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FADE IN:

THE CAMERA, JUST ABOVE THE 59TH ST. BRIDGE, FOLLOWS A PARADE OF FAST MOVING CARS ENTERING THE CITY OF MANHATTAN ON A CLEAR NIGHT.

CUT TO:

A BEAUTIFUL REDHEAD GENTLY NEGOTIATES HER LONG THIN LEGS OUT OF HER NEW VOLKSWAGEN.

CUT TO:

EXT. MEXICAN RESTAURANT - NIGHT

The CAMERA, now at eye level behind this tall angular girl in her late twenties observes her challenge; the red "DON'T WALK" sign as well as the oncoming traffic. She goes for it. We see the restaurant "Rosa Mexicana" from across the street.

CUT TO:

INT. MEXICAN RESTAURANT - NIGHT

JULIE

(looking around)

This is a nicer room than the one by the bar, just a little too dark in here don't you think? And all these people look like they're from out of town.

RICKY

(early forties, average height, athletic and handsome)

I wouldn't say it's exactly dark, just softer lighting and the whole city is full of tourist this time of year. I think it's kind of fun.

JULIE

I find it kind of annoying.

RICKY

In what way?

JULIE

In the way they dress and most of them are too loud, oh, and by the way have I told you I hate my new job?

RICKY

I thought you were happy there.

JULIE

I'm rarely happy anywhere. My new boss; she's horrible.

RICKY

Is she from out of town?

JULIE

I'm not sure, but she's very loud spoken.

RICKY

So, look for another job.

JULIE

I would, but it's too stressful. Much better to stay miserable; there's a strange comfort in it. Hard to explain.

RICKY

Ready to order?

JULIE

I've changed my mind, I don't think I'm going to eat tonight. I'm too depressed about my body, especially with warm weather just around the corner.

RICKY

It's only February.

JULIE

Yes, but the months fly by quicker with age, another reason I'm miserable.

RICKY

You're only what, twenty-six? And already depressed and miserable, or just one of the two?

JULIE

I'm too upset to think about it right now. I'll just have a Margarita please, and can you make sure they put an umbrella in it?

RICKY

Why the umbrella?

JULIE

It could cheer me up.

CUT TO:

INT. LOFT PARTY - FOLLOWING NIGHT

Crowded, a variety of people in their twenties and thirties. Ricky is having a drink with his friend Tommy.

RICKY

Look at that couple; they haven't stopped dancing since we got here.

TOMMY

It's called youth. Well, that's it for me, got to catch the 11:57 PM train.

RICKY

Can't you stay for one more drink? You can take the one after that.

TOMMY

I would, but I have an early meeting tomorrow. Besides if I leave it will reduce the competition for you and there's a lot of pretty girls here tonight.

RICKY

You'll probably think I'm crazy, but they all look so young to me. I'm thinking I should be with someone from my generation.

TOMMY

Your generation doesn't live in the city any longer and this is crazy talk. Okay got to go, hang in there.

CUT TO:

INT. RICKY'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - FOLLOWING NIGHT

He is on the sofa watching the Knicks game holding a glass of wine; a cigar is in the ashtray and a box of chocolates have been eaten.

CUT TO:

INT. CHELSEA'S HOME - FAMILY ROOM - SAME NIGHT

C.U. on the computer. Ricky's daughter, Chelsea, is instant messaging five different girlfriends at the same time. She is a stylish seventeen year old with sandy straight blonde hair.

CUT TO:

INT. FRONT ENTRANCE HALLWAY - NIGHT

ROBIN  
(Chelsea's mom; early forties, attractive)  
Hi, I'm home. Chelsea, how was school today? Chelsea, did you hear me? Chelsea!

CHELSEA (O.S.)  
What, what do you want? I'm busy.

CUT TO:

INT. OPEN KITCHEN/ FAMILY ROOM - NIGHT

ROBIN  
Yeah, I see how busy you are; talking to your friends. I want you off the computer now! It's time for you to help around this house; it's a mess.

CHELSEA  
(feverishly typing)  
Okay, okay. Give me a second.

ROBIN  
How's your father by the way? Does he have a girlfriend?

CHELSEA  
Why do you care?

ROBIN  
Please don't be a wise guy. Come in  
here and help me.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. FRONT ENTRANCE - HALLWAY - NIGHT

GARY (LATE FORTIES, NON DESCRIPT)  
I'm home.

He kisses Robin on the cheek, then Chelsea. They both do not  
seem too thrilled with it.

CHELSEA  
Oh Mom, I got a B on my English  
test today.

ROBIN  
You should be getting A's and you  
know I'm right.

CHELSEA  
It was really a hard test.

ROBIN  
But that's your favorite subject.  
You're still writing in your  
journal aren't you?

CHELSEA  
Yeah, but I really like photography  
now and I think I'm getting good at  
it.

GARY  
Any pictures to show us?

CHELSEA  
(giving a dirty look)  
No, they're all at school.

ROBIN  
(trying to keep things  
warm)  
Wasn't that a hobby of yours in  
college?

GARY  
The only hobby I had was drinking  
beer in college.

Robin and Chelsea give him a disappointing look.

GARY  
That was a joke.

CUT TO:

EXT. INDIAN RESTAURANT - NIGHT

CUT TO:

INT. RESTAURANT BAR - NIGHT

Ravi Shankur music playing in the background.

ROBERT  
(softly)  
I just want you to know I have you  
seated next to a beautiful Indian  
girl who just moved here a few  
months ago.

RICKY  
Never sat next to a beautiful girl  
at a dinner party.

ROBERT  
(smiling)  
Yeah, right. You're going to owe me  
big time for this one.

RICKY  
I will be happy to return the  
favor. How old is she?

ROBERT  
(laughing. Then walking  
away)  
Young. You know in India the  
formula for a good match is half  
the man's age plus seven. Excuse me  
a moment.

RICKY  
(thinking out loud)  
How old is she?

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. DINING AREA - NIGHT

Party is well underway. Dinner guests are sitting on the floor dining on very low long tables. As everyone is talking with one another a big pipe is passed around. Pan to Robert, who is very pleased with the way the dinner party is going, then to the waiter bringing some dishes over to Ricky.

RICKY

So, how do you know Robert?

INDIAN GIRL

Our families in India know each other. He went to my cousin's wedding in my town last year.

RICKY

I heard wedding parties can be quite big.

INDIAN GIRL

My cousin invited the whole village.

RICKY

How many people would that be?

INDIAN GIRL

Around 2000.

RICKY

I'm trying to imagine the buffet table. Was there a band?

INDIAN GIRL

My grandfather played.

RICKY

Oh, when the band took a break you mean?

INDIAN GIRL

Hear *this* music playing?

RICKY

Yes.

INDIAN GIRL

This is my grandfather's music. His name is Ravi Shankur.



RICKY

(excited)

I know him, I mean, I know his music. I went to his concert a long time ago.

INDIAN GIRL

That was a very long time ago; before I was born. You don't look like you could be a grandfather.

RICKY

I'm not. I was a kid. I mean, a baby, very immature when I saw him play.

ROBERT

How's everything?

RICKY

Everything is wonderful.

(softly to Robert)

What was the age formula again?

CUT TO:

INT. RICKY'S APARTMENT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

The Knicks game is on the TV. We see a press release advertising kit by a female eye surgeon on the coffee table.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

Ricky is looking in the mirror pulling back his face with his fingers, then studying the wrinkles under his eyes. The phone rings.

GUS (O.S.)

What are you doing?

RICKY (ON PHONE)

Just watching the game and myself age at the same time.

GUS (O.S.)

I'm at the Soho house with my brother, meet us here. There's a ton of girls out tonight.

RICKY (ON PHONE)  
I don't know, it's already eleven.  
I'm undressed; the Knicks are on.

INT. SOHO HOUSE ROOF - NIGHT

GUS (ON PHONE)  
What, are you gay now? Is that what  
you're trying to tell me, just  
admit it. My brother knows a lot of  
gay guys in his business. He can  
fix you up.

RICKY (O.S.)  
It's just that I was out last night  
till 2:30. It's hard for me to do  
two nights in a row. I appreciate  
the call though. Listen I'll call  
you tomorrow, there's an art  
gallery opening this weekend and I  
have an invitation so you can come  
with me.

GUS (ON PHONE)  
Okay, call me tomorrow. Oh, if  
things get crazy tonight - I mean  
later- should I call you?

RICKY (O.S.)  
Thanks, but tonight is a pass,  
speak to you tomorrow.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. RICKY'S APARTMENT - BATHROOM

Ricky is looking at himself in the full length mirror using a  
smaller mirror to check the back of his head for a possible  
bald spot.

CUT TO:

INT. RESTAURANT - NIGHT.

Young, fun, french feeling. Very noisy.

DEAN  
(to two couples)  
It will be about an hour.  
(MORE)

DEAN(cont'd)

You can wait at the bar if you like  
and I will call you when the table  
is ready.

RICKY

(shaking his hand with a  
twenty dollar bill)  
Dean, how are you buddy? Oh, this  
is Jody.

DEAN

Hi. Nice to meet you, are you  
having dinner tonight?

RICKY

Yes.

DEAN

Okay, give me a few minutes  
alright?

RICKY

Fine, we'll be at the bar.

JODY

How did you get us a table so  
quickly? I heard him tell those  
other couples it was an hour wait.

RICKY

I think you're forgetting who I am.

JODY

Refresh my memory.

RICKY

I'm the guy who shook Dean's hand  
with a twenty dollar bill. Old  
school style, love. No one does it  
anymore or even thinks in that  
direction.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. BAR AREA - NIGHT

DEAN

I have two tables; one of them is  
ready now and the one over there in  
the corner will be in a few  
minutes. They're paying the bill  
now.

RICKY  
(weighing his options)  
We'll wait for the other one.

Dean smiles and leaves.

CUT TO:

INT. DINING AREA - NIGHT

The CAMERA is behind Ricky facing Jody. She is talking very fast. Ricky is thinking to himself. We see his thoughts put into words on the screen above her head.

RICKY  
Is she ever going to shut up? Ever since we sat down, she hasn't stopped eating, drinking, or talking. Thankfully it's so noisy in here I can hardly make out what she is saying. Better to just nod and smile, can't go wrong with that strategy.

WAITER  
More wine?

JODY  
Yes thank you, and some more flat water please and can we have another side of french fries.

RICKY  
(More thoughts put into words on the screen)  
Does she ever say no to anything? And the way she eats; can't put it down fast enough. I wonder what she likes best, talking or eating. Bet you anything she didn't eat a thing today, figured she'd make up for it tonight. You know she's going to order dessert; probably two desserts.

JODY  
Well, don't you agree?

RICKY  
(quickly)  
Uh, what, oh, yes, absolutely.

Jody smiles then start talking as fast as she can.

RICKY

(again on the screen)

I hope she doesn't want to go dancing afterwards, I'm exhausted from just partially listening to her. The wine is also making me tired, listen to me I sound like an old man already. Better have a coffee after dinner. Double espresso, that should do it. I wonder if they serve it intravenously.

CUT TO:

CHELSEA'S BEDROOM - NIGHT.

She is on her bed typing on her laptop. Allegra, her best friend, has chestnut hair and blue eyes and is also very stylish for a Westchester girl. She is looking through her old CD's.

CHELSEA

Do you want to stay for dinner?

ALLEGRA

Sure. Is it cool?

CHELSEA

Word, oh and let's go into the city this weekend. We can stay at my Dad's apartment, want to?

ALLEGRA

He lives uptown, right?

CHELSEA

Yeah.

ALLEGRA

Okay. But could we go downtown on Saturday to Soho, I want to get some jeans.

CHELSEA

I need some jeans too..

ALLEGRA

How many pairs do you own? That's all I ever see you wear and different ones every time.

CHELSEA

(smiles then yells)

Mom! Allegra's staying for dinner.

ROBIN (OS)

Fine, it will be ready in about twenty minutes. Just waiting for Gary to come home.

CHELSEA

Do we have to?( to Allegra) You don't mind Gary eating with us even though he's annoying.

ALLEGRA

He's just trying to win you over; that's why he's always trying to be funny.

CHELSEA

That's what's annoying. He's not funny at all. I'm beginning to think my Mom is also getting turned off by him and not because he's trying to be funny.

ALLEGRA

About what?

CHELSEA

Everything about him is irritating.

ALLEGRA

So does your Dad have a girlfriend?

CHELSEA

No, he said it's hard to find the right person.

ALLEGRA

Maybe we could help him. My mother's friend just got divorced.

CHELSEA

Who?

ALLEGRA

Janet McGill, you know her son  
John.

CHELSEA

She's gross. She's always wearing  
mini skirts and she's like forty-  
five and her hair, wait, a second  
you just gave me a brilliant idea.

CUT TO:

EXT. BIG ADVERTISING OFFICE - MIDTOWN - DAY

CUT TO:

INT. OFFICES - DAY

A small group of male coworkers are having coffee by the open  
kitchen.

BILL

Here comes that lucky son of a  
bitch.

DAVE

You know sometimes he stays at his  
ex's house in the country, and she  
stays at her new husband's place in  
the city. He's got the best of both  
worlds.

BILL

During the week he's out and about  
with all the young city girls and  
weekends with his daughter at the  
house, what an arrangement.  
Couldn't be better.

RICKY

Hey guys, what's up?

DAVE

Were jealous of you.

RICKY

Why?

DAVE

Your lifestyle.

RICKY

Well I'm getting bored with it.  
Would trade it in for the right  
woman, not girl, in a minute.

DAVE

You okay?

BILL

I don't understand what you said.

CUT TO:

EXT. BARNEY'S NEW YORK - DAY

CUT TO:

INT. BARNEY'S WOMEN'S DEPARTMENT - DAY

CHELSEA

Dad, I need a tank top.

RICKY

That's all you ever buy. That or  
jeans. Why don't you get a sweater  
or a sweatshirt or a skirt for a  
change?

ALLEGRA

I told her the same thing.

RICKY

Won't you girls get into trouble at  
school? You know, a dress code  
violation, when you wear a tank top  
that shows some skin?

CHELSEA

(holding a tank top  
against her body and  
looking in a mirror)

It's not my fault they're all  
designed this way. Besides, that  
dress code violation is a joke. All  
the girls at school are given that  
stupid violation.

YOUNG WOMAN

Hi.



RICKY

Hi. Wow. How are you?  
(Chelsea looking through  
the mirror observing)

YOUNG WOMAN

What are you doing on this floor?  
Shopping for someone?

RICKY

My daughter, Chelsea.

YOUNG WOMAN

You never told me you had a  
daughter.

RICKY

She's right there. Looking at us  
through the mirror.

YOUNG WOMAN

Hi, that's a cute top you picked  
out. My name is Piret.

CHELSEA

Hi, thanks, my name is Chelsea and  
this is my girlfriend Allegra.

PIRET

(to Ricky)

Hi. She's beautiful; they both are.  
Gotta go. Call me sometime.

RICKY

Okay. Bye.

PIRET

Nice to meet you Chelsea and you  
too Allegra.

CHELSEA

Who was that? And what kind of name  
is Piret? Is she Russian?

RICKY

She's from Ensonia.

ALLEGRA

Where's that?

CHELSEA

Is it on the map?

RICKY

I'm not sure.

CHELSEA

Did you go out with her, Dad? She doesn't look much older than me.

RICKY

Once, no longer though. They age very well there, she's thirty-three.

CHELSEA

Dad, I think more like twenty-four tops.

RICKY

Anyway it was a mistake. So do you want that tank top?

CHELSEA

Yeah, and can I have it in this color too.

RICKY

Okay just don't buy it in too small of a size.

CHELSEA

Thanks Dad, no offense but you need to start dating girls more your own age.

RICKY

For the first time in your teenage life, I'm going to agree with you. You know, I'm thinking about getting married again.

CUT TO:

INT. RICKY'S OFFICE - DAY

As Ricky walks toward his desk an older woman passes by giving him a gentle smile. Nothing is said.

RICKY (ON PHONE)

Marty, how the hell are you?

MARTY (O.S.)

Good. How's life in the city? You lucky dog. When are you going to take me out?

RICKY

Anytime you want, just tell me when.

MARTY

Great, I'll get us tickets to a Knicks game. Then we'll go for dinner, you just can't tell my wife.

RICKY

What? What do you mean?

MARTY

You can't tell her we're going out afterwards.

RICKY

Why?

MARTY

Cause you're single.

RICKY

So?

MARTY

She'll think I'm fooling around if I go out with a single guy.

RICKY

Okay, whatever, fine. But I want you to do me a favor if you can.

MARTY

Sure, anything. Name it.

RICKY

Fix me up with one of your wife's girlfriends.

MARTY

Why? Not enough girls in the city.

RICKY

They're all too young.

MARTY

And your point is?

RICKY

I have come to the realization that I need to be with a woman closer to my age. And they're not in the city.

MARTY

Are you on medication? I've never heard any guy talk the way you're talking right now. What's really wrong? You can tell me, you're not turning gay on me or anything are you?

RICKY

I'm serious. I want to get married again and I want to be with someone closer to my age. Well, anywhere from three to ten years younger than me.

MARTY

I can't help you.

RICKY

Why not? Your wife knows a lot of girls from her office.

MARTY

Yeah, but she's still very close to your ex.

RICKY

But she's remarried.

MARTY

Doesn't matter. It's some kind of women's code that lasts for a lifetime or close to it.

RICKY

I never heard of a code. What kind of code?

MARTY

A women's code. They stick together no matter what the circumstances are or what they were.

RICKY

Can you at least ask her? Maybe there's a new time limit on it.

MARTY

I will. But let's definitely go to the game next Tuesday. I'll get the tickets and I will speak to my wife this week about your unusual request.

RICKY

Thanks. Bye.

CUT TO:

INT. ROBIN AND GARY'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Robin is lying down on the bed. The TV is on and she's reading a self-help book. Gary walks into the bedroom and farts on his way to the bathroom.

ROBIN

I told you I don't like that! It's not funny.

GARY

It's just a fart. I thought we had a relationship that allowed that sort of thing.

ROBIN

Hey, my dad never did that. I think it's disgusting and make sure you put the toilet seat down, I'm tired of telling you and stop using my toothbrush.

GARY

(O.S. In bathroom)  
Okay.

ROBIN

And shut the door!

CUT TO:

EXT. ROOF BAR - THOMPSON HOTEL - NIGHT

GIRL

I made plans for us tonight. I mean I have a plan in what we should do.

RICKY

What kind of plan or plans?

GIRL

First drinks, which we are having here now; then dinner which you already know about; then the Soho house for drinks; then dancing all night at the Marquee.

RICKY

Everything sounded fine until the dancing all night part at the Marquee.

GIRL

What's the problem? You like dancing, and you know I don't like going to the gym. So, it's my only form of exercise. You wouldn't want to deprive me of the things I like would you?

RICKY

I have to be at the office early tomorrow. You can sleep late.

GIRL

Listen, everyone else who's at the club has to get up early also; if they could do it so could you.

RICKY

But I'm not as young as I look.

GIRL

Yes you are. Now, let's go. We're on a schedule.

RICKY

One AM is my limit tonight.

GIRL

We'll see.

CUT TO:

INT. RICKY'S APARTMENT - FOLLOWING MORNING

It's clearly too much for him to stay out so late. Clock radio reads 9:30 AM.

RICKY

Shit.

(picks up the phone)

(MORE)

RICKY(cont'd)

Caroline, it's me. I'm at the dentist. I'll be in the office within the hour.

CUT TO:

INT. OFFICE - DAY

Ricky passes another girl in the office who smiles at him. Passing another one, he stops to think.

CUT TO:

INT. MADISON SQUARE GARDEN - KNICKS GAME - NIGHT

RICKY

How did you get these seats?

MARTY

My next door neighbor works for the here.

RICKY

Damn. When I lived at my house, my next door neighbor was a coach at the local high school.

MARTY

Oh, so you went to the high school basketball games?

RICKY

Yeah, but my seats weren't as good.

MARTY

So we're still on for dinner?

RICKY

Yeah, of course, so why are you both eating hotdogs?

MARTY

How can you not have one at a game?

TOM

This is the most delicious thing I've ever eaten.

MARTY

Hey, take us to one of your hot spots.

(MORE)

MARTY(cont'd)

You know, the kind of place where the scene is filled with talent.

RICKY

Fine. Did you get a chance to speak with your wife about fixing me up?

MARTY

Yeah, sorry, she said no way. She takes a yoga class with your ex sometimes and couldn't face her if she did.

RICKY

But my ex is remarried. Doesn't that discount that "code", that "women's code". It shouldn't apply, should it?

MARTY

Hey, what can I tell you? Listen, you work for a huge company. There has to be a lot of older women there.

RICKY

I have been thinking about that. I have been getting a few looks lately. Tom, did you speak to your wife?

TOM

She feels the same way as Marty's wife.

MARTY

You know I read an article in a magazine, I think it was Men's Health, where it said that 60% of all relationships stem from the workplace.

RICKY

60%? Hmm that's a real number. The only drawback I can see is if I date someone from the office and it doesn't work out, won't we both feel uncomfortable about it?

MARTY

Depends, case by case. Just don't date a ...

(MORE)



MARTY(cont'd)

oh what's the expression, never  
take home anyone crazier than you.  
You don't want a fatal attraction  
scenario.

CUT TO:

EXT. DOWNTOWN RESTAURANT - TRENDY - NIGHT

CUT TO:

INT. RESTAURANT- NIGHT

Marty, Ricky, and Tom are seated at a table with drinks  
already served.

MARTY

This place is unbelievable. I feel  
like I'm in one of the restaurant  
scenes from that HBO show,  
"Entourage".

TOM

It's so hard to concentrate on the  
menu; there's so much talent here.  
How did you find this place?

RICKY

When you live in New York you hear  
things. Word of mouth.

MARTY

Let's take off our rings?

TOM

Good idea.

RICKY

I--- don't think that's a good  
idea.

TOM

Why?

RICKY

It's bad luck.

MARTY

That's an old wife's tale.

WAITRESS

Ready to order?

MARTY

What's good here besides the  
scenery?

WAITRESS

Everything's really good here,  
especially the salmon, that's my  
favorite.

TOM

We seem to have a lot in common;  
that's my favorite dish.

RICKY

I'll have the steak please, medium  
rare.

MARTY

Same for me and can you buy that  
table a round of drinks on us  
please.

WAITRESS

Okay.

TOM

Let the games begin.

RICKY

Well, I see you haven't lost any of  
your skills.

MARTY

Just like riding a bike.

CUT TO:

A C.U. ON THE COMPUTER SCREEN

Words begin to form.

" I'M PRETTY DOWN TO EARTH AND..."

CUT TO:

INT. CHELSEA'S HOME - NIGHT

Chelsea enters to find Robin on the computer.

CHELSEA

Hi. What are you doing?

ROBIN  
Nothing. Go away.

CHELSEA  
I just want to see what you're  
doing. What are you hiding?

ROBIN  
I said nothing, now go away.

CHELSEA  
(looking in the  
refrigerator)  
What's for dinner? I'm starving.  
Mom! Did you hear me? What's for  
dinner? There's nothing in the  
fridge.

ROBIN  
Just a second.

CHELSEA  
And I don't want to wait for Gary  
to eat, I'm too hungry. We don't  
always have to eat with him anyway.

ROBIN  
Well you don't have to worry about  
that anymore.

CHELSEA  
Why? What do you mean?

ROBIN  
We broke up. He moved back to the  
city.

CHELSEA  
Word! Okay it's my turn to get on  
the computer, I just have to tell  
all my friends.

ROBIN  
(looking in the fridge)  
Okay. How about pasta tonight?

CHELSEA  
Fine. So are you getting back  
together with Dad?

ROBIN  
He doesn't want to be with someone  
like me. He has a new life now.

CHELSEA

What do you mean, *someone like you*?

ROBIN

I don't know. Sometimes I just feel like I'm too sensitive for my time.

CHELSEA

What are you talking about?

ROBIN

When I was your age things were just softer and less complicated.

CHELSEA

I still don't know what you are talking about. Oh, wait, I think I know what you mean. You mean like in the hippie days, right? People were more about "whatever" in everything they did, right?

ROBIN

Yeah, exactly. Now everyone lives as if everything in their life is one big emergency with this kind of "don't get in my way" attitude.

CHELSEA

What's wrong with that? Everything is more competitive than in the olden days.

ROBIN

That still doesn't mean you have to have this "what's your name" and "how can I use you" kind of way about you.

CUT TO:

INT. DOWNTOWN RESTAURANT - CO-ED BATHROOM - NIGHT

Ricky is looking at himself in the mirror checking the wrinkles on his forehead. He stops to take a drink of his red wine- not taking his eyes off of himself- when Marty's wife walks in. Beyond surprised, he spits out the red wine spraying it all over the mirror.

ALLISON

Ricky is that you? Are you alright?

RICKY

Allison. Hi! Fine, I'm fine. The wine just went down the wrong pipe. What are you doing here?

ALLISON

Having dinner with some girlfriends. Who are you here with?

Ricky is in mild shock and disarray. Unable to answer, he takes a drink of the empty glass.

ALLISON

You sure you're alright?

RICKY

Yes, yes I'm fine. I'm here with your husband and Tom.

ALLISON

Oh, I thought he would have been on his way home by now. Well, I'll see you upstairs then. I have to go to the bathroom.

RICKY

Okay.

Ricky slowly leaves the bathroom and then runs up the stairs to the table where Marty and Tom are sitting with the girls that they bought drinks for.

RICKY

(to Marty)

I have to talk to you.

Marty is whispering into the ear of one of the girls sitting next to him.

MARTY

Can't you see I'm in a meeting?

RICKY

This is important.

Ricky whispers into Marty's ear who he just saw in the co-ed bathroom. Marty, drinking a glass of red wine at this time spits it out of his mouth unfortunately landing on the two other girl's white dresses sitting opposite him at the round table. The girls scream in disbelief and run off to the bathroom followed by the girl who Marty was with bumping into Marty's wife on the way down.

MARTY

What do I do? I'm scared. I can't think straight.

RICKY

Nothing. Do nothing. Just relax. I'll handle this.

(beat)

Tom! Go downstairs and tell the girls were sorry and give them this.

(handing him \$200)

We'll meet you at the far end of the bar. No, wait! Keep them downstairs as long as you can and call us when they start to come up.

MARTY

My ring. I can't find my ring!

RICKY

(handing over his credit card)

Waiter, we'll be at the bar. You can clear the table. We're finished here. Thank you.

CUT TO:

INT. STAIRCASE

Tom runs down the stairs and also bumps into Marty's wife.

TOM

(without stopping his descent)

Oh, hi Allison.

CUT TO:

C.U. OF A COMPUTER SCREEN- WORDS FORM

" MOST PEOPLE FEEL THEY HAVE A SPIRITUAL CONNECTION WITH ONE ANOTHER IF THEY HAVE A FEW THINGS IN COMMON. I ALWAYS FELT THAT WAS A BUNCH OF CRAP."

CUT TO:

INT. BAR AREA

Ricky signs the bill and hands it to the waitress.

MARTY

(putting his ring on)  
I just found it. It was in my  
jacket pocket. Thank God! There's  
my wife, she's looking for me. What  
should I do?

RICKY

Call her over.

Marty steps away from the crowded bar and gets her attention.  
She walks over to them at the far end of the bar.

ALLISON

Hi Ricky. Feeling better?

RICKY

A little queasy. So if you don't  
mind, I asked Marty to drive me  
home in my car.

ALLISON

Fine.

(to Marty)

Hey, are you okay? You look as bad  
as Ricky.

RICKY

It must have been the hot dogs at  
the game. That's why we both feel  
like shit.

ALLISON

How could you eat those things?  
Anyway, I'm here with my  
girlfriends from work, there  
sitting down in the back. See you  
back at the house.

MARTY

(kissing his wife.)  
Okay.

RICKY

Girlfriends from work?

ALLISON

Yeah. Would you like to meet them?

RICKY  
 (his phone rings. He looks  
 at it.)  
 Uh, yeah, some other time. Thanks.  
 I have to leave. I kind of feel  
 nauseous.

ALLISON  
 Alright then. Bye.

RICKY  
 (on the phone with Tom.)  
 Give them another fifty and keep  
 them down there.

CUT TO:

DOWNSTAIRS BATHROOM - NIGHT

TOM  
 Stop! Wait! I have more money for  
 you.

The girls go back downstairs. As ne of the girls turns around  
 and grabs the money out of his hand and then notices the tan  
 line on his finger.

GIRL # 1  
 Hey, you're married. Where is your  
 ring?

GIRL # 2  
 I bet you they're all married.  
 Those bastards!

TOM  
 Wait!

The girls run upstairs again.

CUT TO:

REAR OF RESTAURANT - MARTY'S WIFE'S TABLE - NIGHT

ALLISON  
 (observing the three girls  
 running around the  
 restaurant looking for  
 the guys)  
 Hey this is a fun place; how did  
 you hear of it?



JULIE  
This guy I used to date told me  
about it.

CUT TO:

INT. RICKY'S CAR - NIGHT

Marty and Ricky are in the front seat. Tom is in the back.

TOM  
I found my ring. Thank God.

Marty looks over to Ricky and they both start laughing.

MARTY  
What a great night. We have to do  
it again.

CUT TO:

INT. OFFICE - DAY

CO-WORKER #1  
Did you hear about what happened to  
Mike?

RICKY  
What?

CO-WORKER #2  
He got fired.  
(beat)  
Let go, I mean.

RICKY  
Is there a difference? For what?  
What happened?

CO-WORKER #1  
Sexual harassment.

RICKY  
What?

CO-WORKER # 1

It was with an intern. I mean he didn't -so he told me- didn't do anything but ask her out and she didn't know whether to say yes or no. She got all upset about it and went to Human Resources.

RICKY

That's it? He got fired for that?

CO-WORKER # 1

I don't know the whole story, but from what I've been hearing that's most of it. He bumped into her at a club a few nights ago- he was on a date- and this intern started coming on to him right in front of his date. So he brushed her off and then asked her out a few days later, then she went to Human Resources.

RICKY

Sounds like a setup.

CO-WORKER # 2

I don't think it was. I heard she's just a flirt and then probably got freaked out by him being so much older. And her cousin is a big client at the firm; he found out and got pissed. Told her to report him.

RICKY

Wow, is Mike still here?

CO-WORKER # 2

No. I also heard there's an e-mail going out to the entire company today discouraging any kind of dating because of this.

CUT TO:

INT. RESTAURANT - NIGHT.

CHELSEA

Dad. So, how is single life?

RICKY

Could be better. Could be a lot better. How's your mom and Gary doing?

CHELSEA

Mom's fine and Gary's out.

RICKY

Out of what?

CHELSEA

Oh my God! You don't know? Mom didn't tell you?

RICKY

Tell me what?

CHELSEA

He moved back into the city. They broke up.

RICKY

When?

CHELSEA

A few days ago.

ALLEGRA

Tell your dad about your school project.

CHELSEA

We're doing sort of a history project on our parents and grandparents. Something about a family tree, but in a casual way. So, I need to ask you a few questions. Oh, and Allegra is doing a different kind of project to see the similarities between parents and kids, if any. Dad. Are you listening?

RICKY

Oh yes. Fire away. Don't you have to write it down.

ALLEGRA

I have a voice recorder. Okay, what are some of your favorite authors and movies?

RICKY  
Let's see now.

CUT TO:

EXT. CLUB SOHO HOUSE ROOF - NIGHT

Robin and her girlfriends are having drinks.

GIRLFRIEND # 1  
So that's it? He's officially out?  
Clothes, everything?

ROBIN  
Without a trace.

GIRLFRIEND # 2  
Did you tell your ex?

ROBIN  
I'm sure Chelsea will.

GIRLFRIEND # 1  
And?

ROBIN  
And what?

GIRLFRIEND # 2  
And are you guys going to get back  
together?

ROBIN  
I don't think so. Too much time has  
passed.

GIRLFRIEND # 1  
Why did you guys break up?

ROBIN  
We used to argue all the time and  
took turns interrupting each other.

GIRLFRIEND # 2  
Every couple does that.

CUT TO:

C.O Computer screen. Chelsea is reading the words we see on  
the screen

I have no sense of humor. I have a fine sense of the ridiculous but no sense of humor; that was a quote from a venerable playwright. If you can tell me who it is, you will be on your way to winning my heart.

CHELSEA

How about this one? "I love adventure; driving to the country and stopping at a restaurant if it looks inviting. Or walking around the city and stumbling into anything that looks like it could be fun; a concert, a street fair. I like spontaneity. My dream would be to jump in a sports car and drive anywhere at a moment's notice."

ALLEGRA

Not bad. Anyone else?

CHELSEA

Yeah. "I am an attractive, articulate woman who is looking for someone to share conversation, good food, and a laugh."

ALLEGRA

(from her screen)  
"I enjoy a lot of things: I love to laugh, like to have fun, and love to go out to restaurants."

CHELSEA

(Admiring her jeans collection)  
God, they all like food a lot don't they? I like the first one better. What else?

ALLEGRA

This one doesn't have a photo. She says, "I'm beautiful".

CHELSEA

Pathological liar.

ALLEGRA

A free spirit?

CHELSEA

Junkie.

ALLEGRA  
Emotionally secure?

CHELSEA  
Probably on medication.

ALLEGRA  
Outgoing?

CHELSEA  
Loud and embarrassing.

CUT TO:

INT. RESTAURANT - DAY

MAUREEN  
So now that you're newly single,  
why don't we all go out for dinner?

CAROL  
There's a new Thai restaurant I  
want to go to; it's downtown. When  
and what time shall I make a  
reservation?

ROBIN  
Anytime. How about Friday night? I  
have to work in the city that day.

CAROL	MAUREEN
Great.	Perfect, then we'll go to the Soho House.

CAROL (CONT'D)  
I'll make it for, say, 9/9:30.

ROBIN  
Isn't that kind of late?

MAUREEN  
I guess if your a senior citizen it  
would be.

CAROL  
Robin, were in a different time  
zone in Manhattan then Westchester  
County. There is a three hour  
difference.

MAUREEN

Yeah, better take a power nap.

ROBIN

I wonder if Ricky would switch with me that night.

MAUREEN

What do you mean?

ROBIN

We used to trade sometimes. You know, he would go up to the house and I would stay at Gary's apartment.

CAROL

Seems a bit too civilized.

MAUREEN

So ask him. You guys are still close aren't you?

ROBIN

Yes, we're still very close.

MAUREEN

I think it's amazing you both maintained a good relationship. All of my divorced friends hate each other.

CAROL

I never understood why you guys broke up anyway. I thought you made a great couple.

CAROL

Why did you break up?

ROBIN

He cheated on me.

MAUREEN

How many times?

ROBIN

Once, as far as I know.

CUT TO:

INT. STARBUCKS - DAY

DANIELLE (17, TOO THIN, PETITE)  
I'm breaking up with Joey.

ALLEGRA  
Why?

DANIELLE  
He cheated on me.

CHELSEA  
How do you know?

DANIELLE  
I found out he was hooking up with  
Nina.

ALLEGRA  
Do you know for sure? I mean how  
did you find out he had benefits?

DANIELLE  
The whole school knows. It was at  
Trevi's party Saturday night. And  
we all know what a big flirt she  
is.

CHELSEA  
Boys. They just can't be trusted.

CUT TO:

C.U. ON THE COMPUTER SCREEN

We're not sure who is typing.

ANONYMOUS  
You come across honest and direct;  
two attributes I look for in a  
person.

CUT TO:

A different computer screen.



ANONYMOUS

I liked your profile. It's refreshing to read about someone who doesn't take themselves too seriously, or were you being sarcastic? Well, at least you have a sense of humor unlike some profiles I've read. And that's a quality I look for.

CUT TO:

First screen

ANONYMOUS

Most of the profiles I have read seemed so contrived. Your's was original. It caught my attention.

CUT TO:

Other screen

ANONYMOUS

I'm a big believer in imagination. Do you ever come into the city? Maybe we could meet for a drink.

CUT TO:

First screen

ANONYMOUS

I love the city; and now that the weather is getting warmer I'm planning to come in more than I usually do. I guess we could meet for coffee or a drink. So, what do you look like?

CUT TO:

INT. ICP MUSEUM - DAY

CHELSEA

Dad, don't be mad at me, I sort of told a white lie, well just a little bit of a lie.

ALLEGRA

Me too. But my lie isn't white; it's sort of off-white.

CHELSEA

Wait, I take it back. It's beige-  
creme color; it's a creme color  
lie.

RICKY

Okay, you've both prepared me  
enough for your truth now, so let's  
have it.

Chelsea and Allegra look to each other as to who will go  
first.

RICKY (CONT'D)

It's much better to just come out  
with it.

CHELSEA

We put your photo on the internet.

ALLEGRA

And wrote a profile on it.

CHELSEA

You seem to be pretty popular at  
the moment.

ALLEGRA

We have lined up five dates for  
you.

RICKY

What? Where? Okay now slower, from  
the beginning. That was too much  
information too quickly. Are you  
talking about one of those dating  
websites?

ALLEGRA

It's a very respected one for  
dating, yes.

CHELSEA

Everyone's doing it.

RICKY

How did you get my photo and  
profile on there?

ALLEGRA

When we had dinner with you a few  
weeks ago at the Mexican  
restaurant. That's the white lie.

(MORE)

ALLEGRA(cont'd)

It isn't a school project, but it is a project.

CHELSEA

The project is for you to meet the right woman, right? You did tell me you were disappointed with your current situation. Allegra and I are just trying to help. That's all.

ALLEGRA

We went through a lot of trouble.

CHELSEA

And work to line up these five girls.

ALLEGRA

We had to meet three of them for coffee---

CHELSEA

To be sure they qualified.

RICKY

When and where did you meet them?

ALLEGRA

At Starbucks, last week, across the street from your apartment.

CHELSEA

We told them you had to leave town at the last minute so that we could meet with them in person.

CUT TO:

FLASHBACK - EXTERIOR - UPPER EAST SIDE - DAY

The view is through a pair of binoculars. From across the street, we see a woman having a coffee inside Starbuck's.

ALLEGRA

Does she look like her photo?

CHELSEA

(Looking through the binoculars)  
It's hard to tell. I like her dress though, it's polka-dotted. Okay, you ready?

ALLEGRA  
Yeah. Let's do it.

FADE TO:

INT. STARBUCKS - DAY

CHELSEA  
Hi. Are you Christine?

CHRISTINE  
Uh, yes. Who are you both?

CHELSEA  
My father sent me to meet you and  
this is my friend, Allegra. Mind if  
we sit down?

CHRISTINE  
No, of course not. So, where is  
your father?

CHELSEA  
He had to go out of town at the  
last minute.

CHRISTINE  
So, he told you to come meet me?

CHELSEA  
Yeah, to deliver his apology.

CHRISTINE  
So when is he coming back?

CHELSEA  
In a few days. Mind if we sit with  
you awhile? We're meeting some  
friends here soon.

CHRISTINE  
So tell me about your father.  
What's he like?

CHELSEA  
First tell us a little about you.

CUT TO:

INT. ICP MUSEUM - PRESENT DAY

RICKY  
That's what happened?

ALLEGRA  
We got a chai tea and talked to her  
for about fifteen minutes.

CHELSEA  
She's cool. She's one of the girls  
you will be meeting next week.

RICKY  
You said you lined up five dates?  
What about the other four?

ALLEGRA  
It's really four dates, we hated  
one of them.

CHELSEA  
She's off the list.

FADE TO:

FLASHBACK. EXTERIOR. STARBUCK'S - DAY

Allegra and Chelsea standing in front of Starbuck's looking  
angry.

ALLEGRA  
She's late. That's so rude.

CHELSEA  
I know. Should we just leave and  
write her an e-mail telling her  
what a bitch she is?

ALLEGRA  
I think that's her crossing the  
street.

CHELSEA  
She's fat. What a liar. She said  
she was thin.

ALLEGRA  
And she's wearing too much make-up.

The girl walks right past them and goes into Starbucks.

ALLEGRA (CONT'D)  
Your call.

CHELSEA  
Let her wait for awhile.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. STARBUCKS - DAY

CHELSEA  
Hi, are you?

WOMAN  
Excuse me?

CHELSEA  
My father sent me to see you. He  
didn't have your number; this is my  
friend Allegra.

ALLEGRA  
Hi. Can we sit down?

WOMAN  
Okay, is this some kind of weird  
joke or something?

CHELSEA  
Uh, no. He had to leave town on  
business at the last minute and  
didn't know how to reach you by  
phone.

GIRL  
What kind of business is your  
father in?

CHELSEA  
Advertising.

ALLEGRA  
What do you do?

GIRL  
I work at Bloomingdale's, the make-  
up counter.

CHELSEA  
Cool.

ALLEGRA  
Cool.

WOMAN

What? Not good enough for your father?

CHELSEA

No. Nothing like that.

WOMAN

Then what? Why were you two looking at one another that way? Oh, I have too much make-up on. That's it, isn't it?

(pulls out a mirror)

ALLEGRA

I like your dress.

GIRL

Okay, what's going on here? Something's not right about all this.

CHELSEA

What do you mean?

GIRL

Something's just not kosher about all this. I can't put my finger on it.

CHELSEA

I admit it's a bit unorthodox, but there is no---

ALLEGRA

Pretext.

GIRL

You kids are a little too smart for your own good. I may work in a make-up counter, but I'm no dummy. Oh, I get it now, he sent you two to check me out. Well, did I pass the test?

CHELSEA

Just one question.

GIRL

What?

CHELSEA  
Can you get us a discount in the  
jeans department?

CUT TO:

INT. MUSEUM - PRESENT DAY

ALLEGRA  
She said she could only get us a  
discount in the make-up department.  
But she really wasn't your type.

CHELSEA  
The next girl we met at Starbuck's  
was...

CUT TO:

INT. STARBUCKS. FLASHBACK - DAY

Chelsea and Allegra are sitting down waiting for the woman.  
They see her running from across the street.

ALLEGRA  
Look, that's her isn't it?

CHELSEA  
She's running. I like that. And I  
like her backpack.

ALLEGRA  
Me too. Shows a sense of immediacy  
about things she cares about.

CHELSEA  
And she's stylish.

They both look at each other, smile and nod.

CUT TO:

INT. ICP - DAY

CHELSEA  
And that's it. Actually you should  
be proud of us.



ALLEGRA

It was in a way like a school project.

Allegra and Chelsea look at each other and high-five.

CHELSEA

Your first date is next Wednesday by the way.

RICKY

But what about the other women you didn't meet?

CHELSEA

Yeah. You have a date with them also.

ALLEGRA

We didn't feel we had to meet them. It was getting exhausting anyway.

RICKY

So are you dating anyone in your school?

CHELSEA

ALLEGRA

No-

No.

RICKY

When I was your age I had a lot of girlfriends.

CHELSEA

How come you don't have one now?

RICKY

I've been asking myself that same question. Now, what about you? How is it you're not going out with anyone?

CHELSEA

I don't know. One thing, though, is that my school is too small and I've known all the kids there since middle school. Well, okay, there is someone I like in school. He's new; has hair like you did when you were younger, real curly and long.

RICKY

I like him already. Wait. My hair looks exactly the same as it did when I was your age, doesn't it?

CHELSEA

Yeah, whatever, anyway he's really cute but I don't think he likes me.

RICKY

How do you know? Maybe he's just shy. I was pretty shy at that age.

CHELSEA

He's a cool dresser and I think he's from Italy or France.

RICKY

That's a perfect way to start a conversation; asking him where he's from.

CHELSEA

Yeah, whatever.

RICKY

Can you please stop saying yeah, whatever?

CHELSEA

Whatever.

CUT TO:

INT. SOHO HOUSE - NIGHT

Robin and her girlfriends are out to dinner in the city.

ROBIN

Everyone looks so young in this place.

GEORGIA

That's just a state of mind.

CAROL

Look at you, you've got a hot body and you look great. How old are you anyway?

ROBIN

Forty-three. And the only reason my body looks good is because I go to the gym everyday, and I hate it, but I like food too much.

GEORGIA

Robin, I'm not kidding when I say this, but you look thirty-three, thirty five, tops. Did you get any work done?

ROBIN

Just botox; and don't tell anyone, *anyone*.

CAROL

Look. You see those girls over there, they don't look much older than you.

ROBIN

You think so?

GEORGIA

Definitely.

ROBIN

I think I'll have dessert tonight. How are you two doing in the love-life department?

GEORGIA

Could be better.

CAROL

Ditto.

GEORGIA

How are things with you and Gary?

ROBIN

We broke up. That's why I'm taking botox.

CUT TO:

INT. COMPUTER SCREEN

Filling the frame, we begin to see words form as we hear the sound of the keys being typed.

ANONYMOUS

I love Paris because it exists for  
all your senses. I love New York  
because it is real and honest. I  
love Tokyo because it makes you  
feel you are truly in another  
world. I love Istanbul because it  
lies between the east and west. I  
love L.A. just because its fake and  
plastic.

CUT TO:

INT. MEXICAN RESTAURANT - NIGHT

Ricky is at the bar having a Margarita. Checks his watch.

HOST

Ricky, are you dining with us  
tonight?

RICKY

I'm not sure. Can I let you know in  
a little while?

HOST

Of course.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. MEXICAN RESTAURANT - NIGHT

The restaurant is getting crowded at the tables and at the  
bar.

RICKY

(to the bartender)

Some guacamole, spicy and another  
Margarita please.

BARTENDER

You got it.

Ricky checks his watch.

WOMAN (PRETTY, YOUNG,)

Sorry I'm late. You're Ricky aren't  
you?

RICKY  
Yes. Allison?  
(gets up and gives her his  
seat)

ALLISON  
This is a nice place. Never been  
here before. Do you come here a  
lot?

RICKY  
Too much. I live across the street.  
Would you like a drink?

ALLISON  
Don't you remember? I don't drink.  
I'll have a coke.

Waiter brings over the guacamole.

ALLISON  
Oh, how thoughtful.

RICKY  
Can I have a coke please?

Waiter nods.

ALLISON  
I love mexican food.

She takes a chip, dips into the guacamole generously and  
begins to eat it. Immediately she looks as though she is  
going to cry. She is clearly in pain.

RICKY  
What's wrong?

ALLISON  
This is spicy. Did you bother to  
read my profile? I don't drink and  
I don't like spicy food.

RICKY  
Sorry.  
(to bartender)  
Can we have that coke please?

ALLISON  
Excuse me. I have to go to the  
ladies' room. Spicy food really  
doesn't agree with me.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. RESTAURANT - NIGHT

A few minutes later.

WAITRESS ( CUTE LATE 30'S CALIFORNIA  
TYPE)  
Hi, weren't you here last week?

RICKY  
Yeah, are you new? Why do you look  
so familiar to me?

WAITRESS  
I started last week. I used to work  
around the corner at Mario's.

RICKY  
Oh, that's it. I like that  
restaurant.

CUT TO:

INT. RESTAURANT - END OF BAR

Ricky's date senses that he is too comfortable talking to the  
waitress and she then decides it's better to just end this  
date right now and walks past them.

ALLISON  
Well, it was nice meeting you.

Ricky is still standing with the waitress and is speechless.

CUT TO:

INT. BAR - NIGHT

BLACK SCREEN WITH WHITE LETTERING

"second date"

MARIE (LATE THIRTIES, VERY SEXY,  
ITALIAN MOVIE STAR LOOKING)  
So, do I look like my photo?

RICKY  
Better.

MARIE  
Good answer. Have you been on many  
dates?

RICKY  
You're my first.

MARIE  
I'm flattered. Well I've been doing  
this for a year now; so I've been  
on a few.

RICKY  
Never met anyone you wanted to be  
serious with?

MARIE  
There was one guy but he lied to  
me. He told me he was divorced and  
I found out he was still married.

RICKY  
Wow, how did you find out?

MARIE  
We were drinking too much one night  
and it turned out we had a mutual  
friend. So I called this mutual  
friend of ours girlfriend. A lot of  
guys lie you know. What about you?  
Did you lie or embellish or  
exaggerate your profile like  
everyone else?

RICKY  
Not my style. Another drink?

MARIE  
(beat)  
Sure.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. RESTAURANT BAR - NIGHT

Thirty minutes later.

ALLISON

I'm getting a little tipsy. Can we get some chips and guacamole?

RICKY

Of course. Sorry.

MARIE

You know, wouldn't it be great if you could really write what you truly wanted to say without holding back?

RICKY

Like what? How do you mean?

MARIE

Well, everyone is sort of on their best behavior; you know saying all of the politically correct things and everyone tries to stay in the middle of the road on all their likes and dislikes..

RICKY

Give me an example.

MARIE

Everyone just covers their bases. They say that they like going out to restaurants or that they like staying at home. I want someone who is emotionally and financially secure, but if the magic is there nothing else matters. You see, I wish I could say what I really want to say on my profile.

RICKY

And what would that be?

MARIE

I love to smoke pot and suck dick.

Ricky spits out his drink at the bar and begins to laugh.



MARIE

(laughing)

Now, really, the truth. If you could say anything on your profile, what would you say?

RICKY

You read my profile. I thought I was completely honest in my description of who I think I am and who I was looking for.

MARIE

Yes, you gave a sincere, honest, one dimensional summary of who you are and what you want. But now try to think in 3-D. Forget about trying to be liked by everyone. What do you really want; what would you really say?

RICKY

Okay, I hear what you're saying. Give me a second to think about it.

GIRL

No. You don't need it. Just let your subconscious speak for you; your inner voice that you, me, and all of us always ignore. Now just tell me.

RICKY

Magic. I want the magic again. It doesn't matter to me what you like or dislike; what you do for a living or what color your hair is. I just, I want that feeling again.

CUT TO:

EXT. MARIO'S RESTAURANT - NIGHT

Ricky decides to wait outside to meet his date.

RICKY (V.O.)

(to himself)

How come girls are never on time? I wonder if it's just the way they are; part of that women's code thing Marty told me about... is this her?

(MORE)

RICKY(cont'd)

She said her hair has been cut  
since her photo was posted.

Pan to a beautiful girl running toward him.

RICKY (CONT'D)

Looks like she's going to run right  
into me. Okay, don't move. Take the  
hit. Otherwise she will think I'm  
meek. Stand your ground.

(speaking softly to  
himself)

Wow, she's taller than me. Okay I  
can handle it.

The girl runs right up to his face smiling. Late twenties.  
Exotic.

BEAUTIFUL GIRL

(out of breath)

Hi. You're Ricky?

RICKY

Yes. You're Marlo right?

MARLO

(smiling)

Yeah. Sorry I'm late. Couldn't find  
a taxi so I ran.

RICKY

From where?

MARLO

The west side. It's not that far.  
Are we going inside?

RICKY

Yes, of course.

CUT TO:

INT. MARIO'S RESTAURANT - NIGHT

They're at the bar having a glass of wine.

MARLO

So does your daughter have to  
approve of all the girls you go out  
with?

RICKY

Yes, I mean no. She did it without telling me.

MARLO

What do you mean? So, she picked me?

RICKY

Yes, but I approved. I mean she posted my photo and profile on the web without telling me. Then she told me about you.

MARLO

How many girls did she interview?

RICKY

I think three, but you're the only one we approved of.

MARLO

Oh, okay. Want to do a shot? Let's do some shots. Jello shots?

RICKY

You sure? It's only 7:30.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. MARIO'S RESTAURANT - NIGHT

Shot glasses on the table. She's drunk. Ricky is on his way.

MARLO

Yeah I'm beginning to see the resemblance between you and Clara and Alice.

RICKY

Who's Clara and Alice?

MARLO

Your daughters silly. Oh, so if she's not your daughter, who is she?

RICKY

Chelsea's her name and she was with her friend Allegra.

MARLO

Let's call them, shall we? And  
let's have another shot.

RICKY

I think we should eat something  
first; I'm starting to get wasted  
and you're already there.

MARLO

What are you talking about? I'm  
fine. I don't want to eat anyway.  
I'm on a liquid diet this week. I  
have to lose five pounds.

RICKY

You're kidding me? Look at you. You  
look like you have a dancer's body.  
You don't need to be on any kind of  
diet.

MARLO

I am a dancer, that's why I can't  
eat. Come on let's call your  
daughters. They're cool, I like  
them. We'll just tell them it's all  
good.

RICKY

Okay. No, maybe. I'll be right  
back, I have to go to the bathroom.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. BACK OF MARIO'S RESTAURANT - NIGHT

Ricky is coming out of the bathroom. Marlo is totally wasted.  
She looks like a zombie.

RICKY

You okay?

MARLO

I think I'm going to be sick.

Ricky pays the bartender.

RICKY

You need some air.

CUT TO:

EXT. OUTSIDE OF RESTAURANT - BETWEEN CARS - NIGHT

Marlo is throwing up. Ricky looks around to see if anyone is watching. He is clearly embarrassed. He gives her his handkerchief and puts her in a cab.

CUT TO:

INT. OFFICE - DAY

INTERCUT:

RICKY'S OFFICE/ CHELSEA'S ROOM - DAY

RICKY

Okay, this isn't working for some reason.

CHELSEA

Why? What happened?

RICKY

That girl you and Allegra interviewed; the runner. She got way too drunk too early.

CHELSEA

So what now?

RICKY

So now it's my turn.

CHELSEA

Wait! You still have one more date.

RICKY

Who?

CHELSEA

Some really smart girl. She has some sort of degree.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. FAMILY ROOM - ROBIN ON THE COMPUTER - DAY

CHELSEA

Hi. What are you doing on the computer?

ROBIN

Nothing special. I want you to clean your room now. I'm tired of looking at it.

CHELSEA

I can't now, I have company.

ROBIN

Allegra's not company, she practically lives here. Now go on and while you're at it you can clean your bathroom too.

CHELSEA

(to Allegra)

Let's go upstairs.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. CHELSEA'S BEDROOM - DAY

It's a mess to the maximum.

ALLEGRA

What's your mom talking about? Your bedroom's cleaner than mine. It looks fine.

CHELSEA

I know. You should see *her* room; now that's a mess.

ALLEGRA

What's going on with your father? Did he meet anyone he likes?

CHELSEA

No, but he has one more date that we arranged for him. Let's check her out again.

CHELSEA

(pulls out her laptop.)

I still have his password.

(beat.)

Damn. I can't go on, my mom's still on.

(yells from her room)

Mom! Can you get off the computer? I have homework to do.

ROBIN  
I'll be off in a little while. Are  
you cleaning your room?

CHELSEA  
Yeah, and Allegra's helping me. Can  
you please get off now?

ROBIN  
In a little while.

CUT TO:

EXT. STARBUCKS ENTRANCE - NIGHT

RICKY  
(V.O. to himself)  
Okay. This is the last of the dates  
Chelsea and Allegra arranged for me  
so if this doesn't work I have to  
go to plan B even though I haven't  
a plan B  
(beat)  
Got it! I'll do it myself. I'll go  
on-line. I mean all things  
considered Chelsea and Allegra  
didn't do too; oh is this her?  
Looks like her, except the hair is  
different. Damn. I keep forgetting  
to read their profiles. All right  
I'll just wing it.

GID DATE (PLAIN, A BIT RUFF, MID  
THIRTIES)  
Hi.

RICKY  
Hi. Josy?

JOSY  
Yeah. Ricky?

RICKY  
Hi. You cut your hair, right?

JOSY  
The other day. Do you like it?

RICKY  
I do. Shall we go inside?

JOSY

Sure.

CUT TO:

INT. STARBUCKS - DAY

Moments later they're sitting with two coffees.

JOSY

So how is the advertising world  
these days?

RICKY

Good. We're pretty busy this time  
of year.

(beat)

So how is your world?

JOSY

Getting better; everything is  
changing for me so quickly.

RICKY

Change is good.

JOSY

Especially in one's life?

(beat)

You don't remember what I do for a  
living do you?

RICKY

I forgot. Oh wait, no, I remember  
now. You're a professor, right? You  
teach genetics.

JOSY

Close, I work in a restaurant.  
Lucky Changs; ever hear of it?

RICKY

Lucky Changs. I have heard of it.  
It's Chinese isn't it? Like Benny  
Hanna's?

JOSY

No. There's only one. It's a  
transvestite bar and restaurant  
downtown. I'm sometimes Judy  
Garland.



RICKY  
Oh.

JOSY  
(puzzled)  
And I have GID. It was on my  
profile. I'm surprised you can't  
recall that.

RICKY  
I'm a little confused. Can you  
excuse me a moment. I have to go to  
the little boy's room.

JOSY  
Sure. No problem. Maybe it will  
come back to you.

CUT TO:

INT. BATHROOM - DAY

RICKY  
(on phone)  
Chelsea, it's Dad. I'm on the last  
date that you and Allegra fixed me  
up with.

CHELSEA (O.S.)  
Cool she's here with me now.

RICKY  
Chelsea, can you pull up her  
profile?

CHELSEA (O.S.)  
Mom, can you get off? I have to do  
some homework.  
(beat)  
Dad, hold on, mom's getting off.

RICKY  
(on phone)  
She said something about GID and  
she works in a restaurant.

CUT TO:

INT. CHELSEA'S BEDROOM - DAY

CHELSEA  
Hold on. Okay, here it is. I'll  
read you her profile. Ready?

RICKY (O.S.)  
Yes.

CHELSEA  
Liberal, fun loving, sincere person  
who has GID, seeking experimental  
person for exploration purposes.

RICKY (O.S.)  
What does that mean?

CHELSEA  
She teaches genetics, Allegra  
thinks she's a teacher in college.

CUT TO:

INT. STARBUCKS BATHROOM - DAY

RICKY  
She doesn't and it doesn't sound  
like it either. She just told me  
she works at a transvestite  
restaurant. Why did Allegra think  
she is a teacher?

CHELSEA (O.S.)  
That's gross. Hold on, let me ask.  
(beat)  
Oh, you know, her parents teach at  
Columbia and she's pretty sure  
that's one of the courses or  
something.

RICKY  
Okay. I think I'll just ask her.  
Bye.

CUT TO:

INT. STARBUCKS - DAY

JOSY  
Everything okay?

RICKY  
Great. Some more coffee?

JOSY  
No thanks. Hey, do you remember my  
profile? You don't, do you?

RICKY  
Yes, yes of course. Fun loving,  
sincere, artistic---

JOSY  
Do you remember that part about  
GID?

RICKY  
Yeah, you teach it, right?

JOSY  
You don't know what it means. Do  
you?

RICKY  
No.

JOSY  
It means, Gender Identification  
Disorder.

RICKY  
What is that exactly?

JOSY  
I'm a girl who thinks I should be a  
boy who's gay.

RICKY  
Can you say that again?

CUT TO:

EXT. RESTAURANT - DAY

CUT TO:

INT. RESTAURANT - DAY

We see an average looking man, seated at a table; early  
forties, bald. He is trying to act charming as he speaks.

The camera pulls back to reveal the back of a girl sitting opposite him. We hear her speak to herself as we are still focused on this guy's moving lips.

WOMAN

(to herself)

I should have never agreed to dinner. What was I thinking? Now I'm stuck. In my younger years, I would have just made something up, but now that I'm older I have unfortunately developed a conscience. Why did he post a photograph of himself with a mop of hair? Did he think I wouldn't have noticed?

We now hear his voice.

MAN

So then after I left college I moved to San Francisco I thought it would be a fun place to live; old world charm. Scenic. Romantic. Keeping with my own personality, but then...

Back to girl who is talking to herself again out loud.

WOMAN

I think I will mention his hair. I mean it's deceptive, dishonest and he's really starting to annoy me. Anyway, I hate guys who try too hard to be charming. Don't they know the best way to be charming is to not be obvious about it?

MAN

Would you like another drink?

ROBIN

(we now see who she is)

Uh yeah. A Margarita please. A double shot please.

CUT TO:

INT. RICKY'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

On computer. Glass of wine on the desk and the sound of the Knicks on TV in the background.

RICKY  
(to himself)  
Okay, so I guess I have to do a  
search. Age range I'm seeking?  
Let's see. Hmm. Oh, wait a second,  
I guess I should read my own  
profile first.

Ricky reads his profile out loud first.

RICKY  
Not bad. I guess my daughter knows  
me better than I know myself; and I  
knew I had a sense of humor. Okay,  
seems fine. Now for my search.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. RICKY'S APARTMENT - LATER THAT NIGHT

RICKY  
I think that's enough for tonight.

Phone rings.

CHELSEA (O.S.)  
So?

RICKY (ON PHONE)  
What?

CHELSEA (O.S.)  
How did you like the profile  
Allegra and I gave you?

RICKY (ON PHONE)  
Am I really; wait, hold on. I want  
to read it to you.

(beat.)  
Okay, yeah, this part. I am  
emotionally and financially  
secure." It sounds like I'm  
bragging. I'm going to take it out.  
It's also too syrupy.

CHELSEA  
Ah, okay. What else?

RICKY  
I think everything else seems okay.  
I do like this part.  
(MORE)

RICKY(cont'd)

When you write about yourself you will always sound superfluous regardless of your true intention. When you read anything - because it's written -, the words will seem magnified and take on a greater authority. If I say to you I'm easygoing and a nice guy, you might think that I'm too casual or an underachiever. On the other hand, if I say to you I'm goal oriented and decisive you may think I'm anal and rigid or too structured. Having said that, I feel compelled to inform you that I am indeed charming, adorable, funny, clever, and a great dancer; and modest at all cost.

CUT TO:

INT. CHELSEA'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

CHELSEA

Thanks. So did you find anyone's profile that you liked?

RICKY (O.S.)

A few, but I didn't e-mail them.

CHELSEA

Why not?

RICKY (O.S.)

This is the first time I've done this and I just wanted to browse. Is it rude to send a wink?

CHELSEA

I don't know. We never did. We always wrote to the one's we thought you might like. I guess it saves some time. Oh, and beware of the one's who say on their profile they love to laugh.

CUT TO:

## RICKY'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

RICKY

I saw that. Not exactly sure what that means. Alright, it's getting late. I'll speak to you in a few days. Love you.

CHELSEA

Back at you.

RICKY

Bye.

CUT TO:

## INT. RICKY'S APARTMENT - FOLLOWING NIGHT

He's on the computer. Soft music playing in the background.

RICKY

(to himself, out loud.)

Hmm. This girl looks like my type, but...

(reading)

She sure has a lot to say. Maybe too much. Let's see who else. This one sounds perfect. Down to earth, happy with just watching a film at home with Chinese food. I remember when Robin and I did that. I'm going to e-mail this one.

CUT TO:

## EXT. NEW YORK CITY STREETS - NIGHT

Ricky is walking home from work. His phone rings.

CUT TO:

## INT. CHELSEA'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

CHELSEA

Hi. Where are you? It's so noisy.

RICKY

I know. I never realized how loud the city is until I spoke to friends of mine on their cell.

CHELSEA

So how's the search going? Allegra is with me. Any luck? We're excited to hear positive news.

RICKY

As a matter of fact, I have a date tonight. My first actually and I have been exchanging e-mails with another woman who has a lot of things in common with me.

CUT TO:

INT. CHELSEA'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

ALLEGRA (ON PHONE)

What's she look like?

RICKY (O.S.)

I don't know. She doesn't have her photo posted.

CHELSEA

I think it's time to post your photo. There's no reason not to. When we had your photo posted we got a lot of responses. Nothing to be embarrassed by.

RICKY

I don't know. I told her what I look like. All right I'll think about it. Got to go. Bye.

CHELSEA

Good luck.

CUT TO:

EXT. GRAND CENTRAL INFORMATION BOOTH - NIGHT

Mike is looking around for his date and she is doing the same. They cannot find one another and eventually both give up.



Ricky goes home disappointed, checks his e-mail and receives a mean message from the girl he was to meet up with. We see the message on the screen.

Dear Brown Fox,  
 You had forgotten to post on your profile, "I've been known to have bad manners and can be thought of as unreliable and rude especially when it comes to setting a time and place to meet someone; and sometimes I won't even show up. If I thought it would do any good with a person of your character, I would report you. Yeah, and please don't e-mail me with some lame bullshit response."

Ricky, upset, e-mails her back apologizing and insisting he was there exactly at eight PM. She doesn't respond.

CUT TO:

C.O. Computer screen reads:

I suppose we all embellish and exaggerate our resumes to some degree, but is it necessary to do it on a personal level? Do we ever really become honest with ourself? Do we always want to display an enhanced version of who we are and what we look like?

CUT TO:

EXT. - DAY

Chelsea and Allegra are walking home from school.

ALLEGRA

I'm beginning to think all boys are full of shit.

CHELSEA

Especially the cute ones. They're the ones who think they could get away with it more than anyone else. So there bullshit is times two.

MADISON (17,FAT,TEDDY BEAR TYPE)  
(driving his car)  
You guys need a ride?

CHELSEA  
No. Thanks anyway.

ALLEGRA  
He's in love with you. Right?

CHELSEA  
Yeah. But for me he's just a friend.

ALLEGRA  
Friend or personal chauffeur?

CHELSEA  
Both.

ALLEGRA  
So what happened with that teacher  
your father went out with.

CHELSEA  
I don't know. There was some type  
of confusion about it. He met her  
but she wasn't who he thought she  
was.

ALLEGRA  
Who is? So who was she then?

CHELSEA  
Someone else. I think. I didn't get  
the whole story.

ALLEGRA  
So you going into the city this  
weekend?

CHELSEA  
My dad has plans. So probably next  
weekend if you want to come. But I  
am going into the city tonight with  
you know who.

CUT TO:

INT. TRAIN - NIGHT

ROBIN

(on the phone)

If the guy is bald, I'm going to pull my own hair out of my head.

(beat)

Well, yeah, this will be my last attempt.

(beat)

My favorite dress, the red one. Because even though I haven't seen his photo, we really hit it off in our e-mail conversation; have the same likes, dislikes, okay my battery is running low. Wish me luck. Bye.

CUT TO:

INT. RICKY'S APT - NIGHT

He's getting ready for a night out. Walks to the bathroom and checks the back of his head for any bald spots.

CUT TO:

EXT. - NIGHT

Ricky hailing a cab.

CUT TO:

INT. STARBUCKS - NIGHT

Allegra and her friends are at one table and some boys are at another table.

BOY # 1

Let's go over there.

BOY # 2

What happens if we do and they just ignore us?

BOY #1

If that happens, it will be a long walk back to this table.

BOY # 2  
I got a better idea.  
(beat)  
We will text message her.

They high-five one another.

BOY # 2 (CONT'D)  
Now go over and get her number.

CUT TO:

EXT. DOWNTOWN RESTAURANT - NIGHT

Ricky gets out of a taxi and enters the restaurant.

CUT TO:

INT. MEXICAN RESTAURANT - NIGHT

CHELSEA'S DATE (EUROPEAN, SHAGGY HAIR,  
SAME AGE)  
This place looks cool. How did you  
find out about this restaurant?

CHELSEA  
I'm part Mexican.

CHELSEA'S DATE  
Yeah, right.

CHELSEA  
I mean Mexican- French.

HOSTESS  
Hello Chelsea, do you have a  
reservation this evening?

CHELSEA  
Hello. Yes, I have reserved a table  
in the pink room.

HOSTESS  
Right this way.

DISSOLVE TO:

Chelsea and her date study the menu.

CUT TO:

INT. RESTAURANT - FRONT ROOM - NIGHT

ROBIN

Hi. Reservation under the name  
Dylan.

HOSTESS

Yes, you are the first to arrive.  
Your table is ready. Do you prefer  
to sit now or wait at the bar?

ROBIN

I'll go to the table now please.

CUT TO:

INT. - PINK ROOM - NIGHT

CHELSEA'S DATE

So what's good here?

CHELSEA

Everything.

CHELSEA'S DATE

So you have been here before?

CHELSEA

Maybe.

CUT TO:

INT. FRONT ENTRANCE - NIGHT

HOSTESS

Mr. Skidmore, good evening. Your  
daughter is already here with a  
friend but the table is only for  
two.

RICKY

My daughter is here? That's  
strange. Anyway I'm part of a  
different party this evening under  
the name Dylan.

HOSTESS  
(looking over the list)  
Yes, yes the beautiful lady is  
already seated. Would you like us  
to take your coat?

CUT TO:

INT. SIDE ROOM - NIGHT

WAITER  
Would you like a drink Ms.?

ROBIN  
Yes, may I have a Margarita please.  
Frozen. No salt.

CUT TO:

INT. PINK ROOM - NIGHT

CHELSEA  
Dad, over here. Hi.

RICKY  
I didn't know you were coming here  
tonight.

CHELSEA  
Last minute decision. This is my  
friend Antonio. He's from Italy.

ANTONIO  
Hello Mr. Skidmore, pleased to meet  
you.

RICKY  
How do you do?

CHELSEA  
Who are you meeting here tonight?

RICKY  
Sort of on a blind date tonight.  
Nice meeting you Antonio. Enjoy  
your dinner.

CUT TO:

Distant shot of Robin drinking her Margarita with a straw.  
Her eyes become wider as the CAMERA moves closer in on her.

She Has her poker face on now as Ricky walks toward her direction. Is she bluffing or pleased with her hand?

RICKY  
Hi my name is Ricky, are you Dylan?

ROBIN  
(smiling)  
Yes. Hope you don't mind, I ordered  
a drink while I was waiting.

CUT TO:

INT. -PINK ROOM- NIGHT

ANTONIO  
So what's the real reason we came  
here tonight?

Chelsea only smiles.

ANTONIO (CONT'D)  
Hey! Isn't that your mother?

CUT TO:

INT. SIDE ROOM - NIGHT

ROBIN  
So what should we do?

RICKY  
Well, in my last e-mail I said I  
was looking forward to having  
dinner with you.

ROBIN  
So did I. I wanted to know more  
about you.

RICKY  
Me too.

FADE TO:

BLACK SCREEN WITH WHITE LETTERING

Ricky and Robin had dinner and were  
the last ones to leave the  
restaurant. He moved back into  
their home three days later.