

The Most Annoying Man In The World

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FADE IN:

INT. SID'S COFFEE SHOP - AFTERNOON

STUART PIVNICK, 32, sits alone at a table. Stuart is an enthusiastic, hyper, immature, naive, nosy, arbitrarily opinionated, completely un-self-aware, chronic complainer with no sense of personal space. In short, Stuart Pivnick is The Most Annoying Man in the World. A WAITRESS sets a plate of food in front of him. Stuart examines the sandwich.

STUART

Excuse me. There's mayo on this
and I asked for no mayo.

WAITRESS

I don't recall you asking for no
mayonnaise.

STUART

Really?!

Stuart takes out a small tape recorder and pushes play.

STUART'S VOICE

(on recorder)

Yes... I would like a BLT sandwich
please. I would like to substitute
the bacon with turkey. Instead of
lettuce, can I get cole slaw? And
instead of tomatoes, I would like
onions. Oh, and please, nooo mayo.

Stuart stops the recorder and grins at the stunned waitress.

STUART

I guess someone owes someone an
apology.

INT. AIRPLANE - DAY

ALAN PIVNICK, mid-thirties, is wedged between two obese passengers. Alan is an uptight, impatient introvert. He's speaking on the Airphone. The OBESE WOMAN on his right holds an INFANT. The OBESE MAN on the left is clearly listening in on Alan's conversation, causing Alan to be self-conscious.

ALAN

...and now I have a three hour
layover in Chicago.

(MORE)

ALAN (cont'd)
I'm sorry, honey, this was the only
flight I could get on such short
notice...

The obese woman undoes her blouse and exposes her huge grotesque boob. Alan recoils in disgust. He tries not to look as the woman breast-feeds her baby.

ALAN (CONT'D)
So, I'm not gonna get to Philly
'til like 8 o'clock. Well, 8:55.

INT. PATTERSON HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - SAME TIME

Alan's fiance KRISTEN PATTERSON is getting her wedding dress fitted as she talks on the phone. Kristen is a sweet, perky, outgoing, attractive woman in her early-thirties.

KRISTEN
You *had* to extend your bachelor
party one more day. You should
have left Vegas yesterday when you
were supposed to. You still have
the rings with you, right?

INTERCUT BETWEEN AIRPLANE AND PATTERSON HOUSE

ALAN
Of course, I still have the rings.

Alan frantically checks his pockets. He pulls out a ring box and checks to make sure rings are inside. He SIGHS relieved.

KRISTEN
Just hurry up and get here. I miss
you. I love you.

Alan looks at the passengers on both sides of him. They are both staring at him. He is clearly uncomfortable. Beat.

KRISTEN (CONT'D)
Aren't you gonna say you love me?

ALAN
I can't really talk right now.

KRISTEN
(playful)
Honey, are you embarrassed because
there's people around you? You
know, Saturday you're gonna have to
show your emotions in front of a
lot more people than a few
strangers in coach.

ALAN

Okay, fine. I love you. There, I said it. Now everybody on the plane knows all my private love-stuff.

Kristen smiles.

INT. TECHCORP - OFFICE - AFTERNOON

MR. MUNSON, a well-dressed businessman in his early fifties sits behind a desk, addressing a CLIENT.

MR. MUNSON

...and if this merger happens, all--

Stuart KNOCKS and steps into the room.

STUART

Excuse me, Mr. Munson? Arthur took my three-hole-punch out of my cubicle and he won't give it back.

MR. MUNSON

(annoyed)

Have Lucy get you another one.

STUART

I would, but every time I go up there, Lucy is on one of her twenty minute cigarette breaks.

MR. MUNSON

Stuart, I'm in the middle of a meeting.

STUART

Right, sorry.

Stuart backs out of the room.

MR. MUNSON

(to client)

Sorry about that. Anyway, as I--

Stuart re-enters the room.

STUART

I just want to make sure. You are gonna reprimand Arthur, right?

MR. MUNSON

We'll discuss this later.

He motions for Stuart to leave. Stuart starts to go, then...

STUART

Real quick... I also thought you should know that somebody keeps defacing my signs in the breakroom.

Stuart holds up a handmade sign. On top of the words "Please clean up after yourself! Your mom doesn't work here." is a crude drawing of a man being hit over the head with a huge cock. Above the man it says "Stuart".

MR. MUNSON

Stuart, please. Get out.

STUART

Gotcha.

(as he exits; rapidly)
Mitchell was twenty minutes late again today.

Stuart exits. Mr. Munson grimaces.

EXT. O'HARE AIRPORT - ESTABLISHING SHOT - LATE AFTERNOON

The weather's awful. It's snowing and the visibility is low.

INT. O'HARE AIRPORT - TERMINAL - LATE AFTERNOON

We PAN down a huge row of "Departure" monitors. Next to every single flight it reads "CANCELLED". Alan shakes his head at the monitors as he speaks on his cell phone.

ALAN

That's right. The whole airport's closed. They promised me I'd be on the 8AM flight tomorrow morning.

INTERCUT BETWEEN TERMINAL AND PATTERSON HOUSE

Kristen makes origami swans as she talks on the phone.

KRISTEN

Our wedding is Saturday, and now you're not getting here 'til Tuesday? We have a whole list of things we're supposed to do.

ALAN

What do you need me to do? I can do it from here.

KRISTEN

Well, you can't try on your tuxedo from there. You can't help me make origami swans from there. You can't go to dinner with Uncle Bert and Aunt Liz tonight from there.

ALAN

I can tell you're stressing from here. Listen, everything will get taken care of. I'm in charge of the piano player and the flowers. I can handle that from here. And I'll be there early tomorrow to help out with whatever else comes up. Everything will be fine.

KRISTEN

Okay. You're right. I know.

ALAN

Now I just have to figure out where the hell I'm gonna sleep tonight. As soon as the airport closed, every hotel within a fifty mile radius sold out. I can't sleep at the airport. You know my back.

KRISTEN

You're *from* Chicago. You must know somebody you can stay with. How about that girl you dated in high school? What was her name? Becky Slutface?

ALAN

I already tried calling her. They didn't have any listings for anyone with the last name "Slutface". But thanks for the suggestion. *I love you.* Goodbye.

Alan hangs up. He thinks and then cringes. He looks pained. He re-opens his phone to dial, then quickly shuts it.

ALAN (CONT'D)

(to himself)

I can't.

(starts pacing)

It's only one night... It *is* an emergency... How bad can it be?

He musters his courage, then opens his phone and dials.

INT. ELEVATOR - SAME TIME

Stuart stands in the crowded, moving elevator. A few PEOPLE roll their eyes as he pushes the lobby button repeatedly. Then, Stuart lets out a FART. People look disgusted.

STUART

Sorry. Turkey makes me gassy.

Stuart's CELL PHONE RINGS to the tune of Falco's "Rock Me Amadeus". He answers with his best Larry King impersonation.

STUART (CONT'D)

Caller, you're on with Larry King...

(excited, regular voice)

Alan?!

(to everyone)

It's my brother Alan! Oh my God!

(into phone)

Are you calling from the South Pole?

(to everyone)

Alan works at a research station in the middle of the South Pole!

(into phone)

You're here in Chicago?!

(to everyone)

He's here in Chicago!

ANNOYED BUSINESSMAN

I believe I speak for myself and everybody in this elevator when I say "I could fucking care less."

INT. COFFEE-TERIA - LATE AFTERNOON

Kristen is drinking coffee with her younger sister, PATTI and her childhood friend, DANA.

PATTI

It's so great to see you, Kristen. I wish you'd come home more often. Have mom and dad been bugging you about moving back?

KRISTEN

Yeah. But it's not gonna happen. Our jobs are in LA. Besides, we really like it there.

Dana lifts her coffee.

DANA
Here's to marriage. Hope yours
lasts longer than Patti's.

PATTI
Me and Bill are only separated.

KRISTEN
You've been separated for like a
year. That's not called a
separation. That's called *over*.

DANA
So, are there gonna be any cute
single guys at the wedding?

PATTI
Not that you haven't already slept
with.

DANA
What about Alan's friends?

KRISTEN
Alan only has a few friends coming
to the wedding, and the only single
one has one of those gross hairy
moles on his face.

DANA
He must have a cute cousin or a
brother or something.

KRISTEN
No. It's kind of sad, but Alan
doesn't have any family. His
parents passed away a while ago,
and he was an only child.

INT. STUART'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - SAME TIME

Tiny, immaculate. Stuart throws open the door and sees Alan.

STUART
Brother!

Stuart grabs Alan and squeezes him. Alan is clearly not as
excited about the reunion as Stuart is.

STUART (CONT'D)
I can't believe it's been eight
years. Wow. You look so much
older. It is so good to see you.

Stuart ushers Alan into the apartment.

ALAN

Thanks for letting me stay here.

STUART

I wish you were staying longer.
So, what's in Philadelphia anyway?
A special lady?

ALAN

No. No girls. I'm not seeing
anyone. I'm just stuck at that
isolated research station in the
middle of the South Pole. I don't
have much interaction with anybody.

STUART

I'm not dating anyone either. I'm
focusing more on work. I'm up for
this big promotion. I wouldn't
want a girl getting in the way.

ALAN

Right, sure. I hear ya.

STUART

You get my e-mails and my phone
messages don't you?

ALAN

Yes. Sorry I don't really ever get
to respond. You know I'm not
supposed to use the phone or the
computer for personal use.

STUART

I understand. So you never said,
why are you going to Philadelphia?

ALAN

Oh, uh, it's a scientist thing. I'm
going to a, uh, summit between us
scientists who work at the South
Pole, and a bunch of scientists who
work at the North Pole. Philly's
kind of the halfway point.

Alan changes the subject by pointing to some framed photos of
him and Stuart. He holds one up of them at a party.

ALAN (CONT'D)

Hey. I don't remember this.

STUART

That was my 30th birthday. I Photoshopped you into the picture. Actually I Photoshopped all those people into the picture. The original photo was just me standing in front of that wall right there.

ALAN

I was wondering how you knew Jessica Alba.

STUART

So, I have tonight all planned out. First we'll go bowling. Then we'll get hot dogs at Portillos. Then--

ALAN

I'm pretty beat. Maybe I can just stay here? You should go, though.

STUART

Don't be silly. We'll hang out here. We can watch home movies! I've got hours and hours of 'em.

Alan winces.

INT. STUART'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - LATER

Stuart and Alan are sitting in front of the television.

STUART

There's you and mom.

ON TV

INT. PIVNICK LIVING ROOM - AFTERNOON - 1979

A 9-YEAR-OLD ALAN PLAYS an upright PIANO. He is amazing for his age. His mother, JOAN, sits next to him.

STUART (CONT'D) (O.S.)

Mom sure loved your piano playing. You could have been a concert pianist.

7-YEAR-OLD STUART dances up.

JACK PIVNICK (O.C.)

Stuart, quit messing around.

Stuart happily slams the piano lid shut on Alan's fingers.
Alan SCREAMS. Stuart LAUGHS hysterically.

JACK PIVNICK (O.C.) (CONT'D)
Jesus, Stuart.

The camera abruptly cuts.

EXT. PARK - DAY - 1980

A group of CUB SCOUTS are crowded around some ropes watching
10-YEAR-OLD ALAN climb.

STUART (O.S.)
That's when we were trying to get
our physical fitness badges.

ALAN (O.S.)
Do we have to watch this?

JACK PIVNICK (O.C.)
Come on, Alan. You can do it.

8-YEAR-OLD STUART starts climbing the rope behind Alan.

JACK PIVNICK (O.C.)
Stuart, one at a time. Wait your
turn. Stuart!

Stuart catches up to Alan, and grabs on to the bottom of his
Cub Scout pants. He then falls to the ground, taking Alan's
pants with him. All of the Cub Scouts, and even Jack Pivnick
LAUGH HYSTERICALLY at the way-embarrassed, half-naked Alan.

ALAN (O.S.)
I had to quit the Cub Scouts
because of that.

EXT. PIVNICK BACKYARD - DAY - 1982

A banner reads "Happy Birthday Alan". A 12-YEAR-OLD ALAN and
a crowd of KIDS watch as the blindfolded 10-YEAR-OLD STUART
gets ready to swing at a pinata. He wanders around
aimlessly, then takes a ferocious swing. He misses the
pinata, but nails Alan square on the forehead. KIDS SCREAM
and scatter. Alan tries to shield himself as Stuart
repeatedly hits him with the bat as if he was the pinata.

ALAN (O.S.)
You didn't hear anybody saying
"that's not the pinata, that's your
brother?"

INT. STUART'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - SAME TIME

STUART

I thought everyone was screaming
because candy was pouring out.

ALAN

Do you have any movies where you
aren't injuring or embarrassing me?

STUART

Come on, it's not that bad. I got
\$500 from America's Funniest Home
Videos for that one.

ALAN

Great. I got seventeen stitches
and a permanent scar.

INT. STUART'S APARTMENT - BATHROOM - SHORT TIME LATER

Alan sits on the toilet with his pants around his ankles. He
whispers into his cell phone.

ALAN

Tell your Uncle Bert and your Aunt
Liz that I'm sorry I couldn't be
there, and that I look forward to
meeting them.

INTERCUT BETWEEN BATHROOM AND NICE RESTAURANT

Kristen is at dinner with Patti, her UNCLE BERT and AUNT LIZ.
She talks into her cell phone.

KRISTEN

Why are you whispering?

ALAN

(still whispering)
I'm not whispering.

KRISTEN

I'm really not in the mood for
this.

Stuart starts to open the bathroom door.

STUART (O.S.)

Alan! Alan!

Alan, still on the toilet tries to hold the door shut as
Stuart continues to try to force his way in.

KRISTEN
Aunt Liz wants to say "hi".

Kristen hands the phone to Aunt Liz.

AUNT LIZ
How's my future nephew-in-law?

Alan frantically struggles to keep the bathroom door shut.

STUART (O.S.)
Let me in! Let me in! Or I'll
huff and I'll puff...

ALAN
(yells; to Stuart)
I'm trying to take a shit! Okay?!

Aunt Liz looks mortified.

AUNT LIZ
Well, so sorry I bothered you.

Aunt Liz hands the phone back to Kristen.

ALAN
(into phone)
No. Aunt Liz. Not you.

Stuart forces the door open and bursts in. Alan quickly
hangs up the phone. Stuart is holding a plate of S'mores.

STUART
I made you some S'mores. Remember
the time we were camping and--

ALAN
I'm going to the bathroom here.

STUART
We're brothers. You can poop in
front of me.

ALAN
I don't want to.

STUART
You're right. I'm sorry. I'm just
so excited that you're here.

Stuart hugs the trapped Alan. Alan looks way uncomfortable.

INT. STUART'S APARTMENT - BEDROOM - LATER

Alan is dressed for bed.

ALAN

Thanks for letting me take the bed.

STUART

I don't mind sleeping on the couch.

Alan gets in bed as Stuart exits the room. Seconds later, Stuart reappears, dragging the couch into the bedroom.

ALAN

When you said you were sleeping on the couch, I kind of thought that meant you were sleeping out there.

STUART

How cool is this? We haven't slept in the same room since grade school. Wanna tell ghost stories?

ALAN

We should go to sleep. We have to leave by 6AM if I'm gonna catch that flight.

STUART

Okey dokey, artichokekey.

Stuart turns off the lights and gets on the couch.

STUART (CONT'D)

Goodnight, Brother.

ALAN

Goodnight.

Beat. Stuart turns on a bright flashlight and begins reading.

STUART

"Harry wondered what to tell Hagrid. 'What about Dumbledore...'"

ALAN

You still read out loud?

STUART

Yes. It's a medical condition. I can only read out loud. You know that. I hope it doesn't bother you. I can't fall asleep unless I read.

ALAN

How long does it usually take you--

Alan is cut off by Stuart's LOUD SNORING. Stuart's arm flops over, shining the flashlight directly onto Alan, bathing him in bright light. Alan pulls the blankets over his head.

INT. STUART'S APARTMENT - BEDROOM - LATER

The alarm clock reads "4:08". Alan, still bathed in the glow of the flashlight, is wide awake. He looks annoyed.

STUART

(sleep-singing)

*...beat it, beat it / no one wants
to be defeated (oh no) / showin'
how funky strong is your fight / it
doesn't matter who's wrong or right
/ just beat it beat it beat it...*

INT. STUART'S APARTMENT - BEDROOM - MORNING

Alan stirs awake and looks at the clock. It reads "6:15". He freaks and jumps out of bed. Stuart is nowhere in sight.

ALAN

Stuart! Stuart! We gotta go.

INT. STUART'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Alan rushes in. Stuart is nowhere to be seen.

ALAN

Stuart? Stuart?

The front door opens and Stuart enters. He is wearing the tightest, smallest, brightest shiny Lycra workout suit, complete with leggings. He holds up a bag.

STUART

Got you a muffin. How'd you sleep?

ALAN

Terrible. I had a light shining in my face, and you sang the entire Thriller album in your sleep. We were supposed to leave twenty minutes ago.

STUART

Sorry. My morning workout ran a little long.

(MORE)

STUART (cont'd)
Somebody didn't wipe down the glute machine after they used it, and I had to notify management. This was the third time this week and--

ALAN
Whatever. We gotta go.

EXT. STUART'S APARTMENT - MOMENTS LATER

Stuart, still wearing his workout suit, lets Alan into the passenger seat of his 2004 Honda Civic Hybrid. Stuart then walks around the front of the car. Alan watches anxiously from inside the car as Stuart meticulously picks leaf after leaf off of the hood and windshield. Each time Stuart picks a leaf, Alan gets a little more upset. Alan exits the car.

ALAN
Is this necessary? I don't have any time. My plane is leaving.

STUART
Juuuuust removing the leaves.

Stuart carefully and methodically continues to remove leaf after leaf as Alan looks on.

ALAN
Every leaf? You parked under a tree. They're still falling on the car while you're picking them off.

A leaf falls onto the car. Alan points.

ALAN (CONT'D)
See? There's one that just fell.

STUART
Thanks!

Stuart picks the leaf off the car.

ALAN
Don't you think that once you're driving to the airport, the wind from the motion of the car will blow the leaves off?

STUART
This will only take a second.

Stuart continues to examine the entire car for leaves. An antsy Allen starts helping.

EXT. CHICAGO HIGHWAY - MORNING

Stuart and Alan cruise slowly along the highway.

INT. CAR - SAME TIME

Stuart sits perfectly straight, staring ahead intensely.
Alan fidgets in the seat next to him.

ALAN

We're not in a parade. Can you
please go a little faster?

STUART

We're going the speed limit.

ALAN

Can you maybe go a little over the
speed limit?

STUART

I don't know. Could you maybe rape
somebody for me?

ALAN

What?

STUART

Maybe we should just throw all laws
out the window. What do you say we
go kidnap somebody?

ALAN

You're equating rape and kidnapping
with speeding?

STUART

I'm equating breaking the law with
breaking the law.

EXT. CHICAGO HIGHWAY - SAME TIME

The car pulls over. Stuart quickly gets out, removes a leaf
from the windshield and gets back in. The car pulls back on
to the highway.

INT. O'HARE AIRPORT - TICKET COUNTER - SHORT TIME LATER

Stuart and an anxious Alan are at the front of the line.
Several TRAVELLERS SNICKER at Stuart's outfit.

STUART

...so then the idiot chooses
briefcase number ten, and instead
of winning a million dollars, he
goes home with fifty bucks.
Obviously he should have picked
briefcase number thirty-two.

ALAN

Obviously to who? Deal or No Deal
is just a guessing game.

STUART

No it's not. It's a complex system
of statistics, strategy, numbers,
and odds. I've seen every episode.
I've been taking notes, and I'm
really close to cracking the code.

ALAN

The game is random.

STUART

You're entitled to your opinion...
But you're wrong.

TICKET COUNTER LADY

Next!

Alan and Stuart approach the counter.

ALAN

Hi. I'm checking in for the
Philadelphia flight. Last name is
Pivnick. First name, Alan.

The lady hits a few keys on her keyboard. The boarding pass
prints. She grabs it and holds it up.

TICKET COUNTER LADY

Okay, Mr. Pivnick. I just need to
see some ID.

Alan goes to grab his wallet... It's not there.

ALAN

Huh. I don't have my wallet. Hang
on a sec.

He begins to frantically search for his wallet. He checks
his jacket. He opens his carry-on and rummages through it.

STUART

Did you have it at my place? When was the last time you saw it? Check your jacket. Did you check all your pockets? Your front pockets? Your back pockets?

ALAN

I'm looking. Please.

STUART

What does it look like? Is it leather? Is it a bi-fold? Tri-fold? I use one of these.

(holds up wallet)

They call it a front pocket wallet, because it's sleeker than your average bi-fold.

ALAN

That would be helpful, if I was looking for *your* wallet.

Alan continues searching for his wallet.

STUART

You know, it could have been stolen. Oh my God. You might have been pick-pocketed. Or maybe--

ALAN

Please be quiet.

TICKET COUNTER LADY

Sir? Do you have your ID or not?

ALAN

I can't find it.

TICKET COUNTER LADY

Well, I can't issue your boarding pass without proper ID.

ALAN

I have to get on that plane.

STUART

I can vouch for him. His name is Guillermo Valdez, and he's from Mexico City. Ha! Just kidding.

ALAN

Really not helping.

STUART

Do you have a passport on you? Or
an extra drivers license?

ALAN

Stuart, stop talking. Ma'am, can I
please talk to a supervisor?

TICKET COUNTER LADY

My supervisor's just going to tell
you the same thing. No ID, no
boarding pass.

She holds up the boarding pass. Alan grabs it.

ALAN

There. I have my boarding pass.
I'm getting on that plane.

A few of the ticket counter ladies CO-WORKERS and a SECURITY
GUARD approach to watch the commotion.

TICKET COUNTER LADY

No you're not. You're not gonna
get past the security checkpoint
without an ID.

(yells out)

Next!

ALAN

(totally losing it)

This is bullshit! I was supposed
to be in Philadelphia last night.
You cancelled my flight. Now
you're telling me I can't fly? So,
am I just stuck in Chicago forever?
Should I start shopping for houses?

TICKET COUNTER LADY

I understand you're upset, but I
don't appreciate your tone of
voice.

ALAN

Well I don't appreciate your stupid
shit-jerky airline!

Stuart steps between Alan and the Ticket Counter Lady.

STUART

You'll have to excuse my brother.
He's always had trouble controlling
his temper. It's not his fault.

(MORE)

STUART (cont'd)
It's because he was born with three
testicles.

Everyone within earshot reacts.

ALAN
For the record, my getting angry
has nothing to do with my third
testicle. I've always been a very
calm person. I only get angry in
situations that would make anyone
angry. You know, situations like
losing your wallet? Not being able
to get on an airplane? Or having a
brother that always insists on
telling everybody that I was born
with three balls!

Alan storms off. Stuart turns to the crowd.

STUART
(apologetic)
He has three testicles.

INT. O'HARE AIRPORT - MOMENTS LATER

Alan walks angrily along. Stuart races up.

STUART
Where are you going?

ALAN
I don't know. I'm screwed. I
don't have my wallet. No credit
cards, no money. I can't rent a
car. You don't understand. I
really have to get to Philadelphia.

STUART
I'll drive you.

Alan stops walking.

ALAN
What?

STUART
I'll drive you. It's not *that*
far. It's only like 800 miles. We
can do it in no time.

ALAN
I don't know.

STUART

You wouldn't be putting me out at all. Seriously, I don't mind. We have eight years of catching up to do. It'll be fun. Besides, what other options do you have?

ALAN

(thinks, then)

Alright. Yeah. Let's do this.

STUART

Yay! Road trip!

ALAN

Just one thing. Can you please change out of those clothes?

INT. TANNING SALON - SHORT TIME LATER

Kristen is inside a tanning booth, talking on her cell.

KRISTEN

Are you kidding me?

INTERCUT BETWEEN TANNING SALON AND EXT. STUART'S APARTMENT

Alan stands by Stuart's car, talking on his cell.

ALAN

I know. I shouldn't have stayed an extra day at my bachelor party. Look, I said I'd be there by 12. That's still true. Just now, it's 12 midnight, instead of 12 noon.

KRISTEN

Is that supposed to be funny? And what did you say to Aunt Liz?

ALAN

I didn't say anything to Aunt Liz. Honey, I promise everything's going to be okay.

KRISTEN

Tell me you at least called the florist and the piano lady.

ALAN

Of course I did. Everything is great.

KRISTEN

All right. Please just get here.

Kristen hangs up. Panicked, Alan immediately begins dialing.

INT. GRETTEL'S PETALS FLORIST - SAME TIME

An upscale flower shop. Trendy, pretentious a-hole LANCELOT answers the phone.

LANCELOT

Gretel's Petals. Lancelot speaking. What can I do you for?

INTERCUT BETWEEN FLORIST AND EXT. STUART'S APARTMENT

ALAN

Hi. I'm calling about the Pivnick-Patterson wedding. I wanted to confirm the arrangements.

Lancelot turns to a computer and punches a few keys.

LANCELOT

Let's see.... Pivnick... Pivnick... Here we are. Ooh. Tiger Lillies. Tasteful. Everything seems in order. We'll see you at 2 o'clock on Saturday the 13th.

ALAN

You mean Saturday the 3rd.

LANCELOT

This says Saturday the 13th.

ALAN

Well, there is no Saturday the 13th. Obviously, somebody added an extra tenth.

LANCELOT

But the 3rd's this Saturday. There's no way we can get Tiger Lillies by this Saturday.

ALAN

My fiance has to have Tiger Lillies. It's like a dream of hers since she was a little girl or something. We hired you to get Tiger Lillies, so figure it out.

Alan notices Stuart approaching and quickly hangs up.

STUART
Philadelphia? Look out, here come
the Pivnicks!

Stuart excitedly hops into the car. Alan gets in after him.

EXT. CHICAGO HIGHWAY - MOMENTS LATER

Stuart and Alan "speed" along the highway.

INT. CAR - SAME TIME

STUART
Let's put on some tunes. There's a
case of CD's in the glove box.

Alan pulls out the case and flips through it.

ALAN
Driving Miss Daisy? Friday The
13th Part 3? Kramer Vs. Kramer?
These are all movie soundtracks.

STUART
No. They are all original scores.
There's a difference. Put in ET.

Alan reluctantly puts in the disc. The instrumental score to
ET BLASTS through the speakers.

STUART
(singing)
ET / loves his Reeses Pieces. /
Phone home / I'll heal you with my
finger.
(off Alan's look)
I like to make up my own words.
Hey, remember when I used to call
you ET, the Extra Ter-testicle?

ALAN
Yes. Yes I do.

EXT. CHICAGO HIGHWAY - CONTINUOUS

Stuart and Alan "speed" along the highway. The Chicago
skyline just behind them.

STUART (O.S.)
 (singing)
*I am / driving with my brother /
 we're going / to a place called
 Pennsylvania...*

EXT. HIGHWAY - SHORT TIME LATER

The car travels along. The score to Halloween PLAYS.

STUART (O.S.)
 (singing)
*Michael Myers is gonna get you / oh
 no look out he's got a steakknife /
 help me I'm being stabbed.*
 (screams)
 Aarrrrrrrrrggggggghhhh!!!

EXT. HIGHWAY - SHORT TIME LATER

The instrumental score to Seabiscuit PLAYS.

STUART (O.S.)
 (singing)
*He's the horse who can / the jockey
 was too tall...*

The car turns off of the highway on to a side road.

INT. CAR - SAME TIME

Alan is holding the jewel box for the Seabiscuit score.

STUART (CONT'D)
 (singing)
*...no one believed Seabiscuit could
 do it / that's why--*

ALAN
 Why did you turn off the highway?

STUART
 I'm just taking a quick detour.

ALAN
 We've barely been driving an hour.
 We don't have time for a detour.

STUART
 I thought we'd visit Mom and Dad.

Alan's eyes widen.

EXT. CEMETARY - SHORT TIME LATER

Stuart and Alan stand over the gravesites of Jack and Joan Pivnick. Alan seems a little affected by the experience.

STUART

Hey Mom! Dad! Look who's here.
I've got Alan with me.
(to Alan)
I try to come out here at least
once a month.

ALAN

I haven't been here since mom's
funeral.

STUART

That was the last time I saw you...
You should have played the piano at
the funeral.

ALAN

You know I don't like playing in
front of people.

STUART

Still. It would have meant a lot
to her.

ALAN

Well there's nothing I can do about
that now.

STUART

At least I made up for it by
playing the flute.
(proud)
And I had never even played the
flute before.

Alan rolls his eyes. They stand in silence for a beat.

ALAN

Remember that time they drove us
around to look at Christmas lights
and I got in trouble so they made
me shut my eyes the whole time?

STUART

Yeah. I tried to describe them all
to you. Then I got in trouble.

Long beat.

STUART (CONT'D)
Remember the time mom caught you
masturbating to that Wonder Woman
Pez Dispenser?

An ELDERLY COUPLE looks over.

ALAN
Can you say that a little louder?
A couple of people on the other
side of the cemetery couldn't hear.

STUART
Hey, it's a Pivnick family reunion.
We should get a picture.

Stuart notices a grieving FAMILY - several adults and a few
children - mourning at a new gravesite nearby. He runs over.

STUART (CONT'D)
Welcome to the neighborhood!

The family looks at him. They are clearly not in the mood
for his exuberance. Alan tugs at Stuart.

ALAN
Let's leave them alone.

STUART
We were wondering if one of you
could take our picture in front of
our parents headstones. You know,
a family portrait.

He hands a camera to a GRIEVING MAN in his fifties.

GRIEVING MAN
We're kind of in the middle of--

STUART
(points to grave)
He's not going anywhere. Come on.
This'll just take a second.

ALAN
Look, you don't have to--

STUART
Please please please please. I'm
going to keep sayin' please until
you do it. Please please please...

The Grieving Man gives in. Stuart leads him to his parents graves. Stuart positions Alan next to him, then poses.

ALAN
I'm really sorry about this sir.

STUART
Make sure you get my parents in there. Smile, Alan.

Alan forces a smile. The guy snaps the photo. He hands Stuart the camera and starts to walk back over to his family. Stuart looks at the picture.

STUART (CONT'D)
My eyes are shut.
(yells after man)
You need take another one.

ALAN
No you don't. It looks fine.

Stuart walks back towards the family. Alan gives chase.

ALAN (CONT'D)
Stuart? I think it's time to go.

Stuart reaches the grieving family.

STUART
So, what happened to...
(reads grave)
...Benjamin?

The family exchanges sad looks. There is a long, uncomfortable silence.

STUART (CONT'D)
Car accident? Heart attack? Lead poisoning? Choked on a grape? Drug overdose? Cancer? Drowned?

One of the grieving women begins SOBBING HYSTERICALLY.

STUART (CONT'D)
Electrocuted? Hit by lightning? Quicksand? Bad allergy? Fell off a cliff? He wasn't murdered was he? That would be horrible. Attacked by a mountain lion?

GRIEVING MAN
It was a suicide, okay?

STUART

Ouch! Suicide. Wow. You know, they say that you shouldn't blame yourselves. But when you think about it, there must of been something one of you could have done to prevent this.

Another woman begins SOBBING HYSTERICALLY.

ALAN

Come on Stuart. Time to go.

The family attempts to console one another as Alan pulls Stuart away.

STUART

(yells back)

Bye neighbors. I'm sure we'll be seeing a lot of each other.

INT. SALON - SAME TIME

Kristen, Patti, and Dana are getting pedicures.

PATTI

So, what song did you guys end up picking for the first dance? Me and Bill danced to "Endless Love".

DANA

You should have danced to "Three Years and Two Months Love." Wouldn't that have been more accurate?

PATTI

How about the song, "I Can't Have Children Because of my Syphillis"? Oh wait, that's Dana's song.

DANA

It was Chlamydia, and I had only had it for like three weeks.

KRISTEN

We're not doing a first dance. Alan feels weird about doing things in front of everybody. He's not gonna give a speech either.

DANA

Really? What a stick in the mud.

KRISTEN
It's not that bad.

PATTI
Kristen? You gotta admit the guy
is a little uptight. I mean, he
proposed to you in an e-mail.

KRISTEN
He's a really sweet guy. He's just
a little uncomfortable showing his
emotions. It happened to be a very
nice e-mail.

DANA
Did he at least put one of those
sideways happy faces with the colon
and the parentheses thingy?

Dana and Patti LAUGH.

EXT. HIGHWAY - SHORT TIME LATER

Stuart and Alan are back on the road. The instrumental score
to Jaws PLAYS.

STUART
(singing)
We are / having so much fun...

INT. CAR - SAME TIME

STUART
(singing)
*Uh oh. / I have to pee. / I should
have gone back at the cemetary.*

Alan turns off the radio.

ALAN
I have a headache. Maybe we can
give the music a little break, huh?

STUART
Great. Let's play a game. Think
of a number between one and a
million, and I'll try to guess it.

ALAN
I don't really feel like playing.

STUART

Come on. It's easy. I'll guess a number. And you just tell me if the number you're thinking of is higher or lower.

ALAN

Seriously. I don't feel like playing.

STUART

Just pick a number. Come on!

ALAN

Can't we just have some quiet time?

STUART

Don't be a no-fun-nik. Do you want *me* to pick a number and *you* guess?

ALAN

No.

STUART

Then think of a number. Any number. Between one and a million. Just do it. Any number. Think of one. Between one and a million.

ALAN

Fine! I'm thinking of a fucking number!

STUART

(thinks)

Is it 253 thousand, eight-hundred and fifty-seven?

ALAN

Yep. That's the number. You got it on the first guess. Congrats. Game over.

STUART

Oh my God! That's insane. I can't believe I guessed it. Do you know the odds of guessing that in one guess?

ALAN

Actually, it's one in a million.

STUART
(pointing ahead)
Look!

Just ahead, off to the side of the road is a low-end amusement park/carnival called Funzee's Fun Zone.

STUART (CONT'D)
Funzee's! I knew it was coming up.

ALAN
(perks up)
I haven't thought of that place in years. I totally remember coming here when we were kids.

STUART
Let's go.

ALAN
I don't know.

STUART
Just a few rides. I have to pee, so we have to stop somewhere. Might as well be Funzee's.

ALAN
We're way behind schedule--

STUART
I see what's happening here. I forgot. You're scared of the rides.

ALAN
What are you talking about?

STUART
When we were kids, you never went on any of the rides.

ALAN
I went on rides.

STUART
I'm not talking Merry-Go-Rounds. You're scared of the real rides.

ALAN
That is so untrue.

STUART
Then let's go.

ALAN
Fine.

EXT. FUNZEE'S - SHORT TIME LATER

Stuart is eating cotton candy. Alan is eating a funnel cake. They're clearly having a good time.

ALAN
Man, this is good. I can't believe all the crap we're eating. I can feel my arteries clogging, but it's so worth it.

STUART
See? Aren't you glad we stopped?

ALAN
You know, I dream about these funnel cakes?

Stuart smiles. He spots something up ahead.

STUART
Look. Fried candy apples!

Stuart points with the cotton candy. He accidentally brushes a woman on the back of the head. The entire cotton candy sticks to her hair as she walks off, oblivious. Stuart and Alan both LAUGH HYSTERICALLY.

EXT. FUNZEE'S - SHORT TIME LATER

Stuart and Alan walk up to the entrance of a ride called "The Ring of Fire". It's basically a huge vertical loop, and the riders spin upside-down repeatedly. Stuart couldn't be more excited. Alan is clearly nervous.

ALAN
So, once this ride is over, we really should go. Okay?

STUART
You got it.

The two of them walk up the ramp, get in the front car and sit. Alan fidgets anxiously. The gruff RIDE OPERATOR walks up and helps them with their safety harnesses.

ALAN
About how many times do we go
around this loop?

RIDE OPERATOR
I don't know, man. Five? A
hundred?

ALAN
I don't suppose you can narrow that
down a little?
(off his look)
Or not. All right. That's cool.

STUART
Everybody put your hands up! This
is gonna be awesome!

Stuart holds his arms out and waves them. Nobody else does.

STUART (CONT'D)
When I say "Ring", you say "of
Fire." Ring!

Nothing.

STUART (CONT'D)
Ring!

Nothing.

STUART (CONT'D)
Okay, then.
(chanting)
Start the ride! Start the ride!

Whoosh! The ride begins. Alan hangs on for dear life as
they are catapulted forward into the ring. He couldn't look
more uncomfortable. Stuart SCREAMS a high-pitched feminine
wail as they travel the loop, again and again.

STUART (CONT'D)
Faster! Make it go faster!
Faster! I know you can hear me!

ALAN
We're going fast enough. Don't
anger the guy.

STUART
Is that all you got? Come on,
faster, you weenie! Faster!

ANGLE - THE RIDE OPERATOR

RIDE OPERATOR
(under his breath)
I'll give you faster.

The annoyed operator pulls on a lever. The car immediately begins spinning what seems like ten times faster. People on the ride SCREAM. Stuart CHEERS happily.

ALAN
We don't want faster! He wanted faster!

Suddenly, there is a horrible POP followed by a SCREECHING SOUND. The car grinds to a halt - exactly at the top of the loop, stranding all of the riders hanging upside-down.

STUART
Boooo.

ALAN
What's going on? It's not supposed to stop up here like this.

The ride operator frantically hits buttons on the control panel, trying to regain control of the ride. A few other Funzee EMPLOYEES run over and try to help.

STUART
Faster! Faster!

ALAN
Stuart, there's something wrong. We're stuck.

STUART
No we're not.

ALAN
We're upside-down, and we're not moving. What do you call this?

A MANAGER speaks into a mic. An overwhelmed MECHANIC stands next to him, holding a wrench. He looks very confused.

MANAGER
(over loudspeaker)
Hello, everybody. There has been a minor ride malfunction. Our Funzee's technicians are working to have the ride up and running as quickly as possible.
(MORE)

MANAGER (cont'd)

We ask that you please remain calm
and we'll have you down in no time.

ALAN

(way panicky)

This is bad. This is bad. How
long is "no time"? Technically,
"no time" has passed, and we're
still stuck here.

STUART

(screams)

We're all gonna die! We're all
gonna die!

Everyone aboard the ride begins to panic.

PASSENGERS

Help! / We're gonna die! / Help!

EXT. FUNZEE'S - SEVERAL HOURS LATER

Everyone is still hanging upside down. Calliope MUSIC PLAYS
from the nearby Merry-Go-Round. Several maintenance workers
struggle with the equipment at the base of the ride. News
reporter CONNIE MARRS speaks into a camera. The ride
operator is standing next to her.

CONNIE MARRS

...the stranded riders are now
entering hour five of their upside-
down ordeal. They say "what goes
up, must come down", but today at
Funzee's, that's simply not the
case. Back to you, Brent.

ANGLE - ALAN AND STUART

Alan and Stuart are beet-red from the blood rushing to their
heads. Alan looks miserable. Stuart seems perfectly happy.

STUART

I-Spy with my little eye
something... green.

ALAN

I still don't want to play I-Spy.
I didn't want to play an hour ago.
I'm not gonna wanna play an hour
from now.

STUART

It's that green trashcan.

ALAN
I can't feel my neck.

STUART
(singing)
*Upside down. / Girl, you spin me. /
round and round / on the ring of
fire.*

Alan's cell phone begins to RING. He struggles to pull it out and looks at the caller ID: "KRIS". Alan cringes. He motions for Stuart to keep it down, then answers.

ALAN
Hello?

INTERCUT BETWEEN FUNZEE'S AND THE PATTERSON HOUSE

Kristen sits on the couch. On the TV in the background is clearly live news coverage of the Chicago Roller Coaster that's stuck upside-down. Kristen is oblivious to the news.

KRISTEN
I've been calling you all day.

ALAN
The reception's been bad.

STUART
(whispers)
Who is it?

Alan motions for Stuart to leave him alone.

KRISTEN
How's it going? You getting close?

ALAN
Yep.

STUART
(whispers)
Who is it?

ALAN
(covers phone; to Stuart)
It's nobody you know.

KRISTEN
(flirtatious)
Well, here's little incentive for
you to drive faster.
(MORE)

KRISTEN (cont'd)
I'm gonna be waiting up for you.
And I'm going to be completely
naked.

ALAN
Okay. Sounds good.

KRISTEN
And guess what? I just shaved...
everything.

ALAN
Great. Thanks for the update.

KRISTEN
Why are you acting so weird? Is
that calliope music?

STUART
(whispers)
Is that a girl?

ALAN
(covers phone; to Stuart)
No.

STUART
(whispers)
I don't believe you.

Stuart tries to grab the phone from Alan. They wrestle. The
phone falls out of Alan's hands and goes crashing to the
ground, where it smashes into pieces.

ALAN
Shit shit shit. Great. Really
fucking great.

EXT. FUNZEE'S - EVENING

EMERGENCY CREWS are rescuing passengers. A FIREMAN escorts
Stuart and Alan to the ground in a cherry-picker.

STUART
Look. There's no line at the Tilt-
A-Whirl!

Alan glares at Stuart.

EXT. FUNZEE'S - PARKING LOT - MOMENTS LATER

A comically red-faced Stuart and Alan wobble up to the car.
They are both clearly dizzy and exhausted.

STUART
That was nice of them to give us
free passes to come back.

ALAN
I'd rather have the last seven
hours of my life back.

Stuart and Alan get into the car.

INT. CAR - CONTINUOUS

STUART
I'm not so sure I should be
driving. I feel kind of dizzy.

ALAN
We've wasted enough time. Drive.

EXT. FUNZEE'S - PARKING LOT - CONTINUOUS

Stuart drives around and around in a tight circle.

EXT. HIGHWAY - SHORT TIME LATER

Stuart and Alan are back on the main highway. In the
distance, a sign reads "Philadelphia - 662 miles".

ALAN
Great. In twelve hours, we've gone
a hundred miles... Wake me when we
get to Philly.

Alan looks at the highway sign in the distance. He SIGHS and
shuts his eyes.

EXT. HIGHWAY - NEXT MORNING

Alan stirs awake. He looks at the clock. It's just after
7AM. He looks over, and sees Stuart fast asleep in the
driver's seat. Alan sits up, realizing that they are parked
on the side of the road. He shakes Stuart.

ALAN
Stuart. Wake up.

Stuart stirs awake.

STUART
Morning, sunshine. Whew. Sorry, I
got so tired I had to pull over.

ALAN
How far did we get?

STUART
I don't know. I drove for a while.

He starts the car. Alan looks at the road ahead and sees the highway sign that reads... "Philadelphia - 662 miles".

ALAN
You drove "for a while"? We've gone five feet. You must have pulled over the second I shut my eyes. This isn't happening.

STUART
I was tired. It's not safe to drive in that condition. Maybe you'd be happier if you woke up in a ditch with the car upside down, and my decapitated head in your legless blood-stained lap?

ALAN
There are parts of that scenario that I find extremely appealing. Just drive.

The car pulls out onto the highway.

INT. CAR - SHORT TIME LATER

STUART
I have to get something to eat.

ALAN
We've barely been on the road. Can't you wait a little bit?

STUART
I can't. I have a very delicate metabolism, and it's imperative that I eat between 9:10 and 9:15 every morning.

ALAN
You have a five minute window?

STUART
Yes, and right now, it's 9 o'clock, and I'm getting concerned.

ALAN
Fine. Stop at the next place.

STUART
What if there isn't a next place?
I have to eat. Now it's 9:01!

Stuart fidgets nervously and breathes heavily.

ALAN
Calm down.

STUART
You calm down!
(moaning)
Ohhhhhhh. Ahhhhh.

Alan spots a Frappy's fast food restaurant up ahead on the other side of the highway.

ALAN
There. Over there.

Stuart swerves onto the shoulder and SCREECHES to a halt. He unbuckles his seatbelt.

ALAN (CONT'D)
What are you doing? Get off at the next offramp.

STUART
There's no time!

Stuart jumps out of the car and begins to run across the highway. He flails his arms like a maniac as he avoids traffic and makes it to the other side. Alan watches the spectacle in horror. Stuart reaches a fence separating the highway from the street that Frappy's is on. He makes repeated lame attempts to scale or jump over the fence. He continuously falls to the ground, hysterical.

EXT. FRAPPY'S - MOMENTS LATER

Stuart and Alan speed up to the entrance. Stuart parks the car at an angle over four parking spaces. He runs out of the car and towards the restaurant.

INT. FRAPPY'S - CONTINUOUS

Stuart bursts in. Alan enters behind him and sheepishly stands by the door. Stuart pushes his way past several PEOPLE, making his way towards the front of the line.

STUART
 Medical emergency... Move... This
 is a matter of life and death...

Stuart gets to the front of the line. He pulls out a wad of money and throws it on the counter. Coins fly everywhere.

STUART (CONT'D)
 I don't have much time.

CASHIER
 Sir, there are people ahead of you.

STUART
 This is a medical emergency. I
 have a condition. I could just
 drop dead right here. Do you want
 my blood on your hands?

CASHIER
 Well, no...

STUART
 Okay, then. I need a Vanilla
 Frappy Swirl, a French Toast
 Frenzy, no powdered sugar. A Bacon-
 ito Burrito with sausage instead of
 bacon. Instead of a tortilla, can
 you just use lettuce? Also,
 instead of cheddar Cheese, I'd like
 American cheese. This is America.
 (yells back to Alan)
 Hey Alan? You want anything?

Everyone in line looks at Alan.

ALAN
 (way embarrassed)
 No thanks.

INT. FRAPPY'S - SHORT TIME LATER

Stuart crams food into his mouth while simultaneously
 SLURPING LOUDLY on his drink. Customers shoot him looks.

EXT. FRAPPY'S - SAME TIME

Alan is on the payphone.

ALAN
 ...so I'll be there tonight. The
 wedding's still three days away.
 (MORE)

ALAN (cont'd)
Everything's gonna be great. I
promise.

INT. PATTERSON HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - SAME TIME

An exhausted Kristen talks on the phone, surrounded by several concerned family members, including Patti, her mom SALLY, her father, JIM, and her grandmother, NETTIE.

KRISTEN
Please be careful.

Kristen hangs up and turns to her family.

KRISTEN (CONT'D)
He's fine. The rental car broke
down, and his cell phone died.
He's back on the road, and he
should be in later tonight.

Sally hugs Kristen.

SALLY
Thank God, he's okay.

NETTIE
I think the whole thing's a crock
of crap, and he's got cold feet.

SALLY
Mother!

Patti LAUGHS. Kristen looks upset.

EXT. FRAPPY'S / INT. GRETEL'S PETALS FLORIST - MOMENTS LATER

Alan is still on the phone. He is talking to Lancelot.

LANCELOT
Mr. Pivnick. You're in luck. I
tracked down the Tiger Lillies.
However, the supplier that's
getting them for us is considering
this a rush order, so it's going to
cost you an additional 800 dollars.

ALAN
But it wasn't supposed to be a rush
order. You guys made the mistake.

LANCELOT
Do you want Tiger Lillies or not?

ALAN

Yes. I want them. My fiance has to have Tiger Lillies.

LANCELOT

Okay then. I just need to fax you the authorization form, and you need to sign it and send it right back. Are you near a fax machine?

ALAN

I don't know. Hang on.

Alan turns to two 16-year-old KIDS in Frappy's uniforms, who are on a cigarette break.

ALAN (CONT'D)

Do you guys have a fax machine here?

KID

Oh yes, your Highness. We keep the fax machines in the south wing with the yachts and all the Rolls Royces.

The two kids LAUGH and hi-five.

ALAN

(into phone)

No. I'm not near a fax machine.

LANCELOT

Well I suggest you get to one quick. If you don't sign this by noon, we're gonna lose the Tiger Lillies.

The frustrated Alan hangs up the phone, drops in a few coins, then dials another number.

ALAN

Is this Cynthia? I'm calling to confirm everything for the Pivnick wedding on Saturday.

INTERCUT - CYNTHIA'S APARTMENT / FRAPPY'S

A small, cluttered apartment, brightly decorated with scarves and beads. The mousy, 30-something CYNTHIA paces as she talks on the phone.

CYNTHIA

I'm a little concerned that I might be losing my voice.

ALAN

You don't have to speak. You just have to play the piano. You learned the Coldplay song, right?

CYNTHIA

Not yet. I don't really like Coldplay.

ALAN

Well my fiance does.

CYNTHIA

Got it. Can you tell the caterer that I'm allergic to shellfish and Parmesan cheese, and that I don't particularly care for mushrooms?

ALAN

I'll be sure to let them know.

CYNTHIA

Oh, one other thing. Is it cool if I get there at four instead of five? I got Gwen Stefani tickets for that night.

ALAN

No. We want you there at five.

CYNTHIA

You hired me to play for three hours. I'd still be playing three hours, what's the difference?

ALAN

The difference is the reception starts at five, so the first hour, you would be playing for nobody.

CYNTHIA

Let me think about it.

Cynthia hangs up.

ALAN

Think about it..? Hello?

Stuart walks up as Alan repeatedly slams down the receiver.

ALAN (CONT'D)
Fuck! Fuck! Fuck! Fuck! Fuck!

A few people in the parking lot and the kid employees look over at Alan. Stuart announces to everyone...

STUART
He has three testicles.

Alan shoots Stuart a look.

INT. CAR - MOMENTS LATER

STUART
So, who were you talking to?

ALAN
Nobody.

STUART
You know, those payphones are covered with germs. The government doesn't want you to know, but more people contract tuberculosis using payphones than get mauled by bears.

ALAN
Why wouldn't the government want you to know that?

STUART
Exactly! Why?

ALAN
We need to get to a fax machine.

STUART
How come?

ALAN
Because I have a medical condition, and I need to use a fax machine between now and as soon as possible, or I'll die.

STUART
I know you're mocking me.

ALAN
Just get me to a fax machine.

STUART
 (bad British accent)
 I'll get you to a fax machine or my
 name isn't James. James Bond.

Stuart puts in a CD. The James Bond Theme PLAYS.

EXT. HIGHWAY - SAME TIME

In complete contrast to the music, the car drives slowly in the fast lane. Several cars speed around it.

EXT. HIGHWAY - SHORT TIME LATER

The car passes a sign that reads "Welcome To Toledo". The bustling city can be seen in the near distance.

INT. CAR - SAME TIME

Alan stares straight ahead, stone-faced.

STUART
 Okay, now who am I?
 (bad Australian accent)
 Ahoy matey. Oy, pass the
 boomerang. Look a kangaroo. My
 toilet flushes backwards.
 (regular voice)
 Give up? Give up? Give up? I'm
 Mel Gibson. You are terrible at
 this. You're like 0 for twenty.

ALAN
 That's not Mel Gibson! You're just
 saying random Australian things in
 a horrible accent. If you're going
 to be Mel Gibson you have to say
 stuff like, "I was in Lethal
 Weapon" or "I hate Jews."

STUART
 That doesn't sound anything like
 Mel Gibson. You're not even using
 an Australian accent.

ALAN
 Just forget it. Can you pull off
 at the next stop? I'm sure one of
 those hotels has a fax machine.

STUART
 (bad Chinese accent)
 No problem.
 (MORE)

STUART (cont'd)
(regular voice)
Jackie Chan.

They drive for a few seconds. Stuart looks at the dashboard then suddenly slams on the brakes. Alan lurches forward.

STUART (CONT'D)
Oh, my God! Oh, my God!

EXT. HIGHWAY - SAME TIME

The car comes to a screeching halt in the middle of the highway. Several cars swerve to avoid crashing into them.

INT. CAR - SAME TIME

STUART
Look! The odometer is at 33,333.3 miles!

ALAN
You stopped in the middle of a busy highway to tell me that?

STUART
I gotta get a picture.

Stuart unbuckles his seatbelt. He leans over into the backseat and tries to find his camera in his bags. Alan nervously eyes the traffic behind them.

ALAN
Pull over at least. You're gonna get us killed.

STUART
If I pull over the odometer will change.

Alan's eyes widen as he spots a semi speeding towards them.

ALAN
Stuart! Stuart!

STUART
Hang on a sec.

Stuart continues to search for his camera.

EXT. HIGHWAY - SAME TIME

The semi bears down on Stuart's car. It's driver slams on the brakes, and turns the wheel, causing the truck to jackknife.

It slides on it's side a few hundred feet before coming to a stop blocking all lanes of traffic, inches behind Stuart's bumper. There is a chain reaction as several cars join in the pileup.

INT. CAR - SAME TIME

Alan is practically hyperventilating. Stuart looks out the back window, shocked.

STUART

Whoa. That truck could have hit us. It's amazing how your life could change just like *that*.

Stuart snaps his fingers. He then clicks a photo of the odometer.

EXT. HIGHWAY - SAME TIME

Stuart and Alan drive off. Behind them is a massive pile-up.

EXT. MARRIOTT HOTEL - SHORT TIME LATER

Stuart's car is parked out front.

INT. MARRIOTT HOTEL - LOBBY - SAME TIME

Stuart sits at a grand piano. He starts at the lowest note, and slowly and LOUDLY PLAYS every consecutive note. Some HOTEL GUESTS give him nasty looks as they walk past.

The anxious Alan approaches the DESK CLERK at the front desk.

DESK CLERK

Sir, I just checked. The fax isn't here yet.

ALAN

I've been waiting here over an hour, and the guy said he was gonna send it right away.

DESK CLERK

I told you, I'll let you know as soon as we get the fax.

Alan walks up to Stuart. Stuart stops playing the piano.

STUART

No fax?

ALAN

No. This is ridiculous.

STUART
What's so important about this fax
anyway?

ALAN
It's nothing. Stop asking.

STUART
Can you give me a hint?

ALAN
No.

STUART
Is it something medical?

ALAN
No.

STUART
This is driving me crazy. Come on,
you gotta tell me something.

ALAN
It's personal.

STUART
That makes me wanna know even more.
What if I tell you a secret about
me first? When we were stuck on
that roller coaster, I peed in my
pants.

ALAN
For the record, that isn't a
secret.

STUART
Hey, why don't you play something
on the piano?

ALAN
Absolutely not.

STUART
Why? Because people are around?
So what?

ALAN
I just don't want to.

STUART

I've never understood it. You have this amazing talent, but no one's ever even heard you play except maybe me, mom and dad. What are you afraid of? You need to lighten up. Live a little. Who knows, you might actually enjoy yourself.

ALAN

I enjoy myself all the time.

STUART

Please. If you were any more uptight, you'd be a...

(thinks)

A tightly wound, tight something that's really tight.

ALAN

Well said.

STUART

You know, you really should have played at mom's funeral.

ALAN

I know. I should have played at mom's funeral. I wish I did. I think about it all the time. I regret it, okay? Are you happy?

STUART

That doesn't make me happy at all. I'm sorry. I didn't know.

Alan notices a fax coming through behind the counter.

ALAN

There's my fax. Thank God.

He walks over. Alan tries to get the desk clerk's attention. The desk clerk is now helping a CUSTOMER and doesn't notice.

ALAN (CONT'D)

Excuse me?

DESK CLERK

Hang on a sec. I'll be right with you.

The desk clerk continues with the customer. Stuart gets up and storms over.

STUART

We will not "hang on a sec". My brother has been waiting a million secs already.

ALAN

Stuart, it's okay.

STUART

No, it's not.
 (to desk clerk)
 We were here first.
 (re: customer)
 This guy just got here.

DESK CLERK

Sir, when I am finished with this customer, then I will help you.

STUART

(mocking)
 Sir when I'm finished with this customer then I will blah blah blah.

DESK CLERK

Please don't do that.

STUART

(mocking)
 Please don't do that.
 (then)
 Look, jerk-o. My brother has been waiting for this important fax for a long time. How hard can it be to reach behind you, grab a piece of paper and hand it to him? A blind, retarded monkey could do it.

The desk clerk just stands there, in shock. Alan looks embarrassed. Beat.

STUART (CONT'D)

(like he's talking to a trained animal)
 Come on. You can do it. Grab the paper. Come on, moron.

The desk clerk calmly walks over to the fax machine, removes the paper and reads it.

DESK CLERK
Is the fax you're waiting for from
a flower shop?

ALAN
Um, yeah.

DESK CLERK
This isn't it.

The desk clerk proceeds to rip the fax into shreds. Alan watches helplessly.

DESK CLERK (CONT'D)
(smug)
Why don't you check back later?

INT. CAR - SHORT TIME LATER

Stuart drives as Alan stewes in the passenger seat.

STUART
We should have stayed. The guy
said that wasn't your fax.

ALAN
It was my fax. And thanks to you,
I'm never going to get it. Just
get me to Philadelphia, please.

STUART
You know, I have the original score
to the movie "Philadelphia".
(off Alan's look)
Never mind.

EXT. DESOLATE STRETCH OF HIGHWAY - LATER

The car drives down a desolate, secluded stretch of highway.

INT. CAR - SAME TIME

Alan is fast asleep. Stuart looks over at him. He's frustrated that Alan is asleep. He CLEARS HIS THROAT, trying to wake him up. Nothing. He HONKS his horn, and swerves the car intentionally. Nothing. He slams on the brakes. Alan flies forward and hits the dashboard.

ALAN
What the--? Jesus! What happened?

STUART

You were sleeping, and I wanted to wake you up. I'm bored.

ALAN

Where the hell are we?

STUART

I'm taking a shortcut. It's gonna take us a little longer but it's worth it.

ALAN

The definition of shortcut is that it makes the trip *shorter*.

STUART

The important thing is that we're going to bypass the toll booths.

ALAN

You're taking side roads so that you can save 75 cents?

STUART

A dollar. But the main reason is that toll booths are tools for the government to spy on us. Toll booth? John Wilkes Booth? Coincidence? I don't think so.

ALAN

You should write a book about all this. You can call it "I'm a Moron, and These Are All The Stupid Things I Believe."

STUART

Sure. It can be the sequel to my book "My Brother is Rude and Sometimes Says Things That Could Be Considered Hurtful".

The sit in silence for a beat.

STUART (CONT'D)

So, who were the flowers for?

ALAN

It's none of your business.

STUART

You're not exactly the flower-buying kind of guy. Are they for Chris?

ALAN

What? Why are you asking that?
How do you know about Kris?

STUART

While you were sleeping, you kept saying the name "Chris".

ALAN

What else did I say? What do you know about Kris?

STUART

Nothing. All you said was the name. So, who's Chris? Are the flowers for Chris? I know there's some story behind all this. Tell me the story.

ALAN

Just drop it.

STUART

Okay. Until you tell me, I'm just gonna imitate a car alarm.

Stuart starts LOUDLY imitating that one car alarm that changes alarms every five seconds.

STUART (CONT'D)

Whooooooooooo. Whoooooooo. Beep beep beep beep. Ehhhhh. Ehhhh. Ehhhhh. Ehhhh. Eee-oooh. Eee-oooh. Eee-oooh. Eee-oooh. Bzzzzt. Bzzzt.

ALAN

Okay. Please stop!

STUART

(turning off "alarm")
Beep-boop.

Stuart looks at Alan excitedly.

ALAN

(strains to make up story)
Kris is a... scientist friend of mine who I met at the South Pole.
(MORE)

ALAN (cont'd)
The flowers are for *him*, because...
he's in the hospital.

STUART
That's terrible. What happened?

ALAN
He was... bitten. By a polar bear.

STUART
Is he gonna be okay?

ALAN
He's having surgery on Saturday.
I'll know more then. I really
would rather not talk about this.

STUART
I understand. Thank you for
sharing that with me. Sorry I did
the car alarm thing.

They drive on in silence for another beat. Stuart suddenly
has an epiphany.

STUART (CONT'D)
Wait. Everything suddenly makes
sense to me. Alan... You're gay!

ALAN
What? No!

STUART
It's okay, Alan. I'm your brother,
I still love you.

ALAN
You're wrong.

STUART
It explains everything. Why you
keep sneaking away to use the
phone. Why you've been so
secretive about your private life
all these years. Your effeminate
mannerisms.

ALAN
What's so effeminate about my
mannerisms?

STUART

I bet I know how it happened. You and your buddy, Chris, were stuck together in that ice station, isolated for months on end. It was bound to happen. I saw "Brokeback Mountain".

ALAN

I'm not gay. All right?

STUART

There's nothing to be ashamed of. Wow. I have a gay brother. That's so cool. I always thought there was something gay about you.

Suddenly, the car begins to SPUTTER.

STUART (CONT'D)

Uh-oh. Guess who's out of gas?

ALAN

Seriously? Don't you have a gas light that's supposed to warn you about this?

STUART

Yes. It went on a ways back, but I didn't want you to worry.

EXT. DESOLATE STRETCH OF HIGHWAY - CONTINUOUS

The car crawls to a halt on the side of the road. Alan and Stuart get out. It's breezy and cold.

STUART

First, my brother's gay. Now, we're out of gas. What next?

ALAN

Maybe somebody in one of these other cars will stop and help us. Oh no, wait, there are no other cars, because we're in the middle of fucking nowhere, because you didn't want to go through a stupid fucking tollbooth!

STUART

Alan. Indoor voice. Please. Complaining isn't gonna fill the gas tank.

(MORE)

STUART (cont'd)
I saw a gas station two or maybe
ten miles back. We can walk it.

ALAN
There's a big difference between
two and ten miles.
(points ahead)
Maybe there's something closer if
we go that way.

STUART
I think we should go back the way
we came. It's far, but at least we
know there's a gas station.

ALAN
Fine.

Stuart pops the trunk. He pushes his bags towards the back
of the trunk, and puts a towel over them.

ALAN (CONT'D)
What are you doing?

STUART
In case someone breaks into the
car, I'm hiding my stuff.

ALAN
You think that if they break into
the trunk, they're not gonna look
underneath the towel?

STUART
It's a deterrent.

Stuart shuts the trunk. They start walking.

ALAN
At least it's freezing out.

STUART
So, what type of guys do you like?

ALAN
I'm not gay.

STUART
Are you also attracted to masculine
women?

ALAN
I'm not gay.

STUART
Does penis size matter?

EXT. DESOLATE STRETCH OF HIGHWAY - LATER

The sweaty and exhausted Stuart and Alan walk along the deserted highway.

STUART
Johnny Depp or Leonardo DiCaprio?

ALAN
Neither.

STUART
What does sperm taste like?

ALAN
I don't know.

STUART
If I kiss a lesbian, does that make
me bisexual?

A car approaches. Stuart and Alan try to wave it down. The car HONKS at them as it speeds past.

ALAN
Asshole!

STUART
You can spot other gay guys, right?
Is Simon Cowell gay?

ALAN
I wouldn't know.

STUART
What colors are gonna be *in* this
Spring?

EXT. GAS 'N STUFF - LATER

A backwoods gas station/garage/general store with old gas pumps out front. Stuart and Alan stagger up to the entrance.

INT. GAS 'N STUFF - CONTINUOUS

The cluttered store is full of all kinds of useless crap. Beef jerky, fishing poles, skunk traps, etc. An amiable old couple, HENRY and BETTY work behind the counter.

ALAN

Hi, we ran out of gas way up the road. Where are the gas cans?

HENRY

(points)

Back in the corner, by the hunting gear. If you guys like, I can give you a lift back to your car.

ALAN/STUART

That would be great. / Wow, thanks!

Alan and Stuart make their way to the back of the store.

STUART

This store has everything.

Stuart grabs some sunglasses and puts them on.

STUART (CONT'D)

(bad Arnold impersonation)

I'll be back. Eh? Eh?

Stuart puts back the glasses and grabs some souvenir bongos. He plays them like a maniac while attempting what sounds like some Swahili yodel. Alan ignores him and grabs a gas can.

STUART (CONT'D)

O-eyo-yo-eyo-eyo-eyo-eyo!

Stuart puts down the bongos, and grabs a bow and arrow.

STUART (CONT'D)

This is a real bow and arrow.

ALAN

Hey, Chief Jerky? Put that down and let's get out of here.

STUART

This is really dangerous. It shouldn't be out here where just anybody can pick it up and shoot somebody.

Stuart demonstrates by pulling back on the bow. He accidentally lets go, firing the arrow across the entire store, and directly into the shoulder of the old man behind the counter. He lets out a feeble GROAN.

BETTY

Oh my God! You shot Henry!

ALAN
Jesus, Stuart!

STUART
It was an accident. I was just trying to show you that this shouldn't be sitting out here. See what can happen? I was only pulling it this hard.

Stuart demonstrates. Again, he fires an arrow across the store. This time it hits Henry's other shoulder. Betty SCREAMS and Henry GROANS. Stuart and Alan look horrified.

BETTY
Please stop shooting arrows at my husband!

INT. GAS 'N STUFF - SHORT TIME LATER

Alan, Betty and a small crowd watch PARAMEDICS tend to Henry.

ALAN
We're really sorry. It was totally an accident. Both times were totally accidents.

Nearby, Stuart talks to a HIGHWAY PATROLMAN.

STUART
I was trying to make the point that it was dangerous leaving this bow and arrow just sitting out here. I barely pulled on it.

He pulls back on the bow. He loses his grip, this time sending the arrow flying directly into the shoulder of the highway patrolman. The patrolman SCREAMS and clutches his arm. Everyone looks over.

BETTY
Enough! Please, just leave. We'll move the arrows behind the counter. Just please get out of the store before you kill someone.

STUART
But--

The highway patrolman pulls his gun and points it at Stuart.

HIGHWAY PATROLMAN
Get out. Now.

Everyone watches in uncomfortable silence as Alan grabs Stuart and escorts him towards the door.

STUART

(to Henry)

So, are you still going to give us a ride, or...

(off his look)

No? Okay. Anybody? Can anybody give us a ride?

Everyone just glares at Stuart and Alan.

STUART (CONT'D)

Okay, then.

They exit.

EXT. DESOLATE STRETCH OF HIGHWAY - LATER

Stuart and Alan make their way back to the car. Alan, holding a gas can, walks about 15 feet ahead of Stuart.

STUART

So, here's what I'd do if I was a triplet. I'd have me and my two other brothers dress up exactly the same. All scary-like; Messed up hair, torn clothes, all dirty... Then we'd hitchhike on a road like this about two miles apart from each other. A car would pass the first me and say, "whoa. That's a scary looking guy." Then two miles later they'd run into me hitchhiking again! "Whoa! Didn't we just see that guy!?" Then, two miles after *that*... There I am again! Isn't that a great idea, Alan..? Isn't it? Alan? The triplet hitchhiking thing? Alan?

Alan stops and turns around.

ALAN

You're lucky you're not in jail for murder right now.

STUART

First of all, nobody died. And if they did, for your information, it wouldn't have been murder, it would have been involuntary manslaughter. There's a difference.

Stuart's CELL PHONE RINGS to the tune of Falco's "Rock Me Amadeus". He answers. Alan watches the conversation.

STUART (CONT'D)

(into phone; DJ voice)

Congratulations! You're the tenth caller! You've just won a dream conversation with Stuart Pivnick...

(regular voice)

Oh, hey Mr. Munson, I-- I know, I'm so sorry. I meant to call... Uh-huh... Uh-huh... Right. Okay.

Stuart hangs up. He looks upset. Beat.

STUART

I just got fired.

ALAN

What happened? Why?

STUART

They were upset because I took the last two days off. I guess I forgot to call and tell them.

ALAN

I feel terrible. You only took these days off because of me.

STUART

Well, I did it because you needed my help. If I had the chance to do it all over again, I'd do the same thing. Family comes first. I can get another job, but I only have one brother.

Stuart goes up to Alan and hugs him. Alan looks way guilty.

EXT. DESOLATE STRETCH OF HIGHWAY - EARLY EVENING

It's now dark out. Alan and Stuart finally get back to the car. The trunk is wide open.

ALAN
Someone broke into the car.

Alan rushes up to the trunk.

ALAN (CONT'D)
Goddammit. They took my stuff!

Stuart rushes up. He leans in the trunk, and pulls his bags out from under his towel, relieved. He turns to Alan.

ALAN (CONT'D)
Don't say it.

STUART
I'm not gonna say anything. But, if you'd put your stuff under the towel--

ALAN
That's not *not* saying anything...

INT. CAR - MOMENTS LATER

Stuart starts the car, and pulls back on to the road.

EXT. DESOLATE STRETCH OF HIGHWAY - SAME TIME

The car rounds a bend. There is a nice gas station literally just around the curve.

INT. CAR - SAME TIME

STUART
Hey, how about that? There was a gas station right here, the whole time. You were right. We should have walked this way.

Alan shakes his head. Stuart pulls into the gas station.

INT. PATTERSON HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - SAME TIME

Kristen sits on the couch in her sweats. Patti enters.

PATTI
Are you sure you don't want us to stay home with you?

KRISTEN
No. Go eat. I wanna wait here for Alan.

PATTI

He should have been here already.
You could be waiting a long time.
You know, like *years*?

KRISTEN

Why do you say that?

PATTI

You got to admit, that his behavior
has been a little fishy. Maybe he
does have cold feet.

KRISTEN

You don't know what you're talking
about.

PATTI

He's clearly in no hurry to get
here. First, he stayed in Vegas an
extra day. Then, he keeps giving
you these crazy reasons why he's
still not here. His plane was
cancelled. He lost his wallet.
His rental car broke down. You
can't even call him to see where he
is, because his cell phone
conveniently ran out of batteries.

KRISTEN

You just have trust issues because
of Bill.

PATTI

Tell me, how did Alan even rent a
car with no ID? Or get a motel
room with no credit card?

KRISTEN

I don't know.

PATTI

He's lying to you about something.

KRISTEN

Or maybe he's telling the truth.

PATTI

If that makes you feel better, then
you just keep telling yourself
that.

Kristen looks upset.

EXT. HIGHWAY - LATER

Stuart and Alan are back on the main highway. They drive past a sign that reads: "Philadelphia - 286".

INT. CAR - SAME TIME

STUART

I'm so hungry... I have to pee...
I'm tired... My back hurts... I'm
thirsty... I'm hungry.

ALAN

All right. I get it. I'm all
those things too.

STUART

I don't think we're gonna make it
to Philly tonight.

ALAN

Maybe we should stop at the next
city. We can get a motel, grab
something to eat and get a good
night's sleep. If we leave early
enough, I can be in Philadelphia
well before noon.

EXT. FIESTA MOTEL - LATER

A totally generic, forgettable, side-of-the-road motel. Alan and Stuart pull into the parking lot.

INT. FIESTA MOTEL - OFFICE - MOMENTS LATER

Stuart and Alan enter. Stuart taps the bell repeatedly.
GRADY, the shady-looking manager enters from the back.

GRADY

All right, okay, I hear ya.

Stuart continues to ring the bell. Grady puts his hand over the bell to stop him.

GRADY (CONT'D)

How can I help you?

STUART

We're looking for the new Harry
Potter book. Do you have it in
stock?

Stuart turns to Alan and grins as if to say, "hey, aren't I funny?" Grady looks at Stuart, completely unamused.

ALAN

We need a room. Please.

Grady's heavysset wife, STARLA, enters from the back.

STARLA

Who's ringing the damn bell?

STUART

(raises his hand)

Guilty.

Stuart rings the bell. Grady takes the bell and puts it beneath the counter. Stuart points at Starla's stomach.

STUART (CONT'D)

Look who's got a bun in the oven.
You know if it's a boy or a girl?

Alan cringes. Stuart walks over to Starla, lifts her shirt, and starts rubbing her belly.

STUART (CONT'D)

This is gonna be a big one. Are
you having twins?

He puts his ear to her belly.

STARLA

I'm not pregnant.

STUART

Please, look at you. You are ready
to pop. Somebody get some
newspaper. We're about to have a
mess.

ALAN

Stuart, she's not pregnant.

STUART

But, I felt it kick.

GRADY

She's just fat. And that kicking
was probably just one of the 16
chimichangas she ate today. I told
you, Starla. You're a cow. Moo.

STARLA
 (screams)
 Well you've got a tiny pecker!

GRADY
 Everything's tiny next to you!

STARLA
 Stupid ass! I hate you!

She storms out. Grady yells after her.

GRADY
 Whore!

Long, uncomfortable beat.

ALAN
 So, we'd like a room?

INT. FIESTA MOTEL - ROOM - SHORT TIME LATER

Alan and Stuart enter the room. Stuart drops his bags. Alan throws his jacket on the bed.

ALAN
 Let's get out of here. I'm
 starving.

They exit.

EXT. ZESTY'S RESTUARANT - ESTABLISHING SHOT - LATER

A cheesy Chili's-type chain restaurant.

INT. ZESTY'S RESTUARANT - SAME TIME

Alan sits in a booth, perusing a menu. A WAITER sets down drinks and walks off. Stuart walks up and sits down.

STUART
 (re: drink)
 What's this?

ALAN
 I ordered you a "Stuart Pivnick".
 Tomato juice, Sprite, and chocolate
 syrup.

STUART
 You remembered. I haven't had one
 of these since I was like, eleven.

Stuart, way excited, takes a huge gulp.

ALAN

I know you must be down about
losing your job, and I figured this
might cheer you up a bit.

Stuart stops drinking and makes a sour face.

STUART

It's not as good as I remember.
Actually, it's kind of disgusting.
But, I'm gonna drink the whole
thing anyway.

ALAN

You don't have to.

STUART

I want to. It was really nice of
you to order this for me.

Stuart takes another sip and cringes. A large party of about
fifteen MEXICANS take a seat at a table right behind Stuart.

STUART (CONT'D)

It's been really nice seeing you
again.

ALAN

It's been an adventure.

STUART

I can't help thinking that when I
drop you off in Philly, I'm not
gonna see you for another eight
years. Promise me you won't let
that happen.

ALAN

I promise. Next time, it will be
twenty years.

STUART

(laughing)
Oh, Alan!

Alan points at his menu, in an obvious attempt to deflect the
conversation.

ALAN

Do you know what you're getting?

STUART

Everything looks good. There's too many choices. Italian. Asian. You know what I *don't* like? Mexican.

The entire table of Mexicans turn towards Stuart. He is oblivious. Alan notices and tries to motion to Stuart to keep his voice down.

STUART (CONT'D)

I hate Mexican! Never liked Mexican! Never will like Mexican!

The Mexicans at the next table begin to exchange angry looks.

ALAN

(trying to change subject)
Grilled cheese sounds good.

STUART

Mexican is cheap, greasy, smelly, disgusting, and stupid.

One of the guys at the next table stands up and approaches.

ANGRY MEXICAN

Excuse me. Do you have a problem?

STUART

Yes. Thanks for asking. As a matter of fact, this glass is a little dirty. Can I get a clean one? Thanks.

He hands the glass to the angry Mexican, who immediately smashes it to the ground. CUSTOMERS look over.

ANGRY MEXICAN

You think that's funny?

STUART

I don't follow.

ANGRY MEXICAN

What did you say about Mexicans?

A bunch of the Mexicans stand up, ready to kill Stuart. Alan jumps up, trying to diffuse the situation.

ALAN

Whoa, whoa. This is just a big misunderstanding. See, my brother here is talking about Mexican *food*.

(MORE)

ALAN (cont'd)
He hates Mexican *food*. It's funny,
really--

BAM! The angry Mexican punches Alan in the face. Stuart leaps into action. He delivers a masterful series of rapid-fire karate kicks and punches that would make Jackie Chan proud. The rest of the Mexican party backs off in fear. The beating culminates with the angry Mexican trapped in a submission hold. Stuart bends the guy's arm back.

STUART
Next time, you'll think twice
before picking a fight with a
Pivnick.

Stuart lets go of the guy. Alan looks shocked.

STUART (CONT'D)
Don't think I'm not telling your
manager.

Alan and Stuart exit.

EXT. SLEEPING TOM MOTEL - SHORT TIME LATER

Stuart and Alan walk towards their room. They are holding fast food bags. Alan holds an ice bag on his cheek.

STUART
Aren't you gonna thank me?

ALAN
Thank you? I got punched in the
face because of something you said.

STUART
All I did was ask a busboy for a
new glass. If I did something
wrong in there, I'm not seeing it.

ALAN
Where did you learn to fight like
that?

STUART
For some reason, over the years,
I've been a magnet for these
confrontational, angry people.

ALAN
I can't imagine why.

STUART

I got sick of getting pushed around, so I learned to defend myself.

Stuart and Alan reach room 11. Stuart tries to stick the key in the door. It isn't working.

STUART (CONT'D)

That's weird. The key isn't fitting.

ALAN

This is the right room, isn't it?

STUART

Yeah, room eleven.

Stuart tries the key again. He jiggles the doorknob. Finally, the door swings open. An angry BIKER-LOOKING DUDE stands there in his underwear.

BIKER-LOOKING DUDE

What the hell do you want?

STUART

What are you doing in our room?

BIKER-LOOKING DUDE

This ain't your room, sissy-boy.

He slams the door.

STUART

How did he know you were gay?

ALAN

That's weird. You know what? I don't think this is our motel.

(points down the road)

Our motel didn't have a gas station next to it.

STUART

It didn't have a swimming pool either.

ALAN

(looks at sign)

"Sleeping Tom Motel". What was our motel called?

STUART
I don't know. The something motel.

ALAN
That helps.

STUART
You don't remember it either.

ALAN
What's it say on the key?

STUART
(holds up key)
Just the room number.

EXT. STREET - LATER

Stuart and Alan drive slowly down the street, trying to find their motel. The Pink Panther MUSIC PLAYS.

INT. CAR - SAME TIME

STUART
I recognize this street. I think this might be it.

ALAN
You recognize it because this is the fourth time we've driven down it looking for our motel. Can you turn off the damn music?

Stuart turns off the stereo.

ALAN (CONT'D)
I think we should have made a right back there.

STUART
No, there's a motel up on the left.

ALAN
That's not it. Ours had a blue sign.

STUART
I think it had a red sign.

ALAN
All these places look alike.

EXT. STREET - LATER

It is now raining. A WOMAN walks down the street under an umbrella. Stuart pulls up. He rolls down the passenger window and leans over Alan to talk to the woman.

STUART

Excuse me? We were wondering if you could give us directions?

WOMAN

Where are you going?

STUART

I don't know.

WOMAN

(concerned)

Oooo-kay.

STUART

It's a motel. It has a blue or red sign. I know there's a room 11.

He holds up the key. The woman panics. She pulls out pepper spray, sprays Alan in the face, and takes off running. Alan GROANS in pain.

EXT. GAS STATION - LATER

The gas station is closed. Stuart and Alan stand next to each other. Alan talks on a payphone. His eyes are all puffy and red from the pepper spray. Stuart is on his cell. In front of them, the Yellow Pages are opened to "Motels".

ALAN

Hi. Do you by any chance have an Alan or Stuart Pivnick staying there?

Alan hangs up, frustrated.

STUART

Hi, do you by any chance have a really fat lady who works there..?

He hangs up, frustrated. Alan holds up the phone book.

ALAN

There must be a million motels in here. All of them sound familiar.

It starts raining harder.

ALAN (CONT'D)
Great. My jacket's in the room.

Alan suddenly looks concerned.

FLASHBACK - SIDE OF THE ROAD

Alan puts his wedding rings into his jacket pocket.

FLASHBACK - FIESTA MOTEL ROOM

Alan throws his jacket on the bed.

BACK IN SCENE

ALAN
I need to get my jacket. We have
to get back to the room. I need my
jacket.

STUART
Alan, once we're back in the room,
you're not gonna need a jacket.

EXT. STREET - THREE HOURS LATER

CHYRON: THREE HOURS LATER

It's now snowing, and it is totally pitch black. Stuart and Alan have clearly veered way off track. Not only are they nowhere near the highway, they are nowhere near anything.

INT. CAR - SAME TIME

Stuart and Alan are stressed, tired, and loopy.

STUART
I can't see anything.

ALAN
This is a nightmare.

STUART
I'm really tired. I was too tired
before we checked into the motel.

ALAN
Just pull over somewhere. We can
get a little sleep. It will be
easier to find the motel when it's
light out.

Stuart pulls the car over and turns off the engine.

STUART
Wanna hear something funny? With
all the driving I've done tonight,
we probably could have made it to
Philadelphia.

Alan shoots him a look.

INT. CAR - EARLY MORNING

It's now light out. Stuart and Alan stir awake.

STUART
Where are we?

They take in their surroundings and suddenly look concerned.

EXT. ICY RIVER - SAME TIME

OVERHEAD SHOT - The car floats slowly on a huge chunk of ice
in the middle of a half-frozen river.

INT. CAR - SAME TIME

Alan and Stuart panic.

ALAN
You parked in the middle of a
river.

STUART
It wasn't a river when I parked.

Stuart pulls out his camera and takes a picture.

EXT. ICY RIVER - SAME TIME

The car begins to pick up speed as it floats downstream on
the mini-iceberg.

INT. CAR - SAME TIME

Stuart instinctively attempts to steer. He HONKS the horn.
Alan rolls his eyes.

EXT. ICY RIVER - SAME TIME

They start floating even faster down the river.

INT. CAR - SAME TIME

ALAN
We're going faster! We're going
faster!

Stuart pumps the brakes.

STUART
The brakes aren't working!

ALAN
Hitting the brakes isn't going to
help!

STUART
Then why are you telling me that
we're going faster? What do you
expect me to do about it?

ALAN
Nothing. I was just commenting on
what a fucked-up situation this is,
and how it's getting more and more
fucked-up.

EXT. ICY RIVER - SAME TIME

The car is now careening towards a cliff.

INT. CAR - SAME TIME

STUART
What is it with you and the f-word?
You swear a lot. Is it really
necessary?

Alan notices the rapidly approaching cliff.

ALAN
Well, we're about to go flying off
a cliff. Perhaps you can suggest a
less offensive word that captures
the mood?

Stuart looks ahead, towards the cliff and freaks.

STUART
Fuck-Cock-Piss-Shit-Motherfucker-
Fuuuuuuuuck!!!

EXT. ICY RIVER - SAME TIME

Stuart and Alan both SCREAM and SWEAR as the car reaches the precipice. They fly over the edge, and become airborne.

The car flies several hundred feet, before it comes crashing down on land.

INT. CAR - SAME TIME

Stuart and Alan attempt to catch their breath. They seem shocked that they are still alive.

EXT. MOUNTAINSIDE - SAME TIME

The car immediately begins rolling forward, down the side of the heavily wooded mountain.

INT. CAR - SAME TIME

Stuart and Alan resume SCREAMING and SWEARING as the car speeds out of control towards the bottom of the mountain. Stuart keeps HONKING the horn.

EXT. WOODS - CONTINUOUS

The car reaches the bottom of the mountain, and continues rolling forward through the woods at an ungodly speed. The car narrowly misses trees and rocks as it speeds along.

EXT. HIGHWAY - CONTINUOUS

The car emerges from the woods, and careens out on to the main highway.

Other cars SCREECH to a halt, and swerve to avoid Stuart and Alan, as they fly across several lanes of traffic and the center divider, before crashing through a fence on the opposite side of the highway.

The car finally comes to a stop directly in front of... The Fiesta Motel.

INT. CAR - CONTINUOUS

STUART

Hey. Isn't that our motel?

Alan looks over, then begins LAUGHING hysterically. Stuart joins in. It's one of those great-to-be-alive laughs.

INT. PATTERSON HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - MORNING

Kristen is really upset. Her family and Dana are trying to comfort her. Everyone looks like they've been up all night.

KRISTEN

Something happened to him. I know it. He's hurt or dead.

JIM

Honey, I'm sure he's okay. There's probably a really good explanation for all of this.

PATTI

Yeah, like he's fleeing the country so he doesn't have to marry you.

KRISTEN

Give me a break, Patti.

SALLY

Maybe he took a detour to buy you a special gift.

NETTIE

Balls. He probably ran off with some coked-up hooker he met in Vegas.

SALLY/JIM

Mom! / Nettie!

NETTIE

I'm just being realistic. These things happen. I just read about a guy who had three wives in three states and none of them knew about each other.

KRISTEN

Okay. Great suggestions everybody. Thanks. I feel much better now.

DANA

Listen, Kristen. There is a guy at work, who I think you would really like. He's not my type, but--

KRISTEN

Are you trying to set me up with another guy? Alan could be dead.

PATTI

Kristen, this is a guy who proposed to you in an e-mail. If he was having second thoughts, it's not like he'd exactly be open with you about it.

KRISTEN

Are you enjoying yourself? You're happy about this, aren't you? Just because your marriage didn't work out, it's like you're rooting for my marriage to fail.

JIM

Girls! Girls! Calm down. I think we're all getting a little ahead of ourselves here... Kristen's right. Alan's probably just hurt or dead or something.

Kristen starts crying.

INT. FIESTA MOTEL - ROOM - SHORT TIME LATER

Stuart and Alan walk into the room. They're still laughing.

STUART

Excuse me? Can you tell me how to get to the Fiesta Motel? Sure. Just make a left on third street, take the iceberg, then go down the waterfall...

They both crack up. Stuart goes into the bathroom. Alan looks to make sure Stuart isn't watching, then grabs his jacket. He reaches into the pocket and pulls out his wedding rings. He breathes a sigh of relief. Stuart starts to exit the bathroom. Alan quickly hides the rings under the pillow.

STUART (CONT'D)

That was the most satisfying pee. You know, sometimes, how it's just really fun to pee?

ALAN

I'm gonna take a quick shower, then let's get out of here.

Alan goes into the bathroom. Stuart lies down on the bed and turns on the TV. He starts rearranging the pillows, and discovers the box with the wedding rings. Stuart opens the box. He looks at the rings, shocked.

INT. FIESTA MOTEL - ROOM - SHORT TIME LATER

Alan comes out of the bathroom, and sees Stuart sitting on the bed quietly.

STUART
Guess what I just found under the pillow..? Two wedding rings.

Alan looks busted.

STUART (CONT'D)
Obviously whoever was staying here before us left them here.

ALAN
(relieved)
Right. Sure. Makes sense.

STUART
That poor couple. They must be freaking out. Can you imagine losing your wedding rings? They were beautiful. You should have seen them.

ALAN
Should have? I mean, I can still see them now, right? You still have them here, don't you?

STUART
Of course not. I took them up to the lost and found. The guy at the front desk said he knows who the rings belong to, and promised me he'd return them. I'm a hero!

Alan races out of the room. Stuart looks confused.

INT. FIESTA MOTEL - OFFICE - MOMENTS LATER

Grady and Starla stand behind the counter. Starla is admiring her new ring, which she has crammed on to her pinky. Grady is holding Alan's other ring.

STARLA
This is beautiful. It fits perfectly.

GRADY
I'm sorry I called you a whore.

Alan rushes in. He immediately sees the rings.

ALAN

There's been a huge misunderstanding. My brother just turned in those rings. They actually belong to me.

GRADY

Rings? I don't know what you're talking about.

ALAN

Look, I don't want a problem here. Just give me back my rings.

GRADY

Well, if you don't want a problem, I suggest you just turn around and walk back out that door.

ALAN

You... asshole!

Alan lunges at Grady. In one motion, he grabs the ring Grady's holding, and pushes him over the counter. Alan then turns to Starla.

ALAN (CONT'D)

Are you gonna give me the ring? Or am I gonna have to take it?

Starla holds out her hand.

STARLA

(disappointed)

Take it...

Alan walks towards her to take the ring off her finger. As he reaches her, Starla abruptly makes her hand into a fist and punches Alan in the face.

STARLA (CONT'D)

...over my dead body!

ALAN

Oh, it's on.

They begin to wrestle. The entire time, Alan tries to pull the ring off her finger. As they tussle, Grady runs behind the counter and grabs his shotgun. He tries to get a clear shot at Alan, but his line of fire is obscured by his wife.

As the fight continues, Starla's blouse gets ripped open, exposing her mammoth breasts. As if Starla's fists weren't enough, Alan is now also being pummeled by the flopping boobs. She manages to pin Alan against the wall. His face is wedged between her chest. He struggles for air, as she continues to repeatedly punch his sides with her fists.

Stuart enters and sees Alan and Starla wrestling.

STUART

Whoa!

Stuart then looks over and sees Grady with the shotgun.

STUART (CONT'D)

Whoa!!

Stuart looks back towards his brother, just as Stuart manages to flip Starla around. Stuart sees her massive boobs.

STUART (CONT'D)

Whoa!!!

Stuart pulls out his camera and snaps a picture. Alan grabs Starla's hand. He lifts his foot and puts it on Starla's stomach to brace himself. He then pulls and pulls on the ring, finally ripping it off of her finger. The momentum sends Starla flying backwards. She crashes into her husband, causing him to discharge a round into the ceiling. They both go crashing into the wall.

ALAN

Run!

Stuart and Alan run out of the office. Grady gives chase.

EXT. FIESTA MOTEL - PARKING LOT - CONTINUOUS

Stuart and Alan race towards their car. Grady is right on their tail, firing at them with his shotgun.

ALAN

Why are you shooting at me? These
are my rings you jerk! I can't
steal something that belongs to me!

Stuart takes a picture of Grady shooting at them.

ALAN (CONT'D)

And you stop taking pictures!

Stuart and Alan get in the car and peel out.

EXT. SIDE OF THE ROAD - SHORT TIME LATER

The car is pulled over. Stuart and Alan stand beside the car, catching their breath.

STUART

I don't get it. Those are your rings?

ALAN

Yes. These are my rings. And you gave them to that bumfuck hillbilly asshole and his fuckpig wife.

Stuart looks puzzled. Alan loses it.

ALAN (CONT'D)

I can't take it anymore. The last three days have been a total nightmare. My entire life, you've done nothing but cause me pain, grief and embarrassment. You know why I left Chicago? It wasn't because I got a job at the South Pole, it wasn't because mom died, it wasn't because I'm gay, and it wasn't because I have a third testicle. I left Chicago because you're in Chicago. And guess what, I don't really work at the South Pole, and I'm not on my way to some stupid scientist convention. I'm on my way to my wedding. A wedding that isn't going to have any Tiger Lillies because of you. A wedding that you almost ruined without even knowing about it. A wedding that you're not invited to, because I don't want any of my new friends, or my new family, and especially my wife, to know that you even exist!

Stuart looks completely devastated. Long, sad beat.

STUART

(pathetic)

Wow. Okay. If that's how you feel... I appreciate your honesty. I'm sorry I ruined your entire life.

INT. CAR - SHORT TIME LATER

Stuart and Alan both stare straight ahead in total silence. Stuart is clearly fighting back tears. It is the most awkward, uncomfortable ride ever.

EXT. ZESTY'S RESTUARANT - SHORT TIME LATER

Alan and Stuart stand in front of the restaurant. Stuart stares at his brother sadly.

ALAN

You don't have to sit here and wait for the taxi with me. You can go.

STUART

Here. I guess I should probably give you this back.

Stuart hands Alan his wallet.

ALAN

My wallet? What are you doing with my wallet?

STUART

I took it when you were sleeping at my apartment. So that you couldn't get on the plane.

ALAN

Why would you do that?

STUART

You don't think that I know how you feel about me? I can count the number of times you've called or e-mailed me in eight years on one hand, and I'd still have three fingers left over. Just to clarify, I am counting the thumb as a finger... I just wanted to spend as much time with you as possible. I thought maybe if you spent a little time with me, maybe you'd like me more. I guess that didn't work out.

ALAN

So you took my wallet?

STUART

I also pulled over the first night when you fell asleep just to prolong the trip. Also, I ran out of gas on purpose. I wouldn't have done it if I knew you were on the way to your wedding.

Alan shakes his head in disbelief. A taxi pulls up. Alan opens the door to the taxi.

ALAN

Well, I guess this is goodbye.

STUART

Good luck with the rest of your life.

ALAN

Yeah. You too.

STUART

You know, Alan, this didn't have to be the worst week ever. You never even gave it a chance. Try to lighten up. If you opened up a bit, you might not be so miserable.

Alan looks pensive.

STUART (CONT'D)

And always remember, don't be afraid to drink the cheese.

Alan looks confused.

STUART (CONT'D)

Have a nice wedding. I'm sure your fiancé is a very nice guy.

Stuart gets into his car. Alan gets into the taxi and looks back at Stuart. Stuart takes a photo of Alan, then pulls out the CD of "Terms of Endearment". He puts it on. The sad instrumental SCORE BLASTS from the stereo.

STUART (CONT'D)

(singing sadly)

*My brother / is going to get
married / and I'm not even invited
/ because my brother hates me...*

Stuart continues to sing as he drives off.

EXT. PATTERSON HOUSE - AFTERNOON

Alan gets out of the taxi and walks up to the front door. He SIGHS, then RINGS the doorbell. Kristen opens the door. Her family stands behind her. Kristen and Alan hug.

KRISTEN

Oh my God, you're okay.

Kristen then pushes Alan away.

KRISTEN (CONT'D)

What the hell is going on? Where have you been? I know you haven't been straight with me. Is there someone else? Do you still love me? Do you still want to marry me? I want the truth. Don't bullshit me.

ALAN

You know how I told you that I don't have any family? Well, that isn't exactly true.

KRISTEN

Don't tell me you're one of those assholes that has a bunch of wives and kids scattered all over the place.

ALAN

No no no. It's nothing like that... I have a brother.

INT. PATTERSON HOUSE - DEN - SHORT TIME LATER

Alan is slumped on the couch. Kristen looks at him, upset.

KRISTEN

I don't know what to say. I can't believe you've been keeping this a secret from me all these years.

ALAN

You don't understand.

KRISTEN

I can't imagine what your brother could have done that was so horrible that you would pretend he doesn't even exist. What is it about him? You can tell me.

Kristen puts her hand on Alan's shoulder. He takes a deep breath.

ALAN

He sings in his sleep. He can only read out loud. He drives the speed limit. He has to eat his food in alphabetical order. He thinks OJ is innocent. He's convinced JFK faked his own death. In third grade, he told Suzy Carmichael that I had a crush on her and totally ruined my chances with her. He puts ketchup on his pancakes and maple syrup on his hamburgers. He thinks Deal or No Deal is a game of strategy. He actually sabotaged my trip so he could spend time with me!

KRISTEN

You disowned your only living family member, because he's annoying?

ALAN

He almost made me miss our wedding!

KRISTEN

I don't know what I'm more upset about. The fact that you've been lying to me about him this whole time, or the fact that this is how you treat your brother. He's your family. In two days, I'm gonna be your family. God forbid I should develop some annoying habits. What if our kids want ketchup on their pizza? Are we gonna give them up for adoption?

Kristen leaves the room. Alan SIGHS.

MONTAGE - THE TIME LEADING UP TO THE WEDDING

Green Day's "Wake Me Up When September Ends" PLAYS.

INT. PATTERSON HOUSE - BEDROOM - LATE NIGHT - MONTAGE

Alan lies in bed alone. Kristen enters the room. Alan is clearly surprised to see her. She gets into bed and curls up next to him. They kiss. Everything is okay.

INT. MOTEL - LATE NIGHT - MONTAGE

Stuart lies in bed by himself and looks sad. He watches "Deal or No Deal" on the motel TV. He bangs on the wall behind the bed, clearly trying to get the couple in the next room to keep it down.

INT. PATTERSON HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - AFTERNOON - MONTAGE

Alan sits on the couch talking on the phone. Kristen sits down next to him as he hangs up. She holds up the "Wedding Checklist", and crosses a couple of items off. The list is complete. She and Alan hug.

EXT. PARK - AFTERNOON - MONTAGE

Stuart sits alone on a park bench. He is looking at photos on his digital camera. He sees the picture of him and Alan at their parents' graves; he and Alan upside-down on the Ring of Fire; Grady aiming a shotgun; and Alan in the taxi looking back at Stuart.

INT. RESTAURANT - EVENING - MONTAGE

It's the Pivnick-Patterson Rehearsal Dinner. Alan and Kristen are surrounded by FRIENDS and FAMILY. Everybody is laughing and having a great time.

INT. DINER - EVENING - MONTAGE

Stuart sits at a table all alone. He stares longingly at a HAPPY FAMILY in a booth across from him. An OLDER WAITRESS sets a plate of food in front of Stuart. He quickly examines the sandwich and begins to complain. He pulls out his tape recorder. The waitress looks at him like he's crazy.

END MONTAGE

EXT. WEDDING HALL - DAY

It's the day of the wedding. Alan, Kristen, and her immediate family pose for a photo in front of the main entrance. Everyone is dressed for the wedding. Alan and Kristen are beaming. They share a smile. Cynthia, the pianist, walks directly into the photo and up to Alan. Everyone, especially The PHOTOGRAPHER, seems a little miffed.

CYNTHIA

You're Alan, right? I'm Cynthia, the pianist. Listen, I'm going to need a roll of paper towels? I always cry at weddings and I'm allergic to Kleenex.

(MORE)

CYNTHIA (cont'd)
 I start crying, I go to wipe the
 tears, I sneeze. I wipe my nose,
 then I sneeze. I wipe my nose
 again, then I sneeze...

ALAN
 Got it. We'll get you some paper
 towels. The piano is in there.

Cynthia enters the Wedding Hall. The Photographer motions
 for everyone to move inside.

INT. WEDDING HALL - CONTINUOUS

The hall is beautifully decorated. The floral arrangements
 are breathtaking. There is an over-abundance of Tiger
 Lillies. Alan and Kristen enter, and are both taken aback.

KRISTEN
 Tiger Lillies. Alan, I can't
 believe you did this. You said
 they couldn't get Tiger Lillies.
 This is the best surprise ever.

Kristen gives Alan a big hug. Alan looks shocked.

ALAN
 I wish I could take credit for
 this, but I'm just as surprised as
 you are.

They spot a FLORIST putting the finishing touches on one of
 the arrangements, and approach.

ALAN (CONT'D)
 Excuse me? Where did these Tiger
 Lillies come from?

FLORIST
 You're Alan Pivnick?

ALAN
 Yeah.

FLORIST
 This is for you.

He hands Alan an envelope. Alan and Kristen exchange curious
 looks. Alan pulls out a small tape recorder and hits play.

STUART'S VOICE
 (on recorder)
 Alan, this is Stuart. I took care
 of the flowers for you.
 (MORE)

STUART'S VOICE (cont'd)
 It's my wedding gift. I hope Chris
 likes them, and that you're out of
 the doghouse. I want you to know
 that no mater what, I'll always
 love you, because you're my
 brother. I'm sorry for... well,
 everything.

Alan stops the tape. He smiles. Kristen shakes her head.

ALAN
 What?

KRISTEN
 He's sorry? *He's* apologizing to
 you? Jesus, Alan, don't you think
 you're the one who should be
 apologizing to him? I can't
 believe I'm marrying such an
 asshole. I have to finish getting
 ready. I'll see you at the altar.

She gives him a peck on the cheek and starts to walk off.
 She stops and turns back to Alan.

KRISTEN (CONT'D)
 You have a nice big family now, but
 you're all he's got.

She walks off. It's obvious Alan feels like a jerk. He
 stares at the Tiger Lillies, and then walks outside.

ANGLE - PIANO

Cynthia is literally bathing the piano keys in Purell.
 Nettie stands nearby.

CYNTHIA
 (to Nettie)
 You wouldn't believe the kind of
 things they find on these pianos.
 Traces of feces, blood, mustard.

EXT. WEDDING HALL - SECONDS LATER

Alan paces with a cell phone in one hand and Stuart's tape
 recorder in the other. He takes a deep breath and dials.

ALAN
 (into phone)
 Stuart. It's Alan... I'm calling
 to thank you for the flowers.
 They're amazing... I don't really
 deserve them.
 (MORE)

ALAN (cont'd)
 I haven't exactly been the best brother... I guess, I'm also calling to apologize for all that mean stuff I said and for lying and for the way I've kinda always treated you... I really wish you were here at my wedding.

We WIDEN OUT to reveal Stuart is standing directly behind Alan. He's holding his cell phone to his ear and tearing up.

STUART
 (into phone)
 Turn around.

Alan turns around and is shocked to see Stuart.

ALAN
 What are you doing here? How did you--

STUART
 I just wanted to see you get married. I was gonna watch you from that window over there. I was gonna stand on those boxes.

Stuart points over to the side of the church, where there are several boxes stacked by a high window.

STUART (CONT'D)
 I know I'm not invited. You're not mad, are you?

ALAN
 No. Actually, I'm really glad you're here.

Alan smiles and hugs Stuart. Stuart is beaming.

ALAN (CONT'D)
 Why don't we go inside so you can meet our new family...

Alan escorts an excited Stuart into the Wedding Hall.

INT. RECEPTION AREA - LATER THAT NIGHT

A huge outdoor tent is set up for the reception. The crowded reception is packed with WEDDING-GOERS eating, drinking, dancing, and having a great time. Alan and Kristen watch Stuart, who is the life of the party on the dance floor. Nearby, a very drunk Dana dances with a MAN who has a huge, hairy mole on his face.

INT. RECEPTION HALL - LATER

Cynthia walks up to Alan. She holds up a wall thermometer.

CYNTHIA

Can you have them turn up the air conditioning? Whenever I'm indoors and the temperature gets above 74, I get a migraine.

ALAN

You brought your own thermometer?
(suddenly gets thought)
Wait a second.

Alan motions for Stuart to come over.

STUART

Hey, Alan. There's a guy in the bathroom giving out expired gum.

ALAN

I'll get right on it... Stuart this is Cynthia. Cynthia, my brother, Stuart.

Stuart shakes Cynthia's hand.

STUART

(re: thermometer)
Is that a tungsten thermometer? You know, 9 out of 10 times those are completely inaccurate. Usually only a fraction of a percentage but that could be the difference between a fun afternoon and a serious earache.

Stuart and Cynthia continue to mingle. Alan looks at them proudly as if to say, "my work here is done."

INT. RECEPTION HALL - LATER

Kristen is dancing with Patti. She waves to Alan and motions for him to come dance. He waves her off.

PATTI

I'm not gonna say anything... I'm sorry I gave you such a hard time about Alan and the wedding. I guess maybe I am a little jealous. I'm actually really happy for you.

KRISTEN

Thank you... I'm sorry if I've made you feel bad about your situation with Bill. I know I can be a little insensitive. We're sisters. We should be more supportive of each other.

PATTI

It's a deal.

(smiles, then)

I promise I won't give you a hard time when you and Alan break up.

They both LAUGH, then hug.

INT. RECEPTION HALL - LATER

Everyone is seated for dinner. Alan takes a deep breath, then starts hitting a glass with a knife to get everyone's attention. He stands, grabs a microphone and addresses the guests. Kristen exchanges surprised looks with Patti and Dana as if to say "I can't believe he's doing this."

ALAN

I'm not really good at this speech-talking stuff. See? I just said speech-talking stuff and I'm pretty sure that's lame.

Several wedding guests LAUGH.

ALAN (CONT'D)

I guess all I have to do is speak from my heart, and say how I feel. Well, I feel great! I have great friends. I have an amazing new family.

Alan directs his attention to the family table.

ALAN (CONT'D)

From day one, you all welcomed me with open arms, and treated me like a member of the family. I haven't been part of a family in a really long time...

The family looks genuinely touched.

ALAN (CONT'D)

This was partially my fault,
because I have a family member who
wanted to be a part of my life this
whole time that I overlooked, and
took for granted... And that's my
brother, Stuart.

Alan looks at Stuart. Stuart fights back tears.

WEDDING GUESTS

Awwwww.

ALAN

Stuart, this is the most important
day of my life, and I'm really glad
you're here to share it with me.

Stuart is overcome with joy. Alan turns to Kristen.

ALAN

One other person I'm glad is here,
is my lovely wife. I suppose, that
if you weren't here, this whole day
would probably be completely
different. I want to thank you for
your patience and understanding.
And for teaching me about love and
the meaning of family. And I can't
wait to start creating new family
members with you.

Alan catches himself and turns to Kristen's father.

ALAN (CONT'D)

I don't mean the physical act of
creating them. Not that I don't
look forward to that-- I mean, well
you know what I mean. This is why
I shouldn't speak in front of
people.

The guests LAUGH and CLAP. Alan turns to Kristen.

ALAN (CONT'D)

I recently went on kind of an
adventure, and I found out a few
things about myself. A guy pointed
out that I'm a little uptight, and
that maybe that's been keeping me
from making the most of my life.

STUART

(yells out)

Is the guy me?! Are you talking about me? Is the adventure you're talking about our road trip?!

ALAN

Yes. Anyway, I know sometimes I'm not good at expressing myself emotionally. I know that's no way to go through life. I don't wanna be that guy anymore. Stuart also told me not to "be afraid to drink the cheese". It's not a very good metaphor, but I think I know what he was getting at. Life is too short not to make the most of it.

Alan confidently walks over to the piano.

ALAN (CONT'D)

I should have played piano at my mothers' funeral, but I didn't. Now I wanna play for Kristen. Because I know if I don't, I'll regret it for the rest of my life. I wouldn't be doing this if it wasn't for Stuart... I also probably wouldn't be doing this if Cynthia, the piano girl, learned the song like I asked her to.

SALLY

I didn't know Alan plays piano.

KRISTEN

I didn't know either.

People watch in awe as Alan plays an incredible, moving, rendition of Coldplay's "Trouble". Kristen is moved to tears. Stuart SOBS like a baby. Everybody APPLAUDS as Alan finishes and walks back to Kristen. He kisses her and sits.

KRISTEN (CONT'D)

Is there anything else I don't know about you?

ALAN

I don't like your lasagna as much as I pretend to. But that's pretty much it. I swear.

Stuart jumps up. He grabs the microphone and begins banging his full wine glass with a spoon.

STUART
Okay, my turn! My turn!

Stuart bangs on the glass so hard that it shatters, spilling red wine all over Kristen's wedding dress. She looks upset.

STUART (CONT'D)
Cheap glasses.

Kristen looks over at Alan. Alan grins as if to say, "I told you he was annoying."

STUART (CONT'D)
First off, I would like to say that I asked for my salad dressing on the side, so if I can get a fresh salad, that would be great. Thanks.

Stuart CLEARS HIS THROAT for about ten seconds longer than necessary.

STUART (CONT'D)
I just want to say that it means so much to me to be here.

Stuart looks down at his wrist, and notices that it's bleeding - a lot.

STUART (CONT'D)
I must have cut myself on the wine glass. I thought that was wine, but it's definitely blood...

Stuart becomes woozy, but continues on.

STUART (CONT'D)
Uh, where was I? Um, nothing's more important than family, and my brother's the only family I have... Feeling dizzy.

People begin to look concerned as more blood begins dripping from Stuart's sleeve. Stuart grabs his arm and wobbles.

STUART (CONT'D)
I better speed this up. I recently lost my job.
(MORE)

STUART (CONT'D)

I now realize that it was a blessing in disguise, because now I can move to Los Angeles and start a new life with Alan and Kristen!

Alan's jaw drops in shock.

STUART (CONT'D)

I also want to say that Kristen seems wonderful, and that I am just blown away by how much Kris talks and looks like a woman. You would never know that she's really a man.

Everyone looks confused. Alan shakes his head. Stuart begins to teeter back and forth. He passes out and falls backwards into an outdoor heater. The heater falls over into table, instantly igniting the tablecloth. People begin to scatter as the fire spreads quickly throughout the tent. Alan and Kristen hold hands as they run towards the exit.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. DEAL OR NO DEAL SET - AFTERNOON - MONTHS LATER

Stuart is a contestant on "Deal or No Deal". He stands smugly next to HOWIE MANDELL. There is only one MODEL left holding a suitcase. On the money board, the only two numbers left are ".01", and "\$1,000,000". The offer on the board reads "\$512,000". The STUDIO AUDIENCE is going crazy.

HOWIE MANDELL

I've never seen anything like this. You have eliminated suitcase after suitcase with reckless abandon. Up till now, you've ignored every phone call from the banker. And somehow, you are now left with only two choices. Inside your suitcase is either a penny or a million dollars.

Stuart nods smugly off to the side of the stage, where the friends and family of the contestants stand. Alan stands next to a very pregnant Kristen, and Cynthia, the piano player. They all look very nervous.

HOWIE MANDELL (CONT'D)

The final offer is \$512,000.
Stuart Pivnick... Deal or No Deal?

Howie flips open the lid that covers the "Deal" button.

ALAN/KRISTEN/CYNTHIA
Take the money. / Take the deal!

STUART
Howie? I've known from the second
I stepped on this stage which
suitcase has the \$1,000,000. I've
just been toying with you this
whole time. That's why I'm going
to say No Deal!!!

He slams down the lid over the "Deal" button.

HOWIE MANDELL
All right, Stuart, why don't you
open your suitcase?

Stuart flips open his suitcase, revealing "\$1,000,000"
Everyone immediately begins CHEERING WILDLY. Stuart goes
nuts. Streamers fall from the ceiling. Alan, Kristen, and
Cynthia run up to Stuart and celebrate. Stuart gives Cynthia
a huge kiss. Howie approaches Stuart.

HOWIE MANDELL (CONT'D)
How does it feel to be a
millionaire? What are you going to
do with all this money?

STUART
The first thing I'm going to do is
give some of it to my brother Alan.

He puts his arm around Alan.

STUART (CONT'D)
So that he can have an operation to
have his third testicle removed!

Alan's joy turns to embarrassment. Everyone else continues
to celebrate as we:

FADE OUT.

THE END