

**Working Title: RULES FOR A PERFECT BREAKUP**

**Written by** Khiara Laurea (BATCH 25/ August 19, 2020)

**PREMISE:** Karina Shelley Almazan and Adriel Quintos, the most popular couple vlogger on Perfect Relationships in the country, are splitting up. And to save their engagement, they must find the most perfect way to break up.

**KARINA**

**DESIRE:** To keep her perfect relationship with Adriel and do reality show with him

**CONFLICT:** She and Adriel have different plans for their future perfect relationship

**NEED: AWARE** – To stop seeking validation from her fans and realize that what she has with Adriel off-cam is also perfect and ideal on its own

**UNAWARE** – To realize that life on-cam and in social media should not be as fake and to accept her family's unconventional set-up as perfect and ideal.

**ADRIEL**

**DESIRE:** To marry Karina and have his dreamed perfect marriage

**CONFLICT:** He and Karina have different plans for their future perfect relationship

**NEED: AWARE** – To realize that Karina is the perfect and most idea girlfriend, fiancée and wife anyone could ever dream of, be it on or off camera.

**UNAWARE** – To realize that honesty is gold and love transcends any belief

This will be a **CAUSE-and-EFFECT**, **CHARACTER-CENTERED** movie, where the characters undergo changes and get realizations about their relationship. It aims to break both **PERSONAL AND SOCIETY'S BELIEFS** about relationships.

**ACT ONE**

The story begins with the couple, now engaged, telling each other what they plan for their married life. Their plans don't exactly match. Karina wants to take on a huge network's offer on pushing the vlogs through to Reality TV, while Adriel wants to quit the limelight. But that wasn't the problem.

Karina's underhanded decision, giving the network a go to shoot behind-the scenes immediately, makes Adriel feel extremely betrayed. For that, he begins pondering on a break-up. After all, she isn't the girl he fell in love with from college anymore. She's someone else. Someone who's beginning to take her social media image to life.

When Karina accidentally overhears Adriel's plan to break up, Adriel diverts the topic and suggest a new series called Rules for a Perfect Breakup. Excited, Karina announces it, telling the fans that they get to see behind-the-scenes thru a network.

**ACT TWO**

With the series now out in the open, Adriel secretly tests the waters so he could decide on either of two options – to break up finally with Karina or force to take her away from the limelight for that perfect marriage he sees from his parents. He then designs the series episodes specifically.

STAGE 1. They must forgive everything.

STAGE 2. They must unlearn everything.

STAGE 3. They must forget everything.

STAGE 4. They must move on and rebuild themselves separately.

But Karina takes a wind of it. She feels something is wrong, especially seeing Adriel and the BTS, and knowing how the media and her fans react to each. This scares her even more, because she doesn't want the media to be right – that she can't have the perfect relationship she wants, coming from a broken family, and that she's fake.

She then devises a strategy. In trying to fix everything, she lays down more rules that confine them further in a box. As the series progresses, however, these rules and the network BTS take Karina and Adriel off their own strategies. Adriel feels more detached, and Karina becomes desperate to prove her point. She begins disregarding her own rules and releases a video – a cynical commentary on how Adriel handled the series and the BTS – in frustration. It backfires. Fans attack Adriel for it, taking her side. Adriel breaks up with her and then disappears.

### **ACT THREE**

When Karina's best friend slash manager gives her an advice about it, she dismisses it as a claw for ratings. When her mother does, she blames her for everything. Nowhere to go, honestly. She's only pacified when Tony, her team's camera guy and editor, shows her his own behind-the-scenes videos. From these, Karina sees how much of their relationship is real, on and off the camera, and she feels regret.

To compromise, Karina decides on another plan. She calls her final episode *What I Really Would Have Done*. Something that shows the non-celebrity side of her.

In response, Adriel creates a video of his own and calls his episode, *Why I Love You*, which follows his mom's advice to stop proving Karina wrong, and just love her purely, strongly and intensely – the real secret to a happy and lasting relationship.

He sends Karina their engagement ring back, and asks her to wear it when she's ready and come find him. They have to rebuild themselves separately. Their Stage 4.

Through the final journey, Karina realizes she has to stop listening too much to her fans and more to herself. That the rules and the social media image aren't the absolute truth. That she has to stop believing others when they tell her she'll end up like her parents. And that she has to forgive her parents for leaving and accept that they are happy with their new families and with just being friends.

Adriel realizes that his dishonesty caused deeper trouble. That his love for Karina is stronger than any rule Karina sets. That the limelight cannot diminish that. That he must accept the woman she is on-and-off cam. That she is the best girlfriend, fiancée and wife any one could have. That with her, life indeed is perfect and ideal.

They end up getting back together. Although, she cannot entirely stop with the rules, so she at least sets a few every now and then. Especially now that they live in the province in peace, where couples go to them for couple's retreat once a month, seen in a reality show called *Doors to Ideal Relationships*.

### **THE END**