

TITLE

Bee Venom

GENRE: Romantic Drama

an original spec script

Idea and Written
by

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LOGLINE

A prominent influencer must maintain her false image as an animal rights activist until a bee venom scandal ruins her reputation and marriage, forcing her to radically rethink her life.

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BLACK

JOANA (V.O.)

My husband and I don't want a dog.

(beat)

– My Instagram account is full of dog poop because my thousands of loyal followers are burning themselves bending over to pick up the shit. They want to show me, as an animal activist, how they take care of their pets and keep our neighborhoods clean with these unacceptable selfies. Then this ugly plastic bag on their wrist. No, not for us. Not ever.

FADE IN:

EXT. VEGAN RESTAURANT/THE COWSHED - EVENING

IN FRONT OF US ARE COWS AND SHEEPS GRAZING ON HUGE BILLBOARDS AND EATING CLOVER OR OTHER GREENERY LIKE OUR LOKALS.

JOANA (O.S.)

(on the TV show)

And a quick reminder to all parents: Christmas is in two weeks. Please don't just adopt a dog because your child wants one. After the holidays, when school and work start again for you, the poor creatures end up in a rescue center.

We get to know RICARDO SANCHEZ (37), cosmetic manufacture, neatly styled with a distinguished look, who sits beside the Instagram-star and animal-activist JOANA ORTIZ (35).

JOANA (CONT'D)

(to the Waiter)

Thank you, Juan, but we can turn off the TV now.

WE SEE A QUEEN BEE CLIMBING OUT OF AN ENVELOPE WHICH IS IN RICARDO'S BRIEFCASE, STANDING ON THE FLOOR NEXT TO HIM.

RICARDO

I wouldn't get a dog until a sustainable dog poop bag is invented.

JOANA

Maybe you should design one, Nena.

Joana sips her green smoothie, her eyes wandering to Helena's barely touched colorful flower salad. She is studying Helena.

HELENA MONTES (35), fashion-designer, brunette, sporty type, sits listening as Joana monologues.

JOANA (CONT'D)

Ricardo is working on his new cosmetic line --- BEE VENOM.

(BEAT)

Ricardo leans back, playing with the small diamond on Joana's ring finger.

RICARDO

Our new line launches before Christmas. This will be a Hit, Nena.

Helena forces a smile and pokes at her salad.

Joana places her hand on Helena's arm, gently sliding her fingers into Helena's cashmere sleeve.

Helena holds her breath, her eyes meeting Joana's, and for a moment, time seems to stand still.

THEN... she pulls her arm back, looking down. Her eyes fill with tears, which she quickly blinks away.

JOANA

(whispers)

You know I'm the animal lover on social media. So don't tell anybody.

THE QUEEN BEE lands on her plate. Helena fixes her eyes on the BEE in disbelief.

HELENA

(whispering to herself)

A bee in December? How...

(BEAT)

Joana freezes, her eyes widening.

JOANA

Where does she come from?

Joana STABS THE BEE, crushing it with her fork.

THE CRUNCH IS AUDIBLE

Ricardo, who was checking his smart-phone jumps in shock and looks at his QUEEN BEE in a state of alarm.

He checks his briefcase, finding an empty envelope.

Helena lights relish her CUBAN CIGAR and crushes the queen bee with the glowing embers, glaring at Ricardo.

AN AUDIBLE HISSING AND CRACKING SOUND

Ricardos's face ashes.

JOANA (CONT'D)
 (whispers to Ricardo)
 Don't tell me this was yours?

RICARDO
 Yes, she was going to work for us.
 I have bought several colonies of
 bees and I have already lost whole
 colonies because of the missing
 queen.

HELENA
 (to Ricardo)
 Do you think you can have any queen?
 (BEAT)

RICARDO
 What do you mean by that, Nena?

HELENA
 Isn't it obvious?

The waiter hurries over.

WAITER
 Madam, smoking is expressly...
 (gulping)
 ... forbidden here.

He looks at the charred bee with disgust and swallows heavily. With the plate in his hand.

WAITER (CONT'D)
 I have to apologies, Madam. I
 don't know how many times I had to
 make clear to the new cook that we
 are a Vegan kitchen.

HELENA
 Joana can't even stand her parents'
 dog, how would she be interested
 in bee hives.
 (BEAT)

JOANA
 (half whisper)
 No one here needs to know that.

HELENA
 That we had a class hamster in
 school that died when you were
 supposed to take care of it? When
 will you stop to fake all in your
 life?

RICARDO

Now my colony will die miserably
and the next production will be
another loss.

Helena closes her eyes, exhaling sharply through pursed
lips.

RICARDO (CONT'D)

I just want my Queen Bee back.

JOANA

Shut up.

She waves the waiter over, signaling for the check.

Joana's half-eaten plate of veggies lies next to her iPad.

She scrolls meanwhile through her INSTAGRAM and her TikTok.

SUPERIMPOSE HER BIO:

ANIMAL LOVER ; ECO-WARRIOR ; INFLUENCER ; ENGAGED TO:
@Ricardo_BeautyGuru

Her latest post:

INSERT: PHOTO OF HER AND RICARDO, holding a pet, at a
picturesque outdoor location. Both looking blissfully happy.

SUPERIMPOSE POSTS:

*Counting down the days until I say 'I do' to my soulmate
@Ricardo_BeautyGuru. Can't wait to share this special moment
with all of you!*

#WeddingCountdown #LoveOfMyLife #EcoLove

*@fan1: "You two are #couple-goals! Can't wait to see the
wedding pics!"*

*@fan2: "So excited for you, Joana! You deserve all the
happiness in the world!"*

*@fan3: "Your journey together is so inspiring. Wishing you
all the best!"*

*@fan4: "Eagerly waiting for the big day! You're going to
make a beautiful bride."*

@fan5: "Your love story is like a fairytale! #DreamWedding"

Then she turns to Helena.

JOANA (CONT'D)

Nena, darling. Be on time at the
church.

(MORE)

JOANA (CONT'D)

I need the press for our new vegan line and I need to shine as an animal protector. I just hope it doesn't snow. It's December, after all. All because Ricardo's mom can't handle the heat.

HELENA

It seems in Ricardo's family nobody handle anything right. If you led escape your Queen Bee so easily, I hope you take better care of her.
(she points her gaze to Joana)

Helena stands up and pulls out another cigar and puts it between her red lips, throwing the money on the bill.

Joana shoots a longing gaze on her and swallows.

HELENA (CONT'D)

Save your money. You might need it more urgent than me, my darling queen. You made your decision, so let's see. I wish you the best, for all your plannings.
(BEAT)
You are both invited.

Joana and Helena lock eyes. Then Helena leaves.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. RICARDO'S APARTMENT/BEDROOM - NIGHT

STRONG MOURNING

RICARDO's strong back comes into the picture, lying on JOANA in bed. Ricardo comes alone.

Joana glares at the digital radio clock. It shows 23:45 p.m.

JOANA

I need to sleep.

RICARDO

Nervous?

JOANA

Mmm... a bit.

Ricardo walks to the bathroom.

Joana grabs her phone.

She opens her Instagram account and scrolls down, where her latest post has garnered thousands of likes and comments.

INSERT: JOANA'S SMARTPHONE SCREEN

Can't wait for @Joana Inspires. big day! and Wedding of the year coming soon! #JoanaAndRicardo.

Ricardo comes back. Joana puts quickly her smart-phone away.

RICARDO
Weren't you supposed to sleep?

JOANA
(trying to mask her feelings)
Nothing, just reading some comments.

Ricardo lies next to her and kisses her forehead.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. HELENA'S FASHION ATELIER - EVENING

HELENA works on a pattern for a new dress. She is all alone in a casual look with her hair pinned up.

HER SMARTPHONE DINGS AND VIBRATES IN ALARM MODE.

FRIEND 1
Where are you?

FRIEND 2
The wedding's about to start.

FRIEND 3
Don't tell me you're still working?

FRIEND 4
Some maid of honor you are.

Helena's face darkens.

FRIEND 1
You got five minutes.

HELENA throws high-end clothes onto a chaise longue, rummaging for bags and shoes in her repertoire.

Then she searches all the clothes racks and opens dozens of garment bags.

She pulls a short mink jacket in the shape of a bolero out of a closet and tries it in front of a mirror.

HELENA
I am sorry, my Queen.

A final touch of makeup. Bright red lipstick and a spritz of perfume.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. BASILICA DE LA CONCEPCION DE NUESTRA SEÑORA - EVENING

The church is adorned with elegant white and gold decorations.

Candles flicker softly.

SOFT STRAINS OF CLASSICAL MUSIC.

JOANA, radiant in an exquisite lace wedding gown that clings perfectly to her figure, stands at the altar.

Her dress has a long train that cascades gracefully behind her. Her hair is styled in an intricate updo adorned with pearls and her veil is a delicate piece of art.

She holds a bouquet of white roses and lilies.

RICARDO stands beside her, looking dashing in a tailored black tuxedo.

His hair is neatly styled, and he exudes confidence and charm.

Beside him stands his MOTHER MARIA, an elegant woman of 67, wearing a traditional Spanish Mantilla, her posture composed.

JOANA'S DAD ANTONY a distinguished-looking man in his late 60s like her MOTHER MIRIAM. Both sit on two big chairs.

THE BRIDESMAIDS, dressed in soft pastel hues, each holding a small bouquet, line up next to Joana.

Opposite them, THE GROOM'S BEST MEN stand tall in their CUT.

The ceremony is in full swing.

THE PRIEST'S VOICE RESONATING THROUGH THE SACRED SPACE.

SUDDENLY ---

---the heavy wooden doors CREAK OPEN, DRAWING ALL EYES to the entrance. The room FALLS SILENT.

HELENA bursts into the church, slightly breathless, wearing her striking mink fur in the shape of a Spanish bolero over her stylish black half-long dress and a rhinestone clutch.

She moves with grace down the aisle, her gaze unwavering.

THE PRESS, seated discreetly at the back, spring into action.

Cameras flash, capturing the dramatic entrance.

Joana's eyes widen with a hint of longing as she locks eyes with Helena. Her composed facade cracks revealing confusion.

The tension is palpable as the ceremony grinds to a halt, all EYES NOW ON THE TWO WOMEN. Helena reaches the altar, taking her place among the bridesmaids.

She offers Joana a reassuring smile.

Joana, regaining her composure, turns back to the priest, but the moment has left an indelible mark on the ceremony.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. RICARDO'S AND JOANA'S BUILDING - AFTERNOON - A WEEK LATER

JOANA and RICARDO look radiant when they get out of the taxi.

The TAXI-DRIVER takes their luggage out of the trunk and puts it on the sidewalk. Ricardo presses a five-euro bill into his hand and takes the large suitcase.

He looks around to see where Joana has gone, who is helping an OLD MAN with a small bag in his shaky hand to pick up the dog's shit.

HIS DOG is as dodderly as the poor older man.

THE PASSERS-BY see this and immediately take a photo of Joana throwing the poop into the garbage can.

THE OLD MAN STAMMERS:

OLD MAN

(grateful)

Thank you so much. This will kill me one day or keep me fit.

(smiles)

I am still deciding which I prefer.

THEN---

He moves on with his old dog.

INTERCUT:

Ricardo enters the frame, admiring Joana, looking thoughtfully at the older man.

Joana shakes her head helplessly and smiles at Ricardo, who spreads his arms wide.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. RICHARD'S AND JOANA'S HOME - NIGHT

JOANA sits naked and satisfied on RICARDO on their white sheets. Both with a satisfactory gaze and grin.

RICARDO

Man killer.

JOANA

(lids a cigarette)

Bee Killer.

RICARDO

You are a Hamster Killer too.

Didn't you hear Helena?

(with a beauty grin)

Fomentera was top and you are so sexy with your freshly sun tan.

She passes the cigarette to Ricardo, who grabs it and throws it in a glass of wine next to him.

THEN, he grabs her and turns her upside down. They kiss.

And they kiss again. Deeply. His arm runs down and then he pushes her wildly.

A DEEP MOAN.

Both comes like two fireworks, which fades into a funny laugh.

TERRACE NEXT MORNING

JOANA, still in her pajamas and with a sleepy face, steps out onto the terrace with a cup of coffee in hand.

As she takes a sip, she senses something watching her.

She turns her head slightly to the right and sees A DARK PIGEON staring at her.

JOANA

(startled)

What the...

She stamps her foot, but the pigeon doesn't move. Joana frowns in amazement, puts the cup down on the table, and claps three times.

The pigeon remains unmoved, staring at her with a penetrating gaze.

Disgusted, Joana goes inside and calls out.

JOANA (CONT'D)

Ricardo! Come here, please. There's something wrong here.

RICARDO, yawning and tightening his bath towel, steps out of the bathroom.

RICARDO
(tiredly)
Honey?

Joana gestures for him to follow her to the terrace. Ricardo follows curiously. When he sees the pigeon, he smiles.

RICARDO (CONT'D)
(amused)
Leave her alone. She won't hurt you.

Ricardo claps much more energetically, but the pigeon still doesn't move.

He frowns and goes inside, returning with his pants and shirt on, carrying a broom.

He waves it around a bit, and the pigeon finally flies away.

However, a PAIR OF PIGEONS soon land on the parapet, making Ricardo suspicious.

He approaches the air conditioning unit and discovers a pigeon's nest with its brood behind it.

Slightly startled, he backs away.

JOANA
(approaching
curiously, then
jumping back)
Ugh!

She holds her nose, grabs her smartphone, and takes a photo.

SUPERIMPOSE: PHOTO

An injured baby pigeon sits on three layers of pigeon droppings and sticks.

SUPERIMPOSE: COMMENTS

@urbanbirdlover: Poor thing! What happened to it?

@citycleanwarrior: Those pigeons are a plague! My balcony is always filthy.

@pigeonexpert: That's a rock pigeon. They often build nests in urban areas.

JOANA frowns as she reads the comments. She types a response.

SUPERIMPOSE: JOANA'S COMMENT

@joana.ortiz: What should I do about this nest?

The doorbell rings. Joana and Ricardo rush to the door.

APARTMENT DOOR

The JANITOR, a middle-aged man with a stern expression, stands there armed with a bucket and a mop.

JANITOR
(seriously)
Good morning. Heard you have a
pigeon problem?

Ricardo and Joana nod, stepping aside to let him in. They rush off to an appointment.

TERRACE

THE JANITOR goes to the terrace, assessing the situation.

THE PIGEONS fly away as he starts cleaning.

CUT TO:

SUPERIMPOSE: JOANA'S SMARTPHONE SCREEN

The internet is abuzz with the issue of urban pigeons.

@citycleanwarrior: They ruin everything. Can't even keep a clean balcony.

@pigeonexpert: Pigeons are part of urban life. We need better solutions.

@animalcare: Injured birds need help. Call a rescue team.

Joana reads the varied reactions with a mix of frustration and intrigue.

JOANA
(to herself)
This is getting out of hand.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. STREET/PARKING - NEXT MORNING

JOANA walks briskly towards her car, her smartphone in hand. She picks up an incoming call from her mother, MIRIAM.

MIRIAM (V.O.)
Darling, I hope you're not taking
any more contraceptives? And please
eat healthily. Your father and I
can hardly wait to become
grandparents. By the way, I'm
looking for an interior designer
for your and our baby's room.

Joana sighs and rolls her eyes, keeping her tone cheerful.

JOANA

Sure, Mom. I'm eating healthy.

SQUEAKING CAR TIRES interrupt her.

A car pulls up next to Joana, and a YOUNG MAN, three-day beard, beanie, sweatsuit and boots, jumps out, grinning brightly.

YOUNG MAN

(screaming)

I AM GOING TO BE A FATHER!

Joana stares at him with wide-open eyes, holding her phone out at arm's length. She quickly shifts her expression to a bright, fake smile, then mutes the call with her mom.

JOANA

(whispering to herself)

Is it my fault?

She then turns to the young man, her smile broadening.

JOANA (CONT'D)

(shouting WITH A FAKE SMILE)

YOU MUST BE SO EXCITED!

The young man is carrying a FEMALE DOG in his arms, which appears to be about to give birth.

He pushes the door of his car closed with his foot, where another dog watches sadly from inside.

YOUNG MAN

You should stay here, Willy. I have to take care of your wife.

Joana quickly switches to live video on her smartphone, her influencer persona taking over.

JOANA

(to her followers)

Hey everyone, it's Joana! Look at this! We have an emergency here.

She points the camera at the young man and the pregnant dog.

JOANA (CONT'D)

This brave dog dad is about to welcome new puppies into the world. We really should help him, don't you think?

The phone dings several times with notifications from her followers.

FOLLOWER COMMENTS POP UP ON SCREEN:

@animal_lover123: "OMG, Joana, you're amazing! Help them!"

@puppyfan: "So excited! Can't wait to see the puppies!"

@doglover92: "Joana, you're the best! Always helping animals in need!"

Joana's mother is still trying in vain to get through on the phone.

Joana glances at the notifications, her smile genuine for a moment. A message from her Mother.

MIRIAM

(Text message)

Could you just say a word?

The young man looks impatient, standing on the zebra crossing.

JOANA

Where's the animal clinic?

YOUNG MAN

Just around the corner. Follow me!

Joana beams at the camera.

JOANA

(to her followers)

Alright, everyone! We're going to the animal clinic to help bring these puppies into the world. Look at this caring dog father!

She turns the camera back to the young man, now introduced as PABLO, who starts jogging towards the clinic. Joana follows, keeping the live stream active.

PABLO gently carries the pregnant dog, hurrying inside.

Joana captures every moment on her smartphone, the excitement palpable.

JOANA (CONT'D)

(to her followers)

Here we are, guys! Just arrived at the clinic. This is Pablo, our hero dog dad. Let's wish him and his pups all the best!

Pablo grins nervously at the camera and then rushes inside. Joana keeps filming, her followers flooding the screen with comments.

FOLLOWER COMMENTS POP UP ON SCREEN:

@puppylove: "Go, Pablo! You got this!"

@joanasquad: "So proud of you, Joana! Always there to help!"

@newpuppymom: "I can't wait to see the puppies!"

Joana turns the camera back to herself.

JOANA (CONT'D)

I'm so excited, everyone! This is such a special moment. Let's go inside and check on them.

She enters the clinic, where the VET and ASSISTANTS are already attending to the dog.

Joana stays out of the way, filming discreetly.

ANIMAL CLINIC - CONTINUOUS

JOANA films as THE VET prepares THE DOG for delivery.

The dog lies on a table, breathing heavily, while Pablo stands nearby, looking anxious but hopeful.

JOANA (CONT'D)

(whispering)

The vet is getting everything ready. This is so intense, you guys. Keep sending your love and support.

More comments flood in, showing the support of her followers.

FOLLOWER COMMENTS POP UP ON SCREEN:

@animalhero: "You're doing great, Pablo!"

@doglover: "Sending love to the momma dog!"

@vetfan: "Props to the vet for their hard work!"

The first puppy is born, and Joana gasps, capturing the moment.

JOANA (CONT'D)

Oh my gosh! The first puppy is here! Look at this little miracle!

The followers go wild with excitement.

FOLLOWER COMMENTS POP UP ON SCREEN:

@puppylove: "Awww! So cute!"

@newpuppymom: "Tears of joy!"

@animalrescue: "Beautiful moment!"

Pablo takes a moment to smile at Joana, then focuses back on his dog.

THE VET hands THE PUPPY to an assistant, who begins to clean it.

Joana ZOOMS in on the tiny, squirming puppy.

JOANA (CONT'D)

Look at that! The first of many,
I'm sure. Keep cheering them on,
everyone!

THE CROWD OUTSIDE STARTS TO GATHER AS WORD SPREADS.

PEOPLE recognize Joana and start taking photos.

A MUFFLED COMMOTION coming from the street. FOLLOWERS are waving at her through the clinic windows.

Joana waves back, maintaining her cheerful demeanor.

JOANA (CONT'D)

(to her followers)

Thank you all for being here and
sharing this beautiful experience
with us. It means so much to me
and, of course, to Pablo and his
new furry family.

PABLO, overwhelmed with emotion, takes a moment to thank Joana.

PABLO

Thank you so much for your help.
It means a lot.

JOANA

(smiling)

Of course, Pablo. We're all in
this together.

Joana and Pablo take a quick selfie with the NEWBORN PUPPY, and Joana posts it immediately, the comments and likes pouring in.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. FRONT OF THE ANIMAL CLINIC - DAY

THE CROWD has grown larger, with people excitedly discussing JOANA and THE PUPPIES, taking PHOTOS AND VIDEOS.

INSERT: PHONE SCREENS

A FAN'S INSTAGRAM STORY:

A video of Joana smiling with the puppies, tagged with
"@Joana_Inspires #PuppyRescue #JoanaInspires"

TWITTER FEED:

Photos of Joana and the puppies, with captions like:

"Joana saves the day! @Joana_Inspires #AnimalHero
#LiveRescue"

TIKTOK CLIP:

A short clip of Joana helping the young man with the dog, set to upbeat music, gaining likes and shares rapidly.

COMMENTS:

@puppylove: "You're amazing, Joana! #Inspiration"

@newpupmom: "So heartwarming! @Joana_Inspires #Heroine"

@animalrescuefan: "This is why I follow you! #Respect"

As Joana steps outside, she's met with CHEERS AND APPLAUSE.

She waves and smiles, basking in the positive energy.

JOANA

Thank you, everyone! Keep following
for more updates on our new furry
friends. Love you all!

THE CROWD CHEERS LOUDER

Joana ends the live stream with a heartfelt smile and takes a deep breath.

The crowd begins to disperse, and Joana walks towards her car.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. JOANA'S CAR - DAY - MOMENTS LATER

JOANA sits in the driver's seat, taking a moment to collect herself. She glances at her phone, seeing multiple missed calls from her mother and several new notifications.

She hesitates, then decides to call her mother back.

JOANA

Hey, Mom. Sorry, I was busy with
an emergency.

MIRIAM (V.O.)

Darling, you have to take care of
yourself. Remember what we talked
about?

JOANA

Yeah, Mom. I remember.

(MORE)

JOANA (CONT'D)

I'll see you tomorrow evening. I have this afternoon a shoot for the new cosmetic line. I am so excited. You'll be so proud of me.

(BEAT)

MIRIAM (V.O.)

Darling, you shouldn't work so hard. Take care and see you tomorrow.

Joana yawns and calls Ricardo via the big display.

RICARDO (V.O.)

Darling, I'll see you later for the shooting. I'am in a meeting.

He hangs up the telephone.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. PHOTO STUDIO - LATE AFTERNOON

The studio is spacious, filled with high-end lighting equipment.

A LARGE BANNER with the brand name "*Bee Venom Beauty*" hangs prominently.

RICARDO has a keen eye for detail and for perfection.

RICARDO

(approaching Joana)

Alright, everyone, let's make this shoot spectacular. Joana, you look stunning. Ready to show the world our miracle product?

The PHOTOGRAPHER LEO (40s), casual attire, sets up his camera.

JOANA looks radiant yet slightly strained. She wears a sleek, form-fitting outfit that complements the theme of the shoot.

ASSISTANTS adjust lights, MAKEUP ARTISTS add final touches, and STYLISTS ensure everything is perfect.

JOANA

(forcing a smile)

Ready as ever.

THE FEMALE ART DIRECTOR, (late 30s), stylish yet functional clothing, steps forward, holding up a jar of the Bee Venom Beauty face cream.

CLAIRE

(to Joana)

Remember, we want to capture the essence of luxury and efficacy. Show them what this product can do.

Joana nods, taking the jar and positioning herself in front of the camera. Leo adjusts his lens, finding the perfect angle.

LEO

Alright, Joana. Give me that confident, glowing look. You're the queen bee.

Joana strikes a pose, holding the jar up gracefully. The lights flash, capturing her image from various angles.

LEO (CONT'D)

(behind the camera)

Beautiful! Keep that energy. Perfect!

Ricardo watches intently, occasionally stepping in to adjust Joana's pose or the product placement.

RICARDO

(to Joana)

That's it. Show them the magic of Bee Venom.

Joana's smile falters slightly as the camera continues to click. She shifts her position, trying to maintain her composure.

Claire steps in to tweak Joana's hair and makeup, ensuring everything is flawless.

CLAIRE

(to Joana)

Just a few more, darling. You're doing great.

Joana nods, her eyes flicking to Ricardo, who gives her an encouraging nod. She takes a deep breath and refocuses.

LEO

Okay, let's do a close-up with the product. Joana, bring the jar closer to your face. Perfect.

The camera clicks furiously as Joana follows Leo's direction.

THE ASSISTANTS adjust the lights to ensure the jar's label is clearly visible.

RICARDO

(smiling)

This is going to be a game-changer.

(BEAT)

Darling, take a little and spread it gentle over your beautiful swan neck.

LEO

And... that's a wrap!

The room erupts into applause as Joana lowers the jar, her smile now a mix of relief and exhaustion.

CLAIRE

(to the team)

Great job, everyone! We've got some amazing shots.

RICARDO

(to Joana)

You were fantastic. This campaign is going to be incredible.

Joana nods, her smile fading as she turns away from the group. She walks to a corner of the studio, taking a moment to herself.

RICARDO (CONT'D)

(to the team)

Let's get these edited and ready for the magazine spread.

Claire and Leo begin reviewing the shots, discussing the best ones for the campaign. Joana watches from a distance, the weight of her facade pressing down on her.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. JOANA'S PARENTS' MANSION - NEXT EVENING

The mansion exudes opulence with its grand staircase, high ceilings, and luxurious decor.

LIVING ROOM

A large crystal chandelier hangs in the foyer. Family portraits and expensive artwork adorn the walls.

JOANA and her DAD ANTONY sit in front of a grand fireplace.

THE FIRE CRACKLES, casting a cozy light on their faces.

Joana's expression is strained as she tries to maintain a facade of happiness.

ANTONY is reading a newspaper with a look of mild curiosity.

MIRIAM enters the room, her arms laden with shopping bags from high-end stores.

She is a well-groomed woman in her early 60s, her excitement palpable as she sets the bags down on a nearby table.

MIRIAM
(smiling broadly)
Darling, you will need some comfortable clothes. You can't press yourself into those trousers anymore.

ANTONY
(lowering the newspaper)
Did I miss something?

MIRIAM
(rolling her eyes playfully)
Antony, don't be so impatient.

Miriam pulls out a few pieces of maternity clothing from the bags, holding them up for Joana to see. Joana forces a smile, trying to hide her discomfort.

MIRIAM (CONT'D)
(to Joana)
Look at this, dear. Isn't it adorable? You'll be so comfortable in these.

JOANA
(smiling, though it doesn't reach her eyes)
Yes, Mom. They look great.

ANTONY
(raising an eyebrow)
Miriam, what's all this fuss about?

MIRIAM
(sighing dramatically)
Antony, our daughter is going to need these soon enough. We have to be prepared.

JOANA
(nodding)
Mom's right, Dad. It's good to be prepared.

Miriam continues to pull out more items, including baby clothes and nursery decorations. Joana watches, her smile becoming more strained as her mother's excitement grows.

MIRIAM
 (holding up a tiny
 onesie)
 Look at this! Isn't it the cutest
 thing you've ever seen?

JOANA
 (trying to sound
 enthusiastic)
 It's adorable, Mom.

Miriam finally sets the items down and sits next to Joana,
 taking her hand.

MIRIAM
 (tears in her eyes)
 I just can't wait to be a
 grandmother. You have no idea how
 happy this makes me.

The OLD GOLDEN RETRIEVER approaches Joana, putting his head
 on the lap of her Mother.

JOANA
 (softly)
 I know, Mom. I know.

Joana glances at her father, who gives her a reassuring
 smile.

She takes a deep breath to keep up the charade. But when
 Otto comes over, rests his head on her hand, and starts to
 whimper, nudging her hand, Joana drops the teacup.

JOANA (CONT'D)
 Do you see, you stupid thing, what
 you've done?

Miriam immediately jumps up and grabs the Kleenex.

JOANA (CONT'D)
 It's okay, Mom. I'll clean it up.
 I have to go anyway.

MIRIAM.
 What a waste, all on the carpet.
 Who's going to clean it up? I
 brought you the elderflower tea
 this morning.

FATHER ANTONY
 You're spoiling her like a little
 child. Why don't you mind your
 own business and let others breathe?
 Hurry up with the children so your
 mother has something to do. She
 can't do anything but educate
 others.

JOANA
Goodnight Dad.

Miriam and Otto bring Joana to the door.

JOANA (CONT'D)
Thank you mom. Bye

Miriam hold Otto back.

MIRIAM
Take care darling. Bye

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. MADRID RADIO STATION - NEXT MORNING

The studio of Madrid's first Radio Station is filled with the hum of morning activity.

The walls are adorned with festive decorations for the Christmas holiday season.

THE HOST, CARLOS, a charismatic man in his early 40s, sits behind the microphone, preparing for the show.

JOANA ORTIZ, dressed smartly in a winter coat and scarf, takes her seat opposite him.

MICROPHONES, HEADPHONES, and SOUND EQUIPMENT surround them.

PODCAST VOICE-OVER

CUT TO:

EXT. STREET CAFE - MORNING - SAME MOMENT

HELENA sits in a thick anorak, trousers and over knee-boots at an outdoor table under a heater, sipping her coffee, her headphones in.

She smiles as she listens to Joana's voice through her phone. The cafe is decorated with Christmas lights and ornaments.

CARLOS (V.O.)
Good morning, Madrid! Today, we have a special guest in the studio. Please welcome Joana Ortiz, a renowned animal activist and influencer. Joana, it's great to have you here.

JOANA (V.O.)
Thank you, Carlos. It's great to be here.

CUT TO:

INT. RICARDO'S OFFICE - MORNING - SAME MOMENT

A chic corner office with view on the elegant Serrano-street.

RICARDO sits at his huge working desk, papers strewn about, looking stressed.

A small Christmas tree sits in the corner of his office.

He pauses, taking a moment to listen to the podcast playing softly from his computer.

HIS SECRETARY, named LUCY, PoC, (late twenties) stands at her desk in the reception room and scrutinizes Ricardo through the glass partition, adjusting her jaunty dress and half-length hair.

With a pout she checks something in her calendar. She nods and crosses her arms resolutely in front of her chest.

CARLOS (V.O.)

So, Joana, let's dive right in. Recently, Madrid has been implementing new "pee gardens" around trees for dogs. What are your thoughts on this initiative?

JOANA (V.O.)

Well, Carlos, I think the "pee gardens" are a fantastic idea. They provide designated spots for dogs, which helps keep the streets cleaner.

The podcast fade.

CUT TO:

INT. JOANA'S PARENTS' HOUSE - MORNING - SAME MOMENT

MIRIAM and ANTONY sit in a robe at the breakfast table, a tablet propped up between them with the podcast playing.

Christmas decorations are visible around the house.

Miriam sips her tea, looking thoughtful, while Antony reads the newspaper.

JOANA (V.O.)

However, while more dog parks in public spaces are great, I believe the bigger issue lies with dog owners' responsibility to keep the streets clean by picking up after their pets.

CUT TO:

INT. HELENA'S STUDIO - MORNING - SAME MOMENT

HELENA'S TEAM is busy preparing for a holiday-themed photoshoot.

ANA, her TEAM-ASSISTANT, a diligent woman in her early 30s, is decorating the wall with festive garlands and lights.

THE PODCAST PLAYS FROM A SPEAKER, providing background noise.

Helena listens intently while reviewing some designs.

CARLOS (V.O.)

Absolutely. And what challenges do you see in this area?

Helena nods slightly, agreeing with Joana's points as she takes notes on her phone.

JOANA (V.O.)

One major challenge is the physical demand of bending down to pick up dog poop. For young, fit, and agile people, it's not much of an issue. But for older individuals, whose agility might not be what it used to be, it can be quite an imposition.

CUT TO:

INT. RICARDO'S OFFICE - MORNING - SAME MOMENT

RICARDO leans back in his chair, his expression softening as he listens.

CARLOS (V.O.)

That's a valid point. So, how do you think we can address this issue to make it easier for everyone?

JOANA (V.O.)

I think we need to look at innovative solutions. For example, better-designed tools that can help pick up after dogs without requiring owners to bend down. Also, community programs to assist elderly dog owners could make a big difference.

Lucy comes trotting up with a coffee and stares intently.

She sets the mug down in front of him, waiting a moment holding still the mug, hoping for attention, which she doesn't get.

So she wiggles her pretty butt out again and turns around, hoping Ricardo has noticed her. But no.

The door slams shut and even that doesn't make Ricardo blink an eye.

CUT TO:

INT. JOANA'S PARENTS' HOUSE - MORNING - SAME MOMENT

MIRIAM and ANTONY exchange a glance, both nodding in agreement with Joana's suggestions, when MARGA (50s), THE HOUSEMAID comes over with a tray and shoots a half-smile.

CARLOS (V.O.)

Those are great ideas. Moving on to another topic, you've been quite vocal about animal welfare in urban settings.

Antony waves quietly and kindly to wait with the tidying up. Marga stops and listens attentively to the radio presenter.

Miriam blinks sympathetically at her and smiles.

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

Can you share some other initiatives or changes you'd like to see in Madrid?

CUT TO:

INT. HELENA'S STUDIO - MORNING - SAME MOMENT

HELENA smiles proudly, hearing Joana articulate her vision so clearly and passionately.

JOANA (V.O.)

Certainly. I'd love to see more educational programs for new pet owners about the importance of regular vet check-ups and proper nutrition. There's also a need for more accessible and affordable veterinary services, especially in low-income areas.

CUT TO:

INT. RICARDO'S OFFICE - MORNING - SAME MOMENT

RICARDO, looking pensive, taps his pen on the desk, clearly affected by Joana's words.

CARLOS (V.O.)

That's crucial. Education is key. Now, you've also worked on campaigns about the ethical treatment of animals. How do you approach such sensitive topics?

JOANA (V.O.)

It's all about raising awareness and empathy. We need to share stories that connect with people emotionally and make them see animals as sentient beings with feelings. Social media has been a powerful tool in spreading these messages.

CUT TO:

INT. JOANA'S PARENTS' HOUSE - MORNING - SAME MOMENT

MIRIAM AND ANTONY listen intently, their expressions softening as they hear their daughter's passion.

CARLOS (V.O.)

Indeed. Your social media presence has certainly made an impact. Speaking of which, how do you balance your influencer activities with your activism?

JOANA (V.O.)

It's definitely a balancing act, but I see my influencer platform as a means to further my activism. By sharing educational content and positive stories about animal welfare, I can reach a wider audience and inspire more people to take action.

CUT TO:

INT. HELENA'S STUDIO - MORNING - SAME MOMENT

HELENA and her TEAM work concentrated while listening.

CARLOS (V.O.)

You're doing amazing work, Joana. Before we wrap up, any last words of advice for our listeners who are pet owners or thinking about adopting a pet?

JOANA (V.O.)

Yes, I'd say always do your research before getting a pet. Understand the responsibilities and ensure you're ready for the commitment. And for current pet owners, always show love and care to your animals—they depend on us entirely.

CARLOS (V.O.)

Wonderful advice.

(MORE)

CARLOS (V.O.) (CONT'D)
 Thank you so much for joining us
 today, Joana. It's been a pleasure.

JOANA (V.O.)
 Thank you, Carlos. It was great
 being here.

CUT TO:

INT. MADRID RADIO STATION - SAME MOMENT

END PODCAST VOICE-OVER

THE STUDIO LIGHTS DIM SLIGHTLY as the show cuts to a
 commercial break.

JOANA and CARLOS exchange a friendly handshake, smiling
 warmly at each other.

Both remove their headphones, STILL CHATTING.

THE SOUND TECHNICIAN gives a thumbs-up from the control
 room.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. PASEO DE LA CASTELLANA - EVENING

The street is bustling with holiday lights and decorations.

RICARDO and JOANA walk towards an elegant building, both
 dressed in festive attire.

Joana carries a gift bag, while Ricardo holds a huge
 Christmas arrangement and a Christmas cake.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. APARTMENT/MOTHER MARIA - LIFT - EVENING

RICARDO and JOANA step into the lift. They kiss and laugh
 happily, enjoying the festive spirit.

FRONT DOOR

The door opens, revealing THE MAID, DOLORES. She quickly
 takes care of the things they brought and then hurries back
 to take their winter coats and Ricardo's hat.

LIVING ROOM

The room is elegantly decorated for Maria's birthday, with
 holiday touches enhancing the festive atmosphere.

MARIA, a graceful widow in her 60s, sits in an armchair,
 lighting a cigarette. She is dressed in an elegant evening
 dress.

Beside her are her friends, LADY CHARLENE and LADY KATHRIN, also in their 60s.

RICARDO enters the room first, alone.

He leans down to kiss his mother and her friends.

MARIA

(smiling)

Ricardo, darling! Joana? Didn't she come?

JOANA

(entering the room)

I am here, Maria. Congratulations.

CROWD CHEERING AND APPLAUSE

Joana eyes widen in surprise. She places the Christmas cake on the table, then kisses Maria and her friends, giving them each a gift from the new Bee Venom line.

MARIA

My Ladies and me are impressed, my dear. What a interesting Interview and good point of view.

LADY CHARLENE

Oh, I was saying. This is exactly what I experience everyday. You have no idea how bad my back is. How can I bend to the ground to pick up this stinky poop with it?

MARIA

Even without? It's horrible.

LADY KATHRIN

My knees and ligaments are not working the way I want them to. So it's a burden for me to bend down like that. It's a terrible thing. Fortunately, Rita does it for me now. After all, I got a little dog to lift my butt off the bridge table.

LADY CHARLENE

Just like me, dear Joana.

DOLORES comes in with the flowers and puts them on a side table.

DOLORES

Dinner is served.

MARIA

Gracias, Dolores.

JOANA

Thank you all and I am glad if I
can move something for our citizens.

DINING ROOM

The round table is beautifully set for FIVE PEOPLE, adorned
with fine china and crystal glasses.

A centerpiece of festive flowers and candles adds to the
ambiance.

Everyone takes their seats. Ricardo stands, holding a glass
of champagne, ready to entertain the Guests.

RICARDO

(lifting his glass)

To my wonderful mother, Maria.
Happy birthday!

MARIA

(smiling, with a
hint of pride)

Thank you, Ricardo.

The Ladies lift their glasses.

RICARDO

(playful tone)

To all the lovely ladies honoring
my dear mother on her special day
today, even though your sister
Monica and your golf-friend Agata
had to cancel on short notice I
want to share a surprise with you.

Ricardo smiles bright to his Mother and then to Joana.

RICARDO (CONT'D)

I must admit that I was completely
overwhelmed by my wife and how
naturally she navigated through
this interview. But since it's
not an issue where we have any
direct influence and the city
council and the environmental
authorities are as tough as old
mutton, we'd better fall back on
what we already have in our hands.
Tattoo.

Joana lift a bag up which shows *BEE VENOM BEAUTY COSMETICS*.

RICARDO (CONT'D)

Let me tell you about our newest
line, Bee Venom. It's not just
any cream; it's a miracle worker.

(MORE)

RICARDO (CONT'D)
 Perfect for keeping young ladies
 like yourselves looking even
 younger.

The ladies chuckle, clearly enjoying the attention and the irony in Ricardo's tone.

LADY CHARLENE
 (smiling)
 Oh, Ricardo, you always know how
 to charm us.

LADY KATHRIN
 (teasing)
 Yes, tell us more about this miracle
 cream.

RICARDO
 Well, it's made from the purest
 bee venom, known for its incredible
 anti-aging properties. Just a
 little dab, and you'll see wrinkles
 vanish. It's like turning back the
 clock.

JOANA
 (nodding in agreement)
 It's been getting amazing reviews.
 We're so proud of it.

MARIA
 (looking at her
 friends)
 Ladies, we are in for a treat!
 Ricardo, your father would indeed
 be proud of your success.

Everyone raises their glasses, toasting to Maria's birthday and the success of Ricardo's business.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. RICARDO'S OFFICE/LOBBEY - DAY

LUCY wears a attractive outfit and shows all her charm.

She is on the front door watching RICARDO from far with a seducing face, who is buried under piles of paper.

THE TELEPHONE RINGS.

JOANA (V.O.)
 Lucy, do you know where I can reach
 Ricardo? He isn't picking up is
 smart-phone.

We discover RICARDO'S PHONE vibrating in mute modo showing some lost calls from Joana, aka -my Queen bee-.

Lucy smiles maliciously and bites her red lips.

LUCY

(lying)

He left a while ago. I am not sure if he will get back today to the office.

With the phone in her hand, she leans on the desk in a tight, short dress and strokes her neck down to her décolleté with passion.

JOANA

Thank you and have a nice day.

Lucy puts the phone down, prances into Ricardo's office and closes the door behind her.

From the inside, she lowers the blind of the partition wall and closes the slats.

RICARDO'S OFFICE

RICARDO is sitting and scribbling in a notebook when LUCY comes up behind him, high heels in hand.

She hugs him from behind and holds her red stilettos in front of his nose. He closes his eyes and sniffs her, aroused.

Then---

---he swivels his chair and pulls Lucy to him.

RICARDO

You just can't let it go now that I'm married.

They kiss passionately.

LUCY

If you reject me now, you both have good sex, and your marriage is rock solid. But she seems to be starving you if you're still pleading for me.

She opens gently her red silk blouse with a seducing gaze.

Ricardo kisses her brown cleavage.

As he carefully pulls on her red bra, he looks inside with his tongue hanging out slightly, licking his lips like a begging dog.

Lucy grimaces in pleasure and gives herself willingly to him.

Then lift her up and carries her to the conference table.

Greedy and starving, he unzips his trousers and presses them onto the table.

He pulls up her skirt and pushes himself impatiently between her thighs, which clasp him like frogs' legs.

HEAVY MOANS

They both come together.

Lucy screams possessively, as if she wants to devour him whole.

LOBBEY

PHONE VIBRATES

DUZEND OF TEXT MESSAGES POP UP

JOANA

"Call me darling. I have to share something with you."

JOANA

"RIC, shall we have lunch together? I could wait for you at the Cowshed."

MOMMY

"Ricardo, Joana called me, asking for you. Are you alright?"

LAB MANAGER RODRIGO (V.O.)

Ricardo, here speaks Rodri. The new queen bee has arrived. Since Joana called, I couldn't help but let her know as the courier had just arrived. Finally we can create the new line.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. VEGAN RESTAURANT/THE COWSHED - NEXT DAY

JOANA and RICARDO have gathered ALL THE EMPLOYEES of the cosmetics company -BEE VENOM BEAUTY- for lunch at their favorite haunt.

Cosmetics and fashion magazines featuring Joana's face and the latest line of bee venom are spread across the table.

LUCY, RODRIGO, THE LAB MANAGER, NACHO, THE PR MANAGER and OTHERS (all around 40) are sitting at the table.

Lucy's boot heel bites between Ricardo's legs as he kisses Joana on her grind.

RODRIGO
 (shouts loud)
 A TOAST TO OUR NEW QUEEN BEE!

Rodrigo, curly hair, round glasses, is the opposite of an athlete, grins and watches as Ricardo chokes on his glass.

Lucy raises her glass and says:

LUCY
 (confident and loud)
 THE QUEEN IS DEAD; LONG LIVE THE
 QUEEN.

THE WHOLE TEAM
 (shout)
 LONG LIVE THE QUEEN BEE.

The wine glasses clink over the table.

THE WAITER
 For whom are the vegan burgers?

LUCY
 (commanding)
 HANDS UP!

Joana smiles in awe at the command and tireless efforts of the self-confident Lucy.

JOANA
 (half whisper to
 Ricardo)
 Lucy seems to have a firm grip on
 the things she handles.

RICARDO
 (chokes)
 A firm grip on what?

JOANA
 Well, just a feeling.

RICARDO
 You're exaggerating, my little
 bee.

JOANA
 No longer your queen bee? You are
 quick in changing the ranking.

The Waiter places the burgers in front of all the employees except Lucy.

RODRIGO
 (to the Waiter)
 She also ordered a hamburger.

THE WAITER

Uh, she ordered only a salad, Sir.
 (to Lucy)
 Right?

Lucy nods gentle.

RODRIGO

(to Lucy)
 I remember that you always ate a
 burger. This one doesn't contain
 any bloody meat.

LUCY

You should have ordered a salad;
 your figure put the bees to flight.

Rodrigo's glasses hang low on his nose as he falls silent,
 taken aback.

RICARDO

You'd think she is pregnant, the
 way you worry, Rodri?

Rodrigo fixes his plate, humphing his burger.

JOANA

Could the company be having a baby
 soon? Let's see who's the busier
 one. Our queen bee or a team member?

The biologist, annoyed, wipes the ketchup from his mouth
 and says:

RODRIGO

The pollinator should know.

Everyone starts laughing.

Ricardo keeps a long silence and takes a sip of his water.

LABORATORY ASSISTANTS

The biologist is speaking.

PR MANAGER NACHO

Are you talking about the bees or
 Lucy?

NACHO is an athletic, tall and charming type.

CROWD LAUGHING

The only ones who maintain silence are Ricardo and Lucy.

PHONE DINGS

Lucy takes it and stand half up.

LUCY
 Sorry, I have to take this.

She hurries the steps down to the ladies room, but does not enter.

LUCY'S MOM (V.O.)
 Did you do, what I told you?

She holds her hand in front of her mouth.

LUCY
 (whispers)
 I told you not to call me.

LUCY'S MOM (V.O.)
 Wasn't yesterday your ovulation?

LUCY
 Mom, please.

LUCY'S MOM
 I arranged everything with this
 Woman.

Lucy hangs up and hurries the stairs up.

She comes back with a fake smile.

RODRIGO
 Everything all right?

JOANA
 Awww, isn't he caring for her.
 You would make a great couple.

Lucy comes back and avoids eye contact with everyone.

She grabs her napkin and squeezes it tightly. She wipes her forehead with it and hastily drinks her water, looking nervous.

RICARDO
 Anything important? A new client?
 Sponsor? Order?

She rolls her eyes and smiles though pressed lips.

LUCY
 (heavy breathe)
 NOPE

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. HELENA'S FASHION ATELIER - AFTERNOON

GUESTS mingle, wearing Christmas beanies and sipping on hot cocoa and mulled wine.

LAUGHTER and HOLIDAY MUSIC.

RICARDO, dressed in a stylish suit with a Christmas-themed tie, stands next to the festively decorated Christmas tree, showing off his bee venom cream.

He chats animatedly with guests, pointing to a large poster of JOANA holding the product, her face radiant and flawless.

JOANA, wearing a chic, sexy golden dress, stands next to HELENA gossiping.

HELENA

(to Joana)

You look wonderful. The perfect way to start the holidays.

JOANA

(smiling)

Thank you for my special gift. It looks amazing on me. But you shouldn't have made me such a big gift. I hope you like our new line? Shall we go to the bath and put some cream?

HELENA

You would like to put cream on me?

JOANA

Would you like that?

RICARDO

(raising his glass)

To a successful campaign and a merry Christmas!

GUESTS

(cheering)

Cheers!

The party is in full swing. Guests laugh, clink glasses, and take photos.

The joyful CHATTER fills the room.

INSERT: PHONES SCREEN

A guest pulls out their phone to take a picture and sees a notification.

SOCIAL MEDIA POST: SUPERIMPOSE:

A WOMAN (in her 40s) with a red, swollen face is live-streaming from a hospital bed.

WOMAN (ON LIVE STREAM)

(tearfully)

I almost died because of this bee venom cream. I'm allergic to bees, and I couldn't breathe. Please, be careful!

BACK TO SCENE:

The guest's eyes widen, and they quickly show the phone to others nearby.

WHISPERS start to spread through the crowd as more guests check their phones.

GUEST 1

(whispering)

Look at this. Someone had a severe allergic reaction to the cream.

GUEST 2

(shocked)

Oh my God, that's horrible.

GUEST 3

(alarmed)

Oh my god. My mother is allergic too, and I wanted to give her the whole line for Christmas.

GUEST 4

(concerned)

Yes, the same here. My sister is also allergic, and look, I bought it today to send it to her in Barcelona.

PHONES BEGIN TO BUZZ AND DING throughout the room as guests receive notifications about the live stream.

The festive atmosphere starts to shift, confusion and concern replacing the cheer.

JOANA notices the change in mood and checks her own phone. Her face goes pale as she watches the live stream, the woman's swollen face and desperate plea filling the screen.

JOANA

Ricardo... look at this.

She shows Ricardo the video. His face turns ashen as he realizes the gravity of the situation.

RICARDO

(desperately)

We need to handle this. Now.

INSERT: PHONES SCREEN

Comments flood the live stream:

@concernedcitizen: "This is awful! How could they sell this product?"

@allergicreaction: "Boycott Bee Venom Beauty!"

@angrycustomer: "This needs to be recalled immediately!"

BACK TO SCENE:

GUESTS START TALKING LOUDLY, some of them visibly upset. The room, once filled with laughter, is now buzzing with worried conversations and the glow of phone screens.

HELENA

(to Joana)

What's happening?

JOANA

(hushed)

There's a woman who had a severe allergic reaction to the cream. It's all over social media.

HELENA

(trying to stay calm)

We need to address this quickly.

Ricardo, looking distressed, huddles with Joana and Helena, trying to formulate a plan.

RICARDO

(to the team)

We need to release a statement and contact her immediately. This could ruin us.

JOANA

(nodding)

I'll start drafting something now.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. RICARDO'S OFFICE - NEXT MORNING

The usually pristine space is cluttered with stacks of fashion magazines featuring the latest Christmas edition, all showcasing Joana with the Bee Venom Cream.

RICARDO, looking haggard and stressed, paces back and forth, his phone pressed to his ear.

RICARDO
(frustrated on the
phone)

I understand the severity, but
pulling the product completely? Do
you know what that will do to our
bottom line?

The door flies open and LUCY rushes in, looking frazzled.

LUCY
UHM...the press is here, and they're
demanding a statement. And... your
mother is here too.

Ricardo's eyes widen in panic.

RICARDO
(to Lucy)
Stall the press. I'll be out in a
minute.

He ends the call and slams the phone down.

Outside his window, animal activists are gathered, holding
signs and chanting loudly.

UNDERNEATH WINDOW

ACTIVISTS
(chanting)
Boycott Bee Venom! Protect the
bees!

Ricardo looks even more distressed as he glances at the
magazines on his desk, all featuring Joana's radiant face
and the now-controversial product.

OFFICE HALLWAY

RICARDO'S MOTHER MARIA, a well-dressed older Woman, walks
in, visibly shaken. She clutches her handbag tightly, her
face pale.

MARIA
Ricardo, I gave that cream to all
my friends. My golf companions!
They're all calling me, saying
they're terrified!

Ricardo sighs deeply, rubbing his temples.

RICARDO
Mother, I'm handling it.

MARIA
(tearing up)
Handling it? This is a disaster!
What were you thinking?

Ricardo struggles to maintain his composure as he hears more chanting and the murmur of the press outside his door.

SECRETARY LUCY
(nervously)
Ricardo... Uhm, Señor Sanchez,
they're getting impatient.

Ricardo takes a deep breath, trying to pull himself together.

RICARDO
(into the phone
again)
Listen, we need damage control.
Get our PR team on this immediately.
And find out who this woman is and
how we can help her.

INSERT: TV SCREEN IN OFFICE

The TV shows news coverage of the live stream with headlines like "Bee Venom Scandal" and "Allergic Reactions Spark Outrage."

OUTSIDE THE WINDOW

THE ACTIVISTS' CHANTS GROW LOUDER. THE NOISE IS ALMOST UNBEARABLE.

ACTIVISTS
(chanting louder)
Ban Bee Venom! Save the bees!

Ricardo slams his fist on the desk, causing the magazines to scatter. He looks around his office, overwhelmed by the chaos.

RICARDO
(desperate)
How did it come to this?

OFFICE DOOR OPENS

LUCY opens the door, and RICARDO sees the CROWD OF REPORTERS flashing cameras and shouting questions.

REPORTER 1
Señor Sanchez, what is your response
to the allegations?

REPORTER 2
Is it true you're pulling the
product from the market?

RICARDO
(steeling himself)
I'll be out in a moment to address
your questions.

RICARDO'S MOTHER

MARIA

(sobbing)

Ricardo, please. Fix this. For all of us.

Ricardo nods, determination setting in despite the overwhelming odds. He takes a final look at the magazines and the chaotic scene outside his window.

RICARDO

(whispering to himself)

Bee Venom... how could it go so wrong?

He straightens his tie, glances at Lucy and his mother, then heads towards the door, ready to face the press and the mounting crisis.

RICARDO (CONT'D)

(mumbling to himself)

There must be a note somewhere that if you're allergic, you shouldn't use the cream under any circumstances.

HE TAPS THE PAPER, HIS FINGER LANDING ON A SMALL SECTION OF THE TEXT.

RICARDO (CONT'D)

(voice rising)

There. It's written there. This woman should have stuck to the description.

OUTSIDE AT THE PRESS CONFERENCE

THE PRESS has gathered in front of the building, cameras flashing and microphones held up.

SEÑOR RICARDO SANCHEZ, accompanied by his PR team, steps out, trying to maintain his composure.

REPORTER 1

(shouting over the crowd)

Not everyone knows in advance whether they are allergic. Señor Sanchez, are you trying to avoid responsibility?

RICARDO

(defensive)

We clearly state in the product description that those with allergies should avoid using the cream. It's there in black and white.

REPORTER 2

(pressing)

But how are customers supposed to know if they are allergic beforehand?

RICARDO'S MOTHER, MARIA, stands to the side, wringing her hands, looking worried and out of place.

THE CROWD OF REPORTERS surges forward, each trying to get their question heard.

REPORTER 3

(accusatory)

Señor Sanchez, are you suggesting that the customers are at fault here?

RICARDO

(sighing, trying to remain calm)

We advise a patch test for all new products. We are committed to our customers' safety, and we are investigating this incident thoroughly.

REPORTER 4

(aggressively)

How are you going to protect your customers and limit the damage moving forward?

Señor Sanchez takes a deep breath, his eyes scanning the sea of skeptical faces.

RICARDO

We are taking immediate action. Our team is reaching out to the affected customer to offer support and medical assistance. We are also reviewing all our safety protocols to ensure this does not happen again.

REPORTER 5

(raising voice)

What about the activists? They're demanding the product be pulled from the shelves!

THE CHANTING OF ACTIVISTS IN THE BACKGROUND GROWS LOUDER, their signs waving in the air.

ACTIVISTS

(chanting)

Boycott Bee Venom! Protect the bees!

Ricardo's face hardens as he tries to navigate the barrage of questions.

RICARDO

We are listening to all concerns and will take appropriate steps based on our findings. Our priority is the safety and trust of our customers.

THE PRESS CONTINUES TO SHOUT questions as Ricardo steps back, signaling the end of the conference. He turns to his PR team, his face a mask of determination.

RICARDO'S OFFICE ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

RICARDO collapses into his chair, exhausted. MARIA enters, looking distraught.

MARIA

Ricardo, what are we going to do?

RICARDO

(rubbing his temples)
We'll get through this, Mother. We have to.

He glances at the scattered magazines, Joana's face staring back at him. The crisis looms large, but Ricardo steels himself for the battles ahead.

LOBBY

LUCY watches her Smart Phone. A dozens of lost calls and messages from her Mother.

She overflies them. Then she puts on the last...

... THUMBS UP and a smiley.

Message comes in:

MOM and a red heart.

Leave the rest to me, darling. THUMBS UP!

THEY are done, darling! Kisses

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. JOANA'S AND RICARDO'S HOME/BEDROOM - NIGHT

Freshly showers JOANA comes out the bathroom and rubs her hair with a towel.

She frowns, checking her social media feed. The comments are filled with anger and disappointment.

COMMENT 1

Animal abuser!

COMMENT 2

How could you?

Joana's hands shake. She starts the live stream, trying to maintain her composure.

JOANA

Hey, everyone. I know there have been some misunderstandings...

The screen fills with angry comments. Joana's face pales.

COMMENT 3

Liar!

COMMENT 4

Unfollowed!

FOLLOWER ONE: UNFOLLOWED

FOLLOWER TWO: UNFOLLOWED

FOLLOWER THREE: UNFOLLOWED

FOLLOWER FOUR: UNFOLLOWED

COMMENT 56

Animals lover?

FOLLOWER SEVENTY: UNFOLLOWED

Joana ends the stream abruptly, her breath coming in short gasps. She leans back on her bed, tears welling up.

Ricardo is still not home.

Joana is lying on her bed in her Christmas pyjamas and her exhausted face speaks volumes. She keeps her eyes closed and remains silent for a moment when her telephone rings.

JOANA

*(exhausted she yawns)
Yes, Mom.*

MIRIAM

Turn on the TV, quickly. What a scandal. You'd better take it easy now.

Joana turns on the TV and zaps the remote control

TV NEWSROOM

A NEWS ANCHOR speaks into the camera, a picture of Joana and Ricardo on the screen behind her.

NEWS ANCHOR

Influencer Joana's image as a dedicated animal lover has come under scrutiny after it was revealed her fiancé's cosmetic line uses bee venom. Public backlash has been swift and severe.

The screen shows clips of Joana's live stream and comments scrolling rapidly.

JOANA'S Bed - NEXT MORNING

JOANA'S phone rings. She answers, her face tight with anxiety, when she discover's that Ricardo didn't come home.

SPONSOR 1 (V.O.)

Joana, we're terminating your contract. This controversy is too much for our brand.

Joana's eyes fill with tears.

JOANA

Please, give me a chance to explain...

SPONSOR 1 (V.O.)

I'm sorry, Joana. Goodbye.

Joana hangs up, her hand trembling. The phone rings again.

SPONSOR 2 (V.O.)

Joana, we're pulling out of our agreement. The negative press is too damaging.

Joana drops the phone, her body shaking with silent sobs.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. STREET - DAY

JOANA walks briskly down the busy street, her smartphone pressed to her ear as she tries to reach Ricardo.

The phone rings, but there's no answer. She glances around nervously, noticing PEOPLE whispering and pointing at her.

PASSERBY 1

(whispering loudly)

Isn't that Joana? The fake animal lover?

PASSERBY 2

Yeah, I heard she's lost all her sponsors.

Joana quickens her pace, tears stinging her eyes. Her smartphone dings repeatedly with notifications.

She ignores them, her anxiety mounting.

JOANA
(mumbling to herself)
Where can he be?

HER PHONE BUZZES with an incoming call. It's her Mother.

She glances at the screen but doesn't answer, instead tapping her ears in frustration.

INSERT: PHONE SCREEN

Multiple missed calls from her mother, and texts from Lucy and Helena asking where Ricardo is.

Joana stops walking and takes a deep breath, dialing Lucy's number. The phone rings a few times before Lucy picks up.

Lucy bounces around happily, beaming from ear to ear as if on a trampoline. She holds up the phone.

LUCY
(to herself)
You want to know where he is?
(Smiles-triumphantly)
With the future Señora Sanchez.
The Queen of the Queens.

With a half angry look and gritted teeth, she picks up.

LUCY (CONT'D)
(lying)
Joana,
(sticks her young
out)
thank God you called. Have you
found him?

JOANA
(desperate)
No, Lucy. I've been trying to reach
him. Have you heard anything?

Wiggles her hips.

LUCY
(sighing)
He left early this morning.
(pointing to her
boobs)
The lab said he was really upset.

In a frenzy of victory, she rubs her bottom and genitals with the phone on her back just as RODRIGO appears and watches her wild gestures.

He looks at her in disbelief and can't trust his eyes.

Lucy discovers him horrified and hangs up.

LUCY (CONT'D)

(faking)

Oh, someone's finally here. The phone will not stop ringing. I've got stomach cramps from all this stress, and I need to go to the loo. Can you cover for me?

Rodrigo nods irritated in agreement.

Lucy's expression is one of shame and horror.

She still deliberately makes spastic movements as if she has diarrhea or pees into her pants.

Rodrigo stifles an embarrassed laugh and dries his tears under his glasses.

RODRIGO

(to himself)

She is really a case.

He falls back into her chairs and blows out a laughter.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. STREET CORNER - DAY

JOANA stops at a street corner, scanning the area as if hoping RICARDO might magically appear.

HER PHONE BUZZES again with more messages and missed calls.

PASSERBY 3

(under their breath)

Look, it's that influencer. What a fraud.

Joana flinches at the words, tears now freely falling. She dials Helena's number.

INTERCUT: JOANA AND HELENA ON THE PHONE

HELENA

(concerned)

Joana, what's going on? Have you found him?

JOANA

(shaking her head)

No, I'm worried, Helena. I have no idea where he could be.

HELENA

(soothing)

Take a deep breath. We'll find him. He can't have gone far. Just keep looking and stay in touch.

Joana nods, though Helena can't see her. She ends the call and stands there for a moment, gathering her strength.

JOANA

(whispering to herself)

Where are you, Ricardo?

She looks around, her eyes filled with determination despite the fear and sadness.

Joana sets off again, continuing her search down the crowded streets.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. JOANA'S AND RICARDO'S HOME/LIVING ROOM - LATE AFTERNOON

RICARDO storms into the room. His face flushed with anger.

He slams the door behind him, causing JOANA to jump.

RICARDO

What the hell is going on, Joana? My business is tanking because of you!

Joana stands, trying to hold back her tears, her hands shaking.

JOANA

So, this is my fault? I'm sorry...but I can't anything for the stupidity of your clients. I only lend you my face. This creme ruined my reputation.

Ricardo's face contorts with rage.

RICARDO

REPUTATION? You've ruined everything.

He grabs a glass from the table and throws it against the wall, shattering it. Joana flinches, tears streaming down her face.

JOANA

Please, Ricardo, let's talk about this.

RICARDO

Talk? There's nothing to talk about!
You've destroyed my company, my
business-plan. I'm done with you.

He storms out, slamming the door so hard that the walls
shake. Joana collapses onto the couch, sobbing
uncontrollably.

She wraps her arms around herself, rocking back and forth,
HER CRIES ECHOING in the empty living room.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. HELENA'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

HELENA, in pajamas, sits with JOANA, still wearing an anorak,
holding her as she cries.

Joana's makeup is smeared, her eyes puffy from crying.

HELENA

You need to tell your parents the
truth. This can't go on.

Joana nods, wiping her tears with trembling hands.

JOANA

You should have heard him.

HELENA

Him? You mean Ricardo?

Joana nods gently and sighs deeply. Helena squeezes her
hand.

HELENA (CONT'D)

I'm here for you, Jo. We'll get
through this together. And what
concerns him, he will calm down.

JOANA

He said I ruined him.

HELENA

This must be a joke.

Helena's eyes flash with anger.

HELENA (CONT'D)

He is the Bee-killer. And you
shouldn't have agreed to advertise
his brand.

Joana looks down, guilt and regret etched on her face.

JOANA

I know... I just wanted to make
everyone happy.

Helena lifts Joana's chin, forcing her to meet her gaze.

HELENA

You can't please everyone, Jo.
It's time to take care of yourself.

Joana nods, finding a glimmer of strength in Helena's eyes.

JOANA

You're right. It's time to end
this.

Helena pulls Joana into a comforting embrace.

HELENA:

We'll get through this together.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. JOANA'S PARENTS' HOUSE - DAY

JOANA stands in the living room, facing her parents.

Her FATHER sits sternly in his chair, while HER MOTHER looks worried.

JOANA

Mom, Dad, I need to tell you
something.

Her father raises an eyebrow but remains silent.

Joana takes a deep breath, her heart pounding.

JOANA (CONT'D)

I've been living a lie. I pretended
to be someone I'm not to please
you both. But I can't do it anymore.

Her Mother gasps, tears forming in her eyes.

Her father's face hardens.

FATHER

What are you talking about, Joana?

JOANA

I'm not the perfect daughter you
think I am. I'm not an animal
lover, I don't want kids, and...
I'm in love with a woman.

Her mother bursts into tears, covering her mouth with her hands. Her father stands up abruptly, his face red with anger.

FATHER

How could you deceive us like this?

Joana stands her ground, tears streaming down her face.

JOANA

I'm sorry, but I need to live my own life from now on. I hope you can understand that one day.

She turns and leaves the house.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. HELENA'S STUDIO - DAY

HELENA stands in front of a bright, bustling studio. A new sign reads *-HELENA'S ETHICAL FASHION-*

She smiles, watching as MODELS AND DESIGNERS bustle around, preparing for a show.

JOANA walks up, looking more relaxed and genuine than she has in a long time. Helena spots her and waves her over.

HELENA

Hey, Jo! Welcome to the madhouse.

Joana laughs, the sound light and free.

JOANA

It looks amazing. I'm so proud of you.

Helena pulls Joana into a hug, holding her close.

HELENA

I couldn't have done it without you.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. CAFE - DAY

JOANA, wearing sunglasses, sits at a corner table, sipping her coffee and staring out the window at a cloudy day.

She is half hiding under a peak cap behind a Spanish newspaper.

THE SOFT CHATTER and CLINKING OF CUPS fill the background.

RICARDO enters, wearing black sunglasses and a REAL MADRID peak cap. He scans the room until he spots her.

He walks over, a bouquet of Christmas flowers, including a red heart, in hand, with a confident yet anxious smile on his face.

RICARDO

(half whispering)

Joana.

Joana looks up, surprised but composed.

JOANA

Ricardo. What are you doing here?

He sits down, leaning forward with an intense gaze, and places the flowers on the table.

Both try not to attract attention from the people around them.

RICARDO

(lowers his voice)

I've been thinking... about everything.

Joana remains silent, her expression guarded.

RICARDO (CONT'D)

You and I made a great team. We can still make it work, even without your parents' money.

Joana shakes her head, a sad smile on her lips.

JOANA

No, Ricardo. I'm done pretending. I'm done with the lies. I'm happy now and hope you can find your own happiness too.

Ricardo's smile fades, replaced by a look of understanding mixed with regret. He takes a deep breath, trying one last time.

RICARDO

You deceived my feelings for you. Was all of this a lie?

JOANA

(softly)

I'm sorry, Ricardo.

(pauses)

But I'm in love with Helena.

Ricardo's face hardens. He grabs the bouquet and smashes it into the trash can beside the table.

RICARDO

(angrily raising his voice)

So you deceived your parents? Your followers? Me? Who else, Joana?

JOANA

(tears in her eyes)

Me... Ricardo. I deceived mainly myself. My ego. My life.

Ricardo stands up abruptly, his chair scraping loudly against the floor. The other patrons glance over, sensing the tension.

RICARDO
(sneering)
You're nothing but a fraud. Good
luck with your so-called happiness.

Joana takes a deep breath, trying to stay composed.

JOANA
Ricardo, calm down. This isn't
helping anyone.

Ricardo tears off his cap and then takes off his glasses, furious and snorting with rage, attracting more attention.

RICARDO
(louder)
CALM DOWN? HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO
CALM DOWN WHEN YOU'VE TURNED MY
LIFE UPSIDE DOWN?

People around them start recording videos and whispering.

PASSERBY 1
War of the Roses between Ricardo
and Joana.

PASSERBY 2
Which of them is lying more?

PASSERBY 3
They can't even manage their break-
up properly. Forget these weirdos.

Joana stands up, trying to defuse the situation.

JOANA
Please, Ricardo, let's not do this
here.

Ricardo's anger intensifies. He turns to the onlookers, pointing at Joana.

RICARDO
(agitated)
Look at her. Is there anything
real about her?

THE CROWD MURMURS.

Some people start to accuse Joana and shove her slightly as she tries to walk towards the bar to pay.

As Joana pulls out her phone to pay, she notices notifications popping up from her old Instagram account.

ON JOANA'S PHONE SCREEN SUPERIMPOSE:

@belover_beelover: How could we ever admire this fraud?

@honeybeelover: At least she realizes what a fake she and her life are.

@beekeepingfan: They are done.

Joana manages to pay at the bar, her hands trembling.

As she turns to leave, the crowd's whispers grow louder, and someone shoves her hard.

Outside, it starts TO POUR RAIN.

Suddenly, HELENA bursts through the door, pushing her way through the crowd. She grabs Joana's hand and pulls her towards the exit.

HELENA

(to Joana)

Let's get out of here.

The crowd doesn't stop swearing and recording as Helena leads Joana out of the cafe.

As they step outside, some people throw trash and other objects at Helena's car.

Ricardo stands back, watching them leave, his face a mix of anger and frustration.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. HELENA'S CAR - DAY

THE NOISE FROM THE CAFE FADES as they enter and shut the doors.

RAIN POURS DOWN HEAVILY, and the windshield wipers struggle to keep up.

HELENA starts the car, visibly pushing down the door security locks.

JOANA collapses in Helena's arms, sobbing uncontrollably, her body shaking with each sob.

Helena holds her tightly, whispering soothing words.

HELENA

It's okay, Jo. I've got you. We'll get through this together.

JOANA

(sobbing)

It's all my fault. How could I have constructed such a bad life?

Helena strokes her hair, her own eyes filled with concern and love.

HELENA

Shh... It's not your fault, Jo.
We'll rebuild everything together.
You're not alone.

Joana nods, trying to calm down, but the tears keep flowing. Helena continues to comfort her, the car becoming a safe haven from the chaos outside.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. HELENA'S AND JOANA'S STUDIO - EVENING - DAYS LATER

HELENA and JOANA stand together, watching THE MODELS showcase Helena's new ethical fashion line. The atmosphere is vibrant.

FRIENDS and buzzing MEDIA COVERAGE.

SOFT BACKGROUND MUSIC and THE MURMUR OF GUESTS.

JOANA'S PARENTS arrive, looking uncertain but determined.

They scan the crowd until they spot Joana and Helena, then make their way over.

Joana's father, ANTONY, leads, with her mother, MIRIAM, close behind.

FATHER (ANTONY)

Joana...

Joana turns, surprised to see her parents. Her eyes widen, and she steps forward.

FATHER (ANTONY) (CONT'D)

(continuing)
We've been thinking.

He pauses, taking a deep breath.

FATHER (ANTONY) (CONT'D)

We don't fully understand, but we want to try.

JOANA

(teary-eyed)
Mom? Dad?

MIRIAM

(nodding)
We want to support you. All of you.

Joana's eyes well up with tears as she hugs her parents tightly.

JOANA
 (voice shaking)
 Thank you.

FATHER (ANTONY)
 (softly)
 Let's do it right this time.
 Whatever your wish is. Let's do it
 together. No more surprises.

Joana pulls back, looking at her parents with gratitude and relief.

JOANA
 (to Helena)
 Did you arrange this?

HELENA
 (smiling warmly)
 No, Jo. They came on their own.

JOANA
 (to her parents)
 Thank you so much. That means
 everything to me, Dad.

ANTONY
 (continuing)
 We've also been thinking... about
 your living situation. We have a
 bigger flat in Barrio Salamanca.
 It's yours if you want it.

Joana looks at Helena, then back at her parents, overwhelmed with emotion.

JOANA
 (tearfully)
 I don't know what to say. Thank
 you.

MIRIAM
 (hugging Joana)
 We love you, Joana. We just want
 you to be happy.

JOANA
 (smiling through
 her tears)
 I am. I really am.

Helena watches, smiling warmly, her heart full as she witnesses the reconciliation.

When the Waiter comes by she grabs for glasses of Champagne and delivers them to Joana and her parents.

HELENA
 A toast to the reconciliation.

JOANA

A toast to a new beginning

ANTONY

A toast for your new collection
and thank you for having us here.

MIRIAM

A toast to us four. The family.

Glasses clink, and the camera lights come on from time to time, which Helena declines out of respect.

Helena hooks Miriam up and shows her her new collection.

She holds a pretty, casual day dress in front of Miriam, who smiles sheepishly.

HELENA

Consider it a small bribe. I want
you all to be happy. Think of it
as my ticket into your family,
Miriam.

Miriam presses her lips together happily and hugs Helena, her eyes moist.

Joana and Antony stand behind her, grinning.

The event continues around them, but for a moment, it's just Joana and her parents, finding their way back to each other.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. JOANA'S AND HELENA'S NEW APARTMENT - DAY

JOANA and HELENA are busy unpacking and organizing their new apartment.

The place is filled with boxes and new furniture.

THE PHONE RINGS.

HELENA

(answering)
Hello, this is Helena.

INVESTOR 1 (V.O.)

Helena, this is Mr. Tanaka from
Tokyo Investments. We've seen
your latest collection and are
very interested in discussing
potential collaborations.

HELENA

(excited)
Thank you, Mr. Tanaka. We'd love
to explore opportunities with you.

JOANA'S PHONE RINGS

JOANA
 (answering)
 Hi, Joana speaking.

JOURNALIST 1 (V.O.)
 Joana, this is Emily from Fashion Weekly. We'd like to do an exclusive feature on your new line and your journey. Are you available for an interview this week?

JOANA
 (smiling)
 Absolutely, Emily. I'd be happy to share our story.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. HELENA AND JOANA'S FASHION STUDIO - DATE

ASSISTANT ANA, with a professional demeanor, is coordinating everything, her hair neatly tied back and her attire stylish.

She brings NACHO, a charismatic former TEAM MEMBER and PR MANAGER with a confident stance, into the room.

RODRIGO, with a rugged appearance and thick new glasses, is at the table, working on new formulations.

He looks up as Nacho enters.

RODRIGO
 (eyes wide)
 Nachete!

Rodrigo gets up, and they hug briefly, sharing a moment of camaraderie.

JOANA and HELENA sit together, reviewing their schedules and making plans.

JOANA
 (looking at her phone)
 The response to our new Instagram account, Honey Bee Beauty Creme, has been incredible. We're getting thousands of new followers every day.

Joana stops reading when she notices Nacho.

HELENA
 (smiling)
 Welcome, Nacho, on board.

JOANA
 (smiles brightly)
 Thank you for accepting, and welcome
 to our new team.

Nacho and Joana hug warmly.

NACHO
 (grinning)
 So Honey Bee Beauty Creme is already
 picking up the airstream, as I can
 hear.

CUT TO:

INT. PRESS CONFERENCE ROOM - MORNING

CROWD OF JOURNALISTS and CAMERAS.

The atmosphere is charged with anticipation.

NACHO, JOANA, HELENA, and RODRIGO stand before the crowd.

Nacho steps forward, addressing the journalists with
 confidence.

NACHO
 Hello. Most of you already know
 me. I am Ignacio Pena, the PR
 manager. I'm here to introduce our
 new team, address the events that
 transpired, and share our new
 venture.

HELENA
 (confidently)
 I am Helena Montes, the head
 designer. My partner and manager,
 Joana Ortiz, and I were betrayed,
 but we became more substantial.
 Our new line is a testament to
 resilience and innovation.

JOANA
 (stepping forward)
 Good morning. I am Joana Ortiz,
 for those who don't know me or
 have forgotten me. I will not
 apologize for Señor Sanchez.
 But I regret that I deceived myself
 and my followers. We are here today,
 and transparency and trust are at
 the core of what we do.

RODRIGO
 (sincerely)
 Hi, I am Rodrigo, a biologist and
 the lab manager.

(MORE)

RODRIGO (CONT'D)

Together, we are committed to bringing you the best, with honesty and integrity.

The crowd applauds, and journalists raise their hands eagerly to ask questions.

JOURNALIST ONE, a YOUNG WOMAN with bright eyes and a notepad, stands up.

JOURNALIST 1

(raising her hand)

Hello, Maria from Fashion Weekly. How do you plan to rebuild trust with your followers?

NACHO

(nodding)

Thank you, Maria. We plan to rebuild trust through transparency and continuous engagement. Our new Instagram account will feature behind-the-scenes content and direct interactions with our followers.

JOURNALIST TWO, A MIDDLE-AGED MAN with a serious expression and glasses, raises his hand.

JOURNALIST 2

I'm Carlos from El País. What measures are you taking to ensure the quality and safety of your new products?

RODRIGO

(stepping forward)

Thank you, Carlos. We have implemented rigorous testing and quality control processes. Our lab is committed to using only the safest and most effective ingredients.

JOURNALIST THREE, an elegant woman in her late 30s with a poised demeanor, raises her hand.

JOURNALIST 3

I'm Isabella from Vogue España. How do you plan to expand your brand internationally?

HELENA

(smiling)

We're working on partnerships with international distributors and planning a series of global launch events.

(MORE)

HELENA (CONT'D)

We believe our message of
sustainability and innovation will
resonate worldwide.

The crowd continues to ask questions, and the team answers
each one with confidence and clarity.

In the background, ANA stands, wiping a tear away.

The journalists type away on their laptops.

The flash of cameras creates a buzz.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. HELENA AND JOANA'S STUDIO - DAY

PHONES RINGING.

ASSISTANTS jot down notes and schedule meetings.

NEW INSTAGRAM ACCOUNT

The screen shows the new Instagram account:

"Honey Bee Beauty Creme," with the follower count rapidly
increasing.

Joana and Helena post a video introducing Beatle to the
public.

INSTAGRAM LIVE VIDEO

JOANA ON CAMERA

*Hi everyone! We're so excited to introduce you to Beatle,
our adorable little dog. He's been a big part of our journey
and brings us so much joy.*

Beatle barks happily, wagging his tail.

HELENA

(smiling)

We're grateful for all your support
and can't wait to share more with
you. Stay tuned for some exciting
updates!

COMMENTS AND LIKES FLOOD IN

COMMENT 1

Beatle is so cute! Love seeing you
both happy!

COMMENT 2

Excited for the new Honey Bee Beauty
Creme line!

COMMENT 3

Can't wait to see what you do next!

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. RETIRO PARK - DAY

It's a beautiful spring day in Retiro Park. The sun shines brightly. JOANA and HELENA look at each other.

JOANA

(teary-eyed)

Thank you for believing in us.

HELENA

(holding Joana close)

We did this together.

Then they walk hand in hand. BEATLE trots beside them.

People jog, children play.

JOANA

(contentedly)

I never imagined I could be this happy.

HELENA

(kissing her forehead)

Neither did I. But we're here, and it's only the beginning.

BEATLE barks, drawing the attention of a LITTLE BOY ON A BICYCLE who stops beside them, intrigued by the lively dog.

LITTLE BOY

Can I touch him?

JOANA

(smiling warmly)

Don't be afraid, he only wants to play with you.

HELENA

(nodding)

Of course.

The little boy reaches out, petting Beatle, who wags his tail excitedly. THE BOY'S PARENTS smile and wave, recognizing Joana and Helena.

PARENT

(cheerfully)

Aren't you Joana and Helena? We love your new line!

JOANA
 (enthusiastically)
 Thank you so much! We're opening a
 new studio in a couple of days.

HELENA
 (excitedly)
 You should come by and check it
 out!

The parents nod, smiling warmly. Joana and Helena continue their walk, talking about their upcoming opening.

JOANA
 I can't believe the opening is
 just around the corner. Everything
 feels so surreal.

HELENA
 (nodding)
 I know. But it's real, and we've
 worked so hard for this moment.
 It's going to be amazing.

They find a peaceful spot by the lake, where they sit down to enjoy the view. Beatle runs around, playing fetch with other park visitors who are equally friendly and upbeat.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. HELENA AND JOANA'S APARTMENT/BEDROOM - NIGHT

Joana and Helena lie in bed, watching a film on Joana's iPad. The glow from the screen reflects their relaxed, happy faces.

JOANA
 (smiling)
 I love this movie.

HELENA
 (leaning in to kiss
 her)
 Me too. But you know what I love
 more? Us.

They share a tender kiss. Joana puts the iPad aside and snuggles closer to Helena.

JOANA
 Let's sleep. Tomorrow is our big
 day.

HELENA
 (whispering)
 Good night, love. Tomorrow is going
 to be perfect.

They cuddle under the covers, the sense of excitement and contentment palpable. The room is filled with a serene silence, the calm before their big opening.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. HELENA'S ETHICAL FASHION STUDIO - DAY

The grand opening of HELENA'S new ethical fashion studio is in full swing.

GUESTS mingle, admire the designs, and sip on champagne.

JOANA and Helena move through the crowd, greeting guests and ensuring everything runs smoothly.

A JOURNALIST approaches them with a microphone and a camera crew.

JOURNALIST

Helena, Joana, congratulations on the opening. What inspired you to start this venture?

HELENA

We've always believed in sustainable fashion. This is our way of making a difference.

JOANA

It's about creating beauty without harm.

JOURNALIST

What challenges did you face in getting here?

JOANA

There were many. But with determination and support, we overcame them.

The journalist nods, impressed.

JOURNALIST

Thank you for your time, and good luck with your new venture.

Helena and Joana smile as the journalist moves on to interview other Guests.

Then... RICARDO shows up with A NEW FLAME. IT'S LUCY.

Both are holding a gift basket.

RICARDO

It's a new, vegan line. I hope we can settle our dispute a little, and come to congratulate.

Lucy is obviously in different circumstances and brings her mother with her, a good looking Woman in her 50s, PoC.

She wears one of Helena's dresses of her last winter-collection.

HELENA

(to Ricardo)
Oh, thank you and
(to Lucy)
congratulations.

JOANA

Enjoy yourselves!

HELENA

Did you see? Her mom wears my dress?

Joana grabs Beatle and kisses him on the head. Helena hugs both.

BEATLE BARKS HAPPILY.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. BOARDROOM - DAY

The sleek, modern boardroom is filled with anticipation.

JOANA and HELENA stand at the head of the table, pitching their new fashion line to a group of potential investors.

Charts and samples of the latest designs are displayed on easels and across the table.

Helena nods to her FEMALE ASSISTANT ANA (30s), who wheels out a clothes rack showcasing the vibrant, cutting-edge designs of the new autumn collection.

The pieces are a mix of eco-friendly fabrics and bold styles, designed to appeal to a global market.

THE INVESTORS, a mix of modern, sharp-looking individuals, including SEVERAL ASIAN BUSINESSPEOPLE, sit around the table.

They are dressed in tailored suits, their expressions serious and contemplative as they scrutinize the presentation.

Their poker faces are hard to read.

Helena seems slightly nervous.

HELENA (CONT'D)

(gesturing to the collection)

As you can see, our new autumn line combines sustainability with

(MORE)

HELENA (CONT'D)

high fashion. Each piece is made from eco-friendly materials, designed to make a statement while reducing environmental impact.

Joana steps forward, pointing to a chart highlighting their market research and projected sales.

JOANA

Our target demographic is young, environmentally-conscious consumers. We've seen a growing demand for sustainable fashion, and we're poised to meet that demand with our innovative designs.

The investors exchange glances, their expressions still hard to read.

Helena takes a deep breath, focusing on the key points of their pitch.

HELENA

(continuing)

In addition to the fashion line, we're expanding into eco-friendly accessories and cosmetics. This will allow us to offer a complete lifestyle brand, catering to the modern consumer who values both style and sustainability.

INVESTOR ONE, a sophisticated woman in her 40s with a sharp bob haircut, leans forward, nodding.

INVESTOR 1

We love your vision. Consider us onboard.

Relief washes over Helena and Joana. They smile, grateful for the positive feedback.

JOANA

Thank you. We're excited to have you join us.

INVESTOR TWO, a distinguished man in his 50s with silver hair and an authoritative presence, raises an eyebrow.

INVESTOR 2

What's your next big plan?

Helena, regaining her confidence, steps forward.

HELENA

We're expanding into eco-friendly accessories and cosmetics.

(MORE)

HELENA (CONT'D)

Our goal is to create a cohesive brand that not only appeals to fashion lovers but also makes a significant impact on the sustainability movement.

The investors exchange approving glances, clearly impressed by Helena's ambition and the thoroughness of their plan.

INVESTOR 2

(nodding)

That sounds promising. We look forward to seeing your progress.

The room relaxes slightly, the tension easing as the investors' approval becomes more apparent. Helena and Joana exchange a quick, triumphant glance.

HELENA

(smiling)

Thank you. We're committed to making this vision a reality and are thrilled to have your support.

The investors stand, signaling the end of the meeting. Handshakes are exchanged, and the mood is noticeably lighter and more optimistic.

OUTSIDE THE BOARDROOM

JOANA and HELENA step out into the hallway, the door closing behind them. They pause, taking a moment to absorb the success of their pitch.

JOANA

We did it, Helena. They're on board.

HELENA

(relieved)

Yes, we did. This is just the beginning.

They share a hug, their excitement and relief palpable as they prepare to take their brand to new heights.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. JOANA'S PARENTS' HOUSE - EVENING

JOANA sits with HER PARENTS, a calm and open conversation flowing between them.

MOTHER

When I see Beate I always remember Otto.

Miriam grabs a photo with Otto in front of the chimney at Christmas.

JOANA
Was it that day?

FATHER
It was at New Years Eve.

JOANA
I had no idea. I feel honestly
sorry.

Her parents nod, accepting.

HELENA
Look Dad. I designed this
especially for you.

Helena pulls a beige summer blazer out of a huge bag.

HELENA (CONT'D)
Made out of hundred percent cotton.

ANTONY
For me? Then let me be your model.
I'll invite you to the Golf Club.
My friends should get jealous and
order some, as a club jacket.

HELENA
Of course, we put the club crest
on it.

JOANA
Dad, this could open us new
possibilities.

ANTONY
Thank you, Helena. It looks great
on me. Get prepared. You will
get a lot of orders.

MIRIAM
Take some tapas. I will meanwhile
take Beatle to the garden.

JOANA
I will get some stuff from my room.

We see Joana walking with Helena to her old room.

TIME CUT:

JOANA kneels down and kisses BEATLE, who has just returned
with MIRIAM.

HELENA and ANTONY are already waiting with their coats to
go to the car.

Joana gets up and grabs two bags with albums and items.

They take their coats from Antony and hug each other.

ANTONY

Thank you for a fun afternoon and this great club jacket. I'm going to shine and my friends will be green with envy.

MIRIAM

Don't keep them any longer. Get home safely.

Miriam leaves early and Antony walks her to the door.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. HELENA'S AND JOANA'S NEW STUDIO - DAY

The new studio is a vibrant, creative space filled with natural light streaming in through large windows. The walls are adorned with mood boards, sketches, and fabric swatches.

MANNEQUINS dressed in various stages of design stand like sentinels around the room.

HUM OF SEWING MACHINES and THE SOFT CHATTER of THE TEAM working on new creations.

HELENA and JOANA are at the center of this hive of activity, surrounded by cutting tables, sewing machines, and racks of clothing. Focused on their latest project.

AT THE WORKTABLE

JOANA holds up a swatch of high-tech, eco-friendly fabric, examining its texture and flexibility.

JOANA

(excitedly)

What do you think of this fabric?

Helena takes the fabric, feeling its quality and stretch. Her eyes light up with approval.

HELENA

(smiling)

It's perfect. Sustainable and stylish.

JOANA

If he likes them, he will sell them in the Pro Shop. Can you imagine?

They both laugh, the excitement of the potential opportunity lifting their spirits. They continue working, meticulously crafting each piece with precision and care.

HELENA
 (grinning)
 All thanks to Dad.

JOANA
 (bumping Helena's
 shoulder playfully)
 Because he loves and admires you.

HELENA
 (correcting gently)
 You mean us.

AROUND THE STUDIO
 An assistant carefully measures
 and cuts fabric.

ANOTHER ASSISTANT is sewing a seam, focusing intently on the machine.

A THIRD ASSISTANT is fitting a mannequin with a prototype of the sportswear, adjusting it to perfection.

AT THE DESIGN BOARD

Helena pins the fabric swatch to a board next to sketches of the new sportswear line. Joana stands back, admiring the evolving collection.

JOANA
 This is exactly what could also fancy our investors. If they see the potential in our sportswear, we could expand even further.

HELENA
 (nodding)
 Absolutely. We need to showcase how versatile our designs are, from high fashion to high performance.

ON THE MANNEQUINS

A sleek, breathable golf shirt designed with moisture-wicking fabric.

Stylish yet functional golf pants with reinforced seams and stretch panels.

An elegant, lightweight jacket perfect for early morning rounds.

Joana steps back, a thoughtful expression on her face.

JOANA
 You know, if these designs do well at the Pro Shop, it could open so
 (MORE)

JOANA (CONT'D)
 many doors for us. We could go
 global with our sportswear line.

Helena places a reassuring hand on Joana's shoulder

HELENA
 We will, Jo. With our vision and
 dedication, there's no limit to
 what we can achieve.

JOANA
 Let's finish for today. Beatle
 needs a walk and us to sleep.
 Tomorrow we have the Charity Gala.

They share a moment of silent hugging, their bond and shared
 dream evident.

CLOSE-UP ON A MANNEQUIN

A completed sportswear outfit, ready for the final touches.
 The detail, quality, and innovation in the design are clear,
 a testament to Helena and Joana's hard work.

Beatle stretches himself, yawns and walks lazy out of his
 basket, wiggling with his tale toward Joana.

She grabs Beatle if they were old souls.

Helena shakes slightly the had with a warm smile in
 disbelief.

Beatle barks excited, when Joana grabs the line.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. GOLF/CLUBHOUSE - LATE AFTERNOON

The Mediterranean sun casts a warm, golden glow over the
 expansive golf course. The greens stretch out towards the
 horizon.

SOFT BACKGROUND MUSIC, CHATTER and THE CLINKING OF GLASSES.

ON THE GRAND CLUBHOUSE TERRACE:

JOANA and HELENA, looking stunning in their new golf fashion
 line, mingle with GOLFERS and GUESTS, dressed in a mix of
 elegant evening wear and stylish golf attire.

HELENA
 (whispers to Joana)
 The atmosphere of this CHARITY
 GALA is festive. Such a stunning
 place where your parents are
 members.

JOANA and HELENA move through the crowd, their faces glowing with pride and satisfaction.

JOANA
(to Helena)
Then start us playing Golf.

A couple approaches them.

GOLFER 1
Great collection!

GOLFER 2
My husband and me ordered already for our son and his wife. They live in Wales, and are so keen to have these new sport-trouser. You see.

She opens her smartphone and shows her family in Wales.

JOANA
Oh, thank you. It makes us so proud. Maybe we should think about the pro store over there?

GOLFER 1
That's a brilliant idea. I will immediately put you in contact with them.

The CHARITY ORGANIZER, a DISTINGUISHED WOMAN in her early 50s, approaches them with a warm smile.

CHARITY ORGANIZER
(sincerely)
Thank you for your generous donation. It's making a big difference.

HELENA
(smiling)
We're happy to help and thankful that you gave us this tremendous chance to create the new Club Jackets and sportswear.

JOANA
(enthusiastically)
Yes, we have to thank you for this game-changing opportunity.

She glances lovingly at her father, who stands nearby, beaming with pride.

JOANA (CONT'D)
 (continuing, with a
 laugh)
 And a special thanks to Dad, our
 top model and bestseller.

The guests, overhearing the conversation, turn their
 attention to Joana's Father.

They raise their glasses in acknowledgment, applauding and
 laughing in good-natured cheer.

DAD ANTONY stands tall and proud, dressed impeccably in one
 of the new Club Jackets, next to MIRIAM.

He gives a modest nod, his eyes twinkling with pride.

JOANA and HELENA clink their glasses with the Charity
 Organizer and Joana's dad and mom.

A WAVE OF APPLAUSE SPREADS through the terrace, accompanied
 by laughter and cheers. The guests raise their glasses.

Joana and Helena exchange a look of achievement.

CLOSE-UP OF JOANA AND HELENA

JOANA (CONT'D)
 (softly, to Helena)
 This is just the beginning, isn't
 it?

HELENA
 (nodding)
 Absolutely. Together, we can achieve
 anything.

They smile, clink their glasses again.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. RICARDO'S OFFICE - DAY

Ricardo's office is smaller now, a stark contrast to his
 previous opulent space.

Papers are scattered across the desk, and he looks
 disheveled.

The TV in the corner plays a news report about Helena and
 Joana's success.

NEWS ANCHOR
 "HELENA AND JOANA'S ETHICAL FASHION
 LINE CONTINUES TO MAKE WAVES AND
 SET NEW STANDARDS FOR SUSTAINABLE
 FASHION IN GOLF CLUBS, HOSPITALS,
 AND AIRLINES.

(MORE)

NEWS ANCHOR (CONT'D)
*THE MOVE TO THEIR LATEST STUDIO
ALSO INVITES MORE INTERNATIONAL
INVESTORS."*

Ricardo watches the report, a thoughtful look on his face,
but there's a hint of regret in his eyes.

He turns off the TV and sighs heavily.

DOOR OPENS

LUCY enters, pushing a trolley with their three-month-old
son, Jon, who smiles happily.

LUCY
(cheerfully)
Say hello to daddy.

RICARDO
(irritated)
I have really no sense of humor
now.

LUCY
(innocently)
Why? What's going on, Ric?

RICARDO
(exasperated)
Our client canceled the order.
This hotel chain has a vast spa
and beauty salon.

LUCY
(feigning concern)
Do you know why?

RICARDO
(shaking his head)
I have no idea, but I will find
out. The only thing I know is that
Joana triumphs with everything she
touches. How does she do it?

LUCY
(sneering)
That bitch again.

RICARDO
(angry, yet
admiringly)
Everything about her is real now.
She even loves dogs, which she
loathed so much. Does she have
gold on her hands?

LUCY
(mockingly)
Queen Bee. Joana?

RICARDO
(sighing)
She's not even online anymore.
She has no social media, and her
fashion is spreading worldwide
like the masks in the pandemic.
(pauses, regretful)
How could I ever let her go?

LUCY
(snarling)
I couldn't hate her more.

RICARDO
(angry, turning to
Lucy)
Why do you hate her so much? What
did she ever do to you?

LUCY
(venomously)
She had everything I wanted. You,
the business, the life. I was just
the secretary, watching from the
sidelines.

Ricardo's eyes narrow, sensing there's more.

RICARDO
(demanding)
What did you do, Lucy? What are
you hiding?

LUCY
(smiling cruelly)
I did what I had to do. I exposed
the bee venom scandal. I set it
all up. That allergic reaction?
It was orchestrated. I wanted to
ruin her, to drive a wedge between
you two.

RICARDO
(shocked and furious)
You what? You used people to destroy
my marriage and my business?

LUCY
(laughing)
Yes, and it worked. I got you,
didn't I? But now you're whining
about Joana's success. She's out
of our lives, but you still think
about her. She always wins!

Ricardo, enraged, sweeps his arm across his desk, sending papers and objects flying.

RICARDO
(yelling)
You manipulated me! You ruined everything!

LUCY
(defiant)
You were already weak. I just pushed you over the edge.

Ricardo steps forward, grabbing her arm roughly.

RICARDO
(furious)
Get out. Take your lies and get out!

LUCY
(smirking)
Oh, I'm not going anywhere. We have a son, remember? And if you think you can just push me aside, you're wrong.

She yanks her arm free, glaring at him.

LUCY (CONT'D)
(coldly)
I've sacrificed too much for this. I'll see you fall before I let you go.

Ricardo's face contorts with rage and regret. He storms out of the office, slamming the door behind him. Lucy stands there, seething, the baby in the trolley starting to cry.

LUCY (CONT'D)
(softly, to herself)
You'll regret this, Ricardo. I promise.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. RETIRO-PARK - DAY - SOME MONTH LATER

HELENA and JOANA walk though the big lung of Madrid, the spring sun setting in the distance.

JOANA
Can you believe how far we've come?

HELENA
And we're just getting started.

They sit on the gras and let themselves fall back.

JOANA

I feel like we can do anything.

HELENA

We can. Together. I hurt a strange rumor about Ricardo's separation from Lucy. Obviously he had the next crises in his business.

JOANA

Better you don't tell me. He must be toxically like the Bee Venom. Thinking about him causes an allergy.

Beatle comes running back and jumps over the both. He licks Joana's face, who has a fit of laughter.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. HELENA AND JOANA'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

HELENA and JOANA are preparing dinner.

JOANA

(sighing contentedly)
I love our new home.

HELENA

(smiling)
Do you remember when I mentioned the rumors about the separation between Ricardo and Lucy?

JOANA

(rolling her eyes)
Why should we talk about them again?

HELENA

(suddenly serious)
Because, Joana, she interfered with the Bee Venom scandal.

Joana stops chopping and looks at Helena, puzzled.

JOANA

(interjecting)
What do you mean?

HELENA

(sighing)
Lucy caused the whole bee venom allergy scandal herself. She wanted to expose Ricardo to drive a wedge between you.

Joana, shocked, hits the long knife into the zucchini on the cutting board.

JOANA
 (disbelief)
 Excuse me? But what about the
 principal witness at the clinic?

HELENA
 (sighing deeply)
 She used her. A neighbor of hers
 suffered from neurodermatitis and
 was in the clinic because of a
 burst appendix. Lucy manipulated
 her greedy mom to push the story.

Joana's mouth drops open, her eyes wide in horror.

JOANA
 (stunned)
 That means... she's the perpetrator
 and then played the savior for
 Ricardo?

Helena shuts the freezer door, then takes Joana's face gently
 between her hands.

HELENA
 (nodding)
 To catch him.

JOANA
 (disgusted)
 I didn't think she was such a sneaky
 snake.

HELENA
 (sighing)
 She even organized the activists
 and the press.

JOANA
 (skeptical)
 Wait a minute? Where did you get
 all this information?

HELENA
 (smiling softly)
 I didn't want guilt that you don't
 even bear to weigh on your shoulders
 any longer.

JOANA
 (realizing)
 A detective?

Helena nods with a grin.

HELENA
 Do you remember that manager from
 the lab? Rodrigo?

JOANA

(nodding)

Rodi? You mean Rodrigo? I could have sworn he fancied her and would have nailed her. He was always mothering her. Was it his plan?

HELENA

(shaking her head)

No, he is the one who confessed to us because he was indeed in love with her—until he caught them one day. Then, he lost respect for them and feared for his work and his bees.

JOANA

(speaking slowly)

He must have been screwing her while we were still together.

HELENA

(firmly)

Fucking bastard. Sorry. I could never stand him. Too slick.

Joana nods in agreement, her face showing relief and shock.

JOANA

(sighing deeply)

Wow, I am relieved and in shock.

Helena walks around the table and sits on Joana's lap, wrapping her arms around her.

HELENA

(softly)

Nothing better could have happened to us, the way things turned out. But you don't have to worry about that anymore. Lucy did us a favor. So, let's not hold it against her.

Joana hugs Helena's waist thoughtfully.

JOANA

(smiling)

And Ricardo has the son he always wanted.

They kiss gently, the love between them palpable. Helena stands, holding Joana's hand, leading her towards the bedroom.

HELENA

(whispering)

Come on, let's celebrate our future.

They disappear into the bedroom, the door closing behind them with a soft click.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. MUSEO DEL TRAJE - NIGHT

The interior is elegantly decorated, with a long runway set up in the main hall.

Soft ambient lighting and luxurious decor set the tone.

ON STAGE

A MALE ASSISTANT (40s), dressed smartly in a suit, steps onto the stage with a microphone in hand.

MALE ASSISTANT

(welcoming)

Ladies and gentlemen, welcome to Helena's Ethical Fashion Show. Tonight, we are proud to present our latest summer collection. The show will begin shortly.

THE AUDIENCE, high-profile guests and INTERNATIONAL PRESS, takes their seats.

BEHIND THE CURTAIN

HELENA and JOANA are watching the final preparations.

THE WHOLE TEAM AND ASSISTANTS bustle around.

ASSISTANT 1

(excitedly whispering)

Did you see? Alicia Koplowitz is here.

ASSISTANT 2

(nodding)

And Isabel Preysler with Tamara Falcó. This is huge.

HELENA

(smiling, trying to stay calm)

It's incredible. Even Agatha Ruiz de la Prada is here. And look, there's Boris Izaguirre.

Joana peeks through the curtain, her eyes widening.

JOANA

(whispering to Helena)

Is that... the woman from Vogue?

HELENA
 (grinning)
 Yes, it is. She's never come to
 one of our shows before.

JOANA
 (whispering to
 herself)
 This is amazing.

THE LIGHTS DIM. SOFT MUSIC STARTS TO PLAY.

ON THE RUNWAY

MODEL 1 steps out first, wearing a stunning dress made from
 eco-friendly materials. The fabric flows beautifully.

MODEL 1
 (whispering to
 another model
 backstage)
 This line is incredible.

MODEL 2 follows, her outfit a perfect blend of style and
 sustainability. She smiles confidently as she walks.

MODEL 2
 (to Model 1)
 I've never worn anything like it.

THE AUDIENCE, including high-profile guests, nods in
 approval, some even whispering excitedly among themselves.

CAMERAS FLASH, capturing every moment.

BACKSTAGE

HELENA AND JOANA watch from behind the curtain.

ASSISTANT 1
 (whispering)
 The Vogue editor is taking notes.
 This is a game-changer.

ON THE RUNWAY

THE FINAL MODEL walks down the runway.

THE CROWD'S APPLAUSE GROWING LOUDER.

HELENA AND JOANA
 They step onto the stage, holding
 hands, their faces glowing with
 happiness.

HELENA
 (speaking to the
 audience)
 Thank you all for coming.

JOANA
 (smiling)
 This is just the beginning.

THE AUDIENCE CHEERS

The audience rises to their feet, cheering and applauding.

Among them, notable figures like Alicia Koplowitz, Isabel Preysler with Tamara Falcó, Agatha Ruiz de la Prada, and Boris Izaguirre smile and clap, clearly impressed.

BEHIND THE SCENES

Helena's team and assistants hug each other.

HELENA
 (to Joana, over the
 cheers)
 We did it. We really did it.

JOANA
 (grinning)
 I couldn't have asked for a better
 partner.

The applause continues as Helena and Joana take a bow, their eyes shining with tears of joy and pride.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. BACKSTAGE - NIGHT

After the show, HELENA and JOANA embrace euphorically.

HELENA
 We did it. But I am speechless
 about this high-standard audience.

JOANA
 That can't be a coincidence.

ASSISTANT
 Why? Your new collection is a hit,
 isn't it?

HELENA
 But not for this caliber.

Joana nods and looks thoughtful.

JOANA
 Yes, that was unbeatable.

MODEL 1
 Especially as we're not even Naomi
 Campell or Kate Moss.

THE WHOLE TEAM is roaring with laughter.

AN AGENT from a fashion agency turns up.

FASHION AGENT
 Maybe you're already the next top
 model in demand.

The agent stretches the hand over to Helena and then to
 Joana.

FRANCESCO FASHION AGENT
 Hello, my name is Francesco Ferreti
 and I'm from a top fashion agency.

A JOURNALIST are cueing and asks for an interview.

JOURNALIST FROM ELLE
 Hello, I'm Javier from the Spanish
 ELLE, Helena, could you tell me a
 few words about this star cast?

The entire team is overwhelmed and wide-eyed with amazement.

RICARDO appears and delivers two HUGE BOUQUETS OF FLOWERS.

CAMERAS FLASHES

RICARDO
 Congratulations on your huge
 success. That's why I took the
 liberty of using my good old
 contacts. Your fashion, reflects
 the spirit of an open-minded society
 that is interested in
 sustainability.

PRESS1
 Mr. Sanchez, what is your interest
 to meddle with this two ladies big
 success?

RICARDO
 Believe me. I would never have
 been able to convince them if they
 weren't already customers of yours.
 You just didn't know that yet.

PRESS 2
 So you did this as a kind of
 reconciliation?

The journalist writes with curiosity.

Helena and Joana hold their breath, accepting the bunches
 of flowers.

In the background, we see the fashion agent Franceso standing
 with Lydia, the model, who is writing something down.

JOANA
 (to the journalists)
 Mr. Sanchez is admitting his
 mistake back then and for this
 being so generous with us today.
 (looking at Helena)
 But Helena Montes is celebrating
 her success today, and the high-
 profile visit confirms her hard
 work.

Helena applauds Joana and takes the word.

HELENA
 Our hard work and the dedication
 of a whole team have made this
 possible. I would never have made
 it this far. Thank you to my team.

Applause erupts, and cameras take photos and videos.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. ROOFTOP - NIGHT

JOANA and HELENA are standing on a beautifully rooftop,
 overlooking the glittering city skyline.

The scene is intimate and serene, with a gentle breeze
 rustling through the air.

JOANA
 (looking down at
 BEATLE, their
 adorable dog)
 Beatle, who's mom's baby?

Beatle looks up at Joana and barks, wagging his tail
 energetically. Joana and Helena laugh, their joy infectious.

HELENA
 (smiling)
 Let's organize a trip.

JOANA
 Wherever it is, there must be room
 for the three of us.

Joana reaches into her pocket and pulls out a small box.

She opens the box to reveal a stunning ring. Helena gasps,
 her eyes filling with tears of joy.

JOANA (CONT'D)
 (continuing)
 Helena, will you marry me?

Helena's eyes sparkle with tears of happiness as she nods,
 overwhelmed with emotion.

HELENA

Yes, Joana. A thousand times yes.

They kiss again, the moment filled with pure love and joy.

CLOSE-UP OF JOANA AND HELENA

JOANA

(whispering)

This is just the beginning of our
forever.

HELENA

(smiling through
tears)

Together, always.

They hold each other close.

Beagle barking happily at their feet.

BARKING FADES

FADE OUT: