

CASUAL

'PILOT'

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3/11/14

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FADE IN:

EXT. CEMETERY - DAY

A funeral service. Mourners dressed in black. ALEX COLE (35), glib, good looking in a boyish sort of way, stands next to his sister VALERIE COLE (39), perfectly done up in a veil, and her daughter LAURA (15), looks 18. They hang back as people approach the open casket.

ALEX

Look at Aunt Eva.

AUNT EVA (50), overdressed in a big hat chokes an audible sob as she dramatically passes the casket.

LAURA

That hat is awful.

ALEX

And the crying. Jesus.

VALERIE

It's like a competition. Who can pretend to be saddest.

ALEX

She's sad all right.

VALERIE

You know her daughter finally came out?

LAURA

The one with big ugly birth mark?

VALERIE

The other one. From the third marriage. She's got a partner and everything.

ALEX

Good for her.

VALERIE

Yeah. Eva is devastated.

LAURA

Oh man. How about this guy?

A bearded MAN with severe acne waddles up. He just stares down at the body.

ALEX

I don't know who that is.

VALERIE

Me neither.

LAURA

Maybe he's lost.

A tiny MOUSY WOMAN (JANE) comes up and takes the man's hand. They embrace.

VALERIE

He's with Jane.

ALEX

Wow. How rude is that?

VALERIE

Bringing a date to a funeral?

ALEX

Why should she get to enjoy herself while everyone else suffers?

Jane and her date kiss. It lasts a beat too long.

ALEX (CONT'D)

Now she's just rubbing it in.

VALERIE

She slept in her parent's bed until she was nine. She's not capable of being alone.

*

LAURA

That is so pathetic.

VALERIE

Mom's turn.

DAWN (60's), austere, steps up to the casket. She pauses for just a beat then continues walking.

VALERIE (CONT'D)

Didn't even try.

ALEX

I actually respect that.

VALERIE

When's the last time you spoke?

ALEX

We emailed in January.

VALERIE

Unbelievable.

ALEX

Thanks.

VALERIE

(to Laura)

Please don't do that to me.

LAURA

Fine.

ALEX

Shall we?

They walk up together and look down at the casket. In it is the body of RICHARD COLE (70), Alex and Valerie's father.

ALEX (CONT'D)

He looks bloated.

VALERIE

Not enough embalming fluid.

ALEX

How do they fuck that up? I mean, this is how people will remember him.

VALERIE

I doubt it.

She nods back to the mourners. Among them are 5 MIDDLE AGED WOMEN in veils standing together.

LAURA

Are those all his girlfriends?

ALEX

Just the latest bunch.

LAURA

They're surprisingly well behaved.

*

VALERIE

They think they're in the will.

Valerie and Alex glance at each other and inadvertently start to giggle. Laura shakes her head.

Suddenly we hear the sound of splashing water offscreen. Alex looks up.

ALEX
You hear that?

CUT TO:

INT. ALEX'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Alex startles awake from his dream. *

He looks beside him at the random BRUNETTE in his bed.

BRUNETTE
Did you have a bad dream?

ALEX
Only that I woke up and you were gone.

BRUNETTE
You're so full of it.

ALEX
Full of love.

BRUNETTE
What's my name?

ALEX
Angels don't have names. Go back to sleep.

She smiles and closes her eyes. Alex sighs. Then suddenly hears that splashing again.

INT. ALEX'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Alex tiptoes through his house, following the sound of the splashing. He peeks through his blinds to find:

Laura, in his hot tub, straddling her boyfriend EMILE (17). They have sex with reckless abandon.

Alex frowns.

INT. THERAPISTS OFFICE - DAY

Valerie sits in her chair taking notes. Her posture is amazing. Her patient TOM (40) drones on.

TOM

-So then she got mad because I called her two days later and she said I should've texted the next morning.

VALERIE

Mmmhm.

TOM

But I couldn't text because I had bad service and like, what the fuck, right? I mean, is there some rule that says you have to text the day after?

VALERIE

Some women think it's polite.

TOM

Polite?! We did anal in a bar bathroom.

VALERIE

Maybe that's the problem.

TOM

Or maybe she's just immature.

VALERIE

How old is she?

TOM

Eighteen.

Off Valerie's look:

TOM (CONT'D)

She has a really good fake ID.

VALERIE

Didn't we discuss you trying to date more age-appropriate women?

TOM

Can't do it. I tried but no.

VALERIE

What happened?

TOM

It was like applying to be a sperm donor.

VALERIE

Little obvious, don't you think?

TOM

This woman literally asked me if my sperm was good... And not in the "I wanna swallow it" kind of way.

VALERIE

I see.

TOM

They're all crazy. All of them. I don't know why I bother.

VALERIE

Because eventually you'll find the right one and those things that drive you crazy now will make you love her all the more.

*

TOM

Yeah. That's bullshit but here's hoping.

Valerie glances at her watch.

VALERIE

We're running over. Let's pick this up next time, ok?

TOM

Should I text her?

VALERIE

Who?

TOM

Anal girl. I should text her.

OFFICE LOBBY - EVENING

Valerie walks past her assistant LEIA (20's), a poster child of the adderall generation.

VALERIE

If anyone calls say-

LEIA

You're on the express train to pound town.

VALERIE
Don't say that.

LEIA
Who is he?

VALERIE
I dunno. It's a blind date.

LEIA
Yeah but you looked him up, right?

VALERIE
On facebook?

LEIA
(incredulous)
Yes on facebook. And twitter,
instagram, linked-in, vine, lulu,
match, okc-

VALERIE
No. None of those.

LEIA
You're kidding.

VALERIE
What?

LEIA
What if he's awful? Like a serial
killer. Or Armenian.

VALERIE
I want to study you.

LEIA
People always say that.

Valerie heads for the door. Stops.

VALERIE
How do I look?

LEIA
Honestly?

VALERIE
Yeah.

LEIA
If he doesn't fuck you I will. You
don't even have to buy me dinner.

VALERIE
...Thanks Leia.

LEIA
I won't go down on you though. I did that once to a girlfriend in college and got bronchitis. So it would have to be a strap-on situation. Or, like, scissors.

INT. VALERIE'S PRIUS

Valerie checks her makeup in the rearview as she drives. Her phone rings on the blue-tooth.

INT. ALEX'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

The kind of house I'll buy if this show gets a four season pickup. Wood, glass and steel.

Alex primps in the mirror. He smiles a fake smile then his mouth falls back to its resting state of displeasure. He picks up his ringing phone.

INTERCUT

ALEX
Hey-

VALERIE
I need to know.

ALEX
About?

VALERIE
The guy tonight.

ALEX
Why?

VALERIE
I just do.

ALEX
It's a surprise.

VALERIE
I hate surprises.

ALEX
You should do more things you hate.

VALERIE

I hate dating but I'm doing that.

ALEX

If it sucks just do the purse thing.

VALERIE

Is Laura there?

ALEX

In her room with Emile.

VALERIE

Ugh.

ALEX

Yeah.

VALERIE

You don't like him either, right?

ALEX

I think he might be retarded.

VALERIE

His mom drinks a lot.

ALEX

You think she drank when she was pregnant or is it, like, a coping thing?

VALERIE

I just don't know what she sees in him.

ALEX

He plays guitar.

VALERIE

Everyone plays guitar.

ALEX

He also has a big dick.

VALERIE

Excuse me?

ALEX

They were in the hot tub last night. I saw it.

VALERIE
You were spying?

ALEX
It's my hot tub. They woke me up!

VALERIE
Calm down.

ALEX
The thing practically waved at me.

VALERIE
Good for him.

ALEX
Fuck him.

VALERIE
Are you jealous?

ALEX
Of course.

VALERIE
Don't be. You have a better
personality.

ALEX
Than retard Emile? Gee, thanks.

INT. LAURA'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Laura sits on her bed and listens as Emile plays a shitty
version of The Beatles' 'Blackbird' on his acoustic guitar.

EMILE
...You were only waiting for this
moment to arise. You were only
waiting for this moment to
ariiiiiiiiise.

He finishes.

EMILE (CONT'D)
It's better with the bird sounds.
I'm thinking about going to the
beach and recording some seagulls.

Laura climbs on top of him. Starts to make out. He stops her.

LAURA
What?

EMILE
Your uncle's still here.

LAURA
So?

EMILE
He was watching us in the hot tub.

LAURA
I doubt that.

EMIL
I saw him peeking through the
blinds. It was creepy.

LAURA
Who cares?

EMILE
It's just weird. You all living
together in his house.

LAURA
It's not weird. He and my mom are
best friends. And he's really
depressed.

EMILE
He doesn't seem depressed.

LAURA
He is. He tries to hide it but I've
seen his medicine cabinet.

EMILE
What does your dad say about it?

LAURA
My dad's an asshole. Do you want to
have sex or not?

Emile relents. Laura gets back on top of him and pulls off
his pants. She slides out of her clothes into just her
underwear.

KNOCK KNOCK

LAURA (CONT'D)
(sighs)
Come in.

EMILE
Wait-

Alex enters. Sees the mostly naked teenagers. He and Laura look totally unphased. Emile scrambles to cover up.

ALEX
I'm heading out.

LAURA
K.

ALEX
Call if you need anything.

LAURA
K.

ALEX
And don't mess with the DVR. I'm recording an episode of Man Vs. Food.

LAURA
K.

ALEX
(eyeing the bulge in
Emile's boxers)
Emile.

EMIL
Alex.

INT. BEVERLY HILLS RESTAURANT - NIGHT

Valerie walks in and scans the restaurant. Her eyes land on HAYDEN (40's), a good looking alpha in a power suit, enjoying, no, *relishing* his glass of scotch at the bar.

He waves. She approaches.

HAYDEN
Valerie?

VALERIE
Hayden?

HAYDEN
Wow.

VALERIE
Hi-

HAYDEN
You're really hot.

VALERIE

...Thank you.

HAYDEN

You're welcome. Most older women I go out with are all plasticky and hacked to shit. They've got those balloon lips and the injected foreheads and the fake tits that feel like clay. But not you. You don't look like that at all. Do you like scotch?

VALERIE

Not really... You?

HAYDEN

I practically grew up on it.

VALERIE

Huh?

HAYDEN

My dad used to put a shot in my milk bottle every night before bed.

VALERIE

That sounds like child abuse.

HAYDEN

Haha!

Beat.

VALERIE

I think our table's ready.

TRACK TO:

THE OTHER SIDE OF THE RESTAURANT

Where Alex is dining with AMY (30), a brunette from the valley. He's already on his second drink. She just drinks water.

A WAITER stands at the table.

WAITER

-Our last special is a wild Alaskan cod cooked in lemon butter and served over rice pilaf.

AMY
Ooooooh. I want that.

WAITER
Very good-

AMY
But I'll have the bacon burger,
well done, no bun.

WAITER
...And for you, sir?

ALEX
The cod, please.

The Waiter nods and exits.

ALEX (CONT'D)
What was that about?

AMY
What?

ALEX
Why didn't you get the cod?

AMY
I'm paleo. It's why I'm drinking
water.

Off Alex's blank look.

AMY (CONT'D)
I only consume things that were
available in the paleolithic era.

ALEX
They didn't have cod in the
paleolithic era?

AMY
Not with butter.

ALEX
Oh.

AMY
It's healthier.

ALEX
A hamburger with bacon?

AMY

The bun is what's bad for you.

ALEX

I'm pretty sure that's not true but ok.

AMY

Cavemen didn't eat processed grains or sugars and they lived much longer, healthier lives.

ALEX

Again, pretty sure that's not true but I'm fine to move forward without an argument. Do you-

AMY

It's scientific. They did studies... A guy told me about it at cross-fit.

Alex kills his drink.

CUT TO:

LATER

Valerie and Hayden are in the middle of their dinner.

HAYDEN

Tell me about your marriage.

VALERIE

There's not much to tell. We lasted fifteen years, raised a daughter. Three months ago he left me for a younger woman.

HAYDEN

That sucks.

VALERIE

Yeah.

HAYDEN

How much younger?

VALERIE

A lot.

Beat.

HAYDEN
I was married once.

VALERIE
Really?

HAYDEN
She was great. Better than great.
Beautiful, smart, big heart. She
worked for the Peace Corps. Just
wanted to change the world, you
know?

VALERIE
What happened?

HAYDEN
Same thing that always happens.

VALERIE
(knowingly)
It's hard to balance a marriage and
a career-

HAYDEN
She fell off a third story balcony.

VALERIE
Oh.

HAYDEN
Yeah. Down in Venezuela. Their
concrete is shit. Too much air in
it or something. The buildings just
crumble.

VALERIE
She died?

HAYDEN
Rolled down a hill for a quarter of
a mile. Spent two weeks in a coma.
When she finally came to she was
more vegetable than person. I had
to end it.

Valerie looks horrified.

HAYDEN (CONT'D)
You're really hot. Did I already
say that?

BACK TO:

ALEX AND AMY

ALEX

I think it's amazing.

AMY

Online dating?

ALEX

We answer a couple of questions,
the computer does its thing and now
here we are.

AMY

I'm actually surprised we got
matched.

ALEX

That's part of the magic. You never
know who you'll get.

AMY

But your profile says you don't
like kids?

ALEX

No it doesn't.

AMY

...

ALEX

It says I don't want to have kids.
I like kids fine. More other
people's kids. I mean, they're
tolerable in small doses. Mostly.

AMY

Ok...

ALEX

I actually have a teenage girl in
my house right now.

Off Amy's look:

ALEX (CONT'D)

My niece. It's not like there's a
sex slave in my basement or
anything.

Alex laughs. Amy looks even more disturbed.

ALEX (CONT'D)

So. You're a trainer?

AMY

Master fitness instructor.

ALEX

Sorry.

AMY

It's fine. Just my pet peeve. Like when people call a doctor "mister".

ALEX

What kind of classes do you take to get a degree in fitness instruction?

AMY

I dunno. I was a communications major.

Beat.

ALEX

I've been thinking of exercising more.

AMY

Why don't you?

ALEX

There's this guy at my gym who dances on the treadmill when he runs. Like pointing and spinning and everything. It's really distracting.

AMY

You could go at a different time.

ALEX

Even if he wasn't there I'd still imagine him and his awful dancing. I think I have ptsd.

AMY

My dad has ptsd. He was in the war.

ALEX

That's cool. Must've been fun to see the world.

*

*

*

*

AMY
(uncomfortable. Switching
gears)
...So how do you spend your free
time?

*
*

ALEX
I started this website and it's
sort of taken off. I spend time on
that. Mostly I just hang out.

*

AMY
What's the site?

ALEX
LAMatch.com.

AMY
...The website that set us up?

ALEX
Bingo.

AMY
You use your own dating site?

ALEX
I wrote the matching algorithm.

AMY
Does that algorithm match you with
any girl that you find attractive?

ALEX
You know, you're a lot smarter than
you look.

She stares at him with a contempt bordering on hatred.

Alex glances over at Valerie's table. Sees her looking right
at him with her purse on the table. She points at her purse.

ALEX (CONT'D)
Excuse me.

OUTSIDE THE BATHROOM

Alex waits. Val comes around the corner and joins him.

ALEX
Yes?

VALERIE
His favorite movie is Underworld.

ALEX
With Kevin Costner?

VALERIE
No. That's Waterworld. Which would
be a step up from Underworld.

ALEX
He has great ratings. Women rave
about him.

VALERIE
The women who use your site are sub-
human.

ALEX
That's mean and mostly not true.

VALERIE
How's yours?

ALEX
She's a fitness freak. I hate her.

VALERIE
We should leave.

ALEX
Nah. I'm gonna try and take her
home.

VALERIE
Why?!

ALEX
Because the sex will suck and she
won't call and then it will be on
her to feel bad for not putting in
more effort.

VALERIE
Jesus.

ALEX
You should try it.

VALERIE
I'm not having sex with this guy.
He smells like college.

HAYDEN (O.S)

Ahem.

They both turn. Hayden is staring at them.

VALERIE

Hi!

HAYDEN

Is everything all right?

VALERIE

Of course. We were just finishing up.

Hayden eyes up Alex, a threat to his alpha status.

VALERIE (CONT'D)

This is Alex. My brother Alex.

ALEX

'Sup?

HAYDEN

...Why's your brother here?

ALEX

I'm on a date.

VALERIE

We actually live together. Since the separation.

HAYDEN

...Do you always date at the same restaurants?

ALEX

Sometimes.

No.

VALERIE

HAYDEN (CONT'D)

You do. And then you go in the back and say hurtful things about who you're with.

VALERIE

No!

Alex shrugs.

HAYDEN

What an awful thing to do.

ALEX

I think you're reading too much into this.

HAYDEN

(to Valerie)

I use Old Spice. It's a popular deoderant and I like the smell.

VALERIE

Ok.

Amy walks around the corner, interrupting. At first she just sees Alex.

AMY

Hey-

She stops when she sees the trio all packed tightly into the small corridor.

AMY (CONT'D)

Sorry. I didn't mean to interrupt.

HAYDEN

You're his date?

AMY

Yeah.

HAYDEN

That's his sister. They were shit talking us back here.

AMY

What?

HAYDEN

She said I smell bad and he said you're a fitness freak.

Amy's eyes narrow.

AMY

Caring about your body isn't something to be ashamed of.

ALEX

Ok.

AMY

(to Hayden)

Were you set up through LAMatch?

Hayden nods.

AMY (CONT'D)
He rigged the algorithm. You two probably aren't compatible at all.

HAYDEN
That's really dishonest.

AMY
Isn't it? Why would you think that's okay?

ALEX
Online dating is dishonest! You put up your best pictures and your most innocuous personality traits. You lie about how much money you make and how many partners you've had. I've seen both your profiles. They're filled with lies.

Hayden and Amy stare daggers. Then:

HAYDEN
(to Amy)
Do you like scotch?

AMY
I'd drink anything right now.

ALEX
See? Even your caveman diet is a lie.

AMY
Fuck you.

Hayden and Amy walk out together.

ALEX
(to Valerie)
Fine. We can leave.

INT. ALEX'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Alex lies on a day bed and Valerie sits in an armchair.

VALERIE
Tell me about it.

ALEX
We're at a funeral. Dad's funeral.

VALERIE

I'm with you?

ALEX

Yeah. The whole family is there.
And his harem.

VALERIE

Typical. What are we doing?

ALEX

Criticizing. Aunt Eva. Our cousin
Jane.

VALERIE

That feels inappropriate even for
us.

ALEX

Normally I'd agree but everyone's
so awful. It's impossible not to.

VALERIE

Have you been thinking about death
recently?

ALEX

No more than usual.

VALERIE

And you're taking the Paxil?

ALEX

Yeah.

Beat.

ALEX (CONT'D)

Is our family history preventing me
from having healthy relationships? *

VALERIE

Do you want healthy relationships? *

ALEX

Not really.

Valerie sits next to Alex on the day bed.

VALERIE

I've thought about it too. If they
fucked us over with all their
sleeping around. *

ALEX

A lot of parents have open marriages.

VALERIE

No they don't. I mean, look at us.

ALEX

I'd rather be like us than other people. At least we're not afraid to admit the truth.

VALERIE

What truth is that?

ALEX

That love is a lie.

VALERIE

I'd give you my speech about finding the right person but I know you won't listen.

ALEX

You don't believe it anyway.

VALERIE

(sighs)

I do believe it. And you should talk to Mom.

*
*

ALEX

That's pretty much what you say in my dream.

INT. BEDROOM - LATER

Alex stands at the window looking down at city lights below him.

A toilet flushes offscreen. Valerie enters the room wearing flannel pajamas and an eye mask.

VALERIE

Tonight was a disaster.

ALEX

It will get better. Dating is tough when you first start out.

VALERIE

It hasn't gotten better for you.

ALEX

That's not the point.

VALERIE

I just wanted to have fun. I never have fun.

ALEX

I can set another one for tomorrow.

VALERIE

No. I have to go see Drew and the lawyers. We're finalizing who gets what.

*

ALEX

Oh. I'm sorry.

VALERIE

It's fine. Will you pick Laura up from her soccer game? I don't know if I'll make it.

*

ALEX

Of course.

(beat)

It'll be ok, Val. For both of us.

VALERIE

I know.

Alex gives Valerie a hug then walks to the door. He takes a glance back then closes the door behind him.

*

INT. VALERIE'S OFFICE - DAY

*

Valerie types notes on her computer. She switches to a new tab. LAMatch. She browses a couple guys' profiles. Then goes to her own. She stares at her profile picture, a smiling glamor shot from a few years back. She hardly recognizes the face.

*
*
*
*
*

Leia enters. Valerie quickly closes the tab.

*

LEIA

We need to talk...

*
*

VALERIE

Is something wrong-

*
*

LEIA

About last night! Did you get it in?

*
*
*

VALERIE *
No, Leia. *

LEIA *
Why not?!

VALERIE *
It just... wasn't right. *

LEIA *
Like, physically? *

VALERIE *
Sure. And- *

LEIA *
(interrupting) *
'Cause I'll tell you that has *
happened to me more times than I *
can count. Like with my boyfriend *
Paul. But then it turned out it was *
just in certain positions. Like *
doggy. 'Cause he's curved. And then *
my other boyfriend Aroldis. He was *
used to Cuban girls so that was an *
adjustment period for both of us. *
But now they're both great. So *
don't get discouraged. *

VALERIE *
...How many boyfriends do you have? *

LEIA *
Three. Well, four if you count *
Raymond but he's only in town like *
twice a month so- *

VALERIE *
Do they know about each other? *

LEIA *
No way. *

VALERIE *
And that doesn't bother you? *

LEIA *
(suddenly serious) *
Val. Men have been in a position of *
sexual dominance for thousands of *
years. Women were property. *
Literally traded for furs. Now? We *
have the power. We make the rules. *
And if they don't play by them? *

(MORE)

LEIA (CONT'D)
(pointing to her body)
They lose.

*
*

VALERIE
That's... Wow.

*
*

LEIA
You're hot. Go up to any guy in a
bar. Tell him to take you home.
Odds he says yes? Like, 90%.

*
*
*
*

VALERIE
What if I hate him?

*
*

LEIA
Who cares?! Kick him out in the
morning and never think of him
again. The last thing you need is
another husband.

*
*
*
*
*

Off Valerie. Considering.

*

INT. CONVENIENCE STORE - AFTERNOON

Alex grabs a 12 pack. Heads to the counter. The owner BOB
(60), rings him up.

ALEX
Bob.

BOB
Alex.

ALEX
You watch Idol last night?

BOB
I had to take Blair to the ER.

ALEX
Everything ok?

BOB
Yeah. I'll watch tonight.

ALEX
It's a good one.

EXT. HIGH SCHOOL SOCCER FIELD - AFTERNOON

Laura is on the sidelines as her team plays against another
team of high school girls.

Alex, wearing a backpack, climbs through the parents in the stands and takes a seat next to MOLLY (40's), an intense, not unpretty single soccer mom.

He pulls a beer from his backpack and cracks it. A couple of parents give him dirty looks.

MOLLY
(to herself)
C'mon, c'mon. Pass it. Better touches.

Alex takes a long sip. Takes in the scene.

MOLLY (CONT'D)
Which one's yours?

ALEX
Hmm?

MOLLY
Your daughter. I haven't seen you at the games before.

ALEX
Oh. Laura Cole. She's my niece.

MOLLY
Sophomore, right?

ALEX
Yeah. I don't think she plays much.

MOLLY
(shaking his hand)
I'm Molly.

ALEX
Alex.

MOLLY
Always nice to have another voice in the adult section.

ALEX
I actually don't understand this game at all. Will you tell me when I'm supposed to cheer?

Molly smiles.

MOLLY
Newbie huh? Just follow my lead.

ALEX

Cool.

MOLLY

(pointing down)

That's my daughter. Nina. She plays forward.

ALEX

She's tall.

MOLLY

6'1 and 3/4. Northwestern offered her a scholarship.

ALEX

Congratulations. That's great-

MOLLY

We're holding out. Stanford's interested too.

ALEX

Ah.

MOLLY

I'm actually throwing a party for her next weekend. Most of the other soccer parents will be there. You should join us.

ALEX

Yeah?

MOLLY

Totally. It'll be low key. Some wine and finger food. Friendly conversation.

ALEX

Sounds fun-

Molly abruptly jumps out of her seat.

MOLLY

That's a foul! Cleats up goddamn it! Pull a fucking card!

Alex stares at her in shock. She sits back down as if nothing happened.

MOLLY (CONT'D)

This ref is terrible. I'm going to call the union and file a complaint after the game. So anyway my address is-

Alex scoots a few inches away.

INT. LAW OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

Valerie and her lawyer FRANKLIN (60's) sit at a long table across from her husband DREW (40's) clean cut, conservative, and his lawyer BILL (70's).

BILL

Drew wants the cars.

FRANKLIN

Valerie doesn't care about the cars.

BILL

Good. Easy. If everything else is settled we should move on to the house.

FRANKLIN

Valerie still wants to sell the house.

BILL

Drew still wants Valerie to take the house and he'll take the investments and CDs.

FRANKLIN

That's not going to work for Valerie.

BILL

Drew would like to point out that the value of the house exceeds the value of the investments and CDs.

FRANKLIN

Valerie doesn't care about the value of the house or the value of the investments and CDs.

DREW

Take the house, Val.

BILL

Drew, please. Just let me handle-

DREW

Take it and let's finish this.

VALERIE

I don't want the house.

DREW

You can't keep living with your brother.

VALERIE

Of course I can.

DREW

It's not good for Laura.

VALERIE

Neither is walking in on her father with his dick in a twenty year old.

DREW

Well you certainly weren't letting me put my dick anywhere near you.

FRANKLIN

I think Valerie would like to get back to-

VALERIE

(sarcastic)

Oh so that's why this didn't work? *

DREW

No. This didn't work because you refused to give yourself to our marriage. *

VALERIE

Excuse me?

DREW

You didn't even try. *

Valerie opens her mouth but cannot think of a good retort.

DREW (CONT'D)

I just hope to god she doesn't end up like you.

VALERIE

And how am I, Drew?

DREW

Alone.

*

A long beat.

*

BILL

Maybe we should take a break.

Valerie stands and walks quickly out of the room.

*

INT. ALEX'S CAR - AFTERNOON

Alex drives. Laura is in the passenger seat in her uniform, texting.

ALEX

Good game.

LAURA

I didn't even play. Which is fine because I hate team sports. I'm just doing it for PE credit.

ALEX

Do you know Nina's mom Molly? I sat next to her.

LAURA

She's a total loony tune.

ALEX

How does a woman like that get married, let alone have kids?

LAURA

Her husband killed himself last year.

ALEX

That makes sense.

LAURA

You tried to kill yourself, didn't you?

ALEX

That's debateable.

LAURA

My mom said you jumped off your deck.

ALEX

I did. But it was more exploratory than anything. I only broke my leg.

LAURA

If you were serious you would've used a gun.

ALEX

Exactly.

LAURA

How's the double dating?

ALEX

Your mom has high standards. She hasn't exactly embraced the idea of casual sex.

LAURA

She'll get there.

ALEX

Things good with Emile?

LAURA

They're ok.

ALEX

Is he 'the one'?

LAURA

Shut up.

ALEX

I saw you guys in the hot tub.

LAURA

I know.

ALEX

Could you please try not to have sex in places where I can see?

LAURA

Fine.

*

INT. ALEX'S HOUSE - LATER

Alex and Laura walk in to find Valerie, made up and looking good in a little black dress. She grabs her purse as she heads for the door.

*

*

*

LAURA

Woah.

ALEX

Where are you going?

VALERIE

To get laid.

Alex and Laura give each other a look.

LATER

Alex and Laura splayed out on couches watching Man Vs. Food on TV. Alex smokes a joint.

LAURA

Think she'll do it?

ALEX

Once your mom sets her mind to something...

LAURA

God, she needs it.

The host of the TV show bites into a 6 pound hamburger.

ALEX

Like a burger needs a bun.

INT. HOTEL BAR - NIGHT

Valerie eyes the bar. Sees a solitary man, LEON (30's), good looking in a quiet sort of way. She takes a breath then walks up to him.

VALERIE

I'm Valerie.

LEON

Leon. Hi. My name is Leon. I already said that. Can I buy you a drink?

VALERIE

Leon, if I asked you to close your tab and take me home what would you say?

Leon's eyes go wide.

LEON
Seriously?

VALERIE
Seriously.

Leon quickly signals for the bartender.

LEON
So, um, what do you do, Valerie?

VALERIE
Let's not talk, ok?

Leon nods.

INT. ALEX'S HOUSE - NIGHT

It's dark. Quiet. Leon, in boxers, tiptoes into the kitchen. Opens the fridge and grabs a brita pitcher full of water. As he goes to close the fridge the light illuminates Alex, standing right beside him. Naked.

LEON
Jesus!

ALEX
I'm Alex.

LEON
Leon... You're Valerie's roommate?

ALEX
Her brother.

Leon looks terrified.

Alex breaks into a broad smile. Clasps Leon on his bare shoulder.

ALEX (CONT'D)
Good to have another guy around here, Leon. See you in the morning. I'm making waffles.

Alex turns and heads back to his bedroom without another word. Leon watches his naked figure disappear into a bedroom. Off his confused face we:

CUT TO BLACK