FRIENDS WITH BETTER LIVES

Pilot

Written by

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Writer's Draft

Characters

ANDI COOPER-LUTZ: 38, mother of three. Hasn't lost all the baby weight and may never. Lovable. Vulnerable. Practical. Responsible. Overwhelmed. Wears sweatpants most of the time.

BOBBY LUTZ: 38, Gynecologist. Modern father and devoted husband. More of a girls' guy than a guys' guy. A good boy. Responsible. Rule follower. People-pleaser. The last person you would expect to win Survivor, but the first guy you'd list as your emergency contact. Former nerd who is now cute in an academic way.

WILL STOKES: 39, Bobby's Gyno partner. Glass half-empty to begin with, but after his (soon to be ex) wife's infidelity, he pretty much expects the absolute worst from everyone and everything. Not a joiner.

JULES TALLEY: 38, Beautiful. Bohemian chic. Patient. Kind. Creative. Nice in the way that Midwesterners are. Sees the positive in everything and everyone. A former model who was discovered in a mall when she was 13. Her acting career is not where she wants it to be.

LOWELL PEDDIT: 30, Gorgeous. Australian. Romantic. Spiritual. Self-righteous. Intense. Not a rule follower. Spends a lot of time barefoot. Member of PETA, World Wildlife Fund, Greenpeace, Environmental Working Group, Occupy Anything. Skeptical of "The Man."

KATE MCLEAN: 38, Single. Competitive. Smart. Defensive. Impatient. Narcissistic. Tough. Super successful at work, but a mess in her dating life. Hasn't cried since she was four. Emotionally detached. Kind of like a dude. Except she's hot. Heels and Prada suits.

TEASER

FADE IN:

INT. ANDI AND BOBBIE'S HOUSE - FRIDAY NIGHT

ANDI COOPER-LUTZ, HOLDING AN EMPTY BABY BOTTLE, ENTERS. SHE PUTS THE BOTTLE IN THE SINK, POURS A GLASS OF WINE, AND WALKS OVER TO THE COUCH WHERE SHE TURNS ON A VIDEO BABY MONITOR. THEN ANOTHER. THEN ANOTHER. THEN SHE COLLAPSES, EXHAUSTED, ONTO THE COUCH. BOBBY LUTZ ENTERS, LOOKING LIKE HE'S BEEN THROUGH AN EQUALLY GRUELING WAR. HE HOLDS TWO SIPPY CUPS, SOME CHILDREN'S BOOKS, WET DIAPERS, AND CHILDREN'S PAJAMAS. HE'S ABOUT TO SPEAK WHEN--

ANDI

Wait. It's my favorite moment of the day.

SHE TAKES HER FIRST SIP OF WINE, CLOSES HER EYES AND SMILES. HE JOINS HER ON THE COUCH AND STARTS POURING HIMSELF A GLASS. FROM ONE OF THE MONITORS, A NOISE.

ANDI (CONT'D)
Please, God, no.

BOBBY
Don't do this to us, dammit!

THEY WATCH, BREATH HELD AND KNUCKLES WHITE UNTIL IT'S CLEAR IT WAS A FALSE ALARM. RELIEVED, THEY BOTH RELAX AS THE DOOR OPENS AND JULES TALLEY, SALAD BOWL IN HAND, ENTERS.

JULES

Hi!

THE DOOR SLAMS LOUDLY BEHIND HER.

ANDI/BOBBY

Shhh!

JULES

Sorry. Gosh. You know I'd be happy to host. Then we could... talk.

BOBBY

(WHISPER) No way. Friday nights are our thing. Just talk quiet.

JULES

(SOFTER THAN BEFORE) Okay. (DEEP BREATH, THEN) You guys, I'm in love!

BOBBY

Little quieter.

ANDI

Seriously? Jules! With who?

JULES

Lowell. The guy from my yoga retreat.

ANDI

The one with the huge... "Om?"

JULES

It is... Om my God. He's my perfect guy, Andi. He's more perfect than my perfect guy. He owns a restaurant. And he's Australian.

ANDI

He's my perfect guy!

BOBBY

That's not *not* hurtful...

ANDI

Well when can we meet him?

JULES

How about tomorrow night? We could have a couples' dinner. Cause I'm part of a couple now! Eeeck!

ANDI

We're so excited to meet him but tomorrow night we can't.

BOBBY

Why not?

ANDI TURNS TO HIM.

ANDI

Seriously?

BOBBY

What? Am I forgetting something?

SHE NARROWS HER EYES THEN "REALIZES" WHAT'S GOING ON.

ANDI

No. Never mind. (TO JULES) Tomorrow night is perfect.

BOBBY

Great. To break up a weekend alone with three kids, I'd say yes to anything no matter how-- (REALIZING) I mean, I'm excited to meet the guy. (STILL AWKWARD) I'll get the beer.

HE EXITS TO THE GARAGE. ANDI GIVES JULES A KNOWING LOOK.

JULES

What?

ANDI

I'm onto you. (OFF JULES' CONFUSION) Oh come on.

(MORE)

ANDI (CONT'D)

You invite us to come meet your "boyfriend" at his "restaurant" and I walk into a surprise Anniversary party.

JULES

It's your anniversary tomorrow?

ANDI

You are good. I almost believe you didn't know.

JULES

I didn't know.

ANDI

No, I know. Don't worry. (WINKS) What should I wear? What kind of place is it?

JULES

Andi, really. There's no surprise party.

ANDI

Okay, okay. I am lockin' my lips... (MIMES IT) and swallowing the key.

JULES

How are you swallowing the key if you just locked your lips?

ANDI

Huh. I guess I don't have a lot of lip-locking occasions.

BOBBY RE-ENTERS WITH A SIX PACK AS WILL STOKES SLUDGES THROUGH THE FRONT DOOR.

WILL

(GLOOMY) Hi.

THE DOOR SLAMS SHUT BEHIND HIM. ANDI AND BOBBY WINCE.

ANDI/BOBBY

Shhhh.

JULES

(GENTLY) How are you doing, Will?

WILL

My marriage of ten years is over. She took my house. My dog. I'm so depressed my body's shutting down. I haven't gone to the bathroom in four days.

BOBBY

And let's keep that streak going till you get back home, okay, Partner?

ANDI

I just can't believe this happened. I mean, what are the chances?

WILL

Of one's wife having an affair with a man who happens to be their therapist? For a normal person, slim to none. Then there's me.

ANDI GOES TO HAND HIM A BEER. BOBBY INTERCEPTS IT.

BOBBY

He's on call.

WILL

You're on call.

BOBBY

No...

WILL GUILTILY TURNS ON HIS PAGER.

JULES

You know, I was wondering if maybe... okay, hear me out. All these bad things always happen to you, right? Prostate cancer at age twenty, identity theft, a house fire, losing your hair and now this...

WILL

(TOUCHING HIS HEAD) I'm losing my hair?!

JULES

Do you think... maybe bad things always happen because you're so negative?

WILL

No, I think I'm so negative because bad things always happen?

ANDI

It's like the chicken and the egg. Interesting.

WILL

Not really.

BOBBY

(TO JULES) Hey, does Kate know about Lowell?

JULES

Not that it's serious. Why?

BOBBY

(RE: WINDOW) Because she's here and you're her last single friend and she's going to kill herself.

JULES

No, she won't. She had that blind date last night. Maybe she's in love, too.

KATE MCLEAN ENTERS WITH TWO BOTTLES OF WINE.

KATE

I am going to die alone.

THE DOOR SLAMS SHUT BEHIND HER. ON THE MONITOR, A BABY STARTS SCREAMING. BOBBY AND ANDI REACT AND WE...

FADE OUT.

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

INT. ANDI AND BOBBY'S HOUSE - A MOMENT LATER

EVERYONE EXCEPT BOBBY, WHO HAS GONE TO TEND TO THE BABY, IS THERE.

KATE

Guess where he took me?

WILL

McDonalds.

KATE

Why do you always do that?

WILL

What?

KATE

Guess the worst possible thing so mine doesn't sound as bad.

WILL

Where'd he take you?

KATE

I-hop.

JULES

That's not so bad.

KATE

Because you're comparing it to McDonalds! And you'll never guess what was waiting for me when I got home.

ANDI

Abby Mar's wedding invitation.

KATE

Can I just tell one story without an interruption?! (THEN) Abby Mar's wedding invitation. (TURNS TO JULES) It's official. Of the entire Tri Delt class of 1999-- twenty eight girls-- including seven who were bulimic and one who was such an alcoholic she shat in the closet on a semi-regular basis-- you and I are the only single ones left. I mean, other than your weird yoga crush, but how long can that last?

JULES

Actually, Kate, about that...

KATE LOOKS INTENTLY INTO JULES' EYES. IN THE BG, WILL MIMES KATE KILLING HERSELF BY HANGING FROM A NOOSE.

JULES (CONT'D)

It's already over.

KATE PATS JULES' ARM SYMPATHETICALLY.

KATE

Oh, Honey. I'm so glad.

ANDI MIMES BEHIND KATE'S BACK, "WHAT DID YOU DO?" JULES MIMES BACK, "I DON'T KNOW!" BOBBY RE-ENTERS JUST AS...

WILL

(TO KATE) Maybe you need to cast a wider net.

KATE

What's that supposed to mean?

WILL

Just that you're still looking for the same dude you were looking for when you were in your twenties.

BOBBY SHOOTS ANDI A WORRIED LOOK. WILL IS TREADING ON THIN ICE.

KATE

Yeah...

WILL

And now you're in your thirties-Zzz.

KATE

Yeah...

WILL

So, just, things... you know... you...

HE MAKES A GESTURE THAT IMPLIES BODY PARTS DROOPING.

BOBBY

(SOTTO) What is happening?

KATE

No, I don't know, Will. Please tell me.

WILL

Look, a twenty-five year old girl, it's like a hot, red Ferrari in perfect condition straight from the dealer. Now you're... a Volvo.

BOBBY

(SOTTO) Oh, boy.

KATE

I went to Harvard Business School. I am the Chief Operating Officer of a thriving social media company.

WILL

You're a very successful Volvo.

ANDI

I think... what Will's trying to say... is that... maybe you should ease up on some of your... deal-breakers.

KATE

What deal-breakers?

WE FLASHBACK TO:

INT. ANDI AND BOBBY'S HOUSE - OVER THE PAST TEN YEARS

ANDI, BOBBY, JULES, AND WILL SIT AROUND. IN SOME OF THE FLASHBACKS, WILL'S EX, KIM (UPTIGHT, LOOKS BORED) IS THERE. KATE ENTERS, EACH TIME AFTER A REJECTED DATE.

KATE

Bald.

KATE ENTERS.

KATE (CONT'D)

Hairy.

KATE ENTERS.

KATE (CONT'D)

B.O.

KATE ENTERS.

KATE (CONT'D)

His wiener smells weird.

KATE ENTERS.

KATE (CONT'D)

Long fingers.

KATE ENTERS.

KATE (CONT'D)

Curly hair.

KATE ENTERS.

KATE (CONT'D)

Last name Hyman.

KATE ENTERS.

KATE (CONT'D)

He's fifty!

KATE ENTERS.

KATE (CONT'D)

Ordered a "quethadiha".

KATE ENTERS.

KATE (CONT'D)

Yellow teeth.

KATE ENTERS.

KATE (CONT'D)

Giant teeth.

KATE ENTERS.

KATE (CONT'D)

Tiny teeth.

KATE ENTERS.

KATE (CONT'D)

Toe-walker.

KATE ENTERS. THE WORST OFFENSE EVER...

KATE (CONT'D)

Red. Hair.

END FLASHBACK.

<u>INT. ANDI AND BOBBY'S HOUSE - PRESENT</u>

THEY'RE ALL SITTING AROUND THE DINING TABLE, STARING AT HER.

KATE

There are a *few* things that bother me. And the <u>main</u> reason it didn't work out with any of those guys was that they weren't nice. Except for weird smelling penis guy. He was sweet, I just couldn't.

WILL

Are you seriously going to sit there and tell us you're just looking for a "nice" guy?

KATE

I am.

WILL

Really? Okay. I'm gonna do you a favor then. My friend from growing up, Jimmy Benina, just moved to LA. Super nice guy. I'll set you guys up.

KATE

(UNSURE) Great. Thanks.

BOBBY LIFTS HIS GLASS.

BOBBY

Cheers. You guys have to leave soon, The kids get up at five.

EVERYONE EXCEPT ANDI ECHOES "CHEERS" AND DRINKS.

ANDI

(HURT) I think red hair is cute.

KATE

(REALIZING) No, of course! On a kid, it's super cute.

JULES/WILL/BOBBY

The boys are adorable! Yeah. Amazing on them!

AND WE...

CUT TO:

INT. ITALIAN RESTAURANT - THE NEXT NIGHT

KATE ENTERS. AT FIRST, SHE SEES A SUPER CUTE GUY SITTING IN A BOOTH, BY HIMSELF, READING THE MENU. PLEASANTLY SURPRISED, SHE STARTS TO WALK OVER, THEN, NOTICES, BEHIND HIM, A NOT SO CUTE CREEP, CLEARLY LOOKING FOR SOMEONE. SHE SIGHS.

KATE

Hi. I'm --

CREEP

Susan?

KATE

No! Oh, thank God!

PLEASED, SHE TURNS TO THE CUTE GUY. COULD IT BE...

KATE (CONT'D)

Jimmy?

JIMMY

Kate?

KATE

Yes!

SHE SETTLES INTO THE BOOTH OPPOSITE JIMMY BENINA. AND WE...

CUT TO:

INT. "NAMASTE" RESTAURANT - SAME TIME

A VEGAN RESTAURANT. THE CLIENTELE IS PART SUPER TRENDY HOLLYWOOD, PART BOHEMIAN. ANDI, BOBBY, AND JULES SIT ON BENCHES AT A LONG, COMMUNITY TABLE. THE GUY NEXT TO BOBBY IS EITHER INCREDIBLY FASHION FORWARD OR HOMELESS. ANDI IS OVER-DRESSED AND ANNOYED, HAVING ANTICIPATED A SURPRISE PARTY.

BOBBY

I've never been to a restaurant where

you share a table.

ANDI

(CURT) It's family style.

BOBBY

My family never shared a table with

strangers. And why are you so dressed

up?

ANDI

I was expecting something different.

BOBBY

Me, too. He owns this place? (OFF MENU) What the hell's cashew cheese?

JULES

Cheese made from cashews.

BOBBY

How do you make cheese from nuts?

JULES

It's not cheese-cheese, it's nut cheese. (HEARS HERSELF) Just... (NOTICING) Here he comes!

LOWELL'S WALKING OVER. HE'S SO GOOD LOOKING IT'S UNNERVING. HE WEARS A T-SHIRT THAT SAYS "VEGANS MAKE BETTER LOVERS." ANDI CAN'T HELP IT-- HER EYES IMMEDIATELY GO TO HIS CROTCH AREA, LOOKING AT HIS BIG... OM.

LOWELL

Hi, Beautiful.

HE GIVES JULES A TOO-LONG KISS ON THE LIPS THEN TURNS TO ANDI AND BOBBY.

LOWELL (CONT'D)

Hi!

ANDI LOOKS UP WITH A START.

ANDI

Yes! Hello. Nice to meet you.

THEY HUG. LOWELL TURNS TO BOBBY.

LOWELL

Hey, Man.

BOBBY GOES IN FOR A HANDSHAKE, LOWELL GOES FOR A HUG. THEY EMBRACE AWKWARDLY AND BECAUSE LOWELL IS MUCH TALLER, BOBBY WINDS UP GRABBING HIS BUTTOCKS.

BOBBY

That was an accident. Obviously.

LOWELL WAVES HIM OFF LIKE IT HAPPENS ALL THE TIME.

LOWELL

Shall we sit? I'm starving!

THEY DO.

JULES

Bobby's worried he's not gonna like anything.

BOBBY

I didn't say that.

LOWELL

Do you like eating animals, Bobby?

BOBBY

I don't... I mean... I like the occasional burger.

THE HIP/HOMELESS GUY SCRATCHES HIS HEAD. BOBBY INCHES CLOSER TO ANDI.

LOWELL

Did you know that cows are literally skinned and gutted alive? You should visit a slaughterhouse. It's eye opening.

BOBBY

I'll put it on my bucket-list.

BOBBY LAUGHS. NO ONE ELSE DOES.

LOWELL

So tell me about you guys. I really want to get to know you.

ANDI

Well, we're married.

BOBBY

Yeah. How long has it been, Honey?

ANDI

Eight years. (POINTED) Exactly. (TO LOWELL) We have three kids. We live in Hancock Park. What else?

BOBBY THINKS. THAT ABOUT COVERS IT.

BOBBY

We love Homeland.

LOWELL

What's that?

BOBBY

Homeland. The TV Show?

LOWELL

Ah, I don't have a tele, Mate.

BOBBY

What? You don't have a TV? What do you do all night?

LOWELL

Read. Write. Think. *Live*.

BOBBY ROLLS HIS EYES AT ANDI AND IS SURPRISED TO FIND HER NODDING ALONG AS IF LOWELL'S REALLY ONTO SOMETHING. THE WAITRESS, A GORGEOUS 21-YEAR-OLD IN A TURBAN, COMES OVER.

WAITRESS

Namaste, guys. The soup today is butternut squash and the Question of the Day is “What couldn’t you live without?”

BOBBY

TV.

LOWELL

(TO JULES) You.

AS JULES MELTS AND ANDI STARES DAGGERS AT BOBBY, WE...

CUT TO:

INT. ITALIAN RESTAURANT - SAME TIME

KATE IS NOW SITTING ON THE SAME SIDE OF THE BOOTH AS JIMMY. IT’S FLIRTY.

JIMMY

So how is it that you are still single?

KATE

I think men are intimidated by me.

JIMMY

Oh, yeah. What’s so intimidating?

KATE

I drive stick, I speak five languages, I’ve been on the cover of the NY Times Business section, and I haven’t cried since 1982.

JIMMY

(TURNED ON) Let’s get out of here.

KATE

I'll drive.

KATE SLIDES OUT OF THE BOOTH, JIMMY BEHIND HER. IT'S THE FIRST TIME HE HAS STOOD ALL NIGHT. **AND HE'S 5'4.** SHE LETS OUT A DEVASTATED LITTLE WHIMPER. AND WE...

CUT TO:

INT. ANDI AND BOBBY'S BEDROOM - LATER

BOBBY'S IN BED, FINISHING A PIZZA. ANDI, PISSED, IS TRYING, WITH DIFFICULTY, TO TAKE OFF HER SPANX. THE BABY MONITORS ARE ON.

BOBBY

Well, I don't understand how you could like him. (SCRATCHING) And I think that dude sitting next to me gave me fleas.

ANDI

I just liked him.

BOBBY

Andi, the guy drives a Porsche with the license plate "Namaste." There *may* be something worse in the world, but I'd be hard pressed to find it.

ANDI

Well, I've never seen Jules happier. He's attentive. Romantic. The kind of guy who wouldn't forget an important event.

SHE LOOKS SQUARELY AT HIM, WAITING FOR HIM TO GET IT.

BOBBY

Okay, okay, agree to disagree.

ANDI

Oh my God, Bobby! It's September 6th.

BOBBY

I know. The summer has literally

flown by.

ANDI

It's our eight year anniversary!

AND WE...

CUT TO:

INT. LOWELL'S HOUSE - SAME TIME

LOWELL LOOKS LOVINGLY INTO JULES' EYES.

LOWELL

It's our eight week anniversary.

CANDLES, SEXY MUSIC, A FIRE. IT SCREAMS "NOT MARRIED WITH KIDS." THEY START TO MAKE OUT. IT BECOMES HEATED. WE'RE ON JULES, LOWELL'S FACE BURIED IN HER NECK.

LOWELL (CONT'D)

You're so amazing.

JULES

You are.

LOWELL

I love you.

JULES

I love you, too.

LOWELL

Let's get married.

JULES

Okay.

HER EYES GO WIDE. WHAT. JUST. HAPPENED?!

CUT TO:

INT. ANDI AND BOBBY'S HOUSE - THE NEXT MORNING

JULES, ANDI AND BOBBY. LILY, 1, SITS IN A HIGHCHAIR. JACK AND OLIVER, (3, REDHEADS) WATCH TV IN THE BG. ANDI IS COOL TOWARDS BOBBY.

JULES

...Then we had sex, fell asleep and when I woke up this morning he was gone.

ANDI

So what you're saying is... you may or may not be engaged?

JULES

Right! (TO BOBBY) You have to find out.

BOBBY

Me? How am I supposed to find out?

JULES

When you guys hang out.

BOBBY

When are we "hanging out?"

JULES

Soon. Remember, Lowell said, "we should hang out soon" and you said, "absolutely."

ANDI

Actually, you said “absosmurfly,” which was so weird.

BOBBY

The guy makes me nervous.

JULES

Lowell’s free tomorrow night.

ANDI

Will you go?

BOBBY THINKS. SIGHS.

BOBBY

Can it count as your anniversary present?

ANDI

Your romance knows no bounds. (THEN TO JULES) And you have to tell Kate.

JULES

I know. (THEN) Why do I?

ANDI

Because. She’s one of your best friends.

JULES

I know. But I’m scared of her.

BOBBY

Oh my God, me, too! She’s terrifying! How have we never discussed this in twelve years?

ANDI

Think of it this way: would you rather she find out on her own?

AS JULES AND BOBBY CONSIDER JUST HOW SCARY THAT WOULD BE, THE DOOR BURSTS OPEN. IT'S WILL.

WILL

Hey, what's everyone doing Saturday night?

ANDI

Watching Dance Moms and eating an entire Pavillions cake after Bobby goes to bed.

WILL

Well, cancel that, 'cause I'm having a party.

BOBBY

What? You hate parties.

WILL

I know, I know, but, well... (TO JULES) I thought about what you said and maybe I *could* be a little more positive. So I started thinking about the upside to not being married and it turns out, there's a lot.

(MORE)

WILL (CONT'D)

I don't have to organize Kim's iPhotos, or spend the better part of a weekend trying to teach her parents how to do e-mail, or live in a shoe-free home because she spent a semester in Japan. I've been wallowing when I should have been celebrating.

JULES

This is amazing, Will! A party will be so healing. We can bury your marriage license, make a list of things you want to manifest in your next relationship, read excerpts from spiritual masters and--

WILL

No, no, don't do that. It's just a party where people get together and say mean stuff about Kim.

KATE STORMS IN. JULES JUMPS UP, IMMEDIATELY NERVOUS.

JULES

Kate, I have to tell you --

KATE

What the hell, Will? (TO OTHERS) He set me up with a tiny man on purpose!

WILL

What? He's a "nice" guy...

KATE

Five-ten is my cut off and you know that!

WILL

That doesn't sound very Volvo-like.

KATE

Shut up. This is a nightmare. I had to pretend I wasn't feeling well to get out of going home with him and now what am I supposed to say when he calls?

WILL

Nothing. He's not going to call. For your information, he wasn't interested in you, either.

KATE

Of course he was interested. He was very interested.

WILL

Not according to him.

KATE

I don't... I don't understand.

WILL

He didn't like you.

KATE

I *understand*, I just don't understand! He's, like, two feet tall! How could he not like me?!

WILL SHRUGS. HORRIFIED AND FURIOUS, KATE TAKES THIS IN.

JULES

(SOTTO) Doesn't seem like the right time to share my news.

BOBBY AND ANDI NOD AGREEMENT AND WE...

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

INT. NAMASTE RESTAURANT - THE NEXT NIGHT

BOBBY AND LOWELL. THEIR FOOD HAS JUST BEEN DELIVERED. BOBBY STARTS EATING AS LOWELL CLOSES HIS EYES IN GRATITUDE.

LOWELL

Blessings.

HE OPENS HIS EYES. BOBBY TRIES TO HIDE HIS MOUTHFUL OF FOOD.

LOWELL (CONT'D)

You know, I was surprised you called. It didn't feel like we were totally vibing the other night, but good on you for reaching out.

BOBBY

Well, I mean... I was kind of responding to your invitation. (OFF LOWELL'S CONFUSION) At dinner? You said, "we should hang out soon."

LOWELL

If I'm being honest, I was just being polite. I didn't think you'd actually call.

BOBBY

Well, if I'm being honest, I didn't want to. Andi thought it'd be nice for us to hang out and I forgot our anniversary and it just seemed easier to come.

LOWELL

Huh.

BOBBY

What?

LOWELL

I wonder why you forgot your anniversary. Subconsciously, there must be a reason, right? How's your relationship? Are you guys in a good place? Do you do nice things for each other?

BOBBY

Of course not. We're married.

LOWELL

How often do you have sex?

BOBBY

What? That's very... I don't... How often do you?

LOWELL

Not a lot. Three, four times a week.

BOBBY REACTS. THAT'S A LOT.

LOWELL (CONT'D)

But she gives me a... you know... every day.

BOBBY

What?! Every day? Like... every day?

LOWELL

Why? How often does Andi?

BOBBY

That's not really her thing. Per se. She used to. A long time ago. But now, she just... no.

LOWELL

Never?

BOBBY

Ever.

LOWELL

Don't you miss it?

BOBBY

(DAWNING ON HIM) Now I do.

AND WE...

CUT TO:

INT. ANDI AND BOBBY'S HOUSE - LATER THAT NIGHT

BOBBY OPENS THE DOOR. ANDI'S WAITING.

ANDI

So? What'd he say? Are they engaged?

BOBBY

How come you never... "blow the whistle" anymore?

ANDI

What?

BOBBY

Jules gives Lowell one every day.

Every. Single. Day.

ANDI

What are you even... That's...

They're, they, just... We're married!

JULES ENTERS FROM THE BATHROOM, SEES BOBBY.

JULES

How'd it go? What'd he say?

ANDI

You give Lowell a... (GESTURES DOWN)

every day?

JULES LOOKS AT HER BLANKLY. ANDI PUTS HER FIST UP TO HER CHEEK AS MUCH AS WE CAN GET AWAY WITH.

JULES

Oh. (THEN) Yeah...

ANDI

Why?

JULES

He likes it.

BOBBY

And so do I. And, another thing, I

may have forgotten our anniversary,

but you remembered and *chose* not to

get me something, so I think we're

even.

ANDI OPENS A DRAWER, TAKES OUT A WRAPPED BOX, HANDS IT OVER.

ANDI

It's the watch you've wanted for two years. I didn't give it to you 'cause I didn't want to make you feel worse for not getting me anything. (TO JULES) And if you're going to do that, at least have your boyfriend-fiance-whoever-he-is, have the decency to keep it to himself. You're ruining it for everyone.

AS SHE STORMS OFF, WE...

CUT TO:

INT. DOCTOR'S OFFICE - THE NEXT DAY

WILL IS AT HIS DESK. A VERY, VERY PREGNANT WOMAN SITS OPPOSITE. WILL CLOSES HER FILE.

WILL

So I'll see you next week. If you make it that long.

SHE NODS AND HOISTS HERSELF OUT OF THE SEAT AND WOBBLES TOWARDS THE DOOR AS BOBBY ENTERS. THEY DO THAT AWKWARD DANCE WITH HIM TRYING TO DODGE HER ENORMOUS BELLY, WHICH SEEMS TO BE EVERYWHERE. THEY FINALLY GET PAST EACH OTHER ONLY WHEN BOBBY FLATTENS HIMSELF AGAINST THE WALL. ONCE SHE'S GONE,

BOBBY

I'm piggybacking on your party.

WILL

What? Why?

BOBBY

Because Andi wanted a surprise Anniversary party and she got me this watch and the place that makes flowers out of fruit closed down.

WILL

Well why should I let you in on my party?

BOBBY

Because it's all the same people and we can do it at my house and I'll pay for half.

WILL

("THAT'S ABSURD") So, it'll be a... Divorce-slash-surprise-Anniversary party?

BOBBY

You say that like it's never been done before.

AND WE...

CUT TO:

INT. ANDI AND BOBBY'S HOUSE - FRIDAY NIGHT

WE ARE CLOSE ON TWO SIDE-BY-SIDE CAKES: ONE SAYS "**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY**" AND HAS A SCANNED PHOTO OF BOBBY AND ANDI'S SMILING FACES IN A HEART. THE OTHER CAKE SAYS "**MARRIAGE SUCKS**" AND HAS A PHOTO OF WILL AND KIM, BUT KIM'S FACE IS X-ED OUT. BOBBY STANDS LOOKING AT THE CAKES. THE ROOM IS ALSO DECORATED WITH A HAPPY ANNIVERSARY BANNER AND A "PIN THE TAIL ON THE EX" POSTER. WILL ENTERS HOLDING A PINATA WITH A BLOWN UP PHOTO OF TWO OLDER PEOPLE. HE HAS DRAWN NOOSES AROUND THEIR NECKS.

BOBBY

You're late to your own party! Andi's gonna be here any minute! And what the hell is that?

WILL

A pinata of Kim's parents being strangled. Where can I hang it?

BOBBY

You know, tonally, a pinata is not so much what I was imagining.

WILL

Who doesn't love a pinata?

WILL TAKES DOWN A HANGING PLANT AND REPLACES IT WITH THE PINATA. BOBBY GOES AND STANDS BEHIND THE CURTAIN, ON THE LOOK-OUT FOR ANDI. HE PASSES JULES AND LOWELL, STANDING TOGETHER IN AWKWARD SILENCE. WE STAY ON THEM. LOWELL OPENS HIS MOUTH TO SAY SOMETHING.

JULES

What?

LOWELL

Nothing.

BEAT. SHE OPENS HER MOUTH TO SAY SOMETHING.

LOWELL (CONT'D)

What?

JULES

Nothing.

BEAT.

LOWELL

I'm gonna get some tea.

HE CROSSES OFF AS KATE APPROACHES.

KATE

That's him.

JULES

Who?

KATE

Jimmy Benina.

SHE NODS ACROSS THE ROOM WHERE JIMMY TALKS TO A HOT GIRL.

KATE (CONT'D)

I think I'm in love with him.

JULES

What?

KATE

I can't stop thinking about him. He's not even that short.

JULES IS TOO NICE TO CORRECT HER BUT HER FACE TELLS US HE IS THAT SHORT.

KATE (CONT'D)

Well maybe I just don't see it because we had a deeper connection. Maybe I've grown up, Jules. Maybe I'm finally ready for a mature relationship based on mutual respect and kindness.

JULES

Kate, I need to tell you something.

BOBBY

It's her, it's her! Everyone, quiet!

Andi's here!

BOBBY STEPS AWAY FROM THE CURTAIN AS EVERYONE QUIETS DOWN. HE TURNS OUT THE LIGHTS. THEY WAIT. YOU COULD HEAR A PIN DROP. THEY HEAR SOMEONE MOUNTING THE STAIRS OUTSIDE, THEN THE TURNING OF THE DOORKNOB.

BOBBY (CONT'D)

(WHISPERS) Okay, one, two, three--

THE DOOR OPENS.

PARTY GOERS

Surprise!

A WOMAN SCREAMS. BOBBY TURNS THE LIGHTS ON. INSTEAD OF ANDI, WILL'S EX WIFE, KIM WHO HAS JUST BEEN SCARED SHITLESS.

WILL

Kim?!

PANICKED, BOBBY SLAMS THE DOOR IN HER FACE.

BOBBY

What's she doing here?

WILL

You were in charge of evites! What'd you do? Evite your entire address book?

BOBBY

Yes! Yes! That's exactly what I did!

KATE

You evited your entire address book and only this many people came?

BOBBY

A few were busy. Some have moved.

And, when we had kids, frankly, we re-

evaluated some of our--

WILL

We're getting sidetracked! What do I

do? Should I invite her in?

THEY LOOK AT THE PINATA OF KIM'S PARENTS IN NOOSES, THE CAKE WITH HER FACE X-ED OUT...

WILL (CONT'D)

I'll meet her on the porch.

HE SLIPS OUT THE DOOR...

RESET TO:

EXT. PORCH - CONTINUOUS

KIM HOLDS THE LEASH OF AN ENGLISH BULLDOG. SHE SMILES.

KIM

Hi.

WILL

Hi...

KIM

Can I just say, this is a genius idea.

Let's celebrate our divorce! There's

no reason we can't be friends.

WILL

I found you in bed with my therapist.

He was wearing my socks.

KIM

His feet get cold. And it's so awesome of you to let bygones be bygones. Which is why... (HOLDS OUT LEASH) I'm giving you Davey and I'm not gonna take all of your money.

WILL

Really?

KIM

Yeah, I mean, Bernard has family money, anyway, so.

WILL

Who's Bernard?

KIM

Dr. Friedman. (THEN) So what do you say, Will? Friends?

SHE PUTS OUT HER HAND. WHAT THE HELL. HE SHAKES IT.

KIM (CONT'D)

Should we go in?

HE SHAKES HIS HEAD NO.

RESET TO:

<u>INT. ANDI AND BOBBY'S HOUSE - SAME TIME</u>

KATE APPROACHES JIMMY.

KATE

I understand you weren't interested in going out with me again.

JIMMY

Um... hi, Kate.

KATE

And I'd like to know why.

SHE WAITS FOR AN ANSWER.

JIMMY

Here, why don't we...

HE GESTURES FOR HER TO SIT. THEY BOTH DO.

JIMMY (CONT'D)

Okay, honestly? I felt like *you* wouldn't want to go out again.

KATE

Why?

JIMMY

Because of my height.

KATE

What?! That's so... oh my God... why would you even--

JIMMY

You got sick kind of suddenly. When I stood up. It's okay. Some women want to be with a taller guy. And any woman who cares about that, is not someone I want to be with.

KATE

Okay, honestly, I am a little insulted right now.

(MORE)

KATE (CONT'D)

I'm a mature person looking for a real relationship and I thought we had a connection.

JIMMY

Well, that's amazing, Kate. Cause I really like you.

AS HE TALKS, FROM KATE'S POV, HE STARTS TO SHRINK...

JIMMY (CONT'D)

You're smart and funny and you are making my night right now. Let's go out tomorrow night. Let's go out after this.

HE NOW LOOKS LIKE A CHILD IN GROWN UP CLOTHES.

JIMMY (CONT'D)

What do you say?

HE SMILES AND PUTS HIS **TINY BABY HAND** IN HERS. SHE STARES AT HIS TINY **BABY FEET** DANGLING A GOOD **HALF FOOT OFF THE FLOOR.** SHE SIGHS.

RESET TO:

EXT. PORCH - SAME TIME

KIM IS STRUGGLING TO GET PAST WILL TO GET TO THE DOOR. HE'S TRYING DESPERATELY TO KEEP HER AT BAY.

KIM

Let... me... in!

WILL

There's nothing for you here! Go home!

SHE LUNGES PAST HIM. HE PICKS HER UP AND CARRIES HER AWAY FROM THE DOOR. SHE KICKS HIM IN THE SHIN. HE DROPS HER.

RESET TO:

INT. ANDI AND BOBBY'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

KIM OPENS THE DOOR AND SEES THE CAKE, THE POSTERS, THE PINATA.

KIM

Is that my parents?!

WILL

They were never very nice to me.

SHE LOOKS AT WILL. HE DUTIFULLY HANDS THE DOG'S LEASH BACK. SHE TAKES IT AND MARCHES OUT. WILL, WHILE RUBBING HIS SHIN, LOOKS AT JULES AND NODS.

WILL (CONT'D)

Please remember, when I try to be

"positive," that happens.

BOBBY

Meanwhile, where the hell is Andi?

I'm calling the spa.

AS HE DIALS, KATE APPROACHES. SHE STARES ACROSS THE ROOM AT JIMMY.

KATE

Look at him. He's like a little elf

on a shelf.

BOBBY

(INTO PHONE) Yes, hi, I need to speak

to Andi Cooper-Lutz, please. ....

Thank you.

AS HE HOLDS, KATE NOTICES JULES AND LOWELL TALKING.

KATE

Who's that guy talking to Jules? He's gorgeous.

WILL AND BOBBY SHARE A PANICKED LOOK.

WILL

("WAVING" TO SOMEONE) Coming!

HE QUICKLY CROSSES OFF. KATE IS IMMEDIATELY SUSPICIOUS.

KATE

Who is he?

PANIC AND FEAR.

BOBBY

No one.

KATE

Bobby...

BOBBY LOOKS AT HER FOR A BEAT, TRYING TO HOLD HIS GROUND. SHE NARROWS HER EYES AT HIM.

BOBBY

A guy she met on her yoga retreat!

They've been dating for two months!

Why are you so scary?!

SHE STORMS OFF.

BOBBY (CONT'D)

Wait!

ANDI (THROUGH PHONE)

Bobby?

BOBBY

Andi, where are you?

SPLIT SCREEN
WITH:

INT. SPA - SAME TIME

ANDI IS IN THE MIDDLE OF A MASSAGE. THE MASSAGE THERAPIST STANDS BY. THE ROOM IS SERENE.

ANDI

Getting the massage you bought for me.

BOBBY

It was supposed to take fifty minutes.

ANDI

I went in the sauna first. And she's giving me extra time. I have a lot of knots.

BOBBY

You have to come home right now.

ANDI

Why?

BOBBY

Because.

ANDI

Is something wrong? Is the baby sick?

BOBBY

Why would you think that?

ANDI

Because I can't think of a single other reason you would think it's okay to interrupt the one hour I've had to myself in the past year.

BEAT.

BOBBY

She’s sick. It’s bad.

ANDI

Did you take her temperature?

BOBBY

Yeah.

ANDI

Well, what was it?

BOBBY

A hundred.

ANDI

That’s nothing.

BOBBY

...And six.

ANDI

A hundred and six?!

BOBBY

Just... come home.

HE HANGS UP. PANICKED, ANDI BOLTS UP, GRABBING THE SHEET FROM THE TABLE AS SHE RUSHES OUT.

MASSAGE THERAPIST

(CALM) Drink lots of water.

CUT TO:

INT. ANDI AND BOBBY’S BATHROOM - LATER

LOWELL IS ABOUT TO LOCK THE DOOR WHEN JULES PUSHES IN.

JULES

We can’t do this anymore.

LOWELL

What?

JULES

Pretend what happened didn't happen.

LOWELL

Can we talk about it when we get home?

JULES

In sixth grade I by accident told Hugh Eaton I loved him so I totally get it if it just slipped out. I mean, we've only been dating two months so it'd be crazy if... I just want you to know I'm okay, either way. Whether we are or we aren't so let's just acknowledge it and then we can move on.

LOWELL

Can we talk about it at home?

SHE SHAKES HER HEAD "NO."

LOWELL (CONT'D)

Can we talk about it out of the bathroom?

AGAIN, SHAKES HER HEAD "NO."

LOWELL (CONT'D)

Okay... fine. The truth is, it *did* just slip out. I didn't mean to propose.

CRUSHING. SHE LOOKS AWAY.

JULES

(FIGHTING TEARS) No, obviously.

BEAT.

LOWELL

I didn't mean to propose 'cause I didn't want it to happen like that. I don't want it to happen like this, either, for the record.

SHE PEEKS AROUND AND SEES THAT HE IS ON ONE KNEE. SHE GASPS.

LOWELL (CONT'D)

My best decisions aren't the ones I've thought about for a long time, they're the ones I made from my heart. It's led me to beautiful things. (THEN) Jules Talley, will you marry me?

HE HOLDS OUT A RING. ELATED AND SHOCKED, JULES NODS YES.

JULES

Yes! I... yes!

HE PUTS THE RING ON HER FINGER AND SHE KISSES HIM.

JULES (CONT'D)

We just got engaged in the bathroom.

LOWELL

Yeah. (THEN) I still have to go.

JULES

Oh! Of course! I'll just...

SHE KISSES HIM AND EXITS TO...

INT. ANDI AND BOBBY'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

KATE IS STANDING THERE, WAITING. SHE AND JULES LOCK EYES.

JULES

Kate, I --

KATE

Bobby told me. It's fine. It's not like I've never had a boyfriend before.

JULES

Actually, he's not just a boyfriend.

SHE HOLDS UP HER RINGED HAND AND TRIES TO HIDE HER HAPPINESS.

KATE

You're engaged?!

JULES

I'm sorry.

KATE

You have nothing to be sorry for. It's great news. I'm happy for you.

JULES

Really?

KATE NODS AND HUGS JULES. AFTER A BEAT,

KATE

Excuse me.

SHE CROSSES OFF, GRABS THE BAT AND STARTS BEATING THE PINATA TO HOLY HELL. WILL STEPS UP TO JULES.

WILL

(RE: KATE) You told her?

JULES NODS.

WILL (CONT'D)

She's taking it better than I thought.

THE PINATA FALLS AND KATE STARTS STOMPING ON IT.

BOBBY (O.C.)

You guys, she's here! Everyone quiet!

EVERYONE QUIETS DOWN. KATE GIVES THE PINATA ONE MORE KICK. THEY HEAR SOMEONE MOUNTING THE STEPS.

BOBBY (CONT'D)

(WHISPERS) Okay, one, two, three--

THE DOOR OPENS.

PARTY GOERS

Surprise!!

A MAN STANDS THERE. THIS IS DR. BIEDERMAN.

BOBBY

Who the hell are you?

DR. BIEDERMAN

Dr. Biederman. The pediatrician on call. I got a frantic message and I live in the neighborhood so I--

ANDI RUSHES IN THROUGH THE ALREADY OPEN DOOR. SHE'S WRAPPED IN THE SPA BLANKET AND LOOKS LIKE A HOLY MESS.

ANDI

Where's the baby?!

BOBBY

At your mother's. (THEN) Surprise!

OFF ANDI'S SHOCK AND FURY, WE...

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT TWO

TAG

FADE IN:

INT. ANDI AND BOBBY'S BEDROOM - LATER

ANDI'S IN BED, STARING AT THE CEILING, DEEP IN THOUGHT. BOBBY CLIMBS INTO BED.

BOBBY

Lesson learned. Next year I get you a sweater.

ANDI

Is our marriage in trouble?

BOBBY

What?!

ANDI

I just... look, I don't want to end up like Will and Kim. I mean, are you having fun?

BOBBY

Of course I'm not having fun. We have three kids under the age of four. Our days are hell. But no matter how much fun I'm not having, there's no one in the world I could possibly have any less fun with.

ANDI

Really?

HE NODS. TOUCHED, SHE KISSES HIM.

ANDI (CONT'D)

I have another Anniversary present for you.

BOBBY

(NERVOUS) Really? Cause I just got you the party. I know it wasn't exactly what you had in mind, but--

ANDI

Shhh.

SHE PUSHES HIM BACK AGAINST THE BED. GIVES HIM "THE LOOK." HE SLOWLY REALIZES WHAT'S ABOUT TO HAPPEN. SHE STARTS TO GO *DOWN*. HE SETTLES BACK, PSYCHED. THEN SHE POPS BACK UP...

ANDI (CONT'D)

We have snack Monday! I have to go to Trader Joe's tomorrow. The class allergies are eggplant and pineapple. Who's allergic to *eggplant*? (HEARING HERSELF) You know what? I'll deal with it in the morning.

SHE DISAPPEARS UNDER THE COMFORTER AGAIN. AND WE...

FADE OUT.

END OF SHOW.