# RED BAND SOCIETY

Pilot

Teleplay by
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Based On: Polseres Vermelles
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EXT. BORDER PATROL CHECK POINT - DAY

An old Dodge TRUCK with plates reading “Mexico” is in line at a BORDER CHECK POINT.

INT. TRUCK - CONTINUOUS

Two TEEN BOYS are in the cab of the truck. A BORDER PATROL OFFICER stands ahead waving cars through. He glances at the Truck and puts up his hand and waves for them to pull over.

DRIVER
We’re so screwed.

PASSENGER
It’s routine. Don’t freak.

EXT. TRUCK - CONTINUOUS

The window rolls down. The BORDER PATROL OFFICER leans in.

BORDER PATROL OFFICER
Where you going? What’re your plans?

ALEX, the driver, 15, says nothing.

BORDER PATROL OFFICER
Help me here.

The passenger, JORDI PALACIOS, 14, leans over from his side. He is wearing a Dodgers hat and has enormous eyes radiating an old soul. Except at the moment, he appears somewhat hyperactive.

JORDI
We’re going to a Dodger game! Yes!

Alex looks apologetically to the Officer.

ALEX
My cousin Jordi is crazy.

BORDER PATROL OFFICER
Passport, Jordi. And yours...

Alex gives Jordi a look like *idiot*. Unfazed Jordi hands his passport to the Officer. Alex slowly reaches for his wallet.

JORDI
I was born in L.A.

BORDER PATROL OFFICER
I can read.

He looks down at the picture of Jordi with his longish hair, then looks up scrutinizing him now.

BORDER PATROL OFFICER
Can I see you without your hat on?

A BEAT. A moment of decision for Jordi. He takes off his hat revealing he's completely bald.

JORDI
I shaved it for the Dodgers. For luck.

BORDER PATROL OFFICER
(to Alex, amused)
He is crazy. The Dodgers suck.

He hands Jordi his passport back and waves them through.

INT. TRUCK - CONTINUOUS

They ride in silence, relief dripping off them like sweat. Alex checks the rear view mirror and sees they're clear.

ALEX
(panicked)
Dodger Game? Are you friggin nuts?

JORDI
I had to distract him... If he saw you don't even have a drivers license we'd be on the bus back to Concepcion right now.

Alex is sitting on 6 inch stack of newspapers so he can see over the steering wheel. Jordi looks at a map on his phone.

JORDI
Look for signs for the 405.

Jordi puts his hat back on. He leans back and closes his eyes.

INT. CLOSET - DAY

CLOSE ON A JOINT held by a hand with RED BANDS around the wrist. It belongs to LEO ROTH, 15, charismatic, confident, radiating cool. He takes a hit.

BOY (V.O.)
When Leo Roth was a kid he was excellent at playing dead. I mean he had it down.

FLASHBACK CLASSROOM - LEO, 8, slumped over a desk with his eyes open, frozen. Drool comes out the side of his mouth.

TEACHER
(starting to panic)
Leo... Leo?.. Leo!

BOY (V.O.)
He could freak out the best of them. He'd do it whenever he got bored.

PRESENT Leo hands the joint to DASH PANTOUSKY, 16. Hyper, shameless, he'd try and sell shoes to a snake if he could.

BOY (V.O.)
Recently Leo had started hanging out with Dash Pantousky. And Dash Pantousky was never boring.

LEO
How did you get this?

DASH
This place is crawling with medical marijuana. It's called "Electric Avenue" and it's awesomesauce.

LEO
"This is not Nam. This is bowling. There are rules!"

Cracking each other up.

DASH
I'm hungry. I want some Funyuns. No! -- In & Out.

LEO
"Those are good burgers, Walter."
(Checking his phone)
Crap, we have to go. We have class.

DASH
We also have life.

Leo considers this. He relights the joint handing it to Dash.

BOY (V.O.)
It's weird how people get hung up on stuff that doesn't really matter until something that matters really happens...

EXT. HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL FIELD - MORNING

CLOSE ON a lit cigarette dangling from a pair of lips. SLOW MOTION. Blonde hair.

BOY (V.O.)
Like cheerleading for example... I mean like at the end of day who really gives a flying...

A HOT FEMALE BODY in a cheerleading uniform soaring through the air. She gets caught clumsily in the arms of a MALE CHEERLEADER.

HOT CHEERLEADER
Ow! You just gave me niplash!

KARA SOUDERS, 16, is dictator of the CO-ED CHEERLEADING SQUAD. Beautiful, smart and mean. She would have made an awesome Nazi.

KARA
Are you manstrating? You have no strength.

MALE CHEERLEADER
Your ash burned my arm.

We pull back to reveal the rest of the CO-ED CHEERLEADING SQUAD standing in a pyramid. Kara is in front of them.

KARA
Where's your focus? I went out of my way to score you Adderall. Do I have to remember to tell you to take it too?

BOY (V.O.)
Kara Souders reign of terror began in pre-school when she went for Halloween as Osama Bin Laden.

FLASHBACK FOUR YEAR OLD KARA DRESSED AS OSAMA BIN LADEN COMPLETE WITH BEARD AND AVIATOR GLASSES.

BOY (V.O.)
Every Superhero and Princess surrendered their candy to her.

FRIGHTENED KIDS DUMP THEIR BAGS OF CANDY INTO KARA'S SACK.

PRESENT Kara puts out her cigarette in her water bottle.

KARA
This water sucks by the way.

Kara thrusts the bottle into the hands of LOW SELF-ESTEEMY WATER GIRL, 15, as she walks over to climb the pyramid.

KARA
It tastes like pee.

TWO MALE CHEERLEADERS look guilty and stifle their laughter.

Kara's on top of the pyramid. She massages her boobs.

KARA
Let's do it again and try not to bruise these babies.

Kara suddenly begins to sway. Her eyes roll back as she loses consciousness falling to the ground, landing spectacularly on a pile of towels, legs splayed.

Water Girl runs to Kara and throws the pee/water mixture on Kara's face to revive her.

MALE CHEERLEADER
Now we can watch her melt.

The CHEERLEADING SQUAD immediately pull out their phones. Not to call 9-1-1, but to take SNAP CHAT photos of Kara passed out.

MANSTRATING CHEERLEADER
Shouldn't we call 9-1-1?

GIRL CHEERLEADER
Not till I post this on instagram.

Water Girl's already on a 9-1-1 call.

WATER GIRL
(on her phone)
Yes, unconscious... Do CPR? Really?
*Yes!*

Water Girl has clearly dreamed of the moment she can put her mouth on Kara's. She dives onto her and begins some Girl-on-Girl CPR. All the phones are recording this.

MANSTRATING CHEERLEADER
Who says life isn't fair?

<u>INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - MORNING</u>

A SLEEPING BOY in bed: This is CHARLIE, 13, our narrator.

CHARLIE (V.O.)
Neanderthals were considered adults when they turned 9, which had to bite. Today you're considered an adult when you're like in your 20's, which is probably bad for the future of mankind but lucky for me cause I'm in a coma. Yeah, this is me, talking to you. In a coma. Deal with it.

FLASHBACK A MOM, small and intense, listens to a DOCTOR droning on with no bedside manner.

DOCTOR
Consciousness is as fragile as pulling a wet napkin from the sides.

CHARLIE (V.O.)
The doctor actually said that to my Mom to explain why I was in this coma. That was like a year ago.

With the super human strength only a mom whose child's in danger can possess, she SLUGS the Doctor.

CHARLIE(V.O.)
My mom applied pressure to his face with her fist. I guess it was all those kick boxing lessons.

The Doctor crumples to the ground writhing in pain.

CHARLIE (V.O.)
I have a new doctor now.

THE PRESENT - A bunch of half empty balloons sag near the floor. A sun-faded sign reads GET WELL SOON, CHARLIE.

CHARLIE (V.O.)
The thing about a coma is you can hear everything, you just can't respond. It can be so friggin annoying...

FLASHBACK Charlie's Mom sits by his bedside talking to him.

MOM
Remember that song about the bicycle you loved you were little? It was by that band from England... What were they called?... The lead singer had big teeth...

CHARLIE (V.O.)
Mom... Uh Queen? Come on! Freddie Mercury! Google it.

MOM
I could check on my phone...

Mom's voice fades out and we just hear Charlie.

CHARLIE (V.O.)
Here's what I miss, the smell of pizza, jacking it and my friends. Not necessarily in that order.

EXT. TRUCK - DAY

Off Jordi's anxious face looking out the window of the truck at the ER entrance to a hospital.

EXT. CITY OF ANGELS HOSPITAL - DAY

Doctors, Nurses, Orderlies, Administrators filter through doorways of this state-of-the art medical center.

CHARLIE (V.O.)
In a hospital everyone has something better to do and you better not get in their way.

A WOMAN in scrubs, 40's, crosses in front of the truck. She slams her fist on the hood and points.

WOMAN
Pedestrians have the right of way, Douchebag.

This is NURSE HERNANDEZ, reeking of authority, no bullshit, no age, no first name.

INT. CITY OF ANGELS HOSPITAL - DAY

Modern, beautiful, lots of natural light. World class art hangs on the walls. Hernandez walks through taking no notice.

INT. PEDIATRIC NURSES STATION - CONTINUOUS

This is the hub, ground zero. Nurse Hernandez, puts her latte cup down next to SAM PORTER, 30's, a Child Life Specialist filling out a report. He glances over at the cup. In black marker it reads, "SCARY BITCH."

SAM
I see they got your name right.

HERNANDEZ
Thank you Sam. The Barista was one of those home schooled types. I wasn't sure if he could even spell "Scary" without adding an "e" but he managed.

SAM
I'm sure you inspired him.

HERNANDEZ
(answering a phone)
Pediatrics, this is Hernandez...

INT. ER ADMITTING - DAY

Jordi walks to the Admitting Desk.

KARA, on a gurney is wheeled past him yelling at a PARAMEDIC.

KARA
(to the Paramedic)
Did you even brush your teeth this morning? Your breath smells like toe nails.

They disappear through sliding doors.

A NURSE looks up at Jordi.

NURSE
May I help you?

Jordi removes his hat showing the Nurse his bald head.

JORDI
My doctor said to meet him in the ER.

NURSE
Who's your doctor?

JORDI
Dr. McAndrew. He said to page him.

McAndrew's name gets Jordi immediate results.

NURSE
Of course. I'll call right away. Wait over there.

Jordi goes to sit down. As he waits his turn he observes A THERAPY DOG lift his leg on an expensive sculpture.

INT. HOSPITAL HALLWAY - DAY

Hernandez is walking in a hurry. She stops, smelling something. She follows the smell to the supply closet door. She opens it.

INT. CLOSET - CONTINUOUS

Leo and Dash sitting in a cloud of smoke with the ultimate buzz kill, Hernandez.

HERNANDEZ
Pathetic.

INT. HOSPITAL HALLWAY -CONTINUOUS

Hernandez, Dash and Leo (in a wheelchair) are moving down the hall. They pass the open door to Charlie's room.

CHARLIE (V.O.)
Busted. Think fast.

LEO
I thought that was the new physical therapy room. I was waiting for the PT. I'm so glad you found us...

DASH
Thanks Nurse Hernandez. We would have like been there forever.

HERNANDEZ
If you're gonna lie, lie well and know who you're lying to. I expect more of you, Leo. Dash not so much.

INT. HOSPITAL HIGH SCHOOL CLASSROOM - MORNING

Teacher, JOSE FONG, is mid-lecture. The blackboard reads: "HENRY V by William Shakespeare."

FONG
Displaying intelligence and charisma, Henry is a teenage prince with more than a few problems.

Leo and Dash enter in the back. It causes a stir with OTHER STUDENTS as everyone is happy to see them.

FONG
Nice of you two to show up.

CHARLIE (V.O.)
Here's the weird thing about a hospital -- you becomes friends with kids that you'd never know in a million years. Losers, populars, stoners, nerds -- the walls kind of fall down.

Leo's happy to see a beautiful Indian-American girl. EMMA MEHTA, 14. Honors student, smart, funny. She's too thin.

DASH
Your girlfriend's here.

LEO
Shut up.

Leo wheels over to where Emma's sitting. There's a definite tension between them based on some mutual history.

EMMA
Hey. Why are you in that chair?

LEO
Why are you so skinny?

CHARLIE (V.O.)
Emma and Leo suck at doing casual. They hooked up a few months ago.

FLASHBACK Emma and Leo making out in a supply closet. There's genuine heat. They stop and look at one another overwhelmed.

CHARLIE (V.O.)
And it freaked them both out. Because they both felt it and they didn't want to. So now they're obsessed with making each other miserable.

PRESENT Emma draws something and slides the paper to Leo.

EMMA
I drew this just for you.

<u>It's a drawing of a dick</u>.

LEO
Nice.

Fong's pissed they aren't paying attention.

FONG
Leo, tell us about Catherine's relationship with Henry.

LEO
She's totally hot for him.

This gets laughs from the room. Emma shakes her head.

EMMA
No, she's not. They can't communicate. He speaks horrible French. She doesn't speak English.

LEO
See, around her he doesn't have to be the best at everything. That's why she's into him.

EMMA
No, that's why he's into her.

FONG
Henry's a total pleasure seeker but he has no close friends. Why?

LEO
He's going to war and getting too close to anyone's a bad idea.

FONG
Explain.

LEO
Because then it won't be hard to say good bye.

This just slips out. Fong takes this in.

CHARLIE (V.O.)
Leo has been here longer than anyone and he still isn't done.

FONG
Everyone let's read the St. Cripsin's day speech to ourselves and then we'll discuss.

Fong's concern for Leo is visible.

INT. EXAM ROOM - MORNING

DR. WILLIAM MCANDREW, 35, rock star pediatric oncologist and surgeon. Tries not to get too attached even though it's impossible. He's so handsome it hurts to look at him.

DR. MCANDREW
You're not my patient. I can't find you in the system. Who referred you?

JORDI
Me. I referred me. It takes months to get an appointment with you. And by then my cancer will have spread. So I told them I was already your patient. And by law they can't turn me away at the ER.

DR. MCANDREW
(quietly impressed)
Not bad.

Jordi reaches into his backpack and hands McAndrew a folder.

JORDI
Here's my file.

DR. MCANDREW
(flipping through it)
It's in Spanish.

JORDI
I'll translate it for you. I have osteosarcoma. Right leg.

DR. MCANDREW
Hang on... where are your parents?

JORDI
My mom, she died... last year. We were living here. My dad I don't know. I was sent back to Mexico to my cousins.

DR. MCANDREW
That's where you were diagnosed?

JORDI
(nodding yes)
I've had all my chemo. Now I need the surgery. I want you to do it. I've read you're the best. You're the only one who leaves part of the bone...

DR. MCANDREW
(carefully)
Jordi, look I admire your courage...

JORDI
Balls. I prefer balls.

DR. MCANDREW
But I don't work like this. Go back to your original doctors. They know what they're doing.

McAndrew hands Jordi back his file and heads for the door.

JORDI
I knew my odds of getting you as my doctor sucked, but I figured what the hell? Maybe I had a chance. I mean what was the chance I was going to get cancer? And here I am.

McAndrew stops. He almost made it out the door. Fuck.

DR. MCANDREW
I take it the word "no" is not in your vocabulary.

JORDI
If "no" was in my vocabulary why would I be asking you to say "yes?

McAndrew looks at Jordi, he just got himself a new patient.

CHARLIE (V.O.)
When you work in Pediatrics there are always going to be patients you really care about.

INT. CHARLIE'S ROOM - DAY

Kara, her forehead bandaged, arm in a sling, is in bed next to Charlie. KENJI, 28, a male orderly, props up her pillows.

CHARLIE (V.O.)
And patients you don't.

KARA
(pointing to Charlie)
So what's his deal? Is he dead?

KENJI
No. He's in a coma.

Kenji leaves. Kara looks at Charlie. She walks over and pokes him. Hard. No response. She snaps her fingers by his ear.

KARA
You don't mind if I smoke do you, Coma Boy?... I didn't think so.

Kara grabs her bag, takes a cigarette and lights it. She sits on her bed, lies back and takes a deep drag.

CHARLIE (V.O.)
You gotta wonder what I did to deserve this.

Kara goes over to Charlie and blows the smoke into his mouth. It comes out his nose.

INT. PEDIATRIC NURSES STATION - DAY

Hernandez walks over to the desk and discovers a basket of muffins.

HERNANDEZ
(visibly annoyed)
Who put these here?

NURSE BRITTANY DOBLER, 24, nods. She's hot, relentlessly cheerful and irony-impaired. Hernandez terrifies her.

BRITTANY
I did. I made them. For you. I thought we could be like, muffin buddies.

HERNANDEZ
Muffin Buddies?

Kenji approaches the desk.

KENJI
C'mon, be her muffin buddy.

BRITTANY
I have like a 24 hour shift today...

HERNANDEZ
(cringing)
Don't use "like" like that...

A BUZZER sounds and a light turns RED on a panel on the desk.

KENJI
That's Rosemary's Baby in 3115. Ignore her.

BRITTANY
And my boyfriend's playing tonight so I was wondering if I could go hear him for just one hour. On my break.

HERNANDEZ
Brittany, how long have you been working here?

BRITTANY
Six weeks.... I drove out with my boyfriend and our dog. From Springfield. The one in Missouri. Not the one in Illinois...

Hernandez dumps the muffins in the trash. Brittany flinches.

HERNANDEZ
You're assuming I care.

INT. CHARLIE AND KARA'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Kara's repeatedly pressing her call button with no response.

Kara goes to Charlie's call button and hits it. Happy, she gets back in her bed, pulls out her new iPhone and starts playing a game.

Breathless, Hernandez runs in. She heads straight for Charlie.

HERNANDEZ
Charlie? Charlie...

Hernandez takes his vitals. No change. She looks at Kara.

HERNANDEZ
You want to tell me why you pushed a kid in a coma's call button?

KARA
The service is terrible here and I'm starving. Bring me a kale salad with grilled chicken, dressing side and a peach Snapple.

Kara gives her a dismissive wave. Hernandez smiles.

HERNANDEZ
Coming right up. New phone?

KARA
Yeah, jealous much?

Hernandez whips the phone from her.

KARA
Hey!

HERNANDEZ
Don't you *ever* press his call button again. You know what happens to patients who cry wolf? We sell their organs for cash on the black market and split the money among the staff.

KARA
You don't scare me. You're just some loser nurse who rides the bus.

HERNANDEZ
(waving Kara's phone)
Gotta go make some calls.

Hernandez leaves.

INT. HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Hernandez walks by a door with a sign reading: "WELCOME TO THE SWAMP. WARNING ZOMBIES MUST BE KEPT ON A LEASH AND UNDER STRICT CONTROL."

INT. THE SWAMP - CONTINUOUS

This is Leo's room's and it's getting re-arranged by an Orderly. McAndrew's there as well.

LEO
(pissed off)
I don't want a roommate.

More like a dorm than a hospital room, there are pictures of Leo with his PARENTS, a photo of him playing SOCCER, with a GIRL at the beach, with his team.

MCANDREW
It's not your decision.

LEO
What do you think I can't handle myself or something?

MCANDREW
I think you need a change.

LEO
You don't get it. It's not just the roommate. It's their parents coming, their grandparents, their stupid friends.

MCANDREW
I happen to know with this patient you won't have that problem.

LEO
So he must be a total loser.

McAndrew looks up to see Jordi in the doorway with Brittany.

BRITTANY
Hi, Leo. Jordi, this is your bed. I'm going to order you some lunch.

Brittany leaves.

MCANDREW
Jordi, meet Leo Roth your new roommate. Leo, this is Jordi Palacios.

McAndrew goes. Jordi looks around. He's quiet. It's awkward.

LEO
Not much of a talker?

JORDI
Not to you.

LEO
Sorry you heard that. I'm not a tool. I just have a lot of unknowns in my life right now.

As Jordi looks around the room the enormity of his situation is finally catching up with him. His courage now transforming into fear. He fights it.

LEO
Why're you here?

JORDI
I have cancer in my leg. McAndrew's taking it off tomorrow.

A beat. Leo's face. It's all making sense to him.

JORDI
I know that silence. No one knows what to say. It's a real conversation killer.

LEO
You’re gonna get through it.

JORDI
Easy for you to say.

LEO
Not really.

Leo pulls back the blanket and reveals to Jordi and to us, why he uses a wheelchair. *He’s missing his leg.* Now it’s Jordi’s turn to be silent.

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE

INT. CHARLIE AND KARA'S ROOM - DAY

A hospital volunteer, NICK, 34, a scruffy hot rocker is playing his guitar, singing. His voice is beautiful. He's singing "Fix You" to Charlie.

NICK
*Lights will guide you home.*
*And ignite your bones.*
*And I will try to fix you.*

Nick begins the guitar rift.

KARA
Will you stop it already! I've blown like five levels of Candy Crush since you came in!

Nick stops playing.

NICK
What would you like to hear?

KARA
Silence. Your taste's so average it hurts me. Scoop some vanilla on your white bread, will ya?

NICK
You're tough.

KARA
Why would you volunteer for this? Don't you have a real job?

NICK
I have a job for money but I consider this my real job.

Nick puts his hand on Charlie's forehead gently.

NICK
Hey, Charlie.

KARA
It's not like he can hear you.

She rolls her eyes and goes back to Candy Crush. Nick grabs his guitar and leaves. Just then, Charlie rips a huge fart.

KARA
That's disgusting!

CHARLIE (V.O.)
(laughing)
I can hear that. I'm gonna blast her till her eyes water.

It travels fast over to Kara. She's being gassed. She puts her pillow over her face.

KARA
Ahhh! Sewage fart!

CHARLIE (V.O.)
There are still some things I do really well.

INT. THE SWAMP - DAY

Leo is wheeling himself towards the door.

JORDI
Where are you going?

LEO
I'm meeting someone for lunch.

JORDI
Don't we eat here in the room?

LEO
Maybe you do.

Leo leaves Jordi alone. He looks around and spies an extra wheelchair.

INT. HALLWAY - DAY

Leo wheels down the hall unaware Jordi's right on his tail.

INT. SERVICE ELEVATOR - DAY

Leo gets in the elevator. Jordi, from the other side, wheels in taking Leo by surprise. The doors shut.

LEO
You're everywhere... like mold.

JORDI
I need to ask you something.

LEO
No. I can't be this person for you. That's what Sam's for or Dr. McAndrew.

JORDI
They can't answer this question. Only you can.

LEO
Fine. What?

JORDI
Does it hurt?

Beat. Leo chooses his words carefully.

LEO
Not like Chemo. Nothing kicks your ass like that. So know you've been through the worst of it already.

Leo's words take the edge off Jordi's fear.

JORDI
Thanks.

LEO
Any other questions?

JORDI
What's for lunch?

INT. CHARLIE AND KARA'S ROOM - DAY

DR. ANGELA HOLZMAN, 40's, pediatric cardiologist, enters.

KARA
(into her phone)
It's viral? How's my hair?... Good.
(to Dr. Holzman)
When am I getting out of here? My arm's sprained, not broken...

HOLZMAN
Kara, I'm Dr. Holzman. I did some blood work on you. I'm concerned with the preliminary results.

KARA
Did you drug test me or something?

CHARLIE (V.O.)
Oh yeah.

HOLZMAN
When will your parents be here?

KARA
They were in San Diego this morning for a meeting. So maybe an hour.

CHARLIE (V.O.)
Can you imagine how you'd feel if you'd given birth to Kara? No wonder her parents weren't rushing to get there.

INT. HOSPITAL - HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Leo and Jordi wheel out into a different world. It's all adults. Still architecturally beautiful, but a different vibe.

LEO
Ruben Garcia lives here because he's going to leave all his money to the hospital when he dies. He's a rich old hippie. Not a stoner. There's a difference.

JORDI
What's he got?

LEO
Nothing. He's a hypochondriac. Half the art in the hospital is from his collection. He has food sent in every day from major restaurants. Supposedly his brother was Jerry Garcia.

JORDI
Cherry Garcia? Like the ice cream?

LEO
(annoyed)
No. Nothing like the ice cream.

INT. RUBEN GARCIA'S SUITE - DAY

RUBEN GARCIA, 68, is larger than life with an aura of restless cool. His room's decorated in mid-century. Jackson Browne sings "Doctor My Eyes," on the sound system.

RUBEN
So's this your last meal before surgery?

Leo and Jordi are eating Thai food.

JORDI
I guess. Tonight'll be hospital food.

RUBEN
You can't go out with a whimper. It has to be a serious bang. Leo, you should give him a party tonight to say good bye to his leg. Fireworks, music, wine, women, sex...

LEO
He's fourteen.

RUBEN
Use it while you still can.

LEO
We can't give a real party-party. Look at where we are.

RUBEN
So? You can do this. I helped plan Woodstock when I was twenty years old.

JORDI
You did? My grandpa would listen to that. On a record player. He loved that song, "Freedom."

RUBEN
Richie Havens. It rained, I screwed up with the parking, food and toilets but bringing us all together that day changed the world. Get Dash to help you. He never saw a rule he couldn't break.

LEO
We won't change the world having this party.

RUBEN
No, but you just might change yours. Parties are always an excuse for something more. This one should be no exception.

INT. EMMA'S ROOM - DAY

Emma sits at a small table reading her Chemistry textbook. Her food is barely touched. A Nutritionist writes on a pad notating what she's eating then heads out.

Kara wanders in wearing her cheerleading uniform with her arm in a sling.

EMMA
Uh... hello? You looking for something?

Kara sits across from Emma.

KARA
Yeah. You gonna eat that?

EMMA
Excuse me?

Kara gives her a look like, “Cut the crap.”

KARA
Look, I’m hungry. I want to eat, but I don’t get the good stuff. You don’t want to eat, but your food is made by a private chef. So help me, help you.

Emma nods in the direction of a bowl of quinoa. Kara puts the bowl in her lap under the table. She eats a few quick spoonfuls while Emma keeps her eye on the door.

KARA
Did you ever try the salted ice cubes diet? That’s supposed to really work if you can stick to it.

Kara puts the empty bowl back on the table and picks up half a turkey sandwich. Emma sees the Nutritionist in the hallway.

EMMA
She’s coming. Hide it.

KARA
Where?

EMMA
Your sling.

Kara quickly stuffs the sandwich in her arm sling. The Nutritionist comes over and sees Emma’s eaten half a sandwich. She gives Emma a positive nod and moves on.

KARA
You’re a good liar. I wish I had your willpower. I have cigarettes and Adderall if you get hungry. Room 3115.

EMMA
(proudly)
I don't smoke, drink or do drugs.

KARA
(with total sarcasm)
It's so unhealthy, right? Not like starving yourself.

INT. DASH'S ROOM - DAY

Dash lies in his bed while Brittany gives him a sponge bath. She notices a copy of *Twilight* on his bedside table.

BRITTANY
*Twilight*? I love *Twilight*.

DASH
I'm only reading it to attract a Mormon.

BRITTANY
You have a thing for Mormons?

DASH
No, just Mormon donors. They don't smoke, drink or do drugs. Their lungs are perfect for transplant. I carry it around the ICU and ER to see if any family members or patients will spot me.

BRITTANY
(disappointed)
So you haven't actually *read* any of it?

DASH
Sorry, I gave up when she wrote about how he sparkled. Brittany, I need to talk with you about something...

Dash looks at her with real vulnerability.

BRITTANY
What?

DASH
I feel really close to you. I mean we're not that far apart in age. You're super hot and you're a really good person...

BRITTANY
Thanks, Dash. For that last part.

DASH
(a beat)
I never said this before. I'm scared that I might die... a virgin.

BRITTANY
Don't say that.

Brittany's sponge reaches his lowers. Her eyes widen. He's got "a rocket in his pocket."

DASH
And I would hate to waste that.

This bath is so over. Brittany attempts not to freak.

BRITTANY
I need to get your mist machine.

Brittany pulls over a cart with an oxygen mask.

DASH
You could be my Bella and give me that singular experience I can carry with me into eternity.

BRITTANY
(flustered)
Now you have to breathe with this for half an hour before postural drainage therapy.

She puts the mask on Dash. He pulls it down.

DASH
What if we just make out? I can get roof access. The view's amazing. We could watch the helicopters land with injured from crashes on PCH.

Brittany walks out the door. She's clearly upset.

DASH
What?... Not enough sparkle?

<u>INT. SERVICE ELEVATOR - DAY</u>

Leo and Jordi are on as Kara enters. Leo totally checks her out.

LEO
Hey.

Kara takes them in both in chairs wearing PJ's -- both bald.

KARA
Did you call each other this morning when you got dressed so you could be all matchy-matchy?

LEO
We did but he has two legs. I only have one.

JORDI
So I'm getting mine cut off tomorrow then I can look just like him.

KARA
(confused)
What -- like plastic surgery? Like the Olson twins?

JORDI
Like cancer.

KARA
(repulsed)
Ew. Sick.

LEO
You should hang with us tonight. We're having a goodbye party for his leg.

Jordi gives Leo a look as if to say, "We are?"

KARA
Please! You know that if we went to the same school I wouldn't even talk to you.

LEO
Really.

CHARLIE (V.O.)
Kara didn't scare Leo. In fact she woke up him up because she pissed him off.

LEO
I have a theory why all cheerleaders are mean.
(MORE)

LEO (CONT'D)
It’s because deep inside you know that you’ve already peaked and that it’s all downhill from here.

KARA
I have not peaked!

LEO
And in a few years from now, when you’re working at Dennys desperate for your next reunion to relive your glory days, you’ll be filled with regret that you made the wrong choice one day to skip a party because you thought you were better than everyone else there.

KARA
Stop with the word-vomit!

LEO
Truth hurts.

Leo laughs as the elevator comes to a stop.

KARA
Want some truth? Those bracelets are so done. Who wears them anymore?

She points to the Red Bands on his wrists as she gets off.

LEO
You don’t even know what these are.

KARA
I don’t need to, loser.

They watch her go.

JORDI
Are we really having this party?

LEO
It’s on.

INT. CAFE - DINNER

Brittany sits alone, looking shaken. McAndrew approaches with coffee and a salad.

MCANDREW
Can I sit here?

BRITTANY
Yeah, sure.

MCANDREW
Brittany, right?

BRITTANY
Yeah. Can I ask your advice? A patient sort of crossed the line with me today... he was inappropriate.

MCANDREW
Dash.

BRITTANY
How did you know?

MCANDREW
He said he was going, “To die a virgin if you didn’t have sex with him.”

BRITTANY
(genuinely shocked)
He’s done this before?...

MCANDREW
Oh yeah. You should be flattered. He has really good taste in women.

BRITTANY
They never taught stuff like this in nursing school.

MCANDREW
Pediatrics isn’t by the book because it’s not a vocation. It’s a calling.

BRITTANY
Well I’m not sure I got the call.

MCANDREW
Stick with this Brittany. The perks aren’t like other jobs but they’re there.

BRITTANY
Like what?

MCANDREW
I went to a wedding last weekend. She was my very first patient. And you know what was the best part?

BRITTANY
What?

MCANDREW
I wasn't her doctor anymore.

CHARLIE (V.O.)
(singing full out)
*Oooooh, you're gonna take me home tonight, down beside that red fire light.*

INT. CHARLIE AND KARA'S ROOM - DAY

Charlie's lying in his coma singing in his mind.

CHARLIE (V.O.)
*Then you give it all you got Fat bottomed girls, you make the rockin' world go round...*

Basically Queen's greatest hits for the comatose.

CHARLIE (V.O.)
I want to ride my bicycle. I want to ride my bike. I want to ride my bicycle...

We pulls back and see Water Girl's sitting on Kara's bed patiently waiting with flowers.

CHARLIE (V.O.)
She's so digging my show.

Kara enters none to happy to see Water Girl

KARA
Great.

WATER GIRL
You're okay. I'm so relieved. When I saw the bed was empty --

CHARLIE (V.O.)
Kiss her. You know you want to.

KARA
(defensive)
Of course I'm okay. I'm just waiting for my parents to pick me up. This place is a total freak show.

WATER GIRL
These are from the whole squad.

Water Girl tries to hand Kara the flowers, but she refuses.

CHARLIE (V.O.)
Damn.

KARA
You're using this as an excuse to see me. And you didn't need to call 9-1-1.

WATER GIRL
You were unconscious.... I thought you might have hit your head or broken your neck...

KARA
(cutting her off)
You saw an opportunity and you grabbed it. I've seen the pictures. I can overcome it because I look super hot in them, but you need to be honest with yourself.

Water Girl visibly flinches. Her hurt is palpable.

WATER GIRL
You want me to be honest? The only reason I'm here is because nobody else would come.

KARA
What?

For a nanosecond, this gets to Kara.

WATER GIRL
I felt sorry for you.

This hits a nerve in Kara's defense mode that goes deep. It's her Kryptonite.

KARA
*You* felt sorry -- for *me*?...

WATER GIRL
At least I have some compassion. Everyone else just hates you.

Water Girl dumps the flowers in the trash and leaves.

CHARLIE (V.O.)
Impressive.

Kara tries to call out to Water Girl, but no sound comes out.

She puts her hand to her heart. It's happening again. She attempts to reach for the call button but she's beginning to lose consciousness. She squeezes it just before PASSING OUT.

INT. PEDIATRIC NURSES STATION - CONTINUOUS

Kara's call button LIGHTS UP AND BUZZES. Kenji looks at it and shakes his head.

KENJI
Looks like Eva Peron wants her pillows fluffed. Let her wait.

Hernandez waits for the inevitable second buzz, but it doesn't come. The silence unnerves her.

HERNANDEZ
(springing into action)
Kenji, page Dr. Holzman -- STAT.

KENJI
Why?

HERNANDEZ
That girl would never do anything once if she could do it twice.

Hernandez takes off, running full speed to Kara's room.

INT. KARA'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Hernandez rushes in and sees Kara lying on the floor, all color drained from her face.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

EXT. SWIMMING POOL - DAY

Sunlight. Bright. Hot. Charlie sits at the top of the high diving board in swim shorts. Kara comes climbing up the ladder to the top, wearing a butt ugly bathing suit.

KARA
(super annoyed)
This suit's made of polyester crap and it's riding up my ass. I wouldn't be caught dead in this!
(beat)
Oh my God. I must be dead.

CHARLIE
No, you're just where I live. In between.

KARA
(getting creeped out)
No, I gotta be in withdrawal from something...

CHARLIE
I don't know how much time we have. I need you to do two things for me when you get back.

KARA
You can talk now?

CHARLIE
... *If* you make it back.

KARA
(confused)
What do you mean "if?"

CHARLIE
First, you have to order me pizza.

KARA
Pizza? Why?

CHARLIE
I think the smell might wake up my brain and pull me out my coma.

KARA
You can smell? In a coma?

CHARLIE
Yeah.

KARA
Then can you smell your farts?
'Cause they're disgusting.

CHARLIE
So are your cigarettes.

KARA
Can you really hear?

CHARLIE
Everything. But the second thing
and this is really important --
tell my Dad it wasn't his fault.

KARA
What? Who's your dad?

The sound of a defibrillator gets louder and louder. Kara falls off the diving board hitting the water with a SPLASH!

INT. CHARLIE AND KARA'S ROOM - DAY

Kara's body jerks. She opens her eyes with a start. Dr. Holzman is using paddles to reset the rhythm of her heart.

HOLZMAN
Kara?... Can you hear me?

Kara's eyes open. She looks over at Charlie in absolute shock.

CHARLIE (V.O.)
I so freaked her out!

HOLZMAN
Kara!

KARA
(royally pissed)
*What*?

The Bitch is back. Holzman confers with Hernandez.

HOLZMAN
I want an echo, an EKG and a chest x-
ray. She needs to wear a heart monitor.

HERNANDEZ
(under her breath)
Assuming she has one.

KARA
Hey, I can hear you!

HERNANDEZ
(smiling at Kara)
I know, dear.

EXT. BASKETBALL COURT - DAY

Dash and Leo are playing one-on-one. Leo is on one leg with a crutch under his other arm shooting one-handed. He's got a great free throw. Jordi is off to the side, watching.

DASH
Since when did you get a roommate? If anyone should move into the Swamp it should be me.

LEO
It was McAndrew's idea. He's all alone.

DASH
Is this like the Big Brother program?

Leo shrugs and rolls his eyes as Dash makes a perfect throw.

DASH
If I can get us a pass card we can use the helicopter pad on the roof.

LEO
J.J. is working today till four. We should go now.

Leo dunks the ball. Dash and Leo are out of there.

JORDI
Where're you going?

DASH
Road trip. We need supplies.

JORDI
Let me come.

DASH
We have it covered. Besides you look too young.

JORDI
You're gonna regret saying that when I save your ass.

Dash stops.

DASH
(pissed)
Excuse me?

JORDI
(fearless)
You heard me.

Jordi is a foot smaller than Dash. He doesn't back down.

INT. PARKING GARAGE VALET - AFTERNOON

Expensive doctor's cars are lined up in a row of the garage. A white BMW pulls up. The driver is the valet, J.J. who gets out tossing keys to Dash who's waiting with Leo and Jordi.

J.J.
I hate this guy. I call him Dr. Mo-Fo because he hasn't tipped me in a year. This car means more to him than his patients. Twenty minutes, that's all.

The three of them get in and pull out. Dash is a fast and terrible driver. Music: "Electric Avenue," by Eddy Grant.

EXT. WESTWOOD LIQUOR STORE - DAY

Dash, Jordi and Leo are outside finishing In & Out take-out.

DASH
I can't put any more beer on my parents' credit card.

LEO
I don't have enough cash.

JORDI
That's not gonna be a problem.

Jordi pulls a cup out of the garbage and hands it to Leo.

LEO
What?

IN A SERIES OF QUICK CUTS WE SEE:

Leo hoping on one leg towards a MAN walking his DOG.

LEO
Habitat for Humanity. Chain saw accident. Help me buy a new leg.

CLOSE ON: A five dollar bill's stuffed in the cup.

LEO
Tanzania. Flesh-eating virus.

CLOSE ON: An OLDER WOMAN reaching into her purse. She gives him a quarter.

CLOSE ON: A disbelieving JOGGER.

LEO
Help me so I can run like you.

JOGGER
Jag off.

The Jogger jogs off.

LEO
Is that any way to talk to a person with one leg?

Jordi grabs the cup from Leo.

JORDI
You suck at this! Watch and learn.

CUT TO:

JORDI
And then the doctor says... cancer.

A group of hot college-aged YOUNG WOMEN wiping away tears. They hand over some Jacksons.

Jordi flashes a shit-eating grin at Leo and Dash.

<u>INT. LIQUOR STORE - DAY</u>

Dash puts a case of beer on the counter. He has a wad of cash. The CASHIER, Hispanic, weary looks at him.

CASHIER
I.D. please?

Dash pulls out an I.D. and hands it to him.

DASH
(pointing)
I also need some of those extra large condoms.

CASHIER
(examining I.D.)
I'm not taking that.

Dash launches into the faux outrage of a teen with a fake I.D.

DASH
What? This has *never* happened before...

CASHIER
It's happening now.

JORDI
(in Spanish to Cashier)
*Help out a brother here. He's just trying to get the crippled kid laid over there.*

Jordi points to Leo who's standing outside on his crutch. The Cashier puts his fist over his heart and nods.

CASHIER
(in Spanish)
*That's a beautiful thing.*

He rings up the condoms -- and the beer.

EXT. DOCTORS VALET - NIGHT

Dash pulls up with music blaring from the car. He gets out and pops the trunk revealing several cases of beer and In & Out Burger bags. Leo and Jordi get out.

Dash then takes in J.J. standing next to DR. MO-FO, the BMW's owner, who is pissed-off to say the least.

DR. MO-FO
You could go to jail for this.

Leo and Jordi look at Dash.

JORDI
(quietly)
Bring your A game.

Dash starts coughing on cue. It's really impressive.

DR. MO-FO
You're faking.

Dash falls to the ground coughing harder as a CROWD gathers.

LEO
What kind of doctor says that to a kid with cystic fibrosis and two kids with cancer in front of a children's hospital?

Embarrassed, Mo-Fo gets in his car and drives off with the beer and the In & Out still in the trunk. Dash jumps up fast yelling to anyone who will listen.

DASH
My beer! That doctor stole my beer! And my condoms!

INT. HOSPITAL HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Leo, Dash and Jordi come down the hall flushed with victory from the blast that was their road trip.

INT. CHARLIE AND KARA'S ROOM - DAY

Dash, Jordi and Leo enter. Kara's hooked up to several monitors. Her bravado has softened, but only slightly.

KARA
If it isn't John Locke and his Mini-Me.

LEO
We're here to see Charlie.

DASH
(recognizing Kara)
Hey, I saw you on Instagram. You're the lesbian cheerleader. Sweet.

CHARLIE (V.O.)
I'm so loving this right now.

KARA
I'm not a lesbian.

DASH
Hey, I'm cool with it. Call me Dash.

KARA
Dash? Short for?...

DASH
Dash.

CHARLIE (V.O.)
Douche Bag. Really, his parents named him that.

DASH
We're having a party tonight.

Leo waves to Dash "No."

KARA
In your dreams.

FLASHBACK A frustrated Hernandez tearing Dash's room apart looking for weed as Dash sits calmly texting on his phone. She finds nothing.

PRESENT Dash reaches inside Charlie's pillow and pulls out the weed.

CHARLIE (V.O.)
Yeah, I'm a drug mule.

DASH
You know Jordi, if you smoke this stuff you'll still be high when they take you in tomorrow for surgery!

JORDI
Not really my thing.

LEO
Well we have someone for you to talk to about that. Jordi, this is Charlie. We call him the Oracle, like the Roman woman in the cave who could see the future.

CHARLIE (V.O.)
She couldn't see the future. The cave's fumes kept her stoned off her ass 24-7.

LEO
Ask him anything. He's all-knowing.

This gets Kara's attention.

JORDI
Charlie, I need to know... would trying pot be okay?

KARA
He's not the Magic 8 Ball!

LEO
(to Charlie)
I can't believe she's your roommate. As if being in a coma isn't punishment enough.

Jordi plays along.

JORDI
Charlie says, "Without a doubt, yes."

CHARLIE (V.O.)
I didn't say that! That's not how I roll.

INT. HOSPITAL HALLWAY - DAY

Leo, Jordi and Dash leave and pass Kara's high-powered mom and dad, HENRY and ANDREA SOUDERS, speaking with Dr. Holzman.

HOLZMAN
She has an enlarged heart and it's beginning to fail. It's very rare in someone so young, but it happens.

ANDREA
I don't understand... how?

HOLZMAN
She could have had an infection years ago that went undetected. I'm so sorry.

Andrea begins to cry on Henry's shoulder.

HENRY
So what do we do? What's the treatment?

HOLZMAN
We can't tell her yet. We have to monitor her and keep her comfortable. Eventually, I'm afraid she's going to need a heart transplant.

Andrea and Henry are reeling. In total shock.

ANDREA
My poor baby...

HENRY
How soon will she need it?

HOLZMAN
I'm not sure. But I have to warn you, hearts are very hard to come by and the waiting list's long.

ANDREA
We'll get her on another list then. Somewhere else.

HOLZMAN
There isn't one. A strict governing board decides eligibility and your daughter is going to have a very hard time qualifying.

ANDREA
Why?

HOLZMAN
There're other issues at work here. The more honestly we address them the better the outcome will be.

HENRY
Go ahead.

HOLZMAN
There's a lot of young people who value their lives. I'm sorry to say your daughter doesn't appear to be one of them. We tested her and she came up positive for tobacco, Adderall, alcohol, cocaine, marijuana, Xanax... and those are just the preliminary results.

ANDREA
Oh God...

HOLZMAN
Her attitude isn't the best either, all of which will put her at the bottom of the waiting list. If she gets on the list at all.

Off Henry and Andrea's devastated face.

CHARLIE (V.O.)
How do you tell the girl who needs a heart that she never really had one to begin with?

INT. CHARLIE AND KARA'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

On Kara, just around the corner in the doorway having listened to the entire conversation between her parents and the doctor. She begins crying.

Maybe there's a heart in there after all.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

INT. PATIENT LOUNGE - LATE AFTERNOON

Jordi and Leo approach Emma, who is studying.

LEO
We're having a party tonight.

EMMA
And this concerns me why?

LEO
Okay forget it. This is Jordi, my new roommate.

Emma closes her book. This gets her attention.

EMMA
Roommate? Whoa. Let me get this straight. They gave you a roommate?

LEO
I must be dying, right?

EMMA
It's all over. Finito.
(to Jordi)
You're probably going to have a single soon. What're you in for?

JORDI
I have a problem with my leg. It's gotta go. Tomorrow.

EMMA
Do you get to keep it?

JORDI
Yeah, I'm planning to freeze it.

EMMA
Like wedding cake.

JORDI
Right. I'll take it out every year for a walk...

EMMA
Get it a tattoo, go shoe shopping...

LEO
That's sick even for me.

Emma can see she's making Leo jealous by talking to Jordi.

JORDI
(this is a compliment)
You're seriously twisted.

EMMA
Thanks. Not everybody appreciates it.

JORDI
You should come to the party.

Emma shoots Leo a look and smiles back at Jordi.

INT. CHARLIE AND KARA'S ROOM - LATE AFTERNOON

Nick's playing his guitar. Kara studies him.

KARA
Volunteer Dude, so... uh... where are his parents?

As Kara sits up a little, her hospital gown slips revealing a bare shoulder. She doesn't fix it.

CHARLIE (V.O.)
Are you watching this?

NICK
Divorced. His mom's away this week and his dad... I don't know.

CHARLIE (V.O.)
My dad was with me when I had my accident and as a result lost custody.

NICK
Why do you ask?

KARA
This is going to sound cray-cray... but when I was unconscious, he asked me to tell his dad something.

Nick's tries to stay detached but his eyes betray real need.

KARA
I was probably just hallucinating.

NICK
What did he say? Exactly.

KARA
Oh, sorry. I'll have to think hard to remember exactly what he said... in the meantime, could you go get something for me?

Kara twirls a long blond curl around her finger and smiles at Nick.

INT. THE SWAMP - NIGHT

Leo and Jordi sit in the swamp. Leo's reading *Henry V* and Jordi's playing a game on his phone.

LEO
This party looks like it's going to be a total bust. I'm sorry.

JORDI
I'm not. I had fun today. Sort of took my mind off things.

Dash comes in waving a key card.

DASH
I got the key card for the roof from Ruben but...

LEO
What?

DASH
I had to trade him the weed to get it.

LEO
That blows.

Just then Kara walks in carrying a case of beer and dumps it on a bed.

KARA
No tips, please.

Kara takes out a bottle twisting it open with her teeth.

KARA
I'm getting so wasted tonight boys and that's not an invitation.

She sits down in a chair and puts her feet up on Leo's bed. He looks at her completely intrigued.

CHARLIE (V.O.)
Leo always said he'd die of boredom before he died of cancer. One thing you can say about Kara. She's never boring.

LEO
Who <u>are</u> you?

KARA
Your new best friend. Have a beer.

LEO
Sure.

Emma enters. Seeing Leo and Kara hanging out Emma's instantly jealous.

CHARLIE (V.O.)
Toys always look better when someone else is playing with them.

KARA
If it isn't the human Ambien. Sleep disorder clinic's on the 4th floor.

Leo brightens when he sees her. Kara notices.

EMMA
(shutting him down)
I'm here to see Jordi.

JORDI
(to Emma)
You made it.

EMMA
(glancing at Leo)
I did.

CHARLIE (V.O.)
Now things were getting interesting.

<u>INT. ADULT NURSES STATION - NIGHT</u>

Several Nurses enjoy the smell coming out of Ruben's room as Leo, Jordi, Kara, Emma and Dash sneak behind them unseen and up a door marked STAIRS -- the advantages of a contact high.

<u>EXT. HOSPITAL ROOFTOP - NIGHT</u>

Leo, Jordi, Dash, Emma and Kara step outside. It's a million dollar view.

They turn around to see a spread of food, couches and music. It's all set up just for them. Dash is stunned.

LEO
That was some trade, Dash. Nice work.

For once Dash is speechless.

INT. RUBEN GARCIA'S SUITE - NIGHT

Ruben's listening to Richie Havens sing "Freedom" from the Woodstock live recordings as he inhales from a bong.

RUBEN
Want some?

We reveal McAndrew sitting across from him.

MCANDREW
No. I don't smoke.

RUBEN
How long do we let them stay up there?

McAndrew checks his phone.

MCANDREW
Another half hour give or take.

EXT. HELICOPTER PAD - CONTINUOUS

Music plays. The lights of L.A. shine in the distance. Kara approaches Leo.

KARA
I need a phone. That Nazi Nurse took mine.

Leo watches Emma and Jordi talking. Kara watches Leo watch them.

LEO
(distracted)
Oh yeah... sure. Here.

Leo hands her his phone. Kara looks at it.

KARA
(cringing)
This is really old. Like 2013.

LEO
Can you ever just give it a rest?

KARA
(with vulnerability)
If I could don't you think I would?

For a brief moment we see the price Kara pays for being Kara.

INT. CHARLIE AND KARA'S ROOM - NIGHT

A phone is ringing. Nick answers.

NICK
I thought you wouldn't live up to your end of the deal.

KARA (V.O.)
I'm trying... And thanks for nothing buying the beer. It's totally flat.

NICK
Find your music, Kara.

KARA (V.O.)
I found my music. Here it is.

We see Kara's MIDDLE FINGER on Nick's iPhone via Facetime.

Nick stands the phone next to Charlie on the table.

Imagine Dragons, "Demons" *When you feel my heat. Look into my eyes. It's where my demons hide. It's where my demons hide.*

In a series of QUICK CUTS we see --

-- Everyone taking turns drawing on Jordi's leg with markers.

-- Kara sitting by herself, deep in thought, looking very alone. Dash approaches her.

-- Hernandez alone in the break room next to a window. She leans out to look at the night sky. She can hear the voices of the party on the roof above. She knows. She does nothing.

-- On Leo taking it all in. He looks down at his Red Bands and decisively starts sliding them off his wrist.

*Your eyes, they shine so bright. I wanna save that light. I can't escape this now. Unless you show me how.*

-- They gather around Leo who holds up the Red Bands.

LEO
I've been wearing these for a long time. Too long... and it's time to let them go.

Leo tosses one to Dash.

KARA
Ugh. Worst party favors ever.

LEO
This is from my first trip to the ER. Dash was there too that night. It was the first time we met. Everytime his Nurse said something, he would ask, "And theeeeeeen?" She got so pissed she quit. So he demanded a new nurse -- who had actually seen "Dude, Where's My Car?"

He tosses another band to Emma.

LEO
Emma, this is from my biopsy. It saved my life, so I want you to wear it. To keep you safe.

It's clear he's not going to give up on Emma easily.

EMMA
Thanks, Leo.

LEO
To Kara, this is from when I had my skin graft...

He tosses another band to Kara.

KARA
(cutting him off)
TMI. I just threw up in my mouth.

She tosses it back at him.

LEO
Because I believe, like skin, there are layers to you that have yet to be revealed.

KARA
Again, blowing chunks.

He tosses it back to Kara. This time she reluctantly accepts.

LEO
Jordi, this is the most important band of all. I wore it when I had my big surgery. I want you to know you're not alone.

Jordi takes it from Leo.

JORDI
Thanks, man.

LEO
"We few, we happy few, we band of brothers. For he today that sheds his blood with me shall be my brother."

They all put on their bands. Even Kara. Leo leans into the phone holding one up to it.

INT. CHARLIE AND KARA'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Charlie has the iPhone next to him. Nick's dozing in a chair.

LEO (ON PHONE)
Charlie, I have yours right here.

DASH (O.S.)
Let's go. I got FroYo delivered for us. It's downstairs.

LEO
Wait everybody.

Leo positions the phone so that they're all in the frame. They wave to Charlie.

ALL (ON PHONE)
Bye Charlie.

*At the sound of his name he **turns his head** towards the phone.*

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

INT. THE SWAMP - NIGHT

Jordi's reading what everyone wrote on his leg. He looks up and sees Emma standing in the doorway.

JORDI
You didn't go with everyone for FroYo?

EMMA
No. Why didn't you?

JORDI
Can't eat this late. Surgery tomorrow.

She enters to sit on Leo's bed. She picks up the book of *Henry V* lying there and realizes her Red Band is gone.

EMMA
Shit.

JORDI
What?

Emma looks away, shame and embarrassment taking over.

EMMA
My Red Band must have fallen off somewhere. It was too big. Or my wrist is too small.

This is a big admission for Emma.

JORDI
I'll find you another one.

EMMA
But it won't be the same.

They look at one another. Both in the same place at the same time.

JORDI
Emma... can we dance?. I've never danced with a girl before... And it might be a while before I get to again.

Emma pulls out her iPhone puts on the song indie rock song "Waltz." They put their arms around each other.

*Just stay with me. I don't know the notes. I don't know the time. I don't know the steps and I'm trying to hide.*

For a moment times stops. There's no past and no future. Just Jordi and Emma in a world that makes sense. The weight of the world melts off their shoulders.

Leo comes into the doorway and sees them. He slips out without their knowing he was there.

The dance changes in intensity. Emma and Jordi tighten their grip, holding onto one another for dear life. Ports in a storm.

INT. DASH'S ROOM - NIGHT

Leo enters only to discover Dash and Kara making out. They don't see him.

INT. HOSPITAL HALLWAY - NIGHT

Leo sits down in a waiting area and takes out his iPad. He hesitates for a moment, takes a deep breath, and taps the screen.

CLOSE-UP: QUICKTIME VIDEO FILE

The video begins on an outdoor soccer field.

ON LEO - His face a mix of emotions.

ON BRITTANY - Coming down the corridor. She sees Leo, who upon seeing her, quickly closes the iPad.

BRITTANY
Illegal downloads? I won't look.

Leo debates whether to let her in.

LEO
It's not illegal. Watch it with me?

BRITTANY
Sure.

He then turns the iPad towards her and hits PLAY.

It's Leo on the soccer field. And he's really good. He kicks the winning goal, JUMPING up and down in victory. His fellow players swarm around him, joyous.

BRITTANY
That's awesome... I have to go do something...

She moves on, briskly.

The expression on Leo's face isn't one of sadness, but of pride. He's putting the parts of himself back together.

INT. SUPPLY ROOM - NIGHT

Hernandez walks inside. She hears something, unsure of what it is or where it's coming from. She approaches the linen section. She finds Brittany behind a pile of sheets, crying.

HERNANDEZ
Didn't anyone teach you the number one cardinal sin of Pediatrics is crying on the job?

BRITTANY
I'm sorry, I was just feeling --

HERNANDEZ
Who gives a crap how *you* feel? What matters is how *they* feel. None of this is happening to you. It's happening to them.

BRITTANY
I know that. But if I deny my feelings then I'll end up like y...

Brittany stops short. Uh oh.

HERNANDEZ
(threateningly)
Like?...

BRITTANY
... Like this extremely talented nurse... who always acts like she's so tough but really she's really a coward in my humble opinion...

HERNANDEZ
Your humble opinion? And why's she a coward?

BRITTANY
Cause it takes courage to vulnerable and she refuses to be.

Hernandez shoves fresh linens into Brittany's arms.

HERNANDEZ
Your patient just threw up. Go do your job.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - NIGHT

Brittany arrives with clean linens. Dash is in a chair next to the bed looking none too good. Kara is long gone.

DASH
(seriously embarrassed)
What are you doing here? You don't work nights.

BRITTANY
This is my first double shift.

DASH
I don't want you to see me like this.

Brittany takes in how vulnerable he is at this moment.

BRITTANY
(gently)
Dash, it's my job.

DASH
How's it going? Your job...

Now it's Brittany's turn to get vulnerable.

BRITTANY
Tonight was really hard. This kid who I really care about broke the trust I had in him. He lied to me and made me think he cared.

DASH
Brittany, it's against the law to do what I was proposing so don't get all high and mighty on me. It takes two. You're the one who would have been in trouble not me.
(a beat)
And I didn't lie. I do care.

They look at one another. Brittany breaks the moment and takes in the remnants of his partying around the room.

BRITTANY
You might want to rethink the FroYo and Funyuns combo.

DASH
But it's so good. The sweet and then the salty.

BRITTANY
I know, right?

INT. THE SWAMP - NIGHT

Semi-darkness. Jordi is lying in bed. He can't sleep. Neither can Leo.

LEO
It's hard to sleep over the sound of your thoughts.

JORDI
You didn't really answer my question when I asked how much it hurts.

LEO
Okay, it does hurt... just not the way you think it will. They give you awesome painkillers for the physical pain. What hurts most is not that it's gone. What hurts is remembering it was ever there. But then with time that memory stops hurting too.

Silence. Jordi is processing all of this.

LEO
Okay, thoughts... so loud... deafening... what? Come on...

JORDI
I won't be me anymore.

LEO
You will be you. You might even be more you.

JORDI
How?

LEO
Because I'm going to let you in on a little secret. Your body isn't you. Your soul is you. And they can never cut into your soul...
(a beat)
Now go to sleep and stop bothering me.

INT. CHARLIE AND KARA'S ROOM - EARLY MORNING

Kara's standing on a chair in front of the window. We see her hands pressing sticky white hospital tape onto the glass. Hard to tell just exactly what she's up to.

EXT. CITY OF ANGELS HOSPITAL - EARLY MORNING

Her shift over, Brittany is pulling out of the parking lot. She's driving a beat-up Mazda with Kansas plates. She notices fellow HOSPITAL EMPLOYEES boarding a city bus. One of them is Nurse Hernandez. Just another person in a crowd.

EXT. CITY BUS - CONTINUOUS

As Hernandez waits to board the bus she glances over her shoulder at the hospital. Something catches her eye.

HER POV -- A window of the hospital where white surgical tape spells out the message: **PLEASE SEND PIZZA ROOM 3115.**

Pissed, Hernandez whips out her cell phone. Not an iPhone, but a now antiquated flip phone, and punches in numbers.

INT. THE SWAMP - MORNING

Jordi is being placed on a gurney to be taken to surgery. Leo gives him an encouraging smile as he's wheeled out.

INT. PEDIATRIC NURSES STATION - MORNING

As Jordi is wheeled past the elevator, a Delivery Man balancing ten boxes of pizza comes off the elevator. His shirt reads, "24 HOUR PIZZA."

The Delivery Man goes up to the on-duty Nurse at the desk.

DELIVERY MAN
I'm looking for room 3115.

NURSE
Who ordered these?

DELIVERY MAN
No name. But they're paid for.

The Nurse points in the direction of 3115 and he heads off.

INT. L.A. CITY BUS - DAWN

A weary Nurse Hernandez sits on the crowded bus, her phone vibrates. She looks at the text. It reads: "PIZZA DELIVERED." We see the slightest hint of a smile.

INT. CHARLIE AND KARA'S ROOM - DAWN

The room is filled with open pizza boxes full of steaming pizza, the smell filling the room. Charlie lies there wearing a Red Band on his wrist. Kara lets in the realization that she might have done something good.

She examines one of the pizzas.

KARA
This pizza is shit.

CHARLIE (V.O.)
Not to me.

Kara walks over to Charlie. She looks at him frustrated.

KARA
So like wake up already!

MUSIC CUE: The song “Recover” by the Chvrches.

*And if I recover will you be my comfort? Or can it just be over or we can leave it there. So pick any number. Choose any color. I've got the answer. Recover.*

INT. SURGERY CORRIDOR - CONTINUOUS

Jordi, wheeled by McAndrew, gets to the O.R. A NURSE slips a Red Band on his wrist. Now he has two.

JORDI
Hang on.

MCANDREW
What, Jordi?

JORDI
Can I... do one thing?

MCANDREW
Sure.

Jordi gets off the gurney and walks a few steps. He turns a corner and when he’s out of sight of McAndrew and the Staff...

He begins to *run as fast as he can on his two legs*. Filled with exhilaration and freedom.

INT. EMMA’S ROOM - DAWN

Emma lies in bed, asleep. Jordi pulls his Red Band off his wrist and leaves it on the pillow so it will be the first thing she sees when she wakes up.

INT. HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Jordi walks towards the surgery corridor. Leo’s standing on crutches in the waiting area. He lifts up his wrist showing off his single Red Band to Jordi who does the same.

ON MCANDREW - watching, proud to see what's transpired.

ON JORDI - his expression strong, confident, and ready for whatever awaits him. He keeps walking.

MUSIC CUE: Punk Band Astrid's cover of the Beatles, GETTING BETTER

*Have to admit it's getting better. A little better all the time.*

Leo sits down in the Family and Friends area, settling in for the long wait. He pulls out his paperback *Henry V* from his back pocket and starts reading.

*Get-ting so much bet-ter all the time.*

BLACK OUT