

PRIME
by Ben Younger

EXT. IL BUCO - NIGHT

1

It's a blustery Winter night in New York City. SNOW IS FALLING on Bond St. The warm and inviting light from Il Buco spills out into the street.

2 INT. IL BUCO - CONTINUOUS

2

The restaurant is packed; the glass, steamed.

DAVID BLOOMBERG is finishing up dinner at a small table. David's 23 and dressed in a Lower East Side polyester motif. He sits with his best friend, MORRIS. Morris is also 23 but even with a beard looks more his age than Dave does.

These two have known each other since forever and it shows in their ease with one another. They're more like brothers.

The waiter has just brought over the credit card slip which Dave begins to sign.

DAVE

You know I haven't been here since we all came together that time.

MORRIS

Have you heard from her?

DAVE

No.

Morris breathes deep.

MORRIS

You know I want to say some stupid shit right now, right?

DAVE

I know. And I think it's great that you're not.

MORRIS

Progress yo. That's progress right there.

The pair get up and leave. Morris wraps Dave up in a headlock as they walk out.

As the waiter clears the table we see that Dave has left his HAT LYING ON THE FLOOR.

FADE OUT:

EIGHT MONTHS EARLIER

INT. HALLWAY - MORNING

3

RAPHAEL GARDET walks down the long carpeted corridor of a prewar building. Though only 37, her eyes tell us she's already been through quite a lot.

An OPERA SINGER is belting out an ARIA behind one of the heavy wood doors catching Rafi's attention. She moves on to the end of the hall. On a door a metal plate is inscribed with the words: LISA RIFKIN - M.S. C.S.W.

4 INT. THERAPIST'S OFFICE

4

The office is very homey. The couch would have made Freud commit ritualistic suicide. It's big and blue with lots of pillows. There's a tissue box on every flat surface.

LISA RIFKIN, Rafi's therapist, fiddles with the air conditioner. She's in her mid 50's, pretty and well dressed. What you get immediately though, is her warmth and smarts.

LISA

I'm sorry. It's so hot in here and I can't figure this stupid thing out.

Rafi plops down on the couch.

RAFI

I signed the papers.

Lisa turns around and gives Rafi her full attention.

LISA

Wow. How are you feeling?

RAFI

Terrible. Francis was there, I mean, obviously he was there. It was really hard to see him. And he signed so fast. I at least pretended to be looking things over one last time. You could tell how bad he wanted out.

LISA

He sounds terrified to me.

RAFI

The worst thing is I actually wanted to talk to him. I still wanted to talk to him. I humiliated myself.

LISA

How did you humiliate yourself?

(CONTINUED)

RAFI

By being civil! By asking him how his work is. By sounding happy when he told me about this new account he landed.

LISA

He talked to you about work?

RAFI

Yes!

LISA

Nerve. I swear this guy re-defines self involvement. It's going to take a while. I mean, nine years Rafi. You can't just walk away from that kind of time.

Rafi stops and chokes back a tear. Swallows it like a pill.

RAFI

I feel like I have nothing Lisa. I'm 37, I live alone. My husband's officially gone. I stopped getting any satisfaction from my job a long time ago. And now, with no partner and a shitty job, my alarm clock goes off and I feel like I have to have a baby by next Tuesday.

LISA

If you feel that strongly, then you'll have one.

RAFI

I don't want to raise a child alone.

LISA

It's not uncommon these days.

RAFI

I know. I hear women talk about it all the time. 'I want a baby'. It sounds like they're saying they want a pair of shoes. It's not something I want to acquire. It's something I want to share.

They sit for a long moment looking at one another.

RAFI (cont'd)

Oh, and you were right about my mother. Shocker. I tried to talk to her about last week and it went down just the way we imagined it would. This has not been a good week.

EXT. TRAVELART - DAY

5

A large warehouse building in Williamsburgh, Brooklyn. They are one of the preeminent art transporters in the US.

6 INT. TRAVELART - CONTINUOUS

6

It's basically a huge woodworking shop with paintings littered everywhere. They are hand-making containers for pieces of art to be shipped.

Dave is building a large crate. Morris, now without a beard, works next to him. A group of people are sitting nearby eating lunch at a makeshift table near an open door.

MORRIS

So how's the painting coming?

DAVE

(looks around)

I told you not to talk about that here.

MORRIS

Sorry. I forgot. So what's going on with Michelle? Wait, are we allowed to talk about trim here? *

DAVE

Don't be a schmuck. You want me to ask you about your last date?

MORRIS

Point taken. So? Michelle? *

DAVE

I don't know. It's uninspiring. She doesn't challenge me at all.

MORRIS

She doesn't challenge you? Wake up, shmeckel. You're 23. You want challenging, take a yoga class.

DAVE

I didn't say I wanted to get married. I just want to be with someone for a while. You know, a girlfriend?

MORRIS

Yeah? Well here she comes.

Dave looks up to see RANDALL walk in. He's a gay interior designer there to check on a piece of art.

(CONTINUED)

RANDALL

Hi boys.

MORRIS

Ran-doll. What up?

RANDALL

Did the truck arrive from MOMA yet?

MORRIS

I don't know. Ask John.

RANDALL

Who's this?

MORRIS

This is my boy Dave.

RANDALL

Your boy? That sounds so gay.

Morris looks horrified. Randall blatantly scopes Dave.

RANDALL (cont'd)

I swear you have the ass of a fifteen
year old boy.

The group at the lunch table hear this and laugh out loud.
Dave smiles but he's less than into it.

DAVE

Really? Because I'm actually sixteen, so
I guess I'm doing okay, huh?

7 EXT. BRYANT PARK - DAY

7

Rafi is standing amidst the equipment of a large photo shoot.
She sips a cup of coffee as her assistant asks her questions.
Her tone is both firm and disarming.

ASSISTANT

What time do you want crew call for
tomorrow?

RAFI

6 AM at the studio. Let the photographer
know. She's going to get there herself.
Ron gets picked up at eight at his hotel.

ASSISTANT

Got it.

RAFI

Oh, and please make sure we have those
wheatgrass shots or whatever it was that
he freaked out over last time when we ran
out.

(CONTINUED)

7 CONTINUED:

7

ASSISTANT

Oh my god, I remember that.

RAFI

Did I tell you I'm converting to Scientology?

ASSISTANT

I didn't say it.

Rafi's assistant leaves and she picks her head up for a moment. She takes notice of the HUNDREDS OF PEOPLE sitting at the tables all over the lawn. Her eyes move from one table to the next. She sees two lovers speaking in whispers. A man eating alone. Two elderly women chatting. *

Rafi sips her coffee.

8 INT. MORRIS' CAR - NIGHT

8

Dave and Morris are driving through Bay Ridge, Brooklyn. They're in a 1987 Toyota Celica. It's a BEATER. There's a BANANA PIE balanced on the hand brake lever between the seats.

DAVE

I don't understand why I have to be a part of this. You have an incurable sickness. Okay. But why am I being involved?

MORRIS

How are you being involved?

DAVE

Because I'm in the car! I'm going to be a witness to this. That makes me an accessory.

MORRIS

What? Like a handbag?

DAVE

Morris!

MORRIS

Accessory to what? There's no crime being committed! You're so GFR!

Dave looks at him waiting for the explanation.

MORRIS (cont'd)

(continuing)

Gay For Real.

They pass a group of young guys standing around on a corner.

(CONTINUED)

MORRIS (cont'd)
 (continuing)
 Jesus, would you look at this place?

DAVE
 I know. Those are the kind of guys that yell out the neighborhood they're from while they're beating the crap out of you.

MORRIS
 Bay Ridge!!

DAVE
 So who is it this time? You know what? Don't tell me. I don't want to know. Her father's probably in waste management. What I would like to know is why no girl will go out with you twice. One date and it's over. What do you say? What do you do?

MORRIS
 It's a mystery to me too.

DAVE
 Are you a hermaphrodite? Do you have hentavirus?

Morris pulls the car over on a residential street.

DAVE (cont'd)
 Just make this quick. I'm meeting Michelle at the movies in a half hour.

MORRIS
 Michelle? What happened to yoga class?

Morris walks up to the house, pie in hand and rings the bell.

A KNOCKOUT BLOND opens the door. She looks even less interested in being part of this than Dave. She is already berating Morris as she steps outside.

We witness what happens next from Daves POV across the street. It's far enough where we question if we've even seen it correctly. But we have. *

Morris takes the pie and plants it in the girl's face. *

He turns and runs as she CURSES after him, screaming from the door. The girl's TWO BROTHERS come flying out of the house and start RUNNING after Morris who barely makes it to the car in time. *

Dave PEELS OUT as the brothers run into the street screaming.

(CONTINUED)

DAVE
Feel better?

MORRIS
Much.

EXT. MOVIE THEATER - NIGHT

9

Rafi is on line with two of her best friends, RANDALL (from Travelart) and KATHERINE, when David gets out of Morris' car and approaches the ticket line. Randall notices him immediately.

RANDALL

Dave.

Dave takes a moment to place him.

DAVE

Randall.

RANDALL

Randall.

DAVE

I know your name.

Randall looks so pleased that Katherine LAUGHS OUT LOUD.

RANDALL

These are my friends, Katherine...

KATHERINE

Hey.

They shake.

RANDALL

...and Rafi.

DAVE

Hi.

RAFI

Hello.

The two hold eye contact for just a moment longer than strangers do. Randall notices.

RANDALL

Umm, so what are you doing here?

DAVE

Well, I thought I'd see a movie. Why? Are you embarrassed to be seen with me?

RANDALL

What?

DAVE

Just tell me. It's okay.

Rafi and Katherine laugh as Randall catches up.

KATHERINE

He's funny. Where did you get him?

(CONTINUED)

9 CONTINUED:

9

That's when MICHELLE comes up on Dave from behind. He feels guilty for nothing and anxiously introduces her to everyone. *

You can see signs of emotion throughout. Randall looks RELIEVED, Rafi: DEFLATED, Katherine: PISSED, Michelle: CONFUSED, Dave: NERVOUS.

10 INT. MOVIE THEATER - CONTINUOUS

10

They sit in the theater as the previews start. Dave and Michelle sit one row behind Rafi and her friends. Dave keeps stealing glances at her. His heart is racing and he discreetly puts his hand to his chest to confirm it. *

Michelle gets up to use the bathroom before the film starts. Dave nervously reaches down and TAPS Rafi on the shoulder. *

DAVE

Your friend over here tells me I have the ass of a fifteen year old boy.

CLOSE ON:

Rafi, trying to watch the screen, smiling ear to ear.

11 EXT. MOVIE THEATER - NIGHT

11

The group comes out the side door into the warm summer air.

KATHERINE

So where are we going?

RANDALL

(to Dave & Michelle)

Well what are you guys doing?

DAVE

Well, we can't go home.

MICHELLE

No? Why not?

DAVE

It's just one of those nights where you can't go home early. Lying in bed you would know you were missing something. Then tomorrow, at our shitty jobs we'd wonder why we felt so compelled to get home to sleep two extra hours that we didn't even dream in.

Everyone just looks at Dave. And then after a moment...

RAFI

I'll get a drink.

2 EXT. THE PARK - NIGHT

12

They are sitting in the large outdoor area on the rooftop of the restaurant on 10th Ave. They're laughing, drinking, enjoying life for a moment.

RAFI

I can't believe you just said that!

RANDALL

What do I care? I don't have to touch them and they look great with clothes on.

KATHERINE

You should see what they look like without clothes.

RANDALL

Again, non-issue for me.

KATHERINE

You ever had fake tits, Dave?

DAVE

No. Never have.

MICHELLE

I think it's terrible to alter your body in any way. God gave you what he did for a reason.

RAFI

What reason is that?

MICHELLE

I don't know. It's some form of physical destiny I guess.

RANDALL

Physical destiny? I love that. See, that means I shouldn't work out because I'd be tampering with my carnal fate. I really need to start following my instincts.

MICHELLE

I didn't mean working ou...

KATHERINE

Shit. I had my nose done. Am I defying god's will here? Dr. Siegel said it was fine.

Everyone laughs. Michelle squirms. David looks uncomfortable not so much for her than for being with her.

RAFI

So how long have you guys been dating?

(CONTINUED)

12 CONTINUED:

12

MICHELLE
Couple of weeks.

DAVE
We're not dating.

Rafi's eyelids rise accompanied with a smile.

KATHERINE
Okay. Next question.

DAVE
I mean we only went out twice before
this. Do you consider that dating?

MICHELLE
I guess I did.

DAVE
I'm sorry then. To me, dating sounds more
serious. Like you've already been going
out for a couple of months. Maybe you
don't live together but you're definitely
staying over a couple of nights a week.
You're not thinking about who paid for
the last meal anymore. You've seen each
other pee. You know, more serious stuff.

MICHELLE
Then what do you call this?

KATHERINE
Exhausting.

13 EXT. THE PARK - LATER

13

Everyone says their good-byes outside on the sidewalk.
Michelle is talking to Randall and Katherine as...

*

Dave shakes Rafi's hand goodbye. He doesn't want to let go.
*They stand there, staring, for an extended moment until Rafi
breaks away.*

*

*

*

FADE OUT:

14 EXT. UPPER EAST SIDE TOWNHOUSE - DAY

14

Rafi approaches the formidable building with a few bags in
hand.

15 INT. UPPER EAST SIDE TOWNHOUSE - CONTINUOUS

15

The furnishings are all 18th century French. It's very clean,
very expensive and very intimidating. Rafi has just walked
through the front door.

RAFI
Mom?

(CONTINUED)

CHAROLETTE (O.S.)
In the kitchen, Raphael.

6 INT. KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

16

Rafi's mother, CHARLOTTE, is near 70. Her looks belie her age. She's fit, surely no stranger to spas, trainers, etc.

She is cold, however. Physical affection is not something she knows beyond making children, of which she has one.

CHARLOTTE

Hi sweetheart.

They hug like a Taliban would a Bergdorf's cosmetics girl.

RAFI

Here.

Rafi hands her mother a plastic bag. Charlotte removes the contents, mostly beauty supplies.

CHARLOTTE

This is what Vogue's pushing?

RAFI

Mom, you don't have to. I got them off the shoot. It's called a gift.

CHARLOTTE

Oh, well thank you.

RAFI

Can you use them?

CHARLOTTE

Maybe.

Rafi prepares to leave her mother's home in a state of disbelief for the 43,658th time in her life.

RAFI

Well, I have to get going. I have Yoga in twenty minutes.

Rafi kisses her mother goodbye.

RAFI (cont'd)

You look great.

*

*

*

7 INT. DAVID'S APT - NIGHT 17 *

The room is small but packed with paintings. They are all facing AWAY from camera. An easel stands in one corner.

David is sitting on his bed, oil paint on his hands and jeans. An open phone book is in his lap and a cordless phone in his hand. He wants to dial but can't seem to manage it.

He suddenly JUMPS up and does 10 PUSH-UPS on the floor, then he's back on the bed, DIALING fast.

RAFI (O.S.)
Hello?

Click. He HANGS UP.

18 INT. RAFI'S APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS 18

Rafi stares at the phone, then hangs it up.

19 INT. DAVID'S APT - CONTINUOUS 19

Dave hits the re-dial button. He's sweating.

RAFI (O.S.)
Hello?

(CONTINUED)

19 CONTINUED:

DAVE
Hi, it's Dave.

We alternate between the two locations.

RAFI
Hi. Did you just call me?

DAVE
Yes?

RAFI
We got disconnected?

DAVE
No.

RAFI
Did you hang up?

DAVE
Uh huh.

Silence.

DAVE (cont'd)
(continuing)
They say it's better to lie sometimes but
I can't really do that when I'm this
nervous. I need to be in a better place.

RAFI
(laughs)
I like it better this way. Been around
enough lying to say.

DAVE
Lot of liars in your life huh?

RAFI
What?

DAVE
(covering phone)
Stupid! Stupid! Stupid!
(blurts it out)
Would you like to go to dinner with me
tomorrow night?

At this point an OLD LADY can be heard SCREAMING from the
kitchen.

BLANCH (O.S.)
I'm making a sandwich David! Do you want
one?!

Dave covers the phone quickly and yells back.

(CONTINUED)

19 CONTINUED: (2)

DAVE
No! I'm fine.

RAFI
Who's that?

DAVE
My roommate. So you want to have dinner?

20 INT. DAVID'S APT - CONTINUOUS

20

Dave walks into the kitchen with his FISTS IN THE AIR.

His two roommates, SAM & BLANCH, are drinking Tang from a Tang pitcher. They're both in their late 80's and they also happen to be his GRANDPARENTS.

DAVE
So, what kind of sandwich are we talking about?

21 INT. LOBBY - CONTINUOUS

21

Nice, quiet, with a BEAUTIFUL ARMCHAIR no one has ever sat in. The doorman is a very tall and very built African American, DAMIEN. Dave walks in looking extremely nervous.

DAVE
Hey. I'm here to see Rafi Gardet. My name's Dave.

Damien picks up the phone without any acknowledgement.

DAMIEN
Raphael. Hey it's Damien. There's a...

DAVE
Dave.

DAMIEN
...Dave here to see you.
(to Dave)
She'll be right down.

Dave sits down in the armchair. Damien stares. *

DAVE
I'm her nephew.

Damien just keeps looking at him. No reaction. *

DAVE (cont'd)
(continuing)
This chair's super comfortable.

2 EXT. RAFI'S BUILDING - NIGHT 22

Rafi and Dave walk out. They're both freaked out. Dave from his time under the African heat lamp, Rafi because she hasn't been on a date in TEN YEARS. Fun stuff.

23 INT. IL BUCO - NIGHT 23

A beautiful restaurant downtown that doubles as an antique store during the day. All the furnishings are antique.

David and Rafi are sitting at a table toward the back. There is an EMPTY bottle of WINE on the table. They look a little bit more relaxed now. They're even laughing.

DAVE

It's the biggest contradiction in the world. We eat carp. Who eats carp? They don't serve it in restaurants. I mean have you ever seen carp on a menu in your life? Please, answer me honestly.

RAFI

(laughing)
No.

DAVE

You know why? It's disgusting. But for all this terrible food, you have never seen a people so obsessed with it in your life.

RAFI

It's a remnant. I'll bet every immigrant group that was displaced by World War II puts a lot of emphasis on food. It was scarce. Carp is cheap right? It was probably a staple of their diet.

DAVE

What is this? The History Channel? You're killing this for me.

RAFI

I'm sorry.

She's not. They share an intense, intimate moment and Dave rambles on out of pure anxiety.

DAVE

Okay, so my friend Morris, his parents were in LA a couple of years ago. This was around the time when there were those bomb threats on synagogues.

(CONTINUED)

RAFI

I remember.

DAVE

God, I hope this story gets better. Okay, so part of a vacation for Morris' parents is going around to check out every kosher restaurant in whatever city they're in. I don't mean they go eat at every one. They just go and look.

RAFI

Why would they do that?

DAVE

That's the sickness. I think subconsciously they're looking to see where food can be found. It's the Jewish equivalent of checking where the emergency exits are when you get on an airplane. Anyway, the crazy part is, the Feds have all these kosher places staked out because of the bomb threats. All they see are two people casing every Jewish joint in the City.

RAFI

(laughing)

Oh my god, don't tell me.

DAVE

Oh yeah. Arrested.

RAFI

And their excuse. Oh my God!

DAVE

Right? 'We were just checking on the pastrami, Special Agent.'

Rafi picks up her glass.

RAFI

What should we toast to?

DAVE

Homeland security and salmon steaks.

Rafi bursts out laughing. She's actually having fun.

Rafi and Dave are standing in line with a six pack of beer at a run-down bodega in Alphabet City.

DAVE

You're gonna love this place. It's beautiful and no one's ever there.

COUNTERMAN

Can I see some ID?

DAVE

Sure.

He shows his license to the man and then turns to Rafi, nervous, but trying to hide it.

DAVE (cont'd)

(continuing)

I love when that happens.

RAFI

Yeah, I wish I still got carded.

25 EXT. HOUSTON STREET - LATER

25

Dave climbs over a fence on the corner of Houston and Third Ave where there is a small PUBLIC GARDEN that is closed for the day. He opens the gate from the inside and Rafi slips in.

RAFI

Are we gonna get in trouble?

DAVE

I hope so.

26 EXT. GARDEN - CONTINUOUS

26

The garden may be small but it is so lush and dense that it's like being in another country. There are flowers, trees, and bushes everywhere. They walk on a serpentine path toward a bench at the far end.

RAFI

This is incredible. I've walked past this place for fifteen years and I never noticed what was here.

DAVE

I feel like that about the whole City. I think that's why I paint. Sometimes I feel like I see things that no one else sees.

RAFI

Dave, how old are you?

DAVE

Actually, I don't speak Vietnamese. Why do you ask?

(CONTINUED)

RAFI

Are you being evasive?

DAVE

Trying. I don't tell my age. I think people get way too caught up with the number.

RAFI

With your number or just age in general?

DAVE

Both.

RAFI

I'm 37. Did you know that?

DAVE

I hadn't really thought about it.

RAFI

Sure you hadn't. Look, I know you're a lot younger than me, but I wouldn't mind knowing just how much.

David laughs nervously. He's straight-up scared. He really likes her and doesn't want to blow this.

RAFI (cont'd)

(continuing)

Let me guess. You're 29 right?

DAVE

No.

RAFI

(relieved)

Really? Older? You know, you don't look like you're 30.

DAVE

Thanks. I'm 23.

Rafi stares at him expressionless not because she's shocked, but because she's waiting for him to give up on the gag.

RAFI

No you're not. I don't believe it. Let me see the license.

Dave dutifully pulls it out and hands it over.

RAFI (cont'd)

(continuing)

Oh my god. You're a child. I have T-shirts older than you.

*
*

(CONTINUED)

26 CONTINUED: (2)

DAVE
They let me drive.

RAFI
With a parent in the car. How come you
seem so much older to me?

Dave just looks at her.

RAFI (cont'd)
(continuing)
I don't know if I can do this.

DAVE
See, this is why I don't tell people my
age. I don't want this to change the way
you think of me. I mean age is just a
number, right? *

RAFI
A very small number.

27 INT. RANDALL'S APT - CONTINUOUS 27

Randall is cleaning up from dinner. He keeps glancing at the
phone as he does, obviously waiting to hear from Rafi about
her date.

28 INT. KATHERINE'S APT - CONTINUOUS 28

Same deal. She's reading a magazine in bed with the cordless
right next to her.

29 INT. MORRIS' APT - CONTINUOUS 29

Morris, strangely enough, sits by his phone as well. Same
nervous look on his face. The phone RINGS and he jumps at it.

MORRIS
Hello? Jesus Christ! How long does it
take to get a fifty bag from you clowns?

30 EXT. GARDEN - LATER 30

They're each on their last beer.

RAFI
You're allowed to drink, right? I mean
legally.

DAVE
At least you're making jokes.

(CONTINUED)

They stare at one other. Dave looks away first. It's a bit more intense than he's used to. He looks at his beer.

DAVE (cont'd)

(continuing)

I like beer. Never used to. I had to learn. No one in my family drinks.

RAFI

You're lucky. Everyone in my family drinks.

DAVE

No, I mean they don't drink anything. It's like Salt Lake City. They'll have a sip of wine on Friday nights for the Sabbath but that's it. And it's Manischevitz.

RAFI

I've never had that.

DAVE

You like Hi-C? My Mom keeps the wine in the fridge and we'll still be drinking it three months later.

RAFI

Well, a Chardonnay can last for...

DAVE

It's red.

RAFI

That's not good. Hey, by the way. Things to avoid:

DAVE

(straightens up)

Okay.

RAFI

Beginning sentences with, "My Mom."

DAVE

Gotcha. I'm all over it. So what's your family like?

RAFI

My father died a few years ago. My mother lives uptown. East side.

DAVE

No, I mean what are they like?

RAFI

Well, my Mother's a high functioning alcoholic. Cold as a fish.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

30 CONTINUED: (2)

RAFI (cont'd)

My Dad was guilty by association.
Passively stood by while Mother tried to
run the family into the ground. He drank
like a fish too.

DAVE

You almost got an aquarium there.

RAFI

Yeah. What about you?

DAVE

Your basic Jewish freak show. Food,
money, guilt, food.

RAFI

Food twice, huh?

DAVE

I told you. The carp. It's an issue.

RAFI

However old you are, I have to say that I
have not had this much fun in a long
time. I'm really glad I met you.

DAVE

Me too. I also want you to know I'm not
in this to get you to buy reduced movie
tickets for me or anything. Or abuse your
AARP privileges.

RAFI

Very funny. No really. I feel like I just
woke up after being asleep for ten years.

DAVE

Never too late Rafi.

RAFI

God, it feels good to hear you say my
name.

Dave blushes. Genuinely. He's not embarrassed, just excited.
He discreetly moves his hand up to his own heart which is,
once again, beating OUT OF CONTROL.

DAVE

I gotta tell you, you make me nervous in
a way I'm not familiar with.

Dave takes her hand and places it on his heart.

She stares at him in wonder for a long time. She wants him to
kiss her but he's too scared. The time permitted before
awkwardness sets in expires and she pulls away.

Dave GRABS her by the shoulder and yanks her back. They melt
into one other.

1 INT. HALLWAY - DAY 31

Rafi walks toward Lisa's office. The opera singer is again belting one out. Rafi is smiling this time.

32 INT. THERAPIST'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS 32

Rafi walks in and sits on the couch trying to look pensive. Lisa is in her chair watching her. She knows Rafi too well.

LISA
(smiling)
Let's have it.

RAFI
How did you know?

Lisa gives her the "come on, I know you" face.

RAFI (cont'd)
(continuing; speeding)
His name's David, and he's really nice, I mean sweet, I met him a few days ago and he asked me out on a date! We went out for dinner and he's really funny. And we kissed! And when I was kissing him it was weird but all I could think about was grass. Green Lush grass. Oh my god, what I'm doing?! I just got divorced last week.

LISA
Easy. Easy. It's okay. You didn't tattoo his name on your ass, did you?

Rafi bites on her nails.

LISA (cont'd)
(continuing)
You want to save some for later?

Rafi pulls her hand from her mouth and sits on it.

LISA (cont'd)
(continuing)
What is it?

Rafi looks so embarrassed she decides to lie.

RAFI
He's... He's only 27.

LISA
And...

(CONTINUED)

RAFI

What do you mean and? That's ten years difference! He could be my brother.

LISA

If he were one year younger he could be your brother.

RAFI

Aren't you embarrassed for me? It smells of pool boy at a Sandals resort.

LISA

Oh, it's fine. And it might even do you some good if you know what I mean...

RAFI

Lisa!

LISA

What? There's nothing to be ashamed of. You're both at your sexual peak.

RAFI

So, you approve?

LISA

Yes. Unequivocally. This is good. Look Rafi, you've had a hell of a decade. That marriage was very difficult for you and you're finally out of it. You're beautiful, you're smart, and you deserve a little happiness.

RAFI

But this can't really go anywhere. He's so young.

LISA

It's too early to worry about that now and besides, you're not looking to get married by next week. Enjoy your life a little. You deserve this.

(beat)

27. Hell, I deserve this.

33 INT. DAVID'S APT - NIGHT

33

David is on the phone with his mother.

DAVE

She's not Jewish.

We can imagine what kind of reaction he's getting from his mother when he slumps down in his chair.

(CONTINUED)

DAVE (cont'd)
 (continuing)
 No, I'm not trying to kill you.
 (beat)
 Yes, I want you to be alive to see your
 grandchildren.
 (beat)
 Your Jewish grandchildren.
 (beat)
 No, I didn't know you wanted to be buried
 in Israel. Mom, I'm not going to talk
 about this now, over the phone. I'll see
 you tomorrow.

*

34 INT. KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

34

Dave walks in to find his grandparents watching a Mets game.

BLANCH
 What's wrong, dear?

DAVE
 Your daughter's Eva Braun.

SAM
 What the hell did you just say?

Dave looks at the TV where the Mets game is on.

DAVE
 Is that Mo Vaughn?

A34 INT. CHARLOTTE'S TOWNHOUSE - NIGHT

A34

*

Charlotte is on the phone but has a few of the products that
 Rafi gave her sitting on the counter in front of her.

*

*

CHAROLETTE
 I'm helping out with the fund-raiser this
 year. For Sheep's Meadow. Re-sodding or
 something, I don't know.

*

*

*

*

B34 EXT. STREET - CONTINUOUS

B34

*

Rafi is on her cell phone walking down the street talking to
 her mother. We cut between the two.

*

*

RAFI
 That sounds great. I'll see what I can do
 about getting them to donate some
 product.

*

*

*

*

CHAROLETTE
 I mean it's for charity.

*

*

(CONTINUED)

RAFI

I got that. I'll call tomorrow.

Charlotte hates asking her daughter for anything and quickly changes the subject.

CHARLOTTE

So, have you met anyone?

Rafi pauses too long at this question.

CHARLOTTE (cont'd)

(continuing)

Who is he?

RAFI

Oh Mom, I don't know. We haven't gone out yet. I just met him.

CHARLOTTE

What's his name?

RAFI

David.

CHARLOTTE

David what?

RAFI

Bloomberg.

CHARLOTTE

Any relation to the mayor?

RAFI

(rolls her eyes)

Yes.

CHARLOTTE

(hoping not)

But he's still Jewish?

RAFI

Yes. Jesus Christ, mom.

CHARLOTTE

I wouldn't say that in front of him.

RAFI

Good night Mom.

It's a Friday afternoon as David walks along Amsterdam Ave.

6 INT. BLOOMBERG HOME - CONTINUOUS

36

The apartment is large but modest. We hear people's voices SHOUTING over one another, all benign in nature.

DINAH, Dave's younger sister, comes out of one of the rooms off the hallway. She's 18 and basically the "good one".

DINAH

Hey Dave.

DAVE

Hey D. Where's Mom?

MOM (O.S.)

I told you to hang them up Dinah!!

Dave walks into the living room where his grandparents are sitting.

(CONTINUED)

DAVE

Hey guys.

SAM

You left the bathroom light on this morning.

BLANCH

Jeff Rosenberg's son got engaged yesterday. To a speech therapist.

Dave looks at them in awe then moves on to the kitchen where his father, JACK, is at the wall-oven basting two chickens.

JACK

Hey kiddo.

DAVE

Hi dad. Where's Mom?

Dave's mother walks in from the dining room and we see that she is none other than LISA RIFKIN, RAFI'S THERAPIST.

Jack leaves the kitchen.

LISA

We need to talk about our last phone call.

DAVE

Hi Mom. Good to see you too.

LISA

I'm not kidding around.

DAVE

Okay, but I can just feel this is gonna be some kind of disciplinary action. Not a talk.

MOM

Alright. We'll be sure to make it a talk then. Now, can you help your sister set the table?

DAVE

Sure.

MOM

And take the wine out of the fridge.

Rafi and Katherine are having a drink at the bar on the 12th floor patio of the fashionable hotel. They look out over the Manhattan skyline.

(CONTINUED)

KATHERINE
Has he called yet?

RAFI
The next night.

KATHERINE
Nice.

RAFI
I know. I'm not used to this.

KATHERINE
Did you guys make plans to go out again?

RAFI
He wants to have dinner with me tomorrow night but I have an early flight on Sunday morning. When I told him I have to go to Paris he said, 'That seems a little drastic for one bad date. Do you really need to leave the country'?

*

*

KATHERINE
This kid's funny.

RAFI
Please don't use that word.

KATHERINE
Right, sorry. He's humorous.

RAFI
I think I said no because I'm nervous about how I feel. I really like him but he's so young.

*

KATHERINE
Get over it.

38 INT. BLOOMBERG HOME - NIGHT

38

The family is at the dinner table. Food is being passed all over the place. Everyone talks at the same time.

39 INT. BLOOMBERG HOME - NIGHT

39

Dave and his mother are sitting in the living room. Everyone else has gone to sleep.

LISA
So what's with this girl?

(CONTINUED)

DAVE

Well, she's not Jewish so I guess we can skip over all the meaningless stuff like the fact that she's beautiful and smart and warm and kind.

LISA

Is this a test? Do you feel like you're not getting enough attention at home?

DAVE

Good one Mom.

LISA

Then why are you doing this? There are so many other women you can go out with. I've encouraged you to branch out in any other way you like. But just not this. Why do you have to do this?

DAVE

What do you mean, 'Do this'? Do what? Incur the wrath of God?

LISA

Why are you getting yourself into trouble?

DAVE

I'm not getting married Mom. I'm just seeing what's out there. You make it out like we live in the Warsaw ghetto. It's the Upper West Side. We're strong in numbers here.

LISA

So you're still planning on marrying someone Jewish?

DAVE

(relents)

Sure. Yes. Okay?

LISA

Then I don't understand why you need to go down this road. You may end up getting hurt for nothing. Or worse, hurting her. Don't you value your culture and history?

DAVE

It's not one or the other Mom.

LISA

If you're smart enough to know that it makes sense to marry someone from the same background;

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

LISA (cont'd)
and it is, any study will show you that
as far as divorce rates go, then you
should be smart enough to not start
something when nothing can come of it.
You're just going to make a mess.

DAVE
I can't believe you're saying this.
You're a therapist. Do you hear yourself?
You would never tell this to a patient.

LISA
Not true. I encourage my patients to have
relationships within their respective
faiths. It's easier. I encourage them to
go to Church or Mosque or whatever. I
think religion is paramount in a person's
life.

DAVE
Encouraging them is different than
discouraging them. I know you draw a line
there. Do you tell your patients *not* to
date people they don't think they're
going to marry?

LISA
(snaps)
Quit asking me what I tell my patients!
They're not my children!

DAVE
Mom, this isn't like you. What's wrong?

Silence.

LISA
(continuing)
How old is she?

Dave thinks hard before answering then decides to take TEN
years off for good measure.

DAVE
She's 27.

LISA
What?! And she's four years older than
you!? Drop it now David. This is only
going to end badly. Do it for her. She'll
thank you later.

DAVE
For her? Let's not sugarcoat this. This
might as well be an intervention. 'We're
really worried about you David. We don't
think it's appropriate for you to be
dating people that don't have colon
cancer in their family history'.

(CONTINUED)

LISA

Come off it. If you want to reduce my concern for you to a cultural...

DAVE

Have a little faith in your parenting skills Mom, in what I learned from you in 23 years. Know that I'll make intelligent decisions based on that.

(beat)

Or is that what you're afraid of?

LISA

Was that supposed to be a moment? Look, I understand how attractive this looks to you but I have seen this before. I am trying to help you.

DAVE

Then help me. Be supportive. I think when you meet her you'll...

*
*

LISA

I am not going to meet her! What's wrong with you?

DAVE

Do you hear yourself? You sound like an after school special.

LISA

Don't do this.

DAVE

I'm doing it.

LISA

On your own then!

DAVE

Fine. I'm getting used to it.

40 EXT. STREET - NIGHT

40

Dave is on a cell phone across the street from Rafi's apartment. We can already hear the other line ringing.

RAFI (O.S.)

(sniffly)

Hello?

DAVE

Hi, it's me.

RAFI (O.S.)

Hi!

(CONTINUED)

40 CONTINUED:

DAVE

You okay?

RAFI (O.S.)

I got a summer cold. How are you?

DAVE

Good. I just saw a neighborhood in your movie and I thought I'd call. I mean... I know you gotta get up early for your flight but I figured I would just...

RAFI

Come over.

41 EXT. STREET - NIGHT

41

Dave walks down the street with a quart of chicken soup. He looks happynervous.

42 INT. RAFI'S BUILDING - NIGHT

42

Dave walks into the lobby and sees Damien, who is still very much not in love with him.

DAVE

Hey. What's going on?

(Damien just stares)

That's cool. You need anything? We're moving forward, you and I. Can you feel it?

*
*
*

DAMIEN

Go on up. She's expecting you.

DAVE

That's what I'm talking about!

43 INT. RAFI'S DOORWAY - CONTINUOUS

43

Rafi opens the door to see David standing there with the soup. They look at each other silently. No physical contact.

RAFI

Come on in.

44 INT. RAFI'S APARTMENT

44

David has never been in an apartment like this before. A perfect one-bedroom, cleanly styled.

*

DAVE

Jesus Christ.

(CONTINUED)

44 CONTINUED:

44

Rafi laughs as she sits down on the floor with her soup.

(CONTINUED)

44 CONTINUED: (2)

DAVE (cont'd)
(continuing)
What?

RAFI
No, nothing. Just something my mother
said. Thanks for the soup.

Dave stares at a large Rothko print.

DAVE
Rothko, right? I don't think I've seen
this one before. Is it one of his earlier
pieces?

RAFI
1956. It's probably my single favorite
piece of art in the world.

DAVE
It's beautiful. It's a lot more intense
than the other ones. Darker.

RAFI
(smiles)
You're right. It is.

Dave sits next to her on the floor. They take a moment and
stare at one another. *

45 INT. RAFI'S APARTMENT - LATER 45 *

Rafi and Dave sit on the floor. Jazz is playing. Rafi's
eating her soup. *

DAVE
What is this?

RAFI
Kind of Blue.

Dave looks blank.

RAFI (cont'd)
(continuing)
You've never heard this album before?

(CONTINUED)

DAVE

No. What, am I in trouble now?

RAFI

No. It's just that, it's, pretty well known. It's Miles Davis.

DAVE

Oh! This is that Negro music everyone's talking about, right?

*

...We fade into their conversation a little bit later on: They're sitting on the couch now.

DAVE

(continuing)

I'm not an artist.

RAFI

I thought you were a painter.

DAVE

No. I said I like to paint. But it's a hobby. I mean you have to work too.

RAFI

You don't consider it your work?

DAVE

Painting? No. How is that work? It's a side thing. It's not a life.

RAFI

I don't know how many artists would agree with you but I shouldn't complain. My ex-husband used work as an excuse to neglect everything else in his life.

DAVE

What was he like?

RAFI

Well, he made a wonderful addition to my aquarium. You're not a drinker are you?

DAVE

No. I have a small problem with apple juice but I'm working it out.

*

7 INT. RAFI'S APARTMENT - LATER

47

...Rafi sits on Dave's lap in a large armchair.

DAVE

I just don't think it's fair to beat yourself up about stuff like that. It's always so clear looking back, but when you're in it, it's just... it's life. It's just a day or a week or a bad meal. It's impossible to see it till you're pretty far away. People live their whole lives in relationships like that. Numb. At least you got out.

RAFI

You know that's exactly what my therapist says.

DAVE

You know my mother's a therapist. *

RAFI

Really? Well that certainly explains a lot.

DAVE

What do you mean?

RAFI

Your level of maturity. Therapist's kids are either totally screwed up or altogether well adjusted.

DAVE

Did you just call me well adjusted?

Dave finally leans over and pulls her to him. They kiss. Rafi looks at him for a moment before speaking. *

RAFI *

Thank god. *

DAVE *

What? *

RAFI *

I wasn't just drunk. *

48 INT. KITCHEN - LATER

48

Rafi is washing up the soup bowls when Dave comes over and turns her around. He places her wet hand under his shirt and pulls her hair enough to rest her head on the cupboard behind her. He kisses her neck.

(CONTINUED)

48 CONTINUED:

RAFI
Dave, you're wearing me down.

DAVE
I'm trying.

RAFI
I have to get up in five hours.

DAVE
I should get going huh?

(CONTINUED)

RAFI

Take off your sweater.

DAVE

Does this involve me dancing at all
because my corns have been killing...

RAFI

Take it off. It's coming with me.

She stops him mid-way. With his sweater covering his eyes and his hands in the air she raises her own shirt and gently presses herself against him.

The camera pushes in to a close-up of their faces as his sweater comes off. He is SHAKING.

DAVE

(low, unsure)

We're gonna make love when you get back?

Rafi whispers something back so low we can not even hear her. All we can see is the look in Dave's eyes.

Lisa is sitting with her husband, Jack, on the roof of their building. It's not a finished deck but rather a secret spot the couple share. Lisa has brought a bag of sandwiches.

LISA

I got you the roast beef.

JACK

Is it rare?

LISA

I told him to make it rare.

They eat.

JACK

How many sessions did you have this morning?

LISA

Four. I'm already beat and I have the whole afternoon booked.

*
*

JACK
What did you get, Pastrami?

LISA
Yes. You want some?

JACK
No.

LISA
Have some.

JACK
I'm okay. So what's with Dave? Does he really like this girl? Is it serious?

LISA
I don't know.

Jack takes a moment. Thinks.

JACK
Is she Catholic or Episcopalian or what?

LISA
I didn't ask. Do you prefer one denomination over another as far as the love of Christ goes?

JACK
Your father's gonna flip.

LISA
Yeah, too bad your Mom's not around for this. It would have gone over real well with her too.

JACK
So what are we gonna do?

LISA
I have no idea. You?

JACK
He's young. I think it's okay as long as it doesn't get serious.

0 INT. MAGNOLIA BAKERY - NIGHT

50

Morris and Dave are looking through the display cases at Magnolia on Bleeker street.

*

DAVE

(continuing)

I really like her. She's only been gone for two days, comes back tomorrow, and I miss her already. I never felt this before.

MORRIS

It's because you haven't slept with her yet.

DAVE

No. That's definitely not it. I really like her Morris. I mean, I think I could love her.

MORRIS

Whoa, whoa, whoa. Whoa.

(takes a beat)

Wait, what was I saying?

DAVE

There's just something about this girl Morris. I'm telling you. You know that feeling when you're in a room with someone and even though you may not understand them or know them completely you just, you just know you're in the presence of...greatness.

MORRIS

You mean like when you come to my apartment?

Dave ignores him but looks agitated.

MORRIS (cont'd)

And she old.

*

DAVE

She's fine.

*

*

MORRIS

She's a time fighter. I just have a feeling this is gonna end badly.

*

*

*

DAVE

You sound like my mother. And what am I listening to you for?

*

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

DAVE (cont'd)

I'm in a bakery shopping for a pie to put
in some girl's face who wouldn't let you
get in her pants. I'm calling you Manimal
from now on.

MORRIS

(to counterman)

When was the cream pie made?

50 CONTINUED: (2)

COUNTERMAN

Today.

MORRIS

(pointing)

Nice. I'll take that one.

51 INT. THERAPIST'S OFFICE

51

Rafi sits cross legged on the couch. *

RAFI

I forgot what this feels like! To be this excited about life. It's so foreign that I wonder if it's not even a matter of me remembering it, but having ever experienced it at all. Is it possible I was never happy?

LISA

In this way it is. It sounds like he's showing you a different approach to life.

RAFI

And a different approach to kissing. It's amazing. I was only gone for a few days but I missed him. I can't remember ever feeling that when Francis went out of town. But my mood is up and down. I switch between feeling great about life right now and breaking down thinking about how long I've been missing out. *

LISA

That makes sense. Perhaps you're not done mourning your loss and his presence just makes it resonate. But I'm proud of you for staying in the moment.

RAFI

He makes it possible. He can't keep his hands off me. It feels so good to know that he wants me, that he's attracted to me. *

LISA

This is so great! I'm so happy for you.

52 INT. DAVID'S APT - NIGHT

52

David has a fresh canvas set up on an easel and he is staring at the blank whiteness as if the work has already been done. The phone rings but he lets the machine pick up.

(CONTINUED)

52 CONTINUED:

52

LISA (V.O.)

David, it's Mom. Just wanted to say hi.
Oh, and Josh Friedman got engaged to a
chef! And she's Jewish! Isn't that
interesting?

53 EXT. STREET - NIGHT

53

Rafi stops in front of a mirrored panel outside a drugstore
to fix her hair. She looks beautiful.

54 INT. YAMA - NIGHT

54

Rafi and Dave are eating dinner. You can tell Rafi comes here
often as the wait staff seems very excited about her having a
date. Dave looks like he's on X he's so happy to see her. *

The sushi arrives and Rafi picks up a particular piece.

RAFI

Have you ever had Ikura with quail egg?

DAVE

No. What is that?

RAFI

I swear it's like having sex.

DAVE

That's a pretty bold claim.

RAFI

You want to try?

DAVE

How am I gonna say no, now?

Rafi places it in his mouth and as he eats it, eyes closed. *

DAVE (cont'd)

(continuing)

That's amazing.

RAFI

I know.

She reaches across the table and KISSES HIM. Dave seems a
little nervous here. It's a different kiss. More urgent. *

DAVE

How was your trip? *

(CONTINUED)

54 CONTINUED:

54

RAFI
Who cares?

55 INT. RAFI'S BEDROOM - LATER

55

Dave and Rafi are kneeling in bed facing one another. Dave helps her along by lifting up his shirt but not completely taking it off enabling Rafi to do the rest. *

Dave lays Rafi down and slips her shirt over her head, stopping in the same way that she did to him in her kitchen a week earlier. She begins to tremble slightly as he gently hovers above her chest. He slowly lowers himself until their skin touches. Stomach to stomach they barely slip against one another. It's gentle and maddening.

Dave pulls her shirt off completely and they find themselves staring at one another for a moment before they kiss deeply.

56 INT. BATHROOM - LATER

56

Rafi and Dave are standing in her clawfoot tub under a rain-shower head. They are leaning against the perfectly white, tiled wall, facing one another, one hip higher than the other. They are smiling.

RAFI
We just made love. *

DAVE
Yeah. We sure did. Feels like we waited forever.

RAFI
It does, doesn't it? *

DAVE
You and Francis didn't...?

RAFI
You're a painter so you'll understand that I referred to it simply as, the Biennial.

DAVE
So I wanted to ask you... You know, you didn't, uhh...

RAFI
(laughs)
What?

DAVE
You're gonna make me sweat, huh?

(CONTINUED)

RAFI
It's really cute actually.

DAVE
Did you come?

RAFI
No. You'd know.

DAVE
Right. Why not?

RAFI
It's just time. I don't know you very well.

DAVE
You weren't comfortable?

RAFI
I didn't say that. I just, I haven't been with anyone in a long time. And the man I was with kind of destroyed my trust. *

DAVE
But I'm not him. Or even a man, really.

RAFI
That's right. You're my boy.

DAVE
Okay, but seriously, I just want to please you.

Dave bows his head, suddenly unable to make eye contact.

RAFI
I know you do. Listen to me. I am happier at this moment than I've been in a long time. You will make me feel great. But you have to remember that I don't have the luxury or the freedom to just see what happens. *

DAVE
What does that mean?

RAFI
It means I have to be careful how much I give you.

Rafi walks down the hall toward Lisa's office. The OPERA SINGER is at it again. Only this time Rafi is LIP SYNCING to the song. She throws her arms into it and stretches her mouth to get the full effect.

57 CONTINUED:

A woman walks out of her apartment and sees her carrying on. Rafi immediately goes into head-down-quick-walk mode as she makes a bee-line for the office door.

58 INT. THERAPIST'S OFFICE - DAY

58

We come in mid-session. Rafi is smiling ear to ear.

LISA

I am so happy for you!

RAFI

It was great. He's really very sweet.
(solemnly)
I didn't have an orgasm though.

LISA

Completely normal.

RAFI

I thought of Francis while we were making love. Not in a sexual way. I just thought of him, what he's done to me and then that was it. I couldn't.

LISA

Well there are so many trust issues there. You have to give it time.

RAFI

(giggling)
And I'm willing to do the work god-damnit!

LISA

Do you still worry about his age?

RAFI

Definitely. At one point last night I actually thought to myself, 'You could get arrested for this in some countries'. I mean, 23 years old.

LISA

I thought you said he was 27.

RAFI

(fumbles)
Did I? I did. I'm sorry. I lied to you about that.

LISA

Why do you think you lied?

RAFI

I was, am embarrassed about his age. He's just so young.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

RAFI (cont'd)

I mean I don't think about it when I'm with him because he's so mature, you know, emotionally. If you met him you'd see it right away.

LISA

Really? What does he do?

RAFI

He's an artist, a painter. He doesn't call himself that, but that's what he is. He has some issues about it. His family doesn't support him in his work at all.

Lisa stares at Rafi as a very SPECIFIC IDEA first enters, then lodges itself in her head.

LISA

Where does he live?

RAFI

Grand street. Lower East Side. I haven't been there yet. He has roommates so I'm not exactly running over. *

LISA

Okay. Our time is up. I'll see you next week?

RAFI

Of course. Are you okay?

LISA

No. I'm fine. I just have to be somewhere.

RAFI

Okay. Bye.

LISA

Bye.

Rafi walks out. Lisa goes to the door and looks in the peep hole before...

LISA (cont'd)

(continuing)

Shit, shit, shit!!!

Dave and Morris are sitting at the basketball courts waiting for next. All three courts are packed with people waiting. *

DAVE

So we're sitting there eating Japanese and then next thing I know we're going up to her place. No segue or nothing. *

(MORE) *

(CONTINUED) *

DAVE (cont'd)

It's like, 'I'm done eating, you're mine now Jew.'

MORRIS

Just like that? You didn't have to say any stupid shit about using her bathroom or whatever?

DAVE

No. She just told me it was go-time.

MORRIS

Damn! Alright, so then what happened?

DAVE

She says she'll meet me upstairs. I think she wanted to clean her place or something.

MORRIS

Right, probably had to move the monster dildo off the bed.

DAVE

(disgusted)

Morris, why? So I tell her I have to go to the deli anyway for some smokes.

MORRIS

But you don't smoke.

DAVE

Sure I do.

MORRIS

No you don't.

DAVE

Yes, I do.

MORRIS

No you don't. So you get the jimmies from the deli and you go back.

DAVE

(relents)

Yeah basically. But yo, the doorman's still sweating me. You know she told him I was coming. But he makes me wait while he calls up.

MORRIS

Pizza's Here!

DAVE

What?

(CONTINUED)

MORRIS

This is how every porno delivery scene starts. Pizza's here!!

The game ends and someone yells out...

PLAYER

Who got next!!??

Morris and Dave are up and walking onto the court.

DAVE

You will never have any type of meaningful relationship. Ever. I'm talking your whole life here.

61 EXT. THOMPKN'S SQUARE PARK - CONTINUOUS

61

A short montage begins where we see them make a couple of plays and win a couple of games. Dave and Morris are really GOOD. They play amazingly well with each other.

The montage ends with Dave shooting a long outside shot to end the game. He looks behind him AND THERE SHE IS.

Rafi is standing there watching. She looks beautiful. Dave and Morris walk over. Dave kisses her quickly. We can see he's nervous about Morris being there.

RAFI

That was incredible.

DAVE

What?

MORRIS

Thanks.

RAFI (cont'd)

Your game. You play like a professional.

Rafi looks utterly amazed at his athletic abilities. Morris looks confused by her passion and sincerity.

DAVE

Thanks. We've been playing together for years. Rafi this is Morris.

RAFI

Hi. I've heard a lot about you.

MORRIS

Wassup.

(to Dave)

Yo, I gotta jet.

DAVE

(to Rafi)

Gimme a minute.

(CONTINUED)

61 CONTINUED:

61

Dave and Morris walk out of earshot. *

MORRIS *

Yo, is she a crack head? *

DAVE *

What!?

MORRIS *

She was giving you props like you were
her dealer or some shit. And the way she
was looking at you yo... *

DAVE *

That's love nuggah. *

MORRIS *

I think it's crack. *

62 EXT. EAST VILLAGE - DAY

62

Dave and Rafi are walking down the street. Dave is still in
his hoops gear so he looks closer to his age. PEOPLE STARE as
they walk arm in arm. *

DAVE *

Do you think people stare at us because
they're thinking about calling child
welfare or because they can see we're in
love? *

Rafi looks at him silently. She wants to respond but doesn't. *

63 INT. RAFI'S APARTMENT - LATER

63

We're in Rafi's empty living room as we hear her CLIMAX from
the bedroom. *

59 INT. THERAPIST'S OFFICE - DAY

59

This is not Lisa's office. This one belongs to another
therapist, an Indian woman in her mid 60's. RITA.

Lisa is on the couch this time. She is a COMPLETE WRECK.

RITA

Oh my god. I don't believe it.

(CONTINUED)

LISA

I know. What the hell am I supposed to do here? End treatment? Keep going?

(laughs nervously)

Bring them in for a couples session?

RITA

Do you think you can you try to do what's in her best interest?

LISA

I don't even know what that is right now.

RITA

Well, if this doesn't go anywhere...

LISA

(laughs nervously)

And I really don't think it will.

RITA

...then you'll be relieved you stayed with her now. If you end her treatment and they stop seeing each other in two weeks you'll have not served her best interests.

LISA

That's true.

RITA

But if it does go somewhere, then you're going to have a problem. You'll have to end your relationship with her, and you'll have to deal with serious repercussions in your relationship with David.

LISA

So what, are you saying I should keep treating her?

RITA

If you think this is just a fling, yes.

LISA

That sounds crazy. Is it ethical?

RITA

Your job is to help her. That's your ethical boundary.

LISA

I don't know. I don't know if I can do this. Let's say they don't break up. How long would I have to go on with it before saying something?

(CONTINUED)

RITA

It's tricky. I would say six weeks at the most even if things look like they aren't going to work out between them. And obviously, right away if you think they've fallen in love. You'll have to feel it out.

(beat)

Okay. Now forgetting all of the professional implications for a moment, how are you doing?

LISA

(starts crying)

I'm a wreck. Rafi's 14 years older than him. Shit. That's her name, okay? It's personal now and we'll just leave it at that.

RITA

It's okay Lisa. You haven't done anything wrong.

LISA

She's drawn to his youth. I get it. But she's also still very vulnerable from her marriage. She's in no position to jump back into something serious this soon.

RITA

I thought you said it wouldn't last.

LISA

Well, I'm just saying if it did, okay? And anyway, David's simply too young to be in a relationship like this. It's too much. He should be experimenting and having fun.

RITA

Maybe that's what he's doing.

LISA

I don't know.

(beat)

Rita, she's not even Jewish.

RITA

If she were Jewish would you feel better about him dating a 37 year old divorcee?

The two women just sit there for a moment.

LISA

(continuing)

Why don't I trust my son to make the right decisions?

(CONTINUED)

08/25/2004

Blue

59

CONTINUED: (3)

59

RITA

He's moving away from you. That's what's
scaring you. He won't go far so long as
you let him. Let him.

*

(CONTINUED)

08/25/2004

Blue
59

59 CONTINUED: (4)

*

4 INT. - RAFI'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

64 *

Dave is in the bathroom Q-Tipping his ears after a shower.

DAVE
(calling out)
I'm not trying to freak you out here but
these Q-Tips are amazing.

RAFI (O.S.)
You're freaking me out. What are you
talking about?

DAVE
Well, we never had them growing up. I
mean I saw them in my Mom's bathroom but
I never used them.

Rafi appears in the doorway and Dave, who had been analyzing
the dirt on the Q-tip, hides it behind his back.

RAFI
How did you clean your ears?

DAVE
We didn't. We just towel dried them I
guess.

RAFI
Let me see the Q-tip.

DAVE
No way.

Rafi breaks out laughing and walks away.

65 INT. LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

65

DAVE
I don't want you to get the wrong idea
about my family.

RAFI
Sensitive subject?

DAVE
No. Maybe. Okay, I've been having trouble
with my Mom concerning you.

RAFI
Concerning me?

DAVE
Well it's just that I wanted her to meet
you and she said no.

(CONTINUED)

RAFI

That's sweet but don't you think it's a little early to be introducing me to your mother?

(beat)

She said no? Why?

DAVE

I told you she has a problem with your not being Jewish.

RAFI

But she won't meet me?

DAVE

I know. Why do you think I'm upset? We're not speaking right now.

RAFI

I don't understand. She's a therapist.

DAVE

How do you think I feel?

RAFI

Didn't you say she met that black girl you dated?

DAVE

No way. My mother doesn't even know about that. That was my Bubi. My dad's mom.

CUT TO:

66 INT. APARTMENT BUILDING HALLWAY - FLASHBACK- DAY

66

Dave stands in front of a door holding hands with a black girl. She has cornrows in her hair and is dressed fashionably.

*
*

Dave's Bubi (grandmother) answers the door. She is straight outta the ghetto, Warsaw, not Compton. House coat, babushka on her head and a frying pan in her hand.

BUBI

Duvidul.

DAVE

Hi Bubi. I wanted you to meet my girlfriend. Radjina this is my Bubi, Bubi this is Radjina.

Bubi stares at Radjina for a moment, then at David, then back to Radjina where she HOLDS HER GAZE for a good 15 seconds of COMPLETE SILENCE. Then, finally, she speaks:

(CONTINUED)

BUBI
Is she black?

7 INT. RAFI'S APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

67

Rafi is laughing out loud.

DAVE

It's really not funny. My bubbi died three weeks later. She never told anyone about Radjina but considering her reaction and subsequent death I thought maybe it would be a good idea to keep it quiet.

RAFI

Oh my god. I'm sorry but that's hysterical.

DAVE

I swear I think she went into the house after that and hit herself over the head with that frying pan. That's the image that always pops into my head when I'm doing something wrong. Just her whacking away with that skillet.

*

58 INT. THERAPIST'S OFFICE - DAY

68

Rafi talks as Lisa sits tight lipped. She's all tied in knots, trying to be reserved, fair, present. It's a JOB.

RAFI

It's amazing! It's just incredible! This was the best thing I could have ever done. You're so right about Jewish men. So attentive. But you know, you're married to one.

LISA

Yes, but he has ADD.

RAFI

I'm sorry but I just can't get over it. I feel a little awkward telling you this stuff but I have to tell someone.

Lisa drinks water from a tall glass.

*

LISA

MmmHumm.

RAFI

We've had sex on every surface in my apartment. I haven't gotten much sleep lately. He wants to please me so badly. And I feel the same for him.

*

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

RAFI (cont'd)

He makes me want to do things I never really wanted to do before. You know like...

LISA

(stopping her)

Uh-huh. I understand.

Lisa, forgoes the glass and is now drinking out of the water bottle directly.

RAFI

You're gonna laugh but he didn't really know where the clitoris was.

Lisa is dying. It's too much. But she's hanging on.

LISA

Really? Did you show him?

RAFI

Of course! He's so uninhibited. Just happy to learn. He doesn't have that much experience. He's only been with two women before this.

This is obviously news to Lisa. She thought he was a virgin.

LISA

He's had sex with two other women?!

RAFI

I know! Can you believe that's it? Now I understand why men are always looking for younger women. There's something to it. His youth, his body, his naivete, his god damn eagerness. Isn't this great?

LISA

Amazing.

RAFI

Listen, I just have to say this because I'm too embarrassed to tell anyone else. His penis...

LISA

Oh my God.

RAFI

...is so beautiful, that I swear, I want to knit it a hat.

Lisa looks like she may need smelling salts.

RAFI (cont'd)

(continuing)

Did you ever imagine I would be this satisfied? Sexually?

(CONTINUED)

LISA

Not like this. Are you using protection?

RAFI

Of course. He even brought it up. He's very responsible.

*
*

LISA

Well, that's good. Is he neat?

RAFI

What?

LISA

Does he pick up after himself? Make the bed in the morning? Ask before using the phone?

RAFI

Yes, why?

*

LISA

(covering)

Well, you can tell a lot about a man from those things.

RAFI

He's pretty neat. He has some unusual habits though. He told me that he never used a Q-tip before. What kind of mother doesn't show their child how to clean their ears?

LISA

(defensive)

Pediatricians say it's unhealthy for a child to use them because they can damage the ear drum. And it's been shown that a small amount of ear wax helps protect the inner canal from larger debris.

RAFI

Uh, okay. I didn't know that.

LISA

(retreating)

I'm sorry. Tell me what it is that you're trying to say.

RAFI

I'm nervous about where this is going. I want to give myself over to him completely. Let go of everything. And it's tempting. It's all he wants from me.

LISA

Who wouldn't want all of you? You're an amazing woman Rafi.

(CONTINUED)

RAFI

But then I think he's just too young to handle the responsibility. I'm scared to put myself out there like that. There's things I want that he can't provide right now.

LISA

That's a pretty mature line of thought. I'll bet his intentions are pure but he doesn't sound like he really knows what he's getting himself into.

RAFI

You think I should break it off now?

Lisa stops and thinks. It's a real moment for her.

LISA

Well... I'm not going to answer that. I want to invest in your ability to decide what's right for you. Just remember, if things don't work out he gets to walk away and be 23.

RAFI

Well I'll say this much. Age aside, he gives me more of what I really need than anyone else ever has. Real things. Things I never got. Makes it hard to harp on age or religion or anything really. Because I'm just happy.

*
*
*
*
*
*

69 INT. TRAVELART - DAY

69

Dave is at work on a crate when one of the managers approaches from the office.

*

MANAGER

Hey Dave. Bad news. I gotta cut you back to one day a week.

DAVE

No way. Not now.

MANAGER

I might not even have that next month. Things are really slow and you're lowest guy on the pole.

70 INT. DAVID'S APT - DAY

70

*

Dave walks in to find his grandparents at the kitchen table playing Rummy Cue.

(CONTINUED)

SAM
What's wrong David?

DAVE
I lost my job.

BLANCH
I'm sorry. Did you hear Josh Friedman got engaged to a chef?

DAVE
(snaps)
Yes, I heard! Truffle matzoh balls.
Amazing!

BLANCH
You better tell him about the Kushners Sam.

SAM
We're trading apartments with the Kushners starting August 1st.

DAVE
In Miami?

SAM
Yeah. You'll have to live somewhere else while we're gone.

DAVE
Come on. Not now. This is the worst possible time. And who goes to Florida in August?

BLANCH
That's what I said.

SAM
What are you talking about? It's beautiful this time of year.

DAVE
Grandpa, it's a sauna down there and it rains every single afternoon. The Kushners are taking you for a ride.

BLANCH
I told you Sam.

SAM
(shouting)
What does he know? It's a condominium!
We're going!

Dave makes his way around the bustle of a fashion shoot. He looks lost, having never been in such an environment.

71 CONTINUED:

He stops at the catering table where a young Italian man is talking to three of the models.

DAVE

Do you know where Raphael Gardet is?

MAN

Uhh, who are you?

DAVE

I'm Dave.

MAN

(trying to be cute)

Hi Dave. Are you one of the models?

DAVE

No. Are you the hairdresser?

MAN

Excuse me?

DAVE

(smiling)

I think you heard me.

RAFI (O.S.)

Dave! Hi.

Rafi comes over looking so happy to see him. She senses something is wrong and a very uncomfortable moment ensues as Dave and the client just stare at one another.

72 INT. MILK STUDIOS - LATER

72

Dave is watching the photo shoot from the sidelines. One of the models, SUE, who saw the exchange earlier, saddles up. She stands next to him for a moment before speaking.

SUE

Are you the hairdresser?

Dave smiles, obviously flattered.

SUE (cont'd)

(continuing)

That was good. I really enjoyed that.

73 INT. ELEVATOR - CONTINUOUS

73

The shoot is over as Dave and Rafi head down in the large, open elevator. A couple of other people are with them.

RAFI

Jesus Dave. That was not cool.

(CONTINUED)

73 CONTINUED:

DAVE

The guy's a schmuck.

RAFI

A schmuck? That's the client Dave. That's who I'm working for. Who are you? What were you thinking?

DAVE

They cut me to one day a week at work. Then I find out I have to be out of my place on Monday. I'm gonna be broke in a month.

(beat)

But I'm sorry. Okay? I am sorry.

Rafi looks at him and the anger slowly melts away.

74 INT. RAFI'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

74

The pair are sitting in the living room.

RAFI

So were you, like, gonna fight the head of a major fashion house today?

DAVE

Like, totally.

RAFI

No really, I'm serious.

DAVE

No. You were working there.

RAFI

Let's say I wasn't.

DAVE

Maybe then.

RAFI

Because he was a shmuck, right?

DAVE

That's it baby.

Dave crawls over to her.

DAVE (cont'd)

(continuing)

I think it's sexy when you curse in Yiddish.

They kiss.

(CONTINUED)

RAFI
It's Friday night.

DAVE
Yeah, so? You want to start observing Sabbath?

RAFI
No. I want to know what a normal Friday night was like for you before you met me. You didn't sit around fireplaces in the Village drinking Merlot.

DAVE
You're right. We stood around trash can fires on the Bowery drinking 40's.

RAFI
Come on. What did you do? Show me.

DAVE
You sure?

RAFI
Yeah.

Dave picks up the phone and dials a number.

DAVE
Hey Morris. It's me. Did you guys start Dungeons & Dragons yet?

Rafi looks on in complete shock.

DAVE (cont'd)
(continuing; to Rafi)
I'm kidding. It's still ringing.
(Morris picks up)
Morris! What's the dilly? True. Fort Greene. Myrtle Ave? I'm coming. No, not dolo, with Rafi. Alright. Bet.
(hangs up)
Let's go.

Dave's waiting in the hall wearing baggy jeans and a T-shirt.

Rafi walks out wearing a pair of jeans and a sweater. Dave grabs a hooded sweatshirt from her closet.

DAVE
Switch this out with the sweater.

RAFI
You sure?

75 CONTINUED:

75

DAVE

Yep.

She puts it on and Dave studies her for a moment, then pulls on the hood.

RAFI

Are we gonna commit a felony on the way over?

76 EXT. FORT GREENE HOUSE PARTY - NIGHT

76

Tenement building. People are sitting on the stoop. Hip-Hop blares from inside.

Dave and Rafi both look nervous. She, because she's out of her element and he, because he's with her.

77 INT. FORT GREENE HOUSE PARTY - CONTINUOUS

77

The place is on fire. Hot and sweaty with music so loud it feels like the house is moving. Everyone's dancing.

Morris spots them and runs up. He's with TWO OTHER FRIENDS, one black and one latino. He also has a gorgeous GIRL on his arm. They are one of the few white people in the joint.

FRIENDS

DB! What up!?

MORRIS

My nigga.

DAVE

What's going on kid?

They pound.

MORRIS

This is Carla.

DAVE

Hey. This is Rafi.

Introductions are made. Rafi looks fine now. Dave does not.

MORRIS

This shit is hot yo.

DAVE

Yeah, it looks good.

MORRIS

You need to relax son, let's go get a drink.

(CONTINUED)

77 CONTINUED:

DAVE

(to Rafi)

Yo, I'll be back in a hot second.

Rafi looks wholly amused by his newfound lingo.

RAFI

Uhh, okay.

78 INT. KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

78

An impromptu bar has been set up.

MORRIS

Yo, I think you got something with this whole older broad deal. I'm gonna find me a cougar.

*
*

DAVE

Oh yeah?

MORRIS

Yeah. I'm in the 30-something game now too kid. I've been on the hunt for a few weeks. I figure it's a good way to get some spending cash and have a second place in the City.

(Dave looks far away)

What's wrong son?

*

DAVE

I don't know. It just feels weird having her here.

MORRIS

You want to mack, don't you?

DAVE

Nah, it ain't that. I want to be with her. I'm just thinking too much. You know, her age, her background. It shouldn't matter but it does. She don't really belong here.

MORRIS

Oh, and we do? Yo, she looks good. Like a little raver chick. Just let it go D. Enjoy yourself.

They slam back shots and go back to the girls/women.

9 INT. FORT GREENE HOUSE PARTY - LATER

79

Dave finds Rafi with TWO BLACK GUYS who don't seem to have an issue with either her age or background.

(CONTINUED)

DAVE
How you doing?

RAFI
Chillin.

She gets up after a moment of making him sweat.

DAVE
Chillin huh?

She leads him to the dance floor.

RAFI
Do you not use prepositions when you're
in Brooklyn?

DAVE
What are you talking about?

RAFI
Should I learn to talk like that too?

DAVE
You should dance baby. You should just
dance.

And they dance. Dave doesn't care anymore. He's living in the
moment. Music moves them both. Age means nothing.

80 INT. CAB - LATER

80

Rafi is drunk and singing a Biggy track she heard at the
party. Dave is loving it.

RAFI
Kick-in the door, wavin the 44... All
ya heard was Papa don't hit me no more.

The sample on the track, Sylvia Striplin's *You Can't Turn Me
Away*, mixes in as Rafi sings the lyric.

DAVE
You're turning me on with that shit. Who
knew?

Rafi straddles him in the back of the cab.

RAFI
I want to go to your place. We never go
to your place.

DAVE
Rafi, you know I got roommates.

RAFI
I want to see your paintings.

(CONTINUED)

DAVE

You're not missing much.

RAFI

Convenient and weak. I want to go. Right now. I want to see where you sleep when you're not in my bed.

81 INT. DAVID'S APT - CONTINUOUS

81

They tip-toe into the foyer and head toward Dave's bedroom. Rafi stops DEAD IN HER TRACKS as they pass the living room. She GRABS Dave's hand and stands silent.

Think: Close Encounters when the ship comes down.

The camera turns 180 and we see that every piece of furniture is covered in CLEAR PLASTIC. Not for storage mind you, but honest to goodness seat coverings.

RAFI

Who are your roommates?

BLANCH (O.S.)

(screeching)

Is that you David?

DAVE

Yes. Go to sleep grandma.

They continue down the hallway. Rafi is trying to keep it together and not burst out laughing.

DAVE (cont'd)

(continuing)

Gimme a break. It's embarrassing enough.

RAFI

Where's the bathroom?

Dave points to a door.

BLANCH (O.S.)

Did you eat?

DAVE

Yes, yes. I ate. Good night.

82 INT. DAVID'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

82

Dave is kneeling by his bookcase which is filled with Robert Ludlum and Stephen King. He starts grabbing for dusty CLASSICS on the top shelf to cover up. Moby Dick blocks out most of the Bourne series (Identity, Supremacy, etc.) War & Peace takes out the Dark Tower trilogy and Christine.

(CONTINUED)

Rafi walks in and he basically LEAPS away from the bookcase.

RAFI
What were you doing, stashing all your pornos?

DAVE
Yeah, and all the posters had to come down too.

Rafi reaches down and grabs one of the books not completely hidden. *

RAFI
The Dark Tower series. Do you have the Drawing of the Three? *

Dave looks too shocked to even speak. *

RAFI (cont'd)
You like that, huh? *

Rafi turns to the canvas-filled room with wonder. *

RAFI (cont'd)
Why are they all facing away? *

DAVE
I don't know. Who wants to look at my paintings all day?

RAFI
We really need to talk about this thing you have with your art. It's weird. Like you think it's a sin or something.

Dave looks far away as we see his thoughts VISUALIZED:

83 INT. BUBI'S KITCHEN - DAY

83

His now deceased Bubi is standing over the counter cutting vegetables (to be deep fried).

Dave is wearing a "Palestinians Do It Better" T-shirt.

DAVE (O.S.)
Bubi, I've decided I'm going to be an artist.

She immediately GRABS the SKILLET and starts HITTING HERSELF ON THE HEAD with it. Causing no actual injury, it only makes a very cartoonish "Bong" sound every time she makes contact.

4 INT. DAVID'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

84

Rafi motions to the canvasses.

(CONTINUED)

RAFI

Can I?

DAVE

(defeated)

Why not.

Rafi slowly turns them over one by one.

The paintings are mostly portraits. The subjects, however, are unique. They're all minorities from his neighborhood.

(CONTINUED)

Mostly Latinos and African-Americans. They are all set against urban backdrops - graffiti covered building facades, subway stations, etc.

RAFI

Dave, you're really good. This is amazing. This is what you should be doing. You've got to keep painting.

DAVE

Yeah, but it's not a life.

RAFI

Says who? Are you crazy? This is the kind of life a lot of people wish they had. You have a talent Dave. You don't have the right *not* to do this.

*
*
*

Rafi makes her way to the easel on which Dave's latest work rests, a small piece covered by a printed pillow case.

DAVE

No, I'm not ready for you to see that one. It's not finished.

RAFI

Okay.

The room glows with streetlight. Rafi and Dave are crowded onto his twin bed. His paintings are facing the wall again.

RAFI

So when do you have to be out of here?

DAVE

Monday.

RAFI

You're cutting it close aren't you?

DAVE

I'll just go to Morris' place.

RAFI

But it's a studio.

DAVE

He's my boy.

Rafi looks off and thinks carefully before speaking.

RAFI

Maybe you could stay with me for a while.

DAVE

You serious?

(CONTINUED)

85 CONTINUED:

RAFI

Yeah. It'll be fun having you around.

DAVE

But I can't afford to pay rent.

RAFI

I know. There's other things you can do.

DAVE

(smiles wide)

Aiight.

RAFI

I mean like laundry and groceries you little shit.

DAVE

Right. Right, that too.

(beat)

Hey Raff. Are you sure about this? I don't want to impose on you or anything.

RAFI

I want you to.

86 INT. DAVID'S APT - LATER

86

Rafi gets out of bed, careful not to wake David, and moves to the covered easel. She slowly takes off the sheet.

It's a portrait of DAVID AND MARY MAGDALEN, who is in period dress. David is SITTING ON MARY'S LAP in the painting. He's twice her size. He sits with his legs off to the side.

*

87 INT. DAVID'S APT - CONTINUOUS

87

Rafi wakes up in a cold sweat, sitting straight up. A nightmare. She looks over to see Dave, sound asleep. The easel stands in the corner, still covered.

88 INT. BLOOMBERG HOME - MORNING

88

David is in his old room storing some clothes away in preparation for moving into Rafi's place. His sister, Dinah, is there with him.

DAVE

You're lucky. I'm just paving the way for you. It's the curse of the eldest child. When this is all over you'll be able to bring home Jay-Z.

(CONTINUED)

88 CONTINUED:

DINAH
Are you and Mom talking?

DAVE
Not really. She's just a different person
these days.

Lisa walks in the room and it falls silent.

LISA
What are you doing?

DAVE
I'm just dropping off some clothes.

LISA
You're not going to stay here?

DAVE
No. I'm gonna move in with Morris. Tell
you the truth, I didn't know you'd even
want me here.

LISA
Don't be melodramatic. This is your home.
We are your family. Even if you did bring
home Jay-Z.
(beat)
I have a patient coming so be careful
when you leave.

89 EXT. HALLWAY - CONTINUING 89

Rafi is walking down the hallway toward the office.

90 INT. BLOOMBERG HOME 90

David moves toward the front door to leave.

91 EXT. HALLWAY - CONTINUING 91

Rafi walks past the apartment door that Dave is heading for
and as she does we see the DOORKNOB BEGIN TO TURN.

92 INT. THERAPIST'S OFFICE - CONTINUING 92

Lisa, sitting at her desk, suddenly realizes what is about to
happen.

3 EXT. HALLWAY - CONTINUING 93

Rafi knocks on the door to Lisa's office, one door over from the apartment, as David WALKS OUT. He sniffs at the air recognizing her smell.

The apartment door opens toward Rafi so she can't see who it is. They stand there for a moment, EIGHT FEET away from one another, an open door, THREE INCHES thick, the only thing separating them.

The door Rafi is standing in front of is suddenly RIPPED OPEN and Lisa basically PULLS her into the office.

LISA
I'm so sorry to keep you waiting.

RAFI
I just knocked this second.

LISA
That's funny. I feel like I'm late.

34 EXT. HALLWAY - CONTINUING 94

Dave walks out and looks back toward the closing office door.

35 INT. THERAPIST'S OFFICE - CONTINUING 95 *

RAFI
He's moving in with me. *

LISA
What? Weren't you just saying that you didn't think he could provide you with what you need? *

RAFI
I'm still unsure, but I figure I should give it a shot. You always say it's better to just get messy in life. At least you know you're living. Remember? You told me I deserved a little happiness. *

(MORE) *

(CONTINUED)

RAFI (cont'd)

Anyway, if he can't give me what I need then I'm only going to find out sooner if he's living with me. Besides, he has nowhere else to go.

LISA

He said that?

RAFI

Yes. His best friend has a tiny studio and he's not getting along with his mother. She hates me by the way. Did I tell you that?

LISA

No. You hadn't mentioned it.

RAFI

Yeah, whole other story which I'm trying to not even think about. They say the kids of psychoanalysts are the most screwed up of all.

LISA

I've heard that.

Lisa notices a small picture of David above Rafi's head in the bookcase.

*
*

LISA (cont'd)

(continuing)

So he's moving in.

RAFI

Yeah. I think it'll be fun. That's what you said to do, right? Just have fun with this.

LISA

(distracted by photo)

That's right.

RAFI

What are you looking at?

Lisa jumps up and turns the PHOTO FRAME face down. She simultaneously grabs a book off the shelf.

LISA

I just remembered I had this book I wanted to show you...

We see the title of the book she pulled in a close up.

RAFI

"Lesbians and Kabbalah, a match made in heaven?"

(CONTINUED)

95 CONTINUED: (2)

LISA

Wrong book. I thought it was something else. Forget it. Sorry, what were you saying?

96 INT. RAFI'S APARTMENT - DAY

96

Dave is moving in. He doesn't have much with him but it's still enough to make Rafi nervous. *

RAFI

Here, I made some room in this closet for you.

Dave looks in the closet to see enough storage for one suitcase on the floor. The dowel is already 3/4 filled. *

DAVE

Thanks. I guess I'll keep my laptop in here.

RAFI

This isn't very good, is it? *

DAVE

It's fine. I'm just kidding. *

RAFI

I thought you were going to store most of your stuff in your grandparent's basement. *

DAVE

I am, it's okay, don't worry. Thanks baby. *

He hugs and kisses her, then walks into the living room. Rafi stands there for a moment staring into the closet. She then carefully starts to pull selected pieces out to make room for Dave. It's work for her. *

97 INT. LIVING ROOM - LATER

97

Rafi and Dave have just finished dinner and are sitting on the floor.

DAVE

That was so good Raf. I didn't know you could cook like that.

RAFI

I like seeing you eat.

DAVE

Do you have to go to work tomorrow?

(CONTINUED)

Rafi gives him a look.

RAFI

So just a couple of things for when I'm gone: Don't play the music too loud. The neighbor in 8C complains. Make sure you rinse your dishes before you put them in the dishwasher. Sometimes there's roaches in the summer. Oh, and if you're going out then...

DAVE

Look Raff, if this is too much for you I understand. I can stay with Morris. It's not a problem.

RAFI

I'm being a little nuts. I know. This just makes me really nervous. Sometimes I feel like this apartment is all I have. It's the one thing that's wholly mine and I feel like I have to protect it. I'm sure I'll mellow out in a couple of days.

A97 INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

A97 *

Rafi and Dave are sound asleep in bed. Rafi's leg is slung over Dave's hip. *

98 INT. RAFI'S APARTMENT - MORNING

98

RAFI

Okay. Time to go to work.

Rafi, dressed for work, walks over to the bed to kiss Dave goodbye.

DAVE

What's the deal with gentiles and the sugary sweet morning breath?

RAFI

You're such a charmer Dave.

He yanks her onto the bed. She relents easily.

99 INT. RAFI'S APARTMENT - LATER

99

Rafi is dressing again.

RAFI

Shit. I am so late.

(CONTINUED)

DAVE

I can't help it if you parade around here
fulfilling every working girl fantasy
I've ever had in my life. Maybe you need
to wear overalls until you get to the
elevator.

*

She hurries over to him, kisses him quickly, then leaves.

00 EXT. LONG ISLAND EXPRESSWAY - DAY 100 *

Perfectly sunny day. Terrible traffic. Radio blaring. Dave is driving Morris' car. Rafi has her feet hanging out the window. They look relaxed and happy.

101 EXT. HAMPTONS - CONTINUOUS 101

They drive past some beautiful homes on their way to...

102 EXT. EAST HAMPTON HOME - DAY 102

They pull into the gravel driveway of a beautifully restored clapboard home.

103 INT. MORRIS' CAR - CONTINUOUS 103

DAVE
(nervous)
Village People weekend.

RAFI
You'll be fine. I've been grooming you
for this moment.

DAVE
A Bette Davis marathon on the Turner
Classic Network hardly qualifies.

104 INT. EAST HAMPTON HOME - CONTINUOUS 104

PALMER and JASON, an affluent gay couple, come to the door to greet them along with Katherine. We see Randall in the background but he doesn't run up like Palmer and Jason. He's playing it cool.

PALMER
Raphael!

JASON
Hi sweetie!

RAFI
Hey guys!
(notices Randall)
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

104 CONTINUED:

RAFI (cont'd)
Randall, get over here. I haven't seen
you in ages!

RANDALL
(looking at Dave)
I wonder why?

Katherine puts her arm around Dave like a sister would.

PALMER
Ignore him. He's just jealous he didn't
get in your pants first.

KATHERINE
Dave, this is Palmer and Jason.

DAVE
Hi.

JASON
We've heard all about you.

Palmer & Jason's Dauschaund walks in at this point. ALSAYSTE wears a spray collar. Basically, every time the dog BARKS a mist of citrus SPRAYS in his face, after which he SNEEZES.

Dave looks on in shock as Alsayste barks, gets sprayed and then sneezes.

PALMER
Alsayste!
(to Dave)
It's so he won't bark.

JASON
I think he's become addicted to the
stuff.

Dave leans down to say hello to Alsayste, who is by his feet.

DAVE
Hey boy.

Alsayste comes right up to his face, licks him, then barks. The spray hits BOTH OF THEM in the face. Alsayste sneezes as Dave FALLS BACK holding his eyes.

PALMER
Oh my god! I'm so sorry! Alsayste!

He barks again: spray - sneeze.

JASON
I'm putting you guys upstairs. The last
room on the left.

05 INT. STAIRWAY - CONTINUOUS

105

DAVE

So what does that mean 'he's heard all about me?' Aren't you supposed to say 'we've heard so much about you'?

RAFI

They're very close friends. I tell them everything.

DAVE

What do you mean everything?

RAFI

(trying not to laugh)

I tell all of my gay friends about your cock.

Dave stops and stares at her.

RAFI (cont'd)

(continuing)

Don't pretend you don't like that.

DAVE

Oh my god!

.06 INT. BEDROOM - LATER

106

Dave is bouncing around the room as Rafi unpacks.

DAVE

This place is amazing! I mean everything. Every room is perfect. Even the beds are awesome!

(he jumps on it)

We're gonna have vacation sex tonight.

RAFI

Oh really? What's vacation sex Dave?

DAVE

I don't know, but you're gonna get it.

Dave takes in the room then walks to the window.

DAVE (cont'd)

This place is amazing. I mean even the breeze coming through here seems perfect. Is it like this for all rich people?

RAFI

No, just gay rich people.

07 EXT. POOL - DAY

107

Everyone is outside sitting by the pool. Alsayste BARKS-
SPRAYS-SNEEZES right through the whole scene.

(CONTINUED)

JASON

Have you watched FOX lately? It's like the fascist party's private broadcasting station.

RAFI

Conservatives have to keep reminding themselves what they think.

PALMER

It's not that bad. Alsayste!!

KATHERINE

Please. You're the only registered gay republican in New York.

PALMER

It's just a tax thing. I'm to the left on every other issue. Alsayste!

JASON

The source of all my shame. You should move to Phoenix.

RANDALL

I think the Democrats need their own show pushing their own agenda.

PALMER

Maybe if they had an agenda.

RAFI

It would never fly anyway.

RANDALL

Why not?

JASON

Because Democrats don't need to be reminded that they're right.

RAFI

And no one would watch. It wouldn't be very interesting to hear Nader yelling about how we need a national health care system.

DAVE

I would watch that.

Rafi PATS Dave on the leg. It could be interpreted a million ways but Dave only feels one - patronized.

RAFI

They'd rather watch him be humiliated on the O'Reilly factor.

(CONTINUED)

RANDALL

Jason, you should go on and thoroughly embarrass the man.

JASON

Bill's not a huge fan of gay Jews as far as I can tell.

DAVE

You're Jewish?

JASON

Like it's my job. *

DAVE

Okay. I was gonna ask what's with the chef's German. I get it. *

Jason laughs out loud. Alsayste barks and sneezes off screen.

PALMER

Oh Alsayste, where is he?

DAVE

I'll get him.

Dave walks off. They wait until he's out of earshot.

JASON

Fiddler on a Hot Tin Roof!

PALMER

And so young. You cradle robber!

JASON

I think he's great. Smart and sweet. Just needs a little seasoning.

RANDALL

I think he's...

RAFI

You don't get to say. You're totally infatuated with him.

RANDALL

Maybe, but I'm still worried about you. He's so young and you're obviously falling for him.

JASON

So what? Fall. You look ten years younger and I've never seen you this happy. Stop discouraging her you jealous queen.

(CONTINUED)

107 CONTINUED: (3)

RANDALL

I'm just saying, you want to have a baby and he's not in any position to be giving you that. You're on the clock Rafi.

RAFI

Thank you Randall. That's sweet.

RANDALL

And he's got this weird relationship with his mother who wants him to marry someone named Rivkah or Devorah.

RAFI

Randall! Who asked you? And I think it's interesting that you call their relationship weird when all it is, is close. We should all be so lucky. Your mother still thinks you're straight for god's sake.

Dave returns with the dog in his hands.

RANDALL

So Dave, do you care if your kids are Jewish?

Dave looks ambushed by the question and thinks for a moment.

DAVE

I care if they're happy.

RAFI

Good answer.

Rafi pulls him down to her and kisses him.

108 INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

108

David and Rafi are getting dressed for dinner. Dave finishes first and watches her dress from a chair by the balcony.

A108 EXT. HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

A108

*

Dave and Rafi walk along the grounds together.

*

109 INT. EAST HAMPTON HOME - NIGHT

109

Everyone is at the dining room table. They're being served by a young German chef, CLAUDS. There are other guests at the table tonight as well. A young couple with an infant are there as well as Katherine and another friend of hers.

The conversations are all going on at once.

(CONTINUED)

08/25/2004

Blue
109

109 CONTINUED:

RAFI
Is he walking?

(CONTINUED)

109 CONTINUED: (2)

YOUNG MOTHER

He's just starting. He still holds onto the railing.

RAFI

He's adorable.

YOUNG MOTHER

Do you have any kids?

Dave looks up from across the table.

RAFI

No. *

YOUNG MOTHER

(continuing)

You want to hold him?

The mother hands her child over to Rafi who just melts. Claus brings in the next course and serves.

110 INT. MORRIS' CAR - NIGHT

110

Dave and Rafi are driving back to the City. Reality is setting back in. The silence, as compared to the raucous weekend they just shared, says it all. *

111 INT. RAFI'S APARTMENT - AFTERNOON

111

Dave is watching TV and playing with the cat when Rafi walks in. She looks exhausted. He clicks it off.

DAVE

Hi baby!

RAFI

Hey.

DAVE

Do you know you have over 500 channels on this thing? I watched the Malaysian Grand Prix today.

RAFI

(not enthused)

Really? That's amazing. Have you left the apartment since this morning?

DAVE

Umm, no. Why?

Rafi walks into the bedroom. Dave heads toward the kitchen, shuffling his feet.

(CONTINUED)

111 CONTINUED:

RAFI (O.S.)
What's going on with work?

DAVE
I called them today but they still only
have me on for one day a week. They said
things might pick up soon.

RAFI (O.S.)
Are you going to look for other work in
the meantime?

Dave walks into the bedroom.

DAVE
(continuing)
What's wrong?

RAFI
Nothing. I'm just zonked.
(exasperated)
Did you at least paint?

*
*
*

112 INT. RAFI'S APARTMENT - MONTAGE 112

Dave watches TV in his pajamas with a bowl of cereal.
Dave plays with the cat using his favorite toy.
Dave tries to paint, unsuccessfully.
Dave goes through the want-ads in the Times as he sings the
chorus to Freaks of the Industry.

116 INT. RAFI'S APARTMENT - MORNING 116 *

Dave sits in bed listening to her movements. Rafi leaves
without saying goodbye. *

117 INT. YAMA - NIGHT 117 *

Rafi is signing the credit card slip as Dave tries not to
watch. It's obviously emasculating for him. *

DAVE
(barely audible)
Thanks. *

RAFI
What? *

*
*
*
*
*

13 INT. MANI-PEDI JOINT - DAY

113

Rafi and Katherine are getting their hands and feet done together. A line of chairs spans the length of the room with a mix of women sitting in them.

RAFI

Sometimes he's just all there. I see the potential. I can see who he'll be in ten years. Then other times I think, he's only been with two women his whole life. What happens when I'm 50 and he's 36?

KATHERINE

What about things now?

RAFI

You're right. I'm thinking way too far ahead. Things are not so hot right now. He still doesn't have a job. He sits in my apartment all day. I have zero privacy when I get home.

(CONTINUED)

113 CONTINUED:

KATHERINE

This doesn't sound good. He really needs to get his own place.

RAFI

He needs a job first.

KATHERINE

This is a bad time.

RAFI

I know. I tried to get him something myself.

KATHERINE

(to the manicurist)

No, no, that's the wrong red Kim. Remember last time? What color was that?

RAFI

So I have to buy him a birthday present this week. Any ideas? I was thinking of getting him that Playstation thing. He keeps talking about it.

KATHERINE

Rafi. Let me ask you something. Do you like getting your pussy licked?

A few women all look over at once. Rafi looks like she wants to crawl under the chair. She nods yes. *

KATHERINE (cont'd)

Don't get Playstation. *

114 INT. RAFI'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

114

Rafi walks into the living room to find Dave on a PLAYSTATION. He barely even looks up as she stands over him.

RAFI

Will you come to bed?

DAVE

I'll be there right after this game.

She takes a moment then moves on to the bedroom.

(CONTINUED)

114 CONTINUED:

08/25/2004

Blue
114

*

18 EXT. ART GALLERY - NIGHT 118 *

A large crowd is shuffling into a Chelsea gallery for an opening. Dave and Rafi are among them.

119 INT. ART GALLERY - CONTINUOUS 119

They walk in and almost immediately, a group of people come up to Rafi to say hello. Dave does not make an effort to involve himself and Rafi does not make an effort to draw him in. He looks miserable.

120 INT. HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS 120

Dave wanders around looking for a friendly face until he sees SUE, the model from earlier, smoking a cigarette.

DAVE
Hey. Can I bum one?

SUE
Yeah, sure. We've met before.

DAVE
I know. At the studio.

SUE
You called Alexander Brandolini's son a hairdresser.

DAVE
Ruthless, aren't I?

SUE
You were dating Raphael at the time, right?

(CONTINUED)

120 CONTINUED:

120

DAVE
Yeah... Still am.

SUE
(laughs)
You sure?

121 INT. ART GALLERY - CONTINUOUS

121

Rafi is trying to hold a conversation while looking around for Dave.

COLLECTOR
I'd really like to take a look at his work. Is he here?

RAFI
I'm sure he'd love that. Let me go find him.

122 INT. HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

122

Rafi comes around the corner to find Dave and Sue laughing and smoking cigarettes. She turns away before they see her.

123 EXT. CHELSEA - LATER

123

Rafi and Dave are walking down 29th street. They're fighting.

DAVE
That's just not true! You make an introduction and then leave me out to dry. I don't know any of those people.

RAFI
Like when you left me alone at that house party in Brooklyn?

DAVE
Come on, you were fine there. You had two guys hitting on you. This was totally different. I could barely hold a conversation with any of them.

Rafi looks at him smugly and shrugs her shoulders.

DAVE (cont'd)
(continuing)
No, no, no. Not like that. They're boring and pretentious. You parade me around like a young stud and then stick me in coat check.

(CONTINUED)

RAFI

Well you don't seem to mind when we're alone or when we're in bed. Are you telling me that when we step into any sort of social situation that doesn't involve people you know you suddenly need to be hand held?

*

*

DAVE

You know what I mean. There's something not right about how you're treating me.

RAFI

Maybe you should tell Sue about it.

DAVE

Who?

RAFI

Oh and by the way, a collector I know wants to come take a look at your work.

124 INT. - RAFI'S ELEVATOR - LATER

124

They're coming home from the gallery and they both still look upset. You can tell not a single word has been said since they fought on the street. They alternate looking at one another until finally their gazes meet.

RAFI

You're driving me crazy Dave.

DAVE

And you're making me nuts.

RAFI

You still don't have a job.

DAVE

I'm trying. But you know, just staying out of your way feels like one.

RAFI

You're such an asshole.

*

DAVE

Ball and chain.

*

And that's it. They attack each other with kisses, tearing their clothing off in the elevator. The doors open and they literally fall out into the hallway, Rafi coming down on him.

DAVE (cont'd)

Okay. I think I broke something.

(CONTINUED)

124 CONTINUED:

124

RAFI
Just get me into bed.

125 EXT. CRATE & BARREL 125

This is the store on the corner of Broadway and Houston.

126 INT. CRATE & BARREL - CONTINUING 126

Lisa and Jack make their way up to the second floor where they stop at a nice teak bedroom set and sit down on the bed.

LISA
What do you think?

JACK
It looks very summery to me. *

LISA
South Pacific-ish, right? It looks like it should come with a little man holding a big palm leaf.

JACK
Where's the bathroom?

LISA
End of the hall, down there, make a left then a quick right.

JACK
Spend much time here?

LISA
Nope. Never been here before.

JACK
You know it's pretty amazing to see where your entire 401K is going to be spent 30 years before it matures.

LISA
I'm sorry, did you say something?

127 INT. CRATE & BARREL - CONTINUING 127

Jack heads toward the bathroom and Lisa sets off to look at the other bedroom sets.

She comes around a corner and there, about twenty feet in front of her are RAFI AND DAVID.

Lisa ducks behind a large wardrobe and then peeks her head out to look. Dave and Rafi are on one of the beds. Lisa watches them interact: talking, touching, laughing. *

(CONTINUED)

127 CONTINUED:

127

It's the first time that Lisa sees her son as his own entity, as a man. And the first time she realizes he's in love.

*
*

_28 INT. CRATE & BARREL - CONTINUING

128

Lisa finds Jack lying on the teak bed.

LISA

Jack, we have to go.

JACK

Why? What's wrong?

LISA

I have an appointment I forgot about.

JACK

You said your next patient's not until three.

LISA

I just have to go, okay?

Lisa looks up to see Rafi and Dave heading right toward them.

LISA (cont'd)

(continuing)

Shit! Let's go, under the bed.

JACK

What?

LISA

Now!

She jumps off the far side of the bed and hits the floor. Jack looks on in speechless shock. He is suddenly YANKED off the bed himself.

129 INT. UNDER BED - CONTINUING

129

Lisa and Jack are face to face under the bed. Lisa looks like she's approaching a nervous breakdown.

JACK

Is it a patient?

LISA

No, it's my lover. Yes, it's a patient. Now keep quiet.

.30 INT. CRATE & BARREL - CONTINUING

130

Rafi and Dave walk right by the bed.

31 INT. UNDER BED - CONTINUING 131

Lisa is watching feet going by to make sure they're gone.

JACK
You have to explain this.

LISA
You know I can't.

A salesperson is now standing over the bed and leans down.

SALESPERSON
Okay. You're scaring some of the customers.

132 INT. THERAPIST'S OFFICE - LATER 132

CLOSE ON:

Rafi's face.

RAFI
I was married to a man who couldn't love me. Now I'm with someone who can love me but who isn't really a man. At least not all the time. But then I think, well, he'll get it one day. I'm just tired of holding back.

*
*
*

LISA
I can see that.

RAFI
Maybe if I give myself over to him then he'll step up in the ways I need him to. He said he knows I'm not giving all of myself and that it's unfair to us.

LISA
He said that??!!

RAFI
Yes.

LISA
Unbelievable! Where does he get off!?

RAFI
All he's really saying is, who knows what's going to happen?

LISA
How can he promise you something like that!?

(CONTINUED)

132 CONTINUED:

RAFI
That's not exactly a promise Lisa. And I mean, it's true. No one can say what will be. What are you so upset about anyway?

Lisa finally gives up. She just can't handle it any longer.

LISA
I can't do this anymore. I'm sorry. I just can't.

RAFI
Do what?

LISA
We need to talk Rafi.

133 EXT. STREET - LATER 133

Rafi on the phone. VERY UPSET.

RAFI
We need to talk Dave.

134 INT. RAFI'S APARTMENT - LATER STILL 134

Dave on the phone. EQUALLY UPSET.

DAVE
We need to talk Mom.

135 INT. THERAPIST'S OFFICE 135

LISA
He's my son.

136 EXT. STREET - DAY 136

Rafi's on her cell phone.

RAFI
She's your mother!

137 INT. RAFI'S APARTMENT 137

DAVE
You're her shrink!?!

138 INT. THERAPIST'S OFFICE 138

Rafi is reeling from the news. She starts from the beginning.

(CONTINUED)

RAFI

Why does it say Lisa Rifkin on your door?

LISA

Rifkin's my maiden name.

Rafi sits there trying to figure out what to ask next. It's just too much. They sit there in silence for a long moment.

RAFI

I don't understand. How could you do this to me? You betrayed me.

LISA

Yes. I did betray your trust. But I did it to preserve our relationship. That seemed more important to me.

RAFI

Is this what you call preserving our relationship?

LISA

At the time it seemed like the right thing to do.

RAFI

What do you mean at the time? How long have you known?

LISA

I don't know that I should answer that.

RAFI

(getting angry)

I think we're past the 'should I answer that' or the 'why do you think you did that' stage here. How long?

LISA

Five weeks, four days.

RAFI

What!?

LISA

I wanted to make sure it wasn't just a fling. If it was, which you strongly suggested, then we would have been able to continue. Now, we're having a conversation that will most likely end our work together. Can you see that I wanted to avoid this conversation for your benefit?

RAFI

No. I think you did it to control your son's life.

(CONTINUED)

138 CONTINUED: (2)

LISA

That's just not true. Look, these last weeks have been a hell for me Rafi. I stayed in it for you and no other reason.

RAFI

I don't believe you. I feel betrayed. This is just too much. It's too confusing! I can't distinguish between your actions as a therapist and a mother. That you can give me advice to do as I please and not do the same for your son is wrong. I think you need to look at that.

LISA

Thank you. I'm working on that with my therapist right now.

RAFI

This whole thing is crazy! You let me talk to you about his penis!

LISA

Trust me, that was harder for me. Until last month I didn't even think my son had a penis!

139 EXT. STREET - LATER

139

Rafi's on her cell, walking in circles, talking to Dave.

RAFI

This is terrible. She knows what's going on for a month and doesn't say anything! How does that work?

*
*

DAVE (O.S.)

I don't think she was trying to deceive you. It sounds like she was just trying to protect you.

RAFI

Whose side are you on anyway?

140 INT. RAFI'S APARTMENT - LATER STILL

140

Dave on the phone. We intercut with Lisa's office.

DAVE

How could you deceive her like that? That was totally unethical!

LISA

How could I deceive her? Tell me, where are you making this call from?

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

140 CONTINUED:

140

LISA (cont'd)
You're at Morris' place, right? I mean
that's where you've been living, right?

Silence.

LISA (cont'd)
How dare you!? I care far more about her
well being than you. That's evident by
the choice you're making in continuing to
see her. What are you going to do now?

DAVE
Live a life.

LISA
Well I hope you make the right decisions
because you've got someone else counting
on you now.

DAVE
That's fine! I can handle it. I love her.

LISA
Great. Just don't call me to help you
clean up the mess!

DAVE
I won't!
(beat)
I mean there won't be a mess to clean up.

LISA
And I didn't buy Q-Tips because I was
trying to protect your ears!!

Click.

141 INT. RAFI'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

141

Rafi and Dave are in the living room. Rafi is still a wreck.

RAFI
This whole thing is insane.

DAVE
I don't even know what to say.

RAFI
Did you know?

DAVE
What!? Are you kidding?

RAFI
I just don't know what to believe.

(CONTINUED)

DAVE

It is strange though because this is the third time I've ended up dating one of my Mom's patients.

RAFI

What?

DAVE

I'm joking.

RAFI

This is so fucked up! Do you realize your mother now knows details about your penis?

DAVE

You told her about my penis? Jesus Rafi.

RAFI

Excuse me but I thought it was safe to assume it wouldn't get back to her.

DAVE

She better not use that to get me home for Thanksgiving.

RAFI

How can you make jokes?

DAVE

What else can I do?

RAFI

Get angry! Be outraged!

DAVE

I am! I can't believe she went this far. I'm furious that she tried to get me to break up with you all the while! I am angry. But I also know she cares about the people she helps. She cares a lot. I have to draw a line there.

RAFI

What is wrong with you? Are you that delusional? She was trying to control you. She still is.

DAVE

I'm not arguing with you. She does try and control me. And I hate it. All I'm saying is she would never use you to do that.

RAFI

You're so naive.

DAVE

Do you want me to go?

RAFI

Do you want to go?

DAVE

If you want me to.

RAFI

I just said I didn't.

DAVE

No you didn't.

RAFI

This is not the time to be testing me
Dave.

Morris and Dave are walking down West 10th Street between
Fifth and Sixth, a beautiful block of prewar brownstones.
Morris is carefully holding a Magnolia bag in front of him. *

MORRIS

So she's just letting you stay there rent
free huh?

DAVE

It ain't free. I'm paying in other ways.

MORRIS

Word nuggah!

DAVE

That's what I thought, but no, not like
that. This whole thing with my Mom has
just killed her. She's impossible to live
with these days.

They approach the address Morris has been looking for.

MORRIS

Alright. This is it. You gonna wait down
here?

DAVE

No I thought I'd stand next to you with
some paper towels. I'll meet you back at
Rafi's.

Morris begins to unpack the pie as he heads up the stairs.

DAVE (cont'd)

I can't believe you haven't made Page Six
yet.

(CONTINUED)

142 CONTINUED:

142

Morris presses the buzzer as Dave walks down the block.

43 EXT. STOOP - CONTINUOUS

143

FEMALE VOICE

Hello?

MORRIS

Hey it's me, Morris.

The voice totally changes.

FEMALE VOICE

I don't want you coming up here. I'll be
down in a minute.

Morris places the pie on a ledge near the door. The camera floats over his shoulder and we see RAFI'S BEST FRIEND, KATHERINE, coming down the hallway.

144 INT. RAFI'S APARTMENT - LATER

144

Dave is standing at the door on the wall phone.

DAMIEN (O.S.)

Morris is here.

DAVE

Tell him I'll be down in a minute.

MORRIS (O.S.)

Yo! Let me up. I gotta use the bathroom.

DAVE

No, I don't want you coming up here.

MORRIS (O.S.)

What is this, tonight's theme? Let me up
asshole.

145 INT. - RAFI'S APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

145

Dave and Morris are hanging out on Rafi's couch with beers in their hands.

MORRIS

This place is sick!

DAVE

I know.

MORRIS

Now I understand why you're taking her
shit.

(CONTINUED)

145 CONTINUED:

DAVE

That's not why. I mean I like living here but that's not why I'm with her.

MORRIS

Great apartment, friends with houses in the Hamptons, art connections. It's okay brother. Those are good reasons.

DAVE

No. That's not it.

MORRIS

Come on. She's got you tied up here like it's Pelican Bay. I barely see you anymore. I'm only here right now because she's not home.

A KEY is heard turning in the FRONT DOOR. Dave jumps.

DAVE

Oh my God, it's her. You gotta hide. The closet!

MORRIS

You're serious? I really can't be here?

DAVE

No. She doesn't like people in her living space.

MORRIS

What's her living space? Is the kitchen part of that?

DAVE

Just get in the fucking closet!

146 INT. CLOSET - CONTINUOUS

146

Morris climbs into the closet to find HENRY, the cat.

MORRIS

Wus up?

147 INT. - RAFI'S APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

147

Rafi walks in the door looking PISSED. Dave is just a WRECK.

DAVE

What are you doing home already?

RAFI

I thought you were hanging out with Morris tonight.

(CONTINUED)

147 CONTINUED:

DAVE
I was. I am.

RAFI
Well which is it?

DAVE
Both. We hung out and I'm meeting up with
him again later.

RAFI
What did you guys do earlier?

DAVE
What's wrong with you?

RAFI
Answer the question!

DAVE
Hey! I don't like this tone at all. You
better slow your roll.

148 INT. CLOSET - CONTINUOUS 148

MORRIS
That's how we do.

149 INT. RAFI'S APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS 149

RAFI
Slow my roll? Is that from a music video
you saw today while you were slumming in
my apartment?

DAVE
What?

RAFI
Are you telling me you didn't know Morris
threw a pie in Katherine's face tonight?

150 INT. CLOSET - CONTINUOUS 150

Morris is petting Henry. He stops immediately upon hearing
the last bit. Cat hair is floating all around and Morris
inhales one directly... and... SNEEZES loudly.

151 INT. LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS 151

RAFI
Is someone here?

(CONTINUED)

DAVE

What?

RAFI

Oh my god, do you have someone here?

DAVE

No. Of course not.

Morris ambles out of the closet.

MORRIS

Wus up?

RAFI

What the fuck is going on here?

DAVE

We were only here for a couple of minutes. When I heard you coming I panicked and told him to hide.

MORRIS

I told him it was a stupid idea.

DAVE

Rafi, you don't understand. I was only here...

RAFI

Long enough to have a beer with your sociopath friend.

DAVE

I didn't know he was going to see Katherine. Do you think I would let him if I had?

MORRIS

Is that better or worse than a psychopath?

RAFI

Yes I do. I think you're lying. And then I come home to this: People hiding in closets.

*

(CONTINUED)

151 CONTINUED: (2)

DAVE

This isn't such a big deal Rafi. You need to get over it. I'm not Francis! I'm not cheating on you, lying to you, avoiding you.

RAFI

Thanks. That's reassuring and in really good taste. Makes me feel really good.

DAVE

You know what? I can't do this anymore. Get a dog if you want to give orders! I don't give a shit anymore!

RAFI

I believe you.

Dave walks out the door with Morris in tow.

152 INT. MORRIS' APT - NIGHT

152

Dave is lying on a futon, wide awake. Morris is in bed just a couple of feet away, sleeping soundly, GRINDING HIS TEETH.

DAVE

Do you think if I kill you in your sleep she might take me back? I'll suffocate you with a thick chocolate mousse so you can say you died with irony.

Morris just keeps grinding away.

153 INT. BLOOMBERG HOME - DAY

153

Dave sits in his sister's room talking to Dinah.

DINAH

How many days has it been?

DAVE

Two.

DINAH

How many times have you called?

Dave just looks at her.

(CONTINUED)

DINAH (cont'd)

Double digits, huh? Well I think you should call again. Even when I'm mad at guys I still like getting the calls. It means they care.

DAVE

Okay, I'm gonna call one more time and then not again for at least an hour and a half.

DINAH

Sounds good.

Dave dials.

RAFI (O.S.)

Hi, I'm not in right now. Please leave a message and I'll call you back. Thank you.

DAVE

Raff, it's me. Again. I thought three was a charm not 43. How long is your answering machine tape? Have you changed it to a reel-to-reel set-up to deal with the recent volume of calls? Come on pick up. It's been two days. How many ways can I say I'm sorry? I miss you.

RAFI (O.S.)

Hello?

154 INT. YAMA - CONTINUOUS

154

The wait staff watches nervously from the sidelines. One of them brings out a platter with two pieces of Ikura with quail egg. The senior waiter puts a hand out in front to block him. He gives no explanation, only shakes his head, "No."

155 INT. TABLE - CONTINUOUS

155

Rafi and Dave are silent. They are just staring at each other. There is food in front of them but they aren't eating.

DAVE

I missed you like crazy.

Rafi smiles, says nothing.

RAFI

I think we need to take a break, start seeing other people.

DAVE

What?

(CONTINUED)

RAFI

I can't do this Dave. This just isn't right for me and now I don't trust you anymore.

DAVE

I was only showing him your place for a minute. I just wanted him to see how great it is. I wouldn't do that again. I promise.

RAFI

I believe you. But you were right Dave. It's not just that. You're in no place to give me what I need. And I get that. Then the whole thing with your mother, I mean, I don't even know what to say about that.

*

DAVE

It's crazy. I know. But just think, she stopped seeing you because she believes we're in love. That's the reason she came forward.

RAFI

This just isn't going to work out. Not now at least.

*

*

DAVE

(pleading)
That's it?

RAFI

For now. I'll call you when I can.

*

Rafi gets up and leaves.

Lisa is back in her therapist's office.

RITA

You don't look as relieved as you predicted.

LISA

Are you kidding? I'm devastated. I hurt my patient so she could have a life with my son. So what happens? My son hurts my patient. Now my patient hurts my son. I'm totally confused about my part in it. All I know is this is not how it was supposed to go.

RITA

I think you did the right thing Lisa. I believe they're in love.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

156 CONTINUED:

156

RITA (cont'd)

But you know that even love won't guarantee they're not hurting one another. If anything, it just makes it a likelihood.

157 INT. TRAVELART - DAY

157

Dave is building a crate. He looks lost.

158 INT. RAFI'S BUILDING - CONTINUOUS

158

Dave walks in and heads for the elevator. Damien stops him.

DAMIEN

What are you doing?

DAVE

I'm going up.

DAMIEN

She's not home.

DAVE

I'll wait.

DAMIEN

Outside.

Dave looks at the leather chair in the lobby.

DAVE

What? Did I lose chair rights? I'm a good kid. I don't know why you can't see that.

159 EXT. DAVID'S GRANDPARENT'S APT - DAY

159

Dave is waiting outside his old place. A cab rolls up with the collector from the gallery opening who asked Rafi about his work.

160 INT. BASEMENT - CONTINUOUS

160

The place looks like a junk yard. In the back, however, are David's paintings, all covered with cheap bed linen. Dave starts pulling them off one by one.

DAVE

Thank you for coming over here. I'm sorry the place is such a mess.

COLLECTOR

Well Rafi thought I'd like your work and I trust her judgement.

(CONTINUED)

DAVE
We broke up.

COLLECTOR
I'm sorry. I didn't know.

DAVE
She didn't say anything about it?

COLLECTOR
No.

Dave sinks into instant depression as the man goes wide with wonder looking at the paintings.

COLLECTOR (cont'd)
These are great. Do you have a gallery?

DAVE
No.

COLLECTOR
How much for the larger pieces?

DAVE
I don't know. I never sold one before.

COLLECTOR
Well, how much were you thinking?

DAVE
You're serious? I'm not gonna pretend like I know. What do you think's fair?

The art guy looks like Dave's grandfather would at a free buffet at Ratners.

COLLECTOR
I'll give you a thousand each for these two and I'll see what I can do about getting you a show.

DAVE
(in shock)
Done.

161 INT. MORRIS' APT - AFTERNOON

161

Morris is on the phone when Dave walks into the apt.

MORRIS
Look I know you're upset and you have every right to be. I know. I'm sorry. I understand we're not going to work out. Ever. Right. I got it. I'm just asking you to sit down with me for ten minutes and talk to me.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

161 CONTINUED:

100 161

MORRIS (cont'd)

I want to change, even if it can't be for you. I want to be a better person. I need your help. Ten minutes. I promise. Tuesday? I'll be there. Thank you.

DAVE

When will it end?

MORRIS

She's bourgeois baby. She needs this more than I need to do it.

DAVE

Well, I got some good news son.

CUT TO:

162 INT. - MORRIS' APT - LATER

162

Dave and Morris are staring at the check on the coffee table.

MORRIS

I don't believe it. You're gonna be a huge painter and I'm going along for the ride.

(beat)

Maybe I can write this whole pie thing off as performance art.

Dave picks up the phone and starts to dial.

MORRIS (cont'd)

Who you calling?

DAVE

Rafi. I want to tell her how it went and offer her some money for the time I lived there. She'll appreciate it.

MORRIS

What am I, chopped liver?

DAVE

I'm gonna try and pretend you didn't just say that. You're the reason...

MORRIS

Alright. Alright. Does this mean you're gonna get your own place?

*

We hear the beep from Rafi's machine in the background.

*

(CONTINUED)

162 CONTINUED:

162

DAVE
 (into phone)
 Hi Raff, it's me again. PLEASE pick up. I
 got some amazing news. Rafi. Rafi. Hello?

Nothing.

163 INT. RAFI'S APARTMENT - DAY 163

A thunder storm sweeps through the City.

Rafi is home working in the kitchen. Henry is sitting on the
 floor looking up at her with his favorite toy in his mouth. *

RAFI
 So you call him. *

164 INT. RAILROAD APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS 164

This is Dave's first apartment. Three tiny rooms in a row
 with windows in only the first and last. Dave sits on the
 floor taking a break from painting the place. He's eating a
 sandwich as the rain hits the window pane. *

.67 INT. DAVID'S APT - NIGHT 167

Morris is looking around the place. Dave looks depressed.

MORRIS
 It's very "the early years". Great
 painter's apartment. It'll look good when
 they come back to shoot the documentary.

DAVE
 Shut up.

MORRIS
 You've been hiding out long enough. We're
 going out. I'm picking an outfit out for
 you.

(CONTINUED)

167 CONTINUED:

167

DAVE
Leave me alone.

MORRIS
Something sexy. Maybe a strapless number.

165 EXT. PEASANT - NIGHT 165 *

Rafi is on a date with some Wall Street type. We see her through the window and she looks miserable. *

166 INT. PEASANT - CONTINUOUS 166 *

Wall Street guy is talking away. *

WALL STREET *

I'm thinking the pan-seared trout. But the salmon looks good too. Do you think it's wild or farm raised? *

RAFI *

Maybe we should try the carp. *

168 EXT. MARQUIS - NIGHT 168

Dave and Morris enter the club on 10th Ave.

169 INT. MARQUIS - NIGHT 169

Dave and Morris enter the nightclub and head toward the back when they pass SUE sitting with three other girls at a booth. She sees Dave and waves him over.

MORRIS
Hold the god damn mayo! You know this girl?

170 INT. MARQUIS - LATER 170

Dave and Morris are sandwiched into a table with the girls. Morris looks like a pig in shit. He leans over to Dave.

MORRIS
I love you. I really do. Now if you don't take advantage of this situation I will seriously have to question your manhood.

DAVE
I miss her.

(CONTINUED)

MORRIS

Get over it. It's been two weeks and don't think for a second she hasn't been out there doing the same. I know women.

DAVE

You had something going there till the last part, where you lost any and all credibility.

SUE

I want to dance.

MORRIS

Well get to work sister.

Sue gets up and starts to dance in front of the table. She may be the worst dancer since Margaret Thatcher. Morris starts to lose it. He's fighting back laughter.

(CONTINUED)

MORRIS (cont'd)

That is some Irene Kara shit right here.
I think she's got leg warmers on under
there. You better get up and do some
damage control.

Dave gets up and dances with Sue, trying to keep her close
and restrained. She notices how high strung he is.

SUE

Have a drink baby.

Sue hands him her drink which he promptly downs in one gulp.
He looks at her to see if anything's changed.

SUE (cont'd)

Is that better?

DAVE

Much.

She kisses him suddenly.

171 INT. DAVID'S APT - MORNING

171

David wakes up terribly hung over. He stirs in his bed as he
hears the faucet running in the bathroom.

SUE (O.S.)

I'm using your toothbrush. Is that okay?

Dave shoots straight up in bed realizing she's there.

DAVE

Oh my god.

SUE (O.S.)

What?

DAVE

There's an extra one under the sink.

Dave sinks back under the blanket. Sue heads back toward the
bedroom in only her knickers and a T-shirt. She's got the
toothbrush in her mouth.

SUE

Dave.

DAVE

Yeah?

SUE

Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

72 INT. BUBI'S KITCHEN - DAY 172

Dave's Bubi appears banging her head with the skillet.

173 EXT. KENNEDY AIRPORT - DAY 173

Dave and Lisa are standing curbside waiting for Sam & Blanch. *
They're not speaking to or even looking at one another. *

Sam and Blanch amble out of the terminal looking beat.

SAM

Do you have any idea how hot it is in
Miami in August?

DAVE

No idea Grandpa. Why don't you tell us
about it.

SAM

Shut up and grab the bags.

174 INT. LISA'S CAR - CONTINUOUS 174

Dave is driving with Lisa in the passenger seat and his
grandparents in the back.

Two conversations are going on at once. Sam and Blanch are
directing their conversation at everyone in the car while
Dave and Lisa are whisper-fighting with each other so the
grandparents don't hear.

(CONTINUED)

SAM
(hair blowing)
Is the AC on in here? I'm
dying.

BLANCH
Yes, it's on Sam.

SAM
It's like a big outdoor
schvitz room down there. I
didn't know it could get that
hot.

BLANCH
Maybe next year we can trade
with a family in Panama. Get
a little closer to the
equator.

SAM
Would you stop it Blanch?
Just stop it.

BLANCH
I had so many hot flashes I
thought it was Menopause all
over again.

DAVE
Why are you so upset? I thought you
didn't want me in this relationship?

LISA
I can't do this. Don't ask this of me.

SAM
I had to use a bath towel for a
handkerchief.

DAVE
I can't believe you screwed
up this big with her. She
trusted you.

LISA
You can't believe I screwed
up?! What about you?

DAVE
Me? What about me? You mean
the apartment thing with
Morris?

LISA
I can't and won't do this
with you.

DAVE
She's got crazy issues with
her space!

LISA
That's because she's never
had any! Okay, that's it! No
more.

175 INT. BLOOMBERG HOME - NIGHT

175 *

It's Friday night. David is home along with the whole family.

DINAH
I can't believe you sold your paintings!

DAVE
You've made that clear from the
beginning.

JACK
Hey, be nice. She didn't mean it like
that.

(CONTINUED)

DAVE

Sure she did. You never thought it was really going to work out for me. None of you did. Tell the truth.

LISA

No, we just thought that it would be very difficult. Which it is.

SAM

Hey, I didn't think you had a shot in hell. Then again, the only painting I did was at the shmatah factory. Once every couple of years we'd go over the whole place. It was more of a roller job though.

LISA

Dad! Really.

*

DAVE

Anyway, you should all know, this is what I'll be doing for the rest of my life. No CPA, no law degree, no paging Dr. Bloomberg. This is it.

BLANCH

How is your lady friend doing David?

DAVE

We're not friends anymore.

BLANCH

I'm sorry. Is she ill?

DAVE

She's not that old Grandma. You make it sound like she's your rummy-cue partner.

176 INT. DAVID'S APT - DAY

176

Dave is painting. It's the same canvas we saw him start with but we still can't see what it is.

177 INT. DEAN & DELUCA - DAY

177

Rafi is food shopping when she sees Dave walking down the next aisle over. Her first reaction is to DUCK!! A passing shopper, an older woman, stops to help.

WOMAN

Are you okay dear?

RAFI

Me? Fine, fine.

Rafi stands and sees Dave moving away. She follows him.

The old woman approaches a SECURITY GUARD and points at Rafi.

Dave stops at the dairy section where he locates a small package of QUAIL EGGS, the same kind he and Rafi ate at Yama. Rafi sees what he has and she just melts. The guard comes over and speaks much louder than he needs to.

GUARD

Excuse me miss? Is there a problem?

Dave, as well as anyone within twenty feet, turns to look.

RAFI

No. There's no problem. I'm shopping.

DAVE

Rafi?

(CONTINUED)

177 CONTINUED:

GUARD

I'm getting complaints about your behavior. I'm gonna need to look in your bag.

He moves toward her. Rafi steps back.

RAFI

Are you kidding me?

GUARD

Miss, I need to look in your bag.

RAFI

Listen shmuck, you're not coming near my bag and I'll behave how I like until I start breaking some laws.

GUARD

Ma'am, you're gonna have to come with me.

Dave walks over.

DAVE

There you are baby.

(to guard)

Thanks for looking out.

Dave grabs her and they rush off.

DAVE (cont'd)

(amazed)

Listen schmuck?

RAFI

You bought quail eggs. That is so romantic.

DAVE

I'm doing what I can.

178 INT. DAVID'S APT - LATER

178

Quiet and clean. Until...

The front door BURSTS open. Dave and Rafi enter frame by SLAMMING into a wall as they stumble through the door. They are kissing and embracing. Playing catch-up for lost time.

179 INT. DAVID'S APT - LATER

179

The camera moves along the floor following a trail of clothing. Inside-out socks. Pants with underwear still in them. A broken glass. A tipped over flower pot.

(CONTINUED)

179 CONTINUED:

Dave is in bed as Rafi emerges from the kitchen with a glass of water.

DAVE
Okay, I'm only gonna ask you once. What'd you steal?

Rafi laughs as she looks around the room taking notice of the canvasses. For the very first time they're all FACING OUT .

RAFI
You're painting.

DAVE
I'm working.

She smiles at his discovery then heads over toward the painting he's been working on since she met him.

RAFI
Still working on this one, huh?

DAVE
Actually, no. It's done. I wanted to wrap it first but you're here, so...

RAFI
It's for me?

Rafi approaches, slowly pulling the covering off to reveal...

...a perfect portrait of HERSELF. Unflinching, confident, strong.

Rafi actually GASPS. She just stares without saying anything. Dave starts to look nervous.

DAVE
Yes? No?

RAFI
Yes. You'll just have to give me a minute. I never seen myself look this strong before. It's beautiful Dave. I can't believe you see me like this.

DAVE
It's not for me to decide. I'm a realist not an impressionist.

Rafi stands there seeing herself for possibly the first time.

80 INT. DAVID'S APT - LATER

180

Dave is standing by the door waiting for Rafi, who is in the bathroom.

(CONTINUED)

180 CONTINUED:

RAFI (O.S.)

Two toothbrushes huh? You got a new
technique? Double fisting it?

*
*

Dave freezes for a moment. He doesn't have to lie but it
makes things easier.

DAVE

Morris stayed over one night last week
after he helped me move in.

Rafi emerges from the bathroom and kisses him deeply.

181 EXT. TRAVELART - NIGHT

181

Dave and Rafi are walking toward the entrance. The street is
totally desolate at this hour.

182 INT. TRAVELART - CONTINUOUS

182

Rafi walks around the space just floored by all the art.

RAFI

Oh my god. This is incredible.

DAVE

Come here. There's something else I want
to show you.

They walk around a corner to find a small table set up with a
white tablecloth, two place settings, glasses, and a bottle
of wine.

There is a huge CANVAS, ten feet across, standing directly
behind the table. It is covered with a sheet.

A toilet flushes in the background.

RAFI

Who's here?

Out walks an elderly security guard.

*

GUARD

Evening.

DAVE

Hey Earl. This is Raphael.

RAFI

Hi Earl.

GUARD

What are you doing with this clown?

(CONTINUED)

182 CONTINUED:

110 182

DAVE

Nice. That's good times. *

Dave opens the wine, pours two glasses, then motions to the sheet. Rafi pulls it off to reveal Rothko's *Greens and Blue on Blue*. The same painting on Rafi's wall at home.

This is the original. Rafi stares, completely speechless.

183 INT TRAVELART - LATER

183

Wide Shot of Dave and Rafi eating dinner with the painting playing a perfect and tremendous backdrop to their picnic. Earl sits on a folding chair reading the New York Post.

184 EXT. FARMER'S MARKET - DAY

184

Dave and Lisa are food shopping.

DAVE

Look, I don't like this.

LISA

You think this is a vacation for me?

DAVE

I'm not doing this to piss you off. It's not an act of rebellion. I love her and I'm trying to make it work. And I could really use your help.

LISA

My help? Have you heard a word I've said? I'm out of this.

DAVE

Let me bring her over on Friday night. Please Mom. I'm begging you. She doesn't stop talking about you. How much she misses you.

LISA

Are you retarded? There is no way!

A184 INT. BLOOMBERG HALLWAY - NIGHT

A184

Rafi and Dave walk toward the front door. Rafi stares at the door to the office as they walk by. They stop at the front door for a moment. *

DAVE

You okay? *

85 INT. BLOOMBERG HOME - CONTINUOUS

185 *

Rafi and Dave walk in with a bottle of wine.

DAVE
Mom. We're here.

Lisa rushes out from the kitchen, wearing an apron. Rafi starts CRYING when she sees her.

(CONTINUED)

185 CONTINUED:

185

LISA
What is it sweetie?

RAFI
I really missed you. I didn't realize how
much till just now.

They hug tight. Dave is standing at his mother's side while
she hugs Rafi. *

186 INT. KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

186

Everyone is there as introductions are made. Rafi meets
Dave's sister, father, and grandparents.

Rafi hands Lisa the bottle of wine which she quickly unwraps.
It's a beautiful bottle of Margaux.

LISA
You shouldn't have. Thank you so much.

Lisa takes it over to the fridge. David is about to say
something when Rafi stops him. She shakes her head, "No".

LISA (cont'd)
If it gets cold enough we'll be able to
drink it with dinner.

JACK
Put it in the freezer for ten minutes.
It'll be fine.

187 INT. DINING ROOM

187

Everyone is shuffling into the dining room for dinner. Sam
walks over to Lisa and puts his arm around his daughter.

SAM
God bless my daughter. I honestly don't
know where I'd be without her.

Blanch walks past and overhears her husband.

BLANCH
Brooklyn, Harry. You'd be in Brooklyn.

188 INT. DINING ROOM

188

They're all standing around the table as Jack prepares to
make the blessing over the wine.

SAM
Drink the girl's stuff Jack.

(CONTINUED)

188 CONTINUED:

JACK

Sam, please. We'll drink it with dinner.
It's a dinner wine anyway.

SAM

Oh yeah Rothschild? That why you put it
in the freezer?

LISA

Dad, leave it be.

DINAH

I don't think you're supposed to put red
wine in the fridge to begin with.

BLANCH

Shut up Sam.

SAM

I didn't say anything.

Rafi is trying not to laugh out loud. She keeps squeezing
Dave's hand. She is loving every second spent with this
family even as Dave cringes with embarrassment.

189 INT. DINING ROOM - LATER

189

They've finished eating. Everyone looks stuffed.

JACK

So I understand you're interested in
converting to Judaism?

RAFI

I...

190 INT. BLOOMBERG HOME - LATER

190

Lisa and Rafi sit on the living room couch drinking tea.

RAFI

This is very strange.

LISA

Can't say I've experienced anything even
remotely close. So you got to see that
even your therapist has a pretty crazy
family.

RAFI

Are you kidding? This is what I never
had. No grandparents, no laughter at the
dinner table. No dinner actually.

Lisa smiles at her. She's not sure what to say.

(CONTINUED)

190 CONTINUED:

RAFI (cont'd)

Thanks for having me over. I know this was difficult for you.

LISA

It wasn't difficult at all. I think you're great Rafi. I know this is hard for you to understand but this isn't personal. I just don't want my son giving up on his faith this early.

RAFI

He wouldn't have to. I would want my kids to have a religious upbringing. You know I didn't have one and you've always said it hurt me. I feel like I missed something.

*

LISA

Rafi, Rafi, slow down. Kids? With my son? Think about what you're saying.

RAFI

I didn't say tomorrow. I'm just talking.

*

91 INT. MILK STUDIOS - DAY 191

Another photo shoot. Rafi is very much in command. She looks as happy as we have seen her.

192 INT. CORRIDOR - CONTINUOUS 192

A dressing area where Katherine is talking to Sue as she dresses for the next shot.

SUE

He's just plain weird. He wouldn't let me use his toothbrush. I don't understand, you can have sex with someone but you can't share a toothbrush?

KATHERINE

Wait, this is Dave you're talking about? Rafi's Dave?

Katherine drifts off in a state of distress as Sue babbles.

SUE

Yeah. So what? They're broken up. And you know what else? He's got like twenty boxes of Q-Tips in the bathroom. But then the place is a dump. Anyway, I don't think he likes me.

(CONTINUED)

08/25/2004

Blue
1153 192

192 CONTINUED:

KATHERINE

Sue, listen to me. Rafi and Dave are back together now.

(CONTINUED)

SUE

So? What's the big deal?

KATHERINE

The big deal is it would kill her. I swear if she finds out because you opened your mouth, you will never work again. Not here or in Madrid or even fucking Chicago. You understand?

Rafi walks up behind the pair as they are finishing up their "talk."

SUE

Okay. Jesus. I won't say anything to Rafi.

RAFI

Won't say anything about what?

Sue scurries away before she has to explain.

RAFI (cont'd)

Okay, what was that?

KATHERINE

Oh, nothing.

RAFI

Katherine.

Dave is painting when the doorbell rings. He opens the door to Rafi, who looks pretty upset.

RAFI

Did you fuck Sue?

DAVE

What?

Rafi does not repeat the question. She just looks at him.

DAVE (cont'd)

Yes.

RAFI

(embarrassed)

How could you do that to me?

DAVE

You were the one that told me to go see other people. You pushed me away. Did you want me to stay home and cry? I did that for a while. It sucked.

(CONTINUED)

RAFI

No, what I wanted was for you to at least keep a healthy distance from my life in your pitiful conquests. Even if she wasn't my friend, she was someone you knew I might have to face one day. That is either terribly malicious or unforgivably bad judgement. How could you? She's an idiot!

DAVE

Who cares? That just shows you how meaningless it was. Look, I just happened to bump into her at the...

RAFI

Supermarket? Buying quail eggs?

Rafi starts gathering her coat.

DAVE

Rafi, don't.

RAFI

Why did you lie to me?

DAVE

I didn't lie.

RAFI

Come on. The toothbrush. *

Dave falls silent as Rafi heads toward the door. She stops halfway and just stands there, back to him.

RAFI (cont'd) *

All you had to do was tell me the truth. *

Rafi turns around, now totally despondent. She's showing everything here. No anger to hide vulnerability. Just feeling. It's a heart-wrenching thing to see.

RAFI (cont'd)

Help me, okay? Help me with this. How could you be with her and then me? I just don't understand. *

Dave doesn't know how to answer this. He tries but nothing comes out. Rafi leaves.

194 INT. THERAPIST'S OFFICE - LATER

194

We are looking at a split screen with Lisa occupying both sides. She's having two conversations, one with Dave and one with Rafi.

(CONTINUED)

LISA

What do you want me to say David? Once again, you made the worst judgement call possible. When are you going to start acting your age?

LISA (cont'd)

You know he wasn't being malicious. Yes, it was bad judgement. Fine, understatement of the year. But what do you expect from him? He's 23. He's just acting his age.

LISA

No way. I'm not calling her! You call her. This is what relationship's are all about. And I hate to tell you, but this is nothing. It gets worse. I love you Dave. But I can not bail you out of this.

LISA (cont'd)

Absolutely not. That is totally inappropriate. You call him. If you want him to be the man you once and again get a glimpse of, then you have to explain what this meant to you. I'm not going to do that for you.

End of split screen.

LISA

Look! I am not the U.N. or the Hague tribunal. There will be no third party in this. You will either work this out on your own, or you won't work it out at all. Either way, I am officially out of this until you guys decide to either get married or split up. Just choose one already because you're driving me nuts!

(takes a beat)

You guys have something special. Okay? Think about that for two minutes.

*
*
*
*

Lisa hangs up the phone, then sits back in her chair and smiles; finally at peace with things, truly okay with whichever way it goes between them.

Dave is sitting on Morris' futon with his cell phone in his lap. Morris walks into the studio COVERED IN PIE CREAM. Dave just stares. He knows better than to ask. Morris goes to the sink and grabs a towel. Dave is just staring at the phone.

MORRIS

Just call her already and go back to your own place. I need quiet time.

DAVE

I'm not gonna call her. This is crazy. She tells me to see other people, then punishes me for taking her advice.

MORRIS

Come on already. Even I can see it's not that you went out. It's who you went out with.

(CONTINUED)

195 CONTINUED:

Dave looks shocked that Morris actually got it right.

(CONTINUED)

195 CONTINUED: (2)

110 195

DAVE

I didn't ask you Morris. You're a sounding board. Remember? Just bounce. No need to start thinking this late in your life.

196 INT. KATHERINE'S - CONTINUOUS

196

RAFI

How could he do this? All he had to do was think about it for one second.

KATHERINE

You weren't dating at the time. He probably thought it was okay.

RAFI

And you weren't even going to tell me. *

KATHERINE

I was trying to protect you. You know you would do the same for me. Just call him.

RAFI

I'm not calling him. It's over.

She paces back and forth a few times then picks up her cell phone and dials in one quick motion.

197 INT. MORRIS' APT - CONTINUOUS

197

Dave is dialing the last two digits of Rafi's phone number.

DAVE

Voice mail!

198 INT. KATHERINE'S - CONTINUOUS

198

RAFI

Voice mail.

She hugs Katherine and heads for the door.

RAFI (cont'd)

What was I thinking?

KATHERINE

That you could be happy for a moment.

RAFI

It was a great moment.

- 99 INT. MORRIS' APT - CONTINUOUS 199
Dave hangs up, grabs his jacket and leaves.
- 200 EXT. STREET - CONTINUOUS 200
Dave walks down the street, head down, driven. We dissolve through the different blocks.
- 201 EXT. STREET - CONTINUOUS 201
Rafi also walks purposefully, lost in thought. We dissolve through her walk home as well.
- 202 EXT. RAFI'S APT - CONTINUOUS 202
Damien is standing outside as Rafi and Dave approach from different ends of the block.

DAMIEN

Here we go.

Dave starts running because she's going to get there first. Rafi sees him and hurries into the building.

- 203 INT. LOBBY - CONTINUOUS 203
Rafi goes to the elevator where Damien is now standing. She gets in as Dave rushes into the lobby. He sprints for the elevator door but it's already closing.
At the last moment Damien discreetly STICKS HIS FOOT in front of the door causing it to open back up again.

DAMIEN

Excuse me.

Rafi shoots Damien a look as Dave stands in the elevator door.

DAVE

I'm sorry.

RAFI

So you admit to some wrong doing?

DAVE

Yes. It's not that I went out. It's who I went out with.

RAFI

And...

(CONTINUED)

203 CONTINUED:

DAVE

It was a bad call. I wasn't thinking. I'm really sorry Rafi. I'm still learning all this stuff. You gotta work with me.

Damien has been staring unabashedly since this started.

DAVE (cont'd)

(to Damien)

Hey, can we get a moment?

DAMIEN

No way. I work here.

DAVE

Alright. I'm going anyway.

(beat)

Now look Rafi, we may have some things working against us and I do screw up from time to time; but so does everyone else. But I am actively trying to get it right. Bottom line is... I'm in love with you. I want to make a baby with you.

Rafi stands there staring at him. Damien smiles for the first time the whole movie.

DAVE (cont'd)

I'll figure it out. I'll get it. Just give me a chance. I'll go the distance.

Rafi looks at Damien who gives her the "go ahead" nod. She pulls Dave into the elevator.

204 INT. BED - CONTINUOUS

204

They are making love. The world could stop for these minutes.

RAFI

Are you sure about this?

DAVE

Yes. I'm sure.

RAFI

Why now?

DAVE

Because you want this more than anything in the world. And I want to give it to you.

Rafi goes silent at that. She knows he's doing this for the wrong reasons. Tears stream as she stops their lovemaking.

RAFI

I can't.

(CONTINUED)

DAVE

Why?

RAFI

Because I love you. I can't do this. *

DAVE

I don't understand. What are you doing to me? It actually feels really good.

RAFI

I can't. *

DAVE

Don't say no because you're afraid to make a mistake because that's probably going to be the mistake. I want to give this to you.

Rafi cries real tears now.

RAFI

I know. And it's the sweetest gift I've ever been given. But you'll regret it. Maybe not tomorrow, but one day. You know this. That you're still willing, just shows me how deep your love goes. *

Dave begins to cry softly. He knows she's right.

RAFI (cont'd)

You've given me so many things. You let me see myself through your eyes and now I feel like I can be that person. Strong, sexy, worthy, empowered. That's the gift I'm taking from you.

Tears stream down his face as she lowers her head and kisses him forever.

FADE OUT:

205 EXT. LAFAYETTE STREET - NIGHT

205

This is a continuation of the first scene of the film when Morris and Dave finished having dinner.

It's near midnight as David and Morris walk down Lafayette. The SNOW has begun to fall HEAVILY.

DAVE

I only need to sell one more painting. Then I'll have enough.

(CONTINUED)

MORRIS
Where you gonna go?

DAVE
Thinking about Central America. Maybe El Salvador.

MORRIS
You're just gonna pick up and go to El Salvador?

DAVE
Yeah.

MORRIS
Where are you going to stay?

DAVE
I have no idea.

MORRIS
I don't understand. So you get there and you get off the plane. How do you know where to go?

DAVE
I don't. I'll figure it out. It's time to try something like this. I've never even left the country.

MORRIS
Excuse me. Class trip. '98.

DAVE
Niagara Falls? Morris, you should do the same. Come with me.

MORRIS
El Salvador? That's Noriega country amigo. I'll pass.

DAVE
That's Panama and you might learn something.

MORRIS
I'm learning right here. I went on a second date with this girl last night.

DAVE
You're kidding me.

MORRIS
Yeah, I am. But that was pretty good, huh? I had you.

205 CONTINUED: (2)

DAVE

Shit, I just realized I left my hat at the restaurant.

MORRIS

You want me to come with?

DAVE

Nah, it's cool.

MORRIS

Alright, I'll see you later brother.

They hug and walk their separate ways.

206 EXT. IL BUCO - LATER

206

Dave arrives in front of Il Buco where he and Morris had dinner earlier.

207 INT. IL BUCO - CONTINUOUS

207

We're tight on Dave's face as he enters. It changes so suddenly he could be looking at a ghost...

...or a lost love.

We see the restaurant has thinned out. A few tables are finishing their wine. There is one large table near the counter where SIX PEOPLE are eating dessert and talking. Next to the counter and facing the door... SITS RAFI.

She is sitting with a group of friends, laughing and enjoying. Rafi doesn't see Dave, who quickly walks up to the counter and waits for someone to come help him.

He stands there without looking at her again. It's quite a feat considering he's three feet away. He wants to look, but it's too much.

The waitress finally comes around the corner and recognizes him almost immediately.

WAITRESS

You left your hat.

Dave nods his head silently as the waitress leans down and grabs the hat from below the counter.

WAITRESS (cont'd)

Here you go.

David turns and walks out without wasting a single movement. He just wants out. He just wants to BREATHE.

08 EXT. SIDEWALK - CONTINUOUS

208

David walks around in circles staying away from the door with its glass window. He finally turns back and goes up to the door, cupping his hands around his face to see more clearly.

Everyone at the table is deep in conversation...

...except Rafi. She stares STRAIGHT AT HIM. They just gaze at each other for a long moment, taking each other in. No one at the table sees this exchange.

It is as if they were alone again, across from each other at that table just behind her and to the left. Then, Rafi breaks into the WARMEST SMILE we have ever seen. On her or anyone.

That smile speaks to him and he understands it perfectly.

The End