

THE YES MAN  
by  
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Based On the Book  
"The Yes Man" by Danny Wallace

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EXT. RUDY'S - NIGHT

It's New Year's Eve at Rudy's, a hole-in-the-wall dive. People stream into the bar to celebrate. Outside, CARL KENDALL (30s) and his soon-to-be ex-girlfriend KATH are having a quiet intense discussion.

KATH

You don't do anything more. You used to be fun. Now you hardly ever even leave your apartment.

CARL

I'm here, aren't I?

KATH

That's because it's New Year's Eve. You have to be here. Besides, it's not only social stuff. You used to have dreams. You wanted to go to business school, you wanted to work for the World Bank.

CARL

So I discovered b-school's not for me. People grow.

KATH

Growing is "X is not for me so I'll do Y." You went X is not for me and so I guess I'll sit on the couch for the rest of my life.

CARL

(acquiescing)

Well, look, this sucks, but I understand where you're coming from.

KATH

This is the problem. You don't even care that I'm breaking up with you.

CARL

Of course I care. But I also understand.

KATH

You shouldn't just understand. You should be mad. Or upset. Or sad. Or something.

CARL  
We're at different places in our  
lives. I get it.

KATH  
Your girlfriend of two years breaks  
up with you right before New Year's  
Eve and all you can say is "I get  
it?" It is completely within your  
right to call me a bitch.

CARL  
That would be inappropriate.

KATH  
(tearing up)  
I can't believe I've been dating  
someone so emotionless.

CARL  
C'mere. It'll be OK.

Carl hugs her.

INT. RUDY'S - MOMENTS LATER

Rudy's is a dive bar. Dartboard, pool table, scuffed wooden  
floors, Miller Lite sign, etc. The patrons are all FACING  
THE GIANT TELEVISION. The New Year's Ball is DROPPING.  
Among the patrons is our hero Carl, his best friend PETER,  
Peter's girlfriend LUCY, their party friend ROONEY and his ex-  
girlfriend, Kath who's still a little red-eyed.

PATRONS  
Three, two, one... happy New Year!

Everyone BLOWS NOISEMAKERS and POPS CHAMPAGNE.

PATRONS (cont'd)  
(singing)  
Should auld acquaintance be forgot  
and never brought to mind? Should  
auld acquaintance be forgot and  
days of auld lang syne?

CARL  
Well, that was fantastic. Good  
night, guys.

PETER  
You're going, already?

KATH

We haven't even finished the song yet.

CARL

I saw the ball drop and hugged all of you. Aliens didn't invade. Our computers are still working. What else could possibly happen?

LUCY

Rooney might throw up.

ROONEY

It's true. I'm very close.

CARL

I see that happen like every night. Good night and Happy New Year.

Carl leaves. His friends look concerned.

LUCY

How did he take the break-up?

KATH

(crying)

Like a robot. Two years, and nothing.

LUCY

I'm so sorry.

INT. CARL'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Carl goes into his apartment. He lies down in his bed and closes his eyes. CLOSE ON THE ALARM. His alarm goes off. Carl HITS IT off. It's now DAYTIME.

INT. CARL'S APARTMENT - DAY

Carl gets dressed. He puts on a nametag for Southwest Bank.

EXT. CARL'S APARTMENT

Carl walks down the street, fast. He passes a CUTE GIRL who's name we'll learn is RENEE passing out flyers for a band called "The Flying Buttresses."

RENEE  
Wanna rock out tonight?

CARL  
I don't rock out.

He walks into Dunkin Donuts.

INT. DUNKIN DONUTS

The Dunkin Donuts Cashier hands Carl his coffee.

DUNKIN DONUTS CASHIER  
Would you like an Italian-inspired  
coffee flavoring?

CARL  
No thanks.

DUNKIN DONUTS CASHIER  
How about the double doughnut  
special?

CARL  
No.

INT. SOUTHWEST BANK - LATER

Carl sits at his cubicle, flips on his email.

CARL  
(reading the email)  
Dear Trusted Foreigner, Allow me to  
introduce myself. I am the deposed  
King of Nigeria and I wish to  
propose a confidential transaction.  
(to the computer)  
Allow me to delete you, my liege.

NORMAN, his needy boss, comes up to him.

NORMAN  
My teller reporting for duty.

CARL  
I'm not a soldier.

NORMAN  
You're a soldier on the front line  
of finance.

(then)  
(MORE)

NORMAN (cont'd)  
 So, Carl, I'm having a party this  
 Friday. It's a funny hat party.  
 May I entreat you to come?

Carl looks at his calendar. It's totally empty.

CARL  
 (clearly lying)  
 I'm out of town.

INT. SOUTHWEST BANK - LOBBY

Carl stands in the middle of the floor staring into the  
 middle distance. A CUSTOMER approaches him.

BANK CUSTOMER  
 Hey, I need to speak to a loan  
 specialist and there's no one on  
 the floor.

CARL  
 Sorry. Today I'm officially a  
 greeter.

Beat.

BANK CUSTOMER  
 But there's no one around.

CARL  
 Someone might come. And if I'm not  
 here, they won't be greeted.

BANK CUSTOMER  
 You're really not going to help me?

CARL  
 Until I'm relieved as a greeter, my  
 hands are tied.

The Bank Customer sits down in the sectioned off waiting area  
 as Carl stands in the middle of the floor. It is very  
 awkward. No one comes in. Carl slowly moves so a column  
 blocks the customer's view of him.

Now that Carl's behind the column, he has a clear view of the  
 entrance of the bank. Through the floor to ceiling windows,  
 he sees the handsome NEW PRESIDENT OF SOUTHWEST BANK, CHRIS  
 PARKER, tear up in a Mercedes. He steps out of the Mercedes  
 with a hot girl on his arm. He and the girl walk into the  
 bank. Carl stares at them, jealously.

CHRIS PARKER

Hey, there. I'm Chris Parker. The new president of Southwest Bank. Just wanted to come by and personally introduce myself to every branch manager.

NORMAN

That would be me. Norman Calhoun.

Chris turns to Carl.

CARL

I'm Carl Kendall. Just a teller.

CHRIS PARKER

I was "just a teller." And now I'm "just president of the largest bank in the Southwest."

(to Norman)

You need anything, you let corporate know. You hear?

NORMAN

Definitely.

Chris Parker and his HOT SECRETARY leaves. Carl watches them, clearly jealous.

NORMAN (cont'd)

Nice work if you can get it. Am I right?

CARL

(clearly jealous)

Yeah, if you're into fake breasts and German engineering.

NORMAN

Check and check.

The Bank Customer comes around.

BANK CUSTOMER

Can you help me now?

CARL

No, but this gentleman can.

Carl indicates Norman. Norman goes to help the customer.

INT. SOUTHWEST BANK

Carl stares up at the clock. The clock finally CLICKS TO 5:00PM.

NORMAN  
Think about my party, Carl!

CARL  
Will do!

INT. CARL'S KITCHEN

Carl microwaves a Lean Cuisine.

INT. CARL'S APARTMENT

Carl watches *Survivor* while eating Lean Cuisine.

INT. CARL'S LIVING ROOM/BEDROOM

Carl lays down and closes his eyes. The alarm GOES OFF again. PULL BACK to reveal it's morning.

INT. DUNKIN DONUTS

Carl walks into Dunkin Donuts.

DUNKIN DONUTS CASHIER  
Would you like an Italian --

CARL  
No thanks.

DUNKIN DONUTS CASHIER  
How about --

CARL  
No.

EXT. STREET

Carl ignores the girl handing out fliers.



INT. SOUTHWEST BANK

NORMAN  
Valentine party. Just wear  
something red!

CARL  
Can't.

INT. SOUTHWEST BANK

Carl stares as the clock clicks to 5:00. He's out the door.

INT. CARL'S KITCHEN

Carl warms up a frozen pizza.

INT. CARL'S APARTMENT

Carl eats the frozen pizza and watches *Big Brother*.

INT. CARL'S LIVING ROOM/BEDROOM

Carl lies down. The alarm FLIPS ON.

QUICK CUTS:

-- IN DUNKIN DONUTS

CARL  
No.

-- ON THE STREET. Carl refuses the pamphlet.

-- IN SOUTHWEST BANK

NORMAN  
Dress as your favorite animal --

CARL  
Sorry.

-- CLOSE ON THE CLOCK. IT FLIPS TO 5:00.

-- AT HOME

Carl eats frozen lasagna while watching *The Amazing Race*.

THE IMAGES START TO MOVE FASTER:

-- CARL IN DUNKIN DONUTS.

-- CARL AT SOUTHWEST BANK TALKING TO NORMAN.

NORMAN

-- historical figure --

CARL

No can do.

THE CLOCK FLIPPING TO 5:00.

-- CARL AT HOME EATING FROZEN MEATLOAF AND WATCHING *Project Runway*.

-- CARL'S HEAD HITTING HIS BED.

-- CARL WAKING UP.

-- CARL SHAKING HIS HEAD 'NO.'

-- THE CLOCK FLIPPING TO 5:00.

-- CARL'S HEAD HITTING THE BED.

-- THE ALARM GOING OFF.

It's now just a blur of images of Carl at Southwest Bank, shaking his head 'no', eating Lean Cuisine and watching reality television.

INT. CARL'S LIVING ROOM/BEDROOM - NIGHT

Carl's lying on his bed. The phone is ringing. He gets up and answers.

CARL

Hello?

PETER (V.O.)

(on the phone)

Carl. It's Peter. Where are you?

CARL

I'm in bed. Why? What happened?  
Did someone die?

PETER (V.O.)  
 (on the phone)  
 No. It's just -- we're at Rudy's.  
 Celebrating New Year's.

Carl looks at the alarm. It's 11:15 PM.

CARL  
 It's already 11:15. I don't think  
 I can make it.

PETER  
 Oh, c'mon, Carl. No one's seen you  
 for like forever. Please swing by?

CARL  
 No.

TITLES UP: THE YES MAN

CARL (cont'd)  
 Tell everyone Happy New Year.

Carl lies down and hangs up the phone.

CUT TO LATER

Carl watches his alarm clock FLIP TO 12:00AM. He closes his eyes and goes to sleep.

EXT. SOUTHWEST BANK

Carl's eating lunch at a picnic table outside. Several bank employees smoke cigarettes near him. An oddly hyper guy named ALEX approaches Carl.

ALEX  
 Carl Kendall?

CARL  
 Alex Eberts? What's up, buddy?

Alex hugs Carl.

ALEX  
 Too much! How've you been? I  
 can't believe you're still working  
 here.

CARL  
 Where've you been? Norman's been  
 heartbroken since you quit.

ALEX

Where've I been? You mean, where haven't I been? This year. Dude. I have *lived*. I climbed Mt. Kilmanjaro. I ate bat in Laos. I shot a cow with a bazooka. I'm not proud of that last one but I did it. How's the bank?

CARL

Same old same old.

ALEX

See? That's the problem. That's everyone's problem. You've got one life. Why waste it on the same old same old?

Alex hands Carl a pamphlet for a "Just Say Yes" seminar.

ALEX (cont'd)

I know this will sound queer, but you have to hit this seminar. It changed my life. It will change yours. Unless you like the bank.

CARL

You kidding? Every day it's impossible not to throw rocks at the place.

(joking)

Since you don't work here anymore, you want to throw a couple?

ALEX

Yes.

Alex starts WHIPPING rocks at the bank.

CARL

What're you doing! Stop that! I was kidding!

Norman comes out.

NORMAN

What do you think you're doing?  
(recognizing Alex)  
Alex Eberts! Is this an alumnae prank? I love pranks!

ALEX

Hey, Norman!

Alex continues throwing rocks at the bank.

NORMAN  
 (into a walkie-talkie)  
 We have a situation.

A couple portly security guards come out and wrestle Alex to the ground. He manages to escape and run from the bank.

ALEX  
 Go to the seminar, Carl! You won't  
 be sorry!

INT. CARL'S APARTMENT

Carl walks into his apartment. He hits PLAY on his answering machine.

PETER (V.O.)  
 (over the answering  
 machine)  
 Carl, it's Peter. I know you don't  
 do things anymore, but it'd mean a  
 lot if you'd come by Rudy's  
 tonight. Lucy and I are  
 celebrating our engagement.

INT. CARL'S APARTMENT - LATER

Carl's watching *Hell's Kitchen* and eating a frozen pizza. There's a knock on the door. The "Just Say Yes" pamphlet balled up on his desk. He's using it as a napkin. Carl PAUSES the television show. He stands up and opens the door. Peter STUMBLES IN.

CARL  
 What are you doing here?

PETER  
 This is an intervention. You've  
 missed your last event.

CARL  
 What're you talking about?

PETER  
 Our engagement party.

CARL  
 I'm sorry. I'm just really busy.

PETER

You're watching *Hell's Kitchen*.  
That's not even B-list reality TV.

CARL

So I don't want to go out tonight.  
Maybe I have to wake up early  
tomorrow. You don't know.

PETER

It's bigger than that. You and  
Kath broke up over a year ago and  
you still aren't dating anyone.

CARL

What? So? I'm like a sexual  
camel. I only need it once every  
couple years.

PETER

I don't mean to be harsh but  
everyone's moving forward. It's  
like you're still wearing a Timex  
while the rest of us each have  
entry level Rolexes.

CARL

You wear a Rolex?

PETER

Thanks for noticing. It's an  
Oyster Perpetual Yachtmaster.  
Sapphire crystal, self-winding.  
Four Gs. But that's not the point  
I'm trying to make.

CARL

So I don't have an oyster watch.  
All you and Lucy and Kath do is sit  
around and talk about real estate  
and Crate and Barrel.

PETER

What's wrong with Crate and Barrel?  
They have adorable stuff at  
reasonable prices.

CARL

Forget Crate and Barrel. Maybe I'm  
just getting more mature. I don't  
need the lifestyle ever night.

PETER

Lifestyle? You have to have a life to have a style of life. You never leave your apartment. You never meet anyone new.

CARL

I hate meeting people.

PETER

You've become a complete cave dweller.

CARL

I am not a cave dweller. Just the other day, we all went to Summerfest and snuck backstage and you bet me I wouldn't steal something and so I stole a drumstick from that horrible Swedish hillbilly band. That's not very cave dweller of me.

PETER

Just the other day? That was seven years ago.

CARL

But that's not possible -- I was already working at the bank by then.

PETER

You had started there three years earlier. Why you've worked at that place for so long is beyond me. You had so much potential. You shouldn't be a teller. You should be the guy who tells the guy who tells the teller what to do.

CARL

(shocked)

I've been a teller at Southwest Bank for ten years? How the hell did that happen?

(doing the math)

Ten years... if I had had a child, he'd be toilet-trained by now.

PETER

Actually, he'd be in fourth grade.

CARL

(starting to panic)

I was making out with chicks by fourth grade. I was a little man by fourth grade.

(then)

Whatever. I don't need this shit right now. I'm an adult man. I can live my life as I see fit. Can you please leave?

Carl pushes Peter out the door. Carl sits down on the couch. He then unballs the "Just Say Yes" pamphlet. It features an Indian man smiling beatifically.

MATCH CUT TO:

INT. HOLIDAY INN CONFERENCE ROOM

A banner across a stage that has a photo of the same Indian man smiling beatifically. We PAN DOWN to find Carl among the crowd. Carl sits down next to a WIRY, CRUNCHY WOMAN.

WIRY, CRUNCHY WOMAN

Is this your first time at one of Sanji's lectures?

CARL

(scoffing)

Uh, yeah.

(then)

Have you been to this before?

WIRY, CRUNCHY WOMAN

Only like fifty-eight times. Sanji's a genius. Like seriously... he will blow your mind all over the goddamn room. He's like a mind grenade.

CARL

I don't know if I want that.

WIRY, CRUNCHY WOMAN

Oh you do not. But you need it. And that's why you are here.

CARL

Cool. Do you want anything from the refreshment area?



WIRY, CRUNCHY WOMAN  
 You kidding? That processed shit  
 will kill you faster than a  
 pleasure cruise to Chernobyl.

Carl heads over to the refreshment table. Once he's out of her sight, he sits down alone in a corner of the conference room. Ethereal music begins to play over the loudspeakers. People begin to sit. Carl sits down in the back.

SANJI (V.O.)  
 Life. We are all living it.

Carl laughs. No one else does. The lights get rosier.

SANJI (V.O.) (cont'd)  
 Or are we? Change doesn't start on the surface. It's generated from consciousness. But where is consciousness generated from?

Carl looks around. Everyone is nodding along with it.

SANJI (cont'd)  
 From the external. And the external is manipulated through our choices. And our choices start with one word.

The music ABRUPTLY SWITCHES to the opening beats of "Jump" by the Pointer Sisters. The rosy colored lights FLIP TO BRIGHT WHITE and SWEEP ACROSS THE CONVENTION CENTER ROOM. It is suddenly like a rock concert. SANJI (50s) BUSTS THROUGH THE GIANT BANNER. The whole crowd starts CHEERING.

SANJI (cont'd)  
 Yes!

Instead of "Jump", Sanji's yelling "Yes!"

SANJI (cont'd)  
 Say yes! For your life! Yes!  
 Change starts now! Yes! Yes!  
 Yes! Say it with me! SAY YES!

Sanji pumps his fist in the air as lame indoor fireworks GO OFF. The crowd JUMPS ON THEIR FEET.

SANJI (cont'd)  
 Are you ready to open the door to  
 yes?

CROWD

Yes!

SANJI

I am sorry, my friends. But I cannot hear you?

CROWD

Yes!

SANJI

Shhhhhhh.

The crowd quiets.

SANJI (cont'd)

Now is the time when we must greet our new members. Who here is new? Please, do not be shy.

WIRY, CRUNCHY WOMAN

He is!

The woman POINTS AT Carl. The spotlight SWINGS OVER to Carl. He is annoyed.

SANJI

Come on up, Future Yes Man!

CARL

That's OK. I'm just auditing.

SANJI

You can't audit life! Now get on up here!

CARL

I'm cool right here.

SANJI

Then I will come to you!

Sanji runs off the stage and joins Carl in the back of the conference hall. The spotlights follow him.

SANJI (cont'd)

What is your name?

CARL

Carl.

SANJI

Let me guess, Carl. This was not your idea to come here, Carl.

CARL

I wouldn't say that.

SANJI

You can tell me, Carl. We are all alone, Carl.

The crowd laughs.

CARL

It wasn't exactly my idea.

SANJI

That's what I thought, Carl. And you think this is all bullshit, Carl, isn't that right, Carl?

CARL

Honestly?

SANJI

Is there any other way?

CARL

This whole thing seems retarded.

SANJI

But you are stuck in your life, Carl? Am I right?

CARL

I wouldn't necessarily --

SANJI

You once had a dream? You wanted to own a boat? A house? A fancy car? You wanted to be a doctor, a lawyer... a business man?

Carl nods, surprised at Sanji's incisiveness.

SANJI (cont'd)

You wanted to be more than you are. And yet you have suddenly woken up to find life is passing you by. Am I right, Carl?

Sanji's suddenly getting to Carl. As Sanji talks to him, the moment between them becomes more and more intimate. It should feel like the rest of the crowd has disappeared.

CARL

A little.

SANJI

It's odd that ten years can pass just like that.

Sanji snaps.

SANJI (cont'd)

Isn't it, Carl?

CARL

It is.

SANJI

I want you to do something for me, Carl. Tomorrow, I want you only to say yes. Can you do that for me? For one day, Carl?

CARL

I'm not sure --

SANJI

Please, Carl. Do it for me and you will be doing it for yourself. If you don't have the best day in ten years then I am the uncle of a monkey. Will you do it for me Carl? Just for a day?

CARL

Yes?

Sanji grabs Carl hand and PULLS HIM to his feet. We PULL BACK and the crowd CHEERS.

SANJI

Welcome to the world of yes!

Fireworks and confetti go off. The Wiry, Anxious Woman Gives Carl a creepy thumbs up.

INT. CARL'S APARTMENT - MORNING

Carl's asleep. The phone starts ringing. Carl sleepily grabs the phone.

CARL

Yello.

PETER (V.O.)

(on the phone)

Carl, it's Peter. I just wanted to apologize about barging in yesterday. You were right. It's your life to live.

CARL

Don't worry about it.

PETER (V.O.)

(on the phone)

Me, Lucy and Kath are all going out for brunch. You have any interest in joining?

CARL

Oh, thanks for the invite, but...

FLASH OF SANJI LOOMING LARGE IN CARL'S EYES.

SANJI

Will you do it for me Carl? Just for a day?

BACK TO CARL AND PETER. We CLOSE IN ON CARL'S MOUTH.

CARL

(in slo-mo)

Yes.

PETER

Excuse me?

CARL

(clearly not wanting to)

Yes. I will come to brunch.

EXT. STACKERS - MORNING

Stackers is a cutesie brunch place. Carl walks up to Peter, Lucy and Kath.

KATH

(awkward)

Morning, Carl. This is a surprise.

CARL

Why?

KATH

Because I've never seen you at  
brunch. Like ever.

CARL

You kidding? I love brunch.

INT. STACKERS - LATER

Carl, Peter, Lucy and Kath are still waiting with a big crowd  
of people to sit down for brunch.

CARL

Why do people wait an hour for  
breakfast? It's so hot and bright  
and we haven't even had coffee yet.

PETER

If you don't want to be here, you  
don't have to be.

CARL

Of course I want to be here. I  
love waiting an hour for eggs.  
It's fun. Although I will point  
out that you have sunglasses which  
is probably making this wait a lot  
easier.

PETER

Oakleys, polarized lenses,  
indestructible. Two fifty but  
worth every penny.

The Waitress comes up.

WAITRESS

Lowell, party of five.

A group of four people get up to be seated.

CARL

We were definitely before those  
Lowell people.

KATH

I hate when people jump ahead.

CARL

Why does no one ever say anything?

PETER  
If you want to be sitting so bad,  
why don't you say something?

CARL  
Yes. I will.

Carl walks up to the Waitress.

CARL (cont'd)  
Excuse me, but we were here before  
those people.

WAITRESS  
No you weren't.

CARL  
Yes, we were.

WAITRESS  
I have the list, dude. The list  
doesn't lie.

Meanwhile, the customers the Waitress was going to seat are  
looking away, trying not to get involved.

CARL  
Well, this time the list lied.

LUCY  
It's OK, Carl. It's just brunch.

CARL  
(to the people who are  
being seated)  
You all know that we were up before  
you! And you have to live with  
that knowledge through your  
delightful brunch!

Peter pulls Carl away from the Waitress.

PETER  
What's going on with you?

CARL  
I just want transparency in terms  
of the brunch seating order.

One of the customers who was being seated heads over.

KATH

Great. Now we're going to get into a fight.

BRUNCH DUDE

We talked about what you said... you're right. You guys were here before us. Sorry we didn't pipe up sooner. We cool, brother?

CARL

(surprised)

Yeah. We cool.

Carl and the Brunch Dude punch fists and hug.

INT. STACKERS - LATER

Carl and his friends are sitting at a table. Carl's slightly bored as his friends discuss real estate.

LUCY

It's a two bedroom duplex with harbor views. It'd be perfect for you Kath.

KATH

Washer/Dryer in the building?

CARL

(jealous)

I didn't realize you were looking to buy a place. I thought you and I would be renters to the end.

PETER

She's a fancy lawyer making bank. It's about time she was buying.

KATH

(playful)

Shut up.

The Brunch Dude is seated near Carl. He gives him a thumbs up. Carl gives a thumbs up right back.

PETER

(re: the menus)

What're you looking at?

CARL

Bacon and eggs.



KATH  
How unadventurous.

CARL  
I don't want an adventure first  
thing in the morning.

The Waitress comes over.

WAITRESS  
I just want to tell you about my  
specials. We have a double fruit  
burnt sugar waffle. Any of you  
interested in that?

Beat.

CARL  
Yes.

WAITRESS  
Alrighty. Then, on the savory  
side, we have a smoked whitefish  
omelet with hash browns on the  
side. Any takers?

Beat.

CARL  
Yes.

WAITRESS  
(surprised)  
You want both?

CARL  
Yes.

The Waitress writes that down.

WAITRESS  
Would you like toast with that?

CARL  
Yes.

WAITRESS  
Any side? Bacon.

CARL  
Yes.

WAITRESS  
Sausage.

                  CARL  
Yes.

                  WAITRESS  
Turkey sausage?

                  CARL  
Yes.

                  WAITRESS  
A side of our famous maple pancakes  
--

                  CARL  
Yes.

                  WAITRESS  
Wow. Someone's really hungry.

                  CARL  
Yes.

                  WAITRESS  
Coffee or juice?

                  CARL  
Coffee. And juice.

                  WAITRESS  
We also have smoothies?

                  CARL  
Yes.

Carl's friends look at him like a freak.

                  WAITRESS  
Is that all?

                  CARL  
(relieved)  
Yes.

                  WAITRESS  
(turning towards his  
  friends)  
What would you all like to order?

His friends are all looking at Carl.

INT. STACKERS

Carl has six dishes in front of him. The Waitress comes over with a pepper mill.

WAITRESS

Would you like some pepper?

CARL

Yes.

The Waitress starts grinding pepper onto Carl's meal. It's starting to take a long time. She's grinding and grinding and grinding.

WAITRESS

Would you like more?

CARL

Yes.

She keeps grinding. A pile of pepper's growing on his food.

INT. STACKERS - LATER

All of Carl's food is covered piles of pepper.

PETER

I don't think I've ever seen a waiter tap one of those pepper mills.

CARL

I'm just addicted to the stuff. Chinese cultures say it's good for digestion.

(then)

You're all welcome to have some.

LUCY

That's... OK. Do you want a bite of mine?

CARL

(begrudgingly)

Yes.

Carl takes a bite of Lucy's. He then sips his coffee.

CARL (cont'd)  
 Uch. Brunch coffee. Why can't  
 they make it black without all this  
 frothy shit?

PETER  
 Because you ordered a latte.

Carl's phone rings. He answers it.

NORMAN (O.S.)  
 Hey, Carl. We're a little short on  
 our Saturday staff. I know this is  
 going against ten years of  
 precedent, but you have any  
 interest in coming in today?

CARL  
 I don't think... there's any reason  
 why I shouldn't? On a Saturday  
 there's nothing I like more than  
 the inside of a bank.

NORMAN (O.S.)  
 There really is something magical  
 about this place.

INT. DUNKIN DONUTS

Carl walks into Dunkin Donuts.

DUNKIN DONUTS CASHIER  
 Would you like an Italian-inspired  
 coffee flavoring?

Beat.

CARL  
 Yes.

DUNKIN DONUTS CASHIER  
 Sugar, Splenda or Nutrasweet?

CARL  
 All of them please.

The confused Dunkin Donuts cashier loads up Carl's coffee.

DUNKIN DONUTS CASHIER  
 We're having a special on  
 Munchkins?

EXT. STREET

Carl walks out of Dunkin Donuts, carrying a giant coffee and several boxes of Munchkins. He walks by Renee, the cute girl who hands out band fliers.

RENEE

Want a flier? Oh, it's you. Never mind.

CARL

Of course I'll take a flier.

Carl takes a flier. Renee's surprised Carl's taking a flier.

CARL (cont'd)

(reading)

The Flying Buttresses.

RENEE

I knew after a year and a half of wearing you down, you'd give in. I'm Renee by the way.

Renee holds out her hand.

CARL

Carl.

RENEE

Carl. Cool. I like to thank everyone personally who comes to our performances. It gives it a nice intimate touch. See you soon Carl.

Carl turns away, nervous that he's accepted her invitation. He takes a sip of his giant coffee and grimaces.

INT. SOUTHWEST BANK

Carl STUMBLES INTO work, hyper from the giant coffee.

NORMAN

Morning, Carl. Thanks for coming in and being part of the Saturday banking experience. Oooh, Munchkins. Are those for the office, you dirty devil?

CARL

Yeah. I just thought it would be a fun way to lighten things up.

NORMAN

(deadly serious)

You didn't approve this with petty cash.

CARL

I spent my own money on them...

NORMAN

Kidding! Munchkins are always approved. Although, I can't reimburse you.

(over the intercom)

Today is free Munchkin day. That's right! Free Munchkin day!

Instantly Carl's cubicle is surrounded by fellow workers.

BANK EMPLOYEES

Carl rules./You're the best./Finally I have a reason to live today.

INT. SOUTHWEST BANK LOUNGE

Carl's greeting. A MIDDLE-AGED MOTHERLY CUSTOMER comes in.

CARL

How may I help you?

BANK CUSTOMER

I need to speak to a loan specialist.

Beat.

CARL

While loans aren't normally in my jurisdiction, I'd be happy to help you.

INT. SOUTHWEST BANK - LOAN DESK

Carl's trying to keep up as the customer launches into intense finance-speak.

BANK CUSTOMER

I want to refi my house and spend the capital on my personal business. I see you've got a 5.25 7 year ARM, but over at Chase they're offering 5.00 7 year ARM. Can you refi lower, like at 4.85 par example, or am I going to have to bring my beeswax elsewhere?

CARL

Yes.

BANK CUSTOMER

Yes? That's it?

CARL

Yup. What's your business?

BANK CUSTOMER

Selling beanie babies online.

CARL

Adorable.

BANK CUSTOMER

More like highly profitable. I've crunched the numbers.

The woman hands over a scrapbook that's been decorated with construction paper and pictures of beanie babies. Carl opens the scrapbook. It's filled with numbers.

CARL

Let me just get final approval on this.

Carl gets up and walks over to Norman.

ANGLE ON NORMAN'S OFFICE

Carl stands before Norman.

NORMAN

You're a teller, not a loan specialist.

CARL

No, I know, so if you think this is a bad idea for a loan that's fine but can you please tell her yourself?

NORMAN  
What's this?

CARL  
Her business plan.

Norman grabs the business plan and starts reading it.

NORMAN  
Inta-maresting. My grandma loves  
beanie babies. Although  
unfortunately, we have a minimum  
loan floor of ten thousand dollars.  
She only wants five.

CARL  
That's silly. How're you supposed  
to start a tiny business if you  
can't get a tiny business loan?

NORMAN  
I don't make the rules, I just  
break 'em.  
(then)  
I don't break them. I just wanted  
to rhyme. If she wants us to loan  
her ten thousand or more, great.  
Otherwise, I think her only option  
is a loan shark.

ANGLE ON LOAN DESK

Carl sits back down.

BANK CUSTOMER  
(nervous)  
So, what'd he say?

CARL  
Do you maybe have any interest in  
borrowing ten thousand?

BANK CUSTOMER  
I can't afford the payments on ten.  
You can't do five thousand? This  
is the fifth bank I've been to.  
Please?

CARL  
Of course we can. One moment  
please.



Carl gets up. He heads over to the soda machine and buys a Diet Coke. He then heads over to Norman's desk.

CARL (cont'd)  
Diet Coke?

NORMAN  
Oooh, thank you. Feed the addiction, am I right?

They clink Diet Cokes. Norman DOWNS his entire Diet Coke in one swallow. Carl then heads over to the photocopier. He watches Norman out of the corner of his eye. After a couple minutes, Norman gets up and HEADS INTO THE BATHROOM. Carl heads back over to Norman's desk and SWIPES THE LOAN APPROVAL STAMP.

ANGLE ON THE LOAN DESK

Carl returns to the loan desk and STAMPS HER FORM.

CARL  
It's approved.

The Bank Customer HUGS Carl.

BANK CUSTOMER  
Thank you so much! I promise I won't let you down, Mr. Kendall. On me.

The Bank Customer hands Carl a panda beanie baby.

CARL  
Thanks, Marge. We don't like to make other customers jealous so can we keep this between you and I?

BANK CUSTOMER  
Of course. Aren't you just a dear?

The Bank Customer leaves. Carl can't help but be touched.

INT. SOUTHWEST BANK - LOAN DESK

Carl's at the loan desk. Norman comes over, looking grave.

NORMAN  
Carl, could I see you for a moment?

Carl nervously walks into his office.

INT. NORMAN'S OFFICE

Carl nervously sits before Norman.

NORMAN

Earlier today, you showed some initiative. And I loved it. What do you say to a permanent spot at the loan desk?

CARL

That seems like a lot of responsibility.

NORMAN

We need a loan specialist a lot more than we need a teller and greeter. Besides, you'd have a starting salary of 52.

CARL

Grand?

NORMAN

No, dollars. What is this Darfur?

(waving to an African-American employee)

Sorry, Patricia, that was inappropriate.

(then, back to Carl)

Of course grand. To celebrate, next Saturday, I'm throwing a party. Dress up as your favorite character from *Heroes*.

(whispering)

Save the cheerleader, save the world.

CARL

Next Saturday... sounds great.

NORMAN

Don't dress as Hiro. I got dibs.

CARL

Wouldn't think of it.

Carl heads back to the loan desk, happy about his promotion.

INT. RUDY'S

Carl walks in the door. Peter, Lucy and Rooney, who's clearly been there for a little while, comes up to him.

ROONEY

Carl Kendall? Out in the world?  
Are you some kind of ghost? Am I  
having a religious vision?

CARL

Believe it. Because this guy just  
got a promotion.

LUCY

Congrats, Carl!

ROONEY

Well let's get you a beer. You  
want a 20 ounce? I'm just joking -  
-

CARL

Yes.

Rooney looks at Peter and Lucy.

PETER

A normal-sized beer is fine with  
me.

LUCY

I think I'm done actually.

ROONEY

Two twenty ounces and one tiny,  
little beer, barkeep.

BARTENDER

Please don't call me that. We're  
not in the middle ages.

ROONEY

(to Carl)

I can't believe you're out here.  
I'm giddy. I feel like a child  
whose best friend has strict  
Chinese parents who never let him  
come out and play but now his  
Chinese parents are away for the  
Chinese New Year. You have any  
interest in pounding this shit?

CARL

Why not?

Rooney picks up his beer and begins pounding the twenty  
ouncer. Carl reluctantly pounds it as well. Rooney slams  
his on the table. Carl puts it on the table.

ROONEY

What do you say we have another?

CARL

Yes.

ROONEY

You are a beast!

LUCY

Well, it's been fun watching you  
guys recreate freshman year, but  
Peter and I have some furniture  
errands to run.

Carl's a little drunk now.

CARL

Have a good day yuppifying your  
lives.

PETER

We need a sofa, Carl. We're not  
buying a second home.

ROONEY

Whatever, yuppy sellouts.

LUCY

It was good seeing you. You should  
come out more often.

CARL

(kind of pleading)

Please don't leave me here with  
him.

Peter and Lucy laugh, not realizing that Carl is serious.  
They leave.

INT. RUDY'S - NIGHT

Carl and Rooney are really drunk.

CARL

I have not been this drunk in years! The room is spinning in a bad way!

ROONEY

Barkeep! Two more double pints s'il vous plait!

BARTENDER

That was the last 'barkeep.' I am cutting you off.

ROONEY

Well fortunately you're not the only game in town! Let's go to some place with class.

INT. SENOR FROG'S - NIGHT

Rooney and Carl are in a Senor Frogs.

CARL

Where's the class?

ROONEY

They wear uniforms here.

A SENOR FROG'S WAITRESS comes over.

SENOR FROG'S WAITRESS

Jello shot?

CARL

Yes.

Carl and Rooney do jello shots.

QUICK CUTS:

-- Carl and Rooney downing more jello shots.

-- Carl and Rooney drinking beers.

-- Carl and Rooney are drunkenly staring at a nearby group of girls.

CARL (cont'd)

That girl is hot. Or at least she seems hot. I'm kind of too drunk to tell. Right now, honestly, you seem hot.

ROONEY

I am hot.

SENOR FROG'S WAITRESS

Another jello shot?

CARL

Yes.

ROONEY

I think I'm done.

Carl downs the jello shot. He stumbles a little.

SENOR FROG'S DJ

Senor Frog's famous karaoke contest  
is starting now! Sign up and sweep  
us off our feet!

ROONEY

You gotta do karaoke.

Carl STUMBLES over to the Senor Frog's DJ. He's losing control and he likes it.

CARL

Sign me up, bitch.

SENOR FROG'S DJ

We've got our first victim... I  
mean, singer.

MUSIC CUE: The opening notes of White Town's "Your Woman"

Carl grabs the microphone and heads out into the crowd.  
(NOTE TO READER: As you read this part, I recommend listening to White Town's "Your Woman." It will bring it to life in a way that words on a page cannot do it justice.)

CARL

(singing/talking with an  
odd English accent)

Just tell me what you've got to say  
to me, I've been waiting for so  
long to hear the truth, It comes as  
no surprise at all you see, So cut  
the crap and tell me that we're  
through. Now I know your heart, I  
know your mind, You don't even know  
you're being unkind, So much for  
all your highbrow Marxist ways,  
Just use me up and then you walk  
away, Boy you can't play me that  
way.

Carl heads over to the HOT GIRL and begins SERENADING HER. She thinks it's kind of funny.

CARL (cont'd)

Well I guess what you say is true,  
I could never be the right kind of  
girl for you, I could never be your  
woman.

Carl gets really close to the Hot Girl's face and then COYLY pulls away for the bridge of the song. During the awesome bridge, Carl does some fantastic dance moves. Or rather, moves that you think are fantastic when you're drunk out of your mind. The Hot Girl laughs at his antics.

CARL (cont'd)

Well I guess what they say is true,  
I could never spend my life with a  
man like you, I could never be your  
woman. I could never be your  
woman. I could never be your  
woman.

Carl lands on one knee in front of the Hot Girl. The crowd CHEERS FOR HIM. The Hot Girl's LARGE BOYFRIEND gets up close to Carl. Everyone is very, very drunk.

BRUTISH BOYFRIEND

Were you just flirting with my  
girlfriend?

CARL

(re: the Hot Girl)  
It depends -- is that your  
girlfriend?

BRUTISH BOYFRIEND

Yes.

CARL

Then yes.

HOT GIRL

Hey, c'mon. Be cool. He was just  
screwing around.

BRUTISH BOYFRIEND

Let me handle this, Crystal.  
(to Carl)  
So, you want to have sex with my  
girlfriend?

CARL  
Yes, I do. Very much.

BRUTISH BOYFRIEND  
Are you starting a fight?

ROONEY  
C'mon, Carl, let's go --

CARL  
Yes, I am.

BRUTISH BOYFRIEND  
Then bring it.

CARL  
I will.

Beat. Carl doesn't really know what to do so he slaps him across the face the way a woman would slap a man.

BRUTISH BOYFRIEND  
What was that?

CARL  
Me bringing it.

The Brutish Boyfriend PUNCHES Carl in the head.

CARL (cont'd)  
I'm too drunk to feel! I'm like  
Darkman!

Carl HEADBUTTS the guy. They get into a dirty, drunken tussle. Both of them are trying to hit the other one in the groin region. Bouncers DESCEND ON THEM and PULL THEM APART.

EXT. SENOR FROG'S

Carl and Rooney are outside. Carl's nursing his wounds. They are very, very drunk.

ROONEY  
You popped that guy! He didn't  
know what hit him.

CARL  
You do not cross Carl Kendall.

The Hot Girl STUMBLES out of Senor Frog's.



HOT GIRL  
 Hey. I'm sorry about Domingo. He  
 likes to think he's my boyfriend  
 but he's not. You're cute.

The Hot Girl KISSES Carl.

HOT GIRL (cont'd) (CONT'D)  
 Want to go some place private?

CARL  
 Yes.

INT. CARL'S APARTMENT - MORNING

Light is streaming in through the window. Carl opens his eyes. He's in bad shape. He looks over to see the Hot Girl finishing getting dressed.

HOT GIRL  
 My fiance called. He was like  
 really sorry about last night. I  
 have to go.

CARL  
 Your fiance?

HOT GIRL  
 Domingo. The guy who punched you  
 in the face.

CARL  
 I thought you said you two weren't  
 even dating?

HOT GIRL  
 We were broken up last night. It  
 was fun hanging out.

The Hot Girl kisses Carl on the forehead.

HOT GIRL (cont'd)  
 I made some coffee. It's in the  
 kitchen. Sorry for leading you on.

The Hot Girl LEAVES. Carl smiles. That was awesome.

INT. HOLIDAY INN CONFERENCE ROOM

Carl runs to the conference room. The Just Say Yes seminar has been packed up.

INT. HOLIDAY INN LOBBY

Carl walks up to the counter.

CARL  
Hi... is there a Sanji Gupta  
staying here?

RECEPTIONIST  
Room 125.

INT. HOLIDAY INN HALLWAY

Carl walks down the hallway. He knocks on Room 125. After a couple minutes of shuffling around, Sanji opens the door.

CARL  
I'm Carl. The guy from yesterday.

SANJI  
Of course, of course! Please come  
in!

Carl comes into Sanji's hotel room.

SANJI (cont'd)  
Would you like a cup of coffee?

CARL  
No thanks. I just wanted to thank  
you for that inspiration.

SANJI  
Fantastic. So how do you plan on  
continuing with your journey?

CARL  
You know, just living every day to  
it's fullest. And, like, learning  
to continue to experience life or  
whatever.

SANJI  
Outstanding, Carl. Except for one  
thing:  
(suddenly intense)  
You are completely bullshitting me!

CARL

I just said I'm going to keep experiencing life. I thought you'd be happy.

SANJI

You're like a cigarette addict, Carl. Except you're addicted to boredom. On the way in here, Carl, I offered you a coffee and you refused. Perhaps that would have been the most delicious cup of coffee you would have ever had. Who's to say? Not you, Carl, because you said no! Anyone can quit smoking for a day. But for a lifetime? No.

CARL

So what should I do?

Sanji PULLS OUT a contract.

SANJI

Behold, Carl, -- the Maniyesto.

Carl takes the Maniyesto.

CARL

(reading the document)

1) Until New Year's Eve, I must say yes. 2) The yes cannot distort the truth.

SANJI

(explaining)

You cannot say "Yes, the world is flat" because that is an untruth.

CARL

(reading the document)

3) If someone discovers you are a yes man, you do not have to say yes to them. 4) To avoid yes, you cannot avoid contact. Therefore, you must always answer your phone, the door, your postal mail, your email, etc and so on and so forth. 5) You must choose a yesponsor to keep you on the straight and narrow.

(to Sanji)

Who should that be?

SANJI

A close friend who will not tell a soul.

CARL

(reading the document)

5) I hereby void the "do you want" loophole.

(to Sanji)

What is that?

SANJI

If someone asks you "do you want to go to the art museum" and you do not want to, you may not use this lack of desire as an excuse to not go. And finally, a warning.

(spookily)

If you say 'no', even once, even for a cup of coffee, be prepared to lose every single little thing you've gained.

(then)

So what do you say, Carl?

(whispering)

What do you say?

CARL

I say... yes.

Carl signs the Maniyesto.

SANJI

And here.

Carl signs again.

SANJI (cont'd)

And here.

Carl signs again.

SANJI (cont'd)

And initial here. And here.

CARL

Is this like a legal document?

SANJI

Kind of. And finally, my friend, please hold out your hand.

Carl holds out his hand. Sanji PULLS OUT an iron brand that's been heating over a hot pot and BRANDS CARL'S PALM.

CARL  
AHHHHHHHH!

SANJI  
That should heal by New Year's.  
Until then, you are a Yes Man.

Carl looks at his palm. In the center of the palm, Sanji's branded a '**YES.**'

INT. RUDY'S

Carl is sitting across from Peter.

PETER  
For a whole year?

CARL  
Yesterday I got promoted and beat up and hooked up with this chick and I have a massive headache today and I still might throw up, but I don't care because it was the best time I've had in like forever. Not to mention finding out that, despite what you might think, smoked whitefish in an omelette is delicious, even if covered in a thick layer of pepper.

PETER  
But for a whole year?

CARL  
You don't understand. I got promoted. Do you know how long I've been waiting for some kind of financial step forward? I said 'yes' and it arrived.

PETER  
Well, someone sounds like they're yuppifying their life.

CARL  
Excuse me for wanting an appliance in my kitchen besides a hot pot.

PETER

There's no way you can do this for a whole year.

CARL

That's where you come in. You're my "Yesponsor."

PETER

Yesponsor?

CARL

Like in AA. I need you to hold me to it.

PETER

You aren't going to last for more than a week.

CARL

I look forward to proving you wrong.

Peter and Carl shake hands.

CARL (cont'd)

Nice suit. If I move up anymore at the bank, I might need a few.

PETER

Cavalli. Silk and cotton blend. Seven fifty.

Lucy comes over and kisses Peter.

LUCY

My girlfriends are being such bitches. It's been two weeks and no one's offered to throw me a wedding shower.

PETER

That's too bad. I'm sure someone will offer.

LUCY

(sarcastic)

Hey, you want to throw my wedding shower?

Peter turns to Carl, smiling.

CARL  
 (dreading it)  
 I'd be happy to.

LUCY  
 I was kidding. Wedding showers are  
 thrown by girls.

CARL  
 That's sexist. Please. I insist.

LUCY  
 Thanks. That means a lot to me.

Lucy hugs Carl. Carl looks over Lucy's shoulder at Peter and  
 shakes his head. Rooney comes over.

ROONEY  
 That was some good times last  
 night. You back for more?

CARL  
 Yes.

ROONEY  
 I've got no cash. You mind  
 spotting me and my buddies?

Rooney points to FOUR BARFLIES sitting at the bar.

PETER  
 Sorry, didn't bring my wallet.

Peter turns to Carl.

CARL  
 (begrudgingly)  
 Yes.

Carl walks up to the bar. Peter's snickering behind him.

CARL (cont'd)  
 What kind of beer do you guys want?

ROONEY'S FRIENDS/ROONEY  
 As long as you're buying, I want a  
 Grey Goose straight up./Kir  
 Royale/Whatever's in that dusty  
 bottle back there that you never  
 take down.

INT. CARL'S APARTMENT - MORNING

Carl wakes up. He looks at the tattooed "Yes" on his hand.

INT. CARL'S APARTMENT

Carl goes through a series of junk mail flyers for credit cards. He VERY CAREFULLY fills each one of them out.

INT. DUNKIN DONUTS

Carl walks into Dunkin Donuts. Before the cashier can say anything...

CARL  
Black coffee, large.

DUNKIN DONUTS CASHIER  
Would you like...

CARL  
(cutting her off)  
To have a wonderful day? I would.

Carl turns to see a giant poster with the words "DO YOU WANT A MOCHA CARAMEL COOLATA?" Carl turns back to the cashier.

CARL (cont'd)  
(resigned)  
And could I also have a Mocha  
Caramel Coolata.

DUNKIN DONUTS CASHIER  
With whipped cream?

EXT. STREET

Carl walks out of Dunkin Donuts, carrying a frozen coffee drink and several boxes of Munchkins. He walks by Renee and wordlessly takes a flier.

RENEE  
Hey, give that back. You already  
took one.

CARL  
What's the hurt in taking another?



RENEE

Destroys the Earth. Also, they  
cost me ten cents a copy. Besides,  
are you even going to come?

CARL

Of course. I couldn't say 'no.'

As he walks away...

CARL (cont'd)

Even if I wanted to.

RENEE

See you tonight, Carl!

INT. SOUTHWEST BANK

Carl sits at his cubicle, and flips on his email. In the background, we see various SUPER HAPPY EMPLOYEES eating the Dunkin Donuts that Carl has brought. We see on the screen another email from the King of Nigeria.

CARL

Dear deposed King of Nigeria. I  
would love to help you anyway I can  
with your confidential transaction.  
Please let me know what I can do.  
Yours, Carl Kendall.

He checks the next email.

CARL (cont'd)

Would I like Viagra? Yes, I would.

Carl writes back to the Viagra. ANGLE ON THE SCREEN: The next email is from PERSIANWIFEFINDER.COM.

CARL (cont'd) (CONT'D)

Do I want a Persian wife? Perhaps  
I do.

Carl clicks onto the Persianwifefinder.com and starts uploading his profile. Norman walks by.

CARL (cont'd)

Norman, would you say I prefer  
Iranian, Pakistani, Bangladeshi or  
no preference?

INT. SOUTHWEST BANK - LOAN DESK

Carl's reading his email when a HIGH SCHOOL GIRL sits down.

HIGH SCHOOL GIRL  
You Carl Kendall?

CARL  
Yeah.

HIGH SCHOOL GIRL  
I hear that you do small loans.

CARL  
Where did you hear that?

HIGH SCHOOL GIRL  
Marge. The lady my mom buys her  
beanie babies from.

CARL  
I told her not to say anything.

HIGH SCHOOL GIRL  
I only need five hundred bucks.  
I'm starting college next year and  
I need it for books. I can't  
afford them now but I can pay them  
off over the course of the year.

Carl looks to make sure Norman's not around then he stamps  
her form.

HIGH SCHOOL GIRL (cont'd)  
Thank you so much, Mr. Kendall.

EXT. STREET

Carl walks down the street, taking fliers from anyone who  
passes them out. We do QUICK CUTS of him with various people  
as he walks down the street.

CARL  
I might have some stuff to pawn./I  
will definitely check out your gun  
selection./I would like to learn  
Korean.

BERLITZ FLIER GUY  
If you're interested, intro to  
Korean is starting right now.

INT. BERLITZ CLASS - DAY

Carl's sitting in a Korean class with several businessmen.

CARL  
 (in Korean, with  
 subtitles)  
 [Hello, my name is Carl. What is  
 your name?]

INT. THE NOTE BAR AND PERFORMANCE SPACE - NIGHT

Carl stands at the back of a basically empty dive bar, nursing a beer. There's a makeshift stage at the front of the bar. "The Flying Buttresses" are setting up their equipment, including a giant clear plastic harp. Renee steps up to the microphone.

RENEE  
 Hello Jake, Penelope, Carl and  
 Rodrigo. We are the Flying  
 Buttresses!

Their four audience members cheer. The drummer bangs his sticks together and the band launches in. They are terrible. Like really terrible. Renee sings in a high-pitched voice that she probably thinks sounds like Tori Amos, but sounds more like a dog whistle. If you've heard the singer, Joanna Newsom, well that's who she's emulating.

RENEE (cont'd)  
 (singing)  
 Everyday, the unicorns they  
 play/Among lingonberry fields/They  
 silently bay/The king has no  
 crown/Just a vest of grass/The  
 queen loves the Jester/The Jester  
 has the last laugh.  
 (chorus)  
 You are my minotaur/With your  
 cloven hooves!/Half man, half  
 horse/You are all boy to me

Carl looks at the three other audience members. They are nodding along. Also, one of them is dressed like a Court Jester.

CUT TO LATER

Renee's whisper singing.

RENEE (cont'd)  
 A witches cauldron/burns hot as  
 hell/As her crooked hand/Brews a  
 love spell.

CUT TO LATER

Renee's singing a power ballad.

RENEE (cont'd)  
 I! Am! A! Fairy!/I! Like! To  
 Fly!

The four people in the audience clap hard as she finishes. Renee takes a huge bow and motions to her fellow band mates. Carl, not knowing how to politely react to the horror show he just witnessed, claps along. Renee gets off the stage and walks over to the bar, right next to Carl.

BARTENDER  
 Nice, show Renee. One virgin mint  
 soda coming right up.

RENEE  
 I don't think I hit a high enough  
 octave in Fairy Dream Song.

CARL  
 I disagree. I think you hit some  
 pretty high octaves.

RENEE  
 But I can hit like way higher.  
 (as she speaks her voice  
 goes higher and higher)  
 Like check this out. I think this  
 tone might be more appropriate for  
 my water nymph song?

CARL  
 (speaking in a low voice)  
 I don't know -- I've known some  
 water nymphs with big balls.  
 (no reaction)  
 From the high level of  
 testosterone.

An awkward moment where Renee doesn't react and Carl thinks he may have offended her. Suddenly she starts laughing spazzily hard. Carl smiles.

RENEE

I've got to write a song about that. I could call it...

CARL

"Big Balled Water Nymph"? It's a working title.

RENEE

I like it. I can work with that.

The drummer, a guy named LEEORE, shouts down to Renee from the stage.

LEEORE

Um, excuse me, but we have to clear the stage.

RENEE

I gotta clear.  
(joking)  
Unless of course, you want to help?

CARL

Sure. I love clearing stages.

Carl helps a surprised Renee clear the stage.

EXT. THE NOTE BAR AND GRILL

Carl has helped Renee fit the giant harp into the back of her ancient Volvo.

RENEE

Well, thanks for coming, Carl. I must bid good night.

CARL

So early? It's only 8:00?

RENEE

I lead a jogging, photo group for people who want to both exercise and practice photography.

CARL

You're a photographer too?

RENEE

Amateur, but yeah. I show every Friday.

(MORE)

RENEE (cont'd)  
If you want to do some artistic  
calisthenics join us tomorrow.

CARL  
What time do you leave?

RENEE  
Five. So we can see the sunrise.

CARL  
Wow. I haven't seen the sunrise  
maybe ever.  
(resigned)  
I guess now I'll be doing that  
tomorrow.

RENEE  
Oh, it's beautiful. Makes great  
photos. Nice meeting you, Carl.

Renee gets in her Volvo and drives off. Carl walks off.

FLIER GUY  
You interested in learning Spanish?

Carl takes the flier from the Flier Guy.

EXT. STREET

Carl walks down the street, now holding a zillion fliers.  
Carl gets a tap on the shoulder. REVEAL Kath standing there.

KATH (O.S.)  
Thinking of learning a couple  
foreign languages?

CARL  
Hey, Kath. Would you like one?  
I'm going to learn Swahili.

KATH  
Maybe next week. There's someone  
you should probably meet. Carl,  
this is Seb.

A very tall, very blond, Nordic looking man approaches Carl.

CARL  
Seb? What is that? Swedish?

SEB  
Yes.

Beat. Seb puts his hand on Kath's back. Carl notices this and is not particularly happy.

SEB (cont'd)  
I've heard a lot about you, Carl.

Seb's phone rings.

SEB (cont'd)  
Sorry, sweetie. I've got to take this.

Seb walks off and answers his cell.

CARL  
You're on a date then?

KATH  
Yeah. Met him at my firm.

CARL  
He's very tall.

KATH  
I guess so, yeah.

Seb returns.

CARL  
Well, it was nice meeting you, Seb.  
So I'll be going.

Carl starts to walk off.

SEB  
Unless... you'd like to join us?

Carl stops in his tracks. He mouths the word "fuck." Carl turns. Kath nods at Carl as in, "You don't have to join us."

SEB (cont'd)  
It was good meeting you --

CARL  
I'd love to. Join you guys.

KATH  
What?

INT. ROMANTIC RESTAURANT - LATER

Seb, Carl and Kath are sitting at dinner. It is incredibly awkward. Kath and Seb are clearly incredibly pissed off.

CARL

So, how did you guys meet?

KATH

I told you. Through the firm.

A waiter arrives.

WAITER

Would you like to order some wine?

KATH/CARL/SEB

Yes.

CUT TO LATER -- Carl, Kath and Seb are now slightly drunk. However, it is a quiet, angry drunk, not a fun-loving drunk. They are still sitting in silence. Seb turns to Kath and starts saying something quietly to her.

CARL

Oh, this is good.  
(chuckling)

I was walking past Pizza Hut the other day, and for a second I was sure the sign said "Pizza Hat." And then I thought, wouldn't it be funny if there was a shop that sold hats shaped like pizzas?

(beat, weakly)

You know. Because it sounds like "Pizza Hut" only it's a hat shop.

SEB

Look, Carl, why don't you just eat your fish and fuck off?

Carl puts the rest of his meal in his mouth, gets up from the table and walks out of the restaurant. As he leaves, he smiles to himself. His phone rings. He sees it's Rooney on the Caller ID.

CARL

Shit.

Carl answers the phone.



ROONEY (O.S.)  
 What's up Carl? It's Rooney! What  
 do you say we grab a couple  
 brewskis?

INT. CARL'S APARTMENT - LATE NIGHT

Carl flips on his computer. He's trashed. He has a bunch of  
 emails. He clicks on the email.

NIGERIAN KING (V.O.)  
 Dear brother Carl, Thank you for  
 your last note you sent me. But we  
 must move quickly. I must have  
 your bank details right now. Send  
 them to me. Your Associate, Omar,  
 King of Nigeria

CARL  
 (while typing)  
 Dear Omar, While I appreciate the  
 gravity of your situation, perhaps  
 a goodwill branch is in order.  
 Could you perhaps loan me a million  
 and take it out of my final cut?  
 Then I will happily send you my  
 bank details. Sincerely, Carl.

Carl then flips on persianwifefinder.com. A PERSIAN CARTOON  
 GENIE comes onto the screen.

PERSIAN CARTOON GENIE  
 Sa'laam, Carl. You have sixty-five  
 winks. Allah Akbar.

The screen is suddenly filled with pictures of Persian women.

INT. CARL'S APARTMENT - PRE-DAWN

Carl's alarm goes off. Carl hits it and sits up. He grabs  
 his head and then runs to the bathroom and throws up.

EXT. PARK - PRE-DAWN

Renee, along with several other amateur photographers in  
 sweat suits, have gathered. They all have big cameras around  
 their necks. Carl walks up to them. He does not look good.

CARL  
 Good morning.

RENEE  
Wow. You look tired.

CARL  
Well, it is five in the morning.

RENEE  
Mammals are meant to be up at dawn.  
It's how we're built biologically.  
Where's your camera?

Carl realizes he forgot his camera.

CARL  
I thought I'd use my phone.

Carl pulls out his camera cell phone.

RENEE  
Awesome idea. So light.

CARL  
That's what I thought.

RENEE  
Let's hit it.

Renee, Carl and the group of amateur jogging photographers start jogging. Carl can barely keep up with them.

RENEE (cont'd)  
Oooh, pretty.

As she passes a flower, Renee snaps a photo of it.

EXT. LAKE - DAWN

The group reaches the lake as the sun rises. They all snap photos. Carl finds himself snapping photos on his camera. He accidentally snaps one of Renee with the sun behind her. She looks pretty in the photo.

RENEE  
Alright! Enough standing around!

Renee starts jogging again. Carl starts after her and then abruptly doubles over and throws up on the ground. Renee and the other jogging/photographers snap photos of him.

INT. CAFE - MORNING

Carl sits across from an Iranian women.

IRANIAN WOMAN

It was delightful meeting you,  
Carl.

CARL

As it was meeting you Farinoush.

IRANIAN WOMAN

Although I must say I was surprised  
to discover that you are in no way  
Persian. Nor are you six foot two.  
You should change that on your  
profile.

CARL

Will do. Should I call you?

IRANIAN WOMAN

Sorry, I want a tall guy.

The Iranian Woman leaves, passing Lucy.

LUCY

Who was that?

CARL

Farinoush Azzam. Great girl, but I  
don't think we're right for each  
other.

LUCY

How'd you meet?

CARL

PersianWifeFinder.com.  
(ignoring her odd look)  
Let's talk wedding shower.

LUCY

So, I know it's just a wedding  
shower, so who cares really?  
And it's like so lame? But I've  
made an appointment at a stationery  
store. Are you going to totally  
kill me?

CARL  
 (dripping with sarcasm)  
 You kidding? I love stationery.

Lucy gets up. Carl follows her. He does not look happy.

INT. STATIONERY STORE - LATER

Lucy and Carl are looking over a book of stationery with the STATIONERY PROPRIETESS. Carl can't concentrate.

STATIONERY PROPRIETESS  
 This one is nice. I especially  
 love it in cream.

LUCY  
 Ooooh, pretty. What do you think?

CARL  
 Looks good to me.

LUCY  
 (sarcastic annoyance)  
 Thanks for your opinion.

STATIONERY PROPRIETESS  
 It's always difficult to get the  
 husband-to-be's opinion.

LUCY  
 (derisive laughter)  
 I'm not marrying him.

CARL  
 I'm just helping throw the shower.

STATIONERY PROPRIETESS  
 Oh. What's the party going to be  
 like? Sometimes it helps to know  
 that before you pick an invitation.

LUCY  
 Nothing special. Just hors  
 d'oeuvres and wine.

Carl, meanwhile, is looking through the book of invitations.

CARL  
 Look at this -- Bridal Bingo.  
 What's Bridal Bingo?

STATIONERY PROPRIETESS  
It's bingo, except you yell out embarrassing facts about the bride and whoever fills their card first wins.

CARL  
That sounds fun.

LUCY  
I'm not doing Bridal Bingo.

CARL  
How about a calendar shower?

LUCY  
Can we concentrate at the task at hand?

CARL  
Do you even know what a calendar shower is? Maybe a calendar shower is awesome.

STATIONERY PROPRIETESS  
Every guest gets assigned a month and brings a gift that the bride and groom can use during that month.

LUCY  
That's kind of cute.

CARL  
I think that's really cute.

Carl's starting to get really into it. He turns the page and sees an invitation decorated with animals labeled "Knights in White Armor."

CARL (cont'd)  
Look at this one -- "Knights in White Armor."

STATIONERY PROPRIETESS  
The bride and groom ride in on a white stallion.

CARL  
You have got to do that. Like it's not even a choice.

LUCY  
That seems a little extreme.

CARL  
You only get married once.

STATIONERY PROPRIETESS  
Your friend happens to be right.

LUCY  
You're really good at this. You mind helping me with the wedding invitations?

INT. SOUTHWEST BANK - LOAN DESK

Carl's sitting across from an Arab Guy at the loan desk.

ARAB GUY  
I love cell phones. I breathe cell phones. I own, myself, thirty-five cell phones. My brother is an idiot and he's selling cell phones hand over fist. What do you have? A Nokia 9850?

The Arab Guy goes to grab Carl's phone. He sees the photo of Renee on the phone's wallpaper.

ARAB GUY (cont'd)  
Oooh, pretty lady.

Carl grabs his phone back.

CARL  
How much do you need?

ARAB GUY  
Eighty five hundred.

CARL  
Done.

Carl stamps his form.

CUT TO A TEN YEAR OLD GIRL SITTING WITH HER SILENT MOM:

TEN YEAR OLD GIRL  
I was with my sister? And we had this lemonade stand? And we sold like a hundred cups of lemonade in two days? And so I want to expand?  
(MORE)

TEN YEAR OLD GIRL (cont'd)  
All I need is three thousand  
dollars?

Carl stamps her form.

CUT TO A JITTERY GUY.

JITTERY GUY  
Just give me the cash.

CARL  
You promise you'll pay it back?

JITTERY GUY  
Basically.

Carl stamps his form. Norman comes over.

NORMAN  
May I speak to you, Carl?

INT. NORMAN'S OFFICE

Norman sits across from Carl.

NORMAN  
I know what you're doing.

CARL  
What am I doing?

NORMAN  
You're loaning below our minimum.

Carl doesn't know what to say.

NORMAN (cont'd)  
You thought I wouldn't notice the  
paperwork? I'm not the regional  
manager because I ignore the  
details.

CARL  
I'm sorry, but it's absurd that if  
you need a small amount of money  
you have to go to a loan shark.  
Only rich people can pay back loans  
over ten grand. A bank's job is  
not to just help the rich. It's to  
help anyone with a dream achieve  
it.

NORMAN

I know. These microloans are pretty interesting. So I'll you spearhead a little pilot program at the bank.

CARL

Thank you so much.

NORMAN

If corporate finds out, you're the one who's getting fired. So keep it quiet.

Carl mimes zipping up his mouth and throwing away the key.

QUICK CUTS OF CARL STAMPING LOTS OF FORMS

Rooney sits down across from Carl.

CARL

What do you need a loan for?

ROONEY

I don't. I was wondering if you were around tonight to help me move?

CARL

Why don't you hire movers?

ROONEY

Because it's cheaper to ask you.

INT. ROONEY'S MOM'S HOUSE

Rooney and Carl are looking at a fridge.

ROONEY

Can you carry the fridge alone?

CARL

(scared)

Yes.

MOMENTS LATER Carl is carrying the fridge down the stairs. He FALLS down the stairs with the fridge. Carl looks up at Rooney who's at the top of the stairs.

ROONEY

You OK?



CARL

Yes. Do you want to help at all?

ROONEY

I wish I could, but I hurt my back trying to move that fridge.

EXT. ROONEY'S MOM'S HOUSE

Carl has put the last box into the moving van. Rooney and his mom are hugging.

ROONEY'S MOM

I'm going to miss you, baby.

ROONEY

And I'm going to miss you, ma.

ROONEY'S MOM

I can't watch you go.

His mom goes into her house.

CARL

Where are you moving?

Rooney looks at Carl and smiles. Carl's eyes go wide.

MUSIC CUE: "JUMP" by the Pointer Sisters

YES MONTAGE

-- Carl's taking Korean.

CARL (cont'd)

(in Korean)

[What is the weather like in  
Pyongyang?]

-- At Southwest Bank.

NORMAN

We need a volunteer to think up  
local marketing ideas

Carl raises his hand.

CUT TO LATER

Carl has put up signs on the bank window that say "Pet-a-Puppy" day. There's a box of puppies in the bank. Customers are streaming into the bank to pet puppies.

-- We see Carl's CALENDAR filling up.

-- A ton of different kinds of credit cards are POPPING THROUGH HIS MAIL SLOT.

-- Carl's taking Spanish.

CARL  
(in Spanish)  
[I like to drive with my mother.]

The door to the language center opens.

-- Carl walks towards work. He sees the same group of flyer guys and DUCKS DOWN an alleyway. We now see that to avoid the flyer guys he uses a series of alleys and fire escapes, crossing roofs, even jumping between two buildings so he can avoid being approached.

-- At Southwest Bank.

NORMAN  
We need someone to be a weekend cashier.

Carl's hand shoots up.

-- Carl walks out of a movie with a woman who's in a head scarf. He awkwardly hugs her. REVEAL that the movie they watched is Saw III.

-- Carl's at THE NOTE singing along to Renee's band's songs. He and the "Jester" audience member do shots together.

-- Carl's walking around a florist shop with Lucy. She points to a small bouquet of white flowers. Carl points to a giant heart-shaped ice sculpture.

-- We see Carl having to write in tiny letters on his calendar because it's so full.

-- At Southwest Bank.

NORMAN (cont'd)  
We need a volunteer --

Carl's hand shoots up.

NORMAN (cont'd)  
-- to be in charge of day care.

-- CUT TO Carl with a bunch of kids. All the kids are folding brand new dollar bills into paper airplanes

-- CUT TO Carl walking down the street, a big smile on his face, taking everyone's fliers as per usual. He walks past a CULTY GUY named TONY who's passing out books.

TONY

Do you want to change your life  
through Mahayana Buddhism?

Carl takes one of the books.

TONY (cont'd)

Would you like to have tea and  
discuss?

CARL

I'm kind of in a rush...

TONY

My place is right around the  
corner.

INT. TONY'S APARTMENT - DAY

Carl's sitting awkwardly on the floor across from Tony. They are both drinking tea.

TONY

It is only through the four noble  
truths and the destruction of  
desire that we can end suffering.

CARL

Well, that's really neat.

(awkward beat)

So, thanks for the books and the  
jasmine tea and the vegan curry,  
but I have to go --

TONY

Do you like Dionne Warwick?

Tony flips on Dionne Warwick's "I Say a Little Prayer."

TONY (cont'd)

Now *she* had style.

CARL

It was really great meeting you --

TONY

C'mon, Carl. Shake your groove  
thang.

Tony pulls Carl up. Carl starts to awkwardly shake his groove thing.

TONY (cont'd)  
I like big guys.

CARL  
I really have to go.

Tony grabs Carl and kisses him full on the lips.

TONY  
Want to go into my bedroom?

CLOSE IN on Carl's face. He looks down on the "Yes" that's on his palm.

CARL  
(very quiet)  
Yes.

Carl and Tony head into his bedroom.

INT. TONY'S BEDROOM

CARL  
Do you have any candles? I just love candles.

TONY  
Sure.

Tony instantly pulls out candles and lights them.

CARL  
How about wine? Like a bottle of Beaujolais?

TONY  
I only have Beaujolais Nouveau.

Tony pulls out a bottle of wine and two glasses. Tony goes in to kiss Carl.

CARL  
I have herpes.

TONY  
Upstairs or downstairs?

CARL  
Downstairs?

TONY  
Front door or back door?

CARL  
It's a swinging door!

TONY  
Just give it!

Tony pushes Carl down onto the bed.

INT. PETER'S LAW OFFICE

Carl's sitting across from Peter in Peter's fancy law office.  
They're each eating burgers.

PETER  
What's with the kitten?

PULL BACK to reveal a kitten on Peter's desk.

CARL  
I just adopted her. If you're  
interested, they're giving them  
away in front of Petco.

PETER  
I don't want a kitten.

CARL  
Neither did I.

PETER'S SECRETARY  
Andy Solomon on line two.

Peter picks up the phone.

PETER  
Hey, asshole, we're not talking  
until you sign that goddamn  
contract.

Peter hangs up.

PETER (cont'd)  
(totally normal)  
I spoke to Kath. I hear you met  
her boyfriend, Seb.

CARL  
Seems like a nice guy.

PETER

She was upset you went on her date.

CARL

He asked me to join them.

PETER

I think you're taking this too far.

CARL

I have no choice. I'm a yes man. I must say yes. If Seb asks me to join them on their date, I must. If some dude asks me for a loan I have to give it to them even if it's clearly never going to be paid back. If a guy asks me into his bedroom, I must hook up with him.

PETER

You hooked up with a dude?

CARL

It's like hooking up with a strong woman. I honestly don't see what the big deal is.

(back on his yes rant)

I am guided by yes. Yes has become my superpower. And let me tell, yes is turning out to be a pretty sweet deal. Now if you'll excuse me I'm late for Korean class.

PETER

You hate Korean food.

CARL

That's no reason to write off an entire, vibrant culture. See you later, buddy.

Carl heads off, the kitten under his arm.

INT. GALLERY

Carl walks around a photography gallery. Renee's photos are up. They are terrible photos, since they were taken while she was jogging. Their subjects are blurry. Some of them are half in the photo and half out. The featured photo is of Carl throwing up on the ground.

CARL

You really are displaying that.

RENEE

That's probably my best photo ever.  
My collages aren't bad. But  
personally, I think I excel at  
pottery.

Renee POINTS to a LARGE, BROWN PLATE that looks like poo.

CARL

Wow. That's really big. How do  
you have time for all this stuff?

RENEE

How do you have time to come to  
every one of my rocks shows even  
the one in Fairfield county that  
was seventy-five miles from here?  
I almost skipped that one.

CARL

You gave me the flier, so I had to  
go.

RENEE

At first I thought you were a weird  
stalker and I was scared. But now  
I think you're just a really shy  
dude with a crush. And while it's  
been suspenseful to see when/if  
you'd ask me out --

CARL

Do you want to go out sometime?

RENEE

Yes, I would.

CARL

By the way, I do other stuff  
besides follow you around.

RENEE

Like what?

CARL

I take Korean.

RENEE

In that case, what do you say we do  
Korean?

INT. KOREAN RESTAURANT - LATER

Carl's eating across from Renee. He can't stand the food. He grimaces with every bite, but manages to choke it down.

RENEE

Do you want any more squid hot pot?  
It's really good here.

CARL

I think I'm good. To have some  
more.

Renee spoons a huge amount of squid onto both their plates.

CARL (cont'd)

So, all this art you create. What  
do you want to do with it?

RENEE

What do you mean?

CARL

Like, do you want to open a store?

RENEE

Where I can sell my photos and  
pottery? Of course not. They're  
terrible.

Carl's surprised that she knows this.

CARL

They're not terrible.

RENEE

Yeah, they're awful.

CARL

I think you're being hard on  
yourself --

RENEE

I'm not asking for sympathy. My  
voice is way too high-pitched, my  
pottery looks like poo, and my  
photos are blurry and subjectless.  
But who gives a shit? Not  
everything needs a goal. The world  
is a playground. You know that as  
a kid but then somewhere along the  
way everyone forgets.

(MORE)



RENEE (cont'd)  
(as if telling a secret)  
Besides, I can't open a store. My  
big master plan is to take a trip  
around the world.

CARL  
When? Like in a couple years?

RENEE  
I bought a ticket for four months  
from now.

CARL  
People always talk about that, but  
you're actually doing it.

RENEE  
Honestly, I'm terrified.  
(then)  
How about you? Do you like the  
bank?

CARL  
It's lame, but you know, it's  
pretty funny. My boss Norman  
always throws theme parties.

RENEE  
So if it's lame why do you work  
there?

CARL  
Because... it's actually not lame.  
(realizing)  
I just gave the answer I've  
automatically given for years. I'm  
actually enjoying the bank for the  
first time maybe ever. I started  
this pilot program that gives out  
microloans.

RENEE  
What's that?

CARL  
Like say you need three hundred  
bucks to pay for paint so you can  
start a house painting business.  
Rather than paying a loan shark who  
charges you 300%, now you can come  
to Southwest Bank. Whatever. It's  
kind of dorky.

RENEE

That actually sounds really cool.

The waitress comes over.

RENEE (cont'd)

I'm stuffed. But I would love to wrap this up.

CARL

(in Korean, with subtitles)

[We are very fat. But can I please have this food made mobile?]

RENEE

So, what do you say we hit this crazy party?

CARL

Funny, not crazy. My boss is white noise.

RENEE

White noise?

CARL

You know, like totally boring.

RENEE

I don't know anyone who's totally boring. Crack a person's shell -- there's always something creepy underneath.

INT. NORMAN'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Norman opens the door. He's dressed as the Japanese character Hiro from the show *Heroes*.

NORMAN

Carl! Welcome. Or should I say, uerukamu!

RENEE

What's going on?

CARL

I wouldn't bother.

NORMAN

You didn't tell her? This is a dress-up as your favorite character from *Heroes*. Do you watch?

RENEE

I currently don't have a television.

Norman stares at her.

NORMAN

I don't know what to do with that information. There are drinks, chips, dips, various and sundry noshes. I entreat you to make friends. Let's get this party started!

INT. NORMAN'S APARTMENT

It's very quiet. A couple people mill about.

CARL

We don't have to stay long.

RENEE

It's a party. Let's socialize.

Carl and Renee walk up to a MOUSEY GIRL.

CARL

I'm Carl. This is Renee.

KHATOON

Hey. I'm Khatoon.

It's complete silence. Beat.

KHATOON (cont'd)

Do I know you from somewhere?

CARL

I don't think so.

KHATOON

Are you listed on Persianwifefinder.com?

Renee laughs. Carl fake laughs with her.

KHATOON (cont'd)  
 Seriously, though, are you?

CARL  
 So, how do you know Norman?

KHATOON  
 Karate Club.

Norman comes in with more chips. There are now about ten times as many snacks as guests.

NORMAN  
 Baked Lays people! It is on!

CARL  
 You're in a karate club?

INT. NORMAN'S APARTMENT

Everyone's standing around Norman. They've laid several pieces of wood out over a coffee table.

PARTY GUESTS  
 Norman! Norman! Norman!

Norman KARATE CHOPS the wood in half. The guests cheer. Norman takes a big bow.

RENEE  
 (whispering to Carl)  
 Told ya there was something weird  
 under that white noise shell.

Renee leaves Carl.

KHATOON  
 You're totally on  
 persianwifefinder.com. SultanCarl.

Carl turns to Norman.

CARL  
 (changing the subject)  
 Khatoon, Norman! You guys should  
 spar!

Khatoon and Norman start to spar. Carl sits back, smiling. JASON, a cynical guy who's slightly drunk, sidles up beside Carl.

JASON

Well, isn't that cute? We've got a full match on. Hey, I'm Jason.

They shake hands.

CARL

I'm Carl. What do you do?

JASON

Work for the INS.

CARL

Cool.

JASON

I hate it. Everyday I have to dash some poor guy's dream. I'm a professional dream dasher.

CARL

It can't be that bad.

JASON

The other day, I turned down a guy who had literally been a professor at the University of Cuba.

FLASHBACK OF JASON'S INS OFFICE

Jason's sitting across from a CUBAN PROFESSOR.

CUBAN PROFESSOR

What? But I've already lived here for five years. I've received a steady paycheck and paid taxes for five years. I speak fluent English. I can't go back.

JASON

I'm sorry but no can do.

CUBAN PROFESSOR

I've passed the citizenship test ten times. I bet you couldn't pass that test.

JASON

You're probably right.

CUBAN PROFESSOR

Do you know the location of the Spanish-American war?

JASON  
Spain?

CUBAN PROFESSOR  
No.

JASON  
America?

CUBAN PROFESSOR  
No.

JASON  
(sarcastic)  
Spainerica?

CUBAN PROFESSOR  
You are an insult to your country.

BACK TO THE PARTY.

CARL  
So did you let him in?

JASON  
I sent him back to Cuba. I send  
them all back.

CARL  
If you hate your job so much, why  
do you do it?

JASON  
Because I have to eat.

CARL  
(to himself, in wonder)  
You're a no man.

JASON  
Excuse me?

Beat. Carl makes a difficult decision.

CARL  
(whispering)  
I'm not supposed to tell anyone  
this except for my Yesponsor, but  
you can change your life. I've  
changed mine. If I tell you how,  
will you promise not to tell  
anyone?

JASON  
(sarcastically whispering  
back)  
Yeah, sure, whatever.

CARL  
I say yes. To everything. Say Yes  
More. It's that simple.

Dramatic beat. Jason finishes his drink.

JASON  
That's the most retarded idea I've  
ever heard.

Jason heads off. Renee returns.

RENEE  
What did I miss?

CARL  
(thrown)  
Nothing. Do you want to go?

INT. CARL'S APARTMENT

Carl and Renee walk into Carl's apartment. Ten kittens and puppies come running up to them as they enter.

RENEE  
You work for the ASPCA?

CARL  
I just love pets. This is  
Veronica, King George, Owen, Carl  
jr., Carl the III, Carl IV,  
Bubbles, Greedo, Cat 1, Cat 2 and  
Cat 3. At the end there, I got  
kind of bored of naming them.

They walk into Carl's living room/bedroom.

INT. CARL'S LIVING ROOM/BEDROOM

The room is piled floor to ceiling with boxes. Renee starts to go through the boxes.

CARL  
You don't need to do that.

RENEE

You have a lot of Mexican Viagra.

CARL

I have a congenital heart thing it helps. And it's cheaper than the stuff that's made here.

RENEE

You better not be a criminal. Because one time I dated this guy who jacked cars for a living and I did not enjoy living on the edge as much as I thought I would.

CARL

It's cheaper to buy in bulk. Is that a crime?

RENEE

A hundred boxes of Mexican prescription drugs borders on something vaguely criminal.

Beat.

RENEE (cont'd)

Well, are you going to make out with me or what?

CARL

Yes.

Carl grabs Renee and starts making out with her. They fall onto the bed. REVEAL Rooney watching them.

ROONEY

You must be Renee. I have heard so much about you. Can I watch?

Carl doesn't know what to say. Before he has to say yes...

RENEE

No, you can't watch.

INT. CARL'S BEDROOM - LATER

Renee and Carl lie next to each other.

RENEE

You know what I would love? A massage.



CARL  
I give great massages.

Carl starts massaging her.

RENEE  
Oooh. Yeah. Oooh, right there.

Carl stops.

RENEE (cont'd)  
Don't stop.

Carl continues massaging her.

CHYRON: HALF HOUR LATER

Carl's still massaging her. He stops.

RENEE (cont'd)  
Can you please keep massaging?

Carl starts massaging again.

CHYRON: AN HOUR LATER

Carl's massaging. His hands are really cramping up. She's asleep. He stops massaging.

RENEE (cont'd)  
(while asleep)  
Please keep massaging, please?

Carl starts massaging again, wincing while he does it.

INT. SOUTHWEST BANK - LOAN DESK

Carl's sitting across from a LARGE MAN. Carl's hands are like claws. A line of people waits to speak with him.

CARL  
How much does a Schwinn cost?

LARGE MAN  
Three hundred fifty three dollars.  
It'll really help me get my one  
hour delivery business off the  
ground. I've tried on foot. I  
only have a two mile radius.

CARL  
Done and done.

Carl stamps the package. Norman comes over to the loan desk.

NORMAN

Hey, the boys upstairs are here to speak with you.

CARL

Really? Because I have a thing at one...

NORMAN

He asked for you specifically. Ixnay on the small loans-ay.

Carl looks over. He sees the President (from the beginning of the movie) sitting in the conference room. Carl gets nervous.

INT. SOUTHWEST BANK - CONFERENCE ROOM

Carl walks into the conference room. The bank president, CHRIS PARKER, motions to a seat.

CHRIS PARKER

Carl Kendall? I'm Chris Parker. President of Southwest Bank.

CARL

I actually met you when I was just a teller.

CHRIS PARKER

(no recollection of it at all)

Of course!

(reading from a binder)

Pet-a-Puppy day. Free cookie day. Free half hour on the bank's punching bag day. You've upped walk-in traffic by 35%. Not only that -- you've also taken charge of corporate day care. I like a team player.

Carl's phone buzzes. The caller ID says LUCY.

CARL

Thank you.

CHRIS PARKER

But then I got suspicious. What drives a man in his mid to late thirties who's still at the absolute lowest level of our corporate family? Generous helpfulness? Or raging revenge?

CARL

Generous helpfulness?

CHRIS PARKER

Which is when I got the numbers from your loan desk.

Carl turns white. Carl's phone buzzes again. The text says LUCY: "WHERE ARE YOU?"

CARL

Uh huh.

CHRIS PARKER

You've given out over 682 below minimum loans. One of them was literally for fifteen dollars and eighty seven cents.

CARL

Janice Peabody's ant farm rental business.

CHRIS PARKER

How do you explain yourself?

CARL

I've started a microloan project. I figure that if someone needs less than ten grand why should they go to a loan shark when they can come to a legitimate banking institution?

CHRIS PARKER

Because the paperwork makes any profit moot. Unless you're raiding our coffers.

CARL

No. I wouldn't do that.

CHRIS PARKER

I would if I could, so why wouldn't you?

Chris laughs. Carl laughs. Chris abruptly stops laughing. So does Carl. Carl's phone buzzes again. The text says LUCY: "I THOUGHT WE WERE MEETING AT ONE. PLEASE CALL BACK."

CHRIS PARKER (cont'd)

But then I looked closer at the numbers. 85% of the loan recipients have been paying them off according to the bank's schedule. Not just that, but 72% of that group have returned as regular full loan customers. This is both a moneymaker and good for the community. That like never happens!

CARL

Thank you.

CHRIS PARKER

You're the kind of person we want in corporate. We're taking some clients on a golfing trip. You golf?

CARL

Yes.

CHRIS PARKER

You free tomorrow?

CARL

Yes.

CHRIS PARKER

Of course you are. I better watch my back around you, Carl Kendall. Soon you'll be taking my job. See you on the links.

Chris Parker grabs Carl's hand and shakes it. Carl RUNS out of the office.

EXT. SUGAR DREAMS BAKERY

Carl RUNS up to the bakery. Lucy's outside.

LUCY

What happened?

CARL

I'm sorry -- bank meeting stuff.

INT. SUGAR DREAMS BAKERY

Lucy and Carl wander around a fancy bakery.

LUCY  
I've never heard of a Wedding  
Shower cake.

CARL  
You have to have one. Modern Bride  
calls them a necessity.

Carl's phone rings.

CARL (cont'd)  
Sorry, Luce. Work stuff.  
(sotto into phone)  
Yeah, I can definitely be at the  
blood bank in twenty minutes.

Carl hangs up. Lucy suddenly starts crying.

CARL (cont'd)  
Are you OK?

LUCY  
I'm sorry, it's just you've been so  
great at all this while my husband-  
to-be has been completely absent.  
Do you have time to grab a cup of  
tea?

INT. DEPARTMENT STORE TEA ROOM

Carl and Lucy are each drinking tea. The only other people  
in the tea room are groups of women.

LUCY  
Is he scared to get married? Is  
that why he doesn't care?

CARL  
You know Peter. He's a man's man.  
He cares, he just doesn't know how  
to show it.

LUCY  
You know how to show it. A wedding  
is a huge deal. I'm so scared.

CARL

You guys are perfect for each other.

LUCY

I know that and yet I'm still so scared.

CARL

Maybe if you're just honest with him about how you're feeling it'll be OK.

LUCY

He can be just so closed off.

Carl's phone rings.

CARL

Sorry, the bank, you know?  
(sotto into phone)  
The UFO conference is tonight? No, that's fine, I'll definitely be there.

Carl hangs up.

CARL (cont'd)

I'm sorry.

LUCY

You've been so good to me. I've really come to depend on you. I want to pay you back.

CARL

Not necessary.

LUCY

Peter tells me you might have some disposable income these days.

CARL

For some reason, the bank keeps promoting me.

LUCY

If you want to look at some open houses, I'm happy to waive my fee.

INT. LUXURIOUS APARTMENT - DAY

Carl and Lucy walk into a luxurious apartment. Gourmet kitchen, floor to ceiling windows, giant media center.

LUCY

So this is at the very top end of what you could probably afford. Are you interested?

Carl hits a button. A GIANT TELEVISION SCREEN DESCENDS.

CARL

Yes.

LUCY

Are you sure? I mean, this is the first place you've looked --

CARL

Yes. I've got to run.

LUCY

I'm looking forward to meeting Renee tonight.

CARL

What?

LUCY

We're all having dinner. Tonight. Remember?

CARL

Right. Of course.

Carl runs out.

INT. BLOOD BANK

Carl giving blood while on the phone.

CARL

(on the phone)

I just think if we're going to be rolling out a no interest financing campaign we should commit hard.

He checks his watch. The NURSE walks by.

CARL (cont'd)  
 (covering the phone)  
 Can you unhook me? I have a really  
 important meeting.

NURSE  
 If you're interested in donating  
 plasma, feel free to sign up.

INT. UFO CONFERENCE

Carl's listening to a lecture.

WEIRD PROFESSOR  
 Between 1996 and 2000 England's  
 Ministry of Defence paid security  
 cleared experts to research UFOs.  
 This classified study was code  
 named Project Condign.

Carl's phone rings. People look angrily at him. He stands  
 and PASSES OUT in the aisle.

EXT. FANCY RESTAURANT

Carl PULLS UP and RUNS inside.

INT. FANCY RESTAURANT

His friends are all waiting. Carl pulls Renee aside.

CARL  
 I'm sorry I'm late.

RENEE  
 That's fine. It's only the very  
 first time I've met your friends.

CARL  
 It was work, it went crazy late.

Carl takes a breath. He's about to pass out.

RENEE  
 What's with the "They're Out There"  
 and "I Gave" button?

REVEAL Carl's sporting buttons that say "They're Out There"  
 and "I Gave."



CARL

Long story.

(to the hostess)

Miss, could I have an orange juice?

Like fast?

INT. FANCY RESTAURANT - NIGHT

Renee, Carl, Kath, Seb, Peter and Lucy sit around a table at a nice restaurant. As per usual, Carl has several different meals in front of him. He also has a martini, a glass of water, and a glass of orange juice. Carl's showing off to his friends. As he shows off, Renee looks irritated.

CARL

(showing off, to Peter)

Your wife found me a really great place. Built in Bose surround sound, a 100 inch LCD flat screen TV, roof deck with jacuzzi.

LUCY

Least I could do. At least he's involved with our wedding.

PETER

(ignoring Lucy's tone)

I likey your suit-ey. Hugo Boss?

CARL

Oh, this old thing? Prada, I think.

RENEE

You think? We went to three different Prada stores to find the right fit.

LUCY

What do yo do for a living, Renee?

RENEE

I paint. I'm in a band. I do volunteer work at a shelter. I teach ESL. I do balloon animal art. You know, a little of this, a little of that.

CARL

You should check out her pottery. It's really big.

RENEE  
It is big. How about you guys?

LUCY  
Real estate broker.

PETER/KATH/SEB  
Lawyer.

Quiet beat. The conversation's not exactly flowing easily.

PETER  
If you'll excuse me.

Peter leaves. The waiter comes over.

WAITER  
Have you made a decision about the wine?

CARL  
Well, we're kind of in a celebratory mood.

WAITER  
In that case, may I suggest a 97 Petit Rothschild?

The Waiter points at a wine that costs \$400 a bottle.

CARL  
Maybe we should wait for Peter to decide.

LUCY  
He doesn't know crap about wine. Just pick one, Carl.

Carl is sweating bullets.

CARL  
Why not? Let's celebrate.

WAITER  
With six people, I'd recommend two bottles.

INT. FANCY RESTAURANT - LATER

Everyone's drinking the wine. Carl's terrified of the bill.

LUCY  
Do you rent or own?

RENEE  
I sublet. I have this corner of a  
loft.

CARL  
It's a really nice corner though.

LUCY  
If you're ever interested in  
buying, you should ring me up.

RENEE  
I hate owning things. Because when  
you own something, you suddenly are  
invested in that thing not  
breaking. And I break everything.  
I've gone through three TVs in  
three years.

SEB  
How did you break them?

RENEE  
I smashed one with a hammer,  
dropped one off my roof and the  
third one just went on the fritz.  
So I set it on fire.

Carl's friends don't really know what to say. The check  
comes. Carl grabs it before anyone else can. It's a \$1500  
bill. He drops several credit cards down on the table.

CARL  
It's on me!  
(quietly to the waiter)  
I'd like to split it between an  
Advanta Blue Business, Mastercard,  
a Diners Club and my South Dakota  
Bank Visa Check card.

EXT. FANCY RESTAURANT

Carl's outside with Peter.

PETER  
Nice job with Renee. She's  
definitely odd, but that's not  
necessarily --

CARL

I just spent \$1500 on dinner.

PETER

What? Why?

CARL

Because the waiter asked me if I wanted the expensive wine and you weren't there to stop me!

PETER

Don't get mad at me about it. You can just stop.

CARL

No I can't. If I didn't say yes to the band flier, I never would have met Renee. If I hadn't said yes to taking charge of bank day care and then yes to becoming a loan specialist and then yes to the president's golf trip, I wouldn't be moving up. Each yes leads to the next one. If I stop, it could all fall apart.

PETER

You've gone from a passive guy who always said no to a passive guy who always says yes. Just saying yes is not a legitimate life philosophy.

CARL

I don't know why I should be taking advice from a guy whose wife is pissed he's not involved at all with the wedding planning.

PETER

I'm involved.

CARL

You told her you don't care whether the invite's cream or ivory.

PETER

I can't see the difference.  
(opening up)  
Honestly, I'm terrified.

CARL  
What? Why?

PETER  
It's marriage, you know? The  
biggest thing ever.

CARL  
But you guys have dated for years.

PETER  
I know.

CARL  
You're perfect for each other.

PETER  
I know.

CARL  
She's terrified too.

PETER  
Really?

CARL  
Of course she is. I think you'll  
both be a lot less terrified if  
you're terrified together.

PETER  
But what if I really can't tell the  
difference between ivory and cream?  
Does that make me a bad husband?

CARL  
What matters is that you pretend  
you can see the difference.

The girls and Seb come out from the restaurant with their  
coats on. There's a silent beat.

GIRLS  
(high pitched goodbyes)  
It was wonderful meeting you!/I  
loved it!/Let me know when you  
throw your next art thing!

Everyone gets into their cars. Carl and Renee walk off.

RENEE  
It was great meeting your friends.

CARL  
They're a little stiff.

Beat.

RENEE  
They are a little stiff. What do  
you feel like doing?

CARL  
I'm actually going rollerblading  
with Ralph.

RENEE  
Ralph?

CARL  
You know, crazy rollerblading  
guitar man.

RENEE  
The guy who plays at the promenade?

CARL  
Any interest?

RENEE  
No. It's ten on a Friday night.  
And that guy's crazy. Don't you  
want to go home and make out?

CARL  
Yes.

INT. CARL'S APARTMENT

Carl and Renee are making while Carl surreptitiously checks  
his watch. Finally, Renee stops kissing him.

RENEE  
(annoyed)  
Just go.

EXT. STREET

Carl and CRAZY ROLLERBLADING GUITAR MAN rollerblade down the  
street while guitar man plays guitar.

CRAZY ROLLERBLADING GUITAR MAN  
Which is why the merman is not to  
be trusted, especially with the  
fisherman's computer brain.

CARL  
That is really good to know.

CRAZY ROLLERBLADING GUITAR MAN  
You want to come see the merman?

CARL  
(reluctant)  
Yes.

INT. COUNTRY CLUB - DAY

Carl dashes in, covered in spots of paint. Chris appears.

CHRIS PARKER  
What happened to you?

FLASHBACK: CHYRON: TEN MINUTES AGO

Carl's playing really intense, terrifying paintball with  
Norman and Rooney.

BACK TO NOW:

CARL  
I do this whole Habitat for  
Humanity Thing.

CHRIS PARKER  
I love the concept of charity.  
It's awesome.

A group of KOREAN GENTLEMAN approach Carl and Chris.

CHRIS PARKER (cont'd)  
This is Carl Kendall. This is Jin  
Kim, Joo-Chan Park, Soo Lee and  
Seung Kim. Seung's the CEO of  
Korean Bank International.

The Koreans shake Carl's hand.

CARL  
(in Korean, with  
subtitles)  
[It is an honor to meet you. Do  
you like America?]

The Koreans all start speaking Korean at Carl. Carl clearly doesn't understand what they're saying.

EXT. COUNTRY CLUB

Chris and Carl follow the Koreans.

CHRIS PARKER  
You speak Korean?

CARL  
Just a little.

CHRIS PARKER  
You sneaky devil. I knew I should watch my back around you.

CARL  
Is it a problem if I've never played golf before?

CHRIS PARKER  
You're a funny one, Carl Kendall. Remember, they have to win. In Asian cultures, there's a concept called Saving Face. You have to let them win. But if they smell for a second that you haven't tried your hardest, they'll commit hari kari.

CARL  
Metaphorically?

CHRIS PARKER  
Who knows? It's a delicate balance, Kendall. Like two little girls on a see saw with a crocodile beneath them. Make the wrong move, and the little girl will end up in the croc's maw.

EXT. GOLF COURSE

Carl stands with the Koreans. Seung Kim is speaking very rapidly at Carl. Carl has no idea what he's saying. Seung Kim laughs. Carl laughs along with him. Chris hits a beautiful shot. His ball lands almost on the green. The Koreans notice and nervously chatter. Chris approaches Carl.



CHRIS PARKER  
 Alright, buddy. It's all you.

Carl grabs a nine iron from the golf bag. Everyone seems very impressed.

CHRIS PARKER (cont'd)  
 You must have quite a powerful stroke.

CARL  
 I do.

SEUNG KIM  
 (in Korean, to Carl)  
 [Good luck, my friend.]

CARL  
 (in Korean)  
 [I shall need the luck. This is my first time playing.]

Seung Kim laughs.

CARL (cont'd)  
 (under his breath)  
 Why does everyone think I'm joking?

Carl gingerly places the golf ball on the tee. He looks towards the hole.

CARL (cont'd)  
 That's really far.

Carl lines up his shot. He swings back, then forward, and PLOWS the club into the grass, knocking the ball off the tee. The ball rolls down a slight incline resting just a couple feet from where Carl hit it.

CARL (cont'd)  
 (in Korean, to Seung Kim)  
 [You're up, Seung Kim.]

Carl walks back to where Chris is at.

CHRIS PARKER  
 What was that?

CARL  
 Just keeping them on their toes. Reverse psychology. Tiger Woods does it.

Seung Kim raises his club back. He too dubs it, driving the club deep into the grass. His ball rolls just a couple feet past Carl.

GOLF MONTAGE WHEREIN CARL AND SEUNG KIM COMPETE TO NOT BE THE ABSOLUTE WORST GOLF PLAYER EVER

-- Carl hits the ball straight into a group of trees.

-- Seung Kim, standing right in front of a pond, delicately taps his ball right into the pond.

-- Carl keeps divoting the grass. He divots so many times that he has to move the ball out of the hole's he's accidentally dug.

-- Seung Kim hits his ball out of the sand trap. It rolls back in. He tries again. It rolls back in. He's about to try again when Carl picks up his ball and tosses it over the lip of the sand trap. Carl holds his finger up to his lips: "Shhh."

-- Carl's about to hit the ball when his phone rings. He answers it.

CARL (cont'd)  
Of course not.

The other golfers look really impatient.

CARL (cont'd)  
Male.  
(beat)  
Apartment.  
(beat)  
I prefer light beer.  
(beat)  
Three to five times a week.  
(beat)  
Orlando.

Carl holds up his finger. Only one moment.

-- It's getting late. Now both Carl and Seung Kim are hitting their balls at once to save time. They are both running and hacking at their balls across the fairway as if they're playing a deranged game of field hockey.

EXT. GOLF COURSE - EARLY EVENING

Carl is counting up the scores.

CARL  
Chris, you hit a 90. Nice one.

CHRIS PARKER  
I bogied the fifth hole. I'm still  
pissed about that.

CARL  
Joo-Chan hit a 95. Nice work. As  
for Seung Kim. You hit 453.

Seung glowers at Carl.

CARL (cont'd)  
And as for me, I hit...  
(doing some computations)  
... 503.

SEUNG KIM  
Yes!

Seung Kim pumps his fist.

CARL  
I'm sorry to say that team Korean  
Bank International has won.

Seung Kim slaps five with his compatriots.

INT. COUNTRY CLUB - POST GOLF

Carl, Chris and the Koreans are all hanging out. Carl is  
alone in the corner of the conference hall. A PRETTY FEMALE  
KOREAN BANKER approaches Carl.

PRETTY KOREAN BANKER  
(in Korean)  
[You are quite the golfer.]

CARL  
(in Korean)  
[I golf from crotch noodle.]

Beat. She laughs. He laughs along with her.

PRETTY KOREAN BANKER  
(in Korean)  
[I have a business proposition for  
you. My marriage is not a happy  
one. I often find my needs are  
left unsatisfied.]

CARL  
 (in Korean)  
 [I agree. The weather is sunny.]

PRETTY KOREAN BANKER  
 (in Korean)  
 [I wish that was so.]  
 (in English)  
 Kiss me? Please?

Carl doesn't know what to do.

CARL  
 (nervously)  
 Yes.

She kisses him passionately. Carl breaks away from the kiss.

PRETTY KOREAN BANKER  
 Am I not sexy? Have you not heard  
 of saving face?

CARL  
 You're very sexy.

Carl and the Korean Banker kiss more. Carl looks guilty.

EXT. COUNTRY CLUB

Carl's shaking hands with the Korean Bank Representatives.  
 Chris shakes Carl's hand.

CHRIS PARKER  
 I'm promoting you to bank manager.  
 (pulling Carl close)  
 I've got my eye on you, boy. Don't  
 you forget it.

Chris laughs. Carl nervously laughs along with him. The  
 Pretty Korean Banker walks by and waves at him. Carl waves  
 back. He looks very guilty.

INT. POTTERY STUDIO

Carl walks into the pottery studio, looking guilty. Renee is  
 making a giant piece of pottery.

RENEE  
 What's up, chicken butt?  
 (off his guilty look)  
 (MORE)

RENEE (cont'd)  
Are you OK? Did everything go OK  
at golf?

Carl considers whether he should say anything about the kiss.

CARL  
I just got promoted to bank  
manager.

RENEE  
Congratulations!

Renee kisses Carl.

RENEE (cont'd)  
Oooh, we should do some sexy  
pottery. Like you can rub the clay  
all over me.

CARL  
OK.

Carl goes to grab some clay.

RENEE  
I was kidding. Not as sexy as it  
seems. It gets in like everywhere.  
(awkward beat)  
What should we do to celebrate?

CARL  
Have dinner?

RENEE  
How about Korean? Oh, no, you  
probably already had some today.

CARL  
(nervously)  
No, we just had American food,  
American fare.

RENEE  
You've just been so busy -- it'd be  
fun to have a night just the two of  
us. I wish we could just go to the  
airport and hop on the first flight  
outta here.

Carl's eyes light up.

CARL  
Yes.

INT. AIRPORT - TICKET COUNTER

Renee and Carl are in line at the ticketing counter.

RENEE  
(with an English accent)  
I think we're going to London.

CARL  
(with a Spanish accent)  
Oaxaca, senorita.

RENEE  
(with a Russian accent)  
Moscow, Russia, comrade.

CARL  
(with an unidentifiable  
accent)  
Singapore.

RENEE  
What was that?

CARL  
My Singaporean accent. Pretty  
good, right?

They get to the front of the line.

CARL (cont'd)  
(proudly)  
We want two tickets on the next  
plane out of here.

AIRLINE REP  
Two tickets to... Lincoln,  
Nebraska. Have a good time.

Carl and Renee take the tickets.

CARL  
(acting positive)  
Lincoln, Nebraska! Here we come,  
baby!

AIRLINE REP  
That'll be twelve hundred and  
thirty three dollars.

RENEE  
Maybe we shouldn't do this.

CARL  
I've been promoted. I've got money  
to burn.

Carl nervously hands the Airline Rep his credit card.

INT. AIRPORT - OUTSIDE SECURITY

Carl's walking towards security when he runs into TONY, the homosexual guy he hooked up with. Tony's handing out his books.

TONY  
Do you want to change your life  
through Mahayana Buddhism?

Carl takes one of the books.

TONY (cont'd)  
Carl?

Carl realizes who he is. Suddenly they are in the middle of an awkward ex-lover interaction.

CARL  
Tony.

TONY  
How've you been? You... never  
called.

CARL  
I'm sorry. I've been busy.

TONY  
Yeah, well, I've been busy too.

Renee comes up and grabs Carl's arm.

RENEE  
Hey, who's your friend?

Tony looks at Renee and realizes that she's Carl's girlfriend.

RENEE (cont'd)  
I'm Renee.

TONY  
I'm Tony. I'm an old, close friend  
of Carl's.

ANNOUNCER

Flight 2036 to Lincoln, Nebraska,  
now boarding.

CARL

That's our flight. We should  
probably get going.

RENEE

It was nice meeting you.

CARL

See you soon.

TONY

(dripping with bitterness)  
Have fun. You abigail.

Carl and Renee head off.

INT. PLANE

Renee and Carl have the aisle and window on the plane. A  
YOUNG WOMAN comes up to Carl.

YOUNG WOMAN

Hi, there. Would you mind  
switching places with me? I want  
to be across the aisle from my mom.

Her MOM is indeed across from Carl.

RENEE

We're actually flying together.

YOUNG WOMAN

It would really mean a great deal.  
She's very scared of flying.

CARL

Where's your seat?

The YOUNG WOMAN points at her seat. It's a couple rows up in  
the middle. Her middle seat's BOOKENDED by a MOM with a  
SCREAMING BABY and an ENORMOUS MAN.

CARL (cont'd)

This is an aisle. That's a middle.

Renee looks at Carl like, why won't you just refuse?



MOM  
I'm really scared of flying.

CUT TO MOMENTS LATER

Carl between the crying baby and the ENORMOUS MAN. Renee turns and waves to him from a couple rows up. Carl puts on a saccharin smile and waves back.

INT. LINCOLN AIRPORT - LATER

Carl and Renee are in the airport.

RENEE  
So, now that we're here, what should we do?

CARL  
Well, clearly we should go there.

Carl points to an advertisement for a telephone museum: "Come to the Frank H. Woods Telephone Pioneer Museum."

INT. FRANK H. WOODS TELEPHONE PIONEER MUSEUM

Carl and Renee are looking at MANNEQUINS OF NINETEENTH CENTURY SWITCHBOARD OPERATORS. It's incredibly quiet.

CARL  
I had no idea that the earliest switchboard operator headsets weighed ten and a half pounds. That is fascinating.

RENEE  
It is?

CARL  
Not at all.

Renee laughs. An ELDERLY TOUR GUIDE dressed as a telephone operator approaches.

ELDERLY TOUR GUIDE  
(in character)  
I'll connect you to the coast in an instant with Alexander Graham Bell's brand new invention -- the telephone! Just a haypenny per ten minutes.  
(out of character)  
(MORE)

## ELDERLY TOUR GUIDE (cont'd)

This place is boring as shit.  
 Check out the Lester F. Larsen  
 Tractor Test & Power Museum. Now  
 that's an attraction. Ask for  
 Billy.

She hands Carl a brochure.

EXT. LESTER F. LARSEN TRACTOR TEST AND POWER MUSEUM

Carl and Renee stand outside.

RENEE

We don't have to do this.

CARL

We're here. We might as well.

EXT. FIELD - MOMENTS LATER

Carl and Renee RIDE A TRACTOR. Renee's taking photos as they  
 BUMP OVER THE FIELD.

CARL

THIS IS AWESOME!

TRACTOR DRIVER

WANT ME TO OPEN THIS SUCKER UP?

CARL/RENEE

YES!

The driver TURNS UP THE SPEED. They're suddenly going crazy  
 fast.

TRACTOR DRIVER

TAKE THE WHEEL! FEEL THE POWER OF  
 JOHN DEERE!

Carl takes the wheel. The tractor IMMEDIATELY GETS AWAY FROM  
 HIM. They SWERVE STRAIGHT and CRASH THROUGH THE WALL OF AN  
 OLD BARN. The DRIVER kills the engine. Renee, Carl and the  
 Driver catch their breath.

CARL

There's, uhh, no power steering.

TRACTOR DRIVER

It's a tractor, not a Toyota.

CARL

I'm sorry about the barn.

TRACTOR DRIVER  
 Been meaning to tear this sucker  
 down anyway.

EXT. ANTELOPE PARK AND SUNKEN GARDENS

Carl and Renee walk around a surprisingly pretty city park.

RENEE  
 I think I might have whiplash from  
 that tractor ride.

CARL  
 Just don't sue me.

RENEE  
 Watch your back, Carl. I mean it.  
 I'm very litigious.

CARL  
 This day has been so randomly  
 incredible.

RENEE  
 Would you... want to... travel  
 around the world with me?  
 (then)  
 I mean, I know we haven't really  
 been seeing each other for that  
 long, but I don't know...

CARL  
 Yes.

RENEE  
 Yes?

CARL  
 Definitely.

RENEE  
 I think I'm falling, you know...  
 Are you... ?

CARL  
 Yes.

They kiss.

RENEE  
 Before our flight, what do you say  
 we grab a couple Nebraskan steaks?

CARL  
I'm definitely falling for you.

INT. LINCOLN AIRPORT

Carl's sitting in the lounge at the Lincoln Airport. An OLD WOMAN comes up to him.

OLD WOMAN  
Excuse me. Would you mind bringing  
this to my son?

The Old Woman hands Carl an UNMARKED, SHADY-LOOKING PACKAGE.

CARL  
Like you want me to bring it with  
me? On the plane?

OLD WOMAN  
Fedex is so expensive and this  
needs to get to him today.

CARL  
(very nervous)  
Yeah. Sure. I'd be happy to.

OLD WOMAN  
He's a tall, blond fellow named  
Sheldon Winkleton. He'll be  
holding a sign in the terminal with  
his name on it. You are a dear.

The Old Woman shuffles off. Carl looks at the box. Renee returns.

RENEE  
I got US Weekly, Star and, for a  
little culture, the National  
Enquirer.

CARL  
National Enquirer?

RENEE  
They have movie reviews. What's in  
the package?

CARL  
Just a gift for some buddies back  
home.

INT. AIRPORT - SECURITY

Carl walks through security. He puts the package on the conveyor belt. They don't notice anything odd.

INT. PLANE

Carl and Renee sit next to each other on the plane.

RENEE

I'm sorry, I have to go to the bathroom.

Renee heads to the bathroom. Carl takes the package out from under the seat in front of him. He starts to breathe really hard. He very gingerly opens the package. He pulls back the packing peanuts revealing... a box of homemade chocolates. Carl breathes a SIGH OF RELIEF.

INT. AIRPORT

Carl and Renee walk off the plane, Carl carrying the package under his arm. Carl sees a tall blond guy holding a sign that says "SHELDON WINKLETON." He heads towards the guy but before he can several DEA AGENTS with ADORABLE, DRUG SNIFFING DOGS surround Carl. The dogs start BARKING LIKE MAD.

DEA AGENT

Put the package down! Put it down!

Carl looks up to see "Sheldon" WALKING SWIFTLY OUT THE SLIDING DOORS of the airport.

DEA AGENT (cont'd)

Get on the ground! Both of you!

The DEA AGENTS KICK the box open. Chocolates spill out over the ground. They crack open the chocolates to reveal TINY BAGGIES OF COCAINE.

RENEE

What the hell is that?

CARL

I don't know!

As Carl is dragged out by the cops, he passes Tony, standing near the exit, shaking his head.

INT. JAIL - INTERROGATION ROOM

Carl's sitting across from two DEA Agents, Good Cop Bob and Bad Cop Bob.

GOOD COP BOB  
I'm Bob.

BAD COP BOB  
And I'm Bob.

Carl can't help but laugh.

BAD COP BOB (cont'd)  
Do you find that funny?

Carl sees his hand with "Yes" on it.

CARL  
Yes. I'm sorry. Just let the girl go. She doesn't know anything.

BAD COP BOB  
We'll see about that, Carl.

CARL  
Some old lady gave me a package in the Lincoln airport to deliver to her son, Sheldon Winkleton. That was really stupid of me and I realize that now. I don't know anything about anything.

GOOD COP BOB  
Just answer a few questions and I'm sure we'll get this all sorted out. Have you ever used illegal drugs?

Carl stares at them. He should probably lie...

CARL  
Yes.

GOOD COP BOB  
Pot?

CARL  
Yes. But that's all.

BAD COP BOB  
How about shrooms?

Carl nods.

CARL  
But that's the only bad shit I've  
done. I swear.

BAD COP BOB  
Never cheated on a girlfriend?

CARL  
(weeping)  
Yes, I have. But I was in high  
school. I was a mess. She had  
cheated on me --

The Bad Cop SLAMS his fist down on the table.

BAD COP BOB  
You disgust me.

The Good Cop restrains the Bad Cop.

INT. JAIL - OUTSIDE THE INTERROGATION ROOM

The two cops DISCUSS Carl. We see Carl freaking out through  
the one-way mirror behind them as they talk.

GOOD COP BOB  
He's a moron. But I think he's  
telling the truth.

BAD COP BOB  
I agree. No one ever admits to the  
cheating question.

EXT. POLICE STATION

Carl's sitting on the steps. Renee comes out of the station.

RENEE  
What the hell happened?

CARL  
I can explain.

RENEE  
So explain. Are you a drug  
smuggler?

CARL

Look, when the nice lady asked me to take them on the plane, I thought they were chocolates.

RENEE

You expect me to believe a nice lady asked you to bring chocolates on a plane?

CARL

I know how it sounds.

RENEE

I don't think you do.

Carl just looks at her.

RENEE (cont'd)

If you can't be honest with me, then you and the nice lady can have a fun life in Candyland.

Renee starts off.

CARL

Wait! I'll explain better.

She turns back around.

INT. COFFEE SHOP

Carl sits across from Renee.

RENEE

So you've just been saying yes to everything.

CARL

Yes.

(then)

Pardon the pun.

RENEE

Oh.

CARL

See? Do you get it now? It's nothing, just a glitch really.



RENEE

I thought we had so much in common  
but if you just yes to everything I  
don't know that we do. How do I  
know if you even like Korean food?

Beat.

CARL

I don't.

RENEE

Do you even want to travel around  
the world at all or do you want to  
work at that bank and buy a lot of  
Prada suits?

CARL

(confused)  
Yes. And yes.

Something registers in Renee.

RENEE

When I asked if you were falling  
for me all you said was yes.

She rises, shaking her head, and heads for the door.

CARL

It wasn't a lie.

RENEE

Yes. It was.

INT. BLOOD BANK

Carl's strapped to a giant plasma donation machine. It's  
horrifying. As he donates plasma, he could not look more  
depressed.

NURSE

It'll be over soon.

CARL

I don't care. Just take it all.

INT. SOUTHWEST BANK CORPORATE OFFICES

Carl stumbles into the lounge outside Chris's office.

SECRETARY

Chris will be with you in a moment.  
Would you like something to drink?

INT. CHRIS PARKER'S OFFICE - DAY

Carl walks into Chris's office carrying a cup of coffee a Diet Coke, and a bottle of water.

CHRIS PARKER

So I got a call from the police department.

CARL

I'm not a drug dealer --

Chris closes the door to his office.

CHRIS PARKER

I spent a couple years in prison myself. So I backdated some stock options. Excuse me for trying to help our bottom line, right?

CARL

You got to do what you got to do to help Mr. And Mrs. Shareholder.

CHRIS PARKER

We are their slaves.

CARL

Totally.

CHRIS PARKER

Honestly, I prefer for all my top guys to have been in the Big House. We've all eaten the slop. There's a trust there you can't break.

Chris holds out his hand.

CHRIS PARKER (cont'd)

So, what do you say to being a VP and expanding your microloan program bankwide?

CARL

(surprised)

Yes.

Carl shakes Chris's hand.

## INT. CARL'S NEW OFFICE

Carl's office has VIEWS of other corporate parks. Despite the fancy digs, Carl's depressed. Chris pokes his head in. Carl's on the phone.

CARL

(on the phone)

That's right, we're dropping the minimum loan to one dollar, bank-wide.

CHRIS PARKER

Could you look through these numbers and let me know which of our five branches have been lagging behind in profit?

Chris dumps a folder on Carl's desk.

CARL

I thought I was just implementing the microloan program.

CHRIS PARKER

You're a VP, buddy. You do it all now.

## INT. POTTERY STUDIO

Carl's taking a pottery lesson. He is sadly going through the motions of making a pot. He checks his watch and departs, leaving the unfinished pot spinning on the pottery wheel.

## INT. SOUTHWEST BANK CORPORATE OFFICES

The VPs are sitting around the board room. Carl comes in, late, still covered in clay.

CARL

Sorry about that.

CHRIS PARKER

Carl, I'm glad you could join us. So, to keep you all updated, we should be merging with Korean Bank International within the year.

Everyone claps.

CHRIS PARKER (cont'd)

As per our argument with KBI, we'll be shoring up our bottom line. Carl Kendall's done us the honor of drawing up a preliminary list of the branches that are on the chopping block. Nice work, Carl.

Carl looks horrified.

INT. CHRIS PARKER'S OFFICE

Carl's in the middle of a heated discussion with Chris.

CARL

You can't close the Maple Branch!

CHRIS PARKER

I know that Maple's where you got your start, but if I don't lay those people off then I get laid off. It's a vicious cycle.

CARL

You don't have to if you don't want to.

CHRIS PARKER

(deadly serious)

If we don't close these branches than KBI will buy our competitor instead of us and put us all out of business. If you want to be an executive and get to do fun stuff like your microloan project, then you also have to be the bad guy who lays people off. That's why we get paid the big bucks. To make the hard decisions.

INT. CARL'S APARTMENT

Norman's crying. Rooney's getting worked up.

NORMAN

The bank's all I've got. Every morning I restock the hard candy, polish the safe, write today's interest rates on the board.

CARL

There are other banks.

ROONEY

We have to protest the merger. Get some grassroots action going. Grass looks weak, but it grows everywhere.

CARL

You don't even work at the bank.

NORMAN

You should protest with us!

ROONEY

Yeah! Protest with your employees! It will only make you more popular!

EXT. SOUTHWEST BANK CORPORATE OFFICES

Southwest Bank employees and Carl stand in a picket line outside the corporate offices.

EMPLOYEEES

Hell no! We won't go! Hell no!  
We won't go!

Chris gets out of his car and heads to the office. Carl hides his face from Chris so that Chris won't recognize him.

ROONEY

Throw a rock at him.

NORMAN

Yeah, throw a rock!

Carl grabs a rock and VERY DELICATELY LOBS IT in Chris's direction. He then TAKES OFF RUNNING in the opposite direction. He then CIRCLES AROUND and runs into the back entrance of the bank.

INT. SOUTHWEST BANK CORPORATE OFFICES

We FOLLOW Carl as he runs up the service entrance to the corporate offices.

## INT. CARL'S NEW OFFICE

Carl then RUNS into his office and sits down at the desk. He's covered in sweat and is breathing heavily. Chris pokes his head in.

CHRIS PARKER

Some asshole protestor threw a rock at my head.

CARL

Those dicks.

CHRIS PARKER

I wish using hoses wasn't such bad PR.

Chris leaves his office.

## INT. PETER'S LAW OFFICE

Carl sits across from Peter.

CARL

I think I made a mistake letting Renee go like that. What if I'm supposed to go on that trip?

PETER

You own an apartment because of that job. People don't generally leave good jobs.

CARL

But the bank doesn't feel right...

Peter's phone rings. Peter picks it up.

PETER

Hey, honey. I think we should go with the tulips. I know roses are more romantic, but they're also much more clichéd. Babe, can you wait a second?

(covering the phone)

I'm going to be on for a while. Ask your guru. He's the one who sent you on this retarded quest in the first place.

INT. MARRIOTT CONFERENCE CENTER

Sanji's SIGNING BOOKS. Carl gets to the front of the line.

CARL

Hi, Sanji. I'm Carl. Kendall.

SANJI

(no memory of Carl)  
Of course! Would you like to  
purchase my new book, "The Power of  
Yes: Life is Yessy"?

CARL

Actually, I had a question for  
you...

SANJI

Well, this line is for book  
customers only.

INT. MARRIOTT COFFEE SHOP - LATER

Sanji's eating by himself. Carl comes up to him.

CARL

I'm sorry to bother you again --

SANJI

Can't you see that I'm eating?

CARL

I have a really important question.  
I have to choose between traveling  
around the world with a girl I'm  
really into or choosing a job that  
will make me pretty well off. I  
don't know which yes to take.

SANJI

How well off?

CARL

I don't know why that's important.

SANJI

I should know all the data.

CARL

A lot, OK?

SANJI

This is what I recommend. Every winter, I throw a two week long seminar in Aspen. It's only ten grand a week and it will open your mind up --

CARL

I don't want to go to a seminar. I just need help with this question.

SANJI

For you, eight grand a week. I have helped celebrities like Cher and Jack Welch. You will love it --

CARL

(realizing)

You're a total con artist.

SANJI

I am not a con artist. Have I not set you on the life path you desire?

CARL

(panicking)

I've put my life into the hands of a con artist! And because of you I have this retarded yes branded on my hand for life!

(yelling to the restaurant)

This man is a con artist! Don't listen to this man! He is a con artist!

Carl runs out of the restaurant.

INT. CARL'S APARTMENT

Carl returns home. Rooney's on the couch, wearing a headset playing Xbox Live.

ROONEY

(into the headset)

You are dead, AnalDestroyer832!

Carl PULLS the xBox cord out of the law.

CARL

Out!



ROONEY

What? Why?

CARL

You've slept on my couch for four weeks. You're a grown man. Now sack up and get the hell out of here.

ROONEY

Will you let me stay here please?

CARL

Are you deaf?

ROONEY

You have to say yes if I ask you.

CARL

You knew?

ROONEY

I may not seem like I get it, but I get everything. Lucy and Kath? Made out one time in the bathroom at Rudy's.

CARL

Get the hell out of here.

INT. CARL'S LIVING ROOM/BEDROOM

Carl's in front of his computer. There are a bunch of emails selling Viagra. He angrily deletes them all. He gets a letter from the King of Nigeria.

NIGERIAN KING (V.O.)

Dear Carl, It is vitally important you send me your bank account information. The government will be closing in on my account in the very near future. Your good friend, Omar, Former King of Nigeria.

Carl starts typing fast. As Carl writes the following email, we cuts of him THROWING AWAY THE BOXES OF STUFF HE BOUGHT OVER THE INTERNET and GIVING AWAY THE SIX KITTENS HE GOT TO THE ASPCA.

CARL (V.O.)  
Omar, Let's cut the crap. You are not a king. You're probably just a teenage con artist jerking off somewhere in Russia. Write me again and I will find you and beat your stupid lying face in. Dick.  
Sincerely, Carl Kendall.

Carl angrily flips off his computer.

INT. CARL'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

CLOSE ON THE ALARM. His alarm goes off. Carl HITS IT off. It's now DAYTIME.

INT. CARL'S APARTMENT - DAY

Carl gets dressed. He puts on his suit and tie. His apartment is noticeably nicer than the last time we saw it.

EXT. STREET

Carl drives down the street in a FANCY CAR. He PULLS INTO DUNKIN DONUTS. He gets out of the car and passes a guy handing out fliers.

FLIER GUY  
You want to pawn --

CARL  
No.

Carl walks into Dunkin Donuts.

INT. DUNKIN DONUTS

The Dunkin Donuts Cashier hands Carl his coffee.

DUNKIN DONUTS CASHIER  
Would you like an --

CARL  
No.

Carl hands the Cashier the money.

INT. CARL'S NEW OFFICE

Carl sits in his office. Lucy walks in.

CARL

Hey, Luce. What're you doing all the way over here?

LUCY

It's been hard to reach you.

CARL

I've been a little swamped.

LUCY

Everything OK?

CARL

Yeah. Things are great.

LUCY

I was wondering when you want to meet with the florist.

CARL

Sorry, but I'm too busy these days. Don't have time to help with the party anymore. Good luck.

LUCY

You're just stopping, just like that?

CARL

I'm not the one marrying you. Maybe you should ask him for some help.

LUCY

He is helping. Here I was thinking we were actual friends.

Lucy leaves, upset. Carl doesn't move.

INT. SOUTHWEST BANK CORPORATE OFFICES - CONFERENCE ROOM

Carl, Chris and the other VPs sit around the conference table.

CHRIS PARKER  
(with great importance)  
What is the best way for us to  
enter the teenage credit card  
market?

VP  
Give away a free iPod.

CHRIS PARKER  
Yes.

ANOTHER VP  
Include one with cans of Mountain  
Dew Code Red.

CHRIS PARKER  
Nice. Anyone else? Carl?

CARL  
Have you guys thought that  
teenagers don't have the financial  
knowhow to use a credit card?

CHRIS PARKER  
That's why they're such a ripe  
market. Any ideas on how to pick  
that low hanging fruit?

CARL  
Include a Mastercard with every  
xBox.

CHRIS PARKER  
I like that. I like that a lot.

Chris SLAPS FIVE with Carl.

CHRIS PARKER (cont'd)  
Now remember, tomorrow's our  
official merger ceremony with KBI.  
So wear your nice suits. I'm  
talking to you, Feldman.

All the VPs laugh. Carl fake laughs along with them.

INT. CARL'S APARTMENT

Carl gets home. He hits play on his answering machine.

PETER (V.O.)  
 (over the answering  
 machine)

Hey, Carl. Peter here. Long time  
 no see. Sorry to hear you won't be  
 planning our engagement party.  
 Although I guess that makes you  
 less gay than I thought you were.  
 We'll be watching the game at  
 Rudy's tonight, if you're  
 interested.

Carl DELETES the message. He FLIPS ON *Survivor* and starts to  
 absentmindedly sort through his mail. He throws away  
 junkmail until he gets to a postcard that catches his eye.  
 He reads the postcard.

JASON (V.O.)  
 Dear Carl. I know this is kind of  
 random, but I thought I should  
 write you. We met at that party at  
 Norman's apartment. I was the INS  
 guy who hated his life and hated  
 you. I just wanted to tell you  
 that I took your advice. I quit my  
 job and have founded a home in  
 Botswana for elderly orangutans.  
 I've never been happier. You told  
 me to say "yes" and it has turned  
 out to be incredible. Thank you.  
 Yours truly, Jason Newmark

Carl TURNS OVER the post card. On the cover of the card is a  
 picture an orangutan.

INT. CARL'S APARTMENT

Carl's alarm goes off. He opens his eyes. He's PROPPED the  
 post card up next to his alarm clock. The orangutan seems to  
 be staring into his soul.

INT. CARL'S NEW OFFICE

Carl's writing a list of names. The post card lies on the  
 desk nearby. His secretary pops her head in.

CARL'S SECRETARY  
 The executives are gathering in the  
 conference room to officially greet  
 the KBI Officials.  
 (MORE)

CARL'S SECRETARY (cont'd)  
 (re: the post card)  
 Cute gorilla.

CARL  
 It's an elderly orangutan actually.  
 (handing her the list)  
 Could you please call everyone on  
 this list and tell them to show up  
 at Rudy's Bar & Grille this evening  
 at 9PM?

CARL'S SECRETARY  
 Will do.

Carl starts to head out and then turns around.

CARL  
 I just want to say, it was really  
 great having you as my first  
 secretary.

CARL'S SECRETARY  
 You're not firing me, are you?

CARL  
 I don't think I'm going to be  
 working here much longer.

INT. SOUTHWEST BANK - CONFERENCE ROOM

Carl walks into the crowded room. Korean executives and Southwest Bank executives mingle. Carl heads towards Chris.

CARL  
 I need to talk to you.

CHRIS PARKER  
 And I need to talk to you. You  
 mind doing a little ceremonial  
 translating?

CARL  
 I don't know if I'm good enough at  
 Korean --

CHRIS PARKER  
 Believe in yourself and the world  
 believes in you.

SEUNG sees Carl and bows to him. Carl bows back. The Pretty Korean Banker sees Carl and coquettishly waves to him. Chris TAPS the microphone. The crowd sits down.

CHRIS PARKER (cont'd)  
I'd like to welcome our new  
partners into the Southwest family.

Chris nods to Carl.

CARL  
(in Korean, with  
subtitles)  
[Welcome. You will be my partner.]

SEUNG KIM  
(in Korean)  
[Thank you.]

CHRIS PARKER  
KBI is the at the forefront of the  
financial world. With your help,  
Southwest will be as well.

Carl takes a beat. Chris looks at him, expectantly.

CARL  
(in Korean, with  
subtitles)  
[He says that you are a son of a  
dog and like to have the dirty  
sex.]

SEUNG KIM  
(in Korean)  
[What?]

CHRIS PARKER  
We look forward to working together  
and extending our reach across the  
globe.

CARL  
(in Korean, with  
subtitles)  
[He says in Korea you poop on the  
ground and that here you cannot  
poop on the ground.]

SEUNG KIM  
(in Korean)  
[That is factually inaccurate]

CARL  
(in Korean)  
[I know. But it's what the bigot  
believes.]

CHRIS PARKER  
 So with this hand shake, I make  
 official the acquisition of  
 Southwest by Korean Bank  
 International.

Chris holds out his hand.

CARL  
 (in Korean)  
 [Although you have poop on your  
 hand, I am willing to shake it so I  
 can steal all your money, you  
 stupid Korean.]

SEUNG KIM  
 No.

CHRIS PARKER  
 Excuse me?

SEUNG KIM  
 (perfect English with a  
 British accent)  
 We have a traitor in our midst.  
 This man just called me a son of a  
 dog and informed me that my hand is  
 covered in fecal matter. He is  
 clearly trying to sabotage the  
 merger.

CARL  
 You speak English?

SEUNG KIM  
 You think an international bank  
 financier wouldn't speak fluent  
 English? For whom do you work,  
 traitor? Shanghai Bank?  
 Chinatrust?

CARL  
 For myself.

SEUNG KIM  
 Fine. Keep it secret.  
 Unfortunately, I cannot approve a  
 merger with a company so  
 incompetent as to have a business  
 saboteur this high up. Good day.

Seung Kim walks out, followed by all his employees. Before  
 Chris can say anything...



CARL

I quit.

Carl leaves.

INT. RUDY'S - NIGHT

Peter, Lucy, Rooney, Norman, Tony, Loan Recipients, several Persian Woman -- all of Carl's friends along with everyone that he's met on his Yes journey have gathered at Rudy's.

PETER

Why does he want us here?

LUCY

I have no idea.

Kath and Seb walk in.

KATH

(to Lucy)

You guys get the call as well?

PAN OVER to Rooney standing alone. Farinoush, the Persian woman, walks over to him.

IRANIAN WOMAN

I'm Farinoush.

ROONEY

I'm Rooney.

IRANIAN WOMAN

You're tall.

Just then the lights go down.

MUSIC CUE: Rocky Theme.

CARL

(over the loudspeakers)

Announcing the pending marriage of  
Peter Carlton and Lucy Giuliano!

Carl RIDES INTO THE BAR on a WHITE STALLION as WHITE BALLOONS FALL FROM THE RAFTERS. Carl JUMPS OFF the horse, and puts a CROWN on Peter's and a TIARA on Lucy's.

CARL (cont'd)

Congratulations on your engagement!

PETER  
Wow. There's a horse in here.

LUCY  
Who are all these people?

CARL  
I didn't have much time to throw  
this together. I got a stallion,  
didn't I?

LUCY  
Thanks, Carl.

MUSIC CUE: The Black-Eyed Peas "My Humps"

Lucy KISSES Carl on the cheek. Everyone starts dancing.

EXT. RUDY'S

Carl's standing outside. Peter comes outside. He's drunk  
and is still wearing the crown.

PETER  
What're you doing out here?

Carl hands Peter a set of keys.

CARL  
I entrust you to sell all my shit.

PETER  
What're you talking about?

A cab PULLS UP. Peter realizes Carl's leaving.

PETER (cont'd)  
Say hello to her when you see her.  
Where is she by the way?

EXT. WINDY STREET IN BANGKOK - DAY

Carl's in a tuk tuk being driven at breakneck speed down the  
windy streets of Bangkok.

MUSIC CUE: ABBA's "One Night in Bangkok"

EXT. BANGKOK ROOF BAR - NIGHT

Carl gets up to the roof. Renee's looking out over Bangkok. He taps her on the shoulder. She turns.

RENEE  
What're you doing here?

CARL  
Yes.

RENEE  
I didn't ask you a question.

CARL  
Well, if you do that's what my answer will be.

RENEE  
Are you here because you want to be here?

CARL  
I just flew twenty-two hours. What do you think? Now can I please kiss you?

Renee nods. They kiss.

INT. CARL'S MICROLOAN OFFICE

CHYRON: SOME TIME LATER

Carl has set up a makeshift loan office. He's sitting across from a YOUNG THAI MAN.

YOUNG THAI MAN  
(in Thai, with subtitles)  
[I need ten thousand bhat to get my first tuk tuk. If I get a tuk tuk I no longer have to mop the ping pong show floor and clean the snake.]

CARL  
(in Thai, with subtitles)  
[What snake?]

YOUNG THAI MAN  
(in Thai, with subtitles)  
[You don't want to know.]

PULL BACK TO REVEAL that Norman sits at the table next to Carl working with an OLD THAI MAN.

NORMAN

(in Thai, with subtitles)  
[You guys don't have *Heroes*? I don't know you, but I think you would love it.]

OLD THAI MAN

(in Thai, with subtitles)  
[If I like it will you give me money to fix my fishing boat?]

EPILOGUE: EXT. NIGERIAN PALACE

CHYRON: Makurdi, Nigeria

Carl and Renee get out a dusty minivan. A dirty, rundown palace rises before them. Carl HEADS to the front door and hits the BUZZER. A guard with a MACHINE GUN opens up.

MACHINE GUN GUARD

What do you want?

CARL

I'm here to see Omar. The former King of Nigeria.

OMAR, THE FORMER KING OF NIGERIA, a large, boisterous man, comes up from behind the guard.

OMAR, FORMER KING OF NIGERIA

Is that Carl Kendall?

CARL

Omar! It's wonderful to meet you in person

Carl and Omar hug.

OMAR, FORMER KING OF NIGERIA

And this must be Renee? What a delight!

Omar bends on one knee and kisses Renee on the hand.

RENEE

Thank you, your majesty.

OMAR, FORMER KING OF NIGERIA

Please, call me Omar.

CARL

I'm sorry for calling you a  
masturbatory Russian teenager.

OMAR, FORMER KING OF NIGERIA

Water under the bridge. What do  
you say to having a feast?

Carl, Omar, Renee and the guard go into Omar's palace. The  
door CLOSES BEHIND THEM.

FADE OUT.