CHAD

Written by

Nasim Pedrad

INT. ORTHODONTIST'S CHAIR - DAY

CHAD, 14, loudly gets some elaborate braces sawed off his teeth. His eyes are wide in terror.

He spots a FRAMED POSTER on the wall-- a good-looking blonde guy with a perfect smile, surrounded by a few good-looking teen girls. The poster reads: A smile can change everything.

The orthodontist, DR. TONY, finishes and steps away.

DR. TONY (re: Chad) He's all set! Don't forget, soft foods for a week.

Chad's mom NAZ (mid 30's, loving) hovers above him.

NAZ Let's see, honey.

Chad smiles -- his mouth is full of blood.

CHAD

Finally.

INT. ORTHODONTIST'S WAITING ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Chad stands face to face with Dr. Tony as Naz finishes paying at reception.

DR. TONY Hope you're as happy with your smile as I am with your bite. Here's your file, buddy.

Dr. Tony playfully smacks Chad's shoulder with the orthodontic file then hands it to him. It's too heavy for Chad to hold comfortably.

CHAD Dr. Tony, I think it's fair to say you and I have had our ups and downs. I've screamed at you, both to your face and behind your back. If I may be so bold, you're not good at your job.

DR. TONY I'm very sorry to hear that-- CHAD

I gave you a fair shot and it bit me in the ass. First we tried Invisalign, which you said, quote, "backfired" on me. Next came the highly invasive headgear-- why it had to attach to my spine I'll never know. And then of course the braces. Seven years is a long time to wear braces, sir. I've watched your damn kids grow up. And they're the only reason I'm not writing you a bad yelp review. But I'm finally ready to move on from this nightmare. My life begins today, zero thanks to you.

Chad starts to leave, passing the receptionist.

NAZ

(mouths, to Dr. Tony) I'm sorry...

CHAD (to receptionist) Thank you Helen. You're a wonderful lady, and I would seriously consider divorcing that man.

As Chad exits, we cut to ...

MAIN TITLES

INT. CHAD'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - MORNING

NIKI (confident, 11 going on 21) is glued to her iPad at the kitchen counter. AMOO HAMID (50's, thick accent, gentle and aloof), in an apron, makes breakfast as Naz finishes packing up a couple lunch bags.

NAZ Niki, what are you watching?

NIKI

Scandal.

NAZ Honey, it's seven o'clock in the morning. Put that away.

Chad enters wearing a backpack that dwarfs him.

NAZ (CONT'D) There he is!

HAMID

Well hello hello, mister first day of high school! How does it feel, Chad? Are you excited to debut your new mouth?

CHAD

(nods)
Pretty huge day for me. I think
people will finally see me for who
I am.

NIKI Are we sure that's a good thing?

CHAD

Die.

HAMID Okay, time for some pictures of the big day!

Hamid starts taking pictures of a motionless Chad on his disposable camera.

HAMID (CONT'D) Niki, get in there!

Niki throws her arms around Chad and poses for the camera, kissing Chad on the cheek.

CHAD Mom, Niki's kissing my face!

Chad pries her off him.

NAZ Okay, off you guys go. I have a little something I want to talk to you about, Chad, but it can wait until after school--

NIKI (to Chad) Mom's dating someone.

NAZ --or we can do it now.

Chad is stunned.

HAMID

He's awesome, Chad.

CHAD

You're dating someone behind dad's back?

NAZ

That's how divorce works, yes. Listen, I gotta get back out there! I *am* seeing someone, we don't need to get into the details--

NIKI He's Muslim, his name's Ikrimah.

NAZ

Niki, if you're going to hack into my Match.com profile, either come up with helpful edits, or zip it.

NIKI I told you, your account needs more

NAZ And I told you I don't know what that is.

HAMID I love the name Ikrimah. (to Chad) It means "female pigeon."

CHAD What the F are we even talking about?!

NAZ Hey language--

thirst traps.

I said F! You're dating a Muslim guy? Was that the only option?

NAZ Chad, you realize we're technically Muslim.

CHAD Exactly, we're Muslim enough. We don't need people thinking that's our whole thing. NAZ Who's thinking that? And what is your problem with our heritage?

CHAD (matter of fact) I'm embarrassed by it and I'd like to fit in. I've made that very clear to you. There's nothing sex, drugs and rock n' roll about being Persian!

HAMID What are you talking about? We have the beautiful singer Googoosh!

Hamid starts singing weird Persian pop from the 70s.

HAMID (CONT'D)

(subtitled) I am coming/ I am coming woe woe/ I am coming so that the coquetry is fresh again/ I am coming...

CHAD

I rest my case. (then, to Naz) I'm trying to be an American teenager. If you wanted us to be so Muslim you should've raised us in frickin' Ramallaladadon.

HAMID

(to Naz) Where?

CHAD Why are you even dating? You're a mom!

NAZ Moms do things, Chad!

CHAD

Yeah, for their *children*. I mean am I being crazy here? You live for us, you send us out into the world, and then one day when you're old we take care of *you*, but obviously with the rise of robotics that part's up in the air.

NIKI You're just mad that you're a late bloomer and mom's getting more action than you. CHAD Shut the hell up I'm blooming perfectly fine!! Chad storms out of the front door and slams it shut. We can see him kicking a tree from the kitchen window. EXT. CHAD'S HOUSE - DRIVEWAY - MOMENTS LATER Chad is hovering away on his hoverboard with best friend PETER (14, passive, unbothered that puberty is destroying him), also on a hoverboard. Hamid runs out to give Chad his lunch bag--HAMID You almost forgot. You too, Peter! He hands another lunch bag to Peter. PETER Thanks Hamid! They hoverboard away as Hamid waves goodbye. PETER (CONT'D) I love that Amoo Hamid always feeds me. (then) How is he related to you again? CHAD ... some sort of distant relative from Iran. PETER Why do you call him your uncle? CHAD I don't know, our culture's a damn circus. INT. SCHOOL BUS - MOMENTS LATER

As Chad steps onto the school bus holding his hoverboard, the bus door closes in on him violently.

CHAD My body-- my body is stuck.

INT. SCHOOL BUS - MOMENTS LATER

Chad and Peter sit together in the front of the bus.

CHAD

Okay, you don't need to tell people I got my braces off. Let them discover it organically. Let them just kind of find that joy on their own.

PETER

Got it.

CHAD

You sure? Because today's important. We drop the ball on this one, then people start to make up their minds about us, and pretty soon we have another junior high on our hands.

PETER I loved junior high.

CHAD

Peter, you were voted "Most Likely to Be Kidnapped."

PETER

Oh yeah, that was cool.

CHAD

It was humiliating! We can't be losers anymore! We don't have friends, we never talk to girls, we didn't go to a single party this summer--

PETER We had that party at my house--

CHAD

That was a brunch Peter! That your mom had for your aunt! Why the hell was I even invited? And you came late! I was just sitting in a living room with a bunch of middleaged women! I actually think it was a baby shower-- PETER

I think it was, yeah--

CHAD

This is what I'm talking about! I need you to dream bigger, Peter. It's the first day of high school-and we only get one shot at this. I want to be popular.

PETER

Why.

CHAD Because fitting in rocks.

Peter thinks, then nods Let's do this as we:

CUT TO:

EXT. WESTPARK HIGH SCHOOL - MOMENTS LATER

Chad and Peter face the entrance of the school. Just then-- a ghostly and fragile Korean girl, SU CHIN, pulls up next to them in a motorized scooter.

CHAD Hey Su Chin...

PETER

Hi Su Chin.

CHAD How was your break-- you still have chronic fatigue syndrome?

SU CHIN It's chronic, so yeah.

CHAD That sucks so hard. Alright let's do this.

Chad takes a deep breath and in SLO-MO enters the double doors of the school, with Peter and Su Chin trailing behind.

MONTAGE OF CHAD DOING THE FOLLOWING IN SLOW-MO:

-He zips up his hoodie -- it spells SUPREME.

-He does an elaborate handshake with a basketball player. Chad whispers something in his ear. The basketball player laughs. -A hacky sack flies toward Chad. Without looking, he casually kicks it back into the hacky sack circle.

-A cute girl comes up to Chad and hugs him. He grabs the tail end of her hair-- then playfully tosses it her face.

-He talks to a group of girls while leaning against a wall by a water fountain-- a girl in crutches is about to take a drink from the fountain. Chad holds down the lever for her, then nods "sup?" The girl smiles, thankful.

-Chad struts down the hallway and tears a poster off the wall with one hand. As it rips in half, we see it had a SWASTIKA on it, and we--

CUT TO:

REALITY. Everything we just saw was in Chad's imagination. He's actually staring off into space at the same water fountain, the girl in crutches behind him.

GIRL IN CRUTCHES Hey dick-- Move!

CHAD

Sorry--

INT. WESTPARK HIGH SCHOOL - CLASSROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Chad approaches a teacher, MR. WROBLICKY, at his desk reading a SkyMall magazine.

CHAD Hey Mr. Wroblicky, I'm Chad. I'm about to take your US History class.

A beat. Mr. Wroblicky looks up at Chad.

MR. WROBLICKY

Cool!

CHAD

I um, just wanna make sure for roll call you have me down as *Chad* Amani and not my birth name, Fereydoon. I checked with the registrar's office and everything, but you wouldn't believe how many times it's happened despite that.

Mr. Wroblicky glances at the sheet.

MR. WROBLICKY Yup. There you are, Chad.

CHAD

Sweet. (lingering) And you're sure you saw my name--Cause I've been burned before and I'm just sort of anticipating a situation where you forgot we had this conversation--

The BELL RINGS. Students flood the class.

MR. WROBLICKY Get your butts in a seat! We are low on desks, folks!

Students scramble to snag a desk. Chad shuffles among them, late to every opportunity. He finally sits in the only remaining chair left-- it's awkwardly perpendicular to a desk with a female student in it. THEY SHARE THE DESK.

> CHAD (to Mr. Wroblicky) Is this right? I'm supposed to sit like this?

The entire classroom faces the front of the class, while Chad faces the girl, sideways. Chad locks eyes with her-- sorry.

MR. WROBLICKY Alright, roll call lez go! (reading) Chad Amani!

CHAD (facing the wrong way) Here!

INT. WESTPARK HIGH SCHOOL - HALLWAY - MOMENTS LATER

Two cool girls, ALICE (14, mean) and KELLY (14, slightly less mean), talk and giggle by their lockers.

Chad drifts into frame--

CHAD ...you guys have a good summer?

He smiles weirdly, displaying his teeth. A beat.

ALICE

Huh?

CHAD

Oh, I was just asking about summer, cause she said something about August so I was like "Oh, they're talking about summer..." I'm Chad.

Another beat.

ALICE

Who are you?

CHAD Oh I'm Chad. You know me from we were in K through 8 together.

KELLY What was your name again?

CHAD

(nervous giggle) Chad! I just said it to you...

A cute boy, JOEY (15) swoops in for a group hug with the girls. Chad's slightly tussled into the lockers.

JOEY Hey babes, what's up.

KELLY

Hey Joey!

ALICE Oh my god Joey don't scare me!

JOEY You get that playlist I made? My DJing gigs are starting to pop off.

CHAD Th-- that's really just so exciting.

Joey looks at Chad, unsure who he is.

CHAD (CONT'D)

I'm Chad.

JOEY

...Cool, man.

No one knows what's happening. Chad fills the silence:

CHAD

Yup, my name's Chad... I um, love music. I love both radio and nonradio... Have you guys heard of the Coachella Valley Music and Arts Festival? It's in California-- I'm either gonna go, or try to watch footage of it on the internet. Jay-Z and Beyonce are performing.

A beat. Joey is really lost.

JOEY

Okay.

CHAD What're your guys's thoughts on Blue Ivy Carter and the twins?

ALICE

Who?

CHAD Jay Z and Beyonce's daughter Blue Ivy Carter-- she just seems to be handling it all really well...

Chad starts to panic and sweat. He knows it's not going well.

JOEY

Yeah... I'm not sure. (then, to the girls) Anyway um, you guys coming over this weekend? Like I said, it's gonna be super intimate, just like a handful of rad, interesting people, you know?

CHAD

Umm... (quiet) I had sex.

They turn back to Chad.

ALICE

What?

A beat.

CHAD I um... I just... I had a little sex this summer. Over summer break. (MORE) CHAD (CONT'D) Is what I was gonna tell you when we were talking about summer earlier... (doubling down) It was great. So yeah, I don't know what you guys did, but I had sex.

JOEY

You had sex?

Chad nods.

CHAD Full. On. Yeah...with a female, a female woman.

JOEY You lost your virginity?

CHAD (nods) It's completely gone.

KELLY Why are you telling us?

CHAD Just sharing. Thought it was an interesting fun fact about me, and my summer, and my lifestyle.

They weirdly buy it.

JOEY I mean... damn. Way to go, Chad.

Joey fist bumps Chad. A small victory. Just then-- MR. WROBLICKY walks up to Chad.

MR. WROBLICKY Hey there, Fereydoon. Ha! Just kidding, buddy--(laughs) Can you imagine, I totally forget our conversation. You're like, "This is what I was trying to avoid!!" Hahahaha--

Mr. Wroblickly wanders off. Chad watches Joey, Alice and Kelly start to leave, mumbling to one another.

CHAD (calling out) I'll see you guys later. Chad and Peter shoot hoops in gym class. Every shot is an airball.

CHAD

Then he called me Fereydoon in front of them and started laughing like a maniac. That teacher-there's definitely some sort of mental instability thing going on there.

PETER

I keep forgetting your name was Fereydoon. Do you like being Persian?

CHAD

I don't know. I mean, it's not as cool as being black, but that comes with its own set of complications.

PETER

Blacks are great.

CHAD Yeah, they crush. Obviously. The point is, I freaked out and told people I had sex.

SU CHIN (O.S.)

Can I play?

They turn to see SU CHIN, in her scooter, holding a basketball.

CHAD

Sure.

As Chad and Peter continue to shoot terribly, Su Chin shoots from her scooter-- makes every shot.

PETER Why did you tell people you had sex?

CHAD The same reason I do everything-so people respect us and let us into their social circles.

PETER But you haven't even *kissed* a girl. The gym teacher blows her whistle.

GYM TEACHER Next station!

Chad and Peter advance to the DRIBBLING CONES station. Chad gets ready to dribble through the cones when --

REID (O.S.) Hey Chad--

Chad turns to see REID (14, an upbeat jock), with a friend--

REID (CONT'D) Heard about your summer. Yeah, pimp!

Reid fist pumps the air and runs off. Chad looks back at Peter, stoked and in shock.

GYM TEACHER

Chad! Go!

Chad dribbles and plows through all of the cones.

INT. WESTPARK HIGH SCHOOL - CLASSROOM - LATER

Chad sits at a normal desk. A few male classmates surround him, including REID and RAUL (14, Hispanic, slick and endearing).

RAUL So tell us, killer. What's it like to be a man?

CHAD It's great. When it happened there was obviously a lot of verbal consent and everything.

Reid and Raul fist bump over this.

REID What a player. So what's her deal, what's her story, does she go to a different school district--

Chad nods, and locks eyes with Su Chin, who calmly watches the lie unfold.

CHAD Kimiko. Her name's Kimiko. She's half Japanese, half... (finding the words) from the bottom of Russia... The guys nod, they're buying it -- hanging on to every word. CHAD (CONT'D) And, yeah, we took turns. At first... (weird hand motions) She was the one having sex, then I was the one having sex, and then eventually we were having sex at the same time, and then at the end we both exploded. REID Damn. Sounds like she was after that D! CHAD Mmhm, she was. And I... was after that P--(then) That V--(then) Her privates. Su Chin cocks her head. That was weird. REID So how was her... Reid whistles and points down--CHAD It was good. It worked and everything. RAUL Damn. Honestly, when I first heard you had sex, I was like wait, that small child? 'Cause obviously you seem-- unable to do that and have mad beta vibes, so how can this be. You know? But, I guess times are changing. CHAD Yeah, they are. I'm happy you came

around on that.

He offers Chad a fist bump. Chad takes it, loving the praise.

INT. CHAD'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - NIGHT

Chad grabs a Sunkist and sits at the kitchen counter. He checks his Instagram page-- hits the refresh button. His follower count goes from 7 to 32.

CHAD (smiles, to God) Thank you.

Naz enters the kitchen in a rush.

NAZ

There you are! Listen, I'm gonna be gone tonight. I need you to keep an eye on your sister--

CHAD Why can't Amoo Hamid watch her?

HAMID (O.S.) I wish I could, Chad.

Hamid enters in his gardening outfit.

HAMID (CONT'D) You remember the Accent Removal Class you bought me for my birthday?

CHAD

Yeah.

HAMID It starts tonight. (terrible Southern accent) I'm really excited, partner.

CHAD Please don't miss that class.

NAZ (re: Niki) What is she doing?

Chad turns to see Niki, dancing in the living room wearing headphones. They all watch her mouth song lyrics to her iPad.

CHAD She's lipsyncing Migos to a group of strangers on her YouTube channel. (a beat) Your daughter's a skank.

NAZ

HAMID

Chad--

(excited) Ooh what's a skank?

CHAD (to Hamid) A sleazy or unpleasant person. (to Naz) At least you don't have to worry about me. I'm annihilating high school--(takes a very long sip of Sunkist) --it's sick.

NAZ Yeah?? You make some new friends?

CHAD (cocky, holds up his phone) Thirty-two of them.

NAZ Chad, I'm so proud of you! How'd you pull that off?

CHAD Just living my truth. Letting my vibe unfold.

Naz is dumbfounded.

NAZ Huh. Well okay!

The doorbell RINGS.

NAZ (CONT'D) Oh, that's Ikrimah. He's picking me up for a date.

Chad immediately punches a wall. Then turns back to her.

CHAD I have so much momentum right now. There could not be a worse time for you to do this. Can we just leave him outside please? NAZ Chad, stop it. (notices inside her shirt) Oh my god, my bra's inside out. CHAD Ew. NAZ Can you get that? CHAD I don't even know this person! NA7 Chad--CHAD On a scale of one to ten, how Muslim will his physical situation be--NAZ

Answer the door--

CHAD (CONT'D) Just so I'm prepared!

Chad goes to answer the door. He sighs, then opens it to find-A VERY HANDSOME BLACK GUY. He looks like a young Idris Elba.

> IKRIMAH You must be Chad. Nice to meet you, I'm Ikrimah.

On Chad, as his face goes from confusion to joy: *Ikrimah's a* <u>black</u> *Muslim??* They shake hands. He looks in the driveway at Ikrimah's car: a black Range Rover.

CHAD Is that your car?

IKRIMAH

Yeah.

CHAD It's incredible. INT. CHAD'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Chad and Ikrimah sit on the couch. A beat.

CHAD She'll be down any second. Her bra was inside out.

Ikrimah nods politely.

IKRIMAH I've heard a lot about you.

CHAD Me too. Though I feel like she could've led with something else...

A beat.

CHAD (CONT'D) I like your clothing style.

Ikrimah looks down at his t-shirt and jeans.

IKRIMAH

Thanks.

Naz comes downstairs.

NAZ

Hey! Thanks for picking me up--

CHAD

Can Ikrimah drive me to school tomorrow since I don't have a dad in my life?

Naz is confused.

NAZ Uh... no. This is our third date, I don't really feel like that's necessary--

CHAD People are being abused on the bus.

NAZ What? Can we talk about this later?

IKRIMAH I can do it. I don't mind. CHAD

Yes!

Chad scoots over to Ikrimah on the couch and gives him a hug.

EXT. WESTPARK HIGH SCHOOL. DROPOFF AREA.

Ikrimah and Chad are pulling up to school in Ikrimah's Range Rover.

CHAD What about Sizzler, have you been there?

IKRIMAH I think so, years ago.

Chad looks out at the kids gathered around.

CHAD Awesome. Can you just roll your windows down and drive right up close to the entrance? Just sort of pull up right up on the walkway here? A little closer?

IKRIMAH Is that allowed?

CHAD Yeah, it's encouraged for student safety. Just gonna play some tunes to pump me up for school.

Chad turns on the radio to a RAP STATION and blasts the volume as Ikrimah pulls part of the way up on the walkway into the school.

Chad gets out of the car and, making sure other students are watching, goes around to the driver's side and awkwardly hugs Ikrimah through the open window. As they hug, Chad clocks how many people are noticing.

> CHAD (CONT'D) (loudly) Sick chatting with you about our favorite restaurants, I'll hit that spot up sometime! Love you, man!

IKRIMAH (uncomfortable) Okay... you too. CHAD That's Ikrimah. He's a big part of my life.

INT. WESTPARK HIGH SCHOOL - HALLWAY - THE NEXT DAY

Chad walks down the hall, loving life. He opens his locker to find a note with his name on it. He opens the note. It reads: "Meet me by the dumpsters after 3rd. --Marjorie."

He stares at the note for a beat, confused. Then closes his locker to reveal PETER. Chad's startled--

CHAD Ahh! Peter! (composing himself) It's so creepy to just be standing there.

PETER (shrugs) I didn't have anything to say. (notices the note) What's that?

CHAD Marjorie wants me to meet her by the dumpsters.

PETER Marjorie? That goth girl that calls teachers by their first name?

CHAD

Yeah... (scared, hopeful) She probably just has some kind of school help question.

EXT. WESTPARK HIGH SCHOOL - DUMPSTERS - MOMENTS LATER

A nervous Chad approaches MARJORIE (a year older than Chad, gothed out), who's sitting on a crate by a dumpster. Other older looking students smoke weed nearby.

CHAD Hi Marjorie. I got your note.

MARJORIE Don't be shy. Chad looks for a place to sit-- all he can find is a discarded school desk attached to a chair. He casually helps himself to a seat and it COLLAPSES IMMEDIATELY. He gathers himself up...

CHAD (to himself) Chair's broken--

MARJORIE Saw that guy drop you off. Most of my friends are adults too... I heard about your summer. (then) Sounds a lot like my summer.

Chad looks around -- is she talking to him?

CHAD

Yeah?

She gets up and walks towards him.

MARJORIE At least there's one boy I can talk to at this school who gets it.

CHAD

For sure. It was an incredible opportunity and I'm definitely gonna do it again, but now it's time to focus on my academics--

Marjorie laughs, thinks that was a joke.

MARJORIE Why don't you come over tonight?

CHAD (long beat) What?

She hands him a piece of paper--

MARJORIE My address is on the back.

CHAD What are we gonna do?

Marjorie whispers something in his ear and walks off. Chad looks terrified.

EXT. SUBURBAN STREET - LATER

Chad and Peter hoverboard home. Chad is visibly stressed.

CHAD Hey, so you know how I'm always looking out for you?

PETER

Yeah.

CHAD

You should come with me to Marjorie's house tonight. She heard about my summer and she wants sex.

PETER I'm definitely not going. She scares me.

CHAD What are you talking about?! I'm going! And I'm not scared--

PETER You sure? I think you're freaking out cause your lie is getting out of control.

CHAD My lie is the best thing that ever happened to us, and you know it! You're just jealous--

PETER I'm really not. I'm afraid of her--

Chad stops hoverboarding, notices something.

CHAD Are you wearing leather shorts?

PETER Yeah, they're my mom's.

CHAD Why are you wearing your mom's clothes?

PETER Cause my dad's clothes are too small for me-- Chad tries to storm off on his hoverboard past Peter, but can't get enough speed.

CHAD (CONT'D) Slow down, you slow down--

Chad speeds up harder -- just as he PITCHES FORWARD off his hoverboard, he loses control and WIPES OUT. Peter tries to help him off the ground--

CHAD (CONT'D) Don't help me! I'm not hurt right now!

Chad gathers himself and, wobbly, hoverboards off, trying not to cry.

CUT TO:

INT. CHAD'S HOUSE - CHAD'S ROOM - LATER

Chad preps for Marjorie's house. A series of quick cuts:

-Chad stares at his polo shirt in the mirror. He decides on buttoning one extra button.

-Chad accidentally spills too much cologne on his neck. He tries to stick his head under the sink to clean it off.

-Chad googles "Sex, what goes where" then adds "(America)"

-Chad checks his Instagram, hits the refresh button. Follower count up to 75. He looks overwhelmed.

-Chad walks up to his Maroon 5 poster of Adam Levine holding a guitar--

CHAD (to Adam) How do you do it?

EXT. MARJORIE'S CONDO - NIGHT

Chad's outside a drab-looking condo building.

Confused, he scrolls through the A-Z list of tenants until he finds Marjorie's last name-- he's clearly never been to a condo before. He rings her unit. There's a loud BUZZ and he lets himself through the gate.

EXT. MARJORIE'S CONDO - CONTINUOUS

Chad wanders through the courtyard of the building, lost.

MARJORIE (0.S.)

Over here.

He turns to find Marjorie standing there, waiting for him.

MARJORIE (CONT'D)

Hey.

CHAD (on the verge of a complete meltdown)

Hi.

INT. MARJORIE'S CONDO - ELEVATORS - CONTINUOUS

Chad and Marjorie wait for the elevator. It opens and a HUGE TATTED NEIGHBOR walks out the elevator holding groceries.

HUGE TATTED NEIGHBOR Hey Marjorie.

MARJORIE

Hi Carl.

Chad and Marjorie step in the elevator.

CHAD Do you live here alone?

MARJORIE I mean, basically.

A beat. Chad looks at her, scared, as the doors close.

CHAD (gentle, under his breath) Who feeds you?

INT. MARJORIE'S ROOM - NIGHT - MOMENTS LATER

Chad sits across from Marjorie, nervous. A few moments of silence.

CHAD Thanks for having me.

MARJORIE

Of course.

She hands Chad a drink.

CHAD (taking a sip) What's this?

MARJORIE Just some absinthe.

Marjorie turns away to light a candle. Chad immediately spits the drink inside his shirt.

MARJORIE (CONT'D) My ex-boyfriend brought me back some from Amsterdam.

CHAD (unable to handle this) Fuuuuuu--(then) Europe's tight. Um... real quick, do you mind if this night stays between us? You should know, a big turn off for me is gossip.

MARJORIE (laughs confused) Alright.

CHAD

Also, just so you know, um. I've had a lot of different kinds of sexual intercourse, and sometimes honestly my penis doesn't even come into play that much-- and I've walked away being like "that was still good for me."

MARJORIE You seem nervous. Why don't we put on some music.

She hits play on her phone. A stereo BLASTS Lana Del Rey's "High By the Beach." Marjorie vapes and mouths the lyrics of the song to him, her eye contact relentless. Chad squirms a little.

MARJORIE (CONT'D) Boy look at you lookin at me/ I know you don't understand/ You could be a bad motherfucker/ But that don't make you a man...

She offers Chad the vape pen. He caves and takes a drag.

CHAD (coughing, loud over music) Can I go to the bathroom?

MARJORIE

What?

CHAD (yelling) I NEED TO GO TO THE BATHROOM. CAN WE TURN DOWN THE MUSIC? I'M FEELING WEIRD 'CAUSE THE MUSIC IS SO LOUD--

Chad gets up and starts to head out, then TRIPS on the stereo chord-- the music CUTS OUT. He scrambles to plug it back in--

CHAD (CONT'D) (mumbles) --it's so loud...

He plugs it in and the song returns, full blast. Rattled and unsure of where to put his body, he gets up and turns in a full rotation, then awkwardly sits on a nearby swivel chair. It's unstable.

MARJORIE

Are you okay?

We move to Chad's POV: His vision of Marjorie starts to blur--

MARJORIE (CONT'D) It's a little hot in here.

Marjorie slowly STRADDLES CHAD and begins to take her shirt off, revealing a pink lace bra underneath.

CHAD (V.O.) Oh my god, it's happening...

INT. WESTPARK HIGH SCHOOL - GYM - FANTASY

SLOW MO of Chad and Marjorie riding Su Chin's scooter, mowing down the basketball cones--

CUT TO:

INT. MARJORIE'S ROOM - LATER

Silence. Chad's eyes dart open. He's alone in the room, tucked in Marjorie's bed. He hears Marjorie in the bathroom shower.

Chad wraps himself in her sheets and runs out.

EXT. SUBURBAN STREET - MOMENTS LATER

Chad hoverboards home, lighting the way with his cellphone flashlight, the sheet wrapped around his head and body like ET.

INT. CHAD'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - LATER

Chad enters the kitchen to find Ikrimah putting some dishes away. Chad sits at the kitchen counter, devastated. The sheet is still wrapped around him.

IKRIMAH

Hey Chad.

CHAD

Hi.

IKRIMAH How was your night?

CHAD Well. As you know, my father's not really in the picture.

Ikrimah stops in his tracks.

CHAD (CONT'D) So can I ask you something? You just seem like you've had so many experiences and could help guide me on this one.

IKRIMAH (kind of touched) Sure, Chad. Ask me anything you want.

CHAD Thank you. My question is: how do you know if you've been taken advantage of sexually? A beat. Ikrimah takes this in. Then gets up. IKRIMAH I'm actually gonna get your mom--CHAD I don't wanna talk to her! Chad runs off. INT. CHAD'S HOUSE - CHAD'S ROOM - MOMENTS LATER Naz enters to find Chad face down on his bed. NAZ Honey? Is everything ok? CHAD Go away! NAZ Alright... well, I'm here if you need me. Naz pretends to start to leave. CHAD Please stay with me! NAZ Okay--CHAD A girl tricked me into being a booty call and I'm freaking out now! (choked up) And I-- I want my mommy--Naz's eyes widen. NAZ

Okay... let's stay calm. Walk me through what happened. You were with a girl? Was she being mean to you? CHAD

(sniffling)

No, she was very welcoming but I didn't want to be there and her music was loud and before I knew it I woke up in a pool of my own sweat.

NAZ

Okay, so you're not sure exactly what happened?

CHAD

(crying) Please stop grilling me! I don't know anything! Except that I'm a liar, I'm a big old liar and now I probably have AIDS/HIV!

NAZ

Honey, wait. Let's try to piece together what happened before we get ahead of ourselves. What do you remember -- did you kiss her?

CHAD

No.

NAZ Did you at any point take your clothes off?

CHAD

No!

Well, we need to get to the bottom of this. Here's what we'll do--I'll call her mom--

CHAD (CONT'D) I'll kill you!!

NAZ

Okay, I won't call her mom-- but then you need to have a conversation with this young lady.

CHAD (still crying) I don't even know if she has a mom! (MORE)

CHAD (CONT'D)

She just has a neighbor and a debit card, and she doesn't use a backpack-- she just comes to class with a ripped piece of paper and a broken pencil, have you ever heard of such a terrifying thing--

NAZ

Well, you're gonna have to talk to her--

CHAD I just told you she scares me! She wears black lipstick and lives in a condominimum and, and--(sobbing) I just want to play video games with Peter!!! I'm having a meltdown!

Naz sits on Chad's bed next to him.

NAZ Honey, come here--

She pulls Chad into her arms. He continues sobbing. Niki enters Chad's room, holding a glass of water.

CHAD Leave me alone!

NIKI (to Chad) Here you go.

NAZ That's very nice of you, sweetie. (to Chad) You wanna say thank you?

CHAD I don't really like water, but thanks.

Niki hands the water to Naz and exits.

NAZ Chad, it's gonna be okay. I know you're confused right now. Being a teenager can be really tough.

CHAD I just wanna skip to my thirties where everything's simple and easy-- NAZ

Well believe it or not your thirties can be pretty tricky too. Look at me, I'm still figuring things out. I married your father so young--

CHAD

You were a child bride?

NAZ

What? No. But I got married at a young age, and now I'm putting myself out there for the first time. Kinda like you. And it can be really scary and overwhelming! But I think we're two cool, fun people with a lot to offer--

CHAD

We really are...

NAZ

And all we can do is give it our best and have each other's backs.

Chad nods.

CHAD

Especially me 'cause I'm the man of the house.

NAZ

Mmhm... Honey, I'm sorry for not easing you into the idea of me dating. I know this hasn't been easy on you, and I think when you heard about Ikrimah you felt like you were maybe losing your mom, and you acted out a little...

CHAD Ikrimah's amazing! Please don't drag him into this!

NAZ Really? I thought you hated that I was dating him--

CHAD I don't remember having strong feelings about it one way or the other.

(MORE)

CHAD (CONT'D) And honestly, he's living proof that Islam can be really cool... when done right.

NAZ Well I'm glad you're on board. Now tomorrow morning, I want you to go up to this girl and get the full story of what happened. We can go from there.

CHAD

Or also, we could just move to California.

NAZ Not for this, honey. (kisses him) You got this. Just talk to her. First thing in the morning.

A beat. Chad starts to compose himself. Naz tucks him into bed.

CHAD Please turn on my Fortnite light.

Naz flips a switch on-- a night light with a Fortnite figurine that dances turns on. It offers him no comfort.

INT. HAMID'S CAR - THE NEXT DAY

Hamid drives Chad to school. Chad sits in the passenger seat, staring out the window in terror. Niki sits in the back with her headphones on.

HAMID Chad, can I ask you something?

CHAD

Sure.

HAMID

I recently bought roller skates--I've wanted roller skates my whole life, but I couldn't afford them as a small child. I'm excited to ride around and around. But will people look at me and laugh at my size and my clunky performance? CHAD

You're asking me if you should go roller skating? I don't have the ability to answer that right now. I'm having an issue with a girl.

HAMID Ah. Well, good thing you are Persian.

CHAD Persians are good at girls?

HAMID The best. Our beloved King Nasereddin had 85 wives. They conspired to feed him bear liver to extinguish his wildly potent sexual drive.

CHAD That's... I'm gonna say, too many women.

HAMID What I'm saying is it's in your blood to know how to deal with female troubles.

Chad takes this in.

CHAD I feel like that guy's situation was a little different from mine, but it is weirdly motivating to hear that. You can pull over here.

Hamid pulls up. WIDE SHOT: We see that they are 500 feet from school. Chad gets out of the car.

CHAD (CONT'D) Hey, Hamid? It's a slippery slope caring about what people think. If you want to skate, skate your freakin' heart out. Belt your favorite Googoosh song while you're doing it.

Hamid grins.

HAMID (In Persian, subtitled) Thank you, Chad. EXT. WESTPARK HIGH SCHOOL - PICKUP AREA - MOMENTS LATER

Chad walks up to Marjorie. She's casually trying to light a soccer ball on fire.

CHAD Hello Marjorie. (hands her sheets) Your bed sheets.

MARJORIE Thanks. I'm not really sure why you took these. You were fully clothed.

CHAD It was very disorienting waking up like that. (a beat) So yeah, I'm not mad but I think your drugs affected me *pretty* hard.

Marjorie stares at him: are you being serious?

MARJORIE That was an E-Cig.

CHAD

...laced with...

MARJORIE

Not laced with anything. You took a puff of nicotine, demanded your stomach be pumped, and then immediately passed out.

Chad nods, like they're on the same page.

CHAD

Well so now I'm wondering if there's something medically wrong with me. But I'll table that. Is there anything else you'd like to disclose about the events of last night?

MARJORIE

...Like what?

CHAD

Marjorie, I'd give anything for you to make me believe nothing happened. But I have to ask-- Did we have sex, are you pregnant, how do we know I'm the dad? MARJORIE Chad, you passed out. We didn't have sex.

A beat.

CHAD

What?

MARJORIE We didn't have sex.

A beat. Chad nods, grateful.

CHAD I can tell you're saying that to make me feel better. And it's working. Thank you.

MARJORIE I'm not just saying it. It's the truth.

CHAD Hey-- Thank you.

Chad winks at her.

MARJORIE Don't wink at me.

Chad goes to shake Marjorie's hand and parlays it into an uncomfortable hug. He starts walking away--

CHAD Our little secret.

EXT. WESTPARK HIGH SCHOOL - PICKUP AREA - MOMENTS LATER

Chad walks up to Peter and Su Chin.

CHAD Hey Su Chin. Peter.

PETER So did you have sex? How was it?

CHAD It was intense. And because of teen politics we've decided to say it didn't happen. But between us, it happened. And you really missed out. SU CHIN I feel like you're lying.

CHAD Su Chin-- don't. Don't be like that.

REID (O.S.) Hey Chad, hop in.

Chad turns to see Reid and two preppy dudes, waiting for him on a golf cart. He turns back to Peter and Su Chin, excited.

> CHAD Looks like Reid wants me to join him on his stolen golf cart. I promise I'll come back for you guys probably.

Chad hops on the golf cart, and they speed off.

INT. GOLF CART - CONTINUOUS

REID You gotta check this out, Chad-ready to laugh your ass off?

CHAD Sure! Love to laugh. Where are we going?

RAUL There's a foreign guy rollerskating in circles and singing like a woman at the quad. It is a *scene*.

HORROR on Chad's face as he realizes it's Amoo Hamid.

FADE OUT.

END OF EPISODE.