

She Is Everything

A Screenplay for Tom Hiddleston
Written by

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First Draft

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EXT. APARTMENT COMPLEX - DAY

It's an ordinary complex somewhere in Connecticut. The kind where residents work check to check.

INT. BOBBY'S APARTMENT - BEDROOM

BOBBY OWENS, 41 and British born, puts on a tank top then sprays himself with body spray. He's athletically built and regally handsome.

He walks into the

LIVING ROOM

He picks up soccer training gear. A Premier League match is on TV. He places the gear into a large sports bag then checks himself out in a mirror. A goal catches his attention. He watches the celebration with little regard. He turns off the TV and exits.

EXT. APARTMENT COMPLEX

He places the bag in his 1980 MG Convertible and pulls away.

EXT. UPSCALE NEIGHBORHOOD

He drives through an upscale community of stately homes.

EXT. UPSCALE HOME

He pulls up to a large home with pristine landscaping.

BOBBY'S PHONE (V.O.)

You have arrived.

EXT. UPSCALE HOME - BACKYARD

The training gear is expertly laid out in the huge yard, which is just as pristine as the front. ASTON, 10, attempts to dribble a ball through a training slalom as Bobby feigns interest. The boy trips over the ball and falls.

BOBBY

That a boy, Austin.

ASTON

It's Aston.

BOBBY

Well, when I'm finished with you it's the only name the world will ever know. Like Pele.

ASTON

Were you really a soccer player?

BOBBY

Of course. It's why your mommy hired me.

ASTON

Did you play in the Premier League?

BOBBY

No.

ASTON

Did you ever play with David Beckham?

BOBBY

(annoyed)

No.

ASTON

What about Messi? Did you play with him?

BOBBY

No.

ASTON

Are you better than he is?

BOBBY

Very few players have ever been better than Lionel Messi.

ASTON

Then why should I listen to you?

BOBBY

(fed up)

Because I'm British, which means genetically, I'll always be better at this than any American. Now, slalom.

The little brat begrudgingly does as instructed. His gorgeous MOTHER appears on the patio. She's 40, wearing workout clothes, and is clearly hot for Bobby.

ASTON'S MOM
How's it going boys?

BOBBY
Spectacular. He's catching on so quickly.

Aston trips again. He's so not catching on.

ASTON'S MOM
Oh wonderful! Is now a good time to talk about his training schedule?

Bobby receives her signal. It's about time.

BOBBY
Of course. Be with you shortly.

She sashays back into the house.

BOBBY (cont'd)
(to Aston)
New drill. I want you to kick the ball into the rebounder one thousand times. It is the only way to improve your striking skills.

ASTON
A thousand?!

BOBBY
With each leg.

The boy stares at the rebounder net with horror.

BOBBY (cont'd)
You want to be as good as Messi one day, don't you?

ASTON
Sort of.

BOBBY
Then kick the bloody ball. Here...

He places a headband over the boy's head, covering his eyes, then starts hurrying toward the house.

ASTON
I can't see!

BOBBY
You're catching on so quickly Austin.

ASTON
Aston!

BOBBY
Whatever.

INT. UPSCALE HOME - MUDROOM

Bobby and Aston's Mom have sex in the mudroom that overlooks the backyard. They are standing face to face with one of her legs in the air. We can hear Aston counting. He's barely reached one hundred but his pace matches the rhythm of Bobby's pumping.

ASTON (O.C.)
Forty-eight. Forty-nine...

Aston's Mom kisses Bobby's torso and inhales.

ASTON'S MOM
Is that Sauvage?

BOBBY
How'd you know?

ASTON'S MOM
It's what my trainer wears.

It douses his fire a little. His pace slows.

ASTON'S MOM (cont'd)
Don't stop. Give it to me hard.

He picks up the pace again then notices a family photo on the wall. It's a professionally shot photo of Aston and his PARENTS uniformly dressed on the beach at sunset. He tries to ignore it, but can't.

ASTON'S MOM (O.C.)
(ecstasy)
Oh god, Zachary's mother was right.
You are the best.

EXT. PUBLIC PARK - EARLY EVENING

Bobby and LUIS RAMIREZ, 48, sit on a bench as they watch Luis' tween kids, LUIS JR. and LUISA, pass a soccer ball back and forth. Luis has on goalkeeper gloves.

LUIS

You can't keep banging soccer moms in their mudroom Bobby.

BOBBY

And not take advantage of my generous benefits package? I think not.

LUIS

I'm serious papi.

BOBBY

As am I. These brats are the worst.

(mimics a kid)

Did you play with David Beckham?

(back to his voice)

Shagging their mothers is the only thing that makes the job tolerable. And let us not forget, my dear Luis, it's not like the Real Housewives of Suckey Fuckey hire me so their kids can hoist the World Cup.

LUIS

You know what your problem is?

BOBBY

I'm so much better looking than you?

LUIS

You're not happy unless you score.

BOBBY

You've been in the States too long. You're beginning to sound like Dr. Phil.

LUIS

Yeah, well doctor Luis says find yourself a good woman. *One* good woman.

BOBBY

I'm a footballer. I was born to score.

LUIS
Yeah, but you weren't born to die
alone.

This actually gets through to Bobby.

LUIS (cont'd)
I mean, look at me. Sure, I fucked my
way through the pros. But then I met
Sofia and now I'm happy.

BOBBY
The two of you weren't always happy.

LUIS
But we worked it out. It's what you
do in a committed relationship.
(re: his kids)
And now look, I have a legacy. Luis!
Side of the foot, papi. Luisa! Show
him how it's done.
(to Bobby)
See? Two beautiful kids and a smoking
hot wife I can't get enough of. And I
don't need a mudroom to get it up.

Bobby watches Luis' kids with a twinge of envy.

LUIS (cont'd)
Get back with Vanessa. You two were
great together.

BOBBY
We were great in bed. Besides, she's
getting remarried.

LUIS
When has that stopped you?

Bobby shoots him a look.

LUIS (cont'd)
Okay, so she's off the market. Find
someone else or you're going to miss
out on the greatest game of all.

BOBBY
And what pray tell is that?

LUIS
Love, you asshole.

A YOUNG MAN approaches Luis' kids.

YOUNG MAN

Hey kid, I'm open.

Luis Jr. kicks the ball a little too hard and nails the guy in the head. He slumps to the ground. Luis runs over.

LUIS

Luis! Way to strike it papi!

(to the guy)

Hey bro, you okay? You know you really shouldn't talk to little kids in a park like that.

Bobby witnesses it all as Luis' advice continues to sink in.

INT. KYLE'S APARTMENT - EVENING

ZOE MORGAN, 22, makes out on a couch with a nerdy guy named KYLE, 23. She's slender and beautiful; a boho hipster with Victorian facial features. She's in control, guiding his hands without resistance. It's clear she's the more experienced lover.

KYLE

I'm so into you.

ZOE

That's the idea.

KYLE

I was thinking...

ZOE

Don't think. Just feel.

KYLE

...maybe we could have one of your girlfriends come over so you could share both of us at the same time. That would make it better for you, right?

She stops kissing him.

ZOE

Better for me?

KYLE

I mean, I guess I could get into it too--

She bites his lip hard, drawing blood.

KYLE (cont'd)
OW! What the hell?

ZOE
I knew it.

She gets up and straightens her clothes.

KYLE
Zoe, wait.

She grabs her stuff.

ZOE
Get on Pornhub with a fistful of lube
and live out your three-way fantasy
alone.

KYLE
It's not like that. I just thought--

ZOE
(cuts him off)
You just thought that's the reason to
be with a bi chick. Grow up Kyle.

She storms out.

EXT. MORGAN HOUSE

It's a modest two-story home in a Pittsburgh suburb. An Uber
pulls up and Zoe gets out.

ZOE
Thanks.

She begins walking to the front door.

INT. MORGAN HOUSE

Zoe quietly enters then begins to ascend the stairs. She
hears a noise coming from her parent's room. They're having
sex and her mother is climaxing. She sounds like a
hyperventilating dolphin.

ZOE'S MOM (O.C.)
Ohhh, ohhh, eee, eee, eee, eee!

Zoe smirks. She turns back, tiptoes into the

LIVING ROOM

She lays on the couch.

ZOE
(to herself)
At least someone's getting it.

INT. MORGAN HOUSE - KITCHEN - MORNING

Zoe, still in the same clothes, is sitting at the island counter with a glass of juice. She's thumbing through her phone. Her mother, ALLISON MORGAN, 48, enters. She's surprised to see Zoe.

ALLISON
Oh! You startled me. Is everything okay? I thought you were staying at a friend's house.

ZOE
Change of plans.

ALLISON
I didn't hear you come in. What time did you get home?

ZOE
Just before the crescendo.

It takes Allison a few seconds then...

ALLISON
(embarrassed)
Oh. Ohhhhhh. I'm so sorry you had to hear that.

ZOE
Don't be. It's nice to know you two still love each other completely.

ALLISON
Oh, well, hashtag sorry not sorry.

She laughs at her lame joke. EDWARD MORGAN, 50, enters dressed like Bruce Springsteen ala Born In The USA (white T-shirt, blue jeans, red bandanna).

EDWARD
Do I look boss, or what? Oh hey, Zo. I didn't think we'd see you this morning. Everything okay?

ZOE
Sure sounded like it.

She gets up and moves toward the fridge.

ALLISON
(hushed)
She heard us last night.

EDWARD
(hushed)
She heard *you*. I release my payload
like a stealth bomber.

Allison elbows him in the ribs. Zoe returns to the counter
with more juice.

EDWARD (cont'd)
So, sweetie, how's the job search
going?

Zoe shoots him a look. Don't ask.

EDWARD (cont'd)
You know, a buddy of mine manages a
radio station. I hear they're looking
for sales agents. It's supposed to be
a great fit for a humanities degree.
I could put in a good word.

ZOE
Radio stations are getting killed by
streaming services.

EDWARD
Not this one. It's a sports station.

She's clearly not interested.

EDWARD (cont'd)
Just a thought.
(a beat)
I have to get going to the senior
center.
(to Zoe)
We're doing the best of Bruce. Glory
Days is always a hit.

ALLISON
You're a good man, Edward Morgan.

She kisses him.

EDWARD

And you're an even better woman,
Allison Morgan. I'm a lucky son of a
gun.

He kisses her then moves to Zoe and kisses her on the head.

EDWARD (cont'd)

It's good to have you home Zo.

They watch him leave. He really is a great guy.

Zoe returns her attention to her phone. Allison places a pod
in the coffee maker.

ALLISON

Sports sounds like it could be a lot
of fun.

ZOE

Look, I'm sorry it's taking so long.
Believe me, I want to give you guys
your space. I just don't want to jump
at the first thing that comes along
and consign myself to a dead-end job.

ALLISON

No, no. Take all the time you need. I
didn't mean anything by it.

Allison returns her attention to the coffee. Zoe's eyes
return to her phone.

ALLISON (cont'd)

Have you talked to your brother
lately? He seems to be enjoying
freshman year.

ZOE

We text.

ALLISON

What are you reading?

ZOE

An article about a sixty year-old
woman who just found out that her
father isn't really her father and
her mother hid it from them all these
years.

Allison suddenly turns pale.

ZOE (cont'd)

I feel bad for the woman and her father, but I really feel terrible for the mother. Can you imagine having to live with the pain of that guilt for most of your life?

Allison drops her coffee mug. It smashes on the floor as twenty-three years of suppressed guilt comes flooding out.

ALLISON

WAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAA!!!!!!!!!!

INT. MORGAN HOUSE - MASTER BEDROOM

Allison sits on the edge of her bed sobbing. She's a mess. Zoe, stunned and teary-eyed, just stares at her.

ALLISON

I'm so sorry. Can you ever forgive me?

ZOE

Dad isn't my father?

ALLISON

Of course he is. You will always be his little girl. But he isn't your biological father.

ZOE

Who is?

ALLISON

Bobby Owens.

ZOE

Who's Bobby Owens?

ALLISON

A soccer player.

ZOE

You hate soccer!

ALLISON

I know!

She sobs even louder and flops back on the bed.

ZOE

How did this happen?

Zoe gets on the bed and kneels next to Allison.

ALLISON

Some friends and I were having a girls' weekend. You know, spa in the morning, cocktails by the pool in the evening--

ZOE

...I'm familiar with the concept.

ALLISON

Well, one of our friends, Christine, wanted to go to a soccer game. She had a crush on one of the players on our team. I didn't want to go but we were using her reward points and I was outvoted. I was having an awful time but then this player on the visiting team kept scoring. It was Bobby. I couldn't take my eyes off of him. He scored three goals and they won. We went back to the hotel and there he was. His team was staying at the same hotel and they were celebrating their victory at the bar...so we decided to celebrate with them.

ZOE

Mom!

ALLISON

I know. I know. But he was so handsome, and British. It was like talking to a young James Bond.

ZOE

How young?

ALLISON

Nineteen.

ZOE

Oh my god! And you were like, what--

ALLISON

Twenty-five.

ZOE

Wow. You are so much trashier than I've ever given you credit for.

(MORE)

ZOE (cont'd)
 (thinks a beat)
 What about dad? Weren't you two
 dating back then?

ALLISON
 More than dating. Engaged.

ZOE
 Holy shit!

EDWARD
 He was the only man I had ever been
 with. And, I don't know, something
 came over me. This feeling like I had
 to be sure-sure, you know?
 (a beat)
 Bobby was too young to drink, but I
 wasn't. We had sex in a utility
 closet and I never saw him again.

ZOE
 A utility closet?! You conceived me
 in a hotel utility closet.

ALLISON
 (could be worse)
 It received four stars.

ZOE
 Oh, well, where was I delivered? In a
 five-star dumpster?

ALLISON
 No. You were born at St. Mark's. And
 your father was there and it was the
 happiest day of our lives.

She sobs so hard snot forms at her nostrils.

ZOE
 Wait a minute. You said dad was the
 only man you were ever with before
 that. How do you know I'm not his?

ALLISON
 He was away on a Peace Corps mission.
 He got back three weeks after it
 happened. I already knew by then so
 we had sex the night he returned and
 I told him I was pregnant three weeks
 later. Everyone thinks you were born
 premature.

(MORE)

ALLISON (cont'd)
(sobs)
I betrayed a Peace Corps volunteer!
What kind of evil bitch am I?

Zoe watches her mother fall to pieces. Then it hits her.

ZOE
I was a mistake.

ALLISON
(recovering)
No. No. You must never think that.
Having you was not a mistake.

ZOE
But getting pregnant was. I was never
your intention.

ALLISON
Not at first.

ZOE
So, Timmy is my half brother?

Allison nods.

ZOE (cont'd)
Is he dad's?

ALLISON
Zoe!

ZOE
Well, you did have mop-bucket sex
with a nineteen year-old boy.

ALLISON
Please don't tell your father, or
your brother. This would kill them.
Please, Zoe.

Zoe nods and takes Allison's hand. True to her word, she
feels for the mother in this story.

ALLISON (cont'd)
Oh, honey. I'm so sorry. You've been
so open with us about everything. You
never once kept your identity a
secret. Now I'm asking you to keep
mine.

ZOE

Yeah, you are. And I will. I love you. But you're telling me I could've grown up with a sexy-ass British accent. I'll never forgive you for that.

Allison is confused. Is Zoe kidding? Zoe smiles. She is. Allison hugs her daughter with a tremendous sense of relief.

EXT. NICK'S SOCCER SHOP - DAY

Bobby pulls up to a strip-mall soccer shop.

INT. NICK'S SOCCER SHOP

Bobby enters and is greeted by NICK, 38, a Greek soccer lifer.

NICK

Bobby!

BOBBY

Hey, Nick.

NICK

How's biz?

BOBBY

Oh, just banging along.

NICK

Well, if you ever get tired of private lessons the offer to run our new location still stands.

BOBBY

Sorry, but I have no interest in having my brains kicked in by online retailers.

NICK

Fuck Amazon. They can never beat our service.

BOBBY

But they've got you on price.

NICK

Then why do you keep coming in?

BOBBY

Because they've got you on price.

NICK

Don't worry about me. I'm doing great. I'll be able to put my kids through college, and I drive a brand new Tundra while you still putt around in that crappy MG.

BOBBY

I love my crappy MG. And I love you Nick. But running a soccer shop is not for me. Most of the kids around here will end up playing lacrosse anyway. You would be better off diversifying. Dedicate half your space to lacrosse and rename the store "Nick's Kicks and Sticks."

It was off the top of his head, and he's half-joking. But Nick is wide-eyed.

NICK

Bro, you just blew my mind. That's exactly the kind of thinking I need. Seriously, you're perfect for this. Why are you wasting your time being on your own? Wouldn't you rather build something?

BOBBY

It's not for me.

NICK

I'm not giving up on you. Wait here. I'll get your boots. "Nicks Kicks and Sticks." Bro...

He disappears into the back. Bobby browses and spots a FATHER and his young DAUGHTER as she tries out her new soccer cleats. A cherished moment he's never experienced.

INT. COFFEE HOUSE - EVENING

Zoe has coffee with her friends CHRISTINE, CAROL, JACKIE and FRED.

FRED

Oh my god, Zoe. That is absolutely terrible.

JACKIE

How could someone keep a secret like that?

CHRISTINE

Where did you see this article?

ZOE

On my feed.

CHRISTINE

God, imagine being sixty and finding out your real dad is someone else.

FRED

Did they ever tell the real father?

ZOE

It didn't say.

CAROL

That's messed up. If my mom did that to me I'd legit kill the bitch.

JACKIE

You say that now. No one knows how they'd react until they're in a situation.

CAROL

Oh, hell no. I do.

Carol makes a slicing motion across her throat.

FRED

I feel bad for the baby daddy.

ZOE

(interested)

You do?

FRED

He had no idea he had a child. If you ask me, he's the real victim.

CAROL

Here comes the He Too Movement.

CHRISTINE

I'm with Fred. Baby daddy got screwed.

CAROL
He just supplied the seed. The
daughter is the victim.

FRED
Yeah? Well what about the guy who
raised her? He was being lied to from
the gecko.

CAROL
Then he should hold down the mother
while the daughter--

She makes the slicing motion again.

Zoe watches the exchange intently, hoping for any glimmer of
clarity from this group.

CHRISTINE
She was better off not knowing.
Having a dad and a stepdad is brutal.
Some days I just can't deal.

JACKIE
They make it look easy on the
Hallmark Channel.

CHRISTINE
Ooooo, did you see the holiday movie
with the journalist and the prince?

JACKIE
I loved that one. Wasn't it awesome?

CHRISTINE
No, it was terrible. They all are.
But I can't stop watching them.

CAROL
Hold up a second. We still all agree
we'd kill our mother, right?

ALL
NO!

FRED
I'd want to find my real father.

His sincerity snaps them back to reality. Zoe leans forward.

FRED (cont'd)

...Not because I need another one. I mean, my dad's the fucking best guy ever. But to think there's someone out there who--I don't know--is half of who I am...I'd just want to meet him. Just once.

Everyone is silent. A moment of reflection.

JACKIE

(to Zoe)

How about you Z string?

ZOE

Huh?

JACKIE

What would you do if you found out you had a different baby daddy?

It's the question she was hoping to have answered when she brought up the article. She searches her feelings. Then it becomes clear to her. She knows.

INT. MORGAN HOUSE - KITCHEN - MORNING

Zoe and Allison are in the kitchen.

ZOE

I want to find Booby Owens.

Allison is floored.

ALLISON

Zoe, no. Please, don't do this. Your father--

ZOE

(cuts her off)

He'll never know. I promise. This isn't about him. But in a way it is.

ALLISON

This will only end badly.

ZOE

You're the one who taught me to always live my truth and, and, live my best life.

ALLISON
 (under her breath)
 Fucking Oprah.

ZOE
 He doesn't know I exist. He's missing
 out on the woman my father raised me
 to be. I may be half of Bobby Owens.
 But I am one hundred percent dad.

ALLISON
 (feeling slighted)
 Oh, well...

ZOE
 And you.

Allison wants to counter her point, but knows it's futile.

ZOE (cont'd)
 I don't need another parent. But
 there's a nineteen year-old British
 boy who should know what really
 happened in that utility closet.

ALLISON
 (defeated)
 Four-star utility closet.

They hug. Edward enters dressed like Paul Stanley from Kiss.

EDWARD
 Who wants a kiss?

Zoe releases her mom, and rushes to Edward, giving him the
 biggest bear hug she can manage.

EDWARD (cont'd)
 Whoa! Hey Zo! What's all this about?

ZOE
 (verge of tears)
 Nothing. I love you so much. I just
 don't tell you enough.

EDWARD
 Is everything okay? Are you sick?

ZOE
 No.

EDWARD
 Am *I* sick?

He looks to Allison, who is also on the verge of tears.

EDWARD (cont'd)
 Oh, god, I am sick. Did doctor
 Gunderson call? Is it my colon?
 Because I've had to push really hard
 lately.

Zoe releases him. His makeup has transferred to her cheek.

ZOE
 You're not sick. I'm just going to be
 away for a few days and I'm really
 going to miss you.

EDWARD
 You're going away?
 (to Allison)
 She's going away? Where?

ZOE
 I'm not sure yet. It's one of those
 travel and find yourself kind of
 things.

EDWARD
 Honey, four years ago you told us you
 were attracted to both sexes equally.
 I didn't know there was anything left
 to discover.

ZOE
 It'll help to bring my career path
 into clarity. It's just a few days.
 Mom said you guys would pay for it.

Allison is surprised, but she knows Zoe has her cornered.

ALLISON
 I did. I was going to mention it when
 you got back from the senior center,
 which, shouldn't you be getting to?

EDWARD
 ...Yeah. It's "Kiss the Ladies
 Night."

ZOE
 Watch out for the flying panties.

He kisses Zoe on the head then kisses Allison on the lips.

ALLISON

(hushed)

We'll rock and roll all night.

He smiles then leaves. Allison shoots Zoe a look.

EXT. HIGHWAY - DAY

Zoe drives her rental car past a sign that says, "Welcome to Connecticut."

EXT. PARK

Zoe enters the park looking for Bobby. She hears a child counting. She sees DYLAN, a blindfolded boy kicking a soccer ball into the rebounder as he counts.

DYLAN

...Four hundred and three. Four hundred and four...

She then spots Bobby exiting the park's family bathroom, looking rather sheepish. She looks at an image of him on her phone. A pic from his playing days. She then sees a WOMAN, DYLAN'S MOTHER, exit the bathroom looking rather satisfied.

Bobby approaches Dylan.

BOBBY

Okay Declan, that's enough for today.

DYLAN

My name's Dylan.

BOBBY

I don't care.

DYLAN

But I didn't finish.

BOBBY

I did.

His mother approaches.

DYLAN'S MOM

You're doing so well Dylan! Mommy's so proud of you.

(to Bobby)

Same time next week?

BOBBY
I'm open if you are.

She winks and leaves with her son. Zoe has witnessed it all, and she's totally put off. She thinks about turning back, but she's come all this way.

She approaches Bobby as he gathers his gear and drinks from a bottle of Gatorade.

ZOE
Bobby Owens?

He looks up and sees a young, attractive woman. He thinks his day just went from good to great.

BOBBY
Well hello.

She picks up his vibe. Ugh.

ZOE
I'm Zoe. We spoke on the phone? About lessons?

BOBBY
Right. So, where's your child?

ZOE
I made that up. I'm actually here because of Allison Morgan. But when you met her name was Allison Fisher.

He's not sure what she's getting at, but he's on alert.

ZOE (cont'd)
When you were nineteen you played for the Hartford Foxhounds. During your rookie season you scored three goals against Steel City United. Do you remember that?

BOBBY
Congratulations. You just recited the entirety of my Wikipedia page.

ZOE
That night at the team hotel the two of you had sex...in a utility closet.

BOBBY
I played professional soccer for fifteen years.

(MORE)

BOBBY (cont'd)
 There have been many closets. Even a few laundry rooms. I don't remember them all.

ZOE
 Maybe this will ring a bell.

She mimics her mother's orgasmic hyperventilating dolphin. He definitely recalls the sound.

BOBBY
 Okay, yeah. So what? Did I forget to give her an autograph?

ZOE
 You gave her a lot more than that.

He studies her face. He gets it.

BOBBY
 No, no, no. All you've proven is that your house has thin walls. I'm not falling for this con.

ZOE
 Con? You think I drove here from Pittsburgh to con you?

BOBBY
 It's the oldest sports con in the book. "Oh hi, dad. I'm the bastard child you never knew you had. You owe us twenty-one years of child support."

ZOE
 Twenty-two. I'm twenty-two.

BOBBY
 Happy birthday. Your mother is the kind of woman who has sex with strange men in even stranger places. Pick a sport. Pick a team. Your father could be anyone on the roster.

ZOE
 She says you're the only other man she's ever been with.

BOBBY
 (you sucker)
 And you believe her.

She sees his point, and it makes her begin to doubt her mom.

ZOE
Did you have sex with that woman in
the bathroom?

BOBBY
What?

ZOE
Just now. I saw you come out of the
bathroom. Was she getting a lesson
too?

BOBBY
Fuck off.

ZOE
Look, I don't want this to be true
anymore than you do.

BOBBY
Good. Because if you were looking to
cash in, forget it. The only thing I
have of value in this world is the
face, the voice and the car.

He motions to the MG in the parking lot.

BOBBY (cont'd)
I'm sorry you came all this way. But
it looks like you're the one who's
been conned.

She feels embarrassed and angry. She's not sure what to do.
He takes another swig of the Gatorade. She has an idea.

ZOE
It's a long ride back. Mind if I have
a chug?

He thinks it's an odd request. But he feels sorry for her.
He hands her the bottle. She takes it and runs away, leaving
him confused as she hops in her rental and peels away.

INT. MOTEL ROOM - EVENING

Zoe is on the phone with her mother.

ALLISON (V.O.)
Did you see him?

ZOE
Yeah. I saw more than I wanted to.

INTERCUT WITH:

INT. MORGAN HOUSE - BASEMENT

Allison is on the phone with Zoe.

ALLISON
What happened?
(too curious)
How did he look?

ZOE
Oh, um, awful. Yeah, he really let himself go. Man boobs. He looks like he ate Winston Churchill.

ALLISON
Wow. What did he say when you told him?

ZOE
He didn't believe me. He thinks it's a con job.

ALLISON
That fat piece of shit. Honey, I'm so sorry.

ZOE
It's okay. I'll have definitive proof pretty soon. I stole his spit.

ALLISON
What? Ew, Zoe. I don't fully understand the boundaries of bisexuality but I'm fairly certain you crossed them.

ZOE
No, mom. I took a bottle he was drinking. I'm having his DNA tested to see if it matches mine.

ALLISON
Oh thank god. You are so smart. You know I read that FBI agent is a great match for humanities majors. You could be a real asset to the war on terror.

ZOE

Mom...

ALLISON

Okay. Just let me know as soon as you find out.

ZOE

I will.

ALLISON

Are you still sure about this?

ZOE

(not really)

Yeah. I'm sure.

EXT. SOCCER FIELD - DAY

Bobby and Luis warm up before a rec game.

BOBBY

Do you remember my rookie season? The match we played in Pittsburgh?

LUIS

How could I forget? The hat trick! You were on fire that night.

BOBBY

I mean, do you remember later on, back at the hotel?

LUIS

Like I said, you were on fire that night. You and that babe with the nice ass knocked boots in a closet.

BOBBY

You remember that?

LUIS

Are you kidding?

He mimics Allison's hyperventilating dolphin and laughs.

LUIS (cont'd)

We were listening right outside the door! I'm telling you papi, the way you were going at it, I bet that little mami never forgets you.

Bobby suddenly knows his fate is sealed.

INT. DIAGNOSTICS LAB - DAY

A despondent Zoe, with a sheet of paper in hand, walks through the lobby and out the front door.

EXT. DIAGNOSTICS LAB

She stops next to her car and calls her mother.

ZOE
It's a match. It's him.

ALLISON (V.O.)
Oh honey, I know. I've always known.
Come home.

ZOE
Soon. I just need to do something
first.

INT. BOBBY'S APARTMENT - LATER

Bobby answers the door. It's Zoe.

ZOE
I know you don't care, and to be
honest, neither do I. Not anymore.
The first thought that ran through
your head when you saw me was how
fast can I get her into bed or
wherever the hell you do it. Who
blindfolds a kid so he can have sex
with his mom in a public bathroom? I
tested the bottle. Our DNA matches
and it makes me wanna wretch.

She hands him the DNA results. He reads it. Then he looks at her for the first time with completely different eyes.

BOBBY
When were you born?

ZOE
March first. Ninety-seven.

BOBBY
Would you care for a drink?

ZOE
What kind of vodka do you have?

INT. BOBBY'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM

Bobby and Zoe sit across from each other holding cocktails. He's also holding the DNA results.

BOBBY
So...

ZOE
Yeah...

BOBBY
It's a lot to process and I'm afraid you have me at a disadvantage. You're way ahead of me about all this.

ZOE
I didn't know we were keeping score.

He quickly realizes his mistake. He tries a different tact.

BOBBY
I can see it, you know. The resemblance. Especially when you scowl. We get it from my mother.

ZOE
What's she like?

BOBBY
Deceased.

ZOE
Sorry. What about your father?

BOBBY
Dissociated.
(a beat)
In the Owens house it was football or nothing. In his eyes my career amounted to nothing. I offer up no defense in that regard. And, if you're wondering about other branches of my family tree, I have two brothers. I hear they still reside in Liverpool.

She wants to feel for him, but can't just yet.

ZOE

I have a brother. Half brother.
Timmy. He's a freshman at Johns
Hopkins. He plays lacrosse.

Bobby smiles. The irony.

BOBBY

What about your father?

ZOE

(quick to the punch)
He's the best. Best dad a girl could
ever hope for. He's a CPA. And in his
spare time he and his cover band play
free concerts at a senior center.

BOBBY

I wasn't keeping score. But you've
clearly won that contest.

Thinking about her father is making her emotional.

ZOE

When Timmy was a kid he had a freak
accident and lost his sight. It was
only temporary, but it scared the
hell out of us. Every day my father
would come home from work, take Timmy
for walks around the neighborhood and
point out everything he saw so Timmy
could see it in his mind. "I see a
tree. I see a bird. What do the
clouds look like?"

She's crying now. Bobby is a bit misty-eyed as well. They
sit silently for a moment.

ZOE (cont'd)

(softly)

Why did she keep it from him? He
would have forgiven her.

BOBBY

Does he know?

ZOE

(shakes her head)

I took a vow of secrecy.

BOBBY

What's his name?

ZOE

Edward.

Bobby raises his glass.

BOBBY

To Sir Edward of Fatherhood.

She smiles and raises her glass.

ZOE

To Sir Edward.

They drink then look at each other with newfound understanding. It's their first genuine moment.

INT. MORGAN HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY

Zoe and Allison are together and Allison is not pleased.

ALLISON

The whole summer?!

ZOE

Maybe less. I don't know. It's all very fluid at the moment.

ALLISON

No. No. You can't just go off and stay with him for two months. I won't allow it.

ZOE

I'm twenty-two. An adult. I don't need your permission anymore,
(tenderly)
but I'm still asking for it.

ALLISON

I thought you said he was horrible and gross looking!

ZOE

He is horrible. Sort of. It's complicated. But he's not gross looking. I made that part up.

ALLISON

Why?

ZOE

You were all like, "How does he look?" I didn't want you thinking about how hot he is.

Allison frowns. She knows Zoe's right.

ZOE (cont'd)

I told you I don't need another father in my life. And I mean it. But I think he needs me in his.

ALLISON

You really are your father's daughter. What are we going to tell him?

ZOE

How about the truth?

ALLISON

No, Zoe. You promised me!

ZOE

He'll understand. You made a mistake. He'll forgive you. You know he will.

ALLISON

(snaps)

The only mistake I made was telling you! Jesus, Zoe! I'm not like you! Not everything in my life is out in the open!

Zoe is deeply hurt.

ALLISON (cont'd)

Oh, honey, I didn't mean it like that.

ZOE

(holding her emotions)

We'll tell dad I found a temp job with a PR firm while I was there. They're letting me and the other part-timers stay in one of their corporate condos. He'll be so proud of my initiative. I mean, what's one more lie, right?

That stung Allison and she wanted it to.

INT. LUIS' HOME - KITCHEN - EVENING

Bobby and Luis sit in the kitchen drinking beers.

LUIS
Holy shit, Papi, you're a papi.

BOBBY
(Shhh)
Keep it down.

LUIS
What? This is great news. God bless,
man. Seriously, a little girl.

BOBBY
Not quite so little.

LUIS
And that's where you lucked out my
friend. Raising kids can be a bitch.
I mean, it's great. But it's a bitch.

BOBBY
You're the Chaucer of Father's Day
cards.

LUIS
This other guy did all the hard work.
Now you get to enjoy her as an adult.
Like, you're responsible for her. But
you're not *responsible* responsible.
You don't have to worry about being
her daddy. You can just be buddies.
Shit, I can't wait to have drinks
with Luisa.

Bobby looks at Luis. This is the guy giving him parenting
advice?

SOFIA, 45, and still a knockout, enters. She adores Bobby.

SOFIA
Bobby!

She gives him a kiss on the cheek, sits next to Luis and
takes a swig of his beer.

SOFIA (cont'd)
What are we talking about?

LUIS
Bobby has a daughter.

Sofia is shocked. Bobby is not happy with Luis.

LUIS (cont'd)
I would have told her after you left.

SOFIA
A baby girl? Is this from one of your mudroom mamis?

LUIS
No, it's from a mami he banged boots with in a janitor closet...back when we played together.

BOBBY
She's twenty-two. Her name's Zoe. We just met.

LUIS
She's going to spend the summer with him.

SOFIA
Bring her over! I want to meet her!

Bobby nods. It's really starting to hit him.

SOFIA (cont'd)
Our Bobby has a little girl. Oh Dios mío. You know what you need now, don't you?

BOBBY
A dad bod?

SOFIA
No stupid. You need a wife.

MONTAGE:

We cut back and forth between Zoe in HER BEDROOM as she packs and Bobby in HIS APARTMENT as he attempts to spruce up the place. We HEAR a PHONE CONVERSATION they had earlier.

ZOE (V.O.)
It's all set. I'll be there Saturday.

BOBBY (V.O.)
What did your parents say?

ZOE (V.O.)
My mother doesn't want me to go. My
father doesn't know. I told him I got
a summer internship.

BOBBY (V.O.)
I'm sorry you have to lie to him.

ZOE (V.O.)
It's her choice not mine. Whatever.
Can you pick me up at the station?

BOBBY (V.O.)
Of course.
(a beat)
I'm glad we're doing this.

ZOE (V.O.)
Me too.

BOBBY (V.O.)
Zoe?

ZOE (V.O.)
Yeah?

BOBBY (V.O.)
I'm not... I can never be your
father. Another man has earned that
right. But maybe we can be friends.
At least that's my hope. I want you
to tell me if I ever cross that line.

ZOE (V.O.)
Don't worry. You'll know.

INT. BOBBY'S APARTMENT - EVENING

Bobby and Zoe enter. Bobby is carrying Zoe's bags.

BOBBY
I'll show you to your room.

They cross the living room in the direction of Bobby's

BEDROOM

He sets the bags on the floor.

BOBBY

I cleared some room in the closet for your things.

ZOE

Is this your room?

BOBBY

I want you to have it. I'm going to sleep on the couch.

ZOE

I can't let you do that.

BOBBY

It's already done. You're my guest.

ZOE

Thanks Lumiere, but this is my crash. And couches are for crashing.

She picks up the bags and marches out of the room.

BOBBY

Okay...

LIVING ROOM

Zoe makes herself comfortable on the couch. Bobby enters.

BOBBY

Can I at least buy you dinner?

ZOE

That you can always do. I'm broke.

EXT. CITY SIDEWALK

Bobby and Zoe walk down a sidewalk in the city's bustling entertainment district.

They both expertly eye attractive people as they pass by, but neither of them catches the other one doing it.

BOBBY

He was French by the way.

ZOE

Who was?

BOBBY
Lumiere. He was very much French. I
am very much not.

She rolls her eyes. Whatever.

BOBBY (cont'd)
Our ancestry is in Liverpool.

ZOE
What made you move here?

BOBBY
Fame. It didn't take.

ZOE
At least you weren't chasing a girl.

BOBBY
I did that once too. It also didn't
take.

ZOE
Did anything stick?

He stops and looks at her. Isn't it obvious?

ZOE (cont'd)
Oh, right.

He begins to walk into a sports bar. She follows.

INT. SPORTS BAR

Bobby and Zoe are in a booth looking at menus. A WAITRESS in
her early 20's approaches. She's cute. Zoe is attracted.

WAITRESS
Hey guys. My name's Crystal, I'll be
serving you this evening. Can I get
you started on drinks?

ZOE
I'll have a margarita.

BOBBY
Stella.

WAITRESS
I'll be back with those in a jiff.

She leaves. Bobby smiles.

ZOE

What?

BOBBY

I really did miss the Shirley Temple years.

ZOE

You kind of missed a lot.

BOBBY

Yeah...

ZOE

So, why didn't it take? Fame, I mean.

BOBBY

I wasn't as good as I thought I was. I couldn't catch on with a first division team back home so I came to the states to "dominate the lowly Americans." I had my moments, like the night I met your mother, but not nearly enough of them to make me the superstar I thought my British pedigree entitled me to be. Lesson learned.

ZOE

Well, fuck fame. It's corrosive.

The Waitress returns with their drinks.

WAITRESS

Here you go. Are we ready to order?

ZOE

(to Bobby)

You go ahead. I'm still thinking.

BOBBY

I'll have the prime rib sandwich.

ZOE

And I'll have the black bean burger. Can I get extra tomato on it?

WAITRESS

Of course.

ZOE

Thanks.

She leaves. Bobby smiles.

ZOE (cont'd)

I know. Gen Z is "killing the beef industry."

BOBBY

Is it?

ZOE

Well, not yet. But I'm sure we'll be blamed for it just like we get slammed for killing cable, breakfast cereal and anything else old people care about. Why is Tony the Tiger my responsibility?

BOBBY

And here I am thinking you're all pacifists when in reality you're cold blooded cereal killers.

They laugh at his joke then both turn their attention to their drinks. He then eyes one of the many TVs in the bar to check out a soccer match. Their Waitress passes the table. Zoe discreetly checks her out as she walks by. Bobby notices. Ah-ha.

They return their attention to each other.

ZOE

So.

BOBBY

So.

ZOE

Soccer moms. Is that really your kink?

BOBBY

Let's not...

ZOE

Oh, come on. Let's. The day I met you in the park? Doing that kid's mom in the bathroom? What's the story?

BOBBY

There is no story. So let's drop it.

ZOE

I'm just trying to get to know you.

BOBBY

Then know this--the greater the distance between impulse and action the less likely you are to see action at all. I know when to close the distance.

ZOE

Clearly.

BOBBY

My turn. So, waitresses. Are they your thing?

She gets it. He noticed.

ZOE

And waiters. I've been with both. Scandalized?

BOBBY

Not for a long time. Do you have a preference?

ZOE

You mean, do I prefer cock or clit?

BOBBY

You shouldn't talk like that.

ZOE

Are you going to send me to my room without dessert?

BOBBY

No, I mean...

He tilts his head toward a table next to them where a MOM and her TWO YOUNG KIDS are seated. They heard her locker room talk.

ZOE

(to family)

Oh. Sorry. And, for the record, I don't have a preference. I enjoy men and women equally.

She turns back to Bobby, who is slightly amused.

BOBBY

Well, glad that's out in the open.

INT. SPORTS BAR - LATER

Bobby and Zoe are still in the booth. The place is now half empty. They've finished their dinner and had a few more drinks. The conversation is looser.

ZOE

Oh come on, you've never been attracted to a guy?

BOBBY

Never.

ZOE

With all the showers you've taken together? You totally have.

BOBBY

I've admired their muscles. But that doesn't mean I wanted to sleep with them.

ZOE

Did you ever try to suck your own dick? And don't say you didn't because I know you have. Every guy has. It's too tempting.

BOBBY

Then why ask the question if you're so certain?

ZOE

You're right. I'm not. So did you?

BOBBY

Of course.

ZOE

Holy shit! No guy friend has ever admitted that to me before. And I've asked all of them.

BOBBY

Well, they're liars. But aren't we all?

EXT. STREET

Bobby and Zoe are on the sidewalk, walking back to his place.

ZOE
Why did you get divorced?

BOBBY
Because having the best sex of one's young life is not a reason to get married.

ZOE
Think you'll do it again?

BOBBY
Have the best sex of my life? I certainly hope so.

ZOE
No, you twat. Get married.

BOBBY
I know what you meant, and I don't know. I found settling down to be very unsettling.

Zoe stops and begins laughing like she just got the punchline of a joke she heard much earlier.

ZOE
You're initials are B-O! You stink!

He ignores her and continues walking. She catches up.

ZOE (cont'd)
(not really)
Sorry. Truly.

BOBBY
And what about you? How does a bisexual person get married? How do you choose?

ZOE
Who says I plan to get married? Personally, I find the whole concept very unsettling.

BOBBY
It's going to be a long summer.

INT. BOBBY'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM

Zoe is on the couch in her pajamas, trying to make herself comfortable. Bobby passes, going from the kitchen toward his room.

BOBBY
Good night.

ZOE
Night.

Just before he enters his room...

ZOE (cont'd)
Bobby?

BOBBY
Yes?

ZOE
I don't know how I'd choose. A partner I mean. I do think about it, but the thought of making the wrong choice kind of scares me.

He knows all too well.

BOBBY
Good night, Zoe.

He enters his room and closes the door.

INT. BOBBY'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - MORNING

Zoe is awake. Barely. An energized Bobby enters fully showered and dressed. He's a man on a mission.

ZOE
Hey.

BOBBY
Morning!

ZOE
Going out?

BOBBY
Just to the market. I shan't be long.

He nears the door.

ZOE
(clears her throat)
Ahem.

He gets the hint. Turns.

BOBBY
Is there something you need?

ZOE
Could you get me some tempeh?

BOBBY
Tempeh?

ZOE
Or seitan. I'm cool with either. Just not the flavored kind. I like to season it myself. What kind of spices do you have?

BOBBY
Old Bay.

ZOE
I guess I can work with that.

BOBBY
Splendid. Anything else?

ZOE
Maybe some chia seed pudding? Oh, and kombucha!

BOBBY
Kombucha...

His mood sours. This is not going as planned.

INT. GOURMET MARKET

Bobby and Zoe, still in her pajamas, walk the aisles. She places items in a basket. He notices the prices. Holy shit.

ZOE
Aren't you getting anything?

BOBBY
(thinks fast)
Um, it's not in this aisle. I'll get it then meet you in the produce section.

He quickly leaves before she can answer.

INT. GOURMET MARKET - PRODUCE SECTION

Bobby catches up with Zoe. His mood has brightened. He has a cube of cheese, which he eats with pleasure.

ZOE

What's that?

BOBBY

Roquefort. It takes five months to age. Time well spent I say.

ZOE

Did you bring me one?

BOBBY

I thought you were vegetarian.

ZOE

Pescatarian. No beef, pork or chicken. But dairy, fish and eggs are okay.

BOBBY

Your generation really is killing normalcy.

INT. BOBBY'S APARTMENT - KITCHEN - LATER

Bobby and Zoe are eating lunch in his tiny kitchen.

ZOE

...I mean, the whole idea of being sexy for the male species is just so ancient. If I wear a two-piece to the beach it's because I'm feeling good about my body, and not because I feel like I have to pose for all the horny hubbies who probably wish their wives looked like me. Know what I mean?

BOBBY

I feel as if I should be apologizing for something.

ZOE

How did we get on this topic again?

BOBBY

We were discussing your humanities degree and somehow you veered toward your stance on sexual empowerment.

ZOE

Right. You know, you have an outstanding vocabulary. Everything you say sounds so smart.

BOBBY

I'm British.

ZOE

Seriously, you're really intelligent for a jock. Did you ever think of doing something better with your brain?

BOBBY

My brain is my business. And don't assume all athletes present or former are witless neanderthals. It only serves to contradict your point about being objectified. We are far more than what you observe.

ZOE

See? That sounded so smart. You're holding back.

BOBBY

And you're avoiding the original topic young lady. What are you going to do with your college education?

ZOE

Who says I have to do anything?

BOBBY

I find fear of starvation is a rather strong incentive.

She frowns.

BOBBY (cont'd)

(checks his watch)

School's letting out. I have to get ready for work.

He walks toward his bedroom.

ZOE
Are you going to have sex?

BOBBY
Yes.

ZOE
It's prostitution.

BOBBY
Not really. But I appreciate your candor.

(then)
Oh, we're having dinner at Luis' house tonight. It should be a cracker of a time.

Just before he closes the door:

ZOE
You're no longer British you know.

BOBBY
Pardon?

ZOE
You moved here when you were nineteen. You're forty-one now. So, technically, you're more American than British.

He looks at her with contempt then closes the door.

INT. BOBBY'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - LATER

Zoe, now showered and dressed, sits on the couch, thumbing through her phone. She's bored. She walks into the

KITCHEN

Opens the fridge. Looks for something. Can't find it.

INT. GOURMET MARKET - CHEESE SHOPPE

The shoppe is stocked with exotic cheeses from around the world. It's a cheese lover's fantasy. Behind the counter is the cheesemonger, GIA PERRY, 30. She's the kind of woman men fight over.

She patiently tends to a FEMALE CUSTOMER in her 50's.

FEMALE CUSTOMER

My husband will only eat that processed crap wrapped in plastic. He likes how it melts.

GIA

How about a mild cheddar?

FEMALE CUSTOMER

He hates cheddar. And he doesn't like anything skunky.

GIA

Butterkäse. It's semi soft with a buttery flavor. We have a gorgeous import from Germany.

She hands the woman a sample.

FEMALE CUSTOMER

It's not skunky?

GIA

Not in the slightest. And it melts beautifully. It will be the best grilled cheese he's ever had.

The woman tries it. It's as good as advertised.

FEMALE CUSTOMER

Oh my god.

Zoe approaches and sees Gia. She does a double-take.

FEMALE CUSTOMER (cont'd)

How do you say it?

GIA

Butterkäse.

FEMALE CUSTOMER

I'll take a quarter pound.

GIA

(spots Zoe)

I'll be with you in a moment, miss.

Zoe says nothing. She can't. She's spellbound. She scans the selection, trying to play it cool.

Gia hands the woman her cheese.

GIA (cont'd)
Here you go. Will there be anything
else for you today?

FEMALE CUSTOMER
Oh no, this is plenty. Thank you.

GIA
My pleasure. Let me know how it goes.

The woman leaves. It's now just Zoe. She continues to
browse, but it's really Gia she's checking out. Gia can
tell. She's used to it.

GIA
Let me know if you have any
questions.

Zoe continues her charade as Gia checks her out.

ZOE
How's the Roquefort?

GIA
Exceptional.

ZOE
I hear it's aged five months.

GIA
You heard correctly.

ZOE
Could I try a sample?

GIA
Of course.

She hands her a sample. Zoe tries it. Heaven.

ZOE
Oh wow.

GIA
Right?

Zoe continues to chew as she scans for something else.

ZOE
Which do you like better, this or the
English Stilton?

GIA
I don't play favorites. You should
decide for yourself.

She hands Zoe a sample of Stilton. Her eyes light up.

GIA (cont'd)
You prefer the Stilton.

ZOE
I actually prefer the Roquefort. I
just never knew cheese was so sexy.

That slipped out. She's mortified. A MALE CUSTOMER in his
60's approaches.

GIA
Be with you in a moment sir.

ZOE
Oh, no. Go ahead. I'm still deciding.

MALE CUSTOMER
Can I get a half pound of the
Humboldt?

GIA
Sure thing.

She prepares the man's cheese as Zoe watches her.

Gia hands the man his cheese.

GIA (cont'd)
Anything else?

MALE CUSTOMER
No, that's it. Thank you.

He leaves. It's just the two of them again.

GIA
So, what would you like?

ZOE
I don't know. They're both so good.
What do you recommend?

GIA
(leans forward)
How about asking me for what you
really want.

Zoe is surprised by her forwardness, but happy all the same.

EXT. ANOTHER UPSCALE HOME - DAY

Bobby's car is parked outside yet another upscale home. We hear a child counting.

CHILD (V.O)
Six hundred and five...

INT./EXT. - BOBBY'S CAR - EVENING

The top is down. Bobby is behind the wheel as he speeds toward Luis' house. Zoe tightly grips whatever she can.

EXT. LUIS' HOME - FRONT LAWN

They pull up to the house. It's a modest three bedroom. Luis comes out to greet them.

LUIS
Hey, hey! There she is! Welcome!

They meet on the walkway. Luis gives Zoe a big embrace.

LUIS (cont'd)
She's beautiful, papi!
(to Zoe)
I'm one of Bobby's oldest friends.
Hell, I probably would have been your
godfather.

ZOE
I'd take that bet.

LUIS
I met this one when he was younger
than you. Taught him everything he
knows.

ZOE
Then you must drive like shit too.

LUIS
(laughing)
Whoa! Bobby! She really is your kid.

EXT. LUIS' HOME - DECK - LATER

Bobby, Zoe, Luis and Sofia sit out on the back deck with drinks. The mood is loose. Sofia gushes over Zoe.

SOFIA

Oh my God, Bobby. I can't get over how much she looks like you.

ZOE

We get it from my grandmother.

(smiles)

It really comes through when I scowl.

Bobby is touched by her acceptance of their family ties.

SOFIA

Watch out, Bobby. I bet the boys go crazy over her.

ZOE

They do...

Bobby's look: Oh no.

ZOE (cont'd)

...so do the girls.

Bobby winces. Shit.

Luis and Sofia exchange looks then look at Bobby, who nods sheepishly.

LUIS

So you play for both teams?

ZOE

More like play "with." "For" makes it sound contractual which kind of takes all the fun out of it.

LUIS

Then let me ask you something I've always wanted to know. Who do you find more attractive? Me or Sofia?

Bobby and Zoe exchange glances. Is he kidding?

LUIS (cont'd)

I mean, hypothetically. Like, I know Bobby probably finds Sofia attractive, because, come on, what man doesn't?

(MORE)

LUIS (cont'd)
But I know he doesn't find me attractive. Like, not it that way. So if you could only sleep with one of us, who would you choose?

SOFIA
Luis, that's a stupid question. You know she'll pick me.
(to Zoe)
Right?

BOBBY
(to Zoe)
You don't have to answer.

ZOE
No, it's cool. I've actually been thinking about it since we got here.

BOBBY
You have?

LUIS
Really?

ZOE
Fuck yeah. I love Latin sex. It's hot. I bet the two of you ball like wildcats.
(to Sofia)
You're a screamer. Am I right? He makes you grab the sheets and scream?

Luis and Sofia look uneasy. Bobby smiles. He knows what she's doing and plays along.

ZOE (cont'd)
Why do I have to choose between the two of you when it would be more exciting to get *between* the two of you? Hmmm? Why don't the three of us go upstairs and really get to know each other?
(to Bobby)
You don't mind, do you?

BOBBY
(loving this)
Not at all. What's mine is theirs. Stay the night if you'd like. I'll return in the morning to get you.
(MORE)

BOBBY (cont'd)
 (to Luis)
 Would you like me to bring breakfast?
 What's that flaky one with the guava
 paste?

LUIS
 (meekly)
 Pastelitos.

BOBBY
 Pastelitos. I love those. So tasty.

ZOE
 Ready to get freaky?

Luis and Sofia look for a way out.

LUIS
 Um, what about the kids? They might--

SOFIA
 (feigning interest)
 Yeah, right, the kids. Had we known
 we would have sent them to my mom's
 for the night.

LUIS
 Right. Right. Otherwise we would be
 totally down with--

SOFIA
 --freaky.

ZOE
 Pooh. Oh well, next time.

EXT. LUIS' HOME - FRONT LAWN

Luis sees them off as Zoe gets in the MG. Bobby, standing
 next to Luis, looks like a proud father.

LUIS
 Jesus, papi. She really is your kid.

BOBBY
 Yeah she is, isn't she?
 (a beat)
 See you mate.

He walks toward the car.

BOBBY (cont'd)
And tell Sofia thanks again!

He gets in and pulls away.

INT./EXT. BOBBY'S CAR

Bobby and Zoe laugh.

BOBBY
You were brilliant.

ZOE
You weren't so bad yourself. Thanks
for playing along.

BOBBY
It was too delicious not to. They had
it coming.

ZOE
Think they'll invite us to
Thanksgiving?

Bobby busts a gut laughing.

ZOE (cont'd)
For the record, I would totally have
sex with Sofia.

BOBBY
Off the record, I totally did.

Her look: you what?

BOBBY (cont'd)
They were "taking a break" after a
horrendous spat and I was at a
particularly low point.

ZOE
Doesn't that break some sort of bro
code?

BOBBY
I'm not proud of it. Luis is my
dearest mate and I betrayed him. So
now you know my deepest darkest
secret.

ZOE
Why'd you tell me?

BOBBY
I have no one else to tell.

INT. BOBBY'S APARTMENT - BEDROOM - DAY

Bobby folds laundry. He picks up a pair of Zoe's underwear, surprised to see them. She enters and takes them.

BOBBY
It's been a while since my laundry
was co-ed.

She helps him fold.

ZOE
Do you miss her?

BOBBY
At times. We went to Manhattan once
for the holidays. It was magical. But
life isn't always a holiday. You have
to learn how to navigate the days in
between. We couldn't avoid the rocks.
(a beat)
You would like her. She's exotic. She
has spirit.

ZOE
Are you trying to hook me up with
your ex?

BOBBY
I'm just saying you remind me of her.
Besides, she's getting remarried.

ZOE
Her loss.

She takes her clothes and walks out. He thinks a beat then:

BOBBY
Wait, do you mean her loss you or me?

INT. DINER - LATER

Bobby and Zoe eat lunch at a window table. Bobby is looking at an iPad.

BOBBY
Here's one. Technical writer.

ZOE
A classmate tried it. She hated it.

BOBBY
(scrolls)
Museum curator. I like the sound of
that.

ZOE
Then you do it.

BOBBY
Museums are important.

ZOE
So are port-a-johns at music
festivals.

BOBBY
Then why did you study humanities?

ZOE
It sounded interesting.

He gives her a look.

ZOE (cont'd)
I like humans?

BOBBY
(scrolls)
Ah. Okay. Got it. Event organizer.
(reads)
"Do you like to plan, organize, and
make people happy? Put those skills
to work setting up events for
companies or worthwhile causes." Huh?
You could organize a protest. Stick
it to the man.

ZOE
Don't pander.

BOBBY
I'm not. I just think you have what
it takes to lead the charge. To seize
the moment and rally people toward a
common purpose.

ZOE
You really think so?

She's touched by his confidence in her.

BOBBY

Absolutely. You led the charge to find me didn't you?

ZOE

An adviser did want me to consider it.

BOBBY

Why didn't you?

ZOE

I don't know. Just sounded better when you said it.

She takes the iPad to read more about it. An ATTRACTIVE WOMAN passes the window. They both turn to admire her.

INT. BOBBY'S APARTMENT - BATHROOM - LATER

Zoe talks to Allison on speaker phone as she considers shirts to wear. She's getting ready for a date.

ALLISON (V.O.)

Are you eating well? I don't want you to come back looking like a twig.

ZOE

Yes, I'm eating. In fact, I have a newfound appreciation for cheese. It's very sexy.

ALLISON (V.O.)

Cheese is fattening sweetie. Don't overdo it. High cholesterol runs in our family.

Zoe rolls her eyes.

ALLISON (V.O.) (cont'd)

Is he seeing anyone?

ZOE

Mom...

ALLISON (V.O.)

I just want to make sure he isn't bringing strange women over while you're there.

ZOE
He's been a perfect gentleman. And
he's really funny.

ALLISON (V.O.)
Your father's funny.

ZOE
I know. It's just a different funny.
Maybe it's a Monty Python thing.
(then)
How *is* dad?

ALLISON (V.O.)
He's wonderful. And he misses you. A
lot. Don't forget to call him
tonight.

ZOE
I won't. Promise.

ALLISON (V.O.)
By the way, have you seen my new
sleeveless blouse?

ZOE
The cute blue one with the dots?

Zoe holds it up as she checks herself out in the mirror.

ALLISON (V.O.)
Yes.

ZOE
Nope.

ALLISON (V.O.)
Strange. Okay, I have to run honey.
I'll call you tomorrow. I love you.

ZOE
Love you too.

The call ends and Zoe continues her date prep.

INT. NICK'S SOCCER SHOP

Bobby, Nick and Nick's business partners, DOUG (25) and LEO (35), stand around the checkout counter. Nick proudly presents a logo for "Nick's Kix and Stix." He's stoked. Bobby is not.

NICK

Dude, this was *your* idea.

BOBBY

I wasn't being serious.

NICK

But you were right! I told these guys about it and we did the research. Lacrosse is booming bro, and we were missing the boat.

DOUG

A buddy of mine is a pro. We're paying him to be a consultant. The inventory will be here in a month.

NICK

All because of you man.

BOBBY

So, what, are you offering me some sort of royalty?

LEO

No, dude. We want you to join us.

BOBBY

I already told Nick, retail is a losing proposition.

LEO

Right, you're afraid of the online giants. But let me ask you this. How many boots do you try on before you find the perfect pair to play in?

BOBBY

At least five.

LEO

Exactly.

DOUG

It's a pain in the ass to do that online. You going to buy five pair and return four? My buddy says it's the same for lacrosse sticks. It's all about how it feels in your hands.

NICK

Come on, Bobby. Grow with us.

Bobby stares at the logo. He's afraid to take the leap.

Customers enter the store. It's Bobby's client Aston and his Mom and DAD (40). They see Bobby and approach. Oh shit.

ASTON
Hey Coach!

BOBBY
(unnerved)
Hey--

ASTON
Aston.

BOBBY
Of course. I knew that. You're my favorite student.

Aston's Dad shakes Bobby's hand. He's a super nice guy.

ASTON'S DAD
Hi, I'm Teddy. Sorry we haven't had a chance to meet. I travel a lot.

BOBBY
Yes, yes. I've heard.
(sees Aston's Mom)
Hello. This is a pleasant surprise.

She plays it cool. He wants to die.

ASTON'S DAD
My wife says you're fantastic.

BOBBY
She does?

ASTON'S DAD
I mean, what you're doing for Aston. It's incredible. The thing with the blindfold really seems to be working.

BOBBY
I couldn't do what I do without it.

ASTON'S DAD
We were wondering if you could increase it to three days a week.

BOBBY
Three?

ASTON'S DAD
 If that's okay. Keep the momentum
 going, right? I really think Aston
 has a lot of potential.

ASTON'S MOM
 (eagerly)
 I think it's a great idea.

ASTON'S DAD
 And I'd be willing to up your fee if
 that helps.

Bobby thinks about it then comes to a conclusion.

BOBBY
 I'm your man.

ASTON'S DAD
 Great!

ASTON
 Dad, my new cleats?

ASTON'S DAD
 Right.

LEO
 I can help you. They're back this
 way.

Leo leads the way. Aston's Mom looks back at Bobby like she
 wants to have him right there.

NICK
 (to Bobby)
 Well, maybe you don't need us.
 Business seems to be good for you.

BOBBY
 (firmly)
 Let me see the goddamn logo.

Nick holds it up again.

BOBBY (cont'd)
 I'm not fond of the X's. It's cheesy.
 If we want people to respect the game
 then we should hold it to a higher
 standard.

DOUG
(to Nick)
I told you.

NICK
(to Bobby)
Wait, does that mean you're in?

Bobby looks across the store at Aston's family.

BOBBY
What's it going to cost me?

INT. MUSEUM - LATER

Zoe and Gia are on a date. They talk as they eye the art.

GIA
When did you know?

ZOE
College.

GIA
That's late these days.

ZOE
It was freshman year.

GIA
What was she like?

ZOE
He. I had only been with girls before then.

(a beat)
He was a teaching assistant. Just something about him. The entire mess kind of forced me to rethink everything.

GIA
It got messy?

ZOE
I also kind of slept with his girlfriend.

Gia shoots Zoe a look of surprise.

ZOE (cont'd)
Not at the same time. It just--

GIA

You don't have to explain. I've been there.

ZOE

You have?

GIA

I meet a lot of women who are way too into the fact that I'm bi. I've even been with bi women who want to have a fling outside of their hetero relationships because they think it's not cheating if it's with another woman.

ZOE

Were you ever in love?

GIA

Once. She was gay and I had just come out as bi. She didn't want to lose me so she said it was okay if I wanted to be with men. But she couldn't handle it. She just shamed me no matter how hard I tried to make her feel loved. Lesbians don't like it when their girlfriends fuck men. So I ended it. Life's too short and sex is too good. The world would be a better place if people would just get over themselves and fuck.

ZOE

Totally.

Zoe is captivated. Gia's power is undeniable.

They walk a few more paces. A large painting stops Zoe in her tracks.

ZOE (cont'd)

It's beautiful.

GIA

Stand in front of it.

Zoe agrees and poses for a picture. Gia aims her phone then looks up at Zoe.

ZOE

What?

GIA
You're beautiful.

Zoe feels a rush. Gia takes the picture.

INT. BOBBY'S APARTMENT - KITCHEN - EVENING

Bobby is still excited from the meeting at Nick's. He opens the fridge and scans. He spots a bag of cheese from the market. His eyes light up. He removes the bag and eats some. It gives him an idea.

He grabs his phone and begins to text.

EXT. STREET

Zoe and Gia walk down the street.

GIA
So what's the story with your family
life?

ZOE
(laughs)
Oh, let's not go there. It's kind of
complicated at the moment.

Gia gets a text. She looks at her phone and smiles.

GIA
Excuse me.

She steps a few feet away from a curious Zoe. She replies.

INT. BOBBY'S APARTMENT - KITCHEN

Bobby receives her reply. He smiles and types a reply.

NOTE: This back-and-forth continues for a few moments until:

EXT. STREET

Gia sends the last reply and returns to Zoe's side.

ZOE
Everything okay?

GIA
Just somebody I wasn't expecting to
hear from.

Zoe looks at her suspiciously.

GIA (cont'd)
Jealous?

ZOE
(yes)
No.

GIA
Good.

They lock eyes. There's a spark here.

ZOE
I had a really great time.

GIA
Me too.

Zoe takes a step forward for a kiss. Gia stops her.

GIA (cont'd)
Let's pump the brakes. I mean, I want
to, and there's a very good chance we
will. And when it happens I promise
you'll never forget it.

Zoe is disappointed, but encouraged by Gia's assertion.

ZOE
Maybe we can get together this
weekend.

GIA
I'll contact you.

Zoe nods. They part ways.

INT. BOBBY'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM

Bobby puts on a pair of nice shoes and he gets ready to
leave for his date with Gia. Zoe returns, still disappointed
by how her date ended.

BOBBY
There you are. I was beginning to
wonder.

ZOE
I was with a friend.

BOBBY
You made a friend?

ZOE
Yes.

BOBBY
Smashing.

ZOE
You look snazzers.

BOBBY
I have a date.

ZOE
One of your soccer moms? Shouldn't
your pants be around your ankles?

BOBBY
Funny.

ZOE
Are you taking her to a nice
restroom? Did you have to make
reservations?

BOBBY
Finished?

ZOE
Yes.

BOBBY
This is a legitimate courtship. No
money shall exchange hands.
(then)
I shan't be home for breakfast.

ZOE
Twenty bucks says you'll be home
before dawn. Of course you'll have to
spot me the twenty if you win.

BOBBY
I can't tell if you're jealous or
envious. Even so, you're on.

He walks toward the door then remembers.

BOBBY (cont'd)
(turns to her)
By the way, I have amazing news to
share with you in the morning. I
think you'll be really happy for me.

He leaves. She plops on the couch, feeling like a loser.

ZOE
(mocking)
"I shan't be home for breakfast."

INT. WINE BAR

Bobby and Gia are on their date.

GIA
So what made you finally get up the
courage to ask me out?

BOBBY
It was always my intention. I just
think you're worthy of a special
occasion.

GIA
(playfully intrigued)
Oooooo. What's the occasion?

BOBBY
I'm becoming a partner in a small
retail operation. We're expanding our
concept and preparing to open our
second location, which I will manage.

GIA
Brick and mortar. Pretty brave.

BOBBY
I know. I share your concern. But
good things are beginning to happen
for me. I can't quite explain it, but
I think I'm being given a second
chance at life.

GIA
What happened with the first one?

BOBBY
I didn't appreciate it.
(MORE)

BOBBY (cont'd)
(locks eyes with her)
But I don't intend to make that
mistake again.

She catches his drift. She's used to it.

BOBBY (cont'd)
So tell me about you. How long have
you been a cheese merchant?

GIA
Seven years. And it's "cheesemonger"
thank you very much.

BOBBY
My apologies.

GIA
I'm pretty chill about most things,
but I'm deadly serious about twelfth
century etymology.

BOBBY
(smiles)
Yes ma'am.

He enjoys her wit.

BOBBY (cont'd)
So why cheese?

GIA
It's sexy.

It catches him off guard. She doesn't give him a chance to
respond.

GIA (cont'd)
New topic. Was it a messy divorce?

BOBBY
How did you --?

She gives him a look: it's obvious.

BOBBY (cont'd)
Right. Of course. It ended as it
began...passionately. I hope you
don't have a rule about not dating
divorced men.

GIA
 Hardly. I've even been with some who
 were still married, not that I knew
 it at the time.

BOBBY
 I'm sorry.

GIA
 I'm not. It was their choice to cheat
 not mine.

BOBBY
 Still, it must have been
 uncomfortable for you...to find out.

GIA
 It was uncomfortable for *them*. And
 that's when things got awkward. It's
 like they wanted to live a double
 life but once they were outed they
 couldn't deal. People should just be
 upfront with their partners. "Honey,
 I love you and promise to be with you
 'til the end. But we need to have sex
 with other people or we're not going
 to make it. Pass the crescent rolls."

Bobby stares at her with wonder. A SERVER arrives with their
 wine then leaves.

GIA (cont'd)
 (toasts)
 Here's to your new adventure. May you
 not fuck it up.

Bobby looks at her like he's seeing the future and vows:

BOBBY
 I promise you...I won't fuck this up.

EXT. STREET - LATER

Bobby and Gia walk down the street.

GIA
 ...made in Italy. Pairs well with
 roast meats and truffles.

BOBBY
 What is Fontina?

GIA
Nice. Okay, bonus round. Ready?

BOBBY
Hit me.

GIA
This hard, cooked curd cheese is
named for this river in Italy.

BOBBY
What is Piave?

GIA
Very impressive Mr. Owens.

He stops and turns to her.

BOBBY
Like you said, cheese is sexy.

They look at each other for a moment then KISS. She
increases the intensity and he backs away.

GIA
(teases)
My place or mine?

BOBBY
(smiles)
Neither...

She's surprised.

BOBBY (cont'd)
..for now. I want to appreciate you.
I fear that wouldn't happen if we did
this so soon.

GIA
I'm not... I don't know if long-term
is exactly my thing.

BOBBY
It hasn't been my fondest friend
either. But I was recently reminded
how good life can be when you have
someone to care about.

GIA
Well then you should know I'm
bisexual. I date women. I was with
one earlier when you texted me.

BOBBY
A popular lifestyle choice lately...

GIA
It doesn't mean we couldn't have something. I just don't want to make any promises.

He takes a moment to think about. Lets it sink in.

BOBBY
I have no problem with bisexuality.

She considers his words as he steps toward an ATM machine.

GIA
What are you doing?

BOBBY
I need twenty dollars.

INT. BOBBY'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - MORNING

Zoe gloats on the couch, admiring the twenty dollar bill in her hand. Bobby is in the kitchen drinking coffee.

ZOE
It's so crisp. I knew you'd strike out.

BOBBY
I didn't. She did. I turned her down.

ZOE
Too desperate?

BOBBY
Too special.

He enters the living room and sits across from her.

BOBBY (cont'd)
She's beyond definition.

ZOE
Man, you got it bad.

BOBBY

Perhaps. I mean, we're still in the early stages and she's made it clear that she's not quite ready for a commitment, but I think she's vulnerable to a change of heart.

ZOE

Oh, well, since you put it that way, what should I wear to the wedding?

BOBBY

I don't know. Maybe we'll just live as a common-law couple. There are some kinks to work out.

Zoe gets up and crosses into the kitchen for coffee.

ZOE

Does your common-law bride have a name?

BOBBY

Gia. Gia Perry. She's the cheese merchant at the market. Correction, *cheesemonger*.

Zoe is stunned. She slowly returns to the couch.

BOBBY (cont'd)

I can't wait for the two of you to meet. I know you'll fancy her.

ZOE

Oh I'm sure I will.

It all makes sense to her now. And she finds it amusing.

ZOE (cont'd)

Soooooo, Gia.

BOBBY

Yes.

ZOE

Gia the Cheesemonger.

BOBBY

Why do you say it like that?

ZOE

I guess she didn't mention the other date she went on.

BOBBY
Actually, she did. How did you--

ZOE
...To the museum.

BOBBY
You saw her?

ZOE
I heard her call her date
"beautiful." And she is. Some people
say she resembles her paternal
father. Especially when she scowls.

Bobby is confused at first then puts two and two together.

BOBBY
Oh no.

ZOE
(laughing)
Oh yes. She didn't tell you she's bi?

BOBBY
She did, but...you?

ZOE
I'm sorry for laughing at your pain,
but you have to admit, it's pretty
funny.

BOBBY
You can never see her again.

ZOE
Excuse me?

BOBBY
I'm not joking. I feel a connection.

ZOE
Um, A, you don't get to tell me what
to do, remember? And, B, what you're
feeling is the superhuman sexuality
of a very experienced bi woman who,
by the way, didn't think twice about
being with two people minutes apart.
Believe me, she could be having
breakfast in bed with someone else
right now.

Zoe can almost imagine it. She wanted it to be her.

BOBBY
Then we should forget about her.

ZOE
Maybe we should.

But they both know they can't.

BOBBY
So it's settled then. No more Gia.

ZOE
Adios cheesemonger.

They sit in silence for a moment. An uneasy truce.

BOBBY
(rising)
I have a lesson. I'll take you to
lunch when I return.

She nods.

INT. BOBBY'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - LATER

Zoe is on the couch watching videos on her phone. She can't focus. She can't resist. She rises.

INT. GOURMET MARKET - CHEESE SHOPPE

Zoe enters the area and is disappointed to see ANOTHER EMPLOYEE behind the counter. No Gia. Then Bobby, in his sweaty work clothes, enters the area and has the same reaction. Then he sees Zoe and marches toward her.

BOBBY
We agreed she was off limits.

ZOE
She is.

BOBBY
Then why are you here?

ZOE
I have a crisp twenty and a craving
for Roquefort. Why are you here?

A CUSTOMER approaches. Wanting privacy, Bobby leads Zoe to a nearby

AISLE

BOBBY

Let me have Gia.

ZOE

No way.

BOBBY

You'll be gone at the end of the summer. The most you could have is a fling. I want more than that.

ZOE

Are you hearing yourself? She's never going to settle for one person. You're not going to "win" her. She's too free.

BOBBY

As long as she comes home to me she's free to do whatever she wants. We both are.

ZOE

You're insane.
(catches a whiff)
And you smell like desperate housewife.

BOBBY

You have your entire life ahead of you and there are far more fish in your sea than mine. Find another fish.

ZOE

I'm sure there's a maternity ward somewhere full of new soccer moms to bang. You'll live.

BOBBY

(stern like a dad)
I'm no longer asking you. I'm telling you. Back off.

He turns and begins walking away.

ZOE

You're afraid I'll beat you.

He stops and turns.

BOBBY

Beg pardon?

ZOE

I'm on her team so you're afraid she'll fall for me and not you. You don't think you can win. You, with all your hot British charm--no match for a bad-ass bi bitch like me.

BOBBY

Did you have sex with her? On your date. Did you have sex?

ZOE

No.

BOBBY

Did you kiss?

She shakes her head no.

BOBBY (cont'd)

Well, we did kiss. Passionately. So it appears we know *whom* she wants more.

ZOE

More like *whom* she wanted at that moment, because she promised that we would do it the next time we were together and said it would be so good I would never forget it. She wants to rock...my...world.

BOBBY

You'll never get that chance again.

ZOE

Wanna bet?

BOBBY

What are you suggesting?

ZOE

A challenge. She falls for you first, she's yours. She falls for me first, she's mine. You game?

He has to think about it for a moment.

ZOE (cont'd)
What's wrong soccer boy? Lost your balls?

Oh no she didn't. Game on.

BOBBY
I'm a footballer. I was born to score. You're on.

ZOE
Bring it Liverpool.

BOBBY
We'll need ground rules.

ZOE
Right.

INT. SPORTS BAR

Bobby and Zoe are in a booth laying down the rules.

ZOE
No sex.

BOBBY
No problem. But kissing is okay?

ZOE
It'll be weird if we didn't.

BOBBY
It'll be weird if we do. We'll both be kissing the same woman.

ZOE
No tongue.

They point at each other in agreement.

ZOE (cont'd)
You have a financial advantage so no extravagant gifts to buy her affection.

BOBBY
Not to worry. I have to come up with quite a sum of money for my share of the business.

ZOE
What business?

BOBBY
That's right, I forgot to tell you.
I'm becoming a partner of a growing
sports retail business. I'm going to
run our new location.

ZOE
(genuine)
That's awesome Bobby! I'm proud of
you. You're finally using the correct
brain.

BOBBY
Thank you. Gia was quite happy for me
as well.

ZOE
Right, Gia. She can't know about us.
As far as I know, you don't exist.

BOBBY
That shouldn't be too hard for you.

She shoots him a look. Dick.

BOBBY
Sorry.

She shrugs it off. There's an awkward silence.

BOBBY
Wait, what if she doesn't fall for
either of us?

They look at each other and laugh hard. As if.

EXT. STREET - DAY

An OLDER YUPPIE drives Bobby's car with the top down. Bobby
is in the passenger seat. They pull into a

PARKING LOT

They get out and the Yuppie slowly circles the car,
inspecting it.

YUPPIE
 (haggling for a deal)
 She needs some work. I'll probably
 have to sink a few grand into her.

BOBBY
 But she drives like a dream.

YUPPIE
 Will you take a little less?

BOBBY
 I should be asking for a little more.
 She's a classic.

Bobby watches the man inspect it again. This is killing him.

YUPPIE
 I don't know...

BOBBY
 You're not the only one who responded
 to the ad, just the first.

YUPPIE
 Okay. I'll take it.

Bobby wins, but feels like he lost.

INT. BOBBY'S APARTMENT

Bobby enters still dejected from the sale. Zoe is in the
 living room dressed to kill.

BOBBY
 Going out?

ZOE
 I have a date with Gia. It's my turn.

BOBBY
 I don't recall discussing that.

ZOE
 You went out with her last. Besides,
 ladies first. Where's your chivalry?

He feels like his day just went from bad to worse. She
 checks herself out in the mirror.

ZOE (cont'd)
 Damn, I look good. I figure I'll have
 this thing won by the end of the
 week. Maybe sooner.

He stands in silence. She heads to the door.

ZOE (cont'd)
 Ta ta. Cheerio. Captain Crunch.

And she's gone.

INT. SUSHI RESTAURANT

Gia looks at a menu. Zoe is looking at her phone and shaking
 her head.

GIA
 I like the sound of the Halloween
 Roll.
 (noticing Zoe)
 What's wrong?

ZOE
 Just reading about all this Royal
 Family drama. Don't you just hate the
 British? And that accent. More
 pretentious? All they care about is
 soccer. Ever been with a soccer
 player? The worst. No game in bed.

GIA
 (chuckles)
 No, I haven't. Not yet anyway. What
 are you getting?

Zoe is bummed by Gia's response. Pretends to scan the menu.

ZOE
 I'll just get what you're getting. I
 trust you.

GIA
 Do you? Trust me?

ZOE
 (caught off guard)
 Of course. Shouldn't I?

GIA
Trust is the foundation of all my
relationships. I would never lie to
you.

ZOE
...Relationships. So you're seeing
other people?

GIA
I thought I was pretty open about
that.

ZOE
No, you were. I just...
(a beat)
Like who?

GIA
I can't tell you that. Trust,
remember? If it makes you
uncomfortable--

ZOE
I'm not put off by it. I mean, I'll
probably be seeing other people too.

GIA
Good.

Gia smiles a big ear-to-ear smile. It's almost goofy.

ZOE
What are you doing?

GIA
Nothing.

ZOE
You're smiling like a goof.

Gia continues to hold the smile. It becomes contagious.

ZOE (cont'd)
(smiling)
Seriously, cut it out.

GIA
A simple smile. All that dopamine
releasing in your body.

ZOE
Careful. I could get addicted.

Gia takes her hand. Zoe's heart pounds. She's falling hard.

INT. LUIS' HOME - KITCHEN

Bobby has lunch with Luis, Sofia and their kids. Bobby looks worried. He's not eating.

LUIS
What's the matter? You haven't
touched your plantains.

Sofia takes one off of Bobby's plate and eats it.

SOFIA
They taste good to me.

LUIS
You having money trouble? You need a
loan?

BOBBY
I'm seeing someone.

SOFIA
That's great!

LUIS
Yeah that's a good thing, right?

BOBBY
Zoe is seeing her too.

Luis drops his fork. The kids lean in to hear more.

LUIS
Kids, go inside.

LUISA
We want to hear this.

LUIS
Now!

LUISA
We have Netflix you know.

LUIS
Then go watch it!

The kids trudge out of the room.

LUIS (cont'd)
This isn't good papi.

BOBBY
I know. She has a clear advantage
over me.

SOFIA
Listen to me Bobby. I watch all the
telenovelas and every single love
triangle ends with a bullet.

LUIS
She's right.

Luis points a finger to his own head. Pow.

BOBBY
You just shot yourself in the head.

SOFIA
First your daughter wants to have sex
with us, now it's your new
girlfriend. Who raised her, gay
wolves?

BOBBY
There's nothing wrong with Zoe. We
just have similar taste in women.

This makes Sofia back off.

LUIS
Why are you doing this? It's crazy.

BOBBY
I believe your advice was, "Don't die
alone."

LUIS
But you will. You can always replace
the girlfriend. But you'll never be
able to replace your daughter. And
she's all you got.

BOBBY
Don't worry. I know what I'm doing.

They doubt him. Even he doesn't believe it.

INT. SUSHI RESTAURANT

The meal is over. Check's paid. They get up from the table. Gia takes Zoe's hand.

GIA
(to my place)
Let's go.

ZOE
(eyes wide)
Yeah. Okay.

Then she stops. The rules. No sex. She lies.

ZOE (cont'd)
Wait, I um, can't.

Her eyes shift downward. That time of the month.

GIA
Oh.

ZOE
I'll take a kiss though.

Gia obliges. It's the kiss Zoe's been waiting for. A kiss like no other.

INT. BOBBY'S APARTMENT

Zoe enters sexually frustrated. Bobby is in the living room.

BOBBY
How did it go?

Without a word, she pours a glass of vodka, downs it then heads to the bathroom and shuts the door. The shower turns on.

Sensing an opening, he picks up his phone.

INT. GIA'S APARTMENT - EVENING

Bobby and Gia are making out on her couch. She's still horny from lunch. Wine and cheese is on the coffee table.

She attempts to remove his shirt. He stops her. She attempts to remove her shirt. He stops her. It's killing him, but he's doing his best to play by the rules.

GIA
Would you rather do it in bed?

BOBBY
I can't. Not now.

She grabs his crotch.

GIA
That's not what he thinks.

He removes her hand.

BOBBY
Let's just talk.

GIA
(frustrated)
What the fuck is this?

BOBBY
I want to know more about you.

GIA
You want to see my 23 and Me results?
I'm one-tenth East African.

BOBBY
Good! What else? Tell me about your
passions. Your dreams. We only
covered the basics the other night.
You're originally from Rhode Island.
Your parents are still together. You
broke your collar bone in a bicycle
mishap. You have a curious affinity
for the harpsichord.

GIA
(playfully defensive)
Hey, watch it.

BOBBY
Tell me more--the entirety of the Gia
Perry story. Especially the parts
still to be written.

GIA
Being bi is a pretty big story.

BOBBY
Then let's start there.

She looks at him. Raises an eyebrow.

INT. GIA'S APARTMENT - LATER

Bobby and Gia are still on the couch. Only now they sit across from each other, bare feet almost touching. They talk and laugh like old friends catching up with other.

BOBBY

I didn't know they even did that anymore. But I'm quite certain you're supposed to hold your peace when the minister asks the question.

GIA

That night I could barely hold my liquor. She still hasn't forgiven me.

BOBBY

Why did you do it?

GIA

They got to me. They just wore me down. The whole run-up to the wedding people kept asking me, "When are you going to settle down?" At the bridal shower. At the rehearsal dinner. "You can't be single your whole life you know. You'll be miserable." They treated it like being bi was some sort of phase I was going through. Like eventually I would have to "pick a side." So I got drunk and I snapped. No one would even look at me at the reception, but there was this amazing selection of cheese. Burrata. Blue Castello. Roomkaas. So I tried it all and eating it made me feel sooooo good. That's when I decided to become a turophile.

BOBBY

So what's next? Open your own cheese shop?

GIA

As if. No, I'm happy where I am. There are benefits.

BOBBY

And "picking a side"?

GIA

Bobby...

BOBBY

I'm not getting down on bended knee.
Just curious.

GIA

I can't say I've never thought about it. *If* I choose to marry it would probably be to someone like me who understands that I need to share myself with other people. I won't sacrifice who I am for anyone.

BOBBY

You shouldn't have to.

They lock eyes. He's falling for her. Her face is harder to read.

INT. BOBBY'S APARTMENT - LATER

Bobby enters. Zoe is on the couch watching videos.

BOBBY

It's over.

ZOE

(alarmed)

She said I love you?

BOBBY

Not yet. But it's only a matter of time. We should end this.

ZOE

She didn't say it.

BOBBY

But I know she feels it.

ZOE

Well I felt it too.

BOBBY

Zoe...

ZOE

I did. She wanted to have sex and I held my ground. But if we did I know she would have fallen in love with me.

BOBBY

Love and lust are not the same thing.

ZOE

Oh, please, don't fucking mansplain love to me. What the fuck do you know about love?

There's a tense silence.

BOBBY

You're right. I don't know. I fuck women and they pay me.

(a beat)

Let's just cool off. I'll buy you a drink. The bar's still open.

She takes a deep breath. Nods.

INT. SPORTS BAR - EVENING

Bobby sits in a booth texting. He can see Zoe standing outside Facetiming.

EXT. SPORTS BAR

Zoe is Facetiming her father, who is dressed like Elton John.

EDWARD

I miss you.

ZOE

I miss you too.

EDWARD

Who are you out with?

ZOE

Just some friends from work.

EDWARD

Awesome! I'd love to meet them. Are they around? Can I say hi? I want to see who you're spending the summer with.

ZOE

Uh, sure.

Zoe looks around then grabs a RANDOM WOMAN.

ZOE (cont'd)
Say hi to my father.

Luckily, the young woman is fun and up for anything.

RANDOM WOMAN
HI!

Zoe pushes her away.

RANDOM WOMAN (cont'd)
Your dad is Elton John?

She sings "Rocket Man" as she walks away.

EDWARD
Who was that?

ZOE
Uh, Summer.

EDWARD
She seems fun.

ZOE
Yeah, she's a blast. Listen, I have to go. Say hi to mom for me.

EDWARD
Okay, love you!

ZOE
Love you too.

INT. SPORTS BAR

Zoe returns to the booth.

BOBBY
How's Sir Edward?

ZOE
Good. Tonight he's dressed like Sir Elton.

BOBBY
Kinky.

They stare at each other. Not sure what else to say. Their drinks arrive. He picks up his drink, thinks a moment, then extends it toward her. A toast.

BOBBY (cont'd)
To you.

ZOE
To us.

They drink. A delicate peace.

DOUG (O.C.)
Hey, Bobby!

Doug approaches. Bobby acts surprised to see him.

BOBBY
Doug! Hey mate. Who are you here
with?

DOUG
Oh, uh, just me. Thought I'd stop in
for a beer.

BOBBY
Please, join us. Zoe, slide over.

She slides over and Doug sits next to her.

BOBBY (cont'd)
This is Zoe. Zoe, this is Doug. He's
going to be one of my business
associates.

ZOE
Is that so?

She can smell a set-up and she's irritated.

DOUG
You come up with the money yet?

BOBBY
I'm working on it.
(then)
You two actually have a lot in
common. Doug also went to university.

ZOE
What are the odds.

Bobby shoots Doug a look. Talk her up.

DOUG
I played soccer at UVC. Full
scholarship. I was a center back.

She fakes being impressed. There's no chemistry at all. A TIMER goes off on Bobby's phone.

BOBBY
Well, it's late and I have to be up
early for a lesson.

Before Zoe says anything Bobby downs his drink, throws cash on the table and gets out of the booth.

BOBBY (cont'd)
You stay. Have fun. Talk about
whatever your generation talks about
these days. Tik Tok and the like.
It's on me.

DOUG
Sweet.

And just like that, Bobby is gone. Doug gets up and sits across from Zoe.

DOUG (cont'd)
(flirty)
'Sup.

INT. BOBBY'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - MORNING

Bobby enters from his bedroom dressed for a lesson. Zoe is on the couch eating cereal.

ZOE
Nice try.

BOBBY
(surprised)
What?

ZOE
(imitating)
"Douglas! Mate! What a pleasant
surprise."

BOBBY
That's a rather unflattering
impersonation.

ZOE
Did you honestly think I would fall
for Doug and forget all about Gia?

BOBBY

What an absurd accusation.

ZOE

I saw your texts on his phone
inviting him to meet me.

BOBBY

You did?

ZOE

When he was in the shower.

BOBBY

When did he shower?

ZOE

Before we had sex. I believe your
generation calls it a grudge fuck.

BOBBY

That's not how that works!

ZOE

You're so afraid of me because you'll
know she'll love me.

BOBBY

What do you know about love? You're
no different than I am. You'll fuck
anyone if it makes you feel better
about yourself.

She looks at him. Can't believe he said it. Neither can he.

BOBBY (cont'd)

(his phone vibrates)

My car's here.

He grabs his gear and leaves. Zoe picks up her phone.

EXT. ASTON'S HOUSE

Bobby pulls up in an UBER and gets out of the back. The car
starts to pull away. Angered, Bobby slaps the trunk.

BOBBY

Hey!

The car stops.

UBER DRIVER

Sorry.

The trunk opens and Bobby removes his gear.

INT. MUDROOM

Bobby and Aston's Mom have sex. He thrusts into her from behind like a man with a grudge. Aston can be heard counting.

Bobby looks at the photo of Aston's family on the beach. He begins to

DAYDREAM:

Bobby and Gia walk on a beach holding hands. They are dressed in white. They also have a DOG. They're the picture-perfect couple. The camera turns to reveal Zoe, also dressed in white. They smile at her. She smiles back. Then she winks at Gia, who winks back. This surprises Bobby, snapping him back to reality.

He's still thrusting. Aston's Mom is moaning.

ASTON (O.C.)

...One thousand. I'm done!

Bobby stops. Enough.

BOBBY

So am I.

ASTON'S MOM

Oh baby don't stop. I'm almost there.

He can't do it anymore. He won't. She turns to look at him.

ASTON'S MOM (cont'd)

Bobby?

He looks at her. Relieved. He's free.

EXT. STREET

Zoe and Gia walk down the street.

ZOE

Ever been to Portland?

GIA
Oregon or Maine?

ZOE
Oregon. But I hear Maine's cool too.

Gia shakes her head no.

ZOE (cont'd)
We should go. Like spend a week. I've always wanted to check it out.

GIA
I don't know...

ZOE
We could go somewhere else. Where do you want to go?

GIA
I don't know. I mean, I just can't pick up and travel. I work. I don't have the kind of flexibility you do.

Zoe tries to think, desperate to have Gia for herself.

JILL, a plain-looking woman in her mid 30's approaches.

JILL
Gia?

GIA
Jill! Hi. How are you?

JILL
Good. Good. You know...good.

They look at each other. It's awkward. There's history.

GIA
This is Zoe.
(to Zoe)
Jill and I met last year.
(to Jill)
What was it, September?

JILL
(a little hurt)
October. October twelfth. At The Flower Pot. You had on that cute denim jacket and they were playing Fiona Apple songs.

GIA
Right. Good memory. How's Amy?

JILL
We broke up.

GIA
Oh. Sorry to hear that. You two
seemed so good for each other.

JILL
Yeah...well. Yeah...

No one knows what to say.

GIA
Well, um, we're going to get some
coffee. Want to join us?

JILL
I'd love to. But I really shouldn't.
No. I don't think that would be a
good idea. It's just so, you know...
Amy and...still kind of raw. No.

GIA
You sure?

JILL
Sure. Yes. Very sure. No. But thanks.
It was nice to meet you...(forgets)

ZOE
Zoe.

JILL
Zoe.

She quickly walks away without saying another word.

ZOE
Okay, what's the tea?

GIA
It's nothing.

ZOE
That was not nothing. She was about
to fall apart like Jenga.

GIA
I was at this club and started
dancing with her friend Amy.

(MORE)

GIA (cont'd)
 Seeing us flirt made Jill realize
 that she was not only gay but also in
 love with Amy. Amy wanted to go home
 with me, so Jill decided to come too.

ZOE
 What happened?

GIA
 We all had sex. It was pretty hot
 actually. I mean Jill was--

Zoe stops her with a KISS, which Gia accepts and enjoys.

DUDE (O.S.)
 Yeah! Let's see a show!

They break the kiss and see two YOUNG DUDES ogling them.

DUDE
 Aw, come on. Don't stop.

Enraged, Zoe charges at them.

ZOE
 Hey, fuck you, asshole! You want to
 go? Huh? I'll kick your fucking ass!

The guys back up.

DUDE
 Whoa! Whoa! I was just kidding
 around!

GIA
 Zoe, stop! Let it go.

ZOE
 You jerk-offs think it's funny? Do
 ya? Two girls kissing? It's 2020
 bitches! Grow the fuck up!

GIA
 Zoe!

DUDE
 Fuck this.

The guys walk away. Zoe returns to an unhappy Gia.

ZOE
 (off her look)
 They have no fucking right.

GIA

No, they don't. And believe me, I've felt that rage too because that shit wouldn't happen if one of us was a guy. But attacking people won't make them less ignorant.

ZOE

What was I supposed to do, not say anything? Let them think we're doing it for them? That's bullshit! We have a right to live our lives just like they do!

Passersby begin to stare.

GIA

Keep your voice down.

Zoe tries to calm herself. She fears it's slipping away.

ZOE

I love you.

GIA

Oh god, Zoe...

ZOE

I do. When I'm with you I see the kind of person I want to be. You know more about people than anything they taught me in school. And when you said I was beautiful I knew it wasn't just surface. I believed you could really see me.

GIA

I do see you. And I see a lot of me when I was your age.

ZOE

You're only thirty. Don't make it sound like you're old.

GIA

Older than you. You're the first person I've ever been interested in who was way younger than me. And I never thought that would make a difference...but I'm starting to think it does.

ZOE

What are you saying?

GIA

I don't know if this could work. Us. I know the sex would be great but love will only complicate it. Maybe I need to be with someone a little more mature.

ZOE

(petulant)

I'm mature!

GIA

Zoe...

ZOE

I can't believe you're making this about age. I'm not some fucking cheese.

GIA

It's not just that. It's about life experience and...

ZOE

And what?

GIA

I'm falling for someone else. A guy.

Zoe's fears are realized.

ZOE

He's eleven years older than you!

GIA

Who is?

ZOE

He'll never love you like I will! He doesn't even know how to love! He fucks soccer moms for money!

GIA

What are you taking about?

ZOE

Bobby! He doesn't love you. He can't. He just wants to beat me.

GIA
Bobby? I'm talking about Dave.

ZOE
Who's Dave?

GIA
One of the butchers at the store. How
do you know Bobby?

Zoe is frozen. It's over. Gia is trying to put the pieces
together.

GIA (cont'd)
Zoe? Who the hell are you?

INT. BOBBY'S APARTMENT - LATER

Zoe packs her stuff. She's been crying. Bobby comes home.

BOBBY
What are you doing?

ZOE
It's over.

BOBBY
I know.

ZOE
No, you don't. She's not picking you.
She's in love with Dave.

BOBBY
What? Who's Dave?

ZOE
He's a butcher. But he could have
been anybody. That's what I've been
trying to tell you. But you couldn't
get it through your thick British
skull. You're dealing with a force
you have no ability to control.
Whatever. It doesn't matter. I'm
going home.

BOBBY
Just stop. Tell me what happened. How
do you know all this?

ZOE

We had a fight. She said she loves someone else, I thought it was you and I lost my shit. I told her everything.

BOBBY

She knows about us?

Zoe nods.

BOBBY (cont'd)

What did she say?

ZOE

Nothing. She just walked away.

Bobby sits and buries his face in his hands. She places the last of her stuff in her bag.

ZOE (cont'd)

I have a train to catch.

BOBBY

The summer isn't over.

ZOE

It is for me. My mother said this wouldn't end well and she was right. You don't need me in your life. And I sure as fuck don't need you in mine.

She looks to him to say something but he doesn't respond.

ZOE (cont'd)

Good luck with your store.

She leaves. He sits back and looks around. The apartment has never felt so empty.

INT. NICK'S SOCCER SHOP - EVENING

The store is in the process of transforming into Nick's Kicks & Sticks. Bobby enters. He hands Nick a check. They shake hands but there's little joy on Bobby's face.

He spots Doug on the other side of the store. He picks up the nearest soccer ball and KICKS IT, nearly hitting a startled Doug in the head. Message sent.

INT. COFFEE HOUSE - DAY

Zoe has coffee with her friends, all of whom are chatting it up except for her. She is disengaged. Her mind is elsewhere.

INT. GOURMET MARKET - DAY

Bobby walks through the store. He passes the Butcher Shoppe and sees a tall MAN in his mid 30's with a name tag that reads: DAVE. He's mixed race with tattoos and short dreads. He looks like he could be the bass player of a Ska band.

Bobby continues to walk and approaches the

CHEESE SHOPPE

Gia is there. She sees him. Not happy. She's all business.

GIA
Can I help you sir?

BOBBY
Yes. I would like a pound of
explanation.

She clenches her jaw. How dare he.

BOBBY (cont'd)
Please explain how this works.
Because I'm at a loss.

GIA
I know. Your *daughter* told me. It was
all a game. You lost. So did I.

BOBBY
So you do feel something for me.

GIA
I feel sorry for you. Both of you.
But what hurts the most is I trusted
you.

BOBBY
You had no problem dating us both.
And others apparently...

GIA
You're her father Bobby. And you
treated me like some sort of prize.

BOBBY
It was her idea if we're being
honest.

She shakes her head. He's despicable.

GIA
Please don't come here anymore.

BOBBY
What will I do for cheese?

GIA
Please...

BOBBY
I really do love the Roquefort.

GIA
When have you ever loved anything?

Before he can answer, Dave approaches.

DAVE
Ready for lunch?

GIA
Just a sec.

She removes her apron and walks from behind the counter.
ANOTHER EMPLOYEE takes her place.

Bobby watches her walk to Dave who puts his arm around her.
They leave. Bobby knows he'll never see her again.

STORE EMPLOYEE (O.C.)
Are you being helped sir?

He turns. Dazed.

STORE EMPLOYEE
Is there something you want?

He thinks. There is.

INT. MORGAN HOUSE - DAY

The doorbell rings. Edward--in normal clothes--answers the
door. It's Bobby. He's surprised to see him.

BOBBY
Hello.

EDWARD
Hello.

BOBBY
Is Zoe home?

EDWARD
She is.

BOBBY
I'm Bobby Owens.

EDWARD
I know who you are.

Bobby tenses.

EDWARD (cont'd)
I saw you play back in the day. Come
on in.

Bobby enters.

EDWARD (cont'd)
Man, you were good. You look like you
can still play. Do you?

BOBBY
For recreation.

EDWARD
Sure. Sure. So how do you know Zoe?

BOBBY
We met this summer and became
friends. She said I should stop by if
I was ever in the area. Here I am.

EDWARD
Huh. She never mentioned it.

BOBBY
Maybe I didn't make a big enough
impression.

EDWARD
Oh I doubt that.
(calls up to her)
Zo!

No response.

EDWARD (cont'd)
Headphones. I'll get her.

He goes upstairs to get Zoe. Allison enters from the kitchen and sees Bobby like she's seeing a ghost.

BOBBY
Hello.

ALLISON
Why are you here?

BOBBY
I have to see her.

ALLISON
She doesn't want to see you. You have to leave.

BOBBY
(re: Edward)
He still doesn't know.

ALLISON
No.

BOBBY
Maybe he'd like to hear it from me.

ALLISON
Don't do this.

BOBBY
I want to see my daughter.

ALLISON
I'm sorry about what I did. But please don't make it worse.

BOBBY
Worse is never seeing her again.

Edward comes down without Zoe.

EDWARD
Um, I'm not sure what happened between you two, but she said she doesn't want to talk to you. Is everything okay?

BOBBY
Just a misunderstanding.

Edward begins to think like a dad.

EDWARD

Hey pal, you're old enough to be her father.

BOBBY

It's not like that.

EDWARD

I know you retired athletes. Relive your glory days with someone else.

BOBBY

I care for your daughter. But not like that.

Edward takes his arm, ready to usher him out.

EDWARD

I think you should leave.

ALLISON

Wait.

Edward stops.

ALLISON (cont'd)

Do you mean it? Do you really care about her?

BOBBY

As if she were my own.

She searches his eyes. She believes him.

INT. ZOE'S BEDROOM

Zoe sits on her bed fuming. Allison enters followed by Bobby. The sight of them together is unnerving.

ZOE

Is this an intervention or a family reunion?

ALLISON

Please don't be hostile.

ZOE

Do you need the bed? Is that it? Eager to make up for lost time?

ALLISON
That's uncalled for.

ZOE
Oh please. You're probably moist just standing next to him.

ZOE!	ALLISON	BOBBY
		Don't talk to your mother like that!

The women shoot Bobby a look. Stay in your lane.

EDWARD (O.S.)
Everything okay up there?

Allison glares at Zoe.

ALLISON
You wanted this. Now fix it.

She leaves. Zoe tries to avoid eye contact with Bobby.

BOBBY
Nice room. It's about the same size of my first flat.

ZOE
You shouldn't have come here.

BOBBY
I know. But you do stupid things when you love someone.

She looks at him.

BOBBY (cont'd)
I love you Zoe. I never felt love for another woman since my mother died.

He sits next to her.

BOBBY (cont'd)
I rather liked having you as a daughter. But I really loved having you as a friend.

ZOE
I kind of blew it with Gia.

BOBBY
We should have been honest. We don't deserve her.

ZOE
So, what, we deserve each other?

BOBBY
Something like that.

GIA
Good. Because I kind of liked being
your friend too.

The door opens. It's Edward. He's crying. He knows.

EDWARD
Get out.

ZOE
Dad?

EDWARD
Get away from my daughter and don't
come back.

ZOE
Wait...

EDWARD
Not another word from you.

BOBBY
(to Zoe)
It's okay. I just wanted to say I'm
sorry.
(a beat)
Have a good life Zoe Morgan.

He kisses her on the forehead then gets up and passes Edward who follows him. They walk down the stairs into the

FOYER

Allison is there. She's trying to hold it together. She and Bobby briefly make contact just before Edward ushers him out.

EXT. MORGAN HOUSE

Bobby exits and the door slams shut behind him. He walks to the sidewalk. He looks at his phone to order a car. Fuck it. He starts walking.

FADE TO:

EXT. NICK'S KICKS & STICKS NEW LOCATION - DAY

It's winter. HOLIDAY SALE SIGNS in the window.

INT. NICK'S KICKS & STICKS NEW LOCATION

Inside, holiday shoppers mill about. Bobby attends to a cocky young LACROSSE PLAYER in his late teens. He's trying out a stick. He's skilled.

BOBBY

You have quick hands.

LACROSSE PLAYER

I'm the leading scorer in the district. Coach says the greater the distance between impulse and action the less likely you are to score. I know when to close the distance.

Bobby looks at him. It's like looking at his former self.

BOBBY

Let me know what you decide.

He turns to see Zoe standing several feet away. It's only been a few months since the drama at her house, but she looks different. More professional.

He approaches and before he can say anything she closes the distance and hugs him like a daughter hugs her dad.

BOBBY (cont'd)

I've missed you.

ZOE

Me too. I love you.

BOBBY

I didn't think I'd ever see you again.

ZOE

I know. I'm sorry. We just had a lot to work through.

They break the hug.

BOBBY

Your father...

ZOE

He forgave her. And me. Not at first.
It took some time. But we're better
now.

BOBBY

I'm glad. Are you here for a stay?

ZOE

Just passing through. We're on our
way to Maine.

BOBBY

We?

She motions toward ELIJAH, a non-binary person in their mid 20's. Elijah is trying to bounce a soccer ball on their knee.

ZOE

Looks like they could use some
practice.

BOBBY

They?

ZOE

Elijah is non-binary. We say They.

BOBBY

(dad-like)

I say, "I'm cool. I'm down with
that."

She smiles at his faux lameness. She looks around.

ZOE

So, this is your store. It's nice.

BOBBY

It's a start.

ZOE

I'm really happy for you. No more
soccer moms?

BOBBY

I am officially retired from that
profession. And I only use the
bathroom here to pee. What about you?
Dating?

She again motions toward Elijah.

BOBBY (cont'd)

Ah.

ZOE

I got a job. You're looking at the newest event coordinator for representative Deb Casey of Maine's second district.

(a beat)

It's a start.

BOBBY

I knew organizing would be your "Maine purpose."

ZOE

Ouch.

BOBBY

...Dad joke.

ZOE

Yeah...dad joke.

They look at each other, smiling. A stronger bond. So much to look forward to.

ZOE (cont'd)

Maybe you can come visit after we get settled.

BOBBY

I'd like that.

(a beat)

Do you have time for a drink?

ZOE

Yes. We have a lot of time. But it's on you until I start getting paid. Then it's on me.

BOBBY

Deal.

They walk toward Elijah as the the camera pulls up and back.

BOBBY (cont'd)

So, They?

ZOE

Right. Only third person pronouns.

BOBBY
But there's only one of them.

ZOE
Dad joke.

BOBBY
Dad joke.

FADE TO BLACK

THE END