

"TINSEL TENSIONS"

Written By

Xavion Niles

January 10th, 2025

FADE IN:

INT. FOXXXY'S - NIGHT

"MY FAVOURITE TIME OF YEAR" by Pete Masitti plays over the speakers

The gay bar is packed with patrons from all walks of life.

Colorful lights hang from the ceiling...life sized toy soldiers stand in the corners...people toast their holiday themed drinks.

It's as if the North Pole invaded the place.

HAYLEY (O.S.)

Why do we call this "Secret Santa" if it's just you and me exchanging gifts?

NOTE: Hayley Dower is a minor character from my queer holiday romantic comedy, "**Can I Keep You?**". Yes! I am creating a "**Rom-Com Cinematic Universe**" set in New York City where some of the most magical love stories are told...the "**RCCU**", if you will.

INT. FOXXXY'S - BAR - NIGHT

CRISPIN CLAUNETTE (30); a handsome Caucasian male with a head full of salt and pepper hair and jolly as a rancher sits next to his best friend, **HAYLEY DOWER** (33); a beautiful, African American woman with bone straight, jet black hair.

CRISPIN

Because it's the Christmas way.

Crispin pulls out a rectangular gift-wrapped box from his inside jacket pocket and extends it toward Hayley.

HAYLEY

Well, *that*. And the fact that we don't have any other friends. Now gimme, gimme, gimme!

Hayley takes a small square gift-wrapped box out of her pocketbook. The two friends exchange their gifts.

Hayley unwraps hers first, revealing a black jewelry box. She opens it and her eyes fill with shock.

HAYLEY

Crispin...you *didn't*.

CRISPIN
 (plays dumb)
 Didn't what?

Hayley takes out the jewelry box's contents, a GORGEOUS AND SHINY SILVER CHARM BRACELET.

HAYLEY
 This is the *exact* charm bracelet I told you my grandmother used to have. How have you managed to get me the *perfect* Christmas gift every year for the past three years?

CRISPIN
 Christmas magic, of course.

HAYLEY
 Maybe I should've stuffed a *boyfriend* in that box for you. You know what? Give me that back. I'm gonna go out tomorrow and try again.

CRISPIN
 No! It is *mine* and I am opening it.

Crispin unwraps his gift and smiles when he sees what's inside, a PAIR OF DIAMOND STUDED SANTA CLAUS EARRINGS.

CRISPIN
 You do know I'm going to wear these *all* year, right?

HAYLEY
 Why do you think I got them? Now you can have your favorite holiday every day.

Crispin smiles and hugs Hayley. His eyes fall onto a section at the back of the bar which is decorated differently than the rest of the establishment. IT'S VERY DEPRESSING.

DARKER LIGHTING.

BLACK CANDLES.

A BLACK CAULDRON FILLED WITH PUNCH.

A LIFE-SIZED KRAMPUS DISPLAY.

And there's only one person sitting in the section.

LUKAS KRAMPMORE (30); insanely attractive, African American, dressed in a business suit and looking very disengaged from the holiday setting.

Crispin and Hayley break their hug.

CRISPIN

I can't *believe* they put an actual Krampus section in here.

HAYLEY

Well, not *everyone* loves Christmas as much as you do. Inclusivity *isn't* just for us DEI hires, ya know.

(shrugs)

Krampus is a thing for some people.

Crispin laughs. Though his gaze is unable to move from the dejected looking Lukas.

CRISPIN

You know what? As an agent of St. Nick, I am *not* going to let this stand. People should *not* look like that on Christmas Day.

HAYLEY

Look like what?

Crispin gestures for Hayley to look behind her. She turns her head, seeing Lukas.

HAYLEY

Oh, people should *definitely* look like that. And not just on Christmas but on *every* day that ends in "Y". Crispin, he is *hot*. Could *melt* the candy right off my cane *any* day.

CRISPIN

What he *is*, is sucking the tidings and joy out of this place. But...it's a good thing I come prepared for situations like this.

Crispin grabs two candy canes out of a jar resting on the bar. He unwraps one and puts it in his mouth.

CRISPIN (CONT'D)

Excuse me.

Crispin gets up from his bar stool.

HAYLEY

Uhhhh, what are you about to do...

Crispin begins walking toward Lukas.

HAYLEY

He's going to bother the grumpy hottie.

(sips her drink)

This should be an interesting disaster.

INT. FOXXY'S - KRAMPUS SECTION - NIGHT

Crispin sits down next to Lukas.

CRISPIN

So...you look like you could use this.

Crispin goes into his pocket and pulls out the second candy cane. Lukas looks over at Crispin, uninterested.

LUKAS

I don't eat candy. And I don't celebrate Christmas.

CRISPIN

Then...why come into a Christmas themed bar?

LUKAS

Because it was the closest place to get a drink after work.

CRISPIN

And what is work?

LUKAS

I'm an architect.

CRISPIN

So, you design buildings. And by the way, *that* is not a drink. *That* is hot chocolate with red and green sprinkles on top of whipped cream. A Christmas staple. So maybe you *do* celebrate, and you just don't know it.

LUKAS

If you *must* know...this is actually a "Kringle Cap". *Kahlua* heavy. *Christmas* lite.

CRISPIN

And now...

Crispin unwraps the candy cane and puts it into Lukas's drink.

CRISPIN (CONT'D)

It's Christmas medium.

LUKAS

Do you...work here or something?

CRISPIN

No. I don't work *here* but I do kind of work for The North Pole. I run one of my parents' toy stores here in the city. "Magic Moments".

LUKAS

I've seen that place. Pretty notorious.

LUKAS

Yes. My family has made a living out of bringing joy to little kids around the country. Which is why I was immediately drawn to you.

LUKAS

Were you now?

CRISPIN

I'm *sitting* here, aren't I?

LUKAS

Forcefully.

CRISPIN

(smiles)

Joyfully.

(beat)

So, you *really* didn't do anything for Christmas today? Family dinner? "Secret Santa"?

LUKAS

My family lives in Florida. And the only "secret" about Santa is that he doesn't exist. Unless he's you. Cause that would explain...well...you.

CRISPIN

(laughs)

I am *not* Santa Claus.

LUKAS

Coulda' fooled me.

CRISPIN

I've just always loved Christmas. And it literally *pains* me to see people not enjoying the most wonderful time of the year. They *don't* have a million covers of that song for no reason.

LUKAS

Well, my family was just...never really into it. All the...lights and the gifts...and...the *cheesy* Christmas music...

CRISPIN

But the *music* is the best part! Like, The Jackson 5 Christmas album? A *timeless* classic. Ariana's "Christmas and Chill" *lives* in my Spotify throughout the year and "All I Want For Christmas Is You" goes number one every year! I mean, it's right up there with The Star-Spangled banner as a national anthem and Mariah isn't the Queen of Christmas just for shits and giggles...

A small smile begins to appear on Lukas's face, finding himself AMUSED AND SLIGHTLY ENDEARED by Crispin's love for Christmas.

CRISPIN (CONT'D)

These songs are *imbued* with the essence of what makes the holiday so special! It's *literally* where the magic comes from. And the "traditions" aren't just made up, they all come from somewhere. Like, did you *know* that mistletoe *actually* derives from

the Norse and Scandanavian myths of--

Lukas has been staring at Crispin in awe as he rambles on...and it's the CUTEST THING EVER.

Suddenly, Lukas kisses Crispin. Silencing the other man into a daze.

INT. FOXXXY'S - BAR - NIGHT

Hayley has been secretly recording Crispin and Lukas's interaction on her phone.

HAYLEY

(shocked)

What?! Oh, I gotta hit the zoom on this.

The bartender notices her filming his patrons and gives her a disapproving look.

HAYLEY

That's my best friend. Go on and make your little drinks. Shoo.

INT. FOXXXY'S - KRAMPUS SECTION - NIGHT - CONT'D

LUKAS

(sighs)

That is so much better. You were talking. A lot.

Lukas casually sips his Kringle Cap. He looks down at the cup, taking in the taste. Something's off.

LUKAS

That's...weird.

(beat)

This...tastes different now.

CRISPIN

(still dazed)

Like, um...like what?

LUKAS

(beat)

Like you.

(small smile)

The Peppermint flavored Christmas Nazi.

CRISPIN
(laughs)
You can...just...call me Crispin.

LUKAS
Okay. *Crispin*. I guess...you can just
call me...Lukas.

"NOT JUST ON CHRISTMAS" by Ariana Grande plays in the background

Lukas and Crispin look into each other's eyes. And IT'S LIKE MAGIC.

They lean into each other slowly, going for another kiss...

MONTAGE BEGINS

INT. HAYLEY'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Crispin and Lukas's lips meet in a kiss. They're surrounded by Hayley and other party goers hugging and kissing each other as they celebrate the new year...2025!

INT. CRISPIN'S APARTMENT - ENTRYWAY - NIGHT

The front door opens. Crispin walks in and stops when he notices rose petals on the floor of the hallway, leading toward the kitchen. He smiles and follows the trail.

INT. CRISPIN'S APARTMENT - KITCHEN - NIGHT

Crispin arrives at the kitchen and stops, seeing dinner set up on the island. Lukas stands in his sweatpants and a tank top, holding a red heart shaped box. Crispin smiles happily.

INT. FOXXXY'S - BAR - NIGHT

Crispin, Lukas, and Hayley wear St. Patrick themed hats and take shots at the bar. Hayley gestures for the bartender to pour them another round.

EXT. CHELSEA PIERS - NIGHT

Lukas stands behind Crispin, his arms wrapped around him as they watch the July 4th fireworks display.

FIREWORKS GO OFF IN THE SKY!

EXT. LUKAS'S APARTMENT - HALLWAY - NIGHT

Crispin gives out candy to trick or treaters, they happily take them and go to the next apartment.

INT. LUKAS'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Lukas sits at his desk, on his laptop. Crispin walks in and stands behind Lukas, leaning over his shoulder as they look at the screen. They talk amongst themselves.

CLOSE UP ON LAPTOP SCREEN; A REALTOR WEBSITE SHOWING A PHOTO OF A HOUSE IN BROOKLYN, NY.

INT. HAYLEY'S REALTY OFFICE - TABLE - DAY

Crispin and Lukas sit across from Hayley, signing paperwork. They sign the last paper and look at each other with slightly nervous but happy expressions.

Hayley jumps up and runs around the table, hugging them both.

INT. CRISPIN & LUKAS'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

QUICK SHOTS

--Movers bringing furniture into Crispin and Lukas's new house.

--Lukas placing dishes in the kitchen cabinet.

--Crispin placing their photos around the living room.

--Lukas helping Crispin adjust a painting on the wall.

--Crispin placing a "Welcome Home" mat on the ground in front of the front door.

--Lukas and Crispin cuddled up on the couch asleep, completely drained from setting up their home; the Macy's Thanksgiving Day parade plays on television.

The title card fades slowly onto the screen as jingle bells chime in the background...

"TINSEL TENSIONS"

MONTAGE ENDS

PRE - LAP

CRISPIN (O.S.)
 Yes, mom, it will feel just like
 Christmas in Colorado.

INT. THE CLAUSETTE'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY

DENVER, COLORADO. The kitchen is decorated with Christmas items. Christmas themed oven mitts hang over the stove. A Christmas themed tablecloth lays over the kitchen island.

Crispin's mom, **MISSY CLAUSETTE** (58); curly blonde hair that sits under her red Santa Claus hat, bright red lipstick, and wearing a very busy Christmas sweater, leans on the island as she speaks to Crispin on the phone.

MISSY
 Will there be snow? I read the last
 white Christmas in New York City was
 in...
 (gulps)
 Two thousand and *nine*. It's been a
 whole century, Pin Drop.

INT. CRISPIN & LUKAS'S HOUSE - BEDROOM - DAY

Crispin sits on the bed with the phone to his ear.

CRISPIN
 Is it possible for the airport to lose
 your dramatics instead of your
 luggage?

INTERCUT - PHONE CALL

MISSY
 You know your father and I moved here
just so you could have an authentic,
 snowy, jolly old time every December
 25th. I just don't want to break
 tradition, honey.

CRISPIN
 I understand, mom. I'm actually hoping
 some of our Christmas spirit will rub
 off on Lukas. He's always so sour
 pussy around this time of year.

MISSY
 Ugh, I can't wait to meet him in
 person *and* see your new place! And do
 not worry. I can stuff the Christmas

into a curmudgeon the same way I stuff a holiday pheasant. Quick, easy, and no mess.

CRISPIN

I remember there being some mess.

MISSY

That's because I let your *father* do it that one year and he *baked* the turkey with the innards inside. It was like cremating a corpse without doing an autopsy first.

CRISPIN

Where is dad?

MISSY

Making sure he's got all his Christmas essentials packed away.

KRISTOFF (O.S.)

Chestnut! Have you seen my chestnuts?!

MISSY

They're in the pantry under the mistletoe!

KRISTOFF CLAUSETTE (63); Caucasian, hefty stomach, fluffy white beard, a lumberjack with the disposition of a care bear; comes into the frame and snuggles next to Missy.

KRISTOFF

Mistletoe, huh? Wanna come get those chestnuts with me?

CRISPIN

(icked out)

Can you *please* wait until I at least get off the phone before you start...*fluffing* up mom?

KRISTOFF

If I hadn't fluffed up your mom, you'd still be an egg. I had to add a little bit of my nog to get you here.

CRISPIN

And now we won't be serving that for Christmas dinner because I am traumatized.

MISSY

Oh, Pin Drop! Are Lukas's parents coming for Christmas too?

CRISPIN

He offered but they politely declined. They're committed to spending Christmas in Bimini which sorta sucks. I was kinda hoping to meet his parentals.

MISSY

Well, why don't you call them and ask? You've always been very good at persuasion.

KRISTOFF

You get that from your mother!

CRISPIN

Hm.

(considers idea)

Maybe I will.

MISSY

Alright, honey, we have to go. I have to finish packing, double check your father's suitcases, *and* run down to "Magic Moments" to help out with the Christmas play auditions *but...*we will see you in twenty-four hours.

KRISTOFF/MISSY

Love you, Pin Drop!

CRISPIN

Love you guys too.

KRISTOFF

(To Missy)

Now...let's go get those chestnuts, huh?

CRISPIN

Trauma!

Crispin quickly hangs up the phone. For a moment, he contemplates something.

INT. CRISPIN & LUKAS'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Lukas sits on the floor, putting ornaments on a very TINY AND SAD looking Christmas tree which stands in the corner. Crispin enters, stopping at the doorway.

CRISPIN

(sighs)

The sacrifices I make for the man I love.

Lukas looks up, hearing Crispin's voice.

LUKAS

What? Somebody had to take the runt of the group. And hey, give me a little credit, this is my first Christmas tree ever.

CRISPIN

Bush, babe. It is a Christmas *bush*.

Crispin sits down across from Lukas and begins to put ornaments on the tree.

CRISPIN

But I guess you're right. Some points *should* be given for you attempting to come off your holiday hate hill.

LUKAS

Well, unlike you, I don't have a bunch of Christmas memories to re-create. The only good thing about this time of year is our...

CRISPIN

One year anniversary.

LUKAS

And we get to spend it with your parents. I do have to say I am a little nervous about...meeting your folks.

CRISPIN

They're going to love you! They will *definitely* hate this tree, but they will understand your aversion.

LUKAS

Really?

CRISPIN

(shakes head "no")

No. Not at all. My mother might try to baptize you in tinsel.

Lukas laughs.

CRISPIN

Are you *sure* your parents won't be able to come up for the holidays?

LUKAS

Pin, I told you. My parents *hate* Christmas. Where do you think I got it from?

CRISPIN

Well, what about your little brother? Doesn't he like Christmas? I mean, leaving out cookies and milk for Santa? Writing him letters?

LUKAS

My "little" brother? Is sixteen.

CRISPIN

I did that until I was eighteen.

LUKAS

You couldn't have divulged that information *before* we moved in together?

CRISPIN

Shut up! It doesn't matter *how* old you are. Christmas is the time we're supposed to embrace our inner child.

LUKAS

My mother hates kids.

CRISPIN

Isn't she the headmistress of a private school?

LUKAS

Have you ever seen "Matilda"? She's...kinda like *that*. But in black.

(beat)

And yeah. I'm not gonna lie. It *would* be nice if...they *were* here. I haven't seen them or Rudy in years but, it's not gonna happen.

CRISPIN

Huh. Interesting. Well, who knows? *Maybe* they'll change their mind.

EXT. BEACH - DAY

MIAMI, FLORIDA. It's a bright sunny day. People are tanning on their blankets and beach chairs. Surfers are catching waves. Kids are building sandcastles. Not a sign of the holiday season in sight.

PERSIA (O.S.)

Look at them kids over there.

CLOSE UP ON TWO CHILDREN WEARING CHRISTMAS THEMED BATHING SUITS

PERSIA KRAMPMORE (55); African American, pretty with a rough, no-nonsense exterior, rubs suntan lotion on herself.

PERSIA

Don't they know this is a Christmas free zone? They *probably* don't even deserve any damn gifts. Statistically, most children *don't* because they're bad as hell.

WARREN (O.S.)

As long as they don't come over here, we're good.

WARREN KRAMPMORE (67); African American, handsome because the black didn't crack, with a nice build, lies on his beach chair with a pair of dark sunglasses as he takes in the sun.

PERSIA

I am so glad we bypassed those holiday hiccups with Rudy. My baby will choose waves and wakeboards over caroling and Christmas chaos any day.

EXT. BEACH - OCEAN - DAY

RUDY KRAMPMORE (16); handsome, African American, rides a wave effortlessly on his surfboard as his abs glisten in the sun.

EXT. BEACH - DAY - CONT'D

WARREN

We taught our boys well.

PERSIA

We sure did!

(beat)

I can't get over those pictures Lukas sent us. He and Charleston look so happy in their new house. You think they're gonna get married? Give us some grand babies.

WARREN

You realize that *grandbabies* have to go through the phase of being babies first, right?

PERSIA

Says who? The gays have the luxury of *choice*. They can adopt a fourteen-year-old, so I don't have to deal with all that, "Grandma, look at my Christmas list" nonsense. Cause I don't wanna hear none of that noise.

WARREN

I think we should let them enjoy a housewarming party before we start pushing Lukas and Crispin into parenthood.

PERSIA

Who's Crispin?

WARREN

Lukas's boyfriend, baby.

PERSIA

Ugh, all this talk about Lukas is starting to make me *miss* Lukas.

(thinks)

We should invite the two of them down here sometime. Sometime soon. Like tomorrow.

PERSIA'S PHONE RINGS

Persia goes into her beach bag and takes out her phone, looking at the number. It's one she doesn't recognize.

PERSIA

This better not be one of them parents complaining about the December syllabus. I already sent a note home *with the students for their parents*. "Do not bother me after three cause I am not the one or the two."

(answers phone)

Hello?...

(excited; To Warren)

Oh, honey, honey! It's Lukas's boyfriend!

(into phone)

Hey hon! We were just talking about you guys...really?...well, yes, we did say *that* but if Lukas is feeling that bad about it...yes! Of course, we'll come!

Warren sits up in his beach chair, now alert.

PERSIA

Thank you for calling, Christian.

Persia hangs up the phone.

PERSIA

Alright, get up, we have frequent flyer miles to use. Rudy! Hop out that water and bring yo ass! We got packing to do!

WARREN

Packing? For what? I'm still getting my tan on.

PERSIA

You're blessed. Use the tan God gave you. *We* are going to see our son...in New York City!

WARREN

New York? The Christmas capital of the world?

PERSIA

Listen, I will walk through a minefield of Santa's little sweatshop workers if it means we get to spend some time with Lukas.

RUDY (O.S.)
(excited)
We're going to see Luke?

Persia and Warren look over, seeing Rudy walking up to them with his surfboard.

WARREN
We're going to freeze our asses off.

PERSIA
And we're going to do it as a *family*.

WARREN
What about your students?

PERSIA
Oh, that's a problem for the assistant headmistress until I get back. What did I say? Not the one or the two.

INT. COFFEE SHOP - TABLE - DAY

Lukas and Hayley sit across from each other. Hayley stares at Lukas's phone screen with a big smile on her face as she scrolls down the screen.

CLOSE UP ON PHONE SCREEN; A WEBSITE FULL OF ENGAGEMENT RINGS

HAYLEY
I cannot believe you're going to propose to Crispin. On Christmas!
(beat)
And he has no idea?

LUKAS
I'd hope not. It just sucks that every ring I see, I hate.

HAYLEY
You want it to be perfect and that's understandable. But this is so exciting!

LUKAS
You think his parents will approve?

HAYLEY
Lukas, you're a catch. Of course, they will.
(thinks)

Except for your whole Mr. Grinch thing. What's *that* about anyway? Because you love every other holiday.

LUKAS

My parents. They always thought Christmas was..."too commercial".

HAYLEY

That must have been pretty crappy for you as a kid.

LUKAS

I got used to it. And oddly, if I did care about Christmas, I probably wouldn't have met Crispin.

HAYLEY

Because you wouldn't have been in the Debbie Downer section of Foxxxxy's and *Crispin* wouldn't have harassed you. Wow. That makes so much sense. Almost like fate.

PRE - LAP

CRISPIN (O.S.)

It really was like...fate.

INT. MAGIC MOMENTS - TOY DISPLAY - DAY

Crispin and a sales associate, **NICOLE "COLE" RAMOS** (16); pretty, energetic, and full of Christmas spirit; place some toy boxes onto a table display.

COLE

Duh! I mean, you and Lukas are just so...perfect for each other.

CRISPIN

We...have our differences.

COLE

Well yeah, you're "Mr. Frosty" and he's "Mr. Frostbite" but other than that, you go together like...turtle doves.

CRISPIN

Thank you, Cole. I just hope that Lukas still feels that way when he

sees the gift I got for him.

COLE

Well, that's why they make gift receipts.

CRISPIN

(thinks)

Can you return parents?

INT. COFFEE SHOP - TABLE - DAY - CONT'D

LUKAS

So...what are Crispin's parents like? Anything specific I should know before I ask them to "give me their son"?

HAYLEY

Oh, Mr. and Mrs. Clausette are *annoyingly* cute, which makes sense since they make toys for a living. I met them a few years ago on Crispin's twenty-seventh birthday. That's when they gifted him his own "Magic Moments" store.

LUKAS

Know what my mother gifted me on my twenty-seventh birthday? A vasectomy appointment.

HAYLEY

(almost spits out her coffee)
But you're gay.

LUKAS

And *she* wanted to make sure I didn't have any slip ups in case I "changed my mind". Kinda went through a little "bi" phase in college. And my mother really doesn't like small children.

HAYLEY

But you were a baby once. And so was your younger brother.

LUKAS

I was a miracle kid. And they adopted Rudy when he was ten.

HAYLEY

Talk about staying true to the cause.
I can see why they didn't want to fly
up for the holidays.

LUKAS

Maybe it's for the best. The
Clausettes' affinity for Christmas vs.
The Krampmores' Holiday Hives? Not too
sure how that would turn out.

INT. MAGIC MOMENTS - TOY DISPLAY - DAY - CONT'D

CRISPIN

Alright. This looks awesome. Really
good idea to put the dolls in front.

COLE

Well, little girls have better luck
persuading their parents to buy toys.
And once that floodgate opens...

CRISPIN/COLE

Cha-ching.

CRISPIN'S PHONE PINGS

Crispin takes out his phone and looks at it.

MISSY (TEXT)

**WE'RE HO-HO-HEREEEEEEE! ON OUR WAY TO
YOUR PLACE RIGHT NOW, PIN DROP!**

CRISPIN

(excited)

My parents are here!

COLE

I cannot wait to meet the two people
who created "Magic Moments". This
place is like a dream.

CRISPIN

Yeah, they're amazing. Okay, Cole. You
hold down the fort and I will see you
in a couple days.

COLE

You got it, boss.

INT. COFFEE SHOP - TABLE - DAY - CONT'D

Hayley checks her phone.

HAYLEY

Blah. I have clients. Why do the gays always choose to move in together during the holidays? You guys are cutting into my Merry Martini time.

Lukas laughs.

LUKAS'S PHONE RINGS

Lukas looks down at his phone resting on the table.

CALLER ID SAYS "MOM"

Lukas answers.

LUKAS

Hey, mom. What's up?

EXT. AIRPORT - DAY

PERSIA

Lukeyyyy, we're in the cityyyyyyy!
Well, I think this is the city. We're at Le Guardian.

INTERCUT - PHONE CALL

LUKAS

You're at *LaGuardia*? Why?

PERSIA

Because when I hear my baby is having the blues, mama comes with good news! Your boyfriend convinced me. Didn't Crockett tell you we were coming?

LUKAS

We?

PERSIA

Yeah, Rudy and your father are here too. Come get us!

LUKAS

Hold on a second...
(covers phone; to Hayley)

My *family* is here. *Crispin* called them.

HAYLEY

Oh. Well, it looks like that Clausette-Krampmore Christmas is happening after all.

Lukas groans.

INT. CRISPIN & LUKAS'S HOUSE - ENTRYWAY - NIGHT

The front door opens, and Crispin walks in hastily with a few shopping bags. He closes the door and looks down at the bags.

CRISPIN

Alright. Time to make sure this place is "Clausette Christmas Concise".

(beat)

Lukas will understand. He has his bush.

INT. CRISPIN & LUKAS'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

CLOSE UP ON CRISPIN'S PHONE; HE PUTS ON A SPOTIFY PLAYLIST TITLED, "IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR"

"RUN RUN RUDOLPH" by Kelly Clarkson plays over the speakers

MONTAGE BEGINS

INT. CRISPIN & LUKAS'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Crispin hangs seven Christmas stockings across the top of the fireplace.

INT. CRISPIN & LUKAS'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - NIGHT

Crispin smells a pot on the stove. A smile curls onto his closed lips as he takes in the scent of cranberries, cinnamon, and candy canes boiling in the pot, filling the house with their comforting Christmas smell.

INT. CRISPIN & LUKAS'S HOUSE - FIRST FLOOR - RUDY'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Crispin throws a black comforter onto a bed...

INT. CRISPIN & LUKAS'S HOUSE - FIRST FLOOR - THE KRAMPMORE'S
BEDROOM - NIGHT

Crispin throws another black comforter onto a bed...

INT. CRISPIN & LUKAS'S HOUSE - SECOND FLOOR - THE CLAUSETTE'S
BEDROOM - NIGHT

Crispin throws a Christmas themed comforter onto the bed.

INT. CRISPIN & LUKAS'S HOUSE - FIRST FLOOR - THE KRAMPMORES'
BEDROOM - NIGHT

Crispin fixes and fluffs the pillows on the bed.

INT. CRISPIN & LUKAS'S HOUSE - SECOND FLOOR - THE CLAUSETTES'
BEDROOM - NIGHT

Crispin turns on a switch and the room lights up. Christmas
lights line the walls, the bed is decked out in a full
Christmas themed bedspread, there's even a miniature lit
Christmas tree on the dresser...CRISPIN LOOKS PLEASED.

DOORBELL RINGS

MONTAGE ENDS

INT. CRISPIN & LUKAS'S HOUSE - ENTRYWAY - NIGHT

The front door opens. Missy and Kristoff stand there with
bright smiles on their faces.

MISSY/KRISTOFF

Pin Drop!

Missy and Kristoff walk into the house, Missy showers Crispin
with kisses on the cheek.

CRISPIN

(groans)

Aw, mom.

MISSY

Don't act surprised!

KRISTOFF

(smiles)

Son.

CRISPIN
(smiles)

Dad.

Kristoff and Crispin hug.

INT. CRISPIN & LUKAS'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Crispin walks into the living room followed by Missy and Kristoff with their suitcases.

MISSY
Where's Lukas?

Crispin checks his watch.

CRISPIN
Um, honestly, I don't know. He should have been home by now.

KRISTOFF
Well, I'm sure Lukas will be here soon. In the meantime, show us around! I'm already seeing "The Clausette Christmas Concise" in here.

CRISPIN
I believe someone said if you don't decorate for Christmas...
(looks at Missy)
You're doing Lucifer's work.

MISSY
I don't make the rules, sweetheart, I just follow them.

KRISTOFF
One of the many reasons you captured my heart, Chestnut.

Kristoff and Missy kiss lightly on the lips.

CRISPIN
Alright, alright, no fluffing in front of the kids. Let's take you on the tour, okay?

Crispin starts to walk up the winding staircase which leads upstairs. Missy follows behind him, Kristoff follows behind Missy.

MISSY

Oh, this is like a *ride*. I'm getting dizzy but in the best way.

INT. LUKAS'S CAR - NIGHT

Lukas drives down the street. Warren sits in the front seat while Persia and Rudy are perched in the backseat. Warren looks out the window, begrudgingly taking in the sights of New York City in its wintry holiday glory.

RUDY

Hey Luke, is it true they have a mall here where you can snowboard?

LUKAS

American Dream. It's in Jersey.

WARREN

You wanna snowboard?

RUDY

You guys are the ones who hate all things Christmas, I'm just happy I get to wear my trench. Girls love trench coats on guys.

PERSIA

We are here to spend time with Lukas and his boyfriend, *not* so you can meet some holiday hooking harlot.

LUKAS

Geez, mom.

PERSIA

I'm just saying back in my day; this time of year was just for the mistresses to extort money from the no-good husbands.

(laughs)

You don't know *how* many women I had to smite for being *whores* back in the day. Close ya legs to married men girl and hang that garland!

LUKAS

Wait a minute. You were actually mad at people for *not* putting up Christmas decorations? Who are you and where is my real mother?

PERSIA

Are we almost there, baby? I wanna start seasoning this roast, it has to marinate for a few days. Does Carson's mother cook? Maybe we can swap recipes.

LUKAS

His name is Crispin, mom.

PERSIA

(looks at Rudy)

Ain't that what I said?

INT. CRISPIN & LUKAS'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - NIGHT

Missy cuts vegetables on the kitchen island, eating pieces of carrots as she chops the produce. Crispin sits across from her.

MISSY

So, Lukas has no idea his parents are coming? Oh, this is going to be a wonderful surprise.

CRISPIN

That's what I'm hoping.

MISSY

Ya know...there is *something* that's bothering me...it's their bedroom. It's just so...dreary. Lacking in the holly. Why is that?

(laughs)

Do they hate Christmas or something?

CRISPIN

Uh...

KRISTOFF

Pin Drop...

INT. CRISPIN & LUKAS'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Kristoff looks down at the very tiny Christmas tree sitting in the corner. He's very confused.

KRISTOFF

What's wrong with your tree, son? Does it have COVID? Looks like it hasn't eaten in weeks.

INT. CRISPIN & LUKAS'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - NIGHT

CRISPIN

Trees don't eat, dad.

INT. CRISPIN & LUKAS'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

KRISTOFF

They most certainly do! Tell me this isn't your actual Christmas tree.

INT. CRISPIN & LUKAS'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - NIGHT

MISSY

Of course, it isn't. It's a *plant*.

(To Crispin)

It's a plant, right?

CRISPIN

We...couldn't find the perfect tree, so we got an...*imperfect* tree. It was the runt. Even runts need love, right?

Kristoff walks over to them.

KRISTOFF

Yeah, if your name is Charlotte and your best friend is a pig who's getting bullied by cattle.

(sighs)

It's okay. No need to panic. Tree shopping is a great family bonding experience.

CRISPIN

But isn't...*this*...enough?

Kristoff walks past Crispin, tapping him on the shoulder.

KRISTOFF

There can never been too much "holly" in "holiday".

(beat)

Gotta tinkle. Which bathroom is better? Upstairs or down?

CRISPIN

There is holiday toilet paper in the upstairs bathroom.

KRISTOFF

Nuff' said.

Kristoff heads up the stairs.

CRISPIN

Where are Lukas's parents? I hope
their flight didn't get delayed.

KEYS JINGLE OUTSIDE THE FRONT DOOR

DING DONG!

Crispin's eyes go wide, he knows what that sound means.

CRISPIN

(scared)

Oh no. Lukas is home.

MISSY

(claps hands together)

Lukas is home!

INT. CRISPIN & LUKAS'S HOUSE - ENTRYWAY - NIGHT

The front door opens. Persia walks in followed by Rudy with his rolling suitcase.

PERSIA

All I'm asking is *who* is paying this city's light bill for all these damn lights? Christmas is just another reason to *raise* your taxes, baby, that's all I'm saying...oh, this is niceeeeeee!

INT. CRISPIN & LUKAS'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Persia walks in excitedly with her suitcase, followed by Rudy. They take in their surroundings. Persia's face sours at the sight of all the Christmas decorations.

PERSIA

Well, it *was* nice.

RUDY

It's like we stepped into
a...Christmas tornado.

PERSIA

And I'm about to *two step* my ass right

on up outta here.

MISSY (O.S.)
Ho-ho-hiiiiiii!

Missy walks over to Persia and Rudy, happily. She hugs Persia who is caught off guard.

MISSY
It is so nice to meet you finally! I'm
Misssssy, Crispin's mother.

PERSIA
Did you...did you just called me a
hoe? Twice

Missy looks confused. Crispin walks into the living room and goes over to his mother and his new guests.

CRISPIN
(surprised)
Mrs. Krampmore! What--what are you
doing here? I thought you were going
to call from the airport.

PERSIA
Honey, you can call me Persia. And I
did call from the airport. I called
Lukas.

CRISPIN
(shocked)
Lukas knows you're here?

RUDY
Yeah, he's bringing the rest of the
bags in with our dad.

CRISPIN
Oh...great. Mom, this is Rudy, Lukas's
little brother.

MISSY
(gasps)
Rudy?! He's named after one of the
most famous people on the *planet*!

PERSIA
And if by *that*, you mean The Huxtables
than yes, he is.

RUDY

You *named* me after a girl?

PERSIA

Your father named you after a girl.
The Cosby's is his favorite show.

MISSY

(surprised)

Oh, no. Still?

PERSIA

Oh, you're one of *those*.

CRISPIN

Hey! While those guys bring in your stuff, let me show you to your rooms.

WARREN (O.S.)

I have no idea why your mother packs like a bear hibernating in the winter.

LUKAS (O.S.)

I know! You guys live in Miami, so I know there's no coats in here.

Warren and Lukas walk into the living room, setting the bags to the side.

LUKAS

(out of breath; to Persia)

That don't make no sense.

PERSIA

What? I had to go out and get a few things before we left to be prepped for the weather. A fur, a heated hat, a couple of thermoses, some bricks to beat off the muggers...nothing big.

MISSY

Oh, Pin Drop, he is so much more handsome in person.

WARREN

Gets it from his father.

MISSY

I can see that.

KRISTOFF (O.S.)
Did someone say "fathers"?

Kristoff comes trotting down the steps.

KRISTOFF
Because I think that's my cue...

Kristoff goes silent when he sees Warren. Warren's eyes widen in shock upon seeing Kristoff. Persia is also shocked to see Kristoff. Both Warren and Kristoff's eyes narrow and tighten. THEY ARE NOT HAPPY.

KRISTOFF
(disdainfully)
Youuuuuuu.

WARREN
(angry)
And you.

PERSIA
Aw, shit.

KRISTOFF/WARREN
(beat)
AHHHHHHHH!

WITHOUT WARNING, KRISTOFF AND WARREN CHARGE AT EACH OTHER LIKE TWO BULLS IN A PIN!

The men collide and hit the floor, rolling around, punching each other and grunting as they try to rip the other to shreds.

MISSY
Oh my God!

RUDY
Whoa! This is better than UFC!

LUKAS/CRISPIN
Dad!

Lukas and Crispin grab their fathers and pry them off the floor...and each other.

CRISPIN
Dad, what the hell is going on?!

WARREN
Lukas, we are *leaving* right now.

LUKAS
What? I live here.

WARREN
Not for long.

MISSY
(checks on Kristoff)
Oh, Candy Cane, are you okay, honey?
Oh, let me see.

Persia has been oddly quiet the entire time.

LUKAS
Mom, *what* is going on? Why are you
just standing there?

PERSIA
(sighs)
Because...I think it's finally time
that we... had...*the talk*.

CRISPIN
I really don't think now is the time
for sex education, Persia.

KRISTOFF
(breathing hard)
Her name...*isn't* Persia.

PERSIA
(beat; To Kristoff)
Hello to you too, Nicholas.

MISSY
How...how does she know your name?

CRISPIN
Nicholas? Dad's name is *Kristoff*.

MISSY
(beat)
Um...Pin Drop. I think I have to agree
with Persia. We do need to have...*the
talk*.

INT. CRISPIN & LUKAS'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT - CONT'D

**CLOSE UP ON LUKAS AND CRISPIN'S FLABBERGASTED AND DUMBFOUNDED
FACES**

Missy and Kristoff sit on the sectional couch across from Lukas and Crispin. Persia and Warren sit on the love seat across from them. Rudy is planted in a single lounger.

PERSIA

Lukas? Baby, you gotta say *something* before I call emergency services.

MISSY

(To Crispin)

Yes, sweetie, I'm not sure if you've...both had strokes.

CRISPIN

(long pause)

You're...

(To Kristoff)

Santa Claus?

KRISTOFF

I...was.

LUKAS

And...you...

(points to Warren)

Were...*Krampus?*

WARREN

One of the best.

KRISTOFF

Oh, that's a load of reindeer rubbish! You were *thee* most *mediocre* Krampus in the history of the job!

WARREN

Says the *only* Santa in history who abandoned his post for love! You lasted five years. Wuss.

MISSY

My Candy Cane isn't a wuss! That is in "The Clause". But it's nice to see that you've kept your very unpleasant Krampus disposition.

PERSIA

If this were back in the day, I'd be stuffing your disemboweled belly with straw and rocks right now, keep playing bout' my husband.

LUKAS

(To Persia)

Mom? You're...you're someone too?

KRISTOFF

(disgruntled)

Perchta. The *female* Krampus.

PERSIA

Not as known or famous but you can *definitely* find articles about me online. I wrote most of em'.

CRISPIN

(To Missy)

So, that would make you...*Mrs. Claus*?

MISSY

By marriage.

CRISPIN

So...you're human?

MISSY

We're *all* human, honey. Well, me always. Those three, *fairly* new. Give or take a few decades.

RUDY

This is *so* awesome.

CRISPIN

How...how...*how*?

KRISTOFF

The condensed version? I met your mother one night during my annual rounds and...it was love at first sight. Being Santa is a hundred-year gig, after that? You're done. Somebody else gets the title. But I invoked "The Clause" which says a Santa can retire early if...they fall in love.

LUKAS

And...what happened to you two?

WARREN

Long story short? We fell in love, and we were fired.

PERSIA

No severance.

WARREN

Krampuses aren't allowed to fall in love. And if you do...you're replaced.

PERSIA

Can't even call the EEO.

KRISTOFF

(To Crispin)

And now that you know the truth, we're going back to Colardo and you're coming with us.

WARREN

Perfect. Rudy, go help your brother pack his stuff, we'll call the U-Haul.

Rudy gets out of his chair. Kristoff, Missy, Warren, and Persia also stand up from their seats. Crispin and Lukas both stand up together...THIS WILL NOT STAND.

LUKAS

Rudy! *Sit!*

Rudy obediently sits back down.

CRISPIN

Mom and dad! *Park it!*

Missy and Kristoff give each other timid looks, then sit back down. Lukas opens his mouth to speak...

PERSIA

Uh, we're not white parents so watch how you talk to us.

LUKAS

Nobody...is going anywhere, okay?

CRISPIN

Did we just find out *really* shocking

information that strangely makes a whole bunch of stuff make a whole lotta sense? Sure. *But...we* are all here together to spend Christmas as a family.

LUKAS

And that is exactly what we are going to do.

(beat)

After I go slap myself a couple of times to make sure I'm not dreaming.

Lukas walks out of the room.

CRISPIN

Lukas, wait.

Crispin follows Lukas out of the room. Persia, Missy, Kristoff, and Warren all exchange looks of unsureness.

RUDY

(realization hits)

Oh my God. Am I somebody too?

(excited)

Oh, oh! Am I *really* Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer?

WARREN

(beat)

You're adopted.

RUDY

(sucks teeth)

Suckiest adoption ever.

INT. CRISPIN & LUKAS'S HOUSE - BEDROOM - NIGHT

LATER THAT NIGHT. Crispin and Lukas lie in bed, staring up at the ceiling.

CRISPIN

Are you okay?

LUKAS

Is that a real question?

CRISPIN

You know, this *does* explain...a lot. I mean, about us. Turns out my love for Christmas is...literally in my DNA.

LUKAS

And hating everything about it is in mine.

Crispin turns his body toward Lukas, smiling slightly.

CRISPIN

Except me. Right?

Lukas turns his head slightly toward Crispin.

LUKAS

Pin...our dads are literal arch enemies. It's like...a conservative republican and a drag queen who loves to read living under the same roof. How are we going to do this for the next three days?

CRISPIN

We...are going to do this the way we do everything else. *Together*. And with a mountain of therapy bills.

Lukas sighs again, putting his arm around Crispin as he snuggles up next to Lukas.

CRISPIN

Our dads might be...mortal enemies but...they're also our fathers. And they love us. And I'm sure that'll be enough for them to try and get along.

LUKAS

What about our moms?

CRISPIN

I think they'll get along way better.

PRE - LAP

PERSIA (O.S.)

I'm not sure what y'all do in the snowy acres of "who cares"...

INT. CRISPIN & LUKAS'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY

THE NEXT MORNING. Persia and Missy are in the kitchen cooking separate meals and clearly *not* getting along.

PERSIA

But in *this* house, we don't have pastries for breakfast.

MISSY

Persia, this is a Clausette tradition. Cranberry croissants are a great way to start the morning and adds some much-needed holiday pep into your step.

(thinks)

I'm going to make you three.

PERSIA

The only breakfast traditions we're following? Is steak and eggs. So you go can go peddle your little "yuletide ho-ho's" down at the nearest homeless shelter.

MISSY

You know...I read about Pertcha. And you actually used to punish people for not being in the Christmas spirit. What changed?

PERSIA

My business? Is *not* an ingredient in your little cakes, mkay?

MISSY

I'm just trying to make the best out of a very awkward situation. We owe it to our boys to try and make their first Christmas together in their new home memorable.

PERSIA

I agree. And we're going to start with these very memorable steaks and these *unforgettable* eggs.

Missy rolls her eyes and leaves the kitchen. Persia peeks over at the cranberry croissants on a sheet tray. After a moment, she picks one up and takes a bite. HER EYES GO WIDE.

PERSIA

She's still annoying. This don't mean *nothing*.

(takes another bite)

Dammit, these are good!

EXT. CRISPIN & LUKAS'S HOUSE - LAWN - DAY

Crispin and Lukas stand on the grassy lawn, looking up at something.

CRISPIN

Okay. The moms are in the house, doing kitchen stuff, and that's working well. Can we expect the same from you two?

EXT. CRISPIN & LUKAS'S HOUSE - ROOF - DAY

Warren and Kristoff sit on the roof together. There's a pile of Christmas lights between them.

KRISTOFF

Hanging Christmas lights is one of my specialties! I'll be fine! Not so sure about him!

WARREN

Don't worry! I promise you won't find him hanging from the gutters!

KRISTOFF

Oh, you just try it, buddy!

EXT. CRISPIN & LUKAS'S HOUSE - LAWN - DAY

LUKAS

Dad! Please.

EXT. CRISPIN & LUKAS'S HOUSE - ROOF - DAY

WARREN

(sighs)

We'll be fine. Or whatever.

EXT. CRISPIN & LUKAS'S HOUSE - LAWN - DAY

LUKAS

Thank you. We will see you guys later.

Crispin and Lukas get into Crispin's car and pull out of the driveway, leaving the house.

EXT. CRISPIN & LUKAS'S HOUSE - ROOF - DAY

Warren and Kristoff watch them go. Kristoff grabs the lights and starts lining the edge of the roof. Warren grabs the

other end, he stands up and steps on one of the bulbs, breaking it.

KRISTOFF

What in the nativity are you doing?!

WARREN

This is how The *Krampmores* hang lights.

KRISTOFF

Without the bulbs it's just electrified string, you buffoon. You're taking the Christmas out of it!

WARREN

Exactly. Lukas is already tolerating your son's ridiculous decorations *inside*, so I'm giving *my* son a semblance of home on the *outside*.

KRISTOFF

Watch what you say about my Pin Drop.
(beat)
And what do you mean "semblance of home"?

WARREN

When Lukas was five, he begged us to put up Christmas lights. So, we did. Without the bulbs. We taught him to use his imagination. Which is why he's an established architect, because we raised him to have *vision*.

KRISTOFF

Wow. And you talk about *my* kid.

WARREN

Crispin is a product of his upbringing, so I don't blame him for his obsession with this "holiday". I blame you.

KRISTOFF

And I feel horrible for Lukas. Growing up in a house with no joy, no Christmas spirit, no love...

WARREN

Lukas grew up with all the joy and

love in the world! He just didn't grow up believing he deserved things he didn't work hard for. You are the one who instilled that ideology into children.

KRISTOFF

I did not!

WARREN

You gifted your son his entire livelihood. You gave him a whole toy store.

KRISTOFF

So? Doesn't mean he didn't deserve it. And Crispin's done amazing with his "Magic Moments"!

WARREN

Let's just hang up this crap! It's cold!

Warren goes to step on another bulb.

KRISTOFF

Don't...you...dare.

WARREN

And what are you gonna do about it... Nicky?

KRISTOFF

You know I hate that name.

WARREN

Oh yeah. I forgot. My apologies.
(beat)
Nicky.

KRISTOFF

Say it...one...more...time.

Warren raises his foot and holds it in the air for a second...then he brings it down, CRUSHING ANOTHER BULB.

WARREN

Nicky.

KRISTOFF

That's it!

Kristoff wraps some of the lights around his right wrist...

KRISTOFF

HI-YA!

Kristoff whips the lights at Warren, Cat-woman style! Warren dodges the hit.

WARREN

(laughs)

You're still slow, Nicky!

KRISTOFF

HI-YA!

Kristoff advances toward Warren, whipping the lights at him, but Warren takes steps back, avoiding the hits. Warren laughs loudly, seemingly enjoying their fight.

WARREN

This is just like old times! You couldn't catch me back then and you can't catch me now!

KRISTOFF

HIIIIII-YA!

Kristoff whips the lights again, and this time they wrap around Warren's left leg.

KRISTOFF

Gotcha! Who's the old man now?

Unbeknownst to Warren, he's run out of room on the roof and is at the very edge! He teeters on the edge, trying not to fall.

WARREN

W--Whoa!

Unable to hold his balance, Warren falls back and off the roof. Kristoff stands triumphantly but, he doesn't realize he's still holding onto the lights that are attached to Warren's leg.

Suddenly, Kristoff is yanked forward as the lights are pulled down by Warren's weight and he's also pulled off the roof.

THUD!

EXT. CRISPIN & LUKAS'S HOUSE - LAWN - DAY

Warren and Kristoff lie on their backs on the snowy lawn, the wind knocked out of them.

KRISTOFF

(groans)

That'll teach ya to...call me Nicky.

WARREN

Oh, go to the South Pole, old man.

INT. HAYLEY'S REALTY OFFICE - DAY

Hayley and Crispin sit at Hayley's desk, wrapping gifts.

HAYLEY

You and Lukas's dads are old co-workers? Small ass world.

CRISPIN

It's actually...bigger than I thought.

HAYLEY

Where did you say they worked again?

CRISPIN

Uh...they uh...worked with kids. And they had different approaches on how to...deal...with the kids.

HAYLEY

Wow. Imagine if you *hadn't* gone behind Lukas's back and invited his parents, you would never have even known your future in-laws were like, Cersei and Daenerys.

CRISPIN

You think Lukas blames me? Cause it sounds like you blame me.

HAYLEY

I don't blame you, Crispin. You aren't the only person who's ever dealt with a feuding family. I can't *count* how many times I've seen couples fight because of their parents' opposing views on the house they should buy.

CRISPIN

How do they get past it?

HAYLEY

Oh, my concern ends when my commission check clears.

CRISPIN

Very helpful, Hayley.

HAYLEY

*But...*everyone has common ground.

CRISPIN

(thinks)

I don't think you understand how different our fathers are. And how much they dislike each other.

HAYLEY

There's a thin line between love and hate. If you get to the reason *behind* the hate, then you might just find the love.

Crispin thinks about Hayley's advice.

INT. CRISPIN & LUKAS'S HOUSE - FIRST FLOOR - THE KRAMPMORE'S BEDROOM - DAY

Warren lies on the bed, recovering from his fall. Persia sits on the bed next to him.

PERSIA

You do know if you die, I'm gonna kill you, right? You're not the big bad that kids are afraid of anymore, you have a lifespan now, Warren.

WARREN

We were just...

(groans)

Horsing around. Like back in the good ol' days. Nicky used to try to wrangle me every year, never caught me.

PERSIA

Well, I'm glad the snow caught you otherwise, I'd be a widowed mother of two collecting a very hefty life insurance policy.

WARREN

(sighs)

I knew we shouldn't have come here.

(beat)

But Lukas is taking all of this pretty well though, wouldn't you say?

PERSIA

Finding out his parents used to be mythical holiday beasts? Yeah. I'd say he's dealing with it pretty well and Rudy's over the moon about it.

(beat)

But how are you taking it? I know you and...Kristoff had a...complicated relationship.

WARREN

I never thought I'd see that man again. And now we're under the same roof.

PERSIA

I need to know one thing. Do you think you can handle the next few days *without* getting into another throwdown with Camden's father?

WARREN

If that man swings another Christmas ornament at me...

PERSIA

That was a rhetorical question. You will get through this. For *Lukas*. If I can put up with The Cranberry Christmas Cuckoo, you can stomach her husband.

Persia goes into her pocket and takes out something wrapped up in a napkin; it's one of MISSY'S CRANBERRY CROISSANTS. Persia takes a bite.

PERSIA

What does she put in these?! Dammit!

INT. JEWELRY STORE - NIGHT

Lukas peers into the glass case filled with jewelry. His eyes

fall onto one item in particular and his face lights up.

**CLOSE UP ON A DIAMOND RING WITH AN EMERALD ENCRUSTED
SNOWFLAKE ON IT**

CAMERON (O.S.)

That is *definitely* the one.

Lukas looks over and sees **CAMERON LINK** (29), a handsome and professional man without a hair out of place or a wrinkle in his clothes. He stands next to his fiancé, **RYDER KIBBLE** (30), who has dark curly hair with a bright unforgettable smile.

NOTE: *Ryder and Cameron are the lead characters from my queer holiday romantic comedy, "Ryder's Christmas Comeback".*

CAMERON

Who's it for?

LUKAS

Uh...nobody. I was just...looking.

RYDER

Uh, you *really* can't get one by Cam when it comes to the whole love thing. It's *literally* his job.

LUKAS

Really? Who do you work for?

CAMERON

City Socials. I run the dating department. I'm *guessing* you're thinking about popping the big question? We get a lot of engagement stuff around this time of year.

LUKAS

(smiles shyly)

Guilty. Ever since me and my boyfriend moved in together I...haven't been able to stop thinking about making it our forever home.

(beat)

Until we ran into a little obstacle...recently.

RYDER

I'm not sure if you believe in signs but I run a pet store called "4Ever Homes". Just saying.

JEWELRY STORE CLERK
Mr. Kibble? Your item is ready.

RYDER
Oh, that's me. I will be right back.

Ryder kisses Cameron quickly on the cheek and walks over to the other counter to speak with the store clerk.

CAMERON
So...from one engaged person...
(flashes engagement ring)
To a maybe future engaged person, take it from me. There is no obstacle too big that can stand in the way of what's meant to be.

LUKAS
Speaking from experience? I mean...you two seem pretty solid.

CAMERON
We are. And we definitely had a...crazy journey getting here. But we did. So, don't let whatever roadblock you've come across stop you from going on your journey.

LUKAS
If I told you what the roadblock was, you wouldn't say that. You also wouldn't believe me.

CAMERON
What I do believe in? Is Christmas magic. You'd be surprised what it can do.

Ryder comes back over to them.

RYDER
Ready babe? Julie and Nelson are already at "Arthur and Sons" and I wanna get there before they run out of eggplant.

CAMERON
We gotta head out. But it was nice meeting you...

LUKAS

Lukas.

CAMERON

Lukas.

Cameron and Lukas shake hands.

CAMERON

Hey, City Socials is doing a couples gingerbread house making class on Christmas. You and Mr. Snowflake should stop by.

LUKAS

I'll think about it.

CAMERON

Great. Information's on the app. Good luck with everything, Lukas.

RYDER

Nice meeting you, man.

Ryder and Cameron leave the jewelry store. Lukas looks back at the jewelry case, taking in Cameron's words.

INT. CRISPIN & LUKAS'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Crispin and Missy sit on the couch, intently looking at something.

CRISPIN

Uhhhh, two words...

Kristoff stands in the middle of the floor; he puts up THREE FINGERS.

MISSY

Three syllables.

Kristoff starts acting something out. He makes a gesture as though he's RINGING A BELL.

MISSY

Oh, oh, jingle bells! It's jingle bells, right?!

KRISTOFF

That's my Chestnut!

CRISPIN

Whew! Alright, mom!

Crispin and Missy slap hands.

MISSY

Thank you, honey but that was easy. I mean, who *wouldn't* have gotten that?

Persia, Rudy, and Warren sit across from them.

WARREN

I thought he was feather-dusting.

PERSIA

Okay, Rudy, you're up. Do mama proud now. We did not travel thirteen-hundred miles with snot nosed brats to *lose*.

Rudy gets up from the couch and stands in the middle of the room. He picks a piece of paper out of a hat.

MISSY

You really shouldn't talk about children that way.

PERSIA

Didn't we discuss my business earlier? And the *not* being in it?

MISSY

(To Crispin; whispers)

She wasn't saying *that* when she was sneaking my pastries into her holiday hating mouth.

(To Persia; mouthing words and glaring)

I know it was you.

RUDY

Alright, mom and dad, you ready?

WARREN

Yes, come on, we're ready.

RUDY

Okay.

Rudy puts up TWO FINGERS.

PERSIA
Two words, okay.

Rudy puts up THREE FINGERS.

WARREN
Three syllables.

Rudy nods "yes". He gets down on the floor and starts moving VERY SLOWLY.

PERSIA
Uhhhh, you've fallen! You've fallen
and you can't get up! Oh! You broke
your hip! Oh, oh, oh, Life Alert!

WARREN
(To Kristoff)
Have you ever used that old man?

KRISTOFF
(To Missy)
Give me that anorexic tree. I'm gonna
beat him with it.

CRISPIN
Warren, I think you should...focus on
the game.

Rudy gets up from the floor and starts flapping his arms AS
THOUGH THEY WERE WINGS.

PERSIA
Um, now you're flying. Okay. Superman?
It's gotta be Superman, right? That's
basically two words and three
syllables.

WARREN
Well, I mean he was on the floor so
that could've been Clark Kent crawling
out of a fire in the Daily Planet...

CRISPIN
(looks at watch)
That's time!

KRISTOFF
(agitated)
Oh, cookies and milk, it's turtle
doves!

(rubs forehead; exasperated)
Baby reindeer.

WARREN
No, it wasn't!

RUDY
It was...turtle doves. I was moving
like a turtle and flying like a bird?

WARREN
Well, I mean that really wasn't
conveyed too well, son.

KRISTOFF
You did great, Rudy. It's not your
fault your father is a lifeless void
who hates Christmas and knows nothing
about it.

WARREN
You know what I do hate? You. I hate
you.

KRISTOFF
Well, ain't that a fa-la-la-la! Cause
I hate you too!

Kristoff and Warren begin arguing.

DING DONG!

Crispin hears the doorbell, signaling Lukas has entered the
house.

INT. CRISPIN & LUKAS'S HOUSE - ENTRYWAY - NIGHT

Lukas walks in and stops when he hears Kristoff and Warren
bickering. Crispin walks into the hallway and goes up to him.

LUKAS
What now?

CRISPIN
Nothing.

LUKAS
Pin?

CRISPIN
Okay. Hayley suggested I try and find

something our dads have in common to break the tension so I *thought* we could play a family game.

LUKAS

Don't tell me you pulled out the Christmas Charades.

CRISPIN

Who...doesn't like holiday games?

Crispin smiles sheepishly.

LUKAS

Krampus and his *wife*. Especially Christmas focused ones.

CRISPIN

Honestly, it's not as...

MISSY (O.S.)

Put the tree down, Candy Cane!

PERSIA (O.S.)

Don't you hit my husband with that tree!

WARREN (O.S.)

Ow!

PERSIA (O.S.)

Oh, you have lost your merry damn mind up in here!

CRISPIN (CONT'D)

Bad as it sounds.

Lukas blows out a deep breath. THIS IS BECOMING A LOT.

EXT. CRISPIN & LUKAS'S HOUSE - PORCH - NIGHT

"A TIMELESS CHRISTMAS" by Coco Jones plays in the background

Lukas sits on a bench in a sweatsuit, drinking out of a mug with a candy cane in it. The front door opens, and Persia walks out. She sits down next to Lukas.

PERSIA

What are you drinking?

LUKAS

A Kringle Cap. It's a...play on a cappuccino. It's what I was drinking when me and Pin first met.

(beat)

How did you and dad meet? I mean, how do...Krampuses even...fall in love?

PERSIA

Well...we actually met in a bar on Christmas morning in Cincinatti. I had a very productive evening, lots of maimings, a little bit of torture, so I was celebrating, honey.

Lukas looks at his mother as if she were crazy.

PERSIA

But I'm a better *person* now. And your father...after Kristoff stopped being Santa, he kind of--lost his taste for his duties. The *new* Santa wasn't like Kristoff. *Very* by the book and *very* boring. But your father was so handsome.

(wistfully)

Those horns glistening in the light just did something to me.

LUKAS

Dad had horns?

PERSIA

Well, in our human forms only I could see them, but they were always polished. And I don't know. Something just...sparked between us.

LUKAS

Sounds like me and Crispin.

PERSIA

I've been hearing that a lot. Is that a nickname you like to call him?

LUKAS

That's his *name*.

PERSIA

Why didn't anybody tell me that?

LUKAS

You think it would sound good...coming
before Krampmore?

Persia stares at Lukas for a moment. And then she realizes
what he's implying...SHE HAS TO TELL HER SON THE TRUTH NOW.

PERSIA

There's something your father and I
have been...meaning to tell you since
we found out who your boyfriend really
is.

LUKAS

And what's that mom?

PERSIA

(beat)

Your...God, how do I even say
this...your...your relationship...it's
not going to last, Lukas.

Lukas looks concerned.

LUKAS

I know things are difficult because of
dad and his dad but...

PERSIA

It's not just that. Santas and
Krampuses are destined to not get
along. And whether you like it or not?
It is in your genes to
eventually...fall out of love
because...it's just the way things
are. How they've always been.

Lukas processes this very hard information. Persia looks
pained at having to deliver this news to her son.

PERSIA

I'm sorry, baby.

Persia kisses Lukas on the side of his head and goes inside.
Lukas digests his mother's words for a moment. He goes into
his pocket and takes out a black jewelry box, opening it.

CLOSE UP ON THE DIAMOND SNOWFLAKE ENGAGEMENT RING

INT. CRISPIN & LUKAS'S HOUSE - SECOND FLOOR - THE CLAUSETTE'S
BEDROOM - NIGHT

Missy sits up in bed, reading a cookbook. Kristoff lays
beside her, staring up at the ceiling with his hands folded
across his chest.

KRISTOFF

I hate that Pin Drop is mad at me.

MISSY

Well, I'm not too fond of you at the
moment either.

KRISTOFF

What was I *supposed* to do?

MISSY

Well, *not* hitting Warren with your
son's sad and depressing Christmas
tree would've been a good starting
point.

KRISTOFF

It's just his...*face*. It makes me
wanna throw things at it.

MISSY

(puts book down)

Do you remember that year before you
gave it all up? How we kept in touch
via letters?

KRISTOFF

Of course. I had the elves working
overtime on delivery.

MISSY

You used to talk about this "friend".
And that even though you were
rivals...it was something you looked
forward to every year.

KRISTOFF

(plays dumb)

I...I don't remember writing that.

MISSY

Well, you did. And it wasn't until
tonight that I realized that
"friend"...was Warren. It was Krampus.

KRISTOFF

I...wouldn't say we were friends...

MISSY

Listen. Santas and Krampuses have a job no one else can understand and if you think about it...you're more alike than you are different.

KRISTOFF

I am *nothing* like him.

MISSY

Krampus punishes bad children. You put bad children on the naughty list and give them coal.

KRISTOFF

Well, they're not supposed to get rewarded for throwing firecrackers at stray dogs.

MISSY

Santas are *also* the reason children try to be good throughout the year. And *Krampus* is also the reason children try to be good throughout the year.

KRISTOFF

Yeah, because they *fear* him. Kids don't fear me.

MISSY

You don't think kids were afraid you wouldn't show up on midnight with their most perfect gift if they *weren't* on the nice list?

Kristoff stays silent, processing.

MISSY

All I am saying my sweet, sweet man, is that you and Warren? Were the only people who really understood each other. And when you left The North Pole to be with me, you didn't just leave your job behind...you left him behind too.

Missy kisses Kristoff on the cheek and turns off the light.

She puts her book on the nightstand and lays down. Kristoff stares off into space, thinking over Missy's insightful words.

INT. MAGIC MOMENTS - DAY

The toy store buzzes with patrons. Trainsets zip through the air, hung from the ceiling. Kids play with racetracks on display. Parents admire the life-sized Christmas displays. There is nothing but holiday joy throughout the building.

Lukas, Rudy, Persia, and Warren, walk behind Cole who is showing them around the store.

COLE

The displays are one of our biggest attractions. I helped Crispin with that one.

RUDY

That's pretty dope. You like working here?

COLE

Who wouldn't? The only part of the job I *don't* like is this whole authentic elf costume. These pointy ears make me look crazy.

PERSIA

What you got against pointy ears, little girl?

LUKAS

Mom...

PERSIA

What? I made them look good, okay?

RUDY

(smiles; To Cole)
I think you look pretty cute.

COLE

(smiles shyly)
Thank you. You said you like surfing, right?

RUDY

Anything adventurous, really.

COLE

Why don't I show you some of our water sport stuff?

RUDY

Oh, definitely.

Rudy and Cole start to walk off.

PERSIA

It's happening. Our son is getting taken in by a holiday hooking harlot.

LUKAS

You'd be lucky if Rudy dated a girl like Cole.

WARREN

She's an *elf*.

(To Persia)

What did we do wrong as parents that our kids find all of this so...attractive?

LUKAS

Because Crispin and Cole are good people. *That's* why I brought you here. So, you can see what he does for a living. All of these people? They're happy *because* of Crispin.

(beat)

And so am I.

Warren looks down, unsure if he wants to tell Lukas the truth.

WARREN

Uh, Luke. There's something you have to know about...

LUKAS

Me and Crispin aren't going to work? Yeah. Mom already told me.

WARREN

We said we were going to tell him together, Persia.

PERSIA

I know! But I had to tell him before he gets...anymore invested.

LUKAS

It doesn't matter! Because I love Crispin, okay? And I don't care about Santas and Krampuses and whatever you guys think about *my* relationship. This is *my* life. Not yours.

Lukas walks away from his parents.

PERSIA

You happy now? *One* son is chasing a life-sized garden gnome and *you* done chased the other one off.

Persia walks off, leaving Warren alone. He turns around, seeing a line of kids and their parents waiting to sit on Santa's lap...who just happens to be Kristoff in a Santa suit.

INT. MAGIC MOMENTS - SANTA DISPLAY - DAY

A little girl sits on Kristoff's lap.

LITTLE GIRL

And I want an...American Girl doll...and a...tea set...and...a best friend!

KRISTOFF

Well, that's a good list, my dear. You don't have a best friend?

LITTLE GIRL

She moved away. I miss her a lot.

KRISTOFF

(sighs)

I'm sorry about that. But there is something I want you to know. Even though our friends may leave us, you know what *never* leaves us...the love we have for them or the bond we share. *That* is the never-ending gift.

Missy and Crispin stand on the sidelines, watching Kristoff. Missy has tears in her eyes.

MISSY

I always get so choked up seeing him like this.

(fans her face)

I'll never forget the day he came down
my chimney.

CRISPIN

(surprised)

Dad really came down a chimney?

MISSY

Well, did you want him to come through
the front door? He was Santa for
crying out loud. I was twenty-six, I
had *just* lost your grandparents, and I
was *not* looking forward to the holiday
at all. Until I walked into the living
room on Christmas night and saw your
father.

CRISPIN

But wasn't he...*old*?

MISSY

Oh, Santas don't start aging until
their fiftieth year. I met your father
when he was just five years in, he was
only thirty-one.

CRISPIN

This should be a very weird story
but...it's not.

MISSY

Because Christmas is all about
believing. And you're pre-disposed to
it.

(looks over at Kristoff)

Because of him.

Lukas comes over to Crispin and Missy.

LUKAS

Hey.

Lukas plants a big kiss on Crispin's lips.

CRISPIN

Not that I am offended but...what was
that for?

LUKAS

Just wanted to show you how much I
love you.

MISSY

Aw, I wish we could do the Christmas play here. I've been watching videos of the rehearsals back home and it is coming out so good. Aside from Cheryl and that damn camel.

LUKAS

(To Crispin)

You never told me your family puts on a Christmas play.

MISSY

Oh, it's a "Magic Moments" signature event. Crispin used to be in it every year.

CRISPIN

It's just a lot of work and honestly, I'm too lazy. Putting all of *this* together every year is *enough* for me.

MISSY

We need to start heading home, I have to get dinner started.

CRISPIN

You mean, you and *Persia* have to get dinner started.

MISSY

Oh. Yeah. *Persia*. Well, tis the season for sharing the seasoning!

CRISPIN

(To Lukas)

I invited Hayley and Cole. I hope that's okay.

LUKAS

The more the merrier.

KRISTOFF (O.S.)

Ho, ho, ho!

CRISPIN

Oh, no. That's Harold Smith. He pees on our Santas every year. Side effect of stage fright, excuse me.

Crispin walks off.

LUKAS
Mrs. Clausette...

MISSY
Call me, Missy...or mom. Whichever.

LUKAS
Mom? You think me and Crispin got that
in us?

MISSY
I *think*...you make my son very happy.
And I hope you continue to do that.
For a very *long* time.

Missy winks at Lukas. He smiles back at her, feeling hopeful.

INT. CRISPIN & LUKAS'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

**"CHRISTMAS EVERY DAY" by David Archuleta plays on the
speakers**

The living room is set up for Christmas dinner. A long table is decorated beautifully, delicious looking dishes are lined up alongside wine glasses. Warren and Kristoff sit at the heads of the table on opposite ends. Lukas, Rudy and Cole sit on one side. Missy, Crispin and Haley sit on the other. Everyone is enjoying their food.

KRISTOFF
Another year, another perfect
duckling, Chestnut.

MISSY
Thank you, Candy Cane. Wait until you
try the dessert.

WARREN
Hopefully it's a salad.

Kristoff shoots Warren a glare.

HAYLEY
Mr. Krampmore, Lukas told me you're in
development. Are you working on
anything new down in Florida?

WARREN
Actually, yes. We are currently
building a luxury apartment complex.

COLE

Oh, I read something about that.
Aren't they removing the Miami Zoo for
that? It's causing this huge ruckus
with wildlife groups.

MISSY

(concerned)

Where are they going to put the
animals?

KRISTOFF

Specifically, the *deer*.

WARREN

I'm sure they will be relocated.

KRISTOFF

You mean displaced.

WARREN

They're animals. As long as they're
not being moved to a meat market, I'm
sure they'll be fine.

MISSY

That's so horrible. Poor animals.

RUDY

Well, the apartment complex is going
to be for low-income families so
there's an upside.

CRISPIN

Right, Rudy. Warren is...doing
something *good* for his community, *dad*.

KRISTOFF

(huffs)

Good. Yeah, okay. Can I get some more
nog?!

HAYLEY

(To Crispin; whispers)

Have you guys been dealing with these
tinsel tensions *all* week?

CRISPIN

(whispers)

Do you *not* see my stress grays?

PERSIA (O.S.)

The roast is doneeee!

Persia comes into the living room carrying a serving platter with a beautiful roast on it. She sets it down in the middle of the table and takes her seat next to Lukas.

PERSIA

So glad I can finally sit down but I cannot have a plate without a few pieces of this bad boy on it. Everybody dig in, you don't have to settle for that ugly duckling anymore. Real food's here.

CRISPIN

Mom...don't you wanna try Persia's roast? It looks really good.

MISSY

I'm okay with my ugly duckling but, thank you, Pin Drop.

Crispin shoots his mother a disapproving look.

MISSY

But...I don't see why I can't have...two...meats.

LUKAS

(To Persia)

Ma...the *duck* is pretty good too.

PERSIA

And?

Lukas shoots his mother a disapproving look.

PERSIA

And I...will...eat it. Because who doesn't love to shove a cute little duck in their mouth.

(to Rudy; whispers)

She's a sadist.

Lukas holds the serving plate with Missy's duck on it, Persia takes a few pieces. Crispin does the same with Persia's roast, Missy takes one piece. Missy and Persia pick up a piece of their respective meat dishes, giving each other fake smiles, and slowly put the food into their mouths.

PERSIA

(chewing)

Oh. Okay. Alright, Missy, I see you.
This little black swan ain't bad.

MISSY

And Persia, I must say, this roast is
seasoned very well. What--what type of
meat is it?

PERSIA

Oh, it's venison.

Kristoff pauses, holding his fork full of food in front of
his mouth. Crispin's eyes go wide. Lukas puts his hand over
his face.

PERSIA (CONT'D)

A baby one at that. *That's* why it's so
tender.

MISSY

(beat)

I'm going to be sick!

Missy gags. Kristoff stands up from his seat, slamming his
hand on the table.

KRISTOFF

You *murderous* witch!

Warren stands up angrily.

WARREN

That is my *wife*!

LUKAS

And my mother!

CRISPIN

Your deer cooking, *thoughtless* mother!
Oh my god, mom, are you okay?

MISSY

I'm--I'm fine.

(gags)

No. No, I'm not! I am *never* going to
be forgiven for this!

(glaring; To Persia)

And neither will you, Leatherface!

KRISTOFF

A deer, Warren? A deer?!

WARREN

Those were *your* friends, not mine!

KRISTOFF

You don't have any friends! And *this* is why! Because you have always been a bitter, unapologetic, partridge *prick*!

WARREN CAN'T TAKE IT ANYMORE. He sees a dinner roll on the table and picks it up, launching it directly into Kristoff's face!

WARREN

A partridge prick with *exceptional* aim!

MISSY

(gasps)

He has a gluten allergy, you cretin!

Missy picks up a handful of sweet potatoes and throws them at Warren, hitting him in the face!

PERSIA

Oh, baby girl, *now* you done messed up!

Persia picks up a handful of mashed potatoes and flings them at Missy, hitting her in the face!

KRISTOFF

(shocked)

Chestnut!

Kristoff picks up a handful of potato salad...

KRISTOFF

HIYA!

And launches them into Persia's face! Kristoff, Warren, Missy, and Persia all share angry looks for a moment.

RUDY

(to Cole)

I think we should...

(gestures under the table)

Like now.

HAYLEY

I am right behind y'all.

Rudy, Cole, and Hayley dive under the dinner table. THEN THE FOOD FIGHT BEGINS! String beans, duck, venison, potatoes, everything goes flying as The Clausette and Krampmore parents fling food at one another.

Lukas and Crispin also hit the floor, crawling around the table to meet each other as food falls around them.

LUKAS

This is a nightmare!

CRISPIN

No, your *parents* are a nightmare!

LUKAS

You're the one who invited them!

CRISPIN

Because I was trying to do something nice for you!

LUKAS

Yeah, well great job, Pin!

CRISPIN

And you know what, I'm glad I did. Because having *those* people as my possible future family? So not happening!

LUKAS

Those *people*? Are my mother and my father!

CRISPIN

And I am very sorry for you.

LUKAS

(disbelief)

You're just as judgmental as your parents.

CRISPIN

Well, I'd rather be a *Clausette* than a *Krampmore*!

Those words hit Lukas hard. He stands up to his feet.

LUKAS

Well, good! Because you won't be! This is never going to work; it was *never* going to work!

KRISTOFF

HIIIIII-YA!

Kristoff throws cranberry sauce at Persia, she ducks, and the food hits Lukas directly in the face!

PERSIA

Lukas!

The parents stop fighting, looking at Lukas's cranberry sauce-stained face. Crispin stands up to his feet with a hurt expression on his face.

CRISPIN

What do you mean...this was never going to work?

Rudy, Cole, and Hayley come out from under the table.

LUKAS

We...are not meant to be together. We never were. And all of this? Just reaffirms it. Crispin, I love you. But I'd rather love and leave you now...than end up hating you later and leaving you then.

Lukas leaves the living room and walks out of the house.

PERSIA

Luke! Luke, baby, wait!

Persia rushes out after Lukas. Crispin stands stunned. He looks at his parents with sadness and disappointment in his eyes.

KRISTOFF

Son...

Crispin leaves the living room and goes up the stairs.

MISSY

Pin Drop! We're sorry, honey!

Missy follows Crispin out of the living room and up the stairs. Warren and Kristoff look at each other...ashamed.

HAYLEY

Well...I guess that's a no on the to-go plates?

EXT. THE W HOTEL - NIGHT

LONG SHOT of the building, lit up with lights from its various room occupants. Cars pass by as people walk in and out of the hotel.

INT. THE W HOTEL - HOTEL SUITE - NIGHT

Warren leans on the wall in the doorway of a bedroom, watching Lukas sleep. He sighs, feeling horrible.

PERSIA (O.S.)

Is he asleep?

Warren turns around and sees Persia walking into the living room in a bathrobe, drying her hair with a towel.

WARREN

Yeah. He's asleep.

PERSIA

Well, that's inconvenient. Because now I have to curse you out in ASMR.

WARREN

Me? You're the one who roasted one of Santa's little reindeer.

PERSIA

And I will own that. It was a misstep. A juicy and tasty as hell misstep, but you and this feud with Kristoff...

WARREN

You mean Nicky.

PERSIA

No. I mean, *Kristoff*. He isn't "Nicky" anymore. And you're not Krampus. You are a father who just ruined his son's first Christmas with the man he loves.

WARREN

That!...was gonna happen anyway. You know those two can't be together.

PERSIA

We made it work. We have a family; we have a life...if you and I could beat the "rules", why can't Crispin and Lukas?

WARREN

You finally get that boy's name right *after* they break up.

PERSIA

I have never seen Lukas look so hurt. And I don't know how to fix it and that kills me. But I do know one thing...they have absolutely *no* chance if you and Kristoff? *Don't fix this.*

Persia heads to their bedroom, leaving Warren to think about his actions.

EXT. CHRISTMAS TREE LOT - DAY

CLOSE UP ON AN AXE HITTING THE BARK OF A TREE

Crispin pulls the axe back from the tree and hands it to Kristoff, he goes over to the tree and starts hitting it with the axe.

KRISTOFF

I'm glad we get to uh, keep up our father-son tree cutting ritual.

CRISPIN

I lost the man I love but yeah. Glad you get to have your healthy tree just in time for Christmas Eve.

KRISTOFF

(sighs)

Pin Drop. I'm sorry about Lukas.

CRISPIN

No. You're not.

KRISTOFF

When have you known me to not be sincere?

CRISPIN

The better question is, when have I ever known you to be so...*mean*. So

angry. I grew up with the most--
jolliest father. And now I know why.
Because you were the thing I looked
forward to every Christmas. Santa.

(beat)

Until I met Lukas.

(beat)

He became the thing I looked forward
to every day of my life.

KRISTOFF

You two kids were...really in love,
huh.

CRISPIN

We are. But...Lukas is right. How can
we ever be together if our parents
can't even spend one holiday with each
other?

KRISTOFF

(sighs)

Because. You're a Clausette. And
Clausettes beat the odds. You think me
and your mother were supposed to be
together? No. I loved being Santa. But
I loved being with your mother more.

CRISPIN

Me and Lukas aren't you and mom.

KRISTOFF

No, you aren't. You're Lukas and
Crispin. You're..."Criskas". And you
get to write the ending to your own
story the same way we did. Even if
your fathers are two...

(beat)

Patridge pricks in a pear tree.

CRISPIN

(laughs slightly)

I'm glad you said it before I did.

Kristoff puts an arm around Crispin.

KRISTOFF

I love ya, Pin Drop.

CRISPIN

I love you, too.

(beat)
 I don't know why it's just hitting me
 but...wow. My *father* is really Santa
 Claus.

KRISTOFF
 Hey, you could've gotten worse. I
 could've been a politician.

CRISPIN
 Oh God, please no.

INT. FOXXXY'S - BAR - DAY

Hayley and Missy sit at the bar. Missy looks around, stunned
 by all the Christmas decorations.

MISSY
 This place is so festive! Thank you
 for bringing me, Hayley. This week has
 not been the five golden rings.

HAYLEY
 I could imagine. I texted and called
 Lukas but um, I haven't gotten a
 response.

MISSY
 I just feel so terrible about all of
 this. We came here to celebrate
 Crispin and Lukas and their new home,
 and we ended up...destroying it.

HAYLEY
 Hey, I do not sell homes to broken
 families. *Those* two are going to get
 it together.

MISSY
 I hope you're right. I'd do anything
 to turn the smile upside down on my
 Pin Drop's face.
 (sips her water)
 Pardon me, ladies' room.

Missy gets up from the bar and goes to the bathroom. Hayley
 looks over toward the entrance and sees Persia walking in.

HAYLEY
 I am so glad she said that.

Persia walks over to Hayley and sits down.

PERSIA

Sorry, I'm late, girl. I thought Florida traffic was bad, I almost pulled out a bazooka to clear the way for my Uber.

HAYLEY

It's no problem, Mrs. Krampmore.

PERSIA

Any friend of Lukas's who invites me out for a happy hour girl's night, can call me, Persia.

HAYLEY

That works for me. Well, Persia...I hope you don't mind but I invited another girl to complete our "Santa's Angels".

Missy comes walking back over to the bar.

MISSY

(excited)

Oh, Hayley, you *have* to go the ladies' room. They have a hand lotion that smells like gingerbread! Here, smell it.

(puts hand in Hayley's face)

Don't you just wanna nibble on it?

Persia and Missy lay eyes on each other.

PERSIA/MISSY

You invited *her*?!

HAYLEY

(To Missy)

You said you would do anything to make Crispin happy and the two of you attempting to get along? Would make him...

Persia begins to say something.

HAYLEY (CONT'D)

And Lukas happy.

Missy sits down in a huff.

MISSY

Well, fine. But I'm going to need a real drink. Bartender...

The bartender gives Missy his attention.

MISSY

Can I get three cranberry martinis with Belvedere, extra vermouth, a splash of olive juice, chilled glasses, shaken not stirred, with a twist. Make em' doubles.

Hayley and Persia look at Missy with surprised expressions.

MISSY

What? I wasn't *always* Mrs. Claus.

Persia clears her throat.

MISSY

Sette. Mrs. Clausette. I had a life before being a mother and a wife.

Missy picks up a candy cane and puts it in her mouth.

INT. COACH STORE - NIGHT

Warren and Lukas slowly walk around the store, observing the shelves. Lukas looks at his phone, seeing missed calls from Hayley and Crispin.

WARREN

Do you think this one will get me outta the doghouse?

Warren picks up a big pocketbook.

LUKAS

Maybe.

WARREN

Is Coach still even a thing?

LUKAS

I don't know. Maybe.

WARREN

Now what's the point in having a gay son if he isn't going to keep me updated on the latest fashion trends?

LUKAS

Because I get all my fashion updates from Crispin. Ya know. The guy I *just* broke up with.

WARREN

(sighs)

Lukas. I'm really sorry about that.

LUKAS

Are you? Because I thought you'd be ecstatic.

WARREN

I may have been a Krampus, but I am not a bad parent. I'd never want to see my boys unhappy. It's just that...some things are...inevitable.

LUKAS

Like, the two of us ending up hating each other like you and Kristoff.

WARREN

Alright. Full disclosure. I don't...*hate* Kristoff. I hate that he gave up on being Santa. I get it's a lonely job but, at least every year, for one day, we...had each other, ya know.

LUKAS

If I didn't know any better, I'd say...you and Kristoff were actually...friends.

WARREN

Frenemies.

A woman walks by and drops her phone, Lukas bends down to pick it up and something falls out of his jacket pocket. Lukas hands the woman her phone and Warren picks up the item that Lukas dropped...A BLACK SQAURE JEWELRY BOX.

WARREN

What's this?

LUKAS

That? That's--that's nothing.

Lukas goes to grab the box from his father, but Warren pulls

it away from him and opens it.

WARREN

This is an engagement ring.

(beat)

You were going to ask Crispin to marry you?

LUKAS

(sighs)

Tomorrow. On Christmas. Because I *thought* what better way to celebrate our one-year anniversary than by proposing to the man I love, surrounded by our families on his favorite day of the year.

(beat)

But what's the point now, right? Can't beat the inevitable.

Lukas takes the jewelry box from Warren. He grabs a red purse off the table.

LUKAS

Mom will like this one. I'll meet you at the register.

Lukas walks away from his father. Warren stands alone, feeling remorseful.

INT. FOXXXY'S - BAR - NIGHT

Hayley, Missy, and Persia laugh; all three of them feeling nice and relaxed from their drinking.

PERSIA

Oh, no she didn't, girl!

MISSY

Oh, yes, she did! The entire nativity scene went up in flames like a tiki torch!

PERSIA

Jesus, fix it.

MISSY

I think *Baby* Jesus was the one who needed fixing...and a fire extinguisher.

Hayley, Persia, and Missy burst into laughter.

HAYLEY

The arson charges aside, I would have killed to see that Christmas play.

PERSIA

It does sound like a good time, Missy.

MISSY

Oh, it is! The kids in our town look forward to it every year at "Magic Moments".

PERSIA

You know what I'm looking forward to? Another one of those cranberry cuckoo drinks. Bartender!

MISSY

Line em' up!

HAYLEY

I'll be right back, I'm gonna see if I can confiscate that gingerbread lotion.

Hayley leaves to go to the bathroom.

MISSY

She's a nice girl.

PERSIA

Our sons are definitely lucky to have a friend like her.

Missy and Persia both stay quiet for a moment, feeling a sense of ease with each other for the first time.

MISSY

I'm sorry, Persia. About everything.

PERSIA

So am I. Especially that whole dinner fiasco.

MISSY

Little secret? Hopefully, that deer you roasted was Prancer. My Candy Cane said he was such a little bitch.

Persia and Missy laugh.

PERSIA

Little secret? This Christmas thing...isn't...so bad. I'm not saying I'm gonna be four Cornish henn-ing it at people's doorsteps anytime soon but...it has been fun.

(beat)

You've gotta give me that recipe for those little berry buns.

MISSY

If there is a next year.

(beat)

We really screwed up with our boys, didn't we?

PERSIA

(sighs)

Our poor babies. Least that's something else we have in common.

PERSIA/MISSY

(beat)

We are shitty moms.

Missy and Persia tap their glasses together and drink their sorrows away.

PRE - LAP

"HEART OF SNOW" by Jordin Sparks begins to play

MONTAGE BEGINS

INT. MAGIC MOMENTS - NIGHT

Crispin helps a little girl with her Christmas hat, fixing it on her head. He looks over and sees Rudy with Cole as they talk and flirt near a Christmas tree. Crispin smiles sadly.

INT. THE W HOTEL - HOTEL SUITE - NIGHT

Lukas sits on the couch, slowly scrolling through photos on his phone of him and Crispin during the various holidays throughout the year.

QUICK SHOTS OF PHOTOS

--Lukas and Crispin on New Years Eve smiling and holding

champagne glasses.

--Lukas and Crispin kissing on Valentine's Day.

--Lukas and Crispin on St. Patrick's Day wearing four leaf clover hats.

--Lukas and Crispin standing on the pier with fireworks behind them in the sky.

Lukas flips past more photos and stops on a particular one.

CLOSE UP ON A PHOTO OF LUKAS AND CRISPIN AT FOXXY'S LAST CHRISTMAS ON THE NIGHT THEY FIRST MET; CRISPIN IS FORCING LUKAS TO SMILE

Lukas puts the phone down on the couch and goes over to the window, looking out at the lit city.

INT. CRISPIN & LUKAS'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Kristoff puts ornaments on the new Christmas tree. He goes into a box and pulls out another one.

CLOSE UP ON A SANTA CLAUS AND KRAMPUS JOINT ORNAMENT

Kristoff smiles slightly. Thinking about his times with Warren when they were Santa and Krampus. He puts it on the tree.

INT. BAR - NIGHT

Warren sits at the bar, having a beer alone, thinking about the week's events. He looks over and sees two guys sitting at a table, laughing and having beers together...missing his friendship with Kristoff.

Warren takes out his wallet and leaves some money on the counter. He gets up and leaves.

EXT. STREET - NIGHT

Lukas walks down the street, hands in his pockets. He looks up, seeing the name of a store...**"MAGIC MOMENTS"**.

INT. MAGIC MOMENTS - NIGHT

Crispin hands out wrapped gifts to kids with Rudy and Cole. When he looks up, he stops...seeing Lukas standing outside the window of the store.

THEIR EYES MEET.

THEIR GAZE LINGERS ON EACH OTHER.

Lukas walks away from the window, Crispin looks hopeful. He looks toward the front door, waiting to see Lukas walking inside...but it's just another family.

INT. CRISPIN & LUKAS'S HOUSE - FRONT PORCH - NIGHT

Kristoff sits on the porch bench, sipping eggnog.

CLOSE UP ON A PAIR OF BOOTS STANDING ON THE STREET IN FRONT OF THE HOUSE

Kristoff looks up, he sees Warren standing in front of the house. The two men stare at each other for a moment.

MONTAGE ENDS

INT. CRISPIN & LUKAS'S HOUSE - FRONT PORCH - NIGHT - CONT'D

Kristoff and Warren sit on the front porch together. Warren sips a beer; Kristoff takes a chug of his eggnog. They sit in silence for a few moments.

KRISTOFF

Do you remember Christmas 81'?

WARREN

The first time we put on the horns and the red suit.

KRISTOFF

We had no idea what we were doing.

WARREN

Even with the three-hundred and sixty-five days of training.

KRISTOFF

It was so overwhelming. Traveling all over the world in a matter of hours. Didn't know how I was gonna do it.

WARREN

And my naughty list? Whew boy. I never knew how many kids were actually...that bad.

KRISTOFF

You know the one thing I did remember
from training?

KRISTOFF/WARREN

"And the most important thing to never
forget...

Kristoff and Warren speak simultaneously.

WARREN

"Santa Claus is the enemy."

KRISTOFF

"Krampus is the enemy."

Kristoff and Warren share a laugh.

KRISTOFF

But instead of being the enemy,
you...helped unstick me from that
chimney.

WARREN

Well, I mean as *funny* as it was,
didn't want you to die in there. Kids
were counting on you.

KRISTOFF

And that's where we broke the rules.

WARREN

I *think* we actually broke the rules
when you shared those milk and cookies
with me on Christmas 83'. Krampuses
aren't supposed to eat on the job.

KRISTOFF

(beat)

Ya know...when I saw you, I
just...fell back into old habits. But
Missy told me that...maybe you hated
me all these years because...when I
found *her*, I just...scadaddled. And
that maybe. *Just* maybe. You might've
missed your buddy all these years.

WARREN

(beat)

I'm not going to say your wife
is...right. But I'm not going to say

that she's wrong either.

KRISTOFF

And look at us now. Brought back together by our sons.

(sighs)

Sons who love each other.

WARREN

And who wanna get married.

KRISTOFF

(shocked)

What in the six ladies dancing did you just say?

WARREN

Lukas told me he was going to propose to Crispin. Tomorrow. On Christmas day.

KRISTOFF

Wait, what do you mean was?

WARREN

Well, because of *us*, he isn't anymore.

KRISTOFF

Well, that's just not going to happen. I mean, the *not* proposing, that's *not* going to happen. Lukas *is* going to ask Crispin to marry him, he has to.

MISSY (O.S.)

What?! Persia, did you hear that...

Warren and Kristoff turn their heads toward the voice, seeing a very drunk Missy and Persia getting out of their Uber. Persia and Missy walk onto the porch.

PERSIA

(excited)

Lukas and Crispin are getting married?!

MISSY

We're gonna be in-laws! Aw, I've always wanted a sister.

PERSIA

And now you're getting a "sistahhhh"!

WARREN

Are you two...drunk?

PERSIA

We are...cranberry cuckoo'ed.

MISSY

And we've also put aside our differences. Is there an...epidemic of that going around?

Kristoff and Warren share a look.

KRISTOFF

Everything is...ho-ho-kay.

MISSY

Oh, Candy Cane! I'm so happy!

Missy hugs Kristoff. Persia hugs Warren.

PERSIA

So, now about this proposal. Where is it happening, when is it happening?

WARREN

Like I told Nicky...

Kristoff clears his throat.

WARREN

Kristoff. Lukas isn't going through with it because we all hate each other, and he thinks that him and Crispin are doomed.

PERSIA

Ugh, me and my big mouth!

MISSY

Okay, okay, okay. We are the ones who broke this, so we are the ones who can help put it back together. Persia, you call your son, Candy Cane you get your Santa suit, and Warren...we need to find a costume store ASAP.

KRISTOFF

What do you have up your sleeve, Chestnut?

MISSY

(beat)

I'm improvising.

(smiles)

And there is *nothing* a little improv
can't remedy.

INT. MAGIC MOMENTS - DAY

CHRISTMAS DAY

Children and their parents sit in chairs that have been set up in rows, drinking hot chocolate. The kids look eager and giddy. Haley also sits in the audience.

INT. MAGIC MOMENTS - STAGE - DAY

The store's Christmas displays have been set up on a small stage. A Christmas tree. A life-sized toy soldier. Some reindeer. Rudy and Cole lie in sleeping bags next to each other.

COLE

So...my parents are actually taking me to Miami next month. I know your parents hate Christmas but...would you mind hanging out with an elf?

RUDY

As long as elves aren't allergic to surfing.

(thinks)

I should ask Kristoff about that.

Cole smiles happily.

INT. MAGIC MOMENTS - BACKSTAGE - DAY

Missy fixes Crispin's red tuxedo. Crispin looks like he doesn't want to be here at all.

CRISPIN

The suit looks fine, mom. Why are we even doing this?

MISSY

Because it is Christmas Day, and this is a Clausette tradition.

CRISPIN

(sadly)

I always wanted Lukas to see one of our plays.

MISSY

Don't give up on you and Lukas just yet.

CRISPIN

As long as our parents keep acting like guests on Jerry Springer, this is it. It's over.

(sadly)

Can you return a house?

INT. MAGIC MOMENTS - CRISPIN'S OFFICE - DAY

Persia, Warren, and Kristoff are putting the finishing touches on their costumes. Persia wears OLD HAG MAKEUP WITH LONG TALON NAILS. Warren wears a TATTERED BLACK CLOAK WITH HUGE CURVED HORNS GLUED TO HIS FOREHEAD. Kristoff wears his SANTA SUIT.

Lukas comes out of the bathroom in a very chic black tuxedo.

PERSIA

(stunned)

Oh baby...you look amazing. Just like your father on our wedding day.

LUKAS

How the hell did you do this, dad? I feel like my heart is about to crawl out of my mouth and run across the room.

WARREN

Then that just means you're doing this for the right reasons. You got this, Luke.

KRISTOFF

We're all rooting for ya, kid. Now...Santa's...got places to be.

INT. MAGIC MOMENTS - BACKSTAGE - DAY

Kristoff comes out of Crispin's office. Missy smiles seeing her husband. Crispin turns around, seeing his dad walking up to them.

KRISTOFF
So...how does Santa look?

CRISPIN
(smiles)
Like my dad.

MISSY
Then I guess it's showtime.

Missy kisses Crispin on the cheek.

INT. MAGIC MOMENTS - STAGE - DAY

Missy walks out into the stage and is met with applause from the audience.

MISSY
Oh, thank you, thank you but please hold your applause until the end. I am Mrs. Claus. And this is a story about friendship, love, and the power...of Christmas. Once upon a time, there was an ordinary man who was given the best job someone could have. Bringing joy to every child in the world.

Kristoff comes out onto the stage carrying a red sack over his shoulder.

KRISTOFF
Ho ho ho! Tis I...Santa.

All the children applaud.

MISSY
And Santa *loved* his job! He loved flying on his sleigh with his reindeer, coming down the chimney...

Kristoff sneaks past Rudy and Cole as they "sleep", leaving gifts under the tree for them.

MISSY (CONT'D)
And he *really* loved all those cookies and milk you guys leave out for him. But there were also others who worked on Christmas Eve...and their names were...
(screams)
Krampus and Pertcha!

INT. MAGIC MOMENTS - BACKSTAGE - DAY

CRISPIN
(confused)
Krampus and Pertcha?

INT. MAGIC MOMENTS - CRISPIN'S OFFICE - DAY

PERSIA
That's our cue! Come on, come on.

INT. MAGIC MOMENTS - BACKSTAGE - DAY

Warren and Persia come out of Crispin's office and walk toward the stage. Crispin sees them and is surprised.

CRISPIN
What? What are you guys doing here?
How did you get into my office?

PERSIA
Zip it! Just wait for your cue,
Crispin. *Pertcha* is finally about to
get some exposure.

WARREN
Nice to see you, Crispin.

CRISPIN
Uhhh...you...

Warren and Persia walk toward the stage.

CRISPIN
Too. What the hell is going on?

INT. MAGIC MOMENTS - STAGE - DAY

Warren and Persia come out in their costumes.

KRISTOFF
Well, hello Krampus.

WARREN
Hello, Santa.

PERSIA
Grrrrrr! Hello kiddies. I hope you've
been following your Christmas
traditions. Have you decorated your
tree?

THE KIDS

Yes!

WARREN

And have you been good little boys and girls?

THE KIDS

Yes!

LITTLE BOY

Not me!

WARREN

That's what Krampus likes to hear.

LITTLE BOY

Krampus is so cool!

PERSIA

And don't forget about me. You see, I'm the girl version of him, just as cool, just as mean, a little more deadly, y'all wanna see some my knife skills?

MISSY

(clears throat)

Um, *Pertcha*.

PERSIA

I'm just saying, little girls need a role model too. Anybody wanna learn how to stuff a human?

MISSY

Need a little help with the narrating over here, *Pertcha*.

PERSIA

Oh, right. Don't worry kids, I'll have a meet and greet after.

Persia walks over to Missy.

PERSIA

Everything in life is about balance. And Krampus is the exact opposite of Santa. And they were *supposed* to dislike each other. But something very strange happened.

KRISTOFF

Would you like a cookie, Krampus?

WARREN

A cookie? Don't mind if I do.

Kristoff hands Warren a cookie and he eats it.

MISSY

Instead of fighting with each other, Krampus and Santa became friends. Because what they learned was that they were more similar than they were different.

PERSIA

And that even though we may think some things are set in stone...we can always change things. With love.

MISSY

You see, when Santa and I fell in love, he decided to live a normal life and start a family.

LITTLE GIRL #2

So...who's Santa now?

KRISTOFF

Probably a hack.

PERSIA

And Krampus did the same thing. With pretty old me.

MISSY

And we had children, just like you.

LITTLE BOY #2

Santa has a kid?!

MISSY

He did. And it's someone you *all* know very well.

Crispin walks out onto the stage, smiling. All of the children applaud and gasps at the surprise; the owner of their favorite toy store is Santa's son.

CRISPIN

So, I guess the secret is out.

LITTLE GIRL #3
Is this why you own a toy store?!

CRISPIN
Pretty much.

LITTLE BOY #3
Did Santa and Krampus stay friends?

MISSY
Well...they lost touch. But true
friendships never die.

PERSIA
And they were brought back together by
their own children. Isn't that
magical?

LITTLE GIRL #4
So, who are Krampus's kids?

Rudy gets out of his sleeping bag and stands up.

RUDY
(raises hand)
Kid number one.

LUKAS (O.S.)
And...

Lukas walks out onto the stage, shocking Crispin.

LUKAS
Kid number two.

CRISPIN
Lukas? Oh my God. You came.

LUKAS
Well...it's Christmas. And I couldn't
miss this. Just like I couldn't miss
you anymore.

MISSY
The special bond Santa and Krampus
shared was *also* shared by their sons.
And it's because of them that Santa
and Krampus were able to find their
friendship again.

Kristoff and Warren hug, again shocking Crispin.

CRISPIN
Dad? Really?

KRISTOFF
Really.

CRISPIN
And you two...
(points to Missy and Persia)
This...isn't just for the sake of the
kids?

MISSY
Oh no. Mrs. Claus and Pertcha are
besties now.

PERSIA
You could say more like "sistahs" if
my son hurries up.

CRISPIN
(To Lukas)
What--what are they talking about?

LUKAS
Crispin, I'm sorry. I shouldn't have
walked out on you the way I did. I
just...I thought we couldn't beat
fate. But I realized this *is* fate. All
of it.

(beat)
We met on Christmas, and you changed
my life. Everything was so...autopilot
for me. But you made me plan. You made
me dream. And when we first stepped
foot into our house, I knew...that's
where I wanted to keep dreaming with
you. You've brought a light into my
life that I didn't even think was
possible. So...Crispin Clausette...

Lukas reaches into his pocket and takes out the square black
jewelry box, opening it. Crispin sees the snowflake
engagement ring.

LUKAS
I would really like it if you kept
lighting up my world. For a very long
time. What do you say?

FEMALE PARENT

(shocked)

Are we about to witness a...gay
proposal? In front of the kids?!

HAYLEY

Oh, it's 2025, shove a chestnut in it,
lady!

Persia and Missy wink at Hayley.

CRISPIN

A snowflake.

LUKAS

Couldn't find a candy cane.

CRISPIN

(beat)

I *guess* it'll have to do.

WARREN

Is that a...is that a yes?

KRISTOFF

It's a, yes, right?

MISSY

Sounds like a yes.

PERSIA

I need concrete confirmation.

Crispin looks back at Persia and then smiles.

CRISPIN

It's a yes!

MISSY

Oh! Oh my God!

Lukas puts the ring on Crispin's finger, and they hug. The
Clauettes and The Krampmores clap as well as most of the
audience. Lukas and Crispin pull back from their hug.

LUKAS

I love you.

CRISPIN

I love you.

WARREN

(To Kristoff)

Looks like you still got some of that
Christmas magic in you.

KRISTOFF

Well, Warren...Christmas isn't
Christmas...without my Krampus. Bring
it in!

Warren and Kristoff hug. Lukas, Crispin, Missy, and Persia
all look delighted.

MISSY'S PHONE PINGS

MISSY

Oh! We have to go if we're going to
make that gingerbread making class.

RUDY

Hey mom, I think I'm gonna skip it.
Stay here and help Cole clean this
stuff up and then get some food after.

PERSIA

Okay, baby.

Rudy walks off with Cole.

PERSIA

My son and a holiday hooking harlot.
Welp! Tis the season!
(To Missy)
Come on, girl.

INT. STUDIO - DAY

Kristoff, Missy, Persia, Warren, Lukas, and Crispin sit
around a circle shaped table with their gingerbread house
making materials. Crispin admires his engagement ring.

CRISPIN

I cannot wait to start planning. Where
do you wanna get married?

LUKAS

Honestly? I didn't think much past the
ring.

Crispin laughs.

MISSY

Oh, Colorado has *beautiful* scenery.
The snow and the mountains...oh! A
"Frozen" themed wedding.

PERSIA

Now hold up, Elsa. Let it go. A Miami
wedding would be so much better. We
don't want our boys catching pneumonia
while saying their "I do's", do we?

WARREN

Now, now, wherever Lukas and Crispin
want to get married is *their* decision.
But it *will* be on The Krampmores.
Since Crispin is going to be one of
us.

KRISTOFF

(laughs)

That's nice of ya, pal, but *Lukas* is
going to be a *Clausette* so we'll be
paying for the wedding.

PERSIA

Well, *Lukas* is the one who proposed
and brought the ring so I believe
Crispin will be taking *his* last name.

LUKAS

Well, we haven't really talked
about...

MISSY

Ehhhh, I don't think so. But I'm sure
we can figure this out.

WARREN

Yes. The Krampmores are footing the
bill. End of story.

KRISTOFF

Don't make me drop a gingerbread house
on you. We're paying, Warren. This is
going to be a *Clausette* wedding...

PERSIA

Um, this isn't the North Pole,
Kristoff. You don't run the show
here...

MISSY

What's wrong with snow? What do people have against snow? It's gorgeous, it sets the mood...

PERSIA

And so does a Florida hot springs, my baby is getting married near a hot spring...

"ONLY THING I EVER GET FOR CHRISTMAS" by Justin Bieber begins to play

Crispin and Lukas look on in slight horror and amusement. They turn their heads toward each other slowly.

CRISPIN

You sure you don't wanna...re-think all of this?

LUKAS

How about I answer that in your language?

(smiles)

Merry Christmas, Crispin.

CRISPIN

(beat)

Merry Christmas, Lukas.

Crispin and Lukas lean into each other and kiss lightly on the lips as their future in-laws continue to bicker about their future nuptials.

The title card fades slowly onto the screen...

"TINSEL TENSIONS"

FADE OUT: