

MOST LIKELY TO SUCCEED

"Pilot"

Written by

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COLD OPEN

FADE IN:

INT. GRACE LOFTS - ELEVATOR - MORNING

GRIFF, 31, smart with a self-deprecating streak that masks a healthy ego. Coat and tie, high-end messenger bag. Imagine Paul Rudd. COOPER, 29, pretty in an urban crunchy, hard-rimmed glasses sort of way, reads an e-mail on her PDA.

COOPER

I'm sorry, I know we planned to discuss the guest list tonight, but they pushed up my deadline. I'm going to have to work late.

GRIFF

It's okay. I should probably spend a little extra time at the office myself. We're pitching the new campaign to Expedia next week, and I haven't quite nailed it yet.

INSERT - HIGH SCHOOL YEARBOOK (GRANT HIGH '97)

which FANS OPEN to the SENIOR SUPERLATIVES PAGE. ZOOM IN on a photo of high school-aged Griff. Under his picture, we see the caption "Most Likely to Succeed."

BACK TO SCENE

COOPER

I'm sure it's amazing. You're Griff Freakin' Brooks after all.

GRIFF

Since we're going to be married, I should probably let you know my middle name's actually Benjamin.

Cooper smiles, as they exit the elevator.

INT. GRACE LOFTS - LOBBY - CONTINUOUS

An upscale renovation of an old downtown Seattle building. Griff and Cooper start to cross out. Griff stops.

GRIFF

I forgot my laptop.

Griff kisses Cooper and heads back toward the elevator.

COOPER
Have a great day at work.

INT. GRIFF'S LOFT - MOMENTS LATER

Griff enters and shuts the door. He takes off his coat, loosens his tie, then plops down on the couch, turns on the TV and starts channel surfing.

INSERT - SENIOR SUPERLATIVES PAGE - PHOTO OF GRIFF

A MAGIC MARKER enters frame and CROSSES OUT "Most Likely to Succeed" and SCRIBBLES IN "Most Recently Fired."

BACK TO SCENE

Griff stares dead-eyed at the TV as we hear the opening of the theme to "The Facts of Life".

INT. APRIL'S KITCHEN - DAY

APRIL, 32, warm and generous, juggles tasks. Think Judy Greer. While breast-feeding her seven-month-old (who has a thick head of hair), April puts breakfast on the table for her four-year-old twins, and video chats with her husband, JEREMY, 30s, on her laptop. She's trying to make it look effortless, but is definitely a little stressed.

JEREMY
My plane doesn't get in until after the cleaners close. Could you grab my suits?

APRIL
No problem. Mia, Caleb, breakfast!

INSERT - HIGH SCHOOL YEARBOOK (GRANT HIGH '95. NOTE: IT'S THE SAME SCHOOL BUT DIFFERENT YEAR THAN GRIFF'S)

which FANS OPEN to the SENIOR SUPERLATIVES PAGE. ZOOM IN on high school age APRIL. The caption reads "Best Personality."

BACK TO SCENE

MIA (O.S.)
Mommy, I need someone to wipe me!

APRIL
I'll be right there, Mia.

JEREMY
If you're near a Target, I'm also
out of shampoo.

While continuing to breast-feed, April picks up the open laptop and heads for the bathroom.

INT. APRIL'S BATHROOM - MOMENTS LATER

April enters and puts the laptop down. CALEB, 4, is kneeling by the toilet, peering into the bowl with the seat up.

APRIL
Caleb, stop that. Mia, can you
come back in here?

While holding the breast feeding baby to her chest, April leans down awkwardly to rip off a piece of toilet paper. As she straightens, we see she's DIPPED THE TOP OF THE BABY'S HEAD IN THE TOILET, soaking his beautiful mane of hair.

INSERT - SENIOR SUPERLATIVES PAGE - PHOTO OF APRIL

A MAGIC MARKER CROSSES OUT "Best Personality" and SCRIBBLES IN "Most on the Verge of Having a Nervous Breakdown."

BACK TO SCENE

April stands there immobile, stunned, as water drips off the baby's hair and onto the floor. From the computer, we hear:

JEREMY
You still there? April? April?

EXT. SEATTLE STREET - MORNING - OLIVER'S P.O.V.

as he walks past a young woman, who smiles at him, then walks past another, who also smiles.

INSERT - HIGH SCHOOL YEARBOOK (FRANKLIN HIGH '97. NOTE: IT'S A DIFFERENT SCHOOL THAN GRIFF AND APRIL'S)

which FANS OPEN to the SENIOR SUPERLATIVES. ZOOM IN on a photo of young Oliver, surfer boy handsome. "Most Charming."

EXT. SEATTLE STREET - MORNING - ANGLE - OLIVER

as he stops at a coffee cart. Oliver, 31, is a little Vince Vaughn, a little Donal Logue. Disheveled, in last night's clothes, much heavier than in high school. Oh, and written in large print on his forehead are the words "FAT ASS."

An ATTRACTIVE WOMAN in line looks up from her book ("The Sound and the Fury"). Her eyes linger on Oliver's forehead just long enough for Oliver to take it as an opening.

OLIVER

Great book. I have to admit I didn't totally care for the "sound," but the "fury"? Wow.
(introducing himself)
Oliver.

ATTRACTIVE WOMAN

Okay, I'm not good in these situations. How do I say this...?

OLIVER

You don't need to say anything. We're adults. I'm guessing we've both been through this a few times.

ATTRACTIVE WOMAN

I think you might have fallen asleep at a party last night.

OLIVER

What?

The woman takes a mirror out of her bag and offers it to him.

INSERT - SENIOR SUPERLATIVES PAGE - PHOTO OF OLIVER

A MAGIC MARKER CROSSES OUT "Most Charming" and SCRIBBLES IN "Most Pathetic."

BACK TO SCENE

Oliver looks at his forehead in the mirror, trying to decipher what the mirrored text spells.

ATTRACTIVE WOMAN

It says fat ass.

INT. BECCA'S LOFT - DAY

The apartment is scattered with moving boxes. BECCA, 31, a girl-next-door beauty (think Reese Witherspoon), enters. She looks over her beautiful new place and smiles.

INSERT - HIGH SCHOOL YEARBOOK (GRANT HIGH '97. NOTE: SAME SCHOOL AND YEAR AS GRIFF)

which FANS OPEN to the SENIOR SUPERLATIVES. ZOOM IN on a photo of high school-age BECCA. "Most Popular."

BACK TO SCENE

Becca hears metal clanging in her kitchen. Investigating, Becca finds her MOTHER putting knives into a grocery bag.

BECCA

Mom, maybe I should have been more explicit when I gave you that key. It wasn't so you could rob me.

BECCA'S MOTHER

I'm not robbing you. I'm protecting you.

BECCA

(looking in bag)
From dental floss?

BECCA'S MOTHER

People have hung themselves with dental floss.

BECCA

No, actually they haven't.

INSERT - HIGH SCHOOL YEARBOOK - "MOST POPULAR" PHOTO OF BECCA

A MAGIC MARKER CROSSES OUT "Most Popular" and SCRIBBLES IN "Most Shockingly Divorced."

BACK TO SCENE

BECCA'S MOTHER

To be blind-sided like that? I know if I were to walk in and find your stepfather being straddled by a bikini model, first I'd off them and then I'd off myself.

BECCA

You hear that, bikini models? The party's over. No more consequence-free sex romps with seventy-year-old, potbellied CPAs.

(then)

Mom, I'm okay. Actually, I'm amazing. Now give me back my key.

Becca moves her mom toward the door and takes the key. Becca mimes slashing her wrist with the key's jagged edge.

BECCA (CONT'D)

Yeah, that'll do just fine.

Becca closes the door, then crosses to the kitchen. She turns on her faucet to get a glass of water. BROWN SLUDGE comes out. Becca sighs, then grabs a wrench from the "dangerous objects" bag and scoots under the sink. Not handy, Becca bangs on the pipes in hopes of success. The phone RINGS. Becca jumps up and SMASHES HER FACE into a pipe. As Becca emerges from under the sink, we see she's MISSING A HUGE CHUNK OF A FRONT TOOTH.

INSERT - HIGH SCHOOL YEARBOOK - SENIOR SUPERLATIVES PAGE

A different shot of Becca with the caption "Best Smile." A MAGIC MARKER CROSSES OUT the no-longer appropriate caption.

BACK TO SCENE

Becca spits the tooth into her hand.

FREEZE FRAME. The STILL of Becca FLIES ONTO a blank page of an open high school yearbook, followed by STILLS of Oliver checking out his forehead, April discovering her toilet-dipped baby, and Griff channel surfing. STILLS from the episode we're about to see then QUICKLY FLY IN, the photos arranging themselves into a yearbook PHOTO COLLAGE. A STILL from the episode of the four of them enjoying themselves at dinner FLIES INTO the center of the collage. A hand CLOSES the yearbook. The cover reads "Most Likely to Succeed."

FADE OUT.

END OF COLD OPEN

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

INT. GRIFF'S LOFT - DAY - CLOSE ANGLE - GRIFF

As he snoozes on the couch. His eyes slowly open. Noticing someone standing over him, he SCREAMS. We REVEAL Oliver in full zombie make-up and costume with a hatchet wedged in the side of his head. He's eating a cheeseburger.

GRIFF
Jesus, Oliver.

OLIVER
Dude, you should really keep your door locked. What if I'd been an actual zombie?

GRIFF
Doesn't that haunted house have a place for employees to take off their makeup?

OLIVER
And show my face out in the world after what happened? No way.

GRIFF
So it's on YouTube. Big deal.

OLIVER
Ninety thousand hits since this morning. I've gone viral. Someone even posted a remix of it already.

INSERT - VIDEO FOOTAGE - OLIVER AND THE ATTRACTIVE WOMAN

re-cut and set to an electronic beat (a la DJ Steve Porter).

ATTRACTIVE WOMAN
It says fat ass. Ah-ah-ah-ah-fat-ass. Ah-ah-ah-ah-fat-ass.

BACK TO SCENE

OLIVER
Like I'm not going through enough of a dry spell as it is. I mean--
(noticing Griff eyeing his cheeseburger)
(MORE)

OLIVER (CONT'D)

Did you want a bite of my burger or are you just going to keep leering at it and making it uncomfortable?

GRIFF

You know I'm a vegan.

OLIVER

We're still engaged in that charade? Okay.

(then)

How'd my life get to this point? Do you remember what I was like in college? Do you remember me even a couple years ago? There was pretty much no girl I couldn't get.

GRIFF

I can't even count the number of times you stole girls out from under me, in one case, literally out from under me.

OLIVER

Exactly. What happened to that guy?

GRIFF

Don't take this the wrong way, but is it possible women just aren't that excited about an overweight, lazy thirty-one-year-old, who works part time three months a year at a haunted house and whose tiny apartment is pretty much all guitar collection and big screen TV?

Oliver considers this for a beat.

OLIVER

I suppose anything's possible.

GRIFF

Yeah. Hey, I was going to call you. How do you feel about opera?

OLIVER

Pretty face, I can appreciate her struggles with her weight. Also I think it's pronounced Oprah.

GRIFF

Ha ha. I need you to go to the opera house with me tonight.

(MORE)

GRIFF (CONT'D)

I found out my ex-boss is going to be there. If I can get some face-to-face time, I think I can talk him into giving me my old job back.

OLIVER

Whoa, what happened to "I'm going to find an even better job and toss it in his stupid face"? What about your triumphantly awesome exit?

INT. GRIFF'S BOSS'S OFFICE - DAY (FLASHBACK)

A beautiful fish tank... which Griff is pissing into.

BACK TO SCENE

GRIFF

Look, I tried to find a better job. I tried to find any job. Telemarketing, waiter, no one's hiring. I have a mortgage and a wedding to pay for, not to mention the fact that I've been lying to Cooper this whole time.

OLIVER

You know, you probably should have just told her when it happened.

GRIFF

Thanks, that's really helpful now.

INT. APRIL'S HOUSE - DAY

As she folds laundry, April checks out Becca's missing tooth.

APRIL

I like it. It gives you an air of intrigue.

BECCA

Yeah, I think I'm going to keep that dentist appointment anyway.
(feigning casualness)
Especially since I'm having drinks tonight with the man Seattle Magazine named the city's most eligible bachelor.

APRIL

What? You have a date?

BECCA

His name is Doug. He's super cute.
And he's a cardiac surgeon.

APRIL

Aww, how perfect. He fixes
broken...
(choking back a tear)
... hearts.

As April tries to regain her composure, Becca stares at her.

APRIL (CONT'D)

What?

BECCA

(indicating April's face)
This. You strive to be this cheery
superwoman, but with three little
kids and a husband on the road half
the time, it's not possible. If
you don't start putting your own
needs first occasionally, you're
going to lose your marbles.

APRIL

My sister is going on her first
date since her marriage ended. I'm
sorry if that makes me emotional.

BECCA

Everything lately is making you
emotional.

INT. APRIL'S BATHROOM - MORNING (FLASHBACK)

April tries to squeeze toothpaste onto her brush, but the
tube is empty. She starts to cry.

INT. BASKIN ROBBINS - DAY (FLASHBACK)

A scoop of ice cream is on the floor. PAN UP to four-year-
old Caleb holding an empty cone, but looking perfectly fine.
We PAN to APRIL, who's bawling.

INT. APRIL'S BEDROOM - NIGHT (FLASHBACK)

Lying in bed, April can't stop sobbing, as she watches an
infomercial for "The Shamwow."

BACK TO SCENE

APRIL

(defensive, to Becca)

Well, your whole world was turned upside down, and you haven't cried at all. Maybe that's the real problem.

(totally breaking down)

I'm sorry, I didn't mean that.

INT. TAKEOUT VEGAN RESTAURANT - DAY

An M Cafe de Chaya style place. Griff waits at the counter.

SERVER

(putting down sandwich)

Tempeh wrap.

GRIFF

Thanks.

Griff takes it and exits.

EXT. SEATTLE STREET - CONTINUOUS

Griff walks down the street, bites into the wrap and makes a face. As he throws it away, he notices a HOT DOG CART.

ANGLE - BECCA

as she walks down a different part of the street. She bends down to pet a dog. A car passes and SPRAYS HER WITH MUD.

ANGLE - GRIFF

pretty much shoving an entire hot dog into his mouth. He sees Becca, freezes, then ducks into a doorway to avoid her.

ANGLE - BECCA

seeing Griff. She quickly ducks into a doorway to avoid him.

INSERT - HIGH SCHOOL YEARBOOK - SENIOR SUPERLATIVES PAGE

A shot of Becca and Griff with the caption "Best Couple." A MAGIC MARKER CROSSES IT OUT and writes in "Ugliest Breakup," then draws a mustache on Becca and horns on Griff.

BACK TO SCENE

A woman enters from the store whose doorway Becca is in.

WOMAN

Sorry, but you can't stand here.
(handing Becca a dollar)
It's nothing personal. I actually
give a lot to homeless charities...

BECCA

I'm not-- I broke my tooth on a
pipe, a car splattered me with mud.

The woman hands her a ten, as she moves her from the doorway.

BECCA (CONT'D)

I wasn't saying that to get more--
(seeing the woman is gone)
Okay.

As Becca shoves the money in her pocket, Griff peers out to see if the coast is clear. Their eyes meet. Becca holds her hand in front of her mouth to hide the broken tooth.

GRIFF/BECCA

(effusive)

Hey.

GRIFF

What's it been? Three years?

BECCA

Since the tenth reunion.

GRIFF

(re: Becca's hand)

What's going on with the--?

Becca lowers her hand.

GRIFF (CONT'D)

Whoa. So last I heard you were
designing purses. Are you still
able to work that in between bouts
at fight club?

BECCA

The business is actually going
really well. We're in high end
boutiques across the country. I'm
sorry, I forgot what you do again.

Griff looks at her, slightly irked.

GRIFF

Advertising. I'm creative director at Bisbee-Martin. Seattle's biggest ad agency, whatever. Also I just got engaged.

(showing photo on Iphone)

Her name's Cooper Bailey. The wedding's next spring. In Vermont, because they allow gay marriage.

A confused Becca takes a closer look at Cooper's picture.

GRIFF (CONT'D)

Oh no, Cooper isn't a-- We wanted to get married in a state where people of all sexual orientations have the same civil rights.

(points to Cooper's photo)

Not a man.

A man, CHUCK, 25, eyes Griff, then approaches.

CHUCK

Excuse me, you look really familiar. Have we met?

GRIFF

I don't think so.

CHUCK

Chuck.

GRIFF

Griff. And of course, I'm sure you recognize the Old Prospector from "The Treasure of the Sierra Madre".

BECCA

(to Chuck, with relish)

He's a little bitter, because I dumped him in high school.

GRIFF

Chuck probably has better things to do than discuss our history.

(to Chuck, bragging)

I took her virginity.

Becca shakes her head, her expression suggesting Griff was crazy to have believed it.

CHUCK

Sorry to have bothered you.

Chuck crosses off.

BECCA

I should get going. I have a lot of work to get done before my date tonight with one of the city's top heart surgeons and Seattle Magazine's most eligible bachelor.

GRIFF

Threesome, sweet.

BECCA

They're the same guy.

GRIFF

Wait, I thought you were married. Don't tell me the girl with the perfect life got divorced.

BECCA

I ended my marriage, which is actually the best thing that could've happened, because otherwise I wouldn't have met Doug, who's awesome.

GRIFF

I'm sure he is.

BECCA

What's that supposed to mean?

GRIFF

It doesn't mean anything.

(beat)

But if it did, it's that Doug's probably an asshole.

BECCA

You've never even met him. How could you possibly know this?

GRIFF

For starters, his name is Doug. In my experience, guys named Doug are generally assholes. Plus you tend to end up with assholes. Present company excluded. It was always your fatal flaw.

BECCA

I have a fatal flaw?

GRIFF

Yep. You don't look very hard at what kind of person the guy is as long as he enhances your social standing. I was good for your image for a while. But when the star quarterback became available, it was bye-bye, Griff.

BECCA

Did it ever occur to you that my decision might have had something to do with your shortcomings as a boyfriend? Of course it didn't, because you think you're perfect. That arrogance, by the way, is why I broke up with you.

Chuck re-approaches.

CHUCK

I know where I know you. You applied for a waiter job with me last week. Chuck, the manager at the TGI Fridays in Kirkland.

GRIFF

You obviously have me confused.

CHUCK

No, I'm sure of it. Griff. I remember thinking he's got the same name as the crime dog.

GRIFF

That's McGruff. In any case, I can assure you it wasn't me.

As Chuck walks off, Becca's putting it together.

BECCA

Oh my god, did you get fired?

GRIFF

Yeah, and now I'm looking for work at Friday's.

BECCA

So if called your agency and asked for you, they'd direct me to your office?

GRIFF

Yep.

Becca takes out her phone and hits a few buttons.

BECCA
Yes, the number for Bisbee-Martin.

GRIFF
This is ridiculous.

BECCA
They're connecting me now.

Griff watches Becca for a beat, then:

GRIFF
Fine, I got fired, okay?

BECCA
Wow. Griff Brooks got fired.

GRIFF
Can you keep it down? Not everyone knows.

BECCA
You haven't told your fiancée, have you?

GRIFF
Of course I've told my fiancée.

Becca punches a few numbers into her phone.

BECCA
Yes, the number for Cooper Bailey.

GRIFF
Okay, I haven't told her. She's busy with work and planning a wedding. I didn't want her to have to deal with this on top of it.

BECCA
(snorting a laugh)
Please, this isn't about her, it's about you. It always is.

GRIFF
While this has been absolutely lovely, I have to go.

BECCA
Yeah, but let's definitely do this again in another three years.

Griff and Becca head off in the same direction. They walk in awkward silence for several beats, then stare at each other as they both head into the Grace Lofts building.

INT. GRACE LOFTS - LOBBY - CONTINUOUS

BECCA
Why are you coming in here?

GRIFF
Why are you coming in here?

BECCA
I live here.

GRIFF
I live here.

BECCA
Repeating everything I say, that's really childish.

GRIFF
I'm not repeating everything you say. I actually live here.

BECCA
(as this sinks in)
Okay, somebody up there is definitely screwing with me.

GRIFF
It's a big building. Chances are we'll barely see each other, right?

BECCA
(brightening)
Right. You just avoid 620. And I'll just avoid...?

GRIFF
621.

BECCA
(looking skyward)
Oh you gotta be kidding me!

Becca crosses to the elevator. As Griff follows, we:

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

INT. UPSCALE BAR - EVENING

Becca, her tooth fixed, sits at a table with DOUG, 30s, confident and dashing handsome. Finishing up drinks, they're very comfortable with one another.

DOUG

It's a little embarrassing. My favorite movie is "Point Break"

BECCA

I love "Point Break."
(doing Keanu Reeves)
"I am an FBI agent!"

As Doug laughs, the waitress leaves the check. Becca reaches for her purse.

DOUG

I got this. Anyone with that good a Keanu Reeves impression shouldn't have to buy her own drinks.

BECCA

I also do him in "The Matrix."
Well, I don't do him in "The Matrix." I'm not an actress. I also don't do guys... not on the first date anyway... generally.
(picking up fork)
I'm just going to stab myself in the eye with this right now. Will that be a problem for you?

DOUG

(putting his hand on hers)
It's okay. I'm nervous too.

Becca smiles.

BECCA

I'm going to go use the rest room.
I'll be right back.

Becca turns into the bathroom alcove, but finds the bathroom door locked. As she waits, Becca looks out at Doug, who doesn't see her. She smiles. She really likes this guy. The smile fades when she notices Doug take a BLUE DIAMOND-SHAPED PILL. Becca takes out her phone and places a call.

BECCA (CONT'D)
I think my date just popped a
viagra.

INTERCUT WITH:

INT. APRIL'S KITCHEN - SAME TIME

April is feeding the baby, while the twins eat. Mia keeps poking Caleb, who's clearly annoyed.

APRIL
Oh yeah, I read an article about
younger guys taking it to enhance
their performance. Apparently, a
lot of mountain climbers also take
it. I guess it lowers artery
pressure at high altitudes.

April holds her hand over the phone.

APRIL (CONT'D)
Mia, stop poking your brother.

Through the following, April is distracted as Mia keeps bothering Caleb, and as the baby repeatedly spits out the oatmeal April's feeding him, spraying her down.

BECCA
That's it? Don't you think it's a
little presumptuous? It's a first
date. Yeah, a pretty amazing first
date. I was actually thinking of
maybe... you know, anyway. I guess
it shouldn't really matter. If I
like him, I like him. And it's
pretty obvious now he likes me.
But it's weird though, right?

APRIL
(beat)
I'm sorry. What?

BECCA
Did you catch any of that?

APRIL
(beat)
What?

BECCA
I can probably just figure this out
on my own.

Becca hangs up and looks out at Doug, unsure what to do.

EXT. OPERA HALL - NIGHT

Griff stands outside. Oliver enters, wearing a backpack.

GRIFF

Where have you been? It's almost intermission.

OLIVER

The YouTube incident was a wake-up call. I realized I need to start making some big changes in my life.
(gesturing to backpack)
Law textbooks.

GRIFF

What? You're going to law school?

OLIVER

Better. I'm pretending to go to law school.

As people file out for intermission, Griff looks around.

OLIVER (CONT'D)

Women see the books, they'll be like he's struggling financially now, but he's got a bright future. Not to mention, he's looking so thin. Check it out.

Oliver lifts his shirt to reveal a body-shaping undergarment.

OLIVER (CONT'D)

Spanx.

GRIFF

You bought a girdle.

OLIVER

It's a body shaper. You have a problem with that?

GRIFF

No, not as long as it matches your cross-your-heart bra.
(spotting boss)
There he is. Come on.

INT. DOUG'S CAR - LATER

It's raining. Doug drives. Becca looks over at him.

BECCA

Hey, so, at the bar, I saw you take that pill.

DOUG

You saw that?

BECCA

Don't get me wrong, I really like you. It's just it's our first date. It's a little presumptuous.

DOUG

Oh, you thought I was...? No. Okay, I can see why you were freaked out. I had no expectation of anything like that happening tonight. That's not why I took it.

BECCA

(confused)

So are you going mountain climbing later?

DOUG

No. After I drop you off, I'm meeting someone else.

BECCA

Excuse me?

DOUG

What?

BECCA

What do you mean "what"? You're on your way to meet another woman?

DOUG

We've been on one date. You can't expect me to be exclusive.

BECCA

You can see other women. I'm seeing other guys. Tons of them. I am worn out! But to schedule a date on the same night? Then to take viagra while you're with me? You were working on her boner during our date!

Doug's PHONE RINGS over the car speaker. The name "Christina" pops up on the dashboard screen.

BECCA (CONT'D)

That's her calling, isn't it? Go ahead, take it, don't mind me.

Doug hits the phone button on his dashboard.

DOUG

Hey, Christina, I should be there in about fifteen minutes.

CHRISTINA (O.S.)

(ditsy baby talk)

I can't wait to see you.

BECCA

(imitating ditsy voice)

I can't wait to see you.

DOUG

Christina, hold on, I'm going to take you off speaker.

As Doug looks down and fumbles with his Iphone to change the audio source, Becca sees a DEER in the middle of the road.

BECCA

Deer. Deer.

DOUG

(sarcastic)

Yes, sweetie?

BECCA

No. Deer!

Doug looks up and, spotting the deer, SLAMS ON THE BRAKES. The car CAREENS off the side of the road and into a ditch.

INT. OPERA HALL LOBBY - A LITTLE LATER

Griff and Oliver approach Griff's boss, DANIEL, who's there with another MAN, presumably his boyfriend.

OLIVER

You know what'd be a cool way to get your job back? Poison his drink with some deadly mystery virus, and tell him if he doesn't rehire you with a ten percent raise, he doesn't get the antidote.

GRIFF

But what if he doesn't drink it? I better just lock him in a room with an infected monkey.

They approach the boss. Griff acts surprised to see him.

GRIFF (CONT'D)

Daniel? Hey.

DANIEL

Griff.

GRIFF

Sorry to interrupt your evening with your boyfriend... partner... I'm sorry, I never know the proper term. Your...?

DANIEL

Brother.

GRIFF

Ah, you have a brother. I wasn't aware of that.

Oliver turns to Daniel's brother, who holds a small drink.

OLIVER

What did that Dr. Pepper set you back?

DANIEL'S BROTHER

Nine dollars.

OLIVER

Oof. Would it be cool if I just had a sip of yours?
(to a woman passing by)
Gotta keep my strength up for law school.

GRIFF

(to Daniel)

Listen, I've been feeling bad about how things went down at work. I just wanted to say I'm sorry.

DANIEL

Don't worry about it.

Daniel turns back to his brother.

GRIFF

Who knows? Maybe running into you like this is fate's way of telling us we should try working together again. Look, you're a really smart, really great guy...

DANIEL

I know you think I'm a douche.

GRIFF

I don't think you're a-- how would you get a crazy idea like that?

INT. CONFERENCE ROOM - FLASHBACK

A group of people sit at a conference table, as DANIEL speaks. Griff whispers to the guy next to him.

GRIFF

What a douche.

FIVE OR SIX QUICK CUTS

of Griff, at various locations in the office, with Daniel in the background, saying the word, "Douche."

BACK TO SCENE

DANIEL

You second-guessed my decisions, you undermined me to your staff. I suppose it's possible that your arrogance is justified, maybe you are as smart as you think you are. But I doubt it. Regardless, I can't have someone working for me who's not a team player.

Daniel and his brother cross away. Griff stands there shaken, as Daniel's comments echo Becca's from earlier.

INT. DOUG'S CAR - NIGHT

Becca and Doug sit silently, waiting for a tow truck.

DOUG

It's been an hour.

BECCA

It's just felt like an hour. We called AAA like twenty minutes ago.

DOUG

No, it's been an hour since I took the Viagra.

BECCA

Why are you telling me this?

DOUG

It's starting to kick in, and it gets really uncomfortable if you don't relieve it.

BECCA

You can't be serious. I'm not having sex with you.

DOUG

Hey, I'm not thrilled about the idea either, but as a doctor, I can assure you there are medical risks--

BECCA

It's not happening!

DOUG

(beat)
What about...?

BECCA

No!

DOUG

Fine. I'll take care of it myself.

BECCA

What do you mean you'll--?
(realizing)
You're joking, right?

DOUG

It's just... it's getting very uncomfortable.

BECCA

Right here?! You're going to do it right here next to me?!

DOUG

I'd go outside, but it's raining.

Doug starts to undo his belt.

BECCA
Whoa, hold on!

Becca opens the door and steps out into the pouring rain.

INT. GRIFF'S LOFT - NIGHT

Griff enters. Cooper is on her way out.

COOPER
I just got called back in to work.
Don't wait up.

Cooper gives Griff a kiss and starts to exit.

GRIFF
Hold on. There's something I need
to tell you... I see us as a team.

COOPER
(confused)
Okay...

GRIFF
(takes a deep breath)
Coop, I got fired.

Cooper looks at him for a beat, then bursts out laughing.

COOPER
Very funny.

GRIFF
I'm serious.

COOPER
Please, you do an amazing job for
Bisbee-Martin. You're
indispensable at that place. You
did not get fired, Griff.

GRIFF
I did. And then I peed in my
boss's fish tank. For six weeks,
I've been putting on a coat and tie
and pretending to go to work, but
mostly I've been here watching TV.

COOPER
(laughing)
Wow, you're a real loser.

GRIFF
I am a real loser.

 COOPER
Griff, six weeks? At least make
the story believable.

Griff looks at Cooper for a long beat. He then plasters on a big smile and chuckles.

 GRIFF
I almost had you.

EXT. SIDE OF THE ROAD - LATER

Becca stands by the car on the phone, getting drenched.

 BECCA
I appreciate it, April, but you
don't have to come get me...

There's a MUFFLED KNOCK on the window from inside the car. The door opens and Doug waves Becca back in.

INT. APRIL'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

The twins run around like maniacs. April talks on the phone, while washing the baby who's in a bath seat in the tub.

 APRIL
Becca, that's Jeremy on the other
line. Call me later.
 (clicks over)
Hey, are you on your way back from
the airport?... You stopped where?

INT. GYM - CONTINUOUS

Jeremy's running on a treadmill.

 JEREMY
It was a long flight. I needed
some wind-down time. I'll be back
in a couple hours.

INT. APRIL'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

APRIL
You went to the gym?
(noticing Caleb peering
into the toilet)
Caleb, no!

As Caleb reaches his hand in, April leaps toward him in SLOW MO, tackling him before he can seize his forbidden treasure.

INT. GRACE LOFTS - HALLWAY

Approaching her apartment, a soaked Becca runs into Griff.

BECCA
Perfect.

GRIFF
(sympathetic)
Are you alright?

BECCA
Let's see. My husband cheated on me, I just went on the worst date in recorded history, and my great new loft not only has hot and cold running brown sludge, but is also located right next door to... well, you. I'm living the dream.

Becca crosses off.

INT. BECCA'S LOFT - NIGHT

Becca, now in dry "comfy clothes," is unpacking a box. There's a knock at the door. She opens it, revealing Griff standing there with a tool box.

GRIFF
I heard you were looking for a plumber.

BECCA
Griff, what's this about?

GRIFF
It just seemed like you needed something good to happen.

Becca takes this in.

BECCA

Do you even know how to fix a sink?

GRIFF

I'm a guy, okay? Of course I know how to-- I have no clue.

INT. BECCA'S LOFT - NIGHT

Griff is under the sink, working on the pipes. Becca sits on the floor, nearby. She takes a swig from a bottle of wine.

BECCA

... I mean, I was supposed to be married, trying to figure out a way to juggle family and career. I wasn't supposed to be dating guys intent on masturbating in the car seat next to me on their way to a date with another woman.

Griff pops out.

GRIFF

Please tell me that's a metaphor for something.

BECCA

Nope.

Griff pulls himself up and sits next to Becca on the floor.

GRIFF

So I told Cooper I got fired.
(taking swig of wine)
She didn't believe me. I know I should be relieved she didn't tear my head off for lying to her, but, and I can't quite figure out why, I actually feel like ten times worse.

BECCA

Maybe part of you was hoping for some kind of reassurance.

GRIFF

What are you talking about?

BECCA

When her anger died down, you wanted her to tell you that being this person people admire doesn't really matter.

(MORE)

BECCA (CONT'D)

You wanted her to wrap her arms around you and convince you, in a way that you're incapable of convincing yourself right now, that you're still pretty damn fantastic, even if you're not the most successful guy on the planet.

GRIFF

Or the girl with the perfect life.

BECCA

(beat)

So what do we do now?

GRIFF

I guess we try to stop clinging so hard to who we were and look for small victories where we can find them. Speaking of which, get ready for the most delicious glass of water you've ever tasted.

Becca holds a glass under the faucet. With a flourish, Griff turns it on. The glass fills with brown sludge.

BECCA

Maybe I should just call a plumber.

GRIFF

No, we have to get this. We need this victory.

BECCA

Can we at least look up a plumbing website on the internet?

GRIFF

(strong)

No, we can't look up a--

(reconsidering)

Yeah, that'd probably be fine.

As Griff scoots under the sink, there's a knock at the door. Becca answers it, revealing April, dressed for a night out.

APRIL

Get changed, we're going out.

BECCA

Who's watching the kids?

INT. GYM - SAUNA ROOM - FLASHBACK

Jeremy sits on a bench in a towel. The door swings open. April enters with the kids. She gives Jeremy a quick peck.

APRIL

See you later, sweetie.

Jeremy sits in a state of shock, as April exits alone.

BACK TO SCENE

APRIL

I felt so empowered. I love being a badass.

BECCA

I'm proud of you, April, but I'm really not in the mood to go out.

APRIL

Quit your wallowing before I put my fist down your throat!

(then sweetly)

Seriously, how much fun is that?

BECCA

Would it be okay if Griff comes?

APRIL

Your ex-boyfriend, Griff, who you've barely seen since high school, who you called a scourge on humanity that you would have dumped months earlier if he wasn't so fantastic in bed?

Griff pops up from under the sink with a big smile.

GRIFF

Fantastic? Really.

BECCA

I never said that.

APRIL

So, wait, how did you guys--?

BECCA

Turns out he lives in the building.

APRIL

It's really good to see you, Griff.

GRIFF

It's good to see you too. Let me just grab my jacket. Is it cool if I invite my friend, Oliver?

APRIL

Tell him to hurry, because this bitch needs to get her drunk on.
(off Becca's look)
I'll stop now.

Griff exits. Becca heads to her bedroom. April grabs a glass and turns on the faucet. It runs clear. As April takes a sip of the water, Becca enters, holding a top.

BECCA

What do you think of this--?
(then noticing)
Where'd you get that water?

APRIL

From your sink.

BECCA

Griff! Griff!

Griff comes back in. Becca points to the glass.

GRIFF

We did it! Oh my god, we did it!

BECCA

We are totally back!

As Griff and Becca hug and jump up and down, April looks at them, confused.

EXT. SEATTLE STREET - MOMENTS LATER

Huddled under umbrellas, Becca, Griff, April and Oliver, peer into the window of an overly hip, extremely crowded bar.

BECCA

This place is ridiculous anyway.
Let's just go somewhere else.

Oliver points to a Chinese restaurant across the street.

OLIVER

How about Mr. Sun's?

GRIFF

Are you kidding?

OLIVER

What? My family went there every Sunday when I was a kid.

GRIFF

Yeah, it used to be great, but it's definitely seen better days.

BECCA

Sounds perfect.

April and Oliver ad-lib agreement.

GRIFF

So because this restaurant matches up thematically with where we are in our lives, we have to suffer through crappy Chinese food?

BECCA

You got it.

INT. MR. SUN'S - LATER

A ramshackle interior. The place is virtually empty. Griff, Becca, and April are at a table, finishing up their meal.

APRIL

Okay, the kung pao wasn't inedible.

BECCA

And the pork fried rice didn't totally make me want to hurl.

Oliver walks back to the table, waving a paper napkin.

OLIVER

Got a phone number.

GRIFF

From who? The only women in here are Becca and April.

Their eyes follow Oliver's to a SIXTY-SOMETHING CHINESE CASHIER with a dyed black bouffant, sitting like a statue at the register. They all react, then notice a cute, twenty-something DELIVERY WOMAN behind the cashier.

OLIVER

Apparently, the YouTube has created quite a sensation in the Asian community. Also she said I looked a lot thinner in person.

GRIFF
 (sotto, patting Oliver's
 midsection)
 I'm sorry I ever doubted you, man
 girdle.

April opens her fortune cookie.

 APRIL
 Hey, listen to this.
 (reading her fortune)
 Great things are about to happen
 for you.

 BECCA
 (looking at her fortune)
 I also got "Great things are about
 to happen for you."

 OLIVER
 (reading his fortune)
 Great things are about to happen
 for you.

 GRIFF
 (reading his fortune)
 Great things are about to happen
 for you.

 BECCA
 Okay, it's possible they're all the
 same, because they got them cheap
 from a cut-rate fortune cookie
 company. But I'm going to believe
 it's because great things are about
 to happen for all of us.

Becca takes a bite of cookie. We hear a CRACK. Becca spits
 out her new tooth. A tense moment.

 GRIFF
 You know, if I were you, I'd just
 roll with it. Maybe learn to play
 the washboard, start a jug band.

Becca laughs. The tension is broken. As they pass around
 orange slices and resume their conversation, we:

FADE OUT.

END OF SHOW