

TEASER

EXT. CAMPUS QUAD - DAY

Lizzie and Steven walk across the campus. Lizzie is holding a large padded envelope.

STEVEN

So what's in the envelope?

LIZZIE

It's from my boyfriend. He's always sending me stuff.

STEVEN

Yeah, I kind of noticed.

Lizzie opens envelope and pulls out a calender labeled "12 Months of Lizzie". She is on the cover.

STEVEN (CONT'D)

You're on a calender?

LIZZIE

Eric manages a Kinko's, so he uses the equipment for free. He's pretty creative.

Lizzie flips through the calender. A few guys walk by and obviously check Lizzie out.

STEVEN

Who's that guy?

LIZZIE

Eric.

STEVEN

He looks old. (Beat) I mean older. He's got a lot of hair on his chest and, uh, legs.

LIZZIE

He's twenty-seven.

STEVEN

And he manages his own Kinko's? Wow. Takes most people till they're 34.

Lizzie pulls another item out of the envelope.

LIZZIE

Look at this. Fake coupons. "The bearer of this coupon is entitled to a romantic French feast prepared by Eric."

STEVEN

"The bearer of this coupon is entitled to one gigantic smooch when Eric sees you."
(beat) I'm gonna hold on to this one.

Lizzie laughs.

LIZZIE

I think I'm going to break up with him.

STEVEN

What? When?

LIZZIE

Tonight. When he comes up.

STEVEN

Really.

LIZZIE

Yeah...don't get me wrong, I love him, he's great, but, you know...

STEVEN

Yeah. Of course.

LIZZIE

All this stuff just makes me feel pressured.

STEVEN

These kinds of graphics will do that.

LIZZIE

Come on, help me here. I could spend my whole life with him wondering if there's a more perfect guy out there.

STEVEN

You want to know my personal theory? If it's meant to be, it's meant to be. Four years in college seeing what else is out there won't ruin anything.

LIZZIE

You'd better be here to support me afterwards. I'm gonna be a mess.

STEVEN

Okay.

CREDITS

ACT 1

INT. GUY'S COMMON ROOM - DAY

Steven, Ron, Lloyd and Marshall are hanging out. Lloyd is reading a copy of "Sexual Perversity in Chicago"

STEVEN

I'm going to have a girlfriend. How cool is that? An actual girlfriend.
I'm gonna have two toothbrushes, one here and one right across the hall.

MARSHALL

(sincere)

God, I want a girlfriend. Two toothbrushes!

Marshall hits Lloyd a few times for emphasis, Lloyd is buried in his book, trying to learn lines, and doesn't look up.

LLOYD

Steven, does Lizzie know she's your girlfriend yet, or will you tell her later?

STEVEN

She dumps the guy, she's available. Who's she gonna talk to? Me. I'm in.

LLOYD

No, Steven. You must be proactive. The instant her man is done with, you roll out from under her bed, shove him aside and clutch her as tight as you can. Then, don't let go for at least a year.

Ron enters, awkwardly rolling something awkward and huge.

RON

Gentlemen. Meet your best friend for the next 24 hours. I call him...Keggy.

Ron pulls the cover off, revealing a large aluminum keg.

RON

Ten minutes to come up with that line. Somebody laugh.

MARSHALL

Is that real?

STEVEN

If you stole it from the alumni center, you're dead. That's how Walter Mondale's daughter got kicked out in '82.

RON

It's not stolen beer. It's free beer. I know guys on that all guy floor, and they couldn't finish it.

LLOYD

Leftover beer from a hall full of lonely men. I'm not thirsty.

RON

There's half a keg left. That's 1/8th of a keg per person, which is like, nothing. Twelve beers.

Ron grabs a nut jar off a dresser, dumps the remaining nuts out on the floor and starts filling the jar with beer.

RON

They have to return the keg by six. But the beer is all ours.

LLOYD

I can't sit here with you and drink twelve beers out of a nut jar. Sorry.

RON

(A little hurt)

You know what? You and I have lived together for three weeks and hardly know each other. So I got us free beer. I thought

we'd stay up and drink until it's gone. It'd be fun as hell. But I guess you, like, hate me, which sucks.

They stand there, in awe of Ron's outburst. Ron feebly adds:

RON

It's room temperature? You people like that, right?

Lloyd can't resist smiling. He passes Ron an empty fishbowl. Ron smiles and begins to fill it.

MUSIC IN

FAST PACED MONTAGE of the guys filling containers with beer: glasses, mugs, jars, shampoo bottles, nut tennis ball cans, soap dishes, wastepaper baskets.

They finish and lift their containers in a toast. They take their first sip. Everybody's face contorts -- it's disgusting stuff, and Ron wants them to drink all of it.

LLOYD

Can I still back out?

Ron gives Lloyd a playfully punch in the arm, and everyone laughs.

MUSIC OUT

Rachel enters and quickly shuts the door behind her.

RACHEL

(hushed but excited)

You guys. Lizzie's boyfriend is here. Well, man friend, really.

STEVEN

Eric's here now?

LLOYD

Your nemesis has arrived.

Everyone gets up, excited. Steven is apprehensive.

CUT TO:

INT. GIRL'S COMMON ROOM - CONTINUOUS

We see LIZZIE and ERIC right in front of her door. Eric is a twenty-seven year old slightly balding guy with a moustache. He is dressed nicely, with a tucked in collar shirt, and slacks with creases.

We hear a knock on the door. Steven walks in, then realizes everyone else is hanging back in the doorway.

STEVEN

Oh hey Lizzie. We were going to, uh, watch some TV.

RON

"Change of Heart."

STEVEN

(shoots look at Ron)

You want to come watch?

LIZZIE

No, Eric and I are going to town.

Lizzie motions to Eric. Steven acts like he didn't even notice him.

STEVEN

Oh yeah. Eric, wow. Its great to meet you.
Welcome.

ERIC

Yeah...I'm sorry, what did you say your
name was?

LIZZIE

This is Steven. He's the one I told you
about.

ERIC

(no recollection)
Oh right, right. Steven.

LIZZIE

And that's Lloyd, Marshall, Ron, and
Rachel you met.

ERIC

(forced)
There won't be a test will there?

Awkward laughter and some silence.

STEVEN

OK, well, we'll be in the TV lounge if you
need any of us.

Lizzie locks eyes with Steven, looking nervous. Steven gives her a supporting nod
of the head, then starts down the hall. Ron grabs Eric's hand as he walks out.

RON

Good to meet you. I'm sure you're going
to have a really good time. Really good.

ERIC

Thanks.

Ron pats him on the arm as he walks on.

INT. HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

TRACKING SHOT of the suitemates walking quietly down the hallway.

STEVEN

Well I thought that was a little awkward.

MARSHALL

(shaken up)
Oh man. It's going to be brutal. That guy is
not ready for this.

LLOYD

He didn't even have that look you get
when you know your relationship is going
bad.

RON

It seemed funny before, but after you meet him, it seems really funny.

They stop at the TV lounge.

STEVEN

We're not actually watching TV, are we?

They turn and we track them back to the room.

LLOYD

No. We're drinking.

RON

That's right, brother.

CUT TO:

INT. GIRLS' COMMON ROOM - NIGHT

Rachel and Marshall stand near the closed bedroom door, drinking liberally from odd containers.

RACHEL

What's going on in there?

MARSHALL

Maybe he's sobbing in that really real way, when you hardly make any noise.

RACHEL

Have you ever dumped anyone?

MARSHALL

I almost did. This girl I scooped ice cream with last summer. But we didn't end up going out. Girls don't, like, notice me a lot.

RACHEL

Well, I can help you with that.

MARSHALL

Nah. I'm hopeless.

RACHEL

I went to high school with this guy Dennis. He had this pet snake, and he started wearing it to parties around his neck. Then he stopped being just "Dennis." He became "Dennis the Snake Guy." It was kind of sexy.

MARSHALL

You hear something?

They go over to Lizzie and Rachel's door. We hear the sound of two people going at it, louder and louder.

RACHEL

Oh my God. Is daddy hurting mommy?

MARSHALL

Should we get Steven?

You can tell Rachel doesn't think that's a great idea, but they see Steven across the hall and beckon him out.

Steven enters and listens at the door. We hear rustling and laughing.

MARSHALL

Sorry, Steven.

STEVEN

They're just laughing.

MARSHALL

The light is off.

STEVEN

(realizing)

Yeah, but...

Steven walks into the adjoining girls room, grabs the cordless phone, and dials it. We hear ringing in Beth and Lizzie's room. Nobody picks up. Steven is getting worked up.

STEVEN

If they're in there, they would pick up.
Maybe they left the radio on.

MARSHALL

(to Rachel, sotto)

We shouldn't have gotten him.

The noise stops. Everything is quiet for a beat. Then, the sound of footsteps. The door opens and Eric emerges.

MUSIC IN: SLOW, SOULFUL

Eric, his face flushed and sweaty, is dressed in only boxer shorts, with a towel over his shoulder. As he closes the door, we see Lizzie's naked leg sticking out from under a blanket. Eric smiles and disappears around the corner. Steven is stunned.

CUT TO:

INT. GUY'S COMMON ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Eric walks by Ron and Lloyd. Eric salutes. They salute back.

RON

Looked like that guy was popping one in
his boxers.

Lloyd nods. They keep drinking.

MUSIC OUT

CUT TO:

INT. STEVEN'S ROOM - MORNING

Steven is getting dressed in his room. He tucks his shirt in, grabs a backpack.

INT. GUY'S COMMON ROOM - MORNING

Ron and Lloyd are in the room, looking terrible but having a good time. Ron is at the sink, brushing his teeth with beer.

RON

This is great, because I usually keep my acne medication in this bottle, and there's probably some residue left. I can drink beer and get rid of acne at the same time. It's genius. I could sell this.

LLOYD

I've been drinking out of a coffee mug for hours and I'm still tired.

Steven enters. He looks pretty down.

STEVEN

Have you guys been up all night?

Lloyd and Ron look at each other, nod and laugh.

RON

We're making a dent, though, huh?

Wider shot - Steven sees there are still tons and tons of full containers.

STEVEN

Absolutely.

Ron puts a hand on his shoulder.

RON

My suggestion - drown your problems in alcohol.

Steven smiles, shakes his head and exits.

RON

Looks like we have to drink it all ourselves.
(turns and sees Lloyd
napping)

Lloyd!

Lloyd snaps awake.

LLOYD

Sorry.

Beat. Lloyd takes a huge drink and groans.

CUT TO:

INT. HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Steven is walking past Lizzie's room. He sees the door open, and Lizzie sitting alone reading a textbook in bed. He walks in and knocks.

STEVEN

Hey. Am I interrupting?

LIZZIE

No. Eric's jogging.

STEVEN

So you cut him loose?

LIZZIE

I didn't go through with it. I'm a wimp.

STEVEN

We kind of figured...since he spent the night in your room.

LIZZIE

We didn't do anything. He slept on the floor.

STEVEN

(letting that one go)

Are you gonna do it?

LIZZIE

I don't know.

STEVEN

(losing his cool a little)

You don't know? We talked about this. The longer you wait, the more it's going to hurt him.

LIZZIE

I know, it's just, maybe now's not the right time.

STEVEN

Every second you don't break up with him, he's getting more and more obsessed.

He walks to her bed and takes her pillow case off her pillow. We see it has a picture of "Eric" on it and says "Dreaming of You."

STEVEN (CONT'D)

Look at this. Do I even have to say anything?

LIZZIE

Steven, this is just really hard.

STEVEN

And it's easy for him? He's supposed to be hanging by a thread silk screening his face onto pillowcases while you decide what to do?

LIZZIE

I know, I just don't want to hurt him.

STEVEN

Get it done. Break it clean. What you're doing now is what really hurts him.

(beat)

Or marry him forever. But do one or the other. There's no middle ground. Think about him for a minute.

LIZZIE

You're right. Thanks for staying on me about this.

STEVEN
Yeah, I'm just staying on you....Good luck.

CUT TO:

INT. MAIL ROOM - DAY

Marshall is trying to open up his mailbox, but he's a bit too messed up to get it right. He turns to a pretty girl next to him.

MARSHALL
(joking)
Hey you know how to pick locks?

She doesn't even hear him. She grabs her mail and leaves.

INT. FIRE ESCAPE - DAY

Steven, Ron, Lloyd, Marshall, Rachel are sitting outside the dorm, a mess. They are drinking from shampoo bottles, etc.

Angle on Lloyd and Ron, continuing to enjoy themselves.

LLOYD
Then Rutger Hauer jumps through the ceiling right on top of Harrison Ford, and he's like...
(Rutger Hauer impression)
"Hullo, Roy."
(making fun of Ron a bit)
So then, what's you're favorite movie, Ron?

RON
For real, or what I tell people?

LLOYD
For real.

RON
"You've Got Mail."

LLOYD
I might have missed that one.

RON
It's on cable all the time. It's incredible. Tom Hanks, Meg Ryan, Dave Chapelle, Parker Posey. All very likeable actors. Greg Kinnear. Very likeable.

LLOYD
It sounds likeable.

RON
I'm almost scared of it it's so good.

ANGLE ON RACHEL AND MARSHALL

RACHEL
(teasing)
I'm telling you. Wear a snake around. You could be 'Snake Guy.' It works.

MARSHALL

I don't want to be known for his thing. I need my thing.

RACHEL

There's a pet store in town...

Rachel makes "sssss" noise while snaking her hand near Marshall's chest. He seems pleased.

Steven notices PERRY standing by the open window.

PERRY

Drinking brewdogs, huh? (Beat) You guys should go to the bathroom.

STEVEN

Thanks for the advice, Perry.

PERRY

There's a senior in our bathroom crying right now. Bald guy.

Everyone looks at each other.

PERRY

I got out of there because I didn't want to start crying. He was really crying. It was really sad.

CUT TO:

INT. MEN'S BATHROOM - DAY

Ron enters the bathroom. We hear sobbing. There are a few freshman literally standing there and staring. Ron pretends to wash his hands quickly and exits.

CUT TO:

INT. HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

RON

That's not funny at all anymore.

MARSHALL

I'm almost glad I don't have a girlfriend.

RACHEL

She seemed so happy with him this morning. I don't know what happened.

STEVEN

Maybe I should go in there and see if he's alright.

LLOYD

No no no. Steven! Proactive! Now is when you pounce. She is right down the hall, and she is fair game. Go. Go!

MARSHALL

Yeah, Steven. Make your move, man. One of us should be getting lucky.

Steven considers. He turns and walks into the bathroom.

STEVEN [O.S.]

Eric? You OK?

The door closes. Everyone is standing there.

LLOYD

Well that sobered me up pretty quick.

END ACT ONE

INT. MEN'S BATHROOM - DAY

Steven hears sobbing.

STEVEN

Eric?

He opens up the shower stall door and finds Eric laying on the floor, distraught.

STEVEN

Hey, man, are you alright?

ERIC

I'm fine. I just need a minute.

STEVEN

(after a long beat)

What happened?

ERIC

Lizzie dumped me.

Steven absorbs this.

STEVEN

I'm sorry. That sucks. So...I guess you just want to get yourself together before you go home.

Steven heads for the door.

ERIC

Steven, can you hand me a tissue?

Steven tears off a piece of toilet paper. Eric sits up and wipes his nose. Little clumps of the toilet paper stick to his upper lip.

ERIC

I just never thought this could happen. She always signed her letters, Love you forever. I never doubted it. I guess forever meant two years and three months.

STEVEN

(not wanting to get sucked in)

I'm sure you'll feel better tomorrow. These things take time.

ERIC

You don't feel better when you lose the perfect woman. Every day just reminds you how much you've lost.

Steven wants to leave, but he can't.

STEVEN

Don't say that. You'll be happy again. One day you'll laugh about this.

ERIC

Yeah. I hope so.

(beat)

You've never had a girlfriend have you?

Steven shakes his head 'no.'

ERIC

When we would go out on a date, I'd drop her at her parents house and when I got home there would always be a message from her on my machine telling her how much fun she had and how much she loved me.

A GUY walks in wearing a towel. He looks at them as if to say, "can you leave so I can take a shower?"

ERIC

(starts bawling)

And now I'm never going to get one of those messages ever again!

Steven is embarrassed. He pulls Eric to his feet.

STEVEN

You're only making yourself more depressed. You've got to get out of the bathroom, take a walk, get some fresh air. Go home and get some sleep. Then tomorrow talk to your friends. They'll cheer you up.

ERIC

She was my best friend. I can't go home. I can't leave.

Steven has no choice.

STEVEN

Come on, come in my room. Everything's going to be okay.

ERIC

Okay.

Steven walks him out.

STEVEN

(to the guy in the towel)

It's all yours.

CUT TO:

INT. PET STORE - DAY

Rachel is holding a small puppy

RACHEL

Can we keep it, Marshall? Pleeese?

MARSHALL

A dog is a big responsibility, young lady.

Pan to reveal a BORED PET STORE OWNER [Andrew Secunda]. He looks like he's been putting up with this for a while.

PET STORE OWNER

I have a lunch break coming up in five minutes, so I'd really like to finish this up.

MARSHALL

Naw...I don't know...

RACHEL

(handing dog to owner)

Marshall doesn't want a pet that's cuter than him.

PET STORE OWNER

So the gecko?

MARSHALL

Man, the gecko was awesome. So was the ferret, that thing is crazy...I thought the Boa was a little, uh...

PET STORE OWNER

You said it was a bit "Lita Ford-y"

MARSHALL

Yeah! Look I just need something really cool looking. That costs less than fifteen dollars.

CUT TO:

INT. PET STORE BACK ROOM

The owner is taking the blanket of a rustling creature we can't see.

MARSHALL

I love that.

PET STORE OWNER

Six dollars including food. He spent ten years in a fourth grade classroom, so don't poke it with chalk or it goes nuts.

INT. STEVEN'S ROOM - DAY

Steven and Eric sit in Steven's bedroom. Eric is drinking from a Chinese soup container.

ERIC

This beer tastes good.

STEVEN

It taste good because you get a little residue taste from the won tons.

ERIC

You know what? She's right. If it's meant to be, it's meant to be. Four years in college seeing what else is out there won't ruin anything.

Steven feels bad, since that's exactly what he told Lizzie.

STEVEN

Well I don't know if that's necessarily true.

ERIC

Sometimes when I work nights at Kinko's I get bored and I make things for Lizzie. Like a calendar, or a laminated love poem. It's corny, but it doesn't make me feel so far away from her.

STEVEN

I saw the pillowcase.

ERIC

Yeah? (Suddenly embarrassed] Was that too much?

STEVEN

Nobody's ever made something like that for me. I'd like it.

(beat-laugh)

I guess.

ERIC

"Dreaming of You." What was I thinking? I should have written, "I am your worst nightmare."

STEVEN

Or, "I don't sleep because I'm obsessed with you."

ERIC

"Get lots of rest, because you're dating a psycho."

They both crack up.

ERIC

As you sleep I am busy stalking you.

They both start laughing hysterically.

ERIC

I am such a cornball. God, kill me fast.

STEVEN

Maybe you should make those things for yourself then burn them.

ERIC

Or I could keep them and one day she opens my closet and finds four hundred pillowcases...

STEVEN

And has to call the police.

ERIC

And there's one in there for them too:
"You have the right to remain...in love with me."

They giggle. There is a moment of silence during which Eric contemplates his situation.

ERIC

Sometimes being in love makes you nuts.
You do things you wouldn't normally do.

STEVEN

I know. (Beat) I think her judgment is clouded. College is confusing. If you really want her back, maybe you have to fight for her. I think she's worth it.

CUT TO:

INT. GUY'S COMMON ROOM - DAY

RON

"Caviar is a garnish!"

Ron and Lloyd are watching "You've Got Mail" on video. Ron is really digging it. Lloyd gets up and walks towards the door.

RON

We're watching the movie, man. You want me to stop it?

LLOYD

That's OK. I'm going to the bathroom for a few minutes.

RON

Hey. I'm not watching this for me. I've seen this. A lot.

LLOYD

Just tell me what happens.

Ron stands. Suddenly this feels like a confrontation.

RON

How about I don't, so you won't know what's going on, and you'll be lost, and for the rest of your life you'll have this vacant empty feeling like you missed out on something. How's that?

LLOYD

Fine by me.

Ron stops Lloyd, and Lloyd turns and shoves Ron in the arm. They stand there for a second, neither wanting to follow this through, neither wanting to back down.

Ron punches Lloyd in the arm. Beat. Lloyd punches Ron in the arm as hard as he can. They seem to have engaged in some pathetic, chivalrous fist fight.

Ron punches Lloyd back in the arm, really hard. You can tell it really hurts, but Lloyd is holding it in. They stand there again. Lloyd does not punch back.

RON
Just go to the bathroom.

LLOYD
We'll watch the rest when I get back.

RON
Sure. Whatever, man.

EXT. COLLEGE QUAD - DAY

MUSIC IN - SOMETHING AWESOME

Marshall stands poised, surveying the crowded quad. He is holding a covered cage. He takes a deep breath. He uncovers the cage, revealing a huge Scarlet Macaw. Marshall puts the bird on his shoulder.

Marshall struts across the campus, scanning for reaction. People don't notice at first, but then awareness grows, as people stare and point. Marshall walks by a blanket full of girls.

FEMALE STUDENT#1
Hey check it out. It's bird guy.

FEMALE STUDENT#2
Can I pet him?

MARSHALL
Why yes you can.

Marshall kneels and plays it cool.

EXT. KINKO'S - NIGHT

MUSIC UP: "GOLDEN LADY" BY STEVIE WONDER

1) Tight shot of Kinko's sign. Pull back to let in Eric and Steven, arriving in Eric's beat-up Maxima. Inside the car, Eric shakes his head in happy disbelief.

2) Shot of Eric at counter, showing a bored, pimply faced teen employee his Kinko's ID and explaining what he and Steven are doing. The teen couldn't care less.

3) We see a scanner reading a photograph of Lizzie and Eric. Steven is sifting through photographs of Eric and Lizzie from a shoebox, and passing on the ones he likes: a Halloween photo from a few years back with Lizzie and Eric dressed up as Hans and Franz, a prom photo where they are surrounded by gawky high schoolers, some goofy photo booth kissing photos, a really great photo of Lizzie on the beach in a bikini that Steven lingers over for a second, before reluctantly handing it over. [See Rodney for complete list]

4) Eric and Steven sit cross-legged on the floor, cutting stuff out. Eric is cutting a heart out of red poster board. Steven is cutting photographs. They are both really into it.

5) Steven takes a head shot sized photocopy of Lizzie and sticks his tongue through a slit in the mouth, leaning in towards Eric, who laughs and swats him away.

6) Pan down a line of copy machines with error messages showing. Find Eric and Steven trying to rip jammed paper out of additional machine, then giving up and moving to next one.

7) Steven holds up board with different samples of glitter to teen employee. Teen chooses blue glitter without a trace of emotion.

8) As they leave, Eric turns and gives the teen employee a thumbs up. The teen sends back a bored but slightly approving nod. Steven doubles back and gives him a gallon milk bottle full of beer. The teen is unbelievably grateful.

9) Eric and Steven walking down dorm hallway with gift.

ERIC

Hey Steven. Even though this probably won't work and I'm going to lose Lizzy, I'm glad I met you.

STEVEN

I hope it works.

INT. GUY'S COMMON ROOM - DAY

Lloyd and Ron are chugging big containers, supper messed up.

RON

You know something, Lloyd. It's good we did this.

LLOYD

(equally unconvinced)
Yes. Very good.

RON

Because now we know that we should never do this again.

LLOYD

It's sort of a relief to know we're not going to be good friends. It's one less thing to worry about.

(lifting new container)
To a long and fruitful toleration of each other.

Ron lifts one and they happily chug. Marshall enters with an eye patch on and no bird. He grabs the containers out of their hands and pours them down the drain.

MARSHALL

Put those down! That stuff is evil, I swear. It makes us do horrible, terrible stuff.

Ron and Lloyd stare at Marshall, speechless.

MARSHALL

I told her not to pet when it wasn't looking. It gets nervous. Then very angry.

(sadly)
And then some senior crushed it with a rock.

The moment passes.

MARSHALL

(apologetic)
I'm sorry, I'm all messed up. Let me get
you guys new ones.

Marshall stoops to pick up more containers, but Lloyd and Ron both stop him_.

LLOYD
No no no. That's OK, Marshall.

RON
Yeah, we'll uh, help you pour them out.
Good idea.

They all begin to pour out the beer.

INT. LIZZIE'S ROOM – MORNING

Lizzie sits on her bed in a bathrobe, with a towel in her hair. Steven is sitting next to her.

LIZZIE
Well you should be the first to know
this...and I know you're gonna kill me for
this...Eric and I got back together last
night.

Steven looks excited for a second, then gains composure.

STEVEN
Really.

LIZZIE
He stayed up all night making me this
thing.

Lizzie holds up a big, beautiful collage made out of photographs of Eric and her.
The words spell: "I Understand."

LIZZIE
It made me sick at first, but once that
passed, I felt really happy.

STEVEN
I can't believe he could put something that
impressive together by himself in one
night.

LIZZIE
You don't know Eric like I do.
(beat)
He's a ridiculous man, but he makes me
comfortable right now.

STEVEN
It's OK. I understand.

Steven puts his hand on her shoulder, then starts patting her shoulder once the
moment feels too intimate. Steven gets up to leave.

STEVEN
Well, let me know if you need my help next
week when you dump him for real.

LIZZIE

Steven.

STEVEN

OK.

CUT TO:

EXT. PARKING LOT - DAY

Lizzie and Eric tightly hug and kiss by Eric's car. Steven stands a little off to the side. It's a little awkward.

ERIC

I love you.

LIZZIE

I love you too. I'll miss you.

ERIC

I could just have sex with you right here on the gravel.

LIZZIE

(motioning to Steven)

Eric.

Eric turns to Steven and gives him a hug.

ERIC

What? It's Steven!

STEVEN

Please don't kiss me.

(beat)

This sucks. You're like the nicest guy I've met here, and you're not even here.

ERIC

Oh, I'll be by all the time.

(his eyes open wide like a psycho)

Like, every single second.

They laugh.

ERIC

You're a cool kid. Once these girls stop stressing out about classes and everything, they're going to see that.

STEVEN

OK. If you say so.

Eric pulls out. Steven stand, watching him go, standing side by side and waving.

INT. HALLWAY - DAY

Steven walks down the hallway and enters his suite.

INT. GUY'S COMMON ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Ron, Lloyd and Marshall are all sleeping in the common room. There are a few large garbage cans full of empty containers.

INT. BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Steven sits down on his bed for a beat. He reaches down and pulls out the Eric "Dreaming of You" pillow.

Shot from above, we see Steven put the pillow on his bed, lay down his head. He smiles, laughs quietly for a second, closes his eyes, and sleeps for a long time.