MARRY ME

"PILOT"

Written by

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FIRST DRAFT
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INT. ANNIE'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

ANNIE (32, emotional, loud) and JAKE (32, logical, quiet) enter Annie's shabby-chic apartment with luggage.

JAKE
What a great trip.

ANNIE
Totally. Mexico is way less murdery than people say.

JAKE
You sound almost disappointed you didn't see any deaths.

ANNIE
It's like going to Italy and not seeing the David. Or going to Florida and not seeing the worst people on the planet.
(Jake laughs)
Either way, it was a perfect anniversary. So, thank you.
(kisses him)
Baby did good.

JAKE
Well, baby likes to make baby happy, that's all.

ANNIE
(laughs)
We're both baby now?

JAKE
(exaggerated baby voice)
Baby is in love with baby and--

ANNIE
Okay, that's plenty, thank you.
(takes off her coat)
I can't believe we've been dating for six years. And I'm 32. *Thirty-two*. You don't meet a lot of people that just date for six years. Especially post-thirty.

JAKE
We're a special breed. It's us, Goldie and Kurt, and for a time Susan Sarandon and Tim Robbins. Although now I believe she's with a *ping pong player*?

ANNIE
Tough titties for Timmy on that one.

JAKE
Welp, I am *pooped*...is the worst way to say you're tired of all time, but I still just used it for some reason. Sorry.
(kisses her cheek)
See you on the astral plane, baber.

ANNIE
Wait! I mean...hang back, buddy. Um, before the trip is *officially* over, are you sure there isn't like anything else you wanna ask me or whatever? I'll pop some champagne, we can sit - or you can kneel should that be more comfortable--

JAKE
Uch, champagne? What're we celebrating, how expensive that trip was? Or the Sherman's March of chorizo that took place in my small intestine over the last fortnight?

ANNIE
We get it, you watched "Lincoln" on the plane.

JAKE
Man, that Daniel Day Lewis absolutely *transformed* into the lead of a terrible movie that everyone says is great. I'm exhausted, babe. But have at that champagne. Have at, girl.

He SLAPS her ass and heads for the bedroom. DISAPPOINTED, Annie turns to the kitchen to make a drink. Behind her, JAKE GRINS AS HE GETS DOWN ON ONE KNEE AND PULLS OUT A RING. But before she can see him, Annie Monroe finally just SNAPS:

ANNIE
Fuck you fuck you fuck you!

JAKE
...Sorry, what?

ANNIE
I mean, I just - I can't believe you didn't propose to me on this trip, Jake. It woulda been so perfect. There, I said it. I said what everyone else's been thinking for like five years. Except you!
(SLAMS a cabinet shut)
Where's the goddamned Skinnygirl!?

JAKE
Annie, turn around.

ANNIE
No, I will not turn around. You don't get to tell me what to do. I'll shuffle around this whole goddamn apartment without turning around. I played JV basketball, I can go all night!

She gets in a DEFENSIVE POSITION and proceeds to SLIDE around the apartment while KEEPING HER BACK TO JAKE. He laughs.

JAKE
Well, you're gonna need to get a lot lower if you wanna effectively defend against the drive--

ANNIE
You think this is *funny!?*
(walks back to the kitchen still not looking at him)
I've been living in full hair and make-up for two weeks. I painted my nails in the unisex bathroom of a goddamned Mexican tour bus! And for what? So my hand looked pretty when we hi-fived after you broke your record for most Jarritos in a day? We're 32, buddy, if we wanna have a kid that's not all jacked up, we better get to steppin'! I mean, just *grow up already.* We don't even live together!

JAKE
Whoa, *you're* the one who said you didn't wanna move in til we got engaged--

ANNIE
I didn't think it'd take 6 years!
(vulnerable)
I - I love you, Jake. I want to be with you forever. Do you...not love me? Then please just set me free. Free me while I still have *an* egg, Jake. Gimme one egg!

JAKE
Annie, of course I love you. If you'd just turn around--

ANNIE
Then what're you waiting for!? A sign? Here's two signs!

She gives him DOUBLE FINGERS over her shoulder, then returns to angrily making a margarita (WHICH OCCUPIES HER THROUGHOUT).

ANNIE (CONT'D)
Did your garbage friend Gil get in your head again about how terrible marriage is? Hey, note to self: no one says 'note to self' anymore, so you probably shouldn't take advice from someone who starts every one of his "jokes" that way. And FYI, Gil didn't get divorced cause "marriage blows", he got divorced cause he let himself go to a Rob Kardashian degree and now probably can't maintain an erection for as long as sex takes. Your friends are garbage people!

JAKE
Hey, your *best friend* always says she'd rather get divorced than married - which I've never totally understood by the way - and you don't call *her* a garbage person!

ANNIE
That doesn't mean I wanna end up like her. Dennah might think she's super cool now with her high-waisted jumpers, and her "marriage shmarriage" attitude and all that Yaz - her low estrogen birth control - but there's a storm a-coming, and it's called her late 30's slash early 40's. She might as well switch to an AOL email account tonight cause she's gonna be the short-haired Aunt who brings a friend to *everything!*

JAKE
Jesus, that was...hard to follow. Okay, this is so crazy. Babe, just calm down and--

ANNIE
It's your mom, isn't it?

JAKE
Watch yourself.

ANNIE
She doesn't like me, does she? Well guess what, I don't like her.

JAKE
SHE'S A GODDAMNED ANGEL FROM HEAVEN!

ANNIE
She's the most negative person on the planet!

JAKE
She's been through a lot!

ANNIE
Of friends! She's been through a lot of friends cause she's a bitch!

JAKE
(throws up his hands)
Whoa! Just - WHOA! Below the belt!

ANNIE
I'm a catch, okay? I'm funny, I do hot yoga a lot, and I didn't freak out when I caught you masturbating to an US Weekly of that surfer girl who got her arm bitten off by a shark!

JAKE
I will *never* apologize for that! Bethany deserves to be treated just like everybody else!

ANNIE
Then why don't you just go marry *her* and have a hundred little one-armed babies together?!

JAKE
That doesn't even make sense!

ANNIE
The gist was clear!

JAKE
Goddamnit just turn the fuck around!

ANNIE
WHAT!?

She SPINS around and is <u>STUNNED</u> to see Jake on one knee.

ANNIE (CONT'D)
Oh.
(beat, unsure what to say)
...Yes?

JAKE
(exasperated)
Yeah, I guess, will you marry me?

ANNIE
I'd like that very much, thank you.

She sorta tip-toes over and looks at the RING.

ANNIE (CONT'D)
Ooh, cushion cut...

She HESITANTLY KISSES him on the cheek. Jake SIGHS, then:

JAKE
Okay everybody, come on out.

ALL THEIR FRIENDS AND FAMILY COME OUT FROM HIDING PLACES AROUND THE APARTMENT (Jake's Mom, Gil, Dennah, Annie's two gay Dads, etc.). They were all there to surprise Annie after the proposal, but now just stare at her, MOUTHS AGAPE.

Annie is <u>ABSOLUTELY</u> <u>FLOORED</u>. Beat.

ANNIE
Hey...it's everyone. Great...
(to JAKE'S MOM, weakly)
Hi Mrs. Schuffman - Myrna? - too soon to call you Mom I'm assuming...?

MYRNA
You mean, too soon after you called me bitch?

ANNIE
(has no response, beat)
Should we move on to the toasts?

Awkward silence. GIL (31, out of shape, divorced) pipes in.

GIL
Note to self: *awkward*.

Annie just drops her head, MORTIFIED. Jake is AT A LOSS.

GOOD MUSIC KICKS IN AS WE CUT TO A MONTAGE OF HAPPY PHOTOS AND VIDEOS OF JAKE AND ANNIE THROUGHOUT THEIR RELATIONSHIP: them dressed as PEANUT BUTTER and JELLY for Halloween; a bunch of SELFIES of them kissing; a VIDEO Jake shot of him catching Annie singing WAY TOO LOUDLY in the shower (Annie's clearly the much bigger personality in all of these); etc. The LAUGHTER and LOVE is a funny contrast to the epic fight we just witnessed, but proof nonetheless that these two idiots are perfect for each other.

TITLE CARD: **MARRY ME**

ACT ONE

INT. ANNIE'S APARTMENT - LATER

Annie stands at her open front door, calling after all the Guests (who have just hurried out):

ANNIE
Any chance we can just chalk all that up to constructive criticism, gang? Fearless feedback?
(desperate, sincere)
I love you all!

DEFEATED, she closes the door, then VERY SLOWLY TURNS AROUND to face Jake, SCARED. He's INCREDULOUS. Tense beat. Then--

ANNIE (CONT'D)
Welp, you sir have earned yourself what can only be described as a love-making marathon. We're talkin' a real dealer's choice, "Choose Your Own Adventure" kinda thing. Should we stretch?

JAKE
What. The fuck. Just happened.

ANNIE
(feels really bad)
I don't know. I just - all I had today was a Kind Bar and - I'm so sorry, Jake. I love you more than myself. Truly. I will fix this.

JAKE
How?

ANNIE
(stumped)
Hmm...how indeed. Smart.

JAKE
(laughs, amazed)
I mean, that was just *spectacular*. Even for you, Annie. But I guess you did tell me you wanted a huge, memorable proposal, so...congrats - people gon' be talkin' bout this one for awhile!

ANNIE
...No such thing as bad press?

JAKE
(stands)
Listen babe, I think I'm just gonna sleep at my place tonight if that's cool. I love you. I do. I just don't wanna be in this moment for one more second.

ANNIE
(nods, choking up a bit)
Mmm-hmm, mmm-hmm. Fair enough.

He AWKWARDLY KISSES her cheek, then heads for the door--

ANNIE (CONT'D)
Wait, Jake! Just to clarify though...we *are* engaged, or we're *not?* Cause I'd love to make a few calls, fire off some emails, maybe update m'LinkedIn profile.
(off his look)
Cannot joke my way out of this. Good note.

JAKE
You know what? No, we're not engaged yet. I don't wanna tell this story for the next 60 years. Just - gimme a few days to regroup, then I'll propose again, okay? But I'm doing it my way this time. Low key, like a normal human. I know you always wanted this to be like the end of some bad 90's romcom, but you're not a Jennifer Aniston character. If anything, you're a lot closer to her in real life.

ANNIE
She does seem awfully crazed about getting married.

JAKE
So, do you think you can wait just like a *little bit longer?* Or am I gonna end up in one of those People Magazine human interest stories where a girl snaps and pushes her boyfriend off a cruise ship or something?

ANNIE
Pfff, me? Are you kidding? I can totally wait. I'm chill. Hella chill. Do it, don't do it, whatever.
(beat)
But I mean, definitely do it though, right?

He ROLLS HIS EYES, EXASPERATED (but with love), and walks out. Annie instantly COLLAPSES to the floor, SO DESTROYED.

INT. DENNAH'S PRIUS - LATER

Annie's best friend, DENNAH (32, hot, high-waisted jumper), drives. Jake's best friend, Gil, is in shotgun. They both stare ahead silently, absolutely BLOWN AWAY.

DENNAH
Wow. Just...*wow*. I feel so bad for them.

GIL
I know. Me too.
(beat, then)
Question though: when Annie said that thing about me not maintaining legit erections, do you think she heard that from someone or was just sorta guessing based on my recent weight gain and general malaise?

DENNAH
Unclear. But as long as we *are* chatting: Are people not feeling my jumpers? You guys can tell me if you don't think this is a good look.

GIL
Oh sorry, I thought you were doing that sorta Brooklyn-y thing where girls purposefully pick out the most unflattering clothes for their body type and then wear them in the hot sun.

DENNAH
I am doing that. Is it not enough to carry the day?

GIL
Okay so *maybe* there was *one time*. When I took my NyQuil too early. But even the greats strike out once in awhile. Francis Ford Coppola made "Jack", Robert Altman made "Dr. T and the Women", Roman Polanski made a child have sex with him.

DENNAH
I still don't get how he came outta that whole thing as like a Nelson Mandela type figure.

GIL
One of life's many mysteries. Like black guys with English accents...
(beat, looks off)
Annie's not wrong, though. I did let myself go. That's why I lost Kassie, god rest her soul.

DENNAH
Your ex-wife's not dead. She's living.

GIL
Living with Barry from Barry's Boot Camp.

DENNAH
Really? Good for her.

GIL
Well, not *the* Barry. A guy named Barry who works there. But he's in incredible shape, which you know is very painful for me.

EXT. STREET - SAME

Annie's dads, KEVIN 1 (65) and KEVIN 2 (55), walk to their car, AT A LOSS. They look/dress very similar (they're that couple that married themselves). And they're both super emotional (Annie is definitely her fathers' daughter).

KEVIN 1
Welp, congrats. That was your daughter in there.

KEVIN 2
Oh, so now she's my daughter? When she gets into Sarah Lawrence, she's your daughter, but when she does her flawless Michael Richards impression, she's my daughter.

KEVIN 1
No, I'm being literal. I'm saying, we can *literally* finally settle the mystery of which of our sperms impregnated the surrogate. Cause that was classic you in there, Kevin.

KEVIN 2
Whoa, not so fast, Kev. Everyone knows you're an even bigger spazz than I am.
(MORE)

KEVIN 2 (CONT'D)
I closed my eyes for a second and I thought we were back at the front desk of that Comfort Suites in Orlando when the clerk told you they didn't have Bravo.

KEVIN 1
It was the OC reunion! Briana was confronting Brooks! Whatever.

As they get to their car, Kevin 2 turns to Kevin 1, CONCERNED.

KEVIN 2
But...she *is* gonna be okay though, right? *They're* gonna be okay?

KEVIN 1
(beat, comforting)
Hey, remember how upset Annie was when she got cast as a tree in "The Sound of Music" junior year? So she improv'd a very confusing love scene between her tree and one of the Nazis *mid-performance* to get more stage time? By graduation she still got voted "Most Selfless". She's the comeback kid.

KEVIN 2
She also got voted "Most Likely to Cut a Bitch".

KEVIN 1
Let's just live in the light, Kev-o.

INT. JAKE'S MOM'S SUV - SAME

Jake's mom, MYRNA (60), sings along to Christina Aguilera's "Beautiful" DRAMATICALLY, trying to pump herself back up...

MYRNA
I am beautiful, no matter what they say, words can't bring me down...

INT. ANNIE'S APARTMENT - LATER

"Beautiful" continues (like sad score) as Annie opens her bedroom door to REVEAL the room is DECKED OUT: ROSE PETALS everywhere; CHOCOLATE STRAWBERRIES; CHAMPAGNE; a big PHOTO of Annie and Jake SMILING; etc. He went <u>ALL OUT</u>.

ANNIE
Oh, *come on!*

She stares at the PHOTO, fondly. It triggers a MEMORY...

EXT. PINCHE MARICONES - **FLASHBACK**

6 years ago. 26 YEAR-OLD JAKE eats nachos at an outdoor table. He admires 26 YEAR-OLD ANNIE on a bus bench nearby.

JAKE
Best nachos in LA. Their secret is melting cheese on anything tastes pretty good.
(Annie turns away)
I can tell by your body language that you really want me to keep talking to you, so whatup, I'm Jake.
(puts out a handshake, she doesn't shake)
Okay, okay, I get it. You're more of a hi-five girl.
(puts up a hi-five)
Here we go. Up top. Get in there. Climb the ladder. Ring the bell--

ANNIE
(turns to him, annoyed)
You shouldn't eat at that place. The owners are super homophobic. They give tons of money to oppose gay marriage. And my dads are gay, so...yeah. Enjoy your nachos.

JAKE
Well, if you must know, that's actually why I like it here.
(off her angry look)
Oh no, I love the gays. That's the point. It's a weird move, but I just come here whenever I wanna be alone to think, cause I know I'll never run into any of my friends. On account of this being the Dan White of Mexican restaurants.
(off her confusion)
He killed Harvey Milk. Guess you could say he 'Got Milk'. Too sad?

ANNIE
Topical stuff. Whatever, you're still giving them money, though.

JAKE
Ah, but now *that's* where you're in luck. Cause I happen to be a Jew, which means I'm *very* comfortable around a terrible tip.

She LAUGHS-- then STIFLES IT (doesn't wanna like him). He SMILES. She SMILES back a little. The HOSTESS comes out.

HOSTESS
Okay Annie, here you go.

She hands Annie a BIG TO-GO ORDER. Jake is INCREDULOUS. Annie just SHRUGS GUILTILY.

ANNIE
Best nachos in LA.
(puts a finger to her lips)
Shhh...

He locks his lips, throws away the key. She SMILES WIDE at him. It's a WARM MOMENT. The start of their LOVE AFFAIR...

INT. ANNIE'S BEDROOM - **AS WE LEFT HER**

Annie cries on her bed as she eats the chocolate strawberries and drinks the champagne from the bottle. Suddenly-- KAY (her weird neighbor, 30's) JUMPS OUT of the closet!

KAY
CONGRATULATIONS!!!

ANNIE
AAHHHH!

Annie SCREAMS as she JUMPS UP-- SLAMS into the wall-- and DROPS to the ground! Beat. Then she PEEKS above the bed.

ANNIE (CONT'D)
...Kay? What're you doing here?

KAY
Sorry. I missed the cue to come out, then you guys were fighting, then you were sobbing uncontrollably. There really was never a great window. But don't worry, I did *not* pee in your hamper.

ANNIE
Thanks...?
(climbs up onto the bed)
Lil' Annie was bad, Kay. Real bad. I gotta figure out how to fix this.

Kay sits down next to her, and rubs her back WARMLY.

KAY
I'm really sorry, Annie. I did pee in it. But I took all the clothes out first.

Annie just BURIES her face in her pillow, DESTROYED.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

INT. HOT YOGA - DAY

Annie SWEATS LIKE SHAQ as she and Dennah transition from DOWNWARD DOG to STANDING BOW in their (very) hot yoga class.

ANNIE
Ugghhh...

Dennah easily holds the TOUGH POSE (balancing on one leg/one arm forward/the other behind her holding up her other foot). Annie WOBBLES and SHAKES and keeps PUTTING HER FOOT DOWN for balance (the only movement in the still class of EXPERTS).

ANNIE (CONT'D)
God, I'd love just like one sip of Diet Coke right now.

The shirtless teacher, WES (40, lean, tan), walks by them:

WES
Nice, Dennah. That's a beautiful tuladandasana. Textbook tuladandasana. And Annie, really great...determination. Way to go.

ANNIE
I wish he'd just say I'm bad at yoga. It'd be less embarrassing than listening to him search for a compliment for me every week.

WES
And I'm lovin' those new yoga pants, girl. Way to go.

ANNIE
Thanks, Wes.

DENNAH
Wait, so lemme get this straight Annie...you're *not* engaged?

ANNIE
Nope. No I am not, Dennah. Can't say I'm surprised either. This is just like that time I was so excited to get a hamster I literally pet it to death.
(shakes her head)
And now all our friends and family probably hate me too. God, I waited for this moment for 32 years. And had I just waited like 32 more seconds...

They TRANSITION to another TOUGH POSE (both hands on the mat/ one leg in the air). Dennah NAILS IT. Annie's crooked leg SHIVERS above her as SWEAT DRIPS down her face to the mat.

ANNIE (CONT'D)
You gotta help me. He's not returning my calls. He did email me - but unless he flew to Peru in the last ten hours and then immediately lost his wallet and phone - I'm pretty sure his account got hacked.
(sits up)
I can't just sit around and wait for him to propose again. I gotta do something to make everyone forget this ever happened. C'mon, you're smart. How do I fix this? Go!

DENNAH
Ooh, I'd love to help, but I'm super busy right now. I'm switching over to AOL cause I'm gonna be a sad Aunt and whatnot. I'm also working on jokey ways to replace the thing at the bottom of my email that says "Sent from my Blackberry 10".

ANNIE
(feels bad)
Right. I'm really sorry, okay? You know I love you the most. I didn't mean any of that stuff *at all*.

DENNAH
(tense beat, then)
Eh, it's cool. You pretty much nailed me.

ANNIE
Dead to rights.

DENNAH
Tip to tail.

ANNIE
You're gonna be a live-action Cathy.

DENNAH
(grabs hair ala "Cathy")
Ack!

WES
(approaches)
Annie, is that your car out front? Really nice parking job. Way to go.

INT. MACY'S - SAME

Jake and Gil walk through a department store.

JAKE
I thought we were just gonna see a movie. I didn't brush my teeth.

GIL
I wanna get some new clothes first. What Annie said really hit me, man. I'm a 31 year-old divorced hair plug salesman with sleep apnea and a body like one of those shapeless army duffel bags. I gotta make some changes. Quick. That reminds me, you wanna go on a hike later?

JAKE
A hike? What am I, an explorer? Besides, I decided a long time ago to just be one of those people who doesn't exercise, if that's cool with everyone.

Gil stops at an UGLY SHIRT (epaulets, pockets all over, etc.).

GIL
Ooh, now see *this* is a shirt. This is the kinda shirt that says, "Hey, pay attention to me."

JAKE
"Or I'll date-rape you in my Scion." Why's there a tiny pocket between the shoulder blades? It's unreachable. What goes in that thing?

GIL
I don't know, Seinfeld. How bout whatever I want? Pennies for wishes, a hot girl's cocaine, particularly inspiring fortunes. Oh hey, I didn't get a chance to tell you last night - on account of the most ridiculous event I've ever witnessed in person - but congrats on your engagement *question mark?*

JAKE
Hey, was it exactly how I drew it up? No. But did it actually turn out to be even better than I coulda ever dreamed? Also, no.

GIL
Well, you dodged a bullet. Marriage *blows*. And the best part is now we're both single! We can go out tangin' together every night, m'dude!

He puts up a HI-FIVE...Jake leaves him HANGING.

JAKE
Uh, Annie and I didn't break up. I'm just gonna propose again in a few days. She's probably totally freaking out right now. Is it bad that I kinda love that?

GIL
Not at all. Relationships, at their core, are basically just a two person Hunger Games.

JAKE
She's always so all over the place - I mean, we're talking about a girl who once moved out of a really great apartment cause she found out the landlord didn't like Oprah - but I just really love her, man. I do. And besides, the last thing I wanna do is go tangin' with you. I hated casual sex. The second it was over, all I could think was, "Sweet, now I'm an HPV carrier and you're pregnant."
(Gil nods in agreement)
Everything's gonna be fine. Annie agreed to just chill out for a bit and let me handle this my way...

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. JUICE BAR - LATER

The girls drink post-yoga pressed juices and BRAINSTORM.

ANNIE
I got it! What if I like hire an actor to mug Jake, and then I pop out and save his life? He can't stay mad if I save his life, right?

DENNAH
That's not bad. But with your luck, he'd probably get PTSD.

ANNIE
Yeah, he's not tough. He once got nightmares from a bad bite of chicken.

DENNAH
I know! Pull the goalie. Get pregnant. Everyone'll be so happy for you, they'll forget everything.

ANNIE
Yeah...but then I'm stuck with a baby. Where am I puttin' that thing?

DENNAH
Good point...

ANNIE
Ooh wait! I got something for real now. Okay, how bout tomorrow I throw like a big, awesome party and invite everyone that was there last night, right? Like a do-over engagement party type thing. Then after they've all had a bunch of drinks, I'll get up and give a really heartfelt toast slash speech wherein I beg for forgiveness, *while at the same time* touching on the pressures facing an unmarried 32 year-old girl in today's post-Zooey Deschanel America, *while at the same time* shining a light on my very real blood sugar issues.

DENNAH
You are always a bag of almonds away from burning everything to the ground.

ANNIE
I'm pretty confident the entire thing'll end in a chorus of 'You go girls'.

DENNAH
Not bad, not bad. That could be enough to win the people back, cause they probably never really cared what you thought of them in the first place, you maniac--

ANNIE
Hurtful.

DENNAH
But do you think that's really enough to get Jake totally back on your side too?

ANNIE
No. That's why, before the party, I'm gonna propose.
(Dennah's confused)
Think about it. If I really wanna show him how much he means to me, and how badly I wanna make this right, *I* should propose to *him*. Like a super romantic proposal. The way it shoulda happened last night! He'll love it. We celebrate with friends and family afterwards, that becomes our official engagement story - case clizzosed.

DENNAH
Wow. I like it. Except for the part where you said clizzosed. But doesn't *you* proposing kinda go against everything you've ever wanted?

ANNIE
Life's full of compromises. I once slept with a guy named Ashley.

INT. MACY'S, CHANGING ROOMS - LATER

Gil exits a dressing room in a SUPER DOUCHEY OUTFIT.

GIL
Okay, what do you think? Be honest. First blurt. But keep in mind that I feel good about it.

JAKE
That's the kinda outfit an aspiring actor kills themself in.

KAY
(approaches)
Hey-o! It's the cool guys crew!

JAKE
Kay? What're you doing here?

KAY
I work here now. Not to brag, but I'm the number one silk boxer salesman in the greater San Fernando Valley. Well, unofficially, cause--
(calls to her SUPERVISOR)
--Janet refuses to keep m'stats!

JAKE
Gil, you know Annie's eccentric neighbor, Kay.

GIL
Yeah, we got trapped in their elevator together once for 45 minutes...before realizing neither of us had pressed a button.

KAY
Classic evening.
(checks out Gil)
Ooh, that outfit's so money it doesn't even know how money it is.

GIL
That's *exactly* what I said!

KAY
So, who's the girl? Cause I know you're not buying all this True Religion just to convince yourself to masturbate.

GIL
There's no girl. This makeover's just for me. Yolo and whatnot.
(off her skeptical look)
Okay *fine*, if it also *happened* to win back my ex-wife in the process, I wouldn't turn my nose up at that--

JAKE
What!? No! C'mon dude, you can't go back to Kassie. She's the worst. She cheated on you!

GIL
We were separated! At Burning Man for half a day. It was her first time doing mushrooms and she briefly forgot she was married.

JAKE
Wait, but what about how you just told me marriage blows, literally minutes ago?

GIL
That's when I thought we were gonna be single together, cruising chicks, like a couple of Vince Vaughns. I'm at rock bottom, okay? This morning I ate cereal out of a bike helmet.
(sincere, emotional)
I just - I miss her, man. I do. She's T.O.
(off their confusion)
The one.

Jake rolls his eyes at the abbreviation, but then pats his back, warmly. He feels bad for Gil. So does Kay.

KAY
Listen, if you really wanna win her back, you need a woman's point of view. Specifically a woman who's read "The Game". Bingo bango - me.

JAKE
Is that that book that tells guys to just dress up super weird, and then go insult a bunch of girls until one of them is confused into having sex with them?

GIL
Spoilers!

KAY
Gil, show Kassie you're over her. By making her feel terrible about herself. And she'll be all over you.
(Jake rolls his eyes)
Either that or make a lot of money and be hot as *hayle*. But I think the ship has sailed for you on those two categories.

GIL
I'm in.

INT. JAKE'S OFFICE - THE NEXT DAY

Jake's in a bland cubicle, working. Suddenly, Michael Jackson's "Will You Be There" ("Free Willy" theme) BEGINS...

ANNIE (O.S.)
May I have your attention, please?

Jake stands up, and is surprised/confused to see Annie enter with ROSES and an iPod SPEAKER (playing the song)...

JAKE
Uh, hey Annie. What're you doing here...at my place of employment?

ANNIE
Hi, Jake. Hello, Jake's co-workers. I'm Annie. You may remember me from last year's company picnic as the girl who broke her leg and the legs of your colleague, Daniel, during the three legged race. But that's not what brings me here today.
(turns to a puzzled Jake)
(MORE)

ANNIE (CONT'D)
Jake, I...I love you so much. Can we please just pretend like the last few days didn't happen? Like we just landed from those awesome two weeks in Mexico, where we had so much fun and sex and didn't fight once.

Jake looks around, embarrassed (he doesn't like being the center of attention). Annie just presses on.

ANNIE (CONT'D)
I invited everyone to my place tonight for a do-over engagement party. It's gonna be great. But first, I wanna do over this moment, too. Myself. And make it perfect. Like you deserve. Cause...you're the man I've been dreaming of since I was a little girl. And I just can't believe you love me...even when I don't deserve it.

Now Jake can't help but SMILE, TOUCHED. She's winning him.

ANNIE (CONT'D)
This is exactly what I always dreamed this moment would be like. Well, except for this next part...
(gets down on one knee)
Jake, will you marry me?

JAKE
(laughs warmly, blushes)
Yes, okay? We're engaged. Again. That was very romantic. Thank you. Now please stand up.

She SMILES WIDE at him as she stands up.

JAKE (CONT'D)
Hey, just outta curiosity though, why are we listening to the theme song from "Free Willy" right now?

ANNIE
You know, I guess I was about 12 when I started dreaming up my perfect proposal, and the song just stuck. Also, I've always wanted someone to "hold me like the River Jordan". That sounds nice.

He LAUGHS, BEAMS at her, then GRABS her (like the River Jordan) and they KISS BIG as everyone CHEERS! The MUSIC SWELLS like the end of a bad 90's romcom, when-- JAKE'S BOSS (50) presses STOP.

JAKE'S BOSS
Uh, not to kill the mood here, but did she just say you guys were in Mexico the last two weeks? Cause you told *me* you were in the hospital, in agony, over whether or not to pull the plug on your dad.

Jake looks VERY CAUGHT.

SMASH CUT TO:

EXT. JAKE'S OFFICE BUILDING - MOMENTS LATER

Annie and Jake stand outside. Jake is holding a BOX OF HIS THINGS (he just got fired). He's STUNNED/PISSED.

ANNIE
So...should we go for a calzone, or--
(Jake just walks off)
Where are you going?

JAKE
Well, I gotta go get ready for another awesome engagement party, right? Can't wait!
(gets in his car)
Why would you bring up the Mexico thing? I told you I lied to my boss.

ANNIE
(remembers, feels bad)
Eeeee. Sorry. I guess I just got caught up in the moment...?

JAKE
You always get caught up in the moment! You're perpetually caught up in every single moment! By the way, you know you don't have to play every second of life gigantic, right? God, you make everything such a production! It's like dating a drag queen!

He SLAMS the door!

ANNIE
Kewl, kewl. So, I guess I'll just meet you there then?

Jake PEELS AWAY! Annie's AT A COMPLETE LOSS.

ANNIE (CONT'D)
WHAT IS HAPPENING!?!?!

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

EXT. KASSIE'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Gil (clean shaven now, douchey new outfit) knocks on the door, then LEANS against the wall to look "cool". KASSIE (32, average) opens the door.

KASSIE
Gil? Hey. Whatsup?

GIL
(trying "The Game")
Ooh, ouch, put on make-up much? You look like you just got outta bed.

KASSIE
I did. I worked a double shift. And I wasn't expecting visitors.

GIL
Oh. Well...good luck with that.

KASSIE
With what?

GIL
With...not expecting visitors. Cause you're a loser. Ha-*ha!*

KASSIE
Right. Did you just come here to insult me? And who's clothes are those? You look like you robbed a Serbian DJ. Or a guy named DJ.

GIL
(hurt)
What? No, these are - cool. Kay told me Jake Gyllenhaal put this exact outfit in his will as what he wants to be buried in.

KASSIE
Alright Gil, so great catching up with you.

She starts to CLOSE THE DOOR-- Gil STOPS it with his hand and immediately turns SUPER SINCERE:

GIL
I miss you! Please Kassie, take me back. I've changed, you'll see. I even went to the gym today.
(MORE)

GIL (CONT'D)
Did not realize you needed a credit card to join though, so I had to go back to my car, which had been towed in the interim, which forced me to walk all the way home, which actually turned out to be quite a workout-- But whatever, how bout just one date? Come with me to Jake and Annie's engagement party tonight. Please. I need this.

KASSIE
(long beat, then)
Okay. Sure. I...I missed you too, Gilly.

He's SURPRISED. She SMILES at him. He KISSES her! Then--

GIL
So, not to bring up the make-up thing for real now, but *are* you gonna change at all? Cause the Evite did say cocktail attire...

She ROLLS HER EYES and SMILES as she heads inside to change. Gil PUMPS HIS FIST dramatically like an athlete!

EXT. PINCHE MARICONES - LATER

Jake (blazer, tie) eats nachos sadly at the same outdoor table where he and Annie first met. A WAITRESS approaches.

WAITRESS
You okay?

JAKE
Not really. I'm supposed to be at my engagement party right now, but we keep getting in huge fights - I'm not even sure if we're technically engaged. I just...don't get why this has been so hard. Like if it's some kinda sign or something...?

WAITRESS
Oh, no I meant 'You okay?' as in 'Is there anything else I can get you, like more water?' Because I'm a waitress, not Iyanla Fix My Life.

JAKE
(embarrassed)
Right. I'm good, thanks.

The Waitress just walks off. Jake looks FORLORNLY at the BENCH WHERE HE FIRST SAW ANNIE. It triggers a MEMORY...

INT. JAKE'S APARTMENT - **FLASHBACK**

5 years earlier. Annie and Jake (a year into dating) host a karaoke party for FRIENDS (younger Dennah/Gil/Kassie/etc.). Gil and Kassie duet Celine Dion's "My Heart Will Go On".

GIL
Near...

KASSIE
Far...

GIL/KASSIE
Wherever you are, I believe that the heart does go on...

KASSIE
(still singing)
You're very flat, Gil...

GIL
(points at her FLAT CHEST)
You've been flat your whole life...

KASSIE
Screw you, Gil!

GIL
I WISH YOU EVER WOULD YOU FROZEN BITCH!

She THROWS the mic at him and storms off! He follows! The Guests are BLOWN AWAY (odd to see a couple bicker through a song about eternal love). Kay BURSTS into tearful applause!

KAY
What? I liked it.

ANNIE
(jumps up, grabs the mic)
Thank you! That was horrifying.
(types in a song)
Okay, this next song goes out to Jake. I will always love you.
(stops herself)
Wait, just to clarify, the *song* is 'I Will Always Love You'. I'm not *saying* I love you. Cause neither of us has said it yet. Even though it's been a year. Not that I'm upset by that. I'm totally cool with like whatever. I'm the chill girlfriend, bra.
(the backing track begins)
To be clear though, I don't *not* love you, Jake. I just wasn't gonna say it til you did.
(MORE)

ANNIE (CONT'D)
Technically, I didn't say it. Unless you want me to so that you can say it back almost immediately? Your call here, buddy.
(awkward beat)
In hindsight, I probably shoulda picked a different song.

JAKE
(laughs, then smiles wide)
I will always love you too, Annie.

ANNIE
(so touched)
Awww...
(then immediately sings)
And III-EEE-III will always love YOUUUUUUUUU!

EXT. PINCHE MARICONES - **AS WE LEFT HIM**

Jake THINKS about that memory, then-- THROWS DOWN his nacho!

JAKE
Check please! Can I get the check!?

He grabs his stuff FRANTICALLY, when-- his phone RINGS! It's Annie! He answers it! INTERCUT BETWEEN THEM AS NECESSARY:

JAKE (CONT'D)
Annie! I'm sorry I'm not at the--

ANNIE
Jake, before you say anything, I just ...I'm so so sorry. For everything. For getting you fired, for ruining the proposal...s plural. It's just sorta what I do. My dumb emotions get goin' and then I explode my life. I'm a spazz. But I'm working on all that. With a team of therapists, and gurus, three different astrologists, a chiropractor, two unlicensed life-coaches, and a self-described warrior poet. I wish I was just born super mellow and logical like you - I love that you never explode - but, I mean, have you met my dads? They named me after a musical. But that's why I need you. Desperately. Without you, I'd just...spin off into space.
(tears up)
Jake, I...could not love another human more.

JAKE
No Annie, I need *you*. The truth is, I love your explosions. My life would be so boring without them. You challenge me. You're like my little exploding challenger - heard it right when I said it.

ANNIE
Not great.

JAKE
I thought about everything, and this is all *my* fault. I waited way too long to propose. Just like I waited too long to say I love you, even though I loved you from the moment I saw you. I always wait too long on the emotional stuff. I don't even like saying the word 'emotional'. It's just - uch. I guess cause my folks fought so much when I was a kid, I just always tried to be so quiet and easy...and now it's like I can't express a single emotion ever.
(to himself)
Wow, I think I just, like, figured my entire self out in this moment.
(refocuses on Annie)
But whatever - Annie, I don't care about the proposals, or my crappy job - which I probably woulda ridden all the way to retirement had you not exploded me outta there - I only care about being with you. Forever.

ANNIE
Me too! Side note though, you don't think any of these botched proposals are like a sign we're not supposed to be together or anything, do you?

JAKE
(concerned, then fronts)
What? No, of course not. I don't believe in signs. Especially not negative ones. I mean, if there was like, say, a *positive* sign that we were *supposed* to be together, I wouldn't discount one of those.

ANNIE
Of course not. But in *this* particular case, I don't think we should read too much into this negative sign, right?

JAKE
Fuck this sign, okay? I said it.

ANNIE
Totally! Now just stay there, I'm coming to you!

JAKE
Wait, how do you know where I am?

ANNIE
You're at our engagement party, right?

JAKE
No. Wait, you're not there either?

ANNIE
I couldn't face you. Or all them. Or all them without you. I freaked.

JAKE
Well, then where are you?

THROUGH ANNIE'S PHONE, JAKE HEARS:

WAITRESS (THROUGH PHONE)
You okay?

JAKE
Wait a second.

Jake stands up and looks THROUGH THE WINDOW: ANNIE'S INSIDE! They're both at Pinche Maricones! She runs out to him!

JAKE (CONT'D)
Oh my god! Annie!

ANNIE
This is so crazy!
(they hug big, then)
Wait, this is it! This is the sign that we're supposed to be together!

JAKE
Oh yeah, this is as good a sign as I've ever seen. It's like we literally can't get away from each other. We're like Rachel McAdams and romantic time travel movies.

ANNIE
(laughs)
And thank god, cause that first sign - the one that *clearly* stated we should *not* be together - was giving me some serious pause.

JAKE
Oh sure, that was a devil of a sign. As obvious as they get. But this sign trumps that one for sure. This is like the sign that's higher up on the pole, that says, like, 'Vehicles With Permit Number 170 Exempt'.

ANNIE
(laughs)
Totally.
(tears up)
Jake, I...just really love you.

JAKE
Annie, I will *always* love you. Now let's try this again.

He grabs a CALAMARI RING off a STRANGER'S plate and KNEELS.

JAKE (CONT'D)
Annie, will you marry me? Again? With this ring of calamari even though recent studies show that most calamari is actually pig anus?

ANNIE
Ew. But, yes. YES!

He puts the calamari ring on her finger. They KISS BIG! The restaurant CHEERS (even the bitchy Waitress)!

JAKE
Wait, if we're both here, then...

INT. ANNIE'S APARTMENT - SAME

GUESTS stand around, ANNOYED, as CATERERS pass appetizers.

MYRNA
Unbelievable.

DENNAH
I mean, I have other stuff going on besides celebrating this engagement for a week straight. What is this, Coachella?

Gil enters with Kassie. Everyone's surprised he got her back.

GIL
Guess who's back? Gil and Kassie. We're Gassie again! Or Kil. Neither is great. But, we are back!

Gil grabs a MINI BURGER and bites it, proud of himself.

KASSIE
(pats Gil's belly)
Ooh Gilly, don't ya think you should go for the healthy option? I mean, if there even is one. What is this, Milwaukee?

GIL
Kass, honey, let's not cause a scene. This is sorta our coming out party. How bout a drink?

KASSIE
Okay, sure.
(turns to Kevin 1)
I'll have a gin and tonic with one squeeze of lime but no fruit in or on the cup please - aggravates my fever blisters. Just squirt the lime once, and walk away.

KEVIN 1
I'm not a waiter, I'm Kevin. We've met. A lot. I'm Annie's dad?
(Kassie stares blankly)
I got in that bad accident leaving your house two years ago where I was thrown through the windshield of my car? And landed at your feet?

KASSIE
Ohhh yeah...
(gives everyone an 'I don't remember' shrug)
So...where are we on that G and T?

Kevin 2 MOVES to attack her-- Kevin 1 HOLDS him back. Gil is ASHAMED. Kay weirdly gives Gil a congratulatory THUMBS UP!

INT. ANNIE'S CAR - LATER

Jake and Annie SPEED toward the party! They SWERVE in and out of traffic like the end of a 90's romcom!

ANNIE
Everyone's really gonna hate us now!

JAKE
It's not great, Annie! Not great!

EXT. ANNIE'S APARTMENT - LATER

All the Guests walk out of the building to go home, GROUSING. Just then, Jake and Annie SPRINT UP SO OUT OF BREATH!

JAKE
Wait! We - We're here and--
(can't catch his breath, has to take a knee)
Jesus Christ.

ANNIE
Wow, babe, we gotta get you in a gym. Guys, listen, we're sorry we're late, we just...had to stop to get you all a present...to say thanks for coming.

Annie pulls CHIPS and SALSA out of her purse (from Pinches).

JAKE
The salsa symbolizes...the spice of life. And...um...

ANNIE
The corn - or maize - of the chips is meant to evoke the sustenance of friendship.
(off their BLANK STARES)
Okay, the truth is, neither of us were gonna come tonight cause we blew another proposal and got in another big fight--

Everyone GROANS--

JAKE
But, then we actually sorta stumbled into an even better proposal. So, we're engaged for real now. And it was perfect this time.

ANNIE
Well, except that it took place at a restaurant that doesn't recognize the most basic civil rights of the LGBT community-- sorry Dad and Dad.
(beat)
Now, let's head inside for a toast!

Jake and Annie start inside (no one else moves), when--

MYRNA
Yeah...you guys are a very strong oh-for-two on this thing, okay? We're happy for you. But I think it's time we call it a week on trying to celebrate your engagement. Let's save up for the wedding, which I'm sure will be a huge disaster. Can't wait to get my eyes on that.
(pointedly to Annie)
If you even invite me.

Myrna's still MAD. She starts to WALK AWAY, when-- Annie stops her with a WEIRD FORCED HUG. It's odd. She holds Myrna AWKWARDLY for a beat. Then they separate STRANGELY.

ANNIE
Listen, Myrna - Mrs. Schuffman - I'm sorry. I never had a mom, okay? I'm the product of an egg from a lesbian my dads no longer speak to, and a sorta soft serve swirl of their sperms. The point is, you're great. You're who I'd want to be my mom if I could pick. Truly. I only insulted you cause the easiest way to hurt a guy is to go after his mother. And that's how I always fight: below the belt. In that moment, I just really wanted to hurt Jake. But I never wanted to hurt you. So, I'm sorry.

MYRNA
(tense beat, then laughs)
Hey, I respect that strategy. That's how I used to fight with Don. Granted, we ended up bitterly divorced, but I regret nothing.

Now they HUG FOR REAL! Jake BEAMS. Then Gil CLEARS his throat (he wants an apology too). Annie turns to him.

ANNIE
My sweet Gil. I'm sorry too. I don't think you're a garbage person.

GIL
Thank you. Cause I feel like I'm not, and I also felt like we were friends, but then when you said that, I was like, am I? And are we?

ANNIE
You're not. And we are.
(Gil hugs her tightly)
Okay, buddy. Now, who would like to come in and have a drink - *not as a celebration of our engagement in any way whatsoever* - just as a drink amongst family and friends?

Everyone LAUGHS. Then they all start to walk inside HAPPY!

KEVIN 2
That's my daughter.

KEVIN 1
No, that's *my* daughter!

END OF ACT THREE

TAG

INT. ANNIE'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Jake and Annie roll off each other. They just had sex.

JAKE
Nice job, Annie. Some really creative stuff there in the middle.

ANNIE
(laughs)
Thanks, you too. You know, on the plus side of all this, I think we just invented botched proposal sex.

JAKE
(laughs)
Worth it.
(beat)
So...wow, I can't believe we're getting married, right?

ANNIE
I know. It's...terrifying.

JAKE
Could not be more scared right now.

ANNIE
Also, real talk: did *not* think it was gonna be that tough to get engaged.

JAKE
Yeah, that was a real dooze.

They LAUGH. Gil enters-- Jake and Annie SCREAM! He grabs a glass of water off their nightstand, and sits on the bed.

GIL
You guys were so right about Kassie. I don't ever wanna get back with her. I guess sometimes you can't see a situation clearly until afterwards, and then you feel like it shoulda always been that obvious the whole time. Like when any guy you know marries an Asian girl, you're always immediately like, 'Of course! That guy's a total Asian girl kinda guy! How did I not realize that before!?'

Jake and Annie think a beat, then BOTH NOD (it makes sense).

JAKE
So, what'd you do, man?

GIL
Well, I'm an adult, Jake. So I gallantly...had sex with her one last time and then snuck out in the middle of the night.

ANNIE
Chivalrous to the end.

GIL
(beat, smiles)
Ol' Gil's gonna be alright, guys.
(Jake and Annie smile at him warmly)
Welp, congrats again on getting engaged. Marriage is a blessing. Goodnight, my sweethearts.

He kisses their heads, and walks out. Annie looks CONCERNED.

ANNIE
That'll never be us, right?

JAKE
What, breaking into our friends' apartment at 3am to creepily kiss them goodnight?

ANNIE
No, I mean, you know...divorced.

JAKE
(looks at her, sweetly)
Hey, never. You and me are in this thing forever, Annie. Or at least until one of us murders the other one. Which is probable.

ANNIE
(laughs)
Promise?

JAKE
Promise.

They KISS, turn off the lights, then go to sleep, SO IN LOVE.

END OF SHOW