

UNTITLED KINGSBURY/DALEY/GOLDSTEIN PROJECT

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COLD OPEN

MUSIC CUE: "Here You Come Again" by Dolly Parton

SERIES OF QUICK SCENES:

INT. MARIE CALLENDER'S RESTAURANT - DAY

CHYRON: "1987" 17-year-old GEORGIA sits in a booth with her 17-year-old BOYFRIEND and his wispy mustache. Georgia is pretty, upbeat. She slides something across the table to him. He picks it up and we see it's a PREGNANCY TEST that reads POSITIVE. She smiles expectantly. He doesn't. He slides the test back to her as if to say "no thanks."

INT. ALBERTSONS SUPERMARKET - DAY

An exhausted 18-year-old Georgia works the checkout counter with BABY PENELOPE strapped to her chest in a carrier. The CUSTOMER leaves and Georgia gently rests her head on the baby's head, then kisses the top of it.

INT. MOVIE THEATER - DAY

A scene from the movie "Leprechaun" where the title monster attacks a young Jennifer Aniston. REVERSE to find 22-year-old Georgia sitting with 5-year-old Penelope, both watching terrified through their fingers.

INT. PENELOPE'S BEDROOM - THAT NIGHT

Penelope lies frightened in bed. She jumps as her door opens... But it's only an even more frightened Georgia, coming in to sleep with her.

INT. GEORGIA'S APARTMENT - EVENING

23-year-old Georgia kisses 6-year-old Penelope on the head and discreetly shows her her crossed fingers as she hurries out to a waiting Stingray, where a DUDE waits for their date. Penelope gamely holds up her own crossed fingers beside her sour-looking, cigarette-smoking, old lady BABYSITTER.

INT. GEORGIA'S APARTMENT - A FEW DAYS LATER

CLOSE ON a strip from a PHOTO BOOTH showing Georgia and Stingray Dude canoodling. The strip is ripped to shreds by a crying Georgia. Little Penelope brings her a bottle of Zima and a bag of Flamin' Hot Cheetos.

INT. ROBINSONS-MAY DEPARTMENT STORE - DAY

In the cosmetics department, 7-year-old Penelope and 24-year-old Georgia are both applying COPIOUS, RIDICULOUS MAKEUP to each other's faces. They are cracking up, ignoring the disapproving looks from the SALESLADY.

INT. GEORGIA'S APARTMENT - EVENING

26-year-old Georgia once again heads out on a different date, this time a GUY in a Mustang. She crosses her fingers for Penelope. 9-year-old Penelope, getting a little over this, crosses hers. Beside her stands the sour-looking babysitter.

INT. GEORGIA'S CAR - DAY

28-year-old Georgia drives, while Penelope sits in the passenger seat, they are screaming at each other. Georgia can't deal and slams on her breaks. She gets out and starts walking away from the car. Penelope throws up her arms. This is typical.

INT. GEORGIA'S APARTMENT - EVENING

32-year-old Georgia jogs out to a waiting MAN in a Chevy Camaro. But this time, when she turns to give her crossed fingers gesture, she sees 15-year-old Penelope HAS ALREADY GONE INSIDE AND SHUT THE DOOR.

INT. GEORGIA'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

16-year-old Penelope is trying to study on her bed but can't concentrate because of the noise. Frustrated, she storms out to the living room where 33-year-old Georgia is loudly hosting several of her tipsy FEMALE CO-WORKERS, all of whom wear Chili's uniforms. Penelope turns down their boom box and storms out. The women look chastened, then stifle laughs.

INT. GEORGIA'S APARTMENT - DAY

35-year-old Georgia watches from the door as 18-year-old Penelope, in a Northwestern hoodie, gets in her car packed with college stuff. Georgia sadly waves, then heads inside.

Georgia regards the apartment, her best friend gone. She enters Penelope's room, gets in her bed and curls up under the covers like she did years ago with her daughter.

END OF COLD OPEN

ACT ONE

INT. PENELOPE'S APARTMENT - EVENING

NIGHT-VISION CLOSEUP of a toddler, LEVI, in a darkened room standing in a crib. His GLOWING EYES stare creepily at the camera. We hear the RECORDED THUMPING of a heartbeat.

JOSH (O.S.)
Why won't you blink?

PULL BACK to see JOSH, (30's, smart but boyish, think Chris Pratt) holding the baby monitor. The nanny, IZZY (20s, sweet, professional but not overly warm) puts away toys. The front door opens and Penelope, now mid-30's, enters with pizza and a salad.

PENELOPE
Hey boo, can you grab this?

He kisses her as he takes the food.

JOSH
(re: monitor)
Look who's still up.

PENELOPE
Oh man. Hey Izzy, did he nap at all today?

IZZY
No. I tried everything but he just won't sleep. It's a phase. Don't worry.

They stare at the monitor.

JOSH
Can we at least change the white noise from "heartbeat" to something less horrifying?

PENELOPE
But look at his sweet little glowing eyes. I'm gonna go kiss that demon face.

She exits. Josh continues to watch the monitor. Suddenly, Penelope POPS UP close to the camera and makes a scary noise. Josh jumps, dropping the monitor.

JOSH
You're not nice!

As Penelope returns, Izzy grabs her purse.

IZZY

Dishes and laundry are done. I'll pick up some more Yogis for Levi on my way in tomorrow.

PENELOPE

I love you with my whole heart.

IZZY

Aww. Me too.

Izzy goes. Josh opens up the pizza box.

PENELOPE

We should wait for my mom and her boyfriend. Their plane landed an hour ago so they should be here any minute.

JOSH

Right. What's his name again?

PENELOPE

Who knows? It's a new guy every visit. And every time she's "never loved like this before."

JOSH

At least they're staying in a hotel. That last guy used up all my fancy facial cleanser that I save for special occasion face washing.

PENELOPE

Why do I have to meet all these guys?

JOSH

Because she desperately wants your approval.

PENELOPE

Shouldn't it be the other way around? I'm the daughter. Every time she gets anything official-looking in the mail she texts me a picture of it and asks what she should do.

JOSH

Could be worse. She could tell you that "being an airline pilot is like being a glorified bus driver."

PENELOPE

Honey, when your mom visits we can talk about your issues.

JOSH

She never visits.

THE DOORBELL RINGS. Penelope steels herself, then opens the door. Georgia, late-40's, but looks younger, enters with PETER, a handsome but bland man in his 40's.

GEORGIA

There's my gorgeous girl!

PENELOPE

Hi, Mom.

They hug. Then Georgia hugs Josh.

JOSH

How was the flight from the O.C.? Did you get one of those new widebody A330's?

GEORGIA

I don't know. But it would've been better if you'd been our pilot, handsome.

JOSH

(charmed)

Thank you. But your pilot passed the same rigorous FAA requirements that I--

GEORGIA

(blowing past it)

Guys, I want you to meet the man who has changed my life.

Penelope rolls her eyes at Josh.

GEORGIA (CONT'D)

Say hello to Peter.

PENELOPE

Nice to meet you.

PETER

Likewise.

JOSH

Georgia has told us so many great things about you.

PETER

Well, likewise.

Penelope and Josh exchange a quick, curious look.

GEORGIA

Where's Levi?

PENELOPE

He's in bed.

GEORGIA

Boo. I brought him a bottle of Aunt Jemima.

JOSH

Why?

GEORGIA

Penelope used to love syrup as a baby. She'd drink it straight from the bottle. It was so adorable.

PENELOPE

And of course, you'd let me.

GEORGIA

What was I gonna do? Take it away?

JOSH

Hey, should we eat? I'm starving.

PETER

Likewise.

Penelope throws Josh another look as they head for the table.

INT. DINING ROOM - SHORT TIME LATER

The four of them are midway through dinner.

GEORGIA

...it took a while but ultimately I realized Keith and I weren't a match. He was a square peg trying to fit into my round hole.

PENELOPE

There's gotta be a better way to say that.

GEORGIA

That's what's wonderful about me and Peter. There's this electricity between us.

They look at Peter who is chewing methodically and staring into space.

PENELOPE

So, what do you do, Peter?

PETER

I'm in data entry.

PENELOPE

Oh, cool. And what kind of... where do you... I don't know what the followup question is here.

JOSH

How'd you kids meet?

GEORGIA

At our favorite restaurant.

PETER

Starbucks.

PENELOPE

Does that count as a restaurant?

PETER

People don't realize Starbucks is a lot more than just coffee. They've got a tasty food item for every age, gender and race.

JOSH

Race?

Georgia takes a paper from her purse and gives it to Penelope.

GEORGIA

Oh, Pen. I got this in the mail. What do I need to do?

Penelope throws Josh a look as she takes it.

PENELOPE

This is your annual Social Security statement.

GEORGIA

So...?

PENELOPE

You don't need to do anything.

Georgia tears the paper in half.

GEORGIA

Hey, I was thinking we could all take Levi to the mall together.

PENELOPE

That sounds like fun but Josh and I have to work.

GEORGIA

Well, right after then. Dry Bar only gives me a week off a year. Let's make this count. And I really want you to get to know Peter. He's an amazing man.

They look at Peter who is slowly dabbing his mouth with a napkin.

JOSH

Well, he makes a great first impression.

PETER

Likewise.

INT. WRIGLEY FIELD - STADIUM PRESS BOX - DAY

BRAD, a hot, charismatic, former pro baseball player. He's commentating the Cubs game with the help of his producer, Penelope, who talks to him through an earpiece.

BRAD

Another foul ball by Anthony Rizzo. Looks like he broke his bat.

Penelope's phone DINGS. She reads a text from Georgia: "Can you call me?" Penelope ignores it.

PENELOPE

His season average is .283. Same as Baez.

BRAD

Rizzo's got a season average of .283. On par with Javi Baez, nickname "El Mago", which is Español for...

He looks at Penelope, clueless.

PENELOPE

The magician.

BRAD

...the magician. Y'know, I dabbled in Spanish when I was in the minors. Used to go down to Tijuana--

Penelope holds up a finger: "stop right there."

BRAD (CONT'D)

(pivots)

Story for another day... Oh, and there's a solid hit.

Another text from Georgia: "Helloooo?? You there??"

BRAD (CONT'D)

And that's going, going, and GONE. Home run for Anthony.

PENELOPE

His 36th of the season.

BRAD (CONT'D)

His 36th of the season.

Penelope gets another text: "911" Now she's a little worried.

BRAD (CONT'D)

It looks like the pitching coach is coming out to talk to Woodruff...

Penelope chews a cuticle, then quickly steps away from Brad.

INTERCUT WITH:

INT. MARRIOTT HOTEL - SAME TIME

Georgia paces in a hotel robe. She answers her phone--

GEORGIA

Finally! Oh thank God. Something's wrong with Peter. He's gone!

PENELOPE

What do you mean? He's missing?

GEORGIA

No. He's at the Starbucks across the street. I can see him from my window.

Georgia's POV of Peter sitting outside the Starbucks staring into space again.

GEORGIA (CONT'D)

He's been sitting there for two hours. I think he's avoiding me. Is that possible? Is it my new bangs? Stella told me to get them.

Penelope can't believe she fell for this again.

PENELOPE

Mom, we just talked about this. You are only allowed to text me "911" in an actual emergency.

GEORGIA

Oh my god. It is my bangs. Stupid Stella!

PENELOPE

I need to get back to work.

GEORGIA

Come on... I need your advice. Do I go down there? Do I play it cool?

PENELOPE

Fine. Okay. Here is what I honestly think you should do... You ready?

GEORGIA

Yes.

Penelope HANGS UP. Georgia realizes what she did.

GEORGIA (CONT'D)

Mean!

Penelope walks to Brad who is still on air, chattering away.

BRAD

--Look, I personally would never host a dog fight, but you can't deny that some dogs are born to fight. That's just genetics.

PENELOPE
 (in her mic)
 What? NO! Shut up! How did you get
 on this topic?!

BRAD
 It just came up.

PENELOPE
 You're not talking to anyone!

Brad stares at her for a beat, frozen. Then,

BRAD
 ...foul tip by Victor Caratini...

Penelope puts her head in her hands.

INT. WGN NETWORK - FRANKIE'S OFFICE - LATER

FRANKIE, 50s, Penelope's boss, think Catherine Keener, leans
 on the edge of her desk, angry. Penelope hangs her head.

FRANKIE
 It hasn't even been an hour and the
 internet is saying Brad hosts dog
 fights.

PENELOPE
 I'm so sorry--

FRANKIE
 You know you have to puppeteer his
 every word. The man is a hashtag
 waiting to happen!

We REVEAL Brad is sitting next to Penelope.

BRAD
 Frankie's right. This is your
 fault. I'm a loose canon. Blessing
 and a curse.

PENELOPE
 I was gone for two seconds. How did
 you pivot from Rizzo's home run to
 the merits of dog fighting?!

BRAD
 I wish I knew. My brain is
 constantly in motion and I can't
 always keep up with it.

PENELOPE

I'm going to fix this. We'll open the morning show tomorrow with an apology from Brad. I'll write something airtight.

FRANKIE

There are people here who want me to fire you for this.

BRAD

Ouch.

FRANKIE

You too, jackass.

(then)

Penelope, you're invaluable to me. I can't replace you. So you need to clean this up in a hurry, got it?

PENELOPE

Got it. Thank you.

Brad and Penelope nod and head out. Brad takes out his phone.

PENELOPE (CONT'D)

No Twitter.

BRAD

I've got to clap back at my haters.

She grabs his phone.

INT. PENELOPE AND JOSH'S HOUSE, KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

Penelope feeds Levi in his highchair. Josh hands her a glass of wine as Izzy cleans the kitchen.

JOSH

Or would you prefer Aunt Jemima?

(she smiles glumly)

If it makes you feel any better, I had a rough day too. There was some pretty severe chop out of O'Hare but once I got her up to altitude, the ride smoothed out. The passengers actually applauded me. I shouldn't have told you that part.

PENELOPE

You know who applauded me today?

Dog fighting enthusiasts.

(to Levi, baby talk)

(MORE)

PENELOPE (CONT'D)
 Gammy almost got me fired today.
 Yes, she did.

Levi giggles.

JOSH
 Izzy, we'll finish the dishes. You
 can go a little early.

IZZY
 Actually, can I talk to you guys
 really quick?

JOSH
 Of course.

IZZY
 Ummmm... well- I'm pregnant.

JOSH
 Wow! Congratulations!

PENELOPE
 Oh my god, I'm so sorry...

Izzy gives Penelope a look.

IZZY
 I'm really happy about it.

PENELOPE
 Of course! So am I!

Penelope gives her an awkward hug. Josh quickly pivots.

JOSH
 This is gonna be great! It'll be
 like Levi has a little sibling.

IZZY
 That would be great... but I'm
 actually sorta... quitting.

JOSH
 Quitting? Wait. Why?

IZZY
 Tyler and I are moving back to
 Colorado so my mom can help out
 with the baby. Don't worry, I'll
 stay until you find someone and--

PENELOPE
 Hang on. You don't have to move.
 You can bring your baby to work!
 Levi loves you. We love you.

IZZY
 (makes air quotes)
 And I "love" you guys.

JOSH
 You never put the quotes on it
 before.

IZZY
 We just don't want to raise a kid
 in Chicago. There's so much crime
 and drugs. It feels irresponsible.

PENELOPE
 Does it?

IZZY`
 (quickly)
 No, not for you guys. Let me start
 over. The truth is, my dad said he
 can help get Tyler a better job out
 there so I can be a full-time mom
 and really be there for my kid.

PENELOPE
 (irked)
 You sure you should've started
 over?

IZZY
 It's just -- I want to be there for
 my baby. I don't want him to have
 issues 'cause I wasn't around.

JOSH
 You think Levi has issues?

IZZY
 (beat, then)
 No.

Josh stares at her for a beat. Then smiles tightly as his
 tone becomes oddly smooth and mellow.

JOSH
 Huh. All right, then. You've made
 your position clear and you are
 entitled to it, Izzy.

IZZY
 (uneasy)
 Why are you talking like that all
 of a sudden?

PENELOPE

He's a pilot. He's trained to stay calm under pressure.

JOSH

(smooth and weirdly friendly)

The calmer I sound, the angrier I am. Now, Penelope might not be with Levi all the time, but that's because she goes to work every day at a very important job where she shows our son that a woman's role isn't just to cook and clean and wipe his tush.

IZZY

Doesn't she just tell that baseball player what to say?

JOSH

(super calm)
Ahhhhhhhlright.

PENELOPE

Honey, take it easy.
(to Izzy)
Y'know what? I think we're good.
Your resignation is accepted.

IZZY

Don't you need my help till you find a new nanny?

PENELOPE

Nah. You and your baby should get to Colorado as fast as possible. Because nothing bad ever happens there. Right, Josh?

JOSH

Agreed.
(to Izzy, air quotes)
"Thank you" for "everything."

PENELOPE

(air quotes)
"Drive safe." Wait. No. Drive safe for real.

Weirded out, Izzy exits. Penelope and Josh look at each other, proudly. Then reality suddenly hits Penelope.

PENELOPE (CONT'D)
Why didn't you stop me?!

JOSH
(like a Zen monk)
Heat of the moment. Haven't been
this furious in a very long time.

She sighs.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

INT. PENELOPE AND JOSH'S HOUSE, LIVING ROOM - LATER

Penelope is on her laptop, stressed, while Josh enters holding Levi who is crying.

JOSH

Baby, can you watch him so I can take a shower?

PENELOPE

I have to work on this stupid apology. Can you put him down?

JOSH

I tried. He keeps climbing out of his crib.

PENELOPE

Well, I'm sure that's my fault. Apparently his sleeping issues are because of me and the fact that I'm not there for my child.

JOSH

Honey, you can't take what Izzy said personally.

PENELOPE

Oh I can't? Because I am.

JOSH

You're a great mom.

PENELOPE

I don't feel like one. It just sucks. I work my ass off at a job I love but I feel like I'm missing all the important stuff.

JOSH

(re: Levi crying)
What? Like this?

PENELOPE

(small laugh)
Shut up.

JOSH

I'll go try putting him down again.

Josh disappears down the hall. Izzy's words still bug Penelope. After a beat, he reenters, holding the monitor.

JOSH (CONT'D)

What are we going to do? We don't even have anyone to watch him tomorrow.

PENELOPE

You're not working tomorrow. And as soon as I get through this, I'll try to find a replacement for Izzy--

JOSH

Hold on. I'm not working tomorrow 'cause I arranged my schedule so I could go see Chuck Yeager.

Penelope winces, knowing how much this means to him.

PENELOPE

Oh, right. Bring Levi.

JOSH

Come on. You know he's terrified of old people. He'll be screaming the whole time. Plus, he can't sit still for longer than two seconds.

PENELOPE

Then... I dunno. You'll have to see him another time. I'm sorry.

JOSH

No way. He's the reason I became a pilot. And he's 96. This might be his last book signing.

(thinks, then)

How about we ask your mom and Likewise McDarkRoast to watch him?

PENELOPE

Are you kidding? Levi is more mature than she is.

There's a knock. Penelope opens on a distraught Georgia. Penelope knows exactly what this is about.

GEORGIA

Hi.

PENELOPE

You guys broke up.

GEORGIA
How did you know?

JOSH
Oh, Georgia, I'm sorry.

GEORGIA
He flew back to California. Turns out he wasn't just eating egg white bites, he was "finding himself." I knew it was too good to be true.

PENELOPE
Oh, come on. It wasn't that good. The guy was a drip. Pun intended.

GEORGIA
Do you think I could stay here for the rest of my trip? I can't go back to that hotel room. Too many memories.

PENELOPE
From one night?

JOSH
Of course you can stay, Georgia.

Penelope shoots him a look.

GEORGIA
I don't think I'll ever love like that again.

PENELOPE
You said the same thing about Republican McFakeTan and BadBreath McAnti-Vax.

GEORGIA
I need a drink.
(then)
Take me out.

PENELOPE
Now?

GEORGIA
One of our girls' nights. We'll get drunk on skinny Margaritas. It's exactly what I need.

PENELOPE

I don't have time. I have to write this apology for work.

GEORGIA

One drink. We can go home right after. Pleeeeeease.

Josh regards Penelope's sad, desperate mother. LEVI WALKS INTO THE ROOM from the nursery.

PENELOPE

I gotta deal with Levi--

JOSH

I got it. You guys go.

Josh scoops up Levi and gives Penelope a look: "Don't be a dick. Go." Penelope exhales, obliging.

PENELOPE

Fine. One drink.

GEORGIA

Yay!

PENELOPE

But just one, got it?

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. CHEESECAKE FACTORY BAR - NIGHT

CLOSE ON EIGHT EMPTY SHOT GLASSES on the bar as a FULL ONE is set down. REVEAL they have been consumed by a DRUNK MAN a few stools away from Penelope and Georgia who regard him. They're halfway through their first drink.

PENELOPE

At least you're not dating that guy.

Georgia gives her a smirk.

GEORGIA

Thanks for doing this. It always cheers me up. I was so excited when you turned 18 and we were finally allowed to drink together.

PENELOPE

Not technically, but yeah.

GEORGIA

I was so hot back then. I could've brought home any man in the room.

PENELOPE

Oh my god, Mom. Stop with this. You're always searching for this mythical guy who's going to make you happy. You're the only one who can make you happy.

But Georgia isn't listening. She's locked eyes with a handsome guy, DANE, 30's, who has stepped up to the bar.

GEORGIA

Incoming...

DANE

Damn, and I thought the cheesecake would be the sweetest thing here tonight.

GEORGIA

Omigod, that is such a bad line.
(puts out her hand)
I'm Georgia.

They shake. Penelope sighs.

INTERNAL CUT TO:

INT. CHEESECAKE FACTORY BAR - LATER

Penelope finishes her drink, then looks over at Georgia who is deep in conversation with Dane.

PENELOPE

Okay, Georgia, time to go.

GEORGIA

Y'know, Dane is inviting us to a party at his mansion.

PENELOPE

Who calls their house a mansion?

DANE

It's over on Wrightwood and Ashland. Starts at ten. We got a DJ. An indoor pool. Should be fire.

PENELOPE

Thanks but we're gonna split.

GEORGIA

Actually, would you be mad if I went for a little while? I can Uber home.

PENELOPE

So, nothing I said got in there?

GEORGIA

I just want to get my mind off Peter. Don't judge me. I'll be home by midnight. Promise.

PENELOPE

(she has no time for this)
You're an adult. Do what you want.
Good night.

Georgia gives her a big hug, then Penelope goes.

DANE

Your sister's a bit of a drag, huh?

GEORGIA

(flattered)
She can be.

INT. PENELOPE AND JOSH'S HOUSE, BEDROOM - NIGHT

Penelope stares at her laptop's blank screen as Josh tries to sleep beside her. He turns on the light.

JOSH

You're not done yet?

PENELOPE

I can't concentrate. It's after one and my mom hasn't come home.

JOSH

Text her.

PENELOPE

She's not answering. I shouldn't have let her go with him to that party.

JOSH

She's a big girl. She can take care of herself.

PENELOPE

No, she can't. When I was 15, I had to drive 200 miles to rescue her when she locked herself in a port-o-potty at a Bon Jovi concert.

JOSH

That's so gross.

(beat)

Who goes to a Bon Jovi concert?

She throws off the covers.

JOSH (CONT'D)

(re: his joke)

Nothing? That was good.

EXT. MANSION - NIGHT

Penelope approaches a large Lincoln Park house where a party is happening. There's pounding bass and drunken revelers.

INT. MODERN MANSION - MOMENTS LATER

It's a modern home with walls of glass. Penelope makes her way through the crowd of mostly Millennials. At last, she spots Georgia in a GOLF SIMULATOR ROOM. Dane stands behind her, "helping" with her swing.

GEORGIA

I don't wanna break the screen.

DANE

It's okay, babe. The screen's designed for it.

PENELOPE

Hey.

GEORGIA

Heeeeey! Decided to come after all?

PENELOPE

No. I got worried 'cause you weren't answering your phone.

GEORGIA

Yeah. I broke it while we were playing Twister.

PENELOPE
 (pulls her aside)
 It's late and we're going.

GEORGIA
 No. I'm just starting to get to
 know Dane. He's really smart and
 funny and obviously successful...

Before Penelope can answer, there's a commotion by the door. An affluent-looking man in his 60's, MR. ANDERTON, has entered. He storms over to the DJ and shuts down the music.

MR. ANDERTON
 What the hell is all this?!

Dane cowers.

GEORGIA
 Who's that?

DANE
 Okay, so technically, this is my
 boss's house. But he was supposed
 to be in Aspen all week.

MR. ANDERTON
 (spotting Dane)
 You!

DANE
 Let me explain, Mr. Anderton--

MR. ANDERTON
 I don't want to hear it. You are so
 fired!

DANE
 (tearing up)
 Please don't! I owe my roommates so
 much rent!

Penelope turns to Georgia.

PENELOPE
 He seems so great. Too early to
 start calling him "Dad"?

MR. ANDERTON
 Everyone out! I'm calling the cops!

Everyone rushes out.

PENELOPE

This is so stupid. I'm not going to jail over this. Come on.

Penelope takes Georgia's hand and they hurry out. Penelope unwittingly RUNS STRAIGHT INTO A GLASS DOOR. She drops to the floor, blood gushing from her nose.

INT. EMERGENCY ROOM - WAITING ROOM - LATER

It's crowded. Like all of Chicago got injured tonight. Penelope, icepack on her nose, waits next to Georgia.

GEORGIA

Honestly, except for your eyes and nose, it doesn't look that bad.

Penelope silently fumes.

INT. PENELOPE AND JOSH'S HOUSE, LIVING ROOM - DAWN

Exhausted and disheveled, Georgia and Penelope slump inside.

GEORGIA

Honey, I'm sorry. At least it's not broken--

PENELOPE

I don't want to hear it. I have to be at work in two hours. Just go to your room and we'll discuss it when I get home.

Georgia sadly obeys as Penelope makes herself coffee.

INT. WGN STUDIO - DAY

An anxious Brad is being powdered on the set of the morning show. His co-anchors, RICH and KEVIN, sit beside him.

RICH

Can't wait to see how you talk your way out of this one, Miller.

BRAD

(nervous laugh)
Yeah. Me too.

STAGEHAND

Ten minutes till air!

Brad dials his phone. INTERCUT WITH:

INT. PENELOPE AND JOSH'S HOUSE, LIVING ROOM - SAME

Penelope is fast asleep on the couch, holding a cup of coffee. She wakes up from the phone.

PENELOPE

Hello?

BRAD

Where are you?!

PENELOPE

Oh no. I'll be there in fifteen!

BRAD

What?! Hurry! How am I going to apologize if I don't know what I'm sorry for?!

Penelope gets up and instantly holds her nose in pain.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

INT. WGN STUDIO - MORNING SHOW - LATER

Brad, live on the air, sits nervously with Rich and Kevin.

KEVIN

Now, we'd like to turn it over to our own Brad Miller. Brad's here to clarify some things he said yesterday during the game. Brad?

Kevin and Rich look at Brad who is a deer in headlights. He takes a long sip from a coffee mug, lamely killing time.

BRAD

Thanks, guys. First of all... um, you know me. I'm one of the good guys.

He lets out an uncomfortable laugh.

BRAD (CONT'D)

Anyway, I... I want to address certain statements said by me in the past. Specifically yesterday...

INTERCUT WITH:

INT. FRANKIE'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

Frankie sits behind her desk, watching Brad on TV.

BRAD

...concerning the subject of, uh, canine battles. Let me be clear, it was wrong for me to say that dog fighting should ever be allowed... without providing context.

FRANKIE

Context? What is this?!
(calling off)
Where the hell is Penelope?!

BRAD

Dogs evolved from wolves. Wolves love to fight. Read "Call of the Wild." Jack London. You don't see Jack London getting "canceled" by a bunch of--

During this, Penelope, nose swollen, rushes into the studio. People give her odd looks, but she doesn't care. She grabs a headset from the stagehand.

PENELOPE
 (into mic)
 I'm here. Now I need you to laugh.

Relieved, Brad lets out a laugh.

PENELOPE (CONT'D)
 Now say, "Guys, I'm joking. That would be the worst apology in history."

BRAD
 Guys, I'm joking. That would be the worst apology in history.

Kevin and Rich chuckle.

<p>PENELOPE But this is no laughing matter. What I said is not even close to how I feel. I got my first dog when I was seven after my parents' divorce. Her name was Heidi and she was my best friend...</p>	<p>BRAD (CONT'D) But this is no laughing matter. What I said is not even close to how I feel. I got my first dog when I was seven after my parents' divorce. Her name was Heidi and she was my best friend...</p>
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In her office, Frankie lets out a sigh of relief.

INT. PENELOPE AND JOSH'S HOUSE - LATER

Josh clears up Levi's breakfast as the boy grabs a colander and puts it on his head.

JOSH
 Don't you wanna wear a real hat, bud? You got that cool Batman one.

LEVI
 No Batman. Dis.

Josh sighs, giving up as he moves to the sink.

JOSH
 All right. You keep doing you, bro. Rules are made for people who aren't willing to make up their own, right? You know who said that?

LEVI

Umizoomi.

JOSH

Close. Chuck Yeager.

Just then Georgia enters from the guest room.

GEORGIA

Hey, boys.

She takes a second colander and puts it on her own head.

GEORGIA (CONT'D)

(posing)

What do you think, Levi? Can I pull it off?

Levi giggles. Josh doesn't.

JOSH

(super-calm voice)

Morning, Georgia. Hope you had a nice sleep.

GEORGIA

(off his tone)

Oh no. That's your pilot voice. I hope you're not mad at me?

JOSH

Not at all. It has nothing to do with you. It's about Chuck Yeager.

(off Georgia, relaxing)

I was supposed to go to his book reading. I was looking forward to it for months, got my flights covered, but now I have to stay and watch Levi.

GEORGIA

Hello? I can watch Levi. Go! This book man sounds important to you.

JOSH

No. You're on vacation.

GEORGIA

Spending time with you guys is my vacation.

(to Levi)

What do you think bud, you wanna have a party with your grandma?

She makes a silly face. Levi giggles.

JOSH

You know what? You're right. I think you're perfectly fit to watch him.

GEORGIA

Who said I wasn't fit?

JOSH

No one. That's my point.

(beat)

Would you mind not saying anything to Penelope though? I promised her I'd watch him--

GEORGIA

It'll be our little secret.

JOSH

What if Levi says something?

They look at Levi who is crashing colander-first into a wall.

GEORGIA

I think we're good.

Josh smiles and hurries out the door.

TIME CUT TO:

EXT. PENELOPE AND JOSH'S HOUSE - LATER

With a skip in his step, Josh returns home clutching his Chuck Yeager book. As he puts his key in the lock,

PENELOPE(O.S.)

What are you doing out here?

Josh, caught, turns to see Penelope behind him, getting home from work.

JOSH

Hey! I was getting the mail. You always say I never do that. So I did it.

They enter.

INT. PENELOPE AND JOSH'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

JOSH

(calling off)

Georgia? I'm back from getting the mail. Only took a minute.

(to Penelope)

What are you doing home so early?

Penelope points at her swollen face.

JOSH (CONT'D)

Face is coming along.

PENELOPE

Thank you. Where's the mail?

JOSH

Huh?

PENELOPE

All you've got is that Chuck Yeager book.

JOSH

Right. It came in the mail. I threw out the package because the trash can is right next to the mailbox.

PENELOPE

Why are you explaining so much? Gimme that.

She opens his book as Georgia enters the room.

PENELOPE (CONT'D)

This is signed. You went?

GEORGIA

This is all my fault. I forced Josh to go so I could spend time with Levi. He's in his room. Everything is fine--

PENELOPE

(to Josh)

I thought we agreed that we didn't want her babysitting.

JOSH

Agreed? No. We never agreed.

GEORGIA

(offended)

Are you serious? You don't think I'm responsible enough to watch my own grandchild?

PENELOPE

That is correct.

JOSH

(eager to escape)

I'm gonna go check on him.

He goes.

GEORGIA

You know what? I'm so sick of you treating me like I'm the child.

PENELOPE

You are the child.

GEORGIA

And you're the most judgmental person on the planet. You think I don't see you constantly rolling your eyes behind my back?

PENELOPE

I'm sorry I'm not more supportive every time you fall for some loser.

GEORGIA

I don't know that they're losers when I fall for them!

PENELOPE

All you've ever cared about is guys! The minute you'd meet one, you'd hand me off to that old babysitter so you could--

GEORGIA

Try to find you a dad!

PENELOPE

I needed a mom.

This cuts Georgia deep. Josh reenters.

GEORGIA

You have zero sympathy that I was 17 when I had you. Zero!

PENELOPE

I don't! What teenager doesn't know
the pull out method!

GEORGIA

Well... if I used the pull out
method you wouldn't exist!

JOSH

(trying to referee)
I think we can all agree that it's
a good thing Penelope's dad
stayed... inside of you, Georgia--

Josh stops and cringes, grossed out by his own words.

GEORGIA

I don't need this abuse. I'm taking
the next flight home.

Georgia marches into the guest room as--

PENELOPE

Of course. Big surprise. Run away
again. You're not a child at all.

Georgia returns a moment later with her suitcase.

PENELOPE (CONT'D)

Don't forget to slam the--

The front door SLAMS on cue.

JOSH

Look, I honestly think she was okay
to watch him. And he's fine in
there. You're not going to believe
this but he's... *asleep*.

PENELOPE

(shocked)
What?

JOSH

I know. Somehow your mom of all
people got him to nap.

PENELOPE

She probably gave him a can of
White Claw or something.

Penelope grabs the monitor and rewinds.

CLOSE ON the monitor: Georgia and Levi play "bull fight" with Levi as the bull charging a cape held by Georgia.

Penelope scrolls again: Georgia and Levi are now having a dance party. Levi cracks up as Georgia does the worm.

JOSH

Izzy never made him laugh like that.

Penelope scrolls more: Georgia reads Levi book after book after book. She places him in his crib and he cries.

Penelope scrolls: Georgia climbs into the crib with Levi and reads him a story and rubs his head. He finally falls asleep. She climbs out of the crib and sneaks out of the room.

JOSH (CONT'D)

That was the sweetest thing I've ever seen.

PENELOPE

I'm such a dick. I have to call her and apologize.

(then, remembering)

Her phone broke from Twister. I'll just go to the airport.

JOSH

You can't just go to the gate anymore. This isn't "Love Actually."

PENELOPE

Well, give me your pilot credentials and they'll let me through.

JOSH

Okay, you're still in "Love Actually" land.

PENELOPE

Maybe I can catch her before she goes to the gate.

JOSH

What gate? You don't even know which airline she's flying.

PENELOPE

So I'll try them all. Just stop making sense and let me do this!

Josh steps out of the way. Penelope heads out.

JOSH
This will 100 percent not work.

EXT. PENELOPE AND JOSH'S HOUSE - NEXT MOMENT

Penelope hurries out to find Georgia sitting on the porch.

PENELOPE
What are you doing?

GEORGIA
I'll be out of your hair as soon as
a cab drives by. I can't call an
Uber because...

She holds up her broken phone.

PENELOPE
Why didn't you just come back in
and use ours?

GEORGIA
Because I'm mad at you. For being
mad at me.

PENELOPE
(sitting)
Mom, I'm sorry.

GEORGIA
(skeptical)
What?

PENELOPE
I shouldn't be so hard on you. I
know you were really young and my
coming along must have totally
screwed up your plans.

GEORGIA
Are you kidding? You were the best
thing to ever happen to me. And
here I come waltzing in again and
messing up your life.

PENELOPE
Just my job. And my face.

They laugh.

GEORGIA

I shouldn't have babysat without asking you first.

PENELOPE

Actually, I saw you on the monitor. You're pretty amazing with Levi. Made me think of all the fun stuff you and I used to do growing up.

GEORGIA

We kind of grew up together, didn't we?

PENELOPE

(a look)
We?

GEORGIA

(laughing)
Shut up.

PENELOPE

I can't believe you got him to sleep. You're a magician.

GEORGIA

It was easy. It's an old trick that worked when you were little.

PENELOPE

Thanks.

Penelope smiles and rests her head on her mom's shoulder. Georgia closes her eyes, enjoying this moment.

PENELOPE (CONT'D)

Am I the worst mom in the world for working so much?

GEORGIA

What? No! Not one father has ever asked himself if he's a bad dad for working. Listen to me when I say this: that Izzy girl is a bitch.

PENELOPE

Mom!

GEORGIA

What? She is. No one makes my daughter feel bad. Plus, she had the best job in the world. Hanging out with Levi all day. I hate her.

Penelope laughs.

GEORGIA (CONT'D)

(pouting)

This sucks. I don't wanna go. I
wanna stay here forever.

PENELOPE

Right. I'm sure you wanna freeze
your ass off in Chicago.

Georgia smiles, hiding her sadness. Penelope clocks this.

PENELOPE (CONT'D)

What? What was that face?

GEORGIA

Nothing, I just -- I don't have a
lot waiting for me back at home. I
mean, I love my clients and
everything -- but I just really
miss you guys is all.

Penelope reacts. She hears a quiet tap at the window.
(Georgia is oblivious) and looks back to see Josh holding up
a paper with note written in marker a la "Love Actually":
"ASK HER TO STAY."

Then he reveals another note: **"SHE CAN HELP OUT WITH LEVI"**
Another note: **"AND I KNOW WHAT I SAID ABOUT 'LOVE
ACTUALLY'..."**

Josh holds up Penelope's phone with another note: **"BUT YOU
LEFT YOUR PHONE INSIDE"** Last note: **"AND I DIDN'T WANT TO RUIN
THE MOMENT."**

Penelope bites a smile and turns back on Georgia.

PENELOPE

Hey, what if you had another baby?

GEORGIA

Impossible. I just got my period.

PENELOPE

No... I mean -- what if you helped
out with Levi for a couple weeks?
Until we find a permanent nanny.

Georgia is touched.

GEORGIA

I would love to. For real. But I
can't afford to miss that many days
at Dry Bar.

PENELOPE

We can take care of you.

GEORGIA

(incredulous)
You'd pay me to play with my
grandson?

PENELOPE

Gladly.

Georgia hugs Penelope, tears in her eyes. Then,

GEORGIA

Oh, can I have Saturday off? Bon
Jovi's in town.

PENELOPE

Sure. You can take Josh.

END OF SHOW