

THE ONE THAT GOT AWAY

Written by

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OVER BLACK:

A WOMAN dramatically clears her THROAT.

KELSEY (V.O.)
Shall we begin...?

EXT. SAN FRANCISCO APARTMENT - ROOFTOP - SUNSET

High above the BUSTLING of Market Street, a "FUNERAL" is underway. The bereaved - AMANDA HUTCHINS, 24 - sexy, zany, but today *mostly just heartbroken* - holds a PHOTO of her and her former boyfriend, GAVIN MATTHEWS (25, scruffy, effortlessly cool), backpacking in Barcelona.

KELSEY, 24, short, sporty, super confident, stands over a SHOEBOX, delivering a eulogy FOR A BREAK-UP.

What? Girls do this kind of shit. Don't judge.

KELSEY
Dearly beloved. We are gathered here to say our final goodbyes to the relationship of Amanda Hutchins and Gavin Matthews. Now Amanda - I've been informed you'd like to share a few parting words?

AMANDA
(sincerely, to photo)
Dear Gavin... we were supposed to be peas in a pod forever... But you took a job in Hong Kong and started dating asshole supermodels and putting your pea in their pods. So, have an awesome time with that. I hope you get chlamydia. And rue the day you fucking lost me-

KELSEY
--Thank you for that-

Kelsey REACHES for the PHOTO, Amanda DEATH GRIPS it.

AMANDA
I don't want to move on! Come back!

KELSEY
Amanda, let it go. Let it go.

AMANDA
Uh-uh! I'm not ready.

KELSEY

Put down the photo! Okay -
(pulls her into HEADLOCK)
I'm hugging you into submission.

AMANDA

Ow, my hair's caught in there! This is not a hug.

KELSEY

It's hard to see right now but one day you're gonna be with the man you're supposed to wind up with and you'll be so happy it never worked out with this guy. And you'll say, "Wow, Kelsey, you were right. I'd like to thank you with a gift certificate to Whole Foods because I never would've known love again if I hadn't let it go."

Amanda reluctantly GIVES UP the PHOTO. Kelsey frees her, putting the FINAL MEMENTO in the BOX and CLOSING IT.

KELSEY (CONT'D)

As we walk through the valley of the shadow of exes, I now pronounce you officially set free...

They release FOUR BLACK BALLOONS INTO THE AIR as Kelsey HUMS a triumphant, shaky rendition of "CAN'T HURRY LOVE," on her KAZOO. Amanda can't help but smile as the balloons float off. *Symbols of hope, of healing...*

They SNAG on a ledge. Amanda frowns, Kelsey stops MID-NOTE.

AMANDA

That's not a good sign, huh?

KELSEY

I wouldn't read into it...

POP! POP! POP! All but ONE wilt. POP!! Fuck me.

KELSEY (CONT'D)

That's not as good.

AMANDA

Yeah, I'm never recovering.

As we PRELAP the real version of "CAN'T HURRY LOVE," we...

SMASH CUT TO:

TITLE CARD - FOUR YEARS LATER...

EXT. VICTORIAN HOME - BACKYARD - NIGHT

Twinkling lights in the trees. A banner reads, "**Everything Gets Better With Time! Happy 85th Thora!**" A little BOY and GIRL mischievously pick at the cake; he PUSHES her, she CRIES and CHASES after him. *And thus, young love begins.*

A mix of FAMILY and spry 80-YEAR-OLDS dance.

The music switches to a raunchy RAP SONG. Everyone continues dancing, oblivious - CLAPPING, SNAPPING, TWIRLING.

SONG
POP! POP THAT PUSSY! POP POP THAT
PUSSY BABY!

Relatives stop dancing, look around, *confused*.

OLD LADY
What are they saying?

MOM (O.S.)
Ryan, change it back.

13-YEAR-OLD SON
Fine.

The 13-YEAR-OLD DJ begrudgingly changes the SONG.

Amanda WAITS in line AT THE GRILL, wistfully watching a HAPPY COUPLE. *But before you feel too sorry for her...*

BRAD HAYES, 30, boy-next-door cute in a cardigan - a John Krasinsky type - walks up with two drinks and WHISPERS:

BRAD
Excuse me, Miss, I received a report of an overcuteness in the area. I'm gonna have to take you in for questioning.

She TURNS, lighting up - very much recovered after all.

AMANDA
Uh-oh! Do you need to frisk me?

She wraps her arms around him in a KISS. Brad's husky, fun-loving COUSIN JIM (*think: Chris Pratt*) joins their HUG.

COUSIN JIM
Hey, make room for me.

AMANDA

Aw, that's right, every hug's an
awkward group hug with Jim.

COUSIN JIM

Keep her around, Brad. She gets me.

BRAD

I dunno, she might ditch me now
that she got a promotion.

COUSIN JIM

Look at big hot stepper!

He CLINKS her drink as his bad-ass Texan wife, NICKY, joins.

NICKY

Psycho Pants promoted you?
Congratulations! Are you officially
a decorator now?!

AMANDA

On a trial basis. I have to bring
in clients to make it official.
Psycho Pants could still take it
away.

NICKY

We'll keep our ears open for you.

AMANDA

(smiles at Brad)
Actually, we might be my first
unofficial project...

BRAD

She's moving in with me.

NICKY

You're moving into Brad's place? Oh
yeah, you have a lot of
redecorating in store.

BRAD

Hey, my apartment is a masterpiece.
It should be in Better Home and
Gardens. No changes necessary.

NICKY

Does he still use suitcases for
drawers?

AMANDA

I'm already on it.

They SIT DOWN to eat.

COUSIN JIM

Doesn't "living in sin" make it sound so illicit? Makes you think there's gonna be round the clock debaucheries and feasts. Like you're gonna have a speedboat named TittyHunter.

NICKY

Nope - no one thinks that.

COUSIN JIM

Sadly it just means less sex and more walking in on the other one plucking hairs you never knew about. Found that out the hard way.

NICKY

First of all - shut up. Second of all - we never "lived in sin." You had to put a ring on it first.

COUSIN JIM

Is that what we did wrong?

Nicky HITS him.

EXT. VICTORIAN HOME - BACKYARD - MINUTES LATER

Bee Gees' "To Love Somebody" starts up. GRANDMA THORA, the 85-year-old birthday girl, WAVES her arms excitedly on her way TO THE FLOOR. Not the best dancer but she's 85 - so be nice.

COUSIN JIM

Well, Amanda, you now know where the Hayes family gets their moves.
(calls out)
Get it, Grandma!

Nicky PULLS Jim to DANCE. Amanda LAUGHINGLY TUGS on Brad.

BRAD

No chance. Not happening.

AMANDA

Come on! You can't mess up slow dancing. It's the dance made for white people.

Amanda SHIMMIES her shoulders, CIRCLING him.

BRAD
Do your shoulders know that?

AMANDA
This is a signature move.

BRAD
(smiles, as she tugs him)
You're never going to win this
battle.

Amanda FAKE POUTS, dancing in depressed, SLOW-MOTION. UNCLE TED, 65, a Bostonian transplant, HOLDS out his HAND.

UNCLE TED
Can I have this dance?

AMANDA
Absolutely.

She gives Brad a teasingly pointed look as Ted TWIRLS her.

UNCLE TED
Careful Brad, when you got the most
beautiful woman in the room, you
better dance with her... or she
just might get whisked away by a
handsome stranger.

AMANDA
Don't say you weren't warned!

BRAD
Okay, hands at ten and two, Uncle
Ted. Let's leave some room for the
Holy Spirit.

Amanda and Brad never stop smiling at each other.

AMANDA AND BRAD
(mouthing the chorus)
To love somebody... The way I love
you.

Uncle Ted DRAMATICALLY DIPS Amanda and she LAUGHS.

EXT. EMBARCADERO - NIGHT

Amanda and Brad WALK home along the boardwalk, HOLDING HANDS.

BRAD

So the weekend I get back from New York, we're doing the big annual camping trip at Angel Island. I was thinking we could go up a night early, take the dinner cruise over.

AMANDA

Aw, I'd love to but there's no way. We're moving my stuff all day. It's gonna be too hectic.

BRAD

Come on, we could be done by then.

AMANDA

Have you seen how much stuff I have?

BRAD

Have you seen how many muscles I have?

AMANDA

Shoot, it's gonna take even longer.

BRAD

I already made the reservation.

She stops, playfully turns towards him.

AMANDA

You made a reservation? Since when do you make reservations?

He keeps WALKING. She FOLLOWS, incredulous.

AMANDA (CONT'D)

You actually called the dinner cruise? On the phone? Ahead of time?

BRAD

Babe, I'm pretty smart.

AMANDA

Did you know you can also *change reservations*?

BRAD

Okay, forgive me for trying to have togetherness time! I'll just reheat leftovers in my pajamas.

(MORE)

BRAD (CONT'D)
Might as well get used to what it's
gonna be like.

AMANDA
You're so *dramatic*.
(flirts)
The sweatpants with the holes?

BRAD
Yup.

AMANDA
I like those. I can poke you
through them.

BRAD
Nope. There'll be no poking.
There'll be a moratorium on pokes.

AMANDA
(pokes him)
Poke!

BRAD
(catches her finger)
--Nope.

AMANDA
Why is it such a big deal we go
that *Friday of all the thousands of*
Fridays we've never-
(looks at her finger,
suddenly)
--Actually, I can do Friday.

INT. AMANDA'S APARTMENT - KELSEY'S ROOM - DAY

Amanda KARATE CHOPS open the DOOR. Kelsey is PACKING.

AMANDA
I'm getting motherfuckin' married!!

KELSEY
--Jesus!! Don't just run into rooms
screaming at people. I could
hacksaw you in two.

AMANDA
Brad's proposing in two weeks!

KELSEY
He future proposed? Hey, future
congratulations!

AMANDA

He asked me to go on a sunset dinner cruise, which is where we first said "I love you."

KELSEY

You mean the first time you said it when you *weren't drunk and mid-orgasm?* Just so I'm clear.

AMANDA

I tell you too much. So, we've never been back and last night he starts insisting we go the day I move in. He's putting a downpayment on the cow!

Kelsey CARRIES a box INTO THE LIVING ROOM.

KELSEY

Not to bring you down with *rational* thoughts - but have you considered perhaps he feels like taking a sunset dinner cruise for the sunset and dinner and light cruising?

AMANDA

I have no time for rational, I'm a woman.

KELSEY

Oh look, you dropped something. Oh, no, don't worry, it was just feminism. What were you saying?

AMANDA

Remember when Darren asked Evette to go hot air-ballooning and she was instantly onto him because - who randomly hot air balloons? No one. Unless you have a Groupon or you're proposing... or you're Gulliver.

KELSEY

I'm not sure that's accurate. They used to be my main mode of transportation.

Kelsey SETS down the BOX, MARKS it "BEDROOM SHIZ." Amanda mindlessly ADJUSTS a VASE. Kelsey TAKES the VASE, *amused*.

KELSEY (CONT'D)

Stop redecorating - we're moving!

AMANDA

(smiles, continuing)

Once a guy knows he's gonna propose, *it's suddenly all he can think about*. But he doesn't want to give it away before it's time so he starts distancing himself - ala a *business trip* - and at first you get worried - why's he acting like a weirdo, has our relationship hit a downward spiral, do I need to work out more, but then they insist on taking you on this really out-of-the-ordinary thing, and suddenly you realize:

(snaps, points at Kelsey)

"It's go time, bitch."

KELSEY

How many guys have proposed to you?

AMANDA

I love engagement stories. I track the common clues.

KELSEY

So what about the girlfriend who thinks every fancy date might end in a proposal and when it doesn't, she begins harboring resentment towards her clueless partner until it starts culminating in passive aggressive acts, ultimately unhinging the entire relationship? And then she buys two cats. So one doesn't get lonely.

AMANDA

Holy shit - *you're in on it.*

KELSEY

What?

AMANDA

You're being way too doubtful - even for you.

KELSEY

I am not. This is a normal level for me.

AMANDA

Look at me!

Kelsey rushes INTO THE KITCHEN with flattened BOXES.

KELSEY

Stop yelling at me, you're scary. I
have to... make boxes privately.

(*laughs as Amanda follows*)
Don't follow! Safe zone!

EXT. STREET - MORNING

Amanda WALKS, carrying a WORK SATCHEL, a BOUNCE in her STEP.

She secretly thinks she's the STAR of her own music video.
She SPINS once for good measure and WALKS up to...

INT. UCHI RESTAURANT - MOMENTS LATER

WORKERS scurry around finishing RENOVATIONS. Spiky modernist
Morning Star-like SCONCES hang from the ceiling.

Interior designer, "Crazy Pants," GRACE SUNDELL, 40, thin,
sharply dressed, can charm you, reduce you to tears and charm
you all over again, PACES unhappily with the CONTRACTOR.

GRACE

You fucked the Feng Shui.

CONTRACTOR

I didn't fuck the Feng Shui.

GRACE

You shit porcupines all over the
ceiling. The Feng Shui's smoking a
cigarette in the corner right now.

Amanda walks in, greets the mousey new ASSISTANT standing by.

AMANDA

(whispers)
Morning. How's your first day
going?

ASSISTANT

Great! I'm learning so much!

Amanda gives her a knowing look.

ASSISTANT (CONT'D)

(whispers)
She terrifies me.

AMANDA

She's tough but if you stick it out, she'll promote you like she did with me.

GRACE

Amanda, thank goodness you're here. Could you help Pedro-

CONTRACTOR

--Chris.

GRACE

Excuse me, *Pedro Chris* in taking some of these sconces down before I have a melt down?

CONTRACTOR

(mumbles, walks off)

That wasn't the melt down?

AMANDA

(politely)

I have a couple leads I'm supposed to follow up on so I can start getting new clients. Is there any way you can have your new assistant-

GRACE

You can find new clients after. A client we currently have is going to be here in two hours and think he walked into Fifty Fucking Shades of Grey.

Amanda PAUSES, then NODS. This is a slippery slope of sacrifice *but what can she do?*

AMANDA

Sure, I'll start working on it right now.

EXT. HYDE STREET - DAY

Amanda pushes a mortifyingly squeaky SHOPPING CART, the sconces carefully wrapped inside. She TALKS on her CELL.

AMANDA

Hi, this is Amanda Hutchins from Sundell Design Firm. We discussed my sending over some sample presentations for your bedroom renovations.

(MORE)

AMANDA (CONT'D)

(beat)

Right, I know I was supposed to touch base a couple hours ago but-

(beat)

--Oh, you already found someone-

(beat)

Okay, no, well if you have anything in the future.

Amanda HANGS UP, disappointed. The BRAKE goes off on the CART. She has to FORCE the WHEELS to keep MOVING.

Push. Thunk. Stop. Push. Thunk. Stop.

A HOMELESS MAN in a Raiders jersey SLIDES past with his cart.

HOMELESS MAN

You gotta get your carts from Smart & Final. They don't have brakes.

AMANDA

Thank-

(realizes he has no pants)

Oh. Kay. No pants.

She KA-THUNKS past a CUTE MAN, 30, as he and a MOVER pull a new plasma screen out of a truck. *They share a brief glance.* He looks like Gavin Matthews (who we saw in the Barcelona photo) with shorter hair...

She keeps going as the realization settles in...

IT IS GAVIN MATTHEWS.

Oh fuck, oh fuck. *Here? Now? With a shopping cart?*

GAVIN

Amanda?

She stops, SLOWLY TURNS around. Plasters on a SMILE.

AMANDA

Gavin?! Hi!

He SHAKES his head in disbelief, SETS down the tv.

GAVIN

Hey!

AMANDA

Ohmygod! So do you!

(realizes)

I mean...

GAVIN

That's okay. How have you been...
since 2008?

AMANDA

Nothing -- Sorry. Ahhhh!
(recovering)
I'm good. Sorry, I'm just -- what
are you doing in town?

The Mover STARES at her, bored, unblinking.

GAVIN

We just sold Green Synergy to
Google.

AMANDA

You sold your company to Google?!
Wow, so, you're doing terrible.

GAVIN

(laughs)
Yeah. Life is tough.
(nods towards a townhouse)
So, I just bought this place.

AMANDA

You're moving back? I thought you
loved Hong Kong.

GAVIN

I do, I guess there's certain
things you just start to miss about
home... *I was wondering if I might*
run into you sometime... Are you
still working for Grace?

AMANDA

Me? Oh, no, no. I mean, I am but
I'm a designer now. I was promoted!

GAVIN

That's great. Is business good?

AMANDA

It's great! A dream! I'm still
working on getting clients but I
have some leads.

GAVIN

(less impressed)
Ah, well, good for you.

...Was that pity?

AMANDA
And I'm engaged!

Gavin LOOKS at her ring-less FINGER.

AMANDA (CONT'D)
Almost engaged. He's a billionaire.

GAVIN
(disbelieving)
A billionaire, really?

AMANDA
Or a zillionaire. I don't know how
many zeros there are.

Amanda DIES inside, did not mean to say that. The Mover SMIRKS, then quickly LOOKS AWAY.

AMANDA (CONT'D)
Okay, well, crazy to see you.

He NODS, as cool as ever.

GAVIN
It was good to see you, Amanda.

They HOVER AWKWARDLY a moment, unsure whether to hug. She puts up a HI-FIVE and then HURRIES OFF with her BROKEN CART.

Push. Thunk. Stop. Push. Thunk. Stop.

AMANDA
(cringes to herself)
I don't know how many zeros there are??

Once around the CORNER, she stops, LOOKS down at her HANDS. They're TREMBLING. Her heart is RACING.

INT. VINTAGE FURNITURE STORE - DAY

Kelsey and Amanda SHOP for a chest of drawers. Amanda CHECKS the price tag on an OAK DRESSER.

AMANDA
What do you think of this one?

KELSEY
Brad uses his suitcase as a closet.
Anything's an improvement.
(then)
So, has he aged well?

AMANDA

Gavin? It's only been four years.
He looks... *like Gavin...*
(begrudging)
Great.

KELSEY

Asshole.

AMANDA

I know, the nerve of that guy... I
can't believe he actually bought a
place... Laying down roots, that's
huge for him.

KELSEY

Yeah, although maybe when you have
a lot of money, it's not as big a
deal.

Amanda MOVES to another dresser.

AMANDA

(nonchalant)

Don't you think it's kind of weird
timing?

KELSEY

What do you mean?

AMANDA

I dunno, it just took years to get
over him and now when I'm finally
happy and taking the next step with
someone-

KELSEY

Please, exes have a radar for that
shit. They never come back when
you're in the middle of a dry
spell. Otherwise, I'd be swimming
in ex-boyfriends. They wait until
your life's just starting to go
well and then they *swoop back in*
and fuck it up.

(nods to eavesdropping OLD
WOMAN)

You know about the swooping.

The Old Woman looks startled. Amanda MOVES away for PRIVACY.

AMANDA

Well, Gavin's not gonna swoop. And even if he did swoop, which he won't, he couldn't fuck anything up. That ship has sailed.

INT. AMANDA'S APARTMENT - BEDROOM - EVENING

Amanda RACES in from work. She THROWS down her KEYS, weaves around half-packed BOXES to CHANGE into a dress and earrings.

She can't help herself - she GOES into her closet, SPIDERMANS her way up the WALL to the top shelf to PULL DOWN... the Gavin shoebox. She stares at it, unsure what to do with it.

Finally, she DROPS it ceremoniously in the trash. Good riddance. She SLIPS into heels, GOES to leave - oh fuck, one peek can't hurt.

She hardens herself, TAKES the lid off the dusty BOX and STARES inside. Three years of memories stare back.

Suddenly - she sees a SPIDER has crawled onto her hand. She SCREAMS and DANCES AROUND IN TERROR.

AMANDA

Oh-MyGod! Oh-MyGod!

The spider SCURRIES under the BED. She BENDS down to GATHER the scattered CONTENTS and picks up a NECKLACE...

INT. AMANDA'S APARTMENT - BEDROOM - FLASHBACK

Gavin, 25, SITS in bed next to Amanda, 23, FIXING the broken clasp of the same NECKLACE. He brushes her hair to one side, puts the necklace on her. She SMILES at his TOUCH.

AMANDA

You fixed it.

She turns and KISSES him. Wraps herself around him, wanting him to stay. She's cute - but there's a tinge of desperation.

AMANDA (CONT'D)

I miss you.

GAVIN

I'm right here.

AMANDA

I know but you're leaving. I miss you in the future.

GAVIN
 (laughs at her)
 I'm gonna be late.

He PULLS her off him and GETS out of BED.

BACK TO PRESENT

INT. AMANDA'S APARTMENT - BEDROOM - EVENING

Amanda SITS down cross-legged, *might as well get comfortable.*

She sorts through MEMENTOS - stoic - like an archeologist observing the artifacts of a time gone by: *the Barcelona backpacking picture, tailgating at Cal, skiing in Tahoe...*

She sees a BIRTHDAY CARD, glances at what she's WRITTEN.

AMANDA
 (reads, cringing)
 "One pod, two peas, three years,
 four ever."
 (laughs at herself)
 So mortifying.

She unfolds a NAPKIN - Hog Island Oyster House. She INHALES SHARPLY, her smile vanishing. *This one hurts.*

INT. HOG ISLAND OYSTER HOUSE - SUNSET - FLASHBACK

A BUSTLING Happy Hour spot on the Marina. A COCKTAIL WAITRESS sets down NAPKINS and BEERS in front of Amanda and Gavin.

AMANDA
 (mischievous)
*What do you wanna do for your
 birthday?*

GAVIN
*In a month? I don't know. Don't
 plan anything. It's too far in
 advance.*

AMANDA
It's not that far.

GAVIN
You don't need to plan anything.

AMANDA
*I'm not doing a surprise party.
It'll be fun, I promise!
 (MORE)*

AMANDA (CONT'D)
(sees Gavin's not amused)
...What's wrong?

He TWISTS his BEER, debating if this is the right moment.

GAVIN
They asked me to run the Hong Kong
office.

AMANDA
Whoa - what'd you tell them?

GAVIN
It's a great opportunity. I mean...
(shrugs)
When else am I going to have the
freedom to up and live in another
country?

She NODS, smooths and re-smooths the cocktail NAPKIN, like
her life depends on removing that crease.

AMANDA
(swallows hard, weakly)
Yeah. I mean, we always talk about
how life is meant for traveling and
new experiences...
(trying so much to be
strong)
Are we breaking up?

Pain PINCHES her face, tears SPILL down, veneer CRUMBLING.

GAVIN
No, no.

He REACHES for her hand. A RUNNER drops off the Oysters.

RUNNER
There you go. One order of "Get The
Schuck Out."

Amanda composes herself, SMILES politely.

GAVIN
We don't have to have this
conversation right now.

AMANDA
Well, would we do long distance?

GAVIN
(softly)
I dunno. It'd be tough.
(MORE)

GAVIN (CONT'D)
I understand if you think it's, ya
know...

AMANDA
(swallows hard)
I mean, no, I wanna make it work...
Do you want me to move there?

GAVIN
Well, you've got your job. I
wouldn't want to ask you to move to
another country.

AMANDA
(shrugs dismissively)
Well, an assistant...

GAVIN
Right, I mean, you could come....

He doesn't mean it and she suddenly realizes it.

AMANDA
No. I should probably...

She TURNS her face, can't stop the TEARS now. Their oyster
plate sits there untouched. The Waitress COMES over.

COCKTAIL WAITRESS
Is there anything else I can get
you guys? Happy Hour is ending.

The Waitress suddenly notices Amanda SOBBING - backs away.

BACK TO PRESENT

INT. AMANDA'S APARTMENT - BEDROOM - EVENING

The last memory is enough to SOBER Amanda up for good.

A TEXT buzzes on her CELL from Brad: "Hey baby, we just got
to Elbo Room. You close?"

She suddenly feels SICK with herself for allowing this *trip*
down memory lane. She LUMPS everything back into the BOX,
CLOSES the LID and leaves it in the trash. She walks out.

EXT. ELBO ROOM - NIGHT

A bar where hipster meets prepster. With a sprinkle of what-the-fuckster's-up-with-that-guy?

INT. ELBO ROOM - NIGHT

A band PLAYS. Amanda MOVES through the crowd. She PUSHES up to the BAR.

AMANDA

Can I get a pitcher?
(as an afterthought)
And four shots of Patron! Leave the tab open.

MOMENTS LATER, Amanda carries the DRINKS to Brad, Cousin Jim and Nicky. Jim is RUBBING his JAW, mid-story.

COUSIN JIM

My jaw was hurting. I think I had TMZ.

BRAD

(laughs, playing along)
Don't think you mean that.

COUSIN JIM

Yeah, TMZ. I had it for awhile and then I chilled the fuck out and was fine.

Amanda SETS down the DRINKS and they CHEER.

NICKY

Oh, it's gonna be that kind of Monday night, alright.

Amanda SLIDES in beside Brad, kisses him, HOLDS up her SHOT.

AMANDA

Here's to sending you off on your business trip with a hangover to remember us by...

Everyone CLINKS glasses and DOWNS their drinks.

COUSIN JIM

(grunts, flexes his muscles)

Oh, yeah Facebook that, bitches.
(different pose)
Instagram this!

Brad LAUGHS. Amanda laughs - one beat off. She's still slightly RATTLED but *she's trying hard not to be*.

MEG, 29, pretty, an old-time friend of Brad's, comes up, wraps Brad in a HUG. She clearly holds a torch for him but Amanda seems more amused than threatened.

MEG
Brad?! Hiiiiii!

BRAD
Mego my Eggo! Ain't to proud to
Meg! What are you doing here?

MEG
I represent the band!

COUSIN JIM
We seeing you camping next weekend?

MEG
Of course. Never miss it.
(still hugging Brad,
whispers, annoyed re:)
*Ohmygosh, Guy-in-Red-Shirt-behind-
me won't leave me alone...*

Everyone casually GLANCES at the clueless average-looking GUY HOVERING nearby.

BRAD
Here, sit with us. Have my seat.
(stands up)
I have to use the bathroom.

COUSIN JIM
(also standing)
Crap, now I can't go.

AMANDA
Why not?

COUSIN JIM
It's weird.

NICKY
Just go to the bathroom, you big
dumb animal.

BRAD
Come on, we'll talk about boys and
whose outfits we hate.

The guys LEAVE. Meg SITS with the girls.

MEG

(hand to her heart)

I have to say, Brad is such a good guy! I've known him since elementary school. He's literally one of my favorite people on the planet.

NICKY

I'd drop Jim for him.

AMANDA

Do I need to fight you guys? Is this happening right now?

MEG

I'm not saying he's not lucky to have you because I don't know you as well, but you're lucky to have him.

NICKY

Well, Amanda and Brad are perfect for each other. I've never seen two people make so many nerdy puns.

AMANDA

He does think I have "*nice puns.*"

Nicky LAUGHS.

NICKY

Nice one!

Meg doesn't get it.

MEG

He's just one of those good-to-the-core guys you can't find, anymore.

AMANDA

(sincerely)

Yeah. He's pretty great.

Amanda LOOKS across the bar at him, smiles.

NICKY

And he's hot.

AMANDA

(points at Nicky)

Hey, cool your jets.

EXT. ELBO ROOM - NIGHT

It's RAINING. Nicky, Jim, Amanda and Brad bid hasty GOODBYES.

Amanda can't take her eyes off Brad, pulls him coyly towards a cab. Jealousy is always a nice aphrodisiac.

INT. CAB - CONTINUOUS

Amanda and Brad drunkenly SCOOT in.

BRAD
Bush and Van Ness.

Spin Doctors's "Two Princes" is playing. They CHEER.

BRAD (CONT'D)
Can you turn it up please, good
sir?

Brad starts SINGING along, missing most of the WORDS but having the drunk time of his life. Amanda can't help but JOIN in to his CONTAGIOUS RENDITION.

AMANDA AND BRAD
...This one got a princely racquet,
that's what I said now! Got some
big seal upon his jacket! You marry
him, your father will condone you.
Marry me, your father will disown
you.

BRAD
Marry him or marry me, I'm the one
who loves you baby, can't you see!

The irony of those LYRICS aren't lost on Amanda. She beams, watching him - this is her guy. Brad gives the fist-microphone to the INDIAN CABBIE and to their shock and delight, he SINGS every line spot on.

INDIAN CABBIE
I ain't got no future or family
tree! I know what a prince and
lover oughtta be. I know what a
prince and lover oughtta be.

Amanda passionately PUSHES Brad against the SEAT, kissing him. And as we hit the CHORUS, we...

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. BRAD'S APARTMENT - BEDROOM - NIGHT

A typical messy guy apartment. Amanda and Brad BURST in, TEARING clothes off, CRASHING onto the bed.

AMANDA
Boots! Boots!

She puts her LEGS up as he PULLS off her BOOTS, pushes books, laundry to the floor. *Something's still under her - she rolls over,* LAUGHS as he finds a SQUASHED BANANA, throws that, too.

And they make *glorious PG-13 Rated love.*

INT. BRAD'S APARTMENT - BEDROOM - MORNING

SFX: an iPhone Alarm buzzes... Brad and Amanda WAKE.

BRAD
I don't see any reason I should get out of this bed. Not one reason.

He DRAPES his leg on her BACK. She giggles sleepily.

AMANDA
Forget your tech conference. Let's go to Paris and eat croissants.

BRAD
(calls out)
Pierre, fire up the jets!

A bit they play.

AMANDA
(calls out)
Pierre! The jets!
(softly)
I hope he heard us.

BRAD
Just as well, you have to work on finding clients.

Amanda GROANS, not excited. Brad DRINKS a glass of water, passes it to Amanda who FINISHES it. She puts it on her side of the NIGHT STAND, looks at a "SEE-NO-EVIL" MONKEY KNICKKNACK, picks it up.

AMANDA
Where's this guy's friends? The hear-no-evil and speak-no-evil guys?

BRAD
(jokes)
Never heard of 'em.

AMANDA
Where'd you get it?

BRAD
He just appeared one day. He seemed
like he had an important message so
I kept him.

AMANDA
I hate to break it to you but some
of these prized possessions may
need to go before I move in. It may
be this bad boy's time.

BRAD
No way! I don't want to suddenly
start seeing evil. That could be
disaster!

AMANDA
I'm sorry but there's just not room
in this apartment for the both of
us. You have to choose.

BRAD
Don't put monkey in the middle!

She LAUGHS. He holds her closer.

BRAD (CONT'D)
I'm gonna miss you this week.

AMANDA
(lovingly)
It's nice to have someone miss you.

BRAD
It's nice to have you!

She LOOKS at him seriously.

AMANDA
I feel lucky I wound up with you.
(beat, grins impishly)
But the monkey's gone!

She GRABS the monkey, DASHES out of bed. Brad gives chase.

BRAD
No way!

AMANDA
(giggling and squealing
hysterically)
No! No! No!

He tosses her BACK ONTO THE BED.

AMANDA (CONT'D)
Make a run for it, little one! Be
free!

INT. SUNDELL DESIGN FIRM - MORNING

Amanda ARRIVES at her office - a boutique decorating agency - photos of past projects line the wall. She sees Grace YELLING from her office to the Assistant at her desk.

GRACE (O.S.)
Get Tom back on the phone. I lost
him. Now. Now! What is taking so
long?!

The Assistant accidentally PRESSES Intercom. BEEP. BEEP.

ASSISTANT
(shaky voice)
Hi Tom, I have Grace for you again.

GRACE (O.S.)
(into phone)
Sorry about that, darling...
(calls out to Assistant)
Need a coffee.
(into phone)
This is Grace Sundell, who's this?
Oh, what a pleasant surprise, my
assistant dialed the wrong Tom...

The Assistant's eyes grow big, about to have a nervous breakdown, as she starts scouring the computer contacts.

AMANDA
I think you might've just called
her ex-husband.

GRACE (O.S.)
No, I promoted Amanda to
designer... Yeah, *she was supposed*
to train her replacement.
(pause)
I wouldn't want to work for you
either, asshole.

AMANDA
You definitely called her ex-husband.

Grace HANGS UP.

GRACE (O.S.)
Amanda?

Amanda timidly walks INTO GRACE'S OFFICE.

AMANDA
Good morning, Grace.

GRACE
Where are you on bringing in clients?

AMANDA
(rubs her neck, preparing her lie)
I have some leads I've been sniffing out-

GRACE
Okay, clearly, sniffing around is not getting you anywhere because you have no clients.

AMANDA
(treading carefully)
Well, I'm trying to, but I've just missed out on a few opportunities-

GRACE
So, don't miss out on them!

AMANDA
Well, no, I don't want to miss out on them. It's just been a little difficult to juggle still doing some *assistant work*.

GRACE
Look, you and I are a team. We're a success if you're a success.
(then)
But if you're a failure, that's just you and you'll wind up back on that desk. So don't fail.
(to Assistant)
Where's Tom?!!

Amanda nods, walks out.

RECEPTION AREA

She passes the Assistant, hears her office phone RINGING.

AMANDA
(to Assistant)
Is that my phone?

ASSISTANT
Oh sorry, I just transferred it! I
think it's a client returning your
call?

Amanda RUNS.

AMANDA
Shit...!

INT. SUNDELL DESIGN FIRM - AMANDA'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

Amanda FLINGS SHUT the door, takes a moment, CLEARS her throat and ANSWERS in her most professional voice.

AMANDA
Amanda Hutchins speaking.

MAN (ON PHONE)
Very professional. I like it.
You're hired.

AMANDA
Who is this?

GAVIN (ON PHONE)
Gavin.

The WORLD starts to tilt in on itself. She SITS DOWN.

GAVIN (ON PHONE) (CONT'D)
Sorry to call your office.
(pause)
This might be weird but I was
thinking... I don't know any
decorators and you don't have any
clients. Why don't you decorate my
place? It could be mutually
beneficial.

Amanda COVERS her mouth, stunned - the gull of this guy.

AMANDA
(muffled)
Oh, wow. Umm. Ooh.

Gavin LAUGHS, *always in perfect control.*

GAVIN
Sorry, was there an answer in
there?

AMANDA
I dunno - I just - I dunno.

GAVIN (ON PHONE)
Hey, if it's too weird, I get it.

Amanda BLOWS out her lips in a WEIRD GUNSHOT NOISE, *still unable to form a sentence.*

GAVIN (CONT'D)
I was going to start furnishing
this week and I'd love to get
someone's help before I start
mixing my neoclassics with my post-
colonials.

Amanda looks across the hall at Grace IN HER OFFICE.

AMANDA
(thinking... thinking...)
No, I'll do it.

GAVIN
Great. Wanna come by tomorrow at
ten?

AMANDA
Ten it is.

Amanda HANGS UP. She LOOKS at the PICTURE of Brad beside her computer, puts her head in her hands.

AMANDA (CONT'D)
(to herself)
Oh God.

INT. AMANDA'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Amanda SITS on the couch, quasi-watching a decorating show on HGTV, still SHELL-SHOCKED.

DESIGNER (ON TV)
*The key to design is knowing when
to Feng Shui out the old, and when
it can be just what you were
looking for!*

The Designer unveils a refurbished French sofa to the GASPING DELIGHT of a client.

Kelsey WALKS IN, wearing an INTERVIEW OUTFIT.

AMANDA
You look nice. Interview?

KELSEY
Some bottom of the barrel, soul sucking data inputter shit.
(flops down beside her)
Shockingly, they didn't hire me.

AMANDA
Have you tried seeing if you can get your old marketing job back?

Kelsey DIGS into CHEX-MIX, puts her FEET UP.

KELSEY
Apparently, you call your boss the worst person on Earth ONCE and they never forgive you. Whatever happened to constructive criticism?

AMANDA
So, I have some news... I got my first client request today.

KELSEY
You got a client?! You slut!

Kelsey dances her way INTO THE KITCHEN --

KELSEY (CONT'D)
We have an excuse to drink during the day!

AMANDA
So, you know how work can sometimes affect your personal relationships?

KELSEY
(searching cabinet)
Did we pack the glassware already?

Kelsey shrugs, not picky - pours WINE in a MEASURING CUP.

KELSEY (CONT'D)
(answers Amanda)
You mean like when I needed money and took a job as a dancing banana and people stopped being my friend?

AMANDA

Gavin wants me to decorate his townhouse. Don't judge.

Kelsey HOLDS the bottle in mid-air - FROZEN.

KELSEY

Fuck-Face Flakey-McGee, Guy-You-Told-Me-Yesterday-Wouldn't-Swoop, Gavin?

Amanda crosses to SIT at the BAR STOOL.

AMANDA

I think we're speaking of the same one, yes.

KELSEY

Okay, that's called swooping!!! Tell me you didn't say yes. No judgment. I mean, are you fucking crazy?!? Still no judgment.

AMANDA

Look, it doesn't have to be that big a deal. I'm out of a job if I don't bring in clients. Gavin's a client. End of story. I'll be done before Brad's even back.

KELSEY

Oh you're right, totally not a big deal. Gavin's just the guy that ripped your heart out like he's the Temple of fucking Doom. The reason why to this day, you refuse to purchase *anything* Made in China.

AMANDA

That's not true, I just like to buy domestic. We need to bring jobs back to America.

(off Kelsey's look)

Okay, I know it's not an ideal situation but I don't have any other options. And it's not like I'd get back with him. I love Brad. And honestly, I still feel a lot of anger towards Gavin. Part of me wouldn't mind punching him repeatedly in the face.

KELSEY

I'll allow this.

AMANDA

But - it's because I never fully understood what happened. Maybe at some point we could finally have an honest conversation about it, ya know, find closure. Anyway, I already accepted the job so...

KELSEY

You could still punch him.

AMANDA

I'll keep that in mind.

Kelsey sips from the measuring cup. It spills down her face.

KELSEY

(nods)

That was better in theory.

EXT. GAVIN'S TOWNHOUSE - MORNING

Amanda comes up to the brownstone and BUZZES. She straightens her skirt, waits nervously.

GAVIN (O.C.)

Hello?

AMANDA

It's me.

(then)

Amanda?

(silence)

Hutchins?

(silence)

We dated for three years??

GAVIN

(laughs)

The buzzer wasn't working.

The door BUZZES open and she HEADS upstairs, frustrated.

INT. GAVIN'S TOWNHOUSE - MORNING

Gavin OPENS the door for Amanda, BUTTONING his shirt.

GAVIN

Sorry, I just got outta the shower.

AMANDA
(under breath)
Of course you did.
(then)
That's a great view.
(off his grin)
I meant the window.

He has ridiculous abs, in case you couldn't guess. She purposefully walks past him towards the Bay Window. There's a BREATH-TAKING VIEW of Pac Heights and The Golden Gate Bridge.

She SIZES UP the place. It's UNFURNISHED, spare a few BOXES.

AMANDA (CONT'D)
Well, there's a lot we can do to
maximize the light and spacing and
flow here. Like, I wouldn't put
anything in this area, just keep it
open, so the first thing people see
when they walk in, isn't a piece of
furniture, it's the ocean. That's
what you paid for. That's what your
centerpiece should be.

GAVIN
Yeah.

AMANDA
Do you have any particular color
schemes in mind? Or motifs? I could
see modern.

GAVIN
Amanda?

AMANDA
Maybe nautical. Yeah?

GAVIN
Hi.

AMANDA
Hello.

GAVIN
How are you?

AMANDA
Good. You?

GAVIN
I can't believe you're here right
now.

Amanda nods, rigidly, moves on.

AMANDA

I might just take a few
measurements.

INT. GAVIN'S TOWNHOUSE - BEDROOM - MINUTES LATER

Amanda REACHES over the INFLATABLE MATTRESS to MEASURE from the wall. Gavin can't help but notice her bent over.

AMANDA

I can't believe you bought a flat
screen before you bought a bed.

GAVIN

I had the cable and internet set up
before I had flooring. A guy's
gotta have priorities, right?

AMANDA

And you didn't want to have any of
your things shipped from Hong Kong?

Gavin is so caught up STARING at AMANDA'S BUTT, he doesn't notice she's now SCOWLING AT HIM. No chance, buddy.

She STANDS, SNAPS back the measuring tape, WALKS off.

EXT. TOWNHOUSE - MORNING

Gavin walks Amanda down the stairs.

AMANDA

Why don't I put together a
presentation to give you a sense of
a few different looks?

GAVIN

Sounds great.

AMANDA

And we should talk about what
you're looking to spend.

GAVIN

I don't know. I trust you'll get me
the best stuff for the best price.
But I don't need a lot, I'm more,
ya know...

AMANDA

Minimalist, I remember. Okay, well, first order of business is getting you a mattress that you don't have to inflate halfway through the night. And then we'll set up a time for you to come by the office.

She PUTS on her SUNGLASSES. He LAUGHS a little.

AMANDA (CONT'D)

(suddenly self-conscious)

What?

GAVIN

You just seem different, I dunno.

AMANDA

More formal?

GAVIN

More confident I guess.

AMANDA

Maybe I'm just wiser now.

She walks away, SUPER CONFIDENT. *Trips*. She plays it off.

AMANDA (CONT'D)

Oh, they should really... that's a hazard...

She KICKS the ROCK out of the way to make her point.

INT. SUNDELL DESIGN FIRM - DAY

Amanda enters, passes the Assistant.

AMANDA

How's it going?

ASSISTANT

I think I'm getting fired.

AMANDA

You're not getting fired.

GRACE (O.S.)

Amanda?

Amanda walks INTO GRACE'S OFFICE.

GRACE (CONT'D)
Fire her.

AMANDA
She's just starting to settle in.

GRACE
She's a giant idiot. And she's so
mousey and boring, she's not even
fun to yell at.

AMANDA
What if we keep her until we get
someone else who might be more fun
to yell at?

GRACE
She's ruining this company.

AMANDA
Ruining the company or annoying
you?
(off Grace's look)
...I'm on it.

EXT. UNION SQUARE - NIGHT

Amanda and Kelsey PICNIC at an OUTDOOR SCREENING.

AMANDA
Replacement Number Three bit the
dust today. How am I supposed to
find clients when I spend all my
time replacing my replacements?

KELSEY
You need to stop hiring these
weakling assistants that she walks
all over. You need someone who can
handle her.

ONE BLANKET OVER -- a HIPSTER looks over annoyed.

HIPSTER
Shhh.

KELSEY
You shhh. With your fake glasses
that have no glass in them.

HIPSTER
Some of us are here to watch the
movie.

KELSEY

And some of us are here to get drunk and eat Twizzlers. What's your point? We're at Cheech and Chong - this is not the hallmark of cinematic excellence. And P.S., your pants are loud enough for the both of us.

Amanda suppresses a GRIN - lightbulb moment. Kelsey SHOVELS popcorn into her MOUTH, pauses.

KELSEY (CONT'D)

What?

CUT TO:

INT. SUNDELL DESIGN FIRM - NEXT MORNING

Amanda sits at her computer, working on the Gavin presentation on AutoCAD, selecting colors, fabrics, looks.

GRACE (O.S.)

(bellows)

Kelsey?!

Kelsey passes by Amanda's office with a HOT CUP OF TEA, spilling some on her hand. Ow! Ow! Ow!

KELSEY

Really? No one's poisoned that bitch already?

(off Amanda's look)

I'm on my best behavior.

Kelsey walks INTO GRACE'S OFFICE.

EXT. FURNITURE STORE - DAY

Gavin HOLDS the door open for Amanda as they WALK IN --

INT. FURNITURE STORE - DAY

Amanda LEADS Gavin to the mattress section, PATS ONE --

AMANDA

Tempur-Pedic and Pillowtop are both great, but this is my favorite.

GAVIN

I won't ask how you've done the research.

A MATTRESS SALES WOMAN bounces up.

SALES WOMAN

Oh no, you gotta lay on it! That's the only way you're gonna know!

Gavin SCOOTS back to lay down.

AMANDA

Go ahead. I don't need-

SALES WOMAN

Don't be shy! You too!

The Sales Woman pushes Amanda down.

SALES WOMAN (CONT'D)

This is one of our best sellers. It's the keys to your very own snoozemobile. Customers come back all the time and tell me *it's the stuff dreams are made of.*

GAVIN

Customers come all the way back just to say that?

Amanda uses this DISTRACTION to STUDY HIM -- *his toned arms, his casual but expensive style, his peek-a-boo dimples.*

SALES WOMAN

And if you buy today, you get not one Tempur-Pedic pillow. Not two Tempur-Pedic pillows. *Say it with me...*

GAVIN

Three Tempur-Pedic pillows?

SALES WOMAN

Not *three* Tempur-Pedic pillows! *Four Tempur-Pedic pillows!*

He GLANCES over, Amanda pretends she wasn't checking him out.

AMANDA

Those pillows are kind of magical.

SALES WOMAN

See, if she's happy in bed, you're happy in bed, am I right? Now try not to fall asleep, you two, and let me know if you have any questions!

AMANDA

-Oh, I'm not his girlf--

The Sales Woman's MOVED ON to another CUSTOMER.

AMANDA (CONT'D)

(finishes)

-friennnnd... Mattress people are like the used cars salesmen of furniture.

GAVIN

She makes me want to shop online.

They LAUGH. He looks over at her lying beside him.

GAVIN (CONT'D)

I remember this.

AMANDA

Yeah, except for the entire Mexican family staring at us right now.

He LOOKS over at a SEMICIRCLE OF MEXICANS watching them.

GAVIN

(smiles, then)

I gotta say, of the problems we used to have, the bedroom was never one of them.

She SITS UP, *shuts him down cold* --

AMANDA

Well, we had plenty other ones to make up for it. Come on, I'm here to work.

EXT. POLK STREET - DAY

Amanda walks home, her cell BUZZES.

INSERT TEXT - BRAD, "I miss you."

She smiles, stops. She writes back, "I miss you too."

He writes, "How is your new client??"

She hesitates, types back, "You wouldn't believe it but..." and then DELETES it. She starts again, "I actually ended up knowing him from..." She DELETES. She stares at her phone.

She finally settles on, "So far so good." She pockets her phone and keeps walking.

INT. SUNDELL DESIGN FIRM - THE NEXT DAY

Kelsey sits at her desk. Gavin enters. Her eyes narrow.

KELSEY

Of all the interior design firms in all the world, you had to walk into ours.

He smiles wryly, never her biggest fan either.

GAVIN

Kelsey, always a pleasure.

KELSEY

(sizes him up)

I see you've really let yourself go.

(stands up, overly cheery)

This way.

She LEADS him INTO AMANDA'S OFFICE. Amanda LOOKS up.

KELSEY (CONT'D)

Your twelve o'clock has arrived.

GAVIN

Is it fair to assume we all know my name?

KELSEY

(ignoring him)

Remember, you have a thing in fifteen minutes.

AMANDA

What thing?

KELSEY

That important meeting thing appointment. I could push it to twenty minutes but that's it.

(glances at bare wrist)

Ope, nineteen. Better hurry.

Kelsey TURNS on her heel and LEAVES. Amanda smirks, shrugs, *it's clear Kelsey's full of shit.*

INT. SUNDELL DESIGN FIRM - AMANDA'S OFFICE - DAY

Amanda shows Gavin a DIGITIZED DESIGN of his TOWNHOUSE on her COMPUTER. It shows everything from the WALL COLOR to the FURNITURE and LAYOUT.

AMANDA

For the master, I was thinking we could do a forest green to tie in the trees of the park outside and give it a rich, masculine feel.

GAVIN

(jokingly suave)

Sounds fitting.

Amanda ignores this, CLICKS -- the walls on the layout turn navy blue. Kelsey SNEAKS PAST for a peek. Amanda conspicuously SHOOS her away. Kelsey gives the MIDDLE FINGER.

AMANDA

Navy would also look nice. Or, if you want borders...

She CLICKS and the walls become half tan, half navy.

GAVIN

(impressed)

What is this? Standard AutoCAD?

AMANDA

(proud)

My boyfriend, Brad, is a software developer so he customized it for me.

Amanda sees Gavin GLANCE at the picture of her with Brad.

GAVIN

Is that Brad? Bradley?

AMANDA

Yep.

GAVIN

He looks like a Brad.

AMANDA

Well, he is a Brad. He's a great Brad.

She tensely DRAGS a BED GRAPHIC to the other side of the Master - *just for something to do. He watches her.*

GAVIN

I have a proposal for you.

AMANDA

Might be a few years too late on
that one, sorry.

Gavin LAUGHS at her zing.

GAVIN

Hey, I knew you still had *that*
sense of humor...

(beat)

Look, things don't have to be weird
between us. I'm sure I have a lot
of apologizing to do for the way I
was when we were dating. But if
we're gonna be working together,
why don't we put it behind us,
declare a truce?

(holds out his hand)
Un-awkward friends?

Four years of anger come down TO THIS MOMENT. She sees Kelsey
PEEPING from her desk...

Amanda DECIDES -- *she nods, shakes his hand.*

AMANDA

Un-awkward associates.

GAVIN

I'll take it.

Kelsey is leaning so far back in her chair, SPYING, she
tumbles backwards to the floor.

KELSEY (O.S.)

Christ on a bike.

Gavin looks but doesn't see. Amanda smiles at him, covering,
like nothing happened.

INT. GOLDEN GATE PARK - EVENING

Kelsey and Amanda POWER WALK.

KELSEY

You can't be friends!

AMANDA

Un-awkward associates.

KELSEY

I don't even know what that means
but my stance remains.

AMANDA

He's my only client. I just think
we can put the past behind us and
be friendly at least.

KELSEY

Mistake City. You've arrived.

AMANDA

I've not arrived.

KELSEY

Friendship is the gateway drug with
an ex.

AMANDA

That sounds like a Kelsey-Fact, not
a Real-World-Fact. Tons of people
are friends with exes.

KELSEY

The only kind of ex you can be
friends with is the kind you broke
up with because you both mutually
agreed there's no chemistry. Zorro,
here, doesn't qualify.

AMANDA

Well, I think it shows I'm over him
that we can. Plus I'm in a
relationship so the rule shouldn't
apply.

KELSEY

Nope, it's a lifelong rule, it
never changes. I'm telling you, if
you want him to be your client and
treat him like an "acquaintance
with history," fine, but once you
start loosening up and acting like
friends, the more lines get
blurred.

(MORE)

KELSEY (CONT'D)
 You start sharing personal stories,
"remember when this happened?"
 flirty jokes start getting thrown
 around, pretty soon you're going to
 dinner and a movie but saying it
 doesn't count as a date because
 he's *just your friend*, and next
 thing you know you've fallen down
 the rabbit hole of, "oh, he's seen
 me naked before, that doesn't count
 either." Then, "Oops. Sex."

AMANDA
 (smiles)
 Would you stop? I'm helping him
 pick paint samples. It's gonna be
 fine.

KELSEY
 Yeah, that's what Alice probably
 said - right before she landed
 naked in Wonderland.

AMANDA
 Don't think the story goes that
 way.

They POWER-WALK up a hill.

SMASH CUT TO:

OVER THE NEXT THREE DAYS, WE SEE GAVIN'S TOWNHOUSE (AND THEIR FRIENDSHIP) DEVELOP IN A QUICK SERIES OF CUTS:

...Amanda ROLLS A STREAM OF GREEN PAINT across white walls.

...Gavin sits in a SPACE-AGE V-SHAPED COUCH.

GAVIN
 It's comfortable in here.

AMANDA
 It looks like you're sitting in a
 vagina.

GAVIN
 Maybe that's why I feel so at home.

He CARESSES it.

AMANDA
 (disgusted)
 It's like Furniture Porn. Not
 happening.

She shakes her head, WALKS OFF. He grins.

...Amanda POINTS OUT PIECES to Gavin and he NODS - rug, dining room table, chairs.

...Amanda DIRECTS MOVERS carrying FURNITURE into Gavin's.

AMANDA (CONT'D)
Armoire's to the right. Mattress and headboard's second door on the left. Back it up, back it up, don't scrape.

...Amanda and Gavin sit in VARIOUS COUCHES. Can't pick one.

...Amidst the chaos of MOVERS, Amanda ACCESSORIZES knickknacks IN THE LIVING ROOM: She looks up; she's TRAPPED behind a WALL OF FURNITURE. Gavin acts oblivious. She looks at him - oh, it's on, buddy.

...Gavin carefully PAINTS beneath the crowning of THE BATHROOM. A bit of paint DRIPS down his head. He looks up, startled. Amanda's HOLDING THE ROLLER over him. She suppresses a wicked smile.

...More shopping, More movers, More chaos.

...Amanda and Gavin stand in a COUCH WAREHOUSE. A mile of couches. They FLOP DOWN exhausted.

INT. GAVIN'S TOWNHOUSE - EVENING

The place is ALMOST FINISHED. Gavin is half-watching the Red Sox on TV while HANGING PICTURES.

GAVIN
(re: game)
Oh, come on! He was safe!

Amanda SITS DOWN in the EMPTY SPACE WHERE A COUCH SHOULD GO, PICKING through a BOX of his PICTURES.

AMANDA
(sarcastic)
You know what would go great here?

GAVIN
A couch?

AMANDA
Just imagine, sitting a few feet off the ground. Stretching the legs.

GAVIN

It's a big decision. I don't want
to rush into anything.

She rolls her eyes, PULLS out a PICTURE -- A beautiful woman on a boat in Hong Kong. Amanda GIVES it to him to hang.

AMANDA

Did you take this?

GAVIN

(nods)

It's Hong Kong. A group of us were
on a junk boat. Which, by the way,
is the opposite of what you'd think
that means.

AMANDA

(nonchalant)

Was that your girlfriend?

GAVIN

Just a friend.

AMANDA

(teases)

Did *she* think she was just a
friend?

GAVIN

I hope so or her husband would be
pissed.

She NODS, secretly pleased. PICKS UP one of a waterfall.

AMANDA

Where's this one?

GAVIN

Victoria Falls. Zambia. Bungee
jumped.

AMANDA

You jumped this? Have you no
survival instincts?!

GAVIN

Made sense at the time. Until I had
to walk all the way back up to get
my clothes.

AMANDA

(laughs)

You bungee jumped this naked?!

He grins - HANGS it up.

AMANDA (CONT'D)
You definitely live the life, don't you?

GAVIN
Isn't that what it's all about?

She SHRUGS - this is a sore subject for her.

AMANDA
Used to think that. I guess I think there's something to be said about making a home somewhere.

GAVIN
Well, looks like you're helping me do that now. Just in different circumstances than we might have thought four years ago.

AMANDA
Life is funny, isn't it?

Amanda LOOKS at a picture -- A woman with a pink sarong blowing in the wind - *it's Amanda.*

AMANDA (CONT'D)
Is that me?

GAVIN
The bar in the middle of the ocean, remember?

AMANDA
Yeah. You're hanging it?

GAVIN
Why not?

AMANDA
I dunno, bad feng shui to have a picture of an ex up?

GAVIN
Why, it was a great memory.

AMANDA
It was a pretty good trip. Except for the part where I bought the crumbly brownie off that guy on the beach.

GAVIN

Oh yeah, I still can't believe you did that. He, like, pulled it out of his pocket and had sand in it.

AMANDA

I didn't know! I thought that's how it works.

They enjoy a good LAUGH. Gavin GLANCES at the TIME.

GAVIN

It's almost seven. Do you wanna grab a bite somewhere?

AMANDA

Nah, I better go.

GAVIN

Sure?

She SIGHS, stands to leave.

AMANDA

Yeah, I gotta.

GAVIN

(teases)

Was it something I said?

Amanda smiles, GATHERS her things, hands him the PICTURE --

AMANDA

Can you believe that was the last trip I took?

GAVIN

Jamaica? That was four and a half years ago.

AMANDA

Brad and I just haven't had the chance.

GAVIN

You always have the chance. You could book a flight right now. Go anywhere you want.

Amanda nods, noncommittal.

GAVIN (CONT'D)

I'm serious. The world could end tomorrow. What are you waiting for?

INT. AMANDA'S APARTMENT - AMANDA'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Amanda eats TAKE-OUT and drinks WINE from a measuring cup as she LOOKS ONLINE at trips to Paris. CLICKS through glamorous pictures of the streets, the shops, the sights.

Amanda's Google "Hang Out" session rings. She ANSWERS, Brad's face appears. He's in bed at his hotel.

BRAD
Greetings earthling.

AMANDA
Hey! How's the tech conference?

BRAD
Oh man, nerds everywhere.

AMANDA
So, you fit right in.

He CLICKS an icon so that huge glasses appear on his face.

BRAD
Not as well as you would.

AMANDA
(laughs)
How'd you do that?!

She CLICKS an icon so that CLOWN HAIR appears on her head. They start playing around: Indian headpiece, goatee...

Brad makes a HALO appear. He MOVES HIS HEAD SIDE TO SIDE and the halo comically chases him.

BRAD
Get offa me!

She CLICKS on a BERET.

AMANDA
So... you know how we always talk about going to *ze' Paris*?

BRAD
Yes?

AMANDA
I was just browsing the interweb.

BRAD
Heard of it.

AMANDA

And I found a great deal that includes direct air, a romantic cruise on the Seine, and a boutique hotel in the seventh arrondissement.

BRAD

You had me at...
(butchers the French)
...a-round-di-smah.

AMANDA

We should go for it.

BRAD

I'd love to...
(sighs)
But I don't know what days I can get off right now. I'm so exhausted, I can't even think about traveling. And you just got a promotion. Could you even go?

AMANDA

We always talk about going but when are we actually gonna go?

(quietly)
The world could end tomorrow.

BRAD

Aw, we'll go before the world ends, I promise.

AMANDA

We don't know that. The world doesn't announce that kind of thing... We've never gone anywhere.

BRAD

Aww, babe. It's just the circumstances.
(yawns)
I have to go to sleep. I get up in six hours.

AMANDA

(sad)
Okay.

Amanda CLICKS off her BERET.

BRAD

Hey.

AMANDA
Yeah?

BRAD
See you at the Seine?

Amanda smiles, SIGNS OFF. She looks down at the SHOEBOX in the TRASH CAN. With her TOE, she LIFTS the LID off it. Sees the Barcelona backpacking picture with Gavin.

She GUILTY puts the lid back on. FINISHES her wine.

INT. SUNDELL DESIGN FIRM - AMANDA'S OFFICE - MORNING

Amanda sits at her desk. She BROWSES couches online, bored. She sees a ridiculous pink one. She brightens.

She attaches the photo and emails Gavin, "**Found your couch. We should probably move quick on it.**"

She continues searching.

A new email pops up on her computer. It's from Gavin. "**Already found one on Fillmore. Good price, too.**"

She opens it and there's a PHOTO of a hideous, taped, stained 60's yellow, green couch with a DRUNK asleep on it.

She writes back, "**Pretty sure you had that couch in college.**"

INTERCUT WITH...

Kelsey WATCHES from her desk, sees Amanda SMILING to herself.

AMANDA'S DESK

Another Gavin email pops up. "**Couldn't be - we tore up that one pretty good.**"

Amanda freezes, BITES back a smile and before she can think better of it, she responds, "**Is that what that stain is???**" She cringes at herself.

KELSEY (O.S.)
What's up?

Kelsey STANDS in front of her with PAPERWORK.

AMANDA
(too quick)
Nothing, why?

KELSEY

(nonchalant, onto her)

*I was just asking. We're redoing
Danielle Steele's house. Can you
tell me if this paperwork's
complete?*

AMANDA

Sure.

KELSEY

You look nice today.

AMANDA

No, I don't.

KELSEY

*Oh, don't be so humble! You're
straddling that line of just the
right amount of cleavage that says,
"I'm not trying too hard...*

(waves finger)

*But there's more where that came
from."*

AMANDA

*You're straddling the line of
sexual harassment in the workplace.*

KELSEY

*And new heels? Really going all out
to decorate a house.*

AMANDA

These aren't new.

KELSEY

*So, why's there a size eight
sticker on the bottom?*

AMANDA

(removes the sticker)

*Okay, Sherlock. I bought them a
while ago but this is my first time
wearing them.*

KELSEY

*How's the rabbit hole? Is it comfy
in there? Say hi to Alice.*

AMANDA

*I'm not in the rabbit hole. I
promise. Gavin was so March 1st,
2008 ago.*

Amanda's cell RINGS.

AMANDA (CONT'D)
Hi Gavin! ...*Sure, I'll be right there.*

Amanda HANGS UP. Kelsey stares at her.

AMANDA (CONT'D)
What?

EXT. HYDE STREET - DAY

Amanda walks with Kelsey.

AMANDA
You don't have to play chaperone.

KELSEY
I'm not playing chaperone. You hired me to be the assistant, I'm assisting.

Amanda walks up to the awaiting contractor, ROBERTO.

AMANDA
Roberto? Amanda.
(shakes his hand)
Nice to meet you. This is Kelsey.

KELSEY
Kelsey - Designing Assistant Extraordinaire, PHD.
(whispers)
Her judgement's been compromised.
I'm putting myself on the case.

ROBERTO
(weirded out)
Hi.

AMANDA
Shockingly, she's not on medication. We can go up. Gavin said he's running late.

As they walk up, Amanda PULLS out her KEYS.

KELSEY
You have keys to his place?
...*Swoop Central.*

Amanda shakes her head, ignoring her, OPENS the DOOR.

AMANDA

Could you write a note reminding me
to never give you a job again?

KELSEY

No. Why would I write that?

INT. GAVIN'S TOWNHOUSE - MOMENTS LATER

Amanda LEADS Roberto towards the bathroom. Kelsey doesn't follow, nosing around.

AMANDA

(to Roberto)

So, the bathroom's in here.

(beckons Kelsey)

Kelsey.

(to Roberto)

He wants to have a free standing
tub with a rain shower put in.

ROBERTO

So we're ripping the tub out? I'll
need to get my plumber in here so
we can set the drain pan and fit
the piping.

AMANDA

There shouldn't be any re-tiling so
it should be fairly straight
forward.

Kelsey OPENS a drawer, PEEKS in his medicine cabinet.

KELSEY

(whispers)

Disposable razors, disposable
contact lenses, he can't even
commit to a toiletry.

Amanda SHUTS the cabinet, continues to Roberto.

AMANDA

We just bought all the rugs out
there. So, we'd obviously need to
be careful not to track dirt or
collect dust.

Kelsey finds his travel-sized toothpaste, horrified, waves it
like it's the smoking gun.

KELSEY
(sotto)
The man is on the fucking run!

ROBERTO
We can put protective plastic down.

KELSEY
Question, Roberto, I'm not an
expert, I only have a PHD-

AMANDA
You don't have a PHD.

KELSEY
In Awesome. I do. I don't like to
brag.
(continues to Roberto)
But wouldn't you usually get hired
to do the renovations before all
the painting and furnishing?

ROBERT
Sometimes, depends.

KELSEY
But in the chronology of decorating
in the time space continuum that
would make the most sense, correct?

AMANDA
He just told me about this. What do
you want me to do?

KELSEY
You were almost finished decorating
and suddenly he wants to "renovate
the bathroom?" It just sounds to
Roberto and I a little fishy, like
he's extending the project.

ROBERTO
(admits)
It does sound a little fishy,
actually.

Amanda LOOKS at Roberto, STUNNED --

KELSEY
Roberto, that was brave. I'm proud
of you. This is definitely fishy.

AMANDA
(to Robert)
Okay, so, can we get the plumber in
tomorrow?

They hear the front door CLICK open.

GAVIN (O.S.)
Anyone home?

Amanda CHECKS HER REFLECTION. Kelsey SMIRKS into the MIRROR, *busting her*. They both HURRY TO THE HALL, trying to beat each other out. Amanda WINS, *stops short* --

-- Gavin drags in a PINK SUITCASE for LIZ (27), a hot Asian.

AMANDA
(taken aback)
Hi.

GAVIN
This is Liz.

LIZ
Are you the decorator? I've been
dying to meet you!

Liz JUMPS on both Amanda and Kelsey with HUGS.

AMANDA
Nice to meet you...

KELSEY
Oh, okay, we're hugging...

LIZ
(pulls away, to Amanda)
I'm so excited about the rain
shower. That was my idea.

AMANDA
Great.
(to Gavin)
Roberto's just in there taking
measurements.

GAVIN
Thanks for letting him in. Liz's
flight was late.

Gavin PUTS HIS HAND on Liz's BACK guiding her INTO THE
BATHROOM -- Kelsey and Amanda walk in last.

KELSEY
(sotto)
I stand corrected.

AMANDA
(only semi-proud to be
right)
That's a first.

INT. SAN FRANCISCO DESIGN CENTER - DAY

Gavin, Liz, and Kelsey BROWSE. Amanda FINISHES a PHONE CALL.

AMANDA
(quietly, into cell)
Thank you. I love you, too. You are
the best.

Amanda HANGS UP, approaches Kelsey.

AMANDA (CONT'D)
That was really cute. Brad says his
grandmother wants my help
redecorating her living room.

KELSEY
That's great.

Amanda NODS, her smile turns to dismay when she sees Liz
impulsively SNATCHING up KNICKKNACKS. She SIGHS.

AMANDA
You don't have to come along for
this.

KELSEY
Are you kidding? It just got
interesting.

Liz STOPS in front of a weird statue. They approach.

LIZ
(hand to her heart)
It speaks to me.

KELSEY
What's it saying?
(shrugs at Amanda)
Curious.

LIZ
(grabs Gavin's hand)
This has to go in your entry way,
no question.

AMANDA
(raises hand, to Gavin)
One question - actually. Don't we
want to keep *the million dollar*
view as your focal point?

LIZ
What about at night when there's no
view?

AMANDA
With city lights, there's always a
view.

LIZ
Not when the blinds are shut.

AMANDA
There are no blinds there.

LIZ
Not yet.

AMANDA
(to Gavin)
You want blinds in the living room?

LIZ
We have a Naked House. We have to
have blinds.

KELSEY
A Naked House?
(diplomatically)
Blinds do sound necessary.

GAVIN
I'm sure we can find some that look
good, right Amanda?

Amanda HESITATES, *hates losing this battle.*

AMANDA
Sure. Should we look at the shower
heads first? Stay on task?

LIZ
Gavin, this chandelier's the piece
de resistance!!

Amanda and Kelsey HANG BACK.

AMANDA

How long do you think she's been
waiting to work that into a
sentence?

KELSEY

Actually, I was going to say the
same thing about that chandelier.
(over annunciates)
*It's the Mise en scène Vis-à-vis
Niche. Hummus.*

AMANDA

Is she moving in with him? Why does
she have so many opinions?

KELSEY

He hasn't told me.
(then)
Uh-oh. She found the door knobs.
Avante garde!

AMANDA

She is like the opposite of the
kind of girl I'd see him with.
She's high maintenance. He hates
high maintenance!

KELSEY

I thought you were gonna say Asian.
(mutterts)
The way you worded it was just
confusing...

Kelsey NOTICES the raw, pained expression on Amanda's face as
she WATCHES Gavin.

KELSEY (CONT'D)

(sincere)
Uh-oh, I haven't seen that face in
four years.

Amanda HARDENS, guard flying up, follows after them.

EXT. CHINATOWN - EVENING

A GIANT GLOWING DRAGON, a city block long, PARADES by. Drums
BANGING. Amanda and Kelsey NAVIGATE THROUGH.

AMANDA

Is it Chinese New Year?

KELSEY

I dunno, I feel like this happens
every other week. I've always
wanted to follow the dragon to see
if it leads to some cool
underground party.

They WAIT for the NEVER-ENDING DRAGON to pass.

AMANDA

Can you supervise Roberto tomorrow?
I should get started with Brad's
Grandma.

KELSEY

(grins, realizing)

You can't handle this.

AMANDA

I can handle this. I'm the
consummate professional. But don't
you think *it's a little bit strange*
he never mentioned her during the
entire decorating process and all
a'sudden she just magically
appears?

KELSEY

By magically, you mean on *American
Airlines?*

AMANDA

I feel like he's trying to get back
at me.

KELSEY

For what - *decorating his house so
well?*

AMANDA

He knows that I have a boyfriend
and he can't have me so he's trying
to make me jealous. I mean, even if
he is dating her, I don't care
obviously.

KELSEY

Obvious to who?

AMANDA

No, seriously. This doesn't bother
me. I'm fine.

INT. SUNDELL DESIGN FIRM - DAY

Kelsey answers the DESK PHONE.

KELSEY
It's a wonderful day at Sundell
Design Firm.

AMANDA (ON PHONE)
(hushed, urgent)
I found Liz on Instagram.

Kelsey LOOKS OVER and sees Amanda calling FROM HER OFFICE.

KELSEY
Why are you panting so hard? You
sound like a sexual predator.

Amanda studies a photo of Liz coyly peeking in a birdhouse.

AMANDA
She's trying way too hard in all of
her pictures to be sexy. It makes
me feel sad for her.

KELSEY
Why are you stalking Gavin's
girlfriend on Instagram?

AMANDA
Because her Facebook is private.

KELSEY
I thought you didn't care.

AMANDA
I don't care.
(relents)
Fine, it's weird! I'm helping my ex
and his new girlfriend make a home
together. It's not natural.

KELSEY
Welcome to the party, we've been
expecting you.

Amanda tries to zoom in on a picture.

AMANDA
Crap! I accidentally "liked" it!
Shit!

KELSEY

Just so you know, you're worse when
you're not working with him.

GRACE (O.S.)

Kelsey?!

KELSEY

This sounds pleasant.

MOMENTS LATER, Kelsey stands IN GRACE'S OFFICE. Amanda WAITS supportively outside, LISTENING.

GRACE

The Danielle Steele paperwork's
incomplete. Where's the
commissioner's signature?

Amanda realizes it's her own fault, fuck. SLUMPS.

KELSEY

(to Grace)

Let me get that for you.

GRACE

How did this happen?

Kelsey glances purposefully at Amanda.

KELSEY

*I must have been distracted by
things that are less important.*

GRACE

You need to be writing everything
down! Literally, right now, you
should be writing, "Write
everything down."

Kelsey silently SEETHES. Amanda STEPS in.

AMANDA

Grace, it's my fault. I looked over
the paperwork and missed it.

GRACE

There's too much falling through
the cracks in this "transition." If
this doesn't get signed right away,
construction can't start, movers,
carpeting, everything gets pushed.

KELSEY

Okay, well how about instead of you yelling for twenty minutes how it needs to be done right away, I just go do it? Your screaming sprees cut into my work flow.

Amanda collects the PAPERWORK, guiding Kelsey out.

GRACE

(to Amanda)
What is she saying?

AMANDA

--We're gonna fix everything. Here we go. Everything's great!

KELSEY

--I'm saying you're super talented, I'm impressed by your vision - small note, perhaps yell less. I excel with positive reinforcement.

Grace STARES at her, FLINCHES. Amanda CRINGES, puts her head down, awaiting the IMPENDING FIRING.

GRACE

Okay.

Grace resumes her paperwork like nothing happened. Kelsey NODS, walks out. Amanda's HEAD SHOOTS UP. WTF?

Amanda starts FOR THE DOOR --

GRACE (CONT'D)

How's it coming with your client?

AMANDA

Great. I got a new one.

GRACE

Way to go.

Amanda NODS, surprised at this compliment.

INT. GRANDMA THORA'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - EVENING

Grandma Thora SHOWS Amanda around. FADED, 70's DECORUM. Amanda picks up a WEDDING PICTURE from 1952.

GRANDMA THORA

That's my Dean.
(looks around, sighs)
(MORE)

GRANDMA THORA (CONT'D)
I haven't done anything with this
room in twenty years.

AMANDA
I see a lot of possibility. We
could do some warm, cozy colors
like gold or pumpkin-

GRANDMA THORA
--I like pink.

AMANDA
Or pink is another way to go.

Grandma nods, HAPPY.

EXT. GRANDMA THORA'S HOUSE - BACKYARD - EVENING

Grandma CARRIES out TEA to Amanda.

AMANDA
Thank you.

GRANDMA THORA
Did you know Dean and I came out
here every night at six thirty for
fifty two years?

AMANDA
No, wow...

GRANDMA THORA
He'd have his after work whiskey
and I wasn't much of a drinker so
I'd just sit with him. After he
died, I kept doing it because if I
didn't do this at six thirty, what
else would I do?

(shrugs, sadly)
He passed away eight years ago and
he's still the framework to my
life.

Amanda smiles, touched.

AMANDA
Did you always know he was The One?

GRANDMA THORA
There wasn't such a hullabaloo
about that stuff back then.

(MORE)

GRANDMA THORA (CONT'D)
Neither of us were looking for "The One." We just liked sitting next to each other.

Amanda nods, contemplating this.

INT. AMANDA'S APARTMENT - BEDROOM - NIGHT

Amanda sits ON THE FLOOR, surrounded by BOXES, talks to Brad on her LAPTOP WEBCAM.

BRAD
Hi Pony Tail. You packing?

AMANDA
Yeah. Thank you for the lead with your Grandma. I needed it.

BRAD
Course. Anything for you.

AMANDA
Come home! I want to sit next to you...

BRAD
(smiles)
Tomorrow.

Amanda sighs, she can hold out one more day.

LATER, Amanda knocks on KELSEY'S DOOR. She sees Kelsey has SAKS FIFTH AVENUE and BARNEYS' shopping bags.

AMANDA
Did you go on a shopping spree?

KELSEY
I'm going to Good Will. I like to get their hopes up when they see the bags and then they see it's my old printer and spandex inside.

AMANDA
I just wanted to apologize, thank you, etcetera for earlier. I hit rock-crazy but I'm better now.

KELSEY
Etcetera accepted.

AMANDA

I think part of me just wanted
Gavin to want me back so I could
feel like I won in the end.

KELSEY

Well, you did win in the end.

AMANDA

Yeah, I moved on and met a great
guy.

KELSEY

No, I just meant Liz is a wack job.
I would totally date you over her.

AMANDA

Right?! Thank you!

(then)

Well, this all served as a great
reminder that he'll always be the
guy that pulls you in and then
pushes you away. Any soft spot for
a first love that I might have had
is gone now.

KELSEY

Good. Then I guess you got what you
came for.

AMANDA

Definitely.

(to herself)

Definitely.

So, why doesn't she seem entirely resolved?

INT. AMANDA'S APARTMENT - AMANDA'S BEDROOM - LATER

Amanda STARES at the ceiling, trying to sleep. Her cell
RINGS: It's Gavin. She debates, answers.

AMANDA

(tense)

Hello?

GAVIN (ON PHONE)

(cool, intimate)

Hey.

AMANDA

Hi...?

GAVIN
Are you by yourself?

AMANDA
(shakes head, exasperated,
what does he want??)
...Yeah. What's up?

GAVIN
You disappeared earlier.

AMANDA
I had to meet with another client.

GAVIN
Ah, so you're too big for me now. I
thought we were friends.

AMANDA
Un-awkward Associates.
(light)
Liz is so talented at finding the
piece de resistance, you hardly
need any more help.

Gavin LAUGHS softly.

GAVIN (ON PHONE)
I'm sorry, she kind of took over.

AMANDA
(dismissive)
It's your house, you can take
whoever's opinion you want.

GAVIN
(smiling)
I know she can seem flighty but
she's pretty smart.

She ROLLS OVER, tugging at a string on her comforter.

AMANDA
I didn't say she wasn't.
(can't resist)
I just didn't realize she was your
type.

GAVIN (ON PHONE)
(flirts)
*Maybe she's not. But they can't all
be Amanda Hutchins.*

AMANDA
(scoffs)
Whatever.

What the fuck does that mean?

AMANDA (CONT'D)
We're pretty much done. All you
need is a couch. It'd be more
efficient if I just email you
photos. It's not worth you paying
extra to have me be there in
person.

GAVIN (ON PHONE)
It's worth it to me.

She accidentally PULLS THE STRING so much a button falls off.
She realizes - stops.

GAVIN (ON PHONE) (CONT'D)
So, I'll see you tomorrow, right?

Amanda hesitates, reluctant. But - *what choice does she have?*

INT. COUCH STORE - DAY

Liz BOUNCES from couch to couch as Gavin and Amanda BROWSE.

LIZ
How do you choose?

AMANDA
(ultra-professional mode)
The biggest rule in decorating is:
You can drive yourself crazy with
all the options. When you find one
you love, you just have to go for
it and trust you made the right
choice.

Amanda SITS on a sleek, simple white sofa, PATS it.

AMANDA (CONT'D)
I think this is a great one. It's
beautiful, comfortable, classy...

He SITS beside her.

GAVIN
I do keep coming back to this one.
(sotto)
(MORE)

GAVIN (CONT'D)

Although, it's a toss-up between
this and that couch I had from
college - for sentimental reasons.

Gavin SMILES at Amanda. She GLANCES at him, SHAKES HER HEAD bashfully. A *small moment* but Liz catches it.

Liz SQUISHES in close beside Gavin. A SALES WOMAN approaches.

SALES WOMAN

You guys are like three peas in a pod!

AMANDA

(wants this over with)
So, do you wanna get this? Are we done?

GAVIN

Yeah, think so.

LIZ

We're done?! We're done!

Liz KISSES Gavin, excitedly. The weight SLIDES Amanda towards them. Amanda STANDS, awkwardly.

Her cell RINGS. She ANSWERS, grateful for the distraction.

AMANDA

Excuse me a moment.

(boasts)

It's my boyfriend. He just got back in town.

LIZ

(relieved but playing it cool)

You have a boyfriend?

Amanda WALKS AWAY for a sliver of privacy.

AMANDA

Welcome home!

INTERCUT WITH...

INT. SFO INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT - SAME

Brad PULLS his LUGGAGE off the carousel.

BRAD

Babydoll! Why have I been gone so long?

AMANDA

I don't know!

Liz FOLLOWS her, excitedly.

LIZ

I wanna talk to your guy! I wanna talk to him!

BRAD

Can I take you out somewhere tonight?

AMANDA

I would love that. Uchi's opening tonight, the Japanese restaurant we just finished.

BRAD

Perfect.

Liz SNATCHES the phone. Amanda tries to GRAB it back.

LIZ

Hi Amanda's boyfriend!! This is Liz, Gavin's girlfriend!

BRAD

(laughs)

Hi.

LIZ

What's your name?

BRAD

Brad.

LIZ

Brad, your girlfriend has done an amazing job decorating. I think all four of us should go to Uchi tonight to celebrate.

AMANDA

No, no, I don't think that's - he's tired -

BRAD

Sure.

LIZ
See you at eight!

Liz HANGS UP, heads over to Gavin, JUMPS on him like a koala.

LIZ (CONT'D)
Baby, we're going on a double date!

He GLANCES at Amanda who is frozen in shock.

INT. SUNDELL DESIGN FIRM - EVENING

Amanda PREPARES to leave. She sees Brad WALK IN. She STOPS - BEAMS - *he is a sight for sore eyes*.

She RUNS OVER and KISSES him.

AMANDA
Hi!

GAVIN
I feel like I haven't seen you in
forever.

AMANDA
I'm so glad you're back.

They head for the door, see Kelsey and Grace LAUGHING IN GRACE'S OFFICE.

KELSEY
The blue is bullshit.

GRACE
I agree! Total bullshit.

Amanda's never seen this before. She WAVES at them.

AMANDA
Bye guys.

KELSEY AND GRACE
Bye!

GRACE
(to Kelsey)
But seriously, look at this one.

KELSEY
Not on my death bed!

GRACE
Exactly! They're fucking nuts!

They LAUGH at their own little joke. Hell has clearly frozen over. Amanda and Brad share a wry grin, WALK OUT.

INT. CAB - NIGHT

Amanda and Brad SIT in the back, HOLDING HANDS. Despite all that's transpired, this is comfortable, nice.

AMANDA

(laughs)

I never saw that one coming.

BRAD

Has she been doing a good job?

AMANDA

Yeah, Kelsey's a pain in my ass but she keeps me in line.

BRAD

Well, you know she always has your best interest in mind.

AMANDA

Yeah... That she does.

EXT. UCHI - NIGHT

A red carpet event for its grand opening. Bulbs FLASHING. Brad holds the door open for Amanda, Liz and Gavin.

LIZ

This is so fun!

BRAD

(to Gavin)

Yeah, I'm happy I get to finally meet Amanda's client.

Amanda shares a quick "how awkward is this?" glance with Gavin. Gavin waves Brad in, can hold his own door.

INT. UCHI - MOMENTS LATER

A HOST guides them to a table, Liz looks around in awe.

LIZ

Oh my god, this place looks amazing.

Amanda smiles, flattered. Brad checks out the morning-star sconces - there's far fewer now.

BRAD
(whispers jovially)
Those the sconces?

Amanda nods. Gavin NOTICES Brad double-squeeze Amanda's hand.

BRAD (CONT'D)
(jokes)
You gonna offload the extras onto
Grandma's living room?

AMANDA
(laughs, then)
She's the best! Now that I'm
finished with this other project,
I'm excited I can really focus on
her.

Gavin is LISTENING SO INTENTLY, he almost mows down Liz. He puts his hands on Liz's shoulders, steadyng her.

GAVIN
Sorry!

INT. UCHI - MINUTES LATER

The WAITER pours sake as they LOOK over their menus.

GAVIN
Do you guys wanna try the umame?

BRAD
(no way)
Is that the eel?

GAVIN
It's great. Have you ever had it?

BRAD
Not really my thing. But go for it.

GAVIN
Nah, we can try to find something
everyone likes. The octopus roll
with smelt eggs sounds great.

BRAD
(laughs)
I'd rather open my mouth in the
ocean and see what happens.

GAVIN

Not really the adventurous type,
okay.

AMANDA

(intervenes)

He's just not a big seafood guy.

LIZ

That's okay, neither am I.

AMANDA

(changes subject, to Brad
and Liz)

Did I mention you both work in
software development?

LIZ

(to Brad)

More or less. I do interface design
and authoring for Zynga.

BRAD

(isn't she cute)

Amanda thinks they're the same
thing.

Amanda gives an "excuse me, nerds" face, puts her hands up.
Gavin LAUGHS, sharing a SMILE with her. Brad and Liz's
CONVERSATION takes off like a rocket.

LIZ

Where are you?

BRAD

I'm at Apple.

LIZ

Oh that's amazing! What division?

INT. UCHI - BATHROOM / HALLWAY - LATER

Amanda WASHES her hands, CHECKS HERSELF in the reflection.
She exits and BUMPS into Gavin IN THE HALLWAY.

AMANDA

Oops, sorry.

GAVIN

(quietly, moving slowly
around her)

I like that dress on you.

AMANDA
(stares down)
Thank you.

GAVIN
Do you think these two have any
idea how bizarre this is?

AMANDA
Bizarre? I think it's totally
normal to go on a double date with
the guy who dumped me and his new
girlfriend.

GAVIN
What do you mean?

AMANDA
What do you mean what do I mean?

GAVIN
I didn't dump you, Amanda.

AMANDA
Okay, I was there. I'm pretty sure
you did.

GAVIN
I was there, too, and I'm telling
you I didn't.

Amanda's world is CAVING IN. A BUSBOY passes by and she makes room, trying to register this SHITSTORM of new information.

AMANDA
I don't know if you're trying to be
nice or you're fucking with me...
but please stop this.

He closes in on her, putting his HAND against the WALL,
BLOCKING HER IN. Her breath catches.

GAVIN
Amanda, I-

LIZ (O.S.)
Is this the line for the bathroom?

AMANDA
Oh, no, I was just heading back to
the table.

Amanda turns, BUMPS into a WAITER, WALKS back to her seat,
still REELING. She sees Brad was left by himself.

AMANDA (CONT'D)
Aww, you got left by yourself.

BRAD
(slumps his shoulders,
playing it up)
That's okay.

She instinctively KISSES Brad's cheek for being so cute but
it's awkward with Gavin watching.

THE COCKTAIL AREA has converted from DINNER to NIGHTCLUB CROWD. DANCE MUSIC comes up. Liz SITS down, LOOKS over.

LIZ
I love this song! *Do you guys wanna
dance?*

AMANDA
(glances at Brad)
Oh, Brad doesn't...

LIZ
Don't worry, I need a lot of drinks
to get out there.
(calls out)
Bartender!

BRAD
Unfortunately, there's no amount of
alcohol that can get me out there.

GAVIN
That's too bad. Amanda loves
dancing.

Amanda SHOOTS Gavin A LOOK. Brad LOOKS over at Amanda,
wondering how Gavin knows this.

AMANDA
Gavin and I knew each other back in
college. That's how I ended up
working with him.

BRAD
Oh, I didn't realize.

LIZ
Me either.

AMANDA
Yeah, we ran into each other
randomly a couple weeks ago.

The Waiter WALKS up.

WAITER
Can I interest you all in dessert?

LIZ
Yes.

The Waiter CHUCKLES, lists off the choices as Amanda TUNES OUT, glad to be out of the limelight. She WATCHES COUPLES DANCING. TWIRLING, LAUGHING, GRINDING.

She gets LOST in the LYRICS, clutching her drink. She can feel Gavin watching her.

As the music SWELLS, her eyes finally LOCK with his. He gives her the smallest smile - *a secret between them*.

But she SHAKES her head - an almost imperceptible "no." She can't. He hears her loud and clear, pulls back, looks away.

INT. CAB - NIGHT

Amanda and Brad RIDE HOME. Marvin Gaye's "*LET'S GET IT ON*" is on the RADIO. Awkwards-ville.

They SIT in silence.

INT. BRAD'S APARTMENT - BEDROOM - NIGHT

Brad UNDRESSES for bed. Amanda FLOPS on the bed, looks at the SEE-NO-EVIL MONKEY. Turns it to face the other way.

BRAD
That dinner was interesting.

AMANDA
Yeah, Liz is a little weird but at least you had some stuff in common.

BRAD
Too bad for her, I guess. You're the one I'm in love with.

Amanda SOFTENS, whatever resistance she was feeling *melts*.

AMANDA
You are?

BRAD
Course.
(long beat)
(MORE)

BRAD (CONT'D)
So, how did Gavin know you like to
dance? Did you guys go dancing in
college or something?

AMANDA
(stalling)
I don't ... know how he would have
known that. We had astronomy
together. We were lab partners.

BRAD
Did you two ever date?

AMANDA
Um. I mean, I think we might have
gone out for a minute actually but
I don't think we ever went *dancing*.

BRAD
So, you dated.

Amanda REELS the truth back in - he can't handle it.

AMANDA
No, it was like - not even
anything.

BRAD
And you didn't tell me this? That
you're working with your ex-
boyfriend?

AMANDA
He's not - no, we maybe went on a
couple dates. I barely even
remember, it was so long ago. Brad -

BRAD
I'm at a loss for words... I don't
know what to say... I literally am
speechless.
(sees she's suppressing a
smile)
...What?

AMANDA
(cute)
Nothing. You just keep *saying*, "how
you have nothing to say."

He starts to WALK OFF. She unsuccessfully tries to WRESTLE
him to BED.

AMANDA (CONT'D)
No! I'm sorry! I was just kidding!
Come back!

She SITS on the BED as he stands defiantly to the side.

BRAD
The way you described your client,
I thought he was a random stranger.

AMANDA
Because he is to me now. Seriously.

BRAD
Did you two ever have sex?

AMANDA
No. Can we please drop it? We're
done working together.

BRAD
I just wish you had told me.

AMANDA
I didn't want to worry you for no
reason. I'm sorry... You're the one
I love.

He RELAXES, gets in bed beside her.

BRAD
We still on for our dinner cruise
tomorrow?

AMANDA
...I wouldn't miss it.

He KISSES her. She turns over to sleep, in TURMOIL.

INT. AMANDA'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - MORNING

Kelsey is barking orders at MOVERS.

KELSEY
Everything that's marked with a
post-it is mine. If it doesn't have
a post-it, it's her's. Don't touch
her's. She's getting a U-Haul for
her's.

They start to MOVE THE COUCH, she stops them.

KELSEY (CONT'D)
Do you see a post-it?! Did no one
listen to me?!

INT. AMANDA'S APARTMENT - AMANDA'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Amanda WRAPS UP the last box. She PULLS out a notebook, the backpacking Barcelona PICTURE OF GAVIN is tucked inside. *It survived the shoebox tossing.*

She puts it SIDE BY SIDE with BRAD'S PICTURE, studies them. Her cell RINGS - Gavin.

AMANDA
Hey.

GAVIN (ON PHONE)
Hi. I wanted to drop off the
check...

AMANDA
(torn)
Today's not really a great day. I
need to get a UHaul and I've got
this dinner cruise. It's just kind
of a crazy day.

GAVIN (ON PHONE)
It won't take that long. I'd really
like to finish our conversation
from last night.

She SHAKES her head, knows she should say no - how is it he
always has the worst timing?

INT. AMANDA'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Amanda USHERS Kelsey away from the bustling MOVERS.

AMANDA
I need to talk to you.

KELSEY
What's going on?

AMANDA
I'm freaking out. About getting
engaged.

KELSEY
You wanna talk about this now?

AMANDA

Yes.

Amanda TEARS up.

KELSEY

What's wrong?

AMANDA

I just have these stupid doubts. I mean, I love Brad, I can't imagine not being with him but what if he's not right for me?

KELSEY

Look, it's normal to have doubts. You don't marry someone because they're perfect, you marry someone because... dot dot dot.

AMANDA

What dot dot dot? You marry them because what?

KELSEY

I dunno, I don't believe in marriage. You have to figure out the dot dot dot.

AMANDA

Last night Gavin said he never broke up with me.

KELSEY

(stunned)

What?

AMANDA

(trying to make sense of this)

He never *actually* said he wanted to end it -- and I know it's probably because he was too chickenshit to say the words but -- what if he really wasn't breaking up with me? What if it was just some terrible *misunderstanding*? I mean, I was distancing myself after he told me about Hong Kong, I was hurt and mad. I don't know...

Kelsey gets a PAINED EXPRESSION. She knows something.

AMANDA (CONT'D)

What?

(Kelsey shakes her head)

Kelsey?

KELSEY

Okay... uh...

Amanda's never seen Kelsey at a loss for words before.

KELSEY (CONT'D)

I have to tell you something...

AMANDA

What?

Kelsey MOANS, can't get the words out.

AMANDA (CONT'D)

What?!

KELSEY

I did this to protect you, alright -
so frame everything I'm about to
say with that in mind...

AMANDA

(can't breathe)

What did you do?

KELSEY

Six months after you broke up - he
called. It was the day after the
shoebox funeral and you were in the
shower. When I saw it was him, I
answered your phone.

AMANDA

Why didn't you tell me this?!

KELSEY

For the first time, you were
starting to seem like your old
self. I knew he was just gonna set
you back. *He's not the guy for you.*

AMANDA

What did you say?

KELSEY

I told him that you'd had sex with
a great new guy and you never
wanted to talk to him again.

AMANDA
No.

KELSEY
It was for your own good.

AMANDA
That was not for you to decide. You had no right to do that!

KELSEY
He was terrible for you, Amanda! You would've just gone back and let him break your heart again!

AMANDA
Of course I would've gone back! He was the love of my fucking life!

Amanda HURRIES into her room, GRABS her purse.

KELSEY
Where are you going? Just stop for a second. You have perspective now. You know it all turned out the way it was supposed to.

AMANDA
I don't know anything right now except that you had no fucking business doing that. Stop telling me what to do!

Amanda PUSHES past her to walk out.

EXT. APARTMENT - LATER

Amanda COMES out. Gavin WAITS for her... *And down, down the rabbit hole she goes.*

EXT. STREET - LATER

Amanda and Gavin walk, deep in conversation.

GAVIN
So, you hadn't really moved on?

AMANDA
No. Far from it.

GAVIN
Wow.

AMANDA

What would you have said?

GAVIN

That I missed you.

AMANDA

Did you want to get back together?
Did you want me to move there?

GAVIN

I think I was starting to realize
I'd made a mistake letting you go.

AMANDA

Then why didn't you call again? Why
didn't you try harder?

GAVIN

Would you have called again if
someone told you *something like*
that? ...I should have known that
Kelsey was lying. She was always
meddling in our business. She's a
fucking perpetually single girl who
doesn't want anyone else to be
happy.

She WINCES - this is still her best friend.

AMANDA

No -- I mean, I'm mad at her but I
do think she wants me to be happy.
She was just looking out for me.

GAVIN

I think you're capable of looking
out for yourself.

AMANDA

I've never been good at telling you
"no." You know that. She helped me.

GAVIN

I never thought she was good for
you.

AMANDA

(smiles, gently)
She thinks the same about you.

GAVIN

Well, I'm not the guy I used to be.

AMANDA

...If I had answered, if we had gotten back together and I moved there, do you think we would have made it? I mean, I wasn't the greatest girlfriend back then.

GAVIN

You were perfect.

AMANDA

No, I was clingy. My whole world revolved around you. I'm sure I would've driven you crazy if I moved there. Don't you think we probably would have broken up, anyway? So it all worked out the same?

GAVIN

Or maybe you'd be my wife.

This is the last thing Amanda needs to hear.

AMANDA

(stares off, sad)

I guess it doesn't really matter. It all worked out for the best.

GAVIN

Did it?

AMANDA

Yes. I love Brad.

(quietly)

I didn't come here to get you back, Gavin. I just needed to understand.

He looks away, NODS towards a beautiful Pac Heights mansion for sale.

GAVIN

Have you done any B&E's lately?

AMANDA

Breaking and Enterings? No. My crime spree days ended when you and I did.

GAVIN

You don't travel, don't dance, don't trespass. What happened?

Amanda gives a polite, thoughtful LAUGH. Her cell RINGS. Brad. She FORWARDS it.

Gavin is already WALKING up the driveway.

AMANDA

What are you doing?

GAVIN

When you were mine, you would've
been the first one over the fence.

He DOESN'T TURN BACK, beckoning her to follow.

EXT. MANSION - MINUTES LATER

Amanda FOLLOWS Gavin to the WROUGHT IRON GATE. She LOOKS around nervously.

AMANDA

Really, I don't do this kind of
stuff anymore. I'm very boring.

GAVIN

You're going to be fine.

AMANDA

No, I don't feel comfortable.

GAVIN

Trust me.

Amanda's cell BUZZES. She looks, this time it's Kelsey.
"Where are you?" She SCOWLS, defiantly puts her phone away.

Her anger at Kelsey is enough to send her over the edge.

Gavin BOOSTS her OVER THE GATE. He easily CLIMBS over. They go AROUND THE BACK. Gavin goes to A WINDOW, it DOESN'T OPEN. Amanda LOOKS around.

AMANDA

I don't have a good feeling about
this. I really should get back...

He TRIES the door. It opens. He smiles.

INT. MANSION - DAY

Amanda and Gavin CLIMB inside. She LOOKS around, slowly starts to relax.

GAVIN

See?

AMANDA

Yeah... Until the cops show up.

GAVIN

We're fine.

AMANDA

Do you do this with all the ladies?

GAVIN

Course not. It's our thing.

They WANDER around in awe. She enters THE LIVING ROOM, enormous, elegant, does a 360.

AMANDA

Wow, look at this. This is crazy.
I'm already imagining how I'd
decorate it.

GAVIN

*Maybe you should and we could live
here. We'd have big boisterous
dinner parties.*

Amanda LAUGHS a little sadly, nostalgic, but plays along.

AMANDA

*And the band would set up right
there.*

They go quiet, imagining what will never be. Gavin plays "MIDNIGHT TRAIN TO GEORGIA" on his iPhone. She stares straight forward, can't turn to look at him.

AMANDA (CONT'D)

(laughs to cut the
tension)

You know what's better than a
midnight train to Georgia? A plane.
Speedier.

GAVIN

You've gotten dorkier with age.

AMANDA

It's kind of my defining
characteristic. I've embraced it.

GAVIN

I broke up with Liz. I realized you
were right. She's not my type.

He takes her hand. Her breath catches.

He doesn't ask permission, he just SPINS her around and
starts twirling her around the floor.

GAVIN (CONT'D)

You deserve to dance, Amanda.

Their bodies finding each other's rhythm. There's something
comfortable here, romantic. He pulls her close against him.
She LAUGHS softly.

GAVIN (CONT'D)

What?

AMANDA

You still wear the same cologne.

GAVIN

Guess some things never change.

He LOOKS at her, wants to kiss her, and she pulls away.

AMANDA

(cringes, instinctively)

Brad.

GAVIN

Gavin.

AMANDA

(shakes her head,
flustered)

I'm sorry, I just can't do this. I
just... I can't do this. Brad is
waiting for me.

GAVIN

Look, he's a good guy and I know
you're loyal to the end but I think
you're picking the wrong couch.

AMANDA

What?

GAVIN

Yesterday you said, "you just have
to choose one and trust you made
the right choice." What if you're
not?

(MORE)

GAVIN (CONT'D)

You don't want to spend the rest of your life with regrets. There is always going to be something between us, admit it; you wouldn't be here if you didn't agree.

AMANDA

No, you're right - I came here because I felt like I owed it to myself to see if there was... but all I feel now is guilt.

He bridges the distance, brings her towards him.

AMANDA (CONT'D)

(weak, losing her will
power, pleading)

I need to go, Gavin.

GAVIN

Come on, remember when we broke into that house in the Marina in the pouring rain and went upstairs and had sex on the bare floor. And the Realtor walked in downstairs.

Amanda gives him a small smile.

AMANDA

Wow...

GAVIN

Yeah...?

AMANDA

No, it's a great story. Wrong girl.

She PULLS him off her and WALKS AWAY. His face falls. FUCK.

GAVIN

Come on!

She puts her HAND up dismissively.

GAVIN (CONT'D)

Where are you going?

AMANDA

I know what the dot dot dot is.

EXT. MANSION - MINUTES LATER

Gavin FOLLOWS after. Amanda STRADDLES the gate. Her shorts catch mid-jump.

A POLICE SIREN chirps. She looks up, dangles precariously from the Gate, her shorts RIP all the way up the leg.

AMANDA
Oh, fuck me.

And she lands with a THUD.

INT. SQUAD CAR - MINUTES LATER

Amanda and Gavin sit in the back, on the way to the station.

AMANDA
(stares out window,
freaking out, whispers)
No, no. This can not happen. I'm
gonna miss the dinner cruise!

GAVIN
(glances at cops)
Shh... Calm down...

AMANDA
No! I told you this was a bad idea
and you didn't listen!

GAVIN
If this is about the comment in
there - I'm sorry - that didn't
happen when I was with you.

AMANDA
Ugh, it's not about that you
trespassed with other girls and had
sex.

GAVIN
(glances again at cops)
Maybe we should talk about this
later.

AMANDA
No, please, whenever you say, "we
should talk about this later," the
conversation never happens. I want
to say this. *It's that I actually
hate this adventure shit, I always
have.*

(MORE)

AMANDA (CONT'D)

And if I didn't act like that when I was dating you, it was because I was doing everything I could to be exactly what you wanted. And it's that when I make a dorky pun, you don't make one back.

GAVIN

A what?

AMANDA

And mostly, it's because I don't trust you. Not just with what you say. I don't trust you with my heart.

GAVIN

Because of one comment?

AMANDA

No, because if you loved me, really loved me, you would have fought for me. But you didn't, and that was my answer.

GAVIN

I called-

AMANDA

*Don't blame this on Kelsey. You've always hated her because she could see through you when I couldn't. You called *one time after six months*? You didn't love me. After a three year relationship, you didn't even have the decency to properly break up with me.*

GAVIN

You're right. I didn't handle it well. The last thing I wanted to do was hurt you. I didn't know what I was doing, I thought if I let you down gently.

AMANDA

Oh, bullshit. You didn't let me down gently. You didn't let me down at all. You just left hanging. I had to draw my own conclusions. And believe me, when you're in love, you can rationalize for a long time that there's a chance. It took a long time for me to give up.

(MORE)

AMANDA (CONT'D)

But I did give up. I moved on. And I met a great guy. You would leave me hanging forever if I let you.

The squad car STOPS. The Officer PULLS OUT Amanda.

AMANDA (CONT'D)

And I just realized you probably did the same thing with Liz.

As a COP pulls Gavin out, she LOOKS at his STRICKEN FACE and realizes she's right. She LAUGHS sadly.

AMANDA (CONT'D)

Wow, I'm right. You didn't break up with her, did you?

(then, sincere, slow)

You're that guy you date when you're twenty four and don't know any better. But there's a reason you go through that - so that you learn from your mistakes. And it might have taken me a long time to realize it -- but I finally know 100% positively, Gavin -- you're not my fucking couch.

And just like that, Amanda is hauled away.

INT. POLICE STATION - DAY

Amanda gets FINGER PRINTED.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. POLICE STATION - HOURS LATER

An OFFICER releases Amanda from HER HOLDING CELL. She WALKS down the hall, sees Kelsey waiting for her. They hug.

KELSEY

I'm so sorry. You were right, I shouldn't have done that.

AMANDA

No, you were looking out for me.
Thank you.

KELSEY

We should probably hurry or you're gonna miss the boat. Which sounds like a metaphor but it's not.

They pull apart and hurry out.

EXT. EMBARCADERO - SUNSET

Kelsey drops Amanda off, she takes off RUNNING. Seagulls FLY OFF in all directions. We hear the BLASTING HORN of the HORNBLOWER DINNER CRUISE.

STRANGER
Run, girl, run!

AMANDA
Thank you, very helpful.

Amanda BREAKS through a WEDDING PARTY posing for a photo on bicycles. The bikes CRASH to the floor.

AMANDA (CONT'D)
(turns, apologetically)
As you were.

She TURNS OFF and heads DOWN THE DOCK, arms pumping. Just as the SHIP parts from the dock. DOCK HANDS remove the ropes.

AMANDA (CONT'D)
Wait! Wait! Wait!

But the BOAT continues. She RUNS all the way TO THE EDGE, looks like she's about to leap the few feet but it's just a little too far. The ROAR of the engines drown out her YELLS.

AMANDA (CONT'D)
Stop that dinner cruise!

She RUNS to a DOCKHAND.

AMANDA (CONT'D)
I'm late! Can you get it to turn back?

DOCK HAND
No.

AMANDA
Please! It's right there!

DOCK HAND
Sorry. There's nothing I can do.

AMANDA
I'll pay you everything I have.
(pulls out three dollars)
Can't you radio them or something?!

DOCK HAND
I'm sorry.

Amanda BURSTS INTO TEARS.

DOCK HAND (CONT'D)
There'll be another dinner cruise
in twenty minutes...
(then)
This is an awkward moment so I'm
just gonna...

The Dock Hand WALKS OFF. Amanda stands there, DIALS Brad.

BRAD (ON PHONE)
Hey.

AMANDA
Brad! I'm so sorry! I'm so sorry
I'm late!

BRAD (ON PHONE)
Where were you?

AMANDA
I was wrongfully imprisoned. Kinda
wrongfully.

BRAD (ON PHONE)
Is that why you look like a bad mug
shot right now?

Amanda RUNS her hands through her WIND BLOWN HAIR.

AMANDA
Huh?

She LOOKS at the boat that is too far away now. She SPINS
around, searching the crowd.

There on a bench, waiting for her is BRAD. Sweet, wonderful
Brad. She RUNS over, relieved, *all apologies*.

AMANDA (CONT'D)
Brad! You didn't get on the boat.

BRAD
Of course not. I wouldn't get on
without you.

AMANDA
I love you so much. I'm so sorry.

She tries to KISS him but he RECOILS.

BRAD
Where were you? Where were you
really?

Time to lie or tell the truth.

AMANDA
With Gavin.

BRAD
(smiles coldly)
The guy you only went on a couple
dates with, right?

Amanda FREEZES.

BRAD (CONT'D)
I came over to your place to help
move your things. I wanted to
surprise you. This fell out of your
stuff.

Brad HANDS her the BARCELONA PHOTO of Amanda kissing Gavin.

BRAD (CONT'D)
Was Barcelona your first date or
second?

Fuck.

BRAD (CONT'D)
I came here, anyway, tonight
because I hoped there was some
explanation, that you haven't just
been lying to me this whole time.

AMANDA
Nothing bad happened between him
and I, I promise. Nothing ever
will. I'm so sorry I lied. I
should've told you. I just didn't
want you to feel jealous I was
working with an ex.

BRAD
It's one thing to lie because you
didn't want me to feel jealous.
It's another thing to lie because
it allows you to *hang out* with him.

AMANDA
You're right, I'm so sorry.

BRAD

What were you doing? Why were you arrested?

AMANDA

He dropped off the check and we went for a walk and we were having this closure conversation that we never had before and we decided to go inside this house that was for sale and I guess it was private property.

BRAD

You guess? You were in some empty house with him? Having a closure conversation? I can't listen to this. You're making me sick.

Brad GETS UP and starts WALKING AWAY. Amanda RUNS after.

AMANDA

I can see how - it's making me sick saying it over right now.

He stops, WHIPS towards her.

BRAD

What was wrong with us?

AMANDA

Nothing!

BRAD

You wouldn't have let him back into your life unless something was missing with us.

He starts WAVING down a cab.

AMANDA

No. If anything, something was missing with me before I met you. It had nothing to do with you. I just had this question I needed to answer.

BRAD

That sucks because I didn't have any questions. But now I do.

A cab STOPS, he GETS in.

BRAD (CONT'D)
Don't bother finishing my
grandmother's living room. Now you
can just focus completely on Gavin.

AMANDA
Brad-

She REACHES out to him.

BRAD
Don't - I can't talk to you right
now. Don't call me.

He shuts the door. The cab TAKES OFF, leaving Amanda there
holding the Polaroid of Gavin.

EXT. EMBARCADERO - NIGHT

Amanda SITS on the park bench, STARING OFF.

EXT. THRIFT STORE - NIGHT

Amanda WALKS home, looks in the store window. Sadly sees the
See/Hear/Speak-No-Evil monkey knickknacks.

INT. AMANDA'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Amanda WALKS in. It's dark, half empty. Only her boxes and
couch remain.

INT. SUNDELL DESIGN FIRM - AMANDA'S OFFICE - MORNING

Amanda dials on her DESK PHONE.

BRAD VOICEMAIL (ON PHONE)
Hey, it's Brad. Leave a message.

AMANDA
I know you said not to call. But
please call me back. I won six
hundred and fifty million dollars
and don't have anyone to share it
with. This is the worst day of my
life.

Amanda HANGS UP, slumps, staring off.

KELSEY (O.S.)
Hey.

Kelsey STANDS at the door.

KELSEY (CONT'D)
Roberto's on the phone with a
question about the plumbing.
(beat)
Tell him you'll call back?

Amanda NODS, crestfallen.

AMANDA
Look at this. He went to Angel
Island, anyway.

Amanda shows an Instagram of Meg and Brad setting up camp.

AMANDA (CONT'D)
It didn't take her five fucking
minutes to swoop.

KELSEY
I told you, they have a radar for
that shit.

INT. KELSEY'S NEW STUDIO APARTMENT - DAY

Kelsey OPENS the door. Amanda's there with a SUITCASE and
SEVERAL BOXES, RED-FACED AND SOBBING.

KELSEY
This isn't exactly what I
envisioned when I decided to get my
own place.

INT. KELSEY'S NEW STUDIO APARTMENT - DAY

Kelsey can hear Amanda SINGING "How Am I Supposed To Live
Without You," in the bathroom. Kelsey KNOCKS.

KELSEY
You sound like you're wearing
sweatpants.

INT. KELSEY'S MICRO-BATHROOM - DAY

Kelsey ENTERS. Amanda SITS in the world's smallest empty tub
in a onesie.

AMANDA

The bad news is: I screwed up and lost the trust of the one guy I love most in this world. The good news is: turns out you don't need an excuse to drink during the day. You just need a bottle opener.

She shows her wine bottle, HICCUPS.

KELSEY

Wow, you're a lot right now.

AMANDA

Well, *technically*.

Kelsey TAKES the bottle.

KELSEY

I like drinking excessively as much as the next guy but not in the bathroom. *It's too circle of life.* Can we also change Depress FM? I feel like I'm on suicide watch.

Kelsey SITS on THE CLOSED TOILET, CHANGES the song.

AMANDA

No, it's my pity party. I'll cry if you want to.

Amanda CHANGES the song back. Kelsey CHANGES it again. Amanda FLAILS, SLAPPING for control of the iPod but loses.

AMANDA (CONT'D)

Why are you so bossy and strong?

KELSEY

Because it's *my* tub-

AMANDA

--I thought this was a sink.

KELSEY

--In *my* bathroom. So you play by *my* rules. This is a no wallow zone.

(SLAPS Amanda's shoulder
as she tries for the
iPod)

I already went through one Gavin heartbreak with you. I'm not nursing you through another.

AMANDA
(slaps Kelsey's leg)
I'm heartbroken over Brad!

KELSEY
(squirts soap on her)
Because of Gavin. Guilt by
association.

Amanda LEAPS OUT and TACKLES Kelsey. They WRESTLE, *partly laughing but also with extreme irritation*. They start WHIPPING each other with HAND TOWELS.

KELSEY (CONT'D)
Lay down your sword!

AMANDA
You first!
(clearly losing)
My motor skills are impaired!

Amanda GIVES UP, LAYS in a lump on the tile floor.

AMANDA (CONT'D)
Defeat.

Kelsey KICKS her for good measure.

AMANDA (CONT'D)
Don't kick me.

KELSEY
You know I have a mean side. It's
too tempting.

Kelsey kicks her again. Amanda MOANS sadly.

AMANDA
You're literally kicking me when
I'm down... *Brad would've loved
that pun.*

KELSEY
Amanda...

AMANDA
I don't know what I'm gonna do.

KELSEY
I have news.

AMANDA
He hates me. He doesn't even want
to split my fake lottery winnings.

KELSEY

Amanda. My old boss called. She's giving me my marketing job back.

It takes a beat for this to land.

AMANDA

(sits up)

You're giving me your notice on a toilet?

KELSEY

Is that okay?

AMANDA

Yeah. I'm happy for you. This is what you wanted. I just thought you were getting along with Grace.

KELSEY

I was but it's like what you said to Gavin - when you love something, you fight for it. So, I fought for this...

AMANDA

(smirks slightly)

I guess it is your calling to have a job that entails shaming people into believing what you tell them to.

KELSEY

They call it a Gift.

Amanda kicks Kelsey.

KELSEY (CONT'D)

Don't start this again.

AMANDA

(sighs)

Brad didn't fight for us at all. I guess that's my answer. He didn't really love me.

KELSEY

You're the one that messed up, you idiot. YOU have to *fight for him*.

Amanda considers this - oh. She HICCUPS.

EXT. DOCK - EVENING

Amanda and Kelsey RUN UP to the Dockhand as another Cruise Liner DEPARTS.

DOCK HAND

Sorry, this was the last one of the night to Angel Island.

AMANDA

Oh no...

DOCK HAND

Seriously lady, can't you start looking up our schedule? It's online.

Amanda and Kelsey LOOK AROUND, dismayed.

KELSEY

I have an idea...

BALLOON OPERATOR (*PRELAP*)

It's a great view from up here, folks. Right there you can see Alcatrez.

INT. HOT AIR BALLOON - SUNSET

Amanda and Kelsey ride across the fiery red sky in a Hot Air Balloon. A CANOODLING YOUNG ASIAN COUPLE snap photos, beside the BALLOON OPERATOR.

KELSEY

See?! I told you they're a great mode of transportation!

(to Balloon Operator)

Frank, we're gonna need to step on it.

(to Couple)

Sorry to interrupt, you're a very sweet couple, and I don't want to ruin anything but we're in a big rush so if you have any plans of proposing, can you just wait? Future congratulations, though.

Amanda HANDS Kelsey a card. She opens it.

KELSEY (CONT'D)

A gift certificate to Whole Foods?

AMANDA

Four years ago, you gave me a rousing speech in a headlock about how letting the wrong guy walk out of my life is the only way to let the right guy in... So, thank you. But if this doesn't go well, I'm going to need to take that back.

EXT. ANGEL ISLAND - CAMPSITE - NIGHT

The Hot Air Balloon LANDS. Amanda and Kelsey GET OUT, take off RUNNING.

KELSEY

What campsite is it?

AMANDA

I have no idea.

KELSEY

Great.

AMANDA

Brad?!

KELSEY

Brad?!

They run through CAMPSITES, calling out for BRAD.

AMANDA

Brad?!

RANDOM CUTE GUY

Yes?

AMANDA

Wrong Brad.

KELSEY

But I might come back for you later.

They keep RUNNING.

KELSEY (CONT'D)

Hayes family at large?!

AMANDA

I think that's it...

They come up on the HAYES' CAMPSITE. Amanda sees Brad, Meg, Grandma Thora, Cousin Jim, Uncle Ted, Nicky - thirty friends and family members around a campfire, talking.

AMANDA (CONT'D)
Brad?!

BRAD
Amanda??

Amanda ZEROS in on Meg sitting beside Brad. Amanda looks around at the large clan, DELIVERS her grand gesture speech.

AMANDA
I'm so sorry, I shouldn't have hung out with my ex and I know I screwed up but I'm here to fight for you.

Everyone is STUNNED SILENT.

AMANDA (CONT'D)
(whispers)
I don't think he told anyone.

KELSEY
(whispers)
I'm getting that impression.

Brad STANDS.

BRAD
Amanda, let's talk in private.

His normal warmth is gone. She FOLLOWS.

AMANDA
I'm so sorry-

BRAD
(still walking)
--Not yet.

AMANDA
--Okay.
(whispers)
You're not dating Meg are you?

BRAD
What? No. It's been one day.

They reach the steps of AN OUTDOOR AMPHITHEATER built off the hill - it's empty other than a couple KIDS and GUY playing his GUITAR. Brad stops WALKING, turns to her.

BRAD (CONT'D)

I appreciate you coming here - but
don't think that changes
everything.

AMANDA

I know. I'm so sorry. You're the
one thing I'm sure about in this
whole world and I screwed it up.

BRAD

You lied to me. How am I supposed
to trust you?

AMANDA

You know me. I've always been
Honest Abe.

BRAD

Not this time. Not when it counted.

AMANDA

I know.

(timidly -- *this isn't
going well*)

Which is why I brought these...

She pulls out the missing companions to his monkey knickknack
- The Hear and Speak-No-Evil guys.

AMANDA (CONT'D)

So that they can keep me from ever
falling off track again. I know
that they're not that impressive
but I am so in love with you.
You're the coolest guy I've ever
met.

BRAD

No, come on.

AMANDA

No, Brad, you're so cool. Whenever
we're together, *things get great*.
And yeah, we don't have everything
in common and neither of us is
perfect but *love isn't about
finding the perfect person* --

Amanda DROPS DOWN TO ONE KNEE.

AMANDA (CONT'D)

*Love is about seeing an imperfect
person perfectly.*

BRAD

No, get up, what are you doing?

He BRINGS her OFF HER KNEE.

BRAD (CONT'D)

Amanda, you don't get to propose to me.

She CAN'T LOOK AT HIM, nods, realizing she really has fucked this up for good. Tears STREAM down her face.

AMANDA

(nods)

Sorry. I understand.

Even though she doesn't really understand. Even though her heart is BREAKING. She always tries so hard to be polite.She doesn't see... *that he's gotten down on his own knee.*

BRAD

...Because I'm proposing to you.

He holds the RING in his hand. Amanda GASPS, tries to catch up to her own emotions.

BRAD (CONT'D)

So quit hijacking my proposal.

AMANDA

Ohmygosh... Yes!

BRAD

I haven't asked yet. I hoped you would come here tonight...

AMANDA

Yes!

(off his look)

Sorry, got too excited.

BRAD

I was sitting here getting jealous of a guy trying to steal my girlfriend but I realized, I'm the one he should be jealous of. Gavin was right to fight for you - you are worth fighting for, Amanda. But I don't care that he missed out, tough shit, I'm your man now.

AMANDA
 (laughs between tears)
 Hell yes you are.

BRAD
 And I know I can be set in my ways
 sometimes about certain things but
 I'm still growing and if you're
 willing, I'd like to spend the rest
 of my life, doing it with you.

AMANDA
 Yes! Oh god, yes please. I do.

She JUMPS on him, WRAPPING her legs around him. SPARKLERS set off around them.

BRAD
 Maybe we could honeymoon in Paris.
 I heard about this great deal in
 the seventh arrondissement.

AMANDA
 (laughs)
 Pierre!

BRAD
 But the monkey knickknacks, I hope
 you know, are staying.

AMANDA
 We could have a million monkey
 knickknacks, I don't care! ...Maybe
 not a million.

He SETS her down. She looks around in awe at the lights.

AMANDA (CONT'D)
 How did you do this?

BRAD
 I had a little help.

He LOOKS OVER and we see KELSEY standing to the side. Her best friend who really does have her best interest at heart.

AMANDA
 You surprised me.

BRAD
 That's the point, isn't it?
 (holds out his hand)
 Would you like to dance?

She LOOKS around at the few people milling around.

AMANDA
No one's dancing.

BRAD
We are.

She WRAPS her arms around him, they *never take their eyes off each other, moving to the guy's simple song on a guitar...*

BRAD (CONT'D)
Well, at least trying to.

AMANDA
I think we're just hugging in
rhythm.

BRAD
I wouldn't call this rhythm.

They GIGGLE, *lost in each other's embrace.* Suddenly, POP MUSIC blasts from a stereo. She LAUGHS, moment over... But then Brad backs up and STARTS DANCING SOLO MOVES.

AMANDA
(laughs)
What are you doing?

BRAD
You asked for this.

AMANDA
(teases)
Did I?

From OUT OF NOWHERE, their friends and family appear. Cousin Jim, Nicky, Kelsey, Uncle Ted, Grandma Thora. A FLASH MOB.

They start doing an ELABORATE CHOREOGRAPHED DANCE with Brad at the helm. Amanda LAUGHS, CLAPS, loving it.

He brings her in, twirling her, as the MUSIC hits its PEAK. A BREAKDANCER slides across the ground, busts a finale move.

AMANDA (CONT'D)
Who is that?

BRAD
I have no idea.

They LAUGH, as they watch, holding each other close.

BRAD (CONT'D)

Now your next client's not gonna be
your long lost secret admirer from
third grade or something, right?

AMANDA

(giggles)

No, promise.

BRAD

What about Pepe from that steamy
summer you spent abroad. He might
want a new master suite.

AMANDA

Not him either. And I never studied
abroad... But I did study a 'bro.

BRAD

Too soon. Nice pun, though.

She kisses him a million times and says:

AMANDA

I missed you missed you missed you.

BRAD

It's nice to be missed.

And they lived... *Nerdily...Ever...After.*

FADE OUT:

OVER CREDITS WE WATCH:

EXT. STREET - DAY

Kelsey dressed up as a banana, dancing.

*