Strange Calls

"Lobster"

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TEASER

INT. LOBSTER TRAP RESTAURANT. LATE NIGHT.

We are inside a full lobster tank, looking out into the dining room of a seafood restaurant. From the lobster's P.O.V. we watch as a Latino dishwasher mops up. A hooded figure sneaks up behind him and knocks him to the ground. The figure then grabs the dishwasher's mop and swings it right into camera - smashing the lobster tank. The lobsters flood out onto the floor and swarm over the screaming dishwasher.

CRISTINO
Langosta Grande! Langosta Grande!

MAIN TITLES: A combination of shots of Nantucket Island mixing it's polished tourist friendly present with it's supernatural creepy past. Audio bits of various strange calls plays under the theme music.

ACT ONE

EXT. NANTUCKET HARBOR - DECK OF "THE EAGLE"

A nearly empty ferry pulls around Brant Point. Sitting on deck and talking on his cell phone is our hero, the sweet and slightly neurotic Toby Banks (think Will Forte, Justin Long or Jack Black at his most vulnerable). He has his bare feet up on the railing.

TOBY
Just because I am being sent away to some dumb island as punishment doesn't mean our relationship has--

PHONE COMPUTER VOICE
Message deleted. Re-record now.

TOBY
No! Damn it! (then realizing) Am I recording? Kathryn? It's Toby. You may remember me as the guy you were dating for the last six months. (laughs too hard) I just wanted--

The boat horn BLOWS announcing the boats arrival.

TOBY (CONT'D)
I just wanted---

Another horn BLAST.

TOBY (CONT'D)
(beat) I think that's it. Anyway--

PHONE COMPUTER VOICE
Message deleted. Re-record now.

TOBY
Damn it! (to phone) Damn you! Damn you!! I hate you so much!

PHONE COMPUTER VOICE
Your message has been sent using normal delivery.

EXT. NANTUCKET - HARBOR - DOCKS - A LITTLE LATER

Toby walks down the gangplank with a duffel bag, pressing buttons on his phone.

NEIL (O.C.)
Welcome to the rock, Officer Banks!

Toby looks up to see Sergeant Neil Lloyd (Think Rob Huebel, Rob Corddry, or Dean Winters with a big macho mustache).

NEIL (CONT'D)
Sergeant Neil Lloyd, Nantucket Police Force. Ooorah!

TOBY
You're a marine, sir?

NEIL
No. (points to heart) But in here I am. In here I spent the last 4 years stuck at a miserable mountain outpost North of Kandahar. Last April when our supply lines were cut I was forced to live on my own urine for four months.

TOBY
Oh God, really?

NEIL
Only in here. I would never drink urine. Would you?

TOBY
I... suppose it would depend on the situation.

NEIL
You're a little bit of a wild man, huh? City Boy? Into weird stuff?

TOBY
No... uh...

NEIL
So the infamous Toby Banks: Boston Police Commissioner's son, lets Smiley Francesca, the biggest mob fugitive in Boston history, jump out of his squad car and disappear into the crowds at Faneuil Hall.

TOBY
(reluctant/ashamed) Yep.

NEIL
So, I just talked to your dad. I told him I'm pumped to give you a complete man-over and then let him know when you're ready to be a real cop and return to Boston.

TOBY
What happened with Smiley was an aberration. If you look at my record I had three exemplary years on the force before one unfortunate incident with a faulty child door lock. In fact it really should be that door lock that is being exiled to Nantucket. I assure you it won't take more than a couple days for me to show you I'm a good cop and ready to go back to Boston.

NEIL
That's up to you. And me. More me, I guess. Listen, Toby, I want you to think of me as a number of things: A boss who commands fear and respect, yes. BUT also a bro. A bro who you fear and respect while bro-ing out with. If you want to talk about your weird issues with urine or whatever -- you can.

TOBY
Thanks.

NEIL
You ready to get started, 'cause we got a simple break-in we gotta run paperwork on. You can write it up and show me your stuff.

Neil hands Toby a file labelled "Lobster."

TOBY
Yes sir!

NEIL
Where are your shoes?

We see that Toby still has bare feet.

TOBY
Oh crap! I got so pre-occupied trying to leave a stupid answering machine message that I left 'em on deck. Don't those automated phone voice things drive you crazy? Do I sound like Seinfeld- "who are these people?" Or in this case- "who are these phone... voice things?" (off look) I'll just go and get 'em.

He turns to see the boat is pulling out. A little kid on the top deck is holding his shoes.

TOBY (CONT'D)
Hey! Hey!

The little kid throws Toby's shoes into the ocean.

NEIL
You got a back up pair? Good cop always has a back up.

TOBY
Of course I have a back up...

EXT. LOBSTER TRAP - MOMENTS LATER

Toby and Neil climb out of Neil's decked out 4 x 4 police cruiser. Toby is wearing puffy LL Bean slippers. A crowd of locals has gathered at the taped off crime scene. An excited older gentleman stands in the crowd, smiling crazily at Toby. A couple of cops scramble to collect the loose lobsters. A few others help themselves to free lobster salad sandwiches.

NEIL
What do we have here guys?

A big officer, Officer Yates, approaches.

OFFICER YATES
About twenty pounds of lobstah salad that's gonna go bad if we don't eat it.

NEIL
Sweet. Another teen prank, huh?

OFFICER YATES
Yeah, they smashed the lobstah tank and wrote on the wall in blood.

On the wall is written "Help Me!" and "Lobster Skelter."

NEIL
"Lobster Skelter." Musical reference I believe. "Skelter" a nod to "Shelton." As in the great Blake Shelton. (singing) Because the more I drink...

OFFICER YATES/NEIL
(singing) The more I drink. 'Cause I'm the world's greatest lover and a dancing machine...

They hi-five.

TOBY
Actually it's probably a reference to the The Beatles song *Helter Skelter* and the Manson murders.

The cops stare blankly at Toby. The excited older gentleman in the crowd is now giving Toby a "thumbs up" sign and winking at him maniacally. Toby takes a closer look at the words written in blood.

TOBY (CONT'D)
Guys, this isn't blood. (tasting it) It's cocktail sauce.

OFFICER YATES
(nervous) If that's cocktail sauce... then this cocktail sauce must be... (tasting it) Nope. Just cocktail sauce. Spicy though. I need some watah.

TOBY
What did the dishwasher say?

He nods towards the dishwasher who is sitting off to the side wrapped in a blanket shivering and muttering to himself.

OFFICER YATES
A bunch of Spanish gibberish.

TOBY
Did you bring in a translator?

OFFICER YATES
This ain't Boston, who are you the Depahted?

The cops laugh as Toby approaches the dishwasher and puts a hand on his shoulder.

TOBY
Que paso?

CRISTINO
Langosta Grande. Langosta Grande!

TOBY
Calme. Calme. Sera bien.

OFFICER YATES
Check out this guy -- he's the friggin' gahdnah whispah-rah.

The cops laugh again.

TOBY
What about the incredibly suspicious looking guy in the crowd?

NEIL
That would be Gregor, your new roommate.

Neil waves over Gregor, a strange and quirky 70-80 year-old man (think Donald Sutherland). Gregor smiles intensely and oddly wears hip hop Adidas sneakers.

GREGOR
Pleasure to meet you Toby. (excited) I have the same slippers! How cool is that!?

TOBY
(beat) Real cool.

NEIL
Gregor's the insane lighthouse keeper where you'll be staying and on duty, manning the phones for any late night police calls.

GREGOR
(creepy) The straaange calls.

NEIL
You good to get Toby settled in?

GREGOR
(sarcastic) Because you need time to investigate and find out what <u>really</u> went on here? Just like you needed oh-so-much time to find out what <u>really</u> happened to my wife.

NEIL
That's easy, she left you and moved off-island.

GREGOR
I wish it was that easy. But the pieces don't add up.

NEIL
Sure they do. Because it's one piece: you're a nut. (to Toby) Don't listen to his stories.

Neil mimes "drinking", then exits. Gregor snaps a picture and begins typing on his phone.

TOBY
What are you doing?

GREGOR
Tweeting that I just met the new cop. Aaaand "tweet." Hashtag "Let Smiley Francesca get away."

TOBY
I'm trying to move on from that.

GREGOR
Don't worry, I only have three followers. You should follow me, you'd be one of the first on island to know what the new cop looks like. Oh and before I forget, Neil gave me these keys to give you.

TOBY
I get my own car?

GREGOR
Better!

EXT. NANTUCKET STREET - MOMENTS LATER

Toby drives a police moped up a cobblestone street. Gregor sits on the back with his arms around Toby's mid-section.

GREGOR
Someone's got a muffin top.

A few moments later they pull up to a creaky old lighthouse.

INT. LIGHTHOUSE - GREAT ROOM - A LITTLE LATER

Toby sits at a table in the small sitting area. There is a kitchenette, a TV, board games, and a desk with a telephone and filing cabinet. Gregor has made Toby a cup of tea.

TOBY
I thought it was strange they were so quick to dismiss it as a teen prank. There were a number of things that seemed off.

GREGOR
Yes! Oh you get it! I knew you would. You're right, it is off. The whole island is off. Ever since 1842 when a meteorite crashed here. The sea glowed purple. And the straaange happenings began--

TOBY
I just thought it was a little strange that teens would ignore an unlocked fridge full of cold beer.

GREGOR
Right! That was strange too. Not as strange as a meteor that turned the sea purple and brought over a hundred years of supernatural mischief to this place. But yeah, leaving beer behind is strange too.

A heavyset Bulgarian, Angelina, enters, puts her stuff down on the desk and sticks her hand out to Toby all business.

ANGELINA
I am Angelina. I answer phone.

GREGOR
(whispers) The straaange calls.

TOBY
I'm Toby. I'll only be here for--

ANGELINA
I saw Twitter. I am two of his three followers. Problem creating first account. Is long story.

TOBY
Nice to meet you. If you'll excuse me, I'm going to unpack and make a phone call I don't want to make. Well not "don't want to make", more a call I want to have already made. Why am I telling you people this?

Toby begins to climb the ladder to his loft.

GREGOR
Y'know Toby, the dishwasher didn't seem like a man who was just teased by teens. His name is Cristino Pineda. Here's his address, in case you want to follow up.

Toby sighs, then takes a slip of paper from Gregor.

GREGOR (CONT'D)
I drew a little map for you.

TOBY
(softening) Thanks for the tip. I'll settle in later.

Toby, re-invigorated, heads out the door.

GREGOR
(excited) Oh Angelina, I think we've got a keeper. I've got to remember to go slow and let him get there on his own.

ANGELINA
Could be good for make baby.

GREGOR
(not listening) Yes. Yes he could.

INT. NANTUCKET POLICE STATION. OFFICE - THE NEXT DAY

Neil and Toby are sitting at Neil's desk.

TOBY
My Spanish is not very good but in talking to him, it became pretty clear he saw something. Something unexplainable and disturb--

NEIL
Listen, Toby, since nothing was taken we're feeling pretty good about chalking this up to teens.

TOBY
When you read the full transcript--

NEIL
More importantly, I thought today would be a good day for us to start your man-over. You ready to pull on your man-pants and get your man on?

TOBY
What do you have in mind?

NEIL
I'm going to teach you how to build a bird feeder.

TOBY
Like in eighth grade shop class?

NEIL
Gotta start with the basics and work your way up. By the time you leave this island you'll be able to build yourself a man-feeder! (then) Let me get my tap hammer.

Neil exits. Toby throws his hands in the air in frustration.

TOBY
How am I supposed to show him I'm a good cop-- if he doesn't even read the stupid transcript!

BECCA (O.C.)
You okay?

Toby is thrown when he turns to see the prettiest woman on the island, the quirky and cute Becca Coffin (think Ellie Kemper/Lake Bell), with a basket of scones.

TOBY
Oh... uh... whenever anyone won't read my transcripts I start doing Al Pacino in Carlito's Way. Remember that great transcript scene? (Pacino) Why doesn't anyone read my transcripts -- hoo ha!

BECCA
Wow. That's a terrible Pacino.

TOBY
(Sean Connery) Thank you, Kohi. (off look) That's Sean Connery in "Rising Son." I don't know why I did that. (then) Hi, I'm Toby.

BECCA
I got Gregor's tweet. I'm Becca.

Toby takes note of Becca's big basket of scones.

TOBY
(coy) The scone lady.

BECCA
How'd you know that? (re: scones) Right.
(MORE)

BECCA (CONT'D)
The scones always give me away. I'm impressed you actually know what they are. I have to call them Irish donuts for these guys.

TOBY
I love scones. Don't mind if I do.

Toby reaches out and takes one. There is clearly a spark between the two of them which makes them both a bit awkward.

BECCA
Those are five dollars each. Just kidding. They're actually two dollars. But I'd give you one. That's not necessary. Seriously you can have one. I don't have any change. Oh... You sure? Wow.

TOBY
Oh. (puts it back) Okay. No I am happy to pay. Here... all I have is a twenty. You know what I'll just take ten... (loading arms) perfect. This is great. Love scones.

Neil re-enters.

NEIL
I see you've met my lady.

BECCA
Not your lady.

NEIL
We're classic, will they, won't they. Answer: (sotto) They will. (then) So Big B, wanna grab some dinner tonight?

BECCA
No, Neil. And I hate that nickname.

NEIL
Good man tip for you Tob', when it comes to the ladies "no" never means "no."

BECCA
You're gonna learn a lot from him. (heading out) Maybe I'll run into you on the "mean streets" of Nantucket. (beat/then quickly) That was a joke because--

BECCA (CONT'D)
It's actually very safe on the streets of Nantucket. So not mean at all. It wasn't but I like his movies. He's probably my favorite director. (then) Bye then.

TOBY
No I got it. It's funny. Because it's so quiet here. Quaint even. Really the opposite of "mean." Reference to Scorcese. My favorite director. (then) See you.

Becca walks out the door. Neil stares at Toby suspiciously.

NEIL
You hitting on her?

TOBY
(flustered) What? No. I have a girlfriend. I think. I just... really love scones.

NEIL
(eyes narrowing) What's "scones?"

TOBY
(sheepish) Irish donuts.

INT. LIGHTHOUSE - NIGHT

Toby mans the police phone, a crappy birdhouse in front of him. He practices a call to Kathryn as he flips through pictures of the two of them on his cell phone. In the pics Toby goofs around while Kathryn looks somewhat annoyed.

TOBY
Hey Kath-- it's Tob'. You want to rock some Words with Friends? (ala Neil) Big K, I got a man tip for you. One you can't say "no" to...

Angle on: Gregor and Angelina looking on from the entry way.

ANGELINA
He is weak man.

GREGOR
He just needs someone to talk to.

ANGELINA
(to Toby) you need to man up and call this Kathryn.

TOBY
(startled) Ahh! Did you say "Man up?" You sound like Neil.

ANGELINA
Neil is strong and powerful mustache man. He would just call.

GREGOR
Someone's got a crush.

ANGELINA
You should not talk. (re: Gregor) He is afraid to leave island. Never been off in whole life.

GREGOR
That's not fear. It's because I'm so busy, my schedule never lines up with the boat schedule.

ANGELINA
In eighty years your schedule has never lined up with boat schedule?

GREGOR
I'm 47. Besides I am not leaving until I find my wife.

TOBY
Where is she?

GREGOR
She was taken by the purple tide. I know she's out there somewhere.

ANGELINA
(exasperated noise) Is always purple tide! (to Toby) He is crazy. Do you love this Kathryn?

TOBY
What? It's complicated, I don't--

ANGELINA
Do you love?

TOBY
We've been dating for a year... or were. Our mothers are in Jr. League together. They've been planning our wedding since fourth grade.

ANGELINA
Is easy. If you love, universe will send sign.

Toby let's this sink in. The police phone rings.

TOBY
(answering it) Hello?

Toby pulls his ear away, recoiling from a weird sound.

TOBY (CONT'D)
(into phone) Hello? The Lobster Trap? Yes? Are you okay?

The line goes dead. Toby hangs up and grabs his moped keys.

TOBY (CONT'D)
Something is happening at the Lobster Trap again!

Toby rushes out the door. Gregor turns to Angelina excited.

GREGOR
We've got a keeper!

ANGELINA
You want him stay on island? You must give him sex.

GREGOR
Oh Angelina, things in this country are not as easy as a brief homosexual exchange.

ANGELINA
No. You get him laid. He will forget fourth grader in Boston. Trust me vagina is always magic bullet. You touch problem with vagina and BOOM problem solved.

EXT. NANTUCKET STREET - NIGHT - MOMENTS LATER

Toby is riding his moped with purpose. Suddenly we hear The Beastie Boys "Sabotage" playing and see that Gregor is racing along behind Toby in a 1969 Land Rover music blaring.

GREGOR
I always thought this would make great cop action music. (off look) I'll meet you there!

Gregor turns the music up and speeds off. Toby looks annoyed.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

INT. LOBSTER TRAP - NIGHT

Toby, followed by Gregor, quietly walks around to the back of the restaurant where they hear someone trying to unlock a door. They round the corner and see a figure in a hoodie.

TOBY
Hands up where I can see them!

The figure quickly runs away from them around the building. Toby gives chase. As he rounds the corner he finds the alley blocked by a high wall too tall to climb. There are some shipping boxes. He quickly looks through them to see if the guy is hiding but he's not there. Toby notices that the boxes say "Dunham Seafood: The Giant Lobster People!" He tears off a corner just as he hears a car starting out front. They rush back around the building just as a red Ferrari with Connecticut plates zooms by in the opposite direction. Toby and Gregor climb into the Land Rover. "Sabotage" plays.

TOBY (CONT'D)
Go! Go! Go!

Gregor turns the heavy wheel to the right and pulls forward.

GREGOR
Okay, let me just turn her around.

Gregor then turns the wheel to the left and backs up.

TOBY
If I can bust this guy, it's my ticket off this island.

Gregor, in what is becoming clear will be an eighteen point turn, turns the wheel back to the right and pulls forward.

GREGOR
Ooop. Almost there.

As Gregor backs up The Ferrari sound fades into the night.

TOBY
I don't really hear his car anymore...

GREGOR
Just a few more turns.

TOBY
You know what, he's pretty much gone. Actually, he's gone.

Toby begins to climb out.

TOBY (CONT'D)
I'm gonna take finger prints while you finish turning this around.

GREGOR
I should be ready to roll in about five minutes.

Toby climbs out, disappointed. The Land Rover is perfectly stuck between the two sidewalks, perpendicular to the street.

EXT. NANTUCKET - SURFSIDE ROAD - THE NEXT DAY

Toby rides his moped alongside Neil's 4 x 4. Neil drives slowly as every five feet Officer Yates, who hangs out the back, puts down traffic cones for a street line painter.

NEIL
It sounds like you did the right thing there Toby. You chased him away, so there was no break in.

TOBY
It's definitely not local teens. The red Ferrari had Connecticut--

NEIL
Everyone's on it Toby. But we can't really pull him over for no reason. Unless whoever is driving breaks a law or looks Mexican.

TOBY
There were no fingerprints anywhere. Oh and somehow he was able to climb this giant wall--

NEIL
Toby, I know you're trying extra hard so I'll tell your Dad you're a good cop. But you can try too hard too. You gotta find that balance, buddy. Now I got a man tip for you: Anything the Jack Ass guys might do is awesome. Watch this -- we're about to have an officer down.

He guns the engine. Officer Yates topples out of the back of the truck -- traffic cones spilling out on him. Neil laughs and backs up. Officer Yates tries to climb back in but just as he reaches the cruiser Neil pulls away. Toby watches as this continues down the street. What kind of cops are these?

NEIL (CONT'D)
(calling) Meet me at the station in a half hour. We'll get our man on!

INT. POLICE STATION. A LITTLE LATER. MONTAGE.

We see a man-tage of Neil giving Toby "man-tips." "20th Century Boy" plays. Neil shows Toby how to shave like a real man. Neil stands behind a nervous Toby holding a straight razor to his neck. Neil shows Toby a number of disturbing sex websites. Neil has his arms around Toby and is teaching him how to tie a tie. He fails repeatedly and throws the tie away frustrated. Neil shows Toby how to spin a gun on his finger like a gunslinger. The gun accidentally fires, shooting a bullet into the ceiling. Neil quickly puts the gun away.

INT. COBBLESTONE CAFE - MOMENTS LATER

Gregor and an exhausted Toby sit and look over the menu.

GREGOR
I recommend the turkey sandwich with Becca's cranberry stuffing.

TOBY
Becca? As in the scone lady?

GREGOR
Yep. She's a talented artist too. Painted all the art in here.

Toby looks around at the walls. There are a number of beautiful paintings of scones. Becca enters with menus.

BECCA
Hey, Toby!

GREGOR
You guys know each other?

BECCA
Sure, we go way back. Just kidding.

BECCA (CONT'D)
I was just exaggerating our familiarity for comic effect. But it's not funny. Probably just confusing. I'm sorry. I barely know him.

TOBY
It's funny because we only met yesterday and since it's such a relatively short period of time saying "waaaay" back is unexpected.

BECCA (CONT'D)
So, Gregor, the usual? Double shot iced eggnog latte?

GREGOR
Bingo. (to Toby) It's the only coffee drink I know, that makes you more tired after you drink it.

TOBY
Just coffee for me.

Becca exits. A woman with dyed and feathered hair joins them.

JULIE B.
So, this is the catch of the day?

GREGOR
Julie! Toby, this is Julie. She's a very talented stylist.

JULIE B.
Hair. Nails. Whatever you got. You should come into the salon -- it's called "Ron's Hair and Bait," down on the wharf. I just learned how to do a faux hawk. You'd look rad. Like a Black Eyed Pea.

She begins styling Toby's hair. A larger women in clamming gear, Stacey, puts a wet bag of clams on the table.

STACEY
(ominous to Toby) I brought you clams. (to girls) Game on, Julie.

GREGOR
And Stacey is the head of oncology at the hospital.

TOBY
What is happening?

GREGOR
I put the word out that you might like to meet everybody.

Gregor shows Toby a Facebook announcement with his picture: "Come meet the catch of the day: fresh and single, yum yum." Gregor winks at Toby, who looks annoyed.

TOBY
Ladies, I'm sorry. But I'm not single. I have a girlfriend.

Becca has returned with coffee. She clocks what Toby has just said and looks disappointed. Toby clocks her clocking it. Gregor clocks Toby clocking Becca's disappointed clock.

STACEY/JULIE
False advertising Gregor. /
Frickin' lame, dude.

TOBY
(for Becca's sake) You know... I might not have a girlfriend... I'm not sure... I might be single.

Becca looks perplexed and exits. Toby gets a text.

STACEY
Playin' hahd to get. I like it.

TOBY
(re: text) Angelina saw the red Ferarri parked at the end of Straight Wharf! Excuse me...

Toby exits. Gregor follows.

GREGOR
Sorry ladies, police business. I urge you all to follow me on Twitter for updates on the new guy.

EXT. DOCKS - NIGHT

Gregor and Toby stake out the Red Ferrari which is double parked at the end of the docks.

TOBY
Listen, Gregor, I appreciate you trying to fix me up. BUT things are pretty complicated right now.

GREGOR
Perhaps things aren't so complicated.

TOBY
Perhaps. But they actually are. I have a whole life in Boston. It's not perfect, but it's what I got. My dad wants me to take over for him someday.

GREGOR
Just because there's a life waiting for you doesn't mean it's the life you should be living. What if this whole Smiley Francesca thing was the sign Angelina was talking about. Just the universe getting you where you're really needed.

TOBY
I'm <u>really</u> needed in Boston. Things are all set up with Kathryn.

GREGOR
What if she's not the one? What if Becca is the one?

Toby stops. This seems to have hit a nerve.

GREGOR (CONT'D)
(excited) You like her don't you?

TOBY
(changing subject) I'm gonna take a look around the docks. He must be here somewhere.

Toby gets out and begins to walk the docks. Gregor follows.

EXT. DOCKS. MOMENTS LATER.

GREGOR
I don't know what happened in Boston but from what I can see you're a damn good cop. We could use you here. The locals are in denial. The cops pretend it's not happening so it doesn't hurt the tourist industry. We need someone like you who can see the truth. Maybe even help me find my wife.

TOBY
Gregor, be straight with me. What happened with your wife? Did she leave you?

GREGOR
(beat) No. She was taken by the purple tides. You'll see. You'll see it's all real when we catch the giant lobster.

TOBY
There's no giant lobster, Gregor. It's a rich kid from Connecticut. (noticing something) There!

Toby points out into the harbor. We see the figure in a row boat, out in the harbor, pulling up a lobster trap.

TOBY (CONT'D)
Hey! Hey! Drop the crustacean!

The figure quickly empties the trap and rows to another one. Toby and Gregor "borrow" a row boat and paddle out in pursuit. Toby is off balance as he tries to hold up his badge and pull over the figure in the other rowboat. Gregor rows.

TOBY (CONT'D)
(to guy) Stop rowing! (Gregor stops rowing) Not you.

GREGOR
Maybe this will help...

Gregor pulls out his phone and presses a button. "Sabotage" begins to play over the phone's tiny speakers. A very slow "high speed" rowboat chase ensues.

TOBY
Pull the rowboat over!

Toby grabs the back of the figure's boat. He and Gregor are now being pulled along as the figure rows.

TOBY (CONT'D)
You aren't getting away. You really are just pulling us along.

The figure stops, stands and swings an oar at Toby. Toby grabs an oar and an awkward "sword" fight with oars ensues.

GREGOR
Hit him Toby! Go! You got him!

Toby ducks an oar swing that hits Gregor in the head, knocking him out. Toby dodges another oar swing and counters with a knockout blow to the guy who slumps into his boat.

EXT. NANTUCKET HARBOR - SANDY STRIP OF BEACH

Toby has pulled both boats onto the beach. He sits in the sand next to Gregor, who rubs his head. Toby looks through the suspect's wallet and cross references it with the internet on his phone.

TOBY
His name is Larry Dunham Jr. His father owns one of the largest seafood companies in the country. Wait. Dunham. Dunham Seafood.

Toby pulls out the piece of cardboard box he grabbed earlier.

TOBY (CONT'D)
(reading) The giant lobster people.

LARRY DUNHAM JR. (O.C.)
It's all a scam.

Toby and Gregor turn to see that Larry has come to.

LARRY DUNHAM JR. (CONT'D)
They're genetically modified and full of steroids. And now he wants me to take over for him. He wants me to oversee the slaughter of millions of innocents.

TOBY
Okay, easy there.

LARRY DUNHAM JR.
They call out to me. Can't you hear them... calling from the sea. Stuck in those traps.

TOBY
Sure, I hear 'em. Maybe there is some medication that you need?

LARRY DUNHAM JR.
You think I'm crazy?! I'm not crazy. He made me eat them my whole life. He made me... turn into one!

TOBY
Okay. Yeah-- you're not crazy.

LARRY DUNHAM JR.
Does this look crazy to you?!

Larry pulls out his hand revealing what in the hazy moonlight appears to be a large lobster claw.

GREGOR
Langosta Grande! Langosta Grande!

TOBY
(amazed) Langosta Grande?

END ACT TWO

ACT THREE

INT. LIGHTHOUSE - GREAT ROOM - NIGHT

Larry Dunham Jr. is "clawcuffed" to the desk. Gregor and Angelina look on. Toby is finishing a phone call.

LARRY DUNHAM JR.
You can't cage us all!! Let me go!

TOBY
Neil is at 56 Union having dinner.

ANGELINA
You will go to Neil? I will go too.

TOBY
Gregor can you keep an eye on this guy while we go get Neil?

GREGOR
This "guy" or the giant lobster?

TOBY
(rolling eyes) The giant lobster.

GREGOR
Good, then yes I can.

INT. 56 UNION ST. RESTAURANT - A LITTLE LATER

Toby and Angelina walk through the restaurant looking for Neil. They spot him having dinner with someone.

TOBY
Neil! I caught the lobster guy!

We reveal that Neil and Becca are dining.

TOBY (CONT'D)
Becca? (disappointed) Hey.

BECCA
(a little embarrassed) Hey.

ANGELINA
Is this date?

BECCA/NEIL
Not really. / Yes. First of many.

BECCA
We're friends.

NEIL
Hopefully with benefits. Big B!

Neil holds a hand up for a hi-five. Becca reluctantly hi-fives him. Angelina stares at Becca.

ANGELINA
You steal mustache man.

Angelina makes a frustrated noise and storms out.

BECCA
(re: Angelina) Is she okay?

TOBY
I'm not sure. But I got the Lobster Trap guy. And it's weirder than we thought. He's got a lobster claw.

NEIL
You been smoking whatever Gregor's been drinking?

TOBY
If I'm lying you can exile me here for the next fifty years! C'mon.

INT. LIGHTHOUSE - GREAT ROOM - A LITTLE LATER

Gregor is sitting in a chair with a gash over his eye. Toby and Neil look at the desk where empty handcuffs dangle.

GREGOR
His giant claw was too much for me.

NEIL
(to Toby) I warned you about him.

TOBY
He's not lying.

NEIL
Was this all some elaborate shell-fish themed cock block just to ruin my date with Becca?

GREGOR
You were on a date with Becca?

NEIL
You're on thin ice, new guy. Very thin ice. Like the thinnest ice there can be. Almost water in fact. And I was going to teach you how to make barbecue sauce. Not now!

Neil exits. Toby hits the desk with his fist.

SCARY LOBSTER VOICE (O.C.)
I'm sorry about Becca.

A set of lobster claws is on Toby's shoulder. Toby SCREAMS and turns around. It is just Gregor with a plastic lobster.

GREGOR
It's just a plastic lobster. I don't know why we have this. I don't know why I thought that would be funny. I've been hit in the head twice tonight.

INT. CHICKEN BOX - A LITTLE LATER

An upset Toby and Gregor sit at the bar drinking beer.

TOBY
I should have listened to Neil and not rocked the boat. This is gonna screw up everything with my dad.

GREGOR
You don't have to live for your dad. You're your own man. You can walk in your own shoes.

TOBY
That guy was probably just holding a lobster or something.

GREGOR
No, Toby, it's real. Maybe it's another sign. Maybe you're the giant lobster man!

TOBY
What?

GREGOR
Metaphorically. The island is a big lobster trap and all the people here are lobsters who need you to help them. Don't you hear the voices... (voice) Help us Toby...

TOBY
Or maaaybe... you're just nuts.

GREGOR
Look, when my wife disappeared I realized there was no one here to save us from the straaange. The cops care more about tourist dollars than helping people, so they pretend it's not happening.
(MORE)

GREGOR (CONT'D)
The people here are just victims of circumstance. Larry Dunham Jr. isn't a bad person, he's just another victim. Us lobsters need you here. Save the lobsters, Toby. (voice) Saaave us...

TOBY
Did you let the lobster guy go so Neil would never even consider letting me out of here? Is this all some fantasy where you keep me here to help you look for your wife even though it's becoming clear that she probably did leave you because you're a kook who's too afraid to face the real world and ever leave the island to find her.

GREGOR
No. No. Toby I would never do that.

TOBY
Neil's right, I shouldn't listen to the ravings of an 80-year-old lunatic.

Toby exits angry. Gregor looks frustrated.

GREGOR
I'm 47!

EXT. LIGHTHOUSE. NIGHT. LATER

Under a bright full moon, a frustrated Toby walks down the beach, in front of the lighthouse. He is on his phone.

TOBY
Kathryn, I know you said you thought we should take a break and I know we weren't perfect but I want to make it right and come back to Boston and be done with this whole interruption in our life...

Toby notices something in the sand at the shore line. His shoes have washed up. He grabs them and begins to laugh.

PHONE COMPUTER VOICE
To send your message using normal delivery press one.

Toby stops when he notices something weird in the water. A patch of water is glowing purple in the moonlight. He looks closely, examining it, then sticks a toe in. His toe is suddenly caught in the water.

He tries to pull it out but the water seems to be pulling him in. He struggles to free it, like escaping from quicksand and eventually, with some effort, does. He sits back in the sand and watches as the purple water recedes into the ocean. Toby stares in disbelief, taking this in. Gregor isn't nuts.

PHONE COMPUTER VOICE (CONT'D)
Your message has been sent.

EXT. LIGHTHOUSE. MORNING. THE NEXT DAY.

Toby is sleeping under some dry seaweed he's using as a blanket. His phone rings waking him up.

TOBY
(groggy) Hello?

KATHRYN
Toby?

TOBY
(snapping awake) Kathryn?

KATHRYN
I got your message. Is everything okay? You were screaming. It was all garbled.

Toby looks around piecing together the night before. He sees his shoes and remembers the purple tide.

TOBY
I've been thinking about us...

KATHRYN
Yeah?

TOBY
And... I think you're right. I think we need a break.

KATHRYN
(surprised) Really?

Angelina approaches.

ANGELINA
Toby! Dunham family plane is set to take off from airport in half hour.

TOBY
(into phone) Listen, I gotta go. Thanks for calling back and thanks for setting me free.

KATHRYN
But--

Toby hangs up and turns to Angelina.

TOBY
How do you know?

ANGELINA
Is easy. I call airport. You need my help to close case. I help.

TOBY
Thank you Angelina.

Toby pulls on his sea washed shoes and heads for his moped.

TOBY (CONT'D)
I'm sorry about Neil last night.

ANGELINA
Is okay. My vagina is strong. Will be ultimate champion.

Toby smiles and climbs on his moped. He notices a downbeat Gregor watering the flowers in front of the lighthouse.

TOBY
Hey Gregor... I'm sorry about last night. This is all very confusing.

GREGOR
Uh-huh.

TOBY
The Dunham's private plane is about to take off. My guess is Larry Dunham Jr. is on that plane. If we can stop him, it'll prove everything.

GREGOR
We?

TOBY
Will you give me a ride?

Gregor smiles and jumps in the Land Rover.

EXT. AIRPORT - TARMAC

Toby and Gregor rush through the airport. They rush out onto the tarmac and up to the private plane departures gate. Toby looks through the crowd and spots a highly agitated Larry Dunham Jr. being led toward the gate by a large man.

TOBY
Hold it right there!

Toby has his badge out and stops the large man.

TOBY (CONT'D)
(re: Larry) I need to talk to this man.

LARRY DUNHAM JR.
All of you people have to leave me alone. The lobsters need me!

TOBY
I know. You are one of them.

Toby grabs Larry's hand and pulls it out of his pocket to confirm everything but the lobster claw is gone. It's been replaced by a hook! Toby looks confused.

TOBY (CONT'D)
What the hell is this?

LARRY DUNHAM JR.
They're trying to stop me!

LARGER MAN
You're going to have to back away.

Larry Dunham Sr. approaches.

LARRY DUNHAM SR.
Please leave my son alone -- he was in a terrible car accident last night. Lost his hand, he's been through a lot of trauma.

LARRY DUNHAM JR.
It's not true. I just want to free the lobsters!

TOBY
Larry, I talked to the lobsters. I freed them. They're okay.

LARRY DUNHAM JR.
You're lying! Let me go!

TOBY
They swam away in the purple tide.

Larry Jr. suddenly stops squirming.

LARRY DUNHAM JR.
You know about the purple tide?

TOBY
Yeah. And the lobsters told me to tell you it was okay. You can go back to your life, you're okay now.

Larry Dunham Jr. suddenly relaxes.

LARRY DUNHAM SR.
We don't have time for this. Get him on the plane.

The Larger Man hurries Larry Dunham Jr. toward the plane. Larry Dunham Jr. smiles back at Toby.

TOBY
(to Larry Dunham Sr.) And you. I know what you're up to, Dunham! I know all about your *giant* lobsters!

Larry Dunham Sr. walks over to Toby.

LARRY DUNHAM SR.
What do you know?

TOBY
I know all about the genetic engineering and the steroids.

LARRY DUNHAM SR.
You've got no proof. You don't know anything.

TOBY
Maybe I do, maybe I don't. But I do know one thing, you can't make your son live your life. You've got to set him free. Remember I'm watching you. You better watch it when you come to this island.

Larry Dunham Sr. sneers and climbs onto his plane. The plane begins to taxi and takes off.

GREGOR
You saw the purple tide?

TOBY
Yeah. You weren't lying. This place is weird as crap.

Gregor smiles just as Becca happens by with a delivery of fresh baked muffins for the airport café.

BECCA
Watching planes take off?

GREGOR
There's the talk of the island. Sooo will there be a second date?

BECCA
Oh, I don't know. Might be nice to have someone to watch movies with this winter.

GREGOR
But you are technically still on the market?

BECCA
Are you asking me out, Gregor?

GREGOR
Just curious in case I find any good candidates for you. I don't know if you've been following my updates but I've been known to find a good catch from time to time.

TOBY
Oh God, Gregor, no more ambushes at the Cobblestone Cafe. (to Becca) I would however, like to try one of those eggnog lattes.

BECCA
Are you staying? I thought you were only here for a little bit?

TOBY
Yeah... well... I don't know, you know? We have a few open cases I need to stay on top of. A few missing persons to track down.

Toby winks at Gregor, signalling he believes Toby's wife might still be out there.

BECCA
Great, then I'll see you around.

Becca smiles. Gregor smiles. Toby smiles.

INT. POLICE STATION - A LITTLE LATER

Neil goes through a file labelled "Lobster." Toby looks on.

NEIL
Most probable cause (reading) "teenage prank." Nice work Toby.

He puts the file in a cabinet labelled "closed cases."

TOBY
I got a lot to learn. Appreciate you being patient. And I am really sorry about messing up your date.

NEIL
Oh man, I could have killed you. I was this close to giving her the old giant squid. Good man tip, when referring to your penis always choose something very large to compare it to. You try.

TOBY
Uh... really? Okay. I got a whale in my pants.

NEIL
Bigger. Use "giant."

TOBY
I got a *giant* whale in my pants.

NEIL
Yes! You're getting it. Great work!

INT. LIGHTHOUSE - GREAT ROOM - A LITTLE LATER

Toby is filing the slip of cardboard that says "Dunham Seafood: The Giant Lobster People!" into a folder. His phone rings. He sees that it is Kathryn calling. He looks at the phone for a beat, then decides to let it go to voice mail.

GREGOR (O.C.)
You ready for a little lobster and beer break?

Toby closes the folder revealing that it is labelled "Lobster." He files it in a cabinet labelled "open cases." He grabs a beer and joins Gregor.

TOBY
To the straaange calls.

They clink beers as the phone rings. Toby answers it.

TOBY (CONT'D)
Nantucket Police. Yes, I know the "Man from Nantucket" limerick. It's happening? I'll be right there.

Toby grabs his moped keys and begins to head out as Matisyahu's "Time For a Champion" plays and credits role.

END OF SHOW