

THE BROCHURE  
By  
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FADE IN:

INT. BEDROOM OF JOE AND LYNN RILEY --6:20 AM

An alarm clock goes off.

A discombobulated JOE RILEY grabs the clock, opens the nightstand drawer and tosses it inside. The noise of the alarm echoes.

RILEY reaches into the drawer and accidentally pulls out a pistol. He puts it back in the drawer, pulls out the clock, reads it, shuts it off, and puts it back on the stand.

RILEY grunts, grumbles, and walks to the bathroom. A shower is turned on.

INT. KITCHEN/DINING ROOM, RILEY RESIDENCE --20 MINUTES LATER

The Riley kitchen is in complete chaos.

Heavy metal music blasts from the living room.

LYNN RILEY, rushes back and forth from the counter area, refrigerator, and oven making sandwiches, toast, cereal, and coffee.

13-year old AMY RILEY sits at the counter reading a chemistry book.

An agitated LYNN looks over at her.

LYNN

A little help around here would be nice.

16-year old HOLLY RILEY, wearing all black with jet black dyed hair and multiple piercings on her face, sits down, and grabs a piece of toast.

A disgusted Lynn turns.

LYNN (CONT'D)

That would mean you would actually have to do something around here other than sleep and dress up like Frankenstein.

HOLLY

Whatever.

JOE, a 45 year old man dressed in a blue suit, walks down the stairs. He looks in the living room where 22 year old JOE JUNIOR, aka, JJ, lays on the couch watching a thrash metal video. JOE walks into the kitchen.

JOE

Morning family.

AMY and Holly grunt without looking up. Lynn tosses Joe a bagel.

LYNN

You have ten minutes or you're gonna miss the 7:02.

JOE

I'll be fine.

LYNN

You know how traffic is on a Monday. You really wanna chance it?

Joe looks down at AMY. He smiles as he watches her read.

JOE

Big test today?

Behind her book AMY rolls her eyes.

AMY

Why do you care?

JJ, wearing a ripped tank top and black cut sweats made into shorts, gets off the couch, and walks into the kitchen. He grabs a carton of milk and drinks from it.

AMY looks over in disgust.

AMY (CONT'D)

EW! That's gross!

JJ

What?

HOLLY

Who know's where that mouth's been?

JJ

And who knows WHOSE been in that mouth!

HOLLY

Screw you!

Joe shakes his head as he sips on a coffee.

JOE

Ah, my sweet, loving family. What is up with the new piercing? Don't you have enough on your face?

HOLLY

It's my face.

AMY

But we have to look at it. It's disgusting.

HOLLY

Shut up brainiac! Just keep burying your ugly ass face in those books...

AMY (interupts)

Shut up! Dad, check out Holly's new tongue ring.

JOE

Tongue, what?

Holly sticks her tongue out at Joe, who cringes as he sees a large gold ball in the center of her mouth.

JOE (CONT'D)

Why do you have a bowling bowl in your mouth?

JJ wipes his mouth on his tank top.

JJ

The basketball team loves it. They say it feels good when she goes down on them.

Holly throws JJ the middle finger.

HOLLY

Is that why you have one so you can blow all your skinhead pals?

JJ walks over to Holly. He pokes her in the shoulder.

JJ

Eat shit you skank!

Holly shoves him. Joe steps in between them.

HOLLY

Up yours, you repressed fat...

JOE (interupts)

Hey, relax!

Holly and JJ push Joe as if he's a pinball.

Lynn steps in.

LYNN (yells)

KNOCK IT OFF OR I'LL BEAT BOTH OF YOU TO A PULP!

Holly and JJ look at Lynn who now holds a frying pan. They back away.

They turn to Joe and both shake their heads in disgust. JJ walks back to the living room.

LYNN (screams) (CONT'D)  
AND SHUT THAT GOD DAMN MUSIC OFF!

JJ gets off the coach and begins to walk up the stairs.

JOE  
Did you hear your mother?

JJ  
I'm going to bed.

Joe walks into the living room and shuts off the tv.

JOE  
Did you work last night?

LYNN  
You have to have a job to work.

JJ  
I'm looking.

JOE  
Is that your interview suit? What have you been doing all night?

HOLLY  
The usual, hanging out with the other meatheads, have a Neonazi meeting, jerking off to Hitler's picture, then going out and bashing some innocent black guy or gay couple.

This time JJ throws Holly the middle finger.

JJ  
Could be worse, I could be gang banging the starting five...

HOLLY (interupts)  
You only wish they'd let you!

JJ steps back down on the floor. A laser beam look comes from Lynn's eyes to both Holly and JJ. JJ grunts as he walks back upstairs. A car horn is heard. Holly turns.

HOLLY (CONT'D)  
Just in time.

A dismayed Joe grabs his briefcase.

JOE  
Another great start to a new week.

He turns to Amy and smiles.

JOE (CONT'D)  
Good luck with your test.

AMY  
Yeah, right.

Amy pulls her head from her text book.

AMY (CONT'D)  
Question. Was I left off on the  
doorstep in the middle of the night?

JOE  
What?

AMY  
Because, there is no way I have the  
same DNA as those two or that I came  
from you people.

Amy gets up and leaves the room.

Lynn looks over at Joe.

LYNN  
Why do you provoke her?

JOE  
What did I say? I wished her good  
luck!

LYNN  
She's at that age. You're better  
off ignoring her. Remember Holly at  
that age.

JOE  
And that worked! She worse now than..

LYNN (interrupts)  
Leave before you piss me off!

Joe walks to the front door.

JOE (sarcastically)  
Life is good. I love my life.

He walks out the door. Fade.

INT. RAILROAD CAR OF THE LONG ISLAND RAILROAD -- MORNING

Joe walks into a railroad car searching for a seat. He finds  
two empty seats, sits down on the seat next to the window,  
leans against the window, and closes his eyes.

A female voice with a slight Hispanic accent is heard.

VOICE

Excuse me. Excuse me.

Joe opens his eyes and gasps as he sees two beautiful, shapely, tanned legs that connect to a short black skirt. He looks up to see a beautiful olive skinned face with deep onyx colored eyes. A bright white smile appears between two luscious red lips.

VOICE (CONT'D)

Is this seat taken?

Joe fumbles with his briefcase as he puts it on the floor.

JOE

Oh, oh, no, please.

The WOMAN sits. She places her hand bag on her lap.

WOMAN

Thank you.

The WOMAN crosses her legs which accent her muscular calves and black high heels.

JOE

My pleasure.

WOMAN

My name is Erikka. Nice to meet you.

Joe turns. They shake hands where Joe notices her well manicured hands.

JOE

I'm Joe.

Erikka sighs.

ERIKKA

I must have asked a half dozen people if the seat next to them was taken. They said it was but I watched and no one other than their briefcases sat there.

JOE

You know how people are.

ERIKKA

Yes, but why?

Joe shrugs.

Erikka smiles as she takes a brochure out of her hand bag.

JOE

Do you usually take the 7:02?

ERIKKA

Sometimes, but not lately. My job really doesn't have a set schedule. Do you usually take it?

Joe fidgets with his wedding band as he sneaks another look at Erikka's legs.

JOE

Monday through Friday. I take the 5:15 home.

ERIKKA

You look like an orderly person.

JOE

Too orderly and too ordinary.

Erikka leans closer and smiles.

ERIKKA

I don't think so.

JOE

No, it's the story of my life.

ERIKKA

Does it bother you?

JOE

Sometimes it does.

Joe looks out the window as Erikka looks down at the brochure. Joe looks back at Erikka.

JOE (CONT'D)

So, what kind of job gives you the flexibility to choose your own hours?

ERIKKA

I'm into travel. Do you travel?

JOE

I haven't traveled in many years, other than the occasional trip to Jones Beach or a weekend to Montauk.

ERIKKA

You should. It's good for the soul.

Erikka hands Joe the brochure.

ERIKKA (CONT'D)

Here, take a look at this.

Joe waves his hand.

JOE

No thank you. I'm not in the mood...

ERIKKA (interupts)

This isn't a sales pitch. I'm not trying to sell you anything. You seem like a man that needs to get away. I'm only here to show you life is more than taking the Long Island Railroad every day.

JOE

I'm sorry I didn't mean to upset you. I just don't have the time to take off from work.

ERIKKA

All I said is look at the brochure and maybe you'll like the pictures.

She hands him back the brochure.

The train begins to slow down. An announcement calls out the next stop.

JOE

Is this your stop?

ERIKKA

Today it is. I hope you look at it.

Joe looks at the brochure. He smiles. She gets up.

JOE

I will.

ERIKKA

You won't be disappointed.

JOE

I hope to see you soon.

ERIKKA

Me too. Enjoy the brochure.

The door opens. Joe looks down at the brochure then back up at Erikka but she has already gotten off the train.

JOE

Erikka. Where...

He looks around the station platform. The doors close. The train begins to pull out of the station.

Joe looks back down at the brochure and opens it up. He stares at the pictures of the beautiful beach, the beach bungalows, and the multicolored water.

JOE (CONT'D)  
This really is beautiful.

He closes his eyes. Fade.

EXT. SANDY BEACH ON THE MEXICAN COAST -- MOMENTS LATER

A golf cart pulls off a dirt road and onto a white sandy beach where the water glistens in the sun.

A hand taps Joe's shoulder. A sleeping Joe flicks the hand away.

VOICE 2  
Senor?

Again a hand taps Joe's shoulder. And again, Joe knocks the hand off of his shoulder.

VOICE 2 (CONT'D)  
Senor?

Joe looks up and is blinded by the hot sun.

JOE  
What?

VOICE 2  
Senor, My name is Cesar. Welcome to Oasis Beach.

A surprised and confused Joe straightens himself. He looks up, squints, and sees Cesar, a short, round dark skinned Mexican in shorts, a polo shirt, and a baseball cap. Cesar smiles.

JOE  
Where am I?

Cesar hands Joe a pair of sunglasses.

CESAR  
Oasis Beach and Cove.

JOE  
We're not at Penn Station.

CESAR  
No senor, we're not. Today, this is your stop.

JOE  
I don't...

Joe steps out of the golf cart and sees the gorgeous multicolored ocean and white sand. He gasps.

JOE (CONT'D)

This doesn't make sense.

CESAR

Your hostess will be here shortly.  
Follow me, pro favor.

Cesar walks to a tiki bar. Joe follows. Cesar goes behind the bar. Joe stares out at the cove. Cesar hands Joe a frozen tropical drink.

JOE

Thank you.

CESAR

My pleasure.

Joe sips the drink. He closes his eyes in satisfaction. He slips off his loafers as he walks on the spotless beach.

JOE

This is magnificent.

ERIKKA

Yes it is.

Joe turns and blinks twice as he sees Erikka in a black string bikini holding a margarita. He can't stop staring at her stop a clock body.

JOE

More than you think.

Erikka stands next to Joe. He looks out at the scenery in front of him.

JOE (CONT'D)

I, I mean the water. It's so beautiful.

ERIKKA

I know, it's majestic. How's your drink?

He takes another sip and slightly groans.

JOE

This may be the best...

ERIKKA (interupts)

Mango colada.

JOE

How did you know it's my favorite frozen drink?

Erikka lightly taps Joe on the shoulder.

ERIKKA  
Research, Joe. Research.

JOE  
You do your homework well. It's  
fantastic. The whole scene is ecstasy  
gone wild!

ERIKKA  
I'm glad you think so.

She looks down at Joe's suit and brushes his shirt collar.

ERIKKA (CONT'D)  
First things first, we have to get  
rid of these clothes and dress you  
accordingly.

Joe nods. Cesar walks over to the couple.

ERIKKA (CONT'D)  
Cesar will take you to your bungalow  
to change.

JOE  
Bungalow? This is getting better by  
the minute! Will you be here when I  
come back?

ERIKKA  
I'm not going anywhere.

Joe smiles as Cesar helps him onto the golf cart. He toasts  
Erikka with his drink.

She smiles back as the golf cart pulls away.

INT. RAILROAD CAR OF THE LONG ISLAND RAILROAD -- CONTINUOUS

A bell rings. The train is empty. Joe jumps up, looks  
around, and sighs as he looks down at the brochure.

JOE  
What a dream!

He puts the brochure in his briefcase, walks out of the car,  
and walks alongside the mass of people on the platform.

INT. BROKERAGE FIRM OF PIZZOWITZ, GREENBERG, AND REGAN -20  
MINUTES LATER

Joe walks into the busy office of Pizzowitz, Greenberg and  
Regan. He nods at his co-workers as he walks to his small  
office. Joe sits, takes out some folders, and looks back in  
his briefcase at the brochure. He smiles as a knock is heard.

JANET LONDON, a 50 year old secretary walks in.

JANET

Good morning, Joe. Sorry to bother you but Mr. Greenberg would like to see you.

JOE

And a good morning to you, Janet. Isn't it a beautiful day?

JANET

I hope you feel the same after your meeting with...

JOE (interrupts)

He's early.

Janet shrugs as she hands Joe a cup of coffee. Joe smiles and lightly touches her shoulder. He takes a sip.

JOE (CONT'D)

So be it. Delicious.

JANET

My coffee, delicious? Someone had a good weekend.

JOE

Absolutely not, but the train ride was spectacular.

JANET

Spectacular?

JOE

Not even miserable old man Greenberg can upset me this morning.

JANET

You really had a good commute.

Joe walks out of his office and down the hall.

INT. BERNARD GREENBERG'S OFFICE -- MOMENTS LATER

Joe knocks on the door and walks in.

JOE

Good morning, Bernard.

BERNARD GREENBERG, a cantankerous 58 year old bear of a man wearing a black pinstripe suit looks up from a computer.

GREENBERG

What's good about it?

JOE

It's a sunny, clear Monday. Who could ask for more?

Greenberg shakes his head as he takes off his glasses.

GREENBERG

I'm glad you feel that way. Straight to the point, Joe, last six weeks were down 15% and the prior six were down 20. That equals...

JOE (interrupts)

35%. Yes, I know...

GREENBERG (interrupts)

What are you going to do about it?

JOE

Well, I guess I'll tell the boys to keep plugging a little harder and...

GREENBERG (interrupts)

Keep plugging? Are you serious? A third of our business is down in less than three months.

JOE

Sir, things will change and get...

GREENBERG (interrupts)

Here's what you're going to do. First you're going to wipe that smile off your face and then you're going to get mean with your associates.

JOE

But it's not their fault. The recession and the world market is..

Greenberg bangs his fist on his desk.

GREENBERG (interrupts)

Riley, if it's not their fault, then it's yours! Light a fire under their asses even if it means threatening them with their jobs.

JOE

Do you think that's the right course to take?

GREENBERG

The right course? Here's the deal. If your numbers aren't better in two weeks I will make a change starting with your Laissez Faire attitude.

JOE

With Me?

GREENBERG

Now you're getting the picture. Set up a meeting and get to work fixing your division.

A disconnected Joe nods as he walks out of Greenberg's office and back to his office. He shuts the door.

INT. JOE'S OFFICE -- CONTINUOUS

Joe sits at his desk, pulls out the brochure, and smiles. He frowns as he puts it back in his case. He opens up a folder and begins to read. Fade.

INT. RAILROAD CAR OF THE LONG ISLAND RAILROAD -- EVENING

A tired Joe enters the railroad car, finds a seat, and sits. He rubs his temple as he pulls out the travel brochure from his case. He turns a couple pages, smiles, and looks out the window as the train leaves the platform. He closes his eyes.

INT. SANDY BEACH ON THE MEXICAN COAST -- CONTINUOUS

A hand touches Joe's shoulder. Joe smiles as he wakes to find himself on a golf cart.

CESAR

Senor, welcome back.

JOE

Cesar, thank you.

CESAR

Nada. My pleasure.

Joe gets off the cart. He notices he is dressed in cargo shorts, a flowered shirt, and flip-flop sandals. Again, he smiles as he walks to the cove where he watches fish swim between his legs. He sighs as a drink is placed in his hands by the bikini laden Erikka. His smile expands.

ERIKKA

You forgot this.

JOE

How could I forget this.

ERIKKA

I'm glad.

She reaches for his hand and tightly holds it.

ERIKKA (CONT'D)

Let's walk to the reef. There are dolphins.

JOE

Dolphins?

She nods. He smiles. They begin to wade in the water as the sun begins to set.

INT. RILEY HOUSEHOLD -- LATER

Joe walks into the house. Again the household is in chaos. Bickering, arguments, and yelling dissipate in the kitchen and dining room where Lynn, Holly, JJ, and Amy, still reading a book, but this time at the dinner table, sit pointing fingers and banging the table as they eat.

JJ, now wearing a black leather vest with a swastika and other neonazi pins turns as Joe enters the dining room.

Joe smiles, turns, and walks into the living room where he sits on his recliner. He takes out the brochure and begins to read it. JJ turns to Lynn.

JJ

What's his problem?

LYNN (yells)

Aren't you having dinner?

JOE

No thank you. I'm not hungry.

LYNN

Why not?

JOE

I don't have an appetite.

LYNN

Fine.

Lynn gets up and walks into the living room. She grabs a half filled bottle of bourbon and places it on an end table next to Joe.

LYNN (CONT'D)

Forget dinner and go straight to your dessert?

JOE

No thanks. I'm not thirsty.

LYNN

Not thirsty? Are you sick?

Joe pauses for a moment.

JOE

No, I'm not in the mood.

Lynn shakes her head. She grabs the bottle.

LYNN

If that's how you're gonna be.

She walks back into the dining room and sits.

HOLLY

What's up with him?

LYNN

Who knows?

JJ

Is he going through the change?

HOLLY

Are you really an idiot? Women go through the change. Not men, you..

JJ (interrupts)

Screw you!

HOLLY

You are such a moron!

LYNN (yells)

Stop it!

Amy looks up for a second then goes back to her book.

AMY

When is the space-ship coming to rescue me?

Joe listens to the fighting. He looks back down at the brochure. Again, he smiles as he closes his eyes. Fade.

INT. KITCHEN/DINING ROOM, RILEY RESIDENCE -- EARLY MORNING

Lynn walks down the stairs where she sees Joe sitting at the counter reading a report. The brochure lays next to it.

The clock reads, 5:50. Lynn scratches her head.

LYNN

What are you doing up so early?

Joe puts the report on top of the brochure. He takes a sip of his coffee.

JOE

I, I have a very early meeting.

LYNN

At this time? Why?

JOE

We've dropped 35% the past three months and...

LYNN (interrupts)

Are we in trouble? Jesus, don't get fired.

Lynn walks into the kitchen. She opens the refrigerator.

JOE

I'll try not to.

LYNN

What are we gonna do if you lose your job?

JOE

I won't lose my job. Everything will be fine.

LYNN

You're 35% down! You better get your act together before it's too late!

JOE

I do have my act together.

LYNN

It doesn't sound like it. You want breakfast?

Joe grabs his papers and stuffs them in his briefcase.

JOE

I lost my appetite.

LYNN

Again? You sure you're not sick. Last night you didn't eat...

JOE (interupts)

I have to go.

Joe grabs his jacket and walks to the front door.

LYNN (yells)

THEN WHAT THE HELL IS THE MATTER WITH...

Joe shuts the door.

Holly walks down the stairs.

LYNN (CONT'D)

You!

HOLLY (yells)

WILL YOU STOP YELLING! IF YOU GOT A  
PROBLEM, KEEP IT BETWEEN YOU TWO!  
WHY DO YOU HAVE TO WAKE US ALL UP!

LYNN (yells)

DON'T TALK TO ME LIKE THAT!

Joe, behind the front door, shakes his head as he walks down the front steps.

INT. RAILROAD CAR OF THE LONG ISLAND RAILROAD-15 MINUTES  
LATER

Once again, Joe steps into the train. He finds an empty seat and sits by the window. He meticulously opens his brief case, takes out the travel brochure, neatly places it in front of him, and begins to read. Again, Joe's eyes close.

EXT. BEACH IN MEXICO -- DAY

Joe looks up and blinks as the sun burns his face.

Cesar smiles as he hands Joe another mango colada.

CESAR

Buenos dias Senor Jose. Good morning.

Joe smiles. He takes the drink. He looks down and sees he's wearing only swim trunks as his lower body sits in the water on the shore.

JOE

Buenos dias Cesar.

Cesar hands Joe a shot of tequila.

CESAR

Time to start the day off right.

JOE

Cesar, you are a legend among men.

CESAR

Just doing my job, Senor.

Joe gulps down the shot. Both men look out at the crystal clear water and sunny, cloudless sky.

CESAR (CONT'D)

Beautiful day for a swim.

JOE

Yes, it is.

CESAR  
Enjoy your stay, Senor.

JOE  
I always do.

Cesar leaves. Joe looks over to his right and sees Erikka swimming in the cove. She waves for him to join her. Joe smiles as he gets up and walks to the cove.

Erikka again waves for him to come in.

Joe walks up to his knees in the water and stops as he watches fish swim around his toes and legs. He laughs as he sits down. The water reaches his neck.

Erikka, now wearing a light blue string bikini which barely holds her body from falling out, walks over.

ERIKKA  
What are you doing?

JOE  
I've always dreamed of sitting with  
the fishes.

Erikka sits next to Joe.

ERIKKA  
Excelente. And later, you can swim  
with them, too.

Joe pats the water. Fish swim closer to him. He smiles.

Erikka puts her arm around him as he sips on his drink.

INT/EXT MONTAGE OF THE NEXT TWO WEEKS -- CONTINUOUS

Various quick scenes as the two weeks come in time lapse photography.

1. INT RILEY KITCHEN; Joe gets up early, grabs a cup of coffee and his brief case as he leaves his house.

2. INT. RAILROAD CAR OF THE LONG ISLAND RAILROAD--CONTINUOUS

Joe rushes into the car, finds a seat, quickly takes out the brochure, and smiles.

3. INT. JOE'S OFFICE -- CONTINUOUS

Joe arrives at the office with coffee and donuts for his division. He high fives team members and begins a Power Point presentation.

## 4. INT. BERNARD GREENBERG'S OFFICE -- CONTINUOUS

Greenberg shows Joe his rising numbers. He gives Joe a thumbs up and shakes his hand.

## 5. EXT. BEACH IN MEXICO -- CONTINUOUS

Erikka and Joe lay on rafts as they pet dolphins and watch whales swim with their pups.

## 6. INT. RILEY HOUSEHOLD -- CONTINUOUS

Joe walks into the house as Holly and JJ swear and scream at each other. Lynn, between burning the roast and over cooking the macaroni and cheese, throws a plastic cup at JJ.

Amy closes her eyes as she sits at the counter reading a world history book.

Joe sits in his recliner. He sighs as he looks at some work reports while all the time looking in his briefcase at the brochure.

Lynn walks into the room screaming at everyone in the house. Joe tunes the scene out of his head.

## 7. EXT. EXT. BEACH IN MEXICO -- CONTINUOUS

Erikka turns and kisses Joe on the lips. She gets out of the water and gestures Joe to follow her. She mischievously looks back at him as she enters his bungalow. Joe walks into the room and is grabbed by a topless Erikka. The door shuts. Fade.

## INT. KITCHEN/DINING ROOM, RILEY RESIDENCE -- MORNING, TWO WEEKS LATER

Joe, wearing a new suit, walks down the stairs and into the kitchen. He sees Lynn in her robe, sitting at the counter drinking a cup of coffee. He stops at the coffee maker and pours a cup. He looks over at his open briefcase.

JOE

You're up early.

LYNN

Surprised?

JOE

You usually get up...

LYNN (interrupts)

At 6:00, but since you've decided to  
Get up earlier and earlier every  
day, what's going on?

JOE

What's going...

LYNN (interrupts (interupts))  
Are you having an affair.

Joe almost spits up his coffee.

JOE  
An affair?

LYNN  
What else can it be? You leave early  
and you get home later than before.  
You seem disinterested in everything  
dealing with this family.

JOE  
Disinterested? Me?

He begins to chuckle.

JOE (CONT'D)  
You have to be kidding! My older  
daughter thinks I'm Satan. My baby  
girl is adamant her parents are aliens  
who abducted her. My son, my  
namesake, is a head banging Neonazi  
without an ounce of ambition in his  
lard ass body. His only  
responsibility in life is to give  
his family grief. And then there's  
my darling wife...

LYNN (interrupts)  
Don't you..

Joe throws her an angry look for her to keep quiet.

JOE  
Who will not give me the time of day  
other than to criticize and mentally  
castrate me.

LYNN  
I do not...

JOE (interupts)  
They could do a reality show on this  
family. Call it the family that  
truly hates and despises each other.

LYNN  
You're blowing this way out of  
proportion!

JOE  
Am I?

Joe pauses as he looks around the kitchen. He takes a sip  
of coffee. He points his finger at Lynn, who backs away.

JOE (CONT'D)

When's the last time we, as a family,  
sat down for dinner and lasted longer  
than 30 seconds without an argument?

Lynn turns and stares at the refrigerator.

JOE (CONT'D)

You can't! Or, how about the last  
time we vacationed as a family?

Again, Lynn turns away.

Joe shakes his head.

JOE (CONT'D)

Case closed. I'll be late for dinner.  
And, it's not because I'm having an  
affair!

LYNN

I don't believe you.

JOE

Lord knows you've driven me to have  
one.

LYNN (impatiently)

Well, well, what about your little  
trip you're planning?

JOE

Trip? What are you talking about?

LYNN

That stupid brochure you obsessively  
read over and over every night before  
you come upstairs. Are you planning  
an escape?

JOE

If it was only that easy.

Joe pauses as he takes another sip of coffee.

JOE (CONT'D)

That stupid brochure I read, the  
pictures relax me.

LYNN

Sure, sure. I hope they relax your  
girlfriend.

JOE

Maybe if you looked at it, you'd  
feel the same way and perhaps it  
would entice you into going away  
with me.

Joe opens the briefcase and starts to look for the brochure.

JOE (CONT'D)

Where is it?

LYNN

It's gone.

A confused Joe looks over at Lynn, who crosses her arms.

JOE

What do you mean it's gone?

LYNN

I threw it away.

JOE

You what?

LYNN

Ever since you started reading it,  
your whole demeanor has changed.

JOE

Yes, it's changed me. My mood is  
better. I feel reenergized. Now  
where is it?

LYNN

After you fell asleep last night, I  
threw it in the trash.

A very angry Joe walks to the back door.

Lynn smirks.

LYNN (CONT'D)

Don't bother, the garbage men already  
took the trash.

Joe turns to Lynn with rage in his eyes. He shakes as he  
points to Lynn, who backs away.

JOE (yells)

YOU, YOU! WHAT HAVE YOU DONE?

LYNN

Hopefully saved our marriage!

JOE (screams)

YOU CALL THIS A MARRIAGE? YOU GO  
BEHIND MY BACK, PILFER THROUGH MY  
WORK, AND STEAL MY BOOKS!

LYNN

It was only a brochure.

JJ walks down the stairs. He stops and listens to the argument.

JOE (yells)  
NO IT WASN'T!

LYNN  
HA! I WAS RIGHT.

JOE (yells)  
YOU DON'T KNOW ANYTHING!

JJ enters the kitchen with arms waving.

JJ (yells)  
HEY, DON'T TALK TO HER LIKE THAT!

Joe, still enraged, turns to JJ.

JOE (screams)  
WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO ABOUT IT  
LARD ASS?

JJ (yells)  
WHAT DID YOU CALL ME?

JJ takes a step forward, sees the crazed look in Joe's eyes, and stops. Joe chuckles.

JOE  
I thought so. You pussy!

JJ walks back upstairs.

Joe picks up his briefcase as he walks to the front door. He looks over at a whimpering Lynn.

JOE (CONT'D)  
You don't know what you've done.

Joe slams the door as he leaves. The house shakes.

Lynn begins to cry louder. Fade.

INT. 2. INT. RAILROAD CAR OF THE LONG ISLAND RAILROAD--  
CONTINUOUS --15 MINUTES LATER

Joe, still fired up, walks into the railroad car. He sits down and bangs his fist on the side of the car.

Two SKINHEAD PUNKS look over at him. Joe snarls back at them.

JOE  
Whattaya looking at?

The PUNKS turn away and move to the other end of the train.

JOE (CONT'D)

I didn't think so.

He looks down at his case and slams the top. He stares out of the window. Fade.

INT./EXT. MONTAGE OF NEXT TWO WEEKS -- CONTINUOUS

1. INT. JOE'S OFFICE

Joe walks into his office. He makes no eye contact to any of his associates. He ignores Janet and slams his door.

2. INT. RILEY HOUSEHOLD

Joe enters the living room. He tosses his coat on the couch, walks to the hutch, takes out the bottle of bourbon, grabs a glass, sits down on his recliner, pours a drink, and gulps it down.

Lynn walks in. Joe scowls at her. She nervously rushes back into the kitchen.

He turns the recliner to the wall, pours another drink, and guzzles it down. Fade.

3. INT. MEETING ROOM AT JOE'S OFFICE

Joe stands in front of his division shouting and slamming his fist down on the desk. The ASSOCIATES stare up in fear and shock as Joe bangs on a graph which shows business dropping. Joe points to each and every ASSOCIATE telling them their jobs are on the line.

4. INT. JOE'S OFFICE

Joe sits at his desk reading a report as a grim Greenberg opens Joe's door. Joe stands. Greenberg gestures him to sit. Joe's head lowers as Greenberg talks.

5. INT. BROKERAGE FIRM OF PIZZOWITZ, GREENBERG AND REGAN -

Joe, carrying a box full of mementos and office materials, walks over to Janet's desk. Janet shakes his hand and lightly hugs him. She lightly kisses his cheek and mouths, "Good luck".

Greenberg walks over to Joe and extends his hand. Joe shakes his head and walks out of the office. Fade.

INT. RAILROAD CAR OF THE LONG ISLAND RAILROAD -- EVENING

A depressed Joe leans against the wall of the car as he looks down at his box. He rubs his eyes and closes his eyes.

A voice is heard.

VOICE

Hello, Joseph.

Joe looks up and smiles like he hasn't smiled in years.

ERIKKA

Is this seat taken?

JOE

I never thought I'd see you again.

ERIKKA

Who's fault would that have been?

JOE

It was out of my hands. Please sit.

ERIKKA

I'm not staying. I saw you on the platform and wanted to say hello and leave you this.

Erikka hands Joe a new version of the brochure.

ERIKKA (CONT'D)

Maybe you can look at it again.

JOE

I'm sorry, I lost the other...

Erikka touches Joe on the lips with her finger.

ERIKKA

No problemo. No excuses.

JOE

No, yes, I'd like to, you know, vacation again.

She kisses him on the cheek.

ERIKKA

Good. I hope to see you soon.

Joe smiles as he looks down at the brochure. He looks up. Erikka's gone.

JOE

Erikka, wait. I have something to tell you.

Joe stands. The doors shut. He looks out of the glass as the train leaves the platform. Erikka is nowhere to be found. He sits back down, opens up the brochure, and closes his eyes.

EXT. 5. EXT. BEACH IN MEXICO -- DAY

Joe smiles as he feels the rays of the sun. He feels a nudge at his shoulder as he opens his eyes and blinks.

CESAR

Senor.

Joe straightens up.

JOE

Cesar, is that you?

CESAR

Si, Senor. Nice to see you again.

JOE

Am I dreaming?

CESAR

Senor, it is what it is.

Joe, now wearing swim trunks and flip flops, pats Cesar on the back as he gets off the golf cart. They walk to the edge of the cove.

JOE

Is she here?

CESAR

She's always here.

JOE

Is she alone?

CESAR

She's working but will be here shortly.

Cesar hands him a mango colada. He takes a sip.

CESAR (CONT'D)

Are you staying this time?

JOE

I'm working on it.

Joe looks out at the ocean and breathes heavily. He turns back to the tiki bar.

CESAR

Cesar?

Cesar is nowhere to be found.

Joe walks to the cove and sits in the water. Once again fish swim up to him. He takes another sip and closes his eyes. Fade.

INT. 2. INT. RILEY HOUSEHOLD --LATE AFTERNOON

Joe walks in and stops. He hears something in the household he hasn't heard in years. Silence. The house is empty.

He sits down in his recliner, and looks over at the new bottle of bourbon sitting on the table. He nods negatively, takes out the brochure, and begins to look at the pictures. Fade.

EXT. 5. EXT. BEACH IN MEXICO -- CONTINUOUS

Joe opens his eyes and realizes he is sitting in water near the shoreline of the cove. He looks up and sees whales, dolphins, and sea lions swimming together.

Joe is poked from behind. He turns and sees a striking Erikka beside him. He reaches over and kisses her passionately as they lay in the water and submerge. He strokes Erikka's wet face.

JOE

I don't want to go back.

ERIKKA

I'm glad.

They kiss. They sit hand in hand. Joe pokes at the fish.

JOE

I can't go back.

ERIKKA

You can't?

JOE

I'm too happy here. I feel alive.  
Back there, I'm tired. I have no  
life in me. Here, I sit with fishes.  
I have you.

ERIKKA

Are you sure?

Again, Joe kisses her.

JOE

For the first time in years, I'm  
sure about something.

ERIKKA

Once you leave...

JOE (interupts)

I can't go back. I know.

ERIKKA

I'm glad you understand.

Again they kiss. They look out at the ocean.

ERIKKA (CONT'D)

But there is one thing you have to  
do before we can sit here every day.

Joe nods as he kisses her on the cheek.

He walks to the golf cart where Cesar waits. Joe gets in,  
and waves back to Erikka as the cart drives away. Fade.

INT. 2. INT. RILEY HOUSEHOLD -- EVENING

The door opens. An irritated Lynn walks in with JJ and Holly.

Joe wakes.

LYNN

Where the hell have you been?

JOE

Here.

LYNN

What, you don't answer your phone  
anymore?

Joe checks his phone. It's shut off. He turns it on.

JOE

Oh, I must have shut it off during  
my meeting with Greenberg.

LYNN

I've called you at least twenty times  
today. Then I called the office.  
They said you left early.

JOE

I did.

LYNN

Why?

JOE

They fired me.

LYNN (yells)

THEY WHAT?

JOE

They let me go. Told me the company  
is going in a new direction.

Lynn paces the living room. She points at Joe.

LYNN

This is just great! It's official,  
it's a triple crown day!

JOE

A, what?

LYNN

Where do I start? Let's see, while  
you were off getting yourself fired,  
JJ was arrested.

Joe looks over at JJ, who shrugs, then back at Lynn.

JOE

For what now?

LYNN

You know those hate crimes and gay  
bashings that have been happening  
throughout the city the past month?

Joe nods. He closes his eyes.

LYNN (CONT'D)

Yep, Junior and his gang of thugs  
were involved.

JOE

Why am I not surprised?

JJ

Why's that?

Joe turns to JJ and stands.

JOE

Because you are a lowlife piece of  
garbage and a decrepit human being.

JJ

That's sweet coming from a loser of  
a man that just got canned.

JOE

Choose your words wisely, kid.

Lynn sits next to Holly at the kitchen counter.

Amy walks into the house carrying a notebook. She looks  
around the room.

AMY

Bad time to walk in?

JOE

Every time's a bad time to walk into  
this house.

AMY

Then I won't stay. I'll have dinner  
at Kailee's. We have to study for...

LYNN (interupts)

You will not..

JOE (interupts)

No! Honey you can go to Kailee's.

LYNN

I said no.

JOE (yells)

AND I SAID YES!

Joe calms down. He looks over at Amy.

JOE (CONT'D)

Sweetie, come here.

Amy looks at her mother. She walks over to Joe. He touches  
her hand.

JOE (CONT'D)

What's your rank in school?

AMY

I'm third but I can be number two  
with an A on this exam.

JOE

Honey, have fun.

A strange look appears on Joe. He smiles.

A confused Amy looks back.

AMY

Thanks.

Joe leans over and hugs Amy. He whispers.

JOE

I don't how you share the same flesh  
and blood as your brother and sister  
but remember one thing. You are  
smart, pretty, ambitious, and  
extremely talented. Use those values  
to get the best out of life. You've  
always made me proud.

Amy backs away. She whispers.

AMY

Are you ok?

Joe smiles as he holds her hand then kisses her cheek.

JOE

I'm fine. Now, go make me prouder.

Amy looks over at Lynn and Holly. Lynn gestures her to leave.

Amy turns back to Joe and hugs him then kisses his cheek.

AMY

Thank you, daddy.

Amy wipes her eyes as she leaves the house.

Joe turns back to Lynn, Holly, and JJ.

JOE

So what's the third part of the triple crown?

LYNN

Your daughter got kicked out of school today.

Joe chuckles as he looks over at a gum chewing Holly.

AMY

Let me guess, you got high this morning and got caught screwing in the parking lot?

JJ

Close. She was caught gang banging the entire basketball team in the wrestling room.

Holly slams her fist. She gives JJ the evil eye.

HOLLY

Not true. It was only Jamaal and his two best friends.

JOE

Oh, that makes it fine.

HOLLY

I knew you wouldn't understand.

JOE

I understand. Do you know what it says in the dictionary? Do you know what a dictionary is? The word slut appears with a picture of you that reads, see photo.

HOLLY

Screw you.

JOE

You've been screwing me and your mother for the past five years as well as anyone who smiles and talks to you.

HOLLY

I'm not going to take this crap!

JJ laughs.

JJ

Why not? You take on everything and everybody, including the entire football team.

Joe laughs at JJ.

JOE

For someone who's going to spend the next five to eight years being a bitch to a bunch of Aryans, you should be a little more quiet.

JJ

The lawyer mom got thinks I'd get 18 months max.

JOE

In this politically correct world? Kid you are dreaming. And who's going to get you a good lawyer?

Joe chuckles.

JOE (CONT'D)

Don't look this way. You're own your own.

LYNN

We could re-mortgage the house.

JOE

There is no way this ingrate will see another dime of my money. And you...

Joe points at Holly

JOE (CONT'D)

Don't even think of private school. Today would be a good day to either find a job or join the Army.

HOLLY

I'm not...

JOE

And I'm not!

Silence. Joe gets up. JJ gets up from his stool.

JJ

You're not a man.

JOE

What would you know about being a man?

JJ

Men take care of their families.  
They take care of their kids when  
they need them.

Joe looks at Holly and JJ. He shakes his head.

JOE

People, you stopped being my children  
a long time ago.

JJ attacks Joe.

JJ (yells)

UP YOURS...

Joe moves to the right and with one hand grabs JJ by the throat. He throws a fearful JJ into the wall.

JJ gasps for air. Joe tightens his grip.

JOE

How do you feel now, tough guy?  
You're such a bad ass sneaking up on  
unsuspecting people with your pack  
of dogs.

Lynn and Holly rush over.

LYNN (screams)

KNOCK IT OFF.

Lynn steps towards Joe. Joe turns in anger.

JOE

You lay one finger on me...

Holly pushes Joe.

HOLLY (screams)

STOP IT. STOP IT.

Joe, with his free arm, throws Holly against the refrigerator.

Holly falls and starts to cry.

A crazed Joe looks at Holly. He tightens his grip on JJ.

JOE  
Hey bimbo, if you know what's best,  
you'd leave this room.

A terrified Holly runs out into the living room.

JJ's gasps get louder. Joe turns back to JJ.

JOE (CONT'D)  
Do you know what's worse than being  
a fat, lazy pig?

Joe tightens his grip. JJ starts to cry.

JOE (CONT'D)  
Being a coward.

Joe lets JJ go.

JJ falls to the ground and begins to whimper.

JOE (CONT'D)  
Get out of my face before I finish  
what I started.

Lynn moves over to JJ and hugs him. She looks up at Joe.

LYNN  
Where are you going?

JOE  
Don't worry, I'll be back.

Joe walks up the stairs. A door slams. Fade

EXT. 5. EXT. BEACH IN MEXICO -- CONTINUOUS

Joe swims up from the water. He exhales loudly. He looks around and sees Erikka and Cesar wave from the shoreline. Erikka walks into the water and meets Joe. They hug.

ERIKKA  
You're back.

JOE  
And I'm not leaving.

Erikka lightly kisses Joe on the lips.

ERIKKA  
Good. I have to leave for a little  
bit...

JOE (interupts)  
Where are you going? I just...

ERIKKA (interupts)  
I have another client to see.

JOE  
But...

Erikka touches Joe's lips.

JOE (CONT'D)  
No worries. I'll be back before you  
know it. Why don't you go swim with  
the dolphins and the fish.

Erikka kisses Joe softly on the lips.

JOE (CONT'D)  
Ok.

Erikka turns and walks back to the golf cart with Cesar.  
They drive away.

Joe waves. He turns around and dives into the water. He  
lays on his back and begins to float. Fade

INT. RILEY HOUSEHOLD -- TWO HOURS LATER

Amy runs through the back door. She feels the silence in  
the air.

AMY  
Hello.

Amy looks at the digital clock. It reads, 8:25.

AMY (CONT'D)  
Sorry I'm late. We got caught up  
studying for our chemistry exam.

Amy opens the refrigerator and takes out an eclair. She  
walks into the living room.

The eclair falls onto the hardwood floor.

Her eyes are wide open with fear as she drops her notebook.

She sees Holly lying on the floor in a pool of blood.

She gags as she turns and and sees JJ slumped over on the  
stairs with a bullet in his head.

She screams and rushes to the dining room where she falls  
over Lynn, who is slumped over a dining room chair.

Again, she screams. She sees the recliner turned around.

AMY (screams) (CONT'D)  
DADDY, WHAT'S...

Amy turns the recliner around. She screams a third time.

Joe sits in the chair with a broad smile on his face, a bullet in his brain, and a gun inches from his stretched hand.

Down in his lap is the travel brochure opened up to a page with a picture of the cove. The edges of the page is splattered with blood.

THE END