

Pitch and Catch
(SPEC)

by
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EXT. BASEBALL STADIUM - NIGHT

On a hot summer night, we see Dan on the brink of making history.

He is one strike away from pitching a perfect game.

INT. BROADCASTING BOOTH

DAVE

We're about to see something amazing here tonight John. In all my years broadcasting, I've never seen anything like this. Dan "The Man" Tran is one strike away from pitching a perfect game.

JOHN

It's incredible to see. It really is. Only a sophomore with a promising career ahead. I'll tell you what Dave, Coach Grey must be salivating over the fact that he was able to recruit him a few years ago.

DAVE

Right you are. Coach is even luckier that he decided to forego the MLB draft. You'd never guess by looking at the kid that he can throw a ball at bullet speed. You just can't help but to be astonished. There aren't many kids out there that would make the decision to stay in school like he did. Especially with his skill set.

He pitches the ball.

UMPIRE

Ball!

JOHN

For all you folks listening out there, we're in the 9th inning with the score 3-0 Pioneers, waiting to see if pitching phenom Daniel Tran can do the near impossible. With a full count, can he do it? Can he pitch the perfect game? It doesn't get any better than this folks.

Dan waits for a signal from his catcher.

He nods his head and looks toward a pair of EMPTY SEATS.

He stalls for a little longer as if he's waiting for something.

He pitches.

UMPIRE

Strike three!

DAVE

Holy smokes! Put it in the books! Ladies and gentlemen, we have just seen history made. Daniel Tran is the first pitcher to pitch a perfect game in the Pioneers school history.

Dan raises his fist in joy.

The bench clears and rushes to the pitcher's mound to congratulate him.

He is lifted off the ground by his teammates.

CUT TO:

INT. LOCKER ROOM

The team is celebrating their win in the locker room.

COACH GREY makes a speech.

COACH GREY

Alright, alright. Calm down fellas. Calm down. Look around you. Look at your teammates. Remember this night. Tonight this team made history. You boys are the first team in our school's history to record a perfect game. People may say that this was only possible because of Dan's spectacular performance out there, but it wasn't just Dan out there. It was all of us. It was a team effort. It was the team that made history. As long as we play as a team, we'll-

-

The ASSISTANT COACH taps Coach Grey's shoulder and interrupts his speech. He whispers something in his ear.

COACH GREY (CONT'D)
Excuse me guys. I have to take
this call.

Coach Grey leaves.

ASSISTANT COACH
Alright boys. Enjoy this win now,
but our season is long from over...

CUT TO:

INT. COACH'S OFFICE

Coach Grey walks into his office and picks up the phone.

COACH GREY
Hello? Coach Grey speaking.

JAMIE
Hello? Hi Coach Grey. My name is
Jamie. I'm calling from Trinity
Hospital in regards to Daniel Tran.

COACH GREY
Trinity Hospital? What's the
problem?

JAMIE
I'm sorry to have to inform you
that Daniel's parents were involved
in a fatal car accident. I have
some unfortunate news.

COACH GREY
Unfortunate news? Are they badly
injured?

JAMIE
Well sir. They didn't make it.

COACH GREY
They didn't make it? Both of them?
How could this have happened?

JAMIE
Yes sir. The reports suggest they
were in a rush to get somewhere and
crashed into a tree.

(MORE)

JAMIE (CONT'D)

It wasn't until a nearby neighbor phoned it in that the ambulance arrived. By then, it was too late. We tried to reach Daniel on the phone, but he never picked up.

COACH GREY

Oh my God. So he doesn't know yet?

JAMIE

That's right sir.

COACH GREY

I should be the one to tell him.

JAMIE

Are you sure sir?

COACH GREY

Yes.

JAMIE

Alright. Please tell him that we offer our deepest condolences. Have a good night.

Coach Grey slowly places the phone back on the receiver.

He takes a peak through the blinds of his office window.

He sees Dan smiling and laughing with his friends and teammates.

He opens his door and calls for Dan to report to his office.

COACH GREY

Dan. Can you come in here for a sec?

Dan looks up and walks into Coach Grey's office.

DAN

Hey coach. What's going on? You needed to talk to me about something? Because the guys and I are going to celebrate the win soon so I hope this isn't one of those underage drinking talks because I swear I didn't know what was in that drink last time. Chase said it had a bunch of electrolytes or something like that--

COACH GREY
(interrupts)
No, it's not that. Son, you may
want to sit down for this.

Dan sits.

COACH GREY (CONT'D)
I just received a phone call from
Trinity Hospital. And well...you
see your parents were involved in a
bad car accident.

DAN
I've gotta go.

He quickly gets off his seat.

COACH GREY
Dan wait! Your parents. It was a
fatal crash. They didn't survive
the accident. The ambulance
couldn't get there on time to save
them. I'm sorry Dan.

Dan storms out of the locker room.

CHASE
Yo Danny boy! Where are you going?
We've got some celebrating to do!

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. LAKE - SIX MONTHS LATER - MORNING

Dan is running along a trail.

The sound of his heart BEATS faster and faster as he speeds
through the trail.

His shirt is drenched as beads of sweat are pouring down his
face.

START FLASHBACK MONTAGE

Dan is running to hospital.

He gets to hospital and looks for his parents.

The doctors and nurse stop him from seeing his parents'
bodies.

END FLASHBACK MONTAGE

Dan runs to the point of complete exhaustion.

He eventually stops to lay down off the edge of the lake.

CUT TO:

INT. DAN'S APARTMENT

Dan walks in and opens the fridge.

He takes a bottle of water and starts drinking.

He pushes the voice mail button on his phone.

VOICEMAIL

You have 2 new messages. First message.

CHASE'S VOICE

Hey Dan. It's Chase. I haven't seen you in awhile. Just making sure you're still alive. Some of the guys are playing some football this week. Four O'Clock, Friday, over by Granet Park, to be more specific. We could use another player if you want to swing by. Alright, hopefully I'll see you there. Keep in touch buddy.

VOICEMAIL

Press 1 to delete message. Press 2 to save message.

Dan's finger moves over the 1 BUTTON, but slowly shifts to the 2 BUTTON.

He decides to save the message.

VOICEMAIL (CONT'D)

Message saved.

VOICEMAIL (CONT'D)

Next message.

DR. KELLY'S VOICE

Hello Dan. This is Dr. Kelly. I just wanted to make sure we were still on for our last session before the new semester starts. Drop by anytime this week during my office hours and I'll see you later kiddo.

VOICEMAIL
End of new messages.

He looks at a picture of himself with his parents.

CUT TO:

INT./EXT. SCHOOL BUILDING

As Dan approaches the entrance to the school building, he narrowly escapes getting hit by a swinging door.

He sees the backside of a beautiful girl who runs past him.

DAN
That was close.

CUT TO:

INT. COUNSELOR'S OFFICE

Dr. Kelly is wiping tears off her eyes and trying to recompose herself.

She hears a KNOCK.

DR. KELLY
Who is it?

DAN (O.S.)
It's Dan.

DR. KELLY
Oh. Come in.

The door opens and Dan walks in.

DR. KELLY (CONT'D)
(sniffles)
How are you doing today kiddo?

DAN
Is everything okay Dr. Kelly?
Because I can come back another
time.

DR. KELLY
No. Don't be silly. I'm fine.
Really. Have a seat.

Dan takes a seat.

DR. KELLY (CONT'D)
So how are you feeling today?
(continues to wipe tears
with tissue)

DAN
I can come back later. It's no big deal.

DR. KELLY
It's fine. Please. I'm okay.
(pauses)
So I remember you mentioned in our last session that your anxiety was getting better?

DAN
Yeah. I've been doing a lot of running. A lot of intense workouts. It seems to be the only thing that helps with the anxiety. I'm afraid that I might even be pushing myself too hard.

DR. KELLY
Why do you suppose you do that to yourself?

DAN
To be honest. It's the only time I realize that I'm still alive and breathing. When my parents died, I think a huge part of me died with them so I push myself to the brink sometimes to remind myself that I'm still here.

DR. KELLY
You know...when Coach Grey told me about your situation and asked me to help you get through your loss, I didn't think I could be much help.

DAN
Why's that?

DR. KELLY
Because I lost someone I loved to a car accident as well. I lost my sister. You see...I've been in your situation. Your story is very personal to me.

DAN

I'm...I'm so sorry.

DR. KELLY

No. You shouldn't be. Because what could we have done differently to prevent the loss of our loved ones? You'll never fully recover from your loss until you accept the fact that your parents' accident was beyond your control.

DAN

I want to believe that I could've done something. I want to believe that anything is possible and that I can make things right someday.

DR. KELLY

And that's the exact mentality that will get you through your loss. To believe that anything is possible and to make any bad situation better is...quite simply a gift. I believe you possess that ability, and if you continue to hide from the people that love you, you'll be doing them a huge disservice.

DAN

What makes you think I have this gift?

DR. KELLY

I've seen a lot of people come into my office and dismiss the idea of counseling, but I truly believe you've embraced these sessions. You're making the right efforts to make this situation better, but you're not used to doing it for yourself. Not many people will consciously look for ways to help others before themselves like you do.

(pauses)

Look. You're a good kid and you always want to make things right and with time, you usually do. But the only way you'll ever make things right is to keep the memories of your parents alive and live the way they would've wanted you to.

DAN

I guess I'm not too sure what they would've wanted.

DR. KELLY

I think they would've wanted you to simply be happy. To live a full life and pursue your dreams. I know that baseball has been a huge part of your life. Are you considering rejoining the team?

DAN

I don't know.

DR. KELLY

Do you miss it at all?

DAN

Yes...I mean no. I'm not sure.

(pauses)

I don't think I'm ready.

DR. KELLY

Well, I hope you'll play baseball again one day. Coach Grey tells me you're great. I don't want to keep you long. I just wanted to tell you that you're gonna be just fine kiddo and I will truly miss our talks.

DAN

Me too. Thanks for everything. I mean it. Coach was right. You really are the best.

DR. KELLY

Ok enough already. You're gonna make me all mopey. Good luck with with the new semester. Now get the hell out of here.

Dr. Kelly stands up and leads Dan to the door.

DR. KELLY (CONT'D)

Don't be a stranger.

She offers a handshake.

Dan hugs her instead.

He leaves the office with a slight smirk.

CUT TO:

INT. COFFEE SHOP

Dan waits in line.

Behind him is a beautiful girl, LYNN.

The BARISTA greets him.

BARISTA

Hello. What can I get for you today?

DAN

Yes. Can I get a medium raspberry tea?

BARISTA

Sure. That'll be \$3.15.

Dan pays the barista.

Lynn taps Dan on the shoulder.

LYNN

Excuse me, but did you seriously just pay over three dollars for some hot water and a tea bag?

DAN

(pauses)
I guess I did.

LYNN

Don't you think that's a little ridiculous. I mean, if I were you I'd get something worth it right? Try something new. Something you couldn't get anywhere else. Something that's at least worth paying over three dollars.

BARISTA

Ma'am. Can I get you something?

LYNN

Yes. I'd like to get whatever the guy behind me is getting. I'm sure five dollars will cover it and keep the rest.

Dan responds with a funny look.

LYNN (CONT'D)

Life's short. Why complicate it with easy decisions.

DAN

Technically you didn't make a decision.

LYNN

Sure I did. I made the decision for the guy behind me to surprise me.

DAN

Okay but is the price worth the surprise?

LYNN

I guess we'll see.

A few minutes later.

BARISTA

Sir. Here's your raspberry tea. And ma'am. Here's your green tea.

LYNN

Seriously?

DAN

(smiles)

Am I allowed to say fail?

LYNN

(laughs)

Only if you promise me you'll try something new next time.

DAN

Ok. Sounds good to me. I give you my word.

LYNN

Sorry your word's not gonna cut it. You're gonna have to prove it. You should meet me here tomorrow at 12:34 sharp.

DAN

12:34? Is there a reason why it has to be exactly 12:34?

LYNN

Nope.

DAN

Ok. I guess I'll see you then. At
12:34...sharp.

LYNN

My name is Lynn by the way.

DAN

Nice to meet you Lynn. I'm
Daniel...or Danny...or Dan.

LYNN

Well...which is it?

DAN

It's all the same.

LYNN

That's total BS. What do you
prefer to be called?

DAN

It really makes no difference to
me.

LYNN

Well, it makes a difference to me.

DAN

Ok then. Well...um...my friends
call me Dan.

LYNN

Great! So if I call you Dan, it'll
make us friends.

DAN

Yeah sure.

LYNN

Alright Dan. I'll see you
tomorrow. Don't disappoint me.

Lynn takes a sip of her drink.

She is surprised at how good it tastes.

LYNN (CONT'D)

Not bad. Not bad at all.

Lynn begins to walk out.

She walks past the customer that ordered her drink.

LYNN (CONT'D)

Thanks!

Lynn waves goodbye to Dan.

CUT TO:

INT. LECTURE ROOM

PROFESSOR

Hello everyone. Welcome to
Psychology 2030. Hopefully
everyone had a nice break...

STUDENT

Hey! Aren't you Dan Tran? You
stopped playing after pitching a
perfect game last season. What
happened to you?

DAN

(pauses)
Academic probation.

STUDENT

That's a bummer man! Why bother
with school? You could be playing
professional baseball right now.
Screw all of this...

Lynn walks into the lecture room and spots Dan.

She creeps up his seat and startles him.

LYNN

Hey! Looks like we're in the same
class. Must be fate. The universe
wanted us to meet apparently.

DAN

(still a bit startled)
Apparently.

LYNN

You're a very lucky guy. I'm a
great study partner you know.

Dan forces a smile.

DAN
That's great.

LATER

Class ends.

CUT TO:

INT. CAMPUS HALL

Dan and Lynn walk out together.

LYNN
So we're still on for tomorrow
right?

DAN
Yeah sure. I gave you my word
didn't I?

LYNN
Good.

CUT TO:

EXT. FOOTBALL FIELD

Dan is playing football with some friends.

DAN
Down! Set! Chase! Hey!
(makes a cross signal to
Chase)

Chase shakes his head and mouths "NO!"

GREG, playing defense, yells at his team.

GREG
He's throwing it to Chase! Double
cover him!

DAN
HUT!

Dan throws a bullet pass to Chase on a crossing route.

Chase makes the catch and scores the touchdown.

CHASE

(yells)

Damnit! You've gotta put less heat on that thing!

DAN

You're the only one I trust to make that catch. I couldn't help myself.

Greg is aggravated at his team.

GREG

What the hell guys! I told you exactly what they were doing!

LATER THAT DAY

Dan and Chase are resting on a bench.

CHASE

I'm glad you made it out today man. It seems like I haven't seen you in years. I thought I was supposed to be your best friend.

DAN

Sorry. What can I say? I've been busy.

CHASE

Seriously, I'm surprised you even listened to my message.

DAN

Well. You are my best friend so that's the least I could do.

CHASE

Real funny Dan. Real funny. But let's get down to business. The team really misses you. Coach is always bitching at us to play with more heart like you do. We need you back. Not because you can throw a ball 100 miles per hour. Well yes, because you can throw a ball 100 miles per hour, but also because you keep us all in line. I mean, Greg thinks he's the shit now because he gets to start in your place. You saw him on the field today douching it out to everyone.

DAN

Yeah. So Greg can be a douche every once in awhile but, give the guy some credit. He's a pretty good pitcher too. Besides... I'm in no condition to play right now.

CHASE

C'mon. You've obviously still have the arm for it.

DAN

Look. Physically I'm there, but my head's not in the right place you know.

CHASE

Ok ok. I'm not gonna make you do anything you don't want to do but I'm just sayin' as a friend, to not waste your life away. You've gotta make the most of it while you can.

DAN

Ok well thanks for the advice. I definitely appreciate it. But for now, let's just enjoy the day. I mean, look at this. It's sunny and bright and unusually breezy for this time of the year. You've gotta love it.

CHASE

Yeah, yeah. So anyways. What do you have going on tomorrow because a bunch of us guys are planning to go down sorority row to meet some pretty ladies.

DAN

I'm actually supposed to meet up with someone tomorrow.

CHASE

Ooh. A girl?

DAN

As a matter of fact. Yes.

CHASE

Nice! I want the details man.

DAN

I don't really know her to be honest. I mean, I just met the girl yesterday randomly at a coffee shop.

CHASE

So is she hot?

DAN

Yeah sure. She's very pretty.

CHASE

That's great man. I'm glad you've got something going on.

DAN

Geezum pete's Chase. You act as though I have no life.

CHASE

Hey. As far as I'm concerned. You don't.

DAN

So I've kept a low profile for a bit. It doesn't mean that I have no life.

CHASE

Your idea of keeping a low profile is close to not even being born. I know you Dan. You're a "people person". People are always around you whether you like it or not. I don't know how you do it. Pheromones maybe?

DAN

Pheromones?

CHASE

Yeah sure why not?

DAN

No. I don't think so.

CHASE

Let me smell you.

DAN

Um...no.

CHASE
Right. Too weird.

DAN
Yes Chase. It's just too weird.

There is an awkward silence.

DAN (CONT'D)
Alright. I've gotta go. This was fun. Thanks for the invite.

CHASE
Alright buddy. Don't forget about what I've said. And Dan? I love you.

DAN
What?

CHASE
I'm just trying to make a lasting impression. That's all. In case I never see you again. Well now, don't be shy to say it.

DAN
I love you too Chase. There. I said it.

CHASE
Well ain't I the luckiest boy in the world?

CUT TO:

INT. DAN'S APARTMENT

An ALARM RINGS.

Dan is already wide awake.

He turns off his alarm.

CUT TO:

INT. GYM

Dan is bench pressing in the weight room.

There is a look of intensity on his face as he pushes the weight away from his chest.

CUT TO:

INT. SUSHI BAR

Lynn is eating alone at a sushi bar.

She uses her chopsticks to mold the shape of a heart with her wasabi.

A WAITRESS walks by.

LYNN

Excuse me? Can I get a check. Oh and a box to go and a little more wasabi?

WAITRESS

Sure. And did you need anything else?

LYNN

No that's it. Thank you.

WAITRESS

No problem. I'll be right back.

Lynn continues to play with her wasabi.

The waitress returns with Lynn's check, a box, and more wasabi.

WAITRESS (CONT'D)

Have a great day.

LYNN

You too.

CUT TO:

INT. COFFEE SHOP

Dan walks in and sees Lynn sitting on a chair close to a window.

He slowly starts approaching her while staring closely at his watch.

LYNN

Hey! You made it. 12:34 on the dot. I'm impressed. You are a man of your word.

DAN

Alright then. So what am I getting today?

LYNN

I hope you don't mind, but I've taken the liberty of getting something that I think you would enjoy.

DAN

I'm excited. I truly am.

Lynn hands Dan the drink.

(sips drink and coughs a bit)

Oh my god. This is interesting.

LYNN

(claps happily)

Yay!

DAN

What is this exactly?

LYNN

Ginger infused coffee with sugar and cream, and wasabi.

DAN

Wasabi? That would explain why I want to cry. Why does this place even carry wasabi?

LYNN

Oh, they don't. I put it in there myself. Had some sushi today and had it left over. I was very inspired today in creating this drink for you. It's a good thing. Trust me. It clears up your sinuses.

Dan's eyes are watery.

DAN

That's great. Do you happen to want some of this?

LYNN

Oh no thank you. I'm not a big fan of wasabi. I got the raspberry tea. It's definitely better than the teas you make at home. Thanks for helping me see that.

DAN

No problem. And thanks for helping me clear my sinuses. This drink is really something else.

LYNN

Aw. You're so sweet. I can see it in your face. You hate it don't you?

DAN

No...It's just...unexpected.

LYNN

Yes unexpected! Don't you love surprises? Of course you do. Everyone does. You know Dan. I had a very good feeling about you the other day.

DAN

(clears throat)
A good feeling?

LYNN

Yes. A very good feeling that you and I would get along. A part me felt that I needed to rescue you.

DAN

Rescue me? Rescue me from what exactly?

LYNN

I don't know yet. Maybe from a lack of excitement. Why don't we have some fun? Yes! Let's have some fun!

DAN

(reluctantly)
Oh I don't know. I was gonna head to the book store. Buy my books for class. Get some reading done.

LYNN

Oh come on! Don't be a drag! If it's because of the coffee, then I'm sorry. Things haven't been too great for me. I could use a pick me up.

DAN

(apprehensively)

Ok. Let's have some fun then.

LYNN

Great! We'll need to pick up some supplies.

CUT TO:

INT. GROCERY STORE

Dan and Lynn are walking down the aisles of a grocery store.

Lynn grabs a pack of condoms off the shelf.

DAN

Condoms. Why would we need condoms?

LYNN

It's not what you think. And stop asking questions will ya. You're gonna ruin the surprise. Also. That's not a typical male response.

DAN

I'm just curious. That's all. I mean, we have some pretty random things here. I have absolutely no idea what you have planned. To be honest with you. I'm starting to rethink my position in this.

LYNN

Don't worry. You're safe with me as long as you trust me. Let me ask you. Do you trust me?

Dan is silent.

LYNN (CONT'D)

I'll take your silence as a yes.

DAN

Ok say I do trust you. Will you at least give me some idea as to what we're gonna do with these random supplies?

LYNN

Absolutely not. But I can tell you that I want to play a game. A game that is just oh so fun!

DAN

Alright then.

CUT TO:

INT. CASHIER

Dan and Lynn are waiting in line.

LYNN

Oh shoot. I left my purse in the car. Do you mind paying for this?

DAN

That's fine.

LYNN

Thanks. I owe you.

The CASHIER, an old woman, starts ringing up Dan and Lynn's items.

Their items consist of condoms, vaseline, a pie, a towel, and two pairs of rubber kitchen gloves.

The cashier gives Dan a look of intrigue, while she rings up their items.

CASHIER

Gonna have some fun tonight?

DAN

Oh. I'm just picking up some random things for a game. That's all.

CASHIER

Must be some fun game.
(smiles creepily)

DAN

I wouldn't know to be honest with you.

CASHIER

I see. Well your total is \$33.30.

Dan hands her his credit card.

She looks at his card.

CASHIER (CONT'D)

Daniel. What a handsome name. You know Daniel. I was somewhat of a wild child back in my days you know.

DAN

Oh. I don't know how to respond to that--

CASHIER

I love playing games. Even at my age. If you know what I mean.

DAN

That's great.

CASHIER

Well here's your card. Have a great day.

Dan grabs his bag.

Lynn is holding back laughter.

They begin to walk out.

DAN

How creepy was that?!

Lynn starts bawling with laughter.

DAN (CONT'D)

You set me up for that didn't you!

LYNN

Haha no. I seriously did not. But you have to admit. That was pretty funny.

DAN

Yeah sure. Funny in a sick grotesque way. Yes.

LYNN
She sure took a liking to you.

DAN
Can we please not talk about it?

LYNN
Oh come on Dan. I bet she's pretty knowledgeable if you know what I mean.
(imitates creepy smile)

Dan can only help but to laugh.

LYNN (CONT'D)
Well now we can finally play our game now. I'm so excited!

DAN
Finally. I get to find out what the hell is going on.

CUT TO:

EXT. A PARK

DAN
So you're telling me that we're gonna have a water balloon toss?

LYNN
Yes! When you were a kid, didn't you ever go to a picnic, have water balloon fights, get wet, running away without a care. There's something endearing about that feeling. We need that back in our lives.

DAN
I still don't understand why we needed this random stuff. I'm pretty sure we could've bought just regular old water balloons instead.

LYNN
Unfortunately we're adults now. We need to step it up. Put on those gloves.

Lynn picks up a massive condom water balloon that has been vaselined.

LYNN (CONT'D)
Ok now. Loser gets a pie in the
face.

DAN
And that explains the pie.

Dan and Lynn start playing their water balloon toss game.
Lynn grabs the balloon with both hands and tosses it at Dan.
The balloon bursts almost instantly on contact and Dan is
drenched in water.

DAN (CONT'D)
Something tells me this was rigged
from the beginning.

LYNN
No one likes a sore loser. Prepare
to face the consequences.

Dan is slowly backing away as Lynn is walking closer.

DAN
So, listen. I'm already wet. I
don't think it's a good idea to
waste a perfectly good pie. I mean,
it looks pretty tasty, don't you
think?

LYNN
I'm sorry Dan, but the pie has a
purpose.

Lynn pies Dan in the face.

She takes her finger and tries a little pie from Dan's face.

LYNN (CONT'D)
Hmm. You were right. This pie is
delicious.

DAN
You know there's plenty left right--

Dan takes some left over pie and mashes it into Lynn's face.

DAN (CONT'D)
--here! Pie never looked so good
until right now.

LYNN
Oh. That's it! You're gonna get
it now!

Lynn runs to the closest water balloon and runs after Dan.

Dan narrowly escapes her throws.

We see them playing and laughing like childhood friends.

CUT TO:

INT. DAN'S APARTMENT

Dan and Lynn head over to Dan's apartment.

They go in.

Dan turns on a light and proceeds to the kitchen.

LYNN
This is a nice place you have here.
Do you have any roommates?

DAN
Nope. No roommates. Do you want
something to drink?

LYNN
Just some water please.

Dan opens the fridge and hands her a bottle of water.

LYNN (CONT'D)
Thanks.

DAN
Can you do me a favor and grab me a
shirt from the closet?

LYNN
Sure.

Lynn walks into Dan's room.

She grabs a t-shirt from the closet and see boxes of trophies
gathering dust.

She walks out and hands Dan his shirt.

He takes off his shirt and changes into the new one.

Lynn is surprised to see Dan's muscular physique.

LYNN (CONT'D)
(with eyes wide)
Wow.

DAN
What was that?

LYNN
(blushes)
Wow. You sure do have a lot of trophies in there.

DAN
Oh yeah. They're just a bunch of old baseball trophies. That's all.

LYNN
You must have been really good.

DAN
Something like that.

LYNN
So what position did you play?

DAN
I was a pitcher.

LYNN
Do you still play now?

DAN
No. No, I don't.

LYNN
That's a shame. I'd like to play catch with you someday.

DAN
I'm not sure if that's a good idea.

LYNN
Well why not?

DAN
It's complicated.

LYNN
I'm really good! Come on! We have to play.

DAN
I can't.

LYNN

Please. I can catch. I promise.
If you just give me a chance, I
can...

DAN

Jesus Christ! Will you drop it
already!

LYNN

(apologetically)
I'm sorry. I'll leave now.

DAN

No, wait. I'm sorry I just. There
are things that you should know
about me--

LYNN

No it's fine. I'm sorry. I know I
can be overly annoying sometimes.
I just want you to know that I had
a really great time with you today.
Thanks for playing with me. I'll
see you tomorrow in class.

Lynn starts to make her move to the door.

DAN

Wait Lynn. You're not annoying.
And I had a great time today too.
It's been a long time since I've
had a day like this. Thank you.

LYNN

Your welcome.
(smiles)
I'll save you a seat tomorrow.

Lynn leaves.

Dan walks into his room and looks at his old trophies.

He goes into his closet and digs out his baseball equipment.

CUT TO:

INT. LECTURE ROOM

Dan sees Lynn and sits next to her.

DAN
Hey so look. I feel like I should
explain myself.

LYNN
No you don't. It's ok. We both
have our secrets.

DAN
Well yes, but I want to tell you
that I'm not the kind of person
that snaps like that.

LYNN
Maybe you should snap more. It's a
healthy reaction. You should be
free to express your emotions. The
worst thing you could do is hide
them.

DAN
Thanks for understanding.

LYNN
No problem.

DAN
I still want to explain myself.
Let me take you somewhere after
class.

LYNN
Ok.

DAN
You're not curious to know where?

LYNN
Nope.

DAN
Why is that?

LYNN
Because I trust you.

Dan smiles.

CUT TO:

EXT. BASEBALL STADIUM

Dan and Lynn are sitting in the baseball seats that were once reserved for Dan's parents.

LYNN

So why are we here?

DAN

I want you to know something about me. I haven't been here in six months. You see. I was the starting pitcher for our school last season. In baseball, the ultimate accomplishment that a pitcher can achieve is a perfect game. The day that I had pitched a perfect game was in this very same field. It was also the same day that I found out that my parents had died in a car accident. I haven't played baseball since.

LYNN

I'm so sorry for your loss.

(pauses)

I don't want to cross any boundaries here but why did you stop playing?

DAN

Because my parents were on their way to that game. It was my fault that they died that day. They were my biggest fans. I expected them to always be there. If I wasn't so selfish, this would never have happened.

LYNN

You shouldn't do that to yourself you know. Blame yourself for that.

DAN

I...I can't help it.

LYNN

Okay. So it's your fault? Can you really live your life with that kind of burden on your shoulder?

DAN

I have no choice.

LYNN

But you do have a choice. You always have a choice. You can keep blaming yourself for something you had absolutely no control over or you can choose to move on knowing that you did nothing wrong.

DAN

I don't want to move on. Not from this.

LYNN

Then learn to forgive yourself.

DAN

Forgive myself?

LYNN

Yes. Forgive yourself.

DAN

I don't think I know how.

LYNN

Well for starters. Forgiveness usually starts with an apology.

DAN

I'm sorry for killing my parents? That doesn't seem right by any means.

LYNN

So I guess that means you have nothing to apologize for.

Dan ponders at the idea.

DAN

I still can't help but to feel somewhat responsible for everything that happened. My parents had sacrificed so much for me to play this game. They revolved their entire lives to support my dreams and look where it's gotten them.

LYNN

If you're gonna do your parents any justice. Finish what you've started. Play the game again. They would've died in vain if you stopped pursuing your dreams.

DAN
That's the thing. I've lost sight
of my dreams.

LYNN
Let me be the one to remind you.
Let's play some catch.

DAN
(pauses)
Alright...let's do this.

EXT. BASEBALL FIELD

Dan and Lynn are geared up to play some catch.
Lynn is wearing catcher's equipment.

DAN
Are you sure you wanna do this?

LYNN
Oh yeah!

DAN
I don't want this to sound awkward,
but you actually look kind of cute.

LYNN
Oh sweetie. Don't you know I can
get away with anything?

DAN
I'm starting to realize that now.
You ready?

LYNN
Ready!

Dan throws a soft pitch.

LYNN (CONT'D)
Was that it?
I thought you were supposed to be a
star pitcher.

DAN
I didn't want to hurt you.

LYNN
Please. Stop being a pansy. I can
handle it!

DAN

I'm telling you. You don't want me to pitch any faster.

LYNN

C'mon Dan! This is fun! I want to see what you've got!

DAN

Ok then. Just don't blame me if something goes wrong. You promise?

LYNN

I promise!

Dan throws a slightly harder pitch.

LYNN (CONT'D)

Seriously Dan! I know you're holding back! If you keep pitching like a girl, I'm going to start treating you like one!

DAN

Fine. Just remember that I tried to warn you!

Dan closes his eyes and takes a deep breath.

He winds up and throws a fastball.

Lynn catches the ball and falls flat on her back from the impact.

Dan's eyes widen as he rushes over to Lynn.

DAN (CONT'D)

Shit! You see! I told you this wasn't a good idea!

LYNN

No! That was great! I'm not going to lie. That hurt, but I did ask for it.

DAN

Geez Lynn. You had me worried.

LYNN

Worried?

DAN

Yes. Worried.

LYNN
That's really sweet.

DAN
Let me look at your hand.

Dan takes off Lynn's glove and sees that hand is bruised.

LYNN
It's not as bad as it looks.

DAN
Are you kidding me? It looks like
I could be charged with domestic
violence.

LYNN
No. I bruise easily.

Dan rubs her hands and kisses her bruise.

DAN
All better?

LYNN
You bet.

DAN
Come on silly. Let's get some ice
on that thing.

Lynn smiles with gratitude.

EXT. BLEACHERS

Dan and Lynn continue their conversation in the bleachers.

Lynn's hand is iced.

LYNN
So let me ask you. How did you get
so good at pitching?

DAN
Long story short. I had a lot of
anxiety growing up. I'd have a lot
of nervous break downs. You might
not expect that, but it's true. It
had become a big problem so instead
of my parents taking me to a
doctor, they decided to buy me a
bucket full of baseballs.

(MORE)

DAN (CONT'D)

My dad would take me to the playground and say, "whenever you get anxious, throw it all away." So that's what I did. I threw away all my nerves and anxiety I had into a pitch. As time passed, my arm naturally grew stronger and more accurate. Pitching just became second nature to me.

LYNN

Well now. It is pretty amazing what you can do.

DAN

I don't think about it that way.

LYNN

Oh but it is and you should never have stopped. You have a real talent.

DAN

I wouldn't consider throwing a ball a *real* talent by any means.

LYNN

No, but what you do is far beyond throwing. It's like dancing. It's an art form. It's all about the movement, coordination, passion and so many other things. What you do is an art.

DAN

That's an interesting view on things.

Dan and Lynn stare at the baseball field from a distance.

LYNN

So how is life away from this?

DAN

Well. Different. Being off that mound for me was a reality check. I realized how nervous and anxious I could still be. When I'm standing there, it's like I'm in my own little world. Everything around me moves in slow motion the moment I throw that baseball. There's something magical about that moment.

(MORE)

DAN (CONT'D)

Pitching isn't all about how strong your arm is. It's a chess match between me and the hitter. It's about how much heart and desire you have to give it all you've got. There's nothing like that feeling in the world. Being on that mound. Baseball isn't just a game of pitch and catch. Not to me at least.

LYNN

I hope you decide to go back. I'd love to see you play again.

DAN

I'd like that too actually.

CUT TO:

INT. COACH'S OFFICE

Dan knocks on the coach's office door.

COACH GREY

Come in.

DAN

Hey Coach.

COACH GREY

Dan! How's it going kid? We've missed you over here. It's been a long time. I don't think I've seen you since--

DAN

Since the funeral. Yeah I'm sorry about that Coach.

COACH GREY

No, no, you don't have to apologize for anything. I know you've had it rough these past few months.

DAN

It hasn't been too bad. Dr. Kelly talked me through a lot of my issues. I just wanted to thank you for introducing me to her. She really is amazing.

(pauses)

(MORE)

DAN (CONT'D)

Look, I know I kinda disappointed you and the team by quitting mid-season and all--

COACH GREY

(interrupts)

No son. You didn't disappoint me or the team. One person doesn't make a team. You should know that. But forget all that. I don't want to talk baseball. I want to know what you've been up to outside of all of this.

DAN

I started pitching again.

COACH GREY

Dan. You really don't need to talk about baseball right now. We're not even in baseball season.

DAN

Coach. I want to talk about it. I'm ready to talk about it. The only way for me to move on is to talk about it. I'm not going to hide from remorse and guilt anymore. I used to think that baseball defined who I was and if I continued to play, my parents would be just a second thought. It didn't feel right to play again without them. They're the reason I became who I am. You see, I thought I was a nobody without them.

COACH GREY

What are you trying to say son?

DAN

I'm trying to say that I *am* a somebody because of them. I wasn't just a baseball player, but I was a son. A son who was too embarrassed to admit how much he misses his dad, who always laughed at his jokes, even if they weren't funny. I was a son who secretly enjoyed when his mom kissed him on the cheek in front of the guys.

(MORE)

DAN (CONT'D)

And worst of all, I'm a son who never appreciated the time he had with his parents. You see coach, I spent all this time hating baseball because it took my parents away from me, but the truth is. Baseball is what brought us closer together in the first place.

Dan breaks down.

CUT TO:

EXT. BASEBALL FIELD

Dan sits alone in the stands and ponders.

He sees a family of three playing baseball.

The FATHER pitches to his SON.

The son hits the ball towards Dan.

Dan throws the ball right back to the FATHER.

FATHER

What do you say son?

SON

Thank you mister!

DAN

No problem.

The mother is cheering her son on as he is running around the bases.

CUT TO:

INT. DAN'S APARTMENT

Dan makes a phone call to Lynn but it goes straight to voicemail.

Dan leaves a message.

LYNN'S VOICEMAIL

It's Lynn! Leave a message!

DAN

Hey. It's Dan. I just wanted to see how your recovery was going?

(MORE)

DAN (CONT'D)

Once again. I'm very sorry about that. I wanna make it up to you. Let me know if you have any free time.

CUT TO:

INT. LECTURE ROOM

PROFESSOR

Afternoon class. Today we're going to talk about self-perception...

Dan sits down and notices that Lynn is not there.

Class ends.

Dan receives a phone call from Lynn as he is walking out of class.

DAN

Hello?

LYNN

Hey I got your message. I'm sorry I didn't get back to you sooner.

DAN

It's alright. I missed you today in class. I wrote some pretty good notes for you.

LYNN

Great. Thanks.

DAN

So where are you?

LYNN

I've been home all day. I've been feeling under the weather recently.

DAN

I hope this isn't because of the other day.

LYNN

Oh no. I've been dealing with this for awhile, but that's not why I called. I wanted to let you know when I was free.

DAN

Oh ok. That's cool. So when are you free?

LYNN

Tomorrow from 12:04-7:31.

DAN

Are you kidding me?

LYNN

Absolutely.

(laughs)

I wouldn't do that to you again.

DAN

That's a relief.

LYNN

I'm available whenever you see me.

DAN

That's pretty open.

LYNN

Seriously. I'll work with your schedule. Your life is way more interesting than mine.

DAN

Alright. How about tomorrow at 6?

LYNN

Ok. Can't wait!

DAN

Oh and do me a favor.

LYNN

And that is?

DAN

Get better.

LYNN

Haha ok!

DAN

I'll see you tomorrow.

LYNN

Bye Dan.

DAN
Bye.

CUT TO:

EXT. CAMPUS GROUNDS

Dan is walking on campus.

Chase sneaks behind Dan and lifts him off the ground.

DAN
Whoa! What is wrong with you?!

CHASE
Word on the street is you're back!
Tell me it's true.

DAN
Who did you hear that from?

CHASE
Does it matter? Just tell me it's
true.

DAN
Yeah. It's true. I'm back.

CHASE
Finally! We've got a chance now!

DAN
You know Chase, one person doesn't
make a team.

CHASE
Yeh, yeh, but now I don't have to
deal with that douche Greg.

DAN
Now you've got me curious. How did
you find out about that?

CHASE
The cleaning lady.

DAN
The cleaning lady?

CHASE
You'd be surprise how much she
knows. She must've overheard your
conversation with coach, I guess.

DAN

Ok. Another thing? Why are you in speaking terms with the cleaning lady.

CHASE

Damn it Dan! I'm just a very personable guy. Let's just leave it at that!

DAN

Alright Chase. Calm down.

CHASE

Anyways. How did your little date go the other day?

DAN

Date? No, it was hardly a date. At least I don't think so. I mean, we just met up at a coffee shop.

CHASE

Interesting. I would've expected more from you Danny boy. You are into her right?

DAN

Yes. She's not like anyone I've ever been with.

CHASE

Paint me a picture here. What else did you do in this date? Am I supposed to believe that all you did was sip some coffee and talk?

DAN

Well. We played a game afterwards.

CHASE

A game? Like an "under the sheets" kind of game?

DAN

Not exactly. More like an intense game of water balloon toss.

CHASE

Water balloon toss? Lord have mercy Dan! That may be the single worst date I have ever heard of in my entire life!

DAN

Hey! I told you I didn't think of it as a date.

CHASE

At least tell me it wasn't your idea to play that game?

DAN

No it wasn't my idea ok?

CHASE

Thank God!

DAN

Look in any regards, we both had a great time and we've been hanging out since. Just hanging out. Nothing serious.

CHASE

Ok then. If you want my advice--

DAN

(interrupts)

I don't want your advice.

CHASE

If you want my advice. Take her out on a real date.

DAN

I really don't want to complicate things.

CHASE

Damn it Dan! Do it! I haven't even met the girl and I can tell she's good for you. She *must* be the reason you're out of your slump. As good as a friend that I am, even I couldn't have gotten you out of that rock you called home those last six months.

DAN

You're absolutely right.

CHASE

Thank you! Finally!

DAN

But if I get rejected, your cousin Marissa is the first person I will rebound towards.

CHASE

Aw come on Dan. You know how sensitive I am about that shit.

DAN

Hey. It's not my fault that you have very attractive cousins.

CHASE

Alright, fine.

DAN

Alright then.

CHASE

Come on, let's grab something to eat. I'm starving.

DAN

I'm not hungry, but I'll catch you later.

CHASE

Later then.

CUT TO:

INT. LYNN'S APARTMENT

Dan rings Lynn's doorbell.

LYNN

I'll be there in a few seconds!

Lynn opens the door and is completely dressed up.

Dan is stunned at how beautiful she looks.

DAN

You look amazing.

LYNN

Oh. Thanks.

DAN

I feel under dressed.

LYNN

Oh. I just didn't know what the plan was. I can change.

DAN

No. You don't have to. I mean, you can if you want to. I wasn't going to take you any where nice. Ok. That didn't come out right. I wanted to surprise you and take you somewhere special, but it's not exactly a place you need to dress up.

LYNN

Oh. So I should change?

DAN

It's not necessary. But I do want you to feel comfortable.

LYNN

Okay then. Give me five seconds.

Lynn quickly takes off her shoes and puts on a pair of sneakers.

LYNN (CONT'D)

There. I'm done. Let's go.

DAN

Alright cool. There's just one thing. I'm gonna have to blindfold you. I don't want to give anything away.

LYNN

Interesting. You know how much I love surprises.

DAN

Yes. All too well.

CUT TO:

INT. HALLWAY TO DAN'S APARTMENT-FRONT DOOR

Lynn is blindfolded.

Dan leads her into his apartment.

LYNN

Can I take this off now?

DAN

Yeah. Let me help you.

LYNN

So why are we in your apartment?
Or better yet. Why is there a tent
in your living room?

DAN

Well. You made me do something the
other day that reminded you of your
childhood. Now it's my turn.

LYNN

Ooh. I see. So I take it that you
did a lot of camping as a kid?

DAN

No, not at all. I used to set up
chairs and place blankets on top
and pretend to go camping. As you
can see. I don't have to do that
anymore.

LYNN

You've certainly made an upgrade.

DAN

It gets better.

He plays a CD of nature sounds.

Lynn laughs.

LYNN

Oh my! That's fantastic! So what
would you do in your tent?

DAN

Mostly think.

LYNN

Oh really? What kind of things
would you think about?

DAN

The mysteries of life. Anything
and everything. Sometimes I would
go in there and close my eyes just
to hear my own thoughts.

LYNN

This is a very special place isn't
it?

DAN
You could say that.

LYNN
Well. Can we go in?

DAN
Yes. But let me warn you. I
didn't have too much time to
decorate in there?

Dan and Lynn go into the tent.

Dan turns on a switch.

The interior lights up.

Lynn is surprised to see that the interior is decorated
elaborately.

LYNN
This is amazing!

DAN
(smiles)
This is a special place and I
wanted to share it with someone
special.

LYNN
Oh Dan, I honestly don't know what
to say.

DAN
There's no need to say anything.

LYNN
I need to tell you something.

DAN
Okay. What's on your mind?

LYNN
(hesitantly)
There's something that you need to
know. It may affect how you feel
about me.

DAN
Look. Before you say anything, I
want to tell you that I don't care.
I like you.

(MORE)

DAN (CONT'D)

I like you a lot and whatever you did in your past isn't going to affect the way I feel about you now.

LYNN

I like you too. To be honest with you, I'm scared. I'm scared of these feelings that I have for you. But you really need to know this about me--

Dan moves in and kisses her passionately.

DAN

I'm sorry. I don't know what came over me.

Lynn aggressively moves toward Dan and kisses him back.

They make love.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. DAN'S APARTMENT

Lynn caresses Dan's hair as he wakes.

He smiles.

They kiss.

LYNN

Morning.

DAN

What time is it?

LYNN

It's 6:30.

DAN

Oh wow. I'm actually usually up before then. Did you have a hard time sleeping or something?

LYNN

No. I just did a lot of thinking. This tent. It really does make you think.

DAN

Look. About last night. If you still want to tell me something, I promise I won't freak out.

LYNN

Let's save that for later. Right now, I just want to enjoy the moment with you.

DAN

That sounds good to me. And just so you know. You can tell me anything. I mean it. I thought you just should know that.

LYNN

I appreciate it.

CUT TO:

INT. LYNN'S APARTMENT

Dan brings Lynn to her front door.

LYNN

Thanks for a wonderful time.

DAN

Anytime.

Dan and Lynn kiss goodbye.

He leaves with a content smile.

She walks in and closes the door.

With her back against the door, she stumbles and cries while falling to the floor.

CUT TO:

EXT. BASEBALL FIELD

Dan is throwing a baseball to Chase.

DAN

I think she's the one man.

CHASE

Whoa. Hold on. Just because she let you unload on her doesn't mean she's the one. Take a minute to think about this for a moment. I know I was all for "you and her" but don't you think you're moving too fast?

DAN

There's something about her, Chase. You know. My mom used to tell me that home isn't where you live. Home is about placing yourself with the people that make you feel the most alive. And right now, I feel the most alive when I'm with Lynn. I feel at home when I'm with her. I think I love her.

CHASE

I cannot believe I'm hearing this from you. What can I say? I'm happy for you, but at the same time, I don't want you to get hurt. Do you even know if she loves you?

DAN

No.

CHASE

Then keep these feelings to yourself until you know for sure that she "loves" you.

DAN

I just don't think that's a good idea.

CHASE

As your best friend, I beg you to keep this to yourself. Let me at least check her out to see if she's right for you. Maybe squeeze some details out of her.

DAN

Alright. Deal. But I don't think you should be interrogating her. I just want you to meet her. You know. As a courtesy.

CHASE
Fine. We should all hang out
sometime soon then. We'll hit up
the social scene.

DAN
I'll set it up.

CUT TO:

INT. CAFE

Dan and Lynn are having lunch at a cafe.

DAN
Hey.

LYNN
Hey. What's up?

DAN
So...my best friend Chase wants to
meet you.

LYNN
Okey dokey. So why is it that he
wants to meet me?

DAN
He wants to make sure you won't try
to hurt me.

LYNN
That's just silly.

DAN
Yeh I know. If you just humor him
a little, it'll be fine. He's just
kinda overprotective in a weird
way.

LYNN
Oh I see. So when are we meeting
him?

DAN
He wants to hit the "social scene."
My guess is he wants to see how
you'll respond around other guys at
a club or something. Luckily for
you, I'm not the jealous type.

LYNN
(chuckles)
Oh really? So you wouldn't be
jealous if a slew of men tried to
dance with me?

DAN
Hmmm. No, I don't think so. My
dance moves will certainly sweep
you off your feet.

LYNN
What confidence! How sexy.

DAN
So this weekend? Club night?
Let's make it happen.

LYNN
Let's do it.

CUT TO:

EXT. CLUB

Dan and Lynn meet Chase in front of the club.

CHASE
Hey! There you are. So are you
the girl that has made my friend
here soft?

LYNN
Guilty.

DAN
Ok why don't we just head on in.

CHASE
After you.
(whispers)
Alright. She's passed the first
test.

DAN
(whispers back)
What test?

CHASE
The Predrunk Hotness Test. I don't
have to be drunk to think she's
hot. That's great.

Dan shakes his head.

They walk in.

CUT TO:

INT. CLUB

Dan, Lynn, and Chase walk towards the bar and order drinks.

LYNN
So what do you fellas want to
drink?

DAN
I'm gonna head to the restroom real
quick. Surprise me. Just make
sure there's no wasabi in my drink.

LYNN
Ah. Gotcha!

Dan leaves for the restroom.

Lynn orders drinks.

CUT TO:

INT. RESTROOM

Dan sees one big urinal and has a bewildered look upon his
face.

CUT TO:

INT. CLUB

LYNN
So Chase. Dan tells me I need your
approval.

CHASE
Um...what?

LYNN
It's ok.

CHASE
(nervously)
I have no idea what you're talking
about?

LYNN

Really. It's fine. You're his best friend. Bromance is a bond deeper than friendship. Go ahead and interrogate me all you want.

CHASE

Uh...well. It's not like I had a list of questions that I was going to ask you or anything. I just want to make sure you're in this for the right reasons. If Dan wanted to, he could go pro one day. It's my responsibility as his best friend to make sure he's surrounded by the right people.

LYNN

I don't want to hurt him you know? Can I tell you something? Something that should stay just between the two of us.

CHASE

I'm not sure. I can't make any promises.

LYNN

Fair enough. You should know that I love him. I love him more than he'll ever know. Right now, you're the most important person in his life. I know that it doesn't seem that way, but it's true. He'll have to lean on you one day.

CHASE

I don't think I understand.

Dan returns from the restroom.

DAN

Avoid the bathroom at all cost. Why would they have just one big urinal? What are we, in preschool or something? Anyways. Did I miss anything interesting?

CHASE

Um.

(fakes laughter)

Look at that creeper dancing over there. Someone needs to slap some reality into him.

LYNN

Oh yeah. I don't think that girl appreciates being dry humped.

DAN

That's hilarious. Oh watch it. He's heading this way.

CHASE

Hey Dan. Can I talk to you for a sec. Alone?

Dan looks at Lynn.

She nods with approval.

CHASE (CONT'D)

She's ok in my book.

DAN

Yeah?

CHASE

Yeah. She said all the right things.

DAN

She does have a way with her words.

CHASE

Hey Dan. You know you can lean on me anytime right?

DAN

Yeah. Of course.

CHASE

Look behind you. Looks like you've got some competition. Do you want some help with that situation?

DAN

No. I think I've got it.

CHASE

Alright.

Lynn mouths the words, "SAVE ME!"

The CREEPER, a middle-aged bald man wearing sunglasses and a scarf, is dancing behind Lynn.

Dan starts to dance toward Lynn and the creeper.

He makes his way behind the creeper.

DAN
What's up bro?

CREEPER
Just getting my groove on as you
can see.

DAN
I see that. You've got some sweet
moves my man!

CREEPER
Uh...yeh. Thanks.

DAN
You're welcome.

Dan continues to dance.

He starts running his hands around the creeper's waist.

Lynn suppresses a laugh.

CREEPER
Whoa. What the hell do you think
you're doing?

DAN
Just getting my groove on.

CREEPER
Yeah so I don't swing that way.

DAN
Oh I'm sorry. I'm confused.

CREEPER
Confused by what?

DAN
I don't understand why you're
dancing with a lesbian.

CREEPER
That's funny. There's no flipping
way!

DAN
Don't you know?

CREEPER
Know what?

DAN
Don't you know it's Gay Thursday.

CREEPER
You've got jokes. You're kidding?

DAN
She's a 5 at best. You're an 8 or 9? You're obviously a stud.

CREEPER
That's true.

DAN
Think about it? How many women have rejected you tonight?

CREEPER
Interesting. An unusual amount.

DAN
It's because they're all lesbians. You see that guy over there?

Dan points to Chase.

Dan smiles and nods at Chase.

Chase responds with a smile and nod as well.

DAN (CONT'D)
He totally wants you too.

CREEPER
Oh this is just too weird. But that explains everything. I *have* been turned down more than usual tonight.

DAN
Yeah. So we're cool right?

CREEPER
Yeah sure. Thanks for the heads up.

DAN
So what are you doing later?

CREEPER
What?

DAN
 You know. I can love you for a
 long time if you want.

CREEPER
 (laughs nervously)
 Oh boy. Look at the time. It's
 past my bedtime.

The creeper starts to run swiftly towards the exit.

LYNN
 (laughs)
 My hero!
 (pauses)
 What's wrong?

DAN
 I can't believe I just got
 rejected. That line works almost
 every single time.

LYNN
 Okay stud. Let's see those dance
 moves.

Dance music begins to play.

Dan and Lynn start dancing.

A crowd of people begin to gather around the two as they
 dance around aimlessly.

FADE OUT.

INT. DAN'S APARTMENT - WEEKS LATER

Dan is outside his front door.

He searches for his keys.

He finally finds them and unlocks the door.

He opens the door.

A gang of people yell "SURPRISE!"

LYNN
 Happy Birthday sweetie!

DAN
 My birthday's not for another two
 weeks.

LYNN

Yes but we all have finals that week. So we decided to move it up and surprise you.

DAN

I really wasn't expecting this. Thanks sweetie.

Dan kisses Lynn.

LYNN

Just to be fair. Chase helped out. He claims that he was the mastermind behind this.

Chase walks by.

CHASE

Yeh. Because I was.

LYNN

Oh please Chase.

CHASE

Whatever. I don't feel like arguing. It's time to celebrate.

LYNN

I agree.

CHASE

You better celebrate while you still can. You're getting old there buddy.

DAN

22 is NOT old.

CHASE

After 21. It just all goes down from there.

DAN

Isn't your birthday in a few months?

CHASE

Damn. I forgot you were good at math.

LYNN

I didn't realize you needed to be good at math to figure that one out.

DAN

Yeah well Chase still finds it difficult to tell time.

LYNN

Is that why he's always late?

DAN

No. That's because he has a horrible sense of directions.

LYNN

I believe it.

CHASE

Wow. I didn't know I was going to be butt-raped by the both of you. It hurts. Anally.

Dan and Lynn chuckle.

DAN

Oh come on Chase. You know we love you.

LYNN

Yeah Chase. I couldn't have done this without you.

CHASE

It just feels nice to be acknowledged every once in awhile. That's all. Ok I forgive you guys. But right now, my compass is pointing North towards the girl in red.

DAN

Yeah...too much information there.

Lynn laughs while Chase approaches the girl in red.

DAN (CONT'D)

You know. I'm a lucky guy to have a person like you in my life. You helped me get out of a bad place in my life.

LYNN

It's not like you really needed me.
I don't think you needed anybody.
Everything you've had to overcome.
You did it yourself. I was just in
the passenger's seat, along for the
ride.

The gang sings Happy Birthday while Chase brings out a cake.

LYNN (CONT'D)

Make a wish.

Dan closes his eyes and reopens them.

He blows the candles.

CUT TO:

EXT. BASEBALL FIELD

Dan is warming up on the field.

The clock speed is at 102 mph.

It increases to 104 mph.

COACH GREY

Dan!

DAN

Yeah. What's going on coach?

COACH GREY

I just wanted to welcome you back
but I also have to tell you that
you're gonna have to earn your
starting position back. I just
can't give it to you.

DAN

That's fine Coach. I'm up to the
challenge.

Coach Grey leaves.

Greg walks towards Dan.

GREG

What up Dan! I just thought you should know that I don't plan on handing over my sweet starting spot so easily. I've improved exponently.

DAN

I don't think that's a word.

GREG

Oh I mean...exponensiously.

DAN

Not quite understanding.

GREG

I just mean a lot!

DAN

Oh. Yeah I see you've gotten better. Good job.

COACH GREY

Alright guys! Let's practice! Greg! You're pitching first.

Greg walks onto the mound.

CUT TO:

LATER

The bases are loaded.

Greg pitches.

ASSISTANT COACH

Ball 4!

GREG

Damnit!

Dan is waiting patiently in the dugout.

Lynn arrives and sits in the bleachers.

LYNN

(waves)

Dan!

Dan is pleasantly surprised to see Lynn.

COACH GREY
Your turn Tran.

LYNN
Whoohoo! Go Dan!

GREG
How sweet. You've brought your
girlfriend. Let's hope she doesn't
distract you too much.

Dan walks toward the mound.

He waves at Lynn.

He throws his first pitch.

ASSISTANT COACH
Strike 1!

COACH GREY
How fast was that?

Coach Grey looks to the side.

ASSISTANT COACH
104 mph.

COACH GREY
Is that right?! Dan! Pitch again!

Dan pitches again.

ASSISTANT COACH
104 mph.

COACH GREY
How fast were his fastballs last
season?

ASSISTANT COACH
I believe he averaged a 98 mph
fastball.

COACH GREY
When did he get better?

ASSISTANT COACH
Must have been practicing this
whole time? I mean. There's no
way someone could improve so much
without practicing. Right?

COACH GREY

I don't know. But he's got some
new drive in him.

Dan is waiting for further instructions.

DAN

Hey coach! Another pitch? I think
I can do better!

COACH GREY

Yeah sure! One more!

He pitches another fastball.

ASSISTANT COACH

Holy...106 mph! I've never seen
numbers this high! Something has
to be wrong with this machine.

COACH GREY

Greg! I need you on the mound
again!

Greg runs off to the mound and meets Dan in the middle.

GREG

Looks like you screwed up your
chances.

Dan walks off with frustration.

Lynn boos.

COACH GREY

I need a fastball. Don't hold
back.

Greg pitches a fastball.

ASSISTANT COACH

89 mph.

COACH GREY

Is that about right? For Greg's
average?

ASSISTANT COACH

That's right on the dot.

COACH GREY

So the radar gun. It's right.

ASSISTANT COACH
It's right alright.

COACH GREY
(blows whistle)
Let's take a break!

CUT TO:

EXT. BLEACHERS - DUGOUT

Lynn approaches Dan.

LYNN
Hey sweetie!

DAN
Hey! What are you doing here?

LYNN
It's your first practice. I thought I could provide you with some support. Are you embarrassed or something?

DAN
No. Of course not. I'm glad you're here. It's just kind of weird being back. I'm actually a little nervous.

LYNN
Don't be. You're doing great!

DAN
I just hope I get more reps out there. Just a few more pitches to show I've got it.

LYNN
Just close your eyes and take a deep breath and do your best. That's all anyone can ever ask for.

DAN
You're right.

Coach Grey blows his whistle.

COACH GREY
Break's over! Line it up!

CUT TO:

INT. LOCKER ROOM

Chase and Dan are talking in the locker room.

CHASE

Man. You were killing it out there. I think I'm gonna have to ice my hand when I get home.

DAN

What are you talking about? Coach took me out pretty early.

CHASE

Yeah because he didn't want you to injure anybody with your fastballs.

DAN

I don't know about that. Maybe I have lost some of it. It *has* been awhile since I've done all of this.

COACH GREY

Tran! Can I see you in my office?

INT. COACH'S OFFICE

COACH GREY

Your pitching today--

DAN

(interrupts)

Yes I know. Sucked. I'm going to get back to my old form. I promise.

COACH GREY

(confused)

No son. You're pitching faster than I've ever seen you pitch. How fast do you think you were throwing?

DAN

At least 90, or maybe 91 mph.

COACH GREY

Try 104, or 105 mph.

DAN

I don't understand.

COACH GREY

You've gotten better. I don't know how but you did.

Dan is surprised.

COACH GREY (CONT'D)

Look son. I just wanted to tell you that you're going to be my starter as long as you keep practicing and playing at this high level.

DAN

I don't know what to say. Thanks.

COACH GREY

There's no need you thank me. You've earned it. What you've been through Dan. I don't know how you've done it.

DAN

I've been inspired recently sir.

COACH GREY

Whatever it is...don't ever lose it.

CUT TO:

INT. LYNN'S APARTMENT

Dan KNOCKS.

Lynn opens the door.

LYNN

Hey. You're here a bit early aren't you?

DAN

Yeah. Guess what?

LYNN

What?

DAN

I got the starting job.

LYNN

Seriously? That's great! I had no doubt that you wouldn't get the job. I'm gonna make you a special dinner tonight.

DAN

Ooh. Um...special dinner?

LYNN

Aw geez Dan...You know I'm a great cook.

DAN

Yeah...sure. Only when I'm there to monitor you.

Lynn laughs.

LYNN

Well it's a good thing you're here early then. Let's make some magic happen in this kitchen.

FADE OUT.

FADE IN:

INT. DAN'S APARTMENT-BEDROOM

Dan and Lynn are in bed together.

The alarm rings.

Dan wakes up and turns off alarm.

DAN

Lynn. We've gotta get ready for class.

Lynn is still sound asleep.

Lynn? Are you ok?

She wakes.

LYNN

Oh. Yeah. I'm just really tired.

DAN

Take another five minutes to sleep. I'll make us some breakfast.

INT. DAN'S APARTMENT-KITCHEN

LYNN

Mmm...Smells good.

DAN

Yeah I made you you're favorite.
It seems like you're having one of
those days.

LYNN

I'll live. I can't believe break's
over. Where did the time go?

DAN

I have no idea. I just can't
believe our first game is this
week.

LYNN

How exciting. You're gonna kill it
out there. I guarantee it.

Lynn yawns.

LYNN (CONT'D)

Wow. I'm still so very tired.

DAN

Hey Lynn. I didn't want to say
anything, but you've seemed out of
it these past few weeks. I'm
getting a little worried.

LYNN

I can take care of myself. You've
got a big game coming up. Don't
distract yourself by worrying about
me. I'm a big girl.

DAN

I know you can hold your own, but
you're also a bit stubborn.

LYNN

And that's why you love me.

Dan forces a smile and shows a slight sense of concern.

CUT TO:

EXT. BASEBALL FIELD

Dan and Chase are practicing and running drills with the baseball team.

CHASE

Look at Greg. He's so sad now.
It's absolutely hilarious. Hey
Dan! You with me?

DAN

What?

CHASE

What's up man?

DAN

I was just thinking about
something.

CHASE

Can you be anymore vague?

DAN

Lynn's been getting really tired
and sick lately. Something's wrong
and I think she's afraid to tell
me.

CHASE

Oh yeh?

DAN

Yeah. I think she's afraid I'm
gonna leave her.

CHASE

No way man. You guys are totally
right for each other.

DAN

You think?

CHASE

I know. It's disgusting man.
Sometimes you remind me of my own
parents. Still together after 25
years. It's cool and all but it's
gross.

DAN

That's probably the nicest thing
you've ever said.

CHASE
Yeah. That's up for debate.

DAN
Well. What should I do?

CHASE
Dan asking for my advice. That's new. You want my advice? Do nothing. I think if anything is wrong, she'll tell you when the time is right.

DAN
That is surprisingly good advice.

CHASE
I have my moments.

CUT TO:

EXT. BASEBALL FIELD

Dan meets with Lynn.

LYNN
Hey sweetie. How was practice?

DAN
It was good. I just can't wait to play a real game.

LYNN
That's great.

DAN
How did class go?

LYNN
Hmm...Slept right through it.

DAN
That boring?

LYNN
No. Just had a dizzy spell again.

DAN
Are you alright?

LYNN
Yeah. I'll be fine.
(pauses)
(MORE)

LYNN (CONT'D)

Dan, I have to tell you something?
Do you remember that night we spent
in the tent.

DAN

How could I forget? That was the
first night we...oh wait a minute.
Are you pregnant!? That explains
why you've been sick and tired.

LYNN

No Dan.

DAN

Oh thank God. I'm sorry. I mean,
I would be the luckiest man to have
a kid with you, but I just don't
think we're ready for that.

LYNN

Dan. I wanted to tell you
something that night. Remember?

DAN

Yes. And I promised that I
wouldn't freak out right? I
totally just broke that promise.
I'm sorry I--

LYNN

It's okay Dan. I need to tell you
this now.

DAN

Ok so what is it that you wanted to
tell me?

LYNN

There's no easy way to say this.
(hesitates)
I'm sick. I'm really sick.

DAN

Yes. I know. We'll get some
medication for that.

LYNN

You don't understand. I've
got...I've got...cancer.

DAN

Heh I don't think I heard you
right. It sounded like you said
you had cancer.

LYNN

Dan. I'm dying.

DAN

This is a joke right? Chase put you up to it. Tell me it's a joke because I'll tell you right now. It's not funny.

LYNN

Dan look at me. I'm dying in front of your eyes. I know you see it. You have to accept that I'm not getting any better.

DAN

What can we do about this? Tell me.

LYNN

I'm sorry. There's nothing you can do.

DAN

Bullshit! There's always something we can do! How long have you've known?

LYNN

I...um...I found out right before we met.

DAN

Oh god...You know what? It's okay. We'll get through this together.

LYNN

No Dan. We won't...I will. I start radiation therapy next week.

DAN

I'll go with you.

LYNN

Look! I don't want to be a distraction any longer!

DAN

So what are you saying?

LYNN

I'm leaving town Dan. The less you know, the better it'll be.

(MORE)

LYNN (CONT'D)

I don't want to fill your head with any more than you need to know. Just know that I need to leave so I can get better.

DAN

No. Don't do this to me. Don't keep me out of the loop. I'll be by your side, even if it means I have to quit baseball.

LYNN

That's exactly the reason why I won't tell you anymore! Dan. I'm the luckiest person in the world. Not many people ever get meet the love of their lives, but I have. It's you. You're the love of my life and I'm ashamed of myself for it. I'm ashamed that I've kept this from you for so long. I'm ashamed that I've kept you from finding your true love.

DAN

You are the person that I want to spend the rest of my life with.

LYNN

No, I'm not. If I die, I expect you to move on. Dan...you have a bright future ahead with or without me. You will do things far beyond your own expectations. I know this because I see it when I'm with you. You want to do so much for everyone. People want you in their lives and now it's time for me to stop being selfish and give you up. You'll be just fine.

DAN

How the hell do you know if I'm going to be alright after this? You can't expect me to just give up on you. If something happened to you and I wasn't there...I would never...I could never forgive myself.

LYNN

Listen to yourself. You always place the guilt on yourself, even when it's not your fault.

(MORE)

LYNN (CONT'D)

Learn to let go. If you love me,
you'll move on without me. Right
now, I need to leave. I can't
stand for you to see me like this.
I love you Dan. Good bye.

Lynn leaves while Dan stands alone looking down on the
ground.

CUT TO:

INT. DAN'S APARTMENT

Dan is staring at a window.

There is a door KNOCK.

He opens the door.

CHASE

How are you feeling?

DAN

I'm fine.

CHASE

Hey look. I ran into Lynn. She
told me everything. So I'm going
to ask you again. How are you
feeling?

DAN

I'm fine like I said.

(pauses)

Maybe all of this was inevitable.
It's karma maybe. I was a fool to
believe that I could have it all.
That for once in my life, fate
would be on my side. You never
know exactly how powerless you are
until you lose the people you love.

CHASE

Dan. You haven't lost her yet. I
mean, she's gonna make it through
this. You've just gotta believe
that. You ever heard of positive
reinforcement? Give her your
support and I guarantee you she'll
make it through. Look Dan.

(MORE)

CHASE (CONT'D)

I don't believe in fairy tales or miracles or the power of love for that matter, but if there are any two people that could change my beliefs...it's you two.

DAN

Why am I always the one that has to suffer?

CHASE

Because you're better than the rest of us Dan. You're the only person I know that can handle all of it. Do you remember what your Dad used to say. "Adversity doesn't fall far behind you"--

DAN

"And I love it".

CHASE

Right. And you love it. That's what your Dad used to say. He was a good man and so are you.

DAN

I've gotta go make things right with Lynn before she leaves.

Dan calls Lynn, but the phone is disconnected.

PHONE

The number you have tried to reach has been disconnected.

DAN

Shit!

Dan rushes out of the door.

CUT TO:

INT. LYNN'S APARTMENT

Dan KNOCKS on the door.

There is no response.

The next door neighbor, a YOUNG GIRL, walks by with a bag of groceries.

YOUNG GIRL

Excuse me? Are you Dan by chance?

DAN

Yeah. That's me.

YOUNG GIRL

Lynn wanted me to give you something.

The young girl walks into her apartment.

She comes back with a letter in her hand.

She hands the letter to Dan.

He begins to read it.

LYNN (V.O.)

Dear Dan,
By the time you've read this letter, I'll be long gone. I just wanted you to know that these last few months have been the best months of my life. You probably think that me leaving is the worst mistake I will ever have made, but it's my decision, and my decision alone. I didn't write this letter to tell you goodbye. I wrote this letter to tell you that I will miss you and when I get better, I hope to see you again living the life you deserve. A life filled with the love and compassion you've given to me. When you love someone, you'll do anything to keep them away from pain. Please forgive me for keeping this secret from you. You have to know that I didn't mean for any of this to happen. I guess what they say is true. We can't control who we love, but we can choose whether to accept it or deny it. You see Dan, you were the reason why I felt so alive. Your love kept me moving forward with my life. Every moment with you was a precious one. If I were to die today, I could die knowing that I lived my life to the fullest each and every day. Could you say the same Dan?

(MORE)

LYNN (V.O.) (CONT'D)
I love you with all of my heart and
I know that one day we'll be
together again in this life or the
next. Love, Lynn.

Dan's eyes are watery with tears.

CUT TO:

INT. DAN'S APARTMENT

Dan arrives to the front door to his apartment.

His hands are shaky trying to open his door.

The door opens.

CHASE
You have a visitor.

Dan makes a curious face.

Dan walks in and sees Lynn staring out of a balcony.

Lynn turns around and runs toward Dan and hugs him.

CHASE (CONT'D)
I'll leave the two of you alone.

Chase leaves.

LYNN
(crying)
I couldn't do it Dan. I couldn't
leave without seeing you one last
time.

DAN
It's ok. Don't cry.
(wipes the tears off
Lynn's face)
There's so much that I wanted to
say. I wanted to tell you how much
I love you. And how I support
whatever you want to do. I didn't
want you to leave not knowing all
of this.

LYNN
Dan. Please tell me you forgive
me.

DAN
Forgive you for what?

LYNN
For causing you all this pain and
regret.

DAN
Lynn...You are the reason that I
don't have any pain or regret.

LYNN
Dan...I need you to go somewhere
with me.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. BUTTERFLY GARDEN

Dan and Lynn are holding hands while walking through a
Butterfly Garden.

They sit on a bench.

DAN
So what are we doing here?

LYNN
I used to come here all the time as
a kid. My aunt would take me here
every summer and tell me how much I
remind her of butterflies. Did you
know in some cultures, butterflies
symbolize transition and
resurrection? I never told you
this but my mother died in a car
accident too. I was much too young
to remember but my aunt took care
of me for the most part. She would
tell me how much I reminded her of
my mother. Like she was growing up
with her little sister again. I
never knew my mother all too well,
but my aunt would tell me that
there is no doubt that I was
blessed with my mother's gift. The
gift to make any situation better.
I still believe no matter how wrong
I've done by you, I can make this
all right.

Dan is lost for words.

Lynn places her head on Dan's shoulder.

They hold each other's hands and look at the butterflies that surround them.

DAN

Can I ask you something? The letter that you wrote. Did you mean it? Do you think that one day we'll be together again in this life or the next?

LYNN

(pauses)

With all of my heart. Yes.

FADE IN:

LATER THAT DAY - SUNSET

Dan and Lynn are standing at a distance.

They are holding hands.

They kiss and then part ways.

CUT TO:

INT. DAN'S APARTMENT

Chase is standing by.

CHASE

So what's the situation? Is she staying or leaving?

DAN

She's gone.

CHASE

I don't know what to say. I'm a bad friend. I should've seen this coming. This is my fault.

DAN

How is any of this your fault?

CHASE

That night Dan. At the club. She warned me about this. I didn't think too much of it at the time.

(MORE)

CHASE (CONT'D)

She said that one day you'd have to lean on me. I screwed up. I should've told you. I'm sorry Dan.

DAN

You were just protecting me from a truth that I refused to accept. Just like what Lynn's doing. You're a good friend Chase. You're my best friend.

CHASE

She said she loved you that night. More than you'll ever know. She meant it.

DAN

I know.

CHASE

So what do you do now?

DAN

I live my life.

FADE IN:

EXT. BASEBALL STADIUM-NIGHT

Dan is pitching in his first game.

BROADCASTER 1

It'll be interesting tonight to see how Daniel Tran will play after his time away from baseball. Has he lost his edge? Will the time away affect him?

BROADCASTER 2

I don't know, but I can't wait to see. We've been anticipating this moment for quite awhile.

He pitches a fastball.

BROADCASTER 1

Unbelievable. A fastball of 104 mph. It's like this guy never left the game.

BROADCASTER 2

You're right. If anything, he's gotten better! What a rare specimen in today's sports.

LATER THAT DAY

BROADCASTER 2

What an unbelievable start for the Pioneers this season and for pitcher Daniel Tran, who has come back to show he's still the man. The Pioneers win 5-1. This game was brought to you by...

Dan and his teammates line up to shake hands with the other team.

LATER THAT NIGHT

Dan is standing on the pitcher's mound alone with lights fully bright.

He takes in his surroundings and closes his eyes and takes a deep breath.

He hears Lynn's voice softly yelling "DAN". He opens his eyes only to see a butterfly floating in front of his face.

The butterfly lands on his chest, close to his heart.

It flies away and Dan smiles.

FADE TO WHITE.

INT. COACH'S OFFICE

Dan walks into Coach Grey's office.

COACH GREY

Hey Dan. What brings you here?

DAN

I wanted to ask you something?

COACH GREY

Sure. What is it?

DAN

Dr. Kelly...I tried to swing by her office to drop off some tickets the other day. No one was there.

(MORE)

DAN (CONT'D)

Is everything alright with her? I got a feeling that something was wrong.

COACH GREY

Well. You're right. There's been a family emergency. One of her family members has leukemia. It's gotten to the point where a bone marrow transplant is necessary. The doctors are having trouble finding a match.

DAN

Geez. What can we do to help her?

COACH GREY

It seems like nothing. I've already asked around to see if anyone was willing to donate if possible before you came back. We've had a lot of positive responses, including many from your teammates.

DAN

Well then what's the problem?

COACH GREY

Unfortunately, none of us were matches. The thing about bone marrow is that it's highly specific. You need to be the perfect match.

DAN

(pauses)

I want to donate my bone marrow. I have to try.

COACH GREY

Are you sure about this? The season just started so you may miss some playing time.

DAN

Look coach, I don't care about playing time. She's helped me so much in dealing with the death of my parents. And I know you wouldn't have made me see her if you didn't think she could help me. It's my turn now to help her.

(pauses)

(MORE)

DAN (CONT'D)

Maybe I could do what I couldn't do a year ago. I have a chance to save a life. How can I possibly let an opportunity like that slip away?

COACH GREY

(pauses)

Alright Dan. I'll set up an appointment for you to meet a doctor.

DAN

Thanks coach.

Dan leaves Coach Grey's office.

CUT TO:

INT. DOCTOR'S OFFICE

Dan is waiting patiently in the Doctor's office.

DOCTOR

Hello Dan. How are you feeling?

DAN

I'm good. How are you?

DOCTOR

Just fine. Well. I have some incredible news. You're a rare match.

DAN

Really? That's great. So how does this all work? Are you going to drill into my bone? It's gonna hurt isn't it?

DOCTOR

(chuckles)

No. We're going to perform a peripheral blood stem cell donation, which is a way for us to collect blood-forming cells for transplantation. The same blood-forming cells that can be donated from the bone marrow are also found in the circulating blood.

DAN

So no drill?

DOCTOR

(laughs)

No drill. This process is similar to donating plasma.

DAN

How long do you think my recovery time will be?

DOCTOR

That really just depends on the person. You're a healthy kid. It shouldn't be more than a few days.

Dan leaves with a sense of accomplishment.

CUT TO:

INT. COFFEE SHOP

Dan meets Chase at the coffee shop.

CHASE

How are you feeling man?

DAN

Good. The doctor was right. It only took a few days to recover. I should be out there playing with you guys by the end of the week.

CHASE

That's awesome. So this is where you met Lynn ay?

DAN

Yeah.

CHASE

How do you think she's doing?

DAN

I don't know.

(pauses)

But something tells me she's doing just fine.

CHASE

Hah. I hope so. You remember what I said about fairy tales? I'm leaning towards believing in them because of what happened between you and Lynn.

DAN

I don't understand. I mean, things didn't exactly turn out the way they do in fairy tales.

CHASE

No, but the thing about fairy tales is they teach us about love and perseverance. Kinda like you and Lynn. The ending may be different but the lesson is the same. I bet your story would make a great movie.

DAN

I don't know about that Chase. No one like an unhappy ending or cliffhangers for that matter.

CHASE

Yeah, you're right. That does get pretty annoying.

DAN

Yeah. So you should totally try this drink I got for you.

CHASE

Oh. Let's have a taste shall we?

Chase takes a gulp of the drink.

CHASE (CONT'D)

Oh...my...God. This is delicious! It's got some kick to it but, it's really good!

DAN

Are you serious?

CHASE

Yeah man. I'm serious. What is this?

DAN

Um...ginger infused coffee, sugar, cream, wasabi...

CHASE

Wow. Thanks man.

DAN

Oh don't thank me. Thank Lynn.

CHASE
I'll tell you what. She's got some
good taste.

DAN
(laughs)
You ready to help me move some
boxes?

CHASE
Yeah. Let's head out. Get this
thing over with.

CUT TO:

I/E. DAN'S HOUSE

Dan and Chase are unpacking boxes into Dan's house.

CHASE
Wow. This place sure hasn't
changed.

DAN
Yeah. It's just the way my parents
left it.

CHASE
I can't believe it's been this long
since you've been here. Do you
know how many sick parties we
could've had here?

DAN
I just wasn't ready to be here.
There just too many memories here.

CHASE
Do you remember when we used to
climb that tree over there?

DAN
Yeah. I actually do. You were the
peeping tom of the neighborhood.

CHASE
I was bird watching Dan. Bird
watching.

DAN
Yeah okay. Whatever you say.

CHASE

I know the truth. That's all that matters.

(pauses)

Well, it looks like you're set.

DAN

Yeah. Looks that way. Thanks a lot Chase. For being there for me.

CHASE

Anytime brother. See you at practice. Playoffs will be here before you know it.

DAN

I'll be ready.

CHASE

I know.

FADE TO:

EXT. GRAVE YARD - MONTHS LATER - DAY

Dan is standing with a letter in front of a tombstone.

DAN (V.O.)

I know it's been awhile since I've visit. I wanted to update you with what's been going on in my life. We did it. We won the National Championship. I've never seen Chase cry so much in my life. My dreams have never been so clear. I dream of the day that I can be as strong as you Dad. I dream of the day I can teach the lessons you've taught me Mom. I dream that one day I can live my life knowing that I made each moment count. I just want you guys to know that I love you and I miss you. Your son, Daniel.

He leaves the letter in front of the grave.

CUT TO:

INT. COUNSELOR'S OFFICE

Dan is sitting in a chair across from Dr. Kelly.

DR. KELLY

So have you made your peace with everything?

DAN

Yes I can honestly say that I have. I wouldn't be where I am if it wasn't for everything that happened. Thank you for all that you've done for me.

DR. KELLY

I should say the same to you Dan. You saved my niece's life.

There is a door knock.

DR. KELLY (CONT'D)

Come in.

A woman walks in.

DR. KELLY (CONT'D)

Hey! I'd like you to meet somebody.

(pauses)

Dan. This is my niece Lynn.

Dan turns around with wide eyes.

LYNN

Hey Aunt Kelly.

He is shocked to see that the young woman is Lynn.

Lynn is equally shocked.

Dan stands up.

They move closer towards each other.

Face to face.

DR. KELLY

Do you guys know each other?

They gaze into each other's eyes.

LYNN

So you're the one that saved my life?

DAN

(pauses)

No. You're the one that saved
mine.

They hold hands and share a moment.

THE END.