

Animals of Prey

by  
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FADE IN

INT. LIVING ROOM - LATE AFTERNOON

A tastefully decorated room in a large, expensive home.

ETHAN SCOTT: 43, looks 30, handsome, fit; walks in carrying the mail.

He sets his keys on the table as he flips through the envelopes.

He stops, and with a look of dread, stares at a square envelope.

The return sender is; CLINTON HIGH REUNION COMMITTEE.

He swallows the lump in his throat as he stares down at the envelope; a sad far off look crosses his face as he remembers.

EXT. CLINTON HIGH SCHOOL - DAY (DAYDREAM)

Dark storm clouds blot out the sun over the old, imposing building.

HOPE: 16, strikingly beautiful, wearing her cheerleader uniform; and BRIAN: 16, muscular, handsome, wearing his football jersey and jeans; step out of the school.

Brian takes Hope's hand and walks her to the top of the stairs.

They stop and sneer down at;

The less popular and attractive students who gather at the bottom of the stairs; with looks of fear and envy the kids stare up at the true rulers of Clinton High.

Strong winds blow, thunder RUMBLES and bolts of lightning strike nearby as;

GRANT and TROY: both 16, handsome and dressed in their football jerseys; swagger out the door.

SHANNON and BRANDY: both 16, pretty and wearing their cheerleader uniforms; follow.

They walk over and join Hope and Brian; the girls next to Hope, the boys next to Brian.

With an air of superiority and disdain, the six glare down at the other students as if they were peasants.

LIVING ROOM - PRESENT

Ethan drops the invitation on the coffee table and walks to the bar.

He takes a large glass out of the cabinet, picks up a bottle of scotch and fills the glass.

He takes a big sip of his drink and gazes off as he remembers.

INT. CLINTON HIGH SCHOOL, CLASSROOM - DAY (FLASHBACK)

A teacher stands at the front of the room lecturing to a class full of uninterested high school students.

Ethan: overweight and geeky; sits in his chair anxiously watching the clock.

The big hand moves slightly; 2:57.

Ethan SIGHS, almost there; his eyes are riveted on the clock.

Brian sits behind him; Hope on one side and Troy on the other. Grant, Shannon and Brandy sit around them.

Brian grins at them then leans close to Ethan and WHISPERS.

BRIAN

Hey faggot.

Ethan ignores him and stares at the clock.

Brian flicks Ethan's ear.

Ethan winces in pain.

BRIAN (CONT'D)

Hey faggot.

Ethan turns around.

Brian grins at him then up at the clock.

Ethan turns and looks at the clock.

2:58.

He looks back at Brian.

Brian grins cruelly and WHISPERS.

BRIAN (CONT'D)  
We're going to fuck you up.

Hope and the others glare at him.

Ethan just stares at them in fear.

Brian raises his finger to his throat and pantomimes slitting his throat.

Ethan quickly turns and faces forward.

He fearfully looks up at the clock.

The big hand clicks and moves forward; 2:59.

Ethan swallows the lump in his throat, grabs his books and, with his eyes glued to the door, gets ready to run.

The bell RINGS.

Ethan leaps up and rushes for the door.

Brian and the others LAUGH as they gather their belongings and stand.

LIVING ROOM - PRESENT

Ethan sits on the sofa sipping his scotch.

He glances at the coffee table where;

The invitation lies: in large bold letters it reads "CLASS OF 1988 25th REUNION".

He raises his glass.

ETHAN  
To old times.

He downs half the glass in one sip.

His phone RINGS.

He stares at his invitation with disdain as he picks up his phone.

ETHAN (CONT'D)  
Hey Helen.

HELEN (O.S.)  
Hey, what you are doing?

ETHAN  
Getting drunk and trying to forget  
how fucking old we are.

HELEN (O.S.)  
So I take it you're invitation  
arrived.

ETHAN  
Oh yeah.

He picks it up and looks at it with contempt.

ETHAN (CONT'D)  
Got the little fucker right here.

He drops it and takes a large sip of his drink.

HELEN (O.S.)  
You want to go?

He looks surprised.

ETHAN  
You're kidding right?

HELEN (O.S.)  
No.

He picks up a pack of cigarettes and a lighter off the coffee  
table.

ETHAN  
I'd rather eat my own spleen.

He lights a cigarette and takes a deep drag.

HELEN (O.S.)  
Are you smoking?

Ethan looks guilty as he quickly snubs out his cigarette.

ETHAN  
No.

HELEN (O.S.)  
I thought you quit.

ETHAN  
I did.

HELEN (O.S.)

Uh huh, so what do you say? Want to be my date for the reunion?

ETHAN

I'd rather spend time in a Turkish prison.

HELEN (O.S.)

Oh come on it might be fun.

ETHAN

Fun? Seriously? You don't really remember high school do you?

HELEN (O.S.)

Ethan it's been twenty-five years.

ETHAN

We couldn't wait to get out, why the hell would we purposely go back?

HELEN (O.S.)

To catch up with old friends, see what everyone looks like.

ETHAN

Old friends?

EXT. CLINTON HIGH SCHOOL - MORNING (FLASHBACK)

Ethan and HELEN: skinny, unattractive, withdrawn; walk down the sidewalk that leads through the parking to the school.

HELEN

So you want to come over after school?

ETHAN

Sure.

HELEN

My mom got me Raquel Welch's yoga tape if you want to try it.

ETHAN

Sure.

Up ahead Brian and Hope sit on the hood of his car surrounded by Troy, Grant, Shannon and Brandy.

HELEN

Then after that--

Ethan glances ahead and sees them.

Brian and Hope notice them.

Their eyes meet Ethan's; they glare at him then turn and whisper to the others.

Ethan's face goes white and he looks terrified, like a trapped animal.

HELEN (CONT'D)

What's--

She looks ahead and sees them.

Brian, Hope and the others grin at them.

HELEN (CONT'D)

You want to go the other way?

A mean-spirited smile stretches across Hope's pretty face.

Ethan SIGHS.

ETHAN

Too late.

Without looking at each other Ethan and Helen instinctively avert their eyes; they stare at the ground, pick up their pace and try to rush by.

As Ethan and Helen approach;

Hope leans over and whispers to Brian.

He grins and YELLS.

BRIAN

Well what do you know? Homely  
Helen's trying to convert the homo.

Hope and the others LAUGH.

All the surrounding kids become quiet; everyone looks over at them.

Tears fill Helen's eyes; she and Ethan try to rush away.

Hope grins and YELLS out.

HOPE  
Think you're woman enough Homely  
Helen?

The kids LAUGH HARDER.

Humiliated, Helen tries to hold back her tears as she and Ethan walk away.

BRIAN  
I don't know, his titties are  
bigger than hers.

Brian and the others ROAR with laughter.

The surrounding students GIGGLE.

Helen bursts into tears.

Suddenly furious, Ethan stops, spins around and glares at them.

ETHAN  
Leave her alone.

Brian scowls at Ethan as he leaps off the hood and strides towards them.

Helen grabs Ethan's arm and desperately tries to pull him away.

HELEN  
Come on Ethan.

Ethan holds his ground and bravely stares ahead.

Brian rapidly approaches.

Frantic, Helen pulls on Ethan's arm harder.

HELEN (CONT'D)  
Ethan it's not worth it, now please  
let's go.

Brian stops in front of Ethan and glares at him.

Hope and the others walk over and stand behind Brian.

BRIAN  
What'd you say faggot?

Ethan defiantly stares back at him.

ETHAN

I said leave her alone.

Brian steps closer, his face practically in Ethan's.

Terrified but trying to look tough, Ethan doesn't flinch, he just stares back at Brian.

Brian grins.

BRIAN

Hell of a time to grow a set  
faggot.

He turns to leave then wheels back around and sucker punches Ethan.

The blow knocks him to the ground.

Ethan, his nose bloody and desperately fighting back tears, looks up at Brian.

Brian and the others LAUGH.

Helen rushes over and stands in front of Ethan.

HELEN

You leave him alone you big bully.

Brian sneers at her.

BRIAN

Look at this, Homely Helen's  
protecting the faggot.

Troy smiles and nods.

TROY

She may be ugly as fuck but she  
sure got some big cojones I'll give  
her that.

Everyone LAUGHS.

Hope gives Helen a contemptuous look.

HOPE

No tits and big balls, sure you're  
not a guy Homely Helen.

Tears fill Helen's eyes.

Hope smiles getting pleasure from Helen's pain.

She looks at Brian and the others.

HOPE (CONT'D)  
She's a guy, or a tranny or  
whatever.

Brian grins at Helen.

BRIAN  
Is that it Helen? You really a  
chick with a dick?

Everyone HOWLS with laughter.

Helen can't hold it back anymore, she burst into tears.

Brian grins and steps closer.

BRIAN  
Is that why you're interested in  
the fag Homely Helen, because  
you're a fag too?

Ethan leaps up.

ETHAN  
You leave her--

Brian punches him hard.

Ethan drops to the ground.

Brian LAUGHS.

BRIAN  
Aw precious fall down go boom.

Ethan's bloodied face glares up at Brian.

Brian leans down, grabs Ethan by the collar and pulls his  
fist back like he's going to hit Ethan.

BRIAN (CONT'D)  
You better fucking watch it faggot.

Helen shoves Brian away.

HELEN  
You leave him alone.

Brian spins around and shoves her hard.

She stumbles back then falls on her butt.

Hope and the others LAUGH.

Brian glares down at her.

BRIAN

You better watch it or me and my  
boys are gonna find out if you  
really are a chick, got it?

Tears streak down her face, she stares down at the ground.

Ethan struggles to stand.

Brian turns and punches him again.

Ethan falls over.

Brian LAUGHS.

The bell RINGS.

Ethan starts to get up.

Brian shoves him back down then turns to Hope.

BRIAN (CONT'D)

You coming babe?

He offers her his hand.

She smiles sweetly and takes it.

Brian pulls her close and wraps his arm around her waist.

Hope slips her arm around his waist and they walk up the  
steps to school.

Troy, Grant, Shannon and Brandy follow them.

None of the other kids even look at Ethan and Helen, they  
just follow the others up the stairs.

Helen gets up and rushes to Ethan.

She helps him to his feet.

HELEN

Are you OK?

He looks at her with tears in his eyes and shrugs sheepishly.

HELEN (CONT'D)

That was really brave.

He shrugs.

HELEN (CONT'D)  
I really appreciate you standing up  
for me.

He shrugs.

ETHAN  
We're going to be late.

They walk toward the stairs.

HELEN  
I mean it Ethan, you were really  
brave.

ETHAN  
Thanks. It was good practice  
anyway.

She gives him a confused look.

HELEN  
Practice? For what?

ETHAN  
For when Brian beats me up later.

Helen smirks and shakes her head.

LIVING ROOM - PRESENT

HELEN (O.S.)  
Ethan?

ETHAN  
I've got two words for you, homely  
Helen.

HELEN (O.S.)  
Ethan.

ETHAN  
You were homely Helen and I was  
Ethan the fat fag.

HELEN (O.S.)  
Well we're not them anymore are we?  
Don't you want to show them how  
successful and hot you are?

Ethan is uncomfortable with the compliment, he fidgets.

ETHAN

I'm not hot.

HELEN (O.S.)

Are you kidding? You're gorgeous and you look so young, don't you want to rub their noses in it?

Ethan thinks about it.

ETHAN

Well?

HELEN (O.S.)

I heard Hope got fat.

ETHAN

How fat?

HELEN (O.S.)

Big as a fucking house and Brian is bald with a beer belly.

Ethan smiles.

ETHAN

Well I guess we could go for just a little while, you know make an appearance.

HELEN (O.S.)

The reunion is Saturday night, what do you say we go down Friday morning. We can work on our tans, get a massage, do a little shopping.

ETHAN

How about we just skip it and go to Palm Springs for the weekend?

HELEN (O.S.)

Ethan.

ETHAN

I don't get it. Why you want to go so much? We hated high school.

Helen SIGHS.

HELEN (O.S.)

Worst years of my life.

ETHAN

And you want to go back because?

HELEN (O.S.)

Because I'm not Homely Helen anymore.

ETHAN

No you're not, you're beautiful, successful.

HELEN (O.S.)

So why do I want to go back?

ETHAN

Yes, I mean are you still trying to get their approval after all these years?

HELEN (O.S.)

Maybe part of me is.

He smirks.

ETHAN

And the other part?

HELEN (O.S.)

Is praying Hope and her bitches are fat and miserable so I can rub their noses in how good I look and how much money I make.

ETHAN

And show off your hot, rich fiance.

HELEN (O.S.)

Mark's got a conference that weekend.

ETHAN

Sorry.

HELEN (O.S.)

So either you go to the reunion with me or I'll end up staying home all alone, feeling sorry for myself and eating gallons of ice cream.

Ethan smiles.

ETHAN

But no guilt.

HELEN (O.S.)  
Please Ethan.

ETHAN  
OK, you win.

HELEN (O.S.)  
Great I'll make the hotel  
reservations.

Ethan smirks.

ETHAN  
You mean you haven't already?

HELEN (O.S.)  
Well, I may have put them on hold.

ETHAN  
Uh huh.

HELEN (O.S.)  
Good night.

ETHAN  
Sweet dreams homely Helen.

HELEN (O.S.)  
I hate you.

He smiles then sets the phone down.

He leans back on the sofa, takes a sip of his drink and gazes off as he sadly remembers.

INT. HIGH SCHOOL HALLWAY - AFTERNOON (FLASHBACK)

The bell RINGS.

The classroom doors open and kids pour into the hallway.

Some stop to chat while others walk to their lockers.

Ethan, his books clutched to his chest and his eyes on the ground, steps out of the classroom and rushes down the hall.

Brian, Grant and Troy shove their way out of the classroom and glance down the hall.

Ethan dodges people as he desperately tries to reach the exit.

Brian glances back at Troy and Grant.

They grin at him.

Brian grins, nods then jogs down the hall after Ethan.

Troy and Grant follow him.

Hope, Shannon and Brandy step out of the classroom.

Hope looks down the hall.

Brian, Grant and Troy close in on Ethan.

A malicious grin spreads across Hope's pretty face.

She nods at Shannon and Brandy then rushes down the hall after Brian.

Shannon and Brandy obediently follow her.

The boys run down the hall after Ethan.

Kids scurry out of their way.

Ethan, his eyes glued to the floor, HEARS the boys running after him.

A look of panic; he picks up his pace and races down the hall as fast as he can.

Brian breaks into a sprint and quickly closes in on Ethan.

BRIAN

Hey Ethan.

He grabs Ethan by the collar and stops him.

The hallway instantly becomes quiet and everyone watches.

BRIAN (CONT'D)

Wait up buddy.

Ethan timidly turns around and gazes at his feet.

Grant and Troy stand beside Brian; behind them is Hope, flanked by Shannon and Brandy.

They all grin at Ethan.

BRIAN (CONT'D)

Dude you forgot these in the locker room.

He reaches into his pocket and pulls out an enormous pair of pink women's underwear.

Ethan looks up at Brian; his eyes widen in fear.

Brian grins as he holds the panties high in the air for everyone to see.

Hope LAUGHS.

Brandy and Shannon instantly LAUGH as well.

BRIAN (CONT'D)  
Wouldn't want you waddling off  
without your panties.

He slides the panties over Ethan's head.

Everyone points and LAUGHS.

BRIAN (CONT'D)  
Just your color faggot.

Tears stream down Ethan's face, which is partly covered by the panties.

He turns and races down the hallway.

TROY  
Yeah you better run faggot.

Hope grins and CHANTS.

HOPE  
Ethan the fat faggot, Ethan the fat  
faggot.

She walks over and stands next to Brian.

He wraps his arm around her waist and they both CHANT.

HOPE / BRIAN  
Ethan the fat faggot.

Ethan, tears streaming down his cheeks, runs towards the door; which seems to get further and further away the harder he runs.

Everyone LAUGHS and CHANTS.

CROWD  
Ethan the fat faggot, Ethan the fat  
faggot.

INT. LIVING ROOM - PRESENT

ETHAN  
Ah, good times.

He downs the last of his scotch then stands and walks towards the bar.

As he passes a mirror he stops and looks at his reflection.

He leans close to inspect under his eyes; no lines.

He stares at his face a moment then steps back, pulls off his shirt and stares at his muscular body.

He turns to the side and looks at his flat, toned stomach.

He SIGHS and shakes his head.

ETHAN (CONT'D)  
You're being an idiot.

He walks to the bar, picks up the bottle of scotch then glances in the mirror.

ETHAN (CONT'D)  
I mean really? What the hell do you care about impressing people who made your life a living hell?

He fills his glass with scotch then looks in the mirror.

ETHAN (CONT'D)  
Still.

He picks up his glass and smiles as he looks off.

INT. HIGH SCHOOL HALLWAY (DAYDREAM)

Brian, Troy and Grant: wearing tight shirts and jeans that show off their hot, young bodies; grin as they swagger down the crowded hallway.

They nod at buddies and wink flirtatiously at hot girls.

Hope, Shannon and Brandy step out of a classroom.

Hope's eyes meet Brian's; she smiles flirtatiously.

Brian gives her a charming smile and a nod as he, Grant and Troy continue down the hall.

Everyone enviously watches them.

Ethan and Helen, both looking buff and gorgeous, step out of a classroom.

The handsome boys grin as they strut down the hallway as if they own the school.

Hope and Ethan stare at them and smile.

Suddenly the boys begin to age: their rock hard abdominals grow into large beer bellies that press against their shirts and hang over their belts.

Muscular Pecs morph into sagging man boobs.

Their handsome, chiseled faces become bloated, wrinkled caricatures of their former selves.

Thick heads of hair thin and turn gray; hairlines recede and bald spots appear at the crown of their heads.

Ethan and Helen grin as they watch;

Brian, Grant and Troy: now unattractive, overweight, old men; waddle down the hallway.

Hope points and LAUGH at them.

Suddenly she, Shannon and Brandy age; they rapidly become ugly, wrinkled old hags.

All the students point and LAUGH.

Ethan and Helen smile at each other then watch with delight as;

Humiliated, the six run down the hall as fast as their spindly old legs can carry them while;

Everyone in the hallway LAUGHS at them.

INT. LIVING ROOM - PRESENT

Ethan grins.

ETHAN

Might just be fun after all.

He holds up his glass, toasts his reflection then takes a sip.

INT. ETHAN'S CAR MOVING - MORNING

Ethan pulls into the driveway of a nice house and parks.

His cell phone RINGS.

He puts the car in park, turns it off and picks up his phone.

ETHAN

Hey, I just pulled up.

He opens the car door and starts to get out.

HELEN (O.S.)

Don't hate me.

Annoyed, he sits back down and glares at the house.

ETHAN

Bitch your ass best be in that house packing.

HELEN (O.S.)

Well the good news is I'm all packed.

ETHAN

Where the hell are you?

HELEN (O.S.)

Had a little emergency at work.

He slams the car door.

ETHAN

Damn it Helen.

HELEN (O.S.)

You go ahead I'll meet you in the morning.

ETHAN

No.

He slides the key back into the ignition.

ETHAN (CONT'D)

It's silly to take two cars, I'll wait and drive down with you.

HELEN (O.S.)

No you go on, enjoy the day.

ETHAN  
Alone? No I'll--

HELEN (O.S.)  
Ethan I already booked the massages  
you mine as well enjoy yours.

He thinks about it.

ETHAN  
I don't know.

HELEN (O.S.)  
Ethan.

He shakes his head

ETHAN  
No, I've got plenty of work I  
should catch up on anyway. I'll  
wait and--

HELEN (O.S.)  
You'll do no such thing. You need  
this, so go, relax and unwind, get  
your massage, lie on the beach,  
have a cocktail or ten.

He gives in.

ETHAN  
OK, but you best not stand me up.

HELEN (O.S.)  
I'll be there by breakfast, I  
promise.

ETHAN  
You better be because there's no  
way in hell I'm going to this thing  
alone.

HELEN (O.S.)  
I'll be there I promise... Look I  
have to go.

ETHAN  
Helen--

HELEN (O.S.)  
I'll be there.

She hangs up.

He glares at the phone as he starts the car.

ETHAN

You damn well better be.

INT. HOTEL ROOM - AFTERNOON

Hope: high school aged, looking sexy in her cheerleader uniform; puts the suitcase on the bed.

Suddenly she turns into Hope at 43: plump and matronly; she begins unpacking the suitcase and putting away the clothes.

The door opens and Brian: the ruggedly handsome football player; struts in.

BRIAN

Babe what are you doing?

Brian at 43: slightly out of shape with a beer belly and thinning hair; walks over to the bed.

BRIAN (CONT'D)

We're only going to be here for a few days.

HOPE

I can't stand living out of a suitcase.

She carries socks and underwear to the dresser.

He grins teasingly.

BRIAN

Really? You mean on all your world travels, that's what bothers you the most?

She smirks at him as she opens the draw and puts the clothes in.

HOPE

The kids all settled in?

He grins.

BRIAN

They went to the beach.

He walks over to her.

BRIAN (CONT'D)  
So it's just you and me for the  
next couple hours.

He leans close.

BRIAN (CONT'D)  
And you know what that means.

She SIGHS.

HOPE  
Oh I hope so.

He leans closer.

She closes her eyes, leans in a little and waits to be  
kissed.

He reaches around her, picks up the TV remote that's on the  
dresser then plops down on the bed.

BRIAN  
I can watch the rest of the game  
with no one around to bug me.

Disappointed, Hope sadly looks over at him.

He turns on the TV and stares at it as he flips channels.

BRIAN (CONT'D)  
Hey babe order something from room  
service I'm starving.

He finds the game, sets the remote down and intently watches.

She stares at him a moment hoping he'll notice her.

He slams his fist down the bed.

BRIAN (CONT'D)  
Run you son of a bitch run.

Tears fill her eyes.

HOPE  
You're a bastard.

She races into the bathroom and SLAMS the door.

Confused he stares at the bathroom door.

BRIAN  
What the hell? Fine I'll order.

He picks up the phone.

BRIAN (CONT'D)  
What do you want? ... Babe?

Something on TV catches his eye; he turns his attention back to the game.

BRIAN (CONT'D)  
Oh Jesus Christ, my grandmother can hit better than that.

BATHROOM

Hope sits on the toilet crying.

Her tear stained face turns towards the mirror.

For just a brief second cheerleader Hope smiles back at her.

The pretty young girl disappears; Hope's plump, middle-aged face stares back at her.

She CRIES harder.

She hears Brian SHOUT;

BRIAN  
He was safe you blind fuck.

She looks over at the door; a sad far off look as she remembers.

INT. CAR, BACKSEAT - NIGHT (FLASHBACK)

Teenage Brian and Hope, dressed in the clothes they wore to the prom, sit in back making out.

He reaches over and squeezes one of her breasts.

She pushes his hand away.

HOPE  
Brian don't.

He kisses her neck.

BRIAN  
Come on babe.

She MOANS softly as;

He nibbles on her neck;

Then her ear.

Hope MOANS a little louder.

She turns her face to his;

Their lips brush;

They kiss tenderly then;

Their lips lock and tongues explore as they hungrily kiss each other.

Brian reaches up and squeezes one of her breasts.

She pulls away from him.

HOPE

Brian I don't--

He gives her a pouty look.

BRIAN

Come on babe, you know I love you.

She smiles.

HOPE

I love you too but--

He pulls her close and kisses her passionately.

She gives in and kisses him back then;

Pulls away again.

HOPE (CONT'D)

No, Brian I'm--

BRIAN

So fucking beautiful.

She smiles.

He grins.

BRIAN (CONT'D)

I mean it, you're beautiful and I do love you but if you're ready we'll wait.

Relieved she SIGHS and grins.

HOPE

Really?

He gives her a warm, loving look.

BRIAN

Of course.

She looks skeptical.

HOPE

You're not just saying that so I'll  
have sex with you are you?

He looks almost hurt.

BRIAN

Hope...

He searches for the right words.

BRIAN (CONT'D)

I know this sounds corny but I mean  
it.

He looks her in the eye and takes her hand in his.

BRIAN (CONT'D)

I want it to be special for both of  
us.

She grins.

HOPE

I love you.

He leans in and kisses her.

BRIAN

I love you too.

She wraps her arms around him.

He pulls her close and kisses her.

She clings to him as she kisses him back.

Brian kisses her more passionately as;

He slowly lowers her onto the backseat.

EXT. CAR

The car is parked in a large empty field.  
It's windows fogged up, the vehicle rocks slightly as;  
Hope and Brian's MOANS fill the night air.

INT. BATHROOM - PRESENT

Hope sadly stares at her reflection.

BRIAN (O.S.)  
Out? Are you fucking crazy?

Hope glances down at the vanity.

Among her cosmetics and creams is a framed picture: Hope and Brian's prom picture.

She sadly gazes at the picture then picks it up.

BRIAN (O.S.) (CONT'D)  
Jesus Christ, you call that a  
swing.

She looks at the door then back at the picture.

BRIAN (O.S.) (CONT'D)  
Swing you overpaid mother-fucker.

Hope SIGHS sadly and sets the picture down.

EXT. HOTEL POOL

Ethan, eyes closed and face tilted up, reclines in a chaise lounge sunning himself.

On the table next to him is his cell phone and a frozen drink.

His cell phone RINGS.

He picks it up.

ETHAN  
Helen I swear to God if you're  
calling to tell me you can't make  
it I'll rip out your fucking  
implants.

HELEN (O.S.)  
Relax, I'll be there by lunch.

ETHAN  
What happened to breakfast?

HELEN (O.S.)  
Got a meeting but after that I'm on my way.

ETHAN  
Helen--

HELEN (O.S.)  
By lunch Ethan, I swear to God.

ETHAN  
You're an atheist.

BILLY: early 20's, hunky, wearing a T-shirt and bathing suit, a towel draped over his shoulder; walks out of the hotel.

HELEN (O.S.)  
So I swear to Neiman Marcus.

Ethan can't help but stare at the hot young man.

ETHAN  
Uh huh.

Billy notices him; he smiles and gives Ethan a little nod.

HELEN (O.S.)  
You know Ethan you need to relax,  
just forget about the reunion for a  
little while.

Billy drops his towel on a chair then slowly pulls off his shirt revealing a tan, buff body.

Ethan concentrates on Billy's every move only half-heartedly listening.

ETHAN  
Uh huh.

He picks up his drink and takes a sip as he watches Billy.

HELEN (O.S.)  
You need to think about something  
else.

Billy walks to the edge of the pool and dives in.

Ethan watches as;

Billy swims the length of the pool underwater.

HELEN (O.S.) (CONT'D)  
Did you hear me? I said--

Ethan smiles.

ETHAN  
For once Helen I think you're  
right.

He hangs up, sets his phone down and sips his drink as he  
watches;

Billy slowly comes to the surface and, water dripping off his  
young muscular body, walks out of the pool.

He smiles at Ethan as he picks up his towel.

BILLY  
Hey.

He slowly dries off.

Ethan smiles.

ETHAN  
Hi.

Billy walks over and nods at the chair next to Ethan's.

BILLY  
You mind?

Ethan shakes his head.

ETHAN  
Not at all.

Billy smiles and sits down.

He holds out his hand to Ethan.

BILLY  
I'm Billy.

Ethan shakes his hand.

ETHAN  
Ethan.

Billy smiles and holds Ethan's hand a moment too long.

BILLY  
So Ethan, you here by yourself?

ETHAN  
A friend's meeting me tomorrow.

BILLY  
A friend or--

He makes quote marks in the air.

BILLY (CONT'D)  
A friend.

Ethan smiles flirtatiously.

ETHAN  
Does it matter?

Billy grins.

BILLY  
It might.

Ethan, a little surprised but flattered, smiles.

ETHAN  
Really?

Billy's eyes drink in Ethan's toned body, he nods.

BILLY  
Oh yeah.

Ethan grins.

ETHAN  
How old are you?

Billy gives him a charming smile.

BILLY  
Tell you what Ethan, you don't ask  
me how old I am and I won't ask you  
how old you are.

Ethan thinks a moment then nods.

ETHAN  
Deal.

Billy smiles.

ETHAN (CONT'D)  
But you are legal?

Billy smirks.

BILLY  
I'm a couple years past legal.

Ethan smiles and nods.

ETHAN  
Good.

Billy nods.

BILLY  
Yeah.

They smile at each other.

Ethan goes to take a sip of his drink then looks at Billy.

ETHAN  
You want one.

Billy smiles.

BILLY  
Yeah I would, thanks.

Ethan motions for the server.

BILLY (CONT'D)  
But could you make mine a beer?

Ethan smiles.

ETHAN  
Anything you want.

Billy gives him a salacious grin.

BILLY  
Anything?

Ethan smirks.

Billy grins.

LATER

Ethan and Billy sip drinks, smile flirtatiously and chat as the sun slowly sets and dusk settles in.

Ethan looks around surprised to see no one else is around.

He looks back at Billy.

They smile at each other.

Billy leans in and kisses Ethan on the lips.

Ethan gives him a surprised smile.

Billy smiles, stands and offers Ethan his hand.

Ethan hesitates a second then takes it.

Billy pulls him to his feet.

They stand just inches apart and stare into each other's eyes.

Billy grins then leads Ethan inside.

INT. RESTAURANT - NIGHT

Ethan and Billy sit at a table in a crowded touristy seafood restaurant.

Not sure what to do, Billy stares down at the crab legs on his plate.

He glances over at Ethan;

Who picks up a crab leg and uses a cracker to break it open.

Then he sets the cracker down, picks up a small fork and uses it to pull out the meat.

Ethan, fork in hand, smiles at Billy.

ETHAN

See, not that hard.

Billy shrugs.

BILLY

If you say so.

He picks up a crab leg and the cracker then;

Looks over at Ethan;

He nods.

Billy slides the leg in and clamps down.

The leg splits open;  
Water squirts out and;  
Hits Billy in the eye.

Ethan LAUGHS.

Surprised and embarrassed, Billy rubs his eyes and smirks at Ethan.

BILLY (CONT'D)  
Gee thanks, real supportive.

Ethan smiles.

ETHAN  
Sorry.

Billy winks.

Ethan dips his crab meat in butter and offers it to Billy.

Billy smiles, leans forward a little and opens his mouth.

Ethan moves the fork closer to Billy's mouth.

Billy leans forward and, in a very sensual way, uses his tongue to gently pull the crab meat off the fork.

As he chews a little bit of butter drips down his chin.

Ethan takes a napkin and wipes Billy's mouth.

Billy grins as he chews and swallows the crab.

ETHAN (CONT'D)  
You like?

Billy smiles as he reaches over and rests his hand on top of Ethan's.

BILLY  
I like very much.

Ethan smiles.

They start to lean in to kiss but catch themselves.

They grin at each other.

Billy picks up a crab leg and the cracker.

He positions the leg in the cracker then glances at Ethan.

BILLY (CONT'D)  
Like this?

Ethan nods.

ETHAN  
Uh huh, now grip it firmly as you  
squeeze down.

Billy grins.

BILLY  
I been waiting all night for you to  
say that.

Ethan shakes his head and LAUGHS.

Billy winks at him then cracks the leg;

It splits open perfectly.

Ethan CLAPS.

ETHAN  
Very good.

Billy smirks at him as he pulls the crab meat out with his  
little fork.

BILLY  
Thanks coach.

He dips the meat into the butter then holds it out to Ethan  
and grins.

BILLY (CONT'D)  
Open wide and suck.

Ethan smirks then leans forward and opens his mouth.

Billy slides the crab into Ethan's mouth.

They grin at each other as Ethan chews.

Billy reaches over and takes Ethan's hand in his.

Ethan self-consciously glances around;

No one even notices.

Ethan relaxes.

He smiles at Billy and squeezes his hand.

They hold hands and grin at each other.

INT. BAR - LATER

Ethan and Billy sit at a crowded bar chatting.

Billy smiles at Ethan.

Ethan stares at him a moment.

Billy leans in and gently kisses Ethan's lips.

Ethan looks surprised.

They stare at each other a moment then Billy leans in again.

This time Ethan kisses him back.

DANCE FLOOR - LATER

Hot men crowd the dance floor and gyrate to the music.

Billy leads Ethan by the hand onto the dance floor.

He releases Ethan's hand and they dance.

The music stops.

They stare at each other a moment.

A slow song starts.

Billy holds open his arms.

Ethan steps into them.

He wraps his arms around Billy's neck.

Billy's arms go around Ethan's waist.

They pull each other close as their bodies sway to the music.

EXT. BEACH - LATER

A full moon illuminates the empty beach and calm surf.

Billy and Ethan, their pant legs rolled up and shoes in hand, walk along the water's edge.

Ethan, looking distracted, glances out at the water.

Billy stops.

BILLY  
What's wrong?

Ethan looks at him.

ETHAN  
Nothing.

Billy just stares at him.

BILLY  
Really? You want to stick with  
that?

Ethan smirks.

BILLY (CONT'D)  
You were wondering how old I am.

Ethan gets defensive.

ETHAN  
I was not.

Billy just stares at him.

Ethan innocently stares back then gives in, he SIGHS.

ETHAN (CONT'D)  
Oh OK I was, how'd you know?

BILLY  
You keep asking me.

Ethan pretends to be insulted.

ETHAN  
I do not.

BILLY  
Well not directly.

ETHAN  
I have no idea what you're talking  
about.

BILLY  
Uh huh, what was the most popular  
movie the year you graduated high  
school?

Ethan shrugs and tries to look innocent.

ETHAN  
I was just curious.

BILLY  
I get it. You're a couple years  
older than me, big deal.

ETHAN  
A couple?

BILLY  
Yeah. What are you? Twenty-seven,  
twenty-eight?

Surprised and flattered, Ethan smiles.

ETHAN  
You think I'm Twenty-seven or  
twenty-eight?

BILLY  
Yeah.

Ethan nods.

ETHAN  
OK then I am.

Billy smiles.

BILLY  
It doesn't matter how old you are,  
what matters is how I feel when I'm  
with you.

Ethan smiles.

ETHAN  
Good answer.

Billy steps closer.

BILLY  
I like you Ethan.

He puts his hands on Ethan's hips and stares into his eyes.

BILLY (CONT'D)  
It feels right with you, so can we  
please just enjoy now and worry  
about all that bullshit later?

Ethan smiles.

ETHAN  
You're so romantic.

Billy grins.

BILLY  
Shut up and kiss me.

He pulls Ethan close and kisses him.

Ethan wraps his arms around Billy, pulls him close and kisses him back.

INT. ETHAN'S HOTEL ROOM

The door swings open;

Billy walks into the room.

Ethan steps in behind him and closes the door.

Billy turns around and takes Ethan into his arms.

They kiss passionately as they frantically undress each other.

Billy picks Ethan up and carries him to the bed.

They kiss as they cross the room.

Billy gently lies Ethan on the bed then climbs on top of him.

He kisses Ethan's lips, chin, neck slowly working his way down.

LATER

Moonlight streams through the window illuminating the bed where;

Billy lies on his back;

Ethan straddles him.

They both MOAN as;

Ethan slowly lowers himself down onto Billy.

He leans forward;

They kiss passionately as;

Their hips thrust together.

They kiss and MOAN as they make love.

LATER

The morning light shines through the window.

Billy and Ethan sleep in each other's arms.

Billy opens his eyes and looks at the clock.

9:38 AM.

He gently moves Ethan's arm off him and eases himself out of bed.

Billy glances down;

Ethan's still asleep.

Billy quietly walks to the bathroom.

BATHROOM

Billy gently closes the door and flips on the lights.

He walks to the toilet;

Then lifts the lid and URINATES.

When he's done he flushes and walks over to the sink.

Billy turns on the water and washes his hands while he glances around.

The invitation to The Reunion is poking out of Ethan's toiletry bag.

Billy dries his hands, picks up the invitation and reads:

BILLY  
Clinton High Class of nineteen  
eighty eight reunion.

His eyes go wide and he stares at the invitation then;

He glances at the door.

BILLY (CONT'D)  
Fuck.

BEDROOM

Ethan lies in bed asleep.

Billy, invitation in hand, steps out of the bathroom and walks over to the bed.

He sits down.

Ethan opens his eyes, sees Billy and smiles.

ETHAN

Morning.

Billy looks upset.

Ethan sits up.

ETHAN (CONT'D)

What's wrong?

BILLY

Remember how you kept asking me how old I was.

Ethan smiles and kisses Billy's shoulder.

ETHAN

You were right, age is just a number, it doesn't matter.

BILLY

You went to high school with my parents.

Ethan is shocked.

ETHAN

I what?

Billy holds up the invitation.

BILLY

Class of eighty-eight, my parents are here for the same reunion.

Ethan's face goes white.

ETHAN

No fucking way--

He shakes his head as he tries to recover.

ETHAN (CONT'D)  
I mean, well, I, uh--

Billy gives him a hurt but hopeful look.

Ethan collects himself.

ETHAN (CONT'D)  
I mean what a coincidence.

Billy rests his hand on Ethan's thigh.

BILLY  
I hope this won't change anything.

Still reeling from the surprise, Ethan just stares at Billy a moment.

INT. BABY'S NURSERY - AFTERNOON (DAYDREAM)

Ethan, rocking an infant who SCREAMS and CRIES, paces the room.

Ethan gently rocks the baby as he SINGS it a lullaby

The baby is quiet.

Ethan smiles down at;

An infant with Billy's adult face.

Ethan gently rocks him.

ETHAN  
Good baby.

Billy grins and winks.

BILLY  
Thanks babe.

INT. HOTEL ROOM - PRESENT

Ethan shrugs.

ETHAN  
Change anything? Why would it  
change anything? Oh you mean  
because I'm old enough to be your  
father?

BILLY  
No you're not.

ETHAN  
Really? Because this--

He snatches the invitation out of Billy's hand and waves it around.

ETHAN (CONT'D)  
Says otherwise. This says I went to  
fucking high school with... Wait,  
who are your parents?

BILLY  
Does it matter?

Ethan smiles but HEARS himself screaming.

ETHAN (V.O.)  
Yes.

BILLY  
I mean you're dating me not my  
parents, right?

Ethan gives him a teasing grin.

ETHAN  
Is that what we're doing? Dating?

Billy looks hurt but tries to hide it.

BILLY  
Maybe it was just a hook-up for you  
but it meant something to me.

Ethan reaches over and takes Billy's hand in his.

ETHAN  
It meant something to me too Billy.

BILLY  
So it doesn't matter who my parents  
are?

Ethan shakes his head but HEARS himself say;

ETHAN (V.O.)  
Of course it matters.

But instead he smiles at Billy and says.

ETHAN (CONT'D)  
Of course it doesn't, I'm dating  
you not your parents.

Relieved, Billy smiles.

ETHAN (CONT'D)  
What's your last name?

Billy smirks.

BILLY  
I thought it didn't matter.

ETHAN  
It doesn't.

BILLY  
Uh huh, so what's with all the  
questions?

ETHAN  
I'm just curious, wouldn't you be?

Billy thinks.

BILLY  
I guess. Weston, my last name's  
Weston.

Ethan freezes for a moment then quickly recovers.

ETHAN  
So you're dad is, Brian Weston?

BILLY  
Yeah, you remember him?

INT. CLINTON HIGH SCHOOL, HALLWAY - DAY (FLASHBACK)

Hope, Shannon, Brandy and a crowd of students gather in the  
hall as if waiting for something.

The locker room door SLAMS open;

Brian, Troy and Grant drag a struggling Ethan: wearing only  
his underwear; out the door.

Ethan desperately tries to get free while he PLEADS;

ETHAN  
Brian don't, please let me go.

Everyone LAUGHS at him.

Brian shoves Ethan across the hall then;

He, Troy and Grant rush back into the locker room and close the door.

Ethan races over and yanks on the door;

It won't budge.

Hope and the rest of the kids LAUGH harder.

Ethan, tears streaming down his face, BEATS on the door.

LOCKER ROOM

Brian, Troy and Grant sit on the benches; they stare at the door and LAUGH hysterically.

Ethan BEATS on the door and PLEADS;

ETHAN

Brian please let me in.

He BANGS on the door.

ETHAN (CONT'D)

Please... At least give me my pants.

The boys LAUGH so hard they can hardly breathe.

BRIAN

Oh God I'm gonna piss myself.

This sets the boys off, they HOWL with laughter.

Ethan SLAMS his fist into the door.

ETHAN

Damn it Brian.

He starts to CRY.

ETHAN (CONT'D)

Please.

Brian LAUGHS so hard he falls off the bench and onto the floor.

The boys LAUGH even harder.

INT. HOTEL ROOM - PRESENT

Ethan forces a smile.

ETHAN

Yeah, I think I vaguely remember him. So your mom is?

BILLY

Hope Weston, well she used to be Hope--

ETHAN / BILLY

Reinhart.

Billy smiles.

BILLY

Yeah, guess you knew her too?

INT. CLINTON HIGH SCHOOL, HALLWAY - DAY (FLASHBACK)

Ethan: tears streaming down his face and clad only in his underwear; sprints down the hall as;

Hope, taking obvious delight in Ethan's humiliation, leads the other students in a CHANT;

HOPE / CROWD

Ethan the fat fag, Ethan the fat fag.

INT. HOTEL ROOM - PRESENT

ETHAN

Remember her?

He nods.

ETHAN (CONT'D)

I guess you could say that.

Billy gives him a serious look.

BILLY

Tell me this won't be awkward.

ETHAN

Awkward?

INT. DINNING ROOM - EVENING (DAYDREAM)

Ethan sits at the large table having dinner with Billy, Hope, Brian and a few of their relatives.

There is an uncomfortable silence.

Ethan swallows his food, sets his fork down then turns to Hope.

ETHAN

Hope everything was just delicious.

She gives him a grateful smile.

HOPE

Why thank you Ethan, how nice of you to say.

She gives him a malicious look.

HOPE (CONT'D)

Ethan the fat fag.

Ethan is taken completely by surprise, he gapes at her.

ETHAN

Excuse me?

She and Brian grin at him and CHANT.

HOPE / BRIAN

Ethan the fat fag, Ethan the fat fag.

The relatives join in.

HOPE / BRIAN / RELATIVES

Ethan the fat fag.

Ethan turns to Billy for help but;

He CHANTS too.

HOPE / BRIAN / BILLY / RELATIVES

Ethan the fat fag, Ethan the fat fag.

INT. HOTEL ROOM - PRESENT

Ethan fakes a smile.

ETHAN  
Why would things get Awkward?

Billy smiles.

He leans forward and kisses Ethan.

BILLY  
Thanks, I really am crazy about  
you.

Ethan smiles.

ETHAN  
Me too.

He kisses Billy.

Billy grins.

BILLY  
I'm meeting them for lunch later,  
you want to join us?

Ethan sits stunned for a moment.

ETHAN  
Lunch?

Billy nods.

BILLY  
Yeah, you know that mid-deal meal.

ETHAN  
Ah, I'm not really sure that's such  
a good idea.

Billy gives him a mock suspicious look.

BILLY  
Why? Do you have something against  
lunch?

Ethan smirks.

ETHAN  
I meant with your parents.

BILLY  
Why? You're going to see them  
tonight anyway.

ETHAN

Billy we haven't seen each other  
in, well a long time.

Billy grins.

BILLY

Yeah, odd how they're forty-three  
and yet you're still twenty-seven.

Ethan shrugs.

ETHAN

Hmm, strange how things work out  
sometimes huh?

Billy grins.

ETHAN (CONT'D)

Seriously Billy, I'm--

BILLY

Not sure the best way to get  
reacquainted with my parents is to  
just show up at lunch as their  
son's date.

Ethan nods.

ETHAN

Something like that.

BILLY

Afraid you might shock them?

Ethan thinks.

INT. RESTAURANT - DAY (FLASHBACK)

Hope and Brian sit at a table having lunch.

Ethan and Billy walk over.

BILLY

Mom, dad, this is my boyfriend  
Ethan.

Hope and Brian look surprised but they smile.

HOPE

So good to see you again Ethan?

BRIAN

I didn't realize you and Billy knew-

-

Ethan turns to Billy and;

Takes him in his arms.

Ethan looks over at Hope and Brian; he grins lasciviously and winks.

Not sure how to react, they give each other questions looks.

Ethan pulls Billy close and kisses him passionately.

Hope and Brian leap to their feet.

Ethan rips open Billy's shirt.

Shocked, Hope and Brian just gape at them.

Ethan kisses Billy's lips, chin, neck, shoulders, chest, ABS; slowly working his way down.

Hope and Brian, eyes wide and mouths hanging open, are too shocked to speak, they just stare at them.

Ethan kneels in front of Billy and;

Yanks down his pants.

Hope and Brian GASP.

Billy throws back his head and MOANS as;

Ethan takes his penis in his mouth.

Hope and Brian both clutch their chests then fall to the floor.

Their dead eyes stare up at the ceiling.

Billy's MOANS fill the air.

INT. HOTEL ROOM - PRESENT

Ethan smiles.

ETHAN

Actually lunch sounds pretty good,  
what time?

Billy smiles.

BILLY  
About one?

ETHAN  
It's a date.

Billy grins.

BILLY  
So what do you want to do till  
then?

Ethan shrugs.

ETHAN  
Want to fuck?

Billy's grin widens.

BILLY  
Good answer.

He leans over and kisses Ethan.

LATER

Ethan, dressed for lunch, sits on the bed talking on the  
phone.

ETHAN  
Billy's picking me up in an a few  
minutes.

HELEN (O.S.)  
Are you sure this is a good idea?

ETHAN  
Lunch? It may not be the most  
important meal of the day but--

HELEN (O.S.)  
Ethan you know what I mean.

ETHAN  
I like him Helen, I know he's  
young, Christ he's young enough to  
be my son.

HELEN (O.S.)  
I think you mean you're old enough  
to be his father.

ETHAN  
Bite me bitch.

She LAUGHS.

ETHAN (CONT'D)  
He's a nice guy Helen and I like  
being with him.

HELEN (O.S.)  
But--

ETHAN  
I know what you're going to say,  
he's a few years younger and--

HELEN (O.S.)  
A few? Since when is twenty a few?

Ethan smirks.

ETHAN  
I hate you and I lied, your tits do  
look fake.

She LAUGHS.

HELEN (O.S.)  
You're such a bitch.

ETHAN  
And you're--

HELEN (O.S.)  
Hey be nice. Look Ethan if he was  
anyone else's kid I'd say go for  
it.

ETHAN  
Helen they ruined high school for  
me, I'll be damned if I let them  
ruin this relationship.

HELEN (O.S.)  
Are you going to tell him?

Ethan SIGHS.

HELEN (O.S.) (CONT'D)  
Are you? ... Ethan?

ETHAN

I guess I should but, I don't know.  
I mean how do you tell someone  
they're parents were--

HELEN (O.S.)

Evil monsters who made our lives  
hell?

ETHAN

Yeah, how do you put a positive  
spin on that?

HELEN (O.S.)

I don't know but--

ETHAN

I know, he's going to find out one  
way or the other.

HELEN (O.S.)

Isn't it better he hears it from  
you?

He shrugs.

ETHAN

I don't know.

HELEN (O.S.)

Well, either way it should make for  
an interesting lunch.

ETHAN

You are joining us?

HELEN (O.S.)

Wish I could.

ETHAN

What do you mean? You were supposed  
to be here--

HELEN (O.S.)

Hit a little snag, I'll there mid-  
afternoon at the latest.

ETHAN

Helen.

HELEN (O.S.)

Ethan I'll be there.

A KNOCK at the door.

ETHAN  
Billy's here.

HELEN (O.S.)  
Have fun.

ETHAN  
Get here.

HELEN (O.S.)  
See you soon.

Ethan sets the phone down and walks to the door.

He opens it;

Billy stands in the hall smiling at him.

Ethan grins.

ETHAN  
Want to come in and fool around?

Billy smiles.

BILLY  
After lunch.

Ethan grabs Billy's shirt and pulls him close.

Billy puts his hand on Ethan's chest to stop him.

BILLY (CONT'D)  
Come on Ethan, we're going to be  
late.

Ethan kisses him.

BILLY (CONT'D)  
Ethan.

ETHAN  
What's the matter? Losing interest  
already?

BILLY  
Having second thoughts about lunch?

Ethan SIGHS.

ETHAN  
Just a little nervous. You know,  
meeting the folks.

Billy smiles.

BILLY  
They're gonna love you.

Ethan SIGHS.

ETHAN  
Yeah, well they sure didn't in high school.

Billy looks confused.

BILLY  
What do you mean?

Ethan stares at him trying to decide whether to tell him.

BILLY (CONT'D)  
What's wrong?

Ethan pushes the door open all the way and motions for Billy to come in.

ETHAN  
I think you better come in for a minute.

BILLY  
Sounds serious.

Ethan shrugs.

ETHAN  
I, well,--

BILLY  
You breaking up with me?

ETHAN  
No, I'm crazy about you.

Billy grins.

BILLY  
You're just crazy. Come on we're going to be late.

ETHAN  
Billy, your parents and I weren't exactly friends in high school.

BILLY  
Yeah I kind of figured that out.

ETHAN  
They made my life a living hell.

Billy is shocked.

BILLY  
What? Are you saying my parents  
picked on you?

ETHAN  
Picked on me? Oh no that would have  
been a welcome relief. They  
tortured me, humiliated me.

Disbelieving, Billy shakes his head.

BILLY  
No.

ETHAN  
You know what they called me? Ethan  
the fat fag, in front of everyone  
they and they're little clique  
would chant Ethan the fat--

Billy shakes his head and takes a step back.

BILLY  
I don't believe you.

ETHAN  
Why would I lie?

Billy, confused and not wanting to believe, shakes his head  
and takes another step back.

BILLY  
I don't know, but my parents,  
they're good people, they wouldn't--

Tears fill his eyes.

BILLY (CONT'D)  
They couldn't.

ETHAN  
Billy... Look I know this is  
difficult to hear--

BILLY  
I got to go.

ETHAN  
Billy please I--

Billy holds up his hand to stop him.

Ethan is quiet.

Billy shakes his head.

BILLY

They wouldn't do that.

He turns and runs down the hall.

Ethan sadly watches him go.

Billy stops at the elevator and looks back.

He and Ethan stare at each other.

Ethan takes a step forward.

ETHAN

Billy wait.

Billy turns, shoves the door marked STAIRS open and rushes in.

Ethan watches him disappear into the stairwell then steps back into his hotel room and closes the door.

INT. HOTEL RESTAURANT

Hope, Brian and KRISTEN, 21, sit at a table reading their menus.

Annoyed, Brian glances at his watch.

He SIGHS.

BRIAN

Where the hell is that boy?

HOPE

Brian please.

BRIAN

We did say one O'clock didn't we?

Kristen looks down at her watch.

KRISTEN

Yeah dad and it's like five after.

BRIAN

I have seven.

She pretends to be alarmed.

KRISTEN

Seven minutes? Oh my God, we better call out the search teams to look for him.

Brian smirks.

BRIAN

Kristen is this your subtle way of telling your father to, what do you kids say, chill out?

Kristen looks at him like he's an idiot.

KRISTEN

No one says that dad.

BRIAN

Oh, my bad.

Kristen rolls her eyes then looks at Hope.

KRISTEN

And you married him why?

Hope forces a smile as she remembers.

EXT. PARK - DAY (FLASHBACK)

Teenage Hope and Brian walk through the park; both seem upset as they silently walk along.

BRIAN

You sure?

HOPE

I took four tests.

BRIAN

But we only did it once.

HOPE

Guess that's all it takes.

Brian shakes his head.

BRIAN

Fuck, What about my scholarship and all our plans?

Hope starts to cry.

BRIAN (CONT'D)

Hey.

He wraps his arm around her shoulders.

BRIAN (CONT'D)

Don't worry babe we'll figure this out.

She gives him a vulnerable, timid look.

HOPE

Really?

He squeezes her shoulder.

BRIAN

Of course.

He wraps both his arms around her and pulls her close.

She clings to him.

He strokes her back and kisses the top of her head.

BRIAN (CONT'D)

We were going to get married anyway, we'll just move it up a little.

With tears in her eyes, Hope looks up at him.

HOPE

You're sure that's what you want to do?

He smiles, reaches over and brushes hair out of her eyes.

BRIAN

Of course I'm sure.

HOPE

What about college and--

BRIAN

We'll figure it out, together.

She smiles through her tears.

HOPE

I love you.

He pulls her close.

BRIAN  
Me too babe.

INT. HOTEL RESTAURANT - PRESENT

Hope glances at Brian.

He smiles and takes her hand.

BRIAN  
She married me because she just  
couldn't live without me.

Kristen rolls her eyes.

KRISTEN  
Oh please.

BRIAN  
No it's true, she said being apart  
for even a day was pure torture,  
the thoughts of a life without me  
was just too much for her to bare.

KRISTEN  
I think I'm going to be sick.

HOPE  
The truth is he asked and I didn't  
have anything better to do.

Brian CHUCKLES.

BRIAN  
Thanks babe.

KRISTEN  
So if you had had something better  
to do Billy and I might not have  
been born.

Hope smiles and shrugs.

HOPE  
Guess we'll never know.

Billy steps into the restaurant; he sees them and walks over.

BRIAN  
Speaking of Billy.

They turn and watch;

Billy, looking sullen, walks over and takes his seat.

BILLY  
Sorry I'm late.

Hope gives him a concerned look.

HOPE  
Are you alright sweetie?

He picks up a menu.

BILLY  
I'm fine mom.

He reads the menu.

HOPE  
Are you sure, you look--

BILLY  
I'm just tired.

Kristen SNICKERS.

KRISTEN  
You mean hung over.

Billy shoots her a dirty look.

BILLY  
Bite me Kristen.

Hope smacks his arm.

HOPE  
Language.

Kristen gives Billy a gloating smile.

Hope smacks her arm.

HOPE (CONT'D)  
And you, don't irritate your  
brother.

Billy sneers at Kristen.

HOPE (CONT'D)  
How old are you two?

BILLY  
She started it.

Hope SIGHS and shakes her head.

Brian picks up his menu.

BRIAN  
So, what's everyone having?

INT. ETHAN'S HOTEL ROOM

A depressed Ethan, talking on his cell, paces the room.

HELEN (O.S.)  
Sweetie I'll be there in a couple  
hours, why don't you get a massage?

ETHAN  
I don't want a massage.

HELEN (O.S.)  
How about a cocktail?

Ethan glances out the window at the beach where;

Muscular young men play frisbee; their oiled, toned bodies  
glisten in the sun.

ETHAN  
I don't want a cocktail.

He stares out the window and watches the men.

HELEN (O.S.)  
How about a hooker?

ETHAN  
I want Billy.

He thinks a second.

ETHAN (CONT'D)  
You know what, I'm going down  
there.

HELEN (O.S.)  
Oh I really don't think that's such  
a good idea.

ETHAN  
Why not? I'm crazy about him.

HELEN (O.S.)

You just met him, are you sure it's not the idea of him you're crazy about?

ETHAN

I like him, he's fun and smart.

HELEN (O.S.)

He's young and hot.

Ethan smiles.

ETHAN

Yeah that too but it's more than that, I can't explain it, it just feels right.

HELEN (O.S.)

So what? You're just going to charge in there and in front of his parents and a restaurant full of people do what? Sweep him off his feet and carry him off into the sunset?

Ethan smirks.

ETHAN

OK so I haven't ironed out all the details.

HELEN (O.S.)

Don't you think you should? And what about Hope and Brian?

ETHAN

I have no desire to sweep either of them off their feet, knock them off their feet maybe but there will most certainly not be any sweeping.

HELEN (O.S.)

Are sure it's Billy and not payback you want? You know, stick it to Hope and Brian by seducing their son?

ETHAN

First of all I didn't even know Billy was their son until a few minutes ago and secondly, he picked me up.

HELEN (O.S.)  
But now you know now.

Ethan shrugs.

ETHAN  
It doesn't change anything.

HELEN (O.S.)  
It changes everything. The people  
you despise the most in this world  
are the people he loves the most,  
you really don't see how this could  
alter the dynamics of your  
relationship? Seriously?

Ethan thinks a moment.

ETHAN  
So, I'll just have to confront  
them.

HELEN (O.S.)  
Just march in there and let it all  
out? Twenty-five years of pent up  
anger, hostility and resentment,  
just let everything out?

ETHAN  
Well, why not? Make them answer for  
what they did to us.

HELEN (O.S.)  
And do you really think the best  
place to do this is in front of  
their son?

He begrudgingly agrees.

ETHAN  
Maybe you're right.

HELEN (O.S.)  
Maybe?

Ethan SIGHS.

ETHAN  
OK you're right.

HELEN (O.S.)  
And you won't do anything until I  
get there?

ETHAN

Promise.

HELEN (O.S.)

See you soon.

ETHAN

Drive safe.

He sets the phone down, takes a last look at the men playing frisbee then walks over to the bed and sits down.

He leans back against the headboard, picks up the remote and flips on the TV.

HOTEL RESTAURANT

Hope, Brian, Billy and Kristen sit at a table having lunch;

Hope, Brian and Kristen CHAT and LAUGH as they eat.

Billy, his mind a thousand miles away, sadly gazes off.

Hope glances over at Billy's plate.

His cheeseburger and french fries remain untouched.

She gives him a concerned look.

HOPE

Billy are you alright, you haven't  
touched--

His gives her an accusatory look.

BILLY

Do you remember Ethan Scott?

Hope and Brian's bodies go rigid and their faces go white;

Confused, shocked and feeling guilty they just gape at Billy.

BILLY (CONT'D)

I'll take that as a yes.

KRISTEN

Who's Ethan Scott?

Her mind still reeling, Hope recovers and tries to brush it off.

HOPE

Just someone your father and I went  
to high school with.

Kristen gives Billy a confused look.

KRISTEN

How do you know someone they--

She figures it out and gives Billy a knowing smile.

KRISTEN (CONT'D)

That guy you met at the pool.

Shocked and a little worried, Hope turns to Billy.

HOPE

You're... Dating Ethan Scott?

Brian, also shocked, shakes his head.

Billy angrily stares at his parents.

BILLY

Well I was, we broke up.

HOPE

I'm sorry sweetie.

Billy glares at her.

BILLY

Are you?

BRIAN

Hey, don't talk to your mother like  
that.

Billy turns his angry gaze to his father.

BILLY

Is it true?

BRIAN

Is what true?

Kristen is totally confused.

KRISTEN

Billy what are you talking about?

Billy puts on a fake smile.

BILLY  
Our parents high school years  
Kristen, did you know that they  
used to--

HOPE  
Billy please--

He glares at her.

BILLY  
I know what you did.

Hope's eyes well with tears.

HOPE  
I'm so sorry, I never wanted you to  
find out.

KRISTEN  
Find out what? What the hell is  
going on?

Billy glares at his parents.

BILLY  
Guess it's some kind of cosmic joke  
that you got stuck with me for a  
son.

Hope shakes her head.

HOPE  
No, don't say that Billy.

BILLY  
Why not? It's true isn't?

Brian gives him an almost pleading look.

BRIAN  
Son don't do this.

Billy gives him an angry, accusatory look.

BILLY  
Do what dad? Admit the truth.

Brian gets defensive.

BRIAN  
And what truth is that?

BILLY

That you two hate fags so much God  
gave you one for a son as a joke.

Tears spill down Hope's face.

HOPE

Billy.

Brian is stunned.

BRIAN

You think we hate you?

Billy glares at him then stands and starts to walk away.

Brian leaps to his feet and puts his hand on Billy's shoulder  
to stop him.

BRIAN (CONT'D)

Billy wait, please.

Billy wheels around and, his anger replaced by a profound  
sadness and sense of loss, stares at his father.

BILLY

How could you do that to him?

Brian, not sure how to react, shrugs.

BRIAN

We were kids.

BILLY

That's your excuse, you were kids?  
So were the Menendez brothers.

BRIAN

Billy I'm sorry, I don't know what  
you want me to say.

Tears fill Billy's eyes.

BILLY

I want you to say that all those  
things you said to Ethan you don't  
really feel about me.

Feeling uncomfortable with the display of emotion, Brian  
gives Billy a dismissive look and sits back down.

BRIAN

Oh you're being melodramatic, you  
know how--

Billy glares at him then turns and runs out of the restaurant.

Hope shoots Brian a dirty look.

HOPE  
You really are a bastard.

She leaps to her feet.

He gives her a bewildered look.

BRIAN  
What'd I say?

Hope starts to walk after Billy.

Kristen stands.

KRISTEN  
Let me go mom.

Hope hesitates then nods and takes her seat.

Kristen strides out of the restaurant.

Hope and Brian quietly stare off, letting what has just happened sink in.

HOTEL LOBBY

Billy strides through the lobby and heads towards the elevator.

Kristen walks out of the restaurant and sees him.

KRISTEN  
Billy.

He keeps going.

She runs over to him.

KRISTEN (CONT'D)  
Hey.

He stops.

She walks over and stands in front of him.

Still seething, he just glares.

KRISTEN (CONT'D)

Billy come on you know he didn't--

BILLY

Don't you defend him Kristen.

KRISTEN

I was just going to say--

BILLY

He fucking always does that, the minute you talk about emotions or how you're feeling he just cuts you off.

KRISTEN

Do you know why he does that?

BILLY

Because he's a fucking bastard who doesn't care?

KRISTEN

You know that's not true and do you really think he's homophobic?

Billy shrugs.

BILLY

I don't know, he's never actually said--

She gives him an annoyed, disbelieving look.

KRISTEN

Seriously? They've invite every boyfriend you've ever had over for dinner.

He shrugs nonchalantly.

BILLY

It's not like they're have been that many.

She just stares at him.

He begrudgingly agrees and nods.

BILLY (CONT'D)

Then why'd they do it?

She shrugs then glances around the lobby;

Everyone: guests, bellmen and the entire front desk staff; are staring and hanging on their every word.

Kristen and Billy grin at each other.

She nods towards the hotel bar.

KRISTEN  
Want to finish this over a drink?

Billy nods then turns to the people listening.

He holds up his hands.

BILLY  
Sorry folks, shows over.

Embarrassed Kristen turns her face and quickly walks towards the bar.

Billy LAUGHS and jogs over to her.

KRISTEN  
You're an idiot.

He gives her a mock, hurt look.

BILLY  
Great, first the greatest guy I ever met breaks up with me then I find out mom and dad were homophobic bullies and now you're going to pick on me?

KRISTEN  
Technically you walked out on him.

BILLY  
Mom and dad never wanted you to know this but you were adopted.

She LAUGHS, takes his arm and walks him towards the bar.

KRISTEN  
Shut up.

BILLY  
No it's true, you were the love child of--

KRISTEN  
You're such an asshole.

BILLY

You know you really suck at this whole cheering up thing.

She GROANS and drags him towards the bar.

INT. HOPE AND BRIAN'S HOTEL ROOM

Brian and Hope walk into the room;

He walks over to the bed, picks up the remote and flips on the TV.

She stares at him incredulously.

HOPE

Really Brian? You're going to watch TV, now?

He gives her annoyed look.

BRIAN

What the hell do you want me to do Hope?

She SIGHS sadly.

HOPE

I was always knew this day would come.

Brian begrudgingly turns off the TV and tosses the remote onto the bed.

BRIAN

Hope--

HOPE

I knew one day we'd have to explain to the kids why--

He walks over to her and tries to console her.

BRIAN

Hope that was a lifetime ago, why torture yourself now with things we can't--

Full of remorse and regret, Hope sadly looks up at him.

HOPE

How could we have done those terrible things?

BRIAN  
What'd we do that was so terrible?  
So we--

Seething, Hope glares at him.

HOPE  
Seriously?

She strides over the mini-fridge then glares back at him.

HOPE (CONT'D)  
What'd we do?

She yanks open the fridge door, reaches in and grabs a bunch of small bottles of liquor.

Brian walks up behind.

BRIAN  
Hope I--

Hope, bottles in her hand, wheels around.

HOPE  
What'd we do that was so terrible?

BRIAN  
I just meant--

HOPE  
We made his life a living hell.  
Every chance we got we'd humiliate  
him, taunt him--

BRIAN  
Hope that was twenty-five years  
ago, we were kids for Christ sake.

Hope shakes her head and fights back tears.

HOPE  
Why did we hate him so much? What  
did he ever do to us?

Brian thinks then shrugs.

BRIAN  
Who remembers?

Hope gives him a pained look.

HOPE  
I bet he does.

BRIAN  
Hope why--

HOPE  
Did you ever wonder what happened  
to him?

Brian shakes his head.

BRIAN  
Honestly babe, no. I was too busy  
with--

HOPE  
I did.

BRIAN  
Why are you doing this?

HOPE  
I thought of him everyday.

BRIAN  
Hope don't--

HOPE  
Every morning I'd pack Billy's  
lunch, kiss him good-bye and I'd  
watch from the kitchen window as he  
climbed onto the school bus.

Tears fill her eyes as she angrily stares at Brian.

HOPE (CONT'D)  
Do you know what I did then Brian?

BRIAN  
Hope don't, please just leave it--

HOPE  
I'd pray please God don't let  
anyone treat my baby the way we  
treated poor Ethan.

Brian puts his arms on Hope's shoulders and gives her a warm,  
compassionate look.

BRIAN  
Hope we were rotten, mean-spirited  
kids that doesn't mean we're--

HOPE  
But why him?

BRIAN

You mean were we cruel homophobes  
punished with a gay son?

Tears spill down Hope's cheeks, she nods.

He smiles.

BRIAN (CONT'D)

Did you even know what a fag was  
back then?

She thinks.

HOPE

I, I don't know. I just remember--

BRIAN

That it was a bad word that made  
our friends laugh.

HOPE

And made him cry.

A pained look crosses Brian's face, he nods.

BRIAN

Yeah.

HOPE

So why him?

Brian shrugs.

BRIAN

He was an easy target.

HOPE

That's it, we singled him out  
because it was easy?

BRIAN

That's what animals of prey do,  
single out the weak ones.

HOPE

But there has to be--

BRIAN

Look babe I know you're looking for  
answers but they're aren't any. We  
picked on him because we could. He  
was fat, uncoordinated and  
unpopular.

HOPE

He was the weak gazelle and we were  
pack of ravenous jackals.

Brian nods.

BRIAN

That's about it.

Full of remorse, Hope shakes her head as she fights back  
tears.

HOPE

Jesus.

He massages her neck a little and smirks.

BRIAN

See babe we weren't homophobic,  
just assholes. Feel better now?

She lets a out a little LAUGH.

He nods at the bottles in her hand.

BRIAN (CONT'D)

How about I make us two of the  
biggest martini's you've ever seen?

She gives me a weak smile.

HOPE

Sounds good.

He takes the bottles from her hand then nods at the bed.

BRIAN

Why don't you get comfortable, see  
if one of your lifetime movies is  
on.

He walks over to the dresser, sets the bottles down then  
opens the mini-fridge.

Hope watches him and smiles.

Brian feels her watching him; he takes a small jar of olives  
out of the fridge then glances back at her.

BRIAN (CONT'D)

Everything OK Babe?

She nods.

HOPE

Yeah.

He opens the olives.

BRIAN

You sure?

She nods.

He drops a couple of olives in each glass then opens one of the bottles of gin.

She watches him a second then walks to the bed.

HOTEL BAR

Billy and Kristen sit at the bar having a drink.

BILLY

Why do you think they did it?

Kristen shrugs and takes a sip of her drink.

KRISTEN

Who knows? Insecure maybe. I mean you see how grandma's constantly complaining about everything mom does.

BILLY

Telling her she's fat, she doesn't clean right, her roast is too dry, the vegetables are over-cooked.

He takes a sip of his drink.

BILLY (CONT'D)

Think that's it? They were venting, taking their frustrations out on Ethan.

Kristen shrugs.

KRISTEN

Maybe, does it matter?

He shrugs.

BILLY

I guess not, it's just--

KRISTEN  
You didn't want them to be one of  
those people?

He nods.

BILLY  
Yeah.

She nods agreeingly.

KRISTEN  
It does seem weird, mom and dad  
were bullies.

They quietly sip their drinks.

KRISTEN (CONT'D)  
Were you ever bullied?

He shrugs and takes a sip of his drink.

She looks concerned.

KRISTEN (CONT'D)  
Billy?

BILLY  
A little, nothing bad.

KRISTEN  
You never said anything.

He shrugs.

BILLY  
It wasn't that bad, besides I  
figured it--

KRISTEN  
Was just part of growing up?

He nods.

KRISTEN (CONT'D)  
Well it shouldn't be.

He SIGHS.

BILLY  
Yeah well I should be fabulously  
wealthy instead of irresistibly  
handsome.

They look at each other and LAUGH.

INT. ETHAN'S HOTEL ROOM

Ethan sits on the bed watching TV.

He glances out the glass doors at;

The white sandy beach below.

He gazes out at the ocean a moment then gets out of bed, walks over to the window and stares out.

Far below a couple walks hand in hand along the shore.

Ethan watches them and smiles; he dreamily looks off.

EXT. BEACH - AFTERNOON (DAYDREAM)

Ethan and Billy: both wearing bathing suits that show off their tan buff bodies; walk along the surf holding hands.

Ethan looks over at Billy who;

Lovingly stares back at him.

Totally content and in love, Ethan smiles at him.

Suddenly Ethan begins to age; his muscles sag, his face wrinkles, his hair turns white and begins to fall out.

Within seconds he is a stooped shoulder, wrinkled old man in a skimpy bathing suit.

Billy forces a smile but it looks more like a grimace, he tries to pretend he doesn't notice the change.

Ethan winks;

His old man's tongue pokes out of his mouth and, in a gesture meant to be sexy but comes across as creepy, he slowly drags his tongue along his wrinkled chapped lips.

Billy holds the fake smile and tries to hide his revulsion.

Ethan grins at him; the few teeth he has left are stained and rotting.

He leans forward to kiss Billy; he closes his eyes and sticks out his lips.

Billy, looking like's about to be sick, just stares at him.

Ethan, his lips puckered, waits to be kissed.

Billy swallows the bile in his mouth, leans forward and;

He can't do it.

He turns and sprints down the beach.

Ethan sadly watches him race off.

INT. ETHAN'S HOTEL ROOM

Ethan gazes out the window watching;

The couple walk along the beach.

He SIGHS then pulls out his cell phone and dials.

He HEARS Helen's voice;

HELEN (O.S.)

You've reached Helen Wiley, I'm  
away from my phone which means I'm  
either in the shower, having sex or  
have been kidnapped by pirates. You  
know what to do and if you don't  
why the hell are you calling me?

BEEP.

ETHAN

Hey Helen it's me.

He stares out at the couple on the beach.

ETHAN (CONT'D)

You were right, I can't put Billy  
in the middle and--

He SIGHS sadly.

ETHAN (CONT'D)

What the hell was I thinking  
anyway, he's young enough--

He stops himself.

ETHAN (CONT'D)

I mean I'm old enough to be his  
father.

He walks towards the closet.

ETHAN (CONT'D)

I'm heading home, I mean what the hell? Why spend the evening with people I hate when I can be at home alone drinking himself into a stupor. I hope you get this get before you drive all the way out here. Love you, talk later.

He slides the phone into his pocket then opens the closet door.

Ethan reaches in, grabs his suitcase and carries it to the bed.

HOTEL BAR

Billy and Kristen take a sip of their drinks.

KRISTEN

So what about Ethan?

Billy shakes his head.

BILLY

I don't know.

KRISTEN

What part threw you off?

He smirks at her.

KRISTEN (CONT'D)

You like him?

Billy smiles sadly and nods.

BILLY

Yeah, I like him a lot.

KRISTEN

So you're sitting here having a drink with your little sister because?

Billy shakes his head and SIGHS.

BILLY

It's not that easy.

He takes a sip of his drink.

KRISTEN  
What worth having is?

He smirks at her.

BILLY  
When did you become such an expert  
on love?

KRISTEN  
Hey, I... watch a lot of daytime  
TV; Dr. Phil, Geraldo, Maury,  
General Hospital.

BILLY  
This explains a lot.

KRISTEN  
Billy you're over thinking this.

BILLY  
And is that you're professional  
opinion Dr. Kristen?

She smirks.

KRISTEN  
Yes it is, look if it's meant to be  
everything else will just fall into  
place.

He looks optimistic.

BILLY  
You really think so?

She smiles then SIGHS and shakes her head.

KRISTEN  
Yeah, not really.

He smiles as he thinks.

She gives him a questioning look.

KRISTEN (CONT'D)  
Billy?

He downs the rest of his drink and stands.

BILLY  
I'm going go for it.

She smiles.

KRISTEN  
Good for you.

He grins confidently.

BILLY  
I'm going to go right up there and  
tell him that I'm crazy about him.

KRISTEN  
You go for it.

BILLY  
That it shouldn't matter who my  
parents are.

KRISTEN  
That's right, just march in there  
and sweep him off his feet.

He looks strong and confident then gives her a timid, unsure  
look.

BILLY  
You really think I should?

She rolls her eyes and SIGHS.

BILLY (CONT'D)  
Right.

He takes a moment to regain his confidence then gives her a  
nod and walks to the door.

She shakes her head, SIGHS then takes a sip of her drink.

#### ETHAN'S HOTEL ROOM

Ethan puts the last of his clothes in the suitcase and closes  
it.

He unzips the garment bag that lies on the bed;

Then walks to the closet and takes out his suit.

#### HOPE AND BRIAN'S HOTEL ROOM

Hope and Brian sit on the side of the bed facing each other,  
each holds a drink.

HOPE

So it never bothered you that Billy  
was gay?

Brian looks surprised.

BRIAN

Of course not, he's our son. I'd  
love him no matter what.

She nods, sips the last of her drink then sets the glass on  
the nightstand.

BRIAN (CONT'D)

You want another?

She shakes her head and stands.

HOPE

We should go look for him.

Brian reaches over and takes her hand.

They stare into each other's eyes a moment.

He smiles up at her.

BRIAN

You're beautiful.

She smirks.

HOPE

I used to be.

BRIAN

Don't do that?

She glances away.

HOPE

We really should--

He squeezes her hand.

BRIAN

Hey.

Their eyes meet.

BRIAN (CONT'D)

You're as beautiful now as the day  
we met.

She gives him a sad smile that says I don't believe you.

HOPE  
You're sweet Brian.

BRIAN  
No Hope, I'm a son of a bitch.

She smirks.

HOPE  
At times.

He rubs her hand and gives her a serious look.

BRIAN  
I know what I am Hope and I know I haven't always been, well the most attentive husband but I do love you.

She smiles.

HOPE  
I love you too, I always have.

He stands.

Only inches apart, they stare at each other.

He smiles.

BRIAN  
Come on let's go look for the kid.

She smiles.

He takes her hand.

BRIAN (CONT'D)  
And how about after that we ditch the reunion, go have a ridiculously expensive dinner then drive down to the old pier and neck in the backseat.

She grins and wraps her arms around him.

HOPE  
You sir have a date.

His arms go around her waist and he pulls her close.

He grins then leans in and kisses her.

## HALLWAY

Billy strides down the corridor and stops at Ethan's room.

The door is slightly ajar.

He takes a moment to compose himself.

## ETHAN'S HOTEL ROOM

A confident Billy shoves the door open and strides in.

BILLY

Look Ethan I know--

He stops and stares.

The startled maid stands on the far side of the room stripping the bed.

Billy holds up his hands.

BILLY (CONT'D)

Sorry I was looking for Ethan, uh,  
Mr. Scott.

She picks up a pillow and pulls off the pillowcase.

MAID

He checked out.

Surprised he just stares at her.

BILLY

He what?

He looks over at the open and empty closet.

BILLY (CONT'D)

He left? Just like that? Without  
even saying good-bye?

The maid gives him an apologetic look and shrugs.

Billy's eyes fill with tears, he nods.

BILLY (CONT'D)

Sorry to have bothered you.

He turns to go.

MAID

You're his, ah, friend?

Billy glances around the empty room.

BILLY  
I guess not.

He turns and, his shoulders hunched, slowly walks towards the door.

Feeling sorry for him, she watches Billy a second then grabs the remote control.

She flips on the TV, turns to the Hotel's channel and enters a code.

MAID  
Wait.

Billy glances back;

Ethan's Hotel bill appears on the TV screen.

MAID (CONT'D)  
He hasn't checked out yet.

Billy just stares at her.

MAID (CONT'D)  
Go, tell him you love him.

Billy smiles.

MAID (CONT'D)  
And don't you take no for answer.

He grins.

BILLY  
I won't, thank you.

She nods.

He rushes to the door.

MAID  
Hey.

He glances back.

She holds up the remote.

MAID (CONT'D)  
You never saw me--

He grins.

BILLY  
I wasn't even here.

He races out the door.

She grins and SIGHS.

MAID  
Ah, young love.

She flips off the TV and goes back to work.

LOBBY

Ethan walks across the lobby heading towards the front door.

A DING then the elevator doors slide open.

Billy rushes out and looks around.

Ethan is almost to the door.

Billy SHOUTS.

BILLY  
Ethan.

Ethan, along with everyone in the lobby, stops and looks over.

Billy jogs over to Ethan.

BILLY (CONT'D)  
You were just going to leave?

ETHAN  
I'm sorry Billy, I just thought--

BILLY  
It'd be easier?

Ethan nods.

ETHAN  
Yeah. Look Billy--

BILLY  
You're sorry, you wish things had been different, I'm a great guy, but. Something like that?

Ethan nods.

ETHAN

I am sorry Billy, I don't know what to say.

BILLY

Well maybe you could say nothing and just listen. I'm sorry my parents picked on you.

Ethan SIGHS, he looks annoyed and defensive.

BILLY (CONT'D)

I don't mean to make light of what they did.

Hope and Brian step into the lobby.

They see Billy and Ethan and stop to listen.

BILLY (CONT'D)

What they did was horrible, it was cruel and heartless, totally inexcusable.

Feeling guilty, Hope and Brian sadly stare at them.

BILLY (CONT'D)

But if you came here to confront the monsters from your past you're too late, they don't exist anymore.

ETHAN

Billy I never said your parents were monsters, I may have thought it but I never said it.

Billy smirks.

BILLY

Look I know they're not perfect and maybe back in high school they were-

-

ETHAN

Billy don't.

BILLY

But they're not those people anymore. People do change.

Ethan stares at Billy's handsome face.

ETHAN  
It's more than just who your  
parents are.

BILLY  
What, I'm too young for you?

ETHAN  
I'm old enough to be your father.

Billy smiles charmingly.

BILLY  
I thought we established you were  
only twenty-seven.

They stare into each others eyes.

Hope, Brian and everyone else in the lobby watches them with  
anticipation.

ETHAN  
I am crazy about you.

Billy takes Ethan's hand in his.

BILLY  
And I'm crazy about you.

Ethan stares at Billy a moment.

ETHAN  
I wish that's all there was to it.

He pulls his hand away.

BILLY  
What else is there?

Ethan's eyes fill with tears.

ETHAN  
Life.

BILLY  
What the hell does that mean?

Ethan stares at Billy a moment.

ETHAN  
It means I wish things were  
different.

BILLY  
Oh bullshit, you 're just scared  
and looking for an excuse.

ETHAN  
You're young.

BILLY  
And you're an idiot if you let me  
go. I'm smart, I'm handsome, I can  
cook, I make a damned good living.

He steps close to Ethan; their faces just inches apart.

BILLY (CONT'D)  
And I would be so good to you if  
you let me.

Ethan, wanting him so much, stares into Billy's eyes.

Billy stares back then leans closer to kiss him.

Ethan closes his eyes and gives in.

Their lips brush against each other's.

Hope, Brian and everyone in the lobby smiles and SIGHS.

Ethan's eyes pop open.

He puts his hand on Billy's chest and pushes him back him  
back.

ETHAN  
I am sorry.

He turns and rushes to the door.

Billy YELLS out.

BILLY  
Ethan.

Ethan stops at the door and looks back.

Billy takes a step forward.

BILLY (CONT'D)  
Please, stay.

Ethan stares at him a moment then pulls open the door and  
steps out.

Tears fill Billy's eyes.

Brian and Hope rush to him.

Billy looks at Brian.

BILLY (CONT'D)

Dad I'm--

Brian wraps his arms around Billy and pulls him close.

BRIAN

I am so sorry son.

Billy holds his father tight and CRIES into his chest.

Brian stands still a moment then smiles and rubs Billy's back to console him.

Tears fill Hope's eyes as she watches.

EXT. HOTEL

Ethan rushes out the front door, takes a few steps then stops and glances back at the door.

He shakes his head, faces forward and briskly strides towards the parking lot.

His gait slows then he stops and;

Glances back at the hotel entrance.

He thinks for a moment.

ETHAN

What the hell am I doing?

He stares longingly as he contemplates what to do.

Then it hits him.

ETHAN (CONT'D)

When he's my age I'll be sixty-two,  
and when he's fifty-three I'll  
be...

He sadly gazes at the hotel.

ETHAN (CONT'D)

Well it was fun while it lasted.

He turns and slowly walks to the parking lot.

INT. HOTEL LOBBY

Brian holds Billy.

Billy looks up at Brian and smiles.

BILLY  
I love you too dad.

Brian smiles at Billy.

BRIAN  
I may not say it enough but I'm  
proud of you son, of the man you've  
become.

Billy grins.

BILLY  
Thanks dad.

Brian ruffles his hair.

HOPE  
Billy.

Billy looks over at her;

Hope nods towards the door.

Billy turns around.

Ethan stands in the doorway.

BILLY (CONT'D)  
Ethan?

Ethan smiles and strides over.

Brian lets go of Billy and steps back.

BILLY (CONT'D)  
What? You think you can walk out on  
me then just waltz right back in?

Ethan stops in front of him and grins.

ETHAN  
Yup.

BILLY  
And I'll just take you back?

Ethan grabs Billy's shoulders, pulls him close and kisses him.

Billy glares at him.

BILLY (CONT'D)  
Well I'll you something mister.

He grins.

BILLY (CONT'D)  
You're damn right I will.

He yanks Ethan close and kisses him.

Hope and Brian grin while the people in the lobby CHEER and APPLAUD.

Ethan looks around then grins at Billy.

They smile at each other and kiss.

Brian and Hope step forward.

Ethan and Billy step apart.

Hope wraps her arm around Billy's waist and smiles at him.

He slips his arm around her waist and grins at her.

Brian and Ethan face each other like they are ready to do battle.

BRIAN  
I should whop your butt for making  
my son cry.

ETHAN  
I should set you on fire for what  
you did to me in high school.

Hope, Billy and the people in the lobby hang on their every word.

Brian and Ethan glare at each other.

Brian softens and holds out his hand.

BRIAN  
Ethan--

He searches for the right words.

BRIAN (CONT'D)  
I'm sorry.

ETHAN  
You're sorry? Twenty-five years and  
that's all I get.

Billy looks disappointed.

BRIAN  
I'm really really sorry.

Ethan glances over and sees;

Billy's sad face.

Ethan looks back at Brian.

Brian nods at his outstretched hand.

BRIAN (CONT'D)  
You're kind of leaving me hanging  
here buddy.

Ethan smiles and shakes his hand.

Billy grins.

Brian pulls Ethan close and hugs him.

Billy and Hope smile.

The people in the lobby CHEER and APPLAUD.

HELEN: looking sexy in a skin tight dress that reveals a  
sexy, toned body; steps into the lobby.

She sees;

Brian and Ethan hug.

Hope notices her.

HOPE  
Helen? Helen Wiley?

Ethan looks over at Helen.

He releases Brian.

ETHAN  
Helen?

She gives him a confused look.

HOPE

Did I just fall down a rabbit hole?

Ethan grins and walks over to her.

ETHAN

I'll explain everything but first--

He turns and motions for Billy.

Billy walks over and stands next to Ethan.

Ethan wraps his arm around Billy's waist.

ETHAN (CONT'D)

I'd like you to meet Billy.

Billy smiles at Helen and holds out his hand.

BILLY

Nice to meet you.

She smiles and shakes his hand as she looks him over.

She grins at Ethan.

HELEN

You did good.

She glances over.

Hope and Brian stand a few feet back anxiously watching them.

When they notice Helen looking they smile and wave.

Helen forces a smile and waves at them as;

She WHISPERS to Ethan.

HELEN (CONT'D)

Did I miss something? We're all  
friends now?

Ethan smiles and motions to the bar.

ETHAN

Come on I'll buy you a drink.

He puts his hand on her back and leads her to the bar.

She glances around the lobby;

Everyone is intently staring at them.

HELEN

Or six.

Billy, Brian and Hope follow them.

BAR

Ethan, Helen, Billy, Brian and Hope sit at a table talking and drinking.

Ethan tells a disbelieving Helen something.

She shakes her head then looks over at Hope and Brian.

Helen looks back at Ethan.

He shrugs.

Hope reaches out and offers Helen her hand.

Helen stares at her hand then looks over at Ethan.

He gives her a half-smile.

She looks back at Hope;

Then finally takes her hand and shakes it.

Billy smiles at Ethan;

Who winks at him.

LOBBY

Billy, Ethan and Brian walk through the lobby talking.

Hope and Helen follow a few feet behind them.

They pass the hotel gift shop; a mannequin in the window wears a stylish dress.

Hope stops and stares at it.

Helen walks over and stands next to her.

HELEN

It's beautiful.

Hope nods.

She looks at Helen with a remorseful expression.

HOPE

You know it wasn't you right? All those things we said, the way we treated you back then.

Helen nods.

HELEN

I didn't for a long time but I do now.

Hope nods then turns her attention back to the dress.

HELEN (CONT'D)

You should try it on.

Hope shakes her head and seems embarrassed.

HOPE

Oh no, it's not really me.

Helen smiles.

HELEN

Go on.

HOPE

I couldn't.

HELEN

Why not?

Hope SIGHS as she sadly stares at her reflection in the window.

HOPE

I'm too fat.

HELEN

Nonsense, I think you'd look great in it.

Hope gives her a hopeful smile.

HOPE

You think?

Helen smiles.

HELEN

Go on, it'd be perfect for tonight.

Hope looks at her then back at the dress.

She nods then smiles at Helen.

HOPE  
I'm going to do it.

Helen smiles.

HELEN  
Good for you.

Hope turns and walks to the store's entrance.

Helen watches her and shakes her head.

HELEN (CONT'D)  
Well it only took twenty-five years  
but I'm finally part of the in  
crowd.

Teenage Hope stops at the entrance and looks back.

HOPE  
You coming?

Helen smiles and nods then;

Walks towards her.

EXT. CLINTON HIGH SCHOOL - NIGHT

Ethan, Billy and Helen: all dressed up and looking great,  
Helen wears a slinky dress; walk towards the school.

Ethan stops at the bottom of the stairs and looks up;

For just a second he sees:

CLINTON HIGH SCHOOL - NIGHT (DAYDREAM)

Storm clouds hang over the dark, ominous looking building.

Thunder RUMBLES and lightning strikes.

Hope and Brian: young, sexy and flanked by Troy, Grant,  
Shannon and Brandy; stand at the top of the steps menacingly  
glaring down at them.

EXT. CLINTON HIGH SCHOOL

Ethan stares up at;

An ordinary, brick school.

Billy gives Ethan a concerned look.

BILLY

You OK?

Ethan looks at him and smiles.

ETHAN

Couldn't be better.

Billy smiles; he reaches over and takes Ethan's hand in his.

Helen takes a hold of Ethan's other hand and gives it a little squeeze.

Ethan smiles and squeezes her hand back.

ETHAN (CONT'D)

This time we belong.

She smiles.

They walk up the stairs.

INT. GYMNASIUM - LATER

The gym has been decorated to look like a 1980's prom.

Ethan stands talking to Troy and Grant; both handsome teenagers wearing football jerseys.

Billy walks over and says something to Troy and Grant; now slightly out of shape middle-aged men.

Troy and Grant smile then shake Ethan and Billy's hands.

Billy takes Ethan by the hand and leads him to the dance floor.

Troy and Grant watch them go; they smile then go back to talking.

Billy takes Ethan in his arms and they sway to the music.

The few people who take notice smile.

LATER

Billy and Ethan hold each other close as they slow dance.

Ethan glances around:

Troy and Grant stand with a group of men talking; at first glance they are handsome teenagers but;

A closer look and they are slightly out of shape middle-aged men with thinning hair.

Ethan smiles then looks over and sees;

Helen by the punch bowl, teenage Shannon and Brandy have her cornered.

Helen stares blankly ahead as the two chat incessantly.

Billy catches Ethan staring at them.

BILLY  
Kind of anti-climactic huh?

ETHAN  
What?

Billy nods over at Troy and Grant.

BILLY  
To find out that the monsters who  
have been haunting you all these  
years were really nothing but a  
bunch of scared, fucked up kids.

Ethan shrugs.

ETHAN  
I guess.

BILLY  
Disappointed?

Ethan grins and pulls Billy closer.

ETHAN  
Not in the slightest.

Billy grins at him then glances over at;

Helen, still trapped by Shannon and Brandy who are catching her up on twenty-five years worth of gossip.

Billy grins at Ethan then nods at Helen.

BILLY  
Should we save her?

Ethan pulls Billy even closer, their lips practically touching.

ETHAN

She's a big girl, she can take care  
of herself and if she can't--

He shrugs.

ETHAN (CONT'D)

Fuck her.

He leans in to kiss Billy.

BILLY

I wonder where my parents snuck off  
too.

Ethan grins.

ETHAN

Who cares?

Billy grins.

BILLY

So what do you want to talk about?

ETHAN

Shut up and kiss me.

BILLY

You're so romantic.

Ethan winks then kisses him;

Billy holds him tight and kisses him back.

They hold each other close and kiss as their bodies sway to  
the music while;

Helen catches up with Brandy and Shannon.

Troy and Grant walk over;

Brandy and Shannon SQUEAL then hug them.

The men then hug a surprised Helen.

Troy pours them all a glass of punch as they stand around and  
chat.

EXT. BEACH

The full moon illuminates the deserted beach.

Hope and Brian: completely naked and holding hands; grin at each other as they race across the sand.

Moonlight reflects off their white, sagging rear ends as they make their down to the water.

They LAUGH as they rush out into the surf.

Brain and Hope stop and face each other.

Waves gently lap against them as;

Brian pulls Hope into his arms.

They smile at each other then kiss.

FADE OUT.

THE END