

MY SO-CALLED LIFE
"Other People's Mothers"

Written by
Richard Kramer

Episode #59306

BLUE SCRIPT - 4/8/94
PINK SCRIPT - 4/11/94
Yellow Pages - 4/12/94
Green Pages - 4/12/94
Goldenrod Pages - 4/15/94

CAST

ANGELA CHASE
PATTY CHASE
GRAHAM CHASE
DANIELLE CHASE
RAYANNE GRAFF
SHARON CHERSKI
RICKIE VASQUEZ

GUEST CAST

AMBER VALLONE
VIVIAN WOOD

ACE
WANDA
PIZZA GUY
LIBBY
TATTOO ARTIST
PARAMEDIC

SETS

INTERIORS

LIBERTY HIGH SCHOOL
-Hallway (Various)
-Girls Restroom

CHASE HOUSE

-Living Room
-Kitchen
-Dining Room
-Entrance Way/Stairway
-Staircase
-Upstairs Hallway
-Breakfast Nook

RAYANNE'S HOUSE

-Living Room
-Bathroom
-Amber's Room (Boudoir)

HOSPITAL

-ER Waiting Area
-Hospital Room

EXTERIORS

CHASE HOUSE
-Driveway

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

1 INT. CHASE HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY

1

AN OPEN REFRIGERATOR...

RAYANNE

Refrigerators. Are like so revealing.

PULLBACK TO REVEAL: RAYANNE with her head stuck in the Chase refrigerator, while nearby, Angela and Rickie are practicing tossing green grapes into their respective mouths.

RAYANNE (cont'd)

You know? I can look in this refrigerator and know everything about your family... *

(She examines the wonder of the fully-stocked Chase refrigerator.)

I mean look at this, there is actual labeled like leftovers in here... We got stuff, in our refrigerator? We never knew what it was. *

ANGELA

Could you close the door? My mother chemically senses it if the fridge rises above forty-seven degrees.

RAYANNE

Who's into the mustard?

ANGELA

My Dad.

RAYANNE

Well, you know what that's about.

Rayanne brings a large jar of imported looking mustard over to a huge sandwich she's constructing at the counter...

ANGELA'S VOICE

To Rayanne, everything is about...one thing.

RAYANNE

Sex. I mean, all you really need to survive is mild yellow.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

1 CONTINUED:

1

RAYANNE (cont'd)
All those other mustards are...
recreational.

Rayanne returns the mustard and casually pulls out a BEER.
Rickie and Angela exchange a look. Then look at her.

*

RAYANNE (cont'd)
(off their looks)
What? It's domestic.
(beat)
Even Patty has enough of a life
not to count beers.

*

*

*

Rayanne opens it defensively.

ANGELA
(beat)
Maybe we should eat up in my room.

RICKIE
Yeah.

RAYANNE
Fine.

Rayanne grabs her sandwich and chips and a bowl of grapes...
indicates beer...

RAYANNE (cont'd)
Rickie, grab that for me?

Rickie obediently grabs the beer and they all head out...

2 INT. CHASE HOUSE - ENTRANCE WAY/STAIRWAY - SECONDS LATER

2

As they climb the stairs...

RICKIE
In my refrigerator? We've got this
mayonnaise jar? That nobody wants
to like admit is empty...

ANGELA
(this cracks her up)
Oh God, I know...! My mother
will not throw things away!
She's like in denial about
spoilage...

Patty walks in. With Danielle. Freezes.

(CONTINUED)

2 CONTINUED:

2

UP ON THE STEPS, the KIDS freeze also. And before Patty can completely register what's going on...

DANIELLE
You're drinking a beer?! At
four thirty?!

Beat. Patty is staring at the beer in Rickie's hand. Her expression grows deadly serious.

PATTY
Danielle, go upstairs.

DANIELLE
Mom!
(beat)
It's not fair, my life is totally
edited!

Danielle stomps past them up the stairs. Patty is silent.

ANGELA
Look, mom...

RICKIE
(overlaps her...)
I'm really sorry. It won't happen
again.

Patty holds out her hand... Rickie, shamefacedly hands her the beer. Patty turns to Angela. *

PATTY
Look, I will not tolerate...
Under no circumstances will
I... There are certain rules
that...
(beat)
May I see you in the kitchen for a
moment...? *

3 INT. CHASE HOUSE - KITCHEN -- SECONDS LATER

3

Angela watches, uncomfortable, as Patty quietly pours the rest of the beer down the sink. Then she turns to Angela. A tense silence. Finally.

PATTY
Grandpa Chuck is back in the
hospital. For tests.

ANGELA'S FACE.

CUT BACK TO:

4 INT. CHASE HOUSE - STAIRCASE -- DAY

4

RICKIE
Great, now she hates me.

RAYANNE
So? She never liked you that much
to start off with.

RICKIE
But now she really hates me.

RAYANNE
Look, you think it's possible to
please that woman? You think
she'd ever give anyone a break?
(beat)
I mean... have you seen her
vegetable bin? I rest my case!

Meanwhile, back in the

5 INT. CHASE HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY

5

PATTY
It's nothing to worry about, the
doctors say he should be out by
Saturday. So we won't even have to
call off the party.

ANGELA
What party.

PATTY
Angela...! I've mentioned this to
you at least a dozen times,
Grandma and Grandpa Wood's
forty-fifth anniversary party?
This Saturday? At that... fondue
restaurant...?

*

ANGELA
Oh. Right.
(beat)
I hate fondue. I'm always losing
my bread.

PATTY
(beat)
Don't let me catch you drinking in
this house again.

ANGELA
I wasn't drinking.

(CONTINUED)

5 CONTINUED:

5

PATTY
You know what I mean.

ANGELA
(she does)
Okay.

6 INT. CHASE HOUSE - BACK ON THE STEPS

6

Rayanne and Rickie. Sit forlornly on the stairs.

RICKIE
Tomorrow I'll bring her a beer. To
replace it.

RAYANNE
Tomorrow? We're going to my house.

7 INT. RAYANNE'S HOUSE - DAY

7

It's a very feminine mess. It looks like three insane
stewardesses live there. Rayanne, Rickie and Angela
enter...

ANGELA'S VOICE
I had been friends with Rayanne
Graff for like half a year. But I
had never been to her house...

Rayanne yells out...

RAYANNE
MA! RICKIE'S HERE! I HOPE YOU'RE
AT LEAST WEARING UNDERWEAR!

Rayanne and Rickie move through the place, we stay on
ANGELA'S FACE, as she takes it all in...

ANGELA'S VOICE
Walking into someone's house for
the first time...? Is like...
entering another country. Not that
I've ever been to another country.

HER P.O.V: Heaps of clothing, pantyhose draped over
furniture, windchimes, funky mis-matched furniture. A
half-eaten frozen dinner on the coffee table. Makeup
everywhere.

Angela lingers over A SPREAD OF TAROT CARDS laid out on a
table, as...

(CONTINUED)

7 CONTINUED:

7

AMBER (O.C.)
(calls from bedroom)
Raynnie, remember last week? You
got all those prosperity cards...?

AMBER enters, tying a loose kimono, smoking, waving an
envelope aloft...

AMBER
...and now three guesses what I'm
holding...

RAYANNE
OH. MY. GOD: Money. From Dad?

She runs for it, Amber lets her grab the letter as...

SFX: MICROWAVE DING IN KITCHENETTE

Amber runs to microwave as...

AMBER
I opened it, it's two hundred and
seventy dollars...Ooo ooo hot...!

*

Amber tosses a tray of food onto the counter as Rayanne
opens the already opened envelope eagerly. She takes out a
greeting card, a money order falls out of it...

RAYANNE
(reads the card)
"Happy Birthday, and Maybe More.
Dad"

AMBER
Oh yeah, I saw that: He meant
many more.

RAYANNE
He wrote: And maybe more.

AMBER
Plus it's four months late. Or
maybe eight months early. Let's be
optimists.

(to Rickie)
Hey sweetcakes...OH MY GOD...!
(Amber freezes, points)
Is this her?!

RAYANNE
Yes!

Amber opens her arms wide...

(CONTINUED)

7 CONTINUED:

7

AMBER
(charmed, and charming)
Angela. Come to Mama...

And Angela does...

DISSOLVE TO:

8 INT. RAYANNE'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM -- LATER

8

Rickie eats cocktail franks, and watches as Amber, seated opposite Angela, takes the deck of tarot cards that Angela has been shuffling and spreads them out on the coffee table. As Angela picks ten cards...

AMBER
(pops a frank in her
mouth, takes a long
swallow of her margarita)
You know, one day I faced the
truth. The only really great
foods are like appetizers and
desserts. I mean, why eat anything
else.

RICKIE
Amber, you're so like -- up.
Even though you're like surrounded
by negativity...!

*

RAYANNE
Amber's a X-ray technician.

AMBER
(to Angela)
It's not as glamorous as it sounds.
(to Rickie)
Hey, what can I tell you,
sweetcakes? Life was created to be
lived. You know?
(beat, to Angela)
Gimmee.
(Angela hands her the
cards, as she lays them
out...)
So, you guys wear out your welcome
at Angela's?

She winks at Angela.

(CONTINUED)

8 CONTINUED:

8

ANGELA

No, see... well, okay: My mom's not like... that strict, but she sometimes...

AMBER

You don't have to explain, I see her right there.

(points)

See this card? That's called "The World." That's the daughter who hides her feelings behind like a mask.

RAYANNE

That's her. Bigtime.

ANGELA

But... I'm the daughter.

AMBER

But so's she.

ANGELA

See the thing about my Mom... she was adopted? So she has like... I guess you call them... abandonment issues?

RICKIE

I've got those.

ANGELA'S VOICE

Which always makes me think of like People. Magazine? Like the Special Holiday Abandonment Issue?

AMBER

(points)

And see what you got here? That's the Moon. That's the deadly mother, like the wicked witch.

ANGELA

Should I be scared?

RAYANNE

That's nothing, I got Death last time.

(to Amber)

Show her Death, that's one bitchin' card...

(CONTINUED)

8 CONTINUED:

8

AMBER
(to Angela)
It doesn't hafta mean... death.
It means one door opens and another
closes.

*

RAYANNE
Yeah in your FACE!
(to Angela)
You're having dinner here, right?

9 INT. CHASE HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

9

SFX PHONE RINGS

VIVIAN, Patty's mom, sixties, pretty, passive aggressive,
moves to answer it when...

PATTY
Mom... just, please relax? I'll
get it...
(manages to beat her to
the phone...)
Yes? Hi, where are you...?
(to VIVIAN)
It's Angela...

VIVIAN
(calls)
Hi honey!

PATTY
Grandma's here, we were just
visiting Grandpa at the hospital.
No, you can't have dinner at
Rayanne's. Because, Grandma's
going to have dinner here, and I...

VIVIAN
Don't be silly, Patty, let her stay
with her friend...

PATTY
Mom...
(deep exhalation. Then,
into the phone)
Okay. You can have dinner at
Rayanne's.

VIVIAN
Of course I wouldn't mind if she
chose to come home... I never see
her.

(CONTINUED)

9 CONTINUED:

9

Beat during which Patty stares at her mother, contemplating murder. Then...

PATTY

(tight, into the phone)

Look. Just give me her address.

(Patty grabs a pad,
scribbles)

I'll be there in twenty minutes.

Patty hangs up. Vivian looks at her.

VIVIAN

What?

PATTY

Nothing! I'm gonna go pick her
up...

Vivian, who has been examining a little statuette on the mantle, moves it from one side of the mantle to the other... Patty starts off to go. Hesitates. Moves the statuette back where it was. Vivian collapses on the couch.

VIVIAN

What if I made a terrible mistake?

What if your father isn't well
enough by Saturday...?

*

PATTY

Well...

VIVIAN

That noisy, crowded restaurant. All
that fondue... what was I thinking?

PATTY

Well...

VIVIAN

The man is a diabetic! What if
they prepare one of the dishes
incorrectly?

(beat)

I should call off the whole party,
I should cancel the whole thing.

PATTY

Well... maybe you should. Postpone
it. Till he's feeling better.

(CONTINUED)

9 CONTINUED:

9

VIVIAN

But everyone's looking forward!
And the doctors all predict he'll
be out by Friday...

(beat)

And you know Daddy. If he hears
I'm calling off the party... it'll
discourage him. He's depressed
enough as it is...

PATTY

But mother... I mean, on the one
hand you're saying: How can we do
it, and on the other hand you're
saying: How can we not do it.

VIVIAN

Exactly.

(beat)

If only we could do it someplace
else. Someplace he'd feel more...
at home. Like... here! But
that's out of the question, I
couldn't do that to you.

Patty closes her eyes in defeat. Vivian moves the statuette
back to where she had placed it on the mantle.

10 OMITTED

10

11 OMITTED

11

12 INT. RAYANNE'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

12

The reading is over...

ANGELA

(to Amber)

Wow.

(beat)

That was amazing... how did you
learn to do that?

AMBER

Are you kidding me? From a stupid
book! I'll loan it to you... you
can learn it for yourself!

ANGELA

Really...?

(CONTINUED)

12 CONTINUED:

12

SFX: DOORBELL

ANGELA (cont'd)
Oh no. My mother.

RICKIE
(with alacrity)
I'll get it!

Rickie heads to out to get it.

AT THE FRONT DOOR:

Rickie opens the door to PATTY. An awkward beat.

RICKIE (cont'd)
Come in...

PATTY
Thank you...

SO PATTY ENTERS AND...

ANGELA
(uncomfortable)
Mom... you could have just
honked...

AMBER
Hi, Patty, right?

PATTY
Yes. Hi. Well...

Patty's gaze falls to the cards, Amber follows her gaze...

AMBER
I do tarot. Just a hobby. You want
a drink?

PATTY
Oh, no we really have to get
back...

AMBER
(to Angela)
Before you go... let me get you
that book...

Amber troops off, Rayanne follows. Beat as Patty looks around the place askance, trying to hide her judgments and failing. Angela looks at her mother. Patty then looks at her. Uncomfortable silence.

(CONTINUED)

12 CONTINUED:

12

ANGELA
She's really good at them. The
cards.

PATTY
I'm sure.

13 INT. RAYANNE'S HOUSE - AMBER'S BOUDOIR

13

Amber searches madly for said book. Rayanne flops on the
bed...

AMBER
(as she searches)
That Angela is so adorable, you
could smack her!
(beat)
The Mom is like... from a
commercial. For something really
clean.

RAYANNE
Maybe I'll send that money back. To
Dad. I kind of don't want it.
Mom...?

AMBER
FOUND IT!

Amber holds up a BOOK.

CUT BACK TO:

14 INT. RAYANNE'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

14

Patty and Angela, uncomfortably waiting.

PATTY
(calls out towards the
bedroom)
Amber--? We should go... I've got
a million errands... I'm throwing a
party at my house for my parents
anniversary this Saturday, and...

AMBER REAPPEARS as...

ANGELA
At our house, I thought it was at
some restaurant...?

(CONTINUED)

14 CONTINUED:

14

AMBER

Oh, I love parties! Throwing them, going to them, recovering from them...

(more quietly, to Patty)

Listen. I think it's great you're throwing them a party. That's definitely gonna help you work through it.

PATTY

Uh huh. Work through what.

ANGELA

Mom? We should go...

AMBER

Are you kidding? Your feelings! About adoption. Oh boy, what a subject! I saw a special about it the other night, did you catch that?

*

PATTY

No.

AMBER

It really got to me. I was balling. I think I must've given up a baby in another life.

(beat)

So look... if you need anything? For the party?

Amber indicates all her possessions... In the b.g. Rayanne reappears...

PATTY

Uh... Thanks. I think we... have everything...

AMBER

Angela, precious... here's the book...!

(she hands it to her)

Go ahead, take it. And take the cards... you can practice with 'em.

(beat)

Just promise me that you'll treat them with respect.

ANGELA

I promise.

(CONTINUED)

14 CONTINUED:

14

Angela is so grateful, she gives Amber a huge hug. Patty watches this stunned and then hurt.

FADE OUT

END OF ACT ONE .

ACT 2

FADE IN:

15 INT. CHASE HOUSE - BREAKFAST NOOK - NEXT MORNING

15

Before school, Angela and Danielle at the table, Angela reading Danielle's cards, using the book Amber lent her, as they finish breakfast...

Patty and Graham move in and out of frame, hurrying thru their morning chores...

ANGELA

Okay. What's your question.

DANIELLE

Does Justin Connolly like Caren Kligman.

*
*

ANGELA

Come on.

DANIELLE

What...?

ANGELA

That's not an important question!

DANIELLE

It is to Caren Kligman!

*

ANGELA

(gathers up the cards)

You have to treat the cards with respect.

Angela starts to leave huffily, when... Patty stops her...

PATTY

Angela, you know what I thought we might do, remember those beautiful decorations you did for Sharon's birthday a few years ago, the streamers...?

ANGELA

Mom, streamers?

PATTY

What's wrong with streamers? I need somebody to do streamers, and I need somebody to move all the furniture and clean behind it.

(CONTINUED)

15 CONTINUED:

15

ANGELA
Mom?! You expect me to move
furniture?

DANIELLE
Is Grandma gonna drive everyone
crazy, like on thanksgiving?

PATTY
What on earth does that mean?

Patty glances for support from Graham.

GRAHAM
It's a fairly straightforward
question.

PATTY
(sighs, then to Graham)
Oh, I meant to tell you, I found
this really interesting-sounding
recipe for no-fat chicken. It's
skinless.

GRAHAM
(an artist)
You can't cook chicken without the
skin! That's where the favor is!

Patty looks at them all. She exits. Beat. Angela and
Graham look at each other.

*
*

ANGELA
You can really tell she's been
spending time with Grandma.

*
*
*

Patty reenters.

*

PATTY
(the cheerleader)
Listen, can't we just all pitch in,
and pull together, and... I mean, I
actually think this could be...
really fun! I really kind of do!

*

Beat as they all silently doubt this.

ANGELA
I hope so. Because, life was
created to be... lived. You
know?

Silence. Everyone stares at Angela.

(CONTINUED)

15 CONTINUED:

15

PATTY
Was that on a tarot card?

ANGELA
Fine. I'll do the streamers.

16 INT. LIBERTY HIGH SCHOOL - GIRLS ROOM - DAY

16

Rayanne and Rickie. Rickie checks his appearance.

NOTE: Rayanne is fairly intoxicated. She's been drinking all day. This should gradually become clear throughout the opening beats of the scene.

RAYANNE
I thought you said you would never again hang in the girls room.

RICKIE
(adjusting eyeliner smudge)
Never say never.

Sharon enters. She is having an extremely bad hair day. She moves towards the mirror in desperation. Stops. Takes in the totality of Rickie. Rickie looks back at her. Beat. Then Rickie turns back to the mirror. As...

RAYANNE
(way too loud)
Hi!! What's wrong with your hair??

SHARON
Just... nevermind.

Sharon goes to the mirror and examines herself, unhappy with what she finds. She starts fruitlessly futzing with her hair.

RAYANNE
You need some like MOUSSE or something??

Sharon exchanges another with Rickie. A "What Exactly Is Going On In Here" look. Beat. Meanwhile Rayanne searches madly thru her purse... stuff flies out of her purse, including CRISP NEW BILLS, which, unnoticed by her, drop to the floor...

(CONTINUED)

16 CONTINUED:

16

RICKIE

Hey...careful...

(He picks bills up. More
drop down, like autumn
leaves...)

Rayanne...! You're dropping all
your money!

RAYANNE

I don't care...

(To Sharon, holding up a
fistful of dollars)

It's crispy: Like dead leaves. *

RICKIE

How much have you had to drink
today?

SHARON

She's been drinking?

RAYANNE

(shakes her finger in her
face, a strict, drunk
schoolmarm)

There is no drinking in school,
DON'T YOU KNOW THAT?!

(thrusting a fistful of
bills out to Sharon)

Here, buy yourself a wig...

RICKIE

(to Rayanne)

Stop it! *

Sharon leaves. *

RAYANNE

(calls after her)

DON'T GO! DON'T GO!!

(beat)

Ingrate.

(Turns to Rickie, thrusts
money towards him...)

You take it, I want you to have
it...

RICKIE

Don't be crazy...

RAYANNE

I'm serious! You deserve it more
than me!

(CONTINUED)

16 CONTINUED:

16

RICKIE

Rayanne! You should buy yourself something! I mean, think: What do you really need. You need new makeup! Makeup goes bad you know. It does. It spoils. You need new cds, cause the ones you have suck. You could definitely use a leather jacket.

*

RAYANNE

(interrupts)

Rickie. You are so brilliant. A party.

*

Rickie looks at Rayanne. Uh oh.

17 INT. LIBERTY HIGH SCHOOL - A LITTLE LATER

17

Rayanne and Rickie walk at a pace.

RAYANNE

Like an event. Like a memory I'll have for the rest of my life.

RICKIE

Like Tino's party?

RAYANNE

Only endless. Like infinity. Where so much is going on at every second that there's no possibility for your mind to wander. And you become like this prisoner. Of happiness.

18 INT. CHASE HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY

18

Patty, late getting to work, in her business dress, obviously in a rush, heads to the back door, opens it, and jumps back. Vivian's there.

PATTY

Mom!

Vivian enters lugging two large bags of groceries.

VIVIAN

Don't want to bother you. Just brought over a few extras...

(CONTINUED)

18 CONTINUED:

18

PATTY

I -- I told you I have a meeting--

VIVIAN

Whatever! Just go about your
normal routine..!

Patty shakes her head, opens the door further. There are
two more huge grocery bags.

PATTY

A few extras?

She sighs, picks them up and lugs them to the kitchen
counter, where she puts them down, winded. Vivian is
merrily putting things away and re-organizing the kitchen...

VIVIAN

(as she struggles to cram
it in the icebox)

A turkey is the easiest thing in
the world, and a guaranteed
crowdpleaser.

(turns to Patty)

Go! Go to your meeting, I'll put
these things away.

Vivian continues to unpack her groceries.

PATTY

Mom, here's the thing. Graham.
Is... kind of emotional. About
food. When he's... cooking it.

VIVIAN

(a foreign concept)

Emotional? About food?

PATTY

Yes, he has... very strong... you
know. Feelings. About... meals.
In terms of... preparing them.

VIVIAN

Patty it's just a turkey...!

PATTY

Mother it's huge, it's going to
need it's own room...!

VIVIAN

Well I wanted to contribute
something!

(CONTINUED)

18 CONTINUED: 18

Patty looks at her, exhales. There's nothing to do.

VIVIAN
Emotional? About food?

PATTY
Nevermind.

BEGIN: QUICK SERIES OF SCENE THAT TAKE US THRU TWO DAYS

19 INT. LIBERTY HIGH SCHOOL - HALLWAY - DAY 19

Rayanne has stopped a WEIRD GUY in the hallway.

RAYANNE
It's going to be a total blow-out.
Tell everyone. Just, like, no
dorks. And not too many
sophomores.

20 OMITTED 20

21 OMITTED 21

22 INT. CHASE HOUSE - KITCHEN - THAT DAY 22

Graham stands in front of the open refrigerator, staring in shock at

THE TURKEY, which takes up A LOT of space.

PATTY
I'm sorry. I tried to reason with
her...
(beat)
Graham...? Please... Please close
the refrigerator...

He does. She leaves. Beat. He opens the refrigerator again... continues to stare...

CUT TO:

23 INT. LIBERTY HIGH SCHOOL - ANOTHER DAY 23

Rayanne and ACE, tough and cool. Ace turns off his BEEPER, then...

(CONTINUED)

23 CONTINUED:

23

ACE

So, you know, if you want to acquire. Like, pharmaceuticals. For the party.

RAYANNE

I definitely do...

ACE

It's gonna cost ya.

RAYANNE

That's no longer a problem.

24 OMITTED

24

25 INT. LIBERTY HIGH SCHOOL - ANOTHER HALLWAY - DAY

25

Rayanne and WANDA in the HALL.

WANDA

Well, I'm not sure, but... I have a feeling... if you tagged with us? That I could probably get you in...

*

Rayanne stares at her in shock, then, sees Angela...

RAYANNE

Angela!

(practically tackles Angela...)

The word of mouth is like huge on this thing! Some girl just invited me. She like invited me to my own house!

(beat)

Saturday. Will be historical.

ANGELA

Wait. This Saturday...?

RAYANNE

YES! This Saturday! Tomorrow night!

(beat)

I mentioned this at least a dozen times.

ANGELA

But tomorrow night is that stupid party for my grandparents.

(CONTINUED)

25 CONTINUED:

25

RAYANNE
(a beat)
Fine! Go hang with your
grandparents, you can memorize
all the state birds or
something...

Rayanne starts to walk away. Stops. turns, calls out...

RAYANNE (cont'd)
Hey! Angela!
(very loud)
I'M A BITCH!

She stands there. Angela comes over to her. They start walking in silence. Then...

ANGELA
If I can't come, could I at
least... help you get ready?

RAYANNE
Help how?

26 INT. RAYANNE'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

26

Music blares. Rayanne dances as she unpacks a seemingly endless supply of chips, pretzels and soda. We follow Rickie to where... *

HE AND ANGELA are moving furniture out of the way... *

CUT TO:

27 INT. RAYANNE'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - A LITTLE LATER

27

Angela is hanging streamers throughout the entire room with Rickie's help... Meanwhile, in the

28 INT. RAYANNE'S HOUSE - KITCHENETTE

28

Amber pours herself a margarita.

AMBER
Okay, now remember the rules!
Rayanne? Are you listening? There
is No Eating Allowed on my bed. Is
that clear?

ANGELA/RICKIE/RAYANNE
Yes...

(CONTINUED)

28 CONTINUED:

28

AMBER

And do not let things get out of control, I mean, I realize there'll be some drinking, believe me, I'd rather you do it under my roof. But don't get too loud, I don't need any lectures from the tight-ass neighborhood watch.

ANGELA

(awed, softly, to Rayanne)
Your mother is amazing.

SFX DOORBELL

The PIZZA GUY is at the door with two large pies. Amber waves him into the house. Rayanne appears, waves away Amber's money, whips out what's left of her wad and hands it to the pizza guy with a generous tip.

29 INT. CHASE HOUSE - KITCHEN - NIGHT

29

Patty is shining the good silverware. Danielle is playing around with the tarot cards.

DANIELLE

(holds up Death card)
Look! Death!

PATTY

I should never have told her that she could have dinner at Rayanne's... She was supposed to help me polish the silver...

GRAHAM

(not really listening)
Have Danielle do it...

DANIELLE

I can't, I'm predicting the future...

GRAHAM

To put something... that large. In somebody's refrigerator. Without permission...

DANIELLE

(looks up from cards)
So Mom, what's your question?

(CONTINUED)

29 CONTINUED:

29

PATTY
(without hearing
Danielle, to Graham)
Why am I doing this?

*
*
*

SFX: PHONE RINGS

GRAHAM
Hello? Oh hello Vivian...

Patty turns, indicates she doesn't want to talk to her.
Graham indicates: "Come on, please take the phone..."
She takes it, with a certain amount of trepidation. Her
gaze falls on: The Death card, lying there on the table.
She turns it face down, pushes it away, rattled. Then...

*
*
*

PATTY
Mom.... listen, before you say
anything, I've been thinking...
What?

*
*
*

(beat)
Oh. Okay. No. Fine. Nevermind.
(she hangs up. She looks
up. Graham and Danielle
are staring at her.)
My father's been released from the
hospital. The tests came back
negative. The doctors gave him a
clean bill of health.
(beat)
So I guess there's no reason... not
to go ahead with the party. Right?

GRAHAM
Well, give me a minute.

*

30 INT. RAYANNE'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - LATER

30

The streamers are up. The pizza box is nearly empty. The
PIZZA GUY is saying goodbye...

PIZZA GUY
So, see you tomorrow, right?

RAYANNE
Definitely. And bring your cousin.

He leaves. Angela heads toward the kitchen with the empty
pizza boxes. Rickie starts to clean up the glasses and
other debris from the pizza. Amber looks at the streamers.

(CONTINUED)

30 CONTINUED:

30

AMBER

I never want to take these streamers down. I just want to live the rest of my life with your streamers.

(touches Angela's cheek affectionately, sips her drink)

So Angela. You have to go to that other party? Oh Well.

ANGELA

Yeah.

AMBER

Listen, maybe there's a way you could make both parties... you have to go where your karma takes you...

*
*

ANGELA

I don't think my mother... really knows much about karma.

AMBER

(touches her face, gently)

Maybe you could teach her.

31 INT. CHASE HOUSE - DINING ROOM - NIGHT

31

Patty does her best to hang the streamers on her own. Angela enters from outside.

ANGELA

I said I would do it.

PATTY

Well, I'm doing it.

ANGELA

Just... leave it, I'll do them in in the morning.

PATTY

There are other things we need to do in the morning. Like a million things.

ANGELA

Alright. I didn't know it was such a big deal.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

31 CONTINUED:

31

ANGELA (cont'd)

(a beat, bravely)

Mom, so... it turns out there's
this thing at Rayanne's. Like this
birthday party.

PATTY

Like a birthday party?

ANGELA

Yeah.

(beat)

So anyway. It's sort of tomorrow.
That's why I was there so long, I
was helping.

(beat)

Couldn't I just spend some time
here, and then go to Rayanne's?

PATTY

You were helping with Rayanne's
party?

ANGELA

Mom.

PATTY

Forget it!

(starts to leave,
suddenly)

How could you tell that woman that
I was adopted?

ANGELA

She's not just... some woman to me,
I trust her.

(beat)

I'm sorry, I didn't know it was
like a secret...

PATTY

It's not! It's just... not
something I want everyone to know!

ANGELA

Why can't I just go to Rayanne's
party?!

PATTY

Because! I need you here!

ANGELA

You're only having it here
because Grandma talked you into it!

(CONTINUED)

31 CONTINUED:

31

PATTY
That's not true!

ANGELA
(to help, but somewhat
condescending)
You know, the karma in this house
is like ridiculous.

PATTY
Really?

ANGELA
Yes. It's really... low. Or dark.
Or whatever happens to Karma.

PATTY
And I bet the Karma at Amber's is
through the damn roof!
(beat)
Listen to me. You're not going to
Rayanne's. You are going to attend
your grandparents forty-fifth
anniversary party. Is that clear? *

They stare at each other.

FADE OUT

END OF ACT TWO

ACT 3

FADE IN:

32 INT. RAYANNE'S HOUSE - BATHROOM - NIGHT

32

Rayanne's hand releases a six pack of beer into a bath tub already brimming with beer. Rickie watches as she takes out a bottle and pops it open. The doorbell rings. A huge smile breaks out on Rayanne's face.

RAYANNE

Let the games begin.

33 INT. CHASE HOUSE -- ENTRANCE WAY -- NIGHT

33

Patty opens the door revealing

VIVIAN, standing there alone. All dressed up. Long beat. Patty stares at her. Finally...

VIVIAN

What?!

PATTY

What do you mean, "what?" Where's Daddy?!

VIVIAN

Oh. Daddy.

She comes in. Patty closes the door.

VIVIAN (cont'd)

He didn't want to come.

PATTY

WHAAT?

VIVIAN

Well, you know how he hates parties...

34 INT. RAYANNE'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - LATER

34

The party is under way. MUSIC WE'VE NEVER HEARD OF POUNDS through the room. KIDS, some of whom we've seen in the inviting sequence, ARE ARRIVING IN CLUSTERS, CHATTERING AT FULL VOLUME.

Rayanne, bubbly, glides through the growing crowd, dispensing alcoholic refreshment. Totally in her element.

(CONTINUED)

34 CONTINUED:

34

FIND RICKIE, drinking what should clearly be a soda, glancing covertly at the Cute Guy. His attention suddenly goes to Rayanne, clutching a small plastic bag, walking to the bathroom. Rickie follows her as we GO TO

35 INT. RAYANNE'S HOUSE - BATHROOM

35

Rayanne is taking several pills out of the small plastic bag when Rickie enters.

RICKIE

Rayanne!

RAYANNE

What? I'm just taking two...

*

Rayanne pops two little pills into her mouth. Rickie closes his eyes. Rayanne takes a huge swallow of beer. Rickie turns away and heads back into the party without saying anything.

RAYANNE (cont'd)

Boy scout.

36 INT. CHASE HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

36

Graham enters from kitchen in his apron.

VIVIAN

Graham!

GRAHAM

Vivian! Happy fortieth wedding anniversary.

(beat)

Where's Chuck?

PATTY

(very upset, and very calm)

He's not coming.

GRAHAM

What? You're kidding...

PATTY

He didn't feel like it!

GRAHAM

Really?

(CONTINUED)

36 CONTINUED:

36

PATTY

Well you know how he hates parties.

As Vivian inspects the place...

VIVIAN

You know what? We're better off.

(sotto voce, to Graham)

I can't really enjoy myself when he's around. And look at it this way... now we can relax! We don't have to worry about all his crazy dietary restrictions...!

GRAHAM

But it's already made. I already worried! The entire meal is completely non-fat, no sugar. I took the skin off the chicken.

VIVIAN

(almost backing away)

What can I say?

*

REVEAL: Danielle, on a chair in the living room, fighting a losing battle with streamers...

DANIELLE

Hey! I thought Angela was supposed to do this...!

VIVIAN

(to Danielle)

Hay is for horses. Oh, look at you. I love your outfit.

Danielle stomps down from the chair...

DANIELLE

I hate this outfit. I wish I was dead.

VIVIAN

No you don't!

PATTY

Mother, just --

DANIELLE

How do you know whether I wish I was dead or not? Are you me?

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

36 CONTINUED:

36

DANIELLE (cont'd)
Am I allowed to like have a
feeling in this house? Or is
that just Angela?

Danielle runs up the stairs. We HEAR A DOOR SLAM. Graham and Patty and Vivian have a LONG THREE WAY AWKWARD BEAT, then...

SFX: DOORBELL!

And AT THE FRONT DOOR, AUNT LIBBY pokes her head in...

LIBBY
Happy forty-fifth! Are we too
early? *

Instantly Patty and Vivian go into the exact same UPBEAT CHARMING GREETINGS...

PATTY/VIVIAN
Not at all! Come in! Libby! Oh
my goodness, you didn't have to
bring anything... You look
wonderful...!

Graham watches, with a mixture of amazement and annoyance.

REVEAL: Angela watches covertly from up the stairs.

ANGELA'S VOICE
Sometimes I think if my mother
wasn't so good at pretending to be
happy...? She'd be better at
actually... being happy.

37 INT. RAYANNE'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

37

The party is going full swing. TEENAGERS everywhere. A lot of tattoos, nose rings, wild hair, and provocative clothes. Rayanne bops through the crowd on a huge high.

Bottles of hard liquor emerge from jacket pockets. Joints are being lit. A few couples are wildly making out. Rickie makes his way with difficulty through the throng to Rayanne... when he finally gets to her...

RAYANNE
Is this satanic, or what?

RICKIE
Who are these people?

(CONTINUED)

37 CONTINUED:

37

RAYANNE

(delighted)

I have no idea! There's people here I've never seen. There's people in the bathroom I don't think are from Pennsylvania!

(looks around)

Have you seen Tino?

RICKIE

Rayanne. I'm lucky I found you.

38 INT. CHASE HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

38

Danielle comes down the the steps. She has changed into a new outfit. And braided her hair.

VIVIAN

Oh, you did your hair in braids! You know who you look like now? Danni? Who's that funny little swedish girl? With the monkey?

DANIELLE

(Suicidal)

Pippi Longstocking.

VIVIAN

That's it, Pippi Longstocking! Look Libby, doesn't she look like that little swedish girl, Pippi Longstocking...?

Danielle starts to trudge back upstairs. Patty appears.

PATTY

I need you to pass hors d'oeuvres... where are you going?

DANIELLE

(grimly determined)

To change.

PATTY

(to her departing figure)

You just changed!

WE HEAR THE SAME DOOR SLAM AGAIN...

LIBBY

(sotto to Vivian)

I thought you said she destroyed her hair...?

(CONTINUED)

38 CONTINUED:

38

VIVIAN
No, that's the other one.
(to Patty)
Where is Angela?

PATTY
(almost to herself)
Good question.

39 INT. CHASE HOUSE - UPSTAIRS HALL -- ANGELA'S DOOR -- MOMENTS
LATER

39

Patty KNOCKS. Waits.

PATTY
Angela...? I need you downstairs!

The door opens. Angela steps out. She is wearing something that Patty would never approve for this occasion.

PATTY (cont'd)
That's what you choose to wear
to your grandparents anniversary
party?

ANGELA
Mom... I think... I'm going to
Rayanne's.

Patty freezes. Then turns and rushes angrily back towards the stairs as...

ANGELA (cont'd)
(calls after her)
Mom...? Just for a little
while...!

40 INT. CHASE HOUSE -- STAIRCASE -- CONTINUOUS

40

Patty comes rapidly down stairs, clearly upset, passes TWO RELATIVES, climbing up... instantly puts her party mask on...

PATTY
Hi, great, the hors d'oeuvres are
that way...

She points and rounds the corner...

41 INT. CHASE HOUSE - KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

41

Patty comes in. Graham has finally lost it.

GRAHAM

Do whatever you want to the turkey!
The turkey means nothing to me! But
this is my chicken. Alright?

VIVIAN

I was simply adjusting the
seasoning.

*

GRAHAM

It's a curry sauce. You don't put
oregano in a curry sauce.

Graham takes off his apron, puts it down on the counter and
walks out. Patty gives her Mom a look.

VIVIAN

What?? Darling, you can't go
wrong with oregano! It's the
universal herb.

Angela enters the kitchen.

ANGELA

Mom... Hi Grandma, happy
anniversary...

VIVIAN

Hi sweetheart...
(enfolds her, then...
holding her at arms
length...)
That's quite a get up...

PATTY

I asked her to change...

ANGELA

No you didn't, you said --

VIVIAN

Oh, it's fine, let her wear what
she wants...

PATTY

(wits end)
What do you mean it's fine,
it's not fine!

ANGELA

Where's Grandpa?

(CONTINUED)

41 CONTINUED:

41

PATTY

Tell her!

VIVIAN

I have to check the turkey...

PATTY

(to Angela)

You want to know where Grandpa is?
He's not coming, that's where
he is!

ANGELA

You mean he's back in the hospital?

PATTY

(near tears)

No! He's fine!

ANGELA

Oh, so Grandpa's not even coming,
but yet I have to be here? That
really makes sense!

VIVIAN

You don't have to be here... go "do
your thing" as they say...

PATTY

MOM!

VIVIAN

Well, why should she stick around
here if she's got better plans...?

PATTY

How about family? How about
doing what's right?

VIVIAN

Oh foey...

ANGELA

What's right!? We're having a
party for someone who isn't here!
I'm missing Rayanne's party
because...

VIVIAN

Who's Rayanne?

ANGELA

My best friend.

(CONTINUED)

41 CONTINUED:

41

VIVIAN

You're missing your best
friend's party?

NOSY RELATIVES FACES (Including LIBBY) APPEAR At the Dining
Room Door...

PATTY

Rayanne isn't her best
friend...

ANGELA

Mom! She is SO my best friend!
I'm sorry you HATE her!

THE RELATIVES, abashed... quickly withdraw...

VIVIAN

You hate her?

PATTY

Mother BUTT OUT!

ANGELA

Another fun-filled party at
the Chases...

PATTY

I apologize deeply if our house
doesn't live up to the joy of
being at Rayanne's, where your
friend Rickie can guzzle
beer, and that Amber woman
reads your tea leaves...

*

ANGELA

Oh JUST STOP IT! RICKIE DOESN'T
EVEN DRINK!

VIVIAN

Who is Rickie?

ANGELA

Stop being so hypocritical, you
hated Rayanne on SIGHT, why don't
you just ADMIT IT!

PATTY

Alright! I admit it! I don't like
her. I don't think she's the right
friend for you!

And Angela moves angrily and with determination past her
Mom, and towards the door. Beat.

(CONTINUED)

41 CONTINUED:

41

Then she comes back, again moves brusquely PAST PATTY, to THE DECK OF TAROT CARDS, on the counter. Grabs them. Patty and Angela have a fleeting, upsetting moment of eye contact before she brushes past her again, and exits...

42 INT. RAYANNE'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

42

The party is reaching a euphoric peak AS ANGELA ENTERS

MUSIC BLASTS as Angela moves through the crowd, looking for Rayanne. As she passes people, she starts to enjoy herself. She grins with delight: The place is a circus! KIDS DANCING WILDLY DRAW her into their orbit, she starts to dance with them, LAUGHING. She swerves to avoid a couple who lie on the floor passionately humping. Her eyes are drawn to A TATTOO ARTIST, removing his tee shirt. He is covered with pictures. Then... A familiar SHRIEK pulls Angela's eyes across the room to:

*
*
*
*
*
*

RAYANNE, with five WILD LOOKING GUYS. She takes a long pull off a bottle of liquor. This party is her canvas, her vision. Rayanne kisses the guys on either side of her and FLOATS TOWARDS US, drunk, high, and bursting with energy. Then...Rayanne sees Angela. Wow.

RAYANNE

ANGELA!

Rayanne moves through the crowd, towards Angela: Finally reaches her. She is euphoric, but her words are slurred, it's hard for her to get to the end of a sentence...

RAYANNE (cont'd)

Angela, to see you. At this moment. I mean, something was... You know. Missing. Then I turn around and... I just love you so much...

*
*
*
*
*

Angela smiles. Rayanne pulls Angela into a meaningful hug, but is really high. They lose their balance, topple over onto

The HUMPING COUPLE.

THE TAROT CARDS fall out of Angela's grasp, are flung across the floor...

CLOSE ON: THE DEATH CARD. Angela stares at it. It's creepy. It's scaring her a little. Then a FOOT COMES DOWN ON IT...

(CONTINUED)

42 CONTINUED:

42

IT'S RAYANNE'S FOOT, she is struggling uncertainly to her feet... LAUGHING HYSTERICALLY.

The couple gets back to business, the crowd goes back to partying...

PIZZA GUY
She's totally gone.

It starts to dawn on Angela that Rayanne is really high. She's never seen her like this. Angela looks up and sees Rickie. He leans over and helps Rayanne up.

RAYANNE
Hey, Rickie! My two best... Rickie and Angela. Rickie! Show Angela... where the... cute boys are...

RICKIE
Rayanne, give me your flask, okay?

RAYANNE
Angela... there's people here. Who have graduated.

Rickie reaches for Rayanne's flask but she pulls away...

RAYANNE (cont'd)
OH WAIT! I have to get my tattoo!
And I want it to look like...
(She SPOTS THE CARD ON
THE FLOOR, grabs it up)
THIS! I want it to look EXACTLY
LIKE THIS.

*

Rayanne heads over to the TATTOO GUY, waving the card. They exit into Amber's bedroom as...

RICKIE
(off Angela's worried
look)
I've been through this before.
She'll be okay. She always...

SUDDENLY a voice rings out.

AMBER (O.C.)
WHAT THE HELL!

Angela and Rickie turn to see Amber at the door. She is furious.

(CONTINUED)

42 CONTINUED:

42

AMBER
WHERE IS SHE! RAYANNE!

Amber, coming towards them through the crowd, she slaps kids on the head as she goes. Finds the stereo and CUTS OFF THE MUSIC.

AMBER (cont'd)
OKAY! PARTY'S OVER.
(to kids making out)
Get yourself a chevy to do that
in! OUT! *

Rickie and Angela follow Amber as she steamrolls through the house. Kids respond quickly, start to head for the door.

AMBER (cont'd)
(seeing Angela)
Hi, sweetheart!
(fiercely)
I want everyone out of here in two
minutes or I'm calling the cops!
RAYANNE!

PEOPLE ARE LEAVING IN DROVES. Amber walks toward her bedroom... Rickie and Angela exchange a worried look and follow her...

43 INT. RAYANNE'S HOUSE - AMBER'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

43

Rayanne lays back with her shirt off. Amber grabs a hard cover book from the dresser and flings it across the room at the tattoo artist's head.

TATTOO ARTIST
Hey!
AMBER
Get the hell off my daughter.

RAYANNE
Hi Mom!

AMBER
(to tattoo artist)
GET OUT OF MY HOUSE!

TATTOO ARTIST
Hey, I'm just an artist trying to
make a living.

And the tattoo artist scampers away leaving Amber and Rayanne. Angela and Rickie hang uncertainly in the doorway.

(CONTINUED)

43 CONTINUED:

43

Amber takes off her blouse, starts changing, fixing her hair, spritzing perfume...All the while

AMBER

You said you were going to have a few friends over! Look at this! This place is a pig sty! I come home, I got ten minutes before I gotta meet Rusty, and you're destroying the house!

*

*

RAYANNE

Sorry.

Rayanne gets up and stumbles toward the dresser. She gets her top and starts to put it on. As she heads back to sit down, she loses her balance and falls on the floor.

Angela instinctively starts to move towards Rayanne, to help her. Rickie, just as instinctively, holds her back... They exchange a look. Amber turns to Rayanne.

AMBER

No. I'm sorry. And tomorrow we are going to have a long talk about your behavior: Look at you! You are too drunk, young lady. Way too drunk.

*

Rayanne finally lifts herself off the floor onto the bed. Amber looks into her mirror quickly putting on make up.

AMBER (cont'd)

What did I say, about moderation?
What did I say?!

(beat)

I trusted you! Look at you. Like an old drunk.

Amber puts away her lipstick, looks at Rayanne.

AMBER (cont'd)

Pull yourself together. I want this whole place cleaned up by the time I get back.

Amber moves past Angela and Rickie. Angela turns and watches as Amber leaves the house SLAMMING THE DOOR behind her. Angela can't believe she left.

When Angela turns back Rickie is already crouching at Rayanne's side.

FADE OUT

END OF ACT THREE

ACT 4

FADE IN:

44 INT. RAYANNE'S HOUSE -- AMBER'S BEDROOM -- A LITTLE LATER 44
Rickie is trying to get Rayanne onto the bed, as...

RAYANNE
Rickie, you're...I love you. You
know that, doncha Rickie? I
am...so cold...

Rayanne's eyes begin to close...

RICKIE
Okay, just... take it easy.

ANGELA
Should I... Oh my god, Rickie.
What's happening?!

RICKIE
She's gonna be okay. I've done
this before. For her. Okay? So
don't worry, okay? *

Angela nods her head, trying to be strong.

RICKIE
Let's get her into the bathroom.

45 OMITTED 45

CUT TO:

46 INT. RAYANNE'S HOUSE - BATHROOM - DAY 46

Rickie and Angela carry Rayanne into the bathroom with
difficulty. Rayanne is barely conscious. They lay her down
on the tile floor.

RAYANNE
Have to... Gonna have to. Sleep a
little...

RICKIE
(panicking)
Get water.

Angela goes to the sink and fills a glass with water. She
comes back, holds it for Rickie as if he's the doctor.

(CONTINUED)

46 CONTINUED:

46

RICKIE (cont'd)
Throw it on her face!
(Angela does. Rayanne
barely responds to the
water. Her eyes start to
close)
Rayanne! YOU CAN'T SLEEP! WAKE
UP!

RAYANNE
(eyes closing)
Stop...

ANGELA
(terrified)
Rickie --

Rickie is scared too, but he can't show it.

RICKIE
I've never seen her like this. Oh
God, I don't know what to do!
Angela...?

But Angela does, suddenly and clearly, and she says--

ANGELA
I know what to do.

CUT TO:

47 INT. CHASE HOUSE -- LIVING ROOM -- NIGHT

47

The Repressed Wasp Party of the Century. Graham is stuck between two BORING RELATIVES, who are clearly showing him HORRIFYINGLY DULL VACATION PHOTOS...

FIND: Patty, in ANOTHER CLUMP OF RELATIVES, smiling and nodding as Aunt Libby winds up an endless anecdote...

LIBBY
So I turned to the waiter, by now
the entire restaurant is
listening... I turn to the waiter
and I put down my chopsticks and I
say... well I'm sorry! But if it
smells like M.S.G., and it tastes
likes M.S.G., it probably is
M.S.G....

POLITE TITERS FROM THE RELATIVES AS

SFX: PHONE RINGS

(CONTINUED)

47 CONTINUED:

47

Patty's Face. The RINGING CONTINUES. SOME DEEP REALIZATION
CROSSES PATTY'S FACE as she continues to pretend to listen
to the CHATTERING RELATIVES. The realization that something
is wrong. With Angela. As though from miles away, she
watches as, across the room

VIVIAN picks up the phone. Vivian speaks into the phone. we
can SEE BUT NOT HEAR. WE SEE Vivian's confusion: "What?"
What are you saying?"

PATTY. WATCHING ALL THIS. Then, before she even knows she
is doing it, she slowly starts to move to the phone...

PAST OTHER GUESTS, who are oblivious to all of this, PAST
EVERYTHING, PATTY MOVES CALMLY AND DETERMINEDLY to

Her Mother. Vivian looks up in surprise: You're here, I
haven't even called for you yet... Patty, with total
assurance takes the phone...

PATTY

Angela...?

CUT TO:

48 INT. RAYANNE HOUSE - AMBER'S BEDROOM - SIMULTANEOUS

48

ANGELA

Mommy... I really need you.

BACK TO:

49 INT. CHASE HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - SAME

49

Patty hangs up the phone.

PATTY

(to Vivian)

Mom...

VIVIAN

It's alright. Go.

PATTY

Tell Graham.

VIVIAN

Go.

50 INT. RAYANNE'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

50

The entrance door opens... Patty enters. Angela runs to Patty, impulsively throws her arms around her. Angela is crying, she is falling apart, she is terrified.

Patty: Instantly in charge of the situation. Seems to know exactly what to do.

PATTY

Where is she?

Angela leads Patty toward the bathroom. As they walk... *

PATTY (cont'd)

I called an ambulance. They'll be here any minute.

51 INT. RAYANNE'S HOUSE - BATHROOM - CONTINUOUS

51

Patty and Angela enter. Rayanne is very close to unconscious on the floor. Rickie kneels by her side, he looks up at Patty, terrified. Patty moves to Rayanne. *

Angela: Watching her mother work, mesmerized.

Suddenly Patty slaps Rayanne right in the face. Hard. Starts to grill Rickie

PATTY

How long has she been this way?

RICKIE

You mean... how long...

PATTY

This breathing, this slow breathing...

ANGELA

Not...not too...

RICKIE

A while: Fifteen minutes...

PATTY

(turns, roughly, to Rickie)

What did she take?

RICKIE

She... she had a lot to drink, but...

(CONTINUED)

51 CONTINUED:

51

PATTY

What drugs. Names. I need names.

RICKIE

I know she took ecstasy because-

PATTY

How much?

RICKIE

I wasn't watching, but I think...
just... like two hits... it looked
like she was saving one...

*
*
*

Rickie starts to cry.

PATTY

(to Rickie)

Find me the one she saved, and get
a blanket.

*

Rickie exits, Angela and Patty exchange a pretty intense
look. Rickie comes running back with a blanket, Patty wraps
Rayanne up in it.

PATTY (cont'd)

She's waking up.

*

Patty slaps her again.

*

RAYANNE

(sputters)

Stop it, don't LIKE YOU!

RICKIE

Here.

*
*

Rickie holds out the plastic bag with the leftover pill.
Patty takes it, as...

*
*

SFX KNOCK AT DOOR

PATTY

That's the ambulance.

CUT TO:

52 INT. RAYANNE'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM -- MOMENTS LATER

52

TWO PARAMEDICS are carrying the now unconscious Rayanne out
on a stretcher... as

(CONTINUED)

52 CONTINUED:

52

PATTY
She had a lot of alcohol, and she
did some ecstasy, two hits or
whatever you call them, I got the
third one here...

*
*
*

(CONTINUED)

52 CONTINUED:

52

PARAMEDIC

Good...

The paramedic takes the plastic bag as Patty looks at Rickie, who is staring at Rayanne strapped to the stretcher. *

PATTY (cont'd)

Can he ride with her?

53 INT. EMERGENCY ROOM WAITING AREA - DAY

53

Patty stares ahead, emotionless, exhausted. They've been waiting for awhile. The area is scattered with OTHER PEOPLE waiting and MEDICAL PERSONNEL sipping coffee and talking.

Rickie enters with a bag of potato chips... Patty looks up.

RICKIE

(hands her the chips)
All they had was barbecue. I hope that's okay.

PATTY

It's fine.

RICKIE

(sitting next to her)
Where's Angela.

PATTY

Ladies room.

RICKIE

Um. Mrs. Chase? I really appreciate what you did tonight.

PATTY

(doesn't want to talk)
Okay.

RICKIE

(takes a chance)
Has there ever been... like... a person...

PATTY

(something makes her ask)
What...?

(CONTINUED)

53 CONTINUED:

53

RICKIE
Did you ever try to protect someone
so much... that it like... hurt?

WE FOLLOW PATTY'S GAZE TO

FAR DOWN THE HALL (or across the room) Where Angela emerges
from a doorway. Leans against a wall, drained. One of the
paramedics comes over to her...

RICKIE, follows her gaze.

PATTY
(beat, then...)
That wasn't your beer. The other
day. Was it.

THEY LOOK AT EACH OTHER. THEN, LOOK UP. THERE'S ANGELA.

ANGELA
That guy said we can go in now.

54 INT. HOSPITAL ROOM -- A FEW MINUTES LATER

54

Patty, Rickie and Angela stand a little awkwardly around
THE SLEEPING RAYANNE. They've been in there a little while.
Suddenly

AMBER, a crazed, distraught mess, rushes into the room,
breaking the hush...

AMBER
Raynnie?! Oh God...!

PATTY
(almost involuntarily)
Shhh... Amber...

As Amber starts towards Rayanne, Patty instinctively
intercepts her... almost to protect the sleeping Rayanne.

AMBER
(crying)
Oh my God...

PATTY
Listen. She's going to be okay...

(CONTINUED)

54 CONTINUED:

54

AMBER

Oh my God... What a night...!
(almost seeing Patty for
the first time)
Some cop called me, he said they
pumped her stomach...?

PATTY

(again, tries to keep her
back from the sleeping
Rayanne)
Well, Rayanne had... a very close
call...

AMBER

(wipes her eyes)
These kids. They scare the hell
out of you sometimes.

PATTY

(with intensity)
Amber. The Doctor was very
concerned.

*

*

In her sleep, RAYANNE STIRS... then lies still... and Amber
breaks away from Patty, rushes to Rayanne, clutches her...

*

AMBER

Raynnie, are you okay...?!
Raynnie?? It's me...

PATTY

(overlapping)
Amber, she needs to sleep...

*

But as a result of Amber's loud voice and clutching embrace,
Rayanne's eyes flutter open...

AMBER

(bursts into tears)
Oh, Raynnie...

RAYANNE

(very weakly, almost by
rote...)
It's...okay Ma. I'm here.

*

The Paramedic appears in the doorway...

(CONTINUED)

54 CONTINUED:

54

PARAMEDIC
Uh, Ms. Vallone?
(Amber turns)
There's a policeman out there who
needs to speak with you.

*
*
*

AMBER
Again? You're kiddin' me!

Amber exits with the Paramedic.

*
*
*
*
*

PATTY
(off Angela's look)
Don't be scared, they just have to
fill out a report.

Patty turns to Rickie.

*

PATTY (cont'd)
How'd you like to attend a really
dull party?

55 EXT. CHASE HOUSE - DRIVEWAY - NIGHT

55

Patty's car pulls into the driveway. Angela, Patty and
Rickie get out. Through the window we see the party is
still going on. Rickie glances at the two women, then...

PATTY
(to Rickie)
Could you go in and tell them
we'll be there in a minute...?

*
*
*

Rickie looks a little nervous, but he exits into the house.
Beat, then.

*
*
*

ANGELA
I guess I kind of screwed
everything up for you today. With
the party.

Patty looks at Angela, trying to figure out how to talk to
her.

PATTY
No. You did the right thing. You
called me.
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

55 CONTINUED:

55

PATTY (cont'd)
(beat, with intensity)
I mean it. Promise me you'll
always do that, that you'll
always...

ANGELA

Okay.
(beat)
Okay. I promise.
(beat)
So, how did you know all that
stuff? Like what to do.

PATTY

Oh. I had a roommate. In college.
Who... who was actually... a lot
like Rayanne. Now that I'm
remembering...

ANGELA

You're kidding. So... what
happened?

PATTY

Well, pretty much what happened
tonight.
(beat)
Except, she died.

Angela turns to Patty, speechless with shock. Finally...

ANGELA

(very quietly)
So, did you... like her?

PATTY

A lot.

ANGELA

(a beat)
Mom...

PATTY

Angela, I feel like... what I'm
seeing. In your future. Is so
frightening. It's scaring the hell
out of me.

(Angela starts to speak,
Patty cuts her off)

I mean, what do I do? Do I just
not let you see her anymore? Would
that even... work?

(CONTINUED)

55 CONTINUED:

55

ANGELA

No.

(beat)

Mom! I can't just... She's my
friend.

(beat)

Please, trust me.

*
*
*

Patty looks at Angela taking this in. She nods at her.

PATTY

Actually, I do.

Patty hugs Angela.

ANGELA

Oh God. Poor Rickie, surrounded by
our relatives...

Patty smiles, even LAUGHS, but...

PATTY

You go on. I'll come in a second...

Angela exits into the house. Beat. Patty BREATHES. Then suddenly covers her face and SOBS. For the first time this evening, we see what all this composure has cost her.

56 INT. CHASE HOUSE - LIVING ROOM/DINING ROOM - NIGHT

56

Where Rickie is eating Graham's food, as Vivian hovers maternally next to him, heaping his already full plate with more food...

VIVIAN

Go ahead, don't be shy, have more
turkey...

RICKIE

It tastes really amazing. Kind
of... Italian.

VIVIAN

(proudly)

That's the oregano...

WE MOVE FROM THEM THROUGH THE ROOM, DISCOVERING THAT PEOPLE ARE LOOKING HAPPY AND RELAXED, THE ROOM HAS A GOLDEN GLOW. AN ACTUAL PARTY SPIRIT IS HAPPENING.

ANGELA ENTERS TO

(CONTINUED)

56. CONTINUED:

56

WELCOMING CHEERS FROM THE RELATIVES... Angela GREETs people and is GREETED with HAPPY ADLIBS. Graham sidles up next to her...

GRAHAM

(sotto voce, as he puts a lovely dish of food into her hands)

What the heck is going on...?

ANGELA

(deep breath, big smile, then...)

We're having a party.

Patty enters, once again she is the cheerleader. A bright, yet not ungenue smile on her face. She is cheeriness and warmth. Vivian comes to her. She comes very close indeed.

VIVIAN

(whispers in her ear)

Thank you.

And they hug. Patty turns to other relatives, GREETs people, LAUGHS at a joke... giving away nothing of what she has just been through. From across the room,

Graham looks questioningly at Patty. Patty looks back at him: "Later." Then Patty glances over to

Angela, who, in a most Patty-like mode, is listening and smiling as a clump of relatives gathers CHATTERING around her. She looks every inch the perfect hostess... as

ANGELA'S VOICE

Each card has a name. The Magician. The Empress. The Fool. The Wheel of Fortune. Strength. *

(beat)

They represent challenges and tests. Twists of fate.

DISSOLVE TO: *

56A INT. HOSPITAL ROOM

56A*

Amber sits in a chair, watching Rayanne sleep. *

ANGELA'S VOICE *

No card is all good or all bad. Cards can be positive or negative, depending on where they fall. *

DISSOLVE TO: *

57 INT. CHASE HOUSE - ANGELA'S ROOM -- NIGHT

57

Angela, curled up on her window seat, absorbed in the tarot book given her by Amber...

ANGELA'S VOICE

When you read someone's future,
they must think of a question. They
must hold it in their mind.

(beat)

The cards are read in sequence.
Each card leads to the next. We
move from terror and loss, to
unexpected good fortune. And out of
darkness, hope is born.

*

FADE OUT

THE END