ROBINS VERMONT
Written by
Mark Alford

FADE IN:

INT. TRUCK CAB - VERMONT, SUMMER

ROBIN finishes dialing, places the phone to her ear. Her friend SHIRLEY answers.

INT. CAR

SHIRLEY'S in the passenger seat. MIKE is driving. We see a baby cow in the back seat. The calf is mooing, crying and carrying on. The radio is on with music playing in the background. THE INTERIOR OF THE CAR IS IN TOTAL CHAOS!

SHIRLEY

Hello?

ROBIN

What the hell are you doing?

SHIRLEY

We just picked up a meat cow.

ROBIN

Why is it so loud?

SHIRLEY

The cow's in the back seat of THE CAR! The damn truck won't start and Mike just HAD to get the cow today.

MIKE

Do something!
That thing is driving nuts!

SHIRLEY

What the hell do you want me to do? I don't know what to do.

Hand raise in frustration.

MIKE

Check under the seat.

SHIRLEY

(reaching under seat)
Just a second ROBIN.

ROBIN

No problem.

She jerks a baby bottle from beneath the seat.

SHIRLEY

Okay, now what am I suppose to do?

MIKE

(motioning)

Feed him one of those beers.

That'll relax him.

She rests the phone on her shoulder. She opens the baby bottle, then the beer bottle. We see her pouring the beer and putting the lid on the bottle.

SHIRLEY

Sorry Robin.

ROBIN

Shirley, YOU CAN'T GIVE BEER TO A COW!

Next we see Shirley reaching back with one hand and feeding the cow the beer.

SHIRLEY

Mike said It'll calm him down. HE'S DRIVING US NUTS!

ROBIN

Shirley, think about it.

COWS EAT, BURP, FART AND SHIT.

THAT'S IT!

(beat)

Beer makes you burp right?

SHIRLEY

Yeah.

ROBIN

What do you think it's gonna do to an animal that burps all fucking day!

We see the calf finish the bottle. Shirley faces forward and tosses bottle to the floor.

SHIRLEY

Well, it's too late now. He already sucked it down.

The calf rests his chin on the top of the front seat in between Mike and Shirley. Calm and content.

SHIRLEY (CONT'D)

Hey, I think it worked.

ROBIN

Why?

What's it doing?

Shirley begins rubbing it's ears and nose.

SHIRLEY

He looks so cute. He's resting his chin on the seat and...

She's cut off as the calf burps. He burps again really loud. Shirley and Mike look at each other and bust out laughing.

They look at the innocent calf looking back at them and all of a sudden he BURPS AND BARFS AT THE SAME TIME. Half digested grass puke shoots up to the front seat all over Shirley and the dashboard.

GREEN SCREEN: ROBINS VERMONT

Time is present. Pickford, New York

CONSTANT(V.O)

Inspiration. Have you ever been inspired? If you are inspired and you act on it, it may change your life as well as the life of others.

CONSTANT MANSFIELD is 27 years old. His wife Robin is 26.

INT. UPSTAIRS BEDROOM - MORNING

Constant is sleeping. Robin peeks in through the bedroom door.

ROBIN

Babe, its time to get up.

We see Constant getting ready for work.

CONSTANT(V.O)

My name is Constant. Six months ago my wife Robin and I bought a house in upstate New York.

Before that we lived in a small farming community in Vermont.

(MORE)

CONSTANT(V.O) (CONT'D)

Our friends and family were close by, but we were renting and we wanted to buy a house like everybody else we knew.

We noticed that the houses in upstate New York, which is only an hour away, were more affordable.

We plan to fix up the house and sell it. Then we can use the money to buy a house in Vermont.

We kept our jobs in Vermont and plan to commute until we move back.

It's only an hour drive after
all...

Constant glares at the clock next to his bed. The clock is showing 5:30 am! He moans, stretches and stumbles down the stairs grasping the railing.

He takes a leak and begins brushing his teeth staring into the mirror.

We see Constant as he takes a shower in his comatose state and dresses. He walks through the living room where Robin is on the couch watching the weather and drinking her coffee.

INT. LIVING ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

ROBIN

Good morning sunshine.

CONSTANT

It's not fair.

He trips over their lab BREWSKY as he lays in the middle of the floor.

INT. PICKUP TRUCK - MORNING

We see Robin driving as she pulls out of the driveway, comes around the corner and stops at the STOP SIGN.

ROBIN

Hows it look?

CONSTANT

Clear.

ROBIN

Clear?

CONSTANT

Clear.

She hits the gas and rips out onto Main Street. They travel through town when Robin cries out...

ROBIN

SHIT!

CONSTANT

What?

ROBIN

It's that lady!

CONSTANT

What lady?

ROBIN

STUPID LADY!

Look how freakin slow she's going! It's 55 and she's only going like 40!

CONSTANT

Oh relax.

She's just taking her time.

ROBIN

No!

If she can't drive the speed limit, she should not commute!

We see them passing dairy farms and hayfields. There are about TWENTY CARS in line and they're all swerving and honking their horns. Robin is swerving back and forth trying to pass.

CONSTANT

You can pass now. Gun it!

ROBIN

(yelling)

I know when to pass. Don't tell me how to drive!

CONSTANT

I'm not telling you how to drive. I was just saying....

She cranks up the radio.

Constant's looking out the side window as they pass a sheep farm. In the middle of the flock stands a CAMEL!

He's slowly waking and begins singing with Robin and car dancing. Suddenly, a driver on a cell phone pulls out in front of her as she slams on her brakes.

CONSTANT (CONT'D) Shut up and drive, jeez!

ROBIN

He didn't even look!
Flipping KNOTHEAD!
I can't wait to move back to Medley so we don't have to put up with this shit!

EXT. AMERICAN SMOKESTACK - MORNING

Robin arrives at her place of employment.

Her coworker DOUG is standing outside smoking a cigarette. He's wearing his trademark flood pants and a T-shirt with one sleeve cut off. The other sleeve has his smokes rolled up in it.

She hops out so Constant can drive to his job.

DOUG

You guys should move closer to work?

CONSTANT

(irritated)

We don't want to live closer to work. We want to move closer to our family and friends.

Robin kisses Constant. He pulls away.

INT. TRUCK

CONSTANT

(imitating Doug)

Why don't you guys move closer to work?

CONSTANT (CONT'D)

(to himself)

We were going to move closer to work Doug, but we realized that we would be moving closer to you, DOUGHEAD!

He arrives at the office of VERMONT TRADE SUPPLY.

He plops down at his desk and turns on his computer.

His miserable coworker RICK ambles over and hangs on his cubicle wall.

INT. CONSTANT'S CUBICLE

RICK

You are not going to believe what happened.

Constant stares at his computer screen.

RICK (CONT'D)

Our warehouse in Sacramento was broken into over the Weekend and I told GARY that we should do an audit ASAP.

CONSTANT

And did you volunteer to do the audit?

RICK

No. I don't get paid to travel.

CONSTANT

That sucks! I just got back from Santa Fe last week!

RICK

Well, he said to grab you and come to his office as soon as you got here.

Constant and Rick enter Gary's office and sit down.

INT. GARYS OFFICE

GARY

Gentlemen, and yes I'm talking to you two. We need to come up with a plan.

(MORE)

GARY (CONT'D)

(beat)

Constant, I need you to book a flight to Sacramento as soon as you can. I'm sure Rick told you what happened.

CONSTANT

Yessss, He told me. I'll find something for tomorrow morning.

GARY

I need you to fly out today.

CONSTANT

I can't fly out today! Robin and I rode in together. If I fly out today, I have to drive home, pack and drive back to Burlington. Then I have to pick up Robin and have her take me to the airport.

GARY

All right you can fly out first thing tomorrow morning, but when are you guys going to move closer to work?

## **BEGIN MONTAGE:**

Constant imagines an image of banging Gary's head up and down on Gary's desk while he's repeatedly saying "when are you guys moving closer?"

## END MONTAGE:

Later, Constant arrives at American Smokestack to pick up Robin. She jumps in and gives him a kiss and they drive away.

INT. TRUCK - DAY

ROBIN

We made it honey! Four more wakeups! Woohoo!

CONSTANT

Guess what?

ROBIN

(suspicious)

What?

CONSTANT

I have to fly to Sacramento tomorrow

ROBIN

(upset)

What?

CONSTANT

The warehouse there was broken into over the weekend and my buddy Rick went to Gary and suggested an audit right away.

ROBIN

Why doesn't Gary send Rick to do it then? You just got back and you usually have at least a couple weeks before you head out on the road again.

She steams as Constant drives.

He pulls onto the highway. We see a long line of cars driving slowly.

CONSTANT

Damn!

ROBIN

What?

CONSTANT

A PARADE!

There are about 15 cars lined up behind some tourists sightseeing.

CONSTANT (CONT'D)

(using his Indian accent)
This is Bullshit. I am going to run

them off the road.

ROBIN

You are not.

Relax.

A car behind them begins passing everyone although they are in a "no passing zone". There's a blind corner coming up.

ROBIN braces herself as a car comes around the corner from the opposite direction. The cars nearly collide as the car doing the passing gets back over on his side of the road. ROBIN (CONT'D)

What a maniac!

CONSTANT

(Indian accent)

If they are going slower than you they are an asshole, if they are going faster than you they are a maniac.

We see the car that is driving slow and holding up traffic turn.

INT. TRUCK - DRIVING HOME

CONSTANT

Do you wanna stop at the General Store? I need to get some gas.

ROBIN

(excited)

YES!

(beat)

Have them make steak and cheese sandwich for lunch tomorrow.

CONSTANT

Do you have any cash?

ROBIN

(checking her purse) All's I have is a fifty.

We see Constant filling the tank, looking around. In front of the store he notices a large sign that reads "Seniors Day -30% off all Liquor sales". He finishes gassing up and enters the store as an old man walks out.

INT. GENERAL STORE

He strolls by a life sized cut out of an old lady with a cigarette in one hand and bottle of booze in the other. The caption on the sign reads "Smoke and Drink Combos". Constant walks up to the deli counter where a BIG DELI GUY wearing a Green "John Moose" T-shirt is standing.

CONSTANT

Can I get a steak and cheese sandwich and a turkey, cheese, tomato and lettuce sandwich with mustard?

He looks around the store and walks back to the deli counter. He notices Deli Guy making a turkey and cheese sandwich, but he is putting pickles, onions, peppers, mayo AND EVERYTHING on it.

CONSTANT (CONT'D)

(politely)

I hope that's not my sandwich.
I just wanted tomato, lettuce and mustard on it.

Deli Guy stares at Constant and then SLAMS the sandwich into the trash. He begins to make another sandwich as he glares at Constant.

Behind Deli Guy is a large window. Through the window we see several teens smoking pot. The old man that we saw walking out of the store earlier approaches them and HANDS THEM A BOTTLE OF LIQUOR. He takes a drag from the DOPE PIPE as one of the teens pulls out a bag of pot and hands it him.

Once Deli Guy finishes making the sandwiches, Constant heads to the counter to pay. Deli Guy walks around the counter steaming.

CONSTANT (CONT'D)

(joking)

I had \$560 on pump 2 also.

(beat)

Just kidding. I had \$34 in gas.

Deli Guy is not amused. Constant hands the deli guy the fifty. Deli Guy says nothing as he rings up the sandwiches and gas.

He hands Constant his change as Constant looks at his hand. TWENTY, FORTY-FIVE, FIFTY. DELI Guy GIVES CONSTANT THE FIFTY DOLLARS BACK! He runs out to the truck excited and hops in.

INT. TRUCK

ROBIN

What did you do?

CONSTANT

Nothing, I put \$34 dollars in gas in the truck.

ROBIN

So.

CONSTANT

(excited)

Let me finish!

ROBIN

What?

CONSTANT

After I filled the tank, I went inside and ordered the sandwiches.

ROBIN

SO WHAT!

CONSTANT

The guy was making my sandwich wrong and when I told him, he got so mad that he slammed the sandwich in the trash and started making another one.

ROBIN

Why are you so excited then?

CONSTANT

When I paid for the gas and the sandwiches I gave him the fifty and he gave me two twenties and two fives back!

ROBIN

No way!

He gave you fifty back!

CONSTANT

Yeah, he was so pissed that he gave me my money back and didn't know it! If he wasn't such an asshole I would have said something.

ROBIN

I know you would have. Good for you honey. Serves him right! Gwaha!

They race away.

ROBIN (CONT'D)

Hey, what are we doing this weekend?

CONSTANT

(driving)

I should be in Sacramento for 2 days. So if I leave tomorrow, work there Wednesday and Thursday, I'll be back Friday.

(beat)

I'm probably not gonna feel like doing too much. The window guy's supposed to start replacing the windows this weekend anyway.

ROBIN

What time is he supposed to start? I don't want somebody banging around first thing in the morning.

CONSTANT

(sarcastically)

Trust me, I know.

ROBIN

You know what I mean. I like to sleep in on weekends.

CONSTANT

He's not supposed to start until around noon. I already told him that you like to sleep in.

A car passes Constant and then another and another.

CONSTANT (CONT'D)

Geez, I'm going 10 over and they're still flying by me.

ROBIN

Wouldn't you laugh if you saw one of them go into the ditch?

CONSTANT

ROBIN!

Constant whips the truck into the driveway. They unload their backpacks, lunch totes and coffee cups.

Brewsky greets them at the door for a second then quickly runs outside.

We see Constant get on a plane and fly to Sacramento and then return as planned. He drives home, pulls in the driveway. Robin greets him at the door as he approaches.

ROBIN

You made it honey!

CONSTANT

(Indian accent)

I have been flying all day. My arms are tired.

We see Constant unpack his luggage. They sit down for the dinner Robin has prepared. He asks if she's heard from EARL

INT. DINING ROOM - EVENING

ROBIN

Who is Earl?

CONSTANT

(irritated)

The guy that's replacing the windows. Hello!

ROBIN

Oh, I forgot. He called on Wednesday and left a message. He said that he would be here tomorrow morning around 10 O'clock.

CONSTANT

(sarcastically)

Isn't that too early for you?
I'm surprised you didn't call him back.

ROBIN

Whatever!

The next day Robin and Constant awake to Brewsky barking and looking out the window. Earl has just pulled in the driveway.

INT. BEDROOM - MORNING

ROBIN

He said 10 O'clock!

Earl bangs on the door. Constant lets him in.

INT. KITCHEN

Earl, 50ish, thin with gray hair has JIM with him. Jim, 50ish is tall and thin also. Jim is Earl's assistant. Robin marches up to them  $\frac{1}{2}$ 

ROBIN (CONT'D)

I thought you said that you weren't going to be here until 10 O'clock?

EARL

I said AROUND 10 O'clock. What time is it anyway? I'm the one that wakes up the roosters in the morning. Ha-ha!

Robin is not amused. She begins to make coffee as Constant and Earl discuss the job.

EARL (CONT'D)

Now Constant, I'm going to replace these windows one at time. Constant that way you don't have to worry about any bats flying in through the opening.

Constant this town used to be infested with bats. Constant they had to call in an exterminator who got rid of most of em.

Then you have the skunks Constant. You have all these old timers that like to throw their food leftovers in the back yard Constant. That attracts the skunks and the next thing you know, you have more skunks than people Constant.

Constant stares at Earl in disbelief. He hasn't heard his name repeated so many times in his life!

CONSTANT

Robin and I will be here working around the house. Let us know if you need anything.

INT. FAMILY ROOM

Earl sets up his equipment and starts to replace the first window. Constant notices that Earl is showing Jim how to replace the window as he goes along.

Earl shows Jim how to replace a window like you would show a little kid how to do something for the first time.

EXT. FRONT YARD - DAY

Constant and Robin are working in the yard weed whacking and pulling weeds from the flower garden.

Earl approaches them.

**EARL** 

I have to run out and check out some jobs. Jim knows what he's doing.

Robin and Constant look at each other and shrug as Earl leaves.

INT. FAMILY ROOM

We Jim as he's removing the next window, he breaks the glass then falls and knocks over the end table and breaks the lamp that's sitting on it.

Jim installs the windows and they won't open. Earl measured the window openings wrong also. Jim is installing them with gaps around the outside of the windows and filling in the openings with insulation.

Earl doesn't return until just before dark to pick up Jim. He's DRUNK so Jim drives when they leave.

EXT. FRONT YARD

The next day Earl returns, drops off Jim and leaves. Jim realizes that he forgot his tools.

He approaches Constant.

JTM

Hey Constant, how ya doing?

CONSTANT

Good an you?

JIM

Good an you? (beat)

Hey, I left my tools in the back of Earl's truck and I was wondering if I could use your tools.

CONSTANT

(perplexed)

I don't know if I have what you need to replace windows.

JIM

I just need a hammer with a pry and a screw gun. I left the nails and screws on your porch.

CONSTANT

No problem, I can handle that.

Constant walks toward the garage. Jim follows.

INT. HOUSE

Jim begins to remove the first window and stops. He calls Earl.

INT. BAR

EARL

(cell phone)

Yes Jim.

JIM

Earl we have a problem.

EARL

What do you mean?

JIM

What do you mean?

EARL

(flustered)

THAT'S WHAT I ASKED YOU!

JIM

Earl, I don't know if I can do this job on my own. What you said about keeping these windows square. This house has settled and I don't think I can do it.

EARL

(unconcerned)

You'll figure it out. I have faith in you.

Earl stuffs his phone in his pocket and orders another beer.

INT. HOUSE

JIM

(to himself)

Thanks Earl

Earl arrives that evening. He's too drunk to drive. Jim drives again.

They return the next day and finish the job. Constant and Robin are away. They return. Pleased with the results.

DRIVEWAY - EVENING

CONSTANT

Wow, they kicked ass! DOESN'T THAT LOOK MUCH BETTER!

ROBIN

Yes, much better. Maybe I shouldn't have judged Earl.

CONSTANT

See... See... What did I tell you? It's like I have this gift. It's like an extra sense.

ROBIN

(sarcastically)

RIiight!

Robin and Constant hurry inside.

INT. LIVING ROOM

ROBIN

(excited)

These are nice honey. I can even clean the outside while I'm in here.

Robin tries to open the window, but it will not open.

ROBIN (CONT'D)

(struggling to open)

I can't get the damn thing open!

CONSTANT

Let me try. It's probably stuck because it's new.

She looks at him unimpressed. Constant struggles to open the window, but it doesn't budge. He jerks and pulls on the window. It will not open.

HE EVEN LAYS ON THE FLOOR AND TRIES PUSHING IT UP WITH HIS FEET! It still won't open. Finally, he gives up.

CONSTANT (CONT'D)

Let's try the other windows and see if they open.

We see them try the other windows and some open, but many do not. Constant calls Earl. Earl is at the bar.

EARL

(drunk)

Hellooo...

CONSTANT

EARL this is Constant

EARL

Hey Constant. How ya doin?

CONSTANT

Not too good. My windows that you installed won't open. I think they look cockeyed also. You need to come back and fix them.

EARL

I'll come back tomorrow and check it out. I still have the keys to the back door.

Constant hangs up the phone and looks at ROBIN.

CONSTANT

I don't believe this!

ROBIN

That gray haired, prune juice sipping termite better fix these windows! I'll call the better business bureau.

The next morning Constant and Robin load up their coffee, bags and coolers and head to work.

Constant drops off Robin and drives to VERMONT TRADE SUPPLY. Later that day they're driving back to Pickford.

EXT. DRIVEWAY

We see them pull into the driveway. Earl is there sitting on the tailgate of his truck. Constant and Robin approach him.

EARL

(sober for once)

Hey, sorry about this. Jim screwed up, but it won't happen again. All of the windows are in perfect—working-order.

(beat)

Need anything else?

CONSTANT

I thought that YOU were going to replace our windows. You didn't tell us that you were going to have someone else do the work.

EARL

Hey, relax Constant. It's all good now. Give me a call if you need anything else.

Earl pulls away in his pickup. Constant and Robin check inside.

INT. LIVING ROOM - EVENING

CONSTANT

Well they all open. I guess we learned our lesson.

ROBIN

And what lesson would that be?

CONSTANT

I don't know. It seemed like the thing to say.

(beat)

I know one thing though. When we have the siding replaced, we're not hiring Earl.

ROBIN

YOU GOT THAT RIGHT!

The next morning we see them get ready for work, load the truck and make the commute to work.

INT. TRUCK - MORNING

CONSTANT

(looking through CD case) We need to get some new CDs!

ROBIN

Why do you say that?

CONSTANT

Are you proud that your husband goes around all day singing "I kissed a girl and I liked it" or "My lovely lady lumps in the back and in the front"?

ROBIN

Good point Poindexter.
Hey we're still going to Medley
this weekend right? I told MOM that
we would be there since we haven't
been home in a while.

(beat)

Man, I cannot wait to move back!

CONSTANT

Where'd you tell her we'd be staying?

ROBIN

She said that we could stay there.

CONSTANT

That sounds alright, but I wanna see my PARENTS too!

ROBIN

(valley girl accent)
No, like when I set this up, it was
like just to visit my family. You
can like visit your family on
your own time dude.

CONSTANT

(looking up)

Lord, please grant me the patience.

EXT. DRIVEWAY - MORNING

Constant finishes loading their luggage in the truck and opens up the back window. Brewsky jumps in the back seat. They begin the drive to Medley, Vermont.

As soon as they pull out of the driveway Brewsky begins whining and barking and growling and pacing and going wawawawawawa. HE IS LITERALLY FREAKING OUT! He is just so excited to be going somewhere in the truck!

INT. TRUCK

CONSTANT

(yelling at Brewsky)

Shut up!

ROBIN

(irritated)

He just gets louder when you yell at him.

CONSTANT

Well he's driving me to drink!

ROBIN

You whine all of the time!
I guess that's why he doesn't bother me.

Constant puts on the brakes as though he's going to pull over to the side of the road.

CONSTANT

(joking)

I'll drop both of your Asses off right here. Then we'll see who's whining.

ROBIN

(concerned)

Quit it!

You're going to cause and accident.

CONSTANT

(Indian accent)

I will just plead insanity.

ROBIN

Just watch the road!

CONSTANT

(sniffing, wrinkling his

nose)

What's that smell?

ROBIN

OH NO!

CONSTANT

What?

ROBIN

BREWSKY SHIT AND HE'S STEPPING IN TT!

Brewsky is pacing back and forth on the back seat and stepping in the digested dog food. He's so excited that he jumps up front and starts walking on Constant and Robins laps. He's tracking shit all over them as Constant is swerving back and forth!

EXT. DRIVEWAY

They return home and jump out of the truck and have brown dog shit tracked all over their clothes. IT'S EVEN ON THEIR ARMS! They let Brewsky out and chain him up outside.

Robin begins wiping off the seats of the truck as Constant bathes Brewsky. They take showers and change clothes.

EXT. ROBIN'S PARENTS DRIVEWAY

They arrive at ROBINS PARENTS farmhouse with their heads hanging out the window to avoid the smell of dog shit. Robins parents are outside working.

EXT. ROBINS PARENTS YARD - DAY

ROBIN'S MOM

Hey, you made it!

ROBIN

Yeah, but it took forever. I can't wait to move back!

CONSTANT

Hi mom, Hi dad. How ya been?

ROBIN'S DAD

Good an you?

CONSTANT

Good.

ROBIN'S DAD

ROBIN'S DAD (CONT'D)

(beat)

It's twelve O'clock somewhere.

## INT. KITCHEN

Constant and Robin are sitting at the kitchen table with mom. Dad hands both of them a beer. Mom sips ice water.

ROBIN

So where's my favorite brother?

ROBIN'S MOM

ROBBY went to camp for the day (beat)

he'll be back tomorrow morning.

ROBIN'S DAD

What have you two troublemakers been up to?

ROBIN

We had all new windows installed in our house last week.

ROBIN'S MOM

Wow, that's nice.

CONSTANT

We plan on replacing the siding next. I called a guy last week. He advertises in the local paper.

ROBIN'S DAD

What's his name?

CONSTANT

I don't remember.

ROBIN'S DAD

Be careful.

(beat)

A lot of those guys will ask you for money up front and that's the last time you see them and your money.

CONSTANT

I know. I know.

Robin and Constant leave to visit CONSTANT'S PARENTS. They leave Brewsky sleeping on the porch.

INT. CONSTANT'S PARENTS HOUSE - DAY

Constant and Robin walk in through the back door.

CONSTANT

Hello.

(beat)

CONSTANT (CONT'D)

Hello.

(beat)

CONSTANT (CONT'D)

(singing)

Hello Hello Hello Hello Hello Hello

ROBIN

(irritated)

Quit being such an ASS!

CONSTANT

I'm telling mom you called me an ass.

She smacks Constant on the back just as his mom walks in the  ${\tt room.}$ 

CONSTANT'S MOM

Hey!

She gives each a big bear hug.

CONSTANT'S MOM

I was washing dishes and didn't hear you pull in. How you two been? It seems like we haven't seen you in forever.

ROBIN

We've been great! How about you and dad?

CONSTANT

(cutting in)

Mom, Robin called me an ass and hit me in the back.

CONSTANT'S MOM

(ignoring CONSTANT)

Oh, we've been keeping busy. I like working around the house and you know how dad is with his politics.

(MORE)

CONSTANT'S MOM (CONT'D)

He walked to the store to pick up the newspaper, but you know how he is once he gets to talking to the gang at the store. Come on into the parlor and have a seat.

(beat)

What can I get ya to drink?

INT. PARLOR - DAY

Constant's dad arrives and enters the parlor.

CONSTANT'S DAD

Would you looky here? How you kids been? It seems like forever since we seen you two.

CONSTANT

We've been fine. How the hell are you?

CONSTANT'S DAD

(lowering his eyeglasses) Still a wise ass I see.

CONSTANT

I think it's genetic or something. How the hell are you?

CONSTANT'S DAD

Better than some, worse than others. When are you two moving back to Medley?

CONSTANT

(imitating his DAD)
When those DAMN OUT OF STATE
FLATLANDERS quit driving up the
property values. HeeHee.

ROBIN

We're staying at my PARENTS house tonight and thought we would visit our friends and family. We're going to drive back tomorrow afternoon or (beat)

whenever your son recovers from partying with his friends tonight. He has to fly to Albuquerque on Monday.

CONSTANT'S DAD

You're a good person ROBIN. You're like the child that we always wanted.

CONSTANT

They sure don't know you very well. Do they?

ROBIN

Whatever, I'm ready to start working on my JAG!

CONSTANT'S DAD

What's that mean?

ROBIN

That's what my daddy says when he's ready to get his drink on. Work on my JAG. We're going to Mike and Shirley's to party.

CONSTANT'S DAD

You kids be careful.

INT. PARTY ROOM - NIGHT

Party at Mike and Shirleys'

Music is blaring on the stereo as Robin and six other girls are dancing in the middle of the smoke hazed room. Beers in their hands! Constant and others are sitting around a table playing cards and passing a bottle of tequila around. Shirley places a tray of food in front of them.

SHIRLEY

Here, soak up some of that alcohol.

CONSTANT

What are they?

SHIRLEY

They're mini quiche.

Somebody reaches for a quiche and knocks a beer over.

CONSTANT

Keep it out of the quiche ya
Dumbfuck!

Everybody begins laughing, have a toast and cheer.

INT. ROBINS BEDROOM - MORNING

Constant and Robin are sleeping. Her YOUNGER BROTHER ROBBY BURSTS IN. Robby is 3 years younger than Robin and still lives at home. He's clean cut and very energetic.

ROBBY

Mom said to get out of bed. She's making breakfast.

They reluctantly start to get out of bed. Constant suddenly winces in pain and grabs his leg as Robin gets out of bed.

ROBIN

What's wrong?

CONSTANT

(winching in pain)
My calf is cramping!

Robin looks at Constant and for no apparent reason at all punches him in his cramping leg muscle as he screams in pain.

ROBIN

GET YOUR ASS UP!

INT. DINING ROOM - MORNING

Robin's mom is at the stove frying eggs. Robby is at the table humming and pouring cereal into a bowl.

MOM

(laughing)

You guys are up bright and ugly.

Robin walks by Robby and slaps him upside the head.

ROBIN

(loudly)

Morning Ass Breath!

Robin and Constant sit down at the table. She reaches over and grabs a muffin out of a basket and looks at Robby.

ROBIN (CONT'D)

(seriously to Robby)

Robby, when are you ever going to grow up?

ROBBY

(loudly)

What are you talking about Sisbitch?

ROBIN

(yells)

MOM!

MOM

What is it ROBIN? Good God, it's like you never left. The way you two fight.

ROBIN

No, this is serious! Do you think it's normal for an adult like Robby to act like this?

MOM

(irritated)
Act like what?

ROBIN

(amazed)

What? Look at this! Robby has to eat his cereal out of a purple bowl, he has to drink his juice out of a purple cup. He's always had purple sheets and blankets. You would think that he would have grown out of it, but he's in his twenties and still eating out of the same purple bowls and drinking out of the same purple cups that he did when he was a kid. This is a major issue and you are like, whatever!

ROBBY

(excited)

I have issues?

What about you and your picking? You sit and pick your loose hair! You pick your toenails and chew on them! You bite your fingernails and chew on them! Pick, Pick, Pick, Chew, Chew, Chew, Pick, Pick, Pick, Chew, Chew!

Robby begins imitating Robin by chewing on all of his nails on one hand and running his other hand through his hair and acting like he is dropping the hair from between his fingers onto the floor.

He then pretends like he's trying to get his foot in his mouth to chew on his toenails. Robin whips a loaf of bread straight at him and nails him in the face.

ROBIN

(to CONSTANT)

One time I walked into the living room and he was watching that TV show with the purple dinosaur and he was slapping his baloney pony and singing "I love you, you love me"

ROBBY

Oh yeah!

Robin used to go through so many batteries for her supposed back massager that battery stock went up 7% and...

CONSTANT

(cutting off Robby)
Hey mom, where's dad?

MOM

He got up before you party animals, ate breakfast, went to the store after. Why?

CONSTANT

I was just wondering. I forgot that the carpenter who's replacing the siding is supposed to measure the house today. He's supposed to give an estimate.

(beat)

I want to be there when he shows up.

ROBIN

What time is he supposed to be there?

CONSTANT

He didn't say.

ROBIN

(exasperated)

Oh GOD! Here we go again!

They finish eating breakfast, pack their belongings and are loading their truck. Mom, Dad and Robby are there to say goodbye.

EXT. DRIVEWAY - MORNING

CONSTANT

Where's B-DIZZLE?

MOM

Who's B-DIZZLE?

ROBIN

Brewsky.

Brewsky is next to the driveway taking a shit as Robby points toward him.

ROBBY

There he is taking a Robin.

Robin grabs Robby by the shoulder and aggressively rams her knee into his stomach 3 times as Robby looses his breath and drops to the ground. Robby's rolling on the ground holding his stomach and groaning.

Dad, Mom and Constant look down at ROBBY knowing that he should know better than mess with his sister.

CONSTANT

Where's the shovel? I'll pick it up.

DAD

In the shed out back. Watch out for that ROOSTER... He's an ornery bastard!

CONSTANT

I know. I know.

We see Constant walk around the back of the barn as he opens the wooden gate. The shed is in the back corner of the fenced in area. He looks as the hens are pecking at the ground. He begins to walk toward the shed.

All of a suddenly he notices the ROOSTER out of the corner of his eye. The ROOSTER is running straight at him. Constant starts running, but the ROOSTER is faster and jumps on him, clawing and pecking.

Constant trips and falls down while the ROOSTER is still attacking him. He begins rolling on the ground as the ROOSTER is jumping on him. He rolls all the way to the shed.

He rises up and kicks the ROOSTER away as he runs into the shed and slams the door behind him. When he looks between the cracks in the door, he can see the ROOSTER waiting.

Finally, he runs out swinging a shovel at the ROOSTER. He misses and starts running for the gate. He trips and falls down as the ROOSTER jumps on him. He grabs the ROOSTER, jumps up and tosses the ROOSTER into the hen house and slams the door.

CONSTANT (CONT'D)

(defiantly)

Who rules the roost now bit ...

BOOM, he gets the wind knocked out of him as a goat broadsides him right in the ribs and drops him to the ground.

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

Robin's Dad forgot to warn me about the FUCKING GOAT.

Constant returns with the shovel to pick up the dog shit. Robin and Dad are talking and ignore him. They drive back without Robin acknowledging the cuts and bruises on his face. She just looks out the side window, singing with the radio.

They return home and unpack. Brewsky goes straight to his bed.

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

There's a message on the answering machine from GEORGE the carpenter.

ANSWERING MACHINE

Constant, George calling. I'll be there sometime this afternoon to measure the house.

ROBIN

What the hell is that supposed to mean?

CONSTANT

What the hell does what mean?

ROBIN

Sometime this afternoon? What are we supposed to do? Sit around and wait all day for him? What an Assbag!

CONSTANT

Assbag?

Do you lay awake at night and think of this stuff or does it just come to you?

ROBIN

It just comes to me.

CONSTANT

Ah, I see senorita.

George finally arrives and begins measuring the house. George, mid-thirties is a shady looking character with scruffy hair and clothes He's wearing very large sunglasses.

Constant and Robin are lying on the couch watching TV. They notice somebody outside. Constant rolls off the couch to go outside and meet George.

EXT. FRONT YARD - DAY

Constant approaches George.

CONSTANT

How's it goin?

**GEORGE** 

(lowering sunglasses)

Good. You?

CONSTANT

Not bad.

GEORGE

(sliding glasses back up)
Good. Good. This is a big old
house. That's the only way they
built them back then. Big.

CONSTANT

Yeah. We just bought this place to fix up and sell. We plan to move back to Vermont. Well I guess I'll let you get back to measuring. I'll be inside if you need anything.

George finishes measuring and knocks on the back door. Constant shows him in.

INT. KITCHEN - DAY

CONSTANT

Well, whadayathink?

GEORGE

You're going to need about 20 squares of siding.

CONSTANT

No problem. I can get everything from my work and have it delivered.

**GEORGE** 

Well, here's a list of everything you need.

Constant grabs the list form George and studies it.

GEORGE (CONT'D)

I need a \$500 deposit.

CONSTANT

Just a minute, I'll write you a check.

Constant writes the check and hands it to George who gets a huge smile on his face.

CONSTANT (CONT'D)

So, when can you start?

**GEORGE** 

As soon as you get the material delivered.

CONSTANT

I already spoke to the driver and he said that could do it on Wednesday.

GEORGE

Sounds good to me. My helper WRANGLER and I will be here first thing Thursday morning.

CONSTANT

(showing GEORGE to door) Take it easy.

INT. LIVING ROOM - EVENING

Constant and Robin are sitting on the couch watching TV.

ROBIN

What time does your flight leave tomorrow?

CONSTANT

Nine O'clock in the morning.
I figure you can drop me off at the airport on the way to your work.

ROBIN

I guess I can. When do you fly back?

CONSTANT

Friday evening, around five.

ROBIN

I suppose that you want me to pick you up at the airport also.

(beat)

What about George? He's supposed to start replacing the siding on Thursday.

CONSTANT

He is, but I don't have to be here.

ROBIN

That guy gives me the HeeBee JeeBees!

The next morning Robin drops Constant off at the airport. Constant buys a book at the bookstore before he has to board the plane. We see that the book is titled "Aviation Flippancy".

We see Constant reading this book on the plane and in his hotel room. He returns from his trip as Robin picks him up at the airport.

EXT. AIRPORT - DAY

CONSTANT

(getting into truck) What up, SUGAR BRITCHES?

ROBIN

Hi Honey.

INT. TRUCK - EVENING

Robin leans over and gives Constant a kiss as they bolt off.

ROBIN

How was your trip?

CONSTANT

Good. I did a lot of reading when I had a chance. I had layovers there and back.

(MORE)

CONSTANT (CONT'D)

So in between flights I read a lot and did a lot of people watching.

ROBIN

I like people watching.

CONSTANT

Me too! I think everybody does. Especially at the airport. The people that work at the airport. You see so many people from all walks of life and cultures. It's like a bowl of mixed nuts.

ROBIN

Good analogy! Poindexter.

CONSTANT

Hey did George get anything done while I was gone?

ROBIN

All the material was delivered like it was supposed to on Wednesday. He hasn't started though. Haven't heard from him. Maybe he plans on starting Monday.

CONSTANT

I don't know. He said Thursday. I'm gonna call him tomorrow.

They arrive home and see that George still hasn't started the project.

The next morning they wake up and are having their morning coffee at the kitchen table. Constant is looking out the window enjoying the view.

CONSTANT (CONT'D)

What are you doing today?

ROBIN

I was going to work in the yard this morning and then I'm meeting Tracey for lunch.

ROBIN (CONT'D)

What are you doing today?

Well, the first thing I'm gonna do is try and get a hold of George and find out what the deal is. We gave him the \$500 down payment. I want this to go better than that window thing with Earl.

ROBIN

Good luck!

I was told there are a lot of cheaters around here.

CONSTANT

(confused)

What do you mean by that?

ROBIN

There are a lot of crooks around here.

CONSTANT

I'm starting to believe that.

ROBIN

I don't like that fly faced freak George. It wasn't like this in Vermont

CONSTANT

Yeah, but everybody knows each other in Medley and everyone is a Jack-of-all-trades.

ROBIN

How come you don't have the Jack-of-all-trades gene?

CONSTANT

My family is more politics. I know more about carpentry than my Dad though.

ROBIN

I know. I was just kidding. Relax.

CONSTANT

Whatever!

While Robin is working in the yard, Constant calls George, but only gets the answering machine. He leaves a message asking George when he's going to start working on the siding.

Robin finishes working in the yard and walks into the house to find Constant reading a book.

ROBIN

What are you doing?

CONSTANT

I called George, but just got his answering machine so I left a message. Now I'm reading a book I bought on my last trip.

ROBIN

Well it's a nice day. I thought you'd be outside.

CONSTANT

I know it's nice outside, but I'm comfortable reading in here.

ROBIN

You do what you want. It's your day off. I'm getting in the shower. Gotta meet Tracey.

Monday morning comes as Constant and Robin prepare for the drive to work. They load their coffee, lunches and coolers and start the commute to Burlington. They didn't hear back from George and are worried that maybe they got ripped off.

INT. TRUCK - MORNING

ROBIN

What are you doing about George? He should have at least called and told you what's going on.

CONSTANT

I'll call him when we get home from work.

#### INT. VERMONT TRADE SUPPLY

Constant is sitting at his desk eating a breakfast sandwich. He searches on Jobz.com for another job. His coworker Rick interrupts him. Constant quickly changes the screen on his computer.

RICK

Whatcha eatin?

Breakfast sandwich.

RICK

Where's mine?

CONSTANT

(points to his crotch)

Right here.

(beat)

Enjoy.

RICK

(smirks)

Hey, what are you working on?

CONSTANT

Nothing, just finishing up things before I head out to Memphis.

(beat)

Why? What's up?

RICK

Nothing. I was just wondering what you were up to.

CONSTANT

Same o, Same o here.

RICK

Hey, Um Gary told me that he wants me to go to Memphis with you.

CONSTANT

Why?

I thought that you don't get paid to travel.

RICK

I know, but he wants me to learn to audit so you're not the only one in the company that knows how.

CONSTANT

Whatever!

INT. AIRPORT - DAY

Constant and Rick are at the airport waiting for their flight. Constant is reading his book.

RICK

What are you reading?

(nonchalantly)

Some book I picked up.

(beat)

Something to read between flights.

RICK

What's it about?

CONSTANT

(irritated)

Nothing that you'd be interested in.

RICK

(sarcastically)

Don't you think that you should start with a book that teaches you how to read first?

CONSTANT

Oh I can read.

R.I.C.K that spells Asshole, Right?

Constant and Rick return from their trip. Robin picks up Constant at the airport. Rick hikes to his car that's parked at the airport garage.

INT. TRUCK DAY

ROBIN

How'd you like traveling with Rick?

CONSTANT

(sarcastically)

It wasn't bad. Where's my gun?

ROBIN

PUNK!

CONSTANT

I'm just kidding

Did you hear from George while I was gone?

ROBIN

Yes.

Him and his helper WRANGLER started removing the old siding from the front of the house yesterday.

What!

They were supposed to start a week ago and all that they've done is start to remove some of the old siding?

ROBIN

(valley girl accent)
Like Hello! I told you.

CONSTANT

I'm looking for someone else. Once we get \$500 worth of work from him, he's done!

INT. HOUSE - MORNING

Constant and Robin wake up and make their morning coffee. Constant is making breakfast. Robin is at the kitchen table drinking her coffee and reading the paper. There's a knock on the door. It's George.

GEORGE

(sunglasses on)

Mornin.

CONSTANT

George. Long time, no see.

**GEORGE** 

I know. I kinda took on more work than I should have. The phone's been ringing off of the hook.

CONSTANT

You're gonna finish our house, right?

GEORGE

Yes, but I need more money to pay my guys.

CONSTANT

(pissed)

I thought the only guy you had was Wrangler!

GEORGE

He's the only one I have working here, but I have guys working on other sites depending on what the job is.

Well I gave you \$500 two weeks ago and you only worked one day. I'm not paying any more money until I see more work!

**GEORGE** 

I just need \$1,200 to pays the guys.

CONSTANT

\$1,200! What do you mean just \$1,200? I don't know about you, but that's a lot of money to pay when we've only got a days work out of you. We already paid you \$500 damn it!

**GEORGE** 

(acting sincere)

Look Constant, I want to make you and Robin happy. We'll make sure to work on your house only until we're done. The guys are working hard and need to be paid.

CONSTANT

(sympathetically)

We'll give you \$600, but that's it.

GEORGE

(acting exasperated)
I guess that will have to do.

The next day Constant calls off work. Wrangler and his helper arrive. They're suspicious looking, just like their boss George.

EXT. HOUSE - DAY

Wrangler's helper begins removing more of the old siding throwing it into a trailer that they're taking to the scrap yard. Wrangler starts to hang the new siding. Constant calls to Wrangler.

CONSTANT

Morning

WRANGLER

(looking like a dog that
 got into the garbage)
Good Morning

You guys want some coffee?

WRANGLER

No. I'm fine. Could go for some ice water though.

Constant fills a pitcher with ice water and places it outside along with some cups. He's standing on the back porch with a cup of coffee when Wrangler walks up with a cup of ice water in his hand.

WRANGLER (CONT'D)

Thanks.

CONSTANT

No problem. How's it goin?

WRANGLER

No bad. Things have been slow though.

CONSTANT

(confused)

George said that he had more work than he can handle.

WRANGLER

He probably does, but I'm a painter and he doesn't have any painting jobs. That's why I'm working on your house.

CONSTANT

You're a painter? How many houses have you sided?

WRANGLER

This is my first.

CONSTANT

(excited)

This is your first! Did anybody train you?

WRANGLER

(lying)

Yes, don't worry.

CONSTANT

(uncomfortable)

Well, let me know if you need anything.

WRANGLER

Thanks

Wrangler returns to work. Later, after he and his helper leave, Constant checks out the job.

EXT. FRONT YARD - AFTERNOON

Constant is amazed! The old siding has been removed and put in the trailer parked next to the driveway. Some of the new siding that Wrangler put on covers one side of the house and looks good. Robin pulls into the driveway as Constant is looking at the house.

EXT. FRONT YARD - EVENING

ROBIN

Wow! They got a lot done today.

CONSTANT

Yeah, they did a pretty good job.

INT. LIVING ROOM - EVENING

Constant and Robin are watching TV

ROBIN

How was your day?

CONSTANT

Great! I did a lot of reading. I got on the computer and did some writing.

ROBIN

Writing? What are you writing about?

(beat)

I know, you should write a book called "How to write For People Who Don't Know How To Read".

CONSTANT

You're funny, but looks aren't everything!

(beat)

No, It's called "Writers Block" It's 278 pages of blank pages. What do you think? I'm dedicating it to you for all your support.

ROBIN

(sarcastic)

Well, as long as you have fun. It's a good thing that we don't have any work to do around here (rolls her yes).)

The next day Constant and Robin commute to work as usual.

Later, when they return home, they find that the old siding that had been removed is now piled up in the driveway. The trailer that it was in, it's now gone!

They jump out of the truck furious.

INT. LIVING ROOM - EVENING

Constant call George to find out what had happened.

**GEORGE** 

Hello

CONSTANT

George this is Constant

**GEORGE** 

Before you start. I fired Wrangler today and the trailer was his. He threw the siding in your driveway and took off with the trailer. There was nothing I could do.

CONSTANT

Well that mess better be picked up when I get home tomorrow.

GEORGE

Relax. I need to find a truck or get a dumpster to put it in.
I'm gonna need more money if I get a dumpster. The quote I gave you didn't include the cost of a dumpster.

CONSTANT

How much more money are we talking?

**GEORGE** 

It will cost \$800 for a dumpster.

CONSTANT

\$800! No way!

**GEORGE** 

Yes way!

CONSTANT

I just wanna get this over with I'll write you a check when I get home tomorrow...
FOR THE DUMPSTER AND THAT'S IT!

Constant hangs up the phone exasperated.

ROBIN

What did he say?

CONSTANT

He said the trailer is Wrangler's and Wrangler doesn't work for him anymore.

ROBIN

What's he gonna do?

CONSTANT

He's renting a dumpster to get rid of it.

ROBIN

(irritated)

Let me guess. He needs \$800 for the dumpster.

CONSTANT

Good guess, but after this I'm not giving him any more money until the job is done!

ROBIN

You got that right!

The next evening Constant and Robin pull into the driveway. The mess is still there. George and his wife Cheryl pull up.

EXT. DRIVEWAY - EVENING

ROBIN

I have to let Brewsky out. You take care of this.

George slithers out of the passenger side since his wife Cheryl is driving.

**GEORGE** 

(shyly)

How's it going.

CONSTANT

(furious)

What do you mean "how's it going"? I can't believe this. Did you work even on the house today?

**GEORGE** 

I started to, but I had to go to a potential job site and give a quote.

CONSTANT

George, are you going to finish replacing my siding or not?

GEORGE

Yes, I'm focusing on you starting tomorrow. I'm not quitting until I finish. Trust me. This is not like me. Honest.

CONSTANT

I know sometimes things come up.

**GEORGE** 

Good then. Do you have the check for the dumpster?

CONSTANT

Come inside.

INT. KITCHEN - EVENING

Constant is writing the check as George watches

GEORGE

Can you write it for \$1,600? I need to pay the guys and the rest is for the dumpster.

CONSTANT

I'll write you a check for \$800. You'll get the rest when the job is done!

**GEORGE** 

I understand.

Constant hands the check to George and George leaves.

INT. TRUCK - MORNING

ROBIN

I can't wait to see what George gets done today.

CONSTANT

It'll be nice to have that mess cleaned up finally!

ROBIN

What are you doing this weekend?

CONSTANT

I don't know. I figured that I'd do some writing.

ROBIN

What is it with the writing?

CONSTANT

I don't know. I do a lot of reading when I travel and got interested in writing.

ROBIN

Well, I have the all girl weekend this weekend. Woohoo! (twirling arms in front) We gonna party, we gonna party.

CONSTANT

You guys aint right!
Brewsky and I are gonna take it
easy while you're in Medley at the
hen party.

That evening they arrive home and the old siding is still piled up in the driveway. They look at each other astonished.

INT. TRUCK - DRIVEWAY

ROBIN

Where's the dumpster? Why's the siding still in the driveway?

CONSTANT

I'm calling George.

They unload the truck and let Brewsky out. Constant walks into the living room and calls George.

INT. LIVING ROOM - EVENING

Constant waits for George to answer phone, but gets the answering machine instead.

CONSTANT

George this is Constant. Call me as soon as you get this message.

He hangs up the phone as Robin walks into the room.

ROBIN

What'd he say?

CONSTANT

He didn't answer so I left a message and told him to call me back.

ROBIN

This isn't good. He probably left town. What are we doing about the siding in the driveway? We can't leave the house like this. What an asshole!

CONSTANT

I know. I guess that I'll pick up the siding myself this weekend and subtract the \$800 from his quote.

(beat)

I'll try to get the asshole to finish hanging the new siding. If not, I'll get someone else and sue his ass. I'll have to keep the truck this weekend. You can take the Blazer.

ROBIN

(sarcastically)

I seem to remember my dad saying something...

CONSTANT

(changing subject)
How about them Patriots?

EXT. DRIVEWAY - MORNING

We see Robin back out of the driveway as Constant is throwing siding into the back of the pickup truck. He works at it all day. We see him take the last load to the landfill.

# INT. LIVING ROOM - EVENING

Exhausted, Constant decompresses on the couch and cracks open a beer. He picks up the phone and calls George. George's wife Cheryl answers.

CHERYL

Hello.

CONSTANT

Ηi.

Can I speak to George?

CHERYL

I'm sorry, but George is unavailable. May I take a message?

CONSTANT

Yeah, my name is Constant Mansfield. Can you tell him that I called about the work he was supposed to do for me.

CHERYL

When was he supposed to start the work?

CONSTANT

He already started it. I just need him to finish.

CHERYL

I'm sorry, but George won't be finishing any work anytime soon.

CONSTANT

And why?

CHERYL

He was arrested for parole violation. So whatever he started, he is not going to be able to finish for 3 to 5 years. Sorry.

Cheryl hangs up, Constant is livid.

CONSTANT(V.O)

It seems that the money I and other customers had been paying George had been supporting his crack addiction.

(MORE)

CONSTANT(V.O) (CONT'D)

He and Wrangler were both addicts and had gotten into a drug-induced fight when Wrangler decided to take his trailer away.

George had just recently gotten out of prison for dealing crack when he ran his ad in the local paper. That would be when I called him.

I told Robin the story when she got back from the hen party. She was pissed at first, but we realized that they weren't going to let George out of prison to finish siding our house. So we hired a licensed carpenter from the yellow pages who finished the job.

### INT. KITCHEN - EVENING

CONSTANT

I think that I'm gonna start working on the honey-do list around here myself.

ROBIN

What?

You don't know even know which end of a hammer to use!

CONSTANT

I can do anything! Consider the people we've hired so far. If they can do it, any idiot can.

ROBIN

I guess that means you are qualified then. GwaHa!

#### EXT. HOUSE DAY - SUMMER

We see Constant as he hangs trim around the windows. Robin is painting the trims as he hangs them. Constant and Robin paint the porch. THEY EVEN PAINT THE GARAGE!!! We see that when he's not working on the house, Constant writes.

### EXT. HOUSE - AUTUMN

Constant is outside putting storm windows in the house. Robin is raking leaves and BREWSKY is barking at her. We see all three walk in through the back door.

### INT. KITCHEN - EVENING

Constant and Robin are preparing dinner together. Brewsky's lying on the kitchen floor. Constant notices that Robin is quiet as she's chopping vegetables. He can tell that she's worried about something.

CONSTANT

What cha thinking about?

ROBIN

I don't know,

(beat)

about the house and all the work we've been doing.

CONSTANT

What about it?

ROBIN

I don't know. We bought this house to flip it, right?

CONSTANT

Yes, that's the plan. Hello.

ROBIN

According to news and what they say about the economy, we're gonna be lucky to sell it. Let alone make any money.

CONSTANT

I know. The timing may or may not be right. We may have to ride this out for a little longer than we thought. We were thinking that it would take 3 to 5 years to flip this old house anyway.

Constant and Robin are driving to work as snow begins to fall.

INT. TRUCK - MORNING

CONSTANT

I can't believe how many more people are commuting compared to last year. There must be twice as many.

ROBIN

(driving, Indian accent)
They are driving me nuts.

Constant and Robin are passing through a small country village.

CONSTANT

Man, there are a lot of people out and about today.

ROBIN

So yesterday the manager said that I need to improve my communication skills and vocabulary. I got on the internet and started looking up words and tried using big words like inexplicable. The asshole asked me what inexplicable meant. Can you believe that?

(beat)

What a dick!

CONSTANT

Want me to kick his ass?

ROBIN

No, I can deal with the cretin.

CONSTANT

What's a cretin?

ROBIN

Never mind.

INT. CONSTANT'S CUBICLE

Constant is sitting at his desk when he gets a call from Gary.

CONSTANT

Hello, this is Constant

**GARY** 

Constant, I need you to come to my office

CONSTANT

Okay

INT. GARYS OFFICE

CONSTANT

What's up?

GARY

Have a seat.

(beat)

Rick's dad past away last night. I need you to go to San Antonio in his place. He was supposed to train a new employee there.

Later Constant picks up Robin.

INT. TRUCK - EVENING

CONSTANT

Hey sugar, need a ride?

ROBIN

You wouldn't happen to be going to Pickford would you?

CONSTANT

As a matter of fact, I am.

ROBIN

Hi baby.

CONSTANT

Hi ROB

Driving home, Constant gives Robin the news.

CONSTANT (CONT'D)

Guess what?

ROBIN

What, you're an alien?

Yeah.

No, Gary called me in his office this morning and told me that Rick's dad pasted away last night.

ROBIN

Oh no, how's Rick?

CONSTANT

I don't know. He didn't come to work today. He was supposed fly to San Antonio tomorrow, but now I have to.

ROBIN

That sucks, but what can you do?

CONSTANT

I'm gonna start looking for another job, that's one thing I can do.

ROBIN

One that doesn't require traveling?

CONSTANT

I'm sure there's something out there.

ROBIN

I hope so.

# INT. KITCHEN - EVENING

Constant is standing at the island in the kitchen as he's going through the mail. Robin is sweeping the kitchen floor. He opens one of the envelopes and is taken by surprise.

CONSTANT

What!

I don't believe this.

ROBIN

What is it?

CONSTANT

It's from the town assessor. They're raising our property taxes.

ROBIN

(not understanding)

What?

They're saying that the value of our house went up \$20,000 from last year.

ROBIN

They can take their assessment and shove it up their assessment!

CONSTANT

Yeah. I'm thinking that they need to read assessing home values for idiots. Maybe that will help them. It says here that we can Schedule a meeting to discuss the assessment at the town office.

(beat)

I'm calling them tomorrow.

ROBIN

Good. Let them have it baby!

CONSTANT

Oh I will.

Constant begins sorting though the mail again.

CONSTANT (CONT'D)

What's this? You got a letter from someone.

(sarcastically)

Haven't they heard of E-mail Hello, this is like 2009.

ROBIN

Let me see it.

Robin grabs the letter from Constant.

ROBIN (CONT'D)

(excited)

It's from my cousin KELLY.

Standing there, she reads the letter as Constant looks through the remaining mail.

CONSTANT

What does the letter say?

ROBIN

(trying to be funny)

The letter doesn't say anything.

Only people can talk.

You should know that Poindexter.

(sarcastically)

Haha. You're so funny I could puke. You know what I mean.

ROBIN

(reading letter)

She wanted to say Hi and thought a letter would be more personal than an E-mail.

CONSTANT

Whatever!

ROBIN

She says that she's working in New York City now. She would like to visit some time and wants to know if it's okay to bring some friends.

CONSTANT

I've never met her, have I?

ROBIN

I don't think so.

Her dad was in the army and got transferred down south somewhere. She got our address from my MOM.

CONSTANT

Oh great!

So now we are going to have a bunch of people that we never even met staying in our house. They're from New York City to boot. Great... Great...

ROBIN

It's my cousin. Relax. She wrote her phone number for me to call her.

CONSTANT

(sarcastically)

Whatever!

INT. LIVING ROOM - EVENING

Robin calls Kelly as Constant is trying to watch TV. Kelly is watching TV when the phone rings.

KELLY

Hello.

ROBIN

Hi Kelly, this is Robin.

KELLY

Hi Robin, I can't believe it's you! How are you?

ROBIN

Good. Good.

I got your letter.

KELLY

I hope you don't mind. I haven't seen you in so long. I didn't want to just send you an email or call out of the blue.

ROBIN

No, that's fine. I would love to see you and catch up on things. When were you thinking about visiting?

KELLY

I don't know. I haven't even met your husband. Are you sure he's alright with me staying there for a little bit?

ROBIN

You're my cousin, of course he is alright with it. Even if he wasn't, it wouldn't matter. Ha ha.

KELLY

I was thinking maybe in the spring. That's when everyone heads up to Lake George. I'll just drive a little more north.

ROBIN

(joking)

You're not running from the law are you?

KELLY

No. I just want to see you and to get away from the city. I remember when we were kids and used to go to the sugarhouses where they make maple syrup. They used to put the syrup on snow and called it sugar on snow. That was awesome.

ROBIN

They still do that, but the last time I had it was with you when we were kids.

KELLY

Well once I know when we're coming up , I'll call.

ROBIN

Yes dear. You do that. I guess I'll let you go.

KELLY

It was good talking to you and I can't wait to see you.

ROBIN

I can't wait to see you too. Bye.

KELLY

Goodbye.

They each hang up. Constant is still watching TV.

CONSTANT

So what'd she say?

ROBIN

Nothing much. We're gonna catch up on things when she visits.

CONSTANT

When is she going to visit?

ROBIN

She doesn't know.

She's gonna call us when she finds out.

CONSTANT

How many friends is she bringing with her? We can't feed the whole country.

ROBIN

Relax. If they visit, everybody will chip in. My family's not a bunch of freeloaders.

CONSTANT

Well your dog is. He needs to get a job. (MORE)

CONSTANT (CONT'D)

He could work as a watchdog or maybe one of those drug-sniffing dogs.

The next morning Constant wakes before Robin and makes coffee. He sits down at the computer.

He's at the computer when the floor shakes and he hears a sound like a ROCKSLIDE in the basement. He ambles down into the basement and notices that part of the rock foundation has collapsed.

ROBIN walks into the living room.

INT. LIVING ROOM - MORNING

ROBIN

What the hell was that?

CONSTANT

Part of the foundation collapsed.

ROBIN

Holy shit!

Did we have an earthquake?

CONSTANT

No, CRACKHEAD!

Part of the foundation collapsed.

ROBIN

No way.

Is it safe to even be in the house?

CONSTANT

Yes.

It was actually just a small section, but I still want to get it fixed.

ROBIN

Hello!

Nobody is going to buy a house with the foundation in the basement.

CONSTANT

I think the foundation usually is in the basement.

ROBIN

Yeah, but not in a pile.

That evening when they return home from work Constant finds his insurance policy in the file cabinet and calls the insurance company. An obnoxious INSURANCE AGENT answers the phone.

Int. LIVING ROOM: - EVENING

CONSTANT

Hello, I need to file a claim.

AGENT

Do you have your policy number available?

CONSTANT

Yes, its 1325814528429

AGENT

Sir, I did not ask you for your policy number. I just wanted to know if you had it available.

CONSTANT

Sorry. Do you need me to repeat it?

AGENT

Yes sir and this time say it a little slower.

CONSTANT

OK, 1325814528429

**AGENT** 

(condescendingly)

Can you please repeat the policy number?

CONSTANT

1 3 2 5 8 1 4 5 2 8 4 2 9

AGENT

Thank you, Mr. Mansfield. How may I help you today?

CONSTANT

Um, part of my foundation to my house collapsed.

AGENT

(not caring)

I'm sorry to hear that today Mr. Mansfield. Can you tell me the cause of the collapse?

I don't know. I was upstairs. The house shook and I heard a sound like a rumble in the basement. I went down to the basement and found a pile of rocks.

AGENT

I'm sorry to hear that Mr.
Mansfield. I can give you the name
and number of one of our adjusters.
He will come to your house and
assess the cause and severity of
the damage. Do you have a pen or a
pencil ready Mr. Mansfield?

CONSTANT

Yes.

He hangs up the phone.

ROBIN

What'd they say?

CONSTANT

They gave me the number for claim adjuster.

Constant begins dialing the number.

ROBIN

What'd they say?

CONSTANT

The only time he can come out is Wednesday morning.

ROBIN

Are you gonna leave the key for him?

CONSTANT

No, I guess I'll call off. I wanna be here.

Wednesday comes and there's a knock on the back door. It's DON, the insurance adjuster

INT. KITCHEN - MORNING

Brewsky is barking as Constant lets Don into the house.

DON

Hi, CONSTANT?

CONSTANT

Yes, don't mind the dog. He hasn't bitten anyone in a long time.

DON

Great.

Okay. I have a claim for foundation damage. Where's the damage?

CONSTANT

Follow me.

Constant leads Don down to the basement and shows him the pile of stone that use to be a wall.

CONSTANT (CONT'D)

(gesturing)

There it is.

DON

That's a problem

CONSTANT

Yeah, I know.

DON

I'm talking about the water running through your basement.

CONSTANT

What about it?

DON

That water is what caused the collapse.

CONSTANT

(curious)

Yeah?

DON

Well your policy is probably not going cover the cost of the repair.

CONSTANT

(upset now)

What are you talking about? This is exactly what insurance is for!

DON

I'll send in my report. Maybe you'll get lucky.

INT. KITCHEN - EVENING

Robin walks through the back door as Constant is preparing dinner. Brewsky is lying on the floor of the kitchen.

CONSTANT

(looking over his

shoulder)

Hey Brewsky, your momma is home.

ROBIN

Hi honey. How was your day?

CONSTANT

Good.

Robin begins unloading all the stuff in her arms and removes her jacket.

ROBIN

Did the adjuster come by?

CONSTANT

Yes.

ROBIN

What did he say?

CONSTANT

You just got home. I'll tell you later. Relax and have a beer

CONSTANT (CONT'D)

(To himself)

Drink a lot of beers.

ROBIN

(Concerned)

I don't want to relax.

What did he say?

CONSTANT

He said that the insurance policy won't pay for the repairs.

ROBIN

What... why not?

It's not covered.

ROBIN

(upset)

What the hell is covered?

CONSTANT

That's what I asked.

ROBIN

(looking up)

Please send us a home to Medley!

CONSTANT

Have a beer. It helps. Trust me, I know.

#### DINING ROOM

Constant places the hot plates of pasta on the table in front of Robin.

ROBIN

Wow honey! This looks awesome. You should be a chef.

CONSTANT

(Indian accent)
Thank you very much.

ROBIN

So what are we going to do about the foundation?

CONSTANT

I'm gonna fix it.

ROBIN

(head in her hands) Oh god, not again.

CONSTANT

(excited)

Hello, I used to work weekends for Jack the cement contractor.

ROBIN

That was a long time ago and all you did was push a wheelbarrow around.

I did more than that!

ROBIN

I was just kidding.

How long do you think it will take?

CONSTANT

I have vacation time I can use.

(beat)

I'm guessing a week.

ROBIN

That's better than paying some crook.

CONSTANT

You got that right. How's your dinner?

ROBIN

Chow - Mignon!

Constant cleans off the table once they finish eating. ROBIN works on the laundry. Afterward, Constant is on the computer writing. We see his Aviation Flippancy book which he uses for reference.

Robin relaxes on the couch watching TV with Brewsky at her feet.

INT. BASEMENT - MORNING

Constant is piling rocks up to one side of the damp, spider and rat infested basement.

CONSTANT (V.O)

Now I may not be ready to build my own house, but I do know more than my wife gives me credit for.

I just would have preferred that the insurance company would have taken care of this project.

The project did end up taking me a little longer than a week, but I did spend a lot of time writing instead of working on the foundation.

# INT. KITCHEN EVENING

Constant is at the sink rinsing dishes when Robin comes busting through the door with her arms full.

ROBIN

(laughing)

Holy shit, I need to find something to carry all of this shit in.

(beat)

How was your day?

CONSTANT

Good.

I finally finished my project.

ROBIN

I want to see.

#### INT. BASEMENT

Constant leads Robin down into the basement to show his handy work. She's impressed.

ROBIN

Wow.

That looks great!

CONSTANT

Thanks.

ROBIN

You should do that for a living.

CONSTANT

No thanks!

### INT. DINING ROOM EVENING

Constant and Robin are eating dinner. Brewsky is lying on the floor next to Robin.

Later that night Robin is watching TV with Brewsky at her feet. Constant is at the computer. Robin falls asleep on the couch while Constant continues at the computer. She wakes and starts upstairs.

# INT. HALLWAY- LATE NIGHT

ROBIN

(yawning)

Are you coming to bed?

CONSTANT

I'm just finishing up.

ROBIN

Good night.

CONSTANT

Sleep tight.

Constant continues on the computer for a couple of hours and finally attempts to sneak into bed without waking Robin. Unfortunately, she wakes up, looks at the clock and looks at him like she wants to chop him up with a machete, grind up the pieces, regrind them, pour gas on the minced pieces and set fire to it.

#### **BEGIN MONTAGE:**

# EXT. BACKYARD EVENING

Robin is swinging a machete and chopping as you hear gurgling screams. Next, she's working a hand grinder and acting like a PSYCHO!! Finally, she's pouring gas and sets it on fire. She stares as the flames aluminate her face and hair.

### END MONTAGE:

Luckily for Constant she just rolls over and returns to sleep. The next morning she makes as much noise as possible while she prepares for work. Constant finally wakes up and they drive to work. Later that evening...

# INT. LIVING ROOM - EVENING

Robin is curled up on the couch talking to her Mom. Brewsky is lying on the floor in front of her and Constant is watching TV.

ROBIN

(to Constant)

Mom wants to know what we're doing for Easter.

I thought we were picking up a ham at Sadie Farms.

ROBIN

(to Mom on the phone)

We're picking up a ham at Sadie Farms.

(beat)

I know. We miss you too.

Bye.

She hangs up.

ROBIN (CONT'D)

When did you want to pick up the ham?

CONSTANT

We can swing in on the way home next week.

ROBIN

I can't wait!

They have the best ham!

CONSTANT

Down Mongo!

Easter is a week away.

ROBIN

Mongo like ham.

INT. TRUCK - DAY

Constant and Robin are driving home from work.

ROBIN

(excited)

Don't forget to pull into Sadie Farms.

CONSTANT

I know. I've been thinking about this all day.

(Indian accent)

Do not tell me how to drive.

They whip into the parking lot, which is completely empty.

CONSTANT (CONT'D)

How late are they open?

ROBIN

I think till 5:30.

It's twenty after right now.

CONSTANT

Guess what?

ROBIN

What?

CONSTANT

(sarcastically)

I know how to tell time.

ROBIN

You REALLY are smarter than you look!

They rush inside and are greeted by the CASHIER.

CASHIER

(dryly)

You have less than 10 minutes to find what you want.

CONSTANT

We just wanted to pick up a ham.

CASHIER

That all?

ROBIN

I want to look around real quick.

They walk around the store as the cashier is wrapping their ham. They notice a sign on a counter that reads "free samples". There are plates on the counter with sliced cheeses, salami, ham and bread.

ROBIN (CONT'D)

(excited)

Free cheese!

CONSTANT

Yes!

They hurry to the counter for the free food, but as they approach, EMPLOYEES TAKE THE FOOD AWAY.

ROBIN

(to EMPLOYEE 1)

Hey, I want some of that.

EMPLOYEE 1

I'm sorry, but we're getting ready to close.

ROBIN

I just wanna bite.

EMPLOYEE 1

Look lady. I've been working twelve hours shifts for the past 3 weeks. Once that clock says 5:30, I'm doing the Sadie Farms 500 and racing the hell out of here!

ROBIN

(exasperated)

I don't believe this.

They head to the checkout.

CASHIER

All set.

CONSTANT

Yeah, I guess.

CASHIER

That'll be \$38.99.

CONSTANT

(excited)

What?

\$38.99!

CASHIER

(unsympathetically)

They don't give em away, do they?

ROBIN

I quess not.

The Cashier hands the bag to Constant and they leave.

INT. TRUCK

ROBIN

I can't believe that we just spent \$40 for this!

She pulls the ham out of the bag. The ham is the size of a can of SPAM!

CONSTANT

(sarcastically)

They don't give em away, do they?

ROBIN

(excited)

You have more meat than this stuck between your teeth most of the time!

CONSTANT

Thanks.

ROBIN

Their hams used to be bigger and now they are so expensive.

CONSTANT

I know.

ROBIN

(pissed)

They should have given us some free cheese after we spent that much for a ham!

(beat)

I wanted to beat that girl who took the cheese.

I'm going back tomorrow.

CONSTANT

What?

ROBIN

We're stopping in on the way home tomorrow.

CONSTANT

Are you serious?

ROBIN

Does a one-legged duck swim in a circle?

CONSTANT

Oh God!

Robin is wrinkling her nose and starts sneezing.

ROBIN

ACHOO!

CONSTANT

Bless you!

(facing the sun)

ACHOO!

CONSTANT

Bless you all day!

ROBIN

(wrinkling her nose)

I love how the sun makes me sneeze.

CONSTANT

You could at least cover your mouth.

ROBIN

It's gotta be free.

ACHOO!

CONSTANT

When we have kids, we're going to teach them proper man...

ROBIN

AH AH AH CHOOOO!

Constant's hair blows to the side and the whole side of his face is sprayed. Neither one of them say anything. Robin didn't even notice that she sprayed him.

CONSTANT

(finally)

Ya know if people knew what I put up with...

INT. KITCHEN - EVENING

Constant and Robin unload their bottles, coolers and ham and let Brewsky out. They throw everything onto the kitchen island. The phone rings and Robin answers. It's her cousin Kelly.

ROBIN

Hello.

KELLY

Hi Robin.

This is Kelly.

ROBIN

Hi Kelly

How are you?

Good, hey I was calling to let you know that we're planning on coming up in two weeks.

ROBIN

(puzzled)

You are... Who are we?

KELLY

Just me and my friend BARBARA. You'll like her. She's a nut.

ROBIN

Oh great!

Later that evening Constant and Robin are relaxing on the couch, watching TV.

INT. LIVING ROOM - EVENING

ROBIN

I can't wait to see Kelly

CONSTANT

What does Kelly do in New York City?

ROBIN

I don't know.

The last I heard, she was doing some modeling.

CONSTANT

Wow, I'm gonna have a model in my house?

ROBIN

You already have one.

CONSTANT

(looking around)

Where?

ROBIN

Me. Assbag!

Constant stands up and kisses Robin.

CONSTANT

I'm gonna do some writing on the computer.

I'm hitting the hay. Try not to wake me up when you come to bed.

INT. COMPUTER ROOM - EVENING.

Constant is typing away at the computer. He laughs to himself as he's writing. After a while he looks at the clock and notices that it's 1:30 am.

The next morning Robin wakes him up. He drags around the house as he's getting ready for work. He continues to doze in the passenger side seat as Robin is driving.

They finish the commute. Constant is drinking a cup of coffee and working at the computer. Rick glumly walks up

INT. CUBICLE

RICK

You look like death sucking on a life saver.

CONSTANT

Right back at ya. Go get me a cup of coffee and take my calls.

RICK

(sarcastically)

Right, I'll get right on it. Do you want cream in your coffee? I have my own special blend.

Constant leaves work and picks up Robin up at American Smokestack.

INT. TRUCK - DAY

ROBIN

I can't wait to move back to Medley!

CONSTANT

I know, but if we sell now, we'll lose money.

ROBIN

It's almost worth it to me.

CONSTANT

Where would we live? With our family? No thank you!

ROBIN

It's funny.

CONSTANT

What?

ROBIN

We want to move closer to our family, but there's no way in hell that we can live in the same house. We'd kill each other!

CONSTANT

(Indian accent)

It is ironic, don't cha think?

Robin looks up and notices the Sadie Farms sign.

ROBIN

Pull in Sadie Farms.

CONSTANT

Why?

ROBIN

I'm getting my free cheese.

Constant steers into the parking lot. Robin jumps out.

INT. SADIE FARM STORE

Robin hurries in as the employees are starting to put away the plates of cheese, salami, ham and bread. She grabs a plate of cheese as EMPLOYEE 2 picks it up. Neither will let go.

ROBIN

Let go! I'm getting my free cheese. I spent 40 bucks here yesterday and you took away the cheese before I had a chance to try it.

EMPLOYEE 2

(pulling on plate)

This isn't an all you can eat buffet.

(pulling the plate)
I just want to try some...

The plate slips from Robin's hands and she flips backwards into some displays as souvenirs, treats, and coffee cups go flying all over the place. The same happens to Employee 2.

EXT. PARKING LOT - DAY

Robin is sitting in the back seat of a police car looking SCARED as hell. Constant leans against the car as a POLICE OFFICER finishes talking to Employee 2. The officer opens the car door so Robin can get out

POLICE OFFICER Come on out Mrs. Mansfield

ROBIN

(scared)

I'm not going to jail?

POLICE OFFICER

I'm sure you will some day. Not today though.

ROBIN

What do you mean?

POLICE OFFICER

They're not pressing charges.

ROBIN

They're not?

POLICE OFFICER

You do have to pay for damages and they don't want you coming here again.

(beat)

EVER!

ROBIN

But I just...

POLICE OFFICER

Do you agree to these conditions or not?

ROBIN

(quietly)

Duh, of course.

Constant and Robin get into their truck and drive away.

INT. TRUCK

CONSTANT

Ya know your Dad told me that you were dropped on your head when you were a kid. I'm really starting to believe it.

ROBIN

(looking out side window.) Get bent! It was an accident.

CONSTANT

Get help, psycho.

INT. KITCHEN - EASTER SUNDAY

Robin places the ham into the oven. Constant walks in.

CONSTANT

How's it going sugar britches?

ROBIN

Good. The ham is in.

CONSTANT

Yes! Ya know this will be our first Easter with just you and me.

INT. DINING ROOM

Constant and Robin finish eating.

CONSTANT

That was awesome Rob! Chow Mignon! I guess I'll help you clean
up then I'm gonna work on the roof.
(beat)

What are you doing?

ROBIN

I'm gonna have a beer.

CONSTANT

You do that.

## EXT. FRONT YARD-DAY

Constant begins working on the roof as Robin is throwing the ball for Brewsky. Constant is up on the roof for hours. Robin continues to play fetch with Brewsky, hangs out on the picnic table and talks on the phone. Robin is getting pretty hammered by this time and throwing the ball wildly. She half walks, half staggers to the other side of the house to see if Constant is almost done working. She calls up to him

ROBIN

Hey shithead. Are you almost done?

CONSTANT

Yeah, I'll be done in a few.

ROBIN

Hurry up! I'm bored.

CONSTANT

(sarcastically)

I'm trying. It's not like I'm hanging out, drinking beer and throwing a ball around.

Robin throws the ball at Constant. She turns to go inside. She doesn't notice that she hit Constant in the FACE as he falls and rolls off of the roof and is knocked out cold. She staggers inside, turns on the TV with Brewsky lying at her feet. She falls asleep on the couch. Constant wakes up as the sun is going down. He looks around.

CONSTANT (CONT'D)

What the?

He staggers to his feet and walks inside.

INT. LIVING ROOM

Constant finds Robin sitting upright on the couch. She is sound asleep.

The phone rings.

CONSTANT

Hello.

It's Kelly.

KETITY

Hi.

Is this Constant?

CONSTANT

Yes, who are you?

KELLY

I'm Robin's cousin Kelly.

CONSTANT

Oh, Hi Kelly. What's up?

KELLY

Not much.

I just wanted to remind you guys that we're driving up next weekend.

CONSTANT

We know. She's sleeping right now.

KELLY

Sleeping! It's only 8:00!

CONSTANT

I can wake her if you want.

KELLY

No, I just wanted to remind you.

CONSTANT

We're hip. When do you think you'll get here?

KELLY

We want to leave early.

It's about a four and a half hour drive, so we should be there around noonish

(beat)

give or take a few.

CONSTANT

I'll let her know.

KELLY

Okay Constant.

We'll see you then. Be ready to party.

CONSTANT

Hellooo.

You don't know us very well, do you?

See ya then.

CONSTANT

Bye.

The next morning they're driving to work.

INT. TRUCK - MORNING

CONSTANT

Kelly called last night.

ROBIN

She did?

(beat)

What'd she say?

CONSTANT

She just wanted to let us know that they're driving up on Saturday.

ROBIN

What time?

CONSTANT

They're supposed be at our house around noon.

ROBIN

(excited)

I can't wait!

CONSTANT

(sarcastically)

Me neither.

Saturday comes as Constant and Robin are sitting on the front porch swing. Brewsky is lying in front of them, sleeping until Kelly and Barbara pull in the driveway. Brewsky starts barking like a FREAKIN MANIAC. Constant yells at him.

CONSTANT (CONT'D)

SHUT UP!

Brewsky starts barking even louder! Constant jumps up and opens the door. Brewsky runs up to Kelly and Barbara, wagging his tail.

Kelly and Barbara are both in their mid twenties and very attractive. They definitely look like models. Robin runs up gives Kelly a big hug.

(stepping back)

O-M-G!

You look great!

KELLY

So do you.

Robin, this is my partner in crime Barbara.

BARBARA

Hi.

Nice to meet you Robin.

ROBIN

You too.

This is my husband Constant.

CONSTANT

Nice to meet you.

(beat)

How was the drive up?

KELLY

Gorgeous!

I forgot how awesome it is up here!

ROBIN

Let's go inside.

Honey, can you grab their bags?

CONSTANT

(acting shocked)

Rob!

We just met.

ROBIN

(sarcastically)

Just think girls, that's what I have to deal with EVERY day.

Kelly and Barbara laugh.

INT. KITCHEN - DAYTIME

Everybody is at the kitchen island drinking a beer.

ROBIN

So what are your plans?

We can show you around this weekend

if you want.

That would be awesome.
I would like to take Barbara to
Medley next week so she can see how
beautiful it is.

(beat)

We're going to just kick back and relax mostly though.

ROBIN

Well, make yourselves at home. Come on, I'll show you your rooms.

KELLY

Cool.

They grab their luggage and follow Robin as she takes them upstairs to their bedrooms. Constant stays in the kitchen munching on nuts and drinking beer.

INT. STAIRCASE

BARBARA

This is such a beautiful old house!

ROBIN

Thanks.

We plan to sell it and move back to Medley.

BARBARA

Kelly is always talking about you and Medley.

ROBIN

We used to have so much fun.

They enter a bedroom.

ROBIN (CONT'D)

Okay Barbara this is your room.

INT. BEDROOM 1

BARBARA

This is amazing.

I can see the lake from here.

Look at the mountains.

Don't get use to it. We only have a week before we have to return to reality.

BARBARA

I know, but the city just seems like a bajillion miles away.

ROBIN

Come on Kelly.

You're gonna like your room too.

KELLY

Lead on Biatch!

Robin leads Kelly to the next bedroom down the hall. She waves Kelly into the room and bows as Kelly walks past.

ROBIN

Your room awaits Biatch!

KELLY

(looking around)

I can see the lake too!

Thanks Robin.

I hope you and Constant don't mind us staying here.

ROBIN

(imitating Balky from that

TV series)

Don't be ridiculous!

(beat)

It's great to see you... and your friend seems very nice.

KELLY

She is.

I hoped you'd like her. Her husband JOE is overseas for six months.

ROBIN

Is he in the military?

KELLY

Yeah, he's in the Marines.

ROBIN

Well, I guess that I'll let you unpack. We can catch up when you get settled in.

(beat)

I'm glad you're here.

Robin and Kelly hug. Robin heads downstairs to find Constant right were she left him drinking a beer.

INT. KITCHEN - DAYTIME

CONSTANT

They settled in?

ROBIN

They're unpacking.

What are you making us for dinner?

CONSTANT

I don't know.

How does Chicken Alfredo sound?

ROBIN

YUMMY!

My favorite.

INT. DINING ROOM - EVENING

The girls are sitting at the table as Constant and Robin place plates of food in front of them. Brewsky is sleeping on the dining room floor.

KELLY

This is awesome.

The food smells so good.

BARBARA

You should let us help with something.

CONSTANT

Don't worry about it. You can help clean up.

KELLY

I'm gonna clean my plate. That's for sure.

ROBIN

Where do you put it?

KELLY

What?

The food! (beat)

You must have a hollow leg!

Everybody laughs at Robin's comment as they start passing the salad, toppings, pepper and napkins around the table.

ROBIN (CONT'D)

So what do you guys want to do tomorrow?

KELLY

I don't know. I thought you and Constant were going to show us around?

ROBIN

We want to. I just wanted to make sure. Constant is a good tour guide.

CONSTANT

(looks up while eating)
I'm cheap too!
I was thinking about taking you
guys to Lake Placid. The town sits
right next to the lake and there
are all kinds of shops and
restaurants.

(beat)

It's very touristy.

KELLY

That sounds great!
How far is it from here?

CONSTANT

About an hour.

KELLY

Perfect!

After they finish eating, everybody helps clean up.

INT. KITCHEN - EVENING

Constant is rinsing dishes and putting them in the dishwasher. Kelly and Barbara are bringing the dishes into the kitchen. Robin is putting the leftovers in the fridge. As they finish cleaning up, Robin has an idea.

Hey, do you guys wanna play Yahtzee?

BARBARA

That sounds like fun.
I haven't played that in years.

KELLY

Yeah, that sounds like fun.

INT. DINING ROOM

Everybody is sitting at the dining room table drinking beer, playing Yahtzee and cranking the stereo!

ROBIN

(popular song begins)
Oh, I love this song.

Robin jumps up dancing. Everybody joins her, beers in hands, raising hell.

NEXT DAY

EXT. TOWN OF LAKE PLACID - DAY

**BEGIN MONTAGE:** 

Constant, Robin, Kelly and Barbara are strolling down the sidewalk going in and out of shops and enjoying the views of the lake. They see Ospreys swooping down and snatching fish out of the water. Later that afternoon they're driving back in Constant and Robin's pickup truck. Kelly and Barbara are in the backseat of the truck.

END MONTAGE:

INT. TRUCK - LATE AFTERNOON

KELLY

That was fun!

BARBARA

Yeah, that was a blast. Thanks for being tour guides.

No problem, we had fun too!

They continue back home when they pass a guy HITCHHIKING. Constant looks at Robin.

ROBIN (CONT'D)

YOU ARE NOT PICKING UP A HITCHHIKER!

CONSTANT

We are in the middle of nowhere. I'm not leaving someone stranded out here.

ROBIN

No!

You are not picking him up. Everybody knows that you do not pick up strangers. ESPECIALLY IN THE MIDDLE OF NOWHERE! DID YOU BUMP YOUR FUCKING HEAD?

CONSTANT

(looking in mirror)

What?

(beat)

He looks normal.

ROBIN

So do you, but we all know better.

CONSTANT

He can ride in the back of the truck. We'll lock the doors if it will make you feel better. He won't even get inside the truck.

Constant makes a U turn. Kelly and Barbara say nothing. They just look at each other. Constant pulls up next to the Hitchhiker who looks normal enough. He cranks his window half way down.

CONSTANT (CONT'D)

Where you headed?

HITCHHIKER

Elizabethtown.

CONSTANT

We're going through E-town. You can ride in the back of the truck if you want.

The Hitchhiker peers into the truck checking everyone out and tries to open the door.

CONSTANT (CONT'D)

I said the back of the truck. Not the back seat.

HITCHHIKER

Oh, my bad.

They're riding along when the Hitchhiker knocks on the rear window.

INT. TRUCK

Kelly yells to him

KELLY

What do you want?

Hitchhiker motions for her to open the window.

KELLY (CONT'D)

He wants me to open the window.

ROBIN

Don't do it!

CONSTANT

See what he wants.

He can't climb through that little opening.

Kelly slides the window open, barely cracking it.

**KELLY** 

(rudely)

What?

HITCHHIKER

(pressing his lips close)

What's your name?

**KELLY** 

Kelly. Why?

HITCHHIKER

(creepily)

I wanted to know the name of the most beautiful woman I've ever seen.

KELLY AND BARBARA

Ewwww!

HITCHHIKER

Would you like to go out sometime Kelly?

CONSTANT

What's he want?

KELLY

He asked if I'd go out with him.

Kelly looks back to the Hitchhiker.

HITCHHIKER

Do you like beaver?

KELLY

(confused)

Do I like what?

HITCHHIKER

Do you like beaver?

Maybe you could come to my house and meet my mom.

She's making beaver for dinner.

KELLY

There's no way in hell I'm going to your house with you!
And there's no way in hell I'm going to eat beaver!
That's disgusting!

She slams the window shut.

KELLY (CONT'D)

Good idea Constant!

CONSTANT

What?

KELLY

The weirdo that you picked up wants me to come to his house to meet his mom.

CONSTANT

What did you tell him?

KELLY

(sarcastically)

What do you think? (MORE)

KELLY (CONT'D)

I told him that I would just love to meet his mom.

(beat)

What do you think I told him? I told him to Fuck Off!

CONSTANT

Sorry, what do you want me to do?

BARBARA

He's licking the window!

EXT. BACK OF TRUCK

The Hitchhiker is LICKING the window and then he starts DRY HUMPING it.

INT. TRUCK

The girls are screaming and carrying on while Constant begins swerving all over the road. Hitchhiker looses his balance as Constant slams on the brakes. Hitchhiker comes flying over the top of the truck and lands on the hood. Constant hits the gas, but can't shake Hitchhiker loose because he's holding onto the top edge of the hood. Constant starts swerving all over the road again. He turns on the windshield wipers and sprays windshield washer fluid at the PERV on his hood.

INT. TRUCK

ROBIN

(scared)

Like turning on your wipers is going to get rid of him!

CONSTANT

I don't think this maniac has ever seen a woman.

Robin rips a spray bottle from her purse and starts rolling her window down.

ROBIN

I'LL SHOW YOU HOW TO GET RID OF THIS ASSHOLE!

She leans out and aims her bottle of MACE at Hitchhiker, but when she sprays the MACE at him, the mist comes back in her face. She drops the bottle and falls back inside the truck with her eyes shut, flailing and screaming

She knocks into Constant causing the truck to cross to the other side of the road

ROBIN (CONT'D)

My eyes!
I can't see!

They pass a sign "Elizabethtown 1 mile"

EXT. MAIN STREET ELIZABETHTOWN - DAY

Constant pulls into town driving the speed limit, which is 15 MILES PER HOUR. Hitchhiker is still holding on and looking around at all of the people staring at him. A POLICE OFFICER that just finished writing a parking ticket notices Hitchhiker and jumps into his car. The policeman signals for Constant to pull over. Once Constant finds a parking spot on Main st., he pulls over. Hitchhiker continues to hold on to the hood even when the truck comes to a stop! The police officer approaches the truck looking at Hitchhiker.

POLICE OFFICER 2 (to Hitchhiker)
What the hell are you doing BLAINE?

It turns out the maniac hitchhikers' name is Blaine.

BLAINE

I was hitching a ride and they said I had to ride on the hood!

POLICE OFFICER 2
Blaine, when are you going learn to act like a civilized person?

POLICE OFFICER 2 (CONT'D) I'm sorry folks. Blaine here has lived in the mountains most of his life. He's harmless, just lacks social skills. Hope he didn't scare you.

POLICE OFFICER 2 (CONT'D)
You go home now Blaine, Ya hear?

Robin yells from inside the truck. Her eyes red and irritated with mascara running down her cheeks from the MACE

ROBIN

What! You're letting him go? He almost got us killed and he molested our rear window!

Yeah, he was licking the window too.

POLICE OFFICER

Understand this ladies and gentlemen. Window licking is not a crime. Now on the other hand, driving around with somebody on the hood of your truck, now that could be considered reckless endangerment.

(beat)

I suggest you each go your own way.

CONSTANT

Yes sir.

BLAINE

(Waving to the truck) Goodbye Kelly.

Kelly flips Blaine the MIDDLE FINGER as Constant drives away.

INT. TRUCK

The girls are all pissed at Constant.

BARBARA

Robin does this kind of stuff happen to you on a regular basis?

KELLY

Yeah, we were with you just this one day. This is probably the craziest thing that's ever happened to me.

BARBARA

Me too!

ROBIN

This happens all the time and it's all because he doesn't use common sense.

CONSTANT

It's not always my fault!

ROBIN

99% of the time it is!

CONSTANT

Oh yeah, did you happen to mention to Kelly that you're not allowed on Sadie Farms property and that you will be arrested if you go there?

KELLY

What?

ROBIN

Never mind!
JEEZ UM CROW!

INT. DINING ROOM - EVENING

Later, everybody is playing Yahtzee, drinking beers.

CONSTANT

(yelling from kitchen)

Who needs a beer?

ROBIN

I'll have one.

KELLY

Me too!

BARBARA

Make it three TARBENDER!

CONSTANT brings the beers and sits down to roll the dice.

INT. COMPUTER - MORNING

Barbara closes the E-mail window. She notices an icon that reads "ATLANTA INTERNATIONAL". She clicks on it. She begins reading. She smiles at times as she's reading. She starts laughing out loud. Kelly looks in. Kelly just got out of the shower. She has a towel wrapped around her and she's drying her hair with another towel.

KELLY

What are you laughing at?

BARBARA

This thing that I found on the computer.

KELLY

What thing?

BARBARA

I don't know. I think Constant wrote it? He's a writer I guess.

KELLY

What?

Constant's not a writer!

BARBARA

Well look at the first page if you don't believe me.

Kelly looks at the screen. Barbara clicks back to the first page. The first page reads -

ATLANTA INTERNATIONAL

STORY BY

CONSTANT MANSFIELD

BARBARA

See. I told you.

KELLY

Scroll down.

He's writing a book.

BARBARA

How do you know?

KELLY

Duh!

I work for a publisher.

BARBARA

Duh!

So what... Read.

Kelly and Barbara continue reading.

INT. DINING ROOM - EVENING

Constant, Robin, Kelly and Barbara are at the table eating. Kelly and Barbara are sitting across from each other. They keep laughing and gagging on their food as if they have some private joke between the two of them.

CONSTANT

What's up with you two?

ROBIN

Yeah, what's so funny?

KELLY

I'm sorry, but I can't help it.

ROBIN

(wanting in)
Can't help what?

KELLY

When I look at Constant.

CONSTANT

(confused)

Why, do I make you laugh?

BARBARA

It's not you.

It's what you have on your computer.

ROBIN

(serious)

I'm confused.

What's on our computer?

BARBARA

Oh, nothing bad.

I was checking my....

KELLY

(interrupting)

We couldn't help noticing what Constant has on your computer.

CONSTANT

(in slow motion)

OK.

What-are-you-talking-about?

KELLY

Alright, the manuscript you wrote.

CONSTANT

(upset)

Kelly, that's personal stuff! Robin hasn't even read it. How would you like it if I went through your purse or looked through your stuff?

(laughing)

I'm sorry Constant!
We were curious and couldn't help
it.

CONSTANT

Yes, you could help it.

BARBARA

Relax Constant
We think that it's great.
It's too funny.

KELLY

Yes, it really is good. It's definitely not anything to be embarrassed about.

CONSTANT

You guys really like it?

KELLY

Are you kidding? We couldn't stop reading it.

CONSTANT

Thanks!

I do a lot of traveling and had some ideas. I thought that a story based at Atlanta International Airport would be fun to write about.

KELLY

Well I work for a publisher and I can put you in contact with a literary agent I know.

CONSTANT

ROBIN said that you were a model.

KELLY

(sarcastically)

A model?

CONSTANT

Yes, a model.

KELLY

Well, Um, I was modeling, but that didn't work out so now I work for a publishing company.

BARBARA

(laughing)

Constant, I'm sorry, but you have one twisted sense of humor. I love it though.

CONSTANT

A lot of the stuff that I write about is true.

BARBARA

No way!

What about the Seeing Eye dog and the ticket agent?

CONSTANT

Yes, that did happen.

BARBARA

(laughing)

THAT'S SO ILL!

ROBIN

(frustrated)

I have no idea what you guys are talking about.

KELLY

Have her read it asshole!

INT. COMPUTER ROOM - EVENING

Robin is looking at the computer screen and smiling.

CONSTANT(V.O)

Well, I called the agency that Kelly works with and signed a contract with the them. We sold our house in Pickford to Barbara and her husband Joe.

INT. DINING ROOM - MORNING

We see Barbara and Joe serving breakfast to guests at a large table.

CONSTANT(V.O)

It turns out that Joe is pretty handy and did all of the house repairs himself. He and Barbara turned the house into a Bed and Breakfast.

## INT. LIVING ROOM - DAYTIME

We see Constant at the desktop computer and Robin is on the couch working with her laptop. Brewsky is lying on the floor in front of her.

CONSTANT(V.O)

As for me and Robin, we used the money that we received to buy our own piece of paradise in Medley. Robin started her own business selling Maple Syrup, Buckets, Artwork, and even furniture on her website Vermontcrafts.com

(beat)

This all started with a little inspiration and now we couldn't be happier. The funny thing is that we didn't plan it like this. Providence took over.

Providence.

END. CREDITS ROLL