

Queen

Written By

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TIGHT ON FEET as they step inside a pair of PINK HIGH HEELS WIDEN TO REVEAL the feet belong to what appears to be a YOUNG GIRL (around 6) who is mid-shimmying into an oversized PINK FLORAL DRESS.

CLEVER FRAMING WILL KEEP THE YOUNG GIRL'S FACE A MYSTERY as she struts--

INT. BEDROOM - DAY

-- alone in her bedroom, and we hear a VOICE OVER narrate her fierce, super model cat-walk. The voice over should be bubbly and over-confident - *the epitome of a teenage girl*:

TEENAGE GIRL (V.O.)
I grew up idolizing 90's characters like Cher from *Clueless*, Elle Woods from *Legally Blonde*, and I dream of one day being like Carrie from *Sex and the City*... well, actually, I'm more of a Samantha *t.b.h.*

As the Young Girl sashays back and forth we'll get a tour of her bedroom: dressers covered in BARBIE DOLLS, a lush bed filled with beanie babies, lavender walls swathed in her favorite MOVIE POSTERS noted above.

TEENAGE GIRL (V.O.)
I just want so badly to be the "It Girl" of my high school. The Prom Queen...

Young Girl sits at a VANITY, reaches for her favorite RED LIPSTICK, and starts applying it to her lips as we finally PULL BACK and see her FACE for the first time and REVEAL--

COREY FKA TEENAGE GIRL (V.O.)
... but that just never seemed like a real possibility to me.

-- the Young Girl is actually what appears to be a YOUNG BOY with short blonde hair. This is **COREY WAGNER** (at 6), and we'll soon learn that Corey is much more than meets the eye.

(NOTE: *For clarity's sake, until Corey transitions and presents as female in this script we will use the masculine pronouns of he/him/his for Corey. However, make no mistake, Corey was born a Transgender Woman.*)

Suddenly Corey will hear a sound OFF SCREEN, and turn to find in the BEDROOM DOORWAY--

Corey's older brother, **MATTHEW WAGNER** (around 8) is watching Corey's game of *dress up* with an unreadable expression. *How does he feel about his little brother dressing as a girl?*

REVEAL Matthew is holding SCISSORS behind his back, before he smiles a devilish grin. He proceeds to snatch a Barbie Doll from a dresser and cut its hair off, while Corey screams--

COREY
(calling off)
MOM!!!

INT. HALLWAY - DAY

COREY (V.O.)
My mom always said she wanted the white picket fence lifestyle. But instead, well, voila...

Corey sits outside a KINDERGARTEN CLASSROOM DOOR. He holds a BARBIE DOLL and kicks his legs impatiently. PUSH PAST THE CLASSROOM WINDOW AND FIND INSIDE--

INT. KINDERGARTEN CLASSROOM - SAME

JUDY WAGNER (in her early 30's) sits across from a kindergarten teacher, **MISS AUSTIN**, who will soon learn that Judy is a ferocious Mama Bear disguised as a 5 foot nothing beautician with perfectly blown out blonde hair.

MISS AUSTIN
This is serious. Corey has been trying on dresses, playing with dolls, and painting his nails. I asked Corey what he wants to be when he grows up, and do you want to know what he said?

Off Judy's silence, Miss Austin answers--

MISS AUSTIN (CONT'D)
... Prom Queen. Needless to say this is quite alarming behavior.

JUDY
I don't know what to say. I'm just very disappointed... in you, Miss Austin.

Miss Austin raises her eyebrows, surprised.

JUDY (CONT'D)

Listen, if you ever tell my child
what they can or cannot play with,
or wear, or want to be - I will
bury you in so much paperwork your
head will spin. Got it?

Judy tries to storm out, but can't. REVEAL she is stuck,
struggling to get out of a TINY KINDERGARTEN CHAIR.

INT. DINER - DAY

Post meeting, Corey and Judy sit in a booth for a pick me up
meal. Corey's head is down as he fiddles with his Barbie,
sulking - feeling bad about himself.

JUDY

Y'know I was bullied when I was
your age. People called me stupid
and said I wouldn't amount to
anything. But all I ever wanted to
be was a Mom, and I'm so lucky and
grateful that I get to be your Mom.

Corey looks up, peers into Judy's eyes - making sure she's
telling the truth.

JUDY (CONT'D)

I want you to remember to always be
yourself no matter what. Okay?

Corey thinks. Then--

COREY

Even if I wear my shirt like this?

He rolls up his shirt so it looks like he's wearing a BRA.

JUDY

(smiling)

*Especially if you wear your shirt
like that. But the thing is, I'll
have to wear it like that too.*

Judy rolls up her shirt like a bra too. They both giggle,
before an OLD WAITRESS plops down a CHOCOLATE SUNDAE in front
of them with a SLAM!

The Old Waitress glares at Corey and Judy. Shakes her head,
disapproving. Corey looks around the room to find--

EVERYONE AT THE RESTAURANT STARING (A CHEF, A MAN AT THE
COUNTER, A FAMILY IN A BOOTH) - ALL uncomfortable.

ON COREY taking their judgemental looks to heart.

COREY (V.O.)
I learned early on that my natural
desires weren't normal...

INT. BATHROOM, TEMPLE - LATER

STEVEN
Do you feel like a man, Corey?

COREY (now 13) shoots a look that says, NO. He pouts in his BAR MITZVAH SUIT and TALLIT as his step-dad, **STEVEN** (40's, faded hunk) puts the finishing touches on his tie.

STEVEN (CONT'D)
I love you, Corey.

COREY
Thanks, Steven.

Steven was hoping for a warmer response, but shakes it off before he exits the bathroom - giving Corey some privacy.

Corey gets one last look in the mirror, and exhales, hating his BOY WARDROBE.

He unbuttons his shirt and REVEALS that underneath his suit, he's wearing a PINK DRESS. Corey is like *Clark Kent* and the dress is his Superhero Suit.

COREY (V.O.)
... so I decided to keep that part
of me a secret as I got older.

WE PUSH IN TIGHT ON Corey's striking GREEN EYES in the MIRROR, as we--

MATCH CUT TO:

TIGHT ON the same GREEN EYES, but **four years later...**

INT. COREY'S BEDROOM - HALLOWEEN MORNING

WE PULL BACK revealing COREY (now 17) sits at a desk, staring into a mirror, drawing a self-portrait at an EASEL.

We get a long look at Corey now. Baby-faced. Shaggy blonde hair. He appears to be a normal, cis-gender boy until he brushes a strand out of his eyes. Corey has an unmistakable *feminine aura and energy* that we'll soon learn leads many people to suspect that he might be gay.

HANNAH (O.S.)

Corey, what's your favorite type of porn? Is it lesbian, or is it anal?

REVEAL **HANNAH GREEN** (17, heavyset, Corey's "girlfriend") lays in bed looking at PORN. Corey ignores, *laser focused*.

HANNAH (CONT'D)

Hello. Mr. Artiste. Corey...

Frustrated, Hannah rips out her headphones and blasts *LOUD MOANING* to get Corey's attention...

COREY

(whips around)

What the hell, Hannah!? My parents will hear!

Corey dive bombs the bed, and playfully wrestles her to turn it off.

HANNAH

They'll just assume it's us. Hell, maybe it should be?

CAMERA may catch Corey's uneasy look, before arriving back at the self-portrait that depicts Corey as a GIRL, as we CUT TO:

HIGH ABOVE SUBURBIA--

The camera is a ghost soaring past the cookie cutter McMansions and white picket fences of Short Hills, NJ.

COREY (PRE-LAP)

(singing)

Each morning I get up I die a little! Can barely stand on my feet!

JUDY (PRE-LAP)

(panicked)

Stop singing and focus on the road!

INT. CAR - IN MOTION - HALLOWEEN DAY

Corey belts **QUEEN'S "SOMEBODY TO LOVE"** as he drives with JUDY (now in her late 30's) in the passenger seat, bracing herself for a crash, and Hannah in the back seat enjoying the wild ride. (NOTE: *QUEEN'S songs are the unofficial, extremely cost prohibitive soundtrack to this film*)

Corey and Judy argue while Corey drives erratically--

COREY
Stop side seat driving, Mom!
(back to singing)
Take a look in the mirror and
cyyy!

JUDY
You're going to get us killed if
you don't focus!

COREY
What's the point of having my
license if you're going to
micromanage me?

JUDY
Stop sign - Stop sign - STOP SIGN!

EXT. STREET - SAME

Corey's CAR blows past the STOP SIGN, and screeches to a halt in the middle of the STREET, before the car lurches forward, narrowly avoiding oncoming traffic.

INT. CAR - IN MOTION - MOMENTS LATER

Corey continues driving as if nothing happened for a few silent beats, while Judy fumes, and Hannah tries to keep a straight face in the backseat.

COREY
What? I *totally* paused.

JUDY
You need to come to a full stop,
Corey! What the hell?

COREY
No, like Cher - "*I paused.*" Get it?

Hannah busts up laughing. Meanwhile, Judy does not think this is funny - at all. She crosses her arms, annoyed.

COREY (CONT'D)
Fine! You drive if you're going to
be this controlling.

Corey pulls over. They get out and switch places.

As Judy proceeds to drive, we should get the sense that this isn't the only part of Corey's life where Judy likes to be in the driver's seat...

EXT. SHORT HILLS HIGH SCHOOL - HALLOWEEN MORNING

Judy's ACURA pulls into the DROP OFF LINE behind a long line of DESIGNER CARS. This is the # 1 public high school in New Jersey, as noted by a sign on the lawn, and it's the type of uber wealthy town where if you drive an Acura you're considered poor.

INSIDE JUDY'S CAR--

Judy ad-libs good-bye to Hannah who exits the car, while Corey gathers his bag and a TRAY OF COFFEES, giving them one last moment alone.

JUDY

When are you going to let me put
some highlights in your hair? You'd
look so handsome with highlights,
Mr. President.

COREY (V.O.)

My mom starts off every morning
telling me how handsome I am. I
hate that word... *handsome*.

COREY

I'm still campaigning, so don't
jinx me!

Corey, backpack slung over his shoulder, slams the door shut.

INT. ENTRYWAY, SHORT HILLS HIGH SCHOOL - HALLOWEEN MORNING

TIGHT ON **SASHA SALES** (17, high school gorgeous, the ring leader of the "It" Girls) as she hands out ELECTION PINS in front of her CAMPAIGN POSTER. Her poster looks identical to "Obama's Change Poster", only Sasha wears a revealing outfit that highlights her ample cleavage.

Corey and Hannah approach Sasha, who is their close friend - that they both secretly hate, because, like, High School.

HANNAH

(fake)

Love the poster, Sasha!

SASHA

(faker)

Thanks, babe! Had to bring out the
big guns if I wanted to beat your
lover boy this year.

COREY
(under his breath to
Hannah)

*She really brought out the big guns
alright.*

Corey and Hannah share a smile before heading in opposite directions, when Corey is greeted by **ROBBIE LIPPMAN** (17, a chubby teddy bear). He's Corey's vice presidential running mate, and a proud resident of the C-List at Short Hills High.

ROBBIE
How can you talk to Sasha after she
started that rumor?

COREY
She's a friend, Robbie. And we
don't know it was her.

Corey joins Robbie in front of their own CAMPAIGN POSTER. They hand out their election PINS as they talk--

ROBBIE
Don't be naive. Remember in eighth
grade when Sasha told everyone I
had sex with a bowl of potato
salad?

COREY
Yeah. But that was true.

ROBBIE
I told her that in confidence!
People still call me Mayo Dick.

COREY
Robbie, we're going to win this
election no matter what rumors are
spread about us, and you want to
know why?

(Robbie shrugs, why?)
Because no one wants an idiot in
charge of Senior Prom. Last week,
Sasha left her car running for the
entire day and nearly started a
fire.

ROBBIE
That was endearing.

COREY
She got arrested for smoking weed
in front of the police station.

ROBBIE
It got expunged.

COREY
She sent naked pics to the wrong
Brian. That Brian was her Dad!

ROBBIE
That can't be true.

COREY
It is. So relax.

ROBBIE
But, that rumor is killing us.

COREY
No one thinks we're gay. I mean, I
have a girlfriend for chrissakes!

VOICE (PRE-LAP)
What are you two *fags* staring at?

THE VOICE, **HENNIE BURN** (17, a jock who is cockier than he
should be) throws his arms around Corey and Robbie.

ROBBIE
Hennie, you can't say fag anymore.

HENNIE
Don't be a little fag, Robbie. I
hear you both ate each other's
little dicks this summer?

COREY
It's a rumor, Hennie! Jesus!
(lying)
The only thing I ate this summer
was Hannah's pus-say, ass-hole.

HENNIE
Bullshit.

COREY
(totally lying)
Swear to God. I am the champion of
eating box now.

HENNIE
If that's true, you are what you
eat. A big-fat-vagina! See you fags
at Neko's tonight.

Hennie saunters off.

ROBBIE

So Neko's having a Halloween party
tonight?

COREY

Uh, yeah. It's going to be super
small. I'll see if I can get you
in, but I'll have to pull strings.

ROBBIE

No worries. I'm just going to stay
in and study. Without VP on my
resume, I might not even get into
Rutgers.

COREY

Relax, Robbie. We've got this!

A few students wearing "SASHA SALES FOR PRESIDENT" PINS amble
by. Corey and Robbie exchange a nervous glance.

INT. MAIN OFFICE - HALLOWEEN DAY

TIGHT ON THE TRAY OF COFFEES as Corey doles them out.

COREY

Tall, skinny, caramel latte, Mo'.

MONIQUE "MO" PEREZ (40's, the Receptionist) takes her coffee.

MONIQUE

Thanks, Handsome.

Corey winces at *handsome*, before--

COREY

So, any word on the competition?

MONIQUE

It ain't looking good. Sasha Sales
has 300 signatures.

COREY

That bitch!

DR. PITTS (O.S.)

Language, Mr. Wagner.

DR. PITTS (50's), the no-nonsense Principal, enters. She has
piercing eyes that peer through a mop of wild hair.

COREY

Apologies, Dr. Pitts. One black coffee for my favorite Principal.

DR. PITTS

Thanks, Corey. Do me a favor and take home our student handbook and review our language policy tonight.

She studies his stylish outfit, particularly his DEEP V-NECK.

DR. PITTS (CONT'D)

And while you're at it, take a look at our dress code. Your shirt is basically touching your belly-button.

COREY

(in jest)

Is my chest that distracting?

(off Dr. Pitts glare)

I'll take a look at that handbook.

INT. AP CALCULUS CLASS - HALLOWEEN DAY

An AP CALCULUS TEACHER dozes off while the students take a SCANTRON TEST. Corey lets an ENTIRE ROW of students lean over to get a better look at his test. Corey turns and whispers--

COREY

--Vote Wagner!

COREY (V.O.)

I had to get creative in order to beat Sasha Sales...

INT. HEALTH CLASS - HALLOWEEN DAY

COREY (V.O.)

The wannabee, slutty cheerleaders needed help in Health Class...

WANNABEE, SLUTTY CHEERLEADERS peek at Corey's test sheet. There's a DIAGRAM OF "THE MALE REPRODUCTIVE SYSTEM" on the CHALKBOARD in the background.

INT. AP ITALIAN CLASS - HALLOWEEN DAY

COREY (V.O.)
The cool Jews and the fantasy
football loving Jews needed help
with AP Italian...

ONE ROW of stoner-type boys with flipped hair peek at Corey's scantron. ANOTHER ROW of boys wearing jerseys peek too.

INT. AP GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS CLASS - HALLOWEEN DAY

COREY (V.O.)
The Christian stoner lax players,
and the Christian soccer jocks
needed help in AP GOPO.

ONE ROW of long haired DUDES lean over to get a look. ANOTHER ROW of Brooks Brothers-esque soccer players, including Hennie, lean over too.

INT. AP BIOLOGY CLASS - HALLOWEEN DAY

COREY (V.O.)
The "It" Girls all needed help in
AP Bio, because they couldn't
remember anything aside from the
outline of Mr. Shilp's bulge.

TIGHT ON the LARGE OUTLINE of Mr. Shilp's penis in his pants. Corey's eyes linger on Mr. Shilp's bulge, while the "It" Girls lean over to get a look at Corey's test.

COREY (V.O.)
But my talents weren't limited to
test answers...

INT. AP ART CLASS - HALLOWEEN DAY

We are underneath a DESK where TWO FEET are locked in a FOOTSIE BATTLE. Nudging. Kicking. Stomping. Anything goes.

TEACHER (O.S.)
Wow, Neko. This is far and away
your best work yet. I'm so proud of
you! Neko. Neko?

One FOOT kicks the shin of the other FOOT, HARD --

NEKO (O.S.)
Ow!

PULL UP to reveal that the foot on the losing end of the footsie battle belongs to **NEKO DEL FORNO** (18, handsome to the point of pretty), while the other belongs to Corey, sitting next to him at the table. Neko looks like he should be an ass-hole but he's actually a labrador retriever on the inside.

The hippy-dippy AP Art teacher, MRS HARTE, is mid-review of NEKO'S ARTWORK in front of the CLASS.

MRS. HARTE

Seriously Neko, you started this class drawing stick figures and now look at you.

Neko's artwork are impressive STORYBOARDS drawn in pen. Neko turns to Corey and smiles sheepishly. Dude has killer dimples. Corey smiles back. Bites his lip. Bell rings.

INT. HALLWAY, SHORT HILLS HIGH SCHOOL - HALLOWEEN DAY

Neko and Corey walk and talk, books in hand--

NEKO

I owe you big time.

COREY

Not big time. Just your vote.

NEKO

Seriously, those storyboards were dope. You have a gift my friend.

Neko pats Corey on the back. Corey blushes.

COREY

It was all you. I just drew them how you said you wanted them.

NEKO

Well, I'll vote for you under one condition.

COREY

Yeah, what's that?

NEKO

You have to be able to keep it a secret, because Sasha will cut off my balls if she finds out.

COREY

I can keep a secret...

That hangs in the air for a moment.

NEKO

Good. Anyway, I've gotta run. See you tonight. Remember the theme is movie characters. I'm a cinephile, so dress to impress--

SASHA (O.S.)

Hey Stud!

Sasha Sales interrupts their conversation and surprises Neko with a JUICY KISS...

ON COREY looking on longingly, before the other "IT" GIRLS arrive on the scene, as we CUT TO:

INT. HALLWAY - MOMENTS LATER

Corey, Hannah, Sasha, and the other "IT" GIRLS including **TAYLOR** (mean because she's insecure), and **KEREN** (understated pretty, but ditsy) are mid-convo as they strut down the hallway--

TAYLOR

What if we went as the girls from Sex and the City? I could be Carrie. Corey could be our Mr. Big.

SASHA

Get real, Taylor. You're Samantha.

Keren laughs.

TAYLOR

Screw you, Keren. We all know you'd be Miranda.

KEREN

Hey! I like Miranda!

SASHA

Or we could be Mean Girls?
(pointed)
Corey, you could be the gay friend.

The girls laugh at this mean spirited joke. Corey seethes. Hannah notices, and diffuses the tension. Grabs Corey.

HANNAH

No way! Corey's my Aaron Samuels.

Hannah and Corey kiss in front of the other girls. It's forced.

SASHA
Ewww get a room!

The "It" Girls arrive outside "**THE WOMEN'S LOCKER ROOM**", noted by a SIGN ABOVE THE DOOR.

PUSH IN ON COREY as he follows the "It" Girls through the WOMEN'S LOCKER ROOM DOOR--

COREY (V.O.)
The women's locker-room is a magical kingdom...

HIGH ANGLE VIEW OF THE "WOMEN'S LOCKER ROOM"--

AS WE CUE A **BUSBY BERKELEY MUSICAL NUMBER IN TECHNICOLOR...**

GIRLS do an intricate choreographed dance in between the LOCKERS as they change into MATCHING GYM OUTFITS and start primping in synchronized movements. A LINE OF GIRLS put their hair in high ponytails, snap on bras, and apply chapstick.

The girls all form a CIRCLE around a QUEEN BEE who demonstrates how to apply make-up in the MIRROR, she's the ultimate feminine ideal. The girls break apart to REVEAL--

The QUEEN BEE is **COREY AS A GIRL**. The other girls raise Corey HIGH ABOVE their heads, before we--

VOICE (V.O.)
Mr. Wagner!

SMASH BACK TO OUTSIDE THE WOMEN'S LOCKER ROOM:

ON COREY snapping out of his day-dream, when **MS. MAZZA** (40's, Female Gym Teacher) a conservative woman with short hair, startles him, and blocks him from entering the DOOR.

MS. MAZZA
Wrong locker room, Corey.

COREY
Right. But could I just have like five minutes in there? We were all planning an orgy with oils and le Labo candles.

MS. MAZZA
(shaking her head)
Always the smart aleck, Wagner.

Corey trudges towards the MEN'S LOCKER ROOM.

COREY (V.O.)
The girls get paradise, meanwhile
I'm relegated to the third level of
hell...

INT. MEN'S LOCKER ROOM - SAME

COREY looks miserable sitting on a bench in the middle of the locker room as PUBESCENT BOYS change into their work out uniforms, and engage in "locker room talk" that we can't hear, but Corey doesn't appreciate.

WE'RE IN COREY'S POV of arm pit hair, happy trails, tri-cep muscles - all the signs of boys becoming men that Corey doesn't identify with.

Corey's eyes linger on the chest of a HOT GUY, and tries not to stare. *Maybe the men's locker room isn't so bad?*

LATER - Only when the locker room is EMPTY, does Corey feel comfortable changing into his gym outfit.

COREY (V.O.)
After a long day, there's only one
thing that cheers me up...

INT. COREY'S BEDROOM - HALLOWEEN NIGHT

A WONDERLAND OF COSMETICS are splayed out on a VANITY. Corey puts the finishing touches on Hannah's HALLOWEEN MAKE-UP, before Hannah studies her reflection in the mirror.

HANNAH
It looks like you put lipstick on a
pig.

COREY
Shutup. You look gorgeous, bitch.

Hannah leans her head on Corey's shoulder.

HANNAH
I love you, Corey. I think I'm
ready.

COREY
Agreed. Your outfit is on point.

HANNAH

No, like... ready, ready. I want to
lose my virginity tonight. To you.
(off Corey's look)
What's wrong?

COREY

Nothing... I just never pictured
losing my virginity in a Ferris
Bueller costume.

Corey stares down at his FERRIS BUELLER COSTUME, replete with
the iconic Leopard Vest.

HANNAH

But you'll make me moan-
(fake orgasming)
Bueller, Bueller, BUELLER!

COREY

(laughs, then--)
I was more of a Sloane Peterson
fan.

HANNAH

Well, no pressure. I just think it
could be fun.

COREY

(uncomfortable)
No-yeah. I mean, yeah-no. Totally.
I'd love to... Let's do it.

Hannah hugs Corey, ecstatic. ON COREY'S conflicted face,
before Hannah pulls away, and looks at her watch--

HANNAH

Shit! I've got to get going. Sorry
you can't come to the pre-game.
It's just girls, y'know?

COREY

It's cool. Everyone would flip if I
didn't schmooze a little here
first.

HANNAH

Thanks for making me feel hot
tonight. Sometimes I wish I had
your cheekbones. You'd look so hot
as a girl.

They both stare in the mirror. Corey blushes. Hannah gives Corey a kiss on the head, before darting out. Corey stews at the vanity, staring at himself. Thinking... before we CUT TO:

LATER - Corey applies mascara in the vanity, a pro. He looks in the mirror, make-up fully done. Frowns. Thinks. Darts out of frame. Re-enters wearing a BLEACHED BLONDE WIG, fully transforming into "REGINA GEORGE" for the evening.

INT. STAIRCASE, WAGNER HOME - HALLOWEEN NIGHT

The wall on the staircase is a shrine of FAMILY PORTRAITS. A PINK HEEL struts by a PHOTO of Young Corey in a pumpkin patch.

REVEAL Corey strutting down the stairs past his BABY PICTURES with confidence, while--

IN THE LIVING ROOM--

We find what normally is a neat, shabby chic home decked out in ELABORATE HALLOWEEN DECORATIONS and packed with mingling PARENTS for a shindig - *Corey's parents are clearly popular.*

IN THE CROWD WE FIND - Judy (dressed as Sandy from Grease) mid-conversation with Steven (dressed as Danny Zuko), **BABA** (a silver-foxed Grandpa, dressed as James Dean in Rebel) and **GRANDMA** (dressed as Anna Wintour, or maybe that's just her outfit). Their jaws drop as they catch sight of Corey walking down the staircase, who is out of earshot--

BABA

Remember when the Therapist told us to buy Corey more "boy toys"?

Grandma elbows Baba.

BABA (CONT'D)

Ow! What? What'd I say?

STEVEN

Wow, Corey got your legs, Judy.

Judy elbows Steven.

STEVEN (CONT'D)

Ow! What? What'd I say?

Corey walks up to the GANG, now in earshot. Strikes a pose. (NOTE: We may notice other PARENTS exchanging curious glances in the background)

COREY
How do I look?

BABA
What are you?

COREY
Guess, Baba?

BABA
Confused.

JUDY
Dad!

COREY
Guess again.

BABA
Target practice.

STEVEN
Baba!

GRANDMA
Are you really going to let Corey
go out in a skirt that short, Judy?

BABA
Or in a skirt period!?

JUDY
It's Halloween, relax.

COREY
Yeah, people dress however they
want. It's funny. I'm Regina
George.

BABA
Vampires are funny. Ghouls are
hysterical. My high school grandson
still wearing dresses is--

JUDY
(cutting Baba off)
Dad, enough. You're not funny.

GRANDMA
Corey, ignore this fossil. He's
kidding!

BABA
I'm not kidding.

Judy nudges Grandpa.

BABA (CONT'D)
Ow! I guess I'm kidding.

GRANDMA
Apparently he's suffering from dementia.

BABA
Boys are forgetting how to dress,
and I'm the one with dementia.
(off their look)
What? I'm kidding! I'm kidding!

Grandma takes a long sip of her chardonnay. Awkward silence.
Steven fills the void--

STEVEN
You know I had to dress as a woman,
disguising herself as a man, when I
was cast as Rosalind in "As You
Like It?" It was off-off Broadway,
but I got some tremendous reviews.
You loved that show, Baba.

The gang roll their eyes. Annoyed, Corey snatches the glass
of wine out of Grandma's hand and chugs it down.

EXT. FRONT LAWN, WAGNER HOME - HALLOWEEN NIGHT

The door whips open. Corey's heels click on the pavement.

JUDY (O.S.)
Corey, hold on--

Corey spins around, as Judy exits the house and catches up.

JUDY (CONT'D)
Don't you want a ride?

COREY
I can walk.

JUDY
You sure? It's chilly out.

COREY
I'm fine.

JUDY
Sorry about Baba. He just had a
little too much to drink.
(MORE)

JUDY (CONT'D)
 Are you sure you don't want to
 maybe change into something else?

COREY
 What do you want me to change into?

JUDY
 Nothing... I just...

Judy would never say she's worried about Corey getting bullied for his outfit, so instead she goes with--

JUDY (CONT'D)
 I just don't want you to catch a
 cold is all.

COREY
 I'll make sure to drink a lot of
 booze to warm me up then, Mom.

Judy is concerned for Corey, as she watches him strut away into the night, past a MOM, DAD and their BUMBLE BEE DAUGHTER 'trick or treating'.

The Dad turns to check Corey's ass out as Corey passes. Mom catches Dad with an annoyed glance. Dad shrugs, *what?*

SLAM TO:

INT. SUBURBAN MCMANSION - HALLOWEEN NIGHT

We're HANGING FROM THE CHANDELIER with a view of a raucous Halloween costume party in full swing.

CAMERA dives down as the door whips open to find Corey.

We're on Corey's face going through an emotional roller coaster ride as he enters the party. We feel Corey's apprehension. Fear. Excitement. All Corey's emotions morph into joy as he realizes heads are turning.

THE PARTY-GOERS react as Corey passes. They say things like '*Omg is that Corey!?*', '*Looking good, Mr. President, or is it MRS. PRESIDENT!?*' Some WHISTLE. Some CAT-CALL. While the Partygoers all take it as a "joke" costume, we'll get the sense of just how much this validation means to Corey.

Corey approaches the "IT" Girls standing in a huddle by the fireplace. Hannah is the first to recognize Corey--

HANNAH
 No fucking way!

Hannah races to Corey and starts hopping up and down around him, in celebration. She pulls Corey in close--

HANNAH (CONT'D)
 I can't believe how fucking good
 you look! Is it weird that I'm like
 way more turned on now?

The other "It" Girls join them and ad lib how much they love his costume, before--

NEKO (O.S.)
 Holy shit, Corey?! Is that you!?

Corey whips around to find NEKO (dressed in an elaborate MARLON BRANDO GODFATHER COSTUME). Neko claps. Corey shows off the outfit. Sticks out his butt.

COREY
 Are you impressed?

NEKO
 Mean Girls won't make the Criterion Collection, but it's certainly a guilty pleasure. Come play some pong with me? Be my *Consigliere*.

SASHA
 I thought I was your partner?

NEKO
 Babe, beer pong is a guy thing.

COREY
 (half joking)
 Then why am I allowed?

NEKO
 You know what I mean, Corey.

COREY
 Screw it, let's do it.

Neko and Corey dart to the beer pong table, leaving Sasha and Hannah awkwardly sipping their cups, as we CUT TO:

A SERIES OF SHOTS:

- Neko and Corey cheers after hitting a beer pong shot.
- Corey sabers a bottle of champagne, and starts pouring the bubbly into red solo cups.
- Corey wins a game of flip cup before the table cheers.

- Corey sits on a couch flirting with a DRUNK DUDE--

DRUNK DUDE
So where are you from, Gorgeous?

Corey can't withhold a giggle, *loving this moment.*

Corey locks eyes with Neko across the room, who is watching and getting a kick out of it too. Their eyes linger on each other a beat too long. *It's clear they have chemistry.*

- ON SASHA pissed.

- ON HANNAH chugging a bottle of Jack Daniels by herself.

- ON COREY grinning ear to ear. The belle of the ball.

LATER - SAME

Neko leans into Corey. Are they going to have a moment?

SASHA (O.S.)
Neko!

They're interrupted when Sasha throws her arm around Neko.

SASHA (CONT'D)
I want to show you something...
Upstairs. It's top secret.

NEKO
What's top secret?
(beat, getting it)
Oh right, sorry Corey, we need to
find the horses head in my parent's
bedroom. If you know what I mean?

Neko winks and leads a confused Sasha upstairs. Corey watches them longingly. Then looks around the room and sees BOYS and GIRLS making out everywhere. COUPLES are starting to disappear into other rooms. Suddenly, Corey hears a SMASH. Hannah knocks over an end table, and wobbles over--

HANNAH
Corey! Let's go upstairs. I am
going to blow your--

Hannah gets up in Corey's grill. Licks his face, before--

INT. BEDROOM, SUBURBAN MCMANSION - LATE HALLOWEEN NIGHT

Hannah is passed out in bed, snoring loudly. Corey tucks her in. Sits at the edge of the bed. Thinks.

INT. SUBURBAN McMANSION - LATE HALLOWEEN NIGHT

The party is now a ghost town. Corey ambles toward the door, heading home, when he hears--

HENNIE (O.S.)
If it isn't the King Fag himself.

Corey turns to find Hennie rolling a joint on a couch, alone. He's dressed as Matt McConaughey in *Dazed and Confused*.

COREY
Hennie, I'm not in the mood.

HENNIE
Shouldn't you be porking the pig
right now?

Corey stomps over in his heels and gets in Hennie's face.

COREY
Did you ever think that if you
weren't such an asshole you
wouldn't be all alone at two in the
morning at a party?

HENNIE
Chill out, dude. I'm joking. You're
too sensitive.
(offering a joint)
You need a hit.

COREY
... Maybe.

HENNIE
Y'know, you actually look kind of
hot as a girl.

COREY
(sarcastic)
Um... Thanks. That's the nicest
thing you've ever said to me.

HENNIE
Seriously. I'd even bang you.

Beat. Corey and Hennie share a look filled with surprised sexual tension, before--

EXT. SUBURBAN McMANSION - LATE HALLOWEEN NIGHT

Hennie and Corey make out intensely on the side of the ivy covered house. Corey starts unbuckling Hennie's pants, when--

VOICE (O.S.)
WHO'S THERE?

TWO PEOPLE enter the clearing so Hennie and Corey straighten out their outfits trying to "act natural."

VOICE (O.S.) (CONT'D)
OH MY GOD, HENNIE? COREY!? IS THAT YOU!?

HENNIE
(panicked)
We were-- we were just smoking!

The TWO PEOPLE start LAUGHING LOUDLY in disbelief.

HENNIE (CONT'D)
Nothing happened! Shut up!

Corey panics, and starts running away in his heels. Trips. Splays out on the ground in the mud, SPLAT. MORE LAUGHTER, before--

EXT. SUBURBAN STREET - LATE HALLOWEEN NIGHT

Corey sprints down the street, barefoot, holding his heels. His face is anguished. He turns off the road, into a PARK ADJACENT TO A TRAIN STATION--

EXT. PARK - LATE HALLOWEEN NIGHT

-- and comes to a stop at the edge of a small BRIDGE. Takes a deep breath. Looks over the edge. Thinks. Corey is backlit by the approaching lights of a train. The ominous TRAIN WHISTLE, morphs into--

INT. BATHROOM - FLASHBACK

-- the WHISTLE of steam coming out of a faucet in a hot bath.

Young Corey, around Bar Mitzvah age, has a towel wrapped around his head as he soaks in the tub. Corey is reading a PEOPLE MAGAZINE with a cover that is of a MALE TO FEMALE TRANSGENDER PERSON. Corey takes a deep breath, working up the courage to do something...

INT. YOUNG JUDY'S OFFICE - FLASHBACK CONTINUED

Young Corey enters Young Judy's study in the BASEMENT. We witness this moment from what feels like the corner of the room, next to a blanket that says COREY'S BAR MITZVAH. Young Corey shows Young Judy the People Magazine--

YOUNG COREY
What do you think about this?

Young Judy looks at the magazine cover and flips through it.

YOUNG JUDY
What do you mean?

YOUNG COREY
Do you think transgender is real,
or are they just covering up being
gay?

YOUNG JUDY
This is a real thing. I think they
really have those feelings of being
trapped in the wrong body.

Young Corey gets emotional. Sits down on Young Judy's lap.

YOUNG COREY
Mom, I want to be a girl.

YOUNG JUDY
Are you sure?

YOUNG COREY
Yes.

Young Corey cries into Young Judy's shoulder. She pulls Young Corey in close...

LATER - Young Corey wipes tears away, calmed by Young Judy's acceptance and unconditional love.

YOUNG COREY (CONT'D)
Please don't tell anyone.

YOUNG JUDY
I have to tell Steven.

YOUNG COREY
Okay, but no one else! Especially
not Matthew!

YOUNG JUDY
Okay, Sweetheart.

YOUNG COREY

Do you think I'll be able to go to
High School as a girl?

YOUNG JUDY

I don't know if that's possible,
Corey. But we'll see.

YOUNG COREY

You always tell me to just be
myself, but how can I be myself if
I keep dressing like a boy?

This is a tricky question for Judy to answer. She wants to support Corey unconditionally, but she also wants to protect Corey. Off Young Judy's conflicted look, we--

CUT BACK TO:

INT. COREY'S BEDROOM - LATE HALLOWEEN NIGHT

Corey is mid wiping off his Regina George make up. He wipes off one side of his face first. Studies the result. HALF of his face is "glammed up," while the other HALF is now "boy Corey." Corey takes this in, and starts to tear up, before his bedroom door creaks open, and Judy peaks her head in--

JUDY

Corey? Are you okay?

Judy clocks his smeared mascara and Halloween outfit caked in mud - clearly not okay.

MOMENTS LATER - Judy leads Corey into bed and cuddles him.

JUDY (CONT'D)

What happened?

Corey lays his head on Judy's chest.

COREY

It just felt so good tonight to
dress up Mom. And then it all got
fucked up...

JUDY

How? Talk to me.

COREY

It doesn't even matter... All I know is that every day feels like Halloween, and I'm tired of wearing a costume. I can't do it anymore. I just want to be a girl already.

JUDY

I know, Sweetheart, I know. So I didn't want to get you excited until I knew for sure, but I finally found a doctor who will see you.

Corey's eyes light up. He props up in bed--

COREY

Are you serious!?

Judy smiles, and nods yes - excited too. Corey lets out a SQUEAL OF JOY and kicks his legs excited - *Fuck yes!*

JUDY

I'm so, so sorry it's taken this long. You know I've been trying my hardest--

COREY

I know you have.

They embrace, as we CUT TO:

HIGH ABOVE SUBURBIA--

Soaring over the Short Hills neighborhood again.

We slowly pull back, until we pull back through the window of a high-rise apartment building, and find COREY staring out the window. He turns, and takes us on a brief tour of--

INT. HIGH-RISE APARTMENT BUILDING - DAY

-- a zen apartment. Incense burns. Peaceful music hums. Corey sits on a plush couch next to Judy, who rubs his back.

COREY

So that's my story. My mom found your company, and now we're here.

REVEAL the Voice Over has been Corey telling his story to a psychologist, **DR. MARGIE DIME** (50's) sitting across from Corey in a chair taking notes on a notepad. Margie has short spiky hair, a sleeve of tattoos, and a deep, raspy voice.

MARGIE

Thank you for being so open and honest with your story, Corey. It's extremely helpful.

COREY

After hearing everything, do you think I'm transgender?

MARGIE

Well--

COREY

(interrupting)

Like am I a girl? Can I ever be a real girl? Is that really possible?

MARGIE

Well --

COREY

(interrupting again)

I just have so many questions for you, like my mind is racing.

JUDY

Corey, let Dr. Dime speak.

COREY

Oh shit, sorry. I'm sorry for interrupting. And for cursing.

MARGIE

Corey, this is a safe place. Feel free to curse all you want. Shit. Piss. Fuck. Mother Fuck. I don't give a rat's ass.

Judy's eyes bulge.

MARGIE (CONT'D)

Also, feel free to interrupt me all you want. This time, our time together, is for me to listen to you, but more importantly it's for you to listen to yourself. I sense you've been trying to ignore that voice inside you for some time now.

Corey takes this in. She's right.

MARGIE (CONT'D)

Yes, Corey you seem to fit the mold of a transgender person. Though everyone expresses it differently. Some children express their transgender identity as little kids by trying to cut off their genitals-

Corey winces at the thought.

MARGIE (CONT'D)

Other transgender people express their identity when they're way older. No two people's transitions are the same.

COREY

So if I'm transgender, can I become a *real* girl with a vagina?

MARGIE

Yes, you can become a girl with a vagina through sexual reassignment surgery. But it will be a long journey. We would have to start meeting once a week for at-least a year, and should also set you up with an endocrinologist. We'll want to put you on hormone blockers as soon as possible.

JUDY

(pumping the breaks)

Um, are you sure it's a good idea to start taking medication? I've read that you can get breast cancer from going on them, and Corey's already on Adderall and a bunch of other stuff.

MARGIE

We'll find the right plan that is safe for Corey.

JUDY

Couldn't we wait until the summer before college to be safe?

MARGIE

I wouldn't recommend that. Corey is clearly a late bloomer, which is lucky in your case, because she doesn't have facial hair or chest hair, but her voice is starting to deepen and we'll want to prevent the effects of male puberty.

COREY

Did you just say "her" and "she"?

MARGIE

Yes I did.

Corey smiles. SHE likes it! (NOTE: From this point on in this script Corey will be referred to using HER proper pronouns. Now that SHE is transitioning and outwardly expressing HER true gender identity, we will mark it as such in the script)

MARGIE (CONT'D)

Ultimately, Corey you're going to have to choose to transition at a pace you feel comfortable with.

Corey and Judy are left with a lot to mull over, before--

COREY (PRE-LAP)

Don't stop me now! I'm having such a good time!

INT. CAR - IN MOTION - DAY

Corey sings **QUEEN'S "DON'T STOP ME NOW"** with pizazz, while Judy drives with one hand on the wheel, and the other biting her cuticle nervously. THE MUSIC CARRIES OVER--

INT. COREY'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Corey excitedly sketches at the drafting table, her happy place. Corey sketches FASHION-STYLE DRAWINGS of her dreams of the future: A SKETCH of her as a GIRL making out with a BOY. A SKETCH of her trying on a flowing DRESS. A SKETCH of her with a PROM TIARA. She smiles.

INT. WAGNER HOME - NIGHT

Judy compulsively cleans her already immaculately clean home. She vacuums, swiffers, organizes closets, makes sure her bookcases are color coded. They are. There should be a manic, restless quality to her tidying.

Judy straightens a BABY PICTURE OF COREY hanging on the wall. We catch a glimpse of JUDY'S FACE in the reflection of the glass. We're not quite sure what Judy's feeling now. Maybe she's not either, as we END MONTAGE:

EXT. HANNAH GREEN'S MANSION - NIGHT

Establishing shot.

INT. HANNAH'S MASSIVE BEDROOM - NIGHT

Corey has just filled Hannah in on her gender identity, and Hannah is not sure how to take it--

HANNAH
You're joking, right? You're not serious.

COREY
That would be a pretty messed up joke, Hannah.

HANNAH
Corey. Trust me. You're not a girl. You're probably just gay. Stop being so dramatic.

COREY
(not cool)
Hannah!

HANNAH
What? I'm serious. You seem confused right now, so I'll go easy on you, but let me clear something up, if you choose to start dressing as a "girl" it's going to be the end of your social life.

COREY
... I don't care.

HANNAH
You don't care? Please. You care more than anyone about being popular.

COREY
Not true.
(beat)
Okay, half true.

HANNAH

I'm your best friend, Corey. Your girlfriend for chrissakes. I know you better than you know yourself. You love getting to go to parties, and gossiping with the "It" girls at lunch.

COREY

So?

HANNAH

So? You are going to be a pariah if this gets around, and you're going to take me down with your crazy ass. Which is why I'm not going to let you do this to us.

COREY

Hannah, the wheels are in motion. I've waited for so long to be able to be my true self and I can't go backwards now. People already know I hooked up with Hennie--

HANNAH

Which I should be pissed about as your girlfriend!

COREY

Oh please. Let's stop living in a fantasy world. We both know that deep down you've been dating me to protect me, because you love me.

HANNAH

Part of me thought that we would work out... Or hoped we would. But now that we won't, I'm not going to let you commit social suicide, because, yes, I do love you.

Corey takes a serious beat.

COREY

I don't know how to be anymore clear than this Hannah. I'm a girl. I may have dressed as a boy, but I've always been a girl, and I know you've always known that.

Hannah takes a deep breath. Thinks. Maybe she has known.

COREY (CONT'D)
You say you're my best friend, but
best friends are there for each
other, and believe each other.

We may think that Hannah is won over, before she retorts--

HANNAH
Is this some crazy way out of
getting out of dating me? Because
we totally don't have to have sex.
I can lose weight. Whatever you
want. Just please, please don't do
this!

COREY
I can't fucking believe you right
now!

Corey storms out and SLAMS the door shut, as we linger on
Hannah's conflicted face fighting tears.

CUT TO:

EXT. MAIN STREET - MORNING

Establishing Short Hills Main Street which consists of Bougie
shops, including SALON LA MODE, where Judy works.

INT. JUDY'S CAR - IN MOTION - MORNING

Judy, driving, and Corey, in the passenger seat, park in
front of the Salon. Judy clocks Corey sulking.

JUDY
So I thought it would be nice to
have a girls day. You and me. We
can play hooky, and give you a make-
over. Whaddya say?

Corey smiles, needing to be cheered up.

INT. SALON LA MODE - AFTERNOON

This is the rumor mill of Short Hills. We get quick snippets
of SOCCER MOMS gossiping while getting mani pedis, before
Judy and Corey enter the salon--

JUDY
At ease ladies.

Judy sets up at her beauty station, while Corey sets her things down. The Soccer Moms observe Corey curiously.

Judy and Corey sit down at the SINKS, and Judy rinses Corey's hair. *IT'S PART MASSAGE, PART CATHARTIC RELEASE...*

LATER - Corey sits with FOILS in her hair as Judy does a Soccer Mom's make-up. Her name is SHARA. Shara chimes in--

SHARA

What are you doing out of school?

COREY

Came down with a bad case of Senioritis.

JUDY

Lies. I'm a terrible mother, Shara.

SHARA

You're fine. So are you going for the bleached blonde, teen heart-throb look, Corey?

COREY

Something like that...

SHARA

Cool. Just don't let the grades slip too much, or you won't get into your first choice. Where are you going to school next year?

Corey is about to speak, when Judy answers for her--

JUDY

Corey's thinking about going to NYU for fashion design. Corey's an amazing designer.

SHARA

Oh...

COREY

I'm not crazy about NYU's Design School though. I'm actually thinking about going to UCLA.

JUDY

The west coast is out of the question, Corey. We've talked about this.

COREY

Yeah, but why? UCLA is a better school than NYU.

JUDY

You need to be close to home for--
(beat, looks at Shara)
Let's just talk about this later...

INT. JUDY'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Corey, now with beautiful BLONDE HIGHLIGHTS, is mid trying on Judy's clothes in her walk in closet, wearing a blouse that's too tight, and bell bottom jeans that are too big.

JUDY

You're going to need to be close for your appointments with Margie, and other doctors appointments once you start your hormone treatment.

COREY

They have doctors in California, Mom, and plus I can have calls with Margie.

(re: the outfit)

Be honest, you hate it.

JUDY

I love the pants, but the blouse is not very flattering. It makes your shoulders look broad.

COREY

I look like a linebacker.

JUDY

You don't look like a linebacker!
Here try this.

As Corey tries on a new BLOUSE--

COREY

I'm not going to apply early decision. I want to keep my options open.

(then)

Ugh, my ribs are too big for your clothes!

Judy offers up a CARDIGAN--

JUDY

I really don't like the idea of you
 being that far away from home, but--
 (re: Corey's outfit)
 Ooo! I like that! You look dainty!

COREY

Hmmm, it's missing something.

Corey rummages in Judy's immaculate closet, when Judy's phone RINGS... It's Matthew, Corey's brother, calling--

JUDY

(into the phone)

What's up, Matthew? I'm just here
 playing hooky with Corey.

Corey pops out from inside the closet, and gestures: "Don't Tell Matthew!"

Judy nods, and gestures: "okay, okay".

JUDY (CONT'D)

(into the phone)

Love you, Matthew. Let's talk
 later, okay?
 (beat listening)
 I know, we'll see you so soon. Bye.
 Love you.

Judy hangs up the call.

COREY

I want to tell him in person over
 the holidays.

JUDY

You sure you don't want me to let
 him know first, so he's not
 surprised?

Corey nods, yes. Then heads back into the closet on a mission-

COREY (O.S.)

Found it!

Corey comes out wearing a CHOKER. They both share a satisfied look, as we CUT TO:

INT. JUDY'S CAR - THE NEXT MORNING

Judy's car comes to a stop on the drop off line. Corey is wearing JUDY'S OUTFIT AND CHOKER and looks great.

(NOTE: *Corey's new outfit should be somewhat androgynous. Her transition to full female wardrobe will take some time*)

JUDY

I love you, Corey. You look so...
Beautiful.

Corey beams. This means the world to her.

Judy brushes her hand through Corey's hair. We may sense how nervous Judy is for Corey, but she tries her best to hide it.

JUDY (CONT'D)

Call me if you need anything today,
Sweetheart, okay? Anything.

Corey nods, appreciative. Takes a deep breath, and then--

INT. ENTRYWAY, SHORT HILLS HIGH SCHOOL - MORNING

-- enters Short Hills High apprehensively in her NEW WARDROBE holding her tray of coffees.

ROBBIE (O.S.)

Hey Corey.

Corey turns to find Robbie, who doesn't blink an eye at her outfit.

COREY

Hi Robbie.

ROBBIE

Cool shirt!

Corey gives Robbie a suspicious once over, unsure if he's being genuine or not.

COREY

... Thanks.

ROBBIE

I could never pull that off on
account of my mane of chest hair.
But you look aces.

COREY

Did you hear about what happened on
Halloween? Is that why you're
acting so weird?

ROBBIE

(lying)

Me. What? No? Something happened?

COREY

I love you, Robbie, but you are a terrible liar. I'm surprised that you're still talking to me.

ROBBIE

Why wouldn't I?

COREY

You heard the rumors. There's no way we're winning the election.

ROBBIE

No. Maybe you're right, but I didn't really care about winning anyway.

COREY

Like I said, you're a terrible liar.

Corey clocks STUDENTS gawking and whispering about her.

COREY (CONT'D)

Well, here goes nothing. See ya later Robbie.

Corey struts down the hallway ignoring the gawkers, until--

HENNIE (O.S.)

Corey!

Corey turns to find Hennie, who's pissed off.

HENNIE (CONT'D)

We need to talk.

(noticing Corey's outfit)

What the hell are you wearing?

Corey rolls her eyes. Then strides down the hallway leaving Hennie in her wake. Hennie hustles to catch up, as Corey arrives at her LOCKER. Hennie leans in, talks in a whisper--

HENNIE (CONT'D)

You need to tell people that we didn't hook up.

COREY

I'm not going to go around and lie
for you Hennie. But I'm also not
going to share my business either.

HENNIE

But I'm not a fag, Corey!

COREY

Just because we hooked up, doesn't
mean you're gay.

HENNIE

Of course it does. You're a dude.
(then vulnerable)
If my Dad finds out he'll kill me.
Please.

COREY

I'm not a dude, Hennie.
(off Hennie's confused
look)
You're still straight, but don't
project your insecurities on me.

Corey slams her locker shut.

INT. MAIN OFFICE, SHORT HILLS HIGH SCHOOL - MORNING

Corey doles out coffee to Monique, who stares at her new outfit. Shocked, but acting natural.

COREY

Tall, skinny, caramel latte, Mo'.

MONIQUE

Thanks, uh, Corey.

Dr. Pitts enters distracted. Corey hands her a coffee.

COREY

And one black coffee for my
favorite Principal.

Dr. Pitts stops in her tracks noticing the outfit, alarmed.

DR. PITTS

Thank you, Corey.

COREY

I wanted to let you know, I'm going to be dropping out of the presidential race so feel free to take my name off the ballot for the vote today.

DR. PITTS

That's too bad, but thanks for letting us know.

Corey exits, leaving Dr. Pitts stone-faced.

MONIQUE

I don't know if it's up to code but Corey really pulls off that blouse, Dr. P.

INT. AP ART CLASS - DAY

TIGHT ON TWO PAIRS OF FEET below a desk. There's no footsie battle this time. PULL UP to find Neko and Corey sitting as far away from each other as possible.

Neko is clearly uncomfortable with Corey's new wardrobe, but trying not to show it so he pretends to be very interested in what the teacher is saying.

Corey tries to make eye-contact with Neko. No dice. Neko's cold shoulder kills Corey, but she tries to hide it.

INT. HALLWAY - DAY

Corey ambles down the hallway when she spots the "It" Girls in a huddle around HANNAH'S LOCKER. They immediately stop talking as they see Corey approaching--

COREY

Hi Guys!

SASHA

(to the others)

We've gotta get to class.

KEREN

Hi, Corey.

SASHA

Let's go, Keren. Jesus!

Keren who didn't get the memo that they're not talking to Corey, realizes her mistake, and darts out with the other girls.

Hannah is the last to leave. She's frozen at her locker for a conflicted beat, before she exits, leaving Corey alone.

INT. AP BIOLOGY - DAY

MR. SHILP
Human females have a homologous pair of X chromosomes...

Mr. Shilp drones on in the background about Meiosis as the "It" Girls WHISPER LOUDLY in the back of the classroom. They are loud enough that Corey hears them sitting in the front.

SASHA
What is Corey wearing?

TAYLOR
It looks like his mom's clothes from the 70's.

SASHA
He looks like a pirate.

TAYLOR
A butt pirate.

The "It" Girls giggle, while Hannah looks tortured.

ON COREY clenching his fists.

SASHA
You can see his nipples through that blouse.

TAYLOR
I know they're super pointy.

And with that Hannah snaps in her LOUDEST WHISPER--

HANNAH
Don't make fun of Corey's nipples just because they're nicer than your flat chest, Taylor!

The It Girls gasp in unison at this outburst.

HANNAH (CONT'D)
Honestly, I wish I had Corey's pointy nipples.
(MORE)

HANNAH (CONT'D)
I have goddamn dinner plates. You can eat off these bad boys.

Hannah shakes her breasts as the back of the classroom erupts in laughter at her self-deprecating humor. Taylor storms out of the room, upset.

SASHA
Not cool, Hannah. You know how sensitive Taylor is about her cup size.

HANNAH
I'm sorry, I didn't know!

Sasha makes sure Corey is listening, before she sticks the dagger in--

SASHA
Y'know you should get Corey to wear skirts so everybody can catch a glimpse of his junk.

STUDENTS around Sasha LAUGH. Corey can't take anymore abuse so she scoops up her things, and darts out of class--

INT. HALLWAY - DAY

-- sprints down the hallway--

EXT. THE WOMEN'S LOCKER ROOM - DAY

-- and arrives at the The Women's Locker Room. Corey lingers outside for a moment, before she works up the courage to enter the forbidden kingdom--

INT. WOMEN'S LOCKER ROOM - DAY

-- and tiptoes inside. Much to Corey's dismay, there is no Busby Berkeley musical. Just a regular, old locker room.

MS. MAZZA (O.S.)
Corey!? What are you doing in here?

Corey's interrupted by the gym teacher, Ms. Mazza.

COREY
Sorry, I just needed a moment alone.

MS. MAZZA

There are no boys in the girls locker room, Corey. You know that.

COREY

I'm not a boy.

MS. MAZZA

Don't get smart with me! Do you want detention?

COREY

Sure. Make my fucking day, Ms. Mazza!

Ms. Mazza gasps, before we SLAM TO:

INT. MAIN OFFICE, SHORT HILLS HIGH SCHOOL - DAY

Corey exits DR. PITTS OFFICE. We may think she just got detention, before Corey smirks at Ms. Mazza, who is waved in by Dr. Pitts--

INT. DR. PITTS OFFICE - DAY

Dr. Pitts stands behind her desk. Ms. Mazza paces around.

MS. MAZZA

He deserves detention.

DR. PITTS

He is a she, and she will be allowed to use the women's locker room and restroom whenever she likes. Understood?

MS. MAZZA

Sorry, but I know Corey and he is an entitled, drama queen.

DR. PITTS

Corey is a good kid. And I'm taking this all very seriously. I had a long conversation with Corey's Psychologist.

MS. MAZZA

He's lying. It's an attention grab.

DR. PITTS

Enough. We're setting a meeting when all of Corey's teachers are available and hopefully your attitude will have changed by then.

MS. MAZZA

I'm just going to say it, I don't feel comfortable sharing a bathroom with him. I just don't.

DR. PITTS

Well, then you can use the staff bathroom.

Ms. Mazza rolls her eyes. This conversation isn't over.

INT. CLASSROOM, SHORT HILLS HIGH SCHOOL - LATE AFTERNOON

Corey, Judy, Dr. Dime, Dr. Pitts and all of COREY'S TEACHERS sit in a circle for their meeting.

DR. PITTS

Thank you everyone for meeting under such short notice. I'm really grateful to you all for your support of our very brave student, Corey Wagner. I'm also grateful to Dr. Margie Dime for taking the time to educate and enlighten us all today.

MARGIE

It's my pleasure.

JUDY

Thank you everybody.

Corey nods, thanks - *not ready to speak up just yet.*

MARGIE

We're going to be going over a lot today so everyone please feel free to ask any and all questions you may have. Remember, there are no dumb questions, only dumb students.

The teachers chuckle, expending their nervous energy.

LATER - Margie stands in front of a WHITEBOARD with a list of PRONOUNS. All of the TEACHERS appear open to Margie's lesson, except for MS. MAZZA who has her arms crossed, skeptical.

MARGIE (CONT'D)

When someone is referred to with the wrong pronoun, it can make them feel disrespected, invalidated, dismissed, and alienated. You should identify a Transgender Woman with She/Her/Hers rather than He/Him/His. Or you can use gender-neutral pronouns like They/Them/Theirs if that's what they prefer.

An old ENGLISH TEACHER, MISS BIRD, interrupts--

MISS BIRD

That's actually incorrect.

MARGIE

Sorry?

MISS BIRD

Using plurals to refer to one individual is grammatically incorrect.

ON COREY following this frustrating exchange...

MARGIE

And you are Mrs.?

MISS BIRD

(correcting)

Miss Bird. But you can call me Lucy.

MARGIE

Okay, Mrs. Bird.

MISS BIRD

No, *Miss Bird.* Or Lucy.

(realizing)

Oh I see what you did there.

MARGIE

Now that was an example of how frustrating it can be when someone misidentifies you.

Corey has finally had enough of listening, so she pipes ups--

COREY

Let me clear this up for everyone, I would like to be identified by the pronouns She/Her/Hers.

Ms. Mazza scoffs at this. Everyone turns to her, so she tries to rally them to her point of view--

MS. MAZZA

If I asked to be called "Mrs. President" or "Your Majesty," should you all have to do it? No. I mean, what if all of our students decide to become Drag Queens? It'll be anarchy. No offence.

COREY

Uh, some offence taken!

JUDY

My daughter is not a drag queen!

Judy rises out of her chair, mad as hell, and is held back by Margie. Dr. Pitts chimes in to cool things down--

DR. PITTS

Ivana, let's focus on making this a welcome environment for Corey and educating ourselves on gender identity issues.

MS. MAZZA

This is all nonsense, and I think the Superintendent will agree with me.

COREY

Maybe I should step outside and let you all--

Before Corey can finish, Dr. Pitts gets in Ms. Mazza's face--

DR. PITTS

Ivana, Ron's office is one hundred percent on board with what we're doing here. The Board of Education is going to be crafting a new policy for Transgender students so if you don't change your attitude, you could call yourself the Queen of England for all I care, but you won't be working here.

Corey beams, impressed with Dr. Pitts' unflinching support.

SASHA (PRE-LAP)

There's going to be lot of changes around here...

INT. AUDITORIUM - THE NEXT DAY

Corey sits alone at the BACK OF THE AUDITORIUM away from the other cliques of students, while Sasha Sales stands at a podium. She's mid-presidential acceptance speech. Dr. Pitts sits in a chair behind her ON-STAGE--

SASHA (CONT'D)

(into the mic)

I mean, I haven't really looked
into it, but I'm pretty sure I'm
the first female president in
student body history.

DR. PITTS

(without a mic)

That's not true, Miss Sales.

SASHA

(into the mic)

Well, we don't know that it's not-
not true, do we?

DR. PITTS

(again, no mic)

Yes we do, Miss Sales.

SASHA

(into the mic)

Anyway, just by voting for me
you've voted for change you can
believe in, and most importantly a
kick ass Senior Prom...

BACK OF THE AUDITORIUM--

Hannah ambles up to Corey, who is defensive, arms crossed.

HANNAH

Anyone sitting here?

Corey shrugs, *I dunno.*

HANNAH (CONT'D)

May I?

COREY

Be my guest.

Hannah plunks down next to Corey.

HANNAH
(chuckling to herself)
Change we can believe in. What a
dumb-ass.

Corey can't help but smile reluctantly.

HANNAH (CONT'D)
I'm sorry.

COREY
About what?

HANNAH
It took me a hot second, but I want
you to know I'm here for you. I'm
sorry I was a bitch the other
night. And today. You're more of a
girl than anyone I know. We're in
this together, alright? I love you,
you sexy bitch.

COREY
Love you too. Did you tell anyone
about what I told you the other
night?

HANNAH
No! Of course not. I mean, everyone
knows something's up. All anyone
can talk about is what you've been
wearing. Some think you've come out
of the closet after the Hennie
incident.

COREY
I'm not gay!

HANNAH
I know, I know.

COREY
I don't want to have to make some
dramatic announcement that I'm
transgender. I was just hoping
people would catch on.

HANNAH
I agree, and they will.

Corey and Hannah look back at Sasha, worried.

HANNAH (CONT'D)
... I hope.

INT. COREY'S BEDROOM - DAY

TIGHT ON: *THE POLICY PAGE of the TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION*

5756 - Transgender Students

REVEAL Corey and Judy sit together at the COMPUTER scrolling through the new Transgender policy page. Judy squeezes Corey's hand, excited for her daughter.

COREY

(reading)

"The Board of Education is committed to provide a safe, supportive, and inclusive learning environment for all students"

(turns to Judy)

LOL! What a crock of shit?

JUDY

Corey! Shush. This is great!

Corey continues to read aloud, which will be a VOICE OVER as we CUE QUEEN'S "KILLER QUEEN" OVER THE FOLLOWING MONTAGE--

INT. HANNAH'S MASSIVE CLOSET - DAY

Corey and Hannah play dress up in her massive walk-in closet. Corey tries on DIFFERENT OUTFITS. Hannah gives suggestions, excitedly. They are having a blast.

COREY (V.O.)

"In furthering this goal, the Board adopts this Policy to ensure all students, including transgender students, have equal educational opportunities and equal access."

(to Judy off-screen)

Fuck yes!!!

INT. COREY'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

TIGHT SHOTS as Corey flips through MAGAZINES and tears out wardrobe inspiration. We see FLASHES of photo-shopped, anorexic models purporting to represent the "feminine ideal." We are on COREY'S EYES taking this in.

COREY (V.O.)

"Gender identity means a student's deeply held sense or psychological knowledge of their own gender."

Corey fills a corkboard with images, colors, styles, and fabrics she envisions for herself, which then come to life as-

COREY (V.O.)

"Transgender describes students whose gender identity is different from their gender assigned at birth..."

INT. HALLWAY, SHORT HILLS HIGH SCHOOL- DAY

Corey struts down the hallway in OUTFITS THAT KEEP CHANGING, indicating that time is passing. Corey is projecting confidence as she walks in her carefully curated outfits, but we may sense an insecurity simmering beneath the surface, as she clocks the reactions of the STUDENTS AT THEIR LOCKERS--

COREY (V.O.)

"Transgender students shall comply with the school district's dress code requirements that corresponds with their gender identity."

The Wannabee, Slutty Cheerleaders gawk. The Cool Jewish Boys and the Fantasy Football Loving Boys avert their eyes. The Christian Stoner Lax Players, and the Christian Soccer Jocks give Corey death stares. The "IT" Girls pretend Corey's invisible.

COREY (V.O.)

"The school district will honor the request to have the student addressed by a name or pronoun different from those associated with the student's gender at birth."

Meanwhile, Dr. Pitts oversees them all sternly, a mother bear looking out for her cub.

COREY (V.O.)

"Transgender students shall have access to locker room facilities that correspond to their gender identity."

INT. WOMEN'S LOCKER ROOM - DAY

Corey enters the locker room to find GIRLS getting uncomfortable every direction she looks.

Corey responds by putting on a fake smile, pretending it doesn't hurt her feelings, before she quickly ducks into a BATHROOM STALL--

INT. STALL, WOMEN'S LOCKER ROOM - DAY

-- and finds a brief moment of respite from an exhausting day of being strong. She may want to cry, but won't let herself.

INT. DR. PITTS OFFICE - DAY

Corey changes for gym class in Dr. Pitt's office, *not wanting to change in the Women's Locker Room anymore.*

COREY (V.O.)

"The school district will make available a reasonable alternative changing area for a transgender student, if requested."

Corey waves 'thank you' to Monique at the receptionist desk, appreciating this 'alternative changing area.'

EXT. BLEACHERS DAY - DAY

THE TRACK TEAM jog in their dark windbreakers, as they WIPE PAST FRAME REVEALING COREY drawing in her sketchbook on the bleachers in a starkly contrasting PINK OUTFIT.

COREY (V.O.)

"Transgender students shall be permitted to participate in physical education classes in a manner consistent with their gender identity."

Corey watches Neko from afar, who stands next to a GIRL, and talks flirtatiously. CLOSE ON the nape of the Girl's neck, her hair, her gym shorts. WE'RE ON COREY LOOKING JEALOUS...

INT. COREY'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Corey stands in the mirror scrutinizing her NAKED BODY (though we can't see anything rated R). She checks her face for rogue facial hairs. Studies her profile. Rubs her Adam's Apple, hating it. Sucks in her tummy.

Corey starts draping FABRIC on a MANNEQUIN. Uses a SEWING MACHINE to adjust the ill-fitting clothing. She starts trying the clothes on, TAILORING IT TO HER BODY.

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

COREY (V.O.)

"In the event a student no longer identifies with a previously asserted gender, a parent of the student must submit a letter..."

Judy has a few of her close FRIENDS over to confide in them about what's going on with Corey. They are KAREN, CAROL, DEANIE, and Shara, from the nail salon, who remains silent.

KAREN

What if he changes his mind?

JUDY

(correcting)

She.

CAROL

(ignoring)

What if he's just gay and doesn't want to live life as a gay man?

DEANIE

What if it's just a phase?

Off Judy's realization that her friendships might not last through this experience...

INT. COREY'S BEDROOM - ANOTHER DAY

COREY (V.O.)

"The school district will not disclose a student's transgender status unless required."

COREY'S FACEBOOK PAGE is up. The PROFILE PICTURE is of Corey as a BOY. *She hasn't updated her profile yet, and we'll soon learn why...*

Whoosh! Corey gets a FACEBOOK MESSAGE from her brother, Matthew--

Matthew's Message: *Hey Bro! What's new? Can't wait to see you and catch up!!!*

ON COREY taking this in - *so much is NEW.* Corey scrolls through Matthew's COLLEGE PHOTOS. Matthew, now 20, is a reformed nerd who is doing his best to play the part of "FRAT BOY." On the outside he's the masculine, aggressive type who might not understand his Transgender Sister.

ON COREY TOO AFRAID TO TELL HIM. We hear what Corey TYPES to her brother as a VOICE OVER...

COREY (V.O.)
Nothing much is new. Just the usual. Partying with friends...

INT. SUBURBAN HOUSE - NIGHT

Corey enters a SMALL HOUSE PARTY. She holds a RED SOLO CUP and makes her way to the living room where she finds a HUDDLE OF UNCOMFORTABLE GUYS who are clearly whispering about her. They give her dirty looks. Hannah approaches Corey--

HANNAH
I'm so sorry, but the guys are being complete dickwads and want you to leave.

COREY
What the actual fuck?

HANNAH
They're such immature ass-holes.
Don't worry I'll get them to come around--

SUDDENLY, A PARTY-GOER accidentally spills RED JUNGLE JUICE all over Corey's WHITE OUTFIT as we END MONTAGE:

MARGIE (PRE-LAP)
So how do you feel? Is your transition playing out how you imagined?

INT. MARGIE'S OFFICE - HIGH-RISE APARTMENT BUILDING - DAY

Margie sits across from Corey, wearing a chunky sweater over a leggings. They are mid-session--

MARGIE
Or are these kids being little ass-holes? Be real with me, Corey.
Because I'll come down there and knock them on their asses for you.

Corey smiles. We should get the sense that they've had a few sessions in these past weeks and built up a rapport.

COREY

I haven't gotten any death threats,
or people shoving me into lockers.
Nothing cliche like that...

MARGIE

Setting the bar low there.

COREY

Everyone has sort of been on egg
shells around me though. It's like
I'm a leper. They've stopped
inviting me to parties because it's
weird for the guys which is
annoying. Like I'm not invited to
the big Holiday kegger coming up.

MARGIE

I'm sorry.

COREY

It's whatever. I have a lot on my
plate this break anyway.

MARGIE

Why's that?

COREY

My brother, Matthew, is coming home
from college for the first time,
and he's the only person who
doesn't know yet.

MARGIE

What's your relationship with
Matthew like?

Off Corey thinking about this, we INTERCUT WITH:

INT. JUDY'S OFFICE - SAME

PUSH IN ON Judy at her desk on the PHONE with Matthew, who we
will HEAR through the phone but not see. Judy just finished
telling him about Corey's transition--

JUDY

Are you there, Matthew?

MATTHEW (OVER THE PHONE)

... Who else knows?

Judy's silence says it all - he's the last one. Out of anger
and hurt, Matthew responds--

MATTHEW (OVER THE PHONE) (CONT'D)
*I'm not going to use the pronouns
for him! I'm just not!*

We see Judy's face is crushed by this reaction.

JUDY
Matthew, you will if you want to
continue to have a relationship
with your sister... Hello? HELLO?

Off Matthew hanging up, we CUT BACK TO THE SCENE:

INT. MARGIE'S OFFICE - AS BEFORE

COREY
Growing up I always felt like he
was embarrassed by me. Now that
he's a college frat bro who knows
how he'll respond? Y'know?

MARGIE
Is that why you're nervous to tell
him? You don't know how he'll
respond?

COREY
I just don't want to scare him, you
know? I love him. Should I wear
"boy clothes" so he feels more
comfortable? Or can I dress like
this? Like me. The real me.

MARGIE
Think about what you just said. You
don't want to scare him by being
the *real you*. Corey, I want you to
learn that it's okay to put
yourself first. You need to say
fuck what other people think about
you.

(loudly)
FUCK WHAT THEY THINK!

Corey loves it, laughs.

MARGIE (CONT'D)
Say it with me - FUCK WHAT THEY
THINK!

COREY
Fuck what they think.

MARGIE

No, louder --

MARGIE / COREY (TOGETHER)
FUCK WHAT THEY THINK

MARGIE

There you go. You're never going to figure out who you are if you listen to all these fuckers. Even the ones you love.

CUT TO:

EXT. WAGNER HOME - AFTERNOON

HANNAH'S PORSCHE CAYENNE pulls into Corey's driveway--

INT. HANNAH'S PORCHE CAYENNE - SAME

-- where Matthew's YELLOW JEEP is currently parked. He's home. Hannah flicks off the engine, before she clocks Corey freaking out in the passenger seat, staring at the Jeep.

COREY

That's Matthew's car. He's home.
Fuck, fuck, fuck--

HANNAH

(interrupting)

Corey, get a hold of yourself!
Matthew isn't going to care. He's going to be super chill about the whole situation, and regardless - I'll be right there with you.

Corey takes a deep breath psyching herself up, before they exit the car.

EXT. FRONT DOOR, WAGNER HOME - AFTERNOON

We hear MUFFLED YELLING coming from inside the house as they approach the front door. Corey and Hannah share a look. It's clear the family is mid-argument inside.

HANNAH

Actually, maybe you shouldn't go in there right now.

Corey barrels open the door --

INT. FAMILY ROOM, WAGNER HOME - SAME

-- to find Steven playing the mediator between Matthew and Judy. They abruptly stop talking as the door opens.

COREY

Well, hello everyone!

Matthew's eyes go wide as he takes in Corey's new wardrobe.

COREY (CONT'D)

Don't stop on my account? What were you guys talking about?

JUDY

Corey, I was just --

COREY

Y'know what Matthew? I knew you wouldn't understand. This is why I'm telling you last.

MATTHEW

But--

COREY

(cutting him off)

No, let me speak. I've always been worried about embarrassing you by being myself, and I'm done with it. I'm a girl. I'm a Transgender girl, and I don't care what you or anyone else thinks.

(beat, then loudly screaming Margie's mantra)

FUCK WHAT THEY THINK!!!

Matthew immediately starts to cry. He tries to stop, but that only makes him cry more. Matthew is an ugly crier too!

Awkward silence. Corey feels pretty shitty right now, but still super mad.

COREY (CONT'D)

I'm sorry. I didn't mean to make you cry.

MATTHEW

(totally crying)

I'm... not... crying. Sorry, I just need a second.

Matthew exits the room with snot hanging from his nose.

JUDY

What the hell, Corey? Go apologize to your brother!

COREY

Screw that! He should apologize to me! Ugh!

Corey storms off after Matthew, leaving Hannah left with Steven and Judy.

HANNAH

Well, that went pretty well.

EXT. STREET - MOMENTS LATER

Corey catches up to Matthew on the sidewalk but hangs back a few feet sensing he needs space. Matthew finally plops down on the side of the road. Corey sits down next to him.

COREY

What's going on Matthew? What are you thinking? Talk to me.

MATTHEW

I'm fucking mad, Corey!

COREY

(getting worked up again)
Well, excuse me! I'm sorry that my gender upsets you!

MATTHEW

(explaining)

I'm not mad at you. I'm fucking mad at myself! As if I haven't always known you were different. I mean, I guess I always just assumed you might be gay, but when Mom told me--

COREY

Wait, Mom told you!? I can't believe her!

MATTHEW

No, I'm glad she told me. My gut reaction was horrible. I was so pissed you didn't tell me sooner... I... I needed this past week to realize that it doesn't matter why you waited, because this isn't about me.

(MORE)

MATTHEW (CONT'D)

But it's time to make sure you never wait again, so I just want to say that even though I'm still upset you didn't tell me sooner. I love you no matter what Corey.

(Beat, thinks)

Also, I'm the farthest thing from embarrassed by you. Hell I look up to you, and always have, even though you're my little sister.

Being called "Sister" for the first time means more to Corey than Matthew could ever know.

ON THEM walking off into the twilight as the brother and sister they've always been, but truly embracing it for the first time.

INT./EXT. WAGNER HOME - NIGHT

We see the WAGNER FAMILY through the WINDOW. They sit around a dining table, all smiles. It looks like a Norman Rockwell painting. Baba says a prayer as they light the first candle on the MENORAH.

INT. LIVING-ROOM, WAGNER HOME - NIGHT

The family opens up their HANUKKAH PRESENTS. Corey takes a RED DRESS out of a fancy box. Measures it against her body. Savors it. Gives Grandma and Baba a big hug.

INT. WAGNER HOME - LATER

The whole family sits around the couch watching *Mean Girls* (it's the *Spring Fling* ending scene, and Lindsey Lohan has just won Queen).

CADY/LINDSEY LOHAN (ON THE TV)

(re: the crown)

So why is everyone stressing over this thing? It's just plastic...

ON COREY taking this scene in. Maybe she's wishing for this movie moment? Maybe she's getting an idea? Corey's reverie is interrupted when she gets a text from Hannah--

Hannah's Message: *This party is super lame, but wish you were here :(*

-- and it totally kills Corey's vibe. She frowns before--

INT. COREY'S BEDROOM - LATER AT NIGHT

-- pulling up a FACEBOOK ALBUM for a HOLIDAY KEGGER on her bulky DESKTOP COMPUTER.

She scrolls through pictures of the party. It's similar to the Halloween party, but with a Christmas tree and kids wearing ugly sweaters. Corey is having serious F.O.M.O ("Fear Of Missing Out" for the non-millenials reading).

ON COREY lit by the computer screen, opening up her FACEBOOK PAGE. She studies her Facebook Name: **"Corey Wagner"**

Corey dives deeper into her "Basic Info" settings:

PROFILE PICTURE: The picture of *"Corey in Boy Clothes"*

GENDER: Male

Corey thinks before changing her Profile Picture, to a PICTURE "from Halloween in her Regina George costume as a GIRL."

Corey changes her Gender to "Female."

Finally, Corey deletes "Wagner" and makes her name--

"Corey Rae"

Corey hits "Save," and smiles satisfied.

CUT TO:

INT. MARGIE'S OFFICE - HIGH-RISE APARTMENT BUILDING - DAY

Corey paces around the room. Margie sits patiently.

COREY

So I'm re-branding myself. There's Pepsi. There's Coca Cola. And now, there's, "Corey Rae."

MARGIE

I like it. Why do you think you need to "re-brand?"

COREY

People just see me as this label now. Transgender Person. And that's all I am to them. Spoiler alert Dr. Dime, the trans person doesn't get invited to the party. I'm hoping Corey Rae will.

Corey plops down on the couch, exasperated.

MARGIE

When you've described your
classmates to me in the past you've
said things like, "the It Girls",
"the Slutty Cheerleaders"--

COREY

(correcting)

The *Wannabee*, Slutty Cheerleaders.

MARGIE

Right. But those are all labels
that you put on them too.

COREY

Aren't you supposed to be on my
side? Isn't that what I pay you
for?

MARGIE

Is it?

COREY

I'm kidding. Maybe you're right.

MARGIE

I'm sure some of your classmates
can't be easily defined by that
label you've put on them.

COREY

It's just, I'm me. You know? I'm
not defined by being transgender.
I've never even met anyone who is
transgender--

(beat, thinking)

Wait, unless... are you
transgender?

MARGIE

(smiles)

No, I'm not.

COREY

We've been talking so much about
me, I haven't even asked about you.

MARGIE

That's fine. I'm here to listen.

COREY

I mean you're this bad-ass doctor who has a sleeve of tattoos. Tell me about yourself.

MARGIE

Let's focus on you, Corey.

COREY

(ignoring)

For instance that Hello Kitty tattoo. Why'd you get that? Were you like drunk in Vegas or something? You do not seem like the Hello Kitty type.

Margie touches the tattoo, smiles sadly. Corey doesn't notice.

COREY (CONT'D)

Although maybe that's kind of me labeling you, because why couldn't you just be super freaking passionate about Hello Kitty?

MARGIE

I got this tattoo to honor the memory of my daughter who passed away.

COREY

Oh my god, I'm so sorry!

MARGIE

Thank you, it's alright. It was many years ago now.

COREY

What was her name?

MARGIE

Sahara... She was beautiful. She loved Hello Kitty.

COREY

I would have liked her.

MARGIE

Yes. You would have.

(thinks, then)

We conceived Sahara using my ex-husband's sperm, my egg, and my wife as the surrogate.

COREY

Damn.

MARGIE

Labels are limiting. Wife.
Daughter. Gay. Straight. Bisexual.
All labels that don't solely define
me.

Corey chews on that for a few moments.

MARGIE (CONT'D)

I want you to meet other people
like you who don't all fit neatly
into some box.

INT. CHURCH BASEMENT - NIGHT

Corey attends a TRANSGENDER SUPPORT GROUP in the basement of a seedy looking church. They sit in folding chairs arranged in a circle. Corey is a fish out of water in this group who mostly appear to come from lower income communities.

We hear quick snippets of their stories, and it should feel authentic, almost documentary-like. Their stories are of struggle, abuse, and pain-- things Corey can't fathom.

BLACK TRANS WOMAN 30'S

I was abused...

WHITE TRANS MAN 50'S

... when I was going stealth in the
military, until they...

LATINO TRANS WOMAN 60'S

... kicked me out of my house...

TRANS WOMAN 40'S

... and raped me.

BLACK TRANS WOMAN 60'S

... but I pulled through it, 'cause
I'm a strong woman, and ain't
nobody gonna break my stride.

The Group rowdily claps in solidarity. Finally, it's Corey's turn to share. All eyes on her, and she's scared shitless--

COREY

Me? Um... Hi. I'm Corey Rae.

THE GROUP (IN UNISON)

Hi, Corey Rae.

COREY

I don't know what to talk about?

GROUP LEADER

Just talk. This is a safe space.

COREY

Right. But after listening to you all, my struggles just feel a little trivial.

GROUP LEADER

No experience is trivial. Speak your truth.

COREY

Okay. I mean, I've just been very lucky. My parents are super supportive. My family. The biggest complaint I have is that I feel ostracized by my friends. Like there was this big Holiday kegger that before my transition I totally would have been invited to, but now I get excluded and it's unfair--

EJ

(squeals obnoxiously)

HAH!

REVEAL **EJ JACKSON** (about 6'4, 220 lbs., black Trans woman, with a blonde wig). EJ's laugh is distinct, almost regal.

EJ (CONT'D)

That is some trivial ass shit,
Princess. HAH!

The Group starts laughing. Corey is annoyed.

CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM, WAGNER HOME - SAME

Judy is listlessly sitting on the couch with Steven, watching the news to pass the time before Corey gets home. Judy looks up from biting her cuticles when a report grabs her attention, "**CAMPUS TRAGEDY: STUDENT TAKES HIS OWN LIFE**"

Judy perks up at the headline, raises the volume and we HEAR--

NEWS REPORTER (ON THE TV)

This was a sad day at Rutgers University.

(MORE)

NEWS REPORTER (ON THE TV) (CONT'D)
Authorities have now identified the body of Tyler Clementi, a quiet freshman who took his own life after a sexual encounter with another man was secretly streamed online...

Judy and Steven share a deeply concerned look, as they get their own dose of the harsh reality the LGBTQ community faces, before we CUT BACK TO:

EXT. CHURCH - NIGHT

EJ stomps out a cigarette butt in her CHRISTIAN LOUBOUTIN HEELS, before Corey ambles out of the Church.

EJ
Wait up, Princess.

Corey clocks EJ, gets defensive--

COREY
Haven't I taken enough crap for one night?

EJ
Just so you know, I am draped in Givenchy. This is an authentic Chanel purse, and my shoes are Louboutin's. You ain't the only one who's doing fine, Princess.

COREY
(impressed)
Damn, are those real Louboutin's?

EJ
Mmhmmmm. Where you from anyway?

COREY
Short Hills.

EJ
I LOVE that mall.

COREY
Me too.

EJ
Do you and your little white privilege friends ever make it out to the city?

COREY

What's with the name calling?

EJ

I'm messing with you, Princess.
Chill.

COREY

Not really, no.

EJ

Well, I'm a promoter, and I throw
bomb ass parties in the city for
bomb ass people. Are you bomb ass,
Princess?

COREY

I don't know what bomb ass means,
but I take design classes at NYU so
I go to the city a decent amount. I
just don't party in the city ever,
and if you were listening earlier,
you'd realize I'm not the hottest
social commodity right now.

EJ

HAH!

COREY

What's funny?

EJ

You wanna know why you're a
Princess? Because you think you
need to be *invited* to a party.
Bitch, if you were a Queen you'd
know that you ARE the party with
your little bomb ass.

COREY

Okay...

EJ

Seriously, I see potential in you.
Take my number. Hit me up if you're
ever in the city and want to go
out. It'd be a good time.

INT. COREY'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Corey checks her FACEBOOK PROFILE PAGE. She has two new "Friend Requests." One from EJ JACKSON, which she quickly accepts, and the other from a scruffy, cute guy in his mid-20's, **JACK GREENBERG**.

Corey doesn't know who this is, but she's intrigued.

COREY
(to herself)
Who are you?

Corey clocks the "Mutual Friends" section, and sees that SASHA SALES and TAYLOR are mutual friends so he checks out.

Corey clicks "accept." Thinks. Then types a MESSAGE: **Do we know each other?**

Woosh! Almost instantaneously, Jack replies back with a MESSAGE: **No, but I'd like to get to know you :)**

JUDY (O.S.)
Corey?

Corey almost falls out of her chair she's so shocked--

COREY
Jesus Christ, Mom. Please knock?

JUDY
Sorry!

COREY
It's fine. What's up?

JUDY
Well, while you were at the support group, I actually spoke with a woman at human resources at NYU--
(Corey groans)
And she said we should be hearing back about regular decision in April. They also told me they've had transgender students in the past, and are extremely prepared--

COREY
Mom! Do you need to broadcast it to the world!? I want to blend in next year.

JUDY

Don't worry, they keep that information confidential. I can't stress enough how important it is to make sure that there's a safe environment for you next year.

COREY

Can we do this some other time please?

JUDY

Sure, but we still need to discuss it and I want to hear about support group! I love you.

COREY

(brushing her off)

Okay, okay. Love you too.

Corey focuses back on the computer screen, annoyed. So Judy exits Corey's room--

INT. HALLWAY - SAME

-- and leans for a moment against the wall. Judy, who has always looked so put together up until now, looks worn down.

MARGIE (V.O.)

How have things been for you, Judy?

INT. SALON LA MODE - RECENT FLASHBACK

JUDY (V.O.)

(faux cheeriness)

I've been good... Busy.

Judy taps her manicured nails at her beauty station. She's bored because she doesn't have any clients. PULL OUT WIDER to find that Judy is the only beautician in the bustling salon without a customer.

MARGIE (V.O.)

I meant, how have you been since Corey started her transition?

JUDY (V.O.)

Oh. Right. Um...

INT. SUPERMARKET - RECENT FLASHBACK

Judy pushes a cart down an aisle. She spots her friend and client, Shara, from earlier-

JUDY
Shara, hey!

Shara pretends she doesn't hear or see Judy, pushes her cart out of view. *Strange.*

INT. SUPERMARKET - CHECK OUT AISLES - RECENT FLASHBACK

As Judy heads toward the check-out aisle, she clocks Shara getting her groceries bagged. Pulls her cart up behind her--

JUDY
Shara!

Shara turns, struggles to feign surprise.

SHARA
Oh, Judy... I didn't uh...

JUDY
How are you doing?

SHARA
Good! Busy. So busy with the, uh,
the kids and their, everything,
so...

JUDY
You haven't come around the salon
in so long, I was starting to worry
about your greys.

SHARA
Oh-- Ha. That's sweet of you. No,
y'know what, I started just doing
it myself from the box.

She grabs her bags from the cashier, and makes quick for the exit, offering back over her shoulder:

SHARA (CONT'D)
Nice seeing you.

Judy watches her go... and then pursues.

EXT. SUPER MARKET, PARKING LOT - MOMENTS LATER

Shara puts her SUV in reverse and starts to back out when--
She GASPS. Stops short. Judy is standing right behind the bumper, manning her shopping cart.

SHARA
Judy?!

Judy leaves the shopping cart where it is and comes to the driver's side window, wild-eyed, perhaps a little unhinged.

SHARA (CONT'D)
What're you doing? You almost gave me a heart attack--

JUDY
Why, Shara?! What did I do to you?
What have I done to anybody? I call you, you don't pick up. I email you about the food drive, you don't respond--

SHARA
Judy, please, I can't do this right now--

JUDY
WE ARE DOING THIS RIGHT NOW. I'm not letting you go *anywhere* until you *talk to me*.

SHARA
(snaps)
I DON'T WANT ANYTHING TO DO WITH YOU, OKAY?!

Judy recoils from the shock of the outburst. Then lets her continue.

SHARA (CONT'D)
What is *the matter* with you?! Your son needs serious mental help! And what do you do?! You *indulge* him! You indulge this *sick FANTASY*--

JUDY
Her.

SHARA
... What?

JUDY

I have a daughter. And if I indulge her, it's because she's my child, and that's what we do for our children, Shara. You're no different.

Shara can't suppress a laugh, even as tears come down her face as she does it.

SHARA

I am nothing like you. Keep your son-- daughter, *thing!*-- away from mine.

And with that, Shara lays on the gas, SLAMMING THROUGH JUDY'S SHOPPING CART. It capsizes, groceries flying as Shara tears off.

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

(driving away)

Crazy!

Judy hauls after her, grabs a downed gallon of milk off the asphalt and HURLS IT at the back of Shara's SUV. It misses by a long shot and EXPLODES on the ground-- *a milk bomb*.

JUDY

FUUUUUUCK YOUEE TOO!!!

She watches the SUV leave the parking lot and disappear down the road. Chest heaving as she tries to regain composure. Judy clocks the astonished bystanders. Mortified.

INT. MARGIE'S OFFICE - HIGH-RISE APARTMENT BUILDING - DAY

Judy sits across from Margie, forcing a smile.

MARGIE

Listen, Judy, I know when you're out there, you put on your best face to be strong for everyone else. Especially Corey. But you don't have to be strong here. For one hour I want you to just let it all go.

Judy nods, okay. Getting emotional but trying not to show it.

JUDY

I've done everything I can to protect Corey.

(MORE)

JUDY (CONT'D)

And that includes shielding her from what's been going on with me...

(deep breath, then)

The worst part isn't the nasty calls or the fact that I've lost almost all of my regular clients. The worst part is that I cry every time I see an old picture of Corey as a boy.

MARGIE

You still keep those up in the house?

JUDY

Whenever I see them I just break down and cry, because-- I've always made Corey feel comfortable being herself. Corey has *always* been a girl. But when you're having a baby boy... you can't help but imagine their life. Going to High School. Having girlfriends. College. Getting married. So I cry when I think about what could have been. I'm so happy for her, but in some ways, it's been like an extended funeral for me this past year.

(beat)

I'm mourning the loss of my son.

Judy can't hold back hot tears now that stream down her face as the guilt she's kept bottled up explodes to the surface--

JUDY (CONT'D)

God, did I wait too long?! I mean, Corey told me in Middle School, for Chrissakes-- but she was so young and-- I didn't know anything! None of the books were helpful...

(hysterical now)

I'm a bad mother.

Margie gets closer to Judy and holds her hand.

MARGIE

Judy. There is no book for this. There are no how-to's. I know- I wrote most of them.

Judy laughs through tears.

MARGIE (CONT'D)

All you have to do is take one look
at your beautiful and courageous
daughter to know that's bullshit.
You're a wonderful mother.

Judy needed to hear this. She's hit with a wave of relief and appreciation.

MARGIE (CONT'D)

Corey is becoming a full fledged
woman now. More and more every day.
It's time for you to say goodbye to
your son. And you should start by
putting away those pictures.

On Judy, knowing this to be true...

EXT. UPPER WEST SIDE - WALK UP BUILDING - AFTERNOON

Judy and Corey wait to be buzzed into--

INT. WAITING ROOM, ENDOCRINOLOGIST OFFICE - DAY

-- the waiting room of the Endocrinologist's office. It's a first floor Upper West Side walk up that's been converted into a doctors office. A TRANS WOMAN (50) and a TRANS MAN (30) wait for their hormone treatment. Corey studies them.

INT. EXAM ROOM - DAY

THE ENDOCRINOLOGIST, **DR. WYLIE HEMBREE** (70's) examines Corey's testicles.

DR. HEMBREE

Cough for me.

LATER - Dr. Hembree does a series of tests, including drawing blood, before Corey and Judy sit together in DR. HEMBREE'S OFFICE--

DR. HEMBREE (CONT'D)

You may notice some sensitivity in
your breasts in the coming weeks
from your hormone treatment. Please
let me know if anything feels
swollen. Also, don't be alarmed if
you start to break out.

COREY

I'll sacrifice getting a few
pimples for a nice set of hooters
any day.

DR. HEMBREE

I just want to manage your
expectations. You're not going to
grow breasts overnight.

COREY

I know. Life isn't a fairy-tale,
but I'll be a patient, patient.

DR. HEMBREE

Love your attitude, Corey.

COREY

Thanks. I noticed some of your
patients out there, and don't take
this the wrong way, but they don't
exactly pass. Is that what I can
expect to look like from this
treatment? Because if so I can kiss
ever having a boyfriend goodbye.

DR. HEMBREE

With your age and genetic make up,
I'm confident you'll be able to
make a beautiful transition. Trust
me, you'll be batting away the boys
with a stick when I'm through with
you.

Corey pops up and hugs the doctor, excited. Corey bear hugs
Judy, who smiles a sad smile.

INT. COREY'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Corey excitedly sits down at her computer, and starts
Facebook messaging Jack again. She types...

Corey's Message: I see we're mutual friends with Sasha and Taylor. How do you know them?

Jack's Message: Well, Sasha and I went on this teen tour together a few years ago, and I met Taylor through Sasha.

Corey takes another deep breath. Then types...

Corey's Message: Cool. Have you guys stayed in touch?

Jack's Message: Yeah. A little. She told me about you...

COREY
 (to herself)
Crap, crap, crap!

Corey pops up out of her chair and freaks out. She paces around the room. Sits back down. Types...

Corey's Message: *What'd she say???*

Jack's Message: *She told me that you're transgender.*

COREY (CONT'D)
 (to herself)
Bitch!

We see "Jack is typing..." Corey waits a long, torturous beat.

Jack's Message: *I think it's cool. My parent's are Lesbians, so it's super chill. People can be so close-minded sometimes, but I think you're really hot!*

Corey's Message: *Thanks :) You too!*

Jack's Message: *I've gotta hit the books, but let's chat soon. I'd love to get to know you more:)*

Corey starts doing a happy dance around the room.

EXT. SHORT HILLS HIGH SCHOOL - MORNING

The cherry blossoms are blooming. Spring has sprung.

INT. ENTRYWAY, SHORT HILLS HIGH SCHOOL - MORNING

Sasha sits at a table in front of a banner that reads, "**COMING SOON-- SENIOR PROM! NOMINATE YOUR KING AND QUEEN!"**

COREY
 Hey Sasha, when is the vote for the nominees?

SASHA
 Next week. Why? You thinking of running for Prom King?

COREY
 Not Prom King... no. Uh Sasha, also, random question but do you know Jack Greenberg?

SASHA

Yeah. He's my ex.

COREY

Your ex... Really?

SASHA

We dated a little after we did a
teen tour together. Why?

COREY

Oh. We've just been talking a
little... Online.

Sasha freaks out.

SASHA

What in the actual fuck? You've
been talking to my ex?

COREY

Super casually...

SASHA

That totally breaks girl code,
Corey. Ugh, get out of my face
right now!

NEKO (O.S.)

What's going on?

Neko arrives on the scene--

COREY

Nothing. I'm leaving.

Corey storms away determined. Off Neko watching her go,
conflicted, as we CUT TO:

INT. COREY'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Corey puts the finishing touches on a FACEBOOK STATUS:

"COREY RAE FOR PROM QUEEN"

She posts the status and gets 2 *Likes* immediately. One from Hannah, and the other from EJ JACKSON.

EJ comments on the status: **YASSS QUEEN! GET IT GURLLL!**

Corey laughs to herself at EJ's comment, before stalking Jack Greenberg's PHOTOS. He's marked as ACTIVE with a green dot.

ON COREY wondering why he isn't *liking* her page right away, when something surprising happens--

She gets a LIKE from NEKO DEL FORNO. ON COREY intrigued.

INT. MARGIE'S OFFICE - HIGH-RISE APARTMENT BUILDING - DAY

Mid-session with Margie--

COREY

I know there's a very low chance of
me getting nominated because
everyone thinks I'm some diseased
freak, but screw it--
(loudly)
Fuck what they think!

MARGIE

(smiles)

Good for you, Corey. I know you can
accomplish anything you set your
mind to.

COREY

Me too. Well except maybe finding a
boy date to Prom. I don't know if I
can accomplish that herculean feat.

MARGIE

Why don't you think you can find a
cis-gender boy date to Prom?

COREY

Because... I'm Trans.

MARGIE

So?

COREY

I can barely fit into clothes
without altering them. Oh, and I
have a penis. There aren't many
straight, Freddie Prince Jr.-types
looking for that date.

MARGIE

I could go on and on about how
beautiful you are, but it all means
nothing unless you believe it.

COREY

Oh don't get me wrong, Margie, I
know how hot I am!

(MORE)

COREY (CONT'D)

I just don't know if any of these high school boys will be able to see past the transgender of it all. That's why I can't wait for college. I need a fresh start.

MARGIE

Soon enough. But in the meantime, try to enjoy what's left of your senior year. Run for Prom Queen. Go make your wildest dreams come true. I just want to caution you that there's more to life than finding some perfect Freddie Prince Jr. Prom Date.

COREY

Like what?

(Off Margie's look)

I'm joking... Sort of. I actually met a guy. Online. A college guy, and he seems to like me for me.

Off Corey excitedly telling Margie all about Jack Greenberg in MOS.

CUT TO:

INT. AP ART CLASS - DAY

Corey and Neko work on self-portraits next to each other. Corey's is fantastic, while Neko's is Kindergarten level bad. Neko leans over--

NEKO

Your self portrait is gorgeous. Mine looks like it was painted by Monet's drunk uncle. Or is it Manet?

Corey gives Neko the cold shoulder. This olive branch is too little, too late from Neko. He proceeds --

NEKO (CONT'D)

I think maybe your portrait is better than mine, because you have a better subject.

(leans in closer)

Congratulations on running for Prom Queen by the way. Sasha would kill me, but you've got my vote--

COREY

(snapping back)

You've said a grand total of zero words to me these past few months, and now you're suddenly all buddy, buddy and shit!? Fuck that!

NEKO

I'm sorry, Corey. I've been a shithead, just like my portrait.

TIGHT ON Neko's self portrait where he looks like he has brown shit for hair. They both laugh, easing the tension.

EXT. WALKWAY - DAY

Corey and Neko walk and talk on an outdoor WALKWAY--

NEKO

I'm sorry I've been so distant these past few months. I know things shouldn't change, but it was hard for me to figure out what you being a girl means for our friendship. Y'know? I mean you were my "art-guy-friend" in my favorite class. I looked forward to coming everyday--

COREY

(defensive)

And now you don't because I'm trans?

NEKO

No, no, no. It's just when you became my "art-girl-friend," it just made it different. It's just different.

COREY

How is art your favorite class anyway? You're terrible.

NEKO

I get to learn from the most talented person I know.

COREY

Now you're just kissing my nice ass. I forgive you for being mute these past few months. It's cool.

NEKO

No, seriously. I miss our
friendship. Can we just restart?
(reaching out his hand)
I'm Neko.

COREY

You're a freak. We're all good.

Neko keeps his hand outstretched. Holds her eye contact.

COREY (CONT'D)

Fine. I'll humor you. I'm Corey
Rae.

They shake hands. It's a charged moment.

NEKO

Nice to re-meet you, Corey Rae.

COREY

If you actually care about getting
better at art, you should come with
me to these art classes I take in
the city. I'll sneak you in.

Neko smiles broadly, he's in.

JUDY (PRE-LAP)

You're going on a date?!

INT. JUDY'S BEDROOM - DAY

Corey is anxiously trying on outfits in Judy's closet. Hannah and Judy are there for support. They talk rapid-fire, because Corey's running late.

COREY

It's not a date. He has a
girlfriend!

HANNAH

Corey, he has a thing for you. It's
obvious.

JUDY

Who is he? Do I know him?

COREY

Neko Del Forno. Ugh, I have nothing
to wear!

JUDY

Why don't I drive you both to the city? I'd like to talk to this Neko. See what his intentions are?

COREY

Oh my god, Mom. No way!

Corey tries on a SKIMPY DRESS.

JUDY

You can't wear that Corey.

COREY

Why? It's yours, Mom.

JUDY

Leave a little to the imagination will you?

HANNAH

That's an outfit Neko will go back and wank it to later. If you don't wank it for him on the train.

COREY

Gross! He has a girlfriend, Hannah!

JUDY

Hello, it's me, Corey's mother?
I shouldn't be hearing this!

COREY

Then leave!

JUDY

You're in my closet!

Corey sits down and starts applying mascara, at Judy's vanity, when they hear a HONK!

COREY

Crap! That's him.

Corey takes one more look in the mirror, makes the duckface that the girls make. Smiles satisfied. Kisses Judy.

JUDY

Text me when you're coming home.
And no later than 11pm!

Corey darts out of the room without a response--

INT. LIVING ROOM, WAGNER HOME - DAY

Judy and Hannah peak through the BLINDS. ANGLE ON - Corey making her way across the front lawn and hopping into Neko's PICK UP TRUCK. Neko opens the door for Corey, a gentleman.

JUDY (O.S.)
Wow. He is handsome.

ON JUDY concerned for her daughter who's becoming a WOMAN.

INT. NEKO'S CAR - DAY

Neko turns on his car--

NEKO
Wow, I love that dress.

Corey blushes as Neko fiddles with the radio. Lands on--

QUEEN'S "SOMEBODY TO LOVE," WHICH PLAYS OVER THE FOLLOWING--

EXT. PARKING LOT - DAY

Neko parks in the train station parking lot. They exit and amble up to the tracks.

INT. TRAIN CAR - DAY

Neko and Corey sit next to each other watching Short Hills become a dot in the distance as the train hurtles toward THE BIG APPLE. QUICK SHOTS ESTABLISHING: PENN STATION, SUBWAY PERFORMERS, WASHINGTON SQUARE PARK, NEW YORK'S HUSTLE AND BUSTLE, before:

INT. NYU DESIGN CLASS - DAY

Corey and Neko sit next to each other in a FIGURE DRAWING CLASS. Corey is in the zone, drawing. Neko's mouth is wide open. REVEAL THE MODEL IS NAKED, *ass flapping in the breeze.*

COREY
You okay there, stud?

Neko tries to act cool, but is overwhelmed.

INT. STREET, MEATPACKING DISTRICT - LATER

Corey and Neko walk and talk while eating HOTDOGS--

NEKO

Y'know, Hennie told people that you molested him.

COREY

What a lying prick. Oh and he has a tiny prick by the way.

NEKO

He also told people... Do you have? ... Have you had...?

Neko kind of motions to his hotdog. Corey gets the hint.

COREY

Yes, unfortunately I still have the whole package

NEKO

I'm sure some guys are super into that.

COREY

I'm not interested in having sex until I have a vagina. But you're right, guys are such perverts.

NEKO

Myself included. I love eating Sasha out, like, I can't get enough of it. But she never reciprocates.

COREY

Screw that! I can't wait to be someone's girlfriend and start sucking some D!

Neko nearly spits out his hotdog. Corey starts deep-throating her hotdog in jest. She's the Kobayashi of deep-throating.

EXT. HUDSON RIVER - MAGIC HOUR

They sit on a bench overlooking the Hudson River mid-convo--

NEKO

I feel like NYU is the perfect fit for you, no? That class was amazing.

COREY

I really want to go to school in California, but my mom will never let me be that far away from home.

Corey's phone buzzes. Corey looks at her text.

COREY (CONT'D)

Speak of the worrywart now: "When
are you coming home?" Relax, Mom.

NEKO

Why do you want to live in LA so
badly?

COREY

I just want to live in a place
where no one knows me, and people
don't look at me like I'm a freak
anymore.

NEKO

I don't look at you like that.

Corey looks at Neko, still unsure if he's telling the truth.

NEKO (CONT'D)

If you ended up in the city,
hopefully I'd be here too. I
applied to NYU for film.

COREY

Really?

NEKO

Don't get too excited. They
waitlisted me.

COREY

That's still amazing, congrats!

NEKO

Have you ever gone out in the city?

COREY

No. Even though we live so close,
I've never really experienced it.

NEKO

Maybe you shouldn't rule it out
until you get a taste. We could go
out tonight?

COREY

I dunno. My mom would freak...

Corey's phone buzzes and buzzes, before she turns it OFF.

INT. WAGNER HOME - SAME

Judy, holds a MOVING BOX, while on the PHONE at the bottom of the staircase.

JUDY
She's not picking up. Something's wrong.

Steven takes down a BABY PHOTO of Corey off the staircase wall of photos. He walks down to Judy.

JUDY (CONT'D)
Should we drive to the city to check on her?

STEVEN
Relax, Judy. Corey'll be fine.

JUDY
Don't tell me to relax! I'M RELAXED!

STEVEN
I see that.

JUDY
I just don't know this Neko kid.
What if he's messing with Corey?
Carrie-style? She could end up in the Hudson for all we know!

STEVEN
You've been reading too many YA novels. He's a perfectly nice kid. I remember him from Little League.

Steven puts the photo in Judy's MOVING BOX.

JUDY
Don't put that there. My box is labeled Pre through K. That box is 1st through 6th.
(off his look)
What? I'm relaxed! Organization relaxes me.

EJ (PRE-LAP)
YASSS QUEEN!!!

EXT. NIGHTCLUB - NIGHT

Corey and Neko approach EJ standing on the sidewalk. EJ is the leader of a group of intimidating looking NYC MODELS.

COREY
Hey, EJ! This is my friend, Neko.

EJ
Damn, you two are a smoking hot couple!

COREY
Oh, no. We're not dating!

EJ
Just friends with benefits? I get it.

Corey is about to chime in to correct EJ, when--

EJ (CONT'D)
Let's go my Queens! Allons-y!

EJ leads the cavalcade of Models, Corey, and Neko past a LONG LINE OF CLUB-GOERS, who are waiting in line to get in.

EJ (CONT'D)
HAH! Look at these Plebeians!

EJ struts up to the front of the VELVET ROPE. Makes small talk with the BOUNCERS and MANAGER.

Corey and Neko drink in this new experience. They spot THE BOUNCER scrutinizing a YOUNG TEENAGER'S ID, *clearly a fake*. The Bouncer sends the Young Teenager off the line. They also notice, a COP CAR pull up alongside the club. TWO COPS talk to one of the Bouncers. Corey approaches EJ--

COREY
EJ, um, we don't have Fake IDs, and my ID is of me as a boy.

EJ
HAH! When you go up to the bouncer, don't wobble over there like a scared little bird.

EJ does an impression of *Corey walking like a scared bird*. The models laugh.

EJ (CONT'D)
Strut in like you're the ruler of the free world.
(MORE)

EJ (CONT'D)
Be a confident Queen for me. Hand
him your ID, and hopefully he
thinks you're worthy of getting in.

COREY
Hopefully!?

EJ
If you don't, well, I can't bail
you out of prison. I'm not the
Mayor.

Corey looks at the Cops again, scared. Corey and Neko confide
in each other off to the SIDE--

NEKO
What do you think? Do we risk it?

COREY
Screw it.

The Bouncers start letting EJ and crew in. Corey's heart is
pounding in her neck as she approaches the Bouncers, but she
takes EJ's advice and struts with confidence...

THE BOUNCER SCRUTINIZES COREY'S ID. Dramatic beat, before--

He hands it back to Corey and waves her in. Neko gets in too.
Corey and Neko are ecstatic, but try to keep their cool as
they enter the CLUB--

INT. NYC CLUB - NIGHT

-- and rock out to 80's inspired techno music.

LATER - AT THE BAR

Corey and Neko, all smiles, try to get the BARTENDERS
ATTENTION, when a HANDSOME MALE MODEL locks eyes with Corey
from across the way. Corey looks around, unsure who he's
looking at. EJ wraps her arms around Neko and Corey.

EJ
Damn, hottie over there wants your
goodies, Princess!

COREY
No way. Does he!?

NEKO
I think so.

EJ
 Remember, Queen's don't buy their
 own drinks. Bat those eyelashes.

Corey makes eye contact with the Handsome Model, bats her eyelashes. It works. He smiles and pushes through the crowd.

HANDSOME MALE MODEL
 Can I buy you a drink, beautiful?

Corey nods, yes.

LATER - Neko sips a beer, while watching Corey dance with the Model. He's impressed with her moves. The song comes to an end, and Corey breaks it off with the Model. Heads to Neko. Grabs his hand. Pulls him onto the DANCE FLOOR--

NEKO AND COREY DANCE AND GRIND, UNINHIBITED...

THE SOUNDS of a train hurtling along the track, before--

INT. TRAIN - LATE NIGHT

Neko is fast asleep with his head on Corey's shoulder. Corey notices passengers staring at them. Are they clocking her as transgender? She's not sure. Corey's heart sinks as she spots-

HENNIE BURN AND HIS WHOLESOME FAMILY all decked out in RANGER'S GEAR *having come from a game at Madison Square Garden and waiting to exit the train.*

Hennie locks eyes with Corey. Furrows his brow. He notices Neko lying on her shoulder. Uh oh. The train DOORS OPEN. Hennie's family exits, as Neko stirs awake...

EXT. WAGNER HOME - NIGHT

Neko pulls up in front of Corey's House.

COREY
 Thank you for the ride.

NEKO
 Of course. Thank you. That was a
 dope night.

Awkward beat. They lock eyes.

NEKO (CONT'D)
 Oh, by the way. I had a question
 for you...

Is this it? Is he going to make the move?

NEKO (CONT'D)
Could we maybe keep this a secret?

COREY
What?

NEKO
Like, could you not tell Sasha, or anyone about today? She'll cut off my balls if she finds out.

Corey sinks a few inches in her seat, disappointed.

COREY
Right, of course. No. I hadn't planned on telling anyone.

NEKO
Perfect. You're the best. Night.

EXT. FRONT LAWN, WAGNER HOME - SAME

Corey may or may not notice that the LIGHTS are on downstairs as she trudges along the walkway swimming in her thoughts.

INT. LIVING ROOM, WAGNER HOME - CONTINUOUS

Judy and Steven sit on the couch. Judy's arms are crossed. She pops up as soon as Corey enters--

JUDY
Corey! Where have you been? Why didn't you text me?

COREY
Hi. Sorry, my phone died.

Judy approaches Corey in the ENTRYWAY.

JUDY
You could have texted from Neko's phone or something.

COREY
I lost track of time. It's not a big deal.

JUDY
It's a very big deal. I was worried sick.

STEVEN

You should have texted your mother.

COREY

Thanks, Steven. Can I go to bed?

JUDY

No. You're not getting off that easy. You need to be more responsible in the future. You don't know the types of things that can happen to people like you.

COREY

What do you mean, "people like me?"

JUDY

Trans people. You have to be careful, Corey.

COREY

I'M TIRED OF BEING SO CAREFUL ALL THE TIME!

Corey runs up the staircase past what used to be the shrine of Corey's boy photos, but is now noticeably EMPTY.

INT. COREY'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Corey sends a message to Jack on the computer...

Corey's Message: *My parents are so annoying sometimes!!!*

Jack's Message: *Why, what happened?*

Corey's Message: *I went out with a boy in the city today, and my parents were so over-protective, like I'm a baby.*

Jack's Message: *Who's the lucky guy?*

Corey's Message: *Can you keep a secret?*

Jack's Message: *Of course.*

Corey's Message: *It was Sasha's boyfriend.*

It takes a while for Jack to respond. Corey freaks out.

COREY

(to herself)

Now he thinks I'm a cold blooded bitch! Ugh!

Corey's Message: We didn't do anything, I swear. We're just friends. But I think he has a crush on me.

INTERCUT WITH:

TIGHT ON: JACK GREENBERG'S COMPUTER--

WIDEN OUT from Jack and Corey's conversation, and --

REVEAL that **SASHA SALES IS JACK GREENBERG...**

INT. SASHA SALES BEDROOM - SAME

Sasha is sitting at her computer typing as Jack. She reacts to the news that Neko went out with Corey without her knowing.

SASHA
(to herself)
That bitch.

Sasha types...

CUT BACK TO:

INT. COREY'S BEDROOM - SAME

Jack's Message: Of course he does. You're gorgeous.

Corey's heart melts. Meanwhile, our AUDIENCE'S heart should be crushed knowing that Jack isn't real.

INT. ENTRYWAY, SHORT HILLS HIGH SCHOOL - DAY

Corey enters school carrying her tray of coffees, and is immediately greeted by Robbie--

ROBBIE
Did it really happen?

COREY
Elaborate, Robbie? I haven't had my morning coffee yet.

ROBBIE
Did you and Neko hook up?

COREY
No? Where'd you hear that from!?

HENNIE (O.S.)
Corey, how's Neko's cum taste--?

Corey whips around, clocks Hennie's smug grin, and *grabs Hennie's junk - HARD*. Pushes him up against a LOCKER, with a strength and speed we didn't know she had.

HENNIE (CONT'D)
(squirming)
Get off me... What the hell!?

COREY
Are you going to stop spreading rumors, or do you want me to tell my good friend, Dr. Pitts, how you've been calling me a fag for years? I think that constitutes a hate crime.

HENNIE
(red-faced)
This... really hurts.

COREY
Stop spreading the rumor and I'll let you go.

Hennie nods, okay. Corey releases him. Hennie curls over.

HENNIE
I really don't care enough about your life to spread that rumor.

Corey blows Hennie a sarcastic 'thank you' kiss, making him uncomfortable, so he darts away.

INT. MAIN OFFICE - DAY

Corey hands Monique her coffee--

MONIQUE
I know you're just learning, but someone really needs to teach you about *Girl Code*, Corey.

COREY
It's not true Mo', Jesus! How do you even know about that rumor?

MONIQUE
I know everything going on with your little, hormonal asses.

DR. PITTS (O.S.)
Language, Monique.

Dr. Pitts enters. Corey hands Dr. Pitts her coffee.

DR. PITTS (CONT'D)
Thank you, Corey. Someone is going
to have to teach you about a thing
we call--

COREY
Girl Code! Oh my god. You know
too!?

DR. PITTS
I know everything.

Corey looks at the box of BALLOTS labeled PROM NOMINATIONS.

COREY
If you know everything, how am I
looking as a nominee?

Dr. Pitts glares at Corey, before we CUT TO:

INT. COREY'S HOMEROOM - DAY

Corey and Hannah sit anxiously awaiting the ANNOUNCEMENTS.
They both stare at a POSTER of "**SASHA SALES FOR PROM QUEEN.**"

COREY
I'm screwed, aren't I? I mean, I
just pissed off the soon to be Prom
Queen.

HANNAH
It's just a stupid rumor that will
blow over. And hey, you could be
Queen just as easily as her.

Corey rolls her eyes, skeptical, then props up in her chair
as we HEAR THE LOUD-SPEAKER ANNOUNCEMENTS--

MONIQUE (OVER THE SPEAKER)
... and finally the nominees for
Prom King and Queen are as follows:

Corey braces herself for the worst.

MONIQUE (CONT'D)
Sasha Sales...

HANNAH
Shocker.

MONIQUE (OVER THE SPEAKER)
Nathalie Valle...

NATHALIE, a PRETTY GIRL in the WANNABEE, SLUTTY CHEERLEADERS pops up in the back of the classroom. She does a cheer for herself. The other cheerleaders clap.

Hannah and Corey golf clap. Roll their eyes.

MONIQUE (OVER THE SPEAKER) (CONT'D)
Keren Brender...

HANNAH
(genuinely happy for her)
No way! Awesome!

COREY
Go Keren!

MONIQUE (OVER THE SPEAKER)
And lastly... Corey Rae.
(beat, surprised)
Damn girl. Go Corey Rae!

Corey is happily astonished. Hannah jumps up and down.

All of the CLASSMATES are stunned. Hannah starts whistling.

COREY
I can't believe it worked. How did I get nominated?

HANNAH
The rumor must have helped! People probably wanted to piss Sasha off or something--
(catching sight of something off screen)
Uh oh.

Corey whips around to find Sasha Sales in the door window, looking furious. The CLASS oo's and ah's.

INT. WOMEN'S RESTROOM - DAY

Corey and Sasha are alone in the bathroom. Mano a mano.

COREY

Listen, Sasha. Nothing happened,
this is all just a big
misunderstanding!

SASHA

When Hennie told me he saw you and
Neko I was pissed. So I confronted
Neko--

COREY

We didn't do anything!

SASHA

--and he came clean. Told me
everything...

COREY

Told you what?

Sasha holds out her PHONE, and shows Corey--

A TEXT MESSAGE CONVERSATION WITH NEKO

TIGHT ON COREY devastated by what she reads...

COREY (CONT'D)

(reads aloud as Neko)

*"I would never hook up with that
cross-dresser, ever. Ew. Are you
serious? Gross. No I was just
hanging out with her to be nice..."*

Sasha puts a faux-compassionate arm on Corey.

SASHA

I believe you, Corey. I know you
guys didn't hook up or whatever. I
mean, you're not really his type.

Corey tries to mask her hurt. But it's tough.

SASHA (CONT'D)

I know I shunned you for talking to
my ex and breaking girl code
before, but I want you to know I'm
going to be the bigger person and
forgive you.

COREY

(surprised)

... Really?

The Audience should suspect that Sasha is up to something, but unsure what her end goal is here with Corey...

SASHA

Yeah. I just realized I've been a bit of a bitch since you started dressing like a girl, or becoming a girl, or whatever you call it, and I wanted to say that I'm sorry.

Corey isn't quite sure if she buys Sasha's apology as genuine, but she's willing to hear her out.

COREY

... Um, thanks. I appreciate it.

SASHA

We're all going to go Prom dress shopping this weekend, and the other girls insisted you come with. What do you say? You have the best style out of all of us. Would be nice to all be together again.

A well timed compliment will always win Corey over, and Sasha knows it. Corey doesn't suspect there's any foul play going on so she meets Sasha halfway. Finally embraces her apology.

COREY

That actually sounds great. Let's do it.

CUT TO:

INT. FITTING ROOM - NEIMAN MARCUS - DAY

The "It" Girls stand around trying on Prom dresses and gossiping--

SASHA

I can't believe you're going with Roger, Taylor. He's balding.

TAYLOR

It's a widow's peak. He's really mature for his age.

SASHA

Barf.

ON COREY enjoying being part of the girls again. Neko may have turned out to be an ass-hole, but at least she has her girl friends (*she thinks*).

KEREN

Corey and Hannah, you guys should just go together!

HANNAH

I would be down.

SASHA

(scheming)

But Jack Greenberg told me you and him are getting close, Corey. Why don't you just ask him out?

(beat)

I swear I wouldn't mind.

The Audience should now realize Sasha's plan is to trick Corey into going to prom with the imaginary Jack Greenberg...

COREY

I dunno. I mean, yeah, we're close, but--

HANNAH

Go with him! I'll totally find someone else to go with, or just go alone with my fat self.

SASHA

Don't say that, Hannah!

(trying to be nice)

You're so beautiful for a big boned person.

Hannah seethes, while Corey mulls over going with Jack.

INT. COREY'S BEDROOM - LATER

Corey types a message to Jack (Sasha), excited...

Corey's Message: *I was nominated for Prom Queen, but I don't know if I can win without a date...*

Jack's Message: *You don't have a date?*

Corey's mouth curls into a smile. Is he catching on? Corey types quickly...

Corey's Message: *Nope...*

COREY

(to herself)

Take the hint! Take the hint!

Jack's Message: *Corey Rae. It would be an honor and a privilege to take you to Prom. Will you have me?*

Corey let's out a SCREAM!!! We hear Judy sprint up the stairs, and whip open the door--

JUDY

What happened!? Are you okay!?

COREY

I'm going to Prom with a boy! I'm going to Prom with a real boy!

Corey and Judy hop around the room excited.

INT. ENTRYWAY, SHORT HILLS HIGH SCHOOL - DAY

Corey, Hannah, and Robbie hand out fliers standing in front of COREY'S PROM CAMPAIGN POSTER: **COREY RAE FOR PROM QUEEN.**

HANNAH

(handing a flier)

Vote, Corey Rae.

ROBBIE

(handing a flier)

Vote, Corey Rae.

HANNAH

When are you meeting up with Jack tonight?

COREY

7pm. I hope he doesn't take one look at me and run for the hills.

ROBBIE

Oh stop. He's going to be super into you. I mean, you're really beautiful, Corey.

Robbie blushes, embarrassed.

COREY

Thanks, Robbie.

CUT TO:

INT. FAMILY ROOM, WAGNER HOME - DAY

Corey whips open the door, and is ready to run up the stairs to get dressed, when Judy blocks her pathway, excited. She presents two THICK ENVELOPES from NYU and UCLA.

JUDY

Your acceptance letters finally arrived! Woohoo! Open them up!

Corey doesn't share Judy's same enthusiasm.

COREY

I'll open them later. I need to get ready for my date.

JUDY

Later? Come on. Humor me?

COREY

I don't even care. It doesn't matter if I get in or not, because it's never been about what I want, has it?

JUDY

(taken aback)

Corey!

COREY

I'm running late for my date. I need to get ready--

Corey hops the steps two at a time, as Judy and Steven share a concerned look at the bottom of the stairs.

INT. BEDROOM - LATER

Corey stands in the mirror in the RED DRESS her grandparents gave her. She's hyping herself up for the date--

COREY

You are a badass Queen, and he'd be lucky to have you. You are a badass Queen and he'd be lucky to have you...

INT. STEVEN'S CAR - IN MOTION - DAY

Steven drives Corey to her date. Corey is lost in thought, a million things on her mind. Steven notices--

STEVEN

How are you doing, Corey?

COREY

Fine, Steven. Just fine.

STEVEN

Steven. You have a way of making my name feel alien to me.

COREY

I don't mean to.

STEVEN

Y'know, I've never wanted to replace your biological Dad, but I have helped raise you since you were three, and love you with all of my heart.

COREY

I know that.

STEVEN

Maybe. I dunno. I hope you feel that I love you unconditionally. No matter what choices you make in life. Even if you want to go to UCLA over NYU.

Corey looks up. He has her attention.

STEVEN (CONT'D)

Your mom may like things a certain way. And that way is usually color coded and organized. But she always prefers the way where you are happy. So do what makes you happy in life, and it will make your Mom happy. Got it? We love you Corey. I love you.

COREY

(loving)

You may not be my biological father but you'll always be my Steven.

Steven may have wanted to be called Dad, but this still means a lot to him.

COREY (CONT'D)

I love you too.

Steven pulls up to the FANCY RESTAURANT.

INT. RESTAURANT - NIGHT

Corey sits at a table, alone. She slurps from an empty glass.

WAITER (O.S.)
Would you like another shirley temple?

INT. BATHROOM - SAME

Meanwhile, the "It" Girls are HOT-BOXING Sasha's BATHROOM with a joint, and giggling about nothing in particular.

HANNAH
I'm going to call Corey, and see how her date is going.

Sasha and Taylor exchange mischievous looks.

TAYLOR
I'm sure it'll be interesting.

SASHA
Yeah...

Hannah clocks Sasha and Taylor's smiles. Thinks it's weird.

INT. SASHA SALES' BEDROOM - SAME

Hannah sits down at Sasha's desk. She dials Corey on her cell, while also turning on Sasha's COMPUTER by accidentally shaking the MOUSE. The phone RINGS as--

HANNAH CATCHES SIGHT OF SASHA'S COMPUTER SCREEN, and finds--

JACK GREENBERG'S PROFILE

Hannah's eyes bulge. She hears Sasha and Taylor giggling in the BATHROOM.

Hannah gets Corey's voicemail. She keeps calling and calling, as she scrolls through the computer conversations. No response from Corey.

She discovers what we already knew, that SASHA IS "JACK GREENBERG"...

HANNAH
Shit.

Hannah gets up and busts--

INT. BATHROOM - NIGHT

-- into the bathroom, where Sasha and Taylor are still giggling--

HANNAH
I can't fucking believe you guys!

SASHA
... What?

HANNAH
You know what.

TAYLOR
We were just messing around. Relax.

SASHA
It's just a joke. Don't tell Corey.

HANNAH
How can two people who are so
beautiful, be so fucking ugly on
the inside?

Hannah SLAMS the door shut--

EXT. SASHA SALES' HOME - NIGHT

-- sprints out the front door, hops into her car, and peels
out of the driveway. The SOUND of burning rubber, becomes the
SOUND OF CRYING as we--

INT. JUDY'S OFFICE - NIGHT

REVEAL Corey is sitting on Judy's lap, having just found out
the terrible news. Corey is crying uncontrollably. Hannah and
Judy try to calm Corey down, but it's not working.

CUE QUEEN'S "BOHEMIAN RHAPSODY" OVER THE FOLLOWING MONTAGE--

INT. SHOWER - NIGHT

Corey is taking a SHOWER, and is unable to stand without
holding onto the wall. We can tell she's crying even though
the running water masks the sound.

INT. DR. PITTS OFFICE - NIGHT

Judy and Corey meet with Dr. Pitts--

DR. PITTS

I'm so so sorry Corey. We take cyber-bullying extremely seriously. They're going to be suspended for a week, and we'll be scheduling meetings with their parents. The police are going to talk to you about potentially pressing charges...

Dr. Pitts' voice trails off as Corey looks off catatonic...

INT. AP CALCULUS CLASS - DAY

A Soccer Jock talks with a Fantasy Football Lover--

SOCcer JOCK

It's so messed up. They made up some fake person, and asked her to Prom.

FANTASY FOOTBALL LOVER

That is horrifying. Fuck.

INT. HEALTH CLASS - DAY

A Wannabee, Slutty Cheerleader talks with a Cool Stoner--

WANNABEE SLUTTY CHEERLEADER

They did it for months.

COOL STONER

Poor, Corey. That's psychotic.

INT. HALLWAY, SHORT HILLS HIGH SCHOOL - DAY

Sasha and Taylor, returning for the first time since their suspension, trudge down the hallway with their heads bowed in shame. As they walk *ALL THE STUDENTS GIVE THEM DIRTY LOOKS*.

THEY'VE NOW BECOME THE PARIADS.

ROBBIE stares them down, pissed the fuck off. He SLAMS his locker as they pass. Then approaches--

ROBBIE

How could you do that to her?

SASHA

Leave us alone, Mayo Dick.

Sasha looks around trying to rally support. But none of the STUDENTS in the hallway laugh. They all are on Team Robbie.

INT. COREY'S BEDROOM - AFTERNOON

Corey is lying in bed. The mess around the room should indicate that she's been here for days. There's a knock at the door--

JUDY

Corey, you have a visitor.

Robbie enters the room with a bouquet of flowers.

ROBBIE

Hi, Corey.

He shuffles awkwardly in the doorway. Judy closes the door.

ROBBIE (CONT'D)

It's been lonely this past week
without you. We all miss you.

Corey turns to look at Robbie.

COREY

Please leave. I don't need your
pity, Robbie.

ROBBIE

Pity?

COREY

Yeah. I don't need people feeling
sorry for me because I'm a pathetic
loser.

ROBBIE

Loser? What? Corey, you are the
coolest person I've ever met.

COREY

That's not saying much...

ROBBIE

Seriously Corey. I've been in awe
of you for as long as I've known
you. You're cool, you're wicked
smart, you're funny, and well
there's just no other girl like
you.

Corey tries not to show how much this means to her.

ROBBIE (CONT'D)

I know you were looking to take a boy to Prom, and I thought why not me? Maybe I could be that lucky guy? What do you say?

COREY

I love you, but please leave me alone Robbie.

Robbie exhales, and exits.

EXT. BACKYARD, WAGNER HOME - DUSK

Corey sits on patio furniture staring off, when her meditative moment is interrupted--

HANNAH (O.S.)

What the hell, Corey?

ENTER Hannah who is ticked off.

HANNAH (CONT'D)

I heard how you treated, Robbie. Not cool.

COREY

As if people care how I'm treated?

HANNAH

Listen, I know what Sasha and Taylor did was messed up, but it doesn't give you the right to be mean too.

COREY

How am I being mean?

HANNAH

We've all been here for you this whole year. Your Mom, your family, Robbie, me. We've all supported you. And yet it's still not good enough. You haven't even called me since we found out about Sasha and Taylor. You shut me out.

COREY

There's nothing to talk about.

HANNAH

This whole year has been about you-- Corey, Corey, Corey.

(MORE)

HANNAH (CONT'D)

But have you given any thought into
what anyone else is going through?

Corey looks up. Maybe she hadn't.

HANNAH (CONT'D)

I mean, I was in love with you
Corey. I still am. You don't think
I've been going through some shit
too? You were the only thing that
made me feel okay about myself. The
fact that this gorgeous, perfect
guy, could like me. Gross,
overweight, pathetic old me.

Hannah's internal pain hits Corey hard. She feels like shit.

COREY

I'm so, so sorry I didn't--

HANNAH

Listen, it's okay. I'm okay. It all
doesn't matter now. I'm just saying
that it's time to stop feeling
sorry for yourself, because you're
surrounded by people who love you.

Corey starts tearing up, as we *FLY OVER THE SHORT HILLS NEIGHBORHOOD AGAIN...*

INT. MARGIE'S OFFICE - HIGH-RISE APARTMENT BUILDING - DAY

... and PULL BACK through the window and find Corey looking
out, eyes bloodshot.

MARGIE

Are we just going to sit here and
stare off into the distance, or are
we going to talk about it?

COREY

There's nothing to talk about. I
feel pathetic.

MARGIE

You're strong.

COREY

I don't know why I thought a boy
would ever be into me. I mean, I
should have known that it was too
good to be true. Who could ever
love me?

MARGIE

Corey. I have a very simple, but important question for you: Do you love yourself?

COREY

Not right now. No.

MARGIE

Why?

COREY

Because...

MARGIE

Because isn't an answer, Corey. Why don't you love yourself?

COREY

I don't love myself, because I HATE MY BODY!

Corey tosses a PILLOW across the room for emphasis.

COREY (CONT'D)

(through tears)

I'm literally trapped and I don't know when I'll ever feel free.

Corey curls up in a ball on the floor. Margie rushes to her side. Hugs Corey. Calms her down.

MARGIE

Sh... It's okay, Corey... Sh...

Corey blows her nose. Calms down.

MARGIE (CONT'D)

Corey, there are times when you come into my office, and I forget that you're transgender. You may not believe it, but you are that girl you know you are on the inside even without your sexual reassignment surgery. You remind me so much of my daughter. She was obsessed with everything pink. It was terrible - I HATE PINK!

Corey laughs. Blows her nose again.

MARGIE (CONT'D)

Corey, don't trust what you see in the movies.

(MORE)

MARGIE (CONT'D)

A woman doesn't have to like pink. We don't have to be Princesses, and we most certainly don't have to be Queens. A woman just needs to love herself for who she is. That's what makes a "real" woman. Can you do that?

Corey takes a deep breath. Can she? ON COREY looking out the window, knowing what she wants to do now...

INT. COREY'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Corey sits at her easel designing a PROM DRESS, focused. The dress is PINK, of course. Corey sews together pink fabric.

Drapes the fabric on her mannequin. Makes some adjustments. Sews some more. We don't see her creation yet, but Corey looks at it, satisfied.

CUT TO:

INT. COREY'S BEDROOM - PROM NIGHT

Judy does Corey's make-up as they have a heart to heart--

JUDY

I was always afraid of you getting hurt for being yourself--

COREY

Well you were right, per usual. Y'know they're going to be there tonight, Mom. Is it crazy for me to go?

JUDY

Y'know when I gave birth to you it was the most incredible, insane, delicious experience I've ever had in my entire life. It was supposed to be hard, a VBAC - vaginal birth after a c section. Those aren't supposed to happen, and if they do, they're supposed to be pain-ful. But you just burst out, announcing yourself to the world... So easy.

(in awe of her daughter)

That's you. You make things that are supposed to be hard, easy and incredible. Childbirth. Life. Your transition.

(MORE)

JUDY (CONT'D)

The joy you bring to it all. That's why I'm realizing I'm crazy to ever worry about you... So you got knocked down by some evil girls? Big deal. Never let anyone stand in the way of what you want... even me. Because that love of life is what's so special about you, Corey. So go do what you always do, and fucking go for it!

Corey grins broadly, encouraged. She stands up and studies her reflection in a full length MIRROR--

REVEAL she's now in *THE PINK PROM DRESS SHE DESIGNED HERSELF*. Judy wells up, before they both hug and happy-cry together.

EXT. HANNAH GREEN'S MANSION - PROM NIGHT

A valet station is set up in front of Hannah Green's house for a small PRE-PROM GATHERING.

INT. HANNAH GREEN'S MANSION - PROM NIGHT

Hors D'oeuvres and champagne flutes are served by model caterers to an intimate gathering. Corey and THE WAGNER FAMILY mingle with Hannah and THE GREEN FAMILY. Also, in attendance are ROBBIE LIPPMAN AND FAMILY, and KEREN BRENDER AND FAMILY, and a special guest we'll reveal soon. Corey pulls Robbie and Hannah aside --

COREY

Listen I need to apologize to you both.

ROBBIE

Don't. There's no need.

HANNAH

Agreed. Save it.

COREY

Thanks for being there for me.

Corey, Robbie, and Hannah group hug and make up.

ROBBIE

Honestly, I should be thanking you. Keren is way out of my league.

COREY

You're right about that.

JUDY (O.S.)
Okay, let's get a group picture
guys.

Judy wrangles the kids, and directs them to LINE UP for a classic PROM PICTURE. Guys behind Girls. Corsages out.

WE PAN DOWN THE LINE - past Keren, standing in a classic prom pose with Robbie, past Hannah who is in the girl's position being big-spooned by her date, EJ JACKSON (*Ej is our special guest*) and ends on--

COREY RAE who looks ravishing in her PINK DRESS, and who is going to Prom alone and owning it *BECAUSE COREY DOESN'T NEED A DATE TO VALIDATE HERSELF!*

JUDY (CONT'D)
Say cheese!

The photo FLASH, brings us to--

INT. PARTY BUS - IN MOTION - DUSK

Flashing lights in their party bus. Corey sits and observes the action all around her. Kids are chugging alcohol and dancing on the STRIPPER POLES, having a blast.

INT. PARTY SPACE - PROM NIGHT

A large projector displays, **SHORT HILLS HIGH - SENIOR PROM**. There's a DJ, a dance floor, and a buffet. The kids dart to the dance floor, while the Teachers, we recognize from earlier, stand around looking amused.

Robbie, Hannah, and Corey follow the procession of students heading to the dance floor as they pass the Prom King and Queen VOTING BOOTH, where Dr. Pitts holds court behind a table collecting ballots.

HANNAH
Has anyone seen Sasha or Taylor
yet?

COREY
I don't know what I'll do if I see
them.

HANNAH
Don't worry. We've got your back.

ROBBIE

I hear Public Enemy number one and
two are hiding out somewhere.
They're too afraid to show their
faces. The cowards!

ON COREY clocking STUDENTS casting their ballots. Corey
starts to freak out internally.

HANNAH

You okay, Corey?

Corey nods, yes. But isn't sure...

COREY

I have to run to the bathroom
really quick.

Corey heads off as we catch NEKO NOTICING COREY...

INT. WOMEN'S RESTROOM - PROM NIGHT

Corey stands at the SINKS staring into the mirror. *We hear
the door open behind her, as--*

NEKO (O.S.)

Corey? Is that you? Can I come in?

Corey turns to find Neko in a TUXE.

COREY

Leave me alone, Neko.

NEKO

Listen, I've been trying to track
you down and talk to you for weeks.
I feel terrible.

COREY

Just go!

NEKO

I swear to God, I didn't know about
the fake account, and if I did I
would have turned her in myself. I
broke up with Sasha right when I
found out.

COREY

Listen, you don't have to pretend
to be "nice" to me.

NEKO
I'm not just being nice!

COREY
Bullshit. Sasha told me before all
of this went down.

NEKO
What do you mean?

COREY
I saw the texts. You told her you
just went out with me that day to
be nice. That you would never hook
up with a "cross dressing" freak.

NEKO
(confused)
What? No. I would never say that. I
swear!

COREY
Just stop messing with me, and get
out of here...
(he doesn't budge)
GET OUT!!!

Neko takes a deep, emotional breath before leaving. Corey
calms down, studies herself in the MIRROR again, before--

WE HEAR CRYING FROM ONE OF THE STALLS...

Corey turns around. Approaches the stall. Corey pushes the
door open to find SASHA, *who's mascara is smeared from
crying*. She's a mess. Awkward beat.

SASHA
I'm so sorry...

Sasha cries more. Corey doesn't know what to say. Sorry isn't
good enough. Not by a fucking long shot. But she doesn't
leave--

SASHA (CONT'D)
I know, it doesn't make it any
better, but I really am sorry. I
know it's been a crazy year for
you, but it's been a crazy year for
everyone. You're so confident, so
you'll never know what it feels
like to look in the mirror every
morning and hate yourself. I don't
know why I did it. You're an
amazing person, I'm a monster...
(MORE)

SASHA (CONT'D)
Maybe I just wanted some of your
confidence to rub off on me.

Corey thinks about this.

COREY
I'm not going to forget the
horrible fucking things you did to
me just because you say - "sorry."

SASHA
I know, I know... You shouldn't.

COREY
And maybe by losing my friendship,
you'll learn never to fucking treat
someone like that ever again. EVER.

(Sasha nods in agreement,
she won't)
... But you're not a monster.
(beat, thinks)
Listen, I spent way too much of
this year locked in a stall, and I
refuse to be responsible for
someone else going through the same
thing. Let's just go out there
together, and I'll make sure no one
pulls anything on you. Okay?

SASHA
I can't go out there... look at me.
I'm not brave like you.

COREY
Here. Let me touch you up.

LATER - Corey re-touches Sasha's make-up. Sasha is
dumbfounded that Corey would do this for her. Maybe Corey is
dumbfounded too.

Corey finishes up and smiles satisfied with her work.

SASHA
I need to come clean about
something else too, Corey.
(Corey braces herself)
Neko didn't send that text... I
made that up too.

Corey lights up. She's mad at Sasha, but thrilled at what
this means.

DR. PITTS (V.O.)
It's time to announce this years
Senior Prom King and Queen...

INT. PARTY SPACE - NIGHT

Dr. Pitts stands on the stage in front of the dance floor.
The Student Body eagerly awaits the results.

IN THE BACK OF THE ROOM--

Corey and Sasha re-join the party and stand in the back of
the CROWD. Corey turns to Sasha--

COREY
(whispers to Sasha)
If people give you a hard time when
you win, I'll handle it. Don't
worry.

Sasha nods her thanks. They both take deep breaths in
anticipation...

BACK ON STAGE--

DR. PITTS
(into mic)
Reminder, we will not be doing a
King and Queen Dance this year.
Instead we'll do a Victory lap.

THE CROWD BOOS!

DR. PITTS (CONT'D)
(into mic)
Quiet please. Quiet. First, the
Prom King is...
(dramatic beat, reading)
Neko Del Forno.

Cheers and clapping.

IN THE BACK OF THE ROOM - Neko, still clearly emotional,
ambles up through the crowd, hops ON STAGE, and accepts his
CROWN. He forces a smile, but his heart isn't in it.

DR. PITTS (CONT'D)
(into the mic)
And the winner of this years Prom
Queen is...

Dr. Pitts opens up a piece of paper. Dramatic Beat.

ON COREY bracing herself for the worst.

DR. PITTS (CONT'D)
(into the mic)
COREY RAE.

THE CROWD ERUPTS IN CHEERS AND APPLAUSE!!!

ON COREY STUNNED as the SOUND is sucked out of the room, and it feels like we're UNDER WATER, as--

WE'RE IN COREY'S POV--

Corey turns to Sasha who cheers and mouths, "You won!!!"

Corey slowly makes her way to the front of the STAGE and is slowed down by well wishers, including EJ, Robbie, and Hannah who are all going insane - *though we can't HEAR what they're saying*.

Finally Corey makes it ON STAGE and stares at Neko who is clapping the loudest of all, as the SOUND RETURNS--

Dr. Pitts approaches and puts on Corey's TIARA--

DR. PITTS (CONT'D)
(into mic)
Now it's time to start the victory
lap.

THE DJ PLAYS THE VICTORY LAP MUSIC, something corny and popular like Taylor Swift's *YOU BELONG WITH ME*. Before Neko and Corey can do their victory lap, Neko approaches the mic--

NEKO
(into mic)
With all due respect, a victory lap
is bullshit. Will you dance with
me, Corey?

All eyes on Corey Rae. She's poker faced for a moment. Then smiles broadly. She nods, okay.

ON THE DANCE FLOOR

Neko and Corey SLOW DANCE surrounded by the entire school. Neko pulls Corey in close.

They both smile and dance as if they're the only ones in the room. Seeing each other. Truly seeing each other.

And then the rest of THE CROWD joins in--

Hannah crazy dances with EJ. Robbie and Keren slow dance. Monique dances with Mr. Shilp, before we BOOM UP ON THIS HAPPY ENDING and CUE **QUEEN'S "KILLER QUEEN,"** as we--

SMASH TO:

INT. NYC APARTMENT - DAY

COREY (V.O.)
So I decided to go to NYU, and
pursue my dreams of being like
Carrie Bradshaw from *Sex and the*
City and it was the best decision I
ever made...

Corey sits at a drafting table, sketching, in her tasteful NYU dorm room. She wears a chic but casual outfit that would make Carrie Bradshaw proud.

EXT. NYC STREET - DAY

COREY (V.O.)
... well, actually, I'm more of a
Samantha Jones.

Corey struts down an NYC street with confidence, style, and a pep to her step.

SHE'S BECOME THE DYNAMIC WOMAN SHE ALWAYS DREAMED SHE WOULD BE, as we FADE TO BLACK:

THE END