

UNTITLED SCREENPLAY
(IT'S ONLY A COMEDY IF YOU LAUGH)

Written by

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EXT. SHOT OF OUTSKIRTS OF BOULDER CITY, NEVADA

The outer boundary rocky, arid desert city contains a large federal penitentiary, a narrow road, and the small Boulder City Department of Tourism Building.

EXT. BOULDER CITY DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM BUILDING

There is a fake palm tree in front of the crumbling building.

INT. INSIDE THE BOULDER CITY DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM BUILDING

MR. MELVIN FINN (mid-40s, sunburned fair skin, slightly overweight, and balding) is sitting behind a cluttered wooden desk and AMIR ABDUL (around 19, handsome, and of obvious Middle-Eastern descent) is sitting on the other side. Amir looks nervous.

MR. FINN

When I heard about this project,
you were the first person who came
to mind.

AMIR

I'm not sure if-

MR. FINN

Right away I thought of you and
those pictures you make. The ones
where you take a bunch of images
and make a new one out of them? How
did you manage to do that?

AMIR

You can look up tutorials on the in-

MR. FINN

I honestly believed that your
parents spent a ten-day vacation in
Fiji and took a photo in front of
Mt. Nabukelevu as it erupted. Mt.
Nabukelevu hasn't erupted in nearly
400 years!

AMIR

How do you know-

Amir notices the tiny volcanoes on Mr. Finn's tie and the large map of the Pacific Rim behind his office desk.

MR. FINN

I'm an amateur volcanologist.

AMIR

That's-

Mr. Finn hands Amir a stack of papers.

MR. FINN

The job is simple. People are leaving Vegas for the suburbs. We're a suburb. Barely, but we are. You produce a commercial that paints Boulder City as the most promising place to live. Work your magic to find a way that makes this town look less like Satan's northern office for hell and more like a community that has never had to ration their water before. I don't care if it's vaguely offensive, but make this video promote the hell out of traditional family values. And if it works and people actually move here, then not only will I get more money, but your cut will increase as well.

A phone rings in the distance and police sirens can be heard coming from the prison. Both ignore the distractions.

MR. FINN (CONT'D)

Like how they tricked everyone by calling it Greenland when it was full of ice? Do that.

AMIR

Do I have to do all of this by my-

MR. FINN

No, no, of course not. My niece will be helping you as well. She's around your age and needed a job for the summer. I will warn you that she's fairly difficult to work with--

Mr. Finn puts air quotes around the word "difficult"

MR. FINN (CONT'D)

-- but I know that she'll do everything within her power to make sure that the project is completed at the highest standards.

AMIR
Why'd you put air quotes around
"difficult?"

MR. FINN
Jane's...

AMIR
Jane's what?

MR. FINN
Jane's impatient. And angry. Very
angry. A lot of you young people
seem to be angry these days. What
are you all so mad about?

AMIR
I don't-

MR. FINN
It doesn't matter. I've already got
the family lined up, you just need
to meet them for filming tomorrow
morning. Anyway, try not to mess
this up. Because if you mess up,
then it looks like I mess up. And I
can't lose this job. I'm planning
another trip to a forbidden island
in Malaysia and I may have to pay a
group of smugglers a large sum of
money to get me there.

AMIR
I won't let you down, sir.

MR. FINN
I'm already excited to begin
working with you.

Amir signs the papers.

NEXT MORNING

EXT. AMIR'S HOUSE

Amir and his family live in the wealthiest neighborhood of
the city. The pool in the backyard is empty. All of the grass
in their yard is dead.

INT. FRONT HALLWAY

ALI ABDUL, in his mid-40s, is about to walk out of the large front door. His black hair is slicked back and he is wearing a dark suit. He is holding a briefcase in one hand and under his arm is a stack of files with 'ABDUL INTERNATIONAL' printed on the front. He is too busy looking at his phone to see Amir, who is heading towards the kitchen, standing a few feet away.

AMIR

Bye, Dad.

Front door closes as Ali leaves without ever acknowledging his son.

Amir continues his walk to the kitchen.

INT. KITCHEN

Amir enters the kitchen where he sees his mother, (a small woman in her mid-40s), his older sisters (ages 22 and 24). They are sitting at the kitchen table eating breakfast.

The sisters (both slender with thick dark hair and wide brown eyes) are in town visiting. Both of them go to universities in other states. One is studying medicine and the other is studying law. His sisters are talking to each other while their mother reads the paper.

Amir grabs a glass from the cabinet and takes a bottle of orange juice out of the refrigerator. He begins to pour a glass of orange juice.

SISTER 1

What are you going to do today,
Amir?

SISTER 2

Yeah, Amir, what are you going to
do today?

SISTER 1

Wait, wait, let me guess! Are you
going to do nothing?

SISTER 2

He did nothing yesterday. (To Amir)
Don't you ever get tired of doing
nothing? We leave to go to school
and you're doing nothing.

(MORE)

SISTER 2 (CONT'D)

We come back to visit and you're still doing nothing. How can you live like that?

MOTHER

(With little conviction)

Be nice to your brother. He's in school too, he's already out for the summer. Plus Amir has a job now.

SISTER 1

A job doing nothing?

MOTHER

He's filming a video for Mr. Finn. You know, your father's friend?

SISTER 1

How are you going to film a video with a giant orange juice stain on the front of your shorts?

Amir looks down and realizes that his glass of orange juice has overflowed and has spilled onto his pants. He grabs a wad of napkins before storming out of the kitchen and out of the front door. No one says goodbye.

EXT. ROAD

Amir's convertible is the only car on the road. He blots at his pants with a napkin as he drives.

EXT. OF REYNOLD'S HOUSE

Amir arrives at the Reynolds house, which looks like an ordinary suburban home. The Reynold's have an oddly green front yard. Their mailbox has 'The Reynolds Family' inscribed on a plaque above it.

Amir sees that JANE MORALES is standing in front of her own car, a rusty pickup truck. Jane has dark hair and tanned skin, along with a perpetual frown. Around her neck is a large silver cross necklace. Jane is holding the small video camera and is looking at the ground.

Amir checks to make sure that the wet spot on his shorts has almost entirely disappeared before turning off his car.

AMIR
(chanting softly to
himself)
Don't fuck this up, don't fuck this
up, don't fuck this up...

He takes a deep breath and gets out of his car, walking over to Jane.

AMIR (CONT'D)
Are you Jane?

JANE
Did you piss yourself?

She points to the barely visible spot on Amir's shorts.

AMIR
Why are you looking right there?

JANE
Is that your way of admitting that
yes, you did piss yourself?

Amir shifts uncomfortably, obviously intimidated by Jane. Jane doesn't seem to care how harsh she comes across as.

AMIR
So, um, why are you here?

JANE
My uncle made a mistake.

AMIR
Oh, shit. I'm sorry. (beat) Wait,
like, what kind of mistake? Because
I've known Mr. Finn for a while and
even though I never got the vibe of
him ever being capable of
committing a crime, but now that I
think about it, I can totally see
him being involved in covering up a
murder. I'm, like, 81% sure that he
pushed someone into a volcano once.
You can't find the body if you do
that, right? Why else would he be
so obsessed with them?

JANE
No, not that kind of mistake.

AMIR
What other kinds of mistakes are
there?

JANE

I want to be an actress. He told me that he had a role for me where I would be playing a videographer. I obviously accepted it because where else am I supposed to find something to add to my resume in this arid anus of a town, but when I got here, he told me that this wasn't an acting gig at all. Instead I'm just supposed to help some random dude make a movie. I'd already driven all the way here- I'm from a town two hours north- and this is the first time that I've seen real grass in three years. So even though I was lied to, I still stayed.

AMIR

So you misunderstood the job that he offered you? That sounds like it's your fault.

JANE

He could have been more specific. What are you doing here? Why are you doing this? I know that you don't need the money; my uncle said that your dad owned some kind of business.

AMIR

Abdul International.

Jane's eyes widen with recognition.

JANE

Your dad owns Abdul International?

AMIR

(Proudly) Yeah.

JANE

That's funny. I thought that he only had two daughters. I didn't know that he had a son too.

Amir is very uncomfortable again and is desperate to change the subject. He notices the camera that Jane is holding.

AMIR

Do you even know how to use that camera?

JANE

Do you honestly think that I would be here if I didn't? I'm not a moron; I had to have at least some degree of capability to get this job in the first place.

AMIR

(points to a random button on the camera)
What does this button do?

JANE

It allows you to broadcast your livestream directly to the internet.

Amir is impressed because he had no idea that such technology existed, but also does not want to admit to Jane that he did not know.

AMIR

We should... we should go inside now.

Jane pushes past Amir and goes to knock on the front door. Amir scrambles behind her.

The door is opened by SUSAN REYNOLDS, late-30s/early-40s. She has perfectly styled blonde hair and an abnormally large, Julia Roberts-esque smile.

SUSAN

You must be Jane and Amir! I'm Susan Reynolds. Please, come in!

Jane and Amir follow Susan inside. They see the rest of the Reynolds family waiting in front of their kitchen table.

TIM REYNOLDS is in his mid-40s. He has a deep tan, tired eyes and is balding prematurely. He is in business attire while everyone else is dressed casually.

ANDREW REYNOLDS and his twin sister ANDREA REYNOLDS, both 16 with blonde hair and light eyes.

Susan retreats back to rejoin the rest of her family. The four of them are smiling and standing as though they're posing for a picture.

SUSAN (CONT'D)

This is my husband, Tim, and our twins, Andrew and Andrea.

The group exchanges greetings and handshakes.

SUSAN (CONT'D)
So, where should we begin?

JANE
We just want to showcase your
everyday lives.

SUSAN
Our everyday lives... kids, what
are you doing today?

ANDREA
I have cheerleading for three
hours.

JANE
It's supposed to be 100 degrees
today.

ANDREA
So? Are you saying that I can't
cheer just because it's hot?

JANE
(to Andrew)What are you
doing?

Montage of Jane and Amir filming the video. Video includes
Tim golfing, Susan shopping, Andrea cheerleading, and Andrew
talking with his peers at school.

INT. OF ANDREW'S CAR, NIGHT

Jane sits in the front passenger seat while Amir sits in the
middle seat in the back. Andrew is driving. The sun has set
and they are passing through a neighborhood similar to the
one that Andrew lives in.

ANDREW
Is it cool if we make a stop? Like,
off the record. No filming and
stuff.

JANE
Go for it.

Andrew pulls into the driveway of a house.

ANDREW
Wait here; I'll be right back.

He slams the door shut and disappears out of view, leaving Jane and Amir in the car together. They sit in silence for several minutes.

AMIR
Can I see the camera?

JANE
Why?

AMIR
Why are you so angry all of the time? What did I do to you? Why don't you like me?

JANE
Why do you think that I've spent enough time thinking about you to have formulated an opinion?

Amir opens his mouth to speak, but Jane cuts him off.

JANE (CONT'D)
And I don't like you because you're annoying and I'm almost entirely positive that you pissed yourself this morning.

The silence returns.

AMIR
So... Does that mean that you *have* thought about me?

Jane angrily turns around and hands Amir the camera.

Amir fiddles with the camera. He watches several clips of himself interviewing the Reynolds family with the sound off as to not annoy Jane. At least five minutes passes before Andrew returns.

Andrew re-enters the car and sets a large, cloth, reusable Whole Foods bag in the seat next to Amir.

AMIR (CONT'D)
What's in the bag? The nearest Whole Foods is 17 miles away.
(He notices Jane's skeptical look)
I shop there a lot; I'm vegetarian.

JANE
You should consider growing your own vegetables.
(MORE)

JANE (CONT'D)

It'd save you money and it's probably better for the environment.

AMIR

How am I supposed to grow anything when we live in the middle of the desert?

(To Andrew)

What's in the bag?

Andrew nervously grips the steering wheel.

ANDREW

I don't know if I should say...

AMIR

Can I guess?

JANE

Oh my god, no, please don't let him guess.

AMIR

(Ignores Jane and excitedly)

Okay, is it food? Is it actually something that you can consume?

ANDREW

(plays along)

It's not food, but you still technically consume it.

JANE

If God were real then he wouldn't be letting this happen right now.

AMIR

(Still ignoring Jane)

Oh, um, okay. Is it medicine?

ANDREW

(Also ignoring Jane)

I mean, technically no, but I guess that some people might consider for it to be.

AMIR

Do you drink it?

ANDREW

I've never tried to.

AMIR
So it's a solid?

JANE
Just tell him what it is already!

ANDREW
(calmly)
It's twelve pounds of cocaine.

Amir and Jane are stunned into silence. They stare at Andrew with their mouths ajar.

Andrew is visibly much more relaxed after admitting his secret.

Amir reaches over to look inside the bag and sees the cocaine for himself.

AMIR
Oh, fuck.
(To Andrew)
Dude, what the fuck?

Jane twists around to look at the bag as well. She turns back around to glare at Andrew.

JANE
Are you fucking serious?

ANDREW
Well, I'm not the president of the
McKraney High School Young
Entrepreneurs Club for nothing.

JANE
You're a fucking drug dealer?

ANDREW
No! I'm not an idiot! I would never
sell drugs! I would never even do
drugs! Those aren't even mine! I
just bring them to the guy who does
sell them.

JANE
I need to get out of here.

AMIR
But... like... where does the
person that you get the drugs from
get the drugs from?

JANE

Are you serious? That's the question that you have right now?

ANDREW

I get them from this guy I know. And could you guys, like, not tell my parents about this?

JANE

What? You don't want for us to tell your parents that you're a drug dealer?

AMIR

He's not a dealer, Jane. He already said that. He's just a trafficker. That's something entirely different.

JANE

Oh, yeah, because that's just so much better.

Amir stealthily turns the camera back on so that he can film a quick clip of the cocaine inside of the bag. No one notices. He turns the camera back off.

ANDREW

Don't tell them! Do you know how long I'd be grounded for?

JANE

You're seriously worried about being grounded? You're a drug smuggler and your biggest fear is your mom taking away your fucking phone for a week?

ANDREW

She'd take it away for at least a month.

JANE

I need to get out of here.

AMIR

Why are you doing this anyway?

ANDREW

Every year, the McKraney High School Young Entrepreneurs Club raises five thousand dollars that goes to paying the teachers that go in and teach the inmates at that prison at the edge of town. The president of YEC always raises the most money. I've barely raised anything so far and everyone is counting on me. I can't ruin the tradition. I'm a legacy.

JANE

And you couldn't just get a regular job?

ANDREW

I *had* a regular job. As a lifeguard. But then the state said that we had to start conserving water because apparently that shit doesn't just fall from the sky anymore. The pool could no longer afford to pay me. I was jobless and it's not like my parents were just going to give me all of that money.

Andrew pulls up into the driveway of his house.

ANDREW (CONT'D)

So I wasn't about to let everyone down. I searched the internet for jobs that require no experience and found one looking for a delivery driver. They were willing to pay four grand for three weeks of me delivering stuff for them. It just happens to be that instead of pizza, I'm delivering cocaine.

AMIR

What a bold thing to advertise so freely online.

ANDREW

It's a really easy job and it'll look so good on college applications when I tell them how much money I raised for charity. It also just makes me look really awesome in general.

(MORE)

ANDREW (CONT'D)

Like, this could be what I'm remembered for: Andrew Reynolds, the sixteen year old who raised the most money for charity in Boulder County history.

Amir's eyes widen as Andrew talks about what he'd be remembered for, as Amir is desperate to be remembered at all.

JANE

So no one's going to point out the irony of this situation?

ANDREW

And I'm so close to being finished. This is my last week and then I get all of the money. So you guys can't tell anyone, alright? Not because of me, but because of the teachers. They deserve to get paid for all of their hard work. I mean, who wants to go teach in a jail?

AMIR

We won't tell a soul.

ANDREW

You guys are the best!

The three exit the car. Andrew begins walking up the driveway towards his front door as Amir and Jane search for their own car keys.

ANDREW (CONT'D)

This was fun, guys. I'll see you tomorrow!

Andrew goes inside of his house. Amir and Jane stand in front of their cars. As soon as Andrew closes the front door, Jane pulls out her cell phone and begins looking something up.

AMIR

What are you doing?

JANE

I'm calling the cops because we just saw a drug deal?

AMIR

It wasn't technically a deal, remember? He was just picking it up; it wasn't like he was selling it.

JANE

I honestly hate you.

Jane begins to look up the number of the local police station. Amir has newfound admiration for Andrew's dedication for going down in history and doesn't want to turn him in. He knows that what Andrew is doing is wrong, but he also wants for him to succeed.

AMIR

Wait!

Jane pauses.

AMIR (CONT'D)

Don't you think that it's kind of admirable what Andrew is doing? I mean, you saw when we were making the video how shitty his entrepreneur club is at making money. He really believes in something and he's trying to prove himself in the world.

JANE

Listen, I don't know if you're thinking this way because you somehow think that it's possible to sustain yourself on nothing but stale lettuce and dried apples even though you live in the middle of the desert or if you're actually just a massive idiot, but, either way, you need to stop. Andrew is trafficking cocaine. That's a federal offense. We have to tell the police.

She goes back to looking up the number. Amir is desperate to prevent her from actually calling.

AMIR

The police?

JANE

(still scrolling on her phone)

Yes. The reason that I speak in so many one-liners is because you never seem to listen to me anyway.

AMIR

I just mean, the police? That's a bit harsh, don't you think?

JANE

Well who else should we fucking tell?

AMIR

You curse a lot for someone who wears a cross necklace.

JANE

You're really focused on something that's not the fucking point! We just witnessed a crime. It's our fucking responsibility as moral human beings to go and report this to the authorities! This is why the West is only known for two things: abandoned dreams and overpopulated prisons. We're going to tell, Amir. We have to.

AMIR

What if we tell, but we don't tell the police?

JANE

What do you mean?

AMIR

Your uncle's the one who arranged for us to film Andrew and his family. Are they close friends or something?

JANE

Why would I know that?

AMIR

Right. So, um, maybe we should tell him first? Like, maybe he can talk to Andrew and get him to stop with his side activities? You know, before we go and give a high schooler a life sentence.

Jane hesitates, her phone hovering over the 'call' button.

JANE

Do you really think that that's the right thing to do? You definitely haven't noticed, but sometimes I struggle with the concept of empathy.

AMIR

Really? I never would have guessed.

JANE

I know. I'm that good of an actress. But I try, you know? I try to be a genuinely caring person. And it sucks because I don't care about most people, but casting directors want people who are likeable. I need to be likeable.

Amir realizes that he can use this to his advantage.

AMIR

Well then this, *this* is definitely going to make you likeable. You're saving Andrew's life. I'm sure that he's going to be quite thankful when he realizes his mistake before he spends the rest of his life incarcerated.

JANE

Are you sure?

AMIR

I'm 100% sure.

JANE

So then tomorrow morning? Around ten? We can go talk to my uncle then.

NEXT MORNING

INT. AMIR'S HOUSE

Amir walks down the stairs just in time to see his father walk out of the front door. Amir continues his way into the kitchen, where his sisters are eating and his mom is reading the newspaper.

SISTER 1

What are you going to do today, Amir? Nothing? A little bit more of nothing?

SISTER 2

Isn't that what he did yesterday?

Amir grabs a piece of toast and begins eating it.

AMIR

Are you seriously going to do this every day?

MOTHER

Girls, be nice to your brother.

SISTER 1

How does it feel knowing that your mother still has to fight all of your battles for you?

AMIR

Battle? What battle? Since when has there been a battle? I literally just woke up!

SISTER 2

I wish that I was as content as you are with the thought of knowing that I could die at potentially any moment and that I wouldn't be remembered for anything.

SISTER 1

Honestly, it's just so annoying knowing that traditionally speaking, you're the only one who's supposed to pass the last name along when you've literally done nothing. Your most substantial moment in this family was when we accidentally locked you out of the house during a dust storm.

SISTER 2

(laughing) Remember how he thought that he was in his room the entire time?

SISTER 1

And how we thought that his crying and knocking was just the wind hitting the door?

Their mother is too engrossed in her newspaper to scold her daughters for a second time. Amir grabs another piece of toast and his keys before leaving.

INT. DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM BUILDING

Jane meets Amir in front of Mr. Finn's office. They don't greet each other. A secretary comes over and lets them inside of Mr. Finn's office.

INT. MR. FINN'S OFFICE

Mr. Finn isn't yet in the room. Amir and Jane sit in the two chairs in front of his desk.

AMIR

Do you like volcanoes as much as your uncle does? Is that a family thing?

JANE

We're related by marriage; not by blood.

The two don't talk after that. A clock on the wall shows at least twenty minutes passing. Mr. Finn comes and pokes his head into the office. He looks dishevelled.

MR. FINN

Sorry, we've got a beautification crisis going on right now. I've been on the phone all morning. It should only take a few more minutes. Apparently there's a wildfire about to burn down one of our welcoming centers. Does anyone else find it odd how Nevada is so flammable when there aren't even any trees to burn?

AMIR

Do you think that if we lit all of the sand on fire then it would all just turn into a sheet of glass? Then we'd just live on a giant glass table?

JANE

I'm really glad that you took the time out of your life to ask us that. Thank you so much. Truly.
(to Mr. Finn) What's on fire?

MR. FINN

Does it even matter?

JANE

It sounds to me like Satan is opening a northern branch of hell.

AMIR

Did you ask that just because you wanted to make that joke?

JANE

Who said it was a joke?

MR. FINN

(ignoring Jane and Amir)
Sometimes I think that people start these fires just so that they can film them.

AMIR

What do you mean?

MR. FINN

Oh, you know how it is. People see something out of the ordinary and take a picture of it, make a video, whatever. They sell it to the news and become little celebrities in their own way. People can make national news headlines out of anything that goes against the grain. You took a picture of a fire? Here's your Pulitzer! You caught a teenager smoking weed? Here's your Nobel Prize!

AMIR

Oh my god.

A phone rings loudly in the distance.

MR. FINN

Shit, that's me again. Just wait here a few more minutes and I'll be back to talk to you then.

Mr. Finn leaves the room. Amir yanks his chair around to face Jane.

AMIR

We can't tell him.

JANE

We can't tell him what?

AMIR

About the drugs. We can't tell him about the drugs. This is our big break.

Mr. Finn can be heard yelling in the distance.

AMIR (CONT'D)

Think about it! We could achieve notoriety!

JANE

We could also achieve getting our throats slit by a rival drug cartel after we're thrown into prison. I don't want notoriety that badly, Amir! Not for this!

AMIR

I can't believe that you haven't made it as an actress yet because you're literally the most dramatic person that I've ever met.

JANE

Meanwhile, I can totally believe that you haven't achieved anything in your life yet because you're about as smart as the overpriced, definitely non-organic kale that you've been eating and also because you pissed your pants when we first met.

AMIR

I didn't-

JANE

But are you *sure* that you didn't?

AMIR

Come on, Jane. Do you really think that there's any way that we can convince people to move here with the footage that we've got? If anything, people are more likely to leave after seeing it. Not to mention how Nevada in general is about to turn into a giant sheet of glass because everything is somehow on fire.

JANE

I really don't think that you know how the glass making process works.

AMIR

Glass is melted sand.

JANE

That's not- it doesn't matter.

Amir becomes very serious.

AMIR

Jane, just listen to me. We can both get what we want out of this.

JANE

How?

AMIR

You want to be an actress, right? And you want to be liked? Well, I don't know if it's possible to make any part of your personality appealing at all, but this can help open doors for you. Imagine filming this exposé about drug trafficking. No one's ever going to suspect that someone as clean cut and wholesome as Andrew Reynolds could ever be involved in something this scandalous. Everyone's gonna lose their shit when they see this. Everyone will know our names! Big industry people will hear about you and how you want to be an actress and then they'll watch this and they'll see that you clearly have some degree of capability because you essentially infiltrated a drug cartel without getting caught. We'll blur out all of the faces so that no one can identify the dealers. This is so fucking perfect, Jane! This is the easiest way for us to get famous! Everyone's gonna be so proud of what we do! We're going to be heroes! No one's ever going to forget about us again!

Jane takes a few minutes to think it over. She plays with the cross necklace around her neck.

JANE

I do want to be an actress.

AMIR

Does that mean that you're in?

JANE

I don't know yet.

AMIR

Aren't you going to ask me what I want?

JANE

Why would I care about what you want?

Mr. Finn yells something unintelligible from across the hall. A phone can be heard slamming back down into its receiver.

JANE (CONT'D)

But what are supposed to do about the tourism video? Are we just not going to do it?

AMIR

No, we're still going to do it. We're just going to film Andrew's double life as a drug trafficker as well. *That's* going to be our claim to fame.

JANE

And what if we get killed?

AMIR

Don't be so negative. We won't get killed. We'll have Andrew with us; he won't let anything bad happen because he doesn't want to get caught either.

JANE

Should we really be placing that much faith in the guy who confused applying to be a pizza delivery driver with illegally transporting narcotics? And what if people come after us once the footage gets out? I can't be an actress if I get fucking killed.

AMIR

I'm sure that the cops will protect us afterwards. It's like they'll owe us for essentially doing their jobs for them. Also, if anything is going to kill us in Nevada, it'll be the actual state of Nevada.

Footsteps can be heard leading towards the room where Jane and Amir are sitting.

JANE

Something about this doesn't feel right.

AMIR

Really? It all feels right to me.

Mr. Finn re-enters the room and sits down at his desk. His face is red and he's out of breath.

MR. FINN

Well, the welcome center burned down because the county officials decided that it would waste too much water trying to put out the flame, so it's good to know that I've already wasted half of my morning on that.

AMIR

(sincerely)

Wow. I'm sorry to hear that.

MR. FINN

No one visits Boulder County anyway. That's why we have to make that video in the first place. Now, what is it that you wanted to tell me about?

Jane and Amir look at each other.

JANE

We're actually going to need a little more time to finish the video. We've gotten a lot of good footage and we think that we've found a way to make this even better.

MR. FINN

I knew that I could count on you two!

Jane and Amir exit Mr. Finn's office

JANE

I feel like we've done something wrong. Very, very wrong.

AMIR

What? What do you mean? We've done nothing wrong. We've actually done something really good.

JANE

No, I think that we just obstructed the law. That's illegal.

AMIR

No, we're doing a public good. We're raising awareness.

JANE

Are you sure?

Amir calls Andrew.

ANDREW

Hello?

AMIR

Hey, it's Amir and Jane.

ANDREW

Oh, hey, guys. What's up?

AMIR

Nothing. Jane and I just decided that we wanted to film some more stuff about you. We think that the work that you do with charity is something that should be highlighted in our video. It's a component that could really bring more people into the town.

ANDREW

Oh my god, really? Are you serious?

AMIR

Yeah. But, I mean, only if you're comfortable with letting us hang around for the next few days.

ANDREW

What? Of course I am! This is so great!

(MORE)

ANDREW (CONT'D)

I'm even more dedicated to reaching my goal now! You guys are so motivating; it's the best! I'll see you tomorrow!

The phone call ends.

AMIR

See? Everything's gonna go perfectly.

JANE

You handled that quite nicely.

AMIR

Really?

JANE

Yeah. You aren't nearly as incompetent as everyone thinks that you are.

AMIR

Tha-

JANE

But if we're going to do this successfully, it's not like we can bring this camera with us. Everyone will see it and we'll get shot and killed. We'll need something more discreet. I think that-

AMIR

I can handle this.

JANE

Are you sure?

AMIR

Yeah! Back when my dad was first starting off in the business world, he would sometimes secretly film meetings so that he could document how good businesses were run.

JANE

Is that illegal?

AMIR

He's resourceful.

JANE

But... are you resourceful?

AMIR

I know what I'm doing, Jane. I'm my father's son; I'm genetically predisposed to have some of his ideas.

JANE

Yeah, I don't think that's how that works.

AMIR

Don't worry, Jane. I've got this.

Amir and Jane part ways for the evening and return to their respective houses.

INT. AMIR'S HOUSE

Amir is in his room looking up hidden cameras online. His mother comes and stands in the doorway.

MOTHER

How was work today?

AMIR

Good. We've got some great ideas for the video. Is Dad here? I wanted to talk to him about something.

MOTHER

He's busy with work right now. Maybe try sending him an e-mail.

AMIR

Never mind; I can figure it out on my own.

MORNING

Amir makes sure to leave the house without going into the kitchen because he wants to avoid the constant heckling from his sisters.

EXT. REYNOLDS HOUSE

Jane is waiting for Amir. She's wearing a shirt that has a ruffled collar.

AMIR

That's an interesting shirt.

JANE

Shut up. You can't say anything about what I'm wearing since you had a urine stain on your shorts when we first met.

AMIR

Hey, I like your shirt.

JANE

No you don't. No one likes it. I didn't have time to do any laundry. This was the only other alternative that I had available.

AMIR

It looks nice.

JANE

Please stop. You're not making this any better.

She sees how Amir is holding something behind his back.

JANE (CONT'D)

What are you doing?

AMIR

I've got something that'll make our secret filming even easier.

JANE

What?

AMIR

It's totally hands free. We can go anywhere and film anything. One of us just has to wear this.

Amir pulls out a small, button-sized camera.

JANE

What is that? When did you order that? How did you get that already?

AMIR

Express shipping.

JANE

We had this conversation last night!

AMIR

It's a competitive market, Jane.
Companies have to adapt.

Amir hands Jane the camera.

JANE

I'm not wearing this.

AMIR

You have to. It'll be too
noticeable if I put it on my shirt
and I forgot my jacket.

JANE

Not to mention that it would look
at least slightly suspicious seeing
a man wearing a jacket in the
desert.

AMIR

Hurry, put it on before someone
realizes that we're out here!

Jane wires the camera through her shirt. The ruffles conceal
it nicely.

JANE

I still can't believe that you
bought this.

AMIR

You have to invest in order to
succeed. Or that's what my dad
always says at least.

JANE

Is it noticeable?

AMIR

No. And it's just like the old
camera, too. The big one? You can
still live stream directly online.

JANE

Yes, perfect, because live
streaming a drug ring was exactly
what I wanted to do today.

She pushes past Amir so that she can walk up and ring the
front door to the Reynolds' house.

INT. REYNOLDS HOUSE

Susan ushers Amir and Jane inside and steers them towards the kitchen.

AMIR

Good morning, Susan!

SUSAN

Good morning, you two! How's your filming going?

AMIR

It's going great. We're actually going to extend our project for a couple more days. There's a lot of great stuff coming from Andrew right now and some of this footage may come in handy in the future. You know, for other projects.

SUSAN

That is by far the best news that I've heard in a while! I know how stressed Andrew has been with his fundraising lately and the news that he got last night brightened his mood so much.

Andrew enters the kitchen.

ANDREW

You're here already! I knew that you guys would be on time! I'm so excited!

SUSAN

Do you already have the cooler for your friend?

ANDREW

It's already in the car. Thanks, Mom!

Susan hugs Andrew goodbye. Jane makes a face of disgust.

SUSAN

I love you. Have a wonderful day, you guys!

The three spend the day doing mundane things, such as watching Andrew and the Young Entrepreneurs Club struggle with coming up with ways to make more money.

Amir and Jane are both bored the entire time and wonder if their plan was worth it. (Montage?)

LATE AFTERNOON

INT. ANDREW'S CAR

Andrew is driving through a suburban neighborhood that is not his. Jane is bored in the passenger seat while Amir sits next to the cooler in the back.

ANDREW

Today was so much fun. Didn't you guys think it was fun?

JANE

No. Not really.

AMIR

I had a nice time.

ANDREW

If you don't mind, I've got to make another stop before we go back to my place.

JANE

Where?

AMIR

Does it have something to do with the cooler?

Jane turns around to see what Amir is talking about.

JANE

Has that always been back there?

AMIR

All day.

JANE

What's inside of it?

ANDREW

It's just stuff that I have to drop off at a friend's house.

JANE

Oh my god, are you taking us with you so that you can drop off more cocaine?

ANDREW

No! That's not what I'm doing! This is nothing like that!

Jane turns back around to stare at the cooler. Amir, remembering how she's wearing the hidden camera still, gives her a thumbs up.

JANE

Amir, open the cooler!

ANDREW

Don't-

Amir ignores Andrew and flings the lid of the cooler open. All he finds is another Whole Foods bag surrounded by semi-melted ice.

AMIR

Is coke supposed to be kept on the rocks?

Jane moves around so that the camera on her shirt can get a good view of the cooler.

JANE

That's an entire *bag* full of cocaine!

ANDREW

What? No it's not!

JANE

How are you going to tell me that it's *not* full of cocaine when we literally had this same exact conversation yesterday where you told me that you had a Whole Foods bag full of cocaine?

ANDREW

It's not drugs! I swear! Why don't you believe me?

JANE

Amir! Open the bag!

Amir leans over and opens the bag.

AMIR

It's full of vegetables!

JANE

Vegetables?

AMIR

Yeah. Like, an avocado and carrots and peppers and stuff.

ANDREW

See! I told you! I don't have any drugs with me!

JANE

What? So you've suddenly seen the error of your ways?

ANDREW

No, I'm making guacamole. Or something like that.

JANE

Why?

AMIR

You're making guacamole for us? That's so nice of you!

ANDREW

Oh, no, sorry man, but it's not for you. It's for Kevin.

JANE

Kevin?

ANDREW

Yeah, you know, the guy that hired me? His in-laws are coming in town. He's freaking out because he doesn't know how to cook and everyone knows that appetizers are the main selling point.

JANE

Of course, *everyone* knows that.

AMIR

What's the party for?

ANDREW

It's his daughter's Christening.

JANE

Oh my God. A religious drug dealer.

AMIR

Religion isn't an elitist organization, Jane. Anyone can have a Christening.

JANE

How is it that the smartest thing that you've ever said is also the dumbest thing that you've ever said?

AMIR

This is really nice of you, Andrew. And guac is a great idea. Everyone loves guac. You can't disappoint with guac.

ANDREW

Thanks, Amir! And look, we're almost there!

Andrew slows the car down as they get closer to Kevin's house. Jane turns her attention back to Andrew.

JANE

I don't want to be here. This sounds like a bad idea.

ANDREW

What? Why? Nothing bad is about to happen. We're just helpin' out a friend. That's what I do, Jane. I'm a philanthropist.

JANE

No. Bad idea. And you're not a philanthropist. You're just a moron.

ANDREW

Come on. It'll be fun.

AMIR

Yeah, it'll be great!

ANDREW

It'll only take a few minutes. And Kevin's nice. He'd never hurt anyone.

JANE

Do you think that we need more than a few minutes to mess everything up?

INT. KEVIN'S HOUSE

Jane, Amir, and Andrew enter Kevin's large suburban house. It is filled with people and the general atmosphere is calm and inviting. Jane quickly separates from the rest of the group. Amir follows Andrew into the kitchen. There they see KEVIN (tall, muscular, late 20s/early 30s, white) standing next to the counter. He is wearing a flame-print apron that is covered in avocado. Vegetables are strewn all over the counter. Kevin looks stressed and is relieved to see Andrew.

ANDREW

Hey, Kev, we brought the stuff!
Whoa, what's going on in here?

KEVIN

I messed up. I've never actually made guacamole before. Fuck, what do I do now? Everyone is expecting for there to be dip! I can't let them down now!

ANDREW

Maybe you can make something else instead?

Amir looks around at the other ingredients that are on the counter.

AMIR

You've got a lot of vegetables left. You could make a veggie dip.

KEVIN

What? Who is this?

ANDREW

Oh, this is my friend, Amir. He came along for the ride. He knows a lot about vegetables. He shops at Whole Foods.

Kevin is too stressed out about his failed dish to care that he doesn't trust Amir. Kevin quickly reasons that Amir is not a threat to him because he's friends with Andrew, who is also not a threat to him.

KEVIN

What did you say about the vegetables?

AMIR

It was just an idea of what you can make with all of them.

(MORE)

AMIR (CONT'D)

I can put the dip together. I know a great recipe.

KEVIN

Really? You'd do that?

AMIR

Yeah, of course. I know how hard it is to try and impress someone; anything to help out someone in a similar situation.

KEVIN

That's really solid of you, man.

Amir makes the dip as Kevin and Andrew watch on. They make idle conversation until the dip is completed.

AMIR

Hey, where's the bathroom?

KEVIN

The one's down here are all probably busy, but there's one at the top of the stairs and immediately to the left. First door; you can't miss it.

AMIR

Thanks. I'll be right back.

KEVIN

No problem. I'm gonna go bring the dip to everyone.

AMIR

They'll love it.

Amir walks by Jane on his way to the stairs. She is in the middle of a conversation with Kevin's mother-in-law but breaks away when she sees Amir.

JANE

Hey! What was going on in there?

AMIR

We made vegetable dip. You should have been there. Kevin seems like a really nice guy.

JANE

Sure he does. Where are you going now?

Jane follows Amir up the stairs.

AMIR

To the bathroom? I have to pee.

JANE

You aren't going to tell me about the conversation that you had while you made dip with a fucking drug dealer?

AMIR

Why are you so interested all of a sudden? You're the one who walked away as soon as we walked in!

JANE

I thought that one of you was going to find a way to fuck this up so bad that someone would get shot and I really didn't want for that to be me. Someone has to keep the project alive. So what happened? What did he say? Does he look like the type that would brutally murder two people who are secretly filming his drug cartel?

AMIR

No! I already told you that he's nice. Can I pee now?

JANE

Hurry up and then tell me the parts of the story that I actually care about.

INT. KEVIN'S BATHROOM

The toilet flushes and Amir is washing his hands. He realizes that he's used the remainder of the soap in the bottle. Wanting to help Kevin's in-laws have a more favorable impression of him, Amir looks under the sink to see if there is any more soap. Instead, he finds that the cabinet is filled with bricks of cocaine.

AMIR

Shit.

He closes the cabinet door and opens it again. The cocaine is still there.

AMIR (CONT'D)

Shit!

Amir sticks his head out of the bathroom to get Jane. She is still standing there, leaning against the wall.

AMIR (CONT'D)

Come in here! I have to show you something!

JANE

Uh-uh. No way, buddy.

AMIR

Trust me, you're going to want to see this!

Jane hesitates.

AMIR (CONT'D)

Hurry!

Jane reluctantly walks into the bathroom. She immediately sees the pile of cocaine stashed underneath the sink.

JANE

Holy shit.

AMIR

I know.

JANE

Holy shit!

She closes the cabinet door and opens it again, just like how Amir did. The cocaine is obviously still there.

JANE (CONT'D)

Amir, what the hell is this! How did you find this! And why are you showing this to me?

AMIR

I had to show someone!

JANE

How did you find this! Why are you always getting in the way?

AMIR

I was looking for soap!

JANE

What? You were looking for soap and then you just magically stumbled upon someone's entire stash?

AMIR

Why are you acting like I wanted for any of this to happen? I'm not lying to you! I just wanted to find soap! And then I thought that you should know about this as well, since you're the one who's wearing the camera and all, but maybe I was wrong because you're acting like this is my fault!

JANE

Fuck! Stop bitching at me! This isn't the time for that. We need to be doing something! We have to do something!

AMIR

What? Should I- should I, like, close the cabinet door again and leave it closed and pretend like this never happened?

JANE

Andrew. We should get Andrew.

AMIR

Why? We can think through this without him.

JANE

Um, this is his fault. He's the one with the direct connection to the drugs. He'll have a better grasp on the situation than we will. Well, hopefully.

Jane takes out her phone to text Andrew.

AMIR

Wait, can you tell him to bring some more soap too?

JANE

Not the fucking time, dude. We just stumbled upon at least eight consecutive life sentences of coke.

Amir remembers the plan they have to make the biggest drug expose that they possibly could.

AMIR

I know, right? Do you see how much cocaine is in here? This is huge! Think about our goal!

JANE

Wait, what?

AMIR

Busting Andrew for a little bit of coke was one thing, but this is an entirely different ballpark. This is the Major Leagues. We have hit the home run.

JANE

Stop with the baseball references. This isn't a game. Amir, this Kevin guy isn't our friend. It doesn't matter how many festive party dips that the two of you make together. He's literally a drug kingpin.

AMIR

How much coke do you have to have before you're considered a kingpin?

JANE

Does it matter?

AMIR

Yes, it does. We don't want to be referring to this guy with the wrong title. That's insensitive.

JANE

'Insensitive' is what we're about to do. We can't take that. We can't even *touch* that. This is too big for even us. We need to go and give this footage to the police.

AMIR

Not yet. Think about how much bigger this story has just possibly gotten.

They are interrupted by a knock on the bathroom door. Jane opens the door to let Andrew in. Andrew closes the door behind him as he enters the room.

ANDREW

Hey, guys. What's going on?

Jane and Amir wordlessly point to the cocaine in the cabinet. Andrew's eyes bug out of his head when he sees it.

ANDREW (CONT'D)

Holy shit! How did you find all of that?

AMIR

It was under the bathroom sink! I was looking to see if they had any extra soap and it turns out that they don't. But they do have a lot of other stuff apparently.

JANE

We don't know what to do.

ANDREW

Well, shit. I don't know what to do either.

JANE

Of course you don't. Looks like it's all up to me again! The voice of reason!

AMIR

Maybe we should take it?

JANE

And what good would that do?

Amir can't think of a way to convince Jane to let them take the drugs without revealing their actual plan to Andrew.

AMIR

Let me get back to you on that. But it's still an idea that's worth considering. Like, what actual wrong could come of us taking it?

JANE

I can think of at least seven things off of the top of my head.

ANDREW

Like, that would be stealing. Stealing isn't right, dude.

JANE

Really? That's the one wrong thing that you can find with Amir's request? Is stealing the one moral value that you aren't willing to compromise?

ANDREW

What are you talking about? I haven't compromised any of my moral values!

JANE

You're a fucking drug dealer!

ANDREW

I'm not a drug dealer! Stop calling me that!

AMIR

He's a trafficker! How many times do we have to go over this? Those are two entirely different things!

JANE

How are you going to try to justify taking the drugs?

Amir remembers how he can manipulate Jane's desire to be more empathetic. He knows that taking the drugs would illicit a response from Kevin and the other members of his drug ring and he hopes that they'll somehow be able to film that to make their story even larger.

AMIR

By us having the drugs, that means that less cocaine will be getting sold in the streets, which means that less people will be getting addicted. See? We're doing a public good.

ANDREW

Shit, man. I never thought of it like that.

JANE

We'd also be in the possession of illegal substances.

AMIR

We can destroy them. That's what cops do when they seize drugs, right?

JANE
We're not cops.

AMIR
We're humanitarians. That's better
than cops.

JANE
I'm still seeing holes in this
argument.

AMIR
Yeah, but you agree that us taking
them would prevent them from being
stolen, right?

JANE
I- I guess?

AMIR
So we should take them now and then
find out what to do with them
later.

JANE
Yeah, but... how would we get them
out of the bathroom anyway? We'd
have to sneak them out of here and
I'm not trying to get caught.

AMIR
None of us are trying to get
caught, Jane. It would be stupid if
we were.

ANDREW
I think that I can get the drugs
out. Probably not all of them, but
at least some. I'm just going to
need for you guys to create a
distraction so that no one notices
me.

JANE
I can handle that. Amir, let's go
act like we're putting a curse on
the baby. White people love shit
like that.

AMIR
We can't put a fake curse on a
baby!

JANE

Fine, we can bless it instead. It doesn't matter. Andrew, how much time do you need?

ANDREW

I don't know. Like, ten minutes?

Jane grabs Amir by the arm and drags him out of the bathroom.

AMIR

You aren't really going to make us curse a baby, are you?

JANE

You lack a sense of excitement, so I'm going to say no. Don't worry, though. I know how to make people pay attention to everything but you. We just need to find that baby.

Jane leads Amir from room to room until they find the baby.

JANE (CONT'D)

Oh, how convenient. They're standing in the room closest to the front door.

AMIR

How is that convenient?

JANE

Just let me handle this.

Jane approaches the baby's mother/Kevin's wife with a large grin on her face. It is the kindest that Amir has ever seen Jane look. The baby's mother/Kevin's wife is holding the baby, who is only several months old. Jane speaks to the woman as if they are old friends. Amir awkwardly stands behind Jane.

JANE (CONT'D)

Oh my god, she's so cute!

The baby's mother/Kevin's wife acts like her and Jane are lifelong friends.

BABY'S MOTHER/KEVIN'S WIFE

Aw, you're so sweet!

JANE

Can she do any tricks?

AMIR

Tricks? Jane, it's a baby, not a dog.

The baby's mother's face lights up.

BABY'S MOTHER/KEVIN'S WIFE

She smiles a lot. And I think that she already knows how to read. Like, I know that it sounds stupid because she's literally just a baby, but if you hold a book up to her face then her eyes totally move across the page in a logical manner. It's incredible. You have to see it.

JANE

Oh my god, I'd love too. Wait, I think that everyone else should see it too.

BABY'S MOTHER/KEVIN'S WIFE

Do you think that everyone would want to?

JANE

Of course everyone wants to! Everyone is here to celebrate... your daughter... In the first place!

BABY'S MOTHER/KEVIN'S WIFE

It'd be hard for everyone to see if it did it right now though, you know?

JANE

Do you have it on video? You can play it from the television so that everyone can see it.

BABY'S MOTHER/KEVIN'S WIFE

That's such a great idea! Let me go and set up the television.

She walks away from Jane so that she can play the video on the television.

AMIR

How'd you know how to do that?

JANE

People love talking about their babies. Everyone thinks that their amorphous amoeba of a child is a genius. Anyway, once the video starts, text Andrew and tell him that we're ready.

AMIR

We should set up a group message so that we can all see the messages that we send each other.

JANE

Congratulations, that's the worst idea that you've had yet.

BABY'S MOTHER/KEVIN'S WIFE

Hey, everyone! Come here! I want to show you something that the baby can do!

Amir texts Andrew that it was time for him to leave. Andrew appears on the top of the steps. There's a diaper bag stuffed with bricks of cocaine hanging around his shoulder. Andrew sees Amir and rushes down the stairs to get to him and Jane. The three quickly exit the house and get back into Andrew's car.

AMIR

That was exhilarating. I feel exhilarated? Do you feel exhilarated?

JANE

Oddly enough, I do.

ANDREW

I took their diaper bag. Like, I took one that looked old and seemed like it didn't get used, but I still took it.

JANE

You can bring it back to them at another time.

ANDREW

And I feel kinda bad about not saying goodbye to Kevin.

JANE

He'll be fine. You can shoot him a text later.

(MORE)

JANE (CONT'D)

Right now you need to be more concerned about the small fortune of cocaine that you just stole from a drug dealer's house.

EXT. REYNOLDS HOUSE

Andrew's car pulls up into the driveway.

INT. REYNOLDS HOUSE

The house is empty, but Andrew doesn't want to take any chances by hanging around downstairs where anyone can walk in on them. The three of them run upstairs to Andrew's room.

INT. ANDREW'S ROOM

Andrew, Amir, and Jane enter Andrew's room. Andrew is holding the diaper bag full of coke. He sets the bag on his bed. The three of them stare at it.

AMIR

Maybe this was a bad idea.

JANE

You think?

ANDREW

Okay, but what am I supposed to do with all of this? I can't sell it because I don't want it traced back to me.

AMIR

Um... donate it to charity? Give it to addicts to can't afford their own fix? I don't know; some sort of humanitarian effort.

ANDREW

Can I, like, can I go and give it all back?

JANE

Something tells me that it doesn't work like that.

ANDREW

I should call Kevin and tell him. He'll know what to do.

(MORE)

ANDREW (CONT'D)

I'll say that I made a mistake because I was so passionate about helping out the McKraney High School Young Entrepreneurs Club. Kevin's a business man; he'll appreciate that. Right?

JANE

He's a business man of narcotics. They might not have taught you this in school, but traditionally those people aren't the friendliest to deal with.

ANDREW

It also traditionally used to rain here and it doesn't do that anymore, so I guess that we're going to have to stop doing everything according to tradition!

JANE

That was clever and I respect your comeback, but I'm still going to have to destroy you.

AMIR

Maybe we should just sleep on it, you know? In the morning we'll wake up with a fresh perspective on the situation and we'll find out what to do then.

JANE

Why do I feel like none of us are going to feel any different?

AMIR

You should consider relaxing.

ANDREW

I think that Amir's right. I'm really tired anyway. Do you guys want to come back here in the morning?

AMIR

Sounds good to me.

JANE

It sounds to me like we don't really have a choice.

Andrew ignores her bitter mood and smiles.

ANDREW

Despite all of this, I had a really good time today. Thanks for being around, guys.

AMIR

Aw, anytime, dude.

Jane and Amir look at the diaper bag again. They haven't taken the cocaine out of the bag and neither of them make a move to.

ANDREW

Does anyone want to keep it for the night?

JANE

Hell no.

AMIR

No, I'm good. They're probably better off here. This seems like something you're better equipped for.

ANDREW

Are you sure? It's really not a big deal.

Jane and Amir both shake their heads.

ANDREW (CONT'D)

Alright, I'll see you guys in the morning.

EXT. REYNOLDS HOUSE

Amir and Jane are walking to their cars to go home for the night.

JANE

Do you want me to pick you up tomorrow?

Amir is startled by her nice gesture.

AMIR

What?

JANE

It's stupid for both of us to drive when we end up spending the entire day together anyway.

(MORE)

JANE (CONT'D)

And it's better for the environment if we carpool. Isn't saving the planet your schtick or whatever?

AMIR

What? I don't have a schtick.

JANE

The question wasn't whether or not you had a schtick; it was whether or not recycling your shit was your schtick. And that's all besides the point. Do you want a ride tomorrow morning?

AMIR

Yeah. Sounds good. Do you want me to send your my address?

JANE

Nah. I'll find it.

Jane gets into her car and starts it, driving off.

MORNING

INT. AMIR'S HOUSE

Amir is waiting by the front door for Jane to show up. He originally plans to avoid his sisters in the kitchen, but decides that he wants a cup of orange juice before he leaves.

Amir's sisters ignore him when he walks into the kitchen. Amir has just gotten a glass when Jane is heard loudly honking her car's horn in the front of their house.

SISTER 1

Who is that?

AMIR

Jane Morales. She's the one who's helping me with the video.

SISTER 2

She hasn't quit on you yet?

AMIR

Oh, don't worry. There's still plenty of time.

Amir runs outside and climbs in the passenger seat of Jane's car.

INT. JANE'S CAR

JANE

Nice house.

AMIR

Thanks. The inside is pretty nice too. You should come over for dinner sometime.

JANE

Aren't you vegan or vegetarian or some shit?

AMIR

Yeah? Why?

JANE

That means that I can't eat a meal with you.

AMIR

You'll come around one day. How did you find out where I lived?

JANE

I asked.

AMIR

Who?

JANE

My uncle. Does it matter?

AMIR

I guess not. Did you remember the camera again today?

JANE

Already wearing it.

AMIR

Oh. Cool. Um, Andrew said that we should just walk in when we get here.

JANE

Are we on that level with them yet? Can we just show up at people's houses?

Amir and Jane walk up towards the front door.

INT. REYNOLDS HOUSE

Jane walks in first, followed by Amir. He shuts the door behind him. Susan is sitting in the living room typing on her computer and can be seen from Amir and Janes position in front of the door. Susan does not seem startled by their arrival.

SUSAN

Oh, you're here!

Susan rushes up from her seat to walk over to her guests. She gives both Amir and Jane large hugs. Amir hugs her back while Jane stands there stiffly.

SUSAN (CONT'D)

Good morning, you two! How is everything? I just made cookies! Would you like any?

JANE

What kind are they?

A plate of cookies has somehow materialized in Susan's hands. Amir couldn't tell where they came from or if she'd always been holding them.

SUSAN

Oatmeal raisin. Raisins have been very in season recently. There are always so many of them everywhere. I think it's because of the drought.

JANE

No thank you.

AMIR

I'll have one.

He takes a cookie off of the plate that Susan is holding. He takes a bit of it. It is dry and unpleasant, but he forces himself to swallow it before speaking again.

AMIR (CONT'D)

Is Andrew here? This is where he told us to meet him.

SUSAN

No, he just left in a rush. I think he said something about going to school? It probably has something to do with that little club of his.

AMIR

Oh. We'll go and look for him there then. Thank you!

SUSAN

Not a problem. Would the two of you like some cookies for the road?

Jane and Amir leave the Reynold's house. They get back in Jane's car.

JANE

What kind of white devil makes oatmeal-raisin cookies?

AMIR

Just because people don't like the same things that you do it doesn't make them bad.

JANE

I saw the life leave your eyes when you took that first bite.

AMIR

She was trying her hardest. I'm sure that she didn't mean for the cookie to expand as it absorbs every ounce of saliva in your mouth.

EXT. MCKRANEY HIGH SCHOOL

Jane's car stops in front of McKraney High School. Jane and Amir get out of the car and walk towards the main entrance of the school. There they see Andrew standing on the sidewalk. He is visibly distraught and runs up to Jane and Amir.

ANDREW

Andrea! They took Andrea!

JANE

Who's Andrea?

AMIR

Seriously?

ANDREW

My sister! They took my fucking sister!

Andrew is near hysterics, Amir is nervous, and Jane remains indifferent.

JANE

Oh. Her. Can they bring her back? I think that we needed to film her again. She doesn't really enunciate when she speaks and-

AMIR

They? Who's they?

ANDREW

I don't know? The people who work for Kevin? They know about the drugs! I got this call last night and- fuck, I really fucked up!

JANE

You called him? We told you not to call him!

ANDREW

I didn't call him! He approached me! I wasn't going to do anything to go against our plan, Jane! I'm a team player!

Amir tries to diffuse the situation.

AMIR

Calm down and tell us what happened.

ANDREW

Okay, so it was late and I got this text from Kevin saying that we needed to talk, right?

AMIR

Right.

ANDREW

And I was like 'can we talk tomorrow?' because it was already past my curfew and he was like 'yeah man' and then I was like 'cool' but then I went 'wait, what do you wanna talk about?' And he said 'you know what I want to talk about.'

JANE

Wow. How ambiguous.

ANDREW

And I was like 'yeah, I know' because I didn't want to give anything away in case this was a trap. And he was like 'do you want to meet at ten tomorrow morning?' And I was first like 'yeah!' But then I remembered that I had to do something for Young Entrepreneurs at that time and I told him that I was busy and that he'd have to wait until later.

AMIR

But what about Andrea? How did they take Andrea?

ANDREW

Andrea's cheer practice has to be in the morning because if they do it later in the day then too many of the girls pass out from heatstroke. So her practice

JANE

Wait. So someone mistook your twin sister... who's in a cheerleading uniform... for you?

ANDREW

She was wearing something over it. She's really into that athleisure look now. Everyone looks the same in sweatpants.

JANE

Sweatpants? It's 93 degrees outside.

AMIR

Fashion is fashion, Jane.

Andrew has moved from frantic hysterics to intense despair.

ANDREW

Andrea's totally gonna tell Mom and Dad about this now.

JANE

Get your fucking priorities in check! I've already got this all figured out! We need to call the police!

Andrew is mad again.

ANDREW

We can't do that! Kevin will freak out and do something stupid!

JANE

Oh, something stupid like kidnapping the wrong fucking person? Something stupid like becoming a drug trafficker because you don't know how to look for a god damn job online?

AMIR

Hey, guys, now isn't the time for fighting.

JANE

It's been time for fighting for about eleven years. Now I'm going to call the police, which is something that I should have done a very long time ago.

ANDREW

You can't call the cops! That's against the rules!

Amir agrees with Andrew and doesn't think that Jane should call the cops either. He knows that filming them going to get Andrea themselves would be good for their video.

AMIR

He's right. We can't do that.

JANE

Have any of you ever effectively solved a problem before? Literally ever?

AMIR

Let me talk to you for a second.

Amir pulls Jane to the side, out of earshot from where Andrew is standing nervously.

JANE

Amir. What the hell are you thinking right now. I'm really interested in hearing what you have to say about why I shouldn't call the cops at this very moment.

AMIR

I- wait, really? Are you really interested in what I have to say?

JANE

Seriously? Do you really have no idea how sarcasm works?

Andrew worms his way into their conversation.

JANE (CONT'D)

I'm sorry, could you not see that we were having a private discussion over here?

ANDREW

I have a plan.

JANE

Yeah, I do too.

ANDREW

We're just going to go to Kevin's ourselves. That's the best option that we have.

JANE

You sure about that?

ANDREW

Of course I'm sure! I spent, like, three minutes thinking about it!

AMIR

I agree with him. I think that it's a great idea.

JANE

Of course you do.

ANDREW

So it's settled? We all agree? Can we go now?

Jane is still reluctant to agree. Andrew and Amir are impatiently waiting to leave.

JANE

Just give Amir and I two more minutes, alright? Why don't you go and pull the car around?

Andrew nods and leaves to get his car. Amir and Jane stay standing on the sidewalk.

AMIR

Didn't we all just agree on all of us agreeing? Why are we still here? We should be offering our emotional support to Andrew. Someone just kidnapped his sister thinking it was him. That's traumatizing.

JANE

Shut up. I'm calling the cops.

AMIR

Jane! You promised!

JANE

No, I didn't. And even if I did, promises don't fucking matter when someone gets kidnapped.

Andrew's car pulls up next to them.

AMIR

Jane, come on!

Before Jane can say something rude to Amir, another car rushes up behind Andrew's car, slamming on it's brakes before it can crash into Andrew's. Amir sees the red, angry face of the man inside of the other vehicle.

Jane is startled and lets go of her phone. It falls down into the sewer drain.

JANE

Are you fucking kidding me?

She bends down to try and fish her phone out, but Amir grabs her arm and pulls her towards Andrew's car.

AMIR

Now's really not the time for that.

JANE

Do you know how much it costs to get a new phone? My plan doesn't expire for another year!

AMIR

Scary looking angry man, Jane!
Biggest red flag yet!

INT. ANDREW'S CAR

Jane shoves Amir into the backseat of Andrew's car before getting in next to him. Andrew hits the gas and the car speeds out of the parking lot. The other car follows them closely. Amir turns around in his seat to look at whoever is chasing them.

AMIR

Who is that? Do you know this person?

ANDREW

I don't know! I think that I've seen him at Kevin's a few times? Maybe he's a drug dealer?

JANE

Whoever he is, you really pissed him the fuck off!

The man in the car is now holding something that resembles the gun. He aims it towards the tires of Andrew's car.

AMIR

Holy shit, I think that he's about to shoot us!

JANE

WHAT?

ANDREW

FUCK!

The man in the car fires the first shot. It doesn't hit anything. Everyone in the car screams.

JANE

Drive faster!

ANDREW

He can drive faster too!

JANE

Do something!

ANDREW

He can't shoot this car! My parents will shoot me if he shoots this car!

The two back tires are shot out and Andrew has no choice but to pull over to the side of the road.

The car drives up behind them and stops as well. The driver gets out of the car. He is tall, muscular, and white.

AMIR

I'm so scared that I'm not even scared.

JANE

Why isn't he shooting us? Isn't he supposed to kill us?

Andrew is still screaming and hitting his fists against the steering wheel.

ANDREW

He shot out my fucking tires? Are you fucking insane? I need to go and talk to him!

AMIR

Maybe you shouldn't talk to him like that. He has a gun.

ANDREW

No! This is not okay! First he kidnaps my sister and now he shoots my tires? Do you know how expensive it is to find tires that don't melt around here?

AMIR

Oh. That is a very good point.

The gang member has gotten out of his vehicle and has walked up to Andrew's car. He is a large white man with long hair pulled back into a ponytail. He doesn't seem angry but has a booming voice. His gun is not with him. He knocks on Andrew's window.

GANG MEMBER

Get out of the car!

AMIR

I feel like you should listen to him. We should all listen to him.

JANE

I actually agree with Amir on this one.

Andrew is crying about both his car and his sister. He doesn't get out of the car, but he does roll down the window so that he can talk to the gang member.

GANG MEMBER
Get out of the fucking car!

ANDREW
I can't have a flat! My parents are
gonna kill me!

The gang member is confused by Andrew's reasons for crying.

GANG MEMBER
Your car will be fine.

ANDREW
I'm going to be in so much trouble.
I should just call my parents right
now and tell them.

GANG MEMBER
What? Do you know what I'm here
about?

ANDREW
I mean, I think so?

GANG MEMBER
You stole the bricks.

ANDREW
(to Jane) See? This is what
happens when you steal!
Bad things happen to you
and to those around you.

JANE
Am I really getting lectured right
now?

The gang member is surprised to see Jane and Amir in the car
as well.

GANG MEMBER
Wait, who are these two?

ANDREW
This is J-

JANE
Don't tell him our names, you
fucking dolt!

GANG MEMBER
Who are they?

ANDREW

They're my friends. Why'd you shoot out my tires? That's really not cool, man. My parents bought me this car for my birthday! They told me that I had to take really good care of it because they didn't know if they'd get me another car if I messed this one up.

AMIR

Wait, are you here to kill us?

GANG MEMBER

No, these are just rubber bullets. I don't kill people. I've got values, man. Killing people is wrong.

JANE

Right, so everyone here is suddenly just *so* holy.

GANG MEMBER

Morality is important to me. I'm not willing to give that up just because of my line of work. But the people who you're about to meet, I can't say the same about them. They might actually hurt you.

ANDREW

Only a 'might?'

AMIR

Can you give us a statistic maybe? Like, what are our odds of getting hurt by them?

GANG MEMBER

I'd say that it's about fifty-fifty. Depending on how they feel that day and what you did.

ANDREW

Have they killed people before?

GANG MEMBER

Not much at this level, but the heat can make people do crazy things. I'm freelance, you know? I'm just leased out for this kind of thing- like the car chases and stuff.

(MORE)

GANG MEMBER (CONT'D)

I don't know much about the actual business of the drug rings. I heard that Kevin's a nice guy, but he has to report to someone higher up to him and they give him the orders. I think that's what happened here. He didn't seem to happy when he made the call to hire me today.

AMIR

That was remarkably kind but also not reassuring in the slightest.

GANG MEMBER

It's all business, you know?

He checks his watch.

GANG MEMBER (CONT'D)

Ugh, we've gotta start moving again. Kid, I'm going to need you to get out of the car and come with me.

ANDREW

What about Jane and Amir? What about my car?

GANG MEMBER

You can leave them the keys? I don't know; we've got to hurry up. They send someone else if I don't make it back on time and that's how blood is shed.

ANDREW

I'm coming!

Andrew quickly unbuckles his seatbelt. He takes the keys out of the ignition and tosses them to Amir.

ANDREW (CONT'D)

Keep these safe.

JANE

You want something to be kept safe and you're leaving it with him?

AMIR

Of course I'll keep them safe.

ANDREW

You're like the brother that I never had.

AMIR

Hey, you're like the brother that I've never had!

GANG MEMBER

Again, this is nice and all, but we're working against the clock.

ANDREW

Sorry. I'll be back, guys. Or I think that I will. I have high faith. Kevin's a nice and understanding guy, I'm sure that we can work things out smoothly. And I bet that Andrea's right as well!

JANE

You're a little too optimistic for someone who's life has just gone to shit.

AMIR

By Andrew! Good luck!

ANDREW

Thanks! You too!

He begins to walk towards the drug dealer's car but stop short.

ANDREW (CONT'D)

Wait, what's going to happen to my friends?

GANG MEMBER

Someone's coming for them as well.

AMIR

Who?

GANG MEMBER

I don't know. I didn't receive that information. I just know that I'm not supposed to be here when they arrive. That's considered meddling and I'd get in trouble for that.

JANE

Is someone coming to get us so that they can kill us?

GANG MEMBER

I don't know. I've probably already said too much, but for what it's worth, don't try to run away. They'll find you and they'll be even angrier.

JANE

What-

GANG MEMBER

I can't say anything else, I'm sorry. Come on, kid, we've gotta get out of here fast.

Andrew gets into the passenger side of the drug dealer's car before the car speeds away. Jane immediately leaps into action.

JANE

Do you still have your phone? We need to call someone.

Amir pulls his phone out of his pocket.

AMIR

I don't have a signal. And you heard what he said- we're not supposed to try anything. Pretty sure that making a call is considered 'trying something.'

JANE

Oh, so we're just supposed to sit here and get kidnapped?

AMIR

No. I mean, yes, that's probably the safest thing for us to do, but I guess that we could try driving away. They might not find us that way.

JANE

Really, Amir? Where are we going to go? Where are we going to hide? We're in the middle of a fucking desert! Do you have any idea what we're supposed to do now?

AMIR

Okay, you know how lizards have those tunnels-

JANE

You are the biggest fucking moron that I have ever met. I hate you. I hate you so much. I swear to God that I have never and will never hate another person more than I hate you.

AMIR

Why'd you even ask me if you were just going to yell at me no matter what I said? Why do you always do that? It's like you just want to set up your own punchlines!

JANE

Oh, so now you want to be more observant about my comments than you have about any other fucking thing in your entire life?

AMIR

I'm observant about everything that goes on in my life! You don't- hey, wait, are you still wearing the camera?

JANE

Yes, because I haven't had the time to take my shirt off.

AMIR

Dude, think about all of the footage that we've already gotten!

JANE

Fuck the footage! The footage won't matter if we're dead!

AMIR

Yes it will. We'll be, like, immortalized via film.

Another car pulls up behind Andrew's car, which Jane and Amir are still sitting in. A TEENAGE BOY, who's around sixteen and very skinny, gets out of the car and walks up to Jane and Amir.

TEENAGE BOY

Are you the ones that were in the car with Andrew?

JANE

No.

TEENAGE BOY

Wait, no, I have a picture.

He squints down at his phone.

TEENAGE BOY (CONT'D)

Yep, that's definitely you two.
I'm going to need you guys to come
with me.

JANE

Amir, we could totally take this
guy in a fight.

TEENAGE BOY

I have a gun.

AMIR

We shouldn't risk it.

Jane and Amir follow the teenage boy into his car. They both
get into the backseat.

TEENAGE BOY

Hey, I'm going to need for you guys
to put these over your heads.

The teenage boy hands them two burlap sacks.

TEENAGE BOY (CONT'D)

It's for security purposes. You're
not supposed to know where we're
going.

JANE

I still think that we could take
him.

TEENAGE BOY

I was told to shoot to kill.

JANE

Alright then.

Jane and Amir put the sacks over their heads. They can't see
anything. They drive for a while and then stop. The teenager
helps them get out of the car and then stands in the middle
of them, holding one of their hands each, so that he can lead
them inside of the secret location.

INT. UNDERGROUND BUNKER

The teenage leads them inside a building and then down a flight of stairs before leaving them. Jane and Amir are left in the room with another drug dealer.

DRUG DEALER

You can take the bags off now.

Jane and Amir take the bags off of their heads and look around. They're in a dark room. It's oddly cool for how they are in the middle of the desert. There are no windows. They are in the basement of a remote desert drug house.

AMIR

Where are we?

DRUG DEALER

Underground bunker. You know, like how lizards-

JANE

Please just kill me now.

DRUG DEALER

That's not my job. They're still deciding what's going to happen to you.

AMIR

Oh, so it's like a democracy? And you guys all vote to decide?

JANE

Can you excuse us for a second?

Jane grabs Amir and pulls him back into the corner of the room.

JANE (CONT'D)

Can you stop trying to get all buddy-buddy with literally everyone that we meet? These people aren't our friends. They want to kill us. In fact, they are probably going to kill us if we don't figure out a way to get out of here soon.

AMIR

The nicer we are to people; the more inclined they may be to help us.

JANE

That may be true when you're talking to the ice cream man or the person who delivers your organic, gluten-free strawberries to you, but that's not true about these guys.

AMIR

That doesn't make any sense.

JANE

What doesn't make any sense? They're part of a drug cartel!

AMIR

No, what you said about the strawberries. A strawberry is a fruit and fruits are already naturally gluten-free, so calling it a gluten-free strawberry would just be redundant.

The Drug Dealer laughs from the opposite side of the room.

JANE

Are you... are you being serious?

AMIR

Yes, I'm being serious. You correct me about things all of the time. I'm not going to let you be wrong about something that I know isn't true. That would make me a bad friend.

JANE

Okay, can we just all agree that I should just die right now? Are they going to take volunteers? Can I go first?

The drug dealer looks at his watch.

DRUG DEALER

They should be ready for you upstairs now. Follow me.

The drug dealer leads them up the flight of stairs.

INT. DESERT DRUG HOUSE KITCHEN

Kevin is in the kitchen of the desert drug house. He is sitting on one side of a long table. There are various other drug dealers and gang members standing behind him.

Amir and Jane enter the kitchen and are instructed to sit down at the two chairs sitting opposite of Kevin.

Kevin is surprised to see Amir and Jane.

KEVIN

These two? Really? These are the spies?

AMIR

Spies?

GANG MEMBER

Do you know these guys?

KEVIN

Yeah. They were at my daughter's Christening. He helped make the vegetable dip. They can't be the spies!

GANG MEMBER

You had a Christening? Why wasn't I invited?

KEVIN

I wanted to keep it small. It was a familial thing. I'm not even sure how much my in-laws like me yet and it's been almost three years.

AMIR

Did the dip work?

KEVIN

It was a big hit. The mother-in-law asked for the recipe. I think that she's finally coming around to me.

AMIR

Congratulations!

GANG MEMBER

Wait, so he was at the 'familial' party but not me?

KEVIN

He wasn't invited. He came with Andrew.

GANG MEMBER

So Andrew was invited?

KEVIN

No! Andrew was bringing me the vegetables so that I could make the dip!

GANG MEMBER

Why didn't you ask me to bring you vegetables? I thought that I was your right-hand man. You always used to come to me for this kind of stuff. Now you're going to some high schooler and his Top Chef friends.

JANE

Hey, man, I played just as little of a role in this whole dip thing as you did.

KEVIN

It's not about the dip right now!

GANG MEMBER

But can we talk about this later? I feel like we've been growing apart recently. I know that the heat makes it hard to be social sometimes, but you're really one of my best friends.

KEVIN

What? I mean, yes, we can talk about the Christening later. But that's not what we're here for right now. Andrew told me about the drugs.

AMIR

He did?

JANE

(under her breath) Snitch.

KEVIN

Yeah. He's a little humanitarian, that one.

(MORE)

KEVIN (CONT'D)

He said that he found the coke in the bathroom and that he was worried about someone finding it at the party. He put it in his backpack for safekeeping and planned on returning it later. Very kind of him; very nice kid. I appreciated him saving my ass like that. That's what happens when you wait last minute to clean your house. Shit just gets thrown in places.

Amir and Jane look at each other. They are surprised that Andrew could pull together such an elaborate lie.

JANE

Wow. Andrew is so... honest.

AMIR

He really is a great guy.

JANE

Yeah, and we're really glad that you are so understanding as well. We'd hate to see for anything bad to happen to Andrew. So is everything good now?

KEVIN

Everything is good between me and Andrew. Between me and you two, not so much.

AMIR

Then why'd you kidnap Andrea? And Andrew? Where are they? Are they okay?

KEVIN

They're safe and sound. Don't worry about them. I just needed to make sure that the two of you would come here. You're the only people who are stupid enough to not try and escape when someone tells you to escape.

AMIR

(to Jane) I told you.

JANE

Shut up. And we're not spies. Why would you think that we're spies?

KEVIN

You were there when Andrew took the bricks. So I know that you know about what's going on here. But you also haven't told the police yet, which means that you two are in it for some sort of personal gain.

JANE

That'd be selfish and I'm a team player.

Jane tries to make herself look as friendly and likeable as possible.

KEVIN

... Right, sure.

AMIR

We haven't told anyone anything. We aren't trying to get involved with anything over our heads. Which this would definitely be.

KEVIN

That sounds like something that a spy would say.

JANE

Why don't you just call Andrew? He can tell you that we're straight. You trust what he says, don't you?

KEVIN

Andrew is naive. He can be easily taken advantage of. I know that because I am taking advantage of him. Do you think that a kid like that should be involved in the drug trade? And since I know that I'm taking advantage of Andrew, that means that it's not entirely out of reason to assume that the two of you are using him for something as well. I just don't know what it is.

AMIR

Friendship. We are using him for friendship. You can never have too many friends.

KEVIN

I want to trust you, but I can't. It's all business.

AMIR

I understand. My father runs Abdul International.

KEVIN

Really? I thought that he just had two daughters. Anyway, I think that the best way to go about this is for us to search you. Make sure that you're not undercovers, check to see if you have any wires. That sounds fair, right? And if you're clean, then the two of you have nothing to worry about and I never want for our paths to cross again.

Amir remembers how Jane is still wearing the hidden camera. He doesn't know that the camera has come undone from Jane's shirt and will fall out if she moves around. Yet again, Amir uses the fact that most of the people in the room have strong moral values to his advantage.

AMIR

That's, uh, that's a little invasive. We're pretty conservative and that could go against our moral grounds.

JANE

Yeah, is there anything more private that we could do instead? Can't you just trust us? I'm not getting naked in front of all of you; I'm the only girl in here.

AMIR

What if we just stand up and shake our clothing out?

JANE

Let's not get carried away with ideas now.

KEVIN

No, no, I think that this could work.

AMIR

I'll go first!

He stands up and shakes out his shirt and shorts.

AMIR (CONT'D)

See? Nothing's moving. You could dump water on me and it'd all be okay.

KEVIN

Do you know how much we'd get fined for wasting water like that? Alright, it's your turn.

JANE

Are you sure?

KEVIN

Yes?

Jane stands up and the button camera falls to the ground. Jane closes her eyes and Amir curses himself for not thinking about the camera not still being in place.

KEVIN (CONT'D)

What is that?

Jane and Amir look at each other nervously.

JANE

It's... a catheter.

Everyone in the room looks disgusted. Amir believes Jane as well.

JANE (CONT'D)

Why is everyone looking at me like that? You're the ones that asked?

AMIR

Why didn't you tell me that you had a medical condition?

JANE

Why would I ever want to talk to anyone- especially you- about a catheter?

MAN IN ROOM

I thought that catheters were clear.

JANE

They are when they're clean.

Another disgusted groan. Amir realizes that Jane is playing the men in the room.

MAN 2

Are you sure that catheters look like that? What condition do you have?

AMIR

Hey, dude, be respectful. If Jane won't even talk about this with me- and I've known her for way longer than any of you guys have- then it means that it's something that she's not comfortable sharing with a lot of other people.

JANE

Wow. Thank you, Amir.

AMIR

You're welcome. We should all be congratulating Jane for being so brave.

MAN IN ROOM

I always thought it was wild how much the female body had to go through.

JANE

Now, can a lady be excused to have some privacy so that she can put her catheter back into place?

KEVIN

Oh, yeah, sure. Moberly, show her where the bathroom is.

JANE

Amir has to come with me.

AMIR

Excuse me?

KEVIN

Why?

JANE

Because, as embarrassing as this is to admit, but sometimes I need a little help when it comes to putting it back in.

AMIR

I don't know if I want to help you with that.

JANE

Don't be a little bitch.

AMIR

Hey, you're the one that said that this was a personal thing. Maybe you should bring someone else with you.

JANE

Who else am I supposed to bring?

AMIR

I don't know; we're in a room full of other people.

JANE

Yeah, you want for me to bring a random man with me? Because that's just so comforting. I'm in pain and you're supposed to be my friend!

AMIR

I- wait, you think of us as friends?

JANE

Well, I have to think of you as something.

AMIR

Well, in that case, I'd be honored to go and help you.

KEVIN

Are you two ready now? Moberly, please escort these two to the restroom.

MOBERLY

Right this way.

Moberly leads Jane and Amir outside of the building. They have to walk a couple hundred feet away from the actual house to the clay shed that is the bathroom. The sun is setting. Amir is surprised to see that there are several trees around. The trees are dead, but they are still standing tall. Jane notices the bottles of gasoline that are in front of the bathroom.

AMIR

Where are we going? Why are we going outside.

MOBERLY

The bathroom was built before the actual house. Strange set up, I know, but it beats having to pee in the sand.

AMIR

That's a fun bit of trivia.

MOBERLY

Yeah. I'm going to wait inside of the main house. It's too hot out here and I'm not a fan of the animals in the ground in the desert. You guys can find your way back, right?

They close the door behind them.

INT. OUTHOUSE

AMIR

How much time do you think that we have? And good job with that catheter thing.

JANE

I can't say that it's my finest work, but I work with what I've been given. And we don't have a lot of time. We'll have to think of something quickly.

AMIR

Do you think that they're going to figure out that it's a camera?

JANE

The goal is for us to not be here when they do. Do you have any ideas as to how we should get out of here?

AMIR

Wait, are you really asking me for ideas?

JANE

You're right; I'm better off thinking of something on my own. I knew that I should have called the cops when I had the chance to.

AMIR

You're too hard on yourself.

JANE

Our goal right now is to attract as much attention to us as possible. We need to make sure that people can get to us and Andrew and, uh, whatever his sister's name is. We need something that'll make the people inside run away, not stay and fight.

AMIR

Do you want for me to brainstorm ideas with you?

JANE

No. I've already got something. You know all of those bottles of gasoline that were in front of this bathroom?

AMIR

No, actually, I didn't see those at all. Are there really some out there?

JANE

Oh my god. Yes, there are. At least four big bottles.

AMIR

Oh.

JANE

And I know that I'm going out on a limb here because you have the memory of a windup toy, but do you remember what my uncle said about people coming to fires?

AMIR

Yeah. How they show up so quickly so that they can take those prize-winning pictures.

JANE

We need to start a fire. People will come to take pictures and find us that way. People can see it from the sky and they have to make sure that there isn't anyone stuck in the flames.

(MORE)

JANE (CONT'D)

Starting a fire is illegal, and starting a fire during a drought is extra illegal, so everyone inside is going to leave so that they don't have to take responsibility for this.

AMIR

I'm pretty sure that there are holes in your plan, but I don't want to waste any time trying to find out what those holes are. Let's do it.

Amir makes a move to leave the bathroom.

AMIR (CONT'D)

How are we going to light it?

JANE

I have a book of matches. I stole it when we were in that car with that kid. We should have made a run for it. I know that we could have taken him.

AMIR

Wait, wait, so you want for us to light this place on fire?

JANE

Trust me, Amir, you've had worse ideas than this one.

EXT. DESERT

The sun has completely set now. Amir and Jane move quickly, dumping the gasoline around the outhouse.

Amir accidentally squirts the gasoline on himself.

AMIR

Fuck!

JANE

Remember how you pissed yourself when we first met?

AMIR

I didn't piss myself. It was orange juice.

JANE

And you expect for me to start believing that now? After all of this time? When you could have just made up an excuse days ago? How long did it take for you to think of that one?

AMIR

What? I'm telling the truth?

JANE

It doesn't take someone that long to start telling the truth. Do you know how long I've been berating you for? How much material I've gone through? How many times I've brought that up in conversation just so that I could make fun of you for it in the end?

AMIR

Why don't you believe me?

JANE

Does it really matter if I believe you or not?

AMIR

Okay, well, now we need to make sure that this fire gets nowhere near my crotch.

JANE

Haha. Firecrotch.

AMIR

It's really not funny.

JANE

It really is.

Their lighthearted moment is ruined when Moberly comes back outside to check on them.

MOBERLY

(to himself)

What's that smell?

AMIR

Shit! Jane! He's here! Are we ready!

JANE

We don't really have a choice.

She pulls a match out of the matchbook and strikes it.

AMIR

Wait, try not to light him on fire.
He seems nice.

JANE

Shut up, Amir.

Jane throws the match on the ground. Everything immediately bursts into flames. Jane and Amir jump back in surprise. Startled, Moberly runs back inside, yelling.

Jane and Amir watch as the fire grows. They realize that the fire has completely surrounded them, caging them in. There is no way for them to escape because they'd created a literal ring of fire.

AMIR

I think that we may have made a mistake.

JANE

We poured the gasoline in a fucking circle. This is a goddam ring of fucking fire.

AMIR

This is not good.

JANE

How did this happen? How did I not think this through? Why didn't I think of a pattern for us to pour this so that we wouldn't be trapped in the middle of it?

AMIR

Don't be so hard on yourself. There's a lot going on right now; gasoline pouring patterns really couldn't have been the only thing that was on your mind.

JANE

I'm an idiot.

AMIR

No. It was a great idea. Plus now we're unreachable.

(MORE)

AMIR (CONT'D)

No one can come and try and kill us now because we're... essentially... killing ourselves.

JANE

Oh my god. I'm the stupidest person ever.

AMIR

You're not the stupidest person ever. You're not stupid at all. You're the only one that's come up with ideas that have gotten us out trouble. Me and Andrew's ideas really just only made everything a little bit worse. Someone's going to see us. Someone is going to come and save us. Our plan is going to work. All of our other plans have worked so far; there's no reason that this one shouldn't as well.

Fire continues to burn. Jane sinks to the ground. Amir sits down next to her.

AMIR (CONT'D)

I never meant for any of this to get so out of hand. This whole video thing. I never meant for it to turn out like this. I just wanted for my family to be proud of me. Maybe not even for them to be proud of me. I think that I just want to be acknowledged, you know? Just have them pay attention to me every once in a while. I think that I'm okay with them thinking less of me because that at least means that they're thinking about me. I just want for them to talk to me. Ask me about what I'm doing instead of it always being the other way around.

JANE

Well, they're definitely going to be talking about you if we don't make it out of here.

AMIR

What about you? What do you need to get off of your chest?

JANE

Nothing?

AMIR

What?

JANE

Nothing. There is nothing that I want to say right now.

AMIR

What? Why? We're supposed to be having a moment!

JANE

No, you are having a moment. I was just listening to you because you're the only thing that I can hear during what could potentially be the last few moments of my life.

AMIR

You've never thought about what you want your last words to be?

JANE

No, but if I did, I'm pretty sure that my last words would be—
Andrew?

AMIR

Andrew? Is that, like, a saint or something?

JANE

No. Well, yes, but not in this context. I think that I see Andrew!

AMIR

Are you hallucinating? Is the lack of oxygen finally getting to you?

JANE

Shut up! Look! It's Andrew!

Jane is pointing to a section of the fire where the flames are the shortest. Andrew and Kevin are putting bags of sand and kitty litter over the tinier flames in an attempt to get Amir and Jane out of the ring of fire. It takes another minute, but Andrew and Kevin manage to kill some of the flames down enough so that they can be stepped over.

ANDREW

Come on! Come here! Quick!

Jane and Amir quickly rush over the cleared spot. Amir hugs Andrew. Andrew hugs Jane, who hugs him back. The four move away from the fire.

JANE

Oh my god, you saved us.

ANDREW

I know! Wasn't it wild?

JANE

I never thought that you would be the one to save us.

AMIR

You came back for us? Where even were you? Why is Kevin still here?

JANE

What happened?

ANDREW

I got Kevin to see the light! And Kevin got me to see the light! We needed to right our wrongs!

KEVIN

I had an epiphany.

AMIR

Really? When?

KEVIN

Right after I decided that I was going to have to kill you, I thought about the vegetable dish that you made for me. You didn't have to do that. You didn't even know me. I knew that I needed to kill you because of business protocol, but I also knew that this was my chance to make it out of the business. I have enough money to pay for the drugs that you guys stole. I have a daughter now. And a wife. And I do things like have parties for Christenings. I can't just have bricks of cocaine laying around. This was God's way of telling me that this was my time to grow up.

AMIR

Wow. I'm really proud of you, man.
That's a big decision to make.

JANE

Yeah, congratulations on going from
drug dealer to self-actualized over
the course of several hours.

KEVIN

I know. I finally saw the light.

ANDREW

And his friends all left him
behind.

KEVIN

Yeah, they all left me behind. They
all split the second that they saw
the flames. No one asked if anyone
needed a ride or wanted to make
sure that the two of you were okay
out back. I can't be a part of an
organization where people don't
care about each other.

ANDREW

Kev even said that he'd give me
enough money so that the McKraney
High School Young Entrepreneurs
Club would go over the goal! Think
of all of the teachers that are
going to be able to go teach in
prisons now!

JANE

This is all tying together a little
too nicely.

AMIR

We almost burned to death. This is
the right amount of nice.

ANDREW

And then Andrea found a working
phone in the house and went and
called 911. Well, no, she called
our parents first and said that
we'd be missing curfew, then she
uploaded a picture of the fire to
three social media sites, and then
she called 911. But people should
be on their way now.

JANE
Wait, who's Andrea?

ANDREW
My twin sister?

JANE
Oh, yeah, her. Right.

ANDREW
She called a couple minutes ago and wanted to leave right away, but we wouldn't let her. Kevin and I weren't just going to leave when there was still a chance that the two of you were alive. I learned in Boy Scouts a long time ago that you can sometimes use dirt to put out a campfire, and this is kind of just like a really big campfire, you know?

JANE
No.

AMIR
Wait, so you've been here the entire time? You and Andrea? You were in that house with us?

ANDREW
Yeah. We were upstairs watching a movie. No one harmed us. No one really even talked to us. It's a nice house; you should check out the rest of it sometime.

The house goes up in flames behind them.

EXT. DESERT, NIGHT

The emergency crews have arrived and are putting out the flames. For some reason, Susan Reynolds and her husband have shown up at the site. Jane and Amir watch Andrew and Andrea embrace their parents.

JANE
Can you believe that? How calm they are? My parents would have sent me straight back to the old country if they found out that I was trafficking drugs.

AMIR

I don't think they know about the trafficking. I don't know if they'll ever know about the trafficking.

JANE

Do you wish that your parents were here right now? So that they could see how we got ourselves into this mess and then got ourselves out of it as well? I think that they'd want to talk about that one.

AMIR

Maybe this is the one thing that I don't want for them to pay too much attention to.

A police officer comes up to Jane and Amir as they are standing and talking.

POLICE OFFICER

Excuse me, are you two witnesses?

Jane and Amir look down at their slightly charred clothing. Both of them smell like gasoline. They still decide to lie to the officer.

JANE

We're the ones who first noticed the fire.

AMIR

Yeah, we even tried to put it out.

POLICE OFFICER

And that's your only involvement here?

AMIR

I mean... yeah?

JANE

Yeah, why? Is somebody saying something else?

AMIR

Was it someone named Kevin?

JANE

Yeah, where'd Kevin go?

POLICE OFFICER

I'm going to need for you two to come with me back to the station. We're going to have to ask you some questions regarding tonight.

INT. POLICE CAR

Jane and Amir are sitting in the backseat of a police car. Neither of them are handcuffed and they can't tell how much trouble they're in. Regardless, both of them are very relaxed. They watch the fireman dump flame retardant on the flames because their trucks have run out of water.

JANE

Hey. Not to, like, have a moment or anything, but...

AMIR

But what?

JANE

I'm glad that... this happened... with you.

AMIR

Really?

JANE

I don't know. I'm not exactly happy that any of this happened, but I'm satisfied that it was you that I had to have this experience with.

Jane both looks and sounds sincere and Amir is genuinely touched. Amir clears his throat.

AMIR

I just wanted to say-

JANE

Nope, stop right there.

AMIR

What? Why?

JANE

The moment's over. Anything else would just make it weird.

AMIR

You've gotta stop making these rules up as you go. It's really unfair to me.

JANE

Eh, you've been going along just fine.

AMIR

But we're cool?

JANE

We're as close to cool as we can get.

MORNING

INT. AMIR'S ROOM

Amir wakes up in his bed. It feels like any other day. He thinks about the events from the night before but can't decide whether or not it was all a dream.

AMIR

Did it happen?

He sniffs his shirt. It smells like fire.

AMIR (CONT'D)

It happened.

He gets out of his bed.

INT. AMIR'S KITCHEN

Amir is startled to see his entire family sitting in the kitchen. Even his father is there. They all smile at him as they continue eating, reading the paper, etc. Amir hadn't told them anything that had happened the night before. He has not checked the news or any social media platforms. He doesn't know if they know anything.

ALI

Good morning!

Amir is shocked.

AMIR

H-hi?

SISTER 1
Morning, Amir.

SISTER 2
Hey, Amir.

MOTHER
Good morning, dear.

Amir's mother kisses him on the cheek.

ALI
We heard about how you saved the town last night.

AMIR
You heard about that? And, uh, 'saved' might not be the right word.

ALI
It's all over the news about how you and your friends stopped a crime syndicate.

AMIR
It is?

ALI
You'll have to tell me all about it. I had no idea that any of this was ever happening. I guess that I've been so caught up in myself that I haven't had the time to catch up on the lives of my children.

SISTER 1
We haven't done anything. It's really just Amir.

Amir is both flattered and embarrassed by the sudden barrage of attention that he is getting.

AMIR
It's really not a big deal.

MOTHER
Amir, it's a very big deal. And we'd love to hear all about it.

SISTER 1
Please don't do anything today.

SISTER 2

Oh my god, please don't do anything today.

SISTER 1

Do you want to, like, do something with us?

SISTER 2

Yeah, you can tell us about that video that you made. You're the first Abdul to ever cause a breaking news update.

SISTER 1

Yeah, hang out with us.

Amir is stunned by his sisters practically begging him to hang out with him.

AMIR

Are you... is this a joke?

SISTER 1

No, it's not a joke. We don't want for you to go out there and almost burn to death again. That'd be tragic.

SISTER 2

So tragic.

SISTER 1

We're your sisters; we're supposed to be ridiculously protective over you. And we're proud that you managed to put out a forest fire and stop a drug cartel or whatever it was that you did, but we don't want for you to get hurt.

SISTER 2

Yeah, so hang out with us.

SISTER 1

Spend time with us.

AMIR

I, uh, maybe later? I have somewhere that I have to be first.

EXT. BOULDER CITY DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM BUILDING

Amir parks in the spot directly next to Jane's car. She is waiting for him in front of the building.

AMIR

My entire family wanted to talk to me this morning.

JANE

Is that the first time that that's ever happened?

She sounds sincere with her question.

AMIR

Yeah. I think so. Probably.

JANE

Then congratulations.

She means it.

AMIR

What about you? Did you have to face your uncle last night?

JANE

No, I stayed with a friend. She thought that I killed someone when I showed up at her house. This'll be my first time seeing him. I didn't want for him to yell at me without you next to me.

AMIR

Do you think that he's going to be mad?

JANE

Who cares? What's the worst that he can do? We've already practically burned to death.

INT. MR. FINN'S OFFICE

Amir and Jane sit nervously in front of Mr. Finn's desk. Mr. Finn has added three new volcano posters to the wall behind him and there is a travel brochure sitting on his desk. Mr. Finn is fidgety, but he doesn't seem angry.

AMIR

So...

JANE

Yeah...

AMIR

Sorry about the video. No one's ever going to want to move here now.

JANE

No one wanted to live here anyway, but now they're all probably going to leave.

Amir sets a small flashdrive down on Mr. Finn's desk.

AMIR

I tried to put together a little something for the video. There's not much because the police confiscated the majority of the footage, but what we have could be potentially usable.

JANE

The background music is phenomenal.

AMIR

Yeah, Jane and I spent a lot of time looking for the perfect background music.

JANE

We really just wanted to say how sorry we are that all of this happened. Because it was our fault. Basically all of it.

AMIR

Yeah. We kind of destroyed Boulder. I don't know how we'll ever recover from that.

JANE

We're avoiding jail time because we were so willing to rat everyone out and be used as witnesses, so we're getting something good out of this, but everyone else is kind of fucked.

AMIR

We're willing to do whatever we can to make it up for you.

(MORE)

AMIR (CONT'D)

We'll make a new video. Or we'll promise to never make videos again.

MR. FINN

Have neither of you looked at the news?

AMIR

I've been too afraid too. I don't really want to know what people think of us now.

MR. FINN

So you haven't heard the news? The news about how the sand saved the town?

AMIR

I don't know what you're talking about.

JANE

This is like being clickbaited but in person.

MR. FINN

The fire somehow managed to melt the sand into an interesting glassy pattern. Local artists are already offering insanely large amounts of money so that they can score some to make their giant sculptures for Burning Man. We've struck gold in this flaming anus of a town! We've already made enough money for me to afford my trip to Tuvalu!

AMIR

Wow, uh, congratulations.

JANE

Okay, but I'm still almost entirely sure that that's not how glass is made.

MR. FINN

Jane, my sweet girl, it doesn't matter. By doing everything wrong, the two of you have somehow done something right.

JANE

You're only a hero if you die at the end.

AMIR

We came pretty close to death
though, right.

JANE

Eh.

A secretary knocks on the door to Mr. Finn's office and opens it before anyone can acknowledge them. They stick their head into the office.

SECRETARY

Mr. Finn, there's a call for you.
They say that it's urgent. They say
that they're willing to double
their offer on their first bid for
a large delivery of the sand glass.

MR. FINN

Oh, thank you. Tell them that I'll
be right there.

The secretary nods and closes the door to the office.

MR. FINN (CONT'D)

I'm sorry. But you heard: it's a
glass emergency. Why don't the two
of you wait here for a few minutes
and then I'll come back and wrap
this up with you.

Mr. Finn doesn't wait for their responses and instead immediately exits the room.

JANE

Can you believe that we fucked up
so badly that we somehow ended
saving the economy of Boulder City,
Nevada?

AMIR

Isn't glass another name for meth?

JANE

Oh, fuck, no, not again!

AMIR

You still have the hidden camera,
don't you? We're already ready to
go!

JANE

Please just stop now.

AMIR

Just think about it. Picture me and
you and an Academy Award...

THE END