

PLUTO AND THE MOON

Written & Directed by

Will Lula

Janus
MGM

With

Ella Woolsey
&
Minnie Eve Cantor

And

Winona Ryder as Lynn
Charlie XCX as Dri
Ruby Temple as Jill
And Camille Roth as Jack

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MOZART'S SYMPHONY NO. 40: MOLTO ALLEGRO OVER BLACK.

EXT. BEEMAN PARK - DAY

Under the tall tower of the play structure is a table from where stands TWO BOYS (8) holding hands running off. Behind the table is a line of Kindergarteners huddled in coats.

Then sits ERIC (12) and ROSE (12) looking into each others' eyes. CHEF (8) in a hat, earmuffs, and an apron stops next to the table with a note pad.

CHEF
(shouting)
Pie and coffee?

ERIC
(looking at Rose)
A pie and two cappuccinos.

ROSE
(to Eric)
One coffee, we'll share, actually.

CHEF
(shouting)
What?!

ERIC
(to Chef)
Two cappuccinos! Two!

He shows deuces. Chef spins and drinks from his flask, and sits in his mud pile.

CHEF
Mud and coffee!

Above from the tower across the draw bridge marches BLUE (18) in a baby tee over a dress over jeans searching the horizon.

BLUE
Eric? Eric?! Little shit.

She drops off the play structure marching towards the field.

Behind her from the other tower jumps PLUTO (18) in jorts and an eye patch. She follows after Blue picking up a handful of wood chips. She taps Blue's shoulder who spins around.

PLUTO
Excuse me. Excuse me! Are these yours?

Blue looks her up, down, and up.

BLUE
What is even this?

PLUTO
(the chips)
I think you dropped these.

Blue scoffs and turns back to her marching business. Pluto returns to friends JACK (18) and Jill (18) on the playground.

BLUE
Eric, if you're not here in three-

She turns around and can't help smiling seeing Pluto leaning out from the tower belting libretto to her, gesturing.

Eric and Rose hold hands over the muddery table.

INT. BLUE'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Blue sits on an apple box at her desk in the middle of the room writing lines in a book. The room shakes and her lines crescendo. Then she stops and looks around the shaking room.

She places down her pencil and raises her hands in innocence, standing. The earthquake does not stop, the pencil rolls off the table.

She steps out of her door.

INT. ERIC'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Blue gets under the covers and cradles Eric's head in her shoulder. The rumbling slowly ceases.

From across the house a door slams, marching steps, and the front door opens and slams. Then another door inside opens and closes, and a few moments later Blue's mother Wendy (54) waddles in.

She stops and sits at the end of the bed shyly.

WENDY
Blue, would you go find your father? He's gone out the front door.

BLUE
Mom, I- Are?- This- That's- I'm- Well- Okay, Alright. Eric?

WENDY
I'll take him.

Blue doesn't look away from her mother as she slips off the bed, and stops in the door frame looking back. As if remembering, Wendy suddenly turns and crawls over Eric.

INT. PLUTO'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Pluto's canopy bed shakes in the earthquake. She pulls the covers over her nose sinking into her pillows.

The rumbling stops and she slowly tests the waters with her toes on the hardwood.

She steps over laundry and things, pulling on jeans, gathering materials across the room into a messenger bag.

She walks out the door knocking a bell hanging in the frame.

INT. PLUTO'S LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Pluto walks across the room, her Parents CYNTHIA (56) and CARL (62) in night gowns and siblings HENRY (26), CLEO (22), MARTIN (8) and KIRK (8) in mostly nothing stream in, chattering behind her.

CYNTHIA
Pluto are you alright!? Have I
asked you that already? Are you
going out? Check on Lynn would you?

PLUTO
Okayy!

Pluto slips out the front door.

EXT. PLUTO'S APARTMENT COMPLEX - NIGHT

Pluto runs down the stairs and into the court yard. She passes the old lady LYNN (76) in a purple night gown searching in her rose bushes.

PLUTO
Hey Lynn? Are you alright?

LYNN
Oh, hi there, you know I can't find
my arm chair. I didn't think
earthquakes could move things...

PLUTO

Ya, erm- you brought it to school,
Lynn. My father's probably coming
out in a moment, he'll help you
out.

LYNN

Brought my chair to school? How do
they keep ending up there and here?
I can't even remember all of these
things happening anymore!

Pluto jogs to the street past neighbors with candles and
flashlights checking in on each other and their cars.

PLUTO

(to herself)
Old woman.

EXT. SCHOOL - NIGHT

Pluto jumps a large fence and prances into the bungalows.

She skips down the hallway and twirls into an open blue boys'
bathroom.

INT. BOYS' BATHROOM - NIGHT

Pluto spins through the doorway across the room landing in a
crouch in the corner holding an invisible camera to her eye.

She is frozen eyes wide. Her finger presses the shutter and
she slowly lowers her hands.

PLUTO

What are *even* you doing here?

Blue sits in an armchair next to the urinals.

BLUE

What are *even you* doing here?

PLUTO

(standing)
Well, I had to use the bathroom.

BLUE

You look like an idiot standing
here "I had to use the bathroom."

PLUTO

You're the one plotting in the corner. Really, I wouldn't want to be sitting there.

BLUE

It's okay. I accepted the energy.

PLUTO

You what'd?

BLUE

I accepted the energy of the chair!

PLUTO

Ohh, well in that case, the chair accepts you, Joyous day.

BLUE

Thanks.

PLUTO

Why are even you in here?

BLUE

Well, I had heard of it, the chair. I wanted to test it out before I took it home. And seeing it stood very stable in the earthquake it'll definitely do.

PLUTO

You were going to steal a stolen chair?

BLUE

Well, I hadn't heard it was stolen, I thought it must have been a gift, given to the boy's bathroom.

PLUTO

I guess, yeah. It was a gift. Whatever makes you happy.

BLUE

That is, actually, why I wanted it.

PLUTO

To make you happy?

BLUE

Indeed. Why is it that you need it?

PLUTO
I was going to make a picture.

EXT. SCHOOL - NIGHT

Pluto and Blue run out of the bathroom and across the field of sprinklers with the chair between them.

EXT. MULHOLLAND - NIGHT

Blue sits in the chair in tall grass surrounded by flowers and candles far from the side of the road.

Close to the road stands Pluto next to a canvas looking at Blue. Then she remembers the paints and gathers herself behind the canvas. She starts painting.

Then she stands and walks over to Blue kneeling in front of her to retrieve a brush from her bag at Blue's feet.

She stands but doesn't say something to Blue, and walks off.

Blue sits waiting, looking at the back of the canvas and off.

EXT. MULHOLLAND - NIGHT

Now Blue stands near Pluto who frames a photo of the painting replacing Blue's place on the chair. Then she looks at Blue.

PLUTO
Go stand in.

BLUE
What? No, it's alright.

PLUTO
No! I mean I normally do this all on my own but you helped me bring it up here.

BLUE
-- Alright.

She walks over. Pluto takes the shot. Blue walks back to her.

Their ears touch watching it develop.

BLUE (CONT'D)
Do you have a sharpie?

PLUTO
Yes, I'll get it.

She hops over to her bag. Blue rotates the picture over and back, looking up after her. Pluto returns and hands her the pen. Blue writes 818.988.9066 on the bottom of the polaroid.

EXT. PLUTO'S APARTMENT COMPLEX - MORNING

Pluto walks across the courtyard carrying the chair. She sets it on Lynns patio and goes on to her stairs.

INT. PLUTO'S BEDROOM - MORNING

Pluto enters, dropping bag and jeans to the floor and falls into bed. Her father cracks the door sticking his head in.

CARL
Everything alright? I'm guessing no school tomorrow? We'll have to check your bed's integrity in the morning I'm sure it's all well and good. You sleep in now.

Pluto was already asleep.

EXT. BLUE'S HOUSE - MORNING

Blue walks across the lawn finding the door locked.

INT. BLUE'S KITCHEN - MORNING

Blue's father GABRIEL (57) and Wendy sit at the kitchen banquet, he wears brown slacks and a button up smoking reading the news, and she sits reading, knees to her chest in her silk pajamas.

Blue walks through the kitchen, her father follows her with his eyes over the paper.

INT. BLUE'S HALLWAY - MORNING

Eric walks out of the bathroom in a brown dog towel and leans on Blue's hip as she walks by, she holds his shoulder. They part at the end of the hallway to their own rooms.

INT. BLUE'S CAR - DAY

Blue's Father drives Blue silently and Eric lays in the back seat on her side.

INT. GROCERY - DAY

Blue holds a basket looking at her list with Eric at her side walking down the aisle. She selects items.

Near the end of the aisle, her father turns the corner. They both notice each other, but then he selects his own nearby items from his own list. They pass as strangers.

INT. BLUE'S CAR - DAY

Eric sits separating the groceries in the back seat.

EXT. BLUE'S BACKYARD - DAY

Eric, and their parents sit on a mat around a slightly elevated table on the floor with food. Blue brings a pot over and sits down. She eyes her parents and then smiles at Eric.

Then silently they all take their food. Her mother stands and leaves with her plate. They watch after her.

EXT. PLUTO'S APARTMENT COMPLEX - DAY

Pluto stands by the garages. Her family is organizing themselves into the mini van. Kirk practices lines.

CYNTHIA

Alright, in you, in you.

KIRK

I do not bite *my* thumb at you, but
I do bite *my* thumb, sir!

CYNTHIA

No no, emphasize *at* and *sir*. Pluto,
do you need anything? Are you sure
you'll get there alright? I'm sure
we can make room somewhere?

PLUTO

No it's perfect, but thank you.
I'll see you there.

CYNTHIA

Okay!! Tally Ho! Let's roll out.

They manage to slam the van door shut and screech away.

A blue van with a yellow taxi sign atop squeals to a stop in front of Pluto. She walks around to the passenger side seat.

INT. TAXI - DAY

DRI (32) drives and Pluto picks at her fingernails, and hits Dri's vape.

DRI

Girl, you know that guy you've seen in here sometimes? Two hundred dollars just last week! You know, I'm sure there's ulterior motives cause how can even somebody be that many dude's best man? He's a drunk! He can barely stand on his own going to brunch! I've turned him back to the grass though, because he'll buy it and he's more funny that way. Rhi thinks he's funny too, I think she likes him.

PLUTO

I thought he liked you?

DRI

Where'd you hear that at?

PLUTO

Last week, you said something about it.

DRI

I did? Did I? Oh, well maybe, that would make more sense but I don't think I like him is the thing. At least I wouldn't sleep with him is what I mean.

PLUTO

Maybe he doesn't want to do that either?

DRI

Maybe. I don't want a situation with my customers, though, of course you know about that.

PLUTO

Mhm. You know I thought maybe we would surpass that, but I respect. You wanna be at Jill's next friday?

DRI

You know Fridays for me.

PLUTO

Sure. How about next Saturday I need a lift to Hollywood for a lil project. There's gonna be someone with me, too. Well- and Jill and Jack, if that's fine.

DRI

Sure.

PLUTO

Here, I got like five bucks, by the way.

DRI

Oh girl, it's okay, we're friends.

PLUTO

Dude, at least let me give you what I got sometimes. I earned that, too.

DRI

Doing what?

PLUTO

I helped set up the back to school tables. They paid me under the table.

EXT. SCHOOL - DAY

Pluto walks towards JACK (18) and JILL (18).

PLUTO

Hey there, you two. You guys look fried as hell.

JILL

No it's there's a burrito truck at mid lawn, and it kind of was really incredible.

JACK

I needa find a curb to sit on.

JILL

Do you want my water?

JACK

Listen, Pluto, this earthquake fucked up some people's places. Abi G's in Chatsworth slid down her hill. And did you know Juniper Lili's dad is in real estate and he's her landlord? And Colin's dad is her lawyer and they all use Derry's moms insurance company so I don't know who's fucked and who's collecting but I guess we'll find out on Friday for sure. But it's all so connected I wonder if it's like this for the adults too. Like imagine if I was a mechanic and you smashed your car and Jill was an insurance agent like it's a such a small world.

JILL

That would be crazy, Jack. Imagine, us all at jobs. I hear back from Jamba Juice soon I hope, by the way. Pluto, what are you thinking about, you are not present.

PLUTO

Well damn I guess, but you're right. Look.

She pulls the polaroid from her pocket. They all stop to look at it.

JACK

Oh, that's a telephone number.

JILL

Is it her telephone number?

PLUTO

She gave me her telephone number.

JILL

I see that.

EXT. SCENE SHOP - DAY

Pluto stands against the wall next to the loading dock entrance gate to the theater's flat set yard.

Next to the stage door sits Lynn in another chair, smoking surrounded by a couple lounging students in the sun.

They finish and go back inside. Pluto runs over and walks away carrying the chair.

INT. BLUE'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Blue enters the room and sits desperately on her apple box at her desk flipping through her book to the next blank page.

As soon as she writes the date Pluto knocks on her window. Blue walks to and opens the window.

BLUE
(consciously quiet)
What are you doing here?

PLUTO
May I come in?

BLUE
Well not really, actually. And I have homework. We cannot wake my parents, best to be silent.

PLUTO
Silent? How then can I talk to you?

BLUE
I mean, do you wanna go to the park?

PLUTO
Let's.

EXT. PARK - NIGHT

They sit on their backs squished in the big swing.

PLUTO
Space. It's so big. I figure to time travel you'd have to travel so fast back to where the planet was at the time you're aiming for, and be so exact. And what's there now? Where we once were. I just think about how big the planet is. How heavy. How can there be other places like this? Like, *this* is the alien planet, we are the aliens.
(MORE)

PLUTO (CONT'D)

We've been here barely for any time at all, and we've become so smart, so aware. And honestly the real life feels so magical, trees, ocean, mountain, hurricane. I've been trying to figure the other dimensions like what they look like and where there's space for it all, if it's there of course. Dimensions on earth I think are more about light than space. Like crows are really many other colors to the rest of the animals I think. But to us, just crows. And how it all moves together. We're all always moving in the same way, you know, it's all going in the same direction. It's magical how it all lines up the way it does. Truly, it all is in align, and going somewhere unknown, somewhere new. You see the shape of that structure? I can't make it out. What is it?

BLUE

It's- weird looking, surely.

PLUTO

I think it's about gravity. I *thought* of it as a characteristic of our big planet, like a push and pull between us, me and the ground. Now I think it's every thing, just some things are more dense. A big sphere gathered molten material. There must be something so big out there we circle. We spin the sun, the sun spins something spinning around something. And the moon spins around us. I don't think I'll ever stand on the moon. That's something I can't do, definitely I want to do. But I'm so happy here. I wish I could show the moon my flowers, and sword fish, you know? I think I'd like the moon. I think actually, that I Love the moon.

EXT. SWEET BUTTER CAFE - DAY

Pluto and Blue sit outside at a table eating brunch wearing all white and sun glasses people watching, Paris cafe style.

PLUTO

And you know Abi Gale-

BLUE

Abigail?

PLUTO

Abi Gale. Abigail Gale. You'll like her. But Jack said her house slid down her hill in the earthquake. I knew she was a drama queen, but this one we'll be hearing about for quite some time.

BLUE

Her house slid down a hill? I'd hardly call that drama.

PLUTO

Well you'll hear about it. And you know Derry?

BLUE

I don't know Derry.

PLUTO

Oh. He's sweet. I don't know. Jack says she thinks he likes me.

BLUE

Oh?

PLUTO

He's not very exciting though. I think he's in the nature science magnet? They're the ones with the pig and turtle. You know, the smelly corner. I don't know about that. Jill's having a party next week, they tasked me with invitations. Who shouldn't I invite?

BLUE

I don't know. Why wouldn't you invite someone?

PLUTO

It's just like her parents are gone and we can really curate who's there. We're trying to set up some things, like a fight.

BLUE

You're trying to set up a fight?

PLUTO

Yeah I think if we find the right pairing they will for sure fight.

BLUE

Why would you do that?

PLUTO

I don't know, but it's fun to plan it that way and see what happens.

BLUE

I see. You're good at planning?

PLUTO

I think I'm pretty good at pairing. Julie is throwing a show next week, I wanna show up but I think we're gonna make a mission out of it.

BLUE

A mission?

PLUTO

Do you know anyone with fireworks?

BLUE

Why would I know anyone with fireworks.

PLUTO

Well, I do, but he's pretty slimy. Are you seeing anyone?

BLUE

Seeing anyone?

PLUTO

Yeah. Do you fancy someone?

BLUE

No, I don't really worry about that right now.

PLUTO

Oh.

BLUE

Are you?

PLUTO

I don't know. I don't think there's really anyone for me. You know Jill and Jack, they get me but we're friends obviously.

BLUE

Right-

PLUTO

Of course they're always looking for someone.

BLUE

They're looking for someone for you?

PLUTO

Oh they can't find anyone.

BLUE

Who are *they* seeing?

PLUTO

I don't know right now. You know Jill told me not to talk to you.

BLUE

Why would she say that?

PLUTO

I don't know. You're so quiet, but I think I really need someone like you. I think you really see things as they are, like from a different perspective.

BLUE

Well yeah, I think that's most people?

PLUTO

You think so? I don't know.

BLUE

You know I have to go in a sec. I have to make dinner for Eric and I.

PLUTO

Oh, really? Why are you always managing him around? Can't he do it sometimes?

BLUE
He's twelve years old.

PLUTO
I was tired of my parents by then-
You're not his parents of course,
but I guess it kind of seems that
way a little, don't you think?

BLUE
(snorts)
That's for sure... My mom- is
having a hard time... And my dad is-
Well he's just really hard to get
to... I don't think he really likes
her so much.

PLUTO
Oh?

BLUE
Yeah, listen I do have to go
though. Thank you for lunch!

PLUTO
No, any time. Are you free later?
We could bring Eric out?

BLUE
Yeah, well we'll see about *that*.
I'll let you know.

PLUTO
(sighs)
Parting is such sweet sorrow, that
I shall say good night til it be
morrow.

EXT. SHERMAN OAKS LA RIVER - DAY

They walk along the path above the river.

PLUTO
Do you have any pets?

BLUE
No. We used to have a cat, but- Do
you?

PLUTO
Yeah, we have a Cavapoo. Maurice.

BLUE
That's a right name, Maurice.

PLUTO
What's your favorite color?

BLUE
(chuckles)
Green or something. You?

PLUTO
Yeah. Green. Do you have beef with anyone?

BLUE
Beef with anyone? No, not that I'm aware of. Besides my family of course. There is beef.

PLUTO
Gotcha.

BLUE
How are your parents?

PLUTO
Oh they're sweet. They get on my nerves sometimes, but I think they've learned to care for the boys, and that I got it on my own.

BLUE
You have brothers?

PLUTO
Three. Older, older sister, younger, younger (twins). Have you traveled much?

BLUE
Not really, mostly since I figured out how I've just driven around a lot of California. Have you?

PLUTO
Yeah, yeah. We've gone out of the country a few times. It's nice, you'll go sometime.

PLUTO (CONT'D)
Have you ever been to a hockey game? - Oh - - Oh I like Africa, I think.

BLUE
Where's your favorite place? - Oh - No! Is it cool?

PLUTO (CONT'D)

No. A little. We tried it, no one in the family liked it, the seats were really tall. The big men fighting with sticks were talented enough I guess, though. Have you been to the medieval games? Those are big men with sticks. Who do you listen to?

EXT. MEADOW - NIGHT

They busy around a new armchair, adding flowers and stringing lights. They take turns standing back to consider and adjust.

Pluto leans against the back of the chair studying Blue. Blue notices and stares back.

Then Pluto suddenly rounds the chair at Blue who jumps around to the back to face her. Then Pluto chases her the other way.

They play musical chair shoving each other off trying to sit.

They end up tackling each other into the grass and rolling around grappling.

EXT. THE BOWL LOOKOUT - EVENING

Surrounded by trees, Blue sits on a fallen log and Pluto paces around sectioning areas. Behind them is a decorated coat rack with a single candle burning atop.

PLUTO

The sun room will be here, next to the dining room of course because we'll eat dinner and then want to sit and drink for the sunset. It'll let out to the patio here, and there's a fountain there. I want a hot tub in the ground, it's all really earthly made of rocks and stuff. There's a waterfall into the jacuzzi that you can turn up or down instead of jets. Mostly so you can sit and listen to the sound of the water falling. I think it'll be tough but I want to build it too, myself.

BLUE

How are you gonna pay for it?

PLUTO

Woah there. You're doubting me
aren't you.

BLUE

No. Just curious.

PLUTO

Well, I guess if the art world, of
course, isn't kindly lucrative
enough there's always taco truck
and tax evasion. You know, and the
Catskills, or Saskatchewan,
somewhere in Canada. Probably we'll
live like witches, brewing. But I
aim to be rich, whether earned or
stolen. I've got enough backup
plans, even Cover Band could be
fun, but of course, not so much
cash there. But our house ain't
payin' for itself.

EXT. MULHOLLAND - NIGHT

40fps:

Pluto and Blue walk next to each other in the street towards
Blue's car. Blue smiling looks at Pluto.

EXT. JAPANESE GARDENS - DAY

Pluto and Blue stand in front of colorful bushes sharing
headphones in between them. It's like they are standing in
front of paintings:

Pluto and Blue stand on a bridge across the pond.

Pluto and Blue stand in front of tall bamboo tree forests.

EXT. BLUE'S HOUSE - DAY

They walk across her lawn holding an arm chair between them.

EXT. PARK PATHWAY - DAY

They walk down a path together in rain boots. Pluto spots a
red handkerchief marker tall in a tree and leads them down a
thin path into the trees.

EXT. CLEARING - DAY

They walk into a clearing filled with old furniture, next to a river.

PLUTO

Normally there's an island here.
But there's usually still a little
ways down the path and then a ledge
and a drop... The river's so high
now. I always find cool rocks on
the island, I wanted to show you.

BLUE

Our galoshes aren't big enough.

PLUTO

Our galoshes are not big enough.

BLUE

What are we going to make here? I
didn't really bring anything
remarkable.

PLUTO

I think there's enough here
already. We can just leave
cigarettes.

BLUE

That's fine with me.

They light cigarettes.

PLUTO

So, this mission- So, this
mission- So, this weekend-

BLUE (CONT'D)

What's with the armchairs?-
Sorry, you first- You go,
sorry-

PLUTO (CONT'D)

Just follow, trust me, stick close.
Keep me on track, we can't get
distracted. There's going to be a
lot of people.

BLUE

Okay? It's a party.

PLUTO

Well, at the party too. But the
mission is we're going to Julie's
show after too.

BLUE
The fireworks?

PLUTO
Right.

BLUE
Why do you need them?

PLUTO
Eh, I think it'll be good in a picture sometime.

BLUE
Gotcha. What is with the armchairs, though?

PLUTO
... I don't know. My old teacher- Well, and my neighbor, Lynn, she used to always sit in an armchair.

BLUE
Used to?

PLUTO
She still does. She's the lower grade theater teacher, you know?

BLUE
No.

PLUTO
She used to just be the art teacher, and she was really grumpy, and she didn't like me, really.

BLUE
She didn't like you? Why could that be?

PLUTO
I don't know, she just picked on me. I did try my best. She didn't really get what I was doing, you know?

BLUE
Not really.

PLUTO
I don't know. I just didn't paint pictures like everyone did. I like to make stuff, with things.
(MORE)

PLUTO (CONT'D)

She just didn't get the vision. But it's fun doing it with you!

BLUE

It is! And you're really good at it. It's very tactile.

PLUTO

Yeah. I don't really like to hold a grudge, but I don't really forget so easily.

BLUE

I understand. But you think really it was personal?

PLUTO

It felt so! She like, made sides out of it. She orchestrated the whole class dynamics like someone would always be on trial.

BLUE

That's really hard.

PLUTO

I just felt ganged up upon, by the leader too. There wasn't really anyone to go to. Even Jill and Jack at the time couldn't really take my side. I'm really glad you're here.

BLUE

I'm really glad you're here. You're doing so well. You're so talented and free. I wish I could do what you do. I wish I had the friends like you do. I've always wanted to have those people.

PLUTO

You do have those people.

BLUE

Not really.

PLUTO

There's me, Eric, there's- I mean who else is there? There's loads of people. You got along with Abi like I said you would, and Derry thought you were great.

BLUE
Those are *your* friends.

PLUTO
Nobody is mine, Blue. It's not like that.

BLUE
But if something were to happen they would take your side.

PLUTO
Hey now, what would happen?

BLUE
I mean, I don't know I'm just imagining.

PLUTO
What are you imagining?

BLUE
I don't know, you're not there.

PLUTO
Why is it I wouldn't be there?

BLUE
I don't know!

PLUTO
I don't like this hypothetical.

BLUE
Me either. But people leave.

PLUTO
Well of course I know that- Look, what is this? Can we drop it?

She lights another cigarette and offers it to Blue.

BLUE
Sorry. I'm not good at this.

PLUTO
Stop. Sure you are. You'll get over this, you'll see. You're grand, you know I think so. And Eric is so grateful, you've always been there for him.

BLUE
He's my brother I have to.

PLUTO

No absolutely the fuck you don't.
You never talk about your parents
but I see it's always you doing
that work. You're doing a great
job, it's not your place through.
You're eighteen, Blue. You're not
his parent.

BLUE

I know, but- he- they don't-

PLUTO

He's old enough almost. Don't
worry, this is just a chapter. I
read ahead, and everything works
out fine in the end for you.

Blue sighs.

BLUE

You too, Pluto. I really like you.

PLUTO

I really like you too. It's really
heavy but this shit passes. Your
life will be perfect one day, don't
worry.

EXT. RESIDENTIAL STREET - NIGHT

They walk arm in arm past houses with Christmas decorations.
They pass a huge tree with large colored ball lights.

BLUE

Looks like someone won Christmas.

PLUTO

It's almost the fifteenth, you
gotta give everyone else a chance.
They're just kind enough to keep
theirs up.

BLUE

I wish we never took the
decorations down. It's so festive.
You move on the moment you take
them down, and then it's back to
business.

They pass a house playing soft holiday jazz waltz music.

PLUTO
This is too much, you think?

They release arms and dance together down the street.

EXT. STREET - NIGHT

Blue kneels next to the curb at the bottom of a hill huddled in a coat.

Jack and Jill, and Pluto crest the hill and walk to Blue.

PLUTO
Ah they didn't have Pink Whitney, I
didn't know what to get you. You
can have some of mine?

JILL
And mine.

JACK
And mine!

BLUE
What did you guys get?

PLUTO
We got beers.

JILL
And milk.

JACK
And pickles.

BLUE
What?

PLUTO
We got beers, and pickles.

JILL
And milk.

BLUE
Oh my gosh. I should've just come
in.

PLUTO
It's okay. Dude, you just need to
get a fake.

BLUE
It's seven-eleven.

PLUTO
(Shrugging to her friends)
I- I don't know. Have some of my
beer, here.

She opens it and takes a big drink then holds it out to Blue.

PLUTO (CONT'D)
Driiiiink.

BLUE
You forgot my Hot Cheetos.

PLUTO
They were ouu- Okay, sorry. I'm
sorry. We got food, though!

BLUE
It's okay.

She chugs at the beer.

JACK
You can totally have a pickle if
you want one.

JILL
And milk.

BLUE
(handing back the beer)
Thank you. I'm okay, though, thank
you.

She chuckles holding out her arms in front of her steadying
herself.

PLUTO
(checking her phone)
Okay Dri is supposed to be here.

JILL
When did you tell her?

PLUTO
For like four minutes ago.

JILL
Okay, then she's almost here.

EXT. STREET - NIGHT

They all sit on the curb waiting. The blue taxi pulls around a corner and stops at a house down the street. Pluto stands.

PLUTO

What is she doing? I texted her oh my gosh.

Then the van lurches over to them, the back door swings open. In the back seat is the drunk ANTONIO, leaning his head.

The drivers window lowers and Pluto leads them to Dri.

PLUTO (CONT'D)

Hey Dri, You wanna go out with us?

DRI

Girl, I am out. Who's this?

PLUTO

This is Jill, and Jack! You've met them.

DRI

No-

PLUTO

(stepping aside)

Oh! This is Blue!

BLUE

I'm Blue.

DRI

Oh hi honey. Get in, though, this guy's gotta get out soon.

ANTONIO

Heyy- Dri I gotta stay in this seat here.

DRI

I know, man.

ANTONIO

You gotta drop them off first, Dri please, I don't wanna go home.

DRI

We have to anyways, Anton-e-o. You're on the west side!

INT. TAXI - CONTINUOUS

Pluto and Blue and Jill and Jack crawl over him squeezing into the way back seats.

Antonio fumbles with a joint and a lighter as Jack passes.

JACK
You want help with that?

ANTONIO
Lay off me. I ain't no drunk!

He drops the lighter.

ANTONIO (CONT'D)
Listen kid, get that for me.

He pierces his lips around the joint aiming it as Jack picks up the lighter and strikes it for him.

The taxi lurches forward sending Jack onto him.

ANTONIO (CONT'D)
Get off me, bitch!

DRI
Oh my gosh, Antonio, lay off her.
She's a nice kid.

RHIANNE from the passenger seat turns around to him.

RHIANNE
Dude I cannot believe she's driving you all the way over there. I told her she should charge you a hundred and fifty dollars! And you should pay for *their* rides too. Dri, listen, if I were you, you can't put yourself down like that.

DRI
He's had a rough night, look at him. How much did he pay for that suit? Antoneo how much did you pay for that suit?

ANTONIO
A hundred fifty.

DRI
See he doesn't have any money.

RHIANNE

He paid a hundred and fifty dollars for that! Listen to you! How can I get to you, he's not poor! And he just wants to go home with you! In two hours, he'll call you saying he's going to the 'Dena.

In the way back, Jack lights a hand rolled.

JILL

You're too much, inside?

JACK

You're so annoying, Jill. You're gonna be twenty-seven and wish you were me.

JILL

Dead?

JACK

You'll wish.

BLUE

(shaking her head)
Pickles, milk, and beer, and cigarettes.

JACK

It's weed too.

BLUE

Oh can I have some?

JACK

Of course, queen.

PLUTO

See? It won't be so bad.

They are all thrown going over a bump.

Blue has a sip of beer, and then Jack holds out a pickle on a fork. Worried, she takes a bite. Her face sours.

Jill offers the milk carton to Blue who shakes her head. She finds the beer in Pluto's hand and has a chug then shakes her head like a dog. Then she eyes the milk and beckons for it.

JILL

(handing it to her)
There we go!

She takes a swig, swallows, and then her cheeks puff up. She rolls the back window down and hurls outside.

ANTONIO

Oh man oh man, I was just throwing
up myself in a bush is where Dri
found me.

RHIANNE

Let her be, Antonio. She doesn't
want to talk to you.

ANTONIO

I'm just trying to make light of
the situation.

DRI

Antonio, you could never.

ANTONIO

Don't bully me, guys.

RHIANNE

Dude you just gotta tell her. You
can't just keep asking for rides.

ANTONIO

Man, Rhi, I'm too drunk for this,
shit, I'm just being here, why are
even you here?

RHIANNE

Why am even I here? This here, is
my friend!

Antonio groans.

RHIANNE (CONT'D)

(to Blue)

Are you okay, girl?

BLUE

(leaning back in)

I think I just threw up on that
homeless guy.

RHIANNE

Oh girl, never repeat that, that is
so vile.

Pluto helps Blue back into the back seat.

PLUTO

What was that? Are you okay? You sure you can go through with this?

BLUE

I mean. I mean, yeah. We're on the way I'm fine, I just drank a little.

PLUTO

Okay, you'll be fine. We probably won't stay for the show anyway. It's gonna be Shcuba.

BLUE

I'm so dead.

PLUTO

I know.

QUE: *SAGA* by Santigold

The car screeches to a stop outside a theater.

Antonio swings the door open and the crew piles out over him.

PLUTO (CONT'D)

Keep 'er running, Dri.

DRI

Gotcha.

They file out.

I/E. THEATER - NIGHT

People smoke outside, and as people enter and exit, light and music pound out the doors.

People come up to them saying hi. Generally they know most people. They walk through the door saying greetings/hugging.

Inside they run into more people. JULIE and her friends walk over to say hi embracing Pluto who introduces Blue.

They reach KYLE at the edge of the crowd in front of the stage. Pluto tells him of their plan and he seems a little confused, but leads them through to the middle of the crowd.

They get to the DEALER who greets them and dances with them for a moment before Pluto talks to him, and he leads them further through the crowd through a door across the theater.

40fps:

Blue looks around at the crowd bewildered, but can't help smiling.

Inside people are fucking and doing drugs. The dealer leads them to the back and starts dealing with Pluto and Jack and Jill. Blue looks around taking everything in.

Pluto behind her is starting to get heated with the dealer. Then, holding an obnoxiously giant firework, she punches him.

The three stooges scramble grabbing Blue, leading her out the door back into the crowd as people chase them out.

INT. TAXI - NIGHT

Pluto slams the sliding door shut, and Blue falls back onto her shoulder. The big firework sits in the way back seat.

They drive in silence.

They come to a stop some time later and Blue sits up as Pluto pulls the door open. Blue braces herself to exit, but Eric climbs in.

Blue blinks unexpectedly.

BLUE
What are you doing even?

ERIC
(so innocently)
I thought we were going to the beach?

PLUTO
Surprise.. !?

BLUE
Girl, I'm so tired. I can't even like talk about this right now. Eric, I'm sorry you're gonna have to go inside.

PLUTO
Blue- c'mon.

BLUE
Eric.

He doesn't move and looks at Pluto.

PLUTO

We're going to the beach, Blue.
This was the plan... !!!

BLUE

Okay well I think I've had enough,
and definitely I can't believe you
invited my little brother out at at
least two in the morning, girl, you
know my parents.

PLUTO

I know enough to not care. I don't
think it's a problem, Blue. Even
Eric does.

BLUE

Well I can't believe you went
behind my back.

PLUTO

C'mon girl, say something smarter.

Blue opens her mouth, but then closes it.

PLUTO (CONT'D)

Sit down, Eric. And go, Dri. Leo
Carrillo.

DRI

You sure?

BLUE

Yeah.

DRI

No, you sure? It's twelve-thirty.

PLUTO

Is it a concern with your time?

DRI

I mean, kinda. I'm just not gonna
wait for you there.

PLUTO

That's fine. But are you sure?

DRI

Yeah, the drive is fine. It's just
you'll be there for some hours,
huh?

PLUTO

Yeah.

INT. TAXI - NIGHT

Pluto and Eric lean their heads on Blue's shoulders.

EXT. LEO CARRILLO - NIGHT

Blue and Eric huddle under a blanket next to Pluto trying to strike a fire with two sticks.

PLUTO

Gosh it's not working.

BLUE

Literally please use a lighter.

PLUTO

Okayy. I thought this could work.

BLUE

That's never worked.

PLUTO

I have matches.

BLUE

What happened to your lighter from earlier?

PLUTO

Fine, I'll use the lighter, damn. I was trying to be like woodsy.

BLUE

Girl. I am tired.

PLUTO

Heard.

She lights a fire starter with her lighter and sits with them under the blanket.

PLUTO (CONT'D)

Happy birthday, Blue.

BLUE

Thank you. It is really nice.

PLUTO

Isn't it?

BLUE

Thanks for coming, Eric. I guess I don't know why I haven't really brought you along.

ERIC

It's fine, I get it. I also just really enjoy the ride.

BLUE

Me too. You're always welcome.

ERIC

Thank you. And you too, one day!

BLUE

Yes! For real. I'm excited.

ERIC

Me too.

BLUE

What's even planned for tomorrow?

PLUTO

Today? Nothing, really. I thought we'd stay here til the suns up and catch a ride home. We could just go to the park? That's all I was thinking.

BLUE

Really? What's the firework for then?

PLUTO

Oh no, really, that's for later.

BLUE

Oh yeah?

PLUTO

Yeah.

BLUE

Okay. Sounds like a really nice day.

PLUTO

Doesn't it?

EXT. BEEMAN PARK - DAY

They sit in the shade under a tree.

INT. PLUTO'S MINIVAN - DAY

Pluto drives with Blue in the passenger seat. They both wear t-shirts with a picture of Lynn on it. Pluto's entire extended family is squeezed illegally in the back rows.

Pluto's elbow slowly slides towards Blue's on the console.

Pluto's mom leans in between the seats.

CARL

Who's on your shirt, Pluto?

PLUTO

It's, uh, from school a while ago.

CYNTHIA

Is that poor Mrs. Lynn?

PLUTO

Mom! It's funny, c'mon, you guys never had her.

CARL

Pluto, it's not funny. What if she was here tonight?

CYNTHIA

Of course she'll be here, Carl.
It's her play. It's not funny
Pluto. Think about how you would
feel.

PLUTO

Mom! It's not even that deep. She
would never notice even if it was
right in front of her.

EXT. ELEMENTARY SCHOOL THEATER - DAY

They all stand shuffling in line.

PLUTO

You excited?

BLUE

Excited? ... Yeah!

They arrive at JOE (10) the ticket taker.

JOE
Tickets please!

INT. GIRLS BATHROOM - DAY

Blue walks in and leans against the tiny sink looking into the mirror. In the far corner sits an armchair. She pushes away.

Lynn walks in. Blue freezes.

LYNN
Hi sweetie.

On a mission to the stalls she looks Blue down, up, and down, landing on her face on the shirt.

She stops. Too late Blue pulls her coat over it.

LYNN (CONT'D)
That's funny you wearing this. Who are you? You think I'm weird? You think I'm crazy?

BLUE
What? No-

LYNN
You're stupid!

BLUE
What?

LYNN
All of you! I've figured you out, you know.

She advances.

BLUE
I don't know.

LYNN
I see you, year after year. A carbon copy of a copy. I feel so bad for you. You're just a print. A pretty new ink.

BLUE
Hey, shut up! You don't know me.

Blue reaches the sink. Lynn presses up to her.

LYNN

Excuse me? I try, and try to teach you. Why don't you listen? It's right there I'm trying to tell you!

BLUE

I'm sorry I'm wearing this. It's not my shirt. I didn't know what it was.

LYNN

Well tell whoever made your shirt to listen to my play, and when they don't, to go fuck themselves.

She turns and walks into a stall to pee.

Pluto leans against the small sink as her gaze falls on the armchair in the corner.

INT. AUDITORIUM - DAY

A Living Room set on the stage.

GRETA (9) stands in a spotlight downstage left.

GRETA

Do you remember when I bit you and you didn't feel it?

ARTHUR (9) wearing a suit and tie with a briefcase stands in the middle of the room. A few BUSINESS ASSOCIATES leave the room.

ARTHUR

People come, people go and forget to close the door. I hate you, you hate me, is any of this real? Or am I just making it up?!

GRETA

Do you remember when you stung me and I didn't notice?

ARTHUR (CONT'D)

I blame you for so much. I impute everything to you!

GRETA (CONT'D)

Do you remember when I caught at the back of your head? I was just a feeling - funny. Do you remember when you couldn't have anything else but me? When you held me and when you let me go?

(MORE)

GRETA (CONT'D)

Do you remember that I stuck with you but you realized that you just couldn't do anything about me. You do? Good. I don't. I've chosen my ignorance, and it's comforting.

Blue sits staring captured in the audience next to Pluto and her family bickering over each other quietly.

INT. PLUTO'S MINIVAN - NIGHT

Pluto drives with her dad in the passenger seat. Blue and the extended family squeeze in the back.

INT. BLUE'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Blue stands next to her desk inspecting her armchair. She sits down on her apple box to write in her book and smoke.

INT. LYNN'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Lynn sits in front of the television as white noise, reading a book. JOEL (78) enters behind her and checks in the oven.

LYNN

Joel? Can you make a fire?

JOEL

In a moment, Lynn. I'm making some salmon with mushrooms and eggplant. Do we have firewood?

LYNN

Joel! I've asked and asked you to go out and get some. You know we don't.

JOEL

Oh, Lynn. I'm sorry. I keep spacing on it. I'll get some tomorrow, I'm sure of it.

LYNN

You know that's what you said yesterday. I don't want a fire tomorrow, it won't be as nice tomorrow. I had a weird day today, I'm tired I might go to bed.

JOEL

Oh, come on, Lynn! I'm sorry. I really am. I'll write it down right now and I will get some. Do you want me to go out now?

LYNN

No, Joel. It's okay.

JOEL

Come here, girl. I miss you all day.

She stands and walks to him.

LYN

Oh yeah? All day? Thinking of me?

JOEL

Thinking of you. You were always on my mind.

They begin to slow dance, but there is a *CRASH* at the door and they both turn to look.

They walk to the door and open it. Sitting outside on the porch is a bundle of firewood.

EXT. BLUE'S HOUSE - DAY

Pluto crouches on the roof, and knocks at Blue's window. She tries to peer in but can't see anything

EXT. PLUTO'S APARTMENT COMPLEX - DAY

Pluto paces on the curb. The taxi pulls up and she gets in.

INT. TAXI - DAY

They sit in silence, Pluto leaning against the window.

EXT. MEADOW - DAY

Pluto lags behind Jack and Jill, and DERRY (18), ABI (18), and OTHERS carrying Trader Joes Bags. They all sit for a picnic, with Pluto contributing but with limited effort.

EXT. SCHOOL

Blue marches to school with her bag.

EXT. BOBBA SHOP - DAY

Pluto sits at a table with Jack and Jill eating a burrito and a sandwich.

JILL

Pluto, you've got to eat.

PLUTO

I ate earlier. I'm not hungry.

JILL

I should hold you're hand when I
say this: Food is going to make you
feel a lot better.

EXT. BLUE'S HOUSE - DAY

Pluto stands on the ground throwing rocks at Blue's window.
Then she sits at the roots of a tree.

EXT. MECHANIC - DAY

Blue sits away from the garage contemplating. Behind her the
MECHANIC waves a towel and calls out to her.

EXT. BLUE'S HOUSE - DAY

Blue screeches to a stop outside her house and walks to the
front door staring at the ground.

INT. BLUE'S KITCHEN - DAY

She enters, her parents are silently arguing at the table,
and she bumps into Eric holding his backpack.

BLUE

Where are you going?

ERIC

To Derry's.

BLUE

Derry's? Are you kidding? Who else
will be there?

ERIC

I don't know. Avi just asked if I wanted to go with him.

BLUE

So my friends are inviting your friends over now?

ERIC

I guess so. You're not going?

BLUE

Is there like a gathering or something? Why in heavens would I be going there?

ERIC

I think everybody kinda goes over there regularly.

BLUE

(smirks)

Regularly? Must be a new thing. Are you going regularly?

ERIC

No, I mean Avi just asked me today.

BLUE

Okay, well you have fun then, I guess.

ERIC

Blue what's wrong, do you want to come with?

BLUE

No! I don't want to. There's- I don't know who'll be there.

ERIC

That hasn't seemed to matter to you in quite a while, Blue. What's going on? It's your friends?

BLUE

It's- No- Just- Listen, tell me what's going on there. Tell me who's there, what happens. Okay?

ERIC

Alright, but you're flustered, I haven't seen you like this in a long time. What happened?

BLUE
Nothing. Happened. Just, I'll see
you later.

ERIC
Are you sure?

BLUE
Please just go.

ERIC
Okay, I'll see you tomorrow.

BLUE
Tomorrow? You won't be home for
dinner?

ERIC
Oh, yeah. I forgot to tell you.
It's a sleepover thing, I guess.

BLUE
You have got to be fucking with me.

ERIC
I'm sorry, Blue.

BLUE
(boiling)
Okay, go.

Eric ducks his head out the door. Blue turns to her parents.

BLUE (CONT'D)
And what the hell are you two
doing?

They both turn, surprised to be addressed.

BLUE (CONT'D)
Did you know, that your son, a
child, is hanging out with my high
school friends tonight. It is a
sleepover, and I cannot imagine
there won't be a drop of alcohol or
a taste of drugs. Hello people!
Where have you been?

They stare.

BLUE (CONT'D)
My baby brother, practically my own
son, is getting invited to *my*
friends parties without *me*.
(MORE)

BLUE (CONT'D)

And that doesn't mean a thing to you, does it? Do you know of Jill? Do you know Derry? Do you know about Abi? Do you know even Pluto!? UGCH! Listen to this: It seems like you hate me. It seems like you hate Eric. It seems like you hate each other. I don't even want to hear "you're sorry." I don't even know what it would be for. You're not hurting anyone or going crazy, but I don't feel loved. I don't feel seen, or understood. Maybe that's not your job and it's just supposed to be that way, but you have to hear I'm hurting. Is it me? Is it me? Am I so upsetting? You're so sad but you can't express to me what, and I think it's me. I think it's me, and I'm sad because I think it's my fault. I think it's my fault. But I'm trying to make it up to you, I'm trying and trying. Can't you see I'm trying so hard to say I'm sorry. I think to give you space but that's all we ever have, and it's not working for me. Look at me! Say something! Say something! Say anything, that would help. -- Fuck it. I'm sorry. I know this doesn't work either. But this is how I am feeling. Please try. Please try for me.

She marches out.

INT. DERRY'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Eric leads AVI (12) through the living room of HIGH SCHOOLERS. They find Pluto and dap Jack and Jill, and then a sulking Pluto.

ERIC
(to Pluto)
Everything alright?

PLUTO
Yeah, I'm great.

ERIC
You look upset.

PLUTO
I said I'm great.

ERIC
You know, you sound like my sister.

PLUTO
Oh yeah? Bite me.

ERIC
Alright, chill then.

JILL
(standing)
Alright. Eric, you want a drink?

ERIC
Is that alright?

JILL
What the hell? Yeah, obviously.

ERIC
Avi?

JILL
Yeah, come on guys, let's grab
some beers. Have you ever played
the chug game?

Pluto watches them leave.

EXT. DERRY'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Pluto, Jack, Jill, Eric, Avi, Abi, Derry, and ETC sit around
on couches and pillows on the floor laughing and talking.
There is a space next to Pluto.

EXT. STREET - NIGHT

Blue walks by herself deep in contemplation. She swings her
arms, and sighs, and looks around for someone, and turns as
she walks, and drops her head.

EXT. THE BOWL LOOKOUT - NIGHT

Blue sits on a log with her chin in her palm, kicking a foot.

EXT. MULHOLLAND - NIGHT

Blue walks slowly alone.

INT. TAXI - NIGHT

Blue sits shotgun. Antonio is asleep.

BLUE

Something happened with my best friend and I in like March and slowly we stopped talking and for me it's been sad and painful and slowly I stopped enjoying hanging out with my friends and I have not been motivated and planning this work I had planned to do with my best friend was heartbreaking and it is hard to do most things when they aren't there. I wish I knew better how to handle this but surely next time it can't happen again this way. I wish I had that person to go to, now. But they are that person, and I can't. I want to be strong on my own, but I am normally, and it's time like this I need her there.

EXT. JILL'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Jack and Eric, and Jill and Pluto stumble out of the house laughing together.

Jack unlocks her car and they all get in.

INT. JACK'S CAR - MULHOLLAND - NIGHT

Jack drives talking with Eric in the passenger seat on aux.

Pluto and Jill slide from one side of the car to the other on top of each other.

Then, around a bend, Pluto lands on top facing Jill, and they make out.

INT. STUDIO

Fabric stretches.

Light through the fabric.

A knot tightens.

FADE TO:

EXT. MULHOLLAND - NIGHT

Blinding car head lights weave.

FADE TO:

INT. PLUTO'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Pluto lays on her back staring at the ceiling, the giant firework next to her on the floor.

FADE TO:

EXT. PARK - NIGHT

Blue sits on the play structure.

FADE TO:

EXT. BEACH - NIGHT

Ocean waves crash.

A white garment in the tide.

FADE TO:

INT. JILL'S LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

6 FPS:

Pluto sits on the couch alone as people pass by.

Dri and Antonio fall on either side of her flirting over her.

FADE TO:

INT. BOYS' BATHROOM - NIGHT

Pluto peers into the bathroom. The chair is gone.

FADE TO:

INT. STUDIO

Colored light flashes and starts to bend like 2001: beginning to outline a floating being of light.

EXT. BLUE'S HOUSE - MORNING

Blue sits smoking on her porch and Eric returns stumbling. She stands and hugs him, and they go inside.

INT. BLUE'S HALLWAY - MORNING

She helps him down the hallway and into his bedroom.

EXT. SCHOOL - DAY

Pluto follows Jack and Jill, Derry and Abi at a distance maintaining her posture.

EXT. JAPANESE GARDENS - DAY

Blue passes the colorful bushes.

She walks over the bridge.

She walks through the wood.

EXT. MULHOLLAND - DAY

Pluto sits slumped in an armchair, the valley behind her. She wears a yellow crochet crown, and holds a flask. *Click.*

EXT. BLUE'S HOUSE - DAY

Blue sits on the curb with her head in her hands. Eric exits in a fox costume and walks to her holding a bag.

ERIC

Hey.

BLUE

Hi.

ERIC

I'm going to Jill's, please would you come with me?

BLUE
Eric, I'm really not in the mood.

ERIC
It's a masquerade. You don't have
to show your face.

BLUE
(looks up at him)
Woah there, tiger. What are you
wearing?

ERIC
It's- I'm a fox.

BLUE
Aho-kay. I don't have any costume.

ERIC
You've def got something in your
closet. You could be a witch. A
knight. Indiana Jones?

BLUE
I'm tired really for this all.

ERIC
Please, Blue. I'm kind of having
some issues with my friends, I'm
not really feeling so great about
it either. It would be a favor.

BLUE
Can we leave quickly?

ERIC
You got it.

BLUE
Alright. Let's see what I got.

EXT. JILL'S BACKYARD - NIGHT

It's a masquerade. Pluto walks around the pool, an angel.

EXT. JILL'S HOUSE - NIGHT

The fox and a knight walk up the stairs.

INT. JILL'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Blue and Eric enter the door to a bustle of a gathering.

ERIC
Find the drinks?

Blue follows him to the kitchen.

INT. JILL'S KITCHEN - NIGHT

Eric pours two cocktails skillfully.

Blue wanders the kitchen and ends up inspecting fish in a tank separating the kitchen from the living room.

She freezes seeing an eye through the tank. It's Pluto.

They do a little waltz trying to look at each other, intrigued. Blue cannot help but smile.

Eric turns Blue around to hand her a drink. He clinks their glasses together.

ERIC
Cheers!

He drinks. Blue looks over her shoulder at Pluto being pulled away by Jill. Blue drinks and follows into the living room.

INT. JILL'S LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Blue and Eric enter. Pluto is being whisked away by Jill. She looks back smiling at Blue as she's tugged into the crowd.

Blue pushes her way after.

EXT. JILL'S BACKYARD - NIGHT

Blue emerges to see Pluto in Jill's arms in a circle with Jack and Derry and Abi. They slow dance, but Pluto watches Blue.

Then Blue starts walking towards her. Pluto is surprised. She taps Jill on the shoulder and leaves her towards Blue.

They grab hands.

PLUTO
You're here!

BLUE
Here I am. Eric coaxed me out of
the house.

PLUTO
You didn't want to come.

BLUE
I just- I can't do people, right
now.

PLUTO
People? Me people?

BLUE
Pluto, you wanna get outa here?

JILL (O.C.)
Pluto. Blue? What are you doing
here?

Pluto and Blue smile at each other.

PLUTO
Let's go.

They start to run but a group of kids run into them jumping
into the pool. They fall into the pool.

Jack, Jill, Derry, Abi, and others gather around the pool.

JILL
Pluto!! Pluto!!

UNDERWATER: Pluto and Blue hold hands, and then push off the
floor.

They swim across the pool, their friends edging around it
following them.

They climb out laughing after each other, and run soaking out
of the side gate.

EXT. JILL'S HOUSE - NIGHT

They run from the house into the street and around a corner.

EXT. STREET - NIGHT

They walk together.

PLUTO

Where have you been? I've been
looking for you.

BLUE

Looking for me?

PLUTO

Yeah, you kinda ghosted me there.

BLUE

I'm sorry- I didn't mean- Pluto-
How about lets get drinks and go up
the hill.

PLUTO

Okay.

INT. 7-ELEVEN - NIGHT

They reach the checkout, Blue places two tiny Pink Whitney
bottles, a bag of Cheetos, and a tall boy Guinness.

As the cashier checks her out she smirks at Pluto, and they
gather their items and leave.

EXT. THE BOWL LOOKOUT - NIGHT

They walk into their clearing, and Blue sits on her log.
Pluto lights a cigarette.

BLUE

I'm sorry, Pluto.

Pluto turns around.

BLUE (CONT'D)

I had unfair expectations of you. I
felt like I was being clear
sometimes, but it wasn't fair to
hold you to some bar I made up. I
think I understand more now what
led me to create such things in my
head. I recognize your effort and
how hard you have been trying. I
can feel the reconning inside you,
and I see what's brought you there,
too. And now I am more aware of my
affect.

(MORE)

BLUE (CONT'D)

I'm sorry too -- and I've seen it's not you alone, or really much of a problem at that -- but I was startled with Eric's involvement. Now I see how good it is, even, but you were aware of the concern I have around him, and my parents. He's my baby brother, and I love him very much. And the timing of it all, you know? And, I- I don't really know how to word this. I feel- When you- You know, sometime, maybe, I just haven't felt so safe, sometime, or taken care of in a way I feel I should. Because, I like you so much, and I want to care for you, though I know too that is an unfair expectation to place upon myself. But I want to, you know?

PLUTO

What do you want me to say, Blue?

BLUE

What?

PLUTO

What do you want me to say-

BLUE

I don't have anything for you to say. You should say what you feel. I'm not attacking you. I'm telling you that I am sorry, for my disconnection, and that I have taken time to understand it, to be able to be present and fulfilled with myself. I guess, as much of an apology as I mean, it's an explanation. I don't think really anything was wrong, except inside of me. And I am sorry for how that affected you, if it did, it seems like maybe it did, and that I have faced it and am ready to be there for you, however little I can do. You know, cause I like you a lot.

PLUTO

If you've had such expectations of me, why would that just go away?

(MORE)

PLUTO (CONT'D)

I mean I hope I can pick it up easier now, I will definitely pay more attention, but you seem to reference a standard I don't meet, and have you considered that's just me? I am just not up to your standard?

BLUE

Pluto- That's-

PLUTO

I haven't really expected anything of you, and maybe I've taken your consciousness for granted, but to you mine is limited. Now that I understand you better I want to be aware, and I will try, but you understand that's not me now.

BLUE

Pluto, you're just fine. I didn't mean something is wrong with you-

PLUTO

What would be wrong with me?

BLUE

That's what I'm saying there isn't anything-

PLUTO

But why is that a question in your mind? Why did you have to come to that conclusion?

BLUE

I didn't mean- I just- Look, it's about me, okay? I have an expectation of myself, and I put it on you.

PLUTO

And I didn't meet that standard.

BLUE

No! Pluto! I asked you for chips at the store and you forgot, I told you I would let you know if it was alright if Eric went out with us, I set boundaries, but these are little things, and I realized it is about myself, and not you.

PLUTO

I hear you, but it just makes me
feel less than, less than you, to
you.

BLUE

I'm sorry. That's not how I see it.

PLUTO

How do you see it?

BLUE

Okay. Can we go somewhere else. I
promise I want to come back to
this, I just don't want to say
something that I don't mean, but I
need a cigarette and a walk.

PLUTO

Well I can help you out there.

She hands Blue a cigarette.

BLUE

Let's get some wood, and like, go
to the beach or something?

PLUTO

That sounds good. But I do want to
say the beach is super sacred to me
so I will not fight you on the
beach.

BLUE

I don't want to fight you- I take
that back. I want actually nothing
more than to fight with you, but
this one is not a fight, you'll
know when I mean to fight you.

EXT. MULHOLLAND - NIGHT

40fps:

Pluto and Blue walk next to each other in the street towards
Blue's car. Blue smiling looks at Pluto.

EXT. PLUTO'S APARTMENT COMPLEX - NIGHT

They walk down the street towards the garages, and towards
Pluto's apartment. Blue carries a bundle of firewood.

BLUE

I know this is random, but really, what is it with Lynn? The teacher.

PLUTO

I don't know. I don't know why I'm still hanging onto that. She really doubted me and really made me feel insignificant in such a bad way. Like a way that made me somebody who was wrong. I think I just have something to prove, but I don't know how much I have to support that. I want to say I told you so, but so far there isn't really anything to say it with. I guess I just want her to feel how I felt.

BLUE

Well she's going to feel her own way. You can't put a feeling on someone.

PLUTO

I know. I just want her to feel frustrated.

BLUE

Why would you want her to feel frustrated? I understand how she made you feel, but to someone else it would have felt different.

PLUTO

But I am me.

BLUE

That doesn't have anything to do with her.

PLUTO

She picked on me, I haven't forgotten it.

BLUE

She's forgotten. And how are your pranks equal punishment? And is she really so deserving of punishing? What gives you the right. You can't just hit back, especially you can't punch somebody for giving you feedback, their opinion.

PLUTO

I know. I hoped I would grow out of it, I guess, by now. But like I said, maybe I'm not where I want to be yet.

BLUE

And that has to do with you. Look, Pluto. From what I can see, you are absolutely the greatest. You are my favorite person. I see you. You're doing just fine, actually so well. I see your effort, and I see your abundant creativity. And I accept you. I acknowledge what you are working on, and I see how hard you are working on it. You are perfect. Because you are imperfect, you have expectations, standards, for yourself that you are working towards. That is so honest. That is so intelligent. That is strong. And, I trust you. I trust you so much. My life I trust you with, my family's. You are steady-handed, and focused, and persistent. I know that you have my back. And I want to have yours. You've taken me places I could have never gone alone. I have been in circumstances that normally I feel uncomfortable in, and each of those times, with you, I have felt so safe. And after all of this time I truly feel that my heart here in my chest does not belong so far away from your heart. I trust your heading, you pick the setting, and I'll meet you there. I Love You, Pluto.

She freezes. They look at each other.

Then Blue spins and runs. She runs straight onto Lynn's porch immediately behind her, smashing into the door and dropping the bundle of wood.

Then she sprints past Pluto who runs after her.

EXT. BLUE'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Blue climbs out of the Taxi Van and walks up to her front steps, Pluto stands out of the van watching. Blue sits.

Pluto runs over to her and puts her hand on her shoulder.

From the distance there is a loud screech.

Blue looks up at Pluto.

They smile at each other for a moment. And then a massive blue firework explodes above them.

INT. CASA VEGA - NIGHT

Pluto sits at dinner with Cynthia and Carl, Cleo, and Henry.

CARL

Pluto, did you do something with that giant firework?

CYNTHIA

Yes, thank you for taking it out of the living room, I was getting nervous.

PLUTO

No, I just put it in my closet.

CARL

What's it for? I don't really get patriotic from you.

CYNTHIA

Oh do Pluto be careful.

CARL

And don't set it off anywhere around here, it's too dense. Go to the desert or something.

CYNTHIA

Okay, don't give her ideas.

PLUTO

I'll be careful.

CYNTHIA

How's Jill, and Jack?

PLUTO

They're good.

CYNTHIA

Do they know where they want to go to college? I bet they know where they want to go to college.

PLUTO

Hey, I know where I want to go to college.

CYNTHIA

I didn't say anything about you. I'm sure you do. But where do they want to go?

PLUTO

Oh, I don't know.

CYNTHIA

That's interesting. Where do you want to go?

PLUTO

See?

CYNTHIA

Pluto, I'm just asking you questions, you haven't had dinner with us in a long time! I know like fourteen year old you. Are you still into sword fighting at recess?

PLUTO

Sorry, sorry. No, you're right. No, not sword fighting. I don't know actually, where I want to go.

CYNTHIA

That's okay! There's still time I know you are thinking about it.

PLUTO

Thanks.

CARL

How is Blue?

PLUTO

She's well.

CARL

And Lynn? Have you seen her?

PLUTO

Yeah, she's around. Still hanging with the cool kids.

CARL

She's a cool kid. She didn't see the shirts?

PLUTO

We wore coats. I don't think Blue really approved once she understood it better.

CYNTHIA

Mmm.

CARL

Well I am glad. She's been worried about her furniture, I don't think she's doing so well. Not sure what Joel's been up to but I see him strolling the neighborhood sometimes. I say "hi." He does look so happy, though maybe I think he misses her when she's gone all day. I bet she retires soon, though I don't think he would ask her to. I drove him to the grocery the other day and we just walked around the store talking. He didn't stop talking about her, and he's just as stumped about her stuff as she is, but he can't seem to tell what to do about it, and he's worried for her, of course. I had to help him with the groceries he got so much. How could just they finish that before it sours? I barely get that many groceries for us. Pluto, I've been seeing your eggs in the morning and avocado toast! Good to see you in the kitchen, but do recall I am in there after you and we own the same pans! You don't even have to store them, just wash em off, would you remember?

CYNTHIA

Carl, do you miss me when I'm gone?

CARL

I miss you by your hair, and I miss you everywhere. I miss you when you're gone.

HENRY

Gosh, dad you're so lame.

PLUTO/CLEO
It's sweet, Henry.
// Gosh Henry, you could
never.

CYNTHIA
Oh Carl, it's cute.

CLEO
Pluto, you know Dri?

PLUTO
Yeah. You do?

CLEO
Yeah, she gives my friends rides
and never put together we're
sisters. She says you guys are best
friends. If I had known about that
when I was in high school, I would
have gone to so many more parties.

PLUTO
No, she's incredible. You seen that
guy with her?

CLEO
Yeah, of course. Antonio?

PLUTO
Yeah, he always gives me shotgun
now when they come. I pretty much
set them up.

CLEO
How the fuck did you know him?

PLUTO
Okay, well he was just always
there. But she was soo against it
for so long but he was so good for
her honestly. I just got him to
stop drinking and he kinda figured
it out.

CYNTHIA
Who are we talking about?

CLEO
Dri, a taxi driver, and her new
boyfriend, Antonio.

CYNTHIA
Pluto, is that how you've been
getting to school? You said it was
a friend.

PLUTO
She is my friend.

CYNTHIA
How old is she?

PLUTO
Mom, she is so cool, you would
absolutely love her. Literally
everyone loves her.

CYNTHIA
Okay, I have to meet this taxi
driver. How do you pay for it?

PLUTO
She just gives me rides. We're
friends.

CYNTHIA
But you- Okay. I don't get what you
kids are up to.
(to carl)
God knows what we we're doing to
get a ride back then.

INT. BLUE'S HALLWAY - NIGHT

Blue tip toes out of Eric's room, and closes the door. She
walks down the hallway into the kitchen.

INT. KITCHEN - NIGHT

Blue does the dishes.

Father enters holding a couple flowers. They both freeze.
Then he very awkwardly smiles with his lips at the floor.

He takes a vase down from the cabinet. Blue moves for him to
fill it at the sink. He leaves it on the table on his way
out.

EXT. BLUE'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Blue sits on her porch. She checks her watch inside her
wrist.

Dri's taxi pulls up and Blue stands and waves to her. She
slips back inside the house.

INT. BLUE'S PARENTS BEDROOM - NIGHT

Blue peers inside. Her father is asleep next to her mother reading by flashlight.

Blue walks in and her mother looks up. Blue kneels next to her.

BLUE

C'mon. I have somewhere to take you. Come. I think you'll like it.

WENDY

What's this? What time is it?

BLUE

It's not so late, or for me. But just come on. It'll be nice.

She helps her take the covers off. Her mother follows her out in her silk pajamas.

EXT. BLUE'S HOUSE - NIGHT

They walk to the open taxi and get into the back.

INT. TAXI - NIGHT

Blue watches out of the windshield and Wendy looks intrigued out the window.

EXT. PCH - NIGHT

The taxi drops them off and they walk towards the beach.

EXT. BEACH - NIGHT

They walk towards the water in flowing white.

INT. BLUE'S CAR - MULHOLLAND - DAY

Blue drives Eric, Avi, and Derry in the back.

AVI

You can take Laurel Canyon to Lookout Mountain, or go right on Skyline Drive after this bend.

BLUE
Which is easier?

AVI
Skyline.

ERIC
You guys are fine now?

BLUE
You guys are fine now?

ERIC
Uhm, yeah. Was something wrong?

BLUE
Oh I thought- Never mind.

AVI
Here, here, here!

She turns, they all slide.

ERIC
Just like that, you guys are fine?

BLUE
Well, it wasn't "just like that,"
but yeah, we had a good
conversation.

ERIC
Oh yeah, you guys did a lot of
talking?

BLUE
Yeah, I cried. Multiple times.

ERIC
Oh, I see.

AVI
Aaaand go right up there. Then the
first right, and a left.

ERIC
What did she say?

BLUE
Well I think I kinda talked a lot,
but it was really my shit. She
understood.

ERIC

I'm glad. You were both so upset.
Mom said "Good morning" to me.

BLUE

Really? Aw. She misses you.

ERIC

I'm right here.

BLUE

I don't really know what it is. Do
you remember that night?

ERIC

Which night?

BLUE

Never mind. There was just a fight
once. She didn't say much after
that.

ERIC

Did he hurt her?

BLUE

No, the fight was with me.

Eric looks at her.

BLUE (CONT'D)

She was just talking about death,
and upset, sadly as normal, and I
couldn't take it anymore.

ERIC

How old was I?

BLUE

Four, maybe?

ERIC

Was I there?

BLUE

I don't remember. I just remember
when he got home, and he made it so
much worse. Honestly I thought I
was getting to her, and maybe she
was seeing it, but he turns her
around and upside down and there
was never a moment to stop. Sorry,
Avi.

AVI

It's okay. I have no idea what's going on.

BLUE

That's nice.

ERIC

Was it because of me?

BLUE

Why would you- You did hear it?

ERIC

Well, I don't really remember anything specific, maybe just the feeling.

BLUE

Well, it wasn't specifically about you. About family for sure, though.

ERIC

Because I was quiet?

BLUE

Yes, but really no. She's quiet, right? That was kind of it. We're all very similar in that way, and I think she felt responsible.

ERIC

Responsible?

BLUE

She was just so off putting, honestly. She was so upset all the time and I didn't like being around it. But he was annoyed all the time too and I'm sure it was that everyone was pulling away from her and she was just narrating it, which didn't help. But he didn't want to talk about it, and it felt like there was something else there for him he couldn't say. I still think there is, but I have seen him trying recently.

ERIC

I like don't know anything about him.

BLUE
I don't either.

ERIC
It's sad.

BLUE
There's time. Just keep doing what
you're doing, and they're gonna
keep doing what they're doing, and
you'll see, you'll meet at the same
level soon.

INT. JACK'S HOUSE - DAY

Jack eats at the counter, and Jill cuts fruits and
vegetables, making a shake. Pluto paces. *Bleeend.*

JACK
What the fuck did she even say to
you?

PLUTO
Just, sorry, and stuff you know.
She was so nice.

JACK
I don't fucking trust that quiet
ass mother fucker.

Bleeend.

PLUTO
No, she really took all the
responsibility, and helped me see
mine.

JILL
Responsibility?

JACK
Yeah responsibility for what? What
happened?

Bleeend. Chop, Chop, Chop.

PLUTO
Nothing happened, really. Just, I
think we needed some space.

JACK
That is such bullshit. It really
sounds like something happened.

PLUTO

I think it was just in her head,
you know?

JACK

That's for sure.

JILL

Like what? Was she mad about the
pickles, milk, and beer thing?

JACK

Honestly that was tough. Did you
see her get sick out the window?

PLUTO

Well, it was more we forgot the
stuff for her. I don't think our
buffet had so much to do with it.

JACK

C'mon! That was an accident, it had
nothing to do with you.

PLUTO

Yeah, that's what she *said*.

Bleeend. She pours the drink.

JACK

Pluto she's like sneaky, like I
don't trust it.

PLUTO

C'mon, Jack. I really like her-

JILL

That's no excuse-

PLUTO

-Aand we talked about it for a long
time, and really I think we're on
the same page. She really helped
me.

JACK

Helped you?

PLUTO

Yeah.

JACK

What do you need help with?

PLUTO

Nothing! Just like, insecurities I guess.

JACK

What even are you insecure about?

PLUTO

Oh my god, nothing, like it was just nice to talk to her about stuff.

JILL

Stuff about us?

PLUTO

What the fuck? Absolutely not. I love you guys. You guys are absolutely the best, of course not.

JACK

Okay, good. I didn't think so. But what? You can't talk to us about your insecurities?

PLUTO

No, I guess, she just asked. And it's just stuff about Lynn, you know. I think you kind of know it already.

JACK

Oh yeah, no I don't want to hear about that shit. Are you still upset about that?

PLUTO

See?

JACK

Really? It's about that? No wonder you wouldn't talk to me about it, you knew I'd be pissed. That's so childish.

PLUTO

Hey! *She* was kind about it, okay?

JILL

Okay check back in with us how she feels about it in two years, okay?

PLUTO
Oh my god! She helped me, I'll have
forgotten it by then.

JILL
You think so?

PLUTO
I really better.

JACK
You really better. For her sake.

Pluto sees Blue's car through the window arriving.

PLUTO
Aw. She's here.

JILL
(checking her watch)
She's here? And on time.

INT. BLUE'S CAR - DAY

Jack and Jill squish into the back with Avi, and Eric moves
back allowing Pluto to sit in the front.

Blue drives them through the canyon.

EXT. STREET - EVENING

Blue walks alone, but smiling to herself.

EXT. PLUTO'S APARTMENT COMPLEX - EVENING

Pluto carries an armchair to Lynn's porch.

EXT. SCHOOL - DAY

Blue walks past the boys' bathroom.

EXT. THEATER YARD - DAY

Pluto rounds the corner to see Lynn sitting with her
students. She walks over and offers Lynn a cigarette and sits
on the ground with them.

EXT. MULHOLLAND AND LAUREL CANYON - NIGHT

14fps:

Pluto and Blue stand smoking.

EXT. BEACH - NIGHT

Blue sits in a row boat in the water with a lantern leading her, slowly making it's way through the waves to the shore. On shore stands Pluto next to a burning decorated armchair.

EXT. SHERMAN OAKS LA RIVER BRIDGE - DAY

STILL PORTRAIT: Pluto at camera.

REVERSE STILL PORTRAIT: Blue at camera.

STILL: Focus on where Pluto would be if she was in the frame.

EXT. BEACH - NIGHT

Pluto and Blue sit under their duvet. And then they slowly fade leaving the beach to itself.

FADE TO BLACK.