

KISS AND BREAK UP

Written by

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FADE IN:

INT. RESTAURANT - NIGHT

Close-up of TYLER (30, Caucasian). He is good-looking and confident, with a charismatic smile. He reacts and listens to someone sitting across the table.

TYLER (V.O.)

That's me, Tyler Bergman. I seem so confident and self-assured, don't I? Well, usually ... I am. But tonight, my heart's racing like Usain Bolt eyeing The Finish Line, because I'm about to do something that I've never heard ANYONE do. And you're about to see the moment my life became a "Game Changer".

Tyler sits across from SASHA (20s). Dinner is over, and they are both sipping wine, laughing and having a great time.

SASHA

Wait, so you've never had an inside pet? Not even a dog?

TYLER

No way. Growing up, my Mom didn't want them getting the furniture dirty. And NOW, she has 3 dogs! They're adorable, but every time I have dinner at her house, I have to deal with them begging for my every bite! They jump so high, they're levitating!

Tyler does his best impression of a whining, whimpering, levitating dog. Sasha cracks up.

SASHA

Aw ... but come on, isn't that cute?

TYLER

Oh, God, no! It's like having dinner with three homeless guys constantly going, "Are you gonna finish that? Come on, Dude, lemme have a bite."

SASHA

(Chuckling)
Oh, that's terrible!

TYLER

If it's so "terrible", then why are you laughing? 'Cause you know I'm right.

He holds his wine glass up to toast her. She smirks at him, toasts him, and they both take a long sip. Tyler looks at their waitress, BIANCA (Tall, voluptuous, 20s). She's at the table next to them. He then looks back at Sasha.

SASHA

Is it time for our little talk?

Tyler bows his head and takes a deep breath. He raises his head back up and looks at her.

TYLER

Go ahead. Hit me.

Bianca walks up to their table, and Sasha's tone becomes fervently harsh.

SASHA

Ok, I just have to be honest: This isn't working.

Bianca awkwardly freezes, standing right between both of them.

BIANCA

Oh ... sorry to interrupt, is there anything else I can get you two?

SASHA

(Annoyed)
Some privacy.

Bianca averts her eyes away.

TYLER

(Softly)
Just the check, please.

Bianca nods and quietly walks away.

TYLER (CONT'D)

Well, that was uncalled for.

SASHA

No, what's "uncalled for" is you never taking me out-

TYLER

Excuse me? What do you think I'm doing right now?

SASHA

Well, if you'd LET ME FINISH, I was saying ... Never taking me out unless I hound you repeatedly.

Guests at the table next to them notice their interaction.

TYLER

Yeah, you're good that.

SASHA

Well, *someone* has to take initiative!

More customers at other tables view the squabble.

SASHA (CONT'D)

I have to make ALL the choices in this relationship, because you can't even make one!

TYLER

Ok, honey, please keep your voice down-

SASHA

I WILL NOT!!!

The entire restaurant is now absorbed in their dispute.

TYLER

We don't have to make a scene-

SASHA

What are you, scared of the truth?!!

She stands up and addresses everyone in the room.

SASHA (CONT'D)

Here's the truth, people: My "boyfriend" can't make a decision about anything. He can't decide on a restaurant, a movie, a career ...

She bends down and gets right in his face.

SASHA (CONT'D)

WHAT HE WANTS IN THE BEDROOM!

He defeatedly lowers his head in his hands, ashamed.

SASHA (CONT'D)

So I have to figure out everything by myself. I am the woman AND the man in this relationship! He can't take me out, so I had to take him out. He can't fix the lock on my front door, so I fixed it. He can't figure out how he wants to fuck me, so I started fucking my neighbor Todd.

A collective gasp is heard throughout the restaurant!

TYLER

What?

SASHA

You heard me, Tyler! I'm with Todd now, and we are done!

The manager DAVID (50s, African-American) approaches. A security guard stands next to him, eyeing her. Bianca stands nearby, holding a checkbook and looking horrified.

DAVID

'Mam, you need to leave right now. If not, security will help you leave.

SASHA

Hey, no problem. Here's your necklace back.

She removes her necklace and drops it on Tyler's table.

SASHA (CONT'D)

Here's your bracelet!

She takes off her bracelet and drops it on the table.

SASHA (CONT'D)

Oh, wait - here's your keys you asked me to keep in my purse
(Mocking him in a baby voice)
"Because They're too bulky for your pocket!"

She tosses the keys ... they land in his wine and splash him in the face.

DAVID

That's it! Trey here will see you out.

Security walks over, stands beside her, and gestures to the door. She takes a few steps toward it, then turns around.

SASHA

I'd give you back your balls, but you don't have any!

She runs out, closely followed by Trey. A hush falls over the room. Tyler wipes the wine off his face with a napkin.

DAVID

Okay, everyone - my deepest apologies about that incident. But the culprit has left the building and problem solved. Carry on, and enjoy your dinner!

People slowly resume talking, eating, etc. Tyler holds one hand to his forehead and stares down at the table, like he has a migraine. He then abruptly gets up and walks toward the back of the restaurant.

Angle on Bianca looking very sympathetically at Tyler.

EXT. PARKING LOT, BEHIND RESTAURANT - MOMENTS LATER

Tyler dejectedly leans against the wall. Bianca slowly approaches him, still holding the checkbook.

BIANCA

Hey, there. I don't mean to interrupt you.

TYLER

No worries. My night can't possibly get any worse.

BIANCA

It's just ... you're my last table, and my manager's making me turn in all the receipts.

TYLER

Oh, of course! Here.

He hands her a credit card.

BIANCA

Thank you, Hon.

TYLER

Hey, at least I made *that* decision
all by myself, huh?

He shakes his head. He looks very vulnerable.

BIANCA

I'm so sorry that happened to you
in there.

TYLER

Thank you.

BIANCA

It's actually a blessing in
disguise - you don't need her,
she's so mean!

TYLER

You sound like my Mom.

They look at each other.

TYLER (CONT'D)

I know, you're totally right. I am
better off without her, but it
still hurts.

He sadly stares at her for a moment then looks away. She
thinks for a moment, then ...

BIANCA

Hey, you know what I do when I have
a really shitty day? I have a drink
with a friend, distract myself with
some fun, and just try to get it
off my mind.

TYLER

That definitely sounds better than
moping in a parking lot.

She smiles at him. He slightly smiles back.

BIANCA

I was actually supposed to grab a
drink with one of my girlfriends
down the street at "Motorboats",
but she cancelled.

TYLER

That's too bad.

He looks down. She moves closer, getting his attention.

BIANCA

Well, maybe it's not. I'm getting off soon. Wanna join me?

He looks at her, thinks about it ...

TYLER

I mean, I'd love to - but I hope you don't think of me as some charity case you feel sorry for-

BIANCA

No, not at all. But it would probably help you, and ... I know I need a drink.

She looks him in the eyes. He's so sad ... and so damn cute!

BIANCA (CONT'D)

And I'd genuinely like to get to know you. You seem very sweet.

TYLER

Yes. I'd be honored.

BIANCA

Okay, great. I'm Bianca, by the way.

She shakes his hand.

TYLER

I'm Tyler.
(Tearing up)
Oh, God!

He starts weeping. She hugs him tightly.

BIANCA

Oh, come here, you poor baby.

INT. BEDROOM - LATER THAT NIGHT

Tyler and Bianca cuddle in post-coital bliss. He pecks her on the lips and slowly gets up.

TYLER

I'll be right back.

BIANCA

(Smiling)
You better be.

He slowly sits up.

INT. BATHROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Tyler sends a text. Words on the screen read, TYLER: "Great job! Did you get my Venmo?"

Blinking dots appear onscreen, indicating a message being typed. Words appear that read, SASHA: "Yes, thanks so much! Text me next time you wanna 'Break Up'! (Winky face with tongue out.)"

INT. BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Tyler walks back in. Bianca seductively looks at him.

BIANCA

You look a little down, Handsome.
Come here and let me cheer you up
again.

FREEZE-FRAME on Tyler as he looks directly at the camera. He smiles.

TYLER (V.O.)

Holy Shit. It actually worked.

TITLE CARD: "KISS AND BREAK UP".

INT. FRONT DOOR - THE NEXT MORNING

Tyler is briskly walking while putting on his shirt and stuffing his phone and wallet into his pockets. Bianca follows right behind him.

BIANCA

Why do you have to leave so early?

TYLER

I just spoke to my therapist; she's
worried about me rushing into
things and says I need to isolate
myself today and just write in my
journal.

BIANCA

Wow, that's a lot of homework.
(Beaming)
Aw, you told your therapist about
me?

TYLER

Sure, why wouldn't I? You're beautiful.

He gives her a smooch. She's flattered.

BIANCA

Well, after your disaster dinner, I hope I made you feel better?

TYLER

Trust me - more than you know.

He affectionately puts his hand on her cheek for a moment. He turns to go; she instantly grabs his hand and pulls him back.

BIANCA

You're gonna call me, right?

TYLER

Of course. After today. Ya know, "Journal Time".

He smiles at her and heads out.

TYLER (V.O.)

Okay, that was a lie. But for the record - I'm not a liar. I just never let the truth mess up a great story.

INT. DINNER - DAY

Tyler is with his three best friends - DOUGLAS (African-American, 30s), LUKE (Caucasian, 30s), and JESSE (Latino, Late-20s, looks like a model.) Close-up on Douglas.

DOUGLAS

You paid an actress to break up with you, and it got you laid?!!

FREEZE-FRAME on Douglas.

TYLER (V.O.)

Douglas McHenry. My best friend from High School. Ex-Ladies' Man. Current Bitter, Married Guy.

Back to normal action. Camera pans to Luke.

LUKE

500 bucks and dinner? It would've been cheaper to get a hooker.

(MORE)

LUKE (CONT'D)

(Singing like he's in a
karoke contest)

"Lookin' like a tramp, like a video
vamp! Demolition Woman, can I be
your man? YOUR MAN?!!"

(Back to normal)

Please pass the pepper.

FREEZE-FRAME on Luke.

TYLER (V.O.)

Luke Tindall. He suffers from
"Involuntary Lyric Syndrome". It's
basically musical Tourette's. And
for some reason ... it's always an
80's song.

Back to normal action. Camera pans to Jesse.

JESSE

Yeah, that's crazy.

FREEZE-FRAME on Jesse.

TYLER (V.O.)

Jesse Santiago. Just take a look
... I know, the man is genetically
flawless. However, when it comes to
smarts ... well, let's just say: If
you wanna cheat on a test, Jesse is
the NOT the guy to sit next to. But
what he lacks in the brain, he
makes up for in the heart. Plus,
women love him.

Back to normal action.

TYLER

Hey, worked like a charm. This is
gonna be my thing now.

DOUGLAS

Oh, come on! Your'e gonna keep
performing this bad "Woe Is Me"
scene from a Hallmark Channel
Movie?

LUKE

Dude, The Hallmark Channel sucks!
Their slogan should be "Watch Two
Has-Beens Take 3 Hours To Kiss!"

The guys all crack up.

TYLER

Hey, this was anything but "bad".
You should've seen it, my actress
was amazing.

DOUGLAS

Well, dude - how hard can it be to
break up with YOU?

He and the other guys laugh heartily.

TYLER

Soak it up, Haters. Look, remember
when Savannah dumped me?

LUKE

Oh, do we ever!

JESSE

Like it was yesterday.

DOUGLAS

That's all you talked about for a
year!

TYLER

Do you remember the casual
encounter I had with that lovely
named "Carlie"?

JESSE

Ooh, the blonde?

LUKE

Tall and curvy Volleyball girl?

DOUGLAS

'Bout 5-11, 175? ALL thighs and
butt?

TYLER

Bulls-eye!

DOUGLAS

(Smiling)

Naw, I'm drawing a blank, Dogg.

TYLER

She saw that I was so distraught
after being kicked to the curve ...
and gave me a "MF".

LUKE

"MF"? A "Maternal Figure"?

JESSE
A Mutual Fund?

DOUGLAS
A Motherfucker?

The other guys stare at him.

DOUGLAS (CONT'D)
Aw, come on - I'm black, I had to say it! You were all expecting it!

The other guys all give an understanding nod.

TYLER
A "Mercy Fuck"! She felt sorry for me, so she ... rewarded me.

DOUGLAS
Sounds more like a "LMF": Lucky Motherfucker.

They all laugh.

LUKE
It's true! Women will sleep with a guy who's not necessarily "their type"; but they feel sorry for.

DOUGLAS
Yes! Like, "Well, he's not that cute, but his Dad just died, so I'll just sit on it real quick."

TYLER
"This won't take long, he's into Dungeons & Dragons!"

They all laugh.

JESSE
Gotta be honest, boys: I wouldn't know about that.

TYLER
Ok, ya know what, Jesse: We get it; you're hot!

DOUGLAS
See, you've never had to develop a scheme like this. Hell, you never had to develop a personality! You're so pretty, all you gotta do is show up!

LUKE

No shit - you don't even have to talk!

(Breaking into song)

"Jose's On A Vacation Far Away!"

TYLER

And Thank God you don't have to talk, you barely can!

JESSE

Whatever, Bro.

TYLER

Exhibit A, Your Honor!

JESSE

I don't talk much, 'cause I don't have to. Unlike this fool next to me.

He gestures to Luke. A waiter refills Luke's water.

LUKE

(A la "Prince")

"Maybe I'm just like my Father, Too Bold!"

The waiter stares awkwardly at him, then the other guys.

TYLER

Don't worry; that's his thing. We're great tippers, I promise. At least I am.

He raises an eyebrow at his buddies. The waiter flashes a relieved smile and walks off.

TYLER (CONT'D)

Here's the deal: If there's two things most women love, it's puppies ... and broken men. And fortunately in this city of 4 million, half the apartment buildings don't allow pets.

DOUGLAS

My man, you know I live vicariously through you. And I'm ALWAYS rooting for you to get pussy ... but this "Fake Breakup" shit just sounds ...

LUKE

Crazy.

(Uncontrollably singing)

"Dude Looks Like A Lady!"

An androgynous server stops in their tracks nearby and looks at Luke, very offended. They shake their head and walk away.

DOUGLAS

He's right, it's completely crazy.

And that's coming from Luke!

TYLER

Please. Do I seem like the kind of
guy who needs a shrink?

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. OFFICE - DAY

Tyler lies on a couch, staring at the ceiling. His therapist, TALLULAH (Native American, early 50s) sits across the room in a chair. Her legs are crossed, her hands are folded, and she looks very relaxed, yet focused.

TYLER

This is a major breakthrough. No
more dating sites, I found my
secret formula for meeting women!

TALLULAH

You're sure this is your best
option?

FREEZE-FRAME on a close-up of Tallulah.

TYLER (V.O.)

Tallulah Brooks. My therapist.
She's so nosy. But she's kind and
very smart. She keeps saying I
never listen to her; but the truth
is: I ALWAYS listen. I just rarely
take her advice.

Back to normal action. He springs up!

TYLER

Tallulah, you gotta admit: This is
a truly unique way to meet women.

TALLULAH

Oh, I can't dispute that. But you can't dispute the following fact: If you solely choose this path, every romantic relationship you have will be predicated on a lie. Do you think that's healthy?

TYLER

Hold on, can we please have a moment of silence for that Buzz you just Killed?

He flops on the couch.

TALLULAH

You didn't answer the question, Tyler.

He regroupes and sits back up.

TYLER

I completely understand your point - the relationship will be built on a lie. And that would be awful, if I wanted a relationship.

(beat)

But the truth is, I don't.

TALLULAH

And the truth is also ... you're not telling these girls the truth. What if you meet someone you fall for?

TYLER

Well hopefully ... she enjoys a good show.

MONTAGE OF TYLER STAGING "BREAKUPS" AND REAPING THE REWARDS:

INT. RESTAURANT - NIGHT

Another actress posing as Tyler's "girlfriend" has a tantrum.

FAKE GIRLFRIEND #1

You never listen to me, but you're gonna listen to this: I'm leaving you! And by the way, I hate your Mom!

She stomps off. He hangs his head. An attractive brunette waitress approaches him.

BRUNETTE WAITRESS

I am so sorry that happened to you.
Your food is on the house, don't
worry about it.

TYLER

(Handing credit card)
Oh, please - take my card.

BRUNETTE WAITRESS

No way, it is our treat-

TYLER

Great. Another rejection.

BRUNETTE WAITRESS

Oh, gosh, I didn't mean to-

TYLER

It's okay, just please take this.
You deserve a great tip. I insist.

He gently grabs her hand and places the card in it. She leans in ...

BRUNETTE WAITRESS

I punch out in half an hour, and I
live three blocks away. You should
come over and we'll talk. I insist.

She smiles at him. He looks sad, but manages to smile back.

INT. COFFEE SHOP - DAY

Another fake girlfriend finishes her "breakup speech".

FAKE GIRLFRIEND #2

You're just too nice! Ugh!!!

She stomps out. A female BARISTA approaches.

BARISTA

I LOVE nice guys.

INT. NIGHT CLUB - NIGHT (ODDLY ENOUGH)

Another fake girlfriend ends things with Tyler in an open V.I.P. balcony.

FAKE GIRLFRIEND #3

You're too clingy! You always wanna
"Spend Time Together"! I need my
space, we're done!

She exits. Tyler sits alone, glumly. An EXOTIC WOMAN
(Polynesian, 30s) from the adjacent balcony walks over.

EXOTIC WOMAN

Excuse me ... did she break up with
you because you liked spending time
with her?

TYLER

Yes. I guess I gave her too much
attention. I'm such an idiot!

She sits down next to him.

EXOTIC WOMAN

No, you're not an idiot at all. You
know ... some women need constant
attention.

She puts her hand on his and looks into his eyes.

INT. BAR - NIGHT

Another fake girlfriend dumps Tyler. He sits at the bar while
she stands and stomps around him.

FAKE GIRLFRIEND #4

You're so predictable! Every time
you pick me up, you always bring a
dozen purple roses. Mix it up,
Moron! We're through, I'm outta
here!

He drinks his beer, crushed. The woman sitting next to him at
the bar addresses him.

BAR WOMAN

My ex-boyfriend never gave me
flowers. That bitch was lucky to
have you.

TYLER

Thanks.

She scoots her chair closer to him.

BAR WOMAN

What are you drinking, Sexy?

EXT. HOTEL POOL - DAY

Yet another soon-to-be ex-girlfriend breaks it off with Tyler. He sits in a hot tub. She stands nearby in a bikini.

FAKE GIRLFRIEND #5

Lose my number, and get your own
ride home!

She rapidly exits. He slowly slides down, underwater. A FEMALE LIFEGUARD immediately jumps in and pulls him back up.

FEMALE LIFEGUARD

Hey there! Stay with me, breathe!

Tyler catches his breath. She leads him over to the steps.

TYLER

I'm okay, I was just about to come
up.

He sits down. She joins him.

FEMALE LIFEGUARD

(Relieved)

Oh, thank God. I thought you were
so upset about her breaking up with
you, that ...

TYLER

Oh, no - I would never do that; it
would break my Momma's heart.

FEMALE LIFEGUARD

Aw ... well, your Momma did a great
job raising you.

TYLER

Instead, I'm the one with a broken
heart.

FEMALE LIFEGUARD

Well, let's go talk about it.

He looks at her, vulnerable and trusting.

INT. APARTMENT - NIGHT

Tyler and the Brunette Waitress make out and remove each other's shirts on her couch.

INT. CAR - DAY

Tyler and the Barista make out in her car. She unbuckles his belt.

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

Tyler and the Exotic Woman kiss under the sheets. They appear to be naked.

INT. BAR - NIGHT

Tyler and the Bar Woman heavily make out at the bar. The male bartender gives a creepy "thumbs up", even though Tyler doesn't open his eyes to see.

INT. HOTEL ROOM - DAY

Tyler and the Female Lifeguard kiss by the door. She shoves him against the wall.

TYLER

Ow!

FEMALE LIFEGUARD

Oh, sorry! Are you hurt?

TYLER

Not anymore than I already am.

She looks at him compassionately.

FEMALE LIFEGUARD

Come here.

She kisses him, tenderly.

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

Tyler rolls off of the Brunette Waitress in a bed, under the sheets. They both catch their breaths.

INT. BEDROOM - DAY

The Exotic Woman rolls off of Tyler in a bed. They both catch their breaths.

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

Tyler and the Bar Woman cuddle with their eyes closed, exhausted and happy.

INT. CAR - DAY

Tyler sits alone. He is stretched out with the seat adjusted as far back as possible. He dreamily smiles in ecstasy. The Barista's head rises up. She looks at him, impressed.

BARISTA

Well ... somebody's been drinking
their Pineapple Juice.

INT. HOTEL ROOM - NIGHT

Tyler and the Female Lifeguard lie together in bed. He is on his back, her head is on his chest. Both their eyes are closed. They are soooo relaxed and comfy. Tyler quickly opens his eyes and looks at the camera. It's good to be The King.

TYLER (V.O.)

What can I say? I've perfected my
craft.

END MONTAGE.

INT. OFFICE - DAY

Tyler sits in a chair opposite HASHEM (Middle Eastern, 50s.) As the boss, Hashem is very serious and always seems very concerned. He speaks with a thick accent.

HASHEM

Okay - we have two huge clients who give us a ton of business that we need to please. It's very important that we do. So Tyler, which project would you like to oversee: The Focus Group on the "Organizer App" for Professional Business Women, or the one on the Cologne-Scented Catheter for Male Senior Citizens?

TYLER

How old are the Business Women?

HASHEM

All ages, but mostly 30s.

TYLER

Hey, that's my demographic!

HASHEM

I thought you'd say that, Great Gatsby. Great, you'll be working with Woodstock and Clarence.

TYLER

Really? You mean "Stoner Chick" and "Spastic Nerd"?

WOODSTOCK (V.O.)

We're right here, Dude.

The camera pans over to WOODSTOCK (All-American-looking, early 20s) and CLARENCE (Caucasian, early 30s.) Woodstock wears a flowery dress and has long, braided hair. Clarence wears suspenders and a bow tie. She looks very relaxed and happy; he looks terrified.

TYLER

Whoa! Hey, didn't see you there.

WOODSTOCK

Clearly.

CLARENCE

Tyler, you're welcome to say all my lines, and I'll just watch you!

He nervously laughs, as everyone else stares at him.

CLARENCE (CONT'D)

(Meekly)

Or not.

TYLER

Clarence, I know this is your first time, but we'll go over everything; you're gonna be just fine. And Woodstock - you already are fine.

She smiles and takes the compliment. He turns to the boss.

TYLER (CONT'D)

I'll report to you soon, Hashem.

HASHEM

Good luck, my friends.

Tyler leads Woodstock and Clarence out.

TYLER

Clarence, you'll be great. You know a good trick to calm you nerves when speaking in public? Just imagine the audience is naked.

CLARENCE

Really?

TYLER

Yes, just don't look at anybody too long, or it gets creepy. And watch Woodstock over here; she's a Pro.

WOODSTOCK

Just don't imagine me naked, or I'll cut you.

INT. FOCUS GROUP ROOM - A LITTLE LATER

Tyler addresses a room of about 20 different Business Women.

TYLER

And finally, we sincerely thank each and every one of you for attending our Focus Group. I know doing this may not be your ideal Saturday - but hey, look at this way: At least you're not at work, unlike me.

He makes a playful Stir Crazy face. Everyone chuckles. He scans the room and sees VIRGINIA (30s). She politely smiles at him. She has mesmerizing eyes and a gorgeous smile. He can't look away ... then he snaps himself out of it.

TYLER (CONT'D)

Sorry, folks. NOTE TO SELF: Stop shotgunning Slurpees.

(The room laughs)

So without further adieu, I'll turn things over to my comrades in crime. Please welcome, Clarence!

The Focus Group politely claps. Clarence feebly walks out and cautiously looks around the room.

CLARENCE

Thank you so much. I'll be honest with you: I'm not very comfortable with Pubic Speaking.

The ladies in the crowd look around and start chuckling.

CLARENCE (CONT'D)
 I mean, "Public." Public Speaking.
 Did I say, "Pubic"? My God.

Clarence desperately looks at Tyler for support.

TYLER
 You're doing great, buddy; keep
 going.

CLARENCE
 Today we're going to be testing a
 new app that helps people like
 yourselves organize their business.
 Wether you're planning meetings or
 moving your ass around-

Everyone starts chuckling again, this time harder.

CLARENCE (CONT'D)
 Assets! Moving your assets around.

Clarence takes a deep breath and puts his hands together in
 front of his face, like he's praying. Tyler keeps being a
 cheerleader for him.

TYLER
 Great work, my man. Don't stop, you
 got this!

Clarence nods at him and looks at the audience.

CLARENCE
 Oh, quick safety announcement:
 Exits in this room are here and
 here, just in case we all need to
 ejaculate.

Everyone laughs harder at this Freudian Slip. Clarence
 winces. Tyler and Woodstock encouragingly gesture to him.

TYLER
 No worries, Clarence, shrug it off!

CLARENCE
 Evacuate! I meant "evacuate".
 Excuse me, let me take a drink
 here.

Clarence sips a transparent cup of a yellow-colored soda. A
 SMARTASS BUSINESS WOMAN pipes up.

SMARTASS BUSINESS WOMAN
 Is that Mountain Dew, or Squirt?

Everyone loudly chortles. Even Virginia's face goes from an expression of sad pity to extreme amusement.

TYLER

(To Woodstock)

You gotta get in there, he's not gonna recover.

WOODSTOCK

I'm on it.

Woodstock walks to Clarence and puts her arm around him.

WOODSTOCK (CONT'D)

Ladies, how 'bout a round of applause for the man we have loosen our boring meetings, our dear friend Clarence!

All the ladies clap and cheer for him.

WOODSTOCK (CONT'D)

(Whispering in his ear)

Don't worry, buddy. I'll take it from here.

He nods at the crowd and does a half-hearted bow.

WOODSTOCK (CONT'D)

Good afternoon, Ladies; I'm gonna be telling you about this new app you're about to test. My name is Woodstock. Yes, I was named after the legendary festival. I was conceived at the Woodstock 30-Year Reunion, but my Mom doesn't remember who my father was. But hey - I'm still luckier than my twin brother, "Brown Acid".

Everybody laughs. Tyler can't stop staring at Virginia.

INT. FOCUS GROUP ROOM - TWO HOURS LATER

The meeting is over and the Focus Group members are filing out. Tyler is positioned nearby the door, stacking papers. He politely says a "thank you" or "goodbye" to each participant. Virginia is the last to leave and on her phone.

VIRGINIA

Yes! I totally wanted to do something tomorrow, because we have Monday off!

(MORE)

VIRGINIA (CONT'D)
 Brunch at Silver Spoons on Santa
 Monica? That's great, love that
 place. 1 o'clock it is!

She sees Tyler as she heads out.

TYLER
 Thank you and have a lovely
 weekend.

VIRGINIA
 You, too!
 (Back to conversation)
 Day-Drinking on a Sunday, yay!

Tyler likes what he hears.

INT. OFFICE - MOMENTS LATER

MONTAGE OF TYLER HAVING DIFFERENT PHONE CONVERSATIONS:

*Tyler paces like a caged tiger.

TYLER
 Hi, Deborah - it's Tyler Bergman. I
 have another job for you - it's
 last-minute and actually tomorrow,
 so please call me back.

*Tyler sits at a desk, loudly drumming his fingers on it.

TYLER (CONT'D)
 Hey there, Kara - it's Tyler, "The
 Breakup Guy"! I desperately need
 your services tomorrow, so call me
 back ASAP.

*Tyler anxiously hops up and down as the phone rings.

TYLER (CONT'D)
 Come on ... pick up, pick up, pick
 up. Just answer the damn phone!

*Tyler happily converses.

TYLER (CONT'D)
 You can do it? Fantastic! Well,
 I'll see you tomorrow at 12:30pm.
 Just remember-
 (He pauses.)
 I'm sorry?
 (beat)
 (MORE)

TYLER (CONT'D)

Yes, Sunday, as in tomorrow.

(beat)

You'll be in Cleveland. Of course you will.

*Tyler screams in frustration into a mirror.

TYLER (CONT'D)

How is every actress in this town busy?!!

*Tyler walking in fast circles as he speaks.

TYLER (CONT'D)

Yes, Marion from your Improv group referred you. Hi! So she told you what I was looking for?

(pause)

That's it! Just break up with me! You can improv, I'll email you a few details to work in. The pay is 500 bucks and free brunch? Perfect, it's a date!

EXT. STREET - THE NEXT DAY

Tyler speeds along in his car on a sunny Sunday. With his sharply dressed attire, sunglasses and brimming confidence - nothing can shake him.

TYLER (V.O.)

Why didn't I think of this before: "Brunch Breakup". It's brilliant.

INT. "SILVER SPOONS" RESTAURANT - LATER

Packed with happy people, enjoying the Holiday Weekend. Angle on a large table of women cavorting, toasting and laughing.

TYLER (V.O.)

Women LOVE brunch. They meet their girlfriends, gossip, and drink Mimosas before noon. It's a fun, classy "Sex in The City" vibe. Much like the early stages of a Girls' Night Out in Vegas.

Angle on two women hugging tightly and squealing with glee. They nearly fall down!

TYLER (V.O.)
 They're more prone to impair their
 judgment, make inappropriate
 comments, and make bad decisions.

Angle on two women at the bar having a "cherry stem-tying
 contest." The winner "eye fucks" a male bartender.

TYLER (V.O.)
 Forget the "One-Night Stand".
 Brunch can get you a "One-Afternoon
 Stand".

Tyler walks in the restaurant and searches for his "date".
 DOMINIQUE (African-American, 30s) smiles and waves at him
 from a table across the room. The table next to hers has four
 women, one of them being Virginia.

Close-up of Tyler walking over, composed and poised. He and
 Dominique hug.

TYLER (V.O.)
 And what man doesn't wanna get some
 action, then be home in time to
 watch the game?

INT. SILVER SPOONS RESTAURANT - A LITTLE LATER

Dominique and Tyler have finished the meal. Both have
 cocktails.

DOMINIQUE
 Honestly? "I Like Big Butts and I
 Cannot Lie."

TYLER
 No way! That was his icebreaker?

DOMINIQUE
 Worst. Come-on line. Ever!

They're both laughing.

TYLER
 Everyone loves that song, but you
 know what: The Beastie Boys said
 the same thing in "Hey, Ladies",
 but WAY BETTER!

DOMINIQUE
 Which part?

TYLER

(A la Beasties)

I announce I like girls that bounce
with a weight that pays about a
pound-per-ounce!

DOMINIQUE

Very nice! Okay, you got skills.

Tyler looks over and sees Virginia laughing with her friends.

TYLER

It's time.

DOMINIQUE

Well, then ... let's do this.

She downs her cocktail and grabs his hand.

DOMINIQUE (CONT'D)

Thank you.

He assuredly nods. She gets in character ... and suddenly
explodes.

DOMINIQUE (CONT'D)

I told you, I WANT A RING!!!

Everyone in the vicinity looks at them.

TYLER

But then you said to not get you a
ring because you don't believe in
traditional marriage-

DOMINIQUE

I know what I said! But come on,
Tyler - what woman DOESN'T WANT a
nice, fat diamond on her finger? Am
I right, Ladies?

A few women quietly agree. Virginia looks on, confused and
concerned.

DOMINIQUE (CONT'D)

Let's try that again - help me out,
Girlfriends. I said, "We want
diamonds, AM I RIGHT, LADIES?"

Most of the women yell their support!!!

DOMINIQUE (CONT'D)
That's right. But this shameless,
clueless, cheap muthafucka here
REFUSED to get me one.

The women hiss and boo.

TYLER
But that's only because you didn't
want one!

DOMINIQUE
That was a test, and you failed!
It's over, Baby.

TYLER
I don't understand! I've opened my
heart to you, I was honest, I gave
you everything you asked for.

DOMINIQUE
Well, maybe that's the problem.
Sometimes, women want a challenge,
not a doormat.

She turns to her crowd and works her magic.

DOMINIQUE (CONT'D)
Ladies, don't we want our men to
just be fucking men?!!

She gets most of them clapping. But not Virginia. Dominique
grabs her purse.

DOMINIQUE (CONT'D)
Good luck to ya, Baby Boy. I'm out.

She struts off to a thunderous round of applause. He sips his
drink, shell-shocked. NATE (20s), his waiter, approaches.

NATE
(Discreetly)
Dude ... killer job.

TYLER
I'm sorry?

He looks around, leans in, and whispers.

NATE
I've seen you before at Molly
Malone's. I love watching you work;
you're a genius.

TYLER

Listen, I think you have me
confused-

NATE

Every woman in here with a heart is
eye-fucking you right now. Don't
worry, brother. Your secret's safe
with me.

(Suddenly speaking
unusually loud)

WELL, JUST LET ME KNOW IF YOU NEED
ANYTHING ELSE, SIR!

He trots off. Angle on Virginia and her friends. They are all
laughing ... but her.

VIRGINIA

You really think that's funny? Look
at the poor guy. He's heartbroken.

LEA

Well, if you feel so bad for him,
go talk to him. I dare you.

GINA

Yeah, make him feel better.

RHONDA

Here's my keys. The passenger seat
goes back so far, you can put your
legs up on-

VIRGINIA

I will slut-slap all of you!

They crack up. Virginia smiles and shakes her head.

GINA

Virginia ... Don't make me say
"Double Dog Dare You".

VIRGINIA

Fine. But if any of you derail my
interaction with your volume, I'm
leaving.

She takes a sip of her liquid courage and approaches Tyler.

VIRGINIA (CONT'D)

Excuse me?

(Tyler looks up)

Hi. Sorry, I don't mean to
interrupt ...

TYLER

Oh, it's okay. I can finish feeling sorry for myself at home.

VIRGINIA

(Sympathetically smiling)
It's just that - I heard what happened here.

TYLER

Yeah, I think people in Bakersfield heard it.

VIRGINIA

You look so familiar ... OmiGod!
Were you at The Focus Group in Santa Monica today?

TYLER

Yeah, I work there.
(Connecting the dots)
Oh, you did the Business Women Organizer App?

VIRGINIA

Yes! I knew I've seen you!

Nate approaches.

NATE

Hey, there. My manager wants to buy you a drink, Sir. Would you like another Mojito?

TYLER

Oh, that's so kind, thank you. I would LOVE one. Virginia, this is Nate, he's a fantastic young man.

VIRGINIA

Nice to meet you, Nate.

NATE

Hi, Virginia. Would you like a drink as well?

Virginia pauses and looks at her girlfriends, who are blatantly encouraging her to join him.

TYLER

Oh - look, I don't wanna take away time with your friends, but ... my schedule is now wide open.

VIRGINIA
I'll have a Bellini.

NATE
Coming right up.

Nate walks off. Tyler stands up.

TYLER
Where are my manners? I'm Tyler.

He extends his hand, she shakes it.

VIRGINIA
Hi, Tyler. I'm Virginia.

They take each other in for a moment.

TYLER
Please, sit down.

Virginia sits, then Tyler joins. Her friends make ridiculous and obscene gestures, which she ignores.

MONTAGE OF TYLER AND VIRGINIA AT TABLE:

*They clink their glasses together and drink ...

*Virginia answers a question ...

VIRGINIA
I'm a casting director. Movies and TV.

TYLER
Wow. I gotta be honest - I thought you were in the entertainment business, but as an actress. You're way too pretty to be BEHIND the camera!

VIRGINIA
(Blushing)
Thank you.

TYLER
Hey, it's not a compliment, it's a fact.

She looks at him. He tries to not be so obvious.

TYLER (CONT'D)

I mean, most of the casting directors I've met look like Anne Ramsey from *Throw Momma From the Train*.

(She cackles)

I bet when they meet you at a Casting Director Convention, they're pissed.

VIRGINIA

But you know who's relieved? Models.

TYLER

Ohhh!!!

She cracks up at herself.

TYLER (CONT'D)

Can I borrow some of your self-esteem?

*Virginia orders another Bellini ...

*Tyler holds a creamer over his eye and stabs it with a fork, letting the cream drip out and pretending to writhe in pain, to her amusement.

*The two are in a serious discussion.

VIRGINIA

You don't think I will?

TYLER

So far, you're all talk.

Nate walks by; Virginia walks right behind him and starts dancing incredibly close, without touching. He turns around and sees her.

NATE

Gotcha!

VIRGINIA

Dammit, Nate!

*Tyler orders another Mojito ...

*The two are feeling great and connecting.

VIRGINIA (CONT'D)

So it was a "Dress Like Your Favorite Song Party".

TYLER

Very cool! What'd you go as?

VIRGINIA

Alright, this is embarrassing, but -
I had a pretty green dress, a white
nametag that said "Aileen" on it
with a black marker, and random
dollops of whipped cream on my
head, neck, and chest.

TYLER

"Come On Aileen"?

VIRGINIA

Yes!

They both laugh hard. She turns around ...

VIRGINIA (CONT'D)

Whoa! Where did my friends go?

The table where she was originally sitting is empty.

TYLER

I don't know. You wanna call 'em?

VIRGINIA

You wanna get outta here?

Nate's head pops into frame, behind her. He pumps his fist,
and mouths the word "Yes."

INT. BEDROOM - LATER

Virginia and Tyler sit on her bed.

TYLER

So Virginia ... How many drunk
jackasses have serenaded you with
the Billy Joel song, "Only The Good
Die Young?"

VIRGINIA

Way too many. But go ahead. You
know you want to.

TYLER

(Leaning in)

"Come out, Virginia, don't lemme
wait/Catholic Girls start much too
late"-

VIRGINIA

Just so you know - I'm not Catholic. But I am gonna make you wait.

TYLER

Hey, I understand.
(Pausing, then ...)
"Aw, but sooner or later, it comes down to fate. I might as well be the one ..."

VIRGINIA

"The One"? Oh, Sugar, that ship has sailed.

TYLER

Well ... maybe I could be "The Second"?

She laughs and kisses him.

INT. POOL HALL - DAY

Tyler talks shop and plays pool with Douglas, Luke and Jesse.

DOUGLAS

So your little breakup trick DIDN'T get you laid? And you're HAPPY about that?

TYLER

We had an amazing time. Never felt any pressure. Just had fun, and was totally cool sleeping over without sleeping with her.

His buddies all look at each other, perplexed.

LUKE

Oh, no - the government cloned him.

JESSE

Yeah, what'd you do with our friend?

DOUGLAS

Bro, what the fuck is wrong with you?

Douglas rolls his eyes and poorly mistimes a ball.

DOUGLAS (CONT'D)

Goddamit!

TYLER

Look, I know this is a little unexpected-

DOUGLAS

And disappointing! Come on, Ty - I'm married with two kids; all I have are your choreographed "Booty Calls". I can't wack off to "Holding Hands and Cuddling"!

LUKE

(Singing)

"Like A Virgin, HEY!"

The group (four guys, two girls) playing pool/socializing next to them stare at Luke. One ANGRY DUDE mad-dogs him.

DOUGLAS

My man, I NEED to hear your hook-up stories. You've got this perfectly successful, invincible formula!

TYLER

Well, to be fair - I only tell you about the successful ones. Granted - most of 'em are, but not all have worked out.

FLASHBACK:

INT. WOMEN'S CLOTHING STORE - DAY

An actress is in the middle of a breakup tirade with Tyler. Employees and customers gape in awe.

TYLER

Honey, why is this such a big deal?

FAKE GIRLFRIEND #6

Well, it wouldn't be such a "Big Deal" if you didn't have such a "Small Dick!"

A trio of female customers behind Tyler wince. He stares at the actress with shock, then disdain.

FLASH FORWARD

TO:

INT. POOL HALL - DAY

DOUGLAS

Good, don't tell me about the "Ls".
But also - don't tell me about the
girl you talked to for nine hours
and now wanna meet her Mom!

TYLER

Well, at least you guys are happy
for me when I meet a woman I really
like.

Tyler perfectly shoots a ball in the corner pocket. One of
the girls at the adjacent table checks out Jesse. They smile
at each other. Her JEALOUS BOYFRIEND notices.

JEALOUS BOYFRIEND

Yo, what the fuck was that?

FLIRTY GIRLFRIEND

Oh, I'm not allowed to smile?

JEALOUS BOYFRIEND

That was more than "smiling"!

The Jealous Boyfriend approaches Jesse.

JEALOUS BOYFRIEND (CONT'D)

You eyeing my girlfriend?

JESSE

No.
(Checking her out)
But she was eyeing me.

Tyler, Luke and Douglas look at each other and walk closer.
Jealous Boyfriend leans into Jesse.

JESSE (CONT'D)

Tell ya what, Prison Bitch ...
apologize for disrespecting me and
my girl ... and I'll leave you
alone.

The Angry Dude stands by Luke, continuing to scowl at him.

TYLER

Hey, I think there's been a little
mis-communication. We just wanna
play pool and hang; I'm sure Ya'll
came here to do the same.

ANGRY DUDE
Shut the fuck up!

Tyler, Luke, Jesse and Douglas stare at him, then at each other. Luke can't control himself.

LUKE
You gotta fight! For your right!

ANGRY DUDE
Oh! You wanna fight?

Tyler, Doug and Jesse stand right by Jealous Boyfriend and the other four men. Tyler addresses Jealous Boyfriend and peacefully holds both his hands above his head.

TYLER
Fellas, seriously ... we don't have
to-

Tyler unexpectedly head-butts POOL PLAYER GUY #1, who falls down. Luke and Jealous Boyfriend start wrestling, and POOL PLAYER GUY # 2 punches Douglas!

FLIRTY GIRLFRIEND
(To other girl)
Oh, here we go again ...

Angry Dude swings at Luke, who ducks! Angry Dude hits the wall and grabs his hand in pain. Luke punches him in the face! Angry Dude regroups and tackles Luke; they somersault over the pool table.

Douglas breaks a pool stick over POOL PLAYER GUY #2's head! Jealous Boyfriend throws Jesse against the wall! The Flirty Girlfriend intervenes.

FLIRTY GIRLFRIEND (CONT'D)
Not the face! Don't you mess up
that fucking face!

Angry Dude backhands Luke, who falls down, then immediately springs up in an impressive Hollywood stuntman-esque move. He breaks into a karaoke favorite.

LUKE
Hit Me With Your Best Shot!

Angry Dude nails him with a right cross! Tyler punches Pool Player #1 Guy in the crotch, dropping him the floor. As Pool Player #1 grabs himself and fights for air, Tyler squats down to say something.

TYLER

I'm sorry, buddy - I just need to
end this fight and protect my boys.
You should've protected yours.

Suddenly, a foot kicks Tyler right in the face! Tyler falls
offscreen. Camera reveals the foot belongs to Angry Dude.
Douglas breaks a chair over Angry Dude's head, rendering him
unconscious!

Flirty Girlfriend jumps on Jealous Boyfriend's back,
attempting to prevent him from hurting Jesse further. The
other girl runs off, screaming. Jealous Boyfriend staggers
around with Flirty Girlfriend firmly on his shoulders.

JESSE

We can work this out, man. You want
a drink?

JEALOUS BOYFRIEND

Yeah, then I wanna kick your ass!

DOUGLAS

Bottoms Up!

Douglas upper-cuts Jealous Boyfriend with an empty beer
pitcher. Flirty Girlfriend goes flying across the room, and
her Jealous Boyfriend's knees buckle. As Angry Dude starts to
get up from the floor, Tyler smacks him back down.

Though they've each been injured, Tyler and The Boys clearly
won this fight. Jealous Boyfriend lies face-down, groaning.
Flirty Girlfriend walks by Jesse and seductively places a
business card in his pants pocket.

FLIRTY GIRLFRIEND

Call me, Gorgeous.
(Inches from him)
Like in ten minutes. I'll be alone.

Jesse smiles at her. She struts off. Tyler and Doug both hold
their throbbing facial wounds. Jesse rubs the back of his
hurt head.

LUKE

(Singing)
"We Are The Champions, My Friend!"

TYLER, DOUGLAS AND JESSE

Shut up!!!

INT. TALLULAH'S OFFICE - DAY

Tyler sits on a large couch, with one foot propped on his knee. Tallulah is across the room in a comfortable chair.

TYLER

I really like her. She's real and honest and beautiful and humble.

TALLULAH

And just to clarify - you spent the night there, but you did not sleep with her?

TYLER

Correct. And here's the even crazier part: I don't care! I was totally cool with spooning her and hearing her life story while having a raging boner! I never thought I'd say this ... but it was awesome!

TALLULAH

(Studying him)

I'm happy for you, Tyler.

TYLER

(Suspiciously)

Okay, go ahead. Lay it on me. Let's hear it!

TALLULAH

Let's hear what?

TYLER

Come on, Tallulah. I've been with you for years; I know you're not just "happy" for me. I can just sense a critical assessment brewing ...

TALLULAH

It's not a critique. Remember, we talked about everyone who gives you advice is not your mother?

(He nods)

So this is not advice, it's merely a simple question: When are you gonna tell Virginia about how you actually met her?

TYLER

(Annoyed)

Can't you just let me enjoy meeting a woman who I think I might be smitten with?

TALLULAH

I certainly can.

TYLER

Okay, then - thank you.

TALLULAH

But I also want you to take responsibility for your actions, which as we've discussed, have hurt many people.

Tyler looks out the window, overwhelmed.

TYLER

Lemme guess - now you're gonna bring up the whole reason I started this "Fake Breakup" routine is to cope with Savannah breaking my heart?

TALLULAH

No, I actually think you summed that up really well.

TYLER

Well, so much for celebrating good news in my life ...

TALLULAH

I'm not saying you should tell her details of how you misled any of the other girls, much less broke their hearts. But I do think she needs to know that your "Ex-Girlfriend", whom she saw deliver an Oscar-worthy performance, was never your girlfriend.

TYLER

Look, I'm gonna tell her, okay? I just need to find the right time.

TALLULAH

Alright, great. But the sooner, the better. I know this isn't easy - but what if the shoe was on the other foot?

(MORE)

TALLULAH (CONT'D)

Imagine if you found out the ONLY reason she was hanging out with you, was because she was trying to get with your friend Jesse.

TYLER

Wait a minute, that's not fair! Jesse is fucking beautiful.

He playfully smirks. Tallulah laughs.

EXT. HOUSE - DAY

Virginia opens the door to a smiling Tyler.

VIRGINIA

Why, hello, there.

TYLER

Good afternoon, Madam.

VIRGINIA

So ... what are we doing?

TYLER

Well, I thought we'd start with a walk?

She nods in agreement and shuts the door.

MONTAGE OF TYLER AND VIRGINIA COURTING: BILLY JOEL'S "ONLY THE GOOD DIE YOUNG" PLAYS THROUGHOUT.

EXT. NEIGHBORHOOD STREET - MOMENTS LATER

Tyler and Virginia walk and talk. He extends his arm; she locks hers around his.

EXT. SANTA MONICA PIER - LATER

Tyler and Virginia sit by each other on The Ferris Wheel, laughing.

EXT. PICKLEBALL COURT - LATER

Tyler and Virginia play Pickleball. They have a competitive point that ends with her pulling him to every corner of the court and eventually to the net ...

he runs down the short ball and is forced to jump over the net! She easily angles the ball into the open court, as he breathlessly watches.

INT. CAFE - LATER

Tyler and Virginia sit in a small booth together. She nibbles on a piece of cake; he eats ice cream.

TYLER

I'm fascinated by what you do. When I younger, I actually wanted to be a casting director.

VIRGINIA

Really? What stopped you?

TYLER

You mean besides my parents threatening to stop paying for college if I didn't pursue advertising?

VIRGINIA

Oh, that's terrible!

TYLER

Well, I'm exaggerating, but - my school had a strong Ad Program, somehow I made good enough grades, and I made even better connections.

VIRGINIA

Hey, that's half the battle in any profession.

TYLER

So true. My senior year, I already had a solid job waiting for me, so ... I just did that.

VIRGINIA

Well, sounds like you did the right thing.

TYLER

I mean, yeah - at the time, it was right. Definitely the most responsible choice. But I wonder what would've happened if I tried going into casting?

VIRGINIA
So do it right now.

TYLER
What do you mean?

She scans the room and inconspicuously points at a lumberjack-looking man near the counter.

VIRGINIA
Okay, that big guy leaning against the counter? What role would you put him in?

TYLER
(Looking over)
Definitely truckdriver or construction worker. Oh! Or the first dude to get his ass kicked in an action movie starring Jason Statham!

VIRGINIA
Very nice. Now how 'bout her?

She gestures to a tall, attractive woman in a revealing skirt and incredibly high, colorful heels.

TYLER
Alright, I'd say "Mistress of The Evil Villain", or "Hot Girl at the Mall". You know, like in a Rom-Com - a Married Man is obsessed with her before he realizes he actually loves his wife.

VIRGINIA
Well-done. I was just gonna say "Stripper", but that is specific.

Tyler laughs then playfully pokes her shoulder with his finger and pretends to taste it.

TYLER
Ooh, that's bitter!

She chuckles, then gestures with her head to look.

VIRGINIA
Now what about this dude?

Angle on a skinny, shifty-eyed, creepy-looking man.

TYLER

Christ Almighty. Either "The Killer" in an ultra-low budget Slasher Flick, or "Suspect Number Three" in "Law & Order: S.V.U."

VIRGINIA

Wow, nailed it!

The creepy man hears her and stares at them both.

VIRGINIA (CONT'D)

(Muttering)

Oh, shit. Look away, look away ...

Tyler does his best "Law & Order" sound effect:

TYLER

DUM-DUM!

They laugh. "Only The Good Die Young" resumes top volume.

EXT. DRUM CIRCLE - ANOTHER NIGHT

Tyler and Virginia, dressed in different outfits, take part in a "Drum Circle". They play the same Bongo and dance around with musicians.

EXT. PARK - NIGHT

As they walk across a park, they notice a "Hopscotch" court and both show off their Hopscotch skills.

EXT. BAR - A DIFFERENT NIGHT

The couple holds hands as they walk toward a bar, both wearing different clothes. The bouncer addresses them.

BOUNCER

Can I see your I.D.s, please?

VIRGINIA

Absolutely.

She hands it over. The bouncer nods approval, hands it back, and accepts Tyler's.

TYLER

Thanks for asking. I used to hate that question, now I'm like, "Still got it, Baby!"

Virginia laughs, and the bouncer smiles.

BOUNCER
Enjoy your night, folks.

INT. BAR - A LITTLE LATER

Tyler and Virginia sit across from each other at a table; both have cocktails. They're in the middle of a conversation.

VIRGINIA
What kind of question is that? Who is "The Biggest Ho in Rock N' Roll?"

TYLER
Sorry, lemme rephrase that-

VIRGINIA
Oh, you better.

TYLER
Look, you're a music aficionado like me, right?

VIRGINIA
I know my tunes.

TYLER
Right, so what famous song involves the most promiscuous woman? Just based on the lyrics?

VIRGINIA
Hmm ... well, I guess the obvious answer is "Promiscuous Girl" by Nelly Fertado, but I don't think that's it.

TYLER
That's because it's not.

VIRGINIA
Yeah, that song is about two people with amazing chemistry who want each other more than anything.

They look deeply into each other's eyes for a moment, then both nervously look away.

VIRGINIA (CONT'D)
So I'd say ... oh! Definitely "Cecilia" by Simon & Garfunkle.

TYLER

Not bad. But that's not the answer.

VIRGINIA

Oh, come on! "Making love with Cecilia ... I get up to wash my face, and I see someone else has taken my place"? Are you kidding me?

TYLER

(Laughing)

No, it's a great argument-

VIRGINIA

It's THE answer, Tyler! A guy has sex with his girlfriend, washes his face, and 30 seconds later, another man is banging her? She didn't even clean up - Now THAT'S a ho!

TYLER

Okay, very valid. But I got one that's even better - or in this case, worse. Ready?

VIRGINIA

Hit me.

TYLER

"Little Red Corvette" by Prince.

VIRGINIA

Ooh. That is a dirty song - but which part, specifically?

TYLER

"You had a pocket full of horses/Trojan, and some of them used."

VIRGINIA

OmiGod, that IS the line!

TYLER

Think about that: What kind of a woman walks around with used condoms?

VIRGINIA

One who REALLY wants to get pregnant.

Tyler dies out laughing; Virginia joins him.

TYLER

Hey, desperate times call for
desperate pleasures.

VIRGINIA

Ooh, smooth ...

She toasts him; he reciprocates.

TYLER

You know what line I don't get in
that song?

VIRGINIA

No, but I'm about to.

TYLER

At the end, he goes, "Believe it or
not - I started to worry, I
wondered if I had enough class."

She tilts her head to the side, trying to figure it out.

TYLER (CONT'D)

Really? You're hooking up with a
girl who has active sperm samples
in her pocket, and suddenly you're
doubting your "elegance"? Dude, you
are the walking definition of
"elegance": Your name is "Prince"!
(They both laugh!)

VIRGINIA

Yeah, Prince was quite a classy
"Symbol".

She goofily winks at him.

TYLER

Okay - that was cheesy as hell, but
very cute.

VIRGINIA

(Cartoonishly bowing)
So Cecilia versus the chick in
"Little Red Corvette". Hmm ...
Alright. Looks like you won this
round, Mister. But don't get too
cocky!

EXT. VIRGINIA'S HOUSE - LATER THAT NIGHT

Tyler and Virginia stand in front of her door, holding hands and sweetly kissing. He gently puts his hand on her cheek.

TYLER

Good night.

VIRGINIA

It certainly has been. But it doesn't have to end here.

She looks at him and opens her front door. She walks in, then turns around.

VIRGINIA (CONT'D)

Are you waiting for me to ask you in?

TYLER

Well, you know I'm a gentleman.

VIRGINIA

That's so sweet. Now get your ass in here.

He rushes in and kisses her deeply. She slams the door.

INT. VIRGINIA'S BEDROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Virginia and Tyler roll around in the sheets, both seemingly naked. Prince's "Little Red Corvette" plays.

INT. VIRGINIA'S BEDROOM - THE NEXT MORNING

Virginia and Tyler are cuddling and facing each other.

TYLER

Virginia, I have something to tell you.

VIRGINIA

Sure, honey. What is it, you look so serious?

TYLER

Well, it's just ...

He thinks really hard about what he's about to say. Is he really doing this?

TYLER (CONT'D)

Look, I just need to say this, and if it scares you or makes you kick me out, then so be it.

VIRGINIA

(Sitting up, worried)
Okay. I'm listening.

He inhales, exhales, and looks right at her.

TYLER

I'm in love with you.
(She's taken aback!)
I fell in love with you the first time I saw you smile. I just had to tell you, because I haven't felt this way about anyone in so long. And it's okay if you don't feel the same way-

She kisses him passionately.

VIRGINIA

I love you, too, Tyler Bergman.

TYLER

Thank Goodness.

They kiss again. After a moment, she pulls away but keeps her hands around the back of his neck.

VIRGINIA

For a minute, you really freaked me out. I thought you were gonna say you murdered someone and need help hiding the body or something!
(He laughs heartily)
But being in love with me is SO much better!

They kiss once again.

INT. FRONT DESK - DAY

Tyler approaches a RECEPTIONIST (Latina, 20s) at the front desk. He holds a bouquet of beautiful flowers.

RECEPTIONIST

Good Afternoon, Sir!

TYLER

Hi, there. I'm Tyler Bergman, here to see Virginia Cooper.

RECEPTIONIST

Oh, sure. Just one moment, please.

(Hitting phone button)

Ms. Cooper, Tyler Bergman is here for you.

(beat)

Okay, great.

(Hangs up)

Head on back - it's at the very end of the hall on the right.

TYLER

Thanks so much.

INT. VIRGINIA'S OFFICE

Virginia opens the door and sees Tyler.

VIRGINIA

Why hello, you sexy Gentleman.

TYLER

(Offering flowers)

Hi, Lovely.

VIRGINIA

OhmiGod, they're beautiful! Thank you, come in.

He walks in, she pecks him on the lips, and closes the door.

VIRGINIA (CONT'D)

Oh, Tyler - please meet my new assistant, she is awesome:

Tyler looks over to see ... **Sasha, the very first actress he hired to "Break Up" with him!** She confidently smiles, rises and shakes his hand.

SASHA

Hi, Tyler. So nice to meet you. I've heard A LOT about you.

Tyler is totally aghast, but tries his best to cover it up.

TYLER

Oh, so nice to meet you - Sasha, is it?

SASHA
That's right. Gosh, you look really familiar. Have we worked together before?

She smiles like she's looking right through him. He panics.

TYLER
No!

Virginia and Sasha are startled.

TYLER (CONT'D)
I mean, no. Sorry, just got a cramp; I did some sprints earlier.

VIRGINIA
Oh, I didn't know that was part of your rigorous exercise routine.

TYLER
Yeah, it's a new thing I'm doing. A new, very dumb thing.

They all chuckle.

VIRGINIA
Sasha is a very talented actress.

Tyler nervously jerks around and knocks into a tall lamp that collapses on his head!

TYLER
Dammit!!!

SASHA
Whoa! Are you alright?

VIRGINIA
Honey, are you hurt?

TYLER
No, totally cool! Thank you.

Tyler anxiously smiles like he's hiding drugs while getting interrogated by the police.

TYLER (CONT'D)
Well, Sasha - you're working with the right person. She's got an amazing eye for talent.

VIRGINIA

Sasha and I have an agreement - she's welcome to audition for any roles I can work her in for, but her priority is to assist in casting.

(Searching desk)

Now if I could only get some help with marketing ...

Sasha's eyes accusingly penetrate Tyler.

SASHA

So, Tyler ... I hear you two have a fairly recent relationship?

TYLER

Yes! Recent, but wonderful. Right, Darling?

VIRGINIA

(Still searching)

You know it, Studly.

(Turning to Sasha)

Isn't he just the sweetest?

Sasha gives her a fake flight attendant smile. When Virginia turns back to her desk, Sasha's smile disappears, and she hones in on Tyler again. He frantically searches the room for any possible distraction.

SASHA

So, how exactly did you two meet?

TYLER

(In desperation)

No way! You have a jumprope!

VIRGINIA

(Looking up)

Oh, yeah. I wish I could claim I use it, but it's just a prop for a film I worked on. It's really cool-looking, though, huh?

TYLER

Oh, completely! I LOVE the color!

Tyler unwraps the rope and slowly swings one side of it around.

SASHA

I'm sorry, Virginia, I forgot. You and Tyler met at a restaurant?

Tyler looks horrified! As he searches for an escape from this conversation, he swings the jumprope higher and faster ...

VIRGINIA

Yeah, we were having brunch at Silver Spoon's in West Hollywood-

SASHA

Oh, love that place!

VIRGINIA

Oh, it's so fun, isn't it? Anyway, I was there with my girlfriends, and I saw Tyler-

Just then, Tyler accidentally lassos the ceiling fan with the jumprope. The fan rips out of the ceiling, lands on his head, and knocks him to the ground! Virginia screams!

INT. TYLER'S OFFICE - DAY

Tyler has a bandage wrapped around his head. He manically talks on the phone.

TYLER

It's her, Bro! And she knows - she fuckin' knows!

EXT. ARCHERY RANGE - CONTINUOUS

Douglas talks on a headset while overseeing kids at Archery practice.

DOUGLAS

Calm down. Just listen to me.

INTERCUT:

Tyler on his phone, trying his best to calm himself.

TYLER

Okay, all ears.

Just then, Tyler receives an incoming call from Woodstock. He instantly hits "Decline".

Douglas adjusts a kid's posture, then pats his shoulder. The kid shoots a perfect bull's eye.

DOUGLAS

That's it, Baby! Just put your back
into it like Ice Cube!

He high-fives the kid.

TYLER

(Flabbergasted)

What the hell does that mean,
Douglas?!!

Douglas walks to an area by himself, but still patrols the
kids shooting their arrows.

DOUGLAS

That wasn't for you, Fuckstick;
remember, I'm working?

Tyler puts his phone on speaker and breaks a pencil.

TYLER

Yes. Now please say what you were
gonna say before that ARROW-
SHOOTING TEENAGE SHITHEAD
interrupted!!!

DOUGLAS

Hey! Only I get to call him that!
Dude, you got the upper hand: She's
a casting assistant who wants to be
an actress. Find a way to get her a
part, and she won't turn you in.

TYLER

(Enlightened)

My man ... you should be a
therapist!

DOUGLAS

Ha! With these kids, I pretty much
am.

SCREAMING TEEN (V.O.)

My leg! Casper shot me in the leg!

DOUGLAS

And apparently, I'm also a medic.
Gotta run, homey, hit me later!

Douglas jogs offscreen.

Tyler looks up to The Heavens.

TYLER

Thank you. I knew there was a solution!

The door swings open; it's his boss, Hashem.

HASHEM

Tyler! Why aren't you out there running the CPK Group? Clarence is dying a slow, painful death!

TYLER

What?!!

INT. FOCUS GROUP ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Clarence is on the verge of imploding while addressing a packed Focus Group.

CLARENCE

So there's many types of mushrooms -
Portobella, Button, Shit-Take ...
(The group laughs!)
Sorry, I meant "Shiitake"! Shiitake
...

Focus Group members look around at each other. Is this dude for real? Clarence internally melts down, looking at a menu.

CLARENCE (CONT'D)

And don't forget the bread! Options
are limitless - you got Wheat,
Garlic & Herb, Fuck-Asha ...
(Group laughs even harder)
I meant, "Focaccia." That would be
... "Focaccia."

Clarence drops the menu and bends down to pick it up.

JACKASS GUY

Dude! Don't move, there's a wasp on
you!

Clarence freezes with his butt awkwardly stuck up in the air.

JACKASS GUY (CONT'D)

Okay, I'm gonna help you through
this. Stay still, and just spell
the word "Run". 3 words, what's
that spell?

CLARENCE
 (Still frozen with his
 butt in the air)
 R-U-N?

JACKASS GUY
 Perfect! Now just keep spelling it.

CLARENCE
 R-U-N? ARE YOU IN?

Jackass Guy and most of the room erupts with laughter.
 Hasheem and Tyler bolt in.

HASHEM
 Hey!!!
 (Everyone quiets)
 This is our dear friend Clarence;
 he is our best researcher and a
 very good, young man. If you would
 like your pay today, you will give
 him a round of applause.

The room claps loudly for him. Clarence smiles and evacuates.
 Hashem looks at Tyler with indignation.

HASHEM (CONT'D)
 And now please help me welcome ...
 The "Research Expert" who'll be
 taking us through the rest of the
 group, Tyler!

The group politely applauds as Tyler walks out.

TYLER
 What's up, everybody? Did you like
 our little skit we just did? Good,
 we've been practicing all week. Now
 let's get back to California Pizza
 Kitchen. Are you in?

They all crack up.

INT. HASHEM'S OFFICE - LATER

HASHEM
 Tyler - you know I love you, but I
 have to report this faux pas.

TYLER
 Oh, Hashem, come on!
 (A la the 80's song)
 (MORE)

TYLER (CONT'D)

"Come on, Hashem! Tah-loo-rye-ay!
Come on, Hashem! Tah-loo-rye-ay!"

Hashem is NOT amused.

TYLER (CONT'D)

I am truly sorry. I just don't understand why I have to be officially "written up"? For years, I've been a valuable asset to this company-

HASHEM

Because the spies from our Corporate Office were here!

TYLER

Oh, fuck.

HASHEM

I know.

(beat)

Woodstock kept calling; you never picked up. Trust me, my friend - I don't want to do this. I NEVER want to do this to someone with your skills, but they're watching me, too.

TYLER

Hey, enough said. But just so I fully understand - if I get "written up" again, I'm terminated?

HASHEM

That's correct.

Tyler massages his temples.

HASHEM (CONT'D)

Tyler, I don't even wanna put my energy toward that happening. I need you. This company needs you.

Tyler looks at him, understanding.

HASHEM (CONT'D)

But I also have a wife and four kids, and they all need me.

Hashem is tearing.

TYLER

Hey - I get it, brother. You're a good man.

(beat)

I just have one question.

HASHEM

Please. Shoot.

TYLER

From now on, every time Clarence runs a group, can we please get him to pronounce the word "Masticate"?

Hashem processes for a second, then starts cackling. Tyler becomes relieved, then joins him.

HASHEM

You lost me at "Clarence runs a group"! Ha!

INT. VIRGINIA'S OFFICE - DAY

Virginia works alone and is swamped! Her phone rings off the hook, she talks into a headset on her cell, she makes copies, she organizes headshots, she searches her desk ...

VIRGINIA

Right, I can meet with everybody at 2, right after lunch. Yeah, those were my choices to see Producers; we're down to 3. Okay, see you then, bye!

She hangs up and hits a button on her desk phone.

RECEPTIONIST (V.O.)

Hi, Virginia?

VIRGINIA

Please let me know when Sasha arrives, IF she ever does.

RECEPTIONIST (V.O.)

Oh! She just ran in.

VIRGINIA

GREAT. Thank you.

They both hang up. A frazzled Virginia collects herself. Sasha bolts in, breathless.

SASHA
Virginia, I'm so sorry!

VIRGINIA
Where the hell were you?

SASHA
I was having car trouble, and my
neighbor's a mechanic; I was
waiting for him - he said he'd just
be 5 minutes-

VIRGINIA
Which he clearly wasn't.

SASHA
I know, it took forever; I
should've just taken an Uber, I'm
so stupid.

VIRGINIA
But your car's good now?

SASHA
Yes, thank you.

Virginia hands her a stack of files, filled with papers,
resumes, headshots, etc.

VIRGINIA
Okay, I need you to go through that
horror movie, the teen drama, and
this new nighttime soap pilot.

SASHA
You got it.

She puts several pages stapled together on top of the files.

VIRGINIA
And here's everyone we need to
contact for callbacks.

SASHA
Sure thing.

She drops a large Post-It on top of the stapled pages.

VIRGINIA
And finally - I need you to confirm
these meetings for next week.

SASHA
Done deal!

VIRGINIA

Thanks so much.

She walks offscreen. Sasha looks down at her giant load of tasks, overwhelmed. Virginia's head suddenly pops back into frame, directly in front of Sasha.

VIRGINIA (CONT'D)

Oh, and Sasha?

SASHA

(Alarmed)

Yes?!!

VIRGINIA

Don't ever let something like this happen again. Because if it does, you won't be here.

INT. UPSCALE PARTY - NIGHT

It's a small party, no more than 30 people. Everyone is fairly dressed up - not "Black Tie", but some suits - a lot of button-down shirts and classy dresses. Virginia and Tyler hold hands.

VIRGINIA

Thanks for attending this work event with me.

TYLER

My pleasure, babe. And just to recap, this is not for a specific project?

VIRGINIA

No, just a bunch of boring casting directors and production folks who occasionally get together when somebody wants to show off their new house.

TYLER

Okay, I'll let you make the rounds and do your thing. See you in a bit.

He pecks her on the lips.

VIRGINIA

Sounds good. Now go get some free drinks.

JUMP CUT TO:

INT. UPSCALE PARTY, LIVING ROOM - A LITTLE LATER

Tyler does his best to cavort with several older, stiff people. A DAPPER SENIOR CITIZEN (Male, 60s) addresses him.

DAPPER SENIOR CITIZEN

I actually started in the music business. My very first clients were Ike and Tina Turner.

TYLER

Wow! Well, Tina had more songs, but Ike had more "Hits".

He laughs, then quickly realizes no one else is.

TYLER (CONT'D)

Excuse me, I need another drink.

He leaves, already carrying a completely full drink.

INT. BATHROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Tyler washes his hands and looks at himself in the mirror.

TYLER

Virginia ... hi. So remember the way we met? You saw me have an embarrassing, public breakup? Well, that was fake.

He looks away from the mirror and dries his hands.

TYLER (CONT'D)

Dammit, that sounds terrible! Okay, Tyler - you can do this.

He opens the door and sees Sasha standing alone.

TYLER (CONT'D)

Hey, hey! Waiting on me, huh? I was just leaving-

She briskly enters, closes the door and locks it.

SASHA

I was waiting on you, but I don't need to pee.

TYLER

Well, I don't wanna be around WHATEVER you're about to do-

He tries to leave; she blocks the door.

SASHA

Are we really gonna keep pretending we've never met?

TYLER

Jesus, Sasha - we can't be in here together! This looks bad!

SASHA

Come on, Tyler. Don't think for a second I've forgotten who you are and what you paid me to do.

TYLER

Okay, okay - you remember! But I don't do that now, 'cause I'm with Virginia, and we're very in love.

SASHA

Well, just imagine her reaction, if she found out how you really met her? With the same bullshit routine you used to meet God knows how many girls?

TYLER

Why would you tell her that???

SASHA

I won't, as long as you make sure I keep my job.

TYLER

I'm sure you will, she loves you. Please open the door-

He grabs the knob and twists it; she pries his hand off it.

SASHA

She threatened to fire me today. If she does, I'm telling her everything. Got it?

TYLER

Yes! Now open the door!

She gets out of the way. Tyler gallops out and passes by the Dapper Senior Citizen.

Angle on Virginia talking to a MAN (40s) and WOMAN (40s). She sees Tyler walking very fast down the hall, then Sasha emerging from the bathroom. Sasha waves at her; Virginia smiles. For a moment, she wonders why is he walking so fast?

WOMAN

Oh, her name's Sasha, right?

VIRGINIA

Yes, that's my new assistant.

WOMAN

Really? Well, she did a helluva job on her audition this morning. Really nailed it!

MAN

Oh yes, we're definitely calling her back. Please tell her!

VIRGINIA

Oh, I sure will. That was this morning, before lunch?

WOMAN

(To Man)

I believe. What would you say, around 10?

MAN

Yeah, she asked to go first, so she could leave ASAP. I guess she was headed straight back to you!

He and the Woman smile at Virginia, who processes this new information.

INT. VIRGINIA'S HOUSE, KITCHEN - LATER THAT NIGHT

Tyler is helping Virginia wash the dishes.

VIRGINIA

She's left me no choice. I gotta fire her.

TYLER

What?

He knocks over a wine glass, which shatters on the floor.

TYLER (CONT'D)
Aw, sonovabitch! Sorry!

VIRGINIA
It's okay, honey - I have too many
of these anyway.

He bends down to pick up the pieces.

VIRGINIA (CONT'D)
Let me get it. I have this nifty
little mini-broom from Amazon.

She pulls the mini-broom out of a cabinet and sweeps it up.

TYLER
Look, you can't fire Sasha.

VIRGINIA
Excuse me? Why not?

TYLER
She feels TERRIBLE. She was talking
to me about it at the party and was
basically having a heart attack.

VIRGINIA
Oh, really?

TYLER
She went on and on about how she's
been so broke and down on her luck -
and this job, working with you, has
been her Savior.

VIRGINIA
Well, maybe she should've thought
about that before she went on an
audition that made her over an hour
late.

TYLER
I know, I just feel bad for her.
Look, she's young. Didn't you make
some dumb choices when you were 22?
Which - by looking at you - was
obviously last year?
(He mugs, she smiles)
I know I did. Hell, I'm still
making dumb choices!

VIRGINIA
Me, too. I'm with you.

He pretends to be stabbed in the heart. She throws her arms around him and kisses him.

VIRGINIA (CONT'D)
Fine, I'll give the kid another chance.

TYLER
(Relieved)
That's very kind of you, Honey.

VIRGINIA
But if she fucks up again, she's out. I can't afford to have her ruin my business.

He rigidly tenses up and freezes.

INT. VIRGINIA'S OFFICE - DAY

Virginia paces and talks on her headset by the window; Sasha is at her desk. Sasha answers her desk phone.

SASHA
Hi, it's Sasha.

INT. TYLER'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

Tyler speaks on his headset as he does standing calf-raises.

TYLER
Okay, check it out: I saved your ass last night, but you CANNOT mess up like that again.

INTERCUCT:

Sasha looks over at Virginia, who is deeply invested in her own business conversation. Still, Sasha speaks quietly.

SASHA
Alrighty ... thank you, and I'm doing the best I can. But I'm also freaking out. I mean, you can't 100% guarantee she won't fire me.

TYLER

You know what? You're right. But I can help you get in with her good graces. I know Virginia a lot better than you do.

SASHA

Keep talking ...

TYLER

Okay, let's start with her favorite coffee and breakfast treat from her neighborhood deli.

INT. VIRGINIA'S OFFICE - THE NEXT DAY

Virginia walks in to see Sasha at her desk.

SASHA

Good Morning!

VIRGINIA

And a Good Morning to you. Hey, what's this on my desk?

SASHA

Oh, just a large Pumpkin Spice Latte with two Stevias and a dollop of whipped cream. And a loaf of chocolate chip banana bread.

VIRGINIA

Thank you so much!
(Eyeing her)
Do you need to leave early for an audition?

SASHA

No! Not at all!

Virginia smiles. She was just teasing ... or was she?

INTERCUT:

Tyler is doing curls with light weights.

TYLER

She's got a birthday coming up. So you wanna do flowers. She loves anything purple.

SASHA

(Typing)

Nice. I could go exotic, like Lilac
or Petunia?

TYLER

No, let ME go exotic. She's
actually crazy about Trader Joe's
floral arrangements, so do that!
It's cheap, and she'll be beyond
happy.

SASHA

(Typing)

Okay, love it! What else you got?

INT. VIRGINIA'S OFFICE LOBBY - DAY

Sasha presents her with purple flowers from Trader Joe's.

SASHA

Happy Birthday!

VIRGINIA

Oh, wow. Thank you, Sweetie.

Virginia hugs her. Still holding onto her shoulders, she
looks right at Sasha.

VIRGINIA (CONT'D)

Somebody's been doing their
research!

INT. GREASY SPOON - MORNING

Tyler and Sasha have breakfast.

TYLER

Just in case Virginia finds out
we've been hanging out one-on-one,
here's the reason - At my job, I've
learned some killer marketing
secrets; and I'm sharing them with
you, so you can help improve her
business. Right?

SASHA

You really think she'll buy that?

TYLER

What was your major?

SASHA
Marketing.

TYLER
What was the name of the company
you worked for before Virginia's?

SASHA
"Modern Advertising".

TYLER
So yeah, I'll think she'll buy it.

Sasha holds her hands up like, "I stand corrected".

TYLER (CONT'D)
Now you know there's all these
Workshops where actors read for
Casting Directors and hope to get
work?

SASHA
Yes, your girlfriend's always
making excuses why she doesn't go.

TYLER
Well, to be fair - these things
have a lot of desperate performers
who are just bad.

SASHA
That's exactly what she says. And
that she doesn't have time; she'd
rather do her own research via
internet and watching movies.

TYLER
True, but she does a lot of that
with me. At least we START watching
a movie ...

He does an over-the-top wink. She laughs.

TYLER (CONT'D)
My point is ... yes, there's a ton
of bad actors at the workshops, way
more than good ones. But the truly
talented performers that ARE there,
are fucking amazing.

SASHA
So you think it's worth it?

TYLER

100%. Basically, your job is to pick the best actor out of a group of people who all look the same, right?

SASHA

Totally - she told me that when she hired me.

TYLER

So if you scout out a few hidden gems and bring 'em to Virginia, you just made her job SOOO much easier! Plus, you get paid to do it.

SASHA

Well, shit - that's all you had to say.

Angle on Gina, one of Virginia's close friends from brunch, who sits across the room and sees Tyler laughing and talking with Sasha. She stares suspiciously.

INT. VIRGINIA'S OFFICE - DAY

Virginia looks at headshots on her desk as Sasha talks.

SASHA

This guy is an amazing actor. Blew everyone else away! After seeing him, I can't imagine anyone else doing the Vampire role.

(Points at another pic)

She's brilliant. Doesn't look like the writer described - but my God, you gotta see when she explodes at her husband in that scene.

(Gestures to another pic)

And this young man. He pulled off both personalities, very much like Edward Norton in *Primal Fear*.

VIRGINIA

You just sold me. He was so perfect in that!

SASHA

Right?

VIRGINIA

Sasha, excellent work. I feel bad - you deserve a raise, and I can't afford it.

SASHA

Hey, I'm just happy to have a job.

INT. VIRGINIA'S BEDROOM - MORNING

Virginia and Tyler are both in a deep, relaxed sleep. The phone abruptly rings; she groggily answers. Tyler stirs.

VIRGINIA

Hi.

(beat)

What's that? Oh, my God! Are you there now?

(Sitting up)

But are you safe, are you okay?

(beat)

Great. Look, don't worry - I'll work it out. You just take care of yourself and please let me know when you get back home, ok?

She hangs up. Tyler is tired but awake.

TYLER

Everything alright?

VIRGINIA

Yeah - we have the big callback for that "Love Triangle" series today, and our reader just cancelled, she had to go to the ER for chest pains. She's fine now.

TYLER

Oh, man. What about Sasha?

VIRGINIA

She's checking all the actors in and out, she won't have time. Oh!

(Looking at him)

You wanna do it?

TYLER

Read? Well, I certainly could - but do you trust me to-

VIRGINIA
 Hey, you said you always wanted to
 work in casting, right?

TYLER
 Sure, but-

VIRGINIA
 Well this is part of the gig, Baby
 Boy! We gotta be there at 11 - I'll
 make breakfast. You'll be great!

She kisses him and jumps out of bed. He smiles. He gets to do
 a job he's always wanted for a day. This is gonna be fun ...

INT. CASTING OFFICE - DAY

Virginia sits on a couch with several PRODUCERS and a
 DIRECTOR. Tyler sits on a stool, next to a CAMERAMAN. A
 NERVOUS ACTRESS finishes her callback audition.

NERVOUS ACTRESS
 Well, you better hope I never see
 you again!

She's in character for a moment ... then she nervously looks
 around the room.

NERVOUS ACTRESS (CONT'D)
 Okay, I'm done. Scene.

DIRECTOR
 Okay, fantastic. Thank you for
 coming in.

NERVOUS ACTRESS
 So you don't need me to do anything
 else?

The director looks at Virginia.

VIRGINIA
 No, honey, we're good. But thanks
 so much, great to see you again.

NERVOUS ACTRESS
 Okay, thanks. Bye-bye!

She runs to the door, awkwardly drops her keys, scrambles to
 get them ... and finally lets herself out.

DIRECTOR
 Have a lovely weekend.

NERVOUS ACTRESS

Bye!

The door shuts, and the Director addresses his group.

DIRECTOR

Okay, so everyone agrees that was
God-awful, right?

Virginia and the producers nod and verbalize their agreement.
Sasha's voice comes on over an intercom.

SASHA (V.O.)

Ready for the next one, my friends?

VIRGINIA

Sure, let's do it.

SASHA (V.O.)

Great, thank you.

The door opens ... **it's Bianca! The waitress whom was Tyler's very first "Fake Breakup" Victim!** Tyler gulps hard and has an internal panic-attack.

BIANCA

(Sweetly smiling)

Hi, I'm Bianca. Nice to meet you
all.

DIRECTOR

Nice to meet you, Bianca. I'm
Simon. So you know the scene - this
guy cheated and lied, so you're
calling him on it. You just want
him out of your life.

She nods and smiles. Tyler holds his script in front of his
face, so that only his eyes are visible.

DIRECTOR (CONT'D)

Any questions or anything?

BIANCA

No, I'm good, thank you.

DIRECTOR

Okay, great. Stick to the script if
you can, but feel free to have fun
with your anger in this small
space. Now you'll be reading with
Tyler here-

His heart palpitates. He keeps his script over his face.

TYLER
 (Muffled)
 Hi, there.

DIRECTOR
 Tyler, peel that script off your
 face, buddy.

Tyler removes the pages and looks at her, frightened.

TYLER
 Hi, nice to meet you. I'm sorry.

He apologizes for sounding muffled, but he and Bianca both know he's apologizing for never calling her back. Her sweet smile disappears, and she greets him the same way Seinfeld greets Newman.

BIANCA
 Hello, Tyler.

VIRGINIA
 You know what? She's really tall,
 we could actually have Tyler stand?

DIRECTOR
 Oh sure, here - stand up.

Tyler stands. The Director moves them close to each other.

DIRECTOR (CONT'D)
 Yeah, you two are about the same
 height. You actually make a cute
 couple.

They uncomfortably stare at each other.

DIRECTOR (CONT'D)
 Just kiddin', Virginia, don't kill
 me!

Virginia and the producers chuckle. Bianca smiles at the producers, suspiciously glances at Virginia, then glares at Tyler.

DIRECTOR (CONT'D)
 Okay, let's do this!
 (To Cameraman)
 So again - she's playing to him,
 but we're focusing on her.

CAMERAMAN
 Roger that.

DIRECTOR

Okay, whenever you're ready,
Bianca.

She looks directly at Tyler and begins.

BIANCA

You ... ruthless ... bastard. How
could you?

TYLER

I never wanted to hurt you.

She starts menacingly walking toward Tyler.

BIANCA

No, you never wanted to "get
caught". And now that you've been
caught red-handed, you'll say
ANYTHING to get outta this, won't
you!

Tyler begins backing up. She follows him around the studio.

Angle on Director and Cameraman.

CAMERAMAN

(whispering)
They're all over the place.

DIRECTOR

(whispering)
Just stay on her!

TYLER

Well, it's not like we're married.

BIANCA

No, we're not. But I thought we
were decent human beings who treat
others with respect!

She lunges at him; he backward-somersaults over a table.
Everyone watching gasps! Tyler quickly pops up. He looks at
his script and REALLY doesn't want to read the next line.

TYLER

Look, you can't control me, Bitch!

BIANCA

I also can't control my reactions.
AHHHH!!!

She slaps him HARD!

BIANCA (CONT'D)

Do you think I'm stupid? That I was never gonna figure out you were having multiple affairs?!!

She picks up a trashcan and hurls it at Tyler. He ducks, and it explodes on the wall, spilling debris all over the floor!

TYLER

Of course not. I was just hoping you wouldn't find out!

BIANCA

Oh, you were just "hoping", huh?

Bianca bum-rushes and tackles him! She clings to him, as they roll over several times on the floor like professional wrestlers. Virginia, the Director and all the on-lookers are on the edges of their seats!

As they stop rolling, Tyler is lying on top of Bianca. He struggles to pry himself off, but she puts her feet on his chest - and with her impressively strong legs - kicks him over her, as she lies on her back! He does a front flip, crashes into the door, and lands on the floor with a loud THUD!

Bianca springs up with catlike flexibility! She puts her foot on a breathless, groaning Tyler's chest and leans toward him.

BIANCA (CONT'D)

(Threatening)

Well, you better "hope" I never see you again.

She removes her foot, walks out, and slams the door!

Everyone is completely silent for a moment. Then ...

DIRECTOR

Cut! Holy Shit, that was amazing!

VIRGINIA

Oh my God, it was so real! Tyler, are you alright, Love?

She rushes to him and helps him up as he rises.

TYLER

(Clearly in pain)

Oh, totally! I was just trying to go with her and stay in the moment.

DIRECTOR

And MAN, did you! Great work, buddy. Where is she? I don't think she's coming back; she must be "Method".

TYLER

Well, you're probably better off without. I mean she seemed totally crazy, right?

PRODUCER #1

No, I hope she's coming back; she was my favorite!

PRODUCER #2

Killed it! I mean, she WAS the role.

VIRGINIA

Shall I track her down?

DIRECTOR

Please!

Virginia hits the call button on the intercom.

TYLER

So you're not worried that she might be a liability?

DIRECTOR

Hey, she was being the character.
(To producers)
I don't think I've seen anything like that. She really took some chances.

VIRGINIA

Sasha, can you send Bianca back in?

SASHA (V.O.)

She actually just drove off. REALLY fast.

VIRGINIA

Oh. I see.

Everyone looks at each other, thrown off.

DIRECTOR

So, let's call her. I don't need to see anyone else for this part; nobody's gonna top that.

TYLER

Ok ... so I don't have to do that again, right?

INT. SILVER SPOONS RESTAURANT, BRUNCH - DAY

Tyler and Virginia are in a booth, having brunch and drinking Bloody Marys.

TYLER

Ok, my turn: Would you rather win The Powerball, but have to spend every meal with your parents ... or be broke, but never have to eat any meals with your parents?

VIRGINIA

That's not a choice. Either way, you're living with Mom & Dad.

TYLER

Yeah, but in the first choice - you won The Powerball!

VIRGINIA

Okay, so, that one. I definitely pick that one!

TYLER

Well, it's not that simple ...

She looks at a new text from Gina. It reads, "I didn't wanna send this, but I thought you should know." She sees an image of Tyler and Sasha in an intimate conversation, laughing.

Close-up of Virginia, stupefied. She thinks back to the recent Casting Director party.

FLASHBACK:

INT. HOUSE, HALLWAY - NIGHT

Virginia looks up from her conversation with the two Casting Directors and sees Tyler briskly and loudly walking down the hall ... then Sasha emerge from the open bathroom door.

INT. HOUSE - FRONT DOOR

TYLER

It was nice to meet you.

DAPPER SENIOR CITIZEN
 Next time, don't lock yourselves in
 the bathroom, you two.

He playfully chuckles. Virginia looks curiously at Tyler, who glances at her and shrugs his shoulders.

FLASH FORWARD
 TO:

INT. SILVER SPOONS RESTAURANT, BRUNCH - CONTINUOUS

Virginia angrily squints as she mentally connects the dots.

TYLER
 It's essentially your money versus
 your time, right?

Inside, Virginia is seething. The rug just got pulled from under her. She does her best to regain composure.

VIRGINIA
 Tyler, here's my question: How long
 have you been having an affair with
 Sasha?

TYLER
 Whoa! Are we still playing the
 game?

VIRGINIA
 Explain this!

She shows him the picture on her phone. He's speechless.

VIRGINIA (CONT'D)
 Oh, and look at the time and date.
 That's 8:11am on the 17th, the
 exact day you claimed you couldn't
 have breakfast with me because of
 "Work". Well, I guess you were
 doing some "Work"!

Nearby customers look over at them.

TYLER
 Okay, look - that's not the reason
 we were meeting.

VIRGINIA

Oh, really? Then what was it,
because I also know you were locked
in the bathroom with her at that
networking party!!!

All customers and employees have stopped what they're doing
to invest in this drama.

TYLER

What? Oh, myGod, we were just
talking-

VIRGINIA

Do you realize how absurd that
sounds?

He launches into his carefully rehearsed excuse.

TYLER

She came to me, completely wiggling
out that you were going to fire
her, so I gave her some pointers;
and in exchange-

VIRGINIA

You gave her "Your Pointer".

All the eavesdroppers throughout the room laugh.

TYLER

No - in addition to suggestions on
helping you in your daily office
routine, I shared with her some
very valuable marketing secrets
that - if used correctly - will
guarantee your business rising in
profits.

VIRGINIA

Well, that sounds great, but why
didn't you just tell me? Why do you
need HER?

A collective "ooooh" murmurs through the room.

TYLER

Look, she was having a panic
attack, and she asked me how to
save her job. I figured "Two birds,
one stone" - I can help her, while
really helping you.

(MORE)

TYLER (CONT'D)

My company just did a national research project that proved most businesses could go 60% further if they just spent more time marketing! You keep complaining you're not doing that enough!

She looks at him, absorbing everything.

TYLER (CONT'D)

Virginia, there's no affair. I was just trying to help you with your brand.

VIRGINIA

Everything you just said makes complete sense.

(He sighs in relief)

But I don't believe it. I can tell you're lying about something.

Two young women hover behind Virginia, filming the action.

YOUNG WOMAN #1

This is that guy? The Breakup Artist?

YOUNG WOMAN #2

Yes - he pays actresses to break up with him in public, and always puts on a great show. This one really kicks ass!

VIRGINIA

(Turning around)

What?

YOUNG WOMAN #2

Yeah, he hired my friend once; they almost arrested her. It was amazing!

Virginia turns back around to Tyler. For the first time in this scenario, he's in over his head. He thinks hard ...

TYLER

Hey, what she's talking about was way before we met.

VIRGINIA

So you actually did that?

BIANCA (V.O.)

You better believe he did it.

All eyes look over to a nearby Bianca. She's dressed to kill with looks that kill. Tyler can't move.

BIANCA

He pays actresses to dump him, just so he can play the victim, get women to pity him, have INCREDIBLE SEX ... spend all night at their place, promise to call them, AND HE NEVER FUCKING DOES!

As she has a tantrum, she knocks into a stack of plates by a server's station; they fall and break into pieces.

VIRGINIA

She really wasn't acting ...

BIANCA

Meet your Maker, you selfish piece of shit!!!

She rushes toward their table. Tyler struggles to slide out of his seat and into the adjacent booth.

BIANCA (CONT'D)

AAAHHH!!!

Right as Bianca charges Tyler, Virginia cold-cocks her square across the jaw! Bianca swivels and falls to the floor, unconscious. Virginia wrings her newly bruised hand, stands, and turns to the two young women who are still filming with their phones.

VIRGINIA

Put your phones away, or I'll fucking deck both of you, too!
(They hide phones)
Tyler, is all that true? Is this how you used to meet women? The same way you met me, right here?

He stands and looks at her. He's crushed ... but this time, for real.

TYLER

Look, that was a different chapter of my life-

VIRGINIA

You didn't answer the question.

TYLER (V.O.)

If there was one thing in my life I never wanted to do with every fiber in my being, it was this.

VIRGINIA

Now look me in the eye, and answer me. Did you pay to have fake breakups, just so you could sleep with women who felt sorry for you? Is that how we met?

TYLER

Yes. I'm so sorry, I wanted to tell you-

VIRGINIA

But you didn't, Tyler. You didn't. Look, I understand. Liars can't tell the truth. Don't call me again.

She looks at him, disappointed. She slowly walks away.

YOUNG WOMAN #2

You're not gonna punch him, too?

She stops and looks back at her, then Tyler.

VIRGINIA

No. He doesn't deserve my pain.

She leaves. Tyler sits, deflated. People begin talking, and the restaurant volume returns to normal. Several servers pick up Bianca and carry her out.

Two beautiful twins approach his booth.

TWIN #1

We just heard what happened. You poor thing.

TWIN #2

Yeah, we're sorry that happened. Can we sit down?

TYLER

Oh, thank you both - but no, I really need to be alone right now.

TWIN #1

Are you sure? We're pretty good at improving people's moods ...

TYLER

I said "No", alright?!!

They look at each other, puzzled. They walk off.

TWIN #2

No one's ever said "no" to us.

TWIN #1

What a loser.

Nate energetically bounces up to the table.

NATE

That was the most realistic performance yet! But why didn't you go home with the Twins?

TYLER

Because it wasn't a performance, Nate. Why don't YOU go home with them?

NATE

Good call. Man, you're brilliant!

Angle on the Twins, sitting at their booth. Nate saunters up.

NATE (CONT'D)

Good afternoon, Ladies. How's your day going?

TWIN #1

Not well, we keep getting interrupted.

NATE

Yeah, I'm not having a great day, either. My dog just died.

Twin #1 picks up a menu and looks at it.

TWIN #1

Cool. I'd like to order a waiter who knows when to leave us the fuck alone?

Nate slowly turns away, shakes his head and leaves.

NATE

How does he do it?!!!

INT. FOCUS GROUP ROOM - DAY

Woodstock talks to a small group of diverse people: A large woman wearing a yellow jumpsuit (40s), a MiddleEastern man in a Turban (20s), a smokin' hot African-American woman dressed like she's going "Clubbing" (30s), an elderly Caucasian man (70s), an angry-looking Latina in a tanktop with a mullet (50s), and an Asian man dressed in priest attire. (60)

WOODSTOCK

So today, we're gonna be talking about Peanut Butter. There's basically two types of Peanut Butter that are advertised-

LARGE WOMAN IN YELLOW

Smooth and Crunchy!

The woman begins chuckling way too loud.

WOODSTOCK

You're right! Those are the two most popular types of "flavors". And I'm sorry, I meant Peanut Butter usually comes in two different types of concoctions: The incredibly caloric but delicious brands like "Skippy" or "Jif" ... or the kind you get at Whole Foods for 40 bucks that taste like sawdust and Hippy Juice.

The focus group members laugh.

INT. FOCUS GROUP "HIDDEN ROOM" - CONTINUOUS

Tyler and Clarence sit in a hidden room with a two-way mirror, very similar to the room that police sit in with victims identifying suspects in a lineup. Clarence is eager; Tyler is absolutely crestfallen.

CLARENCE

Wow, it's so much easier in here!

TYLER

That's because you're not out there fucking it up.

INTERCUT FOCUS GROUP ROOM/FOCUS GROUP "HIDDEN ROOM" - LATER

Woodstock and her group are laughing and having a great time.

WOODSTOCK

Honestly, you guys have been a tremendous group today; I've had so much fun!

(Applause and "Whoo-hoo"!)

Ok, so right before we all enjoy some treats, let me just check in with the powers that be behind the curtain.

(To Tyler and Clarence)

Hey, guys! Are we good to go?

Tyler and Clarence are in a discussion. As Tyler apathetically leans against a desk, he accidentally pushes an intercom button to "On".

TYLER

You're really surprised that the big lady liked the Peanut Butter that was the most unhealthy?

CLARENCE

Well - yeah, the other options are also tasty. And who's the big lady?

TYLER

Clarence, who do you think? The one in the all-yellow ensemble that looks like Mrs. Pac-Man ate all the ghosts! You know, she's like 40?

Woodstock is horrified. The entire group is shocked.

LARGE WOMAN IN YELLOW

(Happily surprised)

I can't believe it ... he thinks I'm 40?!!

TYLER

Okay, what about that one new-age peanut butter with cheese?

LARGE WOMAN IN YELLOW

Oh, that was my favorite.

TYLER (INTERCOM)

Ya think "Hussein in the Membrane" is gonna buy ANYTHING that comes from a cow? That could be one of his relatives, for Chrissakes! Please, the only way he'll buy that is if costs \$9.11!

Everyone in the room looks at the young, MiddleEastern man, then cautiously looks away. He passively shakes his head.

Tyler walks aimlessly around the "Hidden Room". Clarence nervously watches.

TYLER (CONT'D)

Which peanut butter do you think the hot, black girl picked?

Woodstock is VERY concerned. She looks around, there's no one to help her. Everyone is nervous ... except the black woman, who seems to enjoy being called "hot".

CLARENCE (INTERCOM)

I don't know, the unhealthy one?

TYLER (INTERCOM)

Wrong. She didn't pick any; that's why she has a flat tummy.

HOT, BLACK WOMAN

True.

TYLER (INTERCOM)

By the way - she looks amazing, but that outfit? Come. On. Leave a little to the imagination. In this town - you wear that, and dudes start stuffing 20s in your top.

Everyone looks offended, then at the hot, black woman.

HOT, BLACK WOMAN

(Confidently)

True.

TYLER

But seriously, Bro - how hot is she? Tell me you don't wanna "Bust A Peanut"?

Clarence laughs and high-fives him. Angle on the hot, black woman. She'll take the compliment.

HOT, BLACK WOMAN

Hey-ayyy.

CLARENCE

You're incorrigible! So what's your read on the rest?

Woodstock and the Focus Group listen intently.

TYLER (INTERCOM)

Well, there's the Old Man, who
can't hear and won't remember; the
Asian Priest, who's hopefully
praying for better driving skills,
and the Latina Lesbian: Gee, I
wonder if she likes Tacos.

The angry-looking Latina runs toward the giant, glass window
in front of them and beats on it.

ANGRY LATINA

Bring it, Motherfucker!

Woodstock leaps up and gently coerces the livid lady.

WOODSTOCK

Okay, please don't hurt yourself!
I'm so sorry.

ANGRY LATINA

(Storming out)

That's it! I'm getting The Manager!

Woodstock runs over to a desk with a cloth draped over it.

WOODSTOCK

Folks, I sincerely apologize about
what you just heard, our company
does not condone that type of talk.
But the good news is, we have:
(Removing cloth)
Treats!

Her Focus Group members are unenthused. She desperately grabs
a plate of cupcakes and rushes up to the large woman in
yellow, who just happens to be sitting closest to her.

WOODSTOCK (CONT'D)

Cupcake?

The large woman in yellow awkwardly stares at her.

INT. HASHEM'S OFFICE - LATER

Hashem is sitting behind his desk. Tyler sits close by.

HASHEM

During the last 10 minutes, the
intercom was on the entire time.
They heard everything you said.

TYLER

I know. I get it. Just fire me.

HASHEM

Tyler, you understand I don't get any pleasure from doing this?

TYLER

I do. And thank you for everything. Now go take care of your family.

He starts walking and gets to the door.

HASHEM

Tyler?

(Tyler turns around)

I will. Now go take care of YOU.

Tyler nods then exits. What the hell does that mean?

INT. TALLULAH'S OFFICE - DAY

Tallulah answers her ringing phone.

TALLULAH

Hi, Tallulah speaking.

INT. TYLER'S HOUSE - SAME

Tyler sits with his back against a wall. He looks desperate.

TYLER

Hi, Tallulah. It's Tyler. Virginia broke up with me, and I got fired. I need to book new sessions.

INTERCUT:

TALLULAH

Ok, I'm very sorry to hear that. Are you in any danger of causing yourself injury or bodily harm?

TYLER

No - I'm too vain, you know that.

TALLULAH

Good.

(beat)

Tyler, I can't work with you anymore.

TYLER

Um ... why not?

TALLULAH

For the last three years, I've tried my absolute best to give you the most sound, pragmatic, wisest advice I could offer ... and you just reject it.

TYLER

Oh, come on, Tallulah. That's not entirely true-

TALLULAH

Please just tell me this: Why did you and Virginia break up?

TYLER

(Pausing)

The same reason you warned me about.

TALLULAH

I see.

(beat)

I'm gonna email you two referrals; they're both great friends of mine and amazing therapists.

TYLER

But we were making such great progress!

TALLULAH

If that was true, don't you think - at some point - you would've listened to me?

TYLER

I guess not.

(Defensively)

But what do I know, I thought psychologists actually wanna help people!

TALLULAH

I am helping you.

TYLER

How? Explain how exactly!

TALLULAH

I'm giving you an opportunity to learn a lesson you've needed to learn for quite some time. And I know you can. But I don't know you will. That part's up to you.

Tears run down Tyler's face. He covers his mouth and tries not to cry into the phone.

TALLULAH (V.O.)

Goodbye, Tyler. And good luck.

TYLER

Goodbye.

He clicks his phone off, buries his head in his hands, and weeps.

QUICK MONTAGE OF TYLER IN DESPAIR. 10CC'S "THE THINGS WE DO FOR LOVE" PLAYS.

*Tyler drinks alone in his bedroom, watching TV.

*Tyler walks despondently down a sidewalk, alone. A happy couple laughs and skips by him. He yells out, "Gross!!!"

*Tyler grabs half of a stale-looking English muffin out of his kitchen toaster and begins eating it. His phone rings. He sees it's his buddy "Douglas" and hits "decline".

*Douglas hangs up his phone at a basketball court and stands next to Luke and Jesse. Douglas says, "Guess he's busy. Okay, let's find someone looking for a Pickup Game."

END MONTAGE.

INT. WINERY - DAY

Tyler and yet another Fake Girlfriend have a spat. All the wine-tasters and employees enjoy the show.

FAKE GIRLFRIEND #7

It's always the same thing - your friends are more important, your sports are more important; you'd rather watch Netflix than watch me!

TYLER

But honey, none of those things are with me now. You are.

FAKE GIRLFRIEND #7

That's because you can't have sex with those things.

TYLER

You know what, fuck this! I'm breaking up with YOU!

FAKE GIRLFRIEND #7

What?

TYLER

That's right! It's over, Baby!

FAKE GIRLFRIEND #7

Um, this is not what we agreed on-

TYLER

You're too loud, you smack your food, your friends suck, you're lazy in bed - Why do I always have to be on top?!! Now get out!

FAKE GIRLFRIEND #7

(Slowly backing away)

But you're still gonna Venmo me?

TYLER

I said get the fuck out!

She darts out the door. He slams his wine.

TYLER (CONT'D)

(To bartender)

Alright, let's see that Chianti!

INT. TYLER'S HOUSE, FRONT DOOR - DAY

A loud knock hammers on Tyler's front door. He finally stumbles into the hallway.

TYLER

Coming! Hang on ...

He opens the door and squints, as sunshine beams through. He sees Douglas.

DOUGLAS

You avoid me? I come to you. That's how friendship works.

TYLER

I'm not trying to avoid you, man,
I've just been super-busy-

DOUGLAS

Doing what? Not working. I called
your job; they said you're not
there anymore. You gotta fill me
in, dude.

Tyler hangs his head. Douglas reveals a large bag of exotic coffee.

DOUGLAS (CONT'D)

I brought the Columbian shit. And
no, it's not cocaine.

Tyler looks at it and forms a very slight smile. He gestures for Douglas to come in. His friend abides.

DOUGLAS (CONT'D)

Let's do this, Baby.

INT. TYLER'S HOUSE, LIVING ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Tyler and Douglas catch up and drink coffee.

DOUGLAS

So in the span of 4 days, you lost
your girlfriend, your job, and your
therapist?

TYLER

Yep. Now being married with kids
doesn't sound so bad, huh?

They both chuckle.

DOUGLAS

I'm sorry, Ty. I wouldn't even wish
this shit on my Mother-In-Law. So
you gonna get her back?

TYLER

Naw, man - she told me to never
contact her again.

Douglas looks at Tyler like "PUH-LEEZE".

TYLER (CONT'D)

Ok, what?

DOUGLAS

She's the only loss you can possibly regain. You can't get your job back, that's irreversible damage. Your therapist is handing you off to her friends. Virginia is your only hope.

TYLER

But did you just hear me? She said-

DOUGLAS

Forget what she said! "Don't call me again!" That's just some shit women say when they want you to fight for 'em! Isn't this woman worth fighting for?

TYLER

Of course. I've never loved anybody like I love her.

DOUGLAS

And I've never seen you happier than when you've been with her.

TYLER

Did you ever have to fight for your wife?

DOUGLAS

Oh - many, many times. Hell, I'm fighting for her crazy ass right now!

They both laugh. Tyler then pulls his hair.

TYLER

Ahhh, I want her back so bad, but I fucked everything up so bad ...

(Drinking coffee)

What made you do it? Whenever you and Michelle had a falling out like this, what made you wanna do everything in your power to fix it, even though there's no guarantee that you actually can?

DOUGLAS

What made me do it was the answer to this question: Does she make your life better, or worse?

TYLER

You sound like my eye doctor. Well, my life is obviously better with her in it.

DOUGLAS

Okay, then. Now my other question to you is, "Would your life also be better if you eliminated something else? Is there another factor that's been making it worse?"

Tyler suddenly has a look of enlightenment.

DOUGLAS (CONT'D)

And please don't say your job and therapist.

Tyler jumps up, inspired!

DOUGLAS (CONT'D)

And you better not say "Your best friend", 'cause I'll kill ya.

Tyler hugs Douglas.

TYLER

Thank you.

DOUGLAS

You got it, bud. So what's the answer?

TYLER

Hey, that's between me and me. Gotta shower and head out. Feel free to watch TV!

Tyler runs out of the room.

DOUGLAS

Where the hell you going?

TYLER (V.O.)

To get rid of something and get my girl!

DOUGLAS

(Proudly)
My man.

EXT. TYLER'S CAR - A LITTLE LATER

Tyler speeds along a freeway.

TYLER (V.O.)
Have you guessed what I need to get
rid of yet? Keep watching.

INT. VIRGINIA'S OFFICE LOBBY - A LITTLE LATER

Tyler runs to the front desk, out of breath.

RECEPTIONIST
Tyler, nice to see you. What can I
do for you?

TYLER
Virginia.
(Catching his breath)
I need to see her.

RECEPTIONIST
Oh, they're all at the Casting
Convention this afternoon in
Malibu. But you need special access
to get in.

Tyler slowly smiles.

TYLER
You just made my day, Sister. Take
care!

INT. TYLER'S CAR - MOMENTS LATER

Tyler speaks into his headset, driving.

TYLER
Sasha! Please call me ASAP! I'm
coming to the Casting Convention,
and I desperately need to get in!

EXT. INTERSECTION - CONTINUOUS

Tyler speeds like his life depends on it!

He pulls to the side of a huge parking lot and sees several security guards standing in front of it. His phone alerts him he has a text from Sasha. He hits his Hazard Lights and yanks his phone out of his dashboard mobile mount, which sends the device flying into the backseat window.

The Sasha text reads, "Tell security your name is 'Phillip Boskin'. (He cancelled) Head to the back of the restaurant and say the same to the Clipboard Guy in front of doors. Go in, I'll be right there - she's about to speak, HURRY!"

EXT. PARKING LOT - MOMENTS LATER

Tyler pulls up and addresses security.

TYLER

Hi, Phillip Boskin. I'm on the list.

INT. RESTAURANT - MOMENTS LATER

Tyler bolts in the restaurant, sees a sign pointing toward a "Private Event", and makes a beeline for it!

INT. RESTAURANT, BACK DOOR - CONTINUOUS

Tyler jogs up to CLIPBOARD GUY, a man in a suit with a clipboard. He looks like he thinks he's REALLY important.

CLIPBOARD GUY

May I help you, Sir?

TYLER

Yes - my name's Phillip Boskin. I'm on the list.

CLIPBOARD GUY

(Intimidatingly)

Well, we'll just see about that.

He thumbs through his clipboard pages without looking, holding domineering eye contact with Tyler. He stops and looks down ...

CLIPBOARD GUY (CONT'D)

Phillip Boskin, you say.

He stares back at Tyler, who smiles as charming as he can without flirting.

TYLER

That's me.

CLIPBOARD GUY

(Looking back down)

I don't see your name.

TYLER

Really? Then what's that?

Tyler points to a spot on the paper. The Clipboard Guy stares at it, and Tyler rushes through the door!

EXT. RESTAURANT PATIO - CONTINUOUS

He sees Sasha waiting for him. He runs up and hugs her.

TYLER

Thanks for getting me in. He
couldn't find my name, gotta hide!

SASHA

Go for it. She hasn't been up there
long.

Tyler runs over to a large table in the back and squats behind it.

Angle on Virginia, who stands at a podium on a large stage, addressing an audience of a good 50 people.

VIRGINIA

So we've found that the three keys
to modern-day Casting are
recruiting, having a keen eye, and
... sing along if you know the
words ... marketing.

Angle back on Tyler and Sasha. Clipboard Guy storms in; she approaches him.

SASHA

Excuse me, Sir? Phillip Boskin says
you didn't have him on the list.
I'm sure your security company
doesn't want a poor Yelp review.

He scowls at her.

SASHA (CONT'D)

Ooh, I love your tie.

CLIPBOARD GUY

Thanks. I only wear it at work. And
funerals.

SASHA

Wow. Sounds like you wear it to
death!

She giggles. He stares at her, stone-faced.

Angle on Tyler, looking around, plotting his next move.

VIRGINIA

If you're like me, you can't stand marketing; you'd rather be looking for the perfect actors for the perfect roles. But because a national survey recently proved American companies can increase their revenue by over 60% if they implement a strong marketing strategy, this clearly should not be overlooked.

Tyler craftily moves forward and hides behind another large table of guests.

VIRGINIA (CONT'D)

So how do you possibly find time to do this, when you're in the middle of casting 5 features, 3 sitcoms and a documentary? You hire someone to do it for you. On your tables, you'll find a small list of marketing companies I strongly recommend. Now, I certainly don't intend to talk more than I need to up here, but are there any questions?

A BUSINESS WOMAN (40s) near the front raises her hand.

VIRGINIA (CONT'D)

Yes, Miss?

BUSINESS WOMAN

Where did you find these companies?

VIRGINIA

My incredible assistant Sasha, through extensive research. She's right there in the back, everyone give Sasha a nice round of applause!

The room politely claps for her. As the applause dies down, Sasha pipes up. She stands behind a squatting Tyler, who's still hiding behind the table.

SASHA

Virginia, someone at this table has a question.

She points at the table and kicks Tyler in the behind. He springs up!

TYLER

Hi, Virginia. I don't have a question; I have more of a ... confession.

Virginia is dumbstruck. She did NOT see this coming.

VIRGINIA

Oh ... My ... God.

Everyone starts wondering what exactly is happening.

TYLER

Look, you were right. Liars can't tell the truth, and I lied to you. But I want you to understand how I became a liar, and why I've changed.

He moves from the table, closer to the stage.

Angle on a FEMALE CASTING DIRECTOR and a MALE CASTING DIRECTOR.

FEMALE CASTING DIRECTOR

Great. Another desperate actor.

MALE CASTING DIRECTOR

He's actually not bad.

Angle on Virginia.

VIRGINIA

This is unbelievable.

Tyler moves closer. A Security Guard blocks his path. Clipboard Guy runs up and stands by the Security Guard.

SECURITY GUARD

Mam, should we remove him?

VIRGINIA

No. I wanna hear what he has to say.

The Security Guard and Clipboard Guy step to the side of the stage.

TYLER

About five years ago, my girlfriend dumped me in public.

(MORE)

TYLER (CONT'D)

She completely shattered my confidence and psychologically screwed me up. I tried EVERYTHING - therapy, self-help books, drugs - but I could not get over it. So finally, I hired an actress to pretend to be my girlfriend and break up with me in public. Now as much as I'd love to tell you I did it to confront my fears, I actually did it to meet sympathetic women who felt sorry for me because I just got my heart broken.

Angle on the Casting Directors.

FEMALE CASTING DIRECTOR

What a dick.

MALE CASTING DIRECTOR

What a trailblazer.

Angle on Virginia and Tyler, who's moved closer.

TYLER

I know, it was stupid and crazy. But what's even crazier is IT WORKED. The first time I tried this "Fake Breakup" stunt, I was approached by a beautiful woman who insisted I go home with her. I did, and - at the time - it was the best sex I ever had.

Virginia rolls her eyes. Many people in the crowd groan.

TYLER (CONT'D)

Again, *at the time*. Because that was before I really knew what love was.

Virginia looks at him. Emotions are circling through them both.

TYLER (CONT'D)

But also at the time, I was still a liar. I kept getting actresses to break up with me so women would pity me enough to sleep with me; and business was GOOD. But what I was doing was so irresponsible and dishonest and ...

VIRGINIA

Hurtful!

TYLER

Yes, 100%. Hurtful. I was too wrapped up in my own fragile ego and overactive libido to consider any emotional damage I was causing these poor women. But I don't regret it.

The crowd murmurs. Virginia looks shocked.

TYLER (CONT'D)

Because that's how I met you. Yes, the girl you saw "break up" with me was not my girlfriend; and no, that is anything but honest. But Virginia - please be honest with yourself. What you and I had was REAL. Our conversations, our connection, was REAL. The fact that we can dissect random 80's lyrics all night then have a Hopscotch Contest is INSANE.

(She smiles, slightly)

But it's real, and MAN, is it awesome. I can't tell you how sorry I am for lying to you, I kept planning to tell you the truth ... then I realized I was also lying to myself. My best friend just asked me what makes my life better and what makes it worse? Well, being a liar makes it worse; so I'm done with that. And what makes it better ... is you.

They look at each other. Their connection IS real.

TYLER (CONT'D)

All I'm asking for is a second chance. Not a third, just a second. Sasha is living proof that second chances can be amazing. You were gonna fire her, remember? I think she turned out okay.

Angle on Sasha, who smiles.

Back on Virginia and Tyler.

TYLER (CONT'D)

I can't lie anymore; it's exhausting. If you don't want the real me, that's okay and I respect your choice. But you've already met the real me, and he is hopelessly in love with you.

Tyler stands right in front of the stage.

VIRGINIA

Come up here.

Tyler jumps onto the stage. She looks at him sweetly ... then she punches him!

TYLER

Ow!!!

Tyler covers his wound, while the crowd does a collective "Oh!" Virginia speaks into the mic.

VIRGINIA

I was wrong about you, Tyler. You do deserve my pain.

She grabs him and kisses him, intensely. The crowd claps!

Camera zooms out to reveal Nate catering the event.

NATE

(To himself)

Now he's doing "Fake Makeups"? This guy's my hero!

EXT. PARKING LOT, BEHIND RESTAURANT - LATER

Virginia and Tyler walk, hand in hand. His other hand holds an icepack on his facial wound.

TYLER (V.O.)

Thank God she took me back. Not only did I reunite with the love of my life, but ...

INT. VIRGINIA'S OFFICE - DAY

Virginia and Tyler look at headshots at a large desk. Sasha works on a computer at her desk.

TYLER (V.O.)

She got me a job! Working with my girlfriend - I know, crazy, right? But finally ... I was doing something that I always wanted to do. And that I actually felt passionate about.

INT. CASTING OFFICE - DAY

Tyler and Virginia sit on a couch, looking at papers. Luke is operating the camera.

TYLER (V.O.)

I even got Luke a job.

LUKE

Alright, just slate your name to camera and go for it.

(singing)

"Where Can I Find A Woman Like That?!!"

An actress in front of the camera laughs. Pan over to Jesse laughing.

JESSE

We also got Jesse auditioning. He sucks, but he's good-looking enough to work. He just booked a pilot, he plays the role of "Silent Pool Boy".

INT. CASTING OFFICE - DAY

Douglas sits next to Tyler on the couch. Several bikini-clad women are about to audition for them and Luke on camera.

TYLER (V.O.)

And on some auditions, Douglas invites himself to watch.

DOUGLAS

(To Tyler, while watching the actresses)

Thanks, brother. How do I become a Producer? Goddam, look at that ...

INT. RESTAURANT - NIGHT

Tyler and Virginia romantically look at each other.

VIRGINIA
Be right back, Studboy.

She exits. He smiles.

TYLER (V.O.)
That's me. The real me. I look
happy, don't I? That's because for
the first time in my life, I truly
am. It's such a relief, telling the
truth. And you know what? The truth
is always the better story. I am
never hiding anything from this
woman again.

(To camera)
Okay. Maybe just one thing. But not
for very long.

He displays a beautiful purple box. He opens it and reveals
an even more beautiful engagement ring. He winks. "Only The
Good Die Young" plays.

THE END

TAG:

INT. RESTAURANT - NIGHT

Virginia and Tyler in a booth, close to each other. Virginia
is crying and smiling.

VIRGINIA
Yes! Oh my God, yes!

TYLER
I love you so much.

They kiss. Zoom out ... Nate steps into frame.

NATE
No way! Now he's doing Fake
Proposals? I can't afford that!
Fuck it, I'm just gonna learn how
to play guitar.

Nate walks off.