

THE MAGIC OF REHAB

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**EXT - KELOWNA SUBURBS - DUSK**

A beautiful light shines down on the city of Kelowna, a rich, beautiful city of mostly seniors, working on their lush gardens, eating their tiny sandwiches, and happy to be with each other.

A seemingly broken, but still moving, wreck of a car flies down the road, going well over the speed limit.

**INT - JOHN'S CAR**

JOHN is flying down the road at top speeds.

He nearly hits small animals and garbage bins, but gets out of the way in the last second.

John looks calmly at the road, as he pulls out a beer bottle from behind him, and takes long chugs, nearly missing other obstacles in front of him.

John pulls an illegal turn, pulling him into a parking lot, right in front of a pub.

**EXT - PUB 1**

John stumbles out of his car, and walks, drunkenly swaying towards the pub.

A sweet HOMELESS GIRL is sitting out on the front steps.

John walks up to her, and pulls out his wallet, passing her a twenty dollar bill.

JOHN  
"Here, use this wisely"

The Homeless Girl looks up at John, smiling, as he goes into the pub. The girl rushes off.

**INT - PUB 1**

The pub is dirty and dank, looking as greasy as the multiple people waiting for their next drink.

As John walks in, the owner of the pub looks down and shakes his head.

John approaches TOM and CHRIS, a pair of industry workers who just got off work, a bit worn from the day. The two of them are sitting at the bar, on their umpteenth drink

JOHN

"Hello hello! Bartender, get me a cold one"

BARTENDER 1

"How much have you had to drink, tonight?"

JOHN

"That shouldn't matter to you. Come on, I'll give you my money!"

John pulls out cash from his pocket.

TOM

"Where did you get that?"

JOHN

"A little thing called work"

BARTENDER 1

"You know I can't be serving you in here when you're drunk"

JOHN

"Now how do you know I'm drunk? Look at me! Clean as a whistle!"

John stands up, and shamelessly reaches each arm out to the side, and touches his nose. He's swaying back and forth, but can somehow always get his fingers to touch his nose.

BARTENDER 1

"Ok ok, but just one!"

The bartender pours a draft beer into a tall cup.

John looks at the cup in wonder as it fills up, and grabs it as soon as it's filled, trying to pull it towards his body, but he spills it all over himself.

BARTENDER 1

"Oh man, what are you doing?"

JOHN

"What are you doing? I think you gave me a faulty cup!"

BARTENDER 1

"That's it, you have got to get out."

JOHN

"Fine fine fine, I'm sick of you, anyways. C'mon, boys, I have a bunch in the car."

John turns to the door, still dripping in the beer that was given to him. Chris and Tom look at each other, questioning what to do, but shrug and decide to follow John, out to his car.

**EXT - PUB 1 - NIGHT**

John, Chris, and Tom exit the Pub, walking in a tipsy fashion towards the car. John pulls a bottle out from the inside of his jacket, opens it up and starts to take a long swing.

JOHN

"I wanna invite you out to go somewhere, but I don't know where."

TOM

"Well I gotta get to work in the morning"

CHRIS

"We can head out to another pub downtown?"

JOHN

"No no no, you just wait, I know a perfect place to go."

TOM

"I just have to get back, I have a family to take care of, and

that's more important than just  
me drinking."

JOHN

"C'mon, we gotta live a little!"

John finishes his drink by lifting the bottle of beer to his mouth and downing the whole thing. He throws the empty bottle off to the side of the car, then opens up the driver's door to jump in. Chris and Tom pack into the passenger side of the car, as John guns the acceleration and tears out of the parking lot.

JOHN

"Seatbelts are for suckers!"

**INT - JOHN'S CAR**

John drives down the road in his damaged compact car, with Tom and Chris in the passenger seats. John pulls another bottle of beer out from under the driver seat, and holds it up in the air.

JOHN

"You guys want one? I have a load  
of them in here."

CHRIS

"Whatcha got?"

While driving, John keeps looking back and forth to the other guys in the car, rather than watching the road.

JOHN

"Oh, John's liquor shack has a  
little bit of everything. We have  
beer, wine, whiskey, rum...  
whatever you want, we got it."

CHRIS

"I'll take a beer, sir."

John reaches under his seat, and opens up a cooler under himself. He moans a little while he gets it out, looking like he's pulling it out of his ass. He passes the beer back to Chris, as Chris opens it up and starts drinking. John looks over at Tom.

JOHN

"What about you? What are you going for, tonight?"

TOM

"How about you just watch the road?"

JOHN

"C'mon, we'll be fine. You want a Jager bomb? A Martini? Sex on the beach?"

John suddenly has to swerve his car out of the way, as pedestrian leaps back off the road to the sidewalk, while John is speeding by.

TOM

"Ok, come on, man, I just gotta get home."

JOHN

"Ever since you got married, you just ain't fun! You gotta live a little!"

Chris finishes off a big chug from his beer

CHRIS

"Yeah man, live a little!"

John's car zooms past a police car that's been sitting silently on the side of the road. The tough, muscular police see the car rush past them with stern faces.

They turn and look at each other, as the driver turns their car on, and the two pull out onto the road.

The police car follows up John's car, as John sees them out his rear view mirror.

JOHN

"Uh oh, looks like we got some cops on our tail"

Tom squints his eyes closed, and runs his hands over his face, looking in panic.

TOM

"C'mon, just pull over, I can't  
be getting in shit for this"

JOHN

"I can lose them, I know a little  
shortcut over here."

CHRIS

"Yeah man, you can do it!"

John pulls off the main road, going into a pathway leading into the forest. It's nearly pitch black.

John drives down the path, swerving his way around trees.

The police pull into the forest, too, but much slower, trying not to hurt themselves.

John quickly whips around a tight corner, then down a long, straight path, towards a huge cluster of trees.

JOHN

"Hold on, Boys!"

John pulls on his emergency break and spins his wheel while turning off his headlights.

The car spins around 180 degrees and comes to a sudden stop in the middle of the trees.

John turns the car off, as they all remain silent, seeing the police going straight across in front of them. John sighs as he sees them go past, not noticing him.

JOHN

"Looks like we know a little bit  
more than they do."

John starts the car up, and starts driving forwards, but instantly falling forwards into a ditch. They can't get out.

John looks around at Chris and Tom, with an awkward smile.

**EXT - FORREST**

John, Chris, and Tom push the doors of the crashed car open, and pull themselves out and into the forest. They start walking down the pathways, stumbling on themselves a bit, when the police car suddenly pulls up, stopping right in front of the three of them. John and Chris know to raise their arms into the air, they've been here before. Tom drops his face into his hands.

TOM

"Becky is gonna kill me..."

**EXT - ALI MANSION - Morning**

ALI, an extremely thin, worn out, early 20s girl wearing a torn up rag of a wifebeater, sits outside of an incredibly large, expensive house.

The massive front door of the mansion opens, as WILLIAM, Ali's sophisticated, middle aged father comes out, sternly looking at Ali.

WILLIAM

"C'mon, get inside. What are you doing?"

ALI

"None of your business."

WILLIAM

"You better not be waiting for that lunatic."

ALI

"Fuck you."

WILLIAM

"Did you look in the papers today? Are you finding work?"

Ali pulls a pack out of her purse, and lights a cigarette.

WILLIAM

"And that stuff it going to kill you."

ALI

"Not if I kill you first."



WILLIAM  
"What was that?"

ALI  
"Nothing."

WILLIAM  
"I'm not going anywhere until you  
get inside."

Ali looks down the road, as a dirty, falling apart pickup truck comes down the road. Ali ignores William, as she stands up and starts walking towards the street. William follows her.

WILLIAM  
"Jesus, I told you, not with him  
again! Ali! Ali! You get back  
here right now!"

ALI  
"Fuck off, Dad!"

William keeps following her, but Ali quickly jumps into the truck, where MICHAEL, a messed up, long haired, 30-something shell of a man is sitting in the driver's seat.

The two of them have a long, slobbering, passionate kiss

Michael pulls the truck out, leaving a cloud of smoke behind.

William runs out to the road, but can't get to the truck before it pulls out.

William pulls out his cell phone, turns on a GPS map, and sees a flashing moving away from him.

William sighs, and heads back towards the mansion.

#### **INT - DRUNK TANK - MORNING**

John is lying asleep on the ground in a drunk tank, drooling onto the floor in front of him, as the shine of the bright pepto bismol walls strains his eyes.

He gasps air, and wakes up with a loud moan, looking around him.

Two other unknown people are staring at him, laughing to themselves as they see John lying on the floor.

JOHN

"What the hell are you guys  
laughing about?"

John looks down himself, and sees a huge puddle of urine surrounding him on the ground.

He moans loudly, turning onto his back, making a splash as he moves around the pool of urine.

A prison guard comes to the front door, opening it up and looking sternly at John.

PRISON GUARD

"Hey John, your Mom's here."

John strains his eyes looking over at the Prison Guard, then moans as he's getting up off the ground. He rises up to his feet, and walks towards the guard.

JOHN

"Thank you, sir. So, how's the  
kids?"

PRISON GUARD

"Don't touch me, John, just go  
and see your mother."

John walks down the hall.

**INT - BEVERLY'S CAR**

BEVERLY, a fit, attractive, mid 50's woman drives her elegant car down the road. John is sitting in the passenger seat.

BEVERLY

"What the hell have you gotten  
yourself into, now?"

JOHN

"It was Chris, I swear, that guy  
took control of my car, and just  
starting going crazy with it. I  
wanted to stop him, but I

couldn't do anything."

BEVERLY

"So you're saying that your drunken friend was completely fine when you gave him the keys to your car, and started driving around? Is that what you're telling me?"

JOHN

"Yes! That's exactly what happened! I'm glad to see that you listen."

BEVERLY

"Stop the shit. This is the last time I'm getting you out of this. I can't believe you keep it up! What would your father say if he was here to see this?"

JOHN

"He'd be going along with me!"

Beverly is really upset, and she swerves off the road up against the sidewalk, pointing her finger at John as she yells at him.

BEVERLY

"You shut your mouth! He would never do that! He only drank when you were driving him crazy! It's all your fault that he's gone!"

John leans back, shocked. Beverly reaches her arms up onto the steering wheel and leans down on them, her eyes tearing up as she weeps.

JOHN

"Whoa... look... I'm sorry Mom..."

BEVERLY

"I just... don't want to see you going through this. I don't want to lose you."

JOHN  
"Don't worry, Mom, I'm going to  
clean up."

Beverly looks at John, her eyes filled with tears.

**INT - PUB 1**

John slams his empty cup down onto the table, and points down at it, telling the bartender to get him another drink.

Chris sits next to him, looking around the room a bit dazed.

JOHN  
"One more double rum and coke,  
buddy."

Bartender 2 comes up to him, and takes his glass, pouring another drink from the taps under the counter. Bartender 2 stares directly at John as he fills up the cup with coke.

BARTENDER 2  
"I heard you got into a bit of  
trouble last night"

JOHN  
"Nothing I couldn't handle. I was  
able to get those cops off of my  
back with a couple quick spins  
through the woods."

BARTENDER 2  
"Oh yeah? I also heard you woke  
up in the tank."

John looks down, knowing the truth but not wanting to tell it.

The bar's front door opens quickly, as Tom comes.

Tom is upset, his eyebrows stern as he approaches John and Chris. He points his finger right at John as he nearly explodes at him.

TOM  
"I got in a lot of shit last  
night because of you!"

JOHN

"Heyyyy, calm down, I didn't make  
you go with me."

TOM

"What the hell were you thinking?  
I can't believe I got into that  
car with you."

JOHN

"It's not like you died or  
anything"

TOM

"We almost did! And here you are,  
drinking more? What the hell are  
you doing to yourself?!?"

JOHN

"I'm not even drunk, asshole. I'm  
only having a couple of drinks  
before work"

TOM

"Before work? You have got to get  
this under control! I can't even  
talk to you!"

Tom backs off, leaving the bar, as John goes back to his drink,  
downing the rest of his rum and coke quickly.

JOHN

"Don't know what got up his ass"

Tom drunkenly laughs, starting with just a giggle, then almost  
bursting in laughter.

JOHN

"See? You know what I'm talking  
about! That's what a real friend  
does."

John waves down Bartender again

JOHN

"Grab me a case from the back"

The bartender looks disappointed in John, but still grabs a big 24 pack of bottled beer for him.

CHRIS

"Where you going?"

JOHN

"Gotta pay for this somehow. I gotta get ready to go to work."

**EXT - PUB 1**

John walks out the front doors of the pub, holding the big case of 24 bottles of beer in one hand, and pulling out a new set of keys with the other.

He presses the unlock button on the keys, and hears a loud noise coming from Beverly's car directly in front of him. The lights blink at him as the doors unlock.

John walks over to the car, running his hand up the hood.

JOHN

"How you doin? Did you miss me?  
Good girl."

John opens up the car door, throwing the case of beer into the backseat. He climbs in and starts the engine. John pulls out of the parking lot in a rush.

**INT - BEVELY'S CAR**

John has a manly look on his face as he gives power to the car, loving every moment he pushes a bit more on the gas pedal. The car makes growling noises as it changes gears for John.

JOHN

"What's that? But, I gotta get to work."

John pushes on the gas more, to hear the car growl back at him

JOHN

"Ok ok, I'll give you want you want, baby"

John pushes down on the gas pedal, and the speedometer goes up over 120.

John's face is aggressive as he feels the power.

He sees a tight turn in front of him, and he keeps accelerating towards it.

He hits the turn, and loses control of the car, as it keeps going straight towards a massive park in front of him.

John's car runs straight into the ditch in front, his hands off the wheel, and his eyes closed up tight.

The car dips into the ditch, and the front of the car crumbles, as the trunk starts rising into the air behind him.

The car does a complete spin, with the trunk landing onto the ground.

John is moved from his seat, up into the air with no seatbelt on, and all the bottles and junk around the inside of the car float past him.

The car keeps spinning, now the hood hitting the ground again.

The bottles in the back of the car start to smash all over the place, beer floating in the air, as the spin keeps going.

John lands in the backseat, covered as the windshield smashes in, spreading tiny shards of glass all over the place.

The car finally comes to rest on its roof, the whole thing upside down.

John falls onto the ceiling of the car, looking completely uninjured.

He reaches into the box of beer bottles, finding that the vast majority of them are completely smashed, except for one.

He picks up that bottle, and kicks the rear door open with his foot, having to squeeze himself out of the car.

**EXT - PARK**

John crawls out of the Beverly's newly smashed car, which is looking more round than straight.

A young child is sitting with his parents at a picnic, as his mouth is wide open, the sandwich dropping out of his hands and onto the ground.

John stretches his limbs out, looking completely safe.

He opens the beer bottle with his hands, and takes a long swig of it, before tossing the full bottle off to the side.

John shakes his head, and pulls out his cell phone.

JOHN

"Hey, could you come pick me up  
at the park? Yeah, I'll be right  
out on the curb."

John turns off the phone, looking down to the ground. He looks around the park, seeing the calm family staring at him. John waves his hand in the air and shouts at them.

JOHN

"Sorry about that!"

The family keeps staring with their jaws dropped.

**INT - WELFARE HOME**

Michael unlocks the front door, it shakes as he opens it, nearly falling off.

Ali walks into the single room, junk and garbage spread out all over the place.

Ali walks over to the mess of a bed and lies down on her back, tossing her purse onto the floor.

MICHAEL

"I can't believe you live with  
that asshole."

ALI

"He's an asshole but at least I'm  
not living in a dump."



MICHAEL

"Come on, this place ain't bad.  
You keep coming back."

ALI

"You know what I came here for."

MICHEAL

"Oh yeah, just picked it up."

Michael goes over to a drawer in the kitchen, which is a part of the bedroom and livingroom.

He pulls a prescription bottle out of the drawer, and brings it over to the bedside table, sitting down next to Ali.

He brushes all of the junk off the table, and pours out a couple of small white pills.

ALI

"I need more today, baby."

MICHAEL

"I'll hit you three of them."

ALI

"Can you do me four? That asshole  
drove me crazy."

MICHAEL

"Ok, baby, four it is."

Michael takes four of the pills, and starts smashing them up on the table with a stone he had nearby. He turns them into a powder, and sweeps them with his hand into a blackened, worn piece of aluminum foil.

MICHAEL

"Come on baby, get ready for it."

Ali sits up, and takes a thin piece of plastic off of the floor. She wraps it around her arm, and ties it up, pulling it with her teeth.

Michael takes out his lighter and heats up the foil, turning the powder into a liquid.

He pulls open the drawer, and takes out a dirty needle, filling it with the liquid, tapping it off, and pushing it into Ali's arm.

MICHAEL  
"There you go."

Ali takes it in, and her face gets sleepy.

Once the needle is empty, Michael takes it out.

Ali slowly lies back on the bed, the tiny hole in her arm still bleeding.

#### **EXT - WELFARE STREET**

William is driving down the road in his classy, expensive car, looking side to side, and back down to his cell phone.

The phone shows a single blue dot, just down the street from where he is.

He drives up to the Welfare home, and looks down at his phone, seeing that this is the spot.

He gets out of the car, and walks up the path to the front door. He looks down at the phone again, and sees that Ali is inside.

He starts banging at the door.

#### **INT - WELFARE HOME**

Michael is crushing up his set of pills, when he gets shocked by the pounding at his door.

MICHAEL  
"Who the fuck is that?"

Michael stands up, putting down the powder, and goes towards the door. He opens it up, and William is standing outside, automatically punching Michael square on the nose. Michael steps backwards, holding his face and moaning out loud.

WILLIAM  
"You asshole!"

Michael bolts at William, ramming into him and slamming into the wall.

Michael steps back, and then throws a punch at William's face, knocking him over onto the ground.

Michael walks over to Ali, and picks her up off of the bed, and carries her to the door.

MICHAEL

"How the fuck did he find us?"

Ali moans quietly, as Michael takes her out the front door.

William holds his stomach, the wind knocked out of him and the side of his face red from the punch. He stumbles over, going to the door.

#### **EXT - WELFARE HOME**

Michael carries Ali out to his truck, and throws her in the back. He gets into the driver's seat, and takes off. William crawls out the front door.

#### **EXT - COUNTRY ROADS**

Michael is driving down the road in his dirty pickup truck, with a drugged Ali in the back. Ali crawls over to the window, and puts her face up to it.

ALI

"Goddamnit, where am I?"

MICHEAL

"Your fucking Dad sent you here!"

ALI

"C'mon baby, stop the car."

Michael swerves back and forth, making Ali flop over in the back of the truck, then rolls to the other side as Micheal gets back in his lane."

MICHEAL

"You put us here, Baby, now you gotta deal with it."

Ali lies in the back of the truck, crying, as Michael keeps speeding down the road.

**EXT - GIANT FIELD**

Michael turns left onto an off-road in a massive field.

He stops a few hundred meters away from the road.

He gets out of the truck, and around to the back. Ali is crying, still hardly able to move.

Michael pulls the stopper door down, and Ali is lying there in front of him.

He grabs her hand, and pulls her out of the truck bed, as she lands hard onto the ground.

MICHAEL

"I'll come back here tonight to get you."

ALI

"Fuck, no, Michael, don't leave me here!"

MICHAEL

"You left this on yourself, bitch! I'll be back later."

Michael gets back into his truck, and pulls a giant turn, directly around Ali, and goes off onto the highway. Ali just lies there, crying.

Time passes, and William's classy car pulls into the field. He stops in front of her, and gets out, going over to her. He takes her hand, and pulls her up.

WILLIAM

"Thank god you're alright."

Ali just cries as she holds onto her father.

WILLIAM

"We have to find you help."

**EXT - BEVERLY'S HOUSE - DAY**

Beverly's house is looking quiet and serene on the outside, as the cab quickly rushes away from the front of the house.

BEVERLY

"Whattttttttttt!!?!?!"

JOHN

"It was just so crazy out there,  
and I had to swerve out of the  
way of a sweet baby kitten on the  
road"

BEVERLY

"Stop giving me that shit, John.  
You're telling me that you got  
into this whole thing, for no  
reason at all, you just *happened*  
to be driving in the wrong place  
at the wrong time?"

JOHN

"That's exactly it, I don't know  
how it happened."

BEVERLY

"Stop bullshitting me. You were  
drunk again. God, I just can't  
believe this"

JOHN

"But at least I made it out just  
fine"

BEVERLY

"And my car! God damnit! That car  
was like new!"

JOHN

"Well, I'll just have to get you  
a new one."

BEVERLY

"And here you are, still giving  
me shit. How on earth are you  
going to afford getting me a

brand new car?"

JOHN

"I'll just keep on working, and I'll give you everything from it. C'mon, you know I didn't mean for any of this to happen. It was just that baby kitten"

Beverly sits down on the couch, covering her head as tears come to her eyes.

BEVERLY

"I just can't take this anymore, John, do you hear me? You have got to do better with yourself."

JOHN

"You know I will, I'll pay you back for this, I swear."

BEVERLY

"But seriously, how are you going to do that?"

JOHN

"I'll just keep on working for it"

BEVERLY

"And when were you supposed to be at work"

JOHN

"I have to be in at..."

John looks up to the clock, it's now at 2:48

JOHN

"Oh shit..."

**EXT - DEPARTMENT STORE PARKING**

John quickly leaps out of a cab that just pulled around to the front of the store.

He messes around with his clothes, as he walks towards his store, trying to straighten everything out so he looks professional, but he can't pull that off.

John quickly rushes up to the sidewalk, then dodges to the side of the building, away from the glass windows.

John reaches around inside his jacket, and pulls out a steel flask, which he opens up foolishly, his hands shaking in front of him.

He takes a long swig from the flask, and suddenly looks much calmer, as he goes back to the front of the building.

#### **INT - DEPARTMENT STORE**

John pushes the front door open foolishly just making it inside.

He raises his arms, showing everyone that he's there, but they don't seem to care much, giving him disgusted looks as he passes by them.

John gets to the computer area towards the back of the store, where the supervisor of the section, JAKE, an extremely overweight, short but wide framed man, with his shirt tucked too tightly into his kakis, so you can see every curve to his body.

Jake taps his foot to the ground as John gets closer to him.

JAKE

"What is it this time?"

JOHN

"I'm really sorry, it's just that my Mom had gotten into a car accident, she had to swerve out of the way when this cute little kitten rushed into the road."

JAKE

"It's been really busy."

JOHN

"Well, I'm here now, so just point me where to go, boss."

JAKE

"That's just where you have to go. Steve was asking for you. He told me to send you to his office as soon as you get here."

John looks worried about seeing his boss.

**INT - BOSS OFFICE**

John is sitting down in a cheap imitation leather chair, at the desk of STEVEN, the boss of the department store, wearing his traditional messy shirt and tie.

STEVEN

"This is the third time, John. What am I gonna do with you?"

JOHN

"It's ok, you can just tell me that I'm doing a great job, and that you can't work without me, and how much you love the work that I do, and..."

STEVEN

"You making some sort of joke? You think this is funny? We're running a serious business here, and you're doing nothing but running it down. I don't even know what's been bringing you in late"

JOHN

"Well there's this cat..."

STEVEN

"Save it! Just save it! You think you're special here? I need good, hardworking folks. This isn't some run of the mill Wal Mart, this is Freddies, and we stand for quality."

JOHN

"I'm giving the best quality I can, I'm doing my best"



STEVEN

"Well I want more than that. I want the best plus one. Hell, I want the best plus a million."

JOHN

"How about the best plus a billion?"

STEVEN

"Oh, is that it? You want a numbers competition now? Look, mister, I know my numbers, I can count you under the bus. You keep on doing this, and you'll have to be counting the bridges you're burning in getting more work."

JOHN

"How am I counting bridges that are already burnt?"

STEVEN

"Get out of my office. I don't want you coming back again."

**INT - BEVERLY'S HOUSE - DUSK**

John walks in the front door, the lights dimmed, and the entire house seeming too quiet.

John looks through the house, stumbling over his own feet as he makes it towards the livingroom.

Inside is John's whole family, sitting around in a circle of couches.

John looks back and forth around the room, seeing each of the people looking directly at him, their faces in partial scowls. BRIAN the councillor sits in the middle of the group with a clipboard in his hand.

JOHN

"Heyyyy everyone...."

BRIAN

"Hey John, my name's Brian, and your family came to me about the problems you're having with alcohol."

JOHN

"No no no no, I'm doing just fine with it."

BRIAN

"I heard you flipped over your Mother's car the other day."

JOHN

"Look, I can't stop cats from flying out across the street."

BRIAN

"What about what happened with your job?"

JOHN

"They said that I was too good for them. They couldn't handle me, and I understand. I've been wanting to tell them that for a..."

BRIAN

"John, really, you know that's not what happened. I've been hearing about how everything is going, and your family has been very worried about you."

JOHN

"Mom, are you hearing this?"

BEVERLY

"I'm who brought doctor watermelon in, John."

BRIAN

"Beverly, would you like to read out everything you had for John?"

Beverly reaches down off her seat to her purse, opening it and pulling out a delicately folded piece of paper, which she opens to read off of, unemotionally and dry.

BEVERLY

"John, you have caused your whole family a great deal of pain. We are all suffering through you, and it's not what we want."

Beverly puts down the piece of paper, and looks directly at John

BEVERLY

"And, I mean you. We don't want you around the house like this."

BRIAN

"Come on, Beverly, just stay to what you wrote."

Beverly looks back at the sheet of paper, calming herself down.

BEVERLY

"Yes... okay. You've come so close to killing yourself, John, and we don't want that to happen."

Beverly puts the paper back down again, and looks back towards Brian

BEVERLY

"But, seriously, if he was dead, that would be so much better for us."

BRIAN

"John, we all want you to be doing better. We want you to go to rehabilitation, they'll be able to help you out of this. All it's going to take is a quick little trip out to Elk Creek, where they have a fantastic little center for people just like you."

JOHN  
"What, you guys just don't want  
me anymore? Is that what it's all  
about?"

The whole group looks away from John, in more of a silence.

JOHN  
"Well... I guess that's it. If  
you guys don't want me around,  
then what am I going to do?"

The whole group looks relieved, leaning back in their chairs.

#### **INT - TAXICAB**

John sits in the backseat of a taxi as him and the east Indian driver pass by John's old spots, four different pubs that John has a special spot in his heart for, each break him a little more as they pass and he says goodbye to them.

#### **INT - LOCAL AIRPORT - DAY**

John is sitting down at the clean, elegant bar at the airport.

The bartender is sitting back with his arms crossed, looking directly at John, while an established BUSINESSMAN walks into the bar, and sits down next to John.

As John pounds back another bottle of beer, and points over at the bartender for another. Businessman points his finger up at the bartender, and asks for a bottle as well.

BUSINESSMAN  
"I'm guessing you can't handle  
the flight so well without a  
little in you, huh?"

After taking a long swig, John puts the bottle back down on the bar, and twists his head to the side, letting out a big burp.

JOHN  
"Nope, I actually kinda like  
them."

Business man holds for a moment, looking around, confused. He coughs, and turns his attention back to John

BUSINESSMAN

"So, where is it you're going  
to?"

John finishes off the whole next bottle, slamming it back down on the bar and pointing up at the bartender for another.

JOHN

"Well, I'm heading off to rehab."

The Businessman stares at John with a shocked look in his face. John gets his next bottle and starts to chug it back.

Soon they're passing over a large bridge, into open forests, and then...

#### **EXT - ELK CREEK REHAB**

John and the East Indian cab driver are pulling into the rehab, over a thin road, surrounded by trees and mountains.

John's clothes are still a mess, and so is his face, looking like he had been vomiting from the alcohol just before he had gotten into the cab.

It's difficult to tell that they are around any kind of civilization, little animals sitting by the side of the road watching the cars come in with wide eyes.

The cab pulls up towards Elk Creek, a giant, mansion looking center, with white walls and pillars coming down around the building.

The cab pulls to the front door of the building, and stops, where John gets out of the car, shuts the door, and walks ahead, his eyes in amazement of the surrounding environment.

John walks slowly towards the front doors, his jaw dropped. The front door opens, as a strong YOUNG MAN in a bright white nursing outfit comes out to greet him at the front.

JOHN

"Am I in the right place?"

YOUNG MAN

"Are you John? We've been

expecting you. Come right this way."

The Young Man walks to the front doors, John following him, partly tripping over his own feet

#### **INT - ELK CREEK ENTRY**

John follows the Young Man into the front of the rehab building.

The entryway is giant, with high raised ceilings and luxury carpet sliding under expensive furniture, looking like the front lounge of an expensive hotel in downtown.

Drunken John keeps moving towards the front desk, where DOCOTR PHILLIPS, a mature, bald, straight forward man in a white labcoat, is waiting for him.

JOHN

"Whoa, this place is nicccee! I think I could live here."

DOCTOR PHILLIPS

"You must be John. It's good to see you here."

Doctor Phillips extends his hand out to John, but John just slaps it quickly, rather than shaking it.

DOCTOR PHILLIPS

"Well then, let me show you up to your room."

JOHN

"You lead the way!"

#### **INT - ELK CREEK HALLWAYS**

Doctor Phillips leads John up a massive rotary stairwell to the upstairs.

DOCTOR PHILLIPS

"Now John, I hope you know why you came here"

JOHN

"Ehhh, problems at home. It was like I was getting too good for everybody there, and they just had to get rid of me. I don't mind though, I think I like staying here more than at my parent's place."

DOCTOR PHILLIPS

"Well, we're going to try to make sure that you can get back there. You see, this part of the unit is majestic, wonderful... this is what real life is like, but we're going to take you to a place more like what you've made of yourself up to now."

Doctor Phillips comes to a giant doorway, and pulls them open for the two of them.

#### **INT - ELK CREEK DORMS**

Doctor Phillips walks first through the giant doorways, to a small, thin, cheap hallway, and a mess of carpet along the ground, with tears and stains all over. All the walls are painted in a light yellow urine color, with scratches everywhere, and doors nearly side by side for each of the rooms.

John stares with his eyes wide open and his jaw dropped, as Doctor Phillips begins going down the hallway.

DOCTOR PHILLIPS

"You see, my dear boy, this is what you've made of yourself. You've fallen apart, you've made a mess of everything. Really, you're not even safe to live around. Everyone rejects you, nobody even wants to see you, let alone live with you. This is what you've done, and this is what we're going to do to you."

John walks ahead, the buff young guard following behind him.

JOHN

"What happened to the nice  
couches, the shiney floors?"

DOCTOR PHILLIPS

"You're not going to get those,  
until you're worth having those,  
but right now, you're not worth  
anything. You're not even worth  
the clothes you're wearing, and  
that's why you're going to have  
to be changed out of those, and  
contained."

JOHN

"What the hell? I'm not going to  
take this bullshit from you."

DOCTOR PHILLIPS

"I'm afraid you're already signed  
up for it, John, now, come to  
your room"

JOHN

"I ain't doin that."

DOCTOR PHILLIPS

"You'll have to do what I tell  
you to do, now."

JOHN

"Oh yeah? Did you tell me to do  
this?"

John rushes away, but is instantly stopped by the guard behind  
them. John starts trying to fight with the guard, but it way too  
weak for it.

JOHN

"Let... me go.... asshole!"

Doctor Phillips pulls a needle out of his pocket, and stabs John  
in the arm with it. John is almost instantly wiped out from it,  
and he collapses in the Young Guard's arms.

DOCTOR PHILLIPS

"There's something about doing



that I just love..."

**INT - CALM DOWN ROOM**

John wakes up in a cushioned, pepto bismol colored room, with a straight jacket on. John blindly looks around the room, obviously incredibly high on Valium.

He's drooling out the side of his mouth, as he tries his hardest to scan everything happening around him.

While trying to get his wits about him, the front door opens wide, and Ali, equally a mess, gets pulled into the room, also wearing a straight jacket. Ali is going crazy, fighting with the guard, trying to bounce all over the place.

ALI

"Let me go, asshole! Get your hands off of me!"

The guard pulls her into the Calm Down room, and puts her down on the seat across from John.

Ali spits at the guard's face as she's seated.

John stares at her, his mind obviously a mess from the valium he took in, seeing her as the most beautiful thing he's ever seen in his life.

JOHN

"Hey there... lady..."

ALI

"What the hell do you want?!?"

JOHN

"What did they take you in for?"

Ali looks at him, disgusted

ALI

"That's none of your business, you drunk fucking faggot. Why the hell did they get me here with a faggot like you?"

John stares at her, his view making it look like she's smiling at him, being so calm and peaceful.

JOHN

"I think they just wanted to get  
the two of us together."

ALI

"I'd rather be dead than be  
together with you."

Ali spits directly in John's face, as the doors to the Calm Down Room open again, a guard walking in towards John.

Ali tries to jump up to escape, but the drugs are taking more of an effect on her. She tries to fight, but the guard just sits her down.

GUARD

"Ok, John, time to go to your  
room"

JOHN

"But I donnnnn't wannnnna"

The guard comes over to John, picking him up onto his shoulder, and starts walking him out of the Calm down Room. John seems to have fallen asleep while the guard is pulling him out.

#### **INT - JOHN'S REHAB ROOM**

John is fast asleep in his room, a tiny little dark hallway with pink walls, and John's single bed in the corner, nearby his toilet.

The lights jolt on and an alarm starts buzzing at him, loudly.

John hops up to being seated on his bed, as he clutches his head from the pain of his headache.

After a few loud buzzes, the noise stops, and his door opens up.

Doctor Phillips walks into the room.

DOCTOR PHILLIPS

"Well John, I hope you had a good

sleep last night."

John loudly moans

DOCTOR PHILLIPS

"Oh yes, mine was quite nice as well. Now, I hope you're not planning to be going too wild on us today, are you?"

JOHN

"No, no."

DOCTOR PHILLIPS

"Gooooood. Now, I'll give you a minute or two, to get yourself ready, and I'll show you around."

Doctor Phillips leaves the room, and John rolls around on his bed, moaning, then rolls off the bed, landing his face in the toilet to throw up.

#### **INT - ELK CREEK DORMS**

John walks out of the room, as Doctor Phillips is standing and waiting for him in the hallway.

John is still a mess, his face with the look of his pillowcase still imprinted on him.

DOCTOR PHILLIPS

"Good to see you, this fine morning. Now, follow me, I'm going to show you how things work around here."

Doctor Phillips walks John down the hallway of rooms, doors planted at identical distances from each other, a constant repetition of rooms just like his.

John stumbles down the hallway, holding his head in pain.

DOCTOR PHILLIPS

"These rooms around us are the men's side of the unit, where we have the women's on the other floor. It's a very common thing,

to have recovering addicts, like  
yourself, to be falling for  
someone of the opposite sex while  
they are in rehab."

The two of them get up close to the elevator, as Doctor Phillips  
gets very serious, talking directly into John's face

DOCTOR PHILLIPS

"This is not allowed! It's just  
trading one addiction for  
another. Couples get together in  
here, feel like everything is  
better, then when they're out,  
they have access to drugs they've  
never even seen before, and they  
talk each other into trying  
something new. If you get close  
to another patient here, we will  
throw you out, immediately."

JOHN

"Ok, ok. I get it."

The elevator door opens in front of both of them, as they walk  
in.

DOCTOR PHILLIPS

"Good. I hate having to go over  
that, but we really have seen  
problems in the past. We must  
keep up with our reputation, and  
that means making sure that  
people such as yourself, will get  
past your problems."

#### **INT - ELK CREEK DEN**

The elevator doors open on the ground floor, where there's a  
massive white room with couches and chairs randomly spread  
throughout.

DAVID, a classy but disheveled mid 30's man, and JASON, a mid  
20's nerdy Asian man, sit on a distant couch, watching Doctor  
Phillips show John the areas around them.

David and Jason talk whisper to eachother, as Jason takes out a pad of paper to write down a few notes.

Doctor Philips points his arm towards the conference room, where STEPH, an underweight trashy woman with tight clothes and geled hair, and SUSAN, a butch, short, chubby woman, dressed like she's in prison, are standing.

Susan looks past Steph towards Doctor Philips, and gives him the finger.

Doctor Philips looks back at John, saying his last few words, and John goes to sit on a couch. David and Jason instantly get up and walk over to him.

DAVID

"Hey man, what you in for?"

JOHN

"I'm in for... alcohol?"

DAVID

"Just alcohol, or did you try some other things, too?"

JOHN

"Just alcohol, I knew that I'd get addicted to anything, so I..."

DAVID

"Damn it!"

Jason pulls out his notepad and starts writing quickly.

JASON

"Another one down. You better sharpen your skills."

DAVID

"You're so thin, I was sure you were in here for coke or Meth, or something."

JOHN

"So, what are you in for?"

DAVID  
"Gambling."

John stares him down as Jason finishes with the notepad and puts it back in his pocket.

JOHN  
"Oh... aren't you supposed to be getting away from that?"

DAVID  
"What? You didn't see anything, buddy, you keep out of this."

JOHN  
"So what about you? Were you a gambler?"

JASON  
"No no no... well... I blew my money away, but I did it through something more useful."

DAVID  
"He did it through video games, blew all his money on it, lost his wife."

JASON  
"Jesus, that wasn't through the games, we were just... growing apart."

DAVID  
"Yeah, growing apart because you'd rather kill orcs then fuck her."

JASON  
"I was trying to do something for the family..."

DAVID  
"Yeah, and I was playing craps for my family too."

JASON

"I wasn't playing games, I was working with investments"

DAVID

"Yeah? And how are those investments doing?"

John loses attention, looking at Ali, who just came over to Susan and Steph with a scowl on her face. Susan looks tough but welcoming.

JOHN

"And who is she?"

Jason and David turn around, looking at the three girls.

DAVID

"Well, Steph is a recovering alcoholic, you two would probably get along great, and Susan had a load of anger management."

JOHN

"No no, the other one..."

DAVID

"I heard that's Ali, she's pretty new here, so we've been putting down bets."

JASON

"You've been putting down bets..."

DAVID

"I'm thinking that maybe she's depression... or bipolar?"

JASON

"You gotta pick one or the other."

DAVID

"Ok, ok... how about I put 150 on depression, 50 on bipolar"

JOHN

"And maybe she'll be both."

DAVID

"Don't I wish!"

**INT - ELK CREEK CAFETERIA**

Ali, Susan and Steph are lined up in the cafeteria, with plastic trays and looking through the items. John approaches them.

JOHN

"Anybody know where to get a stiff drink around here?"

The girls don't even look at him.

JOHN

"Well, umm... so, guys, What are you in for?"

Susan leaves her tray behind, and walks right up to John, bumping him out of the way with her chest. The guards point over at them from a distance, keeping their eyes on them.

SUSAN

"Who the fuck asked you, mother fucker?"

JOHN

"I'm just... I didn't mean to..."

SUSAN

(Imitating John)

"I'm just... I didn't... I'm just... look, you little piece of shit, I don't care why you're here, you ain't coming near us."

Susan grabs John's shirt, and pulls him in close to her, staring him right in the face.

SUSAN

"You hear me??"

The guards come up to the two of them, staring Susan down. John holds his hands up in the air out of fear.



JOHN  
"Yes I hear you!"

Susan lets go of him, pushing him back, and holding her hands up in the air as she looks back and forth to the guards.

SUSAN  
"Hey, I ain't doin nothing. This man was just getting a little too close to my bitches."

Susan backs off, and Steph comes up to him, while Ali walks off, an almost disgusted look in her face for John.

STEPH  
"I'm really sorry, she's not always THIS bad..."

JOHN  
"It's ok... I just..."

STEPH  
"I gotta get going... just... keep away..."

Steph moves away, trying to catch up with Susan and Ali.

#### **INT - ELK CREEK DINING**

John sits down with his plate of food from the cafeteria at his own small table.

RICHARD, a frail, 80 year old man, comes in and sits down on the opposite side of the table from him.

Richard stares silently at John while he tries to eat his food.

JOHN  
"Hey"

RICHARD  
"Hey"

Richard keeps on looking at John, as an awkward silence sits between the two of them. John can't take it anymore.

JOHN

"So, what are you in for?"

RICHARD

"Oh, nothing, I'm just here to enjoy the scenery."

JOHN

"Really..."

RICHARD

"Yep. Can't help but notice you're here for a bit more than that."

JOHN

"Yeah, well, I was a bit of an alcoholic"

RICHARD

"Oh no, I'm not talking about that. I'm talking about how you were looking at that new girl, Ali."

JOHN

"So that's her name"

RICHARD

"You know, if you go after her, you're never going to see her, again."

JOHN

"What makes you think I'm going after her?"

RICHARD

"These things, I just know. I have my third eye working for me."

Richard gestures his hands down his body

RICHARD

"I see things with my third eye, which transfers it down through my upper shockra, passing across

my ora, and down to my core,  
where I truly feel it in the  
phallic chi, of my great penis."

John looks at him funny, letting out a bit of an attempted  
laugh.

JOHN

"Well, I can't see how you could  
be wrong about that."

RICHARD (looking serious)

"I'm not... but you should be  
very cautious. I saw your coming  
into our world, and things are  
not going to go how you want. I  
see so much trouble in your  
future, John"

JOHN

"I came here to get me away from  
booze, though. You know where I  
can get some booze?"

RICHARD

"No no no... it's not with your  
addictions. You don't truly  
understand yourself, yet... but  
you will... it will come."

JOHN

"Are you feeling that with your  
penis, too?"

RICHARD

"I feel everything, with my  
penis."

**INT - ELK LODGE MEETING ROOM - DUSK**

In the meeting room is a session like Alcoholics Anonymous,  
where everyone is in a big circle on wooden chairs.

Doctor Philips, looks towards the middle of the room, where  
Jason is standing, talking to everyone.

JASON

"So then, the morlocks started coming to invade us, and I wasn't going to take that! Do you have any idea how much I put into that city? I wasn't going to just leave that."

DOCTOR PHILLIPS

"So, you're saying that saving your city from the Morlocks was more important than your daughter's recital?"

JASON

"Well... I mean... I had spent a lot of time putting that city together... and... she'll have more recitals..."

DOCTOR PHILLIPS

"You should sit back and look at the entire situation. Which was really more important."

Jason looks down to the ground, as Doctor Phillips stands up, starts clapping his hands, and walks towards the middle of the room.

DOCTOR PHILLIPS

"Let's give Jason a hand, for looking at things in a bit of a different way. Thank you, Jason."

Jason walks back to his seat, where Doctor Phillips was just sitting.

DOCTOR PHILLIPS

"Well, for today, we have a couple of newcomers in, both Ali, and John... so, Ali, can we have you come up to introduce yourself to everyone?"

Ali curls up in her chair, looking very pale, and shaking her head no.

DOCTOR PHILLIPS

"We need you to be open to this,  
Ali. Come on up."

Ali keeps curled up, as Susan, sitting next to her, stares down Doctor Phillips.

SUSAN  
"She doesn't feel like talking,  
faggot! Now move on!"

DOCTOR PHILLIPS  
"Ohhh kay... well then, John,  
could we have you say a few  
words?"

John looks back and forth, his arms crossed against his chest, but he decides to stand up and talk.

DOCTOR PHILLIPS  
"Fantastic, fantastic. Just tell  
us about you, and what brought  
you here."

JOHN  
"Well, ok. My name is John, and  
I'm an alcoholic."

John waits for everyone to say "Hi John", but the room just stares him down.

JOHN  
"It's not like I was causing  
problems or anything, I just  
liked to drink."

DOCTOR PHILLIPS  
"Oh, no problems at all? What is  
it that brought you out here to  
Elk creek?"

JOHN  
"Oh, well, I had kinda wrecked a  
couple of cars..."

DOCTOR PHILLIPS  
"How did you wreck them?"

JOHN

"Ahh, it was nothin'... I was just going a bit too fast... I was hardly even drunk, and then this little baby cat jumped out in front of me, and I mean, I just had to save it's life."

Doctor Phillips

"So, you were just driving safely, under the legal limit..."

John

"Well... I had maybe 5 drinks or something before I went out..."

DOCTOR PHILLIPS

"5 drinks? Isn't that a bit too much?"

JOHN

"Yeah, 5 double ceasers..."

DOCTOR PHILLIPS

"That is a lot. But, you were still able to safely drive?"

JOHN

"Oh yeah... I mean... I was testing out the horsepower on the car..."

DOCTOR PHILLIPS

"So, how fast were you going?"

JOHN

"I don't really remember... maybe... 140, 150?"

DOCTOR PHILLIPS

"At least you were out on a highway, somewhere safe, right?"

JOHN

"No, I was right in the city... and hit the curb, and flipped the car a couple times."

DOCTOR PHILLIPS

"You are very lucky to be alive,  
now."

JOHN

"Yeah, that's what my Mom was  
saying..."

DOCTOR PHILLIPS

"Your Mom was in the park?"

JOHN

"No no no, that was another Mom,  
with a little kid"

The group gasps at John

DOCTOR PHILLIPS

"So, you're saying, that you were  
sober, on 10 drinks, and were  
safely driving in the city, at  
150, and it was the cat's fault,  
that you almost killed a young  
family..."

JOHN

"Well... there wasn't really a  
cat...."

DOCTOR PHILLIPS

"Good, John. I think you've  
started to figure some things  
out. Everyone give a hand to  
John"

The whole audience starts to clap, as John looks down, truly  
thinking about what he's done.

#### **INT - JOHN'S ELK CREEK ROOM**

John lying in bed, wanting to get to sleep, but can't stop  
staring up at the ceiling. He lies there, until he hears a quiet  
knock at his door.

He looks over at the door, and gets up, and quietly opens it.

It's Richard, in his sleeping gown.

JOHN (whispering)  
"Richard? What are you doing  
here?"

Richard cups his hand in a motion telling John to follow him.

RICHARD  
"I was told to come and get you,  
there is something you have to  
see."

JOHN  
"We're not supposed to leave our  
rooms"

RICHARD  
"With me, we can do anything."

John sighs, but follows Richard out of the room.

#### **EXT - ELK CREEK OVERHANG**

Richard gives John signals to keep quiet, as he comes out an emergency door without sounding the alarm.

He sneaks past the cameras and motion sensors to bring John onto the rooftop of Elk Lodge.

Richard sits down next to a spot that already has a pre-made seating section for one, and waves his hand to John.

RICHARD  
"Sit down, sit down"

JOHN  
"Why are we out here?"

RICHARD  
"Come here, and you will see it."

John sits down next to Richard, looking out into the trees.

RICHARD  
"Now, do you see that?"



JOHN  
"See what?"

RICHARD  
"The colors, the shades, the  
change from one side to the  
other."

JOHN  
"I guess so"

RICHARD  
"Don't guess it, see it. The  
whole world goes along those  
lines. An adaptation from one  
kind to the other, a continuous  
motion going on right in front us  
as we sit still, engulfed in it."

JOHN  
"How did you get here?"

RICHARD  
"Ahhhh, it was my sweet son that  
brought me in here. He could see  
that I wanted to see more than  
just his home. I understand him,  
I know him, he knew I had to see  
more."

JOHN  
"He just dropped you here?"

RICHARD  
"You make it sound like a bad  
thing! No, no, Surreptitious was  
a good boy."

JOHN  
"Sureptilious?"

RICHARD  
"Ah yes, he was a good boy. He  
felt I needed to discover more,  
so he brought me out here."

JOHN

"Wouldn't you rather be with  
him?"

RICHARD

"His spirit will find mine when  
he needs me. Look over at the  
horizon, you see the slide of  
light across the canals? It finds  
it's way, so will our spirits."

John and Richard stare off as the sun comes up

**INT - JOHN'S ELK CREEK ROOM - DAY**

John gets up in the morning, a bit wasted, but nowhere near as bad as he was when he was drinking. He stands out of bed and stretches.

**INT - ELK CREEK WASHROOM**

He walks out of his room, to the common bathroom, quickly showers and brushes his teeth, and heads out to the main lounge.

**INT - ELK CREEK LOUNGE**

John comes into the room and sees Jason and David on the sofas.

He looks around the room, smiling at the people, and sees Steph and ANTHONY, a 20-something, attractive Latino, with a sparkle of charm in his eye as he smiles at Steph.

Steph and Anthony are talking and laughing.

John sits down on the plush couch between his buddies.

JOHN

"Have you guys seen anything  
going on between Tony and Steph?"

DAVID

"Yeah, they've been getting  
closer and closer every day  
they're out here."

JASON

"I'd say there's a seventy two  
percent chance that he's going

for her."

JOHN

"I thought they didn't allow for that?"

JASON

"They don't. I'm surprised they're not trying to be a bit more quiet about the whole thing."

JOHN

"These two can't be quiet about it anymore. Look at them, this is love happening"

DAVID

"Or maybe they just aren't getting any"

JASON

"Well they shouldn't be getting any."

JOHN

"I don't think the boss should be going after them for that."

JASON

"I'm not talking about *the* boss, I'm talking about *her* boss."

Susan walks into the room, and sees Anthony and Steph being a little too close together. Susan walks over with force towards the pair.

SUSAN

"What the hell do you think you're doing?"

ANTHONY

"What? What? We're just talking here!"

SUSAN

"What, just talking about how you

want to be fucking her?"

Steph covers her mouth, and ducks back out of the way. The guards come into the room, surrounding Susan. Susan points her finger at Anthony, sticking it right into his face.

SUSAN

"You just try to get close to my  
bitch, you just try"

Anthony turns, pushing Susan's finger out of his face. Susan gets extremely mad.

SUSAN

"You mother fucker!"

Susan jumps up onto Anthony, but the guards jump in, pulling her off of him before she can do much damage.

SUSAN

"I'm going to get you! I'm going  
to get you for what you're doing  
to my bitch!"

Susan gets dragged out of the lounge, towards the pepto bismol room. Doctor Phillips comes out, and quietly speaks with Steph, and Anthony, bringing them over to his office.

JASON

"Uh-oh, I have a bad feeling  
about this one."

JOHN

"What? What's going on?"

DAVID

"We saw this back last month,  
between Deborah and Stanley. They  
tried to keep it under wraps, but  
they just weren't quiet enough."

JOHN

"So what happened?"

JASON

"They both got the boot, sent  
back to their own cities, didn't

even have eachother's  
information. They just lost  
eachother."

DAVID

"I had totally called it, I  
coulda put my house on that one."

JASON

"You already owe me your house,  
though."

DAVID

"Crap..."

JOHN

"Wow, I didn't think they'd do  
that..."

John sits back in the couch, thinking deeply.

#### **INT - ELK CREEK THEATRE - NIGHT**

A movie plays on the projection screen showing the horrors of drug addiction in a movie from the 60s. John sits in the back of the room, while Ali is near the front, all on her own.

John can't help but look at Ali, more than the movie. Ali has small twitches, but keeps looking up at the movie.

The doors to the theatre open up, and Susan is brought back in by the guards. She is much calmer then she was before. Ali talks silently, asking where Steph is, and Susan says they lost her.

Ali keeps fidgeting, as the movie ends, and she immediately gets up and walks out of the room. John follows after her.

#### **INT - ELK CREEK HALLWAY**

John walks after Ali, following her down the halls. Ali sees the single opening to the roof, and tries to reach into it, when John approaches.

JOHN

"That doesn't really go  
anywhere."

Ali is shocked, she thought she was alone.

JOHN

"I mean, there are some nice views, but that's about it."

ALI

"What, are you following me?"

JOHN

"I was just wondering where you were off to."

ALI

"I don't have to tell you anything."

JOHN

"Ok, thats ok. (pause) So, did you like the movie?"

ALI

"That was shit. It was really just lies. They don't know what they're talking about."

JOHN

"I don't know, I've heard a lot about heroin giving you problems."

ALI

"Oh man... what I would do for some of that, right now."

JOHN

"Is that how you got here?"

ALI

"What's it to you?"

JOHN

"I'm just curious."

ALI

"Well maybe you should stop being so curious. It's not going to

help you."

JOHN

"Well, I've gotten this far, at least."

Ali gets up, and pushes John as she walks past him back down the hall.

ALI

"And you're not getting anywhere."

John watches as Ali walks down the hall, leaving him behind. She meets with Susan as they get to the end, and Susan just stares John down. John raises his arms, showing he's not a threat.

**INT - JOHN'S ELK CREEK ROOM - DAY**

John wakes up again, looking a bit better as he gets out of bed.

**INT - ELK CREEK WASHROOM**

John gets past the other people in the washroom much easier, as he cleans up and brushes his teeth. He's been improving.

**INT - ELK CREEK LOUNGE**

John walks into the lounge room, towards his regular sitting spot where David and Jason are already sitting. They stare him down as he gets closer.

JOHN

"What?"

JASON

"Where did you go to, last night?"

JOHN

"What do you mean?"

JASON

"We saw you, you were following Ali."

DAVID

"So, did you bang her?"

JOHN

"What? No! We just talked in the hallway."

JASON

"You shouldn't be doing that. The same thing is going to happen to you that happened to Anthony."

JOHN

"What happened to Anthony?"

DAVID

"He was fucking Steph."

JASON

"I seventy two percent knew that."

JOHN

"So, did they talk with him about it? Did he have to miss the movie last night? He didn't miss much."

DAVID

"Nope, he's gone, squash, splat, outta here."

JOHN

"Huh? But he wasn't doing anything."

DAVID

"Aren't you listening? He was fucking her. They did a pretty good job of it, too. I would have gotten in on that one."

JOHN

"They were having sex?"

JASON

"They were doing something. Maybe they were just touching too much. But, now both of them are gone."



It's too bad."

John sits back, looking shocked, as Ali walks up to the group of them, looking directly at John.

ALI

"Hey, John, could you help me with something?"

JOHN

"Uh, yeah, of course..."

David and Jason look at John, shaking their heads no. John shrugs his shoulders, showing it's not his fault, as he and Ali walk out of the room.

**INT - ELK CREEK HALLWAY**

John follows Ali. She stays ahead of him enough so that he can't communicate with her, just follow along.

Ali leans down to the ground when they get to a lower window. She starts to fiddle with the window, trying to open it up. Her butt shakes back and forth in the air, and John can't help but look.

JOHN

"What are you doing?"

Ali keeps pushing and pulling at the window

ALI

"Would you just help me?"

John leans down to her, and starts trying to fiddle with the window as well. It rotates around the center, opening up enough for them to crawl through, which is exactly what Ali does.

JOHN

"Ok, we're going outside, sounds great. Does Doctor Phillips know about this?"

ALI

"You have a big mouth, you know that?"

John watches her butt in the air as she wiggles out, shakes his head, and follows her.

**EXT - ELK CREEK PARK**

John and Ali walk through an open field to the outskirts, where a tall security fence stands. Ali goes over to it, holds tightly to it, and tries to climb up.

ALI

"Ok, now I need your help again."

JOHN

"What are we doing out here?"

ALI

"I'm going to get out. I'm sick  
of this place"

JOHN

"Weren't you listening? We have  
to stay here. Don't you want to  
get better?"

ALI

"I want you to want what I want,  
now come over here and help me."

John can't help but shrug his shoulders and move over to Ali.

She puts her hands on his shoulders and pushes him down to her feet.

He grabs her foot, and starts to lift her up the fence, but they both fall over, Ali falling right on top of John.

John can't help but be turned on, her body on top of his, his hands on her hips.

ALI

"Damnit! Couldn't you have pushed  
any better?"

JOHN

"I'm (pause) sorry?"

DOCTOR PHILLIPS (loudspeaker)

"Ali Vankampt and John Hurley  
come to my office, now!"

Ali stares down at John, pointing her finger at his eyes

ALI

"This is your fault! You bought  
me out here!"

Ali hops off of John, and starts walking back towards the window  
they came out of.

One of the security guards unlocks and opens a main door around  
the corner from their window.

**INT - DOCTOR PHILLIPS OFFICE**

Ali and John are sitting as Doctor Philips leans into his desk

DOCTOR PHILLIPS

"Escaping is one thing, but you  
two know that you can't just be  
escaping from here, that's not  
the problem. The problem is, the  
security has been watching you  
two, and we see that there's  
some... chemistry happening."

JOHN

"What? No, nothing like that has  
been happening"

ALI

"Yeah, I wouldn't do this guy"

JOHN

"Heyy..."

DOCTOR PHILLIPS

"I'm just telling you, that we've  
seen the... sparks... but you  
can't be doing that. Ali, you  
know that your friends went too  
far, and we had to take them out.  
We don't want that happening to  
you."

ALI

"Don't you worry, you'd have to pay me to get with this guy."

JOHN

"Heyyy...."

DOCTOR PHILLIPS

"Well John, you can't be telling us that you haven't been... interested..."

JOHN

"Well, yeah, maybe, but I'm a guy, and how am I not supposed to be interested in this girl?"

ALI

"Huh?"

JOHN

"I mean, she's beautiful, she's wild... she keeps on tossing me out but I can't help it if I just want to be around her."

Ali looks down with a bit of a smile on her face

DOCTOR PHILLIPS

"Oh my oh my oh my... look, you two cannot be even talking about these kind of things. If you two even start touching, we're going to toss you both out! Do you understand? Well?"

**INT - ELK CREEK LOUNGE - DAY**

Jason and David are standing in the corner, watching as John and Ali come out of Doctor Phillips office

DAVID

"Ohhhhh, this one is fresh. I think I know just what's happening here."

JASON

"Ok, what do you think it  
happening?"

DAVID

"Can't you tell? John is going  
after her! I don't know why...  
that girl is not safe. (break)  
But, whatever"

JASON

"I see it as a 50/50 chance. I  
can't see Ali going for him"

David and Jason watch as they walk away from each other, and for a quick moment, Ali looks back at John, with a somber want in her eye.

JASON & DAVID

"Whooooaaaaa"

JASON

"Ok, now I say it's a 82% chance  
of something happening between  
them."

DAVID

"What does that mean for my bet?"

JASON

"I can only give you a 1 to 1 bet  
on that."

DAVID

"What the hell, man? I called it  
long before you did. Shouldn't it  
be 2 to 1?"

JASON

"Nope, Sorry."

DAVID

"Ok, how about, I bet that the  
two of them will get thrown out,  
by the end of the week?"

JASON

"Ok, that one I'll give you the 2

to 1, on."

DAVID  
"Yes!"

John approaches the two of them while David is celebrating

JOHN  
"What are you so excited about?"

DAVID  
"nothing, nothing. So, how did everything go with Ali? Think you two might hook up?"

JOHN  
"There's nothing like that happening, man."

DAVID  
"Sure, sure, of course there isn't."

David gives a large, forceful wink to John, who looks confused.

**INT - ELK CREEK CAFETERIA**

John is walking with his tray, looking much more anxious than usual, with stiff little movements and easily flustered.

He walks up to the SERVER, a 17 year old boy with pimples and a hairnet.

SERVER  
"What would you like?"

JOHN  
"Boy oh boy, I would love a beer..."

SERVER  
"You know we don't serve that"

JOHN  
"No? I understand, how about a cooler?"

SERVER

"We don't have that, either."

JOHN

"Ok, then, stop twisting my arm.  
How about a scotch? Rye? Gin?  
Cider? Martini? Cognac?  
Moonshine?"

Server just keeps staring at him, silent. John gets much more frustrated, soon tossing his tray off of the table.

JOHN

"God damnit! What the hell do you  
have here? What the hell am I  
doing in a place like this?"

John turns around, seeing the group staring at him from the dining room, with a similar solid gasp on their faces, like the child who saw him crash his car.

JOHN

"What the hell are you looking  
at? What? A guy can't get a drink  
around here?"

John pushes a table over and walks out of the room, extremely frustrated. Ali saw what he did from the back of the room, and she goes after him into the hallway.

**INT - ELK CREEK HALLWAY**

John pushes his way into the Hall, looking extremely upset, punching the walls around him. Ali comes in quietly behind him, and he doesn't even notice, still punching at the wall.

ALI

"What's your problem?"

JOHN

"Ohhh, look who decides to show  
up. What, you don't understand  
this? Is it too much for you?"

ALI

"I just see that you're being an  
asshole"

JOHN

"What? What? You're telling me?  
You're the one who's been the  
bitch around here, treating me  
like shit"

ALI

"So now it's me who has the  
problem?"

JOHN

"You are the problem, damnit!  
What the hell are you doing in  
here, anyways?"

ALI

"I saw you freak out, and I just  
wanted to see how far you'd go."

JOHN

"Fuck you, Ali, fuck you. You  
know, it's people like you that  
got me here in the first place.  
If people like you didn't exist,  
then I wouldn't have to be  
drinking, and I'd be just fine,  
and I wouldn't be in a shit hole  
like this"

ALI

"Fine then. If I'm the reason  
you're here, then why don't you  
just hit me?"

JOHN

"What?"

ALI

"Yeah, you don't like being in  
here, you say it's all people  
like me to blame, so why don't  
you just take it out?"

JOHN

"I'm not some sicko that just  
goes around beating women."



ALI

"Well, I'm asking for it, come on, just do it. I'm waiting"

JOHN

"I... I can't do it. I see you, and I... I just can't hit you... you just seem too special."

Ali rushes up, and grabs hold of John in a giant hug, never wanting to let go. John is shocked, but it's just where he's wanted to be since he met her, so he wraps his arms back around her. They both feel the magic between them.

### **MONTAGE**

Starting in the Meeting room, where an ugly, misshapen man is standing up in front of the crowd, while Ali and John look past him at one another.

The cafeteria, where Susan is getting easily upset at why her utensils aren't quite right, as John makes sweet hand gestures and Ali giggles.

The Theatre room, where they sit next to each other, laughing at the same scenes about how an alcoholic is losing everything, and a drug addicted prostitute gets what's coming to her.

DOCTOR PHILLIPS

"Now look, you two, I've seen how you two are, and it's obvious that something is sparking. It's not often that I do this, but I will keep the two of you around, as long as you're not turning it into some sort of relationship. If that's how it goes, I could lose my job, this whole place can go under. I don't want to stop you guys, but you just can't push me with it. Do we have a deal?"

Cut to:

**INT - DOCTOR PHILLIPS OFFICE - DAY**

John and Ali look at each other, seated in the chairs in front of Doctor Phillips, smiling, then they look back towards Doctor Phillips.

JOHN  
"Deal."

ALI  
"Deal."

**INT - ELK CREEK CAFETERIA**

John is sitting at a table, eating his usual mush, when Richard comes out of nowhere and sits down at his table.

RICHARD  
"I hear you're going to be getting out, soon..."

JOHN  
"Yep, just a few more days to go."

RICHARD  
"I've been thinking about my son, after I told you about him. I haven't seen him in a long time, and I can't forget a part of him..."

JOHN  
"so... what part is that?"

RICHARD  
"His essence, his one, his being, what makes him. I have a feeling that he is sensing the same from me."

JOHN  
"Well, why don't you just go out and see him?"

RICHARD  
"No no no, he wanted me to be here, and I respect his wishes. I just want you to bring him

something. I can feel your power,  
I know you can be trusted."

Richard puts a small vial of a clear liquid onto the table.

JOHN  
"What is this?"

RICHARD  
"It is my essence, it is what  
makes me. I want him to have it.  
I have spent many a moon  
collecting it."

John tries to smell it, but gets automatically disgusted

JOHN  
"God, Richard, is that your  
sweat??"

RICHARD  
"It is, my essence."

**EXT - ELK CREEK FRONT GATES - DAY**

John is getting his release from rehab. He's wearing the same clothes that he came in with, but looks much cleaner, shaven, ready to take on the world.

He stands in front of Ali as he's about to leave.

ALI  
"Don't you be forgetting about me  
in here."

JOHN  
"You know I won't. I'll be back  
in just a couple days to get you  
out of here."

Ali smiles up at him, as John leaps in for a quick, cement hug, trying to act as just friends in their last moment. John hops into a shuttle that's set to go back to the city.

**EXT - BEVERLY'S HOUSE - DAY**

John gets out of the shuttle, seeing that the house is an entirely different color than it was before, and with a whole different setup to what he remembered.

He walks up to the house, and knocks on the door. Nothing happens, so he opens the door and lets himself in.

JOHN

"Hello? Mom? Anybody?"

TODD, a muscular man, not much older than John, with a shaved tanned chest comes out from the hallways. John looks at him, not knowing who he is, and obviously a bit freaked out.

TODD

"Can I help you?"

JOHN

"Who the hell are you?"

TODD

"Who the hell are you, barging in here? Do I have to call the cops?"

JOHN (yelling, worried)

"Mommm?"

TODD

"Ohh, you must be Beverly's son, John. I guess you got out from the drunk tank, huh?"

JOHN

"Yeah, I have. And you are?"

TODD

"Just a friend of your Mom. She's out getting herself done up right now, if you come back this evening, maybe you'll catch her."

JOHN

"Hey buddy, this is my place, and I'm sticking around"

TODD (quietly laughs)

"No you're not."

JOHN

"What do you mean? Who are you again?"

TODD

"Look, I can understand why your Mom put you in that home. I heard stories of what you've been doing, and I think it was a good thing that she put you in your place. Now, she deserves some respect from you, so just get the hell out of here, and maybe you can see her after she gets back."

JOHN

"You can't do that."

TODD

"What, you wanna try me? Think you could get past me?"

JOHN

"Hell yes I could! You don't scare me!"

Todd stands up, his muscles pumping. John gets more freaked out, and starts backing up towards the door.

JOHN

"Yeah, buddy, you don't scare me, I just... would rather go somewhere else... yeah, that's right, you heard me!"

John quickly turns around and rushes out the door, Todd locks it behind him, and goes back to his tanning room.

#### **EXT - DEPARTMENT STORE**

John hops out of a cab, back at his old place of work. It still looks the same, which is quite comforting to John. He walks in the front door.

**INT - DEPARTMENT STORE**

John walks in, but sees that all sorts of things have changed, different sales, different setup. John goes up to the customer service desk, where a teenage girl with glasses and pimples stands, looking sweet but dweeby.

JOHN

"Well hello there, I was wondering, is Steven around?"

CUSTOMER SERVICE GIRL

"Steven? You mean from footwear?"

JOHN

"Footwear? No. I'm talking about Steven, the big boss? The man upstairs?"

CUSTOMER SERVICE GIRL

"Noooo, sorry, but that's not the boss's name. Are you talking about Mister Jeffery?"

JOHN

"Mister Jeffery? Did Steven move up to something else?"

CUSTOMER SERVICE GIRL

"I really don't know what you're talking about, sir."

JOHN

"Ok, ok, then just let me see Mister Jeffery"

The customer service girl leans into the mic, bumping her face on it as the noise rings across the store.

CUSTOMER SERVICE GIRL

"Mister Jeffery to Customer Service, Mister Jeffery. (moves away from the microphone) He'll be right down."

JOHN

"Thanks..."

John moves back away from the counter, looking back and forth, waiting for Mister Jeffery. Long silence with just the mellow ambient music in the background of the store, while the Customer Service Girl and John just stare each other down, smiling. Mister Jeffery, a young 20s, quick moving, stylish man approaches the front desk.

MISTER JEFFERY

"Yessss, you called for me?"

CUSTOMER SERVICE GIRL

"This man would like to speak  
with you."

John steps forward, as Mister Jeffery nearly launches himself at John, pushing his hand out to shake John's, before John can even realize what's happening.

MISTER JEFFERY

"Hey there! Good to meet you, how  
can I make your acquaintance?"

JOHN

"I'm... John... good to meet you  
do. I'm wondering, what happened  
to Steven?"

Mister Jeffery puts his arm over John's shoulders, and starts walking him away from the customer service desk.

MISTER JEFFERY

"Ohhhh, Steven. Well, Steven had  
a few problems with the company.  
He had gotten a bit into working  
behind our backs, so, we had to  
let him go."

JOHN

"Working behind your back? What  
are you talking about?"

MISTER JEFFERY

"Wellllll, he was stealing from  
the company. Some people say it  
was because he didn't like us,  
some people say it was to go out

buying drugs, some people say he got a real love for, women of the street, if you know what I'm saying. But hey, who am I to judge?"

JOHN

"Oh... well... I hope he's alright."

MISTER JEFFERY

"Oh yeah, oh yeah, he's fine, no problem. Just, he's not going to be coming back to the company, any time soon."

JOHN

"Well, that's kind of what I came here for. See, I used to work for Steven, and I had a few things to clear up, but, now I'm back! Now, I want to give a hundred and ten percent!"

MISTER JEFFERY

"Sssssss, well, you know, we're already filled up to capacity. I've even heard some things about having to send some of our employees off. I'm sorry James, but we just can't be bringing you on board. But, just keep on coming back and trying! I'm sure we'll fit a spot for you one of these days, just, don't be holding your breath for it."

Mister Jeffery pats John on the stomach, and walks away from him. John is just left, staring out blankly into space.

**EXT - HOTEL CRAP - DUSK**

John exits another Taxi, and stares up at a rundown hotel in the more dirty, gang part of town. He walks to the door.

**INT - HOTEL CRAP ROOM**



John lies down in a cheap, mistreated bed, looking up with a blank stare on his face.

**INT - HOTEL CRAP ROOM - MORNING**

John is still lying in bed looking up, like he had never moved throughout the night.

**EXT - BUSINESS TOWER - DAY**

John stumbles through the busy streets, to a massive building, holding the vial that Richard gave him in his hand. He looks down at it, and back to the front doors as he enters.

**INT - BUSINESS TOWER**

John walks in, around some of the people to get to the front desk, he limps to the desk, as the RECEPTIONIST looks up at him

JOHN

"Yes, hello, yes, I'm here to see a mister, Surreptitious?"

RECEPTIONIST

"Pardon me?"

JOHN

"Yeah, Surreptitious Gibson? I know his Dad, and he gave me this little gift for him."

RECEPTIONIST

"You mean Spencer Gibson? I'm sorry, but he's busy for the day."

JOHN

"Really, I'll just be a moment, I won't be a problem"

RECEPTIONIST

"No, he's not taking anyone, today. If you like, we can set up an appointment for you."

JOHN

"No, no, that's ok, I'll just get

in touch with him."

John walks away from the reception desk, and looks around.

He sees a tablet on the wall, seeing that Gibson is on the 24<sup>th</sup> floor.

He stealthily goes towards the elevator, and hops on with a group of people.

#### **INT - ELEVATOR**

John pushes his hand towards the 24 button, but it's already swiped by someone just before him.

He cowers to the back, while the whole elevator of suits is incredibly silent, their shoes making more noise than them.

The elevator hits number 24, and John exits.

#### **INT - SPENCER'S OFFICE**

John walks in the door, and sees Spencer's secretary at the front desk.

SECRETARY

"Yes? Do you have an appointment?"

JOHN

"Uhh, yeah, I have a 10am with Mister Gibson."

SECRETARY

"I don't have you listed on here... have you spoken with Mister Gibson about this?"

Spencer's door suddenly blasts open, as Spencer, the well dressed businessman, holding a cell phone to his head, shouts at the secretary

SPENCER

"God Damn it, Julia, why the hell did you set my meeting for twelve o'clock and the papers for two? What's wrong with you? And the

coffee this morning is shit, and here's a million more problems with you. And who the hell is this guy?"

JOHN

"Surreptitious? I know your Dad, he wanted me to come see you?"

SPENCER

"Oh Jesus, what, is he dead? Damnit, ok, come in here, and Julia, get me some better coffee for once!"

#### **INT - SPENCER'S DESK**

The room is wide, but cluttered. John sits down as Spencer keeps moving back and forth

JOHN

"He's not dead, I just met him, in rehab."

SPENCER

"Met him? What? Well, good that he's not dead, bad that you were talking to him. Is he still out of his head?"

JOHN

"Well, I guess you could say that. He seemed like a good man."

SPENCER

"You didn't know him back when he was raising me, let me tell you, that guy has done more than all the hippies combined! Man got arrested over and over, did he tell you about that? Public indecency, theft, all sorts of little things. Care homes wouldn't take him, so now I'm paying out over a hundred a year just to keep that man safe! Good man, bah! Man doesn't know what

life really is, I had to do that,  
mister."

JOHN

"Well, sorry, I mean, I didn't  
know. Look, he just told me to  
give you something, so I came by  
to give you this."

John takes the vial out and places it on the desk

SPENCER

"God damnit... that man just  
doesn't get it. Did he put you up  
to this? Did he pay you for it?"

JOHN

"What? No, he just wanted to get  
it to you, I just wanted to  
help."

SPENCER

"Ok, buddy, I've had enough of  
your bullshit, and I have a shit  
load to get done out here, so get  
out of my fuckin' office."

JOHN

"Ok, ok... just... maybe you  
should see him sometime."

SPENCER

"Get the fuck out, faggot."

#### **EXT - ELK CREEK ENTRANCE**

A taxi approaches the front of rehab, and John stumbles as he  
hops out.

A security guard comes out and looks at him funny, as John  
approaches him.

JOHN

"Good day, sir!"

The guard stares down John, as he goes into the building,  
himself.

**INT - ELK CREEK ENTRY**

John walks inside, looking back and forth with a smile.

He finally sees Ali, filling out papers at the front desk.

He stands still behind her as he sees her, just waiting for her to turn around.

She continues with the forms, and turns, suspecting to see John waiting there.

ALI

"I'm out... I'm out!"

Ali rushes over to John and leaps in the air as they hug. John spins her around in the air. Doctor Phillips opens a door next to Security Guard 2 in the background and peers at the two of them suspiciously.

DOCTOR PHILLIPS

"I sure hope this won't be like  
last time."

Security Guard 2 grunts and nods his head, as Ali and John retract from hugging and stare lovingly into eachother's eyes.

**INT - TAXI CAB**

Ali and John are sitting together in the backseat of the taxi. They go away from rehab and into the city. John keeps his eyes focused on Ali, while Ali looks out the window plainly.

**EXT - DOWNTOWN CITY STREETS**

John opens up the taxi side door for Ali, as she comes out, happy to be back in the busy city. He leads her down the streets, and starts talking, as Ali stays quiet.

JOHN

"I have been thinking about you ever since I left. I mean, things haven't exactly been going the easiest, I've had to focus a lot on getting a place to live and where to be getting work... but

you have been on my mind so  
much..."

John opens a door to a Coffee Shop, and lets Ali walk in first,  
as he continues talking

**INT - COFFEE SHOP**

John walks into the lineup leading to the front counter with Ali

JOHN

"... I mean, I've been thinking  
about how everything would go  
once you got out, too. Maybe I'm  
completely different then how you  
got to know me, or maybe you're  
completely different then how I  
got to know you? You know?"

They reach the front, and John looks at the barrista

JOHN

"Yes, I'll take just a tall  
coffee, and she'll get a  
chocolate mocha."

John looks back to Ali

JOHN

"Is that right?"

Ali just looks up at him, with a faint smile, looking into his  
eyes.

**EXT - DOWNTOWN CITY STREETS**

John and Ali, now with coffee in hand, walk down the streets  
towards the city park.

JOHN

"So, I've been thinking about it.  
I mean, I've been going over the  
possibilities and the ups and the  
downs, would it be better if the  
two of us were staying more  
together or if we should be  
keeping apart..."

They walk into an entrance to the city park.

**EXT - CITY PARK**

John and Ali walk down the path next to a calm creek, towards a wooden bench that's looking onto the stream.

JOHN

"...so I laid it out, in a system of pros and cons, to go over everything. I admit it, there are cons, and there are problems that we could be facing. I mean, we're both former addicts, so we're going to have to be staying away from everything we did before.

That's why Doctor Phillips was telling us to be staying apart in the first place, because I could find someone through you, or you through me, or who knows. Or, maybe it's that we just don't know eachother. We learned from eachother in a place so far from home, at a time that might have been the worst we've ever seen.

I've heard that isn't the best place to be making decisions on a direction like this."

The two of them sit down on the bench.

JOHN

"But, there are some really great pros that go against those problems. I mean, you are just wonderful. I get this feeling whenever I see you like I've never had with anyone else. You are just such a beautiful woman, like I've never seen before in my life... and we both had problems, but that means that we both know how to help eachother around those problems. We can just see what the other is doing, without

having to ask, and without having to search through our things, we'd just know. I want to help you, Ali, being around you makes me want to be a knight in shining armour, and I want to help you and do everything I can for you. I mean... I just want you."

John looks deeply into Ali's eyes

JOHN

"So, I just have to know, Ali, can I kiss you?"

Ali keeps looking at him, silently, but the light smile never left her face, a twinkle in her eye just calls to John, as he leans in, holds her cheek, and pushes his lips into hers.

He goes too quickly first, bumping into her, as she moves her head back in shock.

They pull away for a short moment, then softly move into their mouths again, now with a passionate, deep kiss, just on the lips.

Ali collapses into his arms, as he pulls her closer, her eyes softly closed.

Their lips move apart from each others, and Ali slowly opens her eyes again, looking right into John.

ALI

"I've wanted you to do that since the first moment I saw you. What took you so long?"

John just smiles back at Ali, staying quiet.

#### **INT - HOTEL CRAP**

John brings Ali back to the hotel he's rented. She looks around, seeing the big gaps of space alongside the small clutters. It's a very male type household.

JOHN

"So, this is the place. It's



probably not exactly what you  
were looking for, but I think..."

Ali leaps up to John, wrapping her arms around the back of his neck and her legs around his waist, as she kisses him over and over again passionately.

John understands, and he carries her over to the bed, lying her down and quickly undoing her clothes.

Ali does the same to John, undoing his pants and pushing them down.

JOHN

"Wow, this is amazing, it's  
everything I could have wanted.  
Is this what you wanted, too?  
What can I do to make this even  
better?"

Ali stops, and stares up at him, confused.

ALI

"Shut up, and fuck me."

JOHN

"You got it"

Ali presses her index finger against John's lips.

ALI

"Shhh, just fuck me"

#### **INT - HOTEL CRAP - MORNING**

Ali and John wake up in the same bed in the morning, smiling and cuddling. John kisses Ali's forehead, and starts getting up out of bed.

ALI

"Where are you off to, mister?"

JOHN

"Well, if I wanna keep you  
around, then I have to get  
something a bit better than  
this."

ALI  
"We can make it work"

JOHN  
"Not for my lady, I want you to  
have nothing but the best."

Ali looks up and smiles at him, as John ties up his tie.

**INT - JOB INTERVIEW MONTAGE**

John goes to interview after interview, all of the interviewers looking a bit more suspicious of him.

An older, suited LAWYER, with his massive stacks of dictionary seeming books behind his leather chair. He shows his pinky ring finger as he holds up John's resume. John looks scared, but smiling at him.

A middle aged, COLLARED working man with slight coffee stains off the side of his shirt. His office is hectic with papers, alongside his more organized desk space. John is more confident, nodding and understanding.

A geeky looking young 20's guy, with ZITS covering his forehead. He's wearing an orange polo shirt with a "Chicken Lady" logo in the corner. He looks stoned with his jaw dropped as he tries to read through the resume. John looks plainly at him.

JOHN (to Lawyer)  
"No, I haven't been working quite  
in this direction, but I'm ready  
and prepared to move forward..."

JOHN (to COLLARED)  
"...in the same direction as what  
I've been doing for years now.  
I'm ready right now..."

JOHN (to ZITS)  
"...to clean the floors, wipe out  
the toilets, take direction, I've  
worked in the field for years  
now."

All three of the interviewers put down the resume, and reach their hand out to John

LAWYER, COLLARED, & ZITS  
"We'll call you."

John shakes their hands, and looks down at the ground as he walks out.

#### **EXT - HOTEL CRAP**

John gets out of the cab and sighs as he gets back home, stressed, but happy to get back with Ali

#### **INT - HOTEL ROOM**

John walks into his place, but looks confused as he starts noticing differences.

There are now 30 pairs of shoes where he originally had just one. He walks down the hall as he sees pictures added to the walls, and flowers and plants spread around the room.

Ali is sitting with a dirty looking, super thin woman, wearing trashy clothes, on the bed, watching TV.

JOHN  
"Is this the same place I left?"

ALI  
"Of course it is, silly."

JOHN  
"And... I don't think we've met?"

ALI  
"Oh my god, I'm sorry. John, this is my old friend, Stacy, and Stacy, this is my man, John."

The two shake hands

STACY  
"Oh, I've heard a lot about you.  
You are pretty hot."

Ali slaps Stacy on the shoulder and laughs.

ALI

"Sooooo, how did the interviews go?"

JOHN

"Man, I don't want to talk about it... it's all just geeks and dweebs and nerds."

ALI

"Awww, tough day?"

JOHN

"Where did you put my chair?"

ALI

"Oh, you didn't need that. I left it out back"

JOHN

"What? But that was my favourite!"

ALI

"Don't you worry, the bed is going to work out just fine. Besides that was just taking up space."

STACY

"Yeah, you should be happy that we got rid of it."

John keeps looking around, shocked. A phone rings. John has to look around, and move some flowers out of the way to find the phone.

JOHN

"Hello? Yes! Yes! Thats great! Thank you so much!"

ALI

"Did you get it? Which one?"

JOHN

"It's the restaurant... not the

best, but better than fast food."

ALI

"That's great!"

JOHN

"Looks like this man is moving forward!"

#### **INT - FAMILY RESTAURANT - DAY**

John in an apron moves around a busy, Denny's style restaurant, pulling plates off the tables and into a rubber bin he carries around.

Families with young kids are spread throughout.

One kid is crying and whining, another is angry at their parents, another refuses to eat, while another can't eat enough.

John keeps cleaning up, trying to be friendly, but is overwhelmed.

#### **EXT - DIRTY STREETS**

Stacy is walking through the alley, keeping her eyes peeled for someone to sell to her. She spots Michael next to a dumpster, and approaches him.

STACY

"Heyyyy big boy. You'll never guess who I ran into."

MICHAEL

"What? She's out?"

STACY

"Yep, saw her just the other day."

MICHAEL

"Where is she? God I've missed that woman..."

STACY

"Well, I guess that all depends. How much is she worth to you?"

MICHAEL

"Jesus, c'mon woman, you know I can't be just giving it away."

STACY

"I guess you don't need to know, then."

MICHAEL

"Ok, ok, I'll give you half a gram for it."

STACY

"You better hit me for it, too."

MICHAEL

"Fine, fine."

Michael gets up and away from the dumpster, waving his hand for Stacy to follow. Stacy looks very excited.

#### **INT - DIRTY DRUG HOUSE**

Michael walks into his place, with Stacy following him.

He waves her to sit down off in the corner.

She puts her arm out, and he sits down in front of her, tying a plastic strip around her arm, slapping it, and then injecting a needle into it.

Stacy looks up to the ceiling looking like shes half asleep.

MICHAEL

"Where did you see her?"

STACY

"What are you talking about?"

MICHAEL

"You know exactly what I'm talking about."

STACY

"Just... just... give me a minute."

MICHAEL

"I did my part, now do your part  
for it."

STACY

"Nah, man, I don't know... what  
you're talking about..."

Michael stands up, and paces back, then moves towards her, and slaps her across the face. It takes a few moments for Stacy to even notice.

MICHAEL

"I gave you that for a reason!  
Now you just wanna fuck with me?"

STACY

"Fuck! Don't do that man!"

Michael goes over to the kitchen, and grabs a large knife.

MICHAEL

"Well then just tell me where she  
is!"

STACY

"Ok, ok! I saw her with a guy.  
They're living over at the  
gardens outside downtown."

MICHAEL

"She's with someone? Who the fuck  
is he?"

STACY

"I don't know, some guy she met  
in rehab."

Michael drops the knife to the ground, his eyes tearing up. He sits back down in the chair right in front of Stacy.

MICHAEL

"Well I'm gonna get him."

Michael lifts his foot up onto a stool in front of him, and preps a needle to shoot heroin between his toes.

**INT - HOTEL CRAP - DUSK**

John gets home, extremely tired, looking like a mess. He walks in the door, and flops right down on the bed. Ali is sitting and watching TV, smoking a cigarette.

ALI

"Hey baby, how was day one?"

JOHN

"I almost wish I could be drinking again."

Ali passes the cigarette over to him, and he takes a puff.

ALI

"Come on, don't do that."

JOHN

"I know, I know, it's just all those kids, they drive me nuts."

ALI

"kids are sweet."

JOHN

"Not these ones. I mean, I don't know what their parents did to them, but these ones are just crazy."

ALI

"Well, don't you worry, it's just me and you, here."

Ali takes the cigarette back out of John's hand, then leans down to kiss him.

John looks up with a smile.

**EXT - HOTEL CRAP - NIGHT**

Michael is sitting in his parked car, looking up to the window of John and Ali as they kiss.



He crushes the cigarette he's smoking, and tosses it out the car. He sits and continues to watch.

**INT - HOTEL CRAP**

John and Ali are sitting calmly watching TV, Ali's fingers running gently through John's hair. John picks up the cigarette pack, and realizes it's empty.

JOHN  
"Ah crap."

ALI  
"Just get to sleep, we'll worry about it in the morning."

JOHN  
"But I got to get back to work right away."

John crumbles the pack in his hand, and sits up in the bed, putting his shoes on

ALI  
"Awww, I don't want you to go."

JOHN  
"Don't you worry, I'll be back in a few minutes."

ALI  
"Think you could get me some ice cream while you're out?"

JOHN  
"Sure baby."

John smiles, and leaves.

**EXT - HOTEL CRAP**

John walks out the front door of the hotel, and starts going down the street.

Michael sees him exit as he's smoking from a metal pipe.

He quickly tosses the pipe to the side, and gets out of the car.

John turns around the corner into the alley and keeps walking.

Michael is approaching from behind.

MICHAEL  
"Hey asshole!"

John is shocked, looks around, then turns to Michael.

JOHN  
"Huh?"

MICHAEL  
"What the hell do you think  
you're doing?"

JOHN  
"I'm just going out to get some  
smokes"

MICHAEL  
"That ain't what I'm talking  
about."

Michael gets close to him, and punches John in the stomach. John  
grabs his stomach and keels over.

MICHAEL  
"I'm saying, what the hell do you  
think you're doing with my  
Woman?"

JOHN (gasping)  
"I don't even know your woman!"

MICHAEL  
"Ali, mother fucker! That's my  
girl!"

JOHN  
"What?"

Michael punches John in the face, this time knocking him over,  
and he collides with the wall, and onto the ground.

MICHAEL

"I want you, to get the hell away  
from my woman, and out of this  
fuckin' city. You hear me?"

JOHN  
"Yeah, yeah..."

MICHAEL  
"I'm gonna be watching you. I'm  
watching"

Michael starts backing up, and gets away from the alley. John is holding his face, his nose bleeding.

**INT - HOTEL CRAP**

John walks in, holding his bleeding face. Ali leaps from the bed.

ALI  
"Oh my god, what happened?"

JOHN  
"Some guy jumped me outside."

ALI  
"What? No. Are you crazy? Let me  
get you some ice."

ALI leaves to the kitchen, John follows her.

JOHN  
"The guy told me to get out, that  
he wants you back."

ALI  
"I don't know who he is. Come  
here"

Ali puts the ice up to Johns forehead, John grabs her wrist.

JOHN  
"Well he knows you. Is there  
something you're not telling me  
about?"

ALI

"I dunno, it must have been some  
freak that knew me back a long  
time ago, but it's different  
now."

JOHN

"Oh, so you do know him?"

ALI

"I don't know! Jesus, John, just  
let me help you."

John stares Ali down, while she looks away, applying the ice.

**INT - HOTEL CRAP - MORNING**

Alarm buzzes, John struggles out of bed with his black eye.  
Sitting up he looks over at Ali and groans.

JOHN

"C'mon baby, get out of bed."

ALI

"Ughhh, I ain't feeling so well  
this morning."

John gets up

JOHN

"You want coffee?"

ALI

"Just toast."

**EXT - HOTEL CRAP**

John walks out the door drinking from his to-go cup of coffee  
and eating a bagel.

He goes down the street, as Michael is hiding out from the  
alley, watching him leave.

When John is gone, Michael walks up to their hotel's front door,  
waits until the next person comes out, and grabs the door, to  
walk inside.

**INT - HOTEL CRAP**

Ali is still in bed. She sits up, her face looking queasy.

She suddenly runs to the washroom, and throws up all over the toilet.

Loud bang on the door.

She gets up, and walks slowly towards the door. She opens it, and sees Michael right in front of her.

She gasps and tries to slam the door shut, but Michael gets his foot in the way.

MICHAEL

"C'mon baby, I just wanna talk!"

ALI

"I got away from you for a reason!"

Michael pushes at the door, Ali falling backward onto the ground.

Michael walks in, looking down at her. She tries crawling away from the door.

MICHAEL

"Ah baby, do you know how long it's been since I saw you? You've put on pounds."

ALI

"Shut up, asshole."

MICHAEL

"Who left?"

ALI

"Just get the fuck out."

MICHAEL

"I met your boyfriend last night. How long you planning on keeping him around for?"

ALI

"I love him, Michael, he really helps me, he knows what I'm going through."

MICHAEL

"Helps you? The man can't even fight for himself! Did you see what I did to him? Now I, can help you."

ALI

"You're what put me into rehab"

MICHAEL

"Rehab? That's where you went? Jesus, I thought you found another shmuck who gave you a better deal."

ALI

"I got off it. Doesn't look like you can say the same."

MICHAEL

"I don't need to, it helps me, makes me feel great."

ALI

"Makes you look like shit."

MICHAEL

"Ahh, now that's what I loved about you, come here."

Michael goes over to Ali, starting trying to cuddle her, but Ali grabs something important behind her, and smashes him in the face with it. It shatters, and he's hurt, moving backwards.

ALI

"Don't touch me!"

Michael holds his head, Ali holds her stomach, looking sick again. He approaches her again, and Ali throws up all over him.

MICHAEL

"Jesus! Jesus! Look Ali, your

head has been really messed up. I just want to be helping you, but that doesn't look like what your man wants, too."

Ali recomposes herself

ALI

"Just get away from us!"

MICHAEL

"Ok, ok. But you watch out."

Michael leaves the apartment a mess. Ali leans against the wall, holding her stomach, weeping.

#### **EXT - HOTEL CRAP ALLEY**

Ali sneaks out the back door, looking around her to make sure Michael isn't there.

She rushes off down the street.

Michael is sitting in his car across the road, and sees Ali walking down the street.

#### **INT - FAMILY RESTAURANT**

John is hard at work, cleaning off tables that are covered in junk.

Ali comes in, looking messed up, just out of bed, but like an addict.

She looks around the whole place, and sees John towards the back. She rushes over to him, and grabs his shirt.

ALI

"John, John, I'm sorry, you're right, I'm so sorry"

JOHN

"What? What's going on?"

ALI

"We gotta get out of here."

JOHN

"I can't leave now, I'm at work"

ALI

"I don't care, we gotta get out  
of the city!"

JOHN

"You're acting like an idiot,  
just let me get back to work."

ALI

"It's not safe here!"

JOHN

"We're going to be fine."

ALI

"I know who came after you, and  
he came after me, and he's going  
to come after us again."

JOHN

"What?"

ALI

"And, I'm... we have to stay  
safe!"

JOHN

"We're going to be alright. I'll  
call the police and they'll take  
care of that guy. You have got to  
stop worrying."

ALI

"It's not me I'm worried about,  
it's us."

JOHN

"We're going to be fine."

ALI

"I'm getting the hell out of  
here, and you can either join me  
or not."



John looks baffled.

**INT - HOTEL CRAP - DUSK**

John walks in, and their whole place has been turned into a mess. Ali is going crazy putting everything together into bags and boxes.

JOHN

"Jesus, honey, what the hell are you doing?"

ALI

"I don't care, I'm getting away from here."

JOHN

"What are you so worried about? If that asshole comes back, we'll just call the cops."

ALI

"The cops aren't going to help!"

JOHN

"What are you talking about?"

ALI

"John, I'm pregnant!"

John's eyes widen in shock.

**EXT - HOTEL CRAP**

Ali is running wild, stuffing her boxes into the car.

John is a stone, no emotion, as he helps moving things into the car.

Ali keeps pushing back and forth, from the front door to the car.

John pulls out his cell phone.

JOHN

"Look, I'm really sorry, but I can't be coming back. No, it's

just, personal reasons. No, I'm  
not coming in then."

John is carrying so much, that he accidentally drops the phone.  
He struggles to pick it up.

JOHN  
"What? No, I'm just not coming  
back. I can't. Jesus!"

John hangs up the phone, and keeps moving things into the car.

The two of them get in, and start driving away fast.

**INT - JOHN'S CAR - NIGHT**

John is driving fast down the highway, both him and Ali looking  
out silently, not making eye contact.

JOHN  
"Who the hell was that?"

ALI  
"He was just an old friend of  
mine."

JOHN  
"The guy was messed up."

ALI  
"Yeah, well, he helped me out."

JOHN  
"Helped you? What? Got you  
smack?"

ALI  
"Jesus, John. It wasn't so easy  
for me."

JOHN  
"It's not like I was living the  
high life, either. I mean, I got  
into drinking because I didn't  
want to be dealing with shit, and  
now it's like I'm in shit so big  
that I'm drowning in it! I'm

drowning in shit, Ali, it's over my head, and I can taste it on my tounge. And you know what? It sucks! This whole thing sucks! What the hell am I going to do?"

Silence between the two.

JOHN

"Well? What am I going to do?"

Ali is tearing up. She's much quieter.

ALI

"I don't know. I don't know why you even went with me."

JOHN

"I don't know either. We got to get through this. What you told me better have not been a lie."

ALI

"It's not, it's yours."

John reaches his hand over and puts it on Ali's stomach. They look eachother in the eyes for a moment, and John goes back to driving.

#### **EXT - HIGHWAY**

John and Ali pass by in their car, followed by Michael behind them.

#### **INT - MICHAEL'S CAR**

Michael is driving along, looking wasted. He reaches into his pouch, pulling out a small vial of powder, and snorts it up. He suddenly gets far more awake.

#### **EXT - HOTEL SHIT - MORNING**

John and Ali pull up to a place that's even worse than the original hotel they were staying at.

They get out of the car, wasted, and walk inside.

Michael pulls up behind them, watching them go in, but he stays in the car, curling up in the driver's seat to go to sleep.

**INT - HOTEL SHIT LOBBY**

John carries the bags in, and Ali follows with nothing.

John drops everything onto the ground in front of the front desk, in front of BOB, an overweight, disgruntled attendant with a nametag. John is wasted.

JOHN

"Can we get a room for the night?"

BOB

"Night? It's eight in the morning"

JOHN

"Well we just got here, so can we please just set up a room?"

BOB

"I can't do that, buddy, you gotta come back after three."

JOHN

"Look, Bob, we just want to get it set up, and we can come back later."

BOB

"Sorry, Buddy, but I can't set up a room for you until after three, unless you want to pay for last night, too."

JOHN

"Jesus. Fine, fine. We'll do it."

Ali looks bothered as John starts signing the papers.

**INT - ROOM SHIT**

John and Ali carry their things into their room on their own. The room is tiny, with just a small bed in the middle.

They dump their things in the middle of the room, and fall over onto the bed.

They stare upwards, until Ali rolls over to cuddle with John. He reaches his arm around her.

ALI

"I hope this isn't where we're going to be raising our child."

JOHN

"This is just where we start.  
It's going to get better"

ALI

"God I hope so."

#### **INT - ROOM SHIT BATHROOM**

John is cleaning his face off, shirtless, in front of the mirror.

He stares at himself, jaw hanging. He puts his hands in the water and splashes his face.

His look hasn't changed.

#### **EXT - PUB 1**

John drives up to the Pub he used to go to with his friends. He takes a deep breath, and walks into the Pub.

#### **INT - PUB 1**

John walks in, and sees Bartender 1 standing behind the counter. He gives John an evil eye as he's cleaning a mug.

BARTENDER 1

"Well well well, look what the  
cat dragged in."

JOHN

"Yeah, it's good to see you,  
too."

BARTENDER 1

"Well, you don't look drunk, yet.  
What can I get for you?"

JOHN

"I didn't come here to drink.  
I... I need a job, and I thought  
that maybe you could help me  
out."

BARTENDER 1

"Give you a job? Are you serious?  
After the mess you made before?"

JOHN

"I know I did, and I'm sorry.  
It's just... if there's something  
I know, it's drinks, and I went  
to rehab, and haven't had a drink  
for months now, and I'm going to  
keep it that way."

BARTENDER 1

"Yeah, I heard about you smashing  
up that car. What was it, a cat  
on the road?"

JOHN

"No, that was me. I'm getting  
through it all. I just need a new  
start. So will you help me out?"

Bartender 1 keeps looking at him, putting down the glass.

BARTENDER 1

"You're lucky, we just lost a guy  
last week. Think you could come  
in, tonight?"

John perks up.

#### **EXT - DIRTY DOWNTOWN**

Michael walks down an alley, shaking, looking around all over  
the place.

He sees a junkie, BUDDY, sitting next to a dumpster, nearly  
asleep.

MICHAEL

"Hey, hey buddy. You know anyone  
in this city?"

BUDDY

"Huh?"

MICHAEL

"C'mon, man, you know what I'm  
talking about. Where can I get  
some?"

BUDDY

"I don't know what the fuck  
you're talking about."

MICHAEL

"Oh yeah?"

Michael dashes up to Buddy, and kicks him in the stomach.

He puts his foot down on Buddy's head, then starts going through  
his pockets, pulling out a tiny plastic bag with white powder  
inside.

Buddy is groaning.

MICHAEL

"Oh, so you don't know anybody,  
huh?"

Michael kicks Buddy, and walks away from him.

#### **INT - HOTEL SHIT**

John rushes in the front door, very excited. He finds Ali lying  
down on the bed.

JOHN

"I got one! I got it! It was easy  
this time!"

ALI

"You got a job? Already? That's  
great! Did you go back to your  
old place?"

JOHN  
"Well, sort of..."

ALI  
"What do you mean?"

JOHN  
"I got a job back at the bar I  
used to go to."

ALI  
"What? You can't be going there!  
I thought that we were trying to  
get away from all that?"

JOHN  
"It's just, I don't know anyone  
in this city, except there. I  
couldn't get anything at  
Frankies."

ALI  
"Oh man, you're going to get back  
onto it. I just know it."

JOHN  
"No I'm not. I want to do  
something for you, I want to do  
something for us, and I need to  
start right away."

ALI  
"And you're just going to get  
back into drinking again, and  
you'll be off to rehab again, or  
jail, or dead, and your child is  
going to have nothing. You god  
damn dickhead."

John looks down

JOHN  
"I just need something now, and I  
know that place. I have work,  
tonight!"



ALI

"And then you're going to be getting drunk all over again, I just know it."

JOHN

"I'm not doing that. You just gotta trust me."

**INT - PUB 1 - DUSK**

John is behind the counter, pouring a beer into a cup with perfection.

He serves it up onto the counter, as Chris and Tom walk in.

TOM

"John! You're back! What the hell are you doing behind the counter?"

JOHN

"I'm working here. What can I get for you guys?"

CHRIS

"You can get me drunk is what you can do!"

Tom and Chris laugh. John doesn't get the joke, He starts pouring beer for the two of them.

JOHN

"So, what have you guys been up to while I was gone?"

TOM

"Ah, you know, the usual, work, drink, sleep, work, drink, sleep. You're lucky, now you got two in one."

JOHN

"No no no, I'm past that now."

CHRIS

"Come on, man, we know you. Why

else would you start working here?"

JOHN

"I learned a lot while I was gone. I never want to drink again."

TOM

"What, you got a woman telling you what to do, now?"

JOHN

"Yeah, and we got a baby on the way."

TOM and CHRIS

"Ohhhhhhhhhh"

JOHN (looking at Tom)

"What about you? How's your family going?"

TOM

"Oh, they ain't going, they're gone."

JOHN

"What? But you guys were doing so well? What happened?"

TOM

"They just didn't go along with what I wanted."

CHRIS

"She found out about the accident, that's what happened"

TOM

"Shut up, man. It's fine, it's fine. Now I actually get to control my own life. Now I can go out when I want and come home when I want."

JOHN

"Where are you living, now?"

CHRIS

"Over at my place. It's working good. What about you?"

JOHN

"Well, we're just staying at this hotel down thirty third. We'll get a better place, soon."

TOM

"Thirty third? That's a shithole!"

JOHN

"Yeah, I know, but it's a place to call home, at least."

TOM

"And you ain't drinking. Why don't you hang out with us when you're done here? You'll feel way better."

JOHN

"I don't know, guys."

CHRIS

"What are ya? Some sort of pussy?"

JOHN

"Ali has just been real worried."

TOM

"Well call her, c'mon, I haven't seen you in years!"

JOHN

"It's just been a couple months."

TOM

"Months, years, whats the diff?"

John shrugs.

**INT - PUB 1 - NIGHT**

John is locking up the bar door, with Tom and Chris still sitting at the bar, while texting Ali from his phone. The screen says, "met with friends. Be home late".

John walks back over to the bar and puts a bottle inside of a brown paper bag. He takes his first drink from the bag. His friends cheer for him.

TOM

"Yeah! Now that's what I'm talking about!"

CHRIS

"Welcome back, John! We missed you!"

John just smiles back, as he takes a long drink from the bible.

**EXT - PUB 1**

Michael is sitting in his car outside. He's shaking, can't stop scratching himself, looking around nervously.

He reaches over to the passenger seat, and picks up a spoon.

He pulls a plastic bag with white powder out, and picks some up with the spoon.

He lights it, but is shaking so much that it flies all over the place.

MICHAEL

"FUCK! FUCK! FUCK! FUCK!"

Michael punches at the steering wheel, extremely upset.

He gets out of the car, hitting himself in the head, then hitting the car door.

He stops, and looks back at the pub door.

MICHAEL

"Come on, come on, come on, come on..."

INT - PUB 1

John is sitting at a table with Tom and Chris. Chris is pointing at a scar on his arm.

CHRIS

"This one? Oh man, I was fucking wasted, and playing pool, when Tom here fell over on the table, and the bottles were fucking flying!"

TOM

"Yeah, they smashed all over the wall, so the place was just covered in glass."

CHRIS

"I couldn't stop laughing at him, and I fell over, but I landed right on a big ass bottle, and it cut me."

TOM

"Fuck man, you deserved it for laughing at me!"

CHRIS

"I know, I know."

JOHN

"But, like, it wasn't like that when I was hanging out with you, though, we kept safe."

CHRIS

"What are you talking about, man? We calmed it down after you left."

TOM

"Yeah, what ever happened to your car?"

JOHN

"I dunno... I guess it's still in the impound"

TOM  
"Shit, you got the bills on that  
just ranking up."

CHRIS  
"Whatcha driving now?"

JOHN  
"I got a decent car online. Not  
great, but it gets me around."

CHRIS  
"Shit, man, I loved how you'd  
drive! Lets get outta here and  
you can show us how you do it!"

TOM  
"Yeah man, I miss you driving us  
out."

JOHN  
"I dunno, man, I shouldn't be  
driving you guys."

CHRIS  
"C'mon, it'll be fun"

JOHN  
"Ok, ok."

**EXT - PUB 1**

John, Chris and Tom exit. Michael is off in the far corner of the parking lot, shouting and shaking around.

CHRIS  
"Who the hell is that?"

JOHN  
"Ah crap. We gotta get out of  
here."

John rushes out to his car, parked behind the pub. Chris and Tom follow him.

CHRIS

"Ah yeah! Lets hit it!"

They start getting into the car, and Michael sees them.

Michael starts to run towards them, screaming, but John is too quick, and they all get into the car.

Michael lands on the hood of the car, yelling and pounding.

John moves the car forward, and suddenly stops, throwing Michael off.

John turns the car, and zooms away.

Michael gets up, and runs over to his car, leaping into the driver's seat, and follows them.

#### **EXT - QUIET STREETS**

John's car speeds by, with his friends holding on tight. Michael's car follows right behind, swerving around on the road.

#### **INT - JOHN'S CAR**

CHRIS

"Fuck yeah! This is what I'm talking about!"

TOM

"Who is that guy?"

JOHN

"He's a nobody."

John pulls his car around a tight corner, and Michael follows, going back and forth between both lanes.

#### **INT - HOTEL SHIT**

Ali is lying on the bed watching tv. She pulls out her cell phone, and pulls up an app for John's GPS location. She sees him curving tightly around the corners. She freaks out.

ALI

"What the... Damn it! I knew it!"

Ali gets out of bed, pulls on a jacket, and rushes out the door.

**EXT - HOTEL SHIT**

Ali rushes outside, and starts waving her hands. A taxi pulls up on the busy street, and she gets in.

**INT - TAXI**

DRIVER, an east Indian man wearing a Sikh turban, looks at her as Ali rushes into the car.

DRIVER

"Where would you like to go?"

ALI

"I need to get to..."

Ali looks down at the GPS on her cell phone.

ALI

"58<sup>th</sup> and Woods. And step on it!"

DRIVER

"Very good"

**EXT - WOODED STREETS**

John keeps driving fast with Michael following.

John drives perfectly, never hitting anything, while Michael hits everything in his way.

A cat shrieks, and leaps out of the way before Michael can hit it.

They keep going, and the two of them pass a police car.

The OVERWEIGHT OFFICER spits out his doughnut and coffee mix as he sees the two cars zoom by.

The officer flips on his police lights, and starts to chase the two of them.

**INT - JOHN'S CAR**

John looks up, and sees the police car behind Michael's car in his rear view mirror.



JOHN  
"Holy shit."

CHRIS  
"Aw yeah! Now we have a real  
chase going on!"

TOM  
"Damn it, not again! Fuck, I  
shouldn't be doing this. Fuck."

JOHN  
"I'm not the bad one here, this  
asshole is."

CHRIS  
"You gotta beat out the both of  
them!"

John zooms past the spot where they went into the forest before, and straight ahead is where he had wrecked the second car.

The lines on the road show that it's a passing lane.

John flips on his signal, and goes into the other lane.

Michael follows him, but swerves into the ditch. Michael is shaken by it, but he pulls back onto the road and keeps chasing.

#### **INT - POLICE CAR**

The Overweight Officer is sweating as he's chasing the dangerous pair. He grabs his radio caller, and shouts into it.

OVERWEIGHT OFFICER  
"We have 2 cars going down Wood  
street, highly dangerous, I need  
backup!"

#### **INT - TAXI**

Ali is looking down at her cell phone, and sees John's signal go off of Wood Street, and onto a packed city area.

ALI  
"Ok ok! I want you to go to

Broadway! What the hell are you  
going so slow for?"

DRIVER

"Miss, I can not go faster, I  
must stick to the limit."

Ali throws large dollar bills onto the seat in front of her.

ALI

"Just do it!"

DRIVER

"Yes, Miss."

The Taxi rips out much faster, the driver showing that he can  
really drive.

#### **EXT - BROADWAY**

John pulls his car out onto a much busier street, with Michael  
following him, and the police car following Michael.

The single police car is joined by 3 more police cars.

Ali's Taxi pulls up to a stop sign, as they see all of the cars  
pass by them.

ALI & DRIVER

"Holy shit."

ALI

"That's them! Follow them!"

DRIVER

"Yes Miss"

The Taxi pulls onto the road, following the police.

The whole gang of cars has been hitting green light after green  
light. One light in front of them all is changing to yellow, to  
red.

#### **INT - JOHN'S CAR**

TOM

"Shit man, you gotta stop. You

gotta stop!"

JOHN

"Don't tell me what to do!"

**EXT - BROADWAY**

John presses down on the gas.

Michael doesn't even notice that the light is red, as he speeds up even faster to cut John off.

John keeps speeding faster and faster, then signals to change lanes, and slams on his break, coming to a full stop right on the stop line.

Michael doesn't stop, he rushes right past John's car in slow motion, as he sees John smiling and waving at him.

Time goes back to normal, as Michael screams, seeing headlights shining at him from both sides.

Michael slams on the breaks, and swerves, hitting a cement barrier in the middle of the road. His car flips up, and over, his car rolling until it's left on it's roof.

The police zip by John's car, and circle around Michael's car.

They get out, and pull their guns out at him.

The Taxi pulls up next to John's car, and stops.

Ali leaps out of the car, and starts banging on John's window.

ALI

"What the hell you asshole! You told me you'd never do it again!"

John gets out of the car

JOHN

"No, seriously! I haven't been!"

Ali looks into the car, and sees John's paper bag covered bottle on the floor of the car. She reaches over and picks it up.

ALI

"So what the hell is this, huh?"

JOHN  
"It's coke!"

John pulls the bottle out of the bag, showing it is coke. Tom and Chris are laughing in the car.

ALI  
"Oh my God... You're sober? I'm  
so sorry. What the hell  
happened?"

Ali and John look towards the group of police cars, and see them pulling Michael out of the window of his overturned car.

ALI  
"Hole-Ee Shit."

The overweight officer comes up to John and Ali.

OVERWEIGHT OFFICER  
"Are you guys alright? Do you  
know this man?"

ALI  
"Yeah, he's been trying to get  
us."

OVERWEIGHT OFFICER  
"Do you know what substances he's  
been on?"

JOHN  
"I'd bet a lot."

Michael is trying to fight with the cops, but he can hardly walk properly.

The police end up pushing Michael down to the ground, and putting handcuffs on him.

#### **INT - JAIL VISITATION - DAY**

Michael walks out to his booth.

He sits down, looking forward with a welcome gaze on his face, and picks up the phone on the side, while looking through the glass with pierced holes.

Ali is on the other side, her hair shortened, and gained a bit of weight, but not pregnant.

MICHAEL

"Oh my God, Ali, I didn't think I'd ever see you again."

ALI

"How's it been?"

MICHAEL

"Bad, bad, bad... the headaches won't go away, and these guys keep on hunting me down."

ALI

"That's too bad."

MICHAEL

"I'm still moving though. I just have another 2 years, and I'll be home free."

ALI

"Well that's a bit better, I guess."

MICHAEL

"What about you? How's it going? I haven't seen you in forever."

ALI

"Yeah, it's been a little while."

MICHAEL

"Looks like you're not pregnant anymore. How'd it go?"

ALI

"Hurt like a bitch, but it's a beautiful baby girl."

MICHAEL

"Oh man, that's so great. I've always wondered, if maybe that one was mine..."

ALI

"No, it's not. That's John's baby."

MICHEAL

"Yeah, I figured it was probably that way."

ALI

"Good that it wasn't yours. Then she'd be really fucked."

MICHAEL

"C'mon, Ali, I got a lot of shit on my plate already."

ALI

"I don't think so. I think you've lost everything."

MICHAEL

"Well, at least I still got you, right? I mean, I need help, I did a lot of bad things, but I'm going to need some help to get over all of this."

ALI

"That's not what I'm here for. I mean... I want to help you, Michael."

MICHAEL

"Oh god, thank you so much. You're the only one I have left."

ALI

"You should have gone to rehab."

MICHAEL

"What?"

ALI

"It was a horrible decision you made, Michael, and now that you're in here, I don't think you've ever going to be able to make things right. You owe a lot of people money, and a lot of people are after you."

MICHAEL

"Oh shit... maybe it's better if I'm in here."

ALI

"I just wanted you to know, we helped you out."

MICHEAL

"You did what?"

ALI

"Yeah, they started coming to us, and we paid them what you owe them, and now you just owe us. So when you get out of here, just promise me, you'll get away from all the shit you've been on, ok?"

MICHAEL

"How'd you get all that money?"

ALI

"We worked. We worked hard. John has been putting in 80 hours a week. He's management now, and I've been working from home, and taking care of my little girl."

MICHEAL

"Jesus... I don't know how to thank you."

ALI

"Just, pay us back. I'll see you in a couple years."

Ali quickly hangs up the phone, and gets up.

She calls over to the guard that she's done, but Michael can't hear her.

Michael bangs on the glass, trying to call her back, but he can't get her attention.

Ali walks out the door, while Michael just wants that last piece of her.

#### **EXT - CITY JAIL**

Ali walks out the front doors, and John is standing, leaning against the car, and holding their beautiful baby girl.

Ali walks up to them, and John leans forward, coming towards Ali. The two of them come close, and John kisses Ali's forehead as Ali takes the baby girl.

She lifts the baby up, smiling at her as she smiles back, while John opens up the passenger door for them.

Ali climbs in with their baby girl, and John shuts the door, going over to the driver's side.

He gets in the car, turns on the engine, and drives off.

Ali keeps watching her beautiful baby girl's eyes, and they move down the highway in the car.

The camera pans up, showing the aisle of forest on the sides of the road, and moves over the beautifully calm city.

John drives off, with nothing but blue skies ahead.

The End.