

ROOMIES: NASHVILLE

"Pilot"

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COLD OPEN

INT. APARTMENT LIVING ROOM

Karissa is sitting on her couch with a blanket over her head eating a snack from a bowl that is in her lap. It is dark, the only light coming from her television. She is watching Tom and Jerry. Her phone illuminates and she looks at it.

KARISSA

Oh shit!

She jumps up and starts cleaning up her mess, opening her blinds, and making the space look dazzling for her soon to be roommates.

KARISSA (CONT'D)

How could I forget that today is
the day!

She runs into her room to shower and change clothes.

INT. LOBBY

Elijah is waiting for the elevator. It is slowly coming down from the top floor. He is holding his backpack and a pot, with his suitcase next him with the initials E.T. on the front. His girlfriend comes through the door holding a lot of luggage, trying to make it in one trip. She is struggling.

GRACE

It's so cold out there.

ELIJAH

I know. I plan on making soup
tonight to celebrate the winter
solstice. If only my new roommate
would answer her phone.

Grace is struggling to stand with all the luggage.

GRACE

Well, I could use a little help
here!

She starts dropping luggage and toppling over. Elijah races to her.

ELIJAH

I'm sorry babe. I said I would get
most of this once we got upstairs.

GRACE

I like to make one trip.

ELIJAH

Even if it kills you.

GRACE

Yeah, it's easier that way.

Elijah looks confused by Grace's response. The elevator dings down another floor.

ELIJAH

What is taking this thing so long?
You would think elevators would be
faster in Nashville.

GRACE

It's the south. Nothing moves fast
here.

ELIJAH

Well, when it gets here hold the
door for me. I need to take a leak.

Elijah exits to the bathroom and Grace sits on a bench next to the elevator and the luggage. She starts scrolling on her phone. Carter enters with his agent Cookie. He is live streaming on his phone. Cookie is texting on her phone.

CARTER

It is freezing out there. If you
think the south is warm 24/7 then
you are wrong. Catch me next spring
after my hibernation.

He turns off the live and puts his phone in his pocket.

CARTER (CONT'D)

Finally, who said moving to
Nashville would be easy.

COOKIE

The worse part has been the cold
weather, all things considered.

CARTER

I know. It's not like that time we
visited South America and were
chased through the forest.

INSERT: Carter and cookie with adventure hats in thick foliage.

COOKIE (V.O.)
Or that time when you ate bad
snails in France.

INSERT: Carter eating a snail then barfing, then everyone else in the restaurant barfing.

CARTER (V.O.)
Or when Cuba thought I was a spy.

INSERT: Carter in a detention room with guards around him.

BACK TO SCENE:

COOKIE
I almost forgot about that. You
could've been stuck there forever
like Brittney Griner in Russia.

CARTER
Yeah, well she got out in 9 months.
I got out faster. I guess I'm just
better.

Carter looks around for the front desk person.

CARTER (CONT'D)
Where's the concierge?

The elevator dings on the lobby floor and five people walk out. Carter hides his face with a newspaper that is on the desk. After the people leave, Carter goes to get on the elevator and sees a suitcase with the initials E.T.

CARTER (CONT'D)
That's weird. I knew someone with
the initials E.T. before. What a
coincidence.

Carter and Cookie go to enter the elevator but Grace notices and stops them.

GRACE
I'm sorry we were next.

Carter stops right before entering the elevator but does not turn around. Thinking he just got figured out by someone.

GRACE (CONT'D)
That would be our ride so if you
kindly don't mind...

Carter turns around and Grace realizes who she is talking to and starts fan-girling.

GRACE (CONT'D)

Oh my god! You're. You're.
You're...

Grace starts to faint but Carter catches her.

CARTER

Please don't do that.

COOKIE

I have a phone call to make. Think
you'll be alright?

CARTER

I don't know maybe.

Cookie leaves in a huff to make her phone call. Grace gets
back up and looks at Carter again. She faints again but when
she hits the ground she pops back up.

GRACE

I'm good.

CARTER

Great. I'm glad. Do you mind if I
use the elevator first? You know,
to avoid that from happening again?

GRACE

Sure, sure. Go ahead.

CARTER

Thank you.

Carter enters the elevator and the doors close. Elijah comes
running out of the bathroom to try and stop the doors but
fails. Grace is stuck in a different world.

ELIJAH

The elevator! No! Grace you were
suppose to hold the doors.

GRACE

I was and then I got...distracted.

ELIJAH

What could have possibly stopped
you from holding the doors.

GRACE

I met a famous person.

ELIJAH

Really? You can meet a famous person everyday. Just go to Downtown Franklin.

GRACE

I know but this one is a movie star.

ELIJAH

Great, now I have competition living in the same building as me.

The elevator dings again. Going up slowly.

ELIJAH (CONT'D)

And now they're apparently going to the top floor. Great.

GRACE

We can always wait for the elevator to come back down. I don't know why you're in such a hurry to have a girl roommate.

ELIJAH

I'm not. The soup needs time to cook, plus it's only temporary. I just want to get settled in and you know I want to wait to live together until we're engaged.

GRACE

Okay...well we don't have to eat soup tonight. Maybe we can eat something else instead.

They start kissing but Grace starts smelling something and realizes that it's Elijah's hands.

GRACE (CONT'D)

Did you wash your hands?

Elijah turns around and puts hand sanitizer on his hands and rubs it in. The elevator dings again coming back down slowly. Elijah sees the stairwell door.

ELIJAH

Let's go.

They grab the luggage and take the stairs.

END OF COLD OPEN

ACT ONE

INT. APARTMENT LIVING ROOM

The living room is spotless compared to before. Karissa comes out of her room and looks at herself in the mirror.

KARISSA

Ooo Karissa, you're looking good.
Oh wait, hold on.

She pulls out a nose hair and it slightly hurts.

KARISSA (CONT'D)

Perfect.

There is a knock at the door. Karissa is expecting it and she is ready. She walks over to the sofa then pauses. There is another knock. She puffs her hair and tries 2 poses but ultimately choses the first pose. The person knocks again.

KARISSA (CONT'D)

It's open!

Carter opens the door to see his long time friend and gets excited.

CARTER

Karissa!

KARISSA

Carter!

Carter rushes in and hugs Karissa, closing the door behind him.

CARTER

I feel like it's been so long!

KARISSA

Years.

CARTER

Eons.

They release each other.

KARISSA/CARTER

Millennia. Jinks!

They share a laugh slightly reminiscing over the past.

CARTER

So... how have you been?

KARISSA

Good. Not much really going on.

CARTER

Well that's not true. Miss #1 book seller.

KARISSA

Thank you, but it is, unfortunately. Not much to do after the first year, unless they make a movie out of it.

CARTER

Shocking but makes sense. Just gotta keep writing.

Carter sits on the couch and gets comfortable.

KARISSA

I know but I need inspiration... Enough about me. How have you been? How's life for the great Carter Foster?

CARTER

Oh you know a little bit of this, a little bit of that. Most of it's in the tabloids now.

Karissa goes and sits next to him.

KARISSA

No one reads those anymore. They can barely pull away from their phones now that they have TheTok.

CARTER

True, but the tabloids have moved online or there's a video about it somewhere.

KARISSA

Good point.

Beat.

CARTER

Can I see my room?

KARISSA

Of course you can! Just go right up those stairs and to the left. It's the second master, you can't miss it.

CARTER

Perfect! I can't wait. I'll be right back.

INT. HALLWAY

Elijah and Grace finally make it to the top floor. Both are winded from the many flights of stairs and having to carry all the bags. They open the door and fall through it. Elijah is drenched in so much sweat you can see it on his shirt.

GRACE

Can we just stay right here for a second?

ELIJAH

We're so close. I can see the door from here.

Elijah stands up and centers himself.

GRACE

But my legs. I don't think I can go any further.

ELIJAH

You'll be fine. You made it this far.

Elijah helps Grace up.

GRACE

We should've just waited for the elevator.

They start walking towards the apartment door.

ELIJAH

That's in the past now. Let's look to the future. We're so close.

Elijah smells his armpit it's not too bad.

GRACE

You need to change your shirt.

ELIJAH

Fine.

Elijah starts to change his shirt and bumps into the wall making a thud while struggling to take off his shirt.

INT. APARTMENT LIVING ROOM

Karissa hears the thud and goes to the door and opens it. Elijah is there with his back turned to her struggling to get his sweaty shirt off. Grace is trying to help.

KARISSA

Here, let me help you with that.

Karissa and Grace successfully manage to get the shirt off of Elijah. His eyes are closed as he has sweat in them.

ELIJAH

Thanks babe.

He kisses Karissa thinking it's Grace. Karissa doesn't know what to do. She does not kiss him back.

ELIJAH (CONT'D)

Your lips feel different. Did something happen coming up the stairs?

GRACE

How about you wipe the sweat out of your eyes and open them.

Elijah jumps back realizing that Grace is talking from behind him.

ELIJAH

Wait, if you're behind me then who did I...?

He wipes the sweat from his eyes with another shirt and opens one eye to see Karissa. Karissa waves at him in embarrassment. Elijah is stunned and becomes awkward. There is a silence.

KARISSA

Hi, I'm Karissa.

Karissa shakes Grace's hand.

GRACE

Nice to meet you, Kara. I'm Grace. Elijah's girlfriend.

INT. APARTMENT LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Grace walks in. Elijah follows. Karissa closes the door behind them making an 'Okay, obviously' face to Grace.

GRACE
This is cute. I bet your boyfriend
loves this view.

KARISSA
I don't have a boyfriend.

Grace sees a pair of panties on the floor in front of the laundry door and picks them up.

GRACE
That's a shock.

Karissa races over to Grace and grabs her panties and throws them somewhere out of view.

GRACE (CONT'D)
So my boyfriend is moving in with a
girl. Does anyone else see what's
wrong with that?

ELIJAH
Grace, please.

KARISSA
Nothing is going to happen.

GRACE
I'm just worried.

ELIJAH
I'll be fine. I'll call you later,
okay.

He helps her to the door and holds it open for her.

GRACE
Promise?

ELIJAH
Scouts honor.

They kiss then Elijah closes the door.

KARISSA
You didn't tell her, did you?

ELIJAH
What's there to tell?

KARISSA

I guess you left no-

Carter comes back down stairs after checking out his room.

CARTER

I am in love with my room. It's so spacious and-

KARISSA

Carter. You remember Elijah.

ELIJAH

You must've been the famous person Grace was talking about. Not much competition now that I think about it.

CARTER

How's it going being Gordon Ramsey? Oh wait...

KARISSA

Boys, let's not start off like this. We have at least a year together.

CARTER

I'm not staying here if he is. I'll find something else.

ELIJAH

Yeah just run away. Like you did in Tampa. That'll solve all your problems!

CARTER

My problems? You're the one that abandoned me for some chick, kicked me out of the hotel room for the night, and told me to just come back in the morning!

KARISSA

You did what?

ELIJAH

Sorry I didn't want to be blocked from the possibility of getting laid!

CARTER

So you kicked me out?!

ELIJAH
Everyone knows you pop in at the
worse times.

INSERT: Karissa and Elijah in high school about to kiss then
Carter popping out of no where.

CARTER
Hey, guys. What you up to?

ELIJAH/KARISSA
Really? / Every time.

BACK TO SCENE:

ELIJAH
I'm not the only one in the wrong
here. You left and stranded me in
Tampa!

CARTER
You got back home!

ELIJAH
After two days!

CARTER
I figured if you really wanted to
be with her then I'll give you that
space.

ELIJAH
So you flew home?!

KARISSA
Guys! Let's talk about our
feelings. Not shout them. Besides,
we have neighbors.

Karissa sits in the middle of the couch. She pats the
cushions on both sides for Carter and Elijah to sit.

CARTER
No. I'm not sitting anywhere near
him.

Karissa shoots him a mother's death stare.

CARTER (CONT'D)
Fine.

Carter sits. Karissa gives the same look to Elijah.

ELIJAH

That's not going to work on me. I know you won't do it.

Karissa gets up and pulls him down by the ear.

ELIJAH (CONT'D)

Ow, ow, ow. That really hurts.

Elijah is rubbing his ear. Karissa remains standing over Elijah and Carter.

KARISSA

Now, you two are going to work this out. And quit acting like kids. You both need to grow up.

(To Carter.)

You need to apologize for leaving Elijah in Tampa.

ELIJAH

Thank you!

KARISSA

And you need to understand how he felt being kicked out of a place to stay for the night that he most likely pitched in for.

ELIJAH

But-

KARISSA

No buts! While you both figure out your drama, I'll be in my room eating chocolate and chips and watching Hallmark movies.

Karissa picks up her panty that she threw earlier then exits right to her room and slams the door.

ELIJAH

Must be that time of the month.

CARTER

Of course you would say that.

ELIJAH

What? She's eating chocolate and chips.

Carter is confused of what Elijah is talking about and it shows.

ELIJAH (CONT'D)
Salty and sweet?

CARTER
Just because you're a cook does not mean you can generalize her like that. What if she just likes chips and chocolate together?

ELIJAH
Dude, we dated in high school.

CARTER
People change.

Beat.

CARTER (CONT'D)
Okay. I'm sorry for leaving you in Tampa.

ELIJAH
And I'm sorry for kicking you out of our hotel room.

CARTER
It's in the past. We can't live there. We have to live in the present.

They do their special handshake.

ELIJAH
I did not think we would remember that.

CARTER
Muscle memory. Never goes away.

INT. KARISSA'S ROOM - LATER

Karissa is laying on her bed and watching tv. She is eating sea salt and vinegar chips and chocolate.

TV HOST
Will James and Tommi work it out? Stick with us and find out after this commercial break.

She realizes that it is quiet in the living room. She gets up and leaves her room to check on Carter and Elijah. They are not there. There is a knock on the door.

Karissa goes to open the door and her ex, Tim, is there with roses and her favorite meal, Pad Thai. Upon seeing him, she slams the door in his face.

TIM
C'mon Karissa, can't we talk about this?

KARISSA
What is there to talk about? You hampered my creativity.

TIM
Just open the door. I have Pad Thai.

She doesn't want to open the door but ultimately decides to.

KARISSA
I just want to let you know that I'm only opening the door for the Pad Thai.

TIM
May I come in so we can talk?

KARISSA
Will it make you leave faster?

TIM
Maybe.

KARISSA
Fine.

Karissa lets Tim in. Tim comes in and goes to sit on the couch. He takes his shoes off and gets comfortable.

KARISSA (CONT'D)
What do you want to talk about?

TIM
I want to get back together. I'm sorry for what I did but I want you to know that I will be better.

KARISSA
There's no coming back from what you said.

TIM
All I said was that your new book shouldn't be based on-

KARISSA

You wanted to me to change my
entire idea. Where's the support?

TIM

All I was saying was that you could
write about me. Us. Not this slut
book where she's living with two
men and having sex with both of
them.

KARISSA

You just want to be my muse again.

TIM

I want to be your everything again.
I love you.

Tim pulls Karissa in for a kiss but Carter and Elijah come back from getting Chinese Food. Tim sees them and is taken aback by the two men that enter. Tim recognizes Elijah from high school photos. He is not starstruck by Carter as he thinks his acting career is subpar.

TIM (CONT'D)

Why are they here?

KARISSA

They live here now.

TIM

I don't believe this. I'm leaving,
and I'm taking the Pad Thai!

Tim goes walks past Elijah and Carter, splitting them down the middle, walking out the door.

TIM (CONT'D)

I can't believe you're doing this
to us.

He slams the door.

CARTER

What was that about?

KARISSA

Nothing. He's just insecure.

CARTER

That's a big red flag.

Carter and Elijah go to the counter in the kitchen.

KARISSA

We're in a on again off again. A vicious cycle but it helps with my writing.

ELIJAH

Didn't you tell Grace that you didn't have a boyfriend?

KARISSA

At this current time I didn't.

ELIJAH

And?

KARISSA

I still don't.

ELIJAH

Interesting.

KARISSA

So what did you get me?

Carter pulls the meals out of the bag along with utensils and napkins.

CARTER

Pad Thai because we know it's your favorite.

ELIJAH

And we won't take it away from you, if we get upset.

CARTER

We aren't monsters.

KARISSA

Thanks guys. I'm grateful that you both are here.

CARTER

And we're happy to be here.

INT. LOBBY

The elevator dings and Tim walks off the elevator and goes to exit. There is a crowd of people in front of the door with an officer blocking the crowd. Tim tries to slip by but he is stopped by a police officer that does not let him leave.

OFFICER

Sir, I can't let you out of this building. I need you to go back to your home and stay there until further notice.

TIM

I don't even live here.

OFFICER

I can't let you leave. Just go back to where you came from.

TIM

What's happening?

OFFICER

There is a manhunt operation in effect. We need everyone to go back to their homes or where they came from until further notice.

The crowd disperses and goes back to their apartments. They take the elevator.

TIM

I'm not staying here.

OFFICER

It's either stay here or get detained. Your call.

TIM

Do you like Pad Thai? It's hot and ready.

OFFICER

Are you bribing an officer?

Tim reluctancy turns around and goes to the elevator but it has already departed. He turns and looks at the cop who is watching him intensely.

TIM

Great!

He decides to take the stairs back up to Karissa's apartment.

INT. LIVING ROOM

Karissa, Elijah, and Carter are all staring out of the window looking down to the street. There are red and blue lights flashing.

CARTER
What's going on?

KARISSA
I have no clue. Anyone get an Amber
Alert?

CARTER
Nope.

ELIJAH
Is this normal?

KARISSA
Nope.

CARTER
There are a lot of cops down there.
I wonder what they're looking for.

KARISSA
With my luck, it's probably a
manhunt. Wanna bet twenty bucks?

CARTER/ELIJAH
You're on. / Easy money.

ELIJAH
There's no way you can guess that.

INT. HALLWAY

Tim is walking down Karissa's hallway to the apartment door.
He is stopped by a sketchy looking person.

TIM
You good?

The sketchy person hold a fake gun in his pocket.

SKETCHY PERSON
Open the door, now!

TIM
Dude, I don't even live here.

SKETCHY PERSON
Then knock!

INT. LIVING ROOM

There is a knock on the door. Elijah goes to open the door and only Tim is revealed.

KARISSA

What are you doing back here?

TIM

I couldn't bribe the cop into taking the Pad Thai so I came back up and-

The sketchy guy pushes Tim in the door, follows him in, and locks the door behind him. He uses his fake pocket gun and holds it up to all of them.

SKETCHY PERSON

Everyone put your hands up!

They all throw their hands up quickly. Elijah tries to keep eating.

SKETCHY PERSON (CONT'D)

I said, up!

Elijah throws his hands up and stops eating.

CARTER

Who's this?

TIM

The reason for the police downstairs, I'm sure.

KARISSA

I was right. Called it! Pay up suckers!

Carter, Elijah and Tim look at Karissa with disdain.

ELIJAH

This is not the time.

KARISSA

Sorry, I just never win anything.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

INT. LIVING ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Karissa, Carter, Elijah, Tim are all on the couch trapped by the sketchy person. Sketchy Person is looking out the window. A light passes by. Sketchy Person drops to the ground. Elijah's phone is vibrating continuously. Sketchy Person hears it and takes his phone, denies the call, and turns the phone off. Sketchy Person goes over to the group with the phone.

SKETCHY PERSON
Give me all your phones.

ELIJAH
Why? You already have mine. Isn't that enough?

SKETCHY PERSON
No. You're all flight risks.

KARISSA
What?

SKETCHY PERSON
You could call the cops and I can't have that.

None of them give Sketchy Person their phones.

SKETCHY PERSON (CONT'D)
Now or I'll shoot.

Sketchy Person holds the fake gun in his pocket.

CARTER
Okay, first of all, we all know that's a fake gun in your pocket.

SKETCHY PERSON
No it's not. It's real. Now give me your phones.

CARTER
No.

Sketchy Person back hands Carter and knocks him out.

SKETCHY PERSON
Now give them to me. And someone take his and give it to me.

They all hand over their phones, except Elijah, and Karissa goes into Carter's back pocket to retrieve his phone. Carter's phone starts to buzz from a call from Cookie. Karissa mistakenly answers it. None of them know what to do. Sketchy Person grabs the phone from Karissa.

COOKIE (O.S.)

Hello? Hello? Carter? Hello? I'm trying to get to the building but the police aren't letting me. Hello? Carter? Are you okay? Hel-

Sketchy Person hangs up the phone. Carter slowly wakes up rubbing his face.

CARTER

What happened? Where's my phone?

KARISSA

We kind of handed them over.

CARTER

To who?

(To Sketchy Person.)

Oh, you're still here? I hoped that was a dream. Can I get my phone back? I have an important call that's suppose to be coming any minute from my agent.

SKETCHY PERSON

No. I'm tired of this. I'm keeping your phones until all of this passes through. Just go about your business normally and no one will get hurt.

Sketchy Person goes and checks the window then leaves to the bathroom.

CARTER

Great. Another casting missed because bozo doesn't want to get caught.

ELIJAH

Did you just say bozo?

CARTER

Yeah, doesn't everybody?

ELIJAH

Yeah, in the 1940s. What are you a chain smoker?

CARTER
No, but I do love a good
Chainsmokers song.

TIM
Can you guys cool it for a sec? We
need to figure a way out of here.
So I can leave and be safe.

ELIJAH
You can always take the window.

Tim looks at Elijah with disdain.

KARISSA
As much as I hate to admit it, I
agree with Tim. Does anyone have a
plan?

ELIJAH
How are we suppose to do anything?
We don't have any phones and we
can't leave.

TIM
I can!

Tim rushes to the front door of the apartment. And opens it.

TIM (CONT'D)
I don't live here. See y'all never!

Tim slams the door behind him and runs out.

ELIJAH
He left us...

Sketchy Person runs out of the bathroom.

SKETCHY PERSON
What's going on? Who opened the
door?

CARTER
The one that killed us all.

SKETCHY PERSON
No one else leaves.

Sketchy Person goes to lock and close the door.

SKETCHY PERSON (CONT'D)

No one. Now I'm going to go finish
my business in the bathroom.
Everyone stay put.

Sketchy Person leaves and they all laugh.

KARISSA

Finish his business?

ELIJAH

What? Are we to proper to say
finish my shit?

CARTER

Who talks like that?

ELIJAH

The same person that says bozo, I
assume.

KARISSA

C'mon guys, we have to work
together. Anyone have any ideas for
getting out of here?

ELIJAH

Yeah, we could take the window.

Karissa and Carter just look at him.

ELIJAH (CONT'D)

Seriously, we can do it like they
do in the cartoons.

KARISSA

Those are cartoons for a reason,
Elijah.

ELIJAH

Hey, if it works for them then it
works for me.

CARTER

And they let you handle knives?

ELIJAH

We just have to tie some sheets
together. Only enough to get to the
ground.

CARTER

So practical.

INT. LOBBY

The elevator dings and the doors open revealing Tim. He rushes out and does not see the cop standing there anymore. He runs out the front doors through the crowd in order to escape. Cookie enters the building on her phone and takes the elevator upstairs.

INT. APARTMENT LIVING ROOM

Karissa goes and looks out the window and down to the street. She gets scared and faints, falling back into the apartment and closing the window.

KARISSA

I don't think we can do that.

ELIJAH

And why not?

KARISSA

I don't know about you but 45 floors is a long way down.

Karissa moves to Carter and Elijah. They all sit on the floor in front of the couch.

CARTER

Plus, I don't think either of us have enough sheets.

ELIJAH

We could use shirts.

KARISSA

Stop trying to jump out the window!

CARTER

We need to think of a way out of here.

Sketchy Person comes out of the bathroom with Carter's phone talking to someone. Karissa, Elijah, and Carter are peering over the couch and listening.

SKETCHY PERSON

I love you too. I'll see you soon.

Sketchy Person hangs up the phone and looks up. Carter, Elijah, and Karissa turn back around and sit.

KARISSA

I have an idea.

They all stand up and approach Sketchy Person. Sketchy Person gets defensive and pulls the fake gun out again.

SKETCHY PERSON
Get back! Get back! What are you doing?

KARISSA
Who was on the phone?

SKETCHY PERSON
None of your business.

Carter starts to walk around. Sketchy Person turns toward him.

CARTER
What? I'm going to the bathroom.

Sketchy Person watches him enter the bathroom and close the door.

SKETCHY PERSON
Make it quick!

Sketchy Person turns back around.

ELIJAH
C'mon, who was on the phone? You can tell us.

SKETCHY PERSON
No one you need to be concerned about.

ELIJAH
C'mon. Who are we going to tell?

SKETCHY PERSON
I'm not going to tell you.

Carter slowly opens the door and sticks his head out. Karissa sees him and they connect the plan.

KARISSA
Obviously, it was someone important on the phone. We're not going to let that out to the public. Besides we live with a celebrity. You can't imagine the amount of NDAs we had to sign.

SKETCHY PERSON
What?

Carter starts sneaking up on Sketchy Person.

ELIJAH

What she's trying to say is your secret is safe with us. Goodness read between the lines.

KARISSA

You can't even do that.

Carter gets to Sketchy Person and pulls his phone out of his pocket. Karissa, Elijah, and Carter all push Sketchy Person away and falls over the couch. They go to his recent calls.

KARISSA (CONT'D)

Call it. Call it. Call it.

CARTER

I am.

ELIJAH

Call it faster.

CARTER

It's ringing as fast as it can.

KARISSA

Everything in your life can't be fast.

ELIJAH

I was nervous that night.

CARTER

Shhh. I'm putting it on speaker.

They all listen expecting an adult.

YOUNG GIRL (O.S.)

Hello? Hello? Daddy? Hello? Are you there?

SKETCHY PERSON

I'm here baby! I'll be home soon. I love you!

YOUNG GIRL (O.S.)

I love you too daddy.

Carter hangs up the phone.

KARISSA

You're just trying to get home to your family?

SKETCHY PERSON

Now you know.

ELIJAH

You should've just said that.

KARISSA/CARTER

Elijah! / C'mon dude.

ELIJAH

What?

CARTER

Don't be a dick.

ELIJAH

I'm not. I'm just saying that
closed mouths don't get fed.

KARISSA

Huddle!

Karissa, Carter, and Elijah huddle in a circle.

ELIJAH

What is this?

KARISSA

A huddle.

ELIJAH

But why?

CARTER

Because we're coming up with a plan
to help.

ELIJAH

Help? That's aiding and abetting a
criminal. We don't know what he
did. He could've robbed a bank for
all we know.

KARISSA

We're going to help.

CARTER

We should at least try. How would
you feel if your dad couldn't see
you.

ELIJAH

What dad?

CARTER
Never mind.

ELIJAH
I'm not going to jail for this.

KARISSA
Please, E.

ELIJAH
(Aspirated.)
Fine.

SKETCHY PERSON
You know I can hear you. I'm not
that far away.

They break from the huddle.

KARISSA
So we've decided.

CARTER
We're going to help you.

ELIJAH
On one condition.

SKETCHY PERSON
What?

ELIJAH
We don't go to jail if we get
caught.

KARISSA
We did not say that.

ELIJAH
I'm saying that. I have dreams to
achieve.

CARTER
And you will... one
day...eventually, I guess. We need
to go now.

INT. HALLWAY

Cookie is standing in front of the door texting. She is about
knock but then the door opens.

CARTER
Hi Cookie. Bye Cookie.

Carter, Karissa, Elijah, and Sketchy Person move past Cookie quickly to get to the elevator before it leaves.

COOKIE
When will you be back!

CARTER
Ten minutes!

They make it to the elevator and the doors close. Cookie walks into the apartment and closes the door.

INT. LOBBY

The elevator dings and the doors open. Karissa, Carter, and Elijah look out to make sure the coast is clear. There are still red and blue lights outside. They step out of the elevator.

KARISSA
Okay. All you have to do is head out back. Take the left there, then the right and you should see a long hall with an exit door. You can't miss it.

SKETCHY PERSON
Awesome. Thank you all so much. I don't know how I can repay you.

CARTER
Get home and don't get caught.

ELIJAH
And forget about us.

SKETCHY PERSON
Will do.

Sketchy Person hugs them and leaves.

KARISSA
He smelled good. I wonder what cologne he uses.

ELIJAH
Of course, only you.

KARISSA

What? You know I can't resist a good cologne.

CARTER

Whatever. Let's just get back upstairs and eat.

KARISSA

You think the food is cold?

The elevator dings.

OFFICER (O.S.)

We got him!

The police come back around the corner with Sketchy Person.

OFFICER (CONT'D)

You're a slippery one.

CARTER

What happened?

OFFICER

We got a tip that he was in this building.

KARISSA

From who?

Carter and Karissa look at Elijah.

ELIJAH

What? It wasn't me. I swear.

CARTER

You expect us to believe that you didn't tell them?

ELIJAH

How could I? I would've had to call.

KARISSA

You can text now.

The police officers are all walking to the front with Sketchy Person. Tim is behind them all.

KARISSA (CONT'D)

Tim? What are you doing here?

TIM
I told the police he was here.

KARISSA
Of course.

TIM
What?

KARISSA
You ruin everything!

Karissa goes to get into the elevator.

TIM
Why do I feel like this isn't about us.

KARISSA
Not everything is about you. Just leave me alone.

TIM
Karissa, wait. I've been trying to ask you all day but with everything happening I didn't know when it would be a good time.

Tim gets down on his knee and pulls out a Ring Pop from his pocket.

TIM (CONT'D)
Karissa Belle Palmer, will you do me honor of becoming my lawfully wedded wife.

OFFICER
Bell pepper?

CARTER
This guy.

KARISSA
I don't know what to say.

TIM
You say yes.

Karissa grabs the Ring Pop and looks at it then she throws it away.

KARISSA
I hope that answers your question.

Carter and Elijah laugh and get in the elevator. Karissa follows. Tim goes to find where the ring went and finds it quickly. The elevator doors start to close.

TIM

That's alright! I'll just ask my other girlfriend!

Karissa gets mad and tries to exit the elevator but Carter and Elijah hold her back. The elevator doors close.

INT. APARTMENT LIVING ROOM

Cookie is sitting at the table on her phone. Carter, Karissa, and Elijah all come back upstairs. Karissa storms over to the couch. Elijah follows her. Carter goes over to Cookie.

KARISSA

I can't believe him.

ELIJAH

I can. We already knew he was a dick. It's just better to move on.

KARISSA

I already have but he hasn't for some reason.

ELIJAH

It kind of sounds like he did.

Karissa gives Elijah a look.

COOKIE

So I got you a role in a film.

CARTER

Really? What role? Lay it on me.

COOKIE

You are going to be Hostage number 1.

CARTER

What? Seriously?

COOKIE

It's an important role. Hostage becomes the focal point of the film. You're basically a supporting character. You're welcome.

CARTER

Oh, well in that case. Yay.

COOKIE

I'll call you tomorrow. Super star.

Carter hugs Cookie, tightly. Cookie leaves. Carter then joins Karissa and Elijah on the couch.

END OF ACT 2

TAG

INT. APARTMENT LIVING ROOM

Elijah, Carter, and Karissa are all sitting on the couch. Elijah turns his phone on and sees the many missed messages and calls from Grace.

KARISSA
She seems pissed.

CARTER
I think you may want to call her before she blows up and comes knocking down the door.

ELIJAH
Or I can avoid her.

There is a silence.

KARISSA
Call her. We don't have insurance.

Elijah decides to FaceTime her. Grace picks up within 3 rings as if she is waiting by her phone.

INT. GRACE'S BEDROOM

Grace is laying down in bed surrounded by white sheets. Her phone rings on her night stand and she quickly answers it.

GRACE
Hello?

ELIJAH (O.S.)
Hey, are you okay?

GRACE
No, are you? You said you would call and you didn't.

ELIJAH (O.S.)
Sorry, we got a little held up tonight.

KARISSA/CARTER (V.O.)
Seriously. / Wow, nice choice of words.

ELIJAH (O.S.)

My bad.

GRACE

Well, I'm glad you're okay. I'm going to get some sleep. Goodnight.

ELIJAH (O.S.)

Goodnight, I'll make the soup tom-

Grace ends the phone call. The camera zooms out to reveal another guy in bed with her. It's Tim.

TIM

Finally. I thought he would never get off the phone.

GRACE

Shh. You're about to have the time of your life.

Grace pulls the cover over her head and she slinks down. Tim makes faces and noises showing that he is having a good time.

INT. APARTMENT LIVING ROOM

ELIJAH

That was weird.

CARTER

Maybe she's in bed with someone.

ELIJAH

C'mon, Grace would never do that. She's a sweet Southern Belle.

KARISSA

Some won't. Some will. And some propose to their other girls.

They laugh and embrace.

CARTER

Oh yeah, I got a role in a movie.

ELIJAH

That's awesome! We have to celebrate.

They break and Elijah goes to the kitchen to and pulls out bowls to make a cake.

KARISSA
This is going to be a great year.

END OF EPISODE