

FOOTBALL WIVES

"Pilot"

Written by

Marco Pennette

BRANCATO/SALKE PRODUCTIONS
PENNETTE PRODUCTIONS
SHED PRODUCTIONS

NETWORK DRAFT #3
December 15, 2006
(clean)

© 2006 Touchstone Television. All rights reserved. This material is the exclusive property of Touchstone Television and is intended solely for the use of its personnel. Distribution to unauthorized persons or reproductions, in whole or in part, without written consent of Touchstone Television, is strictly prohibited.

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

INT. APARTMENT - NIGHT

A cramped one bedroom student apartment in Syracuse, New York. Friends and family of DONNA and BRIAN REYNOLDS crowd around a small TV anxiously watching the football draft on ESPN. Brian, a sweet, hulking man of 23, nervously paces, clutching a football in his hand. His wife, Donna -- also 23, freshly scrubbed, hair in a pony tail, a natural beauty -- wears a Syracuse University sweatshirt and nervously bites her fingernail. She's eight months pregnant.

LEAGUE COMMISSIONER (ON TV)
...With the first pick of the draft
the Detroit Devils choose... Mike
Loughlin!

Some GROANS among the crowd. Brian nods, trying to shake it off. Donna rubs his back.

DONNA
It's okay, it's okay. We didn't
want Detroit. The snow, the
crime... You hate Motown...

A NEIGHBOR bursts in the front door carrying a pizza box.

NEIGHBOR
Anything yet?

The crowd shushes him as they stay glued to the TV.

LEAGUE COMMISSIONER
With their first pick Seattle
chooses...

DONNA
(rubbing her belly)
The doctor said no stress... We're
not stressed...

LEAGUE COMMISSIONER
Rory Coombs!

More groans.

DONNA
Good! Seattle's too far. We'd
never see our families.

(CONTINUED)

BRIAN
(to Donna)
I've gotta get out of here.

EXT. APARTMENT BUILDING - NIGHT

Brian sits on the back steps, his head buried in his hands. He takes a few deep breaths of the chilly night air, trying to calm himself. Suddenly there's a loud CHEER from inside the apartment. Donna bursts out of the back door.

BRIAN
What?

DONNA
(beaming)
How do you look in yellow and blue?

BRIAN
The Stingrays?

DONNA
(nodding)
The Stingrays!

BRIAN
Orlando, Baby! Yes!
(grabbing her in his arms)
Do you know what this means -- no more Ramen noodles! No more laundromats! We hit the jackpot! Whatever you want -- it's yours!

DONNA
(a beat, then)
A blender.

BRIAN
What?

DONNA
To make our own baby food -- I want a good blender. With four speeds.

BRIAN
(laughing)
How about five speeds? You're married to an Orlando Stingray now!

MUSIC CUE: "AIN'T NO OTHER MAN" by Christina Aguilera

EST. SHOT - ORLANDO INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT - DAY

(CONTINUED)

A plane lands on the steaming tarmac.

EST. SHOT - THE ORLANDO DOME - DAY

Home to the Orlando Stingrays.

TITLE SEQUENCE MONTAGE

As the music continues, we intercut between the PLAYERS training in the stadium and their WIVES -- one more beautiful than the next -- on shopping sprees, being photographed by paparazzi, etc. One wife walks out to her driveway and holds up her Louis Vitton purse to see which of her luxury cars it matches... Another wife opens her medicine cabinet -- it's filled with prescription pill bottles... One wife drops her children off at school from the back of a limousine... and finally, a wife emerges from a shower and we catch a glimpse of a tattoo of an Orlando Rays helmet right above the crack of her ass... Off this we smash cut to:

INT. MEDITERRANEAN HOUSE - FOYER - DAY

Donna -- no make-up, dressed in a T-shirt and jeans -- as she stands in awe in her new ten thousand square foot home. She holds her four-month old daughter, MOLLY, in her arms as she takes in the marble floors, the grand staircase and the crystal chandelier.

DONNA

What did you do...

INT. MEDITERRANEAN HOME - KITCHEN - DAY

Brian, smiling like a kid on Christmas, stands in the middle of the state-of-the-art kitchen -- subzero fridge, Viking range, wine rack, butler's pantry, etc. Donna enters, shaking her head.

BRIAN

Viking six burner with self-cleaning convection oven. No idea what that means but the real estate agent made a big deal about it.

DONNA

Honey, you said you found us a "small little place."

BRIAN

Compared to the other players, this *is* a small little place.

(CONTINUED)

DONNA

It's got a fountain with marble
dolphins in the back yard!

BRIAN

You noticed that, huh?

DONNA

Planes can notice it!

BRIAN

Babe, I've got a five year
contract. We can afford this.
Besides, we needed something that
went with the blender.

He steps aside to reveal a five speed blender with a bow on it
sitting on the counter. Donna melts. She goes to Brian and
hugs him.

BRIAN (CONT'D)

Whenever I lost faith in myself,
you were there. None of this
would've happened if it weren't for
you.

Donna smiles, touched. As they hug, she notices a gaggle of
WHITE SWANS waddling past the patio door.

DONNA

Tell me we don't have swans.

BRIAN

We needed something to go in the
fountain.

EST. SHOT - THE ORLANDO DOME - DAY

We see a birds-eye view of the stadium. The marquee reads
"First Pre-season Game Today at 1 p.m."

INT. TANYA & JASON'S HOUSE - GYM - DAY

An overhead shot of a tanning bed, its florescent glow bathing
the room. A female hand reaches out from inside and picks up
a vodka martini with a very long straw in it. This home gym
is decked out with designer workout apparatus, a rock-climbing
wall and a yoga area. From the large plasma TV, we hear...

(CONTINUED)

SPORTS COMMENTATOR (V.O.)

...They haven't played their first game of the season yet and it looks as if the Orlando Stingrays' Jason Austin may be part of a brewing quarterback controversy.

The lid of the tanning bed is thrown up and a beauty in a bikini quickly sits up. This is TANYA AUSTIN. Early 30's, sexy, but as sophisticated as she thinks she is, traces of a scrappy background are still present. She nervously sips her drink as her eyes stay fixated on the TV.

SPORTS COMMENTATOR (CONT'D)

Rumor is General Manager, Frank Wallingford, is sniffing around Sal Biaggi, the second year phenom out of Cal, to join the Stingrays this season.

TANYA

Son of a bitch.

The bedroom door opens and Tanya quickly changes the channel as her husband JASON AUSTIN -- a cocky, towering hunk also in his thirties -- emerges.

JASON

What're you watching?

TANYA

Just some cooking show.

Jason picks up Tanya's cocktail and jiggles the glass.

JASON

What, a new recipe for ice?
(off her look)
It's okay, I already heard it.

TANYA

They don't know what they're talking about, Jason. They can't replace you. You're the captain of that team. You just need a better line.

JASON

I'm not worried.

TANYA

Really?

(CONTINUED)

JASON

Come here. I'll prove it to you.

TANYA

We can't -- it's game day.

JASON

That's an old wife's tale. Now let me have some fun with my old wife.

Tanya laughs as Jason picks her up and lays her back down on the tanning bed. As he gets on top of her, we hear a sultry voice...

WOMAN (V.O.)

(singing)

FORGIVE ME FATHER, FOR I HAVE
SINNED...

INT. WAREHOUSE - DAY

CLOSE ON a WOMAN'S face -- drop dead gorgeous, African-American, mid twenties -- Pull back to reveal she's wearing a nun's habit. She looks into camera as she sings to a playback.

WOMAN (V.O.)

THIS FEELING'S BEEN BURNING FOR
MUCH TOO LONG...
I'VE TRIED TO RESIST BUT I'M JUST
NOT STRONG...

Suddenly two GANGSTA-TYPE MEN appear in frame and rip the nun's costume off her, revealing a chain-mail bikini. The music kicks in, the trio does a sexy dance. We pull back to reveal the cameramen, crew, smoke machines, etc. This is a music video and the young singer is CHARDONNAY LANE, ex-model turned recording artist.

DIRECTOR

And CUT! Great stuff, Chardonnay.
Reset! We're going once more from
the top.

Chardonnay turns to one of the Gangsta Men.

CHARDONNAY

Grind it against me again, and
you're back in the chorus of
"Beauty & The Beast" like that!

Make-up people descend on Chardonnay as she crosses off the set and picks up her blackberry and starts text-messaging.

(CONTINUED)

KYLE (V.O.)

Damn, remember the days when you actually wore clothes to work?

Chardonnay spins around to see her boyfriend KYLE JOHNSON standing there. KYLE is mid-twenties, African-American, the star wide receiver for the Rays -- he's a hottie, a party-boy and the class clown all rolled into one.

CHARDONNAY

Baby! What're you doing here?
Isn't it almost game time?

KYLE

Took a little detour for my good luck kiss.
(then, re: her bikini)
And you get to keep this when you're done, right?

She laughs and kisses him.

KYLE (CONT'D)

So, you gonna be there to watch me shine?

CHARDONNAY

I don't know. This is taking forever. The smoke machine wasn't working and two of the dancers...
(off his look, busted)
Okay, stop looking at me like that. You know how I feel sitting with all of those wives. I'm just a *girlfriend*, remember? And they know it.

KYLE

I get it. It's cool. I'll let you get back to your work...
(beat)
'Course, there is one way to fix all this.

Kyle slowly sinks to one knee as Chardonnay's eyes widen.

CHARDONNAY

Kyle... don't play with me!

He takes out a ring box and opens it, revealing a diamond engagement ring the size of a football.

(CONTINUED)

KYLE

What do you say? You wanna start sitting in the "wives" section?

Chardonnay throws her arms around Kyle, trying to hold back the tears.

CHARDONNAY

Ohmigod! I can't cry -- it'll make my eyes puffy!

The production crew all break out in applause as the photographer starts snapping the happy couple. Cut to...

EXT. STADIUM PARKING LOT - DAY

CLOSE on a sign that reads RESERVED FOR MRS. TANYA AUSTIN. Pull back as a red Ferrari convertible zips into the space. Tanya is behind the wheel, wearing a Marc Jacobs strappy dress with Christian Louboutin stacked heels. She gives her make-up a quick check in the rear view mirror, then gets out of the car and crosses to a private entrance into the stadium.

EXT. STADIUM - SEATS - DAY

MUSIC: "PUMP UP THE GAME"

Down on the field the STINGRAY CHEERLEADERS perform their routine. Up in the stands, in the "wives" section, a GAGGLE OF WOMEN are already there -- mid-20's, tanned, perfectly coiffed, outdoing each other in designer wear and bling. Tanya comes down the aisle and greets her flock.

TANYA

Hey, Rock Stars!

The women turn and see their leader and burst into big suck-up smiles and hello's.

TANYA (CONT'D)

Kristy, I think you're in my seat.

KRISTY

No, my ticket is for --

Kristy looks up to see Tanya (and all the other wives) staring at her. Realizing her faux pas immediately, she instantly jumps up and moves. As Tanya slides past to get to her seat, she notices one of the other wives' new boob job.

TANYA

Nice ones, Ruby.

(CONTINUED)

RUBY
(proudly)
What I did over my summer vacation.

Tanya laughs as she takes her seat. One of the younger wives turns to Tanya.

WIFE
So, Tan, how's Jason doing? You know... with all the...

The other wives can't believe she actually asked. Tanya's as cool as can be.

TANYA
Jason's great, Kayla. Don't believe everything you read in the papers. Now, I could really go for a beer.

The wife nods and instantly tries to flag down one of the beer vendors. Chardonnay comes down the steps and stands in the aisle.

CHARDONNAY
Sorry, I must be in the wrong section. This is where all the wives sit -- Oh, wait, I keep forgetting --
(flashing her ring)
Room for a few more carats?

The women's eyes bug out as they crowd around the ring ad-libbing "Ooohs" and "Aaahs."

TANYA
(impressed)
So, Chardonnay Lane and Kyle Johnson are finally tying the knot?

CHARDONNAY
He proposed at ten, "People" Magazine called at eleven, and we were on the CNN crawl by noon! We're officially a media event! Move over "Bennifer" and "TomKat," here comes... "Chardonnyle!"

ANGLE ON THE FIELD --

(CONTINUED)

ANNOUNCER

Alright, ladies and gentlemen --
let's stand up and hear it for your
Orlando Stingrays!

The cheerleaders line up on both sides of the tunnel as the team comes running out of the tunnel out onto the field.

MUSIC: "GET READY FOR THIS" by 2 Unlimited

As the crowd stands and cheers, Tanya notices an empty seat in their section.

TANYA

Who's missing?

INT. CAR - DAY

Donna is sitting in a brand new black H1 ALPHA HUMMER on the side of the road. Molly is in her car seat wearing an Orlando Stingrays one-sie. A POLICE OFFICER is standing at the driver's side window.

POLICEMAN

License and registration, Ma'am.
This is a forty mile per hour zone
and I clocked you going fifty.

DONNA

Sorry, Officer. My husband just
bought me this car -- actually,
surprised me with it -- I never
would have asked for a Hummer...
(off the officer's look)
Stop talking, Donna.

POLICEMAN

License and registration, please.

The officer glances at the registration and instantly brightens.

POLICEMAN (CONT'D)

Brian Reynolds? The Stingrays'
Brian Reynolds?

DONNA

Uh, yeah. That's my husband. I'm
on my way to the game now.

POLICEMAN

You're married to Brian Reynolds?!
The number one draft choice?!

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

POLICEMAN (CONT'D)

Oh, man, wait'll my kid hears this!
(into walkie-talkie)
This is Reilly, we've got a 10-17!

DONNA

A 10-17?

POLICEMAN

I'm giving you an escort to the stadium. Have you there in five minutes, Ma'am.

DONNA

What? Oh, God, no, no, -- Why don't you just give me the ticket and I can --

POLICEMAN

No way, it's Brian Reynolds! Just follow me! Go Raaaaaaaays!

INT. ANNOUNCERS BOOTH - DAY

Two SPORTS COMMENTATORS watch the play on the field. Jason underthrows a long pass but Kyle fakes out his defenseman and comes back to catch the ball.

SPORTS COMMENTATOR

Whoa! It looked like Austin threw up a weak Hail Mary but Johnson's one-handed grab answered his prayers! Rays up by six!

Kyle does a little dance in the end zone as the crowd roars.

EXT. STADIUM - SEATS - DAY

Chardonnay jumps up out of her seat and screams.

CHARDONNAY

Way to go, Baby! Whoooo-hoooo!

Chardonnay's face suddenly appears on the huge Jumbo-tron. Chardonnay smiles and waves to her "fans."

INT. SPORTS BOOTH - DAY

The sports commentators react to Chardonnay on the Jumbo-tron.

SPORTS COMMENTATOR #2

There she is, Chardonnay Lane -- Kyle Johnson's number one fan.

(CONTINUED)

SPORTS COMMENTATOR #1

And rumor has it, as of this morning, she's got the engagement ring to prove it.

INT. KYLE'S HOUSE - SCREENING ROOM - DAY

A state of the art screening room totally done in the Orlando Rays colors -- blue and yellow. The shelves are covered with framed photos of Kyle and various trophies. Sitting on one of the leather sofas is JACKIE REYNOLDS, Kyle's mother -- strong, stern but still sexy at forty-four. A much younger, handsome MAN sits next to her, nuzzling her neck. She pulls away as she reacts to what she's hearing on the TV.

SPORTS COMMENTATOR #1

...Sorry, ladies, but it looks like number 88 is making this rising popstar his number 1.

JACKIE

(shaking her head)

I raised a very stupid boy.

EXT. STADIUM - SEATS - DAY

Donna arrives at the wives section, carrying the baby in one arm, a baby bag in the other.

DONNA

I think I'm in the right place.

SHANNON, a sweet, gossipy wife, waves to her.

SHANNON

Donna! Hi! Shannon! We met last week at practice.

DONNA

I can't believe how late I am -- They said I had a parking space but then they didn't have one but they wouldn't let me just park in the regular lot -- I'm like, I'm missing the game, who cares about a stupid reserved parking space!

The women all turn and look at her.

SHANNON

These are the other players wives. We do care about the spaces.

(to the women)

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

SHANNON (CONT'D)

This is Donna everyone, new
lineman's wife.

The wives ad-lib hello's as they scrutinize Donna's clothes,
hair, shoes, etc. Donna takes in their wardrobe as well.

DONNA

Wow. I think I'm underdressed.

CHARDONNAY

You are. I'm Kyle Reynolds
fiancee. Chardonnay Lane.

DONNA

Donna Reynolds.

CHARDONNAY

(enunciating)
Chardonnay Lane...?

DONNA

(confused)
Yeah, hi...

CHARDONNAY

(how can she not know?)
Chardonnay --

RUBY

Oh, shut up, Chardonnay.
(to Donna)
She thinks she's famous.

CHARDONNAY

Once my CD drops, I will be. And
you're not invited to the release
party.
(handing Donna a flyer)
But you are.

Tanya shoots Shannon a look.

SHANNON

Oh, Donna, this is Tanya, Jason
Austin's wife --

DONNA

Nice to meet you.

TANYA

Your husband lets my husband get
sacked, there's gonna be big
trouble between us.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

TANYA (CONT'D)
(off Donna's uneasy look)
Kidding.

But is she? Shannon points out a few of the other wives.

SHANNON
And this is Ruby Monroe --

RUBY
You're staring at 'em, aren't you?
I'll give you the name of my doctor
-- he's amazing.

KELLY
Kelly Cooper. Your little one's
precious. I'm having my second in
October.

Kelly puts her arm around a very pregnant Latina woman sitting
next to her wearing an Orlando Rays jersey.

KELLY (CONT'D)
This is our surrogate, Yolanda. I
had some... "complications" with my
first pregnancy.

CHARDONNAY
(sotto, to Donna)
If you call "stretch marks"
complications.

FRANK WALLINGFORD, the General Manager of the Rays, 50's --
bloated but still relishes his potency -- crosses by and gives
the women a little wave. The women give flirty waves back.

FRANK
Here's to a great season, ladies.

CHARDONNAY
(to Donna)
Frank Wallingford, General Manager
of the team.

RUBY
Give him a bottle of Scotch for his
birthday and let him grab your ass
at the Christmas party and you'll
be fine.
(then)
By the way, Donna, you've gotta
come out with us to Dyke Night!

DONNA
Dyke night?

(CONTINUED)

KELLY

Saturday nights after the guys
leave for an away game, we all go
out and get totally blazed.

DONNA

Oh, I don't know. We're still
getting settled. I'm not even sure
I'll be coming to all the games.

TANYA

Not come to the games? Sweetie,
when Brian's lying out there with a
broken rib and he looks up and your
seat is empty, what's he supposed
to think? You have to be here.

DONNA

(almost laughing)
You make it sound like a job.
(off their looks)
I think my husband knows I support
him. And as far as my "job" goes,
I'm a graphic designer.

TANYA

(to the other wives)
Well, I guess she told me.

Donna settles in, slightly self-conscious of taking on the
queen bee. Her cell phone rings and she grabs for it, happy
for the distraction.

DONNA

(into phone)
Hello?

MAN'S VOICE (FILTERED)

It's me.

The color drains from Donna's face. She turns away from the
other women and tries to speak quietly into the phone.

DONNA

Um, this isn't a very good time...

MAN'S VOICE (FILTERED)

I'm getting tired of the stalling.
If you ever want to find your son,
get me my money.

Donna is suddenly distracted by a commotion down on the field -
- one of the players (KELLY'S HUSBAND) is down.

(CONTINUED)

It doesn't look good. The COACHES, the other PLAYERS, even the TEAM MASCOT -- a large Stingray -- come over and surround him.

KELLY

Why isn't he getting up? Come on,
Jeff!

(starting to freak out)
He isn't moving.

The other wives try to comfort her but Kelly jumps out of her seat and runs down toward the field.

DONNA

(into phone)
I've got to call you back.
(then, to Tanya)
What happened?

TANYA

(matter-of-fact)
Looks like you just got yourself a
parking space.

And on that, we...

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

INT. DONNA & BRIAN'S HOUSE - THAT NIGHT

Donna enters the front door, holding the baby. The house is still filled with moving boxes and bubble wrap. Donna looks down and sees a woman's skirt on the floor... then a thong... and then a bra...

EXT. DONNA & BRIAN'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Donna follows the path of clothes to the hot tub where she finds a young girl reclining in it.

DONNA

Nicole?!

The girl spins around -- she's eighteen, sexy and loves to have a good time -- this is Donna's sister, NICOLE.

NICOLE

Surprise! I wanted to show up in time for my brother-in-law's first game but my stupid plane got in late. When I got here, one of the moving guys let me in.

A MOVING MAN pops his head up out of the hot tub and smiles sheepishly to Donna.

NICOLE (CONT'D)

Actually, this one, here.

DONNA

(glaring at the guy)
You were supposed to lay the carpet.

INT. TANYA & JASON'S HOUSE - FOYER

A faux Italian Renaissance home, columns, murals, tiled floors, and decorated within an inch of its life. The doorbell rings again and again. Tanya, dripping wet from the pool, throws on her robe as she hurries into the foyer.

JASON (V.O.)

Someone open this door before I break it down!

Tanya sighs -- he's in a mood. Jason starts kicking the door.

(CONTINUED)

TANYA

Okay, okay!

Tanya opens the door.

JASON

What're you, deaf?!

Jason heads toward the kitchen.

JASON (CONT'D)

No dinner waiting. Guess you were too busy working on your breaststroke, huh?

TANYA

And who's breasts were you stroking? The game was over four hours ago.

JASON

Oh, what is that, a little joke? Tanya told a joke... Hey, how about this? Here's a joke!

Jason pulls a framed Lichtenstein litho off the wall and smashes it over the banister.

TANYA

Great. One more insurance claim to file.

He then grabs Tanya's martini off the counter.

TANYA (CONT'D)

Gimme my drink.

JASON

Your drink?

He downs the drink.

JASON (CONT'D)

There's nothing in this house that's "your" anything, sweetheart! Not even this glass!

And with that he hurls it against the wall -- SMASH! Suddenly, almost child-like, he throws himself on the sofa and buries his head in his hands.

(CONTINUED)

JASON (CONT'D)

I'm sorry, I'm sorry. I didn't mean that... I need you...

Tanya crosses to him and wraps her arms around him as he continues to rock back and forth in anguish.

TANYA

It's okay... Talk to me, Jason. What happened?

JASON

Coach Hicks called me in after the game. Told me I'm on my last warning.

TANYA

What?! But you won. What does he want?

JASON

He's just got it in for me. I think they really do want to make room for Biaggi.

(looks at her, desperate)

What are we going to do?

Tanya swallows hard -- she can't stand seeing Jason like this.

EXT. KYLE'S HOUSE - NIGHT

A sleek, ultra-modern home -- all glass, metal and slate. Kyle and Chardonnay walk up to the front door, nuzzling and kissing. The front door opens and the MAN (JAMES) we saw with Jackie earlier comes out.

KYLE

Oh, hey, James -- what're you doing here so late?

JAMES

You gotta lot of cars to detail, Mr. Reynolds. And you know how I like to do a thorough job.

Kyle nods, totally clueless to the fact that the car wash guy is sleeping with his mom.

JAMES (CONT'D)

By the way, I saw the game -- congratulations to you two!

They both smile at him as they enter the house.

INT. KYLE'S HOUSE - NIGHT

The living room is dominated by a huge saltwater aquarium in the middle of the room -- Kyle's pride and joy. Kyle and Chardonnay stand in front of the aquarium -- Chardonnay holds a baggie containing an Angelfish.

KYLE

So, you ready to introduce
Chardonnay Fish to her new home?

CHARDONNAY

I think she's a little nervous...
it's an awfully big tank.

KYLE

But the water's very warm.

Chardonnay smiles at Kyle then opens the baggie and releases the fish into the tank. As Kyle and Chardonnay start to kiss, the lights are suddenly thrown on to reveal Jackie (in a Kimono-type robe) standing at the top of the stairs.

JACKIE

Hope you acclimated that fish to
the tank water --
(pointedly to Chardonnay)
Otherwise she won't last the night.

KYLE

Mama, you're still up. We've got
big news.

JACKIE

I already heard. Along with twenty
million other fans.
(then)
So, when is she due?

KYLE

What -- No, it's not like that.

CHARDONNAY

(horrified)
Ohmigod, do I look fat?

INT. DONNA & BRIAN'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - NIGHT

Donna unwraps two glasses from bubble wrap and starts opening a bottle of wine. Nicole enters, wearing a robe, snapping photos of the house with her camera phone.

(CONTINUED)

NICOLE

Okay, I just got lost coming back from the guestroom! I cannot believe you live in this place. Where's the freaking gift shop?

Donna laughs in spite of herself.

NICOLE (CONT'D)

By the way, I knocked over that lamp in my room -- but it's okay.

DONNA

It didn't break?

NICOLE

No, it broke, but it's okay. Donna, you seriously need to get some new furniture for this place. And while you're at it, some new clothes, a new hairstyle...

DONNA

Will you forget my hair?

NICOLE

I think someone already has. Sweetie, you're not at Syracuse anymore. You're a Pro-Football wife. You're gonna be in the spotlight yourself!

DONNA

(dismissing)

Yeah, that's really me.

Donna's cell phone rings. She glances at the caller I.D. And quickly turns it off.

NICOLE

What's going on with the phone -- you've gotten like four calls since I've been here and you keep turning them off.

DONNA

What, we're visiting. Believe me, since the draft, this thing doesn't stop ringing.

NICOLE

Are you okay? You seem weird.

(CONTINUED)

DONNA

I'm fine.

NICOLE

Donna...

Donna looks at her sister. She takes a breath.

DONNA

If I tell you something... can you swear to keep it just between us? I mean it, Nicole. I've gotta talk to someone.

NICOLE

Yeah, you can talk to me. What is it? You're freaking me out.

DONNA

Oh, God... Okay... For like a month now... I've been getting these calls...

(deep breath)

From the guy who adopted my baby.

Nicole reacts in shock.

NICOLE

OhmiGod.

DONNA

He split up with his wife. And for ten thousand dollars he'll tell me where my son is.

EXT. MANSION - NIGHT

Tanya's Ferrari is parked in front of a large wrought-iron gate outside an intimidating-looking home. Tanya is behind the wheel, staring off into the distance, tears streaming down her cheeks. She finally shakes it off and dries her eyes. She searches in her purse, finds her flask and takes a swig. She then lowers her window and pushes the call button. After a beat...

MAN'S VOICE (FROM CALL BOX)

Yeah?

TANYA

(chipper)

It's me.

(CONTINUED)

There's a buzz and the gate slowly creaks opens. Tanya steels herself and drives onto the property.

INT. FRANK'S HOME - NIGHT

Tanya, dressed in a sexy outfit, sits across from General Manager Frank Wallingford in his plush home office.

TANYA

Thanks for seeing me, Frank.

FRANK

Anytime. You know that.

TANYA

(beat)

So... good game today.

Frank smiles at her. He knows why she's there.

FRANK

He's his own worst enemy, you know.

TANYA

You're telling me?

(holding up wedding ring)

Eight years. But I love him... and so do you. You know he thinks of you as a father, Frank. You drafted him in the fifth round and he's delivered for you. You got a Superbowl ring out of him.

(beat)

Is he on his way out?

FRANK

We're all just passing through...

TANYA

Come on, Frank, no games. I've got no more fingernails left. If you cut Jason loose... we'll lose everything.

FRANK

Not with his contract.

TANYA

I'm not talking about the money. You know he lives for this game. It's who he is. Without it... there's no Jason. And if there's no him... there's no us.

(CONTINUED)

Frank looks at her a beat, then shakes his head.

FRANK

I remember when he told me he started dating this blonde. Some hot waitress over at Hooters who gave him free chicken wings and wrote out her number in hot sauce.

(beat)

I told him to run. Fast. Shows what I know.

Tanya smiles.

FRANK (CONT'D)

You're the best thing that ever happened to that guy. But lately, I don't know...

TANYA

He's still got a lot of game left in him, Frank. Come on, Montana played till he was thirty-eight.

FRANK

He came into camp with fifteen extra pounds on him, he walks through practice...

TANYA

I swear, Frank, I will work on him. Please. You get rid of him... he's dead.

FRANK

We're not getting rid of him. We all know how important he is to the Rays.

TANYA

Really? So these Sal Biaggi rumors...?

FRANK

Sells papers. If that's what's getting to him, you can put his mind to rest. But it wouldn't kill him to work up a little sweat during practice, you know? Maybe smile once or twice, like he actually wants to be there?

(CONTINUED)

TANYA

I don't know how to thank you.

FRANK

You know me, Tan. As long as I'm kept happy... Jase has nothing to worry about.

Tanya nods slightly, she knows what this means. She then gets up, crosses to the door and closes it.

INT. KYLE'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Chardonnay sits across from Jackie as Kyle lingers in the background.

CHARDONNAY

Listen, Jackie, I know you and I haven't always seen eye to eye, but let me make one thing very clear -- I am not marrying your son because it's an "opportunity." I love him... and I'm going to make him very happy.

JACKIE

Uh-huh.

CHARDONNAY

And I hope you and I can learn to be a family. Now, on that subject, just because I'll be moving in here, there's no rush for you to move out. You take three, four weeks, whatever you need.

Jackie looks over to Kyle who sheepishly looks away.

JACKIE

Move out? I've got news for you, Twelve Pounds, I'm not going anywhere.

CHARDONNAY

Excuse me?

JACKIE

You heard me. My son invited me to live in this house three years ago and I have no intention of leaving.

(CONTINUED)

CHARDONNAY

But... but that was before... you know... me.

JACKIE

Kyle?

CHARDONNAY

Kyle?

They both turn and stare at him. Kyle takes a beat.

KYLE

Okay, now, y'all just chill. You know I love you both. There's twelve thousand square feet in this place, plenty of room for all of us. Hell, there's bathrooms in here I still haven't peed in. We'll make it work.

Kyle beats a hasty retreat as Jackie smiles and Chardonnay slowly digests this blow.

INT. DONNA & BRIAN'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - NIGHT

Donna sits at the counter, sipping a glass of wine, lost in thought. The front door opens.

BRIAN (V.O.)

Babe! Where are you?

DONNA

In here.

Donna quickly tries to compose herself as Brian enters the kitchen, excited.

BRIAN

You will never guess --

Nicole appears in the doorway behind him.

NICOLE

Hey, Bri-Bri.

BRIAN

What's she doing here?

NICOLE

Okay, so far the only person happy to see me has been the moving guy.

(CONTINUED)

DONNA

She just came to visit. Why are you so late?

BRIAN

Coach called me into his office after I got dressed -- Gives me the game ball! Can you believe it?! Some of the guys took me out to celebrate.

DONNA

That's amazing! Your first game!

BRIAN

Stay right there. I got you a present!

Brian runs back out to the hallway.

DONNA

You don't have to get me presents!

Nicole mouths to her, "Yes he does!" Brian runs back in carrying a large wrapped gift box. Donna excitedly opens it and pulls out... a full length mink coat.

DONNA (CONT'D)

A fur?

BRIAN

Not just a fur -- that's Alaskan sheared Mink. The guys on the team gave me the name of their furrier -- Jason's wife has this exact same coat!

NICOLE

Jason Austin? Brian, you've got to introduce me to him. He is so smokin' hot --

DONNA

Down, Nicole! He has a wife. And I met this woman, she probably clubbed the minks herself.

BRIAN

(to Donna)

You can wear it to the team dinner at Blue Bar on Wednesday!

(CONTINUED)

NICOLE

OhmiGod, Blue Bar?! I saw that club on Entertainment Tonight -- Lindsay Lohan threw up there, like, twice last month.

(off their looks)

I'm gonna go feed the swans.

Nicole beats a hasty retreat out through the patio doors.

DONNA

Honey, it's a really sweet gesture... but I've just never wanted to wear dead things on my body...

BRIAN

That's because you could never afford to wear dead things on your body! But that's all over! I want to give you everything the other guys give their wives.

DONNA

Don't say that.

BRIAN

Why not?

DONNA

Because I'm not like those women. They're all so... "Stepford-y."

(robot voice)

"We have to be at every game for our husbands. We dress the same, our hair looks the same."

(back to normal)

By the second quarter I knew about their drug addictions, their eating disorders. One of them told me about the threesome she and her husband just had -- and get that smile off your face, it's never gonna happen.

BRIAN

They sound... colorful.

(then, hugging her)

Come on, Babe, try to enjoy it. This is the world we're living in now.

INT. TANYA & JASON'S HOUSE - BEDROOM - NIGHT

Jason is passed out in bed. Tanya enters the bedroom, her shoes in her hand. She watches her husband sleep for a beat, a tender expression comes across her face. She leans over and kisses him. He stirs, incredibly hungover.

JASON

Tan...?

TANYA

You've been out for a while. I was downstairs talking to Frank on the phone.

Jason looks at her, trying to focus.

TANYA (CONT'D)

You're not going anywhere. He said the whole Biaggi thing is just a rumor.

A faint smile creeps across Jason's face...

JASON

We're good?

TANYA

We're good.

INT. HOTEL CORRIDOR - NIGHT

Frank comes down the hallway and knocks on a door. A beat, the door opens and a young, hotshot sports agent, MIKE LYONS, pops his head out.

MIKE

Come on in.

INT. HOTEL ROOM - CONTINUOUS

As they enter the room we reveal the young, rising star quarterback, SAL BIAGGI, on the sofa, eating a burger. Frank extends his hand.

FRANK

Sal Biaggi. Welcome to Orlando.

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

INT. JASON & TANYA'S HOUSE - BEDROOM - DAY

Jason and Tanya are in bed. A HOUSEKEEPER enters with a tray of eggs, bacon, toast and coffee.

TANYA

...And you should probably cut back on the drinking...

JASON

Yes, Officer.

The housekeeper exits.

TANYA

And it wouldn't kill you to let Coach Hicks know you're happy to be there. Smile once in a while, give a little "Morning, Coach."

JASON

Oh, come on, I'm not some rookie.

TANYA

Jason, for us. Just make an effort. Please?

Jason rolls his eyes then gives her a smug little smile.

JASON

(playfully)

Yeah, and what'll you do for me?

TANYA

I don't know... what do you deserve?

Jason picks up a remote control and hits it -- music blasts from the speakers.

MUSIC: "RUMPSHAKER" by Wrecks N Efx

Tanya gets up and sexily walks over to a large brass pole in the corner of the room and starts performing a seductive striptease for her husband. As Jason smiles, settling in for his breakfast and floorshow, we cut to...

EXT. STADIUM - PLAYERS ENTRANCE - DAY

The players are heading back to the locker room after practice. Jason and Brian are walking together as they pass COACH HICKS, 40's, African-American, ex-military man.

JASON
(big fake smile)
Have a great night, Coach!

Hicks gives him a slight nod as Kyle runs past Jason.

KYLE
(goosing him)
And I thought *my* nose was brown.

Brian notices a group of YOUNG FEMALE GROUPIES on the other side of the fence by the locker room entrance.

BRIAN
They're there every day?

JASON
Welcome to the candy store. Oooh,
check out the slutty one on the
left.

Brian's face falls. REVEAL Nicole standing among the girls.

BRIAN
That's my sister-in-law.

JASON
Oh, sorry.

BRIAN
No, she is slutty.

Jason reacts then turns and gives Nicole a little wink.

INT. LOCKER ROOM - LATER

The place is deserted except for Jason who is in the shower. The door opens and we see the STINGRAY MASCOT enter. The Stingray strolls over to the showers and waves to Jason. Jason, not knowing what to make of it, gives a little wave back. The Stingray moves closer and suddenly drops the bottom of the costume, revealing Nicole's naked body. Jason grins. Nicole then takes off the head of the costume and smiles.

JASON
(heavenward)
Pleeeeeease be eighteen.

INT. KYLE'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - MORNING

Chardonnay stands in front of the African tribal masks over the fireplace.

CHARDONNAY
Okay, Halloween is over.

As she starts taking the masks down, Jackie enters.

JACKIE
What do you think you're doing?

CHARDONNAY
I'm just making room for some of my things. I do live here now, too, you know.

Chardonnay takes an urn off the fireplace mantel.

JACKIE
Watch it! That happens to hold the ashes of Kyle's grandmother.

Jackie grabs it from her.

CHARDONNAY
Oh, I'm sorry. I didn't know.

JACKIE
There're a lot of things you don't know.

CHARDONNAY
You know what, Jackie, I've been taking the little shots and the put downs -- can you just tell me what I did? Once and for all, just tell me why you hate the idea of me being with your son?

Jackie looks at her.

JACKIE
I just always hoped Kyle would marry a black girl.

CHARDONNAY
You did not just say that.
(holding out her arms)
What do you think this is? Spray-on tan?

(CONTINUED)

JACKIE

Oh, please, you're "Cosby" black. Some rich girl from Park Avenue who had everything handed to her by her rich daddy.

CHARDONNAY

So, just because I never had to sit at the back of the bus I don't know about our "struggle," is that it?

JACKIE

Struggle? Martin Luther King Day means nothing more to you than a white sale at Macy's.

CHARDONNAY

You know what, I'm not going to apologize for what I came from. I'm not going to apologize for being educated or never going to bed hungry. I was just under the impression that some mothers would actually want someone from a good background for their son.

JACKIE

Not when they think they're better than him. 'Cause I've got news for you, you are not better than Kyle Johnson.

CHARDONNAY

Okay, I don't have to listen to this.

(starting out)

I'm history. Or should I say "black history?"

Chardonnay, turning "ghetto," gives Jackie three sassy snaps with her finger as she exits.

INT. LOCKER ROOM - DAY

Nicole and Jason are getting dressed, looking a bit spent.

NICOLE

I've gotta tell you, when Brian was drafted, I was more excited than anyone. Meant I might actually get to meet the famous Jason Austin.

(CONTINUED)

JASON
Want an autograph?

NICOLE
I think the bite marks on my ass
will do.

JASON
So, how long are you gonna be in
town?

NICOLE
Not sure. My sister's going
through a rough time right now.

JASON
Her husband just got a five year
contract -- what can be so rough?

NICOLE
It's really personal. She'd kill
me if I said anything.

INT. JASON & TANYA'S BEDROOM - LATER

Jason and Tanya lie facing each other on massage tables as two Asian women give them shiatsu massages. They're in mid-conversation.

TANYA
She had a baby at sixteen?

JASON
Gave it up for adoption and now she
has a chance to track it down.

TANYA
Brian told you all this?

JASON
(covering)
Guess he just wanted to get it off
his chest.

TANYA
It's probably the reason she seems
so sad.

JASON
Well, maybe you can make a little
more of an effort to be nice.

(CONTINUED)

TANYA
(wry smile)
I'm always nice.

INT. KYLE'S HOUSE - BEDROOM - NIGHT

Kyle enters, followed by Chardonnay. He carries a dead fish in a net. He exits to the bathroom.

CHARDONNAY
I'm telling you she did it.

KYLE (O.S.)
Mama did not kill your fish.

CHARDONNAY
All I know is it was fine this morning then I came home and it was all...

Chardonnay imitates the dead fish floating on its side. We hear a toilet flush and Kyle re-enters. He joins Chardonnay on the bed.

KYLE
Baby, can't you just maybe make a little bit more of an effort --

CHARDONNAY
Me?! She's impossible, Kyle! I tried. I'm sorry. Now, a couple starting out their life together should not be playing "Three's Company!" She's gotta go!

KYLE
I can't just kick her out.

CHARDONNAY
Why not?

KYLE
Because she's given up her life for me, okay? She's not only been my mother -- she's been my father, my teacher, my coach. She worked two jobs when I was a kid to put food on the table. And she still managed to drive me to practice every day and buy me new cleats when I needed them.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

KYLE (CONT'D)

When my grandmother was dying, I promised her when I made it, I was taking mama with me.

CHARDONNAY

See, this is why you don't go making deathbed promises!

(then)

And why didn't you tell me your grandmother's ashes are in that urn over the fireplace?

KYLE

Those aren't ashes. That's where Mama keeps her Vegas money.

CHARDONNAY

What?

KYLE

She told you it was full of --

(laughing)

You've gotta love her.

CHARDONNAY

No, you gotta love her, I've just gotta put up with her long enough 'til we can ship her off to some home.

KYLE

Look, she's not here now is she? It's just you and me.

Kyle starts kissing her.

CHARDONNAY

But it just --

KYLE

Shhhhhh... just you and me.

He continues to kiss her. As they get more and more passionate, Chardonnay gets on top of Kyle. Suddenly the bedroom door opens and Jackie enters. Chardonnay quickly tries to cover herself with the sheet.

JACKIE

Kyle --

CHARDONNAY

Jackie!

(CONTINUED)

JACKIE

Oh, just pretend I'm making a music video -- you don't seem to care who sees you naked then.

(then, to Kyle)

Coach called, they moved practice up to ten tomorrow.

(pointedly)

So get some rest.

She exits. Chardonnay is fit to be tied.

CHARDONNAY

She just walked -- did you see -- not even a knock --

Kyle starts to kiss her again -- but she pulls away.

CHARDONNAY (CONT'D)

Oh, I don't think so. I've got a headache.

KYLE

A headache?

CHARDONNAY

That's right. And as long as your mother's in this house, I think I'm going to be having a LOT more of 'em. Goodnight.

Chardonnay turns away from Kyle as he reacts.

INT. DONNA & BRIAN'S HOUSE - DAY

Donna is unpacking a moving box in the living room. She reaches in and takes out a cheap-looking frame. It's a photo of Donna and Brian from a simpler, more carefree time. A nostalgic smile comes across her face -- but a knock on the front door snaps her back into reality. She crosses to the front door and opens it to reveal Tanya and Chardonnay.

DONNA

Oh. Hi.

TANYA

I hope we're not interrupting, we were in the neighborhood...

DONNA

Oh, uh, no. I'm just unpacking.

(CONTINUED)

Tanya and Chardonnay enter the foyer, instantly taking in every piece of furniture, knick-knack and photograph.

CHARDONNAY

I love it... Wrought iron,
marble... no mother-in-law...

TANYA

We just wanted to officially
welcome you to the neighborhood,
the team, blah, blah, blah. See
how you're settling in.

CHARDONNAY

Where's that darling baby of yours -
- Jeffrey?

DONNA

Molly. My sister took her to the
park so I can get through some more
of these boxes.

TANYA

Then we showed up just in time.
Get your coat, Donna.

DONNA

My coat?

CHARDONNAY

We're kidnapping you.

EXT. PRIVATE AIRPORT - DAY

Tanya, Chardonnay and Donna pull up to a parking space in Tanya's Ferrari. Lear jets and G-5's dot the runway.

DONNA

What are we doing here? You said
we were shopping for dresses for
the team dinner.

TANYA

Oh, didn't we mention it? The
dress shop's in Miami.

DONNA

What?! I have to put a chicken in
at five o'clock.

INT. PLANE - DAY

Chardonnay, Tanya and a wide-eyed Donna sit on the private jet, sipping champagne as they each get pedicures. Chardonnay and Tanya look on, amused, as Donna bursts out in laughter, pulling her feet away from the pedicurist.

DONNA

I'm sorry, I'm sorry, I'm so ticklish!

CHARDONNAY

(off her Blackberry)

Check it, "US" magazine wants to do a cover story on us for the wedding... And Vera Wang wants to do my gown!

DONNA

Vera Wang, the dress designer?

CHARDONNAY

No, Vera Wang, the owner of the Chinese take-out place. Yes, the designer. I've gotta call my publicist!

DONNA

(shaking her head)

I can't believe the way you people live. It's like a movie.

TANYA

Get used to it, Donna. You're in the movie now, too.

On Donna, we cut to...

INT. DRESS SHOP - DAY

A high-end boutique in South Beach. Chardonnay and Tanya browse through the racks of the couture dresses.

TANYA

(calling into dressing room)

How's it going in there?

CHARDONNAY

Yeah, let's see it!

(CONTINUED)

The curtains to the dressing room part and Donna emerges... looking stunning in a Gucci corset top, floor-length satin gown and five inch heels. Chardonnay and Tanya break out in huge grins.

TANYA

Well, look who has boobs!

DONNA

I swear, if I breathe this is going to rip.

TANYA

So, don't breathe, it's worth it.

CHARDONNAY

Trust me, your man sees you in that -- you're getting a car.

TANYA

Let's wrap it up --

DONNA

Oh, no, no, this was for fun -- all the clothes in my closet put together don't cost as much as this dress -- And for what, I'll wear it six or seven times?

CHARDONNAY

Six or seven times?

TANYA

(holding up a finger)
Once.

CHARDONNAY

And then you donate it to some cancer charity.

DONNA

You know what -- Let me sleep on it. And if I really want it, I'll just fly back tomorrow.

Chardonnay grabs a dress and heads for another dressing room, shaking her head.

CHARDONNAY

Hopeless...

As Chardonnay disappears, Tanya crosses over to Donna's dressing room and speaks to her through the curtain.

(CONTINUED)

TANYA

You know, Donna, you do deserve all this.

DONNA

Oh, really? And what did I do to deserve some ridiculously overpriced dress?

TANYA

You've made sacrifices.

Donna is silent.

TANYA (CONT'D)

We all have. And I just want you to know you're a member of this team now. And we're here for you if you need us. For anything.

DONNA

Um, thanks.

A beat.

TANYA

Jason told me about the baby, Donna. The one you gave up.

Donna steps out of the dressing room, practically trembling.

TANYA (CONT'D)

I know it's none of my business --

DONNA

How did he know about that?

TANYA

Brian told him.

DONNA

No, he didn't. He couldn't have.

TANYA

Why not?

DONNA

Because Brian doesn't know there was a baby.

FADE OUT

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

FADE IN:

INT. DRESS SHOP - MOMENTS LATER

Donna and Tanya are as we left them.

TANYA

Brian doesn't know you had a child?

Donna shakes her head.

TANYA (CONT'D)

Then how did Jason know about it?

DONNA

(realizing)

Oh, God. My sister. Nicole.

TANYA

She knows my husband?

DONNA

Well, uh, she ended up going to practice with Brian yesterday and we were talking about it and she must've met Jason... and she's just got a really big mouth.

TANYA

I see.

Donna buries her head in her hands.

DONNA

Brian can't find out about this.

TANYA

You never told him you were pregnant?

Donna takes a deep breath and nods.

DONNA

He knew I was pregnant. We were kids, figured we couldn't handle a baby so... we decided I'd get rid of it. Then our parents found out, and they flipped -- we even moved so I couldn't see Brian again. But when I went to terminate the pregnancy... I couldn't do it.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

DONNA (CONT'D)

So my folks decided I'd have the baby and give it up for adoption.

TANYA

And you never told him.

DONNA

(shakes her head)

I didn't see him again till we got to Syracuse. By then it was too late -- I'd lied to him, I thought it would end our relationship.

Donna lets the tears flow.

DONNA (CONT'D)

I'm sorry, I've kept it inside for so long...

TANYA

You poor thing. Is there anything I can do?

DONNA

There's nothing anyone can do. His adopted father wants ten thousand dollars just to tell me where he is... but I can't get that kind of cash without telling Brian the truth.

As Tanya puts a hand on Donna's back to comfort her, we cut to...

INT. PLANE - LATER

Chardonnay wanders around the cabin holding her blackberry, lost in the world of text-messaging. Tanya sits next to Donna who gazes out the window, lost in thought.

After a beat, Tanya leans in to Donna.

TANYA

I have something for you.

DONNA

What?

Tanya reaches in her purse and pulls out her checkbook. Donna's eyes widen.

TANYA

You need ten thousand dollars to find him?

(CONTINUED)

DONNA

Tanya --

TANYA

We wives have to stick together.

DONNA

Tanya, I couldn't. It's ten thousand dollars.

TANYA

Oh, please.
(checks her watch a beat)
There. Jason just *made* ten thousand dollars.

Tanya rips the check out of her checkbook.

TANYA (CONT'D)

Go find your baby.

DONNA

I can't. I just can't...

TANYA

Take it. Who knows? Maybe I'll need a favor from you someday.

Tanya holds out the check to Donna. Donna stares at it, contemplating the strings attached to accepting such a "gift."

INT. DONNA & BRIAN'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Nicole is holding the baby. The front door opens and Donna enters. She heads directly for her sister.

NICOLE

There you are! I cannot believe you flew to Miami --

Donna takes the baby from Nicole and puts it in the nearby bassinet.

NICOLE (CONT'D)

And on a private jet! Tell me every --

SLAP! Donna's hand flies across Nicole's stunned face.

DONNA

You couldn't help yourself, could you?! You screwed Jason Austin and told him about the baby!

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

DONNA (CONT'D)

What is wrong with you, Nicole?!
You can ruin your life, but you
can't ruin mine!

On Nicole, shaken and humiliated, we cut to...

INT. KYLE & CHARDONNAY'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Chardonnay is hanging some framed magazine covers of herself next to Kyle's framed photos. The front door opens and Kyle and Jackie enter.

CHARDONNAY

Hey. How'd it go? Have any luck?

KYLE

Yeah, we found Mama a real nice place. It's got a pool and a gym and it's just a few blocks from the mall.

CHARDONNAY

That's great, Jackie.
(pointedly)
You can be first in line for that Martin Luther King Day sale.

JACKIE

I should start packing.

CHARDONNAY

Oh, wait, don't forget Grandma!

Chardonnay picks up the urn and tosses it to Jackie. Jackie catches it and glares at Chardonnay as she exits upstairs. Kyle plops down on the sofa. Chardonnay nuzzles him.

CHARDONNAY (CONT'D)

I think my headache's getting better.

KYLE

Yeah, well, mine isn't. My mother hates me.

CHARDONNAY

She doesn't hate you. After a week or two she's going to love being on her own.

KYLE

Maybe she's too old to be living on her own.

(CONTINUED)

CHARDONNAY

She's forty-four! And wears belly shirts!

Chardonnay takes his hand in hers.

CHARDONNAY (CONT'D)

Baby, if you and I are ever going to have a chance, we had to do this.

Suddenly there's a loud THUD heard upstairs.

KYLE

Mama?!

Kyle rushes up the stairs.

CHARDONNAY

(to herself)

Bitch, do not die in this house.

INT. JASON & TANYA'S HOUSE - DINING ROOM

Tanya, wearing a formal dress, sits at the dining room table which is set for two for a romantic dinner -- flowers, candlelight, etc. A SERVER stands nearby. Tanya checks her watch as he pours her a second glass of wine. Tanya picks up her cell phone and dials. After a beat she hangs up.

TANYA

Guess he forgot we were having dinner tonight.

She stands and blows out the candles. She then turns back to the server.

TANYA (CONT'D)

Dump it.

INT. SPORTS BAR - NIGHT

Donna tentatively enters the bar and looks around. STU HARPER, an unshaven, nervous-looking man waves her over.

STU

I recognize you from your pictures in the paper with Brian. So, uh, you want a drink?

(CONTINUED)

DONNA

Um, why don't you just show me the adoption papers so I know we're not wasting our time here.

STU

Oh, yeah, sure.

(holds out envelope)

It's all in here. And I wrote down the address in Atlanta, you know, where he's living with her now. And there's a photo in there. Took it at his last birthday.

Donna reaches for the envelope, but Stu pulls it back.

STU (CONT'D)

Uh-uh. Not 'til...

Donna gives a little nod as she hands him an envelope.

DONNA

It's all there. Ten thousand dollars.

(then)

He's in Atlanta? That's only three hours away.

As Stu nods, counting his money, we cut to...

EXT. SPORTS BAR - CONTINUOUS

Donna comes outside and collapses up against the building, catching her breath. She slowly opens the envelope and pulls out the photo -- preparing herself to see her son's face again for the first time since he was born... and there he is, an adorable seven year old with a big toothy grin. As Donna bursts out into tears, we cut to...

INT. JASON & TANYA'S HOUSE - DEN - NIGHT

Jason stumbles into the room and switches on the lights. He crosses to the bar and fixes himself a large scotch. He then turns around and from his POV sees Tanya draped unconscious on the sofa, a glass dropped on the floor and an empty pill bottle still clutched in her hand.

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT FOUR

ACT FIVE

FADE IN:

INT. JASON & TANYA'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

A panicked Jason runs to Tanya and tries to revive her.

JASON
Tanya? What did you do?!
(shaking her)
Tanya!!

He runs to the phone and dials 911.

JASON (CONT'D)
(terrified)
It's my wife -- Get the hell over
here! Please!

Suddenly he hears laughter -- he spins around to see Tanya sitting up, grinning at him.

TANYA
Got ya'!

JASON
Wha --
(into phone)
It's okay. She's okay.

He hangs up the phone.

JASON (CONT'D)
What the hell is the matter with
you -- that's some sick joke?!

TANYA
You deserve it coming home after
four! Who was it this time, Jase?
Cindy... Jennie... Nicole?!

Jason looks at her, momentarily spooked.

TANYA (CONT'D)
Her brother-in-law's on the team!
I could kill you!

JASON
I don't know what you're talking
about, crazy bitch!

Jason throws the pill bottle at her.

(CONTINUED)

JASON (CONT'D)

Next time, do us both a favor and finish it off.

He starts to exit and Tanya picks up a large crystal vase off the coffee table. She hurls it at Jason, just missing him and smashing against the wall.

TANYA

Don't you make a fool out of me!!

EXT. KYLE'S HOUSE - POOL AREA - LATER

Kyle and Chardonnay sit on the patio with a REPORTER who holds a recorder in his hand. A PHOTOGRAPHER takes some candid shots. A chocolate cake, along with a pitcher of iced tea, sits on the table.

CHARDONNAY

...I'll be lying on the altar in a Vera Wang original, surrounded by seven children dressed as dwarves -- then Kyle will ride up the aisle on a white horse, approach the altar and then awaken me with a kiss.

REPORTER

Sounds like this is going to be the wedding of the year. Can we tell our readers a date?

CHARDONNAY

I've always wanted to be married on New Years Eve - that way he'll never forget our anniversary.

KYLE

But I told you, that's still during the season --

(to reporter)

And this year the Rays are going all the way -- you put that down in this article -- Now, I'm thinking we'll do it in the beginning of February --

CHARDONNAY

But he keeps forgetting I'm in the studio in February -- and then we're talking about a tour --

(CONTINUED)

KYLE

Or maybe you can give all that up
and just be happy being Mrs. Kyle
Johnson --

Chardonnay is totally thrown by this. Kyle turns back to the reporter and nudges him.

KYLE (CONT'D)

Take a look, I happen to be doing
okay -- Am I right?

JACKIE (O.C.)

Oh, I didn't realize you were out
here?

Chardonnay cringes -- this is just what she needs. Jackie hobbles over to them, her ankle is bandaged and she uses a cane. As she hobbles toward them, Chardonnay reacts.

CHARDONNAY

Um, Jackie, we're in the middle of
an interview.

JACKIE

Really? 'Cause here I was thinking
you were getting your nails done.

KYLE

Are you in any pain, Mama?

JACKIE

Only when I'm conscious.

CHARDONNAY

Kyle's mother tripped and sprained --

JACKIE

Broke!

CHARDONNAY

Sprained her ankle yesterday.

JACKIE

I just came out to ask if there
were any more moving boxes.

REPORTER

Are you moving out of your son's
home, Mrs. Johnson? Must be hard
leaving a place like this.

(CONTINUED)

Jackie glances at Chardonnay and decides to take advantage of the situation.

JACKIE

Oh, it is. But it seems my daughter-in-law-to-be is insisting on some time alone with my son.

The reporter turns to Chardonnay with a raised eyebrow. She gives him a nervous smile.

CHARDONNAY

Come on, Jackie, you make it sound like I'm kicking you out.

JACKIE

No, no, you're right.
(to reporter)
I think her exact words were I had three to four weeks.

The reporter scribbles something down on his pad.

CHARDONNAY

(to reporter)
What're you writing? She wants to go. Tell them, Jackie.

Jackie just stares at her blankly.

CHARDONNAY (CONT'D)

Look, you want to stay, you can stay. Even though I know you have your heart set on going. What could I possibly do that would make you even reconsider living here?

JACKIE

(loving this)
Ask me?

A bead of sweat forms on Chardonnay's forehead. The reporter leans forward. Totally trapped, she has no choice.

CHARDONNAY

Would you like to keep...
(swallows hard)
living here with Kyle and me?

JACKIE

I'd love to!

(CONTINUED)

REPORTER

This is terrific -- what a great family angle to the story!
(to photographer)
Reggie, get a shot of the three of them. This is our cover!

Dying on the inside, Chardonnay smiles for the photo and as the flash goes off, we cut to...

EST. SHOT - BLUE BAR - NIGHT

A bunch of paparazzi flashes going off outside as football stars and their wives enter this hot spot du jour.

INT. NIGHTCLUB - NIGHT

The place is packed. Music is playing, people are dancing, etc. A lot of the players seem to be in one huddle while the wives cluster together. Jason enters the front door, followed by Tanya, trying to catch up to him.

TANYA

Will you at least walk in with me?

JASON

I told you should've stayed home and played with your pills.

TANYA

Sure, show Coach Hicks and Frank you've got a marriage on the rocks on top of everything else. Real smart.

Jason ignores her and crosses off. Tanya crosses to the bar where she finds Chardonnay already nursing a drink.

TANYA (CONT'D)

I need alcohol and a lot of it.

CHARDONNAY

Look at the two of them over there...

From Chardonnay's P.O.V. we see Kyle and Jackie sitting at a table.

CHARDONNAY (CONT'D)

I never knew it could be this much fun dating a couple.

ANGLE ON THE FRONT DOOR --

(CONTINUED)

As Brian and Donna enter. Donna is wearing the fur coat.

BRIAN

You believe it -- those kids
actually wanted my autograph!

Donna starts to take off the fur.

BRIAN (CONT'D)

Wait, wait, don't check it yet -- I
want the guys to see you in it!

Donna shoots him a look.

DONNA

Fine, Brian. Why don't I walk it
over to the bar and see if it needs
a drink?

Donna crosses off as Frank enters the front door. He
desperately searches for Coach Hicks and makes a bee-line for
him.

FRANK

We've got trouble. There's press
outside. The story's out.

COACH HICKS

How?

FRANK

Who the hell knows. But it's going
to be in all the papers tomorrow.
(then)
I called Biaggi at the hotel and
told him to get over here. We've
got to tell them before they read
it.

INT. LADIES ROOM - LATER

Tanya and Donna are each in a stall. Ruby, Chardonnay and
Shannon are at the mirror checking their make-up.

RUBY

You know, Char, I fought with
Dave's mother every single day of
her life... but then when she
passed away... Damn, I was happy!

Ruby laughs. Chardonnay is not amused.

(CONTINUED)

SHANNON

That's it. We're taking you out after this thing tonight. Just us girls. Think of it as an early engagement party. You in, Tanya?

In the stall, Tanya cuts a line of coke on her make-up mirror.

TANYA

A chance to make Jason wait up for me? I'm there.

RUBY

How about you, Donna?

In the next stall, we see Donna staring at the photo of her son, trembling.

DONNA

I have to get up early. I'm taking a flight to Atlanta... I'm going to see a relative.

INT. NIGHTCLUB - LATER

As the party continues, Coach Hicks makes his way to the stage and picks up a microphone. Donna, Chardonnay and Tanya are now standing with Brian, Kyle and Jason. A HOT BLONDE crosses by and winks at Brian.

DONNA

Do you know her?

BRIAN

Who?

DONNA

The blonde who just winked at you.

BRIAN

No.

The blonde crosses by.

HOT BLONDE

Hey, Bri. Good seeing you again! Good luck on Sunday.

Donna glares at Brian.

BRIAN

Oh, *that* blonde.
(shrugs)
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

BRIAN (CONT'D)

After practice the other day, I
went with the guys to some club...
It was nothing. Some groupies.

Donna looks at him... he's becoming a person she doesn't
really recognize.

Angle on the podium --

COACH HICKS

Hello -- Can you hear me?

The slightly inebriated players cheer for Hicks.

COACH HICKS (CONT'D)

Sorry to interrupt the party, but
we have a special guest to
introduce. The team owners will be
making a formal announcement to the
press tomorrow but Frank
Wallingford would like to tell you
the good news himself tonight.
Frank?

FRANK

Okay, ladies and gentlemen -- the
last thing you want from me is a
speech -- so, I'm just going to get
right to it. I'm very proud to
announce to you tonight the Orlando
Stingrays new acquisition --
Quarterback Sal Biaggi!

Frank beckons Sal on to the stage. Among the applause, there
are gasps heard from some players, including Jason, who's
trying to hold it together. Tanya, next to him, stares at
Frank, her nostrils flaring at the betrayal.

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT FIVE

ACT SIX

FADE IN:

INT. DONNA & BRIAN'S HOUSE - DEN - NIGHT

Brian, still in his club clothes, is watching TV. Donna, still in her dress, enters carrying Molly.

DONNA

Nicole said she's been fussy all night.

BRIAN

(not really listening)
It's already all over ESPN about Biaggi.

DONNA

Brian... my sister slept with Jason Austin.

BRIAN

(shaking his head)
That didn't take long. What the hell's the matter with her?!

DONNA

I tried to cover to his wife but I think she saw through it... And the scariest part, she barely batted an eye.

(then)

I want you to know I'll never be that kind of wife.

BRIAN

What're you, back on the blonde? Come on, Donna, you can't be jealous. It's me.

DONNA

Three months ago I might've known what that meant. I love you, you know that. But since we've moved here...

BRIAN

What am I supposed to do when I go out -- these girls get crazy, people ask for autographs. It's just part of the game.

(CONTINUED)

DONNA

Really? And buying Hummers and caring about who's house is bigger and showing off the fur coat you bought your wife, that's part of the game, too?

Brian, disgusted, gets up and grabs his coat.

BRIAN

You know what, the guys were going to some after hours club but I told them I had to come home with my wife. I think that was a mistake.

He starts for the door. Donna runs after him.

DONNA

Oh, so this is how this is going to work? Everytime we have a problem you're going to run to "the guys?" Well, not tonight.

Donna practically dumps Molly into his arms.

BRIAN

What are you --

DONNA

I'm a football wife, remember? I have my own club, too.

And as she storms out of the house, we cut to...

INT. PORSCHE - NIGHT

Jason, enraged and intoxicated, speeds down the deserted road in his red Porsche 911 convertible. Tanya, next to him, hangs on for dear life.

TANYA

Will you slow down?!

Their car comes up behind a Jaguar XJ6.

JASON

Well, look who's here.

EXT. STREET - CONTINUOUS

Jason speeds up and passes the Jaguar, then swiftly cuts it off. The Jaguar swerves and comes to a screeching halt.

(CONTINUED)

The door opens and Frank gets out. Jason and Tanya get out of the Porsche.

FRANK
What the hell's wrong with you?!

TANYA
Jason, don't do this.

JASON
Why'd you bother to stop -- why didn't you just ram into me and finish me off?!

Frank is clearly unnerved.

JASON (CONT'D)
You lied to me! And you lied to my wife!

FRANK
I had no choice. It's business. You're still our starter.

JASON
Oh, come on! This guy's my replacement! He's not riding the bench for the twenty million you're paying him!
(off Frank's sheepish look)
Or more...

FRANK
You should get him home, Tanya.

Frank starts back to his car.

JASON
That's it? Like nothing happened...?

Jason starts getting in Frank's face, shoving him a little.

JASON (CONT'D)
You screwed me!

FRANK
Back off, Austin.

JASON
Yeah, or what --

(CONTINUED)

FRANK

I'm serious!

Frank shoves Jason away. Jason loses his balance, falling back on his ass. Frank, none too sober himself, sways a bit to keep his balance. He eyes Jason on the ground, slumped against the car and sighs at the absurdity of the situation.

FRANK (CONT'D)

Time to grow up, Jason.

Something suddenly comes alive in Tanya seeing Jason brought so low. In a fury she throws herself at Frank with all her might, shoving him against the door of his car. There's a horrifying crack as his head hits metal, then Frank collapses to the ground. As Tanya and Jason react, we cut to...

EXT. STREET - LATER

Jason props an unconscious Frank behind the wheel of his Jaguar. Tanya then releases the brake and together she and Jason push Frank's car off the road into a swamp.

INT. BAR - LATER

A bit of a dive but the band is hot and the drinks are flowing. Chardonnay and the other wives are shooting pool. Chardonnay is lining up a shot.

RUBY

(tapping one of the balls)
Come on, Char, just pretend old
Jackie's face is right here.

Chardonnay smiles as she sinks the ball in the corner pocket. The women cheer. Donna suddenly appears in the doorway.

CHARDONNAY

Donna! You came!

DONNA

I had to get out of the house.
Brian and I had a little...

RUBY

Everything okay?

DONNA

I don't know. I just got in the
car and kept driving and driving...
and I realized I had no other place
to go.

(CONTINUED)

CHARDONNAY

It's okay. We're here for you.

SHANNON

Now, why don't you go get a drink
and chalk up a stick and show us
what you're made of!

Donna gives a little nod.

ANGLE ON THE FRONT DOOR --

Tanya quietly slips in. She spies Donna at the bar and sidles
up next to her.

TANYA

Donna, you made it.

DONNA

Oh, Tanya, I didn't see you here.

TANYA

I've been here for hours.
(pointedly)
And if anyone asks... you back me
up on that, okay?
(off Donna's curious look)
Think of it as one of those little
"favors" we do for each other.

Tanya clinks her glass to Donna's as Chardonnay comes over.

CHARDONNAY

(to bartender)
Another round over here.

TANYA

I want to propose a toast.
(picking up her glass)
To anyone looking in, we're living
the American dream...

INT. KYLE'S HOUSE - SCREENING ROOM

Kyle is watching TV. Jackie enters, carrying a contract.

TANYA (V.O.)

But every dream comes at a price...

JACKIE

No more stalling. Either you give
it to her, or I will.

(CONTINUED)

She drops the papers down in front of him. The camera moves in to read it's a PRE-NUPTIAL AGREEMENT.

INT. DONNA & BRIAN'S HOUSE - BEDROOM - NIGHT

Brian is unpacking a box of clothes. He searches for an empty drawer in the dresser.

TANYA (V.O.)
And just like our men we have our
secrets...

Brian opens one of the drawers and finds Donna's airline ticket to Atlanta. As he eyes it curiously we cut to...

INT. JASON & TANYA'S HOUSE - BEDROOM - NIGHT

The camera pans across the dark room to find Jason huddled in the corner, a Scotch in his hand, trying to self-medicate.

TANYA (V.O.)
They may look like the tough
ones...

INT. BAR - CONTINUOUS

Tanya, Donna and Chardonnay are as we left them, glasses raised.

TANYA
But when the game's real life, it's
our number they call. To the good
women behind the Rays.

They clink glasses.

INT. CAR - NIGHT - CONTINUOUS

Frank, slumped over his steering wheel, lies motionless and bloody.

TANYA/DONNA/CHARDONNAY (V.O.)
Go Rays! Go Rays! Go Rays!

And suddenly... his eyes pop open!

FADE OUT.

END OF SHOW