

SCRIPT TITLE

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SFX: the loudest, longest snorting sound you've ever heard.

VIDEO SLUG: the biggest line of cocaine you have ever seen as it is being sucked up the nose of a young, blonde rock star. Off a kitchen counter full of booze bottles, weed, pills and household items. He finishes it and throws his head back in ecstasy: this is JOHNNY ROCK. From behind the camera the voice of BAM BAM his drummer:

BAM BAM (BEHIND CAMERA)
Whoa - slow down Johnny.

JOHNNY
Best blow ever Bam Bam. Has like
little flakes of green in it. Must
be from like - Peru or some shit.

The camera moves to another pile of white powder.

BAM BAM (BEHIND CAMERA)
Dude - THAT is the blow.

Johnny eyes the pile of blow. Then looks down at the pile of white stuff tinged with green crystals he was doing - he moves a booze bottle to reveal: a knocked-over box of Calgonite Dishwashing Detergent. He stares into the camera for a second:

BAM BAM (BEHIND CAMERA) (CONT'D)
Bro - you okay?

A beat. Johnny's face goes blank. Then he screams out in joy:

JOHNNY
YEAHHHHH!!!!

OFFSTAGE VOICE:
Ladies & gentlemen: please welcome -
New York's own - The Heathens!!

TITLE UP: BEACON THEATER NEW YORK CITY 1988

INT. THE BEACON THEATER - NEW YORK CITY - 1988

Lights and music explode the stage and the crowd erupts in vocal rapture as the chunky opening riff of the band's underground hit "Sex&Drugs&Rock&Roll" collapse the air.

This band is red-hot and ramrod-tough: playing at their young, raucous peak. They make you wanna dance and sing and scream and fuck - all at the same time.

The lead singer is JOHNNY ROCK. If Joe Strummer had sex with David Bowie - this would be their progeny. His intensity and swagger suck up every set of eyes as he sings:

JOHNNY (SINGING)
 Got lotsa money and plenty a
 cocaine. Somebody somewhere gonna
 know my name - gonna hit this city
 tonight where it lives and
 breathes!

The Keith Moon-inspired drummer BAM BAM is a muscular demon with a shock of thick, curly hair. The evil bass lines emanate from a stone-faced master musician who moves and grooves with mystery. His real name is RICK.

The guitar player is fighting for attention with his thundering, lusty licks. His stage name is FLASH GORDON - and the power in his right hand makes his one guitar sound like he's playing five.

JOHNNY (SINGING) (CONT'D)
 Mick Jagger can do anything he
 wants. Fly his jumbo jet to his own
 Caribbean haunt. Fashionable faces
 and paparazzi - everywhere!

The whole crowd sings along with the chorus: SEX AND DRUGS
 AND ROCK AND ROLL! GONNA SAVE MY DIRTY SOUL! SEX AND DRUGS
 AND ROCK AND ROLL! AWRIGHT - AWRIGHT!!

TITLE UP: WHATEVER HAPPENED TO - THE HEATHENS.

SEATED INTERVIEW: Dave Grohl. Foo Fighters. Nirvana:

DAVE GROHL
 Without The Heathens there wouldn't
 have been a Nirvana. We thought
 rock'n roll was dead after The
 Clash broke up. We saw these guys
 at CBGB's and thought - holy shit.

SNAP SHOTS: circa 1986 - Jon Bon Jovi in full Hair Band mode,
 the Pet Shop Boys looking uber-fey, Guns 'N Roses.

DAVE GROHL (V.O.)
 The late 80's was all hair bands
 and Bon Jovi and the Pet Shop Boys.
 Guns N' Roses were supposed to be
 the toughest band in town.

VIDEO SLUGS / SNAP SHOTS: The Heathens partying, fighting, giving the finger to photographers, smashing equipment.

DAVE GROHL (V.O.)

The Heathens looked like they'd tear Bon Jovi's head off and stuff it down Axl Rose's half-albino throat.

SEATED INTERVIEW: Greg Dulli, lead singer of The Afghan Whigs and a genuine alt-rock god. Looks like Mark Cuban's more handsome and edgier twin brother:

GREG DULLI

It was like The Who fucked The Clash and they had four kids named The Heathens.

SNAP SHOTS: Several quick photos of Johnny with three gorgeous girls - AVA, a long-legged blonde - MICKI who is voluptuous and brunette - and CAT (stage name) who just absolutely oozes sexual charisma.

GREG DULLI (V.O.)

The lead singer lived with three hot chicks. Right out in the open. Name the biggest rock stars - Elvis, Jagger, Bowie - these guys all had to marry one chick at a time and PRETEND to be faithful. Not Johnny Rock. I saw him and said goddam - I gotta start a band.

VIDEO SLUG: MTV 120 MINUTES - 1988 - Johnny, Ava, Micki and Cat. Johnny smoking and drinking booze.

MATT PINFIELD

So - sex'n drugs'n rock'n roll huh?

MICKI

(Boston accent)

I'm more sex and drugs and sex and drugs. And fame. And lobster.

AVA

I'm drugs THEN sex.

CAT

I'm just rock'n roll. I write songs with Johnny and I can't afford my own place yet.

JOHNNY

She's gonna be huge.

MICKI

She's a wicked good singer. Plus I
work for the band. I'm their -
(to Johnny)
- what is it again?

AVA

Videographer.

MICKI

That sounds so - porny.
(to Matt)
I shoot a lot a video of 'em doin'
stuff for when they're famous.

MATT PINFIELD

(to Micki and Ava)
So you both share him and neither
of you ever gets jealous?

AVA

Only if they hog all the blow.

MATT PINFIELD

How long do you see this
arrangement lasting.

MICKI

Until I get to meet Mick Jagger!

Ava and Micki and Johnny laugh and then kiss. Cat just stares
disapprovingly into the camera.

SNAP SHOTS: Johnny naked with Ava and Micki / Johnny naked
with Ava and Micki eating lobster / Johnny snorting Calgonite
dishwashing detergent - on purpose and with a smile.

DAVE GROHL (V.O.)

The guy was not just in a band
named The Heathens- he was an
actual heathen. He snorted
dishwashing detergent. Twice.

GREG DULLI

They were the real deal.

BACK ONSTAGE as Flash and Johnny bang into each other and the
band kicks it into another gear - the crowd is ecstatic.

GREG DULLI (V.O.)

Kickass drummer, great bass player.
And that song Sex&Drugs&Rock&Roll -
they were gonna be huge.

SEATED INTERVIEW: Johnny now. Older. Worn around the edges.

JOHNNY

Had the music world at our feet.
Everybody wanted a piece of us.

FILM FLASHES: The band signs a record deal / the band meets Bowie / the band on the cover of The Village Voice.

SEATED INTERVIEW - FLASH. Handsome, cool Joe Perry type:

FLASH

We partied like rock stars. Which we were. For about a month.

JOHNNY

We made the album. Record company snuck it to the critics. Critics are raving about us.

THE ALBUM COVER: Johnny - looking dead sexy - in extreme closeup. The other three band members in the background.

JOHNNY (V.O.)

Album cover was dope.

FLASH (V.O.)

The album cover blew.

JOHNNY

We're 4 weeks away from bein' famous. Sex&Drugs is gonna be a huge hit. Shot a video for MTV.

MTV VIDEO OF SEX&DRUGS&ROCK&ROLL - it's basically just a million closeups of Johnny looking cool and tough.

JOHNNY (V.O.)

Video was just - killer, man.

FLASH (V.O.)

The video sucked. It was all him. And that song summed up all the problems in the band. Me'n Johnny wrote it together. I thought it was a solid catchy rock tune. Johnny - on the other hand - thought it was a religion.

A MILLION QUICK VIDEO SNIPPETS - all cut together and forming a comic sound symphony of Johnny snorting, slurping, sucking and huffing drugs and booze:

Johnny snorts blow / sucks a bong / guzzles whiskey / coughs out pot smoke / snorts blow off a glass plate / huffs glue / guzzles vodka / eats mushrooms / snorts blow off a naked breast / howls like a wolf / guzzles wine / sucks a hit off a giant spliff / swallows pills / makes loud nonsense noises / guzzles mouthwash like its booze / huffs spray paint / does whippets / laughs maniacally / snorts blow remnants from a rug / pukes / walks into a glass door / sticks a fork in a toaster and gets electrocuted / snorts blow off a midget's head / sticks the fork in the toaster and gets electrocuted again / snorts / sucks / huffs / cries / howls / passes out.

DAVE GROHL

When they started out the bass player's nickname was Sudafed cause that was the hardest drug he took. Five trips to rehab later?

SEATED INTERVIEW - REHAB. You met him as Rick. Very pale:

REHAB

The third place I went to Johnny explained how I could get high by boiling shampoo and inhaling the fumes. I had a lot of time on my hands.

(a beat)

And hair products.

GREG DULLI

Johnny was on the highway to hell. And he took the rhythm section with him.

SEATED INTERVIEW - BAM BAM. The drummer. Time has not been kind. He's bald. And stout. Okay - not stout - fat:

BAM BAM

Got pretty scary man. We were outta control. But when Belushi overdosed? That was a real wake-up call for me.

INTERVIEWER (O.S.)

But John Belushi overdosed in 1982. You didn't quit drugs until 1992.

BAM BAM

I'm talking about the tv movie. 'Wired'. With Michael Chiklis? Scared me straight.

(into the camera)

Thank you Michael.

FILM FLASHES: a new song called "SINNER BABY" kicks in. A sexy, slower beat snakes through as Johnny appears alone onstage - bright spotlight surrounding him - and growls:

JOHNNY (SINGING)

I'm a sinner, baby. Gonna waste my
life on the things I like - I'm a
sinner, baby.

Gradually as the song unfolds -

FLASH (V.O.)

His ego was outta control.

- first Flash and then the bass player slowly creep into the spotlight's glow behind Johnny, who notices and saunters to another area of the stage - taking the spotlight with him. Once again he sings solo. Until -

BAM BAM (V.O.)

It was like we weren't even there.

- Flash and the bass player squeeze back into the spotlight again, trying to act cool as they play, as if this nonsense isn't happening. But Johnny sees them and moves away - taking the spotlight with him once more. Girls in the audience are going nuts for Johnny.

JOHNNY (V.O.)

Chicks love the lead singer man.
That's what rock'n roll is all
about. Y'know who doesn't love the
lead singer? The rest of the band.

Johnny in the spotlight doing an incredibly narcissistic pose and letting the crowd's adoration wash all over him - holding the mike up in the air like he's the Statue Of Liberty:

FLASH (V.O.)

How many lead singers does it take
to change a light bulb? One. He
holds it in place - and the world
just revolves around him.

JUMPCUT - same gig, different song. Flash in the spotlight playing an incredibly searing, hot and unforgettable solo. Which has clearly been going on for some time.

JOHNNY (V.O.)

I wasn't the only one with an ego.

Johnny waiting to come back in on the vocals - waiting for Flash's guitar solo to end. Which it won't.

Just as it seems Flash is almost finished - Johnny opens his mouth to start singing and the solo continues even further. And then - once it appears Flash is finally done, Johnny starts to sing and - Flash continues his solo.

JOHNNY (V.O.)

How can you tell if a lead guitar player is truly amazing?

(a beat)

Don't worry. He'll tell YOU.

HOME MOVIE FLASHES: In the studio as Johnny, Flash and Rehab argue about a riff - each with a guitar. Bam Bam just watches as he drinks a beer and eats a gigantic sandwich.

GREG DULLI (V.O.)

What do you call a guy who hangs around with three musicians?

(beat)

A drummer.

BAM BAM

That's not funny man. It was like I was a referee.

BACK IN THE HOME MOVIE as Flash swings his guitar at Johnny's head and Bam Bam has to step in and break it up.

FLASH (V.O.)

And then like Ava and Micki weren't enough - now he's bangin' every chick he can get his hands on.

FILM FLASHES & VIDEO SLUGS & SNAP SHOTS: Johnny surrounded by half naked girls / Johnny with Debbie Harry / Johnny with Chrissie Hynde / Johnny's head between 4 sets of naked tits:

GREG DULLI

Album came out on a Tuesday morning. Band broke up Tuesday night.

DAVE GROHL

He must have subconsciously wanted to destroy his own success.

FLASH

He never cared about anybody but himself. Had no respect for the rest of the band. Never listened.

JOHNNY

Bullshit. The band was like a family to me, man. All I thought about was The Heathens. 24/7.

REHAB

He slept with my fiance.

JOHNNY

I did NOT sleep with his fiance.

INTERVIEWER (O.S.)

You didn't sleep with Simone.

JOHNNY

(a beat)

Simone was his fiance?

GREG DULLI

Guess they all found out right before the record dropped.

FLASH

He slept with my wife.

JOHNNY

I did not sleep with his wife.

INTERVIEWER (O.S.)

So he's lying.

JOHNNY

Yes.

(a beat)

She blew me.

(another beat)

How is that my fault?

BAM BAM

Takes two to tango. Or in his case - three.

REHAB

I don't blame Johnny. Johnny didn't make me drink and take all those drugs. Johnny didn't make me get clean and sober. Johnny isn't why I have to take Celexa and Atavan and Luvox now. Just to walk around.

(a beat - eyes wide)

Is he here?

INTERVIEWER (O.S.)

No.

Rehab's tense. Pulls a bottle of pills out and takes one.

FLASH

Listen dude - that was the best band I ever played in. Best songs I'll ever write - or Johnny will ever write. But if we stayed together we'd both be dead. Well - he'd be dead. And I'd be in prison. For stabbing him to death. With a number two pencil.

(evil smile)

Which takes a long, long time.

GREG DULLI

Then Johnny had a band called Skinny Bitch. Opened for us a few years ago.

VIDEO SLUG: Skinny Bitch onstage. Johnny - fucked up and singing - slides dramatically across the stage on his knees. But forgets to stop. And tumbles into the audience.

GREG DULLI (V.O.)

Did not end well.

DAVE GROHL

I had Skinny Bitch open for the Foo Fighters a couple tours back.

FILM FLASH: Johnny has his pants down and is mooning the audience as they throw bottles at him. He turns around and gives them two angry middle fingers.

DAVE GROHL (V.O.)

Wasn't pretty.

REHAB

I do a lot of wedding gigs, cruise ships - make a nice living.

BAM BAM

I'm fat. I'm bald. But I'm here.

FLASH

I do a lot of session work. Hired gun stuff. I'm on tour with Lady Gaga now. I have 770 thousand followers on Twitter. @GagaGuitar.

JOHNNY

(dismissively)

@GagaGuitar.

(MORE)

JOHNNY (CONT'D)

They don't even know his name. That could be anybody. Could be me.

INTERVIEWER (O.S.)

But it's not you. It's him.

JOHNNY

I'm doin' great man. Doin' a whole new solo thing. People dig it.

CLOSE ON: a computer screen. And we realize this documentary has been playing on a You Tube music channel.

WIDER ANGLE: reveals who's been watching this - A GORGEOUS 25 YEAR OLD GIRL. Closes her laptop. Thinks for a second. Then:

CLOSE ON: Johnny Rock now. Spotlit. Singing a gorgeous, plaintive ballad. Alone. With acoustic guitar. Performing in an intimate space. His voice richer and with more pain and soul in it. He has us in the palm of his hand. Until - a loud series of knocks bring us out of this reverie into:

LANDLORD'S VOICE

Where's the goddam rent scumbag?

INT. JOHNNY'S APT - BUSHWICK - DAY

We realize he's performing in an incredibly intimate space: his own untidy, cramped apartment. Recording a new tune. He opens the door a tad to reveal ELI his landlord.

ELI

Three months overdue. Said you'd pay it today. Where's my money?

JOHNNY

Gonna have it all Friday, Eli.

ELI

Bullshit.

JOHNNY

I'm goin' on the road opening up for a buddy a mine. First gig's tonight at Bowery Ballroom'n I'm gonna get an advance'n pay the whole thing off. Friday.

ELI

You got 48 hours pal and then you're out. Was that a Billy Joel tune you were just playing?

(MORE)

ELI (CONT'D)
(off Johnny's disgust)
Jon Bon Jovi?

JOHNNY
Jon Bon Jovi's a joke.

ELI
A joke who pays his goddam bills!
48 hours pal. Or out you go.

He walks away. Johnny closes the door. Sighs.

CLOSE ON: THE BOWERY BALLROOM MARQUEE

Which reads AFGHAN WHIGS in giant letters. SOLD OUT sign.

INT. BOWERY BALLROOM VIP SECTION - SAME

Ava, Micki and Bam Bam at a balcony table overlooking the sold out house and the stage.

INT. BOWERY BALLROOM VIP SECTION - BATHROOM - SAME

Johnny snorts coke in a stall. Then takes out a bottle of Vicodin. Three pills left. Swallows one. Then - good idea - starts to crush up the last two. He snorts them.

INT. BOWERY BALLROOM VIP SECTION - 5 MINUTES LATER

Ava, Micki and Bam Bam watching. Johnny sits down - he's not opening for The Whigs. He's just an audience member. He notices that Bam Bam looks suspiciously slimmer. His stomach is flat:

JOHNNY
You wearin' a corset?

BAM BAM
(lying)
It's a back brace. Something's causing my L5 to degenerate.

JOHNNY
Yeah. It's called your mouth.

The Whigs take the stage and the place erupts. Jealousy in Johnny's eyes. Dulli looks and sounds fantastic. THE GIRL WHO WATCHED THE HEATHENS ON YOU TUBE EARLIER is seated across the way. She glances over at Johnny - smiles at him. She's wearing a killer red dress. Johnny clocks the look. Checks behind him to see who she might be smiling at. Nobody there. Must be him. He smiles back. She waves. Bam Bam notices this:

BAM BAM

Who the hell's she think you are?

JOHNNY

I'm a legend, bro. The kids know.

Dulli and The Whigs are killing it. The audience going nuts.

INT. BOWERY BALLROOM DRESSING ROOM - TWO HOURS LATER

The band and guests mingle. Johnny and Bam Bam with Dulli. Johnny's got a pint glass of whiskey in his hand. Gulping it. He's more than a little sloppy. Slurring some words:

GREG DULLI

(disbelief)

You wanna open for The Whigs.

JOHNNY

Bro - I'm on fire right now.

GREG DULLI

You got any new songs?

JOHNNY

Yeah but I don't need new songs. The kits wanna hear the original Heeden stuff.

GREG DULLI

The kids? What kids?

JOHNNY

The youf of America man. Was a young chick out there tonight in your crowd? She knew who I wuz - couldn't take her eyed off me.

GREG DULLI

First time she's seen a vampire in person. You look like shit dude.

JOHNNY

I look like a rock star! Unlike you. What're you friggin' Mark friggin' Cuban all healthy'n shit?

GREG DULLI

I been clean for a long time now. No drugs allowed backstage anymore. All my opening acts know the deal too. I'm doing the best work of my career. And I feel great.

JOHNNY

Me too dude. No drugd.

GREG DULLI

Bullshit. You high on blow?

JOHNNY

No.

GREG DULLI

Then why is your face twitching?

A beat. His face IS twitching. Johnny has to think fast:

JOHNNY

Because - I have Parkinson's?

BAM BAM

Omigod.

GREG DULLI

Jesus Christ Johnny. At least if you had Parkinson's you'd have something the public would pay to see. Goddam - you're a friggin' fossil, man. Nobody in rock'n roll gets high anymore. Mick Jagger runs 9 miles a day. Slash and Ron Wood drink bottled water. If Jimi Hendrix choked on his own vomit tonight it'd be because he fell asleep after eating some really bad sushi.

JOHNNY

Two words pal - Keef Richard.

GREG DULLI

THAT'S your role model? Holy shit. I saw Keith's ad for Louis Vuitton luggage. Put a handle on his head he could have been one of the bags.

JOHNNY

You owe me bro! You stole my aura.

GREG DULLI

Your aura?

JOHNNY

Yeah. Dose're my moves you're doin'
up there. Looked up at the stage
tonight'n I saw me! Nod you! ME!!
You took my effens.

(focusing his tongue)

ESSENCE!

GREG DULLI

The only thing I ever took from you
was a good hard look at myself. And
it made me realize I was on the Amy
Winehouse Express. So I cleaned
up'n apologized to my old band and
then got us all back together.
Which is what YOU should steal from
ME. Douchebag.

Dulli storms out. Pissed. They quietly watch him go. Then:

BAM BAM

He's right, Johnny.

JOHNNY

(dead serious)

I know.

(a beat - then:)

That Parkinson's thing id genius.

BAM BAM

What.

JOHNNY

Feel good muzic story a the year.
Downdown NY rock legend overcomes
affection.

BAM BAM

(clarifying)

Affliction?

JOHNNY

Exactly. I'm not talkin' full blown
Mammad Ali type shit - more like
Spin City era Mica J. Fox. Couple
twitchy fingers'n maybe a leg spasm
or two? Rollin Stone eat that shit
right up: "Michael J. Rocks".

(MORE)

JOHNNY (CONT'D)

Can you gid a buzz from those
Parkinson drugs?

(off Bam Bam's reaction)

No?

BAM BAM

Dude, you really need to get honest
with yourself.

A quiet and serious beat. Then: SNAP! Bam Bam's corset has burst open. His stomach flops forward over his belt on all sides. Johnny gives him a look.

INT. BOWERY BALLROOM VIP SECTION - 5 MINUTES LATER

Johnny is bitter and drunk and high. A classic showbiz combination. The girl in the red dress catches his eye. Smiles. Johnny smiles and waves back.

JOHNNY

Dat hot young chick still starin' a
me. Go gid Dulli! Prove dis shit
right now.

BAM BAM

Awright time to wrap it up guys.

JOHNNY

She smilin' at me man. Lookid her.
Lookid dat ass. 'N whadda rack.

AVA

Wish my tits still looked like
that.

MICKI

Mine do. But I have to be hanging
upside down. In a meat locker.
Which I've actually done.
(remembering)
What a weekend that was.

JOHNNY

(really gone now)
Dulli needa nodafax man.

AVA

What?

BAM BAM

Holy shit. John - those Vicodins I gave you. How many did you take?

JOHNNY

Sorted aw free.

BAM BAM

You snorted all three?

AVA

You can understand him.

BAM BAM

I was on tour with The Pogues for 9 months. I speak Shane McGowan.

AVA

Vicodin kills pain in every part of the body John. Except your soul.

JOHNNY

(sarcastically spooky)

Oooh.

Johnny stands up - wobbles a bit - and says:

JOHNNY (CONT'D)

Layees'n genneman - my cherryaway.

BAM BAM

My chariot awaits. He's quoting the Bible now.

AVA

He's gonna need divine intervention just to make it across the room.

Johnny makes his way across the VIP section - walking into a table. Then another table. Then a chair. Feeling no pain. The girls and Bam Bam watch as he greets the girl in the red dress and her girlfriend.

Small talk for a second. Then Johnny grabs the girl in the red dress and pulls her in - planting a messy wet kiss on her lips. She pushes him away. He moves back in and grabs her and she kicks him in the balls. He disappears from view.

She tosses a small book of some kind at him and exits in a huff as Bam, Micki and Ava run over to find Johnny sprawled on the floor. Lying on his back - staring at the ceiling:

JOHNNY

Dit chee jus kick me inna balls?

BAM BAM

Yup.

JOHNNY

S'wad I thought.

He sits up. Focuses for a second:

JOHNNY (CONT'D)

Whassa lowest thing you guys've
seen me do?

AVA

(a beat - then:)

Today?

Johnny sighs. Then slaps his face a couple times to clear his head. Once he comes back to his senses a little:

JOHNNY

Ged this: I jus slipped the tongue
to - my own daughter.

They all stare down at him. Take that fact in. Then:

BAM BAM

(looking at his watch)

Well it's almost midnight so -
unless you have something else
planned for the next five minutes?
Pretty sure we have a winner.

INT. JOHNNY'S APT - BUSHWICK - ONE HOUR LATER

CLOSE ON: photographs of Cat and a little girl / Cat with the same girl at age 12 / Cat with the same girl at 18 - graduating from a suburban Akron, Ohio high school.

WIDER: as Ava and Johnny flip thru the mini photo album the girl in the red dress tossed at him. She is clearly the girl in the photographs. Johnny's daughter. He's less high now:

JOHNNY

All these years people been tellin'
me to go fug myself. Tonight I
almost did.

Ava's got tears in her eyes.

JOHNNY (CONT'D)

Y'okay?

AVA

Makes me sad these photos.

JOHNNY

Cause Cat was so talented'n
instead she makin' it - she got
pregnant'n moved to friggin' Ohio
without ever tellin' me?

AVA

Yeah. Plus - I always wanted a
daughter.

JOHNNY

You wanted ta have a baby?

AVA

No. Not a baby. God - they're so
much work. But a kid? Like - a 20
year old girl? To hang out with and
teach stuff to? That'd be cool. But
I guess then - you gotta adopt a
teenager. And let's face it - that
gene pool's mostly Chinese. Or
messed up Third World ones who stab
you in your sleep. Guess what I
wanted is someone who looks like
me. A younger version of me. Help
her out so she doesn't make all the
same mistakes I did.

JOHNNY

Hey - lookid me. King a mistakes.
Spent my whole life writing'n
singin'n - wishing. That the entire
world - even the Chinese - would
know my name. Instead? I'm 50,
broke and completely anoddamous.
Even ta my own kid.

AVA

(totally supportive)

That's not true. Plenty of people
know who you are. And they'll
never, ever forget you.

(a beat)

Cause you owe every single one of
'em some serious cash.

She smiles a small, empathetic smile. Squeezes his arm.

AVA (CONT'D)

I know how you feel. Seems like - just a few years ago, everything was - sitting right there in front of us. All our dreams just - waiting for us to make 'em - pop. One day you wake up and it's like - 3 decades later. I have my mothers hands. And my father's tits. 30 years ago I thought I was gonna meet David Bowie.

(she sighs heavily)

Never even got to give him a hand job. Instead? I ended up with you.

JOHNNY

(true and heartfelt)

I'm so sorry Ava. I dunno. I just-

AVA

No no no baby. That's not what I meant. Listen. When I watch you up on that stage with the spotlight on your face - your handsome, rugged face - and I hear the soul and the pain in your voice? I realize - there has to be a reason. A reason why you haven't made it yet. A reason why I devoted so much of my life to supporting you and - wishing and hoping - for you. A reason why we're both still here chasing those wishes. Fightin' this good fight.

(a beat)

Know what that reason is?

JOHNNY

(totally sucked in)

What?

AVA

No - I'm asking you. What the reason is.

JOHNNY

I - I have no idea.

AVA

(disappointed)

Shit. Me neither.

They both sit there. Deflated. Johnny puts an arm around Ava. Kisses her cheek. And they stare out at the black NYC night.

EXT. BROOKLYN STREET - BUSHWICK - THE NEXT MORNING

Johnny opens the front door of his building and sticks his head out like a spy - checking both sides of the street before heading out. Avoiding his landlord and any other debt-related folk. He walks as fast as he can but slightly bent over with his legs bowed. He is in pain. And too late:

OFFSCREEN VOICE

Hey asshole!

He turns to see SAL - a black, middle-aged musician - running across the street to stop him:

SAL

Where's my five hundred bucks?

JOHNNY

Hey Sal - how ya been?
(off Sal's angry face)
I have cancer.

SAL

Bullshit.

JOHNNY

Why you think I'm walkin' like
this? I have -
(thinking fast)
- ball cancer.

SAL

My black ass you do.

JOHNNY

(waddling away)
Pay you back soon as I'm done with
chemo, bro.

SAL

Gonna wish you had cancer you don't
gimme my money jerkoff!

INT. GOLD STAR ENTERTAINMENT - IRA FEINBAUM'S OFFICE - DAY

Photos of big-name rock tribute bands, old-school B and C level rock acts, couple of big name club comics. IRA FEINBAUM has been managing Johnny since the day The Heathens broke up:

JOHNNY

You're dropping me as a client?

FEINBAUM
(pointing to his heart)
Not in here.

JOHNNY
This is bullshit Ira.

FEINBAUM
Dulli was your last shot John - I told you that. Everyone who has ever worked with you never wants to work with you again. A woman you got pregnant hated you so much she moved to Akron, Ohio. Y'know who moves from New York City to Akron, Ohio?

JOHNNY
Who.

FEINBAUM
Storm fronts, John. Weather - not people. I'm out of options my friend. You won't play covers which cancels out weddings, hotel lounges and cruise ships. You won't sing jingles.

JOHNNY
I'm an artist.

FEINBAUM
You're an unbookable artist!

JOHNNY
You book a monkey who does balloon animals.

FEINBAUM
His name is Steve. And he does balloon HUMANS - that's his hook.

JOHNNY
Steve the monkey stays but I go.

FEINBAUM
Hey - Steve works! He's booked at birthday parties from now until next Easter. Unlike you.
(leaning in)
John - you're 50 and you're not famous and you won't let other people sing your songs. In rock 'n roll - y'know what that makes you?

JOHNNY

What.

FEINBAUM

A bartender.

JOHNNY

I have a daughter now Ira - another mouth to feed. This ain't about me.

FEINBAUM

It's always about you. Did you tell Dulli you had Parkinson's?

JOHNNY

Who doesn't these days? Could be MY hook.

(off Feinbaum's reaction)

Hey I'm too young for Alzheimer's.

(a hopeful beat)

Right?

FEINBAUM

Omigod. Even Steve wouldn't sink that low. Y'know what you have? Emotional Parkinson's. The whole planet revolves around you and every once in awhile there's a spasm of concern or a twitch of empathy or a sudden flinch of compassion for someone else - usually a person you wanna borrow money from.

JOHNNY

(a beat)

How's your Mom been feeling by the-

FEINBAUM

She died last month and I'm not lending you any more money. John - every single time opportunity knocks - you shoot yourself in the foot. Here's a headline: it ain't knocking anymore. The dream is over. Time to move on.

JOHNNY

I can't work a regular job, Ira. You gotta get me a gig.

FEINBAUM
 (off his computer)
 Bears On Bikes need a rhythm guitar
 player. 7 dates.

JOHNNY
 I'm not playing with some
 pretentious indie rock assholes.

FEINBAUM
 They're four bears who ride bikes.
 You play them on and off stage.

JOHNNY
 You want me to join the circus?

FEINBAUM
 100 bucks a show plus all the fish
 they don't eat.
 (off his computer)
 What about Summer of 69.

JOHNNY
 A sex show?

FEINBAUM
 Bryan Adams tribute band. Their
 Bryan Adams left to be the new
 Sting in Stung.

JOHNNY
 Why can't I be the new Sting in
 Stung?

FEINBAUM
 Because you look like Bryan Adams's
 grandfather. But we get you out in
 the sun for a couple weeks, get a
 dermatologist to laser the wrinkles
 around your eyes and-

JOHNNY
 Isn't there a David Bowie tribute
 thing out there?

FEINBAUM
 Yeah. Her name is Tilda Swinton.
 (his phone rings)
 I gotta take this - it's about
 Steve.
 (into phone)
 Hi Jeremy. Listen, he was very very
 upset.

(MORE)

FEINBAUM (CONT'D)

I know the bananas were there but
it's in his backstage rider: 6
bananas and 4 plums.

(a beat)

I'm sorry he threw feces at the
children. 4 plums - no feces.

EXT. FENGOLD ENTERTAINMENT - DAY - MOMENTS LATER

Johnny walks out to a waiting Ava and Micki.

JOHNNY

He dropped me.

AVA

What?

JOHNNY

Says I'm unbookable. And I look
like Bryan Adams's grandfather.
Which I don't, right?

(no response)

Oh my god.

He goes to look at his reflection in the door.

MICKI

Never mind that. We got company.

She indicates across the street: Gigi and her friend.

AVA

She showed up 5 minutes ago.

JOHNNY

What does she want?

MICKI

Proibly money.

(shouting at Gigi)

Hey bitch! If it's money you're
lookin' for you are barkin' up the
wrong friggin' tree! He just got
fired by his manager!! So screw!

GIGI

(yelling back)

I don't need any money from you
assholes! I'm rich!!

A long beat as Johnny, Ava and Micki drink that in. Then:

MICKI
(yelling back)
I love your shoes!

Ava and Micki bolt across the street, dodging taxicabs and a bike guy to arrive way too fast on the other side. Johnny waddles up last. Hellos and greetings all around.

GIGI
Sorry about kicking you in the balls. This is Becky.

BECKY
It's our first time in New York.

JOHNNY
How you like it so far?

BECKY
We went to the 9/11 museum at Ground Zero? It was soooo awesome.

GIGI
Then we saw some famous people at this club downtown last night.

AVA
Cool. Who?

BECKY
Two Kardashian cousins and Lindsay Lohan's mom.

JOHNNY
Those people are not famous.

BECKY
I know right? They're like - beyond famous. They're huuuge.

JOHNNY
The Beatles were huge. Paul Newman, Steve McQueen - they were huge.

GIGI
Whaddya mean were? What happened to Paul Newman?

JOHNNY
He died like 5 years ago.

BECKY
The popcorn guy?

GIGI
 (correcting Becky)
 He was a chef.
 (to Johnny)
 What about Steve McQueen.

BECKY
 I just saw his movie. Did you know
 black people were like - slaves?

JOHNNY
 Holy shit.

AVA
 (bonding with the girls)
 I saw Jennifer Aniston's pussy
 once.

BECKY
 Omigod where?

AVA
 Reebok gym locker room January 12
 2008 she sat across from me naked.

GIGI
 How did it look.

AVA
 It was - magnificent. Like what a
 pussy is supposed to be. It was
 almost like it could talk. Which is
 more than I can say for Jennifer. I
 said "Hey Jennifer Aniston oh my
 god I'm like your biggest fan!" in
 a very cool, non-crazy-fan type way
 and all she said back was -
 (flat, annoyed tone)
 - "Hi." Like what she was really
 saying was don't invade my
 celebrity space.

JOHNNY
 Maybe it was a hi like stop staring
 at my magic pussy hi.

AVA
 If it was a magic pussy it would've
 made Angelina Jolie disappear.

GIGI
 Maybe that's where her tits went.
 (off Ava's reaction)
 You started it.

MICKI
 (her celebrity story)
 I blew The Cars once. They were
 wicked nice.

BECKY
 Who're The Cars?

MICKI
 (to Johnny and Ava)
 Shit. See? I have no foresight. I
 shoulda had sex with Steven Tyler.

BECKY
 The American Idol guy? Ewww.

Ava, Micki and Johnny exchange a glance of surrender:

JOHNNY
 Fame is fleeting.

GIGI
 Speaking of fame - that's why I'm
 here. I need you to help me get
 famous.

JOHNNY
 Famous how.

BECKY
 She's an unbelievable singer.

JOHNNY
 Oh no no no no. No way. I am not
 getting involved in some hick from
 Ohio's ridiculous pipe dream.

GIGI
 My mother wouldn't ever let me be
 in a band or anything cause she
 hates show business but she said
 once I moved out I could do
 whatever I wanted. So this hick
 from Ohio moved out. And then she
 gave me a 100 thousand dollars.

JOHNNY
 (total shift in gears)
 Know what's a great name for a
 band? Pipe Dream.

GIGI

I can sing but I can't write so I need you and Flash to write me some songs.

JOHNNY

I don't need Flash to write-

GIGI

Your solo album sucked, his solo album sucked. But the songs you wrote together for The Heathens were awesome. Plus - he's famous.

JOHNNY

He's NOT famous. Jesus.

GIGI

Are you Gaga's new guitar player? No. Does he know Gaga? Does he breathe the same exalted air she does on a daily basis? Yes.

JOHNNY

Forget it. I'm not working with Flash. Ever. Like never ever.

GIGI

I'll give you two grand to go and talk to him.

JOHNNY

I'll go talk to Flash.

GIGI

Way I see it I could waste 8 months of my life sifting through half-assed Brooklyn hipsters or I could hire a band who already have what I need. Which would be you guys. I booked your old rehearsal space and I'll pay Rehab and Bam Bam a grand each to be there.

JOHNNY

Holy shit. Okay. I'll do my best.

GIGI

Cool.

(a beat, with meaning)
Maybe mom was wrong about you.

JOHNNY

Why - what did she say?

GIGI

She said you were a lazy, selfish,
pothead alcoholic with a small
dick and a death wish.

MICKI

Hey - that's not true.

AVA

He doesn't have a death wish. It's
called a career suicide complex.

(off Johnny's face)

Honey we've talked about this.

MICKI

And he's not a pothead. Per se.

(again, Johnny's face)

You're really more into the coke.

JOHNNY

(exasperated)

And what else?

MICKI

(getting it)

Big penises are overrated.

Not what Johnny wanted her to say. He motions to Gigi.

JOHNNY

Can I talk to you alone for a sec?

They cross away from the others.

GIGI

Is this gonna be your "I feel bad I
was never there for you because I
never knew you existed blah blah
blah" speech?

JOHNNY

No. Yes. I was just gonna say sorry
for - hitting on you last night.
But - yeah - I feel bad about - not
even knowing you existed.

(sudden turn)

I just - Jesus - I don't know - I
just kinda - my life got away from
me. And just meeting you makes me
realize -

(tearing up)

- I dunno, I just, um -

(he's going to cry)

- I wasted a lot of time and -

The weight of the last 25 years all comes crushing down on him. Ava and Micki tear up just watching him crumble. Gigi puts a caring hand on his shoulder. Rubs his back:

GIGI

It's okay. Shhh. I forgive you.

JOHNNY

(genuinely touched)

You do?

GIGI

No.

(she stops rubbing)

You should not only feel guilty about never knowing me, you should feel totally shitty about me growing up without a father figure in friggin' Ballsack Ohio and you should break down and cry about it all but - do me a favor? Cry like a baby at home. And then write me a great song called Crying. One I can sing the shit out of. Otherwise - keep your feelings to yourself. I don't need a Dad - I need a goddam songwriter. A clean and sober songwriter. So man up, bitch. And get it together. Flash and the whole Gaga band're staying at The Crosby. And in case he doesn't respond to money because unlike you he already has some - show him this.

She holds up a cellphone photo of herself in a bikini.

JOHNNY

You want me to be your pimp?

GIGI

(big smile)

Isn't this nice? We're bonding already. Tell him I have a thing for him.

JOHNNY

Do you?

GIGI

We shall see.

(she kisses his cheek)

Thank you Daddy. Becky - let's go.

Becky and Gigi waltz off. Johnny et al watch them go:

JOHNNY
(with sad admiration)
That's my girl.

MICKI
What if she can't really sing?

JOHNNY
Then we do what's best for us all.

AVA
Call her mom and send her back to
Ohio?

JOHNNY
No. We string her along until she
runs outta cash.
(off their negative faces)
What?

EXT. CROSBY HOTEL - SOHO - DAY

Johnny waddles up and a couple of paparazzi suddenly lurch out and start snapping at him. Their lights blast incredibly fast and repeatedly bright. Johnny - of course - is convinced they somehow recognize him and stops to smile and self-consciously pose. Until they scream for him to move out of the way: there's a YOUNG MAN entering the hotel behind Johnny. That's who they're aiming the cameras at:

JOHNNY
Who's that guy.

PAPPARAZZI
(you don't know?)
Bruce Jenner's son Burt.
(knowingly)
He's the sporty one.
(aiming his camera)
BURT! OVER HERE BURT! BURT!

INT. CROSBY HOTEL LOBBY - MOMENTS LATER

Johnny enters and settles onto a lobby sofa - the elevator and front door in view so he can see if and when Flash appears. A waiter carrying a cup of espresso with some biscotti is looking for the person who ordered it.

WAITER
(in general)
Double espresso?

JOHNNY
Yes. Right here.

WAITER
Would you like to run a tab sir?

JOHNNY
Uh - yes. Yes I would.

WAITER
Are you a guest of the hotel?

JOHNNY
Oh yeah. I'm - with the Lady Gaga
group? I'm the, um - bass player.

WAITER
Omigod. My daughter looves her.

JOHNNY
What's not to love?

WAITER
Her favorite musical artist. What
room number sir?

JOHNNY
I'm in room number how would you
like some tickets to see Lady Gaga?
Take your daughter to the show.

WAITER
Really?

JOHNNY
Yes.

WAITER
She would absolutely love that.

JOHNNY
I'm sure she would. Write down your
info for me. Maybe she'd even like
to meet Gaga?

WAITER
THAT would be astonishing.
(conspiratorial whisper)
The espresso is on me sir. If you
need anything do not hesitate to-

JOHNNY

You got any Middleton Reserve top shelf Irish whiskey behind the bar?

WAITER

Uhh - yes I believe we do.

JOHNNY

Bring me a bottle please? And charge it to Gaga's suite. She asked me to grab it for her.

WAITER

Omigod - it's for Gaga?
(an excited flourish)
Whiskey for the lady, my liege.

The waiter rushes off. Johnny is very pleased with himself. Takes a big bite out of the biscotti. Decides to take a big gulp of the espresso but IT'S THE HOTTEST ESPRESSO IN THE HISTORY OF ESPRESSOS. He doesn't do a spit take so much as lean over in pain and let the hot lava flow out of his mouth - gasping and moaning the entire time. His tongue is out. He's panting. Then:

MAN

Sorry. I couldn't help but overhear
- you're Lady Gaga's bass player?

He turns to see a 35 YEAR OLD ROCK GUY standing over him. Johnny's lips and mouth are on fire.

JOHNNY

Mmm-hmm.

ROCK GUY

What's she like? Is she nice?

JOHNNY

(fighting a burnt tongue)
Very nithe. Great.

ROCK GUY

How tall is she in real life - you know, without the crazy shoes.

JOHNNY

Uhh - che alwaz hazza chews on when I see her.

ROCK GUY

Uh-huh. What's her real name again?

JOHNNY
 (thinking fast)
 Becky.

ROCK GUY
 Nice try asshole. It's Stefani.
 With an F.

The waiter arrives with the whiskey bottle.

WAITER
 Your bottle of whiskey, sir.

ROCK GUY
 This man is not Lady Gaga's bass
 player.

JOHNNY
 (to the waiter)
 Okay - we obviously have some kind
 of a stalker situation here, can we-

ROCK GUY
 And I should know because - I'M her
 goddam bass player.

The waiter stares at Johnny with disappointment. Johnny does a "this guy's out of his mind" face toward the real bass player. Then quickly grabs the whiskey bottle and runs away:

ROCK GUY (CONT'D)
 Security!

EXT. CROSBY HOTEL - MOMENTS LATER

Johnny rush-waddles out of the hotel and is beset upon by two large and suited security guys. They grab the bottle from his hands and push him back. He bumps into Flash, who was just exiting the hotel:

FLASH
 Jesus Johnny what the hell.

JOHNNY
 Let me explain what happened.
 (a beat - then)
 I can't explain what happened.

FLASH
 (walking away)
 I'm not lending you any money.

JOHNNY
 (following him)
 Who said I want money?

FLASH
 Dulli. Talked to him this morning.
 And we're not gettin' the band back
 together.

A 19-YEAR OLD GIRL and her AGING ROCKER MOM (both of them
 dressed in almost the same outfit) step in Flash's way:

MOTHER
 You're the guitar player! Hey - we
 looved the show last night.

DAUGHTER
 Can you sign my tit?

The mother hands Flash a sharpie and the daughter lifts up
 her shirt for him to sign her amazing breasts. As he does so:

MOTHER
 She wants to be a singer just like
 Gaga she's really really talented
 and she's 19 so she's legal if
 you're interested. Right honey?

DAUGHTER
 Oh yeah.
 (to Johnny)
 Are you anybody?

FLASH
 You never heard of Johnny Rock?

A blank reaction from mom and daughter. They haven't.

FLASH (CONT'D)
 Hey - there's Gaga.

They all turn to see A GIANT PLASTIC TRIANGLE walking into
 the hotel - photographers snapping away. The mom and daughter
 team run toward the front of the hotel screaming. Flash uses
 the moment to escape into:

INT. FLASH'S LIMO - CONTINUOUS

As he goes to close his door, the opposite door slams shut.
 He turns to see Johnny sitting across from him.

DRIVER

Hey! What the hell you think-

FLASH

It's okay man. It's fine.

JOHNNY

You know the only reason that 19 year old girl wants to sleep with you is because she saw you onstage with Gaga, right?

FLASH

(sadly)

Yeah - I know.

(big smile)

And it is friggin' awesome.

(to Johnny)

If I give you money will you go away?

JOHNNY

Gimme 500 and I am ghost.

(mollified by the limo)

Wow - this thing is plush huh? Look at all the booze and lights. Is that Waterford crystal?

Flash pulls out a huge wad of cash, peels off \$500 bucks, hands it to Johnny. Who pockets it and starts to talk:

JOHNNY (CONT'D)

So listen-

FLASH

You said you would go away.

JOHNNY

Eventually. Listen man - you owe me. You do! I was the one who talked you into bein' in a band 7000 years ago, I was the one who first wrote songs with you - you wouldn't be in this limo today without me.

FLASH

You make it sound like we were married John. You ain't my ex-wife. I'm playin' in Gaga's band in SPITE of you.

(MORE)

FLASH (CONT'D)

You held me back all those years - with your goddam ego and shooting yourself in the foot every time we got a break and your self-destructive rock star bullshit. You still doin' blow?

JOHNNY

I haven't done blow in ages.

FLASH

Because you quit or because you can't afford it?

JOHNNY

Like I have to pay for blow. People downtown GIVE me blow, okay asshole? Y'know why? Because downtown I'm a legend.

(remembering)

Who doesn't do blow anymore.

FLASH

I got a great gig with Gaga. Same songs every night. Same set list. I could do it in my sleep. And I know my lead singer isn't high on drugs.

JOHNNY

(leaning in, dead serious)

Listen, this isn't about drugs. This is about a different high. A connection. Between us. The best work either one of us ever did was together.

(his eyes well up)

When we were cooking man - live onstage, together in the studio - all the angst and pain and raw, living emotion, man - it exploded out of us. Out of the ether and into the amps. OUR emotion - not Gaga's or Bon Jovi's or whoever the hell else. Remember that Rolling Stone review of our album - the guy called you the "wizard spawn of Pete Townsend and The Edge". The drug I'm addicted to is great music. The kind of music that lurches out of our veins and leaps into people's guts - brings them alive. Makes 'em dance and cry and move and feel.

(MORE)

JOHNNY (CONT'D)
 THAT'S the drug I love, Flash.
 THAT'S what I'm addicted to.

Wow. He got him. Flash is seriously considering what he said. Johnny watches as Flash thinks. Then:

JOHNNY (CONT'D)
 Unless you have some blow. Or some weed? Is there a special drug compartment in here somewhere?

FLASH
 Get out! Get the hell out Johnny!

Johnny does. Flash slams the door shut. Then there's a knock on the window. Flash sighs. Opens it:

JOHNNY
 (pulling out his phone)
 Okay - one last thing. This is my daughter. Long story - Cat had a baby never told me blah blah blah. So my daughter's here in NY now and says she can sing and she wants us to be her band for a couple sessions.

Flash takes the phone and looks at the picture.

JOHNNY (CONT'D)
 She's a huge Gaga fan and she-

FLASH
 I'm in.

JOHNNY
 Just like that?

FLASH
 Dude. She's hot. She's your daughter. And just imagine how grateful she's gonna be after I introduce her to Lady Gaga.
 (big, satisfied smile)
 Payback's a bitch brother.

And the limo screams away. Johnny sighs. Curses himself:

JOHNNY
 Goddammit Johnny.

INT. REHEARSAL SPACE - DAY

All the guys in the band. Tuning instruments, etc etc.

JOHNNY

I'm layin' down a couple hard and fast rules here so listen up: number one nobody sleeps with my daughter number two nobody sleeps with my daughter number three - sleep with my daughter I pull off your fingers with a socket wrench.

FLASH

Suck a dick asshole. Bam Bam said YOU tried to sleep with her.

JOHNNY

That was before I found out she was my daughter okay shithead, she was still just a - random hot chick with a great looking NO LOOKING AT HER ASS BY THE WAY! Or her tits! Matter of fact - that word is out when she's around.

FLASH

Which word - ass or tits?

JOHNNY

Both.

REHAB

What about rack?

JOHNNY

Why would rack be okay?

BAM BAM

(better idea)

Puppies.

(to Rehab)

She's gotta great pair a puppies.

(off Johnny's face)

Puppies are cute!

JOHNNY

Bam Bam I swear to god-

FLASH

Highbeams.

BAM BAM

Donuts.

FLASH

The twins.

BAM BAM

Milk run.

JOHNNY

AWRIGHT ENOUGH!! Stop talking about my daughter's - chest area! Jesus!

REHAB

What about her pussy.

JOHNNY

What?

REHAB

Can we say cameltoe if she has a cameltoe?

JOHNNY

No you cannot say-

FLASH

How do we refer to it then?

JOHNNY

The cameltoe?

FLASH

Her pussy, retard.

JOHNNY

My daughter does not HAVE a pussy, okay? My daughter has a vagina! One which is off-limits to everyone in this room!

FLASH

You shoulda thought a that 25 years ago when you were sleepin' with all our significant others.

JOHNNY

(exasperated)

Omigod. Can't we just put the past behind us guys? Seriously. Hah?

Flash and Rehab think about that for a second. But - no dice:

FLASH

We need a code word for Johnny's daughter's pussy.

JOHNNY

Guys-

REHAB

Muff.

BAM BAM

Muff is not a code word asshole.
Chicks know what muff means.

REHAB

Like you're some kinda pussy code
word genius.

BAM BAM

I am actually. Ready dipshit? Fud.
It's Scottish. No chicks who aren't
Scottish know about it.

REHAB

Bullshit.

BAM BAM

Google Pussy Slang asshole.

JOHNNY

You googled Pussy Slang?

FLASH

He's a drummer guys. Hey, how about
- pooch.

REHAB

Where's that from?

FLASH

Pooch, puppies? It's a theme.

JOHNNY

There is no theme!

BAM BAM

In Ireland they say gee.

REHAB

Oh wow. I like that.
(trying it out)
Gee.
(all in)
Let's go with gee.

FLASH

Gee is gay. I'm saying pooch.

JOHNNY
 (finally had it)
 AWRIGHT THAT'S IT! NO ONE IS
 REFERRING TO MY DAUGHTER'S POOCH -
 OR PUSSY OR - GEE GODDAMMIT! AND
 NOBODY IS LOOKING AT HER - PUPPIES!

BAM BAM
 What're we supposeta look at then?

JOHNNY
 How about her face asshole? Ever
 heard of eye contact?

BAM BAM
 (to Rehab)
 She's got incredible eyes.

JOHNNY
 NO EYE CONTACT!

GIGI
 I vote pooch.

They all turn to see her standing at the door:

GIGI (CONT'D)
 It sounds so soft and fluffy.

She crosses to the front of the room - sexy as can be.

GIGI (CONT'D)
 Here's the deal though. My pooch is
 not really up for grabs. Knowing
 myself as well as I do I'm probably
 gonna sleep with Flash because,
 well -
 (looking at Bam Bam)
 - he's not bald. Or fat.
 (she looks at Rehab)
 And he's not the bass player.
 (she glances at Flash)
 Plus he's already kinda famous.
 Which the rest of you absolutely
 are not. We gonna sing or what?

Feinbaum is at the door.

JOHNNY
 What're you doin' here?

GIGI

I invited him. I'm gonna need a manager once the music world gets a load of me. Are we gonna play or what? Sinner Baby in C.

Bam Bam counts off Sinner Baby and the music kicks in. Johnny and Feinbaum watching. And what they see becomes problematic: this chick can sing her ass off. And there's nothing shy or inhibited about her. By the end of the first verse she has control of the room, the mike, the sound and the stage. By the time the chorus occurs she is blowing out the walls. And she wraps a leg around Flash in one hot, slithery move.

Bam Bam and Rehab exchange a "holy shit is this chick good" look. Flash is on fire - leaning into her as she sings and leans back into him. You can taste the sexual chemistry.

Feinbaum's typing furiously into his Blackberry.

JOHNNY

Who're you texting.

FEINBAUM

Steve.

(a smile)

I'm texting the top three music execs I know in town. This girl's gonna be huuge. Don't ya think?

Johnny's face has a mixture of envy and disappointment raining across it. She is gonna be huge. She's a star.

FEINBAUM (CONT'D)

Opportunity is knocking one last time John. Do us both a favor? Answer the door.

JOHNNY

(flat and low)

Yeah.

He looks at his daughter. Realizes his career as a rock star is actually over. And he's gonna have to clean up - stop drinking and drugging. Gigi already made that abundantly clear. And she's definitely gonna fuck Flash.

JOHNNY (CONT'D)

(to himself)

Shit.

CUT TO BLACK. END OF SHOW.