

EVERYONE LOVES JACK

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FADE IN:

INT. JACK'S HOUSE - JACK'S BEDROOM - DAY

JACK, 18, studies at a desk by an open window. He has short black hair and a scrawny build.

In the window is an ADJACENT HOUSE. A GIRL looks out the bedroom window.

INT. SUSIE'S HOUSE - SUSIE'S BEDROOM - DAY

SUSIE, 18, stares at Jack through the window. She has long flowing blonde hair and wears a pink top with jean shorts.

The color pink dominates her bedroom. Stuffed animals lie on the floor next to the bed.

Susie opens the window.

SUSIE

Hey Jack!

INT. JACK'S HOUSE - JACK'S BEDROOM - DAY

Jack glances through pages of the Kama Sutra. He looks up.

SUSIE

(seductively)

Wanna come over?

Jack smiles.

INT. SUSIE'S HOUSE - SUSIE'S BEDROOM - DAY

Susie and Jack lie in bed and watch television.

Susie focuses on the television. Jack focuses on Susie.

Jack scooches closer to Susie and puts his arm around her.

JACK

Don't you just love snuggling?

Susie shrugs. She doesn't look away from the television.

Jack leans toward her.

JACK (CONT'D)  
You smell so nice right now.

Susie giggles.

SUSIE  
Thanks. I got it at the mall.

Jack touches Susie's leg.

JACK  
It's driving me crazy.

Susie giggles as she shoos his hand away.

SUSIE  
Behave yourself, Jack.

On the TELEVISION is a commercial for the Handy Guy.

ALLEN, 40s, the Handy Guy, holds a screwdriver in one hand, and a hammer in the other.

ALEX, his son, 18, all-star athlete, holds a football and wears a blue letterman jacket.

BETH, his wife, 40s, she's just Beth.

ALLEN  
Hey there, I'm Allen Anderson and if you need a hand then give me a call. I'm the Handy Guy! I can do anything with my hands! Just ask my family.

ALEX  
If you like winning.

Alex throws a football toward the camera.

ALEX (CONT'D)  
Then you better call my dad!

ALLEN  
Can you believe it? This guy's my son!

Jack turns off the television.

SUSIE  
Why did you turn it off?

JACK  
Were you even watching it?

Susie laughs. She rolls closer to Jack.

SUSIE  
What should we do now?

Jack massages Susie's shoulders.

SUSIE (CONT'D)  
Oh my Jack. Where did you learn to do  
this?

JACK  
I didn't.

SUSIE  
I'm so lucky to have you in my life.

HONK HONK! Incessant car honks outside.

Susie's blissful grin becomes an annoyed frown. She jumps  
out of the bed and stomps toward the window.

She hoists the window open. As soon as she sees who it  
is, her frown turns upside down.

SUSIE'S POV - OUTSIDE WINDOW

Outside is a red convertible. TONY, 18, steps out of the  
car. Tony has broad shoulders and his black hair is  
sleeked down with hair gel. He wears a similar blue  
letterman jacket to Alex.

BACK TO SCENE:

SUSIE (CONT'D)  
Hey Tony!

TONY  
Sup, babe!

Susie turns toward Jack.

SUSIE  
Did you hear that, Jack? Tony's here!

Jack does not share Susie's enthusiasm.

JACK  
OK.

Susie looks out the window.

SUSIE  
What are you doing here, babe?

TONY  
I have a surprise for you, babe.

SUSIE  
I'll be right down!

Susie shuts the window and lunges toward Jack.

SUSIE (CONT'D)  
Come on, buddy. Let's see what the surprise is.

EXT. SUSIE'S HOUSE - DAY

Susie skips out the front door. Jack sulks behind her.

Susie jumps into Tony's arms. Tony swings her around in a hug.

SUSIE  
So, what's the surprise?

Tony pulls out a jewelry box. He opens the box revealing a necklace with a shiny diamond.

Susie gasps.

SUSIE (CONT'D)  
It's beautiful Tony!

Tony motions for Susie to turn around. He places the necklace on her.

TONY  
I couldn't stop thinking about you this morning.

Susie hugs Tony.

SUSIE  
I'm so lucky to have you in my life.

Tony takes a whiff of Susie's hair.

TONY  
You smell so sexy right now.

SUSIE  
Thanks. I got it at the mall.

Tony caresses Susie's tuckus.

TONY  
It's driving me wild.

Susie's hand approaches Tony's crotch.

SUSIE  
(seductively)  
Behave yourself, babe.

Jack cringes.

TONY  
Why don't we go to your bedroom?

Susie and Tony gaze at each other.

SUSIE  
What do you want to do up there?

Susie and Tony kiss. It is sloppy and disgusting. Jack uncomfortably glares at them.

Tony lifts Susie and places her over his shoulder. Tony turns toward the front door and notices Jack.

TONY  
Jack-Off!

Susie, while upside down, smacks Tony. Tony rustles Jack's hair.

TONY (CONT'D)  
How you doin', buddy?

JACK  
I'm fine Tony.

TONY  
Were you two hangin' out? How adorable.

Susie, while upside down, points to her necklace.

SUSIE  
Isn't it beautiful?

Jack nods. Tony smiles at Jack.

Tony smacks Susie's butt. Susie giggles.

SUSIE (CONT'D)  
Thanks for hangin', Jack. You're such a good neighbor.

TONY  
See you later, Jack-Off!

Susie slaps Tony across the shoulder.

SUSIE  
Don't call him that.

Tony and Susie disappear into the house.

Jack stands and continues to wave.

JACK  
Bye, Susie.

Jack passes two dogs humping as he scuttles toward his house.

INT. JACK'S HOUSE - HALLWAY - DAY

Jack enters and ambles down the hallway. He stops outside the kitchen and peeks inside.

INT. JACK'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY

Jack's MOM and DAD are in the kitchen. We only see them from the neck down.

THROUGHOUT THE MOVIE WE NEVER SEE THEIR FACES.

Mom prepares a meal. Dad sits at the table and reads a newspaper.

DAD  
How long 'til dinner, sweetheart?

MOM  
I would say another twenty minutes.

Dad stands up and grabs her tuckus.

DAD  
What if I can't wait that long?

MOM  
Behave yourself, Honey. What if Jack can hear us?

DAD  
Jack went to hang out with that blonde girl next door.

Dad kisses her neck.

DAD (CONT'D)  
He's probably having more fun than we  
are.

INT. JACK'S HOUSE - HALLWAY - DAY

Jack watches his parents get hot and heavy. He shakes his head and walks upstairs.

INT. JACK'S HOUSE - JACK'S BEDROOM - DAY

Jack locks the door. He lies down on his bed and sighs.

O.S. MOANS and SIGHS from Jack's parents.

He rolls his eyes and motions his hand toward his crotch.

The moans and sighs from downstairs reach a climax as Mom yells--

MOM (O.S.)  
DINNER'S READY!

INT. ALLEN'S HOUSE - BATHROOM - DAY

Beth gazes into a mirror. Her long, sopping, black hair flows just past her shoulders. A white towel swaddles her from the bosom down.

She picks up a bottle of anti-depressants and grasps a single pill. She sighs and swallows the pill without water.

The telephone RINGS.

INT. ALLEN'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY

Alex eats a bowl of cereal. He wears the blue letterman jacket from the commercial.

Allen wears a red plaid button down and a tool belt. He answers the phone.

ALLEN  
(on the phone)  
Mrs. Hendrix, how are we this morning?  
(beat)  
Now, now, don't you worry about a thing.  
(MORE)



ALLEN (CONT'D)

Everything will be in order when the time comes. Now, why don't you have one of those daiquiris you like to have.

Allen chuckles. Alex rolls his eyes.

ALLEN (CONT'D)

(on the phone)

I know it's early in the morning Mrs. Hendrix, but you're celebrating! So loosen up a bit and let the Handy Guy take care of all your troubles. Alright. Ba-bye.

Allen places the phone down.

ALLEN (CONT'D)

How sweet it is.

ALEX

Whatever you say.

ALLEN

I bet you can't wait to start working.

ALEX

Screw that, I'm going pro.

ALLEN

Oh Alex, you don't wanna be tossing a ball around your entire life. What you need is a real man's job.

ALEX

Whatever you say, Dad.

Beth enters. She is half dressed and her hair is damp.

Allen kisses her on the cheek.

ALLEN

Hun, fix me a coffee would ya?

Beth forces a smile and prepares a coffee.

ALLEN (CONT'D)

Now Hun, I don't wanna come home tonight without any dinner. You can grade your papers after.

BETH

Of course, Hun. I was just a little off the other day.

Beth hands Allen a cup of coffee.

ALLEN  
I'm sure Jack could give you a ride right  
after school.

Allen glances out the window.

ALLEN'S POV - OUTSIDE THE WINDOW

Jack pulls his car into the driveway beside a monstrous black truck that glistens in the sunlight. Jack's vehicle pales in comparison with the behemoth truck.

On the side of the truck is a little cartoon figure of ALLEN holding FIVE TOOLS in one HAND.

Underneath the cartoon are the words, 'Need a hand? Call the Handy Guy!'

BACK TO SCENE:

Allen smirks as he sips his coffee.

ALLEN (CONT'D)  
Here comes the little bastard now.

The front door opens.

Jack enters the kitchen.

JACK  
Good morning Andersons.

ALEX  
Sup.

Jack glances at Beth.

JACK  
Oh jeez, Beth. You're not ready yet?

BETH  
I'll just be a moment.

JACK  
We're gonna be late for school!

ALLEN  
Well everyone. I'm off.

ALEX  
See ya, Dad.

BETH  
Have a great day, hun.

ALLEN  
Oh, I know I will.

Allen exits.

ALEX  
What a jerk off.

BETH  
I'll be back in a jiff, boys.

Beth exits. Jack sits next to Alex.

ALEX  
Aren't my parents such dweebs, Jack?

The ROAR of the truck blares outside.

JACK  
Sure.

Jack spaces out as Alex eats his cereal.

ALEX  
You're quiet today.

Jack ignores him.

ALEX (CONT'D)  
Hello?

JACK  
What?

ALEX  
You're thinking about Susie, aren't you?

JACK  
What about her?

INT. ALLEN'S HOUSE - STAIRWELL - DAY

Beth, fully dressed, steps down the stairs. She stops outside the kitchen and listens.

INT. ALLEN'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY

Jack pours cereal into Alex's bowl and eats from it.

ALEX

Seriously Jack, forget Susie and find yourself a nice piece of ass.

JACK

That's disgusting.

ALEX

Give me a break. You don't think about Susie like that?

JACK

It's different. I--

ALEX

Love her?

JACK

What else could it be?

Alex grabs the bowl from Jack and tosses it in the sink.

ALEX

I don't know, Jacky boy. I really got no idea.

JACK

I just have so much love. I don't know what to do with it!

Alex puts Jack in a headlock and rustles his hair.

ALEX

Why don't we go upstairs and I'll jerk you off.

JACK

Shut up.

Beth enters the kitchen. She gazes at Jack.

BETH

Ready to go?

INT. JACK'S CAR - DAY

Jack drives. Alex sits in the passenger seat. Beth sits in the back seat and gazes out the window.

Jack notices Beth in the rearview mirror.

JACK

What's going on, Beth?

BETH  
Oh nothing. Nothing at all.

JACK  
You seem a little down.

ALEX  
She's fine!

BETH  
I'm fine!

JACK  
You're definitely not fine.

BETH  
Well, you see when you've been married  
for as long as I have.

ALEX  
We get it, Mah. Dad's an asshole.

BETH  
Your father is just a little...

JACK  
Confident?

ALEX  
Assholey?

BETH  
I guess I always thought my life would be  
a little more romantic.

ALEX  
Gross.

Jack glances at Beth. They smile at one another.

EXT. HIGH SCHOOL - FACULTY LOT - DAY

Jack pulls up to the school entrance.

Beth steps out of the car and leans into the open window  
on Jack's side.

BETH  
OK boys, have a good day and I'll see you  
both for final period.

ALEX  
Sure.

BETH  
 Seriously Alex, I want to see you in  
 class today.

ALEX  
 Ugh why? Shakespeare is such a drag.

JACK  
 Shakespeare is one of the greatest  
 writers that has ever graced this gawd  
 forsaken fakacta planet!

BETH  
 Exactly, Jack.

ALEX  
 Whatever.

Beth and Jack are inches apart. The two smile at one  
 another.

Alex shoves Jack.

ALEX (CONT'D)  
 Let's go!

Jack drives out of the faculty lot.

EXT. HIGH SCHOOL - STUDENT LOT - DAY

Jack's car pulls into the lot. A red convertible pulls up  
 and parks beside them.

Tony steps out of the car.

TONY  
 What's good, Jack-Off?

Susie and Jack step out of their cars at the same time.  
 They immediately embrace one another.

SUSIE  
 Hi Jack.

JACK  
 Hi Susie.

Tony wraps his arms around both Jack and Susie.

TONY  
 You guys are so fucking cute.  
 Now let's get this bullshit school out of  
 the way.

BEGIN SERIES OF SHOTS

A) Tony, Alex, Jack, and Susie enter the school among a crowd of students. Fellow football players in letterman jackets embrace Tony and Alex.

B) In a full classroom, Jack tries to solve a math problem on the chalkboard. The teacher yells at him and the class snickers.

C) Beth stands by the door and smiles as a group of students exit her classroom. When they all leave, she slumps into her desk chair. She pulls out a flask and takes a swig.

D) Jack waits in line at the cafeteria. An old and overweight lunch lady slops some food onto Jack's tray.

E) Jack sees Susie eating alone and approaches her. Tony and other football players overwhelm the area and sit next to Susie.

F) Jack sits alone in the cafeteria.

END SERIES OF SHOTS

INT. HIGH SCHOOL - CLASSROOM - DAY

Susie, Tony, Alex, and Jack are among the many students sitting in the classroom. Beth teaches.

BETH

Now, believe it or not, many scholars have theorized that Romeo and Juliet is actually a satire on love.

Alex rolls his eyes. Tony ogles Susie. Susie can't help but notice. Jack pays attention to Beth.

BETH (CONT'D)

The two title characters appear to be deeply in love, but really it could very well be two teenagers simply lusting after each other.

TONY

Stop it, Ms. Anderson. You're givin' me a hard on.

The students laugh. Alex glares at Tony.

ALEX

Fuck off, Tony.

BETH  
Watch your language, Alex.

ALEX  
Sorry, Mah.

BETH  
Anyway, I personally disagree with this theory. I think true love is surely out there for all of us.

Beth glances at Jack.

BETH (CONT'D)  
Even if we never find it.

JACK  
I dunno about that.

BETH  
Yes, Jack?

JACK  
What maintains the alignment of the stars? What allows the tides to sway and the wind to rustle the trees?

ALEX  
Like nature and gravity?

JACK  
It's love!

ALEX  
Love is nature?

JACK  
Love is just, EVERYTHING!

TONY  
Sounds like Jack-Off needs a little lovin' of his own.

The students laugh.

The bell RINGS.

TONY (CONT'D)  
Finally!

Tony tears out of the room. The rest of the students exit.

Susie smiles at Jack and exits. Alex approaches Beth.



ALEX  
Try to be happy, Mah.

Alex exits. Jack remains at his desk.

BETH  
Aren't you trying to get out of here like  
the rest of them?

Jack sighs.

JACK  
This love thing is breaking my balls.

BETH  
Oh, you're young. You have plenty of time  
to figure it all out.

JACK  
Not like the adults are any better.

BETH  
What's that supposed to mean?

JACK  
I dunno.

Jack rises and approaches the door.

JACK (CONT'D)  
So do you want a ride home, Beth?

BETH  
Yeah. Just give me a minute.

Jack nods and exits.

INT. HIGH SCHOOL - HALLWAY - DAY

A bunch of football players, including Tony and Alex, are  
huddled together making a ruckus.

Cheerleaders surround them. Other students also observe.

TONY  
Stonington will be crushed!

The squad hoots and hollers.

TONY (CONT'D)  
Those morons don't stand a chance!

The squad responds with grunts and cries.

TONY (CONT'D)  
Especially with our secret weapon.

Tony grabs Alex by the shoulders.

TONY (CONT'D)  
My man SACKOPS gonna knock some heads  
off!

The squad chants "SACKOPS."

Jack enters the hallway from a classroom.

JACK  
Calm down fellas. It's only football.

Everyone quiets down. Tony glares at Jack.

TONY  
JACK-OFF! JACK-OFF!

The squad chants "JACK-OFF." Jack covers his ears and leaves.

Beth watches from the hallway.

INT. JACK'S CAR - DAY

Jack drives. Beth sits in the passenger seat.

BETH  
How can people like such a barbaric game?

JACK  
I suppose it's the same reason people  
like Shakespeare.

BETH  
I always get worried he's gonna hurt  
himself, but then I remember who's  
knockin' the heads.

JACK  
You should be proud of the guy. He knows  
what he's doing.

Beth grabs a flask from her bag. Jack glances at her. He chuckles.

JACK (CONT'D)  
Are you serious?

BETH  
What?

JACK  
You drink at school?

BETH  
What's the big deal?

JACK  
You can lose your job.

Beth grasps Jack's hand.

BETH  
Oh, Jack. That's the least of my worries.

EXT. ALLEN'S HOUSE - DAY

Jack pulls into an empty driveway.

INT. JACK'S CAR - DAY

BETH  
Well, I guess I'll see ya.

JACK  
Bye, Beth.

Beth opens the passenger door but doesn't get up. She begins to weep.

JACK (CONT'D)  
What's wrong?

BETH  
The thought of being all alone, in that house.

JACK  
Allen and Alex will be back soon enough.

Beth glances at Jack.

BETH  
Why don't ya come in? I can fix ya somethin' to eat.

Jack shrugs.

INT. ALLEN'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY

Beth hands Jack a piece of bread and cheese.

JACK  
Is this all you got?

Beth grabs a wine bottle and pours a glass.

JACK (CONT'D)  
Jeez Beth, you sure are drinking a lot.

BETH  
Is that a problem?

JACK  
I dunno. You tell me.

BETH  
It's so nice to be home and not have to  
worry about anything.

Beth grimaces.

BETH (CONT'D)  
Except of course that meathead's dinner.

JACK  
What's on the menu?

BETH  
I can't believe I'm forced to do anything  
for that thing.

JACK  
What do you mean? Allen's not so bad.

BETH  
Ya, sure. Not so bad.

JACK  
I mean, don't you guys love each other?

BETH  
Well, of course I love him. I think.

JACK  
So what's the problem?

BETH  
Now that I think about it, I don't love  
him. That's gross.

JACK  
You must have loved him at some point.

BETH  
There are certain things about him I've  
liked.

Beth sighs and saunters toward the living room. Jack follows.

INT. ALLEN'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Beth and Jack enter. They sit on the couch.

BETH  
Why can't love be simple?

JACK  
Simple like in Romeo and Juliet?

Beth chuckles.

BETH  
Yeah. Just like that.

JACK  
I think it's kinda simple. I mean, I love  
you, Beth.

BETH  
Oh.

JACK  
Just as I love Allen and Alex.

BETH  
Of course.

JACK  
I mean, we've all known each other a very  
long time.

BETH  
You're sweet.

JACK  
And Susie.

BETH  
You love Susie?

JACK

I mean, sure. She's like my best friend in the whole world. Of course I love her.

BETH

And do you think she feels the same way?

JACK

She loves me too. We love each other, Beth. But I guess she loves Tony too.

BETH

To be honest, I don't think she loves him at all.

JACK

Oh they're always all over each other huggin' and kissin'. What else would you call it?

BETH

Allen and I used to be like that. I don't think that was love.

JACK

What lust? Pish posh.

BETH

You don't think about that at all?

JACK

Think about what?

BETH

Kissin' and huggin' someone.

Jack hesitates to answer.

BETH (CONT'D)

Have you ever done any of that?

JACK

Done what?

Beth kisses Jack.

Jack shoots up from the couch. Beth grabs his hand.

BETH

Oh relax. What's the big deal?

JACK

You kissed me!

BETH  
And how was it?

Jack sits back down.

JACK  
I dunno.

BETH  
Didn't you say you loved me?

JACK  
Well yeah. But that's different.

BETH  
How so?

JACK  
Jeez sakes Beth. You used to give me  
baths!

BETH  
You were a baby then. Are you a baby now?

Beth smacks Jack's cheek.

BETH (CONT'D)  
Let's just forget about it. Why don't we  
find an old movie to watch?

Jack and Beth smile at one another.

INT. ALLEN'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DUSK

Beth sleeps on Jack's shoulder. Jack watches the  
television.

The ROAR of Allen's truck grows louder and louder.

Jack nudges Beth.

JACK  
Do you hear that?

Beth stirs.

BETH  
(groggily)  
Fuck your dinner, meathead.

Beth wakes up.

BETH (CONT'D)

Dinner!

Beth knocks Jack off the couch and dashes toward the kitchen.

INT. ALLEN'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - DUSK

Beth scrambles through the cabinets and makes a mess.

Beth finds a can of beans and opens it.

The back door open.

ALLEN (O.S.)

I'm home, Sweetie Pie. What's for dinner?

Allen enters the kitchen.

Beth turns on the stove, grabs a pot, places it over the stove, and pours the beans in.

BETH

Beans, dear.

ALLEN

Beans? Just beans?

BETH

Lots of fiber. Lots of protein.

Allen takes a whiff of the beans on the stove.

ALLEN

Beans. Very good.

Allen approaches Beth and kisses her on the cheek.

ALLEN (CONT'D)

And why is Jack's car here?

Jack enters.

JACK

Oh, hey, Mr. Anderson.

ALLEN

What's going on?

JACK

Oh, you know...



BETH  
He's just hanging out.

JACK  
Just hanging out.

ALLEN  
Very noble of you, Jack. To keep a lonely  
housewife company.

JACK  
Heh yeah. Well, I'll see you guys.

EXT. JACK'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Jack drives by a red convertible as he pulls into the  
driveway.

INT. JACK'S HOUSE - JACK'S BEDROOM - DAWN

Alarm clock RINGS. Jack stirs awake and smacks the alarm.  
He glances out the window.

He SEES Susie through her bedroom window. She only wears  
a bra and panties.

Susie notices him. She yelps, and then smiles.

Jack smiles back. They wave at each other.

Susie shakes her chest. Jack chuckles and rolls his eyes.

EXT. JACK'S HOUSE - DAY

Jack and Susie both exit their houses. They meet each  
other on the street.

SUSIE  
Get a nice show, Jacky?

JACK  
I love everything you do.

SUSIE  
Give me a break.

JACK  
I can't stop loving you.

Susie giggles.

SUSIE

Maybe I should make you my boyfriend.

JACK

Maybe you should.

SUSIE

But wouldn't that be weird?

JACK

How so?

SUSIE

Because we are already such good friends.

JACK

Is that not the best opportunity?

SUSIE

I don't think it would work.

JACK

Why not?

SUSIE

I don't want to risk what we already have.

JACK

But what we have can be so much more. It can be heaven on Earth.

Susie giggles.

JACK (CONT'D)

What's so funny?

SUSIE

You're always filled with such passion.

Jack and Susie smile at one another.

JACK

Do you want a ride?

A red convertible screeches toward them.

SUSIE

I guess I'm all set.

Tony pops out of the car. He wears a buttoned-down shirt and an unkempt tie.

TONY  
Let's go, babe.

SUSIE  
See you in class.

Jack stands there as Susie drives off with Tony.

INT. JACK'S CAR - DAY

Jack drives. Alex sits in the passenger seat. He wears a buttoned-down shirt and tie. Beth sits in the back.

ALEX  
It makes no sense, Mah. I'm doing something. Mothers are supposed to be proud of their sons when they do things.

BETH  
I can't watch it.

ALEX  
So everybody's going to be watching me tonight except my own mother.

BETH  
You don't need me to watch you.

EXT. HIGH SCHOOL - FACULTY LOT - DAY

Jack pulls over by the entrance. Beth steps out of the car and leans into the window.

ALEX  
So what, you're just gonna sit around the house tonight and do nothing?

Beth glances at Jack.

BETH  
I suppose so. Good luck, Alex. Please don't die.

Beth enters the high school.

ALEX  
Can you believe her?

EXT. HIGH SCHOOL - STUDENT LOT - DAY

The lot is filled with cars. Jack parks in the back.

Jack and Alex step out of the car and approach the school amidst a throng of students. Band members carrying their instruments walk by.

JACK  
So uh, I met someone.

ALEX  
What, like a girl?

JACK  
Ya.

ALEX  
Where you meet her?

JACK  
Oh mall, coffee shop, does it really matter where I met her?

ALEX  
And she digs ya?

JACK  
I suppose so. What should I do?

ALEX  
What do you mean what should you do?

JACK  
I guess I'll be her friend.

ALEX  
Sure, but if the opportunity arises.

INT. HIGH SCHOOL - HALLWAY - DAY

Jack and Alex enter the hallway.

JACK  
Did I mention she has a kid?

ALEX  
So she's a MILF. That's interesting.

JACK  
It is?

ALEX  
And she's hot?

JACK  
Oh um, I think she's very pretty.

ALEX

Sounds like you hit the jack pot, Jack.

JACK

I did?

ALEX

Does she have money? You can be her sugah baby.

JACK

Oh my, what's a sugah baby?

ALEX

You'll find out.

They approach Tony sweet-talking some girl. Jack fumes as Tony places a necklace on her.

The girl exits as Jack and Alex approach Tony.

JACK

Tony!

Tony greets Alex.

JACK (CONT'D)

What about Susie?

TONY

What about her?

JACK

I thought you loved her?

TONY

Yeah. I do.

Tony slams a locker and it pops open. Inside is a box filled with jewelry boxes.

TONY (CONT'D)

I love lots of girls.

Tony tosses Jack a jewelry box.

The bell RINGS.

TONY (CONT'D)

Get out of my way, Jack-Off.

Tony slams his locker and shoves Jack as he trots down the hall.

Members of the band practice a song in the hallway.

EXT. HIGH SCHOOL - FOOTBALL FIELD - DUSK

Folks begin to fill the stands as the pep band plays on the field.

Allen finds a seat and lights a cigar.

The team runs onto the field. The crowd cheers.

EXT. ALLEN'S HOUSE - DUSK

Jack rings the doorbell. Beth answers.

JACK

Hi Beth.

BETH

Hi Jack.

Jack grabs Beth and kisses her. Beth pulls Jack into the house.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. HIGH SCHOOL - FOOTBALL FIELD - DAY

In the middle of the field is a stage for a graduation ceremony. Hundreds of people are present.

TITLE: (SEVERAL MONTHS LATER)

Students in graduation gowns line up to receive their diplomas. Jack is next in line.

EXT. HIGH SCHOOL - FOOTBALL FIELD - DAY

Jack and Alex pose in their graduation gowns.

Jack's Mom stands near Jack's Dad as he snaps a photo.

DO NOT SEE THE PARENTS FACES.

MOM

We're so proud of you, Jack.

DAD  
That's right son. Now you go celebrate  
with your friends. Your mother and I will  
be celebrating at home.

Jack's parents exit.

Beth and Allen approach them. Beth kisses Alex on the  
cheek.

BETH  
So proud of you.

ALEX  
Alright, Mah.

Beth glances at Jack.

BETH  
And you!

Beth approaches Jack. She kisses his cheek and hugs him.

BETH (CONT'D)  
I'm proud of you too.

JACK  
Thanks Beth.

Allen throws his arm around Jack and wanders off with  
him.

ALLEN  
Have you given any thought on what's  
next, Jack?

JACK  
Maybe go to college.

ALLEN  
College-Ha! You don't want to go there.

JACK  
Why not?

ALLEN  
Places like that are full of nerds.

JACK  
Oh.

ALLEN

Now that Alex is heading off to train with the big dogs, I'm left without my son.

JACK

He's still your son.

ALLEN

I always imagined I would pass down the family business to my children. What do you think, Jack? Would you like to be my son?

JACK

What?

ALLEN

Why don't you work for me? Exciting things are on the horizon, Jack.

JACK

Are they?

ALLEN

I've been talking with the mayor about renovating the town hall. I'm gonna need all hands on deck, Jack. The mayor!

JACK

Would be nice to make some money for once.

ALLEN

That's the spirit!

JACK

Is it hard to learn all this stuff?

ALLEN

You got hands, don't ya?

JACK

Sure.

ALLEN

Then leave it to me. We'll start training in a few weeks. I'll keep ya in the loop.

Beth approaches Jack and Allen.

ALLEN (CONT'D)

Hey, Hun. Ready to go?



Beth and Jack smile at one another.

ALLEN (CONT'D)  
Let's let these kids have some fun  
tonight.

BETH  
Of course, Hun.

Allen dawdles toward the parking lot. He can't help but greet everyone he walks by.

Beth approaches Jack.

BETH (CONT'D)  
Pick me up later. I know a place where we  
can be alone.

JACK  
Oh, Beth.

BETH  
We'll celebrate your graduation.

JACK  
What about Allen?

BETH  
I'll take care of him.

Beth briefly grasps Jack's arm and then dashes away.

EXT. HIGH SCHOOL - STUDENT LOT - DAY

Tony and Susie wear their graduation gowns and stand with Alex in the lot.

Jack approaches them.

TONY  
So you gonna party with us tonight, Jack-  
Off?

JACK  
Sure. Maybe.

SUSIE  
Maybe?

ALEX  
You have a date with your girlfriend?

JACK  
I wouldn't say that.

SUSIE  
Hmm.

JACK  
What's that, Susie?

SUSIE  
Since when did ya get a girlfriend?

Jack smiles at Susie.

TONY  
Bring your MILF-y broad. I don't care.

JACK  
Probably won't do that.

Tony shoves Jack.

TONY  
Pussy.  
(to Susie)  
Come on babe, let's take a nap. It's  
gonna be a long night.

Tony walks away.

SUSIE  
I hope to see you tonight, Jack.

Susie walks away.

ALEX  
So why don't you bring your mystery girl  
to Tony's?

JACK  
I don't think that's such a good idea.

ALEX  
Am I ever gonna meet this chick?

Jack chuckles.

ALEX (CONT'D)  
What's so funny?

JACK  
Nothing.

ALEX

Do you love this girl or something?

JACK

Well, of course I do.

ALEX

You're such a jerk off, Jack.

JACK

What?

ALEX

What happened to love being the wind and the breeze, and all that shit?

JACK

I still think that.

ALEX

Love is everything right? Yet you're struck by the cupid's dick on some girl you hardly know.

JACK

You don't understand--

ALEX

Three more days, Jack. Three more days and I'm out of this chicken shit town.

JACK

I know. I'm sure you're gonna have a blast busting some heads.

ALEX

Just promise me you'll be at Tony's tonight. Capeesh?

JACK

OK.

INT. ALLEN'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - DUSK

Beth crushes up sleeping pills.

ALLEN (O.S.)

Coming, Hun?

BETH

One sec.

Beth prepares two drinks and tosses the sleeping pills into one of the glasses.

INT. ALLEN'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DUSK

Allen paces in the room. Beth enters.

Beth hands Allen the drink. Allen holds his drink out and grins at her.

ALLEN

A toast! To a wonderful creation.

Allen paces around as he speaks.

ALLEN (CONT'D)

Couldn't have done it without you, hunny.  
What a boy we raised.

Beth swigs down her drink.

ALLEN (CONT'D)

What a ride it has been.

BETH

Take a drink. You're toasting.

ALLEN

And to think. He all came from such pleasures we used to have.

Allen looms over Beth.

ALLEN (CONT'D)

Don't you remember, darling?

He kisses her neck.

BETH

Have your drink. We can fool around after.

Allen smirks and squeezes Beth's cheek. He gulps down his drink.

INT. ALLEN'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Allen lounges in a recliner and snores.

INT. JACK'S CAR - NIGHT

Jack drives. Beth sits in the passenger seat and caresses Jack's leg.

JACK  
You sure he's alright?

BETH  
Don't worry. I just crushed up a bunch of melatonin. Knocks him right out.

JACK  
Alright. But we gotta make this quick.

BETH  
Oh?

JACK  
I promised Alex I'd show up tonight.

Beth leans closer to Jack.

BETH  
You'd rather hang out at big bad Tony's than be with me.

JACK  
I'm here, aren't I?

Beth kisses Jack's neck.

JACK (CONT'D)  
Where are we going anyway?

BETH  
I found this lovely place just outside of town. It will be heaven.

EXT. MOTEL - NIGHT

Jack parks outside a rundown motel.

INT. MOTEL - FRONT OFFICE - NIGHT

A fat guy named MEL sits at the front desk. Three HOOKERS sit on a bench across from him.

Jack and Beth enter. Beth scurries toward Mel.

BETH  
We would like a room please.

MEL

Will you be staying the night or would you like to hear about our hourly rates?

JACK

Hourly rates will be fine.

HOOKER

We know why you're here.

The Hookers giggle.

INT. MOTEL - ROOM - NIGHT

Beth and Jack enter a decrepit room. The bed squeaks as they take a seat on it.

JACK

Place is kinda seedy.

Beth grabs Jack's face and kisses him.

BETH

Send me to paradise.

They kiss again and fall backward onto the bed.

INT. MOTEL - ROOM - NIGHT (LATER)

Beth and Jack lie in the bed. She clutches unto his body. They are both out of breath.

BETH

You're an angel.

JACK

Let's not get carried away.

BETH

Seriously Jack, what are you doing to me?

JACK

The physical pleasure is great and all, but you can't fixate on that part of it too much.

(beat)

It's really not about that at all. The secrets of the universe lie in that experience, and if you fixate on that surface level pleasure you will never be able to dive deep.

(beat)

(MORE)

JACK (CONT'D)

It's all about this kundalooni something.  
I can't really talk about it.

BETH

You make me so happy.

JACK

Happy?

BETH

Yes, you silly boy.

Beth pokes Jack's nose.

BETH (CONT'D)

I've never been this happy in my entire  
life.

JACK

Good. I think.

BETH

Let's lay here forever.

JACK

Actually, I think it's time to go.

Jack rises and rummages for his clothes.

BETH

Please not now.

JACK

I think a flea just crawled up my tushy.

Jack dresses himself.

BETH

So it's back to the house for me.

JACK

I'll see you tomorrow.

BETH

Why wait?

Jack chuckles.

JACK

Come on Beth, get dressed.

BETH

It just hurts to be away from you.

JACK

Why do you have to be so difficult? I'm young, I got my whole life ahead of me. We will always love each other, you know that. Isn't that what really matters?

BETH

I suppose.

Jack embraces her.

JACK

We can hang out tomorrow.

Beth kisses Jack on the cheek.

EXT. ALLEN'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Jack parks in the driveway next to Allen's truck.

Beth steps out of the car. She meanders toward the front door and glances back at Jack.

JACK

Get some rest and be happy, Beth.

Jack drives off.

INT. ALLEN'S HOUSE - HALLWAY - NIGHT

Beth enters. O.S. Allen's snores rumble through the hallway. Beth huffs.

EXT. TONY'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Parked cars fill the street and music is blaring. Jack pulls up and parks on the grass.

An intoxicated male STUDENT wanders the street. Jack steps out of the car and stares at him.

STUDENT

Help me.

The Student vomits in the street.

EXT. TONY'S HOUSE - BACKYARD POOL - NIGHT

A pool party in full swing. Tony does a keg stand while other football players chant around him.



Jack traverses through the party goers. Tony finishes the keg stand and spots him.

TONY

Jack-Off!

Tony and some football players rush toward Jack. Jack waves at them.

JACK

Hi guys.

Tony and some of the players lift Jack up and chant "JACK-OFF."

They bring Jack toward the pool and toss him in. Everyone at the party cheers.

Alex approaches the pool as Jack climbs out of it.

ALEX

He finally shows up.

JACK

Can ya get me a towel?

ALEX

You don't deserve a towel.

JACK

Jeez, what's your problem?

ALEX

Oh nothing. Nothing at all.

JACK

Have you seen Susie? Surprised I don't see her.

ALEX

Of course. Where's Susie? Always about the Susie.

JACK

Well, where is she?

ALEX

She's not here, Jack.

JACK

Not here?

ALEX

Is that such a problem?

JACK  
I'm just really surprised.

Alex sighs.

ALEX  
She saw Tony making out with some other chick and ran off crying.

JACK  
I better go find her.

ALEX  
Of course you do, Jacky boy.

JACK  
She's probably really upset. Aren't friends supposed to care about one another?

Alex shoves Jack to the ground.

ALEX  
Then go. Go see your friend.

Jack gets up and hustles toward the street.

EXT. SUSIE'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Susie sits on her front stoop and sobs. Jack pulls up beside the house and rushes toward her.

SUSIE  
He's such an asshole.

Jack sits down and wraps his arms around her.

SUSIE (CONT'D)  
Why do I keep falling for jerks?

JACK  
It's not your fault. You're just really pretty.

Susie smiles.

SUSIE  
Oh stop.

JACK  
Almost too beautiful!

SUSIE

Why can't I just be happy?

JACK

You're not gonna find happiness out there in the world. That's on you, Susie. Don't mistake pleasure for happiness.

SUSIE

You really are something special. Why don't we go to my bedroom?

JACK

Oh?

SUSIE

You say I'm so pretty.

Jack chuckles. He kisses her.

SUSIE (CONT'D)

Wow.

JACK

I've been waiting a long time to do that with you.

SUSIE

Have you?

JACK

Couldn't you tell?

SUSIE

Wanna do it again?

Jack kisses Susie.

SUSIE (CONT'D)

Let's go inside.

JACK

What if we didn't?

SUSIE

What?

JACK

Let's just stay out here all night and watch the sunrise.

SUSIE

But isn't inside greater?

JACK

It doesn't matter whether I'm inside or outside with you. Our love will always be there.

Susie yawns.

SUSIE

I'm a little confused.

Jack kisses Susie on the cheek.

JACK

Let's hang tomorrow.

INT. JACK'S HOUSE - JACK'S BEDROOM - DAWN

Jack lies in bed as the sun shines through the window. Jack rises and stretches his arms.

INT. JACK'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY

Jack's Dad gropes Jack's Mom as she prepares food.

DO NOT SEE PARENTS FACES.

Jack enters the kitchen. He snickers at his parents.

JACK

You guys are unbelievable.

Dad falls onto a chair and picks up a newspaper.

MOM

Hello Jack.

DAD

How are you this morning?

JACK

Are you guys even enjoying it?

DAD

Enjoying what?

JACK

You guys are always all over gropin' each other. Why don't you guys give it a rest?

MOM

Oh my!

JACK  
You guys love each other, right?

MOM  
Of course.

DAD  
For jeez sake Jack. This is your mother!

JACK  
Great. Why don't you guys express your  
love in other ways?

DAD  
What on Earth is this boy talking about?

JACK  
Why don't you write each other poems?

DAD  
Poems?

JACK  
Yeah. Take a break from all of that and  
write each other poems.

MOM  
Sounds fun to me.

JACK  
Great! You guys will have a blast.

INT. ALLEN'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Beth lounges on the couch. A large box lies beside Allen  
as he assembles a chair in the middle of the room.

EXT. ALLEN'S HOUSE - DAY

Jack pulls into the driveway. He gets out of the car and  
knocks on the door.

Beth answers the door and embraces Jack.

BETH  
My sweet cherub.

JACK  
Oh Beth. I had such a wonderful night.

BETH  
Wasn't it paradise?

JACK  
I think Susie and I are really  
connecting.

BETH  
You saw Susie last night.

JACK  
I can't even describe the way I feel  
right now.

BETH  
Oh.

JACK  
How are you doing? Feeling happy?

BETH  
Now that you're here. Let's get out of  
this house and spend some time alone.

JACK  
Oh Beth.

ALLEN (O.S.)  
Is that Jacky boy? Come on in here.

BETH  
Just ignore that wicked beast.

Jack enters the house.

INT. ALLEN'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Allen assembles a chair in the middle of the room. Jack  
enters.

ALLEN  
So what brings you to the Anderson  
household? Let me guess! You came to  
learn a little something from the Handy  
Guy.

JACK  
Uh.

ALLEN  
Why don't you help me right now. I'm  
building a chair, Jack. Will you help me  
build this chair?

JACK  
I can try.

ALLEN

It's easy.

SERIES OF SHOTS

A) Jack holds a wooden chair leg as Allen hammers it into a piece of wood.

B) Jack uses a screw gun and screws in bolts to the chair legs.

C) Allen uses a power sander.

END SERIES OF SHOTS

INT. ALLEN'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Jack and Allen admire the chair they just built.

JACK

Wow! That was awesome!

ALLEN

Very awesome.

JACK

Screw going to college. I'm gonna make stuff!

ALLEN

Now you're getting it!

A groggy Alex wobbles into the room.

ALEX

Can you guys keep it down? I got an awful headache.

JACK

Hey Alex. Are you all set? Do you need help packing?

ALEX

I think I got it, bud.

Beth enters with two drinks.

BETH

Here Jack. Thought you might be thirsty.

Beth hands Jack a drink.

JACK

Thanks Beth.

Beth is about to take a sip of the other glass as Allen snatches it from her.

ALLEN

My honey bunny sure does know how to treat guests.

Beth fumes as Allen takes a sip.

ALEX

(to Jack)

What are you even doing here?

JACK

I just built a chair with Allen.

ALLEN

Jack's gonna take on the family business. He's gonna be my son.

ALEX

Whatever, Dad. You're fuckin' crazy.

ALLEN

Tomorrow morning begins a great adventure, Jack.

ALEX

Because I'm leaving?

ALLEN

I don't mean it like that, Alex. After we see you off I begin training the new recruits.

JACK

I'm gonna be one of those recruits.

ALEX

Good for you buddy.

ALLEN

You eh? Now wait a second, Jacky, my boy. Why don't I make you a supervisor?

JACK

Supervisor!



ALLEN

Yeah. Supervise the new recruits for me.  
If you can build a chair, you can just  
about do anything.

Jack shakes Allen's hand.

JACK

Wow, Allen. I really appreciate this  
opportunity.

Alex huffs as he exits the room. Beth smiles at Jack. She  
drinks a glass of wine.

JACK (CONT'D)

Did you hear that, Beth?

BETH

So happy for you. Why don't we celebrate  
with a drink?

ALLEN

Fantastic idea.

BETH

Jack, why don't you help me in the  
kitchen?

Beth scurries out of the room. Jack smiles at Allen.

INT. ALLEN'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY

Beth pours two glasses of wine. Jack enters.

Beth guzzles down a glass and grasps Jack's arm.

JACK

Are you alright?

BETH

Can't we just leave and go to heaven?

JACK

Get a hold of yourself.

BETH

Don't you wanna celebrate your big  
promotion?

JACK

It's not that. It's just not the time nor  
the place.

Jack grabs two more glasses and pours wine in them.

BETH  
All I wanna do is hold you in my arms.

JACK  
Give me a break.

Jack grabs the glasses and exits.

INT. ALLEN'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Allen stands in the room. Jack enters and hands Allen a drink.

Beth enters the room and slumps onto the couch.

ALLEN  
Let us drink to a glorious future!

EXT. ALLEN'S HOUSE - DAY

Jack steps out of the house. Beth follows after him.

BETH  
My sweet love, where are you going?

JACK  
I got other stuff to do, Beth.

BETH  
Can I see you tonight?

JACK  
I don't think so.

BETH  
Oh Jack, how could you be so cruel?

JACK  
Didn't we both agree this couldn't last forever?

BETH  
No!

JACK  
We will always have our love, Beth.

BETH  
You tend to love a lot of people, don't you Jack?

JACK  
What's that supposed to mean?

BETH  
You love Susie don't you? You're probably  
going to see her right now.

JACK  
So what if I am?

BETH  
She doesn't deserve you.

Jack chuckles.

JACK  
I'll see you later, Beth.

Jack gets into his car. Beth stands in the driveway and  
watches Jack drive off.

EXT. JACK'S HOUSE - DAY

Susie sits on the curb outside Jack's house.

Jack parks in the driveway. He steps out of the car.  
Susie approaches him.

SUSIE  
Hey Jack. What's going on?

JACK  
Oh nothing much.

SUSIE  
Me neither.

JACK  
Maybe we should change that.

SUSIE  
Wanna come over?

JACK  
I got a better idea.

SERIES OF SHOTS

A) Jack and Susie frolic in the park.

B) Jack and Susie ride a paddle boat in a pond.

C) Jack and Susie play miniature golf.

D) Jack and Susie go to the movie theater.

END SERIES OF SHOTS

EXT. JACK'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Jack parks on the street.

INT. JACK'S CAR - NIGHT

Susie sits in the passenger seat and gazes at Jack.

SUSIE

I had such a fun time with you.

Susie caresses Jack's leg.

SUSIE (CONT'D)

Why don't you come over now?

JACK

Oh Susie. Haven't we made love all this time?

SUSIE

I just wanna spend more time with you.

JACK

I know me too. I just don't want things to get carried away.

SUSIE

Like how?

JACK

Not exactly sure.

SUSIE

Oh Jack, I will be thinking about you all night.

JACK

As will I, Susie, my love.

Jack kisses Susie.

EXT. BUS STATION - DAY

Alex, Jack, Allen, and Beth stand in front of a coach bus.

ALLEN

Well, son. This is it.

BETH

Be safe and try not to hurt too many people.

Alex approaches Jack.

ALEX

Well, bud.

JACK

You're gonna have a great time.

Alex shoves Jack then hugs him.

ALEX

Good luck working with Allen.

Alex gets on the bus. The bus drives off.

ALLEN

Well Beth, I'd say mission accomplished.

BETH

Don't talk to me, Allen.

ALLEN

Why so harsh?

BETH

Honestly, now that Alex is gone, I see no reason for us to ever speak again.

ALLEN

My love, what is this all about?

BETH

Jack, can you bring me back to the house?

JACK

Sure.

ALLEN

You remember the address for the warehouse, right Jack?

JACK

You bet I do.

ALLEN

Go drop this stranger off at my house and meet me there.

EXT. ALLEN'S HOUSE - DAY

Jack pulls into the driveway.

JACK

Alright see ya later, Beth.

BETH

Why don't we leave town together?

JACK

Oh brother.

BETH

Think about it, Jack. We don't have any real reason to stay here. At least not anymore. We can go anywhere and be together.

JACK

I have plenty of reasons to want to stay here.

Beth grazes Jack's face.

BETH

My turtle-dove.

JACK

You need to pull yourself together.

BETH

There is no pain when I'm around you.

Jack grabs Beth's face and kisses it.

JACK

Is this all you care about?

Jack kisses her face again.

BETH

Oh yes!

Jack lets go of her face.

JACK

I got to go.

Beth slumps out of the car. They glare at each another.

JACK (CONT'D)

Doesn't my happiness mean anything to you?

Jack pulls out of the driveway and drives off.

EXT. WAREHOUSE - DAY

Jack parks next to Allen's truck. He gets out of the car and admires the massive facility.

The old name and logo on the truck has been painted over.

Now there are cartoon figures of Allen and Jack waving tools. Underneath it says, 'Anderson and Sons give you a hand!'

A TV crew carries equipment from a different truck into the warehouse.

A red convertible screeches down the road and parks next to Jack. Tony steps out of the car.

TONY

Hey Jack-Off, you work here too?

JACK

Oh great.

TONY

Didn't think you did anything with your life.

INT. WAREHOUSE - DAY

Various tools, vehicles, and other equipment fill the warehouse. Jack and Tony enter.

A film crew sets up a set. Allen sees Jack and rushes toward him.

ALLEN

You're finally here.

JACK

This place is awesome.

ALLEN  
Isn't it, Jacky boy?

TONY  
Is that a Zamboni?

ALLEN  
All questions will be directly reported  
to my number one guy here.

TONY  
Who's that?

JACK  
He's talking about me.

TONY  
You?

JACK  
I think I'm your boss.

TONY  
Jack-Off, my boss?

ALLEN  
How would you boys like to be in a  
commercial?

The MAYOR, 50s, approaches them.

ALLEN (CONT'D)  
Hello Mr. Mayor. Did you hear that, boys?  
The Mayor is here!

INT. WAREHOUSE - DAY

The Mayor stands in front of the TV set. Allen, Tony, and Jack stand beside him.

MAYOR  
Now some of you might be asking  
yourselves right now, what should I be  
doing with my hands?  
(beat)  
I'm here to tell you to do nothing.  
Nothing at all. Just give my man the  
Handy Guy a call.

ALLEN  
Hey there, I'm Allen Anderson. I'm the  
Handy Guy!

(MORE)



ALLEN (CONT'D)

I can do anything with my hands. If you need something done then just give me a call.

Allen throws his arms around Tony and Jack.

ALLEN (CONT'D)

My sons and I will take care of ya.

EXT. WAREHOUSE - DAY

Jack and Tony eat fast food in the parking lot. The film crew carries equipment toward their truck.

Two girls in yoga pants walk by them.

TONY

That's it, baby! When you got it, flaunt it!

The girls look back in disgust and walk off.

JACK

What's wrong with you?

TONY

I can watch those booties jiggle all day.

JACK

Are you sure?

TONY

What the fuck you mean?

JACK

Are you sure it is you that watches those booties?

TONY

You're not a fag, are you?

Jack guffaws.

JACK

Oh Tony. You poor thing.

TONY

You're so weird.

JACK

And you are desperate for love.

TONY  
I get plenty of love, buddy.

JACK  
Those booties are not love.

Allen steps out of the warehouse and approaches them.

ALLEN  
Great job today, boys. We'll pick it up tomorrow.

TONY  
Whatever.

Tony tosses garbage on the ground and then gets into the red convertible.

Allen embraces Jack as Tony speeds off.

ALLEN  
Why don't we go back to my place.

JACK  
I don't think that's such a good idea.

ALLEN  
Nonsense, I got a twelve year old Bourbon sitting in my liquor cabinet. Been saving it for a day just like today.

JACK  
Twelve years you say?

INT. ALLEN'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Two large suitcases are in the middle of the room.

Jack and Allen enter the house.

ALLEN  
Hun, I'm here with Jack.

Allen notices the suitcases.

ALLEN (CONT'D)  
What's going on?

Beth enters with a box of kitchen appliances in her hands.

BETH  
Good, you're home.

Beth plops the box onto the floor.

BETH (CONT'D)  
I'm leaving.

Jack smacks his forehead.

ALLEN  
What is the meaning of this?

BETH  
I just can't think of a single reason to stay with you now.

EXT. ALLEN'S HOUSE - DAY

A taxi pulls up and HONKS.

INT. ALLEN'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

ALLEN  
But, Beth. I love you.

Beth grabs a suitcase.

BETH  
Well Allen, I don't love you. Jack my sweet, can you give me a hand.

Jack grabs the box of appliances.

ALLEN  
Not so fast, Jack.

Jack drops the box onto the ground.

ALLEN (CONT'D)  
You're not leaving.

BETH  
The truth is I've met someone.

JACK  
Oy vey.

ALLEN  
Met someone? Where the hell did you meet someone?

BETH  
That doesn't matter. All you need to know is that I've never been happier.

ALLEN  
Give me a break.

BETH  
This man has taught me things you  
couldn't possibly imagine.

Beth leers at Jack.

BETH (CONT'D)  
I have become enlightened.

Beth grabs both suitcases and exits.

ALLEN  
Enlightened?

JACK  
I better just bring this box outside.

Jack grabs the box and dashes out the door.

ALLEN  
What is she, fuckin' the Buddha?

EXT. ALLEN'S HOUSE - DAY

Beth places the suitcases into the trunk of the taxi.  
Jack dashes after her with the box.

JACK  
Beth, what are you doing?

Beth grabs the box and plops it into the trunk.

BETH  
My sweet.

She slams the trunk shut.

JACK  
Oh Beth, you've lost it.

BETH  
Meet me in heaven.

Beth grabs Jack's arm.

BETH (CONT'D)  
If I don't see you tonight, I will kill  
myself.

Beth smiles and kisses a trembling Jack on the cheek.

She gets into the taxi. Jack stands by the road and watches the taxi drive off.

INT. ALLEN'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Allen stands in front of the liquor cabinet and holds a bottle of bourbon in his hand.

Jack enters.

ALLEN  
Twelve years.

Allen chugs from the bottle.

JACK  
Are you going to be alright?

ALLEN  
I will be just dandy, Jack. Who needs a wife when you got twelve year old bourbon in your hands?

Allen sobs as he collapses onto the couch. Jack sits next to him.

ALLEN (CONT'D)  
This is awful, Jacky boy. My darling Beth, what have I ever done to lose her?

Allen chugs from the bottle.

JACK  
I'm sure she will be--

Allen smashes the bottle onto the floor.

ALLEN  
A Buddha-ha! She's fucking the Buddha, how rich. If I ever got my hands on that little Buddha bitch.

JACK  
I'm pretty sure Buddhists are against violence.

ALLEN  
I would have so much fun.

Allen's head falls into Jack's lap.

ALLEN (CONT'D)  
You could even help me.

Allen shuts his eyes as Jack struggles to get up.

ALLEN (CONT'D)  
How about it, Jacky boy? Have you ever  
thought about killing a man?

Allen snores.

EXT. JACK'S HOUSE - DUSK

Jack pulls into the driveway. He steps out of his car and approaches the front door.

Jack sighs.

JACK  
What a day.

INT. JACK'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - DUSK

Jack's Dad sits at the kitchen table. A suitcase lies near his feet. Jack's Mom sobs as she prepares food.

DO NOT SEE PARENTS FACES.

Jack walks by the kitchen. He notices the suitcase on the kitchen floor.

JACK  
What's going on?

DAD  
Hello son, I'm glad you're here. I have  
some very important news to tell you.

Mom wails.

JACK  
What's wrong, Mom?

DAD  
I'm leaving, son. Divorcing your mother.  
It seems our passionate love has run its  
course.

JACK  
Come on! You can't be serious.

DAD  
I am moving out as soon as your mother  
finishes cooking me dinner.

JACK  
Where will you go?

DAD  
I will be staying with a friend.

JACK  
Who?

DAD  
You wouldn't know her.

JACK  
Her?

Mom slams her cooking utensils on the counter.

MOM  
Your father is staying with some floosy  
he met at the tity bar.

Mom picks up the utensils and wails even louder.

Jack glares at his father.

JACK  
You're such an animal!

DAD  
Love runs out my son. One day you will  
understand.

Jack fumes as he exits the kitchen.

INT. JACK'S HOUSE - JACK'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Jack enters the room and slams the door shut. He jumps  
onto the bed and falls asleep.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. ALLEN'S HOUSE - HALLWAY - NIGHT

Lit candles and rose petals cover the ground and  
stairway.

Jack enters. A soft MIST engulfs the top of the stairs.

BETH (O.S.)  
(shrieking)  
Jacky!

Beth appears in a white silk gown at the top of the stairs. She floats down the stairs through the mist.

Jack rattles the door knob but can't open the door.

The mist grows thicker and thicker. Beth's arms are stretched out as she glides toward Jack.

Jack covers his face.

CUT TO:

INT. JACK'S HOUSE - JACK'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Jack suddenly shoots up from the bed as HONKS blare from outside.

EXT. SUSIE'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Tony's red convertible lies smashed against a telephone pole.

Tony stands outside the car and honks with one hand while holding a bottle of liquor in the other.

TONY  
(bellowing)  
Suuusie!

Jack and Susie come out of their houses at the same time and rush toward Tony.

TONY (CONT'D)  
Susie! I miss you so much, babe!

SUSIE  
Go away.

JACK  
Tony, you're drunk.

TONY  
Shut up, Jack-Off.  
(to Susie)  
Miss you babe. I can change, promise.

SUSIE  
What do you miss about me?

Tony gapes at her. He takes a swig from the bottle.



TONY  
Your ass.

SUSIE  
(to Jack)  
He's crazy.

JACK  
(to Susie)  
Pity him. He's just desperate for love.

Tony slams the bottle onto the pavement.

TONY  
Shut the fuck up, Jack!

JACK  
Go home, Tony.

TONY  
I'm not going anywhere 'til Susie takes  
me back!

SUSIE  
You're pathetic.

Susie runs into Jack's arms.

TONY  
But, Babe!

SUSIE  
I never want to see you again.

Tony glances between Susie and Jack. He sighs and gets into his car. Pieces of the car's exterior fall off as he backs out.

Tony lowers the window and gawks at them. He then drives off.

SUSIE (CONT'D)  
He's such a brute.

JACK  
Tell me about it.

SUSIE  
What are you doing now?

JACK  
I must've fallen asleep.

SUSIE

Did that Tony wake you up?

JACK

Yeah. Actually there was something I was supposed to be doing.

SUSIE

Like what?

JACK

I can't seem to remember.

SUSIE

Why don't you come up to my room and I can help jog your memory?

JACK

Now I remember.

Jack dashes toward his car.

SUSIE

Wait, Jack!

JACK

Gotta run!

Jack gets into his car and drives off.

SUSIE

What is that boy up too?

Susie grabs a pink bicycle from her garage. She straps on a pink helmet and rides after Jack.

EXT. MOTEL - NIGHT

Jack pulls into the lot and parks.

INT. MOTEL - FRONT OFFICE - NIGHT

Mel sits at the front desk and three Hookers lounge across from him.

Jack enters.

MEL

There he is.

HOOKER

We knew you'd show up.

The Hookers giggle.

MEL  
She's in room twelve.

Mel tosses a key to Jack.

HOOKER  
Let us know if you need any help.

EXT. MOTEL - NIGHT

Jack's Dad and a hooker enter room thirteen.

Jack exits the office and approaches room twelve.

JACK  
Beth?

Jack pounds on the door.

JACK (CONT'D)  
I'm here, Beth.

Jack pounds on the door again. He opens the door with the key.

INT. MOTEL ROOM - NIGHT

The door swings open. Jack enters an empty room.

JACK  
Beth? Oh my gawd Beth, are you dead?

BETH (O.S.)  
I'm in here, my lovely cherub.

Beth enters from the bathroom and sits on the bed. She wears a white robe and her hair is wet.

BETH (CONT'D)  
Hello my precious angel. I knew you would come see me.

Jack sits next to her. The door to the room is ajar.

JACK  
This is getting really ridiculous.

BETH  
Hold me.

Beth scooches closer to Jack.

BETH (CONT'D)  
Hold me forever.

JACK  
Oh no.

Beth wraps her arms around Jack. She begins to caress him.

They are about to kiss when Susie steps into the room.

SUSIE  
Jack!

JACK  
Susie!

SUSIE  
Mrs. Anderson!

JACK  
What are you doing here?

SUSIE  
I followed you, Jack. You drive really slow.

Jack gets up from the bed and approaches Susie.

JACK  
It's not what it looks like.

SUSIE  
So Mrs. Anderson is your girlfriend?

JACK  
Of course not.

Beth gets up and approaches them.

BETH  
Don't try to comprehend it, Susie, my dear. This is simply out of your element.

SUSIE  
What?

BETH  
You will never understand how amazing your friend Jack is.

JACK  
Don't listen to her. She's mad!

BETH  
Just go home girl. Leave us to our love.

Susie glares at Jack.

SUSIE  
So you love her?

JACK  
No! I mean I do, but--

SUSIE  
I thought you loved me.

JACK  
I do! I love both of you.

Beth grabs Jack's waist.

BETH  
You might care for the girl, but she will never understand what we have.

Beth forces a smooch on Jack. Jack pushes her off of him.

Susie grunts and approaches Jack. She grabs him by the waist and kisses him.

Susie and Beth glare at each other. Jack steps away from both of them.

JACK  
Ladies, please!

Jack sits on the bed and whimpers. Beth and Susie both sit near him.

JACK (CONT'D)  
Why does it have to be this way?

Susie and Beth both embrace Jack.

JACK (CONT'D)  
Love is not supposed to be complicated or painful. It's supposed to be a good thing. Something special. A beacon of light amidst a world of so much suffering.

Susie and Beth caress Jack's face.

INT. MOTEL ROOM - NIGHT

Susie and Beth clutch onto Jack's body as they lie in bed together.

JACK

Gawd damn it.

EXT. TOWN HALL - DAY

A run-down building that has been there for a very long time.

Allen's truck is in the parking lot.

INT. TOWN HALL - LOBBY - DAY

Debris and ripped wallpaper are all over the floor.

Scaffolding and buckets of paint lie near each corner of the room.

The Mayor and Allen stand by one of the scaffoldings.

MAYOR

It's got to feel modern yet appeal to the pioneers that came before us. Does that make sense?

Allen gazes at the wall.

MAYOR (CONT'D)

Allen? Are you listening?

Allen grunts.

MAYOR (CONT'D)

I really wanna see something spectacular. Something that will overwhelm people as they walk in. But not overwhelm them too much.

The Mayor thwacks Allen across the back.

MAYOR (CONT'D)

Who am I kidding? You're the Handy Guy! I trust your judgement.

The Mayor exits. Allen slumps onto the ground.

Tony sulks into the lobby. He slumps next to Allen.

TONY  
Hey Boss.

ALLEN  
Hey Tony.

TONY  
So do you want me to do something?

ALLEN  
I guess.

They both sigh.

ALLEN (CONT'D)  
Tony, have you ever been in love?

TONY  
All the time.

ALLEN  
Yeah.

Allen stands.

ALLEN (CONT'D)  
Just finish stripping the walls. I'll be  
outside.

Allen wanders toward the front door.

EXT. TOWN HALL - DAY

Allen exits the building. He leans against the wall.

Jack pulls in and parks near Allen's truck.

Allen smiles as Jack gets out of his car and saunters  
toward the building.

Allen waves at Jack. Jack doesn't notice him and  
approaches the front door.

Allen scurries toward Jack.

ALLEN  
Hey Jack!

Jack yelps. He turns toward Allen.

JACK  
Hi Allen. Sorry I'm so late.

ALLEN

Don't sweat it one bit. Say, have you by any chance been in touch with Beth?

JACK

No. I mean, ya I have.

ALLEN

How is she?

JACK

You know. She's Beth.

ALLEN

That she is, Jacky boy. That she is.

JACK

Why don't we go get some work done?

ALLEN

So where is she staying? Does she need any money?

JACK

Uh, I dunno. I think she's all set. So how about that work?

ALLEN

The little Buddha is probably taking care of her. I would love to just meet this guy.

JACK

Waste of time, really.

ALLEN

What the hell makes him so special?

JACK

She's just a drama queen.

Allen chuckles. He puts his arm around Jack as they both enter the building.

INT. TOWN HALL - LOBBY - DAY

Tony tears wallpaper as Jack and Allen enter.

ALLEN

I'm sure Beth will come back to me. Don't you think, Jacky boy?



JACK  
Absolutely.

ALLEN  
After all, I am the Handy Guy.

JACK  
You guys have plenty of reasons to get  
back together.

ALLEN  
Do we?

JACK  
And even if you don't, always remember  
that there is love between you two.

ALLEN  
I never forgot.

INT. TOWN HALL - LOBBY - DAY

The walls are now bare all around the lobby. Tony and  
Jack paint the walls white.

Allen chats on the phone as he paces at the other end of  
the room.

Susie enters with a container of food. Tony and Jack  
glance at her.

TONY  
Babe!

SUSIE  
Don't call me that, Tony.

TONY  
You came to apologize?

Susie chuckles.

SUSIE  
Thought you might be hungry, my sweet.

Jack grabs the container and places it on the ground.

JACK  
Thanks Susie. A little busy now.

TONY  
Come on Susie. What does Jack got that I  
don't have?

SUSIE

Everything.

TONY

That make's no sense.

Beth enters with a bag of food. Allen glances at her.

ALLEN

(on the phone)

I'll call you back.

(to Beth)

Hun! You came to see me?

Beth ignores Allen and hands Jack the bag.

BETH

Thought you might be hungry, my sweet.

Jack grabs the bag and drops it on the ground.

JACK

Thanks. Now both of you leave. We are busy.

Allen approaches Jack and Beth.

BETH

It's so nice to see your face.

Tony glances between Susie and Beth.

TONY

What the fuck is going on?

Allen embraces Beth and kisses her on the cheek.

ALLEN

Oh Hun, it's so nice to see your face again.

BETH

Hello, Allen.

ALLEN

Do you miss me yet?

BETH

Not one bit.

Susie and Beth ogle Jack.

ALLEN

How's your mystery man?

BETH  
He's just fine.

JACK  
Alright ladies, thanks for stopping by.

ALLEN  
Tell me Beth, what does this guy have  
that I don't?

BETH  
Everything.

Tony scratches his head.

ALLEN  
After all we've been through. The life we  
built together.

BETH  
Oh Allen, don't be such a drama queen.

JACK  
Bye, ladies.

Beth and Susie glance at Jack as they both meander toward  
the front door.

Allen stares at Beth as they leave.

JACK (CONT'D)  
Jeesh.

ALLEN  
I'll be right back, boys.

Allen dashes toward the front door.

TONY  
So, are you banging those broads, or  
something?

JACK  
Huh? No. I mean, it's not like that.

TONY  
You're turning out to be my hero, Jack-  
Off.

JACK  
No, Tony. I don't want to be your hero.

TONY  
My little man's a pimp.

JACK  
I don't want any of this.

EXT. TOWN HALL - DAY

A taxi waits outside the building.

Susie stands by her bicycle and straps on her helmet.  
Beth approaches her.

BETH  
We can't keep sharing him forever.

SUSIE  
What do you suggest we do then?

Susie and Beth glare at each other.

Susie hops on her bicycle and rides off as Allen exits  
the building. He approaches Beth.

ALLEN  
Listen, Hun.

Beth turns toward Allen.

BETH  
No, you listen. We are done and you're  
just gonna have to get over it.

ALLEN  
But, Hun!

Beth gets in the taxi. Allen pulls out his phone and  
dials the number on the side of the taxi as it drives  
away.

ALLEN (CONT'D)  
(on the phone)  
Hello? Hi there, this is Allen Anderson.  
(beat)  
Yes, that's right, the Handy Guy. I was  
supposed to meet my wife and I believe  
she has been using your services. Can you  
tell me where she went?  
(beat)  
Outside of town you say?

EXT. JACK'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Jack pulls into the driveway. He gets out of the car. His  
clothes are covered with specks of paint.

INT. JACK'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - NIGHT

Jack's Mom embraces a male FOREIGN LOVER. A suitcase lies on the floor.

WE DO NOT SEE MOM'S FACE BUT WE DO SEE THE FOREIGN LOVER'S FACE.

Jack skips by the kitchen. He doubles back and stares at them.

JACK

Who the hell is this?

Mom jumps and steps back from her lover.

MOM

Oh Honey, I didn't see you come in. This is my new friend. I met him at the bank.

FOREIGN LOVER

(heavy accent)

Hello Jack. I have heard so much about you. It is such a pleasure.

The Foreign Lover bows toward Jack. Jack glances at the suitcase.

JACK

Are you going somewhere, Mom?

Mom blushes.

FOREIGN LOVER

Yes, Jack. I'm bringing her to my country. We are going to lounge by the beaches and make sweet, passionate love until the tide washes away our sins.

Mom giggles.

JACK

That's it. You're just going to leave me.

MOM

Oh honey, don't be so melodramatic. I'll be back in three or so weeks.

JACK

Three weeks!

The Foreign Lover picks up the suitcase.

MOM

Yes honey, and we are leaving right now.  
So please be a good boy.

JACK

But what am I gonna eat?

MOM

You're a working man. You will be fine.

Mom clutches her lover's arm.

MOM (CONT'D)

He is such a responsible boy. Wonderful  
really. Such a handsome--

FOREIGN LOVER

Yes, my darling. But you will speak no  
more of Jack or anything from your life  
before. For we are about to embark on a  
thrilling journey of sensual delight.

Mom giggles. They exit the kitchen together.

FOREIGN LOVER (O.S.) (CONT'D)

For now you belong to me, and I shall do  
whatever pleases me.

MOM (O.S.)

Oh my!

The front door of the house creak open and then slams  
shut.

Jack slams his fist on the table.

INT. JACK'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Jack lounges on the couch with a glass of iced liquor in  
his hand. He takes a sip and gags.

The telephone RINGS. Jack answers it.

JACK

(on the phone)

Hello?

EXT. FOOTBALL STADIUM - NIGHT

Lights shine upon the field as players practice.

Alex uses a public phone by the side of the field. He holds the phone to his ear and doesn't say a word.

JACK (O.S.)

Hello?

Alex slams the phone down and jogs toward the field.

INT. JACK'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Jack shrugs and places the phone down.

The doorbell RINGS.

EXT. JACK'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Susie stands outside the front door. Jack opens the door.

SUSIE

Hi Jack.

Jack sighs.

JACK

Hello Susie.

SUSIE

Is anyone home?

JACK

Nope. Nope. They're gone. Parents are gone.

SUSIE

Where did they go?

JACK

Doesn't matter. They're gone.

SUSIE

Why don't I come in?

JACK

Come in. Come in. Why not? Who cares, come on in.

INT. JACK'S HOUSE - HALLWAY - NIGHT

Susie enters. Jack shuts the door. They head toward the living room.

SUSIE  
What's wrong?

INT. JACK'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Jack and Susie enter and plop on the couch.

JACK  
I'm not gonna lie, Susie. You and Beth  
are driving me through the roof!

SUSIE  
That woman is such a nuisance.

JACK  
That's not the issue.

SUSIE  
It isn't?

JACK  
The ancients didn't have an entire school  
about all this bologna just because it  
feels good.

SUSIE  
Huh?

JACK  
This is important stuff! And you're  
squandering its potential by being such  
an animal.

Susie caresses Jack's leg.

SUSIE  
We're both animals.

JACK  
I know but--

SUSIE  
But what?

Susie kisses Jack.

A KNOCK on the front door.

BETH (O.S.)  
Jack? Are you home, my sweet?



SUSIE

Why won't that devil woman leave us alone?

Jack sighs.

SUSIE (CONT'D)

Let's just be quiet and maybe she'll leave.

Jack rolls his eyes and glances out the window.

Beth jimmies the window open and enters the living room.

JACK

Of course.

Beth shoves Susie and embraces Jack on the couch.

BETH

Oh, my sweet buttercup.

Beth glares at Susie.

BETH (CONT'D)

What is this child doing here?

SUSIE

Excuse me Mrs. Anderson, but I'm hanging out with Jack.

BETH

Why don't you go home and leave us alone?

SUSIE

Why don't you?

Beth and Susie scowl at each other. Jack sighs and stands up.

JACK

(sarcastically)

Why don't I bring us all to the motel and will have a fantastic time?

Beth and Susie both embrace Jack. He does not smile.

EXT. MOTEL - NIGHT

Allen's truck is parked across the street from the motel.

INT. ALLEN'S TRUCK - NIGHT

Allen stares at the motel and sips from a bottle of liquor.

ALLEN  
(mumbling)  
Buddha bitch.

EXT. MOTEL - NIGHT

Jack's car pulls into the motel parking lot.

INT. ALLEN'S TRUCK - NIGHT

Allen glares at them.

ALLEN  
Looks like Jacky boy's car.

EXT. MOTEL - NIGHT

Jack, Susie, and Beth step out of the car. They enter one of the rooms.

INT. ALLEN'S TRUCK - NIGHT

Allen winces at what he sees.

ALLEN  
Jacky boy?

EXT. TOWN CENTER - NIGHT

Allen's truck zooms down the street.

INT. ALLEN'S TRUCK - NIGHT

Allen sobs as he chugs from the bottle.

ALLEN  
Jacky boy, how could he do it? How could  
he be the Buddha?

He smashes the bottle out the window.

ALLEN (CONT'D)  
Little Buddha-fucker.

EXT. TOWN CENTER - NIGHT

Allen slams on the breaks and takes a sharp U-turn around the street.

EXT. LIQUOR STORE - NIGHT

The truck skirts into the lot.

Allen falls out of the car. He gets up and scuttles toward the front door.

The store is closed.

Allen scuttles back to the truck. He smashes the truck into the liquor store.

INT. LIQUOR STORE - NIGHT

Allen grabs the closest bottle of liquor and chugs it.

An alarm SOUNDS and police SIRENS approach.

INT. MOTEL ROOM - DAY

Susie and Beth clutch onto Jack as they sleep. Jack's eyes are wide open.

Jack taps both of them on the shoulder.

JACK

Wake up. Time for work.

Jack shoves them and climbs out of the bed. He rummages for his clothes.

SUSIE

When will you be back?

BETH

When will you be back?

JACK

Not for a while, ladies. We got a lot of work to do at the town hall.

Susie and Beth glare at each other.

JACK (CONT'D)

Why don't you guys preoccupy your minds with something else.

Jack tucks in his shirt.

JACK (CONT'D)  
Something that's not me.

He exits. Susie and Beth continue to glare at each other.

EXT. TOWN HALL - DAY

Clouds fill the sky on an overcast day with a large storm on the horizon.

Tony leans against his car and watches a large crowd by the entrance.

Jack pulls into the lot and parks next to Tony. He rolls down his window.

JACK  
What's going on?

TONY  
I think something happened to Allen.

AT THE CROWD

REPORTERS and other professionals crowd around the Mayor as he addresses them.

REPORTER 1  
Is the Handy Guy injured?

REPORTER 2  
Where is the Handy Guy?

REPORTER 3  
What drove him to do such unspeakable acts?

MAYOR  
Now, everyone, why our beloved Handy Guy drove himself into that liquor store is beyond me. Maybe he wanted a drink. Who knows? But, I can tell you with great assurance, that he is currently being held by our boys in blue and we will soon speak with the man and have all our questions answered.

A POLICE OFFICER runs toward the crowd.

POLICE OFFICER  
The Handy Guy has escaped!

Everyone gasps.

SCENE

Tony nudges Jack.

TONY

Gee, Jack. You think Allen found out you  
been bangin' his wife?

THUNDER bellows as Jack gulps.

EXT. JACK'S HOUSE - DAY

Rain drenches upon Jack as he rushes toward the front  
door.

Jack notices the door is slightly ajar. He pushes the  
door and it creaks open.

INT. JACK'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Jack enters a completely dark living room.

JACK

Who's here?

FLASH of LIGHTENING reveals Allen sitting in a chair. He  
clutches a baseball bat.

Allen FLICKS on a LAMP.

ALLEN

Hello Jack.

THUNDER resonates.

JACK

(stammering)

Mr. Anderson. Allen. Everything OK?

ALLEN

Oh, everything will be OK soon.

Jack backs away from Allen. Allen slithers toward him.

JACK

Now, Mr. Anderson, I know you're upset.  
But there's no reason to get violent.

ALLEN

Everything was going so fine and dandy,  
Jacky boy. But now I know who my little  
Buddha is.

LIGHTENING flashes.

JACK

(backing away)

Please Allen. For goodness sakes. Think  
what you're doing.

THUNDER booms.

ALLEN

Oh, the time for thinking has left long  
ago, Jacky Boy. Now it's time for  
swinging!

Allen swings at Jack. Jack ducks. Allen shatters some  
glass trinkets.

JACK

Please don't do this.

Allen swings. Jack ducks. Allen shatters the LAMP. The  
room goes dark.

ALLEN

Come on out, Jacky boy. Let's play ball.

Jack scurries upstairs. Allen flicks a light switch.

Light illuminates the living room. Jack is gone. Allen  
runs upstairs.

INT. JACK'S HOUSE - JACK'S BEDROOM - DAY

Jack trembles under the bed.

ALLEN (O.S.)

Jacky, Jacky, Jacky, come out and play  
with me.

The door creaks open. A large shadow of Allen appears by  
the door.

ALLEN (CONT'D)

I know you're in here, Jacky boy. Time to  
get enlightened.

Allen stands by the bed.

ALLEN (CONT'D)

Come on Jack, take it like a man. You know you deserve this.

JACK

Fuck you, Mr. Anderson.

Jack lunges at Allen's legs and topples him over. Allen gains the upper hand and chokes Jack.

Allen begins to sob.

ALLEN

How could you do this to me?

Tears roll down Allen's cheeks.

Allen lets go of Jack's neck.

ALLEN (CONT'D)

Oh Jack, I'm sorry. I'm so sorry. Please forgive me.

Jack struggles to push Allen off of him.

JACK

I forgive you. Just get off me now.

Allen clutches Jack tighter. Allen stares into Jack's eyes. He kisses Jack on the cheek.

ALLEN

Enlighten me you son of a bitch!

Jack yelps.

INT. JACK'S HOUSE - JACK'S BEDROOM - DAY

Allen and Jack lie in bed. Allen clutches onto Jack's body.

Jack gazes at the other side of the room. Allen kisses his cheek.

ALLEN

You really are an angel.

Jack grimaces.

SUSIE (O.S.)

Jack, are you home?

BETH (O.S.)  
My sweet little dumpling, where are you?

ALLEN  
Those fiends!

Beth and Susie enter the house and scurry upstairs.

ALLEN (CONT'D)  
Don't worry Jack. I'll deal with these hooligans.

Beth kicks the bedroom door open.

BETH  
Allen!

ALLEN  
Yes, Beth. It is I.

SUSIE  
Oh my!

BETH  
What's going on?

ALLEN  
Stay back! Both of you.

SUSIE  
Jack! I'm shocked!

BETH  
How could you lay with such a filthy piggy?

ALLEN  
Ha! Filthy! Joke's on you Beth, you lied with me for almost thirty years.

BETH  
And I regret every second of it.

ALLEN  
You're full of shit.

Susie, Beth, and Allen yell at each other. Jack shoots up from the bed.

JACK  
That's enough!

Susie, Beth, and Allen leer at Jack.



Jack gets into the bed. The rest of them climb in with him.

FADE TO:

EXT. TOWN HALL - DAY

A large crowd sits in front of the entrance. A band plays music.

Beth, Jack, and Susie sit up front.

A red ribbon hovers in front of the entrance. A podium stands in front of it.

The Mayor approaches the podium. He clutches a large pair of scissors in one of his hands.

MAYOR

Ladies and gentleman. We had a scare a few weeks back, but I am happy to report that Allen is fine and dandy and will graciously take care of all the damages he has brought upon our community. Everybody has a bad day, right folks? So it is with great pleasure that I bring to you the new town hall, and it's all thanks to our beloved Handy Guy.

Allen approaches the Mayor.

MAYOR (CONT'D)

Would you do the honors?

The Mayor hands Allen the scissors. Allen cuts the red ribbon. The crowd cheers.

INT. ALLEN'S HOUSE - DINING ROOM - NIGHT

Lit candles adorn the dining room table.

Jack sits at one end. Beth and Susie sit on each side and Allen sits at the other end.

Jack picks at his food. Everyone stares at him.

Jack stands. Everyone scoots backwards in their chairs.

Jack ambles out of the dining room. Everyone follows him.

EXT. WAREHOUSE - DAY

Tony assists other workers outside the warehouse.

Allen and Jack strut out of the warehouse. Jack jitters and sips a large coffee.

ALLEN

How's everything coming along, Tony?

TONY

Fine and dandy, Mr. Anderson.

ALLEN

That's what I like to hear.

(to Jack)

Five minutes, my office.

Allen enters the warehouse.

JACK

Five minutes—of course five minutes.

Jack chugs the coffee.

TONY

Take it easy with that coffee, Jack.

Jack smashes the coffee cup onto the ground.

JACK

Take it easy? You think I should take it easy, eh Tony?

Tony backs away from Jack.

TONY

You're scaring me, Jack.

The other workers stop and stare at Jack.

JACK

What are you all lookin at? Get back to work!

The other workers get back to work.

TONY

You gotta relax, buddy.

Jack grabs onto Tony's shirt.

JACK

I gotta get outta here!

INT. WAREHOUSE - ALLEN'S OFFICE - DAY

Allen sits at his desk. A couch lies across from him.

Jack opens the door and taps on it.

JACK

Five minutes.

ALLEN

The longest five minutes of my life.

Jack slumps onto the couch.

JACK

Of course it was.

Allen scurries toward him. Jack tries to back away as Allen wraps his arms around him.

ALLEN

Oh Jack, I've been thinking about all that ancient mumbo jumbo you've been talking about.

JACK

Oh yeah?

ALLEN

Why don't we try one of those tantric massages?

Jack shoves Allen and stammers off the couch.

JACK

You know what Allen, totally forgot. Lot's of work to be done.

Jack dashes out of the room.

EXT. WAREHOUSE - DAY

Jack bolts toward Tony.

JACK

Let's go.

TONY

Go where?

JACK

We got work to do!

INT. JACK'S CAR - DAY

Jack drives. Tony sits in the passenger seat.

TONY  
So where we going?

JACK  
Doesn't matter.

TONY  
I thought you had shit to do.

JACK  
Shut up Tony. Just shut up already!

EXT. BUS STATION - DAY

Jack drives by the bus station. A bus pulls up just as Jack zips by.

A few passengers get off the bus. Alex is among them.

Alex grabs his suitcase from the bottom of the bus.

He walks down the street.

EXT. ALLEN'S HOUSE - DAY

Alex strolls toward the front door.

INT. ALLEN'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY

Susie and Beth prepare a meal together.

SUSIE  
Come on Beth, put some muscle into it.

Beth glares at Susie.

The front door opens.

ALEX (O.S.)  
Hello? Anyone home?

SUSIE  
He's home!

BETH  
My turtle-dove.

Alex enters the kitchen. Beth and Susie gasp at the sight of him.

BETH (CONT'D)

Hun!

Beth hugs Alex and kisses him on the cheek.

ALEX

What's Susie doing here?

BETH

She's just been helping around the house.

SUSIE

Hey Alex, what are you doing home?

ALEX

I been doing a lot of thinking. I decided to quit playing ball.

BETH

Good. I'm relieved.

SUSIE

What are you gonna do now?

ALEX

I know Allen's a weirdo and all, but I think I wanna get into the family business.

BETH

That's great, Hun.

ALEX

Plus I'd get to work with Jack.

Beth and Susie blush.

ALEX (CONT'D)

That would be pretty cool. I was gonna go now and tell Allen the good news.

BETH

Great idea, let's all go.

SUSIE

We can bring him lunch.

INT. WAREHOUSE - DAY

Allen converses with some workers.

Alex, Susie, and Beth enter the warehouse.

ALLEN  
Wooh! Alex is home.

ALEX  
I've come to work with ya, Dad.

Allen hugs Alex.

ALLEN  
Oh my baby boy. You have no idea how  
happy this makes me.

BETH  
Where is he?

SUSIE  
We brought him some lunch.

ALLEN  
Not the slightest idea.

ALEX  
Where's who?

Beth, Susie, and Allen leer at Alex.

EXT. BAR - DAY

Jack's car is parked in the lot.

INT. BAR - DAY

Jack slouches at the bar. Tony sits next to him.

A blonde woman approaches the bar. Tony ogles her.

TONY  
Hello mama.

The woman sneers at Tony. She walks away.

JACK  
I dunno what to do anymore.

TONY  
I really think you're overacting.

JACK  
Do ya?

TONY

I mean, it is a little weird with Mr. Anderson.

JACK

It's weird with all of them.

TONY

Can he really do anything with his hands?

JACK

Maybe I should skip town.

TONY

Where would you go?

JACK

Somewhere far away.

TONY

Alright. Let's go.

JACK

Where?

TONY

On the road.

JACK

You wanna go on the road with me?

TONY

Just you and me Jack-Off, let's do it.

JACK

Jeez Tony, I dunno.

TONY

Don't you wanna get away from Susie and the Andersons?

JACK

Yes definitely, but then I'd be with you all the time.

TONY

We'll hit the road and bang random babes in motels. Living the dream.

JACK

You don't get it, Tony. That's not your dream.

TONY  
Whose dream is it?

JACK  
I'm not gonna skip town. I'm just gonna  
confront them.

Jack gets up and approaches the door.

TONY  
Oh.

JACK  
I'm gonna march right up to them and say,  
I'm done!

TONY  
Hell ya!

Tony runs after him.

TONY (CONT'D)  
Wait for me.

EXT. WAREHOUSE - DAY

Jack pulls up. Tony and Jack step out of the car.

JACK  
First, I'm gonna tell Allen we are done  
with all this hooplah.

TONY  
Can't wait to see that.

The doors to the warehouse burst open. Susie, Beth,  
Allen, and Alex strut out.

SUSIE  
Jack!

Susie rushes toward Jack. She kisses him on the cheek.

BETH  
My love.

Beth hugs Jack.

ALLEN  
Where have you been mister?

JACK  
Tony and I were prospecting clients.



ALLEN

That a boy.

Allen rustles Jack's hair.

Alex approaches Jack.

JACK

Hey man. You're home.

ALEX

Sup.

Alex sticks his fist out. Jack goes to dab him but Alex reaches for a hug instead.

ALEX (CONT'D)

Missed you buddy.

JACK

Yeah sure.

ALEX

Alright Dad. Let's get some fuckin' work done.

ALLEN

Can you believe it, my own son.

BEGIN SERIES OF SHOTS

A) Allen, Tony, Jack, and Alex repair the broken Liquor Store.

B) Allen, Tony, Jack, and Alex build a house together.

C) Beth and Susie both bring Jack lemonade. Jack tosses the lemonades on the ground as Susie and Beth leave.

END SERIES OF SHOTS

INT. WAREHOUSE - DAY

Allen, Alex, and Jack stand on a TV set with a film crew.

ALEX

Alex Anderson here to tell you all that if you need a hand then give us a call.

ALLEN

I'm the Handy Guy!

ALEX

And I'm the Handy Guy's son. His real son.

Allen throws his arms around Alex and Jack.

ALLEN

My sons and I can do anything.

ALEX

I'm his son!

ALLEN

So give us a call.

The filming ends. Allen turns to the crew.

ALLEN (CONT'D)

Alright, great work fellas. That's a wrap.

The film crew begins to break down the set.

ALLEN (CONT'D)

Boys, things are truly going to be glorious from here on out.

JACK

Let go of me.

Allen beams toward Jack.

ALLEN

Heaven on Earth.

Jack frees himself from Allen's grip and runs off.

ALEX

I wonder what's the matter with Jack.

ALLEN

Nothing. Nothing at all.

EXT. WAREHOUSE - DAY

Jack lies on the front of his car. Alex exits the warehouse and approaches him.

ALEX

Everything OK?

Jack sits up.

JACK

Oh hey man. Listen, I'm really happy you're home and working with us. Sorry I haven't really been myself lately it's been busy and--

Alex sobs.

JACK (CONT'D)

Oh no, what's wrong with you?

ALEX

You're just such a good friend.

JACK

Oh come on now.

ALEX

I fucking love you Jack.

JACK

Of course. I love you too Alex. Let's not get crazy about it.

Alex kisses Jack.

ALEX

Wow!

JACK

Damn it!

Alex kisses Jack. Allen and Tony exit the warehouse.

ALLEN

What's going on!

Allen rushes toward Jack and shoves Alex away.

ALEX

Sorry Dad, didn't realize you were a homophobe.

Allen squeezes Jack.

ALLEN

Lay your hands off my angel.

ALEX

Huh?

Tony scratches his head.

Jack punches Allen in the face.

JACK  
I'm nobody's angel.

TONY  
Way to go Jack!

Alex scratches his head.

Allen rubs his face.

ALLEN  
Oh Jack. You like to play rough, now  
we're talkin'.

JACK  
No!

Jack runs off.

TONY  
Jack wait up!

Tony dashes after him.

ALLEN  
He wants to play cat and mouse. I must be  
dreaming.

Allen dashes after them.

ALLEN (CONT'D)  
You can't hide from me, Jacky boy.

Alex stands there alone.

EXT. STREET - DAY

Jack dashes down the street. Tony and Allen chase after  
him.

INT. CLOTHING STORE - DAY

Beth peruses through the store. She glances out the  
window as Jack dashes by.

BETH  
Jack?

EXT. CLOTHING STORE - DAY

Beth steps out of the store.

BETH

Hey Jack! Where are you going?

Tony and Allen dash by Beth.

ALLEN

Go home Beth. Stop spending my money.

BETH

What are you doin' to my angel?

Beth scurries after them.

EXT. STREET - DAY

Jack dashes down the street. Tony, Allen, and Beth are on his tail.

Susie bikes toward Jack.

SUSIE

Hey Jack. Why are you running?

JACK

Leave me alone!

Jack turns down an alleyway.

Susie stops her bike and gazes at Jack.

EXT. COFFEE SHOP - DAY

Jack dashes around the corner. He enters the coffee shop.

INT. COFFEE SHOP - DAY

Customers lounge at different tables and couches.

SAM, an elderly gentleman, plays jazz on the piano.

Jack sits by Sam and rests his head on the table. Sam doesn't stop playing as he converses with Jack.

SAM

What's troubling you, son?

JACK

I'm just so confused.

SAM

About what?

JACK

About life.

Sam chortles.

SAM

Oh son, we're all confused about that.  
But I'll tell yeah one thing my grandpa  
taught me many years ago.

Sam shows his hands to Jack.

SAM (CONT'D)

Life is all about these hands.

JACK

Hands?

SAM

That's right, there's magic in these  
hands. You think I'm the one playing this  
piano?

JACK

Magic? I don't understand.

SAM

It's all in the hands my friend. All in  
the hands.

Tony appears outside a store window. He points at Jack.

EXT. JACK'S HOUSE - DUSK

Tony's red convertible pulls into the driveway. Jack  
steps out of the car.

Tony rolls down the window.

TONY

You sure you don't wanna hit the road  
with me?

JACK

I'll be OK.

TONY

Ya sure?

JACK

Maybe tomorrow.

Tony pulls out of the driveway and drives off.

INT. JACK'S HOUSE - HALLWAY - DUSK

Jack enters the house.

DAD (O.S.)  
Jack! Is that you?

JACK  
Dad?

INT. JACK'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - DUSK

Jack's Dad sobs at the kitchen table.

DO NOT SEE HIS FACE.

Jack enters.

DAD  
Son! Where is your mother?

JACK  
She left.

DAD  
Left! Where did she go?

JACK  
She left town with another man.

DAD  
My darling angel. I have made a terrible  
mistake. Do you know where she went,  
Jack?

JACK  
Some foreign land.

The Dad rises.

DAD  
Then I shall find her. No matter the  
peril, I shall risk life and limb to  
bring that woman back into my arms.

JACK  
But why? I thought you didn't love her  
anymore.

DAD  
Because I do love her, damn it. I love  
that fucking broad.

The Dad gallops out of the room.

INT. JACK'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - NIGHT

Jack prepares a sandwich.

JACK  
It's all in the hands. It's all in the hands.

ALEX (O.S.)  
Hi Jack.

Alex stands in the kitchen. Jack jumps and turns toward him.

JACK  
Dude! You just walk in my house?

ALEX  
What's the big deal?

Alex approaches him.

ALEX (CONT'D)  
I really wanna talk to you.

JACK  
Yeah sure.

ALEX  
I'm sorry about before.

JACK  
Oh you're just expressing yourself, I suppose.

Jack and Alex amble toward the living room.

ALEX  
I'm starting to think something weird is happening between you and my parents.

INT. JACK'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Susie stands in the middle of the room. Jack and Alex enter.

SUSIE  
Hi Jack.



JACK

Not just them.

Susie rushes toward Jack.

SUSIE

What are you up too?

She glares at Alex.

SUSIE (CONT'D)

I was hoping we could spend some time alone.

ALEX

I'm hangin' with Jack right now.

Alex and Susie pull Jack's arms.

BETH (O.S.)

(shrieking)

Jacky!

ALLEN (O.S.)

Jacky boy where are you?

Beth and Allen enter the house.

ALEX

What the hell are they doing here?

Beth and Allen enter the living room.

ALLEN

Alex, why are you here?

ALEX

I'm trying to hang with Jack. What the hell?

ALLEN

Run along now, your mother and I have some very important business to do with Jack.

ALEX

Jack, are you fucking my parents?

JACK

Wish I wasn't.

SUSIE

Get out of here, Andersons. I wanna spend the night with Jack.

BETH  
You're such a child, Susie.

SUSIE  
Shut up Beth.

Alex grabs Jack.

ALEX  
All of you leave. I've been away for a long time and I wanna spend some time with him.

BETH  
Don't be difficult.

ALLEN  
Run along home son. That's an order.

ALEX  
No! If you want Jack you're gonna have to take me too.

BETH  
Get outa here.

ALEX  
I don't care. I'll do it for you, Jack.

JACK  
Let go of me.

Alex backs away from Jack.

Jack charges out of the room. Everyone follows him.

INT. JACK'S HOUSE - STAIRWELL - NIGHT

Jack storms up the stairs as they all chase after him.

SUSIE  
Just come over Jack. Leave these goons alone.

JACK  
No.

ALLEN  
We need you buddy, let's go.

BETH  
Heaven is only moments away.

JACK

No.

INT. JACK'S HOUSE - UPSTAIRS HALLWAY - NIGHT

Jack heads down the hall and stands outside his bedroom door. Everyone huddles around him.

ALEX

All of you leave us alone.

JACK

How about all of you leave me alone.

ALEX

What?

JACK

I'm sick and tired of all of you.

BETH

Oh Jack, you don't mean it.

SUSIE

I love you, Jack.

JACK

Love? You wouldn't know what love is if it knocked right on your door step. I've made up my mind. I'm only going to love one person and one person only.

Jack opens the bedroom door.

JACK (CONT'D)

I'm going to love myself.

Everyone gasps.

JACK (CONT'D)

Now would all of you get outta here. I got some jacking off to do.

Jack enters the bedroom and slams the door shut.

Beth, Allen, Susie, and Alex stand outside the door.

Beth falls to her knees and holds her hands together.

BETH

I will wait for him.

Susie weeps.

SUSIE

How could he do this?

Alex stands in the middle of the hall.

ALEX

But, Jack.

A single tear trickles down Alex's cheek.

Allen slams his fists on the bedroom door.

ALLEN

Come on, buddy. You don't mean it.

Allen slumps onto the ground and sobs. Susie falls to her knees next to Beth.

FADE OUT.