

CREATURES

"Pilot"

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Final Draft

COLD OPEN

FADE IN:

INT. ACKERMAN HOUSE: DINING ROOM -- NIGHT

JENNA ACKERMAN, thirties, is serving dinner to her family.

JENNA

I think you guys will love this. I found it in my grandmother's recipe book that was in the attic the whole time.

At the table is her husband MICHAEL, thirties.

MICHAEL

Smells good, honey.

Also at the table is their two children, EMILY, sixteen, and DAVID, seven.

DAVID

(teacher's pet-like)
It does smell good, mom.

EMILY

(pleading)
I hope it doesn't taste like crap.

Last at the table is Jenna's mother, FRANCINE, sixties. She has a thing for psychedelic clothing.

FRANCINE

You actually found that old piece of--

JENNA

(cutting her off)
Mom!

Michael tries to relieve the tension between them.

MICHAEL

Anyway, so what did you cook tonight, honey?

JENNA

Something we haven't had before in a long time.

Jenna smiles as she sets it down on the table.

JENNA (CONT'D)

Meatloaf.

Emily gets up and leaves, repulsed.

EMILY

Gross.

JENNA

(angry)

Where are you going?

EMILY

Up to my room. I'm not eating that.

JENNA

Then what are you eating?

Emily starts for the stairs.

EMILY

Anything but that.

Emily goes upstairs to her room. Jenna looks at Michael, scoffs. David grabs her arm, looks into her eyes.

DAVID

It's times like these where you wish
I was an only child, I know.

They all look at David...then nod.

FRANCINE

Are you gonna serve the damn food or
not?

CUT TO BLACK:

MAIN TITLES

ACT ONE

MICHAEL TALKING HEAD

Michael tries to adjust a lavalier mike, but he's having a bit of trouble doing so.

MICHAEL
Can I have some help?

JENNA TALKING HEAD

Jenna is putting a stray lock of hair behind her ear. She smiles at the camera.

JENNA
(to crew)
How do I look?

MICHAEL TALKING HEAD

MICHAEL
(fiddling with the
mike)
I think I got it.

FRANCINE TALKING HEAD

Francine is smoking.

FRANCINE
I don't care if the sign says "No
smoking". If I need a smoke, I'm
gonna smoke.

EMILY TALKING HEAD

Emily, who is socially and fashionably conscious and your typical teenage girl, is glaring at the camera.

EMILY
This is all a bunch of crap.

She gets up and leaves.

DAVID TALKING HEAD

David, cute little kid, is going over the things he loves. It seems to be alphabetized.

DAVID
I love apples, bananas...

JENNA TALKING HEAD

Jenna's going over the pictures of their family vacations in the past couple of years.

JENNA

We took a lot family vacations in
the past.

B-ROLL: The corresponding pictures.

JENNA (V.O.) (CONT'D)

Florida, Cape Cod, Myrtle Beach,
California.

FRANCINE TALKING HEAD

Francine blows out a cloud of smoke.

FRANCINE

I'm the grandmother, always will be.
Nothing's gonna change that.

She takes another drag.

MICHAEL TALKING HEAD

MICHAEL

All I want is to do the best for my
family, because...
(searching for the
words)
I love them.

JENNA TALKING HEAD

JENNA

I'm not going to leave this earth
until I know I provided the best for
my family.
(smiles)
I'm a good mother. Just look at our
refrigerator.

B-ROLL: "World's Best Mom" card on their refrigerator.

JENNA (V.O.) (CONT'D)

I know that what I'm doing is the
right thing.

DAVID TALKING HEAD

As before.

DAVID

...lollipops, Matchbox cars...

MICHAEL TALKING HEAD

MICHAEL

I'm really the breadwinner of the
family.

(MORE)

MICHAEL (CONT'D)

You know, I go to work and Jenna cooks and cleans and does...woman stuff.

JENNA TALKING HEAD

JENNA

I don't really care about the whole "me-man, you-woman" setup. I actually like being the stay-at-home wife. Michael's the man of the house and he knows what he's doing.

EMILY TALKING HEAD

Emily gets a text. She checks it, calls the number.

EMILY

Omigosh, are you serious? ... With who? ...
(can't believe it)
NO!!!

DAVID TALKING HEAD

David's still going.

DAVID

...I love spiders, I love turtles, I love...

MICHAEL TALKING HEAD

MICHAEL

I just love my family.

JENNA TALKING HEAD

JENNA

I love my family.

FRANCINE TALKING HEAD

FRANCINE

Hey, somebody's gotta keep me out of the "Home".

EMILY TALKING HEAD

EMILY

They're okay.

DAVID TALKING HEAD

DAVID

...I love yo-yos, I love zebras...Oh,
I almost forgot...and I love my
family.

He gives a cute smile to the camera.

CUT TO BLACK:

ACT TWO

EXT. ACKERMAN HOUSE -- MORNING

CLOSE ON a suburban house in row of similar houses.

SUPER: "THE ACKERMANS"

MICHAEL (V.O.)

This is our house.

EXT. SUBURBAN STREET -- CONTINUOUS

More indistinguishable houses with perfectly cut green lawns in front of them crowd the street like birdhouses.

MICHAEL (V.O.)

This is our street.

EXT. SUBURBAN DEVELOPMENT -- CONTINUOUS

A whole maze of houses, streets, and lawns, tightly put together as one.

MICHAEL (V.O.)

This is where we live. Been here ever since the kids were born.

INT. ACKERMAN HOUSE: MASTER BEDROOM -- CONTINUOUS

Michael, dressed for work, is putting on his tie. Jenna is still sleeping in bed. He leans over and pecks her on the cheek.

MICHAEL

Bye, honey.

JENNA

(groggy)

...bye...

(then)

...wait!

She sits up and turns on a nightstand lamp.

JENNA (CONT'D)

You're not staying for breakfast. I was going to make pancakes.

MICHAEL

As tempting as that is, I'd prefer to grab something on the way to work.

As Jenna considers this,

MICHAEL (V.O.) (CONT'D)

Jenna can cook, but when it comes to pancakes...

MICHAEL TALKING HEAD

MICHAEL (CONT'D)
Let's just say it's like eating
generic food. It has... neutral
quality.

INT. ACKERMAN HOUSE: MASTER BEDROOM -- CONTINUOUS

As before.

JENNA
(hurt)
Okay.

She lays back down, going back to sleep.

MICHAEL
(before he leaves)
Do we need anything?

JENNA
...grocery list...on the counter...

EXT. ACKERMAN HOUSE -- LATER

Michael leaves the house, makes for his car in the driveway,
takes out his car keys.

SUPER: "MONDAY...WORK"

MICHAEL (V.O.)
Monday is when we kick right back
into our weekly schedule.

MICHAEL TALKING HEAD

MICHAEL (CONT'D)
After a crazy weekend, it's time for
work and school.

INT. ACKERMAN HOUSE: KITCHEN -- MUCH LATER

Jenna makes breakfast for the kids. Emily comes downstairs,
brushing her hair. Jenna catches her.

JENNA
I made you some cereal.

EMILY
Not hungry.

JENNA
(suspicious)
Why? You had a lacrosse game
yesterday.

EMILY

I'm just not hungry. I had a big dinner.

JENNA

(beat, matter of fact)
You had a peanut butter and jelly sandwich because you refused to eat my meatloaf.

EMILY

You can't blame me, it tastes like crap.

Jenna points at the door.

JENNA

Go catch your bus.

As Emily exits,

JENNA (V.O.) (CONT'D)

I don't know what's wrong with her.
She use to be my sweet little girl.

B-ROLL: Emily as a cute little girl.

JENNA TALKING HEAD

JENNA (CONT'D)

I really don't know what happened along the years.

B-ROLL: Emily texting during their family game night.

JENNA (V.O.) (CONT'D)

I just hope she changes.

INT. ACKERMAN HOUSE: KITCHEN

David comes running down the stairs. Jenna stops him.

JENNA

Hey, hey, hey, whoa, no running in the house.

DAVID

Sorry, mom.
(sees cereal, moans)
I thought we were going to have pancakes.

JENNA

Well, something came up, now sit and eat your cereal.

Over David as he sits,

SUPER: "THE BABY OF THE FAMILY"

JENNA (V.O.) (CONT'D)
David is the baby of family. He's
just my little boy.

JENNA TALKING HEAD

JENNA (CONT'D)
I went through a tough pregnancy
with him, but he came through and
I'm just lucky to have him.

INT. ACKERMAN HOUSE: KITCHEN

As before.

DAVID
(eyes his cereal in
disgust)
Gross.

JENNA
What?

DAVID
My cereal's all soggy.

Jenna sighs. She crosses over to David.

JENNA
David, do you know that there are
children in third-world countries
that would give anything for a scrap
of food to eat, including your soggy
cereal?

DAVID
(handing his bowl to
Jenna)
Well, could you give them this,
because I don't want it.

Jenna grabs the bowl, dumps it into the sink.

JENNA
C'mon, you have to go to school.
(then)
Mom?! Mom, it's going on eight.

FRANCINE
(coming down the stairs)
Yeah, yeah, I'm coming.

JENNA
Are you eating here or there?

FRANCINE

There. They have better food.

ZOOM ON: Jenna, hurt.

JENNA (V.O.)

Every other day, mom goes to the senior center in the basement of St. Mary's.

B-ROLL: Seniors talking, playing pool, playing board games, watching old television shows, etc.

Jenna grabs her mother's hand. Francine quickly pulls away.

FRANCINE

Hey!

(beat)

I'm not that old. I don't need to be walked.

INT. MICHAEL'S CAR -- CONTINUOUS

Michael is listening to the radio. It's a station that plays old songs. Michael's singing along, offkey.

MICHAEL

("My Life" Billy Joel)

*I don't care what you say anymore,
this is my lifffee.*

EXT. OFFICE PARKING LOT -- MUCH LATER

Michael pulls into an empty space. His best friend, LARRY, thirties, pulls in as well. They exit their cars, meet up.

LARRY

Michael, what's shaking?

MICHAEL

(beat, shakes head)

No.

MICHAEL (V.O.) (CONT'D)

I don't know what's wrong with Larry. Mid-life crisis? Some weird way of showing depression? I have no idea, but it's gotta stop.

INT. JENNA'S CAR -- LATER

Jenna drives; Francine is in the passenger's seat. David is the back seat, looking out the window.

Jenna stops in front of David's school.

JENNA

Okay, honey, have a good day.

DAVID
Okay, mom. I love you.

JENNA
Love you, too.

Jenna kisses David's cheek.

DAVID
Bye.

JENNA
Bye.

David exits the car.

JENNA (V.O.) (CONT'D)
David has trouble at school.

JENNA TALKING HEAD

JENNA (CONT'D)
He has a lot of bullies harassing
him and it's just terrible that my
little baby boy has to suffer
bullying.

INT. JENNA'S CAR

FRANCINE
I think it's good for him.

Jenna doesn't believe this.

JENNA
Mom!

FRANCINE
What? You were bullied when you
were a kid and that didn't bother
you. You didn't even care.

JENNA
Mom.
(beat)
I cried every night.

FRANCINE
No, you didn't.

JENNA
Yes, I did.

FRANCINE
Oh, please, that's a bunch of crap.

Francine takes out a cigarette.

JENNA
(can't believe this)
Mom, you can't smoke.

FRANCINE
Why the hell not?

JENNA
You have lung problems. The last
thing you want to do is smoke.

JENNA TALKING HEAD

JENNA (CONT'D)
Mom has a serious lung problem. She
can't smoke or something bad might
happens.
(beat)
Bad bad.

INT. JENNA'S CAR

FRANCINE
(rolling down the
window)
I don't care about my health problem,
if I'm gonna smoke, I'm gonna smoke.

JENNA
Oh, no, you don't.

Jenna pulls over. She tries to reach for the cigarette.

FRANCINE
What the hell are you doing?

JENNA
I'm not going to let you smoke and
jeopardize your health.

FRANCINE
Stop it!

Jenna grabs the cigarette and throws it out the window.

ZOOM ON: Francine's glare.

FRANCINE (CONT'D)
I can't believe you.

JENNA
(what?)
Me?

FRANCINE
Yeah.
(beat, points)
You.

JENNA

I can't believe you!

FRANCINE

I can't believe you just snatched my
smoke and...

(shaking her head)

...threw it out the damn window.

Jenna puts the car in drive.

JENNA

(trying to keep cool)

Mom, I'm sorry.

Francine looks out her window, clearly angry.

FRANCINE

Yeah, whatever.

ZOOM ON: Jenna, hurt even more.

JENNA

Do you want something to eat?

FRANCINE

Just drop me off.

INT. OFFICE: MICHAEL'S CUBICLE -- LATER

Michael is playing "basketball" with crumpled balls of paper
and a waste basket. He misses every shot.

MICHAEL

Dammit.

Larry pokes his head over the cubicle.

LARRY

Heads-up: Richard's monthly employee
inspection.

MICHAEL

I'm ready.

He shoots -- misses.

MICHAEL (CONT'D)

Goddammit.

LARRY

You suck, man.

MICHAEL

I know, I don't need a thirty-year-
old teenager telling me that I do.

LARRY
Whatever you say, Homes.

INT. ACKERMAN HOUSE: KITCHEN -- AFTERNOON

Jenna is cooking. Her pan catches on fire.

JENNA
Oh, damn! What the...

She grabs the fire extinguisher, puts it out.

JENNA (CONT'D)
God.

JENNA (V.O.) (CONT'D)
That was close.

INT. ST. MARY'S CHURCH -- BASEMENT -- LATER

Francine and a another senior are playing pool. So far, she's winning.

FRANCINE
(laughing)
I'm beating your ass, Louis.

Her opponent, LOUIS, is fed up.

LOUIS
Whatever you say, Francine.

FRANCINE
(yelling)
Oh, you don't believe me. The proof
is right in front of you.

She's clearly enjoying this. It's Louis's turn. He accidentally knocks the white ball in instead of the one he was aiming at. Francine is laughing like a madman.

FRANCINE (CONT'D)
(yelling)
You can't even hit the damn ball in,
you old bag of dust.

LOUIS
(getting angry)
Whatever, Francine.

FRANCINE
(yelling)
You better run for your money, because
I'm coming to get it.

She hits four balls in at the same time. She goes crazy. While she loses her mind, Louis sits in a chair.

He pokes the senior next to him.

LOUIS

(whispers)

What a bitch.

FRANCINE (O.S.)

Who's next, bitches.

(cackles)

CUT TO BLACK:

ACT THREE

INT. ACKERMAN HOUSE: KITCHEN

Right now, Jenna's busy looking for the right pots and pans in a bottom cabinet. The pan she used is burnt.

JENNA
(muttering)
Where the hell is...

JENNA (V.O.) (CONT'D)
When the kids are at school and Michael's at work and mom's at the senior center, I like to cook early because it gives me something to do, you know. Opposed to just sitting around all day watching soap operas. I went there, and I'm not going back.

Jenna goes deep inside the cabinet.

JENNA (V.O.) (CONT'D)
That's why now I just record them.

The doorbell rings. Startled, Jenna hits her head. She gets out, rubbing her head.

JENNA (CONT'D)
Dammit.

INT. OFFICE -- AFTERNOON

Michael is walking to the water cooler. He grabs a paper cup and starts to fill up. A very sexy woman, DAISY, twenties, walks up to the cooler, grabs a cup, waits.

DAISY
(starting a conversation)
So, they said it was going to rain.

MICHAEL
Yeah.

DAISY
(flirtatiously)
So, do you...have any work to do.

MICHAEL
I just have to fax some papers.

DAISY
Sounds...

She runs her hand up his arm. He has mixed feelings.

DAISY (CONT'D)
...fascinating.

Michael suddenly gets it.

MICHAEL
I'm sorry, Daisy.

He takes her hand off him.

MICHAEL (CONT'D)
But I'm married.

Daisy, hurt, backs away. Michael lumbers off. Another co-worker, Daisy's friend GINGER, joins Daisy to comfort her as she cries.

GINGER
It's okay. There's other fish in the sea.

DAISY
But not as goofy, and yet sexy, as him. I'm gonna get him if it's the last thing I'll do.

INT. ACKERMAN HOUSE: LIVING ROOM -- LATER

Jenna, still rubbing her head, answers to a Hispanic woman, RENEE, and man, JIM. Jenna is confused: *Who are they?*

RENEE
Hi, my name is Renee, we just moved in next door.

JIM
Yeah, hi, my name's Jim.

JENNA
(surprised)
Really. Wow. Well, hi, my name is Jenna, it's nice to meet you.

RENEE
It's nice to meet you, too.

An awkward beat.

JENNA
So, um...
(then)
Come in, come in, it's kind of cold outside.

RENEE
Oh, thank you. It is kind of cold.
(to Jim)
Right, Jim?

JIM

Yeah, it is, I thought it was spring.

INT. ACKERMAN HOUSE: LIVING ROOM -- LATER

Jenna gives Renee and Jim a cup of coffee each, then takes her own and sits down.

Another awkward beat.

JENNA

So, are you having trouble adapting to the development?

RENEE

Oh, no, we lived in one before this one. It's just our kids we're worried for, you know. New school, new house, that whole bit.

JENNA

Oh, it must be so hard.

JIM

No, they're kind of use to it. This is our tenth move in the past...

ZOOM ON: Jenna, her eyes wide -- *ten times!*

RENEE

Five years.

JIM

Right, five years.

JENNA (V.O.)

What the hell? Ten times in the past five years.

JENNA TALKING HEAD

JENNA (CONT'D)

I don't know what to say. I shouldn't really say anything, I don't want them to be offended or anything.

(laughs nervously,
then)

...Ten times, Jeezus.

INT. ACKERMAN HOUSE: LIVING ROOM

JENNA

So, do your kids go to school nearby?

JIM

Yeah, they're pretty close.

INT. WILLIAM HENRY HIGH -- STUDY HALL -- CONTINUOUS

ALVARO, a very, very handsome Hispanic boy, seventeen, is studying from a textbook in the foreground.

EMILY (O.S.)
(whisper)
He's so hot.

In the background, Emily and her friends are stuck on taking pictures of him with their cellphones.

EMILY (V.O.) (CONT'D)
He's the hottest boy I've ever seen.

EMILY TALKING HEAD

EMILY (CONT'D)
And I'm not talking about, "Oh, he's so cute" kind of hot, I'm talking about total full-on sex appeal "Damn!" kind of hot.
(beat, where she gets a text)
Hold on.

She gets her phone out, checks it, then puts it back.

EMILY (CONT'D)
I GTG, but BTW...

INT. WILLIAM HENRY HIGH -- STUDY HALL -- CONTINUOUS

Alvaro senses the eyes on him, hears the giggles. He looks over at Emily and her friends...to find them reading their textbooks, their cellphones gone from sight.

EMILY (V.O.)
...he's just hot, period.

INT. ACKERMAN HOUSE: LIVING ROOM -- CONTINUOUS

RENEE
Our other one is home. He's sick.

JENNA
Oh...
(then, a light bulb turning on)
How old is he?

RENEE
Alfie is seven.

JENNA
That's how old our David is. Maybe, when he feels better, Alfie can come over and they could play.

RENEE

That's great idea. Right, Jim?

JIM

Yeah, I mean...he doesn't know anyone else around here.

RENEE

Great! How about this Saturday?

JENNA

His calendar's empty...to my knowledge. They can play then.

JENNA (V.O.) (CONT'D)

I really think David needs to make a new friend.

JENNA TALKING HEAD

JENNA

I mean, apart from the bullying, David can make all the friends he wants to, because he's nice, smart, and gentle. He can be pretty, um...sensitive, at times.

B-ROLL: David at his seventh birthday party, where a clown comes out and David starts crying maniacally.

JENNA (CONT'D)

He did watch "It" with his father the night before and he was still kind of shaky.

EXT. SUBURBAN STREET -- LATER

Emily is walking home when she spots Alvaro on the other side of the street. Wanting to hide, she ducks behind a few garbage cans. But it's too late. He's spotted her and the camera and is crossing the street.

EMILY

(to camera)

Thanks, you gave me away, asshole.

Alvaro peeks over the cans. He has a somewhat thick accent.

ALVARO

...Hello?

EMILY

(embarrassed)

...Hi.

ALVARO

You look familiar...that's right, you're in my study hall.

EMILY

Yeah.

ALVARO

And you and your friends were taking pictures of me.

EMILY

Yeah...

(wait)

...uh, I mean--

ALVARO

I already knew.

EMILY

How?

Alvaro grabs her hand to pick her up and they start to walk home together. Emily can't help but blush.

ALVARO

A little thing called peripheral vision.

EMILY

...Right.

INT. ST. MARY'S CHURCH -- BASEMENT -- CONTINUOUS

MONTAGE:

Francine beating every person in the room, including the staff.

Then,

FRANCINE (CONT'D)

Is that the best you all got? You all play like crap!

Everyone glares at her.

FRANCINE (CONT'D)

What the hell you looking at? If you gotta problem, speak up!

INT. ACKERMAN HOUSE: LIVING ROOM

Jenna, Renee, and Jim are all laughing, post-joke. The phone rings, and Jenna leaves to answer it.

JENNA

Excuse me for one moment.

RENEE

Not a problem.

Jenna picks it up.

JENNA

Hello?

It's a NURSE from the senior center.

NURSE

I'm sorry, but you need to pick up
your mother now, she is a nuisance
to the rest of the seniors.

Jenna sighs.

JENNA (CONT'D)

Sure, I'm so sorry for what she did.

NURSE

It's okay.

(then)

If I were you, I'd hurry.

CUT TO BLACK:

ACT FOUR

EXT. SUBURBAN STREET -- CONTINUOUS

Alvaro and Emily are walking. They're getting close to Emily's house.

ALVARO
(pointing)
Is that where you live?

EMILY
Yeah.

ALVARO
Really? We live next door.

EMILY
That's strange.
(laughs nervously)

EMILY (V.O.) (CONT'D)
I don't know why I'm acting like a
total nerd.

EMILY TALKING HEAD

EMILY (CONT'D)
I guess that's what you feel like
when you're with a totally super
über hot guy.

EXT. ACKERMAN HOUSE -- LATER

Jenna comes running out the house. Emily and Alvaro are crossing the yard, stopping when they see her running.

EMILY
Mom?

JENNA
No time to talk.

Jenna gets into the car quickly. She backs out of the driveway and drives down the road in a hurry, speeding.

Jim and Renee comes out of the open doorway.

RENEE
Where did she go?

JIM
What happened?

ALVARO
Mom? Dad?

Emily sighs.

EMILY

I have no idea.

(then)

I'm Emily, her daughter, by the way.

INT. JENNA'S CAR -- LATER

JENNA

Mom, what were you thinking? You humiliated all those elderly citizens.

FRANCINE

So what? They got their asses whipped by the master.

Jenna sighs.

JENNA

Mom, you just can't--

Jenna is interrupted by her cellphone. She picks it up while Francine takes out a cigarette. Jenna frowns at her and Francine puts it back, sighing, just like a spoiled teenage brat.

JENNA (CONT'D)

Hello?

Silence. Then,

JENNA (CONT'D)

Oh my God!

She hangs up, turns the car around.

FRANCINE

(what?)

What?

JENNA

David's in the hospital.

INT. OFFICE -- MICHAEL'S CUBICLE -- EVENING

Michael is getting his coat on, ready to leave. Larry pokes his head over the cubicle again.

LARRY

Hey, are you doing anything later?

MICHAEL

Just going home.

LARRY

Come on, come to the bar later. There's a party that's a can't miss.

MICHAEL
I don't know, my wife--

LARRY
Seriously, you can't get away for
one night.

Michael thinks about this.

MICHAEL (V.O.)
If you think about it, Larry's right
about that.

MICHAEL TALKING HEAD

MICHAEL
Jenna's never let me out of the house
at night. I guess one time won't
hurt.

INT. OFFICE

MICHAEL
I guess one time won't hurt.

LARRY
(happy)
All right!

INT. ACKERMAN HOUSE: LIVING ROOM

Emily tries to be a good house guest, what with Jenna gone.

EMILY
So, does anyone want any juice?
Renee, Alvaro, and Jim look at her...nod.

RENEE/JIM/ALVARO
Sure.

INT. HOSPITAL WAITING AREA -- LATER

Francine sits in the area, alone. A RECEPTIONIST is behind
the desk, making a personal call. Francine takes out a
cigarette, lights it. The receptionist catches her.

RECEPTIONIST
(attitude)
Ma'am, this is a smoke-free
environment.

Francine is pissed off.

FRANCINE
I'm sorry, but I need to smoke, so
can you leave me the hell alone?

RECEPTIONIST
(confused, angry)
I'm sorry?

FRANCINE
You're damn right you're sorry, and
if I'm bothered again, I'm going to
tell your boss that you're making
personal calls to your boyfriend,
you little whore.

The receptionist's mouth is agape. She can't believe this.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM -- CONTINUOUS

Jenna is stroking David's bandaged head, crying.

JENNA (V.O.)
David had gotten into a fight at
school.

JENNA TALKING HEAD

JENNA
The boys all ganged up on him and
now he's in the hospital with stitches
in his head.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM

JENNA
(voice croaky with
tears)
I'm sorry, honey.

DAVID
I love you, mom.

JENNA
I love you, too, baby.

The receptionist, from the waiting area, comes in.

RECEPTIONIST
I'm sorry, but you need to get your
mom the hell out of here.

JENNA
I'm sorry, she's a handful.

RECEPTIONIST
You're damn right she is.

JENNA
(re: David)
Is he okay?

The receptionist nods.

RECEPTIONIST

I think so. You can sign him out.

Before Jenna can say something,

RECEPTIONIST (CONT'D)

And yes, I'm lying to get you out of
here fast...

(catching her mistake)

...or I'm not.

DAVID

Yes, you are.

RECEPTIONIST

I know.

CUT TO BLACK:

ACT FIVE

INT. BAR -- NIGHT

Michael is alone at the counter, a little tipsy. The BARTENDER gives him his ordered drink.

BARTENDER

Are you sure you can handle it?

MICHAEL

Yes, I have a very strong liver.
Thank you.

Larry comes up to him. He's drunk like hell, very sluggish.

LARRY

Hey, buddy.

Michael backs away.

MICHAEL

Whoa, how much did you drink?

LARRY

I don't know. I was in a drinking
game with Big Kenny.

Michael is stunned.

MICHAEL

Big Kenny? Big-Livered Big Kenny?

LARRY

Yup, yup, yup...and I beat the shit
out of him, too.

MICHAEL

(his mind blown)
Damn.

MICHAEL (V.O.) (CONT'D)

Big Kenny drank so much, if you ever
outdrank him--

MICHAEL TALKING HEAD

MICHAEL

--you'd usually die. How did Larry
beat him? I haven't the slightest
bit of clue how.

INT. BAR -- EARLIER

Larry and Big Kenny's drinking game. It seems like the whole bar is looking at them, betting, watching.

LARRY

That's eight glasses, you little
bitch!

BIG KENNY

Not for long.

Big Kenny (a beast of a man) drinks the glass in front of
him in seemingly one big gulp. The bar cheers -- They can't
believe this. Larry has to up his game.

He grabs three glasses and drains them like they're nothing.
The bar is in a frenzy.

BIG KENNY (CONT'D)

Screw this, I'm drunk enough.

He gets up and leaves, the bar cheers Larry on.

BAR

Larry! Larry!

DISSOLVE INTO:

INT. BAR -- PRESENT

Larry's imitation of the cheering.

LARRY

Larry! Larry!

A GIRL turns around in the chair next to Larry.

GIRL

(to Larry)

That's not what happened.

Silence. Girl goes back to a nice GUY offering to order her
a drink.

LARRY

(to Michael)

Bitch is lying. You know I got
skills.

Big Kenny walks up, who has obviously heard the whole thing.

BIG KENNY

Don't make up shit about me or I'm
gonna kill your ass.

He walks away. Larry calls after him.

LARRY

Hey, I can sue for threatening to
kill me...or something.

Big Kenny turns around with a balled up fist and an angry look on his face. Really intense.

BIG KENNY
Threat? ... Or a fact?

LARRY
Sorry, sorry.

He turns to Michael.

LARRY (CONT'D)
So, what have you been drinking?

MICHAEL
Enough.

LARRY
Enough? Are you kidding me? All
you had was some wine.
(to bartender)
Hey, get my main man here the hardest
stuff you have.

The bartender nods.

MICHAEL
No, Larry, I gotta drive home tonight,
I have a family--

LARRY
So...oh, come on. One little drink
can't hurt.

Michael thinks about this. ZOOM ON: Michael.

MICHAEL
Okay, okay. I'll have a drink. But
only one.

LARRY
All right.

The bartender places a drink in front of Michael -- hard liquor.

CUT TO:

INT. CLUBBING AREA -- DANCE FLOOR -- LATER

Michael is absolutely drunk. He's going crazy on the dance floor, getting lost in the crazy crowd.

MICHAEL
(over the music)
I LOVE THIS SONG!!!

INT. BAR

Michael's back from the dance floor, sweating from dancing most of the night away. An eager Daisy walks up, dressed sexily in a skimpy outfits. Michael likes this.

DAISY
Hey, Michael.

MICHAEL
Hey.

He has *really* noticed her now. No more co-worker. Sensing this and liking it, Daisy touches his shoulder.

DAISY
Come on, let's dance.

Michael thinks about it.

MICHAEL
Okay. I think I've cooled down enough.

Hey, he's drunk.

DAISY
(eager)
Come on.

MICHAEL
(sluggish)
Yeah, yeah, yeah...let's go.

He grabs her waist and leads her to...

INT. CLUBBING AREA -- DANCE FLOOR

...the dance floor where they dance to the music, enjoying each other, wanting each other.

Michael sees Larry trying to get a GIRL.

LARRY
Come on, girl, lets go to my house.

GIRL
Girl? I have a name. Besides, I don't know *anything* about you.

LARRY
...I'm uncircumcised.

Disgusted, she walks away.

LARRY (CONT'D)
Come on, don't act like a bitch. I know your name! Shaniquah, right?

He follows her. Michael laughs and the DJ switches the track to a slow song. Michael and Daisy look at each other and start to dance with the slow music.

MICHAEL
(noticing, but still
too drunk to do
anything about it)
I don't feel right doing this.

DAISY
Why? We both know what we both want
from the other...

MICHAEL
...

DAISY
You're the most beautiful and smartest
man I've ever know.

Flattered, Michael looks at Daisy lovingly...and they slowly come together to kiss.

EXT. ACKERMAN HOUSE -- NIGHT

Jenna pulls into the driveway to find Emily on the steps, waiting. Jenna, Francine, and David exit the car, meet up with Emily.

JENNA
I'm so sorry, honey.

EMILY
I waited all day for you. I'm a
terrible host.

JENNA
David had to get stitches.

Emily looks at David's bandaged head...and laughs.

JENNA (CONT'D)
It's not funny.

Francine is tired of all this "family crap".

FRANCINE
I'm tired of all this family crap.
I'm going to bed. Peace.

Francine enter the house. Jenna sighs. Then,

JENNA
Where's Michael?

INT. DAISY'S HOUSE

Michael and Daisy are kissing passionately. He leads her to her king-size bed. They lay down. They get on top of each other.

Then,

DAISY

Do you have a condom?

MICHAEL

Who cares? Let's do it old style.

Daisy giggles naughtily, and they go under the covers.

CUT TO BLACK:

CREDITS ACT

INT. RENEE AND JIM'S HOUSE -- NIGHT

Renee, Jim, and Alvaro enter the house.

RENEE

They're a nice family. Crazy, but nice.

JIM

Yeah.

Jim looks at Alvaro.

JIM (CONT'D)

Cute girl, huh.

Alvaro laughs.

ALVARO

Dad, I have a girlfriend.

JIM

I'm just saying...

ALVARO

I know.

RENEE

I wonder how Alfie's doing. I'm gonna go check.

She goes upstairs...

INT. RENEE AND JIM'S HOUSE -- ALFIE'S BEDROOM

...to find her other son, ALFIE, seven, Hispanic, very cute, the one who's suppose to be sick, dancing on his bed to Michael Jackson's "Thriller".

RENEE (CONT'D)

(shocked)

Alfie!!!

Alfie turns off the music, turns around, and looks at his mother, shocked as well.

ALFIE

Mom, I'm still very very sick.

He coughs. Very fake.

ALFIE (CONT'D)

Please forgive me.

RENEE

No need. I'm tired and I don't need
anymore crap. I've had a busy day
and I don't need anything else.
Good night.

She closes the door. As she leaves,

ALFIE

Sorry.

INT. RENEE AND JIM'S HOUSE -- LIVING ROOM

Alvaro has gone upstairs. Jim is watching television. Renee
joins him.

JIM

How's he doing?

RENEE

He's still sick, but okay.

Beat.

JIM

Faked it?

RENEE

Yeah.

JIM

Knew it.

They share a small kiss...

JIM (CONT'D)

Love you.

RENEE

Love you, too.

...and watch television together.

CUT TO BLACK:

END OF SHOW