

UNTITLED FAMILY SHOW

"Pilot"

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ACT ONE

EXT./EST. TREE-LINED STREET - DAY

An open house sign is on the lawn of a modest one-story home. People file in and out.

INT. OPEN HOUSE - DAY

MACKENZIE, eleven and EMMA, nine, stand by a tray of cookies. A WOMAN walks over and pours herself a cup of coffee.

WOMAN

(to Emma)

I love how your mother braided your hair.

EMMA

I don't have a mother! I have dads! Gay dads! They're gay! I have four gay dads! Is that a problem for you?!

Shocked, the Woman spills coffee on her blouse. ETHAN, (40, cute even in nerdy glasses) quickly moves to Emma.

ETHAN

Emma, I'm sure the nice lady doesn't have a problem with you having dads.

SEBASTIAN (40, Latino, handsome, exudes confidence) approaches.

SEBASTIAN

(to Woman)

She can be a little militant sometimes.

ETHAN

We never should have let her watch "Milk."

TEDDY (50, looks like a million bucks worth a billion bucks) walks up.

TEDDY

(to Woman)

That stain will lift right out.

WILL (30, rugged, blue-collarish) comes over.

WILL
That's not comin' out.
(off Sebastian and Teddy's
look)
What? It's not.

The Woman moves off. Ethan starts to put a sweater on Emma. Sebastian sneaks a peek at himself in a mirror. Teddy looks at a big expensive watch on his wrist.

Everyone FREEZES, except for Will, who addresses camera:

WILL (TO CAMERA) (CONT'D)
Okay, this is the only time we're
gonna do this, but I need to catch you
up on who's who.

Will walks over to Ethan and Sebastian.

WILL (TO CAMERA) (CONT'D)
That's Ethan. That's Sebastian.
(points to girls)
With a little help from science, they
had these two cuties. Then, when it
was legal, they got married. Hooray.

He takes popcorn from a bowl and throws it at Ethan and Sebastian.

WILL (TO CAMERA) (CONT'D)
But with gay marriage comes gay
divorce. These guys are just so
different and they-- you know what,
you'll see.

Will walks over to Teddy.

WILL (TO CAMERA) (CONT'D)
Sebastian then married Teddy. Who's
rich. Like owns his own plane rich.
It has a couch. Crazy. I know.

Will takes Ethan's glasses off and cleans them with his shirt and puts them back on his face.

WILL (TO CAMERA) (CONT'D)
And I married Ethan. He's got that
nerdy neurotic thing going on, which
works for me.
(shrugs, "Who knows why?")
Ethan's very on top of the kids. He's
a helicopter mom. But a dad.

Everyone UNFREEZES.

Ethan continues to help Emma with her sweater.

EMMA
It's not cold.

ETHAN
El Niño can strike at any time.

SEBASTIAN
Girls, how would you like it if Teddy
and I bought this house?

MACKENZIE
(excited)
Right across from Daddy and Will's?!

EMMA
I'll be neighbors with myself!

Teddy pulls out a checkbook and flags down the realtor.

TEDDY
We'll take it. Shut this down.

EXT. TREE-LINED STREET - FOLLOWING

Ethan and Will exit the open house and cross the street to their house. Both homes are very similar.

WILL
I can't believe you're gonna live
right across from your ex. That's not
how divorce works where I grew up.

EXT. WORKING-CLASS NEIGHBORHOOD - DAY

Neighbors stand on their front stoops watching the police restrain an angry woman. Her stocky ex-husband's nose bleeds onto his Boston Bruins jersey.

WOMAN
You ever come back here I'll kill you!

She punches a cop in the face, grabs his police flashlight and charges after her ex.

EXT. ETHAN AND WILL'S DRIVEWAY - BACK TO SCENE

Ethan and Will are looking across the street at Sebastian and Teddy's new house.

ETHAN
Oh my God, that sounds so much easier.
But this is best for the kids.
(MORE)

ETHAN (CONT'D)

They'll be close so I can keep an eye on them. And the guys listened to me and bought a regular sized home. The girls won't get their values all messed up living in some big-ass mansion.

WILL

Smart.

EXT. TREE-LINED STREET - ONE WEEK LATER

A bulldozer starts to level Sebastian and Teddy's house. Ethan stands in his doorway, slack-jawed.

EXT. TREE-LINED STREET - MONTHS LATER

A huge beautiful, brand-new two-story colonial now stands on the lot. Ethan stands in the doorway, again, slack-jawed. Will is next to him.

WILL

Yeah. They really listened to you.

MAIN TITLES

INT. ETHAN AND WILL'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - MORNING

Ethan sets out breakfast as Will comes charging down the hall with Emma (not to be trusted) over his shoulder. She screams, having fun.

ETHAN

She doesn't have a grape in her mouth, does she?

EMMA

No.

ETHAN

They're the exact size of your trachea.

WILL

I fixed the drain in the bathroom.

ETHAN

I married a rare breed, Emma.
(re: Will)
This is known as a handy gay. They are seldom seen this far west.

Mackenzie (wants to be an adult, her life an open book) enters with two round stuffed animals under her shirt.

MACKENZIE

It's hard to see over these. I've decided I want small boobs.

ETHAN

You don't get to decide.

MACKENZIE

Pleeeeeease.

ETHAN

It's not a "please" situation.

EMMA

No fair! How come she gets boobs?!

ETHAN

Because I love her more. I thought you knew. I drop you off at school and then I take her to Disneyland.

EMMA

You do not!

ETHAN

You're right, I don't!
(catching himself)
We need to keep it down, Charlotte's asleep.

WILL

Or coming through the door right now.

CHARLOTTE (mid-30's, southern, scattered) tries to slip in quietly through the back door. She's wearing a black cocktail dress and carrying high-heels. She's clearly been out all night.

EMMA

(to Charlotte)
Where were you?

CHARLOTTE

(covering)
Getting the mail.

MACKENZIE

Why are you in your dress from last night to get the mail?

WILL

(to the rescue)
To look pretty for the neighbors!

CHARLOTTE

I'm going to bed.

ETHAN

Yes. Getting mailed all night can be tiring.

Charlotte raises an eyebrow to Ethan and exits to her room.

WILL

How long did she say she was staying here?

ETHAN

Until she gets back on her feet. Two weeks max.

WILL

And how long ago was that?

ETHAN

Two years.

The front door opens. Sebastian enters. He exudes confidence. He carries a shopping bag.

MACKENZIE/EMMA

Papi!

The girls run to him and he gives them hugs and kisses.

SEBASTIAN

Greetings from Greece!
(to girls)
These are for you.

He hands each of them a linen shirt with embroidered flowers.

MACKENZIE

I love it.

EMMA

I'm not wearing this.

He hands Ethan a bottle.

SEBASTIAN

And for you two, olive oil all the way from the cradle of western civilization.

ETHAN

Great. That will save me a trip to Trader Joe's.

Sebastian gives Ethan a playful shove.

WILL
How was your vacation?

SEBASTIAN
(gazes off in the distance)
If you haven't seen the blue caves of
the Zykynthos Islands, you have not
lived.

WILL
Huh. If they ever build a replica of
those in Vegas, I'll definitely check
them out.

Sebastian inspects the breakfast table.

SEBASTIAN
Raisin Bran? We're having a buffet at
my place. Come on. Emma, grab your
shoes. Mackenzie, take off your
boobs.

Sebastian grabs their backpacks and the girls follow him out.

ETHAN
(calling after)
Wash before you eat!

SEBASTIAN (O.S.)
Stop hovering!

ETHAN
Buffet? He's having a buffet. Why
does everything have to be so over the
top?
(sighs)
They say a good marriage takes work,
but a good divorce, that takes way
more work.

WILL
Should we head over to Chesterfield
Manor now?

ETHAN
I hate that they named it.

WILL
(no patience)
Those guys...

Ethan grabs his keys and heads for the door. Will follows.

EXT. THEIR STREET – CONTINUOUS

As they walk down their driveway, they pass a dented minivan and Will's pick-up truck. They then cross the street and pass a Tesla and the Ferrari in Sebastian and Teddy's driveway.

WILL

You notice that Sebastian let himself in? Does he still have a key?

ETHAN

The door was probably unlocked.

WILL

I don't know. I get the feeling that someone's been coming in when we're not home. I'll find the dishwasher unloaded or our throws are neatly folded...

ETHAN

There's no way he's been breaking in. Please don't be crazy, I was with crazy for thirteen years.

INT. SEBASTIAN AND TEDDY'S HOUSE – FOLLOWING

Professionally decorated to the hilt. A housekeeper leads them into the kitchen/great room where a lavish hotel-style buffet is set up.

WILL

(to housekeeper)
We arranged for an early check-in.

ETHAN

(amused)
Stop.

WILL

I can't help it. This place is bananas. My parents raised seven kids in a house the size of their wine fridge.

(to another housekeeper)
Is there a discount for Triple A members?

Teddy (always a smile on his face) greets them, drinking a mimosa.

TEDDY

Boys!

ETHAN

(to Will)

It's eight-thirty in the morning, does he never not look fantastic?

TEDDY

Mimosa?

ETHAN

I have to drive the kids to school.

WILL

(for the hundredth time)

Teddy, I've been sober for five years.

TEDDY

Virgin mimosa?

WILL

So, orange juice.

ETHAN

Don't you have to work?

TEDDY

I was up early closing a deal with some investors in China. I'm done for the day.

Sebastian approaches.

SEBASTIAN

He has a five to nine job.

TEDDY

Amazing!

Teddy, enamored, types Sebastian's quip in his iPhone.

TEDDY (CONT'D)

I keep a page of his hilarious lines.

Ethan looks over the list.

ETHAN

Half of these are from "Golden Girls."

Sebastian goes through the kids' backpacks. He pulls out an exam.

SEBASTIAN

Mackenzie got an "A" on her math test.

ETHAN

Looks like those flashcards I made
paid off.

SEBASTIAN

Yes, you get an "A" too.

WILL

We should do something, take her out
for pizza.

TEDDY

How about Capo's in North Beach?

ETHAN

North Beach? Do you mean San
Francisco?

TEDDY

We'll all fly up.

SEBASTIAN

Fun.

ETHAN

Not fun. That's insane.

MACKENZIE (O.S.)

Doesn't sound insane to me!

The four of them turn to see Mackenzie eavesdropping.

SEBASTIAN

Stay out of adult conversations.

MACKENZIE

I like to know what's going on. So,
are we taking Teddy's plane or a
public plane?

Ethan looks to Sebastian. Then:

ETHAN

Oh, honey. There is no such thing as
a "public" plane. They're just called
planes. I know all this can be
tempting, but my job is to make sure
you stay grounded and normal.

(turning to Will)

Help me out here.

WILL
(to Mackenzie)
In the real world, not everything is
brought to you on a silver platter.

A housekeeper comes over with little breakfast quiches on a silver platter. Will takes one.

WILL (CONT'D)
Thank you.
(mouth full; off Ethan's look)
Sorry. These are so good.

SEBASTIAN
Fine, we'll do something in town.

TEDDY
I'll plan it.

ETHAN
Nothing crazy.

TEDDY
What do you mean?

EXT. TREE-LINED STREET — DAY — FLASHBACK

The USC Marching Band marches past their houses, playing "Happy Birthday." Emma wears a birthday hat and waves.

INT. SEBASTIAN AND TEDDY'S HOUSE — BACK TO SCENE

TEDDY
I don't see how that can be construed
as crazy.

Ethan looks at Teddy with disbelief.

EXT. TREE-LINED STREET — DAY — FLASHBACK

As the band continues to march down the street, the Blue Angels do a fly-by over their house.

INT. SEBASTIAN AND TEDDY'S HOUSE — BACK TO SCENE

TEDDY
I promise to keep it small. Dinner
party. Just family.

ETHAN
Thank you.

TEDDY
We'll need a signature cocktail!

Ethan shakes his head. The housekeeper offers Will a cloth napkin.

WILL
(to housekeeper)
Don't they have paper napkins? I feel like I'm at a wedding.

Ethan and Sebastian's phones ding.

SEBASTIAN
It's an email from Emma's teacher. She wants whoever drops her off to stop in and talk to her.

MACKENZIE
What do we think that's about?

SEBASTIAN
Go eat.

ETHAN
No grapes.

Mackenzie moves off.

SEBASTIAN
With Emma it could be anything.

TEDDY
Lying...

WILL
Fighting...

ETHAN
I'm sure it's nothing. I'll let you know what her teacher says.

SEBASTIAN
No. We both have to be there. We still have to be a united front.

TEDDY
I'm going too! We'll all go!

SEBASTIAN
Done.

WILL
(mouthful, caught off guard)
Huh?

INT. CLASSROOM – DAY

The four dads sit in front of Emma's teacher, MS. BEST.

MS. BEST

I wasn't expecting all four of you.

WILL

Yeah, there's far more togetherness than I ever could have imagined.

SEBASTIAN

So what's going on with Emma?

MS. BEST

Well, yesterday, when the class was at recess, she snuck back in and stole the snacks from everyone's lunches.

WILL

Ha!
(off Sebastian's look)
Kid cracks me up.

EXT. SCHOOL YARD – FOLLOWING

The four dads walk out of the classroom.

ETHAN

I'll talk with her tonight after Charlotte brings her home from karate.

SEBASTIAN

This is bigger than a talk. She's stealing.

ETHAN

Stealing snacks. Not jewels.

SEBASTIAN

It starts with stealing snacks from her class, then she's stealing snacks from Whole Foods but that's not enough of a rush anymore. She ups the ante to feel alive. She's robbing houses, middle of the day, she doesn't care.

WILL

(aside to Ethan)
What's happening?

ETHAN

You just have to wait it out.

SEBASTIAN

She tries to knock over an Indian casino but underestimates their security and now we're spending Thanksgiving with her at the California Correctional Facility for Women in Chino.

(lightbulb)

Prison. That's what we do. Take her to prison and show her her future! Scare her straight.

TEDDY

I love how dramatic he is. It's so exciting. You never know what's going to happen.

ETHAN

You guys are perfect together. You love everything about him I couldn't stand.

SEBASTIAN

This needs to be nipped in the bud. When I was fourteen, I took out my parent's car and put a dent in the bumper. To teach me a lesson, my dad made me drive that car straight into a tree at thirty miles an hour.

EXT. DIRT ROAD - DAY - FLASHBACK

A 1982 Chrysler LeBaron crashes into a tree. Sebastian's mustached father lowers his arms, allowing family members behind him to run to the car. A dazed fourteen-year-old Sebastian stumbles out. His father nods his head, satisfied.

EXT. SCHOOL YARD - BACK TO PRESENT

Teddy is hanging on his every word.

SEBASTIAN

I never took the car out again.

TEDDY

That's a beautiful story.

WILL

It's the most screwed up story I've ever heard. C'mon, kids steal. When I was her age, I stole a Barbie from my friend's sister. It didn't mean anything. Well, it did -- but it meant something else.

ETHAN

Will's point is, it's a phase. Let's not overreact.

SEBASTIAN

The egg donor must have had a gene for corruption.

ETHAN

(to Will, re: Sebastian)
He was so handsome when we met, I overlooked all of this.

SEBASTIAN

We have to stamp it out.

ETHAN

I don't have time to take our nine-year-old to prison today. I have a book to finish.

SEBASTIAN

You write kids' books. Each page has three words. How long can that take?

ETHAN

The girls are with me this week. I'll decide how to deal with Emma.

SEBASTIAN

You? You're always codling her. What's her punishment going to be? No iPad in the car on your way to get ice cream?

ETHAN

We're not married anymore so we're gonna do things my way. I don't need your opinions, I don't need your judgement, I don't need your input!

Will whispers to Ethan.

ETHAN (CONT'D)

But I do need a ride home! Will has a meeting!

Ethan storms off.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

INT. ETHAN AND WILL'S HOUSE - CHARLOTTE'S ROOM - EVENING

Ethan enters. Mackenzie and Emma run lines with Charlotte. Emma holds a stuffed seal and wears her karate outfit.

MACKENZIE

(reading script)

If you don't tell me who did this to you, he's just going to do it to someone else.

CHARLOTTE

Don't you think I want to?! But who'll take the word of a prostitute over a senator?

(whispers)

Emma.

EMMA

(reading, stilted)

I believe you because I am in love with you.

ETHAN

Well, this is good for a growing mind.

Charlotte notices Ethan in the doorway.

CHARLOTTE

Hey! The girls are helping me. I got a guest spot on this police procedural that's going to air on PayPal.

ETHAN

I didn't know that was a thing but great. Emma, can I talk to you for a second?

Ethan and Emma exit.

MACKENZIE

I don't know what that's about, but I'll get to the bottom of it.

CHARLOTTE

That's why you're the best damn alcoholic, DA I've ever worked with.

INT. ETHAN'S HOME OFFICE - FOLLOWING

Ethan sits next to Emma on the couch, the stuffed seal on her lap.

EMMA

I didn't do anything.

ETHAN

At recess, you didn't sneak into the classroom and steal everyone's snacks?

EMMA

Oh, yeah, that I did.

ETHAN

Emma, why'd you do that?

EMMA

I dunno.

ETHAN

Does it have anything to do with Papi and me not being together anymore?

EMMA

No. I wouldn't have Will and Teddy if it weren't for the divorce.

ETHAN

That's true. But stealing is wrong. You realize that?

EMMA

Okay. If you get a new phone, can I have your old phone?

ETHAN

I really need you to listen to me.

Ethan takes the seal away from Emma.

ETHAN (CONT'D)

You're not getting CeCe back for a long time.

EMMA

Daddy, no! He's special to me!

ETHAN

Well, those snacks were special to your classmates. How do you think they felt when you took them away?

Emma has the saddest face ever. Ethan can't stand it and gives her back her seal.

ETHAN (CONT'D)

You've learned your lesson. We'll go
for ice cream after dinner.

Will enters.

WILL

Ethan, can I talk to you for a second?

ETHAN

(just like Emma)
I didn't do anything.

INT. ETHAN AND WILL'S HOUSE — HALLWAY/KITCHEN — FOLLOWING

Ethan follows Will.

WILL

So, I'm icing my knee after flag
football and guess who just walks in
to our locked house and starts baking
in our kitchen?

ETHAN

Uh, Chaka Khan?

WILL

I know that's a joke but I don't even
know who that is.

They round the corner to find Sebastian mixing batter.

SEBASTIAN

Have you had your talk with Emma?

ETHAN

It's all taken care of. And, no, I
don't have to tell you how. So,
what's going on here?

SEBASTIAN

I'm making a cake for Mackenzie's
dinner tomorrow night. I was missing
some ingredients so I came over. One
thing led to another.

Teddy enters.

TEDDY

Hey, everybody.

WILL

And now Teddy's here!

TEDDY

I want to show you some possible venues for Mackenzie's celebration.

ETHAN

Venues? No venues. Just a family dinner. At home.

TEDDY

I hear you. No worries. Martini?

ETHAN

I have to finish writing my book.

TEDDY

Believe me, you're going to want one. I make it with fresh lemon and gin.

SEBASTIAN

They're so good you guys.

Teddy moves to the liquor cabinet. Sebastian looks through the cabinets.

SEBASTIAN (CONT'D)

Hey, who moved my cake pans?

Will turns to Ethan.

ETHAN

I bet you want to talk to me for a second.

Ethan follows Will down the hall.

TEDDY (O.S.)

I need a shaker.

SEBASTIAN (O.S.)

Sorry, I'm a mover.

TEDDY (O.S.)

Oh, my God! I'm writing that down!

INT. ETHAN AND WILL'S HOUSE — MASTER BEDROOM — CONTINUOUS

Ethan and Will enter. Will closes the door.

WILL

His pans? HIS PANS?!

ETHAN

I know you're mad--

WILL

I'm wicked pissed. When we got married I signed on to live with you and the girls and even Charlotte but I didn't sign on to live with husbands three and four out there. HIS PANS?!

ETHAN

I understand. The Boston accent is out. I'll go get the key.

INT. ETHAN AND WILL'S HOUSE — KITCHEN — FOLLOWING

Ethan and Will enter. Sebastian and Teddy sip martinis.

ETHAN

Sebastian, can I--

Charlotte enters.

TEDDY

Charlotte!

SEBASTIAN

There's my favorite hag.

Sebastian gives her a hug.

CHARLOTTE

I don't want to get anybody in trouble but I caught Emma sneaking these earrings out of my room.

Charlotte holds up a pair of earrings.

SEBASTIAN

(to Ethan)

I'm not surprised. I bet you threw lollipops at the problem and now it's worse. She's stealing jewels.

ETHAN

They're Charlotte's. They're hardly jewels.

CHARLOTTE

Hey.

SEBASTIAN

You had your chance, now we're doing things my way.

(then)

I can't serve this cake anymore. It's a reminder of your failure.

Sebastian dramatically throws the mixing bowl, the cake pan and all the ingredients in the garbage. Ethan turns to Will.

ETHAN

I don't think this is the right time
to ask for the key.

INT. MAXIMUM SECURITY PRISON - DAY

Sebastian and Ethan stand behind Emma, who sits across from a hardened female INMATE. Emma listens, wide-eyed.

INMATE

...I had my whole life ahead of me but
I made one bad decision after another
and wound up here. Dreams die in a
place like this. People always
bossing you around, telling you where
to go. When to speak. You're just
biding your time hoping you don't go
crazy. Trust me, little girl, you
don't want to end up like me. In your
40's, doing extra work.

WIDEN to reveal they are on a prison set. Charlotte, dressed as a hooker, walks over.

CHARLOTTE

You have to clear the set now before I
get into trouble.

EMMA

Good. I want to go home.

SEBASTIAN

In real prison you can't go home.
Ever.

EMMA

That's not going to happen because I'm
never going to steal again.

SEBASTIAN

(aside to Charlotte)
Thanks for the idea, Charlotte. Fake
prison was a good compromise.

Ethan gives her a kiss.

ETHAN

You are good for so much more than
coming home drunk and eating all the
kids' school snacks.

EXT. THEIR STREET - DAY

Sebastian and Ethan are with Emma.

SEBASTIAN

Now go in the house and write "I won't steal" a hundred times.

EMMA

Okay.

Emma runs towards Sebastian and Teddy's house.

ETHAN

Other house!

Emma does an about face and runs into Ethan and Will's house.

SEBASTIAN

I guarantee her stealing days are over. Unless you do that thing where you let her off the hook and undo everything I just did.

ETHAN

You always phrase things so nonconfrontationally. I love it. And I won't. We're on the same page.

SEBASTIAN

Huh, look at that.

There's a momentary break in the tension. Ethan realizes this is a good time to ask for the house key.

ETHAN

So, you know how you just popped in last night?

SEBASTIAN

That was fun.

ETHAN

It was, but--

SEBASTIAN

I want you to know I'm grateful to you and Will for letting me stop by once in a while. Sometimes I just want to cook without the chef or personal assistants milling about, you know?

ETHAN

You know I don't know.

Sebastian takes out a key.

SEBASTIAN

I want to return the favor. Here's the key to our beach house. I bet it would be a great place for you to finish your book. It's quiet, you have the ocean right there.

Ethan's eyes go wide. The key shines. He takes it.

SEBASTIAN (CONT'D)

So, what were you going to say?

ETHAN

Uh, your eyes go off in that shirt.

SEBASTIAN

I know, right?

INT. ETHAN AND WILL'S HOUSE — MOMENTS LATER

Ethan enters. Will is waiting for him.

WILL

That wasn't so hard.

ETHAN

What?

WILL

I saw you get our house key back from Sebastian.

ETHAN

Oh, yeah, so here's the deal...

WILL

I just want you to know getting it back means a lot to me.

ETHAN

Not like a lot-a lot?

WILL

I always thought I'd meet someone, we'd pick out a house, start a family. But that didn't happen because I fell in love with you. And you already had the house and the kids, who I love more than anything, but we didn't get to do it together. You did it all with Sebastian.

(MORE)

WILL (CONT'D)

And him coming in any time he wanted made me feel like I didn't have a place of my own. I know it sounds kinda stupid but you getting the key back lets me feel like it's now my home. Our home. Together, with the girls.

ETHAN

Of course it's your home.

Ethan gives Will a kiss.

WILL

So, what were you gonna tell me?

ETHAN

Oh, uh, your eyes go off in that shirt.

WILL

(amused)
You're ridiculous. No one goes for a line like that.

INT. ETHAN AND WILL'S HOUSE - CHARLOTTE'S ROOM - LATER

Ethan paces in front of Charlotte.

ETHAN

...I made the wrong decision. He offered the beach house and I had a moment of weakness. And how was I supposed to know how much getting Sebastian's key back meant to Will?

CHARLOTTE

I've got it. Lose Will, take the beach house, marry me. It could work.

ETHAN

Soon enough Sebastian is gonna let himself in again and Will's going to find out I didn't get the key back. I'll have my good divorce but a terrible marriage. This is bad. This is Pierce Brosnan in "Mamma Mia" bad.

CHARLOTTE

You just need to get your key from Sebastian without him knowing.

ETHAN

(considering)
He'd assume he misplaced it. He's
always losing things in "Chesterfield
Manor."

CHARLOTTE

And they're not home right now.
They're wine tasting with the
Governor.

ETHAN

Of course they are. Hey, do you think
you could fit through their doggie
door?

CHARLOTTE

Maybe if I unscrew my boobs. What
about Mackenzie?

ETHAN

I'm always lecturing her about values.
If she learned I sold Will out for a
beach house I'd never hear the end of
it. There's no way out.

Emma appears in the doorway. She holds up her notebook.

EMMA

I finished writing I wouldn't steal a
hundred times.

Ethan and Charlotte share a look. A long look.

ETHAN

I can't.

CHARLOTTE

If you don't want everything to
implode, there's no other choice.

Ethan takes a deep, contemplative breath.

ETHAN

Emma, honey, I need you to pull one
last job. Then you're out.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

EXT. SEBASTIAN AND TEDDY'S HOUSE - LATER THAT DAY

Ethan and Charlotte stand outside the doggie door, which is on the side of the house.

ETHAN

Emma's been in there for a long time.
This is crazy. I'm calling it off.

CHARLOTTE

(dramatic)
Do not give up. You believed in it
once. You believed with all your
heart. What's different now?
Nothing. Nothing.

ETHAN

Your guest spot from "Royal Pains."

CHARLOTTE

Aw, you watched.

Emma crawls out of the doggie door.

ETHAN

Do you have it?

EMMA

Just walk. Act casual and don't call
attention.

As they cross off, Emma slips Ethan the key like a seasoned thief.

INT. SEBASTIAN AND TEDDY'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Ethan, Will, Charlotte, Mackenzie and Emma enter. (Emma wears a blue dress and has her hair in a braid -- this will be useful later.)

WILL

No marching band. No acrobats. It
looks like Teddy got the message.

ETHAN

'Cause I laid down the law.

Teddy greets them with a tray of drinks.

TEDDY

Welcome! Girls, Papi's waiting for
you out back.

The girls exit to the backyard.

TEDDY (CONT'D)
Signature cocktail?

WILL
Still sober.

TEDDY
Charlotte, I can always count on you.

Charlotte takes the drink and downs it.

CHARLOTTE
That's good.

ETHAN
Slow it down, this is a dinner for my daughter's good grades, not your mother's last wedding.

CHARLOTTE
(weary)
She always marries her cult leader.

TEDDY
It's cherry vodka and lime soda. I call it a Polar Vortex. It's totally on theme.

ETHAN
(nervous)
How is it on theme?

MACKENZIE (O.S.)
Dad! Will! Come out here!

EXT. SEBASTIAN AND TEDDY'S BACK YARD - NIGHT

They enter. Ethan's mouth drops. Will can't help but laugh.

WILL
Nothing crazy here.

We take it all in: Teddy has turned the backyard into a winter wonderland. Snow machines blow snow in all directions. There are snow forts, sleds, etc.

TEDDY
(to Mackenzie)
Since your favorite movie is "Frozen," I thought you'd like to spend the evening in Arendale.

MACKENZIE

It was my favorite movie like two years ago, but this is awesome.

Charlotte gets hit with a snowball. She sees Emma laughing.

CHARLOTTE

It's on!

Charlotte and Mackenzie run after Emma.

TEDDY

Will, let me show you the Olaf ice sculpture.

Teddy and Will move off.

ETHAN

(to Sebastian)

I was thinking a few pizzas. Maybe one with stuffed crust.

SEBASTIAN

You need to cut Teddy some slack. He was in the closet for most of his life. He's like a kid who's been grounded for thirty years and now he's just able to leave the house. He's having fun and wants to bring everyone he loves along for the ride.

ETHAN

Yeah, but if we give the girls everything, we're gonna totally screw them up. They'll get older, won't be able to do anything for themselves, then they'll kill us when they're twenty-five to get their trust fund... You. They're killing you.

Mackenzie and Charlotte ride by on a reindeer.

MACKENZIE

Can we keep him?

ETHAN

No. Riding a reindeer in your backyard is not normal!

Emma approaches.

EMMA

My hands are cold.

ETHAN
Her hands are cold!

SEBASTIAN
Relax. I'll turn the fireplace on.

Sebastian picks up a tablet and presses a button. The outdoor fireplace ignites.

EMMA
Cool.

SEBASTIAN
Right? I can control the whole house with this. The lights, the curtains, the security cameras, the--

ETHAN
Security cameras? That record stuff?

SEBASTIAN
Yeah, we have them everywhere.

Sebastian moves in front of a small camera on the wall. A light on it turns green.

SEBASTIAN (CONT'D)
The master brain stores all the footage.

A trumpet sounds.

TEDDY (O.S.)
Okay, everyone. Dinner.

ETHAN
I'm going to make sure Emma washes up after touching that reindeer.

INT. SEBASTIAN AND TEDDY'S - CONTINUOUS

Ethan and Emma enter.

EMMA
I was recorded stealing! I'm going to real prison.

ETHAN
Don't panic. Papi's not going to find out. We just need to locate the master brain and shut it down.

Ethan opens a door off the kitchen.

INT. SEBASTIAN AND TEDDY'S - TECH ROOM

It is a small room packed with wires and technical equipment.

ETHAN
(taking it in)
Hello, Brain.

EMMA
(re: button)
What does this do?

Emma hits a switch.

EXT. STORMY SEA - NIGHT

A small boat heads through choppy waves toward a lighthouse. Suddenly the lighthouse goes dark.

FISHERMAN
We're doomed.

WIDEN TO REVEAL

The above is playing on an outdoor movie screen. Sebastian, Teddy, Charlotte and Mackenzie sit at the dinner table.

SEBASTIAN
Why'd that turn on?

The screen changes to a grid of rooms on the security system. The tech room is one of them.

MACKENZIE
Hey, it's Dad and Emma!

INT. SEBASTIAN AND TEDDY'S - TECH ROOM - SAME TIME

Emma is pressing buttons.

ETHAN
Stop touching things.

Unseen by them, a camera with a green light points their way.

EXT. SEBASTIAN AND TEDDY'S - BACKYARD - SAME TIME

Sebastian taps the iPad. Ethan and Emma are now full-screen. Everyone watches as Ethan pulls out wires.

ETHAN (ON SCREEN)
Here we go, security DVR.

WILL
What are they doing?

ETHAN (ON SCREEN)
I'll pull the plug on the unit and it
should erase everything. Ha. How
smart are you now, Brain?

EMMA (ON SCREEN)
So Papi won't find out?

SEBASTIAN
Find out what?

Teddy repositions his chair to get a better view.

TEDDY
This is so fun.

INT. SEBASTIAN AND TEDDY'S - TECH ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Ethan yanks out a connector.

ETHAN
That should do it. Papi will never
know I had you steal my house key back
from him.

EXT. SEBASTIAN AND TEDDY'S - BACKYARD - FOLLOWING

SEBASTIAN
And there it is.

WILL
Wait. Why did he have Emma steal it?
I thought he got it back from you.

SEBASTIAN
Nope. What is he up to?

MACKENZIE
If anyone knows anything, it's...
(accusatory)
Charlotte!

CHARLOTTE
(unconvincing)
Whatever are you talking about?
(then)
Wait, I'd like to do another take.
Read me in.

EXT. SEBASTIAN AND TEDDY'S BACKYARD - MOMENTS LATER

Ethan and Emma exit the house. Everyone is stares at Ethan. Charlotte is wide-eyed.

ETHAN
What's going on?

MACKENZIE
Just watching you and Emma on the big screen.

Ethan and Emma see the now empty tech room on the screen.

ETHAN
Oh, Brain, what have you done?

They turn back to the table, all eyes on them. Emma runs off.

CLOSE ON EMMA

Wind and snow whip around her.

MACKENZIE (O.S.)
Emma come back!

Emma puts her head down, trying to push through the storm. In the flurry of snow, Mackenzie appears.

MACKENZIE (CONT'D)
You didn't do anything wrong.

EMMA
I got caught stealing again.

MACKENZIE
It's all Daddy's fault. He made you steal so he could have a beach house.

REVEAL Emma and Mackenzie are standing right in front of the blowing snow machines. They are ten feet from the table.

ETHAN
I didn't mention anything about the beach house.

Ethan shoots Charlotte a look.

CHARLOTTE
I'm so sorry. I was on the spot and I had two polar vortexes -- you know how vodka makes me talky.
(MORE)

CHARLOTTE (CONT'D)

Talky talky talk talk talky talk.
Three polar vortexes. I had three.

MACKENZIE

(to Emma)

You won't go to jail. I promise.

SEBASTIAN

Mackenzie's right. You're not in
trouble, sweetie. Daddy is. So much
trouble.

Ethan fidgets uncomfortably under Sebastian's glare. Teddy
stands and lifts his glass.

TEDDY

A toast!

SEBASTIAN

Honey, I love your enthusiasm but what
could you possibly be toasting?

TEDDY

To you guys. Don't you see? Ethan
might have made every wrong possible
decision, but he did it for the right
reasons. I know from experience that
divorce can be ugly and hard on
everyone, especially the kids. It's
not easy to balance the world you
created but you two do it better than
anyone. Look around this table.
Where most people subtract, you added.

This sinks in with everybody.

SEBASTIAN

(melting)

Aw.

(to Ethan)

You're so lucky he's here.

ETHAN

Thanks, Teddy. Emma, I never should
have made you steal again. And Will,
I'm sorry, I lied about getting the
key back from Sebastian. From now on,
you will always come first. I mean,
the kids always come first so, third.
You will always come third.

SEBASTIAN

You see? People always assume I was
the problem in the relationship.

SEBASTIAN (CONT'D)
(to Will, hopeful)
You going to yell at him?

WILL
Nah. I'll do it at home.

SEBASTIAN
You're a good guy.
(to Ethan)
You have great taste in men.

ETHAN
I like how you were able to work in a
compliment for yourself.

CHARLOTTE
This is all so beautiful. Someday, I
hope my failed marriage is just like
this.

They all clink glasses.

END OF ACT THREE

TAG

EXT. SEBASTIAN AND TEDDY'S - BACKYARD - LATER

Dessert has been finished. Everyone is relaxed and happy.

CHARLOTTE

Excuse me, I need to go freshen up.

Charlotte walks a few steps and falls into the bushes.

EMMA

Why is Charlotte lying in the bushes?

WILL

(to the rescue)
She likes getting close to nature.

Charlotte pops up like it's no big deal.

CHARLOTTE

I'm fine!

A spotlight shines on top of the hillside.

TEDDY

Okay! There's another little surprise.

ETHAN

(to Sebastian)
Is it little?

SEBASTIAN

No.

Josh Gad steps into the spotlight and starts to sing "Summer" from Frozen.

MACKENZIE/EMMA

Olaf!

Ethan leans into his kids.

ETHAN

This isn't normal either.

END OF SHOW