JUNO

By Diablo Cody

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JUNO MacGUFF stands on a placid street in a nondescript subdivision, facing the curb. It’s FALL. Juno is sixteen years old, an artfully bedraggled burnout kid. She winces and shields her eyes from the glare of the sun. The object of her rapt attention is a battered living room set, abandoned curbside by its former owners. There is a fetid-looking leather recliner, a chrome-edged coffee table, and a tasteless latchhooked rug featuring a roaring tiger.

JUNO V.O.
It started with a chair.

FLASHBACK - Juno approaches a boy hidden by shadow. He’s sitting in an overstuffed chair. She slowly, clumsily lowers herself onto his lap.

A 60’s Brazilian track plays from a vintage record player.

WHISPERED VOICE
Do you know how long I’ve wanted this?

JUNO
Yeah.

WHISPERED VOICE
Wizard.

A DOG barks, jarring Juno back to reality.

JUNO
Quiet, Banana. Hey, shut your gob for a second, okay?

We see a teacup poodle tethered in the yard a few feet away from the abandoned living room set. The dog yaps again.

JUNO (V.O.)
This is the most magnificent discarded living room set I’ve ever seen.

She swigs from an absurdly oversized carton of juice and wipes her mouth with the back of her hand.

BEGIN ANIMATED TITLE SEQUENCE:
Juno marching down various streets, pumping her arms like a jogger and chugging intermittently from the huge carton of juice. We watch her breathlessly navigate suburbia, clearly on a mission.

EXT. DRUGSTORE - DAY

Finally, a panting Juno arrives at DANCING ELK DRUG on the main drag of her small Minnesota suburb, Dancing Elk.

The automatic doors of the store part to reveal Juno’s flushed serious face. She carelessly flings the empty juice container over her shoulder and onto the curb. A group of DROPOUTS with skateboards near the entrance glare at her.

She enters the DRUGSTORE.

INT. DRUGSTORE - CONTINUOUS

ROLLO, the eccentric drugstore clerk, sneers at Juno from behind the counter. He wears a polyester uniform vest.

    Rollo
    Well, well. If it isn’t MacGuff the Crime Dog! Back for another test?

    Juno
    I think the last one was defective. The plus sign looked more like a division sign.

Rollo regards her with intense skepticism.

    Juno
    I remain unconvinced.

Rollo pulls the bathroom key out of reach.

    Rollo
    This is your third test today, Mama Bear. Your eggo is preggo, no doubt about it!

An eavesdropping TOUGH GIRL wearing an oversized jacket and lots of makeup gapes at Juno from the beauty aisle.

(CONTINUED)
TOUGH GIRL
Three times? Oh girl, you are way pregnant. It’s easy to tell. Is your nipples real brown?

A pile of stolen COSMETICS falls out of the girl’s jacket and clatters to the floor.

TOUGH GIRL
Balls!

Juno crosses and crosses her legs awkwardly, hopping. It’s obvious she has to use the bathroom urgently.

ROLLO
Maybe you’re having twins. Maybe your little boyfriend’s got mutant sperms and he knocked you up twice!

JUNO
Silencio! I just drank my weight in Sunny D. and I have to go, pronto.

Rollo sighs and slips her the bathroom key. Juno races down one of the aisles.

ROLLO
Well, you know where the lavatory is. (Calling after her)
You pay for that pee stick when you’re done! Don’t think it’s yours just because you’ve marked it with your urine!

JUNO
Jesus, I didn’t say it was.

ROLLO
Well, it’s not. You’re not a lion in a pride!
(to himself)
These kids, acting like lions with their unplanned pregnancies and their Sunny Delights.

INT. DRUGSTORE - BATHROOM - DAY

In the dim, reeking public bathroom, Juno hovers over the commode with her boxer shorts around her ankles. She clumsily tries to use the pregnancy test.
We see the test box sitting on the sink. It’s a TeenWave Discount Pregnancy Test. The accompanying outdated package photo is of a shrugging 80s teen with a resigned expression. The fine print on the box reads “From the makers of Sun-Glitz Lightening Hair Spritz!”

INT. DRUGSTORE - FRONT COUNTER - DAY

Juno holds the developing test in her hand and slaps the open test box on the front counter. Rollo scans it and bags it indifferently.

JUNO
Oh, and this too.

She places a giant licorice Super Rope on the counter.

ROLLO
So what’s the prognosis, Fertile Myrtle? Minus or plus?

JUNO
(examining stick) I don’t know. It’s not...seasoned yet. Wait. Huh. Yeah, there’s that pink plus sign again. God, it’s unholy.

She shakes the stick desperately in an attempt to skew the results. Shake. Shake. Nothing.

ROLLO
That ain’t no Etch-a-Sketch. This is one doodle that can’t be undid, homeskillet.

EXT. MACGUFF HOUSE - EVENING

Juno walks slowly and dejectedly up the street to her house, gnawing on the Super Rope. She stops and loops the Super Rope over a low-hanging tree branch, contemplating how to fashion a noose.

Juno trudges toward her HOUSE. The yard is a wild tangle of prairie grass and wild flowers.
INT. MACGUFF HOUSE - JUNO’S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Juno’s BEDROOM is decorated with punk posters: The Damned, The Germs, the Stooges, Television, Richard Hell, etc.

She picks up a hamburger-shaped phone to call her best friend, LEAH.

OMITTED

INT. LEAH’S HOUSE - BEDROOM - NIGHT

LEAH’s room is cluttered with the sentimental junk that certain girls love to hoard. The PHONE rings.

LEAH
(answering phone)
Yo-yo-yiggity-yo.

JUNO
I am a suicide risk.

LEAH
Is this Juno?

JUNO
No it’s Morgan Freeman. Got any bones that need collecting?

LEAH
Only the one in my pants.

JUNO
(in low tones)
Dude, I’m pregnant.

LEAH
Maybe it’s just a food baby. Did you have a big lunch?

JUNO
It’s not a food baby. I took three pregnancy tests today. I am definitely up the spout.
LEAH
How did you even generate enough pee for three pregnancy tests?

JUNO
I drank like ten tons of Sunny Delight. Anyway, yeah. I’m pregnant. And you’re shockingly cavalier.

LEAH
Is this for real? Like for real, for real?

JUNO
Unfortunately, yes.

LEAH
Oh my God! Oh shit! Phuket Thailand!

JUNO
That’s the kind of emotion I was looking for in the first take.

LEAH
Well, are you going to go to Havenbrooke or Women Now for the abortion? You need a note from your parents for Havenbrooke.

JUNO
I know. Women Now, I guess. The commercial says they help women now.

LEAH
Want me to call for you? I called for Becky last year.

JUNO
Eh, I’ll call them myself. But I do need your help with something very urgent.

EXT. CENTENNIAL LANE - NIGHT
Leah and Juno struggle to drag a recliner across a well-manicured suburban lawn. They make a formidable team.

LEAH
Heavy lifting can only help you at this point.

(CONTINUED)
JUNO
That is sick, man.

Leah busts a gut laughing. It’s a stunningly accurate portrayal of Bleeker’s parents.

LEAH
So, you were bored? Is that how this blessed miracle came to be?

JUNO
Nah, it was a premeditated act. The sex, I mean, not getting pregnant.

LEAH
When did you decide you were going to do Bleeker?

JUNO
Like, a year ago, in Spanish class.

INT. DANCING ELK SCHOOL - SPANISH CLASS - DAY - (FLASHBACK)

Bleeker and Juno are sitting at their desks, listening to a teacher lecturing about spanish. Bleeker discreetly pushes a POSTCARD to Juno with his foot. She picks it up off the floor, reads it, then looks at Bleeker, who is watching the teacher obediently.

EXT. CENTENNIAL LANE - NIGHT

LEAH
Aha! You love him.

JUNO
It’s extremely complicated, and I’d rather not talk about it in my fragile state.

She hefts a coffee table with her bare hands. She’s wearing her father’s LIFTING BELT.

LEAH
So, what was it like humping Bleeker’s bony bod?

JUNO
It was magnificent, man!
INT. BLEEKER’S BEDROOM – MORNING
CU of Bleeker putting on double socks in his Car-Bed.
CU of Bleeker putting on his sweat bands.
CU of Bleeker applying Runner’s Glide.

INT. KITCHEN – BLEEKER’S HOUSE – KITCHEN – MORNING
CU of a CROISSANT POCKET warming in the microwave.

EXT. BLEEKER HOUSE – MORNING
PAUL BLEEKER steps onto the front porch of his house for early morning track practice. He wears a cross country uniform that reads “DANCING ELK CONDORS.” He is eating some kind of microwaved snack gimmick.

Bleeker is startled to discover that Juno is outside waiting for him. She has somehow arranged the living room set on the front lawn, and is seated in the armchair, chewing a pipe officiously.

JUNO
Hey Bleek.

BLEEKER
Hey, cool tiger. Looks proud.

JUNO
Yeah, I swiped it from Ms. Rancick.

BLEEKER
Cool.

JUNO
Your shorts are looking especially gold today.

BLEEKER
My mom uses color-safe bleach.

(CONTINUED)
Go Carole.
(a beat)
So, guess what?

(Shrugs)
I don’t know...

I’m pregnant.

Stunned silence. Juno pops up the footrest of the recliner and leans back comfortably.

I guess so.
(fidgeting)
What are you going to do?

The Dancing Elk Prep cross country team runs past Bleeker’s house in a thundering herd, wearing a motley assortment of warm-ups. Their momentum stirs the crackling fall leaves. They wave and holler at Bleeker and Juno.

When I see them all running like that, with their things bouncing around in their shorts, I always picture them naked, even if I don’t want to. I have intrusive thoughts all the time.

There’s an awkward silence.

So, what do you think we should do?
JUNO
I thought I might, you know, nip it in the bud before it gets worse. Because I heard in health class that pregnancy often results in an infant.

BLEEKER
Yeah, typically. That’s what happens when our moms and teachers get pregnant.

JUNO
So that’s cool with you, then?

BLEEKER
Yeah, wizard, I guess. I mean do what you think is right.

JUNO
I’m real sorry I had sex with you. I know it wasn’t your idea.

BLEEKER
Whose idea was it?

JUNO
I’ll see you at school, O.K.?

She mounts her bicycle and waves before riding off.

BLEEKER
(to nobody in particular)
Whose idea was it?

29
EXT. DANCING ELK SCHOOL – DAY

Juno pushes her crappy bike into the bike rack and winds a lock around it. In the background, a group of 3 NERDS play a live-action RPG.

NERD
You did not! You don’t have the armor. That Orc Armor you bought from the wizard doesn’t have the power level to parry my hit!

29A
INT. DANCING ELK SCHOOL – CORRIDOR – DAY

Juno tries to push through the masses, but the throng of students is thick and unwielding.
Juno rummages through her locker, which is plastered with photos of Leah and Bleeker, plus a giant poster of Iggy Pop in his heyday.

She grabs a dilapidated physics textbook. A few pages slip out. STEVE RENDAZO (the same asshole who harassed her as she walked to the drugstore) passes by in the hallway.

STEVE RENDAZO
Hey, your book fell apart!

JUNO
Yeah.

STEVE RENDAZO
It must have looked at your face. PWAH!

He high-fives his klatch of buddies and moves along.

JUNO V.O.
The funny thing is that Steve Rendazo secretly wants me. Jocks like him always want freaky girls. Girls with horn-rimmed glasses and vegan footwear and Goth makeup. Girls who play the cello and wear Converse All-Stars and want to be children’s librarians when they grow up. Oh yeah, jocks eat that shit up.

We see Steve looking back at Juno for a brief second with mixed feelings.

JUNO V.O.
They just won’t admit it, because they’re supposed to be into perfect cheerleaders like Leah. Who, incidentally, is into teachers.

We see Leah at the far end of the hallway, talking animatedly with a paunchy middle-aged teacher, KEITH.

LEAH
(from a distance)
Me too! I love Woody Allen!
STUDENTS bustle in, as the teacher, MR. TINKER tries to maintain order. Juno heads toward her desk and sets down her bag.

MR. TINKER
People! We’re doing our photomagnetism lab today, so find your partner and break out into fours.

Juno looks up and meets eyes with her longtime lab partner: Bleeker. Sound the gong of awkwardness!

Juno and Bleeker head separately over to an available lab station and unpack their bags in silence.

JUNO
Well! Nothing like experimenting.

BLEEKER
I did the prep questions for this lab last night. You can copy my answers if you need to.

He slides a piece of graph paper in front of Juno without looking at her.

JUNO
Oh, I couldn’t copy your work.

BLEEKER
But you copy my work every week.

JUNO
Oh yeah. I’m kind of a deadbeat lab partner, huh?

BLEEKER
I don’t mind. You definitely bring something to the table.

JUNO
Charisma?

BLEEKER
Or something.

The other two LAB PARTNERS, a humorless couple, join them at the station.
So, who’s ready for some photomagnificence?

I have a menstrual migraine, and I can’t look at bright lights today.

Amanda, I told you to go to the infirmary and lie down. You never listen.

No Josh, I don’t take orders. Not from you and not from any man.

You know, you’ve been acting like this ever since I went up to see my brother at Mankato. I told you, nothing happened!

Something happened. Because your eyes? Are very cold? They’re very cold, Josh. They’re cold, lying eyes.

What? My eyes are not lying!

Yes they are, Josh. Since Mankato, they have been lying eyes.

Juno and Bleeker observe the argument like tennis spectators, fascinated by the dynamics of a real couple.

Okay...I’m going to set up the apparatus. Juno, want to get a C-clamp out of that drawer?

I’m going to the infirmary.

Good. Call me when you’re OFF the rag.
GIRL LAB PARTNER
Fine. Call me when you learn how to
love just one person and not cheat
at your brother’s college just
because you had four Smirnoff Ices
and a bottle of Snow Peak Peach
flavored Boone’s!

GUY LAB PARTNER
Good, I’ll be sure to do that,
Amanda. I’ll make a note of it.

He furiously scrawls a fake memo in his notebook.

JUNO
Snow Peak Peach is the best flavor
of Boone’s. Right, Bleek?

Bleeker reddens and continues constructing the apparatus.

GIRL LAB PARTNER stalks off dramatically.

Bleeker shakes his head and rifles through his textbook.

INT. MACGUFF HOUSE - JUNO’S BEDROOM - AFTERNOON

Juno examines a large ad in the newspaper that depicts a
distraught TEEN GIRL clutching her head in a moment of staged
conflict. The ad reads: “Pregnant? Find the clinic that gives
women choice. Women’s Choice Health Center.”

Juno picks up her hamburger phone and dials. For a moment,
she attempts to copy the melodramatic pose from the ad,
checking herself out in the mirror.

JUNO
(talking along with voice prompt)
“Para instrucciones en Espanol,
oprima numero dos.”

She presses a few buttons in succession.

JUNO
Yes, hello, I need to procure a hasty
abortion?...What was that? I’m sorry,
I’m on my hamburger phone and it’s
kind of awkward to talk on. It’s
really more of a novelty than a
functional appliance.

She SMACKS the phone a couple of times.

(CONTINUED)
Better? Okay, good. Yeah, as I said, I need an abortion, two...sixteen...Um, it was approximately two months and four days ago that I had the sex. That’s a guestimate. Okay, next Saturday? Great.

She hangs up the phone.

I hate it when adults use the term “sexually active.”

A HEALTH TEACHER in slo-mo puts a condom on a banana.

What does that even mean? Can I deactivate someday, or is this a permanent state of being? I guess Bleeker went live that night we did it. I guess he hadn’t done it before, and that’s why he got that look on his face.

We see Paulie’s face at the moment of his deflowering: he’s comically wide-eyed with shock.

Juno, her father MAC, her stepmother BREN, and LIBERTY BELL sit at a very typical kitchen table, eating dinner. MAC shovels food while chatting about his day.

You should have seen this octopus furnace. I had to get out my Hazmat suit just to get up in there...

My dad used to be in the Army, but now he’s just your average HVAC specialist. He and my mom got divorced when I was five.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)
She lives on a Havasu reservation in Arizona...

PHOTO: ARIZONA TRAILER PARK

JUNO V.O.
... with her new husband and three replacement kids. Oh, and she inexplicably mails me a cactus every Valentine’s Day.

INT. MACGUFF HOUSE - JUNO’S BEDROOM - DAY

PILE OF NEGLECTED CACTI festering in a corner of Juno’s room.

JUNO V.O.
And I’m like, “Thanks a heap, Coyote Ugly. This cactus-gram stings even worse than your abandonment.”

INT. MACGUFF HOUSE - DINING ROOM - NIGHT

BREN is cutting up LIBERTY’S food diligently. Her nails are brilliant, holding the silverware.

JUNO V.O.
That’s my stepmom, Bren...

INT. BREN’S WORKROOM - DAY

Bren stitches a needlepoint pillow of a dog.

JUNO V.O.
She’s obsessed with dogs...

EXT. BREN’S TENS - DAY

Bren’s nail salon in all its glory.

JUNO V.O.
... owns a nail salon called Bren’s Tens...

INT. BREN’S TENS - DAY

Bren chats up a customer as she applies a fresh coat.
... and she always smells like methylmethacrylate.

INT. MACGUFF HOUSE - DINING ROOM - NIGHT

Liberty Bell coughs pitifully as Bren leans over her plate.

MAC
So Juno, how did your maneuver go last night?

JUNO
Which maneuver, sir? The one in which I moved an entire living room set from one lawn to another, or the one in which I cleared a sixty-four ounce blue slushie in ten minutes?

Bren speaks in her strong city accent.

BREN
Juno? Did you happen to barf in my urn? Mac, you know that nice urn by the front door, the one I got up in Stillwater? I found some weird blue shit, I mean stuff, gunk, in there this morning.

JUNO
I would never barf in your urn, Brenda. Maybe L.B. did it.

We see Liberty Bell blithely pouring bacon bits onto her dinner.

MAC
Liberty Bell, if I see one more Baco on that potato, I’m gonna kick your monkey ass.

EXT. WOMEN’S CHOICE CLINIC - DAY

Juno trudges toward the front entrance of the clinic. There is a lone ABORTION PROTESTER, a teenager of Asian descent holding a hugely oversized sign that reads “NO BABIES LIKE MURDERING.”

LONE PROTESTER
(chanting in extremely shy, accented voice) }
(MORE)
Juno recognizes the PROTESTER as a classmate of hers.

JUNO
Uh, hi Su-Chin.

SU-CHIN
Oh, hi Juno. How are you?

JUNO
Good. I’m good.
(pause)
Did you finish that paper for Worth’s class yet?

SU-CHIN
No, not yet. I tried to work on it a little last night, but I’m having trouble concentrating.

JUNO
You should try Adderall.

SU-CHIN
No thanks. I’m off pills.

JUNO
Wise move. I know this girl who had a huge crazy freakout because she took too many behavioral meds at once. She took off her clothes and jumped into the fountain at Ridgedale Mall and she was like, “Blaaaaah! I’m a kraken from the sea!”

SU-CHIN
I heard that was you.

JUNO
Well, it was nice seeing you.

She continues on toward the clinic entrance.

SU-CHIN
(calling out)
Juno!

Juno stops in her tracks but doesn’t bother to turn around.
SU-CHIN
Your baby probably has a beating heart, you know. It can feel pain. And it has fingernails.

JUNO
Really? Fingernails?

She considers the concept, then pushes open the clinic door.

INT. WOMEN’S CHOICE CLINIC - RECEPTION - DAY

The receptionist sits behind a pane of bulletproof glass. The waiting room is semi-crowded, occupied mostly by pregnant women, teens and ill-behaved children.

PUNK RECEPTIONIST
Welcome to Women’s Choice, where women are trusted friends. Please put your hands where I can see them and surrender any bombs.

Juno flashes her best jazz hands.

JUNO
Hi. I’m here for the big show?

PUNK RECEPTIONIST
Your name, please?

JUNO
Juno MacGuff.

The receptionist raises a pierced eyebrow and arranges some paperwork on a clipboard.

JUNO V.O.
She thinks I’m using a fake name. Like Gene Simmons or Mother Teresa.

The receptionist hands Juno the clipboard and a pen.

PUNK RECEPTIONIST
I need you to fill these out, both sides. And don’t skip the hairy details. We need to know about every score and every sore.

The receptionist reaches into one of those ubiquitous women’s clinic CONDOM JARS, and holds up a fistful of purple rubbers.

(CONTINUED)
PUNK RECEPTIONIST
Would you like some free condoms?
They’re boysenberry.

JUNO
No thank you. I’m off sex.

PUNK RECEPTIONIST
My partner uses these every time we have intercourse. They make his balls smell like pie.

JUNO
Congrats.

She takes a seat in the WAITING ROOM and rifles through a pile of old magazines. The magazine selection is lots of “mommy mags” and health related periodicals. She selects an issue of *Family Digest* and gingerly flips through for a few moments.

Then she looks over and notices the FINGERNAILS of a nearby teen, who looks as nervous as she does. The girl bites her thumbnail and spits it onto the floor.

Juno looks away, but immediately notices another waiting woman, who absently scratches her arm with long fake nails.

Suddenly, she sees fingernails EVERYWHERE. The receptionist clicks her nails on the front desk. Another woman blows on her fresh manicure. Everyone seems to be fidgeting with their fingers somehow. Juno suddenly looks terror-stricken...

CUT TO:

PUNK RECEPTIONIST
Excuse me, Miss MacGoof?

There’s no answer. We see that Juno’s chair is EMPTY.

The receptionist cranes her neck and sees the front door drift shut. Juno’s figure recedes into the distance as she tears off down the street, running as fast as she can.

EXT. LEAH’S HOUSE - DAY

Leah’s front door swings open to reveal a breathless Juno standing sheepishly on the porch. Leah sighs.

(CONTINUED)
LEAH
What are you doing here, dumbass? I thought I was supposed to pick you up at four.

JUNO
I couldn't do it, Leah! It smelled like a dentist in there. They had these really horrible magazines, with, like, spritz cookie recipes and bad fiction and water stains, like someone read them in the tub. And the receptionist tried to give me these weird condoms that looked like grape suckers, and she told me about her boyfriend’s pie balls, and Su-Chin Kuah was there, and she told me the baby had fingernails. Fingernails!

LEAH
Oh, gruesome. I wonder if the baby’s claws could scratch your vag on the way out?

JUNO
I’m staying pregnant, Le.

LEAH
Keep your voice down dude, my mom’s around here somewhere. She doesn’t know we’re sexually active.

JUNO
What does that even mean? Anyway, I got to thinking on the way over. I was thinking maybe I could give the baby to somebody who actually likes that kind of thing. You know, like a woman with a bum ovary or something. Or some nice lesbos.

LEAH
But then you’ll get huge. Your chest is going to milklate. And you have to tell everyone you’re pregnant.

JUNO
I know. Maybe they’ll canonize me for being so selfless.

(CONTINUED)
LEAH
Maybe they’ll totally shit and be super mad at you and not let you graduate or go to Cabo San Lucas for spring break.

JUNO
Bleeker and I were going to go to Gettysburg for spring break.

Leah sighs, as if there’s no helping her nerdy friend.

LEAH
Well, maybe you could look at one of those adoption ads. I see them all the time in the Penny Saver.

JUNO
There are ads? For parents?

LEAH
Oh yeah! “Desperately Seeking Spawn.” They’re right by the ads for like, iguanas and terriers and used fitness equipment. It’s totally legit.

JUNO
Come on, Leah. I can’t scope out wannabe parents in the Penny Saver! That’s tacky. That’s like buying clothes at the Pump n’ Munch.

EXT. PARK BENCH - DAY

Juno and Leah are sitting at a bench in a park. They slurp giant blue slushies and sift through a pile of Penny Savers. Juno has her pipe with her.

JUNO
The Penny Saver sucks.

LEAH
Yeah, but it sucks for free.

They turn the pages in silence for a moment. Their lips and teeth are Windex-blue.

LEAH
Look at this one “Wholesome, spiritually wealthy couple have found true love with each other.”

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)
JUNO
(checks to see that Juno is paying attention)
“All that’s missing is your bastard.”

JUNO
(reading a different page)
There’s a guy in here who’s giving away a piano. Free for the hauling! We should put it in Bleeker’s yard.

LEAH
You’re not listening to me.

JUNO
No, I heard you. I just can’t give the baby to people who describe themselves as “wholesome.” I’m looking for something a little edgier.

LEAH
What did you have in mind, a family of disturbed loners who are into gunplay and incest?

JUNO
I was thinking a graphic designer, mid-thirties, and his cool Asian wife who dresses awesome and plays bass. But I’m trying to not be too particular.

LEAH
All right, how about this one? “Healthy, educated couple seeking infant to join our family of five. You will be compensated. Help us complete the circle of love.”

JUNO
Yeesh, they sound like a cult. Besides, they’re greedy bitches. They already have three kids!

LEAH
Hey, Juno. Juno! Look at this one.

She points to the paper and motions for Juno to look. Juno scans the ad silently.
We see the ad. It contains a photo of an attractive couple with ambiguous Mona Lisa smiles. It reads “Educated, successful couple wishes to…”

JUNO V.O.
They were Mark and Vanessa Loring, and they were beautiful even in black and white.

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EXT. BLEEKER HOUSE - PAULIE’S WINDOW - NIGHT

We see Paulie’s bedroom window-- festooned with childish curtains-- and the light on inside.

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INT. BLEEKER’S HOUSE - PAULIE’S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Bleeker lies on his Car-bed in his track uniform, listening to the same LP from when he and Juno went all the way.

He stares between the pages of his embossed Dancing Elk Prep yearbook.

We see the object of his gaze is Juno’s black and white YEARBOOK PHOTO. Next to it, we see a sloppy, handwritten message from Juno. We hear Juno’s voice reading the message:

JUNO V.O.
Hey Bleeker! Spank off to this with motion lotion. Just kidding (kind of.) Your best friend, Juno.

Bleeker picks up the phone. It’s the same HAMBURGER PHONE Juno has. He reconsiders and puts it down.

There’s a knock on the bedroom door.

BLEEKER’S MOM pokes her dowdy head inside.

BLEEKER’S MOM
Paul? Are you coming downstairs to eat?

BLEEKER
I don’t think so.

BLEEKER’S MOM
You ran eight miles today, Puppy.

BLEEKER
I’m not hungry, oddly.

(CONTINUED)
BLEEKER’S MOM
But it’s breakfast for supper. Your favorite, Paulie. I made French toast and sausage. Patties, not linkies, just like you like it.

Bleeker places his hand silently on his stomach.

BLEEKER’S MOM
Juno MacGuff called while you were out running. She wants to know if you’re coming to her little coffeehouse performance on Saturday.

BLEEKER
Thanks for the message.

BLEEKER’S MOM
You know how I feel about her.

BLEEKER
You’ve mentioned it about fifty times.

BLEEKER’S MOM
I just hope you don’t consider her a close friend.

Bleeker’s mom gives up and closes the door.

We see that Bleeker is clutching a pair of PANTIES in one hand, which he slowly releases as the 45 ends.

INT. MACGUFF HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - AFTERNOON

Bren and MAC are seated on the couch. Leah is standing nearby for reinforcements. Juno paces nervously, trying to suss out how to break the massive news.

JUNO
I have no idea how to spit this out.

BREN
Hon, did you get expelled?

JUNO
No. The school would probably contact you in the event of my expulsion.

(CONTINUED)
BREN
Well, I was just asking. It seemed plausible.

MAC
Do you need a large sum of money? Legal counsel?

JUNO
No, no, I’m definitely not asking for anything. Except maybe mercy. Like, it would be really great if nobody hit me.

MAC
What have you done, Junebug? Did you hit someone with the Previa?

LEAH
Best to just tell them, man. Rip off the Band-Aid and let it bleed.

JUNO
I’m pregnant.

Bren and Mac are predictably speechless.

BREN
Oh, God...

JUNO
But I’m going to give it up for adoption. I already found the perfect people.

Leah presents the Penny Saver photos of the Lornings.

JUNO (CONT’D)
They say they’re going to pay my medical expenses and everything. I promise this will all be resolved in thirty-odd weeks, and we can pretend it never happened.

MAC
You’re pregnant?
I’m so sorry, you guys. If it’s any consolation, I have heartburn that’s like, radiating down to my kneecaps and I haven’t gone number two since Wednesday. Morning!

BREN
(interrupting)
I didn’t even know you were sexually active!

Juno cringes upon hearing her most-hated term.

MAC
Who is the kid?

JUNO
The baby? I don’t know anything about it yet. I only know it’s got fingernails, allegedly.

BREN
Nails? Really?

MAC
No, I mean the father! Who’s the father, Juno?

JUNO
Oh. It’s, well, it’s Paulie Bleeker.

Bren and Mac burst into shocked laughter.

JUNO
What?

MAC
Paulie Bleeker? I didn’t know he had it in him!

BREN
(giggling)
He just doesn’t look, well, virile.

LEAH
I know, right?

MAC
Okay, this is no laughing matter.

(CONTINUED)
(indignant)
No, it’s not. Paulie is virile, by the way. He was very good in...chair.

Leah fires a be quiet glance at Juno.

MAC
Did you say you were thinking about adoption?

JUNO
Yeah, well, there’s this couple who’ve been trying to have a baby for five years.

LEAH
We found them in the Penny Saver by the exotic birds section.

Bren looks understandably alarmed. Juno hastily attempts to make the situation sound more legitimate.

JUNO
But they have a real lawyer and everything. I’m going to meet with them next weekend.

BREN
Junebug, that is a tough, tough thing to do. Probably tougher than you can understand right now.

JUNO
Well, I’m not ready to be a mom.

MAC
Damn skippy, you’re not! You don’t even remember to give Liberty Bell her breathing meds.

JUNO
Once! And she didn’t die, if you recall!

BREN
Honey, had you considered, you know, the alternative?

Leah and Juno exchange glances.
JUNO

No.

BREN

Well, you’re a brave young lady. You’re made of stronger stuff than I thought. You’re a little Viking!

JUNO

Cool it.

BREN

First things first, we have to get you healthy. You need prenatal vitamins. Incidentally, they’ll do incredible things for your nails, so that’s a plus. Oh, and we need to schedule a doctor’s appointment. Find out where you’re going to deliver.

JUNO

The term “deliver” is so weird. Can we not say “deliver”?

LEAH

How does “crap it out” sound?

MAC

Juno, I want to come with you to meet these adoption people. You’re just a kid. I don’t want you to get ripped off by a couple of baby-starved wingnuts.

JUNO

Sure, Dad.

Mac nods, satisfied, then contemplates the situation dismally.

MAC

I thought you were the kind of girl who knew when to say when.

JUNO

I have no idea what kind of girl I am.

BREN

(sensing tension)

Why don’t you girls go upstairs for a while? I think Mac’s gonna blow.
Juno and Leah hightail it upstairs.

MAC
Just tell it to me straight, Bren. Do you think this is my fault? Her mother’s fault?

BREN
I think kids get bored and have intercourse. And I think Junebug was a dummy about it. But we have to move on from here and help her figure it out.

MAC
I’m not ready to be a Pop-Pop.

BREN
You’re not going to be a Pop-Pop. And Juno’s not going to be a ma. Somebody else is going to find a precious blessing from Jesus in this garbage dump of a situation. I friggin’ hope.

MAC
(conspiratorially)
Did you see it coming when she sat us down here?

BREN
Oh God yeah. But I was hoping she was expelled or into hard drugs.

MAC
That was my first instinct too. Or D.W.I. Anything but this. And I’m going to punch that Bleeker kid in the Weiner the next time I see him.

BREN
Oh Mac, no! He’s a sweet kid. You know it wasn’t his idea.

Mac shrugs in agreement.
Music plays as we see SPARSE IMAGES OF VANESSA LORING’S HANDS preparing the house for Juno’s arrival –
- Sprucing a vase of FLOWERS.
- Straightening a FRAMED PHOTO of the Lorings.
- Dusting off a table with one of those WETNAPS for furniture.
- Lining up a shelf of BOOKS.

The Previa cruises slowly into the Loring’s fancy gated community. Mac pulls over and parks on the curb.

Mark and Vanessa Loring have an impressive, though generic McMansion. The entire yard is unlandscaped soil. Mac presses the doorbell while Juno chews her nails uncomfortably. Both look mortified as they wait for someone to greet them.

VANESSA opens the door. She’s a pretty, meticulous woman in her early thirties. Very Banana Republic.

VANESSA
Hi! I’m Vanessa. You must be Juno and Mr. MacGuff. I’m Vanessa.

JUNO
Vanessa, right?

MAC
Hello. Thank you for having me and my irresponsible child over to your home.

VANESSA
Oh no. Thank you. Come on in.

Vanessa awkwardly leads them into her home.

VANESSA
Can I take your coats?
JUNO
Sure.

She takes off her hooded sweatshirt and thrusts it into Vanessa’s arms who sets it on a bench.

JUNO
Wicked pic in the Penny Saver, by the way. Super classy. Not like those other people with the fake woods in the background. Like I’m really going to fall for that, you know?

VANESSA
You found us in the Penny Saver?

MARK LORING appears next to Vanessa. He’s a boyishly attractive guy in his mid-thirties.

He glances sheepishly at Vanessa upon hearing the Penny Saver mention, then extends his hand to Mac and Juno.

MARK
Hi. I’m Mark Loring. I’m the husband.

INT. LORING HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Mark and Vanessa usher Juno and Mac into the austere, spacious living room. A woman in a business suit sits on the couch with a briefcase in her lap.

MARK
This is our attorney, Gerta Rauss.

JUNO
(in exaggerated, growling German accent)
Geeeerta Rauuuuss!

GERTA
(straight)
Nice to meet you.

Mac seizes Mark’s hand and pumps it heartily.

MAC
I’m Mac MacGuff, and this, of course, is my daughter Juno.

MARK
Like the city in Alaska?

(CONTINUED)
JUNO
No.

MARK
Cool. Well, let’s sit down and get to know each other a bit.

VANESSA
I’ll get drinks. What would everyone like? I’ve got Pellegrino, Vitamin Water...

JUNO
A Maker’s Mark, please. Up.

MAC
She’s joking. Junebug has a wonderful sense of humor, which is just one of her many genetic gifts.

JUNO
I also have good teeth. No cavities. We finally got fluoridated water in Dancing Elk.

She bares them frighteningly to demonstrate.

Vanessa stares, unflappable.

MAC
We’re fine, thank you.

Mac and Juno join Mark and Gerta Rauss on the couch.

GERTA
So, Juno. First off, how far along are you?

JUNO
I’m a junior.

GERTA
No, I mean in your pregnancy.

JUNO
Oh. Uh, my stepmom took me to the doctor yesterday and they said I was twelve weeks.

Vanessa enters with the refreshments on a tray.

(CONTINUED)
VANESSA
Oh, that’s marvelous. So you’re almost into your second trimester, then?

JUNO
Yeah, apparently. I’m having it on May 4.

VANESSA
The tough part’s almost over for you. I mean, my girlfriends always tell me the first couple months are the hardest.

JUNO
Yeah, but I hardly noticed it. I’m more worried about the part where I have to start wearing jeans with an elastic panel in the front.

VANESSA
I think pregnancy is beautiful.

JUNO
Well, you’re lucky it’s not you.

Vanessa’s looks to the ceiling.

MARK
(clearing throat)
So, let’s discuss how we’re gonna do this...thing.

JUNO
Well, I just have the baby and give it to you, right?

GERTA
Mark and Vanessa are willing to negotiate an open adoption.

MAC
(protective)
Wait. What does that mean?

GERTA
It means they’d send annual updates, photos, let Juno know how the baby is doing as he or she grows up. Of course, Juno’s legal rights would be terminated...

(Continued)
JUNO
Whoah. I don’t want to see pictures. I don’t need to be notified of anything. Can’t we just kick it old school? I could just put the baby in a basket and send it your way. You know, like Moses in the reeds.

MARK
Technically, that would be kickin’ it Old Testament.

Mark and Juno lock eyes.

JUNO
Yeah. Yeah! The way people used to do it. Quick and dirty, like ripping off a Band-Aid.

GERTA
Well, then we agree a traditional closed adoption would be best for all involved, then?

JUNO
Shit, yeah. Close it up.

Vanessa is clearly ecstatic.

MARK
Obviously, we’ll compensate you for your medical expenses.

VANESSA
Are you looking for any other compensation?

MAC
Excuse me?

JUNO
Well, no...I’m not going to sell the baby. I just want it to grow up with people who are ready to love it and be parents. I’m in high school, dude. I’m ill-equipped.

VANESSA
You’re doing an amazing and selfless thing for us.
MARK
Vanessa has wanted a baby since we got married.

VANESSA
I want to be a mommy so badly!

Juno and Mac stare at her.

MAC
You don’t say.

VANESSA
Well, haven’t you ever felt like you were born to do something?

MAC
Yes. Heating and air conditioning.

VANESSA
Well, I was born to be a mother. Some of us are.

JUNO
Mark, are you looking forward to being a dad?

Mark is caught off guard.

MARK
Sure, why not? I mean, every guy wants to be a father. Coach soccer, help with science projects and...I don’t know. Fatherly stuff.

Mac casts a subtle, dubious glance at Mark.

VANESSA
Well, shall we start looking over the paperwork? Gerta has already drafted some preliminary documents.

JUNO
Can I use the facilities first? Being pregnant makes you pee like Seabiscuit.

VANESSA
Sure. The powder room down here is being re-tiled, but you can use the master bath upstairs. Go up, then turn left and on your right...

(CONTINUED)
INT. LORING HOUSE - ENTRY/STAIRS - DAY

Juno heads into the foyer and up the stairs. We see a posed photo of Mark and Vanessa in the stairwell. Their house is beautiful, but frigid. Juno rubs her arms, shivering.

INT. LORING HOUSE - BATHROOM - DAY

The Loring’s bathroom is huge. Juno flushes and goes to the double sink to wash her hands. She opens the overhead cabinet and sees Vanessa’s toiletries. She spritzes on some perfume and examines the more expensive grooming items. There’s a crinkled tube of LUBE in the cabinet. Juno picks it up, fascinated. She rubs a drop of it between her hands and runs it through her hair like pomade.

INT. LORING HOUSE - UPSTAIRS HALLWAY - DAY

Juno opens the bathroom door and instantly BUMPS into Mark.

JUNO
Whoops! Yikes, I didn’t expect to see you up here.

MARK
Sorry. I was just getting something.

JUNO
Did your wife send you up here to spy on me?

MARK
What? No! Do we come off like paranoid yuppies or something?

JUNO
Well, you don’t just invite a random pregnant teenager into your house and leave her unsupervised. I could be a total klepto, for all you know.

MARK
I don’t get a klepto vibe from you. Evil genius? Maybe. Arsonist? Wouldn’t rule it out.

(CONTINUED)
JUNO
I did steal a squirt of perfume. What do you think? It’s Clinique Happy.

She holds her WRIST up to Mark’s twitching nostrils.

JUNO (CONT’D)
Smell those sparkling topnotes!

Mark inhales.

MARK
Am I supposed to feel happy now?

JUNO
You should be happy, Holmes. I’m giving you and Vanessa the gift of life. Sweet, screaming, pooping life! And you don’t even have to be there when the baby comes out of me all covered in...

MARK
Viscera?

JUNO
Blood and guts.

MARK
We’d better get back downstairs ASAP.

Juno mocks his use of “ASAP” silently.

JUNO
(halting)
Wait a minute. Is that a Les Paul?

Juno is staring into a room with the door slightly ajar. We see GUITARS mounted on the wall, and the edges of posters.

MARK
Oh. That’s, uh, my room. Vanessa lets me have a room for all my old stuff.

JUNO
Wow, you get a whole room in your own house? She’s got you on a long leash there, Mark.

MARK
Shut up.
The walls are plastered with FRAMED POSTERS of early-90s alt rock bands. (Mudhoney, Jane’s Addiction etc.) Mark removes his LES PAUL from its moorings and hands it to Juno.

JUNO
It’s beautiful. I’ve always liked Gibson better than Fender.

MARK
What do you play?

JUNO
I rock a Harmony.

MARK
(holding back a chuckle)
Oh.

JUNO
What? I’m a pawn shop rocker.

MARK
Sorry. I swear I’m not a gear snob.

Juno turns the guitar over, examining it closely.

JUNO
What is that, Mahogany? What happens if you crack the neck?

MARK
Tell me about it. I used to play in a really tight band back when I lived in Chicago, and one night we opened for the Melvins...do you know who the Melvins are?

JUNO
(lying)
Yeah.

MARK
Well, we were playing with them and I busted this guitar onstage. It cost me $800 and a dime bag just to have it fixed.

JUNO
When was this, like ’96?

(CONTINUED)
MARK
‘93. I’m telling you that was the best time for rock and roll.

JUNO
Nuh-uh, 1977! Punk Volume 1. You weren’t there, so you can’t understand the magic.

MARK
You weren’t even alive!

INT. LORING HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY
Vanessa, Mac and Gerta Rauss are waiting in awkward silence for Juno and Mark to return. Mac notices a brand new PILATES MACHINE sitting in its packaging in a corner of the room.

MAC
So. What’s that thing?

VANESSA
A Pilates machine?

MAC
What do you make with that?

VANESSA
You don’t make anything. It’s for exercising.

INT. LORING HOUSE - MARK’S SPECIAL ROOM - SAME
Mark and Juno tool around on the guitars unplugged. They play little riffs. He teaches her a couple chords.

INT. LORING HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - SAME

MAC
My wife just ordered one of those Tony Little Gazelles off the TV, you know, from the guy with the ponytail?

Vanessa and Gerta have no response.

MAC
That guy just doesn’t look right to me.

(CONTINUED)
Suddenly, a shriek of AMP FEEDBACK, followed by loud, discordant GUITAR STRUMMING can be heard drifting down from upstairs. Vanessa’s looks to the ceiling.

VANESSA
(to her guests)
Will you excuse me?

INT. LORING HOUSE - MARK’S SPECIAL ROOM - DAY

Mark has strapped on the Les Paul and is playing and singing. “Doll Parts” by Hole.

JUNO AND MARK
(quietly singing together)
“Yeah, they really want you... they really want you... they really do.”

Building together.

JUNO AND MARK
(singing together and connecting)
Yeah, they really want you... they really want you... and I do to.
(both blush)

VANESSA appears in the doorway. Juno immediately puts down the guitar. Mark doesn’t notice her immediately.

MARK
(passionate singing)
I WANT TO BE THE...
(notices Vanessa)
Oh, sorry honey...

Mark clumsily puts down the guitar and stands up.

VANESSA
You guys are playing music?

MARK
Juno just wanted a closer look at Kimber here.

JUNO
Your guitar is named Kimber?

MARK
Yeah.

(CONTINUED)
JUNO
That’s all right. My axe is named Roosevelt. After Franklin, not Ted. Franklin was the hot one with the polio.

VANESSA
I think Gerta is waiting for us downstairs with some important stuff for us to go over.

Mark hangs the guitars back on the wall. He and Juno exit the room, chastised. Vanessa looks to Mark in question.

VANESSA
Didn’t mean to interrupt the jam sessions.

INT. LORING HOUSE - ENTRY - DAY

Juno and Mac have put their coats on and are in the process of leaving. Gerta hands Juno the DOCUMENTS. Vanessa and Mark trail behind.

GERTA
So, look those over and give me a call at my office if you have any questions.

VANESSA
Juno, we’d really appreciate it if you could keep us updated on any doctor’s appointments, ultrasounds, other things of that nature.

JUNO
Oh. Sure. Of course you’d want to know how your kid is cooking.

VANESSA
So, then, you really think you’re going to go ahead with this?

Mac STARES at Juno gravely.

JUNO
Yeah. For sure. I like you guys.

Juno looks at Mark.

(CONTINUED)
VANESSA
How sure? Percentage-wise, would you say you’re 80% sure, 90% sure?

Mark seems visibly embarrassed by Vanessa’s manic demeanor.

JUNO
I’m going to say I’m 104% sure.

VANESSA
Oh really?

JUNO
Look, if I could give it to you now, I would. But it probably looks like a Sea Monkey at this point, so I think we should leave it in there for a while until it gets cuter, you know?

MAC
I think that’s a great idea.

MARK
That’s great, right? Stellar news. Well, you guys drive safe, and we’ll hear from you soon, all right?

MAC
All right, take care of yourselves.

Juno and Mac exit. Mark shuts the door. All is silent in the foyer. Mark, Vanessa and Gerta stand motionless. Gerta pumps her fist triumphantly, trying to create a mood of celebration.

GERTA
(overly aggressive)
All RIGHT!

Vanessa buries her head in her hands and weeps hoarsely.

EXT. SUBURBAN STREETS - MORNING

It is now WINTER. The TRACK TEAM jogs in formation, leaving tracks in the snow. Those bastards never stop running.

EXT. DANCING ELK SCHOOL - TRACK - DAY

Bleeker is running alone on the track. His exhalations are icy puffs in the air. Bleeker’s friend VIJAY jogs up alongside him. Vijay is a solemn, skinny boy, much like Bleeker.
VIJAY
Hey man.

BLEEKER
Oh, hey Vijay.

VIJAY
Did you hear Juno MacGuff is pregnant?

BLEEKER
Yup.

VIJAY
Just like our moms and teachers!

BLEEKER
Yup.

VIJAY
Did you hear it’s yours?

BLEEKER
Yup.

VIJAY
What a trip, man.

BLEEKER
I don’t really know anything about it.

VIJAY
You should grow a moustache. You’re a real man now.

BLEEKER
I can’t grow a moustache. It never comes in evenly.

VIJAY
Me neither. But I’m going to stop wearing underpants in order to raise my sperm count. See you.

VIJAY jogs off. Bleeker STOPs and wipes away his sweat.

INT. DANCING ELK SCHOOL - HEAD OFFICE - DAY

We’re looking over Juno’s now FIVE MONTH PREGNANT BELLY to a school administrator filling out a slip.

Juno takes the slip, turns around and smiles all the way out.
INT. DANCING ELK SCHOOL - CORRIDOR - DAY

Juno exits the head office and bumps into Bleeker.

BLEEKER
Hey Juno... A couple of us are going to the cineplex after school to donut that movie with the guy with eighteen kids.

JUNO
Sorry, Bleek... Going for my ultrasound. Gotta note and everything.

BLEEKER
Okay, cool.

JUNO
I’ll try to drop by later.

INT. DOCTOR’S OFFICE - AFTERNOON

SPLOOGE! We see ultrasound goo being squirted onto Juno’s exposed pregnant belly. An ULTRASOUND TECHNICIAN is using a Doppler device to view the contents of her burgeoning bump. Bren and Leah ooh and ahh at the resulting image.

The tech takes measurements and types them into her database.

ULTRASOUND TECH
That’s the feet...

ALL THREE
Oooh...

ULTRASOUND TECH
And there’s a hand...

The monitor reveals the baby’s head.

ALL THREE
(various)
Check that out... No way...

BREN
(dreamily)
Would you look at that?

LEAH
Check out Baby Big-Head. That kid is scary!
JUNO
Hey, I’m a sacred vessel. All you’ve got in your belly is Taco Bell!

LEAH
Touche.

JUNO
(gazing at the monitor)
It is really weird looking. It’s like it’s not even real. I can’t believe there are saps who actually cry at these things.

Juno and Leah look at BREN, who is dabbing her eyes discreetly.

BREN
What? I’m not made of stone.

ULTRASOUND TECH
Well, there we have it. Would you like to know the sex?

LEAH
Aw, please Junebug?

JUNO
No way. No, I definitely don’t want to know.

ULTRASOUND TECH
Planning to be surprised when you deliver?

JUNO
I want Mark and Vanessa to be surprised, and if I know, I won’t be able to keep myself from telling them and ruining the whole thing.

ULTRASOUND TECH
(condescending)
Are Mark and Vanessa your friends at school?

JUNO
No, they’re the people who are adopting the baby.

ULTRASOUND TECH
Oh. Well, thank goodness for that.
BREN
Wait, what’s that supposed to mean?

ULTRASOUND TECH
I just see a lot of teenage mothers come through here. It’s obviously a poisonous environment for a baby to be raised in.

Juno, Leah and Bren become immediately defensive.

JUNO
How do you know I’m so poisonous?
Like, what if the adoptive parents turn out to be evil molesters?

LEAH
Or stage parents!

BREN
They could be utterly negligent. Maybe they’ll do a far shittier job of raising a kid than my dumbass stepdaughter ever would. Have you considered that?

ULTRASOUND TECH
No...I guess not.

BREN
What is your job title, exactly?

ULTRASOUND TECH
Excuse me?

BREN
I said, what-is-your-job-title, Missy?

ULTRASOUND TECH
I’m an ultrasound technician, ma’am.

BREN
Well I’m a nail technician, and I think we both ought to stick to what we know.

ULTRASOUND TECH
What are you talking about?
BREN
You think you’re special because you get to play Picture Pages up there?

Bren gestures to the ULTRASOUND MONITOR.

BREN
My five year-old daughter could do that, and let me tell you, she is not the brightest bulb in the tanning bed. So why don’t you go back to night school in Manteno and learn a real trade!

The ULTRASOUND TECH exits in a huff.

JUNO
Bren, you’re a dick! I love it.

INT. JUNO’S BEDROOM - DAY
Juno lays in bed checking out the ULTRASOUND PRINT OUT.

EXT. LORING NEIGHBORHOOD - PREVIA - AFTERNOON
The Previa drives into the front gate of Mark and Vanessa’s exclusive community. A sign on the gate reads “Glacial Valley.”

EXT. LORING HOUSE - ENTRY - AFTERNOON
Juno rings the doorbell, shifting her weight in the cold.
MARK answers the door, dressed in a t-shirt and jeans.

MARK
Juno? Wow, I didn’t expect to see you here.

JUNO
I’ve got something really cool to show you guys. Is Vanessa here?

MARK
No, she’s working late tonight. She’s trying to accrue some extra time off for when, you know...

He gestures awkwardly to Juno’s belly.

(CONTINUED)
JUNO
Right. I hear they can be kind of a
time-suck.

MARK
Come on in. You wanna Ginseng Cooler?

JUNO
Sure. What is it with you rich
people and your herb-infused
juices?

MARK
I don’t know. Something to do with
the four-packs...
(adding)
... They’re not bad.

INT. LORING HOUSE - KITCHEN - AFTERNOON

Mark leads Juno into the kitchen, where he pours two drinks. The STEREO blares in the background.

JUNO
Why aren’t you at work?

MARK
I mostly work from home. I’m a
composer.

JUNO
No shit. Like Johannes Brahms?

MARK
No, more commercial stuff.

JUNO
Like what?

MARK
Commercials.

JUNO
Oh.

MARK
Have you seen those ads for
Titanium Power men’s deodorant?

(CONTINUED)
JUNO
(singing)
Titanium Power! Get more snatch by the batch!

MARK
I wrote that.

JUNO
You’re kind of a sellout, aren’t you? What would the Melvins say?

MARK
They’d say you came a long way out here not knowing if anyone would be home.

She holds up a manila envelope.

JUNO
Come on, you’re going to want to sit down for this.

INT. LORING HOUSE - DEN - AFTERNOON
As they move into the living room, Juno sits down and motions for Mark to join her on the couch.

JUNO
Park it, dude.

Mark sits down. With great fanfare, Juno retrieves a dark, glossy sheet from the envelope. It’s her ULTRASOUND.

JUNO
Behold, good sir! The very first photo of your future child.

MARK
You’re kidding!

Mark EXAMINES the ultrasound, baffled.

JUNO
I think it kind of looks like my friend, Paulie.

MARK
(joking)
Oh, is he bald and amorphous?

JUNO
No, he’s the dad.

(Continued)
Mark looks jolted, as if it’s the first time he considered that her baby might have a father. He stands up and holds the photo up to the light critically.

MARK
Can you tell if it’s a boy or a girl?

JUNO
The doctor can tell, but I decided not to know. I want it to be a big surprise.

MARK
Well, it can really only go two ways.

JUNO
That’s what you think. I drink tons of booze so you might get one of those scary neuter-babies that’s born without junk.

MARK
Junk?

JUNO
You know... it’s parts...

MARK
I know what junk is.

JUNO
(teasing)
Yeah?

MARK
We definitely want it to have junk.

JUNO
Well don’t worry about it. My stepmom is forcing me to eat really healthy. She won’t even let me stand in front of the microwave or eat red M&Ms. Hope you’re ready.

Mark chuckles.

MARK
Wait...do you hear that?

A new SONG has begun. Mark closes his eyes in ecstasy and walks toward the stereo. Juno follows him toward the source of the music, looking perplexed by how happy he is.
JUNO
What is it?

MARK
It’s only my favorite song. It’s Sonic Youth doing “Superstar” by the Carpenters.

JUNO
(excited)
I’ve heard the Carpenters before. Chick drummer and freaky dude. Not unlike the White Stripes.

MARK
You haven’t heard the Carpenters like this. Listen.

Mark grabs the STEREO REMOTE off the kitchen counter and turns up the volume to a roar. Mark and Juno stand in silence in the kitchen. Mark mouths along with the lyrics.

MARK
(lipsynching)
Don’t you remember you told me you loved me, baby...

JUNO
Hey, I like this.

MARK
This album is all Carpenters covers by alt-rock bands. It’s called If I Were a Carpenter. It is God. I’ll rip a copy for you before you leave.

JUNO
You don’t have to do that.

MARK
It’s the least I can do. What did you say your favorite band was?

JUNO
I didn’t. But it’s a three-way tie between the Stooges, Patti Smith and the Runaways.

MARK
Yeah, I definitely need to make you some CDs. At least while my kid is hanging out in there.

(CONTINUED)
He gestures at Juno’s burgeoning paunch.

Mark walks over to his music collections and starts pulling CD’s. He’s got a Carpenter’s disc, the “No Alternative” charity compilation, and Mother Love Bone.

Juno spots a VHS TAPE on the coffee table and picks it up.

JUNO
(reading title)
The Wizard of Gore?

MARK
(distracted)
Oh yeah. It’s Herschel Gordon Lewis. He’s the ultimate master of horror.

JUNO
Please. Dario Argento is the ultimate master of horror.

Mark SWIVELS AROUND slowly on his desk chair, surprised.

MARK
Argento’s good, but Lewis is completely dimented. We’re talking buckets of goo. Red corn syrup everywhere. And fake brains up the yin-yang.

JUNO
(examining the tape box)
Frankly, this looks kind of stupid.

Mark gives a look - “Oh, Really?”

INT. LORING HOUSE - DEN - AFTERNOON

We see some particularly memorable footage from The Wizard of Gore.

Mark and Juno are watching the movie and drinking root beer floats. They’re sitting dangerously close on the sofa.

JUNO
(watching movie)
This is even better than Suspiria. You’ve got decent taste in slasher movies, Mark.
MARK
Here’s to dovetailing interests.

He raises his mug in a toast and Juno clinks it awkwardly.

JUNO
So, have you and Vanessa thought of a name for the baby yet?

MARK
Well, sort of. Vanessa likes Madison for a girl.

JUNO
(aghast)
Madison? Isn’t that kind of...I don’t know, gay?

MARK
God, pretentious much? I guess everyone should have a mysterious name like Juno, huh?

JUNO
My dad went through this phase where he was obsessed with Greek and Roman mythology. He named me after Zeus’s wife. I mean, Zeus had other lays, but I’m pretty sure Juno was his only wife. She was supposed to be really beautiful but really mean. Like Diana Ross.

MARK
That suits you.

JUNO
Uh, thanks.

MARK
You know, not many teenage girls in your situation would actually go through with this.

JUNO
I weighed my options. But after all this, I’m glad I didn’t, you know, get rid of it. I want to have it. For you guys.

MARK
You’re something else.
A door suddenly slams upstairs. Vanessa’s home.

MARK
Vanessa. Shit, you better get out of here.

JUNO
Why? What the big deal?

MARK
Nothing. She just hates when I sit around watching movies and ‘not contributing.’

JUNO
I’ll handle this. I’m really good at diffusing mom-type rage.

Juno jumps up and rushes out.

MARK
Wait...aww, crap!

INT. LORING HOUSE - KITCHEN - AFTERNOON

Vanessa slides her BRIEFCASE off her shoulder and ventures into the living room. She’s struggling to carry some oversized shopping bags.

VANESSA
Mark? Are you home? I want to show you some things I picked up.

Juno intercepts her breathlessly, clutching the ULTRASOUND photo. Mark trails behind her.

JUNO
Hi Vanessa!

Vanessa JUMPS and makes a strangled sound.

VANESSA
Juno! God, you startled me. What are you doing here? What’s wrong?

JUNO
Nothing...

VANESSA
Then what’s going on?

(CONTINUED)
JUNO
I went to the doctor today.

Vanessa is obviously entertaining some worse-case scenarios. Her eyes are wide and she’s uncharacteristically ruffled.

VANESSA
Is the baby okay?

JUNO
Sure. It’s the right size and everything. I even saw its phalanges today! Check this...

She holds the ULTRASOUND up to show Vanessa and drapes her arm around her.

VANESSA
What...

JUNO
This is the baby. Your baby.

Vanessa drops the shopping bags, sick with relief.

VANESSA
Oh my God...

JUNO
(kindly)
Doesn’t it look like it’s waving? It’s kind of like it’s saying “Hi, Vanessa. Will you be my mommy?”

VANESSA
Yeah. Yeah, it kind of does.

MARK
Juno was nice enough to bring this by for us.

JUNO
I came over as soon as I got that cold ultrasound goo off my pelvis. My stepmom verbally abused the ultrasound tech so we were escorted off the premises.

VANESSA
(distracted)
Oh, that’s great!

She can’t divert her gaze from the photo.

(CONTINUED)
See? Nothing to worry about.

Vanessa chuckles tightly, clearly embarrassed by her show of emotion.

Vanessa and Mark walk Juno out. Juno peers at some shopping bags from various kids stores.

Hey, what kind of swag did you score?

Yeah. Mall madness, huh?

Oh it’s just some stuff I picked up. For, you know, the baby.

Babies need a lot of things. I want everything to be just right.

I thought people got all that stuff at baby showers. When my stepmom had my sister I remember she got about a million presents. They were all lame though, so I wasn’t jealous.

I doubt anyone’s throwing us a shower.

Why?

Um, I think people are kind of unsure about the situation because it’s not, you know, set in stone.

What do you mean? You mean...(aghast) Do you think I’m going to flake out on you?
VANESSA
No, no, I don’t think that, Juno. It’s just that, we went through a situation before where it didn’t work out.

Juno glances at Mark and again at Vanessa. Vanessa looks embarrassed.

MARK
Cold feet.

JUNO
You should have gone to China. I heard they give away babies like free iPods. They shoot ‘em out of those T-shirt guns at sports events.

VANESSA
(abruptly)
Right. Well, Juno, your parents must be wondering where you are. You might want to head home.

JUNO
Naah. I’m already pregnant, so they figure nothing worse could happen to me. I gotta bounce anyway. It was nice seeing you guys again.

She waves and heads for the door.

MARK
(to Juno)
Hey, don’t forget your bag.

Vanessa looks pain-stricken as Mark helps Juno with her bag.

EXT. MACGUFF HOUSE - NIGHT
Juno kicks the snow off her shoes before she enters.

INT. MACGUFF HOUSE - KITCHEN - NIGHT
Bren sits at the kitchen table with a mug of coffee and an issue of Dog Fancy.

Juno enters nonchalantly, drinking a giant slushie.
BREN
Where the hell have you been, Junebug?

JUNO
I drove to St. Cloud to show Mark and Vanessa the ultrasound. And I wound up staying for a couple of hours.

BREN
A couple of hours? Why are you going up there in the first place?

JUNO
They said they wanted to know about this stuff. They said to keep them updated, so I did!

BREN
You could have sent it to them. Why would you drive an hour out to East Jesus, Nowhere?

JUNO
I don’t know, I just did. And while we were waiting for Vanessa, Mark and I watched The Wizard of Gore and he burned me some CDs of weird music. He’s kind of cool.

A beat as Bren absorbs this.

BREN
That was a mistake, Juno. Mark is a married stranger. You overstepped a boundary.

JUNO
Listen, Bren-duhhhh, I think you’re the one overstepping boundaries. You’re acting like you’re the one who has to go through this and get huge and push a baby out of your vag for someone else. Besides, who cares if he’s married? I can have friends who are married.

BREN
It doesn’t work that way, kiddo. You don’t know squat about the dynamics of marriage.

(CONTINUED)
JUNO
You don’t know anything about me!

BREN
I know enough.

Bren rises to leave, clutching the *Dog Fancy* magazine.

JUNO
(gesturing to the magazine)
We don’t even have a dog!

BREN
Yeah, because you’re allergic to their saliva. I’ve made a lot of sacrifices for you, Juno. And in a couple years you’re going to move out—and I’m getting Weimaraners.

JUNO
Wow, dream big!

BREN
Oh, go fly a kite.

Bren STORMS out. Juno heads to the URN by the door and defiantly pours the remains of her blue slushie into it.

EXT. Bleecker House - Night

Juno parks her PREVIA on the street. She walks up to the house and rings the doorbell.

Bleecker’s mom answers, visibly annoyed. Her eyes drift down to Juno’s middle.

JUNO V.O.
Bleecker’s mom was possibly attractive once. But now she looks a hobbit. The fat one that was in *The Goonies*.

Bleecker’s mom
Hi Juno. What can I do for you?

JUNO
I borrowed Paulie’s physics notes in school today. I’m pretty sure he needs them back, or his grade could plummet to an A minus.

Bleecker’s mom
Fine. Come in.

(CONTINUED)
She steals another glance at Juno’s belly.

INT. BLEEKER HOUSE - HALLWAY - NIGHT

Bleeker’s mom escorts Juno wordlessly up the stairs and down the hallway to Paulie’s bedroom. Juno discreetly tries to charge ahead of her, but her expanding middle prevents her from getting past Bleeker’s mom. They share an extremely awkward moment wedged side-by-side in the narrow hallway.

Bleeker’s mom nudges past Juno and knocks on Bleeker’s bedroom door. The door has a cheesy racecar-themed decoration hanging on it that says PAULIE’S VRROOM! It looks like something a 5-year old might have.

INT. BLEEKER HOUSE - PAULIE’S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Paulie is on the floor surrounded by old quizzes, studying like the tortured brainiac he is. Mrs. Bleeker opens the bedroom door. Juno appears. Paulie jumps, startled.

JUNO
Hey, don’t concentrate so hard, man. I think I smell hair burning.

Bleeker smiles faintly.

BLEEKER’S MOM
Ten minutes.

She closes the door halfway and leaves. Juno rolls her eyes and pulls the door shut entirely.

BLEEKER
What’s up?

JUNO
I just wanted to come over. You know, say hi. I miss hanging out with you on school nights.

BLEEKER
I miss it too.

He nervously cracks open a container of ORANGE TIC-TACS and pours them into his mouth.

JUNO V.O.
Orange Tic-Tacs are Bleeker’s one and only vice.

(MORE)
When we made out, the day I got pregnant, his mouth tasted really tangy and delicious.

INT. BLEEKER HOUSE - “MOLD-O’-RIFFIC” BASEMENT - NIGHT

CU ON BLEEKER’S MOUTH AS HE KISSES JUNO FOR THE FIRST TIME

INT. BLEEKER HOUSE - PAULIE’S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Bleeker glances at Juno’s midsection, embarrassed.

BLEEKER
So, it looks like you’re getting pregnant-er these days.

JUNO
Yeah. Um, I hooked up a whole private adoption thing. These married people in Saint Cloud are going to be the parents.

Bleeker is visibly relieved.

BLEEKER
Really? What are they like?

JUNO
The guy is super cool! His name is Mark and he’s into old horror movies and he plays guitar. I actually hung out with him today.

BLEEKER
Is that normal?

JUNO
I asked my dad and Bren not to narc us out to your folks, so we should be safe.

BLEEKER
Oh. That’s a relief.

Juno walks over to the bed and sits down next to Bleeker.

JUNO
I’m going to really start looking like a dork soon. Will you still think I’m cute if I’m huge?

(CONTINUED)
I always think you’re cute. I think you’re beautiful.

Juno is caught off guard by his sincerity.

Jesus, Bleek.

Well, I do.

The song playing ends, and another one begins. It’s “the song,” the track that Bleeker and Juno both recognize from the infamous night in the basement.

Hey Junebug, when all this is over we should get the band back together again.

Yeah. Sure. Once Tino gets a new drumhead we should be good to go.

We could get back together too.

Were we together?

Bleeker picks at the carpet, dejected.

Well, we were once. You know, that time.

What about Katrina De Voort? You could go out with Katrina De Voort.

I don’t like Katrina.

I totally heard you did.

I don’t. Katrina smells like soup. Her whole house smells of soup.
EXT. LORING HOUSE - DAY
The house is covered in fresh snow.

OMITTED

INT. LORING HOUSE - NURSERY - DAY
Mark and Vanessa stand silently in the nursery. The walls are primed slate gray. A single ANTIQUE ROCKING CHAIR sits in the corner. Vanessa beams proudly and holds two paint samples up near the wall.

VANESSA
What do you think? Custard or Cheesecake?

MARK
They’re yellow.

VANESSA
Well, I wanted to pick something gender-neutral for now. Once we get the baby, God willing, we can create a more decisive palette.

MARK
Why do people think yellow is gender-neutral? I don’t know one man with a yellow bedroom.

VANESSA
I think I’m leaning toward Custard in this light. I don’t know. I should paint a small area...

MARK
Or you could just wait a couple months. It’s not like the baby’s going to storm in here any second and demand dessert-colored walls.

VANESSA
What to Expect says that readying the baby’s room is an important process for women. It’s called “nesting.”

MARK
Nesting, huh? Are you planning to build the crib out of twigs and saliva?

(CONTINUED)
VANESSA
You should read the book. I even flagged the “daddy chapters” for you.

MARK
I just think it’s too early to paint. That’s my opinion.

VANESSA
And I disagree.

Mark shrugs, resigned.

Vanessa points to the nursery’s largest wall.

VANESSA
That wall is going to need something. Maybe we could put our first family picture there.

MARK
Hm.

VANESSA
Can you see it?

Mark stares at the wall, looking lost.

INT. RIDGEDALE MALL - DAY

Juno and Leah are walking through the mall, looking bored. Juno is wearing one of Mac’s giant hockey jerseys in lieu of actual maternity wear. Leah gnaws on a giant cinnamon pretzel.

LEAH
Yum. This pretzel tastes like a friggin’ donut!

JUNO
Share the love, Tits!

She wrestles Leah for the pretzel. Onlookers stare at them, appalled, as Leah puts Juno in a half-Nelson.

JUNO
(to eavesdroppers)
She’s assaulting me! She’s denying me fresh-baked goodness!

(CONTINUED)
Leah claps a hand over Juno’s mouth.

JUNO
(muffled)
Hly shht!

LEAH
What?

Juno drags Leah behind a pillar and peers out from behind it. They’re watching a group of well-heeled women and their children shopping en masse. One of the women is pushing a toddler in an ultramodern stroller. And one of the women is VANESSA, looking vaguely detached.

JUNO
(hushed)
That’s her. That’s Vanessa Loring.

LEAH
Of the Penny Saver Lorings?

Juno nods.

LEAH
No way! She’s pretty.

JUNO
You sound shocked or something.

LEAH
I just thought she’d look really old in real life.

The women gather near a play area, sip Frapps and loudly discuss their outfits for an upcoming party.

WOMAN #1
And I was like, “No offense, sweetie, but nobody looks good in gauchos.”

WOMAN #2
Especially not with her build.

JUNO
(mimicking the women, Peanuts-style)
Wah-wah-waaah!

One of the little girls in the group tugs at Vanessa’s sleeve. Vanessa happily follows the little girl over to their play area and begins to play energetically with her.

(CONTINUED)
Juno watches intently, but Leah just snickers.

LEAH
She’s gonna steal that kid for her collection.

JUNO
Right, seriously.

They watch Vanessa for a few more moments. The other kids wander over toward the play area while their mothers ignore them. Vanessa continues to entertain the children.

LEAH
Bo-ring!

Leah stands up. Juno lingers for a moment.

INT. RIDGEDALE MALL - ELEVATOR BANK - A HALF HOUR LATER

Leah and Juno approach the elevator.

JUNO
I want a huge cookie. And like, a lamb kebob. Simultaneously.

LEAH
God, Spermy. Must you always feed?

The elevator door opens, revealing... Vanessa.

VANESSA
Juno?

Juno tries her best to look enthused.

JUNO
Well hi Vanessa! What brings you to the mall today?

VANESSA
Just, you know, shopping with my girlfriends.

LEAH
You’re gay?

Juno glares at Leah.

VANESSA
(confused)
No...

(CONTINUED)
Please excuse Leah. She’s mentally challenged.

Oh, okay. So...how are you feeling?

Happy? Oh, you mean like, physically. I’m good. Look, I have a snooze button now!

She lifts her shirt and presses her popped-out NAVEL.

That’s great.

Vanessa is admiring the belly, when Juno grimaces.

Dude, it’s moshing all over.

Vanessa looks confused.

(explains)

It’s kicking.

Vanessa nods in understanding then begins summoning the courage for an unusual request.

Um... Juno, can I - Can I touch it?

Are you kidding? Everyone at school is always grabbing at my belly. I’m like a legend. They call me the Cautionary Whale.

She grabs Vanessa’s hand and plants it on her stomach.

I can’t feel anything.

Vanessa moves her hand, wanting desperately to feel the baby.

It’s not moving for me.

She says this as though it’s an admission of failure.

(CONTINUED)
JUNO
Oh, you should try talking to it. They can apparently hear speech in there, even though it sounds all ten thousands leagues under the sea.

Vanessa kneels down next to the swell of Juno’s belly.

VANESSA
Hi. Hi, baby. It’s me. My name is Vanessa. I can’t wait to meet you.

Leah gives a look to Juno as if she’s about to barf.

VANESSA (CONT’D)
Can you hear me sweet angel?

Vanessa looks like she’s giving up hope. Then suddenly,

VANESSA (CONT’D)
Oh my God – It moved! I felt it!

JUNO
(nods)
Elbow.

VANESSA
Wow! It’s magical.

Juno smiles at Vanessa in awe of her genuine affection.

EXT. SUBURBAN STREETS - MORNING

The streets are covered in muddy, slushy snow. The mud is instantly TRAMPLED underfoot by the collective feet of the Dancing Elk Track Team on their morning run.

INT. MACGUFF HOUSE - BREN’S DESK - DAY

Bren cuts the top three inches off a pair of Juno’s jeans. Then, using a sewing machine, begins attaching an elastic waistband.

INT. DANCING ELK SCHOOL - CORRIDOR - DAY

We’re behind that same WAISTBAND, as Juno walks through the students. Now, people seem to part the waters for the belly.
Mark has the Les Paul on his lap as he stares at the boards of an awful commercial.

CU - THE SCRIPT (storyboards). A kitchen scene with a kid eating a new breakfast product called - BRUNCH BOWLZ.

Annoyed and out of ideas, Mark begins an impromptu song...

MARK
IF YOU’RE TIRED OF BREAKFAST BUT
NOT HUNGRY FOR LUNCH, MICROWAVE
YOURSELF A HEALTHY BOWL OF BRUNCH!

Mark drops his head, dejected. Then, the phone rings.

MARK
(picks up)
Hello?

INTERCUT WITH:

Juno - Production Revised Yellow - 3/05/07            70.

85D INT. DANCING ELK SCHOOL - PHONE BOOTH - DAY 85D

JUNO
So, I’ve been spending a lot of
time listening to that weird CD you
made me.

Mark instantly smiles.

MARK
Oh really? What’s the verdict?

JUNO
I sort of like it. I mean, it’s
cute.

MARK
Cute?

JUNO
Well, when you’re used to the raw
power of Iggy and the Stooges,
everything else sounds kind of
precious by comparison.

MARK
I imagine you have a collection of
punk chestnuts to prove your point.

(CONTINUED)
JUNO
Consider it your musical education.

MARK
I’m dying to see what you’ve got to teach me.

JUNO
Okay, stop surfing porn and get back to work. Just wanted to say hi.

MARK
Go learn something.

Mark hangs up. Smiles.

INT. DANCING ELK SCHOOL - CAFETERIA - DAY

CU on Juno’s tray sliding along, picking up an odd combo of pregnant food.

Pull up to find Juno and Leah walking their trays to a table.

LEAH
God, you’re getting huge. How many months has it been now?

JUNO
Almost eight. You wouldn’t believe how weird I look naked.

LEAH
I wish my funbags would get bigger.

JUNO
Trust me, you don’t. I actually have to wear a bra now. And I have to rub this nasty cocoa butter stuff all over myself or my skin could get stretched too far and explode.

LEAH
Hot!

INT. DANCING ELK SCHOOL - CORRIDOR - DAY

Juno and Leah are sitting inside an emptied awards case on the wall, eating their lunch.
Juno notices that the other kids in the cafeteria can’t help but glance her way. Some look derisive, others are amused.

JUNO
God, why is everyone always staring at me?

LEAH
Well, you are kind of...convex.

She illustrates by making a rounded gesture near her stomach.

JUNO
Wow, someone’s been actually doing her geometry homework for once!

LEAH
I don’t have a choice. Keith’s been grading me really hard lately.

JUNO
Please do not refer to Mr. Conyers as “Keith,” okay? My barf reflex is already heightened these days.

LEAH
Keith’s hot.

JUNO
Eww, he’s all beardy!

We see KEITH the teacher talking to some science kids in the background. He has a Wild America beard. He lifts a cup of coffee to his lips and slurps lustily.

Back on Juno and Leah:

LEAH
Did you hear Bleek is going to prom with Katrina De Voort?

JUNO
Katrina? Pfft, no way. He doesn’t like Katrina. It must be a pity date.

LEAH
(shrugging)
He asked her. I heard they were going to Benihana, then the prom, then to Vijay’s parents’ cabin.

(Continued)
Bleeker told me Katrina’s whole house reeks of soup!

Oh, it totally does. I was there for her birthday about four years ago and it was like Lipton Landing. But you know, boys have endured worse things for nookie.

There’s no way in hell they’re having sex or even holding hands.

I wouldn’t be so sure about that. He did it with you. He’s a man now.

Yeah, well, Bleek trusted me. We’re best friends.

Are you jealous? I thought you said you didn’t care what he did.

I’m not jealous, and I don’t care. I just know he doesn’t like Katrina and I don’t think he should toy with her emotions like that. She seems so nice and all.

Okay Juno, I’m really convinced.

Prom is for wenises, anyway. Once you’re old enough to go, it’s not cool anymore.

Bleeker retrieves a book from his open locker. Juno marches up to him, belly leading the way.

Are you honestly and truly going to prom with Katrina De Voort?
BLEEKER
Um, hi?

JUNO
Leah just told me you were going with her.

BLEEKER
Yeah, I did ask her if she wanted to go. A bunch of us from the team are going to Benihana, then the prom, then Vijay’s parents’ cabin.

Juno is clearly AFFRONTED.

BLEEKER
(meekly)
We’re getting a stretch limo.

JUNO
Your mom must be really glad you’re not taking me.

BLEEKER
You’re mad. Why are you mad?

JUNO
I’m not mad. I’m in a fucking great mood. Despite the fact that I’m trapped in a fat suit I can’t take off, despite the fact that everyone is making fun of me behind my back, despite the fact that your little girlfriend gave me the stinkeye in art class yesterday...

BLEEKER
Katrina’s not my girlfriend! And I doubt she was actually giving you the stinkeye. She just looks like that all the time.

A GIRL strides past (obviously KATRINA) with a sour look aimed squarely at Juno.

JUNO
Whatever. Have fun at the prom with Soupy Sales. I’m sure I can think of something way more cool to do that night.

(MORE)
Like I could pumice my feet, or go to Bren’s dumb Unitarian church, or get hit by a ten-ton truck full of hot garbage juice. All those things would be exponentially cooler than going to the prom with you.

She starts to walk away.

Bleeker takes a deep breath.

BLEEKER
You’re being really immature.

JUNO
(turning around)
What?

Bleeker BRACES himself and pushes up his lab goggles.

JUNO
That’s not how our thing works! I hurl the accusations and you talk me down, remember?

BLEEKER
Not this time. You don’t have any reason to be mad at me. You broke my heart. I should be royally ticked at you, man. I should be really cheesed off. I shouldn’t want to talk to you anymore.

JUNO
Why? Because I got bored and had sex with you one day, and then I didn’t, like, marry you?

BLEEKER
Like I’d marry you! You would be the meanest wife of all time. And anyway, I know you weren’t bored that day because there was a lot of stuff on TV. The Blair Witch Project was on Starz, and you were like, “Oh, I want to watch this, but we should make out instead. La la la.”

JUNO
Forget it, Bleek. Take Katrina the Douche Packer to the prom. I’m sure you guys will have a really bitchin’ time!

(CONTINUED)
Blekker
(searching for a comeback)
Yeah, well...I still have your underwear.

Juno
I still have your virginity!

Blekker
(looking around, panicked)
Oh my God, SHUT UP!

Juno
What? Are you ashamed that we did it?

Blekker
No...

Juno
Well at least you don’t have to walk around with the evidence under your sweater. I’m a planet!

Juno picks up her BACKPACK dejectedly and slides it over her shoulder. She’s about to walk away, when...

Blekker
Wait, let me take that.

Juno
Huh?

Blekker
You shouldn’t be carrying that heavy bag. I’ll take it.

Juno
Oh. It’s fine. What’s another ten pounds?

She turns around, wipes TEARS off her cheek (making sure no one sees) and continues down the hallway.
Juno climbs ungracefully into the van. She starts the engine, then pauses to dig through her backpack for something. She produces a brush and begins brushing her hair in the rearview mirror, examining herself self-consciously. She puts on some Dr. Pepper Lip Smacker and backs out of the driveway.

INT. LORING HOUSE - MARK’S SPECIAL ROOM - DAY

Mark is seated at the computer, surfing a horror movie website. He has the blank expression of a bored obsessive. The doorbell rings.

INT. LORING HOUSE - ENTRY - DAY

Mark opens the door. Juno stands there, looking radiantly knocked-up. She holds a stack of CDs. Mark breaks into a grin.

MARK
Wow. That shirt is working hard.

JUNO
(furtive)
Is Vanessa here?

MARK
Nope. We’re safe.

He and Juno smile conspiratorially.

JUNO
Cool.

MARK
Come on, I have something for you.

He gestures for Juno to follow him into the house.

INT. LORING HOUSE - BASEMENT - AFTERNOON

The Lorings’ basement is dank, cluttered unfinished and unattractive, much like Paulie Bleeker’s. Mark pulls a chain to illuminate a bare bulb.
JUNO
Oh, Mark! Is this the baby’s room?
It’s beautiful!

MARK
Hilarious. No, I just keep all of my old comics down here, and I want to show you one of them.

JUNO
Oh God, you’re one of those guys...

MARK
You’re gonna like this, I promise.

Mark RUMMAGES through a cardboard box in the corner.

MARK
(extracting a bagged COMIC from the box)
Here it is.

He shows the COMIC to Juno. It’s called “Most Fruitful Yuki.” It depicts a pregnant JAPANESE GIRL kicking ass and taking names.

JUNO
“Most Fruitful Yuki”? What is...Oh my god, she’s a pregnant superhero!

MARK
Isn’t that great? I got it when I was in Japan with my band. She reminds me of you.

Juno examines the comic. “Most Fruitful Yuki” does resemble her.

JUNO
Wow, I actually feel like less of a fat dork now.

MARK
Most Fruitful Yuki is bad ass, man. You should be proud to be the same condition.

She throws a KARATE KICK in Mark’s direction with a KEE-YA!

Juno is sincerely pleased.

JUNO
Okay, how about some tunes?

(CONTINUED)
There’s a battered portable CD player in the corner. Juno kneels down and pops in one of the discs.

JUNO
Now this first one is kinda slow. But it’s Mott the Hoople so it’s still totally rad and hardcore.

Juno puts in the CD and “All The Young Dudes” fills the room. Mark Laughs.

JUNO
What?

MARK
I actually know this one.

JUNO
You do?

MARK
Yeah, this song’s older than me, if you can believe that. I danced to it at my senior prom.

JUNO
That’s almost interesting, Mark. Who did you dance with?

MARK
Her name was Cynthia Vogel and she was a good dance partner. Even let me put my hands on her butt.

JUNO
Oh man, I can just picture you slow dancing like a dork!

She mockingly places her hands on Mark’s waist and moves back and forth stiffly.

MARK
No, I put my hands on your waist. Then you put your arms around my neck. That’s how we did it in ‘88.

Mark puts his hands on what remains of Juno’s waist. She drapes her arms around his neck self-consciously.

JUNO
Oh, okay. Like this.
MARK
You’ve never been to a dance, have you?

JUNO
(casually defensive)
Only squares and nerds go to dances.

MARK
What are you?

JUNO
I don’t know.

They SWAY slowly to the music. Juno’s belly bumps up against Mark.

MARK
I feel like there’s something between us.

They laugh.

Juno rests her head on Mark’s chest. They dance in silence for a few moments, then stop moving. Mark pulls Juno as close as he possibly can, given her expanding girth.

MARK
I’m leaving Vanessa.

JUNO
(quiet at first)
What?

MARK
It’s just not working out, but I’m getting my own place in the city... and I’ve got it all planned out. It’s something I’ve wanted to do for a long time...

Juno backs away.

JUNO
(growing)
No.

MARK
No?

(CONTINUED)
JUNO

No. No, you definitely cannot do that, Mark. That’s a big, fat sack of no!

MARK

What’s the matter?

JUNO

This isn’t what we agreed on. You guys have to take care of...this! You are the chosen custodians of the big-ass bump!

She GESTURES wildly to her belly. Suddenly, something matters to her far more than the approval of an older guy.

MARK

But I thought you’d be cool if...

JUNO

(interrupting)
I want you guys to adopt the Buglet. I wanted everything to be perfect. Not shitty and broken like everyone else’s family. Listen, once I have the baby, Vanessa is going to finally be happy, and everything will be all right. Believe me on this one!

MARK

A baby is not going to fix everything. Besides, I don’t know if I’m ready to be a father.

JUNO

(aghast)
But you’re old!

MARK

I...How do you think of me, Juno? Why are you here?

JUNO

I don’t know. I just liked being your friend. I sort of liked becoming furniture in your weird life.

MARK

This...

(he gestures to the dank surrounding room)

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)
MARK (cont'd)
...this is what my life has become.
Stuff in boxes. Stuff underground.
Is that so appealing to you?

JUNO
Yeah, I guess...Is this my fault? Is
Vanessa mad at you because of me?

MARK
That’s not the point. We’re just
not in love anymore.

JUNO
Yeah, but didn’t you love Vanessa
when you married her? If you love
someone once, you can love them
again, I know it. My friend Leah has
gone out with the same guy, like,
four times. You’re just not trying.

Mark suddenly sees Juno for what she is - a teenage girl.

MARK
I’m such an idiot. I can’t believe
what an idiot I am.

He paces over to the wall and KICKS it softly.

JUNO
Please don’t get a divorce! God,
Mark, just do me a solid and stay
with your wife.

MARK
God, you’re so young.

JUNO
Not really. I’m sixteen. I’m old
enough to tell when people are
acting like total a-holes!

Juno turns to leave, then shoots one furious look back at
Mark.

JUNO
Oh and by the way, I bought another
Sonic Youth album and it’s the
worst thing I’ve ever heard! It’s
just noise, man!

She bolts up the stairs, sobbing.
Juno reaches the top of the stairs and scrambles toward the front door, only to be intercepted by Vanessa, who’s returning home from work, carrying her briefcase and a freshly purchased NURSING PILLOW. They nearly collide.

VANESSA
Juno? What’s going on?

JUNO
Nothing.

It’s obvious from Juno’s tears and flushed face that she’s lying. Vanessa instantly goes pale with fear, but she tries her hardest to seem serene and “together” in front of Juno.

VANESSA
(pretending to be calm)
Mark? Why is Juno crying?

JUNO
I’m not crying. I’m allergic to fine home furnishings. See you later.

She rushes toward the door.

VANESSA
Hold on.

Juno halts.

VANESSA
Juno, what’s the matter?

MARK
She’s hormonal. Right, June? It’s just part of the whole process.

Juno looks totally betrayed. She doesn’t respond. Vanessa looks at Juno’s expression and knows Mark is lying.

VANESSA
What did you do?

MARK
I didn’t do anything... I just... I’ve just been thinking.

The worst words a man can speak.

(CONTINUED)
VANESSA
(you’ve been thinking?)
What?

MARK (CONT’D)
Just thinking if this is really the right thing for us.

VANESSA
What are you referring to?

She knows exactly to what he’s referring.

MARK
I’ve been just wondering if we’re, you know, ready.

VANESSA
Of course we’re ready. We’ve taken all the classes. The nursery. The books -

MARK
I know we’re prepared. I just don’t know if... I’m ready.

Juno’s face continues to fall. Vanessa notices.

VANESSA (to Juno)
Juno, don’t worry about this. He just has cold feet. That’s how boys are. The books all say the same thing. A woman becomes a mother when she gets pregnant. A man becomes a father when he sees his baby. He’s going to get there. He’ll get there.

Juno ain’t buying it.

VANESSA (CONT’D) (to Mark)
Why don’t we let Juno go home and we can discuss this later on, okay?

MARK
It all just happened so fast. We put that ad in the paper. I thought it would take months if, you know, ever and then - boom - Two weeks later, she’s in our living room.
VANESSA
(quietly)
She answered our prayers.

MARK
(ignores the comment)
Ever since, it’s just been like a ticking clock.

This stops Vanessa. Juno looks offended.

VANESSA
What are you saying?

A long hideous beat.

MARK
It just feels a little like bad timing.

Another hideous beat.

VANESSA
What would be a good time for you?

MARK
I don’t know. There’s just things I still want to do.

VANESSA
Like what? Be a rock star?

MARK
Don’t mock me.

Vanessa sighs. It’s done.

VANESSA
You’re trying to do something that’s never going to happen. And you know what? Your shirt is stupid. Grow up. If I have to wait for you to become Kurt Cobain, I’m never going to be a mother.

Vanessa looks defeated.

MARK (CONT’D)
I never said I’d be a great father.

We hear the front door closing. Vanessa and Mark look over and notice that Juno has escaped the conflict.
EXT. LORING HOUSE - AFTERNOON

Juno runs up to her car sobbing. She struggles with the keys, but finally makes it into the Previa and drives off.

EXT. HIGHWAY - AFTERNOON

The Previa slides off the road and comes to a stop on the shoulder.

INT. PREVIA - AFTERNOON

Juno buckles over the steering wheel, crying, unwinding for the first time since she became pregnant.

After a beat, she begins to gather herself.

INT. BLEEKER’S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Bleeker is sitting next to his bed, noodling on the guitar. He’s playing a theme that we will soon recognise.

EXT. CORNER STORE - NIGHT

Juno lays on the hood of her Previa, contemplating her future. We push in close... when she gets an idea.

She hops off the hood and scurries into the Previa where she finds a crumpled up Jiffy Lube receipt. She unfolds it and pulls out a pen, ready to write something... a note?

EXT. LORING HOUSE - NIGHT

It’s quiet after the storm. Inside, we see Vanessa sitting alone at her perfect dining room table, drinking a glass of wine.

INT. LORING HOUSE - DINING ROOM - NIGHT

Vanessa takes a sip and continues to let the days events sink in. After a beat, Mark comes down the stairs to join her.

MARK
I called Gerta Rauss. She says she can represent both of us. They call it “collaborative divorce.” It’s apparently all the rage right now.

(MORE)
And it’s easy because we don’t have children.

VANESSA
No, it’s fine. Thanks for making the call, I guess.

Mark nods and sits down.

VANESSA
We’re actually, finally doing this?

MARK
Looks like it, yeah.

VANESSA
Have you found a place to stay?

MARK
Yeah, downtown.

VANESSA
A hotel?

MARK
It’s a loft.

VANESSA
(lightly teasing)
Aren’t you the cool guy?

They STARE at the wall, speechless and defeated.

VANESSA
I wanted a baby so bad. So bad.

She buries her head in her hands.

MARK
I know you did.

There’s a LOUD KNOCK on the front door.

EXT. LORING HOUSE - ENTRY - NIGHT

Mark opens the door. There’s a folded piece of paper sitting on the doormat. He squints and sees Juno pulling away in the van.

Mark carefully unfolds the piece of paper—it takes a minute because of Juno’s proficiency in “teen girl origami.” He holds it up. We can see there’s WRITING on the back.
MARK
It looks like a bill from Jiffy-Lube.

Vanessa takes the note from his hand and turns it over, examining it.

VANESSA
It’s for me.

EXT. MACGUFF HOUSE - NIGHT

Juno parks her car and walks up to her house. A porch light’s been left on for her, and the place looks cozy and inviting.

JUNO V.O.
I never realize how much I like being home unless I’ve been somewhere really different for a while.

She picks a CROCUS from the unkempt garden near the porch and sniffs it. She lifts her shirt and tickles her belly with it. Then she tucks the flower into her unkempt hair.

INT. MACGUFF HOUSE - KITCHEN - NIGHT

Mac is alone at the kitchen table going over the family finances while drinking one of Bren’s weight loss shakes. Juno enters.

JUNO
Hi Dad.

MAC
Hey, big puffy version of Junebug. Where have you been?

JUNO
Dealing with stuff way beyond my maturity level. Where is everyone?

MAC
Bren took Liberty Bell to her tot ice skating class.

JUNO
Tot ice skating? Tots can’t ice skate. Liberty Bell’s still getting the hang of stairs.

(CONTINUED)
MAC
No, but you know Bren. She dreams big.

JUNO
Yeah, she does.

MAC
You look a little morose, honey. What’s eating you?

JUNO
I’m losing my faith in humanity.

MAC
Think you can narrow it down for me.

JUNO
I guess I wonder sometimes if people ever stay together for good.

MAC
You mean like couples?

JUNO
Yeah, like people in love.

MAC
Are you having boy trouble? I gotta be honest; I don’t much approve of you dating in your condition, ‘cause... well, that’s kind of messed up.

JUNO
Dad, no!

MAC
Well, it’s kind of skanky. Isn’t that what you girls call it? Skanky? Skeevy?

JUNO
Please stop now.

MAC
(persisting)
Tore up from the floor up?

JUNO
Dad, it’s not about that. I just need to know that it’s possible for two people to stay happy together forever. Or at least for a few years.
MAC
It’s not easy, that’s for sure. Now, I may not have the best track record in the world, but I have been with your stepmother for ten years now, and I’m proud to say that we’re very happy.

Juno nods in agreement.

MAC (CONT’D)
In my opinion, the best thing you can do is to find a person who loves you for exactly what you are. Good mood, bad mood, ugly, pretty, handsome, what have you, the right person will still think that the sun shines out your ass. That’s the kind of person that’s worth sticking with.

A wave of REALIZATION crosses Juno’s face.

JUNO
I sort of already have.

MAC
Well, of course. Your old D-A-D! You know I’ll always be there to love and support you, no matter what kind of pickle you’re in.

He nods toward her belly.

MAC
Obviously.

Juno laughs and hugs her father, planting a smooch on his cheek.

JUNO
I need to go out somewhere for just a little while. I don’t have any homework, and I swear I’ll be back by ten.

She salutes and dashes out of the kitchen.

MAC
You were talking about me, right?

Montage:
INT. BLEEKER HOUSE - BLEEKER’S ROOM - NIGHT

We push in over Bleeker sleeping in his car-bed towards the window. We look out onto the lawn to find Juno and Leah running back to the Previa, hopping in, and screeching off.

EXT. BLEEKER HOUSE - MORNING

Bleeker steps out of the house for his usual early-morning run.

He looks down to see a message scrawled in chalk on the stoop: “BLEEKER- CHECK THE MAIL.”

He walks down to the end of the driveway and opens the latch on the mailbox.

At least one hundred containers of ORANGE TIC TACS come pouring out in an colorful deluge. They spill out onto the driveway.

Bleeker smiles.

EXT. DANCING ELK SCHOOL - TRACK - MORNING

Juno waddles toward the field. The guys on the track team, ridiculously arrayed as usual, are doing hurdler stretches. They stare at her quizzically. Bleeker spots Juno approaching and jogs up to the chainlink fence.
BLEECKER
Did you put like a hundred things of Tic Tacs in my mailbox?

JUNO
Yeah. That was me.

BLEECKER
Why?

JUNO
(blushes)
Because they’re your fave. And you can never have too much of your favorite one-calorie breath mint.

BLEEKER
Well...thanks. I think I’m pretty much set until college on the Tic Tac front.

JUNO
You know, I’ve been thinking. I’m really sorry I was such a huge bitch to you. You didn’t deserve that. You never deserve any of the poo I unload on you.

BLEEKER
You know it’s okay.

JUNO
Also, I think I’m in love with you.

BLEEKER
What, you mean as friends?

JUNO
No, for real. I think you are the coolest person I’ve ever met. And you don’t even have to try.

BLEEKER
I try really hard, actually...

JUNO
No, you’re naturally smart. You always think of the funniest things to do. Remember when you passed me that postcard during Spanish class, and it was addressed like, “Junebug MacGuff, Row 4, Third Seat From the Blackboard”?

(MORE)
And it said, “I’m having fun in Barcelona— wish you were here”? That was hilarious.

BLEEKER
I was just bored. I only think school is awesome like, 80% of the time.

JUNO
Plus, you’re the only person who doesn’t stare at my stomach all the fucking time. You actually look at my face. And every time I look at you, the baby starts kicking me super hard.

BLEEKER
It does?

Juno presses Bleeker’s hand against her belly.

BLEEKER
Wizard!

JUNO
I think it’s because my heart starts pounding when I see you.

BLEEKER
Mine too.

JUNO
Basically, I’m completely smitten with you, and I don’t care if I’m making an ass out of myself right now, because you’ve seen me make an ass out of myself a million times, and you still want to be my friend.

BLEEKER
Well, yeah. You’re the best friend I’ve ever had, even when you’re being kind of evil.

JUNO
That’s all I need from you. That’s more than I could ever ask for. You’re just golden, dude.

BLEEKER
Can we make out now?

JUNO
Okay.

(CONTINUED)
Bleeker and Juno KISS, oblivious to the gawking track team
guys in the background.

In the distance, near the school entrance, we see STEVE
RENDAZO (the kid who always TORMENTS Juno) regarding the
makeout session with a sad, envious expression.

LEAH passes by, does a double take, then hurries up to the
fence, rolling her eyes.

LEAH
(disgusted)
You know, you can go into early
labor sucking face like that!

Juno gives her the FINGER, not breaking the clinch with Bleeker.

INT. MACGUFF HOUSE - JUNO’S BEDROOM - MORNING

Juno is lying on her back on the bed, staring at the ceiling.
She’s more pregnant than we’ve ever seen her. She revs a
Matchbox car against the slope of her belly and lets it roll.

Juno suddenly sits up, looking thoroughly freaked. She pats
her lap frantically and jumps off the bed.

JUNO
Dad!

INTERCUT WITH:

INT. MACGUFF HOUSE - MAC’S WORK DESK - SAME

Mac looks up from the lure he’s working on.

MAC (O.C.)
What?!

JUNO
Either I just pissed my pants or...

MAC (O.C.)
Or...

JUNO
Thundercats are go!
Mac, Bren and Liberty Bell rush out of the house. They pile into the Previa at breakneck speed. Juno waddles behind them, protesting.

CU of Juno wearing a puffy surgical cap. She’s being pushed down the hospital corridor in a wheelchair. She bursts into giggles. Pull back to reveal her that Leah is pushing her rather aggressively. Leah jokingly steers the wheelchair into a wall. Juno feigns whiplash.

Bren appears behind them and orders Juno out of the wheelchair, exasperated. She pulls off Juno’s surgical cap. Leah and Juno snicker.

We see Juno is in a BIRTHING SUITE at the hospital, pacing impatiently, bent over in obvious discomfort. She’s wearing her Chuck Taylors and knee socks with her hospital gown. Leah and Bren stand nearby.

Juno doubles over in pain.

JUNO
(panicked)
Ow, ow, fuckity-ow. Bren, when do I get that Spinal Tap thing?

BREN
It’s called a spinal block, and you can’t have it yet, honey. The doctor said you’re not dilated enough.

JUNO
You mean I have to wait for it to get even worse? Why can’t they just give it to me now?

BREN
Well, honey, doctors are sadists who like to play God and watch lesser people scream.

Juno lets out a genuine shriek of pain.

(CONTINUED)
BREN
(checking her watch)
Shit.
(To the doctor)
Hey, can we give my kid the damn spinal tap already?

INT. HOSPITAL - BIRTHING SUITE - LATER

JUNO V.O.
It really didn’t hurt that bad having him.

We see Juno in the process of delivery, from her POV. Leah holds one of Juno’s feet and Bren holds the other.

JUNO V.O.
The best part was when I peed on Leah during labor.

We see Leah holding Juno’s FOOT, which is shaking. Leah’s shirt is soaked. She rolls her eyes and mouths “Fuck you” at Juno. Juno’s raised MIDDLE FINGER enters the frame.

JUNO V.O.
And then, out of nowhere, there it was...

The doctor reveals JUNO’S BABY BOY above the sheet.

JUNO (V.O.)
There he was.

Juno looks at the baby in awe, then her eyes begin to flutter... and she passes out.

EXT. DANCING ELK SCHOOL - TRACK - AFTERNOON

Paulie Bleeker is running as fast as his legs can carry him on the Dancing Elk track. There’s a very sparse crowd in the bleachers. As Paulie approaches the tape, his envious teammate Vijay looks on. Bleeker’s mom is seated near Vijay, holding a video camera.

JUNO V.O.
I decided to not call Bleeker to tell him that I was having the baby. He had a big meet against Manteno and I didn’t want him to get all worried about me and choke.
Paulie breaks the tape, winning the race. The fifteen or so people in attendance cheer.

VIJAY
(admiringly)
His legs are as swift as his seed.

MRS. BLEEKER
What did you say?

Bleeker pants at the finish line, dripping with sweat.

ANNOUNCER
P. Bleeker has just broken a district record in the 400.

Bleeker looks out at the BLEACHERS, scanning them for Juno. She’s not there.

JUNO V.O.
But he figured it out anyway.

Bleek takes off RUNNING toward the parking lot without stopping to explain. His mother stands up, confused.

INT. HOSPITAL - MATERNITY WARD - DAY

A NURSE reaches into one of the maternity ward bassinets and gently lifts up a swaddled newborn baby.

The nurse turns and addresses an unseen spectator.

NURSE
Would you like to meet your son?

Pull back to reveal she’s speaking to VANESSA, who stands, paralyzed, several feet away.

VANESSA
I have a son?

NURSE
(amused)
You are the adoptive mother?

VANESSA
I have a son.

NURSE
Healthy kid, too. Didn’t waste any time getting out.

(CONTINUED)
Vanessa reaches out for the baby and gingerly accepts him in her eyes. She spends a few moments just looking at him.

She feels someone watching her, then looks up to see a Bren leaning against the doorway.

Vanessa blinks away her tears self-consciously.

Vanessa

How do I look?

Bren

(gently)

Like a mom. Scared shitless.

Vanessa laughs.

INT. HOSPITAL - BIRTHING SUITE - DAY

Juno is curled up on her bed in the birthing room. The birth is obviously over; there’s that air of stillness and accomplishment, a task completed. The doctors have cleared out. Mac sits in a chair next to the bed, looking like he’s not sure what to say.

He holds up a deck of Playing cards as if to initiate a game, but Juno gently pushes his hand away. Their eyes meet. His expression is helpless, hers is utterly drained.

Mac

Someday, you’ll be back here, honey. On your terms.

Juno nods and swallows.

Over Mac’s shoulder, a silhouette appears in the doorway. It’s Bleeker in his track uniform.

Juno sees him and bursts into sudden, ragged sobs. Mac glances at her, alarmed. Paulie moves toward the bed. Mac clears his throat, gets up and leaves the room.

Paulie climbs onto the hospital bed and carefully puts his arm around Juno. She leans into him, letting herself go for the first time in months.
Juno lies on the bed. She looks rested and relaxed compared to her earlier crying jag, but her face is still pink and swollen. Bleeker is curled up next to her, still in his track uniform and spikes.

JUNO V.O.
Bleeker decided he didn’t want to see the baby. Neither did I, really. He didn’t feel like ours.

We see Vanessa leaning over the bassinet, unable to take her eyes off the baby, touching it’s hair reverently.

JUNO V.O.
I think he was always hers.

The nursery is perfectly decorated in Vanessa’s immaculate taste. Nothing looks as though it’s been touched. We see the antique ROCKING CHAIR sitting empty.

JUNO V.O.
It ended with a chair.

We pan past the wall Vanessa had said “needed something.” There’s a framed note on the wall. It looks like it was handwritten on the back of a Jiffy Lube bill. We see that it says: “Vanessa - If you’re still in, I’m still in. Juno.”

We move to the door and get a view of Vanessa’s bedroom. We see her lying in bed with a burp cloth draped over her shoulder, feeding the baby. For the first time ever, Vanessa looks disorganized, unshowered--and incredibly happy. There are formula bottles on the bedside table and a bassinet pushed close to the bed. Obviously, she hasn’t been away from the baby for a single moment.

The baby reaches up and grabs Vanessa’s thumb. Vanessa glows with an expression of pure bliss.
EXT. MACGUFF HOUSE - DAY

It’s a sparkling summer afternoon. Juno wheels her bicycle out of the detached garage. She waves goodbye to Bren, who is playing in the yard with two WEIMARANERS. She looks almost as happy with her dogs as VANESSA looked with her baby.

EXT. SUBURBAN STREETS - DAY

Juno rides her bike aggressively down the street. Her guitar is slung over her shoulder in a gig bag. She’s obviously not pregnant anymore. She looks happy, but older.

JUNO V.O.
As boyfriends go, Paulie Bleeker is totally boss. He is the cheese to my macaroni. I know people are supposed to fall in love before they reproduce, but normalcy’s not really our style.

As she tears recklessly down the street on her bikes, she passes the Dancing Elk TRACK TEAM, still running in outrageously skimpy shorts and bandanas.

Juno RIDES up to a garage where Bleeker is sitting, tuning his guitar.

EXT. BLEEKER HOUSE - DAY

Juno bikes up to find Bleeker sitting on the stoop. She smiles and takes out her guitar. She sits across from Bleeker and pulls the pick out of the strings.

JUNO
Ready?

Bleeker nods.

Juno begins strumming her guitar and playing “Anyone Else But You,” by the Moldy Peaches. Bleeker joins in. At first their playing is discordant, but suddenly it works.

BLEEKER
You’re a part time lover and a full-time friend. The monkey on your back is the latest trend.

(MORE)
BLEEKER (cont'd)
I don’t see what anyone can see, in anyone else but you.

JUNO
Here is the church and here is the steeple. We sure are cute for two ugly people. I don’t see what anyone can see, in anyone else but you.

BLEEKER
We both have shiny happy fits of rage. You want more fans, I want more stage. I don’t see what anyone can see, in anyone else but you.

JUNO
You are always trying to keep it real. I’m in love with how you feel. I don’t see what anyone can see, in anyone else but you.

BLEEKER
I kiss you on the brain in the shadow of a train. I kiss you all starry-eyed, my body’s swinging from side to side. I don’t see what anyone can see, in anyone else but you.

JUNO
The pebbles forgive me, the trees forgive me. So why can’t you forgive me? I don’t see what anyone can see, in anyone else but you.

JUNO AND BLEEKER TOGETHER
Du du du du du dudu. Du du du du du dudu. I don’t see what anyone can see, in anyone else but you.

She and Bleeker exchange glances as they play. They smile ambiguously. Juno leans over and kisses Bleeker on the cheek.

Pull out to reveal the surrounding green suburb buzzing with life and summer activity.

FADE TO BLACK