# LOSING IT

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Inspired by Jane Austen's Pride & Prejudice

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WGA# 1503530

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

DARCY (V.O.)
I can tell you one thing with
absolute certainty. At some point
today every single teenager across
the globe was thinking about sex.

CLOSE ON hands as they collect objects from around the room - a BOOK on TEENAGE SEXUALITY, SEXUALLY EXPLICIT TEENAGE MAGAZINES and the KAMA SUTRA. The hands put the items into a DESK DRAWER.

DARCY (V.O.)
And I am no exception. I touched
myself twice today and it wasn't to
apply my make up. But
sex...intercourse...fucking that's a whole different ball game.
And I am determined to take a path
less travelled...I plan to override human nature and what my body
and the rest of the world is
telling me to do - fuck, screw,
hump, nail, hit, bang, pork - have
sex.

We move up the desk. A BOOK of SHAKESPEARE lies open next to a JOURNAL.

PAN UP to DARCY (17), a pretty, smart as a whip, brunette, as she sits at her DESK staring at something.

DARCY (V.O.)
And why am I depriving myself of one of nature's little luxuries?
Because as far as I can tell, sex is never...just...sex.

Reveal Darcy is looking at a FRAMED PHOTOGRAPH of herself and what looks like an older sister.

VIVIAN (O.S.)
Darcy! Get your vagina up here!

Darcy hides her journal, closes ROMEO AND JULIET, climbs out her bedroom WINDOW and goes up to the ROOF.

EXT. ROOFTOP OF FAMILY HOME - JACKSONVILLE, ARKANSAS - DUSK

Darcy joins VIVIAN (17) a proud gay boy with floppy dyed bangs and baby blues who dresses for himself in unique ECLECTIC VINTAGE, who is laid back on a RUG watching GINGER (17) retching over the side of the house. Ginger - a more than plain looking blonde - is trying too hard in a MICRO-DRESS and HEELS.

GINGER (O.S.)
My heart is racing at least double what it should be. I'm gunna faint or throw up. Seriously.

DARCY
...it's Celebrity Worship Syndrome;
It can be as bad as a drug
addiction.

GINGER No, Darcy, I will not let you cheapen my feelings...

DARCY
...it's in your DNA. You're
programmed to follow the alpha male
of the village.

GINGER
I don't give a shit. I want to have his babies and the rest of the village can kiss my Flintstone ass.

Vivian stands up - eyes wide in awe.

VIVIAN Oh my God...he's here.

Darcy and Ginger turn to see an enormous MOVING TRUCK followed by a posse of luxury CARS drive down the street and towards the brand spanking new MANSION HOUSE at the end of the cul-de-sac. A TV REPORTER and CAMERA CREW stationed at the end of the street jump into action as the cars drive by.

GINGER
This is the most important moment in my life.

Ginger turns to Vivian, they clasp hands and SCREAM.

DARCY
You're both embarrassingly
pathetic.

They climb off the roof and through to Darcy's bedroom where the same news reporter is on E NEWS on the TV.

## START OPENING CREDITS

E NEWS PRESENTER

(on screen)
Teen heartthrob and notorious
playboy Jason Dawes' latest
skirmish with the paparazzi has him
running all the way back to his
home town in Arkansas.

Ginger and Vivian fly down the stairs with Darcy in reluctant pursuit.

E NEWS PRESENTER (O.S.) Charges were dismissed after Jason's hot temper left the photog in the emergency room last month. His reps say he's excited about returning to high school and hopes the break from his demanding music career will do him good.

INT. DARCY'S HOUSE, KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

Darcy's Dad, BILL (55), is dressed in a CLERGY SHIRT with TAB COLLAR and is chopping ONIONS while wearing ONION PROTECTION GOGGLES.

GINGER (flirtatious)

Hey Bill.

BILL

Ginger.

VIVIAN

(with reverence)

Your eminence.

BILL

(raises an eyebrow)

Viviàn.

Ginger and Vivian race out the front door.

DARCY

He's arrived.

BILL

Who?

DARCY

(sarcastic)

Only the most important person in the world EVER!

Darcy sits down to put on her SNEAKERS; she actually laces them up. May (53), beautiful, sexy and confident, enters dressed in a POWER SUIT and HEELS.

She carries a WELCOME BASKET with a card on the front that reads 'The Town of Jacksonville welcomes the Dawes family' and has the stamp of the MAYOR'S OFFICE on it.

 ${ t BILL}$ 

Mary Anne's daughter described him as a hot piece of ass.

DARCY

Don't even go there.

MAY

Boys don't bite, Darcy. A couple of dates wouldn't hurt.

Bill, still in goggles, accosts May and starts biting her neck and ears like a monster.

DARCY

Jason Dawes is an egotistical, heedless pop star and I am not beholden by any desire to have my inexperienced emotions raped by a hormone-driven adolescent on the quest for some dire form of puppy love.

May smiles sarcastically.

BILI

You might always be able to explain it, my love, but you won't always be able to explain it away.

MAY

I hear he's a bit of a player. Maybe he could be one of your projects.

Bill, who is now nuzzled in May's cleavage, pulls back in terror

BILL

ARGHH! A third nipple!

MAY

Bill!

Darcy smirks, picks up the basket and follows after the others.

EXT. DARCY'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Ginger and Vivian sit in a beat up HONDA CIVIC that's parked in the driveway. MUSIC blares.

Darcy, who is dressed like she's forty in JEANS straight from the 80s and a dowdy woollen SWEATER, climbs into the driver's seat and shoves the BASKET onto Ginger who is spraying PERFUME down her pants.

Darcy reverses out the drive, drives down the street about 400 yards until they reach THE MANSION HOUSE.

EXT. JASON'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

The TRUCK is parked in the sweeping driveway and REMOVAL MEN carry FURNITURE and BOXES into the house. Ginger touches one of the CHAIRS as if its sacred and the guy rolls his eyes.

VIVIAN

(to Ginger)

Should we go up to the door?

GINGER

Yes. No. Yes. My vagina is blocking out all rational thought.

Then Levi (17), a cute but shy boy, walks down the drive towards the truck and sees them.

LEVI

I'm guessing you guys want to meet

GINGER

Shit, sorry. Yes, if possible. I mean, we totally understand if he's

(she pushes Darcy forward)
This is Darcy. She's your neighbor.

Darcy steps forward and hands him the WELCOME BASKET.

DARCY
Yeah...hi...This is from my Mom.
She's the Mayor of Jacksonville.

LEVI

Thanks.

DARCY

This is Ginger and Vivian. I live at the end there - if you ever need anything. Not that you probably do...but...

LEVI

Nice to meet you. I'm Levi. (to Vivian) Victor, was it?

VIVIAN

No...Vivian.

The chemistry lights up between the two boys.

Great...I'm Levi. That shirt's awesome.

Vivian smiles sheepishly.

So...yeah...I'll see if Jason can come out.

Levi carries the basket back into the house. Ginger and Darcy turn to Vivian.

GINGER

You just shot your load.

VIVIAN

Well lick it up, bitch...Oh my God.

The FRONT DOOR opens. Vivian and Ginger freak out and run behind the TRUCK leaving Darcy alone.

A boy of 19 comes into the DOORWAY. His looks could have come straight from the catwalk (think LUKE GRIMES), he sports multiple TATOOES and his style is a throw back to 1960s mod fashion - STRAIGHT CUT PANTS, WHITE SOCKS and a SKINNY BLACK TIE. This is JASON DAWES.

Dawes takes off his SHADES and looks out to the van - to Darcy.

Darcy sheepishly puts up a hand to wave. But Jason turns and goes back into the house.

Ginger and Vivian race back.

GINGER

What the fuck? Why did he go?

DARCY

Why do you think?

They turn in embarrassment and walk back to the car.

GINGER

That was the most horrific thing that ever happened.

VIVIAN

(to Ginger)

It didn't happen to you, Miss sensitivity, it happened to Darcy.

GINGER

She doesn't care, though, right?

DARCY

That a self-obsessed drug-addict, playboy doesn't want to speak to me? Hmm...let me think.

They banter as we fade out to

EXT. BELMONT HIGH SCHOOL - DAY

### FINISH OPENING CREDITS

Darcy parks and makes her way through the school grounds.

Teenagers, a couple of them who are obviously PREGNANT, stand huddled in groups singing along to their favorite Dawes tracks. SKIRTS are short and LIP GLOSS is aplenty - and that goes for the teachers as well.

A NEWS TRUCK is parked near by, a nervous TV PRESENTER practices her lines and a huge BANNER is draped across the entrance that reads 'WELCOME HOME JASON.'

ROGER, (think Christopher Mintz-Plasse) the worst kind of geek because he thinks he's George Clooney, approaches her.

ROGER

Darcy! You heard that Jason Dawes is starting today?

DARCY

No? He is?

ROGER

I used to go to pre-school with him.

DARCY

(sarcastically impressed)
Really?

Vivian jumps off the BUS and joins them.

NAIVIV

Friends, Romans, Countrymen.

DARCY

(under her breath)
I come to bury Jason not to praise
him.

Vivian smirks.

ROGER

So, yeah...if you need a way in, I'd be happy to introduce you.

DARCY

Thanks, Roger. But I would rather peel off each of my finger nails and dip my hands in acid.

(shouts to the Principal)
Sir! Just a minute.

Darcy runs after PRINCIPAL COLLINS (55), a short, balding man who is scurrying towards the news reporter.

ROGER

(confused)

That's an extreme way to get his attention.

Principal Collins, the fund-raiser is three weeks away so I'd like permission to utilize one of the empty classrooms and start meaningful promotion.

PRINCIPAL COLLINS
Permission granted. You know Jason Dawes is starting today?

DARCY
Yes... Sir, when you introduce him to the school I think you should try to hold back on the adulation.

PRINCIPAL COLLINS Come now, I'm hardly going to...

DARCY

... Because you are the dominant male in our environment. As soon as you revere him it will trigger others to follow and turn our already confused society upside down.

PRINCIPAL COLLINS Don't worry, my dear Darcy. There will be no gratuitous worship from my lips.

He walks off. Hold on Darcy unconvinced.

INT. SCHOOL HALL - LATER

Close on Principal Collins.

PRINCIPAL COLLINS In 1985 I was fortunate enough to be present when President Ronald Reagan presented Mother Theresa with the Medal of Freedom...

Darcy is sitting at the back scribbling answers to MATHEMATICAL EQUATIONS in her MATH BOOK.

PRINCIPAL COLLINS
And now, I have the blessed honor of introducing a truly gifted artist, a man that needs no introduction and whom I am so humbled to meet.

Darcy looks up and sighs.

PRINCIPAL COLLINS Mr. Jason Dawes!

Everyone gets to their feet in rapturous applause. Darcy has to stand so she can see his entrance.

We see Terrell (30), his BODYGUARD first – a large black man standing by the door. Then Jason walks in; eyes lowered. Jason stands at the MIC and talks with a raspy voice.

**JASON** 

Thanks. Yeah, I'm pleased to be here...Thanks.

He waves and walks away. Principal Collins almost bows as he walks past.

INT. CLASSROOM - DAY

The class is already in full swing when Jason comes in.

TEACHER

Welcome. Please take a seat.

Darcy looks at Jason who is now sitting at the end of the same row. She notices the TATTOO on his arm: lines of text that look like a poem and his LEATHER WRIST BAND. Darcy covers her MICKEY MOUSE WATCH with her sleeve. Jason glances at her and she looks away.

TEACHER

Many people believe that it's the world's greatest love story. Hands up if you agree.

Everyone shoots their hand up except Darcy and Jason. The teacher looks to Darcy for an explanation.

DARCY

I'd say it's the world's greatest lust story.

WES (17), a good-looking, football-playing womanizer interrupts

WES

Like you'd know anything about

A boy next to him high fives him. The class sniggers. Darcy can feel Jason's eyes on her.

TEACHER

(to Darcy)
You don't think they were in love?

DARCY

(shyly)
Well, lust is the increase of the chemicals oestrogen and testosterone to promote mating. (MORE)

DARCY (cont'd)
Attachment and bonding form the basis of love and Romeo and Juliet didn't have time to do either. So surely it had to be lust.

TEACHER

(to Darcy)
Less science, Darcy. Back it up.

DARCY

First he can't live without Rosalind, then he sees and chases after Juliet, and both declare their love for each other - which is based on physical attributes only - by the end of the first night. It was impetuous.

**JASON** 

I agree.

Everyone looks at Jason. He speaks shyly, his eyes down.

**JASON** 

I think maybe they got married just so they could have sex. And sex is just lust, right?

Darcy shakes her head at the immature remark.

GIRL AT THE BACK

(about Jason) You're the expert.

The class sniggers.

TEACHER

No more personal comments, lets get back to the text. Who can cite me an example of

Darcy looks over to Jason. He's looking down but flashes a look at her. She turns away.

EXT. SCHOOL - DAY

Schools over and most kids are racing to get out while others huddle waiting for Jason. At the side of the school we find:

Darcy sitting outside a CLASSROOM. MR. WRIGHT (28), (think RYAN REYNOLDS) the clean cut but undeniably sexy math teacher, is standing opposite her. There's an obvious chemistry between them.

DARCY

Don't dance around it. Just tell me what you think.

MR WRIGHT

It was good...The theory was a little clumsy in places but the arguments were strong.

Darcy puts her hands through her hair in frustration.

MR WRIGHT

Don't beat yourself up. This is years ahead of where you're supposed to be.

DARCY

Only according to our failing school system...When did you first master Topography?

Wright doesn't want to say. Darcy guesses

DARCY

Seventeen? Sixteen?

MR WRIGHT

Fifteen.

DARCY

Jesus. You're wasted here.

A frustrated student steps out of the classroom

STUDENT

Mr Wright! We're waiting.

MR WRIGHT

I'll be right there.

The student rolls her eyes and goes back inside.

MR WRIGHT

(teasing)

You gunna go stalk Jason?

DARCY

Seriously, what's happened to humanity?

MR WRIGHT

Take my advice and steer clear. The kid's bad news..I should get going. Good luck with your interview.

DARCY

Oh God, I'd forgotten!

Mr Wright goes inside. Darcy watches him, smiles to herself girlishly, then takes a deep breath and gets up.

INT. SCHOOL HALLWAY - DAY

Darcy hurries down the hall. The corridor is empty except for the bodyguard, Terrell, who's sitting playing with his I

INT. GIRLS BATHROOM - CONTINUOUS

Darcy walks in but stops when she see's Jason stumbling out of a cubicle sniggering. A blonde girl comes out after him looking like she's about to throw up. She stops stock still when she sees Darcy - her eyes bugging. Darcy stares at her.

Are you ok...

... The girl runs and spits into the SINK. Darcy turns away in disgust.

**JASON** 

Shit! You're meant to swallow it.

The girl wipes her mouth and rushes out past Darcy.

**JASON** 

I heard it's nutritious.

DARCY

You could be expelled for this.

JASON

Oh...come on, we're not at church.

DARCY

Your reputation preceded you, but this really does exceed it.

Darcy walks past him and grabs the HIP FLASK from the window sill behind him. She turns to walk out.

JASON

Thanks for the warm welcome.

Darcy turns back.

DARCY

(sarcastic)
Oh, I'm sorry. I thought the welcoming committee just left?

JASON

Have I done something to offend you?

DARCY

Wow...where to start...

JASON

...because to be honest you look like you're desperate for some of what I'm putting out.

Excuse me?

MRS JENKINS (O.S.)

Who's in there?

Darcy and Jason spin around to see MRS JENKINS - a stern teacher in her 50s.

MRS JENKINS Darcy? What's going on?

Darcy stammers.

DARCY

Sorry...he was using the girls bathroom by mistake and it gave me a fright finding him in here.

**JASON** 

I haven't figured my way around yet.

MRS JENKINS

(indicating the flask) What's that?

DARCY

I found it in the hall.

Darcy hands the flask to Mrs Jenkins.

MRS JENKINS

(to Jason)

If you were with any girl other than Darcy, I would assume the very worst in this compromising situation. You were lucky. Consider yourself warned.

JASON

Yeah. I know the press would have

Mrs Jenkins cuts him off.

MRS JENKINS

Darcy, innocent or not, stunts like this could be very damaging for your reputation and the schools... not to mention your mother's. Be careful.

Jason looks at Darcy with new interest.

Yes, sorry.

MRS JENKINS

You'll both join me for detention tomorrow evening.

They both look on in shock.

**JASON** 

What the...

MRS JENKINS

...Yes?

JASON I thought it was just a warning?

MRS JENKINS

The warning was for whatever you were doing in here. The detention is for lying about it...You may go.

Mrs Jenkins turns to indicate they should both leave. Darcy and Jason file out.

INT. SCHOOL HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Darcy and Jason march down the hallway talking in angry whispers.

DARCY

Thanks for ruining my record.

JASON

Pull the tree out of your ass.

Excuse me? DARCY

**JASON** 

You heard me.

STUDENT (O.S.)

Darcy!

They stop and turn. A boy is calling her from down the hall.

STUDENT

Where are you going?

Something dawns on Darcy.

DARCY

Oh shit!

Darcy runs back down the hall towards the student and they turn a corner muttering. Jason smirks and turns to walk out the front of the school but hesitates.

Jason's POV: At least twenty teenage girls sit waiting - AUTOGRAPH BOOKS and CAMERAS at the ready.

**JASON** 

Fuck!

He walks back down the corridor and ducks into a CLASSROOM.

INT. CLASSROOM - CONTINUOUS

Jason looks around. It's empty. He goes to the back and racks up a line of COCAINE on a desk. He starts rolling a NOTE.

A STORE CUPBOARD DOOR opens and Mr Wright comes out with a pile of BOOKS. He stops when he see's Jason. Jason looks up. He's been caught red-handed.

JASON

Fuck.

Jason sighs and stares up at Wright. Wright stares back.

MR WRIGHT You must be Jason Dawes.

(beat)
Go on, get out.

Jason hesitates. Is he serious?

MR WRIGHT

Go on. Get.

Jason hesitates and then quickly walks out leaving the coke on the desk.

INT. HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Jason ducks into another classroom.

INT. CLASSROOM - CONTINUOUS

DEVON (14) a short, stocky black kid in HARRY POTTER GLASSES is working on a science project.

DEVON

You hiding from the fans? It's okay. I find your music mediocre at best.

Jason sits down at a DESK and pulls out his CELL. A RADIO is playing really bad ROCK MUSIC. Jason looks up at it with distaste. A young male voice comes over the airwaves

DJ (0.S.)

Embarrassingly, that was music from Belmont's very own Thrashing Ravens who'll be playing at our annual fund-raiser in three weeks time. And here to tell us all about it is the chastity belt behind the 'Say ves to No' campaign Darry Dariels Yes to No' campaign Darcy Daniels.

Jason looks at the radio.

DEVON

That's Darcy. She has a one thirtyeight IQ.

He indicates over to a PYRAMID-SHAPPED STRUCTURE at the side of the room.

DEVON

That's her three-dimensional model of the Fibonacci sequence. Awesome isn't it? I spoke to her once...

**JASON** 

Shut up.

DARCY (O.S.)
The event is to raise awareness about STDs, teenage pregnancy and the dangers of alcohol and drugs.

DJ (0.S.)

And for those of us who couldn't care less about the aforementioned issues, tell us why we should.

Darcy pauses. Jason smirks. Darcy speaks quickly and with little skill.

DARCY (O.S.)

Because two thousand, one hundred teenagers will become pregnant today alone... The U.S. teen pregnancy rate continues to be one of the highest in the developed world...more than twice as high as rates in Canada...

DJ (O.S.)

That's riveting stuff.

JASON

This is her thing, is it?

DEVON

Darcy's the newly appointed poster girl for local virgins.

Jason rolls his eyes.

Terrell, comes in. Relieved; Jason gets up.

JASON

Where've you been? Lets go.

Jason and Terrell exit.

DEVON

(to himself)

Nice to meet you too.

INT. SCHOOL HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

TERRELL

Had to drop the kids off at the pool. We waiting for Levi?

JASON No, I need to get out of here.

TERRELL

First day at school is always the hardest.

Jason glares at him.

INT. CLASSROOM - DAY

Vivian is designing a POSTER and Ginger flaps her hands about drying her nails. The same RADIO BROADCAST is playing music from a LAPTOP.

GINGER

I mean, why did she choose abstinence? There are plenty of anorexic Africans or homeless Japanese we could be helping.

DARCY (O.S.)

I heard that.

Darcy has just come in. Ginger turns - arms wide for a hug.

GINGER

(bad British accent)

Darcy, darling. You weré simply marvelous.

DARCY

You're doing this for the credit.

GINGER

And for my best friend because I love her.

(to Vivian)

It was awful wasn't it? No one cares and I'm kidding myself that anyone will ever listen.

VIVIAN

You were stupendous.

Darcy looks at Vivian's POSTER - It has the tag line 'SAY YES TO NO".

DARCY

I love this! Good job.

(to Ginger)
The event's gunna be fun.

GINGER
Yeah, for Helen Keller. Listen to them. Just listen to them!

Darcy turns the radio off on the laptop. Ginger stares at Vivian expectantly.

VIVIAN

Yeah, Darce, about that. G and I were talking. And you know what would be masturbatingly awesome? We should ask...

DARCY

No!

GINGER

But you know he...

DARCY

No. It would be like asking Hugh Hefner to open a convent. Not gunna happen.

The door squeaks open and Levi puts his head in.

LEVI

Oh, hey. I was looking for my brother.

Vivian jumps out of his seat.

VIVIAN

Hey. Good to see you.

DARCY

He left already. I saw them drive away.

LEVI

(disappointed)

Oh.

Darcy raises an 'I told you so' eyebrow to Ginger.

VIVIAN

No worries. I'll give you a ride.

Vivian leads Levi out the room. Ginger gives a pimped up mime of Vivian giving Levi 'a ride'. Darcy rolls her eyes.

INT. JASON'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Levi makes a MICROWAVE MEAL in a big un-homely kitchen. Jason drinks a BEER and smokes a CIGARETTE. A half deflated BALLOON is tied to a chair.

LEVI

What's with the balloon?

Jason's distracted and stares out the window.

LEVI

Hey. The balloon?

**JASON** 

Too Too Much went platinum.

LEVI

It did? Congrats. You gunna buy me a car now?

Beat.

JASON

What do you know about those kids that were here last night?

LEVI

Don't be patronizing, you're only two years older than them. And they're great actually. They gave me a ride home.

Jason takes the dig.

LEVI

They're organizing some major fundraiser to raise awareness on the evils of sex, drugs and rock and roll.

Jason swigs down the rest of his beer and bursts the balloon with his cigarette.

JASON My kind of party.

LEVI

Vivian is this amazing artist. I might see if he can help me out with my drawing.

JASON This guy? Vivian?

LEVI

Yeah. So?

**JASON** 

Just be careful okay.

INT. DARCY'S HOUSE, LOUNGE - NIGHT

May is sitting nervously watching herself give an interview on TV.

(on screen)
I'm completely behind the policies for sex education for Kindergarteners. As long as it is age appropriate, I think it will only benefit our youngsters.

Darcy comes in and sighs when she see's the TV.

MAY

(on screen)

Whilst I respect those that want to delay sexual activity it is irresponsible to leave children in ignorance when we know that nearly half of fifteen to nineteen yearolds are already engaged in it.

MAY

(to herself)
I need to get my roots done.

The TV switches off. May looks around and Darcy is holding the REMOTE CONTROL with a smug smile.

A WHIRRING NOISE starts from downstairs. Darcy looks around.

MAY

Your fathers vacuuming the dryer.

Darcy smiles to herself.

DARCY

Did they call you?

MAY

Who?

DARCY

The school.

MAY

About what?

Doesn't matter.

MAY

Oh, your detention. Yes, they did.

DARCY

Don't be smug.

MAY

About my daughter's first detention? I'm so proud. Dare I ask what it's for?

DARCY

No.

MAY

How did your radio interview go?

Darcy looks at her under her eyebrows.

MAY

Just because I don't agree with you doesn't mean I don't care...it's admirable. The unpopular road isn't the easy one.

DARCY

Whoever saves one life saves the world entire.

MAY

One man's medicine is another man's poison.

DARCY

The only real mistake is the one from which we learn nothing.

Beat. May looks hurt. She looks up at Darcy who looks away.

MAY

How's your event going?

DARCY

Don't worry. No-one knows.

Darcy goes upstairs.

INT. DARCY'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Darcy flops onto the BED with a BOOK on DRUG ADDICTION.

She finds a NOTE. It reads "<a href="Kat called for you. Don't tell-your mother." | Xat called for you. Don't tell-your mother."</a>

Darcy jumps up, grabs a BAG and races out.

INT. CAR - NIGHT

Darcy drives through a rough part of town. WOMEN stand on street corners, the HOMELESS sleep on the sidewalk. She pulls up to a run down HOUSE and parks.

EXT. ZOE'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

A drunk purses his lips at her as Darcy rings on the DOORBELL. Finally the girl from the photograph opens the door. Only now she is very thin with TIRED EYES and BRUISED and SCARRED arms. This is Darcy's sister, KAT (22).

KAT

Your reaction time is pitiful. I'm already dead.

DARCY

Don't joke. Dad just gave me the message.

Darcy goes in, looking back at the CAR as she does.

INT. ZOE'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

It's a shit hole. Sparse FURNITURE, grotty STAINS. MUSIC blares from a room upstairs but it's not loud enough to cover the BANGING of the HEADBOARD against the wall.

DARCY

What's up?

KAT

How's mom and Dad?

DARCY

Good. Why are you back here? The hostel said you left.

KAT

The Manager's a shit. But Zoe said I could stay until I get sorted.

DARCY

What's there to sort?...No, please, do not tell me you lost your job? Kat, it took me months to get you that.

KAT

No...I just need to find a permanent place to stay.

Okay. But no matter what Zoe's involved in please stay clean. We're so close to getting you back home.

Kat lights up a CIGARETTE and sits opposite Darcy - her leg twitches involuntarily. The sex upstairs finishes and the music stops.

KAT

Yeah...I know.

Beat.

FOOTSTEPS down the stairs. A MAN in a SUIT puts his head around the door on his way out.

MAN

Bye Kat.

KAT

See ya.

Beat. Kat tries to ignore what just happened.

KAT

What's going on at school? How's Wrighty? You screwed him yet?

DARCY

Mr. Wright is fine and no, I'm not screwing anyone yet.

KAT

I'm insulted that you don't want to follow in my footsteps.

Darcy smirks, gets up and checks her CAR out the window.

DARCY

You heard about that pop star who's in town...Jason Dawes?

KAT

Nope.

DARCY

He started at school, so you can only imagine.

KAT

What's he like?

DARCY

A prick.

Darcy turns back. Beat.

Anyway I should get going. I just needed to know you're okay and now that I can see you're not I shall be leaving.

KAT

I'm fine. Look Darce, I hate to ask but I had to leave the hostel really quickly and I left my wallet...

Darcy stares at her.

KAT

That's okay. I'll just go back and get it. It's fine... don't worry.

INT. DARCY'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Darcy lies on the bed with well-read BOOKS about drug addiction and a CALENDER on which she has written "GET KAT HOME"

FLASHBACK -

INT. CAR - DAY

Darcy (12) sits behind the streering wheel of what is now her CAR. Kat (16) sits next to her smoking a CIGARETTE. Kat reaches over and fastens darcy's SEAT BELT.

KAT Trust me. I'll take care of you.

EXT. CAR - CONTINUOUS

The car shunts back and forward as Darcy tries to drive. Laughing can be heard from inside. Then the car suddenly jerks forward and they drive into some TRASH CANS.

INT. CAR - CONTINUOUS

Kat has burnt a HOLE in the DASHBOARD with her cigarette. They laugh. May comes out the house.

KAT

Quick run!

Darcy sneaks out the car and races around the corner and watches as Kat takes the blame.

- END FLASHBACK

Darcy closes the book on addiction.

INT. SCHOOL CANTEEN - DAY

Darcy is adjusting a POSTER for the campaign that's been put on the wall crooked. She goes back to her seat

GINGER

Why can't you come over tonight?

Mr Wright walks by

GINGER

Hey Mr Wright!

He smiles and continues on.

GINGER

I know he's old but I totally would.

DARCY

He's twenty-eight.

GINGER

So, you've thought about it?

DARCY

No.

Ginger raises an eyebrow.

A hungover and moody Jason sits at the next table. Ginger whispers to Darcy.

GINGER

Oh.. my.. crotch. Look who just sat down.

Jason glances at Darcy and she looks away.

DARCY

So?

GINGER

Just knowing he's there makes me damp. What's he eating?

Darcy steals another look at Jason.

ROGER (O.S.)

Mr Jason Dawes!

Roger squeezes onto the BENCH next to Jason.

ROGER

Roger Berry. Remember? We were in pre-school together.

JASON

No...I don't.

ROGER

I know, it feels like years ago.

Jason glances towards Darcy. She smiles smugly and gets up.

GINGER

You're leaving?

DARCY

I'll see you later.

INT. MRS JENKINS CLASSROOM, DETENTION - DAY

Jason is already sitting at a desk when Darcy enters. Mrs Jenkins gives Darcy a quick look and gets back to work.

Darcy glances at Jason and takes a seat.

After a moment a STUDENT puts her head around the door. Mrs Jenkins doesn't look up.

STUDENT

Mrs Jenkins...

The student hesitates when she sees Jason. He purses his lips at her.

STUDENT

...uh...secretary said to tell you there's an urgent call on the school line.

Jason beckons the nervous student over. She doesn't know what to do.

MRS JENKINS

Ask Mr Lewis to deal with it.

Jason mouths the words

JASON

Come here.

STUDENT

I.. I tried but he's MIA.

The student shuffles into the room towards Jason.

MRS JENKINS

Use your words.

STUDENT

Umm...

Mrs Jenkins looks up. The girl's standing by Jason's desk and Jason is looking at the girl in complete surprise.

MRS JENKINS

(to student)

What are you doing? Come on.

The embarrassed student runs out.

MRS JENKINS

I'll be back in a moment.

Mrs Jenkins leaves. Jason smirks.

DARCY

I'm glad you're entertaining yourself.

JASON

So...will the girl with the one thirty-eight IQ be so kind as to help me with this math assignment?

DARCY

Don't you have someone you can pay to do it?

JASON

Yes...

Darcy looks over to him.

**JASON** 

But I thought I might try and learn something during my transparent PR

Darcy appreciates his honesty.

DARCY

To be fair, it's a miracle you retain any perspective being a... celebrity pop star.

JASON

Musician.

DARCY

(patronizing) Right.

JASON

FYI it's a bad day when people are talking about me and not my music.

DARCY

There's no smoke without fire.

**JASON** 

You think I encourage it?...In sixty-six a British pop star ran naked across a soccer field because his sales were low. That's encouraging it.

DARCY
And having a tantrum, smashing a photographer's camera and then smashing his face in, is what?

Jason gets serious. He looks her up and down.

JASON

Screw you.

Darcy stares at him. Mrs Jenkins comes back into the room.

DARCY

Excuse me, may I go to the bathroom?

Mrs Jenkins nods and Darcy walks out. Jason watches her. He tries to concentrate on his work but can't.

After a moment Mrs Jenkins CELL PHONE vibrates in her bag. She reluctantly looks at it and sighs in annoyance.

MRS JENKINS

Honestly.

She leaves.

Jason sits tapping his foot looking at Darcy's empty seat. Then he gets up, puts his head around the door and exits.

INT. BATHROOM STALL - DAY

Darcy flushes the toilet and opens the door. Jason's standing there.

DARCY

(whispers)
what are you doing!?

Beat. It's like he wants to say something but isn't sure what. Darcy pushes him back but he doesn't move.

DARCY

Get out! I'm serious, Jason. This isn't a game.

Jason stands there - blocking her way so she can't get out.

DARCY

What do you want?

**JASON** 

I...just...

The main door to the bathroom swings open. They stare at one another. Jason pushes her back into the stall, goes in after her and locks the door. Darcy goes to speak and he pushes her up against the wall and puts his hand over her mouth.

HIGH-HEELED FOOTSTEPS. The person doesn't go into a stall.

Darcy holds her breath. Jason takes his hand away from her mouth. They stare into each other's eyes.

They wait. The FOOTSTEPS move around the room.

She looks back to Jason in panic. He puts his finger up to her lips to stop her from speaking. They are so close she can feel the beat of his heart and his breath on her neck.

The FOOTSTEPS leave the bathroom. They look at one another and Jason reluctantly pulls a little away from her.

**JASON** 

You okay?

Darcy nods.

**JASON** 

You go first.

Darcy nods again and walks out.

INT. HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Darcy walks down the hallway

DARCY (V.O.)
Warning: Know the signs. Adrenaline makes you sweat, your heart races and your mouth goes dry. Then dopamine increases your energy, you need less food and sleep and experience extreme focused attention.

EXT. SCHOOL PARKING LOT - DUSK

Darcy sits on the front steps tapping her foot anxiously. Jason comes out of the school with a posse of fans following.

Darcy turns away but he see's her and doubles back.

JASON

You need a ride?

DARCY

No, I'm fine, thank you.

He shrugs and walks to his CAR. A PHOTOGRAPHER goes to take a picture and Jason firmly gives him the finger.

DARCY (V.O.)
And then a healthy dose of serotonin makes you feel great every time you see them. This powerful concoction of drugs is there for one reason and one reason only - to make you mate.

EXT. STREET - DUSK

It's pouring with rain and Darcy is walking along the street.

A PORSCHE CAYENNE with blacked out windows cruises next to her. She tries to ignore it.

Finally she stops and so does the car. She looks down at her sodden BOOKS.

INT. CAR - DUSK

Jason drives fast and Darcy sits in the passenger seat soaking wet.

JASON

I've got to stop in somewhere.

Darcy looks down at her white TEE - the rain has made it see through.

JASON

There's something in the back.

Darcy hesitates and then climbs on to the back seat. She nervously turns around and then slowly takes off her TOP. Jason watches her in the REAR VIEW MIRROR. Under her unflattering SHIRT she's been hiding a super hot body. The setting sun glints off her smooth skin.

The car JERKS.

**JASON** 

Sorry.

Darcy smiles to herself.

INT. CLUB - NIGHT

Jason and Darcy walk into a empty dive bar. An older guy with DREADS immediately comes up to Jason and leads him to the front. Darcy takes a seat.

Darcy tries to tidy her matted hair. A cool young HIPSTER puts a GLASS OF CHAMPAGNE in front of her and walks off.

Oh, I don't...

HIPSTER

It's on the house!

Darcy stares at it and then moves it aside.

She looks up to the stage. Some BAND MEMBERS have come out to shake hands with Jason. The old guy runs over to Darcy. He notices the untouched champagne.

DREDS

(Scottish accent)

So, the guys want to jam with JD for two - is that cool with you?

DARCY

Oh...yeah...sure.

DREADS

Great.

(to Hipster)
And a Virgin Mary for the lady.

Dreads goes back to the stage with thumbs up.

The guys start playing. Jason's on lead guitar and singing. Darcy suddenly stares over at Jason - he has the ability and sound of COLDPLAY'S CHRIS MARTIN.

We linger over close ups of Jason performing and Darcy watching. If she didn't see his sex appeal before she can't help but drown in it now.

The song finishes and everyone claps. Jason steals a sly glance at Darcy who can't help but smile and take a confident swig of her champagne.

INT. CAR, FAST FOOD PARKING LOT - NIGHT

Jason and Darcy open their FAST FOOD.

DARCY

They forgot my fries.

JASON
They did? Well, have mine.

DARCY

No, it's okay.

**JASON** 

Don't be stupid. I don't want them.

He hands her his FRIES. They eat silently for a while.

How come you moved back here? I mean, you could have gone anywhere.

JASON Because of the exceptional gourmet cuisine.

Darcy smiles.

**JASON** 

I just wanted a break. To be a kid again. And this is the last place I remember being one.

DARCY

How old were you when you left?

**JASON** 

Twelve. We were living in a one-bed back then. Mom sent a tape to a producer in LA and we moved first chance we got.

One of Jason's SONGS comes on the stereo. He quickly switches it off. Darcy smiles to herself.

**JASON** 

Shit...look at that dog.

Darcy looks at a DOG on the street.

DARCY

What about it?

She looks back to Jason. His mouth is loaded with FRIES.

**JASON** 

(mumbles)

It's really fat.

She smiles. Jason suddenly ducks down. Darcy instinctively does as well. They face one another - really close.

DARCY

What?

**JASON** 

(mumbles)

Girls.

Darcy peeks up. A group of girls hang out near by. She ducks down again.

DARCY

I don't think they saw you.

Jason has KETCHUP down his chin. Darcy uses a NAPKIN to wipe it away. They talk in whispers.

DARCY How long should we stay like this?

JASON

I think until dawn...to be safe.

She smiles.

INT. DARCY'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Darcy sits at the COMPUTER and types JASON DAWES into Google.

She clicks on a link and a FAN PAGE of pictures appear - many of him giving the finger. She finds an incredibly sexy set of black and white PICTURES from a GQ magazine shoot.

CLOSE ON Darcy. Her breath slows and she closes her eyes. Her hand gently slips off the MOUSE and moves between her legs.

### FLASH TO

- Jason looking at her in the classroom.
- Darcy's POV of Jason in the toilet stall. ECU on his face.
- Jason singing in the bar.
- The two of them ducked down in the car.

FOOTSTEPS on the landing. Darcy quickly clicks off the page. May puts her head around the door.

MAY

Your father said a boy dropped you back but I don't believe it.

DARCY

So.

MAY

(in mock horror)
My God and without a chaperone.

May leaves.

DARCY

(shouts after her)
Twenty-one hundred unwanted
pregnancies in the last twenty-four
hours is no joking matter, mother.

Darcy turns the computer off, sits on the bed and opens the BOOK on addiction.

INT. SCHOOL HALLWAY - DAY

Darcy is at her LOCKER holding the TEE that Jason lent her. Ginger runs up and almost knocks her over.

GINGER

(super fast)

Jason was out with a girl last night.

Darcy turns in shock. She hides the TEE.

DARCY

What? How do you know that?

GINGER

It's all over the network. We're just trying to figure out which lucky slut it was. Most people think it was Jessica. She always puts out.

DARCY

You don't know that he slept with them.

GINGER

Yeah right. This is Jason we're talking about. He can't keep it in his pants and no girl's gunna say no.

Darcy tenses up.

GINGER

What's the matter?

DARCY

I just feel a bit sick. I'll see you later.

Darcy walks off down the hall with her head down.

ROGER (O.S.)

Darcy - you naughty girl!

Darcy spins around in panic

ROGER

You never told me you live on the same street as Jason.

Darcy turns and walks away.

INT. CLASSROOM - DAY

Darcy sits looking over at Jason's empty DESK. Students are milling around before class. Girls are gossiping behind her.

DARCY (V.O.)
A recent study showed that strippers that are ovulating received thirty percent more in tips than their non-ovulating or menstruating colleagues.

GOSSIP GIRL 1

Was it a student?

GOSSIP GIRL 2

No. It was the model, Saskia. She did Victoria Secret.

Darcy looks around in shock. One of the girls is looking at a PICTURE on her IPHONE.

GOSSIP GIRL 1 Why was she in Jacksonville?

GOSSIP GIRL 2

His mom's her manager. There's a pic of them leaving the Blues Bar on Western. Says they went home together.

GOSSIP GIRL 3

That'll be why he's not in school today. Bet she's sore this morning.

DARCY

Can I see that?

Darcy takes the PHONE and looks at the PICTURE of Jason and a beautiful girl.

A teacher walks in

TEACHER

Okay, everyone. Desks please.

Darcy hands the phone back and leaves.

**TEACHER** 

Is she okay?

Gossip girl 1 shrugs.

INT. CANTEEN - DAY

Darcy sits alone at a table picking at her lunch. Someone has left a MUSIC MAGAZINE on the table and Jason is on the cover. Darcy stares at it.

DARCY (V.O.) Whether we mean to or not we are subconsciously advertising our fertility...and our potential mates know it.

A hand flips the magazine over. She looks up to see Jason. He sits down opposite her. He's unshaven, scruffy and takes off his SHADES.

JASON

Thank God, you're here. I can't be around screaming teenagers right now.

DARCY

Sorry to disappoint.

Darcy gets up and walks away leaving him alone. He watches her - confused.

INT. SCHOOL HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Darcy marches down the corridor and Jason walks quickly after her. They speak in hushed voices. Students try to speak with him.

**JASON** 

What the hell is your problem?

GIRL

Hey Jason.

DARCY

We are just different people with different values. Look, I don't want to be rude.

GIRL 2

Jason, do you have a second?

JASON

But you're happy to humiliate me in front of the entire school.

DARCY

Oh, it's your precious reputation you're worried about?

JASON

Ditto.

Darcy shoves the TEE into his hands and marches away.

INT. BATHROOM - DAY

Darcy runs into the bathroom and kicks the door in frustration. Ginger comes in. Darcy goes into a stall.

GINGER

Hey, what's up? Someone said you ran off from Jason.

Darcy leans against the door trying to keep her composure.

DARCY

Yeah, you know.

GINGER

It's so weird. He voluntarily sat with you and you're the only person in the school that doesn't like him.

DARCY

Don't you see what this is about? The forbidden fruit. It's because he can't have me that he's attracted to me.

GINGER

Uh...Don't mean to rain on your parade but he was out with Saskia last night. If he's attracted to anyone it's her.

That stings. Darcy tries to fight back the tears and takes a deep breath. She regains her composure, flushes the TOILET and leaves the stall.

DARCY

Yeah, no, I didn't mean that.

She looks as herself in the MIRROR as she washes her hands.

GINGER

I'm not being a bitch, I'm just saying how it is.

DARCY

I know. It's fine. Let's change the subject.

GINGER

Okay, so it's Sarah Hammond's annual party tomorrow and I thought we could go and flyer. It's gunna be packed because Mr. Dawes is going apparently.

Okay, sure.

INT. HALLWAY - DAY

The BELL rings and students pour out of classrooms. Jason has been accosted by a sweet but ugly girl.

UGLY GIRL

My parents are away and I thought you could come over and give me a private music lesson...

**JASON** 

You know, I actually have to hand this in to Mr Wright.

UGLY GIRL

Now? He does private tutoring tonight in the library.

**JASON** 

Oh, right. Thanks.

Jason almost sprints away.

INT. LIBRARY - DAY

Jason walks in carrying his MATH BOOK. The room seems empty but he can hear Mr Wright's voice from around the corner.

MR WRIGHT (O.S.)

You multiply X by Z and then divide that number by one hundred...

Jason puts the book down and goes to walk out but then hears a girl GIGGLE. He turns back and looks around a BOOKSHELF.

REVEAL a girl sitting on a table with her legs spread. Mr Wright is kneeling on the floor with his head between her legs and has written the equation up her inside thigh.

Mr Wright looks around and the girl quickly shuts her legs.

MR WRIGHT

We're done, Sarah. Off you go.

The girl picks up her bag and runs out. Jason stares at Wright.

MR WRIGHT

These girls know how to push our buttons, right?

Jason shakes his head and turns to walk out.

MR WRIGHT

Hey, Jason.

Wright pulls the WRAP OF COKE from his bag and holds it out.

MR WRIGHT

We good?

Jason looks at the COKE. He hesitates and goes to take it. Wright pulls it back. Wright stares at him. Beat.

**JASON** 

Sure.

Wright hands Jason the coke.

MR WRIGHT

Great. You have a good night.

Jason leaves.

INT. HOUSE PARTY - NIGHT

One of the richer kids is hosting a pumping party. Kids make out everywhere, strip BEER PONG goes on in the lounge and SPIN THE BOTTLE out on the patio.

Darcy looks quite pretty tonight, Ginger looks kinda slutty and Vivian, is already talking with Levi in the corner.

GINGER

(referencing Vivian) I wouldn't want to be on the receiving end in that relationship. Not that I'm dissing anal play; it's seriously undervalued. But you'd at least want a reach-around, right?

They delicately slide FLYERS between the legs of girls making out with guys on the SOFA. Ginger heads out to the patio.

Wes is in the kitchen encouraging a group of girls to do multiple TEQUILA SHOTS. Darcy pours out WATER CHASERS.

WES

Darcy Daniels! Remind me what my chances are of catching an STD tonight are.

DARCY

You would actually have to engage in sexual relations with someone other than yourself for that to occur.

WES

I'll take whatever you're giving me.

Darcy notices Jason come in from outside with JESSICA (17), a beautiful BLONDE BUSTY hipster. He wipes his nose with his hand and sniffs.

Wes gets Darcy's attention again by grabbing the FLYERS.

WES

"Say yes to no. To promote the dangers of sex, drink and drugs. Tickets twenty bucks and all proceeds go towards" stopping everyone from getting laid.

Newsfash: You're a freakin joke and no-one gives a shit what you have to say.

DARCY Give them back!

Jason looks over. Darcy retreats into the corner.

WES

Looks like Jessica's gunna be riding high on JD tonight. No surprise there.

Darcy pushes her way up the stairs. She gets to the top and has to wait a moment for the BATHROOM before she runs in.

INT. HOUSE PARTY - BATHROOM - CONTINUOUS

Darcy turns to LOCK the door when it swings open and hits her against the head. Jason pushes his way in and locks the door. He's restless, sweaty and chewing gum. He's wired.

**JASON** 

You okay? Shit. Sorry.

DARCY

Can you leave so I can urinate?

**JASON** 

We had fun the other night. Why are you all uptight?

Darcy sits on the TOILET still nursing her head. She looks up at him. He starts to rack up a line of COKE.

DARCY

You look like shit.

**JASON** 

Shit, really?...You look good.

DARCY

That's the coke talking.

JASON Well, tell it to shut up so I can tell you how pretty you are.

Jason snorts a line and Darcy stares at him. She holds her hand out like a teacher. He smiles and hands her the COKE.

DARCY

She was pretty.

**JASON** 

Who?

DARCY

The model you were out with on Thursday.

Beat. Jason looks at her.

**JASON** 

Is that was this is about?

DARCY

What?

**JASON** 

Jesus, Darcy, get your fucking head straight...

DARCY

Don't swear.

**JASON** 

I have to do that. Be seen with people. Show the guys who's on top.

DARCY

Right, and your PR stunt required sleeping together, no doubt?

**JASON** 

Who are you? My mother?

She gets up and turns away from him. He immediately regrets saying that and walks up behind her, turns her around and puts his hands either side of her head.

JASON

Hey, come on. I didn't know how you'd react. You're not my girlfriend, for Christ's sake.

That stings. Darcy swallows hard and turns her face away from him. He thumps the wall by her head in frustration. He's never had to work this hard.

**JASON** 

Jesus, I like you, okay.

He moves his head in close to hers - close enough to kiss, but she avoids him.

JASON Don't you like me?

Darcy closes her eyes. He gently kisses her neck. His touch makes her breathless. She can hardly resist.

**JASON** 

Hey?...

He becomes aroused and kisses her more forcefully and gropes her breast. She opens her eyes and then looks into his eyes.

DARCY

You epitomize everything I detest in a human being.

She pushes past him and runs out. Jason spins around disoriented and confused. He puts his hands through his hair in frustration then fishes in his POCKET for the WRAP but it's gone.

**JASON** 

Shit.

EXT. SCHOOL PARKING LOT - DAY

Darcy gets off the BUS. Vivian's waiting.

VIVIAN

What happened to your car?

DARCY

Someone borrowed it... without asking.

VIVIAN

Fuck.

DARCY

What's up with you?

NAIVIN

I'm just the message bearer...I have good news and bad news....Jason is gunna have a concert for us.

Darcy can't be bothered to hear and walks off.

VIVIAN

That's the good news. The bad is that it's the same weekend as our fund-raiser.

Darcy turns and stares at him.

INT. CLASSROOM - DAY

Darcy marches into the room where Principal Collins is fielding questions from 30 students. Ginger runs over to her.

GINGER

It's amazing and awful at the same time.

DARCY

No, it's just awful. Principal Collins...Sir!

PRINCIPAL COLLINS Darcy, good. I need to speak with you.

DARCY

You can't do this. We've had our fund-raiser booked for a year. No one will come.

**JESSICA** 

What does that tell you?

DARCY

Why can't Jason postpone for a few months?

**JESSICA** 

Jason said it's the only weekend he can do.

DARCY

Oh really? Because he's so busy with his charity work?...Sir, please. Jason Dawes can't take precedence over abstinence - think of your STD stats.

PRINCIPAL COLLINS

I suggest we combine the two events. Jason performs and the money goes to your charity.

DARCY

Are you serious? Do you know anything about this boy? He epitomizes everything we're against.

GINGER

But he's willing to do it for free. It would be good money, Darce.

Darcy looks around. The other girls shrug like they couldn't care less. She's on her own if she wants to fight this.

Jesus...really?. Okay, you know what? ...Fine. Whatever.

She flings her arms up and walks out. Slow fade to

EXT. DARCY'S HOUSE - DAY

Darcy, her Dad Bill, Vivian and Ginger BARBECUE out back. It's a hot afternoon and Ginger stretches out on a TOWEL on the lawn next to Vivian and Darcy sits in the shade.

Vivian is singing to the tune of the song 'Seasons Of Love' from the musical 'Rent'.

VIVIAN

Two thousand three hundred and twenty-five tickets. Two thousand three hundred tickets so dear.

BILL

How will you keep them in check? Could turn into an orgy.

DARCY

Dad.

BILL

Well, you know what these kids are like.

DARCY

Yes, of course. That's the whole point.

GINGER

(to Vivian)
So a little birdy told me...

DARCY

... Does the gossip ever stop?

BILL

You know gossip used to be a necessity. There was a distinct evolutionary advantage to knowing someone would run you through with a spear.

GINGER

Thank you, Bill.

Darcy glares at her Dad and he smirks and goes inside.

GINGER

As I was saying, a little birdy told me that Jack Daniels hasn't invited Saskia to Say Yes to No.

Talking about him in code is still talking about him.

GINGER

You're gunna have to speak to him at some point. So far we've organized the whole thing without the main attraction being involved. He might do something reckless, we need to keep an eye out.

DARCY

Trust me, if he steps out of line...

VIVIAN

...I'm gunna ask Levi to be my

Darcy and Ginger stare at Vivian.

DARCY

What? Seriously? This is major.

VIVIAN

I know. But I want to.

DARCY

(very serious)
Yeah?

Yeah. I'm ready.

Darcy smiles wide. She jumps to her feet screaming and gives him a hug. They jump around the garden.

DARCY

I'm so proud of you. You're gunna have a boyfriend!

VIVIAN

He hasn't said yes yet.

GINGER

But he will.

Ginger joins them in a group jumping hug.

Bill comes out, sees them and decides to go back inside.

INT. SCHOOL CLASSROOM - DAY

The tables and chairs are arranged in a semi circle for the meeting. Darcy is at the top. There are now 30 students involved - mostly pretty girls.

Are there no volunteers?

The room is silent.

DARCY

Guys, when you volunteered to help, I hope it wasn't just to fraternize with Jason. We do actually need some participation... Is Jason using his own piano or the school's?

JASON (O.S.)

My own.

Jason walks in and takes a seat at the back. He looks fresh, sober and well. Darcy tries not to look at him.

DARCY

So, volunteers to help with that?

Ten girls shoot their hands up.

It's okay. I've got a company.

She looks over at him and he looks back.

DARCY

..Okay, fine.

(trying to concentrate) So, let's...You know, we can do the rest later. Let's finish for now.

Everyone gets up and most flock to Jason. Darcy quickly gets her things together and goes to leave.

**JASON** 

Ginger!

Ginger turns on command and rushes to him.

GINGER What's up?

Can I speak to Darcy alone?

GINGER

No problem.

Ginger starts to herd everyone out.

GINGER

Out, out! Darcy needs to have a private chat with Jason.

Darcy reluctantly turns back and sits down. Roger barges in and marches up to her.

GINGER

Roger, Darcy is having a meeting with Jason.

ROGER

I won't be a moment. Excuse me, Jason. There are no secrets between us are there?

Jason gives an expression to say 'go ahead'. Ginger leaves. Roger stands in front of Darcy. His hair is slicked to the side and he's wearing a JACKET that's too big.

ROGER
I believe, and correct me if I'm wrong, that you don't have a date to the fund-raiser?

Darcy is stunned.

ROGER

So, I thought it appropriate that I take you.

Darcy glances at Jason who's smirking and looking away.

ROGER

Obviously I am very aware of your strict morals and codes of conduct so I am pleased to re-assure you that I am also a virgin.

Jason moves his chair to hide his snort of laughter. Roger turns to look at him, smiles and turns back to Darcy.

ROGER

It would be mortifying for you to go alone and I think it's important that we show the world that even girls like you, that don't put out, can still get laid... I mean dates.

Darcy is trying not to die from humiliation. She looks at Roger very seriously.

DARCY

Roger, thank you so much for your kind offer ...

ROGER

I do have some protection just in case the moment takes us.

DARCY

... But I'm afraid, I must decline.

Roger raises a questioning eyebrow.

ROGER

Okay. I get it. Say 'no' now and then say 'yes' later, when I ask again.

DARCY

Roger, I...I promised my dying Grandmother that I would not date until I was twenty-one.

ROGER

Really?... okay, I understand. Just know that when the time comes, I will be here.

He gives her a warm smile and leaves. Jason walks over to her.

**JASON** 

I didn't think you told lies.

DARCY

It doesn't say that on the poster.

**JASON** 

So...

Darcy takes a deep breath. She's rehearsed this.

DARCY

I've been meaning to apologize for my harsh words last time we spoke...I appreciate the commitment you've made to the fund-rasier and your publicist's assistance. We've sold a lot of tickets.

JASON

Good. Is there anything else you need me to do?

DARCY

Yes, if you could work with the three boys from the band. Try and make them sound musical - I don't want this to be a total Dawes-fest.

**JASON** 

Sure.

Jason stares at her and she can't help looking into his eyes. She turns and picks up her things.

DARCY

And keep your dick in your pants until it's over.

He smirks as she walks out.

INT. DARCY'S HOUSE - KITCHEN

Bill is at the kitchen counter preparing food. He has JERPARDY on the TV and without looking he is getting all the answers right before the contestants.

The DOORBELL rings.

INT. DARCY'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Darcy is wearing a ONE PIECE JUMPSUIT, big FLUFFY SLIPPERS and eating POPCORN. She's watching PRIDE AND PREJUDICE.

BILL (O.S.)
Darcy. There's a boy for you at the door.

DARCY
Is it Vivian? Tell him to come up.

On screen Kiera Knightly is looking fondly at the statue of Mr Darcy.

MAID
(on screen)
Don't you think him a handsome man,
Miss?

KIERA KNIGHTLY (on screen)
Yes...yes, I dare say he is.

INT. DARCY'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Jason knocks and enters. Darcy almost chokes when she see's him and scrambles to turn the movie off. Jason smiles.

JASON Sorry, your Dad said to come up.

DARCY No, it's fine. Totally.

Jason is looking at her pathetic CD and CASETTE TAPE collection on a rack in the corner.

JASON
I saw Mrs Daniels on the news tonight.

Jason makes himself comfortable on her BED and Darcy perches awkwardly on the end.

DARCY (sarcastic)
Yeah...she's great.

**JASON** 

Don't most girls appreciate forwardthinking moms?

DARCY

Yeah, until they're knocked up at fifteen and hooked on drugs at sixteen.

Jason raises an eyebrow. Darcy doesn't want to explain.

JASON

So, if it doesn't come from your mom I presume this abstinency stuff is cause of your Dad.

DARCY

What? My Dad? No. Not at all.

He waits her out.

DARCY

Why does it have to be about any thing? It's an issue that needs to be talked about. Do you know one in four sexually active students will get infected with an STD this year? And two thousand teenagers will become pregnant today alone become pregnant today alone.

Jason stares at her blankly.

Why do you say that?

DARCY

What?

JASON Use those figures and statistics?

DARCY

Stats are the surest way to shock, quantify and propel people to change.

**JASON** 

If you say so.

DARCY

The Department of Health says so.

JASON

Fine. Okay then.

Beat. Darcy gets up - frustrated that they're fighting again.

JASON

You know my song 'Too Too Much'?

Darcy nods but Jason doesn't buy that she knows it.

JASON

It's about my abusive father and the ten years of my life I endured living with him...My fan club opens more letters about that song than any other song on my three albums combined...People know when you're speaking from the heart.

Darcy takes it in.

EXT. DARCY'S HOUSE - DAY

Kat pulls up in Darcy's CAR. The driver's WINDOW is BROKEN.

DARCY

How did you find it?

It was Drake from downstairs, the little liar. He's done it before.

Kat notices a PHOTOGRAPHER on the other side of the street watching them. Darcy smiles and waves to the guy.

DARCY

He's waiting for Jason.

INT. DARCY'S KITCHEN - DAY

Kat comes down the stairs looking refreshed and clean. Darcy's cooking PASTA.

KAT

This is the cutest thing I could find. I need to take you shopping.

Kat pokes around the kitchen/lounge area. She sees a PHOTOGRAPH of May at the Mayor's office.

KAT Mom's still the darling of Jacksonville.

Darcy smiles.

DARCY

How come you're not at work?

I changed my shift.

DARCY

It's going okay?

Kat see's the FLYER for the fund-raiser on the table.

KAT

What's this?

DARCY

Nothing. Some thing at school. Just for the credit.

Beat.

KAT

You know, not every teenager who has sex ends up like me.

DARCY

No...I know.

INT. CLASSROOM - DAY

Darcy and Mr Wright enter talking in animated conversation.

MR WRIGHT

You're saying you're a deconstructionist?

DARCY

I'm a realist.

Mr Wright gives her a sly smile.

DARCY

At least as far as Heidegger is concerned.

Some students are milling around. Jason is at the back studying and see's them come in. He gets up.

DARCY

Oh Jason. Do you know Mr Wright? He teaches...

JASON

...Math. I know. You also do private tutoring...

MR WRIGHT

And you know my star pupil.

JASON

Yes. We've been working very closely on the fund-raiser.

MR WRIGHT

Right.

(to Darcy)
The things you do for the cause.
(to Jason)

(MORE)

MR WRIGHT (cont'd)
Unfortuntely, you'll not find
anyone less interested in pop music
than Darcy.

DARCY Don't say that.

JASON
I think she's finding it quite stimulating, aren't you?

DARCY
I am. It's totally opened me up to...

MR WRIGHT ...Well, when you're done playing we should talk Harvard.

DARCY
Yes, can we do that now? Sorry
Jason, do you mind?

JASON No, you go ahead.

Jason walks out and Mr Wright hides a smile.

INT. JASON'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Darcy is let in by the maid. She looks nervous.

MAID

You came yesterday and then ran away. Stay here this time.

Darcy smiles and the maid trots up the stairs. Darcy see's a BABY GRAND PIANO in a room to the left and RECORDS in open BOXES scattered everywhere. She goes in.

INT. JASON'S DRAWING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Darcy runs her fingers along the PIANO creating a SMUDGE MARK that she rubs away with the sleeve of her SWEATER. A BOX at the side hosts an array of STATUES and AWARDS. She picks up a SPACEMAN holding an MTV FLAG.

DESTINY (O.S.) Don't touch those.

Darcy spins around and almost drops it. DESTINY (55) is dressed in a LEATHER SKIRT, 4 inch HEELS and a tight cleavage-showing top. She's holding a GLASS of WHISKY. This is Jason's mom. She takes the AWARD from Darcy.

DESTINY Who are you?

Darcy. I'm waiting for Jason.

DESTINY

I'm sure you are. Why?

DARCY

I'm your neighbor. It's about school.

Destiny raises an unbelieving eyebrow. The maid comes in.

MAID

He's busy, sorry.

DARCY

Oh...okay.

Destiny throws her a bitchy smile. Darcy makes her way out.

DESTINY

(in Spanish with

subtitles)

No let her in. No fans in the house. She steals everything.

Darcy turns as she is walking out the door.

DARCY

(in Spanish with

`subtitles)

Thank you for your hospitality.

The maid smirks.

JASON (O.S.)

Wait! Has she gone?

Jason runs down the stairs in only JEANS - revealing his wet torso and MALE MODEL PHYSIQUE. Darcy tries not to stare.

JASON

I was in the shower. Come on up.

Darcy hides a smile and follows Jason up stairs.

INT. JASON'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

A typical teenagers room; VIDEO GAMES, DVDS, CDS, unmade BED, CLOTHES strewn everywhere. Jason's hair is still wet and hangs slightly in his eyes - Darcy tries not to let her gaze hover there too long.

DARCY

This is a great place.

JASON

Mom's way of advertising how rich we are to all the friends she doesn't speak to anymore.

Darcy smiles.

DARCY

So, Ginger had an idea to auction off some stuff that you sign or sweat in to try and raise some extra cash.

**JASON** 

Who would want stuff of mine?

DARCY

Are you insane? Girls would go crazy for anything you've touched.

JASON You think?

DARCY

(the penny drops)
And you know this. You're just screwing with me.

He smirks. Darcy looks at the PLAYBOY MAGAZINES by the bed.

DARCY

Nice room...You have a stack of pornography by your bed.

JASON

They're vinatage.

Jason gets a TEE out a drawer.

DARCY

It would be better if it was dirty.

Jason smiles and pulls out some dirty T SHIRTS from a pile in the corner. Darcy's PHONE rings. She picks it up.

DARCY

(into phone)

Hey G...just Stúdying.

Jason looks over and raises an eyebrow. He signs that he'll be back in one minute and leaves.

DARCY

(into phone)

Right, no problém...Okay, see you tomorrow.

She hangs up. We can hear Jason's muffled voice downstairs. Darcy lies back on his bed and pushes her cheek into his PILLOW. She smirks at herself. Then see's some screwed up PAPER by the bed. She opens it. It's ideas for songs and looks like poetry. Darcy smiles and then puts it back.

Jason puts his head round the door.

**JASON** 

You hungry?

Darcy gets up and follows him out.

**JASON** 

You know I have a camera in there.

INT. JASON'S KITCHEN - NIGHT

Jason is making an ELVIS PEANUT BUTTER & BANANA SANDWICH.

JASON

You sure you don't want one?

Darcy shakes her head. Destiny comes in and pours herself another WHISKEY.

DESTINY

Saskia loved the necklace you sent her, by the way. She wore it in her Elle shoot, did you see?

**JASON** 

Thanks. You always send nice gifts to my fake girlfriends.

Destiny stares daggers at him.

**JASON** 

Darcy's organizing the fund-rasier I'm playing in.

DESTINY

You know he gets a hundred grand to go to a nightclub?

DARCY

It's a fund-raiser - for charity.

DESTINY

And what charity might that be?

DARCY

Know Now. It raises awareness of the dangers of drink, drugs and unprotected sex.

Destiny looks at Jason and laughs.

DESTINY

I knew there was a reason we moved back her. My son is playing at a virginity fund-raiser? You know he sticks it to anything that moves?

**JASON** 

You're drunk.

Jason tips his mother's WHISKEY into the sink.

DESTINY

And you're in denial.

JASON

(to Darcy)

Come on.

Jason and Darcy walk back through to the drawing room. He punches his hand into the wall as he goes.

DESTINY

You've been here a minute and you think you're one of the Jonas brothers. Sex sells and don't you forget it.

INT. JASON'S DRAWING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Jason sits at the PIANO and Darcy sits on the SOFA. He slams his hands down on the KEYS to let out some frustration and then smiles at Darcy. All better now.

**JASON** 

Would you like to hear me play?

Darcy gets up and goes over to him.

DARCY

(underplaying it)
Sure. Some people have told me that you play quite well.

**JASON** 

Well, I don't want to boast but...

He flexes his fingers and stretches out his arms in an over the top preparation. She smiles.

Then he places his fingers very gently on the keys and then starts to play. At moments he closes his eyes. He becomes absorbed in the music and Darcy watches him - captivated.

## MONTAGE

The piano morphs into an awesome sound track.

INT. SCHOOL HALL - DAY

Jason plays the piano.

REVEAL 3 geeky BOYS on a stage with him - one with a GUITAR, another behind a KEYBOARD and the other holding a MICROPHONE. They stare at him open mouthed.

INT. INNER CITY SCHOOL, HALL - DAY

A packed assembly hall full of gum chewing, nose-ring-wearing students. Next to him is the Principal - a tall African American man. Darcy is standing at the back.

**JASON** 

I'm guessing you guys know a little something about sex, drugs and rock and roll.

Students cheer. The Principal gives him a harsh look.

JASON

Yeah, well, this fund-raiser is all about the dangers associated with that. You and me should learn a thing or two. I hope you can all join us.

The students clap and cheer again. Jason smiles at Darcy.

EXT. ALL GIRLS SCHOOL - DAY

Darcy, Jason and Terrell struggle to get to the CAR through hoards of girls in uniforms asking for autographs.

Jason signs what he can and then they all squeeze into Darcy's car - an unimpressed Terrell in the back.

INT. SCHOOL HALL - DAY

We're back with the 3 boys and Jason on stage. They're playing along now and not too bad. Jason is now playing the GUITAR and slows occasionally to let them get the feel for it.

Darcy sits looking at a WEBSITE for ticket sales. She's mouthing along to the song but stops when she see's the figure - 3003 sold. She smiles and looks up at Jason.

## END MONTAGE

INT. COFFE SHOP - DAY

Darcy and Ginger sit at a table in the corner. Darcy is distracted; staring out the window.

GINGER

I've masturbated sixteen times this week. Do you think that's above the national average? It would be nice to know I excel at something.

DARCY

Shit.

Reveal Roger at the window waving to them. He comes in and over to them.

ROGER

Good afternoon ladies. Ginger, I have something that I think you will like.

He pulls a PHOTOGRAPH out of his pocket and presents it with ridiculous grandeur. It's an old photo of what could be a young Jason at pre-school.

GINGER

No?...is this?...

ROGER

Yep. My mom dug it out. I think that's me in the background. Don't you think he'll like it Darcy?

DARCY

For sure.

Roger takes the PICTURE back and then takes Ginger's hand and kisses it whilst whispering

ROGER

(quoting Brokeback

Mountain)

I wish I knew how to quit you.

Ginger smiles sincerely and Roger leaves. Darcy's perplexed.

DARCY

What was that about?

GINGER

I forgot to say. He's taking me to 'Say Yes to No'.

Darcy almost chokes.

DARCY

Tell me you're joking.

GINGER

Look, I know he's no model but he's sweet and we share the same interests...

DARCY

By that you mean the adulation of Jason Dawes?

GINGER

And other things.

DARCY

You can't do it, he's moronic.

GINGER

Well, I'm sorry he's not good enough for you. Luckily you're not the one dating him.

She gathers her things together and stands.

GINGER

Not all of us want to be virgins for the rest of our lives.

She walks out. Darcy watches her go.

DARCY (V.O.)
Urban legend tells us that because of underpopulation in England the king issued an official order to 'Fornicate Under Command of the King'

SUBTITLE: F U C K

DARCY (V.O.)

...and so the acronym and our popular expletive came into being...Why does it feel like not much has changed? Only now there's no king telling us to fuck...it's ourselves.

INT. DARCY'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Darcy lies on the bed. It's a hot night and she's on top of the covers. She thinks she hears something and listens for a moment. It's silent and she turns to lie on her back and stares up at the ceiling, smiling.

<u>Jason's standing in the corner</u>. He coughs. Darcy sits bolt upright. The bedroom WINDOW is open. They talk in whispers.

What the hell are you doing here? It's a little OTT to go climbing through windows. You're not Edward Cullen.

He stares at her.

DARCY

What do you want?

He stands there silently.

DARCY

Jason...what?

Jason moves to the other side of the BED and sits down.

She looks at him.

DARCY

Is something wrong?

Jason lies down opposite her and she does the same.

Beat.

**JASON** 

I just...wanted to see you.

They stare into each other's eyes.

Beat.

Jason runs his fingers gently down the side of her face, then down her neck, across her shoulder, along the edge of her breast, down her side and over her hip. Darcy closes her eyes with an intake of breath.

JASON

Go to sleep.

DARCY

I can't.

He watches Darcy for a moment and then leaves. After he has gone, Darcy opens her eyes and then closes them again with a smile.

INT. CANTEEN - DAY

Ginger is getting her food and Darcy follows her.

DARCY

Hey...I wanted to say sorry for the other day. I didn't think.

GINGER

No probs. I presumed it was PMS cause I've had it as well. We're psychically in tune with each other.

DARCY

Or our cycles have synced because efficient reproduction used to be essential to the survival of the species.

GINGER

Or that. And major news update. Jason tweeted today that he's met someone.

Darcy flushes and tries to suppress a smile.

GINGER

Jessica's spreading the word that it's her but I think she's deluded. Someone like JD needs to date someone on the same celeb rank. Don't you recon?

DARCY Yes, probably...

Hold on Darcy - hopeful.

They walk over to a table where Levi, Vivian, Jason, Jessica and two other girls are sitting. Jason and Darcy steal sly glances at one another. Darcy picks at her food.

LEVI

We went to the Colosseum, the Pantheon...

VIVIAN

...and the Sistine Chapel. I'm so jealous.

GINGER

(to Levi and Jason)
I can't believe you guys have seen all that.

LEVI

I wouldn't usually have gone for that long but it was just after I'd recovered from being sick.

GINGER

What were you sick with?

VIVIAN

(answers for him)
Meningitis.

GINGER

For how long?

VIVIAN

(answers for him)

Six months.

DARCY

Wow. That must have been scary.

**JASON** 

It was.

GINGER

Levi, am I right in thinking you're single? You don't have a boyfriend?

Levi looks straight over to Jason who has stopped eating. Jason stands up.

**JASON** 

(to Levi) Levi, I need to speak to you.

LEVI

Sure.

Levi follows Jason out. Vivian watches - vulnerable.

GINGER

What the hell just happened?

INT. SCHOOL CLASSROOM - DAY

Darcy sits at a desk in an empty classroom completing an APPLICATION FORM for HARVARD and an ESSAY entitled LIFE EXPERIENCE - LIVING WITH DRUGS.

Vivian enters. Darcy hides the title of the essay.

VIVIAN

What you up to?

DARCY

Harvard.

VIVIAN

(Darth Vader voice)

Impressive.

He sits next to her. He smiles but it disappears just as quickly as it arrived. He's quieter than usual and introspective. He stares out the window.

DARCY What's up?

Beat.

VIVIAN

Do you think...

(beat)

Do you think I'm attractive?

Darcy looks at him - concerned.

VIVIAN

It's just no-one has ever said so. And...I don't know if I am.

DARCY

Yes, you are. I promise.

He looks at her.

DARCY

If you were straight and I wasn't on an abstinence crusade I would totally do you.

He smiles.

VIVIAN

Really.

DARCY

Really.

INT. CLASSROOM - DAY

Darcy and Ginger sit at one end of the room surrounded by POSTERS and FLYERS and Jessica and some of her friends, are huddled in a corner pretending to work at the other.

GINGER

...Levi won't speak to him.

DARCY

But why?

Vivian barges into the room. <a href="He's carrying a CELEBRITY GOSSIP">He's carrying a CELEBRITY GOSSIP</a> <a href="MAGAZINE">MAGAZINE</a>.

NAIVIN

If it's not one brother, it's the other. We're screwed.

He slams the MAGAZINE down in front of Darcy.

On the front cover it has a picture of a teenage girl and the headline  $\underline{\text{"JASON DAWES GAVE ME AN STD".}}$ 

Jessica and the other girls come over and look.

**JESSICA** 

Oh.. my.. God.

Darcy stares at the magazine in total disbelief.

VIVIAN

Everyone's laughing at us.

GINGER

Will they make us cancel? I can't loose the grade.

DARCY

Is it real?

VIVIAN

What?

DARCY

(urgent)

Is it real or just gossip?

VIVIAN

It's on the front page of the magazine...what do you think? They can't print this without some proof. He's a selfish prick.

Darcy quickly gets up, gathers her things and walks out.

VIVIAN

(calling after her)
Hey, where are you going? What are
we supposed to do?

But she's gone.

GINGER

I hope he has life insurance.

EXT. PARKING LOT - DAY

Darcy gets to her CAR. Someone has taped the MAGAZINE ARTICLE over the hole in her WINDOW. She rips it down and drives away. Some kids snigger at her as she goes.

EXT. JASON'S HOUSE - DAY

Darcy drives up to his house but can't even get close because of the NEWS TRUCKS, PHOTOGRAPHERS, JOURNALISTS and JOE PUBLIC trying to get a look in.

She backs the CAR up the street and takes a side alley round the backs of the houses and up to the back of Jason's house.

She parks and walks round to the side of the fence and finds a GATE. She kicks it. Then kicks it again and it swings open.

She runs around the POOL and calls into the house and knocks on the windows. Finally Destiny comes to the door.

DESTINY

Get lost.

DARCY

I need to see Jason.

DESTINY

I will not warn you again.

Jason comes up behind his mother who is trashed and almost falling over. He beckons Darcy in.

INT. JASON'S HOUSE - DAY

DESTINY

I told you he'd screw it up. That's what he does. He's just like his Dad!

Jason quickly retreats away from the windows. The maid pulls the BLINDS down. He goes up stairs and Darcy follows.

INT. JASONS' BEDROOM - DAY

Jason's not himself - he's distracted. He paces.

DARCY

Stop it.

He turns to face her - pale. They stare at one another.

Darcy walks up to him and hugs him. She caresses the back of his head with her hand and he surrenders to her embrace.

EXT. JASON'S HOUSE - DAY

Jason hands Levi his CAR KEYS.

JASON

Be careful.

Levi smirks and puts on SHADES and a CAP, opens the door and embarks into a sea of REPORTERS and PAPARAZZI.

Jason then dons his HAT and SHADES and he and Darcy sneak out the back gate and into Darcy's car.

EXT. ZOE'S HOUSE - DAY

Kat climbs into the back seat. Jason stares at her - she's not what he expected.

KAT

Take the fifty-three up to Bergow. I'll direct you from there.

Kat, this is Jason. Jason, this is my sister, Kat.

Jason notices the SCARS on Kat's arms. He knows a drug user when he sees one.

JASON

Nice to meet you.

KAT

Is this the prick rock-star you talked about?

Darcy starts the car. Jason smirks.

DARCY

No, different one.

INT. CAR - DAY

Darcy drives and Kat's asleep. Jason is staring out the window deep in thought. Darcy looks over to him.

INT. CLINIC - DAY

Kat and Darcy sit in a small waiting room. Darcy taps her foot nervously and Kat is reading a old gossip MAGAZINE. She finds a page with a picture of Jason on and shows it to Darcy as if to say 'look, isn't it exciting'. Darcy rolls her eyes.

Jason comes out with a NURSE.

NURSE

We'll have the other results back in 48 hours.

DARCY

The HIV?

NURSE

That's clear.

KAT

Thanks so much for shutting up for us.

NURSE

No problem.

DARCY

(to Jason)

You good?

**JASON** 

Yeah. Thanks.

EXT. FIELD - DUSK

Darcy and Jason sit on the hood of the car. It's a warm evening and the crickets are out. Jason smokes a CIGARETTE.

DARCY

How many people have you slept with?

He hesitates.

JASON

I don't know....Maybe forty...or fifty. Maybe...

DARCY

Wow.

Beat.

**JASON** 

I'm sorry.

Beat.

DARCY

If you have this amazing life, that so many people would kill for...why do you take drugs?

JASON

Honestly?

(beat)

Because when no-one else is there you can always rely on them to make you feel great.

Beat.

**JASON** 

Kat's nice. I didn't know you had a sister?

DARCY

No-one does.

**JASON** 

So, what's the deal with her?

DARCY

She was drinking and sleeping around. She got pregnant. Mom got her an abortion but then she fell for this meth addict and within a year she was hooked and then got arrested for dealing. Mom was running for office at the time and had to step down.

(MORE)

DARCY (cont'd)
The scandal was hushed up but could have ended her career...Mom and dad spent a fortune bailing Kat out and putting her through rehab. But she came out and went straight back to the drugs. They haven't spoken to her since. When I started Belmont I just didn't tell anyone I had a sister. It was easier.

JASON

But your mom and dad know you see her?

DARCY

Dad knows. Mom would crucify me. She can't risk the scandal and doesn't believe Kat's changed.

**JASON** 

You're a good sister.

DARCY

I just don't want to lose her. There's a bond between siblings that means you have to be there no matter what, don't you think?

Jason takes it in.

It starts to RAIN. Darcy quickly gets into the car. Jason stays sitting on the HOOD. Darcy beckons him in but he ignores her.

Darcy watches as he closes his eyes and tilts his head up to the sky and lets the water fall onto him.

DARCY (V.O.)

News just in. Love is officially and scientifically blind. Feelings of love lead to a suppression of activity in the areas of the brain controlling critical thought.

Jason jumps off the car, strips off his TEE and starts to unbutton his PANTS. Darcy stares at him in shock.

When he's down to his briefs he runs into the field arms wide and smiling. He stops and looks back at Darcy.

DARCY (V.O.)
This basically means that when we get close to a person, our brains decide that the need to assess their character and personality isn't so important and we suddenly find it difficult to make negative judgements.

Darcy takes a breath and then gets out the car, strips down to her UNDERWEAR and runs over to him.

She's hesitant and then relaxes. They run and fall through the field laughing. Jason puts her over his shoulder and runs around smacking her ass and screaming like a warrior.

INT. SCHOOL HALLWAY - DAY

The fund-raiser POSTERS on the walls have been defaced with crude slogans and drawings. Darcy rips one down as she goes past.

INT. SCHOOL HALL - DAY

Darcy enters. Groups of angry students and teachers from Belmont and neighboring schools are present, and watch her as she makes her way to the front where Principal Collins is trying to calm another Principal. Ginger and Vivian sit at the back - angry.

Mr Wright stops her.

MR WRIGHT
Hey. I'm really sorry about what
he's done to you. It's
reprehensible.

Darcy gives him a quick smile and carries on up to the front.

PRINCIPAL COLLINS
Darcy is here now to give you a
full explanation on why we are
cancelling the fund-raiser.

DARCY
Thank you. Although, I have someone else that would like to speak to you.

The crowd mummers. <u>Darcy turns to the back and Jason walks</u> through a door at the back of the hall.

The murmurs grow louder as the news of his presence spreads through the hall and out to the corridor.

Jason waits for the crowd to hush.

**JASON** 

You all know my reputation. And I don't excuse it. Yesterday I had an STD test and I won't know all the results until tomorrow. So right now I stand in front of you as an example of what Darcy and all of you are trying to avoid. Shame.

He looks at Darcy.

JASON

But I'll be at the fund-rasier on Saturday, however this turns out.

The hall is quiet. Darcy looks at the teachers and principals from the other schools. They look to one another and then one finally nods and so do the others. Darcy smiles at Jason.

EXT. DARCY'S GARDEN - NIGHT

Darcy and Jason sit in the back yard drinking LEMONADE and watching the FIRE FLIES. It's peaceful.

DARCY

What does the tattoo on your arm say?

JASON

(spells out)
G O O G L E dot com.

DARCY

Or you could show me.

**JASON** 

It's just a poem. I got it when Levi was sick.

He doesn't want to show her and Darcy doesn't push it.

INT. DARCY'S KITCHEN - DAY

Jason sits at the dining room table doing a JIGSAW. His CELL PHONE is on the table next to him. Kat and Terrell sit on the sofa watching E news with Jason's news story.

Darcy's on the PHONE in the corner.

DARCY

(into phone)
I have all the indicators of a viral form of gastroenteritis which is most commonly just a twenty-four hour illness.

Jason signals her to shut up.

DARCY

(into phone)

Right...Okay, thanks.

She hangs up and beams with a big smile.

DARCY

This is the first time in my life I have ever cut school...it's exhilarating.

Jason and Kat smile at her.

JASON

I'm proud of you.

(still watching the TV) What's the maximum number of people he could have infected?

DARCY

Well, the girl's saying they slept together three months ago.

Terrell

And he probably sleeps with a different girl every week.

DARCY

So that's thirteen other girls.

KAT

And lets say they are half as promiscuous as he is, so each girl infects a new guy every two weeks.

DARCY

Exponential growth. Two to the thirteenth. Two to the eighth is two-fifty-six.

Darcy scribbles the numbers on a piece of PAPER.

DARCY

Five-twelve, ten twenty-four, twenty forty-eight, forty ninety-six... So it's eighty-one ninetytwo.

TERRELL

That's a lousy model though. It's probably more like Fibonacci's rabbits.

Darcy and Kat stare at Terrell in amazement.

DARCY

(over excited)
Oh my God! It is! So they wait four weeks after getting infected, and then start infecting other people at two week intervals.

Darcy scribbles some more equations.

DARCY

... Six hundred and ten. (to Terrell) You're my hero.

Terrell shrugs modestly.

TERRELL

I liked math.

Darcy high fives Terrell and Kat. Jason coughs to remind them of his presence.

DARCY

Right, sorry.

LATER

Jason walks out of the bathroom. Kat's on the PHONE and Darcy and Terrell are outside.

(into phone)
..of course she doesn't know. It's

Kat registers Jason's come back into the room.

(into phone)
I'll see you later. Bye.

She puts the phone down and goes out to the garden.

Jason watches her go and then picks up her PHONE and calls the number just dialed.  $\underline{\tt MR\ WRIGHT\ ANSWERS}$  .

MR WRIGHT (V.O.)
What? You gunna cancel me for a more important client?...Kat?...
You there?

Jason hangs up and puts the phone back down. Darcy enters.

DARCY

(childish enthusiasm) Why don't we play scrabble!

<u>Jason's phone rings</u>. They stare at it. Kat and Terrell run back in. Jason slowly picks it up and answers it.

JASON

(into the phone) Hello...yeah, it is.

He listens for a while. The girls stare at him.

JASON

(into the phone)
Really? Okay. Yeah, yeah...thank you. Ōkay, bye.

He hangs up - the relief obvious on his face.

JASON

I'm all clear.

Darcy runs up to him and embraces him tightly.

DARCY

Oh my God.

She holds him really tight and he notices their close embrace before she does. She gives a nervous smile and pulls away.

Kat raises an eyebrow at Darcy.

JASON

I should go. My lawyers will be itching to sue someone.

DARCY

Sure.

Darcy walks him to the door.

JASON

Listen, thanks for everything.

He leans in and kisses her on the cheek. She moves her head to his as if she wants more but then pulls back when he does.

He turns and walks away. Terrell follows.

INT. JASON'S CAR, STREET - NIGHT

Jason sits in his CAR. His head lolls and then he nods and wakes himself up. He looks at a house a little further down the street and then checks his WATCH.

He goes to light up a CIGARETTE when Kat, a BLONDE GIRL and Mr Wright open the door. Wright says goodbye to the girls and goes back inside. Kat and the blonde wear SHORT TIGHT SKIRTS and HEELS. Jason gets out of his car. His DOOR slams.

The girls looks over. Kat stares at him.

EXT. DARCY'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Darcy sits on the SWING CHAIR on the front porch. Jason drives by and pulls up outside her house. She goes up to his window.

JASON

You waiting for me?

DARCY

No, I was hoping Caleb Followill or Anthony Kiedis might come by, but I guess you'll do.

Jason smirks and Darcy stands there nervously.

**JASON** 

I was just thinking about your sister.

DARCY

Yeah?

JASON

I just don't know if she's as stable as you hope she is.

Beat.

DARCY

Trust me. I know what I'm doing.

Darcy kisses Jason on the cheek and goes back to the house.

INT. SCHOOL BATHROOM - DAY

Darcy stands looking at herself in the MIRROR. She lets her hair down. Ginger is in a stall struggling with something.

GINGER (O.S.)
The way this pad is positioned - it's kinda turning me on.

DARCY

How do you know if you like someone?

Ginger comes out the stall walking a little funny.

GINGER

I'm literally gunna come in my pants.

Darcy gives her a look.

GINGER

You're asking me?

DARCY

Who else am I gunna ask?

Ginger washes her hands and primps herself in the mirror.

GINGER

Wow...okay...well I guess you think about them all the time, you can't eat, you can't sleep, you get nervous around them and you want to fuck their brains out..Why? And who?

DARCY

No one. I was just interested in the un-scientific theory.

Ginger smiles and hooks arms with Darcy as they walk out.

GINGER

This is a very special moment.

DARCY

Why?

GINGER

That is the first time you have ever asked me anything.

INT. JASON'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Jason sits playing the PIANO with real passion. Destiny wonders in and sits beside him on the stool. She's pale and nursing a hangover with a drink.

Destiny picks up the LA TIMES ARTICLE that's resting on top of the piano. The headline reads 'OUT OF SIGHT OUT OF MIND. HOW LONG CAN AN ARTIST STAY OUT OF THE PUBLIC EYE.'

Jason stops and stares at the keys on the piano.

DESTINY

This little trip did what it needed to for the press but maybe you should get back to work now...Hey? This isn't home for us anymore.

She hands him her WHISKY. He stares at it and then drinks it back.

INT. DARCY'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Darcy sits on the side of her bed reading a print out with a POEM and a PICTURE of JASON'S TATTOO.

DARCY (V.O.)
To Music, to Becalm a Sick
Youth...'Charms, that call down the
moon from out her sphere,
On this sick youth work your
enchantments here!
Bind up his senses with your
numbers, so

(MORE)

DARCY (V.O.) (cont'd) As to entrance his pain, or cure his woe. Fall gently, gently, and a-while him kēep Lost in the civil wilderness of sleep: That done, then let him, dispossess d of pain, Like to a slumbering bride, awake again.

FLASHBACK - Darcy and Jason watching the fireflies.

There's a noise from outside and she quickly hides the poem as Jason climbs through the window.

JASON

Hey.

DARCY

Hey.

He sits at her desk. He seems conflicted.

DARCY

Are you okay?

JASON

Sure.

DARCY What's up?

JASON

Nothing.

She's not convinced and walks over to him. He has his head down and she stands in front of him and strokes the back of it. He closes his eyes for a moment and takes a deep breath. When he opens his eyes he looks at her bare legs.

He reaches out a hand and runs it up her leg to just underneath her nightdress. Darcy looks down at him.

He uses his other hand to pull her closer to him. She doesn't resist. He presses his head against her and runs both hands up her legs. She can hardly control her breathing.

His hand moves up between her legs and she takes a sudden intake of breath. He watches her as he touches her. She closes her eyes and tilts her head back in pleasure.

He stops and they stare into each others eyes. He stands up and kisses her. Then he pushes her back onto the bed. They kiss. He hikes her leg up and runs his hand up her thigh. He kisses her neck and moves lower to her breasts.

But then suddenly stops himself. Darcy is aroused and breathless and looks down at him.

DARCY

What's wrong?

JASON

I can't do this.

DARCY

What? I want to.

He stands up. He notices her HARVARD APPLICATION on the desk. Jason paces in frustration.

JASON

You know what they wrote about when I beat up that photographer?... The guy had to drink through a straw for a week and all they reported on was how long it would take for my pinky to heel.

DARCY

That's them. Not you.

JASON

Who the fuck do you think I am Darcy? Last summer I stayed up for six days straight. I had an ounce of cocaine and four bottles of vodka. My nose bled for two days. That's what I do. I fuck things up.

DARCY

You've changed.

JASON

Jesus, you think you can change everybody, don't you?

Darcy looks down. Jason sniffs - he's wired again.

DARCY

You don't have to act the way your mom and everyone else expects you

JASON

Yeah? Yeah? Well they expect me to fuck and now it seems you do too. So lets fuck then. Come on. You wanna screw a rock star? Yeah?

He pushes her back onto the bed, lifts up her nightdress and pulls down her PANTIES.

DARCY

No. Jason, stop it.

Darcy finally pushes him off her and he stumbles backwards and almost falls. He's dizzy and disoriented. He stares at her - BLOOD dripping from his nose.

DARCY Sex doesn't have to be just sex.

He turns and climbs out the window. Darcy sits breathless and shaking staring out into the night.

INT. DARCY'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY

Darcy sits at the DINING TABLE half heartedly eating some food. Bill is recounting a story that requires lots of OTT facial expressions and funny mimes that would usually make her laugh - but not today.

DARCY (V.O.)
They call it 'falling for someone' for a reason. Because when it happens you have absolutely no control of yourself. Nature picks you up and pushes you off the highest platform and watches you tumble down and down and down... And there's no safety net. So you betta hope there's someone down there waiting to catch you.

Close on Darcy staring into space.

INT. STAFF ROOM - DAY

Darcy and Mr Wright sit in the corner drinking COFFEE. The room is empty otherwise. Darcy is distant. She watches him crack his NUCKLES.

MR WRIGHT
So we could have purified it in a sodium NTA column to get it up to ninety-nine percent but that would only have been suitable for biochemistry not oral administration...

DARCY Romeo and Juliet - love or lust?

MR WRIGHT
Lust - without question.

DARCY
Right... Although you could argue that the rush of dopamine and oxytocin that you experience when falling in love could explain their spontaneous decisions. It could have been the first throws and we'll never know if it would have progressed further.

MR WRIGHT

You're making the case for the spontaneous and irrational. What's brought this on?

DARCY

I just...

Principal Collins comes in and interrupts them.

PRINCIPAL COLLINS

Should you be in here Miss Darcy?

Darcy gets up to go. Mr Wright taker her hand when Collins' back is turned.

MR WRIGHT

(quietly) Seriously, though. If, for any reason, you were experiencing those feelings...just don't let them lead you astray.

Darcy looks unsure.

MR WRIGHT

It's just biology. You know that,

DARCY

Of course.

She smiles and walks out. Mr Wright watches her go. Then gets up and follows after her.

He nearly bumps into Mrs Jenkins on his way out.

MRS JENKINS

Loved your ideas Michael. I'll come by at four o'clock to discuss.

MR WRIGHT

Perfect.

INT. SCHOOL HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

MR WRIGHT

(to Darcy)

Mr Wright grabs Darcy's wrist and leads her into the first empty člasšroom.

INT. CLASSROOM - CONTINUOUS

This is all very cloak and dagger.

Mr Wright looks nervous and checks to see no-one is coming in. Darcy stares at him.

MR WRIGHT

You've been spending a lot of time with Jason.

DARCY

He's helping with the fund-raiser.

MR WRIGHT

I just don't want you getting too close. I've had access to his files. They're not pretty.

DARCY

It's okay. He's told me everything.

MR WRIGHT

The drugs, the violence...And the way he's screwing up his brother...

DARCY

...Levi?

MR WRIGHT

Jason stormed out of my class today because someone insinuated Levi was gay...What are the other students supposed to take from that? I can't have that behavior in my classroom.

DARCY

You think he's homophobic?

MR WRIGHT

He's coming by today so I'm going to talk to him about it...I just thought you should know. I know your friendship with Vivian means a lot to you.

Darcy takes in this new information.

DARCY

Of course. Sure. Thanks.

She smiles nervously and heads out.

INT. SCHOOL CLASSROOM - DAY

A chemistry class is in progress and Darcy walks in and up to the back to find Ginger who is obviously flirting with her nerdy partner.

DARCY

Ginge.

TEACHER

Darcy!

DARCY

Just a moment.

GINGER

Helloha!

DARCY

What's going on with Vivian and Levi?

GINGER

Nada...ever since I asked if he had a boyfriend. Jason obviously said something to Levi. Probably thinks Vivian's not good enough for him. Anyway, since then...

Darcy walks out.

INT. MR WRIGHT'S CLASSROOM - DAY

Mr Wright is sitting at his desk. Jason enters.

**JASON** 

You asked to see me.

MR WRIGHT

Yes.

Jason walks a little further forward and then stops. Mr Wright gets up and leans against the back of his desk.

MR WRIGHT

How have you been getting along?

**JASON** 

Cut the crap.

Mr Wright's smile drops. Beat.

MR WRIGHT

Darcy's sister told me that you followed her last night. Was there any reason for that?

Jason smirks.

MR WRIGHT

What do you want?

**JASON** 

Nothing.

MR WRIGHT

Nothing?

JASON

No.

MR WRIGHT

Okay. And what about Darcy?

JASON

You mean, have I told her that you're using her sister as a whore?

Mr Wright stares at him.

**JASON** 

No, I haven't. And I'm not going to.

Mr Wright shifts in relief.

JASON

She'll hear it from you when you explain why you got kicked out of this school.

Jason turns to walk away.

 $\underline{\text{Mr Wright looks at the CLOCK on the wall}}$  - it strikes 4 O'clock. He looks back at Jason.

MR WRIGHT

You like Darcy, don't you?

Jason turns back to him.

MR WRIGHT

I've always resisted her child-like advances in the past but I think it's better that she sucks my cock than yours, don't you?

Jason doesn't hesitate. He turns and runs at Mr Wright.

As he does <u>Mrs Jenkins walks in and watches as Jason smacks</u> <u>Mr Wright hard across the face</u> - blood flows.

Jason turns to see Mrs Jenkins standing in the doorway.

INT. SCHOOL LIBRARY - DAY

Darcy sits in a corner staring at the POEM. Some girls gossip in the corner and Darcy listens.

GOSSIP GIRL

When he's about to cum just tell him to pull out. It'll be fine.

Darcy cringes. A girls runs over to them and whispers. They all get up and run out. Darcy follows.

INT. SCHOOL HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Students run and gossip in every direction. Darcy walks up to a girl.

DARCY

What's going on?

GIRL

Jason beat up Mr Wright and he's being expelled.

DARCY

What?

Darcy runs down the hall, pushing students out of her way. Students are huddled around a door trying desperately to see in. She barges through them and looks into the room.

Darcy's POV: A room full of teachers and school-officials sit at desks in a semi-circle. Jason is standing at one end. Mr Wright - with a swollen and bloody nose - is at the other. Mrs Jenkins is talking. Destiny is there and looks thoroughly indignant.

Jason looks to the doorway and catches Darcy's eye. Darcy stumbles back and runs out the front of the school.

EXT. SCHOOL - CONTINUOUS

A swarm of PRESS and PHOTOGRAPHERS encroach on Darcy as she steps out the school.

JOURNALIST

Darcy, can we get a statement?

SLEAZY JOURNO

Any ideas on why he did it? What would your mother say about this? How will this effect the event on Saturday?

Darcy stares at the journalist. She doesn't know how to answer so pushes past them and walks away.

JOURNALIST

He's coming out!

Darcy doesn't want to turn back and walks off school grounds via the back of the school.

EXT. STREET - LATER

Darcy walks quickly down the street in a daze - It's beginning to rain.

Jason pulls up beside her in his car.

JASON

Wait. I need to talk to you. What are you doing? I saw your car parked at school.

She ignores him and walks off into a PARK.

Jason pulls up and parks the car, checks over his shoulder and goes after her. He has BLOOD on his SHIRT.

EXT. PARK - CONTINUOUS

Darcy walks through a CHILDREN'S PLAYGROUND and Jason hurries after her. It starts to rain harder.

**JASON** 

Stop. Please.

Darcy turns to him. She looks completely detached.

**JASON** 

So, they've expelled me but they'll still let me play in the fund-rasier on Saturday.

Darcy continues to stare.

JASON

Listen, I'm sorry. Last night..I was messed up.

(beat)
I feel like my life's out of control. This industry...it makes you crazy. The pressure, the fame... But people in the business, they get it, you know. The models, the actresses. They can deal with it cause they're used to it. I couldn't be blamed for dragging them into the shit.

(beat)
But...I don't care...I've
decided...I want to be with you.

Beat. Darcy smiles in disbelief.

DARCY

what?

**JASON** 

I said...

DARCY

Yeah, I heard what you said...I'm just trying to process the unimaginable bullshit that just came out of your mouth.

**JASON** 

What?

Darcy tries to walk away but her temper draws her back around to him. Rage bubbles inside of her.

DARCY

How dare you...You stand there...you stand there with my friend's blood on your hands and tell me that you want to be with me - even though it goes against every fiber of your being...

**JASON** I didn't mean that...

DARCY

Well, may I now take the opportunity to tell you why dating a violent, egocentric, temerarious drop-out might pose a problem in my world? Or are you too blinded by ego to comprehend anyone other than yourself?

**JASON** ... I was trying to be nice.

DARCY

Nice? Nice? Nice as in...congenial, sympathetic or decent? Because as elementary as it is I don't think you understand the word; especially after what you did to Vivian.

JASON

Vivian?

DARCY

Do you have any idea how hard it is to be gay in high school? But, he finally finds someone and summons the courage to be with him and you stepped in to warn Levi off him didn't you?

**JASON** 

Yes and I don't regret it.

DARCY

Really. And you had me thinking you were a good brother...I knew exactly what you were the first time I saw you. Mr Wright even warned me about you but I was just swept along by your bullshit with the rest of them.

Jason walks up close to her.

JASON

How close are you and Mr Wright exactly?

DARCY What is that supposed to mean?

JASON I think you know what it means.

Darcy goes to slap him but he catches her wrist and holds it tight. She tries not to show that it hurts.

They are very close and stare into one another's eyes in defiance. She speaks in almost a whisper.

DARCY

You think you're so special with your issues and your drugs but really you're just a pathetic addict who's had sex fifty times and still has no clue how to make love.

BEAT. Jason lets go of her arm. They remain still for a beat.

Jason turns and walks away. He gets back in the car. Tires squeal and he speeds away. Darcy stands in the rain, shaking.

Music comes in as we dissolve to

## MONTAGE

CAR, NIGHT - Jason drives home - angry

DARCY'S HOUSE, NIGHT - Darcy sits alone at the kitchen table.

AIRPORT - Jason, dressed as conspicuously as possible, slides his ID to the girl at the check-in desk.

DARCY'S ROOM, NIGHT - Darcy lies starring at the open window.

SCHOOL CLASSROOM, DAY - Darcy sits in a daze whilst Ginger vents at her and Vivian shakes his head in disappointment.

SCHOOL, DAY - Darcy walks down the hallway in a distant daze. 'CANCELLED' has been marked across all the 'Say Yes to No' posters.

STREET, DAY - Darcy drives to the top of her street and sees the paparazzi outside both hers and Jason's houses. She stares at the house and then looks at the CIGARETTE BURN on the DASHBOARD. She reverses and drives away.

#### END MONTAGE

INT. RESTAURANT - NIGHT

Darcy talks to a rude WAITRESS.

Hi, is Kat working today?

WAITRESS

Who?

DARCY

Katherine Daniels. I just need to speak to her.

WAITRESS

Oh right. She quit months ago.

DARCY

Are you sure?

The waitress just stares at her. Darcy turns and leaves.

EXT. ZOE'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Darcy stands agitated on the step. The DOOR opens and reveals ZOE, a majorly tweaked out girl of 23. Darcy can hardly bring herself to look at her.

DARCY

Hey Zoe, I need to see Kat.

ZOE

Do I know you?

DARCY

Yes. I'm kat's sister.

Zoe stares at her with a blank expression.

Kat's not home.

DARCY

Well, where is she? I need to see her. I went to her work and they said...

Zoe turns suddenly aggressive

ZOE
Fuck you! I ain't done nothin'. No
one wants you here alright. So fuck
off and leave her alone!

Darcy turns and leaves as Zoe rants at her from the step.

INT. DARCY'S CAR, DESERTED PARKING LOT - EVENING

Darcy sits in the car looking out. Two teenagers are making out in a car nearby. They see her and drive away.

A tear rolls down her cheek. She sniffs and opens the GLOVE BOX to pull out a TISSUE. The wrap of COKE that she confiscated off Jason at the party, falls onto the floor. She stares at it for a long beat.

FLASHBACK to Jason on the hood of the car.

**JASON** 

Because when no-one else is there you can always rely on them to make you feel great.

Quick cuts:

- -Darcy knocks the coke onto a MATH TEXT BOOK
- -She carefully rolls a DOLLAR BILL
- -She sits staring at the over-sized lines of coke.
- -She pulls her head up and sniffs hard. She looks in the REAR VIEW MIRROR and wipes the white powder from her nose.
- -She sits tapping on the steering wheel. She swallows hard and reacts to the harsh taste of the coke going down the back of her throat.
- -Her breathing is faster, she licks her lips and moves her eyes franticly. She starts the car.

INT. CAR - EVENING

Darcy pulls up outside Mr Wright's house.

INT. WRIGHT'S HOUSE - SAME

Mr Wright opens the front door to Darcy. She looks agitated but wears a big smile to try and cover it.

DARCY Hi. Can I come in?

MR WRIGHT
Of course... Have you spoken to
Jason?

She wonders into the lounge. She's distracted and on edge. She looks at his things - PICTURES, NIC NACS.

DARCY

I saw the news piece about the Gladiator insect. Did you see it?

Mr Wright is hesitant - is this what she came to talk about?

MR WRIGHT

Yes. Yeah...they found it recently in Southern Africa.

Darcy picks up a PHOTOGRAPH of Mr Wright and a woman.

MR WRIGHT

That's my sister.

Darcy continues looking at his things. Mr Wright watches her - intrigued. He's leaning against the back of the SOFA.

MR WRIGHT

It's comparable to finding a mastodon or saber-toothed tiger. People are saying this new order could be a missing link to determining relationships between insects and other groups, it could give...

Darcy walks over to him and kisses him on the mouth. He's hesitant but doesn't pull away.

Darcy pulls back.

DARCY

I'm sorry.

Darcy stares at him - eyes wide and vulnerable.

INT. CAR - NIGHT

Darcy sits for a moment and then SLAMS her fists onto the STEERING WHEEL.

The front door to Wright's house opens and Wright looks out - concerned. Darcy quickly starts the car.

INT. VEGAS HOTEL SUITE - NIGHT

MODELS, ROCKERS and SHADY TYPES lounge in a pulsing hotel suite. Jason makes his way through to the bedroom - he's smoking and unsteady on his feet.

INT. HOTEL BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Two almost-naked girls are giggling on the bed. They're holding a MIRROR with lines of COKE racked up on it.

BRUNETTE Finally. You want a line?

He hesitates and looks closer at one of the girls. The brunette looks amazingly like Darcy.

Jason snorts a line and then immediately pushes the girl back onto the bed and starts forcefully making out with her. The blonde sits at the side - surpriséd.

BRUNETTE

Yeah, that's good. Come on, fuck me, Jason.

He stops and looks at her and then pulls away.

**JASON** 

Can you leave? I need to be on my own.

Confused, the girls wrap themselves in SHEETS and scurry out.

BRUNETTE

Fine, whatever.

Jason sits on the edge of the bed and dials a number on the hotel PHONE. Destiny, picks up.

JASON

Hey, it's me.

DESTINY (V.O.) What's up? You having fun?

JASON

Sure.

DESTINY (V.O.)
I bet you're glad to get away.
You're lucky you are. Turns out
your Miss Priss was hidin' some
secrets of her own.

**JASON** 

What are you talking about?

DESTINY (V.O.) Her sister was busted for prostitution. She's banged up and press are all over the street. Did you know her mother is the mayor? She's gunna be crucified.

JASON

What about Darcy?

DESTINY (V.O.)

She's done us a favor, babe. Press will be all over her family tomorrow.

Beat. Jason stares at the wall.

DESTINY (V.O.)

Jason...?

INT. DARCY'S CAR - NIGHT

Darcy drives through streets in the HEAVY RAIN. In the REAR VIEW MIRROR she sees a CAR following extremely close behind.

She pulls over to let it pass but it stops a few meters behind her. Then a guy gets out of the car with a CAMERA. Darcy quickly drives away. The car follows.

INT. DARCYS' CAR - CONTINUOUS

Darcy drives faster through the WET STREETS. Four CARS are now following behind her.

She struggles to see through the WINDSHIELD because of the pouring rain and keeps checking on the cars behind her.

She looks back to the road - a DEAD ANIMAL lies in her path. She swerves to avoid it, hits the breaks and her car skids across to the other side of the road just missing an oncoming TRUCK and then slides to a stop. Darcy stops still and tries to catch her breath. The drugs are still pumping through her veins.

She looks out the window. The PAPS pull over on the other side of the road. Darcy, now enraged, gets out the car and screams over to them.

DARCY
You happy? I could have been killed. Would that give you the press you wanted?

The sleazy journo runs over to her. He holds his hand out signalling the others to stay where they are.

SLEAZY JOURNO

You okay?

DARCY

What the hell do you think?

SLEAZY JOURNO

Just calm down okay. We just want a good pic and a statement and we'll be gone.

DARCY

I have nothing to say about Jason Dawes.

Darcy turns back to the car.

SLEAZY JOURNO Jason's old news, love. This is about your secret sister.

Darcy turns back to him in shock.

INT. POLICE STATION - NIGHT

Darcy sits in the corner of a busy police station waiting room. Her leg twitches and she tightly clutches her BAG.

HOMELESS MAN

It's safe in here.

Darcy startles. He looks at her bag and she smiles and releases her grip. Her eyes are still wide from the drugs.

POLICEWOMAN

Darcy Daniels.

INT. POLICE STATION, ROOM - NIGHT

Darcy sits across from a pale and frightened Kat.

DARCY

Dad said he doesn't have the money.

KAT

Right. Bet mom's pissed. Nail on the coffin for her isn't it?

Darcy watches Kat crack her KNUCKLES.

DARCY

I can't believe you've been lying to me this whole time.

KAT

I swear to fucking God. Wrighty was gunna be my last client but then this rich guy turned up out of nowhere. I was set up...

DARCY

...Wrighty? Who are you talking about?

KAT

I thought Jason told you?

DARCY

What the hell does he know about any of this?

Beat.

KAT

He followed me to Wright's house on Monday. I presume that's what their scuffle was about.

Beat.

DARCY <u>Mr Wright</u>?

Kat looks away.

KAT

He's been a regular. I wanted to tell you...

DARCY

But what? Why couldn't you? You'd lose a client? Money for your next

Kat looks at her hands.

DARCY

Jesus. Mom was right.

KAT

I knew he'd never touch you. He only uses working girls.

Beat. Darcy stares at her.

DARCY

Is he clean?

I don't know. I always wrap it up.

Beat.

Darcy pushes her chair back and puts her head between her knees to stop from fainting. The GUARD comes over to her.

GUARD
You okay? You need some water?

Darcy nods. He walks away. Darcy sits up - white as a ghost.

DARCY

I've always been there for you always.

KAT

(softly)
Yeah...with the text book answers to all my problems.

Darcy gets up and walks out.

MAT Darcy, I'm sorry. I'll make it right.

INT. POLICE STATION, BATHROOM - NIGHT

Darcy stumbles into the bathroom as an ELDERLY LADY pushes her way out. Darcy walks up to the SINK and clings on to it to steady herself.

DARCY (V.O.) Apparently we're lucky...

INT. MR WRIGHT'S HOUSE - FLASHBACK

Darcy has just kissed him. Mr Wright kisses her cheek. And then kisses down her neck. Darcy becomes aroused and leans back - allowing him access.

INT. POLICE STATION, BATHROOM - NIGHT

Darcy pulls her head up from the sink.

DARCY (V.O.)
Most animals in our kingdom go
through a multiple hormone
onslaught every new breeding
season. Whereas we humans only have
to go through it once - when we're
teenagers.

Water runs down her face. She dries herself with a PAPER TOWEL and stares into the MIRROR.

INT. MR WRIGHT'S HOUSE - FLASHBACK

They are on the SOFA. Darcy's SHIRT is open and Mr Wright is on top of her greedily unfastening his PANTS. Darcy's eyes are wide and almost roll back in her head.

DARCY (V.O.)
This hormonal assault explains our impassioned pursuit of sex.

INT. POLICE STATION, BATHROOM - NIGHT

A young women enters the bathroom and goes into a STALL. Darcy picks up her BAG and walks out.

INT. DARCY'S CAR - NIGHT

Darcy drives uneasily. She stops at a LIGHT. A man crosses on the cross-walk and looks straight at her.

DARCY (V.O.)
But because the region in our brains that put the brakes on risky, impulsive behavior are still under construction, our quest for satisfaction is sometimes... catastrophically miss-managed.

INT. MR WRIGHT'S HOUSE - FLASHBACK

We are close on Darcy's face. She's lying on beige CARPET and the back of Mr Wright's head comes in and out of view with every thrust. We move tighter into Darcy's cold eyes until

BEEP!!

INT. DARCY'S CAR - NIGHT

The lights are green. A frustrated driver swerves around her to get past, beeping as he goes.

INT. DARCY'S CAR - DARCY'S STREET - NIGHT

Darcy sits quietly in the car for a moment. The paps have gone. She gets out and walks towards Jason's house.

EXT. JASON'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

She rings the BELL and then steps back off the porch. Levi answers.

DARCY

Hey...Is Jason home?

LEVI

No, he's in Vegas and then going to LA. Are you okay?

DARCY

Yeah, thanks.

Darcy turns to go but then turns back.

DARCY

Oh, I know it's none of my business but if you ever want to talk...I helped Vivian through some tough times.

LEVI

Thanks. I guess I'm lucky to have Jason for that.

DARCY

Yeah, but I don't think he really understands...

Levi sits on the porch step. Darcy sits next to him.

LEVI

Look, I know you won't say anything but that whole scandal back in LA was over me.

DARCY

What?

LEVI It's so stupid...I thought I liked this guy so we started dating in secret. But turns out he was just in it for the press and organized a pap to get pictures of us. I freaked out and J smashed up the paps camera...and the rest you know... He shouldn't have gone so far but I needed him to step in. I didn't want to come out like that.

Mom didn't even know. I wasn't
ready and I don't think I'd have
been able to handle it...J's always
been good to me but since I was
sick he's been extra protective.

Mom and Dad haven't been there for Mom and Dad haven't been there for me but J always has. I love him...even though the fucker won't buy me a car.

Beat. Darcy stares into the darkness with regret.

DARCY

I had no idea.

LEVI

No one does. Well, except the teachers at school. They had to know the full story or they wouldn't have let Jason in.

Darcy digests that difficult piece of information.

DARCY

So, how do you feel about everything now?

Well...there is someone I really like.

DARCY

(smiling)
Yeah?

LEVI

I think I'm ready...but do you think he likes me?

Darcy just smiles.

INT. DARCY'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Darcy walks in and see's her Mom and Dad sitting on the sofa. Someone else is there. The woman turns around - <u>it's Destiny</u>.

DARCY

What do you want?

(scolding)

Darcy.

DESTINY

I wanted to talk to you.

DARCY

About what? Mom, Dad, can you give us a minute?

May and Bill walk out. Darcy pours herself a GLASS of WATER.

DESTINY

All this attention is going to be hard on your family. At least you'll know how it feels.

DARCY

If you've just come to brag...

DESTINY

Jason's gone, so I'd like you to be honest with me. What's the game?

DARCY I'm sorry?

DESTINY

You've been sniffing around Jason ever since we arrived - God, I saw you out there when the truck had just pulled up. Then you get him involved in some fund-raiser you concocted and convince him that he should stay in Jacksonville and finish high school...

DARCY

He said that?

DESTINY

Oh, so you're saying he came up with idea himself, did he? (MORE)

DESTINY (cont'd)
I've met a lot of girls in my time
but you are a real piece of work.
If you think that my son will fall
for some nobody like you, you are
as deluded as you are stupid.

DARCY

I won't say it again. If Jason said he wants to finish school it had nothing to do with me.

Destiny moves in closer.

DESTINY

We've all worked damn hard to get him where he is today and I will not let Miss Priss from nowhereville run in and ruin it for him.

DARCY

DESTINY

Don't you dare speak to me like that, you little whore. Who the hell do you think you are?

DARCY

Someone who can see you for exactly what you are and isn't afraid of your D list celebrity to say it.

Destiny slaps her. Darcy remains calm. Bill and May come in.

 $\mathtt{BILL}$ 

What the hell is going on? I want you out of my house now!

DARCY

It's okay, Dad. She's leaving.

Destiny goes to leave but then turns back to Darcy.

DESTINY

I want your word that you won't ever see him again.

DARCY

Why would it matter? You've made it perfectly clear that there is no way in the world he could ever have feelings for me.

Destiny stares at her.

DARCY

But if  $\underline{\text{he}}$  contacts  $\underline{\text{me}}$  that's his choice.

Destiny walks out. Darcy stands in the room - shaking.

 $\mathtt{BILL}$ 

Darcy? Was that about Jason? I didn't think you liked him.

DARCY

No, I don't. It's nothing.

Darcy goes to head up the stairs. May stops her.

MAY

When were you planning to tell me about your meetings with Kat?

BILL

(to May)

Leavè it.

MAY

No, she needs to know what she's done.

(to Darcy)

The press, who were following you because of your flirtations with Jason Dawes, saw you with Kat and one of them, who was bright enough to wonder who she was, started following her, saw she was on the game and then gave the police a tip off. The press have been kind enough to inform me that they will be leading with the story tomorrow. So I'm screwed and you can kiss Harvard goodbye.

Beat. Darcy quietly takes in the information.

MAY

You're a smart girl. Is there anything else you'd like to add to the equation?

Darcy stares at her and then at her father and then turns and goes up the stairs.

INT. DARCY'S ROOM - NIGHT

### MONTAGE

- Darcy sits starring out the window towards Jason's house.

DARCY (V.O.)

Hey, can you come over?

GINGER (V.O.)

Of course.

- Darcy cries and Ginger holds her.

- Darcy tells Ginger everything that happened.
- Darcy's PHONE rings. Ginger picks it up and turns it off. Then she turns her phone off.
- The two girls lay on the bed staring at the ceiling.

Darcy looks out the WINDOW. The sun is starting to come up.

DARCY

We need Vivian.

EXT. DARCY'S HOUSE, ROOFTOP - DAWN

Darcy, Ginger and Vivian are huddled under blankets on the roof looking up at the sky. Someone says something funny and they laugh.

Darcy smiles but then the smile fades and she turns on her side and sobs. Ginger turns to her and hugs her from behind. Vivian does the same to Ginger as the camera pulls away.

#### END MONTAGE

INT. DARCY'S KITCHEN - MORNING

Darcy sits at the table whilst Ginger and Vivian clatter around the kitchen burning BACON. May enters already dressed in her POWER SUIT. She's tired and angry.

MAY

Why are you sitting in the dark?

May opens one of the BLINDS and see's the PRESS outside. She quickly closes it again and pours a cup of COFFEE.

MAY

What have they said?

GINGER

Don't know. We've had our phones off.

DARCY

(to May)
What are you going to do?

I'm going to hand in my resignation.

Darcy looks at her hands. May walks back out the kitchen. Ginger sits opposite Darcy and speaks gently.

GINGER

What about Wright?

Darcy shrugs and looks away.

GINGER

You need to report it.

DARCY

I can't think about it, never mind talk about it.

There's BANGING on the front door. Darcy looks up in panic.

VIVIAN

I'll get it.

DARCY

Wait. What will you say?

VIVIAN

I'll tell them to fuck off.

They BANG again. Vivian walks through to answer it. Darcy moves to the sofa - pale.

Finally Vivian comes back through -  $\underline{\text{followed by Kat}}$ . Darcy gets up - shocked.

VIVIAN

The mysterious sister is here.

KAT

Hey.

DARCY

What happened? How did you get out?

KAT

Are you guys completely disconnected?

They look at her confused.

KAT

Someone came to my rescue... And mom's.

She hands Darcy a NEWSPAPER. The headline reads

DAWES STREAKS FOR ABSTINENCE AT RAZORBACKS FINAL WITH MISSOURI STATE

Emblazoned underneath is a picture of <u>Jason streaking naked</u> across a football field with the words 'ABSTINENCE IS SEXY' tattooed on his back.

We pull in on Darcy reading the article; relief spreads over her face.

In the background Kat gives another copy of the newspaper to Ginger and Vivian. They talk excitedly and as they turn on their PHONES hundreds of TEXT MESSAGES come through.

> GINGER When was this?

> > KAT

Last night. Everyone's talking about it...Jason bailed me out this morning and left.
(to Darcy)
Our problems are old news.

Darcy takes this information in, throws down the PAPER, grabs her BAG and runs to the door. May and Bill come through.

MAY

What's going on?

Darcy! I need to talk to you.

EXT. DARCY'S HOUSE - DAY

Darcy opens the door and falls into a swarming mass of JOURNALISTS, PHOTOGRAPHERS and TELEVISION REPORTERS.

She barges through indignantly to try and reach her CAR.

JOURNALIST Darcy, did you encourage Jason to streak at the game last night?

JOURNALIST 2

Do you condone his actions?

DARCY

Can I get through?

SLEAZY JOURNO

Darcy, despite his methods, Jason has provided a massive boost to the abstinence campaign. Can you tell us why it's so important to get this message out there?

Darcy is just about to get in her car...but hesitates. She looks around. All the journalists are waiting for her answer.

INT. DARCY'S HOUSE, LOUNGE - SAME

Vivian is watching out the window.

VIVIAN

Turn on the local news.

Ginger does so. Darcy is on.

INT. LIMO - DAY

Jason is surrounded by men and women in suits talking on CELL PHONES and analyzing the PRESS - this is damage control. The news is playing on the RADIO.

Wait, sshhh...everyone be quiet.

The suits pause to listen to the silent airwaves.

INT. RACHEL'S HOUSE - DAY

Students, including Wes and Jessica, watch TV. Jessica gets a text. She grabs the REMOTE CONTROL and changes the channel.

JESSICA Oh my God.

On TV Darcy looks down nervously and then back up to camera.

WES

(to the TV, sarcastic)
Rock us with those stats Darcy!

**JESSICA** 

Shut up.

DARCY

(on TV)

Last `night' I had unprotected sex.

The room falls silent.

What the ...?

EXT. DARCY'S HOUSE - DAY

DARCY

It was my first time and although it was consensual, it was the worst mistake of my life.

INT. DARCY'S HOUSE - DAY

May looks to Bill with regret and has to sit down.

INT. JASON'S LIMO - DAY

Jason listens to her.

DARCY (V.O.)
Sometimes we do things and we don't
even know why we do them. To lash
out, react, rebel or just feel
wanted. But these actions have
consequences.

JASON (to the driver) Take a left here!

The limo swerves around the corner.

INT. MR WRIGHT'S HOUSE - DAY

Mr Wright is packing his things into BOXES. He has the TV with Darcy on in the background but doesn't look at it.

DARCY (V.O.)
I'm a smart, informed teenager and yet I still endangered my life, risked an unwanted pregnancy and gave away something precious that I was saving for someone I loved.

The DOORBELL RINGS and Wright goes to answer it.

EXT. MR WRIGHT'S HOUSE - DAY

Wright opens the door. Jason stands there. Wright flinches but then regains his composure and gives a sly smile until:

Two POLICE CARS park and a FEMALE OFFICER walks up the drive. The PAPARAZZI take pictures.

OFFICER
We'll take it from here... Michael
Wright I'm arresting you for the
sexual abuse of minor Katherine
Daniels from the years 2003-2006.
You do not have to say anything...

EXT. DARCY'S HOUSE - DAY

The journalists are completely silent now - hanging off her every word.

SLEAZY JOURNO (softly)
Go on.

Darcy takes a breath.

DARCY
When it comes to sex, you don't have a take back. It's forever.

(MORE)

DARCY (cont'd)
And that doesn't just mean the
disease or the baby that you are in
no way ready for. It takes a part
of you that should only go people
you love and when you really want
them to have it. Abstinence doesn't
mean forever. It just means not
yet. Regrets are hard to live with.
It would be nice if we could all
have less of them.

JOURNALIST

And what about Jason Dawes? And your campaign?

DARCY

I think Jason is absolutely right. Abstinence is sexy...but staying safe is more important than just saying 'no'. One man's medicine is another man's poison.

(beat)

And as for the campaign...I thought I had all the answers but it seems facts and figures don't always teach us everything we need to know. Sometimes you've got to trust yourself and take a chance on the unknown.

The journalists push in with more questions and Darcy answers them.

### MONTAGE

- Vivian and Ginger are now outside fielding questions.
- May is standing with her arm around Darcy proudly talking to the press.
- Darcy sits talking with the remaining journalists. A LIMO drives past, Darcy see's it but has to carry on talking.

EXT. DARCY'S HOUSE - DAY

Everyone has gone. Darcy goes back into the house.

INT. DARCY'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

She can see Bill sitting in the back yard rocking contentedly back and forth on a chair and smoking a PIPE.

May and Kat are sitting on the couch. Kat has been crying and May comforts her. They don't seem to notice Darcy.

Darcy turns to go back out. May stands up.

MAY Where are you going young lady?

May walks up to Darcy and gives her a hug and kisses her on the forehead.

MAY

(softly)
I need to speak with Kat. But
later, me and you are gunna talk.

Darcy smiles. May walks back to Kat but then turns back.

MAY

So, this Jason boy...I know you don't like him but he seems like a pretty good catch...although his mother's a bitch.

Darcy smirks and walks out.

EXT. DARCY'S HOUSE - DAY

Darcy wonders outside and looks over to Jason's house. The GATES are closed and the LIGHTS are off. She watches the FIREFLIES dance in the grass.

INT. CAR- DAY

Darcy drives - her eyes distant.

DARCY (V.O.)
Every single thing we do, eat, feel or dream is a biological reaction - it's science telling us how to behave as though it has a plan for us.

INT. CAR - DAY

Darcy sits in the car. She looks up at the STD TESTING CLINIC, takes a breath and gets out the car.

DARCY (V.O.)
Hunger, fear, happiness, love, lust
- they are all reactions,
instructions, commands... and it's
up to us to decide if we want to
listen to them...

INT. CLINIC - DAY

Darcy comes out of a room with a nurse.

The room is packed with people. As Darcy walks through she notices people crowding around something or someone.

She see's <u>Jason sitting there</u> looking at himself in a GOSSIP MAGAZINE.

**JASON** 

I really don't think I look good in this picture.

Darcy smirks. Jason looks up at her. Darcy walks over and takes a look.

DARCY

No. You don't look as good with your clothes on.

Jason stands up and they stare at one another - serious.

**JASON** 

If you still hate me just say so and I'll go.

DARCY

I'm not certain of anything anymore, but I think hate might be an inappropriate word for the way I feel.

She takes his hand in hers.

EXT. CLINIC - DAY

Darcy and Jason exit the clinic hand in hand and walk into a mass of PAPARAZZI. They smile at one another and then stop and turn to one another.

DARCY (V.O.)
Should we listen to our hormones, our heads or our hearts? As far as I can tell we can try to control it but sometimes...you just gotta let mother nature take it's course.

FREEZE ON a PICTURE of Jason and Darcy kissing under the sign for the STD TESTING CLINIC.

CUT TO BLACK.

# END CREDITS:

A stage...quiet...a light flickers. Jason begins to sing ever so softly.

The music quickens...then crescendos...the lights come up and the crowd goes wild.

The fund raiser: RESPECT YOURSELF - PROTECT YOURSELF.