

3 DAYS IN GALVESTON

Based on a true story...or as much as can be remembered.

Written by

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EXT. GALVESTON ISLAND - DAY

A fly over. The brown sand beach of Galveston, Texas. The sun shines on the boardwalk. Waves crash. Beach houses stand on stilts. Beachgoers enjoy the sun.

EXT. STOKES' BEACHSIDE APARTMENT - DAY

A beach-air battered apartment door opens. STOKES (MID 30'S) walks onto the walkway. Tall and thin, his hair is long and tangled. He is good-looking, but dirty. He lights a joint. A BICYCLIST (EARLY 20'S) wearing no shirt, with shorts and sandals rolls up and stops.

BICYCLIST

Hey Stokes!

STOKES

Mornin'.

BICYCLIST

You gonna be around the shop this weekend?

STOKES

Sorry man. Can't this weekend.

BICYCLIST

Why not?

STOKES

I'm busy.

BICYCLIST

With what?

STOKES

I got a wedding.

BICYCLIST

A wedding?

STOKES

Yep.

(he inhales)

I got me a wedding.

The Bicyclist rides away. Stokes reaches into his apartment to grab a fishing pole, a bag, and a longboard skateboard. He locks the door, takes another inhale, and rides away.

TITLE SEQUENCE AS WE MEET THE REST OF THE CAST

INT. SALENA AND HICKMAN'S BEDROOM - MORNING

SALENA (MID 30'S), hectic, detail-oriented, meticulously packs suitcases. Her fast-moving, eager-to-please boyfriend HICKMAN (EARLY 30'S), darts in-and-out as she feverishly directs about items to be included.

INT. GYM LOCKER ROOM - MORNING

BRYSON (EARLY TO MID 30'S), very muscular and equally vain, stares into a full-length mirror. Another muscular man, nipples pierced, wearing only a towel, heads for the showers. Bryson watches him pass in the reflection. His gaze is interrupted as his earphones "DING".

A text from LILY reads "Almost ready?" with a heart emoji.

He does not reply and heads into the gym for a workout.

INT. LILY'S APARTMENT - MORNING

LILY (EARLY 30'S), beautiful and meek, younger sister of Salena, puts down her phone. Her bags are packed. She waits.

INT. ASHLEY AND EDDIE'S HOUSE - MORNING

EDDIE (MID 40'S) drinks coffee in a contemporary downtown apartment. His fiancé Ashley (MID 30'S) enters from the bedroom, phone in hand. He has been crying. Eddie looks at him inquisitively. Ashley shakes his head "NO". Eddie gives him a loving, comforting embrace. Ashley cries again.

INT. WENNIE'S CAR - MORNING

Driving in a quaint neighborhood, Eddie's younger sister WENNIE (MID 30'S), short-haired with an athlete's physique, pulls into the driveway. She parks her Subaru behind another. A landscaping truck is parked on the street.

EXT. WENNIE'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Wennie exits her car and gives a confused look at the truck as she walks to the front door.

INT. WENNIE'S HOUSE - MORNING

Wennie enters. Antiques and female artwork adorn the living room. There are two dog bowls, but no dogs. Two sets of luggage, but no one around. She sets down her keys and exits to the backyard.

EXT. WENNIE'S HOUSE BACKYARD - MORNING

Walking into a picturesque, manicured backyard, Wennie hears a moan from the tool shed. She walks to the shed, swings open the door. Her attractive girlfriend, MIA (MID 20'S) is on her back with the face of a FEMALE LANDSCAPER (MID 30'S) between her legs.

WENNIE

Ready to go?

Mia quickly tries to cover up and the Landscaper pulls away. Wennie slams the shed door.

INT. THE AIRPORT BAR - DAY

Wennie, disheveled, prepares to drown the sorrows of another lost lover. She raises her hand to the good-looking, clean-cut, BARTENDER (EARLY 30'S).

WENNIE

Make it a double.

The Bartender nods and continues to make her drink. PHILIP MICHAEL (MID 20'S) joins her at the bar. He is young, hip, out, loud, and proud.

PHILIP MICHAEL

Did you see the Anderson Cooper on that one?

He waves to a good-looking man drinking coffee. The man smiles and waves back.

WENNIE

Eh. He's more of a Kornacki to me.

PHILIP MICHAEL

You're crazy. He's got Gloria Vanderbilt all over him.

The Bartender returns with Wennie's drink.

BARTENDER

Here you go. One double.

PHILIP MICHAEL

(to Bartender)

Well hello...and who might you be?

WENNIE

Do you have to hit on everyone?

PHILIP MICHAEL
Hush. I'm on unscheduled vacation
now.

BARTENDER
Let's get that vacation started
with a cocktail.

PHILIP MICHAEL
That's an excellent idea! I'll have
one of those too.

He points to Wennie's drink.

BARTENDER
Another double?

PHILIP MICHAEL
You know it.

The Bartender goes to make the drink.

PHILIP MICHAEL (CONT'D)
You gonna be crabby all weekend?

His look says he can see the inner thoughts of her soul.

WENNIE
Why does this keep happening? I
thought this one would be
different.

She takes a big drink.

PHILIP MICHAEL
What are the odds we can get you
laid at this shindig?

WENNIE
That is the last thing I need.
Women, officially, suck.

The Bartender returns with Philip Michael's drink.

BARTENDER
And one for you sir.

PHILIP MICHAEL
Thank you very much kind man.
What's your name?

BARTENDER
I'm Josh. And you?

PHILIP MICHAEL
Who ever you need me to be.

The Bartender laughs and goes off to help other guests.

WENNIE
He's not gay.

PHILIP MICHAEL
Not yet.

He winks at Wennie and takes a big drink.

EXT. DALLAS HIGHWAY - DAY

Bryson's truck drives down a crowded highway.

INT. BRYSON'S TRUCK - DAY

Bryson, focused, moves in and out of cars around him.

BRYSON
If people would just drive the way
they're supposed to, the world
would be a much happier place.

Bryson darts the truck to another lane.

LILY
We're not in that big of a hurry.

BRYSON
Is it weird that I won't know
anyone?

LILY
I didn't know anyone at your
country club cotillion, or your
mom's birthday. You'll make new
friends. Like I did.

Bryson notices the driver next him distracted by his cell phone.

BRYSON
Look at this guy. Look at him. Get
off your phone dick-weed.

INT. HICKMAN'S SUV - DAY

Hickman listens to a sports podcast over the car stereo. Salena checks a list on her tablet. She turns down the stereo volume.

SALENA
Did you get the Bluetooth speaker?

HICKMAN
I did.

SALENA
What about the archway supports?

HICKMAN
All safe and secure behind us.

SALENA
I feel like we forgot something!

HICKMAN
Stop worrying. We got it all. We checked. Double-checked. Then, I believe, we actually checked again. It's all here.

SALENA
You know this is important. They don't have anyone else who'll do this for them. It has to be right.

HICKMAN
Look at me.

He lovingly takes her hand.

HICKMAN (CONT'D)
This weekend will be everything you want it to be. I promise.

He kisses her hand. She smiles.

EXT. BEACHSIDE LUXURY HOTEL - DAY

Eddie and Ashley pull into a fancy, beach-front hotel. The VALET (EARLY 20'S) greets them to help with their bags.

VALET
Checking in gentlemen?

EDDIE
We sure are.

They exit the car. Eddie hands the keys to the Valet.

ASHLEY
Are you sure they're ok staying together?

EDDIE

Don't you worry about them. They'll be fine. This, my dear, is our time. No one else. Just you...and me.

ASHLEY

But they're all, kind of, bat shit crazy.

EDDIE

They're grown adults.

ASHLEY

Not when alcohol gets involved.

EDDIE

Stop it. It's three days. What could possibly go wrong?

They enter the hotel lobby, hand-in-hand.

EXT. THE BEACH HOUSE - DAY

Hickman's SUV pulls up to the Beach House. A patio balcony looks out towards the ocean. One staircase leads to the front door, and another leads from the patio to a beach walkway. They exit the SUV.

HICKMAN

Look at that! This is beautiful.

SALENA

This might work out after all.

HICKMAN

Everyone will love it.

SALENA

They'd better.

HICKMAN

Yep.
(to himself)
They'd better.

Hickman opens the back of the SUV. They start to unpack.

INT. THE BEACH HOUSE - DAY

Salena and Hickman enter the Beach House carrying luggage and supplies. It's a well-furnished, open floor plan home with a kitchen, living room, and dining area.

There are three bedrooms and a patio balcony looking out to the ocean. Salena looks around inquisitively.

SALENA
Does it look as big as the photos
online?

HICKMAN
What are you talking about?

He puts down his load and goes to the balcony.

HICKMAN (CONT'D)
Look at that view. It's gorgeous.

SALENA
I could've sworn it said marble
countertops.

She puts her supplies on the countertop.

SALENA (CONT'D)
Are these marble?

HICKMAN
Will you relax? This place is
perfect. Absolutely perfect.

He gives her a kiss on the cheek, then picks up their luggage and walks into the first bedroom. Salena starts to unpack a few wedding supplies.

INT. SALENA AND HICKMAN'S BEACH HOUSE BEDROOM - DAY

Hickman enters the neatly decorated bedroom with a comfy king-size bed. A large window offers a beautiful view of the ocean.

HICKMAN
Oh my god!

He sets down the luggage and goes to the window.

HICKMAN (CONT'D)
Look at that.
(yelling to Salena)
It's a clear view of the entire
horizon. You're gonna love it.

SALENA (O.S.)
I'm sure it's fine. Can you get the
rest of the stuff out of the car?

HICKMAN

Sure.

He looks back to make sure he is alone, then takes a modest engagement ring out of his bag. He smiles at it, places it in the night stand drawer next to the bed, and takes another look out the window.

HICKMAN (CONT'D)

(to himself)

You got this.

EXT. THE BEACH HOUSE - DAY

Bryson and Lily arrive. He parks his truck behind Hickman's SUV. They exit, take a look around, and grab their luggage. It appears they've had a challenging drive.

INT. THE BEACH HOUSE - DAY

Salena looks through boxes of wedding decorations. Hickman flips through the TV setup. There is a knock on the door. Lily slowly opens the door carrying her luggage followed by Bryson carrying his luggage.

LILY

(quietly)

Hello?

SALENA

Hey sister!

Salena runs to hug her sister.

SALENA (CONT'D)

You ready to have some fun?

LILY

We sure are! This place is beautiful.

BRYSON

There's no covered parking.

Salena snaps a look to Bryson. Lily notices.

LILY

(to Bryson)

Maybe you should put our stuff in our room.

(to Salena)

Which bedroom should we take?

SALENA
(pointing)
You can take one of those two.

LILY
(to Bryson)
Just put us in either one.

BRYSON
Ok.

Bryson picks up their luggage and exits into a bedroom.

SALENA
He's charming.

LILY
He got a little riled-up coming out
of Dallas. I'm sure he'll de-stress
now that we're here.

HICKMAN
He probably just needs a beer or
two. That always helps at the
beach.

LILY
I hope so. I really want you guys
to like him.

SALENA
I'm sure we will. How bad could he
possibly be?

BRYSON (O.S.)
Damn it!

Bryson enters from the bedroom.

BRYSON (CONT'D)
Forgot my protein powder.

LILY
Bryson...this is my big sister
Salena...and her boyfriend Hickman.

Hickman extends his hand to Bryson.

HICKMAN
Don't worry, man. We can get you
all the protein you need.

Bryson takes Hickman's hand and looks over his body.

BRYSON

Don't take this the wrong way, but I pay close attention to what I put in my body.

LILY

It'll be fine.

HICKMAN

You know what...they might have some at the store up the road. I could use some beer. Wanna make a run with me?

LILY

That would be nice.

BRYSON

I'll drive.

HICKMAN

Ok then. I guess we'll be right back.

Hickman kisses Salena on the cheek and they exit.

SALENA

And this is Bryson?

LILY

Don't judge.

SALENA

Are you guys ready for an out-of-town trip?

LILY

We'd better be. I haven't had sex since my divorce. It's time. I got enough condoms in there to fuck a fleet.

SALENA

Lily?!

LILY

What? You don't ever "need" it?

SALENA

All I ever seem to "need" is a glass of wine and fresh double-A's.

INT. BRYSON'S TRUCK - DAY

Bryson and Hickman drive down the road. The radio is on a news program. Bryson stares ahead.

NEWS COMMENTATOR (O.S.)
 ...and the crisis at the southern border continues as liberals hide their heads in the sand, ignoring the safety of true American families. This, and more, when we return to Conservative News Nation.

The news program goes to commercial.

HICKMAN
 Conservative News Nation?

BRYSON
 When you want the truth.

Hickman struggles to say something in response. Bryson stares ahead. It's awkward.

INT. THE NEIGHBORHOOD STORE - DAY

A bell rings on the door. Bryson and Hickman enter the small, neighborhood, vacation-essentials store. An elderly STORE CLERK (LATE 70'S) sits at the counter reading the newspaper through his glasses.

STORE CLERK
 Afternoon. Let me know if I can help you find anything.

HICKMAN
 Thank you sir. Beautiful day out, huh?

STORE CLERK
 It sure is. Should be a nice weekend.

Bryson looks up and down the aisles, unable to find what he needs. Hickman finds the beer.

BRYSON
 Excuse me. Do you have any protein powder?

STORE CLERK
 (thinking)
 Ummm...we have some of the sports drinks in the cooler.

BRYSON
I'm looking for protein powder.

STORE CLERK
I'm not sure I know what that is.

BRYSON
It's a powder that you mix with
water...and it has protein.

STORE CLERK
We got Metamucil. It has
probiotics.

Bryson shakes his head and exits. Hickman approaches the counter with two 24-packs of beer and two bottles of wine.

HICKMAN
Sorry about that. I didn't invite
him.

STORE CLERK
(looking at the alcohol)
This should help.

EXT. THE BEACH HOUSE PATIO - DAY

Lily and Salena relax on the patio balcony. An Uber Black pulls up to the Beach House; horn honking. Salena and Lily jump up to see. Ashley and Eddie exit the car. Seeing the girls above, they wave excitedly.

ASHLEY
Hey bitches!

SALENA AND LILY
Hey bitches!

INT. THE BEACH HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Lily and Salena enter from the patio as Ashley comes through the front door carrying Champagne and OJ. They scream and hug each other. Eddie follows.

ASHLEY
This house is gorgeous! I love it!

EDDIE
It sure is. You nailed it.

SALENA
Thank you. I wanted it to be
perfect.

ASHLEY

Well done my faithful companion.

He kisses Salena on the cheek.

ASHLEY (CONT'D)

So...where are your other boys?

SALENA

Obtaining protein powder.

LILY

And beer.

ASHLEY

Oh honey, we got something much better than that.

(raising the Champagne
and OJ)

Let's Mimosa!

Salena begins to look through the kitchen cabinets.

SALENA

I'm not sure if they have Champagne glasses.

Lily helps her look.

LILY

They have to have something.

SALENA

Ours are still boxed up.

Ashley sees tall mugs in the cabinets.

ASHLEY

We ain't that fancy today. These will work just fine. Thirsty?

SALENA

Absolutely.

LILY

Maybe not yet.

ASHLEY

You're having a Mimosa.

LILY

Ok. One.

Ashley begins to make the Mimosa's.

EXT. THE BEACH HOUSE - MOMENTS LATER

Bryson's truck pulls up to the Beach House.

INT. THE BEACH HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Lily, Salena, Eddie, and Ashley have their Mimosa's in hand. Lily sees the truck arrive through the window.

LILY
They're back.

Eddie joins her at the window.

EDDIE
We're excited to meet the new boyfriend. I hear he's beefy.

LILY
He looks real good without a shirt.

ASHLEY
And without the rest of the wardrobe?

LILY
Don't know yet. I hope it's like...the statue of David.

SALENA
Ok. I might "need" that.

ASHLEY
I should freshen up for this. Which way to the bathroom.

Salena points Ashley to the bathroom. Ashley exits. Hickman enters carrying beer and wine. Bryson enters empty-handed.

LILY
Did you find what you need?

BRYSON
Nope.

Hickman sees Eddie.

HICKMAN
Hey Eddie! How you doin'? I didn't see your car out there.

EDDIE
We Uber'ed over. Just to be safe. How are you buddy?

HICKMAN
 Much better now.

He cracks open a beer.

HICKMAN (CONT'D)
 Where's your fiancé?

EDDIE
 Making sure she looks her best for
 meeting new people.

LILY
 Eddie...this is my boyfriend
 Bryson. Bryson...this is Eddie, of
 Eddie and Ashley.

BRYSON
 (trying to be funny)
 Surrendering to the ball and chain,
 huh?

EDDIE
 I guess so. Something like that.

Bryson notices Lily's Mimosa.

BRYSON
 Are you drinking already?

LILY
 It's just one.

Ashley enters from the bathroom in grand fashion.

ASHLEY
 What's this I hear about balls and
 chains?

BRYSON
 We were talking about his fiancée
 Ashley.

ASHLEY
 And what about his fiancé Ashley?

BRYSON
 I was just making the joke about
 her and the "old ball and chain".

After a beat.

EDDIE
 Her?

ASHLEY
Her who?

BRYSON
Ashley.

EDDIE
Ashley's a girl?

BRYSON
Isn't she?

ASHLEY
I'm Ashley.

BRYSON
No. Ashley. The fiancée.

ASHLEY
I'm Ashley. The fiancé.

BRYSON
Right. Wouldn't that be funny. A
little queer even.

ASHLEY
Excuse me?!

EDDIE
This is my fiancé Ashley.

BRYSON
(to Lily)
You told me we were going to Eddie
and Ashley's wedding?

LILY
We're here.

SALENA
Let me help you out. This is
Eddie...and this...is Ashley.

BRYSON
(to Lily)
Ashley is a girl's name.

ASHLEY
Ashley goes both ways.

EDDIE
Not the last time I checked.

BRYSON

You brought me to a wedding with two men?!

LILY

Yes? Is this a problem?

BRYSON

Is this a problem?!

LILY

Should I have specified the sexual orientation of the participants?

BRYSON

Oh my God!

Bryson exits out the patio door. Everyone is quiet. Bewildered.

ASHLEY

What was that?!

EDDIE

Is he mad?

SALENA

Did you bring a homophobe to a gay wedding?

HICKMAN

I think she did.

LILY

Do I still get to see him naked?

EXT. THE BEACH HOUSE - DAY

Lily and Bryson are in deep discussion at the truck. She blocks the door, holding the keys behind her back. Hickman walks towards the beach with a cooler and a shovel. A frustrated Bryson walks away following Hickman.

INT. A COMPACT CAR - DAY

Wennie and Philip Michael are cramped in the back of a compact car. They have their luggage plus supplies from a local liquor store. The DRIVER (40'S) has a bag of roasted nuts next to an ashtray with cigarette butts. He's lost, making quick turns.

PHILIP MICHAEL

I'm gonna be sick.

WENNIE
 (to Driver)
 You need me to map it?

DRIVER
 No, I got it figured out. We need
 to go that way.

The driver makes another quick turn.

PHILIP MICHAEL
 That's it! Get me out of here!

EXT. GALVESTON ROADWAY - DAY

The Driver pulls over. Philip Michael quickly exits and begins taking deep breaths, trying not to puke. Wennie exits.

WENNIE
 (to Driver)
 We'll take it from here.

The Driver pulls away. Philip Michael takes a seat. Wennie, despondent, takes introspective stock of her situation.

EXT. THE BEACH - DAY

Hickman walks on the beach with a cooler of beer and shovel. Bryson follows with his shirt off.

BRYSON
 My family would freak out if they
 knew I was here.

Hickman offers him a solution.

HICKMAN
 You want a beer?

BRYSON
 I don't drink.

HICKMAN
 It might help.

BRYSON
 My dad's the Chairman of the
 Johnson County GOP. This would not
 be cool. At all.

HICKMAN
 Oh, come on now. Don't be like
 that.

(MORE)

HICKMAN (CONT'D)

You're gonna stress everyone out.
And when everyone gets stressed
out, she's gonna take it out on me.

BRYSON

Who's gonna take it out on you?

HICKMAN

My girlfriend.

BRYSON

Afraid of her are you?

HICKMAN

A little bit...yeah.

He takes a big drink.

BRYSON

How long have you two been
together?

HICKMAN

About 7 years.

BRYSON

Seriously? Damn.

HICKMAN

Yep.

BRYSON

That's a long time.

HICKMAN

Yep.

He takes another drink.

BRYSON

So what's stopping you? Why aren't
we here having a wedding for you?

HICKMAN

We've talked about it. We just need
the right moment.

BRYSON

In the Marines, they always taught
us that you decide your own right
moments in life.

HICKMAN
So how did you end up here?

BRYSON
I let Lily decide.

Hickman takes a look out at the ocean.

HICKMAN
Yeah, well...here ain't so bad.

Wennie and Philip Michael approach, tired, sweaty, and carrying their luggage and liquor.

WENNIE
Excuse me gentlemen. Are you by chance with the Pollack-Smith wedding?

HICKMAN
Yes ma'am, we are.

WENNIE
Oh fantastic!

She drops her luggage.

WENNIE (CONT'D)
I'm so fucking tired.

HICKMAN
How can we help?

WENNIE
Well...the Best Man has arrived!

PHILIP MICHAEL
(flamboyantly)
And her fabulous attaché.

BRYSON
Are you serious?

WENNIE
Which part?

BRYSON
Son-of-a-bitch.

Bryson texts Lily with his phone.

WENNIE
(to Hickman)
Is that the house up there?

HICKMAN

It is.

Philip Michael enjoys the site of Bryson's bare chest.

PHILIP MICHAEL

Hot out, huh?

BRYSON

Are you serious?

WENNIE

(to Hickman)

Why does he keep saying that?

HICKMAN

He might be broken.

PHILIP MICHAEL

Don't worry honey, Philip Michael
can fix you right up.

BRYSON

Holy shit.

Bryson texts Lily once again.

HICKMAN

Just take that pathway there.

WENNIE

Thank you very much.

HICKMAN

You are very welcome.

Wennie and Philip Michael pick up their stuff and trek on
towards the house.

BRYSON

Can you believe that?

HICKMAN

Relax. We got the sun, the waves...

BRYSON

...and every homosexual in Texas.
Are we the only straight guys here?

HICKMAN

It would appear so.

BRYSON
I cannot believe she brought me to
this.

HICKMAN
What are you so afraid of?!

BRYSON
I'm not "afraid" of anything.

HICKMAN
You might wanna be afraid of Philip
Michael. I think he likes you.

EXT. THE BEACH HOUSE PATIO - MOMENTS LATER

Salena, Lily, Eddie and Ashley are on the patio. Ashley stands at the rail looking towards the beach. He notices people walking up the pathway. He removes his sunglasses to take a closer look.

EXT. THE BEACH PATHWAY - CONTINUOUS

Seeing Ashley, Wennie waves with excitement. Philip Michael follows behind.

EXT. THE BEACH HOUSE PATIO - CONTINUOUS

Ashley turns to Eddie who relaxes with his eyes closed, enjoying the sun.

ASHLEY
What do we have here?

EDDIE
What's that?

Eddie gets up to take a look. Lily's phone gets a text.

EXT. THE BEACH PATHWAY - CONTINUOUS

Wennie sees Eddie come to the edge of the patio balcony. She is even more excited now and closer.

WENNIE
(yelling)
What's up ya old fart!

EXT. THE BEACH HOUSE PATIO - CONTINUOUS

ASHLEY
(concerned)
Where's Mia?

EDDIE
I don't know.

ASHLEY
Why did she bring Philip?

EDDIE
I don't know.

SALENA
Who's Philip?

ASHLEY
A boy that makes me look like Ted Cruz on Easter Sunday.

EDDIE
Be nice.

ASHLEY
(to Lily)
Your homophobe is about to get a crash course in flamboyant homosexuality.

Lily's phone gets another text.

LILY
Shit.

Wennie and Philip Michael enter up the patio balcony staircase, exhausted, excited.

WENNIE
So this is where the party's at?!

EDDIE
Hey there mister little sister.
Salena and Lily, my baby sis Wennie
Lou Who...and her friend Philip.

PHILIP MICHAEL
It's Philip Michael actually.
(with a curtsy)
Enchanté all.

LILY
(holding up her phone)
I'd better go.

Lily exits to the beach.

WENNIE
We chasing people off already?

EDDIE

Where did you come from?

WENNIE

Our driver was all turned around so
we walked up the beach.

She pulls out a bottle of Vodka.

WENNIE (CONT'D)

Cocktail anyone?

EDDIE

How did you know which house it
was?

WENNIE

The boys on the beach.

PHILIP MICHAEL

One was absolutely delicious.

WENNIE

He was kind of a dick.

PHILIP MICHAEL

A delicious dick.

ASHLEY

(to Eddie)

Our wedding is fucked.

EDDIE

No, it's not.

ASHLEY

(to Philip Michael)

You'll be happy to know the
delicious dick is staying here with
you.

PHILIP MICHAEL

(intrigued)

You don't say?

EDDIE

Easy. He's obsessively straight.

PHILIP MICHAEL

(even more intrigued)

You don't say!?

WENNIE

Put your lipstick away horndog. He wasn't that special. Who needs a drink?

EDDIE

Where's Mia?!

PHILIP MICHAEL

Fuck that bitch! We dare not speak her name!

Philip Michael enters the Beach House with his luggage and the liquor.

EDDIE

Is there something you might like to share with the group?

WENNIE

Nope. Not really.

EDDIE

Are you sure?

WENNIE

As sure as I can be.

ASHLEY

You were supposed to bring Mia.

PHILIP MICHAEL (O.S.)

(yelling)

Fuck that bitch! We dare not speak her name!

EDDIE

When did this happen?

WENNIE

What part of this are you not picking up on?

SALENA

Apparently, none of it. Who's Mia?

PHILIP MICHAEL (O.S.)

(yelling)

Fuck that bitch! We dare not speak her name!

ASHLEY

What did you do this time?!

WENNIE

I...didn't do anything! She was
fucking the landscaper!

SALENA

(diffusing the situation)
Ok. Ok. Let's calm down.

A moment of awkward silence.

EDDIE

This seems like news we should have
known.

WENNIE

Don't get your panties in a wad
grandma. It's a beautiful day out.
This will have zero effect on your
weekend.

Philip Michael enters wearing only a small, tight-fitting
men's swimsuit and carrying two drinks.

PHILIP MICHAEL

Lick the sand from my toes, it is
gorgeous out here! Who's ready to
get wet?

EXT. THE BEACH - MOMENTS LATER

Hickman and Bryson sit in silence. Hickman leans against the
cooler taking in the view. Bryson looks at his phone. Lily
approaches from the pathway.

LILY

You wanted to talk?

BRYSON

Can we have a chat about our
situation here.

LILY

What about it?

BRYSON

You brought me to the gay pride
beach get-away.

LILY

And...

Hickman opens another beer.

HICKMAN

If it's ok with you guys, I'll
choose not to be a part of this.

Hickman rises and walks off with the cooler and shovel.

BRYSON

Do you see what you're doing?

LILY

What I'm doing? I'm just trying to
enjoy myself at the beach with
friends. What's the problem?

BRYSON

The problem is that all "THIS"
makes me uncomfortable.

LILY

Why?

BRYSON

That last guy looked at me like a
piece of meat.

LILY

Like how?

BRYSON

Like this.

Bryson imitates the way Philip Michael looked at him.

LILY

(flirting)

Oh...you mean the way I look at
you?

She caresses his bare chest.

LILY (CONT'D)

The way you look at me?

BRYSON

Like he wanted to rub things on
me...and in me.

Lily takes Bryson in her arms.

LILY

Why don't we stop worrying about
what others might do, and start
thinking about we're going to
do...to each other.

BRYSON
That's hard to do while being
homosexually objectified.

LILY
Don't worry babe. I'll keep all the
boys away.

Philip Michael, Ashley, and Eddie enter for a beach stroll.

ASHLEY
The boys are here...and yes...we
are queer!

PHILIP MICHAEL
(to Bryson)
Wanna get wet Hulk-a-Mania?

BRYSON
Fuck me.

Bryson exits towards the Beach House.

LILY
Bryson!

ASHLEY
Was it something we said?

EXT. THE BEACH HOUSE - EVENING

The sun has set over the Beach House. All seems quiet and calm. A large black SUV pulls up to the home.

INT. BLACK SUV - EVENING

The gang is all here, except for Eddie and Ashley. Philip Michael sits in the front passenger seat across from the SUV DRIVER. Wennie, Salena, and Lily sit in the middle row. Hickman and Bryson are in the 3rd-row seat, it's tight.

Bryson nudges Hickman's knee.

BRYSON
Bro...I'm gonna need more leg room.

HICKMAN
Bro...it's not my fault you got
monster thighs.

PHILIP MICHAEL
(to the SUV Driver)
I love monster thighs. Might have
some for dinner tonight.

Salena leans over to Lily.

SALENA
You could've driven his truck.

LILY
But then we wouldn't be together.

BRYSON
(to Hickman)
Dude, seriously, more leg room.

Salena gives Lily a look of contempt.

INT. FISHMONGER'S RESTAURANT RECEPTION AREA - EVENING

The restaurant is hopping on a Friday night. Everyone enters into the reception area. Salena nudges Lily and gives her a look she has seen many times. Salena goes to the hostess stand as everyone else enters the bar.

INT. FISHMONGER'S RESTAURANT BAR AREA - CONTINUOUS

Customers sit about drinking and eating. Wennie, Philip Michael, and Hickman head to the bar. Lily pulls Bryson to the side.

LILY
Can I speak with you for a moment?

BRYSON
I got nowhere else to go.

LILY
Salena is going to explode if you don't start acting right.

BRYSON
How do you suppose I do that?

LILY
Drink. Drink lots.

BRYSON
I don't drink.

LILY
You also, apparently, don't go to gay weddings. Let's try new things this weekend. This is important to me. I want them to like you. Please? For me?

Bryson takes a moment to assess the situation around him.

BRYSON
 You survived my mom's birthday...I
 can survive this.

LILY
 Thank you.

Wennie, Philip Michael, and Hickman approach with drinks in
 hand. Wennie also has a tray of shots.

WENNIE
 Who's up for a mood swing?

Philip Michael hands out the shots.

PHILIP MICHAEL
 (excited)
 All aboard the party train. Toot,
 toot!

An intoxicated BAR PATRON (MID 20'S) overhears Philip
 Michael.

BAR PATRON
 Fucking queen.

They all hear the comment. Wennie starts to confront to the
 Bar Patron. Bryson beats her to it.

BRYSON
 (to Bar Patron)
 What did you say?!

The Bar Patron is smaller than Bryson and is intimidated.

BAR PATRON
 Dude...I was fucking around. It's
 cool.

Bryson nudges up close to the Bar Patron.

BRYSON
 Apologize.

BAR PATRON
 Come on man.

BRYSON
 (forcefully)
 Apologize!

The bar goes quiet.

BAR PATRON
 (to Philip Michael)
 Sorry. My bad.

The Bar Patron walks away. Lily smiles. Wennie, Philip Michael, and Hickman are shocked. Bryson turns back to the group and raises his shot glass.

BRYSON
 (toasting)
 You may be gay...but you're my gays
 now.

They take the shots.

INT. FISHMONGER'S RESTAURANT PRIVATE DINING ROOM - EVENING

Salena, Wennie, Lily, Philip Michael, Hickman, and Bryson are seated in a private dining room. The table is decorated for a celebration. Two servers move about filling glasses with red and white wine, while also bringing out various appetizers. There are two open seats at the table.

Eddie enters majestically.

EDDIE
 Ladies and Gentlemen...may I
 introduce the future Mrs. Ashley
 Pollack.

ASHLEY (O.S.)
 Smith-Pollack!

EDDIE
 (corrected)
 Mrs. Ashley Smith-Pollack.

Ashley enters as if at a Royal Ball.

ASHLEY
 Thank you, thank you. It's so
 wonderful to see all of you
 tonight. Thank you so much for
 coming to my wedding.

Bryson takes a big drink of his red wine. The server refills it. Ashley and Eddie take their seats.

ASHLEY
 Can you believe it was only three
 short years ago that I met this
 man. Driving on his way from
 Birmingham to San Antonio.

EDDIE

Who would've known that stopping in Fort Worth could spawn such a gay love story?

Eddie and Ashley kiss. Salena and Lily sigh.

BRYSON

So...what...you met at like a truck stop?

ASHLEY

You do know gay guys don't hang out in truck stops, right?

PHILIP MICHAEL

Not since your Lt. Governor got caught playing Glory Hole with a dick in his mouth.

LILY

(snapping)

Ok, now.

PHILIP MICHAEL

(to Bryson)

He was really good too.

Bryson takes another drink of wine. Eddie gets the conversation back on topic.

EDDIE

We met at a friend's house. I was spending the night on my way through town. He had a party and introduced me to the man who would become the love of my life.

BRYSON

What was in San Antonio?

ASHLEY

His woman.

BRYSON

(shocked)

You were straight?

EDDIE

I tried to be, but I sure didn't like it.

BRYSON

So...it was a choice?

ASHLEY

A choice for what?!

BRYSON

To be gay. He wasn't, then he was.
I mean, it's like, you don't see
animals being gay in nature.

PHILIP MICHAEL

Tell that to the Bears on Fire
Island.

BRYSON

Then let me see if I understand.
You were on your way to see your
girlfriend...

EDDIE

I guess you could call her a
girlfriend.

BRYSON

...but you met him, ditched her,
and started dating a dude
overnight?

EDDIE

Best decision of my life.

ASHLEY

I agree baby sweetcakes.

Eddie and Ashley kiss again.

BRYSON

What did your parents say?

WENNIE

Our parents are passed.

She takes a drink.

EDDIE

I never got the chance to tell
them. Sometimes, it feels like they
never really knew me. It's actually
one of my biggest regrets.

Ashley puts his arms around Eddie.

WENNIE

Mom knew.

EDDIE

I hope so.

BRYSON

Wow! I applaud the initiative. You saw what you wanted, and you made a choice to go get it.

(to Hickman)

You see that...he didn't wait 7 years. He went for it.

Bryson takes another big drink of wine.

SALENA

I'm sorry, to what are you referring?

HICKMAN

It's nothing.

ASHLEY

You think it's a choice to be gay?

BRYSON

It was for him.

ASHLEY

My father hasn't spoken to me since the day I came out. My mother refuses to come to my wedding because of him. Do you think I chose that?!

Eddie calms the conversation again.

EDDIE

I always knew I was gay. I just didn't feel I could be who I was, where I was...until I met him.

PHILIP MICHAEL

Tell me about it. Ever tried giving a handy on the flight deck at Bogota International?

WENNIE

Where haven't you had sex?

PHILIP MICHAEL

(thinking)

Galveston.

Lily changes the subject.

LILY
 (to Philip Michael)
 Are you a pilot?

PHILIP MICHAEL
 Oh, heavens no, sweetie. I'm a
 flight attendant. You do not want
 me anywhere near a cockpit. Unless
 its grounded. And your wife is out
 of town.

Bryson takes another big drink of wine. The server refills
 it.

INT. FISHMONGER'S RESTAURANT PRIVATE DINING ROOM - LATER

The main course has arrived. The group eats in silence.
 Alcohol continues to be consumed with full and empty
 cocktails, wine glasses, shots, and beers. Stokes enters.

STOKES
 Good evening beautiful people! Is
 this the Smith-Pollack wedding
 party?

EDDIE
 It is.

ASHLEY
 And you are?

STOKES
 I...am Stokes.

WENNIE
 Oh shit! Come on in. I forgot you
 were stopping by.

Wennie gets up to greet Stokes.

WENNIE (CONT'D)
 Everybody...This is the minister
 marrying these two queens.

STOKES
 Welcome to Galveston!

PHILIP MICHAEL
 Well hello Reverend!

WENNIE
 Have a seat and join us.

STOKES

Oh no, I don't want to impose on your dinner.

WENNIE

It's not imposing. Sit your ass down.

STOKES

Ok. That would be nice. Thank you very much.

Wennie finds Stokes a spare chair and places it between Lily and Bryson, nudging Bryson out of the way. Stokes sits and smiles at Lily; she smiles back. Wennie returns to her seat.

BRYSON

(a bit drunk)

So...Stokes is it?

STOKES

It is.

BRYSON

Let me ask you something.

STOKES

Ok, shoot.

LILY

(to Stokes)

Would you like some wine?

STOKES

Thank you. That would be great.

Lily fills a glass of wine for Stokes.

BRYSON

Does your ministry not have conflict with homosexuality?

STOKES

I have been lucky to marry people of all genders.

LILY

(to Bryson)

See stop your worrying.

Lily fills another glass of wine for Bryson.

WENNIE

So...what brings you by tonight?

STOKES

Well...you were kind enough to fill me in online about the excited grooms here, but I wanted to meet everyone for myself...and ask them a very important question.

EDDIE

We're answering all the questions tonight. Shoot.

STOKES

Ok. Here goes. If you were to close your eyes and hear only the most beautiful words at your wedding, what would they be?

WENNIE

Run.

She takes a drink.

ASHLEY

Oh, hush sour puss. That's not what they would say.

WENNIE

Then what would they say?

Ashley turns to look at Eddie. Eddie smiles back.

ASHLEY

They would say...standing in the light of the sun...with the sand between our toes...there is a love that reaches far deeper than the ocean...as two star-crossed lovers now become one.

LILY AND SALENA

Ahhh.

ASHLEY

(to Stokes)

How'd I do?

STOKES

That sounded wonderful. Those are the words you shall have.

HICKMAN

You just gonna repeat that?

STOKES

No, that would be cheating. His words were simple and honest. I'll keep it there. The true essence of love.

BRYSON

(intoxicated)

Yeah, he probably doesn't know much about that Padre.

SALENA

What is your problem with Hickman?!

LILY

He has no problem. This is going to be a beautiful wedding.

Everyone takes a big drink. There is an awkward silence.

STOKES

Well...unfortunately...I must go. The night is young, and I must prepare for tomorrow.

Stokes gets up to exit.

STOKES (CONT'D)

(to Lily)

It was my pleasure to meet all of you.

(to everyone)

Until tomorrow when we shall celebrate the awesomeness of love from the edge of the world.

Stokes exits the dining area with a flourish.

PHILIP MICHAEL

He's a whole new kind of special.

LILY

He sure is.

Wennie turns to Eddie.

WENNIE

What do you think of your minister?

EDDIE

I think it all sounds perfect! I'm gonna marry this beautiful man tomorrow, and it's gonna make the me happiest old fart on the planet.

BRYSON
(to Hickman)
Yo Rumpelstiltskin...that's how
you're supposed to...

HICKMAN
(to Bryson)
Sweet Jesus! Shut the fuck up.

SALENA
(to Hickman)
Is there something he's trying to
say?

HICKMAN
I don't know what he's trying to
say.

BRYSON
(drunk)
I'm just giving him shit for dating
the same person for so long. I mean
look at these two. He used to be
straight, they've been dating for
three years, and here we are at
their wedding. You guys are coming
up on a decade and still no ring on
that finger.

HICKMAN
Leave it alone asshole.

BRYSON
Whoa, whoa, whoa...I'm not trying
to be an asshole here, but have
you, or have you not, been dating a
really, really long time?

SALENA
If we're happy what do you care?!

BRYSON
I don't care. I'm just relaxing at
the beach with new friends.

Bryson takes another big drink. Salena is very agitated.

SALENA
(losing it)
At least my significant other
didn't get finger-fucked on a
church bus by the bride-to-be!

Salena throws her wine on Bryson. Lily and Ashley, are shocked.

LILY
Leave me out of this!

ASHLEY
I was experimenting!

Philip Michael hands Bryson a shot. Bryson takes the shot.

HICKMAN
(to Bryson)
Dude! I told you this was gonna happen!

SALENA
You told him what?!

BRYSON
(cleaning himself)
He said you'd get all stressed out and take shit out on him.

Bryson pukes; hitting Salena and the table. Everyone jumps back.

SALENA
(to Lily)
Why did you bring this jackass?!

LILY
I'm trying to get laid!

Bryson pukes more as he runs out of the private dining room. Lily follows him.

SALENA
(to Ashley)
I'm so sorry.

Salena begins to cry as she exits the private dining room.

WENNIE
Somebody should go with her.

Everyone looks at Hickman. Hickman gets up from the table.

HICKMAN
I'll pay the tab.

Hickman exits, beer in hand. Wennie exits following Salena. Ashley, Eddie, and Philip Michael sit silent. Ashley fumes. After a beat...

EDDIE
(to Ashley)
Finger-fucking on a church bus?

INT. FISHMONGER'S RESTAURANT RESTROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Salena is at the sink cleaning herself. Wennie enters.

WENNIE
Hey.

SALENA
Hey.

WENNIE
Need any help?

SALENA
Apparently, I need lots.

Wennie goes to the paper towel dispenser. She takes a handful of paper towels and offers them to Salena.

SALENA
Thank you.
(after a moment)
Stokes seemed nice.

WENNIE
Yeah...he might actually work out.

SALENA
You were worried?

WENNIE
I found him on Yelp.

Salena laughs and smiles at Wennie.

SALENA
You're secret is safe with me.
(after another moment)
We've met before, haven't we.

WENNIE
We have. New Year's Eve. You were wearing a black dress with a red sweater and a white bow in your hair.

SALENA
I was. Very good.

Salena continues to clean herself.

SALENA (CONT'D)

Do you ever have that dream where you're trying to go somewhere...but you can't get ready to go? No matter how hard you try?

WENNIE

People are always ready to go where I come from. My problem is getting them to stay.

Salena laughs again.

SALENA

What's wrong with us?

WENNIE

There ain't nothing wrong with you. At all. You put this whole weekend together for the sole purpose of giving someone you love the memory of a lifetime. There is nothing wrong with a person like that. You're kind of a great catch.

Salena stops cleaning herself and locks eyes with Wennie.

SALENA

You have very kind eyes.

WENNIE

Thanks. My daddy gave them to me.

SALENA

Did he also give you a kind soul?

WENNIE

Nah, that would've come from momma.

SALENA

I've heard they were sweet people.

WENNIE

They were. They definitely were.

There is a moment of silence.

WENNIE (CONT'D)

Tomorrow is gonna be awesome. I can't wait to see it all come together.

(she starts to exit)

Let me know if you need anything. Anything at all. I'm here to help.

SALENA
Thank you. I'm glad you're here.

WENNIE
Me too pretty lady. Me too.

Salena smiles again at Wennie. She hasn't been called pretty in a long time. Wennie exits.

EXT. FISHMONGER'S RESTAURANT - LATER

Hickman stands outside waiting for the black SUV. Bryson and Lily sit on a bench. Bryson is ill. Eddie and Ashley approach Hickman.

EDDIE
You ok?

HICKMAN
Yeah. I'm ok.

ASHLEY
Really?! Cause that didn't seem ok.

HICKMAN
How did you know it was time?

EDDIE
For what?

HICKMAN
To get married.

EDDIE
(thinking)
Well...

INT. ASHLEY AND EDDIE'S HOUSE - MORNING - FLASHBACK

Eddie is in the kitchen making breakfast. He stops for a moment, caught in a gaze at Ashley kissed by the morning sunlight.

EDDIE (V.O.)
It was one morning at home. He was working on the computer. I was making breakfast. He was wearing his favorite, faded Gaga t-shirt, a pair of khaki shorts, and sandals. His hair had this 'I just got out of bed' look, although I knew he spent at least 30 minutes on it.
(MORE)

EDDIE (CONT'D)
 His brow was clinched as he read
 some email, because he refuses to
 wear his glasses, and when he
 looked up at me...

Ashley looks up at Eddie. Eddie smiles at Ashley.

EDDIE (V.O.) (CONT'D)
 I knew.

EXT. FISHMONGER'S RESTAURANT - BACK IN REAL TIME

HICKMAN
 In that one moment?

EDDIE
 I saw my whole life around me, and
 the most alluring part...was him.

ASHLEY
 (seductively to Eddie)
 I just got moist.

Eddie and Ashley's Uber Black arrives. They start to get in.

HICKMAN
 I do love her.

EDDIE
 Then tell her.

ASHLEY
 Then show her! And don't fuck up my
 wedding.

Eddie and Ashley get in. The Uber drives away. Bryson pukes.

INT. BLACK SUV - NIGHT

The gang is back in the SUV. Philip Michael is again in the front seat. Wennie, Salena, and Hickman are in the middle seat. Lily and Bryson are in the back 3rd-row. Bryson is passed out. It's silent, awkward.

EXT. THE BEACH - NIGHT

Hickman sits alone with a beer and his thoughts. He stares out to the ocean.

EXT. THE BEACH HOUSE PATIO - NIGHT

Wennie and Philip Michael are drinking cocktails and relaxing on the patio.

WENNIE
Do relationships just suck no
matter if you're gay or straight?

PHILIP MICHAEL
Are you still going through your
stages of grief?

WENNIE
I'm not sure. Which stage is this?

Philip Michael looks her over.

PHILIP MICHAEL
"Inflammation".

WENNIE
She better be out when I get back.

PHILIP MICHAEL
Fuck that bitch!
(toasting)
At least you got a great backyard
out if it.

Wennie pulls out a joint.

PHILIP MICHAEL (CONT'D)
Now you're talking.

Wennie lights the joint and passes it Philip Michael.

PHILIP MICHAEL
Oh yes baby. Come to poppy.

Philip Michael takes a big hit. Lily enters from the house.

LILY
What's that smell?

PHILIP MICHAEL
Sweet lesbian kush.

LILY
It smells like a skunk.

PHILIP MICHAEL
And yet people still put their face
in it.

Philip Michael passes the joint to Wennie.

WENNIE
(to Lily)
You want some sweetheart?

Wennie offers the joint to Lily.

PHILIP MICHAEL
Go for it. You ain't got nowhere to
go.

Lily takes a moment to ponder the option.

LILY
Bryson is out cold.

WENNIE
It's as if the world is self-
correcting.

LILY
Ok! Let's get crazy.

Lily takes the joint and a small inhale. She coughs, laughs,
and inhales again.

LILY
That feels good.

Lily takes a long hit and passes to Philip Michael who also
takes a hit and passes to Wennie. Lily suddenly jumps up and
starts looking down towards the beach.

WENNIE
You all right sweetie?

LILY
Is that Stokes?

PHILIP MICHAEL
Where?

Philip Michael rises to look.

LILY
Down there.

She points towards the beach.

PHILIP MICHAEL
My God...he's topless!

LILY
That is a beautiful preacher.

PHILIP MICHAEL
A beautiful, bare-chested preacher.

Lily and Philip Michael wave down to Stokes. He waves back.

LILY
What should we do?

PHILIP MICHAEL
We should go down there.

LILY
We should go now.

Philip Michael and Lily exit towards the beach. Wennie takes a hit of the joint.

WENNIE
(exhaling)
That man-of-god might be trouble.

EXT. THE BEACH - NIGHT

Stokes, topless, is alone at the edge of the surf. He takes a deep inhale and begins a spiritual yoga routine. Lily and Philip Michael approach in silence. They stand and watch. After a bit...

STOKES
Care to join me?

LILY
Who? Us?

STOKES
Of course. There is room for everyone here.

Hickman approaches from the beach on his way back to the house.

PHILIP MICHAEL
Room for what Reverend?

STOKES
To feel what the ocean will bring.

PHILIP MICHAEL
I love what it brought.

HICKMAN
Hey y'all, just FYI, don't go up that way there. I got a hole dug you don't wanna fall into.

STOKES
 (to Hickman)
 There are holes all around us my
 friend. Each one dug specifically
 so that we will fall.

PHILIP MICHAEL
 Forgive me Father for I have
 fallen. Hard.

STOKES
 I cannot offer absolution. But I
 can offer liberation.

LILY
 Liberation from what?

STOKES
 From whatever dug your hole.

PHILIP MICHAEL
 Alabama dug mine deep.

LILY
 Divorce dug mine lonely.

STOKES
 (to Hickman)
 And what about you?

HICKMAN
 I'm not really a foursome type of
 guy.

LILY
 Oh, come on. Feel what the ocean
 will bring.

HICKMAN
 And how do we do that?

STOKES
 Breathing and moving. Like this.

Stokes begins another yoga/stretching sequence with smooth,
 deep breaths. The others watch.

STOKES (CONT'D)
 Breath and Motion. Body and Mind.
 Energy and Light.

Philip Michael and Lily enjoy watching Stokes move.

PHILIP MICHAEL

Oh...my...God.

LILY

This isn't helping my situation.

STOKES

That's because you are only watching. You must participate to climb out of your hole. Follow me.

Stokes begins another sequence. They watch for a moment and then mimic what he is doing.

STOKES (CONT'D)

Very good. Now...close your eyes...and keep going.

They all continue to do the yoga sequence as Stokes walks around and gently corrects a specific movement from each person, focusing intently on Lily...and her body.

STOKES (CONT'D)

As you move, focus on your breath. Without breath, there is no life. In and out. As you move, listen to the ocean. The power of her waves crashing against the soft, supple sand. As you move, feel the wind. Wind brings change, leading to a bright, new sky. Feel it on your face.

(he caresses Lily's arm)

On your glowing, glistening skin.

LILY

I feel it. I really do.

STOKES

All things connected. All things one. Now...open your eyes. How do you feel?

PHILIP MICHAEL

Aroused.

HICKMAN

Relaxed.

LILY

Safe.

STOKES

These feelings are what the ocean
can bring...but we must go get
them.

Stokes takes off his pants; wearing only his underwear.

STOKES (CONT'D)

The ocean awaits.

Stokes walks off into the ocean.

PHILIP MICHAEL

I really need to be cleansed.

Philip Michael strips to his underwear and walks into the
ocean.

HICKMAN

Fuck it.

Hickman strips to his underwear and walks into the ocean.

LILY

I love marijuana.

Lily strips to her bra and panties and follows them into the
ocean.

INT. SALENA AND HICKMAN'S BEACH HOUSE BEDROOM - NIGHT

Hickman enters quietly. The lights are off. The room is
illuminated only by the moonlight. Salena lays in bed. Her
back is to Hickman. He cuddles up behind her. Her eyes are
closed.

SALENA

Why do you smell like fish?

HICKMAN

Like what?

SALENA

Like dead fish. Go take a shower.

HICKMAN

But let me tell you something.

SALENA

You stink.

HICKMAN

That's what I want to tell you.

Salena opens her eyes and rolls over to face him.

SALENA

That you stink? Shower. Please.

HICKMAN

Sure. No problem.

Hickman gets out of bed. He goes to the bathroom. He turns to look at her, dejected. Her back is to him again. He shuts the door. Salena closes her eyes.

INT. LILY AND BRYSON'S BEACH HOUSE BEDROOM - NIGHT

Bryson is out cold. Lily stands at the window watching the faint silhouette of Stokes walking away. She looks back at Bryson, then back at Stokes. She slowly begins to caress her neck, then her chest, lost in the thought of Stokes.

INT. EDDIE AND ASHLEY'S HOTEL ROOM - NIGHT

Eddie and Ashley sleep in their plush, king-size bed. Ashley lays with his head on Eddie's chest as Eddie cradles him in his arms.

INT. WENNIE AND PHILIP MICHAEL'S BEACH HOUSE BEDROOM - NIGHT

Philip Michael and Wennie share a bed that's too small. Philip Michael sleeps soundly. Wennie tosses fighting for leg room and covers.

INT. BEACHSIDE LUXURY HOTEL SPA - MORNING

Eddie and Ashley enter the luxurious Beach Hotel Spa. It is very peaceful. Soothing music plays. They are greeted by a female RECEPTIONIST (LATE 20'S).

RECEPTIONIST

Good morning. May I offer you complimentary Champagne?

EDDIE

Of course.

The receptionist hands them two glasses.

RECEPTIONIST

Let's get you checked in. Last name?

EDDIE

(smiling at Ashley)
Smith-Pollack.

The Receptionist looks at the computer on the counter.

RECEPTIONIST
Eddie and Ashley?

ASHLEY
That's us.

RECEPTIONIST
You two have quite the experience
ahead. Give me one moment and we'll
get you all set.

The Receptionist walks away into the Spa.

ASHLEY
Should we really be doing this
right now?

EDDIE
What else should we be doing?

ASHLEY
Refereeing apparently.

EDDIE
No ma'am. We're not doing that
today. What did I tell you?

ASHLEY
You told me they were adults. Did
they seem like adults last night?

EDDIE
They are adults, but today is not
about them...is it?

ASHLEY
No.

EDDIE
Who is today for?

Ashley does not answer.

EDDIE (CONT'D)
Who is today for?

ASHLEY
You and me.

EDDIE
That's right. Don't let their shit,
ruin our day. Agreed?

ASHLEY
 (smiling at Eddie)
 Agreed.

The Receptionist re-enters.

RECEPTIONIST
 We are ready when you are. You're
 day of Zen awaits.

Eddie and Ashley follow the receptionist into the Spa.

INT. THE BEACH HOUSE - MORNING

Lily and Philip Michael are in the kitchen enjoying coffee. Salena, manic, is taking wedding decorations out of boxes, but can't find something. Hickman enters from his bedroom.

HICKMAN
 Sorry, I overslept.

SALENA
 (snapping)
 These things happen when taking
 one's clothes off at the beach.

HICKMAN
 I guess you heard. We were just
 having fun.

Salena stops searching.

SALENA
 Let's just get this day going, ok?
 Have you seen the ribbon for the
 floral arrangements?

HICKMAN
 We packed it in one of the boxes.

SALENA
 It's not here. Can you check the
 car?

HICKMAN
 Sure.

Hickman grabs his car keys and exits out the front door. Salena starts to look once again. Wennie enters from her bedroom.

WENNIE
 Good morning ladies. Time to get
 this show rollin'?

PHILIP MICHAEL
Coffee first. Then we get rollin'.

SALENA
(to Wennie)
Did you hear about this religious
dip in the ocean last night?

WENNIE
Someone wouldn't shut up about it.

Philip Michael and Lily get lost in the memory of the night.

PHILIP MICHAEL
Lord have mercy...I can still see
it now.

LILY
Breathtaking.

EXT. THE BEACH HOUSE - MOMENTS LATER

Hickman opens his SUV and looks for the ribbon. It's not there. He hears a faint rumble of thunder. He looks up to the clouds, grabs more supplies, and shuts the SUV.

INT. THE BEACH HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Lily and Wennie help Salena look for the ribbon. Philip Michael watches. Bryson enters from his bedroom. He is hungover. He doesn't look well.

BRYSON
My god it's bright out here.

LILY
How you feeling?

BRYSON
Like the world hates me. And it's
pounding my head.

PHILIP MICHAEL
High school flashback! I got just
what you need.

Philip Michael starts to make two Bloody Mary's.

BRYSON
(to Lily)
What time did you come to bed?

LILY

Not late. We went down to the beach.

BRYSON

How was it?

LILY

The beach?

Hickman enters carrying the supplies from SUV.

HICKMAN

It's not in the car. It's gotta be up here.

Salena is more frantic now.

SALENA

I laid it on the kitchen counter and asked you if you got it.

HICKMAN

I don't know what to tell you.

SALENA

I'll figure it out. Is the barbecue ready?

HICKMAN

I'm working on it. I could use a little help.

BRYSON

I'll help. My body needs to move.

PHILIP MICHAEL

Hang on boys. I'm coming too.

Philip Michael hands Bryson one of the Bloody Mary's and grabs a pair of sunglasses.

PHILIP MICHAEL (CONT'D)

This face needs some mornin' sun.

Hickman, Philip Michael, and Bryson exit out the patio door.

WENNIE

So how do we work around this ribbon?

Salena continues to look with Lily and Wennie's assistance.

SALENA
I need something to tie floral
arrangements together.

LILY
I'm sure there's something here
somewhere.

SALENA
It was this really pretty red
ribbon with an intricate white
lace. They were gonna love it.

LILY
Which box did you think it was in?

WENNIE
How about this?

Wennie pulls out the trash bags from the kitchen cabinet and
the twist ties inside the package.

WENNIE (CONT'D)
It may not be pretty, but it can
tie stuff together.

SALENA
(satisfied)
That could work. Thank you.

LILY
See there. Crisis averted.

INT. BEACHSIDE LUXURY HOTEL SPA - MORNING

In a serene environment, Ashley and Eddie lay face-down on
massage tables. Their bodies are oiled and being rubbed by
two, male MASSAGE THERAPISTS. Peaceful music plays. Eddie
moans.

ASHLEY
Something doesn't feel right.

MASSAGE THERAPIST 1
I'm so sorry. Did I push too hard?

EDDIE
He likes it hard.

ASHLEY
Ha ha! Real funny.

MASSAGE THERAPIST 1
Should I go softer?

ASHLEY
 (to Massage Therapist)
 It's not you.

EDDIE
 Relax!

ASHLEY
 I can feel it. Something's not
 right.

MASSAGE THERAPIST 1
 Should I continue?

EDDIE
 (to Massage Therapist)
 Yes. You should continue. Don't
 listen to him.

The Massage Therapist continues to work on Ashley, softly.

ASHLEY
 (quietly)
 I don't know what it is, but
 something's not right.

EXT. THE BEACH PATHWAY - MORNING

Hickman, Bryson, and Philip Michael walk down the beach
 pathway. Hickman carries supplies to make a fire. Bryson and
 Philip Michael carry cocktails.

HICKMAN
 We'll start the fire, then it's
 "set it and forget it".

PHILIP MICHAEL
 And how do we start this fire?

HICKMAN
 We have to build it.

PHILIP MICHAEL
 That's gonna require more alcohol.

BRYSON
 I can't handle any more alcohol.

PHILIP MICHAEL
 (to Bryson)
 You have to fight through that
 shit! Don't be weak now.

They reach the barbecue pit Hickman dug last night.

HICKMAN
Here we are.

Hickman drops the supplies. Bryson downs his Bloody Mary.

BRYSON
Ok. One more.

PHILIP MICHAEL
Absolutely. One more.

Philip Michael downs his Bloody Mary and shakes his empty glass at Hickman.

HICKMAN
What? Me?

Bryson shakes his empty glass at Hickman. Hickman takes a calming breath and heads back towards the Beach House with the empty glasses.

INT. THE BEACH HOUSE - MOMENTS LATER

Salena, Lily, and Wennie are in the Beach House. They are making floral arrangements.

LILY
(to Salena)
Who's gonna be in charge of these things when it's your turn to get married?

SALENA
Do you know something I don't?

LILY
Don't tell me you haven't thought about what you want your wedding to look like. I know you have.

WENNIE
(to Salena)
Umm...mine doesn't look quite right. It's a little wonky.

Wennie holds up a disfigured floral arrangement. Salena playfully laughs at the attempt.

SALENA
Good try. But could use a little work.

WENNIE
 Story of my life.

SALENA
 Just go slower. Like this.

Salena takes Wennie's hands and starts to build a new arrangement with her; hand-in-hand.

EXT. THE BEACH HOUSE - MOMENTS LATER

Hickman approaches his SUV, empty glasses in-hand, opens the back and looks for something. He can't find it. Growing more concerned, he shuts the SUV. A second faint rumble of thunder is heard.

INT. THE BEACH HOUSE - MOMENTS LATER

Salena, Wennie, and Lily continue making the floral arrangements. Salena is still helping Wennie.

SALENA
 And there you go...a beautiful
 wedding aisle floral thingy.

Salena finishes making the arrangement in Wennie's hands. They share a momentary gaze. Wennie smiles.

WENNIE
 You made mine pretty.

Salena smiles.

SALENA
 We made it pretty.

Hickman enters through the patio door, still carrying the empty glasses. The moment is over.

HICKMAN
 Don't freak out...but I can't find
 the burlap wraps...and it might
 rain.

SALENA
 Are you kidding me?!

Salena runs to look out the patio. Hickman begins to look through boxes; Salena notices.

SALENA
 They're not up here. They're
 probably on the back patio next to
 the grill.

HICKMAN
Where?

SALENA
(upset)
At home!

WENNIE
Tin foil!

Wennie goes to the kitchen and proudly holds up tin foil.

WENNIE (CONT'D)
Will this work?

HICKMAN
(relieved)
It will. Thank you.

SALENA
(snapping at Hickman)
Did you forget anything else?!

HICKMAN
Nope.

Hickman exits out to patio door. There is a knock on the front door.

LILY
I'll get it.

Lily goes to open the door. It's Stokes.

STOKES
Good morning.

Lily is lost in the sight of Stokes before her.

LILY
Yes. It is.

They stare silently at each other for a moment.

SALENA
You're a bit early aren't you?

Salena picks up her tablet.

LILY
What brings you by?

STOKES
I come bearing gifts for the
grooms.

Hickman enters from the patio with the tin foil and empty
glasses.

HICKMAN
Bloody Mary's. I forgot Bloody
Mary's.

Hickman hurriedly begins to make Bloody Mary's.

SALENA
Are you drinking or getting the
barbecue ready?

HICKMAN
(frustrated)
I'm trying to do both! Why do you
always have to make everything so
difficult?!

Salena shoots Hickman a look. He does not care. He exits
with the poorly made Bloody Mary's and tin foil. Salena
returns to work on the floral arrangements.

LILY
Gifts for the blessed occasion?

Stokes holds up two necklaces made with sea shells.

STOKES
Offered by the ocean.

LILY
(taking the necklaces)
Beautiful.

Lily inspects the necklaces. Stokes takes her hands into
his.

STOKES
It's easy to experience beauty when
we open our eyes.

LILY
(staring into Stokes'
eyes)
Yes. It is.

Philip Michael enters from the patio with a Bloody Mary and
out of breath.

PHILIP MICHAEL
I heard we had a guest. Hello
Father.

SALENA
Were these shells part of your
little orgy in the ocean last
night?

STOKES
They were.

PHILIP MICHAEL
Will we be doing that again? We
should definitely do that again.

STOKES
The day is full of unforeseen
opportunities.

LILY
Opportunities for what?

STOKES
For whatever we truly need.

Bryson enters through patio with his Bloody Mary. Salena
begins to look through boxes once more.

BRYSON
Well, lookie here...if it isn't
Beach Bum Buddha back in our midst.

STOKES
Good day sir. How are you this
morning?

BRYSON
I'm doin' fine Ghandi. But I need a
better drink.

LILY
I'll get it.

Bryson holds his glass to Philip Michael.

BRYSON
Nope. I like the way Philly Mike
pours.

Philip Michael is amused.

PHILIP MICHAEL
Ok. One more on the way big man.

Philip Michael goes to make a Bloody Mary.

SALENA
(loudly)
Nobody move! Has anyone seen two
antique candelabra's?

WENNIE
Two what?

SALENA
Candlestick holders. They belonged
to Ashley's grandma.

Salena starts to frantically search for the candlestick
holders.

SALENA (CONT'D)
God damn it!

Salena exits out the front door. Philip Michael hands Bryson
another Bloody Mary.

BRYSON
(to Philip Michael)
My boy! Now here's a man with real
answers.

Bryson exits out the patio door.

PHILIP MICHAEL
(quietly to Wennie)
Did you hear what he called me? His
boy?! You know what that means.

WENNIE
Please don't.

PHILIP MICHAEL
It's the great white whale honey.

WENNIE
You got no shot with that
homophobe. I could hook up with
both these straight girls before
you got him.

PHILIP MICHAEL
Is that a bet?

WENNIE
You really think you got what it
takes?

PHILIP MICHAEL

It is always more fun to flip a
straight boy, than fuck a gay one.

Philip Michael exits out the patio. A manic Salena enters
quickly through the patio door.

SALENA

Well...they're not in the car!

Salena continues to hurriedly look through boxes.

SALENA (CONT'D)

The worst possible thing to forget!

LILY

It'll be fine. Stop freaking out!

SALENA

(losing it)

No, it won't be fine!!! The
rehearsal dinner was a disaster.
We've forgotten everything. Your
drunken homophobe puked on me. And
everyone got naked with the
Preacher last night!

STOKES

I should go.

Stokes exits. Lily is upset.

LILY

We didn't get naked!

SALENA

God damn it, Lily! For once in your
fucking life, could you please be
helpful! Please!

LILY

Calm down MOM!!!

Salena slaps Lily. Lily is stunned.

LILY (CONT'D)

(quietly, hurt)

She liked to hit me too.

Salena realizes the gravity of what she has done.

SALENA

I'm so sorry.

LILY
Maybe you should take a time out.

Lily puts on her sunglasses and exits out the patio.

SALENA
(to Wennie)
Excuse me.

Salena exits to her bedroom.

INT. BEACH RESORT SPA - LATER

Eddie and Ashley are in mani/pedi chairs wearing face masks with cucumbers are on their eyes. Their hands and feet are being gently manicured.

ASHLEY
Do you not feel that?

EDDIE
I do. I feel it all, and it feels great!

ASHLEY
We need to get over there ASAP.

EDDIE
What are you talking about? Why?

ASHLEY
Because they can't be left alone. They're going to fuck everything up!

EDDIE
Seriously? They're going to fuck everything up? You are fucking everything up!

ASHLEY
Me?!

EDDIE
Yes you! All morning, all you have been doing, is bitching about how everyone else is going to fuck this day up. The only one fucking this day up right now, is you. Chill the fuck out!

The room goes quiet. Ashley, stunned, contemplates his next move.

ASHLEY

I'm going.

Ashley exits the mani/pedi room. The attendants look at Eddie.

EDDIE

Beware of the gay bridezilla.

He exits following Ashley.

EXT. THE BEACH - LATER

Hickman is loading the barbecue pit. He is sweaty, dirty. Bryson and Philip Michael watch and drink.

Hickman's phone gets a text. He looks at it and becomes increasingly angry. He slams down a piece of wood, smashing his finger. It HURTS!

HICKMAN

(screaming)

FUCK!!!

Hickman exits towards the Beach House. Bryson and Philip Michael drink. Another, closer, rumble of thunder. Bryson and Philip Michael look up. They drink.

INT. THE BEACH HOUSE - MOMENTS LATER

Wennie is in the kitchen making a sandwich. Salena enters from her bedroom. She starts to look for the candlesticks.

WENNIE

(calmly)

Here. Stop for a second. Eat.

Wennie offers Salena the sandwich. She is touched.

SALENA

Thank you.

WENNIE

You're welcome.

Salena takes a moment. She is embarrassed by what she did to Lily.

SALENA

I don't like being compared to that woman. I'm sorry you saw that.

WENNIE

Family has baggage. Some big. Some small. But always baggage.

SALENA

I'm so fucking tired. Thank you for being so kind.

WENNIE

Just being helpful.

SALENA

It's working.

WENNIE

Good. A beautiful woman like you deserves a little assistance.

Salena is taken back by the compliment.

SALENA

Beautiful?

WENNIE

Absolutely.

SALENA

Maybe you should tell that to my boyfriend.

WENNIE

If he can't see it...he's a fool.

SALENA

You think so?

Wennie moves closer to Salena.

WENNIE

I do. I see it very, very clearly.

Wennie and Salena share another moment. As Salena starts to move closer to Wennie, the front door swings open. Ashley and Eddie hold their suits and grooming bags.

ASHLEY

Who's ready for a wedding?!!!

Hickman enters from the patio with the candlesticks. His injured, bleeding hand tucked at his side. He slams the candlesticks down in front of Salena.

HICKMAN

Now get off my ass!!!

Thunder cracks. Rain pours.

EXT. THE BEACH - DAY - MONTAGE

The rain continues.

Hickman, hand injured, fights to cover the barbecue pit to keep it dry.

Hickman, hand injured, carries half of the wedding archway down to the beach. He stumbles. Gets up. Trudges on.

Hickman, hand injured, sets up the chairs. The wind blows them over.

HICKMAN
 (yelling to the sky)
 A little fucking help would be
 nice!!!

INT. SALENA AND HICKMAN'S BEACH HOUSE BEDROOM - DAY

Salena sits on the bed looking out the window at the rain. Ashley unpacks his bag. Salena's silence is deafening.

ASHLEY
 What is wrong with you?!

Salena stays silent. Ashley is annoyed.

ASHLEY (CONT'D)
 Yo! Lady!

Salena continues to stare out the window.

SALENA
 Every part of my life...is
 completely fucked up. And I don't
 know what happened?

Ashley begins to smolder.

ASHLEY
 Listen to me, and listen to me now.
 Any other day, at any other time, I
 would love to break down all the
 missteps of your life, but right
 now, on this day, at this house, by
 this beach, it is not about you.
 Today, is about me...and him.

Salena stays silent.

ASHLEY (CONT'D)
 Seriously? Silence? You promised me
 a fucking wedding!

Salena stares out the window.

SALENA
 There is nothing left I can do.

Ashley fumes.

ASHLEY
 If there is nothing left for you to
 do...maybe it's time I make a
 choice.

He takes his phone and exits.

EXT. STOKES' BEACHSIDE APARTMENT - DAY

It rains. An Uber pulls up in front of Stokes' beachside apartment. Ashley exits covering his hair. He finds Stokes' door and knocks. Stokes answers.

STOKES
 (confused)
 Ashley?

ASHLEY
 May I come in?

INT. STOKES' BEACHSIDE APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

In a minimalistic interior design, a surf board, fishing pole, skateboard, and a fishing bag sit by the door. A futon, a papasan chair, and an elaborate glass bong are the centerpieces. There is a fresh remnant of weed in the air.

STOKES
 How did you find me?

ASHLEY
 I Google'd you. Your address is on
 your Yelp page.

STOKES
 Oh. Ok. I should fix that.

He picks up his phone to fix his Yelp page. He looks confused again.

STOKES (CONT'D)
 (to Ashley)
 How do I do that?

ASHLEY
 (impatient)
 That's really not important right now.

STOKES
 Oh. Ok. So what can I do for you on your most blessed day?

ASHLEY
 I need...party favors.

STOKES
 Party favors?

ASHLEY
 To chill these motherfuckers out. Not hurt them...just chill their asses out.

Stokes smiles.

STOKES
 I might have something.

He retrieves a wooden box. He opens it and takes out a medicine dropper filled with a clear liquid. He presents it to Ashley.

STOKES
 One drop for chill. Three for fun. Five to fly.

INT. THE BEACH HOUSE - LATER

The Beach House is almost ready for the wedding. Salena, pushing through, is putting on the final touches. A freshly poured glass of Champagne sits by each corresponding name card at the table.

Ashley enters, wet.

SALENA
 Where did you go? You're soaked.

ASHLEY
 I forgot something at the hotel.

SALENA
 Well you better hurry up. This day is about you.

Salena enters her bedroom to finish getting ready.

ASHLEY
 (quietly)
 I'm way ahead of you.

He takes the medicine dropper from his pocket and puts drops into the glass for Salena, Lily, Wennie, Philip Michael, and Hickman. When he gets to Bryson's glass; he puts in five.

ASHLEY
 Time to fly homophobe.

EXT. THE BEACH HOUSE PATIO - EVENING

A beautiful, post rain, evening sunset. Dressed for the wedding, Salena stares out at the ocean drinking a glass of Champagne. Wennie enters unseen, also dressed for the wedding, and drinking Champagne. She mimics taking a photo of Salena.

WENNIE
 Wow. Now that's a picture to remember.

SALENA
 It is pretty out here, isn't it?

WENNIE
 It sure is.

Salena turns to Wennie.

SALENA
 Your boy ready?

WENNIE
 He is. Yours?

SALENA
 He's a little stressed. But that's him.

Salena turns back to the ocean.

SALENA (CONT'D)
 Why do people get married?

Wennie joins her to take in the view.

WENNIE
 I guess...because they love each other. Then everyone else tells them they're supposed too.

SALENA
That certainly didn't work for my
parents.

WENNIE
Why not?

SALENA
Our mother. Dad gave her so many
chances, but she was determined,
absolutely fucking determined, to
drink herself sick and screw around
on him every chance she got.

Wennie is a bit stunned.

WENNIE
Wow. I had no idea.

After a beat.

WENNIE (CONT'D)
Our daddy liked to say momma was
his best friend...and she had a
great ass.

Salena laughs.

SALENA
Maybe that's the key. A friend with
a great ass.

WENNIE
A best friend...with a great ass.
Kept our parents together, till the
day they passed.

SALENA
A true love story.

WENNIE
The only one I've ever known. Until
today.

They toast their champagne and drink.

SALENA
Should we check on the boys?

WENNIE
Yeah, I guess.

SALENA
Ok.

WENNIE

You really do look beautiful.

SALENA

Thank you.

Salena starts to exit. Then turns back to Wennie.

SALENA (CONT'D)

You got a great ass.

Wennie smiles. Salena exits into the house.

EXT. THE BEACH - EVENING

It's a gorgeous evening. An archway with the candlesticks. An aisle decorated with the floral arrangements. Folding chairs on the side of the aisle. Music plays from a bluetooth speaker.

Stokes stands under the archway, wearing linen pants and no shirt; plus an oil rig hard hat with a seabird feather in it.

Hickman, Lily, Bryson, and Philip Michael sit in the chairs with Champagne. Hickman's hand is freshly bandaged. Philip Michael, now in elegant drag, looks noticeably similar to Lily. Bryson, sitting between them, looks at Lily, then looks at Philip Michael.

PHILIP MICHAEL

Buckle-up sailor. It's about to get gay-tastic.

They drink Champagne.

Wennie and Eddie enter from the pathway and walk down the aisle. At the archway, Wennie kisses Eddie and stands next to him.

Salena and Ashley enter from the pathway and walk down the aisle. At the archway, Salena kisses Ashley and stands next to him.

Eddie and Ashley are wearing the necklaces made by Stokes. The groom's smile into each other's eyes. Hickman stops the music.

STOKES

Welcome everyone. On this beautiful day that we have been given, we stand here surrounded by friends and family to honor and celebrate Eddie Pollack and Ashley Smith.

PHILIP MICHAEL

Hear! Hear!

STOKES

Understanding that it is your love for one another that has created this stop along the railway of time, I thank you for allowing me to share in this glorious moment.

Wennie gives a smile and wink to Salena. Salena smiles back.

ASHLEY

Thank you for our beautiful necklaces.

STOKES

You are very welcome. The currents have been kind to us. They brought this too.

Stokes takes off the hard hat and gives it to Ashley. Not knowing what to do, Ashley hands the hard hat to Salena. She motions for Hickman to take it, he does, and returns to his seat.

STOKES

As your two hearts are ready to become one, we openly acknowledge love in its most vulnerable and sacred form.

In this bond, as you experience joy and sorrow, comfort and fear, peace and anxiety, it is your unwavering commitment to one another that will always guide you home.

LILY

Beautiful.

Stokes smiles at Lily. She smiles back.

STOKES

I believe you both have a few words prepared?

Eddie and Ashley join hands and look into each other's eyes.

STOKES

Ashley?

Ashley takes a moment to breathe.

ASHLEY

I'm sorry. I never thought I would start my wedding vows with the words, "I'm sorry", but I have a feeling you might be hearing me say that a lot over the years, and I hope you're ready for that.

Before, I met you, I had no idea what true love really could be. I thought I knew what it was supposed to be...I thought I knew what it looked like... but I was so wrong.

In you, I have found a man who makes me feel...safe. No matter how crazy I may be, or how far my anxiety may go, you are still here, standing right beside me.

As sure as sun rises on this beach, know that I will always love you, and I am so excited to spend the rest of my life standing right beside you.

Eddie wipes a tear away and gathers himself.

EDDIE

When I first saw you, you honestly took my breath away. While I had spent so much of my life trying to deny who I actually was, your infectious passion for life literally stopped me in my tracks.

WENNIE

Infectious?

EDDIE

In you, I found truth. In you, I found honesty. And with you, life finally feels amazing.

You are my best friend, my lover, and I am the luckiest man in the world because today...I get to marry you.

Everyone is becoming emotional, including Bryson.

STOKES

May we have the rings?

Wennie and Salena hand the rings to Stokes. Eddie places a ring on Ashley's finger. Ashley places a ring on Eddie's finger. Stokes puts his hands on Eddie and Ashley's shoulders, rubbing gently.

STOKES

Having cemented your marriage in
the fertile sand beneath our toes,
it is my pleasure to anoint you
through the Universal Church of
Life and Love, husband and husband!
You may now kiss the groom!

Eddie and Ashley kiss. Everyone applauds. Hickman starts the music again.

Eddie and Ashley take hands and walk up the aisle exiting back to the house. Wennie extends her arm to Salena.

WENNIE

Going my way?

SALENA

I am.

Salena takes her arm. They walk up the aisle exiting back to the house. Bryson waves his hands in front of his face.

BRYSON

(to Philip Michael)

Can you see my hands?

Philip Michael is a bit mystified by Bryson's moving hands.

BRYSON (CONT'D)

They're very colorful.

Lily shuffles her feet in the sand.

LILY

My feet feel stuck.

Hickman, stuck in a stare, realizes something is amiss.

HICKMAN

Oh shit.

INT. THE BEACH HOUSE - LATER

Everyone is seated at the table digging in to a feast. The Champagne continues to flow. They feel good. Wennie taps her Champagne glass and stands.

WENNIE

A toast!

(to Eddie)

First...to my big brother. You have always been there for me, whenever I needed you, and today, it makes me very proud to be here for you.

(to Ashley)

Next...to his new bride. We may not always see eye-to-eye, but thank you for loving this crazy, old man. When I see you look at him, it reminds me of the way momma used to look at daddy. And that makes me very happy.

(to Salena)

And lastly...to this lady right here. You did a fantastic job organizing this rag-tag band of hooligans into a semi-functional wedding party. Thank you for having such a giving spirit.

ASHLEY

Salud!

They all drink and continue to eat.

HICKMAN

As long as we're doing speeches...I'd like to say something.

(to Salena)

The last time we were around a dinner table, I didn't treat you very well. I should have stood up for us and that was wrong. I'm sorry.

BRYSON

Hell ya! He gets it.

EDDIE

Look what happens when the gays get married.

ASHLEY

The whole world goes crazy with love.

Bryson raises his glass to Eddie and Ashley.

BRYSON

Thank you for letting me come to
your wedding.

EDDIE

Thank you for coming to our
wedding.

BRYSON

I'm not sure if you noticed, but I
wasn't too sure about all this to
begin with.

SALENA

(sarcastically)

You weren't?

ASHLEY

You having a good time now?

BRYSON

I am. Everything is as it should
be.

ASHLEY

Yes it is.

Ashley kisses Eddie.

STOKES

A question for the table!

ASHLEY

Lay it on us Pastor.

STOKES

If you wanted to do something
completely crazy right now...what
would it be? Something you have
always wanted to do, but were
afraid of what others might say.

BRYSON

(quickly)

Pierce my nipples!!!

EVERYONE

What?!

BRYSON

I see these guys at the gym, in the
locker room, with these
cool...pierced...nipples.

PHILIP MICHAEL
You would look sexy.

STOKES
Let's do it!

BRYSON
Now?

HICKMAN
You decide your right moments.
Don't you soldier?

Bryson contemplates the challenge.

BRYSON
How would we do it?

PHILIP MICHAEL
I can do it.

WENNIE
He was a cosmetologist.

PHILIP MICHAEL
Cosmetology student.

BRYSON
Perfect!

SALENA
I have a needle.

LILY
I have hoop earrings.

BRYSON
The universe wants me to pierce my
nipples...and it wants them pierced
NOW!

Lily exits to her bedroom. Salena exits to her bedroom.

WENNIE
I'm gonna need more booze.

Wennie goes to kitchen.

STOKES
Wait!

Stokes goes to get the oil rig hard hat.

STOKES (CONT'D)
You'll need protection.

Stokes gives the hard hat to Bryson who puts it on.

ASHLEY
Well this is turning out quite
fabulous!

EXT. THE BEACH - MOMENTS LATER

The gang arrives at the wedding set-up on the beach. They carry more Champagne. It is dark now. The moonlight illuminates the wedding arch. The waves crash.

STOKES
To the piercing of the nipples!

LILY
Let's tweak those nips!

EDDIE
What exactly is happening here?
Another ceremony?

STOKES
Not a ceremony. An awakening.

WENNIE
What vibes we looking for with this
body manipulation?

STOKES
(thinking)
Something...funky.

WENNIE
I got just what you need Holy Man.

Wennie plays funky music on the bluetooth speaker. She, Salena, Eddie, and Ashley take a seat in the chairs. Hickman is without a seat. Lily dances to the music, in her own world.

STOKES
Friends, family, and newlyweds...we
are gathered once again on this
beautiful night for the awakening
of brother Bryson as he passes into
the world of desire and action.

Philip Michael and Bryson escort each other down the aisle. They take their place under the wedding arch with Stokes.

EDDIE
 (to Ashley)
 Is the 2nd act of this show getting weird?

STOKES
 (to Bryson)
 Is there anything you might like to say?

BRYSON
 (to Philip Michael)
 My nipples are yours.

Bryson pops off his shirt and kneels facing Philip Michael. Philip Michael gasps.

WENNIE
 Hold on. Before we stick this ceremonial pig, a drink to numb the pain.

Wennie hands Stokes a bottle of Champagne. Stokes takes a big drink.

WENNIE
 Not you Shaman. Him.

STOKES
 Oh yes, of course. A drink for pain?

Stokes hands the bottle to Bryson. He takes a drink and hands it back to Stokes.

SALENA
 You might want to hit those nips too. Cleanse those up a bit.

Bryson sticks out his chest and Stokes pours Champagne on each nipple.

EDDIE
 (to Ashley)
 This is hot!

ASHLEY
 (to Eddie)
 Post-wedding, soft porn.

STOKES
 The body is cleansed. Are you ready?

BRYSON

My eyes are open. I am ready.

STOKES

A life lived blind...is a life
lived inside the walls of
isolation. Brother Bryson has
chosen to push down those walls and
break on through to the other side.

(to Salena)

Do we have the needle?

Salena hands the needle to Stokes.

SALENA

Poke this fucker.

STOKES

(to Lily)

Do we have the rings?

Lily continues to dance, lost.

STOKES (CONT'D)

The rings?

Lily smiles at Stokes, but continues dancing. Ashley claps
his hands.

ASHLEY

Lily?! The earrings?

Lily breaks out of her daze.

LILY

Sorry. I have the rings.

Lily hands the earrings to Stokes.

STOKES

Philip Michael. It is time.

Stokes hands the needle and earrings to Philip Michael.

PHILIP MICHAEL

I haven't done this in a really
long time.

(to Bryson)

Are you sure?

Bryson takes hold of Philip Michael's hand.

BRYSON

I...trust...you.

PHILIP MICHAEL
Ok. You're gonna feel a prick, then
something hard sliding through.

ASHLEY
Déjà vu!

BRYSON
(looking up at Philip
Michael)
I am ready.

Philip Michael starts to push the needle through the first
nipple. Bryson flexes his arms in pain and lets out a groan.

HICKMAN
Awesome!

Bryson tightens his body and groans louder. Philip Michael
finishes.

PHILIP MICHAEL
Done! Are you ok?

BRYSON
Never better! One more. Give it to
me big boy.

Philip Michael starts to pierce the second nipple.

PHILIP MICHAEL
My hands are shaking.

Bryson relaxes his body and extends his arms as if on a
cross, letting out a deep, lustful groan. The gang watches
intently. Philip Michael finishes.

PHILIP MICHAEL (CONT'D)
That's it! I did it!

Everyone cheers.

STOKES
Ladies and gentlemen...may I
present for the first time, Brother
Bryson "Fireball" Muskogee!!!

Bryson stands to show off his bleeding, pierced nipples.

STOKES
How do you feel?

BRYSON
 (super pumped)
 SEMPER FI MOTHERFUCKERS!

Bryson takes off all his clothes and walks naked into the ocean. Everyone watches in astonishment. After a beat...

ASHLEY
 (to Salena)
 Kudos. I never thought you'd book a dick show too.

EDDIE
 "The Inauguration of the Virgin".

Bryson yells from the ocean.

BRYSON
 It burns so good!!!

WENNIE
 All right. That's enough dick for me. Back to the house.

HICKMAN
 (abruptly)
 Hold on a second!

Everyone looks at Hickman.

HICKMAN
 Bryson was right. We choose the right moments in our lives. I, choose my right moments.

STOKES
 You wanna pierce your nipples too?

HICKMAN
 No. It's not that. It's...I've been...I've been afraid.

SALENA
 Afraid of what?

HICKMAN
 Afraid that I would fuck up. That I wouldn't be good enough. Fear runs my life. I don't want to be afraid anymore.

SALENA
 Ok?

HICKMAN
 (focused on Salena)
 I do want to be with you. I should
 have told you this year's ago...but
 I was afraid. It's time I make my
 moment.

He pulls out the engagement ring and drops to a knee.

HICKMAN (CONT'D)
 Salena. Will you marry me?

Everyone is shocked.

ASHLEY
 Holy shit!

LILY
 I told you this would happen!

SALENA
 (to Hickman)
 What are you doing?

HICKMAN
 This is our moment. Sure, the
 weekend may have gotten off to a
 rocky start, but right now,
 everything is telling me it's
 right. Salena, will you marry me?

Everyone is silent. Salena is silent. Everyone stares at
 her. Finally...

SALENA
 Ok.

The crowd cheers, except for Wennie. Hickman rises and
 kisses Salena. Wennie exits to the house. Bryson, naked,
 runs out of the ocean and picks up Hickman.

BRYSON
 It's a Galveston miracle!!!

EXT. THE BEACH - NIGHT

Philip Michael, Bryson, Lily, and Stokes are sitting in a
 circle. They gently rub each others backs. The men are
 shirtless. Bryson has his shorts back on. Philip Michael,
 still in drag, and Lily, both wear bathing suit tops and
 shorts. Weed circulates. Music plays on the bluetooth
 speaker.

STOKES

Take it ALL in. Let the breeze kiss
you where it hurts.

LILY

This feels fantastic.

BRYSON

I can feel the whole world
breathing.

PHILIP MICHAEL

Let it breathe sweetie. Let it
breathe hard.

BRYSON

Little crabs are crawling around
me.

PHILIP MICHAEL

They must feel safe with you.

BRYSON

Yes. They are safe with me. Why
does this feel so amazing?

STOKES

You're not fighting sensation.
You're only feeling.

BRYSON

Feeling what?

PHILIP MICHAEL

You. Just you.

LILY

I wanna dance.

Lily breaks the circle and gets up to dance. The group
watches in enjoyment.

LILY (CONT'D)

Dance with me!

Lily pulls Stokes up to dance. Bryson lays his head in
Philip Micheal's lap as they watch in delight. They now have
the joint. Eddie and Hickman approach carrying half of the
wedding set-up.

HICKMAN

Sweet Jesus. They're dancing.

EDDIE
Hey Lily!

Lily continues to dance with Stokes.

EDDIE (CONT'D)
Lily? Lily!

She sees Eddie.

LILY
Hey Eddie! Come dance with me.

EDDIE
Stay out of the water.

LILY
I'm already in the water.

EDDIE
You're on the beach honey.

LILY
I am?

She looks around thinking she was in the water.

EDDIE
Seriously. Out of the water. All of
you.

There is silence.

HICKMAN
(to Eddie)
I think they heard us.

Eddie and Hickman exit back towards the house.

BRYSON
We should go in the water.

EXT. THE BEACH HOUSE PATIO - MOMENTS LATER

Salena and Ashley sit silent. Staring at the night.
Finally...

ASHLEY
All right. Give it to me. What's
wrong?

SALENA
What do you mean?

ASHLEY

Something's up. I can feel it from your bowels. It was on your face earlier and it's on your face now. I'm ready to listen. What's going on?

Salena takes a moment to gather her thoughts. After a beat...

SALENA

I feel like my brain is all mixed up.

ASHLEY

Why? This is exactly what you wanted. This is what you've worked for.

SALENA

But why did it have to be...work? Why was it such an uphill battle?

ASHLEY

Because you're straight. That's the curse.

SALENA

It's as if I'm wearing shoes that don't fit anymore.

ASHLEY

Do you not want to marry Hickman?

SALENA

I don't know.

ASHLEY

What happened?

SALENA

Nothing happened.

ASHLEY

Look at me.

Ashley pulls Salena close to him. He stares into her eyes. Her eyes fill with tears.

ASHLEY (CONT'D)

In my darkest times...when I had no one...I had you.

(MORE)

ASHLEY (CONT'D)

When my father kicked me out...when my mom chose him over me...I had no one...but you. No matter what is going on inside your head right now, no matter what you may be going through, you have me. Get married, don't get married, you will always have me.

SALENA

I love you.

ASHLEY

I love you too.

They hug.

EXT. THE BEACH - MOMENTS LATER

Lily and Stokes continue to dance. Bryson and Philip Michael lie looking at the stars. Music plays. They smoke a joint.

BRYSON

How far do you think it goes?

PHILIP MICHAEL

(in awe)

I don't think it ever ends.

BRYSON

It makes me feel small.

PHILIP MICHAEL

It makes me feel powerful.

Bryson rolls over to face Philip Michael.

BRYSON

Thank you for taking care of me this weekend. I actually feel close to you.

PHILIP MICHAEL

A little secret...you might just be...me.

BRYSON

What does that mean?

Philip Michael rolls over to face Bryson.

PHILIP MICHAEL
I don't think you're a homophobe.

BRYSON
Thank you.

PHILIP MICHAEL
I think you're a homo.

BRYSON
What?

PHILIP MICHAEL
Ex-Marine. Gym Shower. Nipple
Rings.

BRYSON
I like how they look.

PHILIP MICHAEL
Junior Year. Monroeville, Alabama.
Shane Skinner's buddy caught me
checking Shane out in the gym
shower. That afternoon, three of
them jumped me walking home. They
punched me. They kicked me. They
yelled "faggot" and "queer". They
spit on me. They told me they would
cut my dick off. But then Shane
showed up. And he made 'em stop. As
they walked away, he just stared
down at me. I was bleeding. I
couldn't breathe. Then without
saying a word, he walked away. For
years I wondered why he made them
stop.

BRYSON
Did you ever figure it out?

PHILIP MICHAEL
I did. During his deployment
layover in Miami.

BRYSON
A Marine?

PHILIP MICHAEL
You're Shane Skinner.

Bryson takes in a deep breath.

BRYSON

I can't be gay. You don't understand where I come from. It's not possible.

PHILIP MICHAEL

My father was a Southern Baptist preacher.

BRYSON

Does he know? That you're gay?

PHILIP MICHAEL

And he loves me even more. He's one of the good one's. How do you think I turned out so fabulous?

BRYSON

I can't be gay. It's not possible.

PHILIP MICHAEL

Why?

BRYSON

My father. My brothers.
(he pauses)
My mom.

Powerful realizations slap Bryson in the face. Stokes drops down in the sand beside them. Lily follows.

STOKES

What are you boys talking about?

Philip Michael rolls back over to look up at the stars.

PHILIP MICHAEL

Life. Acceptance. Happiness.

Stokes takes a hit of the joint.

STOKES

Buddha says there are three obstacles to true happiness. Ignorance, lust, and hatred.

He hands the joint to Bryson. Bryson hits it.

BRYSON

Why do people hate?

He passes the joint to Lily. She hits it.

STOKES

They often hate outwardly because they hate inward as well.

LILY

I don't hate anyone. Well...unless you ask my mother.

She passes the joint to Philip Michael and it begins to circle.

BRYSON

What does she say?

LILY

She likes to say I must hate myself.

STOKES

Why?

LILY

The men I date. Couldn't stand my ex-husband. Called him a jackass every chance she got. Funny thing is...men treat me...the way she treats men.

(mimicking her mother)

"Why do you hate yourself so much?".

STOKES

Do you hate yourself?

Lily is silent. The joint is back with her. She takes a long hit.

LILY

I must....I let him hit me too.

BRYSON

What?! Why?

She is once again silent for a moment.

LILY

I didn't want to be alone. I don't like being alone.

Lily stands to yell at the ocean.

LILY (CONT'D)

I don't want to be alone!!!

Bryson extends his hand to Lily.

BRYSON
You're not alone.

Stokes extends his hand to Lily.

STOKES
Not tonight.

Lily takes both their hands as Stokes and Bryson take her in their arms. Philip Michael joins the group in holding Lily. Eddie and Hickman approach with the last of wedding set-up. Ashley approaches from the house.

ASHLEY
(to Eddie and Hickman)
What am I looking at?

EDDIE
I'm not sure.

ASHLEY
Our driver is close.

EDDIE
Good. I think it's time to leave.

ASHLEY
This is how finger-fucks get started.

EXT. THE BEACH HOUSE PATIO - MOMENTS LATER

Salena sits alone. Wennie enters from the house.

WENNIE
Everyone at the beach?

SALENA
They are.

WENNIE
I guess I never told you
"congratulations" on the
engagement.

SALENA
Thanks. It was a surprise.

WENNIE
Is it just me or has this weekend
been completely...unexpected.

SALENA
Definitely. Unexpected.

WENNIE
Definitely.

They are silent for a beat.

SALENA
There's been some nice surprises
too. Don't you think?

WENNIE
I do. I really do.

SALENA
Me too.

WENNIE
When he asked you to marry
him...why did you hesitate?

SALENA
Did I?

WENNIE
You did.

Salena thinks for a moment.

SALENA
It caught me off-guard. I wasn't
ready for it. Do you think I gave
the right answer?

WENNIE
Do you think you gave the right
answer?

Another beat.

SALENA
No.

WENNIE
Me neither.

Salena laughs.

SALENA
One of life's little ironies.

WENNIE
How so?

SALENA

I got engaged to someone who
feels...wrong, on the same weekend
that I found someone who
feels...right.

Wennie smiles at her.

WENNIE

That is quite the predicament
you've gotten yourself into.

SALENA

What do I do now?

Wennie takes her hand.

WENNIE

Smile. At me.

Salena takes a long look into Wennie's eyes and smiles.

WENNIE (CONT'D)

You do whatever you feel like you
need to do...for you. Right here.
Right now.

SALENA

Ms. Wennie Lou Who...are you
hitting on me?

WENNIE

I am. Are you hitting on me?

SALENA

I think so. I've never been with a
woman.

WENNIE

So...let me ask you again. Why did
you hesitate?

SALENA

You.

Wennie and Salena kiss. Hickman, Eddie, and Ashley enter
from the beach. They're shocked!

HICKMAN

What the fuck?!!!

Salena and Wennie separate.

EDDIE
Damn sister!!!

HICKMAN
What the hell is going on here?!

SALENA
(caught off-guard)
I don't know.

HICKMAN
Are you a lesbian?!

SALENA
I don't know.

ASHLEY
You sure look like one.

EDDIE
(to Ashley)
You're not helping.

HICKMAN
We've been together for 7
years...and now you're a lesbian?!
On the night we got engaged?!

SALENA
I'm sorry. I don't know what to
say.

HICKMAN
What the hell does that mean?! Do
you know how hard this was for me?

SALENA
That's just it! It shouldn't have
been...hard.

HICKMAN
Do you realize what I gave up for
you?

SALENA
I never asked you to give up
anything.

HICKMAN
I gave up my season tickets to the
Rangers because you hate baseball.
I sold my Jeep because you said it
was time to grow up.

(MORE)

HICKMAN (CONT'D)

I go hunting with your father and his redneck friends so he'll like me. You made me see the New Kids on the Block Reunion Tour...four god damn times! And now your into pussy?!

SALENA

Don't be an asshole. This isn't easy for me.

HICKMAN

(losing it)

Easy for you? Shit! I like pussy. We could've been into pussy together! That would've made it a whole lot easier to marry you!

SALENA

(hurt)

Fuck you.

Salena exits crying into the house.

HICKMAN

Fuck this.

Hickman exits angry to the beach.

ASHLEY

So you're what happened?

WENNIE

Best. Weekend. Ever.

EXT. THE BEACH - NIGHT

Wrapped together, Stokes kisses Lily's neck. Lily gently rubs Bryson's thigh. Philip Michael kisses Bryson on the back. Bryson and Lily lock eyes. Stokes' fingers touch Lily's breast. Bryson makes eye contact with Stokes, then Philip Michael. Committing to the moment, Bryson kisses Lily's stomach. She raises her eyes to the stars above. A love fest begins.

INT. EDDIE AND ASHLEY'S HOTEL ROOM - NIGHT

Eddie and Ashley sit quiet in a bubble-bath with Champagne and strawberries. They do not eat or drink. They simply stare at each other, stunned.

INT. HICKMAN'S SUV - NIGHT

A glassy-eyed Hickman drives down the road. He looks into the rear-view mirror. He sees the wedding arches behind him. Spotting a dumpster in a parking lot by the beach, he pulls over.

INT. SALENA AND HICKMAN'S BEACH HOUSE BEDROOM - NIGHT

With the lights off, Salena stands at the window. Wennie slowly opens the door seeing the silhouette of Salena in the moonlight. Salena turns, smiles. She has been crying. Wennie takes Salena into her arms. They kiss against the window.

EXT. BEACH PARKING LOT - NIGHT

Hickman exits the SUV. He throws one arch into the dumpster, and then the other. He angrily kicks the dumpster, yells in pain, and collapses. Thunder cracks. Rain pours. A cop car lights him up.

INT. THE BEACH HOUSE - MORNING

A party has taken place. Two couch cushions are missing.

Stokes enters from Lily's bedroom with pants on, but shirt off. Lily stops Stokes in the bedroom doorway. She kisses him, thankfully, then closes the bedroom door.

Philip Michael enters from the patio with wig in hand, covering his naked body with the couch cushions. Seeing Stokes, he stops. Stokes, seeing Philip Michael, lights a joint. Philip Michael uncovers his body. Stokes smiles at Philip Michael, and exits out the front door. Philip Michael exits into his bedroom with the cushions.

Wennie enters from Salena's bedroom, wearing some of her clothes from last night, and exits into her bedroom.

Lily enters from her bedroom. She takes a look around and begins to clean. She finds Bryson's shorts.

BRYSON (O.S.)

I think those are mine. Can you
toss them?

Lily tosses the shorts to Bryson on the patio. Bryson enters putting on the shorts. He is hungover and bewildered. Flowers are looped through his nipple rings.

LILY

How are you this morning?

BRYSON
My nipples are killing me.

LILY
That may not have been the best
idea.

Lily goes to the kitchen to get aspirin and water.

BRYSON
This is why I don't drink.

Lily hands Bryson the aspirin and water.

BRYSON (CONT'D)
Thank you.

LILY
Do you think it helped?

BRYSON
Maybe?

Lily is silent for a moment. She then decides to claim her strength.

LILY
Are you a homophobe?!

Bryson is a bit bewildered.

BRYSON
I don't think so.

LILY
Then why were you like that? They
wanted me to kick you out.

BRYSON
I guess I was...afraid.

LILY
Afraid of what?

BRYSON
That my family would think I was
gay.

LILY
Are you gay?

BRYSON
(still foggy)
I don't know.

Lily is silent. She continues to clean. Bryson tries to put the pieces in his head together.

BRYSON (CONT'D)

I remember you dancing. You had the most beautiful...glow. As if everything perfect was shining down on you at once.

He can see Lily dancing in his mind.

BRYSON (CONT'D)

You were captivating. Can we get back to that moment?

LILY

How?

BRYSON

Like we did when we were alone...just me and you.

Lily is confused.

LILY

When?

Bryson rises to take Lily in his arms.

BRYSON

Outside. On the patio.

LILY

Where?

BRYSON

When we were making love. You didn't feel that?

LILY

Me?!

There is a knock at the front door. Ashley and Eddie enter.

ASHLEY

Hello?!

EDDIE

Everyone clothed?

BRYSON

Good morning newlyweds.

ASHLEY
Good morning to you too sir. How
did everyone's night end up?

LILY
(baffled)
I'm not quite sure.

Salena enters from her bedroom.

ASHLEY
It doesn't look like things got too
messed up last night.

SALENA
Except maybe Hickman.

EDDIE
Is he really hungover?

ASHLEY
And really pissed?

SALENA
He's really gone.

Lily is even more confused now.

LILY
What?!

SALENA
(to Lily)
He left.

LILY
Without you? Why? What happened?

BRYSON
I was starting to like the guy.

LILY
Did you get in a fight?

SALENA
You could say that.

ASHLEY
(holding up his phone)
And now what? You think you're
gonna squeeze your butt into our
car to get home?

SALENA
I guess I could walk...but a ride
sounds better.

BRYSON
(to Lily)
And you were worried about me
getting kicked out.

SALENA
(to Bryson)
Excuse me?!

BRYSON
I'm gonna go wash up.

Bryson kisses Lily and exits to his bedroom. Salena
approaches Lily.

SALENA
Everything ok there?

LILY
Maybe?

SALENA
Can we talk about yesterday?

LILY
Which part?

SALENA
(heartfelt)
The part that hurts me the most. I
am so sorry.

LILY
I know...but don't ever hit me
again. No one is ever going to hit
me again.

Salena hugs her sister tight. Wennie enters from her
bedroom.

WENNIE
(happy and energetic)
Good morning everyone.

EDDIE
Somebody's chipper today.

WENNIE
Why shouldn't I be? This has been
an unbelievable weekend.

Wennie kisses Salena on the head.

SALENA

I agree.

ASHLEY

(to Salena)

Well, I hate to be the bearer of bad news, but if you want a ride with us, we're on our way out. Daddy and I got an early departure tomorrow.

EDDIE

(excited)

The Amalfi Coast awaits!

SALENA

I can pack quickly, but we need to finish a little cleaning.

WENNIE

Our flight doesn't leave until tonight. We can take care of it.

SALENA

Are you sure?

WENNIE

It will be my pleasure. You can pay me back later.

SALENA

But I may not see you for a while.

WENNIE

I am very patient. And you...are very worth it.

Salena kisses Wennie on the lips and exits into her bedroom. Lily is shocked!

LILY

Is my sister a lesbian?!

EDDIE

(to Wennie)

This is so much worse than a finger-fuck.

LILY

What happened last night?!

Philip Michael enters from his bedroom with the couch cushions.

PHILIP MICHAEL
Sunday Funday!

WENNIE
(changing the subject)
Did you sleep with the couch cushions?

PHILIP MICHAEL
I once slept with a curtain rod in Shawnee, Oklahoma. Couch cushions ain't nothin'.

EDDIE
(to Wennie)
Sooo?

WENNIE
Sooo...what?

Philip Michael begins to look for something.

EDDIE
(disapprovingly)
You sure this was a good idea?

Wennie ignores Eddie.

WENNIE
(to Philip Michael)
Lose something?

PHILIP MICHAEL
I can't find my shorts.

LILY
Is this them?

Lily holds up his shorts.

PHILIP MICHAEL
There they are. Thank you.

Lily is starting to put the night together.

LILY
When did these come off?

PHILIP MICHAEL
Late.

LILY
Real late?

PHILIP MICHAEL
(seductively)
Real, real late.

LILY
You!

She throws the shorts at Philip Michael.

PHILIP MICHAEL
I didn't see any of you taking one
for the team.

Salena opens the door of her bedroom. She is unseen.

LILY
(to Wennie and Philip
Michael)
So who fucked who last night?!

ASHLEY
(to Wennie)
Did you flip my beard?

WENNIE
(playfully)
Like a mattress.

Wennie raises her hand to Philip Michael for a high five. Philip Michael sees Salena and keeps his hand down. Everyone turns to see Salena. She is not happy with Wennie's comment. There is an awkwardness. After a beat...

ASHLEY
Maybe I shouldn't have spiked the
Champagne.

EDDIE, WENNIE, SALENA AND LILY
You did what?!!!

SALENA
You spiked the Champagne?!

ASHLEY
Not a lot...I thought.

EDDIE
With what?!

ASHLEY
Something from Stokes.

EDDIE
What from Stokes?!

ASHLEY
I'm not quite sure.

WENNIE
This is definitely gonna affect his
Yelp rating.

SALENA
(to Ashley)
So...you drug me...
(to Wennie)
Then you flip me...like a mattress?
Is this a joke?!

WENNIE
This was not a joke. I didn't flip
you.

PHILIP MICHAEL
(excited)
Then I won the bet!

SALENA
(taken aback)
Win what?!

WENNIE
(frustrated)
Nothing.

PHILIP MICHAEL
It's ok. We can both win. We were
all drugged.

Salena is growing agitated.

SALENA
Win what?!

WENNIE
It's nothing. Really.

SALENA
Then tell me. Philip Michael. What
bet did you and Wennie win?

Philip Michael is unsure what to say.

PHILIP MICHAEL
I'm sorry?

SALENA
What bet?!

PHILIP MICHAEL
I'm not sure what I'm supposed to
say right now.

SALENA
(agitated)
Did you...or did you not...make a
bet that involved me being flipped?

WENNIE
No. We did not.

SALENA
Philip Michael?!

PHILIP MICHAEL
Well...she technically had to bag
both you and Lily.

Salena is shocked.

SALENA
Both?!

WENNIE
I bet nothing!

SALENA
Did you win?

WENNIE
I did. But only with you.

SALENA
So it was a bet?!

WENNIE
It was not a bet! You know that.

SALENA

The only thing I know is that you booked a drug-dealing minister for the wedding that I put my entire life on hold for...so that the weekend you lose your latest girlfriend...this jackass here could drug me...and you could try to flip me...and my sister...on a bet!

ASHLEY

I think you might be blowing this out of proportion.

SALENA

(to Wennie)

I gave up my engagement.

WENNIE

You did that for yourself.

SALENA

(to Ashley and Wennie)

You guys are assholes.

Salena starts to exit. A limping, hand-wrapped, dishelved Hickman enters through the patio door. He's tired and wearing his clothes from last night.

SALENA (CONT'D)

I thought you left?

HICKMAN

I was detained.

SALENA

Why?

Hickman looks at Salena.

HICKMAN

You. Need a ride home?

SALENA

I do.

HICKMAN

Let me grab my stuff.

SALENA

I packed it.

HICKMAN
Cool. I'm ready when you are.

SALENA
Ok.

WENNIE
Are you leaving?!

Salena grabs her luggage from the bedroom and exits out the patio door. Hickman follows with his luggage.

WENNIE (CONT'D)
God damn it.

Wennie exits after Salena.

EDDIE
Are you completely fucking
deranged?

ASHLEY
This weekend had to be special!

PHILIP MICHAEL
(saluting)
Mission accomplished, captain.

EXT. THE BEACH HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Salena walks quickly with her luggage towards the SUV. Hickman follows at a slower pace with his luggage. Wennie races past the limping Hickman to Salena.

WENNIE
Salena! Wait!

Salena reaches the SUV and tosses her luggage quickly into the backseat. She opens the passenger door. Wennie grabs the door, stopping her.

WENNIE (CONT'D)
Stop.

SALENA
(abruptly)
What?

WENNIE
Why are you mad at me?

Hickman opens his side of the SUV and places his luggage in.

SALENA
I'm mad at myself.

WENNIE
Why?

Hickman gets in the drivers side of the SUV.

SALENA
Because I didn't see what you were doing.

WENNIE
I wasn't doing anything. Please don't leave.

HICKMAN
(from inside the SUV)
Do I have to be a part of this?

Wennie closes the SUV passenger-side door, leaving her and Salena outside.

WENNIE
What is it you think I was doing?

SALENA
You were just...doing you.

WENNIE
What's wrong with that?

SALENA
Nothing. I just thought this was different. We were different. Not a bet. Not a high-five. Not a joke. I thought it was...about me. For once...about me.

WENNIE
It was you. You and me.

SALENA
Was it? Or was it simply about a drugged-up, sexually frustrated straight girl you could flip?

HICKMAN
(from inside the SUV)
Who got drugged?!

Salena looks deeply into Wennie's eyes, one last time.

SALENA

I gotta go.

Salena opens the door, gets in, and closes the door. She looks ahead as Hickman drives away. Wennie watches them leave. Eddie and Ashley approach.

ASHLEY

I'll talk to her. She'll calm down.

WENNIE

(turning to Ashley)

What the fuck dude?!

Eddie pushes Ashley aside and takes Wennie in his arms.

EDDIE

Hey. Look at me.

Wennie looks at her brother.

EDDIE (CONT'D)

This wasn't your fault.

WENNIE

Yet still...I get fucked. Why does everyone I choose to love...leave?

EDDIE

What are you talking about?

WENNIE

Dad died. Then mom. Philip Michael leaves every week. You left for Fort Worth. Mia's gone. And now, her. Everyone leaves. You've all left me. No matter what I do. And it hurts more every time.

Wennie starts to cry. Eddie holds her tight.

EDDIE

(tenderly)

I love you pretty girl. I love you always and forever.

WENNIE

(crying)

I love you too.

Ashley tries to join the hug. Eddie pushes him off and continues to hold his sister.

INT. THE BEACH HOUSE - MOMENTS LATER

Philip Michael is alone in the house. He drinks Champagne. Bryson and Lily enter from the bedroom, bags packed. Bryson is showered and refreshed.

BRYSON

I gotta tell you Philly Mike...this weekend has been an explosion of emotion.

PHILIP MICHAEL

It sure was. All over the place.

LILY

(quickly)

Nope, nope, nope!

(to Bryson)

Come on. We need to get going.

PHILIP MICHAEL

(to Lily)

Give me a hug at least.

Philip Michael opens his arms to hug Lily.

PHILIP MICHAEL (CONT'D)

Congratulations on your "awakened" boyfriend.

Lily does not hug Philip Michael.

LILY

Ok! Have a safe trip home.

Lily exits quickly out the front door. Bryson is confused by her rush.

BRYSON

I guess we're leaving now.

(to Philip Michael)

It was very nice to meet you. I'm sorry I was an asshole. You're a really great guy. Thank you for a fun weekend.

Philip Michael goes to Bryson.

PHILIP MICHAEL

It was indeed my pleasure Hulk-a-mania...

(whispering to Bryson)

...and yours too.

EXT. THE BEACH HOUSE PATIO - NIGHT - FLASHBACK

A hazy flashback, two naked, sleeping bodies lay half-covered, under the moon; Bryson and another with female hair. Their backs are to each other. Bryson rolls over behind the other body, kisses their neck and caresses their back. He begins making love to them from behind. They lean forward and let him in.

INT. THE BEACH HOUSE - MORNING - PRESENT

BRYSON
I...fucked...you?

Philip Michael kisses him softly on the cheek.

PHILIP MICHAEL
Welcome to the rainbow revolution.
(mimicking the Marine
call)
Oorah.

Bryson, stunned, exits out the front door. Wennie enters through the patio door.

PHILIP MICHAEL (CONT'D)
So...one wedding...one
awakening...one engagement...two
breakups...and two new visitors to
the Land of Dorothy?

WENNIE
(distracted)
3 days in mother-fuckin' Galveston.

EXT. THE BEACH - DAY

Stokes stands on the beach. Soaking in the sun. Unphased in solitary zen. Beachgoers move about. He bends down to pick up a seashell. Kisses it. Smiles. And soaks in more sun.

INT. EDDIE AND ASHLEY'S CAR - DAY

Eddie and Ashley drive down the highway. Eddie shakes his head at Ashley. Ashley gives him a "kid caught in the cookie jar" look. Eddie laughs at his foolish husband. Ashley kisses him on the cheek. They laugh and drive away excited about their honeymoon.

INT. BRYSON'S TRUCK - DAY

Bryson and Lily drive in silence; not saying anything about what may, or may not, have happened. They look at each other, then turn away looking out their windows.

An awakened Bryson, realizing his truth, smiles in contentment.

Lily looks at Stokes' Yelp page on her phone. She gives him 5 stars. She smiles out her window. The sun shines on her face.

INT. THE BEACH HOUSE - DAY

Wennie walks around sad, cleaning up. Philip Michael enters from the patio with two, full Champagne glasses. He gives her a glass, takes the trash bag out of her hand, gives her that look that he can see her inner soul, and leads her lovingly out to the patio.

INT. HICKMAN'S SUV - DAY

Hickman and Salena drive in silence. They're physically and emotionally exhausted. Salena looks at Hickman. He stares ahead. She gently takes his injured hand into hers. He looks at her, pulls it away. Hurt, she turns her eyes from him, and looks into the back of the SUV.

SALENA

What happened to the wedding arches?

BLACK OUT.