NOBODY KNOWS ABOUT SEX

by Perie Wolford

FADE IN:

INT. ELEVATORS HALL, GRAND HOTEL - DAY (YEAR 1957)

The sun-lit hall. Well-decorated. Well-kept. Suggestive of the five-star deluxe class.

Waiting before the elevator doors is her, MARY ELISABETH JOHNS. Young and beautiful. Barely sixteen. Her goldish hair locks are falling down the neck, disobedient. Pinkish blouse is matching a pinkish poodle skirt. Stripy beach bag - the fashion of the time.

She gets in as an empty elevator arrives.

INT. ELEVATOR - SAME

Mary presses the seventh floor button and the elevator starts up.

Playful expression on her face, lively eyes. Anticipation of something much more pleasant then just getting to the right floor.

MARY (V.O.)

My name is Mary Elisabeth, Mary Elisabeth Johns. I'm sixteen. I Live in Boston, Massachusetts. We come here every summer. The Cape Cod Bay. Me and my friends... My gang.

A semi-smile.

MARY (V.O.)

The year is 1957. A time of transistor radios, flat top hair-cuts, hot rod songs, hot rods, Bosco chocolate milk, poodle skirts, saddle shoes... Yes, a wonderful time.

The elevator stops. The doors open. Mary goes out.

INT. HALLWAY - SAME

Mary heads down the hallway.

MARY (V.O.)

Me, I was always a curious girl. Ever since I was little. (MORE) MARY (V.O.) (cont'd) Annoying everyone with questions. Anyone. Million things that I wanted to know. Innocent things at first. I am sixteen now.

A smile.

MARY

Now, it's all about sex. I want to know everything. I just have to.

She turns the corner.

INT. ANOTHER HALLWAY - SAME

A group of teenagers. All about sixteen. JAKE PRESTON, ANN AND JOANNE STEVENSON, ADAM HUNT, STEVEN BRIGHT. Sneaking down the empty hallway. Stop before one of the doors.

Jake opens the door with the key. Welcomes everyone into the suite.

INT. HALLWAY - SAME

Mary is striding down the lengthy hallway.

MARY (V.O.)

Always fascinated with the subject. Always wanted to know more. Eventually I realized it then... It was time to stop reading about it and... Now it was time to practice.

INT. ONE OF THE SUITES - SAME

Guys make themselves comfortable.

MARY (V.O.)

The biggest asset I had, my friends. We've been always together. Since the kindergarten, I guess. Especially with Adam and Steve. We have no secrets. Anything is open for discussion.

Jake appears more comfortable and relaxed than others. He's not a guest here. He takes some liquor from the mini-bar. Makes himself a drink. Well-built. Well-dressed. Not one of the poor kids for sure.

MARY (V.O.)

Jake is the reason we're here. His father owns the place. The hotels chain. A very busy man. I've seen him once. I wasn't impressed. Two sons. Jake and his younger brother. Jake's mother doesn't particularly care, about anything. I think she has a drinking problem.

Steven is hanging next to Adam, his best friend, but sure is glancing over at Jake, every now and again. Jake is a very handsome young man.

MARY (V.O.)

Adam and Steve. Always together. Even their parents were friends. They're not now. Steven's parents are now divorced. He's spending most of his time at Adam's.

Joanne and Ann are twins but don't look much alike. Joanne is blond. Ann, dark-brown. Ann is sitting on the couch, Joanne is braiding her hair, just for fun.

MARY (V.O.)

The twins. They both are very beautiful, not much alike though. Ann is an intelligent type, mostly, and Joanne... She likes to have fun.

INT. HALLWAY - SAME

Mary stops before the door. Puts her ear to it. Listens.

MARY (V.O.)

I, myself... I think I'm cute. Smart. I have the best family in the world. It's hard for them to handle me sometimes. Yeah...

Yes, that is the right suite. She opens the door and goes in.

INT. SUITE - SAME

Everybody greets Mary as she comes in. She shuts the door behind herself. Looks at everyone. Beams.

MARY (V.O.)

There's one more thing about our gang...

She takes a bottle of wine out of her stripy beach bag.

Everyone smiles. Joanne and Ann go get the wine glasses. Jake takes the bottle to open it.

MARY (V.O.)

We like to play spin the bottle game. We like it a lot.

Guys sit down on the floor. In a circle.

MARY (V.O.)

It all started a couple years ago. You know, the hormones, curiosity... We've been playing this game ever since.

Jake pours out all the wine. Mary then takes an empty bottle. Puts it on the floor. In the middle of a circle.

ANN

Who's turn is it?

Everybody looks at Mary. She is apparently the game-keeper. And as always she has the answer.

MARY

It's Joanne.

Joanne smiles.

JOANNE

Okay.

She spins the bottle. It twists and turns until it stops to point right at Adam. Everybody cheers. Encourages the two to kiss.

JAKE

(to Adam)

She likes it rough, man.

Maybe there's something between Jake and Joanne.

JAKE

She likes it how I do it.

MARY

(to Adam)

Jake is just being silly. Continue.

Adam crawls towards Joanne. He bends towards her. They kiss. Nice and slow. Nobody forgets to cheer. Except for Jake. He has a smirk on his face.

JAKE

(to Joanne)

Was he any good?

Joanne looks at Jake. Smirk on her face too.

JOANNE

He's good.

JAKE

Oh yeah?

Steven is staring at Jake. Watching his every move. Listening to every word he says. So jealous at this point.

Mary puts the bottle in the middle again.

MARY

Adam. It's you.

Adam spins the bottle. It points at Ann. Guys cheer.

Adam crawls towards Ann. They kiss. Nice and slow. Mary finds herself staring at the two of them.

MARY

Guys?

Adam stops the kiss to look at Mary. It seems he'd rather be kissing her now.

ADAM

Yeah.

MARY

I wanted to tell you something...

Everybody is looking at her now. She hesitates. Meanwhile it's time for Ann to spin the bottle.

MARY

What if we make it a little more... interesting?

The bottle points at Steven. Everybody is looking at Mary though. Ann looks at Steven who is the only one who notices that the bottle is pointing at him.

JAKE

Like how?

ADAM

(a bit awkward)

Yeah, how?

Ann crawls towards Steven and they kiss. Steven doesn't seem to like it much but he pretends he does. Jake is staring at the two of them kiss. Not so happy about it.

MARY

What if it wasn't just about kissing?

JOANNE

What do you mean?

It's now time for Steven to spin the bottle.

MARY

I was thinking more of... You know...

She smiles, embarrassed to say it out loud but so overwhelmed with an idea. The moment the bottle stops to point at Jake, Mary blurts it out...

MARY

Sex.

Everybody's eyes are locked on Mary. Except for Jake and Steven. The two of them are looking down at the bottle.

ANN

What?

JOANNE

Are you serious?

Everyone sure is shocked with the proposal Mary made.

MARY

What? Personally I think it's a great idea.

ADAM

(murmuring, uncertain)
We can't do that...

MARY

Why not?

Isn't it obvious?

ANN

Because it's wrong.

MARY

Come on you guys, aren't you interested? I thought we all wanted to try.

STEVEN

But it'd be weird. Doing it to each other I mean.

MARY

We know each other like forever, right? We do everything together.

JAKE

Except for sex.

MARY

I'm only saying wouldn't it be just the best way to do it, lose our virginity like that, to each other?

Mary looks at them all. They think.

JAKE

I'm not a virgin.

MARY

I know that. But if we do it we do it together.

Guys think. No one really wants to oppose Mary.

MARY

So what do you say?

The idea is too much controversial. But it's not just that.

ANN

I'm not sure about it, guys. I'd say no.

STEVEN

I don't think it's a good idea either.

Steven looks at Adam. Adam shrugs.

ADAM

I dunna... There's something about it. I don't think anybody has done that before. Might be cool.

Might. Mary looks at Adam. Pleased he's on her side.

JAKE

(smiling)

I'm in.

Everyone looks at Jake.

ANN

It's easy for you. You've done it before.

JAKE

It's just sex. You're gonna have to, sooner or later.

MARY

That's what I'm saying. At least we control it. Do it our way.

JOANNE

This is crazy. I can't believe we're seriously talking about this.

Adam looks at Mary. He has to do something.

ADAM

I'm in.

Mary beams. Steven thinks about it.

STEVEN

Okay, let's do it. I'm in too.

Ann shakes her head 'no'. Still uncertain.

ANN

This is just crazy, you guys.

MARY

(to Ann)

Come on, let's do it.

Ann and Joanne exchange looks. Seems they exchange thoughts as well.

ANN

Okay, we're in.

Joanne nods. Mary just beams.

MARY

It's gonna be so great, you guys. I promise. I'll organize everything. This is incredible.

JACOB SMITH, the hotel's oldest attendant, enters the suite suddenly. He looks at the guys. Angry as hell.

SMITH

Got you!

The gang has to disperse now, quickly.

SMITH

How many times do I have to tell you... Get out! Get out now!

Everybody runs out of the suite. Except for Jake. He's not intimidated. Never intimidated. That's just the way he is.

INT. HALLWAY - SAME

Smith watches Jake walk out of the suite leisurely. He shuts the door after him. Locks it. Steven stands by, waiting for Jake, sort of.

SMITH

I'm gonna report on you, Jake. I told you I would. You father told me specifically to keep an eye on you. Because you're a trouble.

Jake looks at him.

JAKE

What he's gonna do? Come visit me?

SMITH

He's gonna...

JAKE

What?! He's never around. What you're gonna do, Smith? Report this to my mom? She's so drunk these days, she barely makes it out of the bed.

Smith is boiling with anger but nonetheless Jake's right. Jake just grins.

JAKE

(to Steven)

Come on. Let's get out of here.

They start away, down the hall.

INT. ANOTHER HALLWAY - SAME

Mary, Joanne, Anne and Adam are walking down the hall.

ADAM

Old Smithy could have left us alone already. We weren't doing anything wrong.

ANN

Well, not yet. Are we seriously
gonna do that? I mean the...
 (low now)
Sex plan?

Guys looks at her.

MARY

We already decided that.

ANN

I know. It just feels weird doing it to each other, that's all.

MARY

It's gonna be great, you guys. I'm telling you.

When Mary is up to something, nothing can stop her. Ann gives up.

ANN

Okay... We're doing it.

Joanne seems unwilling to talk more about that.

JOANNE

Do you guys want to go to the pool or something?

ANN

I'd go.

Mary shakes her head 'no'.

MARY

I don't feel like swimming.

(to Adam)

Do you?

ADAM

Me neither.

MARY

(to Adam)

Wanna go to my room and plan things out?

Adam sure does. He nods. Mary beams. Excited to get started with all the planning and preparing. Ann and Joanne exchange looks.

ANN

See you later, guys.

MARY

See you.

Ann and Joanne head for the elevators. Mary and Adam proceed down the hall.

INT. HALLWAY - SAME

Jake and Steven are walking down the hall, unhurried.

Steven looks at Jake. Jake seems a bit upset with what happened. Not old Smithy thing but the thing about his parents.

STEVEN

Is it really that bad? I mean your parents.

Jake looks at Steven. Not sure he can trust him.

JAKE

It's okay.

Steven nods.

JAKE

At least he gives us all the money we want. That's a great thing than you think about it.

STEVEN

I guess... It was never the same after my parents separated. It doesn't feel like family anymore.

Jake looks at him. Once again. Something about that look.

JAKE

Does that bother you?

STEVEN

No... I don't think so. I'm getting to be an adult now. I'm gonna have my own family soon.

His own family?

STEVEN

I'm gonna make sure my kids never have to go through something like that. I want them to be happy.

His kids?

JAKE

Sometimes things happen... You can't control. It's not your parents' fault they got divorced.

STEVEN

I think it is... They should have thought about us before splitting up. I barely see Samantha now. She never sees dad. That's not right. People are talking.

People? Jake stops before the elevator. Pushes the button. Looks at Steven then.

JAKE

Do you care about what people say?

Steven shrugs.

STEVEN

Of course.

Jake nods.

JAKE

Listen, I'm going downtown, have to take my mothers dress up from the dry-cleaners. Wanna come?

Steven looks into Jake's eyes. Seems like he does want him to come. Steven stretches a smile.

STEVEN

Sure.

The elevator arrives. They get in.

INT. MARY'S SUITE - DAY

Mary comes in. Adam follows her. Three-rooms suite. Nice one. Mary heads for one of the rooms. Adam hesitates, looking around, shy and nervous.

MARY

My parents are down at the beach. They won't be coming back any time soon. Come.

Adam follows Mary to her bedroom.

INT. MARY'S BEDROOM - LATER

Adam and Mary are sitting on the edge of Mary's bed. Next to each other. Holding a big album-book on both their laps. A sex book.

MARY

I've collected all the pieces of information a person could get on the subject. Everything we need to know.

Adam is embarrassed looking at the pictures of naked people. Genitalia close-ups. Mary is not.

MARY

When the hardened erect penis penetrates vagina it must go in far enough that, if a girl is a virgin, it'll break a... The hymen.

Adam couldn't be more embarrassed. Mary is not.

ADAM

Aha.

MARY

If a girl is not sexually excited enough her vagina will not be lubricated and moist.

(MORE)

MARY (cont'd)

It'll be difficult for the boy's penis to enter. It might cause discomfort.

Adam is not looking at the book, looking over Mary's beautiful curls. She wouldn't notice. Too busy reading. He almost smells her hair.

MARY

Normally bodily contact is sufficient to begin the process of lubrication. There are artificial lubricants as well.

ADAM

Aha.

Mary flips the page. Adam moves away from her slightly. He's got a hard-on. He bends down. Tries to conceal that.

MARY

When a couple are both ready to have sex, and this includes for the boy to put a condom on, it is probably easiest if either the boy or the girl uses their hand to guide the penis inside.

ADAM

Aha.

Changes his pose to conceal his hard-on more. Mary looks at him. His pose is suggestive of only one thing.

MARY

Is it...?

Adam looks away, embarrassed.

ADAM

Yep.

MARY

Adam, there's nothing to be embarrassed about. You saw the pictures in my book. It made you sexually aroused.

He is embarrassed nonetheless. Looks away.

ADAM

Okay...

He is a research object in her eyes.

MARY

Can I touch it?

God no! Adam moves away. Even more embarrassed now.

ADAM

God, Mary, I don't think that's appropriate. I can't... I can't let you do this.

She nods.

MARY

You're right. Sometimes the daylight is a bad factor when it comes to sex.

ADAM

Yeah...

MARY

I have to note that.

She goes to get her notebook and pen. Adam eases up, relieved.

INT. LOBBY - DAY

Wearing a swimming suite and a matching skirt, Joanne walks down the hall, towards the concierge boy, MAX. Max is in his early twenties. Handsome. No money but a lot of charm.

JOANNE

Hey.

Max turns to her. She looks so beautiful. He beams.

XAM

Hey...

JOANNE

A lot of work, I see.

Max looks over the empty lobby.

XAM

No, not really.

She smiles. Gets closer to him.

JOANNE

(to his ear)

We're going to the pool. Join us.

How can he not?

MAX

Sure.

She beams.

JOANNE

I'll be waiting.

She starts away. He grabs her hand gently. Stops her. She looks at him. What?

XAM

You look great.

She smiles.

JOANNE

Thanks.

She looks him in the eyes for a second.

JOANNE

There'll be a dance this Friday. Wanna come?

Tempting.

MAX

I think I might.

JOANNE

I'd want you to.

MAX

I'm coming then.

She beams.

INT. BEDROOM, SOME SUITE - SAME

Leaning his eye to the wall is TOM PRESTON, Jake's brother. Fifteen-years-old. Cute. Seems to be peeking into the hole in the wall.

TOM

(whispering to himself)
Yeah, girl...

INT. BEDROOM, ANN AND JOANNE'S SUITE - SAME

Ann is naked. Putting on her swimming suite.

She would never notice a framed picture hanging on the wall with a little hole in it. Tom's eye is in there. Staring at her.

Beat. Ann finishes up. Walks out of the room.

INT. BEDROOM, SOME SUITE - SAME

Tom backs off from the wall. Takes a framed picture and hangs it back over the hole.

He rushes out of the room.

INT. JAKE'S ROADSTER - DAY

Jake is driving. Down the curvy coast road. Steven is next to him. Holding on to the seat. Jake likes it speedy and dangerous.

He looks at Steven.

JAKE

Scared?

Steven tries to ease up.

STEVEN

Yeah, a little.

JAKE

I'm driving since twelve years old. Nothing's gonna happen. Relax.

It's easier said than done.

STEVEN

Okay.

Jake smiles. Drops the speed. Steven lets go of the seat.

JAKE

So... What do you think about this whole Mary's idea?

Steven looks at him. Why is he asking?

STEVEN

I don't know. I'm not sure.

JAKE

Why? You get to have sex.

Jake watches his every reaction.

STEVEN

It just doesn't seem right doing it like this. Sex is something that happens between a man and his wife.

That man-and-his-wife subject again.

STEVEN

I always thought I'd be doing it with my wife. To make kids. Something like this...

JAKE

Maybe you're just scared?

STEVEN

Yeah, that too. I'm not experienced in that area. Unlike you.

Oh.

JAKE

Yeah. Me...

Steven looks at him. What's with the tone?

STEVEN

Were you scared... the first time?

Jake looks at him. Should he tell him?

JAKE

You know... Me being a womanizer thing is a little exaggerated.

STEVEN

What do you mean?

JAKE

I mean it's a rumor. I didn't deny it. Doesn't mean it's true.

STEVEN

So you're...?

JAKE

I'm a virgin. Like you.

That comes as a shock.

STEVEN

You? A virgin?

JAKE

So hard to believe?

STEVEN

I don't know. I mean you...

Steven is lost for words. Beat.

STEVEN

So, do you really want to do it like that?

JAKE

Why not? It's just sex. Besides, our girls... I mean, don't you find them attractive?

Steven never actually thought about it and it comes as a surprise now he didn't. He notices Jake's stare. Has to say something.

STEVEN

Yeah, sure, they are attractive.

Jake nods. Smiles.

JAKE

So it's not a big deal then?

STEVEN

I quess it's not.

EXT. POOL AREA - DAY

Joanne and Ann are tanning under the sun. By the pool. In the middle of conversation.

ANN

I don't think we could find our way out of it.

JOANNE

Me neither.

MMA

At least our boys are all cute.

Joanne is barely listening. Glancing at Max who's chilling at the bar area with his waiter friend, BRETT.

JOANNE

They are.

ANN

So it's not a big deal then?

Ann, on the other hand, is glancing at Tom. He's chilling in the water with his rich-kid friend TRENT.

JOANNE

I guess it's not.

Joanne looks at her sister.

JOANNE

Let's just see where it goes. Then we'll decide.

Ann nods.

EXT. BAR AREA - SAME

Max is in the middle of conversation with Brett but he's staring at Joanne.

BRETT

Forget about her. I'm telling you she's rich. That changes everything.

XAM

Like what?

BRETT

Her dad is a rich guy. He's never gonna let his daughter marry someone like you, Max. It was always like that and it always will be. Max is not convinced.

XAM

She's different. She loves me. I know that.

Brett is not convinced either.

BRETT

It's just a summer thing. She'll be out of here before the summer ends. She'll forget about you in a minute, believe me.

Brett shakes his head 'no'.

XAM

I know she won't.

BRETT

She's gonna get you into trouble, man.

XAM

I don't care. I never felt this way about anyone before. That thing is real.

He looks at Brett.

XAM

(sure as hell)
I think she's the one.

EXT. POOL - SAME

Tom is in the middle of conversation with Trent. He's staring at Ann though.

TOM

The most beautiful girl I've seen.

Trent looks at Ann. Yeah, she's nice.

TRENT

She's okay.

TOM

I want to have her.

TRENT

(doubtful)

How old is she? Sixteen? Seventeen?

MOT

It doesn't matter. I'm getting her.

There's a devilish fire in his eyes. He can do it.

TRENT

I think she's looking for someone older than you, man. Someone experienced.

Tom looks at Trent, indignant.

MOT

She's not like that. She wouldn't care that I'm a virgin.

TRENT

They all do.

No.

MOT

She's not like that.

Tom looks back at Ann.

MOT

She's the girl I might marry one day.

Trent smiles. Right.

INT. SITTING ROOM, JAKE'S SUITE - DAY

Jake pushes the door open. A heap of mom's dresses in his hands. Comes in. Steven follows him. Dresses in his hands too.

It's a luxury suite. One of the most expensive on this 1stclass floor. Steven is a bit intimidated but it's not the luxury that makes him feel that way.

JAKE

Come in.

Steven does.

STEVEN

It's a nice suite.

JAKE

Yeah.

Jake puts the dresses down on the couch.

JAKE

You can put it here. Thanks.

Steven does. Looks around then.

JAKE

Make yourself at home. I have to check on my mother.

Steven nods. Jake heads for the bedrooms.

INT. JAKE'S MOM'S BEDROOM - SAME

Jake comes in.

MRS. PRESTON, Jake's mother, is sprawled over the bed. Unconscious. Sleeping. Snoring. A couple of emptied vodka bottles can be found around.

The sun is shining bright. Jake shuts the curtains. It gets dark. He collects all the empty bottles. Sets his mother comfortably on the bed, covers her with a blanket.

Steven appears in the doorway. Can't help staring at all the mess. Jake notices him. He's not angry.

STEVEN

Sorry, I didn't want to...

JAKE

(interrupting him)
It's okay. It's not like it's a
secret. Everybody knows my mother's

a drunk.

STEVEN

Sorry.

Jake nods.

JAKE

Thanks.

Beat.

STEVEN

You're a good son.

JAKE

Yeah.

Jake is done collecting the empty bottles. He heads out.

INT. SITTING ROOM - SAME

Jake is behind the counter of the built-in bar. Steven is sitting at the counter on one of the chairs. Jake looks at him, smiles.

JAKE

What can I get you, sir?

Steven smiles too. Jake is a bar-tender alright.

STEVEN

I don't know, orange juice.

Jake grins, reaches for a big bottle of vodka.

JAKE

Come on, Steven, you gotta do better than that. How about a screwdriver?

STEVEN

What's a screwdriver?

JAKE

Orange juice, vodka.

STEVEN

I'm not sure drinking liquor is a good idea.

Jake raises his eyebrow.

JAKE

What are you afraid of? Nobody's here. Nobody has to know.

Steven doesn't want to disappoint Jake for some reason. He caves in.

STEVEN

Well, okay. But only one glass.

JAKE

Got ya.

Jake mixes orange juice and vodka enthusiastically.

INT. CLOSET, SOME SUITE - DAY

Adam and Mary are hiding deep inside the closet.

ADAM

I'm not sure us being here is a good idea?

Mary looks at him, smiles.

MARY

You need to think outside the box, Adam. We ought to know everything before we do it ourselves. Besides nobody's gonna find out.

Somehow Adam is not relieved. Mary looks through the meshy closet door out into the room. An empty bedroom. Someone's king-size-bed empty bedroom. Adam looks out there too.

ADAM

Are you sure they're gonna come?

MARY

Absolutely. I've heard them do it exactly at this time every single day last week. As if they had a schedule or something...

God. Why does he even like that girl?

ADAM

I still think it's a little... crazy. We gotta have boundaries, right?

Mary is not listening.

MARY

Hush.

THE DOOR IS OPENED AND THEN SHUT CLOSE. SOMEBODY IS HERE NOW.

MARY

(low)

Here we go.

Both Mary and Adam look through the closet door as a couple, a MAN and a WOMAN, about twenty five years old both, are kissing it's way towards the bed.

MARY

The foreplay...

A couple gets on the bed. They start undressing each other. The woman starts groaning from the pleasure.

A man proceeds to the actual sex part.

MARY

He's entering her vagina...

Adam looks at Mary. Her eyes are glued to the couple. So interested and excited.

A man starts groaning.

MAN

Oh... I'm gonna... I'm gonna...

Mary smiles.

MARY

Premature ejaculation... They're done.

A man culminates. Groans. Mary turns to Adam at last.

MARY

A woman requires a substantially longer duration of stimulation before reaching an orgasm. She's gonna fake it.

A woman groans, contrived, proving Mary's words.

EXT. HOTEL'S GARDEN - EVENING

Ann is walking over the garden alley.

She sees Tom ahead. He's sitting on a bench. Looking at the ocean. Great view from here. Romantic.

She approaches him.

ANN

Hi Tom.

He looks at her. As if surprised to see her.

TOM

Hey.

ANN

What are you doing here?

He takes a time to find the words...

ТОМ

I like to come here sometimes. I like the view. Makes you think.

She feels the same. Smiles. Comes closer.

ANN

I like it too.

He smiles back. A beautiful smile. They look at the ocean. Beat.

MOT

You? Were talking a walk?

ANN

I was looking for Joanne actually. I can't find her.

MOT

I think I saw her down at the beach, with that concierge boy, Max, I believe.

Max? She stands up to leave.

ANN

I'm gonna go find her then. Thanks.

Tom stands up too.

TOM

Would it be okay if I'd walk you?

Demure smile.

ANN

Sure.

EXT. BEACH - LATER

Tom and Ann are walking down the beach. In the middle of the flirty conversation. The stars are up there. Beautiful.

ANN

Come on, it's not true. You're just kidding me.

MOT

No. I'm not. I swear I never kissed a girl.

ANN

Sure, you did. You and your brother, you are the same.

MOT

No, we're not. We're different.

Ann smiles. It's hard to believe that. She does though. Looks at him.

ANN

You know, it's a good thing you've never kissed a girl. It'll happen when the time is right. You shouldn't be embarrassed.

TOM

I'm not. I mean I was... waiting for a special girl.

Ann nods.

MOT

A girl that is smart, and kind. Beautiful blue eyes, dark-brown curls...

He's describing her.

MOT

An enchanting smile...

She smiles. Enchanting.

MOT

I mean you.

They stop, look into each other's eyes.

ANN

Me?

TOM

You're my ideal.

No way.

ANN

Stop it. You're not serious.

MOT

I am.

She doubts that.

MOT

Why is that so hard to believe? You have everything a man is looking for in a girl. I mean it.

She buys it. He sure sounds honest. He moves closer. Just a little bit. Not to scare her but to make her want to kiss him...

TOM

You're the girl I wanted to kiss.

He lowers his eyes. As if embarrassed. Ann is so charmed at this point she buys it all. She moves closer...

ANN

Well, then...

Kisses him.

INT. SITTING ROOM, JAKE'S SUITE - EVENING

Standing by the different sides of the couch, Jake and Steven are opposing each other. Looking at each other. Playful. Breathing hard. In the middle of some drunken chasing-one-another game.

JAKE

Oh no, Steven, you're not getting away that easily.

STEVEN

You try me, Preston.

Jake takes a predatory pose. Ready to attack. Steven is ready to run. Both drunk as hell.

Jake starts. Runs over the couch. Follows Steven as he's trying to escape. Steven is quick but not enough. Jake catches him. Gets a good hold of him.

JAKE

Got ya.

They fall on the floor. Start grappling with each other.

JAKE

Come on, Steven, say it! You lost.

STEVEN

Never!

Steven takes over. Presses Jake against the floor. For a moment it seems Jake's defeated.

JAKE

You're not winning this one.

Jake turns over. Shoves Steven off. A little to hard.

Steven hits the nearby coffee table with his forehead. Accidentally. Jake tries to catch him but misses. So much guilt now.

STEVEN

Oh, damn!

JAKE

Hey, hey, are you okay?

Steven touches his forehead. There's blood.

STEVEN

I don't think so.

The sight of blood makes him sick.

STEVEN

Oh, God, blood...

Jake helps him up.

JAKE

Come on. Stand up.

Jake finds some piece of cloth. Puts it to the wound. Doesn't really help.

JAKE

This is not working. We need a first aid kit. Hold it.

Steven holds the cloth against the wound.

STEVEN

I think I'm gonna faint...

Jake rushes to the phone. Dials a short inter-number.

JAKE

(to Steven)

Don't!

He puts a phone to his ear.

INT. LOBBY - SAME

The phone at the reception RINGS. Brett comes up to answer it.

BRETT

Yes.

JAKE (V.O.)

Hey, Brett? Where's Max?

BRETT

He's not here. He needed to go somewhere. Asked me to replace him for a while. Is that okay, Mr. Preston?

Small pause.

JAKE (V.O.)

Yeah, sure.

BRETT

Do you need something, sir?

JAKE (V.O.)

No, never mind. Thanks.

Jake hangs up.

INT. SITTING ROOM, JAKE'S SUITE - SAME

Jake puts the phone down.

JAKE

Shit!

He approaches Steven. Puts the cloth off the wound. Inspects it.

JAKE

It's not that bad. We need to disinfect it. Wait.

He heads for the bar. Takes a bottle of Vodka. Comes back.

JAKE

This should do.

He pours some Vodka over the cloth. Looks at Steven.

JAKE

It's gonna hurt.

Steven nods.

STEVEN

Okay...

Jake puts the cloth to the wound. Steven flinches. Grabs on to Jake's shoulder. So innocent. So endearing. Jake is so into him now.

EXT. OUTSIDE THE HOTEL'S BOAT SHED - NIGHT

Joanne and Max. Kissing passionately in one of the empty boats standing on the props. It's dark and lonely in this part of the beach. Hotel lights are far on the background.

Max stops. Looks into her eyes.

MAX

(whispering)

Are you sure you want to do that?

Joanne nods. Pulls him back to her lips.

EXT. ANOTHER PART OF THE BEACH - NIGHT

Ann and Tom. Lying on the sand. Kissing passionately. Doesn't look like he's doing it for the first time. She's too lost in emotion to think of it straight.

They both seem to be ready to go all the way.

INT. SITTING ROOM, PRESTON SUITE - NIGHT

Jake and Steven. Kissing on the cough. Can't get enough of each other. Too drunk to think about what they're doing.

Jake takes Steven's shirt off carefully. Kisses his chest. Makes him groan. Makes him forget about the wound on his forehead.

Steven reaches for Jake's pants. Yes. That's what he wants. He's sure about it. Feels right.

INT. SOME SUITE, CLOSET - NIGHT

Mary and Adam. Still in the closet. Absolutely dark. Quiet except for an irritating snore of a man sleeping out there in the bedroom.

Mary looks through the door at the sleeping couple. No way to get out of that closet now. She turns to Adam.

MARY

(whispering)

I don't think we make it out without waking them up.

ADAM

(whispering)

Me neither.

Mary leans back.

MARY

We're gonna have to wait until the morning comes and they'll go out for breakfast.

Adam doesn't seem to mind staying here with her.

ADAM

Yep.

He looks at her. She's...

MACIA

You know, you look beautiful today.

Mary looks at herself.

MARY

I like that dress too. I had it forever.

It's not the dress he was talking about.

MARY

Thanks.

She looks at him.

MARY

I'm sorry I got us here. This wasn't the best idea.

Adam smiles.

ADAM

It wasn't.

She smiles too. They look into each other's eyes for a moment.

MARY

We better try to sleep.

He understands it. He always does.

ADAM

Yeah... Good night.

Mary takes a somewhat comfortable pose.

MARY

Good night, Adam.

EXT. BALCONY, JAKE'S SUITE - MORNING

The big balcony with an ocean view. Jake and Steven. Sleeping on the big couch together. Arms around each other.

Steven wakes up. Feels the warmth of Jake's body. Feels his hands holding him. He's not drunk anymore. Now is the time to regret it.

STEVEN

(low)

Shit!

He puts Jake's hand off of him. Ever so slowly. Stands up. Wow. Head hurts. A terrible hangover.

He looks at Jake one more time. This is not right. He has to go. Away.

He goes.

EXT. BEACH - SAME

Ann is going down the beach. Fast. Her sandals in her hands. There's a concerned expression on her face. She speeds up to almost running.

INT. HALLWAY, HOTEL - SAME

Steven is going down the hall, fast. Heads for the elevators. Heads away from the memory of the last night. Such a wonderful night though.

He reaches the elevators. Pushes the button. Waits.

EXT. HOTEL TERRITORY - SAME

Joanne is going through the front yard, fast. Heading for the entrance. She's been out all night. Parents will so freak out. She speeds up.

INT. LOBBY - SAME

Ann runs towards the elevators hall. Pushes all the buttons. Waits. The memory of the last night is still fresh. It was amazing.

INT. HALLWAY - SAME

Steven is waiting for the elevator. It takes forever.

He feels sick. About to throw up. Sudden urge. He covers his mouth with his hand.

INT. ELEVATORS HALL, LOBBY - SAME

Joanne runs in. Pushes all the buttons. Waits. Waits... What is it with these darn elevators?

INT. ELEVATOR - SAME

Going up. Ann is alone here. She's so agitated her cheeks are all blushed. Parents are gonna be so mad.

INT. HALLWAY - SAME

Steven pukes right on the floor. The elevator's doors open the very same moment.

INT. ELEVATOR - SAME

The doors open and Ann rushes out into the hallway.

INT. HALLWAY - SAME

Steven is bent down in front of an empty elevator. Lucked out this time. He gets inside the elevator. So embarrassed.

INT. DIFFERENT HALLWAY - SAME

Joanne hurries down the hall.

She turns the corner just to face Ann standing in front of the door. Lingering to come inside. She notices Joanne.

ANN

(low)

What are you doing here?

Joanne looks away. Lost. Out of words.

ANN

Did you spend the night out?

Joanne gets her nerves back, looks at Ann.

JOANNE

And you? Where did you spend the night, sis?

Ann looks away. Understands they are in the exact same position. Joanne drops the subject. Approaches the door.

JOANNE

Do you think they've noticed?

ANN

I'm not sure. We're gonna have to find out.

Ann reaches for the knob. Turns to look at her sister then.

ANN

Whatever happened, happened. We're not telling anyone about it, right?

Joanne nods. They enter the suite.

INT. CLOSET, SOME SUITE - SAME

Mary and Adam are sleeping. Leaning against the different sides of the wall. Using clothes as pillows and blankets.

Mary wakes up. The first thing she sees is Adam. He's so... Nice. He spent the night with her. In a good way.

She looks through the closet door then. There's nobody in the room. The bed is done. The couple is gone.

Mary shakes Adam's shoulder slightly.

MARY

Adam...

Adam wakes up. Confused for a second. Then he remembers.

ADAM

Hey.

MARY

They're gone. We can get out now.

Adam looks through the door himself.

ADAM

Oh... Good.

Mary pushes the door open. They crawl out.

INT. HALLWAY - SAME

Mary and Adam get out of the suite. Head down the hallway. So good to be free again.

ADAM

Do you think our parents noticed we've spent the night somewhere else?

MARY

They probably did. I'll say I've been with the girls. You say you've been with Steven. That should work.

ADAM

Sounds like a plan.

MARY

Yeah.

They go. Beat. Mary's suite.

MARY

That's me.

She looks at him. Doesn't really want to part. Written on her face.

MARY

Listen... Thanks for the last night. It means a lot to me. You're a good friend.

A friend? Right.

ADAM

Yeah.

MARY

See you.

She gets in.

EXT. BEACH - MORNING

Adam and Steven. Chilling under the colorful umbrellas. The big steep hill is right over. Further away on the hill is the Grand Hotel.

Adam looks at Steven. Looks like he's in pain or something.

ADAM

What's with the headache?

Steven gives him a look.

STEVEN

What's with you telling your folks you and I have spent the night at Jake's?

Adam smiles.

ADAM

One of Mary's stupid ideas. I've spent the night in somebody's closet.

Steven leans back. Doesn't really care right now. About anything.

STEVEN

Why would you even put up with something like this?

A rhetorical question. Adam leans back. Looks away.

ADAM

It's not important.

He looks at Steven.

ADAM

Where <u>did</u> you spend the night by the way?

Steven turns to him.

STEVEN

At Jake's.

ADAM

At Jake's? I didn't know you two were that good of the friends.

Steven doesn't want to talk about that.

STEVEN

It's not important.

They keep silent. Chill.

A COUPLE OF GIRLS pass by right in front of them. Beautiful. Sexy. Steven looks at them. Not really interested. A COUPLE OF BOYS follow the girls. Hot. Sexy.

Steven can't help looking at them. There we go.

Adam turns to Steven.

ADAM

Hey?

STEVEN

What?

ADAM

Mary wants us to proceed with that... plan tonight. Are you still in?

Steven doesn't even think about it. What a great opportunity to prove it he's not gay. Have sex with a girl. Brilliant.

STEVEN

Sure!

Adam nods. He himself is not that crazy about it.

ADAM

Good...

He leans back. Then looks at Steven again.

ADAM

I'm a little scared though.

Steven thinks about it.

STEVEN

Yeah... me too. It's okay.

Adam nods, a little relieved.

INT. LOBBY, HOTEL - SAME

Ann and Joanne are walking down the lobby. Heading for the cafeteria. In the middle of conversation.

JOANNE

Mary said she wanted to have breakfast together. Wanted to talk about something.

ANN

I bet she does.

(beat)

Wait...

Ann pulls her sister into the corner.

ANN

(low)

What if she knows something... about last night?

JOANNE

She couldn't possibly...

ANN

Mom and dad could have asked her about it. She'd got it all figured out if they did.

Joanne thinks about it.

JOANNE

I don't think so. She just probably wants to talk about the... the plan.

Ann nods.

ANN

I guess you're right.

They start down the hall again. Heading for the cafeteria. Beat.

JOANNE

Wait, wait...

Joanne pulls her sister into the corner.

JOANNE

Mary is planning to proceed with that sex plan, right? What do we do? We already said yes, but we can't actually...

Ann is puzzled.

ANN

True... We're gonna have to do something about it.

JOANNE

What?

ANN

I know. We'll pretend. Mary doesn't have to know nothing's happened. We'll set it up right. Talk to the guys. They'll understand.

Joanne nods.

JOANNE

I guess that might work.

ANN

Okay. Let's do it.

They start towards the cafeteria.

INT. CAFETERIA - SAME

Sitting alone at the table, Mary is studying a menu. No, not the menu. Some papers of hers. She's getting everything planned.

Joanne and Ann come up. Sit down.

ANN AND JOANNE

Hi.

MARY

Hi.

Joanne takes the menu.

JOANNE

So hungry.

Mary takes the menu out of Joanne's hands.

MARY

This can wait. We have important things to discuss.

Joanne and Ann exchange looks. She sounds serious.

MARY

We need to discuss... our plan.

Oh, the plan.

ANN

Okay...

MARY

Tonight...

Ann and Joanne exchange looks.

MARY

After the dance starts, we get one of the empty rooms...

JOANNE

Tonight?

MARY

Tonight is perfect. Everyone will be out at the dance. Nobody's gonna disturb us.

Sounds good. But that's a bad thing. Ann and Joanne think about it for a moment.

MARY

Girls? Is everything alright?

No way to back off now.

ANN

Sure.

JOANNE

Everything's fine.

ANN

Totally.

Okay then.

MARY

I've already asked Jake. It's not gonna be a problem to get us a pack of... of condoms.

So happy about it. Mary is.

ANN

That's great...

JOANNE

Perfect...

Girls exchange looks. Mary beams. Gets back to her papers.

MARY

We also need a bottle of good wine, appropriate for the occasion.

EXT. BAR BY THE POOL - DAY

Brett is serving refreshing drinks. Max is standing by the counter. Looking at the happy people having all the fun in the pool.

Brett looks at him. Max looks so happy.

BRETT

So you're coming tonight?

MAX

Yep.

Max looks at Brett. Doesn't really share his concerns.

BRETT

This is no good. Why are you doing this anyways? Do you think you can really get her to marry you?

He does.

MAX

I hope I can.

BRETT

Max, her dad is like a millionaire. An owner of a successful restaurant chain back in Boston. You... a mere concierge.

Max tries not to pay attention to his words. It's true though.

MAX

Well, thanks...

BRETT

What do you want me to say? I don't know what is it that you expect. That she's gonna be crazy about the idea. No way. The girl is gonna leave you heartbroken, Max. That's just the way the rich girls are.

No.

MAX

She's not like that. She's special.

BRETT

They all are. But then it comes to money...

MAX

(interrupting him)
Just stop this, Brett. I know it's
gonna be alright. No need to
protect me, okay?

BRETT

Okay, man... Go get your heart broken.

He turns away.

MAX

I'm coming tonight. I'm gonna ask her to marry me. That's final.

Okay, okay.

BRETT

Do you even have a tuxedo?

MAX

I'm getting one.

BRETT

Where?

MAX

I know just the place.

Good. Brett reaches under the counter. Lifts a box.

BRETT

Come on then, help me with these boxes.

Max grabs a box too. The two of them head away.

WE MOVE TO THE OTHER PART OF THE BAR where Adam and Steven are sitting. Drinking cocktails. Looking around. Half-naked people everywhere.

Adam looks at Steven. Something is wrong. He can tell.

ADAM

What is it with you? You've been like this all morning.

STEVEN

Nothing... Everything's fine.

Doesn't seem fine.

ADAM

Are you nervous about tonight?

STEVEN

No!

Why would you ask?

STEVEN

I'm ready to do that.

ADAM

Yeah? I'm nervous.

Suddenly, Steven notices Jake coming this way. From the distance.

STEVEN

(muttering to himself)

Shit...

He quickly goes behind the counter. Over to the personnel side. Ducks down there. Adam is confused.

ADAM

What are you...?

STEVEN

I'm not here!

Jake approaches Adam. Looks preoccupied. Something is obviously bothering him.

JAKE

Hey. Have you seen Steven?

Adam shakes his head 'no'. Lost for words.

JAKE

I can't find him anywhere. Looked all over.

ADAM

We were down at the beach in the morning. Then we split.

Oh.

ADAM

I have no idea where he is now.

Jake drops his eyes. Upset.

JAKE

Okay...

ADAM

Listen, Mary is planning to initiate her... plan tonight. (MORE)

ADAM (cont'd)

She expects us all to get together when the dance starts.

A sudden hope. Steven's gonna be there, for sure.

JAKE

I'll be there.

He heads away. Steven gets out front under the counter. Adam has a questioning expression on his face.

ADAM

What's up with hiding under the counter?

STEVEN

Nothing...

ADAM

Come on, tell me. What did he do?

Steven makes an angry face. It's non of your business. Heads away without saying anything. Adam is left even more confused.

INT. MARY'S SUITE - EARLY EVENING

Mary, Joanne and Ann. Getting ready for the dance. Putting the fancy dresses on. Talking. Mary is.

MARY

Everything is set.

Joanne and Ann exchange looks. Mary is really determined to stick with that plan.

MARY

We're doing it tonight. I'm so excited.

JOANNE AND ANN

Yeah.

Ann zips Mary up. Suddenly comes up with something...

ANN

(sly)

So, Mary... Who'd you think it'd be?

MARY

What do you mean?

ANN

The boy you're gonna be doing it with? Do you have a preference?

Caught by surprise. Hmmm...

MARY

Our boys are all great...

Joanne understands Ann's game.

JOANNE

What if it's Adam? How'd you feel about that?

Too fast...

MARY

Adam's great. I like him very much.

Ann and Joanne smile simultaneously. The conversation is going the right direction now.

ANN

And what if it's Steven?

Mary stops to think about that one for just a moment. Realizes that it wouldn't be the same with Steven.

MARY

Steven's fine... I mean he's great too. It's not that we get along that well but...

ANN

And what if it's Jake? Would you like doing it with Jake?

The hardest one. Mary thinks.

MARY

Jake is handsome...

Right.

MARY

I mean physiologically speaking he's the most suitable...

But...

JOANNE

What?

Mary sits down. Confused.

MARY

I don't know. We never had that much connection with Jake. We never... had that much in common.

ANN

So? It's just sex, right? It has nothing to do with connection.

Right. It shouldn't be important. Mary nods.

MARY

It's just sex. They're all good.

Joanne and Ann exchange looks.

INT. SITTING ROOM, JAKE'S SUITE - SAME

Jake is at the bar area. Pouring himself a shot of Tequila. Slugging it quick as SOMEBODY KNOCKS AT THE DOOR.

Jake goes to open the door. It's Max.

JAKE

Max?

MAX

Hi, Jake. I'm sorry to disturb you. Is it the bad time?

Jake is always welcoming even when it is a bad time.

JAKE

No, it's okay. Come on in.

Jake heads back for the bar. His Tequila bottle. Max is a little uncomfortable. A guest into the rich-people's world.

XAM

Jake, I wanted... Can I ask you a favor?

No problem.

JAKE

Sure. Anything you need, Max.

He shows him the bottle.

JAKE

Want some?

Max comes near.

XAM

Yeah... Wouldn't hurt.

Jake pours out the shots for the two of them.

JAKE

Cheers!

MAX

Cheers!

They drink. Jake looks at him then. So?

MAX

I... There's that dance tonight...

Jake nods. Well aware.

XAM

I wanted to go...

And?

XAM

I need a tuxedo. I don't have one. I was wondering if I could borrow one of yours. Would it be okay?

Sure.

JAKE

No problem, Max.

Jake heads for the closet.

JAKE

You can take one of my dad's.

Jake opens the closet. There's a couple of tuxedos of different kinds. Very expensive tuxedos.

JAKE

He never wears it anyways. I guess you have the same size.

MAX

Would it be okay? I mean...

Absolutely no problem.

JAKE

Of course, suit yourself.

XAM

Thank you. Thank you, so much.

JAKE

No problem.

Jake leaves the closet open so Max could pick a tuxedo. Max takes a look. That's how the rich people live.

MAX

So, are you coming to the dance tonight?

Jake is back to his shots. Looks at Max.

JAKE

Yeah... Sure.

EXT. OPEN DANCEFLOOR - EVENING

Under the clear summer sky. Adam, Steven, Mary and Ann. Standing at the bar area. All dressed up. Looking at all the people on the dancefloor.

Steven notices Jake coming this way. Jake looks right at him. That look. A rush of emotions. Steven looks away. Has to do something. Turns to Ann suddenly and offers her a dance.

STEVEN

Would you...?

A little surprised but she would.

ANN

Oh... Okay.

She takes Steven's hand. They go to the dancefloor. Escaping Jake the very moment he comes.

Adam is more than willing to dance with Mary. He offers her a dance and she excepts the offer silently. There is some tension between them. Where is that tension coming from?

Jake is left alone, watching Steven and Ann dance. Steven is holding her. Leading her like a real man. Trying to show it to Jake that he is.

It's painful for Jake to watch. Too much hurt. Too jealous. He heads away. Down the alley.

EXT. GAZEBO, PARK - SAME

Up the hill is a gazebo. Jake comes. The music from the dancefloor is still audible. Through the trees is a glimpse of people dancing.

Jake lights himself a cigarette. Pacing back and forth nervously. He sits down then. Tries to calm down.

Suddenly Joanne comes up. Comes into the gazebo. Surprised to see Jake here. Looks like she wasn't expecting to see html.

JOANNE

Hey...

Jake looks at her.

JAKE

Hey.

He looks down. Inhales.

JOANNE

What's wrong? Why not at the dancefloor?

He looks at her. It's in his eyes. Pain. Hurt. He wouldn't say it though.

JAKE

I needed to walk away from the noise. You?

JOANNE

(evasive)

I was just... taking a walk.

Jake taps his hand against the bench, welcoming her to sit down next to him.

JAKE

Come. Sit.

She does. Why wouldn't she?

JOANNE

Nice evening, ah?

Jake puts his hand around Joanne, friendly. She leans into his arms.

JAKE

It's cold.

JOANNE

Yeah.

She looks at him.

JOANNE

So... What do you think about this whole Mary's idea?

He looks at her.

JAKE

I'm not sure I like it.

Joanne is relieved to hear that.

JOANNE

Me neither. Why did we even agree?

JAKE

What's done is done. You know Mary, it's hard to stop her.

JOANNE

What are we gonna do?

JAKE

Go with it. Lie if we have to.

That's exactly what she was thinking. Strange.

JOANNE

Do you think it's okay?

JAKE

In this case, yes. Don't worry, it's gonna be alright. I know that.

She leans closer. Feels so comfortable in his arms.

JOANNE

Okay then.

EXT. NOT FAR FROM THE GAZEBO - SAME

Walking towards the gazebo is Max. All dressed up. Tuxedo and everything. Looks great. Feels great.

He notices Joanne. Notices that she is not alone. It's Jake with her. Hugging her.

Max hides behind one of the trees. Looks at them. Thinks the worst of what he sees.

EXT. GAZEBO - SAME

Jake looks down at Joanne.

JAKE

So Max, ah?

Joanne looks up at him. Surprised he knows about it.

JOANNE

How do you know?

Jake smiles.

JAKE

I'm not stupid, you know.

Joanne smiles too.

JAKE

It's okay. He's a great guy. He loves you. I can tell.

JOANNE

You think?

JAKE

Yep.

JOANNE

Thanks... For being supportive.

Jake hugs her.

JAKE

No problem.

Jake stands up. Offers Joanne his hand.

JAKE

Let's go and dance, shall we?

She takes his hand.

EXT. NOT FAR FROM THE GAZEBO - SAME

Max watches Jake and Joanne go away. Towards the dancefloor. Brett was right. That's what the rich girls are. Or maybe...

He goes after them.

EXT. DANCEFLOOR - SAME

It's time to dance. Jake and Joanne. Joining the crowd. Joining Steven and Ann, Adam and Mary.

Jake takes a good hold of Joanne. Purposefully showing off in front of Steven. Steven's staring. Now it's his turn to be mad and jealous.

EXT. BAR - SAME

Brett is serving drinks. Notices Max standing by the rears of the bar. Staring at the dancing crowd. Jake and Joanne dancing.

Brett approaches his poor friend. Puts a hand on his shoulder.

BRETT

I told you, man. Girls are all the same. When it comes to money they...

Max keeps staring at Joanne. Still unwilling to believe she would betray him like that.

BRETT

I don't believe it.

BRETT

You're gonna have to except it, Max. It's just the way it is... I'm sorry.

Brett gets back to serving drinks.

EXT. DANCEFLOOR - SAME

Mary and Adam. Dancing. Having fun. Too much fun probably. This whole thing with Adam is going the direction Mary doesn't want it to go. She has to stop it, now.

MARY

I think it's time for us to go.

Adam is unwilling to stop dancing. But he does. There's no way of forcing Mary into doing something. Would be so much easier with some other girl, but it's her.

The two of them head for Steven and Ann.

MARY

(to Steven and Ann)

We're going.

Ann and Steven stop dancing too. They all make their way towards Jake and Joanne then.

MARY

(to Jake and Joanne)
It's time, you guys.

They all get off the dancefloor. Head for the hotel.

INT. SOME SUITE - SAME

Guys settle in one of the vacant suites.

Mary has a bottle of good wine. As promised. She hands it to Adam. He opens it. Pours it out into the glasses. Everyone takes one glass.

Mary finds the perfect spot on the floor.

MARY

Here.

Guys sit down in a circle. Jake next to Joanne. Puts his hands around her. Steven opposite of Jake. Has to look at the two of them.

Mary puts the empty bottle down on the floor. Looks at Jake.

MARY

Did you get it?

He reaches into his pocket, takes something out. A pack of condoms.

JAKE

Wasn't a problem.

Mary is so excited. Everything gets serious.

MARY

Great.

Steven isn't so happy. Mad as hell. Is Jake really like that? Sleeping around. With boys and... girls? Jake raises his glass.

JAKE

Here, to this perfect evening and...

Looks at Steven.

JAKE

For us boys having sex with these beautiful girls.

Everybody smiles. That's classic Jake. They raise glasses. Drink to that. Wine takes away the tension.

Mary puts her hand down at the bottle. Everybody looks at her. She's the game-keeper.

ANN

Who's turn is it?

Mary looks at Jake.

MARY

Jake.

JOANNE

Why Jake?

ADAM

Yeah, why him? He's not a virgin.

MARY

Exactly. It's only fair he does it first.

Everyone nods. Okay. Jake beams. Finishes up his wine.

JAKE

Okay then.

He bends towards the bottle. Takes a good hold of it. Wouldn't forget to look at Steven. Grin. Spins the bottle.

The bottle spins... It stops to point right at Steven. Everyone is surprised but it's not a big deal. Sometimes it happens. Steven is pissed.

ADAM

Seems like you're gonna be doing it with Steven, Jake.

Everyone laughs. Except for Steven. Jake puts his arms around Joanne. Such a show-off.

JAKE

Sorry, guys. I was aiming for Joanne.

He does spin it again. And to confirm his very words it stops at Joanne. Jake smiles.

JAKE

Told you.

Everyone cheers the couple. Joanne and Jake are both happy that they got each other. Jake knows Joanne's secret. They're not actually gonna do it. Everything is perfect.

Everyone looks at Mary. She's the game keeper. What's next? Mary takes one condom out of a pack. Hands it to Jake.

JAKE

One?

MARY

One is enough.

Everyone smiles. Steven can't take it any longer. He rushes out of the suite. Slams the door on his way out.

Everyone looks his way. What was that? A silent pause. No one knows what to say. Mary starts...

MARY

I don't know what was that about but I think we should leave our couple alone now.

Everyone finishes up the wine. Stands up. Heads out. Jake follows Ann, Adam and Mary to the door. Mary looks at Jake.

MARY

You be gentle.

A smile.

Everyone leaves. Jake shuts the door close. Looks at Joanne. Not a happy face. She notices that. Something is wrong.

INT. HALLWAY - SAME

Adam, Mary and Ann exit the suite, go down the hall.

WE MOVE THE DIFFERENT DIRECTION, AWAY FROM THEM, UNTIL WE SEE Max hiding behind the corner. Looking at the guys go away. They've left the two alone, Jake and Joanne. It's true.

Max takes his expensive jacket off. Upset. Heartbroken.

He heads away. Down the different hallway.

INT. SOME SUITE - SAME

Jake comes. Sits down on the bed. Next to Joanne. She looks at him. Hesitates to ask what's wrong. He manages to pull himself together. Looks at her with a smile.

JAKE

So, we did it?

A smile on her face too.

JOANNE

We did it.

JAKE

Was I good?

She caresses his hair. Friendly.

JOANNE

You were okay.

JAKE

Okay?

Classic Jake comes through.

JOANNE

It doesn't feel so good the first time, you know. Not for girls.

Say what?

JAKE

Aren't you supposed to be a virgin?

Joanne smiles. Sly.

JOANNE

Yep. That's the official version.

Oh, now he gets it.

JAKE

So you and Max actually...

Joanne nods.

JOANNE

Did it... I love him. I think he's the one.

He is happy for her.

JAKE

You're so lucky. I wish I could feel loved this way.

He leans back. She looks at him.

JOANNE

What's stopping you? I don't suppose you, of all the guys, have a problem getting a girl, Jake.

JAKE

(evasive)

It's not so simple.

JOANNE

Come on, tell me. I told you.

Jake looks at her. He wants so much to share his secret.

JAKE

Okay, but promise not to tell anyone. It's a big secret. It's huge.

Right.

JOANNE

I promise.

JAKE

You're gonna be shocked.

JOANNE

Come on, just spill it out.

Jake takes a moment just to make it a little more dramatic.

JAKE

Yesterday night... Seven and I... We had sex. I think I'm in love with him.

Joanne is shocked alright. Jake loves to shock people. Makes him feel good. He even smiles.

JAKE

Shocked?

You bet.

JOANNE

Yeah...

JAKE

I know I have a reputation. It's exaggerated a lot. I'm not like that. I never had sex with a girl. Steven was the first guy I ever had sex with actually.

JOANNE

Oh my God, Jake. I mean... God.

He gives her time to think it over. Leans back.

JOANNE

So... That makes you... gay?

Jake nods.

JAKE

Yep.

JOANNE

Does anyone else know?

JAKE

Steven...

Right.

JOANNE

That is quite a secret.

JAKE

I know.

JOANNE

So Steven is gay too?

Jake shrugs.

JAKE

I hope so. I mean we were drunk and... I kissed him. I'm not sure he wanted it as much as I did.

JOANNE

Well, he didn't stop you, did he?

Jake shakes his head 'no'.

JOANNE

What did he say? Afterwards.

JAKE

I couldn't get him to talk. He keeps avoiding me.

JOANNE

I don't know what to say.

JAKE

Yeah, I know. It's complicated.

JOANNE

It's complicated alright.

The two of them lie back on the bed. Much more comfortable like this. Think about things for a moment.

JOANNE

You know, he was looking at you all night. Thought it was strange. I get it now.

JAKE

He was?

JOANNE

When you were holding me in your arms... I think he was jealous.

JAKE

You think so?

JOANNE

Yeah. The way he rushed out of the room. He was jealous, I'm telling you.

Jake smiles.

JAKE

Yeah.

INT. BEDROOM, STEVEN'S SUITE - MORNING

ALARM-CLOCK STARTS RINGING.

Steven is not asleep. Just lying in the bed. Staring at the cracks in the wall. Turns the alarm-clock off. Gets up.

INT. CLOTHES SHOP, DOWNTOWN - MORNING

Mary, Joanne and Ann. Shopping for the evening dresses. Gossiping about last night. Mary is anxious to know every detail.

MARY

(to Joanne)

So...?

Joanne is busy picking the dress. Doesn't answer right away. Mary blocks her way so she wouldn't avoid her.

MARY

How was it?

Joanne has to face Mary now.

JOANNE

It was okay.

MARY

Okay?

JOANNE

It was kinda painful at first...

MARY

Of course it was. And then? What did it feel like... to have it inside?

Joanne lowers her eyes. Can't believe Mary is asking these questions.

JOANNE

Mary I feel uncomfortable talking about that...

MARY

Come on, spill it out. How did you feel?

Jesus...

JOANNE

It was nice. It felt good, okay? Great actually.

Mary beams. Satisfied.

MARY

Was he as much a good lover as he's talked of?

JOANNE

He was great, Mary. Now enough with the questions. We have to pick the dress.

Joanne obviously is irritated. Mary gets that.

MARY

Okay, okay... I was just curious.

The three of them continue shopping.

EXT. BEACH - MORNING

It's a beautiful part of the beach. Bordering the mountain forest. Away from the hotel noise and all the people.

Jake is setting a small wooden boat up for sail. Adam and Steven watch him do it. Adam actually trying to help. Steven just staring at Jake. Angry with him.

JAKE

We'll be replacing two old buoys.

ADAM

How heavy are they?

Jake points at one of the new buoys lying not far away on the sand.

JAKE

Try it.

Adam goes and takes one. It is heavy.

ADAM

God, it's the heaviest thing I ever...

JAKE

(interrupting him)

The two of us can handle it.

Jake helps Adam.

ADAM

If you say so.

They put a buoy into the boat. A small silent pause then.

ADAM

(grinning)

Hey, Jake... Did you have a good time last night?

Jake checks if Steven is looking, listening to him. Steven turns away at once.

JAKE

Yeah. It was great. Joanne's a beautiful woman. Sexy.

Adam smiles.

ADAM

You're a dog.

JAKE

Yeah.

Steven is getting mad. It's obvious. Jake and Adam put another buoy into the boat. Push the boat to the water then.

Adam looks back at Steven.

ADAM

Are you coming?

Steven is standing still. No way he's getting into the same boat with Jake.

STEVEN

I think I'll stay.

ADAM

Come on. It's gonna be fun.

Steven shakes his head 'no'.

ADAM

Come on. What is the matter with you?

Jake looks at Steven. Grins. Steven is incapable of taking that. Starts away. Towards the forest neighboring the beach.

Adam follows him with his eyes. Looks at Jake then.

ADAM

What happened between the two of you? I've never seen him like this. Did you guys had a fight or something?

Jake pushes the boat into the water. Gets in.

JAKE

No, we haven't had a fight, Adam. We had sex.

Adam stops in his tracks. Looks at Jake, dumbstruck.

JAKE

Getting in?

ADAM

What?

JAKE

Get in the boat.

Adam gets in the boat. Jake starts the motor. Starts the boat away from the coast.

EXT. FOREST - SAME

Steven is standing in the trees up on the hill. Staring at the boat moving slowly out there. Nobody could see him here.

EXT. BOAT - SAME

Jake stops the boat close to one of the old buoys. Tries to get it out of water. Adam is still in somewhat stupor.

ADAM

I can't believe it...

Jake gives him a look.

JAKE

Are you gonna help me or what?

Adam realizes that he's actually here to help.

ADAM

Oh . . .

The two of them get the old buoy on board. Put the new one out in the water. Jake attaches it properly to the anchor cord.

ADAM

(thoughtful)

That actually explains a lot... He sure was acting weird around you. I thought something was going on between you two but this... I never could have guessed.

Jake looks at him.

JAKE

Does that change anything? Do you feel different about me... or him?

Adam looks at Jake. What? Feel different?

ADAM

No. I mean not really. I like you guys. You're my friends.

JAKE

That's all that matters then, isn't it?

ADAM

But what are you gonna do?

JAKE

I don't know. I'm hoping it's gonna work out one way or another.

ADAM

Do you want me to talk to him or something?

No way.

JAKE

No, please don't. Don't tell him you know about it. He'd freak. We don't want that.

(MORE)

JAKE (cont'd)

He just needs some time. And I'm willing to give him that.

Oh.

ADAM

You're right.

Adam thinks about it all. Wait...

ADAM

So you and Joanne... You had sex last night?

JAKE

No! We haven't. Neither of us wanted it. We thought it'd be better to lie. You know how Mary is about her plans. It's better if she thinks we did it.

Adam smiles.

ADAM

Yeah, she is...

Jake looks at him. That smile on his face when it comes to Mary.

JAKE

I hope she understands what a great guy you are before it's too late and she's done something stupid.

Adam looks Jake in the eyes. Thankful.

ADAM

Me too.

JAKE

We're kinda in the same boat here, ah?

Adam smiles.

ADAM

We are.

EXT. GARDEN - DAY

Ann comes to this secluded part of the garden. Beautiful view on the ocean. Beautiful roses.

Tom is standing here. Looking at the ocean. Ann approaches him. Hugs him from behind.

ANN

Hey you!

Tom is not so happy to see her. Angry. Pissed. He turns to her.

ТОМ

How could you do this to me?

Ann is shocked.

ANN

What?

TOM

I know everything.

What?

ANN

I don't understand...

TOM

I know everything about your...

He lowers his voice.

MOT

Your sex game.

He looks her in the eyes. Judgemental. He's a man. She's merely a woman to him.

TOM

How could you even think about something like this? This is so embarrassing.

ANN

Listen, Tom, it's not what you think it is. It wasn't like that.

Tom is unwilling to listen to her excuses.

MOT

What if anybody would find out? Did you even think about my reputation? What would people say? My girlfriend is a slut.

Ann is confused with what he's saying. His reputation? People? Suddenly it seems like he's a different person.

TOM

I would be mortified if only...

She interrupts him.

ANN

Listen, Tom, don't you think...

How dare she interrupt him? He's a man.

MOT

No you listen! You're gonna stop it right now. I don't want you to have anything to do with those guys ever again. Understand?

No. Not really.

MOT

You're gonna stop seeing them. They're not your friends.

Ann is getting pissed now herself. She's not his property.

ANN

You're not the one to decide that.

MOT

Yes, I am. I am your man and you're going to listen to me.

What? Are you kidding me?

ANN

No, I won't.

MOT

Either you're doing it or you and I are finished.

Sounds like a good idea. She sighs.

ANN

Goodbye, Tom. I'm sorry you've turned out to be an asshole.

She turns her back on him. Rushes away. Down the alley. Tom is following her with his eyes, indignant.

TOM

(shouting to her back)
I'm not giving the second chances.
That's final.

Ann speeds up. Leaves him far behind. It's painful. She wants to cry but manages to control herself. Runs down the alley. Away from the jerk.

EXT. BEACH - DAY

Steven is lying on the sand. Tanning under the sun. A hat over his face. He's here alone. Some desolate part of the beach.

Jake sneaks up to Steven. All wet. Splashes Steven with water he was holding in his hands.

Startled, Steven jerks up. Throws the hat off his face.

STEVEN

(pissed)

Hey!

It's Jake. Looking at him with a smirk on his face.

JAKE

You shouldn't be sleeping here this time a day. You'll burn.

Steven makes an angry face. Stands up.

STEVEN

I'm alright.

Jake just smiles. Just looks at him silently. That makes Steven even more pissed.

STEVEN

What?!

JAKE

Nothing.

Jake stretches his beautiful body a bit. Just to show off. He has it. Steven can't stop himself from looking.

STEVEN

Stop that. There's nothing between us. It was a mistake. I'm not like you and I will never be.

Jake's looks him in the eyes for a second. Pulls forwards. Kisses Steven on the lips suddenly. Steven is dumbstruck for a second...

Only for a second. Pushes Jake away. Hard. Jake falls on his butt on the sand.

Steven looks around. Checks if no one has seen it. Mortified. There's nobody.

He looks at Jake. Jake is laughing. Not even trying to get up or anything. He's comfortable down there. The whole thing makes him laugh out loud.

STEVEN

Stop it!

Steven doesn't find it so funny. He rushes away.

Jake follows him with his eyes. Isn't it obvious Steven has a thing for him?

EXT. BEACH - LATER

A much more crowded part of the beach. Mary, Adam and Ann have settled under the big colorful umbrellas.

Steven comes up. Sits down next to Adam. Not saying a word.

Adam looks at him.

ADAM

What's wrong?

Steven leans back. Covers his face with a hat.

STEVEN

I don't want to talk about it.

Mary and Ann look at Adam. Questioning. What is happening with Steven? Adam just shrugs.

EXT. BOAT GARAGE - DAY

Jake tugs a boat to the boat props. Joanne comes up, approaches Jake.

JAKE

Hey.

JOANNE

Hey...

Very concerned expression on her face.

JAKE

What is it?

JOANNE

It's Max. I haven't seen him since last night. I can't find him anywhere. He hasn't showed up at work. I've been trying to call his home but nobody's picking the phone.

Jake listens.

JOANNE

Jake, I'm worried.

She is.

JAKE

Listen, I'm sure that everything's fine. You calm down.

JOANNE

What if something happened? Oh, God...

JAKE

I'm sure it's fine. Look, I'm gonna drive to his house and check it out. Okay?

JOANNE

Can you do this?

JAKE

Of course.

JOANNE

I'm going with you then.

JAKE

You don't have to. I'm sure he's fine.

JOANNE

But...

JAKE

You're gonna have to stay and cover for me. We have the sex meeting, remember?

Joanne recalls it now.

JOANNE

Okay.

Jake looks her in the eyes.

JAKE

Don't worry. I'm sure he's okay.

She takes a deep breath, nods.

JAKE

Tell guys to wait up for me or something.

JOANNE

Okay.

EXT. BEACH - DAY

Mary, Ann, Steven and Adam are still tanning under the sun. Mary looks at her wrist-watch, discontented.

MARY

Where are they? Supposed to be here half an hour ago.

Steven looks discontented as well. For a different reason.

STEVEN

What do we need them for, anyways? They already did it.

MARY

That's not how the game works, Steven. It's Joanne's turn. She's spinning the bottle.

STEVEN

Let somebody else do it. I volunteer.

As much as Mary wants the sex game to continue, she wants it by the rules.

MARY

It has to be Joanne.

Fine then.

ADAM

There she is.

Adam points at Joanne who's heading towards them.

MARY

Why is she alone? Where's Jake?

Mary stands up, waits for Joanne. Beat.

MARY

(to Joanne)

Where is he?

JOANNE

He's not coming.

Ann, Adam and Steven approach the two of them.

MARY

What do you mean he's not coming? We can't play without him.

JOANNE

He gave me the key. We have the suite. It's gonna have to be the five of us.

Joanne hands Mary the key.

MARY

We can't do it like that. It's not right.

Steven grabs the key from Mary's hand and starts towards the hotel.

STEVEN

We're doing it without him!

Mary is shocked with such an impulsive behavior. Everyone is.

INT. SOME SUITE, HOTEL - EVENING

Guys are sitting around the room. Waiting. Bored. Steven looks pissed. He stands up.

We have to do it without him, you guys.

MARY

We can't. We have to wait.

STEVEN

We've been waiting for almost an hour. I tell you what either we're doing it without him or you're gonna be doing it without me.

An ultimatum?

MARY

Okay, okay.

Mary takes an empty bottle of wine. Puts it on the floor.

MARY

We'll do it.

Guys sit on the floor, in a circle.

MARY

Joanne...

Joanne seems lost in her thoughts. She notices everyone is looking at her. Realizes that it's her turn to spin the bottle.

JOANNE

Sorry...

She takes a grip on a bottle. Spins it. The very same moment the bottle stops to point at Adam the entrance door opens and Jake comes in. Joanne rushes to him.

JOANNE

Excuse me.

Jake acknowledges everyone in the room. He and Joanne go to the corner to talk privately then.

Seeing the two of them having secrets makes Steven even more jealous.

Mary looks at the bottle. It is pointing at Adam. Does she really want Joanne to have sex with Adam? No. But why?

JOANNE

(whispering to Jake)
What happened? Did you see him?

Jake nods.

JAKE

Yeah... He's home. He nearly punched me in the face when I showed up.

JOANNE

What? Why?

JAKE

He saw us last night. At the gazebo and at the dancefloor and... he saw guys leaving us alone in the suite.

What?

JOANNE

Nothing happened!

JAKE

That's what I was trying to tell him but he wouldn't listen. He threw me away. He thinks we've betrayed him.

Joanne is petrified of the thought of losing Max.

JOANNE

Oh my God. What do I do?

JAKE

Don't panic. It's gonna be alright.

JOANNE

I need to talk to him.

JAKE

Certainly. But not right now.

Joanne looks him in the eyes. Why?

JAKE

You need to give him a couple of days. Let him calm down, okay?

A couple of days? That long? Jake is positive about this.

JOANNE

Okay.

She takes a deep breaths. Looks at the guys there, waiting for her. And that stupid bottle and the stupid game. She shakes her head 'no'. Looks at Jake.

JOANNE

I can't do this. Tell them something, okay?

She rushes out of the suite. Jake joins the circle. Everyone has a questioning expression on their faces.

ANN

What happened? Is she alright?

JAKE

She's fine. It's okay...

ANN

Are you sure?

Jake looks at Ann. She can tell that it's not okay.

JAKE

She doesn't feel well, that's all. Are we playing?

ADAM

It was Joanne's turn. What do we do now when she's gone?

Everyone looks at Mary. Mary thinks about it.

MARY

Well... the bottle stopped at Adam. It'd say he spins it now.

Everybody seems okay with that idea.

Adam spins the bottle. It misses Mary and stops at Ann. Adam is not so happy about it. Mary isn't happy about it either.

Guys cheer the second couple anyways.

JAKE

Good choice, Adam.

Jake taps him on the shoulder.

JAKE

I guess we better leave you two alone now.

STEVEN

Yeah.

Jake and Steven get up at the same time. Look each other in the eyes for a second.

Steven goes past Jake. Heads out of the suite. Everyone is starting to get used to that kind of Steven.

JAKE

(to Adam and Ann)

You two have fun.

They both nod.

Jake heads for the door. Mary stands up too. Takes one condom out of a pack. Hands it to Adam. Silently. Doesn't feel that good about doing it.

She follows Jake then. Not saying a word. Awkward. Slides the door close behind herself.

Adam and Ann stay alone. Afraid even to look at each other.

INT. HALLWAY - SAME

Jake and Mary. The two of them are heading towards the elevators. Steven is standing right there, by the elevator's door.

Jake looks at him. Grins. Steven looks away. Pissed as usual. Mary is too lost in her own thoughts to notice that something is going on between them two.

MARY (V.O.)

Suddenly something was wrong. I got the strangest feeling about this all.

The elevator is still on its way. Guys wait.

MARY (V.O.)

It's so weird. I'm not sure what it was but something was not right. I just couldn't put my finger on it.

The elevator arrives.

INT. ELEVATOR - SAME

Guys come in. Jake and Steven happen to stand next to each other. Too small of a space to move away. Mary still doesn't notice the tension between them two.

MARY (V.O.)

It was as if... Oh, my God.

A revelation.

MARY (V.O.)

It was as if I didn't want to play the game at all.

Jake touches Steven's hand with his hand. Steven pushes it away. That only makes Jake smile.

MARY (V.O.)

This can't be right. I invented the game. That is my game. No!

Mary's face suddenly lightens with an idea. She turns to guys.

MARY

(excited)

We gotta continue. Right now.

Steven and Jake look at her. What?

JAKE

What do you mean, right now?

MARY

We have to continue the game, now!

JAKE

Mary, there's only three of us. I don't think that's by the rules.

Steven moves closer to Mary. Opposes Jake.

STEVEN

I like the idea. I think we should play.

Is that a challenge?

JAKE

Okay then. Let's do it.

Mary beams. Sort of.

INT. SOME SUITE - SAME

Adam and Ann. Hanging around in the opposite parts of the room. None of them is eager to get started with the sex part.

Adam looks at her finally.

ADAM

Listen, we don't have to do this.

ANN

We don't?

Adam sits down on the cough. Ann sits next to him.

ADAM

To tell you the truth, I only participated because I wanted to get closer to Mary.

She looks at him. Smiles. That wasn't a secret to anyone.

ADAM

It's not that I wanted to have sex with her. I mean I wanted...

He finds himself suddenly embarrassed as Ann is looking at him, smiling. She puts her hand on his hand, friendly.

ANN

Adam, I know. You love her.

What?

ADAM

You know?

ANN

It is obvious for everyone, Adam.

ADAM

Well, not for Mary though.

He looks away.

ANN

She'll get there, don't worry. She'll understand. I can tell.

A smile.

ADAM

Thanks.

They sit quietly for a moment.

ADAM

What are we gonna tell everyone?

ANN

We tell them we did it. You know how Mary is.

ADAM

I don't want to lie to her...

ANN

Look, maybe she needs to get a little jealous to understand something, ah?

ADAM

You think so?

ANN

I know so.

They smile.

INT. ANOTHER RANDOM SUITE - LATER

Mary, Jake and Steven. Sitting on the floor in a circle. Mary is taking a hold of an empty wine bottle. She spins it...

The bottle stops, but because only the three of them it points at no one.

JAKE

Well, what do we do now?

Mary is a little confused herself.

MARY

No problem. You spin it.

She is looking at Jake. Another challenge?

JAKE

Me?

MARY

Yep. Spin it.

It's getting crazy. But Jake goes with the flow and spins the bottle. It stops at Steven. Jake grins. Of course.

Steven is not happy. It seems the bottle knows better.

JAKE

(sarcastic)

Now what? Do I make love to Steven?

Mary makes a face. Don't be silly. Steven is outraged.

MARY

Steven, you spin it now.

STEVEN

Me?

MARY

Yes. It stopped at you. You spin it.

Simple like that? Okay. Jake leans back and watches Steven spin the bottle. The bottle stops. Hardly missing Jake it sort of points at Mary.

Jake watches them both react to that with a smirk on his face. Mary is confused. Steven looks at Jake with a smirk on his face too.

JAKE

Congratulations! I think I leave you two alone now.

Steven stands up. Happy to show Jake the way out.

STEVEN

That would be nice. Thank you.

The two of them head for the door.

INT. HALLWAY - SAME

Jake gets out of the suite. Steven is ready to close the door after him. Jake stops him. Looks him in the eyes. Serious now.

JAKE

Don't you think it's about time we stop playing games?

No, it's not.

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

Jake takes a second, gets ready to say it...

JAKE

Steven, if you do that with Mary... I'm not sure if I could love you anymore.

So shocked to hear the "L" word. Almost dumbstruck.

JAKE

Don't do that.

Jake turns to leave but then...

JAKE

There's something else you don't know... We never had sex with Joanne. Nothing happened. I only had it with you.

Jake heads away. Steven follows him with his eyes.

INT. SUITE - SAME

Steven comes back.

The light in the bedroom is on. Mary is apparently there. Steven hesitates. Heads for the bedroom then.

INT. BEDROOM - SAME

Mary is yet dressed. Standing by the bed. Not sure what to do. Not sure she wants to do it at all. Steven comes in. Looks at her.

STEVEN

So...

She looks at him.

STEVEN

Are we gonna do it?

MARY

Sure...

She takes off her blouse. He approaches her. Starts caressing her shoulder. She helps him take off his shirt. It's getting serious.

STEVEN

Do you want me to... kiss you?

Honestly, she doesn't.

MARY

It's not... necessary.

He nods. They proceed with caressing and undressing.

INT. HALLWAY - SAME

Jake is sitting on the floor. Leaning against the wall. Smoking. Looking at the "No smoking" sign on the wall. Sad expression on his face.

INT. BEDROOM, SUITE - SAME

Mary and Steven. Lying on the bed next to each other. Only underwear.

She sits up. Starts taking her bra off. So embarrassed right now. But why? That's what she wanted. Why does it feel so wrong than?

Steven is trying not to look as Mary's almost naked now. She lies down next to him. No too close though. They both are looking up at the ceiling cracks.

MARY

We have to...

STEVEN

Yeah...

They put their underwear off simultaneously. Not even looking at each other. So embarrassed. Mary takes one condom out of the pack and hands it to Steven.

MAR:

You have to...

STEVEN

Yeah...

He puts it on. Gets on top of her then. Looks her in the eyes. Oh, God!

Ready?

She looks away. Shuts her eyes.

MARY

Yeah...

He looks down at her body at last. This is so not right.

STEVEN

(muttering to himself)

Shit...

Mary opens her eyes. Looks at him. What? Suddenly Steven is Adam!

ADAM

Mary?

MARY

Ah . . . ?

Suddenly it's Steven again. Hallucination? The two of them look into each other's eyes. Confused. Scared. Embarrassed.

The silent pause seems to go on forever.

MARY

Steven?

No. He can't do this. He gets off Mary. Sits on the edge of the bed. Puts his pants back on.

STEVEN

I'm sorry... I can't...

Steven covers his eyes. Tearful. Mary covers herself with a blanket. Looks at him.

MARY

What is it?

STEVEN

I'm sorry, Mary. I can't...

Why?

STEVEN

(whispering)

I'm gay...

Mary didn't quite hear that.

MARY

Excuse me...

He turns to her.

STEVEN

I'm gay, Mary.

Mary is shocked. She keeps quiet for a moment.

MARY

Gay? Like in... homosexual?

He nods.

MARY

God...

Mary thinks about it.

STEVEN

Do you hate me now?

What? No!

MARY

Of course not, Steven. You are my friend. Gay or not. I love you either way.

STEVEN

Even though I am...

MARY

Of course.

Mary finds her bra.

MARY

Let me just...

Steven looks away. Mary puts her clothes back on.

MARY

Oh, my God. We were about to do the biggest mistake of our lives. But...

She sits next to him.

MARY

Are you sure...? I mean how do you know you're...?

He looks her in the eyes.

STEVEN

I've slept with Jake.

What?

MARY

With Jake?

He looks away.

STEVEN

I think I love him.

Only now she understands it. She was so ignorant. Thinking about herself and not thinking about anyone else. It's all her fault.

They sit quietly for a moment.

STEVEN

What are we gonna do?

MARY

I don't know...

STEVEN

Please don't tell anyone about me, okay?

MARY

Of course. I won't.

Mary looks at him.

MARY

We'll figure something out. I'll come up with something. I promise.

INT. JAKE'S SUITE - NIGHT

Jake comes in. So upset right now. Lies down on the couch. Has to have some sleep.

INT. SOME SUITE - SAME

Adam and Ann. Sleeping on the couch too. Together. Not like lovers though. Friends.

INT. STEVEN'S SUITE - SAME

Steven is in his bed. Sleepless.

INT. MARY'S SUITE - SAME

Mary is brushing her teeth. She comes out of the bathroom. Lost in her own thoughts. Gets in the bed.

MARY (V.O.)

Something went terribly wrong. Was it because me and my sex plan?

INT. SOME SUITE - MORNING

Adam wakes up. Ann is sleeping next to him. He looks at her. Kind of frustrated it's not Mary.

MARY (V.O.)

I haven't expected that. How could

I know?

INT. JAKE'S SUITE - SAME

Steven is in his bed. Still sleepless. Looking at the morning light in the window.

MARY (V.O.)

How could I know that Steven and Jake were gay and had sex with each other. Now neither of them wants to talk to each other. Jake believes we had sex and Steven is too afraid to talk to him and tell him the truth. How do I fix that?

INT. MARY'S SUITE - SAME

Mary is not sleeping. Just lying in the bed.

KNOCK, KNOCK.

MRS. JOHNS (O.S.)

Mary?

MRS. JOHNS opens the door and peeks in.

MRS. JOHNS

Wake up, honey. We've got a ride on a boat today, remember?

MARY

I'm up.

Mrs. Johns leaves. Mary sits up.

EXT. BOAT - MORNING

Mary is sitting on one of the seats. The open deck of the boat. Together with her mother and a small group of other boat riders.

She's looking at the coast out there. The hotel. All the problems suspended. All the problems she caused. Has to solve them now.

MARY (V.O.)

How was I supposed to know Joanne and Max were in love with each other? And that Max would see Joanne and Jake getting alone in the suite. He got all jealous and pissed. Now Max wouldn't talk to either of them. And Ann, how was I supposed to know she had sex with Tom. They never told me anything about it and now I am the one to blame.

Mary changes her pose. But not the sad look on her face.

MARY (V.O.)

And Adam. Adam... He wouldn't talk to me now. I have to fix that.

She changes her pose once more. Her expression is optimistic now.

MARY (V.O.)

I have to come up with something brilliant, quick.

EXT. ROCKY PART OF THE BEACH - SAME

Adam is sitting on the rocks. Looking at the small ocean waves crash against them. The sun is shining. The weather is perfect. But not for Adam. He is more than upset.

Steven approaches him from behind.

STEVEN

Here you are. I was looking for you.

Adam doesn't respond. Doesn't turn to look at him even.

STEVEN

Please don't be angry with me. There's nothing wrong I've done.

Adam turns, looks at him. Oh, yeah?

STEVEN

Nothing happened between me and Mary. Nothing could ever happen because... because I'm gay, Adam.

Adam's face softens. He smiles even.

ADAM

So nothing happened?

Steven is a little confused. His confession didn't make the impact he was anticipating.

STEVEN

No. Nothing. Are we good?

Adam nods. Steven sits down next to him. Small silent pause.

ADAM

I knew about you being gay, you know.

What? How?

ADAM

Jake told me.

Steven's face changes. Anger coming up.

STEVEN

He was making fun of me?

Adam smiles. Puts his hand on Steven's shoulder.

ADAM

No, nothing like that. He said he loved you, man. He does.

Does he? Steven lowers his eyes.

I was such a jerk to him. I'm not sure he could forgive me for that.

ADAM

He might.

Adam looks away. Heavy on his heart as well.

ADAM

So nothing happened, ah? Was it because...

Steven looks at him.

STEVEN

I think she didn't want it either. I think she wanted someone else.

Adam looks into his eyes.

ADAM

Me? You think?

He nods. Adam smiles.

ADAM

I wish that was true.

STEVEN

You have to talk to her. Tell her everything. She might surprise you, you know.

ADAM

Will you? Talk to Jake?

Steven is scared even to think about it.

MAGA

Talk to him. Tell him everything. He might surprise you, you know.

They both smile.

STEVEN

Yeah, I guess I should. I'm scared though.

ADAM

I know. Me too.

They look at the ocean. Silent pause.

So you're okay with me being gay and all?

ADAM

I kinda thought you might be... There's something about you... I don't know.

He puts his hand around Steven.

ADAM

I don't care if you're gay. You're my best friend, stupid.

They smile.

EXT. POOL AREA - LUNCHTIME

Ann is sitting by the bar. Looking at all the people having fun in the pool. She isn't that happy herself though.

Brett is standing next to her from the other side of the counter. He's mixing a cocktail. Glances at Ann from time to time. He likes her.

He puts a glass with cocktail on the table.

BRETT

(to Ann)

Here. This might cheer you up.

She turns to him. Looks at the cocktail. Pinkish, milkish... Looks good.

BRETT

It's raspberry and milk. Try it.

She sips it. It's good.

ANN

I love raspberries. Thanks.

Brett smiles. Ann enjoys the cocktail.

ANN

It's very good actually.

BRETT

Come, I'll show you how to make it.

Yeah?

ANN

Can I?

BRETT

Sure.

Ann walks over to his side of the counter. Brett gathers up all the ingredients. Ann watches him.

BRETT

We need a handful of fresh raspberries, raspberry syrup...

Ann smiles.

ANN

Okay.

BRETT

Milk, sugar, ice-cream...

Ann suddenly notices Tom hanging by the pool. He's with ANOTHER GIRL. Ann's face changes. What a jerk?

Brett notices that something is wrong. He looks where she's looking. Oh...

BRETT

He's such a jerk.

Ann looks at Brett surprised he said that.

ANN

He is. I thought I loved him.

Brett nods.

BRETT

I think you were mistaken. You'll know it when it's love. You'll just know.

She looks him in the eyes.

ANN

I think you're right.
 (beat)

Thanks.

Brett smiles. Gets back to mixing the cocktail.

EXT. SOLITARY PART OF BEACH - DAY

Jake is lying on the sand. Tanning under the sun. A hat covering his face.

Steven shows up. Comes over. He's holding some water in his hands. Splashes Jake.

JAKE

Hey!

Startled, Jake jerks up. Looks at Steven. Steven is smiling. Jake stands up. He's not sure how to react.

STEVEN

I wanted to talk to you.

Jake doesn't know what to say.

STEVEN

I'm sorry about everything. I was a jerk.

Jake stretches a smile.

JAKE

You were.

STEVEN

I want you to know that... nothing happened between me and Mary. We didn't do it.

JAKE

You didn't?

Steven shakes his head 'no'.

STEVEN

I'm gay... I see that now.

Jake nods. Looks away.

JAKE

Good for you.

STEVEN

There's something else...

Jake looks at him.

I'm not sure if you can forgive me and give me a second chance but I want you to know...

Steven looks him in the eyes.

STEVEN

I love you, Jake.

Jake cannot believe Steven just said that. He smiles.

JAKE

You do?

Steven nods.

JAKE

Come here.

They hug. Then kiss.

INT. MARY'S SUITE - DAY

Mary, Ann and Joanne. Getting ready for the dance tonight. Putting on fancy dresses. In the middle of some intense conversation.

MARY

Don't worry, Joanne. We're not gonna let him go away like that. We'll figure something out, I promise.

Joanne is trying to believe that there's still a chance to get Max back. Ann feels bad for her sister. She doesn't believe Mary or anybody is capable of changing anything. Men are all pigs.

ANN

I don't think there's something we can do, Mary.

MARY

(excited)

You're wrong. We just need a plan. Let me handle this. It's gonna be alright. I'm half way figuring it out.

Ann and Joanne exchange looks. Some things never change.

KNOCK, KNOCK. Mary is the only one fully dressed. So she goes to open the door.

MARY

I'll get it.

Ann and Joanne hide in the bedroom.

INT. HALLWAY - SAME

Mary opens the door to see Max. Standing right before her. He came himself. Mary sure is surprised. That wasn't a part of her plan.

MARY

Max? It's you.

MAX

Hi, Mary. I need to talk to Joanne. Is she here?

MARY

Hi. Yeah. Just give me a moment, okay. Stay right here. Don't move.

Mary shuts the door close.

INT. SUITE - SAME

Mary rushes towards the bedroom.

MARY

Joanne! Joanne!

Girls peek out.

JOANNE

What?

ANN

Who was it?

Mary beams.

MARY

We don't need any plan anymore. He's here.

Joanne lightens up. Runs to the entrance door.

INT. HALLWAY - SAME

Joanne opens the door. Faces Max. Her love. He's here. He smiles seeing her. So happy.

MAX

(whispering)

Hi..

She smiles too.

JOANNE

Max I...

He puts his finger to her lips...

MAX

(interrupting her)
Wait. Don't say anything. Let me
tell you something first.

He composes himself to say it.

MAX

Joanne, I love you...

A breath...

XAM

I want you to be my wife.

She tries to say something but he keeps her quiet...

XAM

I know that it's a huge responsibility. I have to support you in every way. I know that money are important to you. That's your life. I shouldn't have asked you to change that, so... I got the loan. I've walked every bank in town and I got it. They gave me the money for my hotel. It's nothing fancy but it's mine. A little more time and we'll have all the money we need, I promise. I'll support your every wish. I love you, Joanne. I want you to be with me.

Joanne smiles. She couldn't care less about the money. She hugs him so tight. He is surprised that she does.

Joanne looks at him then.

JOANNE

I love you, Max. I don't care how much money you have. I wanted to be your wife ever since I've met you.

Max is confused.

MAX

But...

JOANNE

Nothing happened between me and Jake. We're just friends. You got it all wrong. It's you I love.

He beams.

XAM

Really?

She nods. He can't control his emotions. He grabs her. Starts spinning her in the air. They both laugh out loud.

EXT. DANCEFLOOR AREA - EVENING

People are dancing. The last night of the season. Everybody is having fun.

Mary is standing aside. Looking at all the people dancing.

MARY (V.O.)

It seems like everything's worked out one way or another. And I have nothing to do with it. I get it now. Sometimes things just happen and you can't control them.

Mary looks at Max and Joanne dancing. They are now engaged. She looks at Jake and Steven having fun. Teasing each other.

She looks at Ann standing aside from the dancefloor. a little sad. Suddenly Brett, all dressed up, in a nice tux, comes up and asks her to dance with him.

She excepts his offer. For sure.

Mary looks at Adam standing alone. Staring at the dancing crowd.

MARY (V.O.) Except for once...

INT. SOME SUITE - NIGHT

Mary and Adam. Sitting on the floor. An empty bottle of wine between them.

Mary looks at Adam. She takes a grip on the bottle. Spins it.

MARY (V.O.)
I finally realized it wasn't just about sex and... what I really wanted was love.

The bottle stops. Against all the odds it points directly at Adam.

The two of them looks into each others eyes. Smile. Lean towards each other and kiss.

THE END.