# LOWE ROLLERS

"<u>Pilot</u>"

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### ACT ONE

LOWE ROLLERS WILL BE DONE "DOCUMENTARY STYLE" WITH THE LOOK AND TESTIMONIAL STYLE INTERVIEWS OF THE ANIMATED FEATURE "SURF'S UP."

FADE IN:

EXT. SKYSCRAPER HOTEL - 121ST FLOOR

Two men CRASH through the window of a high-rise hotel. One of them, wearing an argyle sweater, is screaming.

MAN

...you wife-stealing son of a --

He suddenly notices they're plummeting a hundred stories down. As he falls towards camera his mouth engulfs the frame into blackness.

CHYRON: "Yesterday"

EXT. SHIP - DAY

CLOSE ON: The man who was falling, DANNY LOWE, portly and earnest (think Clark Griswold from "Vacation") now wearing a Captain's uniform and a wide smile.

DANNY

Ahh, young love. You couldn't have picked a more romantic spot for your nuptials.

(lump in the throat)

There's nothing more sacred than the traditional vows you two are about to profess.

WIDEN to reveal he's officiating a wedding on the deck of a ship. The groom wears a cheesy purple tuxedo jacket over a sports jersey. The bride, clearly a slutty-stripper type, wears an ill-fitting wedding gown, her make-up smeared. Both are drunk. Wedding music plays.

INT. THE LOWE'S APARTMENT

DANNY'S INTERVIEW

2.

DANNY

(to camera)

I always get choked up at weddings. I'm a traditional guy. Family, marriage, a healthy fear of G dash D. Nothing's more important than that.

## EXT. SHIP - BACK TO SCENE

DANNY

Even though you'll both wake up with raging headaches and no memory of the last forty-eight hours, I hope you will view your complimentary video to remind you of the commitment you've unknowingly made, so you'll give this marriage a chance.

The Groom BELCHES as we WIDEN further to reveal SALLY, a teenage, aspiring East-Coast W.A.S.P., playing the wedding music on a small keyboard and BILLY, a tweener -- think Ferris Bueller -- taking pictures with an iPad. They're both wearing sailor's caps and mortified expressions.

SATITIY

Dad, if anyone from school sees me in this hat, I'm ruined. Even the pregnant girls will tease me.

DANNY

Helping your dad run a business is a time-honored tradition. You're gaining valuable experience.

BILLY

(re: groom)

I'm gaining a contact high off this guy's sweat.

Billy leans closer to the groom, and inhales deeply...

DANNY

(quickly)

By the power vested in me by the Universal Life Church dot org, I now pronounce you husband and wife. You may take the plungee!

He SHOVES the couple overboard. They SCREAM as we PULL BACK and see they're on a bungee cord. A sign reads "Take the Plungee Wedding Chapel." This isn't a ship, it's the TITANIC RESORT HOTEL CASINO, on the Vegas strip.

As the newlyweds plunge, the Bride's gown FALLS OFF.

BACK ON THE DECK, Danny and the kids look over the railing.

DANNY (CONT'D)

Billy, did you forget to fix the velcro on the rent-a-gown?

BTT<sub>t</sub>Y

I wouldn't say "forget."

Billy holds up a strip a Velcro with a smile on his face as the Bride and Groom bounce back up. They hang mid-air, the "bride", in platform heels, fishnet stockings and stripper underwear overflowing with dollar bills. Danny covers Billy's eyes as Billy snaps photos.

#### INT. THE LOWE'S APARTMENT

#### FAMILY INTERVIEW

Danny sits on a couch next to his wife, LORRAINE LOWE --Sultry and sharp-eyed, with a touch of Christina Hendricks from Mad Men. Their living room could be in any mid-western home -- except for the porthole windows.

LORRAINE

(to camera)

Only Danny would think to build a hotel-casino based on the Titanic.

DANNY

(to camera)

Helluva ship... The casino is based on the ninety-nine percent of the cruise that went well. Everyone focuses on the ending.

BILLY

(to camera)

Dad's an idea man. That giant iceberg that rolls out into Las Vegas Boulevard every night...

### EXT. LAS VEGAS BOULEVARD - NIGHT

A giant fake iceberg, complete with live polar bears and a neon sign that reads "TITANIC HOTEL AND CASINO", rolls out onto the street, and smashes into a JAIL BUS TRANSPORTING PRISONERS. A PRISONER leaps out of the wreck onto the iceberg.

PRISONER

Sweet freedom!

One of the polar bears bites off the prisoner's head.

BACK TO:

THE LOWE'S APARTMENT INT.

FAMILY INTERVIEW

LORRAINE

(to camera)

We started feeding the polar bears and drug-testing the iceberg driver. It's going a lot smoother now.

DANNY

(to camera, fingers crossed)

Eighteen days without a mauling.
 (then, re: Lorraine)

And this lovely lady is my wife,

Lorraine. She runs both our casino and my heart.

## INT. TITANIC CASINO - DAY

DANNY (V.O.)

Sweetest woman on earth.

LORRAINE scans the casino floor like a hawk. Her shoulders twitch instinctively as she walks past a blackjack table where a NUN is stacking up her winnings.

NUN

Praise the Lord. More shoes and porridge for the orphans.

Lorraine casually swings the nun around, knees her in the stomach, then decks her with a punch to the face.

LORRAINE

Let that be a lesson to any of you would-be cheaters.

Casino patrons flee, some on foot, some on Rascals. Danny rushes through the crowd to the nun's side.

DANNY

DANNY (CONT'D)

Did you ever consider this woman of G dash D might have been winning through the power of prayer?

Lorraine rips off the nun's habit, revealing a HAIRY GUY in a bra and granny panties. Strapped to his arm is a bent metal device that now shoots a fountain of aces into the air.

## INT. LOWE APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - DAY

## FAMILY INTERVIEW

LORRAINE

(to camera)

I was born and raised in Vegas so I know my the score. I love Danny's midwestern optimism but he's a little too trusting to manage a casino.

DANNY

(to camera)

I trust people, she smacks them around...but somehow we make it work.

LORRAINE

(to camera)

And it's been working for seventeen years. Our anniversary is coming up.

DANNY

Oh yeah, when is that? Two weeks? Lorraine SLAPS Danny hard across the face. Twice.

DANNY (CONT'D)

Gotcha. I was joking!

He pulls a piece of paper from his pocket, shows it to Lorraine.

LORRAINE

(reading)

"I know our anniversary is tomorrow.

Don't hit me again."

Lorraine and Danny look at each other for a beat, smile, then start making out. Sloppy, wet kisses.

BILLY

(to camera, re: parents)

You're gonna get about another ten minutes of this. Enjoy.

Billy exits. Sally sits awkwardly next to her parents as they continue making out. Finally she covers them with some throw pillows and they keep making out. She picks up a "Junior Politico" magazine -- "Secrets to Getting Rid of Pimples AND Partisan Gridlock" -- Sally reads, trying to ignore them.

### INT. LOWE APARTMENT - SALLY'S ROOM - LATER

SALLY, still reads her "Junior Politico" magazine. BILLY enters tapping on his iPad.

BILLY

...and my "Grade Tweaker" app is done. For two-ninety-nine, a kid can access any school in the country and change anyone's grades.

SALLY

Mom's going to kill you.

BILLY

Not a chance. I routed the trace-back through North Korea. Just like Kim-Jong-Whatever to mess with our schools. I bet that's why Koreans get such good grades.

SALLY

Don't be ignorant. All the Asians get good grades.

BILLY

(re: iPad)

Not anymore. Come on, there's gotta be someone's report card you wanna "tweak?"

Sally puts the magazine down, vengeance in her eyes.

# INT. SCHOOL HALLWAY - FLASHBACK

Sally hangs a poster that reads, "DON'T BE AN IMMATURE DOUCHE: VOTE SALLY LOWE FOR CLASS PRESIDENT".

PRINCIPAL BRADLEY (O.S.)

Top notch poster, Sally.

She turns to see PRINCIPAL BRADLEY, glasses, tweed jacket... and an M4A1 ASSAULT RIFLE slung over his shoulder.

SATITY

Thank you, Principal Bradley.

A BOY darts out of a classroom and around the corner.

PRINCIPAL BRADLEY

No running in the halls!

Principal Bradley pursues, firing off warning rounds as EVORA, a flashy and rich GIRL, approaches.

**EVORA** 

Give it up, Sally. My face cleared up, my forearms are waxed, and my Qrating is on the rise. After my epic party Saturday night I'm gonna get every vote in this election.

Evora reaches over and rips down Sally's poster beneath it another poster reads: "Tryouts this Friday for 'Bulimia, The Musical! FULL OF GREAT GAGS!"

#### BACK TO:

## INT. LOWE APARTMENT - SALLY'S ROOM

Over Billy's shoulder we see his screen. It shows a school picture of Evora along with her report card, the grades changing from A's and B's to F's.

SALLY

I owe you.

BILLY

You can do my chores. Dad said I had to rake up all the strip club flyers in front of the hotel.

LORRAINE (O.S.)

Dinner!

## INT. LOWE APARTMENT - KITCHEN - MOMENTS LATER

The family sits around a table eating dinner, Danny devours his food. Lorraine notices Billy playing on his iPad.

LORRAINE

Billy! No video poker until your homework is done.

BILLY

Who needs to do homework? I'm getting straight A's. Check online.

He winks at Sally, who ignores him then turns to her parents.

SALLY

I forgot to tell you guys. I have this...thing...Saturday night.

LORRAINE

What...thing?

SALLY

Just a little get together at Evora's.

LORRAINE

You're not going. It's a huge convention weekend and I do not trust her father.

SALLY

I'm running for Class President! How am I supposed to be elected if I'm not at the cool parties pressing flesh?!

DANNY

Danny puts down his fork.

Don't say "pressing flesh." It's inappropriate for a young lady.

You're not some filthy whore. (catching himself)

Whoops, that one slipped out.

Danny flips a casino chip into a half-full "swear jar" on the counter.

SALLY

You just don't want me going because her father owns the Dubai.

Danny gazes out the porthole window at his next door neighbor's place: a HUGE, DUBAI-themed resort that dwarfs the Titanic.

DANNY

Sure, Amir may be a little flashy and occasionally get too friendly with your mother, but he's our neighbor and I like him just fine.

## INT. AMIR'S PENTHOUSE - DAY

#### AMIR INTERVIEW

AMIR, think a five-foot-one Robert Evans, sits on a couch in a massive penthouse with enough gold to make Saddam's bathroom seem "understated."

AMIR

(to camera)

Danny despises me. My hotel is much larger than his and I am a man who gets whatever he wants. Except for one thing...

Amir glances up at the ceiling where a painter on a ladder recreates Michelangelo's "Hand of God" image. Except it has a scantily-clad Lorraine and a well-muscled Amir reaching their fingers lustily towards each other.

AMIR (CONT'D) (to artist, irate)

I told you, I don't care about artistic integrity. It is not my finger I want her grabbing!

Amir kicks out the ladder and the painter tumbles.

CUT TO:

#### INT. LOWE APARTMENT - SAME TIME

Danny is still staring out the porthole window -- a screaming bride and groom bungee down, vomit on the outside of the porthole then bungee back up. The family ignores them.

SALLY

What hurts so much is that you don't trust me.

She looks down sadly, then sneaks a peak at Danny from the corner of her eye.

SALLY (CONT'D)

(to herself)

Wait for it...

DANNY

She may have a point, Honey. We've raised her with rock-solid values and, let's face it, she's not a little kid anymore. She has the vocabulary and anthill breasts of a young lady. Oops, I said breasts.

Danny flips another chip in the "swear jar."

LORRAINE

There's no way in hell she's going to that party.

Lorraine flips a chip into the "swear jar."

DANNY

Dammit, Lorraine...

Danny flips another chip into the "swear jar."

DANNY (CONT'D)

... the character we've instilled in that child is much stronger than any temptation she could face.

### LORRAINE

Not in this town, Honey. We are two bad parenting choices away from seeing our baby straddling a pole.

BILLY

Bad parenting and surgical implants--

DANNY

Billy! Breast augmentation... (flips chip into "swear jar")

...is inappropriate dinner

conversation...and with your mother's

LORRAINE

Danny. Don't make me say it.

genes, it won't be an issue.

Lorraine walks over to the "swear jar" and dumps a huge stack of chips in.

DANNY

Too rich for my blood. (then, to Sally)

Sorry, Honey. You're not going to that party.

CUT TO:

## INT. THE CHOCOLATE CHIP-WRECK ICE CREAM PARLOR - LATER

Danny, Lorraine, Billy and Sally each hold an ice cream in a dish shaped like a life raft. They are going through a sundae bar. Sally sidles up to Danny.

SALLY

... If you don't trust Amir, you can come drop me off at the party. You'll see everything's fine.

### DANNY

No can do, Pumpkin. Your mom and I have our traditional anniversary celebration that night. The chef makes the old Ohio classics: Chili spaghetti, chocolate buckeyes, and then we sit at the Captain's table for the show.

### LORRAINE

Oh, Danny. We're not doing the traditional thing again. I tell you every year I don't want to do that anymore.

## DANNY

That's part of the tradition.

### LORRAINE

This time I meant it. I want to leave the hotel.

### DANNY

You're not giving me a lot of time here.

Crescent arcs of sweat immediately form under Danny's armpits.

LORRAINE

I gave you a year. And if we don't do something special away from this hotel, that other anniversary tradition you love so much... not gonna happen.

Lorraine crosses off.

DANNY

(calling after)

What could be more fun than this

hotel?

INTERCOM VOICE (V.O.)

Iceberg! Iceberg!

An alarm blares as the room quickly tilts to a forty-five degree angle. The patrons go flying.

DANNY

(tumbling out of frame)

Never gets oooooolllllldddd!

CUT TO BLACK:

END OF ACT ONE

## ACT TWO

#### FADE IN:

### INT. PRISCILLA'S ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

PRISCILLA PARROT, an ACTUAL PARROT, brightly feathered and brash, sits on a perch in her "Taj Mahal" cage, drinking from a tiny martini glass. Tacked to the cage walls are posters advertising Pricilla as the Titanic Resort's headline attraction. Danny rushes in.

DANNY

Priscilla, we gotta talk.

PRISCILLA

Relax Sugar Lips, the anniversary show's all taken care of. I've prepared an entire act of Lorraine's favorite numbers.

CUT TO:

### INT. PACKED SHOWROOM - NIGHT

Quick shots of her act:

Priscilla, dressed as 70's era Elton John plays a piano...

PRISCILLA (Singing, falsetto)

Benny! Benny! Benny!

#### THEN:

Priscilla, in Barbra Streisand wig and gown, sings...

PRISCILLA (CONT'D)

(singing)

Memories...

(to audience, re: her beak)

The only broad with a bigger beak than mine.

(MORE)

PRISCILLA (CONT'D) (then, singing again)

...like the corners of my mind...

#### THEN:

Priscilla, dressed like Siegfried or Roy runs around the stage being chased by a house-cat with a lion's coloring.

The cat swallows Priscilla. The audience is silent. After a beat, Priscilla is lowered from the ceiling on a tiny motorcycle. The audience goes nuts.

BACK TO:

DANNY

Priscilla, I know you've gone to a lot of trouble to put together the show, but Lorraine wants to go out this year. I hope you understand.

DROPPINGS FALL from Priscilla's backside and SPLAT on the bottom of her cage as she calmly takes a sip of her martini.

## INT. PRISCILLA'S ROOM

### PRISCILLA INTERVIEW

Priscilla sits on her perch wearing a sequined gown and holding a lit cigarette in a long black holder.

PRISCILLA (to camera, a little tipsy)

The lack of respect is outrageous.

I'm the headliner baby! I'm Danny

Ganz with a beak and a feathered

Vagina. And the feathers are groomed.

Priscilla starts to lift up her dress. The camera wobbles.

INTERVIEWER (O.S.)

Cut, Cut! Oh, God. I think I saw it.

BACK TO:

## INT. SHOWER - EVENING

Danny is in a steamy shower, panicking.

DANNY

(mumbling to himself)

...Indoor Skydiving. Nah, that's not

romantic. Sunset horseback ride.

hours of bouncing on my Danny-Boys?

Goodbye romance. C'mon, think!

Danny hears a noise in the bathroom, wipes some steam off the shower door and is shocked to see the ghost of LIBERACE.

DANNY (CONT'D)

Ahhhh! For Heaven's sake, Dead

Liberace. Do you always have to sneak

up on me like that?

Dead Liberace floats through the glass and joins Danny in the shower.

DEAD LIBERACE

Hello, Danny.

His eyes dart down then back up. Down then up. Down...

DANNY

I thought ghosts were just supposed to

haunt people.

DEAD LIBERACE

Well, in this case you haunt me,

Danny. You. Haunt. Me. (collecting himself)

You seem tense, wanna talk about it?

### DANNY

It's our anniversary tomorrow and Lorraine wants to break the tradition and leave the hotel.

### DEAD LIBERACE

Sometimes it's good to break with traditions, Danny. Who's allowed to get married, who's allowed to serve in the military, what body part goes where when two gentlemen find themselves alone in the shower.

### DANNY

I hate breaking with tradition, but I love my wife and I want to make her happy. What the hell am I gonna do?

He flips a chip into a "swear jar" in the shower.

### DEAD LIBERACE

Well, if it was my anniversary, I'd go to Gay Parie.

#### DANNY

Of course, Paris. The most romantic place on Earth.

### DEAD LIBERACE

No "Gay Parie" is a club downtown.

Dead Liberace casually knocks the soap off the shelf.

DEAD LIBERACE (CONT'D)

Whoops. You better bend over and get that or someone could get hurt.

> DANNY (ignoring him)

Paris is perfect. We haven't been away from the kids in years, but I'll have to find someone to stay with them.

DEAD LIBERACE

Pick it up!

DANNY (ignoring him)

And I know just the person...

CUT TO:

## EXT. SAGGYTOWN NURSING HOME - MORNING

A run down nursing home with a FLASHING neon marquee: "Saggytown Senior Living: All you can eat dinner buffet 3 PM."

## INT. SAGGYTOWN NURSING HOME - MORNING

Danny walks past rows of slot machines. An ancient man plays one and gets three "Grim Reapers." He sighs, and falls off the stool, dead. Danny continues down a long hallway, an old person's voice wafts out from a room "How deep do you want the ditch, Mr. Sinatra?" Danny arrives at a door.

### INT. GRANDMA'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Danny enters to find GRANDMA sitting on her adjustable bed, wearing a frumpy housecoat and smoking a cigarette.

#### GRANDMA

Well... Look who it is. My son-in-

law.

DANNY

Great to see you, Grandma. Shall I come in for a hug?

GRANDMA

Save it. Let's bust this joint.

Grandma stands and flips the cigarette at her roommate, CHER, the real CHER, who is on the zebra skin bed across from her.

GRANDMA (CONT'D)

Who's turning back time now, bitch?

# INT. LOWE APARTMENT - AFTERNOON

Billy plays iPad video poker on the couch. Sally enters, removing a STRIP CLUB FLYER stuck to a rake.

SATITY

That was actually a good reminder of the disgusting way that women are still objectified in our culture.

Billy snatches the flyer from her.

BILLY

(re: flyer)

Only the ones with hooters like this!

No one gives a crap about the others.

INT. SALLY'S ROOM - DAY

### SALLY INTERVIEW

SALLY

(to camera)

I'm totally screwed. Anyone who runs for President has to deal with one idiot relative. Jimmy Carter had Billy. Hilary Clinton will have Bill.

(MORE)

LOWE ROLLERS "Pilot" 8/1/13 22.

SALLY (CONT'D)

I'm gonna have MY WHOLE FREAKIN'

FAMILY!

BACK TO:

#### INT. LOWE APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

SALLY

(to Billy)

How much would I have to pay you to go live with Barack Obama's half-brother in Africa?

Billy stares at the strip-club flyer IGNORING her. Danny ENTERS and Billy quickly jams it in his pocket.

DANNY

(excited)

Big news, kids. I'm taking your mom away for our anniversary. Think you can handle a night without us?

SALLY

YES! Shouldn't you be on your way?

I'll help you pack.

BILLY (O.S.)

Already done.

ANGLE ON: Billy stands by the hallway holding two suitcases he has just packed at the speed of light.

DANNY

I got another surprise for you two.

Danny runs back out.

SALLY

Oh my God, I can't believe it. I'm going to Evora's party!

BILLY

And I can sneak down to the poker machines. I'm gonna clean them out.

SALLY

You mean, clean US out.

BILLY

"Them," "us," what does it matter? Just keep your mouth shut and I'll give you a taste. You'll have enough scratch to bathe in Louboutin shoes and hairless Bieber look-alikes.

Danny enters with Grandma, still in her frumpy housecoat.

DANNY

Grandma is going to stay with you. It's like a family reunion. How great is that?

ZOOM IN on Sally, eyes wide.

SALLY

Nooooooooooo!

### INT. CASINO/CASINO CAGE - DAY

"Up Where We Belong" UNDERSCORES, as Danny enters the casino, spots Lorraine, and sweeps her off her feet.

Danny carries Lorraine past the Casino lounge, where we see "Alta-Cocker: Las Vegas' Original All-Jewish Joe Cocker Tribute Band" performing. They're actually playing "Up Where We Belong" - the singer flailing spastically a la Joe Cocker.

### EXT. TITANIC CASINO - CONTINUOUS

Danny carries Lorraine out of the casino, past the iceberg where a cleaning crew is trying to power-wash the blood off, then arrive at a waiting limo. On the back there is a sign that reads, "Just Anniversaried".

DANNY

We're going to Paris, Baby.

LORRAINE

The kids?

DANNY

All taken care of.

She kisses him as they pile into the limo. The limo screeches out of the driveway and cruises right across the street to the Paris Las Vegas Hotel and Casino.

## INT. PARIS HOTEL - SUITE - MOMENTS LATER

Danny carries Lorraine over the threshold into their room.

DANNY

Because I love you so much, tonight we're gonna do none of the things I like. It's all French from here on out, Baby.

### A SERIES OF QUICK POPS

- -Danny sticks on a fake moustache. Lorraine sticks on underarm hair.
- -Lorraine and Danny pose nude on the bed covered by pieces of fruit as an impressionist painter does a portrait. The frustrated painter cuts off his own ear, a la Van Gogh, and blood squirts out of his head. Danny and Lorraine smile and applaud. Danny tosses him a tip.
- -Danny and Lorraine, dressed in matching cycling outfits, bend over to be injected with steroids, then hop on a tandem bike and pedal into "The Tour De France Indoor Bike Experience."
- -Danny and Lorraine drink champagne atop the "Eifel Tower." They kiss as behind them a bachelorette party flashes people over the railing.

## INT. PARIS HOTEL - OCCUPIED RESTAURANT - LATER

We're close on a menu cover. It reads "OCCUPIED: BAR AND GRILL" and there is a caricature of a smiling Adolph Hitler in a beret. The menu drops and we see Danny and Lorraine sitting at a table.

DANNY

Look at the drink menu. Very

authentic.

(reading menu)

"Vee don't serve juice."

A waiter, dressed as a Nazi Soldier approaches.

WAITER

Velcome to Occupied. Let me see your papers, please.

Danny and Lorraine glance at each other. Danny hands the guy his wallet.

WAITER (CONT'D)

Zat is a very interesting name. Lowe. I am going to have to check your schmeckle to see if you've been circumcised.

LORRAINE

That's not going to happen.

DANNY

Actually, I called ahead of time.

We're on our anniversary.

WAITER

Oh, yes. Zee chili spaghetti and chocolate buckeyes. I vill go check our massive ovens.

LOWE ROLLERS

The waiter GOOSE STEPS off. Lorraine takes Danny's hand.

LORRATNE

Nice compromise, Danny. This is wonderful. I haven't thought about the business or the kids in hours. I can't remember the last time I felt this relaxed.

They kiss.

LORRAINE (CONT'D)

By the way. Who'd you get to stay with the kids?

DANNY

Your mother.

LORRAINE (high pitched scream)

WHAT?!

The wine glasses shatter. A mirror on the wall shatters revealing a back room filled with Jewish gold and artwork. Above, a small family cowers in an attic.

# INT. LOWE APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - DAY

# LORRAINE INTERVIEW

LORRAINE

(to camera)

I tucked my mother away in a nursing home to keep the kids safe. Did I say "tucked?" I meant "locked." I did not have a stable upbringing.

## INT. CASINO - FLASHBACK

Grainy footage. Young Showgirl Grandma is at a craps table.

# LORRAINE (V.O.)

Mom claimed I was her good luck charm.

The Showgirl lifts a flap of her oversized purse -- Baby Lorraine peeks out and blows on the dice. The Showgirl throws them - SEVEN! A guy peeks in the bag and a tiny stiletto heel shoots out and hits him in the crotch. We hear a "POP" and he doubles over.

## INT. HOTEL SUITE - FLASHBACK

A banner reads "Happy Birthday Elvis".

The room is in shambles. Four Year-Old Lorraine sits on the floor eating a peanut butter and banana sandwich while Young Showgirl Grandma tries to revive a fat, unconscious Elvis --

# LORRAINE (V.O.)

She was basically the worst mother on the planet. But I learned how to take care of myself... and others.

The girl waves her sandwich over Elvis' nose and he sits up, and devours it. Mother, daughter and Elvis laugh.

#### INT. OCCUPIED RESTAURANT - CONTINUOUS

#### LORRAINE

Are you out of your freakin' mind!?

DANNY

Honey, shh. Not in front of the Nazis.

#### LORRAINE

What have you done? All our hard work as parents will be destroyed in one night!

# INT. LOWE APARTMENT - EVENING

The kids both sit slumped on the couch.

### GRANDMA

Come on. I don't see you that much.

Let's do something.

BILLY

No thanks, Grandma. I don't think we like to do the same things.

Grandma whips off her granny housecoat to reveal a glittering, low cut, spaghetti strap dress. She kicks Billy's iPad out of his hands with her five-inch heel.

### GRANDMA

Get off your dookie maker. It's time you kids see the real Vegas. Let's go!

Off Billy and Sally's looks, we...

CUT TO BLACK.

# END OF ACT TWO

### ACT THREE

#### FADE IN:

### INT. LOWE APARTMENT - NIGHT

Danny and Lorraine rush into the apartment. It's empty.

LORRAINE

(calling off)

Billy?! Sally?... Way to go, Danny. My mom has no business watching our kids. She's crazy.

DANNY

She's family. Blood is thicker than crazy. I had a nutty uncle who used to stay with me all the time. Sure, he stuck nickels on his forehead and made fart sounds under his armpit, but I survived.

#### LORRATNE

You can't duplicate your mid-western upbringing here in Vegas. Our kids are gonna die.

DANNY

C'mon. They're probably just somewhere in the hotel.

# INT. TITANIC SECURITY ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Danny and Lorraine scour the security camera footage on a monitor. On all the other monitors, security personnel are using the "eyes in the sky" to look down women's blouses. CLEAVAGE shots abound.

A video comes up of Grandma in her showgirl dress leading the kids out the door.

Lorraine zooms in on the image a la C.S.I. and gets an EXTREME CLOSE UP of the strip-club flyer poking out of Billy's pocket. The name of the club is "Scuttle-Butts."

LORRAINE

Worst. Mother. Ever.

LOWE ROLLERS

DANNY

At least they're wearing coats.

## INT. TITANIC TAXI STAND - MOMENTS LATER

Danny and Lorraine climb into the back of a cab.

LORRAINE

(to driver)

Take us to Scuttle-Butts.

CAB-DRIVER

You sure? A convention is in town

with the filthiest, most out of

control predators on the planet.

He points to a flashing video billboard truck. It's an image that transforms between an American Flag and dancing and drinking slobs...then the words...

DANNY

(reading)

"Welcome United States Congressmen."

LORRAINE

(high-pitched scream)

WHAT?!

The windows of the cab shatter.

EXT. LUXOR HOTEL - SAME TIME.

Every single window in the pyramid-shaped hotel shatters.

EXT. LAS VEGAS - CLASSIC CAR RENTAL LOT - NIGHT

A flashing sign reads, "Ask About our Pimp Special."

A silver 1973 Cadillac Eldorado streaks out of the lot. Grandma, behind the wheel, bounces right over the curb and cuts across traffic. Sally and Billy cower in the back.

SALLY

Do you even have a license to drive?

GRANDMA

'Course I do.

She whips out a license and holds it up. It's CHER'S.

### INT. SAGGYTOWN NURSING HOME - SAME TIME

A PIZZA DELIVERY GIRL stands at Cher's door holding a pizza box and a credit card.

PIZZA GIRL

I can't take a credit card without an

I.D.

CHER

Haven't you ever seen Moonstruck?

PIZZA GIRL

For the tenth time, no.

CHER

(a la Moonstruck)

Snap out of it!!!

Cher slaps the Pizza Girl, who drops the pizza and DECKS her.

### INT. CADILLAC - SAME TIME

GRANDMA

So, what should we do first?

BTT<sub>t</sub>Y

How about some video poker. I can

double your bankroll, Grandma.

### **GRANDMA**

Pffft. You kids spend your lives staring at screens. Turns your brains to mush. What you need is a good old-fashioned, high stakes Vegas poker game.

She jerks the wheel and the Caddy SCREECHES right, barely missing a cab. The kids SCREAM as we go...

## INT. CAB - CONTINUOUS

Lorraine and Danny SCREAM, as the cab swerves back on the road after the near miss with the Caddy.

#### DANNY

We instilled good values in the kids, so they'll be okay. Your mom's family, so that'll be okay. The important thing to remember is that I did nothing wrong here.

#### LORRAINE

There's the place!

She points out the window to a neon sign that says "Scuttle-Butts." The "B" is tilted, and looks like an ass in a g-string, tilting back and forth.

#### DANNY

That's a clever sign.

## EXT. SEEDY CLUB - NIGHT

Grandma's Caddy screeches to a stop, bumping into a dark sedan. The trunk pops open and a GUY, wrapped in duct-tape, with a bruised face pops up.

GUY

LOWE ROLLERS

Are you crazy, Lady? Gonna kill someone.

Two thugs quickly cross over, hit the guy in the face with a shovel and slam him back in the trunk.

Grandma and the kids walk past the thugs and into the club.

## INT. BACK ROOM CARD GAME - CONTINUOUS

A dimly lit room with a round table. Various seedy looking characters sit at the table.

**GRANDMA** 

(to kids, re: players)

That's Tony Tetrazzini. He's dirtier than Charlie Sheen's underpants. And that silver-haired gentleman is Congressman Pickleman.

SALLY

O-M-F-G! I bet he could help launch my political career. He's one of the most respected minds on The Hill.

CONGRESSMAN PICKLEMAN

Well tickle my nibblers, I win again! Champagne and a shoulder rub, Intern.

A buxom BLONDE in a low cut dress hands him a bottle and starts messaging his shoulders. Grandma seats Billy at the table and slaps a stack of bills in front of him.

GRANDMA

You better win. That's my social security money.

Congressman Pickleman laughs.

#### LOWE ROLLERS

### CONGRESSMAN PICKLEMAN

Ain't that a hoot. I'm playin' with

your social security money, too.

He pulls out a suitcase and opens it. It's filled with cash.

BILLY

Deal 'em.

### EXT. SCUTTLE-BUTTS - NIGHT

The cab screeches to a stop and Danny and Lorraine charge out.

## INT. SCUTTLE-BUTTS - MOMENTS LATER

Lorraine and Danny enter and their eyes go wide.

A banner reading "Welcome Congressional Boondoggle!" hangs over a stage where a burlesque dancer is doing a seductive strip-tease as the room full of drunk CONGRESSMEN hoot and holler. A CONGRESSWOMAN staggers towards Danny and Lorraine.

#### LORRAINE

Oh no. It's that grabby Lesbian

Senator from Oregon.

LESBIAN SENATOR

(to Lorraine)

Hi, Fancy Face. Have a drink?

DANNY

No time. Looking for our kids. Not

that I'm worried about them, because I

made no mistakes.

They push frantically through the crowd, finally, climbing up a couple stairs and ending up backstage. Lorraine spots a showgirl preparing for her number.

#### LORRAINE

Holy crap. Do you recognize her?

DANNY

(too quickly)

Of course not. I never come here.

Not even for the "Tassels and Tacos

Mexican lunch" on Wednesdays.

LORRAINE

(re: showgirl)

It's Billy's math teacher.

They rush over.

LORRAINE (CONT'D)

Miss Mandrake?

MISS MANDRAKE

(non-plussed)

Mr. and Mrs. Lowe, so good to see you.

We're over Miss Mandrake's shoulder facing Danny and Lorraine, as she undresses to change costumes.

MISS MANDRAKE (CONT'D)

Did you get my e-mail about Billy? I

think he's been distracted in class.

Danny tries not to peek at her bare chest...but he looks down, then up.

DANNY

(distracted)

I hope he doesn't get a double "D".

Lorraine smacks his arm.

LORRAINE

(to Miss Mandrake)

I'll schedule a conference, but right

now we just have to find him and his

sister. Have you seen them?

Miss Mandrake slips into a feathered outfit with a giant head plume that makes her look like a human feather duster.

MISS MANDRAKE

Why would they be in this hellhole?

DANNY

Funny story. As any good parent

would, I left them with their closest

blood relative and --

Music starts.

Miss Mandrake glances to the floor directly behind Danny at a terrarium that houses a giant python.

MTSS MANDRAKE

Showtime. Take out the snake.

Danny holds up his hand and points to his wedding ring.

DANNY

I'm a happily married man.

MISS MANDRAKE

No, the python.

DANNY

I'm flattered, but the answer's still

no!

Lorraine grabs the snake and hands it to Miss Mandrake, who wraps it around her neck like a scarf then climbs into a sixfoot tall champagne glass.

The CURTAINS PART and Danny and Lorraine are CAUGHT ON STAGE. Hoots and whistles melt to silence. Security guards spot Danny and Lorraine and approach the stage.

DANNY (CONT'D)

(to Lorraine)

Follow my lead.

Danny struts "seductively" towards the front of the stage, shaking his man-boobs under his argyle sweater. The crowd boos. Lorraine follows behind him, and the dollar bills fly.

Miss Mandrake leans her head out of the glass upside down.

MISS MANDRAKE

I know all the kids were talking about Evora's big party at the Dubai.

Danny and Lorraine exchange a worried look.

DANNY

Of course. Thank you, Miss Mandrake.

Danny grabs a handful of dollar bills off the stage and stuffs them in his waistband as they exit.

# INT. BACK ROOM CARD GAME - NIGHT

There's a huge stack of poker chips in the pot. Pickleman looks at Billy, sweat on his brow. Pickleman lays down a full house, Jacks over Fives.

CONGRESSMAN PICKLEMAN

Call. Jacks and fives.

BTT<sub>t</sub>Y

Given your stance on civil unions, this is gonna bum you out. I got a double San Francisco wedding. Four queens.

Billy smiles and lays down FOUR QUEENS. Pickleman stands up angrily as Billy rakes in the pot.

# CONGRESSMAN PICKLEMAN

I hope you're proud of yourself, Kid. Ten senior citizens won't be getting hip replacements because of you.

SALLY

Come on, Grandma. Game's over. Let's go to the party at the Dubai.

CONGRESSMAN PICKLEMAN

Party at the Dubai?

SALLY

Relax. It's mostly teenage girls.

She looks up for Pickleman's reaction but he's already gone, the door left wide open. We see his car peeling out of the parking lot.

GRANDMA

Yeah. I guess it's time for a party.

INT. DUBAI HOTEL - BALLROOM - NIGHT

A high school party is going on in an opulent grand ballroom. Evora approaches AMIR.

**EVORA** 

This party sucks, Daddy. There's nobody famous here.

AMIR

I got you the cast of Jersey Shore!

ANGLE ON a roped-off section of the dance floor where five big-haired idiots "fist-pump" dance, scream at each other and cry as Evora's teenage friends look on, bored.

BACK ON Amir and Evora.

**EVORA** 

How can you not know they're just a short-lived, cultural phenomenon who wormed their way into the national zeitgeist?! You are so embarrassing me. I hate you.

AMIR

I'm sorry, Buttercup. I'll feed them to the crocodiles.

Amir activates a trap door and the Jersey Shore cast falls out of frame. We hear furious chomping and screams.

# EXT. BALLROOM - SAME TIME.

A humongous BOUNCER stands by a red velvet rope. Danny and Lorraine rush up.

DANNY

(to Lorraine)

Let me handle this. Be nice and neighborly, do it the Ohio way. (to bouncer)

Hiya. Those are some swell tattoos, my friend. I, too, enjoy Chinese symbols I don't understand. Anyhoo, we're the Lowes from next door and we just have to pop in and get our kids.

BOUNCER

You on the quest list?

DANNY

Ahh. Sorry. I get it. Can I please pop in and get my kids?

The bouncer glares at Danny as Lorraine fixes the bouncer with a "bedroom" eyes stare.

LORRAINE

Can't you just let me in?

BOUNCER

Sure, baby.

LORRAINE

(sotto to Danny)

That's the Vegas way.

He lifts the rope and she goes in. When Danny tries to follow, he's pushed him back. Danny looks through the door and sees Amir kissing Lorraine's hand. Danny jukes left and goes right. The bouncer clothes-lines him.

INT. HOTEL - NIGHT

Grandma, Sally and Billy approach an unmarked door.

SALLY

This isn't Evora's party.

GRANDMA

You're right. It's not some teenybopper crap with spiked punch and glowing necklaces. It's a real Vegas party.

Grandma opens the door and they enter a glamorous party. Tony Bennett singing by the piano, beautiful women. Sally's eyes go wide as they are approached by...

SALLY

Could it be? Is it possible? is...international superstar Ryan Gosling.

RYAN GOSLING

Hi, Ruth. Long time.

He gives Grandma a kiss on the cheek.

GRANDMA

Ryno, this is my Grandson Billy.

BILLY

Sup, Gosling.

GRANDMA

And my granddaughter, Sally.

SALLY

(star-struck)

Can I tongue kiss you?

RYAN GOSLING

There's a sign up sheet by the bar...

He hands her a small plastic cup.

RYAN GOSLING (CONT'D)

...just give us a urine sample so we can pre-screen you for anything contagious.

# INT. LADIES ROOM

# GRANDMA TALKING HEAD

Throughout the following Grandma is applying a ridiculous amount of bright red lipstick.

**GRANDMA** 

(to camera)

This used to be my life every night until Lorraine sent me away. So I'm gonna make tonight count. Get to know the grandkids and maybe get a taste of that Gosling boy and his crazy-hot abs. I could wash my panties on those...if I was wearing any.

She winks and kisses the camera lens, leaving a thick red lipstick mark.

# INT. PARTY - NIGHT

Grandma grabs Sally and brings her over to Ryan Gosling.

GRANDMA

Hey, Sweet Cheeks. Hold this up and take a picture with my granddaughter will ya?

Grandma hands him a napkin. Printed on it is, "I endorse Sally Lowe for Class President." Grandma snaps a picture with a cellphone. We freeze on the picture then

MATCH CUT TO:

# INT. DUBAI HOTEL - PARTY ROOM

We pull back and see Evora seeing the picture of Sally and Ryan Gosling on her phone.

**EVORA** 

Daddy!!!!!!!

# INT. PRISCILLA'S ROOM - NIGHT

Priscilla lies on a tiny massage table as a shirtless, oiled, male masseuse gives her a massage.

PRICILLA

Oh, yeah. That's it. Don't be afraid to let those muscular fingers explore.

I want this to end the opposite of "sad" if you get my drift.

Danny bounds into the room.

DANNY

Priscilla, I need your help.

PRICILLA

I'm not speaking to you.

DANNY

Please. It's my anniversary and I've

lost my kids and my wife.

(MORE)

DANNY (CONT'D)

I'm starting to think I might've done a couple things wrong. I need your help.

(no reaction)

You'll get to perform.

Her eyes perk up, intrigued.

# INT. DUBAI HOTEL - HALLWAY

Danny, in sunglasses and a yellow windbreaker that says "Security," approaches the bouncer. REVEAL that beside him is Priscilla in her Barbra Streisand costume.

DANNY

Party entertainment coming through.

BOUNCER

Hang on a second. I always thought Streisand was bigger.

PRICILLA

(singing)

PEOPLE...PEOPLE WHO NEED PEOPLE...ARE

THE LUCKIEST PEOPLE...IN THE WORLD...

BOUNCER

You know who the luckiest people are?

The ones who don't have to listen to

the rest of that crap.

He lifts the rope and they cross in.

# INT. BALLROOM - CONTINUOUS

Priscilla flies to the stage and grabs the mic as Danny charges through looking for his kids and Lorraine.

DANNY

Sally? Billy?

Across the room he sees Lorraine and Amir on an elevator, the doors slide shut.

DANNY (CONT'D)

LORRAINE!

Danny charges across the room. He presses the button frantically, but the panel shows it's an express elevator heading to the penthouse.

INT. ELEVATOR - SAME TIME.

Amir looks at Lorraine, infatuated.

LORRAINE

Do you really think my kids will be upstairs?

AMIR

It's possible. Anything is possible upstairs.

Amir hits a button, the lights dim and "The Girl from Ipanema" plays softly.

INT. DUBAI HOTEL - STAIRWELL

Danny sheds the windbreaker as he huffs up the stairs.

INT. AMIR'S PENTHOUSE - NIGHT

The elevator opens into Amir's penthouse love shack -- heart shaped bed with zebra blanket, mirrored ceiling, thousands of candles, a view of the city.

AMIR

Billy? Sally? Are you here? Hmm. Well since we came all the way up, how about a cordial?

He taps his foot and a wet bar rises from the floor.

LORRAINE

I thought you said this was a game room?!!!

AMIR

I'm sick of games, Lorraine. You married the wrong man. Your dumpy little hotel is an eyesore. You would see that if we weren't a hundred stories above it.

He takes her hand. She punches him in the face, he spits out a tooth.

AMIR (CONT'D)

That was assault, I'm going to have you arrested. Unless you kiss me.

As Amir puckers, the door flies open. Danny sees them together, takes in the decor and loses his shit. He charges Amir like a bull.

DANNY

You little...

Danny tackles Amir and they crash through the window.

EXT. DUBAI HOTEL - CONTINUOUS

THIS IS THE SCENE WE SAW IN THE BEGINNING ...

From above we watch the two men fall, tumbling down.

DANNY

- wife-stealing son-of-a-!!!

# INT. DUBAI SECURITY ROOM - SAME TIME

It's a gleaming, high-tech security room. An alarm sounds and workers see on a monitor as Danny and Amir fall.

# SECURITY WORKER

Jumpers.

A worker presses a red button on his console and cross-hair targets appear and lock-on to Danny and Amir.

# EXT. DUBAI HOTEL - SAME TIME

Landscape lights open like missile silos and GIANT NETS spring out, catching Danny and Amir inches from the ground. They hang in the nets next to six other "netted" jumpers.

# INT. JAIL - NIGHT

Lorraine and Danny sit on a bench in a holding cell. The door SLAMS shut. The Lesbian Senator, now wearing a day-glo "What Happens In Vegas" tee shirt, sidles up next to Lorraine.

#### LESBIAN SENATOR

Hey you. Want some ecstacy? It's straight from the D-E-A locker.

DANNY (to Lorraine, meekly)

Happy anniversary?

CUT TO BLACK.

END OF ACT THREE

# ACT FOUR

#### FADE IN:

# INT. INTERROGATION ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Amir paces, two of his bodyquards stand by the door. A detective sits across a table from Danny and Lorraine.

AMTR

...felonious assault, attempted murder. I will prosecute you to the full extent of the law. I just wish I could prosecute you to the full extent of Islamic law, like I did with Daryl.

ANGLE ON: One of Amir's bodyguards who raises his arm to wave and we see he has no hand. Grandma, wearing her frumpy frock, enters with Billy and Sally.

LORRAINE

Mom, what are you--

GRANDMA

Cops were waiting for us at home. (to Amir)

I hear you're pressing charges, Amir.

I'll make you a deal. One hand of

poker. I win, they walk.

AMIR

And if I win, you sell me the Titanic.

DANNY

Whoa...hang on now. I'm not even sure that's legal.

# DETECTIVE

Actually, the "Single-Hand Dismissal Clause" is part of the Las Vegas Criminal Code." If O.J. had hit a seven on the river, he'd be a free man and seventy pounds lighter.

Amir looks at Lorraine who grins and winks at him.

AMTR

One hand. Five Card... (re: himself)

...Stud.

# INT. INTERROGATION ROOM - LATER

Danny, Lorraine, Sally, Billy and the detective watch Grandma and Amir. They can see Grandma's hand, but Amir is facing them. Grandma has two aces and discards three cards. Amir slides her three more from the deck. He smiles and lays down his hand. Three Kings. Grandma swallows hard.

#### GRANDMA

Lorraine? I need my lucky girl.

Lorraine crosses to the table. Grandma holds up the three cards without looking at them.

GRANDMA (CONT'D)

Blow on them.

Lorraine smiles and blows on the cards. Grandma turns the cards over. She gets the other two aces -- four of a kind. The Lowe's celebrate.

AMTR

Dammit. How could that happen?! I was cheating!

Amir exits in a huff. Lorraine smiles at Grandma.

LORRAINE

Thanks, Mom.

GRANDMA

You always were my good luck charm.

As they hug, over Lorraine's shoulder, aces shoot out of Grandma's sleeve, like the cheating nun earlier.

DANNY

Okay, let's get some sleep. This

horrible nightmare is finally over.

An ALARM starts blaring. The detective whips on a Kevlar vest and riot helmet.

DETECTIVE

Every man for himself!

He charges out of the room. The family looks at a jail video monitor. The Congressmen are rioting, burning mattresses, beating up guards. The cell door is open and they're spilling out into the hallway.

SATITY

Daddy? They're coming this way.

Congressmen beat on the door chanting ...

CONGRESSMEN

Above the law... Above the law!

The family looks to Danny. He steels himself.

DANNY

No one messes with my family.

The door bursts open and Congressmen spill in. The family gets behind Danny who lowers his head like a football player and starts plowing through the mayhem.

> DANNY (CONT'D) (smashing someone)

That's for raising our taxes! (crushing another) (MORE)

DANNY (CONT'D)

That's for ruining my kid's schools! (punching another)

That's for repealing the Glass-Steagall Act!

LOWE ROLLERS

Danny and the family exit.

# INT. LOWE'S APARTMENT - SUNRISE

Danny, Lorraine, Sally, Billy and Grandma enter the apartment, disheveled and exhausted.

LORRAINE

(to Danny)

Can you finally admit your mid-western values don't work in Las Vegas?

DANNY

Are you kidding? The whole family came together tonight. Kids had a ball with grandma. I defended your honor. And we had chili spaghetti. My values don't work in Vegas? My values kick ass!

Danny tosses a chip into a now empty "swear jar."

DANNY (CONT'D)

Hey, what happened to all the chips in our swear jar?

GRANDMA

I don't know.

Grandma shrugs, chips fall out of her cleavage.

BILLY

Five second rule!

Billy snatches them off the floor and puts them in his pockets. Sally's phone vibrates. She reads the screen.

SALLY

My Q-rating has jumped sixty points in the school's overnight tracking.

LORRAINE

Mom, I'll get your things together and take you back to the home.

GRANDMA

Not until I make some breakfast.

Morning Cher is not something you want to see on an empty stomach.

Billy, Sally and Grandma exit and Danny turns to Lorraine.

DANNY

You really gonna send her right back?

LORRATNE

Are you kidding? Yes.

DANNY

Look, she obviously has more life to live than sitting at Saggytown day and night. Maybe she should stay with us for a while?

LORRAINE

My whole life is about giving the kids the kind of stable upbringing I didn't have. She'll ruin it. DANNY

And my whole life is about giving them the type of stable upbringing I <u>did</u> have. Trust me, part of that is learning that family comes first.

# INT. KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

Danny and Lorraine enter to find Sally pouring a red liquid into a large glass, Grandma hovering over her shoulder.

### GRANDMA

Not too much Grenadine! It's a

Tequila Sunrise, not a Tequila Sunset.

What the hell have your parents been
teaching you?

# EXT. SHIP - DAY

# DANNY AND LORRAINE TALKING HEADS

CLOSE ON DANNY AND LORRAINE

DANNY

(to camera)

After the kids went to bed, Lorraine and I finally consummated the anniversary. You know you got something special when after all these years, you can still make love to a woman while the ghost of Liberace stands across the room, staring at you and crying.

(MORE)

DANNY (CONT'D)

Sleeping together is nice, but waking up together every day and raising a family is what keeps you close.

LORRAINE

(to camera)

And you've gotta stay close when you have a family and a business in a town like Las Vegas. People do some pretty

crazy things here...
 (then, to Danny)

You ready, Babe?

REVEAL the "Take the Plungee Jump Wedding Chapel." Grandma, Sally, Billy and Priscilla stand nearby throwing rice. Dead Liberace looks on.

Danny and Lorraine kiss and jump off the ship. They SCREAM as they fall. The bungee cord stretches then snaps them back up. Except for Lorraine's wedding gown, which hangs in the air for a brief second, then drops out of frame.

DANNY (O.S.)

Oh, Jeez.

LORRAINE (O.S.)

Billy!!!

DEAD LIBERACE

(re: Lorraine)

Gross.

CUT TO BLACK.

END OF SHOW