

PHILIA

Written by

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EXT. BROOKLYN, NY - DAY

Various shots of different Brooklyn neighborhoods set to JAZZ MUSIC. WILLIAMSBURG, BROWNSVILLE, BRIGHTON BEACH, CONEY ISLAND, and others.

An above ground subway train flows through the city.

EXT. SUBWAY STOP - DUSK

Train halts at a stop. Many people hustle on and off the train. In the crowd are DANIEL and DOV.

Daniel is M, late 20s and African American, Dov is M, late 20s and Caucasian. We hear them converse before they emerge from the crowd.

DOV O.S.

I got to tell yeah Danny, I really like this girl, I really do.

The two boys are now clearly visible. Daniel wears a matching outfit and has a distinct walk. Dov dresses like a schlep. He doesn't seem to care about his appearance.

Daniel smiles as they walk.

DOV

This girl has got me on a high, I tell yeah. And she put out on the first night, how unbelievable is that?

EXT. STREET - CONTINUOUS

DOV

I'm telling yeah, I've never been this happy in my entire life.

Daniel laughs.

DANIEL

(sarcastically)
Well, you seem happy.

They walk in silence. Dov seems distraught.

DOV

What the fucks your problem?

DANIEL

What?

DOV

I tell you I've never been this happy in my entire life and you act like I'm full of shit.

DANIEL

Well, I know you're excited about this girl, Dov. But don't you think, maybe, you're overreacting?

DOV

Oh know, I'm not letting you get to me this time. I'm telling yeah I've never been happier, and there's nothing you can do or say to make me feel any other way. OK?

Daniel laughs.

DOV (CONT'D)

What's so funny now?

DANIEL

So tell me, what do you like about this girl? Angela, right?

DOV

Yeah, her name's Angela. And what do I like about her? Come on, what's not to like about her? For one, her bosom! Oh man Danny, her bosom is magical. And she's got beautiful brunette hair, you know how much I like brunettes. And such wonderful eyes, I can stare into those eyes all day. And, I almost forgot the best part. She has a car, can you believe that? A car in New York, incredible. I think I'm just going to marry this gal.

Daniel guffaws. Dov leers at him.

DANIEL

Dov. You don't even like this girl.

DOV

What you getting at?

DANIEL

You only like this girls body, her appearance.

DOV
Bullshit, I never said that.

DANIEL
So tell me why you like her, minus
the physical qualities.

Dov hesitates.

DOV
Well... Did I mention she has a
car! A car Danny, in New York! How
fantastic is that?

DANIEL
You see.

Daniel smiles. Dov shoves him.

DANIEL (CONT'D)
Listen, do you like her like you
like me?

DOV
No, what kind of question is that?

DANIEL
You fuck me?

DOV
(Muttering.)
I ain't no fag.

They walk in silence. Daniel grins and Dov sulks.

DOV (CONT'D)
You're wrong about this Danny. I've
never felt this way before.

DANIEL
You're definitely feeling
something, just it ain't the right
something.

EXT. CHINESE RESTAURANT - NIGHT

They approach the entrance to a CHINESE RESTAURANT.

DOV
What the hell do you know?

Daniel opens the door, a bell RINGS as he opens it.

DANIEL

You're getting laid Dov. That's all
this is.

Daniel disappears into the restaurant. Dov lingers outside
for a moment.

INT. CHINESE RESTAURANT - CONTINUOUS

The front of the restaurant is packed with hungry people
waiting for their tables. In the crowd are the friends Dov
and Daniel are meeting.

SUSAN, F, and MATT, M, both Caucasian late 20s, sit close
together. They have the appearance of spending most of their
lives in the country, but have now been living in a city for
a number of years.

Next to them are FRANK, M, and ANGELA, F, also late 20s.
Frank is an avant-garde artist; maybe John Lennon sunglasses.
Angela is a sweetheart from a wealthy family.

Dov enters and immediately embraces Angela. She tries to kiss
him but Dov shrugs it off and hugs her instead.

As they hug Dov makes a funny face at Susan and Matt. They
snicker.

Susan approaches Dov and Daniel. She motions towards Frank.

SUSAN

Guys, this is Frank. We work
together at the gallery.

Frank approaches Dov and Daniel. He gives them a slight bow.

FRANK

Sup, chums.

Dov glances at Daniel.

DOV

(To Daniel.)

Did he just call us chums?

AT THE TABLE.

Nearly empty food plates cover the table. Everyone converses
while they finish the meal.

FRANK
Circles, squares, and shapes of all
kinds. That is the secret to
immortality.

MATT
Immortality?

DOV
Get the fuck out of here!

FRANK
I mean it. Immortality. Eternal
bliss, the transcendent kind.

DOV
So what you are trying to tell us
is that circles and shapes will
bring us happiness or some shit?

FRANK
Sure! Why not?

DOV
So everyone needs to be an artist
to be happy? Draw shapes?

DANIEL
No Dov, he's saying everyone needs
to find their own circles and
shapes. You know, something they
have passion for.

FRANK
Was I saying that?

DANIEL
That's what I got out of it.

MATT
It's almost like what we do makes
us immortal.

FRANK
Yeah, I think I was saying that.

SUSAN
Frank really does have amazing
work. You guys are going to enjoy
it.

DOV
I'll probably like it better than
yours. I can already see it now.

(MORE)

DOV (CONT'D)
Meadows, and farmhouses, and
tractor trailers.

SUSAN
That's not what my work is.

DOV
Yeah, yeah, whatever.

MATT
Come on Dov, you're a writer. You
think writing is a superior art?

DOV
Nah, that's not what I'm saying.

SUSAN
Then what are you saying?

Dov glances around.

DOV
I just... it's just looking at
things. You know, it's not for me.

SUSAN
You don't like looking at things?

Dov looks at Angela.

DOV
I only like looking at things I
find beautiful.

Angela blushes.

SUSAN
So what, art can't be beautiful?

DOV
It's a different kind of beauty.
OK?

Daniel guffaws.

DANIEL
Oh come on Dov, give us a break.

DOV
What?

DANIEL

A different kind of beauty? How many kinds of beauty does there need to be?

DOV

Not that many, you know.

Daniel laughs.

MATT

I think what Danny's saying is that beauty is beauty. There aren't different kinds.

DOV

I think that's bullshit. When I see a painting, sure, I can say it has beauty.

Dov turns towards Angela.

DOV (CONT'D)

But when I see a beautiful girl, now that does something. That moves me.

DANIEL

It's moving something.

Daniel smiles. Dov glares at him.

FRANK

I actually think Dov has a point.

MATT

So do I.

FRANK

A pretty face does things far differently than a pretty painting.

MATT

Plato even suggested that beauty can be dangerous.

SUSAN

Oh Matt, you're always going on about Plato.

Matt sinks in his chair.

MATT

Well, remember what you told me the other day?

SUSAN

What?

MATT

You know, about Dov.

Susan is struck with panic. She stares at Matt, telling him something with her eyes.

Matt shrugs and turns towards Dov.

MATT (CONT'D)

Susan finds you attractive Dov.

Dov and Daniel laugh.

DOV

Oh really? You got a little crush on me, Susie.

SUSAN

Oh shut up. Anyways, I think you're going to be really surprised when you see our show Dov. After all, we are being funded by some of the greatest art dealers in New York City.

Susan glances at Matt. Matt does not notice how upset she is.

DOV

Yeah? Both of yeah?

FRANK

We are the future.

DOV

And the future involves circles and shapes?

FRANK

Exactly!

DOV

Well, I'm looking forward to it.

The waiter comes by and collects plates.

WAITER

Dessert?

DOV
Yeah, a bunch of dessert.

The waiter glares at Dov.

DISSOLVE TO:

AT THE TABLE. - CONTINUOUS

Everyone eats dessert as they converse.

ANGELA
So after our first date, things
just really started heating up.

Angela and Dov grasp hands. Dov winks at Daniel.

ANGELA (CONT'D)
I just find Dov so wonderful.

DOV
She's my little buttercup.

Dov kisses Angela on the cheek. Angela blushes and giggles.

SUSAN
You guys are adorable.

DOV
More adorable than your paintings.

SUSAN
You just don't know how to
appreciate fine art.

DOV
Yeah, and I don't wanna know.

SUSAN
But, you're still going to come to
the show?

DOV
Yeah, yeah, I'll go to your show.

SUSAN
But why?

DOV
Why? We're friends. Why wouldn't I
go?

DANIEL

That might be the wisest thing Dov has ever said.

Dov shoots Daniel a grin.

DOV

What the fuck do you know?

MATT

It begs the question. What is friendship?

SUSAN

Stop it Matt, nobody wants to talk about that.

DANIEL

I say, befriend the world.

MATT

You can't possibly be friends with the entire world.

DANIEL

Watch me.

DOV

A friend is just someone to spend time with. It makes the journey towards the end more bearable, right?

MATT

Journey towards the end?

DANIEL

He means death.

ANGELA

That sounds pretty dark, Honey.

Dov cringes at the word HONEY.

DOV

That's why we have friends. To converse with, share our thoughts, and to keep us warm at night.

DANIEL

A friend is more than that. A friend is something truly special in ones life.

DOV
Yeah, like your little boyfriend
from college?

Daniel grows flush and sinks in his chair.

MATT
It sounds to me, Dov, you only see
utility with friendship.

DOV
Yeah, yeah, sure. Sounds good.

MATT
Meaning, you only value your
friends by how much you can use
them.

DOV
Use them. Come on, I don't use
people.

MATT
We are always using other people,
can't avoid it. But it's your
attitude that sounds peculiar.

DOV
What! I don't got an attitude.

SUSAN
Stop it Matt, you're making him
upset.

DANIEL
So what other value is there with
friendship besides utility?

MATT
Well, that's the question.

DANIEL
What does friendship really bring
to the table?

MATT
It's got to be something good.

A FRIEND, Caucasian late 20s, clearly an Orthodox Jew, walks
towards the table. The Friend slaps Dov on the shoulder.

FRIEND
How's everyone doing?

Everyone murmurs an answer back.

DOV
(To Friend.)
How did it go the other night?

FRIEND
Home run.

DOV
Home run?

FRIEND
Yeah, hit it out of the park.

Dov and the Friend burst into laughter. This laughter lingers for quite some time.

FRIEND (CONT'D)
I'm looking forward to your show
Susan. Everyone be good.

The Friend exits.

ANGELA
What was that all about?

DOV
Oh, just some bullshit.

Dov winks at Daniel.

DISSOLVE TO:

AT THE TABLE - CONTINUOUS

All plates are cleared. Wads of cash lie on top of the check.

SUSAN
So what should we do now? The night
is young.

DOV
I don't wanna do nothing.

SUSAN
Why not?

Dov embraces Angela. Daniel drinks from a water glass.

DOV
 Because, I want to bring Angela
 back to my place and make sweet
 love to her.

Angela blushes. Daniel chokes on his water.

DANIEL
 Sweet love? At your parents place?

Daniel bursts into laughter.

DANIEL (CONT'D)
 Give us a break.

DOV
 It's not what you think. It's not
 just physical, something else is
 happening I'm telling yeah.

ANGELA
 (To Dov.)
 You're such a sweetheart.

Susan grabs Matt's hand.

SUSAN
 If only Matthew treated me like
 this.

MATT
 I don't?

Matt kisses Susan on the lips.

SUSAN
 It's nice to have someone you will
 grow old with.

DANIEL
 But what's the point if you can't
 live with yourself?

SUSAN
 What?

DANIEL
 I'm just speaking hypothetically.

MATT
 The self. Key to life?

DANIEL
 Perhaps.

Dov guffaws.

DOV
The self! That's ridiculous.

DANIEL
How so?

DOV
Gawd didn't give us these parts
just so we can play with ourselves.

Frank nods in agreement.

DANIEL
Gawd?

DOV
Whatever. Figure of speech.

MATT
I don't think Danny means that kind
of self.

DANIEL
I don't.

DOV
How many selves we talking about
here?

MATT
The self with an upper case S.

Dov facepalms himself.

ANGELA
I don't understand.

MATT
That's alright, nobody really does.

DANIEL
And that right there, that's love.

Everyone gawks at Daniel.

SUSAN
What does that mean?

DANIEL
We lack so much in life, confusion
really. Is it not love that fills
in this emptiness?

MATT

But then, what is love?

SUSAN

It's having someone to grow old with.

DANIEL

It's walking down the street, taking in all of creation.

DOV

It's holding your sweetheart real close and waiting for the magic to happen.

The waiter stands by the check.

WAITER

YOU'RE ALL WRONG!

Everyone stares at the waiter.

WAITER (CONT'D)

Love is the flow of river. The breeze in trees. The sun shining upon earth.

Dov glares at the waiter. The waiter picks up the check, but Dov grabs a bill and pulls it from the waiter's grip.

WAITER (CONT'D)

None of you know what love is.

The waiter grunts and struts away.

SUSAN

Well. Are we ready to leave?

Everyone stands up.

DANIEL

I'm gonna hit the loo.

Daniel walks towards the bathroom.

DOV

Everyone have a great night.

Dov grabs Angela. Angela shrieks.

DOV (CONT'D)

I know I will.

AT THE BAR. - CONTINUOUS

Daniel walks by a crowded bar. JEN, Caucasian mid 20s, sits among the crowd. She drinks a giant scorpion bowl by herself. Daniel notices her.

DANIEL
Holy crap! Are you drinking that
all by yourself?

The girl blushes.

DANIEL (CONT'D)
Want help?

She radiates a smile towards Daniel. He smiles as well.

EXT. STREET - CONTINUOUS

Daniel and Jen stroll down the street. Daniel smiles as he observes his environment. Jen sneaks glances at Daniel.

DANIEL
Isn't Brooklyn beautiful at night?

JEN
Yeah, of course.

They walk in silence.

JEN (CONT'D)
What else do you find beautiful?

DANIEL
Oh, everything.

JEN
Everything?

DANIEL
Absolutely everything.

JEN
Even me?

DANIEL
I think you're very beautiful.

Jen blushes.

JEN
I swear, I've never met a guy like
you.

DANIEL
What kind of guys do you meet?

Jen laughs.

JEN
You know, the usual.

DANIEL
No, what's the usual?

Jen fumbles for an answer.

JEN
Pigs. I meet pigs.

Jen and Daniel smile at each other.

DANIEL
So you don't think I'm a pig.
That's funny cause I always thought
I was.

JEN
No, I think you're very sweet.

DANIEL
Have you ever dated one of these
pigs?

JEN
Oh, I've spent alot of time by the
trough.

They both laugh.

DANIEL
Have you ever been in love with one
of these pigs?

JEN
A few.

DANIEL
No you haven't.

JEN
I haven't?

DANIEL
What you're thinking about is a
feeling. But what I'm talking about
is more than a feeling.

JEN
I don't know what you mean.

DANIEL
Then you've never been in love.

EXT. JEN'S APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

Jen smiles. She halts outside an apartment building.

JEN
Speaking of love, here I am. Thanks
for walking me home.

Jen ogles Daniel.

JEN (CONT'D)
Do you want to come inside?

Daniel hugs Jen.

DANIEL
Not tonight, but it was wonderful
meeting you.

JEN
But, don't you want to make love?

Daniel grasps Jen's hand.

DANIEL
But my dear. We have made love many
times walking here. Don't you feel
it?

Daniel kisses her hand. He let's go and saunters away.

Jen is left breathless by the front stoop of her building.
She stares at Daniel as he gets further away.

JEN
(Yelling.)
Can I at least give you my number?

DANIEL
(Yelling.)
Fate shall decide if we will meet
again. Good night my beauty.

Jen stares at Daniel until he turns the corner. She lingers
outside the building.

JEN
What a strange boy.

Jen enters the building.

INT. SUBWAY (MOVING) - CONTINUOUS

Matt and Susan sit close. Near them is a NEW YORKER, Caucasian 50s. He focuses on a newspaper.

Susan seems troubled. Matt glances at her and notices something is off.

MATT
What's wrong?

SUSAN
Nothing.

MATT
That's not true. You look upset.

Matt embraces Susan. The New Yorker grunts and turns the page of his newspaper.

SUSAN
I just can't believe you told Dov I found him attractive.

Matt smiles.

MATT
Come on. That's what's bothering you? I don't care if you find him attractive.

SUSAN
Well I do.

MATT
It's natural. It shouldn't upset you.

SUSAN
You don't get it Matthew.

MATT
What am I not getting?

SUSAN
I love you. I want to grow old with you.

Matt kisses Susan on the forehead. The New Yorker notices and rolls his eyes. He then redirects his focus on his newspaper.

MATT

What does that have to do with finding someone else attractive?

SUSAN

I'm scared.

MATT

Of what?

SUSAN

My own feelings. I'm scared of what I might do.

MATT

Listen, no force on this earth can take away the love we have. I don't care what you say.

SUSAN

I know, but still. Maybe we should stop hanging out with Dov.

Matt laughs.

MATT

Please, you couldn't stay away from him even if you tried.

Susan smiles.

SUSAN

He's just so funny.

MATT

One of a kind.

Matt and Susan hold hands.

MATT (CONT'D)

You know we have something very special, right?

SUSAN

I know.

They hold each other. Susan begins to tear up.

MATT

What's wrong now?

SUSAN

Nothing. You just bring me so much joy.

Matt holds her closer. The New Yorker puts down his newspaper.

NEW YORKER

Why don't you two get married already?

Matt and Susan look at The New Yorker. They turn towards each other.

SUSAN

Why don't we get married Matthew?

MATT

I don't know. We've been together so long, I guess it wouldn't make a difference.

SUSAN

Well, maybe we should. There are many benefits to marriage. And how fun would a wedding be?

MATT

I suppose our parents have been waiting a while for a wedding.

Susan and Matt smile at each other. The New Yorker stomps his feet. Susan and Matt glance at him.

NEW YORKER

Kid, would you do it already?

MATT

Do what?

NEW YORKER

Jesus Christ, do it before I jump off this train and let the rats gnaw off my face!

MATT

DO WHAT?

SUSAN

DO WHAT?

NEW YORKER

PROPOSE!

Matt and Susan stare at each other.

INT. MATT/SUSAN APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

The apartment has ONE BEDROOM and a distinct look. Matt and Susan enter while kissing.

IN THE BEDROOM. - CONTINUOUS

Matt and Susan kiss as they fall into the bed.

FADE OUT.

EXT. DOV'S APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

The building is in WILLIAMSBURG. Dov and Angela hop out of a parked RED LUXURY CAR. They grab each others hands and walk towards the stoop.

ANGELA

You sure this is a good idea?

Dov kisses her.

DOV

It's the best idea I've ever had.

INT. DOV'S APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

The apartment is dark. The front door slowly swings open. Dov and Angela creep inside.

DOV

(Whispering.)

Follow me. But what ever you do,
don't turn on the lights.

ANGELA

(Whispering.)

The lights?

DOV

(Whispering.)

Yeah, yeah. The lights.

Angela flicks on the light. LIGHT ILLUMINATES the apartment, revealing a very JEWISH HOME.

ANGELA

(Whispering.)

You mean this light?

DOV

Oh shit.

A WAIL comes from down the hall. Dov's parents, MORDECAI, M, and MARIA, F, both Caucasian and 60s, stir from their slumber.

MARIA O.S.

MORDY! WAKE UP! OUR FAKAKTE SON
TURNED THE LIGHTS ON AGAIN!

Angela trembles. Dov seems upset, but at the same time he seems slightly amused.

MORDECAI O.S.

WAAH! THE LIGHTS? ON SHABBOS?
THAT'S UNACCEPTABLE!

ANGELA

Why didn't you tell me your parents
were religious?

Dov shrugs.

DOV

I try not to think about it.

A door KICKS open. Both Angela and Dov jump at the THUD of the door.

Mordecai storms into the hall. He wears blue and white pajamas with a matching nightcap. Maria follows behind him. She also wears pajamas.

They both notice the girl then scowl at Dov.

MORDECAI

How dare you disturb our sacred
rest!

DOV

Oh go back to bed, both of yeah.

MORDECAI

Who do you think you are?

MARIA

And you bring this shiksa girl,
into our home. So disrespectful.

ANGELA

(To Dov.)

What's a shiksa?

DOV
 (To Angela.)
 It's Jewish for pretty girl.

Mordecai screams obscenities in Yiddish. Dov motions Angela towards the front door.

DOV (CONT'D)
 Listen, I'll make it up to you
 guys.

MORDECAI
 How the hell are you going to do
 that?

DOV
 I'll go to temple in the morning.

Relief floods over the faces of Mordecai and Maria.

MARIA
 That would be lovely Dov.

Mordecai and Maria smile. Dov GAGS OFFSCREEN. The faces of Mordecai and Maria become sour once again.

DOV
 Oh gawd, you actually believed me.
 Jesus, I'm nauseous just thinking
 about it. We are outta here.

Dov and Angela flee out the front door.

MORDECAI
 (Bellowing.)
 I have a real schmucky son, you
 know that?

EXT. DOV'S APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

Dov and Angela approach the red car. They reach the car and stare at each other, finally Dov grabs and hugs her.

DOV
 You gonna be alright?

ANGELA
 Definitely. Can I call you
 tomorrow, will your parents mind?

DOV
I don't care what they think.

ANGELA
You should really be nicer to them.

Dov shrugs.

DOV
It's not as bad as it seemed, they
are just hyper neurotic people.

ANGELA
Well, all right.

They kiss on the lips and then let go of each other.

Angela approaches the driver side of the car and pulls out
her keys. Dov watches her from the street.

DOV
Listen, Angela. I'm going to take
you out for a nice meal tomorrow.

Angela looks at him.

ANGELA
Yeah?

DOV
Yeah. Will go to a place with live
music. How about a Jazz club? I
know a great one.

Angela smiles.

ANGELA
Sounds absolutely wonderful.

Dov smiles.

DOV
Great! Well, have a great night.

ANGELA
You too.

Angela enters the car, turns on the engine, and drives off.
The car rolls down the road.

Dov gazes at it until it turns the corner and is out of view.

FADE TO BLACK.

EXT. PARK - DAY

It is a clear and beautiful day. Children play on the playground. People sun bathe and read. Kites are in the air. A COP wanders the park, twirling his baton.

Dov and Daniel stroll through the park, but they are not visible.

DOV O.S.

From the moment we are born, to the moment we die, we only get x amount of opportunities to get laid. And you blew it!

Dov and Daniel are now visible.

DANIEL

Where do you come up with these long winded bullshits?

DOV

I'm a writer! It's what I do. But seriously, tell me, why did you pass up the opportunity?

The Cop begins to follow them from a distance. Dov and Daniel don't notice.

DANIEL

Let me ask you something. Do you enjoy sex?

DOV

Do I enjoy sex? What kind of stupid question is that?

DANIEL

Yes or no?

DOV

Yes damn it. Of course I enjoy sex. Who the fuck doesn't enjoy sex?

DANIEL

Now, do we as human beings need that release?

DOV

What release?

DANIEL

You know. Orgasmic release.

DOV
Yeah, I would say so. Sure, why not?

DANIEL
We need it kind of like we need to eat, right?

DOV
Sure, sure.

DANIEL
So how could any human being enjoy something that they have to do?

DOV
What?

DANIEL
You heard me.

DOV
I'm confused. Are you saying you don't like eating?

Daniel smiles.

DANIEL
Not really.

DOV
What the fucks the matta with you?

Daniel laughs.

DOV (CONT'D)
You're fucking ridiculous.

Dov glances around their vicinity.

DOV (CONT'D)
Let's light that joint up, I need it after talking with you.

Daniel glances behind him.

DANIEL
Let's find somewhere more secluded. That cop is behind us.

DOV
Fucking cops.

Dov and Daniel hustle through the park. They find a secluded spot. Daniel takes out a joint and lights it. They pass it back and forth as they converse.

DOV (CONT'D)
So you're just gonna jerk off the rest of your life?

DANIEL
There's nothing better than self-love in my humble opinion.

Dov smirks.

DOV
You wanna love yourself, why not read some Shakespeare or some fucking Hemingway. I don't see jerking off as loving yourself.

DANIEL
What is it then?

DOV
A fucking burden, that's what it is.

Daniel sighs.

DANIEL
Oh, Dov. I'm not really talking about sex or jerking off. I'm just not concerned with those sort of things.

DOV
Don't give me that shit. You need it just as much as everyone else.

DANIEL
I suppose. But don't you get the sense that there is something more to our lives?

DOV
Yeah sure. But what's that got to do with what we're talking about here?

DANIEL
If I'm going to be intimate with someone, I want it to truly matter.

DOV
Well, go find yourself a
girlfriend. Angela and I are on top
of the world.

DANIEL
Give me a fucking break.

DOV
Don't start with Angela again. I
love that girl, alright!

DANIEL
You love fucking her.

Dov fumes. The Cop appears out of nowhere.

COP
Hello boys.

Dov and Daniel turn towards the Cop. Daniel holds the joint
behind his back.

COP (CONT'D)
What you got in your hand boy?

DANIEL
A cigarette.

COP
Stogie huh?

Cop sniffs the air like a buffoon.

COP (CONT'D)
Sure smells like pot to me.

Daniel and Dov stare at the Cop.

COP (CONT'D)
Hand it over.

Daniel hands him the joint. The Cop takes a large drag from
the joint. He then bursts into a fit of coughs.

The Cop's face becomes red.

COP (CONT'D)
Now you boys stay out of trouble.

The cop puffs the joint and walks away. A mixture of coughs
and laughter resonate as he disappears from view.

DOV
Fucking cops. Always smoking our
green.

Daniel pulls out another joint. He smiles. Dov smiles and
nods.

Daniel lights the joint and passes it to Dov. They walk
towards a pond.

DOV (CONT'D)
So why the fuck do you keep on
trying to convince me I don't
really like Angela?

DANIEL
Because you don't.

DOV
Fuck you Danny. You don't know what
you're talking about.

DANIEL
You've known her how long, a month?
You fucked her on the first date.

DOV
Yeah, yeah. It was fucking magical.

Daniel grabs Dov's shoulders and shakes him.

DANIEL
Think about it Dov! Is that how you
would treat a friend? Is that how
you would treat me?

Dov does not respond. He doesn't even move. The joint burns
in Dov's hand. Daniel smiles at him and walks towards the
pond. Dov remains where he is.

AT THE POND. - CONTINUOUS

Daniel observes the pond with a smile. He then notices a
young man in the distance. The young man tosses food in the
air. Pigeons gather around him.

Daniel approaches the pond. An OLD MAN approaches the young
man and yells at him. The boy argues back. Daniel laughs at
the distant image.

Daniel is now close enough to recognize the boy. He is SAM,
M, late 20s and Caucasian. Sam dresses in fine clothes but
the way he walks suggests that he is intoxicated.

Daniel is now close enough to hear Sam and the Old Man argue.

OLD MAN
You just can't feed them this crap.

SAM
I can do what I want. It's a free
country.

Daniel smiles.

OLD MAN
Cake is not good for the birds.
What the hell is wrong with you?

SAM
Hey food is food. Piss off old man.

The Old Man grunts.

OLD MAN
(Mumbling.)
What the fuck do I care.

The Old Man walks away. Daniel approaches Sam.

DANIEL
Look who found his way to New York.

Sam looks at him. He smiles when he recognizes who it is.

SAM
Danny! Is that you?

Daniel and Sam give each other a bro-hug.

SAM (CONT'D)
Holy crap, it's been a minute.

DANIEL
How are you Sam?

SAM
I'm alright. Got a job in
Manhattan.

DANIEL
Doing what?

SAM
Working for the devil.

Sam smiles but seems as though something really bothers him.
Daniel recognizes this. He hugs Sam.

DANIEL

It's so fucking good to see you.

Dov approaches. Daniel ends the hug and notices Dov.

DANIEL (CONT'D)

You remember my buddy Dov, right?
You met him that one time you came
to the city with me.

Dov and Sam shake hands.

SAM

Yeah, I definitely remember this
guy.

Sam gives Dov a sly look.

DOV

Never thought I would see this
schmohawk again.

Dov passes Sam the joint. Sam grabs it.

SAM

Is it kosher?

Sam laughs. Dov fumes. Daniels observes both of them.

DOV

I gotta get the fuck outta here
Danny. The shit we've been talking
about is starting to get to my
head.

Dov hustles away from them.

DOV (CONT'D)

(Yelling.)

You two love birds have a nice
time.

Sam frowns and ducks his head downward. He kicks a pebble.

SAM

(Muttering.)

Faggot.

DANIEL

Nah man, Dov's cool. We've been
tight since we were 8 years old.

SAM
Oh yeah, did you go to that kikes
mitzvah thing?

Daniel guffaws.

DANIEL
As a matter of fact, I did.

Sam smiles. Daniel smiles back.

SAM
Wanna check out my place. I got a
nice bong.

DANIEL
Sounds great.

INT. SAM'S APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

It's one of those apartments where the kitchen and living
room are a single room. Sam and Daniel sit on a couch. They
are close to each other. Daniel finishes hitting the bong. He
coughs.

DANIEL
This is some good shit.

Sam packs the bong and takes a rip. Sam coughs and then sinks
into the couch.

Daniel stares at Sam. Sam does not notice.

DANIEL (CONT'D)
Hey so I work in Manhattan as well.

SAM
Oh yeah?

DANIEL
Yeah, I work with a firm on wall
street.

Sam rolls his eyes. Daniel notices.

DANIEL (CONT'D)
I analyze stock projections, it's
not the most fulfilling work but I
can take care of my brothers with
the salary I make.

SAM
Right, I forgot you grew up poor.

Daniel punches his arm.

DANIEL

And I forgot you were a fucking
prick.

Sam smiles as he rubs his arm.

SAM

If you can't handle it don't chill
with me.

Daniel sighs.

DANIEL

So what kind of work does the devil
have you doing?

Sam sinks further into the couch.

SAM

I work for Pelligro Advertising.

DANIEL

Advertising? Oh shit.

SAM

Yeah. Thank you art degree. My
parents are happy I got a big boy
job so that's all that really
matters.

DANIEL

What about you being happy?

SAM

Who said I wasn't happy? I'm super
happy!

DANIEL

I can tell you're not.

SAM

You don't know shit.

Sam gets up and exits the area. Daniel twiddles his thumbs
and observes the apartment.

SAM O.S.

I just have to take my medicine and
I'm a happy little fuck.

Daniel twitches. He runs his hand through his hair.

Sam returns. He plops himself next to Daniel. He holds a glass of water in his right hand, and has two pills in his left hand.

Sam smiles at Daniel. He pops the pills in his mouth. He drinks the water then places the glass next to the couch.

DANIEL
Medicine?

SAM
Yeah, I'm prescribed this shit.

DANIEL
What is it?

SAM
A little bit of this. A little bit of that.

DANIEL
I'm just curious.

SAM
Well, I'm on antidepressants, those I take once in the morning and they are really no fun. But what I just took is for anxiety. They are my favorite.

DANIEL
I'm starting to remember alot about you Sam.

Daniel stares at Sam. Sam notices and grows uncomfortable. He stands up from the couch.

SAM
And I'm starting to remember why I stopped talking to you.

Daniel looks away. Sam goes into the kitchen area.

Daniel stands up and approaches him.

DANIEL
Listen, I should get going, but I wanted to tell you about my friends Art show next week. I know you're into drawing and painting so I think you will enjoy it.

SAM

I'm not going to pay some bourgy fucks so I can stare at art for a few hours.

DANIEL

You won't have to pay, don't worry about that.

SAM

Alright, well I'll see what's good.

DANIEL

Will be in touch.

Daniel smiles at Sam. Sam smirks at him and then proceeds to prepare food. Daniel lingers in the apartment for a few moments and then exits.

INT. ART GALLERY - DUSK

Various types of people set up The Gallery for a show. Some of Frank and Susan's work hangs on the walls.

Frank and Susan themselves chat with 3 ART DEALERS. They appear as the best art dealers in New York City would appear.

They are ART DEALER A, ART DEALER B, and ART DEALER C. They speak together in a unique way, reminiscent of the witches from MACBETH.

ART DEALER A

You both are going to be big.

ART DEALER B

Huge. Just stay focused.

ART DEALER C

And relax. No pressure.

ART DEALER A

But remember.

ART DEALER B

You both only have one shot.

ART DEALER C

And this is it.

ART DEALER A

So whatever you do...

ART DEALER B
DON'T BLOW IT!

ART DEALER C
DON'T BLOW IT!

ART DEALER A
Or kiss your careers goodbye.

The Art Dealers shake their hands and exit the area.

Susan keeps herself busy. Frank grins.

FRANK
So how about this pressure?

SUSAN
Yeah.

FRANK
Hopefully we don't fuck this up.

SUSAN
Hopefully not Frank.

Susan walks away from Frank. She continues to keep herself busy. Frank follows her.

FRANK
So how about that Dov guy? What a character!

SUSAN
What? Frank I'm trying to prepare for the show. Can we chat later?

FRANK
Sure, sure.

Susan walks away from Frank. She approaches one of the workers and shows him where one of her pieces should go. Frank follows her.

FRANK (CONT'D)
He's a good looking guy. I totally understand why you have a crush on him.

Susan stops in her tracks. She turns towards Frank.

SUSAN
Frank! I'm busy. Please.

Susan refocuses on her task. Frank smiles and follows her.

FRANK

You shouldn't be ashamed of it.
Having a little crush on a friend
is natural.

Matt enters The Gallery. Susan grows irate.

SUSAN

(Shouting.)

For Pete's sake Frank. Yes I have a
fucking crush on Dov. I think he's
fucking adorable and hilarious, and
I think about having his babies all
the fucking time. OK?

Frank smiles. Matt heard every word.

FRANK

OK, relax. I'm only teasing you.
Just trying to relieve some of the
pressure with some small talk.

SUSAN

You're a schmuck Frank. Go away.

Matt approaches them.

MATT

Dov's babies eh?

Tears begin to flow in Susan's eyes. She stares at Matt. Matt
smiles at her. Frank cackles.

INT. MATT/SUSAN APARTMENT - NIGHT

Matt embraces Susan as they sit together on a couch. It is
apparent Susan has been crying.

Matt stirs out of the snuggle. He gets up and approaches the
kitchen area.

SUSAN

Where are you going?

MATT

I'm just getting water.

Susan observes Matt in the kitchen area. Matt notices her.
Susan notices Matt noticing her.

SUSAN

Matthew?

Matt sits next to Susan. He slams a glass of water on the table.

MATT
Yes Susan?

SUSAN
Can you forgive me?

MATT
What the hell am I suppose to be forgiving?

Susan begins to sob. Matt embraces her.

MATT (CONT'D)
What's wrong now?

SUSAN
I've betrayed you.

MATT
How? For having a thought?

SUSAN
It's just so wrong.

MATT
Jesus Susan, I really think you're overreacting here.

SUSAN
You're angry at me.

MATT
No. I'm irritated because I don't understand what exactly is bothering you.

SUSAN
I can't control it. It makes no sense.

MATT
Susan, being attracted to someone is very natural.

SUSAN
It's just. I only want you, OK? For the rest of my life I want to only be attracted to you.

MATT
Our love can't change human nature.

SUSAN
I just don't get it.

MATT
I think you need to stop resisting those animal thoughts. I think it's causing you a lot of stress.

SUSAN
What do you mean, like DO something about it?

Matt laughs.

MATT
No, I wasn't thinking that at all. But it's a funny thought.

SUSAN
Sure is.

MATT
Maybe we should try it.

SUSAN
Try what?

MATT
An open relationship.

SUSAN
What's that?

MATT
An arrangement where we both are aloud to see other people.

SUSAN
Like on a date?

MATT
I guess.

SUSAN
I don't know Matthew.

MATT
It might even be healthy for the both of us.

SUSAN
It doesn't sound like a good idea at all.

MATT

Susan, listen. We grew up together, went to school together, took each others virginities. We did it, we found what everyone so desperately is searching for.

SUSAN

OK.

MATT

So if we have it, what's the harm? Have you ever been intimate with another guy besides me?

SUSAN

Of course not, you know that.

MATT

Well, I've never been with another girl. It might be fun.

SUSAN

What if I sleep with Dov.

Matt guffaws.

MATT

It would be better than some random bro you meet at a bar.

Susan snickers.

SUSAN

Let's give it a shot.

MATT

It's official then?

SUSAN

Yes, it's official. We are in an open relationship.

Matt kisses Susan.

MATT

Good, let's celebrate.

They make out on the couch.

FADE OUT.

INT. JAZZ CLUB/RESTAURANT - CONTINUOUS

Well dressed patrons fill the club. A live Jazz Band jams in the BG.

Dov and Susie sit at a table. Angela smiles as she eats her food and admires the band. Dov pokes his food with his fork. Angela notices him.

ANGELA
Not hungry?

DOV
What? Oh know, just enjoying the music.

ANGELA
The music sure is swell!

Dov cringes at the word SWELL.

DOV
Since when do you use the word swell?

ANGELA
Since always.

Dov pokes his plate with his fork.

ANGELA (CONT'D)
So are you excited for our yoga class next week?

DOV
What, yoga? I'm not doing yoga.

ANGELA
But you promised.

DOV
I did? You sure?

ANGELA
Yes!

DOV
(Reluctantly.)
Well if I promised, I might as well try it.

ANGELA
And do you remember talking about that other thing?

DOV
What other thing?

ANGELA
You know... that kinky stuff.

DOV
What? Oh know, I don't do anything
kinky.

ANGELA
Don't you remember talking about
it?

DOV
I don't do kink!

ANGELA
That's not what you told me the
other day.

DOV
I was probably just going along
with whatever the fuck you was
saying so's you would shut up.

ANGELA
That's a mean thing to say Dov.

DOV
Well, sorry!

ANGELA
Do you even remember the trip I
have planned for us?

DOV
Trip? What trip?

ANGELA
Upstate. To visit my family.

DOV
(Bellowing)
Oh no! I'm not going on any trip!

A JAZZ MUSICIAN, and OLD LADY, and a WAITER all notice Dov.

ANGELA
But, you promised.

DOV
I ain't never left Brooklyn my
entire life!

ANGELA
I didn't know that.

DOV
And there's know way in hell I'm
going to leave for you.

The band stops playing. Everyone in the restaurant now has
their attentions on Dov and Angela.

DOV (CONT'D)
Let me ask you something. What's
the difference between you and the
rest of my friends?

Angela struggles for an answer.

DOV (CONT'D)
What, got nothing? Well, I'll tell
yeah. I SLEEP WITH YOU!

Gasps come from the crowd. Angela tears up.

DOV (CONT'D)
In fact, I'm not even sure if we
are friends to begin with.

Angela gathers her things and dashes out the restaurant. Dov
sinks in his chair.

WAITER
You shouldn't have done that kid.

OLD LADY
ROTTEN!

DOV
I know, I've just been so confused.

OLD LADY
You're a ROTTEN BOY!

JAZZ MUSICIAN
You better go after her.

DOV
And do what?

JAZZ MUSICIAN
Apologize!

WAITER
It's the right thing to do.

Affirmations come from the crowd.

OLD LADY
Such a Rotten boy.

Dov exits the restaurant.

EXT. STREET - CONTINUOUS

Dov runs after Angela.

DOV
Angela, wait up!

He reaches her. Angela has a hard time looking him in the face.

DOV (CONT'D)
Listen, I'm sorry. I was very
harsh. I've just been confused
lately. It's not your fault.

Angela looks at Dov.

DOV (CONT'D)
I have an idea. Why don't we try
just being friends.

Dov holds out his hand.

DOV (CONT'D)
What do you say?

Angela kisses Dov on the cheek. Tears in her eyes.

ANGELA
Goodbye Dov.

Angela walks off. Dov stares at her. Angela turns a corner and disappears. Dov lingers.

INT. DOV'S APARTMENT - KITCHEN - DAY

Dov sulks at the kitchen table. Maria comes in and notices him. She speaks as she prepares food.

MARIA
What's the matta with you?

Dov sighs.

DOV

Nothing.

Mordecai walks in with a newspaper. He sits across from Dov.

MORDECAI

What's the matta with you?

DOV

Nothing!

Mordecai grunts and focuses on his newspaper.

MARIA

Want something to eat Dov?

DOV

Nah.

MARIA

What do you mean? You have to eat.

MORDECAI

Eat something!

DOV

I'm not hungry!

MORDECAI

What's the matta with you?

DOV

Nothing!

MARIA

There is definitely something wrong with you.

DOV

How da hell do you know?

MORDECAI

Be nice to your mother.

MARIA

We are really going to have to do something about this attitude.

DOV

I don't have no attitude!

MORDECAI

You should really come to shul with us.

DOV
No fucking way!

MORDECAI
You're ancestors have been going to
temple for hundreds of years. What
makes you so special?

MARIA
The holidays are next week Dov. Do
it for me.

MORDECAI
It's a new year.

DOV
I ain't ever going back to that
place! Ever!

A KNOCK on the door. Maria leaves the room to answer.
Mordecai goes back to his paper.

Maria returns with Daniel.

MARIA
Why can't you be more like Daniel.

Maria squeezes Daniel's cheek.

MARIA (CONT'D)
He's such a mench.

DANIEL
Thanks Maria.

DOV
What are you doing here?

DANIEL
Just stopping by.

MARIA
Would you like something to eat?

DANIEL
You know it.

MARIA
Such a good boy.

MORDECAI
You should learn something from
your friend here.

DOV
Learn what? He's a schmuck.

MORDECAI
You're a schmuck!

Dov rolls his eyes.

EXT. STREET - DAY

Dov and Daniel stroll down the street.

DOV
I don't know what to do anymore
Daniel. I really thought Angela was
the one.

DANIEL
It sounds like you barely knew her.

DOV
I thought I did. What was I
missing?

DANIEL
Everything.

DOV
What do I do Daniel, tell me!

DANIEL
Maybe you just need a break from
relationships.

DOV
A break? A break from broads?

DANIEL
Sure, that's what I said.

DOV
And just jerk off? Sounds like a
pain in the ass.

DANIEL
Is that the only value you see in
relationships?

DOV
What broads? What else they good
for?

DANIEL
How do you not see how sick that
is?

DOV
Maybe you're right. Is there
something wrong with me?

DANIEL
Big time.

DOV
But everyone acts like this. Why am
I so sick?

DANIEL
You tell me.

DOV
You're right. From this point on
I'm going to stay away from the
ladies!

Dov pats Daniel on the back.

DOV (CONT'D)
I'll see yeah later.

Dov runs off. He turns the corner and sees a beautiful woman.
He cringes. He sees more beautiful women. He begins to tear
up.

INT. GROCERY STORE - CONTINUOUS

Matt pushes a cart down an aisle. He spots MARY SUE, F, 20s,
Caucasian. She's a country girl.

MATT
Mary Sue, is that you.

Mary Sue looks at Matt.

MARY SUE
Matthew Bennett. My oh my, it's
been years.

They hug. Mary Sue kisses him on the cheek.

MARY SUE (CONT'D)
How's Susan?

MATT

Oh great. We actually just got engaged.

MARY SUE

Well it's about time. You two surely are the perfect couple.

Matt blushes.

MATT

So have you found Mr. Right yet?

MARY SUE

Well, I was close enough this one time. But that didn't work out. I'm beginning to think I'll never find love.

MATT

Let me take you out tonight.

MARY SUE

Out? What do you mean?

MATT

Out to dinner. It's been forever, we should catch up.

MARY SUE

That sure sounds like a date to me.

MATT

I know. Let's go on a date.

MARY SUE

That's a funny thing to say for someone who just got engaged.

Matt smiles at Mary Sue. She blushes.

INT. SAM'S APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

Front door opens. Daniel holds up a large sack of weed.

IN THE LIVING ROOM.

The room is hazy. Daniel and Sam lounge on the couch.

DANIEL

I feel like I'm back at school.

SAM
Yeah. Good times. Fucking bullshit
I have work on Monday.

DANIEL
Well, enjoy the weekend while you
can.

Sam smiles at Daniel. He leaves the room and returns with
some pills. He breaks up the pills on the table.

SAM
Great idea.

DANIEL
What is all that?

SAM
Why don't you try it and find out.

Sam rolls up a twenty. He hands it to Daniel. Daniel snorts a
line.

DANIEL
I guess that's speed.

SAM
Damn right it is.

DANIEL
So you're still doing a ton of
drugs I see.

SAM
What's wrong with that?

DANIEL
I dunno.

SAM
What do you do for fun?

Sam snorts drugs.

DANIEL
I write poetry sometimes.

Sam guffaws.

SAM
You fag!

DANIEL
No for real. It's very therapeutic.

SAM
Let's hear it.

DANIEL
Hear what?

SAM
A poem!

DANIEL
Oh, I need to sit down and write it
out.

SAM
Bullshit! I know you got some of
that africana flow in yeah.

Daniel and Sam smile at each other.

DANIEL
He was a man with no plan. He had
nothing at hand. All he ever wanted
was to move away from this land.
But then he saw light, and put up a
fight. But in the end he realized
everything was alright.

SAM
You just made that up?

DANIEL
Yeah.

SAM
Not bad. Not bad.

DANIEL
You can have it.

SAM
What?

DANIEL
The poem. You can have it. It was
about you anyway.

SAM
Don't right poems about me, that's
super gay.

DANIEL
Shut the fuck up.

SAM

We should go to an open mic or something.

DANIEL

When tonight?

SAM

Yeah. Get a few beers.

DANIEL

I'm down to go to the bar, but not sure about an open mic.

SAM

Oh come on, you would kill it!

Daniel smiles.

INT. ART GALLERY - CONTINUOUS

Susan flirts with a GUY, M, 20s. He works for the Gallery.

GUY

I would love to learn more about your process.

SUSAN

And I would love to tell you all about it.

Susan gawks at the Guy. Dov wanders into the Gallery. Susan notices him.

SUSAN (CONT'D)

Dov!?

Dov acknowledges her. He walks towards Susan. Dov jitters.

SUSAN (CONT'D)

What are you doing here?

DOV

(Stammering.)

I came to check out your work. You got a problem?

SUSAN

No, not at all. Let me show you.

GUY

Let's meet around 6, OK?

SUSAN
Definitely.

The Guy goes back to his work.

Susan leads Dov towards some of her work.

DOV
You going out with that guy?

SUSAN
Yeah. We are going to discuss my
process over dinner.

DOV
What the fuck does Matt think of
that?

SUSAN
He approves.

DOV
You guys are fucking weird.

Susan stops in front of a painting.

SUSAN
Here we are. This is the piece I'm
most proud of.

Dov glances at it.

DOV
Great, great.

Dov glances around the room.

SUSAN
You don't like it?

DOV
Nah. It's great.

Dov notices a painting with a very ABSTRACT SEXUAL THEME. He
approaches the painting. He can't look away.

DOV (CONT'D)
Who did this?

Frank appears.

FRANK
That's one of mine.

DOV
You? I thought you said you do
circles and shapes.

FRANK
That's only the beginning.

DOV
Holy crap, I had no idea.

FRANK
I got more at my flat. Wanna check
it out?

DOV
Sure. When?

FRANK
How about right now.

EXT. BRIGHTON BEACH - DUSK

Sun sets over the coast. Frank and Dov exit a train and
stroll down the street.

They walk by an ACTOR performing SHAKESPEARE.

They walk by a DISCO FREDDIE like character.

DOV
This is where you live?

FRANK
Oh yeah, great place to live. Very
friendly people.

EXT. FRANK'S APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

They reach Frank's apartment. Outside the apartment are a
bunch of RUSSIAN THUGS. The thugs leer at Dov as they both
enter the building.

INT. FRANK'S APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

The apartment has very little furniture. It is filled with
canvases and paint supplies. Dov glances at all the
paintings.

DOV
Incredible. How many hours a day
you spend painting?

Frank hands Dov a beer.

FRANK
Does it really matter?

Dov grabs the beer. He chugs it.

INT. BAR - NIGHT

The bar is filled with young adults. An amateur stand up comedian bombs on stage in the BG.

Daniel and Sam sit at a table. They drink beers.

SAM
This guy blows.

DANIEL
Tell me about it.

SAM
You could do better.

Daniel smiles.

DANIEL
Shut up.

The stand up comedian finishes his routine. The MC gets on stage.

MC
Alright, who wants to show off
their skills next?

Sam jumps up.

SAM
(Shouting.)
My boy! Right here!

Light shines on Daniel. Sam smiles at him. Daniel dashes on stage.

DANIEL
(To MC.)
Give me a jazzy beat.

MC nods.

Jazzy beat resonates. Daniel freestyles. He kills it.

INT. SAM'S APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

Sam and Daniel lounge on the couch. Sam snorts a line.

SAM

I had a great time tonight. Thanks
for coming out with me.

DANIEL

Sure. It's not like it was a
burden. I wanted to hang with you.

SAM

I can be a pain in the ass
sometimes.

Daniel pats Sam on the back.

DANIEL

Nah, you're a good kid.

SAM

I just wish...I dunno.

DANIEL

What? You can tell me.

Sam struggles to hold back tears.

SAM

I fucking hate my job. I want to do
more than make logos for blankies
and suntan lotion.

Daniel puts his arm around Sam. Sam jumps off the couch.

SAM (CONT'D)

Dude. I'm not gay.

DANIEL

I'm not either.

SAM

Then don't grab me like that.

DANIEL

You were about to cry. What was I
supposed to do?

SAM

I'm not fucking crying.

Daniel stares at Sam.

SAM (CONT'D)
 And you are gay. You've been trying
 to fuck me since college.

Daniel laughs.

DANIEL
 That's ridiculous. Maybe I'm open
 to that sort of thing. But, it's
 just...

SAM
 Just what? You're a faggot?

DANIEL
 No.

SAM
 Time to call it a night.

Daniel lingers on the couch. He stares at Sam.

SAM (CONT'D)
 Get the fuck out of here!

Daniel scurries out of the apartment.

INT. CHINESE RESTAURANT - CONTINUOUS

Jen sits at the bar. She drinks a scorpion bowl by herself.
 Daniel enters. He sits next to her.

DANIEL
 Hey Jen. Remember me?

JEN
 You're the weird one that walked me
 home last week.

Daniel kisses Jen.

EXT. MATT/SUSAN APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

Susan and the Guy from the Gallery linger outside the
 apartment. Susan fumbles for her keys. The guy kisses her
 neck. She giggles.

INT. MATT/SUSAN APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

Matt makes out with Mary Sue on the couch. They stop at the
 sound of the door.

The four of them stare at each other.

GUY
You didn't tell me you had a
roommate.

SUSAN
Oh know, that's my fiance.

GUY
Fiance? Which one?

MARY SUE
This is weird.

SUSAN
Let's just go to the bedroom.

MATT
Actually, we were about to head in
there.

MARY SUE
I think I'm going to go.

MATT
You sure?

Mary Sue kisses Matt on the cheek. Susan cringes.

MARY SUE
It was great catching up.

Mary Sue gathers her things and exits.

GUY
I'm going to go too.

SUSAN
What? Things were just heating up.

GUY
I'm not a swinger. Sorry.

The Guy exits.

Susan sits next to Matt on the couch. She sighs.

MATT
You hungry?

Susan smiles at him.

IN THE KITCHEN.

Matt and Susan prepare food.

SUSAN

So Mary Sue. You guys were always close.

MATT

Sure were.

SUSAN

Not going to lie, but I was always a little jealous.

MATT

Jealous of what?

SUSAN

Not really sure.

MATT

Nothing will change the way I feel about you.

SUSAN

Still, watching you two kiss was interesting.

MATT

Should we end the open relationship?

SUSAN

No, I didn't say that.

MATT

What should we do then?

Matt kisses Susan.

INT. FRANK'S APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

Frank and Dov lounge on fold-out chairs. They drink beers. Dov seems drunk.

DOV

I've never been so frustrated in my entire life.

FRANK

You seem real tense.

DOV
What can I do? I swore off broads
and I'm committed.

FRANK
Maybe we can think of something.

KNOCK on the front door. Frank gets up and answers.

Two Russian Mafioso enter. BORIS, M, 50s, and ALEKSY, M,
early 30s. They both wear cliché track suits and pants.

Frank grabs an envelope and hands it to Boris.

BORIS
Who's this?

FRANK
Just a friend.

BORIS
He looks like a Jew.

Boris and Aleksy laugh.

DOV
Who the fuck are you?

ALEKSY
Feisty one. He's a keeper.

Boris and Aleksy snigger as they exit.

DOV
Who the fuck were those guys?

FRANK
My financiers.

INT. ART GALLERY - DUSK

Well dressed people fill the Gallery.

Waiters walk around with glasses of champagne and various
hors d'oeuvres.

Aleksy and Boris stuff their faces.

Daniel flirts with Jen.

Dov fixates on Frank's work. His Friend (from the Chinese
Restaurant) stands with him.

Matt flirts with Mary Sue. Susan and Frank chat with well dressed patrons.

Susan grabs champagne glass after champagne glass. She sneaks glances at both Dov and Matt.

Matt glances at Susan as he chats with Mary Sue. Susan and Matt notice each other.

Daniel and Jen approach Dov and the Friend.

DOV
Do you see it Danny?

DANIEL
See what?

DOV
The magic!

Daniel and Jen snigger.

DANIEL
I don't see it.

DOV
You don't see it. How can you not see it?

FRIEND
I don't see it either.

DANIEL
What exactly are you seeing?

DOV
IT! I'm seeing it!

Sam stumbles into the Gallery. He immediately grabs a glass of champagne. Daniel approaches him.

Sam chugs champagne and grabs another glass.

SAM
Sorry about the other night dude.

DANIEL
It's cool.

SAM
Yeah. I really like being friends with you.

Dov and the Friend approach. Sam looks at them and holds up his glass.

SAM (CONT'D)

L'chaim!

Dov glares at Sam. Sam grins.

They all examine the work on display.

Susan still chats with well dressed patrons and drinks glass after glass of champagne.

She notices Matt. Matt flirts with Mary Sue. Susan approaches them.

SUSAN

Can I have a minute with my fiance please.

Mary Sue smiles and walks off.

MATT

Slow down with the drinking Susan.

SUSAN

Don't tell me what to do Matthew.

MATT

What's wrong?

SUSAN

You're looking mighty cozy over here with that Mary Sue.

MATT

Susan, this is your big night. Stop drinking so much and stay focused.

A waiter with champagne walks by. Susan grabs a glass and chugs it.

SUSAN

You're changing the subject.

MATT

Come on Susan. This is your passion, don't let me get in the way of your dreams.

SUSAN

Screw you Matt. I might sell a painting but at least you're going to get laid tonight.

MATT
Jesus Christ.

SUSAN
Do you love her?

MATT
That's a ridiculous question.

SUSAN
Know it's not. I know you've loved
her for a long time. I was always
jealous of you two.

MATT
Come on Susan. This isn't fair.

Susan glances at Dov.

SUSAN
All I can say is your not the only
one whose going to get laid
tonight.

MATT
I don't have to leave with her. We
can spend the night together, it's
your big night.

Matt reaches for Susan's hands. Susan recoils.

SUSAN
Have fun with that slut!

Susan stumbles towards Dov. Matt watches her stumble away.

Dov fixates on one of Frank's painting. Susan bumps into him.

SUSAN (CONT'D)
Hi Dov.

Dov glances at Susan.

DOV
Look at this. Why can't you paint
like this?

SUSAN
Everyone has their own style.

DOV
No. This ain't about style.

SUSAN
Art speaks to people in different
ways.

Susan grabs Dov's arm. Dov recoils.

DOV
What are you doing?

SUSAN
I can't get close to a friend.

Susan wraps her arms around Dov. Matt watches them. Dov notices Matt.

DOV
You're being a fucking weirdo.

SUSAN
I want you to fuck me.

DOV
Oy Vey.

SUSAN
I want you to fuck my brains out!

Sam staggers into a painting. The painting falls to the ground. Everyone in the room puts their attention on Sam.

Daniel rushes over to Sam.

DANIEL
Are you alright?

SAM
Yeah, fine. I'm just having fun.

Dov rushes over.

DOV
What's this clown doing?

SAM
Fuck off kike!

DANIEL
Chill dude.

FRIEND
Did that guy just call you a kike?

Dov and the Friend gather around Sam. Daniel tries to shield Sam from the two.

DOV
He's a fucking anti-Semite.

FRIEND
Mothafucka.

The Friend rushes past Daniel and swings at Sam. Sam ducks and pushes him back. Everyone in the room gasps. Aleksy and Boris snicker.

DANIEL
Guys! Chill the fuck out!

Dov swings at Sam. Sam ducks and socks Dov in the face. Dov recovers. Blood flows from Dov's nose.

The Friend jumps on Sam's back. Sam throws him into Frank's painting. The Friend and the painting crash unto the ground.

DOV
That was my favorite painting!

Dov rushes at Sam. Sam knocks him out. Dov falls unconscious on the floor.

Sam grabs a glass of champagne. He chugs it then rushes out of the Gallery.

Daniel turns to Jen.

DANIEL
I'm sorry. I need to make sure he's alright.

Daniel rushes out of the Gallery.

JEN
Bye.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. ART GALLERY - NIGHT

The Gallery is now empty except for a few people.

Dov sits in a chair. He holds an ice pack to his face. His lip is black and blue and his nose is broken.

Susan sits close to him. She tries to comfort him.

Frank, the Friend, Matt, and Mary Sue stand near them.

DOV
Did you guys sell any paintings?

FRANK
Nah.

SUSAN
You think they were going to buy anything after all that?

FRIEND
Fucking Anti-Semite.

DOV
What's the big deal? It's just a little fight.

MATT
Unbelievable.

FRIEND
Alright. You're good right Dov? I'm getting the fuck out of here.

The friend exits.

FRANK
So what should we do now?

SUSAN
I want to get the fuck out of here.

MATT
Let's go home.

SUSAN
I didn't say with you.

FRANK
Want to hang by my place?

SUSAN
Sure.

FRANK
Dov. You in?

DOV.
Yeah. Whatever.

Frank and Dov exit. Susan scowls at Matt and Mary Sue.

SUSAN
You two have fun.

Susan exits.

MATT

I think I want to be alone for a while.

MARY SUE

I understand Matthew.

MATT

I also think we shouldn't see each other anymore.

MARY SUE

We can't even remain friends?

MATT

I don't know. I'm going to go. Goodbye.

Matt exits.

EXT. STREET - CONTINUOUS

Sam scurries down the street. Daniel runs towards him.

DANIEL

Dude! Wait up!

Daniel grabs his arm. Sam recoils from him.

SAM

What?

DANIEL

Are you OK?

SAM

Yeah. I'm fucking dandy.

DANIEL

Well, where are you going?

SAM

None of your business.

DANIEL

Do you want to be alone or something?

SAM

I'm going to see a buddy. You wanna come?

DANIEL

Sure.

EXT. BRIGHTON BEACH - CONTINUOUS

Susan, Frank, and Dov mosey down the street. Coast in the BG.

Susan grabs Dov's arm. Dov cringes but does not resist.

SUSAN

Should we get a drink?

FRANK

I have drinks at my place.

SUSAN

Let's get wasted.

DOV

Why don't we go to the boardwalk or something.

SUSAN

For what?

DOV

I don't know. Get a hot dog, ride the Ferris wheel.

SUSAN

I'd rather be alone with you.

FRANK

Oh La la.

DOV

That's what I was afraid of.

They pass the Disco Freddie like street performer.

DISCO FREDDIE

You!

They pause and glare at Disco Freddie.

DOV

You talking to us?

DISCO FREDDIE

Yes! I'm talking to us. You all look like some fine people in need of an adventure!

SUSAN

An adventure? Sounds exciting.

FRANK

Ignore him. He's a wacko.

SUSAN

And you're not?

DISCO FREDDIE

Join me! The call to adventure is
ripe for the taking!

DOV

Maybe next time old man.

DISCO FREDDIE

There will be no next time. This is
it! This is your one opportunity!

They continue on.

DISCO FREDDIE (CONT'D)

(Yelling.)

Join us! For this is your chance to
shine like the stars in the sky!
The stars in the sky!

EXT. DECREPID NEIGHBORHOOD - CONTINUOUS

Sam and Daniel hustle down the street. They pass by various
types of sketchballs.

DANIEL

So where exactly are we going?

SAM

I told you already. Seeing a buddy.

DANIEL

You have a buddy that lives here?

SAM

What? It's nice here.

Daniel grabs Sam's arm. They stop.

DANIEL

What's really going on here?

SAM

You fucking get it.

DANIEL
 Damn it Sam! Are you really this
 much of an addict?

SAM
 Don't judge me.

DANIEL
 But dude!

SAM
 Are you coming or not?

Daniel stares at him.

SAM (CONT'D)
 Well?

DANIEL
 Fine.

They continue on.

EXT. JEWISH NEIGHBORHOOD - CONTINUOUS

Matt saunters down an empty street.

He stops in front of a synagogue. He sits on the front steps
 and sulks.

A Hasidic RABBI, M, 60s-70s with a white beard, comes out of
 the synagogue. He approaches Matt.

RABBI
 What's the matter young man?

MATT
 Just thinking about my future.

RABBI
 Why would you do that?

MATT
 Because I don't know how to handle
 my life anymore!

RABBI
 Your life. My life. What's the
 difference?

MATT
 I suppose nothing at all.

RABBI

We are all an aspect of the big man
in the sky.

MATT

Tell me. What is love?

RABBI

Love? That is simple. Love is the
flow of the river. The breeze of
the wind. The sun shining upon the
earth.

MATT

That's funny.

RABBI

What's funny?

MATT

You sound like this chinese waiter
I had a couple of weeks ago.

RABBI

You must mean Ming Yu. We are great
friends!

MATT

Your friends with a chinese waiter?

RABBI

That's what I said.

MATT

Isn't it peculiar for a Rabbi to be
friends with a chinese waiter?

RABBI

Maybe, but this is a movie!

MATT

A what?

RABBI

A movie! We are both characters in
a movie.

MATT

What the hell does that mean?

RABBI

What did I say?

MATT

I thought I was a real person
though.

RABBI

Real person. Character in a movie.
What's the difference?

MATT

I suppose nothing at all.

RABBI

You hungry? I'll buy you something
to eat.

Matt smiles at the Rabbi. He gets up and follows the Rabbi
down the street.

EXT. BOARDWALK - CONTINUOUS

Susan, Dov, and Frank stroll down the brightly lit Boardwalk.
Susan has a drink in one hand. She is all over Dov.

DOV

Susan, what's the matta with you?

SUSAN

Nothing at all.

FRANK

Come on Dov. Give it to her
already.

DOV

No way!

SUSAN

It's OK. Matt and I are in an open
relationship.

DOV

What the hell is that?

SUSAN

It means we can sleep with other
people.

FRANK

Kinky.

DOV

That's ridiculous!

SUSAN

Why?

DOV

It's unheard of! No decent member of society would do such a thing.

FRANK

I always found the indecent ones more fun.

SUSAN

I don't understand what the big deal is. Matt and I still love each other, that's never going to change.

DOV

It's a sacred bond you guys have! You can't muddle it up by messing around with other people.

SUSAN

You think?

DOV

Yes! I mean, I have no fucking clue!

FRANK

Sounds to me Dov has no idea what he thinks.

DOV

Do we ever?

SUSAN

Well, I don't care if its indecent, I want you to screw me TONIGHT!

DOV

Jesus Christ Susan. I'm trying real hard here to treat women better, and you gotta go and say something like that.

SUSAN

Just do it, don't even think about it.

DOV

You're not making this fun for me!

FRANK
Maybe we can double team her.

SUSAN
If you're not going to do it then
I'm just going to go find someone
who will.

FRANK
I'm game.

SUSAN
Except you Frank. You're a schmuck.

FRANK
Harsh.

DOV
I don't know what to tell yeah
Susan.

SUSAN
Fine. Screw you guys, I'm going to
get laid.

Susan struts away.

DOV
What a strange broad.

EXT. BAR - CONTINUOUS

Susan wanders into a quiet bar. Two men sit together. Susan sits next to them. They all smile at each other.

EXT. DECREPID APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

Sam and Daniel linger outside a grimy looking apartment building.

SAM
Just watch what you say. These guys
are unpredictable.

DANIEL
I've dealt with worse.

INT. DECREPID APARTMENT BUILDING - CONTINUOUS

Sam and Daniel travel through the building to the third floor. A series of junkies and quirky characters grill them along the way.

EXT. DRUG DEALER'S APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

Sam and Daniel hover outside a door. One of the Drug Dealer's MINIONS opens the door.

The Minion examines Sam and Daniel. He lets them inside.

INT. DRUG DEALER'S APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

A party is occurring inside the tiny apartment. Junkies, both M and F, dance to psychedelic music. Some are on the floor, high on heroine.

In the center is The DRUG DEALER. He sits among his close friends.

Sam and Daniel approach The Drug Dealer. He stands to greet the two.

DRUG DEALER
Samuel, darling. What a pleasant surprise.

The Drug Dealer kisses him on the cheek.

DRUG DEALER (CONT'D)
Who is this?

SAM
He's a friend.

Sam glances at Daniel.

SAM (CONT'D)
He's like my best friend.

DRUG DEALER
Does your friend have a name?

DANIEL
I'm Daniel.

DRUG DEALER
Well Daniel, do you party?

DANIEL

Sometimes.

DRUG DEALER

Good. Because here, we all party.
No excuses.

The Drug Dealer's friends prepare to inject heroine. Sam hands The Drug Dealer a wad of money.

SAM

Got any speed?

DRUG DEALER

I got whatever you want baby. Come,
have a seat.

Sam sits next to him. One of the dealer's friends hands him a syringe. The dealer injects it into Sam's arm. Sam immediately reacts to the euphoric effects.

Daniel looks on in disgust.

DRUG DEALER (CONT'D)

Come Daniel.

DANIEL

No thanks.

DRUG DEALER

Come join the party.

DANIEL

I've already shot up today. Once a
day is good enough for me.

DRUG DEALER

Daniel. I told you we all party
here, and there are no excuses.

DANIEL

Now that I know that I'll be sure
to never come back.

SAM

Come on Danny, just try it.

DANIEL

Fuck off Sam!

The Drug Dealer smacks Daniel.

DRUG DEALER

That's know way to talk with your
best friend.

Daniel rubs his face as he glares at the dealer.

SAM

Please Danny just try it. It's no
big deal, I promise.

DRUG DEALER

Listen to your friend Danny.

DANIEL

What will you do to me if I don't?

DRUG DEALER

Some unpleasantries I would rather
avoid.

SAM

Just try it Danny, they will hurt
you if you don't, please!

DRUG DEALER

Samuel doesn't want to see you get
hurt Danny.

Daniel glares at Sam.

INT. DELI - CONTINUOUS

Matt and the Rabbi sit at a booth. They eat sandwiches.

MATT

Tell me more about Love.

RABBI

What's there to tell?

MATT

You said it's the breeze and
rivers, or something.

RABBI

Yes.

MATT

Well...

RABBI

Well what?

MATT

What the hell are you talking about?

RABBI

Love! It's everywhere. It's everything. You're really thinking too much about this.

MATT

What about when you love another person?

RABBI

It's like loving a river or a tree.

MATT

I'm sorry Rabbi, but I think you're totally wrong about that.

RABBI

But I'm a Rabbi! How can a Rabbi be wrong?

MATT

It sounds to me you've never been in love.

RABBI

Are you sure?

MATT

That's what it sounds like.

RABBI

But I've been married for 40 years and have 5 children.

MATT

Maybe it was more routine for you.

RABBI

Routine?

MATT

Yeah. How did you meet your wife?

RABBI

Now that's a funny story.

MATT

A matchmaker right?

RABBI
Eh... Yes. How did you know?

MATT
I've seen fiddler.

RABBI
But, it doesn't matter who you
spend your life with. Love is still
love.

MATT
But Rabbi, I found it! I found
love!

RABBI
You did?

MATT
Yes! Her name is Susan and she's my
best friend. We've been close since
we were 6 years old.

RABBI
Well, good for you. You found that
connection.

MATT
What connection?

RABBI
Love is everywhere, like I said.
But when people fall in love they
are really making some connection.
And it seems as though this
connection you have with your best
friend is of a fine quality.

MATT
So that's it? A connection.

RABBI
You were expecting something more?

MATT
Yeah, of course. I mean this is
love we're talking about here.

RABBI
Don't worry, you will get it soon
enough.

MATT
How do you know that?

RABBI
Because it's how you were written.

MATT
Cause we are characters in a movie?

RABBI
Precisely.

MATT
Are you sure you're a Rabbi?

RABBI
What else would I be?

MATT
A crazy old man.

RABBI
Why can't I be both?

Matt smirks.

INT. BAR - CONTINUOUS

Susan drinks and chats with two men. MAN A and MAN B, both M and 30s.

SUSAN
I'm so lucky to have met two handsome guys.

MAN A
Too bad there's two of us.

MAN B
And one of you.

SUSAN
Is that necessarily a problem?

MAN A
What are you suggesting?

MAN B
Sounds a little freaky.

SUSAN
Why can't we have some fun together?

Susan caresses both their crotches.

INT. FRANK'S APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

Dov and Frank drink beer and sit in fold-out chairs. KNOCK on the door. Frank answers.

Boris and Aleksy enter.

BORIS
The fighting Jew!

Boris smacks Dov across the back.

BORIS (CONT'D)
You are one tough comrade.

DOV
I ain't know comrade.

BORIS
Well, whatever you are, you're tough.

ALEKSY
Despite getting your ass beat.

Boris and Aleksy snigger.

FRANK
What's going on fellas?

BORIS
Got anything to eat?

ALEKSY
How about a drink?

FRANK
Check the kitchen.

Boris and Aleksy go into the kitchen.

DOV
(To Frank.)
What the fuck these guys doing here?

Frank shrugs.

BORIS O.S.
Where's the vodka?

FRANK
Don't have any.

ALEKSY O.S.

No vodka?

BORIS O.S.

What's the matta with you Frankie?

FRANK

I'm a classy guy.

ALEKSY O.S.

You sound like a bitch.

Boris shouts obscenities in Russian. They both reappear. Boris has a plate of cheese. Aleksy has a bottle of champagne.

BORIS

This is all you had.

FRANK

Leftovers from the show.

Boris chows down on the cheese.

FRANK (CONT'D)

So what do you guys want?

BORIS

The boss wants to meet you.

FRANK

Really?

BORIS

He's a fan of your work.

ALEKSY

He might even have a job for you.

FRANK

How exciting. When can I meet him?

BORIS

We are going right now.

ALEKSY

Get your shoes on.

FRANK

What about Dov?

ALEKSY

Bring him.

BORIS
We could always use a good laugh.

DOV
I don't wanna meet your boss.

Boris lifts Dov. He leads him towards the door with his arm around him.

BORIS
Nonsense.

INT. DRUG DEALER'S APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

Sam and Daniel lounge in chairs. The Drug Dealer does a bizarre dance. Everyone in the room watches him.

SAM
I'm sorry I dragged you here.

DANIEL
I didn't have a choice Sam. I'm worried about you.

SAM
I know.

DANIEL
And for good reasons! You're going to die if you continue doing this.

SAM
So what?

DANIEL
Sam!

SAM
We got to die someday.

DANIEL
I would miss you.

SAM
So would my fucking parents.

DANIEL
You're such a fucking grouch.

The dance ends. Everyone claps. The Drug Dealer bows. He approaches Sam and Daniel.

DRUG DEALER
Enjoying yourself Danny boy?

DANIEL
No.

DRUG DEALER
Oh come on! Life is short and all
we really got is our friends in the
end.

DANIEL
You're not my friend buddy.

DRUG DEALER
Not with that attitude.

The dealer gets up and dances.

DRUG DEALER (CONT'D)
Be free Danny boy. This is life!
Ain't nothing else we can do about
it.

DANIEL
(To Sam.)
Can we get the fuck out of here
now?

Sam nods.

SAM
Can I get that other stuff?

DRUG DEALER
What's the hurry?

SAM
We were gonna go.

DRUG DEALER
Oh know baby. You want that speed,
then you stay and party.

DANIEL
Give the guy his fucking drugs!

DRUG DEALER
Not with that attitude.

DANIEL
I'm so sick of your bullshit.

DRUG DEALER

I am who I am.

Daniel grabs the drug dealer.

DANIEL

Listen fuck head! Just take my
friends money and give him the
fucking drugs.

INT. DELI - CONTINUOUS

The Rabbi and Matt sit in the same booth. Their plates are
empty. The check is on the table.

MATT

So how can you be so sure we are in
a movie?

RABBI

I'm not.

MATT

Then why did you say it?

RABBI

Because I'm a crazy old man.

MATT

I can agree with that.

RABBI

But what's the difference really?

MATT

Free will.

RABBI

Free will? What's that?

MATT

You don't know what free will is?

RABBI

Sounds pretty silly.

MATT

What does?

RABBI

Do you really think we were all put
on this planet to run around like
animals and do whatever we want?

MATT

All I'm saying is if we were written characters everything we say and do would be predetermined.

RABBI

So, what's so wrong with that?

MATT

I always thought being a human being was magical. We have the ability to create! Like gawd, to bring something new into the world.

RABBI

I agree.

MATT

But if it's all predetermined, then what are we really creating?

RABBI

You think too much. It's what I've been saying with love. It's flow. Living in the moment. Nothing more, nothing less.

MATT

Flow?

RABBI

Appreciate being alive in the first place. That is love. Each breath is love. Every moment we have in this world is love.

MATT

I suppose.

RABBI

You're a thinker, that's why I like you. But sometimes it's best to let go of our thoughts and just be.

MATT

What do you think I should do about my best friend?

RABBI

What did I just say? Stop thinking. Just be.

MATT

I can't just stop thinking about her.

RABBI

Then I guess you don't really love her.

MATT

What?

RABBI

You don't really have that fine quality connection.

MATT

I do! I really do!

RABBI

Then you must be. You must let her be. You must recognize the being that is all of creation. You can't think of anyone as different from anyone else. Especially someone you love.

MATT

So what should I do?

RABBI

You already know what to do.

INT. RANDOM APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

Susan sits in between the two men from the bar. She touches both of them. They look at each other and laugh.

Susan unbuckles both their pants. The men slide down their pants. Susan plays with their crotch areas.

MAN A

This is ridiculous.

MAN B

I'm not complaining.

Susan sobs as she caresses them.

MAN A

What the hell are you doing?

MAN B

Are you crying?

SUSAN

I'm sorry.

MAN A

I thought you were a freaky girl.

SUSAN

I am. I'm having a great time.

Her sob intensifies.

MAN B

This is killing the mood.

Both men push her away. They pull up their pants.

MAN A

It was a little gay anyway.

SUSAN

Guys come on. I'm freaky, I'm a freaky girl.

MAN A

Why don't you get outta here.

MAN B

We only hang out with cool ladies.

Susan runs out of the apartment.

INT. BLACK SEDAN (MOVING) - CONTINUOUS

Boris drives. Aleksy sits in front. Dov and Frank sit in the back.

BORIS

So you swore off broads.

ALEKSY

Sounds like a problem.

DOV

I've been real stressed about it. I just want to see them in a different light. But I also wanna fuck their brains out!

ALEKSY

Everyone wants to fuck a nice piece of ass.

BORIS
It's natural to feel that way.

DOV
But aren't girls also people?

ALEKSY
I suppose so.

BORIS
Depends on the girl.

DOV
What do you mean?

BORIS
Well, not like you want to fuck
your mother, right?

DOV
What the fuck! That's disgusting!

BORIS
Exactly. You don't wanna fuck her,
so shes a person.

DOV
Barely.

ALEKSY
Barely?

BORIS
Tell us, when was the last time you
kissed your mother?

ALEKSY
Told her you loved her.

DOV
I can't remember. Hopefully never.

ALEKSY
Bingo!

BORIS
There's your problem.

DOV
What?

BORIS
You gotta love your mother.

ALEKSY

That's why you only wanna fuck
broads.

Dov does not respond. They drive by a sign for the GEORGE
WASHINGTON BRIDGE. Dov notices.

DOV

Hey, you're going the wrong way.

ALEKSY

You don't know where the fuck we
going.

DOV

You're about to leave Brooklyn
though.

BORIS

Yeah?

ALEKSY

What's your point?

Dov panics.

DOV

You're boss ain't in Brooklyn.

BORIS

Nah. He's in Jersey.

DOV

JERSEY!

ALEKSY

What's your fucking problem?

DOV

I can't go to Jersey! I've never
left Brooklyn! I can't!

FRANK

Calm down Dov.

DOV

I can't! I can't!

ALEKSY

Jesus Christ. Shut the fuck up will
yeah?

BORIS

Control your friend Frankie.

Frank grabs Dov.

FRANK

Dov. It's alright. Everything is alright.

DOV

I CAN'T LEAVE BROOKLYN! PULL OVER!
LET ME OUT!

Dov reaches for the steering wheel. Boris deflects him. Aleksy punches him in the face. Dov becomes unconscious. His head rests on Frank's shoulder.

INT. SAM'S APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

Sam and Daniel sit close on the couch. A small package lies on the table.

Sam reaches for the package. He takes out a bag with white powder, another bag with brown powder, and a syringe.

DANIEL

You're going to shoot up again?

SAM

They taught me how to do it over there.

DANIEL

Are you ever going to get help, Sam.

SAM

Wasn't planning on it.

DANIEL

Well, you should.

SAM

Great, after tonight though. Want to try a speedball?

DANIEL

No.

SAM

Suit yourself.

Sam prepares the drugs.

He injects it into his arm. He leans into the couch. Daniel stares at him. Sam notices him.

Sam touches Daniel's leg. Daniel flinches.

SAM (CONT'D)
I know what would make you happy.

DANIEL
What's that?

SAM
Why don't we fool around?

DANIEL
Oh stop.

SAM
Come on. I know you want to.

Sam awkwardly kisses Daniel. Daniel shoves him.

DANIEL
Stop it Sam. You're super fucked up
right now.

SAM
So what. Doesn't change the way I
feel about you.

Sam starts to unbuckle Daniel's belt.

DANIEL
Oh boy.

SAM
Just let it happen. This might be
your only chance.

Things get a bit hot and heavy. Sam suddenly stops. He looks sick.

DANIEL
Are you OK?

Sam vomits all over Daniel. He then falls to the ground. Sam twitches.

EXT. JEWISH NEIGHBORHOOD - CONTINUOUS

Matt and the Rabbi stroll down the street.

RABBI
Have you figured it out yet?

MATT
Don't think so.

RABBI
It's taking you longer than I
thought it would.

MATT
Why don't you just tell me!

RABBI
I can't.

MATT
Why not?

RABBI
You think I have all the answers?

MATT
Nobody has all the answers.

RABBI
Now you're getting somewhere.

MATT
I just need to talk to Susan.

RABBI
Go do it.

MATT
I don't know where she is though.

RABBI
Yes you do.

MATT
I do? How do I know?

The Rabbi smiles at him. Matt smiles back.

MATT (CONT'D)
Right! I'm in a movie!

RABBI
Very good!

Matt runs off.

MATT
(Yelling.)
Thanks for the chat! I think I know
what to do now.

RABBI
(Yelling.)
Don't thank me. Thank the writer!

EXT. BOARDWALK - DAWN

Susan wanders around the boardwalk. She walks by Disco Freddie, but besides him she is all alone. The sun is just beginning to rise.

Matt appears.

MATT
(Shouting.)
Susan!

Susan notices Matt. She smiles. They run towards each other. They embrace. Matt kisses her on the forehead.

MATT (CONT'D)
I'm sorry for everything.

SUSAN
Me too.

EXT. SAM'S APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

Ambulance and cop cars outside. Paramedics lift Sam into the vehicle. Daniel looks on with tears in his eyes.

EXT. JEN'S APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

Daniel waits by the front door of the apartment building. Jen comes out. She is half asleep.

JEN
Danny, what's wrong.

DANIEL
My friend Sam overdosed.

JEN
Oh know. I'm so sorry.

Jen hugs Daniel.

DANIEL
I'm so sorry to wake you up like this, but I just need to tell you.

Daniel tears up.

JEN
Tell me what?

DANIEL
I'm a pig OK? I only slept with you
to get off, like every other
fucking guy in the world.

JEN
Oh.

DANIEL
I wish we could of gotten to know
each other more. Become real
friends. But I just wanted to get
laid that night. I'm a fucking pig.

JEN
It's OK.

Daniel grabs her hand. He kisses it.

DANIEL
I hope fate brings you love one of
these days.

INT. BLACK SEDAN (MOVING) - CONTINUOUS

Dov stirs into consciousness. Frank is in the back. Boris
drives. Aleksy sits in front.

DOV
My head. What happened?

ALEKSY
I had to knock you out kid.

FRANK
You were having a panic attack.

DOV
What? Why?

FRANK
Because we left Brooklyn.

DOV
What?

EXT. NEW JERSEY TURNPIKE - CONTINUOUS

Dov notices his surroundings. The car drives down an empty turnpike. The rising sun illuminates the various industrial sites familiar to North Jersey.

Dov gapes at the sight.

DOV
So this is what the world looks
like?

BORIS
Well, it's Jersey.

DOV
It's beautiful.

INT. FRANK'S APARTMENT - BEDROOM - DAY

Frank and Dov sit on Frank's bed.

DOV
What a night.

FRANK
Tell me about it.

DOV
Despite my head hurting. I think I
feel alot better.

FRANK
You do?

DOV
Yeah. I feel inspired.

FRANK
Good.

DOV
It was just so beautiful.

Frank kisses Dov.

DOV (CONT'D)
Wait. What just happened?

FRANK
I kissed you.

DOV
You kissed me? But you're a dude!

FRANK
So what?

DOV
Dude's kissing dude's. It makes no sense!

Frank kisses Dov again. Dov gets into it.

FADE OUT.

IN THE KITCHEN. - CONTINUOUS

Frank and Dov make pancakes together. KNOCK on the door.
Frank answers it.

Susan and Matt enter. Frank returns to preparing pancakes with Dov.

SUSAN
Hey Dov.

MATT
Sup buddy.

DOV
I'M GAY!

MATT
You're what?

DOV
I'm gay! I'm super gay!

SUSAN
What are you talking about?

DOV
Did I stutter?

MATT
Dov, you're not gay.

DOV
I'm making pancakes! I've never made pancakes in my entire life!

MATT
That doesn't mean you're gay.

DOV
Listen, Matt. Frank just opened my
world to places I never thought
possible.

SUSAN
Frank?

DOV
Frank and I are super gay!

FRANK
I'm not gay.

DOV
What the hell are you talking
about?

FRANK
Definitely not gay.

DOV
But what about all that stuff we
just did?

FRANK
I like both.

DOV
Both what?

FRANK
I like boys and girls.

DOV
Boys and girls? You can like both?

FRANK
Yep.

DOV
I forgot you can like both! You can
like both!

MATT
(To Susan.)
Maybe we can invite him over.

Susan snickers.

FRANK
You guys hungry?

MATT

Yeah.

SUSAN

We are actually going to stop at this Jewish bakery on the way here. But it was closed.

DOV

Closed?

MATT

Pretty sure the new year started last night.

DOV

The new year?

MATT

Yeah Dov. It's called Rosh Hashanah. Why do I know more than you do about your own culture?

DOV

I know what Rosh Hashanah is. It's just, I've spent so many years blocking it from my thoughts. Resisting it.

MATT

Maybe you're ready to make a change.

DOV

Maybe.

INT. HOSPITAL WAITING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Daniel sits amongst others. A DOCTOR approaches him. Daniel stands.

DOCTOR

Your friend is stable. He experienced a nasty overdose but there is no longer any danger. He's sleeping, but you can go in the room and sit with him if you would like.

DANIEL

Thanks Doc.

INT. SAM'S HOSPITAL ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Daniel sits to the left of Sam's bed. Sam lies in the bed. He is asleep.

Daniel tears up.

INT. SUBWAY (MOVING) - CONTINUOUS

Susan and Matt sit. Dov stands.

SUSAN
You going to be all right Dov?

DOV
Yeah. I'm fine. Never been better actually.

MATT
Happy to hear it buddy.

SUSAN
What are you doing now? Wanna hang?

Susan smiles at Matt.

DOV
Actually, I'm going home. There's something I need to do.

MATT
You're going to shul aren't you?

Matt smiles at Dov. Dov glares at him.

The train halts at a stop. Susan and Matt get off the train.

The train doors close.

SUSAN
Have fun Dov!

INT. MATT/SUSAN APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

Matt and Susan enter. Susan goes into the kitchen area. Matt falls onto the couch. He sighs.

SUSAN
I was going to make tea. Want some?

MATT
Sure.

Susan puts the kettle on. She approaches Matt and sits next to him. She cuddles with him.

SUSAN
It's nice to be alone with you.

MATT
Listen Susan. We need to talk.

Susan and Matt look into each others eyes.

MATT (CONT'D)
I don't think we should get married.

SUSAN
Really? Why not?

MATT
Susan, You have an amazing gift to give to this world. And us remaining a couple is only getting in the way.

Susan begins to tear up.

SUSAN
You don't want to be a couple anymore?

Matt smiles and holds her close.

INT. DOV'S APARTMENT - BATHROOM - CONTINUOUS

Dov showers.

MATT O.S.
But we don't need to be this traditional couple. We have something that most will never experience. A real connection.

IN THE BEDROOM.

Dov has a suit on. He looks at himself in the mirror. He fixes his tie.

MATT O.S.
Nothing can take it away from us. We will always be best friends.

INT. SAM'S HOSPITAL ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Sam stirs. He turns towards Daniel. Daniel smiles at him. Sam grabs Daniels hand.

MATT O.S.

But Susan. The way you and I feel
about each other. I want you to
feel that way about as many people
as you possibly can.

INT. DOV APARTMENT - BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Dov opens a drawer. He pulls out his tallis bag. It has dust on it.

MATT O.S.

Life is short. And we should love
everyone. Love as much as we can.

INT. MATT/SUSAN APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

Matt holds Susan on the couch.

MATT

As the river flows and the trees
sway in the breeze, it is love, and
love alone.

INT. SYNAGOGUE SANCTUARY - CONTINUOUS

The Sanctuary is filled with devoted Jews. Boys on the bottom. Girls in the top balcony.

Mordecai prays amongst a crowd of people. Dov enters the Sanctuary.

Maria notices Dov. Tears roll down her cheeks. Dov sits next to Mordecai.

THE END

