

Permanent for Now

By

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1 INT. GWEN'S APARTMENT - DAY

Neighborhood: Outer Richmond.

Slow Motion. **GWEN**, 30ish, furious, very cute even with her make-up smeared from the tears running down her face, throws whatever she can get her hands on, as violently as she can at **GENE**, a scruffy, slackerish 30 something. Lamp, Rubik's Cube, vase, coaster, She gravitates towards things that shatter, like plates and glasses. This is the credits sequence.

2 EXT. GWEN'S APARTMENT - DAY

Gene escapes the apartment, but Gwen is relentless and continues to throw things at him all the way down the stairs. sentimental things even. Pictures from the wall, his comic books, a binder full of baseball cards that she can hardly lift, but manages to almost hit him with.

GWEN

You are the biggest piece of shit!
lying fucking scumbag piece of shit!

GENE

Calm down, Gwen. I love you.

GWEN

Fuck you! I hope you fucking die! I
hope you die in a fucking car wreck!
Don't fucking come back. Don't call,
don't text. Just go back to your
fucking yoga slut.

He looks at her, not saying anything.

GWEN(CONT'D)

Go!

She throws a clothes iron at him. He scurries off.

3 EXT. SAN FRANCISCO CITY STREETS - DAY

Gene lights a cigarette and pulls out his phone and dials.

GENE

Yeah, hey, Matt. Listen, I quit. Sorry
for the short notice. yeah, cool,
cool. Well, god bless.

He hangs up and makes a second call.

GENE (CONT'D)

Hey Em. uh... I need a favor.

4 INT. TRAIN - DAY

Gene is looking out the window. His phone vibrates. It's from Gwen and reads: "PIECE OF SHIT" And then another quickly follows it with: "Don't respond, asshole."

5 INT. PETER'S APARTMENT - DAY

Neighborhood: Hillcrest.

EMILY, early 30s, although she doesn't look it, timid and uncomfortable, Hiding behind her glasses, sits across from **PETER**, late 30's, handsome, well dressed, clean shaven.

EMILY

But, you signed up for it. You said you were 100% on board. your words.

PETER

Right, but it was my understanding that when you quit your job you'd be working freelance. I haven't seen you do anything that even resembles work.

EMILY

I work when you're at work.

PETER

But you haven't produced anything. You're not contributing. You have no money.

EMILY

These things take time. I'm building my portfolio. I'm sorry that I don't contribute. You said...

PETER

I don't care about paying the rent, that's not what this is about. I just... When I agreed to this I didn't think you'd always be here. I can never get a fucking break. you're never not here. God knows what you do all day. And I always have to clean up after you when I get home from work. It's like, you're here all day doing seemingly nothing and you can't even

(MORE)

PETER (CONT'D)

be bothered to tidy up a little. In fact, you do the opposite. You're like a little mess machine. I'm sick of paying for you to do nothing.

EMILY

I'm sorry you feel this way. What do you want me to do? Get a job? I can get something part time...

PETER

No, Emily. I don't want you to get a part time job. I'm just done. I'm sorry to say it, but I think it's time for us to part ways.

EMILY

Part ways?! What the fuck is that?!

PETER

Emily, I want you to move out.

6 EXT. SANTA FE STATION - EVENING

Neighborhood: Downtown.

MURPH, 30ish, bearded, disheveled, a baseball hat kind of guy, and Emily wait at the train station.

MURPH

Just like that?

EMILY

Just like that. Cold as fuck. Kicked me to the curb. He doesn't even care what happens to me. I could sleep in my car tonight and it wouldn't make a difference to that asshole.

MURPH

You're not going to have to sleep in your car. You're always welcome at our house. Not sure what Caitlin's gonna say, but the kids will Love it.

EMILY

I appresh.

Murph hugs Emily. She squeezes him and cries into his shirt. She stops and composes herself.

EMILY (CONT'D)

I'm sorry, Murph Smurph. Your shirt has a cry spot on it.

MURPH

Don't worry about it. You okay?

EMILY

No. Is that his train?

MURPH

I think so.

The train pulls in. Gene gets off and sees his friends.

EMILY

Why you slimy, double crossing, no-good Swindler.

MURPH

You've got a lot of guts coming here. After what you pulled.

They all bear hug.

GENE

How you doing, you old pirates?

EMILY

Hey, Bub.

Emily breaks the bear hug.

EMILY (CONT'D)

We gotta go, I'm parked in red.

7 INT. EMILY'S CAR - EVENING

Emily drives her Oldsmobile. Murph rides Shotgun and Gene is in the middle of the backseat.

GENE

Just this morning this happened?

EMILY

Yeah, just a few hours ago.

GENE

Well, this is interesting timing, us both getting the boot the same day.

EMILY

You think it's because we're so connected? like on a spiritual level? Like we're on the same vibration. Like the universe wants us experiencing the same thing at the same time?

GENE

Where are we going to stay? I was planning on staying at your place.

MURPH

My house.

GENE

No way. Uh-uh. Not doing that.

MURPH

What?! Why?!

GENE

Because I don't want to tell Caitlin I fucked up again.

MURPH

She's going to find out eventually.

GENE

But it doesn't have to be tonight.

EMILY

Well, then where will we stay?

GENE

That was my question.

MURPH

Stop being a little girl. My house.

GENE

No.

MURPH

Well... What the fuck?!

GENE

Let's drink at the bar and then we can just sleep there? Like we used to do.

EMILY

That's exactly what I was thinking.

GENE

Because we're so connected, right, Em?
The universe wants us to sleep there
because Venus is in retrograde.

EMILY

Are you talking shit?

MURPH

We're not going there.

GENE

What?! Why?!

MURPH

Because, Gene, I'm not going to unlock
that place so you can drink all Pap's
beer and then sleep on the fucking
floor. He'll be pissed.

EMILY

You've changed, Murph.

GENE

Murph, it's like, my inheritance. Just
think of it as me dipping in early.
Plus, I'm like, miserable and shit.

Gene pulls a beer out of his bag and cracks it open.

EMILY

Dude, open container.

Emily grabs the beer from Gene, takes a swig and passes it to
Murph, who takes a swig.

8 EXT. TACO SHOP - EVENING

The gang is in the drive through.

EMILY

yeah, Can I get a California, hold the
pico. A bean burrito, 5 rolled tacos..

9 INT. BREWERY (BAR) - NIGHT

Neighborhood: Normal Heights.

Emily and Murph sit at the bar and Gene sits behind it. Gene
pours Emily's beer and slides it across the table.

MURPH

You're going to have to see her eventually, you know.

GENE

My sister? I know, I just can't handle a lecture right now. Not after today.

EMILY

I might see her tomorrow.

GENE

Why?

MURPH

Wine Wednesday.

GENE

She's sober, and pregnant. What is she doing having Wine Wednesday? I don't think that sounds safe.

MURPH

She's got 6 years, Nothing is going to happen. The point is to kick me out of my own house while her stupid fucking friends get smashed. No offense, Em.

EMILY

No, I agree.

GENE

Well, don't blow my cover, you fucking snitch.

EMILY

Damn, I already tweeted her about it.

GENE

Bullshit. You don't know how to tweet... Ah-ha! Pap's stash!

Gene pulls a bottle from behind the bar and pours shots.

MURPH

I was really hoping you wouldn't find that... Ya know, fuck it.

Montage: They take shots and drink a bunch of beers.

EMILY

Everything is going to be okay. I know that. Problem is, that's the best we can ever hope for. Nothing will ever be better than okay. Isn't this great? all of us miserable together again.

MURPH

I'm happily married, Dude... Hey, why don't you guys stay with Pap if you're so scared of Caitlin?

EMILY

He'd never go for that.

GENE

Who's scared?

MURPH

That was my last ditch effort to get you guys to not sleep here. This has been a gay old time, but I'm going home. It's late, I'm already going to hear about it. Also, I think I'm going to tell Pap you guys broke in here. Also also, Don't tell Caitlin I was here. I told her I was out with Pap.

GENE

I'm going to get Gwen back tomorrow.

MURPH

Who?

10 INT. BREWERY - MORNING

Gene and Emily are sleeping, head to toe, on a makeshift bed. **PAP**, 60's, rough, hasn't shaved in a couple days, kneels down and puts his finger in in Gene's ear.

GENE

(groggy) Hey, Pap.

PAP

What are you doing, boy? Think you can just drink all my beer, use my Brewpub as a goddamn hotel? Well, you can't.

GENE

Sorry, Pap.

PAP
I see you got into my Johnnie, little bastich.

GENE
Sorry, Pap.

PAP
18 year. that shit ain't cheap.

GENE
Sorry, Pap. At least it's not Blue.

PAP
(giggling) You'd never find the blue.

They hug.

PAP (CONT'D)
Good to see you, boy. Good morning, Emily.

EMILY
GM. Heart emoji.

Emily doesn't move.

11 INT. BREWERY (BAR) - MORNING

Gene and Pap sit at the bar, each with a pint.

PAP
You see your sister yet?

GENE
No way.

PAP
God damn it, Boy. Don't avoid your sister.

GENE
Pap, I think I'm going to move back.

PAP
Yeah? To san Diego?

GENE
Yeah. Gwen and I broke up.

PAP

Well, that's unexpected. Last I talked to you everything was fine. You were talking about getting a dog. Course, I can't think of how long ago that was, you never call your dear old Dad.

GENE

Yeah, I wasn't the best to her. I could have been better.

PAP

You're a good man for saying that.

GENE

Thanks, pap.

PAP

It's actually not all that unexpected. There's no way you were good to that girl. You're too much like me. I was no good for your mother, no matter how hard I tried... Or didn't. I mostly didn't. I see myself in you. what was That last girl's name?

GENE

Venessa?

PAP

Vanessa. You remember I was the one covering for your lies when you were running around with Gwen back then. It all seemed so familiar. Apple falling from the tree and all that shit.

GENE

You think I could get some hours in this place? I mean, if you need help.

PAP

Hell yes, Boy. There's always work here for you, you know that.

GENE

Thanks, Pap.

PAP

De nada.

GENE

How about a place to stay for a bit?

PAP

Hell no. Call your sister.

GENE

That's about what Em said you'd say.

PAP

Emily? How is she? She doesn't call me either. Ungrateful little shit.

GENE

She's not good, Pap.

PAP

I can tell by the way she's sleeping. She wouldn't be so depressed if she'd just get up. Always been like that.

GENE

Yeah, Pap.

Pap finishes his beer.

PAP(CONT'D)

Come on, we've got work to do.

GENE

I'm starting now?

PAP

Right now. Get up, Boy.

12 INT. BREWERY - DAY

A montage of Gene, Pap and Murph brewing beer.

13 INT. CAITLIN'S HOUSE (KITCHEN) - DAY

Neighborhood: South Park

CAITLIN, red, mid 30s, pregnant, very angry, is holding **BOBBY**, who doesn't seem to be phased by how much yelling is coming out of his mother. His older sister, **ROXY**, is at the kitchen table coloring.

CAITLIN

I just don't understand why you wouldn't come to me first. I mean,
(MORE)

CAITLIN (CONT'D)
there's no way Pap would let you stay
with him. Where have you been staying?

GENE
We slept at the bar last night.

CAITLIN
The extremes you'll go to avoid
interaction with me. it's fuc...

She looks at Roxy and stops herself from cursing.

CAITLIN (CONT'D)
It's disgusting.

GENE
It's not like that, Caitlin. Don't be
like that.

CAITLIN
Does Pap know you're here?

GENE
Well... I've kinda been brewing with
him all day.

CAITLIN
Oh, you've been with Pap? Pap and...

She points behind her at Murph, who has just walked into the
kitchen, opened the fridge and grabbed a beer.

MURPH
What up, Gene? What brings you...

CAITLIN
Cut the S, Murph. The F-ing jig is up,
alright. And you're a piece of S for
lying to me.

MURPH
Cat, I didn't lie...

CAITLIN
You just didn't tell the truth.

ROXY
And that's just as bad.

CAITLIN
That's right, Sweetie.

GENE
Look, don't blame him, I asked him to
not tell you.

CAITLIN
Well, duh. And I'm sure he was with
you last night. With Pap my A.

MURPH
You're like, the worlds greatest
detective. Like, better than Batman. I
can't get away with anything.

CAITLIN
Damn right.

ROXY
You said a bad word! Dollar!

CAITLIN
Fuck.

ROXY
Two dollars in the jar!

GENE
I just... I didn't think I could
handle the interrogation.

CAITLIN
What interrogation?

GENE
Gwen dumped me.

CAITLIN
Oh my god, she did?! You're not going
to do any better... What did you do?

GENE
You see what I mean?

CAITLIN
What did you do?!

GENE
I'm an a-hole, so I was an a-hole to
her. Now I'm here.

CAITLIN

Alright. You don't have to tell me the story. This isn't an interrogation.

GENE

Thank you.

CAITLIN

What DO you want to talk about? You obviously came here for something and not my F-ing good company.

MURPH

Can I go? Padres...

CAITLIN

You're not getting out of this.

GENE

I need a place to stay for a while. Just until I save a little cash and can find a room.

CAITLIN

No. I can't believe you'd even have the audacity to ask me that. You've completely disrespected me and I don't even want to look at your stupid face. The stress you put me through is not good for the baby.

GENE

Are you serious? Alright, I'll go.

CAITLIN

Of course you can stay here. Always. Because unlike you, I think family is the most important thing and would never sleep at a bar to avoid you.

GENE

Thank you, Caitlin. I owe you...

CAITLIN

Listen, though. You need to make yourself scarce tonight.

GENE

Wine Wednesday. I was told.

MURPH

It's cool, Cool Cat. We'll just hang with the kids in the Murph cave.

CAITLIN

I mean it. I can't have you two embarrassing me.

GENE

I'm not embarrassing.

MURPH

I am. I know it.

CAITLIN

Look, Gene, you just officially became my loser brother that sleeps on the pullout couch. You're embarrassing. Stay gone... Wait a minute, why aren't you staying with Emily?

14 EXT. CAITLIN'S HOUSE (DRIVEWAY) - DAY

Emily is sitting in her car by herself scrolling through her contacts. She lands on Peter. She hesitates, then calls.

PETER(V.O.)

Hello?

It takes her a few seconds.

EMILY

Hi.

PETER

What, Emily?

EMILY

Um... I just wanted to see how your day was going. I know Wednesday is usually...

She starts crying.

PETER

Emily, I don't think it's a good idea for you to call like this anymore.

He hangs up. Emily is left crying. Caitlin approaches. Emily see's her but doesn't acknowledge her, just keeps crying. Caitlin knocks on the window.

CAITLIN

Em? Em, sweetie, are you okay?

Emily rolls down the window.

EMILY

(crying) Peter Dumped me, I'm broke as a joke and my life sucks. Can I stay here for a while? Will it be too cramped with Gene already here?

CAITLIN

Of course you can. Gene will sleep on the pullout and you can sleep in Murph's... playroom. Em, why are you still in the car?

EMILY

I was scared to tell you.

CAITLIN

Scared to tell me? Why does everyone act like I'm such a monster?

Emily gains composure. She wipes her tears.

EMILY

Because you're scary like a monster.

CAITLIN

come on inside and help me get ready for Wine Wednesday. You are coming?

EMILY

Yeah, I don't know. They're going to ask... Stuff.

CAITLIN

What do you mean stuff?

EMILY

I don't know. About Peter. I'm homeless. I just can't face people.

CAITLIN

Come on? People? They're your best friends, they don't judge.

EMILY

They're YOUR best friends.

CAITLIN
They love you.

EMILY
I guess.

CAITLIN
I think you're being a bit dramatic.

EMILY
Dramatic? I'm boyfriendless, homeless,
and I don't have two kilos to rub
together. How am I being dramatic?

CAITLIN
You're still sitting in the car.

Emily defiantly gets out and stands in front of Caitlin.

CAITLIN(CONT'D)
I think some quality girl time will do
you good.

EMILY
You're probably right. and I don't
think you'll take no for an answer.

CAITLIN
Right. Get ready. Girls are here at 8.

EMILY
Okay. Great.

CAITLIN
Really, Em, you'll have fun.

EMILY
Yeah, whatever.

15 INT. CAITLIN'S HOUSE (THE MURPH CAVE) - EVENING

Gene is at the coffee table with Roxy playing jenga. He has a beer, she has a juice box. Murph sits on the couch watching tv, beer in hand. Bobby sits next to him.

MURPH
So it's been a while since I've heard
from you. Like nearly a year. Not that
I'm counting.

GENE

Sorry, Murph.

MURPH

No, it's just, you're best friends with someone since the 7th grade, just kind of expect to hear from them every now and then, but I know you're busy, you know, doing whatever you do.

GENE

Murph, it's not like I'm avoiding you, I'm just not good with the phone.

MURPH

Why would you use the word "avoid"? I didn't say avoid. Have you been avoiding me?

GENE

Jesus Christ, I thought the plus side to being single was going to be not having conversations like this.

MURPH

come on, dude. We've been friends for 20 years. You should know by now that I'm worse than any girlfriend. So how are you doing? for real I mean.

GENE

Not good. I mean, I know that everything is going to be okay, it just feels like, without Gwen, it's never going to be better than just okay. you know what I mean? I miss her. She doesn't want anything to do with me though. maybe she misses me.

MURPH

Whatever, dude. Gwen was a bomb. I think you'll "better than okay" without her.

GENE

Doesn't feel that way right now. And don't talk about her like that.

MURPH

Oh God, if it could be that simple. You know, if the roles were reversed?

(MORE)

MURPH (CONT'D)

Caitlin dumps me, there's no kids or anything, and I'm sleeping on your couch, all mopey. That would be rad.

GENE

Careful, that's my sister you're talking about.

MURPH

I know. My biggest accomplishment. I'll forever be able to say to you, "dude, I fucked your sister".

ROXY

Daddy, you said a bad word.

MURPH

I'm sorry, sweetie. Never again.

ROXY

You have to put a dollar in the jar.

MURPH

Roxy, please, you know how much I spend to keep you clothed and fed?

ROXY

No.

MURPH

I'm going broke.

Roxy works on a jenga piece very carefully, but Bobby runs by and the tower falls.

ROXY

Bobby, what the heck!?! you ruined it!

Bobby starts to cry. Then Roxy does.

MURPH

Whoa, whoa. Everybody chill, alright. Raise your hand if you're mad.

Roxy's hand shoots straight up. Bobby puts his up. Gene catches on and puts his up too.

MURPH (CONT'D)

Okay. Roxy, why are you mad?

ROXY
because Bobby wrecked the game.

MURPH
Honey, he didn't do it on purpose. it
was an accident. Bobby, why are you
mad?

Bobby speaks unintelligibly.

MURPH (CONT'D)
Okay. I hear that. Uncle Genie?

Gene shakes his beer can because it's empty.

GENE
Uncle Genie is mad because he's out of
beer. You need a beer, Murph?

MURPH
Yeah, I'm about ready for another one.
Thanks, Buddy.

GENE
How about you, little guys? anyone
need another juice box?

ROXY
My mom won't let us have another juice
box.

GENE
Bummer.

MURPH
She might not let me have another beer
either, that's why I'm sending you and
staying right here in the Murph cave.

GENE
Alright, stack em' back up, Roxy. I'll
be right back.

16 INT. CAITLIN'S HOUSE (KITCHEN) - EVENING

There are several bottles of wine, fresh cut flowers, cheese
and crackers on the table. There are groups of girls in
conversation. Emily and Caitlin are in one with **MICHELLE**.

MICHELLE
No, you know what? You're better off
(MORE)

MICHELLE (CONT'D)

without that asshole, Emily. What kind of behavior is that?

CAITLIN

Yeah, I don't like that behavior.

EMILY

Of course logically I know that, but I'm still sad. Big time. I didn't know I could cry so much. I wish I could just be over him already. It feels like I'll never not feel like this.

MICHELLE

I know the feeling and it sucks. You need to give yourself time to heal. A year and a half ago I got divorced. I'm not healed from it and, if I'm honest, I don't think I ever completely will be. These things take time to get over and we have to love ourselves enough to take that time.

EMILY

Oh shit! You're a divorce'! You've gone through real shit and here I am crying about a stupid boyfriend. I'm embarrassed.

MICHELLE

Don't be. You're heartbreak isn't less credible because I did something stupid like marry a guy I shouldn't.

CAITLIN

At least you didn't have any kids with the guy. That's when it gets ugly.

MICHELLE

Oh, I know. There was actually a point where we were trying. Thank god it didn't happen.

EMILY

That's all so grown up. I'm not there. I just want to be able to get out of bed tomorrow morning. I'm too sad to even brush my teeth.

CAITLIN

I think you need to get a job so you have to get up in the morning.

EMILY

Well, I have a job. the problem is I can do it from bed.

CAITLIN

You're art stuff? That's not really paying the bills is it?

Gene walks to the fridge and grabs two beers and a juice box.

GENE

How are you lovely ladies doing this evening?

CAITLIN

No, turn off the charm. Didn't I tell you to make yourself scarce tonight? And put that juice box back, she already had one.

Gene puts the juice box back and walks over to the table.

GENE

Well, I don't want to be rude, do I?
(to Michelle) Gene. Caitlin's brother.
Emily's childhood best friend.

MICHELLE

Michelle. Nice to meet you, Gene.

GENE

Hello, Emily.

EMILY

Bub.

MICHELLE

Did I hear you say you were Emily's childhood best friend?

GENE

Yeah, but she doesn't think of me as that anymore.

EMILY

Shut up. You're my favorite person.

GENE

How is it that you know my sister,
Michelle?

Gene goes back to the fridge and puts the beers back. He
grabs a wine glass.

CAITLIN

No way. Don't even think about it.

GENE

What?

CAITLIN

You're not weaseling your way into my
Wine fucking Wednesday to hit on my
friends. Not going to happen.

GENE

I'm not weaseling. I like wine too.
Why wasn't I invited to Double W?

17 EXT. CAITLIN'S HOUSE (BACK YARD) - EVENING

Gene and Michelle sit with their wine. They have a bottle.
Michelle takes a drag of a cigarette and passes it to Gene.

GENE

Are you sure you don't want your own?

MICHELLE

No, I shouldn't. That was enough...
um... Pottery.

GENE

Pardon?

MICHELLE

Pottery. You asked earlier how I knew
Caitlin. That's how. We've been taking
the same ceramics class in North Park
for almost a year now.

GENE

Wow. I didn't even know she was into
pottery.

MICHELLE

What kind of brother are you? She's
actually quite good.

GENE

Yeah, I had no idea. I've been away for a little while. I was living in San Francisco. I was kind of in bubble there. Wasn't the best at keeping up with what was going on here.

MICHELLE

What was in San Francisco?

GENE

A girl. She got a job up there, so we went. I didn't really have anything going on here, I was just working for my dad. And she had this incredible job offer, so that was that.

MICHELLE

But you're back now?

GENE

Yeah, things didn't really work out. It was going really well, actually. We were talking about getting a bigger place so we could get a dog. it wasn't much I guess, but I felt like that was taking a step. Like that was moving towards an even bigger place so we could have a kid, Get married and all that, which scared the shit out of me, but I thought that's what I wanted. Or at least it's what I thought I was supposed to do.

MICHELLE

So what happened?

GENE

I fucked up and she threw me out. Part of me thinks I was looking for it. Settling down scared me quite a bit.

MICHELLE

How long ago was this?

GENE

Yesterday.

MICHELLE

Holy shit! Really?!

GENE

Yep. I took the train down right after it happened. That's why I'm here. I'm sleeping on my sister's couch.

MICHELLE

Oh, the pobre. It could be worse. You could be in a relationship that you don't want to be in. You said yourself you may have self sabotaged. Even having that thought means you weren't all the way into it.

GENE

I was just scared.

MICHELLE

I Don't know about that. I don't know what you did to be in the doghouse, that's not my business, but you said or did something to be in that position and if you MAY have done that shit on purpose, a part of you didn't want to be there. Probably a big part. You have to be 100% when it comes to this shit. If you're going to REALLY be with this person. I mean, bigger place for babies? That shit is heavy.

GENE

That was hypothetical. We wanted a bigger place with a back yard to get a dog. Totally different.

MICHELLE

But you saw it coming and that's what frightened you. It's a fresh wound. You feel like shit. I'm just saying that when that passes, you'll feel a weight lifted.

GENE

To be honest, as shitty as it sounds, I already do.

MICHELLE

There you go.

GENE

I mean, don't get me wrong, I miss her, but a big part of me is relieved.

MICHELLE

I don't mean to get all therapisty on you. I don't actually know what I'm talking about.

GENE

Well, it sounds like you do anyway. I'm glad I infiltrated Wine Wednesday and met you, Michelle.

MICHELLE

This is my fourth Wine Wednesday and I quite enjoy it. I intend to keep up the tradition.

GENE

Sweet. As long as you're at wine Wednesdays I'll keep infiltrating.

MICHELLE

Are you flirting with me the day after you broke up with your girlfriend?

GENE

I'm just being friendly.

MICHELLE

Hmmph... Actually that "If you're there, I'll be there" thing kind of makes me uncomfortable.

GENE

I'm just playing around. I don't actually expect that kind of thing to work on you. I'm just being cute.

MICHELLE

I know, I know. You're very cute. It's not that, it's just...

GENE

It's okay. Say what you need to say.

MICHELLE

I feel really weird about being flirted with. I have an ex- husband.

GENE

Really?

MICHELLE

Yeah, and I found out he was cheating on me and when confronted he said some pretty mean things to me... Like about me... physically. About my body. That's why he was getting what he needed elsewhere.

GENE

Jesus Christ. What a dirt bag.

MICHELLE

And the kicker is the girl he's with now is like twenty-two. twenty fucking two years old, Gene. I'm like grandma compared to that shit. It really fucked me up. I have crazy body issues because of it. Like, how am I ever supposed to find the person that's really supposed to be my husband if my body isn't up to standard? How am I going to be happy without a husband? Shit like that.

GENE

Not trying to get anywhere with this... But you're really, really gorgeous.

MICHELLE

No, it's not about that. It's not like I have body dysmorphia. I don't have this idea of myself as hideous or something like that, it just affected my self worth. And while "I'll be there if you're there" should make me feel good because you're complementing me, it brings up all this shit that makes me feel uncomfortable and inadequate.

GENE

Alright. noted. No flirting.

MICHELLE

Great. Now I really ruined it. Not only did I attack you for being sweet, I gave you way too much history for the two seconds we've known each other. What an asshole, Michelle. Carajo.

GENE

No, you're just being honest. There's nothing wrong with that. We're both in weird places, and now we know.

Gene's glass is empty. So is Michelle's. The bottle is empty.

GENE(CONT'D)

We're out. What do you think? Snag another bottle? The chianti?

MICHELLE

Tempting, but I think if we open another bottle we'll finish it and I'm not trying to have one of those nights. I think I'm ready to go home. Walk me to my car?

18 EXT. CAITLIN'S HOUSE (DRIVEWAY) - EVENING

Gene walks Michelle to her car.

MICHELLE

Do you think Caitlin will be mad that we kind of ditched?

GENE

Oh, she'll be fine. If anything she'll be mad at me, not you.

MICHELLE

Okay, good. Better you than me.

GENE

It was very nice meeting you, Michelle.

MICHELLE

It was an absolute pleasure meeting you, Gene.

They hug. It lasts just a bit too long.

GENE

Get home safe.

MICHELLE

I'll do my best. Thanks. Good night.

She gets in the car and drives away. When she's completely disappeared in the distance, he goes inside.

19 INT. CAITLIN'S HOUSE (KITCHEN) - EVENING

Caitlin and Emily are cleaning up. Gene comes in.

CAITLIN

Well, well, well. If it isn't our
little party crasher.

GENE

Yeah, sorry. You told me to stay out
of wine Wednesday and I disobeyed. I
apologize.

CAITLIN

You high jacked my friend.

GENE

Yeah...

EMILY

You like her.

GENE

A bit.

EMILY

Cute.

Murph comes into the room.

MURPH

Kids are in bed.

CAITLIN

Thank you, Love.

MURPH

Say, I seem to remember someone
offering to get me a beer and then
disappearing off the face of the
fucking planet. I almost called Robert
Stack.

GENE

Aw man, I'm sorry, Murph. I got caught
up and forgot.

EMILY

Gene was making the moves on Caitlin's
friend Michelle.

MURPH

Oh yeah? Well, I'll forgive anything if it's in the pursuit of pussy...

CAITLIN

Murph!

MURPH

BUT... There's someone that you said you'd play games with that's not as forgiving as I am.

GENE

Oh, shit.

CAITLIN

Are you fucking already breaking promises to my kids?

GENE

I'm sorry. I'll make it up to her.

MURPH

Relax, I played in your place. I'm better at pretending to lose than you anyway.

CAITLIN

That's because you're not pretending.

MURPH

Easy.

EMILY

I've got to get up early. I'm going hit the hey. Unless you need help with anything else?

CAITLIN

No, Em. You've done more than enough already. Thank you for all your help.

EMILY

Oh, no problem.

GENE

What do you have to get up early for?

20 INT. BREWERY (BAR) - DAY

Pap is behind the bar and Emily sits at the bar in her

interview clothes, resume in hand.

PAP

Do you have any bartending experience?

EMILY

No.

She hands him the resume. He glances at it, shakes his head and puts it to the side.

PAP

Well, can you work weekends?

EMILY

Anytime. Completely open.

He opens a box and starts going through it.

PAP

What size are you?

EMILY

Pardon?

PAP

T-shirt.

EMILY

Small I suppose.

He finds the right size and tosses it to her.

PAP

There you go.

EMILY

So I have the job?

PAP

Em, am I going to not give you a job?

EMILY

Holy shit! Thanks, Pap! I appresh!

PAP

Now get back here so I can show you how to pour. I can't have you embarrassing me.

EMILY
I'm starting now?

PAP
Right now. Let's go.

She goes behind the bar. Pap grabs a glass and demonstrates.

PAP (CONT'D)
Okay 45 degrees...

21 EXT. MICHELLE'S APARTMENT - EVENING

Neighborhood: Golden Hill

Gene walks up to the door and knocks. He's got a bottle of wine and incognito mom bottles. Michelle answers.

GENE
I thought we could take a walk.

22 EXT. GOLDEN HILL STREETS - EVENING

Gene and Michelle walk and sip mom bottles.

MICHELLE
so you've been friends since you were kids?

GENE
Em and Murph? Yeah, I met Murph in the 7th grade, but Em and I go all the way back to Kindergarten.

MICHELLE
That's adorable. I wish I had friends like that. My folks moved around too much. I want to see class pictures.

GENE
My Dad has lots of photos. It doesn't take a lot of convincing to get him to go through them with you.

MICHELLE
Oh, I'm definitely doing that. so you never dated each other?

GENE
Who? Me and Murph? No. He married my sister though.

MICHELLE

Que Mierda de you and Murph? You and Emily, wise guy.

GENE

Oh. yeah.

MICHELLE

Yeah?

GENE

Yeah, It was the second grade. We were pretty serious. We even had a wedding in my backyard. Caitlin officiated.

MICHELLE

Damn. Didn't realize I was dealing with a married man.

GENE

No. Lucky for you it was annulled.

MICHELLE

Oh yeah? What happened?

GENE

We just grew apart. People get married too young and it never lasts.

MICHELLE

Don't I know it.

GENE

Really she lost interest in me and moved on to Phil Macnitt. She was kind of boy crazy in those days. I don't want to slut shame or anything, but... So pottery?

MICHELLE

Yeah, I'm not really all that good at it, it's fun though. My therapist suggested I take art classes as a way to make friends. I landed on ceramics. It worked I guess. I met Caitlin.

GENE

You feel like you need to make friends?

MICHELLE

Yeah, I don't really have any. Not super close ones anyway. I'm jealous of you in that regard. When I was younger I put almost as much weight in finding my best girl friend as I did my husband. Never found her though. As it turns out I haven't found either of them. I suppose I'm more of a relationship person than a friend person, but that's always a clown show. Or a divorce. I've been trying to put myself out there and make friends, but it's frightening. Wine Wednesday is frightening, Gene.

GENE

You're not so bad at making friends. We became friends pretty easily.

MICHELLE

You're easy to talk to. It was much easier to talk outside with you than face those women. I was kind of hiding. I guess that's shitty to say.

GENE

What? that you used my ass to get out of double W?

MICHELLE

No, that I avoided them. That's the purpose of me being there.

GENE

There will be more opportunities. Baby steps are big steps.

MICHELLE

I guess. I kinda just like hanging with you right now though.

He kisses her on the cheek. She kisses his lips.

23 INT. BREWERY (BAR) - NIGHT

Neighborhood: Normal Heights

Emily is Bartending. Gene and Murph sit at the bar. **BILLY**, a little bartender with holes in his shirt, is changing a keg.

EMILY

There you are, sir. A "Drac's Wack"
barrel aged stout.

SHRUB

Thanks. Tab is Shrub.

He walks away.

BILLY

Oh Um... Emily...

EMILY

What's up, Billy?

BILLY

I just noticed that you gave my boy,
Shrub, his beer in a pint glass, but
Drac's Wack actually belongs in a .25
tulip glass.

EMILY

Oh shit, I'm sorry, I knew that one
too. Damn it. Should I go get it back
from him?

BILLY

Ha ha. No, just for next time.

GENE

Holy Shit! You guys know what? We
haven't officially welcomed Em yet.

EMILY

what do you mean?

Billy pours beers. Murph shakes his head. Billy distributes.

GENE

It's a man shot, Em, it's a half pint
of beer and you take it like a shot.

EMILY

Excuse me, a "man shot"?

GENE

just do it.

They all do it. Emily struggles.

BILLY

You okay?

EMILY

yeah.

MURPH

Tubular... Well, it's been fun, but I should have been home an hour ago. I'm now five deep and I have to be back here bright and early.

EMILY

You're getting too old for this shit, Murtaugh.

MURPH

You ain't kidding. Let's go, baby.

Gene trips Murph on the way out the door.

MURPH (CONT'D)

What the hell?!

BILLY

Chill dudes. You'll get used to them.

EMILY

They're my oldest friends. I'm already used to them. I'm currently the pity case that sleeps in the Murph cave because my life is a joke.

BILLY

That's not chill. My bandmate, Linton, is always broke and sleeps on my couch for months at a time. It's so wack.

EMILY

You're in a band?

BILLY

Yeah, I play guitar.

EMILY

What kind of music?

BILLY

It's kind of hard to explain and I hate doing it. What kind of music are you into?

EMILY
Bossanova.

BILLY
Bossanova?

EMILY
Chevy Nova?

24 INT. EVENT HALL - DAY

People are trickling in, getting coffee, chatting. There are chairs in a circle. Caitlin comes in with a tray of cookies.

CUT TO:

Everyone is sitting in the the chairs.

EVERYONE
God, grant me the serenity to...

25 EXT. GENE AND MICHELLE'S HOUSE - DAY

Neighborhood: North Park.

A moving truck is parked in the street in front of a house with the hazards. Michelle and Gene come out of with a boxes.

26 INT. GENE AND MICHELLE'S HOUSE (LIVING ROOM) - DAY

Gene in stacking the boxes. When he turns around Michelle jumps on him and kisses him. She pushes him on the ground and they have sex in their empty living room.

27 INT. CAITLIN'S HOUSE (KITCHEN) - MORNING

Neighborhood: South Park.

Gene, Emily and Caitlin sit around the table drinking coffee.

CAITLIN
You know, It's a really big step,
moving in with someone. And you've
only known her a couple of months.

GENE
Come on, Caitlin.

CAITLIN
I'm just big sistering. I'm much more
worried for her than you, you know,
(MORE)

CAITLIN (CONT'D)
you don't have the best track record.

GENE
Don't bring up old shit.

CAITLIN
How can I not? You're a dirtbag. But I really like her for you. Try not to fuck it up.

GENE
I'll do my best. That's all I've got. I can't say that I won't fuck it up, but I really like her too. I love her.

CAITLIN
Yeah, I've heard that before... But don't get me wrong, I am SO glad to have you off of my couch. And speaking of, Emily, have you given any thought to getting your own place? I mean, you're making money, right?

EMILY
I don't know. I just don't think I could or should be by myself just yet. I'll be out before the baby comes.

CAITLIN
Fair enough. As long as ya'll are happy, I'm happy.

EMILY
Don't get ahead of yourselves. I'm not happy. I still want to die.

GENE
Me too. Life is bullshit.

28 INT. GENE AND MICHELLE'S HOUSE (LIVING ROOM) - DAY

Neighborhood: North Park.

Gene sits on the couch reading. Michelle comes into the room, puts on a record and makes Gene dance. This starts a montage.

29 EXT. GENE AND MICHELLE'S HOUSE (PORCH) - DAY

Gene and Michelle sit on the porch and take pulls from a wine bottle. Michelle puts her head on Gene's shoulder. He puts

his arm around her and he kisses her forehead.

30 EXT. SAN DIEGO STREETS - DAY

Gene and Michelle walk and laugh and are totally in love.

31 INT. GENE AND MICHELLE'S HOUSE (BATHROOM) - MORNING

Gene is in the shower. Michelle comes in. The seat is up.

MICHELLE

Sorry, I have to pee.

GENE

No biggie.

MICHELLE

Don't leave the seat up. Do you want to get micobrios on your toothbrush? and it's amazing how little piss goes in the toilet. It's disgusting. From now on I want 100% in the toilet.

GENE

okay, mom.

32 INT. ARCADE - EVENING

Gene and Michelle competitively play the basketball game.

33 INT. GENE AND MICHELLE'S HOUSE (KITCHEN) - EVENING

Gene and Michelle make dinner together.

MICHELLE

que rico!

34 INT. GENE AND MICHELLE'S HOUSE (BATHROOM) - MORNING

Michelle is in the shower. Gene comes in.

GENE

I'm gonna pee.

MICHELLE

Aim, Gene, aim.

GENE

80%.

MICHELLE
Clean it up!

He runs out of the bathroom.

MICHELLE (CONT'D)
and put down the seat! Hey! Gene!
Gene! Carajo.

35 INT. CAITLIN'S HOUSE (MURPHCAVE) - MORNING

Emily is sleeping and the kids jump on her and wake her up.

36 INT. BREWERY (BAR) - DAY

Emily is behind the bar. A series of men ask her questions.

BEER NERD
What kind of Hazies do you have?

BEER DUDE
Is the coffee in this beer going to
keep me up?

BEER GUY
Do you have something girly for my GF?

BEER BRO
What has the highest ABV? Just give me
whatever is gonna fuck me up.

37 INT. BREWERY (BAR) - DAY

Emily is behind the bar speaking to a customer. Billy stands right next to her and playfully kicks her. She does it back. Both of them hiding that they are fighting. They both go to pour beers and Emily shoulder checks Billy. She pulls the tap with her middle finger aimed at Billy.

38 EXT. BREWERY - DAY

Billy, Emily, Gene and Murph play cee-lo. Emily wins the pot and rubs the stack of dollar bills in Billy's face.

39 INT. BREWERY (BAR) - DAY

Billy and Emily take man shots.

40 INT. YOGA STUDIO - DAY

Caitlin and Murph are in a pregnant couples yoga class.

41 INT. CAITLIN'S HOUSE (KITCHEN) - EVENING

Caitin, Murph and the kids are having dinner.

42 INT. CAITLIN'S HOUSE (LIVING ROOM) - NIGHT

Caitlin and Murph sit on the couch with ice cream.

43 INT. GENE AND MICHELLE'S HOUSE (BEDROOM) - NIGHT

Michelle is on her laptop and Gene reads a comic book.

MICHELLE

Ready for sleep?

GENE

Yep.

He kisses her and it turns into making out. Gene reaches for the light and turns it off. This ends the montage.

44 EXT. BIRD PARK - MORNING

Neighborhood: North Park.

Michelle and Caitlin are power walking in the park.

MICHELLE

It's really amazing. I'm so in love with him. Living together has me feeling the most like I have my shit together in a real long time.

CAITLIN

Lord knows the same can be said for him. He's been such a mess for so long.

MICHELLE

We found each other and we're putting each other back together.

CAITLIN

I just don't know if that boy can ever be put entirely back together.

MICHELLE

Well, I'm doing my best.

CAITLIN

I'm not trying to be negative. I want
(MORE)

CAITLIN (CONT'D)

this to work out more than anyone,
It's just he's my brother and I know
how he is. Just don't let him take
what he needs from you and then fuck
up the situation. I've seen it before.

MICHELLE

Caitlin please, everything is fucking
peachy goddamn keen, don't put this
bullshit in my head.

CAITLIN

Just promise me you'll be mindful,
he's a wreck... but it really seems
like he loves you.

MICHELLE

I mean... Yeah, we moved in together,
that's a big deal, right?

CAITLIN

I'm not saying anything. I thought it
was too soon when he moved in with the
last one and look how that ended.

MICHELLE

That IS you saying something, Caitlin.

A jogger runs by them.

TEDDY

Hey, Caitlin!

CAITLIN

Oh, hey, Teddy. (to Michelle) He's
Bill W. That's how I know him.

MICHELLE

Don't announce that, Caitlin.

CAITLIN

Whatever.

45 INT. BREWERY (BAR) - NIGHT

Emily finishes up pouring a beer and hands it to Shrub.

EMILY

Here you are, Shrub.

SHRUB

Thanks, Em. ohhh, look at the body on that. Kind of a salmon color.

Shrub walks away and Billy walks up.

BILLY

Hey, Em.

EMILY

Hey there, Billy. What's up?

BILLY

Oh you know, Big chillin'. Trying to be as close to my authentic self as I can... Listen, My band is playing on Thursday. You should totally cruise. I can put you on the list.

46 INT. MUSIC VENUE - NIGHT

Neighborhood: City Heights

Gene, Michelle, Murph and Emily sit at a booth. Gene kisses Michelle's cheek.

EMILY

You two are so fucking cute.

MICHELLE

Emily, tell me about Billy.

EMILY

I guess I like him. He makes me laugh. That's enough to get me here tonight I suppose.

Billy and the rest of his band, **LINTON**, the guitar player/singer, **DANNY** the drummer and **JERRY** the bass player, are on stage finishing setting up. Billy walks up to the mic.

BILLY

Alright, everyone. Thanks for coming out. We're called Biscuit Joiner.

The band starts playing. Billy looks a little silly rocking out. Emily puts her face in her hands, but it doesn't stick and she ends up smiling.

Gwen walks into the bar. Gene notices right away, Murph sees her too and looks to see Gene's reaction. She goes to the bar

and gets a beer and a shot. She takes the shot right away and then takes the beer to a table of friends and hugs and greets them. She doesn't notice our heroes. She gets up and heads towards the bathroom.

MICHELLE

They're... Alright, right? We've certainly seen worse.

Gene is distracted.

GENE

What? Oh yeah, they're terrible.

He looks towards the bathroom. Gwen is waiting in line.

GENE (CONT'D)

I have to hit the head. I'll be back.

Michelle nods. He goes. He gets in line and Gwen notices him.

GWEN

Gene!!!

She hugs him.

GENE

Hello, Gwen.

GWEN

Oh my God, you look good. How are you?

GENE

I'm good, I'm good. Everything is good. How are you? What are you doing here? I mean in town.

GWEN

I'm back for a little while. Staying at my Dad's house.

GENE

Just for a visit?

GWEN

Well, yeah, but we'll see what happens. Things are so expensive in San Francisco, and the city is a little lonely without you.

GENE

Oh yeah?

GWEN

It's amazing how you do that.

GENE

Do what?

GWEN

Make me so happy to see you that I forget all the bullshit.

GENE

Yeah, to be honest I was quite surprised that you were so warm when you saw me. You could have just as easily punched me in the face.

GWEN

Still might.

GENE

I remember that right hook quite well.

GWEN

You make it sound like I was abusive.

GENE

Only emotionally.

GWEN

Who you with? Did you come with Em?

GENE

Yeah, she's here. I guess she's dating that joke of a guitar player on stage right now. Or interested or whatever.

GWEN

Wow. I'll have to get the scoop... I'm sorry things didn't work out between us, Genie. I really loved you.

Gene searches for something to say, but is saved by the bathroom opening up. They hug. The embrace lasts a little too long. Michelle notices from their table. Emily and Murph are now by the stage, but Murph sees too. Gene gets back to the table where Michelle is now by herself.

GENE

13%. I've had a few.

He kisses her forehead. Michelle smiles, but is concerned.

47 INT. GWEN'S APARTMENT - DAY (FLASHBACK)

Neighborhood: The Outer Richmond

Gwen is throwing stuff out of the apartment.

GWEN

Fuck you! I hope you fucking die! I hope you guy in a fucking car wreck. don't fucking come back. Don't call, don't text. Just go back to your fucking yoga slut. GO!

Gwen sits on the floor and cries.

48 INT. GWEN'S APARTMENT - DAY

Gwen is in the same spot. She is now speaking on the phone.

GWEN

I kicked him out. A couple of hours ago. Yeah, I'm okay. Or I'll be okay. He was just such an asshole about it. I mean, he was the one that fucked up and he was so smug and arrogant about it I lost my shit and threw all his shit at him. Yeah, totally serious. This place is a fucking mess now. Another one of his messes that I have to clean up. The last one.

49 INT. GWEN'S APARTMENT - EVENING

The sun is going down and she's still in the same spot on the floor. through the window a pizza delivery guy passes and he knocks on the door. Gwen slowly gets up and answers.

50 INT. GWEN'S APARTMENT - EVENING

Gwen is cleaning up all the broken glass. Her half eaten pizza is on the ground where she had been sitting.

51 INT. GWEN'S APARTMENT - DAY

Gwen sits on the couch. She's in new clothes. The apartment is clean. She starts crying again.

52 INT. GWEN'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

The apartment is a mess. Like she hasn't picked up after herself in weeks. Pizza boxes, beer cans, wine bottles, clothes. The door swings open and Gwen comes in hammered.

GWEN

(sing) Baby, I wrote you a love song..

She stumble to the couch, picks up an old piece of pizza and takes a bite. She passes out.

53 INT. GWEN'S APARTMENT - MORNING

Gwen wakes up in the same spot with her clothes still on. She holds her head because it hurts. She is very hung over.

54 INT. GWEN'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

The door swings open and Gwen and some random guy come in making out. She pushes him onto the couch and straddles him. They make out more and some clothes start to come off.

55 INT. GWEN'S APARTMENT - DAY

Gwen sits in her messy apartment watching TV and eating a giant burrito. She takes a pull from a bag of wine.

56 INT. GWEN'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Gwen comes in with another dude, they make out and disrobe.

57 INT. GWEN'S APARTMENT - DAY

Gwen cleans up. She throws away all the garbage that's been collecting and then gets down and scrubs. She mops and dust.

58 INT. GWEN'S APARTMENT - DAY

The apartment is clean. There's a knock at the door and Gwen answers it. JESSICA is on the other side.

JESSICA

Hi, Gwen?

GWEN

Yes. Hi.

JESSICA

Hi, Jessica.

They shake hands.

GWEN

Come on in. So this is it.

Gwen gestures around the room. Jessica looks around.

GWEN (CONT'D)

So your room would be back here. My ex
and I meant for it to be an office,
but really just used it for storage.

59 INT. GWEN'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Gwen and Jessica are taking shots. There's a lot of alcohol
on the table and music blasting.

GWEN

Whoo! Roomies!

JESSICA

Roomies! Whooo!

60 INT. GWEN'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

The apartment is empty. Gwen comes in and turns on the light,
followed by Jessica and two random dudes. JEFF and RUS.

JESSICA

Alright, let's get some drinks.

Jessica goes to the kitchen.

RUS

Dope collection. Whatda you got?

GWEN

Yeah, go ahead and put something on.

Rus goes through the records. Gwen and Jeff make out. Rus
picks one and puts it on. Jessica comes out with a bottle and
some shot glasses. The music starts.

JESSICA

Oh, good choice, Russell.

RUS

Rus. Russell is my dad.

Gwen and Jeff notice Jessica pouring shots and separate.

JESSICA
To new friends.

They all hold up their shots and then take them.

GWEN
Jeff, do you want to see my room?

JEFF
Totally.

GWEN
Cool. Let's take one more first.

She takes a swig out of the bottle and then hands it to Jeff. They go into her room. Jessica and Rus sit together on the couch. He's shy, but awkwardly kisses her.

61 INT. GWEN'S APARTMENT - MORNING

Jessica is sitting on the couch eating yogurt. Gwen comes in.

JESSICA
Good morning.

GWEN
Morning.

Gwen goes into the kitchen and gets a bowl of cereal and goes and sits next to Jessica on the couch.

GWEN (CONT'D)
What is this? cartoons?

JESSICA
Hell yeah. Saturday morning cartoon.
Don't talk shit.

GWEN
I didn't say anything... So did you
hook up with that guy last night?

JESSICA
Yes. We're actually going to see each
other again tonight.

GWEN
Oh yeah?

JESSICA
Yep.

62 INT. GWEN'S APARTMENT - EVENING

Gwen comes in to find Jessica and Rus watching a movie.

GWEN

Hey guys.

JESSICA

Hey.

RUS

Hey, Gwen.

Gwen goes into the kitchen and grabs some leftover chinese take-out and a beer and sits next to them on the couch.

GWEN

Can I sit with you guys?

JESSICA

Of course.

63 INT. GWEN'S APARTMENT - EVENING

Gwen comes in and Rus and Jessica are on the couch. Gwen says nothing and walks to the kitchen. She quickly comes back out.

GWEN

If you're going to drink my beer will you please replace it?

JESSICA

Yeah, sure.

GWEN

No, I mean like, in a timely manner. This is like the fourteenth time I've come home to all my beers gone.

JESSICA

Sorry. I'll do it right after this.

GWEN

Don't mean to be an asshole, but work was rough and I just wanted to come home and have a beer and chill out.

JESSICA

Jesus, I said I'd fix it. You're saying the same thing over and over.

GWEN

Fuck you.

JESSICA

What?

Rus gets up and walks outside.

GWEN

I have to deal with your little fucking boyfriend being here every god damn day and now your going to snap at me like a bratty fucking teenager if I ask you to replace my shit? Fuck that!

JESSICA

What do you care if Rus is here?

GWEN

Jessica, maybe sometimes I want to walk around in my underwear, or eat a whole fucking rotisserie chicken without feeling judged.

JESSICA

What are you even talking about?

GWEN

He's just always here, Jessica.

JESSICA

Well, what about you?

GWEN

What about me?

JESSICA

You lie around all mopey all the fucking time and never clean anything. ANYTHING! If it wasn't for me this place would look like a crack house.

GWEN

No, it wouldn't.

JESSICA

I pick up after you on a daily fucking basis. I think that earns me the right to a beer every now and then. Jeez.

GWEN

I don't know if this is working out.

JESSICA

What, now you're going to kick me out?

GWEN

No, I can't afford that.

JESSICA

Wait, I thought you were, like, loaded?

GWEN

What?

JESSICA

Didn't you say your dad was like a tech genius?

GWEN

Biotech. yes, he has money, but he won't give me anything. Why are you bringing this up while we're fighting?

JESSICA

I can't make rent this month. I was going to ask you to spot me.

GWEN

Fucking fuck fuck!

Rus comes back with a six pack. Gwen throws a vase at him.

64 INT. GWEN'S APARTMENT - DAY

Gwen is sitting in her spot, talking on the phone.

GWEN

Things are good. I'm happy as shit. I'm going through a bit of a roommate thing. She can't afford the room. She duped me, that fucking con artist, but I'll figure it out. All in all I'm much happier without Gene. This is just a minor as fuck set back. Oh he is? Really? Yeah, I knew he was dating someone, but they moved in together? That was fast. No, I really don't care. It's just funny, he makes stupid fucking decisions. It just proves that

(MORE)

GWEN (CONT'D)

I don't want to be with him, the hasty fuck. Oh, you know what I've got to go. I'll talk to you soon, okay? Okay. Love you, Em. Bye.

She hangs up and then dials another number.

GWEN (CONT'D)

Hi, Daddy. Listen, what do you think of me coming home for a bit?

65 INT. MUISC VENUE - NIGHT (BACK TO PRESENT)

A new band is on stage.

BAND MEMBER

Thanks to Biscuit Joiner. That was... whatever, here's a song.

66 EXT. MUSIC VENUE - NIGHT

Neighborhood: City Heights.

Billy is helping his band mates, Linton, Danny and Jerry load up the van.

LINTON

You need to put on some muscle, Danny. My spaghetti armed little sister is better at this shit than you. And lift with your legs, not your back. You fucking nailed that solo in "Yearning for Dome" tonight, Billy.

BILLY

That's really chill of you to say.

LINTON

No lie, Dog, the best that song has ever sounded. You are so back, Daddy.

BILLY

Glad I could deliver.

Emily and Gwen come out of the bar. They hug.

GWEN

It was good seeing you, Em. Love you.

EMILY

Oh, love you too. Good to have you back. See you soon, okay?

GWEN

Okay... hey, great set, boys. I enjoyed myself.

LINTON

Thank you, my lady. Linton.

He holds out his hand. She shakes it.

GWEN

Gwen. It's nice to meet you, Linton. I'll see you at the next one.

LINTON

Clean.

Gwen giggles and walks off. Linton watches her.

EMILY

(to Billy) Hi.

BILLY

Hey Emily. What'd you think?

EMILY

Oh, it was.... really good.

BILLY

Oh man, glad you think so.

LINTON

Who is that piece?

EMILY

Gwen? No chance, she's into drummers.

DANNY

Oh yeah?

LINTON

You need to back off, alright, Danny. I call dibs.

The last thing is loaded and they shut the door.

JERRY

Van's loaded. Let's go.

LINTON

First of all, Lower your voice, Jerry. you need to stop fronting, Dog. It's not a flattering look on you. (to Billy) Dude, was a pleasure.

BILLY

Always. Never a chore.

They hug. Billy picks up his loose guitar. Linton gets in the van with the others and drives away.

EMILY

Why didn't you ride with them?

BILLY

It's a nice night. Thought I'd walk.

EMILY

Well, which way are you going?

BILLY

That way. (pointing)

EMILY

How serendipitous. So am I.

BILLY

Oh yeah?

EMILY

Yep. Mind if I walk with you?

BILLY

I wouldn't have it any other way.

67 EXT. SAN DIEGO STREETS - NIGHT

Billy and Emily stroll. Billy has his guitar in hand.

EMILY

So... Biscuit Joiner...

BILLY

Biscuit Joiner is wack, I know it.

EMILY

No it isn't.

BILLY

No, it is.

EMILY

Why are you in it then?

BILLY

It's just for now, until something better comes along.

EMILY

Billy, you can't just wait for something better to come along. Make it happen.

BILLY

I know. It's just, my last band took a lot out of me. I put a lot of weight in it, it was supposed to make it. We all thought so, everyone in town did.

EMILY

What was the band?

BILLY

Animal Heart.

EMILY

Holy Shit! I remember you guys.

BILLY

When that fell apart I was devastated. I just don't know if I have it in me to put everything I've got into something again. At least not yet.

EMILY

So you're not waiting for for something better to come along, you're building the confidence to do what you really want to do?

BILLY

Yeah. I like the way that sounds.

EMILY

And what do you really want to do?

BILLY

I want to be in a band with serious dudes that want to tour. I really want to see the world. I want to travel and music seems like a good way to do it. Plus there's totally a chill ass album

(MORE)

BILLY (CONT'D)

in me. I just need to "build the confidence" to share it with the world. This is actually me up here.

EMILY

Aww. I was learning so much about you.

BILLY

I know, bummer. How far are you? I can walk you home.

EMILY

Oh no, that's okay.

BILLY

Um... Or do you want to come up? I have beer and records and we could keep talking.

68 INT. BILLY'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Billy's apartment is what you'd expect. There are rock posters on the wall and records all over. Emily goes through them. Billy opens a beer and splits it into two glasses.

EMILY

Holy shit! How is that you have this? The cheapest I've ever seen it is like \$120 on the internet.

BILLY

What's that?

EMILY

"Fire in the City of Automaton."

Billy brings the beers over and sits on the couch.

BILLY

No knife. San Diego all-timers.

EMILY

They're my favorite band. How did you get it?

BILLY

I paid 12 bucks for it in 2002.

EMILY

That's so cool. This and "Hit Man

(MORE)

EMILY (CONT'D)

Dreams" are both really hard to find, but this, this is the one. Oh, but my favorite song is "Permanent For Now".

BILLY

Riot for Romance. Not as rare, but a great record. That one's in there too.

EMILY

I know, I saw it. Can I put it on?

BILLY

Please do.

She puts the record on, counting the lines to find her song.

BILLY (CONT'D)

Damn. You're like, the raddest chick.

They get a little closer.

EMILY

Shut up.

BILLY

No, I'm serious. I think I'm in love.

EMILY

Shut up.

They kiss. It turns into making out. They start to tear off each others clothes. Emily heads upstairs. Billy follows.

69 INT. GENE AND MICHELLE'S HOUSE (BATHROOM)- NIGHT

Neighborhood: North Park

Gene is in his pajamas, brushing his teeth. He pulls out his phone. He's looking at pictures of Gwen. He gets to one on the beach in a bikini. He spits the toothpaste into the sink.

70 INT. GENE AND MICHELLE'S HOUSE (BEDROOM) - NIGHT

Michelle lies in bed on her computer. Gene comes in.

GENE

96%.

MICHELLE

Ready for sleep, papi chulo?

GENE

Yeah.

He jumps in bed. He aggressively starts kissing her neck.

MICHELLE

No, not tonight.

He persists.

MICHELLE (CONT'D)

Not tonight, Gene. It's late. I'm tired. I'm pooped. I love you though.

She kisses him quickly once to not let him start anything.

71 INT. GENE AND MICHELLE'S HOUSE (BATHROOM) - NIGHT

Gene is masturbating to the bikini picture of Gwen.

72 EXT. GWEN'S PARENT'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Neighborhood: Kensington.

Gwen pulls up to a giant, luxurious house with a fountain in front and a well kept lawn. This is her father's house.

73 INT. GWEN'S PARENT'S HOUSE (KITCHEN) - NIGHT

Gwen pulls some leftovers out of the fridge. Her dad enters.

GWEN'S DAD

Hey Sweetie, how was your night?

GWEN

Hi, Daddy. Good. Just saw some bands.

GWEN'S DAD

Cool. Anyone good?

GWEN

There was this lousy band that Emily has a crush on the guitar player.

GWEN'S DAD

Oh, you saw Emily?

GWEN

Yeah, she's good. Asked about you.

GWEN'S DAD

Oh, that's nice. are you doing okay?

GWEN

Yeah, Daddy, why would I not be?

GWEN'S DAD

Well, I don't know. You came down here all of the sudden.

GWEN

I just had to get out of there.

GWEN'S DAD

How long do you think you'll stay?

GWEN

I don't know, Dad, I would hope I can stay as long as I need to.

GWEN'S DAD

Of course, Sweetie. I was just wondering, stay as long as you'd like, but when you do leave will you be staying in town or heading back up to San Francisco?

GWEN

Oh my god, Daddy, I can't handle all the questions. I'm worn out.

GWEN'S DAD

Gwen, I'm just worried about my daughter but I'll back off. I'll leave you alone. It's good to have you here.

GWEN

Love you, daddy.

GWEN'S DAD

Love you too, Sweetie.

74 EXT. GWEN'S PARENT'S HOUSE (HOT TUB) - NIGHT

Gwen sits in the hot tub. It flows into a salt water pool. She begins to cry, then jumps in the pool.

75 EXT. BREWERY - DAY

Neighborhood: Normal Heights.

Emily sits on a bucket outside of the brewery reading a comic book, eating. Billy comes and sits on the bucket next to her.

BILLY

So What are you thinking for date number two? I was thinking we could maybe go see a movie at the Ken on Thursday. There's this new...

EMILY

Actually, I wanted to talk to you about that.

BILLY

What's up?

EMILY

Well, I had a lot of fun the other night and I like you and I like hanging, I don't want that to stop, I just think we should hang as friends.

BILLY

Oh, I see.

EMILY

It's just. I can't get into anything serious. Everything so fucked up right now, I don't even really have a place to live, I've been sleeping in the Murph cave, which is embarrassing. And I still cry about my ex-boyfriend everyday. Some days I feel okay, and some days I feel like I want to go live by myself in the woods. I just feel like I need to focus on getting my shit together before I can do this (she gestures to him and herself) kind of thing. I just don't want to rush into anything.

BILLY

I understand. Just friends. Maybe we can go record shopping sometime.

EMILY

I'd really like that. So much, Billy.

He gets up and starts heading inside, but turns to her.

BILLY

Alright, That's cool and all, but I don't want to leave here right now and then never have told you what I need to tell you because from here on out we're friends and I can't cross this weird friend boundary or whatever.

EMILY

what do you need to tell me?

BILLY

Emily, you're the most amazing person I've ever met. You're so cool. I didn't know someone could be so cool. You're a wealth of knowledge on weird, obscure San Diego bands. That's, like, exactly what I'm looking for in a girl. There's no greater feeling than making you laugh and I'll go to great lengths to do it. You're so fucking good looking. distractingly good looking. I hate that you're a bartender because it makes me crazy that you get all this wack ass male attention. I want to fight fools for your honor on a regular basis. And you're so caring and thoughtful, I see the way you take care of Murph and Gene and Pap, I just think someone should take care of you in the same way. I kinda thought I could be that guy, but I'll do my best as your friend. And if we're going to be friends I need you to know that I'll be up to the challenge, if you ever need to talk or whatever, you can hit me up. Some say that the path from inner turmoil begins with a friendly ear. Just so you know.

He turns and starts to walk in. Emily rolls her eyes.

EMILY

If my eyes could roll hard enough I think they'd go around the world and end up back in my eye sockets.

BILLY

What?

EMILY

Fuck it. It's only a date, right. Tell me about this flick.

76 EXT. GOLF COURSE - DAY

Neighborhood: Morley Field

Gene, Murph, Billy and Pap play golf.

GENE

So tell me, William? What are your intentions with Emily?

Gene hits his ball.

BILLY

My intentions?

PAP

Don't listen to him, Billy. My son's just being an ass hat and a half.

Pap sets up his ball.

MURPH

No, No, No, I want to know. Have you had sexual relations with Emily?

PAP

Don't answer that, Billy.

GENE

What are you, his lawyer?

MURPH

We're just giving you a hard time, Billy. I had to go through the same shit when I started dating Caitlin.

PAP

Yeah, right. As I remember it, we warned you about that one.

GENE

Yeah, after he hid it from us for months because he was scared we'd both beat his ass.

MURPH

I'd trash both your asses.

PAP
watch it.

BILLY
My intentions are noble, I assure you.

GENE
We're just fucking with you, dude.

BILLY
Well, they are.

GENE
Well, good. Because that girl means
the whole god damn world to me, and I
will kill you.

Billy giggles.

GENE (CONT'D)
Why are you laughing?

Billy's face straightens up. Murph sets up his shot.

MURPH
So I couldn't help but notice you
talking to Gwen the other night.

GENE
You saw that, huh?

MURPH
You didn't exactly hide it. You're
lucky Michelle didn't see.

BILLY
Who's Gwen?

MURPH
Gwen is Gene's ex. And she showed up
at your show the other night.

BILLY
That's not very chill.

MURPH
And on top of that she's good friends
with Emily.

BILLY
So not chill.

GENE

It's fine. It's really not a big deal.

MURPH

Gwen is going to be around, She runs in some of the same circles, you just can't get all puppy eyed when she is.

GENE

Alright look, I was with Gwen for a long time. There's a lot of history there, so yes, I was excited to see her. I was happy to know that she's alive and looks... Good.

MURPH

Well, now you know so...

GENE

Well, I was thinking about giving her a call.

MURPH

What?! Why?!

GENE

I just want to make sure she's okay.

MURPH

Didn't you get that from seeing her the other night?

GENE

Murph, she moved back down here for a reason. She's got to be going through some shit. She's not open with a lot of people. I just want to ask her to dinner so we can talk it out.

MURPH

Dinner?

Murph looks at Pap.

PAP

I'm staying out of this one.

GENE

Michelle and I are fine. We're better than fine, we're amazing. In fact, I think she'd commend my compassion.

(MORE)

GENE (CONT'D)
She'd call me a stand up guy.

MURPH
Oh yeah? Let's ask her then.

GENE
No chance.

PAP
Take your shot, Billy.

Billy is just standing there listening to them.

BILLY
Oh, sorry.

He nervously sets up and shoots.

77 EXT. GOLF COURSE (PARKING LOT) - DAY

Gene has stepped away from everyone else, who are packing up their cars. He has a cigarette and makes a phone call.

78 EXT. GWEN'S PARENT'S HOUSE (GWEN'S ROOM) - DAY

Gwen lies on her bed. Her room hasn't changed since she was a teenager. Rock posters clutter the wall. Her phone rings.

GWEN
Genie?

79 INTERCUT - PHONE CALL

GENE
Hey, Gwen. How are you?

GWEN
Really good, actually. I'm really glad to hear from you. There was definitely a point in time where I thought that would never happen again.

GENE
Yeah, that's kind of why I'm calling.

GWEN
Go on.

GENE
Well, we left off under pretty bad
(MORE)

GENE (CONT'D)
circumstances...

GWEN
Oh, you're talking about me kicking you out of our apartment and throwing all of your shit at you.

GENE
Yeah, that'd be it.

GWEN
I felt I made it pretty clear that we were okay when we saw each other.

GENE
Yeah, that's part of what concerns me. I left that apartment with you screaming and the next time I see you, we're chummy.

GWEN
I had plenty of time to cool down. I'm over being mad.

GENE
I mean, I wouldn't say that I'm 100% over it. You're kind of overlooking the fact that I was upset too. I'd like to talk about it.

GWEN
You're not over me?

GENE
No, I have a girlfriend now and I'm completely obsessed with her. I just think that, aside from the screaming, we never got a chance to talk it out.

GWEN
Well, what do you suggest?

GENE
Have dinner with me and we'll talk.

GWEN
You want to have that conversation in public?

GENE

Of course, It's harder for you to
scream at me.

GWEN

You think of everything.

GENE

Will you do it?

GWEN

Yes, Gene, I'd love to have dinner
with you.

GENE

When you say it like that it sounds
like a date.

GWEN

Didn't mean it that way. You're
reputation is intact. Pick me up at 8?

GENE

Tonight?

GWEN

Yeah, if that works.

GENE

Sure. Yeah. Your dad's house, right?

GWEN

Yes sir.

GENE

Okay. See you then.

They hang up. Gene makes another call.

GENE (CONT'D)

Hey... Oh yeah, we're having fun.
Listen I know I said we'd stay in
tonight, but Pap wants to go grab a
beer. Would you mind?... Thanks...
Yeah, you know how lonely he gets...
love you too... bye.

80 INT. CAITLIN'S HOUSE (KITCHEN) - EVENING

Neighborhood: South Park.

Emily sits. Caitlin writes on the whiteboard on the refrigerator door.

CAITLIN

Here are our cell numbers.

EMILY

Definitely already have those.

CAITLIN

Em, don't be an asshole, what if you drop your phone in the toilet again.

EMILY

Then I'll put it in rice... Again.

CAITLIN

And here's the number to the restaurant in case we don't answer.

EMILY

Won't be using that.

CAITLIN

And I'll write down some options for dinner. Oh, and they can't have jolly ranchers. Roxy will say otherwise.

EMILY

She's pulled that one on me before.

CAITLIN

How are things going with that boy?

EMILY

Billy? It's going okay. We've only hung out a couple times.

CAITLIN

Well, do you think it'll go anywhere?

EMILY

I don't know, but he's fun to spend time with. He makes me laugh, but not always in a "he's so funny" kind of way, more a "what a joke" kind of way.

CAITLIN

Oh my God! Are you dating Murph?

EMILY

What?! No!

CAITLIN

Because you're describing my husband.

Murph walks in.

MURPH

Are you ladies talking about me?

CAITLIN

Yeah, about how you're a fucking joke.

Buzz, buzz. Emily gets a text.

EMILY

It's Billy. He want to hang. Can't tonight, buddy.

MURPH

Billy is so "chill".

CAITLIN

How do you know him?

MURPH

He works in the bar. He played golf with us today. Good guy.

CAITLIN

Is he good with kids? Why not have him here tonight?

EMILY

Really? That's not weird?

CAITLIN

I don't think so. He's not a creep, is he, Murph?

MURPH

Nah, He's a good guy.

CAITLIN

Invite him over.

EMILY

Okay. I'll see if he wants to.

Emily picks up her phone and texts.

EMILY (CONT'D)

He wants me to make sure you guys are "chill" with it.

MURPH

See, respectful.

CAITLIN

Tell him it was my idea.

Emily texts more.

EMILY

Okay. He's coming over.

MURPH

Great. We've got to get going. That place is gonna get crowded as hell.

81 INT. MURPH'S CAR - NIGHT

Murph drives. Caitlin hangs on his free arm. They laugh.

CAITLIN

Do you think they'll do it in our house after the kids go to bed?

MURPH

Oh yeah, totally. If I were in his situation, that would be my mission.

CAITLIN

Yeah, but you're a pig.

MURPH

Easy.

CAITLIN

Let's hope Em isn't. I guess we'll just change the sheets before we go to bed. that's so gross.

MURPH

Really? Cause then we'll just have to change them again later.

CAITLIN

Oh, is that you saying that you think you're going to get laid just because it's date night?

MURPH

Why else would I be at date night?

CAITLIN

See, you're a pig.

82 INT. CAITLIN'S HOUSE (KITCHEN) - NIGHT

The kids laugh as Billy goofs around making dinner. He's throwing stuff from pan to pan, throwing seasoning behind his back, dancing. The kids love it.

EMILY

I had no idea you were so culinarily inclined.

BILLY

Don't speak too soon. You haven't tried it yet. I have no idea what I'm doing.

EMILY

Oh really?

BILLY

No, I love to cook. do you like to cook, Bobby?

Bobby says nothing. He's a baby.

BILLY (CONT'D)

You do?! Well then get up here.

Billy now cooks with Bobby on his shoulders.

EMILY

Is that dangerous?

BILLY

No, you know what is dangerous? Not eating your veggies.

ROXY

I hate veggies.

BILLY

That's a bummer. Veggies are good for you. See Bobby likes his veggies.

He gives Bobby a baby carrot and Bobby eats it.

BILLY (CONT'D)
You're a total veg head!

ROXY
I want to be a veg head.

BILLY
Well, you have to eat all your
veggies.

ROXY
Okay.

Emily smiles.

83 INT. RESTAURANT - NIGHT

Neighborhood: North Park.

Caitlin and Murph look over their menus.

CAITLIN
What are you going to get? Michelle
says this place is really good.

MURPH
It's craft, farm to table and eco
friendly, right? Otherwise I don't
want to do business with these people.

CAITLIN
Eco friendly?

MURPH
Save the economy.

CAITLIN
You're such a bomb.

Caitlin looks up from her menu and sees Gene and Gwen eating
together across the restaurant.

MURPH
I don't know. What's Capellini?

CAITLIN
That's my fucking brother with his
fucking ex-girlfriend over there.

MURPH
Oh, shit.

CAITLIN

"Oh, shit" is right. Do you think they're fucking? Why does that asshole have to fuck everything up?

MURPH

Don't get ahead of yourself, Caitlin, you don't know what's going on.

CAITLIN

What the fuck do you mean I don't know? What am I blind? My fucking brother is having dinner with his fucking ex-girlfriend right now.

MURPH

Why are you saying "fuck" so much?

CAITLIN

Because I'm pissed off! This is a big deal, Murph!

MURPH

Like I said, you have no idea what this is actually about. Don't go blabbing this to Michelle.

CAITLIN

You want me to hide this from Michelle?

MURPH

I'm just saying not to be hasty. Haste makes waste. That's what Pap says.

CAITLIN

Oh God, don't bring him into this. You know I never liked her. Had to pretend to for years. Now it's confirmed. God damned snake in the grass.

MURPH

Jesus Christ, where is this waiter?

WAITER

You ready to order?

CAITLIN

No, just need the check, please.

MURPH

We're not eating here?

CAITLIN

No, Murph, We can't risk being seen. I'm not going to let that piece of shit weasel his way out of this. That son of a bitch is fucking caught.

WAITER

Okay. So just the beer and the bubble water then. I'll grab that for you.

CAITLIN

Thank you.

The waiter walks away and passes Gene and Gwen.

GWEN

Yeah, everything is great. Everything was great back in SF too, the job was going so well, I was kicking ass, moving up and I got this roommate after you left and she was so funny, Gene, I can't even tell you. We definitely bonded, like friends for life, but I missed my Dad and just being here in San Diego. I needed to come back for a bit. It's been nice.

GENE

How is your old man? Been so long since I've seen him.

GWEN

He's so good. Doing his thing, you know, whatever he does.

GENE

Right.

GWEN

So you want to tell me about this girlfriend of yours? Obsessed, huh?

GENE

Gwen, don't do that.

GWEN

Do what?

GENE

Be shitty about her.

GWEN

Not my intention. I really want to know. God, I didn't think it would be so soon that we were fighting.

GENE

No, no, I read you wrong. I suppose I'm out of practice... Her name is Michelle. She's very nice. We've been together for a little while now, We live in North Park.

GWEN

Oh, you live with her? So it's pretty serious?

GENE

Yeah. It's pretty serious.

GWEN

Do you love her?

GENE

Yeah, I'd say I do.

GWEN

That's so great, Genie. I'm happy for you. I really am.

GENE

Gwen... I'm sorry I hurt you.

She starts crying.

GWEN (CONT'D)

It's been really hard since you left. Everything fucking sucks.

GENE

I know, you're a bad liar. You way overplay it.

GWEN

Fuck.

GENE

But hey, it's okay. That's what this is all about. Let's get all the shit

(MORE)

GENE (CONT'D)
out and off of our chest.

GWEN
Did you love me?

GENE
Of course. A part of me always will.

GWEN
Why would you do that shit to me if
you loved me?

GENE
It was never about not loving you. It
was about me not knowing what I
wanted. Maybe self sabotaging.
Probably self sabotaging. I did some
stupid things that fucked everything
up, but I always loved you.

GWEN
Do you think our relationship went
prematurely south?

GENE
I think I was prematurely in our
relationship.

GWEN
And you're not like that now?

GENE
What do you mean?

GWEN
With this new girl, you know that you
want to be with her? You're not
fucking with her head?

GENE
I'd say so. I think I'm able to
recognize the way that I was because
I've done a little bit of growing up
since then.

GWEN
I suppose I can tell. I wish I could
say the same. I'm so pathetic.

GENE

No, you're not. Maybe a little, but no more than any of the rest of us.

GWEN

Gene, you really are a good guy and that broad is lucky to have you. Honestly.

GENE

Thank you, Gwen. Honestly.

She grabs his hand. They lock fingers.

GWEN

You want to go for a Jacuzzi?

84 INT. MURPH'S CAR - NIGHT

Murph and Caitlin's date night has been downsized to eating fast food burgers on the car ride home. Caitlin is still mad.

CAITLIN

He's such a scumbag. I mean, Michelle is like the goddamn G.O.A.T. And he's fucking all that up to put it where it's already been? I just don't understand this male conquest bullshit.

MURPH

Babe, you're really jumping to conclusions. I'm sure if you got to the bottom of this you'd realize that it's nothing. You should just calm down. The night started so great.

CAITLIN

You're right... I mean, not about Gene being a scumbag and doing scumbag things, but about me getting to the bottom of it. there's nothing I can do tonight, so let's just chill out, maybe we'll watch some food TV.

MURPH

The food channel wasn't what I was thinking when we get home.

CAITLIN

Not happening, I hate your entire
(MORE)

CAITLIN (CONT'D)
gender right now.

MURPH
Hate fuck?

CAITLIN
Pig.

Caitlin giggles.

MURPH
Don't be so hard on Gene. He's better
than you give him credit for. He's
just worried about her.

CAITLIN
What?!

MURPH
You know... That's my assessment of
the situation.

CAITLIN
Uh-uh. I've been with you for how many
years? You don't have "assessments".
What do you know?

MURPH
I know nothing. I just...

CAITLIN
Bullshit. What do you know? Spill it.

MURPH
(sigh) Well, at golf this afternoon he
may have mentioned something about
calling her for dinner.

CAITLIN
What?! golf?!

MURPH
You know, golf with Pap.

CAITLIN
Yeah, Murph, I fucking know. I'm just
fucking flabbergasted that you bunch
of god damn pigs discussed this shit
over fucking golf! And... AND you
neglected to tell me... Nay, hid from

(MORE)

CAITLIN (CONT'D)

me the fact that you knew this shit was going on.

MURPH

I just didn't want you to flip the fuck out like this!

CAITLIN

Oh, you haven't seen anything yet... Piece of shit.

She hits him on the chest.

MURPH

There's quite a lot of hostility in this car right now. Raise your hand if you're mad.

Murph raises his hand. Caitlin hits it down.

CAITLIN

Cut that bullshit out.

85 INT. CAITLIN'S HOUSE (LIVING ROOM) - NIGHT

Neighborhood: South Park.

The kids are obviously in bed now, because there's a half full bottle of wine on the coffee table, there's a gory movie on the TV and Billy and Emily are making out. The mood is completely interrupted by an angry Caitlin kicking the door open and storming in, a defeated Murph following.

CAITLIN

He's doing this shit again and this time it's to my good friend and I won't stand for it... Hi, Billy. Sorry to interrupt.

BILLY

Oh, it's chill. Su casa.

EMILY

What are you talking about?

CAITLIN

Gene. He's fucking around behind Michelle's back... And with Gwen no less, the slut basket. We saw them together at Alexander's. And Murph

(MORE)

CAITLIN (CONT'D)
knew, Gene told him at fucking golf.

EMILY
Oh, shit. I knew that that was
happening. I talked to Gwen, she told
me that he wanted to have dinner.

CAITLIN
You knew?!

EMILY
I didn't think to tell you.

CAITLIN
Didn't think to tell me?

EMILY
It didn't seem like that big of a
deal. They ended things with a big
explosion fight and decided they
should talk it out if they were going
to live in the same city again. They
run in similar circles and would be
forced to see each other. Seemed
perfectly reasonable to me.

CAITLIN
I don't trust it.

BILLY
Seemed pretty legit to me. didn't seem
sketchy.

CAITLIN
You knew too?

BILLY
I was at golf.

CAITLIN
So I was the only one left in the dark
on this? even the fucking Bill and Ted
guy knew. Awesome.

She storms off. Murph rolls his eyes and follows.

EMILY
(mouthing) we should go.

86 INT. CAITLIN'S HOUSE (BEDROOM) - NIGHT

Caitlin gets her pajamas out of the dresser and violently disrobes. Murph calmly does the same.

MURPH

Babe, I'm sorry tonight got all messed up. I really wanted to have that much needed date night.

CAITLIN

It's not your fault. You didn't help any, but it's not actually your fault. Let's just go to bed.

MURPH

Canada Burgers in the car was kind of fun though, huh?

CAITLIN

No, it wasn't. it was awful. Our date night turned into a depressing fast food meal.

Murph gets close and puts his hands around her waist.

MURPH

We could end the night on an up note?

CAITLIN

Why didn't you just tell me?

MURPH

I already told you, I knew you'd freak out about it. I didn't like that he was doing it.

CAITLIN

It's not just this. You lie to me about a lot of things.

MURPH

You overreact about a lot of things.

CAITLIN

You lie to me. You're a liar. I hate liars.

MURPH

Come on...

CAITLIN

How is that supposed to make me feel?

MURPH

Oh, no you don't. What happened tonight didn't happen to you. If anyone is the victim it's Michelle. You make everything about you. The world revolves around Caitlin.

CAITLIN

This isn't about what happened tonight. It's about you being dishonest with me. If you lie to me about stupid little shit to, I don't even know, stay out of "trouble" or whatever, how do I know you're not lying to me about other things?

MURPH

I didn't have dinner with my ex-girl friend. Why am I getting in trouble over this?

CAITLIN

There's that word, "trouble". What are you scared of? I'm not your mother. I'm going to put you in the corner.

MURPH

I know, SHE doesn't still treat me like a child.

CAITLIN

And you know what, My world doesn't revolve around me. It revolves around my kids. I just wish, with all of my being, that sometimes your world would revolve around me.

MURPH

Oh, that's good. Like your the one that's neglected. It was you that gave date night blue balls because getting involved with your brothers drama was just too enticing for you, You fucking drama queen. Did it ever occur to you the night was ruined for me too? I was looking forward to spending time with my wife. Actually feeling like she loves me and I'm not just that dude

(MORE)

MURPH (CONT'D)
that watches the kids.

CAITLIN
Excuse me, I'm with the kids all day
everyday. There's one that's currently
attached to me 24/7 if you haven't
noticed.

MURPH
Oh, now I don't do enough for you? Do
you forget that someone has to make
money?

CAITLIN
Yeah, working for my father, you
couldn't even get your shit together
enough to get a real job on your own.

MURPH
Jesus Christ, this has to be hormones,
right? It has to be?

CAITLIN
It's so not fair that you would bring
that up right now. Piece of shit.

MURPH
Well, I think you're being unfair and
I think you're just saying things to
be mean and I don't want to hear it.
I'm going to sleep in the Murph cave.

CAITLIN
Good.

Murph exits. Caitlin sits on the bed and puts her head in her hands. She looks over at a photo of Her, Gene, Pap and their mother. She tears up.

87 INT. CAITLIN'S HOUSE (BATHROOM) - NIGHT

Caitlin is brushing her teeth. She pulls a hidden bottle of booze out of the cupboard. She pours a shot, looks at it for a very long time, and dumps it down the drain.

88 EXT. GWEN'S PARENT'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Neighborhood: Kensington.

Gwen's Subaru stops short of the driveway and Gene gets out.

He sneaks around the side of the house and over the fence.
Gwen pulls in the driveway, gets out and walks to the house.

89 INT. GWEN'S PARENT'S HOUSE (LIVING ROOM) - NIGHT

Gwen runs into her father.

GWEN

Daddy, what are you doing still up?

GWEN'S DAD

Oh, I was watching Chef Ramsey. I love that guy. I'm going to bed now. Did you have a good night?

GWEN

Yeah, just had dinner with some friends. It was fun. I'm really tired now, but I'm going to sneak in a quick jacuzzi before bed.

GWEN'S DAD

That sounds nice. See you in the morning. Love you.

He kisses her on the forehead.

GWEN

Love you too, Daddy. See you in the morning. I'll make you breakfast.

GWEN'S DAD

Sweet! Can't wait!

He goes upstairs. Gwen opens a cabinet with pool supplies in it and grabs her bikini, shorts for Gene and two towels.

90 EXT. GWEN'S PARENT'S HOUSE (HOT TUB) - NIGHT

GWEN

You remembered how to get in?

GENE

You know how many times I've snuck in?

GWEN

That was a long time ago, old man.

GENE

Easy!

She moves closer to him.

GWEN(CONT'D)

Just kidding. Don't be so sensitive...
Old man.

They kiss.

91 INT. GWEN'S PARENT'S HOUSE (GWEN'S ROOM) - NIGHT

Gene and Gwen have only towels on. They're making out. She pushes him on the bed and gets on top of him. They have sex. Gene looks at all the teenage posters.

92 INT. GENE AND MICHELLE'S HOUSE (BEDROOM) - NIGHT

Neighborhood: North Park.

Michelle is sleeping. Gene comes in, strips down to his underwear and gets in bed with her. She wakes up.

GENE

I'm sorry, didn't mean to wake you.

MICHELLE

(sleepy) It's okay. Did you have fun
with Pap?

GENE

Yes.

He kisses her on the forehead and they go to sleep.

93 INT. BILLY'S APARTMENT - DAY

Neighborhood: City Heights.

Billy, Linton and Gwen sit. Alternative music plays.

GWEN

So you guys are going to go on tour?

LINTON

Totally. You want to come with us and
do merch?

GWEN

No. Have you done any touring before?

LINTON

We went to Ventura and back one time,
(MORE)

LINTON (CONT'D)
but that's about it.

GWEN
Ventura? That's not a tour.

LINTON
Says you.

GWEN
Says everyone.

BILLY
She's right, dude. That's not a tour.
We need to start taking this shit
seriously.

LINTON
Which is why we're going to do a full
west coast tour in the summer. It's
going to be dope. We'll even hit
Vancouver.

GWEN
Oh, international tour.

Emily comes out of the bathroom holding her belly.

BILLY
You alright, Em?

EMILY
No, yeah, I'm fine. I must have just
eaten something bad.

GWEN
Those tacos. Had to be.

EMILY
Yeah, I guess. I think I'm going to
just go home. I don't feel so hot.

BILLY
Okay. I'll walk you to your car.

LINTON
But I thought we were going to go get
ice cream? Do you still want to go get
ice cream, Gwen?

GWEN

No.

94 INT. BREWERY (BAR) - DAY

Neighborhood: Normal Heights.

Emily is behind the bar and Shrub is rambling.

SHRUB

If there are an infinite number of universes, sometimes slight variations of each other, some times drastic...
Em, are you okay?

Emily is visibly sick. She runs to the bathroom.

95 INT. CAITLIN'S HOUSE (MURPHCAVE) - MORNING

Neighborhood: South Park.

Emily and Murph play video games. Gene waits his turn. Emily stops abruptly and runs to the bathroom.

MURPH

What the hell?! I was trashing your ass. You're up, "Bub".

Gene plays in her spot. Before long she comes back in.

EMILY

Sorry. That's been happening a lot.

MURPH

That happens when you're pregnant.

GENE

Holy shit, did you raw dog Billy?

Emily's face is white. Gene and Murph's laughs fade.

MURPH

Oh, do you think you might really be..

EMILY

Maybe?

she starts to cry. Gene and Murph group hug her.

96 EXT. DRUG STORE - DAY

Emily walks in a rush. She goes in and comes out with a bag.

97 INT. CAITLIN'S HOUSE (BATHROOM) - DAY

Neighborhood: South Park.

Emily is in the bathroom impatiently shaking the little stick. Finally it's done.

EMILY

Fuck.

CUT TO:

Emily is on the bathroom floor crying.

CUT TO:

Emily is still on the bathroom floor, but now on the phone.

GWEN (V.O.)

Holy shit! That guitar player? No fucking way! are you going to keep it?

EMILY

I don't know what I'm going to do, Gwen. That's kind of why I'm calling.

CUT TO:

Emily is once again crying. Murph comes in.

MURPH

you okay?

Emily shakes her head and holds her arms out. Murph picks her up off the ground and takes her out.

98 INT. YOGA STUDIO - DAY

Neighborhood: Ocean Beach.

Michelle and Caitlin are in a yoga class. People are stretching, waiting for class to begin.

MICHELLE

How was date night? Where did you go again?

CAITLIN
Alexander's. it was... Okay.

MICHELLE
Just okay?

CAITLIN
Just okay.

MICHELLE
Um... You usually give me a lot more
than that.

CAITLIN
It was just okay. Look, I don't really
want to talk about it.

MICHELLE
Copy that. Enough said... just seems
odd, you always want to talk about it.

YOGA TEACHER
Alright Everyone, let's begin.

all the yogies get into position.

CAITLIN
We saw Gene and he was having dinner
with his ex, Gwen, who's back in town.
She's trouble, Michelle. and then it
came out that all the boys new about
it because he was running his mouth
about it at golf.

Michelle is visibly upset. She takes deep breaths.

YOGA TEACHER
could you not talk, please.

MICHELLE
He called me from golf and told me
that he was going out with Pap...
fuck. FUCK!

YOGA TEACHER
I'm sorry, but I'm not going to ask
you again. If you don't keep quiet,
I'm going have to ask you to leave.

Michelle gets up and storms out.

CAITLIN
Michelle...

Caitlin tries twice to get up and can't.

CAITLIN (CONT'D)
(to a stranger) Can you help me up?

99 EXT. YOGA STUDIO - DAY

Caitlin comes out of the class. Michelle is pacing.

MICHELLE
He lied to me. He said he was going to
get a beer with Pap. And I saw her at
that stupid fucking concert and they
were talking and...

She flips out and kicks a Buddha statue over.

YOGA TEACHER (O.S.)
Hey, what the Hell? that's vandalism.
That is not okay.

CAITLIN
She's sorry, alright.

Caitlin's phone rings. She answer. In the background the Yoga
teacher comes out and Michelle and him argue.

CAITLIN (CONT'D)
Emily, I can't talk. Michelle is...
Oh. Understood. We'll be there in 10.

100 EXT. COFFEE SHOP - DAY

Neighborhood: Golden Hill.

Caitlin and Michelle approach the coffee shop. Emily waves
them down. They sit with her.

EMILY
Hi.

CAITLIN
What is this emergency?

EMILY
I'm pregnant.

What?! CAITLIN MICHELLE
What?!
EMILY
I'm pregnant. I don't know what to do.
MICHELLE
Billy's?
EMILY
Yeah.
CAITLIN
Wow. What are you going to do?
EMILY
I just said I didn't know.
CAITLIN
Well, I think you should tell Billy.
EMILY
Shit. I don't want to do that.
MICHELLE
You have to tell him.
EMILY
I know, I know. I'm going to. It's
just frightening.
CAITLIN
Well, what do you think he'll say?
EMILY
Don't know. Don't know him that well.
CAITLIN
This is fucked.
EMILY
That's not helping.
MICHELLE
You seem really calm.
EMILY
I'm concentrating really hard on not
crying. I could lose it at any moment.

CAITLIN

Oh god, I can't handle another
breakdown today. also, I have to stand
up. Oh boy.

Caitlin stands up and holds her back.

EMILY

What is she talking about?

MICHELLE

I kind of lost it earlier. I found out
Gene had dinner with Gwen.

EMILY

Oh yeah, that.

MICHELLE

What?! You fucking knew?

EMILY

She's one of my best friends. We talk.

MICHELLE

Do you think he's cheating on me?

EMILY

I doubt it... Hey Michelle, I don't
mean to be an asshole, but we're in my
fucking crisis right now.

101 INT. GWEN'S CAR - DAY

Gwen and Gene are having sex in the back seat.

102 INT. MARKET - DAY

Neighborhood: North Park.

Michelle is speaking to a GROCERY WORKER in Spanish. Gene
waits. He looks up Gwen is right in front of them. Everyone
is slightly shocked and trying to cover it up.

GENE

Oh... Hey... Gwen.

GWEN

... Gene... Hi.

They awkwardly hug. Gene acknowledges Michelle.

GENE

(to Gwen) This is my girlfriend,
Michelle. (to Michelle) Gwen.

They shake hands. Michelle looks Gwen right in the eye.

MICHELLE

Nice to meet you.

GWEN

(to Michelle) Nice to meet you. (to
Gene) It was good seeing you, Gene.

As Gwen walks away, Michelle looks deep into Gene's eyes.

103 INT. GENE'S CAR - DAY

Gene and Michelle ride silently home. Until...

MICHELLE

Who was that girl?

GENE

That was... My ex-girlfriend.

MICHELLE

San Francisco? The one you lived with.

GENE

The same.

MICHELLE

And she was at Billy's show?

GENE

Yeah. you saw her?

MICHELLE

Was it as awkward as this time?

GENE

What do you mean?

MICHELLE

Well, that was weird what happened
just now, and you seemed so... chummy
last time. I can't help but think it
was me that made it weird.

GENE

Michelle, You didn't make it weird.

MICHELLE

Don't say my name like that, it makes me feel like I'm in trouble.

GENE

You didn't make it weird. It's just always weird to see your ex-girlfriend at the market, alright? Seeing her the other night was equally as awkward, I just put on my happy face to say hi.

MICHELLE

Seemed like more than that to me.

GENE

It wasn't.

MICHELLE

Are you fucking her?

GENE

Jesus Christ, No.

MICHELLE

Do you want to?

GENE

No.

MICHELLE

Do you still have feeling for her?

GENE

No.

MICHELLE

Are you lying?

GENE

No.

MICHELLE

I don't want to be that crazy, suspicious girlfriend, but Caitlin put some things in my head.

GENE

God, Caitlin put you up to this?

MICHELLE

Nobody put me up to this, Gene.

(MORE)

MICHELLE (CONT'D)

Caitlin has just reminded me to be cautious. She doesn't speak very highly of your ability to be in a relationship.

GENE

Really?! What else does Caitlin say?

MICHELLE

She doesn't put it past you to sleep with that girl.

GENE

Michelle, I am not cheating on you. I love you.

MICHELLE

Do you not think I've heard that shit before? I was married, a man literally vowed to not do that shit and still did. Saying that is not enough.

GENE

Always with the divorce shit. It's like you're bragging about it. What would be enough?

MICHELLE

Yeah, I do bring that up a lot. It affected me deeply. And so does you being so fucking insensitive about it.

GENE

What do you want me to do to prove it to you? tell me what you want me to do and I'll do it.

MICHELLE

I want you to not go to dinner with you ex-girlfriend.

GENE

Fuck. How did you know?

MICHELLE

Caitlin saw.

GENE

God damn it, Caitlin.

MICHELLE

Stop blaming your sister, you were the one doing something you shouldn't.

GENE

When I ran into Gwen the other day, she invited me to dinner. I wanted to go to make sure she was okay.

MICHELLE

What does that mean?

GENE

When I left, it wasn't on the best terms, and yeah, you're right, she was bubbly and easy to talk to that night. It seemed disingenuous. I wanted to make sure that girl I had left such a wreck wasn't just covering it up, because that's the way that it seemed. I was only concerned for her. Nothing else. I thought it best to not tell you, I guess, because no man wants to tell his current girlfriend that he's having dinner with his ex-girlfriend.

MICHELLE

If that's true you could have explained it to me.

GENE

I didn't. Covering it up seemed easier. It was wrong and I'm sorry.

Michelle looks at him, then out the window.

104 INT. GENE AND MICHELLE'S HOUSE (KITCHEN) - DAY

Gene and Michelle walk in with their hands full of grocery bags and set them down on the counter. Gene pulls out his phone and plugs it into the charger and then goes to the other side of the kitchen and starts putting stuff away. Michelle's organizing leads her to the side of the kitchen where Gene's phone is. As she's putting bread in the cupboard above, Michelle's eye is caught by the light of Gene's silent phone getting a text message. Gene's back is to her on the opposite side of the kitchen so he doesn't notice the phone. The text reads:

Gwen: Do you think she's onto us?

Michelle tears up, but quickly composes herself.

MICHELLE

I don't need an explanation, there are no do-overs. Tonight you'll sleep on the couch and tomorrow I'll start looking for a place.

GENE

what the hell are you talking about?

She throws the phone at him.

MICHELLE

you just got an incriminating text from Gwen. And you can tell her yeah, I am onto you.

GENE

Oh, shit. No, listen, Michelle...

Gene puts his hand on Michelle's arm. She violently pulls her arm away. They're quiet for a moment.

GENE (CONT'D)

so that's it? It's over?

MICHELLE

yes.

GENE

Michelle, I love you. Nobody will ever love you like I do. This is a mistake.

MICHELLE

Gene, clearly you have issues. Don't project that shit on me, alright. I see right through you.

Michelle walks out of the room. Gene goes back to putting away the groceries.

105 INT. RECORD SHOP - DAY

Neighborhood: Mission Hills.

Emily and Billy go through records.

BILLY

It's like, I'm all about girl power and all, but fuck Sofia Coppola. Marie
(MORE)

BILLY (CONT'D)

Antoinette is hard to watch... Oh, did I tell you? I got my free taco yesterday. Padres won.

Emily is distracted beyond not being interested. He notices.

BILLY(CONT'D)

You alright, Em? Is something wrong?

EMILY

Oh, no. I'm fine. Just in my own head. Sofia Coppola?

BILLY

Yeah, That translation movie was okay, but that's because I love Bill Murray. "yes it's true, this man has no dick".

Emily stops dead in her tracks. Billy gets ahead, but quickly stops to see what's up.

EMILY

Billy, I'm pregnant. I'm... uh, pregnant with your baby.

Billy stands there for a moment, speechless. He then gets down on one knee.

EMILY(CONT'D)

Billy, stop.

BILLY

No, hear me out. I know this seems crazy and not well thought out, well it's not actually, but I think we should do this right. This is a big deal and we weren't prepared for it and that was unlucky, but that doesn't mean it's a mistake. Emily, I actually really love you and I love our baby and nothing else in the world matters. Maybe we didn't choose now to start our family, but that doesn't mean we shouldn't start it. Our little family can make it through anything. Emily McGuinness, will you marry me? also, I don't have a ring.

Emily smiles.

EMILY

Yes.

BILLY

Thank God. That was a lot of pressure.

EMILY

Get up.

He stands up and they have a magic kiss in the bargain section. The other record shoppers clap.

106 EXT. CAITLIN'S HOUSE (KITCHEN) - MORNING

Neighborhood: South Park.

Caitlin, Michelle, Emily and the girls are wine Wednesdaying.

CAITLIN

What?!

MICHELLE

Really?

EMILY

Yeah. I took your advice and told Billy that I'm pregnant and he got down on one knee and proposed.

CAITLIN

Without a ring? And you accepted?

EMILY

Yeah. I said yes.

CAITLIN

Em, are you sure? He's kind of a loser. I mean, what is the rest of your life going to be? I really hate to look like the villain and say it, but I don't think you should completely rule out an abortion. There, I said it. You really need to think this through.

MICHELLE

You don't know him. What if it lasts two seconds and he hits the road?

EMILY

I have thought it through. It may not be how I dreamed it would be when I was a little girl, but there's no fairy tales coming. Billy is really

(MORE)

EMILY (CONT'D)

sweet and wants to do the right thing. As far as I can tell, which isn't a lot because I haven't know him very long, he's a good guy. I'm knocked up and all I can ask for is a good guy. It may not be perfect, but it'll do. I'm going to have this baby and I'm going to marry Billy. Also, I need your backyard for my shotgun wedding.

107 EXT. CAITLIN'S HOUSE (PORCH) - DAY

Neighborhood: North Park.

Gene, Murph, Pap and Billy sit on the porch drinking beers.

PAP

You better not fuck this up anymore than you already have. That girl is like a daughter to me.

BILLY

Don't worry, Pap, I got this. I've never been more sure of anything in my life. This is what I'm meant to do.

GENE

You're awfully confident.

BILLY

No, I'm scared out of my mind. I don't know what the fuck I'm doing. I just know that I'm going to do what's right. And I love Em and our baby.

PAP

I respect that, Boy.

MURPH

Wait, does this mean you're moving into my house too?

BILLY

Can I? Is that chill? JK, Dude. she'll move in with me for now, but we need a bigger place so we can have a nursery. I think we'll have to go east. Linton was saying Lemon Grove. It's cheap out there. gotta do what you gotta do.

PAP

That's right. But uh, maybe we can get you more hours, or get you doing something with some more responsibilities, a little more pay. Maybe you won't have to be on the wrong side of the 15.

MURPH

(sarcastically) Oh, great.

PAP

Shut up, Murph.

BILLY

Thanks, Pap. That means a lot.

Billy hugs Pap.

PAP

Least I can do, just don't make me regret it.

BILLY

I'll make you proud.

PAP

Okay. Let's do this thing.

They get up and start out. Gene grabs Billy.

GENE

Hey, Billy. Can I talk to you?

BILLY

Yeah, Man. What's up?

GENE

Tell the truth, are you planning on running? Skipping town maybe?

BILLY

what?! No, Dude!

GENE

I've thought about it before, and if I ended up in your position, that would be my move. I'd jump ship.

BILLY

No, dude. No fucking way. I'm in this
(MORE)

BILLY (CONT'D)
for real. for the long haul.

GENE
Okay. That's good. Any other girl that
would be my advice, but Em means a lot
to me. I'd hunt you down.

BILLY
I appreciate your concern, but that's
not going to happen.

Pap and Murph are in the car. Pap honks.

PAP
What's the hold up?!

GENE
Sorry, Pap.

BILLY
Sorry, Pap.

108 INT. BILLY'S APARTMENT - DAY

Billy sells some guitar gear to a couple craigslisters.

109 INT. TATTOO SHOP - DAY

Emily is getting a heart that says "Billy". Billy arm has
plastic wrap taped to it, as he's already gotten his tattoo.

110 INT. EVENT HALL - DAY

Chairs are in a circle. Caitlin is standing.

CAITLIN
My family was torn apart by my fathers
selfish behavior and he would drink to
deal with it and there was plenty of
booze around, so of course I drank, I
learned it from him...

111 EXT. BREWERY - DAY

Billy is sitting on a bucket. Michelle sits next to him.

BILLY
Oh, hey, Michelle. Gene isn't here...

MICHELLE
I know, I came to talk to you. I want
you to have this.

She pulls out a ring.

BILLY

I can't take that.

MICHELLE

yes, you can. I know you can't afford a ring. You can't not give her a ring. I have one here that I can't stand the sight of. It makes my skin crawl knowing that it's still with me. It can't be in the same house as me anymore. this represents a lot of things I need to let go of. It doesn't have to be something negative to you. I want you to have it.

BILLY

But, I already proposed.

MICHELLE

Que mierda de already proposed!

BILLY

what?

MICHELLE

Do it again. That would be so fucking romantic.

BILLY

You're absolutely right. Thanks!

MICHELLE

You're good, aren't you, Billy? not like him.

BILLY

like who?

MICHELLE

Nevermind.

112 INT. GENE AND MICHELLE'S HOUSE (LIVING ROOM) - DAY

Neighborhood: North Park.

Michelle has all of her stuff packed in brown paper bags. Gene walks in and stands in the doorway.

GENE
do you want some help?

MICHELLE
absolutely not... Have you told anyone
that we broke up?

GENE
No, not yet. I was going to, but it
was easier to pretend like it didn't
happen for now.

MICHELLE
You obviously have heard about Emily's
shotgun wedding this weekend?

GENE
Yeah.

MICHELLE
I think for Em's sake we should not
tell anyone until after the wedding.
We'll go together.

GENE
Okay. I'd like that.

MICHELLE
Get this straight in your head though,
we'll go together, we'll be cool as
cucumbers, but you will not touch me.
We are no longer together, Gene. This
is for Emily.

GENE
Where are you going to go?

MICHELLE
I don't want to tell you that. I'm
actually done talking, can you let me
finish this up?

GENE
yeah.

He walks away.

MICHELLE
Thank you.

113 EXT. CAITLIN'S HOUSE (BACKYARD) - DAY

Neighborhood: South Park.

Friends and Family sit in folding chairs waiting for the ceremony to begin. Billy takes his spot at the altar. The groomsmen and bridesmaids walk the aisle: Caitlin and Linton, Michelle and Gene, Murph and Gwen. They stand on their respective sides. Linton makes eyes at Gwen. The flower girl, Roxy, throws flower petals, followed by Pap escorting Emily. Billy cries when he sees Emily. Billy's parents, SUSIE and RALPH are there. Susie cries. Caitlin cries a lot.

OFFICIANT

Welcome, family and loved ones. We are gathered here today to celebrate the union of Emily and William. Marriage is the promise between two people who love each other, who trust that love, who honor one another as individuals in that togetherness, and who wish to spend the rest of their lives together. William and Emily will now say vows to one another.

Billy pulls his vows out of his pocket.

BILLY

Emily, Three months ago I didn't know you. Three months ago I had no idea how the rest of my life was going to go. Now I couldn't imagine things any other way. I love you so much and I love our little creature growing inside of you. I've often downplayed the first time I saw you. You were with Gene and Murph and I used them to make contact. I played it cool, but you were the most beautiful girl I had ever seen. Then I quickly found out you were also the coolest, smartest, raddest person I had ever met. And now I get to marry the most beautiful, coolest, smartest, raddest person. And, you know, put a baby in her. I have this photo of you that I haven't been able to stop looking at since I took it. You're pretty drunk in the photo, you can see it on your face and you're smoking a cigarette, but you're looking at me so deeply and intensely.

(MORE)

BILLY (CONT'D)

I just look at this photo and think, that's the mother of my child. I promise I'll do whatever it takes to make our little family work and I'll always cherish you and what we have. However great or small that might be. I love you, Emily.

Emily has hers memorized.

EMILY

I'm Emily McGuinness and I'm of sound mind. The man next to me is the one I want. You asked me, I'm answering, yes I love that man of mine.

Everyone laughs.

OFFICIANT

Please present the rings.

LINTON

got 'em right here, Dog.

OFFICIANT(CONT'D)

Your wedding ring is a symbol of your promise to one another. The ring, an unbroken, never ending circle, is a symbol of committed, unending love.

Billy places the ring on Emily's finger and vice versa.

OFFICIANT

William, do you take Emily to be your wife?

BILLY

I do.

OFFICIANT

Emily, do you take William to be your husband?

EMILY

I do.

OFFICIANT

By the power vested in me, I now pronounce you husband and wife. You may now kiss the bride.

Billy and Emily kiss. Everyone cheers.

OFFICIANT (CONT'D)

Friends and family, I now present to
you Mr. And Mrs. William Bernard.

114 EXT. CAITLIN'S HOUSE (RECEPTION AREA) - DAY

There's a small bar that only has beer, a dance floor, and
several tables. Danny and Jerry are the wedding band.

GWEN

It's so crazy that she's divorced, it
makes me feel old. Our generation is
getting old enough to have divorce's.

LINTON

Yep, I thought it was weird when I
realized I was old enough to have
friends in prison, but now I'm old
enough to have friends getting out of
prison. It's fucked up.

RALPH

Beer, huh? I don't get it.

SUSIE

Don't be such an old man, I think
it's great.

MURPH

It ain't so bad. It's a living. and
you know, plenty to drink.

CAITLIN

Free booze is the best part. You know
how much the average wedding spends on
alcohol? We're saving a ton.

BILLY

Isn't it wild? I can now officially
call you my wife.

EMILY

Prost.

Billy and Emily clank glasses.

SUSIE

You two are adorable. My baby married.
Never thought I'd see the day.

Michelle and Gene are sitting in silence. Pap stands up.

PAP

I'd like to propose a toast. First off it's an honor to meet you Ralph and Susie, you've raised quite the man. you should be very proud.

SUSIE

We are. What a guy.

PAP

I'm not Emily's father, but I love her like one of my own. When she was young, Emily lived with her Grandmother, who tragically passed, so they didn't know what to do with her. A homeless 14 year old girl. The school counselor was friends with my ex-wife so she ended up in the spare bedroom in my house, which I wasn't too thrilled about at first. I already had 2 freeloaders, but it wasn't long before she was embedded into our family forever. And I couldn't be prouder of her, just like she was my own. For the past little bit she's been working at my Brewpub, along with my son and son-in-law. It's been an absolute honor having my family together, And the boy, I was a little worried when I hired him, I mean, look at him... But when push came to be a man he really stepped up and I'm proud to include him in that family. This is going to be a wonderful union. Cheers.

Everyone holds up there glasses and takes a drink.

115 EXT. CAITLIN'S HOUSE (MICHELLE'S TABLE) - DAY

Michelle is sitting with Caitlin.

CAITLIN

No fucking way? I knew it. I fucking knew it. and you've already moved out?

MICHELLE

Yeah, we've been keeping it quiet until after the wedding, but I had to tell you. It's been hard.

CAITLIN
I want to kill that dirtbag loser.

MICHELLE
Don't say anything to anyone. Today is
about Emily.

116 EXT. CAITLIN'S HOUSE (RECEPTION AREA) - DAY

Billy and Ralph stand on the sidelines and watch girls dance.

RALPH
You kind of fucked up, dude.

BILLY
No, Pop, I think we were supposed...

RALPH
Nah, dude, you fucked up. But it's
okay, you're doing what's right and
that's what matters. I'm proud of you.

BILLY
Thanks, Pop.

RALPH
But, Dude, have you never heard of
pulling out?

117 INT. CAITLIN'S HOUSE (PARENTS TABLE) - DAY

Emily sits with Susie.

SUSIE
You're so pretty. I've always tried to
imagine my future daughter in law, but
I couldn't have dreamed of having one
as beautiful as you.

EMILY
That's so sweet of you to say, Susie.

SUSIE
I need you to promise me something.

EMILY
What?

SUSIE
Just don't let him name my grandchild
Lemmy or Danzig or anything like that.

EMILY

You have my word.

118 INT. CAITLIN'S HOUSE (BATHROOM) - DAY

Caitlin pours a shot from her stash. She looks at it for a long time and then she takes it. Then another... and another.

119 EXT. CAITLIN'S HOUSE (RECEPTION AREA) - DAY

Linton has a mic in his hand giving his best man speech.

LINTON

Billy, you've been the ride or die since day one, Dog. and Emily you've been the homie since... Not that long ago, but I'm sure you're chill and I can't wait to meet the little dog. I think Linton would be a good name, don't you? Or Lintona. Lintonhia? That Emily is a piece though. I bet she's naughty in the sack. Oh, you know what? you hear that? Shorty's booty is calling you with that siren song. It's getting close to time to consummate this shit. You are going to give her that cheddar cheese, Daddy...

Caitlin takes the mic away for Linton.

CAITLIN

That's enough of that... Em, I've always felt very protective of you. Like I had to be your big sister. It makes me sad, but warm and proud...

Caitlin sees Gene walk over and sit next to Gwen.

CAITLIN (CONT'D)

you are such a piece of shit.

Gene looks up and sees Caitlin looking right at him.

GENE

me?

CAITLIN

yeah, you. You already broke her heart and now you're going to rub it in her face right in front of everyone.

MICHELLE

Caitlin, don't.

CAITLIN

no, he needs to hear this. He does whatever the fuck he wants, ruins everything and everyone he gets close to without repercussion and I'm sick of it. I've watched it happen over and over again.

EMILY

What are you guys talking about?

Gene gets up and walks over to Caitlin. Billy tries to take Emily out. She bats him away.

GENE

can we do this later? without the microphone? Are you drunk?

He puts his hand over the mic and pushes it down. Caitlin slaps him in the face.

CAITLIN

you're selfish and heartless and a fuck up.

GENE

Will you shut the fuck up before you ruin Emily's wedding. Clean yourself up, you're drunk.

CAITLIN

you've already ruined Emily's wedding. Just by being a piece of shit. It would have been better if you didn't come. You ruined things with Michelle. You probably ruined things with Gwen... again. and now you ruined your best friends weddings. The grand finale. You ruin everything like he ruins everything.

Caitlin points to Pap.

CAITLIN (CONT'D)

He fucked up our family and you're just like him.

PAP

Caitlin, You're drunk and pregnant and it's an embarrassment.

CAITLIN

fuck you! You're an embarrassment.
Papa fuck up. and Baby fuck up.

MURPH

Caitlin, I think you're being really selfish right now and I think you need to back down... Raise your hand if you're mad.

CAITLIN

Fuck you, Murph. Of course you're on his side. You're always on his side. Even if it means leaving your own wife out in the cold to bleed. It's always been that way. "I'll do whatever you say, Gene. As long as you still like me" It's gross.

MURPH

That's not true. and it's mean.

GENE

you're embarrassing yourself, Caitlin. You so hungry for drama that you're willing to cause this fucking scene in front everyone you know. It's pathetic. I'm so fucking sick of this shit. and I'm sick of you always being on your high horse thinking you know what's best for everyone and that you're better than everyone. Well, look at you now, you're a shit show. A drunk ass pregnant shit show.

MURPH

I can't believe you threw away 6 years. So dark.

GENE

and you treat Murph like shit. He tries so fucking hard to please you, the unpleasable, and you just tear him down. You treat everybody like they're beneath you.

CAITLIN

He's getting all this from you? This is how you feel?

MURPH

Well... yeah.

Caitlin walks away and the bands starts to play.

120 EXT. CAITLIN'S HOUSE (GWEN'S TABLE) - DAY

Gwen sits by herself. Michelle sits next to her.

GWEN

They're all just pretending like that didn't just happen. It's weird.

At the dance floor people are back to dancing.

MICHELLE

Why did you do it? I think it was because you can't stand the thought of you being the only one miserable.

GWEN

You don't even know me.

MICHELLE

I know enough.

GWEN

Gene came onto ME. He called me and he was sweet and I was vulnerable and...

MICHELLE

Bullshit. Gene, is weak. You know that better than anyone. You knew you could do it. Is that why you came back here?

GWEN

Everything was so shitty for me and seemed so good for him. I heard about you and just lost it.

MICHELLE

And you came down here to ruin it?

GWEN

I figured I could get him back, I didn't want him back, but I thought it might be my best option. Or at the

(MORE)

GWEN (CONT'D)
very least I wouldn't be jealous.

MICHELLE
Do you get how fucked up you are?

GWEN
Absolutely, I do. Are you going to stay with him?

MICHELLE
No chance. are you?

GWEN
No.

MICHELLE
Good. You're better than that. Better than him. You shouldn't be with someone just because the alternative is being alone. Gwen, you deserve to be happy. You don't think you do and that's why you're not, but you do.

Gwen starts to well up a bit.

GWEN
I'm broken. I just want to feel less broken.

MICHELLE
And you will. With time. Don't be concerned with him. He'll be miserable, or he won't. It doesn't matter. You're a smart, beautiful girl, you just need the self worth to go with it.

GWEN
Why are you being nice to me?

MICHELLE
Not being nice. I just want to be able to walk away from this without thinking later about how I could have handled it better, so I'm trying to get it right.

Michelle gets up and holds out her hand, Gwen shakes it.

MICHELLE (CONT'D)

You'll be okay, Gwen.

Michelle walks away. Gwen cries. Linton sees and approaches.

LINTON

Are you okay?

121 EXT. CAITLIN'S HOUSE (BACK YARD) -DAY

Pap and Emily are off in a corner.

PAP

I'm so sorry. It started off so great. I was so proud and you looked so beautiful. I just can't apologize enough for those two fucking morons.

EMILY

Pap, there was nothing you could do. It's still a great day and I still look beautiful. All day, and even in this very moment, you've shown me a fuck ton of love, and that's a fuck ton more than my father ever did. You're my family, Pap, and you made me feel very special on my wedding day and that means the world to me.

Pap wells up.

122 EXT. CAITLIN'S HOUSE (BACKYARD EXIT) - DAY

Gene is leaving. Michelle catches him and stops him.

MICHELLE

Gene, I know you're embarrassed and want to get the fuck out of here, but that'll crush Emily more than she already has been. Man up and be the friend you supposed to be.

GENE

Michelle, I'm sorry about everything.

MICHELLE

I know. I accept your apology, Gene.

GENE

You do?

MICHELLE

Yes, but I don't want to be with you.

Gene looks down at the ground.

GENE

It's pretty. The wedding. It gets you thinking about love... I thought you and I would get married.

MICHELLE

you also thought you and Gwen were going to get married and you'd have a big backyard with a dog, remember? How many times are you going to do this? It's time to grow up.

Michelle kisses Gene on the lips. It's long and passionate.

MICHELLE (CONT'D)

Goodbye, Gene.

She walks away towards the dance floor. Gwen and Linton are dancing. Gene sits by himself having a cigarette on the stairs. Billy comes and sits next to him. Gene offers him a cigarette. He accepts.

GENE

I'm sorry about everything. I didn't mean for... any of it. Are you okay?

BILLY

yeah, man. I'm fine. You should be having this conversation with Emily.

GENE

Oh, I will. I promise. She'll hate me for a little while. I don't know you as well. You might hate me forever.

BILLY

I don't hate you, dude. You are kind of a shitty person though.

GENE

I know. Lucky for us you're not.

BILLY

Yeah... I gotta go. It's probably better if I'm not seen with you for too long. Plus, you're a downer.

(MORE)

BILLY (CONT'D)
Weddings should be fun.

GENE
go have some fun.

Billy puts out his cigarette and walks away. Emily walks up from behind sits next to Gene.

GENE (CONT'D)
Look at this beautiful bride.

EMILY
Hey, Bub.

GENE
listen, I'm sorry about all that.
She's right, it was my fault. I
cheated on Michelle and then tried to
rub it in her face.

EMILY
You didn't make her drink. I guess I'm
I'm pretty mad at both of you, but
I'll get over it eventually. Are you
doing okay? Is it going to be okay
between you and Michelle?

GENE
No. She left me. I'll be okay. it's
your wedding day. I don't want you to
worry about me. What just happened
aside, how are you doing?

EMILY
I don't know. I don't know what's
going to happen, but I'll be okay.

Murph and Caitlin are walking nearby.

CAITLIN
Michelle told me that she left him and
I saw him talking to Gwen and I just
lost it. all this shit came up. I
shouldn't have drank. It was poor
behavior, but I couldn't help it. I
know there's no excuse. Right now my
real concern is you. I don't want you
to be mad. I love you.

MURPH

Cat, if we didn't have kids, I would have left you a long time ago.

Caitlin is crushed. Murph sees his friends.

MURPH (CONT'D)

Maybe you should make yourself scarce. A lot of people are disappointed in you right now. They're just pretending like they're not.

Caitlin looks at Emily and Gene. Gene makes eye contact, but Caitlin looks away. Caitlin starts to cry and storms off. Murph joins them on the stairs.

EMILY

You okay, Murph Smurf?

MURPH

Not really. You?

EMILY

Not really.

GENE

We're gonna be okay. Everything will be okay. Everything will be better than okay. This is a good day.

Dolly out. Cut to title screen. Credits.

Post credits: Billy and Emily round a corner and everyone is lined up and throws rice at them the whole way to Emily's oldsmobile, which has a just married sign. Linton and Gwen are making out. Caitin waddles up.

CAITLIN

Murph! Murph, we've got to go. NOW!

PAP

Oh, shit. I'll get the car.

MURPH

What? Why?

CAITLIN

It's time, you fucking idiot!

The end.