

FRIEND OF BILL

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INT. HANGER BAR, NEW YORK CITY - NIGHT

OLIVIA GEDDES (28) sits at a table next to her date, JAKE, a tight pant wearing 20 something. She has long hair, wears a dress and little make up. Olivia drinks a glass of wine, Jake's wine is on the table. She is drunk.

JAKE

You live around here, right?

Olivia doesn't answer but starts to eat french fries from a half empty basket on the table.

JAKE (CONT'D)

Did you order those?

OLIVIA

No, they were from the table before, but, it's like, they left a lot.

JAKE

Right...So small world, I think you know Kyle Berg?

OLIVIA

Yeah. She's what we call a crazy asshole.

JAKE

She's my best friend.

A waitress walks by and sets down two glasses of wine.

OLIVIA

Thanks.

Olivia drinks her entire glass. Jake watches, surprised by her speed.

OLIVIA (CONT'D)

Can you give me a sip of your wine that just winked at me?

Olivia takes his wine glass out of his hand.

JAKE

Kyle said you're from Washington.

OLIVIA

Yeah, I don't go home that often. Apparently I "ruined Christmas" last time.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Olivia does air quotes as she says this, Jake shifts awkwardly. Olivia stands up, swaying a bit.

OLIVIA (CONT'D)
Do you want another drink?

JAKE
No, I think I'm okay with -

Olivia interrupts Jake, pointing at his face

OLIVIA
One vodka soda coming up for you
Sir.

She backs out of the room, hits the door, stumbles and exits.

INT. HANGER BAR - CONTINUOUS

Jake and Olivia sloppily make out on the couch. She pulls back for a moment and burps loudly.

OLIVIA
Sorry, I thought I was going to
throw up but it just turned out to
be a burp.

They go back to making out. Then Olivia leads Dave into the bathroom, the door shuts behind them.

EXT. HANGER BAR - TWO HOURS LATER

Olivia lies down on the ground in front of the bar. The BOUNCER gives her a look.

OLIVIA
I'm just resting.

BOUNCER
Why don't you "rest" in your bed.

OLIVIA
Maybe your bed.

BOUNCER
You need to go home. Now.

Olivia falls asleep on the sidewalk.

CUT TO:

A COP approaches Olivia asleep on the ground.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

COP
Miss? You need to get up.

Olivia wakes up confused, the cop takes her arm and pulls her up. He looks to the bouncer -

COP (CONT'D)
Do you know how much she had to drink?

BOUNCER
No. She was in there for a few hours though.

Olivia looks at the cop who is holding her up. She tries to kiss him. He restrains her. She slurs her speech.

OLIVIA
I'm driving.

COP.
No. I'm driving.

Olivia pulls the cop's sunglasses out of his pocket and puts them on.

OLIVIA
Well then I get to wear these.

COP.
Give those to me.

OLIVIA
I look like Baz Luhrman and I think we both know that.

She jabs her finger into the cop's chest.

COP
Stop it and give them to me now.

OLIVIA
No.

The cop grabs the glasses from her.

COP
Get in the back.

OLIVIA
Make me.

The cop grabs Olivia and tries to put her in the back, she struggles, spreading herself out so he can't get her legs or arms in the car.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

The cop's partner gets out of the car, when he gets close to Olivia, she hits him. After a scuffle and a bit of yelling, Olivia is in the back.

OLIVIA (CONT'D)
Get over yourself, you little bitch.

INT. 9TH PRECINCT POLICE STATION - VERY EARLY MORNING

An ATTENDANT comes to the holding cell where Olivia is asleep on a bench, wrapped in her scarf. Two prostitutes talk next to her.

ATTENDANT
Olivia Geddes?

Olivia groggily gets up and walks out of the cell. The attendant walks her to the front desk where MAGGIE waits. MAGGIE (34) is Olivia's best and only married friend. She is five months pregnant.

OLIVIA
(to Maggie)
Thanks for coming.

Maggie hands her a sweatshirt that she brought.

MAGGIE
Of course. Here, put this on.

The attendant hands her a stack of papers. She's impatient and doesn't look at Olivia as she speaks.

ATTENDANT
Here's one for public drunkenness, another for resisting arrest and a third for assaulting an officer. Your bail is set at \$1,500. Your court date is set for the 3rd. In the meantime, take a look at this pamphlet.

The attendant hands Olivia an Alcoholics Anonymous pamphlet. On the front flap it says: "Is A.A. for me?"

ATTENDANT (CONT'D)
If I were you, I'd become very familiar with one of these meetings. If you have cash right now, you'll avoid a fee.

OLIVIA
Just take whatever's in there.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

The attendant holds up the Ziplock bag that has Olivia's things in it.

ATTENDANT
You have four dollars and a
scrunchie.

OLIVIA
Do you take MasterCard?

ATTENDANT
(she looks up)
I'm glad that assaulting a
policeman is earning you frequent
flier miles.

OLIVIA
Silver lining.

ATTENDANT
What was that?

OLIVIA
Nothing.

INT. WAVERLY DINER - MORNING

It's raining. Olivia and Maggie sit across from each other. Olivia is a disheveled mess, Maggie is perfectly put together in workout clothes. They both have plates of eggs and toast in front of them, Maggie eats, Olivia doesn't touch her food.

MAGGIE
Did you sleep with him?

OLIVIA
When you say "sleep with..."

MAGGIE
Just answer.

OLIVIA
Does it really matter?

MAGGIE
Yes.

OLIVIA
Honestly, I don't remember
anything.

Beat.

CONTINUED:

OLIVIA (CONT'D)
I touched his penis.

MAGGIE
Oh God Olivia.

OLIVIA
(grimacing)
With my mouth.

MAGGIE
Well it sounds like it went great.
Full of first date, demure charm.
I'm sure he'll call.

OLIVIA
Please don't be mean to me right
now.

Olivia starts to cry.

MAGGIE
I'm sorry. Listen, the good thing
is that you're getting out there.

OLIVIA
I can hear the judgement in your
tone and word choice.

MAGGIE
I'm "weighing in," it's not like
you have to answer to me.

OLIVIA
Don't people make mistakes?

MAGGIE
A mistake? Spilling milk is a
mistake! Did you trip and fall on
his penis?

OLIVIA
What if I did?! You would feel
pretty stupid right now.

Olivia puts her head in her hands. Maggie opens her
mouth to talk and Olivia puts up her hand to shush her.

The WAITER comes by the table.

WAITER
Anything else?

CONTINUED: (2)

OLIVIA
Just the check...and a gun.

DISSOLVE TO:

TITLE CARD: FRIEND OF BILL

EXT. OLIVIA'S STREET - MORNING, THREE MONTHS LATER

Olivia walks to work.

She stops at a deli, buys a large bottle of water and drinks the whole thing on the street corner, holding a cigarette in her other hand.

A runner in a cute fitted workout outfit and perfect ponytail runs by her listening to an IPod.

OLIVIA
I hate you.

The girl does not hear and continues running. Olivia smokes her cigarette and keeps walking.

INT. CONVENTION OFFICE - MORNING

Olivia sits in her office at Convention magazine where she works as an associate editor. Olivia is at her computer, she types very fast, occasionally she references her pile of notes.

JERRY and CHARLIE walk into Olivia's office mid-conversation. Jerry (58), Olivia's boss, wears a suit and tie with running shoes. Charlie (29), a columnist, wears glasses and a sweater over a collared shirt.

JERRY
Just read the rough draft Liv,
fantastic stuff.

OLIVIA
Thanks.

Jerry notices a bottle of Alieve and a packet of Alka Seltzer on her desk.

JERRY
Rough night?

Olivia clears both off her desk with a swipe of her hand.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

OLIVIA

What? No.

Jerry heads to the door.

JERRY

My friend, Jim Hinkey, from the American Society of Magazine Editors is coming by tonight, I want you to meet him.

OLIVIA

Yes! Great. I can't -

Jerry walks out.

OLIVIA (CONT'D)

...wait.

CHARLIE

Glad you're going to Henry's promotion party tonight. Always better to have a "go to" dance partner.

OLIVIA

Yeah, definitely.

CHARLIE

I'll pick you up at 7?

OLIVIA

Well, it's in the office, right? I mean, I'm probably not going to go home first -

CHARLIE

Yeah, sorry that was a joke. Like pick you up at your office or whatever.

OLIVIA

Oh right! Of course - sorry, I'm not even thinking, I just, hah... yup, sounds good!

Olivia extends her arm to Charlie for a high five.

CHARLIE

See you later.

Charlie high fives Olivia and walks out. By herself again, she puts her hand on her forehead. She quietly mocks herself.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

OLIVIA
It's at the office, right? Jesus.

INT. CONVENTION OFFICE KITCHEN - DAY

Maggie walks in the kitchen to find Olivia staring off into space while she waits for the coffee to be made. Despite her pregnancy, Maggie still wears her daily uniform of a black pantsuit.

MAGGIE
What's going on in that little
little brain of yours?

OLIVIA
I'm going to die fat and alone,
but at least we had our laughs?

MAGGIE
I see I've caught you at a dark
moment...How was your night?

OLIVIA
I don't know. I hung my coat up
in the bathtub.

MAGGIE
What?

OLIVIA
Nothing.

MAGGIE
Scale of 1 to 10, how drunk were
you?

OLIVIA
I was being fun.

MAGGIE
You have a weird definition of
fun.

Maggie looks through her phone.

MAGGIE (CONT'D)
Got your text.

OLIVIA
What text?

MAGGIE
"Side note: war on house tools."
What do we think that means?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

OLIVIA
I have no idea?

MAGGIE
Wow.

OLIVIA
I genuinely have no idea what I
was -

MAGGIE
(looking in her mug)
I just swallowed something chewy
in my coffee?

OLIVIA
The sound of your voice is giving
me a headache.

MAGGIE
Drink more. How is the Miller
piece coming?

OLIVIA
It's almost done. How was your
night?

Maggie absentmindedly flips through a Harper's Bazaar
that sits on the counter.

MAGGIE
I hate quotes like this - "I was
made fun of for being skinny when
I was young."

OLIVIA
I ate a log of goat cheese when I
got home last night and today my
bra is tight. They should quote
me.

MAGGIE
Limit yourself to seven shots
tonight. You want to appear
respectable, but you should
definitely fuck Charlie.

Olivia gives her a look.

MAGGIE (CONT'D)
I'm sorry. You should make love
to Charlie.

OLIVIA
I have work to do.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

Maggie looks at the mug she is drinking out of and then points at it - it says "Dogs!" and has a picture of a dog wearing a button down shirt and a tie.

MAGGIE

This is Charlie's mug, but I still think you should fuck him.

OLIVIA

Leave.

Maggie walks out. Olivia turns to head back to her cubicle, realizing that CARRIE, her coworker, witnessed her conversation with Maggie.

OLIVIA (CONT'D)

Just workshopping some ideas with Maggie. Great blouse.

Olivia walks out.

INT. CONVENTION OFFICE, HENRY'S PROMOTION PARTY - NIGHT
Office coworkers mingle around and chat. To the left of the make-shift dance floor is a bar where Olivia talks to Charlie. Various conversations ensue.

INT. CONVENTION OFFICE - SAME

Olivia and Charlie take a shot. Maggie drinks water.

CHARLIE

I'll be right back.

Charlie heads off towards the bathroom.

MAGGIE

Woah, slow down.

OLIVIA

I only drank that to be cool.

MAGGIE

It's going to take a lot more than that babe.

OLIVIA

I told Charlie that I just broke up with my boyfriend.

MAGGIE

You didn't have a boyfriend.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

OLIVIA

I just wanted to make sure that he knew I was single.

MAGGIE

I feel like there were probably a lot of other ways to communicate that.

OLIVIA

Shhh...

Maggie looks at their coworker, CARRIE, standing with her boyfriend across the room.

MAGGIE

Someone should tell Carrie that her boyfriend likes men.

OLIVIA

I know. But do you think he's actually gay?

Across the room, Carrie's boyfriend wears a tight, low cut v-neck and does lasso dance moves with both of his arms to the music.

INT. CONVENTION OFFICE - SAME

Maggie waves goodbye to Charlie and Olivia from across the room and walks out.

CUT TO:

INT. CONVENTION OFFICE - AN HOUR LATER

Charlie and Olivia take another shot. Olivia is starting to sway back and forth. She tries to hold a conversation with Charlie but isn't making much sense. The live band starts to play a rendition of "When the Doves Cry."

OLIVIA

I love this song!

CUT TO:

QUICK SHOTS:

- The band plays TLC's "Waterfalls." Olivia dances in the middle of the dance floor, doing the butterfly.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

- Charlie comes over to try and dance with her but she is clearly too drunk. He instead tries to walk her out, but she won't go.

OLIVIA
This is so awesome!

- Charlie finally decides to leave. He tries to give Olivia a hug, but she is dancing too intensely, it is an awkward physical interaction and Charlie walks out.

- There are about three people left at the party including Jerry's friend, JIM HINKEY (49). Jim approaches Olivia and they begin to dance.

OLIVIA (CONT'D)
(yelling)
I like you!

INT. OLIVIA'S OFFICE - NEXT MORNING

Olivia sits at her desk. Cat Power's "Lived in Bars" plays on her computer. She pulls out the bottle of Alieve and takes two with an entire bottle of water. She is still drinking the bottle when Maggie comes in, she doesn't stop until she finishes. She picks up her coffee and drinks from that for another ten seconds. When she stops, they just look at each other silently.

OLIVIA
I don't want to talk about it.

MAGGIE
Olivia, it's too early for Cat Power.

OLIVIA
Please. I've been shame spiraling all morning.

MAGGIE
You think? Katie said your dance moves were "violent" and "threatening."

OLIVIA
Is it hot in here? I feel like I'm sunburned.

MAGGIE
You're going to be okay.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

OLIVIA

I feel like the human incarnation
of a chimichanga.

Maggie notices Olivia's computer screen.

MAGGIE

Are you looking up one way tickets
to Mexico?... Liv, Jerry wants to
talk to you.

OLIVIA

(horrified)

Oh my god. No. Sorry, but no.
How can he say anything? He can't
say anything, right? It's
personal, right?

MAGGIE

On work property. You also took
home the American Society of
Magazine Editors Coordinator.

OLIVIA

That was him??

MAGGIE

Yeah...How much did you have to
drink Liv?

OLIVIA

I had a few shots. And a few
chasers...chased that personality
right away...but nothing happened.

MAGGIE

Hmm...

OLIVIA

He sat in his underwear and cried
and I listened.

Olivia looks like she is sick.

OLIVIA (CONT'D)

I don't know. It wasn't a big
deal.

Maggie gives her a look - "that's all?"

MAGGIE

Really? Tell me the truth.

Off of Maggie's look, Olivia puts her head in her hands.
Maggie stands up.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

MAGGIE (CONT'D)
Oh Jesus. Let's go. He's
waiting.

Carrie walks by Olivia's office.

CARRIE
Hey Olivia, I just wanted to check
in on you and see how you were
doing.

MAGGIE
She tried to buy a one way ticket
to Mexico this morning so you do
the math.

OLIVIA
Maggie! I'm fine, thank you.

Olivia follows Maggie out of the room to Jerry's office,
leaving Carrie. They walk down the hall.

When they pass Charlie's desk, he looks up uneasily.
Maggie laughs at this as Olivia puts her head down and
walks faster.

Olivia hurries up next to Maggie and punches her in the
arm.

OLIVIA (CONT'D)
(in an angry whisper)
It's. Not. Funny.

They round the corner.

INT. CONVENTION HALLWAY - SAME

Olivia takes a breath before she opens the door.

OLIVIA
I should probably go in by myself.

MAGGIE
I understand, I'll come with you.

They both walk in.

INT. JERRY'S OFFICE - SAME

It is raining outside. JERRY is seated at his large desk
facing a floor to ceiling window with a huge view of the
city.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

When stressed or eating, he throws his tie over his left shoulder. His tie is over his left shoulder.

As Maggie and Olivia walk in, Jerry turns to them in his chair and motions for Olivia to sit.

JERRY

Take a seat.

Olivia sits, Maggie leans against the wall. Olivia motions to Maggie -

OLIVIA

It's okay if she stays.

JERRY

I don't think we need to beat around the bush...Olivia, it comes down to this, I'm worried about you.

OLIVIA

Jerry. What happened last night was not something I'm proud of. But it was not on work time and it will not happen again.

JERRY

You cart-wheeled into the drummer Olivia.

Olivia has a look of confusion for a moment -

CUT TO:

INT. CONVENTION OFFICE - THE NIGHT BEFORE

Olivia cartwheels into the drum set hitting it over, She knocks down the drummer who hits the guitarist - general chaos ensues.

OLIVIA

Drums!

BACK TO:

INT. JERRY'S OFFICE - PRESENT

OLIVIA

Yes...I did do that. But Jerry it wasn't what you think, I just didn't eat dinner and was overly exhausted.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

JERRY

Look Olivia, you know that I care about you. You're like the messed up daughter I never had. I think you have a serious alcohol problem.

OLIVIA

Look Jerry, I don't want to give myself more credit than I deserve, but I'm one of the best, hardest working people here and you know that. Yes, I messed up, but this is an isolated incident.

Jerry gives Olivia a look.

OLIVIA (CONT'D)

Or one of a few isolated incidents. Please, this was stupid, but I - we can move past this.

JERRY

Can Katie move past her retirement party when you -

OLIVIA

That was a private moment...That I shared with Henry....and Tanya...

Another long pause.

OLIVIA (CONT'D)

And Craig was there too I guess. Whatever! That's a bad example.

JERRY

What about what happened on Craig's birthday?

FLASH TO:

INT. GOTHAM RESTAURANT - NIGHT

Nice restaurant. There is general chatter going on. Everyone eats their food and sips their drinks. CRAIG, a columnist, sits at the head of the table wearing a homemade birthday crown. MARCIA, the type A receptionist for the office begins her speech -

MARCIA

Craig is -

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Olivia knocks over her glass of red wine on to her white blouse.

OLIVIA
(slurring her speech)
Everything is fine over here.

MARCIA
Um....Anyway....Craig, from the
moment I started here you've been
such a wonderful friend and
colleague.

As Marcia speaks, Olivia takes her top off and starts to rub the wine stain out with her napkin. She sits in just her bra. Suddenly inspired, she grabs a Ketchup bottle.

OLIVIA
Ketchup shots! Ketchup shots!
Ketchup shots! Ketch -

MARCIA
Um.... I'm so glad to be
here....happy birthday.

Olivia claps as the speech ends and squirts Ketchup in her mouth.

Everyone is silent, various "What the hell?" "Jesus Christ," "Olivia" come from her coworkers and Jerry.

BACK TO:

INT. JERRY'S OFFICE - SAME

Olivia quietly reflects on what is happening. She is on the verge of tears.

OLIVIA
I don't want to pat myself on the back here, but I'm one of the best writers that you have -

JERRY
You're an excellent writer, but you're slipping. You've got to get this under control.

Olivia is desperate.

OLIVIA
Then give me another chance. I'll cut back. This isn't a "thing."

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

JERRY

I can't let thi go. It's not fair to you. It's not fair to your colleagues. And it really isn't fair to my friend, the ASME coordinator, who I brought to the party, who you will never speak to again.

Olivia closes her eyes, completely mortified.

JERRY (CONT'D)

What's his name Olivia?

Silence.

JERRY (CONT'D)

Olivia.

OLIVIA

Taa-rr-mm...

JERRY

Tarm? His name is Jim.

OLIVIA

(under her breath)
Your face is Jim.

JERRY

What?

OLIVIA

What?

JERRY

Thanks to your charming antics, Jim wanted to disqualify Convention from any ASME awards for this year. Our general comradeship with ASME was put in jeopardy. You're a liability. Luckily I was able to talk him down -

OLIVIA

But why?! Not to be vulgar, but he went home with me! Wouldn't that be considered a win for a 70 year old?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

JERRY

First of all Olivia, he's 49. And he told me that you physically assaulted him when he tried to get a glass of water from the kitchen. He has a black eye and a sprained wrist.

OLVIIA

I thought he was stealing -

JERRY

I don't want to know. Look Olivia. I'm letting you go.

OLIVIA

No.

JERRY

It's not a question.

JERRY (CONT'D)

Take a few months to relax and recover. Get control of your life. If you can prove to me in three months that you've gotten sober, then we'll talk about you coming back. You need to get out of the city. What about your parents? Go home for awhile.

OLIVIA

What?? God no. I haven't been home in three years. You want a drunk? Talk to my mother.

JERRY

Olivia, this city is a toxic environment for you right now. I took the liberty of looking up some rehab centers.

OLIVIA

I don't need rehab!

JERRY

You need to get sober and get out of this city. I will pay for your treatment.

OLIVIA

I'm not going to rehab.

JERRY

Then go stay with your family.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

OLIVIA

You can't make me, this is
bullshit.

JERRY

You should have thought about the
consequences before you had the
bartender take a shot out of your
boobs.

OLIVIA

This is absurd! Are you even
allowed to say boobs to me?

JERRY

You need to address your
alcoholism Olivia. Write about
this experience, it will be your
assignment.

OLIVIA

You want me to use myself as my
subject?

JERRY

Yes. You're a very smart girl
with a very big future. Don't
fuck that up because you like a
martini.

Beat.

OLIVIA

I'm not an alcoholic.

JERRY

Olivia. You have a drinking
problem, call it what you want.

OLIVIA

I'm sorry, am I the only one who
feels this is inappropriate?

Silence. Olivia looks to Maggie.

OLIVIA (CONT'D)

Maggie?

MAGGIE

Olivia, he's right. You need to
do this.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

JERRY

You're getting to the age where people stop changing. Fix this before that happens.

OLIVIA

This is illegal.

She waits for a second and looks Jerry in the face then walks out of the office, slamming the door behind her. It doesn't close fully, she opens it and slams it again.

INT. OLIVIA'S APARTMENT - MORNING

Olivia walks in her house, walks straight to her bedroom and gets in bed.

CUT TO:

Olivia is in her bed. It's raining outside. She wakes up and rolls over to look at her clock. It's 6:00 pm.

INT. OLIVIA'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

It's raining. Olivia sits on her couch still half-dressed from work. She drinks a glass of red wine as she looks through the AA pamphlet.

CUT TO:

She holds the portable phone and tosses it back and forth between her hands debating whether to make a phone call.

CUT TO:

Olivia sits on her bed with the phone next to her. She flips through the channels, "Crazy Heart" is on one channel. She changes it, "Postcards from the Edge" is on the next. She looks at the screen for a minute, then puts the television on mute and leans over, grabs the phone and dials. She opens her bedside drawer while she does this and takes out a cigarette. Olivia coughs when the other line picks up.

OLIVIA

Mom.....I'm okay...Hi dad...Yup,
I can hear you both...we can just
do one person on at a time...or
this way is good too.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

OLIVIA (CONT'D)
well, yeah, I was thinking of
 coming to the island for a
 bit?...Okay great...yeah, I have
 to figure out some stuff
 first....Okay perfect,
 alright,....okay, bye, I love
 you....no, It's fine I promise,
 okay bye... We're on our third
 goodbye...Great...Bye.

Olivia hangs up the phone. She unmutes the television
 just as Suzanne Vale (Meryl Streep's character in
 "Postcards from the Edge") says -

SUZANNE VALE
 I'm going to kill myself.

EXT. JFK AIRPORT CURB SIDE - DAY

Olivia and Maggie stand together at the curb as Charlie
 waits in the car. Olivia has one large suitcase next to
 her and a coffee in her hand.

OLIVIA
 Why did you have him take us??

MAGGIE
 He is the only person I knew with
 a car.

OLIVIA
 Shh! I would have taken a cab!
 Like a normal person! Who gets a
 ride to JFK? God damnit Maggie.
 It was too late to say anything
 when he drove up to my apartment.

MAGGIE
 I know. I knew you wouldn't say
 anything then, that's why I did
 it. It's going to be fine.

OLIVIA
 That's very hopeful of you. I'm
 28 and I'm moving in with my
 parents on the other side of the
 country.

MAGGIE
 It's very Italian of you.

A group of people dressed for a Renaissance Fair walk by.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MAGGIE (CONT'D)
It's going to be fine, just get on
the flight to Narnia with this
crew.

OLIVIA
They're wearing Renaissance
outfits.

MAGGIE
Fantasy is one category to me.

OLIVIA
The Renaissance wasn't a fantasy.

MAGGIE
Tell me less about that.

Olivia walks towards the car and leans her head in the window. Charlie sits inside awkwardly. Maggie waits off to the side.

OLIVIA
Hey, thanks so much for driving me here. I'm sorry, I don't even know why Maggie asked you.

CHARLIE
Really, no, it's fine. I'm more than happy to do it.

OLIVIA
I...uh...have a great...couple of months.

CHARLIE
We'll miss you around the office.
Have fun in Washington.

OLIVIA
Have fun in Washington too.

Olivia realizes her mistake, grimaces and steps away from the car window giving Charlie a wave.

MAGGIE
Go already.

OLIVIA
Gone.

Maggie hands Olivia her bag, kisses her on the cheek and waves goodbye to her. Olivia walks inside the airport.

INT. AIRPLANE - DAY

Olivia sits in her seat. She is very fidgety - she unbuckles and re-buckles her seat belt, situates all of her belongings, opens and closes the tray table and drums on the armrest. A stewardess walks by.

OLIVIA

Excuse me? Do you serve drinks before we take off?

STEWARDESS

I can bring you a water.

OLIVIA

Anything just a touch stronger?

STEWARDESS

You'll have to wait for that.

OLIVIA

Fantastic.

Olivia closes her eyes and grips her armrests.

EXT. WASHINGTON STATE AIRPORT (SEATAC) - DAY

Olivia's plane lands in Seattle, Washington.

EXT. WASHINGTON STATE AIRPORT (SEATAC) BUS TERMINAL - DAY

Olivia boards a bus.

EXT. ANACORTES FERRY LANDING - DAY

Olivia gets off of the bus and walks on to a ferry.

INT. ANACORTES FERRY CAFETERIA - AFTERNOON

She sits in a booth outside of the cafeteria area that has a view of the water. Over the loudspeaker, a FERRY OPERATOR makes an announcement.

FERRY OPERATOR

Orcas Island next. Orcas Island next.

EXT. ORCAS ISLAND FERRY LANDING - AFTERNOON

The island is very wooded but filled with stretches of open space, high grass and flowers. The town is filled with cafes, a bar, a market, a liquor store, antique shops, and a library. The harbor is filled with sailboats and fishing boats along with a restaurant at the end of the dock.

Olivia walks off of the ferry. Olivia's mom, SOPHIE (58) wears a lot of linen and silver jewelry, she always has her glasses on or hanging on her neck on a beaded glasses strap. Her dad, ALEX (62) wears worn in jeans, paint covered shoes and a flannel shirt. He has a beard and smells faintly of smoke. They come to meet her, she gives her mom a hug first and then her dad. Alex helps her with her bags.

They walk to the car, Alex has his arm around Olivia.

ALEX

Beauty, you look like you got hit
by a car.

OLIVIA

Thanks dad.

Sophie puts her arm through Olivia's.

SOPHIE

Oh shut up Alex. Let me look at
you, Liv! Hi!

OLIVIA

Hi Mom.

SOPHIE

I'm so happy you're home.

OLIVIA

Yeah. Been a long time.

ALEX

There's that enthusiasm.

SOPHIE

You're just tired, right Liv?

OLIVIA

Yeah Mom, I'm just tired.

They get in the car.

EXT. GEDDES HOME - NIGHT

Alex, Sophie and Olivia get out of the car. LEELEE, Olivia's grandmother, and GUS, her brother, come out of the house. They hug each other.

Leelee (82) is dressed in an entire purple outfit: purple hat, scarf, dress, tights and heels. She holds a cigarette and a vodka & milk.

Gus (21) just graduated University of Puget Sound and lives at home.

They all head inside.

INT. OLIVIA'S ROOM - SAME

Olivia sets her stuff down in her room and shuts the door. She picks up a stack of photos that lie on her desk. They are photos from when Olivia was in high school - She was forty pounds heavier. As she goes through them, she finds a gift certificate to Weight Watchers, on the back a note is written: "This could be fun? Love, Mom." She sets the stack down.

Olivia picks up a copy of "Bright Lights, Big City" (by Jay McInerney), a note falls out. It reads "Have fun at NYU Biggens. Don't turn into this. Love Gus."

Olivia smiles and sets the note and the book down. She looks in her closet and finds an old white cotton nightgown, puts it on and gets in bed. As soon as she gets in, she gets out and grabs a water bottle from her bag and drinks the whole thing quickly.

OLIVIA

First night's the hardest...First
night's the hardest...First
night's the hardest...First
night's the hardest...

EXT. ORCAS ISLAND TOWN STREET - NEXT DAY

Olivia and Gus walk down the street. They pass their next door neighbor, KATHERINE (16), dressed in soccer shorts and a t-shirt.

OLIVIA

Hi Katherine How's it going?

KATHERINE

Great! How are you? I haven't seen you in like five years.

CONTINUED:

OLIVIA

Three years, but yeah. Been a while. You should come over some time, my mom would love it.

GUS

Yeah, you should. We'll make dinner and just hang out, or do whatever. Watch a movie, you know, whatever you want. Or like take a walk after dinner.

Olivia looks at Gus who is trying all too hard.

KATHERINE

Sounds great! I have to run to soccer practice, but I'll see you soon!

Olivia and Gus continue to walk towards the West Sound Cafe.

OLIVIA

She's sixteen Gus.

GUS

I'm not interested in hearing your monologue on that. Thank you though.

Olivia pushes Gus off the sidewalk.

INT. WEST SOUND CAFE - DAY

West Sound Cafe is a local cafe that has been around since the 70's. The owner and chef, CHARLOTTE (70) is a chain smoking, chubby, short-haired, sexually ambiguous woman. She wears long acrylic nails and has to use a pen when she pushes the buttons on the cash register. She turns to Olivia and Gus as they enter.

CHARLOTTE

Gus! Olivia!

GUS

Hi Charlotte.

OLIVIA

Hi Charlotte, how are you?

Olivia leans in and gives Charlotte a kiss on the cheek.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

CHARLOTTE

Well, I'm great now! We needed a dose of you around here.

OLIVIA

Ohh Charlotte, I don't know about that.

GABE (28) walks in from the swinging door to the kitchen. He wears pocketed cargo shorts, a bowling shirt and Simples shoes. His hair, longer in the back, closely borders a mullet. Gabe has practiced Jujitsu since he was ten, which has given him an oddly strong sense of confidence.

CHARLOTTE

Gabe, look who's here.

OLIVIA

Gabe! How are you? I haven't seen you in so long!

Gabe walks over towards Olivia and Gus.

GABE

(to Gus)

Hey, what's up, you weasel?

Gus is slightly taken aback by Gabe's over familiarity but covers.

GUS

Not much dude. Happy to have Biggens home.

Olivia elbows Gus for his use of "Biggens." It's clear that Gabe is only interested in seeing Olivia.

GABE

Hey Olivia, how are you? Needed a break from Manhattan? Must be a real drag having to deal with that World Trade Center shit.

OLIVIA

Yeah. I guess... That was like over ten years ago -

GABE

Never forget, right? Well it's awesome to see you, I hope you visit a lot while you're here.

Olivia smiles, so does Charlotte.

CONTINUED: (2)

OLIVIA

I will.

GABE

What can I get you?

OLIVIA

Two turkey sandwiches on
sourdough.

Olivia looks at Gus, he nods. As Gabe walks to the kitchen -

GABE

Two turkey sandwiches coming up
for the young ladies.

Gus gives a look to Olivia.

EXT. ORCAS ISLAND TOWN STREET - SAME

Olivia and Gus walk down the street.

OLIVIA

Don't call me Biggens. That's
such a dick thing to say. I'm not
even fat anymore.

GUS

I can't promise that.

OLIVIA

So how is being home?

GUS

Mom tells a lot of long circular
stories. And leaves unemployment
articles on my desk. She also has
somehow gotten me to go to the
farmer's market with her every
week.

OLIVIA

That doesn't sound bad.

GUS

Yeah, but she makes me carry this
weird canvas bag with a cat on it.
And sometimes she makes me pay for
my groceries because she wants to
make a point about being
financially independent.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

OLIVIA

Wow.

GUS

Dad chain smokes in the woods like
a sad goth teenager and Mom
funnels wine.

OLIVIA

I guess thirty years does that to
you.

GUS

Almost thirty years. Mom's been
talking about their anniversary a
lot.

OLIVIA

She'll probably throw glitter in
dad's face and then tell him to
clean it up.

GUS

I hope there's a cake.

INT. GEDDES HOME - MORNING

Olivia and Gus walk in the front door and to the kitchen. The house is filled with Alex's paintings. In addition to the walls, many are stacked around and leaning against various surfaces. Gus immediately goes to the refrigerator, Olivia looks through the mail. She goes to pour herself a glass of wine but thinks better of it as she uncorks the bottle. Instead she eats an apple.

OLIVIA

(yells to upstairs)
Mom, what's for dinner?

SOPHIE (O.C.)

I don't know, what are you making?

OLIVIA

(to Gus)
I didn't hear that.

Leelee enters the kitchen dressed in a glittery dress, smoking a cigarette and holding a vodka & milk. Sophie follows her, holding a glass of wine.

LEELEE

No! You can't change this God
damn mind.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SOPHIE
Mom, it's three miles away.

LEELEE
I'm walking there. Just like I
walked to Broadway.

SOPHIE
Mom. You weren't on Broadway. A
stint at a Portland community
theatre does not an acting career
make.

LEELEE
Tell that to Chekhov.

SOPHIE
I don't have his number.

LEELEE
I wish I had a son.

Leelee pours more vodka & milk into her glass as the
family watches silently and then walks back upstairs.

SOPHIE
Who wants a glass of wine?

Sophie uncorks a bottle and fills up her half full glass
to the very top. Olivia immediately grabs the keys on
the table and starts to walk out the front door.

OLIVIA
I'm going to take a drive, okay to
use your car?

SOPHIE
Yeah, where are you going?

OLIVIA
Where am I going?

SOPHIE
No, my other daughter.

OLIVIA
Oh me...I'm going to pick up some
toiletries I forgot.

SOPHIE
Let's pick up your rental car
tomorrow, okay?
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

SOPHIE (CONT'D)
 Alex was supposed to get it, I
 guess I should have made that more
 of a command and less of a
 request. Bye honey.

Sophie kisses her on the cheek and takes a sip of wine.

EXT. ORCAS COMMUNITY CENTER - MORNING

Olivia pulls up to the community center AA meeting and gets out of her car. She walks towards the entrance where she sees about ten people ranging in age standing out front. Most of them are smoking

Olivia walks further towards them. When she gets close enough to start a conversation, she turns around and walks back to the car.

EXT. GEDDES OUTDOOR PORCH - NIGHT

Sophie, Alex, Gus, Olivia and Leelee sit around the table eating dinner.

Leelee is wearing a hat with a veil covering and gloves. She smokes a cigarette at the table and sips her vodka & milk through a straw.

GUS
 Leelee do you want some pasta?

LEELEE
 A moment on the lips, a lifetime
 on the hips.

SOPHIE
 Mom.

LEELEE
 Unless I want to audition as fat
 girl #2 for the rest of my life,
 I'm not eating.

Alex and Gus laugh, Sophie gives them a look while stirring a Bloody Mary with a large celery stalk.

GUS
 I'll take that as a "no."

ALEX
 Good idea. So Liv, tell us more
 about what happened with the job.

CONTINUED:

OLIVIA

There just isn't enough money.
Circulation is bad. They've been
doing cutbacks since last
February, I think everyone just
thought it was tapering off.

GUS

Biggens got fired.

OLIVIA

Seriously stop with Biggens. And
when's the last time you had a
job?

GUS

I just applied to one yesterday
retard.

OLIVIA

Do you really think they're going
to hire you? Your e-mail is
peepees44.

GUS

That was ten years ago! When you
were fat!

ALEX

Alright! Gus, stop being a jerk.
Olivia, stop acting like a jerk.

Sophie grabs Olivia's hand, overly emotional.

SOPHIE

(slightly slurring)

When one door closes another one
opens. I'm so glad you decided to
come home. You haven't been here
in so long.

OLIVIA

Yeah.

SOPHIE

(tearing)

Everyone else comes home. And
they always ask about you.

OLIVIA

Are you crying Mom? Really?

SOPHIE

I'm not crying! I got a piece of
celery in my eye.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

Sophie wipes her eyes with her napkin.

OLIVIA

Mom, please don't get so dramatic,
it's not like I haven't seen you.

SOPHIE

I know. But it's different when
you're here...Liv, how would you
feel about taking a pottery class
with me tomorrow?

OLIVIA

I'm playing dead tomorrow.

SOPHIE

Well, I think it could be nice to
take a class while you're here.
Maybe you could do a singing class
at the community center. I so
wish you would.

OLIVIA

Okay.

SOPHIE

You're doing that thing where you
say "okay" when you want me to
stop talking about something.

OLIVIA

Okay.

GUS

Well as long as I'm unemployed,
I'll be here with you.

ALEX

Let's think long and hard about
that.

GUS

Well that's bullshit that you're
letting Olivia.

SOPHIE

Gus. Find a better word.

GUS

Leelee said mother fucker this
morning, I think I get a free pass
Mom.

CONTINUED: (3)

SOPHIE

Your grandmother doesn't know what
she's saying.

LEELEE

(under her breath)
Yes I do bitch.

SOPHIE

(a little too loud)
Adults with strong vocabularies
like you are just being lazy when
they choose to talk like that.

Gus pours wine for himself and for Alex.

GUS

Dad?

ALEX

Looks like that answer didn't
really matter.

Olivia takes a sip of her water and by accident pours it
into her lap.

OLIVIA

Damnit.

ALEX

Drinking problem?

Olivia looks up like she is caught, realizes it's a joke
and quickly laughs.

ALEX (CONT'D)

Hey Liv, ran into Gabe at the
ferry landing. He's a weird kid,
huh?

OLIVIA

He's always been like that, it's
just becoming more punctuated with
age. Gus, want to see a movie?

GUS

Yeah.

OLIVIA

Great. Mom, can we take your car?

SOPHIE

I need the car to go to book group
but you can have it tomorrow.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

OLIVIA
You shouldn't be driving.

SOPHIE
(yelling)
I will make that decision!...

Sophie clears her throat, realizing that she is too loud, she lowers her voice.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)
I will make that decision.

OLIVIA
Well, that doesn't really work
because we want to go tonight.

SOPHIE
I'm sorry sweetie, I kind of need
it.

OLIVIA
Mom, there are two people who need
it and one who kind of needs it.

SOPHIE
Sorry.

GUS
Mom, come on. The other car is
getting a new tire because
someone, dad, ran over broken
glass. So we're just stuck at
home?

SOPHIE
Use the bikes.

GUS
Biggens won't be able to keep up
on a bike.

OLIVIA
Fuck you Gus. Mom! That is so -

SOPHIE
Would everyone stop yelling
Olivia.

OLIVIA
(yelling)
Why do you say everyone if you
just mean me? And, no one was
yelling!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (5)

LEELEE

(to Sophie)
Can I have a God damn salad?

SOPHIE

Mom, we've made chicken and pasta,
no one made salad.

LEELEE

Olivia, can you make it?

Sophie takes a long sip of her Bloody Mary and finishes it. She looks inside her glass to see if there is anymore.

SOPHIE

Mom please, we don't need anymore food.

Olivia gets up to go make salad. Sophie shakes her glass so the ice clinks.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)

And sweetie, one more drink for dear old Mom.

Olivia walks out of the room and in to the kitchen. She puts her hands on the back of her head and takes a deep breath.

Olivia gets out the lettuce as Alex walks in the kitchen and kisses her on the forehead.

ALEX

Leelee's almost reached her word limit for the day.

OLIVIA

Yes, she has.

ALEX

A few more insults geared towards your mother and we'll be there.

OLIVIA

One sec, I'll be right back.

Olivia heads into the living room and dials Maggie from her phone.

OLIVIA (CONT'D)

Maggie, I'm taking your advice and trying not to trust my instincts. Things are going really great!

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (6)

OLIVIA (CONT'D)

Call me back when you take a break
 from your functioning, domestic,
 normal, happy life that I don't
 understand.

INT. EAST SOUND LIBRARY - DAY

Olivia sits at a table, she wears her glasses and reads the Big Book, 1st Edition in hardback - she is midway through the first chapter: Bill's Story.

Her phone rings, she gets looks from people sitting near her, and presses ignore.

She closes the book and goes to the check out counter.

EXT. EAST SOUND LIBRARY - SAME

Olivia walks out the front door to her rental car, a Nissan Cube. She sees a good looking man roller blade by. It is STEPHEN BLACK (38), her high school history teacher. He wears wrist guards, a helmet and a messenger bag and is dressed in a white collared shirt with a sweater and jeans, his left ear is pierced.

OLIVIA

Mr. Black?

Stephen is caught off guard, tries to stop, awkwardly blades past her and then swerves around. He comes over to Olivia and takes off his helmet.

STEPHEN

Hello?

OLIVIA

Mr. Black, it's Olivia Geddes.
 Remember me? I was in your class
 about ten years ago.

He doesn't recognize her.

STEPHEN

Olivia! Of course!...Wow, hi,
 really nice to see you.

STEPHEN (CONT'D)

Are you living here now?

OLIVIA

God no... I'm sorry, I didn't
 mean it like that.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

OLIVIA (CONT'D)

I mean I'm staying with my parents. So no, just for a little.

STEPHEN

What are you doing these days in...?

OLIVIA

I live in New York, I work for Convention magazine. I'm on a kind of travelling hiatus, so decided to come here for a little. Are you still teaching at Prescott?

STEPHEN

Yeah. I'm still there. Teaching tenth grade. Convention? Major props to you...Is this your car?

OLIVIA

It's all they had at the rental place. It's awful.

STEPHEN

I have one too.

OLIVIA

(recovering)
It drives really well.

STEPHEN

You look so different and older. You were a little... You know like...

OLIVIA

I lost some weight.

STEPHEN

Oh did you? I didn't mean that, No no, I didn't mean that in that way, I just mean you look great.

OLIVIA

Thank you.

STEPHEN

Not that you didn't look great. You were just sweet and young and...

CONTINUED: (2)

OLIVIA

I wore construction boots and
leotards.

Olivia's phone rings, she ignores it.

STEPHEN

Well... my point in saying that to
you was that you look good.

OLIVIA

No....Thank you.

Her phone rings again.

OLIVIA (CONT'D)

Sorry, it's my mom.

She answers, turning away slightly.

OLIVIA (CONT'D)

Hey mom, what's up?...This
morning, she was there...no I'm
sure she is....alright, it's fine
don't worry...coming right now.

Olivia hangs up the phone.

OLIVIA (CONT'D)

I have to go find my grandma who's
gone missing.

STEPHEN

I hope she's okay.

OLIVIA

She'll be fine, she's probably
just topless at the gas station
again or something.

STEPHEN

Well if you want to grab coffee or
dinner or something - how long are
you here for again?

OLIVIA

A few months.

STEPHEN

Well, let me know.

Olivia pulls a pen out from her bag and a scrap piece of
paper - it is the AA pamphlet. Without realizing this,
she writes her number on it and hands it to him.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

Once she notices, she immediately grabs it back, awkwardly rips off the small corner with her number on it and hands it back.

OLIVIA

Sorry... it just was a lot of paper for such a little number.

STEPHEN

Okay...Great to see you. Bye Olivia.

Stephen blades off, Olivia walks over to her car.

INT. GEDDES HOME - LATE AFTERNOON

Olivia walks in the door to find Sophie and Leelee sitting in the living room reading. Sophie drinks a Bloody Mary, Leelee drinks a vodka & milk. Leelee is wearing garish stage makeup.

Olivia stands there.

OLIVIA

Guess you found her?

SOPHIE

Liv, oh yes! We did. Sorry I forgot to tell you, but I'm glad you're home. Want to go on a hike?

LEELEE

Good idea. Maybe you can finally lose that baby weight.

OLIVIA

Leelee! Don't talk to her like that.

LEELEE

(mockingly)
Don't talk to her like that.

Sophie downs her drink.

OLIVIA

Curing that hangover with a morning cocktail?

SOPHIE

This is mostly tomato juice.

CONTINUED:

OLIVIA

Right. Did you lie about Leelee being gone so you could get me to go on a hike?

SOPHIE

(tears up)

Fine, we don't have to go.

Olivia heads out of the room and upstairs.

OLIVIA (O.C.)

I'm putting on my running shoes.

EXT. CASCADE LAKE TRAIL - LATE AFTERNOON

Olivia and Sophie walk along a trail. Both carry water bottles.

SOPHIE

It's so good to have you here.
Really.

OLIVIA

It's good to be home Mom.

They walk for a moment in silence.

SOPHIE

Listen, I don't want to beat a dead horse, but if you want to take voice lessons while you're here, I'd love to get you some.

OLIVIA

You know that's ultimately not the career path I chose, right?...I'll think about it.

SOPHIE

So what's going on with boys in New York. Are you going with anyone?

OLIVIA

Going with anyone?

SOPHIE

I'm sorry. I don't know how to say it right. Are there any cute boys?

Beat.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SOPHIE (CONT'D)
Just tell me.

OLIVIA
I mean yeah. No one who I really like though. It's just hard with my work, I'm trying to just really focus on that.

SOPHIE
But don't you think that is something you should make time for?

OLIVIA
I do. I just feel like I'll know when it's time to make time for it.

SOPHIE
Have you been going out a lot?

OLIVIA
Not a crazy amount.

They walk in silence for a few moments.

SOPHIE
Have you seen Gabe around?

OLIVIA
Gabe Crowe? Why does he keep coming up? Yeah, I saw him in East Sound the other day.

OLIVIA & SOPHIE
(simultaneously)
He is weird. I gave him
your
number.

OLIVIA
Mom!

SOPHIE
Olivia! Have an open mind. Come on. Weird? No, he's a great boy.

OLIVIA
Mom, you can not do this. I'm not a child.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

SOPHIE
You sound just like your dad.
Maybe he won't call.

OLIVIA
When did you give him my number?

Sophie doesn't say anything.

OLIVIA (CONT'D)
When?

SOPHIE
Today.

OLIVIA
I literally have no words. Great.
I can't say "no" now, can I?
Just don't talk to me for a
minute.

SOPHIE
How could it hurt?

OLIVIA
You don't listen to me at all, do
you?

SOPHIE
Okay, okay. I'm sorry. I just
want you to be happy! Maybe I
shouldn't have done that.

OLIVIA
Maybe? I'm almost 30! You can't
do this.

SOPHIE
Alright, alright. Let's not let
it ruin the hike.

OLIVIA
Okay. I'll just let it ruin my
life.

Sophie puts her arm around Olivia and kisses her forehead.

SOPHIE
You are so dramatic.

INT. OLIVIA'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Olivia sits down at her computer, a blank Word document is open. She types "I" and erases it. She types "The thing is" and erases it. She types "I don't want to do this" and closes her computer.

Sophie comes by her room and leans her head in.

SOPHIE
Are you around for dinner?

OLIVIA
Oh....No....I have to go to get
...gear.

SOPHIE
You already got all of your
toiletries?

OLIVIA
I mean...camping...gear...for Gus.
Because he's thinking about doing
that trip.

SOPHIE
What trip? What are you talking
about?

OLIVIA
With the...boys, to that...place.
He hasn't told you because he's
not sure if he's doing it.

SOPHIE
Okay, well I'll leave food out in
case you want it later.

Sophie heads downstairs.

OLIVIA
(to herself)
A simple "no" would have sufficed.

EXT. COMMUNITY CENTER - EVENING

Olivia pulls up to the meeting and gets out of her car.
She's on her phone.

OLIVIA
Maggie, I've got to go, I'll call
you later if I haven't drowned
myself at the community pool.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

She hangs up and walks towards a crowd of smokers and again when she gets close enough to start a conversation walks away from the meeting and heads back to her car. Then thinks better of it, turns around again and walks back to the center. She walks past the crowd and goes inside.

INT. COMMUNITY CENTER - SAME

She finds a seat in a folded chair at the back of the space. People walk in and the meeting begins. Olivia can't stop looking around, feeling very out of place.

CUT TO:

INT. COMMUNITY CENTER - SAME

Olivia stands, holding hands with the people next to her on either side. In unison -

AA GROUP
Keep coming back. It works if you work it.

Olivia quickly drops the hands of her neighbors, gathers her things and heads towards the door.

She grabs a cookie from the snack table. Then thinks again and grabs another cookie and a brownie.

She hands a form to the AA VOLUNTEER. She needs a signature as these are court-appointed AA meetings.

OLIVIA
Can you sign this?

The VOLUNTEER takes it, signs it, and hands it back to her.

VOLUNTEER
Have a good night.

Olivia walks out.

EXT. COMMUNITY CENTER - SAME

Olivia spots Charlotte across the street carrying food from the market to her car. She runs and hides behind a bush in front of the church.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Charlotte gets in her car and drives away. Olivia sits down where she is hiding behind the bush and lights a cigarette while eating her baked goods. She takes a few deep breaths and then her phone rings.

INT. OLIVIA'S ROOM - NIGHT

Olivia is in her room that looks out on to the dock and the water. She can see several islands in the distance, a garden directly below. She sits cross-legged in a chair at her desk that looks out the window and smokes a cigarette. She flips through the Big Book and comes across the "Women Suffer Too" chapter. Her computer is open next to her, a blank Word document on the screen.

OLIVIA

So I'm not alone.

There is a knock and then Sophie tries to open Olivia's door, Olivia drops her cigarette on the ground and hurriedly tries to pick it up.

SOPHIE (O.C.)

Olivia? Come on, everyone's in the car.

Panicked, she starts to wave her hands to get the smoke away from her.

OLIVIA

I'm changing, be down in a second Mom.

SOPHIE (O.C.)

No, I'm not wearing a vest.

OLIVIA

What? I didn't say that mom. Just go down, I'm coming!

Olivia waves her hands frantically to get the smoke out of the room.

EXT. GEDDES HOME - NIGHT, CONTINUOUS

Alex and Gus wait in the car. Olivia walks out the front door, followed by Sophie. They both walk towards the car, Sophie gets in, Olivia talks to her dad through the window.

OLIVIA

Mom was yelling at me and Leelee isn't even ready?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ALEX
Your mother's drunk.

SOPHIE
I am not Alex!

ALEX
Just get in the God damn car. You take forever. This isn't New York, you don't have to impress anyone.

OLIVIA
Dad, three people know about this restaurant and six people live here, I think we'll get in.

ALEX
Get. In the car.

Olivia gets in the car as Leelee walks out of the house wearing an outfit that resembles Heidi/a Swedish school girl, her short wispy hair is in braids. It's just awful.

ALEX (CONT'D)
What the hell are you wearing?

LEELEE
Sorry, you wouldn't get it.

She signals at Sophie while still talking to Alex

LEELEE (CONT'D)
At least I don't look like a downtrodden prostitute.

SOPHIE
Thanks Mom.

Leelee gets in the car.

INT. CORA'S RESTAURANT - NIGHT

The Geddes walk inside the restaurant as Gabe and Charlotte walk out.

CHARLOTTE
Well hello!

SOPHIE
Charlotte! This is quite a surprise.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Sophie, tipsy, hugs Charlotte for an inappropriately long amount of time. Olivia stands off to the side, Gabe approaches her as the others talk.

GABE

Hey! I left you a message.

OLIVIA

Hey, yeah, I'm sorry, I've just been so busy with being back. I was going to call.

GABE

How does dinner on Thursday night sound?

Olivia is trapped.

OLIVIA

It sounds great.

Charlotte walks over to Olivia and Gabe.

CHARLOTTE

Gabe, you've got to get this old whale to bed.

GABE

Okay Charlotte.

CHARLOTTE

(to Olivia)

You used to be a whale, now you're a dolphin. And quite a pretty one.

OLIVIA

Thank you...Charlotte.

GABE

I'll pick you up at 7?

OLIVIA

Looking forward to it.

Gabe and Charlotte leave, Olivia walks towards her family.

SOPHIE

Gabe is just about as cute as he can be.

LEELEE

I'd give him a bobo.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

SOPHIE

Mom! You can not say that.

OLIVIA

Please just...No.

INT. OLIVIA'S ROOM - EVENING, A FEW DAYS LATER

Olivia gets dressed and puts on make up. Standing in front of the mirror she purses her lips and does a few subtle poses to herself. She doesn't realize that Gus has come in her room and is watching her. Suddenly she sees that he is there, he stares at her critically.

GUS

Change who you are.

Gus walks out of the room. Olivia is left to feel like an idiot.

INT. GEDDES KITCHEN - EVENING

Olivia sees a corked wine bottle on the table. Without thinking, she grabs a glass and pours herself wine. She takes a sip and then snaps out of it and realizes what she is doing.

She runs to the sink and spits it out. She puts her hands to her head and quietly berates herself.

OLIVIA

How? How do you forget that?

The doorbell rings.

EXT. GEDDES HOME - EVENING

Olivia goes to the door and opens it to Gabe, he is standing very close to the front door. Their faces are very close to each other. She closes the door behind her and steps out on to the porch. He reaches out his hand, she goes for a hug, awkward physical misinterpretation which somehow ends up in a high five.

OLIVIA

Hey, what's up?

GABE

So glad we got to do this.

OLIVIA

Me too.

CONTINUED:

GABE

Alright, so are you good with dinner? That cool?

OLIVIA

That cool.

They walk down the steps and get in to Gabe's truck. They both put on their seat belts in silence. As soon as Jake turns on the car, "Walking on Broken Glass" by Annie Lennox plays very loudly. Gabe turns down the music immediately.

He drives haphazardly. Olivia grips the seat.

GABE (CONT'D)

So...New York, the Big A.

OLIVIA

Yup.

Long silence.

OLIVIA (CONT'D)

So, what have you been up to?

GABE

Well I'm working at West Sound Cafe and then a little on the boats at Deer Harbor and then illustrating.

OLIVIA

How is work at the dock?

GABE

The sound of my boss's voice literally gives me diarrhea.

Olivia is visibly uncomfortable.

OLIVIA

Wow... Well, what are you illustrating?

GABE

A children's book my aunt wrote. It's about Mikey, he is a frustrated photographer.

OLIVIA

How old is Mikey?

GABE

Eight.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

OLIVIA

Well it's a tough profession at
that age.

GABE

You're telling me. He's pretty
fed up.

OLIVIA

I'd love to see it.

GABE

When I get the drawings down, I'll
let you take a look.

OLIVIA

What's wrong with the drawings?

GABE

I want them to look like a kid
drew them. They don't really.

OLIVIA

You're right-handed?

GABE

Yes.

OLIVIA

You should try using your left
hand?

GABE

You're so cool. That answer was
very "New York."

Olivia grimaces.

OLIVIA

Okay.

GABE

So... I'm surprised your mom said
that you wanted to go on a date
with me.

OLIVIA

Well I haven't seen you in a long
time Gabe, it's nice to get a
chance to catch up.

GABE

I made a reservation at
Portofino's if that sounds okay?

CONTINUED: (3)

OLIVIA

Anywhere you want.

GABE

No, anywhere you want.

OLIVIA

That's where I want Gabe.

GABE

Then we'll go there. God you're pushy!

Gabe loves his joke.

EXT. PORTOFINO'S PIZZA RESTAURANT - EVENING

Gabe pulls up to the restaurant and parks the car. He insists on getting the door for Olivia and they head inside.

INT. PORTOFINO'S PIZZA RESTAURANT - EVENING

Olivia and Gabe walk towards the hostess stand, no one is there. Gabe rings the bell that sits on the stand.

A HOSTESS approaches them.

GABE

I have a reservation under Gabe.

The restaurant is virtually empty except for one couple in the corner. The hostess stares at Gabe and at the table across the room with a large reserved sign on it. She walks towards it carrying two menus, Gabe and Olivia follow.

They silently peruse the menus. Then both put their menus down and look around.

A WAITRESS (30's) walks in front of their table two times, they both try to get her attention to no avail.

Finally -

GABE (CONT'D)

(yelling)

A little help here?

Gabe is too loud, Olivia looks down with embarrassment. A waitress walks over. Off her look -

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

GABE (CONT'D)
(joking)
I didn't think you would get the
full effect of my desperation if I
didn't yell. Me need pizza!!

The waitress and Gabe stare at each other. He laughs, she scours.

OLIVIA
I'll just have a plain cheese
slice.

The waitress stares at Olivia.

GABE
Same.

WAITRESS
To drink?

OLIVIA
A Diet Coke please.

GABE
I'm fine with water.

The waitress is still staring at Olivia, Gabe picks up the menus, hands them to her. She walks off.

GABE (CONT'D)
Grah-see-as.

OLIVIA
She seemed like she was really
warming up to me.

GABE
Don't worry about her. She's an
asshole, I know her sister...
Hey I thought I saw your dad the
other day.

OLIVIA
You did?

GABE
Yeah, but it was Mrs. Garrett. He
looks exactly like a woman from
behind.

OLIVIA
I'll let him know.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

Silence.

GABE

It smells like the Pirates of the Caribbean ride in here.

More silence.

OLIVIA

So... do you see anyone from Prescott at all?

GABE

There's a lot of people still here, kind of scattered around. Remember Joe Landies? He runs the skate park. And Alison Clements works at Karen's health food store.

OLIVIA

Have you thought about leaving?

GABE

I've got to take care of my aunt. She's getting older.

OLIVIA

Well it's great she has you... oh my God, you know who I saw the other day?

GABE

Who?

OLIVIA

Mr. Black!

GABE

Stephen? He's a douchey tool.

OLIVIA

He seemed great to me.

GABE

Let me guess, you think he's hot?

OLIVIA

Well I don't think he's ugly.

GABE

Whatever.

OLIVIA

Well are you seeing anyone now?

CONTINUED: (3)

GABE
Remember Melissa?

OLIVIA
Green? What happened?

GABE
Let's just say, I found out we weren't on the same page about cats.

OLIVIA
I don't know what that means.

GABE
I didn't either...

Olivia is confused but decides not to ask anything further.

GABE (CONT'D)
Why don't you dye your hair, I think it would make you look more put together.

OLIVIA
Why don't you cut your mullet?

GABE
Men hold their power in their manes.

CUT TO:

INT. GABE'S CAR - NIGHT

Gabe speeds through a red light.

OLIVIA
(softly)
That was a red light.

Gabe doesn't hear her, she is visibly uncomfortable. He swerves to a stop in front of her house.

GABE
This is you.

Olivia jolts forward.

OLIVIA
Thanks for dinner Gabe.

He leans in for a kiss. Olivia leans back.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

OLIVIA (CONT'D)
I'm sorry.

GABE
Wow.

OLIVIA
I'm sorry.

GABE
Yeah, no. It's all good.

OLIVIA
You sure?

GABE
I mean you totally misled me but
it's fine.

Olivia looks at him, not knowing what to say.

GABE (CONT'D)
Don't laugh at me with your eyes.

OLIVIA
I wasn't laughing at you...with my
eyes. I just thought we were
catching up.

Silence, Gabe will not look at her.

OLIVIA (CONT'D)
Alright, I'm going to go Gabe.
Thank you again.

Olivia opens the door and gets out. Gabe screeches off.

INT. GEDDES KITCHEN - NIGHT

Sophie and Gus are sitting in the kitchen. Olivia walks
in the room.

SOPHIE
How was it?

Olivia stares at her for a long moment and walks
upstairs.

INT. OLIVIA'S ROOM - NIGHT

Olivia is on the phone.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

OLIVIA

Aren't you supposed to help me? I want a fucking drink, so tell me not to have it and why I shouldn't or I will...I'm not threatening you!..that's not your job? Then what is your job??? My tone is normal! Isn't this a hotline?...I don't want to find a meeting location! Well that does shit for me right now!..No, I don't have a sponsor!! I could sue you.

Olivia hangs up the phone and throw it across the room.

SOPHIE (O.C.)

Who are you yelling at?

OLIVIA

My bank!

Olivia takes a breath. She gets out a cigarette and lights it near the window.

INT. COMMUNITY CENTER - DAY

Olivia is sitting in the back. The AA LEADER is at the podium introducing the evening. He reads the "AA Preamble."

CUT TO:

INT. COMMUNITY CENTER - DAY

A basket is passed around for donations.

CUT TO:

INT. COMMUNITY CENTER - DAY

The AA leader introduces the speaker.

LEADER

Our speaker tonight is Julie Chandler.

The Leader points at JULIE CHANDLER, she heads up to the podium and immediately launches into her speech.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

JULIE

Easter 1998, I find myself
bottomless on the roof of my
neighbor's car.

EXT. GEDDES HOME - DAY

Olivia sits outside at a table, she holds a legal pad and looks over her "Moral Inventory," and then turns the page. At the top it says "Amends" and has a list of names written below. She circles one of the names.

Olivia stands up, picks up the portable phone and dials, pacing back and forth.

As soon as it starts ringing, Olivia hangs up, and puts the phone down. She turns and walks inside.

OLIVIA

Going to need a few more weeks for
that call.

INT. GEDDES HOME - KITCHEN

Olivia watches "Cast Away" on TV while her dad eats a bagel with cream cheese and reads the paper. Gus walks into the kitchen.

GUS

Percentage wise, how much of that
do you think will end up in your
beard?

Alex doesn't respond. Olivia gestures to the TV.

OLIVIA

It just sucks for him. Because he
gets blonde and thin when no one
can see him.

GUS

Grow a brain Olivia.

Olivia's cell phone rings. Gus grabs it.

OLIVIA

Give it to me.

Gus runs around the kitchen island with Olivia's phone.

OLIVIA (CONT'D)

Dad!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SOPHIE (O.S.)
Gus!

GUS
You're such a fucking baby.

Gus throws her phone at Olivia.

OLIVIA
You're such an idiot asshole!

Gus walks out, Olivia answers the phone.

OLIVIA (CONT'D)
Hello?...yeah, nothing much.
Good...You?..Okay...that
works?...Perfect. See you
tomorrow.

She takes a deep breath. Opens her computer and checks her e-mail. There is a new e-mail from Jerry: "Don't lose sight of what you need to do Geddes - Jerry."

Olivia types back: "Yes Master" and presses send.

EXT. ROAD - DAY

Olivia jogs slowly while Alex walks next to her. She is in workout clothes, he is in his paint covered jeans and shoes.

They pass West Sound Cafe, Alex loops back and heads inside. Olivia follows.

ALEX
My knees hurt anyway.

OLIVIA
Sure they do.

INT. WEST SOUND CAFE - DAY

Olivia and Alex sit at a booth. Gabe comes to the table and immediately stiffens. He sets down menus.

GABE
Hello Mr. Geddes. Olivia.

OLIVIA
Hi Gabe. How's it going?

He doesn't look at Olivia, while he talks.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

GABE
Good, just manning the fort.

ALEX
Can I get a chocolate milk shake?

GABE
Sure.

OLIVIA
Can I get one too?

GABE
No problem.

Gabe walks off to give the order to the kitchen.

ALEX
Awkward?

OLIVIA
What do you think?

ALEX
I think he's probably not over it.

OLIVIA
There never was an "it."

ALEX
You sure sound open to a new
relationship.

OLIVIA
Ehhh, Dad.

ALEX
Ehhh, Liv. One of these guys has
got to be worthy.

Alex sees Gabe animatedly talking to himself behind the counter.

ALEX (CONT'D)
Maybe not Gabe. But someone.

OLIVIA
Please, I can't have this
conversation, mom just did this
with me. I'm 28, not 18.

ALEX
It can't be as uncomfortable as
when we saw "Requiem for a Dream"
together.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

OLIVIA

Nothing can top sitting between
your parents for a drug infused
orgy.

ALEX

What about that kid Joe who does
the skateboard stuff?

OLIVIA

He dated Cassie for a long time.
Sleeping with a friends ex-
boyfriend is not really a
friendship builder.

ALEX

Jokes won't keep you warm at
night...Can I tell you what your
pattern seems to be?

OLIVIA

No.

ALEX

You have a teeny tiny ember of
something and instead of letting
it turn into anything, you take a
fire extinguisher and immediately
put it out.

Alex makes the noise of a fire extinguisher and mimes
putting out a fire.

OLIVIA

Dad, stop being so judgemental.

ALEX

I'm sorry, I didn't mean to be
judge -

OLIVIA

Then just don't do it.

ALEX

Is anyone allowed to say anything
to you? You're yelling at me
because you're mad at yourself.

Olivia starts to tear up, the conversation is on the
verge of becoming a scene...

CONTINUED: (3)

OLIVIA
(angry whisper)
I hate when you say shit like
that. I don't even know what that
means!

Olivia gets up.

OLIVIA (CONT'D)
And I'm gaining weight on this
stupid island, I don't know why
you would take me to get a fucking
milk shake Do you want me to be
fat again??

ALEX
Hey, hey, hey! Sit down Olivia.

Olivia begrudgingly sits down. Gabe walks over.

GABE
Hi, I'm going to have to ask you
to keep it down, the other -

OLIVIA
Fuck off Gabe.

Gabe walks away.

ALEX
What is this? With the freaking
out?

OLIVIA
Nothing.

ALEX
Make you fat? If you don't want
the milk shake, don't drink it.
But don't involve me with your
weird food issues. You can talk
to me Liv, I'm not your mother.

Olivia is silent.

ALEX (CONT'D)
What's going on? Does this have
to do with your job? New York?
Jake? Your mother? My mother?
Am I getting close?

OLIVIA
I've got to tell you something.

CONTINUED: (4)

ALEX

Yes?

OLIVIA

I'm not just home because I lost
my job.

ALEX

Well that's pretty obvious.

OLIVIA

I was fired because I have a
drinking problem and I can only
get my job back when I'm sober.

ALEX

Well...wow.

Alex sits silently for a moment, Gabe comes by with the
two milk shakes and sets them down.

GABE

Listen, you guys. If you need
help workshopping any of this
stuff out, just let me know.

OLIVIA

Gabe.

GABE

Fuck off?

Olivia nods her head, Gabe walks away.

OLIVIA

Please talk to me.

ALEX

Okay.

OLIVIA

Well?

ALEX

Don't act like you told me that
dinner was ready. I don't know
what to say yet.

OLIVIA

Okay.

ALEX

I'm sorry.

CONTINUED: (5)

OLIVIA
I'm sorry.

ALEX
Are you okay? I mean, are you
going to be okay?

OLIVIA
Yes. In time. I'm trying really
hard. I'm not ready to tell Mom
yet. She'll think it's her fault.

Alex takes Olivia's hand.

ALEX
You know...you're predisposed to
this.

OLIVIA
Why don't you say something to
her?

ALEX
I have. Many times. She's not
ready to listen but she's getting
there. You've missed a lot.
Thanksgiving was like a Tennessee
Williams play this year -
everybody started crying at 10 am
...I...just...how did I not know
anything?

OLIVIA
I would have never let you know.

ALEX
Don't do that again. Some secrets
are pointless.

Olivia takes her dad's hand.

OLIVIA
I want a drink.

INT. DEER HARBOR COFFEE SHOP - EVENING

Stephen and Olivia sit across from each other drinking coffee mid-conversation. Any trace of Olivia's earlier upset is gone.

STEPHEN
I've got to get out to New York.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

OLIVIA
You should. I miss it a lot.

STEPHEN
You think you'll stay?

OLIVIA
Definitely... You seem like you're
doing really great. How's
history?

STEPHEN
It hasn't changed much.

Olivia laughs.

STEPHEN (CONT'D)
Thank you for laughing at that.

A WAITRESS approaches.

WAITRESS
Hi guys, I'm sorry but we're
closing up.

STEPHEN
Oh no problem, thank you. (to
Olivia) Do you want to come over?
Maybe have a drink? I mean,
obviously no pressure.

She laughs.

OLIVIA
That sounds nice. I'm going to
run to the restroom, I'll meet you
at the car.

Stephen walks out, Olivia walks towards the bathroom,
pulls out her phone and dials Maggie.

OLIVIA (CONT'D)
I think I'm messing it up. I
think I need a drink or this is
going to be so stiff and weird.

MAGGIE (O.C.)
No, you don't. Can you please not
do the self pity act?

OLIVIA
Maggie, I haven't hooked up with
someone sober since I was in camp.
Like 16.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

MAGGIE (O.C.)
You went to camp when you were 16?

OLIVIA
I really loved camp.

MAGGIE
Okay, well it's still enjoyable.
And here's the thing, if it
doesn't work out with him there
are other people.

OLIVIA
No! I want it to work out with
him! I really like him!

MAGGIE (O.C.)
You have to stop doing this.
You're going into this like you're
looking for a life partner. Don't
do that. You want a boyfriend?
You want love? Love is your
husband never wanting to fuck
another woman and it's hard to
find. So just calm down, okay?

OLIVIA
I have to go. Thank you.

MAGGIE (O.C.)
Maybe one of these phone calls
will be about me and my life, my
unborn child. All of these are
topics on the table.

OLIVIA
Yes, definitely. Love you.

Olivia hangs up and walks out to Stephen's car.

INT. STEPHEN'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Stephen's house is a craftsman house, very simple.
Stephen pours two glasses of white wine and hands one to
Olivia.

He swirls his wine glass and smells it.

STEPHEN
It's Gavi. Fruity, persistent,
balanced.

Olivia smells her glass too.

CONTINUED:

OLIVIA
I smell the persistence.

She is mocking Stephen. He's oblivious and nods with enthusiasm.

Olivia walks around the house looking at the walls.

OLIVIA (CONT'D)
I love this house.

She stops at a photo.

OLIVIA (CONT'D)
Where is this?

Stephen walks over and looks at the picture.

STEPHEN
Berlin. Have you been there?

OLIVIA
No.

STEPHEN
You have to go. It's amazing. It looks like an unfinished tomorrow land. Is the wine okay?

OLIVIA
It's great.

She browses his CD collection - UB40, Train, James Taylor & Carole King: In Concert.

Stephen and Olivia stand in the hallway, neither speak.

OLIVIA (CONT'D)
It's getting late, I should probably go.

Olivia gets her bag and walks to the front of the house. Stephen is right behind her. Olivia looks outside and notices that it is raining.

STEPHEN
Let me get you an umbrella.

Stephen starts to walk back in to the house, Olivia follows him and before he grabs the umbrella, he turns and kisses her.

STEPHEN (CONT'D)
You're really pretty.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

Olivia kisses him in response, they head to the couch.

CUT TO:

INT. - STEPHEN'S LIVING ROOM - FIVE MINUTES LATER

Olivia and Stephen look a bit disheveled, she puts her sweater back on, he buttons his pants.

Olivia walks towards the front door. She trips over his helmet. She picks it up and hands it to Stephen.

OLIVIA

Your helmet, Sir.

He takes it and gives her a quick kiss, she walks out the front door.

INT. OLIVIA'S CAR - SAME

Olivia talks on her cell phone to Maggie. Maggie watches TV with her husband. Intercut between them.

MAGGIE

You really don't have to call me for every step of this.

OLIVIA

I think I referred to myself as a cinefile at one point, I don't know I'm trying to black out certain parts.

MAGGIE

Shut up, it sounds like he's a hot weird nature dude.

OLIVIA

Kind of, he carries a Klean Kantine. He's really smart though and nice.

MAGGIE

Oh God Olivia, don't use the word nice. It's insulting, it doesn't mean anything.

OLIVIA

He's interesting. Okay, I just got home, going to bed.

Olivia pulls up to her house.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MAGGIE

Next time, don't wear a condom so you can get pregnant and we can have kids at the same time and they'll grow up best friends like us!

OLIVIA

Anyway, how are you?

MAGGIE

Oh please.

EXT. GEDDES HOUSE - NIGHT

Olivia's car pulls in the driveway at her house. She gets out of the car and walks in the front door.

INT. GEDDES KITCHEN - NIGHT

Olivia doesn't see Sophie sitting at the kitchen counter, drinking a glass of wine.

SOPHIE

How was the night?

Olivia, surprised, drops her purse.

OLIVIA

Jesus Christ mom!

SOPHIE

You don't have to bring him into this.

OLIVIA

You scared me.

Olivia picks up her purse and looks at Sophie's wine glass.

OLIVIA (CONT'D)

Don't you have a cut off point?

SOPHIE

Give it a rest Olivia.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)

(changing the
subject)

How was the date?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

OLIVIA
Um, it was good. Actually, really fun.

Sophie gets up to head upstairs.

SOPHIE
I'm glad you had fun.

Sophie walks by her and kisses the top of her head.

INT. GEDDES HOME - MORNING

Olivia washes her hair. Brushes her teeth. Puts on a sweatshirt, jeans and shoes. No makeup.

Her dad walks into her room.

ALEX
Hey honey, you know if you ever want me to go to one of these meetings with you, I will. Really, any time.

OLIVIA
Thanks Dad, I think I'm okay for now.

ALEX
(in a Scottish accent)
You're the man now Dog.

Olivia looks at him, confused.

ALEX (CONT'D)
Sean Connery. "Finding Forrester."

OLIVIA
Okay...Thanks Dad.

INT. COMMUNITY CENTER - MORNING

Olivia sits towards the front of an AA meeting. It is raining outside. Gabe sits in a row midway back, neither Olivia nor Gabe can see each other. The speaker is winding up his speech.

AA SPEAKER
I used what we call an emergency God. I was never religious. Only when I was in trouble.
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

AA SPEAKER (CONT'D)

And then, God got a long, complicated phone call from me. I always asked him to clean up the mess, kind of like a housekeeper. It was a lot of "Hi God, I know we haven't talked in a little while but I crashed my girlfriend's car while I was driving another girl in it, no, we're totally just friends, but I need my girlfriend to accept my apology so she can pay my rent." Or "God, really need you to step in here, I showed up at the PTA meeting drunk and need a good old explanation out of this one. Actually need two, one for my wife and one for my kid." My disease taught me that a quick fix, can further the break.

CUT TO:

People mull around. Olivia gets her jacket and walks to the back table where she gets her court-ordered AA attendance papers signed. There is a big cluster of smokers outside, she walks further away from the church and spots Gabe. They both hold umbrellas.

OLIVIA

Gabe? Hi! I didn't know that you went to these?

GABE

I knew there was something wrong with you.

Olivia starts to walk away and then turns around and walks back over to Gabe.

OLIVIA

Please don't be mad at me.

GABE

I just don't know why you would ever go out with that tool.

OLIVIA

Stephen? I knew that was what this was about.

GABE

He's a chubby dick.

OLIVIA

Gabe.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

GABE

He looks like the mom on Home Improvement.

OLIVIA

Gabe.

GABE

He wears a cell phone clip and texts with his pointer fingers.

OLIVIA

I have noticed that.

GABE

He told me "Fried Green Tomatoes" was his favorite movie.

OLIVIA

Gabe...now you're just lying. Do you have anymore? Or are you done?

Gabe starts to say something and then stops himself -

GABE

Okay, I'm done.

OLIVIA

Thank you.

GABE

I know for a fact he saw Creed in concert.

Beat.

GABE (CONT'D)

I'm really done. I just think you should be careful. He's not a good guy.

OLIVIA

Okay Gabe. I will be...

GABE

Technically, you shouldn't be approaching the dating world for at least a year.

OLIVIA

Right, so I've heard. It looks like we have a lot more in common than I thought.

CONTINUED: (3)

GABE

Yeah. I've been doing this for about six years now. You?

OLIVIA

I'm fairly new. I've officially been in the program for about a month.

GABE

Look, I'm sorry that I said something was wrong with you.

OLIVIA

It's okay. Something *is* wrong with me.

Gabe lights a cigarette and offers it to Oliva.

OLIVIA (CONT'D)

Thanks. I'm sorry I told you to fuck off the other day.

GABE

Twice. You told me to fuck off twice.

OLIVIA

I'm sorry twice.

GABE

It's okay. So how is this going for you?

OLIVIA

I'm getting more used to it. I'm not in love with all the God talk.

GABE

There are no atheists in foxholes... But really, it's spiritual, not religious.

OLIVIA

I thought it was about loving yourself.

GABE

It's not about loving yourself, it's about liking yourself. Well, being able to stand yourself.

OLIVIA

Do you need a ride?

CONTINUED: (4)

Gabe nods. Olivia and Gabe walk to the car.

INT. OLIVIA'S CAR - SAME

Olivia drives down Gabe's street.

GABE

Are you sure it's cool to drive me home?

Olivia pulls up to Gabe's house.

OLIVIA

Bit late for that.

GABE

For what it's worth, I'm glad you're not above going to meetings.

OLIVIA

I'm not above much right now.

Gabe turns to get out of the car.

OLIVIA (CONT'D)

Wait..can we just keep this between you and me?

GABE

It's anonymous, remember?

OLIVIA

Right. Yes.

Gabe goes to get out of the car again.

OLIVIA (CONT'D)

Wait. I have a question. What do I do if I need to talk to someone but there isn't a meeting or something. I've had to literally lock myself in the bathroom so I don't go have a drink.

GABE

You can call me. I mean, if you want, you can call me and I'll talk to you.

OLIVIA

I don't want to tell you the embarrassing shit I do.

CONTINUED:

GABE

I crashed my dad's tractor into a house. Do you know how slow a tractor goes? You have about fifteen minutes to stop before you hit something.

OLIVIA

Okay.

GABE

Want to watch Transformers 3 tonight? It will blow your balls off.

OLIVIA

(laughing)

I can't.

GABE

Do you want to hook up about it?

OLIVIA

Do I want to hook up about- ? Gabe come on.

GABE

Are you going to see him right now?

OLIVIA

Good night Gabe.

GABE

Ask him if he knew that getting his ear pierced was gay before he did it.

Gabe gets out, Olivia drives off.

EXT. ORCAS FINE ART GALLERY - EVENING

Olivia walks into the gallery, Stephen is looking at a framed inspirational posters. He stands in front of one that shows a man climbing Mt. Kilimanjaro and has the word COURAGE below it. Olivia walks up behind him and whispers in his ear

OLIVIA

Hi.

He turns around and kisses her.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

STEPHEN

Hey. How beautiful is this stuff?

OLIVIA

Yeah...How was your day?

STEPHEN

Taught. Graded papers. Ate lunch by myself, cried in the bathroom.

OLIVIA

Hey! I used to cry in that bathroom too. I can't believe you have to revisit high school everyday.

They walk around the gallery.

STEPHEN

I had to grade a paper today that used "The Bridges of Madison County" to explore the history of Iowa.

OLIVIA

I think you can divide the whole world into people who liked "The Bridges of Madison County" and people who didn't.

STEPHEN

You're funny.

OLIVIA

I'm overcompensating.

STEPHEN

Try to make it through a whole ten minutes without a self-deprecating comment.

OLIVIA

Okay, I'll just stop talking.

Stephen kisses her.

OLIVIA (CONT'D)

That was your plan, wasn't it?

He kisses her again.

INT. COMMUNITY CENTER - NIGHT

Olivia sits in the first row of the meeting. MICHAEL, the leader stands talking at the front.

MICHAEL
Hi, I'm Michael, I'm an alcoholic.

AA GROUP
Hi Michael.

Everyone claps.

MICHAEL
Are there any newcomers to this meeting?

One man raises his hand. Applause.

MICHAEL (CONT'D)
Do we have any birthdays to celebrate today? Anyone in their first thirty days?

Two people raise their hands. Applause.

MICHAEL (CONT'D)
Sixty days?

No one raises their hands.

MICHAEL (CONT'D)
Six months?

Three people raise their hands. Applause.

MICHAEL (CONT'D)
One year?

CUT TO:

Michael is still at the podium.

MICHAEL (CONT'D)
Well I have invited a wonderful man to join us here this evening. I'm proud to call him my sponsor. He has guided me and many others through some pretty weird times and I'm just so thrilled he could join our group tonight. Let's give a big welcome to Stanley -

Stanley - an older, small man with glasses walks on stage.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

STANLEY

So I don't know if Michael told you... I didn't want to come. But this bastard bribed me with a coin. So, obviously I couldn't turn him down.

People laugh. Michael interjects -

MICHAEL

Introduce yourself!

STANLEY

Oh fuck off.

The meeting laughs.

STANLEY (CONT'D)

Hi, I'm Stanley and I'm an alcoholic.

GROUP

Hi Stanley!

STANLEY

So I guess I'll give you a quick rundown of the good things I did in my life. That feels like the right way to begin... I went to college, I got a job at a newspaper, I met a woman, I met another woman, I met a third woman. This one I married. I bought a home, I had three boys, I had a girl, we got a dog... Now here is a list of the bad. I slept with four professors for grade inflation. I lost my job at the newspaper when I showed up to work drunk three days in a row. I cheated on the first woman I met. I cheated on the second woman I met, I married the third while I was drunk in Vegas. I missed the birth of my first son, I missed the kindergarten graduation of my second and I accidentally killed the third's rabbit. I crashed my daughter's car at three o'clock in the morning on a Tuesday. And, I ate the dog's food. On several, different, occasions... Moral: life is not what it seems. Or some bullshit like that.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

Stanley shifts his position.

STANLEY (CONT'D)

Life is really the stories that we don't tell. When I was an alcoholic, I never told. I lied, I lied to keep everyone calm, to get out of things, to live with myself, to earn a living. So I decided it was time to quit fucking with everything and I decided to never lie again... This is the plot for the 1997 Jim Carrey film titled "Liar Liar."

The meeting is rapt, totally goes with it.

STANLEY (CONT'D)

Literally, waiting for one fucking person to crack a smile in the room. You all failed me. All of you.

Olivia laughs.

STANLEY (CONT'D)

I did things you can't actually imagine. I woke up naked on the front lawn. I woke up naked only in women's make-up in the middle of our street. I got into a screaming fight with my wife, in front of my kids, at Hamburger Hamlet because I lifted the skirt of the waitress... I don't know what they were thinking. But they stuck with me - my lovely wife is sitting in the front row - two of my sons are here too. I guess these stories are funny now. Too bad I had to be told all of them. In a way I guess this could seem like a reason to get drunk for twenty years. You wake up and you have a beautiful family? Well I guess that's one way. That is my story. I know it because I was told it.

EXT. COMMUNITY CENTER - NIGHT

Olivia walks with Gabe towards the car, they share a cigarette.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

OLIVIA
I am such a selfish asshole.

GABE
Stop.

OLIVIA
I'm sorry.

GABE
You shouldn't say you're sorry all the time.

OLIVIA
Okay....I feel like this is easier than I thought. Not easy, but not as hard. Every day here feels like the Friday after Thanksgiving.

GABE
Well you're on a remote island goof brains.

OLIVIA
I know, I'm scared about going back to New York. If I was there right now... I mean sometimes I was fine, but when I wasn't, I was awful. I just don't want people to think I'm a mess.

GABE
People, places and things. Avoid the people, places and things that you identify with drinking.

OLIVIA
Well that's impossible.

GABE
It's hard, but it's doable. It's like cutting off contact with a really shitty friend who you have exciting sex with.

OLIVIA
What?

GABE
That was a weird example.

OLIVIA
Do you still want to drink?

CONTINUED: (2)

GABE

Of course. Listen, what was the worst thing that happened?

OLIVIA

Tie between going to jail and going down on a stranger?

GABE

Okay. But that still might not have been your bottom. Sometimes people have to try everything, do everything, until they're convinced it doesn't work.

OLIVIA

Like keep drinking?

GABE

Yeah. Just take it one day at a time. Don't make the decision now that you're cut off for life.

OLIVIA

I wish I was a normal drinker.

GABE

I would tuck that wish in bed and give it a bottle of Ambien.

OLIVIA

I just feel like I'm missing out on the party.

GABE

Don't worry about that. You have a much better party with the 50 year old lesbian that you're dating.

OLIVIA

Gabe, that insult didn't even make sense.

GABE

Channel your "coolness" from high school.

Olivia is surprised.

OLIVIA

I wasn't cool in high school?

CONTINUED: (3)

GABE

Yeah you were. I thought you were cool. What I'm saying is sometimes you just have to make some toast and spread a little bit of giggle butter on it.

OLIVIA

Literally, what are you talking about? Imagining you drinking gives me anxiety.

INT. WEST SOUND CAFE - AFTERNOON

Olivia and Stephen walk into the cafe. Gabe is behind the counter with Charlotte.

CHARLOTTE

Anywhere you'd like dear.

OLIVIA

Thank you Charlotte.

Olivia and Stephen walk to a table and sit. Gabe comes over to the table.

GABE

So glad I can serve you today.

OLIVIA

Hi Gabe.

STEPHEN

Hi Gabe. How are you?

Gabe does not respond. Silence.

OLIVIA

Gabe.

GABE

Yes?

OLIVIA

Really?

GABE

Look, I'm busy. Do you want me to come back or do you want to order now?

Olivia looks at Stephen.

CONTINUED:

OLIVIA

I'll order for both of us. One coffee, one beer, two turkey sandwiches, one on Sourdough, one on rye.

STEPHEN

Can you tell him, the one on rye is hopefully toasted.

OLIVIA

The one on rye would ideally be toasted.

GABE

Please tell your lunch partner that we don't normally do that with that type of sandwich.

OLIVIA

First of all, please don't use the term "lunch partner." Secondly, I'll let him know and I'll also let him know that you just started doing it today.

Gabe walks away. Then comes back.

GABE

I'm sorry Mr. Black.

STEPHEN

Stephen. Not a problem Gabe.

Gabe walks away.

OLIVIA

Well. That was at least a step in the right direction. I'm guessing it's a grade issue?

STEPHEN

I failed him junior year.

OLIVIA

I'd hate you too.

STEPHEN

Well, you did all your work. I get the feeling that his grade isn't the main reason why he dislikes me.

Stephen and Olivia finish their meal.

EXT. STREET - EVENING

They walk out of the restaurant and are quickly intercepted by Gabe. They all stand silently looking at each other. Then Gabe hugs Stephen - very closely. He then brings in Olivia for a very uncomfortable group hug.

When it ends. Olivia and Stephen step back. Stephen doesn't know what to say. Gabe squeezes both of Stephen's hands and then walks in the restaurant. Stephen and Olivia walk down the street.

STEPHEN

You attract a very interesting brand.

OLIVIA

I'm not even going to address what just happened.

INT. STEPHEN'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Olivia and Stephen walk in the front door and immediately start kissing. They put their things down while still kissing. Stephen takes off his jacket still holding onto Olivia, she does the same and they head in to Stephen's bedroom.

Olivia takes off Stephen's shirt, he takes off hers and they get on the bed.

Stephen goes to take off Olivia's bra and his watch gets caught in the lace.

OLIVIA

Hold on. I can get it.

Stephen intensely focusses on fixing this. They both struggle to get it.

OLIVIA (CONT'D)

If you just tug it. Just tug it.

STEPHEN

I'm trying. Wait, it's not -

Olivia rips her bra and pulls it off.

OLIVIA

There we go.

They continue to kiss. He pulls away for a moment to take off his watch and takes a sip of wine, offering the glass to Olivia.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

STEPHEN
Want some?

OLIVIA
Um...I'll be right back.

She jumps off the bed and heads into the other room.

She heads into the kitchen, paces for a moment and then grabs a wine glass and pours herself a glass of wine. She stares at the glass, not moving for fifteen seconds. Then she grabs her phone and heads out to the deck just in her underwear.

EXT. STEPHEN'S PORCH - NIGHT

Olivia dials her phone, her other hand covering her chest.

OLIVIA
Gabe?...Hi...No no, I'm fine. No
he didn't rape
me!...Gabe..please...Not yet, but
I want to...Can I make it until
tomorrow?...I think so...No! I'm
not going to call you after I have
sex!...Okay, I'll call you in the
morning.

Stephen walks out on to the porch as Olivia hangs up her phone.

STEPHEN
What are you doing?

OLIVIA
What?

STEPHEN
My neighbors are getting a show.

OLIVIA
Sorry, just making a call.

Stephen opens the door for her. He slaps her on the butt as she walks inside.

INT. STEPHEN'S BEDROOM - THE NEXT MORNING

Olivia wakes up and turns to face Stephen.

STEPHEN
Hi.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

OLIVIA
Hi.

STEPHEN
I'm pregnant.

Olivia laughs.

STEPHEN (CONT'D)
How did you sleep?

OLIVIA
Very well.

She feels his facial hair, that's growing in like a goatee.

OLIVIA (CONT'D)
You didn't tell me that your beard grew in like D'artagnan's.

STEPHEN
It's not something I can control.

OLIVIA
My facial hair grows in that way too.

STEPHEN
Are you doing a morning set right now?

OLIVIA
Sorry. Too early.

STEPHEN
Let me just have coffee first.

EXT. STEPHEN'S FRONT PORCH - MORNING

Olivia and Stephen drink coffee on the front porch.

INT. ANTIQUE SHOP - FEW DAYS LATER

Olivia and Stephen browse through an antique shop. Olivia picks up a very old looking box and the clasp flies off. She sets it down.

OLIVIA
(whispering)
I think I just broke something?
We need to go.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

The SALES WOMAN comes out from the back. Stephen tries to hide the box and hits over a stack of plates.

SALES WOMAN
Can I help you with anything?

Olivia and Stephen look at each other and then Stephen picks up the box and a remnant of a plate.

STEPHEN
I'd like to get these.

EXT. ORCAS FINE ART GALLERY - NEXT DAY

Stephen buys a horrible piece of art, Olivia shakes her head.

EXT. ORCAS ISLAND ROAD - FEW DAYS LATER

Olivia walks next to Stephen rollerblading.

INT. EAST SOUND CAFE - NEXT DAY

Olivia and Stephen eat lunch and talk to Charlotte.

INT. STEPHEN'S HOUSE - NEXT NIGHT

Olivia and Stephen lie on the couch kissing.

EXT. STEPHEN'S HOUSE, NEXT MORNING

Olivia and Stephen kiss good-bye as he goes to work. He walks to his car, turns around, comes back and kisses her again.

STEPHEN
I'm really leaving now.

Stephen walks away again. He gets to his car, turns around and walks back to Olivia.

Stephen kisses Olivia and leads her inside, leaving his bag and jacket on the front porch.

INT. COMMUNITY CENTER - DAY

It's raining. Gabe and Olivia sit next to each other. AA speaker stands on stage.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

AA SPEAKER
...Everything need to be black and white. I couldn't do gray. Gray was out of the question. Once I said okay to the unknown I could accept myself and do better....

Everyone claps.

AA SPEAKER (CONT'D)
Does anyone have any questions?

A WOMAN in the back raises her hand.

AA SPEAKER (CONT'D)
Yeah?

WOMAN #1
I'm going on a trip soon. To Hawaii. With my husband.

AA SPEAKER
Yeah?

WOMAN #1
I'm worried about the airplane.
I've never flown without being drunk.

AA SPEAKER
If you find yourself in trouble.
If you're nervous. If you want a drink. Ask the flight attendant if there is a friend of Bill W. on board. Bill W. is Bill Wilson, the founder of AA. They'll know what that means. Okay?

WOMAN #1
Yes. Thank you.

Everyone stands up and grabs hands with the people next to them.

ALL
God grant me the serenity
to accept the things I cannot
change, courage to change the
things I can, and wisdom to know
the difference...Keep coming back,
it works if you work it.

Gabe and Olivia walk towards the back of center.

EXT. GEDDES HOME - LATE AFTERNOON

Olivia sits under the covering in the garden drinking coffee. She has her computer on her lap open to a blank Word document. Leelee sits next to her enjoying the rain. Leelee opens a piece of mail. She speaks loudly as she waves it around, wanting Olivia to notice that she got mail from SAG.

LEELEE

Oh God, another piece of SAG mail.
What could they want now?...
Olivia, will you drive me to the
"Company" audition?

OLIVIA

I won't support someone who
supports Stephen Sondheim.

LEELEE

Your jealousy is nauseating. Grow
up.

Olivia hears the phone ring inside.

INT. GEDDES KITCHEN - EVENING

Olivia's walk in the kitchen as the phone rings. Alex gets to it before she can.

ALEX

Hello...This is Olivia.

Olivia walks over to him.

OLIVIA

Dad. Really? Give me the phone.

Alex laughs and hands Olivia the phone and walks out of the room.

OLIVIA (CONT'D)

Hey...well when you call the house
line it's kind of a comedy
platform for whoever picks up,
sorry, anyway...what's up?
Really?...no no that's okay, it's
really not a big deal, don't
worry...that's actually fine...I'm
tired anyway...

Olivia hangs up the phone. Sophie walks in.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SOPHIE
Are you seeing the teacher
tonight?

OLIVIA
He has a lot of stuff to grade.
It's finals.

SOPHIE
Well you guys see each other
everyday, I think it's fine to
have a break.

OLIVIA
Thanks for weighing in Mom.

SOPHIE
Thanks for saying that in that
rude little way you do Liv.

EXT. OLIVIA'S ROOM - NIGHT

Olivia sits at her computer. One word is written in a word document - "I." She talks on the phone to Maggie who shops at Whole Foods. Intercut between them.

MAGGIE
Jerry misses you.

OLIVIA
I oddly miss him. What are you
doing?

MAGGIE
Buying a sad middle-aged woman's
salad bar dinner of sauteed beets
and smoked mozzarella pasta. So,
you told your dad?

OLIVIA
Yes, but not my mom, she
definitely knows something's up.

MAGGIE
Stop being paranoid.

OLIVIA
I can't. It's my most consistent
trait.

MAGGIE
You're not seeing the teacher
tonight? You should fuck that
other guy in the mean time.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

OLIVIA
Gabe?

MAGGIE
Troll for dick while you're out
there - why not?

OLIVIA
Do you have to say it like
that?...How's my niece doing?

Maggie feels her stomach.

MAGGIE
She's moving around a lot. How's
the article going?

OLIVIA
It's going.

INT. OLIVIA'S ROOM - AFTERNOON

Olivia sits at her computer but can't concentrate. She paces back and forth in her room.

CUT TO:

INT. OLIVIA'S ROOM - AFTERNOON

Olivia sits on her bed with the door shut. Sophie knocks and enters at the same time drinking a glass of white wine.

SOPHIE
Why is this door always shut?

OLIVIA
To keep intruders out.

SOPHIE
I'm going to the market, want to
come?

OLIVIA
I'm okay.

SOPHIE
Please don't just sit here and
stew.

OLIVIA
I'm not stewing. I'm fine, what
are you talking about?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SOPHIE
He will call Olivia and if he
doesn't, he's not worth it.

She quickly adds.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)
In the future, if you don't sleep
with them right away, there's a
better chance they'll call. Bye!

Sophie walks out before Olivia can say anything.

INT. KITCHEN - AFTERNOON

Olivia spots Leelee's leftover vodka & milk. She picks it up. Puts it down. Picks it up and stares at it. Puts it down again. Then puts it in a cabinet. She grabs her jacket and her keys and walks out the front door.

EXT. ROAD - DAY

Olivia walks down the road, a to go coffee in her hand. She pulls out her phone and dials Stephen. She gets his machine.

OLIVIA
Hey Stephen. It's Olivia. Just wanted to say "hey." I haven't talked to you in a few days, so, just want to make sure everything's okay. Anyway, call me when you can.

Olivia presses 1 on her phone.

PRE-RECORDED MESSAGE
If you would like to erase and re-record your message, press 3.

Olivia presses 3 and starts to record another message.

OLIVIA
Stepho, it's Olivia, your former student! Got an idea, let's do a picnic -

Olivia grimaces to herself and presses 3 again.

OLIVIA (CONT'D)
Stephen, I think you know who it is. We need to talk.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

She shakes her head and presses 3 again.

OLIVIA (CONT'D)
Stephen, I -

Olivia sees a deer, startled, she spills her coffee on herself.

OLIVIA (CONT'D)
Oh my God! Fuck that's hot!

While Olivia struggles with her coffee she mistakenly presses 1 on her phone.

PRE-RECORDED MESSAGE
Your message will go out as
"Stephen, I...Oh my God! Fuck
that's hot!.. Goodbye.

INT. WHALE BAR - NIGHT

Olivia sits at the counter with her jacket on. She hasn't ordered yet, but is nervously eating olives and bar mix very quickly. The bartender refills both bowls (from Costco sized containers) as she eats.

BARTENDER
You ready yet?

OLIVIA
I think just another moment.

Olivia stares into space. The bartender walks away and comes back about ten seconds later.

BARTENDER
We close in about ten minutes.

OLIVIA
It's 5:45.

BARTENDER
Again, we close in about ten minutes.

The bartender looks at her, she looks back for a few seconds not saying anything.

Olivia looks out the window and sees Stanley (the guest AA speaker). She immediately ducks down and squats under the bar so that he doesn't see her.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

After a few seconds, the bartender walks back over and stands across from where Olivia is crouching. She slowly gets up and faces the bartender.

OLIVIA
I'll have....a....Diet Coke.

BARTENDER
With?

Moment of silence.

OLIVIA
Ice.

The bartender brings over the Diet Coke and sets it down. Olivia finishes it without taking her mouth off the straw and walks out.

EXT. STEPHEN'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Olivia knocks on the door. No answer. She knocks again. No answer. She tries the door which is unlocked and walks into the house.

INT. STEPHEN'S HOUSE - NIGHT

A lamp is on in the front room. Olivia sets down her keys on the table.

OLIVIA
Stephen?

Olivia walks through the house slowly and finally into the bedroom.

A moment later she walks out, her face is pale and she rushes towards the door, grabbing her keys.

Stephen runs out after her, wearing pants but no shirt.

STEPHEN
Olivia, wait! Wait!

Stephen grabs her arm and turns her around. Olivia doesn't know what to say.

OLIVIA
Don't touch me! Do not touch me.

STEPHEN
It's not anything. It's not what you're thinking.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

OLIVIA

What is it? You said you were
grading papers.

STEPHEN

It just happened and it doesn't
mean...I really care about you.

OLIVIA

Oh fuck you!

STEPHEN

Please, we can talk about this.
Just give me a second.

OLIVIA

Talk about this? Who is that?

STEPHEN

You don't know her.

OLIVIA

And she's too much of a fucking
coward to come out here and show
her face.

STEPHEN

That's not going to make anything
better.

OLIVIA

Why did you do this? What is
wrong with me?! Don't answer
that!

STEPHEN

Nothing! I'm an idiot. I'm an
asshole. I just got nervous.

OLIVIA

You got nervous? That's what you
have to say?

KATHERINE comes out of the bedroom, clothed, walking
towards the door.

OLIVIA (CONT'D)

(shocked)

Katherine?

KATHERINE

Olivia, I'm so sorry, I didn't
know.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

OLIVIA

Katherine. Stephen, do you know
that she's 16? She's 16!

Silence.

OLIVIA (CONT'D)

Do you know that she's 16??

Silence. Olivia puts it together.

OLIVIA (CONT'D)

She's your student.

Stephen can't look at her. Katherine doesn't move.

OLIVIA (CONT'D)

Katherine, go home. Right now.

Katherine runs out the front door.

OLIVIA (CONT'D)

(to Stephen)
You're disgusting. You could go
to jail.

Olivia pushes him back.

OLIVIA (CONT'D)

You are not even remotely who I
thought you were.

She pushes him again.

OLIVIA (CONT'D)

Stay away from her. And stay away
from me. Or I will make this
incredibly public.

STEPHEN

Olivia, please.

Olivia heads towards the front door and trips over the
Stephen's helmet.

OLIVIA

And move your fucking helmet!
What 40 year old man
rollerblades?!

She walks out.

EXT. STREET, NIGHT

Olivia walks to her car.

INT. OLIVIA'S CAR

Olivia is in shock. She starts to drive down the street and sees Katherine walking. She pulls over to Katherine.

OLIVIA

Let me drive you home.

KATHERINE

Olivia I'm so sorry, I had no idea.

OLIVIA

I know, come on.

KATHERINE

Are you sure?

OLIVIA

It's better. Every second I'm with you I'm not intravenously injecting vodka into my arm.

Katherine gets in the car. They drive in silence, then -

KATHERINE

I really didn't know. You have to believe me.

OLIVIA

I know.

KATHERINE

I wouldn't have -

OLIVIA

I know Katherine, it's okay. Are you alright?

KATHERINE

Yes...please don't tell my parents.

OLIVIA

I won't....listen, I'm not going to yell at you. I'm not your mom and I don't exactly have the best moral compass in my pocket, but please stay away from him.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

OLIVIA (CONT'D)
 He shouldn't have gotten involved
 with you.

KATHERINE
 I can handle it myself. I'm an
 adult.

OLIVIA
 I know you can.

Olivia pulls up in front of her house.

OLIVIA (CONT'D)
 Don't forget your backpack.

Katherine grabs her backpack and gets out and walks next door to her home. Alone, Olivia stares into space.

Then suddenly, she gets out of the car and heads into the house.

INT. GEDDES KITCHEN - NIGHT

Everyone is asleep. Olivia pulls a bottle of wine out of the refrigerator and a wine glass, she pours herself a drink and immediately downs it.

CUT TO:

QUICK SHOTS:

- She grabs a bottle of Maker's Mark from the cabinet and another glass. She takes a shot. Then another.
- She pours herself another glass of wine and drinks it.
- She takes a shot and drinks wine at the same time.
- She leans against the counter.
- She pulls out her cell phone and dials, squinting at the keys.

OLIVIA
 (heavily slurring her
 speech)
 Listen Styphen...You come in here
 and you waggle your "blades" in my
 face! Who are you? You're a
 fucking nobody history face! You
 have a face for the history!
 (MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

OLIVIA (CONT'D)
 I throw up your kind for
 snacks...wait...what...you know
 what you are? -

Olivia drops the phone and picks it up.

OLIVIA (CONT'D)
 Are you still there? You would be
 you slut -

Olivia drops the phone again, she hasn't hung up, the message is still recording. She steadies herself on the counter and then throws up in the sink.

QUICK SHOTS:

- Olivia downs another drink.
- Olivia stumbles down the street.
- Olivia sits on the side of the road hiccuping.
- Olivia makes her way to Gabe's street.

EXT. GABE'S HOUSE - NIGHT, CONTINUOUS

Olivia loudly knocks on Gabe's door. She knocks until Gabe answers.

GABE
 (whispering)
 Did you walk here??

Olivia steps in and kisses Gabe.

GABE (CONT'D)
 Are you drunk?

Olivia kisses him again, he stops her.

GABE (CONT'D)
 You don't know how much I wish
 this could happen, but I can't do
 this.

OLIVIA
 Stop being a baby.

GABE
 What happened?

CONTINUED:

OLIVIA

What? I'm not allowed to come over?

Gabe leads Olivia to the kitchen and gets her a glass of water.

OLIVIA (CONT'D)

Why don't you want to kiss me?

GABE

I want to kiss you. You know that. But not like this.

Olivia wobbles.

GABE (CONT'D)

Are you going to be sick?

Olivia throws up on the floor.

GABE (CONT'D)

Okay. Let's just leave that there.

Gabe leads Olivia away from the throw up and to his room.

INT. GABE'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Gabe pulls the blanket over Olivia and gets up to go clean the kitchen.

OLIVIA

I'm sorry.

GABE

Stop saying you're sorry.

OLIVIA

Will you stay with me?

Gabe lies down on top of the covers next to Olivia.

INT. GABE'S ROOM - NEXT MORNING

It's raining outside. Gabe wakes up as Olivia quietly gathers her things and is about to leave.

GABE

How are you feeling?

OLIVIA

Really fantastic.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

GABE
What happened?

OLIVIA
He was with someone else.

Long pause. Then suddenly Gabe runs out of his room. Olivia runs after him and tries to stop him. He runs out the front door, she gets a hold of his jacket, but ends up pulling it off as he runs towards his car.

OLIVIA (CONT'D)
Gabe! No! You don't even know
where he is!

Gabe gets in his car and drives away. Olivia stands in the street.

INT. GEDDES KITCHEN - MORNING

Olivia walks in the kitchen to find her mom cleaning up the mess she made the night before. Sophie is drinking a Bloody Mary.

SOPHIE
Olivia, what happened here? I've
been cleaning all morning. You
threw up? Are you okay?

OLIVIA
Mom.

SOPHIE
Yes.

OLIVIA
Sit down.

SOPHIE
Okay.

Alex walks in the kitchen.

OLIVIA
I haven't been very honest with
you...Mom, I have a problem.

SOPHIE
Are you okay? What do you mean?

Sophie sloshes her drink on the counter.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

OLIVIA

Well...I mean, I have a problem
with drinking.

SOPHIE

(tears up)
I don't understand.

OLIVIA

No crying. This isn't about you.

SOPHIE

You just drop a bomb on me like
this and I'm supposed to behave
normally?

OLIVIA

You can't be that surprised. The
apple doesn't fall that far from
the tree.

A yelling match begins.

SOPHIE

Hey! I am still your Mom! You
can not talk to me like that.

OLIVIA

I can say whatever I want!

Alex steps between them.

ALEX

Hey, that's enough guys!

SOPHIE

What are you Alex? My mother? I
bet you knew about this! You two
are always in cahoots!

OLIVIA

I had to talk about it with
someone!

SOPHIE

I'm someone!

OLIVIA

When was I supposed to tell you?
Post wine, pre-Blood Mary?

ALEX

Olivia, stop it. This is not her
fault.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

Silence.

SOPHIE
Let's just calm down. What happened?

OLIVIA
I got fired...and I went to jail.

The yelling begins again.

SOPHIE
What?!

OLIVIA
I knew this would happen.

SOPHIE
Gosh darnit Olivia! You're smart enough to not be stupid!

OLIVIA
What does that even mean??

Sophie begins to tear and takes a sip of her drink.

OLIVIA (CONT'D)
Oh no. Mom, please don't cry.
I'm better.

SOPHIE
This is better?

Sophie takes another sip of her Bloody Mary and then realizes what she is doing.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)
I'm so sorry, that was incredibly insensitive.

Sophie takes another sip.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)
What happened Liv? You're single?
You lost your job? You got arrested?

OLIVIA
Funny that that's the order those came in. You would think job before being single.

OLIVIA (CONT'D)
I've been going to AA.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

SOPHIE
That's good.

Long pause.

OLIVIA
You might...think about coming
with me sometime?

SOPHIE
Excuse me? I'm not the one with
the problem! Alex? Back me up?

ALEX
It's not an awful idea.

SOPHIE
It's an awful idea! Are you
saying I'm an alcoholic?

Sophie and Olivia looks at the half empty drink she holds in her hand.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)
This is a breakfast cocktail! I'm
not the one throwing up in the
sink! You are ridiculous! This is
ridiculous! As if I would need
AA? I - you - I - you wouldn't!

She swings the drink around as she wildly gesticulates and spills the Blood Mary down her blouse. She starts to cry.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)
My favorite linen blouse!

She tries to wipe her blouse with a hand towel and drops the glass which shatters.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)
My favorite depression glassware!

Sophie runs out of the room crying and dabbing her blouse. Olivia is left with Alex, they start to pick up the broken glass.

ALEX
Olivia. I don't want to know.
But I will say this. Don't be a
fuck up - it's not cute.

Gus walks in the room.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

GUS
If you're a fuck up, then what am I?

Olivia and Alex laugh.

INT. EAST SOUND MARKET - NIGHT

Gabe walks down the aisles talking on his phone and putting items in his basket.

GABE
Charlotte, what else do we need...flour? Okay...and ketchup. Okay, I'll be back in ten minutes.

Gabe turns the corner on to the frozen food aisle and spots Stephen pushing a cart by himself. An old woman is also in the same aisle with a shopping cart. Gabe sets down the groceries he has on a shelf and walks towards Stephen.

GABE (CONT'D)
What are you doing here?

STEPHEN
It's a market Gabe, I'm buying food.

GABE
What is your problem man?

Stephen is surprised, he turns around.

STEPHEN
Oh god, she told you.

GABE
You better believe she did!

STEPHEN
Calm down Gabe. You are not involved in this.

GABE
Yes I am you bitch.

Gabe slaps Stephen in the face.

STEPHEN
What the hell was that?

Gabe slaps him again.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

STEPHEN (CONT'D)
Stop doing that man.

Gabe goes for a third slap and Stephen fights back. They break into what looks like a 3rd graders fight - scratching, a lot of kicking, hitting food off the shelves.

The old woman abandons her cart and runs down the aisle.

OLD WOMAN
Help! Oh no!

A MANAGER and a BAGGER run over.

MANAGER
Cut it out! Get out of the store!

The manager and the bagger try to break them up, they continue to fight for a minute and finally break a part from each other.

Gabe reaches into what he thinks is Stephen's shopping cart, it is the old woman's cart. He pulls out an orange juice and throws it on the ground - it explodes. The old woman yells at Gabe from the end of the aisle.

OLD WOMAN
That was my orange juice!

MANAGER
That's enough!

Gabe looks at Stephen. He picks up the remains of the ruined orange juice, walks over and hands it to the woman.

GABE
I'm sorry about your juice ma'am.

He turns to Stephen.

GABE (CONT'D)
You are such a fuck.

Gabe walks out.

INT. OLIVIA'S BATHROOM & BEDROOM - DAY

QUICK SHOTS

- Olivia takes a shower.
- Olivia puts on clean clothes and brushes her hair.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

- Olivia cleans her room.

INT. WEST SOUND CAFE - NIGHT

Olivia walks in the cafe and finds Gabe, he is the only one there. He has a cut on his cheek and a black eye. Olivia touches Gabe's face.

GABE

I found him in the market.

OLIVIA

You didn't have to do that.

GABE

I wanted to. You are avenged.

OLIVIA

I am.

GABE

How are you?

OLIVIA

I'm okay. I told my Mom. Now she knows it all.

GABE

How did that go?

OLIVIA

Not amazingly.

GABE

At least she cares.

Olivia nods her head.

OLIVIA

At least I can stand myself...
I'm sorry Gabe.

GABE

Stop saying you're sor-

OLIVIA

No, this time, I really mean
it...You're a good guy.

Gabe gets something from his bag. He hands Olivia a package wrapped in newspaper.

OLIVIA (CONT'D)

What is this?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Olivia unwraps the package. It's Gabe' illustrations to the book.

OLIVIA (CONT'D)
You finished the book.

Olivia turns through the pages.

GABE
I tried writing with my left hand.

Gabe kisses Olivia.

OLIVIA
I don't deserve you yet.

GABE
I'll be waiting.

INT. OLIVIA'S ROOM - NEXT DAY

Olivia sits at her computer, she leans back and reads what she has written so far.

OLIVIA
To be a good person, you have to do good things. Something most people learn as a child but something I just learned as an adult. Sobriety is a weird thing. At the beginning, it meant missing out on the party. As time went by, I realized I was just going to a different kind of party. One where I remembered what happened the next day. One where I spoke in full sentences. One where my neighbors didn't know what I looked like naked. When I finally accepted my disease, I was able to move forward. Arrested development refers to a halt in growth and advancement. An inability to move forward. I arrested my development a long time ago. Having lived by myself for seven years, I came home to live with my family for three months in an effort to recover from the impending doom of a bad alcohol habit.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

OLIVIA (CONT'D)
 When you're forced to reexamine
 yourself in the setting of your
 childhood home, it's easy (and was
 the case for me), to revert to
 adolescence...

She leans forward and keeps typing.

INT. COMMUNITY CENTER, NIGHT

Olivia sits in the very front row, Sophie and Alex sit next to her. The leader speaks at the front.

AA LEADER
 Do we have anyone in their first
 30 days of sobriety?

Olivia raises her hand.

OLIVIA
 Hi. I'm Olivia, I'm an alcoholic.

GROUP
 Hi Olivia!

OLIVIA
 Twenty three hours.

Sophie and everyone else clap.

INT. CORA'S RESTAURANT - NIGHT

Olivia, Gus, Sophie, Alex, Leelee sit at dinner. Leelee has a vodka & milk and a cigarette in a cigarette extender, Gus and Alex have beers, Sophie and Olivia drink Arnold Palmer's. The restaurant is more packed than usual, tonight there is a live band.

LEELEE
 So, who knew we had an alkie on
 our hands.

SOPHIE
 Mom!

LEELEE
 Oh please. Olivia, what do
 alcoholics call New Year's Eve?

OLIVIA
 What?

CONTINUED:

LEELEE
Amateur night.

Olivia laughs. She turns to Sophie while Alex, Gus and Leelee talk to each other.

OLIVIA
Listen, I know I've been a lot to
deal with and -

Sophie puts her hand under Olivia's chin.

SOPHIE
As have I, dear one.

OLIVIA
Am I a bad daughter?

SOPHIE
(laughing)
No.

OLIVIA
Well thank you for putting up with
me.

SOPHIE
I'm so happy you came home.

Sophie puts her hand on Olivia's cheek.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)
As a parting gift. I've let the
band know that you're going to
sing tonight.

Olivia laughs. She realizes Sophie is serious.

OLIVIA
I won't.

SOPHIE
You're hurting me.

OLIVIA
No I'm not.

SOPHIE
Fine, do whatever you want.

OLIVIA
You can't do this.

CONTINUED: (2)

SOPHIE

Why do you always do this to me?

OLIVIA

Oh my God. Really? I'm sorry but
I'm not going to sing. So just
drop it, okay?

CUT TO:

INT. CORA'S RESTAURANT - SAME

Olivia sits on the stage in front of a piano. She sings "Look What They've Done to My Song" (by Melanie Safka).

INT. CONVENTION OFFICE - NEXT DAY

Maggie gives Olivia a hug and walks down the hallway. She knocks on Jerry's door and walks in. Jerry sees it's her and comes around to the other side of the table.

JERRY

Welcome back. You look good.

OLIVIA

I'm really happy to see you. I
just -

JERRY

You don't have to thank me Olivia.

OLIVIA

I wasn't going to Jerry...I wrote
something. While I was there. A
lot of down time.

Olivia pulls an envelope out of her bag and hands it to Jerry.

JERRY

A look into your psyche?

OLIVIA

It was pretty weird in there.

JERRY

I look forward to reading this.
You should say hi to Charlie, he's
talked about you a lot in your
absence.

OLIVIA

I'll do that.

INT. AIRPLANE - NIGHT

CARD: ONE YEAR AND TWENTY THREE HOURS LATER

Olivia sits on the aisle, she is on her way back to Orcas.

STEWARDESS

Ladies and gentlemen, the Captain has turned off the Fasten Seat Belt sign, and you may now move around the cabin. However we always recommend to keep your seat belt fastened while you're seated. You may now turn on your electronic devices such as calculators, CD players and laptop computers.

The stewardess finishes her walk down the aisle and heads back the other direction towards the intercom.

STEWARDESS (CONT'D)

Excuse me. Someone is looking for a friend of Bill W., is there a friend of Bill on the plane?

Olivia looks up and then gets out of her chair and walks towards the stewardess.

END.