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NIP / TUCK

Episode #6

"Cliff Mantegna"

written by

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Directed by

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"Cliff Mantegna"

Yellow Pages

7/29/03

NIP/TUCK

"Cliff Mantegna"

CAST LIST

Sean McNamara

Christian Troy

Julia McNamara

Matt McNamara

Kimber Henry

Jude Sawyer

Cliff Mantegna

Vanessa Bartholomew

Ridley Lange

Nurse Linda

Mrs. Vivian Schiraldi

Megan O'Hara

Lexi Lange

Robert Bartholomew

Mitzy Bartholomew

Eurasian Girl at The Scene

Mia **

**NEW AS OF YELLOW DRAFT

SET / LOCATION LIST

INTERIORS:

McNamara/Troy Office

- Christian's Office
- Reception Area
- Sean's Office
- Scrub Room
- Surgery Suite
- After Care

McNamara House

- Inside Front Door
- Hallway Outside of Matt's Room
- Kitchen
- Media Room

Christian's Apartment

- Bedroom / Shower

Jude's Apartment

Megan's Office - Exam Room

The Scene

- Mansion Foyer
- Girl/Girl Room

EXTERIORS:

School Locker Commons - Day

Miami - Night - Establishing

Long Driveway of Palatial Beachside Mansion - Dusk

INTERIOR / EXTERIORS:

Christian's Car - Night

EXT. MIAMI - NIGHT

1

Establishing shot. Busta Rhyme's "I Know What You Want" throbs as we fly through the neon of the city's skyline.

2

INT. CHRISTIAN'S CAR - SAME

2

Same song playing - now from Christian's ten-CD changer. Christian cruises the streets, turns a corner and spots a LONE HOOKER in white vinyl, standing under a street lamp. He pulls up to her, lowers his window and talks to her ass.

CHRISTIAN

Need a ride?

HOOKER

I don't ride for free, honey.

She spins and sticks her face in the window - it's KIMBER!

KIMBER

But maybe I'll make an exception for a pretty boy like you.

They share a smile and we CUT TO:

3

INT. CHRISTIAN'S CAR - A SHORT WHILE LATER

3

Christian and Kimber are going at it like wild dogs. Her head bangs into the steering wheel. Her knee hits the gear shift. Suddenly, she pulls away.

KIMBER

Ow. God, I hate this car.

CHRISTIAN

What are you doing? A hooker wouldn't say that.

KIMBER

I'm a model, not an actress! This is totally uncomfortable. Why can't we play happy hooker at home?

CHRISTIAN

Everything's a drama with you. I'm trying to make this relationship work.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

KIMBER

And I'm not? I'm the one with
candle wax burns all over her ass,
I'm the one standing on a street
corner with her tits hanging out.
I've worked my butt off to fulfill
every sexual desire you have and I
want a little goddamn appreciation!

She slams out of the car and starts storming down the street.

CU: Christian, sitting in the car. We see him really
struggling, emotionally, with this brand new world of
monogamy. We watch him watching Kimber...moved by her. And
feeling shitty about himself. A beat, then --

He pulls the car up next to her.

CHRISTIAN

(softly)

Get in.

She looks at him, unsure, then gets in the car as we CUT TO:

MAIN TITLES.

INT. JUDE'S APARTMENT - DAY

4

Gorgeous place. Think Christian's apartment on a budget.
Julia sits at the coffee table filling out a MEDICAL SCHOOL
APPLICATION as Jude slides a hot crepe onto her plate, fresh
from the pan.

JUDE

I'm not even bothering with the
Harvard application. Who needs New
England winters when the University
of Miami provides year-round thong
bikinis just minutes from campus?

*

JULIA

I think I missed that section of
the brochure.

He takes a handful of berries from a small bowl and places
them in the crepe before folding it over. Julia looks around
the apartment as he does, notices how nice it is.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

4

JULIA (cont'd)

This place is beautiful. How can you afford it on a personal trainer's salary?

JUDE

Are you kidding me? I make two-hundred bucks an hour from some of my clients.

(then)

And now *la touche finale*

He drizzles homemade caramel over the crepe and covers it in chopped mint. He then takes a forkful and feeds it to Julia.

JUDE (cont'd)

You like?

She nods as she chews.

JUDE (cont'd)

Good, because I need to ask you something.

He puts his hand on her knee. She notices. Takes another bite of crepe.

JUDE (cont'd)

It's sort of a big deal for me, but I'd totally understand if you said no.

She chews.

JUDE (cont'd)

You know those moments in your life when everything just opens up? Total clarity?

Julia shrugs, chews.

JUDE (cont'd)

Well that happened for me the last time we were together at your house. I looked at you, looked at your life and realized something.

Julia is breathless. Jude is a man who knows how to get what he wants from a woman.

JUDE (cont'd)

I want to be a plastic surgeon.

(CONTINUED)

Julia's eyes show a combination of relief and disappointment.

JUDE (cont'd)

But I can't do it without you. Miami has a special program that fast-tracks you into a plastic surgery residency as soon as you get out of school. The catch is that they require a year long internship with a surgeon to get into it.

JULIA

You want to work for my husband?

JUDE

Would that be a problem for you?

This is not what Julia was expecting -- at all.

JULIA

No, not at all. I can ask. Sean's a little funny about the business so I can't guarantee anything...

JUDE

(with a laugh)

Of course you can -- who can say no to you?

She smiles. He smiles back. A moment, which he breaks by snapping his fingers.

JUDE (cont'd)

Forgot the whipped cream.

He hustles back to the kitchen and Julia finally exhales. She goes to take another bite of crepe and spots a drug store photo envelope under her plate. She opens it and starts casually leafing through the 4X6's inside. She's shocked to see photos of Jude in various states of undress. One in particular - a CK One-type shot of him shirtless with his jeans undone - makes her bite her lip.

JUDE (cont'd)

Like 'em?

JULIA

(so busted)

Um, yeah. They're...lovely.

She cringes at how motherly that sounded.

(CONTINUED)

JULIA (cont'd)
Are you thinking about doing some modeling? God knows you're good-looking enough.

He smiles wickedly and starts putting fresh whipped cream on her crepe.

JUDE
Thank you. But, no, they're for...something else.

She doesn't push it. He takes the bowl of whipped cream back into the kitchen. Julia eats her crepe and stares at the shirtless picture of Jude. She then checks to see if he's out of sight, grabs the picture and stuffs it between the pages of one of her school books. She feels fifteen again.

5 INT. MCNAMARA/TROY OFFICES - CHRISTIAN'S OFFICE - DAY 5

Christian addresses his afternoon consult.

CHRISTIAN
Mr. Mantegna, tell me what you don't like about yourself.

We PAN to reveal --

CLIFF
Um...that would be my tits.

CLIFF MANTEGNA is the kind of guy who's just good looking enough that you'd notice him but not good looking enough that he can get by on his looks alone. Christian is perplexed. Cliff senses this and begins to unbutton his shirt.

CLIFF (cont'd)
I work out six times a week. Hit my pecs twice. Running, swimming, yoga. I do the Zone delivery thing but I still can't seem to shake these hairy mouthfuls.

He opens his shirt to reveal a relatively fit male body with decidedly FEMALE B-CUP BREASTS. If Christian is shocked he doesn't let on. He starts marking up Cliff's chart.

CHRISTIAN
The gynecomastia procedure you'd need to fix those is extremely painful.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

5

CHRISTIAN (cont'd)
You'd have to wear a bra-like
apparatus for six to eight weeks.

CLIFF
What's six weeks after a lifetime
of titty jokes and rejection?

That sends a flag up for Christian.

CHRISTIAN
Are you doing this because you were
rejected by a woman?

CLIFF
One woman? Try thirty - in one
night.

Christian is confused. Cliff leans in, conspiratorial-style.

CLIFF (cont'd)
This isn't about a particular
woman, Dr. Troy; it's about my
"lifestyle." I'm a swinger.

Cliff now has Christian's full attention.

CLIFF (cont'd)
Problem is, swinging is like
anything else in life - it's a
class system. I'm looking to move
up - get involved with a higher
class of people. I'm sick of
banging fat German chicks in front
of their pasty husbands.

CHRISTIAN
We've all been there.

CLIFF
You ever heard of "The Scene?"

CHRISTIAN
"The Scene"?

CLIFF
The greatest swingers party of all
time. We're talking supermodels,
actors, flawless talent. They
started throwing it twice a month
in L.A. last year and it was so
successful that now they're
starting one up in Miami. Dr.
Troy, I have to get in.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

5

CLIFF (cont'd)

Problem is, you need to submit a full body shot to the governing committee to get an invite and mine got bounced for "undisclosed reasons."

He holds up his breasts. Christian covertly writes "The Scene" on Cliff's chart. Cliff bows his head and looks at his chest in disgust.

CLIFF (cont'd)

Bet a guy like you would have no trouble getting in.

Christian flashes his trademark grin.

CHRISTIAN

Cheer up, Mr. Mantegna - when we're done with you the only tits you'll be feeling up are going to belong to Hooters' girls.

INT. HIGH SCHOOL HALLWAY - DAY

6

A bit depressed from her three-way gone wrong, Vanessa heads to class, lost. Suddenly, she stops. She sees Matt and Ridley laughing and hanging out at Ridley's locker! Furious, she storms up. She is raw and pissed.

VANESSA

What are you doing?

RIDLEY

(slightly laughing at her)
Um...talking.

VANESSA

About what?

RIDLEY

About how hot I got when you were watching Matt and me last week. I was thinking...the next time we do it, I'll be the voyeur.
(leaning into Matt, sexy)
Or not.

Vanessa is heartbroken. She fights to keep calm.

RIDLEY (cont'd)

(to Matt)
Walk me to class?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

6

Matt makes eye contact with Vanessa. Oddly, he feels for her.

RIDLEY (cont'd)
(casually, to Vanessa)
See ya at practice.

Matt and Ridley exit. Vanessa watches, destroyed.

7

INT. MACNAMARA/TROY OFFICES - RECEPTION AREA - DAY

7

Sean walks a file up to LINDA.

SEAN
Linda, can you void the billing on
this case?

LINDA
Megan O'Hara. Which one is she?

SEAN
She backed out of a breast
reconstruction a few weeks ago.

LINDA
Policy says I have to bill her for
the pre-op and lab work anyway.

SEAN
I know what policy is. I wrote the
policy. Just do it.

He turns to head down the hall only to run into --

JULIA
What was that all about?

Sean is shaken by her presence.

SEAN
Is everything all right?

Julia holds up a greasy, brown paper bag.

JULIA
Everything's fine. I was just
driving by Rascals and I know how
you've been jonesing for a Reuben
for weeks.

He looks at the bag, then at her. He's not buying it. He
decides to have some fun with her.

(CONTINUED)

SEAN

You sure that's a Reuben?
Smells more like a bribe to me.

He smiles and starts down the hall towards his office. She follows and they head into...

8 INT. SEAN'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS 8

JULIA

Can't a woman just do something nice for her husband?

SEAN

A woman can definitely do something nice for her husband. You driving twenty minutes out of your way to bring me lunch sounds more like a woman who wants her husband to do something nice for her.

JULIA

All right, I need a favor.

(a beat)

I want you to take my friend Jude on as an intern.

Sean is surprised by the request. It shows.

JULIA (cont'd)

I know you're not fond of him --

Sean thinks. He's struggling to stay open-minded.

SEAN

I never said I wasn't fond of him. I'm just going to have to ask Christian before we take anyone on.

JULIA

Will you? I mean all you have to let him do is make lunch runs and clean the O.R.

Sean smiles at her. Enjoying being able to make her happy.

SEAN

Actually...I've always wanted to mentor someone.

Julia smiles back, relieved.

INT. CHRISTIAN'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

9

An exhausted Christian comes home to find a pathway of lit candles leading him into the bedroom. While most men would charge down the path to Kimber, Christian makes his way to the living room cabinet and starts rifling around inside.

After a few moments, Kimber emerges from the bedroom and strikes a sexy pose against the wall. She's wearing a LATEX NURSE'S OUTFIT.

KIMBER

Hello, Dr. Troy.

Christian turns to look at her. Deadpan -

CHRISTIAN

You've got to be kidding me.

KIMBER

(humiliated)

What? I thought you'd like it.

CHRISTIAN

You think a jockey wants to come home to see his girlfriend dressed like a horse? I see nurses all day long. If I wanted to screw one I would have already.

KIMBER

I spent four hundred dollars on this. I was just trying to do what you wanted and spice things up.

He finally finds what he's looking for - his camera.

CHRISTIAN

You want to spice things up?

She looks at him, shrugs. He grabs her and gently positions her up against the wall.

KIMBER

What are we going to do?

CHRISTIAN

We're going to do what you do best, sweetheart. We're going to take some pictures.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

9

9

He starts clicking away. After a few shots, she goes right into model mode - subtly posing like a pro. This she can do.

KIMBER

What's my motivation in these?

CHRISTIAN

To get us laid. You ever hear of something called "The Scene?"

KIMBER

The sex party? One of the girls on the Tampax shoot was talking about it.

(then, concerned --)

But don't we have to sleep with other people to go to something like that? Aren't I enough?

CHRISTIAN

(embraces her)

Baby, you're plenty. I'm just looking to put some frosting on our cake. We don't have to do anything we don't want to do.

She studies him unsure but decides to give in. He's the best thing she's ever had and she's not about to let him get away. A pause as she puts on a brave face.

KIMBER

Do I get to take some of you now?

She smiles and takes the camera. Lil' Kim starts playing as he whips off his shirt off and we CUT TO:

10

INT. MCNAMARA HOUSE - NIGHT

10

...where the music continues as Julia enters. It's coming from Matt's room. Curious, she heads to -

11

INT. MCNAMARA HOUSE - OUTSIDE MATT'S ROOM - MOMENTS LATER¹¹

Julia watches the pounding bass make Matt's door vibrate. She opens the door and storms in to see Matt with Ridley and Vanessa! Julia screams. Matt covers his privates.

MATT

Mom? What the hell?!

JULIA

What the hell?!

(CONTINUED)

MATT

I thought you had class tonight!

JULIA

Sorry to disappoint you.

Julia starts handing the girls their clothes.

JULIA (cont'd)

You girls have a car?

(they nod)

Use it.

She hands Ridley a bra. Sheepishly --

VANESSA

That's mine, Mrs. McNamara.

Vanessa takes it and the two girls, covered only by their bunched up clothes, brush past Julia and out of the house.

12 INT. MCNAMARA HOUSE - KITCHEN - LATER THAT NIGHT 12

Sean, Julia and Matt sit at the kitchen table.

MATT

Mom, this isn't a big deal.

JULIA

Having three-way sex in my house is a very big deal, Matt.

MATT

You don't know how lucky you are that that was all I was doing. There are kids I know hooked on crank, kids plotting to blow up the school...

JULIA

Congratulations Matt, you win the award for least screwed up teenager.

MATT

You guys are sending me mixed messages. How can Dad give me a condom and then expect me not to have sex in my own room?

(CONTINUED)

JULIA

Having sex and having the entire cheerleading squad in your bed are two vastly different things.

(to Sean)

Wait...you gave him a condom?

SEAN

I just wanted him to be safe.

JULIA

And you didn't discuss it with me?

SEAN

I didn't think we had to discuss every conversation I have with my own son.

JULIA

When it comes to his sex life you do.

MATT

And you wonder why I'm having threesomes when you guys are such fine role models for traditional coupling.

JULIA

Go to your room Matt - and don't slam the door.

Matt, feeling completely unheard, storms out. Once he's gone -

JULIA (cont'd)

Now I see how you can be so nonchalant about this - you've been encouraging it!

We hear a DOOR SLAM O.C. Julia seethes.

SEAN

This is the problem - you tell me you want me to be a more involved parent and then judge me for the choices I make.

She picks up Matt's cell and scrolls through the numbers.

(CONTINUED)

JULIA

No one is judging you, Sean. I just need you to understand that your choices and your attitudes are going to have real implications in the lives of our kids.

SEAN

What are you doing?

JULIA

I'm calling those girls' parents and we're all going to sit down and have a conversation about this.

He tries to grab the phone. She pulls it away.

SEAN

A sexual intervention? All that's going to do is humiliate him.

JULIA

You can't just be the good guy handing out prophylactics and slapping him on the back for his conquests. Welcome to the wonderful world of parenting, Sean.

Sean watches, quietly disturbed as she dials, and we...

END ACT ONE

ACT TWO

INT. MCNAMARA/TROY OFFICES - SCRUB ROOM

13

Christian and Sean scrub up for Cliff Mantegna.

SEAN

....part of me agrees with Julia.
But the other part is saying "way
to go, Matt."

CHRISTIAN

(ironic)
We all want more for our children
than we had.

SEAN

He never mentioned anything about
this to you, did he?

Christian considers his options.

CHRISTIAN

No. Of course not.

He notices Sean wince in pain as he washes.

CHRISTIAN (cont'd)

You all right?

SEAN

My neck seized up this morning. I
must have slept funny.

CHRISTIAN

Twenty milligrams of vicodan and a
blowjob will clear that right up.

Sean throws him a look as they move into...

14

INT. SURGERY SUITE - CONTINUOUS

14

...where ASSISTANTS slide on their masks and gloves. ANGLE:
Nurse Linda shaving Cliff's chest. Christian pauses, deciding
to seize this moment and subtly turn the screws about Megan
and the kiss he witnessed.

CHRISTIAN

Hey...if drug abuse isn't your
thing, how about a chiropractor?
Wasn't that patient we treated a
few weeks ago a back cracker?

(CONTINUED)

Sean plays dumb.

SEAN
Which one?

CHRISTIAN
Sexy curls, double mastectomy. You
and she seemed to hit it off.

SEAN
Right, I think I remember her.
Maybe I'll try and see her after
work.

(pauses, then --)
Shit, I forgot Julia wants to have
some kind of family meeting with
those girls' parents tonight. Can
you take the consult with Schiraldi
this afternoon?

Christian shrugs, nods. No big deal. They move to Cliff
Mantegna, laid out on the table and unconscious already, his
man titties sterilized with iodine. Sean searches the prep
tray for the right scalpel.

SEAN (cont'd)
God I wish I was single sometimes.

CHRISTIAN
Well, you know what they say -- for
every beautiful woman there's a guy
who's tired of screwing her.

They begin Cliff's GLANDULAR INCISION.

CHRISTIAN (cont'd)
Four millimeter cannula?

SEAN
Three.

Christian inserts the liposuction tube into Cliff's chest and
starts sucking out the excess fat.

SEAN (cont'd)
You have any feelings about taking
on a college intern?

CHRISTIAN
(sly)
What's she look like?

(CONTINUED)

SEAN

He is a friend of Julia's from school. Jude Something. I could use the points. She's pissed that I'm not outraged enough about Matt's three-way.

CHRISTIAN

(a beat, then --)

All right with me, partner. I'd much rather have the kid hanging around here all day than sitting shirtless at your pool feeding the wife Margaritas.

Sean looks up, thrown and disturbed by those remarks, as Christian slides an IMPLANT into Cliff's chest.

15

INT. MCNAMARA HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY

15

Julia sits staring at the phone. She fidgets nervously, then with a temporary burst of bravery picks up the receiver and dials. (NOTE: we only hear Julia's side of the conversation).

JULIA

(after a moment)

Hello, Mrs. Bartholomew? This is Julia McNamara, Matt's mom...? Thank you, we think he's a very nice boy too...most of the time. Listen, what I'm about to say is difficult stuff. The thing is I kind of walked in on Matt and Vanessa...having sex. With a third party.

(a long tense beat)

Someone else...a third person. What do you mean what were they doing? I'd rather not have to get graphic. They were having...sex. Well, I can assure you that she does. Yes, I'm sure it was Vanessa - I got a pretty good look at her. Listen, it will be much easier to clear this up in person over here tonight. Great. Yes, Sean will be there too. No, that's sweet of you, but you don't have to bring any chicken wings. All right, see you tonight.

She hangs up and pretends to shoot herself in the head with her finger.

INT. MCNAMARA/TROY OFFICES - RECEPTION AREA - DAY 16

Jude sits near MRS. VIVIAN SCHIRALDI, an incredibly hot blonde woman. If you only caught a glimpse of Mrs. Schiraldi, you might confuse her for Julia - same haircut, similar build. Jude and this shapely soccer mom check each other out covertly until Jude catches her looking at him. She blushes. He smiles - making her giggle.

Christian round the hallway just as --

JUDE
(to Mrs. Schiraldi)
Hi, I'm Jude.

MRS. SCHIRALDI
Vivian Schiraldi.

Christian stops before they see him and checks Jude out - good looking, reminds Christian of himself at that age.

JUDE
You're not here to get something done are you Vivian? Because you're definitely the after picture.

MRS. SCHIRALDI
I'm here to have my eyes looked at.

JUDE
(sexy)
This isn't an optometrist's office.

MRS. SCHIRALDI
The wrinkles around my eyes. I've tried the expensive creams, nothing's working.

JUDE
(leans in, then --)
Barely noticeable, really - unless you're up close.

They look into each other's eyes. She's his for the taking.

MRS. SCHIRALDI
It's my post-divorce gift to myself.

He studies her face.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

16

MRS. SCHIRALDI (cont'd)

What?

Jude takes a beat to pretend to think about censoring himself then --

JUDE

You're a knockout, you don't need to have anything done. But since you're doing your eyes anyway, I think your ears are a little off balance - a millimeter at most.

(the height of his seductiveness)

Balance take off years.

Christian's seen enough.

CHRISTIAN

Mrs. Schiraldi?

She and Jude look up. Christian smiles at her. She would like nothing more than to be the meat in a Christian and Jude sandwich. Christian takes her hand and she stands.

CHRISTIAN (cont'd)

I'm Dr. Troy. If you'll just step down the hall, my office is the first door on the right.

She smiles, waves goodbye to Jude and walks down the hall. The two men watch her go - admiring her visible thong line in her white pants. Christian and Jude size each other up until Jude stands, offers his hand.

JUDE

Jude Sawyer. Dr. McNamara called and told me to come by.

CHRISTIAN

You worked her pretty good. Got a thing for hot, middle aged moms?

JUDE

Only if they have a thing for me.

Christian eyes Jude, more than a little suspicious.

CHRISTIAN

You're here to intern, right?

(CONTINUED)

JUDE
That was the plan.

Christian tosses Jude his car keys.

CHRISTIAN
Take it to the Biscayne Wash on
15th, talk to a guy named "Zuck."
Have it back by three - and no
eating in the ride.

As Christian walks away, reveling in his power --

CHRISTIAN (cont'd)
By the way, you were off about Mrs.
Schiraldi's ears -- by two
millimeters.

Jude smiles. He can learn from this guy.

17

INT. MEGAN'S OFFICE - EXAM ROOM - DAY

17

Sean lies on the chiropractor's table as Megan circles him -
checking him out. The mood is charged. Neither is mentioning
the big, purple elephant in the room - the kiss.

SEAN
My partner actually brought your
name up this morning when he saw my
neck. I'd totally forgotten that
you were a chiropractor.

MEGAN
You should thank him. You're all
out of whack. Something new going
on at home?

SEAN
Let's see - my son's sex life
belongs in a Penthouse letter and
my wife seems to have turned on me
because of it. Besides that,
things are...ow!

She starts doing acupressure on his lower back.

SEAN (cont'd)
That's not where it hurts.

MEGAN
Everything's connected. You should
know that, doctor.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

17

She starts working her fingers up his spine.

MEGAN (cont'd)

Injuries and tension aren't caused by external events - they're caused by how we react to them.

SEAN

I'm really trying to be open-minded and flexible.

She fingers his latissimus dorsi. He cringes. As she continues, though, he starts to relax into her touch.

MEGAN

Being open-minded isn't a cure-all, Sean. You can't just examine the situation, decide what the appropriate open-minded response is supposed to be and follow through -- especially if that's not what your heart is telling you is the right thing to do. Your neck isn't spasming because you're inflexible -- it's spasming because you're not being honest with who you are.

She's massaging him now. He's jelly.

SEAN

According to everyone in my life, who I am is a rigid prick.

MEGAN

Don't judge yourself. When you want water, a rock is useless, but it's the best thing in the world when you want to keep something important from flying away.

CLOSE ON Sean's smiling, relaxed face.

SEAN

I'm a rock.

Suddenly, Sean notices that he's gotten a little too relaxed. He immediately tenses up again when he feels his ERECTION.

MEGAN

Okay, roll over and I'll open that neck up.

(CONTINUED)

SEAN

I...um...just need a second.

Megan realizes his dilemma.

MEGAN

Oh.

He carefully extricates himself from the table and covers himself with his sport coat.

SEAN

I should go. I'm really sorry.

MEGAN

Sean, it's all right. It happens.

She calms him by taking his hand.

MEGAN (cont'd)

Look, it was unprofessional of me to start working on you without talking about what happened between us. I'm not upset about it. I'm glad it happened. We were both feeling lonely and for that moment coming together made that feeling go away. But now that moment is... gone. It has to be gone.

SEAN

(disappointed, covering)

Good, I'm glad. I was worried that you thought it was more than it was. Can I see you again? On a professional basis.

MEGAN

Please. That swelling isn't going away by itself.

She realizes her unintentional reference and they both crack up.

MEGAN (cont'd)

Look, try to be honest with your feelings until then - no matter what they are.

This really lands with Sean. In fact, it might be the best advice he's ever been given.

INT. MCNAMARA HOUSE - MEDIA ROOM - NIGHT

18

Julia puts a plate of hors d'oeuvres down in front of Ridley's single mom -- LEXI LANGE, 45, who peaked in 1989 -- and Vanessa's parents ROBERT and MITZY BARTHOLOMEW, right-wingers who voted for Jeb Bush...twice. The kids are there too. Everyone is polite but extremely awkward.

ANGLE: the kitchen. Julia heads to the oasis of her toaster-oven where Sean is pouring himself a drink.

SEAN

Would now be the appropriate time to break out the cyanide Kool-Aid?

JULIA

I need your support tonight, Sean.

SEAN

You've got it.

They take two plates of appetizers back to the media room.

ROBERT

Can we get this thing started now?

Sean looks around the room. Robert and Mitzy obviously don't want to be here -- either do any of the kids and Lexi seems drunk already. A beat, then --

JULIA

Okay everybody, we all know why we're here. Something a little disturbing happened and I think we should talk about it to make sure it never happens again. Agreed?

Silence.

SEAN

This is going to have to be a frank conversation. We have to remember that we're all adults. We've all had sex. Otherwise none of you kids would be here.

Matt is humiliated at his joke; Mitzy is just horrified.

SEAN (cont'd)

We just need to remember to be honest with our feelings - no matter what they are.

(CONTINUED)

Julia looks at him, confused. Where is he getting this crap from? A beat, then carefully, politely --

MATT

What's the point of talking when Mom's already decided that what we were doing was wrong?

JULIA

It was wrong, Matt. There are serious consequences that you probably never considered -- pregnancy, disease, hurt feelings. You kids think you're all grown up but you're not.

LEXI

I don't see what the big deal is. I read a thing in People about twelve-year-olds giving blowjobs to their Secret Santa's. This stuff is just kids being kids nowadays.

Mitzy is shocked. Robert takes her hand.

JULIA

I'm sorry Lexi, but stealing a six-pack is kids being kids. This is much more than that.

SEAN

Hold on a minute, Julia. There was a documentary recently where a guy named Marilyn Manson said that if he could say anything to the kids of America, he wouldn't say a word, he'd listen.

He looks to the kids, hoping they're as impressed as he is with his pop-culture reference. They aren't.

SEAN (cont'd)

Matt, we obviously don't understand why you kids did this. Why don't you try to explain it to us?

JULIA

I don't want an explanation from him. I want a promise that he isn't going to do it again.

SEAN

An empty promise isn't going to get to the source of the problem - if there is a problem at all.

MATT

How can you look at yourselves in the mirror and call what we were doing a problem? Dad is home one week and in a motel the next. Mom spends all of her time with some guy who's barely older than me.

LEXI

(wasted now)

A pool boy. Good for you, Julia.

JULIA

He's not a pool boy.

MATT

We were having sex, just like every other teenager in the world - with the condom Dad gave me.

Everyone turns to Julia and Sean. They're on their heels.

ROBERT

Well...it looks like we've found the "source of the problem."

JULIA

Excuse me, but are you blaming us for this?

MITZY

I'm sorry, but who's house did this happen in? Our's, Lexi's or this opium den?

RIDLEY

That's only because my mom is unemployed and you took all of the locks off of Vanessa's doors.

LEXI

Trust me, honey -- being on alimony is not being unemployed.

(apropos nothing)

This Coppola vineyard chardonnay is a revelation.

(CONTINUED)

SEAN (cont'd)
It's okay, honey. You can be
honest here. No one's going to get
upset.

And Ridley cracks.

RIDLEY
We've done it before.
(off Vanessa's horror)
I'm sorry Vanessa, I tried, but
what Dr. McNamara said is true, I
have to be honest with my feelings,
no matter what they are. I'm not
like you, I'm not a lezzy.

All eyes go to Vanessa. Mitzy is confused. To Robert --

MITZY
What's a lezzy?

LEXI
A lesbian, dear.
(off Mitzy's blank look)
A carpetmuncher, a clamdigger.
(Mitzy's still confused)
Your daughter likes vagina.

Mitzy begins to hyperventilate.

RIDLEY
I really like you Vanessa, you're
cool and pretty and sexy and all.
But I'm in love with Matt now.
We've been seeing each other.

Vanessa looks to Matt. Her eyes fill with tears.

VANESSA
That's not true. Deny it, Matt.

Matt is speechless. More impassioned now --

VANESSA (cont'd)
Deny it, Matt.

He can't. Vanessa starts to cry and turns to Ridley.

VANESSA (cont'd)
But I love you.

MITZY

I have had enough!

A crying Vanessa is dragged to the door by her parents. ANGLE ON Matt, feeling terrible. Robert glares at Sean and Julia.

ROBERT

Open and honest enough for you?

Everyone is completely taken aback by what they've just seen. Matt gets up and storms out. Ridley tries to stop him but he shakes her off and goes to his room.

Sean and Julia can only sit there in disbelief as we...

END ACT TWO

ACT THREE

INT. JUDE'S APARTMENT - DAY

19

Jude pours a fruity concoction out of the blender into a glass and hands the glass to Julia.

JULIA

Honestly, am I being too uptight about this?

Jude puts on a brand new shirt. Julia takes a moment to admire his body before turning away politely.

JUDE

For my tastes, yes - but I've always found threesomes to be very...satisfying.

JULIA

You've had one too? Jesus, is there anyone under thirty who still believes in monogamy?

JUDE

There's a big difference between monogamy and fidelity, Jules.

Julia knows first hand that he's right about that one.

JUDE (cont'd)

You have to look at it from Matt's perspective - every guy wants a shot at two girls. You telling me you've never fantasized about being with two men at once?

Julia thinks on the question, takes a big sip of her drink and changes the subject.

JULIA

What are you getting all dolled up for - hot date?

JUDE

You don't want to know.

JULIA

Come on.

JUDE

No way. Not after how you reacted to Matt's little menage.

(CONTINUED)

JULIA

I am not a prude. I just hold my
kids to a higher standard.

Jude thinks about it. He smiles playfully, then --

JUDE

You remember those pictures you
were looking at the other day?

JULIA

(drinking, playing dumb)
Remind me again?

JUDE

The provocative ones. They were
audition shots - for a party.

JULIA

What kind of party do you need to
audition to get into?

JUDE

A swingers party.
(off her look)
Still feeling open minded?

She's trying. It's obviously difficult for her.

JULIA

No, I mean, yes. I'm just...
surprised. You take such good care
of your body - aren't you worried
about diseases?

JUDE

We use protection.

JULIA

But you're sleeping with total
strangers. They could be
psychopaths.

JUDE

(shaking his head)
This is why I didn't want to tell
you. I knew you would be uptight.

JULIA

I am not uptight. I just don't get
the attraction to that lifestyle.

INT. THE SCENE - MOMENTS LATER

21

Christian and Kimber enter the marbled mansion. The place is lit with candles and torches Christian grins, Kimber seems nervous as they look out at the large room to see -

CLASSY COUPLES, some on settees, some standing, talking, kissing, making out. The music is sexy and hypnotic. Nearly everyone turns to take a hungry look at Christian and Kimber - fresh flesh. *

They head towards the Bar. *

CHRISTIAN

Let's get a drink.

KIMBER

Let's go.

CHRISTIAN

What's the matter now?

KIMBER

What if someone sees us here? That Neutrogena contract I'm up for has a morality clause, you know. *

CHRISTIAN

Are you kidding me? Look around. There hasn't been a party this hot since Versace's '96 New Year's Eve bash. Being seen here is going to do nothing but help your career. *

As they take two of many glasses of champagne off the Bar a STUNNING AFRICAN-AMERICAN approaches. This is their sultry GUIDE. *

GUIDE

First time?

(Kimber nods)

Thought so. Hi, I'm Mia, I'm one of the hosts for tonight's party.

(sexy)

Let me show you around.

Mia leads them into the party -- *

MIA

As you can see, this isn't a rave.
(to Kimber)

No aggressive behavior is allowed.
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

21

MIA (cont'd)

Think of The Scene as a sexual buffet with the finest of gourmet foods available. You can eat all you want or you can nibble...it's up to you.

They walk some more, look around some more at the sexy couples eyeing them. Kimber grows insecure. *

MIA (cont'd) *

For your protection, each of our rooms comes complete with an array of condoms.

KIMBER

(confused)

Rooms? *

MIA

Pleasure chambers.

(pointing)

Orgy, voyeur, role play, girl on girl. Any questions, come see me. Enjoy.

Mia moves away, sharing a sexy smile with Christian. Kimber, noticing -- *

KIMBER *

Do you think these girls are prettier than me? *

He pulls her close to him and smiles. *

CHRISTIAN *

You are the hottest piece of ass in this place and you're mine. But if I'm going to do this one woman thing it can't be with just one woman. Whatever happens here, I'm with you and you're with me. *

She melts. Kisses his neck. *

KIMBER *

What do you want to try first? *

(CONTINUED)

His eyes catch and follow an incredibly beautiful EURASIAN *
WOMAN moving through a set of heavy curtains and into one of
the rooms. He smiles, downs his drink, grabs Kimber and
leads her towards the room.

22 OMITTED 22
23 OMITTED 23
24 INT. THE SCENE - GIRL/GIRL ROOM -CONTINUOUS 24

Christian and Kimber enter. The room is lit by FLASHING
STROBE LIGHTS and the music is BLASTING. The walls are lined
with MEN who are drinking, bobbing their heads to the music
and mesmerized by the GIRLS in the middle of the room in...

The Pleasure Pit -- a series of modular couches surrounding a
sexy white fur rug on which experimentation can be indulged.

There must be FIFTEEN GIRLS in the room, kissing and groping,
really getting into it. Christian watches as a WOMAN in a
sheer dress subtly ORGASMS from the special attention another
GIRL is giving her.

Kimber grips Christian tightly as they hug the wall. He
likes what he sees, she's not so sure. The Eurasian Girl
sees them and prowls over seductively. She pushes herself
against Kimber and teasingly licks her neck.

GIRL
(to Christian)
Can she come out and play?

Kimber looks to Christian. He smiles lovingly at her and
gestures with his head for her to go with The Girl. The Girl
smiles and brushes her hand over Kimber's face, down to the
side of her breast.

The music builds - THA-THUMP, THA-THUMP. Kimber tentatively
lets the Girl pull her out into The Pleasure Pit.

Kimber watches Christian watch her and The Girl. Their
bodies grind into each other. Sensing Christian's
excitement, Kimber surrenders to the moment. The Girl leans
in, wraps her arms around Kimber and starts MAKING OUT WITH
HER as the strobes flash. Christian enjoys the show.

5 OMITTED 25

CONTINUED:

21

Christian's eyes move from the Girl/Girl sign to an incredibly beautiful EURASIAN WOMAN walking into the room below it. He smiles, downs his drink, grabs Kimber and leads her towards the room.

22 INT. MATT'S ROOM - NIGHT

22

Matt on the phone. The beep of an answering machine, then -

MATT

Hey, Vanessa, it's Matt again. I haven't heard from you since what happened yesterday and I'm starting to get a little worried. Ridley says you keep calling over there and hanging up. I know you're there, Vanessa...pick up the phone. Fine, I'm coming over.

He hangs up and we CUT TO:

23 INT. VANESSA'S BEDROOM - SAME

23

We hear the phone hang up on the machine as a very disturbed Vanessa writes Ridley's name over and over into her notebook with a pencil. With each writing, she becomes more intense until finally the pencil SNAPS.

24 INT. THE SCENE - GIRL/GIRL ROOM - NIGHT

24

Christian and Kimber enter. The room is lit by FLASHING STROBE LIGHTS and the music is BLASTING. The walls are lined with MEN who are drinking, bobbing their heads to the music and mesmerized by the GIRLS in the middle of the room in...

The Pleasure Pit -- a series of modular couches surrounding a sexy white fur rug on which experimentation can be indulged.

There must be FIFTEEN GIRLS in the room, kissing and groping, really getting into it. Christian watches as a WOMAN in a sheer dress subtly ORGASMS from the special attention another GIRL is giving her.

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GIRL

(to Christian)

Can she come out and play?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

24

Kimber looks to Christian. He smiles lovingly at her and gestures with his head for her to go with The Girl. The Girl smiles and brushes her hand over Kimber's face, down to the side of her breast.

The music builds - THA-THUMP, THA-THUMP. Kimber tentatively lets the Girl pull her out into The Pleasure Pit.

Kimber watches Christian watch her and The Girl. Their bodies grind into each other. Sensing Christian's excitement, Kimber surrenders to the moment. The Girl leans in, wraps her arms around Kimber and starts MAKING OUT WITH HER as the strobes flash. Christian enjoys the show.

25 INT. VANESSA'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

25

Matt enters the room. A crying Vanessa sits on the bed with her back to us. She's doing something but we can't tell what it is. MATT'S POV: A SLOW KUBRICIAN PUSH-IN toward Vanessa.

MATT

Vanessa? Are you okay?

VANESSA

They said I can't see her anymore.
My Dad said it was just a phase.

Her voice is low and odd; Matt is spooked.

MATT

Vanessa, what are you doing?

VANESSA

(calmly)

It's not a phase. Now they'll see that.

Matt slowly moves around her and is shocked to see her USING THE END OF HER BROKEN PENCIL TO CARVE "RIDLEY" INTO HER STOMACH. Vanessa slowly looks up at him, dazed and tearful.

VANESSA (CONT'D) (cont'd)

Now she'll be with me forever.

Off Matt's horror we CUT TO:

26 INT. MCNAMARA HOUSE - KITCHEN - NIGHT

26

Sean is eating leftovers from the intervention, trying to stretch out his neck. He sees Julia's schoolbooks on the table and starts mindlessly flipping through them.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

26

He stops at a section when he finds the PICTURE OF A HALF NAKED JUDE pressed between the pages. He takes the picture out and studies it. How could his wife NOT be sleeping with this guy? The phone rings. He looks around, then stuffs the picture in his pocket and closes the book before he answers.

SEAN

Hello? Matt? Calm down and tell me what's happened.

Off Sean's concerned reaction, we CUT TO:

27

INT. THE SCENE - NIGHT

27

The Girl has Kimber pinned up against the wall (we can't see it, but we should assume that The Girl is fingering her). Kimber opens her eyes to see if Christian is still watching. When she sees that he is, she closes her eyes again in ecstasy.

Christian watches for a moment, then takes a look around the room. Honestly, he's getting a little bored. He glances towards the door and is shocked to see

SLOW MOTION: Jude walking by with JULIA!

Christian doesn't believe his eyes. Did he just see that? He runs from the room into the hall.

CHRISTIAN

Julia?!

She and Jude keep walking away. Christian fights through the crowd.

CHRISTIAN (cont'd)

JULIA!

He finally reaches them, turns her around...

CHRISTIAN (cont'd)

JULIA!

But it's not Julia, it's Mrs. Schiraldi.

MRS. SCHIRALDI

Dr. Troy?

Jude watches the whole thing. Takes note. Christian is embarrassed into silence. He's made quite a scene.

(CONTINUED)

MRS. SCHIRALDI (cont'd)
Oh my God, this is so embarrassing.
(to Jude)
I told you we'd run into someone I
know.

JUDE
Everything okay doc? You look a
little flush.

CHRISTIAN
I'm fine. I just thought you were
someone else.

MRS. SCHIRALDI
Really, who?

JUDE
(knowingly, cool as ice)
Julia McNamara, his partner's wife.
You look a bit like her actually.

Christian and Jude's eyes never leave each other. Christian
regains his composure. Smiles at Mrs. Schiraldi.

CHRISTIAN
No reason to be embarrassed, Mrs.
Schiraldi. My lips are sealed.

A relieved Mrs. Schiraldi nuzzles up to him.

MRS. SCHIRALDI
In that case, we're going to hit
the orgy room. Wanna come?

CHRISTIAN
(coy, covering)
Maybe later.

Off Christian watching and disturbed as they exit we...

END ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

INT. MCNAMARA/TROY RECEPTION AREA - NIGHT

28

A nervous Matt sits alone in the deserted waiting room. Sean enters, disturbed.

MATT

(softly, scared)

And?

SEAN

She's going to be okay. Some scarring, obviously, I stopped the bleeding.

(a beat, measured)

An ambulance is on its way to take her to Dade County.

MATT

What?! She didn't want to go there, that's why I called you! I suppose you called her parents.

SEAN

She's sixteen.

MATT

This is so like you.

SEAN

You're damned right it is. This is me, Matt, right here. And you may have Christian's sex drive and your mother's eyes. But I'm going to do everything I can to make sure you get my morality.

Matt just stares, stunned.

SEAN (cont'd)

This can't be brushed under the carpet, you have to take some responsibility for this.

MATT

You act like I carved the letters!

SEAN

You lied to her Matt. You used her for revenge and you had a hand in this.

(a beat)

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

28

SEAN (cont'd)

And because I wasn't hard enough on you when I found out about your activities with these girls...so did I.

Robert and Mitzy enter.

ROBERT

Where is she?

MITZY

(pointing at Matt)

You! You did this!

SEAN

Hey...cool down.

ROBERT

Easy for you to tell us to cool down when your son's not in there with his stomach torn to hell.

SEAN

My son didn't do this to your daughter. She's gay, she's in pain and you only added to her torment. You're lucky it was her stomach she cut and not her wrists!

Robert is stunned. He knows Sean is right, but he's trying hard not to let it show. Matt is moved to see his father defending him with such adamancy.

SEAN (cont'd)

She's down the hall to the left. An ambulance should be here any minute.

Robert stares him down and leads Mitzy to the back just as Julia rushes in.

JULIA

I just got your message. Is she all right?

Matt is overwhelmed. Julia senses this. She walks up to him.

JULIA (cont'd)

Are you all right Matt?

(CONTINUED)

MATT
You were right, Mom. I was wrong.
(a beat)
What I did was wrong.

Matt goes to her, falls into her arms and starts to cry. She comforts him and looks up at Sean. Sean, remembering the picture he found in her book, barely smiles back.

29 INT. CHRISTIAN'S APARTMENT - BED - NIGHT 29

Christian's lying in bed, staring off into space as Kimber slides under the covers and cuddles up. She smells her arm.

KIMBER
Mmm - I love the smell of that
girl's perfume. You think I should
get some?

He's not listening.

KIMBER (cont'd)
Earth to Christian.
(snuggling closer)
You're still back in the Girl/Girl
room aren't you?

CHRISTIAN
(lying, softly)
You know me so well.

KIMBER
Did you see? I did everything you
asked me to.

CHRISTIAN
Of course. Very sexy.

KIMBER
Good. Because I looked up for a
second and I couldn't see you.

She pauses and buries her head in his chest.

KIMBER (cont'd)
I think we're going to be okay.

Christian's eyes tell a different story.

INT. SEAN'S OFFICE - DAY

30

TIGHT on the half naked picture of Jude held by a MALE HAND -- Christian's. He lowers the picture revealing Sean, stewing.

SEAN

She's at his place "studying" almost every day. Now she's stashing pornographic pictures of him in her schoolbooks. Something's going on.

Christian pauses, then hands the picture back.

CHRISTIAN

Burn it and stop worrying. She's not sleeping with him.

SEAN

How can you be so sure?

CHRISTIAN

(a beat, duplicitous)
Because you and Julia are both too honest to cheat.

Sean desperately wants to believe that, but it's hard considering his recent dalliances with Megan.

CHRISTIAN (cont'd)

He's probably worn out his welcome here though, don't you think?

SEAN

I can't fire him. She'd think I was doing it because I was jealous.

CHRISTIAN

And she'd be right.

A long pause, then --

CHRISTIAN (cont'd)

I'll take the bullet for you on this one. The kid's bad news.

(a beat)

He reminds me of me at that age.

Sean pauses, nods and exits relieved. As he does, Linda enters and hands Christian a file.

(CONTINUED)

LINDA

The extra bloodwork you ordered on Cliff Mantegna. You might want to check out page two.

Curious, Christian examines Cliff's chart as --

CLIFF'S VOICE

Hepatitis C?

SMASH CUT TO:

31 INT. AFTER CARE - LATER

31

Cliff is wearing his uncomfortable mansierre and he is in shock from the troubling news.

CLIFF

Is that like AIDS?

CHRISTIAN

It's a virus. You were probably infected by one of your sexual partners.

CLIFF

Oh God. Am I going to die?

CHRISTIAN

The fatality rate is very low, but the chances of chronic infection are high. You're going to have to get tested periodically for liver disease.

CLIFF

Why didn't you tell me this before my surgery?

CHRISTIAN

We usually don't run the full STD panel on our patients, the law says we have to work on you no matter what you have. But considering your lifestyle, I thought as a courtesy I'd run it through free of charge.

(a beat)

I thought you could use it to get into more parties. I wasn't anticipating this.

Cliff is devastated.

(CONTINUED)

CHRISTIAN (cont'd)
You're going to have to inform your
future sexual partners.

CLIFF
That I'm sick? What swingers group
is going to want me after that?

Cliff looks down at his useless surgery.

CLIFF (cont'd)
Jesus, two months in this bra, all
that money, the pain and for what?
So I can try to find some girl who
doesn't care that I'm sick and be
monogamous? I can't do that. I
can't just go back to normal life.
What am I going to do?

He looks to Christian, pleading. Softly --

CLIFF (cont'd)
What am I going to do?

LINGER on Christian...silently asking himself the same thing.

32 INT. CHRISTIAN'S OFFICE - DAY 32

Christian is at his desk when Jude peeks his head in.

JUDE
You wanted to see me?

CHRISTIAN
Yeah, come in.

JUDE
Some party, huh? That Mrs.
Schiraldi's a hellcat.

Jude winks. A cold Christian is not amused.

CHRISTIAN
This is a business, not a pickup
joint.

Jude immediately gets that this is not a buddy chat.

JUDE
You're right, won't happen again.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

CHRISTIAN

Just a guess, but I bet you won't be flashing those pearly whites after I make a few calls and tell my pals at the University of Miami that I fired you.

Jude lets it go. Starts out. He turns, then coolly --

JUDE

You make that call to the university, Dr. Troy. That way, I'll have a lot of free time to have a nice lunch with your partner and tell him that you're in love with his wife.

CHRISTIAN

Do it - just make sure your insurance is paid up.

*
*
*

Jude exits. Off Christian, a concerned look on his face, we CUT TO:

*

3

INT. MEGAN'S OFFICE - DAY

33

CRACK! Megan snaps Sean's neck back into place.

MEGAN

Try moving it now.

She goes over to a side table and turns her back on him to write in his chart as he sits up and puts his shirt on. He moves his neck around. Full-range of motion is restored.

SEAN

Amazing.

MEGAN

Yeah, we're not all quacks - no matter what the AMA says.

She continues writing. Softly --

SEAN

My partner didn't have to remind me that you were a chiropractor. I've never forgotten anything about you.

MEGAN

Sean, don't.

CONTINUED:

SEAN

You said I should be honest with my
feelings no matter what they are.

(CONTINUED)

INT. MEGAN'S OFFICE - DAY

33

CRACK! Megan snaps Sean's neck back into place.

MEGAN

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She goes over to a side table and turns her back on him to write in his chart as he sits up and puts his shirt on. He moves his neck around. Full-range of motion is restored.

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Amazing.

MEGAN

Yeah, we're not all quacks - no matter what the AMA says.

She continues writing. Softly --

SEAN

My partner didn't have to remind me that you were a chiropractor. I've never forgotten anything about you.

MEGAN

Sean, don't.

SEAN

You said I should be honest with my feelings no matter what they are.

MEGAN

Sometimes people can be too honest.

He approaches and gently touches her face.

SEAN

I can't stop thinking about you.

(a beat)

Just tell me you don't feel the same way and you'll never see me again.

She thinks about it, looks into his eyes, then pulls away.

MEGAN

It doesn't matter how I feel. You're married and I'm barely divorced and...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

33

SEAN

I think you're beautiful.

MEGAN

That's my point. The way you look at me. I don't think I can let myself be that vulnerable with a man that I can't have.

SEAN.

(softly)

Who says you can't have me?

They stare at each other. As they come together in a passionate kiss, we DISSOLVE TO:

34

INT. CHRISTIAN'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

34

Christian is hanging upside down in gravity boots, doing a merciless round of sit-ups. The doorbell rings. Christian swings down and answers the door, knowing full well who it is. A furious Julia barges in.

JULIA

You asshole.

CHRISTIAN

Nice to see you too, Jules.

JULIA

How could you fire my friend without talking to me about it first? This internship was very important to him.

CHRISTIAN

If it was so important to him then he shouldn't have taken one of our clients to a swingers party. And you might want to reconsider who you decide to be friends with. He could have really hurt our business.

JULIA

Bullshit, Christian. This isn't about the business, it's about you and me. You can't stand the competition.

(CONTINUED)

CHRISTIAN

Don't flatter yourself. This is about you playing Demi Moore with some twenty-five year old punk kid with an overactive libido.

JULIA

The one with the overactive libido is a middle aged surgeon.

CHRISTIAN

I'm just looking out for my best friend's interest. You're my partner's wife. His well being is intimately tied to mine.

She stares at him. Knows he's lying.

JULIA

You fired him for revenge. Someone else is interested in me and you can't handle that.

CHRISTIAN

Please, I can have anything I want anytime I want it.

JULIA

You can't have me.

He slowly moves toward her, a panther. Sexily --

CHRISTIAN

Can't I? Face the cold hard facts, Julia -- you're still pining away for me, like you have been for years. Your boy toy is me.

She backs up but he's pursuing her, like prey.

JULIA

Fifteen years younger than you.

CHRISTIAN

The poor man's version of me. Have you kissed him yet?

JULIA

You couldn't handle it if I did.

CHRISTIAN

When you did, were you thinking of
me?

A beat, they are nose to nose now. Julia and Christian --

KISS. It's romantic and slow, taboo and hot. She slowly
pulls away as if in a daze. This is what she's longed for
for years. Sweetly, lowly, with a turned-on smile --

JULIA

You know what I was just thinking
about?

CHRISTIAN

What?

Julia's eyes suddenly grow cold and hard.

JULIA

Jude.

She turns and exits. As we linger on Christian, speechless,
we SMASH TO BLACK.

END OF SHOW