

FAMOUS IN LOVE

"Pilot"

Written by

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Based on the novel by

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Revised

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FAMOUS IN LOVE
"Pilot"TEASER

FADE IN:

EXT. LOS ANGELES - NIGHT

Flying over the vast city, carpeted by a SEA OF TWINKLING LIGHTS.

Passing over the HOLLYWOOD SIGN, lit up brightly in the hills.

It's magical.

INT. PRIVATE LUXURY JET - NIGHT

There's only one passenger on the plane. The YOUNG WOMAN, face intentionally shielded by her understated but expensive cashmere hoodie, peers out the window. *She didn't buy the hoodie, BTW. Designers send her their newest lines with their hand written notes attached: "Congratulations." "I love you." "You were born to wear this."*

The Young Woman looks out the window, taking in the stunning view. It wasn't that long ago that she saw this city for the very first time. Now she's flying home in the studio's private jet. She doesn't need to remind herself to be grateful. But she does remind herself that there will be a slew of paparazzi waiting for her at the airport. She's never alone anymore. Ever.

The FLIGHT ATTENDANT, attractive early 30s, approaches her.

FLIGHT ATTENDANT

I'll have to ask you to put your seat back for landing.

The Young Woman complies.

FLIGHT ATTENDANT (CONT'D)

And I'm sorry, I hope it's not a bother...

The flight attendant gingerly holds out a pen and paper. Without hesitation, the Young Woman signs it. She draws a small heart then follows with her name: *PAIGE TOWNSEN*. The Flight Attendant beams. *Thrilled to be in the presence of the rising star.*

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. LAX - NIGHT

Two LARGE SECURITY GUARDS flank Paige and escort her through the airport.

PAIGE'S POV - conversations stop when she passes by. Smartphones snap pictures. Necks crane and heads turn. No one is subtle in their attempt to catch a glimpse of her.

Approaching the exit, WE HEAR the not-so dull ROAR of the BRAZEN PAPARAZZI waiting impatiently outside.

Paige takes in an apprehensive breath. She feels tiny between these massive guards but she's thankful for their presence.

SECURITY GUARD

It's a rabid group out there.

Paige's face is still shielded by her hoodie, but we catch glimpses of her FULL, POUTY LIPS and her DARK GUCCI SUNGLASSES. *She didn't buy those either.*

SECURITY GUARD (CONT'D)

You ready, Miss Townsen?

PAIGE (O.S.)

Let's do this.

Paige lowers her head and looks at the ground as they leave the baggage claim area.

EXT. LAX - CONTINUOUS

FLASH FLASH FLASH as a horde of AGGRESSIVE PAPARAZZI SWARMS them.

Paige hides her face with the side of her hand as the Guards escort her, with precision and purpose, to her waiting limousine.

PAPARAZZI #1

Over here, Paige. Just one smile for the camera.

PAPARAZZI #2

Who is it, Paige?

PAPARAZZI #3

Come on, your fans wanna know?

PAPARAZZI #1

I'm team Ranier, baby. My money's on the sensitive one.

PAPARAZZI #3
Could be the college boy.

The guys shoot him a quick look: *Seriously?*

PAPARAZZI #2
No way dude, she's banging the
stud.

The LIMO DRIVER holds open the passenger door and before you can say *fuck off*, Paige is safely tucked inside.

FLASH FLASH FLASH!

INT. LIMO - CONTINUOUS

The Driver climbs in behind the wheel and they quickly pull away from the curb.

FLASH FLASH FLASH!

DRIVER
Welcome home, Miss Townsen.

PAIGE (O.S.)
Thank you.

Safe from the cameras, Paige finally removes her hoodie. When she takes off her sunglasses, we're immediately entranced by her BRIGHT, WELCOMING EYES and perfectly symmetrical features. They say God divides, but he broke that rule with Paige. She's beautiful, charming, and smart.

Paige slips her sunglasses into her carry on. And that's when we see her GLAMOROUS FACE GRACING A FASHION MAGAZINE COVER. The headline reads:

Famous In Love.

TEASER OUT --

-- As those words morph into our **TITLE CARD.**

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

CHYRON: **Six months earlier**

INT. COLLEGE CAMPUS THEATER - DAY

We meet Paige again. Same girl we saw in the Teaser, but less polished. Paige is the only person in the audience, watching her two best friends rehearse on stage.

JAKE SALT, also college age and hipster-cute is in the middle of a scene with CASSANDRA PERKINS. Cassie's attractive and naturally energetic, but we find them deep into a dramatic moment:

CASSANDRA

I don't understand why you can't come with me.

Jake places his hand on her cheek.

JAKE

You know gravity doesn't pull me down, it pulls me to you.

Cassandra breaks character and giggles.

JAKE (CONT'D)

What?

CASSANDRA

Honestly? If a guy said that to me--

PAIGE

Ignore her, Jake. Your words are really powerful.

JAKE

Then why aren't you saying them?

CASSANDRA

Seriously, Paige, we all know he wrote this part for you. Especially that kiss at the end.

Jake shoots her a look.

CASSANDRA (CONT'D)

What? You think that's a secret?

Paige saves Jake from the moment. Cassie's right but they don't go there. She and Jake are "just friends." Strike that, they're "best friends."

PAIGE

Count me in for your next play, I promise. But with that econ test looming over me like a black cloud of slow death--

JAKE

So dramatic.

CASSANDRA

That's why she should be acting. Full time. Not studying math.

PAIGE

It's not math, it's Economics.

Cassie's smartphone squeals an annoying alarm.

CASSANDRA

(to Paige)

Damn, we gotta go.

PAIGE

Are we seriously gonna do this?

CASSANDRA

Look, if nothing else it's a real audition. And you never forget your first.

JAKE

Here comes the diaper commercial story.

PAIGE

Cassie, you were two. That doesn't count as an audition.

CASSANDRA

I cried on command. It counts.

JAKE

You cried because your mom pinched you.

CASSANDRA

You can loan me your car or come with, Paige. But this is a once-in-a-lifetime shot and I'm taking it.

Paige wants this as much as anyone, but she didn't grow up in Hollywood like Cassie. She's from a small town outside of Portland and she can't deny her practical side.

JAKE

You do know that every time you look your parents in the eye and pretend to like math, you're giving the performance of a lifetime.

PAIGE

I do like math. It's reliable.

CASSANDRA

Paige, you may like math, but you love acting. What are you afraid of?

Paige loves these guys for reminding her that she can and should deny her practical side.

PAIGE

Okay, I'll go to the audition. But you're driving while I study.

CASSANDRA

Uh, no. This movie's gonna be huge. Babies are running lines.

Paige tosses Jake a tentative look.

JAKE

It's an open call. You've got as much of a chance as anyone.

Paige kisses Jake on the cheek.

JAKE (CONT'D)

What was that for?

PAIGE

For proving Harry wrong. A guy can be a girl's best friend.

CASSANDRA

Until they screw. Which always happens.

PAIGE

We're leaving now.

Jake watches them as they head out. He's got it bad for Paige, and they all know it. But he's smart enough to not act on it and possibly ruin their friendship.

INT. GREAT ROOM - MALIBU BEACH HOUSE - DAY

Think of the sexiest beach house you can imagine. This is sexier than that.

RAINER DEVON, gorgeous, mid-twenties, lays on the couch as a very naked, very HOT GIRL kisses her way down his 12 pack.

A TV mounted on the wall is tuned to, *XPOSED*, a live entertainment gossip show. Rainer's face appears on the screen as BARRETT HOPPER, a flamboyant showman in his late 20's, and the self professed "King Of Sleaze" dishes on missing pop-star BRITNEY NICHOLS. A photo of Britney appears on screen as Barrett chirps on:

BARRETT

Nearly two months after she abruptly cancelled her 'Mega' tour, Britney's still missing. Police have no leads and her family has promised a 'mega' reward to anyone who has the 411 on where the Delicious Diva's hiding out.

(moment)

And what's with ex-boyfriend Rainer Devon? Dude really? Still no comment on our reigning Queen Of Pop's disappearance?

RAINER

I'm not commenting because I don't need to. We broke up after I found out she was hooking up with my best friend.

The Hot Girl stops kissing and looks up at him.

HOT GIRL

I'd never cheat on you.

Rainer remains focused on the television where -- A photo of his parents, GREG & ANDREA DEVON, flashes across the screen.

BARRETT

I wonder if Rainer knows what I know about Mommy and Daddy Devon?

(he looks into the lens,
goads the Devon's)

What good is power if you can't protect the ones you love?

The television suddenly goes dark. Rainer turns to see his father, GREG DEVON, standing in the doorway.

RAINER

I moved to the beach so we'd stop meeting like this.

Greg, late 40's, fit and boyishly handsome, is a charismatic Hollywood player. He enters the room, followed by Rainer's mom, ANDREA. The second he sees her, Rainer drops his attitude. Andrea is as smart as she is stunning. And as one half of Hollywood's most powerful couples, she's known for generously rewarding loyalty but viciously punishing betrayal.

Neither of them are fazed by the naked girl laying on top of their son. Andrea picks up the girl's small dress from the floor and hands it to her.

ANDREA

There's a driver outside. He'll take you home.

HOT GIRL

(awkward)

Thank you.

Rainer pulls on a pair of jeans as the Hot Girl scoots into the bathroom to dress.

ANDREA

Does she need to sign a confidentiality agreement?

RAINER

I took care of that last night.

ANDREA

Good.

The girls comes out of the bathroom, still dishevelled but dressed and carrying her high heels.

RAINER

I'll call you.

She knows he won't. Super awkward.

HOT GIRL

Nice meeting everyone.

Greg and Andrea offer her polite smiles then Andrea pulls out her phone and places a call to her assistant.

ANDREA

Get me Barrett Hopper. Now.

Greg checks out the Hot Girl as she makes her way to the door.

GREG

I'm happy to see you're over
Britney.

Rainer wears his poker face but he's far from over his ex.

ANDREA

(into phone)
I'm not holding for that bitch.
Hang up.

As Andrea pockets her phone --

RAINER

So what does Barrett have on us?

Greg and Andrea exchange a look as we CUT TO--

EXT. HOLLYWOOD STUDIO - DAY

A LONG LINE OF TWENTY-SOMETHING GIRLS spills out of the studio's main gate and winds around the block. We find an excited Paige and Cassandra, almost ready to gain entrance to the lot.

A local news REPORTER covers the scene:

REPORTER

The studio's casting the net far
and wide in their search for the
female lead in its highly
anticipated film franchise,
'Locked.'

CASSANDRA

If we scoot over a little, I think
we can get into the shot.

REPORTER

The movies, starring Rainer Devon,
are destined to become a worldwide
phenomenon. And every actress in
Hollywood is vying for the part.

Paige's phone rings.

PAIGE

Crap, it's my mom.

Paige hits "ignore" and types a text lie: *At the library.
Call ya later. (Smiley face kiss emoji.)*

An ASSISTANT with a clipboard:

ASSISTANT

Next.

CASSANDRA

Oh my god.

Cassie and Paige exchange excited looks.

PAIGE

We're actually doing this.

They approach the Assistant:

CASSANDRA

I'm Cassandra Perkins and this is--

PAIGE

(nervous)

Paige Townsen. There's no 'D' on the end. Just an 'N' not an 'N.D.' Just an 'N.'

The Assistant writes down their names and nods for them to go inside.

CASSANDRA

For someone who pretended not to care about this, you're acting like an imbecile.

PAIGE

Really? I am? Seriously? Why can't I stop talking like this?

CASSANDRA

Because you want it. Just as bad as I do. So the 'imbecile-speak' needs to stop.

They follow the signs marked "LOCKED" CASTING.

PAIGE

I think I might throw up.

Cassandra pinches Paige's arm. Hard.

PAIGE (CONT'D)

Ouch, what the--

CASSANDRA

You're not nervous anymore are you?

PAIGE
No, I'm in pain.

INT. GREAT ROOM - MALIBU BEACH HOUSE - DAY

Andrea looks inside Rainer's refrigerator to see nothing but liquids and a rock-hard lemon.

ANDREA
This makes me sad, Rain. I'm sending Mateo to the store for you.

Rainer and Greg sit at the table.

RAINER
I don't eat here, Mom.

ANDREA
You should always have food in the house.

RAINER
It'll just go to --

Greg cuts him off--

GREG
Let your mother be a mom.

RAINER
Why are you guys here?

Andrea opens a bottle of sparkling water and joins them at the table.

RAINER (CONT'D)
Does Barrett know something I don't?

ANDREA
Don't worry about Hopper.

GREG
We gave you the lead in "Locked" because we know you'll deliver for us. We believe in you.

RAINER
You don't need to give me the executive sandwich, Dad. Just tell me what's going on.

GREG

You know how deeply invested we are in 'Locked.' It has to be a hit.

RAINER

I'm ready. I want this. And I know we need it.

GREG

I believe you. But we need to sell the foreign rights to get the movie made. And we can't do that without another name on the poster.

ANDREA

Your dad sent the script to Jordan.

RAINER

What? No.

GREG

We're out to a few people and he's one of them.

RAINER

Do I have a say in this?

GREG

It's business.

ANDREA

We wanted you to hear it from us.

Off of Rainer's look. *This can't be happening.*

INT. STUDIO CASTING - LOBBY - DAY

The doors open and Paige steps out. Cassandra, still high from her own audition, can't read her friend's mood.

CASSANDRA

Well?

PAIGE

I'm okay with whatever happens.

CASSANDRA

Bullshit.

A small smile escapes from Paige. This has been a life changing moment for her.

PAIGE

I don't know if they believed me,
but I believed me. I was August in
there.

As they head out, to an Assistant:

CASSANDRA

Did you hear that? She nailed it.
Paige Townsen without a 'D.'
Remember her name. And mine, too.
Cassandra. Two 'S's, three 'A's.

Paige can't stop smiling as they exit. She had a real
audition and it felt like she was doing what she was born to
do.

EXT. STUDIO PARKING LOT - DAY

A black Escalade with dark, tinted windows pulls into a
parking spot. The door opens and Rainer steps out. He heads
toward the entrance of the "Locked" production office but
stops short when Hollywood bad boy, JORDAN WILDER, exits the
building. The two ex-best friends lock eyes and you could cut
the tension with a chain saw.

Jordan, sporting a BLACK EYE, eases into diffusing the
situation.

JORDAN

Dude, there's a chance we're going
to be working together again. Can
we just put Britney behind us?

Every time Rainer thinks he's getting over it, he see's
Jordan's face and his blood starts to boil.

RAINER

You still don't get it.

It takes all Rainer's got, to not punch this guy again.

RAINER (CONT'D)

This isn't about her, it's about
who you are. Or who you turned out
not to be.

JORDAN

I know how it looks but--

RAINER

Could you just get out of my way.

Rainer means that in every way possible. Jordan steps aside and Rainer brushes past him. Jordan turns back as it closes in his face. Off of his look--

INT. STUDIO CONFERENCE ROOM - DAY

Rainer enters. Already seated are Greg, WYATT LIPPMAN, the director-- mid 30's, indie band T-shirt, and KATELAND HESS-- screenwriter who's name we'll quickly forget.

RAINER
Sorry I'm late.

He grabs a set of sides and glances at them.

WYATT
Cards on the table, you know we added Jordan Wilder to the Ed list, right?

RAINER
(so not happy about it)
Yep.

KATELAND
You hardly have any scenes together. It's mostly you, alone on a magical island with August.

Kateland hits the remote button and the WINDOW SHADE automatically OPENS to reveal a SEA OF BEAUTIFUL GIRLS lined up outside.

KATELAND (CONT'D)
It's all over the news. You can't buy this kind of hype.

WYATT
This is a complex role. I need a real actress.

GREG
Chill out, Wyatt. This is a publicity stunt. After we ride the wave, we'll decide that Alexis was right for the part all along.

WYATT
Or Vanessa.

OMG, the open call is bullshit. Like thousands of hopeful actresses, Paige and Cassie have been sucked into a Hollywood hype scam.

Rainer looks out the window. In that sea of beautiful girls, his eyes land on--

PAIGE walking across the lot with Cassie. *Who is that girl with those welcoming eyes and that beaming smile?* There's something about her that catches Rainer off guard.

GREG

Rain, you're still excited about Lexi, right?

WYATT

And Vanessa.

Rainer looks to his dad.

RAINER

They're both great.

Rainer looks back to see the *Happy Girl*, but she's gone. Off his disappointed look--

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

EXT. COLLEGE CAMPUS - DAY

The campus bustles around Paige, sitting with Jake and Cassie. Lunch is on the table but not a priority.

JAKE

You know, if you get the part your face is gonna be on billboards. You'll have to tell your parents.

PAIGE

I'd call that a high-class problem to have and I'd deal with it.

CASSANDRA

But if you don't get the part, you're still going to keep lying to them?

PAIGE

Guys, I'm the daughter they got right, remember? My sister gives them enough grief for both of us.

CASSANDRA

And that's your problem?

PAIGE

I don't want my parents to worry about me.

JAKE

That's why we love you, Paige.

Oh shit. Did he just say the "L word?" Paige changes the subject, zeroing in on Cassie's gossip magazine.

PAIGE

So what hotel room did the infamous Jordan Wilder and Rainer Devon trash this weekend?

CASSANDRA

I think it's kind of sad. Those guys have been friends since they were kids.

JAKE

We're seriously having this conversation?

ALEXIS (O.S.)
I can't believe people read this trash.

The magazine is pulled out of Cassie's hands. She looks up to see ALEXIS GLENN (21) looming over her. Beautiful, lanky, famous. Alexis glances at a photo of herself in the magazine. A paparazzi snap of her leaving the gym.

ALEXIS (CONT'D)
I almost look fat in that picture.

Cassandra turns away from Alexis and faux gags.

ALEXIS (CONT'D)
Did you go to class today, Jakey?

JAKE
Yeah, we missed you.

ALEXIS
I was at my chem read for 'Locked.'

PAIGE
We auditioned, too.

ALEXUS
(how lame)
That's so cute.

CASSANDRA
We were kind of eating. Which is something you probably never do.

Alexis shoots Cassandra a look: *Why are you talking to me?* Then back to Jake.

ALEXIS
I need your notes. Desperately.

JAKEY
No problem.

Jake grabs them from his backpack.

PAIGE
Don't you need those to study?

ALEXIS
Maybe we could go over what I missed together. My place? Like now?

JAKE

Yeah, give me a minute.

ALEXIS

Thanks, Jakey. You're the best.

Alexis leaves, walking toward her CONVERTIBLE PORSCHE illegally parked in a handicapped space, the entitlement apparent.

CASSANDRA

Handicapped. Makes sense.

PAIGE

"Jakey?"

Packing up his stuff:

JAKE

I'm just being nice.

PAIGE

There's being 'nice' and there's being 'used.'

JAKE

She's hot. She's famous. I say *use me*.

He smiles and leaves to catch up with Alexis.

CASSANDRA

She took my magazine.

Paige practically sneers at Alexis as she watches Jake jump into her car. Cassie notices--

CASSANDRA (CONT'D)

For God's sake Paige, rip off that tag and walk out the door like you own that Dolce already.

PAIGE

What?

CASSANDRA

Do you like Jake or not?

PAIGE

Yeah, I like him. Like you like him.

CASSANDRA

Alexis makes me want to puke, but I could care less if Jake hooks up with her. Can you say that?

Paige looks over at Jake speeding away with Alexis. *She can't say that.*

PAIGE

He's the best guy friend I've ever had. I don't want to screw us up.

CASSANDRA

So you do like him like that.

Off Paige's look--

EXT. BEVERLY HILLS RESTAURANT - DAY

Paparazzi line the sidewalk, waiting for celebrities who power lunch at the popular hangout for the Hollywood elite. A black Mercedes G wagon pulls up to the valet and the photographers swarm the woman who steps out of the truck. She quickly heads inside.

INT. BEVERLY HILLS RESTAURANT - DAY

The doors open, spilling afternoon light into the hot spot. TOMMY, the handsome maitre d', looks up from his post to see one of his favorite customers, Andrea. He greets her with a kiss on each cheek.

ANDREA

How's the family, Tommy?

TOMMY

All good. I don't have you down, Andrea, but I'll get you a table right away.

ANDREA

Thanks, but I'm not here to eat.

Andrea clocks Barrett typing into his smartphone, and if looks could kill, she just shot daggers through his eye sockets and they exited out of the back of his skull.

TOMMY

I miss the days when that little pisher only got in here because he was picking up your lunch.

She tosses him a look that says she agrees then heads toward Barrett.

ON BARRETT - who feels the presence of his lunch date approaching. He looks up from his phone and smiles. But when Andrea slides into the booth next to him, Barrett's smile quickly fades.

ANDREA

Whatever it is you think you have on us, you don't.

He musters up all of his courage and dishes it back at his ex-boss.

BARRETT

Oh, I think I do, or you wouldn't be here bumping thighs with me.

ANDREA

What do you want?

BARRETT

The throne.

Asshole.

ANDREA

You know how I play Barrett. Are you sure you want to start something with me?

BARRETT

Andrea, this isn't personal. TriCom's making me an offer. I'm only one filthy secret away from going global. And it's your family's dirt that's gonna take me there.

Andrea reaches her hand under the table, moving it toward Barrett's crotch. WE'RE ON HIS FACE as she grabs his testicles and grips tightly. His eyes water as he winces in pain.

ANDREA

The people we owe money to accept payment in body parts. Do you understand?

BARRETT

(he can barely talk)
Yes.

ANDREA

They don't just squeeze, they cut.

BARRETT
(on the verge of tears)
Please, let go.

ANDREA
The next time I call, you pick up
the phone.

He nods.

ANDREA (CONT'D)
I don't ever want to have to grab
your balls again.

She releases her grip and he finally breathes.

ANDREA (CONT'D)
It's beneath me.

She leaves him reeling from the moment and heads out. As
Andrea passes Tommy--

ANDREA (CONT'D)
He needs a bag of ice.

Off of Tommy's smile--

EXT. BEVERLY HILLS RESTAURANT - CONTINUOUS - DAY

Andrea slips out to see Jordan -- the heartthrob -- as he
fights up stream, through the paparazzi, to get to his
motorcycle.

PAPARAZZI # 1
Jordan, are the rumors true?

PAPARAZZI # 2
Are you and Britney together?

JORDAN
You guys need to back off.

PAPARAZZI #3
Did Rainer give you that shiner?

Andrea cranes her neck to see Jordan's black eye. *He even
wears that well.* Jordan mounts his motorcycle and locks eyes
with Andrea. They share a long look. CUE --

BRITNEY SPEARS (SINGING)
Don't you know that it's always the
same? From Australia round to
L.A...

We get that Jordan and Andrea know each other well. Jordan finally breaks their look and puts on his helmet. He revs his engine and as he passes Andrea--

BRITNEY SPEARS (SINGING) (CONT'D)
 You can betcha wherever you go...
 The boys follow...

They share a last look before he speeds away. The song takes us to--

INT. LAUNDRY MAT - LOS ANGELES - DAY

Two OLDER LADIES look on, as--

Waiting for their laundry, Paige and Cassie flawlessly lip-sync and dance to a well choreographed "Pretty Girls." Paige as Britney and Cassandra as Iggy:

PAIGE
 Windows roll down.

IGGY
 Eyes on us.

PAIGE
 Jaws on the ground.

CASSANDRA
 Watch them go.

PAIGE
 It's just so funny.

CASSANDRA
 Like bees to the honey.

Their dryer DINGS as the chorus continues... Paige & Cassie high five their precision performance. Still moving to the beat, Cassie takes a load of clean laundry to the car as Paige pulls clothes from the dryer.

EXT. LAUNDRY MAT - CONTINUOUS - DAY

Cassie loads the clothes into the trunk of Paige's car.

BRODY (O.S.)
 Lacey?

Cassie recognizes the name. She hesitates, then lowers the trunk-lid to see BRODY, attractive, mid 30's, nice fitting suit, about to get into his Bentley.

CASSANDRA
 (taken aback)
 Brody -- hey.

Cassie, nervously, looks past him to make sure Paige is still inside the laundry mat.

BRODY
 This is crazy, I was just about to call you.

CASSANDRA

Really. That is crazy.

She clocks Paige again. Paige catches Cassie's gaze and notices the cute guy standing with her friend.

INT. LAUNDRY MAT - CONTINUOUS - DAY

Paige's phone rings and she turns her attention to it. OMG it's the *STUDIO!*

PAIGE

Hello?

ASSISTANT (O.S)

Paige Townsend?

PAIGE

No, I mean, yes without the 'D.'

ASSISTANT (O.S)

You've got a callback for 'Locked' tomorrow. Four o'clock.

He hangs up.

PAIGE

Wait what where?

Paige stares at her phone. Then she glances back out the window to Cassie.

EXT. LAUNDRY MAT - CONTINUOUS - DAY

Brody glances over at Paige and she offers them an anxious smile.

BRODY

(to 'Lacey')

If you ever want to bring your friend. I'm a more the merrier kind of guy.

CASSANDRA

(just get out of here already)

Sure, I'll ask her.

Brody's phone rings. Thank God. He says goodbye with a smile as he answers the call.

INT. LAUNDRY MAT - CONTINUOUS - DAY

As Cassie enters, Paige decides to keep her callback a secret and slides the phone into her pocket.

PAIGE

So who does 'Bentley' belong to?

Without taking a beat, Cassie lies --

CASSANDRA

Some rich guy from Bev Hills.
Couldn't find his way home.

Cassie looks back out the window. As Brody speeds away, Cassie takes in a breath. That was a close call.

SMASH TO BLACK.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

EXT. POOL-SIDE - SUNSET STRIP HOTEL - DAY

Alexis lounges in her natural habitat, hotel-pool-side with lots of gawkers. Wearing a revealing bikini and large sunglasses, she tans while flipping through the gossip magazine she grabbed from Cassandra.

A shadow falls over her. She looks up to see Rainer--

ALEXIS

I still don't know where Britney is. If that's why you're here.

RAINER

It's not.

ALEXIS

Did you come to protect me from melanoma?

He sits on the chair next to her, restoring her access to the sun. The CABANA BOY brings Alexis a fresh cocktail.

ALEXIS (CONT'D)

Drink?

RAINER

I'm sober, remember?

ALEXIS

Sorry, it's hard to keep up in this town.

She sips her skinny cocktail.

RAINER

Sweetheart, we were in rehab together.

ALEXIS

I thought you were just there to spin some 'bad boy' cred.

RAINER

That was my mom's idea.

ALEXIS

Totally brilliant. Andrea's like 'Jeopardy' smart.

He cuts to the chase:

RAINER

They might offer Jordan the role of Ed.

Alexis lifts her sunglasses.

ALEXIS

Bang me.

She reads his anguish and gets real.

ALEXIS (CONT'D)

Maybe he won't get it.

Rainer throws her a look.

RAINER

We both know if Jordan wants it, he'll get it.

ALEXIS

Can you two just get over this? I feel like I'm reliving my parents' divorce.

RAINER

It's down to you and Vanessa for August. Convince Jordan not to read and I'll make sure you get the part.

ALEXIS

How am I supposed to do that?

RAINER

You'll figure it out.

As shallow as she comes across, Alexis has a genuine affection for her old friend.

ALEXIS

I'll talk to him, but it probably won't make a difference.

RAINER

(sincere)
Thanks, Lexie.

Rainer stands to leave.

ALEXIS

I'm not screwing him.

RAINER

I didn't ask you to.

INT. APARTMENT - EVENING

Paige enters the swap meet, meets Ikea furnished two-bedroom she shares with Jake and Cassandra. Her eyes land on Jake, who sits, shirtless, on their small balcony, strumming his guitar. *Why does he have to be so good looking?*

Cassie enters from the bedroom and busts Paige looking at Jake, SUN SETTING behind him.

CASSANDRA

That's some sunset.

Jake stands to check the grill and reveals his seriously cut abs.

PAIGE

Takes your breath away.

CASSANDRA

Can I steal your car? I'm meeting Kyle at The Pizza Dome.

As Paige tosses her the keys, Jake carries in a platter of burgers.

JAKE

Kyle with nine toes?

CASSANDRA

He has ten toes, it's just that two of them are webbed.

Cassie grabs her purse.

PAIGE

(trying to be casual)
You didn't get a call about the movie did you?

CASSANDRA

Those losers wouldn't recognize talent if it sat on their faces.

PAIGE

Yeah, totally.

On Jake, clocking Paige. Something's up with her.

CASSANDRA

Catch ya later.

The second Cassie's out the door Paige reaches for a burger but Jake pulls the plate back from her.

PAIGE

You know I'm not accountable for my actions when I have low blood sugar.

JAKE

Then tell me what's up.

She snatches a burger and avoids him, grabbing a bun and taking a big bite.

PAIGE

Good burger.

Jake keeps looking at her with those puppy dog eyes she can't say "no" to.

PAIGE (CONT'D)

You're freaking me out. Go do something.

He slowly approaches her. Is he coming in for a kiss? No, instead Jake grabs her burger, holding it hostage.

JAKE

You know you're going to tell me, so stop stalling.

She can't "not smile" when she spills it:

PAIGE

I got a callback for 'Locked.'

JAKE

For real?

PAIGE

(exuberant)

Can you 'effing believe it?!

JAKE

Ohmygod, Paige!

Like an excited puppy, he grabs her, lifting her up, so happy for her. They lock eyes. *Are they gonna do this?* They inch their lips closer, and closer, melting into a kiss. The tender moment turns sexy when he lifts her up onto the counter and she wraps her legs around him. Steam rises and it's not coming from the stove.

EXT. BEVERLY HILLS MANSION - GATES - EVENING

Cassandra pulls up to the gates and presses the call button.

MAN (O.S)

Hello.

CASSANDRA

It's Lacey.

The gates open and Cassie drives in. Seriously, WTF is going on?!

EXT./INT. BEVERLY HILLS MANSION - EVENING

Moments later, the front door opens to reveal -

BRODY

Come on in.

Okay, this is not The Pizza Dome and that's not Kyle with nine-toes. After Cassie enters the estate, Brody closes the door, shutting us out on their secret.

EXT. HOTEL SUITE - SUNSET STRIP - EVENING

Standing on the balcony, Jordan sips his beer while he looks out at the jetliner view. A beat later, Alexis walks up behind him. She checks out his ass.

ALEXIS

Nice view.

He was expecting her.

JORDAN

(still looking out at the
city)

It's my favorite time of day.

ALEXIS

I was talking about your junk, but
the lights are pretty too.

He finally turns to her.

JORDAN

He sent you, right?

ALEXIS

Rainer wants you to turn down
'Locked.'

JORDAN

Every actor in town wants this. If they make me an offer, I'm taking it.

ALEXIS

Do you know where she is?

JORDAN

Britney? No.

ALEXIS

I'm her best friend. Why would she do this to me?

JORDAN

You're making this about you?

ALEXIS

I'm worried about her, Jordan.

JORDAN

Me, too.

They look out at the city as the sun sinks below the horizon, a million lights shimmering below them.

ALEXIS

How come you're staying at a hotel?

JORDAN

I've gotten so used to having people around, it feels weird when I'm alone.

ALEXIS

Wow, so honest. I thought you were gonna say it was for the room service.

He cracks a smile. It's a movie star smile.

JORDAN

Wanna get naked?

She takes in the sexy sight of him.

ALEXIS

Sure, why not.

Off of is look--

INT. APARTMENT - JAKE'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Paige and Jake, naked in bed together, after sex, cuddling.

PAIGE
So do we tell Cassie?

JAKE
About 'this' or your callback?

PAIGE
Maybe we should wait and see what happens.

JAKE
So maybe 'this' is more than just tonight?

CASSANDRA (O.S.)
You got a callback?

WTF? Paige grabs the sheets, covering up.

CASSANDRA (CONT'D)
I've seen you naked, Paige.

PAIGE
Not like this.

CASSANDRA
I can't believe you didn't tell me.

JAKE
I can't believe you're stalking my bedroom.

CASSANDRA
(tossing him his sexy
boxer briefs)
Your door was open--

PAIGE
(feeling guilty)
We had sex.

CASSANDRA
Duh.

Jake slips into his undies under the sheet.

JAKE
Anybody want ice cream?

CASSANDRA & PAIGE

Sure.

He heads for the kitchen.

PAIGE

Are you mad?

CASSANDRA

Like a hatter but at you, never.
Tell me everything.

Cassie slips under the covers, scooting next to Paige.

PAIGE

We got caught up in the moment.

CASSANDRA

Ewe no, I don't need those deets.

Jake walks back in with two pints of ice cream and three spoons.

CASSANDRA (CONT'D)

(still lying)

I can't believe I have one slice of
pizza with Nine Toes and I miss
everything.

(processing)

Okay, start at the beginning.

As Paige recounts her day, CAMERA pans to the window, finding the HOLLYWOOD SIGN looming brightly in the distance. So close and possibly not so far away. FADE TO BLACK.

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

FADE IN:

EXT. APARTMENT BALCONY - EARLY MORNING

Paige, the only one up, sits on the balcony, audition sides next to her, looking at a sliver of the sunrise. Her view couldn't be more different from Jordan's hotel suite.

Jake surprises her, stepping out onto the balcony holding two mugs of coffee. Paige's face falls when she spies the cups.

PAIGE
(devastated)
You brought me coffee.

He hands her a cup, surprised by her reaction.

JAKE
And that's a bad thing?

PAIGE
You never brought me coffee
before...

JAKE
You mean before we--

PAIGE
Slipped.

Reading her trepidation, he totally reins in his emotions.

JAKE
Yeah, about that.

PAIGE
Don't get me wrong, it was great
but--

JAKE
It was great, but--

PAIGE
We don't want to--

JAKE
It not worth--

PAIGE
Yeah.

After a long awkward moment--

JAKE
I better jump in the shower.

He turns to leave.

PAIGE

Jake--

He turns back to her.

PAIGE (CONT'D)

Okay, that was a lie. I wanna rip the tags off but I'm afraid.

JAKE

What?

PAIGE

Can we talk about this tonight?

He's happy to hear she thinks there's "something" to talk about. Jake tosses her a damn-cute half smile.

JAKE

Sure.

PAIGE

I'll be there for curtain call, no matter what.

JAKE

Break a leg.

PAIGE

You, too.

He heads inside.

PAIGE (CONT'D)

Hey, Jake--

Again, he turns back to see she's meeting his half-smile with one of her own.

PAIGE (CONT'D)

Thanks for the coffee.

She watches him walk inside, wondering how the hell this is going to end.

EXT. BEL AIR - MANSION - POOL SIDE - MORNING

CLOSE ON - A RESTRAINING ORDER as it's dropped to the table. PULL BACK to see Andrea standing over Greg, who dines on egg whites, pool side.

ANDREA

Can you believe that little pris
took a restraining order out on me?
(livid)
There's no loyalty in this town
anymore.

Surprised that she even cares--

GREG

My love, why are you sparring in
the mud with Barrett Hopper?

Their house-server, MATEO, think a LATINO CARSON from *Downton
Abby*, approaches with a tray of fresh green juice and coffee.

Mateo delivers her caffeine precisely as Andrea likes it,
steaming nonfat milk enters the cup in a 50/50 ratio with her
favorite Italian espresso.

ANDREA

Thank you, Mateo. I don't think I'd
get out of bed if you weren't here.

He acknowledges her compliment with a polite smile then
leaves them.

GREG

So Barrett knows we're knee deep in
debt. 'Locked' is gonna make a
billion dollars. And we own half of
the movie. Problem solved.

ANDREA

I appreciate that you're looking on
the bright side of our spiral, but
that's not what he's got on us.
(moment)
I think he knows about Britney.

Greg sets down his fork. He just lost his appetite.

GREG

So this is really about you
protecting Jordan. Again.

Jordan is a sensitive subject in this house, and it's not
just because of his fractured friendship with Rainer.

ANDREA

Has she called you?

GREG

Why would Britney call me?

Andrea takes a moment, looking for something in his reaction.
Then finally--

ANDREA

When she was dating Rainer you were
like a father to her.

GREG

Well, obviously, she's moved on.
(moment)
Andrea, I know you care about
Jordan.

He chooses his words carefully.

GREG (CONT'D)

But he didn't just betray Rainer.
When Jordan hooked up with Britney
he screwed us all.

He stands.

GREG (CONT'D)

Jordan made the mess, let him clean
it up.

Greg leans in to kiss her goodbye.

GREG (CONT'D)

You're letting this go, right?

She knows he's asking if she's letting go of Jordan. She
lies--

ANDREA

It's already gone.

Andrea watches Greg leave.

EXT. PARK - MORNING

Barrett jogs alone through the park. His phone RINGS. When he
reads the CALLER I.D., Barrett looks around, scared. He
finally answers the call.

BARRETT

Oh my God, Andrea. You're not
allowed to call me. This is
illegal. I'm hanging up and dialing
911.

INTERCUT WITH ANDREA - STILL POOL SIDE.

ANDREA

I know what you want. And I'll get you there. But you have to rewrite your story.

BARRETT

Why the hell should I trust you?

ANDREA

Because I know where Britney is.

Off of Barrett's OMG look --

INT. AUDITION ROOM - DAY

Rainer has just finished his chemistry read with VANESSA HUDSON, mid 20's brunette starlet with a slight tomboyish edge, ala Kristen Stewart. They're saying their goodbye's--

WYATT

Thanks for coming in, Vanessa.

GREG

We still have to play out this open call so...

VANESSA

Of course. Peace out.

She tosses Rainer a look:

VANESSA (CONT'D)

Thanks, Rain. It was fun.

RAINER

For sure.

And it was fun. Vanessa knows she's got a solid shot as she heads toward the exit.

Greg, Wyatt and Rainer all check their phones as they wait for the next audition. They don't bother to look up when Paige follows the Assistant into the room.

Paige takes a deep breath and truly can't believe she's here.

ASSISTANT

This is Paige Townsend.

PAIGE

It's Townsen, there's no "D."

Rainer, at the window texting, slips his phone into his pocket and turns. He can't believe his luck when his eyes land on Paige, the girl who looked so happy in the parking lot. He extends his hand to shake -

RAINER
Hi, I'm Rainer.

Holy shit, Rainer Devon wants to shake her hand. Paige barely keeps it together.

PAIGE
(shaking his hand)
Sorry if my hands are a little clammy. This is my first audition, well second if you count my actual first one, which was the day before yesterday, and if my friend Cassie was here this is when she'd pinch me so I'd stop talking like a nervous goober. Did I just say goober?

Rainer is totally charmed by her.

RAINER
Want me to pinch you?

PAIGE
(nervous laughter)
No, that's okay. Maybe.

WYATT
(why are we bothering with this?)
Can we start?

RAINER
Give us a second.

He leans into Paige--

RAINER (CONT'D)
Can I tell you something?

He whispers into her ear. Paige smiles and finds her heart slowing down to an almost normal rhythm.

PAIGE
Thank you.

RAINER
Ready?

She tries to forget that she's auditioning with a major movie star who happens to be drop dead gorge. After taking a deep breath--

PAIGE

Yeah.

Paige scans her script sides then sticks them into her pocket. She takes a deep breath then looks to Rainer. He nods, *let's go*.

PAIGE/AUGUST

We can't forget the past, Noah.
Because that's saying it never
happened. And that's a lie.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. AUDITION ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Nearing the end of the scene--

RAINER/NOAH

I came back. Isn't that enough?

As if on command, a single tear rolls down Paige's cheek.

PAIGE/AUGUST

I can't be with you unless you can
forgive me.

Surprising himself, Rainer's eyes well up.

RAINER/NOAH

But I do... forgive you.

Totally sucked into the moment, Rainer leans in and caresses her lips with his. The most tender romantic kiss you can imagine.

ON Greg, Wyatt and the Writer. Speechless.

Rainer and Paige separate.

Wyatt, Greg and the Writer exchange looks. Paige reads it as awkward.

PAIGE

(to Rainer)

Well, okay then. Thanks.

She hurries out the door. On Greg, processing what he just saw--

GREG
Who was that?

On Rainer, looking toward the door, *did they just find their August?*

SMASH TO BLACK.

END OF ACT FOUR

ACT FIVE

EXT. STUDIO PARKING LOT - EVENING

Paige heads toward her car. Why does she feel like she just cheated on Jake? The Assistant runs after her.

ASSISTANT

Hello? Miss Townsen?!

Paige turns to her. The Assistant is peaches and cream now, no attitude.

ASSISTANT (CONT'D)

Would you mind coming back inside?

PAIGE

Did I do something wrong?

ASSISTANT

Jordan Wilder's coming in to read and they'd like to see you with him.

PAIGE

Me? Are you sure?

The Assistant smiles, understanding this is huge.

ASSISTANT

We'll get you the scene and I'll make sure you have time to prepare.

The Assistant heads back toward the office. She realizes Paige isn't following her.

ASSISTANT (CONT'D)

Look, nobody's more surprised by this than they are. You actually have a shot here. So pull it together.

Gulp. Then after a long moment...

PAIGE

Thank you for not being mean to me. 'Cause I could totally cry right now.

ASSISTANT

Save it for your audition.

Off of Paige's look - OMFG! This is actually happening.

INT. BEVERLY HILLS RESTAURANT - EVENING

Vanessa sits at the bar, nursing a Whiskey coke. Another drink is placed in front of her. Vanessa looks up to see Tommy.

VANESSA

Is this your way of telling me I didn't get the part?

TOMMY

Last I heard you were still in the running.

VANESSA

Who told you that?

TOMMY

Alexis. She's still waiting, too. Corner booth.

Vanessa turns to see Alexis, sitting alone in the booth.

TOMMY (CONT'D)

The drink's on her.

Vanessa lifts the drink for Alexis to see, then, surprising us, she pours it out on the floor.

VANESSA

(to Chad)

Sorry about the mess.

Vanessa drops cash on the bar then leaves. Tommy exchanges looks with Alexis. So much for friendly competition.

INT. STUDIO CONFERENCE ROOM - EVENING

Paige enters. Seated are Greg, Wyatt, and the Writer. This time Greg stands and extends his hand. Paige takes it.

GREG

Paige, I'm Greg. Nice to meet you.

PAIGE

Hi.

Paige sees Rainer in the back of the room, they exchange a smile. Jordan sees this. *Does Rainer have a thing for this girl? Is that why she's here?*

WYATT

Wyatt Lippman, director.

Jordan and Paige move to face each other. Just yesterday Paige was reading about him in a magazine. Paige takes in the moment then tries to connect with Jordan.

PAIGE
Sorry in advance, I'm a little nervous.

He doesn't respond to her. Jordan's no Rainer.

WYATT
(to Jordan)
Whenever you're ready.

Jordan pops his ear buds out and tosses his phone to the side. Psyching himself up, he hasn't been listening to any of them. He instantly gets into character, catching Paige off guard.

JORDAN/ED
There's nothing out there for you.

Paige doesn't have time to stay nervous. She's in it now.

PAIGE/AUGUST
How can I know that?

JORDAN/ED
Because I've been there.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. AUDITION ROOM - MOMENTS LATER - EVENING

Nearing the end of the scene:

JORDAN/ED
You don't have to do this.

An intense look between them.

PAIGE/AUGUST
Yes, I do.
(eyes welling up)
But I'll spend every moment I'm gone remembering you.

Paige/August turns to leave. Surprising her, Jordan grabs Paige and pulls her in close. She looks at him, *WTF is happening?* Then sparks fly as he kisses her, passionately.

On Paige -- when he finally lets her go. *Double what the fuck and oh my god! Jordan Wilder just kissed her and it felt very real.*

ON EVERYONE ELSE - This is what the room was waiting for.

WYATT
That was fantastic!

JORDAN
(to Paige)
I think we should go while their
jaws are still on the floor.

A cocky Jordan heads out. Paige doesn't know what to do.

GREG
Thank you, Paige.

Paige takes in the moment. *She'll probably never see these people again.*

PAIGE
Goodbye.

Rainer offers her a polite smile. Paige finally leaves and the second she's gone--

WYATT
That girl's got something.

GREG
No arguments here.

ON RAINER looking out the window, watching a frazzled Paige juggle her purse and her cell phone as she hurries to her car.

GREG (CONT'D)
What do you think, Rain?

RAINER
(never taking his eyes off
of Paige)
She's special.

Off of his intrigued movie star look--

END OF ACT FIVE

ACT SIX

FADE IN:

EXT. STUDIO PARKING LOT - NIGHT

At her car, rushed, but elated from her audition, Paige fumbles for her keys. INTERCUT WITH--

INT. COLLEGE THEATER - BACKSTAGE - NIGHT

Cassie talks on the phone to Paige.

CASSANDRA

Back up. You auditioned with both of them? Did you take the scenes all the way to the kiss?

PAIGE

Kinda. Yeah.

CASSANDRA

Oh my god. The second you get here, plant one on me with those lips.

Paige unlocks her car and climbs into the driver's seat.

PAIGE

Tonight's about you and Jake. I'm on my way.

Startling Paige, someone KNOCKS on her window. Oh holy fuck it's--

PAIGE (CONT'D)

Rainer?

RAINER

Got a sec?

CASSANDRA

(OMG!)

Is that him?

She rolls down her window.

RAINER

You were great in there.

CASSANDRA

Holy crap.

PAIGE

(nervous)

Thanks. You were, too. I mean of course you were. You're you.

RAINER

Would you like to grab a cup of coffee?

Holy mother of god, is he asking her out? After her heart starts beating again, Paige makes a torturous decision.

PAIGE

I want to say yes but I can't.

RAINER

I said 'can't' once when I was four-years-old and my mom washed my mouth out with soap.

PAIGE

Seriously?

RAINER

I never gave up on anything again.

PAIGE

(to Cassie)

I'll call you back.

CASSANDRA

Don't hang up.

Paige hangs up as Cassie sees Jake across the stage, nervously doing actor warm ups. She decides to keep this to herself for now.

EXT. STUDIO PARKING LOT - NIGHT (CONTINUOUS)

Rainer looks deep into Paige's soulful brown eyes with those gorgeous baby blues of his.

RAINER

There's this place around the corner that makes a Carmel Macchiato that will seriously change your life.

PAIGE

There's a coffee drink that can change my life?

He plays up his movie star charm.

RAINER

They steam the milk until it's as smooth as the best scotch you've ever tasted, then they top that with a foam that melts on your tongue, like the deepest kiss you've ever had.

PAIGE

You're not going to take 'no' for an answer, are you?

Off of Rainer's coaxing smile...

INT. COLLEGE THEATER - BACKSTAGE- NIGHT

Jake peeks out at the theater. It's packed, but for one empty seat near the front. A stagehand hurries past him.

STAGEHAND (O.S.)

One minute to curtain, Jake.

Jake closes the curtain and finds Cassie.

JAKE

Something's wrong, Paige isn't here.

CASSANDRA

I'm sure she's fine, Jake.

JAKE

She'd never miss this. Unless she got into an accident or something.

Cassie was seriously hoping to avoid this.

CASSANDRA

She's with Rainer Devon.

STAGE HAND (O.S.)

Places everyone.

CASSANDRA

He asked her out for coffee.

STAGE HAND (O.S.)

And curtain.

Before Jake can process the news, the curtain raises to reveal the audience. Cassie has the first line-

CASSANDRA
(in character)
So there was this boy.

Jake pulls himself together

JAKE
(in character)
So there was this girl.

EXT. NEIGHBORHOOD COFFEE SHOP - NIGHT

Paige and Rainer sit in a booth by the window. He sips his orgasmic Salted Carmel Macchiato while she tells him a story. Drawn to her words, he smiles. Then she smiles. Their chemistry is building to an undeniable place as we DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. STAGE DOOR - COLLEGE THEATER - LOBBY - NIGHT

Leaning on the brick wall, with a coffee in hand, Jake sees a rushed Paige approaching:

PAIGE
Jake, I'm so sorry.

The disappointment drips from him.

PAIGE (CONT'D)
I got caught up--

JAKE
--with Rainer Devon.

PAIGE
I couldn't say 'no.' I really have a shot at this--

JAKE
--I know you do. You're great.

This stops Paige, making her feel even more guilty for grabbing that tall Macchiato with that tall movie star.

The INTERMISSION LIGHTS flash, signaling the start of the second half of the production. Jake steps out on a limb, addressing the elephant between them:

JAKE (CONT'D)
Paige, we're not together. It's fine.

He heads inside.

PAIGE

But we're still us, right? You, me
and Cassie?

He shoots her his handsome smile.

JAKE

Always.

Off Paige. Damn this is getting complicated.

INT. COLLEGE THEATER - NIGHT

Just as the theater goes DARK, Paige finds her seat. The
curtains open, revealing a black stage--

Then, A SPOTLIGHT illuminates CASSANDRA sitting on a stool in
the middle of the stage, wearing all black. It's as if she's
talking directly to Paige, with the crack of a smile:

CASSANDRA

I knew you'd come.

Paige can't help but feel like her best friend is talking
directly to her. Then, Cassandra looks to the other side of
the audience as Jake walks on stage.

JAKE

I could feel you.

As the performance goes on, Paige smiles, proud of her
friends...

INT. GREG DEVON'S OFFICE - NIGHT

Greg enters to find Jordan seated behind his desk, drinking
Greg's scotch.

GREG

You're like a little scab that just
won't go away.

Jordan stands and stares down his antagonist.

JORDAN

She can't stay gone forever.

GREG

She's your problem now, remember?

After a moment of disgust--

JORDAN

You don't deserve to get away with this.

Greg smirks.

GREG

But I am.

You could cut the tension with a chain saw.

GREG (CONT'D)

When you see her, tell Britney I said hello.

Off of Jordan's look--

INT. BACKSTAGE - COLLEGE THEATRE - NIGHT

Paige finds an exuberant Jake and Cassandra, both high from their performance.

PAIGE

They loved it. I mean they really loved it!

Jake wants to grab Paige and kiss her, but--

CASSIE

Group hug.

The three friends embrace. Paige's PHONE RINGS. She looks at the caller ID: *RAINER*

CASSANDRA

Rainer has your number?!

Jake chokes back the wave of jealousy that washes over him.

JAKE

You should probably answer it.

PAIGE

This is your moment, I'll call him back.

Cassie grabs the phone from her and answers:

CASSANDRA

Hey, Rainer.

Paige swipes the phone back, but not before Cassie hits the speaker phone:

INTERCUT WITH RAINER - DRIVING

RAINER

Paige, I wanted to call you personally...

Rainer pauses; a resigned Paige sighs, *she didn't get it, she knows it.*

PAIGE

Look, I gave it my best, that's all I can--

RAINER (O.S.)

You got the part.

Time stands still. Then --

PAIGE

No way!

Cassandra does a happy dance. Jake smiles for her, but knows that this is a major game changer for them.

RAINER

Let's celebrate. Where are you? I'll send a car.

Paige looks to Jake and Cassandra--

PAIGE

That's so nice of you but my friends just put on their first play, and I'm celebrating with them.

ON JAKE: 'atta girl.

RAINER (O.S.)

So let's make it a party. I'll send a limo.

ON CASSIE - dying. She mouths "Limo?!"

INT. ALEXIS' HI-RISE CONDO - NIGHT

A drunk and dejected Alexis walks into her apartment and turns on the lights. She slips off her Jimmy Choo heels then throws one of them across the room. A HAND catches the shoe, mid air. Alexis finally sees--

VANESSA

Were you aiming for my head?

ALEXIS

I thought you weren't talking to me.

VANESSA

I'm not.

ALEXIS

Well your lips are moving and I'm hearing blah blah blah.

Alexis pours herself a tall drink. Vanessa puts her hand on the bottle, slowing her down.

VANESSA

You've had enough.

ALEXIS

I think I liked you better when you weren't talking.

Vanessa turns away from her, looking out the floor-to-ceiling window. The Hollywood sign all bright and shiny. So close you could touch it.

ALEXIS (CONT'D)

I didn't go to Jordan's to sleep with him. Well, maybe I did.

(moment)

You have every right to be mad at me. I'm mad at me.

So Vanessa's not mad about the movie? She's mad about the sex?

ALEXIS (CONT'D)

Can you believe I didn't even get the part?

Surprising us, Vanessa leans in and kisses Alexis, softly at first, then passionately. OMG, Vanessa is mad about the sex because Alexis and Vanessa are #Vannexis.

INT. LIMOUSINE - NIGHT

Paige sits between Cassie and Jake in the back of the limo as they approach a MOB of paparazzi waiting outside of the restaurant.

PAIGE

They're like a swarm of locusts.

CASSANDRA

Awesome.

Jake notices how reticent Paige suddenly is.

JAKE

You okay?

She turns to him. The gravity of this whirlwind ride is sinking in. Paige reaches for Jake's hand and he gives her a steady squeeze. Her rock.

EXT. BEVERLY HILLS RESTAURANT - NIGHT

Jake never lets go of Paige's hand as they exit the limo, with an awe-struck Cassandra in tow. As they approach the entrance, a swarm of paparazzi, stand at the ready.

CASSANDRA

Who you guys here for?

PAPARAZZI

Rainer Devon's inside. Word is they cast 'Locked' today and he's waiting for his new co-star.

PAPARAZZI #2

My money's on Vanessa.

PAPARAZZI #3

Dude, she's too much of a tomboy.
It's gotta be Alexis.

Paige, Jake, and Cassie share a look -- smiling as they share the inside joke and head inside.

EXT. PALM SPRINGS MANSION - NIGHT

JORDAN drives his motorcycle through the gates of the secluded mansion. He sits for a moment before climbing off of the bike.

INT. PALM SPRINGS MANSION - CONTINUOUS

Jordan enters the dark, modern showplace and looks around.

His eyes find -- A WOMAN, standing with her back to him, looking out onto the lit pool. After a beat, The Woman turns--

-- It's BRITNEY -- AND SHE'S PREGNANT!

Jordan reads the odd look on her face.

JORDAN

You okay?

Before Britney can answer -- Andrea steps out of the shadows and into the light. Jordan's visibly shaken by her presence.

ANDREA

How long did you think you could
keep this from me?

Jordan looks to Britney. He wants to know what Britney told her.

BRITNEY

I'd tried to tell Andrea that this
is just about us wanting our
privacy.

Andrea approaches Jordan.

ANDREA

So you're the father?

He doesn't want to disappoint Andrea, but --

JORDAN

Yeah.

Andrea stares him down. She takes in a breath. She SLAPS JORDAN HARD across the face. He wasn't expecting that. After a long moment--

ANDREA

Don't lie to me.

OMG, Jordan wasn't expecting that either. Andrea knows HE'S NOT THE FATHER.

Jordan exchanges looks with Britney. The jig is up.

ANDREA (CONT'D)

One of you should start talking,
because Barrett Hopper knows where
you are.

Britney gasps. Off of all of their looks--

SMASH TO BLACK.

END OF PILOT