

UNTITLED COLLEGE SHOW

"Pilot"

Written By
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NETWORK DRAFT
11/27/13

COLD OPEN

SCENE A

FADE IN:

INT. PRESIDENT THIBAUT'S RESIDENCE (DAY 1)
(CHARLIE, MAX, GERALD, ARJAN, LAURA)

A LARGE, BEAUTIFUL WOOD-PANELED ROOM. A FEMALE A CAPPELLA GROUP IN WHITE DRESSES FINISHES A MADDENINGLY GENTLE AND SLOW VERSION OF KATY PERRY'S "ROAR."

A CAPPELLA GROUP

(DELICATE) 'CAUSE I AM A CHAMPION/AND
YOU'RE GONNA HEAR ME ROAR.

WE PAN OVER TO CABOT COLLEGE PRESIDENT LAURA THIBAUT, LATE 40S, STANDING AT A LECTERN IN FRONT OF A LARGE OIL PAINTING OF A STERN VICTORIAN WOMAN. THE ROOM IS FILLED WITH DOZENS OF YOUNG WOMEN, ALL WEARING FLORAL CROWNS.

LAURA

Thank you to the Susan Beat Anthoneez
for that wonderfully long rendition of
Katy Perry's "Rower." Empowerment, et
cetera. (SWITCHING GEARS) Welcome,
Cabot College class of 2018. Today we
gather together on Convocation Day,
all wearing garlands of lilacs. This
tradition dates back to 1870 when (RE:
PAINTING) our founder, Eudora T.
Barleysheath-Cabot, would adorn
herself in flowers because she was so
often mistaken for a man. But while
we hold tradition dear, we are also a
community that is open to change --

STUDENT (O.C.)

(FORMAL AND POLITE) Heckle! Heckle!

LAURA

Please! Let me finish! I'm holding
the Speaking Bunny!

SHE HOLDS UP A SMALL, ANTIQUE STUFFED RABBIT.

LAURA (CONT'D)

Cabot has always been a place for
progressive ideas. Like Eudora's
failed flying machine that killed so
many. And it is in that spirit that
we welcome with open arms the first
four male students in Cabot College
history.

WE ANGLE ON CHARLIE DECKARD, GERALD HOLZHAUSER, AND ARJAN SEJKO. THEY ALL HAVE FLOWERS IN THEIR HAIR AND WAVE WITH VARYING LEVELS OF CONFIDENCE.

CHARLIE

Can I say something? I am stunned
that our college president is only
twenty-seven years old. (TO WOMEN) Hi
everyone, I'm --

LAURA

This isn't a time for you to talk!
(LOOKING AROUND) Where's the fourth
one? The tiny, kind of New Yorky,
curly-haired... I'm trying so hard not
to say Jewish. Where is he?

MAX LEWIS BURSTS THROUGH A DOOR NEAR LAURA, LEGS CROSSED.

MAX

(AGITATED) Pee-pee emergency! I
cannot find a men's room anywhere!

LAURA LEANS OVER TO MAX.

LAURA

(TIGHT SMILE) Oh dear. There might
not actually be one. You're a boy.
Can't you just go behind a tree?

MAX

Madam, I am not an animal. And also --
HE SHEEPISHLY HOLDS UP TWO FINGERS. LAURA'S EYES GO WIDE.

MAX (CONT'D)

We don't have much time.

LAURA

(QUICKLY) We conclude by singing our
Alma Mater.

THE LEAD SUSAN BEAT ANTHONEE BLOWS A HIGH "A" ON A PITCH
PIPE, THEN:

EVERYONE

TO ALMA MATER CABOT'S DAUGHTERS ALL
TOGETHER JOIN AND SING --

IT'S MUCH TOO HIGH A KEY FOR THE GUYS. THEIR LOUD, DEEP
VOICES DON'T BLEND AT ALL.

LAURA

(ANNOYED) Up here, boys.

THE GUYS TRY TO PITCH HIGHER. IT'S JUST UPSETTING.

EVERYONE

WE GIVE OURSELVES AS BLOOMING FLOWERS --

LAURA

EVERYONE

(SINGING A LOWER THIRD) CAN WISDOM TO DRINK AND JOY TO
YOU SING A LOWER THIRD? CAN BRING --
YOU SING HERE? (FRUSTRATED)
You're ruining it.

MAX

All the blood has gone to my colon
muscles. I'm getting light-headed --
(PASSING OUT, GIBBERISH)
Spidermanlizardcereal!

HE FALLS, HITTING THE LECTERN, KNOCKING OVER FLOWERS AND
BUMPING INTO THE PORTRAIT OF EUDORA. A BEAT.

A CAPPELLA GROUP

(BEAUTIFUL HARMONY) THAT WENT WELL!

CUT TO:

MAIN TITLES

ACT ONE

SCENE B

FADE IN:

INT. DORM ROOM - MOMENTS LATER (DAY 1)

(CHARLIE, MAX, GERALD, ARJAN, LAURA, MABEL)

A TYPICAL COLLEGE DORM SUITE, FEATURING A COMMON AREA WITH TWO BEDROOMS OFF OF IT. GERALD IS UNPACKING GLASS BOTTLES OF MILK AND PUTTING THEM IN A MINI FRIDGE. ARJAN ENTERS WITH A DIRTY MILITARY BACKPACK AND PULLS UP.

ARJAN

My friend. Why so much milk?

GERALD

Just a little taste of home. I grew up on a farm. This is from my family's cows. (PICKING UP BOTTLE, REALIZING) Oops, and my sister. She'll need that for the triplets.

HE PUTS IT IN THE FRIDGE FOR SAFE-KEEPING.

ARJAN

Is coincidence! You grew up on farm, I grew up in abandoned chemical factory. Which in my language is called farmb. (STICKING OUT HAND) Arjan Sejko. Albania.

GERALD

(SHAKING HANDS) Gerald Holzhauser. America! I guess we're roomies!

ARJAN

I call floor nearest heat source!

(RE: BEDROOM, THRILLED) Beds?!

LAURA ENTERS, SUPPORTING A STILL SHAKY MAX. HE TAKES A FEW STEPS INTO THE ROOM.

MAX

Thanks for the help. I have circulation problems. My doctors say my heart's only big enough to support something the size of a weasel.

MABEL HIGGINS, 80, WEARING A CAMPUS POLICE UNIFORM, ENTERS. SHE'S HOLDING MAX'S BAGS AND DROPS THEM ON THE FLOOR.

MABEL

This is BS. I'm not a porter, Laura. I'm the campus police chief and your bodyguard.

LAURA

We have been through this, Mabel, you are not my bodyguard. We tried it for one day and you Tased me!

MABEL

(CRANKY) Well, those things have so many buttons...

MABEL EXITS. LAURA TURNS TO THE GROUP.

LAURA

Okay, listen up. The four of you --
(NOTICING) Where's the fourth one?

(MORE)

LAURA (CONT'D)

Good hair, tall... I'm trying not to
say handsome --

CHARLIE BURSTS INTO THE ROOM, ENTHUSIASTICALLY MAKING OUT
WITH SAMANTHA, A PRETTY SOPHOMORE. LAURA REACTS.

LAURA (CONT'D)

Oh for the love of --

SHE PULLS THEM APART. CHARLIE ROLLS WITH IT.

CHARLIE

Hey everyone! Charlie Deckard. Good
to see you again, President Thibault.
("WE'RE FRIENDS NOW") Laura --

LAURA

President Thibault. (TO SAMANTHA)
Miss Fertik, you're excused. And if I
remember correctly, you're supposed to
be manning the suicide hotline right
now.

SAMANTHA RUNS OFF. LAURA TURNS ON THE BOYS.

LAURA (CONT'D)

Gentlemen. As you may know, there was
considerable opposition to coeducation
at Cabot. Some of our alumnae were
quite vocal, including a Supreme Court
justice I won't name. Even though she
called me a lot of names, including
the Spanish term for "jackal-faced
witch."

MAX

It was Sotomayor. Got it.

LAURA

(IGNORING HIM) People are going to be watching you very closely. Including me. So let's all try to comport ourselves like Cabot women. Men. Humans. Whatever. (THEN, POLITE SMILE) Thank you. Welcome to Cabot.

SHE EXITS WITH DIGNITY. CHARLIE CLAPS HIS HANDS, EXCITED.

CHARLIE

Dudes, I am so glad I decided to come here! We're gonna be hooking up constantly. (PUMPING FIST, CHANTING) Sex College! Sex College! This is a chant, guys. Come on! Sex Coll--

NO ONE CHANTS. CHARLIE PUTS HIS HAND DOWN.

GERALD

I'm sorry, I'm not here for (WHISPERED) night-time knowing. As a Mormon, I can't participate in any (WHISPERED) intimacy until marriage.

CHARLIE

But that body of yours is built for sex! (HEARS IT, SHAKES IT OFF) You're seriously not here for the women?

GERALD

Oh no. I 'm here because Cabot has
the number one Ornithology
Conservation program in North America.
And yeah, I'm including Canada.

CHARLIE SHAKES HIS HEAD, DISAPPOINTED.

ARJAN

Arjan will not be having sex either.
Cannot be distracted until field
hockey season is over. That's why I'm
here. Number one D-three program in
America!

CHARLIE

But field hockey's for... girls.

ARJAN GRABS HIM BY THE FACE, INTENSE.

ARJAN

Really? Is speed-walking for girls?
Team handball? Floor exercise?

CHARLIE

(GENUINE) I don't know!

ARJAN LETS HIM GO, CALMING DOWN.

ARJAN

I'm sorry but field hockey is toughest
sport in world! Is hockey (LOWERING
THE BOOM) on grass.

CHARLIE

(BEAT, THEN) Okay, so Arjan's out.

(TO MAX) What about you, little buddy?

Please tell me you're here for the
women.

MAX

In a way, I am here because of the
women. Being surrounded by them will
make it easier to study.

CHARLIE

(LEGITIMATELY CONFUSED) Study? What
are you talking about? This is
college.

MAX

I have five older brothers. Growing
up, all I cared about was reading and
learning. But all they cared about
was football, basketball, baseball,
and year-round, a sport called
"throwing Max into active stoves."

CHARLIE

Who's Max?

MAX

Me. I just said that.

CHARLIE

Not a ton of charisma. We're gonna
work on that.

(MORE)

CHARLIE (CONT'D)

Especially since you, by process of elimination, just became my wingman.

MAX

Sorry, not interested. Now that I've finally escaped my brothers, all I want is four years of peace and quiet with no one throwing anything at my head or putting my toothbrush in the dog.

CHARLIE PUTS HIS ARM AROUND MAX, NOT GIVING UP.

CHARLIE

But think about the fun we could have here. We could be legends. In twenty years, they'll still be talking about us. Charlie and Mark.

ARJAN

I believe his name is Mike.

MAX

It's Max!

CHARLIE

Right. (SIZING MAX UP) You do have some potential. Let's just pull you out of that shell, tiny turtle.

CHARLIE APPROACHES MAX AND TAKES HIS GLASSES OFF.

CHARLIE (CONT'D)

See, you're actually pretty
handsome... (NOTICING) Oh God, what's
happening to your eye?! It's rolling
around!

GERALD

Put the glasses back on him. Please!

CHARLIE DOES.

MAX

That eye thing's a new one. Just
started happening.

CHARLIE

Okay. So we have some work to do.
But I won't give up, because I will
not just stand by and watch someone
waste four years studying at (CHANTING
AGAIN) Sex College! Come on, at least
say it with me. Sex College!

CHARLIE POINTS TO MAX, THEN GERALD, THEN ARJAN.

MAX

Learning College.

GERALD

I-can't-say-that-word College!

ARJAN

Universiteti Marrëdhënie!

CHARLIE SIGHS, FRUSTRATED.

CUT TO:

SCENE C

INT. DORM COMMON AREA - A LITTLE LATER (DAY 1)
(CHARLIE, MAX, GERALD, ARJAN, THENA, BECCA)

A COMMON AREA WITH A BUNCH OF COUCHES AND A TV. THE FRESHMAN WOMEN ARE MILLING AROUND. MAX SITS IN A CORNER READING WHILE CHARLIE SCOPES OUT THE CROWD. NEARBY, GERALD AND ARJAN STUFF THEIR FACES AT A SNACK TABLE. GERALD HOLDS UP A CHEETO.

GERALD

(MOUTH FULL) These are delicious!

What do you think it is?!

ARJAN

Best guess, fried cat penis.

GERALD NODS. THEY CONTINUE TO EAT. BECCA MORSE, CONFIDENT AND JOCK-ISH, APPROACHES THE GROUP.

BECCA

Dudes, what's up? I'm Becca. I'm the dorm "Big Sister."

CHARLIE

Becca, are you going to be insulted if I don't hit on you?

BECCA

God no! Super gay. Like, bolo tie to the prom gay.

CHARLIE NODS, "THAT'S WHAT I THOUGHT."

BECCA (CONT'D)

Look, for reals, I know some people aren't too happy you guys are here, but I'm psyched. We will be talking football later.

(MORE)

BECCA (CONT'D)

And Miley Cyrus's body. I just can't
tell if it's good or not!

SHE PUNCHES MAX IN THE ARM, SENSING WEAKNESS. MAX REACTS,
"WHAT THE HELL?" AS BECCA TURNS BACK TO THE ROOM.

BECCA (CONT'D)

Okay, freshpeople! Welcome to the
first Thayer Hall dorm meeting!
Before we do rules and distribute
everyone's welcome rape whistles,
let's introduce ourselves. (POINTS TO
MAX) Fetus, you start.

MAX STANDS UP, LOOKING VERY NERVOUS.

MAX

Okay, I'm usually a pretty awkward
public speaker. Ve-ry nervous.
What's fun about me? My mom died when
I was two and I sweat a lot --

CHARLIE CLAPS AND STEPS IN FRONT OF HIM.

CHARLIE

Alright. Thanks Max.

MAX SITS, GRATEFUL. CHARLIE PATS HIM ON THE BACK,
SYMPATHETIC. BECCA SNAP-POINTS AT GERALD.

BECCA

Thor, go!

GERALD STEPS FORWARD, A LITTLE BASHFUL.

GERALD

Hi, I'm Gerald Holzhauser. I'm from a little town called Holzhauserville, Utah, and this is actually my first time away from home.

THE WOMEN ALL "AWWWW" SYMPATHETICALLY.

GERALD (CONT'D)

My dream is to be a forest ranger and help animals because they can't help themselves.

MORE "AWWWW"S FROM THE GROUP. CHARLIE ROLLS HIS EYES.

CHARLIE

(TO HIMSELF) This is such a waste.

GERALD

I'm right-handed --

EVEN MORE ENTHUSIASTIC "AWWWW"S.

MAX

(ANNOYED) What are you aww-ing at? Most people are right-handed. You heard me say my mom died, right?!

SEVERAL GIRLS ANGRILY SHUSH HIM. BECCA SNAPS AT ARJAN.

BECCA

Balki McBorat. Shoot.

ARJAN

Am Arjan. Very uncomfortable with all the uncovered heads here, so will keep my remarks brief.

HE SITS DOWN. A BEAT. THAT'S IT. BECCA POINTS TO CHARLIE.

BECCA

Ben Affleck that hasn't been put in
the oven yet. Go.

CHARLIE STANDS UP.

CHARLIE

Hi. I'm Charlie Deckard, and I'm so
happy to be here. You know, my whole
life I planned to go to Princeton.
That's where my dad went. But then I
took a tour here and saw all of you
powerful, smart women, and I thought
("CHOKING UP") wouldn't the world be a
better place if it was run by women?
(THEN) There's a poem I love --

"OVERCOME," HE TURNS AWAY. BECCA LEANS IN.

BECCA

(WHISPERING) Nice, player. You got
some moves. You just stay in your
half of the pool, we'll be fine.

CHARLIE

Copy that. (TURNING BACK TO WOMEN)
This was written by the great Swift.
"All I knew this morning when I
woke/Is I know something now/Know
something now I didn't before --"

THENA MACREADY, PRETTY BUT SERIOUS, HAS ENTERED. SHE IS WEARING A "REJECT THE CABOT FOUR" T-SHIRT. SHE HAS THREE UNDERLINGS BEHIND HER, ALSO WEARING THE T-SHIRTS.

THENA

Don't fall for this, sisters. He's quoting Taylor Swift.

CHARLIE

("APPALLED") And her writing isn't valid 'cause she's a woman? I came here to escape that kind of thinking.

BECCA

Thena, this meeting is for first-years only --

THENA

(IGNORING HER) Everyone, my name is Thena Macready and I am starting a petition to throw these (DISDAIN) non-women off our campus. For 142 years, Cabot College has been the preeminent women's college in the country. We have produced senators, Nobel Laureates, the Navy's first female fighter pilot. And even though she got lost, started crying, and crashed her plane, we are still proud of her. (RE: GUYS) These men are a pox. This campus was once a modern-day Athens --

MAX

There still is an Athens. And it's terrible.

THENA

(HIGH HORSE) Interrupting someone is word rape.

MAX

Hold on. Now I am used to people hating me, but they usually have valid reasons. Awkwardness. Thinking I'm smarter than everyone, which I am. Uncontrollable (HIGH-PITCHED) voice cracking. But you don't even know us. This is discrimination!

CHARLIE CROSSES OVER TO HER.

CHARLIE

He's right. Listen, sweetheart --

THENA

Control word!

CHARLIE

Sorry angel. You seem very tense. Now I studied massage in Thailand (TO GROUP) where I was building an orphanage for messed-up kids. No "aww"? Really? (BACK TO THENA) Let me just --

CHARLIE GOES TO MASSAGE THENA'S SHOULDERS. SHE PUSHES HIS HANDS AWAY.

THENA

Get away from me! Who the hell do you think you are?!

CHARLIE COCKS HIS HEAD, WHEELS TURNING.

CHARLIE

I'm sorry, have we met before?

THENA

Why, does a woman yelling at you seem familiar? (TO THE ROOM) To anyone interested, there's a Reject the Cabot Four meeting tonight at eight. (THREATENING) There will. Be. Snacks.

SHE EXITS, VICTORIOUS. CHARLIE WATCHES HER GO, THINKING. GERALD COUGHS. ALL THE WOMEN TURN TO HIM.

WOMEN

Awwwwwwwwwwww!

CUT TO:

SCENE D

INT. CABOT COLLEGE DINING HALL - LATER (DAY 1)
(GERALD, ARJAN, BECCA)

GERALD AND ARJAN EAT IN THE DINING HALL. BECCA JOINS THEM.

BECCA

Listen, Gerald, I need your help with something.

GERALD

Oh great! Just super!

BECCA

I'm dating this girl, Megan. I really like her, but I'm afraid she's a LUG.
(OFF CONFUSED LOOK) That stands for Lesbian Until Graduation.

GERALD

(VERY UNCOMFORTABLE) Oh dear.

BECCA

I know. It's a huge problem here. Girls have relationships with women until they leave school, and then they're "straight" again. I want to be with someone who's in it for the long haul. A LUD. Lesbian Until Death.

GERALD

That sounds... real neat, but I don't see how I can help.

BECCA

I do. You take that (OLD CAR HORN SOUND) aoogah face of yours, go flirt with Megan, see if she responds. Then I'll know if she's really gay or just half-assing it.

GERALD SHAKES HIS HEAD, HATING THIS.

GERALD

Can't I help you with something else? Do you have a fence that needs mending? Or a raccoon that needs to be strangled?

ARJAN

Gerald, good friend, you must do as Becca asks. Lesbians are special people. In Albania they take care of stray dogs. Otherwise, cities overrun with dog! (TO BECCA, SINCERE) I respect your people very much.

BECCA

Thank you. I do love dogs.

BECCA PUTS A HAND ON GERALD'S SHOULDER, TAKING A NEW TACK.

BECCA (CONT'D)

Look, Gerald, I know family is really important to Mormons, and I am your "Big Sister" so... help your sister out.

GERALD NODS, TAKING THIS IN.

GERALD

Gosh, well, I guess you got me there.

(THEN) Okay, sis. I'll do it.

BECCA

Thanks. You're a solid dude. (THEN)

I'm gonna get some ice cream. You
guys want?

ARJAN

(STUNNED) How do you have ice cream?!

(THEN, GETTING IT) Oh, I see. Someone
shot down Italian cargo plane. What a
treat!

HE GETS UP TO FOLLOW BECCA.

CUT TO:

SCENE E

INT. CLASSROOM HALLWAY - A LITTLE LATER (DAY 1)
(CHARLIE, THENA, GABBY)

CHARLIE SITS ON A BENCH OUTSIDE A DOORWAY. WE CAN HEAR MUFFLED MUSIC FROM WITHIN. THENA ENTERS AND STARTS TO STAPLE "REJECT THE CABOT FOUR" FLYERS ON A BILLBOARD.

CHARLIE

(BRIGHT) Hi again! (OFF NON-RESPONSE)

It's Charlie. One of the four men here. That you hate.

THENA

Is there a reason you're sitting here?

CHARLIE

(RE: DOOR) The Cabot College Experimental Dance Troupe is having try-outs inside. They're making first cuts, so a bunch of flexible, crying girls are about to come out this door.

THENA

You are a monster.

CHARLIE

And you're very judgmental. So we both have flaws. (THEN) Hey, say the word "monster" again.

THENA

No. What am I? A -- (SLIGHT BOSTON ACCENT) -- cockatiel?

CHARLIE

There it is. Do I detect a New
England accent? Specifically
Nantucket? I summer there. I winter
in Aspen. And I fall for you. (THEN)
For what it's worth, that line has
worked.

THENA

Don't worry about where I'm from.

THENA TURNS TO WALK AWAY. CHARLIE CALLS AFTER HER.

CHARLIE

Hey, that's a nice red sweater.
Reminds me of my favorite meal - clam
chowder.

THENA

(CAN'T HELP IT, EXPLODES) Are you
crazy?! Clam chowder isn't red! It's
white! Like a delicious bowl of
melted soap!

CHARLIE

Yeah, I knew it. You're a Masshole.

CHARLIE HOLDS HIS HAND UP TO BLOCK HER HAIR.

CHARLIE (CONT'D)

Have you changed your hair color? I
feel like I've seen those lips
before...

AS HE FRAMES PARTS OF HER FACE WITH HIS HANDS...

THENA

Wow. Reducing women to body parts --

CHARLIE

But I'd remember if I'd met someone
named Thena. Such an odd name.

THENA

It's short for Athena. Goddess of
wisdom, architecture, and warfare.
But not dumb male war. Good war!

CHARLIE LOOKS AT HER FOR A LONG BEAT THEN SHAKES HIS HEAD.

CHARLIE

Yeah, I'd remember a girl named
Athena. I guess we've never met.

THENA GESTURES, "THAT'S WHAT I'VE BEEN SAYING." CHARLIE
TURNS TO GO SIT BACK DOWN, THEN TURNS BACK TO HER.

CHARLIE (CONT'D)

Unless, you're one of those girls who
gets to college and changes
everything. Her hair, the way she
dresses, even her name. All of a
sudden you're a feminist named Thena
and you don't want anyone to know that
you used to be (FINALLY REMEMBERING)
Tiffany, who worked at the Pool Club
and made out with me at Tuckernuck
Beach!

THENA

(OUTRAGED) I never... worked at the
pool club!

CHARLIE

Tiff! What's up? Your drink still
peach schnapps and orange juice?

THENA PULLS HIM ASIDE, AGITATED.

THENA

I want you to listen to me, Charlie
Deckard. If you have any decency, you
will keep your mouth shut about
that... unfortunate evening.

CHARLIE

"Unfortunate?" You threw up peach
schnapps on a dead jellyfish! It was
awesome!

THENA

I am a different person here. A
better person. Tiffany is dead.
Thena is a strong, powerful --

CHARLIE

-- possibly schizophrenic --

THENA

-- amazing woman who's too strong to
get sucked in by (RE: CHARLIE) some
cheesily handsome d-bag who pretends
to listen to her all night but then
never calls her back!

CHARLIE

Thank you for calling me handsome.
You're also very beautiful.

THENA

You're not following this conversation
well!

CHARLIE

Actually I am. You're not mad that
men are here. You're mad that I'm
here.

THENA ROLLS HER EYES AND STARTS OUT.

CHARLIE (CONT'D)

Look, there's a reason I never called
you back --

THENA TURNS AROUND, CUTTING HIM OFF.

THENA

No. Irrelevant. I don't care.

CHARLIE

(BEAT) Then why are you still standing
there?

GABBY, A PRETTY, CRYING WOMAN IN A LEOTARD, EXITS FROM THE DOORWAY. CHARLIE TURNS TO HER.

CHARLIE (CONT'D)

(TENDER) Heeeeey. What's wrong?

GABBY

(SNIFFLING) They just cut me.

CHARLIE

("SHOCKED") You? I saw you in there.

I thought you were the teacher!

HE PUTS AN ARM AROUND GABBY AND ESCORTS HER OUT, WINKING AT A DISGUSTED THENA AS HE EXITS.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

SCENE H

INT. DORM ROOM - LATER THAT NIGHT (NIGHT 1)
(CHARLIE, MAX, GERALD, ARJAN)

MAX, GERALD, AND ARJAN ARE THERE. CHARLIE ENTERS FROM HIS BEDROOM WITH A BOWL AND SOME BOTTLES OF LIQUOR. HE POURS THE LIQUOR INTO THE BOWL.

MAX

What are you doing? (GETTING EXCITED)

Is it a science experiment?!

CHARLIE

It's booze. We're having a party.

Which will be the first of many, guys.

MAX

What? No. We can't. I have to read all my textbooks before classes start and check them for spelling errors.

GERALD

Also, it's seven o'clock. We all need to be in bed in an hour.

MAX

And a party doesn't just start. Your grandmother has to ask you to come to it.

ARJAN

At very least we need invitation goat.

CHARLIE RUBS HIS FACE, "THESE GUYS ARE USELESS."

CHARLIE

We don't need an invitation goat.
Over the summer I used the class
directory to rank every woman here by
hotness. Earlier today I emailed an
invitation to all the eights. I know
they'll come because they don't get
invited to everything. Also they'll
bring the sevens to make themselves
look good. Meanwhile, the nines and
tens, who aren't used to being left
out, will get mad and show up with
something to prove. Buckle up, gents.

MAX

You do understand that none of us want
to have a party, right?

THERE'S A KNOCK AT THE DOOR.

CHARLIE

I'm sorry, Max. I know you don't want
this, but sometimes you have to be
kicked through a door.

MAX

Trust me, I've been kicked through a
lot of doors. It hurts.

CHARLIE OPENS THE DOOR. FOUR SMILING WOMEN ARE THERE.

CUT TO:

SCENE J

INT. DORM ROOM - LATER (NIGHT 1)

(CHARLIE, MAX, GERALD, ARJAN, BECCA, MEGAN, ASHLEY)

THE PARTY IS IN FULL SWING. CHARLIE APPROACHES MAX, WHO IS AT HIS DESK, READING. HE'S WEARING A HUGE SET OF HEADPHONES.

CHARLIE

Max. Hey, Max! Max!

MAX KEEPS STUDYING. CHARLIE PICKS UP A NERF FOOTBALL AND THROWS IT AT MAX'S HEAD.

MAX

(INSTINCTIVE) Ethan, cut it out I'll
tell Daddy!

MAX REACTS, EMBARRASSED. CHARLIE PULLS HIS HEADPHONES OFF.

CHARLIE

Okay, wingman, time to saddle up.

MAX

I already told you. I'm not your
wingman.

CHARLIE

Listen to me, Max. You need to start
living. When you are on your
deathbed, what do you want around you?
A bunch of dusty old books, or the
hundreds of hot women you've bagged,
all of them clawing each other's eyes
out, fighting to get close enough to
you to perform one last disgusting
act?

MAX

Can I pick neither? Both of those options sound horrible.

CHARLIE

Look, I get it. You're scared. You don't know how to talk to girls. But they're just people. And what do people like?

MAX

"Doctor Who" figurines?

CHARLIE

To feel good about themselves. Just compliment them. Watch this.

ARJAN PASSES BY.

ARJAN

This is good party. Many women. Zero Macedonians.

CHARLIE

Well, it wouldn't be half as good if it wasn't for that smile of yours.

ARJAN

Oh my God! Thank you! Is so sweet!

ARJAN TAKES CHARLIE'S HEAD IN HIS HANDS AND KISSES HIM ON THE MOUTH. FOR TOO LONG. HE WALKS AWAY.

CHARLIE

(THROWN) So, point proven?

ANGLE ON GERALD IN A CORNER, LOOKING OVERWHELMED. BECCA APPROACHES AND PULLS HIM ASIDE.

BECCA

Dude, it's time. Megan's right over there. And she's pretty drunk.

BECCA GESTURES TO MEGAN, WHO IS DOWNING SOME OF THE PUNCH.

BECCA (CONT'D)

Go chat her up. Check. The. Gay.

GERALD

(BIG SIGH) Okay. But first I need some liquid courage.

GERALD PICKS UP ONE OF HIS BOTTLES OF MILK AND STARTS CHUGGING IT. HE IMMEDIATELY SPITS IT OUT, DISGUSTED.

GERALD (CONT'D)

That's my sister's! (THEN, TASTING)

Ugh, and she's been eating asparagus!

IGNORING THIS, BECCA PUSHES HIM ACROSS THE ROOM, PAST CHARLIE, WHO IS LEADING ASHLEY, A CUTE GIRL IN HIPSTER GLASSES, A FITTED BABY TEE AND A "DR. WHO" SCARF, OVER TO MAX. CHARLIE PULLS OFF MAX'S HEADPHONES.

CHARLIE

Max, this is Ashley. She told me this is (WITH MEANING) her "Dr. Who" scarf.

ASHLEY

(LAUGHING) I'm a huge sci-fi nerd.

CHARLIE HOVERS BEHIND HER, NODDING ENCOURAGEMENT, AS MAX GIVES ASHLEY A ONCE-OVER.

MAX

No you're not.

ASHLEY

I'm sorry, what?

CHARLIE

(WHISPERED) Compliment her!

MAX

You're not a nerd. Nerds don't wear slutty t-shirts that show off their flat stomachs - compliment. And your glasses are clearly not prescription, they just make your eyes look big like Japanese cartoon porn - compliment. Also, your "Dr. Who" scarf has the wrong color order, but why would you care? You don't have to do things correctly because pretty people - compliment - go through their whole lives getting away with mediocrity.

UPSET, ASHLEY SHOVES PAST HIM, HEADING FOR THE DOOR. CHARLIE PATS HIM ON THE BACK, SYMPATHETIC.

CHARLIE

Look, okay, baby steps. That was a good start and --

MAX

Charlie, enough! I told you I came here to be left alone. So do me a favor and leave me alone. Okay?

CHARLIE SIGHS AS MAX SITS BACK DOWN AT HIS DESK AND PUTS ON HIS HEADPHONES. NEARBY, GERALD PLOPS DOWN NEXT TO BECCA.

GERALD

(BIG SMILE) Becca, great news.

BECCA

(PLEASED) Really? You didn't get any sexual vibe from Megan?

GERALD

Not a hint. In fact, she wants all of us to have a three-way!

BECCA

What?

GERALD

Yep. In her room. Tomorrow night. Now "three-way" is a new term for me, but from what Megan said, it seems like we're all going to have some sort of meal --

BECCA

It's sex, Gerald. A three-way is when three people have sex.

GERALD

(SCANDALIZED) No! How would that even -- (REALIZING) Ooooooh. (REALIZING AGAIN) Nope. That wouldn't work. I still don't understand.

A VERY DRUNK MEGAN SITS DOWN BETWEEN THE TWO OF THEM.

MEGAN

Why don't we jus' get this goin' now.

MEGAN GRABS GERALD AND BECCA'S HEADS AND TRIES TO FORCE THEM TO KISS. THEY BOTH REACT, HORRIFIED.

BECCA

Stop! Gerald, stop her!

GERALD

I'm trying! She's so strong!

BECCA

(FIGHTING MEGAN) Which suggests...

she is... gay!

INT. DORM COMMON AREA - SAME TIME
(THENA)

THENA PACES IN FRONT OF HER UNDERLINGS AND SEVERAL NEW RECRUITS, ALL WEARING "REJECT THE CABOT FOUR" T-SHIRTS.

THENA

I have a four-step plan to save Cabot College. Coordinate protests across campus. Unify the female population against the men. Network with alumnae, get them on our side, and take back our school. Coordinate. Unify. Network. Take back. Or, C-U-N- (HEARING IT) We need a new plan.

SUDDENLY, THENA HEARS A PIERCING WHISTLE. HER EYES GO WIDE.

THENA (CONT'D)

Ohmigod! Whistle! Someone's getting raped or starting soccer practice!

SHE RUNS OUT.

INT. DORM ROOM - MOMENTS LATER
(CHARLIE, MAX, GERALD, ARJAN, BECCA, THENA, MABEL, MEGAN)

THENA BURSTS IN, FOLLOWED BY A SLOW-MOVING MABEL. THE PARTY HAS GROUND TO AN AWKWARD HALT.

THENA

What's going on?! Who blew the rape
whistle?

GERALD

(RAISING HAND) I did. Megan touched
my underwear area.

MEGAN

Whuh? I jus' touched under yer shirt!

GERALD

My underwear goes from my neck to my
ankles!

THENA

This place is filled with alcohol.
(TRIUMPHANT) I can't believe this. I
thought I was going to have to work to
get you guys off campus. But you're
breaking about twenty college rules
here. You're all finished.

STUNNED SILENCE. A BEAT.

MABEL

I would like a glass full of gin,
please. No ice.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

SCENE K

FADE IN:

INT. PRESIDENT THIBAULT'S RESIDENCE - LATER (NIGHT 1)
(CHARLIE, MAX, GERALD, ARJAN, LAURA, THENA, MABEL)

THE GUYS SIT IN FRONT OF AN ANNOYED LAURA, WHO IS BEHIND HER
DESK. MABEL SITS IN THE BACKGROUND. THENA PACES.

THENA

Alcohol being served to minors.
Multiple fire code violations. No
vegan snack options.

ARJAN

Is true. Mostly fried cat penis --

LAURA

(CAN'T BELIEVE IT) Day one, gentlemen.
This is day one.

THENA

These are expellable offenses. Mabel
here will be filing a formal report.

MABEL

Sorry, I did not bring a pen. I can't
keep any pens in my house because
Bitsy chews them.

CHARLIE STANDS.

CHARLIE

Look. Thena's blowing this out of
proportion. This wasn't even a party.
It was more of a... chill hang.

LAURA

Don't say "chill hang" to me. I have a PhD in economics. Mr. Deckard, where did the alcohol come from?

CHARLIE

Um. I think it was kind of everybody's, right? I don't remember the details --

MAX

That's not true! It was Charlie's alcohol. I just wanted to study but he insisted. This was all his fault!

CHARLIE

Dude, not cool! Bro code!

LAURA

What is he talking about? Define "bro code!" (THEN) Forget it, I don't care. Mr. Holzhauser, Mr. Sejko, is what Mr. Lewis is saying true?

GERALD AND ARJAN BOTH NOD, RELUCTANTLY. CHARLIE WHEELS ON THEM, DEFENSIVE.

CHARLIE

Come on! What is everyone's problem?! We're at college! This is supposed to be the best time of my life, and instead I'm surrounded by a nerd, a Mormon, whatever Arjan is --

ARJAN

(MATTER OF FACT) Albanian Orthodox
Montenegrin, one quarter vampyr.

CHARLIE

-- and a man-hater. This sucks! I
should have gone to Princeton.

THENA

(SCOFFING) "Princeton." Really?

CHARLIE

Yeah. My dad went there. My
grandfather went there. But I came
here 'cause I thought it'd be fun.

THENA

I don't think so. You came here
because there was nowhere else for you
to go.

CHARLIE'S EYES GO WIDE. FOR ONCE, HE LOOKS RATTLED.

THENA (CONT'D)

I called some of our mutual friends in
Nantucket, asked some questions about
Charlie. His grades were so bad in
boarding school, this is the only
place he could get accepted. Because
his mom bought his way in.

CHARLIE

Listen, it's late. Why don't we all
just forget about --

GERALD

"Mutual friends?" Wait, did you two
know each other?

CHARLIE

Oh yeah. We "knew" each other. In
fact --

THENA STARES DAGGERS AT CHARLIE: "DON'T MENTION OUR KISS."
HE MAKES A DECISION.

CHARLIE (CONT'D)

-- she worked at a restaurant I used
to go to. What was it called, Thena?
"Tiffany's?"

THEY STARE EACH OTHER DOWN FOR A BEAT.

MAX

(TO LAURA) Is she telling the truth?

LAURA

Well, Mrs. Deckard did make a
significant gift. But Charlie was in
the ninetieth percentile in his
class... for height and head size.

MAX

(TO CHARLIE, ANGRY) You know what?
You're a jerk. You're looking down on
us because we're not "fun"? I came
here to make something of myself.

(MORE)

MAX (CONT'D)

And I don't have some rich mom who's going to bail me out if I get expelled. You don't have any right to judge us!

GERALD

He's right, Charlie. You're being a ninny. (THEN) I'm sorry. I shouldn't be swearing. And now I said the word "swearing," which is also a swear word. (FRUSTRATED) I said it again!

ARJAN

Yeah, Charlie, not cool. Boiling hot!

CHARLIE JUST LOOKS AT EVERYONE, HURT AND EMBARRASSED.

THENA

Well, since he finally stopped talking, let's discuss expulsion --

LAURA

No. No one's getting expelled.

THENA

What?! You're on their side?

LAURA

(SNAPPING) I'm on my side! I am way out on a limb with this coeducation thing.

(MORE)

LAURA (CONT'D)

The board is counting on that to fix our finances, but the alumnae are up in arms, and this evening primrose I'm taking has been doing nothing for my night sweats! If these idiots go down, so do I! (THEN) I'm sorry, that was the Franzia and Ambien talking.

ARJAN

So... you were at party too tonight?

LAURA

(BEAT) Yes. Sure.

LAURA GETS UP FROM BEHIND HER DESK. REVEAL SHE'S WEARING A NIGHTGOWN UNDER HER PANTSUIT JACKET. GERALD COVERS HIS EYES.

LAURA (CONT'D)

Tonight was your first two strikes.
One more and my hand will be forced.
Get your acts together. Good night.

EVERYONE FILES OUT, EXCEPT FOR MABEL, WHO SNORES SOFTLY IN HER CHAIR. LAURA SITS DOWN AT HER DESK, LOOKING WORRIED.

LAURA (CONT'D)

I should've just married Greg and been a housewife.

MABEL

(EYES STILL CLOSED) Greg sucked.

CUT TO:

SCENE M

INT. DORM ROOM - LATER THAT NIGHT (NIGHT 1)
(CHARLIE, MAX, GERALD, ARJAN, BECCA)

MAX AND ARJAN ARE THERE, CLEANING UP AFTER THE PARTY.
CHARLIE COMES OUT OF HIS BEDROOM, HOLDING A DUFFEL BAG. HE
HEADS TOWARD THE DOOR. THINGS ARE STILL TENSE.

MAX

Where are you going? You're not gonna
help clean up?

CHARLIE

I will. Just gotta start some
laundry.

CHARLIE CROSSES AND OPENS THE DOOR TO EXIT. AS HE DOES, WE
HEAR A SOFT CRYING SOUND THROUGH A BEDROOM DOOR.

CHARLIE (CONT'D)

(PULLING UP) What's that sound?

MAX

(BEAT, LISTENS) Is that Gerald?

CHARLIE

It sounds like crying.

THEY HEAR ANOTHER WAILING SOUND. THE THREE SHARE A LOOK.

CHARLIE (CONT'D)

Listen, maybe one of you should go
check on him.

MAX AND ARJAN LOOK AT EACH OTHER, PANICKED. CHARLIE SIGHS,
THEN DROPS HIS BAG AND KNOCKS ON GERALD'S DOOR.

CHARLIE (CONT'D)

Hey Gerald? You okay?

GERALD EXITS FROM HIS BEDROOM, RUBBING HIS EYES.

GERALD

Sorry. I'm having a tough night.

GERALD CROSSES TO THE FUTON AND SITS DOWN.

CHARLIE

What's going on?

GERALD

It's just so hard here. I almost had a threeway, we're all fighting, but mostly it's... I'm not used to being away from home. I miss my mom.

Sorry. That's so lame.

CHARLIE SITS DOWN TO NEXT TO GERALD ON THE FUTON.

CHARLIE

Hey. That's not lame at all. (THEN)
I know how you feel. I've spent a lot of nights away from home missing my mom.

GERALD

Really?

CHARLIE

Oh yeah. They sent me to boarding school when I was seven. Cried almost every night.

GERALD

I bet you look cool even when you're crying.

CHARLIE

I do. My lips get real puffy. But it was hard. And I kept acting out, getting thrown out of school after school. Maybe I did it on purpose, hoping my parents would just decide to bring me home. But uh... didn't happen.

CHARLIE LOOKS DOWN, A LITTLE EMBARRASSED BY THIS ADMISSION.

ARJAN

Is maybe why you are good-time Charlie. Always missing parents love, you make everyone else want to love you. (OFF LOOKS) Started reading my psychology textbook today. Written by smart Jewish. Very interesting area.

CHARLIE

Look, Gerald, I bet your mom misses you way more than you miss her. So try to be strong for her. But if you need to cry, buddy, no one here will judge you. There's nothing like your mom, right?

GERALD

Right. Thanks, Charlie.

GERALD DRIES HIS EYES. A BEAT.

ARJAN

I miss my meme too. (EMOTIONAL) She
is so fat.

CHARLIE NODS AND PATS ARJAN ON THE LEG.

MAX

I never had a mom, but I miss my
fantasy mom Patricia Heaton from
"Everybody Loves Raymond." She was so
great!

CHARLIE

Totally. Debra was the best.

MAX

(NODDING, EMOTIONAL) Why did Ray cause
so many problems for her?

THE GROUP NODS, AGREEING. RAY DID CAUSE A LOT OF PROBLEMS.
ARJAN PULLS OUT A CIFTELI, A TRADITIONAL ALBANIAN LUTE.

ARJAN

My meme always sang me lullaby.
(STRUMS, THEN) Will translate.
(SINGING SWEETLY) HUSH LITTLE
BABY/TOMORROW THE MINES/YOUR LUNGS
WILL BLACKEN/YOUR SOUL WILL COLLAPSE --

MAX

Maybe just sing in Albanian.

ARJAN NODS AND STARTS AGAIN, SINGING IN ALBANIAN. THE SONG
IS SIMPLE AND A LITTLE SAD. THE GROUP LISTENS FOR A BEAT.

GERALD

(EYES WELLING UP) I'm gonna go again.

MAX

(ALSO CRYING) It's so beautiful!

CHARLIE

(LETTING GO) Aw, why not? God, I miss
you, Alexis! It's weird I call my mom
that!

NOW EVERYONE'S CRYING. BECCA WALKS IN, HOLDING A SIX-PACK.

BECCA

Brosephs, I just dumped Megan so let's
-- (NOTICING CRYING) Ugh, dudes, come
on! You suck!

DISGUSTED, SHE STOMPS OUT, SLAMMING THE DOOR BEHIND HER. THE
GUYS COMPOSE THEMSELVES.

GERALD

That felt good. I haven't cried since
I saw a baby bird earlier.

CHARLIE PICKS UP HIS BAG AND STARTS OUT. THEN TURNS BACK.

CHARLIE

Hey, I'm sorry I insulted you guys
earlier. For a nerd, a Mormon, and an
Afghani, you're not so bad.

CHARLIE EXITS, CLOSING THE DOOR BEHIND HIM. A BEAT.

ARJAN

Wish I was from Afghanistan. So much
nicer there.

CUT TO:

SCENE P

INT. BUS STATION - LATER THAT NIGHT (NIGHT 1)
(CHARLIE, MAX)

A RURAL BUS STATION. A FEW CREEPY-LOOKING PEOPLE ARE THERE.
CHARLIE SITS ON A BENCH. MAX APPROACHES.

MAX

Laundry, huh?

CHARLIE

(LITTLE THROWN) Hey. (BEAT, THEN)

How'd you know I wasn't really doing
laundry?

MAX SITS DOWN NEXT TO CHARLIE.

MAX

Well, we've only been here a day, so
you shouldn't have any dirty clothes.
And you don't seem like you do much
laundry. Your family probably had
someone named Carmina do it for you.

CHARLIE

(OFFENDED) That's not true! (THEN)
Her name was Carmita. With a "t".

MAX

So... you're leaving.

CHARLIE

I have to. Thena shouldn't have said
that stuff about me, but it's the
truth. I don't deserve to be here.

(MORE)

CHARLIE (CONT'D)

I'll just fail out. And I don't want
to drag you guys down with me.

MAX NODS. A BEAT.

CHARLIE (CONT'D)

Is Gerald okay?

MAX

Sleeping like a baby. Including thumb
in mouth. (THEN) Listen, thanks for
helping him. Arjan and I couldn't
have done that.

CHARLIE

Gerald's a good guy.

MAX

So are you, I think. Deep down.
(BEAT) Compliment.

CHARLIE

(SMILING) Hey! Nice work! Next step
is to stop saying "compliment" out
loud after you do it.

MAX

Listen. What if you stayed? (OFF HIS
LOOK) It could be good. I can help
you with studying, and... you can help
me with women.

CHARLIE

I thought you came here to be left
alone.

MAX

Well, maybe I use that as an excuse to
not put myself out there. Which you
made me do at the party and it was
actually pretty great. Especially
when that girl Ashley touched me.

CHARLIE

She shoved you.

MAX

Technically a touch! And I bet with
your help, I can graduate to non-
violent physical contact. (THEN)
Look, Charlie, it's what you said.
This is college. We're kind of adults
now! Real life stuff is gonna start
happening and we both need all the
help we can get. So what do you
say... wingman?

CHARLIE SMILES, GETTING ON BOARD.

CHARLIE

Okay. Let's do it.

MAX NODS, BEAMING. CHARLIE STANDS AND GRABS HIS BAG.

CHARLIE (CONT'D)

Listen, I'm gonna make you a promise.
Under my guidance, you'll have sex in
three months.

MAX

(VOICE CRACKING) Yippee!

CHARLIE

Maybe four months. Let's start by
getting you in the right head space.
Close your eyes and describe to me
your ideal first sexual experience.

MAX CLOSES HIS EYES, TAKES A DEEP BREATH, AND LAUNCHES IN.
CHARLIE QUIETLY HEADS FOR THE EXIT, MESSING WITH HIM.

MAX

Okay, well, I'm kind of an ass man.
And I'd want her to undress me and
say, "You're skinny but you're
strong." Then I'd draw us a bath --
(REALIZING) You left, didn't you?

HE OPENS HIS EYES. CHARLIE IS GONE. A WEIRD HILLBILLY
STARES AT MAX LASCIVIOUSLY. MAX LAUGHS, LOVING IT.

MAX (CONT'D)

College!

HE RUNS AFTER HIS NEW FRIEND.

CUT TO:

SCENE R

INT. CABOT COLLEGE DINING HALL - THE NEXT MORNING (DAY 2)
(CHARLIE, MAX, GERALD, ARJAN, THENA)

MAX, GERALD, AND ARJAN EAT BREAKFAST TOGETHER. CHARLIE
ENTERS. THENA APPROACHES AND PULLS HIM ASIDE.

THENA

There's something I want to get off my
chest. (HEARING IT) Don't make a
gross comment about my breasts.

CHARLIE

I'll try not to, but talk fast.

THENA

(DEEP BREATH) I should not have
embarrassed you like that in front of
your roommates. Especially since you
kept our... tawdry secret. That was
very decent of you, and... I'm sorry.

CHARLIE STARES AT HER FOR A BEAT, MOUTH OPEN.

THENA (CONT'D)

Are you okay?

CHARLIE

Yeah. It's just... no one's ever
apologized to me before. I always
cause the problems. Feels good!

THENA NODS AND STARTS OUT. CHARLIE STOPS HER.

CHARLIE (CONT'D)

Hey, I know Tiffany is dead, but for
what it's worth, I liked her.

(MORE)

CHARLIE (CONT'D)

She was fun. She tried to pee in the ocean right as a wave went out. But that doesn't mean she wasn't smart. (THEN) Anyway, that's why I didn't call you back. I tend to stay away from intelligent women. Too much work, you know?

CHARLIE CROSSES AWAY. THENA WATCHES HIM FOR A BEAT, THEN EXITS. CHARLIE SITS WITH THE GUYS. HE NOTICES A CABOT COLLEGE SCHOOL CREST ON THE WALL.

CHARLIE (CONT'D)

Hey, what's that Latin mean?

MAX

(READING) "Puer foribus intrat, mulier abit." You enter these doors a child --

THE OTHER GUYS NOD, AGREEING.

MAX (CONT'D)

You exit them... a woman.

A BEAT.

MAX (CONT'D)

We gotta get them to change that.

END OF SHOW