

TEASER

INT. A BEDROOM - NIGHT

CLOSE ON: LUCY'S FACE. LUCY ALBRIGHT (22) lies in bed staring at someone beside her. She looks like she's been crying.

Asleep beside her is **A YOUNG MAN.** His face is turned slightly away from Lucy, so we don't get a clear view of him yet - but we will come to learn that this is **STEPHEN DEMARCO (24).** Lucy watches him; a mix of love, anger, and defeat on her face.

Lucy presses against him, her face on his skin. He wakes slowly. As he becomes aware of her body he glides his hand over her bare back. He digs his fingers into her, more aggressive than romantic, but it's the reaction she wanted. We catch only partial glimpses of his face: a profile, his eyes - but never a complete view. He pulls Lucy beneath him.

She stares up at him. Her wary expression conveys one thing; she knows their dynamic is fucked up, but somehow inevitable. As they start to have sex, we hear STEPHEN'S voice as he whispers into her ear. He sounds pleased with himself.

STEPHEN

You don't hate me.

And with that we snap out of the dream and -

CUT TO:

INT. LUCY'S MANHATTAN APARTMENT - BEDROOM - DAY - 2015

LUCY, now 26, shoots awake in her bed with a sharp inhale, shaken by the dream. She forces her breath to slow, steadying herself - but there's a look of slight alarm on her face. She has had the dream before, but it's been awhile.

Her apartment is simple but immaculate. She rolls over - her boyfriend **MAX (28)** sleeps beside her. Max is pragmatic, smart, and kind - a Midwestern transplant with straight forward good looks. Lucy curls up to him, grateful that this is her reality, not the dream. She starts to relax. He wakes.

MAX

Hey... You're extra friendly.

LUCY

I'm always friendly.

He smiles and pulls her onto him so they're lying chest to chest. He kisses her - then he frowns, noticing something.

MAX

Your heart's beating really fast.

They pause - their chests still touching - and take note of her heartbeat. He's right; it is fast. He smiles quizzically as if to say, "Are you okay?" She brushes it off casually -

LUCY

Weird.

She stands and walks to the windows. She shoves the curtains open. Light floods the room. Max squints his eyes, startled.

Lucy is already buzzing around, picking clothes from her wardrobe with meticulous efficiency. She's a morning person who thrives on routine; but that wasn't always the case.

LUCY (CONT'D)

I'm taking the 9 o'clock jitney, I told Bree I'd get there early.

MAX

You sure you don't need me to come?

LUCY

Oh it's fine. I'm sure it's going to be boring. It'll probably feel like more of a college reunion than an engagement party.

MAX

I mean, it's not really a "reunion." You see your college friends all the time.

LUCY

Some of them.

Max doesn't read into this. Lucy continues getting ready.

INT. HAMPTONS JITNEY - DAY

Lucy sits on the Jitney. Now that she's alone, she's no longer hiding her anxiety - which is written openly all over her face. She stares out the window as her destination draws closer.

EXT. EVAN'S HAMPTONS ESTATE - HAMPTONS - DAY

An enormous Hamptons Estate, right on the water. It somehow manages to be tasteful despite its size.

Lucy exits a CAB and stares up at the extravagant home - she's been here before, but it's always intimidating. As the CAB drives off, LUCY heads to the ENTRANCE.

INT. EVAN'S HAMPTONS HOME - HAMPTONS - DAY

A handful of STAFF set up for a party. **LIZ** (60's, wealthy, the groom's mother) gives polite but annoying instructions. The home opens up onto a GRAND OUTDOOR DECK, where a LAVISH BUFFET is being setup, the ocean gleams in the background.

INT. EVAN'S HAMPTONS HOME - BEDROOM - DAY - CONTINUOUS

Lucy gets ready with the bride to be, **BREE** (26). Bree is grounded - not insecure, but not used to being the center of attention. Lucy seems suddenly calm and upbeat - she's doing an amazing job hiding whatever it is that's worrying her. She takes her nerves out on her hair, which she does with hawklike attention. Both girls sip champagne.

BREE

Is this dress too much? I feel like it's very, "look at me."

LUCY

Bree. This is literally the one time in your life when you're allowed to force people to look at you and not feel like an asshole.

Bree laughs. She gestures to her DIAMOND EARRINGS -

BRE

And the earrings aren't tacky? Evan's mom gave them to me.

LUCY

(they're kind of tacky)
No, they're nice -

BREE

(whispering shamefully)
They cost like 8 grand.

LUCY

(eyebrows raising)
Shit. Really??

BREE

She "let it slip" when she gave them to me. So now I feel like I have to wear them every time I see her.

LUCY

I mean, you do. That is technically what that means.

They laugh. From the other room they hear LIZ giving loud instructions to someone. Bree and Lucy look at each other.

BREE
She's a good person.

LUCY
Totally.

Lucy focuses sharply on one curl that won't behave. Frustrated, she takes a gulp of champagne. Bree looks at her in the mirror, noticing her nerves. Their eyes meet.

LUCY (CONT'D)
What?

Bree pauses, choosing her words carefully.

BREE
I promise you, I begged Evan not to invite him -

Lucy shakes her head and gives a nervous laugh - immediately trying to end this -

LUCY
Bree, stop -

BREE
You don't even have to speak to him. There's gonna be so many people here, and I've already told Evan to keep him away from you.

LUCY
It's really fine. I'm good.

BREE scans her face - wanting to believe her but still unsure. Finally she nods.

BREE
Okay.
(returns to her makeup)
Besides. You're doing so much better than you were back then.

A flash of something dark crosses Lucy's face at the words "back then" but before Lucy can respond, they're interrupted -

PIPPA (O.S.)
Are we talking about Stephen already?

They turn to see **PIPPA (26)** entering. Pippa is a Cali girl with the hungover glamour of Winona Ryder in the 90's. Bree squeals at the sight of her. She and Pippa hug warmly.

PIPPA (CONT'D)
You look so fucking beautiful.

BREE

I'm so happy you're here.

They pull apart. Pippa looks at Lucy - there's a slightly awkward beat before they give each other a weird hug.

LUCY

Hey Pippa. I haven't seen you in ages.

Pippa pulls away first. LIZ calls from the other room.

LIZ (O.S.)

Bree? Can you come out here?

Bree gives them a "help" look and leaves Lucy and Pippa alone. There's silence as Pippa pours herself champagne. Lucy is still trying in vain to fix her hair. Pippa finally sighs;

PIPPA

Do you want me to do it?

Lucy pauses, then begrudgingly hands Pippa the curling iron. Pippa begins to fix Lucy's hair with the ease of a professional - literally. But still, the tension is palpable.

LUCY

Are you still seeing that architect?

PIPPA

Oh - no. That ended. I've been too busy with work. I just did this Prada campaign - I wove silk into the model's hair, it was sick. But yeah, I don't know how I'd prioritize another person right now.

LUCY

Well, it's just time management.

PIPPA

Time management. Don't make it sound so sexy, Lucy. Pervert.

LUCY

I'm just saying. I make it work.

PIPPA

Sure, but you work in sales. No offense, but it's an office job. You have reliable hours.

LUCY

(overcompensating)
Thank god. Structure is a good thing for me, it turns out.

PIPPA
 As long as you're happy.
 (then)
 Speaking of, is Max here with you?

LUCY
 No, he couldn't make it.

PIPPA
 (a knowing smile)
 Yeah. Probably smart to keep him
 away today.

LUCY
 (lying)
 I wanted him to come. He had work.

A beat. Pippa is debating whether to say something. Finally;

PIPPA
 Okay, look, I just have to say this
 once, and then I'll drop it: I
 really hope you can avoid going
 down the Stephen rabbit hole today.

Lucy is immediately defensive and annoyed -

LUCY
 Jesus christ. There's no rabbit
 hole. It's been four years. I can
 handle seeing him for two hours at
 a fucking -
 (searching for the words)
 - engagement luncheon thing -

PIPPA
 Rich people call this a barbecue.
 Which is ridiculous, because there
 isn't even a grill -

LUCY
 Whatever it is. I'm fine.

PIPPA
 I'm only saying it for Bree's sake.
 It's her day, and if there were ever
 a time for us not to be shitty
 friends to her, this is our moment.
 Let's subvert expectations, shall we?

LUCY
 By "we" you mean "me." Which, by
 the way, I have many opinions on.
 But whatever. This is a non issue.
 I said I was fine, and I meant it.

Beat. Pippa doesn't believe her but says nothing. PIPPA finally finishes doing LUCY's hair and hands the curling iron back to her. Lucy looks in the mirror, it looks perfect.

LUCY (CONT'D)

Thank you.

They do their makeup in silence. Lucy is visibly hurt and avoids eye contact. Pippa finally turns to her, softening;

PIPPA

Look. I'm probably projecting my own shit about today, because -

LUCY

I don't want to talk about it. Any of it.

Silence. Lucy doesn't look at her as she continues to do her makeup. Pippa drops it and returns to her own reflection.

CUT TO:

EXT. EVAN'S HAMPTONS HOME - BACKYARD - DAY

CLOSE ON: A FULLY CLOTHED GIRL (20'S) FLIES THROUGH THE AIR, shrieking, as a **GUY (20's)** throws her into the **PRISTINE INFINITY POOL.** She lands with a huge splash - laughing.

It's a lively party complete with a raw bar and cater-waiters serving champagne. About 100 guests - mostly in their late 20's - drink on the deck and around the pool. Music blares.

Near the BAR - Lucy does a shot with Bree and her fiance **EVAN (28)**. Evan's slightly uptight, but has a good heart. He's perpetually apologizing for his family's wealth. Lucy nervously scans the crowd for someone who hasn't arrived yet.

As they finish the shot, Bree leans into Evan for a kiss.

BREE

I love you.

EVAN

I hope so.

Bree laughs as she kisses him. Lucy glances once more towards the entrance - checking if Stephen has arrived. He hasn't. Suddenly **WRIGLEY (28)** appears behind BREE. He's an adorable mess who is already past his prime, carrying the extra 20 pounds of a former athlete turned alcoholic. He grabs BREE from behind and lifts her high off the ground.

WRIGLEY

It's the fucking bride!!!

BREE
Oh my god! Wrigley!

Wrigley is already drunk. He greets everyone with a sloppy hug, one by one. No one is surprised by his behavior.

WRIGLEY
This is a very fancy party, guys.
(hugs Lucy)
Lucy, looking good.
(hugs Evan)
Evan, looking like an amateur golfer, but also looking good.
(hugging Bree again)
You get an extra long one, because you're the bride.

He hugs Bree intensely, swaying back and forth. She finally pulls away and he grins expectantly at them. There's a beat:

EVAN
Dude. Are you high?

WRIGLEY
On what? No.
(then)
Don't tell Pippa. Where is Pippa, by the way? Is she here?

BREE
Don't harass her, Wrigley. Please -

LUCY
(without hesitation)
She's right over there.

Lucy points to Pippa across the deck - happy to throw her under the bus. Bree gives her a look, Lucy smiles innocently as if to say, "What?" Wrigley yells loudly;

WRIGLEY
Pippa!

Pippa looks up - her face immediately falls in annoyance at the sight of Wrigley. Undeterred, Wrigley rushes off to her.

BREE
You're so mean, Lucy.

LUCY
What are you talking about? It's like every girl's dream to be chased around a party by a coked out gorilla.

Lucy and Bree both laugh. Evan feels a little bad for Wrigley - he looks at Bree and Lucy pointedly.

EVAN

It was his brother's birthday
yesterday. Give him a break.

Lucy and Bree stop laughing, chastised by this. Bree is distracted as she waves to someone in the crowd, but Evan holds Lucy's gaze for a moment - maybe with a little resentment? Lucy looks guiltily away. Bree misses their look.

Suddenly there's a CRASH - they turn to see that Wrigley has bumped into a WAITER with a tray of champagne, the glasses have shattered on the ground. EVAN immediately goes to help.

Pippa takes the opportunity to flee Wrigley's flirtation and walks briskly over to Lucy and Bree. She's annoyed.

PIPPA

Thanks for the heads up, guys.

LUCY

You two have a good catchup?

PIPPA

It's funny, unless you're the one
who has to clean up his mess.

LUCY

But you don't have to clean up his
mess, anymore.

Pippa gives her a cold look and walks off into the crowd.

BREE

I should help Evan with Wrigley...

With sudden anxiety, Lucy stops her, touching Bree's arm -

LUCY

Hey - you know I'm really happy for
you, right?

Bree smiles oddly at her - where is this coming from?

BREE

Of course I know that. Weirdo.

Bree laughs, then goes to help Evan and Wrigley.

Suddenly alone, Lucy glances once more around the sea of faces. She's slightly relieved that Stephen hasn't shown up. She wanders through the crowd, looking out onto the ocean.

Lucy then looks to the side and sees Pippa standing by herself on the nearby sand, slightly removed from the party. Lucy frowns as she watches Pippa's odd behavior: Pippa stands almost motionless, her eyes closed. With her right hand she gently taps two fingers on her left forearm.

Over, and over, and over. Methodical. It's bizarre, but intentional. A flash of regret crosses Lucy's face; Pippa's "tapping" indicates something specific to Lucy, but we don't yet know what it is.

But Lucy can't deal with it right now. She forces herself to look away from Pippa and downs her drink. THE SONG PLAYING changes to something slower. Lucy lets it relax her, trying to enjoy the music. But just as she's starting to relax, she turns and her eyes land abruptly on someone across the deck. She freezes:

Standing at the entrance to the deck and staring directly back at her is **STEPHEN (28)**. We recognize him as the guy from Lucy's dream, but only now do we get a full view of his face. Aside from his piercing eyes, he's not conventionally handsome - but he's got an enigmatic quality that makes up for it. He and Lucy stare at each other. There are years of history between them, but neither gives anything away with their expression.

Finally Stephen's face crinkles into a boyish, friendly smile - as if he's simply smiling at an old friend that he's happy to see. It's the smile of a guy you immediately trust.

As Lucy inhales sharply we cut to:

TITLE CARD: TELL ME LIES

ACT ONE

TEXT APPEARS OVER BLACK:

"Sometimes you make up your mind about something without knowing why, and your decision persists by the power of inertia. Every year it gets harder to change."

-Milan Kundera

As the quote lingers onscreen we hear A MALE VOICE OFFSCREEN.

*PARKER (O.S.)
It's like you're broken inside.*

CUT TO:

INT. ALBRIGHT HOME - BEDROOM - LONG ISLAND - DAY - 2007

CHYRON: 8 YEARS EARLIER.

We are in Lucy's (messy) bedroom in the affluent suburb of Cold Spring Harbor. **Lucy is 18** and has not yet developed her own sense of style, so she dresses like every other prep school kid. It doesn't suit her.

She puts up a sardonic facade mixed with the vulnerability of a sheltered teen who doesn't yet know who she is. She has not developed the meticulous composure she clings to in her adult years.

Lucy sits guiltily on her bed as **PARKER** (18) waits for her to respond. Around the room are several PACKED SUITCASES.

LUCY

I'm not "broken inside." I just don't think it makes sense to start college in a long distance relationship.

PARKER

Then why didn't you tell me sooner? Instead of the day you're leaving.

She doesn't have a good answer.

PARKER (CONT'D)

You don't even seem that upset.

LUCY

Of course I'm upset.

She does her best attempt at looking devastated, but it's forced and he knows it. He stares at her like she's a freak.

PARKER

Oh my god.

He starts gathering his things. She drops the act, tired;

LUCY

What do you want me to say? Of course I feel bad. I'm sorry if it's not dramatic enough.

He just looks at her - nothing left to say - and exits. Lucy sighs guiltily. Then, she grabs her phone and calls LYDIA.

INTERCUT WITH:

INT. LYDIA'S LEXUS - DAY

LYDIA (18, preppy, thinks she's a rebel but actually follows every rule she's ever encountered) drives. She answers her cell:

LYDIA

So. How did it go?

CUT TO:

INT. ALBRIGHT HOME - FOYER - DAY

A half hour later. Lydia helps Lucy carry luggage downstairs.

LUCY
Do you think I'm "broken inside?"

LYDIA
No. You're just not a "feelings"
girl.

Lucy gives her a look. Lydia tries to backtrack -

LYDIA (CONT'D)
Not that you don't have feelings. I
just mean they're not very...visible.

LUCY
(laughing despite herself)
Just stop talking.

LYDIA
Don't worry. Someday some guy will
get so far under your skin - he's
gonna rot there. And I'll just laugh.

Before Lucy can respond, Lucy's mom **CJ (40's)** and sister **GEORGIA (20)** enter with more luggage. On the surface, CJ comes off as a typical trophy wife; she has a body that's been punished with years of pilates and the bubbly energy of an aging spin instructor - but there's a sadness beneath the surface. Georgia is beautiful and effortlessly confident. Unlike Lucy, both Georgia and CJ are the type of women who can fit in wherever they go - even if they have to fake it.

CJ
Hey Lydia. How are you doing?

LYDIA
I'm good. But your daughter might
be a sociopath.

Lucy shoots Lydia a look that says, "*Shut up.*" But now CJ is intrigued. She looks at both of them with a curious smile.

CJ
I don't get it?

LUCY
It's nothing. It's a joke.
(then, begrudgingly)
I broke up with Parker.

As Lucy expected, CJ's face falls in shocked disappointment.

CJ
What? You did that just now? Why??

LUCY
 Honestly, it's not a big deal.

CJ
 But you love Parker -

GEORGIA
 I'm sure Lucy knows what's
 best for her, mom.

CJ
 I don't understand -

LUCY
 (polite but firm)
 I really don't want to talk about
 it right now, CJ.

CJ bites her tongue - being called "CJ" instead of "Mom"
 upsets her, but she says nothing. Lydia breaks the silence -

LYDIA
 I'm gonna go. Call me from campus?

Lucy and Lydia hug goodbye. CJ continues moving the LUGGAGE.

CUT TO:

INT. ALBRIGHT HOME - LUCY'S BATHROOM - DAY - MOMENTS LATER

Lucy stands at the sink - in the middle of a panic attack.
 She breathes heavily, in a cold sweat. She holds a wet
 washcloth to her chest, which has broken out into hives.

OUT THE WINDOW CJ loads luggage into her RANGE ROVER. Just
 then, Georgia opens the door to the bathroom -

GEORGIA
 Lucy? Mom said she's almost ready -

Georgia stops when she sees Lucy. She's seen her like this
 before - she shuts the door and goes to her quickly.

GEORGIA (CONT'D)
 Hey... you okay?

LUCY
 I feel like I can't breathe.

Georgia takes the towel and puts it on Lucy's forehead.

GEORGIA
 You're fine. Just slow it down.

Georgia breathes with her, taking deep inhales. Lucy follows
 her breathing, gradually calming down. After several moments;

GEORGIA (CONT'D)
 It's not Parker, is it?

LUCY

No.

GEORGIA

Is it something else?

LUCY

I don't know. Don't tell CJ, okay?

GEORGIA

Please call her "Mom." And I never tell her, but you should.

Lucy rinses her face with water - still agitated, but calmer.

LUCY

I just need to get out of here.

Georgia turns the water off and hugs Lucy.

GEORGIA

Listen. You're going to have so much fun at college. That's when you find your people, and things start making sense.

Lucy nods, feeling a little better.

GEORGIA (CONT'D)

But call me if this keeps happening.

Lucy goes to the window. She watches CJ load the last of the luggage. Georgia joins her; they watch their mom for a beat.

GEORGIA (CONT'D)

Go easy on her today.

LUCY

I always go easy on her.

Georgia squeezes her shoulder and exits. Lucy stands alone at the window. Not aware that she's being watched, CJ stops loading the bags. With a sigh, she leans against the car and looks out at the neighborhood with a glazed expression. The veil of "perky mom" is temporarily gone, something dark, sad, and deeply exhausted in its place. Lucy watches her for a beat, a mix of concern and resentment on her face.

Lucy turns and walks to the MIRROR. She puts the wet towel on her chest, the TRACE OF RED HIVES now just barely visible.

INT. CJ'S CAR - DAY

An hour later. CJ drives. She tries to make conversation, but Lucy is guarded, distracted on her Blackberry.

CJ
 You know if you want to talk to me
 about Parker, you can.

Lucy is silent. CJ adjusts the air-conditioning, frustrated.

CJ (CONT'D)
 Is the AC not working? God. I think
 it's time for a new car.

LUCY
 Should you really be spending money
 like that right now?

CJ
 It's sweet of you to worry, honey,
 but I'm perfectly capable of making
 decisions like that.

A look on Lucy's face says otherwise, but CJ is oblivious. CJ
 changes the radio station. The opening chords of "Gypsy" by
 Fleetwood Mac play. CJ begins to hum along - but Lucy
 immediately changes the station. There's a beat. Then;

CJ (CONT'D)
 So. Have you thought anymore about
 signing up for some business classes?

LUCY
 It's not really necessary for a
 degree in journalism.

CJ
 But as a backup. Nobody goes far
 doing the bare minimum. That's what
 your dad always told you. Remember?

LUCY bristles slightly.

LUCY
 Dad was talking about high school.
 Everyone does extra stuff in high
 school, so they can get into college.
 But I'm in college now. I don't need
 to impress anyone anymore.

CJ
 I don't know that I'd go that far.

LUCY
 I'm aware we have different
 opinions on the subject.

CJ
 What subject is that?

LUCY
Impressing people.

CJ gives her a look - anger beginning to bubble.

CJ
I don't appreciate that comment.

LUCY
Well, I don't appreciate you
bringing Dad up every time I don't
comply with your exact expectations.

CJ's face reddens - she's had enough of Lucy's attitude -

CJ
I'm trying to help. Christ. I don't
know what happened to the sweet
girl you used to be. But speaking
of your father - if he could see
how much you've changed, he would
be very disappointed.

A heavy silence. This cuts deep for Lucy, and CJ immediately
regrets it. Lucy stares stubbornly out the window, forcing
herself not to cry.

LUCY
I'm aware of the general consensus.
I guess I'm just not as nice as I
used to be.

CJ sighs guiltily. Immediately backing down.

CJ
Of course you're nice. I just
meant... I don't know what happened
to our relationship. You used to
like talking to me.

Lucy stares angrily out the window. She knows what happened
to their relationship, but she's not going to explain it.

LUCY
Well, at least you've got Georgia.
She's still a "sweet girl."

CJ just shakes her head, frustrated. They ride in silence.

EXT. BAIRD COLLEGE - UPSTATE NY - DAY

A beautiful campus filled with Gothic and Georgian-style
architecture, lush expanses of green, and trees that are
starting to turn a golden orange. It's an East Coast dream.
We follow **CJ'S RANGE ROVER** as it drives through campus.

INT. LUCY'S DORMITORY - HALLWAY - DAY

The chaos of Move In Day. Parents and Freshmen haul luggage down the hallway. LUCY and CJ drag her luggage down the hall.

INT. LUCY'S DORM ROOM - DAY - CONTINUOUS

Lucy and CJ enter the dorm room. **MACY** (18, bright red hair) is inside, pinning a FLEETWOOD MAC POSTER TO THE WALL. She turns around - her face lights up when she sees Lucy.

MACY

Hey! I'm Macy! Are you my roommate?

LUCY

I think I must be. I'm Lucy.

Macy gives Lucy a warm hug. Lucy is surprised but accepts it. There is something wholesome and open about Macy that is immediately disarming.

MACY

I've been so excited to meet you!

As they pull apart, CJ waves excitedly -

CJ

Hi! I'm Lucy's mom.

LUCY

This is CJ.

MACY

Nice to meet you. Do you care if I hang some posters?

LUCY

No, that's great.

Lucy starts to unpack. CJ opens a box of HANGERS and starts to hang them in Lucy's closet. She glances at Macy's poster -

CJ

Fleetwood Mac! My favorite. And Lucy's too, right honey?

Lucy is ready for CJ to go. She takes the hangers from her.

LUCY

I can do this, it's fine.

Lucy clearly wants her to leave, but CJ ignores the hint.

CJ

So Macy, where are you from?

MACY

Bayville. It's on Long Island -

LUCY

I know Bayville! It's like twenty minutes from me. I'm from Cold Spring Harbor.

MACY

No way! I go there all the time. You know that restaurant with the white picket fencing -

LUCY

Harbor Mist.

MACY

Yes. My mom's obsessed with that place. She makes us go there anytime anyone has a birthday.

LUCY

(laughing)

Yeah. Everyone's parents are obsessed with that place.

They're interrupted by the loud entrance of **18 YEAR OLD BREE** and **18 YEAR OLD PIPPA**. They burst in:

PIPPA

We're backkkkk.

Bree and Pippa stop when they notice Lucy and CJ.

BREE

Oh! Your roommate's here! Hi!

MACY

This is Pippa, and Bree. They're across the hall.

PIPPA

So we'll be bothering you non stop.

Lucy laughs, shaking both of their hands. Bree has an innocence to her that could be mistaken for shyness, but she's grounded and shrewd. Even at 18, Pippa is the most stylish person Lucy has ever met, she exudes California. Lucy can't help but eye Pippa's outfit and compare it to her own - she's aware that she looks extremely preppy in comparison.

LUCY

I'm Lucy. It's nice to meet you.

CJ

And I'm CJ. Lucy's mom.

BREE

Hi.

PIPPA

Hey.

There's a beat and Lucy gives CJ an expectant look. CJ realizes that she's outworn her welcome. She smiles politely.

CJ
Well. I guess I'll leave you to it.

LUCY
Great.

CJ smiles. She tries not to get emotional, but the reality of leaving Lucy is setting in. She turns her back to them as she digs in her BAG, trying to hide the tears in her voice.

CJ
Before I go. I have a little gift.

She pulls a BOTTLE OF CHAMPAGNE and a BOX OF COOKIES out of her bag. She hands them to Lucy. There are tears in her eyes.

CJ (CONT'D)
From Lee's. In case you miss home.

Lucy feels a mix of embarrassment and guilt.

LUCY
Thanks, CJ.

CJ gives Lucy a tight hug. Lucy allows it. CJ's voice cracks.

CJ
I'm going to miss you so much.
Promise to call me. I love you.

Lucy softens slightly into the hug - she won't admit it, but in spite of everything, a part of her is going to miss CJ.

LUCY
I love you too.

CJ is grateful for these words. Lucy finally pulls away. CJ waves goodbye to the others with a massive smile, still pretending like she's not on the verge of tears.

CJ
It was so nice meeting you girls.
(squeezing Lucy's arm)
Bye honey.

With one last teary look, CJ leaves. Lucy is embarrassed.

LUCY
Sorry about that.

PIPPA
Are you kidding? She's so cute.

MACY
My mom's been crying all week.
Trust me, I get it.

BREE
I can't believe your mom buys you
booze.

Pippa is already examining the CHAMPAGNE.

PIPPA
And good booze. Very cool of her.

LUCY
It's bribery. Trust me.

PIPPA
Keep those cookies away from me,
though. I'm not trying to gain the
freshman fifteen.

Lucy glances at the cookies with a beat of surprise. She
doesn't think about dieting, but she plays along;

LUCY
Oh. Yeah. Same. I don't know what
she was thinking.

BREE
You both sound completely crazy.

PIPPA
You don't get to say anything to
us. You're a stick figure.

Lucy eyes Bree's figure and then her own in the mirror - she
notes that Pippa didn't tell her *she* was a stick figure. She
places the BOX OF COOKIES under her bed.

PIPPA (CONT'D)
I need caffeine.

EXT. BAIRD COLLEGE CAMPUS - DAY

Pippa, Lucy, Macy and Bree exit the DINING HALL with coffees.
The campus is buzzing with students, new and returning. Pippa
has already established herself as the group leader.

PIPPA
There's a bunch of parties tonight.
They all sound good, except apparently
we don't want to go to Kappa Sig,
because they're kind of rapey.

LUCY
Kind of rapey, how?

PIPPA
 (matter of fact)
 Like, they rape people.

Lucy, Bree and Macy look mildly horrified. Pippa continues;

PIPPA (CONT'D)
 And then Saturday there's the
 bonfire, which everyone goes to -

Out of nowhere, a **20-year-old WRIGLEY** appears and grabs Pippa from behind - she screams. Lucy, Macy and Bree are startled, who is this guy? But Pippa's face lights up when she sees who it is. WRIGLEY is already wild, but he's happy - not the mess he is as an adult. He's got the toned physique of an athlete.

PIPPA (CONT'D)
 Oh my god, you scared me!

WRIGLEY
 Sorry. That's my signature move.

PIPPA
 This is my roommate Bree, and my
 friends Macy and Lucy.

WRIGLEY
 Hey. I'm Wrigley.

PIPPA
 We met when I toured campus last
 year. Wrigley's a junior.

LUCY/BREE/MACY
 Hey.

WRIGLEY
 My friends are having a party
 tonight, you guys should come.

PIPPA
 (trying to be coy)
 Yeah, maybe. There are a few parties.

WRIGLEY
 Ours is the only good one.

PIPPA
 I said maybe!

For all Pippa's coolness, her flirting is as cringey as any 18-year-old. The other three girls glance at each other.

WRIGLEY
 I better get back to my friends,
 but I'm gonna blow up your phone.

He gestures towards an OUTDOOR EATING AREA across the lawn where a GROUP OF GUYS are sitting at a table together. Lucy glances over and her eyes stop on one guy:

20 YEAR OLD STEPHEN sits in the middle of the table. Lucy wouldn't have noticed him, except that he's staring right at her. The directness of his gaze startles her, she's not sure whether it's creepy or not - but she can't help but look back. His expression is hard to read - it's like he's studying her more out of curiosity than anything else. Lucy doesn't know it yet, but this initial eye contact is the start of something that will alter the course of her life.

Finally Stephen breaks the eye contact and turns back to his friends. Unsure what the fuck that was, Lucy looks away too. Wrigley is already walking away. Pippa grins at the girls;

PIPPA

He's like the top lacrosse player.
We've only hooked up once, but
we've been texting all summer. I'll
probably make him my boyfriend.

Lucy looks at her, surprised by her certainty.

PIPPA (CONT'D)

When I like someone, I know
immediately if I want it to be
serious. It's like an on/off switch.

Lucy glances back at Stephen, but he's talking with his friends, laughing. Lucy continues walking, she's still a little weirded out by the moment, but she brushes it off.

ACT TWO

INT. LUCY'S DORM ROOM - NIGHT

Lucy, Macy, Pippa, and Bree get ready for the night. They pass around the CHAMPAGNE and shots of vodka. Pippa has loaned a flashy top to Bree, who studies her reflection.

BREE

I don't know about this top, Pippa.
Does it make me look like a slut?

PIPPA

A slut is just a person who has
more sex than you. And no. You
still look like a virgin.

Bree gives her a look. Pippa grins at Lucy and Macy.

PIPPA (CONT'D)

I got her to admit it within ten minutes of meeting. I could sense it. I'm kind of a witch like that.

BREE

Everyone from California thinks they're "kind of a witch."

PIPPA

I'm serious. I can always tell. Like, I can tell Lucy isn't a virgin.

Everyone looks at Lucy, waiting. Lucy looks amused;

LUCY

Okay. I'm not.

Pippa grins smugly and takes a shot.

BREE

Honestly, I'm so ready to lose it.

MACY

Well, don't rush it. I lost mine on a water bed and it's my darkest regret.

BREE

(matter-of-fact)

Oh - I'm not sentimental about it. I'm just ready to get it over with.

PIPPA

How did you manage to stay a virgin at boarding school? All my friends who went to boarding school just got drunk and had sex all the time.

Bree speaks bluntly, not offended, but straight forward -

BREE

Well, they probably weren't worried about losing their financial aide like I was. I'm still on financial aide, for the record.

An awkward silence. Bree looks at their embarrassed faces -

BREE (CONT'D)

Relax. I'm used to being the poor person in the room. It's more awkward for you guys than it is for me.

The girls smile, a little relieved. Pippa hands them all shots. Lucy's feeling quite buzzed now. Pippa changes topics -

PIPPA

So, we already know Macy's single.
What's your boy situation, Lucy?

LUCY

Oh. Um - I actually just broke up
with my boyfriend. This morning.

The girls look at her with sympathetic surprise -

MACY

Oh no, I'm so sorry -

LUCY

(cutting her off)

It's not like that. I'm not upset.

This wasn't the response they were expecting.

PIPPA

Were you not together very long?

LUCY

Like two years?

The girls are a little surprised. Lucy pours herself a shot,
she's a bit loose lipped now that she's tipsy.

LUCY (CONT'D)

I know. I should be more upset.
Honestly, I think I only started
going out with him because all my
friends started getting boyfriends. I
just really wanted to like someone.

Pippa, Bree and Macy look at her, confused but interested.

MACY

So you dated him for two years -
but you never liked him?

Lucy is starting to get flustered by the attention and
regrets saying so much. She accidentally digs herself deeper;

LUCY

I don't know. I'm just not someone
who gets that excited about things.

PIPPA

You don't get excited about things.

BREE

You mean... ever?

LUCY

It's... Do you ever feel like, when you were a kid things were really, really exciting, or fun - but now everything's sort of just...
(gesturing with her hand)
Steady? Except when it's totally overwhelming?

They stare at her blankly. They have no idea what she means. Lucy is aware that she's drunk and making herself sound weird. Embarrassed, she grabs a water bottle and drinks.

LUCY (CONT'D)

Or maybe I just need some water.

They laugh lightly, being generous. Lucy changes the subject.

LUCY (CONT'D)

I hate all the clothes I brought.

They eye Lucy's array of preppy clothes. Lucy watches Pippa's expression as she scans the clothes. In her drunk self-consciousness, Lucy suddenly feels a pang of shame.

LUCY (CONT'D)

I left my fun stuff at home. I'm not always so Vineyard Vines-y.

It's a lie. Lucy only owns preppy clothes. But Pippa is kind:

PIPPA

Do you want to borrow something?

A beat. Lucy nods; she *really* wants to borrow something.

LUCY

Yeah. Can I?

PIPPA

Of course. I'll grab a few things.

Pippa exits. Lucy takes another sip of water, embarrassed that she might have made a bad first impression. Macy senses her nerves, she squeezes Lucy's arm and gives her a reassuring smile. It's a sweet moment.

INT. FRAT HOUSE PARTY - NIGHT

Later. A loud party at a frat house. It's been decked out with decorations celebrating the new school year - it's everyone's first night on campus and it feels special. Lucy wears Pippa's dress; it's sexier than what she's used to.

Lucy, Bree, Macy and Pippa take shots with Wrigley. Lucy takes in all the new faces.

She's intimidated by it all but does her best to fake confidence. Wrigley is introducing them to **20-year-old EVAN** and his girlfriend **ALLIE (19)**. Allie and Evan are in an argument and doing a bad job hiding it.

WRIGLEY

Evan and I were roommates Freshman Year. But now we're just soulmates who don't live together.

EVAN

No one can live with Wrigley for more than one year.

ALLIE

I'm gonna go to the bathroom -

She starts to leave but Evan grabs her hand. He speaks quietly to her - the others pretend they're not listening.

EVAN

You just went like ten minutes ago.

ALLIE

Why are you keeping track?

EVAN

Because you're trying to pretend like you're not doing coke.

ALLIE

Do I seriously look like I'm doing coke?

Her eyes are wide and defiant. Evan stares blankly at her: she *definitely* looks like she's doing coke. Wrigley coughs loudly and leads Pippa, Lucy, Bree and Macy a few feet away.

WRIGLEY

They do this every time we drink. Evan can't function if he doesn't have a girlfriend ruining his life.

MACY

He seems nice.

WRIGLEY

He's stupid rich. Not that that's important. But his family's loaded.

The girls smile politely - how do they respond to that?

WRIGLEY (CONT'D)

Not that it's important.

LUCY
 (with a smile)
 You said that twice.

Wrigley spots **DREW (18)** in the crowd. Drew is a little scrawny but very cute. He looks completely lost in the crowd.

WRIGLEY
 Yo! Drew!

Drew smiles with relief. Wrigley grabs him in a bear hug.

DREW
 Ow -

WRIGLEY (CONT'D)
 This is my little brother Drew.

The girls exchange introductions; Lucy notices that Bree is smiling a little bigger now - she thinks Drew is cute.

WRIGLEY (CONT'D)
 Did you come by yourself?

DREW
 Yeah? You told me I couldn't bring my roommate.

WRIGLEY
 You can't. He's a freshman.

LUCY
 Are freshmen not allowed here?

WRIGLEY
 No, freshmen *guys* aren't allowed. Unless you're my brother. One of you girls should date him.

DREW
 Dude, stop -

WRIGLEY
 He's the smart brother. He's gonna go much further than I am.

A FEW MINUTES LATER -

LUCY has broken away from the group and wanders alone towards the makeshift bar. She starts to make herself a drink.

Beside her are TWO UPPERCLASSMEN GIRLS: **DIANA (20)**, athletic, attractive and ambitious) and **SUSIE (20)**. They talk loudly.

DIANA
 They literally only invited Freshmen girls. This is depressing.

SUSIE

I told you it would be. I'm gonna pee, then can we please leave?

Diana hesitates. Susie gives her a look.

SUSIE (CONT'D)

I'm not hanging out with a bunch of eighteen year old whores just so you can spy on your ex.

DIANA

Just go pee. Then we'll go.

Susie walks off. Diana looks awkwardly at Lucy.

DIANA (CONT'D)

Sorry. About the eighteen year old whores comment.

LUCY

It's fine. I'm not a whore.

Diana smiles at her. She unsubtly eyes her up and down.

DIANA

I'm Diana.

LUCY

I'm Lucy.

DIANA

So, who invited you here?

LUCY

Um, this guy, Wrigley?

DIANA

Oh god. Be careful with him.

But before Lucy can respond, Diana spots a friend nearby -

DIANA (CONT'D)

Nice meeting you.

Diana walks off without a second thought. Alone, Lucy sips her drink and glances around: there seem to be new couples forming everywhere, as though everyone's there to get laid. Even Bree and Drew are flirting across the room. Lucy adjusts her dress, self-conscious. Then she hears;

STEPHEN (O.S.)

You look really uncomfortable in that dress.

Lucy turns and sees Stephen standing there, smiling at her.

LUCY

Sorry?

STEPHEN

I'm not saying you *should* be uncomfortable in that dress - I actually can't believe how good you look in it. I'm just pointing out that you *do* look uncomfortable.

Lucy stares blankly. How is she supposed to respond to that?

LUCY

Who are you?

STEPHEN

Stephen DeMarco. What's your name?

LUCY

Lucy Albright.

STEPHEN

Lucy. Like my favorite song.

LUCY

What song?

STEPHEN

Lucy in the Sky with Diamonds.

Lucy looks at him like he's full of shit - she raises an eyebrow quizzically;

LUCY

Lucy in the Sky with Diamonds is your favorite song? Really.

STEPHEN

Well it would be pretty cute if it was, now wouldn't it? I bet you'd fucking love that.

She has no idea what to make of him, but she smiles a bit in spite of herself, warily amused.

LUCY

You're Wrigley's friend, right?

STEPHEN

Yeah. And your friend's the one he's fucking?

This rubs Lucy the wrong way. She gets a little defensive.

LUCY

Pippa. And no. They're not "fucking."

STEPHEN

Are you sure?

He points across the room to where Pippa and Wrigley are heavily making out. Stephen smiles smugly. She rolls her eyes in response, unsure whether he's rude or funny. He studies her for a beat, as if summing her up with his eyes.

STEPHEN (CONT'D)

Are you from Westchester?

She's caught off guard by the suddenness of this.

LUCY

No. I'm not from Westchester. Why?

STEPHEN

Really? Where are you from?

LUCY

Cold Spring Harbor.

STEPHEN

That might as well be Westchester.

LUCY

(it isn't)

It's really different, actually.

STEPHEN

Cold Spring Harbor. That makes so much sense. I know all about you. Lots of cable knit sweaters... you're probably good at tennis.

LUCY

You just described half the East Coast.

STEPHEN

And I'm assuming you borrowed that dress.

Now Lucy really has nothing to say, she bristles a bit -

LUCY

I actually hate Cold Spring Harbor.
I don't even fit in there.

He nods slowly, looking her over again in that unnerving way. It's a little intimidating for her.

STEPHEN

Yeah. You don't seem as uptight as the girls there. And I'm not just saying that because you're gorgeous.

Lucy is taken back by the compliment but is also unpacking how backhanded it is.

Right... LUCY
STEPHEN (CONT'D)
Relax. It's a compliment.

LUCY
Not all the girls there are uptight.

STEPHEN
If you don't fit in with them, why
does that observation bother you?

LUCY
(it does)
It doesn't bother me.

STEPHEN
Good. Besides, uptight girls are
usually just girls who haven't been
fucked well yet.

Lucy looks at him incredulously.

LUCY
How are you expecting me to respond
to that?

STEPHEN
I actually make a good point. Think
about the first time you were finally
fucked well. It changes a person. I'm
sure you know what I'm talking about.

He smiles at her, studying her face again. He's testing her.

STEPHEN (CONT'D)
Or maybe you don't.

She holds his stare for a moment, trying to call his bluff -
then finally looks away, blushing.

LUCY
Is this how you talk to everyone
you've just met?

STEPHEN
Pretty much.

LUCY
And what's the general reaction?

STEPHEN
You're asking what people's first
impression of me is?

LUCY

Sure.

He thinks on this, sipping his drink confidently as he ponders the question. He then responds honestly;

STEPHEN

I'm pretty polarizing.

She laughs loudly and genuinely. It's the first time we've seen her laugh like that, and she gives into it. He grins.

STEPHEN (CONT'D)

Is that how you always laugh? God.
That's like, the best laugh I've
ever heard.

Lucy smiles quietly to herself. That's a good compliment. Without warning, Stephen takes a step towards her and puts his hand on the small of her back. He speaks low in her ear.

STEPHEN (CONT'D)

I'm sure you know this already, but
you're killing me in that dress.

She looks at him - there's electricity there, but something about it makes her nervous. But before she can respond, her friends approach - Wrigley, Pippa, Macy, Bree and Drew. Bree and Drew have latched on to each other.

MACY

Stephen fucking DeMarco.

Stephen smiles with recognition.

STEPHEN

Hey - Macy. How are you?

LUCY

You guys know each other?

MACY

We're both from Bayville.

Lucy looks at him in surprise.

STEPHEN

Well, Macy's from the nicer part.
(off Lucy's surprise)
I told you I know Cold Spring
Harbor.

Pippa looks from Lucy to Stephen with a growing smile.

PIPPA

I'm Pippa. And this is Bree.

STEPHEN

Nice to meet you. Where'd Evan go?

WRIGLEY

Fighting with Allie somewhere. I think I'm gonna take off soon.

STEPHEN

What? It's not even 12, dude.

Wrigley squeezes Pippa, grinning. Stephen rolls his eyes.

BREE

Well, I'll stay out. What other parties are happening?

DREW

There's something happening at my dorm. My roommate's there.

Bree is into this idea, but Stephen shakes his head.

STEPHEN

No. If I wanted to hang out with a bunch of freshmen dudes... well I wouldn't want to, is the point.

Lucy catches Drew go red. Stephen's either oblivious that he's insulted Drew, or doesn't care. Lucy makes a decision.

LUCY

I'll go with you guys.

BREE

Yeah?

MACY

Me too. I'll go wherever.

STEPHEN

Drinking in a freshman dorm your first night on campus is like making an active decision not to have fun.

LUCY

Sorry.

Lucy gives him a cool shrug, enjoying the small victory. The group says their goodbyes. Stephen watches irritably, this isn't how he saw this happening. Lucy hugs Pippa, whispering;

LUCY (CONT'D)

Be careful.

Lucy and Macy follow Bree and Drew to the exit; Bree and Drew are cute together, laughing like shy little kids.

At the door, Lucy glances back and sees Stephen watching her. He blows a kiss. She looks away - she can't tell if his forwardness is flattering or weird, but either way, it's very new to her. Macy clocks the moment between them; she looks at Lucy with a quizzically raised eyebrow. Lucy brushes it off with a playful eye-roll, as if to say, "I'm not into it."

But as Lucy follows the others outside, there's something that has been newly activated in her. A certain excitement, like her senses have woken up after a long hibernation. It's a small change, but noticeable.

ACT THREE

EXT. BAIRD COLLEGE CAMPUS - DAY

The next day - THE CLUB FAIR. Dozens of booths advertise different clubs. Lucy, Pippa, Bree and Macy wander through; they're very hungover. Pippa eats a giant BAGEL miserably.

PIPPA

Don't judge me. I have to eat bread
when I'm hungover.

LUCY

(reading booth signs)
Sober Living Club, no. Communist
Club - less of a no, but still no.
(then)
I'm not really a club person. One
time I got a report card that
described me as a "non-joiner."

They laugh. Bree's phone buzzes. It's a text - she smiles.

PIPPA

Drew?

BREE

I can't tell if he's flirting.

LUCY

He's the type you have to make the
first move with.

PIPPA

That guy Stephen is super into you,
Lucy. He told Wrigley.

LUCY

He did?
(she thinks on this)
I'm not sure he's my type.

PIPPA
 You don't know what your type is.
 You said you've never gotten
 excited about a guy before.

A fleeting look on Lucy's face tells us that this isn't completely true. Pippa catches it.

PIPPA (CONT'D)
 Or is that not true?

LUCY
 No. It is, I guess.

PIPPA
 What's he like, Macy?

MACY
 Stephen? I don't know him that well,
 he went to public school. He's nice
 enough, I guess.

BREE
 He seems a little rude.

PIPPA
 Rude is fun. Wrigley said he broke up
 with his girlfriend this summer.

LUCY
 It's weird. I thought he was cute
 when I was talking to him. But now
 that he's not in front of me, I'm
 picturing his face, and I don't know.

PIPPA
 I think that's called "charm."

Lucy considers this. MACY points to a booth painted BRIGHT YELLOW. The sign says "HAPPINESS CLUB."

MACY
 What is "Happiness Club?"

Behind the booth, a PERKY GIRL speaks loudly to a student;

PERKY GIRL
 The Happiness Club is about
 spreading happiness across campus
 through simple gestures. And we
 give a lot of free hugs.

The girls cringe, laughing as they walk quickly past.

LUCY
 Okay, so we've identified our first
 on campus cult.

PIPPA

Yeah, my depression just sky-rocketed.

Ahead, Lucy sees a booth that says "WRITERS ON THE RIVIERA."

LUCY

I'll be right back.

Lucy leaves the group and walks to the booth; it's covered in photos of students on a SAILBOAT and various places on the French Riviera. Lucy takes a FLYER. The **BOOTH GIRL** smiles;

BOOTH GIRL

Are you familiar with the "Writers on the Riviera" program?

LUCY

Honestly, it's like the main reason I applied here. Have you done it?

GIRL

I did last year. It was amazing. Six weeks on a boat reading all the best expat literature.

LUCY

It's only Juniors though, right?

GIRL

Yeah. But it's super competitive, so if you're serious about it, you should start making it a priority now. The flyer has tips about what courses to take to improve your chances.

Suddenly Macy appears beside Lucy. She takes a flyer as well.

MACY

This program is basically why I wanted to come here.

LUCY

Me too! I literally just said that.

MACY

Really? I mean, nothing against New York, but if it weren't for this, I would've gone way further from home.

LUCY

I know exactly what you mean.

MACY

(studying the photos)

I've never been to Europe. My parents aren't big travelers.

LUCY

Well. My mom loves vacations, but she always chooses places filled with tourists exactly like her. It's as if someone just transported her entire Pilates club to a resort.

Macy laughs as Lucy flips through the flyer. Macy pauses.

MACY

That thing you said last night - how you have trouble getting excited about stuff?

Lucy is a little embarrassed.

LUCY

Oh. Yeah? I was drunk.

MACY

I know what you meant, though. Sometimes I feel like I'm watching other people experience things.

Lucy looks at her with quiet surprise. She nods. Exactly.

LUCY

Yeah.

Macy glances to where Pippa and Bree are several yards away.

MACY

Okay. If I tell you something -

Suddenly Lucy's PHONE RINGS. She grabs it; it's a new number.

LUCY

Sorry... I don't know who this is.

Lucy answers, Macy walks back to Pippa and Bree.

LUCY (CONT'D)

Hello?

STEPHEN (O.S.)

Hey. How's your day going?

LUCY

Who is this?

STEPHEN (O.S.)

Stephen DeMarco.

LUCY

(surprised)

Oh. Hi.

STEPHEN (O.S.)
 How was the Freshman party? Please
 tell me there was at least one guy
 who brought his guitar with him.

LUCY
 How did you get my number?

STEPHEN (O.S.)
 Pippa gave it to Wrigley. So listen, I
 think we should have dinner this week.

LUCY
 You mean like, at the dining hall?

STEPHEN (O.S.)
 Um, no. Lucy. I mean in an actual
 restaurant, like an actual date.

Lucy pauses, she can't decide if she wants to say yes or not.

LUCY
 Can I think about it?

STEPHEN (O.S.)
 It's not complicated. It's dinner.

Lucy is flustered but has no idea why. She rubs her head -

LUCY
 Welcome Week's just really busy...

STEPHEN (O.S.)
 You can wear the same dress, if you
 want, but it's not a requirement.

Lucy smiles despite herself. Pippa, Bree and Macy approach -

LUCY
 Why don't we play it by ear? I have
 to go now.

STEPHEN (O.S.)
 No problem. Bye Lucy.

She hangs up, confused but intrigued. There's something about
 him she can't put her finger on. She points at Pippa.

LUCY
 You're in so much trouble.

EXT. BAIRD COLLEGE CAMPUS - DAY

Later that afternoon. In a LARGE CLEARING, A CASUAL GAME OF
 TOUCH FOOTBALL is being played. WRIGLEY is the clear MVP -
 speeding across the field skillfully.

Pippa, Lucy and Macy lounge on the sidelines. Several yards away, Bree sits with Drew, laughing at something he says. Their heads are close. PIPPA and LUCY spy on them gleefully, waiting for a kiss. MACY is busy texting on her phone.

PIPPA
She's gonna have to lean in first.

LUCY
Why is this making me nervous? I'm like sweating on her behalf.

Finally Bree and Drew kiss. Pippa and Lucy throw their hands up and cheer loudly. Drew and Bree look over, mortified.

BREE
Fuck off, you guys!

PIPPA
We love you! This is so exciting!

Bree scowls and turns her back to them. Macy smiles.

MACY
She's going to murder you in your sleep, Pippa.

Lucy's phone rings: it's CJ. Lucy's face clouds immediately. She hits ignore. Pippa notices the CALLER ID, "CJ."

PIPPA
Okay, why do you call your mom CJ?

LUCY
She lost the privilege of being called "Mom."
(off Pippa's look)
I'm kidding. Kind of.

PIPPA
You're so mean. I wish I had a cool mom. I mean, my parents are cool, but they hate me.

Lucy and Macy look at her. Pippa laughs - a little too hard.

PIPPA (CONT'D)
I'm kidding. They kind of love me.

It's unclear whether she's joking or not. Lucy doesn't know how to respond to this, so she moves past it;

LUCY
Well, my mom's not cool, trust me.

PIPPA
Why not?

Lucy is starting to get agitated.

LUCY
It's a long story.

MACY
My parents are huge nerds. Your
mom's hot, Lucy.

PIPPA
Very. What's your dad like?

Before Lucy can respond, A VOICEMAIL pops up on her phone. She hesitates, then puts the phone to her ear and listens: CJ sounds drunk and slightly off - a darkness in her voice that is new to us, but not to Lucy.

CJ (O.S.)
*Hi. Just calling to say I miss you.
Georgia left this morning. Can you
believe I'm all alone in this house
now? I'm not sure how that
happened. It's sort of funny.
Sorry. I'm rambling.*

Lucy puts her phone down, her jaw clenched tightly. She can feel a panic attack coming on.

LUCY
I don't feel good.

MACY
What do you mean?

LUCY
I think I'm gonna go to the dorm.

PIPPA
Are you serious? What's wrong?

Lucy stands, suddenly in a cold sweat. The girls stare;

LUCY
It's probably like a delayed
hangover or something, I'm fine.

MACY
I can come with you -

LUCY
No, honestly, stay here. I'm just
gonna lay down for a minute.

Lucy turns and walks off abruptly, before she can panic more;

LUCY (CONT'D)
I'll see you back at the dorm!

Pippa and Macy stare after her as she walks quickly away. Lucy breathes heavily, her face pale. She looks angry, but she's not sure who at - maybe herself. She fights back tears but doesn't let herself cry. Whatever's upsetting her, she pushes it further down; bottling it up, almost choking on it.

INT. LUCY'S DORM ROOM - NIGHT

LUCY lays in bed. After a beat, Macy enters.

MACY
Hey. You okay?

LUCY
Yeah. I'm fine.

MACY
What happened before?

LUCY
I don't want to talk about it.

MACY
Okay. Well, do you wanna come out? There's a party off campus I'm gonna go to. I have my car, I can be the boring designated driver.

LUCY
I think I'm gonna stay in tonight.

MACY
Come on. Don't make me go alone.

LUCY
Where are Bree and Pippa?

MACY
They ran off with boys. Please?

LUCY
I already told you I want to stay in. It's not cool to guilt me.

Lucy didn't mean it to sound snippy, but it did. Macy looks a little hurt, but she remains kind.

MACY
No I - I didn't mean to guilt you. It's totally fine.
(beat)
Get some rest. I'll see you later.

LUCY
Thanks. Have fun.

Macy leaves. Lucy rolls over in bed, she feels like shit.

INT. LUCY'S DORM ROOM - DAY

Next morning. Lucy wakes in her bed. She looks at Macy's bed: it's untouched. Macy didn't come home. Lucy frowns, weird. She checks her phone and reads a TEXT FROM PIPPA. It says, *"I'm headed to the dining hall. Breakfast?"*

EXT. BAIR COLLEGE CAMPUS - LUCY'S DORM - DAY

Lucy exits her DORM BUILDING and heads towards the DINING HALL. She's still feeling a little off from the night before. As she walks, she passes **THREE CAMPUS POLICE OFFICERS**. Lucy glances at them, but doesn't think anything of it.

INT. BAIRD COLLEGE - DINING HALL - DAY

Lucy and Pippa eat breakfast. Lucy is embarrassed about yesterday's episode and wants to pretend it didn't happen. But as normal as she tries to act, she's not quite herself.

PIPPA

Did you try calling her?

LUCY

Yeah, she didn't answer.

PIPPA

It's still pretty early. She probably hooked up with someone.

(then)

Are you feeling better today?

Lucy waves her hand nonchalantly -

LUCY

Yeah, sorry I was weird. I get these random headaches sometimes.

Pippa knows that's not really the truth, but continues.

PIPPA

Bree and Drew were making out all night, it was actually pretty cute. Wouldn't it be so weird if Bree and I end up dating a pair of brothers?

Lucy says nothing, lost in thought. Pippa looks at her.

PIPPA (CONT'D)

You know, you're a pretty hard person to read.

LUCY
What does that mean?

PIPPA
Just that. I can read most people,
but it's not as easy with you. It's
not a bad thing. I wish I was harder
to read, with emotional shit.

LUCY
I hate when people tell me I'm not
emotional enough.

PIPPA
That isn't what I said.

Lucy says nothing. Pippa tries to lighten the mood;

PIPPA (CONT'D)
So I talked to Allie - she said
Stephen's really good in bed.

LUCY
Has she slept with him?

PIPPA
No. But apparently it's like a
known thing. It doesn't surprise
me. He looks like he's good in bed.

Lucy smiles, slightly bemused.

LUCY
How can someone look like they're
good in bed?

PIPPA
It's easy. He just has that look of
extra determination, you know?

Lucy cracks a small smile, entertained by this.

LUCY
Do you analyze every person you
meet and guess whether they're good
at sex or not?

PIPPA
Of course I do. Everyone does that.

LUCY
No they don't. I don't do that.

PIPPA
I bet you do from now on.

Lucy laughs. Pippa smiles, pleased with herself. Across the room, Lucy notices a **GIRL** standing in a **SMALL GROUP OF STUDENTS**. The girl looks panicked, telling the group some clearly bad news. The others look horrified as they listen. It's a slightly unsettling image, but Lucy ignores it.

EXT. BAIRD COLLEGE CAMPUS - DAY

Lucy and Pippa exit the Dining Hall. Pippa tells an animated story as they cross the lawn. Lucy laughs, in a better mood now. They pass **TWO GIRLS** huddled worriedly over their phones. Lucy studies the girls and their frightened faces - weird.

PIPPA

Why does everyone look bummed out?

Lucy looks around and realizes she's right, a lot of students look upset; gathered in groups, faces full of concern. It dawns on her that maybe something is actually wrong.

Lucy is starting to get worried when suddenly Bree appears, hurrying towards them across the lawn. She's been crying.

BREE

Oh my god, you guys.

LUCY

What's going on?

BREE

Did you not hear what happened?

Lucy and Pippa look blankly at her. Bree hesitates;

BREE (CONT'D)

About Macy.

LUCY

What are you talking about?

BREE

Macy got in a wreck last night. She was driving back from a party.

The color begins to drain from Lucy's face -

PIPPA

Oh my god. Is she okay?

Bree shakes her head, "No," fresh tears coming. The terrible reality begins to dawn on Lucy's horrified face.

ACT FOUR

EXT. BAIRD COLLEGE CAMPUS - DAY

Half hour later. Lucy and Bree sit at an OUTDOOR TABLE. Bree is still crying a little, but Lucy is frozen in shock. Across the lawn, TWO MORE POLICE OFFICERS speak with a DEAN. Lucy's phone rings: it's CJ. Lucy hits ignore.

BREE

I didn't even know she was going off campus. Did you talk to her before she went out?

Lucy is wracked with guilt as she recalls their interaction.

LUCY

She came by the room for a second, but I wasn't feeling well.

Lucy puts her head in her hand -

LUCY (CONT'D)

I don't feel like this is real.

Pippa approaches with coffees. Lucy looks at her expectantly.

PIPPA

I guess someone found her this morning, but it took them a while to identify her, because she didn't have an ID with her.

(pauses, then;)

She ran into a tree. They'll probably have to do an autopsy. She might have been drunk.

A beat. Lucy's phone rings, CJ again. She sighs. She stands up and walks away from the others - she answers;

LUCY

Hello?

CJ sounds extremely rattled. She sighs with relief;

CJ (O.S.)

Thank god - are you okay? Georgia saw some post on Facebook - a student died?? Is that true?

LUCY

Yeah. It was Macy. My roommate.

CJ (O.S.)

What? No. Are you being serious?

LUCY

Why would I joke about that?

CJ (O.S.)
 Oh honey, I'm so sorry. This is awful. Do you want to come home?

LUCY
 No. How would that help anything?

CJ (O.S.)
 I just hate the idea of you being all by yourself there.

CJ's voice breaks, she's crying now. This annoys Lucy more.

CJ (O.S.) (CONT'D)
 Thank god you're safe.

LUCY
 Of course I'm safe. I wasn't there.

CJ (O.S.)
 You know what I mean. What happened? Was she by herself?

A fresh and debilitating wave of guilt washes over Lucy.

CJ (O.S.) (CONT'D)
 Lucy? Are you still there?

Lucy exhales, trying to calm herself. She speaks quietly.

LUCY
 I can't do this right now.

CJ (O.S.)
 What?

Lucy hangs up. She closes her eyes, not sure whether to scream or cry. When she opens her eyes she's surprised to see Stephen approaching. He has a big grin, blissfully unaware.

STEPHEN
 That looked unpleasant.

She just looks at him - she's not in the mood right now.

STEPHEN (CONT'D)
 Was it an ex or something?

LUCY
 (snapping)
 Mind your own business. What the fuck's wrong with you?

Stephen is startled. Lucy walks away, leaving him on his own.

INT. LUCY'S DORM ROOM - DAY

Later. Pippa, Bree and Lucy drink some sort of PINK LIQUID, the mood heavy. Macy's empty bed is a loud, awful reminder. Bree has stopped crying, but her eyes are red. Lucy paces a little, still tense with shock but trying to keep it together. Pippa looks uncomfortable, like she's unsure what to say.

BREE

Are you sure you're okay sleeping in here tonight? You can stay with us.

LUCY

No. I'm fine. But thanks.

PIPPA

(trying to make a joke)
For what it's worth, it doesn't feel haunted in here.

Bree gives Pippa a look. Pippa looks immediately embarrassed.

PIPPA (CONT'D)

Sorry. I have a habit of... handling sad things like a total dickhead.

(to Lucy, kindly)

Seriously, tell us if you need anything.

Lucy rubs her head, her anxiety is slowly mounting -

LUCY

No, I just um - her parents are coming to get her stuff tomorrow, and I've never even met them. What am I supposed to say to them?

BREE

I don't think there's like, a correct thing to say.

PIPPA

How did she seem when you saw her last? Before she went out?

LUCY

She was um - normal, I guess?
(then, an admission;)
She asked me to go with her to the party. I said no.

Bree and Pippa look at her, surprised. Lucy looks like she's just admitted something awful and is awaiting her punishment.

BREE
Well, that's not your fault.

PIPPA
Not at all!

LUCY
Yeah. I know.

But she doesn't believe it. Lucy sits, her face getting red. She takes a long drink of the PINK LIQUID - doing whatever she can to ward off the anxiety. Bree sits beside her -

BREE
Here, let me show you this trick.

Bree takes Lucy's forearm, and begins gently tapping two fingers against it - it's the same thing Pippa was doing 8 years in the future, at the engagement party.

BREE (CONT'D)
It's this thing I learned, to calm your nervous system when something bad happens - or if something reminds you of something bad. It's a technique they teach in trauma recovery. You do it on yourself.

Lucy copies Bree for a moment, but she clearly thinks it's useless. Finally Lucy stands and walks to the window.

LUCY
Sorry. I don't buy into that self help kind of stuff.

Pippa is studying Bree with a confused frown -

PIPPA
When were you in trauma recovery?

Bree looks at her blankly, as if startled by the question;

BREE
I wasn't.

Before Pippa can respond, her phone buzzes. It's a text.

PIPPA
They're turning the bonfire night into a vigil. We should go.

EXT. BAIRD COLLEGE CAMPUS - NIGHT

A BONFIRE VIGIL. Hundreds of students have gathered in a clearing around an ENORMOUS BONFIRE, holding candles. The SCHOOL CHOIR sings.

Some students are packed around the nucleus, others mingle in smaller groups away from the center - lounging on the grass, leaning on trees. While there's an attempt at somberness, there are also a lot of drunk kids who didn't know Macy and aren't sure what they're doing here.

Far from the center, Lucy, Bree, Pippa, Evan, Wrigley and Allie sit on the ground, sharing a flask. Lucy is tipsy, the alcohol has numbed her nerves slightly. Allie speaks to Lucy;

ALLIE

Is she the first person you know
who died?

LUCY

No.

Lucy doesn't elaborate. She takes another drink. Pippa points to SEVERAL YARDS AWAY, where Drew is standing in the crowd.

PIPPA

I didn't know Drew was here.

Bree looks - surprised. She waves at Drew, smiling. Drew makes eye contact and gives a polite wave before disappearing into the crowd. Bree's face falls. Pippa frowns;

PIPPA (CONT'D)

Did you guys talk today?

Bree glances at Wrigley self-consciously, she's embarrassed.

BREE

Not really. I texted him earlier.

PIPPA

(to Wrigley)

Dude. They made out last night. Is
your little brother being a dick?

BREE

Pippa stop. It's fine.

It's not fine, but Pippa drops it. Suddenly a Junior (20) named **TIM** approaches. He greets Evan, Wrigley and Allie.

TIM

Hey. What's up?

WRIGLEY

Yo. Buddy.

*

EVAN

(to the girls)

This is Tim. He's in our year.

TIM

So dark, right? We're going to
Copeland after this. Wanna come?

EVAN

I don't know. Is it weird to go to a party directly after a vigil?

ALLIE

I'd go.

(off Evan's look)

What? It's 8 pm. We can still be sad and not go straight to bed.

LUCY

Honestly, I just need to get drunk.

She looks at the others, they all (sheepishly) agree.

EXT. COPELAND RESIDENTIAL STREET - NIGHT

Later: a residential street just off campus. Lucy, Evan, Allie, Wrigley, Pippa, Bree and Tim walk along the road towards a HOUSE PARTY. Tim has taken an interest in Bree, who he shares his drink with. Lucy drinks from the flask.

INT. COPELAND HOUSE PARTY - NIGHT

The mood is noticeably less celebratory than the first night's frat party. Lucy does shots with Pippa and Wrigley. Across the room, Bree flirts with Tim.

Wrigley is being handsy with Pippa, making Lucy an obvious third wheel. Pippa is aware of Lucy's awkwardness and tries to subtly keep Wrigley at bay, moving his hand from her and whispering something in his ear. He wraps his arm around her anyway and kisses her neck, playful but aggressive.

WRIGLEY

I can't help it!

Lucy averts her eyes from Wrigley and Pippa. She spots Stephen across the room. He's keeping his distance. She feels a pang of regret at her earlier behavior.

Lucy turns and walks through the crowd to A BATHROOM. There's a LINE OF GIRLS waiting, but she doesn't notice them. Lucy heads towards the bathroom door, but a GIRL yells at her.

GIRL

Dude. There's a line.

Lucy notices the line; it's too long. She walks back to where her friends are - but Pippa and Wrigley are now gone. Confused, she looks to where Bree and Tim are flirting. In her drunkenness, something about their flirting annoys her. Lucy watches for a beat and then walks over to them;

BREE
Hey. You okay?

Lucy nods, but she's not. She's too drunk. She slurs a bit;

LUCY
You should text Drew. You look so
pretty tonight.

Bree is slightly annoyed but forces a laugh.

BREE
I don't think so.

Lucy leans over and whispers loudly in her ear.

LUCY
I don't like this guy.

BREE
Let's get you some water.

Bree leads Lucy to a nearby COOLER. Bree digs for water.

LUCY
Are you gonna hook up with him?

Bree is annoyed, but patient. She finds a water bottle.

BREE
I might. Here, drink this.

Bree hands her the water but Lucy doesn't take it.

LUCY
You don't have to be into every guy.

BREE
I'm aware of that.

LUCY
I just don't want you to seem
desperate. 'Cause that's the worst.

Bree is angry, but keeps her cool as she stares Lucy down.

BREE
I know you're upset. And so am I.
But you don't know me that well, so
even if I seem like someone you can
talk to that way - I'm not. Okay?

Lucy is lucid enough to understand her fuckup but not enough to say the right thing in return. She is silent, obstinate. Bree hands her the water and walks back to Tim. Lucy cringes at her own shitty behavior.

Time passes. Things get blurry as Lucy gets more fucked up, alone within the crowd. It feels dark and self-destructive.

Finally we find Lucy pushing through the crowd. Everything's blurry. She doesn't see her friends anywhere, just strangers.

She's going to be sick. She heads quickly to the FRONT DOOR.

EXT. COPELAND HOUSE - NIGHT - CONTINUOUS

LUCY stumbles around the side of the house and vomits into the bushes. A PAIR OF GIRLS pass, eyeing her as she pukes.

Lucy sits beside the vomit, struggling not to pass out. Then:

STEPHEN (O.S.)
Hey there... You alright?

She looks up: Stephen is looking down at her with concern. He takes one look at her bleary-eyed face and says;

STEPHEN (CONT'D)
Okay, so you're not, then.

Lucy starts to vomit again. Stephen kneels beside her and holds her hair, rubbing her back gently. She finishes.

LUCY
I'm sorry.

Stephen helps her to her feet.

STEPHEN
Let's get you home.

Lucy can barely stand, but leans on him. She says rudely;

LUCY
I'm not going to have sex with you.

STEPHEN
I'm completely aware that isn't in the cards tonight.

INT. LUCY'S DORM ROOM - BATHROOM - NIGHT

Wasted, Lucy struggles to brush her teeth. Stephen helps her.

STEPHEN
You can do this in the morning.

LUCY
I'm...brushing...my fucking teeth.

STEPHEN
(amused)
Yeah, you're definitely from Cold
Spring Harbor.

INT. LUCY'S DORM ROOM - NIGHT

Moments later. Lucy sits on her bed while Stephen helps take her shoes off. He helps her under the covers. She's a mess.

STEPHEN
It's okay. This happens to everyone.

He tucks her in. She looks at him for a beat, then bursts into tears. It's the first time we've seen her really cry, and it's a flood - it's everything she's been bottling up.

STEPHEN (CONT'D)
Hey... you're okay...

LUCY
People don't think I'm nice
anymore.

STEPHEN
They don't think you're nice?

She shakes her head, still crying. He smiles sympathetically.

STEPHEN (CONT'D)
People don't always think I'm nice.

She cries harder. He sits there patiently. She glances at Macy's ominously empty bed, then looks at him.

LUCY
Will you stay? Just to sleep. I
don't want to be in here alone.

STEPHEN
Are you sure you want me to?

She nods. He pauses, then smiles at her. He removes his shoes and gets under the covers. They're both fully clothed.

LUCY
Thank you.

She drapes herself over him and quickly passes out on his chest. He wraps his arms around her as she sleeps.

INT. LUCY'S DORM ROOM - DAY

Next morning. Lucy and Stephen are asleep, how we left them. Finally, Lucy starts to wake.

She sees Stephen asleep beside her. It takes her a moment, but the memory comes flooding back. She closes her eyes in intense embarrassment: *Shit*.

She grabs a WATER next to the bed and chugs it. She spots her reflection in the mirror; she's a wreck. Horrified, she wipes the mascara smeared under her eyes. Stephen starts to wake:

STEPHEN

Hey...

LUCY

I'm so sorry. This is mortifying.

STEPHEN

Don't worry about it. I'm just glad some creep didn't find you.

LUCY

Honestly, just fucking kill me...

STEPHEN

Don't be so dramatic. It's welcome week. This is very routine.

Lucy looks at him; grateful for his casualness about it, but still embarrassed. Stephen just smiles, then gently pulls her back towards him. She hesitates, stiffening slightly -

STEPHEN (CONT'D)

Relax.

She gives in and rests her head on him. It's innocent but oddly intimate. She's tired, uncharacteristically vulnerable.

LUCY

I'm sorry I was a bitch yesterday. I was all fucked up about Macy. I know I barely knew her, but still.

STEPHEN

Yeah. I know. I saw her around town sometimes, but I didn't know much about her. She seemed cool though.

Beat.

LUCY

I was sort of mean the last time I spoke to her.

Stephen looks at her for a beat, sympathetic. Then;

STEPHEN

Who was on the phone yesterday?

LUCY
Oh. My mom.

STEPHEN
You seemed pretty upset.

LUCY
Yeah. She's... upsetting.

STEPHEN
How so?

Lucy is surprised that he cares. She hesitates, then:

LUCY
She's not a good person. She did something really fucked up and... I can't forgive her for it. I tried.

STEPHEN
I don't speak to my mom either.

Lucy looks at him, caught off guard by this admission.

STEPHEN (CONT'D)
She's schizophrenic. She left when I was six. Or, she was forced to leave. It wasn't safe for us to be with her. I don't even know where she is now.

Lucy is moved by his honesty. She curls closer into him.

LUCY
I'm sorry. That sounds awful.

He sits with the memory for a beat - a flash of something dark - then forcibly pulls himself from it. He smiles at her.

STEPHEN
You know what'll make me feel better?

She waits - nervous about what he might say.

STEPHEN (CONT'D)
If you let me take you to dinner.

She smiles - a little relieved it wasn't something worse.

LUCY
You still want to have dinner with me? After watching me puke in a bush?

STEPHEN
You also cried hysterically. But yeah, I think I can get over it.
(then)

(MORE)

STEPHEN (CONT'D)
 You're insanely pretty. And I guess
 your personality seems kind of cool.

She laughs a little. After a moment, he leans in and kisses her gently. She's surprised, but then after a beat, she kisses him back. Slowly, they start to make out. It grows gradually more intense. He climbs on top of her and reaches between her legs. Lucy is shocked by how attracted she is to him, but gives into it. She starts to lose herself. As it gets more heated he pauses;

STEPHEN (CONT'D)
 Should we lock the door?

The brief pause gives Lucy a moment to get ahold of herself.

LUCY
 I think we should leave it here for
 today, actually. If that's okay.

STEPHEN
 (disappointed but kind)
 Okay. Sure. I get it.

They both sit up. He gets his shoes - it's a little awkward.

LUCY
 Thanks for helping me. Seriously.

STEPHEN
 Don't worry about it. Just get some
 rest. Hydrate.

He kisses her forehead and goes to the door. As she watches him go, we can tell that something very unfamiliar is happening for Lucy: She really likes him.

As Stephen exits, we suddenly **SWITCH TO STEPHEN'S POINT OF VIEW**. For the first time, we leave Lucy and **FOLLOW STEPHEN** -

INT. LUCY'S DORMITORY HALLWAY - DAY - CONTINUOUS

Stephen shuts Lucy's door behind him and heads down the hall.

EXT. LUCY'S DORMITORY BUILDING - DAY

Stephen exits the dorm. His phone rings: Wrigley. He answers.

STEPHEN
 Hey.

WRIGLEY
 Did you fuck that Lucy girl?

STEPHEN
No. It wasn't like that.

WRIGLEY
Are you sure? She seemed very in
the mood for some sad sex.

STEPHEN
She could barely stand up, dude.
I'm actually taking her to dinner.

WRIGLEY
Wow. So you actually like her.

STEPHEN
Why wouldn't I?

INT. STEPHEN'S DORM BUILDING - DAY

A few minutes later. Stephen enters and walks down the hall,
fucking exhausted. But when he turns the corner he stops:

DIANA - the Junior from the first frat party - sits on the
floor outside his room. She looks up at him sadly. Stephen
looks surprised - but not unhappy - to see her.

STEPHEN
Hey.

DIANA
Can we talk?

STEPHEN
Of course we can talk. I've been
trying to talk to you all week.

He gets his key and lets them both into the dorm room -

INT. STEPHEN'S DORM ROOM - DAY - CONTINUOUS

They enter. Diana glances at Stephen's untouched bed.

DIANA
Where are you coming from?

STEPHEN
I passed out at Wrigley's.

She gives him an unsure look. He rolls his eyes.

STEPHEN (CONT'D)
Ask him. I smoked too much and fell
asleep. That's what happens when I
don't do blow, you should be happy.

She relaxes slightly, accepting this. She sits on his bed. Her eyes start to well up with new tears.

DIANA

I don't know what I'm doing here.

STEPHEN

Maybe you miss me.

DIANA

I know I miss you. But I'm still fucking mad at you. And seeing you flirt with all these freshmen makes me want to stab my eyes out.

STEPHEN

You broke up with me. I've spent the last two months telling you I love you. The ball's in your court.

DIANA

I don't trust you. You fucked it up. I don't want to constantly worry you're going to cheat again.

STEPHEN

I've told you so many times, it was a one time thing. And I was wasted. I don't understand throwing away two years over one night. You know I'd never lie to you again.

Diana looks at him desperately, wanting to trust him.

DIANA

Have you hooked up with anyone else since we broke up?

STEPHEN

No. I haven't wanted to. I wish I wanted to.

Diana looks at him for a beat, full of emotion. Finally he kisses her. They start to make out. It's intense and passionate, heightened by the situation but also familiar.

They lay on the bed and continue to kiss. Stephen reaches under her skirt and pulls her underwear off. He undoes his pants. They don't even undress all the way, but soon they're having sex. It's intense and hurried - but good.

STEPHEN (CONT'D)

Are you still on the pill?

Something about this snaps Diana back to reality.

DIANA

Wait. We shouldn't do this.

STEPHEN

Are you serious?

He sighs, but rolls off of her - deeply frustrated but trying not to be an asshole. She sits up and fixes herself.

DIANA

Sorry. I wasn't expecting that.

Stephen gives her a look that says he doesn't believe that. She ignores the look and goes to the mirror to fix her hair.

DIANA (CONT'D)

I have to go meet Susie. Please don't tell anyone about this.

STEPHEN

I won't.

DIANA

I'm in a weird headspace. And everything feels super bleak after that girl died. You know the cops are interviewing people?

STEPHEN

Yeah, it's pretty fucking bizarre.

Diana pauses, then looks at him seriously.

DIANA

I want to trust you again. It's just gonna take me a minute.

STEPHEN

I understand.

She doesn't want to start crying again so she heads to the door - but Stephen stops her, touching her arm gently.

STEPHEN (CONT'D)

Hey. You know I love you.

He gives her a long, romantic kiss. Finally she leaves.

Stephen lays on his bed, tired but still turned on. He gets his laptop and goes to Lucy's FACEBOOK PROFILE. He scrolls through her photos. He stops on a photo of Lucy. He stares at it for a beat, then reaches his hand down his pants. But he's interrupted when his phone rings: Wrigley again. He answers.

STEPHEN (CONT'D)

What is it dude?

As he listens, he sits up. Worry begins to darken his face.

STEPHEN (CONT'D)
Okay. I'll be there in a minute.

INT. WRIGLEY'S DORM ROOM - DAY

Wrigley sits at his desk looking very distraught. Pippa paces, filled with anxiety. Across the room, Drew sits on the floor. His face is red and swollen from crying.

The door opens and Stephen enters. The other three look at him expectantly - they need his help. Stephen takes in all three of their faces. He then walks to Drew and kneels in front of him, face to face. He speaks kindly but firmly.

STEPHEN
Okay. Tell me what happened.

Drew looks at him with pure terror, tears fill his eyes;

DREW
I think I might have fucked up.

INT. STEPHEN'S DORM ROOM - DAY

Two days later. Calm has returned. Stephen gets dressed for a date, he's put extra effort into his appearance today.

As he does his hair at the mirror, **MONTAGE MUSIC starts to play**. It starts softly, then gradually increases. Think something sexy, ominous - maybe a cover of a classic love song. When Stephen is satisfied with his appearance, he grabs his coat. As we follow him out the door, the music continues -

EXT. BAIRD COLLEGE - NY - DAY

We follow Stephen as he walks across campus to Lucy's dorm. He's confident but excited. As the music gets louder we **GO INTO A MONTAGE:**

- Suddenly we're with 28 YEAR OLD STEPHEN, 8 YEARS IN THE FUTURE, as he drives his MERCEDES THROUGH THE HAMPTONS - it's the day of BREE AND EVAN'S ENGAGEMENT PARTY. We are back where the episode started, but now from Stephen's POV. Stephen drives quickly down the HAMPTONS ROAD, on a mission.

We begin to cut between the two scenes; 20 YEAR OLD STEPHEN crossing campus and 28 YEAR OLD STEPHEN driving through the Hamptons. As we cut between them, there's a growing sense of foreboding.

- As we continue to cut between Stephen Then and Stephen Now, **we begin to simultaneously cut between the other friends going about their daily lives on campus in 2007:**

- Pippa and Bree stand in line at the School Bookstore, Bree is happily unaware of the secret anxiety in Pippa's eyes.
- Drew sits alone in the Dining Hall, frozen in dark thought.
- Evan and Wrigley run on the treadmills in the CAMPUS GYM. Wrigley sprints furiously, as if he's running from something.
- In her dorm room, Lucy gets ready for her date.

Finally we return to cutting only between Stephen walking across campus, and Stephen driving through the Hamptons:

- IN 2015 STEPHEN pulls up to EVAN'S HAMPTONS HOME.
- IN 2007 STEPHEN finishes his journey across campus and arrives at LUCY'S DORM BUILDING.
- IN 2015 STEPHEN exits his car, and walks towards the ENTRANCE TO EVAN'S HAMPTONS HOME.
- IN 2007 STEPHEN walks down the hall to LUCY's dorm room.
- IN 2015 STEPHEN walks through THE HAMPTONS HOME until he arrives at the BACK DECK, where the ENGAGEMENT PARTY is in full swing. He scans the crowd, looking for one person only. Finally his eyes land on her: Across the deck with her back to him is 26 YEAR OLD LUCY. It's the same moment we saw in the teaser, but now from his POV. He studies her from behind. Finally Lucy turns and her eyes fall on him. They stare at each other, years of history and secrets between them. It isn't noticeable to anyone else - but we suddenly notice LIGHT RED SPLOTCHES on LUCY'S CHEST - just like when she was 18, she is once again breaking into hives.
- IN 2007 STEPHEN knocks on LUCY'S DORM ROOM DOOR. Lucy opens the door. She's dressed for their first date, brimming with quiet excitement. They smile at each other, unaware that they're standing on the precipice of something they might never recover from.

Finally 20 year old Stephen holds out his hand to her.

STEPHEN
Are you ready?

On Lucy's naive smile, we CUT TO BLACK.

END OF EPISODE