

CRAZY RICH ASIANS

Screenplay by

Peter Chiarelli and Adele Lim

based on the novel by Kevin Kwan

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OPENING TITLES

MUSIC IN.

SUPERIMPOSE: Let China sleep, for when she wakes, she  
will shake the world.

- Napoleon Bonaparte

FADE IN:

EXT. CALTHORPE HOTEL - NIGHT (1995) (HEAVY RAIN AND  
THUNDER)

SUPERIMPOSE: LONDON  
1995

INT. CALTHORPE HOTEL - CLOSE ON A PORTRAIT - NIGHT

of a modern ENGLISH LORD. The brass placard reads:  
"Lord Rupert Calthorpe-Cavendish-Gore."

REVEAL we're in the lobby of an ostentatious hotel. It's  
deserted except for TWO CLERKS at the front desk. It is  
the middle of the night and RAINING HEAVILY outside.

ANGLE ON HOTEL ENTRANCE

The revolving doors start to swing as TWO CHILDREN (NICK  
8, ASTRID 8) and TWO CHINESE WOMEN, ELEANOR and FELICITY  
YOUNG (30s) enter. They're DRIPPING WET, dragging their  
soaked luggage behind them.

Nick SLIDES his feet around the polished floor, leaving a  
MUDDY CIRCLE in his wake. The clerks look horrified.  
Eleanor makes her way to the front desk, while  
complaining to Felicity about having to walk in the bad  
weather.

ELEANOR  
(in Cantonese;  
subtitled)  
If you didn't make us walk, we  
wouldn't be soaked.

Felicity grabs the children by the hand and follows  
Eleanor to the front desk.

CLERK #1  
May I help you? This is the  
Calthorpe, a private hotel --

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Eleanor goes to the desk and replies in PERFECT ENGLISH -- her pronunciation is BRITISH, with a lilt unique to upper-crust Chinese from former British colonies.

(NOTE: The specific accents of our players are important character details, indications of their background, education, and socioeconomic status.)

ELEANOR

I'm Mrs. Eleanor Young. I have a reservation. The Lancaster suite.

(sees his name tag)

We spoke on the phone when I confirmed yesterday.

CLERK #1

Sorry, don't seem to have your reservation.

Clerk #2 surreptitiously presses a BUTTON under the counter. Eleanor and Felicity exchange glances. Felicity rolls her eyes, sensing what's going on.

REGINALD ORMSBY (50s, pompous) pops out of a door behind the front desk and the clerks move aside.

ORMSBY

Good evening. I'm Reginald Ormsby, hotel manager. Is there a problem?

ELEANOR

I'm Mrs. Eleanor Young. My family and I would like to be shown to our suite. We've had a long flight.

Ormsby takes in Eleanor et al, makes a snap judgment.

ORMSBY

We're fully booked, madam. You must have made a mistake. I'm sure you and your lovely family can find other accommodations. May I suggest you explore Chinatown?

FELICITY

(in Cantonese;  
subtitled; mutters)

*You can explore Hell. You dog turd.*

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ELEANOR

Please, may I use your phone to  
call my husband? It's the least  
you can do.

Eleanor levels a glare at Ormsby, who looks at her with a  
tight smile.

EXT. CALTHORPE HOTEL (LONDON) - NIGHT

RAIN POURS on the children and Felicity as they watch  
Eleanor in a PHONE BOOTH. "THE CALTHORPE" sign casts a  
glow over them. We don't know what she's saying, but we  
hear Eleanor angrily speaking on the phone.

INT. CALTHORPE HOTEL (LONDON) - NIGHT

Eleanor bursts through the front door with her family  
right behind her. Eleanor approaches the front desk  
again. Ormsby is not pleased.

ORMSBY

Mrs. Young! I must ask you to  
leave, or I'll have to call the  
police.

ELEANOR

Please, go right ahead.

Ormsby is taken aback. He moves to stop her when the  
elevator DINGS and OPENS and an ELDERLY MAN IN A SILK  
ROBE AND SLIPPERS comes out -- LORD CALTHORPE, the same  
man in the opening portrait and owner of the hotel.  
Ormsby snaps to.

ORMSBY

Lord Calthorpe! My apologies for  
this disturbance --

Lord Calthorpe ignores Ormsby and beelines for Eleanor.

LORD CALTHORPE

Eleanor! I just got off the phone  
with your husband.

Lord Calthorpe kisses Eleanor on the cheek, and snaps at  
the clerks.

LORD CALTHORPE

Get the Lancaster suite ready.  
Now.

Ormsby reacts, confused.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ORMSBY  
Surely you're joking, sir.

LORD CALTHORPE  
I assure you, I'm not. As of this evening, my family's long history as custodians of the Calthorpe is ended. I am selling the hotel to my dear friends, the Young family of Singapore.

Ormsby looks at Eleanor, shocked.

LORD CALTHORPE  
Meet the new lady of the house, Eleanor Young.  
(to Eleanor)  
Join me for a toast.

ELEANOR  
We'd be delighted.  
(turns to address Ormsby)  
Do get a mop. The floor's wet.

Eleanor winks at Nick, who grins and looks back at Ormsby.

ORMSBY  
(to Clerk #1)  
Get a mop.

SMASH CUT TO:

OPENING TITLES

CONTINUE OVER MUSIC.

SUPERIMPOSE: CRAZY RICH ASIANS

FADE IN:

INT. DARK ROOM - PRESENT DAY (2017)

Staring across a table is RACHEL CHU (29, Chinese-American, beautiful, sharp). She exudes confidence. PULL BACK to reveal a pile of chips in front of her.

We see someone else's hand checking the cards they've been dealt: 2 KINGS, 2 NINES, and a JACK. They're in the middle of a five card draw poker game.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

As the CAMERA TILTS UP we see CURTIS (late 20s, T.A., white) is the player sitting across from Rachel. He stares at her over his black-rimmed glasses, trying to read her. She stares back, revealing nothing.

Rachel pushes the pile of chips to the center of the poker table.

RACHEL

I'm all in.

Curtis has FIVE CHIPS left. He checks his cards again, then FOLDS.

CURTIS

Fold.

Rachel flips over her cards. She's got nothing.

CURTIS

Nothing!

(as Rachel laughs)

This whole time you had nothing.

The lights come up and we see A ROOM FULL OF PEOPLE CLAP AND TITTER. REVEAL we're in: AN AUDITORIUM CLASSROOM with UNDERGRAD STUDENTS. The poker table onstage is being shown on two LARGE FLATSCREENS so the students can follow the action.

Rachel takes the lectern. "Game Theory 290" appears on the side screens.

RACHEL

All right, so, how did I beat T.A. Curtis so very, very badly? Well, I know for a fact that Curtis is cheap.

The students all smile and laugh, totally engaged.

RACHEL

So, he's not playing using logic or math, but using his psychology. Our brains so hate the idea of losing something that's valuable to us, that we abandon all rational thought and make some really poor decisions. So Curtis wasn't playing to win. He was playing not to lose.

(to Curtis; tosses  
him a chip)

Here. Put it towards a haircut.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

The class LAUGHS. Curtis takes the \$10 with a BANDAGED HAND.

RACHEL  
All right, that's it for today.  
Don't forget your essays on  
conditional probability are due  
next week --

As students file out, NICK walks in and smiles lasciviously.

TRANSITION TO:

EXT. NEW YORK - NIGHT

SUPERIMPOSE: NEW YORK, 2018

INT. CAKE & CARRY - NIGHT

Nick and Rachel share a STICKY TOFFEE PUDDING like an old married couple.

NICK  
(digging in)  
Yes!

RACHEL  
You know what, you can order your  
own.

NICK  
(taking a bite;  
chewing)  
Mm, I'm okay with coffee. Thanks.

RACHEL  
Yeah, well, you always say that,  
and then you end up eating all my  
dessert.

Nick takes a huge bite.

NICK  
(mouth full)  
I don't know what you're talking  
about? 'Cause I have, like, a  
tiny bit.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

RACHEL

Uh-huh. Okay.  
(to waiter)  
Can we have one more of these,  
please.  
(chuckling)  
Thank you.

NICK

So, what about us taking an  
adventure east?

RACHEL

You wanna get pork buns in the  
East Village. That's what it is,  
isn't it?

NICK

I was actually thinking of further  
east.

RACHEL

Like Queens.

NICK

Like Singapore? For spring break?  
(off Rachel)  
Colin's wedding. We've been  
dating for over a year now, and I  
think it's about time people met  
my beautiful girlfriend. Come on,  
I'm Colin's best man. Don't you  
wanna see where I grew up? Meet  
my family, my Ah Ma? And meet up  
with that strange college roommate  
of yours.

RACHEL

Peik Lin.

NICK

Mm-hmm. Peik Lin.

RACHEL

She has been begging me to come  
visit her, you know?

NICK

The universe has spoken. It wants  
you over there. Come to  
Singapore. I want the whole  
island to meet the brilliant  
Rachel Chu.

(CONTINUED)



CONTINUED:

RACHEL

Aw.

A woman sitting at a booth behind them watches Rachel and Nick, interested in their every move. She gets up and walks past them with her cell phone and snaps a photo as she passes in front of them. She immediately starts TEXTING --

SERIES OF TEXTS

RadiolAsia: *OMG. You'll never believe who I saw.*

Girl: *WHO?*

RadiolAsia e-mails the picture of Rachel and Nick.

Girl: *Is that NICK YOUNG?*

RadiolAsia: *Yes.*

Girl: *Who's the girl?*

RadiolAsia: *Said her name was Rachel Chu.*

Group TEXT with photo: *Who IS this girl?*

Nick and Rachel's picture is sent out all over Social Media. They Google Rachel Chu.

TEXT: *Wah, so many Rachel Chu's lah*

We see photos of searches matching Rachel Chu.

TEXT: *Did you try Choo? Or Chiu? Or Chew? Or Zhu?*

TEXT: *OMFG! yah, which one? Ask the Twins?*

Twin #1 TEXT: *Found her!*

Twin #2 TEXT: *Found her?*

TEXT: *Rachel Chu*

TEXT: *Is there a ring?*

TEXT: *Looks ABC*

TEXT: *WTF!*

TEXT: *NEVER*

TEXT: *u joking?*

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

TEXT: *Hate her!!!!*

TEXT: *Be serious*

TEXT: *Better not*

TEXT: *No thanks*

RadiolAsia: *He's bringing her to the wedding!*

TEXT: *Alamak!!!*

TEXT: *SRSLY!?*

TEXT: *Kantang!!!*

TEXT: *Drama!*

TEXT: *No way!*

TEXT: *OMFG!!!*

TEXT: *So not*

TEXT: *NOOOOO Does Amanda know?*

TEXT: *NO WAY*

TEXT: *Why her!*

TEXT: *DEAD*

TEXT: *WTF?!?!?*

TEXT: *serious*

TEXT: *LOSER*

TEXT: *ew no*

TEXT: *walao!!*

TEXT: *Basic AF*

TEXT: *Like Really??*

TEXT: *OK and??*

TEXT: *baiiiii*

TEXT: *Does his Mother know?*

INSERT - MAP OF SINGAPORE

CUT TO:

INT. PHILLIP AND ELEANOR'S HOUSE (SINGAPORE) - MORNING

ELEANOR reads a Bible verse aloud to a group of ladies.

ELEANOR

'If then you have been raised with  
Christ, seek the things that are  
above, where Christ is seated at  
the right hand of God.'

It's been twenty years since we've seen Eleanor, but she looks amazing. She sits with FOUR FABULOUSLY DRESSED, BEJEWELLED WOMEN: JACQUELINE LING (50s), ALIX YOUNG (50s), NADINE (30s), AND LORENA (40s). Uniformed MAIDS serve tea and "kuih," local cakes.

ELEANOR

'Set your minds on things that are  
above, not on things that are on  
Earth.'

Eleanor's interrupted by BUZZING. She looks disapproving as Alix and Jacqueline check their messages.

These matriarchs speak with UPPER-CRUST CHINESE SINGAPOREAN ACCENTS (perfect grammar with local flourishes). Jacqueline reacts, surprised.

JACQUELINE

Eleanor, is Nicki bringing a girl  
to Colin's wedding? My Amanda  
heard it from her friend,  
Francesca...

Eleanor is surprised, but tries not to let on.

ALIX

(looking at phone)  
Eddie says her name is Rachel Chu?

NADINE

Oh! I thought that Nick was  
coming alone. Did you know he had  
a girlfriend?

All eyes are on Eleanor who covers, not wanting to get into the details.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ELEANOR

Nick dates many girls. It's hard to keep track.

JACQUELINE

Amanda knows *everyone* and she has never heard of her.

NADINE

Rachel Chu. Or maybe she's from the Taiwan plastics Chu family?

ALIX

(low; conspiratorial)  
If you want, I have a private investigator. Very discreet --

ELEANOR

(interrupting)  
I think we should return to the word of God. Alix?

The women reluctantly return to their Bibles.

ALIX

Ephesians. Chapter six, verse four. 'Bring up your children in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.'

(can't help herself)  
Oh, I do hope she's a good, Christian girl.

JACQUELINE

Well, if he's bringing her home, it must be serious.

NADINE

Exactly.

The women all look at Eleanor.

INT. CAKE & CARRY - NIGHT

RESUME Rachel and Nick. Nick's phone rings.

NICK

It's my mum. Do you mind?

RACHEL

Mm, go ahead.

Rachel is about to dig into pudding #2.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

NICK  
(to Rachel)  
All right. Save me some of that.

RACHEL  
Okay.

Nick gets up to take the call away from the counter.

NICK  
(into phone)  
Hey, Mum, everything okay?

ELEANOR (V.O.)  
Does something have to wrong for  
me to call?

NICK  
Yeah, usually.

ELEANOR (V.O.)  
Ha, ha, ha. Very funny.

INT. PHILLIP AND ELEANOR'S HOUSE (SINGAPORE) - DAY

Eleanor is on her phone standing away from her Bible group. Keeps her voice low, casual.

INTERCUT AS NECESSARY with Nick and Eleanor talking on the phone.

ELEANOR  
Are you bringing the girl you're  
seeing to Colin's wedding?

NICK  
(confused)  
Hmm. We were literally just  
talking about that. How could you  
know?

ELEANOR  
Everybody knows.

Nick sees Celine (the only other Asian in the restaurant) leaving through a revolving door.

NICK  
Radio One Asia.

Eleanor notices the other women trying to eavesdrop.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ELEANOR  
(to ladies)  
Move on to Corinthians, I'll catch  
up.

ALIX  
Ah, yes.

ELEANOR  
(back to phone; low)  
We're looking forward to having  
you home. And your room is all  
ready... for you.

Nick hears this, gets the implication.

NICK  
Thanks, Mom. But Rachel and I  
will be staying together.

Eleanor is disappointed, makes another attempt:

ELEANOR  
I see. Well, I'm having the house  
redone. And it's not ready for  
guests. If Rachel comes, I think  
she might be more comfortable  
staying somewhere else?

Nick returns to the counter, to see the second sticky  
toffee pudding is gone, except for a TINY PIECE.

NICK  
All right. Sorry about that.

RACHEL  
I saved you a piece.

NICK  
You did, did you? A very small  
piece at that. Thank you very  
much.

RACHEL  
How's your mom? Everything okay?

NICK  
Mm. Couldn't be better.

Rachel kisses Nick.

RACHEL (V.O.)  
(pre-lap)  
Hey, Mom, this one's kind of cute.

## INT. CLOTHING BOUTIQUE - DAY

Rachel looks at her reflection in a mirror as she holds a blue and white dress to her body. Her mother, KERRY (50s, real estate agent, Chico chic), shakes her head. Kerry has a slight Chinese immigrant accent.

RACHEL

What do you think?

KERRY

No! No! No! No! You can't wear that to meet Nick's Ah Ma. Blue and white is for Chinese funerals. Now this, this symbolizes good fortune and fertility.

Kerry holds up a conservative RED dress.

RACHEL

Great! I was really going for that 'lucky baby-maker' vibe.

KERRY

Hey! You are the one who asked for my help picking out a dress to meet Nick's family.

RACHEL

It's only 'cause I hardly know anything about them. Every time I bring them up Nick changes the subject.

KERRY

Maybe he's embarrassed. Maybe his parents are poor, and he has to send them money. That's what all good Chinese children do.

Rachel chuckles and they keep searching for the right dress.

KERRY

Oh, you are going to have a wonderful time. You've always wanted to go to Asia and who knows, if all goes well in Singapore, you might just come back with a souvenir.

RACHEL

Mom, stop! Nick and I haven't even talked about that.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

RACHEL (CONT'D)

I mean, his parents can't not like me, right?

Kerry has a sour look on her face and turns away to begin rummaging through a clothes rack.

RACHEL

What was that look? I saw that.

KERRY

Nothing. It's just, Nick bringing a girl all the way there to meet them can mean a lot to these overseas families. Eh, they're different from us.

RACHEL

How are they different? They're Chinese, I'm Chinese. I'm so Chinese, I'm an economics professor with lactose intolerance.

KERRY

Yeah, but you grew up here.

(in Mandarin;  
subtitled)

*Ni kan qilai shi huaren, ni jiang de shi zhongwen. Keshi zheli he zheli...* [Your face is Chinese. You speak Chinese. But here...

(points to Rachel's  
head and mouth)

... and here...

(in English)

You're different. But wearing a lucky color will make a good first impression.

CUT TO:

EXT. JFK - CURBSIDE - DAY

Amid the hectic bustle, Nick and Rachel exit a taxi. An airport sign behind them reads: Kuwait Airways, Pacific Asian Airlines, Qatar Airways, Malaysian Airlines, Cathay Pacific.

FEMALE ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

Attention, the white zone is for passenger loading and unloadings only.

(CONTINUED)



CONTINUED:

RACHEL

Okay, game plan. Check our bags, get through security, and then we could eat one of the three homemade Tupperware meals my mom packed for us.

An elegant PACIFIC ASEAN AIRLINES FLIGHT ATTENDANT approaches, flanked by TWO PORTERS with luggage carts.

FLIGHT ATTENDANT

Good afternoon, Mr. Young, Ms. Chu. We'll take your bags and get you checked into first class.

NICK

Great.

Rachel looks confused as the porters take their bags.

RACHEL

Oh. No, there's a mistake. We're not first class. We're economy people.

FLIGHT ATTENDANT

This way, please.

Nick puts a hand in the small of her back:

NICK

Just go with it. Come on.

RACHEL

But...

NICK

Yeah, they'll be fine. Just leave them there.

INT. PLANE - ON NICK - DAY

FLIGHT ATTENDANT #2 pulls back a gold, silk curtain revealing a luxurious part of the plane that looks more like a hotel. Another attendant serves them champagne.

FLIGHT ATTENDANT #2

Welcome aboard, Mr. Young, Ms. Chu. Here's the way to your private suite. And some champagne.

They walk up to a full bar where champagne is poured for them. Rachel turns to Nick like "what's going on?"

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

NICK  
(to serving flight attendant)  
Thank you.

Rachel is blown away to see the leather armchairs, two huge flatscreen TVs, even a full-length wardrobe.

NICK  
Thank you very much.

FLIGHT ATTENDANT #2  
You're welcome. After takeoff, would you like to enjoy the lounge chairs or should we convert your suite into a bedroom?

Rachel clobbers Nick with a bag to keep him from responding.

RACHEL  
Uh, we're good. Thank you.

FLIGHT ATTENDANT #2  
Enjoy.

Nick looks to Rachel.

The Flight Attendant leaves. As Nick settles in, Rachel looks at the complimentary pajamas.

RACHEL  
Nick. We can't afford this. These pajamas are fancier than any of my real clothes.

NICK  
Hmm? My family has business with the airline. The tickets, they're a perk.

Rachel senses there's more to this. Pursues it:

RACHEL  
What kind of business?

NICK  
Real estate, investment, other things. Nothing interesting.  
(reading menu)  
Dim sum.

RACHEL  
So your family is, like, rich?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

NICK

Uh, we're comfortable.

RACHEL

That is exactly what a super rich person would say. It's not a big deal, obviously. I just think it's kind of weird that I had no idea. I mean, you have a Jamba Juice card, you use my Netflix password. You play basketball at that Y that kind of smells.

Nick sees Rachel is a little thrown.

NICK

I really like that place, thank you very much. And yes, my family has money, but I've always thought of it as theirs. Not mine.

RACHEL

I get that. But I'm going all the way over there to meet them... Kind of just wanna know what I'm getting into. And, you know, they're your family.

NICK

Well... My family is much like anybody else's. There's half of them that you love and respect, and then there's the other half.

RACHEL

Which half am I meeting?

CUT TO:

INT. MOVIE SET (TAIWAN) - NIGHT

A HERO faces off against a VILLAIN. In the b.g., a BUXOM HEROINE is chained to a wall. The Hero and villain launch into a fast-paced, stylistic KUNG-FU FIGHT. The Hero wins and sets free the Heroine, who clutches him.

SUPERIMPOSE: TAIWAN

NICK (V.O.)

Well, there's my cousin Alistair, based in Taiwan, works in movies.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Sitting on movie set is ALISTAIR CHENG (30s, sunglasses, dapper). The empty chair next to him has the name KITTY PONG on the back.

MALE DIRECTOR

And cut!

NICK (V.O.)

He's dating Kitty Pong, an actress.

ALISTAIR

Kitty.

Buxom Heroine KITTY PONG (20s, DD implants) runs into the arms of Alistair. She speaks with a GIRLY TAIWANESE ACCENT.

KITTY

Alistair. You like it? I was feeling very... very the emotions. Can you feel it?

Kitty grabs his hand and places it forcefully on her boob.

ALISTAIR

Oh, I can feel all of you. And all of me.

Alistair grabs Kitty's left thigh and yanks it up onto his hip. The DIRECTOR and Hero/Actor have an aside. On the back of the chair "TAIPEI TIGER 2."

MOVIE HERO

(in Mandarin;  
subtitled)

*Ta zhen de lan toule. Keyi huan ren ma?* [She's terrible. Can we get someone else?]

MALE DIRECTOR

(in Mandarin;  
subtitled)

*Zhe bu xi ta nanpengyou dou zhidao. Ni neng shuo huan ren ma.* [He's financing the whole movie. You tell him his girlfriend sucks.]

They look on as Alistair and Kitty make out.

INT. PLANE

Nick and Rachel continue their conversation.

RACHEL

Okay, and what about your cousin  
Eddie? You don't ever talk about  
him.

NICK

Well, Eddie is a big finance guy  
in Hong Kong. A real family man.

CUT TO:

INT. PENTHOUSE APARTMENT (HONG KONG) - MORNING

Eddie, his wife FIONA CHENG (30s, Hong Kong Chinese, in a simple but elegant dress), and their three sons (all under 8 and wearing matching Gucci outfits) are frozen in "natural" poses -- Eddie and Fiona "laugh" as their boys "play" with wooden airplanes that look more like props than toys -- as photographer RUSSELL WONG takes their portrait. Behind them, wide, floor-to-ceiling windows frame a panoramic view of Hong Kong.

SUPERIMPOSE: HONG KONG

EDDIE CHENG (30s, intense investment banker), ASTRID (30s, gorgeous, elegant).

RUSSELL WONG

You know if you move, it will look  
more natural.

EDDIE

No, this way you get our optimal  
angles.

RUSSELL WONG

Uh, then we're done.

As Russell wraps up, Eddie scurries over, all smiles.

EDDIE

Russell, thank you so much. It's  
an honor to be photographed by  
you.

FIONA

(to kids)  
Good job, guys.  
(to nannies)  
Yes.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

RUSSELL WONG

My pleasure. People will love it  
in the next Hong Kong *Vogue*.

NANNY

(to kids)  
Give me that. You have to take a  
bath now.

FIONA

Thank you, Russell.

Eddie beams, but the moment Russell and his ASSISTANTS  
exit, Eddie loses his smile. Turns on his wife, annoyed.

EDDIE

Hong Kong *Vogue*? I knew it. Your  
dress is a disaster. If you wore  
a Bottega gown, like I told you  
to, we'd be in the American *Vogue*.

FIONA

You can wear that gown to Hell,  
Eddie.

Fiona walks off as the children jump into 2 TOY BENTLEYS  
and start chasing their beleaguered NANNIES...

NANNY

(to kids)  
Stop!

NICK (V.O.)

Then there's Astrid.

INT. PLANE

RACHEL

I remember Astrid. She's like who  
I wanna be when I grow up.

NICK

Astrid is awesome. And she's  
probably the only one I'm actually  
close with. And she's really  
grounded and down to earth once  
you get to know her.

CUT TO:

INT. JEWELRY BOUTIQUE (SHANGHAI)

SUPERIMPOSE: SHANGHAI

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ASTRID (30s), striking, enters a LUXE HIGH-END BOUTIQUE where WEALTHY FEMALE CUSTOMERS look over FINE JEWELRY.

NICK (V.O.)

Not only did she graduate top of her class at Oxford, start multiple charities and is a fashion icon, Astrid has the biggest heart of any of my cousins.

Astrid sees a LITTLE GIRL, the daughter of a customer, holding a TINY, STUFFED BUNNY with a YARN BOW as she tugs on her mother's sleeve.

LITTLE GIRL

Mummy? See what I made for bunny --

But her mother waves her away, busy looking over baubles with her friend.

LITTLE GIRL'S MOTHER

No, not now, not now.

But the customers, including the Little Girl's mother, soon notice Astrid and sneak looks and whisper to one another about her.

Astrid walks by them and goes to the Little Girl, much to her mother's surprise.

ASTRID

(bends down; to Girl)

Hi, I'm Astrid. What's your name?

LITTLE GIRL

Vita.

ASTRID

(re: bunny)

And who's this?

LITTLE GIRL

Bun-Bun.

ASTRID

Well, I think Bun-Bun looks very dashing with his bow. You have a good eye.

LITTLE GIRL

Thank you.

The Little Girl BEAMS, delighted. The girl's MOTHER lights up, proud.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

The JEWELER approaches.

JEWELER

Ms. Leong, right this way.

ASTRID

It's very nice to meet you both.

The patrons watch Astrid and the Jeweler disappear through a hallway into a restricted area...

INT. JEWELRY STORE - BACK ROOM - DAY

It's a private room reserved for elite clientele. An ASSISTANT brings Astrid tea in a tiny antique cup as she surveys A STUNNING SELECTION OF OVER-THE-TOP JEWELRY.

JEWELER

These are all brand new from  
Antwerp. You're the first person  
I've shown them to.

Astrid is unimpressed. Then she sees in ANOTHER DISPLAY CASE an understated pair of pearl drop earrings. She looks at them, intrigued.

ASTRID

What are those?

The Jeweler smiles, approving of Astrid's taste. He takes the earrings out so she can get a closer look.

JEWELER

Those. Those are very special.  
Burmese pearl drop earrings. Set  
with emeralds, and rare pigeon-  
blood-red rubies. They were worn  
by Queen Supayalat at her self-  
anointed coronation in 1878.

The assistant brings the earrings to Astrid. She picks them up to look closer, intrigued.

ASTRID

How much?

JEWELER

Having you wear one of my pieces  
is better publicity than I can  
buy. I'll let them go at cost.

(beat)

One point two million.

Astrid gives a subtle nod.



INT. PLANE - NIGHT

The plane is now in the air and Nick and Rachel's suite has been converted into a bedroom. They wear the complimentary pajamas as they lie in bed, continuing their conversation about Nick's family.

RACHEL

So, if you have all this family there, why are we staying in a hotel? Aren't good Chinese sons supposed to stay with their parents?

NICK

Well, because A) I'm not that good a son, and B) I just want you to myself, just for a bit. That okay?

RACHEL

Okay.

Rachel smiles and kisses Nick. He rolls on top of her.

EXT. SKYLINE (SINGAPORE) - NIGHT

The plane flies across the South China Sea into the sunset, heading for a SHINING JEWEL at the tip of the Malaysian Peninsula.

INERT - WORLD MAP

SUPERIMPOSE: NORTH PACIFIC OCEAN, SOUTH PACIFIC OCEAN, NEW YORK, NORTH ATLANTIC OCEAN, SOUTH ATLANTIC OCEAN, CHINA, INDIA, INDIAN OCEAN, SINGAPORE, AUSTRALIA

We ZOOM IN ON SINGAPORE --

SUPERIMPOSE: MALAYSIA, SINGAPORE, SINGAPORE STRAIT, MAIN STRAIT, INDONESIA

EXT. SINGAPORE (ESTABLISHING)

SUPERIMPOSE: SINGAPORE

INT. CHANGI AIRPORT - DAY

Nick and Rachel emerge with other TRAVELERS, pushing luggage carts as they emerge from customs. Rachel looks around the shiny arrival hall in wonderment.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

RACHEL

I can't believe this airport has a butterfly garden and a movie theater. JFK is just salmonella and despair.

WOMAN (O.S.)

Nick!!! Nick!!!

Through the crowd runs a willowy, young woman, ARAMINTA (20s) clutching BALLOONS, rushing up to meet them. She throttles Nick, wrapping her legs tightly around his waist. Behind her is a ruggedly handsome man, COLIN (30s), holding a PLACARD that reads "Best Man." Nick lights up to see them.

ARAMINTA

Nick!!! Nick!!!

NICK

Araminta!

ARAMINTA

I missed you.

NICK

I missed you, too.

Araminta releases Nick and immediately grabs Rachel in a tight hug. Rachel reacts, surprised, amused. Colin grabs Nick in a big bear hug, pulling him back and forth.

ARAMINTA

Rachel.

NICK

(to Colin)

Hey.

RACHEL

Hi!

COLIN

(to Nick)

There he is. How are you?

ARAMINTA

(to Rachel)

It's so nice to finally meet you.

NICK

(to Colin)

I'm good.

RACHEL

(to Araminta)

It's so nice to meet you, too.

Araminta has no makeup on under her spectacles, and is wearing pajama pants, a tank top, and flip-flops. Nick gives Colin a big hug.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

COLIN

Ah! Nicki-Nick! Welcome!

NICK

It's been too long, brother.

COLIN

It has been too long. Welcome back.

NICK

You guys didn't have to pick us up.

ARAMINTA

Of course we did. We had to!

COLIN

Of course I had to come welcome my best man properly.

(to Rachel)

Hi, Rachel.

RACHEL

Hello.

They embrace warmly.

COLIN

Oh! Lovely to finally meet you.

RACHEL

Nice to meet you, too.

COLIN

Shall we? Let me help you with this.

ARAMINTA

Yes.

(handing Rachel the balloons)

And these are for you.

NICK

Yes! I can grab these. All right.

RACHEL

Oh! Thank you.

ARAMINTA

I know they're a bit over the top.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

COLIN

Let's get you all localized.

ARAMINTA

Are you hungry?

RACHEL

I'm always hungry. So let's eat everything we can.

ARAMINTA

Okay.

EXT. CHANGI AIRPORT - DAY

Colin pushes the luggage cart out the door, flanked by Rachel, Nick, and Araminta.

EXT. SINGAPORE (ESTABLISHING)

EXT./INT. HIGHWAY/SUV - DUSK

The open-top SUV flies down the highway. Colin is at the wheel as Nick, Rachel, and Araminta take in the sites.

INT. HAWKER CENTER - NIGHT

FLAMES LEAP over a wok as a CRAB is thrown in.

QUICK CUTS OF FOOD: stir-fried clams, turnip cakes, banana leaf rice, laksa soup noodles, ice being shaved over an ice kachang bowl.

Rachel stares in wonderment at an endless hive of food stalls underneath swaying palm trees, right on the beach. Even though it is late, the place teems with HUNDREDS of DINERS. All eating with great relish.

Nick, Araminta, and Colin move like seasoned locals. Colin scans the seating area, spots a table.

COLIN

Minty, three o'clock!

Araminta hurries over, buys TISSUE PACKETS from an OLD WOMAN.

WOMAN AT MARKET

(in Mandarin;  
subtitled)

*Guam Xia.* [Thank you.]

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ARAMINTA

(in Mandarin)

*Guam Xia.*

(in English)

Hey, guys! Here!

Araminta tosses a tissue packet to Nick and Rachel. Nick grabs Rachel, kicking off our --

NICK

Oh, thank you.

(to Rachel)

Come with me.

MONTAGE

-- They walk by the dizzying array of stalls, Nick is excited to share this world with Rachel:

NICK

Each of these hawker stalls sells pretty much one dish, and they've been perfecting it for generations. You know, this is one of the only places in the world where street food vendors actually earn Michelin stars.

-- A beaming PRAWN NOODLE SELLER HUGS Nick.

NOODLE SELLER

Hey! How are you, sir? Long time, no see, my friend.

(calls to worker;  
handing Nick food)

Here you go. Thank you very much, sir.

NICK

Uncle! Oh. Cheers.

-- Colin brings food to a table where Araminta sits, tissue packets holding a place for all of them.

COLIN

Ooh! Look at this. Look at this.

ARAMINTA

Oh, my favorite.

-- Nick orders from a MALAY SATAY vendor.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

NICK

(in Malay)  
*Sate dua puluh. Sepuluh ayam.  
Sepuluh daging.* [Twenty pieces of  
satay. Ten chicken satay. Ten  
beef satay.]

SAME SCENE - LATER

The table is OVERFLOWING with various dishes.

RACHEL

Hmm.

COLIN

There he is. Nice.

NICK

Where do you want me to put this?

Nick and Rachel go off to order more food.

NICK

(in Mandarin)  
*Luxa, liang wan, yi wan buyao  
lajiang.* [Luxa, give me one bowl  
of that, one of them without spicy  
sauce.]

BACK AT THE TABLE

Nick hands each of them mug of beer.

NICK

One of those for you.

RACHEL

Yes, thank you.

SHAVED ICE VENDOR

Nick and Rachel ordering shaved ice.

NICK

(in Mandarin)  
*Guan Xia.*

RACHEL

Looks a little vomity.

AT ANOTHER VENDOR

Nick is now ordering soup.

BACK AT THE TABLE

They are finally enjoying all the various dishes.

RACHEL

Oh, my God!

NICK

Yes! I told you! I told you.  
The best satay on the island. For  
sure. All right.

Araminta and Colin grin with approval.

COLIN

All right, dig in, guys.

ARAMINTA

Oh, really? So yummy, isn't it?

COLIN

(to Nick)

Oh, before I forget, I need your  
help tomorrow. Uh, I need to do  
some groomsman stuff and I don't  
wanna do it alone with Bernard  
Tai.

NICK

I still cannot believe that you  
got that guy to be your groomsman.

ARAMINTA

Thank you. Thank you. I rest my  
case.

NICK

Minty...

COLIN

Well, it wasn't up to me, was it?  
It's not my choice. Bernard is  
the human douche nozzle who used  
to steal my tuck shop money when  
we were kids, until Nicki-Nick  
beat him up.

NICK

Well...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ARAMINTA

Um...

RACHEL

You beat somebody up?

NICK

Hold on -- I threw a single punch.  
I fell on the floor and the guy  
sat on me. So, wasn't really much  
of a fight.

COLIN

(raises glass)

A toast, guys. To my best man,  
Nick Young, who can't fight for  
nuts, but will always have your  
back!

NICK

Thank you.

Colin and Nick continue to laugh and reminisce.

ARAMINTA

A toast to married life.

COLIN

Oh! Not yet! Not yet! Too  
early.

ARAMINTA

Oh, God!

NICK

Oh! Well, this time next week,  
guys!

NICK

We gotta get over your bachelor  
party first, matey.

COLIN

Is that necessary, man? Come on!

ARAMINTA

Listen, Rachel, I know we've only  
just met, but it's my bachelorette  
party this weekend and I would  
love for you to come.

Rachel is surprised, happy to be embraced by Nick's pals.  
Nick and Colin still bantering in the b.g.

(CONTINUED)



CONTINUED:

COLIN	RACHEL
(to Nick)	(to Araminta)
Hold on, if I make it out	That would be amazing.
alive! I would be --	Thank you so much!

NICK	ARAMINTA
That's gonna be the	Good! Good!
least...	

NICK  
If I -- Am I out of the picture?

COLIN  
Thanks, man.

NICK  
Am I totally out of the picture?

COLIN  
Yes, I've replaced you with  
Bernard.

NICK  
Well, that --

COLIN  
Screw that, man.

Nick and Colin joke and laugh with each other.

ARAMINTA  
Also, I have to say, I can't  
remember the last time I saw Nick  
like this.

NICK  
(overlaps)  
No, that's funny, though.

RACHEL  
He's just happy to be home.

ARAMINTA  
(making a face)  
Oh, yeah, he's just happy to be  
home. With you.

NICK  
(overlaps)  
I'm sorry. I'm sorry, man. Your  
dad will be the death of you.

We STAY ON Rachel -- she looks at Nick, happy, in his  
element. He glances at her with that smile -- and she  
falls that much more in love with him.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

COLIN

My dad will be the death of me.  
Oh, cheers to that.

COLIN

Guys, we have to dig in 'cause  
this crab is not gonna eat itself.

RACHEL

Okay.

ARAMINTA

Yeah. Pass me that.

RACHEL

What should I try first?  
(to Colin)  
Do you want some of this?

COLIN

Eat up, eat up! Try some of this.  
Oh, thank you.

RACHEL

It's really spicy.

NICK

It is really spicy. Oh, God!

EXT. CITY

The four of them driving down the highway in the open-top SUV enjoying the beautiful city. Nick points to various landmarks with glee. We see a MONTAGE of beautiful fountains, boats going under bridges, etc. The girls, in the back seat, put their arms around their guys' necks and snuggle.

ARAMINTA

Whoo!  
(shouting)  
Nick's in Singapore!

NICK

It's good to be home.

INT. ASTRID'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Astrid enters, followed by the porters. The apartment isn't enormous, but each room is straight out of the pages of *Architectural Digest*. TWO MAIDS quickly swing into action, taking the bags and unpacking them.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ASTRID

Is Michael here?

MAID

Not yet, ma'am. Also, your son  
woke up. He wants to see you.

ASTRID

All right. You know what to do.  
Quickly.

MAID

Okay. Put over here. Okay...  
Move, move.

The Maids nod, knowing the drill. The head Maid hides two bags labeled "Dior" and "Lotus - Arts de Vivre" in a drawer. The begin scurrying around the apartment in a frenzy.

SERIES OF QUICK CUTS

-- One maid puts a small jewelry-sized box tied with a bow in a metal tin and places the lid back on.

-- Another maid stashes a small box in a kitchen drawer and covers it with the cloth napkins.

-- In the bathroom, Astrid takes off her EARRINGS, puts them back in their original box and places the box above the mirror.

INT. ASTRID'S APARTMENT - CASSIAN'S ROOM - NIGHT

Astrid lies by her son, CASSIAN (3), who's half-asleep in bed as she reads *The Little Prince* to him in French.

ASTRID

(in perfect French)

-- *Cette visite fut très courte,  
mais elle plongea le petit prince  
dans une grande mélancolie...*

Astrid pauses when she hears SOMEONE enter the apartment. She looks to Cassian, now sound asleep, and heads out.

INT. ASTRID'S APARTMENT - BEDROOM - NIGHT

We see a man taking a shower. This is MICHAEL TEO, 30s, Astrid's husband, former Army Sergeant, and ripped/hot as all hell, exits the bathroom in a towel.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

He talks to Astrid, who's on the bed as he dries off and gets ready for bed.

MICHAEL

I'm sorry. Got stuck in a meeting.

ASTRID

It's okay. I get it. But don't forget, wedding festivities start on Wednesday, so no emergencies next week.

MICHAEL

(facetious)

I know. Wouldn't dream of missing a second with your family and their friends.

ASTRID

Come on, it won't be all bad. Nick and his new girlfriend will be there. You'll like her.

MICHAEL

Oh, yeah? Why? 'Cause she's a commoner like me?

ASTRID

You know that's not what I meant.

MICHAEL

Oh... You know, I thought I caught the maids trying to shove a pair of Jimmy Choos behind the dryer.

(off Astrid kissing  
his shoulder)

Yeah, I don't know why you bother trying to hide your shopping from me. You can buy whatever you want. I get it. Besides, everybody knows you wear the money pants in this family.

ASTRID

(whispering)

Pants are overrated.

(kisses his shoulder;  
then)

Oh, I got you something, too. To celebrate the launch of your startup. I know you don't like expensive gifts, but you're not a captain in the Army anymore.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ASTRID (CONT'D)

You're a CEO. You should look the part.

She takes the gift out from under the pillow revealing an expensive men's watch.

ASTRID

To celebrate the launch of your startup. I know you don't like expensive gifts, but you're not a captain in the Army anymore, you're a CEO. You should look the part.

MICHAEL

I -- I love it. Thank you.

He KISSES her. She kisses back.

EXT. MARINA (SINGAPORE)

INT. RAFFLES HOTEL - SUITE - MORNING

Radio alarms goes off. It's playing Marvin Gaye's "You're All I Need to Get By." REVEAL Rachel waking up in a luxurious, Colonial suite -- smiles when she remembers where she is.

Nick's arm is around her. She turns to see he's awake, smiling.

RACHEL

What time is it?

NICK

Morning. I'm afraid it's time for me to do some groomsman duties.

RACHEL

Ummmmmmmmmm... Stay in bed.

NICK

You stay here. I'll get you a breakfast tray.

Nick gets out of bed as Rachel lazily sits up, putting her glasses on.

RACHEL

You know, I have to get up, too. I told Peik Lin I would meet up with her today.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

NICK

Ah, a little college reunion. But don't forget. Dinner at Ah Ma's tonight.

RACHEL

Mm-hmm.

NICK

The whole family's gonna be there.

RACHEL

Yes.

NICK

I can't wait to show you off.

She moves her glasses back and forth on her nose, in and out as if trying to get a better focus on Nick's body.

RACHEL

Hubba-hubba.

NICK

How can I resist?

RACHEL

Ah. Ooga-ooga.

Rachel looks at him lovingly. He comes back for one more kiss.

NICK

You put those glasses on on purpose.

EXT. SINGAPORE (ESTABLISHING)

EXT. TAXI/GOH FAMILY HOME - DAY

Rachel exits a taxi wearing the red dress her mother picked. She goes to the gate of a showy mansion. We hear a BUZZER, then the gate opens.

We hear another BUZZER and the front door opens. PEIK LIN (29), emerges carrying one of her Pekingese dogs. Peik Lin is half type-A go-getter, half hip-hop, all attitude.

PEIK LIN

New York in the house! Yeah!  
Yeah!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Peik Lin rushes to her, as they hug:

RACHEL  
Aw! Peik Lin!

PEIK LIN  
What up, bitch? Yeah! Yeah!

RACHEL  
Oh, my God! You look amazing.

PEIK LIN  
I know. Some things never change,  
right?

RACHEL  
(re: mansion)  
And this is q-- quite a place.

SIX GOLDEN-HAIRED PEKINGESE DOGS run out, their high-pitched yaps filling the air.

NEENAH  
Astor! Vanderbilt! Rockefeller!  
Naughty, naughty boys, stop  
barking. Hey, Rachel!

RACHEL  
Hi!

NEENAH GOH (50s), Peik Lin's mother, comes out. A short woman with a bouffant perm.

She wears a tight blouse, a belt of interlinked gold Medusa heads, tight trousers, and pink slippers.

NEENAH  
Singapore is so hot. Come in and  
enjoy the aircon. Come, come on.  
Whole family waiting to meet you.  
Very excited.

They head into:

INT. GOH HOUSE - DAY

Neena and Peik Lin show Rachel into the cavernous living room, everything is covered with gold or mirrors. Rachel takes it in, amazed.

NEENAH  
Rachel, welcome, welcome.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

RACHEL

Wow! Oh, my gosh! Your house is amazing, Mrs. Goh.

NEENAH

(in Hokkien;  
subtitled)

*Li gaou kong wei ah.* [You're such a sweet talker.]

(in English)

Call me Auntie. Auntie Neenah.

RACHEL

Sorry. Auntie Neenah.

NEENAH

Oh, yeah. Uh... Yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah. We were inspired by the Hall of Mirrors in Versailles.

PEIK LIN

(to Rachel; low)

And Donald Trump's bathroom, as well.

RACHEL

Really?

PEIK LIN

Yeah.

NEENAH

You like it or not?

RACHEL

Oh, yes. Uh, the gold is very brilliant.

INT. GOH HOUSE - DINING ROOM - DAY

SEVEN MEMBERS of the Goh family sit at a long dining table as four maids serve the anything-but-"small" lunch. It's a free-for-all as everyone reaches for food.

It's a colorful bunch. There's Peik Lin's father WYE MUN (50s), and a multitude of children including: P.T. (30s) shy, overweight, TWO ADORABLE TWIN GIRLS who eat CHICKEN NUGGETS from a TAKEOUT BOX on heavy, gold-rimmed Limoges plates, and a BABY in a TRICKED-OUT GOLD BASSINET. Neena waves chopsticks at Rachel.

(CONTINUED)



CONTINUED:

WYE MUN

Uh, uh, uh. Rachel Chu, we are so, uh, grateful for all the help you have given my, uh, Peik Lin back in her uni days. I mean, without you, uh, she would be a hot mess.

He chuckles.

RACHEL

Oh, my God, no. Actually, if it wasn't for her, I'd be a big mess. She was a huge help to me in college.

(beat)

It's nice to meet you, Mr. Goh.

WYE MUN

Nice to meet you, too, uh, Chu. Ku-ku. Ku-Chu. You. Poo-poo.

(laughs)

No, I'm just kidding. I don't have an accent. I'm just messing with you.

Neenah chuckles.

WYE MUN

No, no, I, I studied in the States, too. Yeah, Cal State Fullerton. Yeah. I majored in Thought.

RACHEL

Hmm.

NEENAH

Don't stand on ceremony, Rachel. This is simple food, lah.

WYE MUN

Ah! Cha-cha-cha. Don't be shy.

RACHEL

Oh. Thank you.

WYE MUN

You're not a model.

RACHEL

I am definitely not.

Rachel looks at thirteen different dishes, which look anything but simple.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Wye Mun puts food on Rachel's plate. Neena feeds her dog with chopsticks sitting in a chair next to her.

WYE MUN

No, you're not. Not at all.  
You're far from it.

RACHEL

I know.

WYE MUN

And make sure you eat it all.  
'Cause I'm watching you.

RACHEL

Okay, thank you.

WYE MUN

Okay, yeah.

TWIN GIRL #1

Ah pa, can we go  
trampoline!

TWIN GIRL #2

... go trampoline.

WYE MUN

Ay, you haven't finished your  
nuggets yet, sweetie. Okay,  
there's a lot of children starving  
in America, right? I mean, take a  
look at her. She's American.  
Huh? Really skinny. You wanna  
look like that?

TWIN GIRL #1 AND #2

No.

WYE MUN

Then eat your nuggets.

The girls dutifully return to their food.

NEENA

So, Rachel, what you do in  
America?

RACHEL

Um, I'm an economics professor.

WYE MUN

(impressed)

Whoa. Very impressive. Econ  
professor, eh? Wow! You must be  
very smart. Good for you.

RACHEL

Mm-hmm.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

WYE MUN

(to Peik Lin)

Let me get this straight. You both went to the same school, yet someone came back with a degree that's useful. And the other came back as Asian Ellen.

Peik Lin reacts, grandpa laughs. Wye Mun turns to his son, P.T.

WYE MUN

(nods toward Rachel)

Psst. P.T.

P.T.

Hmm?

WYE MUN

(nodding toward Rachel)

Look over here. She's a hottie. This is the kind of girl you should date. Smart, beautiful. Not those, like, K-Pop skanks, with, like, no brain, big eyes and small backsides. She has an amazing backside. This is Goh standard. Don't be shy. Just talk to her.

P.T. looks up from his noodles, clueless.

P.T.

(whispering)

I love you.

WYE MUN

Okay. No, just, uh...

PEIK LIN

Pa, she's here with her boyfriend.

WYE MUN

I don't see no ring on her finger.

RACHEL

Oh, well, my boyfriend's actually from Singapore and that's why we're here. We're here to go to his best friend's wedding where he's gonna be the best man.

WYE MUN

Hmm.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

NEENAH

What's his name? This is a very small island. Maybe we know his family.

RACHEL

His name is Nick Young.

The food drops out of Wye Mun's mouth. The whole table STOPS EATING. Eyes go wide. Jaws drop. Even grandpa and the twins stop what they're doing and look at Rachel. Rachel becomes self-conscious.

RACHEL

Uh...

PEIK LIN

The Nick you're dating is Nick Young?!

NEENAH

(puts it together)  
His best friend... You're invited to Colin Khoo's wedding, ah?!!

RACHEL

Yeah. You guys know them or something?

P.T. snaps a quick pic of Rachel on his cell. He smiles and admires it like it's the *Mona Lisa*.

WYE MUN

Hells yeah. The Khoos, the Youngs, I mean, who doesn't know who they are?!

(getting worked up)  
They're just the biggest developers in all of Singapore. And Malaysia, Thailand, Brunei, New Mexico.

PEIK LIN

She gets it.  
(to Rachel)  
Colin and Araminta's wedding is, like, Singapore's event of the century! The Youngs are like royalty.

Wye Mun vigorously shakes his head, "yes."

PEIK LIN

Did you not know? Does she not know?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

NEENAH

Why you never say before?! Tell,  
tell, what are they like?

RACHEL

I don't really know what they're --  
I, I mean, I haven't met them yet.  
I'm gonna meet them tonight. I'm  
going to Nick's grandma's house.

PEIK LIN

You're going to Nick's grandma's  
house wearing this?

(re: Rachel's dress)  
Wearing *that*?

They all laugh.

P.T.

No way. No way.

RACHEL

Yeah, I thought red was a lucky  
color, right?

WYE MUN

Yeah, if you're an envelope.  
Zing! Nailed it!

P.T. takes another picture of Rachel, but she waves him  
off.

RACHEL

No.

TWINS

Zing zing!

Peik Lin looks Rachel up and down, shaking her head  
disgusted with her outfit.

INT. PEIK LIN'S BEDROOM - CLOSET - DAY

Peik Lin throws open the doors to her massive walk-in  
closet. Clothes are color-coded, wrapped in plastic,  
with a string of POLAROIDs over them showing the  
different looks. Rachel looks around, in awe.

PEIK LIN

Rachel, these people aren't just  
rich, okay. They're crazy rich.

Peik Lin looks around, pulls out a LARGE HANDBAG with a  
WORLD MAP on it, which she points to as she explains:

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

PEIK LIN

Look, there's new money all over Asia. We got the Beijing Billionaires, the Taiwan Tycoons. But the Young family, they're *old* money rich. They had money when they left China in the 1800s. And they went all the way down here. Not there. Here. They came to Singapore when there was nothing but jungle and pig farmers. There was a snake here, eating an apple. You know what I mean? And they built all of this. Now, they're the landlords of the most expensive city in the world. Here you go.

(hands Rachel the  
purse)

These people are so posh and snobby, they're snoshy. Here you go.

Peik Lin hands her a pair of platform shoes.

RACHEL

Yeah, but Nick's not like that.

PEIK LIN

Even if he isn't, I guarantee you the family is. Which is why tonight, you need to not look like Sebastian of *The Little Mermaid*. You know, little crab guy.

Peik Lin throws her a dress...

EXT. STREET - NIGHT

AN AUDI SWERVES ERRATICALLY through traffic, brakes squealing, horns honking.

INT. AUDI - NIGHT

Rachel, in an elegant cocktail dress, holds on for dear life as Peik Lin drives like she's on the Indy circuit.

PEIK LIN

(shouting at cars)

Come on, this isn't your grandma's road. God damn it.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

RACHEL  
Thank you for driving me.

PEIK LIN  
Duh. This is, like, my one chance  
to see the Young family mansion.

RACHEL  
Mm.

They turn off onto a private road.

FEMALE GPS VOICE (V.O.)  
At the next intersection, make a U-  
turn. Make a U-turn.

PEIK LIN  
Uh, are you sure you gave me the  
right address? The GPS says  
there's, like, nothing here. Like  
literally nothing.

They pull over on a deserted road.

RACHEL  
I mean, I -- I put in the exact  
address. This is --

PEIK LIN  
You copied and your pasted it?

RACHEL  
Yeah.

PEIK LIN  
Did you just copy and paste  
'jungle' and just kind of threw it  
in there?

RACHEL  
No, it says this is the address...

PEIK LIN  
Because I feel like that's -- You  
actually used the --

A bearded man wearing a red turban appears at her side  
window.

PEIK LIN  
-- Okay. All right. That's a --  
Hi! So we'll just --  
(rolls down window  
just a crack)  
Hello, sir. How are you?  
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

PEIK LIN (CONT'D)

We're here for the party, and  
we're... We come in peace.

RACHEL

Do you know where the Young family  
house is?

Another man appears at Rachel's window. These are  
uniformed SIKH GUARDS.

RACHEL

Nicholas Young? I'm, I'm Rachel  
Chu. I'm here to, to go to his  
family dinner.

The one guard carrying a rifle creeps around the car,  
inspecting it. The other speaks on his walkie-talkie.

PEIK LIN

Uh, Rachel Chu for the list. If  
there is a list.

EXT. TYERSALL GROUNDS/AUDI - CONTINUOUS ACTION - NIGHT

In the middle of nowhere, a MASSIVE GATE looms with  
TYERSALL PARK written across the top. The gate is  
closed. The guard on the walkie walks to the gate  
looking back at Peik Lin and Rachel.

PEIK LIN

He's on the phone. He's on the  
phone. Is that a gun knife? It's  
a knife gun. It's a --

The other guard now comes around to Peik Lin's window.

PEIK LIN

Okay, and there's a friend. Hi!  
Very, very nice to --

Guard #1 motions for them to drive forward.

GUARD #1

Uh-huh. Yeah, yeah.

PEIK LIN

We can go through? We're going  
through? Okay. Don't stab the  
car.

The gates swing open.

PEIK LIN

Okay. Thank you. Bye!

(CONTINUED)



CONTINUED:

As Peik Lin drives through the gates, she and Rachel look around, entranced. STREET LIGHTS/LANTERNS illuminate both sides of the large driveway, which seems to wind endlessly up through a hilly rainforest. Unlike the rest of developed Singapore, it feels old, untouched. Peik Lin has her mouth hanging open, amazed.

RACHEL

Oh, my God, it's beautiful.

The forest finally gives way to rolling grounds and an avenue lined with tall palms. A VAST COLONIAL MANSION comes INTO VIEW. This is not a house, it is a palace.

PEIK LIN

Beautiful? It's two hundred mil  
worth of real estate.

(almost tearing up)

... It's spectacular.

They drive up to the front of the house. Servants are posted in various locations outside. Two of the servants open the front doors and Nick, in a linen suit and perfectly-tousled hair, walks out. Looking every bit the prince of the manor.

PEIK LIN

(awestruck)

Damn, Rachel. He's like the Asian  
'Bachelor.'

Nick walks up to the car and opens Rachel's door.

NICK

Hello, gorgeous.

He takes her hand as she exits the car. Nick looks at her outfit, impressed.

NICK

Wow! I think I've just fallen in  
love with you all over again.

He kisses her -- Peik Lin clears her throat.

RACHEL

I missed you.

NICK

Missed you, too.

Peik Lin keeps clearing her throat, trying to get Rachel's attention.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

RACHEL  
Yeah?

NICK  
What did you get up to?

PEIK LIN  
(hisses)  
Rachel!

RACHEL  
Oh, uh, this is my friend, Peik  
Lin.

NICK  
Hey, there.

PEIK LIN  
Howdy.

NICK  
Thank you very much for bringing  
Rachel.

PEIK LIN  
Oh, no worries.

NICK  
Do you wanna stop by for some  
dinner?

PEIK LIN  
Oh, no, I couldn't impose. It's a --

NICK  
(interrupts)  
No, it's not a problem.

PEIK LIN  
You know, I had some dinner plans --

NICK  
Seriously, we've got a lot of --

PEIK LIN  
Yeah, I'll fucking come to dinner.

RACHEL  
I missed you.

NICK  
Did you?

RACHEL  
Yes.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

NICK  
How was your day?

RACHEL  
It was fun! I got to meet Peik  
Lin's whole family, and her dogs.

Nick and Rachel continue to chit-chat in the b.g. --

NICK  
Yeah?

RACHEL  
Yeah, and twin sisters. And Peik  
Lin dressed me.

Peik Lin jumps out, pops the trunk, and sorts through  
several outfits covered in garment bags labeled:  
"Clubbing," "Cocktail," and "Walk of Shame."

PEIK LIN  
(re: "Walk of  
Shame")  
Nope.

She pulls out the COCKTAIL DRESS and a pair of HEELS.

RACHEL  
You have a cocktail dress in your  
trunk?

PEIK LIN  
(of course)  
I'm not an animal, Rachel.

As they head in, Rachel and Peik Lin look around at all  
the guests --

RACHEL  
(to Nick)  
I thought this was just a family  
thing.

NICK  
Grandmother's invited some of her  
friends over tonight. Her *tan*  
*huas* are blooming.

RACHEL  
Oh.

NICK  
It's a whole thing. You ready for  
this?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Rachel nods. Servants open the doors. Holding her hand, they enter:

INT. TYERSALL PARK - NIGHT

Chanteuse JASMINE CHEN, backed by a JAZZ BAND, sings a Chinese number as Rachel, Nick, and Peik Lin enter.

PEIK LIN

Oh, damn, Nick. It's a party, though. Okay.

Many guests mingle and talk in the b.g.

WOMAN IN RED FLOWER DRESS

(to women)

Hello. Mrs... Mrs...

WOMAN IN BLUE DRESS

Hi. Yes.

NICK

(to Peik Lin)

The good bathrooms are up the stairs, and you can get changed in there.

PEIK LIN

Okay, good, I'll find it. Thank you.

Peik Lin climbs the stairs, then stops to take a SELFIE, climbs a few more stairs, and takes another SELFIE.

RACHEL

You know, when you said you grew up in your grandma's house, I wasn't expecting this.

A waiter approaches carrying finger bowls with flowers floating in them. Rachel thinks they are drinks and begins to bring one to her mouth --

RACHEL

(to waiter)

Thank you.

NICK

Oh, no, no, no. Those are for your fingers.

(to server)

Thank you very much.

RACHEL

Thank you.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

NICK

Uh, a little bit much, I know.

RACHEL

I mean, this place is gorgeous.  
And like the rolling green hills.  
I mean, there are armed guards out  
there.

Rachel is looking at A STUFFED TIGER, mouth open, about  
to pounce.

RACHEL

And a giant tiger.

Nick laughs.

RACHEL

Okay.

NICK

Now, that is Mr. Harimau. Now, my  
great-grandfather actually shot  
him when he ran into the house.  
But Astrid and I, we used to hide  
cigarettes in his paws.

RACHEL

Do you wanna head in?

NICK

Actually, I wanted to bring you  
over to my mum first.

RACHEL

Oh.

NICK

Come on.

INT. TYERSALL PARK - KITCHEN - NIGHT

The DISTANT JAZZ RIFF CONTINUES as we ENTER a bustling  
scene with MAIDS plating food, choppers chopping veggies  
madly, COOKS working over WOKS that BURST INTO FLAME,  
CHILDREN sneaking snacks. Amidst it all is Eleanor in  
Carolina Herrera, presiding over everything. She  
inspects various dishes, dispatching orders with calm  
authority:

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ELEANOR

(in Cantonese;  
subtitled)

*Qie de you xi di, mi bao de han  
hou, di zhu wu hao tai. Fang  
lajiao... Shi fenzhong hao la.*  
[Cut it thinner. Don't wrap it  
too thick. Watch it, don't make  
it too soft. Add chili... Ten  
minutes only.]

She's clearly used to running a great house and being obeyed. She pauses when she sees Nick enter. She's delighted, but keeps her composure.

Nick gives his mother a peck on the cheek.

NICK

Mum.

Eleanor affectionately touches his hair.

ELEANOR

You need a haircut. So unkempt.  
(concerned)

And you look tired from your trip.  
I'm gonna ask the cook to make you  
some herbal soup.

(in Cantonese to  
cook)

*Dun di jitang bi shaoye.*

(to Nick)

I'll send it to the hotel later.

Eleanor sees Rachel.

NICK

Mum, this is Rachel Chu.

RACHEL

Oh, my gosh! I, I'm so happy to  
meet you, Mrs. Young.

(gives her a big hug)

Or, uh, Auntie. Right?

(giggles)

I'm learning the lingo.

Eleanor smiles, subtly scans Rachel, evaluating her.

ELEANOR

I'm very glad to finally meet you,  
too. And I'm sorry Nick's father  
couldn't be here. He was called  
to business in Shanghai.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

NICK

I told Rachel when duty calls,  
Dad answers.

ELEANOR

As it should be.

(to Rachel)

Nick tells me you're a professor,  
too. What do you teach?

RACHEL

Um, I teach Economics.

NICK

And she's brilliant. NYU's  
youngest faculty member.

To Nick and Rachel's surprise, Eleanor suddenly leaves  
the conversation to inspect a tray of hors d'oeuvres.  
She fixes the tray and then returns.

ELEANOR

(to cooks; in

Cantonese;

subtitled)

*Wu hao luo ge ge, lingwai.* [Don't  
take that one. Another one.]

(back to Nick and

Rachel)

So, economics. Sounds  
challenging.

(subtly fishing)

Are your parents academics, as  
well?

RACHEL

Uh, no. Well, my dad actually  
died before I was born and, um, my  
mom didn't even go to college.  
She actually hardly spoke any  
English when she immigrated to the  
United States.

ELEANOR

(in Cantonese; to

cook; subtitled)

*Fang di yan qian xi ge du.* [Put  
some cilantro there.]

RACHEL

But she worked really hard, and  
she studied, and she earned her  
real estate license while she was  
waiting tables to support us.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

RACHEL (CONT'D)

Now, she likes to say that she's  
Flushing's top real estate broker.

Nick glances at his mother, gauging her reaction.

ELEANOR

Self-made woman. She must be so  
proud of you.

Eleanor continues fiddling and fussing with the table,  
inspecting the food, coldly turning her back on the  
couple.

RACHEL

Well, she knows that I'm  
passionate about what I do, and  
she's always wanted that for me.

ELEANOR

Pursuing one's passions. How  
American. Well, your mother is  
very open-minded, not like here,  
where parents are obsessed with  
shaping the life of their  
children.

It sounds like a compliment, but Rachel isn't entirely  
sure. Eleanor turns away again to talk to a passing COOK  
before returning to Rachel:

Eleanor shoots Nick a look. He shifts, uncomfortable,  
and is relieved to hear a MUSICAL GONG from upstairs.

NICK

Hmm. Oh. That's dinner.

ELEANOR

Hmm. Go ahead. I'll be out in a  
minute. Rachel, it was lovely  
meeting you.

RACHEL

Thank you. You, too.

Rachel smiles as she and Nick head off.

RACHEL

Okay, she hates me.

NICK

(optimistic)  
She takes a little minute to warm  
up, but we'll get there.

OFF Eleanor, watching Rachel leave...



INT. TYERSALL PARK - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Rachel and Nick enter. She is stunned. The expansive "living room" looks more like a glamorous club in Shanghai. DOZENS of impeccably-dressed, bejeweled GUESTS cluster in seating areas. A buffet is STACKED with gorgeous dishes and desserts.

ASTRID (O.S.)  
Nicki!

NICK  
Astrid.

ASTRID  
Rachel!

NICK  
Hey, good to see you.

ASTRID  
I'm so glad you could make it.

As we GO TO different tableaux and conversations, CAMERA DANCES ALONG, giving the feel of a choreographed number.

Astrid, in a perfect cocktail dress, heads for them, followed by Michael. She hugs Nick and Rachel, delighted.

NICK  
Michael.

RACHEL  
Astrid! So good to see a face I know.

MICHAEL  
Nick.

ASTRID  
This is my husband, Michael.

MICHAEL  
Nice to meet you. Heard so much about you.

RACHEL  
Nice to meet you, Michael.

Eddie barrels in, smacks Nick too hard on the back.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

EDDIE

Hey, the golden boy's back! Nick!  
(to Rachel)  
And you must be Rachel. I'm  
Edison Cheng. This is my wife.

FIONA

HI, I'm Fi--

EDDIE

Her name is Fiona. So, I see  
you've already met Princess Astrid  
and her little soldier toy-boy,  
Mikey.

(busts Michael's  
balls)

You know Mikey is a big-shot tech  
startup guy. So if you, uh,  
forget your password, he's your  
man.

(then)

So, you're from the Taiwan plastic  
Chus, right?

RACHEL

Oh, well, actually...

As Eddie commandeers Rachel, Michael has an aside with  
Nick.

MICHAEL

Can I punch him in the face? Just  
once.

NICK

Take a number.

MICHAEL

I'll be in my usual corner.  
(to Astrid)  
Champagne?

ASTRID

Thank you.

Astrid goes over to Nick.

ASTRID

So, have you prepped Rachel to  
face the wolves?

NICK

Rachel is a New Yorker, and she  
lectures Millennials for a living.  
I think she can manage our family.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Astrid looks at Nick like he's crazy.

ASTRID  
You've been away too long.

BACK WITH RACHEL AND EDDIE

EDDIE  
Okay, sorry, time out. So, you're  
not from a Taiwan Chu family?

RACHEL  
Nope.

EDDIE  
Hong Kong telecom Chus?

RACHEL  
No.

EDDIE  
Malaysian packing peanut Chus?

RACHEL  
Is that really a thing?

EDDIE  
Yeah, it's everywhere. You just --

Before Eddie can continue, Nick cuts in.

NICK  
I'm gonna stop you there because  
I'm gonna take her on the rounds.  
We'll be back, though.

As Nick and Rachel leave, Eddie calls after.

EDDIE  
No, wait. Hang on. China instant  
noodle Chus. Rachel...  
(as Rachel turns)  
Chu are you?  
(to Fiona)  
Let's go.

Eddie laughs hysterically at his own horrible joke.  
Rachel politely smiles and moves on.

Francesca and Celine hover nearby to listen in and get  
the dirt on Rachel.

PARTY SEQUENCE

The jazz band breaks into a DRUM SECTION as Nick introduces his family to Rachel, who's anxious to make a good impression. CAMERA DOES 360 LOOPS AROUND them, REVEALING a new set of people each time:

-- WITH AUNTIES ALIX AND FELICITY:

NICK

This is Auntie Alix and Auntie Felicity.

RACHEL

Hi! It's so nice to meet you.  
I've never been to a tan hua party before.

FELICITY

We love any excuse to throw a soiree. Do your parents like to entertain? Oh! I'm sorry. Your mother's single.

Alix shoots Felicity a "don't be insensitive" look.

RACHEL

Yup.

OFF Rachel, amused, realizing word has gotten around.

ON AUNTY JACQUELINE

NICK

Auntie Jacqueline. One of my parents' oldest friends.

JACQUELINE

I actually met Nick's father at Cambridge.

(fishing)

So, what line of work is your father in?

RACHEL

Oh, my father died before I was born. But he was a factory worker in China.

Jacqueline slurps her wine loudly to drown out the horror on her face.

In the b.g. Francesca and Celine overhear, smirk.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

-- An OLDER CHINESE LADY (60s) in traditional Chinese dress, speaks to Nick, happy to see him.

                  LING CHEH (OLDER CHINESE LADY)  
                   (to Nick; in  
                   Mandarin; subtitled)  
*Nicki a, shi ni nv pengyou a? Yao*  
*gankuai jiehun luo, a?* [Nicki, is  
 this your girlfriend? You should  
 hurry up and get married, okay?]

Nick laughs.

Rachel smiles, assumes she's Nick's grandmother.

                  RACHEL  
                   (in Mandarin;  
                   subtitled)  
*Ah Ma, xiexie nin yaoqing wo lai*  
*nin de jia. Zheli hao piaoliang.*  
 [Grandma, thank you for inviting  
 me to your home. It's very  
 beautiful.]

The Older Lady looks at Rachel, confused.

                  NICK  
                   (low; to Rachel)  
 This is Ling Cheh, my old nanny.

Rachel is mortified. Francesca and Celine laugh in the b.g.

INT. TYERSALL - LIBRARY - NIGHT

Astrid holds a covered plate, looks for Michael. She sees him in the corner of the library, on his phone:

                  MICHAEL  
                   (into phone)  
 Look, now's the time we need all  
 hands on deck. Please, please,  
 just do me this favor. Thank you.  
 Bye-bye.

He hangs up.

                  ASTRID  
 They started clearing away dinner.

Astrid hands him the plate.

                  ASTRID  
 Your favorites.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Michael takes the plate, kisses her.

MICHAEL

Thank you.

ASTRID

You know, if you need bodies at the office, I could always come in and help out.

MICHAEL

(playfully)  
The glamorous Astrid Leong working as an assistant?

ASTRID

Mm-hmm.

MICHAEL

(realizing)  
Wait, isn't Araminta's bachelorette party tomorrow?

ASTRID

And this would be the perfect excuse to get out of it.

MICHAEL

Thank you. Really. But I've got everything covered.

ASTRID

Okay.

(beat)

I forgot to get you a fork. Um...

MICHAEL

It's okay, you stay. I'll go get it.

He winks at her and takes off. Astrid smiles as she watches him go. She hears a BUZZ from his phone which he's left on the bench.

ASTRID

Michael, I think it's the office!

But Michael doesn't hear her. He's gone. There's a PING and a text pops up. She glances at the screen:

TEXT: *The bed feels empty without you.*

Astrid is stricken.

Astrid drops the phone, her world caving in.

## BACK AT THE PARTY

Jacqueline and others in the b.g. subtly clock this. A dapper man, OLIVER T'SIEN (30s), looks on with interest.

RACHEL

Oh, my God! Nick, I can't believe  
I just did that.

NICK

It's fine. I don't think anybody  
even noticed.

RACHEL

I think I freaked out your nanny --

She spills her drink down the front of Nick's shirt.

NICK

Oh! My God!

RACHEL

Oh, my God! So sorry.

NICK

It's fine, don't worry about it.  
(to bartender)  
Can I have a tissue, please?

Oliver swoops in offering a napkin.

OLIVER

Oh, go, go. Get changed. I'll  
keep Rachel company.

Nick smiles to see him.

NICK

Thanks you, Oli.  
(to Rachel)  
You're in good hands. Give me two  
minutes. I'll change.

RACHEL

Sorry.

NICK

It's okay.

Nick takes off -- Rachel extends her hand to Oliver --

RACHEL

Hi, I'm Rachel.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

OLIVER

Oh, I know.

Peik Lin scampers up.

PEIK LIN

Rachel!

RACHEL

Oh, I --

PEIK LIN

Rachel! I heard you thought Ah Ma  
was the cook!

Rachel cringes and covers her face in embarrassment.

PEIK LIN

Ah!

OLIVER

(off Rachel)

Uh, on the bright side, you're the  
talk of the party. People like  
your dress.

Peik Lin and Oliver take each other in. It's instant  
fashion chemistry.

PEIK LIN

Oh, I did that.

OLIVER

Oh!

PEIK LIN

I know!

OLIVER

Such a chic seventies goddess.

PEIK LIN

I know.

OLIVER

It's very disco Cleopatra, but in  
a good way.

PEIK LIN

That's exactly what I was going  
for.

OLIVER

Oh, well. Oliver.

(CONTINUED)



CONTINUED:

PEIK LIN

Hi.

OLIVER

I like your shoes.

PEIK LIN

Oh, thank you. I'm Peik Lin.  
Ditto.

OLIVER

Cheers.

PEIK LIN

There you go.

Rachel looks on, amazed Peik Lin's already made a friend.

OLIVER

(re: her earrings)  
Gosh, these are lovely.

PEIK LIN

They're clip-ons. Thank you.

OLIVER

Are they? Oh, wow!

RACHEL

So, Oliver, are you a cousin, too?

OLIVER

Mm, well, I'm one of the poorer  
relations. The rainbow sheep of  
the family. But I make myself  
useful. Whatever the Youngs want,  
I procure. Golden koi fish,  
Huanghuali furniture. A rare  
Cambodian gong.

PEIK LIN

Mm.

RACHEL

Why would they want to buy a rare  
Cambodian gong?

On cue, A RESONANT GONG sounds and all eyes turn to Alix.

OLIVER

Because they can.

INT. TYERSALL PARK - NICK'S OLD ROOM - NIGHT

Nick opens a closet, sees a row of meticulously pressed shirts hanging in a row. He smiles, takes one out. Eleanor walks in.

ELEANOR

Ah Ma insists all your clothes be washed and pressed every two weeks.

Nick sees his mother standing in the doorway. She walks over, takes the shirt from his hands and selects another shirt for him. (Throughout the scene she also quietly caters to Nick -- dusting his jacket, etc.)

ELEANOR

This one.

As Nick takes off his soiled shirt he looks around at his childhood room filled with pictures and mementoes.

NICK

Everything is exactly as I left it.

Nick moves to a nearby desk and rifles through a drawer.

ELEANOR

(glances over at him)  
Looking for your cigars? I had them thrown out years ago.

NICK

Never could get anything past you, could I?

Eleanor smiles while she fiddles with Nick's clean shirt laying on the bed.

ELEANOR

I keep telling Ah Ma to put your things away, but she says this room makes her feel like you're still here.

(then)

Well, I got an earful when you didn't move back last year.

Nick reacts, it's a loaded subject. Eleanor helps Nick put on the clean shirt.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ELEANOR

Your father and I are really looking forward to having you home. He's not getting any younger. With you onboard, maybe he'll take a day off once in a while.

NICK

I know, Mum. I'm just not ready yet. There's things in New York that I wanna see through.

It's not the answer Eleanor was looking for. She presses on another front:

ELEANOR

Well, I'm happy I finally met Rachel. She is very impressive.

NICK

I think so, too. And I thought you might be excited that the first girl that I bring home is a Chinese professor.

ELEANOR

(noncommittal smile)  
Chinese-American.  
(fishes)  
You know, bringing her home, introducing her at a large family gathering... Some people may say --

NICK

When there's something to say about Rachel and me, you'll be first to hear.  
(off Eleanor)  
But some things I need to figure out on my own.

Nick grins as Eleanor helps him put on his jacket.

ELEANOR

Is that an American accent I'm hearing?

Nick scoffs.

NICK

How do I look?

Eleanor adjusts the pocket square in his jacket pocket, regards her son.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ELEANOR

Perfect.

EXT. TYERSALL PARK - CONSERVATORY - NIGHT

Guests stream into a vast open-air courtyard. Alix and Felicity hold court as guests admire the large, spidery, white flowers which are STARTING TO BLOOM.

ALIX

Everyone! Everyone! The *tan hua* plants very rarely bloom, and even then only at night.

FELICITY

Their beauty is spectacular, but fleeting. By dawn they'll be gone.

ALIX

So... come. Come.

The crowd claps. ZOOM IN ON the *tan hua* plant taking center stage in the conservatory.

IN ANOTHER AREA

Oliver pretends to admire the flowers as he points out the social scene to Peik Lin and Rachel.

OLIVER

Oh! Someone forgot to wear a bra.

He gestures to Kitty Pong, who's entered with Alistair.

OLIVER

Kitty Pong. Cousin Alistair's latest flame. An actress. Rumor is, she was in a porno. *Two Girls, One Cup a Noodles.*

Kitty bends down to smell a *tan hua*, her boobs almost spilling out of her dress. The Aunties are horrified.

KITTY

(kissing one of the guests)

Baby!

PEIK LIN

(matter-of-fact)

You know, I thought I would like that more than I did.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

OLIVER  
The book is much better.

PEIK LIN  
Mm-hmm.

Rachel is distracted seeing some YOUNG WOMEN sneak cold glances at her.

RACHEL  
Is it just me or are people, like,  
staring at me?

OLIVER  
Oh, they're just jealous. You  
nabbed the crown prince.  
(off Rachel)  
Nicki is Ah Ma's favorite, in line  
to inherit everything. No  
surprise there when that's the  
competition.

Oliver looks to Eddie checking himself out on his iPhone cam, and Alistair who's hypnotized by Kitty's cleavage.

Rachel is uncomfortable with the implication.

OLIVER  
Oh, speaking of the grande dame...

Rachel turns to see guests make way for an elderly lady, Nick's AH MA (80s). She's regal, elegant, but frail, leaning on Eleanor to help her walk. She doesn't say a word, but everyone, her own family included, acts in total deference and respect to her.

As Rachel takes it in, feeling a little out of place. Nick appears.

NICK  
There you are. I've been looking  
all over for you. You ready to  
meet my grandmother?

As Nick takes her by the hand and leads her through the crowd --

They reach Ah Ma who LIGHTS UP to see her favorite grandson. The veneer of decorum drops as she reaches out to him, hugging him and touching his face.

NICK  
Ah Ma...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

AH MA

(in Mandarin;  
subtitled)

*Guai sunzi, ni huilai la! Zheme duo rizi ye bu huilai kan kan Ah Ma. Hai hao wo hai huozhe. Ni qule na'er? Ni zenme shou le?*  
[Nicki, you're home! Not coming to see your grandma for so long. I'm glad I'm still alive. Did you eat yet? You've become too skinny.]

NICK

(in Mandarin;  
subtitled)

*Wo xiangnian nin zhu de cai.*  
[That's because I miss your cooking.] *Ah Ma, zhe shi wo de hao pengyou, Rachel Chu.*  
[Grandma, this is my good friend, Rachel Chu.]

Rachel steps forward, replies in perfect Mandarin.

RACHEL

(in Mandarin;  
subtitled)

*Ah Ma, xiexie nin yaoqing wo lai nin de jia. Nick jingchang tiqi nin. Ta shuo nin bao de shuijiao shi quan shijie zui hao chi de.*  
[Grandma, thank you for inviting me to your home. Nick always talks about you. He says no one in the world makes better dumplings.]

The old lady looks pleased.

AH MA

(in Mandarin;  
subtitled)

*Na mei shenme de. Ni yuanyi wo keyi jiao ni.* [It's nothing. I can show you how to make them, too.]

RACHEL

(in Mandarin;  
subtitled)

*Na shizai tai hao le.* [I would be honored.]

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

AH MA  
 (in Mandarin;  
 subtitled)  
*Buguo ni yao zao dian huilai. Bie  
 zai zheme duo ren de difang.* [You  
 must come back soon, then, when  
 there are not so many craning  
 necks around...]

Ah Ma smiles and nods.

ALIX (O.S.)  
 Look, they're in full bloom.

PAN OVER TO the tan hua plant. People clap --

PEOPLE AT PARTY  
 Aww...

Nick stands up to let Rachel sit next to Ah Ma.

JACQUELINE (O.S.)  
 It's so nice having Nick back  
 home. But he seems... different.

ANGLE ON ANOTHER PART OF THE COURTYARD

where Eleanor has been watching with Jacqueline.

She sees Nick and Rachel embracing, laughing, KISSING.  
 Looking every bit the couple in love.

ELEANOR  
 When children are away from home  
 too long, they forget who they  
 are.

FADE OUT.

FADE IN:

EXT. HANGAR - MORNING

A THUMPING CLUB BEAT PLAYS as we PAN DOWN A LINE OF ULTRA  
 LUXURY CARS: fully-customized Lamborghinis, Maseratis,  
 Bugattis.

BERNARD  
 What's up? Let's jam!

More cars pull in as Singapore's JET-SET CROWD piles out  
 and greets each other.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Valets load luggage onto sleek golf carts before transporting them to a PRIVATE JET and THREE MATCHING HELICOPTERS outside the hangar.

INT. HANGAR

In the middle of the hangar is a SLEEK HELICOPTER surrounded by a circular bar, which divides the bachelors from the bachelorettes.

Rachel and Nick enter the hangar as Araminta runs up to them.

ARAMINTA

Ah! Rachel! So happy you're here. Oh! Oh, my God. Your Gap look, brilliant.

RACHEL

Thanks.

ARAMINTA

She's coming with me.

NICK

Ah! Hold on.  
(to Rachel)  
Kiss. Thirty-six hours. Bye.  
(to Araminta)  
Minty, one piece, please.

ARAMINTA

Yeah. Yeah. Yeah. Yeah.

NICK

Not listening at all.

ARAMINTA

So, I'm gonna intro you to my posse. We're flying to my mom's resort in Sumatra. She's closed down the whole place just for us. We're gonna have so much fun. Come on, meet the girls.

Araminta drags Rachel over to a group of girls. Rachel gives Nick a last look as Araminta pulls her away:

ARAMINTA

Girls, this is Rachel Chu.

RACHEL

Hi.

(CONTINUED)



CONTINUED:

ARAMINTA'S FRIEND

Hi!

RACHEL

Oh!

ARAMINTA'S NICE FRIEND

Nice to meet you.

Colin, in rumpled Comme des Garçons, finds Nick. As Bernard makes his way toward them --

EXCITED GUY

Yeah!

NICK

(surprised)

So you let Bernard Tai organize all of this?

COLIN

Yeah. Bernard.

NICK

Hey.

BERNARD

This is for you, asshole.

MAN IN PINK JACKET

Asshole.

OFF Nick and Colin, realizing the weekend they're in for.

ANOTHER AREA

Araminta and posse, including Celine and Francesca, drink bellinis served by HOT, SHIRTLESS WAITERS as they admire each others' hair/boobs/handbags and gossip.

Rachel hangs on the outskirts, aware she doesn't fit in, catching bits of conversation.

Rachel and the women turn to see --

-- TWO GORGEOUS WOMEN STEP OUT OF A SPORTS CAR. They're SISTERS.

ARAMINTA

TINA! TINI! The twins are in the house! Ooh, I'm so glad you made it! How are you?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

TINI

Hi!

Araminta and the bachelorettes flock to the sisters, leaving Rachel and another woman, AMANDA (30s). Unlike Araminta's other friends, Amanda doesn't look or act like a high-maintenance model.

AMANDA

(re: Tina and Tini)  
It's easy to make a killer  
entrance when you come as a  
matching set. Hi, we haven't met.  
I'm Amanda Ling.

Rachel laughs.

RACHEL

Hi, I'm Rachel Chu.

AMANDA

Oh, you're Nick Young's friend?

RACHEL

Yeah.

AMANDA

(off Rachel)  
Word gets around fast here.  
You're a professor at NYU, right?

RACHEL

Yes. Um, what, what about you?

AMANDA

Oh, I'm a lawyer. General counsel  
to the Young Family Corporation,  
actually.

RACHEL

That's very impressive.

AMANDA

Mm, nah. Just good old-fashioned  
nepotism. I grew up with Nick and  
Colin. We're family friends.  
(then)  
It's nice to meet you, Rachel Chu.

Rachel smiles, happy to find a like-minded friend. They hear a BEEP BEEP as Araminta arrives in a golf cart.

ARAMINTA

Ladies, come on! We're wheels up  
in five.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

AMANDA  
Let's do this?

RACHEL  
Let's go.

AMANDA  
Oh! Fuck! Yeah!

RACHEL  
Okay!

The golf cart takes off as Rachel and Amanda are barely seated and almost drop their drinks.

AMANDA  
Yeah!

The cart takes off towards the jet...

BACK TO NICK AND COLIN

COLIN  
All I wanted was a weekend away  
with my boys. And some beer.  
Maybe some rugby.

NICK  
Don't worry. It's gonna be great,  
whatever happens.

BERNARD (O.S.)  
Let's make some babies!

COLIN  
Yeah. I don't think it will be.

EXT./INT. SINGAPORE HARBOR/HELICOPTER - DAY

The 3 helicopters fly over the open sea. Wagner's *Ride of the Valkyries* plays.

SUPERIMPOSE: INTERNATIONAL WATERS

In one chopper, Bernard brags to Nick and Colin.

BERNARD  
Any asshole can plan a normal stag  
party. Hookers, drugs, dog-  
fighting. That's minor league  
shit. To organize a party this  
massive --

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

NICK  
(low; to Colin)  
Takes a massive asshole?

BERNARD  
Takes a goddamn mastermind.

Colin looks out to see nothing but the ocean around them.

COLIN  
Where exactly is this party?

BERNARD  
It's right there.

They all look out the window at a LARGE CARGO SHIP.  
Colin and Nick exchange looks, WTF? But as they get closer...

COLIN  
Bloody hell!

REVEAL: The containers on the ship have been arranged and modified to create a HUGE PARTY PLAYGROUND. A floating Disneyland for adults. Painted on the side is "BALLIN' COLIN'S BACHELOR PARTY." The guys descend on the scene.

BERNARD  
Y-y-yeah!

The partiers respond in kind welcoming them to the revelry.

EXT. CARGO PARTY SHIP - NIGHT (LATER)

In a LONG SHOT we see a flare go off into the sky. We hear it enter the sea with a splash.

INT. SHIP PARTY

"Hello Bitches" by CL POUNDS.

STYLISTIC FLASHES as the guys walk past CARGO CONTAINERS THAT HAVE BEEN CONVERTED into a POOL and DANCE FLOOR manned by attractive MODEL WAITRESSES. Some of the women wear beauty pageant-type sashes across their chests: UKRAINE, UNITED KINGDOM, NETHERLANDS. Bernard, standing in front of the beauty queens, is holding a bazooka-like flare gun setting off another flare. He laughs manically.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

The other guys are drinking surrounded by girls in bikinis.

EDDIE

Oh, my God, Nick. What are you worried about? You don't have to keep Rachel happy. She's just lucky to be here.

COLIN

Nice, Eddie.

EDDIE

Oh, what? So do we pretend like that's not the truth? Are we in some kinda fairy tale story that I don't know about? Did you find a shoe at midnight and jump in a pumpkin? Yo, I got so much shit about marrying Fiona and her parents own the biggest shipping company in Hong Kong.

(to Colin)

Hey, Araminta's adorable, but you think your dad would be spending millions on this wedding if her parents didn't own a billion-dollar resort chain? What's Rachel bringing to the table?

Alistair sits with his arms wrapped around two women, one wearing a sash labeled "ISRAEL."

ALISTAIR

Oh! Small tits!

They all laugh.

Nick steps to Alistair, about to hit him, but Colin stands in the way.

EDDIE

Oh...

ALISTAIR

Oh!

Colin stops Nick --

COLIN

Hey, hey, hey. It's not worth it, man. They're drunk.

ANOTHER ON STAGE

lined with bikini-clad women. Bernard yells toward Colin and the guys --

BERNARD

Hey, guys, this is boring.  
 Massage time. And you, the  
 bachelor. You gonna get one  
 before this weekend is over. Or  
 we gonna tie you up and shave your  
 coo coo chara.

Everyone laughs uproariously as Bernard brandishes the bazooka.

PEOPLE AT BACHELOR PARTY

(yell)

Coo coo chara. Coo coo chara.  
 Coo coo chara. Coo coo chara.

Bernard has a missile-type launcher on his shoulder --

BERNARD

Shit! Come try this.

Nick and Colin start walking away from the party.

COLIN

We have to get off this ship.

ARAMINTA (V.O.)

(pre-lap)  
 Welcome to paradise...

EXT. RESORT (SAMSARA ISLAND) - ON ARAMINTA - DAY

SUPERIMPOSE: SAMSARA ISLAND

ARAMINTA

This is Samsara Island.

SHOT OF the lush island as Araminta addresses the girl --

ARAMINTA

This weekend is about sisterhood  
 and connecting with the divine in  
 all of us. So, I hope you'll all  
 find your bliss... starting  
 with...

(yelling; psyched)  
 ... an all-paid shopping spree at  
 the fashion boutique!!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

The women SCREAM with excitement! Araminta runs to Rachel and grabs her hand and drags her off toward the shopping boutique.

ARAMINTA

Come on! Come on!

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. RESORT - BOUTIQUE - DAY

It's CHAOS as women grab and fight over clothes. Francesca and Celine are in a tug-o-war over a caftan.

FRANCESCA

Bitch, I saw this first!

CELINE

But you have ping-pong tits!

FRANCESCA

Oh, what about your mosquito bites?

CELINE

No!

FRANCESCA

You know it's true!

CELINE

You're such a bitch!

ARAMINTA

One more minute! You keep what you can carry. One more minute. You keep what you can carry.

With little time to spare, women FIGHT OVER outfits.

Rachel has a new dress she's just tried on. She watches the carnage, confused. Amanda clocks this.

AMANDA

Yep, no one loves free stuff more than rich people.

(re: dress)

Just the one dress for you?

RACHEL

I don't wanna lose an arm.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

AMANDA

Ooh. Well, in that case... one last touch.

Amanda looks around, picks out a NECKLACE from a display and puts it on Rachel.

AMANDA

Well, isn't Nick a lucky guy.

Rachel looks at herself in the mirror -- Amanda is right -- it's the perfect accent.

ARAMINTA

Time's up!!! Next stop, SPA!

EXT. RAWA ISLAND (MALAYSIA) - DAY

SUPERIMPOSE: RAWA ISLAND

Nick and Colin sit on lounge chairs at a GORGEOUS DESERTED BEACH. Colin takes in the view, at peace, and takes a sip of a beer.

COLIN

You're a genius. You know that, right?

NICK

What's a best man for? I guess that pilot's license came in handy after all.

(beat)

Here you go, champ.

COLIN

Oh, thank you, sir. Mmm. I think that is the best beer I've ever had.

NICK

I'm gonna have to agree with you on that.

COLIN

You know, if it wasn't for Araminta, I'd ask you to marry me.

NICK

Although...

(reaches into his pocket)

... there is a little something that might get in the way of that.

(CONTINUED)



CONTINUED:

Nick pulls out a jewelry box, opens it displaying a beautiful engagement ring.

COLIN  
Mmm. No!

NICK  
Yeah.

COLIN  
Is that real?

NICK  
Yes!

COLIN  
Wow! Yes! Yes, man!  
Congratulations!

NICK  
I know.

COLIN  
That is freaking amazing.

NICK  
I'm ready.

COLIN  
You're ready. You're doing it!  
Nick, I'm really happy for you,  
man.

NICK  
Thanks, dude.

CUT TO:

EXT. RESORT SPA - CABANA - DAY

PAN ACROSS Araminta and the women enjoying various spa treatments: hot stone massages, mani-pedis, mud baths...

Rachel and Amanda are getting Thai massages. Rachel's MASSEUSE pushes up her leg, gets uncomfortably close.

RACHEL  
(grunts)  
I think my masseuse just got me  
pregnant.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

AMANDA

(laughs)

I can see why Nick put off coming back to Singapore.

RACHEL

What do you mean?

AMANDA

You know. He was supposed to come back last year, take over the family business. His parents freaked out when he didn't. But, now that he's back, I'm sure all is forgiven.

RACHEL

But he's not back for good. I mean, we're just here for a wedding.

Amanda looks at her, sympathetic.

EXT. RAWA ISLAND (MALAYSIA) - DAY

COLIN

Wow!

NICK

But?

COLIN

No, I'm really happy for you.

NICK

Colin, I've known you since you were in nappies. I know when there's something on your mind.

COLIN

Well, it wasn't that long ago that you were sure you were moving back home. And I mean, Rachel loves her job in New York.

NICK

Yeah, we're gonna figure that out.

COLIN

You're going to figure it out. Right.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

AMANDA (V.O.)  
(pre-lap)  
Rachel, I get it.

EXT. RESORT SPA - CABANA - DAY

AMANDA  
It's hard knowing where you stand  
with someone like Nicholas Young.  
He has all that pressure from his  
family. Not just in business, but  
in who he's dating. It's like,  
you just never know what's quite  
going on in that gorgeous head of  
his --

Rachel stares at Amanda who realizes she's overstepped.

AMANDA  
Nick told you that we were  
together, right? It's ancient  
history now. Although our  
families, particularly his mother,  
always wanted us to get married.  
I guess we weren't ready then.

As Rachel reacts at this revelation:

COLIN (V.O.)  
(pre-lap)  
Dude...

EXT. RAWA ISLAND (MALAYSIA) - DAY

COLIN  
... ever since primary school, you  
were always going to be the next  
chairman of the Young Corporation,  
your family's shining heir. You  
really think your family's going  
to accept anything less than that?  
I mean, unless you... No. Are you  
thinking of walking out? Leaving  
everything to bloody Alistair and  
Eddie?

NICK  
I'm not walking out on anything.  
I met a girl, I fell in love and I  
want to marry her. And it can't  
just be one thing or the other.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

COLIN

Uh, no, no, no, no, no. It's,  
it's not that simple. You know  
that.

EXT. RESORT SPA - CABANA - DAY

AMANDA

I really admire you. Takes guts,  
coming all the way over here,  
facing Nick's family. Especially  
when Eleanor isn't exactly in your  
corner.

EXT. RAWA ISLAND (MALAYSIA) - DAY

COLIN

Okay. Your family aside, have you  
ever thought about what your  
relationship with Rachel will be  
like if you got married? I mean,  
okay, you're, you're Nicholas  
Young, you're untouchable. You  
always have been. But Rachel's  
not. And if...

EXT. RESORT SPA - CABANA - DAY

COLIN (V.O.)

... she becomes Mrs. Nicholas  
Young, every day for her is going  
to be a struggle.

Rachel gets up, feels uneasy.

Amanda TEXTS: *She's on the move... Hook, line, and SINK  
HER.*

CELINE (O.S.)

I heard she told Tini that Nick is  
a good catch.

FRANCESCA

Oh! So typical. She's not even  
that pretty. It's like she's  
never heard of plastic surgery.

CELINE

(chuckling)  
Oh, shit.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Rachel feels sick. After hearing Celine and Francesca, she exits, fleeing.

EXT. RESORT VILLA - WALKWAY - DAY

Rachel flees, upset, when she COLLIDES with someone. It's Astrid, who's just arrived. She clutches a bag while PORTERS behind her carry her luggage.

RACHEL

Sorry.

EXT. RAWA ISLAND (MALAYSIA) - DAY

COLIN

You sure she's ready for that?

Nick sighs.

EXT. RESORT VILLA - WALKWAY - DAY

ASTRID

Rachel?

They head to the resort villa suite --

ASTRID

I'm so sorry.

RACHEL

It's okay.

INT. RESORT VILLA - SUITE - EVENING

Rachel enters with Astrid who she's downloaded to.

ASTRID

Let's just forget about those girls. Camp out here and order room service.

Astrid looks at Rachel, concerned.

Rachel suddenly SCREAMS.

On the bed is a LARGE, GUTTED FISH. Its blood and guts all over the white sheets. On one of the windows are words scrawled in red: "CATCH THIS, YOU GOLD-DIGGING BITCH!"

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ASTRID  
I'll call security --

RACHEL  
No.

Astrid reacts, surprised. Rachel pulls herself together.

RACHEL  
I'm not gonna make a scene.

ZOOM IN ON the window and the nasty message --

RACHEL  
I'm not gonna give them the  
satisfaction.

EXT. BEACH - NIGHT

The drunken bachelorettes dance as a DJ spins tracks.

FURTHER DOWN THE BEACH

Rachel rants as she and Astrid dig a HOLE in the sand.

RACHEL  
This weekend was supposed to be  
mani-pedis, cocktails served in  
pineapples. This definitely  
wasn't on the menu --

Rachel dumps the wrapped fish in the hole.

RACHEL  
Why would Araminta even have  
friends like them? They're so  
mean.

As Rachel fills the hole:

ASTRID  
Well, you grow up your whole lives  
together, you make excuses for  
people. Specially the morons.

RACHEL  
I mean, I know Michael didn't have  
to deal with catty, fish-killing  
sociopaths, but how did you two  
get through all this?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ASTRID

Well, I didn't have it quite this bad, but it wasn't pretty.

RACHEL

Well, at least tell me it gets better.

ASTRID

Of course it does.

Astrid wants to reassure Rachel, but she can't. Rachel recognizes that something is wrong.

RACHEL

You okay?

ASTRID

Yeah...

(beat; close to tears)

Actually... no...

RACHEL

You could talk to me.

ASTRID

(tough to say)

Michael is... having an affair.

RACHEL

I'm really sorry, Astrid.

Astrid manages a smile, appreciates it.

Rachel nods. Astrid smiles, puts her head on Rachel's shoulder, hold each other's hands, and watch the waves crash into the shore.

EXT. RAFFLES HOTEL - DAY

Nick enters the hotel --

MALE HOTEL GREETER

Welcome back.

NICK

Cheers, sir.

INT. RAFFLES HOTEL - LANDING - DAY

Nick enters the hotel having returned from his trip. He sees Rachel reading in a quiet area. He heads over, throws his bag down.

RACHEL (O.S.)  
I thought I was here to meet your family...

ON NICK AND RACHEL

RACHEL  
... go to your best friend's wedding, eat some good food. Instead, I feel like I'm a villain in a soap opera who's plotting to steal your family fortune.

Nick blanches. Knows this isn't good.

NICK  
What happened?

RACHEL  
I mean, I met Amanda. She told me that everyone here thinks that I'm the evil person that prevented you from moving back to Singapore last year but, when I didn't even know you were supposed to come home.

NICK  
You have every reason to be upset -  
-

RACHEL  
I'm not done yet! There was also the gutted, bloody fish that Araminta's friends left for me in my hotel room on my bed next to the words 'Catch this, you gold-digging bitch'... written in big fat serial-killer letters --

NICK  
Is that all that happened?  
(off Rachel)  
I mean, please tell me that's all that happened.

(CONTINUED)



CONTINUED:

RACHEL

You know what? I don't even care about those stupid girls, with their stupid little designer handbags and sunglasses. I don't care about that. I don't care that your ex-girlfriend told me all this crap. It's that you didn't tell me any of it.

NICK

I screwed up.

RACHEL

Why?

NICK

I really messed up, okay?

RACHEL

Why? What -- Were you trying to test me? Why would you do that?

Nick takes a beat, comes clean.

NICK

I made a mistake. When we first met, you had no idea who I was, who my family were. You didn't care!

RACHEL

Yeah, I don't care about that stupid stuff.

NICK

Well, exactly. You are so different from all of the women that I grew up with. And I love who I am around you. And I don't want that to change. And that's selfish, I know.

Nick takes her hand.

RACHEL

Mm-hmm.

NICK

And I'm sorry that you had to deal with that on your own. But I'm here now. And whatever happens, we'll get through it together. Dead fish and all.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

As Rachel scoffs --

NICK

All right?

RACHEL

It was so gross. But I buried it.

NICK

You dealt with it.

They laugh. He holds her. Rachel is touched.

NICK

Come here.

RACHEL

You know what? We need to do something tonight. We need to do something that's just you and me, okay?

NICK

100% agree.

RACHEL

Yes.

NICK

But... we do have to go make some dumplings first. Okay?

RACHEL

Then can we eat them?

NICK

We can eat as many as you like.

RACHEL

Okay, fine.

INT. TYERSALL PARK - DINING ROOM - DAY

QUICK CUTS of food being expertly prepared by half a dozen MAIDS:

-- Small balls of dough are rolled into flat circles.

-- Minced meat is quickly rolled into dozens of perfectly-formed, uniform BALLS.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

A maid takes a tray of the mincemeat balls to the center of the room, where Eleanor and other family members -- Nick, Rachel, Astrid, Cassian, Oliver, Alix, and Felicity -- are clustered around a large table. They're busy folding the dumplings, which are placed in neatly-stacked bamboo steamers. It's a family tradition, and they work expertly while having multiple conversations.

NICK

I can't believe this is your first time making dumplings.

Rachel laughs.

ALIX

Gotta make sure this time we don't run out of baskets.

ASTRID

Cassian, that's not how you do it.  
(beat)  
Very good. Very good, Cassian.

Cassian laughs.

ASTRID

And now you roll it up.

As Eleanor inspects the tray and nods her approval, Felicity eyes DOZENS of waiting trays with alarm.

ALIX

This is too much. We're hosting a rehearsal dinner, not feeding an army --

ELEANOR

Better too many than have people say we're stingy.

Meanwhile, Nick teaches Rachel how to fold a dumpling -- putting the mincemeat ball in the dough wrapper and sealing it closed.

NICK

So, right. You put the baby in bed and tuck, tuck, tuck. Same on the other side. And you give him a kiss goodnight --

RACHEL

Okay. That's so cute. And then you eat the baby.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

NICK

How's that?

(chuckles)

Then you eat the baby. Not until he's cooked.

RACHEL

No, you gotta make sure he's cooked. Did Ah Ma teach you that?

NICK

She did.

OLIVER

I, on the other hand, was taught by Grand Aunty Mabel. 'You put the Botox in the face and then you pinch, pinch, pinch, then *voila!*'

RACHEL

Did you guys all learn when you were kids?

ASTRID

We didn't have a choice.

Nods to Cassian as he happily pounds balls of dough with his fist and rips apart dumplings.

FELICITY

We taught you so you'd know the blood, sweat, and tears it took to raise and feed you monkeys.

ALIX

Not like *ang-mohs*, microwaving macaroni and cheese for their own children.

(shudders)

No wonder they put their parents in the old folks' home when they all grow up.

FELICITY

I know!

ELEANOR

Ah Ma says if we don't pass traditions down like this, they'll disappear.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ASTRID

(to Rachel)

God forbid we lose the ancient  
Chinese tradition of guiltning your  
children.

The others all laugh --

NICK

It's totally worth it. Mother  
used to wait for me after school  
with a nice basket of these.

ALIX

(in Cantonese;  
subtitled)

*Ni hao ming.* [Lucky you.]

Eleanor smiles at the memory.

ASTRID

(to Felicity)

Hey, I never got after-school  
dumplings.

OLIVER

Well, that's because Aunty  
Felicity was doing after-school  
microdermabrasion.

FELICITY

(mock-scolds; in  
Cantonese;  
subtitled)

*Ni le wu qie, ruguo a ye zhong xi  
du, shi qing ni shi teng tiao wen  
zhurou.* [Smart ass. If your  
grandfather was alive, he'd kick  
you into next week.]

Everyone LAUGHS. Alix sees Rachel smiling. Felicity  
throws dough at Oliver.

OLIVER

(brushing shirt)

Aunty, this is Dolce.

ALIX

(to Rachel)

You speak Cantonese?

RACHEL

No, I don't. It's just great  
seeing you guys all like this.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

The family exchanges looks. What does Rachel mean?

RACHEL

When I was growing up, it was just me and my mom. Which I loved, uh, but we didn't really have a big family like this. It's really nice.

OLIVER

That's so lovely of you to say, Rachel. We all are very lucky to have each other.

Alix and Felicity smile, approving. Feeling more comfortable, Rachel tries to engage Eleanor, who's been largely silent. She sees Eleanor's RING, a beautiful piece studded with diamonds and emeralds.

RACHEL

That's a beautiful ring, Auntie Eleanor. I've never seen anything like it.

The other women look at Eleanor, trying to gauge her reaction to Rachel.

ELEANOR

(surprised; then)  
Nick's father had it made when he proposed to me.

RACHEL

That's very romantic. How did you guys meet?

NICK

Actually, they met at Cambridge. They were both studying law together.

RACHEL

Oh, I didn't know you were a lawyer.

ELEANOR

I wasn't. I withdrew from university when we got married.

RACHEL

Oh...

Eleanor reads into Rachel's reaction.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ELEANOR

I chose to help my husband run a business and to raise a family. For me, it was a privilege. But for you, you may think it's old-fashioned. It's nice you appreciate this house and us being here together wrapping dumplings. But all this doesn't just happen. It's because we know to put family first, instead of chasing one's passion.

An awkward SILENCE falls over the table. Rachel feels chided, isn't sure how to react when:

AH MA (O.S.)

(in Mandarin;  
subtitled)

*O, nimen dajia douzai zhe'er a!*  
[Ah, everyone's here!]

Ah Ma enters with her Thai maids. Oblivious to the tension, she smiles to see Nick and Rachel.

NICK

Ah Ma.

ASTRID

Ah Ma.

ALIX

Ah Ma.

NICK

(to maids)  
Thank you.  
(takes his grandma's  
arm)  
Ah Ma.

AH MA

Oh, Nick.

NICK

Come and sit.

AH MA

(in Mandarin;  
subtitled)  
*O, Nicki. O, ni ba Rachel ye dailai le?* [Oh, Nicki. You brought Rachel. Good.]

Ah Ma looks at Rachel's face, scrutinizing it.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

AH MA

*Baitian wo kan ni kan de geng  
qingchu le. Ni de bizi zhang de  
henhao, hen you fuqi. Wo kan kan  
ni de lian. Guolai.* [I can see  
you more clearly in the day. The  
shape of your nose is auspicious.  
Let me have a look, come closer...

(leans in)

*En... en... zhang de zhen haokan.  
Qingchu le.* [Very nice looking.]

Rachel is unsure what to make of it, but it feels like approval.

AH MA

(in Mandarin;  
subtitled)

Sit, sit, grandson.

OLIVER

Right, right. We're almost done  
here. Just a few more baskets.

Ah Ma looks at the dumplings.

AH MA

(to Eleanor; in  
Mandarin; subtitled)

*Aiyo, zheshi ni bao de jiaozi ma?  
Zenme bao name nankan a? Tuibule.*  
[You made those dumplings? They  
don't look very good. You lost  
your touch.]

Astrid watches this exchange, then looks at Rachel.

ELEANOR

Hmm.

INT. TYERSALL - HALLWAY - DAY

Rachel exits the dining room, looking for anywhere to go. She walks up the long staircase, takes a few steps one way, realizes she's going the wrong direction, then turns around to find Eleanor standing in front of her.

RACHEL

(surprised)

Oh. Hi. I think I'm a little  
lost. This house is pretty big.

Eleanor comes to Rachel and they walk and talk through the halls of Tyersall.

(CONTINUED)



CONTINUED:

ELEANOR

I'm glad I found you. I'm afraid  
that I've been unfair.

RACHEL

Oh, no, you know what? I'm sorry  
I made an assumption. I didn't  
mean to offend you.

ELEANOR

Not at all.

(then)

You asked about my ring. The  
truth is Nick's father had it made  
when he wanted to propose to me,  
because Ah Ma wouldn't give him  
the family ring. I wasn't her  
first choice. Honestly, I wasn't  
her second.

RACHEL

Gosh, I'm so sorry. I had no  
idea.

ELEANOR

I didn't come from the right  
family, have the right  
connections. And Ah Ma thought I  
would not make an adequate wife to  
her son.

Rachel is surprised how Eleanor is seemingly opening up.

RACHEL

But, she came around, obviously.

Eleanor gives a tight smile.

ELEANOR

It took many years, and she had  
good reason to be concerned.

(off Rachel)

Because I had no idea the work and  
the *sacrifice* it would take.  
There were many days when I  
wondered if I would ever measure  
up --

Eleanor pauses, looks at Rachel.

ELEANOR

But having been through it all, I  
know this much...

(gets close; gently)

You will never be enough.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Rachel is eviscerated. Eleanor draws back, placid, calm. Then, as if they've been talking about the weather Eleanor walks off:

ELEANOR

We should head back. I wouldn't want Nick to worry.

INT. CAR - DAY

Nick drives as Rachel sits in the passenger seat, silent.

NICK

You all right?

RACHEL

Yeah.

NICK

I know my mum can be tough at times, but there isn't anything she wouldn't do for me...

(off Rachel's  
silence)

And there is a reason why I lived with Ah Ma growing up. It's because my mother knew she wasn't the favorite. So she let her raise me so I would be.

RACHEL

You were just a kid?

NICK

Yeah. But... It's hard to understand from the outside. But she did what she thought was best for the family... For everyone involved.

Rachel hears the tiny reminder of her otherness.

RACHEL

Mm-hmm.

Rachel takes it in, hears Nick's regard for his mother. Which makes her feel even more unsettled.

NICK

Anyway, I think I've had enough with dumplings for the rest of my life. What should we do? Sushi, movies, anything you like. Really.

EXT. COFFEE SHOP - PATIO - DAY

PEIK LIN (O.S.)  
Wait, what? Was she like --

TILT DOWN -- Peik Lin and Rachel sit at a table.

PEIK LIN  
(Eleanor impression)  
'You will NEVER be good enough for  
my son,' OR was it like, 'YOU, YOU  
will never be good enough for my  
son.'

RACHEL  
It's like the second one.

PEIK LIN  
Oh.

RACHEL  
Except for in a way that made me  
wanna, like, cry and puke at the  
same time.

PEIK LIN  
God, she's so badass.  
(idea)  
You know, I bet if you told her  
you'd leave Nick for a million  
dollars, she will write that  
check. They do that around here --

RACHEL  
-- And she *looked* at me like I was  
nothing...

PEIK LIN  
-- Like a ten million dollar  
check. I feel like she would do  
that.

RACHEL  
I don't even know what I should  
do. I mean, I can't even tell  
Nick because he like worships her.

PEIK LIN  
Yeah, Chinese sons think their  
moms fart Chanel No. 5. What  
about the Ah Ma? Does she hate  
your face, too?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

RACHEL

Okay, nobody said they hated my face. And Ah Ma, she liked my face. She said I had a lucky nose.

PEIK LIN

That's great! You know, Eleanor can hate you all day long, but you can't beat two thousand years of Chinese filial piety.

RACHEL

I feel like I shouldn't even go to the wedding. You know, it's Colin and Araminta's day, I don't wanna cause any drama there. I feel like I should just sit it out. You know? Tell Nick I had food poisoning or something.

(off Peik Lin's look)

What?

PEIK LIN

That's bullshit. You're just scared.

RACHEL

No, I'm not.

PEIK LIN

Okay, here's what you need to understand, all right? It's not about getting Eleanor to like you. It's about getting her to respect you. All right? Right now, she just thinks you're some like undeserving, clueless, gold-digging --

RACHEL

Okay, yeah, I got it.

PEIK LIN

-- trashy, unrefined banana, yellow on the outside, white on the inside --

RACHEL

I know what a banana is --

PEIK LIN

-- When in reality, you're like a super sophisticated, smart professor of freaking game theory.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

PEIK LIN (CONT'D)

Show her that side of you, you know.

This hits home with Rachel.

RACHEL

You're right.

PEIK LIN

Damn straight, I'm right. It's Peik Lin, I'm always right.

RACHEL

Yeah, she's like trying to play a game of chicken with me, where she's like coming at me, and like, thinking I'm going to swerve like a chicken.

PEIK LIN

But you can't swerve.

RACHEL

I'm not gonna swerve. Not for her.

PEIK LIN

No. Chickens are bitches, dude!

RACHEL

And I'm not a chicken

PEIK LIN

You're not a chicken. You gonna roll up to that wedding, you gonna be like, 'Bak-bak, bitch!'

RACHEL

(chuckles)  
Bak-bak, bitch!

PEIK LIN

Chickens are bitches.

A man on one of the upper balconies overhears her, gives her a disapproving look.

PEIK LIN

Sorry Uncle.

RACHEL

What are you doing tonight?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

PEIK LIN

Uh, I was gonna go to FedEx or something. Why? Oh!

Peik Lin breaks into a smile. OFF Rachel, determined.

INT. GOH HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - ON RACHEL - DAY

standing in front of a tall tri-fold mirror as Peik Lin scrutinizes her.

PEIK LIN

I have been waiting to do this properly for so long. I'm thinking eyebrow triage, root crimps, maybe some eyelid tape.

(to Oliver)

What do you think?

REVEAL OLIVER standing off to the side with his entourage.

OLIVER

All of it. And I would throw in a Korean snail face mask. Sweetie, your skin is so dry, it's hurting my face.

RACHEL

Thank you.

As Oliver walks around her, scrutinizing.

OLIVER

You know, it's about time someone stood up to Aunty Eleanor. Well, you, not me. Oh, God! She can't know I was ever here.

PEIK LIN

No.

RACHEL

Oh, no

OLIVER

(yelling to the air)

Right. Well, okay, let's get to work. Cappuccinos.

EXT. FIRST METHODIST CHURCH - DAY

A long line of stately cars lead to the entrance. Throngs have gathered hoping to catch sight of arriving celebrities. It's a mix of FOREIGN DIGNITARIES, GOVERNMENT LEADERS, and Asia's brightest stars.

QUICK CUTS of reporters and photographers continues throughout the following scene.

INT. GOH HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

OLIVER

Pull the plum Balenciaga, the peach Chloé, the Giambattista, all the Bottegas, oh, and that Jason Wu with the deconstructed ruffles.

PEIK LIN

And a sandwich for Peik Lin.

Rachel enters modeling different dresses.

OLIVER

Oh!

PEIK LIN

Okay. All right.

OLIVER

Right. I'm not sure if it's working or if she looks like a clown's tampon.

RACHEL

Oh!

PEIK LIN

On a heavy day.

OLIVER

(next dress)  
Y-You look like a flower. Like a sad, lonely flower no one wants to be around.

RACHEL

Ahh!

EXT. FIRST METHODIST CHURCH - DAY

AMANDA

(to Reporter)

I mean, it's the wedding of the century. So, of course we're here. It's the natural...

INT. GOH HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - ON RACHEL - DAY

OLIVER

Oh! Oh! It's not that bad. It's holding you up.

PEIK LIN

It's a hands-on dress. You know what I mean?

WYE MUN

(throws dress over partition)

Incoming.

Peik Lin points for him to leave.

WYE MUN

Okay. Okay

EXT. FIRST METHODIST CHURCH - DAY

REPORTER

And this fantastic celebration here with --

Francesca and Celine pose for the cameras.

Alistair poses with Kitty Pong, who's delighted by all the attention.

KITTY

I love my fans... I love my fans.

ALISTAIR

(to reporters)

*Taipei Tiger Two* is going to redefine the genre. She's a star.

KITTY

TT-Two, honey!

ALISTAIR

She's a star.



INT. GOH HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - ON RACHEL - DAY

PEIK LIN

Oh! I'm blinded by the light.

OLIVER

Oh. Okay. This is why disco died.

PEIK LIN

You kinda look like a slutty Ebola virus.

OLIVER

It's like a bag of Skittles.  
Taste the rainbow.

OLIVER

Could work, if we... Yes. I, I think we just alter the --

Wye Mun comes back in offering another outfit --

WYE MUN

(whispering)

I, I, just think if we could just maybe just tell her this is coming from you because she probably doesn't wanna hear it from a guy.  
Okay. Okay.

Peik Lin throws him out again.

EXT. FIRST METHODIST CHURCH - DAY

Eddie, Fiona, and their three boys, again in adorable matching suits, pose for photographers. Eddie nudges his eldest son.

EDDIE

Okay, remember. Optimal angles.

INT. GOH HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - ON RACHEL - DAY

Oliver and Neenah are accessorizing the sparkly disco-type dress Rachel is now wearing.

When Rachel goes behind the partition to change her outfit, Neenah, Wye Mun, P.T., and the twins all start dancing to the music. Peik Lin's parents get carried away and start making out on the chaise lounge.

EXT. FIRST METHODIST CHURCH - DAY

Eddie trails off as the photographers suddenly head to --

-- a custom GOLD BENTLEY MULSANE. It's driven by Peik Lin, who wears a fetching driver's uniform. Seeing the car, Oliver steps up as Peik Lin opens the door -- a shapely stilettoed leg steps out. It's RACHEL in a glittering gown. Her hair is swept up, her jewelry catches the light, she's a VISION.

It's an EXPLOSION OF FLASHES as photographers, reporters, and looky-loos take pictures, yell to get her attention. Rachel is a little overwhelmed, but Oliver helps navigate her through the crowd.

NEENAH

Just right here! Just right here!

PHOTOGRAPHER

Beautiful dress. Thank you.  
Thanks for the... Excuse me.  
Excuse me, can I get a picture of  
you? Lovely. Oh, fantastic.  
Looking gorgeous. Little closer  
together. Who's this one? What's  
your name?

PEIK LIN

Ma'am.

OLIVER

(mouthing)  
You look wonderful. Breathe.  
(to paparazzi)  
Everyone, I've got Rachel Chu of  
New York. Rachel Chu of New York.  
Real estate heiress, Rachel Chu of  
the New York Chus.

FEMALE SPECTATOR

Rachel! Rachel! Over here!

PHOTOGRAPHER

Rachel, this way. Rachel!  
Rachel! To me!

MALE PHOTOGRAPHER

Okay, ladies, looking good.  
Looking good. Okay, out of the  
way, please. Out of the way.

Amanda, Celine, and Francesca, look agape, incredulous.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

KITTY

So gorgeous!

RACHEL

Thank you.

A Photographer gestures for Celine to get out of the way so he can take Rachel's picture. OFF Celine, pissed.

MALE PHOTOGRAPHER

Ladies, move please. Out of the way! Good, good. That's great. Beautiful dress.

RACHEL

Ladies. Amanda.

AMANDA

Hmm.

RACHEL

You're in my way.

AMANDA

Okay, what?

INT. BENTLEY - DAY

Astrid and Michael, dressed for the wedding, sit in the back of a chauffeured Bentley. Michael chatters on as Astrid listens in silence.

MICHAEL

-- Our Chinese investors are getting nervous. I have to fly to Shenzhen on Monday to try and talk them down.

This gets Astrid's attention.

ASTRID

That's Cassian's birthday.

MICHAEL

Yeah, I know. I hate to miss it, but this is important.

ASTRID

You'd think your son's birthday is important. Get someone else to handle it...

(can't help herself)

Unless... there's another reason you're out of town.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MICHAEL

What are you saying?

Astrid presses a button on the console, RAISING THE PARTITION between them and the driver.

ASTRID

I know you're having an affair.

Michael reacts, uncomfortable, but he doesn't deny it.

MICHAEL

Oh, Jesus, Astrid.

ASTRID

Let's just get through the wedding and we'll deal with it after. I don't want to make a scene.

Michael looks at her, incredulous.

MICHAEL

You find out I'm having an affair with another woman, and you're worried about making a scene?

ASTRID

You'd rather I scream and carry on?

MICHAEL

Yes. Honestly, I wish you would. It would show you cared about more than what people thought of you and your family --

ASTRID

Don't try and turn this on me. I'm not the one who screwed up!

MICHAEL

Of course not. You're always the prettiest, richest, most perfect girl in the room. While I'm just this lucky bastard who will never measure up.

ASTRID

Don't say that --

MICHAEL

I know what you're thinking, Astrid. That's why you hide your shoes, the jewelry you buy.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MICHAEL (CONT'D)

As if every minute of my life I'm  
not reminded of it. I'm just  
tired. I'm tired of having  
nothing I do matter, including  
having the affair --

ASTRID

Of course, what you do matters.  
How can you say that?

As the driver pulls over, Astrid reacts, thrown.

Michael gets out of the car. Just like that, he's gone.  
Shell-shocked, Astrid starts to break down... then  
quickly pulls herself together.

INT. FIRST METHODIST CHURCH - DAY

The interior of the church has been transformed into an  
ARTFUL ABSTRACT FOREST.

Eleanor, Jacqueline, Alix, and Felicity hold court with  
other SOCIETY WIVES by the front pews. Eleanor looks at  
the trees, disapproving.

ELEANOR

Is this a church or a paddy field?

ALIX

They spent 40 million on the  
wedding.

FELICITY

Really? That's too much, we're  
Methodists. 20 million is our  
limit.

ALIX

I know.

JACQUELINE

Princess Intan!

They turn to see PRINCESS INTAN, 40s, a lofty Southeast  
Asian royal, and her entourage passing by. The Aunties  
smile but Princess Intan ignores them.

JACQUELINE

Vicious woman. I heard she  
demanded a whole row to herself,  
so she wouldn't be bothered by  
anyone.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

FELICITY  
Really?

JACQUELINE  
Mm-hmm.

FELICITY  
(looking off at  
someone)  
Who is that?

Oliver is in the b.g. greeting one of the female guests.

OLIVER  
Lovely as always. You made it!

All the Aunties turn to see Rachel, walking down the aisle. She's confident, luminous, turning heads as she walks by. The Aunties look stunned as Rachel reaches their pew.

RACHEL  
Aunties.

ELEANOR  
Rachel, how lovely to see you.

RACHEL  
The pleasure is all mine.

ELEANOR  
I'm sorry our row is full.

Rachel smiles, placid.

ALIX  
(whispering; re:  
dress)  
I love it.

RACHEL  
(chuckles)  
Bak-bak. Okay.

Rachel looks for an empty seat, sees one by Princess Intan, and heads over.

Jacqueline and Eleanor see this and exchange glances, looking forward to seeing Rachel being taken down a peg.

Rachel approaches the Princess.

RACHEL  
Princess Intan? Rachel Chu.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Princess Intan ignores her, Rachel presses on.

RACHEL  
I read your great article about  
microloans in the *Asian Economics*  
*Journal* --

ANGLE ON ELEANOR AND FELICITY

watching, incredulous.

PRINCESS INTAN (O.S.)  
I received so much criticism about  
that article.

RACHEL  
Well, you know what? I think your  
critics missed the point. 'Cause  
your microloans helped women, and  
women lift up economies.

The Princess is surprised. The Princess looks at Rachel,  
reassessing her.

PRINCESS INTAN  
What is your name again?

RACHEL  
Rachel Chu.

PRINCESS INTAN  
It's a pleasure to meet you. Now,  
what brings you here.

All the Aunties look disappointed that Rachel has been  
accepted by the Princess.

RACHEL  
I followed a boy...

ANOTHER ANGLE

AN EXCITED BUZZ ripples through the crowd. Heads turn to  
see Astrid, statuesque, gorgeous, enter with AH MA, in a  
beautiful stately gown, her two Thai servants following  
behind. Eleanor and the Aunties react, surprised.

FELICITY  
Ah Ma's here? She never comes to  
these things!

Astrid and Ah Ma walk down the aisle.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ASTRID  
(in Mandarin;  
subtitled)  
*Xiexie ni, Ah Ma.* [Thank you,  
Grandma.]

AH MA  
(in Mandarin;  
subtitled)  
*Yijia ren bu yong shuo xie, a.*  
[Family never says thank you.]

Astrid leads Ah Ma to a seat.

ASTRID  
(whispering)  
Sit down.

ELEANOR  
(whispering)  
It's lovely to see you here.

IN THE BACK ALCOVE

Nick, Colin, and other GROOMSMEN wait. Colin is peeking out at the audience as Nick walks up to him.

NICK  
How are you feeling?

COLIN  
Ah, good.

NICK  
All right. Don't be nervous.

COLIN  
I'm not nervous.

NICK  
You look great.

COLIN  
Thank you. Hey, uh, Rachel's not sitting with your family.

NICK  
Yeah, I don't blame her. Mother hasn't exactly been the most welcoming. But I'm sure she'll be at the back somewhere laying low.

(CONTINUED)



CONTINUED:

COLIN  
(whispering)  
No. She's right at the front.  
Take a look.

Nick turns to where Colin is looking and sees:

RACHEL AND THE PRINCESS --

Rachel looks GORGEOUS, AT EASE, as she chats happily with the Princess.

COLIN  
(surprised; smiles)  
I think you've got a fighter.

Nick is thrilled -- he beams with pride. A GROOMSMAN walks up.

GROOMSMAN  
Guys, it's time.

COLIN  
Okay.

NICK  
Okay. All right.

BERNARD  
Hey.

COLIN  
Yeah?

BERNARD  
Make sure she doesn't take your balls.

As Bernard hits Colin in the gut. Colin hunches over and groans.

BERNARD  
Just checking. Just checking.

COLIN  
(winces and groans)  
Thanks for dressing up, Bernard.

BERNARD  
Hey. It's not about me.

NICK  
Yeah. Come on. Thanks, Bernard.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

BERNARD

It's not about me.

NICK

All right.

The crowd HUSHES as Colin, Nick, and four GROOMSMEN enter with the PASTOR. They're a dashing pack.

Rachel looks at Nick, her heart swelling with pride. Nick finds her gaze, they lock eyes.

When a HUSH falls over the crowd. Eyes turn to:

KINA GRANNIS, who takes the stage. She starts singing a hauntingly beautiful rendition of "I Can't Help Falling In Love."

The MUSIC SOARS as we go into a --

STYLISTIC MONTAGE

-- TWO ADORABLE FLOWER GIRLS (6) enter, scattering petals.

-- An equally adorable RING BEARER boy (5) toddles in, clutching his ring pillow.

-- The congregation, Nick, and Rachel react to the adorable kids.

-- Alistair and Kitty are in the audience smooching.

-- As the children reach the altar, Nick takes the ring/pillow from the little boy and does a high-five with him.

-- As KINA sings with two 12-YEAR-OLD CHINESE VIOLINISTS AND A BASS PLAYER accompanying her:

KINA

*Like a river flows...*

-- the AISLE OPENS UP and WATER FLOWS DOWN IT.

-- The congregations gasps, amazed. Rachel and Nick stare at each other lovingly. THE MUSIC STOPS. The LIGHTS DIM, everyone in the audience are holding delicate lights on long stems. They all stand and look to the back:

-- Where a group of BRIDESMAIDS hold large fronds, forming a SCREEN. They part, REVEALING:

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

-- Araminta, who's luminous, a wedding fantasy come to life. She stands next to her father, holds his arm.

-- Araminta steps out of her shoes. The MUSIC swells back up as she steps onto the watery aisle.

-- Araminta walks down the aisle with her bridesmaids following, as the audience all wave the GLITTERY LIGHTS towards her.

-- Nick looks to Rachel, mouths, "I love you." Rachel catches her breath, mouths back, "I love you, too," tears rolling down her cheeks.

-- Araminta and Colin face each other as the pastor officiates. Amid all the pageantry, it's still just a man and a woman, about to be joined together for life.

-- All eyes are on Colin and Araminta... except for Eleanor, who watches Nick and Rachel with growing concern.

-- Colin lifts Araminta's veil, they kiss, and everyone claps and cheers.

TRANSITION TO:

EXT. GARDENS BY THE BAY - NIGHT

The botanical gardens have been transformed into a magical reception site. The supertrees tower overhead as a CHINESE BIG BAND plays. Fireworks POP, POP, POP overhead.

Colin and Araminta are having their first dance, loosely circled by their wedding party, including Nick and Rachel, who are doing everything they can to keep their hands off each other. As they watch Colin and Araminta:

NICK

You look spectacular, you know that?

RACHEL

It's the double Spanx. I can't breathe.

NICK

It's not the clothes. It's just... you.

Rachel smiles. Nick leans in to kiss her when Araminta calls to the group:

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ARAMINTA

Uh, excuse me. This party isn't gonna dance itself. Come on.

COLIN

Come on, Nicki-Nick.

NICK

All right.

ARAMINTA

Yeah! Whoo!

NICK

Okay. You're very good.

COLIN

Yeah? I only stepped on her twice.

NICK

Very good.

OLIVER

(to Felicity)  
I mean, obviously...

FELICITY

Yeah.

ALISTAIR

Yeah! Whoo!

IN ANOTHER AREA

-- Eleanor sees Nick and Rachel dancing. She hears a SQUEAL and turns to see KITTY PONG twerking on Alistair, who has a silly grin on his face. Eleanor reacts with distaste. She's in no mood for this.

Eleanor turns to Oliver, gestures to Kitty and Alistair.

ELEANOR

Oliver.

OLIVER

Yes, Aunty?

ELEANOR

Be a dear and take care of that.

OLIVER

As you wish.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Eleanor leaves. Oliver doesn't love being ordered about, but does as he's told.

ANOTHER ANGLE

We FIND Nick and Rachel on the dance floor, completely into each other and having fun.

RACHEL

You know, you should wear a tux more often.

NICK

Like all the time?

RACHEL

Hmm, yeah. You know, when you're playing basketball at the Y, shaving, brushing your teeth --

He pulls her in, close. She looks into his eyes... and they kiss.

ON KITTY AND ALISTAIR

as Oliver walks up.

OLIVER

Alistair, your father's looking for you. Something about an overdrawn discretionary account.

Alistair's face falls and he takes off. Oliver holds his hand out to Kitty, who takes it. As Oliver leads her in a dance, handling her expertly:

ALISTAIR

Oh, my God.

KITTY

Baby! Oh, my gosh! Ah! Hey.

OLIVER

So...

KITTY

Hmm?

OLIVER

How do you like the wedding?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

KITTY

Oh, my gosh! It's so glamorous!  
When it's Alistair's and my  
wedding, I want it just like this.

OLIVER

Hmm.

KITTY

No, no! I want it big! Big!  
Better!

OLIVER

(laughs)  
Sweetie! You'll be lucky if  
Alistair's parents give you a tea  
ceremony.

KITTY

Ooh --

Kitty looks at Oliver, confused.

OLIVER

You know, Alistair's only the  
fourth son of a penny-pinching  
family, don't you? I mean, he'll  
get next to nothing. You want a  
wedding like this? You should've  
fallen in love with an only child.  
Someone like... Bernard Tai.

Oliver twirls her around and dips her to see Bernard  
surrounded by women and drinking from a champagne bottle.

ON NICK AND RACHEL

Nick and Rachel pull apart to see one of Ah Ma's THAI  
SERVANTS. She speaks with a gentle Thai accent:

THAI SERVANT

Master Nicholas... your  
grandmother would like to speak to  
you and Miss Rachel.

RACHEL

Okay.

NICK

Come on.

ON BERNARD AND GIRLS

BERNARD  
Sick party.

GIRL  
Yeah!

As Kitty approaches Bernard to dance with him, he hands a champagne bottle to a girl.

BERNARD  
Hold that.

EXT. PRIVATE ALCOVE - NIGHT

The Thai Servant takes Rachel and Nick to a private area where Ah Ma and Eleanor are seated at a table.

NICK  
Ah Ma. Mum. What's all this about?

Ah Ma turns to Rachel.

AH MA  
(in Mandarin;  
subtitled)  
*Rachel... suiran wo renshi ni de  
rizi bu chang, ke wo kan de  
chulai, ni shi ge congming ren.*  
[Rachel. I've only known you a  
short time, but it's clear you're  
a very smart woman.]

Nick smiles at Ah Ma's seeming endorsement of Rachel.

AH MA  
(in Mandarin;  
subtitled)  
*Ke wo buneng rang ni hui le wo de  
sunzi gen wo de jia.* [But, I will  
not permit you to ruin my grandson  
with your ambition.]

Rachel is stunned. Nick, reacts, shocked.

NICK  
Ah Ma!

ELEANOR  
I'm sorry to tell you, but Rachel  
has been lying to us about her  
family and her mother...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

RACHEL

(guard up)  
What, uh... What are you talking  
about?

ELEANOR

I hired a private investigator to  
look into her past --

NICK

Mum, you didn't --

ELEANOR

She said her father passed away in  
China, but that's not true.

(to Rachel)

Your mother's husband is very much  
alive. During her marriage she  
cheated on him and became pregnant  
with another man's child, and  
before he found out she ran away  
to America.

Rachel is gutted, doesn't know what to think.

Eleanor opens a DOSSIER on the table. Chinese news  
articles and police missing person reports featuring  
Kerry's picture.

ELEANOR

It's all in here.

NICK

You had no right --

ELEANOR

We had every right.

RACHEL

Stop -- You're lying.

NICK

You did not!

ELEANOR

Do you have any idea the scandal  
this would have caused? For Rachel  
to hide something like this --

NICK

She wouldn't have.

Eleanor sees Rachel is clearly shocked.

(CONTINUED)



CONTINUED:

ELEANOR

We cannot be linked to this sort  
of family.

Rachel looks at Eleanor, backs away, reeling.

RACHEL

I don't want any part of your  
family.

He reaches for her, but Rachel pulls away, stung.

NICK

Rachel --

Rachel takes off, Nick starts after her, when:

AH MA

(in Mandarin;  
subtitled)

*Buxu zhui ta. Zaojin ni ziji.*  
*Buxu dong. Ni yao gen ta zou, jiu*  
*bie huilai!* [Don't chase after  
her and degrade yourself. I  
forbid it. If you go with her,  
you can't come back!]

NICK

Let me go! Rachel.

Nick pulls away and runs after Rachel.

ELEANOR

Ah Ma! Nick!

AH MA

(in Mandarin;  
subtitled; turns on  
Eleanor)

*Dou shi wei le ni, dou shi ni ya*  
*rang ta zai waitou dai name jiu.*  
*Ni kan jintian!* [This is your  
fault. You let this happen by  
allowing him to stay away so long.  
Now, look!]

Eleanor stands there, submissive. Ah Ma reacts, stunned,  
furious. OFF Eleanor, her worst fears coming true...

EXT. GARDENS BY THE BAY - CANAL - NIGHT

Rachel is upset, disoriented, as she makes her way  
through the crowd.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

EDDIE

Hey, Cinderella. What's wrong?  
You gotta return your dress before  
midnight?

ARAMINTA

Why? It's all non-fat.

COLIN

Nicki-Nick!

ARAMINTA

Oh, you're just in time.

COLIN

Nick, want some cake? Where are  
you going?

FEMALE WEDDING GUEST #1

Come back here! Come back here!

FEMALE WEDDING GUEST #2

Drink girl! Drink!

She hears a SCREAM and turns to see several guests  
POINTING and LAUGHING at:

A HALF-NAKED Bernard and Kitty behind some bushes.  
Bernard is completely drunk and paws at Kitty, who's  
mortified at being discovered.

The crowd LAUGHS, derisive, as Kitty struggles to pull  
her dress up as she flees.

It's sickening to Rachel -- it feels like people are  
talking about her as much as Kitty. She flees...

Among the crowd, we FIND Nick searching for Rachel, but  
he's too late...

NICK

Oliver.

OLIVER

Oh, Nicki have you...?

NICK

(interrupts)  
Rachel. Have you seen Rachel?

OLIVER

I don't --

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

AMANDA

Nicholas! How are you? It's been so long.

NICK

Oh, Amanda. Yes. Thank you, Amanda. Thank you, Amanda. No, Amanda. Not now.

AMANDA

It's good to see you. Let's talk. For old times' sake.

Nick frantically looks around the party for Rachel. TIME LAPSE as the crowd clears and it starts to rain.

EXT. GOH HOUSE - NIGHT

A PAIR OF BARE FEET walks up to the gate.

RACHEL, her once-flawless hair, makeup, and dress are a mess. She carries her HIGH HEELS IN HER HANDS. Peik Lin rushes to Rachel, who bursts into tears and collapses into her friend.

INT. GOH HOUSE - PEIK LIN'S ROOM - DAY

Rachel lies on the upholstered bench at the end of the bed, unmoving, staring into space. Sparse sunlight filters into the room. Peik Lin enters.

PEIK LIN

Rachel? Come to breakfast. You need to eat. Or, use the bathroom, or maybe a shower. It's there if you need it.

But Rachel doesn't move.

TIME LAPSE SEQUENCE

-- It's NIGHT: Rachel still lies in bed, awake, but not moving. The door opens. It's Neenah and Wye Mun with a dinner tray. They have the twin girls bring the tray to Rachel.

WYE MUN

(whispering)

Here, take this tray, okay. Take this to Rachel. Okay, go to her.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

GOH TWIN GIRL #1  
Here, Rachel, this is your dinner.

RACHEL  
Thank you.

The girls run back to Neenah and Wye Mun and they all leave Rachel who's just staring at the dinner tray.

-- Darkness gives way to dawn, but Rachel is still in bed, unmoving. On the bedside table, her PHONE RINGS. It's NICK, Rachel presses ignore and places the phone face-down on the table. Nick leaves a message --

NICK (V.O.)  
(pre-lap)  
I'll stop by again tonight.

INT. RAFFLES HOTEL - SUITE - DAY

Nick is on the phone, leaving Rachel a message.

NICK  
(then)  
Rachel, please, just give me a call. Anytime. Please.

Nick hangs up.

INT. GOH FAMILY HOUSE - PEIK LIN'S ROOM - DAY

Peik Lin enters the dark room.

PEIK LIN  
Rachel, someone's here to see ya.

Rachel doesn't move.

RACHEL  
I don't want to see him.

PEIK LIN  
It's not Nick.

Someone steps in from behind Peik Lin. It's KERRY.  
Rachel stirs, can't believe her eyes.

RACHEL  
Mom!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Rachel rushes to her mom, hugging her. Rachel tears up, finally with the person she needed the most.

TIME CUT TO:

INT. GOH FAMILY HOUSE - PEIK LIN'S ROOM - DAY

The blinds are open and Rachel sits up, looking better, as Kerry fusses over her, bringing her herbal soup.

KERRY

Drink more. The *dong-quai* and the ginseng will give you more energy.

RACHEL

Thanks.

Rachel lets herself be mothered, but Kerry sees the toll the last few days have taken.

KERRY

Your spirit has always been so strong, ever since young. You will get through this.

Rachel nods, needing to hear that. But:

RACHEL

Why didn't you tell me about my father?

Kerry nods, she's been expecting this.

KERRY

My husband wasn't a good man. He hurt me.

(off Rachel)

But an old schoolmate of mine helped me through things and we fell in love and I got pregnant with his baby, that's you. I was so afraid my husband would find out and kill us both, so I just took you and I ran to America.

Rachel is stunned.

RACHEL

Did you ever...? I don't know, think about trying to talk to him? I mean, do you think about him?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

KERRY

Every day. When we first came to America all I could think about was reaching out for him, but I was so afraid my husband would find us. And now, I, I just don't want to cause any trouble.

RACHEL

I'm really sorry.

Kerry shakes her head, smiles through the tears.

KERRY

Oh! Don't be sorry. You listen to me, everything that happened in my past life is the reason why I got you.

Rachel tears up, vulnerable.

KERRY

My brave and clever girl.

Rachel flops back on the bed. Her mother lies down next to her.

RACHEL

I really thought he was the one.

OFF Rachel as this sinks in.

RACHEL

Now, I just wanna go home.

KERRY

You know, Nick was the one who called me and brought me out here. Before we go, I think you should go and talk to him.

Rachel sighs. Then they hear a clicking sound and turn to see P.T. at the doorway holding his phone and taking photos of them.

P.T.

I'll e-mail the photo later.

RACHEL

P.T., how long you been standing there?

P.T.

Just a short while.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Rachel and Kerry laugh.

EXT. RIVERFRONT - DAY

Rachel sits on a bench, when she sees Nick approach, tentative, hopeful. He sits next to her.

NICK

I'm so sorry about everything.  
What my mother did to you is  
unforgivable --

RACHEL

It's not your fault --

NICK

It is. Ever since I can remember,  
my family has been my whole life.  
And I am done making excuses for  
them.

He pulls out the ring he's been carrying. Rachel looks at Nick, astounded.

RACHEL

Nick --

NICK

Marry me. Marry me and we'll  
start our new life together in New  
York, just you and me. I'll leave  
all of this behind.

EXT. STREET - DAY

Eleanor, wearing sunglasses, walks by the row of old terraced shophouses, pausing when she hears a familiar CLACKING sound. She walks through an unmarked door, into:

INT. MAHJONG HALL - DAY

Eleanor enters to see Rachel playing mahjong with two WOMEN at a back table.

It's a FLUID, RHYTHMIC RITUAL -- the staccato clacking of tiles, stacks being formed and moved like clockwork. Eleanor is surprised to see how adept and effortless Rachel is. Eleanor walks up to the table.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

RACHEL

Thanks for meeting me here.

(re: women)

Don't worry about them. They're half deaf and they only speak Hokkien.

WOMAN

(hands Eleanor dice)

Mm-hmm.

Eleanor sits down at the table, and tosses the dice in the middle of the stacks of tiles. She starts playing the game.

RACHEL

My mom taught me how to play. She told me mahjong would teach me important life skills. Negotiation, strategy, cooperation.

(NOTE: The game goes on throughout the scene. With cards thrown, picked up, chips exchanging hands, etc.)

ELEANOR

You asked me here. I assume it's not for a mahjong lesson. *Pung*.

She puts down a power card combo. The women toss red chips to her.

ELEANOR

My mother taught me, too.

Rachel tosses her a red chip.

RACHEL

I know Nick told you the truth about my mom. But you didn't like me the second I got here. Why is that?

ELEANOR

There's a Hokkien phrase. *Ka gi lan*. It means 'our own kind of people.' And you're not our own kind.

RACHEL

'Cause I'm not rich? 'Cause I didn't go to a British boarding school or I wasn't born into a wealthy family?

(CONTINUED)



CONTINUED:

ELEANOR

You're a foreigner. American.  
And all Americans think about is  
their own happiness.

RACHEL

Don't you want Nick to be happy?

ELEANOR

It's an illusion. We understand  
how to build things that last.  
Something you know nothing about.

RACHEL

You don't know me.

ELEANOR

I know you're not what Nick needs.

RACHEL

Well, he proposed to me yesterday.  
(off Eleanor)  
He said he'd walk away from his  
family and from you, for good.

Eleanor's hand slips, she drops a tile. The other women  
exchange looks, sensing the tension:

RACHEL

Don't worry, I turned him down.

Eleanor tries to regain her composure.

ELEANOR

Only a fool folds a winning hand.

RACHEL

There's no winning. You made sure  
of that. Because if Nick chose  
me, he would lose his family. And  
if he chose his family, he might  
spend the rest of his life  
resenting you.

Eleanor grabs a tile that Rachel had just discarded.

ELEANOR

(realizing)  
So you chose for him.

RACHEL

I'm not leaving 'cause I'm scared  
or because I think I'm not enough.  
Because... maybe for the first  
time in my life, I know I am.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

RACHEL (CONT'D)

(beat)

I just love Nick so much. I don't want him to lose his mom again. So I just wanted you to know that one day, when he marries another lucky girl, who is enough for you, and you're playing with your grandkids while the tan huas are blooming, and the birds are chirping, that it was because of me... a poor, raised by a single mother, low class, immigrant nobody.

Rachel SHOWS HER HAND -- a WINNING COMBINATION -- but she FOLDS. The game is mucked (no one can win). Rachel gets up.

As Rachel reaches the door, REVEAL Kerry has been sitting quietly at another table. As Kerry joins Rachel, she turns to see Eleanor and the two mothers exchange a look.

INT. ASTRID'S APARTMENT - BEDROOM - DAY

Astrid enters as Michael packs a bag. Michael is uncomfortable, not wanting to do this in front of her.

MICHAEL

Hey. I'm gonna send someone for the rest of my stuff. But I wanna talk to you about my visitation rights with Cassian.

ASTRID

Stop talking.

MICHAEL

What?

ASTRID

Don't worry about packing your things. You bought this apartment, you keep it. We're leaving --

MICHAEL

What do you mean, you're leaving? Where are you gonna go?

ASTRID

I have fourteen apartment buildings that I own, so probably one of those.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ASTRID (CONT'D)

And you'll see Cassian when it's good for him, not when it's good for you.

Astrid walks away. Michael takes her arm, holds her back.

MICHAEL

Hey! Look, you know, it's not just my fault that things didn't work out.

Astrid pauses, then:

ASTRID

You're right. I shouldn't have kept things from you. Hidden my shoes, turned down jobs, charity work, worrying that it might make you feel lesser than. But let's be clear -- the problem with our marriage isn't my family's money. It's that you're a coward. You gave up on us. But I've just realized --

(then)

It's not my job to make you feel like a man. I can't make you something you're not.

EXT. CITYSCAPE (SINGAPORE) - DAWN (ESTABLISHING)

EXT. GOH HOUSE - DAY

Peik Lin helps Rachel load SUITCASES into a waiting TAXI.

PEIK LIN

Good for you. Walking away from Nick and his family's fat-ass property portfolio. You have no one, no net worth, but you have integrity. That's why I respect you.

RACHEL

(hugging Peik Lin)

Thank you for everything.

INT. RAFFLES HOTEL - SUITE - DAY

CLOSE ON NICK --

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

when he hears a KNOCK. He rushes to the door, hopeful, opens it to see:

ELEANOR

OFF Nick, disappointed, conflicted at seeing his mother.

TIME CUT TO:

INT. ASTRID'S APARTMENT - BATHROOM - DAY

Astrid reaches above the mirror for the box containing the earrings she hid there. She puts them on and looks at her reflection -- she likes what she sees. Emboldened, she exits to:

EXT. GOH HOUSE - DAY

Kerry hurries up, dressed for travel, carrying two TUPPERWARE MEALS.

PEIK LIN  
(hugging Kerry)  
Bye, Mrs. Chu!

KERRY  
Goodbye and thank you.

As Kerry gets into the taxi:

PEIK LIN  
(to Rachel)  
Sure I can't get you to stay? You know, my brother P.T. he's still single...

They turn to see P.T. at the doorway making a hand heart.

CUT TO:

INT. RAFFLES HOTEL - SUITE - BALCONY - DAY

Nick and his mother stand on the balcony of Nick's room, silent, staring at nothing. Eleanor finally looks at her son.

EXT. GOH HOUSE - DAY

Rachel and Peik Lin hug goodbye.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

RACHEL  
(to Peik Lin)  
All right.

Rachel gets in the taxi. Peik Lin runs and stands next to her brother, wraps her arm around his shoulders. He puts his hand on her shoulder as the taxi drives away.

EXT. CITYSCAPE (SINGAPORE) - DAY

We see Rachel's taxi speeding down the highway heading for the airport.

EXT. AIRPORT - TARMAC

Planes taxi in marked "Pacific Asean Airlines."

INT. AIRPLANE - DAY

Rachel and Kerry make their way down the crowded aisle. They're jostled by other passengers and their carry-on bags. A far cry from first class.

TIME CUT TO:

INT. ASTRID'S APARTMENT - DAY

Astrid walks away while Michael watches.

TIME CUT TO:

INT. AIRPLANE - DAY

NICK  
Rachel! Rachel! Stay there.

KERRY  
I'm gonna go and look for some extra blankets.

CHUBBY WOMAN  
Hello.  
(in Mandarin)  
*Kuai dian, kuai dian.* [Hurry, hurry.]

RACHEL  
Sorry, just one second. Nick, what are you doing here?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

NICK

I'm flying back to New York with you.

RACHEL

God, don't make this harder than it already is --

NICK

I always imagined what me proposing to you would be like. And you know what, I had it all planned out.

(to sitting man on plane)

Oh, yeah, right behind you. Don't mind me.

(to Rachel)

I'd bring you to my favorite spot on the island. There's a hidden trail that I used to go to as a child. Now there's a cove there that opens up to this beautiful lake.

(to standing man on plane)

Um, sorry, dude. Give me a second. Let me just move.

Nick passes by the standing man as he continues:

NICK

When the sun hits the horizon, I'd get down on one knee.

Rachel sighs.

NICK

And the rest of the world would fall away. Because it would just be you and -- Because it's just you and --

(to female passenger struggling with carry-on)

Sorry, I can help you with that. That's fine.

(to Rachel)

Stay there.

Thump. Now, Nick is JOSTLED by a WOMAN trying to jam her carry-on in the overhead compartment.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

NICK  
(to woman on plane)  
Yay. You, too? Watch your  
fingers. Lift it up. Okay.

Nick steps into the aisle, helps the Woman and others get  
their luggage put away.

NICK  
(to surrounding  
passengers)  
Everybody okay? Because I just  
need thirty seconds with this  
woman. Okay, thank you.

Nick turns back to Rachel... and gets down on one knee.  
Rachel is astounded, tries to stay strong.

NICK  
Oh, coming through. Sorry. I  
know this is a far throw from a  
hidden paradise...

Rachel looks into his eyes.

NICK  
But wherever you are in the world,  
that's where I belong.

She takes this in. He pulls out a ring box.

RACHEL  
But, I --

Nick opens the box, revealing: ELEANOR'S EMERALD RING.

Time stops. Rachel's breath parts from her for the  
moment. Her eyes meet his and then --

NICK  
Rachel Chu. Will you marry me and  
make me the happiest man in this  
world?

Rachel, teary-eyed and overwhelmed, is about to respond.

CHUBBY WOMAN  
Yes! Yes! Yes! She will marry  
you!

Nick looks at Rachel, "Is Chubby Woman right?" Rachel  
hands her neck pillow to Chubby woman. Kerry is standing  
behind her, all smiles.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

RACHEL

Yes!!

The cabin ERUPTS in HOOTS and CLAPPING! Nick puts the ring on her finger -- a perfect fit. He pulls her into his arms as he kisses her.

Chubby Woman high-fives Kerry.

Rachel grins as she's inches away from Nick.

NICK

I love you.

RACHEL

I love you, too. This is gonna be some flight back to New York.

NICK

Well, I was actually thinking about staying one more night

OFF Rachel, intrigued, in love, excited. She kisses him again.

EXT. MARINA BAY SANDS (SINGAPORE) - SKY DECK - NIGHT

Nick leads Rachel into the middle of a crowd of people with his hands covering her eyes.

When he removes his hands, she sees a crowd of Nick's friends screaming and cheering. Araminta and Colin in front leading the pack.

It's an ENGAGEMENT PARTY at this mind-blowing location, perched high above the city.

Everyone has shown up: Peik Lin, Eddie, Fiona, Alistair, Bernard, Kitty, Oliver, Colin, Araminta, Charlie, and THE GOHs. They all cheer and hug Rachel and Nick.

Nick points for Rachel to look at the pool where SYNCHRONIZED SWIMMERS are performing.

Rachel spots Eleanor in the distance. There's a look of understanding, respect between them. Nick kisses Rachel as all the revelers clap and scream their congratulations. We PULL AWAY as fireworks explode in the b.g...

FADE TO BLACK.



FADE IN ON:

END CREDITS

CUT BACK TO:

EXT. MARINA BAY SANDS (SINGAPORE) - SKY DECK - NIGHT

Astrid and a handsome man at the party look at each other, then turn away. Then they look back at each other with a sly grin.

CUT BACK TO:

END CREDITS

CONTINUE.

FADE OUT.

THE END

THIS SCRIPT WAS PREPARED  
BY WARNER BROS. PICTURES  
SCRIPT PROCESSING DEPARTMENT  
(818) 954-4632