

WHO DO YOU LOVE?

Written by

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Logline: Roz moves to New York City from the hinterland to escape a troubled family life, and dates three different men as a way of avoiding any real intimacy. She struts, flaunts and struggles with her reluctance to get involved. Along the way she learns to open-up, to trust herself and others.

Synopsis: Roz is an aspiring YouTube artist who produces her own DIY channel while earning a subsistence living as a dog walker and barista. She juggles a casual involvement with three men, without making an emotional commitment to any one of them. She has equally contentious relations with two girl friends, one of whom is in love with her. She has long ago learned not to trust people. Roz plays the three guys (and her girlfriends) against each other to stir conflict, to test them, but also to protect herself. She has moved to the city to be her own person, to leave her past behind and to reinvent herself. The intimacy of commitment is not part of her plan, but it is what she really longs for as she works overtime to avoid it. Roz wants to be able to trust someone. To do this she has to learn to drop the hard, above-it-all, cynical shell she has developed to keep others at a safe distance. Trust is her stumbling block and her quest. She wants to let someone in, to be able to share, to be honest and open with someone. But she isn't there yet.

INT. ROZ'S APARTMENT/BEDROOM - NIGHT

ROZ, late 20's, confident, with piercing eyes, sits on her bed facing her phone camera set up on a tripod. The room is small and confining with odd props everywhere. She gets up from the bed, rearranges her clothes and then settles back on the bed again. She presses the remote to activate record on the camera as she addresses it.

ROZ

Alright cats 'n' kittens, we are going to get deep into it with today's topic: I Want to Change the World.

CUT TO:

TUCAN TV VIEW of Roz on bed. Roz speaks directly to the camera as the title I WANT TO CHANGE THE WORLD briefly flashes on the screen.

ROZ (CONT'D)

So, the big questch: What can I do to make the world a better place? I mean, I'm just one person. What can I, as one person do?

ROZ (CONT'D)

There's a lot to consider here. It's pretty complex, so I'm going to bring in my esteemed consultant, WISE OLD OWL.

A STUFFED OWL drops down from above. She looks at the owl, then at the camera and flashes a quick smile.

ROZ (CONT'D)

There are so many problems we face. The environment, climate change, wealth distribution, inequality, injustice, race relations. What can I do about these things?

Roz turns to The Wise Old Owl.

ROZ'S OWL VOICE

Nothing. It's a lost cause. Let the A.I. deal with it. All you people know how to do is fight and destroy things. You're fucked.

The Owl sits stoically still. Roz regards the Owl with surprise.

ROZ

Sure it might seem like we're screwed, but, isn't there anything I can do? At all?

ROZ'S OWL VOICE

Nope. It's all a mess. Nothing changes, and when it does, it goes from bad to badder.

Roz looks at the camera somewhat perplexed, then reaches down and picks up a straw from her bedside table.

ROZ

Oh, hey, look at this! I'm going to use this reusable straw!!! Which will save a turtle probably! Look at that, I'm changing the world a turtle at a time!

ROZ'S OWL VOICE

I don't think so. It's all going south, the whole ball of wax. We're talkin' civilizational collapse on a grand scale. War, pestilence, endless degradation. You name it, you've got it. Like I said, YER SCREWED! Hoisted by your own petard.

ROZ

OK, hey, calm down. We're just exploring the possibilities here. Let's be rational.

ROZ'S OWL VOICE

I am, you're not.

Roz looks at the camera, raises her eyebrows and without looking at The Wise Old Owl, hands it out of the frame.

ROZ

Ok, well thank you for your candor, now go to sleep.

CUT TO:

ROOM VIEW of Roz holding a hand mirror. Roz sighs, fluffs her hair, checks her teeth and puts on more lipstick. Then she adjusts the camera for a close-up.

CUT TO:

TUCAN TV VIEW of CU on Roz's face.

ROZ (CONT'D)
So much for wisdom.

Roz's frown immediately changes to a big smile.

ROZ (CONT'D)
Hey, I'm going to Iceland for the
northern lights. The Aurora Fucking
Borealis, come on!

EXT. CITY STREET - DAY

Roz and IZZY, late 20's, together, down to earth, talk as they walk down the street. They have been best friends since high school.

IZZY
So, don't go out with him. That's
the easy solution. Just say no.

ROZ
Yeah, but he's offering to promote
my channel. Says he can take me to
the next level. I should follow up,
even if he sucks.

IZZY
You're going out with like, three
different guys. Why? And why am I
always the one who sees the
problems?

ROZ
Why is this a big deal? I'm just
having fun and looking out for
myself.

IZZY
Oh is that what you're doing? Just
having a fun?

ROZ
Yeah, for the moment, if that's Ok
with you?

IZZY

Looks to me like you're fucking up again.

ROZ

Everyone's entitled to their opinion.

They walk on for a bit without talking.

IZZY

We got some cool new stuff in yesterday. You should come by the store and check it out.

ROZ

I'll bring Andy. He'll love it.

IZZY

Which one is Andy?

Roz ignores this question.

ROZ

I think he's in love with me.

Izzy stops short and Roz turns to face her.

IZZY

You've got to be kidding.

ROZ

What?! It's sweet.

IZZY

What? No way.

ROZ

It is.

Just then a HECKLER, youngish, a smart dresser, walks by and gives Roz the once over.

HECKLER

Shake it baby, don't break it. I love the way you move.

Roz abruptly turns and starts after the Guy.

ROZ

Hey, dipshit! Shut the fuck up!

The Heckler stops and faces Roz.

HECKLER

Chill out, my girl. What's the problem?

Roz walks right up to him and gets in his face.

ROZ

You're my problem. Shut. Up.

The Heckler holds his ground for a moment and then he decides to back off. He starts walking backward, still looking at Roz.

HECKLER

Whoa, are you crazy. Later.

ROZ

Asshole.

The Heckler turns and walks away. Roz follows him, but slows down.

Roz stops and walks back to Izzy, who has watched the whole proceeding from where they were standing.

IZZY

Feel better?

ROZ

No.

Roz and Izzy walk on for a way and then start to sing linking arms.

ROZ AND IZZY

(alternating lines)

I've been around the world, in my imagination, until I found you, I had no destination.

ROZ AND IZZY (CONT'D)

(in unison with harmonizing?)

First you thrill me, then you chill me with your natural love. You've got me in your sway, I can't break away from your natural love.

(Possibly) Roz and Izzy repeat first part of the chorus and then the Heckler jumps in out of nowhere.

ROZ IZZY AND THE HECKLER

(in unison with harmonizing?)

(MORE)

ROZ IZZY AND THE HECKLER (CONT'D)

You've got me in your sway, I can't
break away from your natural love.

INT. CORPORATE OFFICES/RECEPTION AREA - DAY

Roz sits as people hustle back and forth. She is not impressed and a good deal annoyed at having to wait. She gets up, approaches THE RECEPTIONIST, a young man, 20's, full of himself, and tries to be polite.

ROZ

Excuse me, but I had an appointment
with Greg Thomas at 10:30 and it's
already after 11:00.

RECEPTIONIST

Greg is in a meeting that is
running late. He should be here
shortly. Can I get you a coffee?

ROZ

This throws my whole day completely
out of whack. And yes, I would like
a coffee.

As she says this, GREG, early 30's, out to impress in suit
and tie, intercedes.

GREG

Roz, welcome. So sorry for the
delay. Crazy morning, so much going
on. Come on.
(to the receptionist)
Thanks Randy.

Greg takes off past a row of desks, but Roz stays put. Greg
notices she isn't following him and tries to wave her on. She
doesn't move. He walks back.

GREG (CONT'D)

I apologize for keeping you
waiting, Roz. Honestly, it couldn't
be helped. Let's go to my office.
I've got a brilliant plan all
mapped out for you.

Roz considers leaving and starts to turn away. Greg reaches
for her but thinks better of grabbing her arm. He scurries
around in front of Roz.

GREG (CONT'D)

Whoa, hold on there. Let's not be
hasty.

Roz tries to get around him. They do a little dance as he blocks her getaway.

GREG (CONT'D)
Seriously, we've got important
business to discuss. I'll make it
up to you, Roz. I promise.

Roz stops trying to leave.

ROZ
I don't like to be kept waiting.

GREG
Got it. I'm with you.

Without touching her, Greg maneuvers Roz to turn, and they start walking toward his office.

GREG (CONT'D)
I've got a million ideas. I'm
totally juiced about the
possibilities here.

As they walk away, Roz calms down a bit. Greg looks back over his shoulder and rolls his eyes at Randy, who nods in agreement.

INT. GREG'S OFFICE - DAY

Roz and Greg enter, and he shuts the door.

GREG
Please, have a seat. Want some
coffee, something to eat?

Roz sits down and Greg goes around to sit at his desk.

ROZ
No.

GREG
Some water?

ROZ
No, I'm OK for now.

GREG
Good. Now here's the deal. I think
we've nailed down your brand.

Greg makes a big opening gesture with hands and arms.

(MORE)

GREG (CONT'D)
Wacky Insightful. What do you think?

Greg waits for Roz's response. She doesn't react.

GREG (CONT'D)
And by the way, I had a great time the other night. How about dinner tonight?

ROZ
That was a business meeting. I'm busy tonight.

GREG
Ok. So, Off the Wall Insightful, Out of Left Field Insightful. You get what I'm driving at. Insightful is the key. You're offering a totally new perspective. The antithesis of Run of the Mill. Inspiring, Mind-Boggling Insight. You've got it all. The sky's the limit. We have to do dinner tonight.

Roz lets Greg run with his enthusiastic pitch. She likes the attention.

ROZ
Insightful I like, but what I want to know is how do I get paid? Give me some insight into that.

GREG
Not really my department, but we'll get to that. Right now we have to concentrate on your brand. We need to fine tune. We can work it out over dinner.

Roz stands up and paces in front of the desk.

ROZ
Well, maybe, but this is strictly business, not personal.

GREG
All business is personal, Roz. Rules of the game.

Greg starts around from behind the desk.

ROZ
I make my own rules.

GREG
We all like to think so, but...

ROZ
No buts about it.

GREG
Ok. I'll call you later.

Greg steps close to Roz and she doesn't back away.

GREG (CONT'D)
How about that coffee now?

ROZ
Sure, a coffee would be nice.

Greg ushers Roz out of his office.

EXT. RIVER SIDE PARK - DAY

Roz and SANDI, late 20's, self-possessed and pugnacious, both running outfits, walk along the river. They are casually competitive.

ROZ
Of course, he has to take me out to dinner and feed me a load of bullshit before he'll promote me.

SANDI
You're complaining about being taken out to dinner?

ROZ
And when I bring up the money, he's oh so quick to change the subject. I don't know why I waste my time.

SANDI
I'm free tonight. Tell me where and when, I'll go instead. I never turn down a dinner invitation.

ROZ
Brilliant idea.

SANDI
Always happy to help out.

ROZ
Don't I know it.

SANDI
What?

ROZ
What?

They look at each other for a beat and then laugh. They walk past a basketball court.

A VOICE
(O.S.)
Hey Roz.

ALEX, late 20's, confident, charming, runs off the court and grabs on to the chain link fence. Alex is followed by his friend CHARLIE, late 20's, reserved, a follower.

ALEX
Out for a stroll?

Roz and Sandi stop in front of Alex and Charlie on the other side of the fence. Roz hangs back, but Sandi walks right up to the guys. Sandi smiles at Alex.

ROZ
Yeah, we were just discussing Goldman's shorting the same MBS shit that they were peddling to their clients as pure gold in the early aughts. Boggles the mind really.

ALEX
You're a student of ancient history. How romantic.

Sandi keeps smiling at Alex through the fence at close range.

SANDI
(to Alex)
Hello.

From the basketball court THE GUYS ON THE COURT give Alex a hard time.

GUYS ON THE COURT
Hey, Romeo, you in the game or what?

ALEX
(to Roz and Sandi)
Want to shoot some pool with
Charlie and me later?

SANDI
Rack 'em up.

ALEX
We're going to Blue and Gold on
7th. Ill text you the address.

ROZ
A quick game maybe. And I know
where B&G is.

SANDI
We'll be there.

Alex and Charlie, who has not said a word during the brief encounter, go back to their game. Sandi and Roz carry on.

INT. IZZY'S CLOTHING STORE - DAY

Roz walks in the store and starts rummaging through the racks without saying hello to Izzy. She picks out an item or two and holds them up to herself. Izzy watches Roz out of the corner of her eye. She knows something is bothering Roz, but she's in no hurry to find out what it is.

ROZ
I don't see anything new. Looks
like the same old stuff to me.

Izzy doesn't take the bait and continues to read a book at the register. Roz pulls out another item from the racks.

ROZ (CONT'D)
Wow! Look at this beauty. This is
fantastic. If I was the ambassador
to Kazakhstan, I'd wear this to all
the embassy functions.

Roz walks over puts the dress on the counter in front of Izzy.

ROZ (CONT'D)
Do you have a lay away plan?

Izzy picks up the dress and folds it neatly without responding to Roz's provocation. She ignores Roz completely.

ROZ (CONT'D)

So, what the fuck did you mean that I'm screwing up AGAIN? Why don't you climb down off your fucking high horse and get over yourself.

The shop door opens and a CUSTOMER, a middle aged woman, enters with several shopping bags. Izzy moves from behind the counter to help the woman.

IZZY

(to the Customer)

Can I help you with anything?

CUSTOMER

I'm looking for something for my daughter. She's a bit shy, and I want to get her something to help her get noticed.

IZZY

Let's see, a funky blouse might be a good place to start.

Roz sidles over to the woman, picks a very loud dress off the rack and holds it up for the woman to see.

ROZ

This will get little miss wallflower turning some heads.

The woman is taken aback and takes offense.

CUSTOMER

That's not at all what I had in mind. It's too obvious.

ROZ

Obvious? It's just the thing.

CUSTOMER

Excuse me, but she won't like that, and I don't like it either. If you don't mind.

The Customer moves past Roz and continues to browse. Izzy picks something out that the woman shows interest in.

ROZ

Fine. Whatever.

Roz holds the dress up to herself, then puts it back in the rack, turns and walks out of the store. Izzy continues helping the Customer and doesn't even look up.

EXT. SIDEWALK CAFE - DAY

ANDY, early 30's, a talker, buys Roz lunch. He has a lot on his mind as they sip drinks and look over the menu.

ANDY

You look beautiful today. I recommend the cob salad, brilliant. Are you hot? Here, let me adjust the umbrella.

Andy jumps up and moves the umbrella to totally shade Roz. A WAITER comes by.

ANDY (CONT'D)

(to the Waiter)

Can you please get us some ice water with an extra side of ice.

Roz is amused by Andy's befuddled attentions. She doesn't encourage or discourage him. She studies the menu. Andy sits back down.

ROZ

So Andy, what have you been up to?

ANDY

I woke up at 4:30 this morning. I barely slept last night. I took a shower and used the new extra large bath towels I just got at Bergdorf's on sale, they are heaven, so thick and fluffy. I put them in the dryer while I'm showering, so when I get out they're warm and soft. Amazing. I couldn't eat a thing and just had a coffee on the way to work. We're taking on yet another condo building, and the market sucks, way oversaturated, very stressful because we have to offer big discounts to move anything and the developers are freaked, and I watched the clock all morning and the time just crawled along until now and here we are.

The Waiter brings the ice water and a bucket of ice on the side. Roz looks up from her menu.

WAITER

Would you like to order now?

ANDY

I think we're ready. She'll have the cob salad with salmon, so delicious here, and I'll have...

ROZ

Actually, I need another minute or two.

ANDY

Really? Ok, just another minute, thanks.

The waiter walks away. Roz smiles at Andy which stops him dead.

ROZ

So, that was a busy morning. What's the rest of your day look like?

Andy is agog and in a suspended state of bliss from the smile Roz shot his way. Finally, the question registers.

ANDY

Oh, we've got meetings all afternoon. I have a showing at 4:30, then hopefully I'll have time to squeeze a quick workout at the gym before I meet mother at the theatre. We're seeing Hadestown for the third time. She just adores the show, and I have to go because Herman, my father, won't go with her. Then probably a bite to eat after the show, then home to bed to start all over again tomorrow. Know what you want? Oh, I thought maybe we could do dinner and a movie at the Metro on Saturday. What do you think? They have a Noah Baumbach retrospective on now. Frances Ha is my absolute favorite.

ROZ

I'm busy on Saturday. I promised my friend Izzy I'd...

ANDY

Then how about brunch on Sunday at the Met. I can get passes to skip the lines for the Degas show.

Roz thinks this over and gives Andy a bemused look.

ANDY (CONT'D)

What?

ROZ

That's possible.

ANDY

Great. I love sitting in the cafe looking out the huge floor to ceiling window into Central Park.

The Waiter wonders by, Roz motions that she'll have another drink and they start to order.

INT. COFFEE BAR - DAY

Roz works the bar, taking orders, making coffee, bringing out more Oatley from the back room. It's afternoon and not all that busy as Izzy enters making a b-line for Roz, who sees her coming and scoots into the back room. Izzy waits, Roz reappears and continues cleaning up without acknowledging Izzy. Finally, Roz looks at Izzy.

ROZ

Can I help you?

IZZY

I know what you're up to. You're just hiding in plain sight. You're afraid to face it.

ROZ

Face what, Lady M for melodrama?

IZZY

You're playing games and avoiding what's really going on. You can kid yourself, but I won't play along.

ROZ

Fine. Not a problem. And spare me the deep insights. You don't know what you're talking about anyway.

IZZY

I know exactly what I'm talking about. All your antics, getting arrested. What happened with your father was traumatic, but it doesn't excuse this.

ROZ

The family curse.

IZZY

You go on your merry way, all fun
and games. You're just faking it.

ROZ

You have such an excitable
imagination.

IZZY

It'll catch up to you, and it won't
be pretty.

ROZ

Gazing into your crystal ball
again?

Izzy takes a long look at Roz who returns her stare. Neither of them will back down. Finally, Izzy turns to go, takes a few steps toward the door, turns to say something else, but thinks better of it, turns and leaves.

Roz watches her as a CUSTOMER, a young man, approaches the counter.

CUSTOMER

What did happened with your father?

ROZ

Little Miss know-it-all.

Roz is preoccupied when she says this, and then realize where she is.

ROZ (CONT'D)

(to the customer)

What can I get you?

INT. BAR/POOL TABLE - EVENING

Roz and Sandi play pool against Alex and Chuck. Roz is running the table.

ROZ

No matter how much we ignored him,
the guy kept hitting on us. In
front of everyone, everywhere. I
mean he was our fucking social
studies teacher.

SANDI

He would give us looks in class and
come up to us in the hallway.
Something had to be done.

As Sandi is talking, she moves closer to Alex to get his attention while Roz is shooting.

SANDI (CONT'D)

We could have reported him, but Roz came up with another idea.

Roz notices Sandi getting close to Alex who plays it cool. Roz continues to make her shots.

ROZ

I mean the guy was a real sleaze bag. So we ordered one of those life size inflatable sex dolls.

Sandi persists with Alex in the most obvious way.

SANDI

(to Alex)

She has the weirdest ideas. It was creepy.

ROZ

We went over to his house, went in the back door which was wide open and inflated the thing in his living room. There was this big picture window looking out over his yard to the street. We put it in a chair by the window, where all the neighbors could see her.

Sandi puts her hand on Alex's shoulder and whispers something in his ear. This causes Roz to miss her next shot.

SANDI

I don't know how you talk me into that kind of crazy shit.

Roz walks over and hands the pool cue to Sandi.

ROZ

Well, it did the trick. The next time he came up to me, I asked him if he'd had any unexpected visitors lately. He never bothered me again.

Roz stands triumphantly at the end of the pool table. Alex hands the pool cue to Chuck who starts to line up a shot.

CHUCK

Damn, that took some nerve.

Roz saunters over to Chuck, puts her arm around his shoulder and leans in.

ROZ

There's a better shot, the ten ball in the side pocket. Sets you up for the two in the far corner.

Sandi moves closer to Alex hoping he will put his arm around her. But he walks along the table to the other end. Roz stays with Chuck.

ALEX

Speaking of picture windows, that reminds me of the time Chuck and I decided to get our hair permed.

CHUCK

No, don't.

Chuck starts sinking shots that Roz points out to him. Alex walks back to Sandi, as he watches Roz with Chuck.

ALEX

We went down to this barbershop on St. Marks around 8:30 one night, sat down and before you know it, we were sitting in the chairs with curlers in our hair.

CHUCK

So embarrassing.

Alex stands close to Sandi.

ALEX

It was fucking hilarious, because the chairs were right next to a giant plate glass window. The people walking by would actually stop and stare at us through the window.

SANDI

You must have looked so cute.

CHUCK

We looked ridiculous.

Chuck misses the next shot and Roz gives him a kiss on the cheek.

ROZ

Nice run.

Roz goes to collect her things.

ROZ (CONT'D)
Got to go. I've got a dinner
engagement. It's Business. Bye.

She heads for the door. Alex moves away from Sandi, and they all try not to look surprised and disappointed.

ALEX
Enjoy your dinner.

SANDI
(to Alex)
Typical.

ROZ
Thanks for the game.

Roz leaves and Sandi turns to Alex.

SANDI
I could use a drink.

The three of them head for the bar.

INT. RESTAURANT BAR - NIGHT

Roz and Greg drink at the bar while they wait for a table.

GREG
I can see that everyone in the
office is gunning for me. My
clients have the most views, I'm
outperforming everyone, and you
know why? Because I'm hungry. I
have the ambition, the drive and
the personality to bring it all
together, make it happen.

Roz knocks back her drink and orders another. She is not all that captivated and a bit distracted. Greg finishes his drink and orders another to keep up.

GREG (CONT'D)
And I can make it happen for you,
Roz. You'll blow you up. Sky's the
limit. But you have to want it and
want it like nothing else. You've
got to up your game. You're hanging
back, not throwing yourself into it
1000 percent.

Roz just stares at Greg and finishes her drink without responding. Then orders yet another. Greg downs his drink and again orders another to keep up with Roz.

GREG (CONT'D)

You've got the talent, the look, the edge, but you aren't pushing it. You've got to work it. I mean really work it.

ROZ

I'm working three jobs and doing all the production myself. It's fun to do in my spare time, when I get some. You say you can make it happen, but how? When do you actually start doing something for me?

GREG

Well, that's just it. You have to reach a threshold level of views. That's why I'm saying you have to step it up. Get aggressive. Get hungry. Want the success. Breathe it, dream it, lust for it.

Greg is feeling the drinks and starting to slur his words.

ROZ

Easy for you to say, sitting in your office and eating out on the expense account every day. Besides, I'm not sure I want to get into this in a big way. It may lose its appeal.

GREG

That's a lazy ass way to look at it.

Roz finishes her drink and turns to face Greg directly. Greg picks up his drink and thinks about finishing it. Roz watches him. He wants to drink it down, but something is holding him back. He puts the drink down and picks up his phone.

ROZ

And what is success anyway? A lot of hype mostly. Everybody wants it, but nobody knows what it really is. A suckers game if you ask me.

Roz orders another drink. This stuns Greg. He picks up his drink, hesitates a moment and then knocks it back. It does not go down easy. He orders another.

GREG
(to himself)
Fuck me.

ROZ
What I want is a little peace of
mind. You say do whatever it takes.
Do you ever think about
consequences?

Greg is having a hard time following this line of thought. He's really feeling the drink.

GREG
Consequences? I'm saying reach for
the stars, the sky's the limit.
Knock it out of the park. Don't
hold back. Give it your all.

ROZ
Easier said than done.

Roz downs her drink. Greg looks at his and seems like he might pass out.

ROZ (CONT'D)
I appreciate the cheerleading, but
a financial incentive would go a
long way to grease the wheels. Just
sayin'.

Roz looks around the room and comes looks back at Greg who is hanging on for dear life.

ROZ (CONT'D)
I'm not hungry. Let's go see this
amazing loft of yours you're always
going on about.

Greg manages to stand up as Roz gathers her things.

GREG
OK, follow me.

Greg heads for the door holding on to a chair or two on the way out. Roz spies Greg's drink on the bar, picks it up and takes a long look at it.

ROZ
Success, nothin' to it.

She knocks back the drink and follows Greg out steady as she goes.

INT. LUXURY LOFT - NIGHT

Roz walks in and checks the place out, as Greg stumbles after her. Greg is a bit revived, but still wasted. Roz has cast off her cares and is enjoying herself.

ROZ

This really is a beeeautiful place you've got here, Greg. And look at all this stuff. Very impressive.

Greg follows Roz around trying to get a hold of her, but she keeps several steps ahead of him.

ROZ (CONT'D)

This is an amazing table. And look at these prints. Is this an original Albrecht Durer?

Roz picks up a small print from a large collection of framed images leaning on a wall shelf and keeps moving with it.

GREG

Be careful with that. It's worth a fortune.

Greg reaches for the print, but Roz whisks it away and Greg stumbles, almost falling. Roz puts the print on a table and keeps on moving. Greg recovers and stays after her.

ROZ

You know, maybe you're onto something with this ambition thing, Greg. I'm really impressed. If I get my act together, if I up my game, kick some serious ass, I could have something like this myself. I mean, that is a fucking wild proposition.

GREG

Can you slow down just a second.

Roz stops for a moment, but just as Greg gets to her, she is off again around the room.

ROZ

But I have to ask you, Greg. Are you happy? I mean truly happy.

GREG

I would be overjoyed, if you would
just stand still for a moment.

At this point, Greg has stopped following Roz, and he tries to steady himself. He turns away from Roz for an instant. Roz stops and turns to face Greg.

ROZ

Because I'm really happy right now,
just the way I am.

Roz moves toward Greg and as he turns to her, she jumps up, wraps her legs and arms around him and gives him a big kiss. Greg makes a valiant effort to stay standing and actually starts to kiss her as he stumbles backward landing on the couch with Roz on top of him. They continue to kiss and then Roz comes up for air.

ROZ (CONT'D)

You're starting to push my buttons,
Greg.

She starts to undress him and rips his shirt.

ROZ (CONT'D)

I'm feeling hungry.

She pulls up her dress.

ROZ (CONT'D)

I want to go for it.

They pull down his pants and start to make love.

GREG

Alright.

ROZ

I want to work it.

GREG

That's right.

ROZ

I'm throwing myself into it 1000
percent. Stay with me Greg.

GREG

I'm with you Roz.

ROZ

Can you feel it Greg?

GREG
Absolutely.

They go for it frantically, passionately and they come together.

ROZ
Success.

They collapse on the couch and Greg immediately falls asleep. Roz lays there for a moment.

ROZ (CONT'D)
Well, that was nice Greg. Greg?

Greg is out cold. Roz pulls down her dress, puts a throw blanket from the couch over Greg, then collects her things, and starts to leave. She spies a bottle on the bar, grabs it, takes a pull and walks to the door with it. She turns at the door, looking back at the room and Greg on the couch.

ROZ (CONT'D)
Sweet dreams.

She turns and walks out the door.

EXT. CITY STREET - DAY

Roz walks her REGULAR DOG GROUP all on leashes. One of the dogs nips at another dog.

ROZ
Eddie, cut it out. None of that on my walk.

Eddie does as he is told and gets back in line.

ROZ (CONT'D)
(to the dogs in general)
I remember being at the restaurant, but I don't think we actually eat anything. Pru, no lagging. We're just starting out.

Pru gives Roz a look and wags her tail.

ROZ (CONT'D)
I'm pretty sure we ended up at Greg's place. I hope I didn't sleep with him. Hold up everyone, Randy's got to go.

Randy does his business, Roz picks it up with a plastic bag she takes out of small pouch around her waist. She looks for a trash can, but there isn't one in sight. She spies a fenced in courtyard, swings the bag of poop above her head, and let's it fly over the fence. She looks around. No one saw her.

ROZ (CONT'D)

You guys didn't see that.

All the dogs look at her approvingly and wag their tails as they start off again.

ROZ (CONT'D)

Did I take the pill this morning? I was in such a hurry to get to you guys. I hate to keep you waiting.

She stops and they all look up at her.

ROZ (CONT'D)

I can do better than this. I know I can. What do you think?

She looks down at the dogs and they look back at her. She squats down and they all gather around as Roz pets them and some of them lick her face. She stands up and they set off again.

ROZ (CONT'D)

Have you guys met Alex yet? I have to be careful with that one.

They turn the corner and head for the dog park.

ROZ (CONT'D)

I heard a segment on NPR about how the warming oceans are messing with the singing of the humpback whales. It has to do with mating and of course only the males sing.

They turn another corner out of sight. Roz sings out and the dogs bark and howl.

INT. EXERCISE CLASS - DAY

Roz and Sandi stretch with the class. Sandi mimics the GUNG-HO INSTRUCTOR to get Roz's attention. Roz is preoccupied, lost in thought.

SANDI
Come on, Roz, put your back into
it. Step it up, step it up.

Roz briefly gets energized, then slacks off again.

SANDI (CONT'D)
Stay with it now. Work it.

The exercise ends and The Instructor calls a break. Roz and Sandi walk to the side and pick up their water bottles.

SANDI (CONT'D)
What did you think of Alex's
friend, Chuck?

Roz is still not engaged. She is going through the motions,
but she's not really there.

ROZ
Nice guy. Not your type.

SANDI
You think?

Roz turns and starts to pay attention.

ROZ
Really?

SANDI
How'd dinner with the producer go?
Did you sign the contract?

ROZ
No. We're in the exploratory stage.

SANDI
I see. Feeling each other out.

ROZ
Something like that.

SANDI
Did you sleep with him?

ROZ
No.

They both turn away from each other as they sip their water.
Sandi adjusts her outfit.

SANDI

Well, I had a nice time with Alex last night. I hope you don't mind.

ROZ

Why should I mind?

SANDI

I know you've gone out with him.

Roz turns and sizes Sandi up.

ROZ

I have.

SANDI

I like him.

ROZ

Interesting.

SANDI

You left, so I figured anything goes.

ROZ

Sure.

SANDI

We went back to his place.

ROZ

Really?

SANDI

You don't believe me?

The Instructor calls the class back and they go to their places.

ROZ

You're too much.

SANDI

And I know he likes me too. I could tell.

The Instructor asks for quiet and starts a new routine. Roz jumps right in enthusiastically, but Sandi stands looking at Roz for a moment before joining in.

EXT. A BENCH OUTSIDE A MACHA BAR - DAY

Roz sits on a bench that wraps around a tree next to the sidewalk with Andy drinking iced matcha.

ANDY

Matcha. What will they think of next? I mean, can it be more refreshing?

Andy jumps up, takes a big pull on his straw, does a two step move with a spin and sits back down close to Roz.

ANDY (CONT'D)

Delicious. And I have to tell you, you're taking my breath away. How do you do it? You're so gorgeous. Effortlessly stunning. I'm in awe, I'm shocked, I'm mesmerized.

Roz takes in his performance with a bemused smile.

ROZ

You're in a good mood.

ANDY

Everything seems perfect today. You're perfect, I'm perfect. Everything is...

ROZ

Perfect?

ANDY

I can't help myself. When I'm with you I feel fantastic. I feel like taking on the world, storming the barricades.

ROZ

Am I missing something here? What's up.

ANDY

Must be the matcha. I love this stuff.

Andy leans in to kiss Roz, but she turns away. He is not deterred.

ANDY (CONT'D)

And what's more, I have something very important to tell you.

Roz turns back to him and gives him her full attention.

ROZ
This had better be good.

Andy collects himself. He looks Roz straight in the eyes for a long moment.

ROZ (CONT'D)
Yes?

ANDY
I love you.

Roz takes this in, but doesn't react.

ANDY (CONT'D)
I love you. I really do. With all my heart.

Roz looks at him and a smile slowly appears on her face.

ROZ
Hnnnnnn.

ANDY
I'm not kidding.

ROZ
Ok.

ANDY
Really, I'm not.

Roz bursts out laughing, a genuinely happy laugh.

ROZ
If you say so.

ANDY
I'm serious. I love you.

ROZ
What time is it?

Andy stares at Roz longingly.

ROZ (CONT'D)
Stop it.

ANDY
I love you.

ROZ
You're being absurd.

Roz gets up and walks away. Andy watches her go and then hurries after her.

INT. IZZY'S CLOTHING STORE - DAY

Roz looks through the racks without acknowledging Izzy, who watches Roz but doesn't say anything. Finally, Roz walks over to Izzy and looks her straight in the eye.

ROZ
You're probably right.

IZZY
You know I'm right.

ROZ
Well, congratulation on being right all the time. That must make you feel really special.

IZZY
I didn't say all the time. Only about this one thing.

ROZ
Well good for you.

Roz turns and fiddles with the outfit displayed on a store mannequin.

ROZ (CONT'D)
You're such a know-it-all.

IZZY
You're a pain.

Roz strolls through the clothes racks browsing. Izzy gets up from behind the counter and walks in the opposite direction. They circle each other.

ROZ
What do you make of this? Andy has just told me...

IZZY
Which one is Andy? Could I tell them apart in a line-up?

ROZ

Andy is the sweet one. He's in real estate.

IZZY

That's original.

ROZ

Andy just told me that he loves me. I actually felt this little rush of happiness. Just from hearing him say it. It took me totally by surprise.

IZZY

Well, I never.

ROZ

For a moment, I had the feeling it was possible. I'm still kind of buzzed from it.

As they continue to circle each other, Izzy starts to close in on Roz.

IZZY

And why not? Everyone deserves to be in love with someone. Even you.

ROZ

Thank you. That means mountains coming from you.

IZZY

Love's in the air. I'm feeling it too.

ROZ

Just sayin', you never know.

Izzy approaches Roz who is studying an item from the rack.

IZZY

Maybe you should marry him.

ROZ

Marry him? Now there's an idea.

IZZY

Very romantic.

Izzy stands beside Roz as she continues to leaf through the rack.

ROZ

Not sure I deserve any of that.

Izzy puts her hand on Roz's shoulder.

IZZY

You do. You absolutely do. Come here.

Izzy pulls Roz to her for a hug. Roz turns and embraces Izzy. Izzy holds on to Roz tightly and for longer than a normal hug would last. Roz takes Izzy by the shoulders as they separate and gives her a reassuring squeeze.

ROZ

Anything's possible, right?

IZZY

You never know.

Izzy walks slowly back to the counter and Roz keeps browsing.

INT. TATOO PARLOR - DAY

Roz sits as Sandi lies on her stomach with her chin propped up on her hands getting a tattoo on her lower back from a TATOO ARTIST, woman early 30's, seen-it-all world weary.

SANDI

I like to get a tattoo after I've slept with someone for the first time.

ROZ

I'm surprised you're not covered head to toe.

Sandi ignores the remark with some effort.

SANDI

Alex and I had the best time hanging out. He's easy going and funny. The kind of guy you could get serious with.

TATOO ARTIST

I like to get tagged after I get in a fight and kick some ass.

ROZ

You can't find someone on your own? Not very original.

Sandi turns sharply and the Tattoo Artist quickly pulls the inking gun away just in time.

INSERT

CLOSE-UP ON SANDI'S TATOO

An outline of crouching tiger partly filled in.

ROZ (CONT'D)

(O.S.)

You should be getting a Panting
Puppy Tattoo instead.

INT. TATOO PARLOR - DAY

Sandi settles back down, collecting herself.

SANDI

I didn't know you cared. You're
always going on about just having
fun. I like to have fun too.

ROZ

Maybe I do care.

Sandi again turns to study Roz, then settles back down. The Tattoo Artist resumes work.

SANDI

Maybe isn't good enough.

ROZ

You should branch out, make it more
interesting.

SANDI

I'll make it interesting.

TATOO ARTIST

Game on.

INT. SUBWAY ENTRANCE - DAY

Roz and Alex meet unexpectedly and stop to talk.

ALEX

You took off like a shot the other
night. I was hoping we could hang
out.

ROZ
I had an important business dinner.

ALEX
How'd it go?

ROZ
It was productive. These things
take time.

ALEX
Yeah, you have to work at it to get
what you want.

ROZ
You seem to get what you want.
Things come your way.

ALEX
That's funny. I was thinking the
same about you.

A stream of people come by to enter and exit the subway
requiring Alex and Roz to dodge and weave to get out of their
way. Finally they face each other again.

ALEX (CONT'D)
Come over to my place. I'll make
dinner.

ROZ
I'm really busy these days. I heard
you had a nice time with Sandi.

ALEX
We had a couple of drinks.
Seriously, let's get together. When
are you free?

ROZ
Not sure.

ALEX
Come on.

Roz heads for the subway entrance stairs and Alex follows.

ROZ
I'll see what I can do.

INT. ANDY'S UPTOWN APARTMENT - DAY

Roz walks through the apartment checking out all the furnishings, as Andy follows close behind.

ANDY

I can't believe it. I've never felt like this before. All my doubts, all my hang-ups have evaporated since I met you.

ROZ

I'm so happy for you, but I can assure you, it has nothing to do with me.

ANDY

It has everything to do with you. I love you.

ROZ

Andy, get a grip.

They make their way back to the living room.

ANDY

Come here and sit down.

Andy ushers Roz over to a couch.

ROZ

If we're going to make the movie, we've got to get going.

Andy gets her to sit down and then paces in front of her.

ANDY

I can't stop saying it. I love you, I love you, I love you.

ROZ

OK, I get it.

Andy sidles over to a side table and opens a drawer with his back to Roz. He turns abruptly and presents her with a ring as he gets down on one knee.

ANDY

Will you marry me?

Roz is momentarily stunned as she looks at the huge diamond ring Andy presents her. He reaches for her hand, but before he can take it, she pulls back and bursts out laughing.

ROZ
Andy, I mean really.

ANDY
It's crazy, I know, but it's so
right.

Roz stands up and looks down at Andy.

ROZ
Come on Romeo, back on your feet.

Andy stays on bent knee looking up at her.

ANDY
You're the answer to all my dreams.
It has to be. You know I'm right.

ROZ
You're wrong. Not right, but wrong,
wrong, wrong. So cut it out.

Roz charges off and Andy gets up to go after her. She spins
and faces him.

ROZ (CONT'D)
It's not that easy.

ANDY
I know what I feel.

ROZ
No way.

ANDY
It has to be.

ROZ
Forget it.

They circle each other.

ANDY
We're made for each other.

ROZ
Rubbish.

ANDY
I'll make you happy.

ROZ
I'm already happy.

ANDY
I'll make you happier.

ROZ
Impossible.

ANDY
Marry me.

ROZ
No.

ANDY
Yes.

ROZ
No.

ANDY
Yes.

ROZ
For the last time...

ANDY
Marry me.

They stop short. Roz looks at Andy with a momentary wildness in her eyes

ROZ
OK.

Andy takes both her hands.

ANDY
Fantastic. You won't regret it. I promise.

He slips the ring on her finger.

ROZ
But no sex until we're married.

ANDY
No problem.

INT. ROZ'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Roz futzes around setting up the shoot and then climbs on to the bed with the video set-up ready to go. She turns on the camera and settles back.

CUT TO:

YOUTUBE VIEW: Medium Shot of Roz on the bed.

ROZ

You have to be able to trust someone. But who? People you've known all your life seem trustworthy, until they're not. People you've just met seem nice, but who knows what they're really like. You have to always be on your guard. But that is really tedious and boring.

A mannequin leans in and hands her a deck of cards.

ROZ (CONT'D)

(to the mannequin)

Thank you. Life is a gamble.

She shuffles the cards as she talks.

ROZ (CONT'D)

Someone says they love you. What does that mean? How are you supposed to react to that? How can you know what you really feel? Can you even trust yourself? Maybe you say, yes I love you too. Maybe you say no, I don't love you. It's impossible to know for sure.

Roz cuts the deck of cards. She presents the card to the camera in close-up. THE JOKER.

EXT. CITY STREET - DAY

Roz walks her dogs while Greg walks along trying not to step on them.

GREG

We up the production value, add a bit of razzle-dazzle and you're a sensation overnight. I can make it happen.

ROZ

Razzle-dazzle is not really my thing and besides, who pays for this upping of the production value?

GREG

It's all part of the plan.

ROZ

Does this mean real money for me?

GREG

You have to put in the sweat equity. You have to be all in. This is not a free ride.

ROZ

Right now it's a lark, it's fun and no big deal. I don't need to be under a lot of pressure. Pressure is not my thing.

Greg gets tangled up in the leashes as the dogs get rambunctious with each other.

GREG

That was some time we had the other night.

The dogs stop to do their business.

ROZ

If I'm going to get down with this, there has to be some real money in it.

GREG

Just follow my lead, and it can all be yours. Let's have dinner tonight, and we'll eat this time.

ROZ

No more of that. I'm engaged.

GREG

See, your comic timing is brilliant. You're a natural.

Roz puts out her hand and flips the ring around to reveal the diamond.

ROZ

It's the real deal.

GREG
Yeah, and I'm Mahatma Gandhi.

ROZ
Yeah, well no more dinners Mahatma.

GREG
Watch yourself. I can cast you off
whenever I want.

Roz stops and all the dogs look up at her.

ROZ
Cast away, asshole. And fuck off.

The dogs bark at Greg. Roz leads them away leaving Greg
standing there.

INT EXERCISE CLASS- DAY

Roz and Sandi are doing warm-up exercises in the back of the
class.

ROZ
It was a crazy night. Greg is a
wild man, over the top. I've never
been with anyone like him.

SANDI
Alex and I really...

ROZ
And what a meal we had. The wine
was flowing and the food kept
coming. So delicious. And he's
ambitious. He's on his way to the
top. He'll be running the place in
no time.

SANDI
Alex was telling me about the
time...

ROZ
Then we went downtown to his loft.
I walked in and couldn't believe my
eyes. I mean couches as far as the
eye could see. We made love on
everyone of them. I must have cum
ten times.

SANDI
I prefer the gentle type.

ROZ

Well, you've slept with Alex, now you should try Greg.

SANDI

I'll leave the multiples to you.

ROZ

He's definitely your type. I can see you two really hitting it off.

SANDI

Since when have you been so concerned about me?

ROZ

I'm always looking out for you.

SANDI

Really?

ROZ

Just trying to throw a good thing your way.

SANDI

You're so generous.

They start to do the first exercise as the class begins.

EXT. CITY STREET - DAY

Roz walks arm in arm with Andy looking at her ring.

ROZ

Andy, it's so beautiful. I just love it so much.

ANDY

I'm so excited. It has to be a June wedding. There are at least two hundred people from my side alone that we have to invite. We'll have it at the club. The tasting for the menu will be so much fun. I can't wait for you to meet my parents, and it'll be great to meet your mom and dad.

ROZ

My family won't be coming.

Andy stops and grabs both of Roz's hands.

ANDY

Why not?

ROZ

It's a long story.

ANDY

Tell me.

Roz starts them walking again.

ROZ

All in good time. Anyway, I was adopted, and I don't know who my real parents are.

ANDY

What about your adoptive parents?

ROZ

They aren't coming either.

ANDY

That's so sad. I had no idea. I'm so sorry.

ROZ

Really, it's not an issue. Your family will be my family.

ANDY

That's right. They're going to love you. Let's get together with them this weekend. We'll go out for a nice meal.

ROZ

I would love to meet your parents, but I've got a really cool idea. Let's keep our engagement to ourselves for awhile. It's more romantic that way. It'll be our secret, to savor the moment, just the two of us.

ANDY

But, I want to tell the whole world. I can't keep this a secret. I'll go crazy.

ROZ

It makes it special. Just for us. For a brief moment, it'll stop time.

Andy stops and shuffles his feet.

ANDY

I guess. Not what I had in mind,
but if that's what you want. OK.

ROZ

You're such a good sport. I love
that about you.

ANDY

But the ring.

Roz takes the ring off, undoes a gold chain necklace she is wearing, strings it through the ring and puts the necklace back on. Andy looks at his feet, chin on chest as they walk on.

ROZ

The ring is right next to my heart.
It's our secret.

They walk in front of Izzy's store.

ROZ (CONT'D)

Let's go in.

Andy is reluctant but follows along.

ROZ (CONT'D)

And remember, not a word about our
plans.

They enter the store.

INT. CLOTHING STORE - DAY

Roz gives Izzy a big hug and turns to Andy. Izzy is not amused, but she puts up with it.

ROZ

This is my very best friend, Izzy.
The things we've been through
together.

Quickly, Roz jumps back to Andy, gives him an exaggerated kiss on the cheek, and then turns to Izzy. Andy is not amused, either.

ROZ (CONT'D)

This is my fiancé, Andy. He's swept
me off my feet.

(MORE)

ROZ (CONT'D)

I hardly know what day, what hour
it is when I'm with him.

Izzy has seen this performance before, but Andy is at a loss with how to respond and can't believe what he's just heard. Just then, Roz's phone RINGS, and she looks to see who it is.

ROZ (CONT'D)

Oh my god. I have to take this, its
business. I'll be right back.

Roz dashes off to the far corner of the store. Izzy and Andy share a moment of awkward silence.

ANDY

Nice to meet you. Roz talks about
you all the time.

IZZY

I'll bet. She's mentioned you too.

ANDY

You have some amazing things here.
And it's your store. That's
fantastic.

IZZY

I manage to keep it going, but it's
exhausting doing it all on my own.

ANDY

It's a big responsibility.

IZZY

What do you do Andy?

ANDY

I'm in real estate. It's the family
business. I work with my mother and
father.

IZZY

Must be nice to have the support.

Roz rushes over after finishing her phone cal.

ROZ

I've got to get to work.

Roz hustles Andy out of the store.

ANDY

(to Izzy)

Good to finally meet you.

IZZY
Take care, Andy.

INT. COFFEE BAR - DAY

Alex and Sandi enter and greet BILL and TONY, a gay couple both in their 30's. Roz is behind the counter making coffee.

TONY
Ola! Que tal?

BILL
Look at you two.

ALEX
Hey guys, what's good?

TONY
All good, never better.

BILL
Join us.

ALEX
(to Sandi)
I'll get the coffee.

Sandi sits down with Tony and Bill. Alex heads for the counter. After a short wait in line, he steps up to order from Roz.

ALEX (CONT'D)
Two machiado double shots, please.

Alex and Roz look at each other without saying a word. She turns to make the coffees. Alex turns and looks back at the table to see Sandi watching him closely, while Tony and Bill carry on without missing a beat. Alex turns back and Roz gives him the two coffees.

ALEX (CONT'D)
Thank you.

ROZ
You bet.

Alex pays then brings the coffees to the table and returns to the counter with his coffee to get more milk.

ALEX
What's new?

ROZ
Not much. What's new with you?

ALEX
I'm starting a new job this week. A
fashion shoot. Good money and it's
over just like that.

Alex snaps his fingers.

ROZ
Must be nice.

Roz looks over at the table with Sandi and the guys. Sandi is
now glowering at Alex and Roz.

ROZ (CONT'D)
Your on a short leash.

ALEX
Just going with the flow.

ROZ
Must be nice.

Alex shrugs and returns to the table. Roz putters around
behind the counter cleaning up, then comes out into the room
to pick up coffee cups at the tables.

TONY
(to Roz)
How do you do it darlin'? You own
the room.

SANDI
(under her breath)
Right.

Roz walks by their table and intentionally stumbles, pitching
the cups she is holding towards Sandi. Alex catches them in
time and puts them back in Roz's hands.

ALEX
Careful now.

Sandi gets up in a huff leaving her sunglasses on the table.
She grabs Alex by the hand and pulls him out the door with
her. Roz waves goodbye.

ROZ
Bye, bye.

Roz winks at Tony and Bill and heads for the counter.

TONY
I sense some hostility.

BILL
Really? I missed that.

EXT. CITY STREET/OUTSIDE COFFEE BAR - DAY

Sandi walks ahead of Alex who takes his time. Sandi stops and turns to face Alex.

SANDI
She's a fucking disaster.

Alex takes Sandi's arm and they walk on.

SANDI (CONT'D)
Believe me, you get mixed up with her, you'll get burned, badly.

Alex smiles, but says nothing.

SANDI (CONT'D)
You think I'm just making it up?
It's true. She's totally fucked up.

ROZ
(O.S.)
Hey, wait.

Alex turns when he hears Roz calling for them. Sandi tries to keep him moving, but Roz catches up to them and hands Sandi her sunglasses.

ROZ (CONT'D)
You forgot these.

Sandi takes them, turns and walks away.

ROZ (CONT'D)
You're welcome.

Alex leans in and give Roz a kiss on the cheek.

ALEX
(to Roz)
Thanks.

Sandi looks back to see if Alex is coming. Alex looks at Roz for a beat, then turns to go. Roz watches as Sandi charges ahead with Alex following her slowly.

ROZ
(exuberantly)
So long. Great to see you.

Roz lingers and the sarcastic look fades away. She seems perplexed, a bit lost, deflated. This moment of vulnerability lasts only a second. She pulls herself together and turns to go back to work.

INT. COFFEE BAR - DAY

As Roz walks in heading for the counter, Bill and Tony wave her over to their table.

BILL
What's up, girlfriend?

TONY
Come sit.

Tony makes room for Roz to sit with them. Roz is reluctant, but there are no other customers in the place, so she sits down.

BILL
We can't help seeing...

TONY
That you and Alex are made for each other.

BILL
Not that it's any of our business.

TONY
It's just so obvious.

ROZ
Thanks for clueing me in guys.

BILL
We're not playin'.

TONY
This is serious.

BILL
You need to listen to us.

TONY
We know what we're talking about.

ROZ

I'm on my own. Now and forever.
I've never depended on anyone, and
I'm not about to start now.

TONY

It's got nothing to do with
depending.

BILL

It's about sharing.

TONY

The ups and downs, the good times
and the bad.

BILL

Pulling each other through.

TONY

Being there for each other.

ROZ

I don't buy it.

TONY

Life's too mean.

BILL

Too cruel.

TONY

Too fantastic.

BILL

Too crazy to do it on your own.

TONY

Together, that's the answer.

BILL

The secret sauce, the cat's meow.

ROZ

A romantic fantasy.

TONY

Exactly. You get to be the star of
your own show.

BILL

Your names are up in lights every
single day of your lives.

Bill and Tony stand up, pantomime a hat and cane dance then sit back down.

ROZ
You make it sound easy.

TONY
No, that's the best part.

BILL
It's hard. It takes work.

TONY
But the payoff is...

BILL
Amazing. Come and have dinner at our place tonight.

TONY
We insist.

ROZ
I don't know. I've got work to do.

BILL
There's always work to do.

TONY
Dinner tonight, work tomorrow.

Roz fidgets and looks at her feet.

ROZ
Ok. Thanks.

Some customers come in, and Roz gets up to serve them.

INT. BILL AND TONY'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Bill, Tony and Roz sit in the living room drinking cocktails. The place is tastefully designed.

BILL
We've had to hire another assistant. We've got more work than we can handle.

TONY
His name is Edmund and he is sooooo cute. The AC went out the other day and he worked in the back shirtless all day.

(MORE)

TONY (CONT'D)

I thought I'd died and gone to the big playground in the sky.

BILL

(to Tony)

Dream on.

(to Roz)

We're looking to lease the space next door.

TONY

The plan is to knock out the wall between and expand the store. You know how I just love to expand.

BILL

(to Tony)

Will you hush.

(to Roz)

Honestly, it never ends.

TONY

Listen to you, bitch. Excuse me for living, because living is what I do.

Roz stands up.

ROZ

I think expansion is a fabulous idea. Knock down the walls, bring in the gyrating, scantily clad assistants, bring it on.

Tony stands up

TONY

Tear it down and build it up.

Roz strides around the room gesticulating wildly and Tony is right behind her.

ROZ

Give it your all. Lay it on the line. No feet dragging. That's the way you do it.

Roz spins around and around, then stumbles and almost falls. Tony reach to catch her, but she regains her balance at the last minute.

TONY

You go girl.

BILL
Easy now. Come sit down.

Roz and Tony sit down laughing.

BILL (CONT'D)
(to Roz)
What's the plan? No secrets now.

Roz settles in, picks up her cocktail and takes a sip.

ROZ
You know, living my life, working
the jobs, trying to put together a
little enterprise of my own. No
plan, just seeing what develops.

BILL
You've got to have a plan.

TONY
And someone to work it with.

The door buzzer BUZZES. Tony gets up to buzz them in.

ROZ
Someone else is coming?

BILL
Let me freshen up your drink.

Bill grabs all the glasses and heads for the kitchen. Tony unlocks the door. Roz gets up and circles the room. The door opens and Alex walks in.

TONY
(to Alex)
Come in, come in. Look at you.

Alex hands Tony a bottle of wine.

ALEX
How are you?

TONY
Great, and look who's here.

They move into the living room as Roz continues circling, then swerves off towards the kitchen.

ALEX
(to Roz)
Hey.

ROZ
(to Alex)
Hey.

Roz disappears into the kitchen, then reappears behind Bill carrying fresh drinks.

BILL
Alex, you're just in time for the
second round.

Bill puts the drinks on the living room table as Roz heads for the door. Tony hurries to cut her off.

TONY
Wrong way, girlfriend. The drinks
are over here.

ROZ
I'm leaving.

TONY
Not allowed. Won't have it.

Tony turns Roz around and ushers her back into the living room. Roz doesn't put up much resistance.

BILL
(to Roz)
I know, I know. We couldn't help
ourselves. Have a drink and
regroup.

BILL CONT.
(to Alex as he hands him
the cocktail)
Tell me what you think.

Alex makes a toasting gesture and sips his drink.

ALEX
(to Bill)
Brutal.

They all settle into the living room and sip their drinks. There is a brief silence. Roz avoids looking at Alex and makes a face at Bill and Tony. Alex takes it all in.

ALEX (CONT'D)
What a great place you've got.

BILL

It's coming along. We've been working on it on and off for three years now. There's more to do, but it finally feels like home.

TONY

Home sweet home.

Tony leans forward and looks back and forth at Roz and Alex in an obviously exaggerated manner smiling all the while.

ALEX

I've been thinking about fixing my place up. It's raw and a mess at the moment. I just haven't had the time to get started.

TONY

How's your living situation Roz? Still lovin' the roommates?

ROZ

We are such fast friends, we don't even need to speak to know what we're thinking. It's pure magic.

They all laugh.

ALEX

I have to admit, I love having my own place. Some months it's tough to make rent, but it's worth it.

ROZ

I'll be leaving all that behind soon.

BILL

So, you are making plans.

TONY

Here's an idea.

(to Alex and Roz)

You two fall madly in love, Roz moves in with Alex and it's happy ever after.

ALEX

What do you think, Roz? They've got it all figured out for us.

Roz gives them a long look.

ROZ
Well, there's only one problem with
that plan.

TONY
Don't be difficult. You know I'm
right.

ROZ
I'm already engaged.

This revelation brings the conversation to an abrupt halt.

EXT. ENTRANCE TO BILL AND TONY'S BUILDING - NIGHT

Roz and Alex exit the building and stand on the sidewalk.

ALEX
That was some meal.

ROZ
They are amazing.

There is an awkward pause, as they are both unsure what comes
next.

ALEX
Want to walk for a bit?

ROZ
Ok, sure.

They start down the sidewalk with no destination in mind.

ALEX
I checked out your channel. Wild
stuff, I like it.

ROZ
Thanks. I enjoy doing it. I put it
out there and see what happens.
Maybe I can contribute something.
Make people laugh. Make people
think. I don't know. I'm just doing
it.

ALEX
I think it's great. It's cool. And
maybe it'll turn into something.
You're a natural.

ROZ
Thanks for watching. Spread the
word, the more views the better.

Roz laughs and Alex smiles. There is another awkward silence.

ALEX
I've got to ask. Are you really
serious about this engagement?

Roz stops abruptly. Alex turns to face her.

ROZ
What kind of question is that?

ALEX
Are you in love with him?

ROZ
You bet I am. He's sweet, and he
adores me, and we have a great time
together, and he's got a great job
and a great family and he's
fantastic.

ALEX
He sounds like quite a guy.

ROZ
That's right. I'm madly in love
with him. He's a dream come true.
I'm deliriously happy.

Roz turns to walk away, then turns back and walks past Alex
who walks along with her.

ALEX
I'm Happy for you. It's not easy to
find someone you really connect
with, someone you can trust. That's
fantastic.

ROZ
That's right. What we have together
is amazing.

They walk along in silence for a beat or two.

ROZ (CONT'D)
How are things with Sandi? You two
are made for each other.

Alex ignores the question.

ALEX
Let's get a drink.

ROZ
I need to get home.

ALEX
Come on. One drink. To celebrate
your engagement with the perfect
guy. I'm buying.

ROZ
No, I'll be going.

Roz turns and goes the other way. Alex spins and stays right
with her.

ALEX
Maybe Bill and Tony have a point.

ROZ
What point is that?

ALEX
That you and I should be together.

ROZ
You think so?

ALEX
It's worth looking into.

ROZ
Really?

ALEX
Yeah, definitely.

Roz abruptly reverses direction again, and again Alex stays
right with her.

ROZ
Well, I don't think so.

ALEX
There could be something to it. At
least let's get a drink.

ROZ
I doubt it.

ALEX
One drink. To top off a wonderful
evening. What's the harm in that?

Roz stops short and Alex wheels around to get back to her. They are standing in front of a bar.

ROZ
Actually, I could use a drink.

ALEX
Excellent.

INT. BAR - NIGHT

Alex and Roz sit on stools at the bar finishing their first round.

ROZ
And Goebbels gets really freaked, because he's afraid Churchill's radio addresses are influencing and swaying the Germans as well as the English. I mean, the man could give a speech.

ALEX
And the blitz just kept on coming. It was relentless.

ROZ
Right, so Goebbels couldn't fathom that Churchill wouldn't surrender.

ALEX
How about another round?

ROZ
Sure, why not. Relief from the inner blitz.

Alex motions to the BARTENDER, a woman in her 30's with tight jeans and a loose fitting long white blouse, for another round. When the bartender pours, we see they are drinking expensive scotch.

Off in a corner booth, Greg watches Roz and Alex with increasing aggravation.

They click glasses and imbibe.

ALEX
What are you up to this weekend?

Before Roz can respond, Greg descends on them with a full head of steam. He's had a lot to drink

GREG

(to Roz)

Why haven't you answered my texts?

ROZ

Look who's here. My savior, the in-my-court guy, the man with a plan, the branding bandit.

GREG

Yeah, that's right. Big plans if miss what-me-worry would play ball.

ROZ

Yeah, There's always that catch.

ALEX

(to Greg)

Maybe she just needs to run with it and see what happens.

GREG

And who are you?

ROZ

Greg, meet Alex. He's a fan of the show.

Roz tips her glass to Alex and drinks. Alex does likewise and then turns to Greg.

GREG

(to Alex)

Well, there's a lot more to it, if you really want to make it happen. To start with there are the subtle mechanics of hype to create virtual viral moments, exponentially expanding to encompass saturation levels of exposure.

ALEX

That sounds like it will definitely do the trick.

GREG

I know what I'm talking about. Trust me. I've got it all in hand.

Greg leans in and tries to give Roz a kiss, but she gives him a shove and knocks back her drink.

ROZ

And in your hand is where it stays.

Roz stands up off the bar stool and addresses them both

ROZ (CONT'D)
Good night ladies. Keep talking
among yourselves.

Roz smiles at Alex, gives Greg a dismissive look, turns and leaves.

ALEX
(to Greg)
That was a real dick move.

Greg scoffs at Alex and returns to his booth in the corner.

ALEX (CONT'D)
(to Greg's back)
Good to meet you.

INT. TAXI CAB - NIGHT

Roz sits quietly in the back seat looking out the window. Her phone RINGS, she looks at it but does not answer. She looks out the window and then turns to address the TAXI DRIVER, 50's, well worn and heavy set.

ROZ
Can I ask you a question?

He looks at her in the rearview mirror.

TAXI DRIVER
You can ask.

ROZ
Are you married?

TAXI DRIVER
That's an easy one. Yep. For thirty-
five years to the same woman.

ROZ
How's that been?

The driver gives her another look in the rearview mirror.

TAXI DRIVER
We've had our ups and downs. The
wife's a bit of a romantic. I'm
just a regular guy. We separated
for a year, but we're back
together. It's better now.

ROZ
Any kids?

TAXI DRIVER
No, but we've got four dogs. Really lovely little rascals. They keep you honest. Are you married?

ROZ
I'm thinking about it.

TAXI DRIVER
It's a choice, like everything else. You can't choose where you come from, but you can choose where you're going.

Roz laughs approvingly.

ROZ
A pearl of cabbie wisdom.

TAXI DRIVER
Included in the fare.

ROZ
Thank you.

TAXI DRIVER
My pleasure.

Roz stares out the window as they drive on.

INT. ROZ'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Roz sets up her camera and sits on the bed with a TOY STUFFED MONKEY PUPPET.

CUT TO:

YOUTUBE VIEW: Roz holding the Monkey Puppet and moving its hands.

ROZ
(to the monkey)
How've you been?

The Monkey gives her a thumbs up and does a little dance.

ROZ (CONT'D)
How was your day?

The Monkey vigorously nods its head.

ROZ (CONT'D)
That's nice. Mine was a bit of a
grind.

The Monkey makes a sympathetic gesture with its hand under
its chin.

ROZ (CONT'D)
I'll get right to the point. Do you
want to get married?

The Monkey performs the classic see no, hear no, speak no
evil gesture.

ROZ (CONT'D)
Yeah, I've got mixed feelings about
it myself.

The Monkey is very excited for her, and gives her all kinds
of pats on the head and shoulders while jumping up and down.

ROZ (CONT'D)
It's a crazy idea.

CUT TO:

ROOM VIEW: Roz tosses the Monkey Puppet in the corner and
flops back on the bed.

INT. ROZ'S APARMENT/KITCHEN - DAY

THE ROOMMATES, a YOUNG MAN and a YOUNG WOMAN, in their late
20's, sit at a long kitchen table eating breakfast. She looks
at her phone and he works on his laptop. They never look up
from their devices.

The door to Roz's room opens, and she emerges ready to walk
her dogs. Roz heads for the fridge and gets a banana, a bagel
and a cup of coffee.

ROZ
What a morning. This is the kind of
day that makes you happy to be
alive, isn't it? I know the gang is
going to be really frisky today,
and I know they're just itching to
get out and do their thing.

The Roommates completely ignore Roz, but this does not deter
her.

ROZ (CONT'D)
 Anyone going to be home tonight for
 dinner? I'll make my world renowned
 pasta primavera.

Both Roommates answer in unison.

YOUNG MAN
 No.

YOUNG WOMAN
 No.

ROZ
 Ok, well I'll make enough so you
 can both have some later.

She sits down and eats her food while the Roommates continue
 as before.

EXT. STREET OUTSIDE ROZ' APARTMENT BUILDING - DAY

Izzy paces in front of the building. She is noticeably upset.
 She stops short.

IZZY
 (loudly at the top of her
 lungs)
 Fuck.

People on the street turn to look at her. She starts to pace
 again, then stops, pulls out her phone and dials.

IZZY (CONT'D)
 (into the phone)
 I need to talk to you. I'm outside.
 Come down right now.

She listens to the response from Roz.

IZZY (CONT'D)
 No, I won't come up there. You come
 down.

She listens agin.

IZZY (CONT'D)
 I'm not kidding, Roz. This is
 important.

She listens and starts pacing again.

IZZY (CONT'D)
 (screaming)
 I'm not coming up there.

She hangs up the phone and sits on the stoop. After a moment, she gets up and starts to walk away. She stops and squats down in the middle of the sidewalk, puts her head in her hands and then screams into her bended arm. A YOUNG MAN, 20's, with a big open face stops to help her.

YOUNG MAN
 Are you Ok?

Izzy gets up and collects herself.

IZZY
 I'm Ok, thanks.

She hesitates a moment and then marches back and into Roz's building. The Young Man watches her go in then continues on his way.

INT. ROZ'S APARMENT/KITCHEN - DAY

Roz brings her breakfast dishes to the sink just as the door buzzer RINGS. The roommates are still there doing the exact same thing as before. Roz looks at them not responding to the buzzer.

ROZ
 I'll get it.

Roz goes to the buzzer and pushes the button to open the door.

YOUNG WOMAN
 (without looking up)
 That's not safe.

ROZ
 What's not safe?

YOUNG WOMAN
 Buzzing someone in without asking
 who it is.

ROZ
 I know who it is.

The apartment doorbell RINGS as the roommates continue to ignore her. As Roz goes to the door, the roommates look at each other and roll their eyes.

Roz opens the apartment door and Izzy storms in past Roz into the kitchen and circles the kitchen table several times. Roz and Izzy face off across the table. The roommates continue to ignore them.

IZZY

You are so full of shit. This thing with Andy is insane. What are you doing?

ROZ

What's the big deal? He asked me to marry him, and I said yes.

IZZY

You've gone too far this time.

The roommates get up and wash their dishes, ignoring the melodrama unfolding around them.

IZZY (CONT'D)

You cannot marry Andy. I forbid it.

ROZ

I can and I will.

Izzy goes around the table to Roz, takes her by the arms and tries to kiss her on the lips. Roz turns away.

IZZY

I love you.

Izzy tries to kiss Roz again, but Roz breaks free. As the roommates leave the room, Roz takes in this revelation.

ROZ

I love you too. Honestly, I do. But not in that way.

Izzy looks at Roz and takes this in. She relaxes. All the anxiety she felt leading up to her profession of love for Roz melts away. Izzy is freed by finally admitting this to herself and having spoken it out loud. Roz is shaken and challenged by Izzy's emotional honesty.

IZZY

Wow. That was amazing. It feels really good to have just said it. I love you.

ROZ

Glad I could be of service.

Roz turns to the sink, washes her dishes and puts them in the drying rack. Izzy looks around the room and realizes where she is for the first time.

EXT. ROZ'S APARMENT BUILDING/FRONT STOOP - DAY

Roz and Izzy exit the front door, walk down the steps onto the sidewalk, stop and face each other.

ROZ
I'm envious. You know what you want.

IZZY
Even if I can't have it.

ROZ
It's the knowing that counts. Getting it is secondary.

IZZY
You are so full of shit.

Roz takes Izzy's arm, and they start off down the sidewalk.

ROZ
You're the best friend I could ever have. I'm incredibly grateful for that.

IZZY
That' right and don't you ever forget it.

INT. CLOTHING STORE - DAY

Andy barges in.

ANDY
Where's Roz? Have you seen her? She won't answer my calls or texts.

Izzy goes about her business and doesn't respond right away. She is not pleased with this interruption.

ANDY (CONT'D)
I've got to get in touch with her. I have something very important to tell her.

IZZY
Roz is a hard person to pin down.

ANDY

She's driving me crazy.

Again, Izzy tries to ignore Andy, who paces the store with nervous energy.

ANDY (CONT'D)

I don't know what to do. I've made plans. There's so much to do, so much we need to figure out.

This strikes Izzy as absurd, but she refrains from calling Andy out.

IZZY

I would advise caution. Take a few steps back. Pause and regroup. In short, don't push it.

Andy is impervious to this advise, totally self-involved and increasingly frantic.

ANDY

We have to move on this. Things have been set in motion. Expectations have to be met.

Andy is starting to have a panic attack. Izzy drops her restraint and comes to his aid.

IZZY

Andy, you've got to chill out about this, Ok? Let's grab some lunch and talk this through.

Izzy corrals Andy to the door.

ANDY

There's so much at stake. There's no time to waste.

They exit the store.

INT. COFFEE BAR - DAY

Alex waits in line to talk to Roz as she makes coffees. He plays it cool, like he's just in for a coffee. Roz sees him, but does not acknowledge him until he makes it up to the counter to order.

ALEX

How are you?

ROZ
I'm good.

ALEX
That was fun the other night.

ROZ
What can I get you?

ALEX
A double espresso, please.

Alex watches Roz make the coffee.

ALEX (CONT'D)
What's up with Greg?

Roz doesn't answer and gives Alex his coffee.

ALEX (CONT'D)
Hey, I've got a great idea. Let's go out to Rockaway Beach on the ferry Saturday. Have you been out there? It's amazing.

Roz gives Alex a long look.

ROZ
That's \$5.25.

Alex puts his card in the machine.

ALEX
It's supposed to be a beautiful weekend. There's a great taco place out there too.

ROZ
Sounds like fun, but I can't. I'm engaged, remember?

INT. RESTUATRANT - DAY

Izzy and Andy sit at a table eating lunch.

ANDY
I mean, this is serious. We're getting married. I can't do this all on my own.

IZZY

You're taking this too much to heart. Be strong, be yourself, don't force it.

ANDY

You don't understand. I'm under incredible pressure. Everything is riding on this wedding. I can't even begin to tell you what this means to me.

IZZY

You're just kidding yourself.

ANDY

What? I don't think so. I've got it all figured out. But Roz is not stepping up. Why won't she answer my calls?

Izzy smiles sympathetically.

IZZY

Listen, Roz is a force of nature, Ok. When you tangle with her, you're in for a rough ride.

Andy doesn't really hear what Izzy is saying.

ANDY

My parents are beyond excited about the marriage. They want to meet Roz. I have to be able to count on her.

IZZY

Roz does what Roz wants, when Roz wants to.

ANDY

That isn't going to work. There's too much at stake here.

Izzy touches Andy's arm. He pulls away from her.

IZZY

Andy. Chill out dude.

Izzy continues eating her lunch. Andy continues to fret.

INT. COFFEE BAR - DAY

Alex stands to the side as Roz waits on another customer.

ALEX

The ferry ride out is so cool,
watching the city fall away into
the distance.

ROZ

Lovely, but they're not really my
thing, boats.

Alex joins Roz behind the counter and stands close by her side. She doesn't move away.

ALEX

And when you go by Coney Island, it
feels like you're going back in
time. It's kind of spooky.

ROZ

Spooky?

Roz pours the coffee for the customer.

ALEX

You've got to see it. It's amazing,
really.

Alex continues to stand very close to Roz.

ROZ

Here's the thing. My ship is
sailing and it's not headed to Far
Rockaway.

Alex pours the steamed milk into the customer's coffee.

ALEX

Ok, here's another thing. This
engagement of yours just might be a
dodge to avoid something real.

Roz steps away from Alex and turns to him.

ROZ

And that would be a boat ride with
you to the outer limits?

ALEX

Maybe. Give it a try. Test your
resolve. Take a chance. See how it
feels.

Roz steps up to Alex and looks him in the eye.

ROZ

Dream on.

INT. RESTUATRANT - DAY

In frustration, Andy talks to himself as if Izzy isn't there.

ANDY

I've been walking this tightrope,
like forever. It's wearing me down.
I want to do the right thing and
make my parents happy. If I can do
that, I'll be ok. Everything will
be fine. I'm sure of it.

IZZY

But will you be happy?

Andy is startled when he realizes Izzy is still there.

ANDY

What? Yes. I don't know. I hope so.

IZZY

Ever think of being honest? With
them, and with yourself?

ANDY

What?

Andy becomes aware of Izzy again and is fully startled out of his self-absorbed daydream. He tries to cover his anxiety with exuberance.

ANDY (CONT'D)

Hey, the wedding is going to be
fantastic. We'll all have such a
good time. There'll be amazing
food, dancing under the stars.
Everyone will be there. You'll be
there.

Izzy is not amused by this over the top display of self-delusion.

IZZY

I've got to get back to the store.

Almost immediately, Andy deflates.

ANDY

I've got to get this right.

IZZY

This much I've figured out. If you don't want to know yourself, no one else is going to either.

EXT. COFFEE BAR - DAY

Without being aware of each other, Sandi and Greg stand outside looking in at Roz and Alex. Neither are pleased with what they see going on inside. They both refuse to give it up and in that way have something in common.

SANDI

(to herself)

Can he get any closer?

GREG

(to himself)

She's such a tease.

Roz notices Sandi and Greg outside the window and gives them an exaggerated wave.

Sandi and Greg turn away from the window and notice each other for the first time. They both try to hide their embarrassment.

SANDI

You look familiar, do I know you?

GREG

I think we've met, but I can't quite... Wait. Men's finals at Forest Hills last summer. At the concession, you were..

SANDI

Getting an ice tea. Yes, that's it. Good job.

GREG

I never forget a face.

SANDI

Amazing. Nice to see you again.

INT. COFFEE BAR - DAY

Alex goes back around the counter, takes up his coffee leaving Roz to her work. He turns to her across the counter.

ALEX

Hey, I've got a great idea. Why don't we catch the ferry to Far Rockaway this weekend. Walk along the beach, get something to eat, take in the fresh sea air. It'll be fun. What do you say?

ROZ

I'm all booked up this weekend. So much to catch up on.

Roz turns away to put the a container in the sink.

ROZ (CONT'D)

When?

ALEX

Saturday, early morning to beat the crowd.

ROZ

Can't make it Saturday.

ALEX

Sunday. Same time.

ROZ

Ok, sounds good.

Alex gives Roz a big smile.

ALEX

Cool. I'll text you.

Roz goes about her business, and as Alex leaves. She smiles to herself.

EXT. COFFEE BAR - DAY

Greg and Sandi have for the moment forgotten about Roz and Alex. They are both working hard not to show what they are feeling and have quickly fallen into an exaggerated flirtation.

SANDI

I love a good match. It's exciting to watch from the stands, cheering them on, reacting to a point well made.

GREG

The sound of the ball being hit back and forth. Such a distinctive sound, that THWACK.

SANDI

Very distinctive, like a shot.

GREG

A volley of shots.

SANDI

Good shot. Well played. THWACK.

Greg notices that Alex is about to leave the Coffee Bar.

GREG

Care to take a stroll?

Sandi laughs.

SANDI

A stroll. You bet. I love a good stroll.

Greg motions in a direction away from the front door, and they set off, just as Alex emerges. He sees them leave and walks in the other direction. Greg glances over his shoulder, then continues on with Sandi. As they walk away, Sandi also glances back over her shoulder.

EXT. STREET OUTSIDE COFFEE BAR - AFTERNOON

Roz exits and walks down the street. She looks in windows, smiles at people as they walk by and takes in the beautiful afternoon. She is really enjoying herself. Then she walks straight into Andy, who has seen her coming.

ANDY

I've been forever trying to get a hold of you. You haven't answered any of my texts or calls. I've got important news.

Roz is caught off guard and doesn't seem to recognize Andy.

ANDY (CONT'D)

How are we going to pull this off,
if we don't communicate? I can't do
this on my own. We're suppose to be
a team here.

Roz is still not quite sure who this person is.

ROZ

Pull what off?

ANDY

This isn't a joke, and I do not
find what you're doing at all
amusing.

Roz starts to connect the dots and come back down to this
reality.

ROZ

Well, excuse me.

ANDY

No, excuse me, and like I said, I
have important news. I've told my
parents and they want to meet you
ASAP.

Now Roz is fully back in the present and not happy about it.

ROZ

You what? That's our secret,
remember? It's between you and me.

ANDY

Are you crazy? You told Izzy like
it was an afterthought.

ROZ

It's not the same. You've broken a
sacred trust.

Roz walks furiously ahead with Andy trying to keep up.

ANDY

Come on. This is really important.
I need you to meet my parents. They
want to take us out to dinner
Saturday night.

ROZ

Meet your parents? Why would I want
to meet your parents?

ANDY

Because we're getting married.

ROZ

That's no reason.

ANDY

You've got to meet them. I'm counting on you.

ROZ

Forget it. Anyway, I'm busy Saturday night.

Roz walks off leaving Andy aghast.

EXT. STREET - AFTERNOON

Greg and Sandi enter a small park and sit on a bench.

GREG

You say you've know Roz a long time. What's with her anyway?

Sandi takes this opening and runs with it. She's out to get Roz any way she can.

SANDI

Roz is a good friend, but she's a lot of work. To be honest, she's riddled with problems and insecurities. You can't count on her. She's a mess.

GREG

So I've noticed. I don't need the aggravation.

Sandi listens intently, while assuming an alluring pose.

GREG (CONT'D)

I need to stay focused.

SANDI

Roz is a blur. She's sweet, but as I said, she's a lot of work.

Greg looks at his watch.

GREG

I've got to get back to the office. Can I give you a ride somewhere? I'm going uptown.

He pulls out his phone to get an Uber.

SANDI
Sure, I'm heading uptown too.

They stand and walk to the street.

GREG
Let's grab a drink sometime.

SANDI
Love to.

INT. ROZ'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Roz sets up her video equipment and puts a TAROT CARD DECK on the bed. She lays out clothes for the trip to Far Rockaway as she dances around the room.

ROZ
Rockaway, Rockaway how far away are
you Far Rockaway? Farther than far
would be fine with me, Far
Rockaway.

She climbs onto the bed and picks up the Tarot Cards.

CUT TO:

YOUTUBE VIEW: Roz deals the cards, looks at it and shows it to the camera. It is TEMPERANCE.

ROZ (CONT'D)
So, TEMPERANCE. The winged angel,
one foot on rocks, the other in
water; stay grounded yet be ready
to flow.

Roz looks at the card again.

ROZ (CONT'D)
So many possibilities. So many
mistakes to make. Disaster or
Bliss. Take the high road and stay
true to your self.

Roz puts the card back in the deck and looks straight into the camera.

ROZ (CONT'D)
What's a girl to do?

CUT TO:

ROOM VIEW: Roz hops off the bed and holds up outfits in front of the mirror.

ROZ (CONT'D)
Mirror, mirror I'm ten feet tall.
Could one good day change it all?

EXT. FAR ROCKAWAY BEACH - DAY

Roz and Alex stroll along the boardwalk taking in the sights and sounds of the ocean. The wide open spaces after the confines of the city unleash a torrent of ideas and emotions for them both.

ALEX
Isn't it great? So wide open and
expansive, the sound of the waves,
the fresh air.

Roz gives Alex a warily sarcastic look.

ROZ
Mr. Natural. Who knew.

Roz turns away and then turns back to Alex and smiles.

ROZ (CONT'D)
It is beautiful.

ALEX
That's the spirit. Give into it.
Let yourself go.

He spins around with his arms extended and then grabs her hands and they spin around together. Roz hesitates then joins in whole heartedly. After laughing and shouting at the top of their lungs, they stop spinning and continue walking holding hands.

ROZ
You're a tricky devil.

They continue to walk down the boardwalk and when Alex starts to wildly gesticulate, they no longer hold hands but stay close to each other.

ALEX

I think we are on the cusp of something really new, a huge breakthrough for the entire human race.

ROZ

The entire human race? I don't think so. We like to pretend that things change, but the basic set-up remains the same. A few people have it made, and everyone else scrambles for the scraps.

ALEX

Sure, but there is something else going on. A brightness, a turning away from cruelty, from selfishness, from greed.

ROZ

Dream on.

ALEX

The natural world is forcing us to own up to our mistakes, holding our feet to the fire. Big things are in the works.

Roz turns and starts walking backwards in front of Alex.

ROZ

That's a nice idea. Don't get too attached to it.

Alex is all smiles and exuberant energy. Being at the ocean with Roz has catapulted him into a blissful state of mind.

ALEX

Well, this much I'm sure of. It's a beautiful day and life is full of possibilities, including a superb taco place right up ahead. You hungry? I'm starving.

ROZ

The end of cruelty is a bit hard to swallow, but a taco I can handle.

They take each others hand and head on down the boardwalk towards the taco stand.

EXT. FAR ROCKAWAY BOARDWALK RESTUARANT - DAY

Roz and Alex eat tacos at a wooden picnic table under a large canopied area with others.

ROZ

What's the dumbest thing you've ever done?

ALEX

Awhile back, I went along with a friend who was buying a pound of weed. We go in the car with this guy who directs us down this alley, we stop the car, get out and he points to a pile of trash and says the weed is under it. The guy asks to see the money, my friend produces it, the guy maces him in the face, grabs the money and runs for it. Of course, there is no weed under the pile of trash, my friend is screaming his head off in pain. Somehow I get him back in the car, and we head for the hospital. I'm driving with my head out the window, because the mace is making my eyes water like crazy.

ROZ

Brilliant.

ALEX

I can't believe we fell for that.

Roz stares at the beach and the ocean beyond.

ROZ

I was in Hong Kong at this restuarant with this guy I was going to marry, maybe. We were with a group of friends around this big table. And they bring in this live monkey, put it in the middle of the table and slice the top of its head right off to expose the brains. We'd had a-lot to drink. The idea is to eat the raw, just exposed monkey brains. It's a delicacy in China. Well, I bolt. I jump up and flee. My supposed gets up and chases me down. We get in his car and off we go out of the city and into the hills.

(MORE)

ROZ (CONT'D)

I'm just about to calm down, when he swerves to miss, of all things, a monkey in the road, and the car goes into a ditch which sends us headlong toward this giant tree. Then the ditch pitches us back onto the road, and we keep on driving.

Roz takes a bite of her taco. Alex sips his beer.

ALEX

Life is strange.

ROZ

That it is.

ALEX

It's just crazy. We appear out of nowhere, and then after a brief stay, we're back to everywhere and nowhere. And it's unknowable. That's the beauty of it. It's beyond our grasp, and it never ends, world without end. What more can you ask for?

ROZ

Some ice-cream.

ALEX

There's always that.

Roz takes a big pull on her beer. Alex finishes his taco.

ROZ

But what about the never ending pain in the ass of the here and now? Everywhere and nowhere doesn't help you much when your father jumps into bed with you while you're fast asleep dreaming about the oneness of it all. A rude awakening doesn't begin to describe it.

Roz stares out at the ocean. Alex looks intently at Roz.

ALEX

There's always ice-cream.

Roz continues to stare out to sea and then abruptly stands up.

ROZ
I don't think so.

Roz gets up and starts off for the beach. Alex waits a moment and then follows her the waters edge.

EXT. FAR ROCKAWAY BEACH/WATER'S EDGE - DAY

Roz stops at the waters edge and watches the water lap the sand at her feet. Alex stops a short way from the waters edge beside her. After a moment, Alex sits down, takes off his shoes, then stands and walks to the water near Roz and puts his feet in the water.

Roz continues to stare at her feet and then glances over at Alex's feet in the water. She backs up, sits down, takes off her shoes, then crab walks to the water and crouches at the waters edge. They both try not to look each other and stare out at the horizon.

ALEX
I'm sorry.

Roz doesn't look at him. She stands up and kicks the water with her toes.

ALEX (CONT'D)
That was a stupid thing to say.

Roz still doesn't look at Alex. He looks at her and then turns away.

ALEX (CONT'D)
That must have been really hard.

Roz traces a big arc in the sand with her toe.

ROZ
It still is.

Alex mimics Roz's arc in the sand with his toe.

ALEX
I can't imagine.

Alex tries to move closer to Roz, but she moves away. He pulls back and they remain standing side by side.

ALEX (CONT'D)
Do you want to tell me about it?

ROZ
No, not really.

Alex wants to take Roz in his arms and hug her. It's all he can do to hold himself back. Roz wants to open up to Alex, but she won't give in to it.

ROZ (CONT'D)

It's never been the same since.
Nothing has. There's no going back.

Alex looks at Roz again, but she still won't look at him. He looks away and waits.

ROZ (CONT'D)

I can pack it away. Put it aside,
but it's always there. There's no
escaping. That really, really
pisses me off. I mean, you have no
idea how angry that makes me.

ALEX

Sometimes, talking about it can
help.

ROZ

Nope. Never does.

Roz walks a little ways into the water and kicks at the surf.

ALEX

Can I tell you about something that
happened to me?

Roz looks back over her shoulder.

ROZ

Because you think it will help?

ALEX

Maybe.

ROZ

Hmmm.
(to herself)
Maybe, baby.

Alex walks up and stands beside Roz.

ALEX

When I was a kid, maybe eight or
nine years old, my father was
putting my brother and me to bed
one night. We said our prayers, the
"Now I lay me down to sleep.

(MORE)

ALEX (CONT'D)

I pray the lord my soul to keep." one that turns macabre with "and if I die before I wake, God bless Mommy and Daddy..." and whoever you felt like throwing in at the time. Then came the good night ritual and we'd always say, "Night, night." And our mother or father would say as they walked down the stairs, "Don't let the bed bugs bite." Then we'd say, "See you later alligator." And they'd say, "In awhile crocodile." And as they reached the bottom of the stairs, we'd say, "Down the River Nile." And they would repeat, "Down the River Nile."

Alex turns to look at her, but Roz still doesn't look at Alex.

ROZ

Very cute. The best I ever got was, "Time for bed."

Alex turns away to look out to sea.

ALEX

Well, this particular night, like many nights before, our mother was completely loaded. So, our father is putting us to bed and up the stairs storms our mother. She's feeling left out and barges in on the proceedings, saying she is going to put us to bed. So they start arguing about who is going to put us to sleep. It gets physical and they start pushing and shoving each other. They move from the bedroom to the hallway. The next thing we know, they are both tumbling down the stairs, rolling over each other and ending up in a pile at the bottom. My brother and I are sitting on the top step crying as they untangle and head off to their respective bedrooms... down the River Nile.

Roz still doesn't look at Alex.

ROZ

Actually, kind of helpful.

Alex turns to look at Roz and holds out his hand, Roz looks at him, takes his hand and they start off down the beach at the waters edge.

EXT. FAR ROCKAWAY FERRY/TOP DECK - EVENING

Roz and Alex sit together on a bench. He puts his arm around her, and she leans into him. They sit for awhile without talking. Roz gets up and heads to the side railing of the boat. Alex joins her there. They look out as the city looms ever larger in the distance.

ALEX

I'd ask you back to my place, but I have to get up early for work.

ROZ

Actually. I'm really looking forward to going home and sleeping. Must be the sea air.

They look into each other's eyes, kiss gently and then turn to look at the approaching city.

INT. RESTAURANT - DAY

Sandi and Greg eat lunch and flirt with exaggerated abandon.

GREG

I love your outfit, Sandi.

SANDI

Thank you, Greg. In my business, a little razzle-dazzle gets people's attention.

Greg refreshes Sandi's glass of wine and pours more for himself.

GREG

Razzle-dazzle is the name of the game. And it's really putting me out that I can't seem to get Roz to step up and go for it.

At the mention of Roz's name, Sandi leans back and takes a serious look at Greg. She decides she doesn't like what she sees.

GREG (CONT'D)

I'm offering her the kind of exposure that most people would die for, and she apparently couldn't care less.

Sandi gestures like she can't believe it either.

GREG (CONT'D)

Who in their right mind refuses an offer like that? I'm baffled.

Sandi doesn't answer right away and enjoys watching Greg start to squirm.

SANDI

She's one of my best friends, and I love her dearly. You have to take Roz as she is. She can do anything she sets her mind to and do it brilliantly.

GREG

That's what's driving me mad. I can see that, and I want to help. I've got big plans for Roz. Big plans.

SANDI

She has her own way of doing things.

Sandi takes along sip of her wine and assumes an alluring pose.

SANDI (CONT'D)

She's had a hard time of it. She was adopted. Then her adopted parents died in a terrible accident. She bounced around in foster care for years, ended up in juvenile detention, joined the army then got a dishonorable discharge for having an affair with her commanding officer. She got married and managed to bankrupt her husband's business before she divorced him.

GREG

Wait a minute. She's still a kid. What are you talking about.

SANDI

God's truth. I wouldn't lie to you.

Greg regards Sandi warily. Sandi laughs.

SANDI (CONT'D)

Honest.

INT. ANDY'S LUXURY APARTMENT - NIGHT

Andy bustles around the apartment in high strung anticipation of the meeting with Roz and his parents. He is about to burst when the elevator opens and Roz waltzes in.

ANDY

I thought you'd never get here. You can't imagine how crazy this is making me. I feel like I'm going to explode.

Roz walks past Andy into the living room and he follows her. She turns to face him.

ANDY (CONT'D)

My parents, Bob and Sylvia, will be here any minute. Remember, Bob and Sylvia. Sometimes he likes to be called Robert, but let's go with Bob. They're going to love you, I know it. You look great by the way. I love that dress, wow.

Roz turns around to show off the whole outfit and then does an exaggerated curtsy.

ANDY (CONT'D)

So just act natural. Don't worry about impressing them. They really are very nice, once you get to know them.

Roz is watching Andy pace and fidget. She reaches for the chain around her neck and pulls out the ring. She unclasps the chain and removes the ring. This stops Andy in his tracks.

ANDY (CONT'D)

Are you going to put it on? Please, please, please put it on, Roz.

Roz looks at the ring for a long moment, then she looks up at Andy.

ROZ

I can't accept this.

Roz walks to Andy and hands him the ring. He covers her hand with both his hands to try and make her keep it.

ANDY

You just have to keep it.

Andy gets down on one knee while still cupping both his hands around her hand. Roz pulls her hand away still holding on to the ring. She looks at it one more time then trusts it back at Andy almost throwing it at him. He catches it and stands up.

ROZ

Andy, you've got to face facts.
This is not right and you know it.

ANDY

I don't know it.

The sound of the ELEVATOR DOORS OPENING. Andy stuffs the ring in his pocket and turns to see his parents come in the room.

ANDY (CONT'D)

There you are, wonderful. Come in,
come in.

Andy backs away as BOB, 50's bald, short, plump and SYLVIA, 50's tall, slender, elegant advance to greet them. Andy ends up standing next to Roz, who gives the parents a big smile.

ANDY (CONT'D)

Mom, Dad this is Rosalind. Roz,
Robert and Sylvia.

They all shake hands and exchange nice-to-meet-you all around. Then there is an awkward silence.

ROZ

Actually, I have to be going. It
was very nice to meet you.

ANDY

She's joking of course. I told you,
she has a sense of humor.

Bob and Sylvia are not amused.

ROZ

I just want to say before I go that
you have a very special son, and
you must let him be the amazing
person that he is. You absolutely
must.

At that she heads out of the room, and we hear the elevator door OPEN and CLOSE. Andy turns away and his parents looks at each other with extreme annoyance.

INT. CORPORATE OFFICES - DAY

Roz sits in a chair in front of the desk that Greg sits behind.

GREG

It's all set. We move production to our in-house studio. We bring in some writers and a full crew with a DP.

Roz looks out the window to the city below.

ROZ

I'm not sure I want that. The privacy of my room has a big effect on how I improvise. And I like the D.I.Y. aspect of it. That's what it's all about.

GREG

I understand that, but to get to the next level you have to up the production value, try a new approach, take some direction.

While he's saying this, Greg gets up from behind his desk and walks around to sit on the front of the desk looking down at Roz.

ROZ

And who gives the direction?

GREG

I have a lot of experience with brand building. I know my way around the production studio, and I've got a proven track record. You'd do well to play ball. If you do, it's a win win.

Greg leans in to make his point and Roz scoots out of her chair and away from him before he gets too close.

ROZ

You still haven't told me what I get out of all this.

GREG
Fame and fortune. The sky's the
limit, if you do your part.

ROZ
I'm doing my part, and I want to
get paid for it.

Greg approaches Roz, and she turns to face him. He puts his arms around her waist and pulls her to him. Roz doesn't resist.

GREG
We can make a great team.

ROZ
And the sky's the limit.

Roz puts her arms on Greg's shoulders and runs a finger along his collar.

GREG
You bet. It's all yours for the
taking.

Greg pulls Roz closer and kisses her. She kisses him back for a moment to slow him down, and then slips out of his grasp by pulling hard on one of his earlobes.

GREG (CONT'D)
Ouch.

ROZ
No deal.

Roz walks out of the office as Greg rubs his ear lobe.

EXT. STREET - DAY

Roz walks her dogs. The dogs trot along to keep up with Roz. The dogs stop to do some sniffing, and Andy runs up in a panic.

ANDY
Roz, please, hear me out. You have
to reconsider.

Roz corals the dogs and starts them moving again.

ROZ

Listen, I'm sorry I led you on. It was a crazy idea, and I just ran with it on a whim. I have to stop doing stuff like that.

ANDY

But what am I suppose to do?

Roz stops and the dogs resume sniffing around.

ROZ

But, I have to tell you, that was a beautiful ring. I really appreciate you thinking that much of me. Really I do. So sweet.

Roz steps closer to Andy and looks him in the eye. All the dogs look up at Andy as well.

ROZ (CONT'D)

It's not what you want either, and you know it.

ANDY

What are you talking about?

ROZ

We both have to be honest with ourselves. It's time to face up to things.

ANDY

I can't handle this.

ROZ

Yes you can.

Roz continues on with the dogs, leaving Andy riveted in place.

INT. ROZ'S APARMENT/BATHROOM - NIGHT

Roz sits on the toilet starring off into space. She reaches for the pregnancy test kit on the sink. She opens it. There is a loud BANGING on the door.

ROOMMATE

(off screen)

Will you hurry up in there. I live here too.

Roz ignores them and looks at the test strip. There is more KNOCKING.

ROZ
Fuck off, I'm busy.

ROOMMATE
I don't believe this.

More BANGING and then the Roommate walks away.

Roz stands up, hikes up her dress, drops her underwear to her ankles, lifts the lid, sits back down, pees on the strip and places it on the sink. She gets up pulling on her underwear and pulling down her dress. She turns and stands in front of the mirror looking at herself. She reaches for the test strip and looks down at it. It's positive. She looks at herself in the mirror again.

ROZ
Fuck, fuck, fuck, fuck. I don't believe this.

She looks away and then back at herself.

ROZ (CONT'D)
Yes I do.

INT. CLOTHING STORE - DAY

Roz walks in without greeting Izzy. She looks through the racks and acts dismissive of what she sees. Izzy knows something is wrong, but doesn't call Roz out on it.

ROZ
I can't believe how much smoke and stink bellows out of that fucking burger joint on the corner. How do you stand it? No one should have to smell that.

Izzy does not respond. She refuses to be drawn in to Roz's snit.

ROZ (CONT'D)
Today, it was suppose to rain all day, but the fucking sun is out. The app shows rain all day. The little cloud with the rain drops pouring down go all day and into the night.

Izzy continues to not take the bait.

ROZ (CONT'D)
What have you got to say for
yourself?

Izzy comes out from behind the counter and approaches Roz.

ROZ (CONT'D)
No kissing. I'm not in the mood.

IZZY
So, you want to tell me what's up?

Roz sorts through the clothing racks furiously at first and then slows down.

ROZ
I'm pregnant.

IZZY
Who's the lucky guy?

ROZ
It has to be Greg.

IZZY
Mr. Big Shot Branding Guy?

ROZ
I thought we used a condom, but
what's the chance? We were both
wasted.

Izzy stands next to Roz and puts her arm around her shoulder.

ROZ (CONT'D)
I probably haven't taken the pill
in a couple of days either. Fuck,
what the hell am I doing?. I'm not
having that guy's kid. I'll get an
abortion.

IZZY
I'll go with you.

ROZ
I can do it on my own. I fucked up,
I have to deal with it.

IZZY
You are not going to go have an
abortion on your own. I'm going
with you. That's that.

Roz turns and hugs Izzy, then collects herself.

ROZ

Thank you. Somethings's got to change.

IZZY

You'll figure it out.

INT. BILL AND TONY'S POSTER SHOP - DAY

Alex browses as Bill and Tony watch him intently.

BILL

There's nothing like a large, exquisitely framed poster to anchor a room.

TONY

With all the space you have in your loft, you can go really big.

BILL

Maybe a classic movie or a horror film. Something that dominates.

TONY

Now we're talking.

Bill shakes his head. Alex looks around the store, but he is distracted and can't concentrate.

ALEX

I've been trying to get in touch with Roz, but she won't return my calls or texts. Have either of you heard from her?

BILL

She's a busy girl.

TONY

A regular whirlwind of activity.

BILL

Don't try to pin her down.

TONY

Big mistake.

ALEX

I'm not talking about pinning her down.

BILL
I'd give her space.

TONY
She doesn't like to be crowded.

Alex looks at them without saying anything, then turns away and continues to browse. Bill and Tony give each other a knowing look.

ALEX
(without looking at them)
Do you think she's avoiding me?

BILL
No.

TONY
She'd come right out and tell you,
if she was through with you.

BILL
She'll come around.

TONY
Just be patient.

Alex mumbles to himself. Bill and Tony smile at each other as Alex paces.

EXT. CITY PARK - DAY

Sandi and Alex walk quickly along.

SANDI
You should have called me.

ALEX
Are you hungry? Let's get something
to eat.

SANDI
Don't change the subject.

Alex puts his arm around Sandi and pulls her close to him. He gives her a kiss on her forehead.

SANDI (CONT'D)
Keep it up, and I might forgive
you.

Alex smiles and they continue walking. Sandi puts her arm around Alex.

ALEX
Have you seen Roz lately?

Sandi breaks away from Alex, stops, turns away from him then she turns back and glowers at him.

ALEX (CONT'D)
What?

SANDI
Let me clue you in on something.
Roz is trouble. You should stay
clear of her. If you don't, you'll
regret it.

Alex reaches out to Sandi, but she backs away.

ALEX
Ok.

SANDI
Why chase after someone who will
never give you what you need?

Alex turns away and now Sandi approaches him.

SANDI (CONT'D)
She went out with this guy, Ed. He
fell for her big time. He'd do
anything for her. He bought her all
kinds of stuff, gave her money,
took her on fancy trips. But it was
never enough. Then she asked him to
rob a store. She dared him.

Alex scoffs at this idea.

SANDI (CONT'D)
I'm not kidding. He goes out and
buys a gun, robs this convenience
store, gets caught and is now doing
time for armed robbery.

Alex bursts out laughing.

SANDI (CONT'D)
You think that's funny? Wait and
see. She's a fucking black hole.

Sandi has worked herself up into a lather. She storms off.
Alex does not try to stop her.

EXT. ANOTHER PART OF THE PARK - DAY

Alex walks off his encounter with Sandi. He's having trouble shaking off what she's told him. Then Andy catches up to Alex and unloads.

ANDY

Excuse me, but I have to talk to you. Alex, right?

Alex looks at Andy and sizes him up as they walk along.

ANDY (CONT'D)

You are aware that Roz and I are engaged to be married.

Alex shrugs.

ANDY (CONT'D)

Well we are, so I'd appreciate it if you would stay clear of her. She needs to concentrate. We've got lots of planning to do. I need her undivided attention.

Alex stops and faces Andy who doesn't notice and keeps on walking.

ALEX

Are you sure you know what you're doing?

Andy turns and walks back to Alex.

ANDY

I can't live without her. We have to be together. Please, please, please don't get in the way.

Alex looks at Andy in disbelief.

ALEX

Listen, Andy, right?

Greg interrupts and jumps between Andy and Alex.

GREG

(to Alex)

Here's the deal, stay away from Roz.

Alex looks at Greg and then at Andy.

ALEX
Are you two a tag team?

GREG
I mean it, man.

ALEX
I'm sure you do.

ANDY
(to Greg)
Hey, I was here first.

Greg turns to Andy as he tries to get to Alex again.

GREG
Piss off.

ANDY
I certainly will not. And you need
to stay away from Roz as well.

GREG
And who are you?

ANDY
I'm Roz's fiancé.

GREG
And I'm Smoky the Bear.

As Greg and Andy are talking, Alex backs away and leaves them. Greg turns back to see Alex walking away.

GREG (CONT'D)
Hey, get back here. I'm not
finished with you.

Greg turns back to Andy. He drops the tough guy stance.

GREG (CONT'D)
Let me give you some advise. You'll
thank me in the end. You don't want
to marry that woman. She'll drive
you insane. She's got me running in
circles. Why bother, I say to
myself, but I can't drop it. It's
nuts.

Greg's confession pulls Andy up short.

ANDY
That is the problem.

EXT. STREET - DAY

Roz walks her dogs and bemoans her situation. They are all ears.

ROZ
I can't believe I let this happen.

The dogs show their concern by wagging their tails. One of the dogs nips at another. Roz turns to him.

ROZ (CONT'D)
Eddie, pay attention.

Eddie wags his tail and they continue on.

ROZ (CONT'D)
I'm in no shape to take care of another human being.

At this realization, Roz stops, the dogs stop and look up at her. She looks at the dogs and they wag their tails in approval. Alex approaches Roz tentatively. She is surprised, but not unhappy to see him.

ALEX
Hi.

ROZ
Hi.

They look at each other for a moment as the dogs lose interest and start sniffing around.

ALEX
How are you?

ROZ
I'm ok.

Roz looks away. Alex watches her and then she looks back at him.

ROZ (CONT'D)
Thanks for asking.

They smile at each other. The dogs look up at them. Then Sandi rushes in and gets between Roz and Alex with her back to Alex.

SANDI
(to Roz)
What is wrong with you?

Roz looks past Sandi to Alex and he looks back at her. The dogs bump into each other and their leashes start to get tangled.

Greg and Andy hustle towards Roz, but Sandi blocks their way.

SANDI (CONT'D)

You two can wait in line.

Greg and Andy start to argue with Sandi, while Alex tries to move around them to get to Roz, but he is blocked by Greg. The dogs start barking. Roz rounds them up as the whole group gets further tangled in arguments. Alex tries to extricate himself as he sees Roz leaving, but Sandi ropes him back in. Roz and the dogs get clear and don't look back.

INT. DOCTOR'S OFFICE/WAITING ROOM - DAY

Izzy sits with Roz as they wait for Roz's appointment to get the abortion. They look at each other and Izzy reaches out to squeeze Roz's hand.

ROZ

I have to stop backing myself into corners.

Izzy listens and reacts to Roz's sincerity with a rye smile.

IZZY

Is that possible?

ROZ

Very funny. I'm serious.

IZZY

I know, that's what worries me.

They both laugh.

IZZY (CONT'D)

Hey, I've got an idea. Let's keep the little cell cluster to see what it turns into. We could raise it together. Do a tag team parenting thing, then neither of us has to be full time.

ROZ

What a great idea. And we could even bring Bill and Tony in on the deal and split it four ways.

IZZY
Brilliant. Let's do it.

A nurse calls Roz's name. Roz and Izzy look at each other and then hug. Roz gets up to go in for the procedure.

IZZY (CONT'D)
I'll be right here when you're done.

ROZ
Thank you.

Roz follows the nurse in. Izzy settles back in her chair to wait.

INT. COFFEE BAR - DAY

Greg enters looking for Roz, and shortly thereafter, Andy follows. He looks around and sees Greg. Greg looks away impatiently to scan the room and then finally back at Andy.

ANDY
She's not here.

GREG
Apparently not.

Andy is in a bright and cheery mood that sharply contrasts his previous desperately sulky, nervous presence in earlier scenes.

ANDY
Can I buy you a coffee?

GREG
I won't say no.

Andy orders the coffee and Greg sits down to scroll through emails on his phone. Andy observes Greg from the bar and then joins him with the coffee.

ANDY
What a spectacular day.

GREG
I suppose.

ANDY
Have you noticed that on days like this there's a sparkle in the air? A genuine sparkle.

Greg sips his coffee and takes a close look at Andy for the first time.

GREG
Ok, if you say so.

ANDY
Makes you notice certain things
that maybe you haven't seen in
quite the same way before.

GREG
The sparkle does all that? Guess
I'm not seeing it.

ANDY
And guess what? I have big news
that you may be interested in.

GREG
I'm on the edge of my seat.

ANDY
I've broken off my engagement with
Roz.

GREG
(sarcastically)
Oh, what a relief.

ANDY
That's exactly the way I feel.
After really thinking about it,
there wasn't much there between Roz
and me. It was just a crazy idea
that got away with itself.

Greg finishes his coffee and contemplates what Andy has just said.

GREG
You know, if I'm honest with
myself, that might be the case with
me too. I don't know what got into
me.

ANDY
Feels good to admit it, doesn't it?
Very liberating.

Greg straightens up and collects himself.

GREG

It's no big deal. Win some lose some.

ANDY

It's a big deal for me.

GREG

Yeah?

ANDY

Yeah because I'm now also able to face up to something I've know all along. I'm gay. I'm gay and I'm proud of it.

GREG

Well, there you go, sparkle and all.

ANDY

And in a strange way, I have Roz to thank for it. She's something else. She really is.

Greg leans in to Andy.

GREG

Maybe I should give that a whirl, take it out for a spin, see how it feels.

ANDY

You can't fool yourself about something like this.

GREG

I don't know. And it might be good for business. What do you think?

Andy scrutinizes Greg.

ANDY

Well, anything's possible.

INT. CLOTHING STORE - DAY

Sandi looks through the racks.

SANDI

Roz is always going on about what great stuff you have. She's right.

IZZY

Thanks. Looking for anything in particular?

SANDI

Not really. Maybe, something to give me a little lift. Something new and different.

Izzy goes through the racks and pulls something out.

IZZY

How about this?

Sandi looks up and then goes back to her search.

SANDI

Nice, but not quite what I have in mind.

Sandi pulls out a dress.

SANDI (CONT'D)

This is interesting.

IZZY

Try it on. It just came in.

Sandi hangs it sideways on the rack and keeps browsing.

SANDI

Have you seen Roz?

IZZY

I have.

SANDI

I'm kind of worried about her.

IZZY

Really? Why?

SANDI

I don't know. It's just that she seems to be taking on more than she can handle.

IZZY

That's interesting.

SANDI

I mean, going out with three guys is a bit much don't you think?

Izzy takes a long look at Sandi.

IZZY

Well, maybe you should take one of them off her hands.

SANDI

I've been thinking about that. Have you met Alex?

IZZY

I'm not sure. I get them mixed up. But hey, go for it.

SANDI

You could suggest he's not the one for her. She listens to you.

IZZY

I could do that, but I know Roz has other things on her mind right now.

Sandi pulls out another dress and holds it up to herself.

SANDI

(sarcastically)

Yeah, there's always something.

Izzy comes around the rack to face Sandi.

IZZY

(angrily)

She's just had an abortion.

SANDI

What?

IZZY

That's right.

This news really knocks Sandi for a loop, but she tries not to show it.

SANDI

I'll do what I can to help her out.

IZZY

That would be nice.

EXT. SIDEWALK OUTSIDE A BAR - EVENING

Alex paces while smoking a cigarette and glancing at his phone. A YOUNG WOMAN, late 20's, attractive in a short skirt, approaches him.

YOUNG WOMAN
Can you spare a cigarette?

Alex stops after almost walking past her.

ALEX
What?

YOUNG WOMAN
I'm dying for a smoke. Got another?

Alex looks at her and then at the cigarette in his hand.

ALEX
Oh, no. I bummed this one.

He drops it and steps on it.

YOUNG WOMAN
Sorry I asked.

Alex pays no attention to her, and she walks away very annoyed. Alex continues to pace in front of the bar and then moves off a little to make a call. He leaves a message.

ALEX
Hey Roz, it's Alex. Listen, I really miss you. That was such an amazing time we spent together at the beach.

He waits to see if maybe Roz will pick up. She doesn't.

ALEX (CONT'D)
I was thinking we could do another outing. Maybe ride bikes up the West Side to the GW Bridge. It's beautiful up there. Ever been to the Little Red Lighthouse? It's really there, just like in the book.

Alex pauses and shakes his head.

ALEX (CONT'D)
Anyway, I miss you. Give me a call. Hope you're ok. Bye.

He hangs up.

ALEX (CONT'D)
 Little Red Lighthouse? What the
 fuck?

INT. ROZ'S APPARTMENT/BEDROOM - NIGHT

Roz sits on her bed lost in thought. Then she snaps out of it and sets up her camera for a close-up.

CUT TO:

YOUTUBE VIEW CU on Roz's face as she addresses the camera directly.

ROZ
 How do you know what's the right
 thing to do? Lately, I'm constantly
 fucking up. I thought I had it all
 figured out, and now I find out I
 haven't got a clue. I've been
 thoughtless and self-absorbed.
 Exactly what I promised myself I
 wouldn't be.

CUT TO:

ROOM VIEW Roz adjusts the camera and leans back on the bed.

CUT TO:

YOUTUBE VIEW Roz in medium shot sitting upright in the middle of the bed.

ROZ (CONT'D)
 Ok. First step - loose the anger.
 No need to hold on to that, it's a
 ball and chain. I feel better
 already.

She smiles and settles back into the cushions on her bed.

ROZ (CONT'D)
 Second step - let down the
 defenses. Let someone in. Reach out
 and take a chance. It's not easy,
 but it may be the only way.

She picks a hat off the shelf behind her, puts it on then takes it off and tosses it out of the frame.

ROZ (CONT'D)
You have to be able to trust
someone.

Tears come to her eyes.

CUT TO:

ROOM VIEW Roz shuts off the camera, gets off the bed, walks to the window and looks out.

INT. ROZ'S APARMENT/KITCHEN - DAY

The roommates eat breakfast as usual, buried in their devices. Roz opens her bedroom door and emerges to survey the scene.

ROZ
Good morning.

Neither of the roommates bother to respond. Roz waits a beat then heads for the counter and the fridge.

ROZ (CONT'D)
Would anyone like some nice hot
buttered toast and jam? I'm
toasting and jamming.

This suggestion gets their attention, and they look up. Roz is encouraged.

ROZ (CONT'D)
Toast and jam. It's one of those
small wonders that fly under the
radar, overlooked for its brilliant
simplicity.

The roommates return to their devices. Roz doesn't give up.

ROZ (CONT'D)
I know the exact setting to get it
just right. Not too light, not too
dark. So, who wants toast?

Both roommates respond, one looks up the other doesn't.

ROOMMATES
No thanks.

Roz goes to the counter to fix her toast.

ROZ

Ok. You don't know what your missing.

The roommates look at each other with incredulous expressions. The sound of the toast POPPING UP is heard in the background.

Roz comes to the table and sits down between them. Now this is a radical departure. She has never sat with them. They don't know what to make of this.

ROZ (CONT'D)

So, what are you guys up to today?
Any big plans on the horizon?
Anything I can help out with?

They look at each other totally perplexed. One of them finally responds.

ROOMMATE

Are you ok?

ROZ

Yeah, I'm great. I've made an important decision, and I'm going to follow through with it. Charting new territory.

As she's talking, they look at each other one more time, raise their eyebrows and then dive back into their devices.

ROZ (CONT'D)

I've been thinking things over. You know, taking a close look at my assumptions.

While she's talking, she sees that they are not paying attention. She thinks better of continuing and sits quietly, watching them while she eats her toast. No major breakthrough here, but it's a start.

EXT. STREET - DAY

Roz walks her dog group. Roz's phone RINGS. Roz looks at the phone and hesitates.

ROZ

(to the dogs)
Should I answer it?

Roz stops, then starts again as the phone rings. The dogs get tangled and confused. The phone STOPS RINGING.

ROZ (CONT'D)
(to the dogs)
Should I call him back?

She stops and untangles the dog leashes. She returns the call and puts it on speaker phone so the dogs can hear.

ROZ (CONT'D)
(to the dogs)
Now pay attention.

ALEX'S VOICE
(from the phone)
Hey Roz, finally. How are you? I've been worried about you.

ROZ
(into the phone)
Alex, yeah, hi. I'm good. I've been taking some alone time.

ALEX'S VOICE
I totally understand. Hey, it's good to talk to you. I've missed you.

The dogs wait patiently. Roz smiles at them. There is an awkward moment of silence.

ALEX'S VOICE (CONT'D)
So, you want to meet up tonight?
Maybe get a drink or a bite to eat?

ROZ
Well, I'm not sure what's going on tonight.

ALEX'S VOICE
Or we could take a walk over by the river. It's going to be a beautiful night. Did you see the moon last night? Amazing.

ROZ
I don't know. It sounds nice.

ALEX'S VOICE
We can meet at the Ear Inn and see how we feel.

ROZ
Hmmm.

Roz makes a face at the dogs, like what is she supposed to do. The dogs have no idea.

ALEX'S VOICE

It would be great to see you again.

After a moment.

ROZ

Ok. What time?

ALEX'S VOICE

Eight o'clock?

ROZ

How about nine?

ALEX'S VOICE

Nine it is. See you then.

ROZ

See you then.

She hangs up and looks at the dogs.

ROZ (CONT'D)

Yikes.

EXT. OUTSIDE BAR - NIGHT

Alex smokes a cigarette after having been in the bar for a quick drink to prepare for meeting up with Roz. He's not feeling his usual confidence, and he is surprised to like the feeling. He's never wanted anyone like he wants Roz. He's feeling vulnerable and wide open. He knows he has to be careful not to push too hard. So when Roz walks up, he keeps his enthusiasm in check. He quickly drops the cigarette and steps on it.

ALEX

Hi.

ROZ

Hi.

Alex make a slight move to give her a kiss, but pulls back and doesn't follow through.

ALEX

Nice to see you.

ROZ

Yeah, I'm sorry I've been so uncommunicative. It's been kind of a weird time actually.

ALEX

Yeah, that's cool. I mean, I'm sorry to hear that things are weird.

Roz doesn't know how to respond to him. She does and doesn't want to be there right now and is a little annoyed that she agreed to come out.

ROZ

I didn't know you smoked.

ALEX

Basically, I quit. But I have one every now and then. If I'm stressed.

ROZ

Are you?

ALEX

What?

ROZ

Stressed?

Alex looks perplexed, like, what is she playing at?

ALEX

Let's get a drink.

ROZ

Not really in the mood.

ALEX

Well, how about just taking a walk? Down by the river. It's a beautiful night.

ROZ

So I hear. Ok.

ALEX

Great.

Alex starts to walk, but Roz doesn't move. Alex takes a couple of steps before he realizes that Roz is not with him. He turns and looks at her.

ROZ
I've got to go.

Alex walks back to her.

ALEX
Ok. Can I walk you home?

ROZ
No. No, but thanks.

ALEX
Sure.

Alex steps in to kiss her and she turns her face away. He draws back.

ALEX (CONT'D)
Well, bye. Nice to see you, even
for a minute.

Roz turns to go. She walks away, but this is too much for Alex and he blurts out.

ALEX (CONT'D)
What are you afraid of?

Roz turns and unleashes her full furry on him.

ROZ
I'm not afraid of anything or
anyone, least of all you.

Alex is stunned.

Roz sees the disappointment on Alex's face, and she breaks down and cries. Alex goes to her and hugs her. She doesn't pull away from him and puts her head on his shoulder for a second. Then she looks up at him, gives him a kiss and leaves quickly. Alex watches her go, and slowly, a faint smile comes to his face.

INT. COFFEE BAR - DAY

Sandi orders a coffee from Roz. The place is mostly empty.

SANDI
Can we talk?

ROZ
Sure. I'll bring your coffee to
you.

Sandi sits down and watches Roz make the coffee. Roz brings the coffee over and sits down.

SANDI

Thanks. Are you ok? Izzy told me what you're going through.

Roz looks warily at Sandi, but sees that she is sincere. Roz is surprised and relieved.

ROZ

I'm dealing with it. I'm angry with myself for being so stupid.

SANDI

I know, it happened to me too. It's a difficult decision, but it's also a big relief.

ROZ

A relief for sure. I'm not ready to take that on.

Sandi reaches for Roz and strokes her arm affectionately. Roz smiles at her.

SANDI

I just want to say that I won't get in the way with Alex. I know he's crazy about you. I was jealous more than anything.

Roz looks away, thinks this over and turns back to Sandi.

ROZ

I don't know what to make of all that.

A customer comes in, and Roz gets up to serve her. Izzy enters and joins Sandi. They look at each other and then at Roz.

SANDI

She's going to be fine. You're right, she can handle anything.

IZZY

She might even learn something this time.

They give each other the once over again and smile reluctantly. Roz joins them with another coffee which they share.

ROZ

I've suddenly been having these
flashes of clarity, of insight.
They just come out of nowhere.
We're lucky to be alive, even if we
don't know what the fuck we're
doing.

Izzy rolls her eyes.

IZZY

Hmmmm.

SANDI

Profound.

They all look at each other and smile.

INT. BILL AND TONY'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

It's a big dance party and all the characters are there among many others. The music blasts as people talk in groups while others dance. Andy and Greg stand with Bill and Tony.

TONY

(to Andy)

Welcome to our world.

Andy laughs and does a little celebratory move.

ANDY

Greg's been very supportive.

Tony looks Greg over.

TONY

I'll bet he has.

Greg makes an awkward move and they all crack up.

Roz and Izzy join them. Bill and Tony give Roz big hugs and lots of attention. Roz is happy to be there and doesn't hold back. She throws herself into the party.

INT. BILL AND TONY'S APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

Alex talks with Greg and Andy as Roz approaches. They all look at each other and Roz is about to say something, when Izzy pulls her away to dance. The guys look at each other stifling laughter.

INT. BILL AND TONY'S APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

Alex cuts in on Izzy and Roz taking Roz in his arms to whisk her away. Roz goes with the flow. Izzy dances with Andy, then with Sandi as Greg and Andy dance together. Everyone is dancing like crazy when Bill and Tony start a conga line. Everyone joins in.

THE END