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360 Degrees of Separation

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2016

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An abstract of
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Abstract

360 Degrees of Separation

By Emily van den Berg

In a series of interconnected stories a group of New Yorkers navigate their way through the trials of relationships. Between first loves, heartbreak, affairs, and friendships, they find out that Manhattan might not be as big and anonymous as they once thought.

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360 Degrees of Separation

INT. BAR - NIGHT

The bar is crowded. Its patrons are a mix of older college students and people who just joined the work-force.

At the bar are DAVID, SPENCER, and NATHAN. They look like they come from similar walks of life, in casual but expensive-looking clothing, and coiffed hair with fancy watches.

Nathan is on the right end, leaning on the bar with his elbows and ripping the label off the bottle. David is on the left with his back towards the bar, leaning on his elbows and surveying the crowd. Spencer is in the middle, and takes a swig of his beer.

DAVID

So, Nate, how'd that date go last night?

NATHAN

Not great.

He lifts the beer to his lips to take a drink. Spencer looks at David.

SPENCER

How's your thing going?

DAVID

Over.

NATHAN

Sucks.

DAVID

We wanted different things.

Nathan and Spencer nod understandingly.

SPENCER

So shit with Viv sucks.

David spins around on his bar stool to face Spencer.

SPENCER (CON'T)

It's just not exciting anymore, ya know? It feels like we're already a boring old married couple, and we only just started living together.

(CONTINUED)

NATHAN

How so?

SPENCER

I don't even know, man. There's just... it's just boring. Last weekend we stayed in every night and were in bed by like, eleven.

David LAUGHS.

DAVID

Dude.

SPENCER

Right?

NATHAN

Oh come on. You loved game night at Sebastian's last Thursday.

SPENCER

I need more than a monthly game night to enjoy my life. I need to spice it up.

DAVID

(jokingly)

You should have an affair.

Spencer laughs. David's face turns thoughtful.

DAVID (CON'T)

Actually you know what? I'm serious. I know you and Viv are, like, in love and shit but you're bored. Do something exciting.

NATHAN

That's horrible advice. Don't have an affair. Vivienne doesn't deserve that, bored or not. Also, you'd get caught.

Spencer looks thoughtful, and David and Nathan talk across him.

DAVID

It's Manhattan. No one gets caught.

NATHAN

Are you kidding, man? How many times a week do we run into each other coincidentally.

(CONTINUED)

DAVID

Yeah, but we hang around the same places.

NATHAN

Plus, you live with Viv. How do you expect to get around that one?

SPENCER

I could totally pull off an affair, are you kidding me? It's not that hard.

NATHAN

I mean, do whatever you want, but I do not condone this.

SPENCER

Well now I just want to prove a point. Hey, let's make it a game.

Nathan SCOFFS lightly and takes a sip of his beer.

Across the bar there are two WOMEN, KAT and IVY, sitting in a booth. One of them has a full martini glass in front of her, the other an empty one. Ivy, with the full glass, is texting.

KAT

So how many is that this week?

IVY

Four. But the week is young.

Kat shakes her head and laughs.

KAT

You are unbelievable.

IVY

Oh please. Like you're not here on the prowl.

KAT

Of course I am. But I've been celibate for at least a week and a half.

IVY

I hate to break it to you, but I don't think that's called celibate.

(CONTINUED)

KAT

Whatever. I need a refill.

In another booth there is another twosome of WOMEN, Alice and LILY. Both are dressed more casually than most of the patrons at the bar.

ALICE

So tell me about Matt. How's San Fran treating him? I feel like I haven't spoken to him in forever.

LILY

He's good. Busy, mostly. We've been playing phone tag for a while which is getting real old real fast. But such is life when you're long distance.

ALICE

Mm. I miss him.

LILY

You and me both.

ALICE

It sucks that he's so far. Like, how is that fair? I run into my exes every time I leave the apartment -- which, like, what are the odds, it's Manhattan -- and the love of your life is a five hour plane ride away.

LILY

I think I need another drink.

ALICE

Fantastic idea.

Lily raises her hand, catches the WAITRESS'S eye, and holds up two fingers. The waitress nods and scurries away.

Nathan, David, and Spencer are still at the bar.

Kat comes up behind them. She stands between David and Spencer and taps Spencer on the shoulder.

KAT

(seductively)

Excuse me boys.

(CONTINUED)

David and Spencer part, leaving room for Kat to lean through. She leans on the bar, jutting her ass out. David and Spencer both give her a once-over, before making eye-contact.

DAVID
(mouths)
Nice.

Spencer grins with a bit of a leer. Nathan watches the exchange and rolls his eyes, taking another sip of his beer.

The BARTENDER comes over.

KAT
Can I have another Martini, please?
Extra dirty.

BARTENDER
Sure thing.

The bartender leaves to fetch Kat's drink, and Kat turns around and leans against the bar the way David was earlier.

DAVID
I'm David.

Kat lazily looks up at him and smiles, batting her eyelashes.

KAT
Nice to meet you, David. I'm Kat.

SPENCER
Spencer. And that's Nathan.

Nathan tips his beer at Kat, but otherwise doesn't engage. Kat lets her eyes travel down Spencer's body with exaggeration.

The bartender returns with Kat's drink and she turns back around to take it.

KAT
Thanks.
(inclines head towards
Spencer))
He'll get it.

Spencer LAUGHS but nods in agreement.

SPENCER
Is that how it is?

KAT
That's how it is.

Spencer and Kat share a beat of eye-contact while she sips her drink through a straw.

KAT
Wanna get out of here?

Nathan looks up from his drink at that and looks at Spencer to see what he'll do.

DAVID
You know, I think that's exactly what he was looking for.

SPENCER
Yeah. Let's go.

Kat puts her glass back on the bar, grabs Spencer's hand, and leads him away from the other men. David HOOTS as they walk away, which earns him an over-the-shoulder wink from Spencer. Nathan looks disgusted. He, too, stands up. He tosses a few bills on the bar.

NATHAN
You guys are disgusting. I'm going to call my mother.

DAVID
Boooooo. I thought Spencer was the one who was whipped.

NATHAN
Clearly not, seeing as he's going home with some girl right now instead of home to his fiancée.

DAVID
Hey! When you get that stick removed from your ass, let me know, yeah?

Nathan flips him off without turning around, and keeps walking. David faces away from the bar. His gaze lands on Lily and Alice. He gets up and walks over to them.

DAVID
Hi ladies, can I buy you a drink?

Lily looks up, unimpressed, but Alice is charmed.

(CONTINUED)

ALICE
(playfully)
You know, I think you can.
Unfortunately Lily was just
leaving, but I'm Alice.

Lily SNORTS but stands up.

LILY
Yes. Just leaving. Alice, get home
safe.

ALICE
I'm sure this gentleman will make
sure of that.

DAVID
He most certainly will. I'm David.

He extends his hand, him and Alice shake.

Lily leaves the bar.

INT. KAT'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

The apartment is dark. All of the lights are off, the only visible stream of light coming from the peep-hole. The peep-hole goes dark and there's a simultaneous THUNK. Off screen, Kat GIGGLES.

KAT (O.S.)
Shh! Stop it.

There's the SCRAPING OF A KEY in the lock, and the door swings open, framing Kat and Spencer in the doorway.

As soon as the door is closed, Spencer grabs Kat and kisses her neck. She grasps at the wall for the light. She manages to find and hit the switch, illuminating the scene.

KAT
(breathily)
Bedroom.

The two of them stumble towards the bedroom. In their haste they hit a low table, BANGING the back of Kat's knees against the cabinet doors.

KAT
Ouch.

(CONTINUED)

SPENCER

Sorry.

They finally find the door to Kat's bedroom. Once they enter they waste no time undressing. Kat pulls off her own top, then reaches up to unbutton Spencer's. As soon as the buttons are open, he shrugs out of the shirt and it lands in a crumpled mess on the floor. They each deal with their own pants, shoving them down their legs in a way that's not sexy, but efficient.

Once they're in their undergarments, Spencer grabs Kat and lifts her up by her thighs, dropping her back onto her bed. She SHRIEKS, then LAUGHS. Spencer crawls over her, kissing up her skin until he reaches her mouth.

INT. KAT'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Shot of the clothes on the floor, then pan up Kat and Spencer's naked legs up to their faces. Kat is on her stomach, her face lightly smooshed by the pillow, and her eyes closed. Spencer looks over at her and slowly, carefully, gets out of the bed.

She shifts and he freezes, but when she doesn't wake up, he grabs his pants from the floor and starts dressing himself. Once he's dressed, he looks towards the door.

SPENCER

(under his breath)

Dammit.

He reaches over and gently shakes Kat's shoulder.

KAT

Hmm?

She cracks open an eye.

SPENCER

I have to go. I had fun though. You have my number?

Kat groggily rubs her eyes and nods.

KAT

Yeah. Text me.

SPENCER

Sure thing.

Kat drops her head back on her pillow and Spencer leaves the room. A beat later, the front door CLICKS shut.

INT. VIVIENNE & SPENCER'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

The front door unlocks. The living room the front door opens into is dark.

Spencer walks into the apartment and shuts the door quietly. He gently places his keys in the bowl on the table next to the door and they JINGLE slightly. He toes off his shoes and walks across the living room to the only point of light.

INT. VIVIENNE & SPENCER'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Spencer pushes the door open. VIVIENNE is curled up under the covers of a large king-sized bed. When Spencer walks in, Vivienne shifts in. Spencer freezes.

Spencer squeezes his eyes shut and mouths 'fuck.'

VIVIENNE
(groggily)
Spence?

SPENCER
(quietly)
Yeah, Viv, it's me.

VIVIENNE
You coming to bed?

Spencer crosses the bedroom to the en suite bathroom.

SPENCER
Soon. I'm gonna take a quick shower.

VIVIENNE
Mmm.

INT. VIVIENNE & SPENCER'S BATHROOM - NIGHT

Spencer leans against the sink, closes his eyes, and breathes deeply. After a beat he begins to undress and drops his clothes in the hamper. He turns on the water which immediately creates a cloud of steam.

INT. VIVIENNE & SPENCER'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Spencer opens the door and the light frames him from behind. He's in a pair of boxers and a rumpled t-shirt. He shuts the light and crosses the room to climb into bed with Vivienne.

Vivienne turns over and immediately rests her head on his chest. Spencer's hand comes up to rub her back gently.

(CONTINUED)

VIVIENNE

Did you have a good time with the boys?

SPENCER

Yeah. We stayed at the bar for longer than I thought I would. Sorry I'm home so late.

VIVIENNE

You were just at the bar all night?

SPENCER

Yeah. Why?

VIVIENNE

Just curious. Goodnight.

Spencer kisses the top of Vivienne's head. Vivienne frowns and stares straight ahead.

SPENCER

Goodnight.

Spencer looks up at the ceiling and stares.

INT. ALICE + LILY'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

The apartment is dark and silent. Almost immediately the door opens, showing Alice who storms through. She slams the door closed and it BANGS.

ALICE

(loudly)

Lil? You awake? Please be awake.

She walks down the hallway and there's a light shining from under a closed door.

Alice KNOCKS once and opens the door before getting a response. In the bedroom Lily is sitting in her bed in her pajamas.

ALICE

Hi! You're awake!

LILY

What would you have done if I wasn't awake?

ALICE

Subtly slammed around the apartment until you woke up.

(CONTINUED)

Lily rolls her eyes but has a fond, small smile on her face. She motions to the foot of the bed, inviting Alice in, and Alice rushes over to it.

LILY (CON'T)
Sooo... How was it?

Alice's face immediately splits into a huge grin.

ALICE
It was great! He was awesome. Such a gentleman. I really think we connected.

LILY
That sounds great! I'm glad you had a good time. Are you going to see him again?

ALICE
I mean, I think so. We were both definitely into it and I wouldn't know why not.

Lily nods in understanding.

LILY
Good. Well, it's late, I'm gonna go to bed.

Alice CHUCKLES and stands up.

ALICE
I can take a hint. Goodnight.

LILY
Goodnight.

INT. STARBUCKS - DAY

It's late in the afternoon, and the Starbucks is busy, but not full.

Behind the counter there are two MEN. One fair haired, the other dark. The fair haired one, GRANT, is wiping down the counter with a wet rag while OLIVER leans casually against the opposite one.

OLIVER
So do you have any plans for this weekend?

(CONTINUED)

GRANT

Nothing concrete. There were some talks about going out but I have work in the morning and I don't entirely enjoy making coffee hungover.

OLIVER

Such a good employee.

Grant laughs and rolls his eyes and the door DINGS, signaling an entering customer. Both men turn to look at the door. Another MAN walks in, looking a little scruffy but in a way that makes it seem like it took a half an hour to achieve. Grant swallows visibly.

OLIVER

(quietly)

Hey, the dude's back.

GRANT

Shut up.

He hurries to get behind the register before Oliver does, even though Oliver makes no moves to take the customer.

GRANT

Hi.

The guy, JAMES, smiles shyly and looks up at the board behind Grant.

JAMES

Hi. Uh, I'll have the caramel latte, please.

GRANT

Sure, what size?

James squints at the cups.

JAMES

Medium.

GRANT

What's uh, what's your name?

JAMES

James.

Oliver CHUCKLES off to the side but takes the cup when Grant marks it up and hands it to him.

(CONTINUED)

GRANT
You got it. That'll be 4.23.

JAMES
Thanks.

When James hands over his card, his hand lingers. Grant looks down at it, CLEARS HIS THROAT, and swipes it.

The interaction is painfully awkward, and Oliver looks over at it with glee while he makes the latte. James and Grant stare at each other for another moment, before James inclines his head to the receiving end of the bar.

JAMES
I'm gonna...

GRANT
Yeah. Okay.

JAMES
Right.

James lingers for another second before squaring his shoulders and walking away. Oliver hands him his drink, which he accepts with a nod, and then turns on his heel and hurries out of the establishment.

As soon as the door closes, Grant GROANS and sags against the counter.

OLIVER
(pointedly)
Dude.

GRANT
What?

OLIVER
He's totally into you.

Grant looks over at Oliver wearily.

OLIVER (CON'T)
I'm serious! He's been in here every day this month and every time he practically moons over you.

Grant blushes.

GRANT
He does not.

OLIVER
(mimicking James)
I'll uh have the uh... latte,
please?

Grant cracks up. He grabs the towel, twists it, and flicks it in Oliver's direction.

Oliver LAUGHS.

OLIVER
C'mon, man, cut it out. Listen,
next time he comes in, try making
real conversation, yeah?

Grant's laugh dies off and he looks down at his hands with a small smile.

GRANT
Yeah. Yeah okay, I can do that.

OLIVER
Good. Now tell me about that party
happening because I'm stressed as
shit and need to decompress.

EXT. CENTRAL PARK NYC - DAY

It's late afternoon in Central Park, Manhattan. The sun shines lowly but fiercely, falling through the trees like brilliant beams of light.

A WOMAN with platinum blonde, almost white, hair is on the promenade. She's wearing a blue and black plaid coat, with a red and black plaid scarf. Her gloves are missing their fingers and her boots look well-worn and scuffed. She's walking her Doberman Pinscher. Or rather, is being walked by it. She's clearly trying to reign the dog in, but is failing miserably and being pulled along by him forcefully.

COURTNEY
(out of breath)
Jesus Christ, Princess, slow down.

Princess clearly doesn't respond and continues to tug her forward. The two of them nearly run into a WOMAN with a stroller and two CHILDREN. The woman scowls and one of the children SHRIEKS.

COURTNEY
I'm so sorry! Princess, what the
hell?

(CONTINUED)

Once they clear the pathway, Princess banks to the left and pulls Courtney off of the road and into the grassy area.

The lake is suddenly in view, and as soon as Courtney lays eyes on it her eyes widen.

COURTNEY

(yelling)

No. No, Princess, I swear to God if you pull me into this lake you are losing your balls. I swear to God.

Finally, when Princess is close enough to the lake he stops, plants his butt on the ground and stares up at Courtney with his tongue lolling out of his mouth.

Courtney is still HUFFING from exertion. She bends over, leaning her palms on her knees and looking at Princess with a scowl.

COURTNEY

(murmuring)

You've got to be kidding me.
Really? After all that? Not even a squirrel?

Princess BARKS once, then lays down, stretching his front paws and resting his snout on them.

Courtney tosses her arms in the air, giving up. She drops Princess's leash and walks the couple of feet over to the benches. There are no other people around the lake. Courtney drops her head onto the back of the bench and closes her eyes, taking a deep breath and relaxing.

MAN (O.S.)

Excuse me, miss?

Courtney visibly startles and lets out an undignified SHOUT.

She turns and looks up, only to see Nathan looming over her. His tailored woolen peacoat and Burberry scarf -- a plaid so unlike her own -- with tan slacks and loafers are a stark contrast to Courtney. His hair is slicked back and a pair of thick framed glasses perch on his nose.

NATHAN (CON'T)

Sorry. It's just that you can't have your dog off-leash here and there's a cop down in the next area. Didn't want you to get in trouble.

(CONTINUED)

Courtney looks at his hand, which is covered in a brown leather glove and is holding not one, but two leashes. Princess is sitting patiently near Nathan's ankles, and a tiny Pomeranian sits beside him.

COURTNEY

Uh... Thanks?

She takes Princess's leash from the stranger, gives him another once over and then looks back at the lake. Nathan doesn't leave, and after a beat, Courtney looks back up.

COURTNEY (CON'T)

Yes?

Nathan gestures to the empty space on the bench next to Courtney.

NATHAN

Do you mind if I sit?

COURTNEY

It's a free country.

Nathan sits down next to her, and the Pomeranian scampers around Princess to hop onto his lap. The dog can't quite make the jump and falls back to the floor before Nathan bends down and scoops it up. Courtney watches the interaction and a small smile tugs on the sides of her lips. She turns back to the lake quickly.

NATHAN

Nathan.

Courtney looks back at him.

NATHAN

My name. It's Nathan. And this is Blaze.

The Pomeranian's tail wags at a comical pace.

COURTNEY

I'm Courtney, and this is Princess.

Nathan SNORTS and hides his smile behind a fist.

Courtney raises an eyebrow.

COURTNEY

(defensively)

You got a problem with my dog's name?

NATHAN

Not at all. It suits her.

COURTNEY

She's a boy.

NATHAN

Well it's nice to meet both of you.

The pair falls back into silence, Courtney staring at Princess and Nathan looking at Courtney. After a moment, Courtney HUFFS, SLAPS her hands on her knees and gets up.

COURTNEY

Well, we ought to get going, c'mon Princess.

Nathan jumps up. Blaze YELPS when he hits the ground.

NATHAN

Wait! Um, would you like to maybe get coffee?

Courtney frowns. She gives him another obvious once over and HUFFS another breath out of her nose.

COURTNEY

Princess and I walk here every day around four.

Nathan grins with all his teeth, and Courtney walks away.

NATHAN

(to Blaze)

Guess we'll be here at four.

EXT. MANHATTAN STREET - DAY

Vivienne and ROSIE are walking down the street. Both women have soft pretzels in their hands.

VIVIENNE

Do you ever feel like sometimes Sebastian might be hiding things from you?

Rosie looks at Vivienne, surprised.

ROSIE

No, not really. Why? Is everything okay with Spencer?

(CONTINUED)

VIVIENNE

I'm sure everything's fine. Just... last night he came home from the bar and showered. That's weird, right?

ROSIE

I mean, not necessarily. Bar's get pretty disgusting sometimes.

VIVIENNE

Sure, sure... (beat) But for argument's sake, let's say it is weird.

ROSIE

Okay, it's weird. Then what?

VIVIENNE

Well, what if he didn't shower because of the grimy bar. What if he showered because he needed to hide something from me. Or someone.

ROSIE

Viv, you're not serious! You don't actually think Spencer is cheating on you?

VIVIENNE

No! No. I'm sure you're right and he's not. I just felt weird. Wanted your opinion.

ROSIE

I don't think you have anything to worry about.

VIVIENNE

Yeah, you're probably right. Anyway, how was your weekend?

EXT. MANHATTAN STREET - NIGHT

The sky is dark and there's a steady fall of snow that's illuminated beautifully by the street lamps. An Ambulance is parked by one of the curbs, but the street is empty.

Lily walks briskly out of the hospital wearing scrubs, a parka and a heavy knit hat. She tugs her coat tight and nuzzles her nose inside the collar.

After a beat she takes out her phone. We see her recent call log, which is filled with [Matt (5)] [Matt Missed Call (3)] [Matt outgoing (7)] with the occasional other name sprinkled between them. She clicks on Matt's name and a call goes through.

INT. MATT'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

MATT is sitting on a couch in his apartment. His phone BUZZES on the coffee table. He sits up, carefully as to not spill his bowl of cereal that's balanced on his chest, and grabs the phone. Lily's face flashes on the screen. He mutes the TV and swipes to pick up the call.

Intercut between Matt and Lily on the phone.

MATT

Hey baby.

LILY

Hi. I just got off work. It's freezing out.

MATT (O.S.)

It was actually pretty nice out here today. Do you guys have snow yet?

LILY

Yeah it just started this morning. I think they're saying it'll last all week.

Matt settles back on the couch and spoons cereal into his mouth.

MATT

(with his mouth full)
Sucks.

Matt tucks the phone behind his ear and reaches for the remote. He unmutes the television.

LILY

Are you watching TV?

MATT

Uh, sort of. It's on.

LILY

I'll let you go then, if you're busy.

(CONTINUED)

MATT

Mm. Okay.

LILY

Love you.

MATT

You too. Talk to you later.

LILY

Yeah, bye.

Lily SIGHS again and pockets her phone.

LILY

(under her breath)

Guess I'll just walk home alone.

INT. ROSIE & SEBASTIAN'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

It's dark in the bedroom. The blinds are drawn and the only light is coming from the alarm clock that reads 2:25 AM.

Rosie shifts, stretching her shoulders and opening her eyes. She frowns, looking at the clock. She gently extracts herself from SEBASTIAN'S embrace. Carefully she climbs out of bed, pausing every time Sebastian twitches. As soon as she's out of the bed, she tiptoes to the door, dressed in an over-sized flannel with thick, woolen socks.

INT. ROSIE & SEBASTIAN'S KITCHEN - NIGHT

Rosie enters the kitchen and goes straight for a cupboard. She pulls a glass out, which she fills with water from the faucet. She turns around to lean her back against the counter, and she drinks the water in silence in the dark. After a few beats, she pushes herself away from the counter and turns to open the fridge.

The refrigerator light illuminates a large strip of the kitchen which is otherwise still dark.

Sebastian suddenly wraps his arms around her from behind and rests his chin on her shoulder, eyes closed. Rosie YELPS in surprise.

ROSIE

(quietly)

Sorry, did I wake you?

SEBASTIAN

Mmm. Woke up and you were gone.

(CONTINUED)

ROSIE
I was thirsty.

SEBASTIAN
And jonesing for a midnight snack,
maybe?

Rosie turns around in his arms, leaning her head back to look at him. Sebastian is still smiling softly, contently.

ROSIE
Do you want anything?

SEBASTIAN
You know what sounds fantastic
right now?

Rosie LAUGHS quietly.

ROSIE
I'll make it. Go sit.

SEBASTIAN
You're an angel.

He kisses Rosie once, then again, and releases her to go sit at the bar stools around the cooking island. Rosie rummages around, preparing a snack.

She opens the fridge again, illuminating the kitchen. Sebastian sneaks up on her again, pulling her around and into his arms.

SEBASTIAN
Dance with me.

Rosie LAUGHS and goes along with it.

ROSIE
You're going to let all the cold
out.

SEBASTIAN
It's a refrigerator. It'll make
more.

ROSIE
There's no music.

Sebastian starts HUMMING and Rosie smiles, letting herself be led around the kitchen, dancing in nothing but the refrigerator light.

Moments later the microwave BEEPS, interrupting their dance and demanding attention.

Sebastian releases Rosie and bows.

SEBASTIAN

Milady.

Rosie LAUGHS, steps away and goes to tend to the food. She shuts the refrigerator and clicks on a light over the stove, effectively breaking the spell.

ROSIE

You're ridiculous, you know that?

She pulls the plates out of the microwave and comes over to set them on the counter in front of Sebastian, who immediately digs in.

SEBASTIAN

(with mouth full)

I love you.

Rosie stares at Sebastian with pure adoration in her gaze.

ROSIE

Mhm. You're lucky you're cute.(beat) Hey, you know what's weird? When I was out with Viv today, she said she thought Spencer might be cheating on her.

SEBASTIAN

What made her say that?

ROSIE

He showered when he got home from the bar before getting into bed.

Sebastian frowns.

SEBASTIAN

I mean, I'll give her that. Seems sketchy if you ask me.

ROSIE

You shower after bars all the time!

SEBASTIAN

Yeah but I shower *with you*.

Rosie LAUGHS.

ROSIE
Point. I just hope she's wrong.

SEBASTIAN
I'm sure she is.

ROSIE
Mm. Makes me realize what an
amazing thing I have though.

Sebastian smiles and leans over to kiss Rosie.

SEBASTIAN
Still can't believe I got to marry
you.

There's a beat of silence.

SEBASTIAN (CON'T)
Anyway. We should get back to bed.
You go ahead, I'll clean up.

Rosie nods and stands up. She gives Sebastian one last kiss
and disappears into the next room.

EXT. CENTRAL PARK - DAY

It is late afternoon and it is snowing lightly.

Nathan is sitting on one of the benches lining the
promenade. Blaze is walking back and forth as far as his
leash will let him, trying to jump at passerby's and
squirrels and pigeons.

Finally, Courtney enters the park and Nathan visibly perks
up. He hurries over to Courtney, who is walking at a brisk
pace and already veering off to a side-path.

Nathan jogs to catch up with her. When he finally reaches
her, she startles lightly and looks at him.

NATHAN
(slightly breathlessly)
Hi!

COURTNEY
Um. Hi? Can I help you?

Nathan smiles big and wide.

NATHAN
It's Nathan. Blaze and I met you
last week in the park. At the
bench. Courtney, yeah?

(CONTINUED)

COURTNEY

Yeah.

Princess realizes they've stopped moving and turns around. He immediately bounds up to Nathan and forcefully digs his nose into Nathan's waist.

Nathan LAUGHS.

COURTNEY

Princess, no. Stop.

NATHAN

It's okay. I have dog treats in my pocket.

Nathan fishes a few treats out of his pocket and gives them to Princess, who wolfs them down quickly.

NATHAN (CON'T)

Anyway. Blaze and I thought we'd join you and Princess on your walk, if you're cool with that.

Courtney looks at Nathan again, wary and skeptical of his intentions.

COURTNEY

Why?

NATHAN

We were thinking about last week when you two almost got in trouble and Blaze just couldn't bear thinking it might happen again. He practically begged me to come here today.

Courtney quirks an eyebrow.

COURTNEY

Oh really? It was Blaze?

The two of them look down at Blaze, whose tongue is lolling comically out of his mouth as he looks back up at the couple.

NATHAN

What can I say, he thought Princess was cute.

(CONTINUED)

COURTNEY

I thought he wanted to come because he didn't want us to get in trouble?

NATHAN

Sure. Both of those things.

He grins.

NATHAN (CON'T)

Shall we?

COURTNEY

Normally Princess and I really take this time to bond alone. But I guess, for once, I can make an exception.

NATHAN

Great. So, Courtney, tell me about yourself.

Courtney huffs out a LAUGH.

COURTNEY

Oh jeez, what have I gotten myself into?

NATHAN

I don't know. Let's find out.

INT. RESTAURANT - DAY

The restaurant is small but spacious. Kat and Ivy are at a table by the window. Their drinks are on the table, but the meals have yet to arrive.

Ivy is typing away on her phone, and Kat is leaning her elbow on the table with her cheek resting on her hand. She's watching the other people in the restaurant.

Across the room Rosie and Sebastian are holding hands across the table. Sebastian says something that makes Rosie toss her head back and laugh, after which Sebastian pulls her closer to him to kiss her lightly on the lips.

Kat crinkles her nose and makes a NOISE OF DISGUST.

KAT

I hate love. Love is disgusting.

Ivy doesn't look up from her phone.

(CONTINUED)

IVY
You don't hate love. Secretly you
want love, but you don't have it
and don't know how to get it, so
you pretend to hate it so you don't
feel so down on yourself.

Kat looks up at Ivy and glares.

KAT
That was mean.

IVY
But true.

KAT
You're an ass.

Ivy looks up and grins.

IVY
Also probably true.

Kat SIGHS and looks back at the couple. She frowns.

KAT
I genuinely don't think I could
ever be a part of a couple like
that. Anyway, how was the big date?

IVY
Not good.

KAT
What was wrong with this one.

Ivy slams her elbow on the table, causing Kat to look up.
She holds up her pinky with a meaningful look. Kat's eyes
widen and she looks between Ivy's pinky and Ivy's face.

KAT
No.

IVY
Yup.

KAT
Shut up.

IVY
Swear to God.

KAT
His...?

Ivy nods. There's a beat of silence and then both girls
BURST OUT LAUGHING.

KAT (CON'T)
Oh my God.

It takes a second for both of them to calm down. Kat wipes
at her eyes and shakes her head in disbelief.

KAT (CON'T)
Wow.

They're silent for a beat.

KAT (CON'T)
So I'm pretty sure the guy I took
home the other night has a
girlfriend.

IVY
Wow really? How do you know?

Kat shrugs.

KAT
Just the vibes, you know? Also he
only texts me during business hours
which feels sketchy.

IVY
And you're gonna keep seeing him?

KAT
Yeah. I mean it's not my problem.
It's not like I want to date him.

IVY
You're a horrible person.

Kat gives Ivy a look.

KAT
Didn't you have sex with someone at
his own bachelor party?

IVY
(hissing)
Shut up, we don't talk about that.

Kat LAUGHS.

KAT
My point exactly. So, any other
dates lined up?

IVY
Well actually...

INT. STARBUCKS - DAY

It's late afternoon. Once again, Oliver and Grant are behind the bar. Oliver is restocking the milk cartons in the fridge, while Grant stands behind the register.

GRANT
I hate the afternoon shift.

OLIVER
I love the afternoon shift.

GRANT
That's because you don't have to do
anything during it.

Oliver grins up at him.

OLIVER
Exactly. Why would you want to do
work when you could get paid the
same amount for hanging out and
doing nothing?

GRANT
Because I have this thing called a
work ethic?

Oliver waves his hand.

OLIVER
Psh. Overrated.

The door DINGS and both men look over to the door. James has walked in. Oliver glances at his watch.

OLIVER
Right on schedule.

Grant shoots him a glare before turning back to James, whom he smiles at.

GRANT
Hi. James, right?

(CONTINUED)

JAMES

Yeah.

GRANT

What can I get you today?

JAMES

How's the white mocha?

GRANT

Sweet.

JAMES

I'll have that, then.

Grant grins and grabs a cup. He scribbles something on it, then hands it off to Oliver who gets to work on the order.

They silently smile at each other until another CUSTOMER appears behind James.

James inclines his head to the end of the bar again.

JAMES

I'll just.

GRANT

Yeah. I'll see you around?

James nods. He hurries away and Grant deals with the other customer. As soon as the other customer leaves, James is back. Grant looks confused.

GRANT

Is everything okay?

JAMES

Is this for real or are you messing with me?

James holds up the coffee cup, which has "CALL ME" a phone number, and a smiley face scribbled on the side. Before Grant has the opportunity to respond, Oliver kicks him in the leg. Grant's eyes widen.

GRANT

I--yes. Yes, it's for real. I, uh, yes.

James nods.

(CONTINUED)

JAMES

Okay. Good. I will.

Grant's full-of-teeth smile returns, and James blushes, then ducks his head and hurries out of the Starbucks. Grant watches him go.

GRANT

I love the afternoon shift.

OLIVER

(smugly)

You're welcome

EXT. MANHATTAN STREET - DAY

Nathan stands at one of the entrances to the park. Blaze sits beside him, watching Nathan with his tail wagging excitedly. Nathan is holding two hot beverages.

A moment later Courtney breaks through the crowd, Princess on his leash, dragging her along. As soon as Princess spots Nathan, he speeds up and pulls Courtney along faster.

COURTNEY

Jesus, not this again.

Nathan sees the pair and smiles. He holds up one of the coffees in a greeting salute. Princess finally reaches Nathan and immediately jumps up on him.

COURTNEY

Princess, no.

NATHAN

Well hello to you too, Princess.

Nathan CHUCKLES. She nods to the coffee cups.

COURTNEY

One of those for me?

NATHAN

Always.

Nathan hands her one of the cups, which she accepts gladly. As soon as Nathan's second hand is free, he pulls off his glove using his teeth. He grabs a handful of treats out of his pocket and gives them to Princess.

COURTNEY

You spoil him.

(CONTINUED)

NATHAN
I'm buying his affection.

COURTNEY
It's working.

NATHAN
(teasing)
Is it working on you, too?

He motions his head to the coffee. Courtney LAUGHS.

COURTNEY
Maybe if you up the ante. It's only coffee.

NATHAN
It's coffee *with whipped cream*.

COURTNEY
Oh, of course. That changes everything. You've *totally* gotten me.

NATHAN
Excellent. Let's walk, yeah?

The two of them head into the park, their dogs walking ahead of them.

INT. LILY & ALICE'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Lily and Alice are sitting at their kitchen table. Both of their plates are mostly empty. Lily has left a meatball on hers, while Alice has left the noodles. Alice looks across the table at Lily's plate.

ALICE
Can I?

She holds her fork out and points at the meatball.

LILY
All yours.

Alice smiles and steals the meatball.

ALICE
(with her mouth full)
Did you talk to Matt yet?

(CONTINUED)

LILY

Not yet. We were supposed to Skype right now but I haven't heard from him in a few hours.

ALICE

I'm sure he won't cancel.

LILY

I hope not. He canceled last night. Have you heard from your guy?

ALICE

Eh. A little. He's not very chatty. But I won't get in your way.

Alice stands up, clears the plates, and leaves the room. Lily opens the laptop in front of her.

Once she signs in to Skype Matt's name and face are visible. The icon next to his name is green. Lily clicks on it.

A RINGING PHONE simulation is heard that goes on and on. Lily hangs up and repeats. She tries once more, before SIGHING and closing the laptop. She crosses her arms on the table and drops her head on them.

EXT. MANHATTAN STREET - DAY

The sun is slowly starting to set on Manhattan. Nathan and Courtney walk down the sidewalk, dogs pulling ahead of them. Nathan says something unintelligible and Courtney throws her head back and LAUGHS at it. They approach a building and they stop walking.

Courtney walks up the first step, Princess already walking towards the front door. Courtney turns around to look at Nathan, smiling.

COURTNEY

Okay, I'll see you tomorrow.

NATHAN

See you tomorrow.

Courtney gives another smile with a nod, then turns back around. Nathan grabs her hand and turns her back around.

NATHAN (CON'T)

No, wait.

Courtney looks at him and waits for him to elaborate.

(CONTINUED)

NATHAN (CON'T)

Go on a date with me. A real one.

COURTNEY

A real one?

NATHAN

Yeah. Dinner. Something nice,
without the dogs.

COURTNEY

(playfully)

You don't like the dogs?

NATHAN

I love the dogs. But I want to wine
and dine you for real.

Courtney LAUGHS.

COURTNEY

And our daily walks are what?
Imaginary?

Nathan smiles.

NATHAN

Are you gonna make me beg?

COURTNEY

As much as I love that image...
Saturday?

Nathan's face lights up.

NATHAN

Saturday. Great. Wine and dine.
It'll be great.

COURTNEY

It better be.

They share another smile then Courtney points her thumb at the door. Nathan nods and Courtney turns around to head inside.

INT. KAT'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Kat is standing at the kitchen counter, unloading multiple take-out boxes. She places the boxes on the counter, then rummages through a drawer to pull out utensils. Just as she's getting out plates there's a KNOCK at the door.

(CONTINUED)

KAT
(yelling)
It's open!

Off screen the door OPENS and CLOSES audibly, and a beat later Spencer walks into the kitchen.

SPENCER
Hey. Smells good in here, did you
get food?

KAT
Just take-out, nothing fancy.

SPENCER
Beats no food. I thought I'd be
skipping dinner tonight to see you.

KAT
(teasingly)
How thoughtful of you.

Spencer comes up to Kat and kisses her on the lips before looking around her at the boxes.

SPENCER
Chinese?

KAT
Yeah.

SPENCER
Did you get egg rolls by any
chance?

KAT
That one over there.

SPENCER
You're my favorite.

KAT
I better be.

Spencer's smile flickers slightly, but then he recomposes himself. Kat opens her mouth to say something, but Spencer cuts her off by kissing her again. He slides his hand behind her head, cradling it, and pushes her head back. The kiss escalates, and after a moment he picks Kat up by the back of her thighs.

(CONTINUED)

KAT
(breathlessly)
The food.

SPENCER
(against her neck)
It'll keep.

INT. KAT'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

After, Spencer and Kat are lying in her bed, still panting, both grinning.

The moment is broken when a phone RINGS. Kat GROANS.

SPENCER
Ugh.

He sits up and gropes around for his phone in his pocket.

KAT
Ignore it.

SPENCER
I can't. It's... I can't.

Kat sighs and sits up. She looks disappointed.

Spencer looks down at the phone, SIGHS and picks up.

SPENCER
Hi. (beat) Yeah I know. (beat)
Okay. Yeah okay.

Spencer gets off the bed and starts pulling his shirt back on, not even glancing at Kat, who looks crestfallen.

SPENCER (CON'T)
I'll be home soon. I'm leaving now.
(beat) Yeah, you, too. Bye.

Spencer hangs up and pockets his phone, then finally looks down at Kat who is still sitting up on the bed half naked.

SPENCER (CON'T)
I'm so sorry baby, but I have--

KAT
To go. Yeah, I got that.

SPENCER
I'm really sorry. It's my--

(CONTINUED)

KAT
(with a slight attitude)
Girlfriend.

SPENCER
That gonna be an issue?

KAT
Not my problem.

Spencer nods. They get stuck in a short, awkward stalemate.

SPENCER
Walk me out?

Kat nods and puts her shirt on. The two of them are silent as they walk through the apartment to the front door. Spencer opens the door and hesitates. He presses a quick kiss to Kat's lips.

KAT
I'll see you soon?

SPENCER
Absolutely. I'll text you tomorrow,
yeah?

KAT
Mhm.

Spencer just nods and disappears down the hallway. Kat closes the door and leans against it with her eyes closed. She exhales in a huff, then pushes herself off the door. She pulls her phone out of her pocket, taps on it and brings it to her ear. Still looking at the food she says,

KAT
Want to come over? I have a shit
ton of Chinese food with your name
on it. (beat) Okay, see you soon.

Kat ends the call and sighs, then walks to the take-out and starts eating fried rice straight out of the carton with the fork she picks up.

EXT. MANHATTAN STREET - NIGHT

Spencer exits a building and walks onto the street. His phone is up by his ear and he raises his hand to hail a cab.

INT. DAVID'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

David is sitting on the couch in his apartment. There's a dark haired WOMAN sitting next to him. They're both in their underwear and playing video games. David's phone RINGS.

DAVID
Pause it. Pause it!

David grabs his phone and picks it up.

DAVID
Hello?

Intercut between David and Spencer outside on the phone.

SPENCER
Hey, man. Just wanted to call to
thank you.

DAVID
For what?

SPENCER
For telling me to spice things up
in my life. Everything is amazing.
Just got laid and am on my way home
where my fiancée has dinner on the
table. Having Kat is somehow making
things with Vivienne so much
better, too. Even the boring stuff
is good.

DAVID
Happy to help, man.

SPENCER
Couldn't have done it without you.

David CHUCKLES.

DAVID
Bye.

David hangs up.

DAVID
Okay, press play.

INT. KAT'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Kat is now joined by Ivy. The two of them sit side-by-side on the couch, each with a take-out container of Chinese food. The TV is on, MURMURING in the background.

IVY
(with her mouth full)
This food is bomb. Your guy is really missing out.

KAT
Not my guy. If he was *my* guy he wouldn't have left me to go home to someone else, now would he have?

IVY
Someone's bitter.

KAT
Whatever. What about you, huh? Weren't you supposed to be out tonight?

IVY
The night isn't over.

KAT
Seriously? You're still going out after this?

IVY
Yes. In fact--

Ivy leans forward, puts the take-out carton down and picks up her phone instead.

IVY (CON'T)
--I should probably finally respond to this guy.

KAT
(with a full mouth)
I don't know how you keep them all straight.

IVY
It's a skill. You just have to make sure that--

(CONTINUED)

Ivy stops mid-sentence, YELPS, and throws her phone across the room. It hits the opposite wall with a SMACK and falls down onto the ground. She covers her wide-open mouth with her hands, a look of extreme shock on her face. Kat stares at her, mouth agape.

IVY

Oh my god oh my god oh my god. I
just texted the wrong guy. This is
all your fault! You jinxed me!

Kat is silent for a second before she bursts out LAUGHING. Ivy gets up and crosses the room to grab her phone. She looks at it, horrified.

KAT

(out of breath)

I cannot believe you just threw
your phone across the room for
that. Oh my god. You are so
ridiculous.

Ivy WHINES.

IVY

Noooo. This guy is so gross! He's
been texting me for weeks and I've
been avoiding him and I finally
gave in because I thought he was
the other guy and now he's never
going to leave me alone.

KAT

God, Ive, just ghost him. Don't
show up.

IVY

Now I have to text the other guy
and tell him to meet me somewhere
else. This is so stressful.

KAT

Ivy Leopold, ladies and gentlemen.

IVY

Oh shut up and eat your rice.

INT. CLUB - NIGHT

The club is loud, dark, filled with an abundance of scantily-clad writhing twenty-somethings, with a heart-beat catching BASS. The overhead lights flash different colors with the beat. The bar is lit up in red with topless male BARTENDERS shaking drinks and throngs of PEOPLE trying to get them.

Ivy is grinding up against a tall BRUNET whose hands are firmly on her waist. She's lost in the music, dancing with her eyes closed and a red drink in her hand. Ivy lifts her glass above her head, then chugs it.

Moments later the song ends and Ivy spins around. She looks Brunet in the eye and cocks her head to the side, signaling she wants to leave the dance floor.

IVY
(yelling)
I need a refill!

Brunet nods. Ivy turns around and starts walking towards the bar. Something catches her eye and she stops, startled, with a slightly panicked look on her face. She spins back around.

IVY
Oh my god. Quick, grab my waist and pretend we're on a date.

Brunette frowns.

BRUNET
We are on a date.

Ivy rolls her eyes.

IVY
Whatever, just make sure that guy over there doesn't see me.

BRUNET
What? Why?

IVY
Just do it, okay? Hurry.

BRUNET
Is he your boyfriend or something?

IVY
Oh my god. Forget it.

(CONTINUED)

Ivy pushes Brunet away from her, turns around and grabs the next nearest dancing GUY. He gives her a slow, drunken smile.

IVY
Hey, pretend to be my boyfriend for
a sec?

GUY
Sure thing, doll.

IVY
Awesome.

Ivy presses her lips against the Guy's. They kiss for a hot second. She pulls away -- Brunet is gaping at her -- and she checks to see if the person who caught her eye is gone. She EXHALES, seems satisfied that he is.

IVY (CON'T)
Thanks.

GUY
No problem.

Ivy rounds back on Brunet.

IVY
See? That wasn't so hard.

INT. COFFEE HOUSE - DAY

Grant is sitting at a table near the back of the cafe in front of a lit fireplace. Grant watches the front door anxiously.

The front door opens and James walks in. He glances around the room before his eyes land on Grant and he smiles. Grant perks up in his seat and waves enthusiastically. James CHUCKLES under his breath and smiles bigger.

When James reaches the table, Grant stands up. The chair he pushes out SCREECHES across the floor, almost showing Grant's enthusiasm.

GRANT
Hi.

JAMES
Hey.

Grant motions to the chair opposite to the one he was just in and James sits down in it, while Grant sits in his own.

(CONTINUED)

JAMES
So.

GRANT
So.

They LAUGH.

JAMES
Did you order yet?

GRANT
No, I was waiting for you.

JAMES
I feel like after all of this time
of you serving me coffee I should
finally get you some, huh?

GRANT
Well, if you insist.

JAMES
You know what, I think I do.

GRANT
As long as you don't get me any of
those teeth-rotting drinks you
like.

James stands up again.

JAMES
I'm not making any promises.

James turns and walks to the bar and Grant watches him go
with an appreciative smile on his face.

INT. COFFEE HOUSE- DAY

The camera cuts to James and follows him back to the table
with two drinks in his hand. He sits down in his chair and
puts Grant's drink down in front of him, while already
sipping his own.

Grant teasingly eyes his cup dubiously.

GRANT
How do I know I can trust you got
me something I'll like?

(CONTINUED)

JAMES
(grinning)
You're just gonna hafta.

Grant raises an eyebrow and takes a sip of his drink. He does that thing to it that people do when they're tasting wine and James LAUGHS.

JAMES
Good god, you're pretentious.

Grant swirls the drink around his mouth loudly and obnoxiously for another full five seconds before swallowing.

GRANT
It'll do.

JAMES
I'm so glad the great coffee master approves of his drink.

Grant puts his cup down and focuses on James.

GRANT
So, do you just really love coffee
or do you come around every day
just to see me?

The directness startles a LAUGH out of James.

JAMES
I really love coffee. Although I'll
let you in on a secret.

Grant raises an "oh really?" eyebrow. James leans in over the table and motions for Grant to do the same.

JAMES (CON'T)
(lowly)
There are three Starbucks's between
my apartment and the one you work
at.

Grant leans back.

GRANT
I'll take that for the compliment
it is.

James grins and raises his coffee cup.

JAMES
As you should.

INT. VIVIENNE & SPENCER'S KITCHEN - DAY

It's early morning, the sun high and bright in the sky. Spencer is in their kitchen in his pajama's, standing over a tray filled with food. He places a water filled vase on it, then snags a flower from the bouquet on the kitchen table and puts it in the vase. He then lifts the tray and leaves the kitchen with it.

INT. VIVIENNE & SPENCER'S BEDROOM - DAY

Spencer quietly pushes the door open with his back, then turns around to reveal the tray. Vivienne is still in bed, but when she hears Spencer she stretches and YAWNS. She rubs her eyes blearily.

SPENCER
Good morning, beautiful.

VIVIENNE
Hmmm. What time is it?

SPENCER
Just after nine.

Vivienne looks to the clock for confirmation. Then she finally sits up and sees what Spencer is holding. She GASPS quietly.

VIVIENNE
Spence! What's that for?

Spencer comes over to the bed. Vivienne scrambles to sit upright, giving the tray space.

SPENCER
What, I can't do something nice for my girl just because I want to?

VIVIENNE
Who are you and what have you done to my boyfriend?

Spencer LAUGHS.

SPENCER
C'mon, Viv. Just let me do something nice without questioning it, yeah?

(CONTINUED)

VIVIENNE

Only because you made pancakes.

SPENCER

There are chocolate chips on the bottom.

Vivienne grins excitedly and flips one of the pancakes on the stack over with her fingers.

VIVIENNE

I will never question you ever again.

SPENCER

You're beautiful.

Spencer leans over the tray and kisses Vivienne's lips gently.

VIVIENNE

Is today my birthday? Are we in an alternate universe?

SPENCER

Your birthday isn't for another two weeks.

VIVIENNE

Yes, *I* know that, I was just wondering if *you* forgot.

SPENCER

I told you. I just wanted to do something nice for you.

VIVIENNE

Well, you are the sweetest.

She leans over to kiss Spencer again, who greets her halfway. Vivienne smiles and looks down at the tray. She picks up a strawberry and pops it in her mouth.

VIVIENNE

Do you want any?

SPENCER

No, this is all for you. I already snuck a few bites while I was cooking.

(CONTINUED)

VIVIENNE

If you change your mind, let me
know before I inhale all of this.

Spencer laughs.

SPENCER

I will.

EXT. DINGY MANHATTAN SIDE STREET - NIGHT

It's dark out, and the cross-street is mostly empty. Nathan is standing in front of one of the four-step walk-ups. He jogs up the steps. He presses the buzzer by the door. There's a DIAL TONE, then STATIC.

COURTNEY (O.S.)

Hello?

Nathan leans in close to the intercom.

NATHAN

Hi, it's Nathan. I'm here.

COURTNEY (O.S.)

You're here? Why are you here?

NATHAN

I thought we had a date.

COURTNEY (O.S.)

We do. I just thought I'd meet you
at the place. I, uh. Okay. I'll be
down in a second, let me just grab
a coat.

The static stops and there's silence. Nathan takes a few steps back and looks around the street. After a beat the door opens and Courtney appears. She looks, once again, like the polar opposite of Nathan, with her scraggly oversized plaid coat and scarf and a beanie on her head. Nonetheless, Nathan smiles when he sees her.

NATHAN

Hi. You look nice.

COURTNEY

Thank you.

NATHAN

Shall we?

Courtney nods and they make their way down the stairs and onto the sidewalk.

EXT. MANHATTAN SIDEWALK - NIGHT

A yellow cab pulls up to the sidewalk. It's crowded. Nathan steps out of the cab and turns to help Courtney, but she's already out. The restaurant they're in front of looks upscale and incredibly fancy. Nathan looks like he would belong, and Courtney dramatically does not.

Nathan starts walking towards the entrance of the restaurant, but Courtney hesitates, frowning at the awning. Nathan notices, turns, and frowns.

NATHAN
Everything okay?

COURTNEY
Yeah, just... This is fancier than I was expecting.

NATHAN
Yeah it looks a little nice, but it's really casual. The food is really good.

Courtney looks like she doesn't quite believe Nathan, but she nods and lets him lead her inside.

INT. MANHATTAN RESTAURANT - NIGHT

The interior of the restaurant is more than "a little nice." The tables are sleek and the clientele is upscale and draped in fur and diamonds, despite the young age of the PATRONS.

Nathan shrugs out of his coat easily and drapes it over his arm before walking over to the MAITRE'D. Courtney's eyes are wide but the look in them is more of horror than of awe.

NATHAN
Two for Williams.

MAITRE'D
Right this way, sir.

Nathan takes Courtney's hand and the two of them follow the maitre'd to their table. Other patrons are watching Courtney with judgment in their eyes. Nathan pulls the chair out for Courtney who sits hesitantly, still in her coat.

NATHAN
Do you want him to take your coat?

(CONTINUED)

COURTNEY
I'm good. I don't think what I'm
wearing is appropriate.

NATHAN
Nonsense. You look wonderful.

Courtney glances around the room again and shakes her head. A WAITER shows up with menus and hands them to Courtney and Nathan, who take them.

COURTNEY
This is insane.

NATHAN
(looking at his menu)
Looks good, right?

COURTNEY
The salad is thirty dollars.

Nathan seems oblivious to Courtney's discomfort. She shifts in her seat and puts the menu down.

NATHAN
Mm.

Courtney shifts again and Nathan finally looks up. Once he sees Courtney's posture he frowns.

NATHAN
You're unhappy.

COURTNEY
No! I... well yeah. This just
isn't... what I'm used to.

Nathan looks around the room, then back at Courtney.

NATHAN
I'm sorry. Let's go.

COURTNEY
No, you want to eat here, it's
fine.

NATHAN
But you're uncomfortable. C'mon. My
mistake, this clearly wasn't what
you wanted to do tonight.

Nathan raises his hand and a waiter appears immediately.

COURTNEY

(lowly)

Nathan, no, c'mon, we don't have to.

NATHAN

Hi, I'm so sorry, but we actually won't be eating here tonight. Sorry for the inconvenience.

WAITER

Is there a problem?

Nathan is already standing up and motions for Courtney to do the same. She looks around, clearly uncomfortable still.

NATHAN

Not at all. Thank you so much.

Nathan turns to Courtney and takes her hand.

NATHAN (CON'T)

Let's go.

EXT. MANHATTAN SIDEWALK - NIGHT

Nathan and Courtney spill out of the restaurant, Nathan tugging Courtney along. Courtney looks much happier as the cold air of the outdoors greets them.

NATHAN

Cognitive error on my part. Do you want to go home?

COURTNEY

No! The night is young. I think I might know a place we'll both like.

INT. RESTAURANT - NIGHT

The restaurant is crowded. Rosie and Sebastian are sitting at a table by the window. Their meals are already on the table and they are eating while they talk.

SEBASTIAN

At least, that's what Alan in accounting said.

Rosie nods and looks around the restaurant idly. She sees something of note and furrows her brow. She squints, then looks surprised.

(CONTINUED)

ROSIE
Is that Spencer?

Sebastian looks up and Rosie cocks her head in the direction of the door. By the entrance, Spencer is talking to the MAITRE'D.

SEBASTIAN
Huh. I thought you said he was going out with the boys?

ROSIE
Yeah, that's what Viv told me. I wonder what he's doing here.

The maitre'd nods and Spencer follows him into the seating area of the restaurant. Rosie and Sebastian watch. Kat is waiting at a table in the middle of the restaurant, and that's where Spencer is headed. When he sees her, he turns to the maitre'd, inaudibly says something and finishes his walk alone. He sits down across from Kat. She smiles and he talks.

ROSIE
Who's that?

SEBASTIAN
I don't know, a friend, maybe?

Rosie narrows her eyes. Spencer says something that causes Kat to throw her head back and LAUGH. Rosie frowns deeper.

ROSIE
What if Vivienne was right? What if Spencer is cheating on her?

SEBASTIAN
We don't know that.

They both turn to look at Spencer and Kat again, and just after Spencer says something he leans over and kisses Kat on the mouth. Rosie's jaw drops and she GASPS.

ROSIE
That son of a bitch!

SEBASTIAN
Shit.

She quickly pushes her chair back, and it SCREECHES across the floor. Sebastian stands up quickly as well, and grabs Rosie's arm.

SEBASTIAN
Rose, babe, stop.

Rosie's face is turning pink with rage. She can't stop looking at Spencer and Kat.

ROSIE
He's cheating on her! Spencer is cheating on her.

SEBASTIAN
Rosie, sit down before he notices you, c'mon.

Rosie glares heatedly at Sebastian but sits down anyway.

SEBASTIAN (CON'T)
Good. Now take a deep breath, okay? Running over to him right now isn't going to solve anything. He doesn't know he got caught yet and we can use this to our advantage.

Rosie keeps eye contact with Sebastian and huffs out a few breaths. Finally she turns to Spencer again.

ROSIE
He's cheating on her, Seb, I can't just do nothing.

SEBASTIAN
Of course we're not going to do nothing. But we need to take a second so we don't make things worse. You can't just barge over there and yell at him, that's not gonna help Viv.

ROSIE
But he'd know he got caught.

SEBASTIAN
He would, but think of Vivienne. This is not the way to handle this situation okay?

Rosie deflates and looks down at her plate. She shoves it away from her.

ROSIE
I lost my appetite.

(CONTINUED)

SEBASTIAN

Okay. Let's go home, yeah? We can talk about what we're going to do then.

Rosie nods.

ROSIE

I'm just gonna go to the bathroom first.

Rosie stands up. She keeps her head down as she walks through the restaurant, but her shoulders are high up around her ears and it's clear that she's clenching and tense.

INT. RESTAURANT CORRIDOR - NIGHT

The bathrooms are in a long, empty hallway. The women's restroom door opens and Rosie walks out, and she immediately bumps into someone.

ROSIE

Oh my gosh, I'm so--

She looks up and realizes that the person she bumped into is Spencer. She stops mid-sentence and her apologetic expression turns to one of rage. Spencer's eyes are wide, but he composes himself and grins happily.

SPENCER

Rosie! Hi. What a coincidence.

ROSIE

Yeah. What a coincidence. I thought Vivienne said you were going out with your friends tonight.

SPENCER

I am. We're just grabbing a bite to eat first.

ROSIE

Oh really? Maybe I'll stop and say hi when Sebastian and I are done eating.

SPENCER

Actually, we just finished and are heading out. They're waiting for me outside.

Rosie glares and her chest is heaving with her deep breaths.

(CONTINUED)

ROSIE
Isn't that convenient.

Spencer opens his mouth to protest but before he can say anything, Rosie stalks away.

INT. RESTAURANT - NIGHT

Rosie hurries through the tables and towards Sebastian. Their table already has a take-out bag tied up on top of it, and Sebastian stands up as soon as he sees Rosie.

ROSIE
Let's go. I can't be here.

Rosie snatches the bag off the table and walks away. Sebastian stands and follows her. He glances over at the table Spencer and Kat are at, which Spencer has returned to. Spencer looks uneasy and shifts in his seat.

SEBASTIAN
(under his breath)
Jackass.

He shakes his head and walks away.

INT. BAR - NIGHT

The bar has low lighting and is moderately full. There are people hanging around the bar, sitting in booths that line the wall, and playing darts. The door opens and Courtney pulls Nathan in. She's smiling and immediately shrugs out of her coat when they walk inside. She's clearly much more in her element here than she was at the fancy restaurant.

COURTNEY
Now this is more like it.

Nathan smiles and nods. He takes his coat off as well.

INT. BAR - NIGHT

Courtney pushes through the crowd with two beer bottles in her hand. She makes her way over to Nathan, who is standing by a pool table, chalking up his cue.

COURTNEY
Are you ready to get your ass
kicked?

Courtney grins with clear wickedness. She takes the cue from Nathan and slowly leans over the pool table. She wiggles her eyebrows at Nathan who isn't shy about appreciating the view.

(CONTINUED)

COURTNEY
Enjoying yourself?

She turns back to the balls and with one swift thrust she cracks them apart, sending the balls rolling in all different directions. She pockets two stripes on her first try.

COURTNEY
Looks like you're solids.

NATHAN
Looks like I am.

EXT. MANHATTAN STREET - NIGHT

James and Grant are walking side by side. Grant bumps his shoulder against James's.

GRANT
(softly)
I'm glad we did this.

JAMES
Me, too.

They walk along in silence until Grant stops. James stops, too. Grant nods up at the building behind him.

GRANT
This is me.

JAMES
And here I thought we were just walking around aimlessly.

Grant laughs.

GRANT
Has anyone ever told you you're a smart ass?

JAMES
Once or twice.

Grant lingers a second and the men stare at each other.

GRANT
I'm working tomorrow.

JAMES
I'll be getting coffee tomorrow.

(CONTINUED)

GRANT

Good.

JAMES

Good.

There's another beat of silence. Grant's eyes drop to James's mouth. In a rush James surges forward. His empty hand cups Grant's jaw and he presses their lips together. Grant lets a short HUFF of air out of his nose and brings his hands up to James's chest. He holds James's scarf in his fist and kisses him back. They part seconds later and hold eye-contact, both of them breathing a little heavier.

JAMES

(lowly)

I'll see you tomorrow then.

GRANT

(with a cracking voice)

Ye-- (clears throat) yeah.

James grins and pulls away completely. He walks away briskly but with a spring in his step. Grant then turns around, jogs up his front steps, and lets himself into his building.

INT. ROSIE & SEBASTIAN'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

The apartment is dark and empty. Rosie walks in first, huffily and quickly, and Sebastian follows looking exasperated. Rosie drops down on the couch dramatically. She grabs one of the throw pillows and hugs it to her chest. She kicks off her heels and props her feet up on the coffee table.

ROSIE

(quietly, like she's run out of steam)

What are we going to do?

Sebastian SIGHS and comes over to the couch.

SEBASTIAN

I don't know, Rose. I really don't know.

ROSIE

She's my best friend.

SEBASTIAN

I know. And she deserves to know. I just don't know if us telling her is the best thing for her.

(CONTINUED)

ROSIE

Isn't it though? She's already suspicious and I told her she was crazy for thinking anything was up.

SEBASTIAN

You didn't know.

ROSIE

But now I do! I should tell her what we saw.

SEBASTIAN

You should talk to Spencer. Give him a chance to own up to it before you tell Vivienne. It'll be better coming from him than from you.

ROSIE

Are you sure?

SEBASTIAN

Positive.

ROSIE

I can't believe it. I really didn't think Spencer would cheat.

SEBASTIAN

I know, babe. I know.

INT. YOGA STUDIO - DAY

The yoga studio is light and airy with blonde hardwood floors, floor to ceiling windows and a mirror stretching along one entire wall. The room is filled with WOMEN on a variety of colorful yoga mats. The WOMAN teaching the class is facing them on a yoga mat of her own.

INSTRUCTOR

(in a soothing voice)

Next we'll move into our modified up-dog.

In the back of the class, Kat and Ivy are WHISPERING to each other.

IVY

(whispering)

I mean seriously, what is it about dick pics that makes guys want to send them?

(CONTINUED)

Kat SNORTS and earns a disapproving glare from the WOMAN next to her.

KAT
(mouthing)
Sorry.

KAT (CON'T)
(whispering)
I don't know. They must think we like it.

INSTRUCTOR
Now move into our down dog position.

Ivy and Kat move along with the rest of the class.

IVY
(whispering)
Or they get off on it themselves.

KAT
(whispering)
Well I sure as hell don't.

IVY
(hissing louder)
Right?!

INSTRUCTOR
Ladies in the back, please keep it down.

Kat closes her mouth, makes a zipping motion with her hands, then twists her hand by the edge of her mouth and throws away an imaginary key.

INSTRUCTOR
Now follow into child's pose.

KAT
(whispering)
There is nothing attractive about dick pics. Or dicks in general, really.

IVY
(whispering)
The worst is when you think they're good guys and then bam, penis in your face.

Kat LAUGHS again, and gets SHUSHED again.

(CONTINUED)

INSTRUCTOR

Everybody please rise so we can
start our standing sequence,
starting with tree pose.

Kat and Ivy stand up.

KAT

(whispering)

I haven't gotten a surprise dick
pic in a while actually.

IVY

(whispering)

Maybe Spencer will send you one.

KAT

(whispering)

Doubtful. He won't send me anything
that could be caught by his
girlfriend. I wonder if he sends
her any.

IVY

(whispering)

Well I'm sure you're not missing
much.

INSTRUCTOR

(testily)

Ladies in the back, enough already.

Sorry.

IVY

Sorry.

KAT

KAT

(whispering)

I'm pissed because I like him a lot
more than I thought I would.

IVY

(whispering)

Well you thought it would be a
one-night stand, so that's not all
that surprising.

KAT

(whispering)

Looking for sympathy here, not
logic.

Ivy rolls her eyes.

(CONTINUED)

INSTRUCTOR
Let's move into warrior three.

IVY
(whispering sarcastically)
I'm so sorry you like a guy.

KAT
(whispering)
It's not like he's a good guy to like.

IVY
(whispering)
Just stop over thinking it. See how it goes. It's not like you're committed or anything. Sleep with someone else. Cleanse your palette.

Kat SIGHS.

INSTRUCTOR
Okay, take a deep breath everyone and then we're done for the day. Good class.

A few people CLAP. Kat and Ivy crouch down and start rolling up their mats.

KAT
I don't want to sleep with someone else. Although that's probably why I should.

IVY
I'm telling you, a new guy will give you a new perspective.

KAT
We'll see.

EXT. MANHATTAN STREET - DAY

Spencer and Vivienne are walking down the street arm in arm. Spencer looks excited.

SPENCER
I promise you this place has the best smoothie you'll ever taste. I can't believe we haven't been here before.

(CONTINUED)

VIVIENNE

You sound awfully sure of yourself.

SPENCER

Well I am quite the smoothie connoisseur, as you know. Plus, when have I ever steered you wrong?

VIVIENNE

(smiling)

What about that time you swore you found the best pho in the city and it gave us both horrible food poisoning?

Spencer teasingly brings his arm around Vivienne's shoulders, covering her mouth with his hands.

SPENCER

Shh. That never happened. Just trust me, okay?

Vivienne LAUGHS and bats Spencer's hand away.

VIVIENNE

Yeah, yeah. I trust you.

INT. HEALTH FOOD RESTAURANT - DAY

The inside of the restaurant is bustling with customers. The line extends right up to the door and Kat and Ivy stand at the back of it, still holding their yoga mats. There are tables scattered around the floor, all of which are flanked by multicolored plastic chairs. The restaurant looks entirely too trendy.

KAT

Do you know what you're getting?

IVY

Probably the kale caesar.

KAT

(distractedly)

Mm.

IVY

So back to the Spencer thing -- when are you seeing him again?

KAT

Honestly, I don't know. I told you, he's usually the one to initiate

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

KAT (cont'd)
things just in case the fiancée is
around when I say something.

IVY
Why doesn't he just change your
name in his phone?

KAT
Not sure. Honestly that sounds even
sketchier though.

IVY
Sketchier than hooking up with a
guy you're fully aware is engaged?

KAT
Can we not with the judging right
now?

Ivy holds her hands up in defense.

Both women are silent for a beat, looking around the
restaurant. PEOPLE have been lining up behind them as well
and the line is moving steadily forward.

The door DINGS again and Kat looks at it distractedly. Her
eyes immediately widen and she turns around in a flash.

KAT
(hissing)
We need to leave. We need to leave
right now.

IVY
What's going on?

KAT
(hissing)
He's here. No!! Don't look!

IVY
Spencer?

KAT
(hissing)
SHH. No. The other engaged guy I'm
sleeping with. Yes goddamn Spencer.

IVY
Oh shit, is that the fiancée?

Kat's eyes widen even more. She subtly glances over her
shoulder, lifting her yoga mat to obscure her face.

(CONTINUED)

KAT

Holy shit she must be. Oh my god.
Ivy we need to get out. I can't be
here.

IVY

The only way out is through the
door they're in front of.

KAT

You have to create a diversion.

Ivy gives Kat a flat look.

IVY

What is this, some kind of movie?
How do you expect me to create a
diversion?

KAT

I don't care. I swear I'll owe you
one forever. I'll do anything. I
just... I can't see him right now.
I look like crap and the damn
fiancée is so much prettier than I
am and I don't know what to do.

IVY

(surprised)

Wow, you really do like him.

KAT

Shut up this is so not the time to
analyze my feelings.

IVY

Okay, okay. I'll... figure
something out. Put your hood up and
get out of the line.

Kat glances nervously in the direction of Spencer and
Vivienne, then nods and does as told. She inches out of the
line with her back still towards Spencer.

Ivy looks around. The BARISTA slides a smoothie across the
counter, obviously belonging to a different customer, but
Ivy surges forwards and grabs it. She immediately jabs a
straw into the top of the cup and slurps it loudly while
walking at a steady pace towards the door.

WOMAN

Excuse me! I believe that's mine.

Ivy turns around but continues to walk backwards, quickly.

(CONTINUED)

IVY
Oh wow, is it? I'm so sorry. I
thought it was--

Ivy bumps into Spencer behind her and drops the smoothie on the floor. The contents explode out from under the lid, all over Spencer and Vivienne's shoes. The woman GASPS.

VIVIENNE
Oh my god!

SPENCER
Shit.

IVY
Oh my gosh!

Ivy turns around to face Vivienne and Spencer.

IVY
(exaggerated)
I am *so* sorry! I am *such* a klutz,
oh my god! I really thought it was
mine! And now I spilled it all over
you and the floor!

SPENCER
It's fine, it's fine. Viv, you
good?

VIVIENNE
Yeah all good. Don't worry about
it, accidents happen.

SPENCER
I'll go grab some napkins.

Spencer leaves to do that.

WOMAN
(peevy)
Now I have to get another drink.

IVY
Here, let me get it.

She pulls money out of her back pocket and hands it to the woman, who walks away angrily.

VIVIENNE
Seems dramatic.

Meanwhile, Kat takes the opportunity and commotion to slip out of the door unnoticed.

IVY
I'm so sorry about your shoes.

VIVIENNE
It's okay, they'll be fine.

IVY
Is there anything I can do to make
it up to you?

VIVIENNE
Don't be silly. No harm no foul,
really.

IVY
If you're sure.

Ivy looks over her shoulder, glancing around the room.
Spencer heads back over.

IVY (CON'T)
Well, I should run. Sorry again.

VIVIENNE
No problem.

IVY
Bye.

She ducks her head and makes her way out of the restaurant.

EXT. MANHATTAN STREET - DAY

Ivy leaves the restaurant. She turns the corner and finds
Kat, wide eyed and clutching her yoga mat.

IVY
I can't believe you made me do
that.

KAT
You're a saint and I love you.

IVY
You owe me lunch. *And* five bucks.

INT. HOSPITAL HALLWAY - DAY

The main hallway of the hospital is bustling. Lily is
sitting behind a high desk with two other NURSES. Their
scrubs all a matching light blue. Lily's phone starts to
BUZZ loudly on the table, dancing around with the
vibrations. A picture of Matt lights up the phone. The

(CONTINUED)

chatter of the other nurses falls to the background, unintelligible.

Lily watches the phone for a beat before grabbing it.

LILY
(quietly)
Excuse me.

She slips out of her chair and walks down the hallway, accepting the call.

LILY
Is everything okay?

She looks around the hallway shiftily, like she's not really supposed to be on the phone during her shift. The hallway she ducks into is deserted, but she keeps her head down anyway.

INT. MATT'S OFFICE - DAY

The office is spacious and light. The sun is shining through the windows, high in the sky. It looks like the office is modern and hipster-esque, selling or making something in the realm of electronics or internet services. There are PEOPLE at desks that aren't closed off from one another in cubicles, but rather are all in a communal area.

Matt is holding a cup of coffee and leaning against a rustic, wooden wall, away from the others.

MATT
Yeah, everything's good. Just wanted to hear your voice.

Intercut between Matt and Lily.

A torn expression appears on Lily's face, like she's not sure if she's happy because he's being sweet, or annoyed because it's such an inconvenient time.

LILY
I'm at work.

Matt lifts a hand to his forehead and rubs it.

MATT
I know, sorry, but I finally had a minute.

(CONTINUED)

LILY

You know I've been wanting to talk to you, Matt, but you can't just call me at work.

Lily looks around and enters a dark room. She flicks the light on and it appears to be a supply closet.

MATT

Jeez, sorry for wanting to talk to my girlfriend.

LILY

It's not about that! Of course I want to talk to you, but I've been sitting by the phone all damn week and you just haven't had any regard for my time at all.

MATT

I'm sorry, okay? I've been busy.

LILY

So have I! I don't know if you know this, but most people in relationships make time to talk to their partner.

MATT

You don't think I've been trying to do that?

LILY

I don't know, Matt! I don't know, because you haven't been talking to me.

Lily closes her eyes and pinches the bridge of her nose.

LILY (CON'T)

(with a quivering voice)

I don't know if I can do this anymore.

MATT

Wait, what? What do you mean.

LILY

I mean that I can't deal with this anymore, Matt! When we decided to do distance, we agreed that we'd make sure communication would be our number one priority and it's just not working anymore.

(CONTINUED)

MATT

Lily, no! It's just a rough patch.
We can work through this.

Lily is now crying.

LILY

I can't do this anymore. I'm sorry.
I love you but it's too hard. I'm
sorry. I need some time to think.

Lily hangs up the phone. She drops her head against the door with a THUNK and takes a deep breath. Her phone is clenched tightly in her hand and pressed against her chest. After a beat, she pushes herself off the door and walks out of the closet.

INT. MATT'S OFFICE - DAY

Matt hangs up his phone. He closes his eyes and presses the phone between his eyebrows. He HUFFS, turns around and kicks the wall.

MATT

(under his breath)
Shit. Shit!

INT. SPENCER + VIVIENNE'S APARTMENT - DAY

Spencer is sitting on the couch in his living room watching TV. There's a loud and insistent KNOCK on the door. Spencer frowns and looks up.

The KNOCKING continues without pause. Spencer gets up and goes to open the door. He opens the door and Rosie is on the other side. Spencer's eyebrows raise in surprise.

SPENCER

Hi. Vivienne isn't here. She's at--

ROSIE

Pilates, I know. I'm here for you.

Rosie shoulders her way into the apartment and Spencer moves aside to let her through. He closes the door behind her and follows her to the living room. She grabs the remote and turns off the TV, slamming the remote back down on the table with a BANG.

SPENCER

What are--

(CONTINUED)

ROSIE
You're cheating on her.

SPENCER
I--

ROSIE
That wasn't actually a question,
surprisingly enough.

Spencer opens his mouth with an indignant look on his face,
but Rosie talks again before he has a chance.

ROSIE (CON'T)
You weren't out with your friends
the other night, were you? Again,
not a question. I saw you with that
girl at the restaurant. You're such
a fucking idiot. If you're going to
cheat on my best friend, don't do
it at a restaurant we go to all the
time.

Rosie pauses, her chest heaving, and she raises an eyebrow
challengingly as if to say "do you have anything to say for
yourself."

SPENCER
Are you going to tell her?

ROSIE
No. You're going to tell her.

SPENCER
I can't tell her. You know that
would break her heart.

Rosie LAUGHS sarcastically.

ROSIE
You know what else would break her
heart, Spencer? Cheating on her.
But you did that, so now I'm giving
you a chance to admit it instead of
continuing to go behind her back
like scum.

Spencer becomes defensive, crossing his arms over his chest.

SPENCER
You know what, I really don't see
how this is any of your business.

Rosie SCOFFS.

(CONTINUED)

ROSIE

You made it my business when you were dumb enough to cheat in public and I had to find out about it. Vivienne means everything to me, and the only reason I haven't already told her is because it would hurt worse coming from me. I'm serious Spencer. You need to tell her.

SPENCER

Okay! Okay, fine. I'll tell her.

ROSIE

You better, I swear, Spencer. I know we're friends but I'll pick her side every time.

SPENCER

I know. I'll tell her.

ROSIE

Don't make me regret this.

Rosie picks up her purse and storms out of the apartment.

INT. ALICE + VIVIENNE'S WORKPLACE - DAY

Alice is sitting in a brightly decorated cubicle that stands among many. She's TAPPING her pen impatiently against her desk, staring at a blank computer screen. Finally she SIGHS and rolls her chair back so she can peek around the corner of her cubicle into the next one.

There sits Vivienne. She has headphones on and is typing. She realizes Alice is looking at her and she takes the headphones off.

VIVIENNE

What's up?

ALICE

How do you know if you're being blown off?

VIVIENNE

What do you mean?

Alice SIGHS, GROANS, and sinks deeper into her chair dramatically.

(CONTINUED)

ALICE

I went home with this guy a few weeks ago and I thought we really connected but he's been sort of MIA since.

VIVIENNE

Alice, I'm telling you this because I love you. If he's not calling or texting you back, it's because he's not interested.

ALICE

Ugh, I *know* but I was hoping you'd tell me I was wrong.

VIVIENNE

(tentatively)

Now that we're, you know, on the topic of guys... How do you know if you're being cheated on?

ALICE

(shocked)

No! Spencer?

VIVIENNE

I don't know! I don't know.

ALICE

Okay, well, what's he doing?

VIVIENNE

It's not really something I can put my finger on. He's being more attentive and we're having more fun.

ALICE

That kind of sounds like the opposite of a problem to me.

VIVIENNE

Am I being dramatic?

ALICE

Maybe a little. Also, your birthday is coming up. That's probably why he's acting like that.

Vivienne SIGHS.

(CONTINUED)

VIVIENNE

Yeah. You're probably right. You're coming to my dinner, right?

ALICE

Wouldn't miss it.

INT. CAB - NIGHT

Rosie and Sebastian are sitting in the back seat of a yellow NYC cab. Rosie looks anxiously out the window, her knee bouncing rapidly. Sebastian puts his hand on her knee.

SEBASTIAN

Calm down.

ROSIE

How am I going to sit through this dinner? Spencer is going to be there, all happy and in love with Vivienne and perfect and giving her a great birthday, and we're going to have to sit there and pretend we don't know that he's actually sleeping with someone else.

SEBASTIAN

We can sit at the other end of the table. Isn't Nathan bringing his new girlfriend? We can talk to her.

ROSIE

You know I can't do that. Vivienne will know something's up if I don't sit with her. She reads me too well.

SEBASTIAN

You're just going to have to put on a smile and work through it, then. She can't find out tonight.

ROSIE

Dammit! She should already know! I can't believe he hasn't told her yet, it's been over a week.

Sebastian looks out the window as the cab pulls to a stop.

SEBASTIAN

Look, we're here. Let it go, just for tonight. You can't make a scene. Let Vivienne have one good night.

(CONTINUED)

ROSIE
You're right. Ugh you're always
right. Okay.

Rosie takes a deep breath.

ROSIE (CON'T)
Let's go.

INT. RESTAURANT - NIGHT

The restaurant is moderately small and crowded.

Rosie and Sebastian walk over to the table in the back. Spencer and Vivienne are already there -- Vivienne at the center of the table, balloons tied to the back of her seat. To her left are a MAN, two WOMEN, and Alice, to her right is Spencer, then David. Spencer is standing, talking to David.

When Sebastian and Rosie approach the table, Vivienne raises her arms in excitement.

VIVIENNE
(loudly)
Hi!!! My two favorite people!

Rosie LAUGHS.

ROSIE
Happy Birthday!

SEBASTIAN
Are you drunk already?

VIVIENNE
Shh, I'm allowed. It's my birthday!

Rosie and Sebastian lean over the table to give Vivienne a birthday kiss and hug. They lean back and Sebastian hands over a gift-wrapped box.

SEBASTIAN
(grinning)
Yes it is.

Vivienne turns to the woman next to her and talks to her inaudibly. Rosie and Sebastian greet the rest of the people at the table and sit down.

SEBASTIAN
Spencer.

(CONTINUED)

SPENCER

Hey, man. Thanks for coming.

SEBASTIAN

(slightly hinting)

Of course. You know we'd do anything for Vivienne.

Spencer looks mildly confused, brows furrowed, but nods anyway. They sit down.

Nathan and Courtney enter the restaurant. They, too, cross the room to the table in the back. Nathan presses his hand to Courtney's lower back, guiding her intimately. Courtney looks nervous.

NATHAN

Hey, everyone!

Everyone at the table is CHATTING animatedly, but they look up to wave hello.

NATHAN (CON'T)

Everyone, this is my girlfriend Courtney. Courtney, this is everyone. Vivienne, happy birthday!

VIVIENNE

Hi! Thank you! Glad you guys could make it.

COURTNEY

Happy Birthday.

Nathan leans across the table and kisses Vivienne on the cheek. After he pulls a chair out for Courtney. She sits down. Nathan sits down in the chair across from David.

DAVID

Hey man.

NATHAN

Hey. Courtney, this is my friend David. We went to school together.

COURTNEY

Hi, it's nice to meet you.

DAVID

Yeah.

The waitress comes over to the table now that everyone is seated. Vivienne looks up at the waitress and recognizes that it's Ivy, who hasn't looked up from her notepad yet.

(CONTINUED)

VIVIENNE

Hey! You're the girl from the smoothie place!

Ivy looks up with wide eyes. She looks between Vivienne and Spencer rapidly, then plasters a big fake smile on her face.

IVY

Yeah, I am. Nice to see you again. I'm actually going to be your server this evening.

VIVIENNE

It's my birthday!

IVY

That's great. Happy Birthday. Should I start with the specials?

INT. BACK OF RESTAURANT - NIGHT

Ivy pushes through a door and enters the kitchen with a frantic look on her face. She pins the order form up in line with the others and then rushes over to a GIRL bent over a notebook.

IVY

You will never guess who I'm serving.

The girl, KAREN, looks up.

KAREN

The President?

IVY

What? No. Remember how I told you my friend is sleeping with this guy who's engaged?

KAREN

Yeah, what about her?

IVY

The guy is here. Our big birthday table is the guy's fiancée. Shit, this is so awkward. Do I tell her? Should I call Kat?

KAREN

And say what? Hey, the guy you're sleeping with is here with his fiancée throwing her a hella expensive birthday dinner?

(CONTINUED)

IVY
Point. Ugh, this night cannot end
soon enough.

INT. RESTAURANT - NIGHT

At the party table conversation is flowing LOUDLY and in individual groups.

DAVID
So, Courtney, tell us about
yourself. Where are you from. No
wait! Let me guess. Brooklyn.

COURTNEY
Yeah, actually. How'd you know?

SPENCER
Our boy here has a type.

DAVID
(laughing)
Nathan doesn't tend to date in his
own social class.

COURTNEY
Excuse me?

NATHAN
Guys, stop. It's not like that,
c'mon.

SPENCER
Maybe not *consciously*. But we all
know you've never brought a girl
home.

NATHAN
That has nothing to do with
anything.

COURTNEY
Why don't you bring girls home?

DAVID
Because he knows his parents don't
like his taste in girls.

SPENCER
His taste is very, well, let's just
call it "unique."

(CONTINUED)

DAVID

Rustic.

SPENCER

Eclectic.

NATHAN

(laughing)

Cut it out.

Courtney is sitting back, her mouth open in horror, speechless.

NATHAN (CON'T)

They're just joking, Court, don't worry about it.

DAVID

Yeah, we're just ribbing. Don't take it too personally.

COURTNEY

Right. Personally.

Vivienne leans over and interrupts the conversation by tapping on Spencer's arm.

SPENCER

Yes, love?

VIVIENNE

What was that place called where you got those flowers for me? That place on Fifth.

SPENCER

That bouquet of sunflowers?

Vivienne's brow furrows.

VIVIENNE

No, you never got me sunflowers. They were roses, I'm pretty sure.

Spencer sits back in his chair slightly too abruptly for no one to notice. David SNORTS. Rosie narrows her eyes at Spencer. She opens her mouth to say something but jerks up in her seat. She looks at Sebastian, who kicked her.

SPENCER

Right, uh, of course. I'm not sure what it's called. I'd need to look up the name.

(CONTINUED)

SEBASTIAN
(sharply)
Don't bother.

Vivienne is oblivious to the tension between Sebastian, Rosie, and Spencer. She takes another sip of her bright pink cocktail.

Spencer CLEARS HIS THROAT, grabs his glass, and CLINKS it with his knife. Everyone at the table hushes.

SPENCER
Now's as good a time as any to make a speech, right? First of all, I'd like to thank all of you for coming out to celebrate my beautiful fiancée's birthday. She might be too tipsy to say anything about it but I know she appreciates it.

CHUCKLES go around the table.

VIVIENNE
Oh hush. It's my Birthday!

SPENCER
You only have a few more hours to use that as an excuse, babe, use them wisely.

Everyone CHUCKLES again. Rosie, however, is white-knuckling the table. Sebastian notices and puts his palm over hers, pulling it off the table and pressing a kiss to it. He leans over.

SEBASTIAN
(whispering)
Relax.

SPENCER
Viv, I just want to say how happy you make me. The years that I've known you are the happiest ones of my life, and I wouldn't trade them for anything. You're a shining light and I love you so much. I hope I can make twenty-seven as good as twenty-six was. Happy birthday, darling.

Spencer raises his glass, which everyone else mimics.

EVERYONE
Happy Birthday!

When Spencer sits back down, Vivienne leans in and gives him a kiss.

VIVIENNE
Thank you. You're the best.

ROSIE
Just the best.

Spencer and Rosie lock eyes and she looks livid. A small, smug grin is on his face.

ROSIE
Excuse me, I have to pee.

She stands up, pushes her chair out, and immediately bumps into Ivy.

IVY
Oh, I'm so sorry!

ROSIE
Sorry. Excuse me.

Rosie walks away briskly. Ivy starts picking the plates off of the table. Spencer happens to catch her eyes, and her expression turns icy.

IVY
What a lovely speech, sir. My friend *Kat* loves speeches like that.

Spencer's eyes widen. He opens his mouth to say something, but is cut off by David.

DAVID
Excuse me, could I have another beer, please?

Ivy does not take her eyes off Spencer.

IVY
Of course. If you'll excuse me.

She takes a few more plates off the table, then turns and walks away. Spencer shifts uncomfortably in his seat and Sebastian is frowning, having watched the exchange attentively.

INT. COURTNEY'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

The front door opens with a BANG. Immediately Princess and Blaze start BARKING and run at the door. Courtney storms through it with Nathan following closely behind. Courtney tries to slam the door on him, but he's too quick and slips inside the apartment.

Courtney is clearly pissed. Nathan, still behind her, is out of breath, like he's been running to catch up to her. His facial expression isn't as angry as Courtney's, but he looks severely annoyed, his lips pursed shut.

COURTNEY
(loudly)
I cannot believe you!

NATHAN
I can't argue with you if you don't
tell me what I did, Courtney.

COURTNEY
You know exactly what you did.

Nathan follows Courtney into her bedroom. Courtney throws her coat off with surprising force and tosses it over the chair in front of the vanity.

NATHAN
(testily)
Please enlighten me because I had a
lovely evening and I have no idea
what's gotten your damn panties in
a twist.

Courtney comes out of the bathroom looking murderous, pointing her index finger at Nathan.

COURTNEY
Don't you dare say that to me.

Nathan raises an eyebrow but says nothing.

COURTNEY (CON'T)
Fine. Fine! You want to know why
I'm upset? Because your friends are
pretentious assholes and you're
just as bad when you're with them.

Nathan's lips part minutely and his brows knit together. It looks like he's about to say something but Courtney beats him to it.

(CONTINUED)

COURTNEY (CON'T)

You have "eclectic" taste in women?
Don't date in your own social
class? Is that what I am to you?
Some chick you're slumming with to
piss off your parents?

NATHAN

You're being dramatic. They were
just joking around, it's not like
that.

COURTNEY

Isn't it?! If it wasn't like that,
why the hell didn't you defend me?

NATHAN

I told them to knock it off!

COURTNEY

That's not the same thing! Not once
did you say, hey, stop picking on
my girlfriend, she's not trailer
trash like you guys think and oh,
by the way, she's a human being
with feelings that you're shitting
all over right now!

NATHAN

My friends are assholes! What do
you want me to say?

COURTNEY

I don't give a shit about your
friends! It's you! You were just as
horrible!

NATHAN

I wasn't the one saying those
things.

COURTNEY

Oh my God! How do you not get it?
It doesn't matter that you weren't
the one actively offending me!

NATHAN

What do you want me to do, Court?
I'm sorry! I didn't realize!

COURTNEY

How could you not realize that your
girlfriend was sitting next to you

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

COURTNEY (cont'd)
feeling horrible? What does that
say about us?

NATHAN
Nothing. It says nothing about us,
only that I'm a prick. My friends
are dicks, I've always known that,
but I didn't realize how it
affected you. I'm sorry.

COURTNEY
(dejected)
I refuse to be seen as your
uncultured, poor girlfriend, Nate.
I'm not going to do it. I deserve
better than that.

NATHAN
You're right. I'll talk to them.

COURTNEY
And yourself, too.

Courtney inclines her head behind Nathan, where Blaze and
Princess have sat down in their beds.

COURTNEY
You take them out. I need to think.

Nathan nods and WHISTLES once. The dogs perk up, following
him when he leaves the bedroom. Courtney sits down on the
bed and SIGHS.

INT. ROSIE & SEBASTIAN'S APARTMENT - DAY

Rosie and Sebastian are sitting at their kitchen
island. There's a loud KNOCK on the door, causing them both
to look up. They share a look of confusion, brows furrowed.
Rosie turns to look behind her, at the door.

SEBASTIAN
Are you expecting anyone?

Another KNOCK, and Rosie slips out of her chair.

ROSIE
No, but I'll get it.

Rosie walks across the room and opens the door.

(CONTINUED)

ROSIE
(surprised)
Viv, what are you doing here?

VIVIENNE
Can I come in? I don't want to talk
about it in the hall.

ROSIE
Yes, of course. Come in, come in.

Vivienne enters the apartment and Rosie closes the door behind her. Sebastian walks over to them. He stands in front of the TV across from the couch and the women sit down.

SEBASTIAN
Is everything okay?

VIVIENNE
I just... I can't shake it. I can't
shake the feeling that Spencer is
cheating on me.

Rosie's eyes widen and she immediately shoots a look at Sebastian, who's trying to school his expression as well.

ROSIE
Did something happen since we
talked about it?

VIVIENNE
No. God, I know it sounds so
stupid. It's just... the way he
says my name. It's different. The
inflection is off. And he's kissing
me differently, like he has
something to prove.

SEBASTIAN
Have you spoken to him about it?

VIVIENNE
No. How would I even go about that?
Hey Spence, you're being nicer to
me than I'm used to so I think
you're cheating on me? Not exactly
something that's easy to bring up.

Sebastian sits down in a chair. Vivienne SIGHS again and drops her head against the back of the couch, eyes closed. Immediately Rosie and Sebastian lock eyes.

(CONTINUED)

ROSIE
(mouthing)
I have to tell her.

Sebastian shakes his head.

SEBASTIAN
Viv, make yourself comfortable,
okay? Rosie and I will put on a pot
of tea. Rose?

Vivienne nods and Sebastian tips his head towards the kitchen. Rosie reluctantly gets up and follows Sebastian to the kitchen.

SEBASTIAN
(whispering)
You can't tell her right now.

ROSIE
Why not? She deserves to know. Are
you on Spencer's side or something?
Do you not want me to tell her?

SEBASTIAN
Of course not! How could you even
say that? If you tell her right now
she's going to know you knew and
didn't tell her.

ROSIE
I should've just told her from the
beginning. I feel horrible.

SEBASTIAN
Look, tomorrow when we're over
there I'll talk to him okay?

Rosie SIGHS.

ROSIE
If this all goes South...

She shakes her head.

ROSIE (CON'T)
Make the tea.

SEBASTIAN
I will. Go. I got this.

Rosie nods and walks back into the living room.

INT. STARBUCKS - DAY

Oliver is standing behind the counter. It's almost empty in the shop. Grant comes in from outside and rushes straight over to the counter, slipping behind it.

OLIVER
Hey, man. What's--

GRANT
Did I miss him? Did he come in yet?

OLIVER
Who, James? No he hasn't. Why?

Grant slumps against a counter.

GRANT
I think he's avoiding me. I don't know what happened. We've been out a bunch of times and I really thought we were hitting it off but then he just suddenly stopped coming around and is being weird.

OLIVER
Have you tried calling him? Asking him what's up?

GRANT
Well, no.

OLIVER
I suggest trying that. I'm sure there's a perfectly logical explanation. I've seen the way he looks at you, he definitely didn't just up and leave.

GRANT
I hope you're right. I really like this one.

OLIVER
Your shift doesn't start for another ten minutes. Go call him, I got this.

GRANT
(nodding)
Yeah, thanks, man.

INT - SPENCER & VIVIENNE'S APARTMENT - EVENING

Spencer and Vivienne are in their kitchen standing by the counter. Vivienne is pouring crackers onto a plate and Spencer is cutting cheese.

VIVIENNE
What time is it?

SPENCER
They'll be here s--

The DOORBELL RINGS.

SPENCER (CON'T)
Now.

VIVIENNE
I'll get it.

Vivienne goes to open the front door and reveals Sebastian and Rosie.

VIVIENNE
Hi! Come in, come in. I'm so excited.

ROSIE
You and Seb both. I swear he didn't shut up about last week's episode the entire way over.

Vivienne moves aside and lets Sebastian and Rosie in.

SEBASTIAN
(quietly)
How are things with Spencer?

VIVIENNE
I haven't brought anything up, but it still feels off.

ROSIE
Maybe you should just ask him about it. Be straightforward.

VIVIENNE
I don't know. Part of me thinks I should but at the same time I don't want to ruin anything.

(CONTINUED)

ROSIE

I--

Spencer walks into the living room carrying wine glasses with a cheery smile, cutting the conversation short.

SPENCER

Hey, guys!

SEBASTIAN

Hey, man.

Rosie just nods. She and Vivienne share a look.

VIVIENNE

(mouths)

Later.

INT. SPENCER & VIVIENNE'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Rosie, Spencer, Sebastian, and Vivienne are in the living room. The cheese plate is on the table, surrounded by mostly empty glasses of red wine and bowls of crackers. Sebastian is in one of the chairs, while the other three sit on the couch. The TV switches to commercial and all of them visibly deflate.

VIVIENNE

(shakily)

As much as I love this show, I hate this show.

ROSIE

I feel that.

Rosie rolls her shoulders.

ROSIE (CON'T)

I'm so tense.

Sebastian stands up and stretches.

ROSIE (CON'T)

I'm going to get more wine.

VIVIENNE

I'll come with you. I need to walk off the shakes.

Vivienne stands up as well, and the two of them leave the room.

INT. SPENCER & VIVIENNE'S KITCHEN - NIGHT

Vivienne and Rosie waste no time refilling their glasses. Vivienne glances into the living room.

VIVIENNE
You'd tell me, right? If you knew anything?

ROSIE
Of course!

VIVIENNE
I'm sure it's just in my head. Spencer wouldn't do that.

ROSIE
Right. We should get back.

Vivienne nods. She grabs the bottle of wine.

INT. SPENCER & VIVIENNE'S LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Spencer SIGHS and stretches out on the couch, lifting his arms up and then slouching. He pulls his phone out of his pocket.

SEBASTIAN
(quietly)
Spencer, man, you gotta tell Vivienne.

Spencer looks up, surprised. Then frowns.

SPENCER
(quietly)
You know, too?

SEBASTIAN
Of course I know. Even if I hadn't been there when Rosie saw you, don't you think my wife would've told me? C'mon, man.

SPENCER
Look, I'm working on it, okay?

SEBASTIAN
That's bullshit. It's not that hard. Stop cheating on your fiancée and come clean about it.

(CONTINUED)

SPENCER

You know how hurt she'll be. I have to do it the right way.

SEBASTIAN

Maybe you should've thought about that before you decided to start having an affair. Seriously, Spencer, if you don't tell her Rosie and I will. You have a week.

SPENCER

Are you threatening me?

SEBASTIAN

Yeah. Glad you picked up on that.

Spencer opens his mouth to retaliate but Vivienne and Rosie walk back in, effectively shutting him down.

VIVIENNE

Did we miss anything?

Spencer shifts in his seat.

SPENCER

No, it hasn't started yet.

VIVIENNE

Great.

Vivienne sits back down on the couch. Rosie looks at Sebastian, who nods. They share a pointed look. Rosie nods once, decisively, and sits down as well.

SEBASTIAN

It's starting.

INT. COFFEE HOUSE - NIGHT

It's the same coffee house that Grant and James had their first date at. James and Grant sit across the table from each other.

GRANT

I have to ask. Did something happen? Did I do something?

JAMES

No! Grant, no. Not at all. I know I've been pulling back and I'm sorry for that. It's just... I'm moving.

(CONTINUED)

GRANT

You're moving?

JAMES

Yeah. I got a new job in Chicago. God, I spent so long coming to that damn Starbucks trying to work up the nerve to ask you out, but I waited too long. I waited too long, and now I know what I've missed out on and I hate myself for it. You're amazing, Grant, you really are, and I never should've started something when I knew I only had a month left.

GRANT

Wow. Chicago. I... wow.

JAMES

I know. I'm sorry, I really am.

Grant shakes his head.

GRANT

No, don't apologize. I'm glad I got to know you, even if it was just for a bit.

JAMES

I should've told you.

GRANT

Yeah, you should have. But you didn't, so we'll just have to work with what we've got.

JAMES

Yeah. Chicago isn't that far.

Grant looks pained.

GRANT

I don't know if I can do long distance. My sister's best friend has been trying for months and it's taken such a toll on her.

JAMES

I understand.

(CONTINUED)

GRANT
So this sucks.

James LAUGHS softly.

JAMES
Yeah, it does. You know what might
make it better though?

GRANT
Coffee?

JAMES
Coffee.

INT. COURTNEY'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Courtney is on her overstuffed red couch. Princess is on the other side of the couch, his snout on his paws.

There's a SCRAPE of a key in the door, then the door opens. Courtney looks up and smiles at Nathan, who walks into the apartment. He dusts some snow off his hair. Princess looks up as well and his tail wags.

COURTNEY
Hey.

NATHAN
It is brutal out there.

COURTNEY
You're telling me.

Nathan takes off his coat, hangs it on the hook near the door, and crosses the room. He passes Courtney, kisses the top of her head.

NATHAN
(to Princess)
Scoot.

Princess huffs and jumps off the couch. Nathan sits down.

NATHAN (CON'T)
So my mom called.

COURTNEY
What did she want?

NATHAN
She asked me if I wanted to come up
to Vermont this weekend.

(CONTINUED)

COURTNEY

Oh?

NATHAN

Yeah. My brother and his wife will be there, too. I know that in light of everything that happened last weekend this might not be the best timing, but I'd really love for you to come. I want my parents to meet you.

Courtney frowns.

COURTNEY

What happened to not taking girls home?

NATHAN

Look, what Spencer and David said last week... they weren't... wrong. I don't usually bring girls home, they were right about that. They weren't right about why, though. It's not because I'm embarrassed about the people I date. My parents are incredibly judgmental and I don't want to subject anyone to that unless I'm serious about them. And I'm serious about you. And not because you're eclectic, or whatever the hell the guys said, but because you're genuine. I don't want my family to scare you away.

COURTNEY

I... wow. I'm sorry. I didn't know.

NATHAN

I didn't tell you.

COURTNEY

Okay, but what about Princess? I can't leave him here for the weekend.

NATHAN

He can come. I'm taking Blaze.

Slowly, Courtney nods.

(CONTINUED)

COURTNEY

Yeah, okay. I'll come. But you have to be on my side.

NATHAN

Deal.

COURTNEY

And I'm not doing any snow sports.

Nathan smiles a big smile, with teeth, then leans forward and nuzzles his face into Courtney's neck. She LAUGHS and pushes him away.

NATHAN

(cheekily)

I promise no one will make you go outside all weekend. Except maybe to go in the hot tub.

COURTNEY

Hot tub? Aren't we fancy.

NATHAN

It'll be great, I promise.

COURTNEY

I already agreed, you don't have to keep convincing me.

Nathan LAUGHS.

NATHAN

Fine. So, dinner. Chinese?

EXT. MANHATTAN STREET - NIGHT

Once again Lily is exiting the hospital in her scrubs and coat. Lily pulls her phone out of her pocket again. Her thumb hovers over Matt's name in her call log and she stops walking. Her thumb moves to "Mom." She clicks and brings her phone to her ear.

LILY

Hi mom, are you free?

INT. CAR - DAY

It's midday. Courtney and Nathan are in the car, an oversized black SUV, Nathan behind the wheel with Courtney riding shotgun. Behind them, Princess and Blaze are in the back seat.

(CONTINUED)

COURTNEY

I still don't get why you need a mammoth of a car like this. You live in Manhattan for Christ's sake. You don't drive anywhere.

NATHAN

I'm driving now. Besides, it's a company car.

COURTNEY

(teasing)

Ooh, look at you, big shot, fancy schmancy company man.

NATHAN

Don't hate the player, hate the game.

Courtney's smile peters out. She looks out the window and the mood immediately becomes melancholy. Nathan reaches across the center console and takes Courtney's hand.

NATHAN

Hey, what's wrong?

COURTNEY

Your family is going to hate me.

NATHAN

They're not going to hate you.

Courtney looks at him.

COURTNEY

You said--

NATHAN

I know what I said, but they're going to see how much I care about you. And if they don't, screw them.

COURTNEY

They're your family.

NATHAN

You have nothing to worry about, I promise.

Courtney sighs and looks out the window.

(CONTINUED)

COURTNEY

If you say so.

INT. RESTAURANT - DAY

It's around lunch time and the restaurant is half-full. It's a casual place with a take-out section as well as sit down seating and it's light and airy.

Spencer sits at one of the tables, tapping his fingers on the table anxiously. Kat walks over and sits down in front of him. She's smiling. Once she reads his body language, the smile falls off her face.

SPENCER

Hey.

KAT

What's wrong?

SPENCER

Do you want to eat first? We can talk after.

KAT

Something's up, I can tell.

SPENCER

Kat, I'm sorry.

KAT

You're ending things.

It's not a question.

SPENCER

It's not because I want to.

KAT

That's crap! If you don't want to don't do it!

SPENCER

Please, Kat, don't get upset.

KAT

Don't get upset? You're ending things, of course I'm upset!

SPENCER

You had to know this was coming at some point.

(CONTINUED)

KAT
(starting to get hysterical)
Of course I did but I didn't expect
to care! I didn't exactly plan to
develop feelings for you!

Kat is hyperventilating, causing a scene. Other PATRONS
start looking at them.

SPENCER
I'm sorry. I never should've
dragged you into this. Kat, please.

KAT
Oh my god. Oh god.

Spencer leans across the table and grabs Kat's hands.

Across the restaurant, the door opens. Vivienne walks
through.

VIVIENNE
Hi! I'm here to pick up my order?
Under Vivienne.

EMPLOYEE
One second, please.

Kat is YELLING in a high pitched voice, which makes Vivienne
turn around. She recognizes Spencer and her jaw drops.

VIVIENNE
What the hell?!

Vivienne storms over to Kat and Spencer. Spencer hasn't
noticed her yet. Kat has her head in her hands and is
SOBBING. Vivienne pulls them apart.

SPENCER
Hey!--Oh shit. Vivienne. Oh God.

KAT
Vivienne?!

VIVIENNE
(angrily)
Spencer what the *hell* is going on?!

KAT
Oh shit. Oh God. It's your fiancée.
Oh no. Oh my god. Oh my God. I'm so
sorry. I'm so sorry, I have to go.
I'm--

(CONTINUED)

VIVIENNE

You don't get to go until someone tells me what the fuck is going on here.

SPENCER

Viv, I can explain.

VIVIENNE

Oh my god, I was right. You're cheating on me! Everyone told me I was crazy but I was right! How dare you? How dare you do that to me Spencer?

(she rounds on Kat))

And you! You knew he was engaged? What kind of horrible person does that? Oh my God. You are disgusting.

KAT

I'm so sorry, I didn't know at first, and then I got too caught up, and--

VIVIENNE

Shut up. I don't need to hear your excuses.

SPENCER

Viv, I'm so sorry, just let me explain.

VIVIENNE

How could you possibly explain this?

SPENCER

I was bored! I love you but I was bored, we weren't being exciting anymore. I needed something to spice things up.

VIVIENNE

So you slept with someone else?!

SPENCER

Things have been so much better with us! Haven't they? Haven't you been happier?

(CONTINUED)

VIVIENNE

How could you even ask me that if
the only reason we're happy is
because you're cheating on me?!
I--I...

Vivienne seems at a loss for words. She's breathing harshly and is shaking. She grabs the water glass on the table and throws the water in Spencer's face.

KAT

Oh god. Oh my God.

VIVIENNE (CON'T)

Fuck you, Spencer. Fuck you.

Vivienne turns to leave.

SPENCER

No, Viv, please! I was breaking
things off. I swear! I was going to
tell you this afternoon. Rosie
said--

VIVIENNE

Rosie?! Rosie knew?!

SPENCER

She told me to tell you and I was
going to and--

VIVIENNE

Rosie knew you were screwing some
girl behind my back?!

Spencer tries to get closer to Vivienne but she takes a step back in disgust.

SPENCER

Vivienne, please.

VIVIENNE

(angrily)

Don't touch me. Don't you dare
touch me right now. I have to-- I
have to go.

Vivienne turns around and finally cracks. Tears stream down her face as she runs out of the restaurant dramatically.

SPENCER

Vivienne! Fuck!

(CONTINUED)

As soon as Vivienne walks away, Kat jumps up and turns to leave too.

SPENCER (CON'T)

Kat, don't go.

KAT

(incredulously)

Don't go?!

She sputters, trying to form words but doesn't know what to say. Finally she just spins around and sprints out of the establishment. Spencer, distraught, slumps down into his chair with wide eyes.

INT. VERMONT HOUSE - DAY

The front door opens and Courtney and Nathan walk in, the dogs on their leashes. Nathan drops the bags he's carrying by the front door.

COURTNEY

Whoa.

NATHAN

Mom! We're here!

Nathan lets Blaze off the leash. As soon as he's free, Blaze scurries into another room.

MALE (O.S.)

Blaze! C'mere boy.

NATHAN

You can let Princess off the leash if you want. C'mon.

He grabs Courtney's empty hand and pulls her into the next room. There are two MEN, Nathan's FATHER, MR. WILLIAMS and BROTHER, BRANDON, and a WOMAN, Nathan's SISTER-IN-LAW, DANIELLE, in the living area. They all look at Courtney with obvious judgment.

BRANDON

Hey, look who it is!

NATHAN

Court, this is my brother Brandon, his wife Danielle and my dad. Everyone, this is Courtney.

(CONTINUED)

COURTNEY

Hi.

MR. WILLIAMS

Hello. Nice to meet you.

COURTNEY

You as well, sir.

NATHAN

Mom's in the kitchen?

Mr. Williams nods.

NATHAN (CON'T)

Awesome. C'mon, babe.

Courtney smiles at the people in the room who tip their heads at her but don't necessarily look inviting at all.

Nathan pulls Courtney to the kitchen. Courtney is still gripping onto Princess's leash like a lifeline, and the dog stays close by her legs.

INT. KITCHEN - DAY

Nathan and Courtney enter the kitchen. MRS. WILLIAMS is standing by the counter, stirring a pot. When she hears them enter, she turns around.

MRS. WILLIAMS

Darling!

She immediately pulls Nathan into a hug.

NATHAN

Mom, this is my girlfriend.
Courtney.

He pulls away and motions at Courtney, who steps closer.

Mrs. Williams's gaze is subtly disapproving as she assesses Courtney. A fake smile plasters itself across her face.

MRS. WILLIAMS

Hello.

COURTNEY

Hi. It's a pleasure to meet you.
Thank you for inviting me. You have
a beautiful home.

(CONTINUED)

MRS. WILLIAMS
I see you brought your dog.

NATHAN
(disapprovingly)
Mom.

COURTNEY
Uh, yeah. Nathan said I should. I
hope that's okay.

Courtney tugs on Princess's leash and Princess presses even closer against her legs. Courtney drops one hand to Princess's head and Princess sits instantly.

MRS. WILLIAMS
Yes, well... He's much... bigger
than I thought.

NATHAN
Mom, stop. I told you she was
bringing Princess.

Mrs. Williams SCOFFS lightly.

MRS. WILLIAMS
His name is Princess?

COURTNEY
(defensively)
Yeah. If this is going to be a
problem--

NATHAN
(pointedly)
It won't be, right, Mom?

MRS. WILLIAMS
Of course not. (beat) Well. Dinner
is almost ready. Nathan, would you
mind helping?

NATHAN
Sure. (To Courtney) Don't worry.
It'll be fine.

INT. HALLWAY ROSIE & SEBASTIAN'S APARTMENT - DAY

Vivienne KNOCKS on a door violently. The door opens and reveals Rosie. As soon as Rosie sees Vivienne, her eyes widen.

(CONTINUED)

VIVIENNE
(accusingly)
You knew. You knew and you didn't
tell me.

As soon as the words are out of her mouth she SOBS.

ROSIE
(wobbly)
I wanted to tell you. Viv I was
going to tell you, I just thought
it would be better coming from him.

VIVIENNE
Wanting isn't good enough, Rosie!
And he didn't tell me! I had to see
it for myself!

ROSIE
Oh my God. Viv.

Rosie goes to give Vivienne a hug but Vivienne jerks back.

VIVIENNE
No! You're just as bad as he is.
You knew! You knew! You knew he was
cheating on me and let me go back
to him. You let me sleep in the
same bed as the man who is supposed
to love me but is screwing someone
else!

ROSIE
(crying)
I'm so sorry. I wanted to tell you.

VIVIENNE
Did you know? All those times I
asked you about it? Did you know
then?

Rosie is full on SOBBING.

ROSIE
Not at first, I--

VIVIENNE
You lied to my face! God! How am I
ever supposed to trust you again?
You promised me!

ROSIE

Please. Just come in and we can talk about it.

VIVIENNE

I can't talk to you right now. I have to go. I'm gonna go.

Vivienne turns and stalks away, leaving Rosie crying in the doorway.

INT. GRANT'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Alice and Grant sit on Grant's couch. There's pizza on the table in front of them and they're watching a movie.

GRANT

So you know that guy I was dating? The one who kept coming to work?

ALICE

Yeah, how's that going? He sounds awesome, I'd love to meet him.

GRANT

He's moving.

ALICE

What?! No!

GRANT

I know. I know we've only been going out for a few weeks, but honestly I really think we have something great. And it sucks, because he's leaving in a month and I just can't do distance. Not after seeing what Lily and Matt are going through.

ALICE

So now what? Are you two just... breaking up?

GRANT

Yeah.

ALICE

And you really think you could have something?

(CONTINUED)

GRANT

I do. It sucks.

ALICE

Grant, as your sister who's known you your whole life, I think you're making a mistake.

GRANT

What do you mean?

ALICE

It doesn't matter that he's leaving in a month. Ending it now is just wasting time you could've spent together. It might only be a month, but a month together is better than a month apart.

GRANT

It'll just make it so much harder when he leaves.

ALICE

So what! If he's worth it, he's worth it. Don't bow out because of a technicality.

GRANT

You know what? You're right.

ALICE

I always am.

Grant LAUGHS.

GRANT

Hey, don't get ahead of yourself.

ALICE

(faux innocently)

Who, me?

GRANT

Yes, you.

ALICE

You should go. Tell him you want to stay together for now. That he's worth it.

(CONTINUED)

GRANT

Al, this is the first time we've hung out in weeks.

ALICE

So what? I'm your sister, you're obligated to see me once in a while. Besides, I'll be here in a month and he won't be. Go. I'll finish your pizza by myself.

Grant hesitates but stands, looking excited.

GRANT

You're sure?

ALICE

I'm sure. Go get your guy, you goof.

GRANT

Okay. Okay, yeah. I'm gonna do that.

ALICE

Go!

Grant LAUGHS again and grabs his coat.

GRANT

I'm going! I'm going.

Grant leaves the apartment. Alice checks her watch.

ALICE

Okay, one broken relationship down, one to go.

She stands up, grabs her coat, and leaves the apartment.

INT. JAMES'S HALLWAY - NIGHT

Grant KNOCKS on the front door, looking nervous and tense. A moment later the door opens and James is inside in his pajamas. He looks happy to see Grant.

JAMES

Hi! What are you doing here?

GRANT

Date me.

(CONTINUED)

JAMES

What?

GRANT

I know you're only here for another month, but I think we have something special. I really do. I think it's worth it. I'd rather be your boyfriend for a month than never be your boyfriend at all. So, date me.

James's smile grows during Grant's little speech. At the end, it's a full blown grin.

JAMES

Really?

GRANT

Really.

JAMES

Okay. Yes. Let's date. A month.

GRANT

We'll make it a goddamn great month.

JAMES

The best month.

GRANT

A better month will never exist.

JAMES

Good.

GRANT

Great.

JAMES

So what are you waiting for? Come in and kiss your boyfriend.

Grant grins and surges in, kissing James. They kiss, enter the apartment, and slam the door behind them.

INT. LILY'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Lily is in her bed staring at the ceiling, apathetic. Alice walks in.

ALICE

Get up.

Lily turns her head slowly to look at Alice and frowns. Before she can protest, Alice crosses the room and whips the blanket off of her.

LILY

Hey!

ALICE

Get up. C'mon, we're going out.

LILY

Alice, no, I don't want to go out.

ALICE

You know what? I don't care. Get up, we're going out, and you are going to stop thinking about Matt tonight.

Lily frowns.

ALICE

C'mon. ETD is fifteen minutes.

Lily SIGHS and sits up.

LILY

Fine.

INT - ROSIE & SEBASTIAN'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Rosie is sitting on the couch in their living room. The door opens and Sebastian walks in.

SEBASTIAN

(concerned)

Rose?

Rosie looks up and it's clear she's been crying. Sebastian rushes over to her.

SEBASTIAN (CON'T.)

Babe, what happened?

(CONTINUED)

ROSIE
She found out.

SEBASTIAN
Oh, Jesus.

ROSIE
She's so mad at me.

SEBASTIAN
At you?

ROSIE
He didn't tell her. She saw them
and she knows I knew and didn't say
anything.

SEBASTIAN
Shit.

ROSIE
She hates me.

SEBASTIAN
She doesn't hate you.

ROSIE
You didn't see her.

SEBASTIAN
Rosie--

ROSIE
You told me to lie to her. I wanted
to tell her and you told me not to.

SEBASTIAN
Hey, come on. We both thought that
was the right thing at the time. We
couldn't have known it would end
like this.

ROSIE
I never wanted to wait! I wanted to
tell her the second we saw him!

SEBASTIAN
You can't blame this on me. I'm not
the one who cheated on her. If you
want to be mad at someone, be mad
at Spencer, but I'm not the villain
here. Viv is obviously upset, but
she's going to come around.

(CONTINUED)

ROSIE

I really hope you're right, Seb,
because I don't know what I'll do
if she doesn't. I'm going to take a
shower.

Rosie stands up off the couch and walks away. Sebastian
leans into the couch, SIGHS, and rubs his hands over his
eyes.

SEBASTIAN

God dammit, Spencer.

INT. DINING ROOM - NIGHT

The entire family now sits at the dining room table. Mr.
Williams is on one head of the table, and Mrs. Williams on
the other. Nathan and Courtney sit next to one another
across from Will and Danielle.

MRS. WILLIAMS

So, Courtney, what is it that you
do?

COURTNEY

I'm an artist. I mostly do
freelance work for different local
businesses.

MRS. WILLIAMS

I see. And is that a lucrative
business?

NATHAN

Mom.

MRS. WILLIAMS

What? I'm just trying to make
conversation.

COURTNEY

(quietly, to Nathan)
It's okay.
(to everyone)
I do alright.

BRANDON

So what, you paint?

COURTNEY

Occasionally. It really depends on
what the client wants. Sometimes
it's paint, sometimes it's digital
art. It varies.

(CONTINUED)

MR. WILLIAMS

Forgive me for saying so, but that doesn't sound like a very stable job environment.

Courtney flinches.

NATHAN

Dad.

COURTNEY

(annoyed)

Like I said, I do alright.

DANIELLE

(in a condescending tone)

I used to enjoy art. Of course, it was just a hobby.

Courtney puts her cutlery down and clenches her hands into fists.

COURTNEY

It's not for everyone, I guess.

MRS. WILLIAMS

Courtney, dear, do you not like the food?

COURTNEY

(forced)

The food is lovely, Mrs. Williams.

MRS. WILLIAMS

Is there another problem, then?

MR. WILLIAMS

Do you not eat meat?

COURTNEY

I do. I--

DANIELLE

I'm sorry, but I've been looking at that dress all night. Where did you get it?

Courtney looks taken aback by both the interruption and the question.

COURTNEY

Um. Some place in Brooklyn, I think.

(CONTINUED)

Brandon snorts out a LAUGH.

BRANDON
Brooklyn? Nate, did you pick
yourself up another Bridge and
Tunnel girl?

NATHAN
C'mon, man--

Courtney abruptly stands up, chair shoving back. Princess
stands up with her, immediately at her heel.

COURTNEY
(angrily)
Excuse me.

MRS. WILLIAMS
What in the world...?

Courtney storms out of the room. Everyone looks
shellshocked, then at Nathan for some sort of explanation.

NATHAN
Are you guys joking? What is wrong
with you people?

He, too, stands.

MR. WILLIAMS
(calmly)
Nathan, sit down.

NATHAN
No, dad! What the hell was that?
All of you? How dare you treat my
girlfriend like that.

MRS. WILLIAMS
Girlfriend? How sweet.

NATHAN
Don't be so condescending. Courtney
might not have grown up with a
silver spoon in her mouth but that
doesn't make her less than any of
you. Jesus Christ. Excuse me.

Nathan turns around and rushes after Courtney.

INT. BAR - NIGHT

The place is a bit of a mix between a bar and a club -- there is more dancing and flashing lights than a regular bar, but the scene isn't quite as crazy as a full-on club would be. Alice and Lily are standing by the bar. There are two full shot glasses in front of them.

Alice grabs both of them and hands one to Lily while lifting the other up to her lips.

ALICE
Cheers.

Lily nods, takes the shot, and downs it quickly.

LILY
Vodka? Really?

ALICE
I know all your weaknesses, lady.

She holds up two fingers at the BARTENDER, who nods and readies another one.

LILY
I am not doing another one.

ALICE
Yes you are. We're going to have fun tonight if it kills me!

[MONTAGE]

Lily and Alice lift another shot and take it down quickly. There's a jump cut to the same thing happening again, this time prefaced by both women CHEERING. Then another cut to them doing it again.

EXT. NATHAN'S FAMILY COUNTRY HOUSE - NIGHT

Courtney storms outside, Princess right beside her.

Seconds later, Nathan bursts out of the house, hurrying behind her.

NATHAN
Courtney, wait.

COURTNEY
I knew it! I knew I shouldn't have come here. After what your friends said...

(CONTINUED)

NATHAN

I'm sorry! Courtney, I'm sorry. I didn't think it would be that bad.

COURTNEY

Probably because you've never brought home a Bridge and Tunnel girl before!

NATHAN

They didn't mean that.

COURTNEY

Yes they did! It doesn't even matter where I'm really from or what I do or who I am, because they don't give a shit! All they care about is what I look like and that obviously isn't good enough for them!

NATHAN

Courtney...

COURTNEY

No! This isn't me, Nate. This isn't going to work out, I'm sorry.

NATHAN

But it is me, and you're going to have to live with that. Please, Court, don't throw this away over something so trivial.

COURTNEY

Trivial? You think feeling like you're never good enough and like you never fit in is trivial? I could deal with it when it was your friends, but family is another story.

NATHAN

Baby, what they think doesn't matter.

COURTNEY

Of course it matters! You love them!

NATHAN

(frustratedly)
But I love you more!

(CONTINUED)

Courtney's eyes widen and her mouth parts in shock. She's about to speak, but Nathan continues.

NATHAN (CON'T)

I love you, alright? I know it's soon and I know it's crazy but I do. I love everything about you. I love the way you hide behind your hair when you're feeling awkward. I love how you wear way too much plaid all the time. I love your scary ass dog. I love the dimple in your left cheek when you smile. I love you for you, not for where you came from or for what you do or how much money you have. I don't give a damn about the things my parents care about. All I care about are the things that make you the girl I fell in love with. Please, please don't walk away from this just because of where I come from.

Courtney's tears drip from her eyes. She bites her bottom lip and smiles despite herself.

COURTNEY

Okay.

NATHAN

Okay?

COURTNEY

Okay. I won't throw it away.

Nathan grins and scoops her into a hug, which she burrows in to. She pulls back and whacks Nathan on the arm. He YELPS.

COURTNEY (CON'T)

But you have to stand up for me!
This can't happen every time
someone thinks I'm below you. I
won't stand for that another time,
understand?

NATHAN

Yeah, never again. I promise.

Courtney lets herself be pulled into another hug and the two of them stand there, hugging each other tightly.

(CONTINUED)

COURTNEY

Oh, and I love you, too. Maybe. A little.

Nathan LAUGHS.

NATHAN

Just a little?

COURTNEY

Just a little.

INT. BAR - NIGHT

The bar/club is even more crowded and the music is louder. Alice and Lily are on the dance floor looking worse for wear in a drunken way. Alice's eyes are closed as she loses herself in the music. Lily's head is tilted down as she dances. A MAN sidles up behind Lily, placing his hands on her hips and pressing his body flush against hers. She looks up, blinks, but gives into it. Alice doesn't even notice.

Lily and the guy dance, pressed tightly together. Lily's hands travel up to his neck and the guy leans down to kiss her. It goes on for a beat or two before Lily pulls back. Her eyes are wide and she lifts a hand to her lips in shock.

LILY

I--I'm sorry. I have to go.

The guy says something that's lost in the music. Lily pushes her way frantically through the crowd and to the exit. She stumbles out of the door.

INT. CLUB - NIGHT

Alice is still dancing inside the club. She turns around and bumps into David. David grins.

ALICE

You!

DAVID

Hey! Alice!

ALICE

I have a bone to pick with you, mister. You need to stop saying you're going to hang out with me and then not.

(CONTINUED)

DAVID

I'm sorry, really, Al. I just, you know, get distracted. It's my bad.

ALICE

Yeah, it's fucking your bad. Stop making me wait around for you like some pathetic basket case. I am better than that.

DAVID

You're right.

Alice spins around and is about to walk away, but then spins back. She points at David's chest, her arm wavering.

ALICE

I made it so easy for you. So easy. I threw myself at you. All I wanted from you was an easy lay but somehow that was still too difficult. Shit, you're dumb. I don't deserve this. I'm going to find someone who appreciates this. Adieu, dipshit.

Alice salutes him drunkenly before turning around and actually stomping away, leaving David by the bar with his mouth and eyes wide open, staring at her retreating form.

EXT. MANHATTAN OUTSIDE THE BAR - NIGHT

Lily stumbles down the sidewalk. Before long she's hysterically CRYING. She unearths her phone from her pocket and frantically starts pressing on it.

MATT (O.S.)

Lily? Is everything okay?

LILY

(sobbing and slurring)

I kissed someone. I kissed someone and I hated it and it's all your fault. I miss you and I love you and I hate you because you're not here here and it's your fault that I kissed someone because you're not kissing me and it was horrible and I miss you and I--

Lily is unable to keep talking because she's crying so hard. She hunches over and lowers until she's sitting on her haunches, butt close to the ground. She covers her eyes with her hand and CRIES.

(CONTINUED)

MATT (O.S.)

Lily--what? I-- Are you drunk?

LILY

Yes! I've been home forever crying because of you and Alice forced me and there was so much vodka and I kissed someone else and I love you so much I never want to be with anyone else. It was a mistake and I'm sorry but it's your fault because you're never here anymore and I don't know what to do. I don't know what to do, Matt, because I hurt all the time and you're gone and I don't know what to do.

MATT (O.S.)

Lily, calm down. Take a breath. Don't move.

Lily continues to CRY. Moments later someone crouches down next to her. Lily looks up, startled, and then cries harder, because it's Matt. He's there, in New York.

LILY

Oh my God. You're here.

Lily throws herself at Matt and he wraps his arms around her.

MATT

I'm here, babe, I'm here. I got you. I'm not going anywhere. I'm with you, Lil. I put in a transfer at work. I don't want to be with anyone else either, not ever. I love you.

LILY

H-how are you here? Why... how did you... When did you...?

MATT

Shhh. Calm down. Alice called me.

LILY

You're here.

MATT

I'm here.

(CONTINUED)

LILY

I love you.

They finally pull away from their tight embrace, only to lean back in and kiss. Lily is still crying and the embrace is heated and passionate. They pull back.

MATT

Let's go home.

INT. VIVIENNE & SPENCER'S APARTMENT - DAY

A key SCRAPES in the lock and the door opens to reveal Spencer. Vivienne is sitting at the kitchen island, legs crossed. Her face is stony.

Spencer looks absolutely wrecked.

SPENCER

(brokenly)

Vivienne, I--

VIVIENNE

I don't care. I packed you a bag.

Spencer's eyes widen. The bag in question is beside the kitchen island on the floor.

VIVIENNE (CON'T)

You can come back to get the rest of your stuff, but you're moving out and I want you out of here immediately.

Vivienne stands up from her chair and walks proudly across the room towards the front door. Spencer jumps aside to let her pass him.

SPENCER

Viv--

VIVIENNE

I'm going to Sebastian and Rosie's, because there's a person there I actually want to forgive. You better be gone before I get back, Spencer.

SPENCER

Vivienne!

Vivienne turns the doorknob, ignoring him, and opens the door.

(CONTINUED)

SPENCER (CON'T)

Viv, please don't do this. I'm
sorry, it was a mistake, I don't
know why I ever thought sleeping
with her was a good idea and--

He stops talking when Vivienne turns around abruptly.

VIVIENNE

Sorry, I forgot.

She fiddles with her hands, then slips her ring off her
finger. She thrusts it at Spencer.

VIVIENNE (CON'T)

Here. This is yours.

SPENCER

I don't want it. Please, don't do
this. Please don't leave. I love
you.

VIVIENNE

Goodbye, Spencer.

Vivienne turns around and leaves, the door closing behind
her. Spencer cries.

INT. STARBUCKS - DAY

It's calm in the Starbucks and once again Grant and Oliver
are sharing a shift. James walks in. Grant's face lights up
with a smile and Oliver chuckles.

OLIVER

Look who it is. Our afternoon
regular.

James bounds up to the counter and grins at Grant with all
his teeth. Grant returns the smile in full.

GRANT

Hey, there.

James looks from side to side, then back at Grant.

JAMES

Can I?

He nods his head at Grant. Grant's eyebrows furrow in
confusion, then his face clears.

(CONTINUED)

GRANT

Oh! Yeah. Yes. Please.

James smiles and leans across the counter to give Grant a peck on the mouth.

OLIVER

And I thought I'd never see the day! You know, really I'm the one responsible for making this whole thing happen. Without me, you two would still be silently pining over each other with stolen glances and heated looks.

JAMES

Yeah, yeah.

GRANT

Ignore him. I know you usually get the same thing here but I think I have an idea of something you might like.

JAMES

That sounds exciting.

OLIVER

Don't fall for that boyscout look. He's been working on that drink all morning just for you.

Grant glares at Oliver.

GRANT

Shush. I'm trying to impress my boyfriend.

OLIVER

Boyfriend? That's new.

JAMES

Ignore him and make me my drink.

GRANT

(exaggerated)
Yes, dear.

INT. ROSIE & SEBASTIAN'S APARTMENT - DAY

Rosie is sitting at the kitchen island with a mug of tea in her hands. There's a KNOCK on the door. Rosie goes to open it and reveals Vivienne.

ROSIE

Viv.

VIVIENNE

I'm sorry.

ROSIE

No, I'm sorry! Viv I'm so sorry. I should have told you. I was wrong. I shouldn't have let myself be convinced that I was doing the right thing by keeping it from you.

VIVIENNE

(shaking her head)

It's not your fault. Can I come in?

ROSIE

Of course.

VIVIENNE

Rosie, what you and Sebastian did hurt, I'm not going to pretend it didn't. I don't think you should have kept what you knew from me, but I understand why you did it, and I forgive you. Would it be okay if I stay here for a while? I'm kicking him out but I need somewhere to stay for a bit.

ROSIE

Of course, Viv. You're always welcome here.

VIVIENNE

Thanks. I love you.

Rosie pulls Vivienne into a hug.

ROSIE

I love you, too.

INT. BAR - NIGHT

David and Spencer are sitting on bar stools at a bar. Both of them look dejected, slumped on their seats. There's a beer bottle in front of each of them. Spencer picks his up listlessly and takes a drink.

DAVID

This sucks.

SPENCER

My life was perfect. I had everything I could've wanted and I fucked it up.

DAVID

You really did, man.

SPENCER

Shit.

DAVID

Remember that girl from the night you and Kat first hooked up? The one I took home?

SPENCER

Sure. What about her?

DAVID

I ran into her the other night.

SPENCER

And?

DAVID

I should've been better to her. She was really awesome. We really hit it off and I just ignored it because I wanted it to be a one night stand.

SPENCER

David, man, I understand that you're bummed about that but please don't compare some chick to me losing my fiancée.

DAVID

Right. Sorry.

(CONTINUED)

SPENCER

It's game night. It's game night
and I'm devastated that I'm not
there. Who thought I'd ever miss
game night? Shit.

DAVID

I know, man.

Both men fall into silence. They drink more beer.

INT. BAR - NIGHT

Another dark and crowded bar filled with twenty-somethings.
Ivy and Kat are sitting at the bar, both dressed for a night
on the town. Each woman is holding a shot glass.

KAT

No more men.

They raise their glasses.

IVY

To women!

KAT

And being single.

IVY

And celibate!

Kat LAUGHS.

KAT

You? Celibate?

IVY

Okay fine! Single and only hooking
up sometimes!

KAT

I'll take it. Cheers!

IVY

Cheers.

They throw back their shots and slam them, upside down, on
the bar.

KAT

Another!

(CONTINUED)

IVY

Another!

INT. ROSIE & SEBASTIAN'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Rosie and Sebastian's apartment is brightly lit. There's MUSIC playing in the background. The coffee table is filled with various bowls of chips, pretzels, dip, and other snack food. It is LOUD in the room, organized chaos like you usually find at small parties with close friends. Lily, Matt, Alice, Sebastian, Rosie, Vivienne, Nathan, and Courtney are all there.

Rosie is on the couch with Nathan and Courtney.

ROSIE

That's amazing.

Vivienne walks over to the trio, holding two beer bottles. She hands one to Rosie and sits down next to them.

VIVIENNE

What are we talking about?

ROSIE

Courtney was just telling me how adorable Nathan is.

NATHAN

Aw, shucks, you're gonna make me blush.

Courtney LAUGHS and leans over to Nathan to kiss him on the lips.

COURTNEY

I'm glad you courted me, babe.

NATHAN

I'll tell you a secret?

VIVIENNE

And what's that?

NATHAN

It was never about Courtney. I was really after her dog.

The three women LAUGH.

The doorbell RINGS.

(CONTINUED)

SEBASTIAN
I'll get it!

He rushes to the door. He opens it, revealing Grant and James.

SEBASTIAN (CON'T)
Hi! Come in, come in! This must be
the new boyfriend!

GRANT
Hi, Grant. Nice to meet you.

Sebastian and Grant shake hands with big grins on their faces.

JAMES
It is indeed. Grant, this is my
friend Seb I was telling you about.

GRANT
Heard only good things.

SEBASTIAN
Same to you.

The three men walk to the area of the apartment where everyone else is.

SEBASTIAN
Everyone, Grant and James!

They're greeted with a CHORUS of hellos. Alice turns around with wide eyes.

ALICE
Grant?

GRANT
Al? What are you doing here?

Alice and Grant embrace.

ALICE
Lily's friend invited us!

JAMES
Small world. I'm James.

ALICE
Nice to meet you, James.

GRANT

Wait, is that Matt? What's he doing here? Matt! Hey!

Grant leaves James and Alice to say hi to Matt.

MATT

Dude, hey! What's up?

GRANT

You're here!

MATT

I am. Put in a transfer. Lily and I just couldn't do the distance anymore and I realized that she was more important to me than San Francisco.

Lily leans into Matt and smiles when he wraps his arm around her.

LILY

He flew out here and surprised me.

GRANT

That's amazing! I'm so happy for you guys, congrats.

SEBASTIAN

(yelling)

Okay, guys! Everyone is here! We can start the game!

Rosie jumps up off the couch.

ROSIE

Yay!

COURTNEY

(to Vivienne)

So what exactly is this game?

VIVIENNE

Salad bowl. It's like charades and taboo mixed together, but on steroids.

COURTNEY

Sounds intimidating.

(CONTINUED)

NATHAN
We got this.

VIVIENNE
You wish.

NATHAN
You haven't seen Courtney's
competitive side yet.

Courtney LAUGHS.

COURTNEY
Point.

Everyone starts moving around the apartment, getting pens
and papers out to get the game moving.

ROSIE
If anyone wants another drink, now
is the time!

In the rush of movement James pulls Grant aside.

JAMES
Come with me.

GRANT
What?

JAMES
To Chicago. Come with me.

GRANT
(startled)
I... Okay. Yeah. I'll come with
you.

James smiles euphorically and pulls Grant into a kiss.

GRANT (CON'T)
(loudly, so everyone can hear)
Guys! I'm moving to Chicago!

ALICE
Oh my God!

LILY
What?!

MATT
Congratulations!

The excitement in the room picks up and everyone comes together to celebrate the news, hugging and kissing each other on the cheek. The music gets louder and the chatter becomes unintelligible.

Everyone bustles around and finally finds spaces to sit to play the game. Vivienne is in front of everyone, holding a stopwatch.

VIVIENNE

Ready? Go!