

**All's Fair**

by

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FADE IN:

EXT. SLEEPY LITTLE TOWN - ESTABLISHING SHOT - EARLY MORNING  
ESTABLISHING SHOT. The CRYING of BABIES is heard O.S.

EXT. PARSONAGE - EARLY MORNING

A small house, with a large porch on the front. Next to the front door are two large baskets, side by side.

In the baskets are two NEWBORN BABIES, one wrapped in a light blue blanket, the other in a light blue blanket with yellow-centered white daisies. Both babies CRY.

INT. PARSONAGE - EARLY MORNING

Comfortable house. Standard furniture in the living room and a table with four chairs in the dining area.

The kitchen is next to the dining room. JANE (mid 50's), makes coffee. The SOUND of CRYING BABIES is heard O.S. Jane stops what she's doing, exasperated.

JANE  
(Calls out)  
Gregory!

GREGORY (mid 50's), a minister, comes out of the hallway, dressed for work, complete with collar.

GREGORY  
What is it?

JANE  
Can't you hear? That Siamese cat from next door is howling on the porch again. Go chase it off.

GREGORY  
Yes dear.

He goes to the door.

EXT. PARSONAGE - CONTINUOUS

The door opens and Gregory looks out. His attention is brought down to the two babies in the baskets. Gregory is surprised.

GREGORY  
What the...?  
(calls out)  
Jane! Jane, get out here!

Gregory kneels down and touches the cheek of one baby and then the other. They both stop crying.

GREGORY (CONT'D)  
Now, where did you two come from?

Jane comes through the door.

JANE  
For goodness sake Gregory, what's all the yelling about?

She sees Gregory kneeling down and the two babies.

JANE (CONT'D)  
(surprised)  
It's a baby. Two babies.

GREGORY  
It's certainly not a Siamese cat.

JANE  
Well, don't just stand there, bring them inside. It's too damp out here on the porch. I'll call the sheriff.

Gregory picks up the two baskets. Jane holds open the door and he brings them inside. Jane goes in and shuts the door.

Across the street from the Parsonage, a dark sedan is parked under a streetlight.

YOUNG SANDRA (9) presses her face against the passenger's side window. On her left cheek is a birthmark. She watches the front door of the parsonage.

A WOMAN (30's) is in the car with her, in the driver's seat.

WOMAN  
(gently)  
Come away from the window, Sandra.

YOUNG SANDRA  
Why can't we take them with us, Mama?

WOMAN  
I've told you why. We have to leave them here right now.

YOUNG SANDRA  
Will they be okay?

WOMAN  
They'll be fine, and I promise, we'll see them soon.



ETHAN (V.O.)

I do.

A couple of cars down, the doors have also opened. Several passengers disembark.

One of them is JAMES MCKENNA (32), a dead ringer for Justin, but dressed in a very expensive suit and carrying a briefcase.

ETHAN (V.O.) (CONT'D)

Okay, how 'bout this one?

Justin and James move off the platform, in opposite directions.

EXT. COFFEE HOUSE - MORNING

A neighborhood coffee house. Table and chair set-ups outside and inside.

ETHAN TURNER (early 30's) and AMY ERICKSON (early 30's) sit at one of the outside tables. Both drink coffee and watch a well-dressed MAN walk down the street past them.

ETHAN

(to Amy)

C'mon Amy, take a guess.

AMY

Gay?

ETHAN

With those shoes? And that tie, so last year. Straight. Your turn.

Amy sees MAN 2, in jeans, tee and jacket. Amy points to him.

AMY

Okay, that one.

ETHAN

Too easy. Gay.

AMY

Ethan, are you sure? He looks straight to me.

Three MEN walking the other way, meet up with Man 2. Kisses and hugs are exchanged. Ethan triumphant.

ETHAN

Told you.

AMY

How do you do that? And don't say it's gaydar. I don't believe you have some mystical power that tells you when other gay guys are around.

Ethan wiggles his fingers at Amy, mimicking a spell.

ETHAN

Ooooooooooooo.

AMY

(laughs)

You are such a demented queen. I still don't know why I need to learn this.

ETHAN

Because you keep falling for closet cases, that's why. You need a way to figure out if they're gay before you start dating them. I can't keep pulling you out of bad relationships forever, you know.

Amy stares, distracted, over Ethan's shoulder at someone coming down the street. It's James McKenna. Ethan notices.

ETHAN (CONT'D)

Are you listening to me? Earth to Amy. Yoo hoo.

Ethan waves his hand in front of her face, breaking her concentration.

ETHAN (CONT'D)

What are you looking at?

AMY

Him.

She points at James and Ethan turns and looks.

ETHAN

I can see why. Well dressed, obviously takes care of himself.

James walks by and down the street.

AMY

Not to mention a killer ass. Okay, that one's straight!

ETHAN  
 With that walk and those clothes?  
 Sorry, he's on my team.

AMY  
 Oh no no no. Straight.

ETHAN  
 Gay!

AMY  
 Straight!

ETHAN  
 Gay!

AMY  
 Shall we agree to disagree on this  
 one?

ETHAN  
 Fine with me, but I'm right.

AMY  
 No you're not!

ETHAN  
 Oh yes I am!

AMY  
 Don't you have models to photograph?

ETHAN  
 Don't you have someone to persecute?

AMY  
 (correcting)  
 Prosecute.

ETHAN  
 Whatever.

The two of them stand, looking angry.

AMY  
 Queen!

ETHAN  
 Bitch!

AMY  
 Ho'!

ETHAN  
 Fag hag!

They both start laughing.

AMY  
See you at Marco's party tonight?

ETHAN  
Of course.

AMY  
Six fifteen, and be on time for once.

ETHAN  
Promise.

Amy gives Ethan a peck on the cheek and goes into the coffee house. Ethan walks onto the sidewalk and down the street.

EXT. DETWILLER BUILDING - DAY

ESTABLISHING SHOT of a huge glass and steel structure, multi-story, very modern. 'Detwiller' emblazoned on the front.

INT. DETWILLER BUILDING - DAY

LOBBY

Spacious and modern. CROWD mills into the building, to the elevators.

ELEVATOR AREA

Amy waits for the next elevator, along with several others, watching the floor indicator. MARILYN BRINKEMAN (mid 30's), Amy's lesbian friend, comes up and stands next to Amy.

MARILYN  
You know, watching it doesn't make it move any faster.

AMY  
Hi Marilyn. How was your weekend?

MARILYN  
Uneventful. Hit some of the clubs, without much luck. Yours?

AMY  
Ethan took me to a modeling shoot.

MARILYN  
How was it?

AMY  
Fun. Lots of cute men.



MARILYN  
Score some numbers?

AMY  
(nods)  
Ethan got more.

MARILYN  
Figures. If he has a call for women models, let me know. I could use a few numbers myself.

Amy chuckles and looks up at the floor indicator. It's on the way down.

AMY  
'Bout time

MARILYN  
Oh, did I tell you? The firm's bringing in a new attorney.

AMY  
How'd you find out?

The elevator DINGS and slides open. Marilyn and Amy get in.

MARILYN  
Darrow's secretary. The new guy's name is James McKenna. He's thirty-two, single, and starts tomorrow. He's coming from some big entertainment firm in San Francisco.

AMY  
Too bad. Those entertainment attorneys can be real prima donnas.

The doors to the elevator close. Another elevator DINGS and opens up. James walks out and heads towards the lobby.

EXT. L.A. PUBLISHING - DAY

ESTABLISHING SHOT of a modern building in the downtown area.

INT. JUSTIN'S OFFICE - DAY

Large table dominates the space, desk and chair behind it. Computer on desk and a nameplate, "Justin J. Shields".

Justin comes in, goes over to his chair and sits. He taps on the keyboard.

CHRISTY (early 20's), Justin's secretary comes through the door, carrying several manuscripts. Justin looks up.

CHRISTY  
Morning, Justin.

JUSTIN  
Morning, Christy. Those for me?

Christy thumps down the manuscripts on the desk.

CHRISTY  
Three brand new manuscripts. And,  
you have four meetings today. Times  
are on your computer.

JUSTIN  
And I was hoping for a slow Monday.

CHRISTY  
Rough weekend?

JUSTIN  
A little too much partying.

CHRISTY  
What you need to to find some nice  
guy and settle down.

JUSTIN  
You've been talking to my mother  
again. I'm looking, but I haven't  
found the right guy yet. Believe  
me, when I see him, I'll know.

CHRISTY  
If you break into a chorus of 'Some  
Enchanted Evening', I'll leave.  
Besides, you complain you can't find  
anyone, but the only places you go  
to are bars. All you'll find there  
are one night stands and hangovers.

JUSTIN  
Especially hangovers.

CHRISTY  
Get you anything?

Justin grabs one of the manuscripts.

JUSTIN  
How 'bout a bottle of aspirin?

CHRISTY  
I'll see what I can do. Oh, and I  
ordered your ticket to the ballet.  
(MORE)

CHRISTY (CONT'D)  
You can pick it up at Will Call  
Thursday night.

JUSTIN  
Thanks.

EXT. DETWILLER BUILDING - DAY

Late Morning

INT. AMY'S OFFICE - DAY

Old, and a bit stuffy. Desk, chair, all look a little worn.  
Amy types on her laptop at her desk, with papers and opened  
books she looks at occasionally while she types.

CHARLES DARROW (mid 50's) KNOCKS on the door frame. Amy  
looks up.

MR. DARROW  
Busy?

AMY  
Just doing some research on the  
Carlyle case.

MR. DARROW  
Ah. I just wanted to let you know,  
the firm's bringing in a new attorney.

AMY  
James McKenna. Heard he's coming  
from an entertainment law firm in  
San Francisco.

MR. DARROW  
Good news travels fast. My secretary?

Amy smiles and nods.

MR. DARROW (CONT'D)  
Figures. Anyway, I'd like Mr. McKenna  
to work with you on the Carlyle case.

AMY  
(surprised)  
Carlyle's a land dispute. He may  
find this case boring, considering  
most of his former clients were  
celebrities?

MR. DARROW

Maybe, but I want to see how well he works with other attorneys. Besides, you seem to be a good judge of character.

AMY

Thanks. No problem. I'll show him the ropes.

MR. DARROW

Excellent. Oh, and one more thing. A decorator's coming in tomorrow morning. We're redoing some of the offices. Yours is on the list. He'll be here at eight. Just tell him what you want.

Darrow exits.

EXT. SOBA'S - NIGHT

A bar in West Hollywood. Sign above the door: 'Soba's'

INT. SOBA'S - NIGHT

Sleek and modern, chrome, stainless steel. DANCE MUSIC in the background. KEITH (20's), tends bar for a few CUSTOMERS.

SANDRA (41) sits at the end of the bar, in slacks and blouse, a birthmark on her left cheek. She drinks a beer, taking in the scene.

Amy comes in, dressed for a party. She walks up to the bar, and sits on a stool. Keith comes over.

KEITH

Evening, Amy. What are ya having?

AMY

Hi Keith. Cosmo. Seen Ethan?

KEITH

Not yet. Here for Marco's party?

Amy nods.

KEITH (CONT'D)

He's already in the back room getting everything together. Right back with your drink.

Keith moves off. Sandra looks over at Amy, who gives a nod and a smile. Sandra walks over, takes a stool next to her.

SANDRA  
Hi, I'm Sandra.

AMY  
Amy.

SANDRA  
Nice to meet you. Come here often?

AMY  
Did you just give me a pickup line?

SANDRA  
Of course. A beautiful woman sitting alone in a gay bar, with the bartender using her first name, I'd be foolish not to at least try.

AMY  
Thank you. I'm flattered, but I'm straight. Just waiting for a friend.

SANDRA  
Too bad. Such a waste.

Keith brings over Amy's Cosmo and sets it in front of her.

Ethan enters, spots Amy and walks over. Sandra sees him.

SANDRA (CONT'D)  
Speaking of your friend, I think he's here.

Amy turns as Ethan comes up.

ETHAN  
Sorry I'm late. Photo shoot ran over. Getting models all in one place and time is like herding cats.

AMY  
Poor baby.  
(to Sandra)  
Sandra, this is Ethan Turner, one of the best photographers in the business. Just ask him.

ETHAN  
You are so funny.  
(to Sandra)  
Don't mind her. It's her feeble attempt at humor. You know how she is.

SANDRA  
Actually, I don't. We just met.

AMY  
She just tried to pick me up.

ETHAN  
Really? How did it go?

SANDRA  
Struck out.

ETHAN  
Straight women. No sense of  
adventure.

Amy give him a playful slap upside the head. They all grin.

From the back room, The SOUND of LOUD DANCE MUSIC filters  
out into the bar.

SANDRA  
Looks like your party's starting up.

ETHAN  
Why don't you join us? I'm sure  
Marco wouldn't mind another guest.

SANDRA  
I'd love to, but I'm meeting my  
brother in a few minutes for dinner.  
You know, I might be in the market  
for a photographer for my company  
soon. Do you have a card?

ETHAN  
Sure.

Ethan pulls a card out of his pocket and hands it to her.

ETHAN (CONT'D)  
Here you go. Give me a call.

SANDRA  
I will, thanks.

ETHAN  
(to Amy)  
Ready?

Amy nods and grabs her cosmo. Smiles at Sandra.

AMY  
See you around.

SANDRA

Hope so.

Amy and Ethan go into the back room and OUT OF SCENE. Sandra sits on the stool, drinking her beer.

James enters, spots Sandra and walks over to her.

JAMES

Hey Sis.

SANDRA

Jimmy, you made it. Have any trouble finding the place?

JAMES

No problem.

SANDRA

(to Keith)

Keith, this is my brother, James.  
He just moved down from San Francisco.

KEITH

Welcome to the neighborhood.

JAMES

Thanks.

(to Sandra)

We've got reservations for six forty five, so we better get a move on.

Sandra puts her beer bottle on the bar.

SANDRA

I'm ready.

(to Keith)

Later, Keith.

KEITH

Take care.

James and Sandra walk towards the exit.

JAMES

Don't you ever wear a dress?

SANDRA

Not if I can help it.

They go OUT OF SCENE.

EXT. DETWILLER BUILDING - MORNING

A lot of PEOPLE going in and out.

INT. ELEVATOR - MORNING

Amy, Marilyn and other passengers packed in the elevator.

MARILYN

...And then what happened?

AMY

I told her I was straight.

MARILYN

Get her number?

AMY

Why?

MARILYN

For me, your lesbian friend who hasn't had a date since disco.

AMY

Tell you what, Ethan gave her his card. If she calls, I'll have him get her number. Will that do?

MARILYN

Then an A P B's out of the question?

AMY

A bit much. You wouldn't want her to think you're easy.

The elevator stops and the doors open.

INT. ELEVATOR AREA, LAW OFFICE - MORNING

Amy and Marilyn come out of the elevator and see James standing there. They think he's the decorator.

MARILYN

Looks like your eight o'clock. Later.

Marilyn walks towards her desk Amy walks up to James.

AMY

Thank you for being so prompt.

JAMES

(confused)

Pardon me?

Amy looks at him curiously.

AMY

Have we met before?



JAMES

I don't think so.

AMY

Well, it doesn't matter. If you'll follow me, we can get started.

Amy walks towards her office. James hesitates, then follows.

AMY (CONT'D)

I have to take a deposition at ten, so I'm afraid I'm not going to be able to spend much time going over what I want, but I can give you an idea of what I'm looking for.

She gets to the door of her office and stops.

AMY (CONT'D)

Right this way.

James, still a bit confused, walks through the door.

INT. AMY'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

James comes in, Amy right behind him. She begins indicating areas in the room.

AMY

Now, I was thinking of a modern look, glass, chrome, black leather chairs, large desk near the window and a table for client conferences. I think that would be fabulous.

She indicates the closet.

AMY (CONT'D)

And I'd like to get rid of the closet. Maybe just a modern-looking coat rack instead.

Indicates the built in bookcases.

AMY (CONT'D)

The bookshelves work fine the way they are. I personally don't think they need to be changed.

She turns to James.

AMY (CONT'D)

Your opinion?

JAMES

Well, I agree the way you want to set up your office will look very professional and that it's important to impress the client--

AMY

But...?

JAMES

Don't get me wrong, the ideas are great, but really Miss...

AMY

Erickson.

JAMES

Miss Erickson. I think you have me mixed up with someone else.

AMY

No I don't. You're the decorator I was supposed to meet at eight.

JAMES

Decorator? No, I'm---

Mr. Darrow comes through the door. Sees James.

MR. DARROW

James, there you are. I see you and Amy are getting acquainted. Good.

Amy is stunned. She looks over at James. He smiles.

JAMES

Amy was just telling me about the changes she wants to make to her office.

MR. DARROW

I see.

(to Amy)

Amy, would you mind if I borrowed James for awhile? I want to introduce him to the rest of the staff.

AMY

(still in shock)

Of course...

MR. DARROW

Come along James, I'll give you the nickel tour.

Mr. Darrow goes out the door. James turns towards Amy as he leaves, smiling. She mouths 'thank you'. He nods and goes out, leaving Amy to shake her head in disbelief.

EXT. L.A. PUBLISHING - DAY

Ethan enters the building, carrying a large manila envelope.

INT. SCOTT'S OFFICE - DAY

Dominated by a large conference table. Windows look out to the rest of the office.

SCOTT COULTER (late 30's), assistant editor, sits behind his desk, looking over a manuscript.

Ethan appears at the open door and KNOCKS. Scott looks up.

SCOTT

You're late.

Ethan comes in, envelope in hand.

ETHAN

Sorry Scott. Things got backed up.

SCOTT

You do have the photos I hope?

Ethan holds up the envelope.

SCOTT (CONT'D)

Okay then, spread 'em out on the table and let's see what you got.

Scott comes around from the desk and Ethan puts the envelope on the table. He takes out some 8x10 photos and spreads them out in front of Scott, who looks them over.

SCOTT (CONT'D)

These are good.

ETHAN

Of course they are.

SCOTT

Egotist. This all of them?

ETHAN

Just about. I have a few more parks to hit.

SCOTT

You do know you have a deadline?

ETHAN

Don't worry, it'll be done on time.

While Ethan and Scott are talking, Justin walks by the office. With their backs to the windows, they don't see him go by.

INT. AMY'S OFFICE - DAY

Amy is seated at her desk, talking to Marilyn.

MARILYN

It could have happened to anyone.

AMY

I should have known.

MARILYN

How? Mind reading? It was an honest mistake. If you think about it, it's kinda funny.

Amy shoots her a scathing look.

MARILYN (CONT'D)

Or not.

AMY

God, he's going to think I'm some kind of idiot.

James appears at the door.

JAMES

Actually, no he won't.

Amy looks up and Marilyn turns, surprised. Amy stands.

JAMES (CONT'D)

Sorry, couldn't help overhearing.

(to Marilyn)

Hello, I'm James McKenna.

MARILYN

Marilyn... Brinkeman.

AMY

Mr. McKenna, I just want to tell you how really sorry I am about what happened earlier.

JAMES

No need to be. Miss Brinkman's right, it could have happened to anyone.

AMY

And... thanks for covering for me with Mr. Darrow. It would have been embarrassing if he knew what happened.

JAMES

It'll be our secret.

Marilyn looks at both of them. The chemistry between them is palpable.

MARILYN

Well, I have work to do, so I'll just leave now. I know you must have a lot to go over.

(to James)

Nice meeting you.

JAMES

Same here.

MARILYN

(to Amy)

We will talk later.

Amy nods. Marilyn goes out. James comes into the office and over to the desk. Extends his hand, smiling.

JAMES

Hi, I'm James McKenna. I've heard that we'll be working together.

Amy shakes his hand. Smiles.

AMY

It's nice to meet you, Officially. Again, thanks for being so understanding.

JAMES

No problem. The decorator ever show?

AMY

Right after you left.

JAMES

What did he think of your ideas?

AMY

He liked them, except for the closet. He thinks I should leave that the way it is.

JAMES

Good, I agree with him. It'll give your office a hint of experience, and match the bookcases. Clients notice things like that.

AMY

Impressive. You should have been a decorator.

JAMES

Far too stressful. Well, shall we get started?

AMY

Mr. McKenna--

JAMES

James.

AMY

James. I owe you one.

JAMES

I'll hold you to that.

Amy smiles.

EXT. ETHAN'S STUDIO - DAY

ESTABLISHING SHOT of an older building. A sign over the entrance reads "TURNER STUDIOS".

INT. WAITING ROOM, ETHAN'S STUDIO - DAY

WAITING ROOM

A desk and a few chairs for clients are all the furniture in the room. CAROL (Mid 20's), Ethan's assistant sits behind the desk. She types on the computer.

Ethan comes out of the hallway and into the waiting room, carrying a camera case. Carol looks up.

CAROL

You taking off?

ETHAN

I'm having dinner with Amy, then the photo shoot at Capri at nine.

CAROL

Have a good time. Don't pick up any strange men while you're working.

ETHAN

The shoot's at a gay bar. Strange men go with the territory.

CAROL

You know what I mean.

ETHAN

Yes mother, business before pleasure.

Ethan heads towards the door.

CAROL

Say Hi to Amy for me.

ETHAN

Will do.

As he goes out.

EXT. CONDO COMPLEX - EVENING

ESTABLISHING SHOT of a well tended, high rise condo complex. ETHAN and AMY'S LAUGHTER can be heard in V.O.

INT. DINING ROOM, AMY'S CONDO - EVENING

A modern furnished dining room. A glass-topped table with four chairs makes up the majority of the furniture, with a small china hutch to one side.

Amy and Ethan, seated at the table, an empty pizza box between them and a glass of wine in front of them.

ETHAN

So, you drag this guy James into your office, start telling him what you want, and he just stood there?

Amy nods.

ETHAN (CONT'D)

Probably because he couldn't get a word in with you talking.

Amy makes a face at him.

ETHAN (CONT'D)

And it's the same guy that we saw yesterday?

AMY

(nods)

I didn't realize it until later.

(MORE)

AMY (CONT'D)

I thought he looked familiar when I met him.

ETHAN

So, you saw him and you assumed he was the decorator. And what about him brought you to that conclusion?

AMY

Oh no you don't. Just because I thought he was a decorator doesn't mean that I thought he was gay. I still think he's straight.

ETHAN

Amy admit it, I've tried to teach you how to tell the difference between gay and straight men since college, and you never were very good at it.

AMY

I wasn't that bad.

ETHAN

Really? Remember Gary? You dated him for a month before you found out he was seeing some guy named Troy. Then there was Eric, Paul... Richard, Steve... and of course, who could forget Bi Bill?

AMY

Don't bring Bill into this. It could have worked if I had more time.

ETHAN

In your dreams.

AMY

I could have pulled him over to my side of the fence.

ETHAN

He was dating half the men in the drama department and half the ladies volleyball team. You didn't stand a chance. Face it, in college, you attracted every gay man on campus.  
(pleased)

...That makes you a fagnet.

AMY

Oh ha ha.

(MORE)



AMY (CONT'D)

I've gotten smarter since then, and I'm positive that James is straight.

ETHAN

Confident enough to bet on it?

AMY

Bet? What did you have in mind?

Ethan sits back and thinks for a moment.

ETHAN

Okay, how 'bout I give you two weeks to prove he's straight, then I get two weeks to prove he's gay?

AMY

Why don't I just ask him?

ETHAN

You think you're going to get a straight answer out of an attorney? Besides, if he's in the closet, he'll probably lie.

AMY

And how do I prove it?

ETHAN

That's up to you. You're an attorney, I trust your killer instincts.

AMY

Hmmmm, and what do I get when I win?

ETHAN

If you win, I treat you to an all expense paid weekend in Vegas. You do the same if I win.

AMY

A weekend in Vegas? Alright Ethan, I'll take that bet, but promise me that you won't try to meet him before it's your turn. I know how competitive you can be.

ETHAN

That's fair. When do we start?

AMY

Tomorrow morning?

ETHAN

Done.

Ethan and Amy raise their glasses.

ETHAN (CONT'D)

Maybe this time you'll be lucky and this guy breaks your run of bad luck. And if it doesn't work out, there's always our contract.

AMY

Ethan, you're my best friend, I love you to death, and I appreciate you trying to protect me, but I'm a big girl now. Having a contract that gave each other permission to step in if we were going to do something stupid was fine for college, but we're older now.

ETHAN

I'm talking about section two.

AMY

Plan B? We won't be forty for eight years yet. Besides, if I wanted to marry a gay man, I would have stuck with Bi Bill. At least I'd get attention half the time.

ETHAN

What did Bill have that I didn't?

Amy gives him a lecherous wink. Ethan remembers.

ETHAN (CONT'D)

Oh. Yeah, there was that.

EXT. THE CAPRI - ESTABLISHING SHOT - NIGHT

A West Hollywood gay dance club.

INT. THE CAPRI - NIGHT

The club is lights, LOUD MUSIC, and lots of MEN. A large dance floor dominates the room, with a large bar off to the side. Very modern, very hip.

Ethan takes pictures of the club and the patrons. He snaps a few shots and then stands on an empty chair, and takes a few more. Men on the dance floor gyrate to the music.

Ethan looks over at the bar and sees Justin, having a drink, watching the dancing.

A YOUNG GUY dances out of the crowd and over to Justin, whispering in his ear. Justin nods and moves to the dance floor.

Dancing, Justin unbuttons his shirt and bares his chest. He looks up and notices Ethan taking shots.

Ethan gets down from the chair. He moves to the bar and finds an empty spot. A BARTENDER comes up to him.

BARTENDER

What can I get you?

ETHAN

Sea Breeze.

JUSTIN (O.C.)

And put it on my tab.

Ethan turns, startled. The bartender moves off. Justin is standing there.

JUSTIN (CONT'D)

I saw you taking pictures of the dance floor.

ETHAN

The owners hired me to take marketing photos.

JUSTIN

So, you're a professional photographer?

ETHAN

I like to think so.

JUSTIN

I was hoping you weren't just some pervert.

ETHAN

Only if I get paid for it.

JUSTIN

Would I recognize your name?

The bartender returns and sets Ethan's drink in front of him. Ethan picks it up and drinks from it.

ETHAN

Maybe. It's Ethan Turner.

JUSTIN  
(concerned)  
Turner Studios?

Ethan nods.

JUSTIN (CONT'D)  
I've seen your work. It's excellent.

ETHAN  
Thank you. It's nice to find someone  
who recognizes quality.

JUSTIN  
Do I detect a little egotism?

ETHAN  
It goes with my artistic temperament.  
I've cultivated it carefully over  
the years.

JUSTIN  
You do it very well.

ETHAN  
Thank you. Now, since I've given you  
my name, and let you know that I'm  
totally self-absorbed, I think you  
should return the favor.

JUSTIN  
(evasive)  
Me? Oh... I'm uh JJ... JJ Smith.

Ethan doesn't believe him, but doesn't let on.

ETHAN  
Nice to meet you, JJ.

INT. AMY'S OFFICE - MORNING

Amy and Ethan go over pictures. Office door is shut.

AMY  
You sure that's him?

ETHAN  
Positive. Admit it, I was right.

AMY  
You don't have to be gay to be in a  
gay bar.

ETHAN

No, but it helps. The guy even bought me a drink.

AMY

You talked to him?! Why in hell did you do that?! Damn it Ethan, can't you just stick to the rules--

ETHAN

It wasn't my idea, okay. He cruised me. What did you want me to do, run away?

AMY

What did you say to him?

ETHAN

The truth. That I was hired to photograph the club.

AMY

Did he tell you his name?

ETHAN

JJ Smith. Not very original.

Amy looks back at the picture.

AMY

I still don't believe it.

There is a KNOCK on the door. Both Ethan and Amy look up.

AMY (CONT'D)

Who is it?

JAMES (O.S.)

(through door)

It's James.

AMY

(surprised)

Just a minute.

Amy hides the photos under files, goes to the closet, opens it and motions Ethan to get in. Ethan looks indignant.

ETHAN

(mouths)

Never again!

Ethan goes by the door, so when it opens, he can hide behind it.

With Ethan in position, Amy gains her composure and opens the door. James stands there.

JAMES

Bad time?

AMY

No! No, of course not.

JAMES

Can I come in?

AMY

No! I mean, I'm working on a special project for Mr. Darrow, and he wants to keep it under the radar.

Ethan has a hard time keeping from laughing. She notices him and opens the door wider which puts the doorknob in his stomach. He mouths an 'Ow' and shoots Amy a dirty look.

JAMES

Ah. I was wondering. Do you have plans for tonight?

AMY

No I don't. Why?

JAMES

I have two tickets to the ballet. Would you like to go?

AMY

The ballet? I'd love to.

JAMES

Great. I'll pick you up at your place about seven.

Amy nods. James walks away. She closes the door. Ethan looks at her with the 'I told you so' look on his face.

AMY

What?

ETHAN

The ballet? That is so gay.

He makes a 'limp wrist' gesture. Amy gives him a playful sock on the shoulder. Ethan rubs it, wincing.

EXT. THEATER - ESTABLISHING SHOT - EVENING

INT. THEATER - EVENING

LOBBY

Upper and a lower levels. PATRONS are milling around, some with glasses of wine. Amy, on the upper floor, looks down.

Justin goes into the Men's Room on the lower floor, dressed in a dark coat and slacks. Amy sees him. James, dressed like Justin, comes up behind her with two glasses of wine.

JAMES

What are you looking at?

Startled, Amy turns.

AMY

Oh, you're here?

JAMES

Where else would I be?

He hands her a glass of wine.

AMY

I could have sworn I just saw you go into the Men's Room.

JAMES

I've been waiting for our wine, and I certainly can't be in two places at the same time. Come on, I want to introduce you to my sister.

AMY

You have a sister?

JAMES

Yes, I do. She manages the dance troupe.

They move away from the railing and into the crowd.

Justin comes out of the Men's Room and heads towards the theater.

Looking around, James sees the person he's looking for.

JAMES (CONT'D)

Right over there.

He points to Sandra, dressed in slacks, her back to them, talking to an OLDER COUPLE.

Handing his wine to Amy, James comes up behind Sandra and puts his arms around her.

JAMES (CONT'D)  
Congratulations sis.

SANDRA  
Jimmy.  
(to couple)  
Would you excuse me?

James lets her go. She turns around and gives him a hug. The older couple moves off.

SANDRA (CONT'D)  
I'm so glad you could make it.

JAMES  
Wouldn't have missed it.

She looks over James' shoulder and sees Amy standing there.

SANDRA  
(delighted)  
Amy? What are you doing here?

Amy comes over. James releases Sandra from the hug. Amy hands James' wine back to him.

AMY  
James invited me. You're his sister?

SANDRA  
Guilty.

AMY  
And you manage the ballet company?

SANDRA  
Five years now.

AMY  
Well, that explains why James knows so much about ballet.

SANDRA  
That and three years of dance classes.

AMY  
Really? He must have looked cute in tights.

JAMES  
Wait a minute. You two know each other?



AMY

We met a few days ago.

SANDRA

I tried to pick her up at a bar.

JAMES

(to Amy)

Pick you up? You mean you're a--?

AMY

No!

SANDRA

I wish. And here you turn up as my baby brother's date. The universe can be so cruel. How do you two know each other?

JAMES

We work for the same law firm. And we're colleagues Sandy, not dating.

Amy sips her wine to hide her disappointment.

SANDRA

Does that mean I might still might have a chance?

James shoots her a disapproving look. Amy's amused.

SANDRA (CONT'D)

Hey, I can dream too, you know.

The LIGHTS FLASH. Patrons start moving back into the theater.

SANDRA (CONT'D)

I better get backstage. And you should be head for your seats. Will I see you afterwards?

James and Amy nod.

SANDRA (CONT'D)

Wonderful.

(to Amy)

Then I can tell you all of Jimmy's deep dark secrets.

AMY

Can't wait.

James GROANS.

THEATER

A grand space. Three tiers of seating, an orchestra down front and a large stage. Patrons wander in and take their seats, Amy and James among them. They walk right by Justin. He's looking at the program and doesn't notice them.

INT. THE CAPRI - LATE NIGHT

Justin stands at the Bar, drinking and watching the dancers.

Ethan enters. He spots Justin, but Justin doesn't see him. Frowning, Ethan turns around, and goes back out. Justin looks over and sees Ethan just as he leaves.

EXT. COFFEE HOUSE - MORNING

Ethan sits outside, drinking coffee. Amy comes out and sits across from him.

ETHAN

Okay, how was the date? Tell me everything.

AMY

We saw Swan Lake. Very nicely done, actually. James knows a lot about Ballet.

ETHAN

(sarcastic)

Oh I'm sure he does.

AMY

I'll ignore that remark. At intermission, he took me to meet someone.

ETHAN

Ivan, Igor or Sergei?

Amy glares at him.

ETHAN (CONT'D)

Sorry, lips sealed.

AMY

Good. Actually, he introduced me to his sister. She manages the Ballet company. And, by the way, you've met her too.

ETHAN

I have? Who?

AMY

Sandra, the woman who tried to pick me up before Marco's party? The one you gave your card to.

ETHAN

You're kidding? His sister? Must have been surprised to see you.

AMY

I think James was more shocked that Sandra and I knew each other. When she told him that she tried to pick me up, for a moment he thought I was a lesbian.

ETHAN

Like that will even happen. I heard you get in around eleven thirty, so you must have had a good time.

AMY

I did. He's a great guy, but to be honest with you Ethan, James did tell Sandra that he and I were just colleagues.

ETHAN

Oh. Listen Amy, there's something I need to tell you. I went to--

Amy looks over Ethan's shoulder and sees James coming down the street.

AMY

Oh shit, it's James! Quick, get inside until I can get rid of him!

Ethan starts to turn around.

AMY (CONT'D)

Don't turn around! I don't want him to see you!

Ethan gets up and moves into the coffee house and OUT of VIEW. James comes up to the table.

JAMES

Morning Amy.

AMY

Hello James.

JAMES

Am I disturbing you? I thought I saw you sitting with someone.

AMY

Oh, he's just a friend I meet for coffee.

JAMES

I'm glad I ran into you. I wanted to tell you before I forgot...

INT. COFFEE HOUSE - MORNING

Ethan is listening by the door.

JAMES (O.C.)

I had a great time last night.

AMY (O.C.)

So did I.

JAMES (O.C.)

You're really are a lot of fun to be with.

AMY (O.C.)

So are you. We should go out again.

EXT. COFFEE HOUSE - MORNING

JAMES

We should.

(after a pause)

Well, I've got an early meeting with Darrow, so I'll see you at the office. Oh, and I've got some ideas on the Carlyle case I want to go over. Your office, ten?

Amy nods. James moves off down the street, Amy watching him go. After a moment, Ethan pops his head out the door.

ETHAN

(to Amy)

Is it safe?

AMY

He's gone.

Ethan comes out, over to his chair, and sits.

ETHAN

Amy, I can't keep hiding every time James comes by or I'm going to develop a complex.

AMY

I don't want you to mess this up for me. I really like this guy. I think he could be the one.

ETHAN

You've known him less than a week. Aren't we moving a little fast?

AMY

Don't tease me, Ethan. I'm serious. Now, what did you want to tell me?

ETHAN (CONT'D)

You know, it's not that important.

He takes a sip from his coffee.

EXT. ETHAN'S STUDIO - DAY

Mid morning.

INT. WAITING AREA ETHAN'S STUDIO - DAY

WAITING AREA

Carol, behind the desk, looks over some pictures. The PHONE RINGS, she picks it up.

CAROL

(into phone)

Turner Studios, this is Carol. Yes, Mr. Belikin, of course. Let me check.

She taps on the keyboard. Looks at the information.

CAROL (CONT'D)

His schedule's clear tonight. I'll tell him. Thanks for calling.

Hangs up. Carol gets up from her desk and walks down the adjacent hallway to

ETHAN'S OFFICE

Small, with a desk shoved in the corner and a large table with four chairs around it.

Ethan, is seated at the table looking over some photos of the club. He looks up when Carol comes in.

CAROL (CONT'D)  
Mr. Belkin just called. He needs  
you to take more photos at the Capri  
tonight.

ETHAN  
Did he say why?

CAROL  
Some kind of fundraiser.

ETHAN  
(sighs)  
Oh all right, I guess I can.

CAROL  
Don't dazzle me with your enthusiasm.  
What's up with you this morning?

Ethan pulls a photo of Justin out of the pile. Carol sits  
at the table. Ethan pushes the photo over to her.

ETHAN  
Him... I met him at the Capri a few  
days ago.

Carol looks at the picture.

CAROL  
Cute. So, what's the problem?

ETHAN  
He's dating Amy.

CAROL  
And he's gay?

ETHAN  
I'm not sure. I've seen him at the  
Capri twice now. Gave me some made  
up name. Oh, he's told Amy they're  
just colleagues but that's not what  
it sounds like when they talk.

CAROL  
Like you're such an expert. When  
was the last time you dated? And  
one night stands don't count.

Ethan shrugs.

CAROL (CONT'D)  
Thought so.

ETHAN

Anyway, she insists he's straight, but I saw him at the Capri last night, right after he dropped her off at home. I'm just not sure if I should tell her that I saw him there.

INT. AMY'S OFFICE - DAY

Amy's on the computer with James looking over her shoulder. Several open law books and papers on the desk.

JAMES

Okay, there's the survey map from nineteen twenty three. See where the river runs between the two properties?

Amy nods. James pulls up a sheet of paper.

JAMES (CONT'D)

Now, look at the survey map from ninety-four.

Amy looks at the screen, then the map on the desk.

AMY

The river's different.

JAMES

It's changed course over the years. There's been a lot of seismic activity in the area. That could be why.

AMY

And since the river is the border between the two properties...

JAMES

Any changes in the river's path would definitely have an effect on acreage.

AMY

How does that help us?

JAMES

Peterson's using the nineteen twenty three map for his argument against Carlyle. He can't. The river was designated as the border so both properties would have water rights. It states that on the original deeds. The river's always going to be the border, no matter how much it changes.

AMY

I'm impressed. So what do we do with this information?

JAMES

Send it to Peterson's attorney. See if we can shake his tree. I've also found some precedents we can use in argument. I'll give them to you before I leave this afternoon.

AMY

Where are you going?

JAMES

Vegas. Meeting with one of my old clients. He still has me on retainer. Amy, can I ask another favor of you?

AMY

Sure. What is it?

JAMES

I get back Sunday and I've got a dinner meeting with a potential client. I'd like to bring you along.

AMY

As a date?

JAMES

In a way, but what I'd like another pair of eyes and ears. Do you mind?

AMY

(disappointed)  
No, of course not.

INT. HALLWAY - EVENING

Outside Amy's and Ethan's condos. Amy's door opens and she comes out with a small suitcase. At the same time, the door opens across the hall and Ethan comes out, camera around his neck and lens case over his shoulder. They see each other.

ETHAN

Where are you going?

AMY

San Diego. Mom asked me down for the weekend.

ETHAN

And you were going to tell me when?



AMY

I was planning to leave a note.  
Where are you off to?

ETHAN

Capri wants more photos, so I'm  
working tonight. Some big event.

They start towards the elevators, talking as they go.

AMY

James asked me out again.

ETHAN

A real date this time? Dinner and  
everything?

AMY

Dinner, and no, it's not a date.  
James' meeting a perspective client  
after he gets back from Vegas. He  
wants me along for my opinion.

ETHAN

What's he doing in Vegas?

AMY

Meeting a client.

ETHAN

Still think he's straight?

AMY

Yes, and I'm going to prove it.

They stop at the elevator. Ethan presses the down button.

ETHAN

And how are you going to do that?  
Isn't this is your second non-date?

AMY

Ethan, sometimes you can be so  
irritating!

The elevator DINGS and opens. They go inside.

ETHAN

It's a gift. So, what's your plan?

AMY

I'm going to kiss him. Then I'll  
know if he's straight.

ETHAN

Really? One kiss and you'll know?

Amy nods.

ETHAN (CONT'D)

Well, for your sake, let's hope he  
doesn't turn into a gay frog.

Amy shoots him a scathing look as the elevator closes.

INT. THE CAPRI - NIGHT

Packed. Party decorations up. LOUD DANCE MUSIC.

Justin is on the dance floor. Ethan comes in and looks  
around. The first thing he sees is Justin and is surprised.  
He begins taking pictures.

Justin sees Ethan and moves towards him. He comes up behind  
Ethan and taps him on the shoulder while Ethan is taking a  
photo. Startled, Ethan turns.

JUSTIN

Back for more pictures?

ETHAN

Owner's idea. They want to include  
the fundraiser in their new flyer.

JUSTIN

Think we might get a chance to talk  
later, maybe have a drink?

ETHAN

(evasive)

I uh, maybe another time.

JUSTIN

Ethan, is there something about me  
you don't like?

ETHAN

I don't really know you. We've had  
what, one conversation?

JUSTIN

We could have had one last night if  
you hadn't left so suddenly.

ETHAN

I can explain that.

JUSTIN

If you want me to leave you alone, just tell me, but at least give me a reason. Am I too fat, too thin, too short, too tall? Are you worried that I use a sock to pad my jeans or that I don't?

Ethan laughs. Justin smiles.

JUSTIN (CONT'D)

That's better. Ethan, I'll be honest, I find you very attractive.

ETHAN

You're sure?

JUSTIN

Positive. Look, I'm going to stick my neck out here. I've got season tickets to the Lakers. There's a game Sunday afternoon. Wanna go?

ETHAN

Lakers? Yeah, that'd be great.

JUSTIN

It'll give us a chance to get to know each other better. Now, how 'bout that drink?

ETHAN

Sure. Why not.

The two men walk towards the bar.

EXT. SAN DIEGO - ESTABLISHING SHOT - NIGHT

San Diego Skyline at night.

EXT. HOUSE - NIGHT

A pleasant, upper middle-class neighborhood.

DONNA (O.S.)

I don't know honey...

INT. HOUSE - KITCHEN - NIGHT

A pleasant eat-in kitchen. Kitchen is on one side of the room and a kitchen table with three chairs on the other side.

Amy is seated at the table in conversation with DONNA (50'S), Amy's mother. Donna carries a tray with a teapot and cups over to the table and sets it down.

DONNA

Don't you think you should get to know him better before you start making wedding plans?

AMY

Mom, all I said was that he could be the man for me.

DONNA

What's Ethan's opinion?

AMY

He says James is gay.

DONNA

Is he?

AMY

No, but I expect Ethan to start quoting the contract any day now.

(imitates Ethan)

Section one, subsection three, line four states either party has the right to question the other party's choice of romantic entanglements.

DONNA

That's very good.

Both of them giggle.

DONNA (CONT'D)

Seriously Amy, remember, Ethan did keep you from marrying that Brazilian... what was he again?

AMY

Soccer player.

DONNA

A gay soccer player that wanted to marry you so he could stay in the country.

AMY

Okay, I'll give him that one, but sometimes I wish Ethan would just butt out of my business.

DONNA

Amy, you're my daughter and I love you, but you tend to jump into romance with both feet before thinking.

AMY

Now you sound like Ethan.

DONNA

He's your best friend and he loves you very much.

AMY

Yeah, like the goofy brother I never had. Oh I don't know mom, maybe I'll never find the right guy.

DONNA

You'll find him. He's out there. If it isn't this man, it will be someone else even more wonderful. But I will say this, the day you do get married, I reserve the right to tear up that contract.

AMY

(teasing)

Maybe if I'm not married by the time I hit forty, I'll marry Ethan.

DONNA

Section two, huh? Darling, I love Ethan, but I'm holding out for grandchildren, and I don't see him being able to rise to the job.

AMY

(mock shock)

Mother!

They both break up into giggles.

EXT. CONDO COMPLEX - EVENING

Ethan and Amy's complex

INT. HALLWAY - EVENING

The elevator DINGS and opens up. Justin and Ethan walk out and down the hallway.

JUSTIN

How you know all the Lakers players?

ETHAN

I did photography for an article on the team last year. Spent a week with them on the road.

The two of them stop at Ethan's door.

ETHAN (CONT'D)

I had a great time.

JUSTIN

Gonna invite me in?

ETHAN

Not tonight. I'm only here to pick up my camera. I've got a project deadline coming up, and I wanted to get some night shots.

JUSTIN

Can't it wait?

ETHAN

'Fraid not. The company that hired me doesn't like projects turned in late. You understand how it is.

JUSTIN

Yeah, I do.

ETHAN

We should do this again.

Justin nods.

ETHAN (CONT'D)

Well, good night.

Ethan holds out his hand to shake. Justin grabs Ethan's head in his hands and gives him a slow, lingering kiss. Ethan struggles for a moment and then responds.

After a moment, the two separate. Ethan and Justin are both a little breathless.

JUSTIN

Good night.

Justin turns and walks towards the elevators. Ethan fumbles for his keys, unlocks and opens the door, going inside.

INT. FOYER, ETHAN'S CONDO - EVENING

Ethan comes through the door, closes it behind him and leans up against it. He looks down towards his crotch.

ETHAN

(to himself)

I need a cold shower.

Ethan heads for the bedroom.

INT. HALLWAY - EVENING

Justin stands at the elevators. The elevator door opens up and he gets in. The elevator next to him DINGS and the door opens and James comes out and starts down the hall just as the doors to Justin's elevator close.

James stops at Amy's door and RINGS the BELL. After a moment, the door opens. Amy stands there in a cocktail dress.

AMY

Hello.

JAMES

Wow, you look great.

AMY

Why thank you sir.

JAMES

Ready to go?

AMY

Lead the way.

Amy comes out and closes the door behind her. James offers his arm and she takes it and they walk to the elevator.

INT. ETHAN'S CONDO - NIGHT

LIVING ROOM

Tastefully furnished, typical set-up. A number of framed photos, composed of all sorts of subjects, hang on the walls.

Ethan sits in one of the chairs, reading a book. Next to him is a cup of tea that he sips from time to time.

The SOUND of MUFFLED LAUGHTER O.S. catches his attention. He puts down the book and goes over to the door, looking through the peephole.

INT. HALLWAY - NIGHT

James and Amy are at Amy's front door. She unlocks the door and the two of them go inside and shut the door.

INT. FOYER, ETHAN'S CONDO - NIGHT

ETHAN

(to himself)

Well I'll be damned. I'll give this to him, the guy's got stamina.

INT. LIVING ROOM, AMY'S CONDO - NIGHT

Typically furnished with a couch, a couple chairs, a pair of end tables, lamps and a coffee table.

Amy and James, in a deep embrace, kiss passionately, then separate.

JAMES

You have no idea how long I've wanted to do that.

AMY

What stopped you?

JAMES

Timing. This is the first time I've gotten you alone.

AMY

Then we should take advantage of it.

Amy looks into his eyes.

AMY (CONT'D)

It's still early.

She kisses him. James pulls away. Amy is surprised.

AMY (CONT'D)

What's wrong?

JAMES

I really should be going. I have work I need to finish before tomorrow.

James leans over and kisses her on the cheek.

JAMES (CONT'D)

I had a great time. See you in the morning.

James goes to the door, opens it and goes out, shutting the door behind him. Amy stands there, totally in shock.

AMY

(sarcastic)

Oh, that went well.

EXT. DETWILLER BUILDING - MORNING

A beautiful LA day.

MARILYN (O.S.)

You're kidding!



INT. LOBBY, DETWILLER BUILDING - MORNING

Amy and Marilyn walk towards the elevators.

AMY

He ran out of my place like his ass  
was on fire.

MARILYN

He tell you why?

AMY

Work he needed to finish.

MARILYN

Pretty lame excuse.

AMY

What's wrong with me? Am I that  
unattractive?

Amy and Marilyn reach the elevators.

MARILYN

You are a beautiful woman. He'd  
have to be gay not to want to be  
with you.

AMY

Don't you start. I'm so tired of  
Ethan and his gaydar telling me  
he's gay.

MARILYN

Really?

Amy nods.

MARILYN (CONT'D)

Well, I can't tell. I have lesdar.  
Mine only works with women and since  
I'm still single, not very well.

The elevator DINGS and the door slides open.

INT. ETHAN'S STUDIO - MORNING

Carol's at her desk. Ethan stands nearby, going through the  
mail. The PHONE RINGS.

CAROL

(into phone)

Turner Studios... Oh, hi Amy.

Ethan looks up and begins moving his hands and mouthing 'No'. Carol looks at him strangely.

CAROL (CONT'D)

Ethan? No, he's not here right now.

(listening)

Okay, I'll tell him to call you as soon as he gets in. Bye.

Carol hangs up the phone and turns her attention to Ethan.

CAROL (CONT'D)

What was that was all about?

ETHAN

I can't talk to her right now.

CAROL

Why? Ethan, I don't like lying to my friends, and you've got that guilty look on your face you get. What did you do?

ETHAN

Nothing, and anyway, it wasn't my fault.

CAROL

Ethan...

ETHAN

I went out with the guy Amy's seeing.

CAROL

And how'd that happen?

Ethan sits down on one of the waiting room chairs.

ETHAN

He saw me at Capri. Invited me to a Laker's game. I figured, how much trouble could I get into at a public sporting event?

CAROL

A basketball game? Did you wear matching jerseys?

ETHAN

That's so stereotyped. Anyway, when we got to my place, he asked to come in. I made up an excuse about needing to go out and do night shots. Said good night... and then he kissed me.

CAROL

I take it wasn't a peck on the cheek.

ETHAN

Not even close. But there's more.  
He took Amy out the same night.  
Now, I knew they were going out, but  
I didn't expect it would be just a  
few hours later.

CAROL

Are you going to tell Amy?

ETHAN

I don't know. That's why I don't  
want to talk to her. Should I tell  
Amy about it or keep my mouth shut?

CAROL

You have got a problem.

ETHAN

Tell me something I don't know.

INT. AMY'S OFFICE - AFTERNOON

Amy and James are doing research, looking through law books.  
James looks up at Amy, who looks distracted.

JAMES

You seem preoccupied. Something wrong?

AMY

Yes... no... I'm not sure. I have  
this friend I've known since college.

JAMES

Close friend?

AMY

(nods)

Very close, but now, he's not  
answering his phone or returning my  
texts. That's not like E... him.

JAMES

Maybe he's out of town?

AMY

I called his office. His assistant  
says he's on assignment.

JAMES

Maybe he's been busy and lost track  
of time.

AMY

Possible. He's done that before.  
That's probably it. I'm making  
something out of nothing.

JAMES

I think you've been working too hard.

AMY

We both have.

JAMES

What you need is a diversion. How  
'bout coming over to my place Saturday  
night and I'll make dinner.

AMY

You can cook?

JAMES

One of my many accomplishments.

AMY

Well then, I'd love to.

JAMES

Great. I'm really very good.

AMY

Said modestly.

JAMES

But true. Prepare to be impressed.

INT. SCOTT'S OFFICE - DAY

Justin sits at the table. Scott comes from his desk, carrying  
six 10 x 15 panels, cover plates for a book, 'Urban Gardens'.  
He sets them in front of Justin. Justin looks glum.

SCOTT

These are the cover mockups for 'Urban  
Gardens'. I've already chosen my  
favorite. Which one do you like?

Justin looks them over and then points to one of them.

JUSTIN

That one.

SCOTT

Good, that's the one I picked.

Scott puts the panels together with the chosen one on top.  
He looks over at Justin.

SCOTT (CONT'D)

Justin, you okay?

JUSTIN

I could use some advice.

SCOTT

Sure. I'll do what I can.

JUSTIN

I met this guy about a week ago at a club, and I really like him.

SCOTT

So what's the problem?

JUSTIN

I haven't told him anything about me. He doesn't know where I work, where I live, nothing. I've even been using a fake name.

SCOTT

Why?

JUSTIN

He does contract work for us.

SCOTT

And...?

JUSTIN

It might be awkward for the company if it comes out that I'm dating one of our independent contractors.

SCOTT

You don't play favorites and anyone who knows you, knows that. He really has no idea who you are?

Justin shakes his head.

SCOTT (CONT'D)

Justin, if you like this guy, you're gonna have to tell him the truth eventually.

JUSTIN

I know, it's just--

SCOTT

He's gonna find out. Better it comes from you. Look, try this.

(MORE)

SCOTT (CONT'D)

Invite him out to dinner, or maybe have him over to your place. Just the two of you. Be honest with him. If you like him, you at least owe him that.

JUSTIN

You're right, I've got to tell him. Okay, dinner, then talk. Thanks.

Justin stands and goes to the door.

SCOTT

Oh, and Justin?

Justin stops and turns.

SCOTT (CONT'D)

Have you kissed him yet?

Justin nods.

SCOTT (CONT'D)

And?

JUSTIN

I took a cold shower when I got home.

Justin goes out the door, leaving an amused Scott.

INT. ETHAN'S CONDO - DAY

LIVING ROOM

Ethan is talking on his cell phone.

ETHAN

Dinner Sunday? Uh... sure. Your place? Hold on a second.

Ethan moves to an end table and pulls out a pad of paper and pen.

ETHAN (CONT'D)

Okay go ahead...

Ethan writes on the pad.

ETHAN (CONT'D)

Got it. See you Sunday then. Bye.

Ethan hangs up the phone. There is a KNOCK on the door. Ethan gets up and goes to the door.

ETHAN (CONT'D)

Who is it?

AMY (O.S.)

(Behind door)

Open the door Ethan!

Ethan opens the door and Amy comes storming in. She comes right up to Ethan, poking him in the chest with her finger, and pushes him backwards into the living room, furious.

AMY (CONT'D)

Where the hell have you been!!? You haven't you answered your phone!! You haven't you returned my texts!!

ETHAN

Are you going to let me talk?

AMY

I'm not finished yet! You've been avoiding me for the last three days and I want to know why!

ETHAN

I've been busy!

AMY

Too busy to return a call or a text? Don't lie to me Ethan! I can tell! I'm not leaving without answers!

ETHAN

Okay, okay, but only if you stop poking me!

Amy stops. Ethan rubs his chest.

ETHAN (CONT'D)

That's going to leave a mark.

He indicates the couch. Amy sits down, crossing her arms.

ETHAN (CONT'D)

(speaking fast)

Okay... JJ, I mean James ran into me at the Capri and asked me to a Laker's game and I really couldn't find a good reason to say no and we had a good time and he knew lots of people there and then he brought me back to my place but I told him I had to go out and take pictures so he couldn't come in. Then he kissed me.

Amy stands, furious.

AMY  
What!! Say that again!

ETHAN  
Not a chance.

AMY  
You went out with him after I told  
you not to?!

Ethan nods.

AMY (CONT'D)  
And he kissed you?

Ethan nods.

AMY (CONT'D)  
When was this?

ETHAN  
Sunday.

AMY  
James and I went out on Sunday.

ETHAN  
I know. I heard him bring you home.

Amy sits back down on the couch with a sigh.

AMY  
He kissed me too.

ETHAN  
He did? Is he straight or not?

AMY  
I'm not sure.

ETHAN  
You told me you could tell.

AMY  
Well, I was wrong, wasn't I?! I  
kissed him, and when I suggested we  
take it further, he made some excuse  
about work and ran out. Think he's  
another bi Bill?

ETHAN  
Well, he kissed me, he kissed you.  
(MORE)



ETHAN (CONT'D)

He takes you out twice and won't call them dates. He takes me to a Laker's game, not a usual gay date--

AMY

He invited me to his place for dinner on Saturday.

ETHAN

(surprised)

Saturday? He invited me over for dinner Sunday.

AMY

Sunday? You aren't going, are you?

ETHAN

I said I would.

AMY

So did I. Ethan, we both can't date him. That's it, I'm calling off the bet, the whole thing. You'll just have to call him and cancel!

ETHAN

If you're calling off the bet, you cancel.

AMY

He asked me first.

ETHAN

(sarcastic)

Oh, that's a good reason. We have to settle this. Since we're calling off the best, here's what we do. Go to dinner on Saturday. Ask him if he's gay, and when I have dinner with him Sunday, I'll ask him if he's straight. Either way, we'll finally know for sure if he's one or the other, or both.

EXT. CONDO COMPLEX - EVENING

ESTABLISHING SHOT of a large, modern condominium complex, glass and steel.

INT. HALLWAY - EVENING

Outside of James' Condo. Amy stands in front of a door and rings the doorbell. She looks up for a moment, heavenward.

AMY  
(quietly)  
Please, let him be straight.

The door opens and James appears, in an apron. He smiles.

JAMES  
Welcome.

Amy manages a weak smile.

INT. JAMES' CONDO - EVENING

A beautiful condo, a wall of windows on one side. Everything in one large space. Modern and upscale.

Amy is standing over by the windows looking out. James comes up to her from the kitchen with a glass of wine in each hand.

JAMES  
Here we are.

Amy turns, and smiles, taking the glass.

AMY  
Thanks. You have a wonderful view.

JAMES  
I like the view from where I'm standing too. Dinner will be ready soon. I hope you like Coq au Vin.

AMY  
Sounds wonderful. How did you learn to cook?

JAMES  
My mother died when I was twelve. Sandra raised me from then on. Unfortunately, she can't cook. I either had to learn or starve. Actually, I put myself through school cooking in restaurants.

AMY  
What about your dad?

JAMES  
He died when I was five. Did you know I was adopted?

AMY  
Really? You and Sandra look so much alike.

(MORE)

AMY (CONT'D)

James, I need to ask you a question  
and I'm not sure how to go about it.

JAMES

Sounds serious. Let's take this to  
the couch.

The two go to and sit on the couch.

JAMES (CONT'D)

Now, what is it?

AMY

Are you gay?

JAMES

Why would you ask me that?

AMY

Well, your impeccable dress, cooking  
skills...

JAMES

Three years of ballet training, and  
then I left so suddenly last weekend  
with that really dumb excuse about  
work I had to finish.

AMY

Well, there was that too. You're  
not angry, are you?

James smiles, and takes the glass of wine from her and sets  
it on the coffee table along with his. He takes her hand.

JAMES

You know what I did when I got home  
from your place last weekend? I  
read the company's policies and  
procedures manual.

AMY

Trouble sleeping?

JAMES

No. I wanted to see if the firm had  
rules against attorneys dating. The  
last place I worked did, but our  
company doesn't. I had to be sure  
neither of us would get in trouble  
if we started seeing each other.

(MORE)

JAMES (CONT'D)

So, to answer your question, I'm not gay and since there aren't any rules against it, I'd like the chance to prove it to you.

James pulls her close and the two of them begin to kiss passionately. After a few moments, they pull away.

AMY

What about dinner?

JAMES

It'll keep.

They go back to kissing passionately.

EXT. CONDO COMPLEX - MORNING

Ethan and Amy's complex. Early morning.

INT. ETHAN'S CONDO - MORNING

A KNOCK on the door. Ethan comes stumbling from his bedroom, in a tee and sweat pants and opens the door. Amy comes in and goes into the living room. She's in the same dress as the night before.

ETHAN

Aren't you a little overdressed for seven AM?

AMY

I just got in.

ETHAN

You just...

(realization hits)

Oh my God. You spent the night with him, didn't you?

Amy nods.

ETHAN (CONT'D)

And you and he...?

Amy nods again.

ETHAN (CONT'D)

What were you thinking?! Did you even ask him if he was gay?!

AMY

Yes, and he told me that he wasn't.

ETHAN

And what about him running out of your place last weekend?

AMY

He wanted to make sure that dating me wasn't against the policies of the firm. Ethan, you've got to cancel your dinner with him tonight.

ETHAN

Oh no you don't! That's not what we agreed to. Damn it Amy, it's bi Bill all over again with me having to put you back together after it's all over.

AMY

I never asked you to do that!

ETHAN

We promised we'd keep each other out of trouble. Remember?

AMY

Oh, fuck the contract. I want him, Ethan! Even if he's on the fence, I can change him!

ETHAN

That's what you always say and it never works! Shit! Of all the stupid--

AMY

Call James and cancel!

ETHAN

No! I'm having dinner with him tonight, and I'm going to ask him if he's straight. If you want to stop me, call him yourself!

AMY

You know I can't do that. If he puts two and two together and figures out that you and I know each other, it'll screw up everything!

(beat)

Is that your last word?!

Ethan nods.

AMY (CONT'D)

Then we have nothing more to say to each other!

Amy turns, goes to the door and out, slams it behind her.  
Ethan is stunned.

EXT. CONDO COMPLEX - EVENING

Justin's complex.

INT. JUSTIN'S CONDO - EVENING

LIVING ROOM

Ethan stands in front of the blanket on the wall, glass of wine in hand. Justin comes over to him, also holding wine.

ETHAN

What's this?

JUSTIN

A very long story.

ETHAN

Well, we've got all evening.

JUSTIN

Okay, you asked for it.

Justin indicates the couch and they both go over and sit.

JUSTIN (CONT'D)

I was found, wrapped in that blanket,  
when I was a few days old, abandoned.  
Later, I was adopted and when I was  
sixteen, my parents gave me the  
blanket and told me the whole story.  
I've had it ever since. Crazy, huh?

ETHAN

No, I don't think so. JJ, you are  
gay, aren't you?

JUSTIN

Ever since I can remember. Why do  
you ask?

ETHAN

There's a lot of freaks out there  
and I don't know much about you, not  
even what you do for a living.

JUSTIN

Oh. Sorry. I don't mean to be  
mysterious, but I have to be very  
careful about keeping my work and my  
private life separate.

ETHAN

Just as long as you're not a hit man  
for the mob.

JUSTIN

(chuckles)

That's something you don't have to  
worry about. I faint at the sight  
of blood.

ETHAN

Then I can rule out you being a doctor  
or a dentist.

JUSTIN

Ethan...

ETHAN

Yes?

The OVEN TIMER DINGS.

JUSTIN

Dinner's ready.

Justin sets his glass on the coffee table and moves to the  
kitchen. He turns off the oven, puts on oven mitts, takes a  
baking dish out and places it on the stove.

ETHAN

(calls out)

If I forget, thanks for inviting me.

JUSTIN

(from kitchen)

I was afraid that after that kiss,  
you wouldn't want to see me again.

ETHAN

Oh, I'm not complaining. It was a  
good kiss. It just caught me by  
surprise.

Justin comes out from the kitchen and sits down.

JUSTIN

Just a good kiss?

ETHAN

Well, okay, it was a great kiss.

JUSTIN

Tonight, I promise, I won't try  
anything funny. Unless you do, then  
all bets are off.

Ethan smiles, and sets his glass down on the coffee table.

ETHAN

Well then, Why don't we just consider  
all bets to be off?

JUSTIN

Ethan, there's something I need to  
tell you first.

ETHAN

It can wait.

Ethan takes Justin in his arms and both men kiss passionately.

EXT. DETWILLER BUILDING - MORNING

Another work day.

INT. AMY'S OFFICE - MORNING

James straightens a large bouquet of roses in a vase on Amy's  
desk. Amy walks through the door. James turns to face her.

AMY

(indicates roses)  
What's all this?

JAMES

I had planned on surprising you.

AMY

They're lovely. Thank you.

JAMES

What are you doing here so early?

AMY

Catching up on some extra work. Thanks  
again for the lovely evening.

JAMES

Sorry about dinner.

AMY

I thought pizza at eleven was  
wonderful. I'm just not sure the  
delivery driver felt the same way.

(beat)

Do anything special last night?

JAMES

Just worked on the Vegas case and  
went to bed early.



AMY

That's all?

JAMES

Yeah. Pretty quiet.

Darrow appears at the door, looks in.

DARROW

James, glad I found you. Judy's made the flight and hotel reservations for your trip. Your plane leaves at two-thirty.

JAMES

Thank you sir.

DARROW

You're welcome.  
(indicates flowers)  
Nice flowers.

Darrow goes out the door. Smiling, James turns to Amy.

AMY

What's this about a trip?

JAMES

Back to Vegas. Can't give you any details, I'm under a gag order. I'll make it up to you. You know, Sandra told me about this spa in Santa Barbara she goes to.

AMY

Seven Palms?

JAMES

That's the one. I take it you've been there?

AMY

Several times. Lovely place.

JAMES

How 'bout we go up for the weekend? We can meet up there Friday afternoon after I get back.

AMY

Sounds wonderful, and since I'm already in their system, I'll make the reservations.

JAMES

Great. A weekend alone with you.  
Can't get any better than that.  
Meet you for lunch later?

Amy nods. James gives her a kiss and then leaves the office.  
Amy smiles as she smells one of the roses.

INT. JUSTIN'S CONDO - MORNING

KITCHEN/DINING

Justin is in the kitchen cooking breakfast. The dining room table is set for two.

Ethan comes out into the kitchen/dining area dressed in a robe. Justin looks up, cheerful.

JUSTIN

Good morning.

ETHAN

Morning.

JUSTIN

Breakfast's ready. Have a seat.

Ethan sits down at the table. Justin fills the plates and brings them over, setting one in front of Ethan and one for himself. Justin sits.

ETHAN

You didn't have to go to all this trouble.

JUSTIN

No trouble at all. Eat before it gets cold.

Ethan and Justin begin eating, Ethan enjoying the food.

JUSTIN (CONT'D)

I don't get much chance to cook breakfast, so I enjoy it when I can.  
Coffee?

Ethan nods. Justin gets up from the table and goes over to the coffee maker. He pulls down a couple cups and pours.

ETHAN

What time is it?

JUSTIN

A little after seven. Why?

ETHAN

I have a model shoot at ten.

Justin comes over to the table with the coffee, sets one in front of Ethan and sits down with the other.

JUSTIN

When do you have to leave?

ETHAN

In about an hour. I need to make sure that the lights and the backgrounds are in place before the models arrive. Honestly, I'd rather tell the models to go home and spend more time with you.

JUSTIN

Me too. Ethan, I have to fly up to San Francisco this afternoon. I have to attend a four day conference. Would you like to come with me?

ETHAN

It's awfully tempting, but my week's pretty much booked. Sorry.

JUSTIN

Okay, then how 'bout this? There's this spa in Santa Barbara called Seven Palms. Heard of it?

Ethan nods.

JUSTIN (CONT'D)

Maybe the two of us could spend the weekend there, relax by the pool... talk.

EXT. CONDO COMPLEX - AFTERNOON

Ethan and Amy's complex

INT. HALLWAY - AFTERNOON

The elevator DINGS and opens up. Ethan, carrying a couple bags of groceries comes out and down the hall to his condo,

At his door, he reaches in his pocket. The door to Amy's condo opens up and she comes out into the hall. She sees Ethan, but pointedly ignores him as she heads toward the elevator. Ethan watches her go, disappointed.

EXT. SANTA BARBARA - AFTERNOON

ESTABLISHING SHOT of Santa Barbara under blue skies.

EXT. SEVEN PALMS SPA - AFTERNOON

ESTABLISHING SHOT of a sprawling spa, perched next to the ocean, very tropical.

INT. SEVEN PALMS SPA - AFTERNOON

LOBBY

A large space. Along one wall is the front desk and a small florist shop. Across from the front desk is a sitting area flanked by raised planters containing tropical shrubbery.

On one side of the sitting area is a hall leading out to the pool area, and a flight of stairs to the upper floors. On the other side a bank of several elevators. On an adjacent wall is the entrance.

PETE (20's), stands behind the front desk, working on the computer. Justin enters, carrying a small suitcase. He walks to the front desk and Pete comes over to him.

PETE  
Checking in sir?

JUSTIN  
Yes. I'm supposed to meet Ethan  
Turner. Is he here yet?

PETE  
About an hour ago. Are you Mr. Smith?

Justin nods.

PETE (CONT'D)  
Mr. Turner asked that you meet him  
at the spa after you've changed.

He reaches down behind the counter and produces a key card which he hands to Justin.

PETE (CONT'D)  
You're in room two fifteen.

JUSTIN  
Thank you.

Justin heads to the elevator and Pete goes back to his computer. Justin gets to the elevator and presses the button.

JUSTIN (CONT'D)

(to himself)

Okay Justin, no more excuses. You've got to tell him the truth.

TOMAS (20's), another employee at the spa comes in from the pool area. He comes up to Pete.

TOMAS

Hey Pete, wanna take a break?

PETE

Sure. See you in ten.

Pete leaves the counter and goes OUT OF SCENE. Tomas takes his place.

The elevator DINGS and opens. YOUNG WOMAN 1, wearing a white robe and sandals comes out of the elevator. Justin gets in and the door closes.

James, suitcase in hand, comes through the entrance and over to check-in. He looks over at Young Woman 1 as she walks by. Tomas comes over to him.

TOMAS

Good afternoon sir. Checking in?

JAMES

Yes, and I'm meeting Miss Erickson.

TOMAS

Ah, you must be Mr. McKenna... Ms. Erickson left a message that she'll be waiting for you out by the pool after you've changed.

Tomas reaches down and produces a key card that he hands to James. An OLDER MAN wearing a robe and sandals walks by. James watches him and turns back to Tomas.

JAMES

Robe and sandals?

TOMAS

Dress code for the spa. You're in two ten. Second floor, to the left. Robe and sandals are in your room.

JAMES

Thank you.

James heads to the elevators with his suitcase, but notices the florist shop and moves in that direction.

## FLORIST SHOP

A small shop with a counter at the back and a couple of floral coolers stocked with arrangements of flowers. Behind the counter, a door leads to the workshop.

The shop is empty. The door opens and a BUZZER SOUNDS as James enters. He looks at the flowers in the case.

The FLORIST (Male - 50's) enters from the back room, smiling pleasantly as he sees James.

FLORIST  
May I help you?

JAMES  
I'd like a single red rose.

FLORIST  
Certainly sir.

The florist comes from behind the counter and to the cooler, reaching in and pulling out a rose.

FLORIST (CONT'D)  
Would you like that wrapped and sent?

JAMES  
No, I'll take it with me.

## HALLWAY

Second floor. Next to the elevators. The elevator door opens up and James comes out with his suitcase and the rose. He goes down to the hall to the the door of his room. Using the keycard he opens the door and goes in.

Another door down the hall opens and Justin, in robe and sandals comes out and walks towards the elevator.

## LOBBY

The elevator opens and Justin comes out and starts walking through the lobby. As he goes by the florist shop, he turns and goes in.

Ethan comes into the lobby from the pool area and up to the front desk. Tomas is still behind it.

TOMAS  
May I help you?

ETHAN  
Could you tell me if JJ Smith has checked in?

Tomas goes over to the computer and punches a few keys, and then reads the information.

TOMAS  
Yes sir, a few minutes ago. He's probably still in the room.

ETHAN  
Thank you.

FLORIST

Justin is at the counter. The florist is holding a red rose.

FLORIST  
Will that be all sir?

JUSTIN  
(nods)  
Would you put that on room two fifteen?

FLORIST  
Of course.

The florist hands the rose to Justin.

FLORIST (CONT'D)  
One rose is never enough, is it sir?

JUSTIN  
(puzzled)  
No, I suppose not.

Justin turns and goes out the door.

LOBBY

Justin, rose in hand, heads through the lobby and out to the Spa. At the elevator, waiting, is Ethan, his back to Justin.

EXT. SPA POOL AREA - DAY

Large pool with chairs and lounges around it. To one side are cabanas, curtained for privacy. The walkway to other parts of the spa run right next to the cabanas and curve behind a stand of tropical foliage.

Amy stands at the entrance of the cabana, looking down the sidewalk. She sees Justin coming towards her. She ducks out of sight, closing the curtains.

Justin walks down the sidewalk past the cabana. Amy's hand reaches out and pulls Justin into the cabana and out of sight.

INT. CABANA

Furniture in the cabana, a small table flanked with two chairs. An empty Champagne bucket is on the table.

Amy is kissing Justin passionately. Justin's in shock, trying to get away from her. Finally, he pulls away.

AMY

I missed you.

HALLWAY

James is coming down the hall at the same time that the elevator opens up and Ethan comes out. He sees James and goes over to him.

ETHAN

There you are. How was your trip?

Ethan leads him over to the door to Ethan's room while he's talking, and taking the key card out of his pocket, swipes it and opens the door.

JAMES

(confused)

Fine... Listen, I... I was supposed to meet--

ETHAN

Change of plans.

With that he pulls James into the room.

CABANA

Justin disentangles himself from Amy.

JUSTIN

Now look Miss...

AMY

Amy.

JUSTIN

Amy. I'm very flattered that you find me attractive, really.

AMY

Excuse me? Oh, I get it, you're role playing. Kinky. I'll bet you're the innocent stranger and I'm the Femme Fatale. I like it.



JUSTIN

Ah... you found me out. Couldn't fool you, could I? But you know what's missing?

He looks around and spots the ice bucket, which he reaches down and grabs.

JUSTIN (CONT'D)

Champagne. You wait there and I'll be right back with some and then we'll really be able to celebrate.

With that, he rushes out of the cabana, leaving a very confused Amy.

ROOM

Modern furniture, typical hotel mini suite set-up, with a large bed with nightstands on one side of the room and a small couch and chair on the other with end tables, lamps and a coffee table.

An ice bucket sits on the coffee table. Next to it, a bottle of champagne and two glasses.

James is trying to fend off Ethan's advances by the couch, but Ethan is right there being as seductive as possible.

JAMES

Now look, can't we talk about this?

ETHAN

I can think of better things to do than talk. Just you, me, some champagne and a nice, long weekend. What could be better? Especially after you being gone for four days.

JAMES

How did you--?

ETHAN

I promised to show you a good time, and Ethan Turner always keeps his promises. Come here...

He moves towards James, who is looking around for a way out. He looks down at the champagne bucket.

JAMES

Ethan, we can't have warm champagne. Wait here and I'll go get some ice.

James reaches down and grabs the ice bucket.

JAMES (CONT'D)  
Be right back.

ETHAN  
But...

James goes past Ethan, to the door and OUT of SCENE.  
Frustrated, Ethan sits on the couch.

ETHAN (CONT'D)  
This is not starting well.

LOBBY

Justin storms into the lobby, ice bucket in hand. Tomas and Pete are behind the counter. Justin slams the ice bucket on the desk and moves quickly over to the elevator.

TOMAS  
(as Justin goes by)  
Sir?

Justin presses the button of the elevator. It opens and he gets in. The door closes.

PETE  
What was that all about?

Tomas shrugs. The other elevator DINGS and opens up. James storms out of the elevator, ice bucket in hand and over to the front desk. James slams the ice bucket on the desk and heads out towards the pool.

TOMAS  
(as James goes by)  
Sir?

PETE  
Didn't he just...?

Both of them look at one ice bucket, then the other.

ROOM

Ethan sits on the bed, bewildered. The SOUND of the KEY CARD in the lock is heard. Ethan hears it and stands up. The door opens, Justin comes in and rushes in Ethan's arms.

JUSTIN  
Boy, am I glad to see you. You won't believe what just happened. Some crazy lady just tried to... well, she grabbed and kissed me and told me that she's been waiting for me.  
(MORE)

JUSTIN (CONT'D)

I mean, she had her hands all over me. This Amy woman was totally nuts.

ETHAN

(surprised)

Amy? Did you say Amy!? Five eight. Blond hair.

Justin nods.

ETHAN (CONT'D)

Shit. I don't believe it. She must have followed me up here.

(to Justin)

You stay here. I'll handle this.

Ethan bolts out the door. Justin sits on the bed, confused.

CABANA

Amy sits in one of the chairs, dejected. The curtains are open. James comes walking by. Amy sees him, stands.

AMY

James?

James looks over, Relieved.

JAMES

Amy!

James comes over and gives Amy a hug and kisses her.

JAMES (CONT'D)

Am I glad to see you. No offense, but this place is a bit crazy.

AMY

Why, what happened?

JAMES

This guy just pulled me into his room and tried to seduce me.

AMY

You're kidding?

JAMES

He was all over me, hugging, kissing, talking to me like he knew who I was.

AMY  
That's terrible. This place is pretty exclusive. If you got a name, we can report him to the front desk.

JAMES  
Ethan... Ethan Turner.

AMY  
(furious)  
What? Ethan?! That son of a bitch!  
I might have known. Which room?

JAMES  
Uh, two fifteen.

AMY  
I'll be right back.

Amy leaves a bewildered James and heads towards the lobby.

LOBBY

Tomas and Pete are behind the desk when the elevator DINGS and Ethan comes storming out and over to the desk. Pete comes over.

PETE  
May I help you?

ETHAN  
Yes, I need to know if there's an Amy Erickson registered.

PETE  
Let me check for you sir.

Pete turns to his computer, about the same time that a fuming Amy comes in from the pool area, heading towards the elevator. Ethan turns and sees her, angry.

ETHAN  
(to Pete)  
Never mind...

Ethan goes over to intercept Amy. She sees him. He grabs her arm and leads her over to the sitting area. She pulls her arm away.

ETHAN (CONT'D)  
What the hell are you doing here?!

The elevator DINGS and the door opens. Justin comes out, but stops, and hides behind the screen, listening.

James comes in from the cabana and stops behind the screen on the opposite side from Justin, also listening in.

AMY

I might ask you the same question!  
Just couldn't let it go, could you?!

ETHAN

Me?! How about you?!

Pete and Tomas stop and watch. They can see James and Justin. The florist comes to the shop door, watches.

AMY

This bet was your idea, Ethan! You said two weeks, then the other person would get the chance to prove if he was gay or straight. Well, the bet's off, but you just won't give up! You and your stupid competitive ego! You always have to do things your own way! You couldn't stand the idea that he could love me and not you?

ETHAN

He's mine, I don't care what you say!

AMY

Stay out of my business!

ETHAN

Would you listen to me! Stop thinking with your--

OR AMY

You're not going to screw this up for me! I won't let you!

James and Justin, from their vantage points are shocked and upset. Justin goes to the elevator and presses the button. It opens and he gets in. The door closes.

James, turns and goes up the stairs.

AMY

I just can't believe you followed me up here! What have you been doing, watching my front door?!

Momentarily confused, Ethan brings his hands and makes a 'Time out' sign.

ETHAN  
Hold it. You think I followed you?

AMY  
Didn't you...?

ETHAN  
I thought you followed me!

AMY  
I didn't. James invited me. Coming up here was his idea.

They look at each other for a moment.

ETHAN  
Same here. You think he found out we knew each other...?

AMY  
... And arranged this whole weekend to get back at us?

ETHAN  
Why don't we ask him. He's up in my room.

AMY  
No he's not. I left him by the pool.

ETHAN  
Okay, we check the pool first.

They move quickly out to the hallway heading out to the pool area and OUT of SCENE.

The Florist moves over to where Tomas and Pete are. The three of them look at each other, totally confused.

CABANA

Ethan and Amy get to the cabana and look inside. It's empty.

ETHAN (CONT'D)  
Not here.

AMY  
Obviously. Let's check the room.

They turn and head back head back to the lobby.

LOBBY

Ethan and Amy go over to the elevator and press the button. The door opens, they get in, and the door closes.

A few moments later, the elevator DINGS and the other slides open. Justin with his suitcase comes out and heads to the exit.

HALLWAY

The elevator doors open and Ethan and Amy come out, just as James with his suitcase comes toward the elevator. James sees them and they all stop.

AMY (CONT'D)  
We need to talk.

JAMES  
No we don't.

James pushes past them. Ethan puts his hand on James' shoulder to stop.

ETHAN  
Hey, wait a minute!

Angry, James whirls around, shrugging off Ethan's hand.

JAMES  
Get you hand off me! I don't know what kind of sick game the two of you are playing, but it ends here!

AMY  
I don't know what you're--

JAMES  
I heard the two of you down in the lobby arguing Amy! I know everything. What the hell gives you the right to play with people's lives and feelings?! Passing me around like I was some kind of a toy for the two of you to play with! I don't get it. I really thought we had something. Now I find it was all a game to you! And for what?! To win some kind of a bet?!

James presses the down button on the elevator while he's talking. The Elevator DINGS and the door slides open. He gets in and presses the button.

JAMES (CONT'D)  
I hope you two got your money's worth.

The door closes. Both Amy and Ethan are in shock.

ETHAN

Why didn't he say anything about me?

Amy looks at him in disbelief.

AMY

You are such an egotistical asshole.

She turns and walks away, leaving Ethan standing there.

EXT. CONDO COMPLEX - MORNING

Justin's complex

INT. HALLWAY - MORNING

Outside of Justin's condo. Ethan walks up to the door and RINGS the DOORBELL. He looks nervous.

INT. JUSTIN'S CONDO - MORNING

LIVING ROOM

Justin comes into the living from the kitchen and over to the front door. He looks through the peephole, and what he sees angers him. Taking a deep breath, he opens the door.

Ethan is standing on the other side.

JUSTIN

What do you want?

ETHAN

To talk.

JUSTIN

It's a little late for that don't you think?

ETHAN

You left without a word to me.

JUSTIN

Take the hint!

ETHAN

I wanted to explain--

JUSTIN

Not interested.

Justin starts to close the door. Ethan stops him from shutting it.



ETHAN

JJ, please.

JUSTIN

Go back to your little friend! Screw with someone else's life! Just leave mine alone!

Ethan steps back and Justin slams the door. Ethan goes to push the doorbell again but changes his mind.

ETHAN

(quietly)

I'm sorry...

Ethan turns and walks away.

EXT. DETWILLER BUILDING - MORNING

The building is a hive of activity, crowds going in and out.

INT. AMY'S OFFICE - MORNING

Amy's at her desk, typing on her keyboard, glancing over at paperwork. The door to her office is shut. There is a KNOCK on the door and Amy looks up.

AMY

Come in.

The door opens and Mr. Darrow enters. He looks grim.

AMY (CONT'D)

Good morning Mr. Darrow.

MR. DARROW

Can I speak to you a moment?

She indicates the chair. Mr. Darrow closes the door behind him and sits down.

AMY

Something wrong?

MR. DARROW

I just spoke to James McKenna.

AMY

You did?

MR. DARROW

Is everything okay between you two?

AMY

We had a... a little misunderstanding.  
I'm sure we can clear it up once we  
talk.

MR. DARROW

Then you'll have to wait 'til Friday.  
He left for Vegas about an hour ago.  
One other thing. James wants to be  
taken off the case I asked the two  
of you to work on.

AMY

I see.

Mr. Darrow stands, as does Amy.

MR. DARROW

I'm not sure of what's going on here,  
but I don't believe this was a little  
misunderstanding.

AMY

Mr Darrow, I promise, I'll straighten  
everything out with James next time  
I see him.

MR. DARROW

See that you do. Iwon't have this  
kind of contention among my attorneys.  
Is that understood?

AMY

Yes sir.

Mr. Darrow goes to the door, opens it and goes out, closing  
it behind him. Amy sits down, noticeably upset.

EXT. ETHAN'S STUDIO - MORNING

A sunny morning.

INT. ETHAN'S STUDIO - MORNING

RECEPTION AREA

Carol is at her desk, carefully placing photos and a CD into  
a large manila envelope. She stands, picks up the envelope  
and leaves her desk, walking down the hallway.

ETHAN'S OFFICE

Ethan is sitting at the table, his hand under his chin, deep  
in thought. In front of him is the picture of Justin from  
the Capri.

Carol comes into the office with the envelope in her hand. Ethan doesn't look up. She looks over at the picture in front of Ethan. Carol's not sympathetic.

CAROL  
Ethan, you've been moping around here for four days. Just call him?

ETHAN  
(looks up)  
I've tried. He won't answer. I even went to his place to talk to him.

CAROL  
And...?

ETHAN  
He slammed the door in my face.

CAROL  
Well, have you at least tried to square things with Amy?

ETHAN  
She won't talk to me either.

CAROL  
You seem to be striking out everywhere.

ETHAN  
I'm underwhelmed by your sympathy.

Carol sits on the edge of the table.

CAROL  
Listen Ethan, okay, you screwed up. Yeah, this JJ doesn't want to talk to you. Deal with it, and move on.

ETHAN  
I can't.

CAROL  
Why not?

ETHAN  
Because I'm in love with him.

CAROL  
Love? Are you telling me that the party boy, the king of one night stands, the man who's never even wanted a relationship, is in love?

Ethan nods miserably.

CAROL (CONT'D)  
That complicates things. Well, at least you and Amy have that in common.

ETHAN  
You've talked to her?

Carol nods.

ETHAN (CONT'D)  
How much she tell you about...?

CAROL  
Everything. She's still pretty pissed, by the way.

ETHAN  
I figured that. Think she'll ever speak to me again?

CAROL  
I wouldn't worry too much. You've known each other far too long to ruin your friendship over a man. Now as for you, you've been brooding since Monday and frankly you're depressing me.

She holds up the envelope.

CAROL (CONT'D)  
The park pictures are all catalogued and ready to take to Scott. I told him you'd be there around noon. So, on your way.

Half smiling, Ethan stands and takes the envelope.

ETHAN  
What would I do without you?

CAROL  
Hold that thought the next time I ask for a raise.

EXT. L.A. PUBLISHING - MID MORNING

INT. JUSTIN'S OFFICE - DAY

Justin sits at his desk, working on his computer. He reaches over and picks up the phone, pressing several buttons.

JUSTIN

(Into phone)

Scott, could you come in here a minute?... Thanks.

He hangs up the phone. Christy comes in, carrying a manuscript, and up to his desk.

JUSTIN (CONT'D)

What's that?

CHRISTY

Charles Brown's latest book. It just came for you.

She puts the manuscript down on the desk. A piece of paper sticks out. Christy pulls it out and holds it out to him.

CHRISTY (CONT'D)

With this note.

Justin takes the note, opens it up and looks at it.

JUSTIN

Good, Charles is in town tonight and wants to meet for dinner. Christy, give him a call and set something up... Benton's maybe. Make a reservation for about six thirty and tell him I'll meet him there. I'll look over his manuscript today, so hold my calls.

CHRISTY

Yes Justin.

Scott appears at the door. Christy leaves.

SCOTT

You wanted to see me?

Justin indicates the chair. Scott sits.

JUSTIN

Where are my park photos?

SCOTT

Ethan's assistant called to tell me they were on the way. They'll be here shortly.

JUSTIN

Is Mr. Turner scheduled for any other projects?

SCOTT  
No, but I'd like to use him for  
Langly's book on LA Art Deco cinemas.

JUSTIN  
Have you mentioned it to him?

SCOTT  
Maybe in passing.

JUSTIN  
But you haven't assigned him.

SCOTT  
In my opinion he'd be best for the  
job, but you make those decisions.

JUSTIN  
Just let me know when he gets here.

SCOTT  
Sure, no problem.

Scott gets up and goes over to the door. He stops and turns.

SCOTT (CONT'D)  
Justin, you alright?

JUSTIN  
I just have a lot on my mind right  
now.

Scott leaves. Justin pulls over the manuscript and begins  
to read it.

EXT. RESTAURANT - DAY

A posh looking little hole-in-the-wall restaurant on one of  
LA's downtown streets. It's nearly noon.

INT. RESTAURANT - DAY

Cute and quaint, the place is packed with lunch-time diners.  
The majority of the tables look out onto the street.

James is seated in one of the booths facing the street. He  
stares at an almost empty glass of wine in front of him. A  
WAITER stops by his table.

WAITER  
Another glass of wine sir?

James doesn't answer.

WAITER (CONT'D)

Sir?

James looks up at him.

WAITER (CONT'D)

Another glass of wine?

JAMES

Yes, thank you.

WAITER

Your lunch will out shortly.

James nods and the waiter leaves.

EXT. RESTAURANT - DAY

Ethan, envelope in hand, walks down the street in front of the restaurant. He glances in and sees James sitting there.

Thinking that he's seeing Justin, Ethan stops and stares into the restaurant for a moment, and then goes in.

INT. RESTAURANT - DAY

James still stares into his wineglass. Ethan comes up to the table, and clearing his throat, gets James' attention. James looks surprised and angry.

JAMES

What are you--?

ETHAN

Before you say anything, just hear me out. I know you don't want to talk to me, but I just wanted to apologize. It was a stupid thing to do and I... we never meant to hurt you. I wanted you to know that I talked Amy into the bet. This was all my fault. and uh, I know that she really likes you. So, I'm sorry.

James stares at him. There's a awkward moment of silence.

ETHAN (CONT'D)

I'll just leave now.

Ethan turns and walks away, leaving a stunned James.

INT. SCOTT'S OFFICE - DAY

Scott sits at his desk typing on his laptop. Ethan appears at his open door and knocks on the door frame.

Scott looks up from his computer, smiles.

ETHAN

I'm here.

SCOTT

And right on time for a change.

Ethan comes in and holds out the envelope.

ETHAN

Miracles do sometimes happen. Eight by tens and a CD, as requested.

Scott stands and takes the envelope from him.

SCOTT

Mr. Shields will be happy to see these.

The PHONE on Scott's desk RINGS and Scott answers it.

SCOTT (CONT'D)

This is Scott...

(listens)

He's here now... Yes, he's brought them.... Sure, I'll be right there.

Scott hangs up, puts the envelope on the desk and stands.

SCOTT (CONT'D)

Duty calls. The boss wants to see me. Got some spare time?

Ethan nods.

SCOTT (CONT'D)

Great. Hang out here, I'll be right back. I want to talk to you about a possible project.

Scott comes around the desk and out the door. Ethan sits down on one of the chairs.

INT. JUSTIN'S OFFICE - DAY

Justin is sitting behind his desk, waiting. Scott comes in. Justin looks up at him.

SCOTT

Okay Justin, what's the emergency?

Justin motions Scott to sit. Scott sits.



JUSTIN

I've been going over the particulars for the theater project and I've decided that I don't want the contract given to Mr. Turner.

SCOTT

Can I ask why?

JUSTIN

I question his ability to follow through on his obligations.

SCOTT

Wait a minute Justin, he's a little scattered sometimes, but he's always given us a great product and hasn't missed a deadline in four years!

JUSTIN

That's beside the point. I want him taken off all future consideration. Is he still in your office?

Scott nods.

JUSTIN (CONT'D)

Please thank Mr. Turner for his services, but tell him that we will no longer be needing him.

SCOTT

You can't expect me to do that! Not without a good reason!

JUSTIN

If it bothers you, tell him it was an executive decision.

SCOTT

Justin--

JUSTIN

That will be all! Now, do your job!

SCOTT

(indignant)

Yes... Mr. Shields.

Scott stands and goes out the door. Justin reaches over and picks up the phone, punches a number.

JUSTIN  
(into phone)  
Christy, If anyone asks for me, I'm  
out... That's right, out!

He hangs up the phone, and leans back in his chair.

INT. SCOTT'S OFFICE - DAY

Ethan is sitting in the chair, looking at a magazine when  
Scott comes back in, looking upset.

ETHAN  
Disaster averted?

Without a word, Scott sits in his chair.

ETHAN (CONT'D)  
Everything all right?

SCOTT  
Ethan, There's something I have to  
tell you.

INT. RECEPTION AREA - DAY

Outside Justin's office. There is a reception desk on which  
is a computer. Several file cabinets stand behind the desk.

Christy stands at the file cabinet looking through a file  
folder. Ethan, angry, comes INTO VIEW from the hallway and  
walks determinedly to the door to Justin's office. Christy  
sees him, moves to intercept.

CHRISTY  
Excuse me sir, you can't go in there.

Ethan tries the door. It's locked. Christy plants herself  
in front of the door, arms crossed.

ETHAN  
I want to see Mr. Shields!

CHRISTY  
He's not in!

ETHAN  
Don't give me that garbage! Scott  
was just here! I want to see him  
now!

CHRISTY  
Mr. Shields left for a meeting a few  
minutes ago.

ETHAN

I'll wait!

CHRISTY

I don't know when he'll be back.

ETHAN

You're covering for him, aren't you?

CHRISTY

Are you going to leave, or do I call security?

They stare each other down for a moment, then Ethan turns around and storms off. Christy breathes a sigh of relief.

EXT. BENTON'S RESTAURANT - EVENING

Early evening. A nice looking restaurant. The sign above the door says "Benton's".

INT. BENTON'S RESTAURANT - EVENING

Warm and cozy, wood paneling, nice booths. Very comfortable. Amy and Marilyn are in one of the booths, with a glass of wine in front of each of them.

MARILYN

And he won't return your calls?

Amy shakes her head.

AMY

Can't blame him, really. What we did to him was a pretty lousy.

MARILYN

Quite true.

AMY

If I could only just talk to him. I'm sure if I apologized.

Marilyn's attention is drawn elsewhere.

MARILYN

You may get your chance.

Amy peeks out of the booth and sees Justin, who Marilyn and Amy thinks is James, get escorted by the HOSTESS to another booth and seated. The hostess hands him the menu and departs.

Amy turns to Marilyn.

AMY

Wish me luck.

MARILYN

Are you nuts? In the middle of a  
restaurant?

Amy gets up and moves towards Justin, who's reading the menu.

MARILYN (CONT'D)

(whispering)

Get back here!

Ignoring her, Amy walks up to Justin, who looks up and sees her. Sighing, he puts down his menu.

JUSTIN

What do you want?

AMY

I'm here to apologize. We never  
should have treated you the way we  
did. It was a stupid thing to do.

JUSTIN

No argument from me.

AMY

I don't want you to be angry at Ethan  
or me. We get a little competitive  
and sometimes we go too far. I just  
wanted you to know how sorry we are  
for hurting you.

JUSTIN

You done?

Amy nods.

JUSTIN (CONT'D)

Tell you what, I'll think about it.

AMY

Thank you. Well, I won't take up  
any more of your time. Enjoy your  
dinner.

With that, Amy turns and heads back to her table. She gives a thumbs up to Marilyn, who has been watching the whole thing.

EXT. DETWILLER BUILDING - MORNING

Bright and sunny.

INT. DARROW'S OFFICE - MORNING

Similar in look to Amy's, but much larger, with the addition of a large conference table and a couch with flanking chairs. One wall of the office is bookshelves, filled with law books.

Mr. Darrow stands by the bookshelves looking at a book. James appears at his door with a file folder in his hand.

JAMES

Mr. Darrow, may I speak to you?

Darrow looks up.

MR. DARROW

Of course James. Have a seat.

Darrow closes his book and places it back in the bookcase and comes over to his chair. James comes in and sits down in the chair across from him.

MR. DARROW (CONT'D)

I hear congratulations are in order, settling that case in Vegas.

JAMES

The press release isn't until tomorrow. How did you find out?

MR. DARROW

Word gets around. I only found out yesterday. I'm impressed that you kept it out of the papers as long as you did. Good work.

JAMES

Thank you sir.

MR. DARROW

Now, what can I do for you?

JAMES

I wanted to give you this.

James takes a piece of paper out of the file folder and hands it to Mr. Darrow, who takes it and looks at it.

JAMES (CONT'D)

It's my resignation.

INT. AMY'S OFFICE - MORNING

Mr. Darrow is holding the resignation letter in his hand, facing Amy.

MR. DARROW

Amy, what happened between you two?  
I know he told me his old firm made  
him a deal he couldn't pass up, but  
I think there's more to it than that.

AMY

We were dating. We had an argument,  
but we talked last night. I thought  
everything was better.

MR. DARROW

It seems you were wrong. The firm's  
lost an excellent attorney, and I'm  
very disappointed in the way you've  
handled things. I can see now that  
some revisions will have to be made  
to our policies and I'm afraid that  
this incident will appear on your  
next review. The other partners  
will not be pleased.

AMY

But--

DARROW

That's all I have to say on the  
matter.

Without another word, he leaves. Amy is in total shock.

EXT. L.A PUBLISHING - MID MORNING

INT. JUSTIN'S OFFICE - DAY

Justin comes into his office and over to his desk and sits  
down. Scott appears at the door, with the envelope of Ethan's  
pictures in his hand.

SCOTT

Busy?

Suspicious, Justin indicates the chair in front of his desk.  
Scott comes in and sits.

SCOTT (CONT'D)

I came to a conclusion about one  
this morning. This guy you've been  
dating, it's Ethan Turner, isn't it?

JUSTIN

Yes.

SCOTT

So I take it you two broke up.

Justin nods.

SCOTT (CONT'D)

And I'll just bet you never told him who you really were, did you?

JUSTIN

No.

SCOTT

Okay, that's all I needed to hear.

Scott stands.

JUSTIN

That's it? You're not going to lecture me about letting my private life dictate my business judgment?

SCOTT

You're the boss, it's your call. I just wanted to know why Ethan was being treated like shit after working so hard for this company and why I had to do your dirty work. Now I know.

Scott places the envelope on Justin's desk.

SCOTT (CONT'D)

These are the pictures Ethan took of the parks. Look at them over the weekend, and tell me he deserved what he got.

INT. JAMES' OFFICE - DAY

An office similar to Amy's. Wood paneling, a large desk, window.

James stands at his desk, back to the door, packing items from on the desk into a box. Drawers are all pulled out. Other boxes are stacked up next to the door.

Amy appears at the door. James stands up from his packing.

JAMES

I know you're there Amy. I can smell your perfume. And if you're here to try to talk me out of leaving, don't.

James closes the lid to the box he's been filling, carries it over and places it on stack of boxes, while he talks.

JAMES (CONT'D)

My old firm is opening up an office  
in LA and want me to run it.  
Entertainment law, high profile  
clients. It's a great opportunity.

He looks at her.

JAMES (CONT'D)

And after all that's happened between  
us, I can't work here, and see you  
every day. Not and do my job  
effectively.

AMY

James, can't we talk about this?

JAMES

There's really nothing left to say.  
What, are you going to tell me, that  
it was all a mistake? That you didn't  
mean it? It won't work with me.  
Funny thing is, I really was beginning  
to fall in love with you.

AMY

James, I--

JAMES

Goodbye Amy.

James turns and goes back to the desk. Amy, on the verge of  
tears, turns and walks away. James goes back to his packing,  
visibly upset.

INT. LIVING ROOM, AMY'S CONDO - DAY

Donna sits on the couch, reading a magazine. She looks up  
when she hears the DOOR OPENING. Amy comes through the door,  
visibly upset. She sees her mother.

AMY

Mom?

Donna pats the couch next to her.

DONNA

Sit down dear. We need to talk.

INT. ETHAN'S CONDO - DAY

Ethan sits on the couch, deep in thought. There is a KNOCK  
on the front door. He goes over to the door and opens it.

Amy is standing in the doorway, sobbing.



AMY

I'm sorry.

She rushes into Ethan's arms and begins to cry on his shoulder. Ethan is startled. With a free hand he closes the door. He holds her. After a moment, she calms down.

ETHAN

Better now?

Amy, head still buried in his shoulder, nods. Ethan takes a handkerchief out of his pocket and holds it out to her.

ETHAN (CONT'D)

Here.

She takes the handkerchief and blows her nose with her head still his shoulder. Ethan grimaces.

ETHAN (CONT'D)

Let's take this to the couch, my shoulder's getting soggy.

His arm around her shoulders, Ethan leads her over to the couch where she sits. Ethan sits in the chair nearby.

ETHAN (CONT'D)

Now, tell me everything.

AMY

My life is a mess. It's all falling apart. I've lost James, maybe my job.

ETHAN

Why?

AMY

James resigned and I'm being blamed.

ETHAN

Oh. I guess my apologizing to him didn't do any good.

AMY

When did you do that?

ETHAN

Yesterday afternoon.

AMY

I talked to him last night. I apologized to him too.

(MORE)

AMY (CONT'D)

(bitter)

Why couldn't you have played by the rules and not fucked everything up. Why'd you have to ruin it for me?!

ETHAN

Don't blame this on me! You weren't the only one he slept with.

AMY

But he loved me! He told me he did!

ETHAN

He loved me too. Several times!

Amy slaps Ethan, stunning him.

ETHAN (CONT'D)

Ow!

AMY

Bitch!

ETHAN

Whore!

AMY

Slut!

ETHAN

Thank you!

Amy looks shocked and then laughs, Ethan joining her.

AMY

I missed you.

ETHAN

I missed you too.

Ethan stands up, holds out his hand to Amy, who takes it. Ethan pulls her to her feet. They hug.

ETHAN (CONT'D)

Fighting over the same guy. We should have our heads examined. Let's make a promise. No more bets. Our friendship's too important. Okay?

AMY

(nods)

That's what mom said.

ETHAN

When did you talk to her?

AMY

Just now. She was waiting for me when I got home, but you knew that didn't you?

ETHAN

Well, maybe I did talk to her this morning, and I may have told her what happened. You mad?

Amy leans over and kisses his cheek.

AMY

Nobody watches out for me like you do. Sometimes I wish you were straight. We'd be perfect for each other.

ETHAN

And have sex complicate our friendship? No way. Beside, who would go you shopping with?

AMY

Good point.

ETHAN

Whatta you say we go down to Soba's and drown our troubles in Cosmos? It's been a shitty week for me too and I could sure use the buzz.

AMY

Because of James?

ETHAN

That, and I lost my biggest account.

AMY

L.A. Publishing?

Ethan nods.

AMY (CONT'D)

Why?

ETHAN

Not a clue. Scott told me that the company, and I quote, 'no longer needed my services'. His boss didn't even have the balls to do it himself.

AMY

Did you ask him anyway?

ETHAN

Tried to, but his secretary told me he was out. That was also yesterday. So I plan on getting mindlessly drunk and wiping this week out of my memory. You coming?

AMY

If you're buying. Ethan, did you fall in love with him?

Ethan nods.

AMY (CONT'D)

Me too. Okay, let's go get drunk.

INT. SOBA'S - NIGHT

About one third full, Keith tends bar. Justin sits at the end of the bar, dejected, his elbows on the bar and his hands under his chin, partially obscuring his face. Justin also wears a baseball cap,

The envelope of Ethan's pictures are on the bar in front of Justin, several pulled out, a half-finished drink next to him.

James enters and goes up to the bar. Keith comes up to him.

KEITH

Evening. James, isn't it?

JAMES

(nods)

I'm looking for Sandra. Seen her?

KEITH

I expect her any time. She's pretty consistent.

JAMES

Great. I'll take a beer while I'm waiting. Draft.

Keith fills a glass, sets it in front of James. James pays him. James looks over at Justin sitting at the bar. Turns to Keith.

JAMES (CONT'D)

(indicates Justin)

What's his problem?

KEITH

Who knows. I came on about an hour ago and he was already here. Just stares at those pictures and keeps ordering drinks.

JAMES

Maybe he needs is someone to talk to.

KEITH

Knock yourself out.

James takes his beer, and sits down on the stool next to Justin, trying to look nonchalant. Justin doesn't notice him. James sips his beer.

JAMES

Relationship problems?

JUSTIN

(not looking up)  
That obvious?

JAMES

A guy comes into a bar, keeps ordering drinks and stares at photos. Yeah, that obvious.

JUSTIN

You a shrink?

JAMES

No. Just someone who's been there. I'm James by the way.

JUSTIN

Justin.

JAMES

You wanna talk about it?

JUSTIN

No, and if this is some kind of a pickup line, I'm not buying.

JAMES

I'm straight.

JUSTIN

I've heard that one before. Okay, yes, I broke up with my boyfriend.

JAMES

We're in the same boat then. Just broke up with my girlfriend.

JUSTIN

What's a straight boy doing in a gay bar?

JAMES

Waiting for his lesbian sister.

JUSTIN

Oh. Why did you break up with your girlfriend?

JAMES

It's complicated, but let's just say she wasn't honest with me.

JUSTIN

Same here, but it was both our faults. He wasn't honest with me but I wasn't honest with him either.

JAMES

Why not?

JUSTIN

He worked as an independent contractor for my company as a photographer. Didn't want it to look like a conflict of interest, so I never told him the truth.

JAMES

Oh, I see. Those his pictures?

Justin nods.

JAMES (CONT'D)

Can I see them?

JUSTIN

Go ahead.

Justin slides over the envelope with the pictures to James who picks them up and looks at them for a moment.

JAMES

These are great.

JUSTIN

I know. Still fired him though.

JAMES  
Too bad. He's got talent.

James looks at the top of the envelope and sees Ethan's name.

JAMES (CONT'D)  
Ethan Turner? He took these?

JUSTIN  
Yeah.

JAMES  
Six foot tall, black hair, blue eyes?

JUSTIN  
You know him?

JAMES  
Yeah. The guy tried to get into my pants last weekend. Thought for a few minutes he had eight arms the way he was trying to grope me. I--

Suddenly angry, Justin swivels on the barstool and gives James a punch to the jaw. James is knocked onto the floor, face down, pictures scattering. Justin stands. Keith, seeing the commotion, starts to come from behind the bar.

JUSTIN  
Don't talk like that about the guy  
I'm in love with!!!

James, lip bleeding, gets off the floor and from a crouching position, lunges at Justin, gives him a head butt in the stomach, and knocks him to the ground. Justin's cap flies off.

James pulls Justin up from the floor by his shirt and pulls his arm back to deck him. Justin lifts his head and for the first time the two of them lock eyes. Both are stunned.

JAMES  
Shit!

JUSTIN  
(overlapping)  
Whoa!

They stand there, staring at each other, James' arm still ready to throw a blow, still holding on to Justin's shirt.

Keith rushes over and puts himself between the two of them, breaking James' grip. James lowers his arm.

KEITH  
 Break it up!! If you two clowns  
 want to beat the crap out of each  
 other, do it outside, not in here!!

Keith looks at each of them, aware that they're identical.

KEITH (CONT'D)  
 What the...? Fine thing. Why don't  
 you two take your family squabbles  
 somewhere else?

JAMES  
 We're not related.

JUSTIN  
 Never saw him before.

KEITH  
 (sarcastic)  
 Yeah, and I'm the Queen of England.  
 (to James)  
 Go clean up that lip. I'll get you  
 some ice. Try anything and I'll  
 throw both your asses out. Got me?

James and Justin nod. Keith withdraws, leaving Justin and James still staring at each other.

JUSTIN  
 Sorry about the lip. I guess I over-  
 reacted. This is unbelievable. You  
 look just like me.

JAMES  
 Maybe you look like me. This is a  
 little weird. Look, I'm gonna go  
 clean up. Wait here, okay?

JUSTIN  
 No way I'm leaving.

James turns and heads toward the rest room.

JUSTIN (CONT'D)  
 (Calls out)  
 James...?

James stops and turns.

JUSTIN (CONT'D)  
 A question. Were you at at a spa  
 called Seven Palms last weekend?

James, surprised, nods.



JUSTIN (CONT'D)

I think we've got a lot to talk about  
when you get back.

James turns and continues on his way. Justin picks up the envelope, the pictures that landed on the floor and his hat. He finishes just as Ethan and Amy come through the door. They spot him and stop.

ETHAN

Uh oh, James at two o'clock. Should  
we leave?

AMY

No way I'm going to let him chase me  
out of here. We're going to be cool,  
calm and professional. We'll show  
him that we are so over him.

ETHAN

Okay, cool, calm and professional.  
If you say so.

They walk purposely to the bar, ignoring Justin, who is straightening the photos at the bar, not noticing Amy and Ethan. Keith comes up.

ETHAN (CONT'D)

Hi Keith, two cosmos.

Justin turns in Ethan and Amy's direction.

JUSTIN

Ethan? Amy? This is great. You  
two couldn't have picked a better  
time to show up.

AMY

Oh, and why is that?

JUSTIN

That's going to take some explaining.

ETHAN

That's not necessary. You made your  
point quite clear last weekend.

JUSTIN

Please Ethan, I think I can explain.  
Just give me a few minutes.

Ethan looks over at the bar and recognizes the photos.

ETHAN  
 (to Justin)  
 Where did you get those?

JUSTIN  
 What?

Ethan walks over, picks up the pictures from the bar, comes back over to Justin and waves them in his face.

ETHAN  
 These pictures! The ones I took  
 for L.A. Publishing. Why do you  
 have them? Who gave them to you?!

JUSTIN  
 I uh--

Ethan, holding the photos, moves forward. Justin backs up. Amy goes over and gets between them.

ETHAN  
 Are you why I lost my contract?!

JUSTIN  
 Yes, but not the way you think.

AMY  
 Ethan, don't do anything you'll  
 regret!

James comes up from the rest room, a paper towel on his lip.

JAMES  
 Hey, what's all the commotion?!

Amy looks over and gives a SQUEAK of surprise, staring. Ethan turns around and stares at James.

JAMES (CONT'D)  
 I could hear you all the way in the  
 men's room.

Ethan looks at James, then at Justin and then at James again.

JUSTIN  
 (to Ethan)  
 That's what I've been trying to tell  
 you. There's two of us.

AMY  
 James?

James nods.

AMY (CONT'D)  
Oh, I think I need a drink.

She sits on one of the bar stools. Keith hands her the cosmo. She downs it while Keith sets down the other drink.

ETHAN  
And you're JJ?

Justin nods.

ETHAN (CONT'D)  
(to Amy)  
Think I'll join you.

Ethan sits next to Amy, picks up the drink and downs it, motions to Keith for two more.

JAMES  
It's really very simple when you think about it.

AMY  
Somehow, I doubt that.

JAMES  
You met us at different times and places, right?

Amy and Ethan nod.

JAMES (CONT'D)  
You must have assumed we were the same person. So, when all four of us went to the same spa...

Keith leans across the bar holding a baggie full of ice out to James. James takes it, and places it on his lip.

JAMES (CONT'D)  
(to Keith)  
Thanks.  
(to the rest)  
...You obviously got us mixed up. Amy, you were chasing Justin while Ethan was coming on to me--

ETHAN  
Wait a minute. Who's Justin?

JUSTIN  
(embarrassed)  
I am. My name's not JJ Smith. It's Justin Shields.

ETHAN

The head of L.A. Publishing? The man I worked for?! The one who ordered Scott to tell me I was fired?!

Justin nods. Ethan is furious.

ETHAN (CONT'D)

I should give you a matching lip.

JUSTIN

I was angry. I wanted to get back at you. Alright, it was a stupid thing to do.

ETHAN

(less angry)

No Shit. But why did you have to lie to me about who you were?

(understands)

I remember. Keeping your work and personal life separate.

JUSTIN

(nods)

I wanted to tell you. I just kept chickening out.

ETHAN

For what it's worth, I didn't think your name was JJ Smith anyway. But what about that story you gave me about being abandoned, then adopted, and what about that blanket you have hanging on your wall? Was that just something you made up?

JUSTIN

No, that's all true.

AMY

Well, I've got a couple of questions.

ETHAN

Just a couple? You haven't been paying attention.

AMY

(to James)

How did you get the split lip?

JAMES

An insulting remark about Ethan's groping hands. Justin decked me.

ETHAN  
 (delighted)  
 Really?

JAMES  
 What's the second question?

AMY  
 Why do you two look so much alike?

SANDRA (O.C.)  
 I think I can answer that one.

Justin, James, Ethan and Amy turn towards the voice. Sandra stands at the entrance, smiling, tears in her eyes.

EXT. HOUSE - NIGHT

ESTABLISHING SHOT of a small, older home.

JAMES (O.S.)  
 Okay Sandy...

INT. HOUSE - NIGHT

LIVING ROOM

A comfortable, non fussy room. A couch, a couple of overstuffed chairs, end tables with lamps and a coffee table.

James and Justin sit on the couch, while Amy and Ethan sit in the chairs. Sandra is standing in front of them all.

JAMES  
 ...Why did you bring us here?

SANDRA  
 (to Ethan)  
 Ethan, at the end of the hall is my bedroom, There's a quilt on the bed. Could you get it for me?

Ethan nods, gets up and heads down the hall and OUT of SCENE. Sandra turns back to James and Justin.

JAMES  
 Mom's old quilt?

Sandra nods.

JAMES (CONT'D)  
 What does that have to do with anything?

SANDRA

We'll soon find out if it does.

BEDROOM

Simply and comfortably furnished like the living room. A large bed, couple of nightstands with lamps and a dresser.

Laying on the foot of the bed is a quilt with large squares in a checkerboard pattern, alternating with blue squares and blue squares with a daisy pattern, like in Justin's Condo.

Ethan comes in, spots the quilt, goes over and picks it up. He stares at it, recognizing the pattern.

LIVING ROOM

Sandra is now sitting in a chair, facing James and Justin.

Ethan comes out of the hallway, carrying the quilt. He comes over to Sandra. She looks up at him.

SANDRA (CONT'D)

Would you give the quilt to Justin?

Ethan hands the quilt to Justin. He looks at it and goes a little pale.

SANDRA (CONT'D)

Recognize it?

JUSTIN

(nods)

It's the same pattern as the blanket on my wall.

SANDRA

That's because the quilt was made out of pieces left over from your blanket.

JAMES

But mom told me she made that quilt before I was born.

SANDRA

(nods)

That's right and the blue squares were made out of the leftover pieces from your blanket.

JAMES

My...?

James looks over at Justin, who looks over at him, then both look at Sandra.

JAMES (CONT'D)

Brothers?

SANDRA

Twins. I promised mom that I'd never tell you this Jimmy, but now, with the two of you together again, I don't think she'd mind. When dad was overseas...

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. COFFEE HOUSE - MORNING

Amy and Marilyn are seated outside drinking coffee.

MARILYN

...Their mother had an affair, got pregnant, had the babies, left them on a doorstep, and planned to come back later and adopt them?

Amy nods.

MARILYN (CONT'D)

But the babies got separated and one of them was adopted by another family. And the sister was the only one that knew the truth?

AMY

That's right.

MARILYN

Unbelievable.

Ethan comes out with his coffee, over to the table, and sits.

ETHAN

(to Amy)

Been filling her in?

AMY

The whole saga.

MARILYN

All I want to know is, what's gonna happen with James and Justin?

AMY

Don't know.

ETHAN

Not a clue, but they've got a lot of catching up to do.

MARILYN

They aren't still mad at you for mixing them up, are they? It was an honest mistake. Hell, they didn't know about each other.

ETHAN

True, but we did pull a dirty trick on both of them. They weren't happy about it. Actually, we haven't seen them since that night.

MARILYN

But you're going to get together aren't you? Please tell me this is going to have a happy ending.

Both Ethan and Amy shrug.

MARILYN (CONT'D)

Well, that sucks.

Ethan puts his arm over Amy's shoulder.

ETHAN

Maybe, but whatever happens, we learned that boyfriends come and go, but good friendships last. No more bets, no more competitions. We'll always be there for and love each other, no matter what, including plan B.

(to Amy)

Right?

AMY

Right!

Amy and Ethan tap their cups in a toasting gesture.

EXT. CHURCH - DAY

ESTABLISHING SHOT of a beautiful church on a beautiful day.

SUPER: "ONE YEAR LATER"

INT. CHURCH - DAY

SANCTUARY

Set for a wedding. Pews are filled with WEDDING GUESTS.



Ethan comes up the aisle, looking flustered, dressed in wedding clothes. The guests watch him as he goes by.

One of the guests sitting in the pews is BI BILL (30's). He sits between a YOUNG MAN (20's) and YOUNG WOMAN 2(20's). All three hold hands. Bill looks tired. Ethan slows when he gets to them, surprised, gives them a nod, and continues on his way.

Ethan stops in front of a door to another room. He KNOCKS on it, waits, looks at his watch.

MARILYN (O.S.)  
(through door)  
Who is it?

ETHAN  
Ethan. Open up.

The door partially opens and Marilyn stands at the door. Behind her is Amy, dressed in full wedding gown, veil and bouquet. Amy has a slight baby bump.

Sandra, wearing a dress, and Donna, holding a purse, watch as Carol takes pictures of Amy as she stands there. She hides the bump with the bouquet.

CAROL  
Look this way.

ETHAN  
Isn't she done yet? We're on a schedule. Let me in.

MARILYN  
No sees the bride before the ceremony.

ETHAN  
Who says?

MARILYN  
It's tradition.

ETHAN  
This wedding's hardly traditional.

Ethan comes through the door.

BRIDE'S DRESSING ROOM

A room large enough for the bride to dress and not much else. There is a small dressing table on one wall and couple of chairs. There is a bouquet on the dressing table.

Amy stands in the middle of the room, Carol taking pictures. Ethan goes up to Carol and taps her on the shoulder.

ETHAN (CONT'D)  
You need to be out front.

CAROL  
Almost done.

ETHAN  
The bridesmaids are in position.

CAROL  
Boss, would you chill? It's not like I haven't done this before.

Ethan gives her a glaring look.

CAROL (CONT'D)  
Okay, okay, I'm going.

Carol goes up to Amy and kisses her on the cheek.

CAROL (CONT'D)  
Good luck.

AMY  
Thanks.

CAROL  
If he gets too obnoxious, you have my permission to slug him.

AMY  
And ruin my nails? I'll hit him with a candlestick.

CAROL  
Good choice.

Marilyn, Donna and Sandra snicker. Carol, camera in hand, goes out the door, bowing to Ethan before she leaves. He's not amused. He turns his attention to Sandra and Donna.

ETHAN  
And you two need to be down front. Am I the only one keeping to the schedule?!

AMY  
Ethan, would you calm down? You're going to give yourself a stroke and then we'll be short a groom.

DONNA

But he's right. We should be in place.

ETHAN

Finally, someone who agrees with me.

SANDRA

Don't get used to it. I won't happen often.

Sandra goes over to Amy and gives her a hug.

SANDRA (CONT'D)

Hope you know what you're getting into.

AMY

I do. Thanks for everything.

Sandra and Amy disengage. Sandra goes over to Marilyn and gives her a kiss.

SANDRA

I'll see you later.

MARILYN

You better.

Sandra goes out the door. Amy turns to Marilyn.

AMY

I'm so glad we introduced you two.

MARILYN

So am I.

ETHAN

Marilyn, I need you in position.

MARILYN

I'm ready. See you out there.

Marilyn grabs her Maid-of-Honor Bouquet from the table and heads towards the door.

AMY

Marilyn?

Marilyn stops and turns.

AMY (CONT'D)

How did you get Sandra into a dress?

MARILYN

Oh, that was easy. We arm wrestled.  
If she lost, she had to wear a dress  
to the wedding. I beat her three  
out of five.

Marilyn goes out the door, closing it behind her. Donna  
comes over to Amy and gives her a hug.

DONNA

Well honey, this is it. In a little  
while, you'll be married. Happy?

Amy smiles and nods. Donna kisses her cheek.

DONNA (CONT'D)

Then I'm happy too.

AMY

Thanks mom.

ETHAN

Donna, it's time.

DONNA

I know.

ETHAN

Have everything?

Donna taps her purse.

DONNA

Right here. I'll be ready.  
(to Amy)  
See you down front.

They hug. Donna turns and goes to the door and out.

ETHAN

You look beautiful. How do you feel?

Amy puts a hand on her stomach.

AMY

We're fine, and I should look  
beautiful. You helped me pick out  
the dress.

ETHAN

I told you I'd take care of you.  
Just think, in fifteen minutes, you  
and I will be family.

AMY

Family... Now that is a scary thought.  
Is it too late to call this off?

ETHAN

Wedding day humor?

Amy smiles at him playfully.

ETHAN (CONT'D)

Cute. Ready?

AMY

Let's get this show on the road.

They start to the door.

ETHAN

Oh, by the way, Bi Bill showed up.

AMY

He did? With a man or a woman?

Ethan opens the door.

ETHAN

Both.

AMY

Really? How does he look?

ETHAN

Tired.

AMY

I don't doubt.

Giggling, they go out the door and close it behind them.

SANCTUARY

Four BRIDESMAIDS and Marilyn are lined up and ready. The MUSIC starts and the Bridesmaids walk down the aisle to take their positions, Marilyn included.

Ethan and Amy, her veil down, take their place at the end of the aisle. Bridal Processional MUSIC begins. The Guests stand. Amy and Ethan start down the aisle, whispering to each other.

ETHAN

You do realize this means family dinners, kids, the whole deal.

AMY

So? I thought you wanted kids.

ETHAN

I mean, are we ready for this?

AMY

It's a bit late for cold feet. Relax.  
In ten minutes it'll all be over.

Ethan and Amy get to the front of the sanctuary. Standing there are James and Justin wearing identical wedding clothing. Four GROOMSMEN stand nearby and the MINISTER directly in front. The bridesmaids go into position.

Ethan and Amy stop next to where Donna is sitting and look over at her. Donna holds up a document (The contract). Smiling, she deliberately tears it in half. There is scattered LAUGHTER from the wedding guests.

Ethan hands Amy over to James and Amy hands the bouquet to Marilyn. Amy and James join hands and face each other. Ethan takes his place next to Justin. They hold hands and face each other. The guests sit. The minister steps forward.

MINISTER

Dearly beloved, We are gathered today  
to join James and Amy and Justin and  
Ethan in holy matrimony which is--

While the minister talks, a curious look comes over Amy's and Ethan's faces. They lean out and look at each other, nod and turn to the minister. They both hold up a hand for him to stop. The minister stops, confused.

AMY

Hold on a second.

ETHAN

(overlaps)  
Time out.

A MURMUR goes through the crowd. Amy, pulls back her veil, looks at James and then Justin. Ethan does the same.

Ethan and Amy give each other a knowing nod. Ethan grabs Justin's arm and Amy grabs James' arm. They switch the twin's places and step next to the correct one.

The guests are mystified. Sandra is trying not to laugh.

Ethan leans in to whisper to Justin, smiling.

ETHAN (CONT'D)

Just wait 'til I get you home.

JUSTIN  
Is that a promise?

ETHAN  
Count on it.

Ethan straightens up. Amy leans in to whisper to James.

AMY  
Did you really think I wouldn't know  
the father of my children?

JAMES  
Well, we had to be sure that you  
could... wait a minute. Did you  
just say children?

Smiling, Amy nods. She puts a hand on her stomach.

AMY  
Twins...

James smiles.

FADE OUT