

AS WE SEE IT

Based on the Israeli Series
“On the Spectrum”

“Pilot”

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HARRISON DIETRICH (mid 20s) stands in the foyer of an apartment in a 1950s 2-story apartment building. He could use a shave, a haircut and to lose 40 pounds. 50, if we're being honest. He is definitely impacted by his disability (more so than Violet and Jack), but there is a charm to him. He lives life in the moment - he's all Id. MANDY FISCHER (early 20s), the group's sweet yet quietly forceful therapeutic aide, stands beside him. Harrison gazes out at the busy street outside. Thinks better of leaving.

HARRISON

Let's do it tomorrow.

MANDY

Harrison, you need to be able to leave the building.

HARRISON

Why?

MANDY

Why? To do things. See friends. Go to a movie. Shop. Eventually get a job. That's the goal right? I'll talk you through every step of the way.

Mandy takes out her phone and dials. Harrison's phone buzzes. He looks at the caller.

HARRISON

It's Mandy! It's you!

MANDY

Yes. I know, Harrison.

Harrison accepts the call. Speaks through his bluetooth headset.

HARRISON

Hello?

MANDY

Hello.

Harrison finds this to be the funniest thing in the world. He starts to laugh hysterically.

HARRISON

Hello.

MANDY

Hello.

HARRISON

Hello.

MANDY

Okay. I get it. It's funny. Ready?
Just one block. Just get to the
coffee shop, mission accomplished.

The moment Mandy opens the door we are flooded with a cacophony of SOUND! Harrison tentatively steps out and Mandy goes with him as they walk down the front pathway of the apartment until they reach the sidewalk. This is where Harrison has to go it alone.

MANDY (CONT'D)

Harrison, I'll be right here.

A GARDENER walks by with a leaf blower freaking Harrison out.

HARRISON

I'm going back in.

MANDY

Harrison it's just one block. You
can do this.

Harrison starts walking down the street as Mandy watches and talks to him through the headset. Through his eyes the world is a war zone. A TEENAGER sails by him a little too close on a skateboard, terrifying him. A garbage truck claws down on some garbage. The sunlight is blinding. Every ambient sound amplified.

MANDY (CONT'D)

(through headset)

You're doing great. How do you
feel?

HARRISON

Very, very bad.

MANDY

(through headset)

Just a half block more.

Harrison reacts to another loud sound...

MANDY (CONT'D)

(through headset)

Harrison, I get that sounds are
loud but you can do this.

HARRISON

That person is looking at me!!

MANDY

(through headset)

Yes he is, but he won't hurt you.
You're safe. I'm here.

Harrison puts his open hand over the side of his face, shielding him from seeing the person he is passing.

HARRISON

There it is!

Harrison gets closer to the coffee shop. KRISTEN, a cute waitress clearing an outdoor table, flashes a smile at Harrison. Harrison literally yelps.

HARRISON (CONT'D)

That waitress just smiled at me.

MANDY

(through headset)

See? Good things happen when you go outside.

BARK BARK BARK! A dog appears out of nowhere, violently barking at Harrison. Harrison goes into an immediate panic screaming, his arms flailing, which only incites the dog. The DOG OWNER tries to yank his dog back on the leash.

HARRISON

DOG! DOG! DOG!

DOG OWNER

(to Harrison)

Hey. Calm down. Stop flapping!
You're upsetting him!

(to the Dog)

Down. Down boy.

Mandy has leapt down the stoop and runs full steam to Harrison and gets between the dog and Harrison.

MANDY

Harrison it's okay. It's okay.
It's okay.

(to the dog owner)

Jesus, control your dog.

DOG OWNER

He provoked him.

As Harrison retreats back toward the apartment, Mandy can only watch. This just set them back months.

MANDY
(to herself)
Shit.

2 INT. L.A. - COPPER DAM PUBLISHING - CONFERENCE ROOM - DAY (D1)

CLOSE ON JACK HOFFMAN (25), his face stoic but intense. We HEAR the world around Jack as he hears it -- an exaggerated tap of a pen against the table, the whoosh of air coming through the vents, a passing siren in the distance outside. These sounds all underline Jack's agitated state making it hard for him to focus on his boss AUSTIN (late 20s), an up and comer in management who addresses the I.T. TEAM currently sitting around the conference table at this medium sized publishing house. Bits and pieces of what he's saying emerge through the cacophony of other sounds...

AUSTIN'S VOICE
Any time you introduce a new program there are bound to be tweaks. And granted these are not just tweaks. We're going to have to roll up our sleeves here because we've been getting complaints from virtually everyone in management about this new interface since we rolled it out. Long story short. It's just too complicated and confusing.

Jack, growing more and more unnerved, begins to involuntarily mumble back partial phrases of Austin's, raising the eyebrows of his fellow I.T. Team.

AUSTIN	JACK
Rest assured we're not going to throw out the baby with the bathwater. But this is coming directly from the top. Suze called me directly about her issues. She said she needed to go on a treasure hunt just to get to access the P&L's.	Baby...bathwater... Directly from the top... Treasure hunt...

Growing more agitated, Jack *rises and starts pacing*. Austin becomes more and more distracted by Jack. RICH (early 30s), Jack's co-programmer, chimes in for Jack...

RICH

He does that. It's okay.

AUSTIN

We need to work together. All hands on deck. The plan is to go back to the old interface and incorporate as much of the new programming as possible underneath it.

JACK

The P&L page. Treasure hunt over.
You can access every book sold, at
what price, complete inventory,
profit and loss on any given day
since the date of publication. As I
said. Perfect program.

Jack now stands alone. Everyone, including Rich, just stares
at him.

AUSTIN

I think you need to leave.

JACK

Where?

AUSTIN

Why don't you go see Jennifer in
H.R.?

JACK

H.R.? Am I being fired?

AUSTIN

I think you should discuss that
with Jennifer.

JACK

Will I get paid through the end of
the pay period?

AUSTIN

It's not my department--

JACK

Because I'm saving for a Roomba. If
I get paid through the end of the
pay period I can get the Roomba
s9+. Otherwise, I'd have to settle
for the Roomba 860 which is vastly
inferior.

AUSTIN

(to Rich)

You really need to get him out of
here.

3

INT. ARBY'S - DAY

3

VIOLET WU (25) stands at the register. She is striking, with a subtle but distinct speech impediment which makes her sound much younger than her years, one of the many signs we will learn about her other-ness. Index cards are pasted below the register -- reminders. "Welcome to Arby's." "Smile." "Give change." "Thank you for your patronage." ANDREW (early 30s), flannel and jeans, steps up. She smiles.

VIOLET
Welcome to Arby's.

Violet finds herself distracted, attracted to him.

ANDREW
Yeah, hi. Can I get one roast beef and cheese slider, one buffalo chicken slider, a loaded curly fries and two medium Cokes, please.

She rings him up. Smiles again.

VIOLET
That's twenty-two dollars and forty-five cents. You have nice eyes.

ANDREW
Oh. Thanks.

She laughs. Her laugh is a little off. But he is flattered, not the kind of guy used to being flirted with.

VIOLET
We should have a date.

He laughs a little. She laughs again. Again her laugh feels a little off. His body language pulls back, but she doesn't read it.

VIOLET (CONT'D)
The first date could be something fun and silly -- like an arcade. That's what Cosmo online says.

ANDREW
Oh, um--

VIOLET
And the second date should be at a restaurant. So we can get to know each other. We can't have sex on date one or date two but on date three we can screw, okay?

ANDREW'S WIFE has arrived just in time to hear this, their toddler in her arms. Andrew's wife has her own anger issues.

ANDREW'S WIFE

Excuse me?
(to Andrew)
Who is this?

ANDREW

I never met this woman.

JOHN (30s), store manager walks up...

JOHN

Everything alright here?

ANDREW'S WIFE

This *bitch* just told my husband she wants to *fuck* him. In those words. In *Arby's!* -- Are you retarded?

JOHN

Okay, that word isn't acceptable here and--

ANDREW'S WIFE

Seriously? *This* is your response? She should be fired immediately. We are paying customers.

JOHN

Okay... This is all okay. Violet, why don't we talk in the office?
(to Andrew and his wife as he leaves)
I'm so sorry. The meal is on us.

ANDREW'S WIFE

Oh, big whoop. Jesus.

John begins to lead Violet to the office. Violet remembers something and turns back to Andrew.

VIOLET

Thank you for your patronage.

4

INT. APARTMENT - EVENING

4

Harrison, Jack, Violet and Mandy sit around the couch and chairs in the living room of an apartment. Think IKEA/college dorm. Barely decorated.

MANDY

Who would like to begin?

JACK

Harrison smells.

MANDY

Jack...

JACK (CONT'D)

It's probably from being so fat.

VIOLET

They put me in the kitchen. How am I supposed to get a boyfriend and fuck and get married if I'm in the kitchen squirting mustard on sandwiches.

MANDY (CONT'D)

Violet, we need to have one conversation...

HARRISON

(laughing uncontrollably)
She said the fuck word...

MANDY

Violet, please watch your language. Jack, is that the way friends talk to each other?

JACK

He's not my friend.

HARRISON

You're my best friend since preschool.

JACK

You're not even qualified to live here with us.

MANDY

Of course he is. Your families rented this apartment for all of you.

JACK

So we could become independent.
Harrison will never be able to be
independent or have a job. His
parents are filthy rich and pay for
most of the rent and your salary
otherwise he would never make the
cut.

MANDY

Jack!

VIOLET

HOW! HOW! HOW! How am I ever going
to hook up with a man?!

MANDY

How about someone at drama
club?

VIOLET (CONT'D)

Drama club! No! I want to
meet someone normal.

MANDY (CONT'D)

What about Douglas? You two
seemed to hit it off.

VIOLET (CONT'D)

Douglas? Kiss Douglas? Ew.
Guess again. I'm not going to
fuck Douglas.

Harrison starts laughing again.

JACK

I'm going to be here much more
often now so I need this place to
smell less like Harrison.

MANDY

What do you mean you're going to be
here more often?

Violet takes out her phone.

VIOLET

I'm going on Tinder right now to
find a love connection.

Jack gets up to go.

JACK

Great, meeting over.

HARRISON

The meeting's over?

MANDY

No, Harrison.

HARRISON

Jack just said--

MANDY

Jack, you know the meeting is mandatory.

JACK

I'm hungry and bored.

MANDY

Jack, please. Violet, you know Tinder is off limits.

VIOLET

Fine. I'll go on Bumble.

MANDY

And we don't use cell phones during group. Jack, what do you mean you're going to be here more often. Did something happen at work?

VIOLET

I'm 25 years old. You can't stop me from going on Bumble, Mandy.

MANDY

Violet, give me one second. Please! Jack, what happened at work?

JACK

I got terminated.

MANDY

Why?

JACK

For being a genius. May I leave now?

MANDY

Why did they say you were terminated?

Mandy gets a ping on her phone. She glances down at it -- and seeing what it is it immediately commands her complete focus. It's from Duke University School of Medicine, Office of Admissions. Her body tenses. Holy shit.

VIOLET

I don't care that it's off limits. I'm going on Bumble and you can't stop me. Okay? Okay?

Mandy reads the email... "Duke University School of Medicine regrets to inform you..." As Mandy's world crashes before her eyes.

JACK VIOLET (CONT'D)
Okay, meeting adjourned. Mandy, I'm breaking the
Hasta la vista. rules, okay?

MANDY
(to Violet, completely
distracted)
Yeah, yeah, sounds good.

OFF Mandy, a huge curve ball thrown...

5

INT. MANDY'S PLACE - EVENING

5

Mandy sits at the table, totally depressed. Her very loving boyfriend JOEL PARRISH opens up containers from a Chinese take out place and tries to comfort her.

MANDY
I'm a loser.

JOEL
You're not a loser. Here, shrimp.
(hands her a dumpling, she
tries it)
Huh?

MANDY
Good. You're going to Berkeley Law.
You're going to become a Senator or
a Governor and I'm going to be
trying to get Harrison to walk to
the coffee shop without freaking
out.

JOEL
You're going to retake the MCAT,
reapply to med schools and you will
become a brilliant, famous
neurologist and make new
breakthroughs in understanding
autism.

MANDY
Sure, okay...

JOEL
Listen to me.

He comes and sits in the chair with her. Kisses her tears.
Kisses her. She melts into him. And in this close tender
moment he just says it...

JOEL (CONT'D)

Move in with me. Move to Berkeley with me for the year while you reapply.

MANDY

And what about the guys. I just leave them after eight months? Transitions are really hard for them.

JOEL

It was always the plan for you to leave in the fall.

MANDY

Yeah, but I was supposed to be going to med school. Now it feels like I'm just abandoning them.

JOEL

Mandy. Listen to me. This happens to tons of people. Take the year. Focus on reapplying. Don't give up on yourself. Don't give up on us.

MANDY

You really want me to move in with you?

JOEL

More than anything in the world.

She is conflicted, but drawn to Joel's proposal.

He dips another dumpling in soy sauce and hands it to her, she bites into it. He gently kisses the soy sauce off the side of her mouth. He's making her feel better. He gets up to get the other containers of food.

JOEL (CONT'D)

This is right. This is what we should do. I could feel it.

We stay with her. She's not sure how to feel.

6 INT. APARTMENT - NEXT MORNING (D2)

6

Jack is pacing, on his cellphone.

JACK

(into phone)

Forrest, please? Yes, I'll hold.

Violet is at the table, dressed in her Arby's uniform, eating cereal. Harrison is also eating cereal. His way. Which is to thrust his hand into the box and shovel untold amounts of Lucky Charms into his mouth, a large percentage of which ends up on the floor. Violet is disgusted.

VIOLET
What are you doing?

HARRISON
Eating breakfast.

VIOLET
That's not how you eat cereal. It's revolting. I want to vomit.

He just keeps doing it.

VIOLET (CONT'D)
Close your mouth! Close your mouth!
Harrison!

JACK
Shut up! I'm on a business call!
(into phone)
Yes? It's Jack Hoffman, calling about the Roomba s9+. -- Yes, I'm calling again. I was unjustly terminated from my job and I'd like to know if there are any upcoming sales to help me subsidize the s9+. -- No, credit isn't going to work for me. I won't be eligible for credit for another several years as a matter of a court directive which I'd prefer not to go into. -- Okay, I'll wait to hear from you then.

Jack hangs up. Violet and Harrison look at him, hopeful:

VIOLET
Are we getting the Roomba?

JACK
Unclear.

7 OMITTED 7

8 INT./EXT. VAN'S VOLVO STATION WAGON/ARBY'S - DAY 8

Violet stares out the window, her big eyes, staring vaguely at the world passing by. We hear a man's voice -- slowly breaking through the barrier of her mind.

VAN'S VOICE

You okay?
(she doesn't answer)
Violet. Violet?

Finally she turns to him. This is VAN (late 20s) her brother, a contractor, the back of his car filled to the brim with an old tool box, plumbing pipes, doorknob samples, and various other items he is carting around from job to job.

VAN

So you'll work in the kitchen.
Better than no job at all. Maybe
one day John will give you another
shot at the register. I'll talk to
him.

VIOLET

Will you take me shopping? I need
to get more lacy bras.

VAN

No you don't.

VIOLET

Celeste says I have good boobs but
they're small so I need lacy bras.
Do you think I have good boobs?

VAN

Brothers and sisters don't talk
about that stuff.

VIOLET

Why?

VAN

They just don't. And don't listen
to Celeste about how to dress.

VIOLET

Why?

VAN

You don't want guys to think you're
cheap. To expect stuff. You to *do*
stuff.

VIOLET

I want to do stuff.

VAN

Not with creeps.

VIOLET

I'm twenty-five. I want a
boyfriend. It's normal to have a
boyfriend. I want to be normal.

VAN

Have a good rest of the week at
work and maybe we can go shopping
over the weekend. I made you new
cards.

VIOLET

This weekend is too late. I might
have a date before that. I'm on
Bumble now.

VAN

No dating apps. We've been over
this a thousand times.

VIOLET

Mandy said I could.

VAN

No, she didn't.

VIOLET

Yes, she did.

VAN

I'll talk to Mandy. You need to
delete the app.

VIOLET

No. Mandy's the boss, and she said--

VAN

I'm the boss.

VIOLET

You're a terrible boss. I don't
want you as my boss anymore.

VAN

Believe me, I don't want to be the
boss.

They come to a stop outside the restaurant.

VIOLET

You're the worst brother in the
world.

VAN

Just focus on your job, okay? Stay focused. Stay organized. Get through the rest of the week without any more drama and I'll take you shopping this weekend.

VIOLET

(slamming the door, angry)
Okay.

VAN

Violet!

She turns and he holds out her index cards.

VAN (CONT'D)

Your cards.

9

INT. APARTMENT - DAY

9

Harrison watches The Price is Right which he appreciates as the totally engaging television that it is. Mandy holds up her phone showing him pictures of croissants.

MANDY

Harrison, look at these croissants.

HARRISON

I love croissants.

MANDY

Who doesn't? Delish. All you have to do is walk to the coffee shop on your own and you can buy your own personal croissant. Plain. Chocolate. Heated. Not heated. You're the decider.

HARRISON

I'm not going out there again.

MANDY

You did so great yesterday. Remember the pretty waitress?

HARRISON

I'm watching The Price is Right.

MANDY

Okay, but after this episode we're going out there. Okay?

HARRISON

Family Feud is on next. Then Wheel
of Fortune. I'm swamped.

There's a knock on the door. Mandy opens the door. It's Van
with a head of steam.

VAN

Did you tell Violet she could go on
Bumble?

MANDY

No.

VAN

Well, she said you did.

MANDY

I might have gotten
distracted for a minute.
Maybe she misinterpreted
something I said--

VAN (CONT'D)

I'm paying a third of your
salary to make things easier
for me, not more difficult--

VAN (CONT'D)

I know you're halfway out the door
on your way to Duke but you need to
be on this. You know how literal
she takes things.

MANDY

I know--

VAN

It's gotta be black and white. Any
gray area, she takes advantage.

MANDY

Okay. I'll talk to her. And I'm not
half way to anywhere. I didn't get
in to Duke.

This stops Van.

VAN

Oh. You didn't?

MANDY

I didn't get in anywhere. 0 for 5.
Yay me.

There's a beat.

VAN

That's... I'm sorry about that.

MANDY

Thanks.

VAN

So you're staying then? We don't have to find a replacement for you? Because we already started interviewing.

MANDY

Yeah. I don't know. My boyfriend asked me to move to Berkeley with him.

VAN

Whatchu gonna do in Berkeley?

MANDY

Um... live?

VAN

Okay. Let us know.

MANDY

Yeah. Okay.

Mandy is hurt he didn't go the extra mile trying to convince her to stay.

MANDY (CONT'D)

I'll talk to Violet.

VAN

Good. See you Harrison.

HARRISON

You wanna watch? The Showcase Showdown is coming up.

VAN

Sounds good, but I'm due back in the world.

10

INT. ARBY'S - DAY

10

Violet is in the kitchen dressing sandwiches with tomatoes, onions, and pickles. She squirts mustard onto a bun and stares longingly out at another WORKER who has taken over her job at the register. Her phone pings. She picks it up, looks. Her eyebrows raise, intrigued.

11 EXT. ARBY'S - PARKING LOT - LATER

11

Violet is with her coworkers on a break. She sucks the last dregs of her 7 Up out of her straw as she leans over her phone looking at Bumble. She is with her coworkers CELESTE and TIFF, who is adjusting her makeup.

[Violet is with her coworkers CELESTE and TIFF on a break. She sucks the last dregs of her 7 Up out of her straw as she leans over her phone looking at Bumble. Tiff stares into a compact, adjusting her makeup.]?

VIOLET

He matched me. He SuperSwiped me!
I have a match!

TIFF

Sweet.

VIOLET

Oh my God, oh my God. Okay, I'm
writing to him.

(as she types)

"Hi Brad."

(to the others)

I wrote, "Hi Brad."

CELESTE

We heard that.

She gets a ping on her phone. Violet practically jumps out of her skin.

VIOLET

He wants to meet! Seven o'clock
tonight at The Purple Pig.

Celeste punches in Purple Pig on her phone...

CELESTE

The Purple Pig? That don't sound
promising.

But then she sees the website.

CELESTE (CONT'D)

Ooh, hold the phone. Look at this
place. He's got coin.

TIFF

(looking at the picture)

I'd hit that. You know what, I'm
gonna go get the rest of my makeup.

(MORE)

TIFF (CONT'D)

Lay a little Ventura Blvd School of
Cosmetology magic on you.

VIOLET

This is the best day of my life.

(typing)

Seven o'clock. See you there, Brad Pitt.

(to the others)

I called him Brad Pitt.

CELESTE

We heard.

VIOLET

I have a date you guys!

12

INT. ENCINO DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB - EVENING

12

A second story room over Ventura Blvd. Wood panels. Card tables. Octogenarian crowd. Something charming and old school about it. Jack intensely finishes playing out a hand across the table from his father, LOU (60s), world-worn with a bit of a used car salesman vibe, but is haimish with a sense of humor and love for his son. He comes here not because he loves bridge, but because it's an activity he can do with Jack. RUTH and IRIS are their elderly opponents.

JACK

Jack of clubs from the table... Six of spades... And the rest are good.

He throws the cards down in triumph--

JACK (CONT'D)

Bid four made six, doubled, vulnerable.

RUTH

Well played, Jack.

JACK

I didn't play well, you played poorly.

Ruth laughs uncomfortably, unsure if Jack is joking.

JACK (CONT'D)

Why are you laughing. If you came back a heart you could have run the suit and I would have gone down two. You're very old so maybe you have Alzheimer's so you forgot about the hearts.

LOU

I'm sorry. It's the Asperger's. He doesn't mean it.

JACK

I mean it. She tanked that hand.

IRIS

We're just here to have fun, Jack. We're not perfectionists.

JACK

How can you have fun if you play this badly. Your bidding is atrocious, and you botched every single hand you played.

LOU

Jack...

JACK

What? I'm stating facts.

Iris looks at Ruth. There's an uncomfortable moment and then they both start laughing, releasing the tension.

RUTH

Your son is a hoot. You should bring him around more often.

IRIS

So authentic.

LOU

That's one word for it.

RUTH

This world needs more young men who speak their minds. Maybe next week you can be *my* partner, Jack.

JACK

You'll need to improve your game first.

Ruth and Iris laugh, charmed.

A12 INT./EXT. VAN'S VOLVO STATION WAGON/SALENA'S APARTMENT - A12
EVENING

Van is on the phone in his parked car, finishing a call.

VAN

Yes... yes, don't worry. -- I said
I'll make the changes.

Van gets out of his car as a car pulls into the electronic gate of the condo. Van gets out and starts walking toward the condo, still on the phone as SALENA (20s), tough, wounded underneath, gets out of her car with a few grocery bags.

VAN (CONT'D)

(into phone)

We'll replace the baseboard at no extra cost. Don't worry, it'll match the living room. Yup, exact match. Okay, I gotta go.

Salena sees Van through the gate.

SALENA

What are you doing here?

VAN

You're not calling me back.

SALENA

Oh, now you can't get in touch with me. How does that feel, Van?

VAN

I'm gonna be more on it, okay?

SALENA

On it? What does "on it" mean?

VAN

You know... Committed.

SALENA

You can't even say the word, can you?

VAN

Come on. Things are under control now. My sister has a job. My foreman's out of jail. I can focus more on us now.

SALENA

You're so full of shit.

VAN

Give me a second chance. I miss you.

This gets to her a little.

VAN (CONT'D)
Let me help you in with those bags.
Please.

She relents, signaling to him to come through the gate. He takes some of her bags.

VAN (CONT'D)
Whoa, what do you have in here,
bricks?

She chuckles and as she fishes through her purse for her keys he kisses her.

13 INT. THE PURPLE PIG - EVENING

13

Violet sits at a table. The crowd is hip. Even the waitstaff is intimidating. She has unbuttoned a couple buttons on her top and keeps adjusting it, her lacy bra in evidence underneath. She's a little too exposed. We feel a little worried for her. BRAD (late 20s) walks in. Violet waves at him (a little too enthusiastically).

VIOLET
Brad!

He sees her, smiles and walks over.

BRAD
Hi.

VIOLET
Hi!

BRAD
So nice to meet you. You have such
an amazing smile.

VIOLET
Really?

BRAD
A million people must have told you
that.

He sits, taking his chair and moving next to her so they're sitting close together.

VIOLET
No.

BRAD

Come on.

She laughs, he laughs.

VIOLET

Why is this place called The Purple Pig? Pigs aren't purple they're pink.

She laughs too loud at her joke.

BRAD

(moving in closer)

I hear the food's amazing.

Violet smiles. She feels his eyes going to her bra...

VIOLET

What are you looking at?

BRAD

Nothing. You're beautiful.

VIOLET

I am?

BRAD

Come on. You know you're beautiful.

She laughs.

VIOLET

You can hold my hand if you want.

BRAD

Oh, okay.

He puts his hand on hers. He's not a creep. But she's in a more adult situation than she should be in.

VIOLET

Do you like my eye makeup? Celeste did them. We work together at Arby's. It's called a feline flick. She said guys think it's hot.

BRAD

You work at Arby's? Cool.

VIOLET

Yeah. I was at the counter but now I'm a sandwich technician. Do you think my eye makeup is hot?

BRAD
Yeah, it's very pretty.

VIOLET
Do you like to bowl?

BRAD
Bowl? Oh, sure, I guess.

VIOLET
We can go bowling after. Or to
Santa Monica Pier. I just have to
text Van so I don't get in trouble.

BRAD
Who's Van?

VIOLET
My brother. My mother and father
are dead...

He takes his hand away. Starting to see something is off
here.

BRAD
... oh, wow, I'm sorry...

VIOLET
...so my brother makes the rules
and if I don't follow them he'll
take my phone away.

BRAD
Oh, but you're... It said on your
profile. You're 25, right?

VIOLET
Yes.

BRAD
So I don't understand. Your brother
takes your phone away?

VIOLET
He's a strict asshole.

BRAD
But you're 25. You're an adult.

VIOLET
Exactly. I tell him that all the
time. And Mandy.

BRAD
Who's Mandy?

VIOLET
Mandy comes to the apartment every day. She acts all nice but she's tough as nails. Full of rules.

BRAD
Oh, yeah, that's tough.

Brad is now halfway out the door.

VIOLET
Celeste did my lipstick too. Candy yum yum. She said it's liquid lipstick and you can't kiss it off. So if we kiss later at the bowling alley it won't come off.

BRAD
Oh, good. Good to know.

The WAITRESS walks up.

WAITRESS
Can I get you something?

BRAD
(figuring out his exit strategy)
I'll have a Mule, please.

WAITRESS
Coming up. Another Seven Up, hon?

VIOLET
Yeah!

The waitress leaves.

BRAD
Hey so... I just need to use the bathroom. Okay?

VIOLET
Okay.

BRAD
I'll be back.

VIOLET
Okay!

He walks away. He's obviously out of there. Violet has no idea.

14 INT. SALENA'S APARTMENT - BEDROOM - EVENING

14

Salena and Van lay in bed, post coital.

SALENA

This is never gonna work, Van.

VAN

Why not?

SALENA

You compartmentalize. You keep everything separate. I never know what's going on with you. You've got a forcefield around you.

VAN

What are you talking about?

SALENA

Everything. You're always on the phone, texting. I'm like who was that. No one. What's going on? Nothing.

VAN

It's boring shit. Work issues.

SALENA

What about your sister? She's this huge part of your life and I've never even met her.

He just sighs.

SALENA (CONT'D)

It says to me you're not serious.

VAN

If we bring her into it, it will become about her. There won't be an us anymore. She'll think she's your best friend, then she'll start texting you thirty times a day, and eventually you'll be life's too short and bail. Trust me.

SALENA

Maybe you don't know me well enough.

VAN
But I know Violet.

The phone rings. He looks at it. Violet. He looks at Salena, holds up the phone as proof.

VAN (CONT'D)
It's like she could feel me having
a life.
(into phone)
Violet, I'm in a meeting. I'll call
you back later.

INTERCUT WITH:

15 INT. THE PURPLE PIG - SAME

15

Violet sits at the table, several empty 7 Ups in front of her and an untouched drink in front of Brad's empty chair. They talk to each other on the phone:

VIOLET
I need you to transfer thirty
dollars into my account. The
waitress wants me to pay because
she thinks my date isn't coming
back but he is coming back. He just
went to the bathroom.

VAN
Date?
(realizing)
Goddamnit, Violet. I told you to
delete that app. Where are you?

VIOLET
The Purple Pig. It's a cool
restaurant even though pigs are
pink, not purple.

VAN
You went on Bumble?

VIOLET
Yes.

VAN
Great. How long has he been gone?

VIOLET
Twenty minutes.

VAN
He's a creep.

VIOLET
No, he isn't. His name is Brad and
he SuperSwiped me. He's got coins
and Tiff said she'd hit that.

VAN
Wait there. Don't move. I'll be
there in ten minutes.

VIOLET
Don't come here! Van!

He hangs up. Looks at Salena.

VAN
I...

SALENA
You have to go. It's okay.

VAN
I'll be back in an hour. I promise.

SALENA
That's okay. Some other time.

VAN
Salena...

SALENA
Van, this is never going to change.
I'm always going to be your last
priority. That's not enough for me.

VAN
It will change. I promise.

SALENA
Yeah. Okay, Van.

OFF Van, with no choice but to go.

16

EXT. SANTULLI'S PIZZERIA - NIGHT (N2)

16

Jack and Lou eat at this old school pizzeria. Every ounce of Jack's core being is focused on the slice of pepperoni pizza in front of him which he has deconstructed -- he has removed the cheese and the pepperoni and put them aside as he eats the pizza with only the sauce on it, which he still experiences to be delicious.

LOU
Jack, can we talk for a second?

JACK
I don't like to have conversations
while I'm eating.

LOU
That's what people do. They go out
to dinner. They talk.

JACK
When I go out to eat, I like to
eat.

LOU
So we'll talk after we eat?

JACK
After I eat I like to digest.

LOU
So when do you like to talk?

JACK
I don't like to talk.

LOU
Can you see how that might be a
problem? I mean, just in terms of
socializing, so forth?

JACK
I don't like to socialize.

Jack continues to eat. Lou watches him a minute.

LOU
Jack, I need you to go and fight to
get that job back.

Jack doesn't say anything in response. He just keeps eating.

LOU (CONT'D)
Jack please. This is serious. You
were doing great. You had three
good months. Three beautiful
months. But this is a definite
setback. Nothing we can't bounce
back from but it's a setback.

He looks at Jack. Nothing.

LOU (CONT'D)

I called in. Spoke to Suze. Told them the whole thing was a misunderstanding. They're ready to hear you out. You can go back. Talk to them. But you've gotta fight, Jack. You want that job back you've gotta fight for it.

Nothing.

LOU (CONT'D)

You hear me?

JACK

Yeah.

LOU

Will you do that? Will you go in and apologize?

JACK

Apologize for what? I wrote a perfect program.

LOU

You told your boss he has inferior intelligence.

JACK

He does.

LOU

You don't say that to your boss.

JACK

I won't apologize.

LOU

You need this job.

JACK

I'll get a different job.

LOU

You will? It took a long time to get this job. Do you remember how long? And this place -- they were willing to look past some things. See how smart you are and look past the other stuff. But not everyone will do that. You can't just waste this opportunity.

JACK

Can we talk about the Roomba?

LOU

Jack, fuck the Roomba, okay? The Roomba is a stupid meaningless toy--

JACK

Actually, it's a robotic vacuum that happens to be a brilliant piece of engineering.

LOU

You're 25. Do you want your Dad to be supporting you forever?

JACK

Yes.

LOU

(blurting this out)

Jack, I have cancer.

Well, that got Jack's attention.

LOU (CONT'D)

I've been fighting for my life, believe me. And I'm gonna keep fighting but things... They're not going my way. You need to have a job. You need to remember to pay your rent, and talk to people when they look at you, and when a girl smiles at you, smile back. I need to know you're going to be okay, Jack. Do you hear me?

There's a beat.

JACK

Yes. Okay.

There's a silence. We wonder what Jack is thinking. What he'll say. Will he express anything to his father after hearing this news.

JACK (CONT'D)

Can I eat in silence now? I'd like to focus on my last slice.

LOU

Sure, Jack.

Lou sits and watches Jack who continues to eat. It can be lonely being Jack's dad.

17 INT. THE PURPLE PIG - NIGHT

17

Van comes charging in. Violet is still seated at the restaurant.

VIOLET
What are you doing here? Go!

VAN
Let's go.

VIOLET
No! I'm on a date.

VAN
I said no Tinder.

VIOLET
It's not Tinder, it's Bumble.

VAN
Whatever. You broke the rules.
Let's go.

VIOLET
NO!

He pulls her up by the arm.

VIOLET (CONT'D)
Hey! Stop! Don't touch me!

Now people are watching. GUS comes up to Van.

GUS
The lady said not to touch her.

VAN
Stay out of it.

GUS
How about you just leave the girl
alone.

Van pulls Violet away. Gus makes a move to get between them and physically puts his hands on Van who pushes the guy back, maybe a little too hard.

GUS (CONT'D)
Motherfucker.

VAN
*I'm a motherfucker? I'm a
motherfucker?*

VIOLET
VAN! STOP!

Van pulls Violet out--

VIOLET (CONT'D)

I hate you! I hate you! I hate you!

VAN

Right back at you.

As he drags her out of the bar.

18

EXT. APARTMENT - NIGHT

18

Harrison is halfway down the sidewalk as Mandy stands in front of their building talking to Harrison through his bluetooth. Harrison inadvertently meanders into the path of a BIKE DELIVERY GUY, who swerves to avoid him.

BIKE DELIVERY GUY

(yelling)

¡Lárgate, pendejo!

HARRISON

I'm gonna go home now.

MANDY

You can do this. You're halfway there.

HARRISON

Dog. There's a dog, Mandy. A dog.

He sees a dog. He looks terrified. Mandy too is terrified.

MANDY

Take a breath. That is a quiet dog. He's not a barker. Okay?

HARRISON

I'm going back.

MANDY

Harrison, think about the croissant okay? What kind of croissant are you going to order?

HARRISON

Chocolate.

MANDY

Are you going to have them heat it or have it room temperature?

HARRISON

Heated.

MANDY

That sounds delicious. Just go
right past the dog. Friendly dog.

Harrison gets his energy and starts walking again, past the
dog...

HARRISON

Friendly dog. Friendly dog.
Friendly dog.

MANDY

You can do it Harrison. I know you
can do it.

Harrison continues. Walks the gauntlet. Passes the dog. Gets
to the coffee shop. Success!

HARRISON

I did it. Mandy, I made it. I made
it to the coffee shop.

MANDY

You did it.
(to herself)
You did it.

Mandy runs up to him and gives him a big hug.

HARRISON

It's croissant time!

MANDY

It is totally croissant time.

Harrison goes into an uninhibited and uncoordinated
celebratory dance right there in the middle of the street.
Mandy can't help but feel completely charmed.

Jack walks by holding a plastic bag from Best Buy with a
Roomba.

JACK

Harrison, you're acting
inappropriate in a public setting
and you look like an oversized
chicken.

MANDY

How was your night out with your
dad?

JACK

I made a six no-trump doubled contract and had three slices of pizza and two root beers. Free refills.

MANDY

Sounds pretty amazing.

JACK

I've decided to apologize to Austin. He's a dick. But I'll apologize.

MANDY

That's so great. So you talked to your dad about it?

JACK

He has cancer. He'll probably die. So I need the job.

MANDY

What...? Jack...?

JACK

My father lent me money for the Roomba. I'm going to set it up now.

MANDY

Jack, wait. Let's talk about this...

But Jack just heads past them.

19

INT. APARTMENT - LATER

19

Jack is setting up the Roomba as Mandy tries to talk to him. Harrison is eating his croissant.

MANDY

Jack, I understand if you're not ready to talk to me about this yet.

JACK

I'm going to apologize to Austin even though he's an idiot and a dick. It's what you wanted. There's nothing to talk about.

MANDY

I meant your Dad, Jack. I know it's a lot to process.

JACK

Please not now. Not now. I've waited for this for a very long time.

Violet and Van enter mid-argument.

VIOLET

You can't tell me what to do and what not to do!

MANDY

What happened?

VAN

She went on Bumble and some creep blew her off and it could have been a thousand times worse.

VIOLET

He's not a creep!

MANDY

Oh my God, Violet, I texted you five times not to...

VAN

No more Bumble. No Bumble, no Tinder, [no]? Twitter, no Facebook, no Instagram.

VIOLET

How am I supposed to meet guys? I'm a sandwich technician!

VAN

You can meet guys at drama club.

VIOLET

Normal guys! NORMAL GUYS! NORMAL GUYS!

VAN

YOU'RE NOT FUCKING NORMAL!

This stops everything. Her anger turns to betrayal. She gets emotional.

VIOLET

I have speech lessons. When I'm done with speech lessons I'll be like everyone else.

VAN

Okay, okay...

VIOLET

I hate you.

She slams into her bedroom and then comes out and just opens up and screams at him in an unadulterated way that gets everyone's attention.

VIOLET (CONT'D)

You don't know Van. You think you know it all but you don't know. Mom told me I was beautiful. Every day Mom told me I was beautiful and any boy would be crazy not to love me. And she's dead and Dad's dead and I'm stuck with you and Hashtag you're an idiot.

VAN

That doesn't mean anything.

VIOLET

Yes it does.

She curls into a ball on the floor, rocks back and forth and cries. Mandy who has watched all this, feeling for Van, moves toward Violet. But Van reaches a hand to stop her.

VAN

Give her a minute.

It's painful for Van. He just has to wait this out. They all do. Mandy senses the pain in him.

MANDY

You okay?

VAN

Yeah.

(willing this to be true)

It'll be over soon.

MANDY

I'm sorry. I tried texting her. I should have been more on it.

VAN

It's not you. It's Violet. It's all about Violet. Everything always is all about Violet. Go to Berkeley. Escape while you can.

MANDY

I love Violet. I know she's challenging. But I love her. I love all of them.

Van looks at her. Sees that she is questioning whether she can really leave these three people to go live with her boyfriend. He doesn't push her on it.

JACK

Violet: SHUT UP! SHUT UP! SHUT UP!

Jack has yelled loud enough so Violet stops crying and looks up. Jack holds up his phone with a serious expression as if something very important is about to happen.

JACK (CONT'D)

The Roomba is ready.

HARRISON

The Roomba! The Roomba is ready?
Mandy, the Roomba is ready?

MANDY

I heard.

Mandy thinks of something, then...

MANDY (CONT'D)

Hey, Jack, what if you let Violet do the honors?

JACK

Violet? No. I can't trust her with something this complex.

MANDY

Isn't it just pressing a button?

Harrison goes to Jack.

HARRISON

Hey Jack. What do you think?

Jack can't stand the peer pressure. He reluctantly holds out the phone to Violet. Van is amazed -- looks at Mandy, moved by what she is helping to facilitate for his sister.

JACK

You break it, you pay for it.

Violet, honored, takes the phone. Jack indicates which button. She hits the button sending the Roomba on its maiden voyage. As we hear a string quartet accentuated by choral voices, we watch Harrison, Jack and Violet watch, completely absorbed by the Roomba. They watch delighted as it turns, shucks and jives around the apartment avoiding the walls, couches and other objects. They smile, laugh, engaged with each other as they share this communal moment.

Van watches his sister smiling like a little girl, forgetting for a moment about the burden she causes him and reminded instead of the little sister he loves so fiercely. Mandy looks at the three of them -- her little ducklings, basking in this rare moment of cohesion. Mandy feels Van looking at her, and smiles at him -- they share this moment. Then a call comes in on her cell -- Joel. She considers, then hits ignore. OFF our three heroes wholly absorbed as only they could be.

20 INT. COPPER DAM - AUSTIN'S WAITING AREA - DAY (D3) 20

Jack and Mandy sit outside of Austin's office. Jack nervously taps his foot on the floor. The moment is stoic.

MANDY

Eye contact. Calm. Breathe. If you start getting upset, do your counting.

JACK

If I were my true self I would never apologize.

MANDY

(with a smile)

Then, don't be your true self.

Even Jack has to crack a smile. The door opens. Austin stands there waiting, betrays little. Jack takes a deep, nervous breath. So much riding on this. Mandy reaches out, touches his shoulder.

JACK

I don't like to be touched.

MANDY

I know. Couldn't help myself this time. You can do this. You've got this.

Jack walks to the door. Looks back to Mandy who nods at him -- courage. Austin gives Jack a slight nod that seems to say, I'm not going to make this easy. Mandy sits in the waiting room -- nothing to do now but, well... wait. And as Austin closes the door, all we can do too is wait, as it's the...

END OF PILOT

*