

SCHLUB LIFE

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EXT. TIM AND ASHLEY'S HOUSE - NIGHT

TIM (30), a schlub, bolts out the front door, runs to an old Jeep Cherokee parked in the driveway and taps on the driver's window.

EXT. TIM AND ASHLEY'S CAR - CONTINUOUS

ASHLEY (late 20's), blue collar attractive, in the driver's seat, rolls down the window.

TIM

Hey sweetie. Brendan can't find his phone. He's got like one more place to check and we should be out.

ASHLEY

The movie starts in ten minutes.

TIM

I know. It's Brendan. So... It's Brendan.

Tim hustles back into the house. Ashley glances at CAMILLE (30's), wannabe socialite, who fumes in the passenger seat.

INT. TIM'S BASEMENT - NIGHT

Tim pops into the basement. It's a suburban schlub dream room: wood-paneled bar, sports memorabilia, giant TV, and a Nerf basketball court. BRENDAN (30), business casual schlub, polishes off a beer.

BRENDAN

What'd they say?

TIM

They said you're going down.

Tim grabs the Nerf basketball and starts stretching. Clearly no one is looking for a phone.

BRENDAN

After 14 rounds, Tim needs a nine to tie and a ten to win. He calls his dunk.

TIM

Jordan. Foul line.

BRENDAN

Impossible.

Brendan clears to give him space. In SLOW MOTION. Tim does a version of the Jordan dunk: legs spread, sort of dunking. He throws his arms up and Brendan falls to the ground. Back in REAL SPEED.

TIM

It's a 10!!! A new franchise record for the Tims!

BRENDAN

One more dunk to decide it all.

TIM

That's game, man. It's over.

BRENDAN

I give you extra dunks all the time.

TIM

Name five of 'em.

BRENDAN

Your grandmother's funeral, your first anniversary, Friends series finale, Saddam Hussein hanging...

He's out of examples.

BRENDAN

Come on!

TIM

Okay. One three point shot. If you make it, you can have dunks. If you don't, we're done.

BRENDAN

That's a deal. I'll be back!

Brendan grabs his coat and bolts.

EXT. TIM AND ASHLEY'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Brendan hops down the front steps to...

EXT. TIM AND ASHLEY'S CAR - CONTINUOUS

The Jeep bangs on the passenger window. Camille rolls it down and glares at him.

BRENDAN
Tim can't find his... pants.

ASHLEY
He was just wearing them.

CAMILLE
If we miss the trailer for The Help
2: Extra Help, I am not--

BRENDAN
(Exploding)
It's a trailer, Camille!

CAMILLE
You're ruining this for everyone.
You're ruining it for Ashley!

ASHLEY
I'm fine.

BRENDAN
I know! I know! This is important.

Brendan races back to the house.

INT. TIM AND ASHLEY'S CAR - CONTINUOUS

ASHLEY
I have a box of white Zinfandel in
the trunk.

CAMILLE
Hit me.

INT. TIM'S BASEMENT - NIGHT

Brendan stands at the three-point line in full concentration.
Tim commentates quietly.

TIM
It all comes down to this. One
shot. One last chance to--

Brendan shoots. The ball clangs off the rim.

TIM
That's the game.

The guys exit immediately.

EXT. TIM AND ASHLEY'S CAR - NIGHT

The guys pile into the back of the car.

CAMILLE (O.S.)
Look who found his pants.

TIM (O.S.)
Huh?

BRENDAN (O.S.)
Just drive.

INT. MOVIE THEATER LOBBY - NIGHT

Camille, Brendan, Tim and Ashley push their way past a group of rowdy teens into the main lobby. They take in the bright lights and rows of arcade-style video games.

CAMILLE
Why is it so hard to find a place
where adults can have a night out?

BRENDAN
What the hell! What happened to
DUI: Miami?

He stares at a blank space in a bank of video games where one is clearly missing.

CAMILLE
What's that?

TIM
It's a first person driver game
where you get to be the drunk!

BRENDAN
You have to get to the convenience
store to buy cigarettes for your
girlfriend. But you gotta drive
hammered.

TIM
It was right over there and now
it's gone. The movie is ruined!

ASHLEY
Come on, let's get hot dogs and
shake it off.

Ashley leads Tim toward the concession counter.

INT. THEATER - NIGHT

Brendan takes off his button-down and lays it across two seats. He sits in a third and sprawls across a fourth.

A group of TEENS files into the seats behind him. TEEN 1 sits down next to Brendan.

TEEN 1
You can't sit here.

The teens laugh.

BRENDAN
Look, I know I'm an easy mark because I'm obviously too cool to call the manager. But I don't want any trouble.

TEEN 1
Cool. Then move.

Teens laugh again.

BRENDAN
(Enjoying himself)
Oh this is great. Thing is, you dudes have already made a critical error -- when I was your age, I was king of the put-down. I can instantly spot your biggest weakness and use it for a wicked burn.

TEEN 1
Okay, go ahead.

BRENDAN
Oh, man. This is gonna be fun. Let's see -- look at you...

TEEN 1
THIS GUY TOUCHED ME!

BRENDAN
What?

TEEN 1
Check it out -- HE'S GOT A BONER!

BRENDAN
It's not a boner. It's a wallet.

Brendan is aware that all eyes are on him. TEEN 2 snaps a picture of him with his phone.

TEEN 3
Tag it "Movie Perv".

BRENDAN
That's not fair.

The teens begin coughing "boner" and "perv".

BRENDAN
Stop it. Stop it! I'm getting the manager.

Brendan pushes his way into the aisle and trips.

TEEN 1
Oops.

Camille, Tim and Ashley walk up.

CAMILLE
(To Brendan)
Where are the seats?

BRENDAN
Uh, I got these three but...

CAMILLE
I told you to save four. You know what -- we're sitting here. You go up front.

BRENDAN
(flustered)
Fine. Good luck with Pony Boy and the Outsiders.

TEEN 1
Old reference. Wasn't born yet.

Brendan stalks down the stairs to the front of the theater. Tim pushes past Teen 1.

TIM
Move it Shia LaDouche.

Teen 1 scowls and his buddies laugh.

TIM
Shut up, nutsacks.
(Re: Teen 2)
This guy's got a boner!

ASHLEY

Ha! Nice one.

INT. THEATER - NIGHT

The movie is underway. It's a quiet weeper.

Tim and Ashley try to stealthily unwrap the food they bought, but it makes a ton of noise.

An attractive couple a few rows up, KIM and KENT DAWES, turn to look at the noise. Camille shrinks into her seat.

CAMILLE

Look. That's Kim and Kent Dawes.
That new brown house on the corner.
They own a boutique cosmetic
dentistry salon.

TIM

There goes the neighborhood.

Kent puts his arm around Kim and squeezes her. Camille bristles.

CAMILLE

God, look at them. They've invited
everyone in the neighborhood over
to their house already. What do
they have against me?

ASHLEY

Is this the couple who met online?

CAMILLE

Yeah. Can you believe it? They look
so normal.

Tim opens a noisy bag of Bugles. Kim and Kent turn again, annoyed. Camille sinks further into her seat.

EXT. PARKING LOT - NIGHT

Tim, Ashley, Brendan and Camille hustle through the parking lot. The teens taunt Brendan from a distance.

TEEN

Look! That meatball has legs!

BRENDAN

You're the 9/11 of human beings!

TEEN 1

Too soon!

CAMILLE

Just once I want a night out with
grownups. Reservations at a nice
restaurant, a bottle of wine,
dancing.

Dancing?

BRENDAN

TIM

Who goes dancing?

CAMILLE (CONT'D)

Normal human adults.

BRENDAN

If Tim ever saw me dancing he'd
punch me in the stomach. I'd do the
same to him.

TIM

I would accept it. I want to kill
the part of me that dances.

Camille spies Kim and Kent walking to their Lexus SUV.

CAMILLE

There's Kim and Kent. I want to say
hi.

BRENDAN

No, Camille. I cannot talk to these
people.

TIM

(calling out)

Kim! Kent! It's me, Brendan.

Tim ducks behind Ashley as Kim and Kent turn around.

KIM

Oh, hey Brendan. Camille.

CAMILLE

Hey guys. I feel like I haven't
seen you since you moved in. I'm
dying to check out your place.

KENT

We've been swamped. It's just crazy
with the boxes and unpacking.

BRENDAN

Oh man, moving's the worst. Once those couches go in I flip on Sportscenter and let this one do all the work.

He points to Camille and laughs.

KENT

Why is that?

BRENDAN

(Stammering)

I don't. That's not... I just... I don't even like jokes like that.

KIM

Kent's a huge help. He does everything.

KENT

(False modesty)

Can't stand a mess.

Brendan and Tim both audibly groan. Kent stares at them.

CAMILLE

I saw you all setting up the yard. Are you having a party?

KIM

Oh, no. I mean, it's just a few close friends. Cocktails, badminton.

CAMILLE

That sounds amazing. We were just saying how much we needed a new circle of friends.

ASHLEY

I don't remember that.

BRENDAN

We weren't saying that.

CAMILLE

I mean, we don't want to just invite ourselves over...

BRENDAN

Yeah, we don't want to do that.

TIM

I'd rather die.

CAMILLE

But... we'd love to come...

Kim and Kent check in with each other. Clearly they don't want to invite them.

KIM

Sure. Yeah. I guess. Come on over.

EXT. SIDEWALK - THE NEXT DAY

Camille and Ashley walk down the street to the Dawes' house. Ashley is carrying a bottle of wine. Tim and Brendan are trailing ten yards behind. Tim in normal schlub gear: Pistons jersey, cargo shorts. Brendan is sporting a douchebaggery club look circa 2004: high collared shirt, three-button sport coat, spiky hair.

CAMILLE

Would you two hurry up?

BRENDAN

Can't you just go without us?

CAMILLE

I don't want to leave you at home alone. You'll masturbate over everything.

BRENDAN

Over one thing.

CAMILLE

(to Ashley)

How much did that wine cost?

ASHLEY

It's Two Buck Chuck, so seven bucks?

CAMILLE

Scratch off the price tag. I don't want these people thinking they're better than us.

TIM

Take your jacket off, dude. It's 95-degrees out here.

The couples turn up the walkway to the Dawes' house.

BRENDAN

This shirt has a hole in it. I
don't want anybody to see it.

TIM

Where?

Brendan shows him a small hole in his shirt. Tim sticks his
finger in the hole and rips it open revealing Brendan's
nipple.

BRENDAN

Hey! Damn it! I don't have an
undershirt on.

Brendan shoves Tim into a parked Lexus SUV in the driveway,
triggering the alarm.

CAMILLE

For Christ's sake.

The front door opens. Kim sticks her head out.

KIM

(calling inside)
Kent, they set off the car alarm.

KENT (O.S.)

Who?

KIM

Who do you think?
(to Camille)
Hi. Come in.

EXT. DAWES BACKYARD - DAY

Kent leads the couples across the lawn toward his outdoor
bar. The guys notice his "cool" summer outfit: slate V-neck
tee, linen pants, leather sandals.

Camille grabs Ashley's bottle of wine.

CAMILLE

(To Kent)
This is for you. I didn't want to
show up empty-handed.

KENT

Ah, Two Buck Chuck. I'll just put
this in the... garbage.

Everyone laughs uncomfortably.

CAMILLE
Ashley bought it.

KENT
(To Ashley)
You have a great smile by the way.
Have you had work done?

ASHLEY
I took a softball to the face once.
Had to get this one replaced.

KENT
Let me know if you want me to make
you a new one. I got a hunk of
Ugandan blood ivory. It's white,
but people died to get it. I would
love to get it off my hands.

Camille frowns. They arrive at the...

EXT. BACKYARD BAR - CONTINUOUS

Outdoor Mad Men-style bar setup.

KENT
And here we are. It's all you can
drink you-name-it-cocktails at Chez
Kent today. Top shelf shit. Don't
hold back -- I went to bartending
school.

BRENDAN
Miller Lite.

TIM
Make that two.

CAMILLE
Why don't you get some drinks that
fit the occasion.

KENT
Yeah, how about a couple of summer
cocktails?

BRENDAN
(Unsure)
Uh, ok. I guess I'll have a...
mudslide?

KENT
(Smirking)
Nothing like some thick Kahlua on a
summers day. Tim?

TIM
Uhhh, hot toddy?

KENT
(Confused)
Hot toddy. You got it. I'll go boil
some water.

Kent takes off his apron and strides to the house. The guys
try to get comfortable in a couple of lawn chairs. Kim
enters.

ASHLEY
Great yard. It's so big.

KIM
You should see our lake house. It's
only two bedrooms but I need a
place to get away. And Kent is
crazy for kiteboarding, so...

CAMILLE
Oh my god, that sounds amazing.
We've always talked about doing a
lake trip in the summer. And
Brendan is obsessed with
kiteboarding.

Camille looks to Brendan who is trying to fashion a makeshift
patch out of a napkin for his nipple hole.

BRENDAN
What's up?

KIM
Yes. We love taking friends there.

Beat.

CAMILLE
Totally. So should we start talking
dates, or...?

Kim hems. Kent interrupts from the doorway.

KENT
Tim, I couldn't find any cloves for
that hot toddy. Can you take it
without?

TIM

I don't know, man. I really like all the various ingredients in a hot toddy.

BRENDAN

Gotta have the cloves. Cloves make it.

KIM

Kent! He said he wants cloves. Find the cloves.

KENT

(Through gritted teeth)
Alright. I'll go rifle through the Christmas stuff, see if I can... rustle some up.

Kent heads back to the house.

TIM

Thanks, pal.
(To Brendan)
This is a nightmare.

EXT. BADMINTON COURT - DAY

Kent and Brendan pound spikes into the ground to secure the net on a very pro looking badminton set-up. Tim watches with a steaming drink in his hand.

BRENDAN

Pretty nice set-up you got here, Kent.

KENT

I was the captain of my club team at Dartmouth. Thought for a while I'd go pro.

TIM

Until you realized there is no professional badminton league?

Kent shoots Tim a look.

KENT

That would be life changing news to Lee Chong Wei of Malaysia. Top ranked player in the world. He's a friend, so, tread lightly.

BRENDAN

Promise me you'll keep Camille away from this. She gets ridiculously competitive with badminton.

KENT

How about Ashley? Does she play?

TIM

Ashley's not much of an athlete. But if you need your car fixed, she knows a guy. She's more of a person who knows guys who fix cars.

KENT

(Suggestively)
She could fix my car.

TIM

Actually, she couldn't. She doesn't fix them herself.

KENT

(More suggestive)
Good. Cause my car works just fine.

BRENDAN

What the fuck are you talking about, Kent?

TIM

Is your car broke or not?

KENT

(Getting it together)
We are lucky men. All of us.

They raise their drinks.

BRENDAN

I'll say. Camille looks as good as the first day we met. And Kim's a cutie too.

KENT

Hey. Nuh-uh. Those comments are a NO GO.

BRENDAN

Sorry.

KENT

My house, B-Dog. My rules. You try to eat out of my dog bowl, you get bit in the ear.

BRENDAN

I said I was sorry.

Brendan looks at Tim for help. Tim shakes his head, helpless.

KENT

(Without looking up)

Saw that, Tip-Top. Give me a lap.

TIM

Ha ha. Very funny.

KENT

I'm serious. Run a lap around the yard.

Tim sees he means it and takes off running, scalding himself with his drink. Kent goes back to hammering.

EXT. BACKYARD BAR - DAY

More couples have arrived and mill about the yard. Ashley refills her cup and looks up to see Kent eyeing her from the grill. Camille appears at her shoulder.

ASHLEY

Why does he keep looking at me?

CAMILLE

It's weird. He should be looking at me. Brendan and I are a clear match for them. What do I have to do to get an invite to the lake house?

ASHLEY

You could ask Kent about his illegal stash of elephant tusks.

CAMILLE

Maybe I'm expecting too much. You know they met online.

ASHLEY

Is that true? Cause I've only heard you say it.

Camille turns to another couple.

CAMILLE

You guys know Kim and Kent didn't meet the normal way, right? They met online?

GUY

Really? Huh. What do you know.

Camille gives Ashley a satisfied look.

CAMILLE

I just don't understand what's happening here.

INT. DETACHED GARAGE - DAY

We hear a key rattling in the lock. The door opens and Brendan steps in, Tim behind him. Brendan flips on the light to reveal...

A total dude hangout. Plush couches, flat screen, fridge, stereo. Brendan spots a small wine fridge, opens it.

BRENDAN

Help me carry these things. Kent says he needs three bottles. I can't do a lap in this jacket.

Tim stares at a large object against the rear wall that's covered with a drop cloth.

TIM

What do you think this is? Time machine? Photo booth?

BRENDAN

Don't touch it. He's probably got cameras in here.

TIM

Why would you cover something up if you didn't want me to look at it?

Tim rips the cloth off the object. His eyes light up. Brendan sees it too and drops two bottles of wine. They smash on the floor.

BRENDAN

Holy fucking shit.

We see what they see: an arcade game -- DUI: Miami. Brendan throws the third bottle, smashing it against the wall.

The door opens behind them.

KENT
(noticing the broken
bottles)
What happened in here? You guys
having a Roman orgy?

Tim breaks out of his trance and lunges at Kent.

TIM
You son of a bitch!

Brendan grabs him, holds him back.

KENT
Whoa! I'm sorry. Is that really
what was happening?

TIM
Why do you have this!?

KENT
DUI: Miami? I bought it.

BRENDAN
You expect us to believe that? You
can't just buy an arcade game.

KENT
Sure you can. I saw it at the movie
theater. Played it once. Bought
it.

TIM
These don't belong in houses. They
belong in movie theaters where you
have to wait in line. There's
poetry in being patient and waiting
your turn. Starting the game,
racing for that checkpoint so you
can stretch your quarter. It's
intoxicating. And you took that
away from all of us.

KENT
You guys want to play?

TIM/BRENDAN
Yeah./Absolutely.

INT. BATHROOM - DAY

Camille opens the bathroom door.

KIM (O.S.)
Someone's in here.

CAMILLE
Sorry... Kim?

KIM
Yep.

Camille cracks the door open enough so she can continue to talk to Kim.

CAMILLE
While I have you, quick question
about the lake house...

Kim snaps back.

KIM
Can we talk about this in a
second?

A GUY walks up.

GUY
Someone in there?

CAMILLE
Yeah, it's Kim. She'll be a while.

GUY
No worries. I'll wait.

CAMILLE
Beat it creep.

Camille steps into the bathroom and closes the door behind her. Kim is shocked.

CAMILLE (CONT'D)
Seriously? Who are these people?

KIM
Camille! What the hell?

CAMILLE
I'm sorry, but I just want to know
why you haven't invited us to the
lake house.

KIM

I'm going to the bathroom,
Camille.

CAMILLE

I know. I just think we'd have a
great time. We have so much in
common. We are clearly the two best
couples in the neighborhood.

KIM

Because you've been telling people
that Kent and I met online.

CAMILLE

I mean, I may have, told that to
someone... But, who cares? It's not
a big deal! It's a great place to
meet if you aren't afraid of, you
know, kidnapping and murder. But
look at you guys! It worked!

KIM

I know you look for flaws in others
to make yourself feel better. But
the truth is, my car got a flat
outside the bar where Kent was
working. He fixed my tire. The rest
is history.

CAMILLE

That's... awesome.

INT. DETACHED GARAGE - DAY

Tim and Brendan are playing DUI: Miami, each one sitting in a
driver's seat simulator behind a steering wheel. Kent hangs
over their shoulders.

KENT

Get the floating cup of coffee. You
don't want your blood alcohol level
too high.

BRENDAN

This is amazing. We're doing this
in a house!

SFX: Game noise. They've cleared a level.

GFX: Flashing meters show their BAC levels. Tim's level tops
out in red -- Game Over.

TIM
Aw -- legally dead?

KENT
Gotta know when to say when, bro.

Brendan and Tim climb out of their seats and admire Kent's setup.

BRENDAN
I'm in heaven. I can't believe the spread you've got here.

KENT
Kim's not crazy about it, but sometimes you have to sack up and say: "I'm gonna take what I want."

TIM
(Referring to the garage)
I wish I had one of these.

KENT
You wish you had two of these.

Kent grabs his crotch and laughs. Beat. Tim and Brendan laugh with him, clearly trying to ingratiate themselves.

BRENDAN
That's really funny.

TIM
Yeah, I get it too pretty much.

KENT
Admit it. I'm not the guy you thought I was.

BRENDAN
Absolutely right. We had you pegged as some kind of douchey dentist or something. But you don't seem douchey at all. Except for your douchey sandals and all your douchey golf stuff. That hat...

TIM
(Ticking off his mental checklist)
Your shirt. We said the hat... your shirt. Fuckin'...

BRENDAN
Trophies.

TIM

TROPHIES! That's all pretty
douchey.

BRENDAN

Yeah. Real douchey. But other than
that you seem like a pretty cool
douche -- er, dude. Sorry. I was
just saying douche a bunch there.

KENT

Thanks. I'm going to bring this
wine to the ladies. You guys
enjoy.

Kent bounds out. The guys hop back in the driver seats.

TIM

Alright, let's go. This time I get
to be the Philandering Senator.

INT. KITCHEN - DAY

Ashley is looking through cabinets. Kent moves in behind
her.

ASHLEY

Oh, hey. Where do you keep wine
glasses?

Kent reaches up to the cabinet above her, takes out two
glasses and hands them to her. He's incredibly close.

KENT

Is there anything else I can help
you with? Anything at all?

ASHLEY

Nope. I think that was it.

KENT

(Suggestively)
I can get you anything you want.
And I can give it to you any way
you want it.

ASHLEY

That's so gross.

KENT

(Pointing to his crotch)
This is so gross.

ASHLEY
What? Your dick?

KENT
(Caught off guard)
No. Just -- no. The whole act of...
I mean, it's all gross.

ASHLEY
I can't believe you're hitting on
me.

KENT
Sometimes you gotta say, "I'm gonna
take what I want." That's a classic
Kent-ism.

ASHLEY
Yikes. That's also a classic sex
offender-ism.

KENT
No. That's not... I'm just...
that's not... the wine glasses are
right there.

ASHLEY
You mean the ones I'm holding?

KENT
Uh, yep.

Kent exits stiffly.

EXT. BACKYARD - DAY

Couples mill and mingle. Camille and Brendan clink their
glasses. Activity stops.

CAMILLE
Could I have everyone's attention
for a moment?

The guests pull in around Camille and Brendan. Camille reacts
to Kim's disapproving glare.

CAMILLE (CONT'D)
We'd like to make a toast. It's so
good to see so many new people here
today. You can choose your house,
but you can't choose your
neighbors.

(MORE)

CAMILLE (CONT'D)
 Which is why we want to make a
 toast to the greatest new friends
 in the world...

Smiles all around.

CAMILLE
 Kim and Kent Dawes.

Kim and Kent swell a bit. Enthusiasm flags around them.

CAMILLE
 Kim and Kent Dawes. Who met at a
 bar. Not online. Or some support
 group like Damian and Sue most
 probably did.

Damian and Sue cross their arms.

CAMILLE (CONT'D)
 It is Sue, right?

SUE
 Yeah.

CAMILLE
 Brendan? Did you want to say
 something?

BRENDAN
 (Searching)
 Yes. I do... wanted to say
 something. I just want to say...
 dance! As if nobody's watching. But
 we'll be watching, Kent. We'll
 always be watching. Oh the places
 you'll go. To Kent!

CAMILLE
 (To Brendan)
 Kim and Kent.

BRENDAN
 Kim and Kent!

ALL
 Kim and Kent.

EXT. BACKYARD - CONTINUOUS

The party resumes. Kim and Kent approach Brendan and
 Camille.

KIM
That was very sweet, Camille.

CAMILLE
Thank you.

KIM
Kent and I wanted to extend an invitation to both of you to join us at our lake house.

CAMILLE
We'd love to.

BRENDAN
(To Kent)
Oh, here are the keys to your garage. It was hard to drag myself out of there.

He holds them out. Kent stops him.

KENT
Tell you what. You hang on to those.

BRENDAN
Really?

KENT
Yep. They're all yours. You can have unlimited access.

Brendan beams.

KENT
Now, if you're up for it. I'd like to play some badminton.

BRENDAN
I don't think so. We should be getting home.

KENT
Hold on. I heard Camille was quite the player.

BRENDAN
Nah.

CAMILLE
Wait a second. I haven't played in a while but I was the captain of my high school team.

KIM
Fantastic! Let's have a game.

BRENDAN
(To himself)
Poor Icarus, he flew too close to
the sun.

EXT. BACKYARD BAR - DAY

Tim finds Ashley at the bar.

TIM
Guess what? Kent has DUI: Miami in
his garage! I'm thinking about
sleeping over.

ASHLEY
(Whispering)
I have to tell you something. Kent
hit on me.

TIM
Are you sure?

ASHLEY
Yes I'm sure. He insinuated he
wants to sleep with me. And then
blatantly humiliated himself.

TIM
Huh. Well let's keep our eye on it
and see how this whole thing plays
out.

ASHLEY
Tim!

TIM
What?

ASHLEY
I can't believe you're sweeping
this under the rug because you want
to play that stupid game.

TIM
Why? That seems totally in
character for me.

ASHLEY
We have to say something to Kim.

TIM

No! We are not getting in the middle of their marriage.

ASHLEY

Well, then I want to go.

TIM

Ok. I totally understand.

(Beat)

I'll be home in a little bit.

ASHLEY

Timothy!

CAMILLE (O.S.)

Guys! It's time for badminton!

Tim gives Ashley a helpless shrug.

EXT. BADMINTON COURT - DAY

The party has rearranged around the badminton court. Kim/Kent vs. Brendan/Camille. Camille is about to serve.

BRENDAN

(To Camille, hushed)

Remember, just a fun game of badminton. The lake house.

CAMILLE

Just a fun game. No big deal.

(Suddenly intense)

I-Formation! Front to back. It's go time!

EXT. BADMINTON COURT - LATER

MONTAGE sequence.

--Kent rips a serve. Camille slams the return. An intense rally. Kent wins and pumps his fist.

KENT

KENT!

Camille slams her racquet on the ground. Brendan shoots a worried look to Tim, who's watching next to a still-fuming Ashley.

--Camille hits a series of punishing shots at Kim.

--Shots of both teams competing hard, slamming shots, diving across the lawn, intercut with shots of the flip-chart scoreboard counting out an even match up to 29 points apiece.

BACK IN REAL TIME

KIM
29 to 29. Next point wins.

KENT
(Angry)
We know what the score is, Kim.
Maybe if you'd put as much focus
into ripping winners as keeping
score we'd be winning this thing.

ON Tim and Ashley watching the match.

ASHLEY
(Re: Kent's behavior)
Tim, you gotta say something.

TIM
Game point!

Brendan pulls Camille aside.

BRENDAN
Honey, I know you want to win, but
let me remind you that if we lose
this next point--

CAMILLE
We lose the game.

BRENDAN
But we win an invite to the lake
house and unlimited access to DUI:
Miami.

KENT (O.S.)
Serve the shuttlecock, Camille!

Tim snickers at "shuttlecock". Ashley frowns. Tim re-focuses as Camille runs over to the service line.

BRENDAN
(To Camille, whispering)
DUI: Miami.

Camille serves. An intense rally until Kent hits a rocket into the back corner. Brendan watches it fall clearly inside the line.

Kent collapses to his knees in celebration.

KENT
Domination! Execution! Success!
Totally Kent!

CAMILLE
Nope. That was out.

KENT
Are you kidding?

CAMILLE
It was clearly out. We win.

KENT
Brendan, come on. Out or in?

BRENDAN
(Deflecting)
I don't know. It was a tough call.

KENT
You were standing right there. Tell
the truth, bro: out or in?

Brendan looks to Camille.

CAMILLE
It was out, Brendan.

He looks at Kent.

KENT
In.

He looks to Tim.

TIM
Shuttlecock.

BRENDAN
(Beat. Miserably.)
It was out, Kent. We win.

KENT
Oh bullshit! We need another eye.
Tim?

TIM
Uh...

ASHLEY

I saw it. It was out. Right, Tim?
Wasn't it out of line, what Kent
did? Isn't he a total cheater, Tim?

TIM

(Beat. Miserably.)
Yeah. It was out, Kent.

KENT

Get out of my house. Get the hell
out of my house.

BRENDAN

Does that go for the garage too,
or...?

KENT

Gimme those keys.

BRENDAN

Yup. I figured.

Camille takes Brendan by the hand and marches him out of the
yard.

TIM

Hey Kim. Just so you know, your
piece-of-shit husband hit on my
wife.

KIM

Kent?

Kent looks away sheepishly.

TIM

Is it Kent? I've been saying "Ken"
this whole time.

ASHLEY (O.S.)

Tim!

TIM

I gotta go.

INT. TIM'S BASEMENT - NIGHT

The room is lit romantically. Music plays. Brendan and
Camille slow dance under the hoop. Ashley pours herself a
glass of wine at the bar.

ASHLEY

Ah. Two Buck Chuck. I had to fish this out of the garbage.

BRENDAN

(To Camille)

Sorry we lost the invite to the lake house.

CAMILLE

Screw it. I just wanted to know what that coke fiend had against me.

ASHLEY

She does coke?

CAMILLE

I hope so. That's what I've been telling everybody.

She puts her head down on Brendan's shoulder.

CAMILLE

This is exactly what I was looking for: good friends, bottle of wine, dancing.

Tim bounces down the stairs blowing on a hot toddy. His smile fades when he sees Brendan.

TIM

Oh man.

Brendan sees Tim and realizes what's coming.

TIM

Sorry to ruin this, Camille.

Brendan steps away from Camille and begrudgingly lifts up his shirt.

BRENDAN

Watch out for my liver.

Tim rears back and swings. On impact we cut to:

BLACK

END OF SHOW