

MISSION HILL

"CRAP GETS IN YOUR EYES"
(or, "PRETTY IN PINK")

by

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ACT ONE

FADE IN:

INT. LOFT - LIVING AREA - EVENING

ANDY wakes up from a catnap; from the "Aw, nuts!" look on his face we see he is running late. He leaps up, grabs his scarf, and rushes to the door. Just then, a hand stops him, like a cop stopping traffic -- it's KEVIN.

KEVIN

(ENTICINGLY) Mo... NOPOLY?

Kevin makes a flourished sweeping gesture with his other hand, indicating a neatly set-up gameboard in the kitchen.

ANDY

Hmm... (WEIGHS OPTIONS) Board game...

Sex with Gwen... (SHOVES PAST) 'BYE!

KEVIN

Okay. Guess you don't mind Gwen seeing
you in your dirty underwear, heh heh.

We see that Andy indeed has no pants. He reddens.

MOMENTS LATER

Andy emerges from his room, stumbling as he puts pants on. He's now wearing American flag bikini underwear.

ANDY

Don't laugh, they're my only clean
pair.

KEVIN

Monopoly later then? You promised
brotherly bonding time.

ANDY

Can't. We're going dancing and then
I'm crashing at Gwen's.

KEVIN

So, are you two officially--?

ANDY

(TOO FAST) Trust me, it's not like
that. We're just friends... (HAND
SWEEP) who sleep together.

KEVIN

How sordid.

Andy exits into the hall and waits for the elevator. Kevin
stands in the doorway.

KEVIN (CONT'D)

Don't you ever want something... more?

Romance? A wife? A family?

The elevator doors open to reveal a horribly bedraggled
CARLOS with BABY NAMELESS, who is **GIGGLING HYSTERICALLY** and
throwing groceries everywhere.

ANDY

(BEAT) Ah. Nearly forgot my condoms!

(HURRIES BACK INSIDE)

INT. DON'S WATERBED WAREHOUSE - LATER THAT EVENING

Eerily similar to Ron's Waterbed World, but a bigger superstore-type warehouse. DON even looks like Ron -- but is a sleazy, sweaty, "New Awlins"-type with horn-rimmed glasses and a wart. The store is closing, and Don gives orders to GWEN as he prepares to leave.

DON

Babydoll, please don't fohget to set the alarm. And please don't fohget--

GWEN

How could I forget--

DON

Bup bup bup! Yore powerfully interruptive. Soon as I find one other employee who ain't a complete mo-ron... yore fired, babydoll.

Gwen makes a rude gesture behind Don's back. Andy enters the store just as Don is exiting.

DON (CONT'D)

You-- (SINCERE) Are you a mo-ron?

Andy sees Gwen (behind Don) prompting him to answer "Yes".

ANDY

(CONFIDENT) Why, yes!

To demonstrate, Andy starts drooling and acting like an imbecile, touching Don and making him uncomfortable.

ANDY (CONT'D)

(MORONIC) Duh... Buh... (ETC.)

DON

Yo momma must be real proud.

Don exits, **GRUMBLING**, and screeches off in his Cadillac. Gwen **LAUGHS** and kisses Andy on the cheek.

GWEN

You're my moron in shining armor.

Andy flops down onto a waterbed and begins making waves.

ANDY

Whattya say we do it, right here, right
now?

GWEN

With you? (LOOKS HIM UP AND DOWN) Not
a chance.

ANDY

Bitch.

GWEN

Bastard.

They kiss.

INT. BACKWASH - DANCE FLOOR - THAT NIGHT

POSEY, JIM, Andy, and Gwen are dancing to the **MUSIC** of Silly Rabbit. Posey dances her snakey hippie-style dance. Jim just bobs his head up and down, occasionally swigging his beer. Gwen is a very good, sexy dancer. Andy imitates OTHER DANCERS to amuse Gwen.

ANDY

Hey, look at that guy!

The GUY is ultra-serious about his dancing. Andy furrows his brow and clenches his jaw, and dances very seriously.

ANDY (CONT'D)

Look at Moon Girl over there!

He imitates a GIRL who dances like a moonwalk (the Neil Armstrong kind, not the Michael Jackson kind).

GWEN

So you can imitate everyone else -- how
do you dance?

Andy is doing an excellent imitation of an excellent
dancer.

ANDY

Me? I don't know how to dance.

INT. BACKWASH - BAR - A LITTLE LATER

Jim and Andy are at the bar getting some fresh drinks. A
tall, attractive WOMAN stands nearby.

ANDY

Dude, talk to her.

JIM

Okay.

Jim approaches the woman.

JIM (CONT'D)

(BEAT) Hey.

TALL WOMAN

(BEAT) (EXACTLY THE SAME) Hey.

After a moment, Jim returns to Andy.

ANDY

What happened?

JIM

I'm not crazy about her personality.

INT. BACKWASH - DANCE FLOOR - A FEW MINUTES LATER

Andy and Jim return with their drinks, but pause to behold
a sight: Posey and Gwen dancing together very sexy. Jim
and Andy stare rapturously, frozen in awe.

ANDY

Um, is it wrong for me to hope they
start kissing?

JIM

Nope.

ANDY

(HOPEFUL) How much has Posey had to
drink?

JIM

She doesn't drink.

ANDY

Right. Damn...

EXT. AVENUE THREE - 2:00 A.M.

The group emerges from the club. Just then, a CREEPY GUY
walks by and looks at Gwen's ass -- we actually see a
dotted line going from his eyes to her butt.

ANDY

(INDIGNANT) Did you see that? That
creepy guy's looking at your butt!

GWEN

No -- you're being oversensitive.

Andy ponders this for a beat. Then, from offscreen,
another dotted line enters the frame and lands on Gwen's
chest. We WIDEN TO REVEAL that the dotted line originates
from the same creepy guy.

ANDY

(TO CREEP) Hey, she's my wife! (GWEN
PUNCHES HIS SHOULDER) She's mine--
(ANOTHER PUNCH) We're, uh, together
tonight. (ANTICIPATES, BUT NO PUNCH)

CREEP

Well, she doesn't look so happy about
that. (TO GWEN) C'mon, Foxy, what's
he got that I haven't got?

The guy's dotted line is redirected at Andy's crotch. Andy looks like he might start something, and the guy walks off.

ANDY

Why did that guy look at my crotch?

They all look at Andy's crotch to figure this out, resulting in several dotted lines converging on his crotch.

ANDY (CONT'D)

Hey! (GIGGLES, COVERS CROTCH) Stop
that!

EXT. SIDE STREET - SEVERAL MINUTES LATER

A slightly seedier "Alphabet City"-style street on the frontier of Mission Hill. Andy and Gwen arrive at an old brownstone where **DISTANT BUT LOUD SALSA MUSIC** and **FURIOUS BARKING DOGS** can be heard from various floors. They descend the exterior stairs to Gwen's basement apartment, where she unlocks the door.

GWEN

Sorry, my apartment's filthier than
usual.

ANDY

(LEERING) As am I.

GWEN

(PLAYFULLY) Ew!

INT. GWEN'S APARTMENT - MOMENTS LATER

Gwen's place is small and thrift-store chic (with much nicer and cooler secondhand furniture than Andy has). The dēcor is eclectic, with Mexican devotional candles and weird Japanese toys; her posters include Toulouse Lautrec paintings, Cary Grant in "The Awful Truth", and the Go-Go's in cold cream and towels. And there's lots of dirty laundry and old paperbacks strewn about. Gwen and Andy head into the bedroom. Andy struggles out of his pants, revealing his American flag bikini underwear.

GWEN

(LAUGHS)

ANDY

Oh... I see you love America?

GWEN

Yeah... nice Florida.

Andy climbs into bed, **LAUGHING**.

GWEN (CONT'D)

Lights.

Andy obediently jumps back up and flips the switch, then gets back in bed. They begin cuddling -- Andy lifts the sheet, and a dotted line goes from his eyes to under the sheet, presumably terminating at Gwen's "underwear area".

ANDY

See, aren't you glad it's me doing this
and not that creepy guy?

Gwen's mood turns sour.

GWEN

Why are you bringing this up again,
because you think I belong to you?

ANDY

Yes. (THEN, BACKPEDALLING) I mean,
not yes, but in a way, "yes".

GWEN

"In a way"?!

ANDY

Yes.

Off of Gwen's disgruntled look, we

DISSOLVE TO:

TWENTY MINUTES LATER

Andy is now sitting on a chair with his pants on.

GWEN

(IRRITATED) So, is this a "friendship"
or a "relationship"?

ANDY

It's got sex. It's got talking. It's
got special rules that are more
advanced than "friend" rules without
being too "rule-y". More "rule-ish" or
"rule-oid", really. (BEAT) Understand?

DISSOLVE TO:

TWENTY MINUTES LATER

Andy is now fully dressed, pacing around the room.

GWEN

(MAD) So you want me to be faithful...
but are you faithful to me?

ANDY

Officially, "no", but de facto, "yes".

GWEN

You're insane.

ANDY

(LAUGHS) No. (BEAT) Define "insane"?

DISSOLVE TO:

TWENTY MINUTES LATER

ANDY

(AS PROSECUTOR) So you see, by those definitions, even though we're not committed "per se", you letting that guy look at you-- was cheating!!

GWEN

That's it, we're breaking up.

ANDY

Aha! We can't "break up", because we're not officially going out!

GWEN

Fine. We're just "de facto" breaking up -- I'm "officially" kicking you out.

INT. LOFT - A LITTLE LATER (4:00 AM)

Kevin, GEORGE, and TOBY are playing Monopoly in their PJs. Kevin has ten times the cash and property of the others; he takes his turn quickly and expertly.

KEVIN

(ROLLS DICE) Bling blong, pass "Go!",
\$200! Bling blong, building a hotel!
Bling blong, Community Chest, "Third
prize in a beauty contest," \$50,
blingedy blong! (FINISHES TURN)

TOBY

(GLUM) I'm in jail.

GEORGE

(GLUM) Me, too.

KEVIN

(AGAIN, WITHOUT MISSING A BEAT) Bling
blong, St. Charles Place! Bling--

Andy bursts in and stomps to the fridge for a Maestro.

KEVIN (CONT'D)

I thought you were sleeping at Gwen's?

ANDY

Yeah! Me, too. But out of nowhere she
just kicked me out!

KEVIN

See? This is what happens when you
sleep with your friends. (RE GEORGE
AND TOBY) We don't have that problem.

TOBY

Thank God!

Andy **GRUMBLES** and walks to his room. George **SNICKERS**.

GEORGE

Your brother's a slut, Kevin.

Andy hears this, stops in his tracks, walks to George and **WHISPERS** something in his ear. George's eyes bug out.

GEORGE (CONT'D)

With my sister?!

INT. ENNERMAN/HATANO HGEE CREATIVE - THE NEXT MORNING

Andy approaches the desk of STACY, Jim's assistant. He's bummed out. She's upbeat and hyper-efficient as usual.

ANDY

Hey, Stacy. Jim here?

STACY

Sure, Andy. I'll show you in.

She writes on a slip of paper. Then she **KNOCKS** on Jim's office door, enters, and leads Andy inside. As she exits, she passes Jim the paper -- it reads "VISITOR: ANDY FRENCH; BEST FRIEND." Jim reads it and nods.

INT. JIM'S OFFICE - A MINUTE LATER

Andy is slumped down into an office chair. He spins around and plays with the levers, like an upset child.

ANDY

Gwen broke up with me last night.

JIM

But I thought you weren't officially going out?

ANDY

("YOU UNDERSTAND!") Thank you.

Exactly.

His victory is brief -- he **SIGHS MISERABLY**, simultaneously grabbing a lever on the chair and sinking down. Jim puts a hand on Andy's shoulder and is characteristically unable to express himself.

JIM

Man, you need to be healthy about...

Er, look, it's not the end of... Andy,
you'll get over... (BEAT) Tequila?

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. "TATERSKINZ TOO" RESTAURANT & BAR - 5:01 P.M.

It's a cheesy Bennigan's/T.G.I.Friday's kind of place adjacent to Corplex Plaza. It's packed with OFFICE TYPES drinking and carousing to the latest "La Vida Loca"-style **TOP 40 HITS**. Jim and Andy enter, followed by Stacy and a FEW OTHERS from the agency.

JIM

This is where everyone from the office goes after work.

ANDY

(SOTTO, TO JIM) So they can mingle with other boring corporate drones?

STACY

(ENTHUSIASTIC) Hey guys, I'm gonna go mingle!

AT THE BAR - SEVERAL MINUTES LATER

CHYRON: "TEQUILA SHOT #1"

Andy, Jim, and Stacy do a classic tequila shot -- lick salt, do shot, suck lime, then grimace.

JIM

So, forgotten about Gwen yet?

ANDY

(PANICKY) Gwen's here?! Where?!

JIM

(CONCERNED) Maybe we should switch to
Jaegermeister.

MONTAGE - THE EVENING

1. Jim and Andy and Stacy play darts. Jim misses the target so wide that his dart heads for the people playing pool, who all dive for cover.
2. **CHYRON: "TEQUILLA SHOT #3."** After the shot, Andy turns to the ATTRACTIVE WOMAN next to him and smiles. She pats him on the head condescendingly and walks away.
3. The three watch people sing **KARAOKE**. Jim and Andy shake their heads disdainfully. Stacy bops along to the music.
4. **CHYRON: "TEQUILLA SHOT #5."** This time Andy does a body shot off Stacy. Stacy offers Jim her body for a shot, but he declines.
5. They play pool. Jim sends a ball flying off the table at the people who are playing darts (the same people who were playing pool before) and they dive for cover.
6. **CHYRON: "TEQUIA SHOOT #7."** Jim now wears a T-shirt that says, "One Tequila, Two Tequila, Three Tequila, Floor!" Andy turns to ANOTHER ATTRACTIVE WOMAN and smiles -- she smiles back, then drunkenly falls off her stool and out of frame.
7. Jim is now on stage doing **KARAOKE**. He sings to Andy, using snappy lounge singer gestures and moves.

JIM

(TO "BRANDY") "...And the sailors say
Andy / You're a fine girl / What a good
wife you would be / But my life, my
love, and my lady / Is the sea!"

DISSOLVE TO:

A HALF HOUR LATER

CHYRON: "TECCia Shoo #??"

Andy, Stacy and Jim -- all pretty far gone -- do the shot.

JIM

(TO ANDY) Feeling better?

ANDY

Feeling drunker. (BEAT) Sorry, what was the question?

JIM

Awesome.

ANDY

(SAD) I think I'm gonna call Gwen.

He tries to get up to call her, but falls out of his stool face first into Stacy's lap.

ANDY (CONT'D)

(FROM BETWEEN HER LEGS) Sorry.

ANDY'S P.O.V.

A smile crosses Stacy's face. She gets blurry and begins spinning...

SPIN DISSOLVE TO:

INT. SOMEWHERE - SHORTLY THEREAFTER

The room slowly stops spinning. Andy opens his eyes to see a blurry, naked figure lying next to him in an unfamiliar bedroom. The figure comes into focus -- it's Stacy.

ANDY

Oops.

FADE OUT:

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

INT. STACY'S APARTMENT - 5:00 A.M.

Andy is in bed next to Stacy. It's dark.

ANDY

(TO HIMSELF) Okay, don't panic. She's not Gwen, but that's okay. Sometimes a drunken mistake can be... a big happy sober surprise! I should try to make a go of this...

Stacy rolls over, and takes the blanket with her, leaving Andy uncovered. He curls up uncomfortably.

INT. STACY'S APARTMENT - MORNING

Andy wakes up alone in bed. On the nightstand, he sees a photo of Stacy with four women in dresses, holding cans of beer; the frame says "Gamma Delts -- Sisters 4EVER!"

ANDY

Oh, God.

Andy looks around her room, which is exceptionally dull and very neat. Each item he looks at is progressively lamer: sorority artifacts, collectible shot glasses ("Cancun '98!", "Spring Break-A-Thon!"), stuffed animals, a motivational poster that says "S*U*C*C*E*S*S", etc.

ANDY (CONT'D)

(LOOKING AROUND) Oh, Lord... (BEAT)

Oh, please! (BEAT) No... (BEAT)

You've gotta be kidding...

He heads to the bathroom. Before entering, he double-takes at a framed novelty magazine cover: a "FORTUNE" magazine with a picture of Stacy and the headline "BUSINESSPERSON OF THE YEAR -- STACY!!!"

ANDY (CONT'D)

(SCREAM-LAUGH)

Andy enters the bathroom and closes the door. Stacy, already showered and dressed for work, immediately enters the bedroom and makes the bed quickly and efficiently.

ANDY (O.S.)

Crap!

He opens the door and peers out. His eyes are pink.

ANDY

My eyes are all sticky!

STACY

(DEFENSIVE) What, are you blaming me?

ANDY

No, I just--

STACY

You just caught my pink-eye, don't
freak out. You can use my eyedrops.

She hands him a bottle of prescription eyedrops. Andy puts the drops in, and his eyes clear up. Then he grabs an aerosol can from Stacy's dresser and sprays his left underarm.

STACY (CONT'D)

(FLATLY) That's hairspray.

She exits. After a beat, Andy shrugs and sprays his right underarm as well. When he lowers his arms, his armpits make **LITTLE CRACKLY SOUNDS**.

INT. STACY'S APARTMENT - KITCHEN - FIVE MINUTES LATER

Stacy is making herself breakfast when Andy enters.

STACY

Breakfast?

ANDY

No, I need all the space in my stomach
for coffee. (SHE POURS HIM A CUP)
Thanks. What are you having?

STACY

Eight ounces of plain nonfat yogurt,
and six grapes.

ANDY

Just six? Those look like pretty good
grapes... (JOKING) Maybe you should
have seven.

STACY

That's not funny, grapes are very
fattening.

ANDY

Okay. (BEAT) Wanna watch cartoons?

STACY

That is funny. You were joking, right?

ANDY

No, I just... no.

Stacy **LAUGHS HARD**, then...

STACY

(DOUR) Oh, great, I lost count of my
grapes.

EXT. LOFT BUILDING - ROOFTOP - LATER THAT DAY

Andy sits in a lawn chair with his head in his hand like
Rodin's "The Thinker". Jim and Posey come up to the roof.

JIM

Someone looks depressed.

POSEY

Someone got laid.

ANDY

(TAKEN ABACK) How'd you-- ?

POSEY

Because you got a minor venereal
disease.

She points to his eyes. They're pink again. From down the
fire escape, we hear...

KEVIN (O.S.)

Andy, is that you up there? Come play
Monopoly!

Andy doesn't respond. Moments later, Kevin is on the roof.

POSEY

(TO KEVIN) Andy got laid.

ANDY

Posey!

POSEY

(TOO EXCITED) I figured it out because
he got a venereal disease. Look!

ANDY

Posey, cut it out!

Andy pulls out the eyedrops, leans back and puts them in.
His eyes clear. Jim sees the name on the bottle's
prescription label.

JIM

Hey, you caught it from Stacy! (PROUD)
I was hoping you two would sleep
together.

KEVIN

Stacy?! What about Gwen?! Oh, the
weed of infidelity bears bitter fruit!
See? Your sordid past has caught up
with you. You should have married
Gwen. Now the pink eye is your badge
of shame. You're a pervert and you're
sick. You need help... now let's go
play Monopoly!

ANDY

(QUIET) Kevin's right.

KEVIN

Great! (PRODUCES MONOPOLY TOKENS) The
token you choose says a lot about you.
I'd say you're a shoe or an iron--
(OFF HIS IRRITATED LOOK) A thimble?

ANDY

Not about Monopoly, sweetheart, about
Gwen. Spending time with another girl
has made me realize how smart and cute
and wonderful and funny Gwen is.

JIM

Slow down there, man. Give Stacy a chance. You two might be perfect together -- something about her vibe...

SMASH CUT TO:

CLOSE-UP - STACY

STACY

(WAILING) I'm in love with Jim!

WIDEN TO REVEAL we're...

INT. "TATERSKINZ TOO" - AT THE BAR

Stacy is a **SOBBING**, desperate mess. Andy would rather be anywhere in the universe besides here.

ANDY

Yeah -- we probably shouldn't date anymore.

STACY

(SNIFFLING) I try to flirt, but I can't get his attention!

She does a shot of tequila.

ANDY

(AT A LOSS) Um... (SIGH) Maybe you're being too subtle.

STACY

I told him he was the sexiest man I knew.

ANDY

And... what'd he say to that?

STACY

"Awesome." -- Then he went and played
computer games.

She **SNAPS HER FINGERS** impatiently at the BARTENDER. Before he can pour a shot into a glass, she leans backward over the bar, and he pours it directly into her mouth. She returns to an upright position.

STACY (CONT'D)

I'm sorry I'm so pathetic.

ANDY

No, no, no. Your patheticness has made me realize something important. I should thank you for being so pathetic.

She begins **WAILING** again and puts her head down on the bar.

ANDY (CONT'D)

Listen, I gotta go. But we're having a party Saturday -- you should come, maybe I can help with Jim.

Her head is still down.

BARTENDER

Is she okay?

Andy lifts her head up.

ANDY

You okay? Do you need another drink?

EXT. GWEN'S BASEMENT APARTMENT - LATER

Andy **POUNDS** on Gwen's door. Meanwhile, the dogs in the first floor apartment are **BARKING**, the distant **SALSA MUSIC** is blaring, and an OLD LADY is **CLATTERING** about with the trash cans. Finally, Gwen cracks open the door, but keeps it chained -- she looks mistrustful. Andy grows shy...

ANDY

Gwen, I realized something, see, and...

DOGS/MUSIC/OLD LADY

(BARKING/BLARING/CLATTERING)

GWEN

I can't hear you -- What?

ANDY

It's just that... could you let me in?

GWEN

(IMPATIENT) What is it, Andy? What?

ANDY

It's just, I'm sorry for acting--

DOGS/MUSIC/OLD LADY

(BARKING/BLARING/CLATTERING CONTINUES)

GWEN

I can't hear a word you're saying!

ANDY

(DEEP BREATH, THEN) GWEN, I LOVE

YOU!!!

Suddenly, the **MUSIC STOPS**, the **OLD LADY STOPS**, and...

DOGS

(SWEET WHIMPERS THAT SOUND LIKE "AWWW")

Gwen closes the door, unlocks the chain, and opens the door. She stands in the doorway and she and Andy look at each other silently for a beat. Then they embrace...

ANDY

I missed you...

INT. GWEN'S BEDROOM - LATER

Andy and Gwen lie in bed together in the dark. Andy notices that since his last visit, Gwen has put glow-in-the-dark star stickers on her ceiling.

ANDY

(LAUGHS) Hey, you got those cheesy glow-in-the-dark star stickers!

GWEN

(DEFENSIVE) So?

ANDY

So-- (LAUGHS) I don't think I've seen those since like third grade.

GWEN

Gimme a break. I work in a warehouse, I live in a basement -- I need all the sky I can get.

ANDY

(SUPPORTIVE) I hear ya. Sometimes, buildings just get in the way.

GWEN

Screw buildings.

ANDY

That's right. Buildings can go to hell. Hey, how 'bout next week I take you to dinner where there are no walls, no ceilings -- just sky? We'll have dinner... (THINKS) on a cloud.

GWEN

Dinner on a cloud sounds perfect.

She kisses him.

INT. GWEN'S BEDROOM - EARLY MORNING

A quiet morning. Birds are **CHIRPING**. There's a soft light on Gwen's face, and Andy watches her sleep -- he smiles.

ANDY

(QUIET) You're so beautiful...

He kisses her on the forehead, and she **YAWNS** and smiles and opens her eyes -- they're pink.

ANDY (CONT'D)

(ALARMED) Crap!!

GWEN

(STARTLED) What!?

ANDY

Gwen, I, er, gave you pink-eye...

GWEN

(LAUGHS) That's all? From the look on your face I thought it was going to be something awful.

Andy finds his pants next to the bed and pulls the eyedrops out of his pocket. He passes them to Gwen -- but then, a moment too late, remembers Stacy's name on the prescription label. As Gwen puts in the drops, Stacy's name passes by her eyes several times; Andy winces each time. After several near misses...

ANDY

(NERVOUS) I-I think you should know, um, I got it from... from... a colleague at work...

She hands back the bottle without ever seeing the name.

GWEN

(TEASING) You didn't sleep with him
did you?

ANDY

(UNCOMFORTABLY) Heh heh. Right.

Andy discreetly tears off the label and throws it out the window.

INT. LOFT - THAT NIGHT

A party is in full swing. All the roommates, FRIENDS, and neighbors are having a great time, including STOGIE, who's eagerly lapping up all the discarded drinks.

IN THE LIVING AREA

Andy and Gwen are having fun dancing together. Andy notices that Toby is standing several yards away, staring at Gwen in an earnest, creepy fashion. After a few seconds, it becomes a bit disconcerting.

ANDY

Hey, uh, she's mine.

GWEN

(AMIABLE) I still don't belong to y--

(SEES TOBY) I'm his.

Kevin comes over and leads Toby away.

KEVIN

I told you -- they got back together.

(TO THEM) Congratulations, you two!

ANDY

You approve of our relationship?

KEVIN

Now that it's official, it's not so sordid.

GWEN

Oh, it's still sordid.

NEAR THE KEG

Kevin passes GUS and WALLY.

KEVIN

Ah, Gus! You might notice I'm playing Monopoly tonight rather than drinking, because I don't want to accidentally insult your homosexuality like I did at our last party.

WALLY

Don't worry about it, Kevin. From time to time even I get drunk and insult Gus's homosexuality.

Gus is distracted by Carlos and NATALIE, who are struggling with the keg -- Carlos is having a hard time pouring his beer because of the baby strapped to his back. Natalie takes his cup and starts operating the keg for him.

GUS

(APPALLED) Gah! That's no way to use a keg. You're not pumpin', you're not tiltin', you're not doin' nothing right!

NATALIE

Perhaps you'd like to do it?

Gus grabs the cup and the tap. He pumps the keg, adjusts the valve, and does a variety of elaborate procedures. Finally, he tops off the cup with a flourish and hands it to Carlos.

GUS

There ya go! The perfect glass of
beer!

Carlos lifts the beer to his mouth, but just as he's about to drink, the baby reaches around and covers his eyes and Carlos pours the beer down his shirt.

IN THE KITCHEN - LATER

The REPUBLICAN VAMPIRE is prattling on and on to Posey, who looks terribly bored and confused.

REPUBLICAN VAMPIRE

...and you know who else was right on?

Lamar Alexander, uh huh. The Repubs
are cool, man, why do you think they
call it the Republican "Par-TAY"?!
(LAUGHS)

POSEY

But it's also the Democratic "Party"?

REPUBLICAN VAMPIRE

No, I said "Par-TAY!" (LAUGHS)

POSEY

Oh! I see now...

She backs away from him without saying a word, then turns and runs away. She passes the bathroom and tries to blend into the line. Gwen and FECHSTEIN are at the front.

GWEN

Don's Waterbed Warehouse is way worse
than Ron's. It's a nightmare.

FECHSTEIN

Well, Jon's Waterbed Palace is no
Broadway musical...

INSIDE THE BATHROOM

Andy finishes washing his hands. Just as he's about to leave, he sees a tube of lipstick and gets an idea. He lifts up his shirt and begins drawing a heart on his chest with the word "GWEN" inside.

FECHSTEIN (O.S.)

(KNOCKING LOUDLY) Hello in there?

Others are waiting!

OUTSIDE THE BATHROOM

Gwen is still in line. Someone behind her taps on her shoulder.

VOICE BEHIND GWEN (O.S.)

Excuse me, have you seen Andy?

Gwen turns around -- it's Stacy -- her eyes are very pink.

STACY (CONT'D)

I think he accidentally took my
eyedrops the other morning...

We hear an **INTENSE DRAMATIC STING** and ZOOM IN on Gwen. She digests this for beat, then walks away without saying a word. A second later, the bathroom door flies open and Andy emerges, proudly revealing his lipsticked "GWEN" -- but she's gone. Fechstein hurries past him into the bathroom

FECHSTEIN

(AS ALWAYS) Finally!

FADE OUT:

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

INT. HALLWAY OUTSIDE LOFT - MOMENTS LATER

The party has spilled out into the hallway. Gwen, seething, waits for the elevator. Stacy comes out of the apartment, sees Jim, and makes a beeline for him. Just as she reaches him, Gwen grabs him and pulls him aside.

GWEN

(RE STACY) Jim, what's going on with
Andy and that girl?

Beads of sweat start to pour down Jim's face.

JIM

(INNOCENT) What girl?

GWEN

That girl.

JIM

Andy certainly never slept with her.
Why do you...? (NERVOUS LAUGH) No!

GWEN

Jim -- did Andy sleep with that girl?

JIM

(INNOCENT) That girl? She's a virgin.

GWEN

(DISBELIEVING) She's a virgin?

JIM

(SADLY) Yeah. And a lesbian. Also,
Andy hates her... because she's a
lesbian virgin. And I'm not lying.
You'd be able to tell if I was lying...

Jim quickly looks left, then right.

JIM (CONT'D)

Because I'm a really bad liar.

Jim is standing there with a big fake smile; sweat is now spraying off his face. A dark look crosses Gwen's face.

GWEN

Hey, would you mind giving me a ride
home?

INT. JIM'S CAR - A FEW MINUTES LATER

Jim and Gwen have pulled up to Gwen's apartment. Gwen, although clearly onto Jim, is managing to put up a pretty good front.

GWEN

Thanks for being so honest, Jim.

JIM

I'm always honest when it comes to
Andy's not sleeping with other girls.

Another big fake smile, and sweat spraying out. Gwen's eyes narrow, vengefully.

GWEN

(SNEAKY) Jim? You've got something in
your eye...

She very obviously wipes her own eye with her hand, then wipes her hand on his eye. She gets out of the car.

GWEN (CONT'D)

Thanks for not lying!

JIM

Anytime!

She closes the door.

JIM (CONT'D)

(TO HIMSELF, RELIEVED) Close call.

INT. JIM'S ROOM - THE NEXT DAY

Andy stands in Jim's doorway. Jim is at his computer, and we can only see the back of his head.

ANDY

Hey, Gwen disappeared last night and isn't returning my calls. She didn't find out about me and Stacy, did she?

JIM

Gotcha covered. She asked about it, but I lied.

ANDY

Well, what then? You took her home, right? She didn't say anything?

Jim turns around to face Andy. He has pink-eye.

JIM

She didn't say anything.

We hear an **INTENSE DRAMATIC STING** and ZOOM IN on Andy, in exact parallel to Gwen's earlier epiphany.

ANDY

You slept with Gwen!!! Oh my God, you
slept with Gwen! She knows about Stacy
and she slept with you... as revenge!

He angrily leaps at Jim, but halfway there he collapses on
the floor, **WEEPING**.

JIM

I didn't sleep with her.

ANDY

(HEARTBROKEN MESS) Liar!

JIM

I'm not a liar.

ANDY

I thought you said you lied to Gwen?
Huh!? Huh!?

JIM

But that was for you, you wanted me to.

ANDY

But what if I didn't?

JIM

That would be a lie.

ANDY

(CRAZED) Exactly!

Andy runs off, wild-eyed, up the fire escape.

EXT. LOFT BUILDING - ROOFTOP - CONTINUOUS

ANDY

(TO THE HEAVENS) My best friend slept
with my girlfriend!!

Posey sees him, and rushes to his side.

POSEY

No! No, I didn't! I promise you!

ANDY

Jim.

Posey doesn't understand.

ANDY (CONT'D)

Jim.

POSEY

Jim's your best friend? Oh. (STERN)

You should demote him. (THEN, HOPEFUL)

Can I be your new best friend?

Kevin has rushed up to the roof and looks concerned. Andy collapses to the ground.

ANDY

What am I supposed to do now? (MOANS)

Kevin smiles and gets his "dungeonmaster" look.

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. LOFT - KITCHEN - LATER

Andy is glumly playing Monopoly with Kevin. Stogie looks on intently. Andy rolls the dice and slowly moves his token to "Free Parking".

ANDY

Hey, "Free Parking". My life's a mess,
but at least I get \$500.

KEVIN

Sorry, Andy. I'm a "Free Parking" purist. The rules say "Free Parking" is just a space where nothing happens.

ANDY

(SAD) What should I do about Gwen?

KEVIN

You're asking me? I knew Monopoly would bring us together! Who knows more about brotherly bonding than... (HAND SWEEP) the Parker Brothers?

ANDY

Okay, okay. Don't rub it in.

KEVIN

Andy: what you need is a grand romantic gesture.

Kevin rolls and takes his turn while he speaks, calmly moving his token, paying the bank, etc.

KEVIN (CONT'D)

Just like in all the great romantic comedies. Have you seen "You've Got Mail"?

ANDY

That's a crappy contemporary idea of romance that has no soul.

KEVIN

Okay, how 'bout a classic -- "Sleepless
in Seattle"?

Andy rolls and lands on one of Kevin's properties.

KEVIN (CONT'D)

Remember, the hotels disappeared so
those red jellybeans are hotels.

(CHEERY) That'll be \$1350.

Andy **GROANS** and lets his head hit the table.

KEVIN (CONT'D)

The point is, in all the great love
stories, the guys have done far worse
things, but they always win the girl
back with a grand romantic gesture.

ANDY

(HOPEFUL) You really think it'll work?

KEVIN

Of course. (ROLLS DICE) How do you
think the Green Lantern got married?

INT. AD AGENCY - JIM'S OFFICE - DAY

Andy bursts into Jim's office, proclaiming...

ANDY

I don't care if you slept with Gwen!
I'm winning her back, and there's
nothing you can do about it!

JIM

Okay.

INT. STACY'S CUBICLE - CONTINUOUS

Andy emerges to see Stacy with tears in her eyes.

STACY

(WEEPY) J-Jim s-slept with someone?

ANDY

Yes! But you can win him back -- with
a grand romantic gesture! Sweep him
off his feet! Show him how deep and
real your feelings are!

Andy leaves, and Stacy looks perplexed. She begins tapping
a pencil on her desk.

STACY

(CONSIDERS IT) Grand romantic
gesture... grand romantic gesture...

EXT. GUS & WALLY'S APARTMENT - LATER

Andy looks on as Wally flips through his huge,
meticulously-organized collection of old records.

WALLY

Oh, dear... Something "romantic"...

(NEUROTIC) Now, you do know how to
treat a vinyl record, don't you? It's
not like a "CD." You can't go touching
it all over--

GUS

Stop badgering him!

WALLY

Well, his generation never--

Gus violently grabs a record off the shelf.

GUS

Here -- Jerome Kern. That'll do the
trick.

Andy smiles and looks at the record, holding it wrong and getting his greasy fingers all over it.

WALLY

(GASPS)

INT. CARLOS & NATALIE'S APARTMENT - MOMENTS LATER

Andy bursts in.

ANDY

(OUT OF BREATH) Sorry to barge in --
I'm doing something romantic for Gwen
-- can I borrow your Christmas lights?

NATALIE

If romance is what you're after,
shouldn't you consider... Judaism?

She enticingly offers him a menorah.

CARLOS

Well, with Christianity you get the
lights... and bigger candles, too!

He offers a selection of Virgin Mary votive candles.

NATALIE

Yes, but Judaism also has, er...

(WEAKLY) chocolate matzos?

ANDY

(BEAT) Sorry, Judaism.

EXT. LOFT BUILDING - A LITTLE LATER

Andy emerges, lugging a giant sack of "supplies". Wally and Gus are standing outside.

WALLY

Go get him, Andy! (BEAT) I mean, her!

Andy waves and heads off down the street. Gus walks a few steps, then notices something.

GUS

(TO WALLY) Hey, there's little red houses in this dog mess!

WALLY

Oh, Gus, you're imagining things.

GUS

No, I ain't! Look!

WALLY

Well, that's what you get for poking around in strange dog-doo before going to work at your diner.

GUS

Whattaya, the Board of Health?!

EXT. DON'S WATERBED WAREHOUSE - THAT EVENING

Andy hides by a dumpster. Don exits and sees Andy hiding.

DON

Boy, what you lingerin' about for?

ANDY

(CAUGHT) Oh, I was... uh... (REMEMBERS MORON ACT) Duh...! Buh...!

He starts drooling and touching Don, who looks creeped out and runs away. Don **SCREECHES** off in his Cadillac, and the coast is clear. Andy sneaks inside, lugging the giant sack.

INT. DON'S WATERBED WAREHOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Andy sees Gwen is in the office alone, doing the books. She doesn't see him. He unpacks some things from the sack and climbs up a ladder toward the rafters.

TWENTY MINUTES LATER

We see Gwen still doing the books. Andy is near the P.A. system. He plugs in a small record player and takes out the Kern album. His eyes are very pink.

ANDY

(RUBBING EYES) Damn pink-eye...

With some difficulty, Andy positions the needle on the record. He turns the warehouse lights off, then walks to the center of the sales floor, where he has set a table with wine glasses, plates, candles, and flowers. He takes a pillow from his sack, rips it open, and sprinkles the feathers all around the table. Then he switches on the Christmas lights.

ANDY (CONT'D)

A romantic dinner... on a cloud.

We WIDEN TO REVEAL what he has set up: With the Christmas lights everywhere in the darkened warehouse, it looks like a beautiful starry night, and the table is floating on a cloud of white feathers.

INT. STACY'S CUBICLE - THAT MOMENT

Stacy is still tapping her pencil.

STACY

Grand romantic gesture... grand

romantic gesture... grand ro--

Suddenly, she stops and looks up. She **KNOCKS** on Jim's door.

JIM (O.S.)

Come in.

INT. JIM'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

Stacy enters.

JIM

Yes?

Stacy replies by throwing open her blouse. Jim's eyes widen and his cigarette drops from his mouth.

MUSIC: SWELLING ROMANCE THEME

INT. DON'S WATERBED WAREHOUSE - THAT MOMENT

Andy starts the record, a scratchy old version of "**SMOKE GETS IN YOUR EYES.**" He pulls out a lighter.

ANDY'S P.O.V.

It's blurry, making it hard for him to see the candles.

ANDY

Stupid pink-eye...

He rubs his eyes, and we see him blindly lighting the flowers on fire. He looks on obliviously, but when the whole tablecloth catches, he realizes what's happening.

ANDY (CONT'D)

(FRANTIC) Crap! Crap! Oh, crap!

Gwen comes out of the office and sees this.

GWEN

What's going on?

ANDY

Crap! Crap! Fire! Crap!

Meanwhile, the **ROMANTIC MUSIC** is still blaring. Andy's arm catches, and he spins around wildly trying to put himself out. The spinning sends the feathers into the air, many of which catch fire and begin to float away.

GWEN

Why are there feathers everywhere?

ANDY

I'm burning! I'm burning!

Gwen comes rushing to Andy's aid and puts him out.

The flames climb a column in the warehouse all the way to the ceiling, where a hanging "SALE" sign catches. Then the sign next to it catches, and then the next, etc., etc., like dominos.

ANDY (CONT'D)

Water! Gwen, where's there water?

As if to answer Andy, the floating flaming feathers begin landing on stacks of waterbeds, melting through and **POPPING** them. Torrents of water gush down from the popped waterbeds, putting out the fire... but converting the disaster to flood.

We see one stack of waterbeds marked "FLAME RETARDANT!" They don't burst. But then a beam falls from the ceiling, bursting them, too.

The place is now like a huge, rolling sea -- with the Christmas lights, sparks, and flaming floating feathers, it's somewhat beautiful.

Andy and Gwen are grappling over each other in the water like drowning people, Andy particularly panicky. Gwen grabs Andy's hand and hoists him onto a huge floating log (fallen beam), then climbs on herself.

ANDY (CONT'D)

(LIKE TITANIC) "Never let go. Promise me your heart will go on..." (NO RESPONSE) Don't you get it?

GWEN

I got it. It just wasn't funny.

They float to the wall and climb out a window.

EXT. STREET - CONTINUOUS

They climb out of the store, soaking wet. It's a contrast how peaceful it is once they're outside.

ANDY

(COUGHS UP WATER) (SADLY) Oh, I tried to do something romantic, but it's a wreck, it's a wreck like everything else. (COUGHS)

Just then, Don **SCREECHES** back up. He yells at Gwen as he unlocks the front door.

DON

Ya idjit woman!! Cain'tcha hear the dadburn alarm a-ringin'?!

He opens the door, and he and his Cadillac are immediately swept away by the flood that comes rushing out.

DON (CONT'D)

(FLOATING OFF INTO THE DISTANCE) Muh store! Muh merchandise! Aw, God, nooooo!

Then it's quiet again.

ANDY

I'm so sorry. This was a disaster.

GWEN

Andy, this was a beautiful disaster! I hated this place -- and you destroyed it! This is the best thing anyone's ever done for me!

ANDY

Really? (HOPEFUL) So... you'll take me back then?

There is a painfully long beat as Andy waits for her answer.

GWEN

No.

Andy's face becomes very sad.

GWEN (CONT'D)

It's all too complicated now, Andy, I don't think things could work...

Andy's face gets really really sad. Then, suddenly...

ANDY

Screw you! What complications? Things aren't complicated for me! My goddamn eyes are stuck together, and all I want to see is you, and all I know is that you're the only one I--

GWEN

Shut up--

ANDY

No, I haven't finished, this crazy--

GWEN

Shut up!!

He does.

GWEN (CONT'D)

(SMILES) You had me at 'Screw You'...

They embrace and kiss.

FADE OUT:

THE END