

Studio Draft

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TIES THAT BIND

“Pilot”

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ACT ONE**OVER BLACK**

VIVI (V.O.)
What would we do without our
girlfriends?

1 **EXT. OCEAN - NIGHT**

1

The BLACKNESS shimmers and moves. We realize it's a DARK SEA.

VIVI (V.O.)
Of course, we sometimes disagree.

WE GO UNDER the waves. The WATER undulates. A CHURNING ocean.

VIVI (V.O.)
We envy each other, we hide things
from each other.

A DEAD BODY crashes through the water. Slowly sinking.

VIVI (V.O.)
But when it comes down to it, we'll
do anything for each other...

A GLINT of something in the dark. REVEAL, tangled in the
body's sweater: a gold BRACELET. CLOSE ON the bracelet,
inscribed with: "Choose Happiness." The BODY SINKS below
camera, leaving a TRAIL of BLOOD.

VIVI (V.O.)
Anything.

SMASH TO TITLES:

"TIES THAT BIND"

SNAPPY POP MUSIC COMES UP as we FADE UP ON A LIGHTER WORLD:

2 **EXT. LINDSAY'S HOUSE - ESTABLISHING - DAY (D1)**

2

A wide blue SKY, a long green LAWN, a gorgeous HOUSE and
BARN. A white van out front, on the side: "*Lindsay Leighton
Interiors and Landscape Design.*" FLY INSIDE --

3 INT. LINDSAY'S BARN - DAY (D1)

3

It's dressed for a chic party: cocktail tables, flowers, hanging lanterns. **LINDSAY CRAWFORD LEIGHTON**, white, early 40's, primps the party as she talks on her cell --

LINDSAY

No, it has to be a Juliet rose.
Because. People hire me for
perfect. That's my brand.

As she hangs up, we don't doubt it. She's used to being in control and it shows: her dress, her hair, the décor: all flawless. Except... that crooked lantern up in the rafters. *Damn.* OFF Lindsay, eyeing a ladder--

VIVI (PRELAP)

Are you crazy?

4 INT. VIVI AND RORY'S COTTAGE - BEDROOM - DAY (D1)

4

An idyllic cottage, perfect for a young couple in love. **VIVIAN VASQUEZ, AKA "VIVI,"** our survivor, 30's, Latina, cute pixie haircut, does her makeup at her vanity. Her boyfriend, **RORY CRAWFORD**, 30's, white, dashing and preppy, sits behind her, kissing her neck. Vivi smiles, brushing him away.

VIVI

We can't be late for dinner. Your
sister will kill us.

Rory ignores her, tries to slip her bra strap from her shoulder...but she INSTANTLY CLAMPS her hand down on his. *NO. STOP.* They eye each other in the mirror. Rory knows what this is about. He's tender with her.

RORY

Babe, I know your body's changed.
And I still think you're the
sexiest woman in the entire world.

She looks at him, grateful. His words help. She turns to kiss him. He kisses back. As thing get heated, we PULL OUT from their window, landing in --

5 EXT. NYC - STREET / OFFICE BUILDING - DAY (D1)

5

-- the bustling world of NYC, where we COME DOWN on our firecracker, **ANA NZINGA HUGHES**, 30's, African American/mixed race, bold and chic, bursting out of an office building, striding toward a waiting town car --

(CONTINUED)

5 CONTINUED:

5

ANA
Woke, my ass!

Close behind her is **JAMIE LIM**, 30's, Asian, business suit, friendly frat boy vibe.

JAMIE
Dude, chill. What exactly did they say?

ANA
I didn't get the promotion. But they would love to have me serve on the diversity council.

JAMIE
What? Why didn't you get it?

ANA
Didn't put in enough face time at the office, my trades were too risky... Please. If you want to accomplish anything in this world, you have to take risks!

Taking us BACK TO--

6 INT. LINDSAY'S BARN - DAY (D1)

6

Risky Lindsay, on the ladder, fixing the lantern. Suddenly the rope holding it slips and the lantern FALLS. She screams-- but, a foot from her head, it STOPS. She looks down to find her savior: ridiculously hot **NICK WOLFSON**, 30's, sexy stubble, holding the rope -- and looking right up her skirt.

LINDSAY
Nick? Oh my god. Thank you.
(then)
What are you doing here?

NICK
Just dropped by to save your life.

She stares down at him as he looks up at her. Damn, he is cute -- and charming. They clearly have a vibe.

NICK (CONT'D)
And to pick up the blueprints for the Jackson project. Putting the doors in tomorrow.

(CONTINUED)

6

CONTINUED:

6

Nick starts climbing the ladder. Lindsay reacts, she's used to calling the shots --

LINDSAY

What is happening right now?

But now he's right behind her, hoisting the lantern --

NICK

I got this, gorgeous.

As he leans in close to her, she can feel him pressing into her ass. CLOSE ON a scandalized Lindsay, this is *highly* inappropriate. At the same time, this may be the sexiest thing that's ever happened to her. Especially when Nick puts his hand on Lindsay's hip and murmurs into her ear--

NICK (CONT'D)

So, why the sexy dress ten feet in the air? *Not* complaining. I enjoyed the view.

Lindsay can barely speak --

LINDSAY

I'm... hosting a surprise party for one of my best friends in an hour.
(always polite)
You're... welcome to drop by for a glass of wine, of course.

NICK

What are you doing after?

LINDSAY

(breathless)
Um, not sure.

He whispers in her ear, his body pressed against hers --

NICK

Come on, meet me tonight. After your thing.

She would like nothing more... but the reality is --

LINDSAY

Nick, I'm married. I can't.

NICK

Too bad. Because there is a lot I would love to do to you.

(CONTINUED)

6 CONTINUED: (2)

6

Lindsay's mouth drops open as Nick climbs down. Off Lindsay, fanning herself, GO TO--

7 INT. VIVI AND RORY'S COTTAGE - BEDROOM - DAY (D1)

7

Two people who've just finished going at it: Vivi and Rory. She brings the sheet up high to cover her chest.

RORY

That was hot.

He looks at her sexily. But she's insecure about her body--

VIVI

Was it?

RORY

Yes. Unless it wasn't good for you?
It... seemed like it was.

VIVI

No, it was. Sometimes, you know,
the lack of estrogen is an issue,
but this time, it was fine.

Not the most enthusiastic review.

RORY

Okay... Good.

He's relieved. But also, unsure. We can see how much he wants to be there for her, to make sure she's feeling okay about everything -- but underneath that? It's emotionally exhausting. She clocks it.

VIVI

Something wrong, babe?

RORY

No. I'm just...excited for the day
when this is all in the rear view
mirror.

Cancer has been hard on him, too. She knows that.

VIVI

Me too.

They look at each other -- they've been through a lot and their look is full of love -- and kiss. Her phone rings, she looks at the caller I.D.

(CONTINUED)

7 CONTINUED:

7

VIVI (CONT'D)
Speaking of. It's Dr. Beth.

She gets up to take the call in another room as he waits--

8 INT. VIVI AND RORY'S COTTAGE - LIVING ROOM - DAY (D1) 8

Vivi's on the phone with Dr. Beth, whom we don't see.

VIVI (INTO PHONE)
Not gonna lie, Dr. Beth. I have a
little scanxiety. You said you
flagged something last time? How
does it look?

She smiles nervously. But as she listens, her smile fades.

VIVI (CONT'D)
No. No, that can't be right.
That's not-- How does that even--?

Vivi throws the phone on the couch. We hear from the phone:

DR. BETH (V.O. THRU PHONE)
Vivi? Are you there?

But Vivi just looks at the phone like it's a snake.

9 INT. VIVI AND RORY'S COTTAGE - BEDROOM - DAY (D1) 9

Rory's clearly been waiting for the news as Vivi enters.

RORY
What did she say?

Vivi wavers -- then decides. Answers brightly, covering --

VIVI
All good.

RORY
I knew it! Babe, that is the best
news. We are gonna celebrate
tonight!
(hugs her, then)
I'm gonna go shower.

He goes and we're off Vivi, alone, TORTURED --

10 INT. TOWN CAR - DAY (D1) 10

Ana and Jamie sit in the back of a moving town car.

(CONTINUED)

10

CONTINUED:

10

ANA

Do you ever wonder why we even try?
They don't want us there except to
fill some diversity quota.

JAMIE

Honestly? For me the bank is just
an extension of my frat house.

ANA

Of course it is.

She shakes her head, feeling disillusioned. Jamie puts the
divider up between them and the driver.

JAMIE

Hey, you know what's great for
stress relief? Physical activity.

Puts his hand on her knee, wink wink. She removes it:

ANA

Know what else is? Murder.

(then)

I keep telling you, Lim. Not
happening.

He gives in, sits back, grabs his vape pen.

JAMIE

Come on, loosen up, it's Friday.
You'll get promoted next cycle.

ANA

I need the pay raise now.

Jamie eyes her --

JAMIE

Look -- if you like risk, I know a
way you can make some cash, quick.

He WHISPERS in her ear. Ana pulls back--

ANA

Are you crazy? Yeah, I like risk. I
don't like prison.

She puts the divider down, calls out to the driver--

(CONTINUED)

10 CONTINUED: (2)

10

ANA (CONT'D)
Please take the FDR. And step on
it. I need a drink.

PRELAP the sound of CHAMPAGNE POPPING and TIME CUT TO:

11 EXT. LINDSAY'S YARD / BARN - EVENING (N1)

11

Lindsay carries champagne and 3 glasses, striding toward the
barn, where we see Party Guests heading inside. Ana catches
up to her as they WALK AND TALK --

ANA
Hey! V's not here yet?

LINDSAY
Told her to come at 7.

ANA
She's going to be so surprised. I
can't wait to see her face.

LINDSAY
I know, me too! Okay, I'm dying to
know: did you get the promotion?
(off her look, no)
What? Those fools. Oh, Ana, I'm so
sorry. My dad knows Tim Jeffries at
the bank if you want him to put in
a call.

ANA
I don't think that would help, but
thanks. They said I was out of the
office too much--

LINDSAY
But that was because--

ANA
They don't want excuses. Look, the
real problem with me not getting
the promotion is... Now I'm not
gonna have the investment money for
Vivi's restaurant.

LINDSAY
What?! Oh my god. You promised. V
was counting on it. She's gonna be
devastated.

(CONTINUED)

11 CONTINUED:

11

ANA

Wow, I feel so much better now,
thanks.

LINDSAY

Sorry.

ANA

I hate to ask, but can you do it?

LINDSAY

\$200K? No. I have zero cash flow.
Why don't we ask my parents?

ANA

Please. They would never. They hate
that their golden son is dating the
help's daughter.

LINDSAY

I don't think that's it. I admit
they aren't Vivi's biggest fans,
but I don't know why.

They LAND at a PATIO near the barn, just as Vivi approaches.

12 EXT. PATIO OUTSIDE LINDSAY'S BARN - DAY (D1)

12

LINDSAY

I mean, look at her, who could not
love Vivi??

Vivi arrives, in a pretty dress, hair and makeup done.

LINDSAY (CONT'D)

You look gorgeous.

VIVI

Do I?

There's that insecurity again. Lindsay has a maternal vibe
toward Vivi, puts her arm around her protectively.

LINDSAY

Yes, you do. Always.
(taking her in)
You okay?

VIVI

Long day. Need a drink. Rory's with
Graham up at the house. Is it just
us for dinner?

(CONTINUED)

12

CONTINUED:

12

Lindsay nods, hands out champagne. Vivi takes a big swig.

ANA

I'll be a 5th wheel, as usual.

LINDSAY

Please. It's not our fault you never bring a date. You could have all of Tinder here if you wanted.

ANA

I see your judgment. Don't think I don't.

LINDSAY

Honestly? I'm not judging. I'm jealous. You have sex with a new person every week!

ANA

Well, how long has it been for you and Graham?

LINDSAY

(cringes, then)

Three months? Maybe more?

VIVI

Wow. That's--

ANA

A freakin' emergency!! Linds, you need to go get screwed. Like now.

The girls know Lindsay's marriage is troubled.

VIVI

You guys still seeing Dr. Lawrence?

LINDSAY

Couples therapy is a special kind of hell. But what else can we do?

Ana and V exchange looks, what do they know about marriage??

ANA

Have sex?

That breaks the tension. Lindsay laughs, Ana has a point.

(CONTINUED)

12

CONTINUED: (2)

12

LINDSAY

Alright, a toast. To Vivi being
cancer-free for one year!

As they all raise their glasses to her, Vivi gets emotional.
And and Lindsay look at her, concerned. She watches as the
smiles fall from her friends' faces.

ANA

V? You okay?

A beat -- is Vivi going to tell them what the doctor said?

VIVI

Look at you two, you've done way
too much worrying about me over the
past few years.

No -- she can't tell them. Not now.

VIVI (CONT'D)

I'm fine. It's just that tonight
puts everything in perspective.
Life is short and you never know
what's gonna happen.

She swallows her emotion and covers with bright energy:

VIVI (CONT'D)

Which is why I'm so excited to get
my restaurant going. I can't thank
you enough for investing, Ana. When
you think you can get me that cold
hard cash, girl?

Yikes. Lindsay eyes Ana. Ana opens her mouth to tell her, but
then sees something in Vivi's eyes. She can't disappoint her.

ANA

Getting it in the next few days.
I'm so excited to invest!

Lindsay shoots Ana a look -- She is??? WTF?

VIVI

Amazing. Okay, I have presents.

Vivi hands out 3 jewelry boxes.

ANA

Lindsay's getting one too? She
didn't invest.

(CONTINUED)

12

CONTINUED: (3)

12

VIVI

These are to thank you guys for sacrificing so much to be by my side in my fight against cancer. Linds, you left your own kids at home to be a mom to me in the hospital. I know my mother has been looking down and thanking you.

LINDSAY

Love you.

VIVI

Ana, you left work early too many times to yell at my doctors or sit at chemo with me. I hope it didn't cost you anything--

Lindsay eyes Ana, knowing it did. Ana doesn't miss a beat.

ANA

We're just glad you didn't die.

LINDSAY

Don't say that!

VIVI

It's okay. We're all gonna die one day. That's one thing we've learned from this. Okay, open them --

All three open their boxes to reveal BRACELETS, inscribed.

LINDSAY

"Choose happiness"

The SAME BRACELET that was on the DEAD BODY in our Teaser.

VIVI

It was something my mom said to my brothers and me every day before she died. It was basically her dying wish. So, with whatever time we all have left, can you guys promise to do that for me?

Ana and Vivi nod.

ANA

But if we're going to promise, you have to, too.

(CONTINUED)

12 CONTINUED: (4) 12

VIVI
(nods)
Love you, mis amigas.

It's an emotional moment, as all three hug. JUST THEN--

13 EXT. LINDSAY'S BARN / INT. BARN - NIGHT (N1) 13

The barn doors swing open, revealing Lindsay's GORGEOUS PARTY. Twinkly lights, long table set with crystal, about 30 friends and family, among them Jamie, Rory and Lindsay's parents, and Vivi's dad and two brothers.

EVERYONE
Happy 1-year cancerversary!

On Vivi, not entirely thrilled --

VIVI
Oh! Wow, you guys said it was just
a little dinner...

What can she do but go with it? MUSIC UP as they enter the barn. QUICK CUTS of our ladies at the party, greeting friends and family. PICK UP Ana and follow her as she beelines through the crowd for--

14 INT. LINDSAY'S BARN - PARTY - NIGHT (N1) 14

JAMIE, who's in a corner vaping, buzzed, as Ana approaches.

JAMIE
Hey gorgeous. You still in a mood?
(off her annoyed look)
Quick suggest? You take a hit of
this kush, we hang out til it kicks
in and you start to feel me, then
head back to my place. Thoughts?

She's definitely in a mood --

ANA
Be quiet. And shut up.
(then)
That thing that could send me to
prison? I'm in.

OFF this, WE WHIRL AROUND THE PARTY, LANDING ON --

RORY, with VIVI, standing up in front of the crowd.

(CONTINUED)

14

CONTINUED:

14

RORY

Along with Vivi's dad, Emilio, and her brothers, Eddie and Daniel, I want to thank my sister Lindsay for hosting this party for our Vivi--

ANGLE ON **EMILIO VASQUEZ**, 50's, and **EDDIE** and **DANIEL**, 20's.

RORY (CONT'D)

We have a lot to celebrate tonight: Vivi's recovery, the future of her new restaurant. But I think we need one more thing to make it complete.

Vivi looks at him, uncertain. Rory points to Jamie, who hits the music: "I Say a Little Prayer" by Aretha Franklin.

VIVI

Our song...

"Forever and ever, you'll stay in my heart, and I will love you..."

VIVI (CONT'D)

Rory?

RORY

V, I fell in love with you when we were 16. But that was my little secret. I didn't have the guts to tell you til 4 years ago. A year into our relationship, you got diagnosed with cancer. But even battling cancer, those years were the best of my life -- because I got to spend them with you. Seeing you get well has been my greatest joy. And I can't wait to spend the rest of my life with you.

"To live without you would only be heartbreak for me..." Now
Rory's down on one knee, with a ring--

VIVI

Babe...

RORY

Vivian Leticia Regalado Vasquez,
will you marry me?

(CONTINUED)

14

CONTINUED: (2)

14

Vivi can't hide her joy. She wants this so badly. But she's frozen, guilty -- she needs to tell him about the phone call. An awkward pause, as everyone stares at her, waiting --

VIVI

Rory...

But then Vivi looks at her BRACELET -- *Choose Happiness* --

VIVI (CONT'D)

Yes. Of course! Yes!

RORY

Phew, babe, you made me sweat it there for a minute!

They hug. But we come around, we see the tension under Vivi's smile, she's keeping a big secret from her new fiancé...

WE WHIRL AROUND THE PARTY AGAIN, LANDING ON--

ANA, clearly surprised by the engagement. She clocks RORY and LINDSAY'S PARENTS, **TED** and **HELEN CRAWFORD**, 60's -- not thrilled. Ana crosses to them, defensive of Vivi.

ANA

Ted, Helen, your son just got engaged to the most amazing girl in Seaford, where are your smiles?

HELEN

Ana, dear, we're over the moon.

Helen is the type of "polite" society woman who says one thing when she clearly means another. The lie infuriates Ana.

ANA

Good. Because Rory's a very lucky man.

HELEN

And to think, if we hadn't hired Vivian's father as our driver all those years ago, this wonderful event might never have occurred.

At that, Ana accidentally on purpose spills a drink on Helen.

ANA

How clumsy! I am so sorry.

Off Ana, secret smile -- WE WHIRL AROUND THE PARTY TO:

15 INT. LINDSAY'S BARN - PARTY - NIGHT (N1)

15

LINDSAY, on the sidelines, overseeing the party. She urges on a passing waiter, "pass those trays." Everyone else is having fun, but Lindsay looks a little...empty. Now her husband, **GRAHAM LEIGHTON**, 40's, serious-looking, approaches, the tension between them evident before they say a word.

LINDSAY

Did you get the Juliet roses?

GRAHAM

Got the Tuscany instead. Just as nice, half the price.

LINDSAY

(annoyed)

Did the kids get to their sleepovers?

GRAHAM

They didn't want to go.

LINDSAY

Did you try?

GRAHAM

Not hard enough by your standards, I'm sure.

Asshole. A waiter passes by, Lindsay chides him --

LINDSAY

Don't forget to offer a napkin.

Graham eyes her, then --

GRAHAM

Did that do it? Is the party perfect now?

LINDSAY

Excuse me?

GRAHAM

I'm curious. When is the moment you think, yes, I did it. This. Is. Perfect.

(then)

That moment never comes for you, does it?

(CONTINUED)

15

CONTINUED:

15

LINDSAY

Have you been drinking?

GRAHAM

Have you? Because God, I wish you would. So much.

Lindsay stares at him, willing him dead in her mind.

LINDSAY

It's easy to make fun of me, Graham. But I wish I had known before we got married that I'd be running our business and our family on my own.

GRAHAM

Believe me, there are a lot of things I wish I'd known about you before I got married.

They stew in silence. Lindsay gazes across the room, at Vivi and Rory, in love. Deep breath. She turns to Graham, trying--

LINDSAY

Look, Dr. Lawrence said we should try more intimacy. I wanted the kids to do sleepovers so we could, you know... it's been a while.

GRAHAM

So you wanna fuck me because Dr. Lawrence told you to?

(then)

Something tells me I'm not gonna be in the mood. Looks like you'll have to do that on your own too.

He stalks off, leaving Lindsay alone to swallow her angry tears. She grabs a drink from a passing waiter's tray, gulps it down in a few long pulls. Grabs another one.

TIME PASSES as she stands there, watching Ana, Jamie, Vivi, Rory across the room, her party whirling on without her. She finishes her 2nd drink. Yes, that definitely helps...

Then, she gets a TEXT: "Look up." She does. Across the room, in a shadowy, out of the way corner -- Can it be? It is. NICK. Wow. He cleans up well. Lindsay approaches him and smiles, beyond surprised that he showed up.

16 INT. LINDSAY'S BARN - OUT OF THE WAY CORNER - NIGHT (N1) 16

LINDSAY

You came.

NICK

Had to. There's an amazing woman
here I'm obsessed with. Can't get
her out of my head.

The heat between them is palpable. She flirts back--

LINDSAY

Really. Who is she?

NICK

She's this cool chick. Funny,
smart, super sexy. We've been
flirting for a while now. She's got
me all hot and bothered. I just
have this feeling, tonight's the
night.

LINDSAY

For...?

Leans in to her, whispers --

NICK

I'm gonna try to convince her to
have a torrid affair with me.

LINDSAY

Whoa. How're you gonna manage that?

NICK

I was gonna start by putting my
hand *here*, where no one can see it--
(his hand on her thigh)
--then moving it up just a little
further. See where things go from
there.

Lindsay doesn't flinch, it's as if the party has fallen away.

LINDSAY

She sounds like a lucky girl.

NICK

You got it wrong there. *I'd* be the
lucky one.

(CONTINUED)

16 CONTINUED: 16

His eyes ask a question. Lindsay bites her lip, looking him up and down. She glances down at her BRACELET, then out at the room, taking in her friends, her family, her "perfect" life, landing on --

17 INT. LINDSAY'S BARN - PARTY - NIGHT (N1) 17

ANA, who's whispering with Jamie, we know they're talking about their covert plans. Ana glances across the room to --

VIVI, staring up at Rory with love, and guilt. She glances toward --

Where we last left LINDSAY, but she's not there. Where is she? The camera moves into --

18 INT. LINDSAY'S BARN - CLOSET/PRIVATE AREA - NIGHT (N1) 18

The party rages on the other side of the door as we REVEAL Lindsay being pressed up against the wall by Nick. Her dress hiked up, her head thrown back. In the glow of candelight, it's both romantic and erotic. OFF this, the ILLICIT THRILL of doing something so secretive, and dangerous --

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

19 INT. LINDSAY'S HOUSE - HALLWAY / KITCHEN - DAY (D2) 19

The morning after. Lindsay, in her robe, heads toward her kitchen. Stops when she sees her reflection in a mirror. Peers at her face -- last night, she had sex with someone other than her husband for the first time in 17 years. She heads into her (huge, Nancy Myers-esque) kitchen, pours coffee, daydreaming, as we POP TO:

20 INT. LINDSAY'S BARN - CLOSET - FLASHBACK 20

Lindsay and Nick going at it, it's sexy, he's running his hands over her body --

GRAHAM (V.O.)

Can I get some?

BACK TO SCENE -- Lindsay's jolted back to reality as Graham walks to her, holding a mug.

GRAHAM

You came in late last night.

Lindsay searches his eyes, does he suspect anything? Just then their children, **CHARLOTTE**, 16, and **MAC**, 10, enter. Both have their heads buried in screens.

CHARLOTTE

1 AM. I heard you.

LINDSAY

You were awake at 1 AM?

CHARLOTTE

Hilary and Jake broke up. Major drama. You're usually in bed by 9, Mom. What were you doing out until 1 AM?

(sotto)

Ketamine?

LINDSAY

What? No! I was just... celebrating with Vivi and Ana.

Just then Lindsay's phone with a GROUP TEXT from Ana and Vivi: "Where did you disappear to last night???"

Shit. Lindsay snatches her phone off the counter, spilling her coffee. Graham eyes her as she fumbles to clean it up.

(CONTINUED)

20

CONTINUED:

20

GRAHAM

Are you okay?

LINDSAY

Yes! I'm just hungover.

Her family stares at her, she's gotta get out of there --

LINDSAY (CONT'D)

I need some decent coffee.

She exits the kitchen as she replies to the ladies' GROUP
TEXT: "Coffee at 10 AM on Seaford Ave?" TAKING US TO --

21

INT. JAMIE'S HOUSE - DAY (D2)

21

Ana replies "yes" to Lindsay's text, and rolls over. We're surprised to find her in bed next to a sleeping Jamie. Ana grabs her clothes, she's tip-toeing out when--

JAMIE

Sneaking out, huh?

ANA

Yeah.

JAMIE

I've been trying to make that happen for a long time. Why last night?

ANA

Engagements depress me. Sex was the only available distraction.

(then)

We still on for that trade?

JAMIE

Look, Ana, I only brought that up to try to impress you -- and it looks like it worked, by the way. You sure you want to get involved in this?

ANA

I'm sure. Monday, right?

(off his nod)

Good. And Lim? Don't start caring about me. It's a huge turn off.

The door slams -- she's gone -- and we CUT TO:

22 INT. RORY AND VIVI'S COTTAGE - HALLWAY - DAY (D2) 22

A CLOSED DOOR at the end of a hallway. PUSHING IN, we hear WHISPERING behind it. We want to hear what's being said. GO INSIDE --

23 INT. RORY AND VIVI'S COTTAGE - BATHROOM - DAY (D2) 23

-- to FIND Vivi, whispering into the phone.

VIVI

Then the tests were wrong.

(then)

I don't want to come in.

(then, firm)

Because. I've worked my ass off for this life, and now I just want to marry the man of my dreams and live happily ever after. So please, Beth, just leave me alone.

Sounds like our girl is in some serious denial. Just then, there's a KNOCK at the door. It's Rory on the other side.

RORY

V, you okay in there?

Vivi abruptly hangs up.

VIVI

I'm good. Just getting dressed. I'm going to go have a quick coffee with your sister and Ana, okay?

RORY

I get it, you three need to deconstruct last night...

VIVI

Totally. Every little detail.

OFF this, we GO TO--

24 EXT. SEAFORD SHOPPING STREET - DAY (D2) 24

Our 3 ladies walk down the sidewalk, coffees in hand.

ANA

And then I spilled my wine on her.

VIVI

OMG.

(CONTINUED)

24

CONTINUED:

24

LINDSAY

You did not.

ANA

I wasn't just gonna stand there
while she disrespected Vivi.

LINDSAY

I'm sorry my parents are such a-
holes to you, V. I don't get it.

(then, curious)

Did anything happen between you
guys?

Is that a flicker of something in Vivi's eyes?

VIVI

Not that I know of.

LINDSAY

I'm sure they'll come around once
you guys get married. Can you
believe we're going to be sisters-
in-law?!

Vivi spots a BRIDAL SHOP, a gorgeous dress in the window. She
can't help but swoon. Lindsay follows her stare.

LINDSAY (CONT'D)

Let's go in!

Vivi's melting, she SO wants to, but she's conflicted. She
looks at the dress like it's a dream that won't come true.

VIVI

No. No, I can't.

Ana clearly isn't interested, tries to keep walking--

LINDSAY

Why not? Of course you can!

OFF Vivi, relenting, CUT TO--

25

INT. BRIDAL SHOP - DRESSING ROOM - DAY (D2)

25

A large dressing room. Vivi's changing behind a curtained off
area. Ana and Lindsay sit on a couch.

LINDSAY

(sotto, to Ana)

Hey, what happened last night?

(CONTINUED)

25

CONTINUED:

25

ANA

Uh, you disappeared. Where were
you?

Errr, having a torrid affair? She eyes Ana. Should she tell
her?? She leans in to Ana --

LINDSAY

Actually, I was...

Ana's expectant, yes? ON Lindsay -- no, she can't --

LINDSAY (CONT'D)

The kids needed me. And don't
change the subject. Why didn't you
tell Vivi you don't have the money?

ANA

Because I do.

LINDA

How? Where are you getting it?

ANA

Don't worry about it, Mother Hen.
I've got it handled.

(changing the subject)

Did Rory tell you he was going to
propose last night?

LINDSAY

No. I had no idea!

ANA

Well, maybe it's not too late to
change Vivi's mind.

Lindsay fixes her with an annoyed stare.

LINDSAY

Look, I know you're not a fan of my
brother's. I don't know why since
he's the greatest guy in the world--

ANA

(scoffs)

Please. The summer solstice party?

LINDSAY

That again!? Nothing happened!

(CONTINUED)

25 CONTINUED: (2)

25

ANA
If he cheated --

LINDSAY
He didn't--

ANA
--then Vivi deserves to know. No
one in their right mind would stay
with someone who cheated on them,
can we at least agree on that?

Yikes. This lands on Lindsay as --

ANA (CONT'D)
How's it going in there, V?

We GO BEHIND THE CURTAIN TO --

26 INT. BRIDAL SHOP DRESSING ROOM - BEHIND CURTAIN - DAY (D2) 26

Vivi, in a bra and underwear, looks at herself in a mirror.

VIVI
Fine. I'll be out in a minute.

She eyes the dress. Strapless. She'll need to take off her
bra. She covers her breasts with her hands as she removes her
bra. Doesn't want to see herself. But even with her hands
covering her breasts, we can see the deep line of angry scars
crossing them. (*After a double mastectomy and reconstruction,*
her breast are misshapen and scarred, with no nipples.)

Finally, Vivi drops her hands. Stares at her mangled breasts.
Angry. SO angry. At everything that's been taken from her.
Everything that's going to be taken from her.

LINDSAY (O.C)
We can't wait to see you in it!

Vivi snaps out of it, grabs the dress as we go BACK TO --

27 INT. BRIDAL SHOP - DRESSING ROOM - DAY (D2)

27

Lindsay's PHONE BUZZES. She reads a TEXT FROM NICK: "Can't
stop thinking about how sexy you are. When can I see you?"
She blushes, smiles. Ana eyes her, then scootches over,
trying to look at her phone. Lindsay JUMPS, hiding it.

LINDSAY
Hey! What are you--?

(CONTINUED)

27

CONTINUED:

27

ANA

Ah ha! Now I know where Lindsay disappeared to last night...

LINDSAY

What are you talking about?!

ANA

You're blushing! And glowing! That dam must have really burst, huh? How *is* Graham in bed anyway?

LINDSAY

(stammers)

I'm not going to kiss and tell.

ANA

Fine, then I will. Jamie was surprisingly adept.

LINDSAY

You went home with Jamie?

At that news, Vivi peeks her head out --

VIVI

What? You *did*?

Vivi, still mostly behind the curtain, points to her back to be buttoned. Lindsay starts buttoning the many buttons, it'll take a minute. We still can't see the dress.

LINDSAY

I thought you weren't going to cross that line, since you guys are friends. And you work together.

ANA

Well, I did, Judgy Judgers. And it's not like it's a thing. One and done, babies.

VIVI

I don't get it, Ana. Since freshman year of college, you've never dated anyone for more than a week.

ANA

Wrong. Remember that sorority girl? Spring break in Miami?

(CONTINUED)

27

CONTINUED: (2)

27

VIVI

Fine. Two weeks. Why don't you want to settle down with a nice girl or guy?

ANA

Look, ladies, monogamy is not only boring as hell, it's a delusion topped only by marriage, which is emotionally, financially, and categorically inane. In fact, V, the best thing you could do for yourself right now is take off that dress, tell Rory the engagement's off, and buy yourself a nice vibrator.

VIVI

Then I guess you've never been in love. Because when you really love someone, you'll do anything to hold onto that person.

ON Vivi -- realizing she's speaking some truth about herself.

Meanwhile, Ana takes that in.

ANA

Maybe you're right. I guess, deep down, I assume I'm never going to end up with my forever person. I close myself off because I'm afraid of putting myself out there.

Lindsay and Vivi are both shocked, Ana's never been that open with them. Then Ana bursts out laughing--

ANA (CONT'D)

Is that the sappy answer you guys wanted to hear? Now can we move on?

Lindsay finishes the buttons and Vivi steps out in the gown and a veil. She's quintessentially bridal -- and drop dead GORGEOUS. They all look at her in the mirror.

VIVI

So? What do you guys think?

LINDAY

Oh, Vivi, it's stunning. I wish your mom was here to see this.

(CONTINUED)

27 CONTINUED: (3)

27

Vivi stares at herself -- the dress is perfect. But the look in her eyes is bittersweet. Will she ever get to do this?

Ana stares at Vivi, breathless, totally taken in --

ANA

V, you're... epically gorgeous.

At that, Vivi turns and walks toward Ana with a smile, it's reminiscent of a wedding procession.

VIVI

Thanks. And you can joke all you want, Ana. But I think there's truth to what you said. You are scared. But you are also epically wonderful. And anyone would be lucky to be with you.

Vivi takes the veil from her head, positions it on Ana's, staring her in the eyes.

VIVI (CONT'D)

One day, Ana, it's gonna happen.

Vivi smiles as Ana blushes uncomfortably, and we realize something: ANA HAS FEELINGS FOR VIVI.

ANGLE ON Lindsay, clocking this. Is she seeing what she thinks she's seeing? Yep, she is: her best friend has feelings for other best friend, who happens to be her brother's fiance'. Yikes. OFF Lindsay, we TIME CUT TO:

28 EXT. SEAFORD SHOPPING STREET - SIDEWALK - DAY (D2)

28

The ladies say goodbye on the sidewalk. As Vivi heads off, Lindsay stops Ana. She chooses her words carefully.

LINDSAY

Ana, I know how much you love Vivi, we all love her. But... however you're getting this investment money -- I hope you're not going into debt for her or anything.

ANA

(taken aback)

I said don't worry about it.

Lindsay gently continues, this is more delicate --

(CONTINUED)

28

CONTINUED:

28

LINDSAY

Okay. Well, the other thing is -- in there, going on about how horrible marriage is, telling V to end the engagement...? Vivi is in love with my brother, she wants to marry him, and you probably should accept that.

Ana fixes her with a stare.

ANA

Look, Mother Hen, Vivi and I may be a few years younger than you, but we're big girls and we can make our own decisions. And you and Graham aren't exactly killing it as role models. So if I were you, I'd take a hard look at my own soulless marriage before I gave anyone else relationship advice.

As Ana turns and goes, we're OFF Lindsay, reeling --

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

29

EXT. CLIENT'S HOME - PATIO - DAY (D3)

29

CLOSE ON A TAG -- "*Tuscany Roses*" -- attached to potted rose bushes that Lindsay's arranging in planters on a client's patio. Just then, who should walk in but... NICK. He smiles.

NICK

Hey, you.

Lindsay looks alarmed as he quickly approaches her --

NICK (CONT'D)

Don't worry, I'm not gonna bite.

Lindsay stands --

LINDSAY

Nick Wolfson, do you know my husband, Graham Leighton?

REVEAL GRAHAM, working nearby. Lindsay is FREAKING OUT, her eyes wide as she looks to Nick, but he covers well--

NICK

Sure, I think I've seen you around town. You're the flower guy, right?

GRAHAM

Landscape designer.

NICK

And you do a bang up job. Think it was you who planted those daisies outside the women's club?

Was that a dig? Sure felt like one.

GRAHAM

I take it you're working with Lindsay on the Jacksons' remodel.

NICK

Yeah, I'm one of the new contractors.

GRAHAM

Hope you're good. Because our Lindsay does demand perfection. And if she doesn't get it, she's a real bear. So, watch your back.

(CONTINUED)

29

CONTINUED:

29

Lindsay gives Graham a murderous stare.

NICK

Well, you're only as good as the person who sets the bar, as my dad used to say.

Lindsay looks at Nick, appreciative.

GRAHAM

Yes, well, nice to meet you. But we were kind of in the middle of--

NICK

--your flower business, got it. Just came to drop some materials. Need to show Lindsay something inside real quick if that's okay with you.

GRAHAM

Be my guest.

30

INT. CLIENT'S HOME - DAY (D3)

30

Lindsay and Nick enter the home.

NICK

(business-like)

Right over here. What color do you want this?

Nick teases Lindsay by leaning in close but not touching her.

NICK (CONT'D)

How are you?

LINDSAY

I'm well, thanks.

NICK

You look... a hell of a lot better than well.

He runs his eyes over her body, making clear what he wants. She blushes, the heat between them rising.

NICK (CONT'D)

I need to see you.

Lindsay subconsciously glances back toward Graham.

(CONTINUED)

30 CONTINUED:

30

NICK (CONT'D)
(loudly)
Celery green it is! Good choice.
(then, sotto to Lindsay)
Meet me at the Greenbriar Inn at 1
PM.

As he brushes by her body and exits, we're OFF a burning
Lindsay, what is she going to do--?

ANA (PRELAP)
The problem is, once I do it, I
can't go back.

31 INT. CONFERENCE ROOM - DAY (D3)

31

Ana and Jamie huddle together in a glass conference room,
illuminated by the glow of Ana's laptop. Ana stares at the
screen. A trade queued up: BUY 500,000 shares of MedCo. Her
cursor hovers over "Buy."

ANA
If what you say is true, and that
drug gets FDA approval, MedCo's
price will skyrocket, while it's
unlikely that we'll get caught.
(then)
But if we do? Prison, career up in
flames, reputations ruined.

JAMIE
So why are you doing it?

ANA
Can I trust you not to say
anything?

JAMIE
Probably?

ANA
I'm investing in Vivi's restaurant.

JAMIE
Jesus. Can't she take out a loan?

ANA
No collateral. Her family doesn't
have money. I'm the only option
she's got.

A beat as Ana reflects on that --

(CONTINUED)

31 CONTINUED:

31

ANA (CONT'D)

It's amazing. The girl survived cancer, gets up off the mat and wants to start her own business -- and in a town full of money, no one will help her except the other brown person.

Just then, two Older White Guys walk by, all buddy-buddy with a Younger White Guy. Jamie nods toward the younger guy.

JAMIE

Did you hear? Greg VanLewin -- he's the one who got your promotion.

This lands on Ana. She should've known.

ANA

See? It's the same everywhere. If I were treated fairly by this firm, I wouldn't have to resort to doing this!

(off his look)

What?

JAMIE

Don't do that. Don't rationalize this. You're better than that. You're better than them.

ANA

It's not rationalizing if it's true, asshole! No one here is gonna help me get ahead, I have to do it myself!

Suddenly riled up, Ana presses CLICK. It's done.

ANA (CONT'D)

There, I did it. No regrets.

She grabs her coat and starts to go.

JAMIE

Where are you going?

ANA

To the bank. To pick up a loan check for \$200K. I'll pay it back when we make our profit in a few months.

(CONTINUED)

31 CONTINUED: (2)

31

JAMIE

Wow, dude. I hope Vivi appreciates what you're doing for her.

ANA

Oh, she definitely doesn't. V's as straight-laced as they come. If she knew where I was getting this money? She'd kill me.

OFF that, TIME CUT TO --

32 EXT. VIVI'S RESTAURANT SPACE - PATIO - DAY

32

Dark water. A churning ocean. The same water as in our Teaser. PULL OUT to find Vivi, Rory, Ana, Vivi's dad Emilio, and her brothers Eddie and Daniel -- all looking out at the ocean from the outdoor patio of a vacant restaurant space. They take in the space and view, impressed.

DANIEL

Dang!

EMILIO

It's perfect, mija.

EDDIE

Mom would definitely approve, V.

RORY

Can you really afford this?

VIVI

Thanks to Ana, yes.

Vivi holds up the check from Ana. Daniel grabs it, reacts --

DANIEL

What? V, you're rich!

Vivi and Ana exchange smiles. Rory clocks this, jealous.

EMILIO

You're a good friend, Anita.

VIVI

The best.

ANA

I'd do anything for Vivi.

An annoyed Rory eyes Ana. Can't help himself--

(CONTINUED)

32

CONTINUED:

32

RORY
We all would, Ana.

ANA
(annoyed)
I wasn't implying otherwise.

Daniel's still marveling at the check.

DANIEL
How does it feel to make all that
money, Ana? Asking for a friend.

Ana's uncomfortable, but gives Daniel the answer he wants --

ANA
It feels... pretty damn good.

She smiles. At that, Rory chimes in --

RORY
Does it, though?
(off her look)
It feels pretty damn good to
manipulate markets and maximize
corporate greed at the cost of
creating the greatest inequality
this country has ever seen??

Everyone stares at him, then the boys erupt --

DANIEL
Whoa, downer, man!

EDDIE
Come on, dude, not the time!

ANA
I'll handle this, boys.

Ana squares off with Rory--

ANA (CONT'D)
People who can't hack it on Wall
Street are always the first to put
down Wall Street.

DANIEL
She got you there, boy!

EDDIE
Dang!

Ana presses on angrily, challenging Rory --

(CONTINUED)

32

CONTINUED: (2)

32

ANA (CONT'D)

Does anyone at your U.S. Attorney's office even understand how financial markets work?

RORY

Oh, we understand. As a matter of fact, there's a task force being put together right now to--

ANA

Let me guess -- to stand in the way of people exercising their right to participate in a free and open capitalist market? All in the name of *justice*?

RORY

At least I feel good about going to work every day --

EMILIO

And we're proud of you, miyo.

Emilio steps in, changing the subject, his arm around Rory. Vivi shoots her dad a grateful smile.

EMILIO (CONT'D)

And so happy you're joining the family.

RORY

Thanks, Emilio.

EMILIO

I've been working for your father since you were 12 years old, do you believe that? And now we're going to be abuelos together. Who could have predicted? I want at least four -- two boys and two girls.

RORY

I want five, so we're good.

Vivi gives him a Mona Lisa smile but Ana snaps--

ANA

Wow, your own personal basketball team? V may be too busy with her career, but good luck with that.

(CONTINUED)

32 CONTINUED: (3)

32

Yikes. Rory angrily shakes his head --

RORY

You know what, I have to get to work. Congrats on the space, V. See you at home later.

EDDIE

Dan, we better get our wine delivered.

Emilio turns to Vivi --

EMILIO

Happy for you, Mija.

The men all exit, and a pissed off Ana turns to Vivi --

ANA

We need to talk.

On Vivi, UGH --

33 EXT. GREENBRIAR INN - DAY (D3)

33

CLOSE ON The Greenbriar Inn. Pull out to find Lindsay sitting in her car, staring at the inn. Her watch reads 1:15 PM.

She types a TEXT to ANA: "Need to talk to you. You were right about my marriage. I did something terrible. I need you to talk me out of doing it again." She stares at the TEXT, then DELETES it without sending. Puts her phone away. Looks up at the inn. Bites her nails. Then shakes her head. She can't do this. She starts the car. BUT then, as she puts her hands on the steering wheel, she glances at her BRACELET. CUT TO--

34 INT. GREENBRIAR INN - FOYER - DAY (D3)

34

It's dark inside as Lindsay enters. The place seems closed.

LINDSAY

Hello?

Maybe Nick's not even here? She's about to turn and go... But then, he appears out of the shadows.

LINDSAY (CONT'D)

Oh!! You scared me.

NICK

You came.

(CONTINUED)

34 CONTINUED:

34

Lindsay glances around the inn. Stairs leading up to guest rooms. Keys to guest rooms. This is all moving too quickly.

LINDSAY

Yeah. Um, I can't stay though...

NICK

What? You have to stay. Pierre would be so disappointed.

He points over her shoulder. Through the shadows she sees: a dining room, a lone table set for a romantic lunch.

NICK (CONT'D)

He's not usually open for lunch. I got him to open just for us.

That's romantic as hell. Off Lindsay, impressed --

35 EXT. VIVI'S RESTAURANT SPACE - DAY (D3)

35

Vivi and Ana stand awkwardly on the patio. Ana's angry. Vivi begins--

VIVI

Look, Ana, I'm sorry Rory snapped at you. He's just jealous you're investing. Honestly, I think he'd like to work on Wall Street --

ANA

V, don't make excuses. He's a douchebag.

On Vivi -- WTF?

VIVI

Rory and I are getting married, Ana.

ANA

Oh, I know. Are you sure you want to do that?

Vivi's taken aback.

VIVI

Of course I am.

(then)

What the hell is your problem?

(CONTINUED)

35

CONTINUED:

35

ANA

My problem is -- you worked your ass off to survive growing up in an all white town, get a scholarship to college, beat cancer, create this business... you deserve better than some entitled rich kid.

Vivi's comes back firmly --

VIVI

His parents may be rich and entitled. Rory's not.

ANA

Okay, also? I don't trust him.

VIVI

Why?

ANA

That summer stolstice party? When he disappeared for hours...

VIVI

He got drunk and passed out somewhere! Nothing happened.

ANA

I don't believe that.

Vivi erupts, she's had enough --

VIVI

I don't know where this is coming from Ana, but you're wrong. Rory's the best person I know. He's... he's... done everything for me. He held me while I vomited from chemo... he cried with me when my breasts got removed--

But Ana's not having it --

ANA

So did Lindsay and I, just for the record.

Vivi continues, erupting--

(CONTINUED)

35 CONTINUED: (2)

35

VIVI
--and even though my body's an
endless fucking nightmare, he still
wants to marry me. He would never,
EVER deceive me!

This lands hard on Vivi -- meanwhile SHE'S deceiving HIM.

VIVI (CONT'D)
I have to go.
(then)
Look, Ana, you've been an
incredible friend to me. Since we
were roommates in college, and I
had no money and you'd pay for me
whenever we did anything, you've
always been there for me. And I'm
so grateful to have you as a
partner in this restaurant. But if
you can't get on board with Rory,
maybe we shouldn't do this.

Ana takes her in. Vivi looks serious. A beat, then--

ANA
I'll get on board.

Vivi nods and heads out, leaving Ana staring at that dark
water. TIME CUT TO:

36 INT. VIVI'S CAR - DAY (D3)

36

Vivi's in her car, on the phone with Dr. Beth.

VIVI (INTO PHONE)
Will the tests tell us for sure?
(beat)
Then I want to come in. I need to
know.

OFF Vivi, determined, WE GO--

37 INT. GREENBRIAR INN - DINING ROOM - DAY (D3)

37

Lindsay and Nick at lunch, half a glass of wine in.

NICK
What made you say yes last night?

She eyes him. The truth?

(CONTINUED)

37

CONTINUED:

37

LINDSAY

I literally felt like every cell in
my body was pulling me toward you.
There was no way to say no.

He felt the same way. Puts his hand on her knee. She's
instantly turned on. But as he moves it up, she stops him --

LINDSAY (CONT'D)

I'm... scared someone will see.

NICK

No one's here. Except the chef, and
he's a friend...

He keeps on, but she puts a hand on his. *Let's not.* He obeys.

LINDSAY

Tell me about you.

NICK

What do you want to know?

LINDSAY

How old are you?

NICK

32.

LINDSAY

Oh my god, that explains the...
stamina. What are you doing with
me?

NICK

You have to know you're gorgeous.

LINDSAY

I know I'm ten years older than
you.

NICK

Okay, then what are you doing with
me?

She takes that in -- it's a good question.

LINDSAY

My best friend gave me this
bracelet last night...

Lindsay looks at it, lost in thought. Realizes something --

(CONTINUED)

37

CONTINUED: (2)

37

LINDSAY (CONT'D)

I've taken care of everyone else my whole life. My little brother, when my parents drank. My clients, my husband, my kids, even my girlfriends sometimes. It's just a thing I do.

(smiles at him)

I guess, for once in my life, I'm doing what makes me happy.

NICK

Good.

(then, eyeing her)

What are we going to do about the fact that you're married?

On Lindsay -- that's not gonna change, sorry.

LINDSAY

Not much we can do. People like me don't get divorced.

But he's not taking that for an answer. After a beat --

NICK

I know what we'll do.

LINDSAY

Oh yeah?

NICK

We'll just sneak around and have incredible sex until you fall hopelessly in love with me.

He smiles his impossible-to-resist smile. Lindsay laughs, can't believe how taken by him she is. Throwing all her usual caution to the wind --

LINDSAY

Okay.

He smiles back --

NICK

Okay then.

Now she puts HER hand on his knee, moves it toward his crotch. As they stare at one another, we CUT TO:

38 INT. GREENBRIAR INN - KITCHEN - DAY (D3)

38

Someone in the inn's kitchen, walking by the clear porthole in the kitchen door. It's Vivi's brother, EDDIE, there to deliver wine. He glances into the dining room, then does a double take, recognizing Lindsay. Eddie turns away. OFF Lindsay, smiling sexily at Nick, none the wiser...

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR39 INT. VASQUEZ FAMILY HOME - LIVING ROOM - DAY (D4)

39

The next day. In the living room of her modest but warm family home, we find Vivi standing at a corner SHRINE to her MOTHER: Candles, a PHOTO of her mother, ALMA, Latina, 30's, beautiful, holding a precious LITTLE GIRL -- Vivi as a child. As we come in CLOSER, we realize that Vivi is praying --

VIVI

(in SPANISH)

*Mama, I come to you today with
faith so small I cannot see a way.
Please talk to God and ask Him to
bring a miracle into my life. Ask
Him to heal me, change me,
strengthen me, in body, soul, and
spirit. Gracias, Madre.*

Eddie enters as Vivi finishes, crossing herself. He lets her finish, then, softly --

EDDIE

Didn't know you were coming by.

VIVI

Just wanted to say hi to Mom.

He sees the emotion in Vivi's face. She smiles through it.

VIVI (CONT'D)

We're lucky we had her for as long
as we did.

EDDIE

We're lucky they caught yours
earlier.

Ah, so their mother died of the same disease. A lot of history with cancer in this family. But Vivi doesn't want to talk about cancer right now --

VIVI

How're the wine sales?

EDDIE

Good. The inn bought 20 cases.

(CONTINUED)

39

CONTINUED:

39

VIVI

Wow, and here I thought this
Vasquez Brothers Wine idea was just
a lark. You guys are amazing.
Congrats.

He smiles. Then, not sure if he should mention this...

EDDIE

Saw your friend Lindsay at the inn
yesterday, having lunch.

VIVI

That's nice. Did you say hi?

EDDIE

Didn't seem like the right time.
Did she split up with her husband?

VIVI

What do you mean?

EDDIE

I could be wrong, but she was with
a guy and it looked...intimate.

VIVI

Oh, you're definitely wrong. An
affair? Lindsay would never. She's
way too perfect.

LINDSAY (PRELAP)

Stop...

40

INT. NYC - LINGERIE STORE - DRESSING ROOM - DAY (D4)

40

Lindsay, in a sexy bra and underwear, giggles flirtatiously.

LINDSAY

I'm not showing you.

NICK (O.C. ON PHONE)

Fine. I bet you don't look sexy in
it anyway.

She's Face-timing Nick, who's got a view of the ceiling.

LINDSAY

Oh, really?

(CONTINUED)

40

CONTINUED:

40

NICK (ON PHONE)

No. I know for a fact you look hot
as hell. Let me see. Please?

LINDSAY

Fine. One quick peek.

She holds up the phone and poses for him, a little shyly.

NICK (ON PHONE)

I'm fully dead.

"Click." She stops, freaked out.

LINDSAY

Oh my god. Did you... just take a
photo of me?

NICK (ON PHONE)

Maybe.

ON Lindsay, this is not good -- if that ever got out...

LINDSAY

Nick, no. Delete it. Right now.

NICK (ON PHONE)

Please. You look incredible.

LINDSAY

Nope. Come on, delete it.

NICK (ON PHONE)

Okay, it's gone. Promise. It's
burned into my mind anyway. Damn,
you are one sexy woman.

She smiles, calming down, can't help but be wooed--

LINDSAY

You'll see it in person tomorrow.

41

INT. NYC - ZABAR'S FOODS - DAY (D4)

41

CLOSE ON the lingerie bag. PAN UP to find Lindsay at bustling
Zabar's Foods, carrying the lingerie bag and a few rolls of
wallpaper, talking to Jerry, the deli guy.

LINDSAY

I'll have my usual bagel order--

(CONTINUED)

41 CONTINUED:

41

JERRY

6 plain, 6 salt. Plus 4 black and whites. You got it, Mrs. Leighton.

LINDSAY

Thanks, Jerry.

As she waits, Lindsay spots something, walks toward a woman.

LINDSAY (CONT'D)

Vivi?

Vivi turns around, taken aback to find Lindsay--

VIVI

Oh! Hey! What are you doing here?

LINDSAY

Just errands. What are you doing in the city? I thought you had work stuff to do in Seaford.

VIVI

I just popped in to... check out a restaurant supply shop downtown. Had to get my bagels.

Vivi spots Lindsay's lingerie bag. Remembers what Eddie said.

VIVI (CONT'D)

So you and Graham are really going at it after that dry spell, huh?

She watches Lindsay's response closely.

LINDSAY

Oh, haha, I was just in the city to pick up this wallpaper for a client and I needed new bras. Nude. Very boring. You took the train in?

VIVI

Yep.

LINDSAY

I have my car with me. Come with me to run an errand. Then I'll drive us downtown to your shop and we can go back to Seaford together--

(CONTINUED)

41 CONTINUED: (2)

41

VIVI
Oh, God, thanks! I wish I could,
but I can't. I have to get going.
See you back in Seaford later?

Vivi hurries out of the store. Lindsay, taken aback, watches
her go -- WTF?

JERRY
Ms. Vasquez! Your order's ready!

LINDSAY
I'll take it, Jerry.

OFF Lindsay, wheels turning --

LINDSAY (PRELAP) (CONT'D)
I'm telling you, it was weird.

42 INT. ANA'S OFFICE - DAY (D4)

42

Lindsay's come by Ana's office, concerned about Vivi.

LINDSAY
And then she ran out of there,
without her bagels!

ANA
(stone-faced)
So you're not here to apologize for
getting all up in me the other day?

Ah. So they're doing this.

LINDSAY
Look. Okay. You're right. I
shouldn't have gotten involved in
your money, or your friendship with
Vivi.

Ana nods. Good. But Lindsay's not letting her off the hook --

LINDSAY (CONT'D)
At the same time... I was
vulnerable about my sex life and my
marriage, and you threw it back in
my face. Some things aren't easy to
be honest about, even with your
best friends.

This lands on both of them.

(CONTINUED)

42

CONTINUED:

42

ANA

You're right. I'm sorry.

(then)

So, what's going on with Vivi?

LINDSAY

It seemed like she didn't want to tell me where she was going. And hasn't she been acting a little weird lately? I'm worried.

Ana pulls out her phone. Lindsay looks over her shoulder.

LINDSAY (CONT'D)

You have Vivi on Find My Friends!? Talk about weird.

ANA

You don't remember? The 3 of us put it on our phones after we got separated at that Lizzo concert.

LINDSAY

So... you guys can track me?

ANA

Sure. Not that we'd want to with your boring life.

Lindsay discreetly turns off her own Find My Friends--

ANA (CONT'D)

She's heading uptown on Lex... turning on 67th.

LINDSAY

Huh. The supply shop is downtown.

(then, realizing)

Ana, you know what's on 67th and Lex?

ANA

Oh my god.

43

EXT. NYC - MEDICAL BUILDING AT 67TH AND LEX - DAY (D4)

43

CLOSE ON a Medical Building as Vivi exits, wiping away tears. She looks up to find: Ana and Lindsay waiting for her.

BUSTED. Judging from their looks, they want some answers. And so do we. But we'll have to wait because this is our--

END OF ACT FOUR

ACT FIVE44 EXT. NYC - BENCH - DAY (D4)

44

The camera pans across our 3 ladies, sitting on a bench together: anxious Ana, stoic Vivi, landing on a sad Lindsay.

LINDSAY

Whenever you're ready to talk, V,
we're here.

VIVI

I-- My--

She chokes up.

ANA

(determined)

V, if your cancer is back, we'll
beat it just like we did before.
That's all there is to it. We are
not gonna let it get you. I promise--

VIVI

It's not back! But you're wrong,
Ana. Because one way or another,
cancer always gets you.

Ana and Lindsay react -- WTF is going on?

VIVI (CONT'D)

The tests just confirmed it. I have
ovarian failure due to alkylating
cytotoxics. I can't have children.

Ana and Lindsay look at her, heartbroken.

ANA

Oh, V.

LINDSAY

Vivi...

VIVI

It's fine. I'm fine.

A long beat, then--

LINDSAY

I'm devastated for you, V. But I'm
also just so relieved that--

(CONTINUED)

44

CONTINUED:

44

VIVI

(angry)

That my cancer isn't back? That I'm going to live? Great. Good for you. I'm sorry if I can't celebrate my existence right now. I'm sorry if I've been too busy mourning the life I've envisioned for myself since I was 12, the life I thought I was destined to have by God --

Vivi stops, surprised to see Ana emotional.

ANA

We would have mourned with you, V. Why couldn't you tell us?

Vivi looks at her two best friends --

VIVI

Because when I tell it to you two? Then it's real. And then things start to disappear. And I don't want them to go. Not yet. I've already had my mother taken away from me and my boobs and my hair and now my chance to have kids is gone, and when Rory finds out, believe me, he'll disappear too.

LINDSAY

Rory doesn't know?

VIVI

You should hear him go on about having kids. He wants five.

ANA

Screw him if he doesn't want you because of this. Better to find out now what kind of person he is.

Lindsay steps in, pissed --

LINDSAY

That's not fair, Ana!

Lindsay turns to Vivi--

LINDSAY (CONT'D)

Did you already know this when Rory proposed?

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

44 CONTINUED: (2)

44

LINDSAY (CONT'D)
(off V's silence)
You should have told him before you
said yes.

Stung, Vivi glances at Lindsay's lingerie bag, snaps--

VIVI
Okay, Ms. Perfect! Like you tell
Graham everything?! You're not
better than the rest of us, so stop
pretending you are!

Lindsay's stunned. Ana's confused, but steps in --

ANA
Hey, let's all take a breath--

Vivi's horrified by what she just said.

VIVI
I'm sorry. I shouldn't have said
that--

Lindsay's still taking in what Vivi said.

LINDSAY
It's okay.

Vivi softens, gets emotional.

VIVI
I know I have to tell Rory. I'm
just scared. I can lose everything
else. Not him.

LINDSAY
I promise, I won't tell him. You
tell him whenever you're ready. In
the meantime, we're here for you.

ANA
Always.

At that, Vivi breaks down. As they hug her, we're OFF our 3
friends, arms around each other, sharing a secret...

45 INT. LINDSAY'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY (D5)

45

Lindsay, home from the city, enters. It's dark, empty.

LINDSAY
Hello?

(CONTINUED)

45 CONTINUED: 45

No one's home. She heads into the kitchen. Then stops, peers through the window, confused by what she sees. What *is* that??

46 EXT. LINDSAY'S BACKYARD - DAY (D5) 46

Lindsay approaches something unseen in her yard. Suddenly, a hand covers her eyes! WTF?! She gasps! Then a voice:

CHARLOTTE
Guess who?

LINDSAY
Charlotte! What is going on?

CHARLOTTE
Come with me.

Charlotte leads her to a sheet hanging from a laundry line.

CHARLOTTE (CONT'D)
Open your eyes.

The sheet drops, revealing Graham and Mac, sitting in the middle of a gorgeous ROSE GARDEN. A tablecloth and picnic, candles and twinkly lights. It's pretty magical. Lindsay looks to Graham, questioning--

GRAHAM
Don't look at me. It was the kids' idea.

LINDSAY
But... why?

Charlotte points to a homemade wooden sign: "*LINDSAY LEIGHTON DESIGN. SINCE 2001.*"

LINDSAY (CONT'D)
Oh my gosh. It's been 20 years? I can't believe I forgot.

Lindsay takes it all in, surprised to see--

LINDSAY (CONT'D)
Juliet roses?

She turns to Graham. He shrugs, aloof.

GRAHAM
They insisted I make you a rose garden. I knew you wouldn't be happy with anything else.

(CONTINUED)

46

CONTINUED:

46

There it is -- her demanding perfection again. Mac and Charlotte look at her, worry in their eyes.

MAC

Do you like it, Mom?

They all wait for her reaction. Suddenly, Lindsay breaks down in tears. They all react, concerned --

MAC (CONT'D)

Mom?!

CHARLOTTE

What's wrong, Mom?

Lindsay looks at her family --

LINDSAY

I screwed up.

OMG. She's going to tell them about Nick??

LINDSAY (CONT'D)

I've been way too controlling. I expect way too much, I always want everything to be perfect... I must be awful to live with!

Lindsay hugs the kids, then pulls back to look at them --

LINDSAY (CONT'D)

I love this garden. I love that you guys did this. I'm sorry you had to worry for even one second that I wouldn't. I'm so sorry.

She's surprised when Graham comes to her.

GRAHAM

Hey. You're not that bad.

He hugs her, whispers in her ear.

GRAHAM (CONT'D)

And you're not the only one who's been hard to live with. I'm sorry, too.

Off the two of them -- this doesn't magically solve their problems, but for now, Lindsay can hear the ice breaking.

As her family starts laying out the picnic, Lindsay gets a TEXT from Nick. She steps away to check it: "Counting the minutes till I see you tomorrow." She stares at it. Makes a decision. TEXTS Nick: "I can't make it tomorrow."

(CONTINUED)

46 CONTINUED: (2) 46

I'm really sorry. You know I'm married. I don't think I can do this anymore."

OFF Lindsay, appreciating her family--

47 INT. VIVI'S RESTAURANT SPACE - DAY (D5) 47

CLOSE ON a FOR RENT sign being removed from a window. REVEAL Vivi holding it. As she looks proudly around at her new restaurant -- *this* is her baby now -- she makes a decision. She TEXTS Ana and Lindsay: "Can you guys meet me at the new place tonight?" Ana TEXTS back: "Do we get dinner?" Vivi: "Yes. IF you help me." Lindsay replies: "With...?" Vivi: "I have to tell Rory. But I don't know how." OFF Vivi, knowing what she has to do --

48 INT. ANA'S OFFICE - EVENING (D5) 48

Ana's at her desk when there's a knock at her door. The door opens, REVEALING Rory. Ana's taken aback, uneasy about holding's Vivi's secret.

ANA

This is unexpected.

RORY

Sorry to just drop in. I... need to ask you something -- and I know I can always count on you to be brutally honest.

ANA

(uh oh)

Okay...?

RORY

Do you think Vivi's okay? She seems different lately. Distracted.

Oh God. Ana's not sure how to answer this...

ANA

She does seem to have a lot on her mind. Maybe it's just getting engaged? That's a big transition.

RORY

I hope she's not having second thoughts already.

He laughs, but it's clear he's feeling anxious. Ana remembers her pledge to Vivi to get on board with them.

(CONTINUED)

48

CONTINUED:

48

ANA

Look, Rory, Vivi loves you, I know that.

Rory looks relieved.

RORY

Thanks. And I'm sorry about the other day. It was my fault. I was just jealous that you're doing so well at work.

ANA

Yeah, Vivi mentioned that.

RORY

She did?

Rory's embarrassed, but Ana extends an olive branch--

ANA

She also said you might even like to find a job on Wall Street. I'd be happy to put in a good word--

RORY

Thanks, yeah, I was considering it for half a second, but then I remembered, I freakin' hate Wall Street.

ANA

Oh, I remember.

RORY

The irony is, when I mentioned leaving to my boss, he offered me a new job. Too good to turn down.

ANA

That's great.

RORY

Remember that task force I mentioned? The one that got you all riled up?

ANA

Yeah?

(CONTINUED)

48

CONTINUED: (2)

48

RORY

I'm the new head of it. Gonna be
digging into all sorts of shady
dealings on Wall Street.

Ana's taken aback, but she covers well.

ANA

Wow. Lucky them.

Rory starts to exit. Then he stops and JOKES --

RORY

Yeah, so you better watch your
back, Ana. Because from now on, the
U.S. Attorney's office is watching.

He laughs and exits. But we're OFF Ana, NOT laughing --

END OF ACT FIVE

ACT SIX

49 EXT. LINDSAY'S BACKYARD - EVENING (N5) 49

CLOSE ON Lindsay as she watches her family enjoy their picnic. As she revels in this moment, it's as if she's watching it from the outside, the dialogue low, almost MOS.

GRAHAM
And then Charlotte said--

MAC / CHARLOTTE
They're on your head, Mom!

They all laugh. Just then, the DOORBELL RINGS. Lindsay looks from the yard to the front door -- *who could that be?*

50 INT. VIVI AND RORY'S COTTAGE - EVENING (N5) 50

Vivi enters, finding Rory sitting alone in a dark room.

Rory? VIVI

OFF her worried face, GO TO--

51 INT. JAMIE'S OFFICE - EVENING (N5) 51

Ana enters Jamie's office, panicked. She closes the door.

JAMIE
Whoa, what's going on?

ANA
Did you hear about this new task
force?

JAMIE
At the U.S. Attorney's office?

ANA
Rory's running it.

JAMIE
I heard. Good news for us. He'd
never come down on us--we're his
friends.

ANA
I don't think he sees me that way.
I'm selling my MedCo shares
tomorrow.

(CONTINUED)

51 CONTINUED:

51

JAMIE

Don't be stupid. That would only
draw only more attention to us.

ANA

I don't care. I'm getting rid of
them.

Jamie gets intense with her, raises his voice:

JAMIE

Ana. Listen to me. You can't do
that. You made your choice. Now you
have to live with it.

She takes this in, knowing he's right --

ANA

No one else knows?

JAMIE

(hand on heart)

Just us.

Ana, trying to stay calm, EXITS. Jamie looks at his desk
phone -- we realize he was on a SPEAKER CALL with someone
else the whole time, they overheard the whole thing. Jamie's
frustrated--

JAMIE (CONT'D)

Fuck. I told you she'd break. No,
I'll keep her in line. What choice
do we have?

We're left wondering -- *who the hell was he talking to?*

52 EXT. / INT. LINDSAY'S HOUSE - EVENING (N5)

52

Lindsay opens the door to find NICK, holding a gift box. WTF?

GRAHAM (O.C.)

Who's at the door?

LINDSAY

It's the drycleaning!
(whispers to Nick)
What are you doing here?

NICK

I just want to be clear. I don't
care that you're married.

(CONTINUED)

52 CONTINUED:

52

LINDSAY
You need to go. Now.

NICK
I'll call you tomorrow.

Nick walks off. OFF Lindsay, closing the door, her heart pounding. She opens the box to reveal: sexy lingerie. She quickly stuffs it back in the box. *Yikes*. Looks like Lindsay's secret lover has a little issue with boundaries...

53 INT. RORY AND VIVI'S COTTAGE - EVENING (N5)

53

In the darkened house, Vivi approaches Rory. It looks like he's been crying. His tone is shocked emotion, not anger.

VIVI
What's going on?

RORY
You tell me.

Uh oh. She can tell from his face that he knows.

VIVI
Did your sister say something to you?

RORY
Lindsay? No...

It lands on him that his sister knew and didn't tell him.

RORY (CONT'D)
I... ran into Dr. Beth. She assumed I already knew and said too much.

VIVI
Rory, I'm sorry--

RORY
So it's true.

VIVI
Yes.

RORY
Okay. Because when she told me, I said, no, that's impossible. Vivi and I just made a promise to spend the rest of our lives together.
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

53

CONTINUED:

53

RORY (CONT'D)

She would never hide something like that, not after all we've been through.

VIVI

I thought I would lose you.

He looks at her in disbelief -- how could she think that?

RORY

So you were going to hide this from me for how long? Were you going to marry me without telling me?

VIVI

No! I was going to tell you. Maybe even tonight! I was just trying to get up my nerve.

RORY

Then do it. Tell me.

She gets emotional.

VIVI

The doctors say I won't be able to have children.

RORY

I still love you and I still want to marry you.

VIVI

I hid it from you.

RORY

I still love you and I still want to marry you.

VIVI

I fantasized about murdering Dr. Beth in her sleep just now.

RORY

Still love you. Still want to marry you.

A beat -- she wants to believe him -- then --

VIVI

You say all this now. But you need time to think it over.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

53

CONTINUED: (2)

53

VIVI (CONT'D)

Wait until it sinks in that you
can't have your own children.

RORY

We will have our own children.
We'll adopt them. Or use an egg
donor. I don't care. All I care
about is raising them with you. V,
I would fight through anything --
fertility issues, cancer, my
parents, your best friend -- to be
with you.

He just doesn't understand --

RORY (CONT'D)

What is stopping you from believing
that?

VIVI

I don't know. All I know is, when
we fell in love, my life turned
into a fairy tale.

Rory smiles. Then she continues --

VIVI (CONT'D)

But I just have this terrible
feeling that one day, it's all
going to come crashing down.

Rory's taken aback --

RORY

V, it won't. Come here.

He takes her in his arms. Off Vivi, closing her eyes,
savoring his protective hug. But as she opens her eyes, we
have a sense of foreboding, which TAKES US ACROSS TO --

54

EXT. RORY AND VIVI'S COTTAGE - NIGHT (N5)

54

Vivi's exiting the house, surprised to find Helen Crawford,
Rory's mother, in the shadows of the driveway.

VIVI

Helen?

HELEN

Evening, Vivian.

(CONTINUED)

54

CONTINUED:

54

VIVI

I'm just on my way out to the restaurant.

HELEN

It's fine. I'm here to see Rory.

VIVI

Okay, well, nice to see you.

Vivi's about to go, but then, emboldened by her talk with Rory, she turns bravely to Helen --

VIVI (CONT'D)

Helen. I don't know what I did to get on your bad side. But Rory made it very clear to me tonight that he wants a life with me, no matter what. I'm going to be part of your family.

Helen smiles at her nicely.

HELEN

Sweet girl. Ever since you were little, when your father started working for us, and you'd help him wash our cars or sweep out our garage, you've always been so exceedingly bright.

Vivi smiles. This is going well. But then Helen continues--

HELEN (CONT'D)

So it can't come as a surprise to you that I will never let that happen.

Vivi flashes with anger. She moves toward Helen--

VIVI

I'd watch how you speak to me.

Vivi drops her voice, this is furtive, mysterious --

VIVI (CONT'D)

Summer solstice?

There's that summer solstice party again -- the same one where Ana claims Rory was up to no good...

(CONTINUED)

54 CONTINUED: (2)

54

VIVI (CONT'D)
I know what happened that night.
Upstairs at your house. I was
there.

Vivi lets that land. But Helen doesn't blink.

HELEN
Actually, there are quite a few
things you don't know about that
night. Things you won't want to
know. So I'd forget whatever you
think you saw.

Helen heads inside, then stops, turns back --

HELEN (CONT'D)
Oh, and by the way, Vivian, what
exactly were you doing in our house
that night?

With that, Helen goes. OFF Vivi, head spinning, CUT TO--

55 INT. VASQUEZ FAMILY HOME - LIVING ROOM

55

Vivi furtively enters her childhood home, not making a sound.
No one's home. She goes to her mother's shrine, feels around
behind it. Ah ha. She pulls something that was hidden behind
the shrine, tucks it away in her purse. Kisses her fingers
and then touches her mother's photo with her fingers. Exits --

56 INT. VIVI'S RESTAURANT SPACE - NIGHT (N5)

56

--and enters her restaurant space. We follow her through the
main dining area and kitchen, into a small office, where she
opens a closet door, revealing a SAFE. She takes the item out
of her purse -- a small package wrapped in black -- puts it
in the safe, locks it. As she stares at the locked safe, we
FLASHBACK POP TO:

57 INT. HELEN AND TED'S HOUSE - HALLWAY/BEDROOM - FLASHBACK 57

*We see fragmented POPS: Vivi walks furtively along a hallway.
She's stopped by unsettling noises behind a door. Grunts and
groans. Sex? An argument? Vivi edges closer. Hears a thump.
Peers through the crack, sees a horrified Ted Crawford
staring at something. Before we see what it is --*

BACK TO SCENE. Vivi shakes her head, wishing she could forget
that memory, as we CUT TO:

58

EXT. VIVI'S RESTAURANT SPACE - NIGHT (N5)

58

A BOTTLE OF TEQUILA being plopped on a table. A subdued Lindsay, Ana and Vivi sit on the patio, overlooking the water. As Vivi pours the shots--

VIVI

Thanks for coming tonight, ladies.

Vivi raises her glass to toast, but before she can -- a stressed Ana and Lindsay both shoot theirs back.

VIVI (CONT'D)

Good plan.

Vivi throws hers back, too. Pours three more.

VIVI (CONT'D)

So, I picked a name for my restaurant. Tres Amigas.

ANA

Love.

LINDSAY

It's perfect, V.

(then)

So, you need our advice on how to tell Rory?

VIVI

Nope.

(off their looks)

He knows. And he was very understanding. We're still getting married.

Lindsay's relieved and pleased. Ana, less so. Lindsay raises a glass --

LINDSAY

Well, I guess it just goes to show, secrets are never a good idea.

Ana raises her glass --

ANA

True. Better to bare your soul.

Vivi joins in --

(CONTINUED)

58

CONTINUED:

58

VIVI

One hundred percent. Honesty,
always.

All three of them shoot their shots. Then, they look out at
the view, each lost in her own world of worry --

ON ANA -- covering major anxiety about her crime...

ON LINDSAY -- unsure of what Nick will do next...

ON VIVI -- holding the darkest secret of them all...

ON ALL 3 OF OUR LADIES, their secrets firmly intact -- for
now -- staring out into that DARK WATER, we SMASH TO BLACK.

END OF PILOT