

CATASTROPHE

"Pilot"

Written by

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Avalon Television

Shooting Script

Sharon goes up to the bar to order a drink. There's quite a crowd. Rob is standing near the front, next in line to be served. SHARON elbows him by accident.

SHARON

Sorry.

He turns and sees her, smiles.

ROB

That's okay.

He turns back. Turns around again.

ROB(cont'd) (CONT'D)

I know it seems crowded but it only took me forty minutes to get my last drink.

SHARON

That all?

ROB

Let me get yours. It will make me feel better about being in line for a coke.

SHARON

You don't drink?

ROB

I quit after I shit myself at my sister's wedding 11 years ago.

SHARON laughs.

SHARON

Okay, thank you.

ROB gets to the front. SHARON goes to get her money out.

ROB

No, no, I'll get this.

SHARON

No, that's alright-

ROB

(mock seriousness)
Don't make me fight a stranger.

She squints at him, working out if he's worth spending time with because obviously that is how it's gonna go if he pays for the drinks.

SHARON
Okay, thank you.

He smiles at her. She smiles back.

CUT TO:

2

INT. ROB'S HOTEL ROOM - NIGHT

2

SHARON and ROB half stumble into his hotel room, kissing and undressing. ROB walks backwards into a table and sort of half falls, half sits on it, taking SHARON with him.

SHARON
You don't have a hairy back.

ROB
Neither do you.

SHARON
I was all psyched up to deal with a hairy back.

ROB
I have hairy balls?

ROB sort of lifts SHARON up.

SHARON
I've never had casual sex with a sober person before.

He carries her towards the bed. She's heavy. It's an effort. There's a room service plate with bits of food still on the bed. Not seeing it, he places Sharon on top of it. She shifts a little, looks down. He lifts her up a bit, revealing a piece of pizza stuck to her back.

ROB
Oh shit, sorry.

He tries to flick the plate off the bed with his foot but kicks it harder than necessary and it flies off and smashes against the wall. They look at each other.

SHARON
That was exciting.

They start kissing again

ROB is asleep in bed. SHARON, almost dressed, is about to grab her bag and leave when she sees ROB looking at her. She smiles.

SHARON
I'm just sneaking out.

ROB
Okay.

SHARON
So when do you go back?

ROB
Thursday.

SHARON
Oh okay, well that's...

ROB
Do you want to have dinner, or...?

SHARON
Erm... do you want to have dinner?

ROB
Yeah, that's... why I asked.

SHARON
Okay. Do you have a wife or anything?

ROB
No.

SHARON
Okay.

She tears a piece of paper from a document on his desk.

ROB
Oh- that's my work visa... doesn't matter -

She scribbles her number down. Hands it to him.

ROB (CONT'D) (cont'd)
Great. Er... I saw you took some things from the bathroom - which is fine - but could you leave the toothpaste?

6 EXT. REGENT'S PARK - DAY

6

ALT - Rob and Sharon lie about on the grass, her head on his lap, reading newspapers and eating take out.

CUT TO:

They walk along in a park, hand in hand. Sharon points out a beautiful statue. Rob admires it and then points out a public toilet. Sharon looks around quickly, then nods. They walk in.

7 EXT. ROB'S HOTEL, THE LOBBY - DAY

7

ROB and SHARON are leaving the hotel. Rob has his suitcase. They smile at each other, not really knowing what to say.

SHARON

What time is your flight?

ROB

7:30... yeah, 7.30, so, erm...

(An awkward beat)

... so, I just wanted to say... I know this wasn't serious and it was just a bit of fun -

SHARON

This wasn't serious?

ROB

Well I mean, when I say not serious I meant, I didn't mean that -

Sharon punches his arm

SHARON

(Fake American accent)

I'm goofing you bro!

ROB

Okay -

SHARON

Carry on, what were you saying, this was just a bit of fun and...?

ROB

And I want you to know that I will look back on my time, with you, and remember you as... an extraordinarily good smelling woman with a magical ass.

(MORE)

ROB (CONT'D)

Also, you're smart, so you could even get away with being less attractive and still be... fairly attractive.

Sharon is pretty surprised and pleased with that.

SHARON

Wow. Okay. Thanks. Erm, I'll remember you as a sturdy love maker with a massive chin, who was kind to waiters and taxi drivers which suggests you might actually be a good person.

They look at each other for a beat or two.

ROB

What time is it?

SHARON

4.30

8 INT. THE HOTEL CARPARK STAIRWELL - LATER 8

ROB and SHARON are making out in the stairwell. There's the sound of someone walking up the stairs.

SHARON

You're gonna have to go faster.

We see ROB's pants around his ankles as they have their final shag. We freeze frame on this

Title card: CATASTROPHE

9 EXT. SIDEWALK OUTSIDE RESTAURANT - NIGHT 9

Obviously American yellow taxis line street in front of restaurant.

10 INT. A RESTAURANT IN BOSTON - NIGHT 10

Rob is having a romantic dinner with a lady. We initially think it's Sharon then the camera pans to her and it's not. It's an attractive young American woman, Blaire.

ROB

...I thought it was fine if I asked you out cos you're a temp.

(MORE)

ROB (CONT'D)

If you worked with us permanently this wouldn't be appropriate. But you're a temp so we just won't hire you again.

BLAIRE

You're funny.

ROB

Thank you. So tell me something about you.

BLAIRE

Well... I'm getting my Masters at-

ROB's phone rings. As she blabs on, he looks at his phone subtly, caller ID says "**SHARON (LONDON SEX)**". Rob looks surprised but pleased.

ROB

Sorry, I've gotta just take this - it's my mom - she's returning my call -it's her birthday.

She gives him a "that's lovely" smile. He gets up and leaves.

11 INT. THE RESTAURANT FOYER/SHARON'S BEDROOM - NIGHT/NIGHT 11

ROB stands in the foyer. His date can see him through the window. ROB answers the phone.

ROB

Hey, it's so good to hear from you! Sorry I haven't kept in better touch, but I have good news, I mean I hope it's good news- I'm back in London in April.

SHARON

Okay.

ROB

Yeah. For a few days. I mean we don't have to meet up if you -

SHARON

I'm pregnant.

A long beat.

ROB

Did you just say pregnant?

SHARON

Yes I said pregnant. Do you want me to say it again - 'pregnant.'

ROB

I don't understand, how did this, because...

SHARON

Well I think it's because we had sex about 25 times in a week and you wore a condom maybe twice, twice of those times?

ROB

Well why did you let me do that!

SHARON

Because, I dunno! I was drunk the first time so even though I wasn't drunk all the other times there was a precedent there that you took complete advantage of!

Silence. They are both stunned, unsure of what to say.

ROB

So what do you want to do?

SHARON

I want to build a time machine out of your fucking carcass, go back and make it un-happen! That's what I want to do!

11A INT. THE RESTAURANT FOYER - NIGHT

11A

From Blaire's vantage point, under the restaurant chatter, we see ROB slowly squat down to a crouch, head in his hands.

11B INT. THE RESTAURANT FOYER - NIGHT

11B

ROB

Do you want me to come over sooner?

SHARON

No... yeah, I don't know. I don't know what to do you get pregnant from a stranger

ROB
 I'm not a *stranger*, I'm a familiar acquaintance, a friend? who helped you make a mistake, but will now help you...
 (working it out as he speaks)
 Figure it out. Okay?

13 INT. THE RESTAURANT - NIGHT

13

ROB walks back to his seat. Takes his napkin and places it back on his lap, pulls his chair in. BLAIRE stares at him.

BLAIRE
 Is your mom okay?

ROB
 Huh? Oh yeah, No She's pregnant.

The woman laughs. Then the smile vanishes from her face. We cut back to Rob as he aggressively forks some food into his mouth.

CUT TO:

14 INT. HEATHROW AIRPORT-MORNING

14

SHARON is holding up a handmade sign that reads "ROB?" ROB sees her and despite everything, breaks into a smile. He walks over, looks at the sign, quizzically.

SHARON
 I wasn't sure you'd recognize me. And it only says "Rob" because I don't know your surname.

ROB
 It's Norris.

SHARON
 Norris? Mine's Morris. Norris and Morris.
 (Smiling)
 Well at least that's fucking ridiculous

15 EXT. A PARK BENCH/SHARON'S CAR - DAY

15

They are parked up. It's a beautiful sunset. SHARON and ROB sit talking, bag of Nandos on Sharon's lap

ROB
You just don't think stuff like
this will happen-

SHARON
What, that repeated sexual
intercourse between two healthy
adults will do the exact thing it's
supposed to do? Have you ever done
a science class? Do you know how to
read?

ROB
I'm sorry, okay? I'm not pregnant,
and you are, and it's because of
me. But if you're going to have
this baby-

SHARON
Who says I'm going to have it?

ROB
How old are you?

She eyeballs him

ROB (cont'd) (CONT'D)
The good news is that we're
reasonably good people and we could
probably do this and not fuck the
kid up too horribly.

She stares at him.

ROB (cont'd) (CONT'D)
I'm just saying, a *terrible* thing
has happened - let's make the best
of it.

She lets this sink in a bit.

SHARON
So where you staying?

He looks at her, surprised

SHARON (cont'd) (CONT'D)
I'm joking. You can stay in my
spare room.

He looks at her, perplexed again.

SHARON (cont'd) (CONT'D)
 I'm joking, I'm a teacher I don't
 have a spare room

She offers him some chicken. Smiles. He smiles back.

16

EXT. A SCHOOL IN LONDON - DAY

16

ROB is waiting outside the school, alone and awkward. Some mums walk by with kids, looking over at him. He smiles at them. They look at him as suspiciously as you would at a big hairy man standing on his own by the school gates. ROB looks at his watch. A kid on a bike cycles up and stops. He stares at ROB.

ROB
 Hello.

The kid just keeps staring. A beat.

ROB (CONT'D) (cont'd)
 Do you know if Ms. Morris's
 finished with her classes?

KID
 Is she under arrest?

ROB
 No, I'm just waiting -

KID
 Are you American?

ROB
 Yes, yes I am.

KID
 Do you know Barack Obama?

ROB
 No I don't -

KID
 Do you know his daughters?

ROB
 Uh... I know Sasha but I don't know
 Malia.

KID
 How do you know them if you don't
 know Barack Obama?

ROB
I don't know them.

A few other kids have gathered around staring at him.

KID
Are you a basketball player?

ROB
Nope.

ROB starts looking over them for SHARON. He sees her in the distance talking to another teacher. He waves over at her.

KID 2
Why are you waving at Miss Morris?

ROB
Because she's... my girlfriend?

KID 1
Is her hair a wig?

ROB
I don't *think* so.

KID 2
Do you know she's pregnant?

ROB
What? What did you just say?

KID 2
(Worried now)
She's pregnant?

ROB
Oh yeah I knew that, yeah.

KID 3
Are you a basketball player?

ROB
Mmm hmm.

Sharon joins them. Her bump is pretty visible now.

SHARON
Hi.

ROB goes to kiss her. She quickly moves her head to avoid it.

SHARON (CONT'D) (cont'd)
We can do that in the car.

ROB looks awkward. SHARON looks around at the kids.

SHARON (CONT'D) (cont'd)
You got yourself some fans there.

KID
We're not his fans.

The kids disperse a little, disappointed.

KID (CONT'D) (cont'd)
(Cycling off, to his
friend)
I thought he was someone special

ROB
(Shouting after them)
I am special!

Sharon looks at Rob, bemused but amused.

17

INT. SHARON'S CAR - DAY

17

ROB and SHARON are parking in a hospital car park.

ROB
So this is just a regular scan?

SHARON
Yeah. But I can find out the sex
this time if I want.

ROB
Do we want to? I mean, wouldn't it
be nice to have a surprise?

SHARON
Well Rob, it is *Rob* isn't it?
Because I only met you about 20
minutes ago and now I'm pregnant
with your baby so for the moment
I'd like a whisper of certainty in
my life. Not even in my life, in my
body.

They get out of the car

SHARON (cont'd) (CONT'D)
Also it's my blood it's stealing
nutrients from and my bones it's
leeching calcium out of so I'd like
to know who's doing that to me.

SHARON is now in a gown on a bed. ROB's on a chair beside her. The doctor walks in. Sits down

DOCTOR

Sorry for keeping you.

(Opens her notes)

Now, in reviewing your pap smear we found an abnormality. It's nothing to worry too much about yet, but you've got what's called cervical dysplasia.

SHARON

What the hell is that?

DOCTOR

Strictly speaking, it is what we call a "pre-cancer."

SHARON

Cancer?

DOCTOR

PRE-cancer. Frankly I hate that it has the word cancer attached to it, because it ISN'T cancer but it's sort of... next door to cancer.

SHARON

(to Rob)

What is she saying?

ROB

That you do not have cancer.

SHARON

But she's said cancer like eight times.

ROB

Doctor, you have said cancer rather a lot. Like, more than you'd hear in a casual conversation that isn't about cancer.

DOCTOR

I know, and I'm sorry. But while again, you do NOT have cancer, you DO have a situation that we have to monitor closely so that it doesn't *become* cancer.

SHARON

That's two more times she's said
it. Two more cancers.

DOCTOR

All it means is you'll come here a
little more frequently than you
would have otherwise so we can take
a looksie at your cervix and make
sure it remains in the cancer-free
state it's currently in.

SHARON turns to look at ROB, trying to glean some sense from
all this. ROB turns to the doctor.

ROB

Do you have pamphlets?

DOCTOR

Yes, we have pamphlets.

ROB

(to Sharon)

I'm getting us some pamphlets.

DOCTOR

Right, well let's shift gears a bit
and take a look at the baby, shall
we?

SHARON

(opens legs mechanically)

Okay...

DOCTOR

No, we look through the belly for
this one.

SHARON

(Closes legs mechanically)

Okay.

DOCTOR turns on ultrasound machine and lubes up SHARON's
belly and the instrument. ROB moves into position next to
SHARON. The doctor moves the thing around on SHARON's belly.

DOCTOR

There we are. Look at that
heartbeat! Beautiful. Nice and
strong. And here's the spine.
Exquisite.

Moves the thing around more.

DOCTOR (CONT'D) (cont'd)
And here's something! Mummy, do you
recognize that?

SHARON
Is that the cancer?

DOCTOR
Very funny, no. That's a little
penis! Congratulations, you're
going to have a baby boy!

SHARON turns to ROB. She starts crying.

19

EXT. A CAFE ROUGE - DAY

19

SHARON and ROB sit outside a Cafe Rouge. Shellshocked

ROB
...she said that it's statistically
unlikely to become full cancer.

SHARON
So just the half-cancer then? Just
a gentle half-cancer, like you get?
(Staring at him)
Do you think it's because I'm old?
It's because I'm old isn't?

ROB
No, it's not, you're not -

SHARON
I want a cigarette. Will you get
one, smoke it and blow it on me?

ROB
Just have a cigarette if you want
one. Maybe cover up your belly with
my jacket first.

He takes his jacket off. Hands it to her

ROB (CONT'D) (cont'd)
And put your wine down

She puts the jacket on. ROB leans over and asks the people
beside who are smoking for a cigarette. He hands it to her.

SHARON
I'm just gonna have this one, not
even the whole thing, just some
puffs.

(MORE)

SHARON (CONT'D)
And then I'm never doing it again.
That's okay isn't it, just have a
few puffs and then never do it
again?

ROB smiles and nods. She lights it off the candle on the
table. She inhales the cigarette deeply. Exhales slowly.

SHARON (cont'd) (CONT'D)
God that's delicious.
(Takes another puff)
Oh for fuck's sake.. take this!

She shoves the cigarette into his hand.

ROB
What's the matter?

FRAN (O.S.)
Sharon!

SHARON
Balls. Hi Fran.

A woman walks to their table.

FRAN
Well? Is it true? Are you pregnant?

Pats her belly

SHARON
Little bit.
(Points at Rob)
This is Rob. Rob's my (looks to
Rob) boyfriend?

ROB
Yeah.

SHARON
He's the father of the baby. Rob,
this is Fran, an old friend.

FRAN
Well it's great to meet you Rob.

ROB
Hello.

FRAN
And great to see you stranger.

Sharon doesn't respond. There is a silence. ROB takes a pretend puff of the cigarette out of awkwardness.

FRAN (cont'd) (CONT'D)
 You have to come over for dinner.
 Chris would love to see you.

SHARON/ROB
 Oh yeah / Sure Yeah

FRAN
 What are you doing Saturday night?

SHARON
 (distressed)
 Saturday? Erm...

ROB steps in.

ROB
 Well, actually, we've just had some news that-

SHARON
 No we haven't, no we don't, we'd love to, thank you.

FRAN
 Great, we'll catch up then. See you Saturday at 7?

SHARON
 Yeah. Still at the same house?

FRAN
 Yep, same big house. And don't be late!

FRAN walks off. Rob looks after her. Then looks at Sharon.

ROB
 She seems nice.

SHARON
 She's a cunt.

Sharon takes the cigarette off him. Takes a long drag.

END OF PART ONE

SHARON and ROB are getting out of the car, carrying flowers

SHARON

My feet are too swollen for these boots. Have you seen the size of them?

ROB

(laughs) Yeah they're like cute little hobbit feet.

SHARON

Fuck off.

ROB

I meant to ask, why did you call her a cunt?

SHARON

I shouldn't have called her a cunt. She's more of a bitch.

ROB

Okay why is she a bitch?

SHARON

She's just one of those people where like everything has gone her way and she thinks *she* did it, but it's just *luck*. I just wish one bad thing would happen to her. I don't want her to get hit by a bus or anything but maybe if she got arrested for tax fraud or if her dad get caught with child porn or something. Just to knock the smug out of her.

ROB stares at her.

SHARON (CONT'D) (cont'd)

Do you know what I mean?

ROB

Yeah, totally.

They walk in the front gate

SHARON

And don't mention the pre-cancer. If you need something to talk about, just talk about the weather or the meal, or other... meals you've enjoyed, you know

ROB
Meals? Okay.

They arrive at front door. Sharon rings it.

SHARON
Do I look fat?

ROB
No, I mean, apart from your belly
and your tits.

SHARON
My tits are fat?

FRAN opens door, smiling brightly.

ROB
Your tits are fat and beautiful.

FRAN
Welcome!

21

INT. FRAN AND CHRIS'S HOUSE, HALLWAY - NIGHT

21

FRAN motions to row of shoes by front door to Rob and Sharon.

FRAN
Shoes go here!

ROB and SHARON look at the shoes.

ROB
Oh ok. That's a good spot for
shoes.

FRAN stands still, smiling.

FRAN
We keep a shoe-free home?

ROB
Ah. Gotcha. Okay.

ROB and SHARON trade glances, ROB nods like "I get it now" as he removes his shoes.

SHARON
Do you mind if I keep mine on?
It's just my ankles are swollen and
-

FRAN

Well you can keep them on, but
you'll be the only one with shoes
on! If you're okay with that, I am!

FRAN laughs at her "joke." SHARON looks at ROB and
resentfully starts trying to pull her boots off.

CUT TO:

22

INT. FRAN AND CHRIS'S HOUSE, KITCHEN - LATER

22

They all sit around the table, mid-way through the meal.

ROB

Delicious meal.

FRAN

It's all Chris's work. He's the
cook here, aren't you?

They look at CHRIS who has his head down, eating.

SHARON

Where's Jeffrey tonight?

FRAN

He's in bed. He has to be up at
four. He's filming in the morning.

CHRIS

Our son's a *thespian* now.

SHARON

Wow. That's... when did that
happen?

FRAN

I thought you knew.

SHARON

I didn't know.

FRAN

That's funny I thought you knew.
Anyway, this is his third film. He
filmed a scene with Patrick Stewart
last week. Lovely man, total flirt.

SHARON

Well... good for Jeffrey.

FRAN

Good for all of us. He's coining it!

SHARON

Yeah? Great.

There is a lull in the conversation.

ROB

This is a delicious meal.

FRAN

So, do you plan on having a natural birth?

SHARON

Um, I don't know, see what the pain's like maybe, take it from there.

FRAN

You should really consider natural birth. My cousin Sheila took all the drugs that were on offer, pethidin, oxytocin, she'd an epidural. It didn't turn out well.

SHARON

Why? How was the baby?

FRAN

Oh no baby's fine, but my cousin had a massive stroke and now she has to use one of those wheelchairs that you have to blow into to make it move.

Sharon looks at Rob. What the hell?

ROB

Jesus.

(thinking)

That's actually why we should have more than one kid.

SHARON

What?

ROB

All the shit that can go wrong. Births a risky thing. There's a reason people had eleven kids in the olden days.

(MORE)

ROB (CONT'D)
If one or two died, you still had 8
or 9 left overs. Plus, only
children are weirdos.

FRAN
I'm an only child.

ROB
Of course there are exceptions.

FRAN
Our son is an only child.

ROB
More than one exception?

Beat. Everyone glances at each other.

ROB (CONT'D) (cont'd)
This is a lovely meal. Best meal
I've had in some time.
(to Sharon)
Remember that meal we had Tuesday?
This is better, this meal.

CHRIS
I'm going for a cigarette.

FRAN
Really? Do you really have to?

CHRIS
Yup. Rob, you smoke?

ROB
No, I don't.

FRAN
Did you quit?

ROB
(remembers she saw him
smoking)
Oh, because...

SHARON
Just go and have a cigarette Rob.

ROB
Okey dokey.

CUT TO:

CHRIS and ROB are outside. CHRIS lights his cigarette. Hands the lighter to ROB who just holds it.

ROB

Sorry about that. I hope I didn't upset Fran.

CHRIS

Don't worry about it. She'll wank off to that for a week. She loves to get angry at people. You did her a favor.

CHRIS tips his ash into the flowering bud of a geranium.

CHRIS (CONT'D) (cont'd)

Can I give you some advice, Rob?

ROB

Er...maybe. About what?

CHRIS

When Sharon goes into labor, get on a plane and go back to Wisconsin or wherever you're from and skip the whole delivery. I saw our son come out and it was a fucking war zone.

ROB

Yeah, I mean I've seen videos of births before.

CHRIS

Those aren't real. They're like the moon landing or whatever; they only show the one percent that aren't complete *carnage* in those videos. You know they shit when they give birth?

ROB

I've heard that -

CHRIS

Yeah, well I've *seen* it. And I don't want that for you. You'll never be able to forgive her.

ROB

Forgive her?

CHRIS

You see a little troll come
tobogganing out of your wife's
snatch on a wave of turds and part
of you is going to hold her
responsible.

Rob could easily cry/throw up/punch CHRIS, but instead he
lights his cigarette, drags on it. It goes straight to his
head. He closes his eyes and sways a bit.

ROB

First cigarette in ten years.

CHRIS

You haven't smoked in ten years?
Well don't start now, gimme that -

He goes to pull the cigarette out of ROB's mouth. ROB slaps
his hand away. Eyeballs him

ROB

No no no. Don't.

CHRIS looks a bit intimidated. ROB takes another drag.
Exhales.

ROB (CONT'D) (cont'd)

(to the cigarette)

I do this now.

CUT TO:

24

INT. CHRIS AND FRAN'S KITCHEN - NIGHT

24

FRAN and SHARON are bringing the dishes into the kitchen

FRAN

He's a big one, isn't he?

SHARON

Rob? Yeah.

FRAN

Is he, you know, is he big all
over?

SHARON

Erm... yeah. Well he's in
proportion.

FRAN puts some chocolates on a plate. Bites into one.

FRAN
What's that like? It doesn't hurt?

SHARON
I mean he's proportional, I wasn't talking about his -

FRAN
Is he circumcised? Most American men are circumcised I've heard.

SHARON
He is, yes.

FRAN
What's that like?

SHARON
Well it's the same basic deal really -

FRAN
But I mean what does it feel like?

SHARON
What does my boyfriend's penis feel like?

ROB and CHRIS enter. SHARON notices ROB's ashen face.

SHARON (CONT'D) (cont'd)
Are you okay?

Rob pulls up a chair, sits down

ROB
I'll be fine. Just a bit dizzy.

FRAN
Oh, dear. I'm a little anaemic myself and when I feel weak I just take a tincture of helonius, or some arsenicum if that's all I have, and I perk right up.

ROB
You do what? What's that?

FRAN
It's a homeopathic remedy.

ROB
Oh yeah, okay, no thanks.

FRAN
Why not?

ROB
Well that's not real, is it?

FRAN
It is.

ROB
Well, it's not.

FRAN
Well, I think it is.

ROB
Right yeah, I saw a guy on the tube today with no legs and I prescribed him three drops of doodly doodle-oo and his legs grew back.

SHARON
Rob, Fran's a homeopath.

ROB
Oh. Okay, well you could have told me that in my pre-dinner briefing.

SHARON grimace/smiles. Fran is not smiling.

FRAN
A lot of people don't understand that there are alternatives out there that really work. My guru Alan cured himself of prostate cancer with walnuts last year.

ROB
Oh give me a break!

FRAN
Pardon?

ROB
What did he do jam them up his asshole?

FRAN
Sorry? Are you -

SHARON
Rob-

ROB

I apologise, I don't mean to rip into your beliefs in your own home but we've just gotten some news about Sharon that is not good and if I thought for a *second* that I could just rub a blueberry on her vagina and fix her, I would do it. But I can't, BECAUSE IT'S BULLSHIT.

FRAN

I think you should go.

SHARON

I have cancer.

ROB

No you don't!
(To Fran)
SHE'S LYING!

CUT TO:

25

EXT. FRAN AND CHRIS'S FRONT LAWN - LATER

25

SHARON and ROB walk towards the car in silence.

SHARON

Well, I think we pulled it back at the end. It was good of you to ask Chris for the recipe for the tagine.

ROB

I thought about asking them to wake their kid up so I could get his autograph.

SHARON

Oh you should have! She'd have loved that.

She gives him a smile. They get in the car.

INT. SHARON'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Sharon is trying to pull her boots off her massive ankles. Rob is looking for a t shirt from his suitcase. He looks over.

ROB

I'm really sorry. About tonight

SHARON

Don't be. They're awful. And actually I was really touched to see you go apeshit at someone for me.

ROB

Well... I'm scared.

SHARON

Of the not-cancer cancer?

ROB

Of everything. You're pregnant, you might be sick and I don't know what I'm doing. My shit's still in a suitcase. Am I part of your life or not, are we doing this for real or not?

SHARON

I don't know -

ROB

I think you should marry me.

SHARON

What? Are you mental?

ROB

Marry me and find out.

SHARON

Why? I *literally* don't know who you are. Like really, who are you? Do you have a middle name? Can you ride a horse? Did a priest ever fiddle with you? These are things I don't know.

She flops down on the bed. He lies beside her.

ROB

Clifford, yes and no but a nun did stay in the room while I changed out of dirty underpants once.

She laughs at this.

SHARON

Ohh, aren't you supposed to fall in love first?

ROB

Well, my mom sent me an article about a study on arranged marriages versus "love" marriages and it found that fewer arranged marriages end in divorce than real ones.

SHARON

Is it because they end in suicide?

ROB

I don't know I didn't read the whole article.

(He smiles at her)

Also, you'll need to marry me so I can stay in the country.

SHARON stares at him

SHARON

You don't have to be a part of its, his, life, you know. I'm not expecting anything. Except money, bit of money.

ROB

So I'll just send you a check every month and leave it at that? Fuck that. I didn't know my father and it sucked.

He points at SHARON's stomach

ROB (CONT'D) (cont'd)

This kid gets a dad.

SHARON

(turning away, smiling)

Oh god, you don't have to be so American about it.

Rob smiles too.

CUT TO:

27

INT. SHARON'S BEDROOM - LATER

27

CLOSE UP of ROB's face. He's having an orgasm. Camera pulls back and we see he's gripping two comically large swollen ankles resting on his shoulders. He surveys them and winces a little. Then he collapses next to SHARON.

SHARON

How did my vagina feel?

ROB

It felt great.

SHARON

Well enjoy it while it lasts because it won't feel like that for much longer. Not after your big headed son scrums out of it.

ROB

If it helps, I dated a woman a few years ago and she'd had two kids and her vagina was CRAZY tight. Like teenager tight. It was amazing.

SHARON

Why do you know what a teenager's vagina feels like?

ROB

Because I used to BE a teenager?

SHARON

Oh yeah. Ha.

(Beat)

And it didn't feel cancer-y?

ROB

It didn't feel cancer-y because you really, sincerely don't have cancer. In fact, I'd like us to get a second opinion. Doctors make mistakes all the time. They told my brother he had polio when he was ten, but it turned out he just was clumsy.

SHARON

Right but they've probably told some other kid he was clumsy and then he died of polio.

ROB

We'll cross that bridge when we
come to it.

SHARON

Well you might cross the bridge
alone because I might be dead.

ROB

That's the spirit.

ROB kisses SHARON's temple and turns out light and closes
eyes. SHARON closes her eyes, then opens them, lies there
wide awake.