

Eligible

Pilot

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ACT ONE

INT. LIZ'S UPPER EAST SIDE APARTMENT - MORNING

LIZ (V.O.)

This is a story of five sisters.

CLOSE UP on a bedside photo of the five BENNETT SISTERS at Disney World, ages 20, 17, 14, 8, and 1. They are wearing Mickey Mouse hats and making the best of it.

LIZ (V.O.)

Five funny, smart, beautiful, uniquely interesting sisters.

And next to it, a photo of Liz's college graduation. The sisters are now 25, 22, 19, 13, and 6.

LIZ (V.O.)

Who are all - for various reasons but probably related to the fact that our Dad cheated on our Mom with a woman he met in line at the DMV who was 20 years younger than him -

A photo on the mantle of all five girls, last Christmas: Jane (35, the peacemaker), Liz (32, the meddler), Mary (29, the weird one), Kitty (22, the princess), Lydia (16, the jock). Jane, Liz and Mary are white; Kitty and Lydia are half-Latinx.

LIZ (V.O.)

Anyway- single. We are all single.

REVEAL LIZ BENNETT, 33, sleeping. Liz is impulsive, nosey, and big-hearted. She opens her eyes.

LIZ (V.O.)

Well, not always.

SMASH TO:

EXT. BENNETT HOUSE - BACKYARD WEDDING - **FLASHBACK**

A backyard wedding reception. Liz (then 22), wearing a princess wedding gown only a 22-year-old would wear, dances with her groom, GABE, 23, a bro. She is fist-bumping to The Black Eyed Peas' "I Gotta Feeling" and having a blast. She is a bad, enthusiastic dancer.

Jane (25) dances with her boyfriend ADRIAN (26, brooding, bad boy vibe). Kitty (12) and Lydia (6), flower girls, dance together. Kitty waves at a RINGBEARER, flirty. Mary (19) sits at one of the tables, highlighting a textbook.

Liz stops dancing and speaks directly to the camera:

LIZ

I was 22. He had a good job. It was the Midwest! Give me a break!

EXT. BENNETT HOUSE - BACKYARD - **FLASHBACK**

Liz, still in her gown, stands talking to FOUR POLICE OFFICERS. Mr. Bennett and Gabe are next to her, also talking to the cops. Other guests huddle and watch. Liz turns to camera:

LIZ

The police got called to our wedding three times for noise complaints.

The police officers gesture towards the band. One of the cops pulls out HANDCUFFS. Gabe sees this, BOLTS.

LIZ (CONT'D)

The third time, Gabe took off and hid in the house, leaving me to make sure my dad didn't get handcuffed.

Liz argues with the cops, trying to keep them from arresting her dad.

LIZ (CONT'D)

It turns out Gabe had a prior arrest but I never got the full story. The marriage lasted 212 days.

INT. LIZ'S UPPER EAST SIDE APARTMENT - DAY - AS WE WERE

Liz pops out of bed and gets dressed.

LIZ (V.O.)

I've been mostly single for ten years. Honestly, dating in 2020 is hard. With half of all marriages ending in divorce—including my own parents'—and friends with benefits and thrupples and hall passes and sliding into DMs and whatever the hell's happening on *Euphoria*... how are you supposed to know if someone's the right person for you?

We see QUICK POPS of Liz's SINGLE LIFE:

INT. CAROLL GARDENS WINE BAR - NIGHT

Liz walks into a bar on a blind date. Sees a BADLY-DRESSED BRO waiting for her. Speaks directly to camera -

LIZ

I live in New York, and there are a lot of people to weed through-

Liz considers the guy, then RUNS.

INT. LIZ'S UPPER EAST SIDE APARTMENT - NIGHT

Liz works on her computer on a deadline. Paces. Does jumping jacks. Alternates sips of wine with candy corn. Picks up her phone, goes on Bumble. SWIPES LEFT.

LIZ

And I work a lot. I'm an essay writer and I'm trying to finish a novel. I want to be a great writer and I need someone who understands that sometimes I'm lost in thought or I'm on a deadline and I can't be around other human beings.

INT. MOVIE THEATER - NIGHT

Liz sits next to JASPER WICK, 35, smart, handsome.

LIZ

This is my best friend Jasper. He's an editor - we work together, we spend all our time together, but we hooked up once and we realized we don't want to risk losing our friendship... So yes, I do want to find love, but in the meantime, I have Jasper.

The CHIME of a phone brings us back to--

INT. LIZ'S UPPER EAST SIDE STUDIO APARTMENT - AS WE WERE

Liz looks in seven different places for her phone--

LIZ

Phone? Where are you? Phone!

- before finding it in her back pocket. Duh. She looks down. A text message from JASPER WICK. She stares at it.

ON PHONE: need to see you ASAP. Something very important to tell you. Can't do it at work. diner at 8:30? <3 <3 <3

LIZ (V.O.)

Why can't he just talk to me at work?
"Need to see you ASAP." Weird. "Something important to tell me". Super weird. Three hearts? We don't do hearts. We've been best friends for ten years and there have been zero hearts!

And then we see: QUICK POPS as Liz SHOWERS, DRY SHAVES, THROWS ON three different perfumes, DUMPS a huge sample box of makeup all over the counter, CHANGES CLOTHES three times. Runs to the door. STOPS, shimmies out of her pants and runs BACK to her closet. EMERGES in a skirt. EXITS.

EXT. SOUP N SANDWICHES DINER - DAY

Liz reaches a diner that's seen better days. She spots someone in the window. Waves. Walks in...

INT. SOUP N SANDWICHES DINER - CONTINUOUS

And we see Jasper Wick, in the corner, reading the newspaper. Liz tries to act like everything's normal.

LIZ

Heeeeey.

Jasper passes her an almond croissant and a latte.

JASPER

You're wearing a skirt.

LIZ

What? No I'm not.

She looks down. She is clearly wearing a skirt.

JASPER

Are you okay?

LIZ

Yeah. I'm, like, just totally normal.
(faux-casual)
So... what was that text about?

JASPER

Okay. So I know this might seem like it's coming out of the blue.

Liz's face starts burning. What's going on?

JASPER (CONT'D)

But you know, after my mom died last year I've really spent a lot of time thinking about what I want. What makes me happy.

LIZ

(nodding maniacally)

Me too.

JASPER

And I think the key to happiness, is a long-term partner. Someone by your side, all the time.

LIZ (V.O.)

Oh my god. Why's my heart speeding up? Is he about to tell me-

JASPER

So.. I'm getting married.

Wait, WHAT? Record scratch.

LIZ

You're getting married. Was that- Hmm. What do you mean by those words, exactly?

JASPER

I proposed to Dasha last night. I didn't mean to. We had just had sex and, you know, so cheesy to propose after sex-

LIZ

You're getting married to Dasha?

JASPER

(breaking into a huge grin)
It's crazy, right?

Liz shakes her head in disbelief.

LIZ

You've known her for two months. She hasn't even seen you get a haircut.

JASPER

I know. It just felt right. But here's the thing. You're so important to me.

(MORE)

JASPER (CONT'D)

So I wanted to ask... will you be my best man?

LIZ

Best man.

JASPER

Or best woman? Is that what you would say?

Liz tries to process this.

LIZ (V.O.)

Don't. Cry. Just say you're happy and yes, of course you'd love to be in his wedding, and then run.

JASPER

Liz?

Tears are running down her face.

JASPER (CONT'D)

Liz, what's wrong?

LIZ (V.O.)

Do not tell him you love him.

LIZ

I DO NOT LOVE YOU! I don't love you. So, just so you know. I have to go. Congratulations, I'm so happy for you, send me the registry, bye.

Liz runs out of the diner as fast as she can.

EXT. NYC STREETS - MOMENTS LATER

Liz walks down the street, dazed. She turns to camera:

LIZ

So that was the moment I realized I was in love with Jasper. When he got engaged. To someone else.

She stops to buy a bagel and a donut from a STREET VENDOR. Dials her phone, crying.

LIZ (ON PHONE) (CONT'D)

Jane? Jane. I'm okay. It's just - I thought Jasper was gonna tell me he loves me and then he - NOT THE GLAZED ONE, THE CHOCOLATE GLAZED ONE! Just give me both!

(listens)

I don't want to come to yoga. It's not going to calm me down. I can't be around all those smug relaxed people.

INT. BROOKLYN YOGA STUDIO - DAY

A hip yoga studio. The instructor is Liz's sister, JANE, 36, serene, kind, flexible in a highly attractive way. 15 students, all Zen and bendy, and then there's..

Liz, doing tree pose, unbalanced and unhinged. Makeup running a little. Still in street clothes. Cry-yoga-ing (which isn't a thing yet but probably will be soon). A few students look over at her. Jane clears her throat.

JANE

If at any point your body or your soul needs a rest, feel free to go down to child's pose to re-set.

Liz goes down to CHILD'S POSE, trying to stop crying, which only makes it worse. She snuffles. Wipes her nose. Her body shakes every so often. Her phone BUZZES.

JANE (CONT'D)

Before we move on to our next posture, make sure to check in with your body--

Her phone BUZZES again. And again. The students GLARE. Still weeping, Liz gets out of child's pose and shuffles through the rows of yogis to find her bag in the corner of the room. Liz looks at her phone. Shocked.

LIZ

Jane. Dad had a heart attack.

Off Jane and 20 people whose Zen is seriously ruined...

INT. LYFT - ON THE WAY TO JFK

Jane and Liz sit in a cab. Liz turns to camera:

LIZ

Never ask the universe "could this day get any worse." It'll be happy to answer with a big eff you.

Liz turns to Jane:

LIZ (CONT'D)
You book flights. I'll call everyone.

Liz looks at her phone.

LIZ (CONT'D)
Kitty first?

Jane nods. Liz dials, puts phone on speaker.

INTERCUT WITH:

INT. JANEY'S ICE CREAM SHOP - DAY

KITTY, 23, supremely confident, gorgeous, a bit of a princess- Liz and Jane's half-sister- stands in the a cool, stylish ice cream shop in progress. "**JANEY'S ICE CREAM: Cincinnati's favorite since 1984**" painted brightly on the wall. PAINTERS painting, WORKERS bringing in furniture. Kitty has two phones. She answers one of them.

KITTY
You don't need to come home.

LIZ
We're coming home.

KITTY
Liz, seriously, everything's fine -

JANE
Can we talk to him?

KITTY
Hi Jane. I'm not with him. I was at the hospital all night.

LIZ
Wait, what? He had a heart attack last night and you didn't call until this morning?

KITTY
It wasn't that big a deal and I didn't want to freak you out. By your reaction, I made exactly the right call.

A DESIGNER comes over with paint samples for Kitty. She shakes her head. Neither one's right.

LIZ
Where was your mom?

KITTY

She was at a partners retreat. She didn't have her phone. She felt horrible.

Liz raises an eyebrow at Jane.

KITTY (CONT'D)

She's with him now. He's fine. Don't come.

A hot contractor passes Kitty. On second glance, we realize this the guy Jane was dancing with at Liz's wedding - Adrian (now 37). Their EYES MEET. Kitty smiles. *Is there something going on here?*

LIZ

We'll see you in four hours.

Liz hangs up. To Jane:

LIZ (CONT'D)

She's 23 and she acts like she's the oldest.

JANE

You also act like you're the oldest.

Liz shrugs. True. She dials her phone again.

INTERCUT WITH:

INT. DENTAL CLASSROOM - DAY

A dental simulation clinic. A dozen or so students work on DUMMIES in dental chairs. Some of them are chatting or laughing. Not MARY, 30, serious, unapologetically weird, who works on a "patient"'s simulated root canal. Mary is Liz and Jane's other full sister.

She looks down at her phone. LIZ CALLING. Presses "IGNORE."

LIZ

She will lose this battle.

Liz dials again. Mary presses IGNORE. Liz dials again. Mary finally picks up.

MARY

I'm with a patient.

LIZ

Are you with a patient or are you with a plastic dummy?

MARY

It's a simulation!

JANE

Mary, it's Janie. We're really worried about Dad. Can you tell us what happened?

MARY

Kitty and I brought him to the hospital last night. They gave him some anti-platelet agents. They put a stent in this morning. He should be fine. But even if he isn't--

LIZ

"Even if he isn't"?

MARY

A heart attack's a very peaceful way to die.

LIZ

Okay, Grim Reaper, we're on our way.

Liz hangs up. Starts dialing again. Calls LYDIA.

JANE

Is it just me or has she become even more morbid?

LIZ

(nodding)

I didn't think it was possible.

(then)

Straight to voicemail.

JANE

She's 17. They don't know how to answer the phone. Just text her.

As Liz starts typing...

INTERCUT WITH:

EXT. HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL FIELD - DAY

Practice. Football players on the field; cheerleaders practice on the sideline. The KICKER steps up and kicks an extra point. It sails through the uprights.

The COACH blows the whistle - water break. The Kicker grabs his cell phone and we see a NEW TEXT MESSAGE FROM LIZ.

The Kicker takes off his helmet and that's when we realize that HE's a SHE - LYDIA, 17, the youngest Bennett sister (Liz, Jane, and Mary's half-sister). She texts back so fast you can't even see her fingers move.

LIZ

I don't even know what this means.

Jane looks at the phone. Scrunches her brow.

JANE

DTS? What is DTS?

LIZ

Is that like DTF? Is our sister sexting us?

Lydia puts down her phone, runs back on the field.

LIZ (CONT'D)

(as she types)

Question mark question mark question mark?

They wait. Lydia doesn't write back. Jane googles "DTS".

JANE

I'm getting "down to snuggle". She wants to snuggle with us?

LIZ

"Nice to talk to you too. See you soon."

EXT. CINCINNATI MEMORIAL HOSPITAL - DAY

A cab pulls up in front of the EMERGENCY ROOM entrance. Liz and Jane hop out with bags. Liz looks at her phone.

LIZ

Jasper's texting me again. Don't bring it up in front of everyone, okay? The last thing I need is Kitty's opinion.

JANE

(nods)

Dad's gotta be freaking out, right? He hasn't missed a day of work since Lydia was born.

LIZ

Oh, he's going to be going insane. Ten bucks says he kicks us out so he can call into work.

INT. MR. BENNETT'S HOSPITAL ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

MR. BENNETT

Janey! Liz! My girls. It's so good to see you.

Jane and Liz go to hug MR. BENNETT, 60s, our patriarch, handsome, a workaholic, in a hospital bed. The other sisters -- Kitty, Mary, and Lydia -- stand close by.

JANE

Hi, Daddy. How are you?

MR. BENNETT

You didn't have to come. But I'm so glad you did. Jane, you're glowing. And Liz-- you're more beautiful every time I see you.

Liz and Jane exchange a look. Why is their dad so happy?

LYDIA

I can't believe you guys are here.

Now the sisters all hug each other. Liz and Lydia, Jane and Kitty, then they all switch around, hugging some more and AD-LIBBING greetings to each other --

LIZ

Lydia.. Hey!

JANE

Hey Kitty. Mary, how's school?

These sisters all totally love each other. As Liz hugs Kitty, she turns to camera:

LIZ

I love my sisters more than anything which is also why they can drive me totally insane. You know how the Greek masks of comedy and tragedy are right next to each other? That's the epitome of five sisters. In our family, comedy's both a weapon and a shield.

MR. BENNETT

Wow. Even if it took a minor medical emergency... I can't tell you how happy this makes me. How was your flight?

LIZ

Never mind that, how are you feeling?
Where's Camila? Are you sure you should
be drinking that?

KITTY

He's fine. You're not a doctor.

LIZ

Neither are you.

KITTY

(sweetly)

You got a 400 on your Math SATs. Also
what did you do to your hair, it's weird.

Liz touches her hair self-consciously.

MR. BENNETT

Jane, Liz, tell me about work--

KITTY

There's too many people here, it's
overwhelming for Dad.

MARY

I'll go talk to the doctor-

LIZ

I'll talk to the doctor.

KITTY

I'll talk to the doctor.

MARY

I'm in medical school!

LYDIA

You're in dental school.

JANE

Dad, let me get you a better pillow.

LIZ

Seriously, should dad be drinking juice?

MARY

It was a heart attack, not a cavity-

KITTY

I've been the one speaking to the doctor
the whole time-

Mr. Bennett starts gesturing to the girls - turn around.
They're too busy arguing to notice.

LIZ

Speaking to the doctor or hitting on the doctor?

LYDIA

Does anyone have the Wifi?

KITTY

Why do you always have to be in charge? You've been here 30 seconds -

MR. BENNETT

Turn around.

MARY

Does anyone have a tampon, just being around you all makes me get my period.

KITTY

Just buy your own tampons for once!

MR. BENNETT

(loudly)

Hello, Dr. Bingley.

The sisters TURN. DR. CHIP BINGLEY, a kind, hot surgeon, stands in the doorway. Armie Hammer in a lab coat is in front of them, and they're arguing about tampons.

DR. CHIP BINGLEY

Hello. Sorry to interrupt.

MR. BENNETT

Dr. Bingley, these are my daughters -

DR. CHIP BINGLEY

Wow. Five daughters. Lucky man.

MR. BENNETT

Five single daughters.

Dr. Bingley takes the Bennett sisters in. Smiles.

DR. CHIP BINGLEY

I'm Dr. Bingley, your dad's surgeon. This morning we put a stent in to keep the artery from narrowing again. Your dad did great. We're going to suggest some lifestyle changes, but I'm very confident he'll make a full recovery.

JANE

Thank you, Dr. --

DR. CHIP BINGLEY

Bingley. Chip Bingley.

Dr. Bingley notices Jane for the first time. And she definitely notices him. If this was a cartoon, hearts would be dancing over their heads.

JANE

Jane. Jane Bennett.

DR. BINGLEY

You're welcome.

(directly to Jane)

Well... very nice to meet you all.

He exits. The sisters are silent for a moment, and then:

KITTY

He must have gotten laid so much in med school.

The sisters laugh. Mr. Bennett looks around at his daughters, all together.

MR. BENNETT

I just love having you all here together.
It's been - I've missed you.

His voice cracks. He takes Jane's hand, emotional. Liz is surprised - not used to seeing her dad like this.

LIZ

I'll get you some water, Dad.

EXT. HOSPITAL HALLWAY - MOMENTS LATER

Liz exits Mr. Bennett's room, looks around for a nurse, but doesn't see anybody. Looks for a water fountain.

LIZ

Hello, does anybody work here?

Finally, she sees a nurse's cart with a pitcher of water on the bottom. Liz sneaks over, kneels down and pours a glass of water.

MALE VOICE (O.C.)

Excuse me?

This is FITZWILLIAM DARCY. Tall, awkward, and not amused.

DARCY

Can I help you?

LIZ

My dad's a patient here - I wanted to get him some water -

DARCY

You don't just take things off hospital carts.

LIZ

I tried to find a nurse-

DARCY

Would you walk in the kitchen of a restaurant and help yourself to some food?

LIZ

Well - if there was no one around -

DARCY

I doubt you would.

LIZ

Well, clearly you don't know me.

Darcy pours another glass. Hands it to her.

DARCY

Here. Don't do that again.

LIZ

You've really been a ray of sunshine in an otherwise very cloudy day, but I'll try not to.

Liz walks off. Darcy watches her go-- and we catch the "DR. DARCY" name tag on his lab coat.

EXT. BENNETT HOUSE - DAY

Kitty's Mini Cooper and Mary's Prius pull up outside a beautiful colonial home. The sisters pile out of the cars and walk single file up the long pathway to the house - Jane, then Liz (with suitcases), Mary (with her backpack), Kitty (stylish leather tote), and Lydia with her team bag.

MARY

Prepare yourself, Camila redecorated.

INT. BENNETT HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

The inside is charming, but some nouveau rich touches. Artwork. Sculptural chairs that look impossible to sit in. Mary, Lydia and Kitty walk straight upstairs. Liz and Jane try to disguise their shock.

JANE

Wow.

MRS. BENNETT #2 enters. She's in her 40s, Latinx, and sharply dressed. Doesn't pull punches. She's holding an iPhone and has Air Pods in her ears. Liz turns to camera:

LIZ

Camila is my dad's second wife- Kitty and Lydia's mom. I met her when she was 22 and already pregnant with Kitty. Bit of a bumpy start.

MRS. BENNETT #2

Hi! Jane! Liz!

LIZ

Camila.

They hug. Mrs. Bennett #2 sees them looking around at the new decor.

MRS. BENNETT #2

So... what do you think? It had been a few years, I figured we needed a refresh.

JANE

Very... thoughtful.

LIZ

Very surprising.

MRS. BENNETT #2

You know what, if you're gonna waste my time, at least don't bullshit me.

Liz and Jane stare at her, aghast.

MRS. BENNETT #2 (CONT'D)

(mouthing)

Sorry, work. It was on mute.

(back)

Okay, muted again. Work has been so bananas.

LIZ

We heard. Kitty said you were at a work retreat? When Dad had the heart attack?

MRS. BENNETT #2

I know, it was terrible. They don't allow phones on the retreat. I was so panicked. I just got off the phone with the surgeon ten minutes ago - he's really optimistic about how your dad's doing.

JANE

We met him. Dr. Bingley.

MRS. BENNETT #2

By the way, Liz, I read your latest piece on mansplaining. So funny. And Jane, I swear you look younger every time I see you. I need to do some yoga. I'm so sorry, I've got to finish this call.

She walks off. As Liz and Jane head upstairs:

LIZ

She never read my essay.

JANE

She's never going to do yoga.

LIZ

I'm gonna quiz her on it.

INT. BENNETT HOUSE - HALLWAY

Liz takes a tour of the house. Peeks in her old bedroom.

LIZ

This used to be my room. It is now Camila's home office. I don't take it personally. Fine, I do.

She next peers into Lydia's room. Football posters and team photos. Lydia's gear everywhere. Lydia's lying on her bed, texting, wearing headphones. Doesn't notice her.

Continuing her tour, she pokes her head into Mary's room, which looks like a prison cell/library. Spare. Mary examines a set of teeth.

MARY

Get out of here, creeper!

She moves on to Kitty's room. Expensive and modern. Kitty puts on makeup, getting ready to go out.

LIZ

What do we do about dinner around here?

KITTY

I'm intermittent fasting. Dinner's a social construct. Anyway, I have a date.

LIZ

You have a boyfriend? I thought you didn't believe in commitment.

KITTY

I don't believe in marriage. I'm fine with mutually agreed-upon commitment. You know the guy I'm seeing, actually. Adrian.

Liz STOPS. This is NEWS to her.

LIZ

Whoa, wait. Jane's ex-fiance Adrian? Who she was with for five years and then he completely broke her heart?

KITTY

I guess. Like a million years ago.

LIZ

Does Jane know? You have to tell her!

KITTY

No I don't.

LIZ

Kitty, if you don't tell her, I'm going to have to--

KITTY

That would be great, thanks.

Kitty saunters out. Liz is floored. Her younger sister is dating her older sister's ex. Shit.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

INT. BENNETT HOUSE - KITCHEN/BREAKFAST NOOK - DAY

Morning. Jane drinks coffee. Liz makes a big pan of scrambled eggs. Liz's phone BUZZES. She look down at it. A text from JASPER. She ignores it.

LIZ

Hey, was it just me or was dad acting super not like himself yesterday? The last time he almost cried was when the Bengals won a playoff game. And that was in 1991.

JANE

He just had a heart attack. He's probably really freaked out.

LIZ

It's more than that. Something's going on.

Liz hands Jane a plate of eggs. Jane looks at the eggs, uneasy, shakes her head.

JANE

I'm good with coffee.

They sit down in the breakfast nook. Liz looks at Jane, willing herself to tell her:

LIZ (V.O.)

Just tell her about Adrian. It's Jane. She never gets mad. Well, except that one time when I accidentally decapitated her bunny, Snowball-

Liz turns to Jane. Tries to play it cool:

LIZ

So, this is crazy and you probably won't even care but-

Kitty interrupts by entering. Starts making a smoothie.

KITTY

Morning.

LIZ

Hey.

JANE

Good morning!

JANE (CONT'D)

Ask Kitty.

KITTY

Ask me what?

JANE

Do you think Dad was acting normal in the hospital?

LIZ

(cutting in)

-Because it didn't seem like it to me. Is something wrong? I mean, besides him having a heart attack?

Kitty pauses for a moment too long before answering --

KITTY

I'm sure he was just antsy about the store opening.

LIZ

How did that come about anyway?

KITTY

It was my idea.

Liz and Jane are both kind of shocked and surprised.

JANE

Opening a retail store was your idea?

Kitty pours her smoothie into a to-go container.

KITTY

Any consumer-facing business needs a narrative. Janey's narrative needs a refresh. Like what Alessandro Michele did for Gucci except for ice cream.

LIZ

Yeah. I'm sure it's gonna be exactly like that.

KITTY

A flagship retail store is going to be the perfect way to do it.

JANE

How are you doing this while working at the law firm?

KITTY

I quit. I'm now executive VP of Janey's.
(checks her watch)
I'm late. I've gotta go. We're opening
the store on Sunday.

Kitty hurries out. Jane and Liz exchange a look. *What is
going on?*

LIZ

Executive VP?! She made that up.

That's when Mary enters --

MARY

Have you seen my teeth?

LIZ

How did we not know that Kitty is running
Janey's now?

MARY

You guys are in New York.

LIZ

We're not dead.

Mary shrugs, exits. Lydia enters, sees the pan of eggs on
the stove, starts housing eggs straight from it.

LIZ (CONT'D)

Wow, have you ever seen *Cool Hand Luke*?

LYDIA

Is he on Youtube?

Mary re-enters, holding a mold of plastic teeth.

MARY

How was the scrimmage yesterday? Did
Coach start Williams or Marcus?

LYDIA

Marcus took most of the snaps. I think
he's gonna start against the Hawks.

MARY

That's a mistake. Williams can run the
read option and your team's wideouts are
questionable at best. Are you ready?

LYDIA

Yeah. Bye guys!

Lydia grabs her backpack and she and Mary go off. Liz and Jane exchange a look - what was that?

LIZ

I told you something is totally going on!
Kitty quit her job? And did you see how
she totally squirmed before answering my
question?

JANE

She didn't squirm.

LIZ (CONT'D)

-- Uh, yes, Squirm City.

JANE

You're overreacting.

LIZ

So you're fine with Kitty running the
company?

JANE

She's not running the company. Dad and
Mike are running the company. Let's just
stay focused here on helping Dad. Listen,
I want to be here for the opening and
all, but I can't stay longer than a week.

LIZ

Why?

JANE

... I have some doctor's appointments in
New York I can't miss.

(then)

I started IVF.

LIZ

Wait, what? I knew you were thinking
about it but - you didn't tell me -

JANE

Because I wasn't sure if it was going to
work. I'm 36, and I've never tried to get
pregnant before. I didn't want you to get
all excited.

LIZ

I am excited! I'm going to be an aunt!

JANE

It might not work. Do NOT tell anyone.

LIZ

You know, Elizabeth is a really timeless
name..

JANE

Not. A. Word.

Liz ZIPS her lips, throws out the key, and hugs Jane.

INT. CINCINNATI MEMORIAL HOSPITAL - DAY

LIZ

Jailbreak day!

Jane and Liz stand by Mr. Bennett, in a wheelchair.

MR. BENNETT

Oh, I cannot wait to get home.

LIZ

Where is that orderly?

JANE

I'm sure just finishing up with someone else.

LIZ

They probably forgot us. Let's just take him. Come on, Dad.

Liz pushes Mr. Bennett out of there. Jane reluctantly follows her as...

INT. CINCINNATI HOSPITAL - HALLWAY

Liz pushes Mr. Bennett too fast down the hallway.

LIZ

You're freeeeee! Whoa, these things move fast!

She loses a little bit of control as she reaches the elevator. The doors open and she smashes the kneecaps of someone coming out - Darcy. He bends over in pain, then looks up. Off Liz - *whoops*.

EXT. CINCINNATI HOSPITAL - CAR PICKUP - DAY

Darcy pushes Mr. Bennett. Liz and Jane follow behind.

DARCY

You know, that really didn't feel great on my kneecaps.

LIZ

I'm sorry! The orderly was taking forever so we thought we'd push my dad out -

DARCY

Do you have an aversion to rules?

LIZ

I don't know. Do you have a full list of rules so I can see if I do?

As they're about to reach the car pickup -

DR. BINGLEY

Mr. Bennett! Mr. Bennett!

Dr. Chip Bingley runs towards them. Happy to see Mr. Bennett, even happier to see Jane.

DR. BINGLEY (CONT'D)

I'm so glad I caught you. I wanted to say good bye. Darcy! You ran into the Bennetts. This is Mr. Bennett, and Jane, and umm.. -

LIZ

Liz.

DR. BINGLEY

Mr. Bennett owns that ice cream brand, Janey's. Dr. Darcy is a dear friend from med school. He just moved to Cincinnati.

Darcy nods stiffly. Mr. Bennett looks at his daughters. Sneaks a peek at Darcy's finger. No ring.

MR. BENNETT

We're having the grand opening of our new store on Sunday. Why don't both of you come as my guests? It'll be a great way to meet new people, there'll be games - plenty of ice cream - my daughters -

DR. BINGLEY

We'd love to. Why don't I give you my number and you can text me the details?

Dr. Bingley scribbles his number on a prescription pad. Pretends to be casual but hands it directly to Jane.

LIZ (V.O.)

Doctors do not give out their cell phone numbers. Except to my sister.

Jane and Dr. Bingley stand there, smiling at each other, until Darcy pulls them out of their reverie:

DARCY

Thank you for the invitation, but I don't care for ice cream.

LIZ

You don't like ice cream? What did ice cream do to you?

DARCY

I don't like cold foods.

Liz stares at him as if he's an alien.

DARCY (CONT'D)

Excuse me, I'm due in surgery.

Darcy walks off without saying good bye.

DR. BINGLEY

He doesn't mean to be rude. He had a weird upbringing.

LIZ

Oh, was he raised by robots?

DR. BINGLEY

(smiles)

He was homeschooled. Moved around a lot. Not a lot of chance to practice making friends. But he really is a very kind person, I promise.

(then)

Thanks for the invitation. Bye, Jane.

Dr. Bingley goes off. Off Mr. Bennett, thrilled...

EXT. HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL FIELD - DAY

A whistle BLOWS as in-team scrimmage finishes up. Lydia and the rest of the players jog to the sidelines.

Lydia's next to TYLER DIGGS, a wide receiver, thinks he's the shit. As they take off their helmets:

LYDIA

Hey. Crazy catch before.

TYLER DIGGS

Thanks. Nice - uh, nice extra point.

But he rushes off to talk to some other players, leaving Lydia feeling weird. She watches as Tyler whispers to a couple TEAMMATES. Can't help but feel their eyes on her. Lydia watches Tyler as they walk towards:

EXT. HIGH SCHOOL - LOCKER ROOMS - CONTINUOUS

The GUYS shuffle into the boy's locker room. Lydia gives one last look at Tyler and his friends. She could swear they're laughing at her. She sighs and walks into:

INT. HIGH SCHOOL - GIRL'S LOCKER ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Alone, Lydia takes her pads off. Feeling like a complete fucking idiot.

EXT. BENNETT HOUSE - DAY

Liz stands outside the house stretching, getting ready to go for a run. She looks at her phone. **JASPER CALLING**. She forcefully presses **IGNORE**. Turns to camera.

LIZ

You may be wondering why I'm freaking out about this Jasper thing. But you have to understand. We're extremely close.

Liz takes off on a run.

INT. JASPER'S APARTMENT - BEDROOM - **FLASHBACK**

Liz and Jasper sleep. Liz rolls over and turns on the lamp. Liz continues to speak directly to the camera:

LIZ

I slept in his bed when his mom died. He was lonely. It wasn't sexual! I swear.

She pops open the covers to show her sweatpants.

LIZ (CONT'D)

Sweatpants.

EXT. STREETS OF CINCINNATI - DAY

Liz runs, remembering.

INT. LIZ'S UES APARTMENT - STAIRWELL - **FLASHBACK**

Jasper carries Liz over his shoulder up the stairs. A cast on her foot. They're laughing. She turns to camera:

LIZ

When I fractured my foot running, he carried me up my third floor walk-up every day after work. And that was in January, so I was definitely carrying a little bit of extra holiday weight.

INT. LIZ'S UES APARTMENT - **FLASHBACK**

Jasper sits next to Liz on the couch, reading. Her foot is still in the cast, propped up. Takeout.

LIZ

He read the first draft of my novel and laughed out loud 22 times. Real laughs, not like when people say "That's funny" in a completely bored voice.

EXT. STREETS OF CINCINNATI - DAY

Liz runs, passing a WOMAN with a dog on a leash.

EXT. HUDSON RIVER VALLEY - DAY - **FLASHBACK**

Liz and Jasper both try to control a rescue dog on a leash. Liz turns to camera:

LIZ

We co-adopted a dog together! We took it out into the country to just let it run.

They let the dog off the leash. It just RUNS and RUNS and RUNS. Completely away, for good. They chase after it.

LIZ (CONT'D)

That was a bad call.

EXT. STREETS OF CINCINNATI - DAY

Liz runs. Turns to camera:

LIZ (V.O.)

We weren't just best friends. We were like... married people who didn't have sex. So just like most married people.

And she runs out of frame.

EXT. BENNETT HOUSE - LATER

Liz finishes up her run. She STOPS when she sees a CAR she doesn't recognize parked in front of the house. She peers in. It appears to be an unmarked cop car.

Liz watches as Mrs. Bennett #2 EMERGES from the house with TWO MEN IN SUITS. She shakes their hands and they head to the car. As they pass Liz, Liz notices a POLICE BADGE on one. Liz catches up to Mrs. Bennett #2:

LIZ

Were those cops? What's going on?

MRS. BENNETT #2

Just some work stuff.

LIZ

Then why were they at the house?

Mrs. Bennett #2 watches as the car drives away. Sighs.

MRS. BENNETT #2

You know Liz, you have many wonderful qualities, but you really do ask too many questions.

Mrs. Bennett #2 TURNS, goes back in the house. Off Liz-her suspicions renewed. *What the hell is going on?*

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

INT. BENNETT HOUSE - KITCHEN/DINING ROOM - NIGHT

A whirlwind of activity as the sisters prepare for family dinner. Jane finishes cooking. Kitty rinses flowers to put on the table. Liz pours drinks. Mary takes bread out of the oven. Liz turns to Mary, quietly:

LIZ

Do cops normally come to the house to chat with our stepmom or was that just a today thing?

MARY

(shrugs)

She does criminal defense work.

But Liz can't tell if Mary's covering. Jane interrupts -

JANE

Hot pan coming through!

Liz and Mary skirt out of the way as Jane brings a pan to the sink. Mary lines up bread rolls in a basket.

MARY

Rolls always look like little coffins to me.

KITTY

I need a vase.

Mary and Kitty head to the dining room. Jane looks down at her phone, reads a TEXT. Then SMILES.

JANE

Dr. Bingley - Chip - is wondering if I want to get coffee with him.

LIZ

Ooooooh!

Liz does a victory dance. Jane's excited, but tamps it down.

JANE

Shhh! Even if Chip's amazing, I don't have time to wait to see if he's the guy--

LIZ

Just tell him about the IVF.

JANE

Yeah, that's a good first date conversation. "Hey, I really like you, but once a month I get a stranger's sperm injected into my body."

LIZ

Well, maybe don't start with sperm.

Liz and Jane bring dishes to the dining room as Mr. Bennett enters..

MR. BENNETT

This looks delicious, Jane. I never thought I'd say this but I am excited for these lentils.

Lydia enters, still in practice clothes. Plucks a veggie off Jane's tray. As Jane puts the last dish on the table:

JANE

Hey! Wait until everyone's here!

MR. BENNETT (CONT'D)

Hi, sweetheart. How was practice?

LYDIA

Good. I kicked four for five from 30 yards. I'm starving. What's all this brown lumpy stuff?

LIZ

Where's Camila?

Mrs. Bennett #2 rushes in, and everyone sits.

MRS. BENNETT #2

I'm so sorry.

LIZ (V.O.)

"Work is so crazy."

MRS. BENNETT #2

Work is just so crazy.

MR. BENNETT

You're working too hard.

MRS. BENNETT #2

I think that might be the pot calling the kettle a workaholic.

MR. BENNETT

Love you, kettle.

They share a sweet smile. He kisses her hand.

LIZ (V.O.)
(making a barf noise)
Blecccchhhhhhhh.

MRS. BENNETT #2
This is nice, isn't it? Should we toast?

Liz pours herself white wine. Kitty grabs tequila.

MRS. BENNETT #2 (CONT'D)
This last week was terrifying. But it's
such a joy to be all together at the
table with my husband and two daughters
and three step-daughters.

LIZ (V.O.)
You could have just said daughters, but
point taken.

The girls RAISE their glasses. Liz has wine; Jane has
seltzer; Mary has milk; Kitty has tequila on the rocks;
Lydia has Gatorade. They CLINK.

MRS. BENNETT #2
So what's this I hear about Dad's doctor
coming to the opening for Jane?

MR. BENNETT
There's two doctors coming - Dr. Darcy is
coming for Liz.

KITTY
Just FYI, Dad, marriage is an outdated
institution that was created by men, for
men, as a means for them to attain power
by marrying off their daughters to obtain
more land - and continue to suppress
women's equality for centuries--

LIZ
-- Darcy is not coming for me. From what
I could tell he was a completely
humorless and joyless individual.

KITTY
If only he was a girl, then he'd be
perfect for Mary.

MARY
No thank you. Doctors are just people who
can't get into dental school.

Lydia starts typing on her phone. She loves stalking
people.

LYDIA

Darcy? What's his first name?

LIZ

He probably legally changed it to Doctor.

LYDIA

(googling on phone)

Found him. He's a neurosurgeon.

MARY

You have to be kind of a weirdo to want to spend your life cutting up people's brains.

KITTY

You want to spend it inside people's mouths!

There's a lot of love here, even when they're arguing. The following is quick, overlapping:

LYDIA

Fitzwilliam. His first name is Fitzwilliam?

MRS. BENNETT #2

Fitzwilliam Darcy? What century is this?

LYDIA

Undergrad at Stanford, boring. Harvard med, boring. Mission work in Africa, boring and braggy.

MR. BENNETT

How do you do that so fast?

LYDIA

Oh. His father is worth 400 million dollars.

Mr. Bennett almost spits out his food.

LIZ

What?

MR. BENNETT

That can't be right. 400 million dollars?

LYDIA

I can't believe a billionaire likes Liz.

MARY

How is it equitable for any one person to have 400 million dollars. That said, Liz, there's this incredible foundation providing basic dentistry in Madagascar...

LIZ

Before you all get your hopes up, "Fitzwilliam" doesn't like me, he actively dislikes me. And it doesn't even matter, because I really don't like him.

MR. BENNETT

Liz...

LIZ

(warning)

Dad.

MR. BENNETT

I'm just saying, you tend to be a bit prematurely judgmental.

LIZ

I am! It's one of my best qualities. And I've done just fine without my dad butting into my love life.

MARY

Yeah, right, how's Jasper?

JANE

Mary.

Lydia's phone RINGS. She exits to answer. Liz can feel her face getting hot.

LIZ

He's fine. He's great actually. He's getting married. To a woman he barely knows. I'm the best man.

MR. BENNETT

Oh, Lizzy.

KITTY

Oh, that's sad.

LIZ

It's not sad. I'm thrilled for him, actually. How many weddings have you guys been the best man for? It's an honor!

Liz clears her plate, storms out of the dining room into:

INT. BENNETT HOUSE - KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

And immediately feels bad.

LIZ (V.O.)

God, I wish there was an "unsubscribe" button
for emotional outbursts.

She starts washing dishes. Hears SHOUTING from outside.
Liz cranes her neck to look out the WINDOW.

ANGLE ON: Lydia, pacing in the front yard, on the phone.

LYDIA (ON PHONE)

Because you told people! I'm a player on
the team and now everybody's gonna look
at me like...

Mary enters, joins Liz at the window, overhearing Lydia's
conversation -

LYDIA (ON PHONE) (CONT'D)

You know what? Don't call me, don't text
me, don't write stupid notes in my
playbook! Don't even look at me, I'm
allergic to your stupid face!

Mary and Liz watch as Lydia THROWS her phone into a bush.
Lydia's face now drops from anger to profound sadness.

LIZ

What happened?

MARY

I've got this.

LIZ

Wait.

Liz opens up the freezer. It's stocked with Janey's ice
cream. She hands Mary a pint and two spoons.

EXT. BENNETT HOUSE - EVENING - MOMENTS LATER

Mary finds Lydia sitting on the front steps.

LYDIA

I don't want a talk.

MARY

I don't want one either.

Mary hands her ice cream. Lydia takes it.

MARY (CONT'D)

Who was that?

Lydia sighs.

LYDIA

Tyler.

MARY

Oh, number 82? The wide receiver? Looks like a tiny Zac Efron?

LYDIA

I promised myself I'd never mess with anyone on the team; I didn't want them to see me that way. But Tyler seemed really different. We hooked up the other night. I mean, not sex.

MARY

Sex is wasted on the young anyway.

LYDIA

Gross. And then today at practice, he acted so cold to me. And then he freaking... told the other guys on the team. I worked so hard for them to take me seriously and now...

MARY

Ugh. This is why I date girls. Occasionally they're not completely predictable.

(then)

He's not that good a receiver.

LYDIA

He had the most touchdowns last season as a sophomore!

MARY

And doesn't he wear those cut-off belly shirts? He looks like a Flygirl.

LYDIA

Yeah but..

(vulnerable)

I like him.

MARY

I know.

Lydia sighs. Mary puts her arm around her.

MARY (CONT'D)

Let's get your phone out of the bush.

INT. BENNETT HOUSE - LIZ'S OLD BEDROOM/HOME OFFICE

Liz walks into her former bedroom, now Camila's office. Pretends to be casual, but in full-on snooping mode.

She walks to the desk, casually glancing at folders. Opens a file cabinet, looks through. Moves to the printer. Picks up a bunch of documents. Skims them, growing increasingly concerned...

INT. BENNETT HOUSE - LIZ AND JANE'S BEDROOM

Jane's asleep. Liz enters, trying to be quiet.

JANE

You okay?

LIZ

Yes. It's late. Sorry, I went into the office-formerly-known-as-my-bedroom and there are like *decades* of accounting documents for Janey's - someone's doing a deep dive on our finances - I'm wondering if--

JANE

Liz. Breathe. Now you're getting worked up about taxes. You're exhausted and you're worried about Dad. That's all.

LIZ

Okay, okay.

She breathes. Then, tentative:

LIZ (CONT'D)

Jane I was gonna tell you this at breakfast, but--

JANE

Hold on, this sounds serious, let me pee first-

Jane gets up, walks into...

INT. BENNETT HOUSE - UPSTAIRS HALLWAY

... And almost collides with a MAN in the hallway.
Adrian. Jane's ex. Jane's shocked to see him.

JANE

Oh my god. Adrian? What are you doing here?

ADRIAN

Jane -

Liz runs out of the room as Kitty emerges from hers, wearing PJs that manage to be adorable and sexy.

KITTY

I told you to go the other way.

Jane looks from Kitty to Adrian as she starts to put the pieces together. Holy shit.

JANE

Wait. Are you - you're -

Mary walks up the stairs, returning from a night out.

JANE (CONT'D)

(to Mary and Liz)

Did you guys know about this?

MARY

I have no idea who that is.

JANE

Adrian. My college boyfriend.

ADRIAN

I should go, it's late. Kitty, I'll--

JANE

GO.

Adrian gets the fuck out of there.

JANE (CONT'D)

Kitty, what the hell?

KITTY

I thought Liz was going to tell you.

Jane turns to Liz, betrayed.

JANE

You knew?

LIZ

As of like three days ago! And I tried to tell you- I was just trying to tell you -

JANE

This is right up there with Snowball, Liz- Jane rarely gets mad. But now she's *livid*.

JANE (CONT'D)

Kitty, how could you do this? He was my first love. I thought we were gonna get married.

KITTY

I didn't know it was that serious.

MARY

I truly have never seen that person before in my life -

LIZ

You met him a billion times, Mary. He came to Christmas at our house.

JANE

We were engaged! I was completely heartbroken-

LIZ

Our whole family hated him for like a decade-

MARY

Wait, you guys are fighting over dating that guy?

KITTY

We're not dating. We're sleeping together.

JANE

I don't need the details!

LIZ

Okay, no need to get graphic.

JANE

You could date anyone, Kitty. Why him? Why? WHY?

KITTY

He's hot! What do you want from me?

This just pisses Jane off more.

JANE

You are so selfish. Your whole life, the whole world revolves around Katharine Bennett -

KITTY

DO NOT CALL ME KATHARINE!

JANE

Dad just hands you whatever you want. You think you're this important "businesswoman" when really Dad's letting you open a store for your own vanity-

KITTY

Dad lost all of his money.

This STOPS Jane. Liz GASPS.

JANE

What?

KITTY

That's why I'm opening the store. Not for my own vanity. Because otherwise he's gonna lose the business.

LIZ

How could you not tell us?

KITTY

Because you don't live here! You left! You can't just waltz in--

LIZ (CONT'D)

Kitty! You have to tell us what happened!

LYDIA (O.S.)

Oh my god!

Lydia enters from her bedroom in pajamas, half asleep. Now all five sisters are in the hallway at two in the morning. Various levels of angry, guilty, and confused.

LYDIA (CONT'D)

I have practice in four hours. Could you please take your drama somewhere else?

(taking all of them in)

Also, I am the only one who's actually young enough to still be living in this house!

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

EXT. BENNETT HOUSE - BACKYARD - MORNING

The next morning. Jane salutes the sun, trying to get her Zen back. Kitty joins her. She's a little tentative, but wants to try and make amends.

KITTY

I truly didn't know it was that serious.

Jane moves into a different position, doesn't answer.

KITTY (CONT'D)

He's the contractor for the store. I was like 5 years old when you guys started dating.

JANE

Gross.

KITTY

I'm sorry.

Kitty breaks down, crying. It's the first time we've seen her be vulnerable. Jane puts her arm around Kitty. Then:

JANE

He's a bad guy, Kitty.

KITTY

Maybe he made some mistakes but that was a long time ago.

JANE

He cheated on me, multiple times, with multiple people, for years. He lied about money, he lied about who he was, he lied just to lie. I'm not going to tell you who to date but I am going to tell you, you cannot trust him. And you need to be careful.

Kitty processes, then:

KITTY

I appreciate that but I'm an adult and I am very good at taking care of myself.

EXT. BENNETT HOUSE - HALLWAY/MR. BENNETT'S HOME OFFICE

Liz walks down the hallway, peeks into her dad's office.

LIZ

Dad? Are you working?

Where she's surprised to find him painting a watercolor by the window. A landscape of fall foliage.

MR. BENNETT

What do you think of this tree? The perspective's all wrong, right?

LIZ

Um... since when are you a painter?

MR. BENNETT

I always wanted to do watercolor. I always thought I'd do it in my retirement, but a couple of weeks ago I thought - what the hell am I waiting for?

Mr. Bennett turns back to his painting.

LIZ

Dad, I talked to Kitty. I know something's going on with the business.

Mr. Bennett flinches. But covers.

MR. BENNETT

It's nothing, Lizzy. I don't really want to talk about it.

Liz stares at him, then grabs a chair. And an easel. Starts painting too. She's a very bad painter.

LIZ

I'm not leaving your office until you tell me. I'm a very unreasonably stubborn person, you know that.

Liz paints a particularly childlike house. Finally:

MR. BENNETT

Mike stole a lot of money.

LIZ

But... he's your best friend. He's worked with you forever. What happened?

MR. BENNETT

He embezzled, he falsified all the accounting... and now he's gone.

LIZ

How much money are we talking about here?

MR. BENNETT

... Five million.

Holy shit. Mr. Bennett sighs.

MR. BENNETT (CONT'D)

He had me sign a lot of stuff I shouldn't have. He borrowed money, said it was for the business. I was a personal guarantor. And I owe all of that.

Liz is floored. She can't believe this.

LIZ

How could he do that?

Mr. Bennett shakes his head, at a loss.

MR. BENNETT

He's Jane's godfather. It wasn't even that I trusted him. It never occurred to me *not* to trust him.

(then)

I spent thousands and thousands of hours at that company. I missed graduations, birthday parties, Jane's concerts, your Model UN-thingies, Mary - well, Mary never really did any activities. And you justify it, you tell yourself you're building something bigger, for the legacy of your family. I wanted to set you girls up for life.

Mr. Bennett's voice cracks. Liz takes his hand.

LIZ

Dad, why didn't you tell me?

MR. BENNETT

You've got so much on your plate. I didn't want you to worry. That's why Camila's been working so hard. So we don't lose the house.

Liz feels guilty for being so judge-y about her stepmom.

LIZ

Is this the right time to open a store?

MR. BENNETT

The store's a Hail Mary. Kitty thinks it'll completely revitalize and expand the brand.

LIZ

But what if it doesn't?

The question hangs there. Mr. Bennett stares at his painting.

MR. BENNETT

What do you think? Maybe I need another tree in the foreground here.

EXT. EDEN PARK/MIRROR LAKE - DAY

A running trail. Liz stretches. Clearly upset. Processing. Her phone rings. **Jasper**. She hesitates, then decides to finally answer and speak to him.

EXT. CENTRAL PARK - DAY

Jasper walks on the outskirts of the park.

LIZ

Hey.

JASPER

Hey. I'm so glad you picked up. I heard about your Dad's heart attack. I'm so sorry. How is he?

LIZ

He's okay. There's a lot going on here that I didn't know about. It's kind of a mess.

JASPER

I'm sorry.

(then)

I've been calling you for days and... why haven't you answered?

A beat. Liz takes a deep breath, decides to spill it.

LIZ

Jasper, when you told me you were getting married...

(MORE)

LIZ (CONT'D)

it made me realize that I'd kind of
always subconsciously hoped we'd end up
together.

JASPER

You never said anything.

LIZ

Because I didn't realize it myself. And
maybe this isn't fair, but I just - I
wish we had given it a shot, you know?

Jasper takes a beat, thrown.

JASPER

That's a lot, Liz.

LIZ

I know.

JASPER

(spinning a little)

I mean, you're an incredible person.
You're smart and funny and you care so
much about everyone around you -

LIZ

You don't have to say all this.

JASPER

And you mean so much to me-

LIZ

... But you're engaged.

JASPER

Yeah.

Everything comes crashing down for Liz in this moment.

LIZ

I'm an idiot.

JASPER

No, you're not -

LIZ

I've been hanging out with you for the
last decade when I should have been...
trying to find someone. I feel like I've
wasted ten years.

JASPER

They weren't a waste.

LIZ

They weren't?

Jasper hesitates. He can't go there. Quickly:

JASPER

... You're my best friend. I need you in my life.

LIZ

I can't do that.

(swallows)

Congratulations on your wedding. I'm sorry, I won't be there.

Liz hangs up, trying not to cry. Takes off on a run.

EXT. EDEN PARK/MIRROR LAKE - LATER

Liz runs through the park. Sees a MAN up ahead of her. Shirtless. A hottie from the back.

She runs faster, catches up to him. Then realizes it's Darcy. Is momentarily repulsed. As they run side by side:

LIZ

Hey. Liz Bennett, from the hospital.

DARCY

I know.

(Liz can't help but notice that Darcy is surprisingly ripped for someone who's so weird.)

Darcy starts to speed up. Liz speeds up. Darcy speeds up. Now they're all-out racing each other.

Liz is FASTER. She's breaking away when her phone BEEPS. She looks down - a text from **JASPER**. "**I don't like the way that ended**". Distracted, she TRIPS and goes flying.

EXT. EDEN PARK/MIRROR LAKE - MOMENTS LATER

Liz sits on the side of the trail while Darcy gets water from the water fountain, helping with her knee.

LIZ

I know I shouldn't text and run but I promise I don't text and drive.

DARCY

I always look to see who's texting me
while I'm running.

LIZ

Yeah, but you're a neurosurgeon. Ow! OW!

DR. DARCY

I haven't touched it yet.

He cleans it carefully.

DARCY

You've got a bunch of gravel in there.
(then)
You're quite out of breath.

LIZ

No I'm not.

Liz can't help but notice how gentle he is.

DARCY

When you get home, I want you to get the
rest of this gravel. Clean some tweezers
with isopropyl alcohol and remove it
gently--

As Darcy continues talking, Liz's eyes glaze over.

LIZ (V.O.)

Tweezers? Iso - whatever alcohol? Not
gonna do that.

LIZ

Okay, yes.

Darcy looks at her sternly.

DARCY

You have to do it. You seem like someone
who says they're going to do it and then
doesn't.

LIZ

Okay.

DARCY

You're all set.

He pats her knee. Liz gets up, feeling weird.

LIZ

Thank you. That was... really nice of you.

DARCY

You don't have to sound so surprised.

They lock eyes for a second, then Liz takes off...

INT. COFFEE EMPORIUM - DAY

Jane and Dr. Chip Bingley on their date. Empty cups of coffee - they've been here for awhile. Their chemistry is off the charts.

JANE

I spent my twenties working in marketing, communications, that kind of thing. And I was so... bored. And the only constant in my life was yoga. But it never seemed like a real career, you know?

Dr. Bingley nods, hanging on every word.

JANE (CONT'D)

Until finally I realized, I can do a lot of good in the world by teaching people yoga. Which is way more important than some arbitrary notion of a "career."

DR. BINGLEY

Totally.

JANE

... So I found some investors and opened my own studio in Fort Greene. It's not a huge operation -

CHIP

Wait, you just glossed over that. That sounds really hard, to get people to invest in your vision - I can't even get people to take their blood pressure medication -

JANE

You can't?

CHIP

No, I can. I'm a good doctor, I swear.

JANE

I just really believe in it. The power of slowing down. Of really being in touch with your body.

She said it casually but it was the sexiest thing Chip's ever heard.

JANE (CONT'D)

What's Chip short for, anyway?

DR. CHIP BINGLEY

Chipwich.

Jane laughs.

DR. CHIP BINGLEY (CONT'D)

Charles. But that was my dad. I was always Chip. Chip off the old block, you know?

JANE

Are you?

DR. CHIP BINGLEY

Well, my dad is also a cardiac surgeon. But by the time he was my age he was married with four kids, so...

JANE

Wow, you have some catching up to do.

Chip laughs. Then, with a hint of seriousness:

DR. CHIP BINGLEY

Yeah, you're right. I guess I do.

He smiles. Off Jane - feeling all kinds of butterflies...

INT. BENNETT HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY

Liz dips tweezers in alcohol, tries to remove the gravel from her knee. It's fucking hard. Mrs. Bennett #2 enters.

MRS. BENNETT #2

You all right?

LIZ

I'm fine. How come you didn't tell me about Dad?

MRS. BENNETT #2

He asked me not to, and I respected that.

LIZ

We need to find Mike and get that money back. I put in a call to work, they can hook me up -

MRS. BENNETT #2

-- Liz, I'm taking care of it.

LIZ

Let me help.

MRS. BENNETT #2

I've met with the police. I've hired a PI and a forensic accountant.

(then)

You being here has been great for your dad, and I know you'll continue to be a great support for him when you go back to New York. But I've got it under control.

INT. BENNETT HOUSE - LIZ AND JANE'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Liz sits at her laptop, still reeling. Jane enters, troubled, carrying a Walgreens bag.

LIZ

Okay, that date was fully six hours. How was it? Oh my god, did you have sex?

But Jane dumps her bag on the bed, removes something from it, and walks out the door.

Liz rifles through her stuff. An open pregnancy test box.

LIZ (CONT'D)

Uh, Jane? Even if you did have sex...
Probably too soon for a pregnancy test?

Liz sticks her head out the hallway. Lydia's walking by, staring at her phone. ON HER PHONE: A picture of Tyler Diggs and a pretty girl on his lap. #boopiece.

LIZ (CONT'D)

You okay?

Lydia's clearly upset but she nods, walks to her room, shuts the door.

After a moment, Jane enters, brushes past Liz, white as a sheet. Holding a pregnancy stick.

JANE

They said wait 2 minutes. It's been 15 seconds and it's already 2 lines.

Liz takes the stick. Two lines, bright and clear.

LIZ (V.O.)

Probably not the right time to ask if I'm touching her pee.

LIZ

Can they... maybe one of the lines will disappear?

They stare at the test. Two bold lines.

JANE

The IVF worked. I'm pregnant.

Off Jane, thrilled, sad and shocked...

END OF ACT FOUR

ACT FIVE

EXT./INT. JANEY'S ICE CREAM SHOP - DAY

The grand opening of Janey's ice cream shop. Balloons, and tasting stations set up on the grassy front lawn. A patio in the back. Mr. Bennett and Mrs. Bennett #2 hold court. Jane, Liz, Mary and Lydia circulate, passing out samples. Kitty and Adrian stand by the entrance.

ADRIAN

How's Jane?

KITTY

She was pissed. She had a lot of glowing things to say about you.

ADRIAN

I'm sure.

(then)

You never asked me about my tattoo.

He holds out his wrist. It reads **10/12/10**.

KITTY

I figured it was your wedding date or something.

ADRIAN

Sobriety. A lot's happened to me since I was with your sister. I made a lot of mistakes but I'm not that guy anymore.

KITTY

Jane says people don't change.

ADRIAN

What else is she gonna say? She's trying to protect you.

(beat)

But she's probably right. We should probably call this off.

Adrian touches her arm. She looks into his eyes, believing in him.

KITTY

(smiles)

No way.

ANGLE ON: JANE AND CHIP

Chip finds Jane on the lawn. He's eating ice cream.

DR. CHIP BINGLEY

Jane! Hi! Look! I'm eating Janey's vanilla. It's so good. I can't believe you have your own ice cream.

JANE

(forced smile)

Hey Chip. Thanks for coming.

DR. CHIP BINGLEY

Now I've got to try that chili place you were telling me about -

Jane's a wreck, freaked out by being pregnant and her growing feelings for Chip. Word vomit:

JANE

Maybe. I've got a crazy schedule with my family the next few days. And, you know, New York. I will be going back there. Excuse me, Kitty needs my help.

Jane rushes off as Chip watches, extremely confused. Once she's out of Chip's sight, Jane's face falls. She looks back at him, not wanting to let him go...

ANGLE ON: MARY AND LYDIA

Mary and Lydia pass out samples. Lydia sees a group of TEAMMATES arrive, including Tyler Diggs. She turns red.

MARY

You okay?

LYDIA

Yeah.

(then)

What is he doing? Last night he instagrammed a picture of his ex sitting on his lap... and today he's here?

MARY

He's a high school boy. They're like untrained dogs who also get to drive cars.

But Mary can't stand to see Lydia looking so upset. She starts MARCHING over to Tyler and his friends.

MARY (CONT'D)

Tyler.

Tyler Diggs turns.

MARY (CONT'D)

I'm getting this feeling that you think you're kind of a big deal. Because you've scored a couple of garbage time touchdowns against sub 500 teams. But I've got news for you. You're small. Calm down, I mean height wise. You're never going to play in college. So this right now? Is the prime of your life. It's all downhill from here. And my sister Lydia is going places. So I'm sorry for you that you blew it, because you will never get a chance with someone like her ever again. So please. Just leave.

Tyler looks at her, mouth slightly open. Mary inspects his teeth.

MARY (CONT'D)

And you're gonna need adult braces, by the way.

(gestures to his mouth)

In ten years? Horror show.

Tyler rolls his eyes, walks off. Mary cracks a rare smile. She reaches Lydia, who's watching him go. Lydia's not as thrilled as Mary thought she would be. Quietly:

LYDIA

Why did you do that?

MARY

Because he's a loser with crowded teeth.

LYDIA

Yeah but I like him. And now I am so totally screwed at practice on Monday.

ANGLE ON: LIZ AND DARCY

Liz watches Darcy, looking awkward, hesitantly tasting an ice cream sample. He looks like he's never tried ice cream in his life.

LIZ (V.O.)

Stop picturing him with his shirt off,
stop picturing him with his shirt off.

She approaches him.

LIZ

I thought you hated ice cream.

DARCY

When in Cincinnati.

LIZ (V.O.)

He's a surgeon with the body of a stripper! It's just weird!

DARCY

How's your knee?

LIZ

I did the alcohol, I did the tweezers, I'm basically a doctor now.

Darcy almost smiles.

LIZ (CONT'D)

You know, you should give Cincinnati a chance. We have a lot of culture, a lot of good people -

DARCY

You left, didn't you?

LIZ

Yes but I miss it!

(backtracking)

I mean, New York's more exciting and cooler and has more career opportunities. It's the big leagues. But Cincinnati has... my family. And being here makes me realize - crazy as they are- how much I miss them.

DARCY

Why did you leave?

LIZ

I got married when I was 22 and divorced before I turned 23. I had to. And I always wanted to be a writer in New York like Nora Ephron. So I followed my heart.

DARCY

That's impossible. We don't make decisions with our hearts. We make them with our brains.

LIZ

It's a figure of speech, indicating metaphorically that I possess emotions-

DARCY

Yes, you seem to possess a lot of them.
They seem to get you into trouble.

Liz bristles at this:

LIZ

Well, I'll take feeling something over
being dead inside any day of the week.

Darcy flinches, hurt. Liz realizes she went too far.

DARCY

Right. Well. I should find Chip. Thank
you for the ice cream.

He rushes off. Liz watches him go, feeling bad. A CLINK.

ANGLE ON: MR. BENNETT

Mr. Bennett CLINKS a glass to toast. Liz finds her
sisters. They stand together as Mr. Bennett steps
forward.

MR. BENNETT

Welcome! Hello everyone. Thank you all
for coming. I want to give special thanks
to my wife and all five of my daughters,
who are all here today. Nothing in the
world is more important than you.

Liz smiles at her dad, moved by his vulnerability. The
five sisters LINK ARMS.

MR. BENNETT (CONT'D)

I started this business 35 years ago
after my father passed me down our small
family dairy farm. I had just had my
first daughter, and we named the ice
cream after her - much to the chagrin of
my other four daughters, who all came
later.

Jane and Liz share a smile.

MR. BENNETT (CONT'D)

I decided to make ice cream because it
made my daughter Janey smile. And what a
privilege, to have your life's work be
making people smile. I have enjoyed every
minute of it. But in light of some recent
personal changes, I'm stepping down from
the company, and leaving it in the very
capable hands of my wife and daughters.

The sisters DROP THEIR ARMS. Holy shit. Liz turns to Kitty - the following is quick and overlapping -

LIZ

Did you know about this?

KITTY

No.

MARY

What does that mean, "my wife and daughters"?

KITTY

He meant wife and daughter. I'm the Executive VP.

LIZ

No, he very specifically said "daughters" plural -

JANE

Holy crap.

MARY

I am not going to give up my higher calling to shill ice cream for the rest of my life -

LYDIA

You guys don't even live here, how are you going to run the business?

LIZ

We'll stay here until we figure it out.

KITTY

What about your job? Your apartment -

DARCY (O.S.)

Excuse me?

The sisters look up. Darcy is standing above them.

LIZ

We're kind of busy right now. We're having a King Lear moment?

DARCY

I just need a second to talk to you.

EXT. JANEY'S ICE CREAM SHOP - PARKING LOT - MOMENTS LATER

They head towards the parking lot.

DARCY

Sorry about interrupting. I don't have the best timing.

He beeps his car. Liz looks at it. A purple mom-car.

LIZ

You drive a minivan?

DARCY

They're very safe vehicles. Excellent visibility.

(then)

I'm sorry I left so abruptly before.

LIZ

I'm sorry too. I'm sure you're not dead inside. Like 99% sure.

DARCY

I know that I'm not great at social interaction. I am capable of emotion, but I have trouble showing it sometimes.

Darcy looks at her, and for a moment, he's smoldering. Liz's heart flutters.

DARCY (CONT'D)

I was wondering if you'd like to go for a run with me sometime. Or we could race again. Or, um -

JASPER (O.S.)

Liz!

Liz turns. Jasper is getting out of a cab in the parking lot.

LIZ

Jasper. What are you -

Then Jasper notices Darcy.

JASPER

Will Darcy? What are you doing here?

LIZ

You guys know each other?

Darcy's face darkens. There's clear animosity here.

DARCY

A little bit. We went to college together. We lived in the same dorm. Hello, Jasper. All right. Well. I guess I'll go now.

LIZ

Okay, bye...

Darcy gets in his car and beelines out of there. Once Darcy's gone, Liz turns to Jasper.

LIZ (CONT'D)

What are you doing here?

JASPER

After our phone conversation, I realized... I was the idiot.

Liz's heart starts pounding furiously.

LIZ

What do you mean?

JASPER

It's you, Liz. It's always been you. I don't know if I was afraid or what, but I want to give us a shot.

LIZ

But... you're engaged.

JASPER

I broke it off. I love you, Liz. It's so easy to say, I can't believe I've never said it before. I don't want to just be your best friend. I love you.

He looks at her, waiting. Liz is uncharacteristically silent for a moment. Then:

LIZ

I love you too.

She leans in and KISSES him, the kiss she's been waiting for for a decade, and off this huge little moment--

END OF PILOT