guys. I can get you in. I mean, men are fucking Sasquatches compared to girls.

RENA

Not all men are Sasquatches.

Alexa takes a little bong hit.

ALEXA

Oh, that's right. How was the date?

RENA

Really great. He's so romantic. I think I might sleep with him soon.

TRISTAN

Holy shit, guy number two. You slut!

RENA

I hope it's good. Sexually, me and Dave really had a good thing going.

ALEXA

Don't worry, it's what my reiki teacher said, if we are kind to the universe, the universe will be kind to us. It's karma.

INT. BAR - CONTINUOUS

Dave is alone in a bar getting drunk. He is absolutely hammered. A girl sits two stools down.

DAVE

Hey, I don't mean to sound awkward, but I'm totally attracted to you.

Nothing.

DAVE

So...uh...are you attracted to me?

The girl moves five stools further away.

Dave walks over to the jukebox and puts on I PUT A SPELL ON YOU by CCR.

He then sits back down two stools away from the same girl and points at her brooch.

DAVE

Nice brooch, is it European?

She gets up and leaves.

Dave returns to his drinking. He gets up after a few sips and walks over to DRUNK GIRL who is drinking quite heavily, and starts hitting on her.

INT. THE BOYS APARTMENT - DAVE'S ROOM - LATER THAT NIGHT

Dave and the Lone Girl are making out on his bed. They both get naked under the covers and she notices Dave's not getting it up.

DRUNK GIRL

You're, um, you're not getting hard-

DAVE

Don't worry, I'm drunk. Delays one's reaction time.

They keep making out. Dave gets into it.

DRUNK GIRL

Do you have a condom?

DAVE

I...no..crap.

DRUNK GIRL

I'm clean, are you?

Dave gives her an inebriated look.

DAVE

Uh...

DRUNK GIRL

You look clean.

DAVE

Thanks...so do you.

They go at it.

INT. DANCE CLUB - CONTINUOUS

Rena, Ariel, and Alexa are out dancing at a loud night club.

A GUY comes up to Rena to dance. He is a really good dancer, and does a funny break dance. Rena laughs hard at the guy's antics.

Suddenly, Ariel steps in with an angry look on his face.

ARIEL

(to dancing guy)

Hey! Buddy! She's my girlfriend, cool?!?

The guy walks off, pissed.

ARIEL

Rena, that's a little screwy, don't you think?

RENA

That bothered you? That guy was just doing a funny little dance.

Ariel takes Rena's face in her hands. You can tell she doesn't really like it.

ARIEL

People shouldn't be doing "funny dances" for you. They should be worshipping the ground you walk on.

Rena is angered.

RENA

Ariel, I don't need you to protect me from break dancers.

ARIEL

Well, who will then? I'm going to get another apple martini!

INT. CLINIC - NIGHT

Dave waits in line in a not-so nice clinic. He's really freaked out.

ATTENDANT

Next!

INT. DOCTOR'S OFFICE - SOON AFTER

Dave is in shock, sitting across from a bored DOCTOR.

DAVE

You're going to swab my urethra!?!

DOCTOR

That's the way it goes.

Dave can't believe it.

DAVE

Just to be clear, my urethra is my...pee hole, right?

DOCTOR

You bet.

DAVE

Oh my god!

Dave grabs his crotch.

DAVE

Does it hurt?

DOCTOR

I don't think much.

DAVE

How could it not hurt? Have you ever had it?

DOCTOR

No. I wear protection.

DAVE

Jesus Christ.

DOCTOR

How ever much this is gonna hurt,  
Gonorrhea hurts more.

DAVE

Are you sure?

The doctor doesn't respond. Dave drops his pants. The doctor grabs a long, awkwardly shaped swab and lowers out of view.

DOCTOR (O.S.)

Please, relax your urethra.

DAVE

Wait! Wait! I'm not ready.

DOCTOR (O.S.)

We have to hurry, I've got twins  
with herpes at four.

DAVE

Okay. Okay. Do it.

Dave cringes and winces and screams as the doctor swabs his urethra.

INT. INDUSTRIAL KITCHEN - DAY

Rena, Ariel, and about a half dozen other AOP members are in a massive kitchen making cookies.

ARIEL  
I'm sorry again for the other night. I should never drink apple martinis.

RENA  
I told you. It's fine.

They work beside each other somewhat awkwardly for a few moments. Ariel looks over and notices the octopus cookie Rena has just finished making.

ARIEL  
Oh my god! That's incredible. It looks exactly like an octopus.

Rena can tell he's just trying to smooth things over.

RENA  
Thanks. Yours is pretty good too.

Ariel's cookie looks like a circle with eyes.

ARIEL  
Thanks. So, how much did the bake-a-thon make for that AOP last year?

RENA  
About six hundred dollars.

ARIEL  
I bet with you heading it up, we'll make twice as much. Three times! Those mollusks'll be rich.

Rena gives Ariel a fake smile.

RENA  
I can only hope.

INT. CLASS - DAY

Dave is sitting in his class drunk. Very drunk.

The class ends and everyone piles out. Dave staggers down the stairs and towards the exit, when the TEACHER stops him.

TEACHER

Dave, would you come here for a moment?

DAVE

Most certainly. Where is that?

TEACHER

Over here.

The Teacher looks sad. He's pulls Dave aside.

TEACHER

Dave, you're drunk.

DAVE

And...I don't have gonorrhea! It's a celebration!

TEACHER

If you weren't already doing so bad in this class, I'd fail you for this. I just don't see any point in making your life even worse. A wise man once said, if you live with your head up your ass, your life will be shit. Smarten up.

The Teacher walks off. Dave stumbles out of the class room.

INT. THE GIRLS APARTMENT - RENA'S ROOM - NIGHT

Rena is doing homework. She finishes reading a chapter, takes a bite of an octopus shaped cookie, then clicks on the TV.

ON THE TV: A FEMALE REPORTER stands on a tropical island, an OIL TANKER sinking in the background.

REPORTER

Here we stand at the site of the disastrous oil spill, in the heart of the legendary Southern Artesian Reef, famous for its flourishing wildlife and rare creatures. Over 43 major scientific studies have been ruined-

RENA

No!!!

REPORTER

Untold amounts of sea life have  
been killed-

RENA

No!!!

REPORTER

And irreversible damage has been  
done to the small eco-system-

RENA

NO!!!

The reporter stands above a large pool of oil, bends over,  
and picks something up. Rena squints to see what it is.

REPORTER

Here we have one of the  
exceptionally rare Artesian bottom  
mollusks, suffocating in oil.

Rena watches the small, slug-like creature disgustingly  
suckle towards the camera. The reporter drops the mollusk  
back into the pool of oil.

REPORTER

Along with dozens of other species,  
the Artesian bottom mollusk may be  
entirely wiped out by this tragic  
incident, banishing them forever to  
extinction. Several organizations  
have been attempting to preserve  
this reef. Today: their optimistic  
efforts, made obsolete. I'm Julie  
Manchez.

Rena clicks off the TV. She looks to the octopus cookie in  
her hand, then hurls it across the room. It slams into Rena's  
collection of crystal miniatures, shattering them.

RENA

Shit.

INT. RANDOM CITY STREET - SUNNY AFTERNOON

Unkempt, over-weight, and miserable, Dave wobbles down the  
street with a cigarette in one hand and a beer in the other.  
He finishes off the beer and WHIPS the empty can at a pigeon,  
just missing

DAVE  
...fuckin' flyin' rats...

MARTIN (O.S.)  
Dave!

Dave turns around to see Martin, who looks like his entire world has collapsed around him.

MARTIN (cont'd)  
I fucked everything up, Dave. I  
fucking blew it. I fucking blew it!

DAVE  
What the hell are you-

MARTIN  
I didn't get the lab position! I  
worked my fucking ass off for a  
year and a half, just to have that  
jerk-off Azazel Margolis steal it!  
I needed that, everything depended  
on it!

Martin starts to sob.

DAVE  
Oh man, are you crying? Here big  
guy...

Dave reaches into his pocket and pulls out a beer.

DAVE(cont'd)  
Have a beer.

Martin takes a deep breath and accepts it.

MARTIN  
Thanks, Dave.  
(takes a sip of beer)  
Where were you headed?

DAVE  
To the liquor store. I failed out  
of school.

INT. ALLEY - 2ND YEAR COLLEGE - LATER

Dave and Martin share a bottle of whisky in a back alley  
behind a dumpster.

DAVE

...of course I got kicked out! I can't study, I can barely sleep. My life's completely fucked up. What am I gonna do now? I've got nothing!

Martin frantically points over Dave's shoulder.

MARTIN

(extremely drunk)

Dude! Dude! Look! It's that motherfucker Azazel Margoolips!

Dave turns and looks to see AZAZEL, gayly sitting on the terrace of a cafe with some friends.

MARTIN (cont'd)

That motherfucker! Look at him! Just sittin' there eatin'...that piece of shit stole a year and a half of my life! Eat up! Enjoy!

(turns to Dave)

I might as well have been kicked out of school.

Dave puts his head down in thought. He suddenly looks up, an odd look of insanity and determination on his face.

DAVE

I'm not gonna accept this. I'm going to try and change it. I don't want to be miserable!

Dave stands up. Martin is oblivious, staring solely at Azazel Margolis.

DAVE (cont'd)

I can't keep doing nothing! I'm gonna do something! I'm gonna take my destiny into my own hands! I'm gonna do something about this bull shit!!!

Dave suddenly bolts up the block. Martin glances at him running off.

MARTIN

(inspired and inebriated)

Fuckin' right, man...

Martin looks back at Azazel and his friends. Filled with anger and exceptionally drunk, he storms over to their table.

MARTIN (cont'd)  
You fucked me, Azazel!

Azazel jumps out of his seat, terrified.

AZAZEL  
Martin! I'm sorry, man! I-  
BAM! Martin PUNCHES Azazel in the face!

INT. THE GUY'S APARTMENT - SOON AFTER

Dave bursts into the apartment, scaring the shit out of Fogell, who was peacefully playing video games.

FOGELL  
Dude! What the hell, man?  
Dave ignores him and walks into Fogell's bedroom. Fogell gets up and follows him.

FOGELL (cont'd)  
What are you doing?

DAVE  
I have to take your car, Fogell.  
Dave takes Fogell's car keys off of his desk.

FOGELL  
Why the hell do you need my car?

DAVE  
I'll explain later, I'll be back in a couple days.

FOGELL  
A couple of days?!?

Dave walks out the door.

INT. THE GUY'S APARTMENT - HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Dave storms towards the front door of the building, Fogell running after him.

FOGELL  
Why? Talk to me! Did you witness a murder or something? Slow down!

DAVID  
I can't explain, you wouldn't  
understand. I'm gonna do what's  
right for everyone, whether they  
see it or not.

They walk out the front door.

EXT. CITY STREET - CONTINUOUS

FOGELL  
Stop! I order you to stop!

As Dave approaches the car, Fogell pulls out his cell phone.

FOGELL (cont'd)  
I'll call the cops! You crazy  
bastard, I swear to god!

Dave gets into the car and starts the engine.

FOGELL  
Please, tell me! Where are you  
taking my car?

DAVID  
To Rena.

Dave slams the door and pulls out.

FOGELL  
NO! Dude!

MUSIC UP: "IN MY ROOM" by BRIAN WILSON.

DAVE DRIVING ACROSS THE COUNTRY MONTAGE:

- Dave looks insane driving along the freeway. He plunges onwards into the night
- He wakes up asleep and half on the shoulder, half off the shoulder. A car nearly hits him, but swerves out of the way. Clearly, cars have been doing this all night.
- He stops driving and gets two huge coffees.
- Listening to the station that tells the time every ten seconds, he scarfs down a micro-wave burrito and drinks coffee as he drives.

- He falls asleep on the side of a country road in the car, a layer of visible facial hair forming. He looks more dishevelled than ever.

- He stops and buys three red bulls and a Double Gulp filled with coffee and mountain dew.

- He looks horrible, driving in the middle of the night, half awake and a danger to everyone around him. He spots his off-ramp and takes it.

EXT. RENA'S UNIVERSITY - 2ND YEAR COLLEGE - NIGHT

Dave parks Fogell's car and gets out. He pulls out Rena's address and starts running in search of her apartment. After a few blocks, he sees it!

INT. RENA'S APARTMENT BUILDING - MOMENTS LATER

Dave hustles up the stairs, runs down the hall, and arrives at her door. Panting and wheezing, he rings her doorbell.

Beat.

The door opens - it's RENA!

Wrapped in a blanket, she gasps at the sight of Dave, who looks completely insane!

RENA  
DAVE?!?

DAVID  
R...R...Rena. I've come to-

RENA  
Dave, what the hell are you doing here?

DAVID  
Rena, I want to be with you again.  
Do you want to be with me?

RENA  
Dave, no. Where did you come from?  
This is so weird.

Dave starts to cry.

RENA

What's wrong with you? Are you okay?

Dave gazes into Rena's eyes. He looks a little demented.

DAVE

You have to come with me.

RENA

To do what?

DAVE

To go to the insane asylum.

RENA

Why? Because you've gone crazy?!?

DAVE

No, Rena, because you have. And now I have to lock you up with all the other crazies. Because that's what you are!

RENA

Dave-

DAVE

Rena! You told me that if you ever gave up on our love, that I should save you! Our love isn't dead - you've just gone crazy!

All of a sudden, Ariel appears behind Rena with no shirt on.

ARIEL

What's going on, Reens?

DAVID

Reens? Who the fuck is this guy?

ARIEL

I'm her boyfriend, who are you?

DAVID

I'm her boyfriend!!

RENA

No you're not!

ARIEL

That's right! Now get the fuck out of here!

DAVE

Please, Rena. Just let me talk to-

RENA

No! You're acting crazy. Maybe if you cool down for a bit-

ARIEL

No! She's not talking to you ever, buddy, so fuck off!

RENA

(to Ariel)

Hey! You don't speak for me, Ariel!

DAVE

That's right, you fucking mermaid!

ARIEL

You're gonna take his side?!?

DAVE

Yes, she is!

ARIEL

(to Dave)

Keep your mouth shut! She's mine, get it?!?

Rena looks disgusted.

RENA

No! I'm not 'yours.' I'm done with you, both of you maniacs! Get out! GET OUT!

Rena shoves Ariel into the hall.

ARIEL

Rena-

RENA

Fuck!!!

She slams the door, leaving Dave and the topless Ariel alone in the hallway. They look at each other. There is no malice, they both know they've lost.

DAVE

\*Sniff\* Need a lift somewhere?

CUT TO BLACK.

TITLE CARD UP: **SUMMER.**

MUSIC UP: "DOIN' TIME" by SUBLIME

- In Rena and David's hometown, we sweep past two old men sweating their asses off as they walk down the street.
- A young skateboarder falls and hurts himself while his friends video tape it.
- Kids play with water guns. They accidentally squirt an old lady and she screams at them.
- Two girl scouts walk down the street in uniform, selling bottles of water for three dollars.
- Dave (who still doesn't look great, but looks much better) walks into his kitchen. His Father points at something on the fridge as he leaves for work. Dave sees a newspaper clipping taped to the fridge. The headline reads: "Studies show that post-secondary education vital to success in today's job market."
- Dave and Martin, wearing aprons, stand in the midst of a bustling fish market. Dave grabs a fish from a pile and tosses it to Martin. Martin places it on the ice of the display table.

DAVE

Man, I have got to get out of my house. My parents are driving me crazy. Everything they say is so stupid.

Dave grabs another fish and looks at it.

DAVE

That's why salmon are so lucky, their parents die right after they're born.

Dave throws Martin the fish.

MARTIN

Maybe you're smarter than them now. It happens, the creator is surpassed by his creation. Like Johnny 5.

Dave grabs another fish.

DAVE

Do you want to move into an apartment together?

MARTIN

I wish, man, but it'll be months before I'm out of debt. The lawyers were twice as much as what I had to pay Azazel.

Dave throws Martin the fish.

MARTIN

But at least I finally understand lawyer jokes; they really are fuck-heads.

Dave grabs another fish and moves it jaw.

DAVE

"I must leave this horrible place"

Dave hacks the fish's head off.

INT. VIDEO STORE - NIGHT

Rena, looking kind of down, browses the isles in her pajamas. She picks up 'Bill and Ted's Bogus Journey.' Her cell phone rings, the screen flashing "Tristan." Rena turns off the ringer and continues browsing.

TRISTAN (O.S.)

(muffled through glass)

You whore!

Rena turns to see Tristan standing outside the video store window with her cell phone in her hand.

RENA

Oh shit.

Tristan storms inside the store.

TRISTAN

What the fuck!?!

RENA

I'm sorry. I-

TRISTAN

You what? Don't want to talk to any of your friends or have fun with them all summer?!

RENA

(angry)

Sometimes it's fun to not have fun! Did you ever think of that? I've been having fun and being happy for almost 21 years, I'm taking a break, and it feels great!

TRISTAN

Have you lost your mind?

RENA

No. I just want to sit alone and watch Bill and Ted's Bogus Journey... because I can relate.

Tristan grabs a tape and hands it to Rena.

TRISTAN

Maybe you should rent this instead.

RENA

(reading tape)

"The Jackal"?

TRISTAN

Oh, I meant to hand you this.

She hands Rena "The Jerk" and walks out of the store.

INT. DAVE'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - MORNING

Dave's furious parents are seated at the kitchen table. His Father jumps up.

DAVE'S FATHER

No. What are you, crazy?

DAVE'S MOTHER

David, you're being silly. What do you need to go travelling for? And why China?

INTERCUT WITH:

INT. RENA'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

Rena talks to her distraught looking parents.

RENA'S DAD

Well, I think it's insane.

RENA'S MOM

Why would you want to change majors now? Before your third year? And your doing so well.

BACK ON DAVE AND HIS PARENTS:

DAVE

I told you, I need to experience something, get to know myself, you know?

ON RENA:

RENA

Mom, I can't keep doing it. Oceanic Science? What is that?

ON DAVE:

DAVE

I mean, do you really want me to go through my whole life never taking a chance? Never, you know, doing something I really want, just because it seems dangerous?

ON RENA:

RENA

I can't keep studying stuff with no destination. What am I going to become? Am I going to study Artesian mollusks my whole life? I want to do something practical.

ON DAVE AND HIS PARENTS:

DAVE'S FATHER

Exactly. There's no need to take a chance. You have to finish your degree. You get that under your belt, then, maybe we'll send you to Cancun for a couple weeks.

DAVE'S MOTHER  
And they have Bird Flu over there!

ON RENA AND HER PARENTS:

RENA'S DAD  
You went into Oceanic Sciences  
because you thought you could go  
against the odds and make a  
difference. That's noble. I don't  
think you should quit.

RENA'S MOM  
And Rena, that oil in Fiji is  
already washing away.

RENA  
Well...I'm sorry. I've already made  
up my mind.

CUT TO BLACK.

TITLE CARD UP: **THIRD YEAR.**

MUSIC UP: "RUN THROUGH THE JUNGLE" by CREEDENCE CLEARWATER  
REVIVAL

- An airport shuttle stops in the center of a bustling  
DOWNTOWN BEIJING. Dave, looking like a stereotypical  
traveller, a massive backpack strapped to his back, steps off  
the shuttle and starts walking down the crowded street.

- Dave is dropped at a hostel by a rickshaw. The RICKSHAW  
DRIVER signals for him to pay more money, but Dave won't do  
it and they get in a massive argument.

- A YOUNG BOY with an eye-patch sneaks up behind Dave as he  
eats noddles. The boy steals his sun glasses.

- Dave walks into his room and throws his bag on the bed.  
Absolutely parched, he drinks thirstily from the sinks tap  
and soon finds himself vomiting into his room's Chinese  
toilet, a little porcelain hole in the floor.

- Dave is on an incredibly busy train. There are beds in  
triple bunks, and nearly everyone in the cart is eating food  
foreign to Dave or smoking cigarettes. Strange Chinese music  
blares over the cabin speakers. Dave coughs, looking very  
frustrated.

- Days later, Dave is hopelessly lost in the middle of a  
hectic market.

Chinese people are waving chickens in his face and trying to get him to eat strange things as huddled groups of children point at him laughing.

- Dave is at an upbeat dance club drinking alone. For the first time in a while he seems a little relaxed. He soon strikes a conversation with an ISRAELI GIRL. They share a few drinks. He takes her back to his room. They talk for a while, laughing and having a good time, when she suddenly jumps him. They make out as they get undressed...

INT. DAVE'S HOSTEL ROOM - THE NEXT MORNING

Dave is lying in bed with AVIV, the Israeli girl. Dave looks pretty happy.

DAVE

So, what made you decide to go travelling?

AVIV

(thick Israeli accent)

Well, my boyfriend, he want to-

DAVE

(terrified)

Whoa, wait! You have a boyfriend?

AVIV

Don't worry, Daveed. I broke up with him in Cambodia. Three week ago.

DAVE

Well...okay, but-

KNOCK! KNOCK!

MALE ISRAELI VOICE (O.S.)

(through door, pissed)

Aviv?!?

AVIV

Oh shit!

Aviv hides under the blanket as the door swings open, revealing a large Israeli guy. (SHLOMO).

SHLOMO

(thick Israeli accent)

Aviv?!?

Dave is speechless. Shlomo storms towards Dave and yanks the blanket off, REVEALING the two naked in bed together. Aviv pops up, wrapping the blanket around her.

AVIV

(in Hebrew, subtitled)

*How did you find me?!?*

SHLOMO

(in Hebrew, subtitled)

*I was trained by army! I can find anyone!!!*

(turns to Dave, in English)

*You fuck my love?!?*

Dave jumps to his feet, trying to hide his nudity.

DAVE

Hey, man! I didn't-

BAM! Shlomo PUNCHES Dave in the face! He drops like a ton of bricks. Aviv runs out of the room while putting her clothes on, crying.

SHLOMO

AVIV!!!

Shlomo follows her as Dave lies naked and unconscious on the floor.

EXT. OUTDOOR RALLY - DAY

Rena, quite out of place, stands beside Alexa and all of her new hippy friends in the midst of a massive protest. Rows of riot police stand in opposition to the thousands of angry citizens.

ALEXA

The future is ours!!! Oppressive  
Nazi pigs!!!

(beat, turns to Rena)

So how's living alone?

Rena looks a little afraid.

RENA

Not so great. I thought it would inspire me to get out there and find out what I'm into, meet new people and stuff, but I just end up sitting on my ass every night.

(MORE)

RENA (cont'd)

Last week, I didn't leave my apartment for three days in a row. I watched two seasons of 24.

PROTESTERS (O.S.)

(in the background)

MURDERERS!!!/YOU CAN'T STOP CHANGE!!!/THE PEOPLE ARE ONE!!!

ALEXA

You've got to find like-minded people. Try new things, be open-minded, listen to the Earth. And you should start eating less carbohydrates, those'll really drain your energy-

SUDDENLY, a canister of tear gas lands between Alexa and Rena.

ALEXA (cont'd)

(to the crowd)

THE PIGS ARE SMOKING US OUT! RUN!!!

Alexa and Rena, along with the rest of the crowd, run away screaming, tears streaming down their cheeks.

Suddenly, a cop grabs Rena from behind. Another one grabs Alexa.

ALEXA

Let me go, pig! My dad's a lawyer!  
I'll sue your ass!

The cops drag them towards a paddy wagon.

INT. POLICE STATION - JAIL CELL - SOON AFTER

Rena and Alexa are sitting in a large cell with dozens of other protestors and several drunks.

ALEXA

Don't worry, this won't go on your permanent record, I promise. Lonny's been busted eight times and he's still clean.

Alexa points at a hippie in a Che Guevara t-shirt doing reiki on a random drunk.

Another drunk stumbles across the room and sits on the toilet beside Rena. Rena shoots Alexa a nasty look.

INT. RENA'S APARTMENT - 4AM

Rena walks into her apartment looking like hell, her eyes still irritated from the previous day's protest. She lays on her couch and listens to her messages. Her apartment is quite different than the one from 2nd year. Far less flowery and colorful, more bland.

ANSWERING MACHINE

(Alexa's voice)

\*Hey Rena, it's Alexa. How great was that rally yesterday?! I think we really made a difference. And can you believe the audacity of those pigs? Anyway, if you're still into trying new things, the socialist league is-

Rena hits the erase button.

ANSWERING MACHINE (cont'd)

(Tristan's voice)

\*Hey Reens, it's Tristan. Listen, this is bullshit. Call me when you've grown up.\*

This angers Rena. She erases the message, sits down and turns on the news. She turns on the VCR. A tape starts playing. It's a video of a firing burning, crackling noises and all.

She starts looking through a student activities catalogue. Nothing appeals to her. She looks at the aquatics sections, the martial arts, and yoga. Frustrated, she tosses the catalogue across the room.

INT. TRAIN STATION IN CHINA - DAY

Dave, sporting a nasty black eye, stands in a massive, chaotic ticket queue. He does his best to keep an eye out for pick-pockets as he reads his GUIDE BOOK.

DAVID

(reading aloud)

The Mid-to-South West areas of rural China are serene and isolated, an unpopular travel destination, but if you look hard enough you will be surprised by how much beauty you find. Highly recommended.

There is clearly a pickpocket behind Dave.

DAVE  
(reading, slowly  
annunciating)  
Ming-no-ya-ow. Ming-no-ya-ow.

Dave grabs his bag just in time and walks up to the counter. He points at Ming-no-ya-ow in his guide book and holds up one finger.

DAVID (cont'd)  
Ming-no-ya-ow.

EXT. CHINESE COUNTRY SIDE - DUSK

We see the endless arid farmland of the Chinese countryside. Sweating his ass off in the unrelenting heat, Dave wanders along a rustic dirt road. He seems quite worried - there is no one in sight and the sun is setting. He pulls out a map and looks at it, incredibly confused. He looks up to see a snake slither across the road. Then, some strange creature that resembles a raccoon with horns quickly run by and snatches up the snake.

DAVID  
Fuck me...

INT. OUTDOOR RAVE - NIGHT

Underneath a massive tent at an outdoor rave, a miserable Rena and a rowdy Tristan stand in line with dozens of other ravers.

RENA  
(yelling loudly)  
Is this my punishment for being  
such a bitch?

TRISTAN  
(yelling loudly)  
Oh, come on! This is fun! I thought  
you wanted to experience new things  
and shit like that! Now you can say  
you've been to a rave!

Rena and Tristan reach the front of the line - a police search. The cops rustle through their purses, and a female cop quickly pats the them down. They are let in.

RENA  
 (yelling loudly)  
 I'd rather try something that  
 doesn't involve a cop shoving her  
 hand up my ass!

Rena surveys the area, eyeing the drug-out teens in their colorful get-ups. She stares at a guy spinning light sticks beside a couple ravenously making out.

RENA  
 (yelling loudly)  
 Just remember, I'm trying to be  
 happy, but in reality, I'm still  
 completely miserable!

Tristan gives her a stern look.

RENA  
 (yelling loudly)  
 But I guess I haven't danced in a  
 while!

Rena starts dancing; she's terrible, clearly out of practice. She watches several men ogling a girl dancing seductively and gets self-conscious.

RENA  
 (yelling loudly)  
 Hey, Tristan, I'm going to get some  
 water, you want some?

TRISTAN  
 (yelling loudly)  
 Yeah, sure!

Rena wriggles through the dancing mass of people towards the water tent.

INT. RAVE - WATER TENT - MOMENTS LATER

Rena, bored and annoyed, stands in a massive line-up for water. She leans out and looks to the front of the line.

DRUGGED-UP FRENCH GUY  
 How much?

RAVE EMPLOYEE  
 5 dollars.

DRUGGED-UP FRENCH GUY  
 I only have euros, how many euros?

Rena stands back in line. She turns to look down the line and notices the guy behind her also looks bored. She nods at him.

GUY

I think we're the only people here who aren't smiling like morons.

RENA

(surprised)

Uh...yeah, well, this isn't really my scene.

GUY

Yeah, I know. I've been trying to have fun, but every loud drumbeat is like a punch to my abdomen.

RENA

You could pop thirty tabs of E and do some meth. Then you'll be on cloud nine, just like Joe Handsome over here.

She points at a drugged-up teenager manically chewing on a glow stick while staring in fear at something that clearly isn't there. The boy takes a big sip from his empty water bottle, then puts the cap back on.

DEREK

No thanks, I'd rather stay off the H-train.

(beat)

I'm Derek.

DEREK

Rena. Nice to meet you.

They are at the front of the line.

RAVE EMPLOYEE

What do you want?

DEREK

(to Rena)

What are you having?

RENA

Water.

DEREK

Two waters and a red bull.

## INT. CHINESE HOUSE - NIGHT

Tired, hungry, and suffering from some form of exposure, Dave sits in the poor Chinese family's kitchen, ravenously eating a bowl of rice and eggplant. The whole family is there (parents, three children, and a few other nondescript relatives).

Dave turns to the FATHER.

DAVID

I know you can't understand me, but if you hadn't picked me up, I'd probably be dead right now. Thanks.

Dave bows, then shovels some more food in his mouth.

DAVID (cont'd)

And this is seriously the best fucking Chinese food I've ever had in my entire life.

The family's Father offers Dave a cigarette.

DAVID (cont'd)

Oh! No thanks. I don't smoke.

The Father seems confused. He offers Dave the cigarette again.

DAVID (cont'd)

No. Thank you.

Dave shakes his head back and forth and waves his hands. The Father suddenly looks enraged. Clearly he has been deeply offended by Dave's refusal.

FATHER

Ding-go! Hey-mo-nichi-mao! Gayo!  
Gayo!

DAVID

What? What?

FATHER

Gayo! Dee-lay-mo! Dee-lay mo!

The Father shoves the cigarette in Dave's face.

DAVID

Fine! Fine!

Dave takes the cigarette. The Father lights it, pleased. He then gets up and fetches a gas canister from the other side of the room.

Dave watches curiously, and somewhat concerned, as the rest of the family scampers out of the kitchen.

The Father puts two cups down and fills them with a clear liquid from the gas canister. Dave sniffs it and recoils! The Father smiles and raises his glass.

FATHER

Gay-so!

They both shoot back the drink - GAG! - Dave can barely handle it. The Father laughs heartily, smoking a cigarette while filling their glasses again.

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. CHINESE HOUSE - LATER THAT NIGHT

Drunk off their asses, Dave and the Father laugh hysterically, literally crying. An ash tray with dozens of cigarette butts lays between them as they pass a Chinese/English dictionary back and forth. The Father points at something in the book.

DAVID

(laughing hard as he  
reads)

"Manhood"? Your wife loves your  
*manhood*?

They both start laughing even harder.

DAVID (cont'd)

You're great, man! You're fucking  
great! You're a Chinese guy in  
China with me...getting drunk...

(beat, laughing)

You've made me happy, man! I am  
just...so...happy right now, ya  
know, man? Haha.

The Father passes Dave another cigarette. Dave takes it.

FATHER

(laughing hysterically)

Ah-Ye-ia-wa, do mo! Gayo!!!

DAVID  
Gayo! Motherfuckin, gayo, man.

They both fall to the floor laughing!

INT. RENA'S APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

Rena goes into her living room where Derek is watching a show about GENGHIS KHAN on The History Channel. He gawks as the B-grade actor playing Genghis decapitates a peasant.

Rena puts the phone back in the charger.

RENA  
Derek, can we do dinner tomorrow night? My friend Tristan wants to go to Ladies Drink Free. If you want, you can borrow a dress and get plastered for nothing.

Derek chuckles.

DEREK  
No, go out and have fun with your friend. If it's not weird, I'll just say here and watch TV.

RENA  
You should come. I want you to meet my friends, you'll like them.

DEREK  
I'm sure I will. I'll meet them another night. I'm not good in a bar. I can never hear what anyone is saying, my ears ring for two days afterwards. You'll probably want to dance anyway, and you saw me at that rave, I'm not a very good dancer. It's cool--  
(points at TV)  
They're showing psychological profiles of dictators all night. Stalin, Hitler, Vlad the Impailer. Right now they're showing-  
(doing William Shatner)  
Kaaaaaaahn!!!!

Rena laughs.

RENA  
Wrath of Kahn. Very good. Well,  
have fun being anti-social.

DEREK  
I always do.

EXT. CHINA - LOOK-OUT ON TOP OF A FOOT HILL - DAY

Dave and a tall Australian guy named JEFF are standing beside a shack and laughing hysterically as a group of four monkeys surround them.

JEFF  
(laughing)  
They're so cute, but I'm still kind  
of afraid.

Dave leans forwards to look closely at one. All the monkeys quickly scamper away and hop into the nearby trees.

DAVE  
Christ! Did you see the chompers on  
those things? Imagine a whole pack  
of them on you. ARR!!! OOG! OOG!

Dave acts like a wild monkey. Both Dave and Jeff are a little out of breath from laughing so hard.

JEFF  
Where the hell has your mate gone  
off to?

FOGELL (O.S.)  
Right here, you fucking cock  
suckers.

Dave and Jeff turn to see Fogell eating some strange meat.

DAVE  
Where the hell have you been?

FOGELL  
Back off, man. I'm not worldly like  
you assholes. I got lost.

DAVE  
What are you eating?

FOGELL  
Pigeon jerky.

DAVE

Seriously? What's it taste like?

He offers Jeff and Dave, Jeff takes a piece.

FOGELL

(takes a bite)

Like a dried out pigeon.

JEFF

I love it. It's hard to find, though. Tijuana, Madagascar, Fiji, and here. Wise nations.

DAVE

You went to Fiji?

Jeff shoves it towards Dave.

DAVE

Get it away from me.

They all laugh. Jeff continues eating.

JEFF

Yeah. Me and my buddy went to clean up that oil spill. It was horrible, it killed everything...even the mollusk on the bottom of the ocean.

Dave excitedly sits up.

DAVE

Hey! That's crazy. My ex-girlfriend was trying to save those mollusks.

JEFF

You should go to Fiji. It's amazing.

FOGELL

Dudes, seriously, what the fuck are you talking about? I'm only here for a week, and here beers cost 25 cents, so can we please get our drink on?

SMASH CUT TO:

## INT. CHINA - BAR - NIGHT

Dave, Fogell, Jeff, and two Chinese guys and a Chinese girl are enjoying a wide array of alcoholic drinks, completely shit faced, in a nearly empty bar.

FOGELL

(really drunk)

Somebody should go to the head of the oil company's house and pour oil all over him.

DAVE

Maybe I should go to Fiji for a couple months. It could be nice.

FOGELL

Months? How long are you gonna keep going?

DAVE

I don't know. I mean, I've got the money to keep truckin', so why not? At least until I get SARS.

FOGELL

Fuckin' eh, just go 'till your dead, man!

Dave pulls a bunch of shot glasses together, grabs a bottle of whisky, and sloppily fills all of them.

DAVE

GAYO!!!

## INT. RENA'S APARTMENT - DUSK

Rena and Derek walk through Rena's front door. Derek is holding a doggy bag from lunch.

DEREK

I think it's unfair to say that I didn't like them. They clearly didn't like me. Tristan compared me to your ex-boyfriend, right in front of me!

RENA

So? They got along. And you were arguing with them the whole time!

DEREK

Well excuse me if I didn't agree that Alexa's *Humanistic Love Foundation*, or whatever it was called, was going to transform the planet by concentrating on the word equality!

RENA

So, she's kind of dumb, but I don't think that there's anything wrong with a little optimism.

DEREK

Well, I do think there's something wrong with blind optimism-

RENA

There's a difference. I used to think I could change the world, but I dropped it and tried to get realistic. But hey, like I could have done something, right?

DEREK

Well, yeah...that's a whole other can of worms.

Rena looks exhausted from debating.

RENA

Did you get a membership for that apartment searching web-page yet?

DEREK

Oh, yeah. That's right.

Derek looks at the clock.

DEREK

Uh...I'll do it later tonight. "Rounders" is on in under five minutes.

The phone RINGS.

RENA

I'll get it.

DEREK

Okay. Hurry, I'll make popcorn.

Rena runs over and picks up the phone.

RENA (cont'd)  
Hello?

DAVID (O.S.)  
(through the phone)  
Rena?

Rena finds herself delightfully surprised to hear Dave's voice.

RENA  
Oh my god. Dave?

She looks back at Derek.

DAVID (O.S.)  
Hi Rena. How's it going?

RENA  
It's...it's going good.

DAVE  
I was just on MSN and I saw  
Tristan. After I convinced her I  
wasn't a lunatic anymore, she gave  
me your number.

Rena puts her hand over the receiver. She can't believe it's Dave.

RENA (cont'd)  
(to Derek)  
It's an old friend, long distance.  
I'll be back in a few minutes.

DEREK  
Hurry. We've definitely got less  
than three minutes left.

Rena runs into her bathroom and shuts the door.

INT. RENA'S APARTMENT - BATHROOM - CONTINUOUS

RENA  
Dave? How are you?

DAVID  
I'm doing really good. I'm  
travelling right now, I'm in China.

RENA  
I heard. That's insane.

INTERCUT WITH:

EXT. SHANGHAI - CITY STREET - PAY-PHONE - CONTINUOUS

Dave stands on the side of an insanely busy street. He looks better than he's ever looked: happy, confident, and energized. Hundreds of cars honk while people scream at each other in Chinese.

DAVID

Yeah, it's pretty crazy. But,  
before I get into it, I owe you an  
apology, and I just have to say it-  
(beat)

I'm sorry. I put you in a terrible  
position. I was stupid and  
immature, and you deserved much  
better than that, so, for any of  
your time I've wasted, and for all  
the unhappiness I've ever caused  
you, I'm sorry. I just...I really  
haven't enjoyed having you out of  
my life altogether.

A big smile comes across Rena's face.

RENA

Wow.

(beat)

Um...sure. Yes. I mean, of course.  
Don't even give it a second  
thought.

(beat)

I...I kind of can't believe I'm  
talking to you.

Dave smiles as someone waves a chicken in his face.

RENA (cont'd)

It's good to hear from you.

They both take a moment to let the massive weight lift  
itself. They can be comfortable once again.

DAVID

Whew! That feels better.

RENA

Yeah. It does. So...now we can  
talk? Tell me, what the hell's  
going on? How long have you been  
there? Say something in Chinese.

DAVID  
Po-lee Tang-zee

RENA  
What's it mean?

DAVID  
"Travel Abroad." It's the name of  
my guide book.

They both laugh.

RENA  
And how long have you been there?

DAVID  
About three months; you'd love it  
here. It's like being on another  
planet

RENA  
When are you coming home?

Suddenly, Rena hears a KNOCK at the door.

DEREK (O.S.)  
Rena! Rounders is on! I repeat,  
Rounders is on!

Rena muffles the phone again.

DAVID  
(to Rena)  
I don't really know, I've been  
having such an amazing time...at  
the moment, I seriously can't think  
of a reason to go back.

Rena covers the phone.

RENA  
(to Derek)  
Alright! I'll be there. Don't  
worry.  
(to Dave)  
Who's with you? Martin or Fogell?

DAVID  
Neither. I'm alone.

RENA  
(surprised)  
Really?

DAVID

Yeah. Fogell came to visit, but Martin's still digging himself out of a massive financial hole.

DEREK (O.S.)

Great goodness, you are missing out!

DAVID

But what about you? What's going on?

RENA

Well, I live alone.

Rena covers the phone again.

RENA (cont'd)

(to Derek)

I'm coming!!!

(into phone, to Dave)

But I'm seeing this guy Derek, and we're both going to be here in the summer, so we're looking for a place together.

DAVID

Awesome. It's good to hear that. And what about your friends? Tristan told me she might not be a lesbian anymore. A pretty brief stint, eh?

Dave sees three Chinese prostitutes gesturing for him to come over. He politely waves them away. They giggle as they walk off.

RENA

Well, Tristan and Tracy broke up, but she still doesn't know where she stands. She seems to be suggesting it was just a crazy college thing, but we'll see.

DAVID

Is Alexa following Phish yet?

RENA

No. But she's on her way to being one of those people who lives in the trees like Ewoks.

They both laugh.

DAVID  
So how's school?

RENA  
It's fine. I mean, it's fine...but,  
I have no clue what I want to do,  
career wise. And so I've got that,  
like...looming. It's just stressing  
me out. I dropped my major.

Dave is surprised.

DAVID  
Really? That's crazy.

RENA  
Why is that crazy?

DAVID  
I don't know. You loved those  
mollusks, and there's still more  
mollusks out there that need  
lovin'.

Rena smiles.

RENA  
Yeah, well, I was tinkering with  
the thought of going back to it.

DAVID  
You totally should. Oh! And I  
wanted to tell you, I met this guy  
Jeff who helped clean that oil  
spill, so in honor of his efforts,  
I decided to buy him a million  
drinks-

AUTOMATED VOICE  
\*\*BEEP\*\* \*YOU HAVE FIFTEEN SECONDS  
REMAINING ON YOUR PHONE CARD\*

RENA  
(under her breath)  
Fuck.

DAVID  
Ah, shit! Stupid fucking phone  
cards.

DEREK (O.S.)

Rena! John Malkovich is on!

DAVID

Well, it was great talking to you  
Rena.

RENA

Yeah, I'll...it was nice hearing  
from you. I hope I talk to you  
again soon.

Click. The card expires. Rena slumps down onto the toilet.  
After a silent moment, she hangs it up.

DEREK (O.S.)

Oh! Sorry Matt, Malkovich takes it  
on the river!

Rena walks out of the bathroom and sees Derek watching  
television on the couch. She notices that he's drinking from  
the clay mug with a deformed woman's face on it that Dave  
gave her. Derek turns to Rena.

DEREK

Anyone who doesn't like this movie  
is a moron.

Derek takes a big swig from the mug.

EXT. RUINS OF AN ANCIENT TEMPLE - DAY

Dave walks through the ruins of an ancient Chinese temple. A  
couple tourists walk past him as he takes a photo of a clay  
warrior.

VOICE

(Israeli accent)

*Hello? Excuse.*

Dave turns around to see Shlomo, the Israeli guy who beat him  
up at the beginning of his trip.

DAVID

(terrified)

Whoa! Whoa! Back off, man! You  
already hit me, okay! I didn't know  
she had-

SHLOMO

*No, no, no, no, no. Don't worry, it's  
fine. I em not angry.*

Shlomo approaches Dave with a big smile on his face.

SHLOMO (cont'd)

*I em sorry. I em happy to see you,  
to say I em sorry, for the little  
tap on the eye.*

Dave keeps his distance.

DAVID

You're sorry? I didn't wake up till  
noon the next day!

SHLOMO

*No! Is not your fault. Aviv is very  
beautiful. Very big breast, nice  
ass. Everybody want to fuck,  
nothing against you.*

Dave eases up.

DAVID

Nothing against me?

Aviv comes around the corner holding two popsicles. She sees  
Dave.

AVIV

*Daveed!!*

She hugs David, who is still shocked he's not in the middle  
of losing a fist fight, then gives one of the popsicles to  
Shlomo.

AVIV

*I em so sorry about getting you  
beat up. You are nice guy. At least  
you got a good fuck out of it.*

Shlomo and Aviv laugh. They couldn't be happier. Dave is very  
weirded out.

DAVE

Whoa. So, you guys are back  
together.

AVIV

*Of course. I take him back. He  
track me all the way across Indo-  
China. Very difficult. Showed good  
determination.*

DAVE  
No kidding.

SHLOMO  
*I track her to Ezerbijan and  
assassinate its Prime Minister if I  
have to. You know what I mean?*

DAVE  
I do.

AVIV  
*This is why I love him.*

SHLOMO  
*She is the only woman I will ever  
love. You know?*

This strikes a chord with Dave.

DAVE  
Yes. I do.

SHLOMO  
*I need her. You know?*

The wheels are turning faster and faster in Dave's head.

DAVE  
Yeah.

SHLOMO  
*Of course you do. You fucked her  
too!*

The couple laughs again, as in love as can be.

AVIV  
*See you later, Daveed.*

Dave watches Aviv and Shlomo walk away, holding hands and laughing. A smile creeps across his face. He takes off towards a rickshaw.

EXT. HONK KONG AIRPORT - DAY

Dave sprints towards the distant terminal as fast as he can, his massive bag heaving up and down.

INT. HONG KONG AIRPORT - DAY

Dave, out of breath and sweating profusely, stands at the ticket counter talking to an innocent looking Chinese TICKET LADY, who is holding a huge pile of money.

DAVID  
(panting)  
Are you kidding me!?!

TICKET LADY  
No.

Much to the ticket lady's shock, Dave shoves his hands down his pants, fishes around for a bit, unzips something, and then pulls out eight dollars American. He adds it the pile.

DAVID (cont'd)  
Is that enough? It's everything I  
have!

EXT. AIRPORT - RENA'S COLLEGE TOWN - NIGHT

Dave sprints out of the arrival terminal of the airport. It is the dead of winter, snow covers the ground, and Dave is still wearing a t-shirt and shorts.

He sights a bus stop. Dave digs into his pocket and pulls out what money he has - a handful of Chinese coins.

He runs over to the bus and climbs aboard, receiving a strange look from the BUS DRIVER.

DAVID  
How 'bout this heat?

The Bus Driver cracks a smile as Dave nonchalantly drops his Chinese coins into the pay box and takes a seat. The bus drives off.

EXT. RENA'S COLLEGE CAMPUS - NIGHT

Dave hops off the bus. He spots a nearby clock tower - it's 4:35am. He throws his bag on his back and starts running across the quad.

Suddenly, he stops dead in his tracks. Horrified, he stares at a kiosk that's completely covered in FOR RENT signs!

**Perfect 2 Person Apartment - A Couple's Dream.**

Cozy little 1 bedroom with office space - 1 year leases only.

Penthouse with hot tub and romantic view - Affordable long-term leases available.

Dave frantically TEARS down the FOR RENT signs, cramming them in a nearby garbage can with a great deal of satisfaction.

He turns and gazes across the rest of the quad - a look of terror sweeps across his face - there are dozens of kiosks, all covered in FOR RENT signs, scattered everywhere!!!

EXT. RENA'S COLLEGE CAMPUS - 3RD YEAR COLLEGE - EARLY MORNING

The sun has risen and all the kiosks in the quad are bare. Students have just begun arriving for class.

Dave finishes writing the word "NO" in front of the word "VACANCY" on a large sign in front of an apartment building.

He looks up at the clock tower - it's 7 am!

He runs over to a pay phone and digs into his pockets, but then remembers he has no money.

Dave immediately gets onto his hands and knees, desperately searching for loose change. He doesn't find any. He turns to some passing students.

DAVE

Excuse me. Do you have a quart-

Dave realizes the student is Tristan, who is with Alexa.

DAVE

Tristan!

TRISTAN

(shocked)

Dave?

DAVID

Do you know where Rena is?

TRISTAN

What are you doing here? You told me you weren't crazy!

DAVID

I'm not.

Dave shivers in the unforgiving cold.

TRISTAN

You literally could not look more crazy right now.

ALEXA

This is Dave. Like, Dave, Dave?

DAVE

Do you know where she is? Please.

ALEXA

(to Tristan)

I don't think we should tell him, that's bad karm-

TRISTAN

(to Alexa)

I told you to drop that shit. Fuck.

(to Dave)

Yeah. Fine, why not? She's on her way to her Derek's.

DAVE

No!!!

TRISTAN

Turn right, then go two blocks that way to Dogwood. Then take a left, and it's the third house on the right, a red door. Got it?

Dave repeats this information in his head then starts running.

DAVID

Thank you!!!

Dave rounds the corner and sprints across the street, when suddenly, he slips on a sheet of ice-

SLAM! He smashes to the ground - CRACK!!!

DAVE

AAAAAAHHHHH!!!!

Dave looks down at his ankle - it's broken!!! Dave struggles to his feet, but falls.

DAVE

AAAAAAHHHHHH!!!! FUUUUUUCKKKK!!!!

Dave struggles forward on his broken ankle, tired, cold, and in pain. SUDDENLY, a snowball SMACKS him in the side of the head! Dave falls to the ground.

DAVID

AHHH!

He sees that it was three KIDS. They run away, laughing. Dave rises to his feet, pushes through the pain, and picks up the pace!

He sights the Dogwood sign, turns the corner, and spots Rena up the block!!! With everything left in him, Dave runs towards her as she approaches an apartment building. She pages an apartment and the door is buzzed open. With one final burst of speed and determination, Dave dashes towards Rena as she enters the building.

DAVE

RENA!!!

Rena turns around to see Dave, in tropical summer clothes, skin glowing red, standing at the bottom of the stairs.

RENA

David?

David completely collects himself. His immense pain is not even noticeable as he looks into Rena's eyes.

DAVID

I love you. I just needed to come back and tell you-

Suddenly, Dave's ankle gives out and he collapses, FALLING HARD.

DAVE

AAAAAAARRRRRRRGGGGGHHHHHHH!!!!!!!!

RENA

Oh my god!! What happened??!!

Rena kneels over Dave and sees his broken ankle.

DAVE

My ankle!!!

RENA

(deeply concerned)

Holy shit! Are you okay?

DAVE

No!!!

Derek's voice comes through the buzzer.

DEREK (O.S.)

Rena? Hello? Hellooo?

The first apartment's door opens and Derek steps out. He walks towards them carrying a shampoo bottle.

DEREK

Whoa. Rena. What's going on? Who's this guy?

RENA

It's Dave! Get your car! We have to take him to a hospital.

DAVE

I'm dying!

RENA

You're not dying.

DEREK

Who's Dave? Why is he dressed like that?

RENA

He's my ex-

DAVE

AAAAARRRGGGG!!!

DEREK

Your ex? Why is he writhing in pain outside my-

RENA

Would you just get your car?

DAVE

Is the bone sticking out?! It feels like it is.

DEREK

Is it? Ew! Gross.

RENA

Derek! Car!

Derek runs over to his nearby car. Dave looks over at Derek.

DAVE

Rena, I...ow...I didn't come here to ruin what you have with your boyfriend. I just came here to tell you I love you. So, uh, yeah...I love you.

Rena looks at Dave, leans over, and much to Dave's surprise, kisses him.

Derek pulls up beside them.

DEREK

Oh, come on! You break-up with me and two days later you're making-out with some guy?

DAVE

You broke up with him?

RENA

Yeah, after we talked. I was just getting my shampoo.

DEREK

I can't believe you've been seeing your ex. Here's your fucking shampoo!

RENA

No, Derek! I haven't been seeing anyone.

She smiles.

RENA

He flew here from China today, just to tell me he loves me.

Derek seems to find that sufficiently logical.

DEREK

Wow. All the way from China on a broken ankle. That's pretty slick. Hop in!

Dave and Rena get in the car and passionately embrace. Derek drops the shampoo in the back seat.

As they pull away, we fade to black.

FADE TO BLACK. THE END.