

THE US PROJECT

Written by

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ACT ONE

FADE IN:

1 MORGAN INTERVIEW

1

NOTE: INTERVIEWS ARE IN PRESENT DAY, FLASHBACKS ARE 10 YEARS EARLIER.

MORGAN (30S-40S, FEMALE) IS ON A COUCH, TALKING TO TWO OFF-CAMERA INTERVIEWERS.

MORGAN

Do I talk to you guys? Or do I talk to the camera? (TO CAMERA) "Hi, I'm Morgan." Ugh, why did my voice get all high like that? I hate this.

INTERVIEWER #1 (O.S.)

Just talk to us.

MORGAN

Tell me again why you want to dredge up all this old stuff?

INTERVIEWER #1

Because it's an amazing story.

INTERVIEWER #2

Yeah, think of this as a documentary... on love.

BEAT.

MORGAN

Well, that sounds stupid.

INTERVIEWER #1 (O.S.)

Just start talking.

2 INT. MORGAN'S BEDROOM - 10 YEARS AGO - MORNING - DAY 1

2

MORGAN IS ASLEEP IN HER BED.

MORGAN (V.O.)

It all began ten years ago. On my
birthday.

REVEAL JARED (30S-40S) HANGING FROM A CHIN-UP BAR IN THE DOORWAY.
HE WEARS AN ELABORATE JIUJITSU GI.

MORGAN (V.O.)

It was a weird birthday. I remember my
boyfriend woke me up with a special
greeting.

JARED

(SCREAMING IN PAIN) AHHHHHHHHHHHGH!

MORGAN SITS BOLT UPRIGHT, STARTLED. JARED SEES HER.

JARED (CONT'D)

Sorry baby. Gotta hustle for the
muscle.

JARED STRAINS FOR ONE LAST CHIN-UP. IT'S NOT HAPPENING. HE TRIES
TO PSYCHE HIMSELF UP.

JARED (CONT'D)

Where there's discomfort, there's
fear. Where there's fear, there's--

THE BAR BREAKS OFF AND HE COLLAPSES ONTO THE FLOOR. A BEAT.

JARED (O.S.) (CONT'D)

Oh hey, happy birthday!

3 **MORGAN INTERVIEW**

3

MORGAN

Jared was an I.T. guy. Then he hit his thirties and got really into jiu-jitsu. So that was great.

4 **INT. MORGAN'S APARTMENT - VARIOUS**

4

QUICK POPS OF JARED AS HE:

--PRACTICES JIUJITSU MOVES, NOT SKILLFULLY.

--HANGS FROM TRX STRAPS DOING PELVIC THRUSTS WHILE GRUNTING LOUDLY. IT'S UNSETTLING.

--DOES A SERIES OF JUMPS TO INCREASINGLY HIGHER STOOLS. ON THE LAST ONE HE CRASHES HIS HEAD INTO THE CEILING.

JARED

Agh!

5 **MORGAN INTERVIEW**

5

MORGAN

He was going through some stuff.

6 **KEVIN INTERVIEW**

6

KEVIN (LATE 30S-40S) IS ON A DIFFERENT COUCH, ILL AT EASE. THE INTERVIEWERS SEEM TO HAVE LESS PATIENCE WITH HIM.

KEVIN

I don't want to do this. Is everybody doing it?

INTERVIEWER #1 (O.S.)

Yes. Stop stalling and talk.

KEVIN

This mic looks cheap.

INTERVIEWER #1 (O.S.)

The mic is fine.

KEVIN TAKES A BREATH, AND DIVES IN.

KEVIN

I -- (VERY DISTORTED AUDIO)

SMASH CUT TO:

7 **KEVIN INTERVIEW**

7

KEVIN NOW HAS AN LARGE AND UGLY MIC PINNED TO HIS JACKET.

KEVIN

Really? I could have brought over a mic--

INTERVIEWER #1 (O.C.)

Just talk!

KEVIN

(BEAT) So I was going through some stuff.

8 **INT. KEVIN'S LIVING ROOM - 10 YEARS AGO - DAY 1**

8

KEVIN SITS ON THE FLOOR OF HIS WELL-APPOINTED MAN-CAVE, WATCHING HIS WEDDING VIDEO ON A WALL-SIZED TV, SCORED BY BRIAN ADAMS "(EVERYTHING I DO) I DO IT FOR YOU." HE'S SINGING ALONG AS HE CRIES. IT'S NOT PRETTY.

9 **KEVIN INTERVIEW**

9

KEVIN

Specifically, a divorce. I'm an emotional creature. Call me old-fashioned, but I believe in the concept of a soulmate.

10 **INT. KEVIN'S LIVING ROOM - DAY 1**

10

ONSCREEN, KEVIN'S GLOWING BRIDE HOLLY COMES DOWN THE AISLE...

KEVIN

Stupid soulmate! Hate you! (THEN, SOFTLY)

Love you.

11 KEVIN INTERVIEW

11

KEVIN HOLDS A PHOTO ALBUM, TURNING PAGES AS HE TALKS. FIRST WE SEE HIGH SCHOOL CLASS PICTURES OF HIMSELF AND HOLLY.

KEVIN

I met Holly in ninth grade. We got married right after college, and...

HE TURNS THE PAGE TO A HAPPY WEDDING DAY PIC.

KEVIN (CONT'D)

...soon we had two beautiful twin girls.

HE TURNS THE PAGE TO A PIC OF TWO ADORABLE TODDLERS.

KEVIN (CONT'D)

I started a high-end A/V business. I did all the right things. When Holly got burnt out as a stay-at-home mom, I said "go back to school and get your masters." So she did! And then she met a "really inspiring professor" named Chuck.

HE TURNS THE PAGE TO A PICTURE OF A SUPER UGLY DOG.

KEVIN (CONT'D)

That's him.

HE SMILES. BEAT.

INTERVIEWER #1 (O.C.)

So you don't have a--

KEVIN

(ANNOYED) Why would I have a picture of the guy who ruined my marriage?!

12 MORGAN INTERVIEW

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SILENT BEAT AS MORGAN'S HEAD SLOWLY DIPS BACK AND HER EYES CLOSE, SHE'S FALLING ASLEEP.

INTERVIEWER #1 (O.C.)

Hello?

MORGAN

(WAKING) Sorry! I'm not bored, just exhausted. Eh, little of both. (RESETS)
Okay, so the night before my birthday, we all went out drinking to celebrate.

13 INT. BAR - NIGHT BEFORE MORGAN'S BIRTHDAY - NIGHT 1

13

A GROUP OF PEOPLE CELEBRATE WITH A TOAST. PAN TO REVEAL MORGAN DOWN THE BAR, ALONE, GRIMLY DOWNING SHOTS.

MORGAN (V.O.)

Okay, only I went out drinking. So what?
It's no different than when you order pizza for one, except it was vodka. (THEN)
I didn't really feel like celebrating.

14 MORGAN INTERVIEW

14

MORGAN

Controversial opinion: your thirties are harder than your forties. See, your forties are like "I'm old, ha ha," but your thirties are like "wait, what happened, stop, slow down!!" Your thirties are the fear of your forties without the acceptance.

15 INT. MORGAN'S APARTMENT - MORNING - DAY 1 15

ON MORGAN STILL IN BED, VERY HUNGOVER. BEHIND HER, JARED'S PELVIS LAUNCHES INTO FRAME, THEN DISAPPEARS, OVER AND OVER, AS HE PERFORMS AN AGGRESSIVE BRIDGE EXERCISE.

MORGAN (V.O.)

Which is why Jared was busy training for the "Amateur Grappling League" which is a real thing where middle-aged I.T. guys wrestle middle-aged accountants and everybody wins a trip to the hospital.

INTERVIEWER #1 (V.O.)

And what were you doing?

MORGAN DASHES INTO THE BATHROOM (OFFSCREEN) AND PUKES.

16 MORGAN INTERVIEW 16

MORGAN

Vodka.

17 INT. KEVIN'S LIVING ROOM - DAY 1 17

KEVIN WATCHES HOLLY CUT THE CAKE ONSCREEN.

KEVIN

(SINGING FORLORNLY) "...I do it for you."

KEVIN'S FRIENDS BEN AND HARRIS ENTER AND RECOIL AT THE TABLEAU.

BEN

Wow.

HARRIS

This is worse than when I walked in on him masturbating while I was masturbating. (OFF BEN'S LOOK) College.

BEN

That doesn't explain anything. (THEN)

Kevin buddy? This has gotta stop.

BEN TURNS OFF THE TV. KEVIN CLICKS A REMOTE AND THE VIDEO STARTS PLAYING ON A NEARBY LAPTOP. BEN CLOSES IT. KEVIN PULLS OUT HIS PHONE: THE VIDEO IS PLAYING ON IT.

KEVIN

I can do this all day.

HARRIS

(RE: WALL TV) Does that thing get porn?

Of course it does, you fancy bastard.

BEN

(TO KEVIN) It's been three months since Holly left and you're wallowing, you understand? You're-- (HEARING A MOAN FROM THE WALL TV) Turn that off.

ANGLE ON: HARRIS RELUCTANTLY SHUTTING OFF PORN.

BEN (CONT'D)

(TO KEVIN) An amazing single mom is coming to Marty's bar mitzvah and I'm introducing you.

HARRIS

Why don't you introduce her to me?

BEN

I did. She hated you.

HARRIS

Was she the one who was all stuck up?

BEN

She was the one who said "God bless you"
when you sneezed, and you said "God is
dead and love is a lie."

HARRIS

(TO KEVIN) You don't want to meet her,
she's stuck up.

18 KEVIN INTERVIEW

18

KEVIN

You know how you have that one friend
who's a jerk?

19 INT. MORGAN'S KITCHEN - MORNING - DAY 1

19

HUNGOVER MORGAN EATS A MELANGE OF MEAT AND EGGS, SEEMINGLY ALONE.
PAN TO REVEAL JARED SITTING ACROSS FROM HER, WEARING A STRANGE
MASK THAT COVERS THE LOWER HALF OF HIS FACE. HE SIPPS A GROSS GREEN
SHAKE THROUGH A STRAW.

MORGAN

Whatcha eatin'?

JARED

Corn fungus smoothie.

MORGAN IMMEDIATELY BECOMES NAUSEOUS, THEN RECOVERS.

MORGAN

So... you're just not gonna address why
you're wearing a gas mask to breakfast?

JARED

It's not a gas mask, it's an elevation
mask. It increases lung capacity, oxygen
efficiency--

MORGAN

(AS BANE) "The shadows belong to me."

JARED

I'm not Bane! Everybody makes that joke!

I'm not Bane!

MORGAN

Okay, geez calm down.

JARED

Bane's a super old reference, so you're
the one who looks stupid, okay?!

JARED FURIOUSLY TRIES TO REINSERT THE STRAW INTO HIS MOUTH. IT
TAKES AWHILE.

MORGAN

Wow. (RE: MASK) Hey, wear that to the bar
mitzvah on Saturday. My nerd nephew loves
Batman, you can fight for the soul of
Gotham while I dance the hora.

JARED

Sorry Morgs. Can't go.

MORGAN

What? I already RSVP'd for you. More
importantly, you are my boyfriend and we
should do things together, which is
really hard to say when you're wearing
Hannibal Lecter's retainer.

JARED

My first tournament is next month and I can't lose a whole day of training. You said you'd support me.

MORGAN

I didn't know that meant sharing my life with a ninja wearing a feedbag.

JARED

Are you done making jokes about the mask?

MORGAN

(SYMPATHETICALLY) Come on, man. No.

JARED

Well, look I really care about this, so I appreciate you having my back. I know it hasn't been easy. There's a saying in jiu-jitsu: "you have to be comfortable being uncomfortable." Because if you're comfortable being uncomfortable... (WITH MEANING) you're never uncomfortable.

MORGAN

Yeah, I'm too hungover for this.

20 **KEVIN INTERVIEW**

20

KEVIN

Everybody wanted to rush me back into dating, but I had kids involved. I needed to make sure they were emotionally ready.

21 INT. KEVIN'S KITCHEN - DAY 1

21

KEVIN'S TWIN TEENAGE DAUGHTERS, NELL AND JEN, EAT WITH HIM. NELL IS A LEADER WHO JEN CLEARLY IDOLIZES. JEN IS A WEIRDO.

NELL

Go on a freakin' date, Dad.

JEN

Yeah tic-tock on my new mommy.

KEVIN

How are you two so fine with this?

NELL

We're not.

JEN

Hate it!

NELL

But we want you to be happy, and it's not fair how Mom's been stomping all over your heart. You need to get out there.

JEN

Get on out there, Papa.

KEVIN

Jen, you don't have to automatically agree with Nell.

NELL

JEN

She has her own opinion! I have my own opinion!

NELL (CONT'D)

We're just on the same wavelength.

JEN

'Cause we're twins.

NELL

That's not why.

JEN

(TO KEVIN) That's only one factor.

NELL

Dad, don't try to stop us, because we're
on a mission. You deserve to be happy.

JEN

Which you won't be, if you die alone!

KEVIN

Wow.

NELL

We see smokin' hot divorced moms every day
at school and we are gonna hook you up.

JEN

We're gonna hook you up with a smokin'
hot mommy, Daddy.

22 **KEVIN INTERVIEW**

22

KEVIN

You know how you agree with people so
they'll shut up?

23 **MORGAN INTERVIEW**

23

MORGAN

The truth is, Jared had life figured
out.

(MORE)

MORGAN (CONT'D)

He decided a fair price to pay for
his dream was looking like an idiot,
and he went for it. I didn't know
what the hell I was doing.

24 INT. OFFICES OF TIZZY - DAY 1

24

THE MODERN SPACE OF A WANNABE BUZZFEED-TYPE WEBSITE. THE SITE IS
PROJECTED BEHIND THE INTIMIDATING OWNER, PETER CHASE. MORGAN SITS
NEAR HER FRIEND ABBY, WHO IS MORE AMUSED THAN THREATENED BY PETER.

PETER

Let me give you four words of advice when
it comes to content: more, better, now,
gone. Anyone who can't accomplish the
first three will accomplish the fourth.
(SMILING) Do you see what I did there?
(SHOUTING) Do you see what I did there??

EMPLOYEES

Yes! / Got it! / You're clearly alluding
to firing us!

25 MORGAN INTERVIEW

25

MORGAN

Ah, my old boss Peter. It was so
mysterious the way he died.

INTERVIEWER #1 (O.S.)

Peter Chase is still alive.

MORGAN

No, he died in a horrible fire. In the
future. Set by me.

26 INT. OFFICES OF TIZZY - DAY 1

26

PETER

Tizzy.biz is built on the premise
that one click will put you in a...

EVERYONE

(WEARILY) ...tizzy.

PETER CLICKS THROUGH SOME RECENT TIZZY.BIZ FARE.

PETER

"The Ten Best States to Retire To?" (CLICK)
"Lifesaving Tips from Your Florist" (CLICK)
"Are you Asian - Take Our Quiz?"

ABBY

That one turned out to be super-racist.

PETER

I need viral video! Don't forget you can
all be replaced by a Bangladeshi tween at
four cents an hour! (THEN, SINGSONG) And
I think it's someone's birthday?

AN EMPLOYEE ENTERS WITH A CAKE BEARING THE MESSAGE "HAPPY
BIRTHDAY, MORGAN." EVERYBODY SINGS.

27 MORGAN INTERVIEW

27

MORGAN

Look, I'm not exactly a planner. I'm more
of an "end-upper." I've been a sales
clerk, a nanny, a brand manager, a
crabber, a car salesman - number one for
July!

(MORE)

MORGAN (CONT'D)

But I always found a reason to quit
because my philosophy was "If things get
rough, bail. Life's too short."

28 INT. OFFICES OF "TIZZY" - DAY 1 28

SHE STARES AT THE "HAPPY BIRTHDAY, MORGAN!"

MORGAN (V.O.)

But suddenly life actually was too short.
In fact, I was almost halfway done.

SHE BLOWS OUT THE CANDLES, LOOKING UNEASY.

29 MORGAN INTERVIEW 29

MORGAN

Maybe more than halfway, given my strict
diet of "lots of alcohol." Suddenly I was
consumed by a "Life's Big Questions
Listicle." "Are you happy at your job?"

30 INT. OFFICES OF "TIZZY" - DAY 1 30

PETER

Finish your cake so we can brainstorm
some killer memes!

MORGAN JUST LOOKS SAD.

31 MORGAN INTERVIEW 31

MORGAN

"Are you with someone you love?"

32 INT. OFFICES OF "TIZZY" - DAY 1 32

MORGAN WATCHES JARED ON FACETIME ON HER LAPTOP AT HER DESK. HE'S
STANDING NEXT TO A TACKLING DUMMY.

JARED (ONSCREEN)

Check it out, I learned a flying armbar.

JARED THROWS HIS LEGS IN THE AIR, GRABS FOR THE DUMMY, MISSES, AND COLLAPSES OUT OF FRAME.

MORGAN (V.O.)

"Is your life what you want it to be?"

MORGAN SHUTS THE LAPTOP.

33 **MORGAN INTERVIEW**

33

MORGAN

The good news is, I turned that haunting inventory of existential horrors into the week's most popular "Tiz Quiz!" The bad news is, I failed it. (THEN) It was time to make some changes.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

34 KEVIN INTERVIEW

34

KEVIN

I definitely wanted to start dating. But I didn't want to be set up by Ben or my kids because... I kinda had my eye on someone.

35 INT. BANK - DAY 2

35

KEVIN IS IN LINE AT A VERY SLEEPY BANK BRANCH. A MAINTENANCE GUY LAZILY MOPS NEARBY SOME YELLOW CONES. KEVIN CLOCKS A TELLER, VANESSA, AS SHE DEALS PLEASANTLY WITH A CUSTOMER.

36 KEVIN INTERVIEW

36

KEVIN

I'm old school. I still go to the bank. And this plan was perfect, because I'd just put my check down and it'd say, "this is who I am." A provider. No singles bars, no games. (DEFENSIVE) On paper, it was a good idea.

37 INT. BANK - DAY 2

37

A WINDOW OPENS UP, BUT NOT VANESSA'S. KEVIN PRETENDS TO SCRUTINIZE HIS CHECK AND TURNS TO THE PERSON BEHIND HIM.

KEVIN

Go ahead, I forgot to sign this.

REVEAL MORGAN AND ABBY NEARBY AT THE ATM, MORGAN DEEP IN THOUGHT.

ABBY

Don't let Peter get to you. Yesterday he called me a "poor excuse for a lesbian" because I don't know Ellen DeGeneres. If I'm honest with myself, he's right.

MORGAN

All we do at that stupid website is pump
out garbage. Every day we make the world
worse.

ABBY

Name a job that doesn't make the world
worse.

MORGAN

Firefighter. Doctor. Farmer.

ABBY

Name a job you can do that doesn't make
the world worse.

MORGAN

What even is a good viral video anymore?
I feel like everything embarrassing has
already been caught on tape.

KEVIN (O.S.)

(LOUD) Salutations!

MORGAN AND ABBY WHIRL TO SEE KEVIN AT VANESSA'S WINDOW, LOUDLY
TRYING TO MAKE HIMSELF HEARD THROUGH THE PLEXIGLASS.

ABBY

Maybe not everything.

KEVIN

Just depositing my check. (WITH MEANING)
I get one every week.

VANESSA SMILES POLITELY.

KEVIN (CONT'D)

They always make you work Fridays?

VANESSA

(BEHIND GLASS, MUFFLED) Not always.

KEVIN

What?

VANESSA

Not always!

ANGLE ON MORGAN.

MORGAN

Aw, that guy's so into her. It's sweet.

SHE TURNS TO FIND ABBY, RECORDING IT ALL WITH HER PHONE.

ABBY

Hopefully she'll shoot him down. People
love other people's pain.

MORGAN

You are the worst.

ABBY

No, we are the worst. Get another angle.

MORGAN STARTS TO PROTEST, THEN WALKS AWAY AND ALSO STARTS RECORDING.

ANGLE ON KEVIN, AS VANESSA PROCESSES HIS CHECK.

KEVIN

Uh... do you want to have coffee sometime?

VANESSA

What?

KEVIN

(TOO LOUD) Do you want to have coffee
sometime? (CRINGING) Sorry, it's just...

VANESSA

(UNINTELLIGIBLE)

KEVIN

I can't... what? (RE: THE GLASS) Is there
a way to open this?

KEVIN SEES THE DOUBLE-DOORED DEPOSIT BOX NEXT TO HIM AND GETS AN
IDEA. HE OPENS HIS SIDE. BUT THE SPRING-LOADED DOOR SLIPS AND
QUICKLY SLAMS BACK SHUT WITH A LOUD NOISE.

ON MORGAN AND ABBY RECORDING AS MORGAN WINCES AT THE AWKWARDNESS:

MORGAN

(UNDER HER BREATH) Bail, dude. Bail!

ABBY

(UNDER HER BREATH) Keeeeeep going, dude.

BACK ON KEVIN WHO OPENS THE BOX AGAIN, AND PUTS HIS FACE RIGHT IN
IT, CLOSING THE DOOR BEHIND HIS HEAD FOR, I GUESS, PRIVACY? HE
MOTIONS FOR VANESSA TO OPEN HER SIDE. SHE TENTATIVELY DOES SO.

KEVIN

That's better. I was just--

HE STOPS, SUDDENLY AWARE OF VANESSA'S WEIRDED-OUT EXPRESSION.

KEVIN (CONT'D)

Wait, what am I doing?

VANESSA

Yeah, go with that.

KEVIN

Asking you out at your workplace...

that's weird right?

VANESSA

That's what you think is weird?

KEVIN

I'm so sorry. I don't know what I'm
doing. I'm gonna leave. Just for the
record, I'm very appropriate. I have
daughters. Okay, I'm leaving!

KEVIN QUICKLY PULLS HIS HEAD OUT, CAUSING THE SPRING-LOADED DOOR
TO SWING OPEN THEN SLAM BACK, HITTING HIM.

DAZED, HE SLIPS ON A PATCH OF WET FLOOR, FALLING ONTO THE BANK
ROPES AND COLLAPSING TO THE FLOOR.

THAT CAUSES EACH STANCHION TO FALL ONE BY ONE LIKE DOMINOS TO
COMPLETE AN EPIC BALLET OF FAIL, AS EVERYBODY IN LINE WATCHES.

KEVIN (CONT'D)

(JUST A WEIRD NOISE)

ON MORGAN AND ABBY:

MORGAN

Oh my god, that was awful!

ABBY

(THRILLED RE: PHONES) And we got it!

38 INT. OFFICES OF "TIZZY" - LATER - DAY 2

38

AND WE SEE THE VIDEO ON MORGAN'S SCREEN, HEADLINED "CREEP TRIES TO
WITHDRAW DATE, DEPOSITS DIGNITY." A SCREENSHOT OF KEVIN IN MID-
CRAZY FALL IS CAPTIONED "THE BANK DICK." PETER WATCHES, DELIRIOUS.

PETER

Eighty thousand views already! I love
other people's pain!

MORGAN GRITS HER TEETH.

39 MORGAN INTERVIEW

39

MORGAN

I'm glad that son of a bitch is dead.

INTERVIEWER #1 (O.S.)

Peter Chase is not dead!

MORGAN

What if I kill him right before this movie
comes out? (SELLING IT) For publicity.

40 INT. KEVIN'S HOUSE - THAT NIGHT - NIGHT 2 40

KEVIN WATCHES THE VIDEO ON HIS CELL, MOUTH AGAPE. REVEAL IT'S ALSO
PLAYING ON HIS GIANT WALL TV.

KEVIN

(JUST A WEIRD NOISE)

41 KEVIN INTERVIEW 41

KEVIN

It actually sounded great on my system.

42 INT. BAR MITZVAH RECEPTION - EVENING - DAY 3 42

THE RECEPTION IS SUPERHERO-THEMED. KIDS WALK AROUND IN COSTUMES.
BEN AND HIS WIFE SAMANTHA CHAT WITH PEOPLE ALONG WITH THEIR SON,
BAR MITZVAH BOY MARTY (13), WHO WEARS A BATMAN YARMULKE.

MORGAN SITS WITH ABBY AT A TABLE HAVING A DRINK.

ABBY

I can't thank you enough for bringing me
to a bar mitzvah where I don't know
anyone. It's perfect because as a Jew, I
love my people but hate my family.

MORGAN

Well Jared had to train for his
tournament, but it's fine. We've actually
been spending a lot of time together.

43 INT. MORGAN'S APARTMENT - VARIOUS 43

IN POPS WE SEE JARED EMPLOY MORGAN AS A TRAINING PARTNER.

--HE TRIES TO TAKE HER TO THE GROUND BUT INSTEAD SOMEHOW ENDS UP COLLAPSING TO THE GROUND HIMSELF.

--JARED HAS HIS LEGS WRAPPED AROUND MORGAN'S HEAD.

JARED

Inverted triangle! Tap out!

MORGAN EASILY FLIPS HIM.

--JARED TRIES TO PERFECT A SIMPLE SELF-DEFENSE MOVE THAT INVOLVES PULLING MORGAN'S ARM THROUGH HIS ARMS TO GET HER IN A HEADLOCK.

JARED (CONT'D)

Gimme your hand. (SCREWS IT UP, THEN)

Gimme your hand. (SCREWS IT UP, THEN)

Gimme your hand.

FINALLY HE GETS IT RIGHT, THEN DANCES AND TAUNTS MORGAN.

JARED (CONT'D)

Yeah son! In your face!

MORGAN

Why are you trash-talking me?

JARED

You gotta practice everything!

44 INT. BAR MITZVAH RECEPTION - EVENING - DAY 3

44

ABBY

None of that is sex? (OFF HER LOOK)

What? I do a lot of trash-talking.

MORGAN

Jared swore off sex until after the tournament, which works out because I swore off sex until he stops dressing like the judo Bratz doll.

ABBY

Can't think of anything I would find
sexier. Please tell Jared he is my dream
gal. By the way, did you see the hot rabbi?

ANGLE ON: THE BUTTON-DOWN BUT PRETTY RABBI SARAH, CHATTING.

KEVIN (O.S.)

Excuse me is this the...

ABBY AND MORGAN ARE STUNNED TO FIND KEVIN AT THEIR TABLE, HOLDING
A "JOKER" PLACE CARD, ACCOMPANIED BY A YARMULKE-WEARING HARRIS.

KEVIN (CONT'D)

"Ha-Ha-Hacienda" table?

MORGAN

Uhhhhhhhh....

ABBY

(GOING WITH IT) Ha-Ha-Hi there! I'm Abby.

KEVIN

I'm Kevin. Friend of Marty's family.

MORGAN

I'm Marty's aunt, Morgan.

HARRIS

Hi, I'm Harris. Don't believe in God. I
know people find comfort in these rituals
but wow, the things we do just because
we're used to doing them, huh?

HARRIS CHUCKLES. AWKWARD BEAT.

HARRIS (CONT'D)

And I'm single.

KEVIN

(TO MORGAN) I'm just gonna talk to my
buddy here for a sec.

KEVIN PULLS HARRIS ASIDE.

KEVIN (CONT'D)

You want to put a lid on the atheist
crap and just enjoy some brisket?

HARRIS

Come on man, lighten up! I'm at one of
these for the first time, I have a lot
of questions. I'm just gonna see who
wants to engage. Don't hate the debate.

KEVIN

(HEAVY SIGH) I don't. I hate you.

ANGLE ON MORGAN AND ABBY WHISPERING FEVERISHLY.

MORGAN

It's the guy from the bank!

ABBY

He doesn't recognize us. Plus it's
the internet, people have moved on.

MARTY (O.S.)

Hey is this you?

REVEAL A GROUP OF 13-YEAR OLD BOYS IN SUPERHERO YARMULKES BY
KEVIN. THE VIDEO PLAYS ON MARTY'S PHONE. ALL THE BOYS LAUGH.

MARTY (CONT'D)

See where it says "The Bank Dick?"

KEVIN

Hi Marty! Congratulations on an
impressive haftorah. And yes, that is me.

MARTY

I mean, it's cool to have an internet
celebrity at my bar mitzvah. (THEN)
Definitely your funniest video, Aunt Morgan.

ALL THE BOYS LAUGH AND WALK OFF AS KEVIN'S JAW DROPS. HE TURNS TO
MORGAN. AWKWARD BEAT, THEN:

HARRIS

Is it just me or is the rabbi hot?

ABBY

Smokin'.

HARRIS MAKES A BEELINE FOR RABBI SARAH. KEVIN STARES AT MORGAN.

MORGAN

How about that Marty, huh? Damn, that kid
is spirited. Love how the rabbi touched
on that in the service.

KEVIN

Did you... make that video?

MORGAN

I do work at that website, but it was my
friend Abby who... (TURNS TO FIND NO ONE)
Aaand she's gone. (THEN) Kevin, is it?

KEVIN

Yes, I don't actually go by "The Bank Dick."

MORGAN

Ha! I don't write the captions. We're like the New York Times that way. That's the only way.

KEVIN

So you posted the video.

MORGAN

No, we gave it to a tech guy--

KEVIN

You shot the video?

MORGAN

("UPBEAT") Can we bring your weird friend back? He was a hoot.

KEVIN

How could you do that? You embarrassed me in front of the whole world, forever.

MORGAN

No such thing as bad publicity?

KEVIN

My wife left me.

MORGAN

(CONFUSED) Because of the video? Wait, you shouldn't be dating!

KEVIN

She left me six months ago. And you recorded my first attempt to ask someone out in, well, basically ever!

(MORE)

KEVIN (CONT'D)

Now I'll have to grow a beard, learn another language, and change banks. I liked that bank! But now I'm on their "teller watch list" which I didn't even know was a thing!

A BEAT. MORGAN FEELS TERRIBLE.

MORGAN

I am so sorry. (THEN) If it makes any difference... I thought what you did was sweet.

KEVIN

(STILL MAD) Thank you!

MORGAN

I mean it was insane, and when the door hit your head, you made a face and turned blue like if there was a Home Alone Smurf? But you put yourself out there for her. You don't see that a lot. I don't, anyway.

HE LOOKS AT HER, SURPRISED. MORGAN IS SURPRISED TOO.

45 **MORGAN INTERVIEW**

45

MORGAN

I used to feel like my life was one long-running production of "Bad Choice Theatre." My choices back then were a job making people miserable and a boyfriend who wouldn't have sex with me so he can wrestle men.

(MORE)

MORGAN (CONT'D)

So maybe it was time to bail on him.

Because here was a guy right in front of
me, a good guy. Here was a choice.

46 INT. BAR MITZVAH RECEPTION - EVENING - DAY 3

46

MORGAN AND KEVIN ARE STILL LOOKING AT EACH OTHER, A CONNECTION FORMING. MORGAN STARTS TO SAY SOMETHING, THEN:

BEN (O.S.)

Kevin, this is Mina!

NELL (O.S.)

Dad, this is Adrian!

KEVIN TURNS TO FIND BEN WITH AN ATTRACTIVE MOM (MINA), AND NELL AND JEN WITH A DIFFERENT ATTRACTIVE MOM (ADRIAN). EVERYONE IS SURPRISED TO FIND EVERYONE ELSE THERE.

BEN/ADRIAN/NELL/JEN/MINA/KEVIN

Hi.

MEANWHILE, MORGAN TURNS TO FIND YOUNG, ATTRACTIVE SCOTT (22) SITTING DOWN NEXT TO HER.

SCOTT

Hello.

SCOTT SMILES. HE'S VERY GOOD-LOOKING. SURPRISED BUT INTRIGUED, MORGAN SMILES BACK.

47 MORGAN INTERVIEW

47

MORGAN

(SIGHING) And here was another choice.

INTERVIEWER #2 (O.S.)

I remember that guy. He was hot!

MORGAN

Well, he was definitely your type.

THE CAMERA SUDDENLY WHIRLS TO REVEAL THE INTERVIEWERS ARE NELL AND JEN, KEVIN'S DAUGHTERS, NOW IN THEIR 20S. JEN IS BEHIND THE CAMERA.

JEN

(RUEFUL) I do like the hot ones.

NELL

What are you doing? She's right at the
good part!

JEN

Sorry. Battery change!

JEN PULLS OUT THE BATTERY AND THE SCREEN GOES DARK.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

48 MORGAN INTERVIEW

48

* NOW WE KNOW KEVIN'S DAUGHTERS NELL & JEN ARE THE INTERVIEWERS *

NELL FIXES MORGAN'S HAIR. JEN IS BEHIND THE CAMERA.

MORGAN

I'm not sure I want to keep going.

JEN (O.S.)

Yeah, in this next part you look really bad.

MORGAN

Please tell me again why you two want to make this film? Because it's starting to feel like my life's blooper reel.

NELL

Morgan, ten years ago you were adrift, and my dad was heartbroken. But you both came out the other side. And now, Jen and I are like you: single women, not sure where we're going. And your story inspires us. That's why we're making a documentary on love. Because love is about hope.

MORGAN

(MOVED) Nell, that's beautiful.

JEN (O.S.)

Plus if we can sell this thing, it's bye-bye student loans!

MORGAN

Let's keep going.

49 INT. BAR MITZVAH RECEPTION - EVENING - DAY 3

49

NELL, JEN AND BEN QUIETLY NEGOTIATE.

BEN

I already told your dad I was gonna
introduce him to Mina. Why don't you see
if Adrian wants to meet Harris?

THEY LOOK OVER TO SEE HARRIS GRILLING RABBI SARAH.

HARRIS

...so you'll excuse me if I'm not wowed
by some oil that lasted eight days.

NELL

(TO BEN) No thanks.

JEN

No thanks on the weirdo.

NELL

(TO BEN) Why don't you take Mina to the
buffet right now, then later we'll take
Adrian? Then they each get some face time.

JEN

(TO KEVIN) You will not die alone!

KEVIN

Guys, you really don't have to set me up.

NELL

Dad we love you, but you tried it your way and...

JEN

(MIMES GETTING HIT IN THE HEAD, THEN A STANCHION
FALLING, THEN ANOTHER, THEN ANOTHER...)

ANGLE ON: DANCE FLOOR. HARRIS GRILLS RABBI SARAH AS THEY DANCE.

HARRIS

...and don't say it's a test of faith, if God is all-powerful, can't he just make us faithful? And--

RABBI SARAH

These are all very valid questions.

HARRIS

(THROWN) They are? Usually people just tell me to shut up. Sometimes I'm not even talking.

RABBI SARAH

Did you ever hear that Bertrand Russell quote? "If there were a God, I think it very unlikely that He would have such an uneasy vanity as to be offended by those who doubt His existence." God welcomes your questions. And so do I.

RABBI SARAH SMILES. HARRIS IS CLEARLY IN LOVE.

HARRIS

I would like to become Jewish please.

ANGLE ON: MORGAN DANCING WITH SCOTT. HE'S NOT A GOOD DANCER BUT HE'S UNAFRAID, WHICH AMUSES HER.

SCOTT

One of my friends told me you work for Tizzy. They got some good stuff on there.

MORGAN

Well, you're the target audience: young men who wear a lot of body spray.

SCOTT

(LAUGHS) It's not a lot. You don't want
to know how I really smell! (OFF HER
LAUGH) Seriously, I smell awful!

MORGAN

(LAUGHS) You sure know how to charm a gal!

50 MORGAN INTERVIEW

50

MORGAN

At the time, he didn't seem like such a
bad choice. He was funny, he was hot...

51 INT. BAR MITZVAH RECEPTION - EVENING - DAY 3

51

SCOTT

And what do you mean, "young man?" We're
like, the same age.

52 MORGAN INTERVIEW

52

MORGAN

...he was delusional.

53 INT. BAR MITZVAH RECEPTION - EVENING - DAY 3

53

AS NELL AND JEN LOOK ON APPROVINGLY, KEVIN CHATS WITH ADRIAN.

KEVIN (V.O.)

Things were going pretty well.

54 KEVIN INTERVIEW

54

KEVIN

Adrian hadn't seen the video, which
helped. But mostly she was just... nice.
I felt like I was finally crawling out
of my hole.

HARRIS APPROACHES. HE GESTURES MAGNANIMOUSLY.

HARRIS

Have faith, bubelehs.

BEN

Huh?

HARRIS

Faith. My future wife Rabbi Sarah gave me
the (YIDDISH) feer eyns eyns.

HE GESTURES "411" WITH HIS FINGERS.

BEN

Oh boy.

HARRIS

I'm not Jewish yet, but as a pre-Jew...

NELL

Definitely don't think that's a thing
you're supposed to say.

HARRIS

...I know that faith is essential. And
that it will be tested. (TOASTING) To
faith, to life... L'Chaim!

RABBI SARAH APPROACHES AND TAPS BEN QUIETLY ON THE SHOULDER.

RABBI SARAH

Hey, is she single?

RABBI SARAH POINTS TO ABBY. A BEAT. HARRIS TURNS TO NELL AND JEN.

HARRIS

There is no god.

60 INT. BAR MITZVAH RECEPTION - A MOMENT LATER 60

MORGAN AND SCOTT DANCE CLOSER. SCOTT STARTS TO KISS HER.

61 MORGAN INTERVIEW 61

MORGAN

Bad. Choice. Theatre.

62 INT. BAR MITZVAH RECEPTION 62

MORGAN LETS THE KISS GO FOR A SECOND. THEN OUT OF THE CORNER OF HER EYE, SHE SPOTS A FEW YOUNG GUYS OFF AWAYS WATCHING, LAUGHING, AND RECORDING WITH THEIR PHONES. THEN SHE NOTICES SCOTT TRYING TO SUBTLY GIVE THEM A THUMBS UP.

MORGAN

Uh, what's going on?

SCOTT SEES HIS FRIENDS, THEN TURNS BACK, SHEEPISH.

SCOTT

Busted!

MORGAN

Sorry?

SCOTT

Okay, don't be mad. I bet my friends I could make out with any mom here.

MORGAN PULLS BACK, STUNNED.

63 MORGAN INTERVIEW 63

MORGAN JUST STARES.

NELL (O.S.)

What a dick!

64 INT. BAR MITZVAH RECEPTION - EVENING - DAY 3 64

MORGAN TRIES TO PROCESS.

SCOTT

Don't be mad! I chose you because you're
the hottest mom. Hey, if you want to keep
making out, I'm totally happy to.

MORGAN

Great! Gimme your hand.

SCOTT DOES. MORGAN PULLS IT THROUGH HERS (JARED'S MOVE FROM PAGE
24) AND INSTANTLY HAS SCOTT IN A HEADLOCK. SHE THEN KNEES HIM IN
THE NUTS. SCOTT CRUMPLES TO THE GROUND.

MORGAN (CONT'D)

You're an idiot! And I'm not even a mom,
dumbass! I'm just a hot old lady who
knows jiuujitsu!

MORGAN LOOKS AROUND TO FIND THE RECEPTION HAS COME TO HALT AS
EVERYBODY HAS STOPPED DANCING AND IS STARING AT HER.

BOY IN A FULL BATMAN COSTUME

Wow.

65 **MORGAN INTERVIEW**

65

MORGAN'S HEAD IS IN HER HANDS.

JEN (O.S.)

Is he still single, you think?

66 **EXT. HOTEL LOADING DOCK - MOMENTS LATER - EVENING - DAY 3**

66

MORGAN BURSTS OUTSIDE, MAD AND TRYING TO PROCESS. SHE PACES, THEN
HEARS COUGHING. KEVIN SITS BY A DUMPSTER, SMOKING.

MORGAN

Oh.

KEVIN

Oh, hey.

KEVIN TAKES A DRAG AND INSTANTLY HAS A COUGHING FIT.

MORGAN

Are you all right?

KEVIN

Kinda my first cigarette.

MORGAN

Ever?

KEVIN

I'm feeling self-destructive and there's no
heroin around so this is the best I could do.

MORGAN

Well I just made out with a guy who
wasn't my boyfriend, then started a fight
at a bar mitzvah. So may I?

SHE REACHES FOR THE CIGARETTE. THEY SIT AS SHE TAKES A DRAG.

KEVIN

My ex-wife is in there.

MORGAN

Oh. Sorry.

KEVIN

My friends say I'm "wallowing" but I
don't care. There hasn't been one good
minute since she left. Just one day I
want to wake up and not feel like a pile
of garbage. (THEN) Sorry.

MORGAN

No, I get it.

KEVIN

It's a weird thing to say to a stranger.

MORGAN

It's a weird thing to say while sitting
by a pile of garbage.

SHE INDICATES THE DUMPSTER. HE CHUCKLES.

MORGAN (CONT'D)

(RE: CIGARETTE) There's lipstick on this.

KEVIN

I found it on the ground.

MORGAN TOSSES THE CIGARETTE AWAY.

KEVIN (CONT'D)

Holly and I were together a long time.
Things weren't perfect, but we could have
worked on it. (THEN) I'm not a guy who
bails. And this is what I get.

THIS LANDS ON MORGAN.

MORGAN

You're a weird guy. But you're a good guy.

SHE PATS HIS HAND. THEN LEAVES IT THERE. HE LOOKS AT HER.

67 **MORGAN INTERVIEW**

67

MORGAN

No, nothing happened. What, you
think I just went around making out
with everybody?

68 KEVIN INTERVIEW

68

KEVIN

(CHUCKLING) I don't know why she had to
draw the line that night with me.

69 EXT. HOTEL LOADING DOCK - EVENING - DAY 3

69

MORGAN REMOVES HER HAND FROM HIS, AND SHE AND KEVIN JUST SIT,
LOOKING OUT AT THE NIGHT, EACH A BIT HAPPIER THAN THEY WERE.

MORGAN (V.O.)

Look, Jared wasn't perfect. But in
his own way, he was trying.

70 INT. MORGAN'S APARTMENT - EVENING - DAY 3

70

MORGAN COMES HOME FROM THE BAR MITZVAH TO FIND A LARGE GIFT BAG ON
THE KITCHEN TABLE, AS JARED DOES CHIN-UPS IN THE DOORWAY. WITH A
SMILE, SHE PULLS OUT A CARTOONISHLY LARGE BOTTLE OF SCOTCH.

JARED

Happy birthday!

71 MORGAN INTERVIEW

71

MORGAN

I mean, enabling can be love, right?
(THEN) I just started thinking: maybe I
don't bail this time. At least not yet?
Maybe the reason my life turned into Bad
Choice Theatre was because I never stuck
around to see the second act. And you have
to! Because there's always plot twists.

72 INT. BAR MITZVAH RECEPTION - EVENING - DAY 3

72

A BUNCH OF TWEENS ARE DANCING.

MORGAN (V.O.)

And you don't quite know who is a hero or
who is a villain 'til you get to the end
of the story.

AND WE'RE CLOSE ON BATMAN BOY'S MASK...

DISSOLVE TO:

73 INT. GYM - MORNING - DAY 4

73

...JARED'S BANE MASK AS HE REMOVES IT AND BOWS... TO AN OPPONENT,
REVEALING WE'RE AT JARED'S AMATEUR JIUJITSU TOURNAMENT.

REVEAL MORGAN IN THE SPARSE AUDIENCE GAMELY CHEERING HIM ON. THE
MATCH BEGINS. JARED IS IMMEDIATELY TAKEN DOWN.

MORGAN (V.O.)

And so it felt unnatural, but I decided
to stick around, because clearly it was
time for a new philosophy:

MORGAN MOTIONS JARED OVER, AND SHE GETS CLOSE TO DO SOME COACHING.

MORGAN

(TO JARED) You gotta be comfortable being
uncomfortable.

JARED BRIGHTENS AND THEY SHARE A NICE MOMENT.

JARED

You know, I've been having some anxiety,
I think about getting older? I was
thinking maybe one day a week instead of
jiujitsu practice, I go to therapy?

MORGAN SMILES, PLEASANTLY SURPRISED BY THIS SELF-AWARENESS.

MORGAN

Absolutely. (KISSES HIM, THEN) Now go
choke out that dude.

JARED GRINS AND HEADS BACK TO THE RING, DETERMINED. HE IS IMMEDIATELY TAKEN DOWN AGAIN.

MORGAN (CONT'D)

Oof. (HOLDS UP A GREEN SHAKE) Corn fungus?

74 **MORGAN INTERVIEW**

74

MORGAN

But I still owed the Bank Dick.

75 **INT. BANK - AFTERNOON - DAY 5**

75

MORGAN'S IN LINE WITH KEVIN, WHO STANDS NERVOUSLY IN SUN GLASSES. VANESSA'S WINDOW OPENS AND MORGAN DRAGS HIM TO IT.

MORGAN

Hey.

VANESSA

How may I-- (SEEING KEVIN) Oh boy.

MORGAN

(TO VANESSA) Go out with this guy.

Look I know. I know! He made an ass out of himself and weirded you out.

That's because he's weird! But actually? He's just clueless.

KEVIN

Now maybe hit her with some positives.

MORGAN

Vanessa, Kevin here is on the market for the first time in his adult life, and what I'm offering you is an opportunity to get in on the Kevin ground floor.

(MORE)

MORGAN (CONT'D)

He's a good-looking man, steady income,
got all his hair and a verifiable history
of commitment. This is a certified pre-
owned Lexus of used men. Vanessa, look
around, you see all these women...

(POINTING TO WOMEN IN LINE) She's
smiling, she's smiling, she's got her
panties off, wow that is very forward.

VANESSA CAN'T HELP BUT SMILE.

MORGAN (CONT'D)

There we go! And look, he knows it was icky
to hit on you at work--

VANESSA

Eh, I didn't mind.

MORGAN

Okay in the interest of time we're gonna
sidebar the feminism... (RE: KEVIN) What
do you think?

VANESSA

Yes. I mean... why not?

KEVIN

Oh. Great!

HE AND VANESSA SMILE AT EACH OTHER.

KEVIN (CONT'D)

Also I install high-end A/V systems so if
you wanted me to take a look--

MORGAN

Let's save this gold for the date.

KEVIN SMILES AT MORGAN.

KEVIN

Thanks.

MORGAN

Hey, after what I did to you?

THEN KEVIN SPOTS ABBY WITH HER PHONE, RECORDING ALL OF THIS. HE LOOKS AT MORGAN IN DISBELIEF.

MORGAN (CONT'D)

People love a happy ending.

76 **MORGAN INTERVIEW**

76

MORGAN

That video only got like, forty views. Turns out people actually love other people's pain.

NELL (O.S.)

You want to take a break?

OFF-SCREEN WE HEAR A BABY CRY.

MORGAN

(SMILING) Sounds like we have to.

CUT TO BLACK:

77 **MORGAN INTERVIEW**

77

FADE IN:

MORGAN NOW HOLDS A BABY. KEVIN IS THERE, HE FAWNS OVER THE BABY AS HE AND MORGAN CHAT. CLEARLY THEY ARE A HAPPY COUPLE.

MORGAN

...then I fed him and he went right down.

KEVIN

(TO BABY) Aw, you're an easy baby, aren't you? Yes you are.

MORGAN

(YAWNING) Sure, that's why I was up at three am. (THEN) So what part of "our journey" are you up to?

KEVIN

You just got me a date with the bank teller.

MORGAN

Ha! I just went back to Jared.

THEY CHUCKLE TOGETHER.

KEVIN

That feels like a hundred years ago.

MORGAN

Anyway, we're done for today, right? (RE: BABY) Better get this guy home.

KEVIN

Yeah, we better wrap it up.

A BEAT AS KEVIN AND MORGAN SHARE A SMILE. THEN:

MORGAN

So... it was really great to see you.

KEVIN

You too! Been too long.

THEY AWKWARDLY HUG, THEN MORGAN EXITS WITH THE BABY. KEVIN WATCHES HER LEAVE FOR A MOMENT, THEN TURNS TO NELL AND JEN.

KEVIN (CONT'D)

You two want to get dinner? I don't have anything going on.

JEN (O.S.)

Sure Dad.

NELL (O.S.)

Be down in a sec. Just gotta pack up.

KEVIN EXITS (IN THE OPPOSITE DIRECTION FROM MORGAN). JEN AND NELL ENTER FROM BEHIND CAMERA. JEN PLOPS DEJECTEDLY ONTO THE COUCH.

JEN

I thought they'd talk longer.

NELL

Don't worry, it's just the first day.

JEN

She's the best thing that ever happened to him. They need to be back together.

NELL

Well, that's why we're making this. I mean (SMILES) the real reason.

NELL THROWS AN ARM AROUND JEN AND THEY CHUCKLE.

JEN

Can't believe they bought the whole "documentary on love" thing.

NELL

Idiots.

HARRIS ENTERS. HE WEARS A YARMULKE AND SPORTS A LONG BEARD.

HARRIS

Are you ready for me yet?

NELL/JEN

No.

CUT TO BLACK:

CUE: "BE MY FOREVER" BY CHRISTINA PERRI & ED SHEERAN

END OF SHOW