Penny's Parlor

"Pilot"

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#### ACT ONE

EXT. DOWNTOWN ROCHESTER APARTMENT BUILDING - MORNING

INT. PENNY'S LIVING ROOM/KITCHEN - SAME

PENNY JENSON, your conventional "plain Jane" twenty-something, bustles around her well-kept, modestly decorated, yet noticeably petite apartment.

A glass of chocolate milk sits on her kitchen counter. You can tell by the inch and a half of dark brown syrup at the bottom of the cup, Penny likes her chocolate milk strong. She grabs the glass and gulps it down.

Two pieces of toast pop up from the toaster. Penny squirts ketchup on the toast and rubs it in with her finger. She puts one in her mouth.

INT. PENNY'S BATHROOM - SAME

Penny looks almost disappointingly at herself in the bathroom mirror as she takes one last bite of her toast/ketchup creation. She nervously taps her fingers back and forth - one of her many fidgety, anxiety rituals.

With frizzy hair, a bit of a gobble-neck, and circles under her eyes, Penny is the epitome of average. But after a little tidying up, she pulls off a six. A seven on a great day.

As Penny brushes her teeth, she looks at a bottle of pills labeled ALPRAZOLAM, but resists the urge. She diverts her attention to a SLEW OF STICKY NOTES on her mirror. They say:

BE STRONGER THAN YOUR EXCUSES

CONFIDENCE IS SILENT. INSECURITIES ARE LOUD!

IF YOU CAN DREAM IT, YOU CAN DO IT

Penny rolls her eyes, but then grabs one. She looks at it, then in the mirror.

PENNY 'Run the day. Don't let it run you'.

She sighs, then puts it down. She spits out toothpaste then grabs another. Reading it she chuckles:

(CONTINUED)

PENNY 'Be the Fruit Loop in a world of Cheerios'.

EXT - TYLER'S HOUSE - MORNING

The house is a medium sized "frat" pad in urban/suburban Rochester.

CLIFF (27), a tall rugged looking jock waits in the front seat of a nice car. He pulls his head out the window as TWO OTHER JOCKS get in. They're all wearing work out gear.

> CLIFF (yelling) Hurry your ass up Tyler! I'm leaving in two minutes, with or without you. Oh, and grab my Whey Protein!

TYLER (O.S.) I'm coming, I'm coming!

Cliff sits back inside the car.

CLIFF (sotto) I don't know what always takes him so long.

JOCK 1 You heard him. He had to get in a quick jerk-sesh before we left.

 $$\rm JOCK\ 2$  I did leave that Men's Health in his room.

They laugh.

TYLER (O.S.) (playfully) It was Ryan Reynolds on the cover.

They look to him as he walks on screen. He's in his late twenties, muscular, and very attractive. He climbs in the passenger seat.

> TYLER (CONT'D) Can you blame me?

He smiles and they all laugh.

CLIFF Did you grab my Whey?!

TYLER Yes, I got your damn protein. Let's go.

Tyler shoves a water bottle full of dust at his friend.

## CLIFF

Thanks baby.

Cliff gives him a kissy face. Tyler shakes his head and laughs. Cliff throws the car in drive and skirts off.

EXT. RURAL ROAD - MOMENTS LATER

As they drive down the road, bored Tyler flexes his arm in the side mirror. The other guys are mid conversation when they see an ATTRACTIVE FEMALE running outside.

> JOCK 2 Oh shit. Hold up.

He rolls down his window and yells outside.

# JOCK 2

Woof! Woof!

Cliff reaches back and hits the jock.

CLIFF

Grow up man.

Tyler watches the girl as they pass.

JOCK 2 Relax dude. Girls love when you do that stuff.

Tyler continues watching her as he talks.

TYLER The man's right. You've gotta show appreciation for God's gifts to Earth.

Tyler puts his fingers to his mouth and whistles impressively. The girl shakes her head.

CLIFF According to you, anyone with a vagina is God's gift to Earth.

Tyler licks his lips, half joking, half serious.

JOCK 1 Easy bro. Isn't your girlfriend like four months pregnant?

TYLER She's not my girlfriend.

INT. PENNY'S BATHROOM - MORNING

Penny finishes brushing her teeth then reads one final mantra. She seems optimistic about it. Looking at herself in the mirror, firmly:

PENNY 'The hardships that I encountered in the past will help me succeed in the future'.

All of a sudden, Penny gets queasy. Quickly, she keels over and throws up in the toilet. After a few hurls, she gets back up and looks at herself in the mirror again.

REVEAL: Penny is four months pregnant.

As she looks at her stomach, her look changes from exasperated to hopeful. She holds her stomach and smiles. She looks in the mirror, this time reciting her own quote:

> PENNY When you love something, nothing else matters.

Happily, Penny exits.

INT. GYM - MORNING

Tyler huffs and puffs as he lifts with the guys.

INT. GYM BATHROOM - LATER

Tyler looks around to make sure the coast is clear, then takes a picture of himself flexing his abs in the mirror. He starts playing with filters on the photo when Penny calls.

4.

TYLER (into phone) Hey dude.

EXT. BUSY HIGHWAY - SAME

Penny holds up her phone to her head as she drives her beat up '95 Chevy Lumina through heavy traffic down the highway.

> PENNY (into phone) Hey you! How's it going?

TYLER (V.O.) Good. What's up?.

PENNY (into phone) Uhhh, I just wanted to remind you about my ultrasound. Well, actually, *our* ultrasound appointment today.

She hits herself on the head for sounding clingy.

PENNY (into phone) It's at 1:30. Do you think you'll be able to make it?

TYLER Yeah, Pen, I remember.

During her conversation, an OLD HOMELESS MAN walks up to her car. She sees and quickly tries to roll up her window.

PENNY (into phone) If you can't make it, it's no big deal. I just think, that-

HOMELESS MAN Hey girl! I like your face. You'ze got some nice curly hair on ya!

Penny tries to avoid the man's eye contact.

PENNY

(into phone) I just think that, you know, it might be good ifThe homeless man knocks on her window.

HOMELESS MAN Lady, let me draw a picture of your pretty face! Only a dollar. Deal of the century.

> PENNY (into phone) -if you came. That'd be really good for, uh, you know, our family! (to homeless man) No thanks, I'm all set!

INT. GYM BATHROOM - SAME

Tyler plays with his hair in the mirror as he hears the ruckus going on over the phone.

TYLER (into phone) What's going on?

EXT. BUSY HIGHWAY - SAME

Cars beep as Penny tries to ignore the homeless man. He's scratching his armpit.

HOMELESS MAN Come on girl. I'm a real good drawer... Only a buck!

PENNY (into phone) Oh, nothing!

HOMELESS MAN Is that one of them smart phones?

PENNY (flustered whispering) Really, I'm all set. I.. What? Yes, it's a smart phone? (into phone) Just met a new friend on the way to work. TYLER (V.O.) Alright?... Pen, I gotta go. I'll be there later. 1:30. Don't worry about it. No stressing. See ya bro.

Penny hears Tyler has hung up. She sighs and hangs up.

PENNY (to herself) Yeah, see ya, *bro*.

HOMELESS MAN So, whataya think honey?

PENNY (drained) Fine.

HOMELESS MAN That a girl!

A beat.

HOMELESS MAN Hey, you got a pencil?

Penny buries her head into her hands.

INT. OFFICE BUILDING - MORNING

A handsome, well-dressed Korean man, MR. JUNG (late 30s) stands in a hallway of cubicles. He's in mid-conversation with a smiling African American woman in a floral sun-dress, SHERRY (late 20s), an eternally optimistic head-nodder.

Mr. Jung is charming yet stern.

MR. JUNG Sherry, you did a great job last week. If you hadn't found those traces of Salmonella in that trash can, who knows-(smiles sarcastically) -we could have had an epidemic. Good work.

Sherry blushes. Nervously:

SHERRY Thank you Mr. Jung! I just do what I can... I guess I just try to keep the streets clean if you know what I mean! Sherry chortles a bit at her lame joke. Mr. Jung gives her a quick fake laugh.

A WOMAN in a nearby cubicle overhears the conversation. She looks to a friend, A FEMININE, WELL-DRESSED MAN.

WOMAN (whispers) She is a god damn health inspector, not a cop.

Mr. Jung continues talking.

MR. JUNG Alrighty. Well, we received a sanitary complaint yesterday about a food truck in Penfield Plaza. I'm going to have you inspect them today. They won't be expecting you. Keep up the good work.

SHERRY Of course. I really feel like I'm on my A-game lately!

Mr. Jung raises his eyebrows.

The well-dressed man gags dramatically.

On the other side of the office, Penny sneaks in. She walks slowly to her cubicle, hoping to go unnoticed.

Mr. Jung is just about to leave when he sees her. She doesn't realizeso she continues to tiptoe to her desk and slides in her seat ever so silently. Finally, she puts down her new, absurd drawing of herself. Mr. Jung and Sherry watch the whole thing, entertained.

MR. JUNG

Hi Penny.

Penny jumps, startled.

PENNY Hi, Mr. Jung. How are you?

MR. JUNG Ms. Jenson, I hope you don't think your pregnancy gives you an excuse to be late. PENNY No, not at all! I'm sorry, I just had a weird run in with-

Mr. Jung thrusts a clipboard in her hands.

#### MR. JUNG

I'm going to have you travel with Sherry today to Penfield Plaza. This will fill you in on the details... Please represent our company to the best of your ability... Nice drawing.

PENNY Of course. Uh, thank you.

Penny melts in her chair in humiliation while Mr. Jung walks away. Sherry pops her head up.

SHERRY Oh my god girl, he is so hot!

Penny starts grabbing some documents.

PENNY Please don't call me "girl," I've had enough of that today.

SHERRY

Okay, but don't you think so? I think he's gonna promote me! He was so nice to me earlier. He's, like, the nicest guy ever.

Penny doesn't respond. She just finishes grabbing her materials and the two girls start walking to the break room.

SHERRY Don't you think so?

PENNY

Actually I think he's kind of a narcissistic, sexist, egocentric opportunist. But, whatever floats your boat.

Sherry looks a bit in shock. She frowns. For just a second, but then she quickly plasters a smile back on her face and changes the topic. INT. BREAK ROOM - CONTINUOUS

SHERRY So have you been using those Pinterest mantras like I showed you!? I'm telling you, I use them everyday and look at how happy I am!

Sherry smiles psychotically at Penny. Penny gives her a disturbed look, but shakes it off.

PENNY I tried a few. I don't really think they're my thing.

Penny reaches for a coffee. Sherry slaps her hand and points at Penny's belly. Penny's a bit mortified, but also feels dumb. They leave the break room, heading for the door.

INT. HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

SHERRY How is your pregnancy going anyway? Morning sickness?

PENNY Yeah, a little. But other than, that, it's going well.

Penny looks genuinely happy thinking about it.

SHERRY Any weird cravings?

Penny thinks about it.

FLASHBACK TO:

INT. PENNY'S LIVING ROOM/KITCHEN - PAST

A) Penny eats her toast with ketchup while getting ready.

B) Penny drinks her chocolate milk while watching TV.

C) Penny picks out green olives from a jar.

D) Penny makes herself a turkey sandwich, then dips it in soy sauce.

BACK TO:

INT. HALLWAY - PRESENT

#### PENNY

No, not really.

# SHERRY

## That's good!

They reach the door and leave the building.

EXT. PARKING LOT - CONTINUOUS

They walk towards their cars.

# SHERRY

How is your relationship with Tyler going?

PENNY It's going fine, Sherry.

#### SHERRY

Not to, like, butt in your business or anything, but do you think your baby- that little bundle of joy do you think it's going to have a happy life with parents that have such a, ummm, confusing relationship?

Penny's annoyed.

PENNY

I think the baby is going to be very happy. Tyler's awesome. And we get along great.

SHERRY Well I know that. But you guys are more like... I don't know- buddies more than anything.

PENNY

We're going to be fine. Can we please focus on the inspection?

They reach their cars, parked close together. Penny's Lumina is a mess. Sherry's Volkswagon Beetle looks very clean. Sherry looks sadly at Penny's car. SHERRY Ok... Do you mind if we take my car?

PENNY (unenthusiastically) Sure.

They hop in.

INT. PENNY'S CAR

SHERRY Shit! I forgot my lunch. Oh no, oh no, oh no.

She looks very upset and starts to tear up in the front seat. Penny looks at her, amazed at how minor of a thing could make her cry, when, as if on cue, a tall, overweight white man, WAYNE (30s) knocks on Sherry's window holding up a lunchbox. The girls jump. Sherry rolls down the window. Wayne is panting.

> WAYNE Babe you forgot your lunch!

Sherry is ecstatic.

SHERRY Oh my god, baby! I can't believe you.

She gets out of the car and gives him a big hug. Penny watches them in despair.

Sherry gets back in the car. Penny watches as they exchange a few sweet nothings through the car window.

> SHERRY Oh sorry Penny, have you met Wayne?

PENNY Yes, like eleven times. Hi Wayne.

Wayne waves happily.

WAYNE

Hey Penny.

SHERRY Alright honey, we have work to do! I'll see you later. WAYNE Ok, good luck sweetie. Do awesome!

The two kiss and Wayne leaves. Sherry rolls up her window.

SHERRY (sighs) Life's awesome.

Penny groans as Sherry pulls away.

INT. GYM - AFTERNOON

Tyler is at the same gym as before, but he's now in uniform. He's currently training an adorable elderly client, ARTHUR. The petite man is doing bicep curls with resistance bands.

> TYLER Good job Arthur. Just like that. Give me ten more big guy!

> > ARTHUR

I'm gonna be huge!

TYLER (laughs) Yea you are! Keep working on those biceps. I'll be right back.

Tyler walks away to a corner of the gym. He looks around to make sure no one is looking then he pulls out his phone and starts going through it. He smiles and starts laughing. He looks around again and starts rubbing his package slightly.

All of a sudden, Tyler's manager, PJ (50s), an overweight bald man, walks by.

PJ Tyler! How's it going buddy?

Tyler is startled. He shoves his phone in his pocket.

TYLER Good! Good! Just, uh, getting my client couple free weights.

Tyler picks up a nearby set of weights.

### TYLER

I should head back.

PJ nods and Tyler awkwardly walks off.

Sherry parks in a parking lot. She and Penny step out of her car.

A group of food trucks sit in the distance. As they walk over, Sherry pulls out a her clipboard and writes "Geenie's Weenies" nice and big on a check list.

Penny pulls out hand sanitizer and rubs some on her hands.

EXT. GEENIE'S WEENIE'S FOOD TRUCK

A FEMALE WORKER (19) and a MALE COOK (35) look horrified as they approach.

Penny and Sherry throw on plastic gloves.

Begin INSPECTION MONTAGE:

A)Penny peers through a trash can picking out a few things while Sherry wipes off some gook on her glove. She puts a check on her checklist.

B)Penny flicks off some meat flakes from the grill. The cook looks at them anxiously. Penny puts down a check.

C)Sherry uses a thermometer to determine the temperature of some meat in the freezer. Check.

D)Penny inspects the dish soap and sanitizer. Check.

E)Sherry and Penny take of their gloves and wash their hands.

Sherry approaches the female worker and hands a piece of paper to her. She gives her a dirty look and walks off.

PENNY Looks good. Just make sure to clean out the grill every chance you get. Everything else is fine. Have a nice day.

EXT. PENFIELD PLAZA - AFTERNOON

Penny and Sherry sit at a picnic table eating their lunch. After an awkward silence:

SHERRY I'm sorry Penny, I just can't take it anymore.

Penny looks up shocked.

SHERRY Your life is kind of in shambles, and I feel like I have to say something about it.

Penny stops munching on her hot dog.

SHERRY (CONT'D) You don't have the finances to support this baby. Don't get me wrong, I love this job, but it's not like we get paid much. And, to be honest, I don't know if you and Tyler will make good parents. The guy is obsessed with himself. And you guys aren't even dating. You're like best friends! That's weird!

Penny's angry. She grips the side of the table hard. She picks at it with her nail.

#### SHERRY

It's not your fault. You never really had parents, so you don't know what you're doing! And on top of that, you're eating a hot dog from a pretty gross food truck we just inspected. Like, what is wrong with you?

Penny looks as if she's about to explode.

SHERRY I'm sorry. I'm just worried about you. You're my girl.

A long pause. Penny gathers herself.

PENNY Stop. Calling. Me. Girl. I hate that word.

Penny continues eating as Sherry, who expected more, awkwardly looks into the distance.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - LATER

Finally away from Sherry, Penny peacefully sits back in a hospital chair as an ULTRASOUND TECHNICIAN starts rubbing gel on her stomach.

Tyler runs in.

TYLER Sorry, sorry. Busy day at the gym.

PENNY

Oh, it's okay, no worries!

Tyler look at her in the chair and laughs. He punches her in the shoulder.

TYLER Look at you!

Penny smiles. The ultrasound technician looks a bit confused about their relationship.

ULTRASOUND TECHNICIAN Alright guys, would you like to know the sex of your baby?

Penny looks at Tyler and then back to the nurse. She nods.

ULTRASOUND TECHNICIAN You're gonna have a girl!

Penny starts to tear up. Tyler is moved. He looks at Penny.

TYLER We're having a fucking girl.

PENNY Oh my god. We're having a girl!... I love fucking love that word.

He looks confused, but writes it off and smiles.

INT. PENNY'S LIVING ROOM/KITCHEN - NIGHT

Later that night Tyler and Penny walk into her apartment. Tyler looks up from his phone. Penny looks through her mail.

> TYLER Hey, so Pen, I kind of need to talk to you about something.

### PENNY

Yeah?

Tyler looks nervous as he tries to word it. But Penny has just noticed something in her mail.

PENNY

Shit.

TYLER

What?

PENNY Oh nothing. Just bills. Student loans, my aunt's nursing home, some other stuff.

Tyler looks at the bills.

TYLER

Penny, that's, like, a lot of money.

PENNY Yeah, I'm fine. We're fine. Sorry, what were you saying before?

Penny continues reading mail as Tyler tries to verbalize something.

# TYLER

Oh. Uh. I, it's kind of hard to talk about. I guess, with everything going on, I feel like I should tell you-

Reading a letter:

PENNY Oh my god.

TYLER (impatient) What?

PENNY My mom died.

Tyler looks at her in shock. A beat.

PENNY (CONT'D) ... And she left me a house.

EXT. PENNY'S NEW HOUSE - DAY

Tyler and Penny follow a SUITED WOMAN from the inside of a large, beautiful, yet worn down home to the front lawn.

PENNY It's beautiful.

SUITED WOMAN I'm glad you like it. If you just sign right here, it's yours. Easy as that.

Penny happily signs.

SUITED WOMAN Thank you. And once again, I'm sorry for your loss.

The woman exits, leaving Tyler and Penny alone in the front yard. Penny holds her stomach, happy.

TYLER Hey, so I'm not really good with these kind of things, but are you sure you're okay? You seem weirdly

happy after your mom just died.

PENNY I didn't know my mom. Like, at all. You know that. I'm seriously fine. Actually, I'm happy.

A beat.

PENNY (nervously) Look, things have been kind of shitty lately. Like, really shitty. And I know this is all really sudden, but, who knows, maybe we could start a family here.

Penny looks at the house, her baby, and Tyler.

PENNY It's sort of like all I ever wanted just dropped in my hands.

Tyler doesn't know how to deal with her vulnerability.

PENNY Will you stay the night with me?

Tyler looks unsure.

PENNY Just tonight?

#### TYLER

Okay.

INT. PENNY'S MASTER BEDROOM - NIGHT

Tyler and Penny lay on a mattress on the ground, eating sushi. Tyler plays with the fish, grossed out. They start laughing. Then they stop. Tyler eats slowly then puts down his food.

> TYLER Are we gonna be able to do this?

PENNY Please- please, can we not talk about this? I know this whole thing is crazy, but we gotta be positive. I'm having this baby. And I'm so glad it's happening with you.

A beat.

PENNY Thank you for spending the night with me.

Tyler looks uneasy.

TYLER Pen, I really have to tell you something.

All of a sudden there is a loud noise from downstairs. They look at each other then both get up and look over a railing to the entrance downstairs.

A an older woman wearing a trench coat has just walked in the front door. The woman, SILVIA (50s) takes off her coat to reveal barely there lingerie.

Penny and Tyler look at each other in awe.

THREE SCANTILY DRESSED YOUNG WOMEN enter soon after.

CONTINUED:

YOUNG WOMAN 1 I was freezing my tits off out there.

One looks up and sees Tyler and Penny.

YOUNG WOMAN 2 Who the fuck is that?

Silvia and the rest of the girls look up. Tyler and Penny are stunned.

#### END OF ACT 1

## ACT 2

EXT - PENNY'S NEW HOUSE - NIGHT

INT - PENNY'S LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

THREE MORE SCANTILY DRESSED WOMEN walk in.

Tyler stands in front of Penny in attempt to protect her and the baby.

TYLER Who are you? What do you want?

PENNY (stuttering) We're not afraid to call the cops! Please- please get out of my house.

Silvia laughs. Her face is covered in make-up, but you can see her age through it. Still, she's beautiful and has the body of a 22 year old. She has about seven tattoos spread over her body.

> SILVIA Your house? Who am I? Sweetie, who the hell are you? I've been running this place for the past 10 years.

Penny looks confused.

PENNY Running? I'm Penny. Penny Jenson.

Silvia's eyes light up. Tyler bumps Penny a bit. One of the young women, TIFFANI, is painting her nails.

20.

(CONTINUED)

TYLER Penny, what are you thinking? Don't tell her your name.

SILVIA Penny fucking Jenson. Long time no see.

PENNY

What?

TIFFANI (annoyed) Silvia, what is going on? I have an appointment in half an hour.

SILVIA Shut up Tiffani. Ladies, cancel all of your appointments tonight. *Penny Jenson* and I have some talking to do.

The young women groan. Some pull out cell phones and start texting. Penny looks oddly at Silvia.

INT. PENNY'S LIVING ROOM - LATER

Women sit around in there lingerie, texting, playing video games, etc. The doorbell rings. Silvia walks through the hallway and answers it wearing only an open trench coat over her bra and underwear. Outside is A PIZZA DELIVERY BOY, who is shocked. He tries his best to look at her face.

> PIZZA DELIVERY BOY Uhh, it'll be 42.34.

Silvia hands him a bill.

SILVIA You got change for a hundred?

PIZZA DELIVERY BOY No, sorry ma'am. I can maybe go back to the shop and get some. I'm sorry.

Silvia is annoyed. She waves him off.

SILVIA No. Just keep it.

Silvia shuts the door and carries over four pizzas and a box of wings to the kitchen. Girls run over excitedly. INT. PENNY'S KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

Silvia sets the food down on a table. Tyler and Penny sit at the opposite end of the table. Penny is deep in thought. Girls grab slices and run off to their activities. Tiffani approaches, angrily.

> TIFFANI Pizza? How many times have I told you I've been watching my weight.

## SILVIA

Then don't it eat.

Tiffani reluctantly grabs a slice and walks off. Silvia starts to eat one, but notices Tyler watching her.

SILVIA Feel free to grab one. Pepperoni or cheese?

Penny snaps out of her trance.

PENNY You really think I'm going to believe that my mom was running a whorehouse?

TYLER How do we know you're not just fucking with us?

## SILVIA

(ignoring Tyler) To be honest, I really don't give a shit if you believe me or not. It's the truth. Hence the naked women.

She signals to the women. Penny looks around and takes it in. A young African American girl, LILAH (17) waves happily, then continues to play with her bra in a mirror.

SILVIA

And we both ran it. I find the clients, and your mom. Well, your mom ran the business. Organization stuff. Emphasis on "ran." Past tense.

Silvia slides her finger across her throat signaling Penny's mothers death. She continues eating her pizza.

(CONTINUED)

TYLER This is ridiculous. We're about to start a family in a whorehouse.

Penny looks at Tyler, for a second taken away from the chaos, happy he called them a family.

Silvia snaps back at Tyler. She doesn't like him much.

SILVIA We prefer to call it a parlor. Polly's Parlor, actually. After your mother.

PENNY

My mom's name wasn't even Polly. It was Lynn.

Silvia pulls out an E cigarette and starts to smoke it.

SILVIA Yea, Lynn's Parlor has a wonderful ring to it. Real catchy.

A beat.

SILVIA

She went by Polly. But now, the business is mine! I think I'll change the name to Silvia's Parlor. Ooh, or Silvia's Saloon!

PENNY

If you ran this whorehouse - sorry, this parlor- with her, then why'd she leave it to me instead of you?

SILVIA

God knows.

Penny looks around and becomes overwhelmed, about to panic. She runs her hair through her fingers, and bites her fingernails, trying to figure out what to do. Tyler tries to calm her down as Silvia, who is smoking her E-cigarette, watches them.

> TYLER Relax, Penny. Do you have your xanax?

PENNY Tyler, I can't. The baby. TYLER

Okay, okay. Umm, stop freaking out. Relax. You're fine. Just breathe.

He massages her back. She calms down. Silvia smiles and points at the two.

SILVIA You two are cute together.

They ignore her.

TYLER

Can you stop smoking that? She's pregnant.

SILVIA Relax, it's electronic.

TYLER

Alright. Silvia. Whatever your name is. I don't care about your past in this place. Penny owns this house now. Legally. You and your- your whores have to get out. Or else, or else we'll call the cops.

SILVIA

Oh feel free. Half of them are our clients.

Penny and Tyler are distressed. Silvia can tell.

SILVIA Look, most of these girls don't have anywhere else to stay. Just let us stay the night. You know what it's like being on your own, don't you Penny? It's not easy.

TYLER We don't care! You need to leave.

PENNY It's fine. You can stay. Just for the night.

Tyler looks at Penny in shock. To Tyler:

PENNY I can't deal with this right now. I have work in 5 hours. They'll be fine. SILVIA (smiles) We'll be fine.

TYLER No men though. Absolutely no men. And you'll be gone in the morning.

SILVIA Of course. Go to sleep. We'll be out of here in the morning.

Penny and Tyler walk out.

LILAH

Goodnight!

Silvia smokes as she watches them leave.

INT. PENNY'S LIVING ROOM - MORNING

Prostitutes are lying everywhere. Silvia is making coffee. Penny walks downstairs to see everyone.

> SILVIA Morning! Ooh, you look tired.

PENNY I'm off to work. I would really, really appreciate it if everyone was gone when I get home.

SILVIA

You got it.

PENNY Alright. Uh. Well, it was nice meeting you?

SILVIA

You too!

Silvia takes a sip of coffee as Penny leaves.

INT. OFFICE BUILDING - MORNING

Penny looks tired while she works on entering some data in her computer at her cubicle.

She's clearly distracted. She decides to open an internet browser. She looks around to make sure no one is looking, then looks up "Polly's Parlor." She has to scroll for a while, but eventually finds a forum where clients seem to be reviewing their experiences:

BEST NITE OF MY LIFE. HIGHLY RECOMMEND THE SKINNY BLACK CHICK. MIGHT HAVE TO MAKE THIS A REGULAR THING =P

I'M NOT REALLY THE TYPE OF GUY TO DO THIS TYPE OF THING -HAPPILY MARRIED 7 YEARS - BUT SOME FRIENDS (AND 6 LINES OF COKE) MADE IT MUCH MORE APPEALING. IF YOUR WIFE WON'T LET YOU HIT IT FROM BEHIND, GO FOR THE BUSTY REDHEAD.

Penny looks disgusted. She looks up "prostitutes" and comes across several images of some curvy women in underwear.

She looks to the drawing the homeless man made for her. Unhappily, she looks back and forth to the image on the computer. All of a sudden:

SHERRY

Hey Penny!

Penny quickly changes the browser to her data. Sherry looks at the computer.

SHERRY Penny... That data is from like two weeks ago. I already entered that.

PENNY (relieved) Oh, sorry.

Sherry hands her a piece of paper.

SHERRY Here. This is from yesterday... Are you okay?

PENNY Yeah. My minds just all over the place today.

SHERRY Pregnancy brain!

PENNY

Yeah...

SHERRY

Well, you're in luck. Wayne and I are throwing a little get together tonight at our place. Come by! We'll play some charades or something! Get your mind off stuff.

Penny thinks about it.

PENNY Yeah, that actually sounds like a great idea.

SHERRY Great. See you later then.

INT. GYM - AFTERNOON

Tyler sits on a chair on his phone. He smiles as he reads:

NO, I'M SERIOUS! YOU ARE LIKE THE CUTEST BOY I HAVE EVER SEEN.

A middle aged woman, NANCY, walks up to Tyler. He exits the conversation quick.

TYLER Hey Nancy, you ready to get started?

NANCY I don't know. What's in store today?

TYLER Today is abs. Your favorite!

NANCY Oh Tyler, I hate you.

Tyler smiles and grabs a mat and a medicine ball.

A BODYBUILDER nearby is hitting a punching bag. The punch sound turns into a knocking sound.

EXT. SHERRY'S NICE SUBURBAN HOME - NIGHT

Penny knocks on her door, carrying a bottle of wine and some soda.

Sherry answers the door.

PENNY Wine for you and ginger ale for me!

SHERRY Aw, Penny, that's so sweet of you. I'm glad you came.

Sherry takes the wine and hugs Penny. She leads her into a pretty vacant party. Wayne sits on a couch in a living room with FOUR GUESTS. Sherry leads Penny to a seat.

WAYNE

Hey Penny.

#### PENNY

Hi Wayne.

#### SHERRY

Penny, I wanted to apologize for the other day. I shouldn't have gotten into your business.

PENNY Oh, thanks Sherry. It's fine.

#### SHERRY

I just know that if I was in your situation, I would be going crazy. All those bills. Student loans, your aunt's retirement home.I don't know how you're gonna do it!

Penny sits down. She sighs and starts binge eating chips from a bowl.

INT. TYLER'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Tyler and a shirtless Cliff eat a protein heavy dinner.

CLIFF So, are you moving out?

TYLER I don't know. The house is great, but, I don't know.

Tyler seems very distant, playing with his phone.

CLIFF Dude, what's going on? You've been off all day.

TYLER Nothing. The whole new house thing is just a little crazy right now.

CLIFF I don't know. I feel like something else is going on, man. You're constantly on that phone... Are you cheating on Penny dude? If you are, man, I gotta say, that's not cool.

TYLER (aggressively) I'm not fucking cheating on Penny man. We're not even together. Get off my back.

Cliff stands up.

CLIFF Don't take that tone with me man. I'm just asking. Are you cheating on Penny?

TYLER

No!

Cliff gets close to Tyler to look at his phone. His chest touches Tyler. Tyler feels it.

TYLER Bro, get the fuck off me!

Tyler gets up and pushes Cliff.

CLIFF What the fuck is your problem?

TYLER Nothing dude! Just leave me alone.

Tyler runs to his room.

30.

INT. TYLER'S ROOM - CONTINOUS

Tyler throws his stuff in bags. Cliff enters.

CLIFF Are you seriously leaving right now? You're acting like a teenager.

Tyler grabs the bags. He sees a bin of Whey Protein. Cliff is less angry now.

CLIFF Are you alright?

TYLER I'm gonna stay at Penny's for a while. Is this yours or mine?

CLIFF

I don't know. Keep it.

Tyler grabs the protein, his bags and leaves.

INT. SHERRY'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Penny is clearly back to being annoyed with Sherry's favorite topic of conversation: her.

#### SHERRY

I just feel like maybe you and Tyler should go on more dates. Be more romantic! Have you tried couple's massages? Oh my god, Wayne and I went last week. Heavenly!

WAYNE

Oh, it was great.

Sherry nudges Wayne and giggles.

#### SHERRY

He liked it a little too much! Ooh, or cuddle! Wayne and I cuddle all the time. It's proven your body, like chemically becomes happier if you cuddle. Right Wayne?

### WAYNE

Yeah baby.

Sherry sips some wine. She's drunk.

SHERRY If you want your baby to be happy, you have to have a more intimate relationship, like us!... Honey, when are we gonna have a baby? Sherry touches Wayne's chest. Wayne changes the topic. WAYNE Who wants to play cards? All of a sudden, Penny's phone rings. She answers. PENNY (into phone) Hello? INT. PENNY'S LIVING ROOM - SAME TYLER (into phone) I don't know where you are, but you need to come to the house. Like, now. He hangs up. Young woman 1 approaches him. She's drunk. She grabs his thigh and moves her face close to his neck. YOUNG WOMAN 1 You, my dear, are sexy. Let's go do naughty things. (leans in and whispers) For you, I can make it half off. Tyler angrily moves her away. TYLER Get the hell away from me. EXT. PENNY'S NEW HOUSE - NIGHT Penny parks her crappy car and gets out to see a slew of cars and a GROUP OF DRUNKEN PROSTITUTES outside. Silvia runs

out.

SILVIA Hey! Hey! Get your asses inside! Ladies, I can't have you out here!

Penny approaches Silvia.

(CONTINUED)

PENNY Silvia, what the hell! I thought I told you to be out of here when I got home.

SILVIA

Oops.

INT. PENNY'S LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Penny enters the house to see DOZENS OF PEOPLE. Girls with hardly any clothes on, drunk men, people making out, teenagers, etc.

Penny makes eye contact with Tyler who is holding the arm of a PROSTITUTE who is handcuffed to a MAN IN HIS UNDERWEAR. He's leading them out.

> TYLER They're having sex. For money. Like, now. Like, a lot of them!

Penny is mortified. She starts biting her lip and picking her fingernails. She looks to Silvia.

SILVIA I'm sorry. Things kind of got out of control.

Tyler sees a boom box, the source of the music. He turns it off. Everyone looks at him, becoming quiet, aside from a few annoyed comments.

TYLER (impressively authoritative) Party's over. If you're not out of here -all of you- in 30 seconds, I am calling the cops.

No one moves.

TYLER 30.. 29.. 28

Everyone runs out.

Penny is inside cleaning up while Tyler is by the door, kicking out a FEW STRAGGLERS. Tiffani is amongst them. As she leaves she lights up a cigarette.

#### TIFFANI

I know, I know. I'm leaving. But listen...tonight was a shit show. Without Polly, Silvia has no idea how to run this place. But people listen to you. You should think about taking over.

TYLER

You're insane.

TIFFANI Hey, it's your house now isn't it?

She pulls out a bundle of cash.

TIFFANI It's really good money.

Tyler looks at pregnant Penny as she cleans up the house.

## TIFFANI Whataya think, stud?.

Tyler looks for a bit at Penny, then looks at the money, contemplating.

## END OF ACT 2

## ACT 3

EXT. NEW HOUSE - NIGHT

Tiffani waits for Tyler's answer.

#### TYLER

No! I don't understand your confusion here. I don't want to have anything to do with a goddamn whorehouse.

Tiffani looks a little hurt.

TYLER Get off of our property! Tiffani sadly leaves. Silvia, who is about to leave, has overheard their conversation.

Tyler walks inside. Only Silvia and Penny remain inside.

INT. PENNY'S NEW HOUSE - NIGHT

Tyler angrily looks at Silvia as he goes to Penny's side.

SILVIA Look, I'm sorry. I messed up.

TYLER Please, just leave. Like, forever.

SILVIA Just give me a second...

Silvia gets oddly serious.

SILVIA

Penny, I know you don't remember, but I've been best friends with your mother since we were teenagers. We slept in the same bed. Hell, we've slept with the same men...

Penny gives her a disgusted look.

SILVIA

I knew you when you were a baby and I know that it killed her to leave you... but she had to. She didn't want you growing up around this. Why she left this house to you, I have no idea. But what I do know is that, as weird as this may sound to you, this was her family. Our family. Some of the girls have husbands or kids or jobs, but for a lot of us, this is it. This house is home for them. I'll leave now, but I promise you, they're not going to give this place up without a fight.

Silvia touches Penny kindly on the shoulder, and leaves. Tyler and Penny watch as she goes.

INT. PENNY'S MASTER BEDROOM - NIGHT Penny lays in her bed, tired. Tyler enters the room. TYLER Alright, looks like the coast is clear. No prostitutes hiding in the closet. Penny forces a smile. PENNY (weakly) Yay. Tyler looks out a window. No one. TYLER You know you have to call the cops next time one of them step foot in here? PENNY (tired) I know. TYLER Honestly, I don't understand why you haven't. You know she's bullshitting about half of them being her clients. PENNY I know. I guess, I-(yawns) I guess I just feel bad for them. TYLER I don't get you... Tyler checks a final window. He breathes in deep and starts to look more serious. TYLER Pen, I really, really need to tell you something. No response.

TYLER

Penny?
Tyler looks over to see Penny asleep. He walks over and pulls some blanket over. He sits on the bed, then lays down. He stares at the ceiling.

INT. PENNY'S MASTER BEDROOM - MORNING

Tyler wakes up in the same position. Penny is still sleeping. He quietly throws on some sweats and walks out of the room.

INT. LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Tyler walks down the stairs cautiously. He crosses his fingers, breathes in, and looks around. No is there! He breathes out, relieved. He throws on a sweatshirt, grabs a basketball, and leaves.

EXT. PARK - MORNING

A sweaty Tyler, headphones in ear, dribbles the basketball angrily. He's good. He shoots some baskets.

After a while, he heads to a bench and grabs a drink from a water bottle. He checks his phone to see a text:

MORNING HANDSOME! =D

He doesn't respond and throws the phone in his backpack. He puts back on his headphones and runs off to shoot some more.

INT. PENNY'S MASTER BEDROOM - MORNING

Penny wakes up and reluctantly starts her day. She realizes Tyler isn't there. She throws on some clothes and leaves.

INT. PENNY'S LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Penny walks downstairs and looks around to see an empty living room. She looks up and talks to the sky.

PENNY

I love you.

Penny, now wearing a sweatshirt and a hat, enters with bags of groceries. She takes off the sweatshirt and puts them away in a previously empty fridge.

Penny scrambles about four eggs.

Toast pops up out of the toaster. Penny grabs it.

INT. PENNY'S LIVING ROOM - MORNING

Penny carries a plate of toast and eggs, both overloaded with ketchup. She also carries a glass of chocolate milk.

Penny sits in a comfortable chair and pulls out a pregnancy book. Finally alone, Penny happily reads and eats her food.

EXT. MOTEL - AFTERNOON

INT. MOTEL ROOM - SAME

Silvia is smoking her E-cigarette looking out the window. Behind her sleep three prostitutes, Lilah, Tiffani, and another named Chanelle. Suitcases lay around the room.

Lilah wakes up, accidentally hitting Tiffani's face, waking her up as well.

## TIFFANI

What the fuck, Lequisha! Oh, my god, my head is killing me.

LILAH

I told you to quit calling me that. That is a ratchet black girl name. It's Lilah now. After my favorite flower

TIFFANI The flower is called a *lilac*, dumbass. Either way, they're both dumb names.

Chanelle wakes up due to the commotion. Rubbing her eyes:

CHANELLE Yeah, like Tiffani is any better. You trailer trash bitch.

## TIFFANI

Fuck you.

Tiffani throws a pillow at her. They start playfully fighting.

# SILVIA

Ladies!

The girls stop.

SILVIA

Can we grow up a little bit please? Have a little more class?

TIFFANI Talk about class, what the fuck are we doing... here? I make \$300 dollars a night, why am I sleeping at a shitty motel?

LILAH Well, we are prostitutes.

They look at Lilah as if that was the dumbest thing you could ever say.

SILVIA What, you don't like it here?

## CHANELLE

Umm, no?

Silvia gets up and walks to the TV.

SILVIA You don't like busted TVs?

She pushes the hard bed down.

# SILVIA

Beds as hard as concrete?

She points to the window which shows an ugly parking lot.

SILVIA Beautiful view, isn't it?

The girls look confused and a little scared.

TIFFANI What's your point?

### SILVIA

I brought you here to show you all where we'll be living if we don't get our act together soon. What the hell was that shit last night? Do we want the cops to bust us, again? Do we Chanelle?

## CHANELLE

(embarrassed)

No.

SILVIA First, Polly has to go and get in a car accident-

She puts her fingers in air quotes when she says "car accident" and then pretends to be injecting heroine into her arm.

SILVIA (CONT'D) -and we have to pack up everything and hide away from our home for weeks. And now, some timid chubby girl is scaring us away from our home? Our clients?

## CHANELLE

You're telling me. If I don't get fucked in the next couple days, I'm gonna go nuts.

#### SILVIA

If we don't get that house back, this is where we'll be living. Where we'll be taking our clients. No more parlor. No more parties. No more pizza. Just cheap fucks on rock hard beds.

TIFFANI We get it. So what do we do?

Silvia smokes her E-cigarette and looks outside.

# SILVIA

I heard your conversation with Tyler last night.

Tiffani looks scared.

## TIFFANI

I'm sorry, I, I just. Things got crazy last night. You didn't really have control. We could have been caught... It was just an idea.

#### SILVIA

It was a good idea. But not for your foolish, selfish reasons. That boy couldn't manage a lemonade stand let alone a successful parlor. But *if* he wanted to, we could make him think he was in control. And we'd be back in the house.

## LILAH

You're so smart Silvia.

#### TIFFANI

That's a great idea. But he's, well, a dude. Don't we have strict rules about that? Aren't you worried that- even if he wants to be our... pimp, he'll try to mix business with pleasure?

#### SILVIA

Oh darling, you're clueless.

Tiffani is confused. Silvia sits down to think. Without looking at Tiffani:

#### SILVIA

And by the way, if you pull a stunt like that again, you better get used to these walls, because you will be here. Alone.

Tiffani gulps.

#### CHANELLE

So how are you gonna convince Tyler to let us back in?

# SILVIA

I'll have to go talk to him, I suppose. But first, I need a drink.

Silvia walks out.

INT. NURSING HOME - DAY

Penny walks in carrying flowers. She approaches a RECEPTIONIST at the front desk.

PENNY Hello, my name is Penny Jenson. I'm here to see Roslyn Jenson.

RECEPTIONIST One moment. Please take a seat.

Penny sits down in a waiting room.

Moments later:

RECEPTIONIST Okay, Penny, she's ready for you.

Penny walks to another room.

EXT. URBAN STREET - DAY

Tyler walks by some stores and into a bar.

INT. BAR - DAY

Tyler sits on a booth at a mostly empty bar. A HANDSOME BARTENDER comes over.

BARTENDER What'll it be?

TYLER Whatever's on tap.

INT. NURSING HOME - DAY

COMMUNITY AREA

Penny has been sitting with Aunt Roslyn for a while. Rosyln holds the flowers in her wheel chair. They're playing Chinese checkers and laughing.

AUNT ROSLYN I'm telling you, the only games they give us are Chinese checkers, (MORE) AUNT ROSLYN (cont'd) Parcheesi, and Mahjong. I swear they have yellow fever or something.

Penny laughs really hard.

AUNT ROSLYN I'm serious. They're like anti American. Or just stupid. None of these dumbwits know how to play Parcheesi.

# PENNY

(laughing) God, I miss you.

# AUNT ROSYLN

(smiles) Thank you honey. I miss you too. Very much. So tell me, how are things?... I heard about your mother. I'm sorry darling.

#### PENNY

Oh Aunt Roslyn, I'm fine. Really. You know you were way more of a mother to me than she ever was... How are you? Really?

Aunt Roslyn looks around suspiciously.

#### AUNT ROSLYN

I'm okay Pen. I don't like it here much. They got me in this stupid wheel chair. I can walk fine! They treat me like I have Alzheimer's or something. I wish I could stay with you... Most of the other people here have completely lost it. I don't belong here.

Penny is saddened.

# PENNY

I'm sorry Aunt Roslyn. You know I'd love to have you, but they say you have to stay here.

# AUNT ROSLYN

Yeah, yeah. They don't know what they're talking about. But don't worry about me. I'm mostly just (MORE) AUNT ROSLYN (cont'd) upset that you have to pay for this dump. That kills me.

PENNY I want to Aunt Roslyn. It's fine. I'm fine. Really.

A nurse waves to Aunt Roslyn, indicating she has to go.

AUNT ROSLYN Well, it looks like the Nazis are ready for me. It was so good to see you.

PENNY (sadly) You too. So good. I'll be back next week!

A nurse comes in and takes away Aunt Roslyn, who blows her a kiss. Penny blows one back. Her eyes are watery. She turns to an ELDERLY MAN who is watching an MTV program with a big grin on his face.

PENNY Is this place really that bad?

The elderly looks to her smiling, clearly his only expression.

INT. BAR - DAY

Tyler is drunk talking to the bartender.

BARTENDER No! I don't believe it.

TYLER Swear to god. Living. In. A. Freaking. Whorehouse! I have had more interaction with prostitutes

in the past two days than I've even seen in movies.

The bartender laughs.

Penny is also telling all of her secrets to a complete stranger:

#### PENNY

And don't get me wrong, I have nothing against prostitution. Well, I kind of do. But, in my house! My brand new house?... And on top of everything, I'm pregnant, with my best friend's baby.

INT. BAR - DAY

#### TYLER

And now she's pregnant! Of course. One drunk night. I love the girl, but damn, talk about unlucky. Pregnant. Whorehouse. The chick has like debilitating anxiety. And, and, and..

INT. NURSING HOME - DAY

#### PENNY

And I'm working at this horrible job next to, literally, the most annoying human being in the world. Not making nearly enough money to support myself, let alone pay for this nursing home and student loans, and, and a family!

INT. BAR DAY - DAY

#### TYLER

A family! How am I gonna start a family, man? I'm not a father. I don't know how to raise a baby, I'm like the most clueless guy in the world.

INT. NURSING HOME - DAY

PENNY

And he's like, the most amazing guy in the world. I think- I think I'm in love with him... Penny finally takes a second to breathe.

INT. BAR - DAY

Tyler finally takes a second to breathe. The bartender laughs and cleans a glass.

BARTENDER Wow, I've heard a lot of stories while I've been working here, and I'm telling you that is top 5.

TYLER (friendly) Top 5? That's it? I think I deserve more than that.

The bartender is a bit off put.

BARTENDER (sternly) Na, I've heard better.

TYLER (recoils) Life, man. Crazy shit.

The bartender cleans up with a rag as Tyler checks his phone once again. He drunkily smiles at the text and starts texting back.

> BARTENDER You'll be fine. See, somebody's puttin' a smile on your face right now. That your girl?

TYLER Huh? Oh no. Just a friend.

The bartender shrugs. Then someone walks in.

BARTENDER Hey, welcome, welcome. What can I get for you today?

It's Silvia. Tyler quickly sobers up.

TYLER

Silvia.

SILVIA Well, what a convenient surprise. (to the bartender) My god you are handsome. Whiskey sour please.

The bartender clenches his teeth in realization. He goes to make her drink.

Silvia sits on the stool next to Tyler.

TYLER Are you following me?

SILVIA Honey, fate must want us to be together, because I have much better things to do than follow you around.

The bartender returns with Silvia's drink. She sips it.

SILVIA But... I am glad I did run into you. I'd like to talk to you about something.

TYLER Yeah, Silvia? What's that?

SILVIA Well, a business proposition of sorts... Promise me you'll keep an open mind?

Tyler rolls his eyes.

TYLER

Fine.

INT. NURSING HOME - DAY

PENNY And now I'm sitting here, talking to you, like a crazy person. And he's probably. Tyler's probably somewhere thinking I'm - shit -Tyler! He's been wanting to tell me something forever and I keep forgetting about it.

She gets up to leave. The elderly man is still looking at her smiling. She bends back down and touches his shoulder.

PENNY Thank you. I feel a lot better.

Penny leaves.

INT. PENNY'S CAR - LATER

Penny sits in the nursing home parking lot, texting.

INT. BAR - DAY

TYLER Do you really think I would ever do that? Resort to being some sort of... pimp?

SILVIA It's a lot of money. A *lot* of money. Think of Penny. Your baby.

TYLER We both have jobs. We'll be fine.

SILVIA Listen, sweetie. I know a thing or two about kids. And I've heard a couple things about your little girlfriend's financial troubles. You should really consider this.

Tyler looks at her angrily. He gets a text. It's from Penny: hey dude! I'm so sorry, I totally forgot u had something to tell me. Dinner and talk later? i'll cook!

Tyler looks at Silvia who drinks her whiskey.

EXT. HIGHWAY - NIGHT

Penny drives down a highway. She gets a text from Tyler:

Sounds great! C U at the house later.

EXT. NEW HOUSE - NIGHT

INT. DINING ROOM - NIGHT

Penny brings out a plate of chicken to add to the salad and potatoes on the table that Tyler sits at. She sets it down.

PENNY This week has been crazy.

TYLER You're telling me.

Penny sits down. They start eating.

PENNY Yeah, I'm sorry. It all kinda came out of nowhere. I haven't really gotten a chance to talk to you. What did you want talk to me about?

TYLER Oh. Uh. That. Ahh, this is so strange. Alright, I guess I'll just say it.

A moan is heard from another room. Penny's eyes get wide. She starts breathing in deep and quick. Speaking very fast:

> PENNY You've got to be kidding me. You're kidding me. Like, this is a joke.

Penny sets down her food and walks to the living room.

INT. PENNY'S LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Penny enters the living room. No one is there. She hears another moan and then a "shh."

She walks to the door she hears it. She opens the door and screams.

She turns around to see Lilah in her underwear holding a naked man's hand, running to a room.

LILAH

Sorry!

Silvia peaks her head out of a door. We can assume she's naked behind the door.

SILVIA Sorry babe, but it's inevitable.

Tyler watches as Penny starts to freak out. She runs outside.

## EXT. NEW HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Penny sits on the front porch and tries to breathe. She's about to have a panic attack. She clenches her fists tight and closes her eyes, trying to relax.

Tyler comes out after her. He sits next to her.

TYLER Penny... Penny are you ok?

A beat.

# TYLER

Penny. Penny, I'm gay.

Penny looks at Tyler with wide eyes. She puts her face in her hands. She's hyperventilating.

PENNY

Oh my god, oh my god.

All of sudden Penny feels a sharp pain in her stomach. She groans in pain.

TYLER Penny! Penny, I'm taking you to the hospital.

Tyler picks Penny up and puts her in the backseat of his car. He drives off.

# END OF ACT 3

# ACT 4

INT. HOSPITAL WAITING ROOM - NIGHT

Tyler waits. Now it's his turn to be anxious. He taps his leg and bites his finger nails.

He roams around the room.

Sherry runs into the waiting room.

SHERRY How is she?!

TYLER I don't know! I don't know. They haven't told me anything.

SHERRY

What happened?

TYLER

She- I. I was just telling her something. And, and things at our new house are really hectic right now- and. She had a panic attack and I think it hurt the baby. I don't know!

SHERRY New house. You guys are living together? Where?

TYLER Is that really what matters right now?

Sherry sits down and pulls out a fan to cool herself down. She's flustered.

SHERRY

I told her, you aren't good news buddy. I knew something like this would happen. She has got to figure that little life of hers out.

Tyler looks at her, bewildered by her concerns. He looks around to see, other than a COUPLE STRANGERS, and Sherry, an empty room. This saddens him.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - NIGHT

Penny sits in a chair as a TWO DOCTORS try to help her. One doctor holds her hand as the other is feeling her stomach. Penny is freaking out.

PENNY What's going on? Am I okay? Is the baby okay?

Penny breathes very quickly, looking around. She looks to a doctor.

(CONTINUED)

DOCTOR 1 Try to relax Penny. Doctor Redden is figuring out everything right now. Just breathe. Relax.

Penny groans in pain and looks down.

PENNY

Is that blood!? That's blood. Oh no, oh no, that's blood. Why's there blood? My baby!

DOCTOR 1 Penny, please try to relax. It will be best for you and the baby.

Penny tries her best to breathe in slow and not talk. Her eyes are watery.

INT. NURSING HOME - ROSYLN'S ROOM - NIGHT

An ATTENDANT walks into Roslyn's room.

ATTENDANT Roslyn, we've just received some bad news. Your niece is in the hospital for complications with her pregnancy.

ROSLYN

Is she okay!

Roslyn looks shocked and tries to get out of her wheelchair to leave. The attendant pushes her back down.

ATTENDANT Roslyn, you need to stay here. We can let you know more information when we get it.

ROSLYN Let me go. I need to go see Penny. Let go of me you idiot!

INT. WAITING ROOM - NIGHT

Tyler now sits next to Sherry. They don't know what to say.

TYLER So where's Wayne? SHERRY I don't know. He won't answer his phone.

Silence. Sherry angrily turns to him.

#### SHERRY

You know she tells me about you. I keep telling her.. You guys really need to be reading more baby books! And you need to take her out more. Go on dates. And, and you guys need to find a source of money. The girl is so stressed-

# TYLER

Who the hell are you?! Have you even had a baby? Penny is trying so fucking hard. Give her a fucking break.

Sherry finally shuts up. Tyler sits there. After a moment, Sherry breaks down crying. A moment of realization:

> SHERRY I'm sorry, I'm sorry. I'm such an idiot. It's all my fault. I'm such an annoying person. God, she hates me. I'm so god damn stressful!

Tyler's a little annoyed at her sudden kindness. He reluctantly touches her leg.

TYLER Chill. Sherry, chill out!

Sherry stops crying.

TYLER Trust me, if it's anyone's fault, it's mine.

For a moment they sit there, then one of the doctors comes out. They both stand up, nervously.

DOCTOR 2 Are you Tyler Platt?

TYLER Yes, how is she? Is she okay? Is the baby okay? DOCTOR 2 She'll be fine. But, I'm sorry to have to tell you, the baby didn't make it. Penny suffered a miscarriage.

Tyler and Sherry look mortified.

#### TYLER

What? Wa- was it my fault? Her panic attack?

DOCTOR 2 No. This is completely unrelated to Penny's anxiety. She has very low progesterone levels. Something that tremendously slowed the child's development. Her panic attack just happened to occur around the same time. I wish we could have caught that sooner. I'm very sorry for your loss.

Tyler looks down to the ground, unable to feel. Sherry rubs his back sadly as the doctor walks away.

INT. PENNY'S GUEST ROOM - NIGHT

Silvia's wearing only a robe, fixing her make up in the mirror. A SILVER FOX lays on the bed behind her. Her phone starts to ring. She answers.

## SILVIA

Hello?

#### TYLER (V.O.)

Silvia.

SILVIA Oh hey cutie! Where did you and your *girlfriend* go?

She says "girlfriend" as if she's known he's gay all along.

SILVIA (CONT'D) Have you reconsidered our little proposition?

# INTERCUT: HOSPITAL WAITING ROOM/PENNY'S GUEST ROOM

TYLER (weakly) No Silvia. The parlor. It has to be done. Please... Penny had a panic attack and- and. Silvia, the baby. The baby died.

Silvia is wordless. She waves for the man to leave. He looks confused.

SILVIA (to the man) What's the confusion. Get out.

The man leaves some money and exits.

TYLER Silvia, please, please just leave.

Silvia looks at a small tattoo of a heart on her wrist, something we didn't notice before. It brings strong emotion to her face. A moment.

> SILVIA Of course. I'll have the girls out of here as soon as I can.

> > TYLER

Thank you.

Silvia sadly hangs up and pulls out her E-cigarette.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - LATER

Penny looks outside a window, tired. She looks at her hand, which is for once, calm. Tyler enters and sits down next to her. She is tired and her hair is all messed up. She looks strangely beautiful. She looks at him for a moment.

> PENNY You know, I thought I loved you.

TYLER I'm sorry, Pen. I'm so sorry.

PENNY

Don't be.

A doctor knocks and then walks in.

DOCTOR 2 Hello. I just wanted to let you know, you can leave whenever you want. But if you'd like to stay the night, feel free.

The doctor leaves. A moment.

### PENNY

All I wanted was a family.

TYLER I know... I know. Penny, I don't know what to say.

A moment.

PENNY I'm ready to go.

INT. NURSING HOME - ROSYLN'S ROOM - NIGHT

Now, TWO ATTENDANTS are pushing Roslyn down in her wheelchair.

ROSLYN Let me go! I don't even need this wheel chair, I'm not even sick. Let me go see my neice god damnit!

ATTENDANT 1 Roslyn, stop it! Calm down!

One of the attendants runs to the door.

ATTENDANT 2 Can we please get a nurse in here? Roslyn is acting up again.

ROSLYN

Let. Me. Go!

Roslyn punches Attendant 1 in the face and he falls back. She tries to get out of her chair to leave. She starts walking, but all of a sudden things get really dizzy. She loses focus and throws up. She almost falls, but Attendant 2 helps her back to her chair. INT. PENNY'S LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Silvia knocks on a door. Tiffani opens it halfway.

TIFFANI

What?

SILVIA We're leaving. Now. For real this time. Grab your things. Let's go.

TIFFANI

Why?

SILVIA Stop asking questions! Just- shut up! We're going.

Tiffani gives her a snotty look, but goes in a room to pack.

Lilah pokes her head out of another door.

The man she is with also pops out his head. It's Wayne.

LILAH Is everything okay.

SILVIA Yes. Everything's fine. But we need to find somewhere else to stay. Pack up your stuff.

Lilah goes in her room. Wayne looks at Silvia and gives her an awkward head nod.

INT. PENNY'S LIVING ROOM/KITCHEN - APARTMENT - NIGHT

Penny walks into her old apartment and looks around.

INT. PENNY'S BATHROOM - APARTMENT - NIGHT

Penny walks into her bathroom and looks at herself in the mirror. She looks to the post-it note mantras on the mirror, then back to herself. She breaks down crying. She cries harder and harder until she finds herself on the floor crying.

EXT. TYLER'S OLD HOUSE - NIGHT

Tyler pulls in the driveway.

INT. TYLER'S LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Tyler walks into his living room to see one of his roommates walking by the front door eating cereal. Cliff is in a connecting room watching ESPN.

JOCK 2 Hey Ty, what's up?

CLIFF Glad your back, buddy.

Tyler nods and heads up to his room.

INT. PENNY'S BATHROOM - APARTMENT - NIGHT

Penny is lying on the bathroom floor. Her face is red and eye liner runs down her face. She looks to her side to see a fallen post-it note. She picks it up. It reads:

DO SOMETHING TODAY THAT YOUR FUTURE SELF WILL THANK YOU FOR.

She reads it and stands up.

Emotionless, she looks at herself in the mirror. She looks back at the note and then at herself. She turns the water on in the sink and starts to wash off her make up.

She towels off her face and starts to re-apply some make up.

INT. TYLER'S ROOM - NIGHT

Tyler is laying in his bed. He pulls out his phone, reading texts.

You there handsome?

How's your day going?

Uhh, are you okay dude?

Alright man, I get the hint. See ya.

He swipes his phone to reveal pictures of the unknown person who has been sending him texts. It's a handsome man (20s) smiling, shirtless giving a thumbs up to the camera, a serious black and white photo. Tyler navigates to the DELETE CONTACT selection on his phone. He clicks YES.

EXT. PENNY'S NEW HOUSE - NIGHT

A cab stops at the house. Penny walks out of it. She's wearing much tighter, darker clothes. Holding the sticky note to her side, she walks up the yard and into the front door.

INT. PENNY'S NEW HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Penny enters to see Silvia, Lilah, and Tiffani packing some things, getting ready to leave. Silvia looks up.

SILVIA

Penny?

Penny is wearing darker make up. Her hair is pulled back. She looks like a different person. She looks dark, but she looks really good.

> SILVIA Penny, we're leaving now, I swear. We were just about to head out.

#### PENNY

You can stay.

The prostitutes look confused. A moment.

PENNY But I'll be running things now.

END OF ACT 4