

Nicky's Place

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FADE IN

INT. LINDSAY'S BEDROOM PORTLAND OR - DAY

LINDSAY PALMER, attractive, 20'S is lying in bed when her alarm goes off. She wakes up, pushes the silence button and stares into a mirror next to the bed on which she has written "I love myself and I always will."

MONTAGE: Lindsay getting up, showering, having coffee, all while also trying to psyche herself up for her day, but we see by her body language she is dreading her job. As she opens the door to her office building, she braces herself and mumbles.

LINDSAY

"I love myself, and I always will."

INT. OFFICE - DAY

Offices for a dating app called "Degra Date Me." Posters of people doing weird/dangerous/degrading things all with tag-lines like, 'what would you do for love?' And 'if you can't be hot, be interesting.'

Lindsay is at her desk eating plain oatmeal when ALICE MUNSON'30s walks up.

ALICE

Hey girl. Brad wants to see you. Holy hell your breakfast is depressing. I'm gonna walk away before it asks me for five bucks so it can go see its kid.

LINDSAY

Oh god, what does he want? I haven't even been here long enough to fudge up today.

ALICE

He probably saw your oatmeal as a cry for help. Maybe he's a mandated reporter...

Lindsay rolls he eyes and walks toward Brad's office.

INT. BRADS OFFICE - SAME DAY

BRAD JENKINS, 30's, is at his desk when Lindsay enters. The desk is covered in pictures of him kite surfing and aggressively hitting on women at various beach bars. There's a little statue of a kite surfer on his desk that he fondles throughout their conversation.

BRAD

Hi Lindsay. Have a seat.

LINDSAY

Hi, Brad, happy Monday...is everything okay?

BRAD

You're looking healthy, did you buy new makeup?

LINDSAY

No. Um, I've been eating more grains? I dunno. Is there a problem?

BRAD

You clearly don't follow the news. Didn't you see that there's a hurricane warning in Punta Cana?

LINDSAY

I...no. I must have missed that.

BRAD

Well, I suppose you would miss it, there's no knitting needles or...sustainable bamboo wool involved.

LINDSAY

I don't knit. I've literally never knit.

BRAD

Well whatever, knitting, shopping, those dolls that look like real babies you 'don't need no man' for...it's all weather irrelevant. Whereas, I had to postpone my kiting trip to Mexico.

LINDSAY

Is that why you called me in here?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

BRAD

What? No. No, I have equally bad news. Degra Date Me is..shedding some dead weight.

LINDSAY

What? You mean downsizing? Why am I in here, and not, like, Wayne? He's the one who gave everybody pin-worms at the last Professional Development.

BRAD

That was Wayne? Well, he's gone. Anyway, the company is having some minor fiscal issues. Did you know there's a law about 'aiding and abetting' sexual harassment? So dumb. What did those broads think they were signing up for? Anyway, they put me in charge of...releasing some nonessential.

LINDSAY

You're saying I'm nonessential? It was my idea to give color gradients to how long women let men linger during introductory hugs at mixers.

BRAD

Well, as your superior, that credit went to me. But yes, you had some innovations, for sure. There is a chance you could stay but...well, that's contingent.

LINDSAY

'Contingent,' on what? I'm always on time. I never take a lunch, and my last review had me at above expectations.

BRAD

Yeah, that's all good, but are you really a team player?

LINDSAY

What do you mean?

BRAD

Well, whenever we do our 'Fam' mixers, you don't seem to enjoy yourself.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

MONTAGE

Degra Date Me Fam marketing posts: one is Brad and Alice and others taking shots while Lindsay stares at her phone, one is Brad riding Alice like a mechanical bull while Lindsay pulls the crust off a sandwich, one is Lindsay holding Alice's hair while she pukes in a bush, glaring at Brad while he tries to pour beer into her mouth.

BACK TO SCENE

LINDSAY

Well, yes, the last time I went out with the Fam I was, um, very uncomfortable.

BRAD

See? That's what I'm talking about. You need to loosen up, be more open-minded. This is Degra-Date Me; not, uh, Aunt Flow's Cranky Pants Excuse Tracking App. We have a company image to cultivate.

LINDSAY

I don't see how acting like a drunk ass is in any way beneficial to the company.

BRAD

Well, besides our constant need for new content, you gotta loosen up. How about we have dinner tonight, there's that new exotic meat bbq joint where they have peacock kabobs and 2Pac's hologram serves THC infused beer. Meet me there at 6 and we can discuss your future.

LINDSAY

Alice is scared of holograms, remember? She thinks they're robot ghosts sent from the future to make us forget to pee.

BRAD

This isn't a 'Fam' event. I'm talking about me and you, solo flight.

LINDSAY

Oh, I'm not...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

BRAD

Did I tell you that I won bronze in the Red Bull' King of the Air Kite surfing Championship, Amateur Division'? Two years straight. Plus, I mean, this power dynamic must be a real snail trail fiesta for you.

LINDSAY

I'm sorry, what? That's disgusting. Besides, I don't like to mix work with my personal life.

BRAD

Well, Lindsay, Degra Dating, is a full-time mindset.

LINDSAY

Basically, you're telling me that if I am not more of a (beat) 'team player' alone, with you, I won't have a job?

BRAD

Nooooo, I would never say that. All I'm saying is I have to make some tough decisions, and you being more aligned with the company ethos will help your cause. Besides, I've been dying to eat a peacock. They think they're so hot...

LINDSAY

I feel my productivity should be all that the company cares about.

BRAD

Well, okay, then. As my grandpa used to say, "you'll never win at baseball with them hockey skates on." Anyway, we have an all-hands in fifteen. You can go wait at your desk.

INT. OFFICE - SAME

ALICE approaches Lindsay's desk.

ALICE

How'd it go in there?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

LINDSAY

He said I'm too boring to work here. I always considered myself a nice contrast. A straight man to this shit show. Maybe I'm too straight...How was your weekend?

ALICE

Oh, you know. Netflix, fur babies, a few bottles of rosé, and the exterminator.

LINDSAY

Oh, god, the bed bugs are back?!

ALICE

I don't think so. No, the exterminator is what I call my new honking ass dildo.

LINDSAY

Ewww, why?

ALICE

Cuz it's big and beefy, hard-working, and smashes my silverfish.

LINDSAY

Alice, I swear you're the long lost Bronte sister.

ALICE

Well, we don't all have that Hunky Heathcliff to bang every night. What did you guys do?

LINDSAY

Alice, you know, good girls don't kiss and tell.

ALICE

Oh, throw me a bone. Did you eat his booty hole? He seems like he sugar waxes it.

WAYNE MONDS 40's interrupts them. He's clearly very frightened.

WAYNE

Alice, Lindsay. There's an all-hands meeting in the conference room.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

LINDSAY

You look like you saw a girl in a well or something.

ALICE

Ya, like in a wet nightgown, with a crooked neck.

WAYNE

You wouldn't be so sassy if you saw the minutes from Saturday's emergency board meeting.

He points at the women with two-finger.

WAYNE (CONT'D)

I see dead people.

The women roll their eyes. Wayne walks off, and Alice and Lindsay follow him.

ALICE

Wayne needs an exterminator, too. One of those ones that suction cups to the toilet seat.

INT. CONFERENCE ROOM - SAME

Wayne, Lindsay and Alice walk into a conference room full of their COWORKERS. Brad is at a podium.

Alice whispers to Lindsay.

ALICE

Did 'Air Brad' tell you what was going on?

WAYNE

Our Jell-o shooter relay race made number one on some feminazi ten most rapey events in Portland." Didn't you see the morning news?

ALICE

Too depressing. I watch morning coffee. Lindsay, did you see the blind cat they had up for adoption this morning? Such a floofer.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

LINDSAY

How many blind cats do you need,
Alice?

ALICE

All of them. I need all of the bonks.

BRAD

Okay, everyone. Let's settle down.
Now I'm sure you have all heard the
news. And I can assure you that it's
not as 'viral' as they are making it
out to be.

WAYNE

(yelling out)

I got called 'Bill Cosby's Shed
Exoskeleton,' at Java Mutt this
morning.

ALICE

This explains why a table of ladies
hissed 'Judas,' at me when I tried to
get brunch at Pancake Slut yesterday.
I had to take my mimosa to go.

Murmurs of sympathy from the crowd.

BRAD

Okay, well, that could have been
about a number of things, Alice,
let's face it. Anyway, I had a
conference call with senior
leadership, who, as you know, are at
the 'real' Fyre fest right now. But
they assured me that our P.R. wizards
can actually spin this to our
advantage. Eventually.

WAYNE

So what, what about us?

ALICE

(to Lindsay)

Oh shit. This must be serious if
Wayne is taking his tongue off Brad's
boot.

BRAD

However, in order for us to weather
this temporary storm, we're gonna
have to trim some fat.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

Brad looks right at Lindsay.

WAYNE
I told you.

EXT. OFFICE BUILDING - DAY

Alice, Lindsay, and WAYNE are all walking out with boxes.

WAYNE
The things I did for this job.

ALICE
What are we gonna do now?

LINDSAY
I'm gonna go surprise Kurt; maybe his strapping arms will help me forget about all of this.

ALICE
Don't forget his strapping weenus.

WAYNE
I'm gonna apply for unemployment, update my resume, and then get blind stinking drunk.

LINDSAY
It's eight in the morning, Wayne.

WAYNE
Exactly. That means I can get drunk, pass out, then get drunk again before I meet my boys for happy hour at Furry's. You know they serve peacock, right?

LINDSAY
So I've heard. Why are men so obsessed with devouring majestic creatures?

ALICE
If you can't beat 'em, eat 'em.

EXT. STREET - DAY

Lindsay is walking when SKETCHY GUY, 20S, yells at her.

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CONTINUED:

SKETCHY GUY

Hey gorgeous, wanna get to know me?

Lindsay waves him away. Sketchy Guy follows, then steps in front of her.

SKETCHY GUY (CONT'D)

I guess you're only pretty on the outside.

LINDSAY

I'm having a bad day, sir. Now, if you don't mind.

SKETCHY GUY

Oh. Sorry. Listen, why don't you come hang out with me? I know I could put a smile on that pretty face.

He holds up a crack pipe and a torch, Lindsay sees a coffee shop and ducks into it.

SKETCHY GUY (CONT'D)

What are you, a lesbian?

INT. APARTMENT DOOR

Lindsay uses a key hidden in a pot to let herself into the apartment.

LINDSAY

Babe, are you home?

INT. APARTMENT - DAY

Lindsay looks around for KURT WESTGATE, 20's, handsome, and fit. She hears moaning and heads to the bedroom. Lindsay opens the door.

INT. BEDROOM - SAME

Lindsay sees Kurt and PAUL 20's handsome and fit, engaged in sex.

LINDSAY

What the freak?

KURT

Linds, what are you doing here?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

PAUL

Hi, (beat) did I space on this being a threesome?

LINDSAY

Kurt, what the...I don't...

KURT

I'm sorry, Linds.

LINDSAY

You. You're gay?

KURT

No! I'm bi.

LINDSAY

And you didn't bother to tell me this because, why?

KURT

Look, I really like you, and I wanted to share this with you, but you're kind of uptight about sex. Hell, you don't even swear.

LINDSAY

Kurt Vonnegut said swearing gives people an excuse to stop listening to you.

KURT

What? Look, I'm sorry you walked in on us. But you and I were never officially exclusive. I just wish you could be more open-minded and willing to experiment.

LINDSAY

You think I'm closed-minded because I don't want to join in while my boyfriend is going down on some strange guy?

PAUL

Hey, I've known Kurt longer than you have. So, really, you're the stranger. Plus, you did a pop-in. That's a lurk move, sis.

KURT

Not a good time, bro.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

KURT (CONT'D)

(to Lindsay)

I was hoping that I could ease you into a more open relationship.

LINDSAY

How were you going to 'ease' me?

KURT

Well, I was going to take you to this party with (beat) like-minded people. I thought maybe you would loosen up if you saw how normal they actually are.

LINDSAY

And then I'd do what? Join you in all your gay threesomes?

PAUL

It's just called a threesome. It would only be considered a gay threesome if it was three guys.

KURT

Seriously bro.

LINDSAY

Or, let me guess, you wanted to get me into some male-gazey, music video pool sex with other women?

PAUL

I told my girlfriend about you. She's down.

KURT

Dude, read the room. (Beat) She is hot, though, Linds.

PAUL

I'm gonna hit the shower if anyone cares to join.

Paul exits.

LINDSAY

One problem, Kurt. I'm not gay. Or kinky. Or freaky. I'm just normal.

KURT

I think, as a society, we're past "normal." Look Linds...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

LINDSAY

I believe that sex is best when it's between two committed people. I mean, I don't have a problem with (beat) gay stuff, but girls don't do it for me. I'm a straight woman who likes one on one lovemaking. Not this whatever this is.

PAUL (O.C.)

It's called polyamory. It's basically mandatory in San Francisco.

LINDSAY

San Francisco was founded by pirates and hookers, not exactly my 'scene.' (Beat) Dang it Kurt, you knew I would never go for this. Don't gaslight me now. You...douche guzzler.

PAUL (O.C.)

Wait, that I gotta see!

INT. HALLWAY OF LINDSAY'S APARTMENT - DAY

Lindsay finds a note on her apartment door. She pulls it off and reads it.

INSERT NOTICE

Dear Miss Palmer. We are very pleased that you have chosen the Taupe Summit Estates as your home. This notice is to inform you that as of the first, we are increasing your rent to match current market rates in the Portland Metro area. The new rent for your apartment is increasing from one thousand two-hundred a month to three thousand six hundred per month. We will also require an additional two thousand dollars deposit, due within twenty-four hours of receipt of this notice.

BACK TO SCENE

LINDSAY

Are you freaking kidding me?

EXT. STREET - DAY - RAINING

Lindsay walks the street of Portland, dejected and scared. She hears Wayne's words:

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

WAYNE (V.O.)
I'm going to get blind stinking
drunk.

Lindsay starts looking for a bar, but as it is only nine-thirty am, she is having trouble finding one open. Then she spots a sign.

INSERT SIGN

"Cocktails, Open, Nude Girls."

BACK TO SCENE

Lindsay walks into Nicky's Place.

INT. NICKY'S PLACE

Lindsay walks to the bar and sits. DANISHA JONES, 30's is tending bar.

DANISHA
Hi baby, what can I get for you?

LINDSY
Copious amounts of alcohol.

DANISHA
Care to narrow that down, love?

LINDSAY
I don't know. I'm not really much of a drinker. What's popular, I guess?

DENISAH
I still need a direction, baby. Beer, wine, vodka, bourbon, scotch?

Lindsay places her credit card on the bar.

LINDSAY
I'd like to try all of your most popular cocktails, please.

DANISHA
Okay..

Danisha makes several drinks and places them in front of Lindsay.

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CONTINUED:

DANISHA (CONT'D)

Well, since you look squeaky clean,
here's a dirty martini, and since you
look lonely, here's a redheaded slut,
and since you look like you're classy
but got a little freak buried deep
inside, we close with a panty
dropper.

Lindsay tries each one, not liking anything until she comes
to the panty dropper.

LINDSAY

MMMM this one.

DANISHA

I had a feeling. That is the go-to
for uptight white girls. You going to
finish the others?

Lindsay waves Danisha off as she guzzles her panty dropper.
NICKY MORRISON 40's walks over to Danisha.

NICKY

Hey, what's up with the girl chugging
cosmos?

DANISHA

Who, Goldilocks over there? Looks to
me like she got dumped hard, so she's
trying all the bear's porridge.

NICKY

Keep an eye on her.

DANISHA

Like I have a choice.

Danisha points around the mostly empty bar.

NICKY

Keep her safe from any bears. Or
Lumberjacks. Or little men who dance
on their toes, or rhyme, or turn
straw into gold.

DANISHA

Any fool comes in here like that; I'm
keeping. You know I can't get enough
of the soft-minded tricks.

(licks her lips)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

Lindsay orders another Panty Dropper, and while she waits, she sips at the other two rejected drinks and finally looks around the bar. BELLA DORA 20's is dancing on stage.

LINDSAY
Is this a strip club?

DANISHA
Why yes, Goldilocks, it is. What gave it away?

Bella finishes her dance, puts on her sexy nun costume, and heads to the bar. Lindsay is now very drunk.

DANISHA (CONT'D)
Hey girl, you ready for a drink?

BELLA
No, too early. I have a show later tonight, so just coffee.

LINDSAY
You're a terrific dancer.

BELLA
Well, isn't that swell? The suit thinks I got moves.

Bella mouths to Danisha.

BELLA (MOS) (CONT'D)
What's her deal?

Danisha shrugs.

BELLA (MOS) (CONT'D)
She's hot.-Ish.

LINDSAY
I could never take off my clothes in front of strangers.

BELLA
That's probably because you allow your childhood indoctrination of puritanical morals to obfuscate your view of the true oppressive nature of the patriarchy.

LINDSAY
Say wha...?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

BELLA

It beats getting groped by the manager of some low-wage job.

LINDSAY

Ah.

BELLA

You ever think about performing? In any capacity?

LINDSAY

Me? Nooooo.

BELLA

Too bad, you have the body for it. So um, what's your deal?

LINDSAY

My deal?

BELLA

It's ten-thirty in the morning on a Monday. You're dressed for corporate bullshit, but getting hammered in a strip club.

LINDSAY

Oh, that deal. Well, let's see. I got to work today only to find out my boss quit me cuz I'm boring.

DANISHA

Was it a startup?

Lindsay nods.

DANISHA (CONT'D)

Damn startups tanked my investment portfolio.

LINDSAY

So I did what any women would do. I went to be comforted by my boyfriend. But he was too busy going down on his college roommate.

BELLA

Mixed dorms?

LINDSAY

No. Lacrosse teammates.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

BELLA

Ahhhh.

LINDSAY

He said that I am too uptight. That I'm not sexually open. What would you do if you walked in on your man gagging on some guy's thing?

BELLA

You just described my Sunday morning.

LINDSAY

I'm a prude because I think sex is between two people and not a (hiccup) group sport.

DANISHA

If that's what you want, then that's fine, Goldilocks.

LINDSAY

I'm not judging what other people do.

BELLA

Sure. Look, you have to be comfortable with what works for you.

LINDSAY

I just wish I found out before I thought he was 'the one.' And he is so freaking hot.

BELLA

Hot guys with giant dongs are the devil. I cast them out! Well, after mamma gets hers.

LINDSAY

Thank you! He said not only am I not sexually adventures, but I don't even swear. Good girls from the Midwest don't swear.

BELLA

Hey, I'm from Minnefuckinsota, so speak for yourself.

LINDSAY

You said, fuck. In the middle...

Lindsay starts to laugh.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (5)

LINDSAY (CONT'D)

So then I went back to my apartment.
My first apartment, on my own. I have
plants.

Lindsay slumps on the bar.

DANISHA

And?

LINDSAY

They, (beat) they raised my rent.
Triple nipple.

Bella and Danisha groan and nod.

LINDSAY (CONT'D)

And I woke up in such a poopy mood
this morning. I had a great paying
job, a hot smart boyfriend and my
beautiful apartment. Had I known I'd
lose 'em all, I'd have been a lot
more grateful-er.

BELLA

Hindsight is 20/20. Don't beat
yourself up for it. Think of this as
a chance to start fresh.

LINDSAY

Ya. Fuck it. I'm done being a nice
girl. I'm tired of people telling me
who I am and what I should and
shouldn't do. I wanna dance.

BELLA

What?

LINDSAY

I love to dance. I took African dance
as an elective in college.

BELLA

You should totally dance. But not
that specific style.

LINDSAY

I don't know any other style.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (6)

BELLA

Stripping is like pretending you're making love to a ghost while suspended in honey.

LINDSAY

A haunted beehive. Spooky.

Danisha leans into Bella.

DANISHA

Are you crazy? This girl is in no shape to get on stage.

BELLA

I know it'll be hilarious.

Nicky walks over.

NICKY

So how's our guest doing?

LINDSAY

I'm the queen bae!

NICKY

What?

BELLA

She's having a rough day, and dancing could be an emotional breakthrough for her.

NICKY

She's three sheets to the fucking wind.

BELLA

Oh, like no performers ever got tanked before getting on stage at Nicky's.

NICKY

She could fall and break her neck. Plus, stripping is not emotional therapy for some little girl having a rough day.

BELLA

You've been off the stage too long, Nicky. Stripping is absolutely a form of therapy. That stage is one place I feel free and in control.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (7)

NICKY

She's tanked. It's a liability.

DANISHA

Nicky, let her dance. She lost her job, her apartment, and her man is gay.

LINDSAY

Bisexual. He was really specific about that.

NICKY

Fine, but you two are responsible.

BELLA

What do you want to be your stage name?

LINDSAY

Lindsay?

DANISHA

Naw bu, you need a stage name. You don't want these creeps moaning your real name during a lap dance. Trust.

BELLA

Plus, your stage name empowers you, allows you to be someone else.

LINDSAY

What's the opposite of uptight and boring? I'll be "Lucy Hab-a-Nero." Cha-cha!

BELLA

I think we can find something more (beat) sexual. How about...

DANISHA

Pumpkin spice?

Bella shoots Danisha a nasty look.

DANISHA (CONT'D)

Come on, look at her.

BELLA

What was that fairy tale shit you called her?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (8)

DANISHA

Goldilocks?

LINDSAY

Oh, I love that story. I even had porridge for breakfast! Well, oatmeal...

NICKY

Goldilocks?

BELLA

Look at her. She has innocent written all over her. Plus, she is trying a new thing. What's your favorite song to dance to? The song that touches your soul?

LINDSAY

Ummm, do people still like Dido?

DANISHA

Or, how bout, what makes you wanna hate fuck your ex's dad?

DANISHA/BELLA

Peaches.

BELLA

Alrighty then. Let's do a shot first, to celebrate.

LINDSAY

Yes. Can I have a blow job?

Lindsay giggles.

DANISHA

Bella, you sure about this?

BELLA

No, but fuck it. She dies on stage; it'll be hilarious, plus, the place is dead, so it's a win/win.

They all take a shot.

BELLA (CONT'D)

Okay, Lindsay, I mean Goldilocks, let's get you changed.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (9)

LINDSAY

No, I want to stripe off these corporate chains and bare myself.

BELLA

Fuck yeah. But take off those shoes.

LINDSAY

Why?

BELLA

(Holding up a pair
of stilettos)

Cuz mama, you gotta strap up.

INT. NICKY'S PLACE STAGE

Bella and Lindsay are on the stage. Bella yells to RICKMAN' 40's the club D.J. to announce Lindsay.

RICKMAN

Okay, let's welcome to the stage for your entertainment, in her first-ever appearance, anywhere, give it up for Gold Dee Locks.

The song starts to play. At first, Lindsay is a little drunk and clumsy. The few customers move to the front of the stage. The lyrics make Lindsay angry, which she then uses as fuel. She enters a musical trance, practically roaring.

DANISHA

Dam, Goldilocks is feeling herself.

Lindsay is lost in the moment. The crowd is enthralled.

BELLA

(to herself)

Well, fuck me.

Lindsay gets down to her bra and panties, teasing the crowd.

CROWD

Take it off. Take it off. Take it off.

Lindsay unhooks her bra from the back. She leans over as if about to do a somersault, but she can't seem to tip over. And she falls in a puddle, laughing and crying.

INT. BELLA'S APARTMENT - DAY

Bella is sleeping on the couch, she wakes up and sees Lindsay sleeping naked in Bella's bed. Bella takes her top off, then slips in next to Lindsay and cuddles with her.

Lindsay starts to stir and reaches out for Bella's arm.

LINDSAY
MMM, morning Babe.

BELLA
Morning Goldilocks.

Lindsay comes fully awake and realizes she is naked in a strange bed. She jumps out of bed.

LINDSAY
What the heck am I doing here? Who are you?

BELLA
Back to not swearing? Bummer. You were so fucking lit last night.

LINDSAY
What? Wait, did we?

BELLA
You don't remember? Well, get that hot ass back here and let me refresh your memory.

LINDSAY
We what? Wait. No, no, I didn't. Did I?

BELLA
Relax. No, we didn't. Do you remember anything from yesterday?

LINDSAY
Not really.

BELLA
You lost your job. Found your fella fellating his frat bro.

Lindsay starts to get her memories back.

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CONTINUED:

BELLA (CONT'D)

Your rent went up, then you wandered into the club and got hammered on cosmos.

LINDSAY

Cosmos? My mom drinks cosmos...Why am I naked. Where are my clothes?

BELLA

You stripped them off on stage. I have to say; you are a natural.

LINDSAY

Oh my god. I stripped? In front of other people?

BELLA

You were a hit, baby.

LINDSAY

But, why am I still naked?

BELLA

Oh, that. You uh, didn't stick the landing.

Lindsay rubs her forehead.

BELLA (CONT'D)

Anyway, after your Cirque D'folé, you yacked on your clothes. Then on the clothes, I loaned you. Then in the ride-share.

LINDSAY

So wait, let me take this in. I got drunk at a strip club and took my clothes off.

BELLA

Well, to be honest, you only got down to your bra and panties. You kinda had a break down before you got fully naked.

LINDSAY

Oh, thank god. Wait, a breakdown? Mad or sad?

BELLA

It was...nuanced. Sure we're a lot of disappointed customers.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

BELLA (CONT'D)
Those poor little perverts.

INT. BELLA'S LIVING ROOM - SAME.

Lindsay is dressed in her clothes.

LINDSAY
It was so nice of you to wash my clothes.

BELLA
Yep, strippers can do all sorts of things real humans do. Besides, Nicky made me skip my shift to take care of you.

LINDSAY
Oh, he did?

BELLA
She did. Nicky's is the only female-owned club in Portland. We run it like a co-op. So, since I was the one who put you on stage, I had some free time on my hands.

LINDSAY
You put me on stage, as a joke?

BELLA
Kinda, sorry. I thought it would be a laugh, but you really tapped into something up there.

LINDSAY
Well, I'm sorry you lost your shift. Let me pay you.

BELLA
You got a grand on you?

LINDSAY
Is that how much you make?

BELLA
On a good night. Day shifts are more hit or miss. Oh, that reminds me.

Bella reaches into her purse and pulls out cash.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

BELLA (CONT'D)
Here. Your tips from last night.

LINDSAY
I couldn't. You keep it.

BELLA
You earned it, Goldy.

Lindsay takes the money and counts it.

LINDSAY
This is two hundred dollars.

BELLA
Minus the house Fee. Not bad for a morning dance. I think you're on to something with that whole corporate working girl look.

LINDSAY
I think I hate this look. It's dumb.

BELLA
Well, that's the beauty of role-playing, doll; tricks think they're corrupting an innocent young baby, but you just bat those eyelashes and stack chips. Play dumb like a fox.

EXT. STREET - DAY

Lindsay is walking home and going over texts on her phone.

INSERT TEXTS

Alice:

Hey GRL, where u @?!

Lindsay swipes.

KURT:

Hey, Linds, let's talk. Please.

Lindsay deletes and blocks him from her phone.

BACK TO SCENE

Hipster Guy, 20's, see's Lindsay walking and calls out to her.

HIPSTER GUY
Hey sexy, wanna get high?

Lindsay Ignores him.

HIPSTER GUY (CONT'D)
Fuck you, bitch. You think you're too good for me?

Lindsay flips him off without looking.

INT. HALLWAY LINDSAY'S APARTMENT

Lindsay walks to her door and rips a second notice off the door.

INT. LINDSAY'S APARTMENT - DAY - SAME

MONTAGE

Lindsay getting showered, putting on comfy clothes. Lindsay opens her laptop and starts to update her resume.

Lindsay then starts internet job searches and applications.

INTERCUT

The screen of Lindsay's laptop with her applying for jobs and then getting email rejections. The light in the room and her clothes change to indicate the passage of time.

Finally, Lindsay gives up and goes to sleep.

INT. COFFEE SHOP - DAY

Lindsay and Alice are having coffee and catching up.

ALICE
About time you surfaced. I bet you were holed up with Kurt. Did his 'massage wand' help ease your tension?

LINDSAY
Actually, I dumped him.

ALICE

What? Why?

LINDSAY

Turns out, I was too boring in bed for him. He wanted me to try group sex or something.

ALICE

Well, it can be fun to be open..

Lindsay cuts Alice off.

LINDSAY

I swear to god, say 'minded,' and I will gut you.

ALICE

Wow, touchy, sorry. I get it, that's not your thing.

LINDSAY

Sorry, I didn't mean that.

ALICE

It's cool. I know it's been rough. Do you, girl.

LINDSAY

I think... I've spent my life thinking I knew who I was, and now, I don't know anything. Anyway, enough about me, what's going on with you?

ALICE

Well, I hooked up with that plumber I told you about, the one who complimented me on my healthy bowels.

LINDSAY

Can we stay off sex for now? It's a touchy subject.

ALICE

Oh right. Let's see, um, not much then. Except I can't find a job to save my life.

LINDSAY

Yeah, tell me about it. I can't even get an interview.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ALICE

It's Degra-Date-Me. No employer will touch us after that scandal. As if seven women getting alcohol poisoning was our fault.

LINDSAY

I had alcohol poisoning, that was definitely my own choice. My teeth still feel raw from barfing.

ALICE

So that's what happened to you? You disappeared for like a whole day!

Lindsay smiles

LINDSAY

I got drunk at a strip club, then got on stage, and I (beat) stripped.

ALICE

Miss: 'I have to be home by ten because my cousin made me promise not to use her HBO GO account after eleven and I need to finish that documentary on Calcutta barbershops' got naked on stage?

LINDSAY

Well, not fully nu___

SOME GUY wanders over to Lindsay and Alice.

SOME GUY

You, two ladies, look like you need a man's company.

LINDSAY

Step the fuck back, or I will rip off all your pubes in alphabetical order.

Alice and Some Guy both look confused, but then Some Guy walks off.

SOME GUY (OC)

Fucking Dykes.

INT. LINDSAY'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Lindsay is on her laptop in bed. She checks voicemail's on her phone from TRISHA RENTAL AGENT and the POWER GUY.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

TRISHA RENTAL AGENT (V.O.)

Hi Miss Palmer, this is Trisha. I just wanted to remind you that we need your new deposit by tomorrow, or we will see that as your intention to vacate. Have a great day.

Next Voicemail.

POWER GUY (V.O.)

Hi Miss Palmer. This is a reminder that your electric bill is past due. We will need you to make a payment to prevent the interruption of your service

Next voicemail. Lindsay's Mom HELEN PALMER 60's.

HELEN

Hi sweetie, it's mom. Just checking in, we haven't heard from you in a while. (beat) I heard about the company layoffs, and we hope you are doing okay. You know if you want to you can always move home and work with your father. (beat) His other new paralegal is a very handsome young Christian man. No pressure, but you're in our prayers.

Lindsay deletes the messages. Then slumps at her desk.

INT. NICKY'S PLACE

Lindsay walks in and sees Bella at the bar talking to Danisha. Lindsay walks over and interrupts their conversation.

DANISHA

Oh, hey, it's Goldilocks. You want a panty dropper, baby?

LINDSAY

You mean your re-branded 90s Cosmo. Ya, that's a no, I still have cranberry stains in my toilet.

BELLA

So what brings you back, you got fast money fever?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

LINDSAY

Yes. Hell, yes, I do.

BELLA/DANISHA

So what do you wanna do?

LINDSAY

I wanna fucking dance.

FADE OUT