

10 THINGS I HATE ABOUT YOU

"Pilot"

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Based on the screenplay by
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ACT ONE

1

INT. CAR - MORNING (1)

1

We're inside a beat-up, 1985 Volvo sedan. An air freshener in the shape of the infamous trucker "mudflap" girl sways from the rearview mirror - only this one is reading a book.

ANGLE ON our driver, KAT STRATFORD, 16, smart, sarcastic, and sharp-tongued. She HONKS LOUDLY at the car in front of her.

KAT
(at driver)
Nice turn signal, douchebag!

We PULL BACK to reveal BIANCA STRATFORD, 15, in the passenger seat. She's perky, pretty and applying eye liner in the visor mirror with an open *US Weekly* as a guide in her lap.

BIANCA
(sarcastic)
This is fun. It's like being
driven to school by the Hulk.

Kat taps the breaks, causing Bianca to smear.

KAT
Hulk mad.

BIANCA
Kat! I'm going for Amy Adams, not
Amy Winehouse. We're starting a
new school and first impressions
are crucial.

She cleans up the smudge, then puts her make-up away.

KAT
Please. We're talking about
teenagers. They're impressed by
shiny objects.

BIANCA
Thus, my earrings.

KAT
High school is something you
survive. And in just two short
years I'll escape this Hell for the
hallowed halls of--

BIANCA

(heard this before)

Brown. Where you'll burn your bra
and debate offshore drilling while
I turn your room into a pilates
studio.

KAT

I'll be in the Ivy League and
you'll be... popular. Just like
you've always been.

BIANCA

Excuse me?! Popularity doesn't
just happen. I've worked hard at
it since kindergarten. Last year I
had forty-two pictures in the
yearbook. As a Freshman! Then Dad
gets a new job and I have to start
from scratch.

KAT

All we can do is be ourselves.

BIANCA

Spoken like a true unpopular
person. There is so much more we
can do!

She pulls out a stack of papers. On top is a printed
Facebook profile of CHASTITY CHURCH, 16. Kat can't see it,
because she's driving.

BIANCA (CONT'D)

I've conducted exhaustive Facebook
research with the goal of
identifying the most popular girl
at this school. I then memorized
her profile so that I can easily
befriend and beguile her.

KAT

Beguile. Nice one, Shakespeare.

Kat's CELL PHONE RINGS. The screen reads "Dad." She shows
it to Bianca and pushes the speakerphone button.

KAT/BIANCA

Hi Dad.

We INTERCUT with DR. WALTER STRATFORD, mid-40's, who's
dressed in scrubs and standing in what appears to be a
hospital.

WALTER

Girls, I'm sorry I couldn't be there to make you pancakes this morning. But you never know when the stork is gonna pay a visit.

KAT

Dad, you realize we know where babies come from, right?

WALTER

But do you realize where they come out? Trust me, not pretty.

BIANCA/KAT

(grossed out)

Dad!

WALTER

I'm just saying, boys want to put a baby in you. Are we clear, Bianca?

Kat is a bit miffed at being omitted.

BIANCA

Well they'll have to do it in-vitro, since I can't date until Kat does.

WALTER

Great, we're clear on the rules. I only make them because you girls mean everything to me. I only wish your mom was here to see what smart, sophisticated young women you've become. She'd be so proud.

BIANCA/KAT

(touched)

Thanks, Dad.

WALTER

She would also want you to know about the rising rates of syphilis--

BIANCA/KAT

GOODBYE DAD!

Kat hangs up. Bianca gathers her things.

BIANCA

Pull over here. I don't wanna be seen in this car.

2 EXT. CAR - MORNING (1)

2

Bianca tries the door. It won't budge. Kat, with an annoyed sigh, opens her door and heads around to the passenger door. She puts her foot on the side of the car for leverage, and YANKS the door open.

KAT
Your highness.

Bianca gets out, patting her hair and smoothing her skirt.

BIANCA
How do I look?

KAT
Shallow.

BIANCA
(cheery)
Thank you.

She prances off. Kat returns to the driver side and opens the door, blocking traffic. A motorcycle comes SCREECHING to a stop, just inches from the door. The rider pulls off his helmet, revealing PATRICK VERONA, 17, dark, mysterious, and intense. He glares at Kat with rage, breathing heavily. She's caught off guard by his sexiness, then snaps out of it.

KAT
Don't look at me. You're the one speeding in a school zone.

She hops in and drives off. Now Patrick is caught off guard.

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE

3 EXT. PADUA HIGH SCHOOL - PARKING LOT - MORNING (1) 3

Kat finds a prime spot close to the school. She starts to pull in, and a convertible Mini Cooper zips up at the same time. Both cars stop, in a parking detente. Kat looks over at the driver -- CHASTITY CHURCH, Padua's queen bee.

CHASTITY

This is my spot.

KAT

I was told the spots aren't assigned.

CHASTITY

Oh they're assigned. By Charles Darwin. So why don't you and your...Volvo head to the back with the other less evolved species.

That pisses Kat off. She throws her car into drive and pulls into the parking spot. In doing so, her car takes off the front corner of Chastity's Mini-Cooper.

CHASTITY (CONT'D)

What?... Hey!... STOP!

Patrick pulls up, noticing this whole encounter as Kat locks her car and walks away, waving at a fuming Chastity.

KAT

So nice meeting you.

4 INT. PADUA HIGH SCHOOL - HALLWAY - MORNING (1) 4

The school is abuzz with students. CAMERON, 15, a Tom-Hanks-in-training, struggles to fit his saxophone case in his locker. He gets it in and slams the door, revealing MICHAEL, 15, whose outfit shows he's trying too hard to be hip.

MICHAEL

Hey sophomore!

CAMERON

(off his outfit)

What are you wearing?

MICHAEL

A new look for the new Michael. Over summer I grew two inches, sprouted six chest hairs, and discovered the power of Proactiv.

(MORE)

MICHAEL (CONT'D)

Good-bye Lil' Mikey. Hello
Michael, emo-hipster musician.

CAMERON

You play piccolo in the marching
band.

MICHAEL

Cameron, high school is how you
spin it. Even the biggest dorks
can be cool if they play their
cards right. Look at Shia LeBeouf.

CAMERON

I don't care about cool, I just
want a girlfriend. And every girl
here remembers third grade when I
wet my pants during the tornado
drill.

MICHAEL

OK, can we cancel the suicide
watch? This is our year! Change
is in the air.

A HAND ENTERS FRAME and grabs Michael's collar. The camera
WIDENS OUT, revealing BIG E, 16, big and brutish.

BIG E

Lil' Mikey! What are you doing
outta your locker?

He picks Michael up in a fireman's carry and takes him away.

MICHAEL

Big E, how was your summer, man?
You heard the new Radiohead? It
slays.

Cameron watches him go, then turns and is face-to-face with
Bianca. She's fumbling with her locker. His eyes go wide in
love at first sight. She notices him.

BIANCA

Do you know how to work these
things?

CAMERON

Uh... sure.

He heads over, she hands him her combination. He looks at
it, his hand slightly shaking from nerves.

CAMERON (CONT'D)

Seventeen, thirteen, eleven. Great
combo. You'll never forget it.

(off her confusion)

Descending prime numbers.

BIANCA

Yay, math.

He starts working the combination. Bianca is scanning the
hallway for popular people.

CAMERON

So, you're new here?

BIANCA

Yep. My family just moved here
from Ohio.

CAMERON

The Buckeye State. State bird the
northern cardinal. State flower
the scarlet carnation.

(catching himself)

But you already knew that.

BIANCA

Not really. Sounds like you're
getting a top notch education here.

CAMERON

It's pretty much your typical
suburban high school. Nothing
exceptional about it.

(beat, sotto)

Until now.

He opens her locker. She places her books inside.

CAMERON (CONT'D)

Well, if you need any directions or
class advice or... CPR, I'm
Cameron.

BIANCA

Bianca.

She gives him a quick smile, closes her locker and leaves.

CAMERON

(sotto)

I love you.

5 INT. PRINCIPAL HOLLAND'S OFFICE - MORNING (1)

5

Kat and Chastity sit across the desk from PRINCIPAL HOLLAND, 40's, a stern looking schoolmarmish type.

PRINCIPAL HOLLAND
(deadly serious)
Girls, tell me what happened?

CHASTITY
What happened is this...
(sizing up Kat)
Girl?... mauled my Mini-Cooper.

KAT
No, I asserted my right to park--

PRINCIPAL HOLLAND
(to Chastity, concerned)
Are you OK, my dear?

CHASTITY
My neck does hurt a little.

KAT
I doubt it's because your brain is too heavy.

PRINCIPAL HOLLAND
(to Kat, concerned)
I want you to go see the nurse.
After all, we can't risk our head cheerleader having an injury just days before the first pep rally!

Kat looks at her in shock. Is she for real?

CHASTITY
OK, but I want to press charges.

PRINCIPAL HOLLAND
Let me handle it. I don't want this little fracas to take up any more of what I hope will be a marvelous first day!

She ushers Chastity out with a smile. Then turns to Kat, deadly serious again.

PRINCIPAL HOLLAND (CONT'D)
I think you should write a letter of apology. And a donation to the family Foundation couldn't hurt.

KAT

You're joking, right? She's the one who thinks she owns--

PRINCIPAL HOLLAND

Listen...

(reading folder)

Katherine, it's your first day at Padua High School. I can tell from your transcripts you've got big things in your future. I suggest you focus more on that and less on antagonizing the daughter of the School Board Superintendant.

KAT

(in shock)

This is a public school, where every student has the right to be treated with dignity and respect.

PRINCIPAL HOLLAND

Save it for your journal, honey.

She ushers Kat to the door and opens it, revealing Patrick sprawled out in the chair in the waiting area, hammering a stapler with his fist. He's chewing on a toothpick.

PRINCIPAL HOLLAND (CONT'D)

Mr. Verona, what a surprise. Come in.

Patrick stands and enters the doorway as Kat leaves. They're forced to maneuver face-to-face. He locks onto her with his intense, scary gaze.

KAT

(re: his breath)

Instead of the toothpick, try a tic-tac.

She pushes by him and leaves. He watches her go as he closes the door.

6 EXT. PADUA CAMPUS - MORNING (1)

6

ANGLE ON Cameron and Michael sitting on a picnic table in the quad eating lunch.

CAMERON

What's she doing now? Other than looking beautiful, of course.

Michael looks over Cameron's shoulder at Bianca, who's sitting on a bench across the way, apparently studying.

MICHAEL

She's taking off her shirt. Man, I pegged her at a B cup, tops.

Cameron can't help but look. He turns back and throws a pencil at Michael.

CAMERON

I don't have much time before her social status is determined. It's like she's about to reach into the sorting hat at Hogwarts.

MICHAEL

Well get over there Harry Pooper and pull out your wand!

Emboldened, Cameron stands and takes a few steps towards Bianca. She looks up and he spins back around.

CAMERON

Wait! What do I say first?

ANGLE ON Bianca, who looks back down at a hand-written timeline of Chastity's day. Bianca checks Chastity's picture and looks down the sidewalk, where Chastity exits the building with two gal pals. She's wearing a neck brace. Her friends hug her, concerned, as she leaves them and heads towards Bianca - who sits up tall, preparing herself.

As Chastity approaches, Bianca opens her hand and lets a tube of make up roll stealthily out and across the sidewalk.

BIANCA

(to Chastity)

Ooh, watch out!

Chastity stops, annoyed. Bianca rushes out to pick it up.

BIANCA (CONT'D)

I wouldn't want you to fall in those...

(off Chastity's boots)

Fierce boots! Christian Louboutin?

CHASTITY

(whatever)

Dior.

BIANCA

(off make-up)

Besides, I can't lose my favorite mascara. It's MAC Plush Lash.

CHASTITY

(slightly interested)

That's what I wear.

BIANCA

Great, right? It's pricey, but it's my one splurge. Everything else goes into the bank so that someday I can buy a powder blue convertible Mini-Cooper.

CHASTITY

I'm Chastity!

She holds out her hand. Bianca takes it like she's greeting the Queen.

BIANCA

Bianca.

CHASTITY

Walk with me and tell me your life story.

Bianca, excited, gathers her things and walks with Chastity.

BIANCA

Well, we just moved here from Ohio.

CHASTITY

Wow, great story. You should try out for cheerleading!

As they walk off, we ANGLE ON Cameron and Michael. Cameron's totally defeated.

CAMERON

Too late. Voldemort's got her.

MICHAEL

Not so fast. This is our year, remember? We just need a plan.

(getting an idea)

Hey, don't your parents have book club tonight?

CAMERON

It's scary you know that.

MICHAEL

It's that new Chabon book.
Overrated if you ask me. But while
they're away we're gonna throw a
party.

CAMERON

Did you eat peanut butter?

MICHAEL

Listen, if we host the first rager
of the year, we'll be legends. And
Bianca will be able to talk to you
in public!

CAMERON

But my parents will be home at
midnight.

MICHAEL

We'll call the cops at eleven.
They'll break up the party, making
it even more epic. Then we spend
the last hour cleaning up.
(off Cameron's doubt)
C'mon, imagine greeting Bianca as
she walks into a raging party at
your house.

Cameron grins as he pictures it. That sounds awesome. He
shakes it off.

CAMERON

But how do we get people to come?

Michael thinks then his face lights up. Bingo!

7

EXT. PADUA CAFETERIA - DAY (1)

7

MANDELLA, 17, a shy, chubby goth girl spray paints
elaborately cool graffiti on the back of the building. Kat
walks around the corner, startling her. She hides the can of
paint behind her back.

KAT

Burn the school down, for all I
care.

Mandella smiles shyly.

KAT (CONT'D)

May I join you? I was losing my
appetite in there.

(MORE)

KAT (CONT'D)

Apparently it's no longer socially accepted to chew with your mouth closed.

Mandella nods her head. Kat sits, examining her work.

KAT (CONT'D)

What's your name? When you become a famous artist, I wanna be able to say I knew you when.

Mandella blushes. Nobody's ever shown her such praise.

MANDELLA

Mandella.

Kat looks across the building and spots Patrick, he's sitting at a picnic table, whittling a stick with a switchblade. He stares at Kat with the same scary, intense gaze.

KAT

(re: Patrick)

Mandella, who is Captain Intensity over there?

MANDELLA

Patrick Verona. People say he shows seven of the signs of a serial killer.

KAT

Is one of them inappropriate staring?

Kat stares back at him calmly, initiating a stare off. She's cool as a cucumber. Patrick, getting more and more uncomfortable, stabs his knife into the table.

MANDELLA

(re: Patrick, fearful)

Maybe we should sit somewhere else.

Patrick can't take it anymore. He breaks gaze, folds his knife up menacingly, and leaves.

KAT

(victorious, to Mandella)

There, now where were we?

(off graffiti)

Do you work in any other mediums?

Mandella is in awe of her new friend.

8 INT. PADUA HALLWAY - AFTERNOON (1)

8

Bianca and Chastity walk down the hallway.

CHASTITY
Project Runway?

BIANCA
Love it. Want Tim Gunn to officiate my wedding.

CHASTITY
We are so alike it's scary.
(seeing someone)
Hold on.

She walks over to JOEY DONNER, 16, with Abercrombie ad good looks. She leaps up, straddling him, and they start making out furiously. Bianca stands there, awkwardly. They part.

CHASTITY (CONT'D)
Bianca, this is Joey Donner. My boyfriend and our starting quarterback.

JOEY DONNER
Babe, I told you I don't know if I'll be starting this Friday.

Chastity hops down as the bell RINGS.

CHASTITY
Let's hope so. I don't date second string.
(to Bianca, sincere)
See you at tryouts. I really hope you don't suck!

She leaves them both deflated.

BIANCA
Bye!
(to Joey)
She's a spitfire, huh? I can see why you love her.

JOEY DONNER
Yep. She's the best.

Beat.

BIANCA/JOEY
Well, I'm late for Chemistry.

They laugh at the situation as Joey opens the classroom door.

JOEY DONNER

After you.

They head into:

9 INT. PADUA CLASSROOM - CONTINUOUS

9

They pass in front of the TV hanging on the wall, where two students are reading the announcements. A burst of LOUD STATIC interrupts the broadcast. This grabs everyone's attention. A figure appears wearing a Darth Vader mask.

DARTH VADER VOICE

Attention Padua students. Is the end of Summer bringing out your dark side? Does the crush of homework make you want to scream?

SFX: We hear a loud wookie GROWL.

DARTH VADER VOICE (CONT'D)

Well nothing cures the back-to-school blues like a kick-ass intergalactic party so we're throwing one tonight. If you like to party and you wanna do it tonight, text 555-1672 for coordinates. Luke, I am your--

SMASH CUT TO:

10 INT. AV CLOSET - CONTINUOUS

10

Cameron is filming Michael in the AV Closet.

MICHAEL

--father.

He pulls off the mask as Cameron hurriedly disconnects his video camera from a box marked "closed circuit television."

CAMERON

Hurry! If we get caught I'll get kicked out of the AV club.

MICHAEL

Please, you're one of two members.

CAMERON

Do you think it worked?

Michael checks his phone. The display reads: "You have 259 text mssgs."

MICHAEL

Oh, it worked. Nice wookie, by the way.

11 EXT. PADUA CAMPUS - AFTERNOON (1)

11

There's a group of girls wearing various forms of belly-baring workout clothes sitting on the lawn. Bianca sits among them. Chastity stands at the front.

CHASTITY

You all did great at tryouts. Give yourself a round of applause.

The girls clap and smile at each other.

CHASTITY (CONT'D)

Now, the reason they're called 'tryouts' is because not everyone can make it. If everyone could, they would be called sign ups.

The girls look at each other nervously.

CHASTITY (CONT'D)

And that means some, no let's be honest, most of you won't make the squad. Those of you who don't may beat yourself up about it. Heck, some of you might regret it for the rest of your lives, as you struggle with inadequacy issues. You'll think back on tomorrow when I post the list in the cafeteria as the moment it all went wrong.

The girls wait for Chastity to finish her thought. She picks up her purse and fishes for her car keys. She finds them.

CHASTITY (CONT'D)

So good luck!

The girls all disperse, completely and totally gutted. Bianca runs after Chastity.

BIANCA

Great speech! Very inspiring.

CHASTITY

Yeah, but no one cried.
(shaking her arms limply)
(MORE)

CHASTITY (CONT'D)

Swaha! Swaha!

(explaining)

I'm expelling their loser energy.
After all, you and I are winners.

She winks at Bianca, insinuating that Bianca is making the squad. Bianca is ecstatic: she's a popular cheerleader!

SFX: HONK!!!

Kat has pulled her car up next to them.

CHASTITY (CONT'D)

Ugh, there's Volvo girl again! Of
the ten things I hated about today,
she's number one. I swear, they
will let anyone into public school.

Bianca reacts to that in horror. She looks over at Kat and mimes "cut it out." Kat rolls down the car window.

KAT

You're right, Dad's going to kill
us if we're not home for dinner.
Now quit the charades and get in.

Bianca closes her eyes. Oh no. She opens them and looks over at a confused and disgusted Chastity.

BIANCA

(to Chastity)

I'll see you tomorrow. By the way,
you look amazing in this light.

But the damage is done. Chastity stares straight ahead and walks across the street in front of Kat's car. Kat taps the gas, making the car jump forward. Chastity screams bloody murder. Once she realizes she's OK, she looks over at Kat.

KAT

Oops.

CHASTITY

You evil bitch!

She runs off. Kat smiles.

KAT

I think I like this school.

Bianca seethes like a volcano about to explode on Kat.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

12 INT. STRATFORD HOME - KITCHEN - NIGHT (1)

12

Walter is putting the finishing touches on dinner. Bianca and Kat sit on opposite sides of the table screaming.

BIANCA

You have ruined my chances at being popular!

KAT

I'm sorry, but that girl sucks. She's a teenage Kim Jong-Il!

BIANCA

Speak English!

WALTER

Girls...

KAT

(are you kidding?)
Kim Jong-Il?! The dictator of North Korea?!

BIANCA

North Korea?! We're talking about our high school where I'm going to be unpopular! My life isn't worth living.

KAT

Yes, it's way worse than having bound feet or wearing a burkah.

BIANCA

English!

WALTER

GIRLS! Quiet!

Both girls go quiet. They respect their father.

WALTER (CONT'D)

Bianca, I know you're upset. But Kat's right, you are a little too obsessed with popularity. You need to put things in perspective.

Bianca is pissed. Walter hands her a bowl of pasta.

BIANCA

May I be excused? I don't need to carbo load. I'm not running a marathon tomorrow.

Walter nods. Bianca grabs her dinner salad and heads to her room. Kat turns to her dad.

KAT

Thanks, dad.

WALTER

For what?

KAT

For agreeing with me that popularity is a shallow, superficial thing to pursue.

WALTER

Oh, I don't agree with you.

KAT

What?

WALTER

I've still got physical and emotional scars from the wedgies I got in high school. But popular kids are the ones having sex and I'm not ready to be a grandpa. Now pass the garlic bread.

Kat can't believe him. She pushes herself back from the table, and we REVEAL she's been sitting in a wheelchair.

KAT

How long do I have to use this in the house?

WALTER

Until you learn that a car is not a toy. Today's accident could've been a lot worse.

KAT

I told you, it wasn't an accident.

She wheels over to the bread, annoyed.

13 INT. STRATFORD HOME - KAT'S ROOM - NIGHT (1)

13

Kat finishes the last page of her book: "*Contemporary Feminist Fiction*." She smiles, satisfied, then closes it and puts it on the night stand. She turns off the light. Bedtime.

A hand SLAMS DOWN on Kat's mouth. Her eyes go wide in shock. Then, as if she's prepared for this, she bites down hard.

BIANCA
(sotto)
Owww! You bit me!

A hand turns on the light. It's Bianca, dressed to the nines. She checks her hand for bite marks.

KAT
That's the first thing you learn in my 'Victims No More' class.

BIANCA
Where are your car keys? I have to go to that party and tell Chastity you're adopted.

KAT
You're not taking the car. You haven't even had Drivers Ed.

BIANCA
It's a big go-cart. How hard can it be?

She spots the keys on the dresser. But before she can grab them, Kat sweeps in and takes them. She looks at Bianca defiantly.

BIANCA (CONT'D)
Fine. You drive me.

KAT
Not a chance.

BIANCA
I'll tell dad you're not a virgin.

Kat look at Bianca: you wouldn't. Her look back says she would.

KAT
You have one hour.

14 INT. CAMERON'S HOUSE - NIGHT (1)

14

There's a large group of teenagers standing in a group, looking angrily at someone.

We ANGLE ON who they're looking at: a terrified Cameron.

CAMERON

See, I didn't realize the person who throws the party is also supposed to supply the alcohol.

The group looks at him in unison: Duh!

CAMERON (CONT'D)

I have a case of Coke Zero.

Michael BURSTS IN from the kitchen rolling a keg on a dolly.

MICHAEL

Keg is here! Courtesy of me...
Michael Bernstein. Sophomore.
Musician. Legend.

The group attacks the keg. Michael moves over to Cameron.

CAMERON

How'd you get a keg?

MICHAEL

(sotto)
It's non-alcoholic beer.

CAMERON

What?! Oh my God, they're gonna kill us.

MICHAEL

Relax. By the time they realize they're not drunk, we'll have called the cops.

Cameron sees the logic in that as the front door opens and Bianca enters. Cameron walks, hypnotized, over to her.

CAMERON

Welcome to my home.

BIANCA

Thanks, Cameron. It's nice.

CAMERON

(off decor, awkwardly)
I can't take credit.

(MORE)

CAMERON (CONT'D)

I have a gay uncle who dabbles in decorating. His theme was suburban rain forest.

Cameron is mortified at himself.

BIANCA

How interesting. Listen, do you know if Chastity is here?

CAMERON

(getting an idea)

I don't. But I can help you look.

He takes her hand and walks her into the sea of people.

15 INT. KAT'S CAR - NIGHT (1)

15

Kat sits with her bunny slippers on the dash. She's working through a Sudoku puzzle when...

VROOOOM... VROOOOM....

A motorcycle headlight illuminates Kat's face. She squints to see Patrick across the street, staring at her creepily.

KAT

(fed up)

OK, enough.

She pulls her keys out of the ignition, grabs something out of her glove compartment and opens the door.

16 EXT. CAMERON'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

16

Kat walks over to Patrick on his motorcycle.

KAT

OK, Hannibal Lecter, let's cut to the chase. You want some of this?

She holds up her left fist, where she's threaded her keys in between her fingers, like blades. Patrick laughs.

KAT (CONT'D)

No? Then how 'bout some of this?

She pulls a taser out from behind her back. It sparks. Patrick falls silent.

KAT (CONT'D)

What do you want?

PATRICK

What do you mean?

KAT

I mean, do you want to deal me drugs? Or steal my car? Or harvest my organs? There has to be a reason people are scared of you.

PATRICK

Why are people scared of you?

KAT

People aren't scared of me.

PATRICK

Sure they are. It's why I find you interesting.

He revs his engine and rides off. Kat watches him go, intrigued and maybe a bit turned on.

17 INT. CAMERON'S HOUSE - NIGHT (1)

17

Cameron leads Bianca in from the back.

CAMERON

She's not in the garage. So tell me more about life in Ohio.

BIANCA

(scanning the room)
We had a good outlet mall.

CAMERON

Fascinating. What stores?

She walks off, and Cameron follows. As they pass, we PUSH INTO the party to find Chastity, wearing Bianca's SAME BLOUSE! She approaches Joey and pulls him into:

18 INT. CAMERON'S HOUSE - COAT CLOSET

18

Chastity yanks the string turning on the light.

CHASTITY

Is it true?

JOEY DONNER

(flustered)
I swear I never showed anybody our video.

CHASTITY

No, is it true that Tommy is starting in Friday's game?

JOEY DONNER

(busted)

Yeah. Coach said I need to work on my three-step drop.

CHASTITY

Which is what you should have been doing all summer instead of taking those stupid modeling classes.

JOEY DONNER

Or maybe this is a sign that I should pursue it?

CHASTITY

Joey, I'm the youngest head cheerleader in the history of Padua high school. I am going to date a quarterback, not a catalogue model.

Annoyed, she pulls the string, turning off the light, and leaves. Joey sits in the dark for a beat. He cracks the door, and sees what he thinks is her back. He reaches out and pulls her into the closet.

JOEY DONNER

Look, I can be high fashion!

The light goes on. It's Bianca. He's surprised and embarrassed.

BIANCA

OK...?

JOEY DONNER

Sorry, I thought you were Chastity. She thinks I'm stupid because I want to be a male model. But check this out.

He strikes a series of macho high fashion poses.

BIANCA

Impressive.

JOEY DONNER

Right? I'm making it look easy, but modeling is hard work. People think it just happens.

BIANCA

I know how you feel.

JOEY DONNER

No way, you want to model too?

BIANCA

Well, I...

JOEY DONNER

I think you could. You've got great bone structure.

He brushes her cheekbone. They're both momentarily caught up in the intimacy. Then they snap out of it, and Joey drops his hands.

BIANCA

I should go.

CHASTITY (O.C.)

Joey, why aren't you chasing after me?

The door flies OPEN revealing Chastity. She glares at them, then turns on Bianca.

CHASTITY (CONT'D)

How dare you.

BIANCA

(covering)

It's not what you think. We have Chemistry together.

(beat)

The class, not the...

(changing the subject)

Hey, we match!

CHASTITY

Get out.

Knowing there's no way out of this, Bianca leaves. She walks by Cameron, who's got a new spark of hope.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

19 INT. STRATFORD HOME - KITCHEN - MORNING (2)

19

Kat is in her wheelchair eating cereal and reading the newspaper. Her father sits across from her eating toast.

KAT

(off article, into paper)
We're the world's last "superpower"
and yet we don't have universal
health care?

WALTER

Are you talking to me or the
Democrats in your head?

Bianca comes in, sullen and lifeless.

BIANCA

Dad, have you seen that box of my
old piano sheet music?

WALTER

No. Why?

BIANCA

(dour)
Since I'm not going to be popular,
I figure I'll try out for show
choir. Closeted gay guys are fun.

She leaves.

WALTER

She doesn't seem like herself.

KAT

I know, isn't it great?
(off Dad's look)
C'mon Dad, she's obsessed with what
other people think. Mom wouldn't
approve.

WALTER

Your mother saw Bianca's ability to
fearlessly dive into any social
situation as one of her best
traits.

KAT

She did?

WALTER

She also loved your respect for others and your sense of fairness. That's why I find it strange that someone so passionate about universal health care could lack any compassion for her own sister.

Kat soaks that in. She looks over at her dad.

KAT

Wow, you're good.

WALTER

You're the one who played the dead mom card. I just served it back.

20

INT. CAR - PARKING LOT - MORNING (2)

20

Kat and Bianca pull into a spot.

KAT

You OK? You didn't complain once about listening to NPR.

BIANCA

I was debating whether to sing a song from "Annie" or "Cats." My sheet music is a little dated.

KAT

(trying to be comforting)
Bianca, there's a reason the voting age is eighteen. These imbeciles aren't worthy of an opinion. Who cares what they think?

BIANCA

I care! I'm not like you, Kat. I don't have your thick skin. My skin is thin and soft and supple. You can survive high school alone. I can't.

Kat soaks that in. She never knew Bianca felt that way.

KAT

You're not alone--

BIANCA

Mom is with me? Enough with the dead mom card.

As Bianca gets out and walks away, we see Kat wasn't talking about her mother. She watches Bianca walk past Chastity and a group of cheerleaders huddled around her Mini-Cooper. Chastity smirks at Bianca and whispers to her friends. The injustice of it all hits Kat.

21 INT. PADUA CAMPUS - HALLWAY - MORNING (2)

21

Cameron is brushing his hair in his locker mirror, trying to get ready for Bianca's arrival.

MICHAEL (O.C.)

Sorry you got busted. I forgot about the placebo effect.

Cameron closes the door, revealing Michael.

CAMERON

Someone barfed into the urn holding my grandfather's ashes.

MICHAEL

Are you grounded forever?

CAMERON

Two days. My parents are less angry and more relieved that I have enough friends to throw a party.

MICHAEL

Fear not. Soon enough, we will.

Michael spots Big E. He falls in step with him.

MICHAEL (CONT'D)

Big E! How about my party last night? Who knew you could karaoke like that?

Ignoring him, Big E shoves Michael like he's swatting a fly. Michael flies off camera. Cameron sees Bianca heading his way. He smiles hopefully. She smiles halfheartedly.

CAMERON

Why the long face?

BIANCA

(honest)

Starting over here is harder than I thought.

CAMERON

And yesterday was just Monday. Today is Tuesday.

(MORE)

CAMERON (CONT'D)

Which means it's bean burrito day.
After lunch, breathe through your
mouth.

Bianca chuckles at Cameron's joke.

CAMERON (CONT'D)

Speaking of lunch. I'd be honored
to have the pleasure of your
company.

(embarrassed)

And I'm talking like I'm Louis the
Fourteenth.

Bianca chuckles.

BIANCA

Save me a throne.

She grabs her books and heads off.

22

INT. GIRLS ROOM - MORNING (2)

22

Chastity is applying lip gloss as several older cheerleaders
squeal behind her. One, DAWN, 16, is close to
hyperventilating she's so excited.

DAWN

Oh my God! I love this part.
Seeing all their crushed, sad
little faces. It makes me realize
how lucky we are.

CHASTITY

And we should never forget it.
I'll meet you girls out there.
(off lips)
I'm going to do a second coat.
Build the suspense.

The other girls leave, excited. As Chastity puts on gloss,
Kat comes out from one of the stalls, a camera around her
neck. Chastity gets wary. Mandella steps out of another
stall and blocks the exit.

CHASTITY (CONT'D)

OK, I don't wanna be a part of some
lesbo prison fantasy.

KAT

I'm here to talk about my sister.

CHASTITY

What a coincidence! I was just about to push her off the social ladder.

KAT

Look, Bianca and I are completely different people. I want to be somebody. She wants to be...you.

CHASTITY

Big deal. Every girl in this school wants to be me. Plus the guys in show choir.

KAT

Put her on the squad.

CHASTITY

Not a chance.

Chastity heads for the door. Mandella braces for a fight.

CHASTITY (CONT'D)

Move it, Elphaba.

Kat takes her picture.

CHASTITY (CONT'D)

What are you doing?

Kat takes another picture.

CHASTITY (CONT'D)

Stop! I wasn't ready.

KAT

This morning I signed up to be yearbook photo editor.

CHASTITY

I'm sure that'll look great on your college applications.

KAT

Which means I'll be picking all the pictures that go in it. Let my sister on the squad or on every page you will be sporting a double chin, a muffin top, or cankles.

Chastity processes this.

CHASTITY

I can't let her on the squad.

Kat lifts the camera and takes another pic of Chastity.

CHASTITY (CONT'D)

(panicked)

As a cheerleader!

Kat looks at her. What is she talking about?

23

INT. CAFETERIA - MORNING (2)

23

Bianca carries her lunch out into the sea of people. She sees Chastity posting the list on the announcement board. Various girls squeal in excitement. A few cry. Cameron waves her over to his table. She makes her way over when Chastity stops her.

CHASTITY

Listen, perhaps I was a little hard on you. After all, you can't help who, or what, your sister is. And Joey told me about his confusion. He's confused a lot. And I guess buying the same blouse does show you have taste.

BIANCA

(excited)

I asked a hundred people in Time Square who wore it best. You won.

Chastity looks across the room, where Kat holds up her camera, threateningly. Chastity continues.

CHASTITY

I'm prepared to give you a second chance, if you want it.

BIANCA

I'm a cheerleader?!

CHASTITY

Oooh, not quite.

(off Bianca's confusion)

But you can be the mascot:
Percival the Penguin!

Chastity hands Bianca a pendant with a cute penguin on it.

BIANCA

(deflated)

The mascot?

CHASTITY

You'd be a full member of the
squad. One of us, only covered in
fur.

Bianca thinks for a moment.

SMASH CUT TO:

24 INT. PADUA CAMPUS - HALLWAY - AFTERNOON (2)

24

SFX: RING

Bianca is trying to stuff a giant penguin head into her
locker. It's never going to fit. Cameron approaches.

BIANCA

Sorry I didn't sit with you at
lunch, Cameron.

CAMERON

You missed a very educational
debate about the identity of the
last Cylon.

(conceding defeat)

Congrats on making the squad.

BIANCA

Thanks! Now if I can only pass
French. It's way beyond what I had
in Ohio.

Cameron sees a way in.

CAMERON

I could tutor you. I mean, if you
want.

BIANCA

You would do that?

CAMERON

(gibberish French)

Voulez sou le bou en sans ze deux.

Beat. Cameron hopes that worked.

BIANCA

See? I did not get any of that.
You're a life saver, Cameron.

She hugs him. He smells her hair. Heaven.

BIANCA (CONT'D)

See you tomorrow.

CAMERON

Adios.

(realizing)

I mean, ciao.

Bianca leaves with the penguin. Suddenly hopeful again, he writes "Learn French" on the To-Do list inside his locker.

25

EXT. PARKING LOT - AFTERNOON (2)

25

Kat leans against her car, waiting for Bianca. Patrick pulls up on his bike with a trashy girl on the back. Patrick nods at Kat. A flash of jealousy crosses her face.

KAT

You guys should really be wearing helmets.

He pulls away. Bianca walks up carrying her penguin head.

BIANCA

Who's the cool rider? The cool, cool, cool, cool rider?

KAT

Very funny. Nice penguin head.

BIANCA

Don't call PETA, it's not real.

KAT

Looks like Stella got her snark back.

BIANCA

Can we just go home?

They get in the car and pull away.

END OF SHOW