ACT ONE

FADE IN:

EXT. STREET - NIGHT - ESTABLISHING

A row of brownstones on a quaint street in Georgetown, an upscale neighborhood in Washington, DC.

CUT TO:

INT. PAUL’S HOUSE - KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

A bachelor pad with hints of mom’s decorating help. PAUL, 28, sweet and eager for approval, and his girlfriend, JILLIAN, 29, sexy, are cleaning up after dinner. They are very affectionate and cute together.

    PAUL
    The dinner you made was incredible.

Jillian wipes off a dish into the trash can and takes the opportunity to covertly rearrange the garbage to hide to-go containers from a restaurant.

    JILLIAN
    It was nothing. And we got to feed each other without people in a restaurant making fun of us.

Paul and Jillian smile and kiss.

    PAUL
    I really want to say something to you right now but I can’t because it’s too soon and I’ll sound crazy.

Jillian glows. She knows what he wants to say.

    JILLIAN
    I want to say it, too.

    PAUL
    You do? But it’s too soon, right?

    JILLIAN
    After two months? It’s insane. Ah! What is wrong with us?

They are both laughing now with nervous, excited energy.

    JILLIAN (CONT’D)
    What if we agree to say it without actually saying it? Is that crazy?
PAUL
I think it’s the opposite of crazy.

They stare at each other with meaning. Then:

JILLIAN
Oh my God, I can’t believe we just didn’t say it.

They kiss passionately.

PAUL
I want you to come to a great party with me in a couple of weeks.

JILLIAN
Okay, what is it? Who’s going to be there?

PAUL
My sister and brother-in-law, their three kids, my mom and dad, my brother, his wife, and their new Chinese baby they’re bringing back from China.

Jillian is confused.

JILLIAN
So, you’re asking me to meet your family?

PAUL
Well, when you say it like that you put so much pressure on it.

JILLIAN
What pressure?

PAUL
The stressful kind. My family is really close, they mean everything to me. And you know how I feel about you. I think I made that pretty clear just now when I didn’t say it. So if things don’t go well I’ll lose everything in the world I care about. On top of which, I’ve never introduced any of my girlfriends to my family before because none of them have been good enough until you, so my whole life has been leading up to this moment.
Paul finally takes a breath. Jillian stares at him a beat.

JILLIAN
You’re right. I’m putting way too much pressure on it.

CUT TO:

INT. VANESSA AND CHARLES’S HOUSE - DAY

An impeccably designed home with the finest of everything. Paul’s beautiful sister, VANESSA, 36, domestic goddess, is talking to her husband, CHARLES, 37, polo playing rich, with a huge ego. Charles is thumbing through a polo magazine, “Polo Life.” We see he is the polo player on the cover.

VANESSA
Hon, do you ever feel old?

CHARLES
Sure, I feel like I have the wisdom of a two-hundred-year-old man.

VANESSA
No, I mean old. I have one brother who’s just fallen in love for the first time, I have another brother who is about to have his first baby from China -- they have their whole lives ahead of them. But me, I’ll be forty in a couple years and our kids barely need me now. What do I do?

CHARLES
I think I know what’s wrong. You feel old compared to Paul and Derek because you’re the oldest.

VANESSA
How is that supposed to make me feel better? You really think you have the wisdom of a two-hundred-year-old man?

CHARLES
Hey, I didn’t say it was a smart two-hundred-year-old man.

CUT TO:
INT. COMMERCIAL JUMBO JET - DAY (FEW WEEKS LATER)

CLOSE ON Paul's sweaty, unhappy looking brother, DEREK, 34. The CAMERA PANS over to reveal his new adopted Chinese baby, LILY. He's staring down at the baby like she's an alien. The CAMERA TILTS UP to KIMMY, 33, very shy. She is smiling down at Lily in her arms. Kimmy looks at Derek and, catching himself, he quickly smiles.

DEREK
You already love her, don’t you?

KIMMY
Yeah.

(then)
You want to hold her?

DEREK
No. I don’t want to drop her.

KIMMY
Where is there to drop her?

DEREK
Kimmy, we’re thirty thousand feet in the air.

(then)
I don’t feel well.

KIMMY
Your stomach?

DEREK
(whining)
Yeah.

Derek unbuckles his seat belt and gets up.

DEREK (CONT'D)
(re: his stomach)
I’ll be right back. Need anything?

KIMMY
(confused)
From an airplane bathroom?

Derek walks down the aisle toward the bathroom. The jet is a two-five-two seating configuration. He looks at the passengers sitting in the two seats against the windows to his left, as he walks. It seems as if everyone is a white couple, both straight and gay, holding their new Chinese babies. Each couple looks happier than the previous, overjoyed by the children they finally get to love. Except one DAD toward the back, on the aisle.
He looks as miserable as Derek. Derek, seeing this kindred spirit, decides to lean down and talk privately to the guy.

DEREK
Hey. Buddy. I’m thinking the same thing. Maybe there was a reason we couldn’t have our own kids, because maybe we weren’t meant to be parents.

DAD
No, I just hate flying. This is the happiest day of my life.

As the man reaches for a barf bag, we:

CUT TO:

EXT. GEORGETOWN SIDEWALK - THAT EVENING

Their mother and father, CLAIRE and DAN, 58, always bickering but always in love, walk to their car parked on the street in front of their house. Claire is talking to her daughter, excited.

CLAIRE
(on cell phone)
Vanessa, Sweetie, I spoke to your brother, it’s official. We’re the proud grandparents to a twenty-three pound bouncing baby girl. She entered the country at 2:30pm. The flight was bumpy, but Derek said mother and baby are doing fine. Although, I’m sure Kimmy still won’t help with the dishes tonight... Okay, we’re on our way.

Claire hangs up.

CLAIRE (CONT’D)
I worry about our daughter trying to do too much for this party when she’s been so sick. You know how overboard she goes to make everything restaurant quality.

DAN
I thought you said Vanessa got a tooth pulled?

CLAIRE
 claro (clearly covering something)
Yes.

(MORE)
She was so sick they had to pull a tooth. Anyway, Paul and his new girlfriend aren’t there yet so we don’t have to hurry.

CUT TO:

INT. DAN AND CLAIRE’S CAR - MOMENTS LATER

Dan pulls out into the street, accelerating. Claire screams.

CLAIRE
Why are you driving like a [beep]-ing [beep]-hole?!

DAN
You said hurry.

CLAIRE
I said we don’t have to hurry. You have the worst hearing. Your hearing is awful.

DAN
So what do we know about Paul’s girlfriend?

CLAIRE
I heard she volunteers at a suicide hot-line. Can you imagine? I’d be terrible at one of those places. I’d tell them to do it already. Who needs the aggravation?

DAN
Does she have big boobs?

CLAIRE
What is the matter with you?

DAN
I just look out for my son. (re: Claire’s modest chest) I don’t want him making the same mistakes I made.

Dan laughs.

CLAIRE
Oh!

She playfully hits Dan with a laugh. They smile and kiss, like teenagers. But this causes Dan to nearly hit a car.
DAN
Son of a --

CLAIRE
What the [beep] are you doing? You are the worst driver.

CUT TO:

EXT. GEORGETOWN SIDEWALK - MOMENTS LATER

Paul is walking with Jillian who carries a sweet bouquet of flowers in a little vase. Paul looks nervous.

PAUL
...My mom is great but can be a little critical, and my sister is amazing but can be a little competitive. You’ll be fine. You look awesome. Did you bring anything else to wear?

JILLIAN
This outfit’s cute. You’re stressed for no reason, you know that? You need to relax.

PAUL
You’re right. Our one hope is that they’ll be so distracted by this Chinese baby we’ll skate through.

Jillian stops Paul and kisses him. She starts to unbuckle his belt.

PAUL (CONT’D)
What are you doing?

JILLIAN
Helping you relax.

CUT TO:

EXT. GEORGETOWN SIDEWALK - MOMENTS LATER

Paul is standing up against a tree, behind some bushes, when Dan and Claire trudge up the sidewalk, oblivious.

CLAIRE
Hello, Sweetheart.

PAUL
(surprised)
Hi, Mom. Dad.
DAN
What are you doing?

PAUL
Oh. I was just picking flowers...

He reaches down and picks up Jillian’s full vase of flowers.

CLAIRE
Where is your new friend?

Jillian stands up behind the bushes, dusting her knees off.

JILLIAN
Hi, I’m Jillian. It’s so nice to finally meet you!

CUT TO:

EXT. GEORGETOWN SIDEWALK - A LITTLE LATER

Kimmy and Derek push their new baby in a stroller. They approach a magnificent home in Georgetown.

KIMMY
Your mother and Vanessa are going to be watching me like a hawk with Lily. Taking notes, giving unwanted opinions.

Derek rings the door bell. He stares at the baby, unhappy.

KIMMY (CONT’D)
It’s really important I show them I can do this. That I’m a good, confident mom.

DEREK
(not really listening)
Got it.

The shy Kimmy takes a breath and puts on a confident smile as Derek, looking miserable, looks up from the baby to her.

DEREK (CONT’D)
Kimmy, I think we’ve made a huge mistake adopting this baby.

The door opens to Derek’s entire family greeting them with “Congratulations!” “Oh my God!” and other squeals of excitement, as Kimmy looks at Derek, stunned.

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT ONE
ACT TWO

FADE IN:

INT. VANESSA AND CHARLES’S FOYER – MOMENTS LATER

MUSIC CUE: “WHAT GOES ON” by Velvet Underground, as performed by Elizabeth Mitchell, plays over the following:

Various SHOTS of the happy family greeting each other with affectionate hugs and kisses -- this is clearly a family that loves each other:

Vanessa is wearing an apron over her very chic outfit.

Vanessa’s husband, Charles, holds their dog, CHUCKER. But Chucker isn’t a lap dog, she’s a sixty-pound Irish Setter...

Claire is lovingly holding the baby with Dan admiring her over Claire’s shoulder...

Jillian with Paul, meeting members of the family. They all shower her with warm hugs and hellos. Paul looks on, proud of Jillian’s confidence. He’s pleased. So far so good...

Vanessa’s three perfect kids, JONAS, 9, JOHNNA, 8, and JADE, 5, holding Lily’s little hands, touching her tiny feet...

Derek and Kimmy showered with congratulations, and “oohs” and “ahhs” over their new baby. But after what just happened outside, both of them are trying to put on brave faces...

END MUSIC.

Claire is holding Lily.

CLAIRE
(re: Lily, loving)
I love my sweet little Chinese dumpling.

DAN
Those cheeks.

Dan starts giving Lily kisses, and doesn’t stop.

CLAIRE
(re: kissing)
Stop it. You’re slobbering on her.

DAN
I am not.
CLAIRE
You are, and I can’t see her.
(looks at Derek and Kimmy)
I actually think she’s a combination of both of you.

DEREK
What are you talking about?

Kimmy is struggling to keep it together, and in fact, wipes a tear from the corner of her eye. The CAMERA PANS to Paul and Jillian as Vanessa approaches them holding Jillian’s flowers.

VANESSA
Thank you again for these flowers. I know the perfect place for them.

JILLIAN
Of course. I always think fresh flowers can really brighten up a dining...

Jillian can now see there is an amazingly exotic and large, floral centerpiece on Vanessa’s dining room table.

JILLIAN (CONT’D)
(trailing off)
...room table. See? You have some. Did you steal those from a wedding?

VANESSA
Can you imagine?

Paul laughs too hard, trying to make everyone comfortable.

VANESSA (CONT’D)
No, I grew them in my green house. You know what, I’ll put mine in the bathroom and put yours on the table. But I need help moving the orchids. They’re arranged by Asian region and I don’t want them to get mixed up.

PAUL
That’s really nice of you, Ness.

JILLIAN
No, mine can go in the bathroom.

PAUL
Wow, did you hear that? That is so nice of Jillian. Let’s do that.
Vanessa smiles and exits to the bathroom with Jillian’s vase. Paul is mad at himself.

PAUL (CONT’D)
I’m sorry. I should have told you she grew her own exotic plants.

JILLIAN
It’s okay. Is there anything else you didn’t prep me about?

PAUL
She made everything in this room.

JILLIAN
She made everything?

PAUL
Well not everything. Just the art, the sculptures and the furniture.

JILLIAN
(intimidated)
Okay. Well, you’re lucky I’m not easily intimidated.

We see Jillian look nervous for the first time as the CAMERA PANS to Claire holding the baby, with Dan, Derek and Kimmy.

CLAIRE
(trying to be sweet)
Kimmy, you are the best mother. The best.

Kimmy is just standing there, not even holding her daughter.

DAN
And isn’t being a dad the greatest feeling in the world?

DEREK
(strained)
Oh, yeah, are you kidding? Yeah...

With this, Kimmy chokes back an awkward, guttural cry. She attempts to smile through it, barely keeping it together. Dan has been holding an old, dusty bottle of wine.

DAN
I have something for you kids. A sixty-one Chateau LaTour. It was given to me by my father the day Derek was born.

(MORE)
And I vowed then to drink it with Derek the day his child was born.

DEREK
(too much for him)
Wow. Dad...

As Dan hugs Derek, Kimmy can’t hold it together any longer. She bursts into tears and runs from the room. The family watches her go as Vanessa re-enters from the bathroom.

VANESSA
Uh-oh, what did I miss?

DEREK
Nothing. It’s probably just those new mom hormones.

CLAIRE
Go, Honey. Help your wife.

Derek nods and exits, dreading the conversation awaiting him.

CLAIRE (CONT’D)
For being so shy, she’s extremely emotional.

VANESSA
And always over nothing. I’m sure she’s mad at me.

PAUL
Well, we know it wasn’t something Jillian did. We know that.

Jillian looks at Paul, not sure what he’s talking about.

PAUL (CONT’D)
(aside)
You’re doing great.

JILLIAN
Good. I was starting to not be so sure.

PAUL
Are you kidding? My sister-in-law is having a total meltdown. How can you not look good compared to that?

Paul kisses Jillian reassuringly.

CUT TO:
INT. STUDY - MOMENTS LATER

Derek is trying to talk to an upset Kimmy.

KIMMY
What you said outside the door really upset me.

DEREK
I didn’t want to upset you. I just thought I’d take a stab and say it and see if it’s what you were thinking, too.
(double checking)
Is it?

KIMMY
I don’t want to talk to you until you’re ready to be a dad. I just want to make it through this night and go home.

DEREK
I feel like we say that every time we come over here.

They go to exit. Kimmy is pissed off.

KIMMY
Ugh! I’m sure they’re talking about us right now.

DEREK
No, they’re not.

CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

It’s clear the family has been gossiping because they all stop talking as soon as Derek and Kimmy enter.

DEREK
See? They’re just standing around silently.

Vanessa is now holding the baby, really taken by her. Charles is also admiring Lily. We see a threatened Kimmy, clearly bothered by Vanessa holding her daughter.

VANESSA
Oh, Honey, I’m jealous. I want another baby.
CHARLES
My junk is tied off, remember? I’m not sure what it takes to untie it, but I have a feeling I wouldn’t like it. Do you know, Dan?

DAN
How should I know? My Pez dispenser’s still full of candy.

VANESSA
(re: Lily, only joking)
Well then I want to keep this one.

Vanessa laughs. The CAMERA PANS to Kimmy, who doesn’t like this at all. She possessively takes the baby back.

CHARLES
(as if there was a line)
Actually, Vanessa said I could hold her next. Thanks. Thank you.

Charles gently takes the baby back from an incredulous Kimmy.

CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM - LATER

The family (except Vanessa) is standing, mingling, drinking and talking. Charles is holding the baby and singing her a quiet lullaby. Derek and Kimmy look miserable, not talking. Claire and Dan are talking to Jillian and Paul.

CLAIRE
Isn’t Paul just the sweetest?

Claire puts her arm around him and hugs him from the side. Paul’s embarrassment grows with every word exchanged.

PAUL
Okay...

DAN
You know what he is? He’s a nice guy.

PAUL
All right...

CLAIRE
We think he’s quite a catch, but you’re his first girlfriend we’ve met.
JILLIAN
I know. That’s a lot of pressure.
I don’t want to disappoint --

CLAIRE
I think he was embarrassed by the others. Well, they say screw the sluts and marry the virgins.

PAUL
All right.

CLAIRE
Are you a virgin?

PAUL
Don’t answer that.

CLAIRE
Oh, who cares? I got knocked up by Dan here when I was twenty. Molested when I was thirteen.

JILLIAN
Oh, my God.

CLAIRE
It was consensual. But that’s what they’re calling it now, when you have sex so young. Molestation.

JILLIAN
Are they?

DAN
She can’t go ten minutes without bringing that up.

The CAMERA PANS to Vanessa, who enters with a tray of insanely sophisticated hors d’oeuvres to serve. She has taken her apron off to reveal a very low-cut top displaying new large breasts and ample cleavage.

VANESSA
(to Dan, re: appetizer)
I have tuna towers.

DAN
(taking two)
Thanks, Sweetheart.
(to Jillian)
So, I understand you’re suicidal.
JILLIAN
I’m not suicidal. But, I do
volunteer at a suicide hot-line.

Dan notices Vanessa’s new breasts and does a small double
take. The CAMERA PANS to Paul who is also staring blatantly
at his sister’s breasts with a profoundly confused
expression. Jillian takes a tuna tower from Vanessa’s tray.

JILLIAN (CONT’D)
(re: food, impressed)
Thank you. Wow.

CLaire
Vanessa’s remarkable. She’s
written several cook books. She
even has one for children to use.

VANESSA
Remind me to give it to Lily.

The CAMERA PANS to Charles trying to sing a lullaby to Lily.
He stops, looks up, and addresses the room:

CHARLES
(to everyone)
Shh! Quiet. Everyone. I can’t
hear myself sing. Thank you.

Charles goes back to singing his lullaby to Lily. It’s weird
and everyone in the room awkwardly stands around quietly
waiting for him to finish singing softly to the baby.
Vanessa continues to go around the room serving her “tuna
tower” hors d’oeuvres. Jillian notices Paul staring at
Vanessa’s chest. She frowns. EVERYONE WHISPERS THROUGHOUT
THE REMAINDER OF THE SCENE:

JILLIAN
Why are you staring at your
sister’s breasts?

PAUL
 stil staring at them)
I’m not staring at her breasts. I
know what hers look like and those
are not hers.

JILLIAN
Really? That explains why your
father looks so confused.

The CAMERA PANS to Dan, who is indeed very confused.
PAUL
(re: breasts)
This is good. Just as my mom was moving in on you, out come those like two giant life boats rescuing us.

JILLIAN
(disappointed)
By taking the attention off me.

PAUL
(relieved)
Exactly.

Derek and Paul exchange a glance. Derek indicates Vanessa and then gestures big boobs. Paul nods. Kimmy, meanwhile, is looking at Vanessa.

KIMMY
(to Derek)
Typical Vanessa. I show off a baby, she has to show off twins.

Derek is about to whisper something back, Kimmy stops him.

KIMMY (CONT’D)
Don’t talk to me.

The CAMERA PANS to Claire.

CLaire
I’m worried about Derek. He looks unhappy.

DAN
(distracted)
Huh? Oh. Yeah.
(them)
Hey, I know Vanessa’s been sick, but did she have some sort of chest infection? Because it looks swollen.

Claire rolls her eyes.

CUT TO:

INT. DINING ROOM - LATER
Claire is putting out serving utensils. Dan trails her.
DAN
(skeptical)
And this whole tooth-pulling story
doesn’t add up for me.

CLAIRE
Get your head out of your ass, Dan.
She had her boobs done.

Dan is stunned.

CLAIRE (CONT'D)
Charles gave them to her for his
birthday.

CUT TO:

INT. KITCHEN - LATER

Paul is getting a couple of cocktails. Vanessa is there.

VANESSA
Is Jillian in the bathroom?
(off Paul’s nod)
Paul, she’s super cute.

Paul is trying incredibly hard not to look at his sister’s
boobs. He looks up high, awkwardly.

PAUL
Really? Thanks. Your opinion
means a lot to me.

VANESSA
I’m so happy for you.

She sweetly hugs her brother. It’s a nice moment but he
doesn’t want to get too close to her new breasts.

VANESSA (CONT’D)
Oh, Mom said she wants to take some
family photos with the baby, but
she doesn’t want Jillian in them.
You know, in case she’s not around
in the future.

Paul blinks a lot as he reels slightly from this indictment.

PAUL
(trying to recover)
Oh. Okay. Awesome.
VANESSA
Have you seen, Derek? I should tell him, too, before I forget. Mom thinks we better take one without Kimmy, just in case.

CUT TO:

INT. FAMILY ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Kimmy is on the couch feeding Lily. Jillian is seated next to them, less confident than we’ve seen her. Across the room, Paul is entering with drinks and bumps into Derek, who is going into the kitchen. Paul is preoccupied with what Vanessa just told him about Jillian.

PAUL
Vanessa wants to talk to you. Hey, let me ask you something. What do you think of her? You like her?

Paul nods toward Jillian, but Derek looks over at Lily next to Jillian, thinking Paul is referring to her. Derek chugs his entire cocktail before speaking.

DEREK
(wiping mouth)
Honestly? It’s hard. I don’t know her, yet I’m supposed to instantly love her.

PAUL
Well, not instantly. I hope you instantly like her, though.

DEREK
I know this sounds harsh, but I can’t even say I like her.

Paul is taken aback.

PAUL
Dude. I don’t believe you just said that.

DEREK
Why? All she does is sit there. She doesn’t do anything. She doesn’t say anything. You have to do something for me to like you.

PAUL
That’s a good point. I see your point. That’s a really good point.
DEREK
That’s all I’m saying. You don’t have to get all pissy.

PAUL
No, you’re right. You’re right. It’s my fault. Give me a hug.

They hug.

PAUL (CONT’D)
Just, give her another chance, okay? For me.

DEREK
I’ll try. I mean, it’s not like she came from a store and you can just return her.

Dan approaches them. He’s still in disbelief over Vanessa.

DAN
Did you kids know about your sister’s... lift?

PAUL
No. Mom told me she was off getting her scuba certification.

DEREK
Why is it Mom only keeps Vanessa’s secrets? I guarantee everyone would have known about it if one of us got a boob job.

CUT TO:

INT. GUEST BEDROOM - LATER

Derek enters to find Kimmy having just changed Lily.

DEREK
Hey. So, I just had a really good conversation with my brother. And he made a lot of sense.
(re: Lily)
I want to try.

Kimmy is relieved.

KIMMY
Would you like to hold her? You haven’t even held her yet.
(MORE)
KIMMY (CONT'D)
But you better do it fast, before your sister flies in and carries her off in her talons.

Kimmy holds out Lily for Derek to take her. Derek looks at Lily and takes a step back. He indicates his stomach.

DEREK
On second thought, I’ll be right back. I think I may have brought a little something back from China.

Derek exits, leaving Kimmy frustrated.

KIMMY
(calling after him)
Yeah, a baby.

CUT TO:

INT. HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Paul is talking with Jillian.

PAUL
Okay, so here’s the deal, reports are coming in, I’m not naming names, but things are heading a little south for us. And it’s my fault, I’m holding you back.

JILLIAN
I could have told you that, if you’d let me speak.

PAUL
I know.

JILLIAN
You’re telling me what to do, what to say. You have to let me spend some time with them and be myself. I’m incredibly charming, you know.

PAUL
You’re right. Go, be charming. I release you.

JILLIAN
Thank you.

Relieved, she kisses him and starts to head off. He follows her. She looks at him, confused.
PAUL
Oh, no one can get released alone here.

CUT TO:

INT. BATHROOM - CONTINUOUS

A stressed out Derek lights up a joint. Not wanting to blow the smoke into the bathroom, he tries to blow it into the ventilation fan in the bathroom ceiling. But in order to blow the smoke into the fan, he has to stand on the toilet seat. But as he tries to climb up on the seat, he slips off and falls out of frame with a grunt. After a beat, exhaled smoke appears in the frame, and billows up.

CUT TO:

INT. FAMILY ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Dan and Claire are there. Kimmy is there with Lily. And for some reason no one can figure out, Charles is brushing Chucker with a sterling silver brush. Jillian and Paul enter.

DAN
...It makes sense. If you can't make your own child, why not get one made in China? Everything else is made there.

JILLIAN
(confidently)
What are we all talking about?

CLAIRE
Look at you. Someone’s come out of her shell.
(encouraging)
Kimmy, did you see Jillian’s come out of her shell?

Kimmy rolls her eyes to herself. Vanessa enters having made a costume change into another, even more low-cut top.

JILLIAN
I love that top, Vanessa.

VANESSA
Aren’t you sweet? It’s my cooking outfit. Mom, we should get started on dinner.
JILLIAN
(slightly hostile)
No, no I am not, Paul.

PAUL
She’s being modest. She’s fantastic.
(to Jillian, sotto)
Here’s your chance to spend some time with them.

CLAIRE
Jillian’s going to help us then.
(encouraging)
Hear that, Kimmy? Jillian’s helping us with dinner.

Jillian catches Kimmy shaking her head, mouthing, “Don’t do it.” Jillian looks back panicked to Paul, who gives her an encouraging thumbs up, as Claire pulls her into the kitchen.

CUT TO:

INT. KITCHEN - A LITTLE LATER

Jillian is nervously peeling potatoes as Claire and Vanessa exit into the dining room to set things up. They talk privately as they go:

CLAIRE
(re: Vanessa’s breasts)
Of course they look real. They’re fabulous. And the important thing is you feel better about yourself.

VANESSA
You know what’s weird, I don’t have all the feeling back in my nipples yet.

CLAIRE
You’re better off without it.

They exit through a swinging door, as Paul enters from the other side. He comes up to Jillian, kissing her from behind.

PAUL
How are things going in here?

She turns on him. They speak in hushed tones.
JILLIAN
Remember those great dinners I made you?

PAUL
Yeah?

JILLIAN
I didn’t. I got them from restaurants and faked it so you’d be proud of me.

PAUL
What?

JILLIAN
I can’t cook.

Paul is in disbelief. He looks at what she’s preparing.

PAUL
So what is that?

JILLIAN
They asked if I made a good truffle risotto, and I said yes.

Jillian knows she’s really screwed up.

PAUL
Risotto? Why are you peeling potatoes?

JILLIAN
I don’t know!

PAUL
Oh, God... Okay. This is no big deal.
(then)
Break the oven.

What?

PAUL
Break it! Break it! No one will be able to cook and we’ll order carry-out.

Paul picks up a cookbook.

PAUL (CONT'D)
Quick, hit it with this. Break it!
A frantic Jillian takes a cookbook with Vanessa’s picture on the back cover from Paul, and starts banging the top of the stainless steel range. It does absolutely nothing to it.

    PAUL (CONT’D)
    Not the top. Hit the knob. Strip it so it can’t turn on.

    JILLIAN
    Sorry, I’ve never attacked an oven before.

Jillian tries to bang off the “on/off” oven knob.

    JILLIAN (CONT’D)
    (noticing second oven)
    What about that one?

    PAUL
    Damn it, they’re everywhere.

Paul grabs another cookbook and attacks that oven’s knob.

    JILLIAN
    I’m really seeing a side of you tonight I’ve never seen before.

    PAUL
    I think I can now say the same about you.

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT TWO
ACT THREE

FADE IN:

INT. LAUNDRY ROOM / BACK PORCH - LATER

Charles carries Chucker to the back door, which has a doggy
door in it. He puts her down.

CHARLES
Carry on with your business.

Chucker obediently exits outside, through the doggy door.

CUT TO:

INT. KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

Charles enters to find a commotion in the kitchen. Dan is
now there with Paul, Jillian, Vanessa, and Claire.

CHARLES
What’s going on?

VANESSA
None of my ovens will turn on.

Jillian and Paul try to not look guilty.

CLAIRE
(overly dramatic)
Order hot dogs. The whole night is
ruined.

JILLIAN
I know a great place for carry-out.

PAUL
It definitely tastes home-cooked.

Paul and Jillian exchange a look.

DAN
Do it. I’m faint from hunger.

VANESSA
Wait. I have an idea.

CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM - LATER

Vanessa has rigged the fireplace to be a make-shift wood-
burning oven. She is cooking short ribs over the open flame.
Claire, using towels and oven mitts, helps her steady the cast iron skillet. The family (except Derek) is impressed.

DAN
It’s like you’re out on the prairie, only you girls don’t have hairy underarms.

CHARLES
(mimes diddling his underarm hair)
Ah, the dreaded wet grass.

CLAIRE
(proud)
I doubt anyone on the prairie could braise short ribs like my Vanessa.

VANESSA
(to Charles)
Get me some more wood, Sweetie. Paul, grab the bellows. We need the fire hotter.

A nervous Paul takes the bellows by the fireplace and starts puffing air into the flames.

VANESSA (CONT’D)
I think this is going to work.

The CAMERA PANS to Jillian who looks on, amazed. Kimmy is next to her, feeding a bottle to Lily.

JILLIAN
(re: Vanessa)
She’s like super woman. Is there anything she can’t do?

KIMMY
Fail.

Vanessa calls over her shoulder.

VANESSA
Jillian --?

JILLIAN
(coming to attention)
Yes!

VANESSA
I need the long tongs in the drawer next to the sink.
JILLIAN
I can do that.

As an anxious Jillian jogs to the kitchen:

JILLIAN (CONT’D)
(to herself)
I can do that... I can do that...

CUT TO:

INT. BATHROOM - CONTINUOUS

Derek, looking terrible, exits the bathroom tucking his shirt in. Traces of smoke leak from the bathroom. His niece, Johnna, enters past him to use it. She reacts.

JOHNNNA
It smells like your car in here, Uncle Derek.

Derek exits into the living room.

CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Jillian comes jogging back in, holding the long tongs out in front of her to give to Vanessa.

JILLIAN
(re: tongs)
I got ‘em!

Dan approaches Derek with his special bottle of wine.

DAN
Now that dinner is back on, I think it’s time to open this --

Jillian doesn’t see Dan step to Derek to hand the bottle out to him. She accidentally knocks it from Dan’s hand with the tongs as she goes past, and the bottle smashes on the hardwood floor. Dan’s empty hand remains extended out in front of him like he’s still holding the wine. Everyone looks at the floor, stunned.

DEREK
Dude....

Paul sees what Jillian has done. She is mortified.

CUT TO:
INT. LIVING ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Paul is consoling Jillian, who is trying to keep it together.

JILLIAN
(holding back tears)
I can’t believe I did that.

PAUL
Don’t worry about it. They don’t even care.

ANGLE ON: Derek is on his hands and knees licking the wine off the floor. Dan is standing over him.

DEREK
Drink with me, Dad. The wine might have turned a little, but that could also be the floor cleaner I’m tasting.

Claire hands Dan a sponge.

CLaire
At least suck it from a sponge like a civilized person.

ANGLE ON: Jillian and Paul. Jillian is coming untethered.

PAUL
As long as you don’t cry, you’re still ahead of Kimmy.

JILLIAN
I’m taking deep breaths. I’m holding it together. I’m just feeling a lot of pressure to be perfect, and I’m not sure how much more I can take.

Vanessa is still cooking at the fireplace. She looks back.

VANESSA
Jillian. I made a little room in here for your risotto, if you’re ready.

JILLIAN
(brightly)
Okay. I’ll get it.
Jillian turns and quickly exits. Paul looks after her, confused. We hear the sound of crying, as we...

CUT TO:

INT. DINING ROOM / LIVING ROOM - LATER

...But it’s Lily who is crying. Kimmy can’t get her to stop. Derek stands next to her, helpless.

DEREK
(re: Lily)
I think we got a bad one.

KIMMY
We didn’t get a bad one.

DEREK
I think we got a bad one.

Charles, Vanessa, Claire, Paul, and the three kids are seated. (Jillian is not there.) Dan is standing, giving a toast as Derek and Kimmy deal with Lily over by the entrance to the living room.

DAN
All right. First off, I’d like to thank --

CLAIRE
(reminding him)
Vanessa and Charles.

DAN
I’m getting to them, Claire.

CLAIRE
For opening up your amazing home.

DAN
I got it. I’d like to also welcome Jillian. We’re so happy to have you, even after the incident. (realizing her absence)
Where is she?

PAUL
(looking down, depressed)
I don’t know.

VANESSA
She said she was going to get her risotto and we haven’t seen her since. Don’t worry.
Vanessa rests a reassuring hand on Paul’s shoulder.

VANESSA (CONT'D)
I made some.

It’s awkward and no one decides to pursue it.

DAN
And finally, to Derek and Kimmy, bringing in the newest member of our family, Lily...

Lily continues to cry, louder now.

DAN (CONT’D)
Who clearly takes after her grandmother, screaming at me as I’m trying to speak. We love you all.
(patting his belly)
Now let’s eat before I waste away into nothing.

Vanessa has stood up and approaches Kimmy to help with Lily.

VANESSA
It’s probably just gas. Here, I’ll burp her.

KIMMY
(politely declining)
That’s okay, thanks.

VANESSA
Are you sure?

DEREK
Why don’t you just let her help?

KIMMY
Fine.

Annoyed and desperate, Kimmy hands Vanessa the baby. Vanessa cradles Lily in her arms, rocking her, walking her around.

VANESSA
(to Lily)

KIMMY
(private to Derek)
If you’re not willing to hold the baby, that’s your problem. But I need you to get your sister to stop acting like the baby is hers.
DEREK
She’s not acting like it’s her baby.

Lily has stopped crying. Kimmy and Derek look over at Vanessa.

KIMMY
(re: Vanessa, realizing)
Is she... breast feeding her?

Derek takes a closer look. The CAMERA PANS to reveal it’s true. Lily has indeed pulled Vanessa’s low-cut top to the side and is sucking on her nipple in front of everyone. But Vanessa, whose nipples still don’t have all their feeling back, is oblivious. Kimmy exits, upset again. Without thinking, Derek has dashed across the room to Vanessa, who is watching Kimmy go.

VANESSA
(re: Kimmy, oblivious)
Oh no, is she crying again --

DEREK
I’ll take her. I think she might be hungry.

Derek grabs his daughter from Vanessa.

DEREK (CONT’D)
And you might want to pull up your...

VANESSA
Whoops.

Vanessa quickly fixes her shirt, embarrassed.

CLAIRE
(to Vanessa, re: breasts)
I told you they looked real.

Derek looks down at Lily, realizing he is holding his daughter for the first time. Then:

DEREK
Here Mom, you take her.

CLAIRE
Absolutely not. She’s your child, you hold her.

DEREK
But I don’t know what I’m doing.
CLaire
Of course not. Your father didn’t talk for three days when Vanessa was born. And he had nine months to get himself ready to be a dad. You had a plane ride to China. You’ll be fine.

Claire kisses Derek, not worried about him. The CAMERa PANS to Charles. He notices Chucker is going to the bathroom in the corner of the room.

Charles
Chucker! No! In this house, we all go to the bathroom outside.

He takes her by the collar and drags her toward the back of the house to let her outside. As he goes:

Charles (Cont’d)
What a disappointing girl. I’m sorry, but you’ll have to walk yourself.

CUT TO:

INT. BACK HALLWAY / BACK PORCH – CONTINUOUS

Charles pulls Chucker along to put her outside. But before he gets to the back porch, he stops. We see two legs of someone lying face down on the ground. The legs appear to belong to Jillian. Charles is frozen, unsure what to do.

CUT TO:

INT. KITCHEN – MOMENTS LATER

Charles has gone to get Paul. They are walking quickly back to the back porch. Paul looks concerned.

Paul
Do you think it was intentional?

Charles
I don’t know what happened.

CUT TO:

INT. LAUNDRY ROOM / BACK PORCH – CONTINUOUS

Charles and Paul enter. We now see Jillian is on the floor, stuck in the doggy door. Her body is inside, and her head and arms are outside, and therefore OFF CAMERA.
Chucker is there, barking at her, pulling on her pant leg with a growl, desperate to get Jillian out of her little door.

CHARLES
Chucker! No!

PAUL
Jillian, are you all right?

JILLIAN (O.C.)
I’m stuck. I’m stuck, Paul. You have to get me out.

CHARLES
Lift her feet. I’ll open the door.

Paul lifts up her feet as Charles unlocks the door with a key. He slowly pulls the door open with Jillian still in it. Her body slides back with the door as it opens. Still stuck, Paul can at least talk to Jillian’s face. She’s been crying.

PAUL
What are you doing in the door?

JILLIAN
I wanted to slip out without anyone seeing me, but I couldn’t get the door open, so I tried to get out this way, but my arms got pinned above my head and...
(starts crying)
I got stuck...

CHARLES
Excuse me for interrupting. I need to go apologize to Chucker for yelling at her before I knew all the facts.

Charles exits, leaving Jillian and Paul alone.

JILLIAN
This was an important night for you and I ruined it. Now you’ll never bring another girlfriend home to meet your family again.

PAUL
I don’t want to bring another girlfriend home. I want you. This is my fault. I put too much pressure on you.
JILLIAN
No. I wanted to be perfect for you.

PAUL
You are.

JILLIAN
Really? Will you wipe my drool?

Paul wipes her mouth, as Vanessa sticks her head in. She bends down to speak to Jillian.

VANESSA
(sweet)
Hi... You okay? The fire department is on the way. Paul can I talk to you for a second?

Paul joins Vanessa by the entrance to the hallway.

VANESSA (CONT’D)
(sotto)
Mom wants to take the family pictures with the baby now, while Jillian is in the door.

PAUL
So, she just wants me to leave her here like this?

VANESSA
I’m sure it’ll just take a minute. The water bowl’s there.

Paul looks at Jillian in the door, considering the situation.

MUSIC CUE: “WHAT GOES ON” by Velvet Underground, as performed by Elizabeth Mitchell, plays over the following:

CUT TO:

EXT. BACK PORCH - LATER

CLOSE ON Claire and Dan standing next to each other.

CLAIRE
Isn’t Paul the sweetest? He must really like this girl.

We PULL BACK to reveal the whole family is lined up for a photograph on the back porch steps.
At the center of the group, on the bottom, is Jillian stuck in the door, her head and hands coming through. Paul is kneeling next to her, smiling.

**PAUL**
I really want to say it...

**JILLIAN**
I want to say it, too...

Vanessa has changed again into something even more revealing and is striking a sexy, chest-out, pose. Charles is next to her holding Chucker. Their three kids are in front of them at the bottom of the steps. On the other side, Claire is with Dan, who is holding a tupperware container. In it is a sponge, red with wine. He squeezes a little into his mouth. Next to them are Kimmy and Derek. Derek is holding Lily. Dan squeezes some wine into Derek’s mouth, too. Kimmy looks at Derek holding Lily, and smiles.

**KIMMY**
You want me to hold her?

He smiles back at Kimmy.

**DEREK**
I got her.

They kiss.

**MAN’S VOICE (O.S.)**
Okay, on three. One, two, three.

The family poses as a CAMERA FLASH goes off. We reveal A FIREMAN has taken their picture. Another fireman stands next to him, waiting patiently.

**FIREMAN**
All right. Let’s get you out of that door.

**CLAIRE**
Wait. One more. And let’s just have fun with this one.

As the fireman prepares to take another photo of the family, we:

**FADE OUT.**

**END OF SHOW**