

DYING TO LOVE YOU

Written by

R. M. Varghese

INT. DAISY'S HOME - BEDROOM - NIGHT

MUSIC: BTS "JUST ONE DAY" [Music suggested if story-related]

Facebook photos scrolling picture a fairy-tale life:

- Eiffel Tower in the backdrop: PRINCE CHARMING takes the knee, weighed down by the rock bestowed to his blonde beloved. She feigns surprise.

- At their platinum wedding: the Bride's gown costs more than rent... for the year.

- Vogue-style pregnancy photo shoot: Hubby's strong hands cradle the only place mother-to-be has gained weight.

- Holiday card: Fam posed in matching onesies. Who's more adorable? Their newborn baby or golden retriever puppy!?

What a wonderful life! Except, it isn't hers.

Late night, illuminated by laptop light- by now, it's clear this isn't the social media of DAISY, 38, INDIAN-AMERICAN. There's something about her, even disheveled in PJs on her bed, comfort-eating spoonfuls straight out of an ice cream pint.

Daisy woefully eyes the glaring alarm clock imminently threatening to terrorize her into the new day. Grabbing a glass of water from the night stand- she swishes, swallows...

Under her comforter, swaddled up with her loneliness, she closes her eyes.

GARISH DAY - SLEEP BRUTALLY INTERRUPTED BY ALARM.

INT. DAISY'S HOME - DAY

Daisy falls out of bed. Scrambling around her living space, she rushes to get ready.

As she dashes past the mirror finally dressed, she grinds to a halt. Peering closely into her reflection - she yanks a grey hair from her temple.

DAISY

Ow!

Rubbing her head, she hurls herself out the door.

INT. RAINBOW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - KINDERGARTEN CLASSROOM - DAY

Daisy leads "Show and Tell" with her ("LITTLE" 5-YEAR-OLD) students. LITTLE BILLY (WHITE) holds a baby doll-

LITTLE MIKEY

HA HA - Billy loves dolls.

LITTLE BILLY
Shut up, Mikey!

DAISY
Now, now - it's perfectly fine that
Billy likes dolls.

LITTLE BILLY
You shut up, Ms. Daisy! I don't
like dolls!

Kindergarten, aka "K-Class" hotly divided.

DAISY
Class, settle down! Please! Let's
give Billy a chance to SHOW and
TELL us. Ok! Does that sound good?

K-CLASS IN UNISON
YES MS. DAISY!!!

DAISY
Ok, Billy, go ahead.

LITTLE BILLY
This is Stephanie...

Mikey snickers, drawing a look from Daisy.

LITTLE BILLY (CONT'D)
My baby sister!
(insistent)
SEE!

Billy proudly reveals a "brown" Reborn doll (VERY creepily realistic). Daisy recoils at the sight, before collecting herself. Kindergarteners "OOOH" and "AHHH" gathering closer.

LITTLE AJA
(so innocently enamored)
WOW... you have a baby.

LITTLE MIKEY
That's not your sister.

DAISY
Now, Mikey, we can all use our
imagination.

LITTLE MIKEY
But Billy is WHITE.

LITTLE BILLY
(confused)
I'm not White...

DAISY
 Okay, Class! I think that's enough
 of Show and Tell for now. Are you
 ready for snack time!?

K-CLASS
 YES MS. DAISY!!!

As K-Class excitedly breaks away, Billy tugs at Daisy.

LITTLE BILLY
 Ms. Daisy...

DAISY
 Yes, Billy.

LITTLE BILLY
 (whispering)
 Stephanie pooped her diaper.

DAISY
 (leans in, confused)
 What's that?

LITTLE BILLY
 She needs to be changed!

Daisy exchanges a knowing look with her teacher's assistant,
 BUDDY, who hands her a backpack marked "Billy."

BUDDY
 You'll need this.

INT. RAINBOW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - BATHROOM - DAY

Cradled in Daisy's arms, the Baby doll stares up at her
 eerily with lifelike eyes. It suddenly blinks... Daisy does
 double-take, spooked.

DAISY
 How are you doing in there, Billy?

She hears toilet paper being rolled out furiously.

DAISY (CONT'D)
 You don't need my help, do you?

LITTLE BILLY (V.O.)
 MS. DAISY...
 (unrolling and unrolling)
 I need more toilet paper.

Paper piles up under the stall. Daisy rolls up her sleeves
 and heads in.

INT. RAINBOW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - HALLWAY - DAY

LITTLE BILLY
I'm sorry, Ms. Daisy. I really
tried to hold it.

DAISY
It's okay, Billy. Like I always say-
why pack spare pants if you're not
going to wear them, right?

Little Billy looks down at his telltale new pants.

LITTLE BILLY
(about to cry)
Oh no. Will everyone know??

DAISY
Hey... Billy... it's okay.
(hides bookbag behind her)
What pants?? Whose pants?? Do you
know anything about these fancy
pants?

Relieved, Billy mirrors her throwing up hands, denying all-

LITTLE BILLY
Ohh no pants! It wasn't me!

Sharing a laugh as Billy enters the classroom, Daisy pauses-
and turns back realizing who she left behind.

INT. RAINBOW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - BATHROOM - DAY

"Stephanie" is brutalized by CHEEKY GIRLS (8-YEAR-OLDS) who
viciously dunk her in toilet, flushing.

DAISY
(entering)
What are you girls doing!?

Girls drop and run.

Daisy eyes their handiwork in toilet- a drowning baby doll.
Gagging, she reaches in...

INT. RAINBOW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - K-CLASSROOM - DAY

Daisy and Buddy look down at "Stephanie," mummified in paper
towels stuffed into Daisy's bag.

BUDDY
(horrified)
Those monsters...

DAISY

Just make some excuse if Billy asks. If he sees her like this, he'll need therapy into adulthood.
(shudders at hand)
I should know.

BUDDY

At least there's no poop on your dress.

DAISY

Good thing too- blind date after school and I didn't pack spare pants.

BUDDY

Oooh blind date!? Go get 'em Ms. Daisy!

DAISY

Well, it's through a dating app, so I guess not really blind. Though the way these dates have been going lately, I should do background checks.

BUDDY

Ms. Daisy, aren't you taking Stranger Danger a bit far?

DAISY

I like my kidneys.

BUDDY

And you trust dating apps??

DAISY

Well, my BFF sent me an invite to this new app called No Code?

BUDDY

No Code??

DAISY

Yeah, it connects you to friends of friends, so you're not meeting total randos.

BUDDY

Assuming your friends aren't friends with killers.

DAISY

Killers... don't have friends...

BUDDY

Killers are very friendly! That's how they get you dead!

Daisy catches a more immediate crisis-

DAISY
Buddy... did you give Jenny milk??

BUDDY
No! Of course not! Jenny's
seriously lactose intolerant.

LITTLE JENNY happily sips from a carton of chocolate milk.

Daisy and Buddy exchange horrified looks- Daisy leaps forward, picks up Jenny and runs out of the classroom.

INT. RAINBOW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - HALLWAY (CONTINUOUS)

Daisy, carrying Jenny, makes mad dash clearing hurdles, like a video game obstacle course. She dodges Students and Teachers flinging open doors as they exit classrooms. But... the obstacles get increasingly absurd:

-JANITOR rolls out bucket unexpectedly. Daisy ballet leaps over it, gazelle-like, clutching Jenny. Janitor is awed.

-As a SPORTS TEAM scatters to clear way, their COACH accidentally unleashes balls from a rolling storage unit-

Weirdly the storage unit has unreal capacity- holding not just basketballs, but soccer balls, tennis balls, dodge-balls, flying towards her at inexplicably high speeds.

DAISY
You've got to be kidding me.

Up ahead, at end of a ridiculously long hallway, Daisy eyes her goal - a door marked "NURSE'S OFFICE."

Doggedly, in heels, Daisy dances hilariously to deftly outmaneuver the onslaught. Team applauds; Coach wipes brow.

Her charge, Jenny, looks up at Daisy in relief. They're going to make it after all!

BUT THEN... a little old LUNCH LADY rolls out, very slowly, a metallic wheeled table carrying vats.

Daisy's eyes widen.

Startled by Daisy charging, Lunch Lady throws her hands up, sending the table spinning out of control.

SLOW MOTION train wreck-

LUNCH LADY
(exaggerated crying out)
NOooooooooooooOOOOOOOOoooo!

NURSE emerges from her office, in regular motion:

NURSE
What's going on out here??

Witnessing the impending doom, Nurse is sucked into slo-mo world and motions encouragingly to Daisy - YOU CAN MAKE IT!!!

Daisy dives- heroically placing Jenny in the Nurse's arms.

AS SLOW MOTION ENDS, Nurse pulls Jenny away, just as the table crashes into Daisy, who goes toppling over it.

BROWN SPLAT all over the Lunch Lady's face!

BROWN TIDAL WAVE drenches Nurse and Jenny.

Daisy, hurled across the table, lands amidst spilled vats of sloppy joe. And right then, sprawled across the floor, that's when Daisy sees HIM.

Prince Charming, i.e. TOM SWIFT, walks down the hallway. Wind blows back his gorgeous hair, his hand outstretched towards her. We hear the distinctive sound of FLUTE music.

As he approaches, Daisy, horrified to be recognized, dunks her head right into an overturned vat. Nurse, Little Jenny, and Lunch Lady all exclaim, flabbergasted.

TOM
(approaching)
Are you okay?

Daisy reemerges, her face totally smothered, like a sloppy joe swamp monster.

TOM (CONT'D)
(jumps back)
OH GOD!

DAISY
(sputtering)
Yes, I'm...
(cough, gag, spits out
chunks)
Fine... Yes...

As Daisy stands, she slips and slides back into the sloppy joe. Prince Charming heroically grabs her hand, saving her from another nasty backwards fall.

Daisy regains her footing and sees that she has stained Prince Charming's sleeve badly.

DAISY (CONT'D)
I'm so sorry, Tom.

TOM
Oh no worries... wait, how did you
know my name?

Distracting him from his question, school PRINCIPAL WALTERS walks down the hall with an adorable little girl, AGE 4, SUSIE, who runs towards her father:

SUSIE
Daddy!

Tom happily scoops up his little girl into his arms.

SUSIE (CONT'D)
(looking down at Tom's
arm)
Daddy...
(whispers into his ear)
You gotta roll up your sleeves when
you go potty.

PRINCIPAL WALTERS
Susie had a great first day of Pre-
K, didn't she?

As Principal Walters turns to see Daisy, she screams.

PRINCIPAL WALTERS (CONT'D)
AAAAAAHHHHH! Oh GOD!

Instinctively, Principal Walters shoves Daisy away who lands backwards right back in the sloppy joe.

PRINCIPAL WALTERS (CONT'D)
Oh... I'm so sorry...
(looking closely)
Daisy, is that you?

Principal Walters leans forward to help Daisy, before getting a noseful.

PRINCIPAL WALTERS (CONT'D)
(jumping back)
OOH! That is pungent!

Principal Walters motions to the Janitor as she quickly ushers a concerned Tom and Susie away from the smelly scene.

PRINCIPAL WALTERS (CONT'D)
You know, our teachers are very
hands on here at Rainbow
Elementary. Though, we have been
exploring plant-based options in
our cafeteria...

Looking over Tom's shoulder, Susie waves at Daisy. Daisy waves imitating a swamp monster, making Susie laugh.

Janitor starts mopping strategically around Daisy.

EXT. RAINBOW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - PARKING LOT - DAY

After school, walking to her car, sloppy Daisy answers her best friend's call-

JACK (V.O.)
Babe, you ready for your hot date?

DAISY
I'm canceling.

JACK (V.O.)
No, not again! You need to stop watching the True ID channel, Daisy!

DAISY
Jack, it's not that. I had a situation at school...

JACK (V.O.)
Again?! What are they feeding these children??

DAISY
Sloppy Joe.

JACK (V.O.)
Oh, that's nasty. Just meet me at the studio. I got you boo!

INT. HOUSE OF LADY JACKIE - DAY

Studio is dedicated to all things drag. Lining the walls are photos of queens, leading to the Queen of Queens, RuPaul.

On a large screen TV, "RuPaul's Drag Race" airs on a loop, which at this moment is at the typical close of each episode:

RUPAUL (on TV)
*And remember, if you can't love
yourself, how in the hell you gonna
love somebody else? Can I get an
Amen up in here?*

Echoing the TV congregation's response is JACK aka JACKIE, a stunning Drag Queen, who greets her BFF-

JACKIE
(leaning in for air kiss)
AMEN!
(springs back upon stench)
OOH GURL!

She ushers Daisy inside, quoting Cinderella's Fairy Godmother-

JACKIE (CONT'D)
 "We have to hurry- even miracles
 take a little time."

INT. HOUSE OF LADY JACKIE - NIGHT

As Jackie works on Daisy-

DAISY
 Of all the elementary schools in
 all the towns in all the world, Tom
 Swift enrolls his daughter into
 mine!

JACKIE
 Your high school crush, Tom??

DAISY
 Yes and of course he sees me today,
 for the first time in decades,
 looking like the swamp thing.

JACKIE
 Swamps smell better.

Daisy looks up in protest.

JACKIE (CONT'D)
 Sorry Gurl, but that's all behind
 you now like the deforestation of
 the Amazon-

Spinning Daisy around in her chair, Jackie proudly shows off
 her handiwork- Daisy made up looking like a baby drag queen.

JACKIE (CONT'D)
 Voila! Beauty!

DAISY
 Jackie, I cannot go out like this.

JACKIE
 Yes you can! And you don't have a
 minute to spare.
 (spins her, air kisses)
 BUT you can stay out past midnight-
 this magic doesn't fade, baby!

Daisy squints looking into the mirror-

DAISY
 Damn it...

Daisy pulls a grey hair out of her head.

JACKIE
 You'll go bald if you keep that up.

DAISY
 You don't think the grey hairs
 undermine your Toddlers and Tiaras
 makeover?

On her way out, as Daisy grabs a feather boa from a rack-

JACKIE
 (grabs end of boa)
 You have nothing to hide!

Daisy continues to fight.

JACKIE (CONT'D)
 Come on Daisy! You're stuck in your
 comfort zone!

DAISY
 I'm not stuck! Except for this
 girdle you shoved me into!

JACKIE
 It's time to let go of the past and
 motorboat your future!!

Daisy teetering on heels, Jackie relents in tug of boa.

JACKIE (CONT'D)
 FINE! Don't break an ankle just to
 get out of this date!

DAISY
 Love you! Bye!

JACKIE
 Call me when you get home. Text me
 your location too.

DAISY
 (covers cleavage with boa)
 I thought I didn't have to worry
 about killers on this app!

EXT. BAR & RESTAURANT - NIGHT

REX
 Daisy??

DAISY
 Yes, hi, Rex?

REX
 (ogling)
 Yes- WOW, you look better than your
 profile pic.

DAISY
 ... Thanks.

Rex yanks at Daisy's boa, causing her to awkwardly twirl-

REX
Cuuute! I can tell you work out.

Daisy pulls boa back around her like a chastity blanket.

REX (CONT'D)
(opening door)
Finally, I don't have to pretend
I'm not me and skidaddle.

DAISY
What? You do that??

INT. BAR & RESTAURANT - CONTINUOUS

Rex snaps a selfie of them without warning. Admiring pic-

REX
Money shot!

Rex ostentatiously opens wallet, waves one dollar to get
(HOT) BARTENDER's attention.

REX (CONT'D)
(smugly to Daisy)
I got this.
(back to Bartender)
So, if I know the lady, she'll be
having...
(leering at Daisy)
"Sex on the Beach."
(leans in, seductively)
You'd have sea legs for days.

HOSTESS
Sir, your table is ready. We can
bring your drinks over to you.

REX
(to Bartender)
Yo, B - make mine with
(lasciviously to Daisy)
EXTRA cherries.

Hostess waves Rex forward, then warns Daisy with a whisper:

HOSTESS
Don't take an eye off your drink
for a second.

As Rex looks back, Hostess proceeds ahead nonchalantly.

Catching that Rex has taken back his dollar, Daisy places a
five dollar bill on the bar before pushing forward. Bartender
notes her gesture as he mixes drinks in a silver cocktail
shaker monogrammed "X.O."

INT. BAR & RESTAURANT - DINING AREA - NIGHT

At the table, Rex swirls "Sex" invitingly-

REX
(eating cherry
seductively)
MMM... I won't let you go thirsty
on our next date.
(snaps at Waiter)
Yo, G - I'll take another one of
these, pronto. For the lady!

DAISY
You know, Rex, you look so familiar
but I can't quite place it... I
know we're connected through my
second cousin, Karina?

REX
Yea! Of course...
(gulping greedily)
You were at our wedding.

DAISY
What?!
(in shock, knocks over
water glass)
I'm so sorry!

REX
Don't be.
(then creepy)
I like to see you wet.

DAISY
(grabbing napkins)
WEDDING! Oh my gosh... you're
married to Karina!

REX
I WAS married to Karina but we're
divorced. You didn't know that?

DAISY
No, I don't keep in touch with
Karina like I should. I'm so sorry.

REX
It is what it is. Not every
marriage is meant to last forever.
(caressing Daisy's hand)
Besides, now I get to be here with
you.

DAISY
(yanking hand back)
Wait, you knew I was Karina's
cousin??

REX
Durr that's the whole point of No
 Code?? And it totally works for me,
 you know, keeping it in the family.

DAISY
 (realization dawning)
 Oh my gosh- No GIRL Code??

REX
 Exactly! All's fair in love!
 (hand again on Daisy's)
 And I can handle my spice.

DAISY
 (stands)
 I'm sorry, Rex. I can't do this.

REX
 What gives? Why are you even on the
 app then? And at your age you
 really shouldn't be so picky.

DAISY
 Goodbye Rex.

REX
 (grabs Daisy's arm)
 Oh come on, Daisy, don't be so
 sensitive. I'm just being honest.
 You're not bad at all but you're no
 spring chicken.

Daisy tugs against Rex's vice grip, when a drink splashes all
 over him-

REX (CONT'D)
 (releasing Daisy)
 WHAT THE HELL?!

Rex is soaked in "Sex" by Bartender standing over him holding
 a now empty tray.

BARTENDER
 (hands Rex napkin)
 I'm so sorry, Sir. Let me help you
 with that.

REX
 (stands, refusing help)
 No, we're outta here. Let's go
 Daisy!

Bartender shoves Rex back into his seat-

BARTENDER
 (offering napkin again)
 I insist, Sir.

Bartender winks at Daisy. Grateful, she makes her getaway.

REX
 (protests)
 WAIT- Daisy- I'll call you.
 (angrily to Bartender)
 Get me your manager!!

Escaping, Daisy stumbles and her heel flies off- it lands under a couples' table- a single modern day glass slipper.

DAISY
 Oh hell no.

Daisy furiously dives under tables- desperately crawling.

Retrieving shoe relieved, she stands smiling awkwardly at a sea of staring faces- before running out of the restaurant.

INT. DAISY'S HOME - KITCHEN - NIGHT

Spooning ice cream out of the pint still holding the freezer door open, Daisy clutches her phone recapping with Jack.

INTERCUT Jack out of drag, wearing a silk turban. His face is covered in goop as he applies his nightly beauty regimen.

JACK
 Karina's ex Rex!?

DAISY
 NO CODE JACK!??

JACK
 I thought you knew how that app worked? Mel raved about it!

DAISY
 Mel's married to Kenny??

JACK
 Don't you keep up on social? Mel's with Danny now!

DAISY
 Danny?? Kenny's brother?? And Kenny's okay with that?

JACK
 Yaaas - because HENNY'S been shacking up with Eddie.

DAISY
 (pauses on a spoonful)
 Wow...

JACK
 No Bro Code either! Exes don't get
 to lay claims when there's more
 plastic in the ocean than fish!
 We'll go HONGRY.

Daisy hears call-waiting beep.

DAISY
 Oh, that's Mom - be right back,
 Jack. If she doesn't hear from me
 after a date, she'll file a missing
 person report.

JACK
 I wonder where she gets that from.

Daisy switches over to GADHA (IMMIGRANT, INDIAN, SIXTIES) at
 her home -

INTERCUT CONVO:

DAISY
 Mom, I'm back home. I'm on the line
 with Jack.

GADHA
 Daisy, you're dating Karina's
 husband!?

DAISY
 Oh God! NO! And how did you hear
 that already??

GADHA
 Already!? So you WERE dating him!?

DAISY
 No, I never dated him! I mean, I
 went out on ONE date...

GADHA
 WHY would you date your cousin's
 husband!?

DAISY
 First of all, I didn't know he was
 married to Karina.

GADHA
 What do you mean you don't know??
 We went to their wedding!?

DAISY
 That was like decades ago!? When we
 went to like 500 weddings?! Second,
 they're divorced.

GADHA
 No, they're not!

DAISY
WHAT??

GADHA
Aunty Joanie called me crying! She
saw you all over him?

DAISY
No, she didn't!?

GADHA
I saw too! All over his Facebooks!

DAISY
(drops spoon)
Oh God no.

Daisy frantically scrolls on her phone as GADHA continues-

GADHA
Joanie said she knows my only
daughter is a spinster but that
doesn't give you the right to be a
home wrecker!?

Daisy's jaw drops.

INSERT FB - "Money Shot" and multiple candids Rex has posted.

DAISY
It was ONE date and he said they
were divorced!

GADHA
Their divorce isn't final! Karina's
lawyers are fighting, biting and
scratching- and why should she
not!? Shame on that man - his wife
taking full responsibility of their
five children while he kept failing
medical exams, only to abandon her
the moment he got into residency.

DAISY
5 children!?

INSERT Facebook photo (Karina's profile) of Rex and pregnant
Karina with 4 identically dressed kids all too close in age.

GADHA
Daisy, this is why I tell you to
keep up with your family. That
Karina has given Aunty Joanie 5
grandchildren with one uterus,
while you could wake up barren with
each passing moment. And you're
wasting dates on your cousins'
husbands!?

DAISY
 Okay Mom, I'm going to go now. I'll
 talk to you tomorrow.

GADHA
 At least call Karina to apologize.

DAISY
 I haven't talked to Karina in
 years!

GADHA
 Daisy, call your cousin! Also, it's
 been a while since you've seen your
 father...

DAISY
 Like it would make a difference.

GADHA
 (disappointed)
 Daisy...

DAISY
 Mom, I really need to go. Bye!
 (switches over to Jack)
 Mom's freaking out! Rex's still
 married!

JACK
 Adulterer!

DAISY
 Nothing happened!

Daisy sees comments to Rex's posts on Facebook:

Rex's caption: One word for how the date ended - "WET."
 [insert tidal wave emoji and tongue hanging out smiley]

Karina: Thanks Cuz [tagging Daisy]. #bloodnotthicker [insert
 multiple snake emojis]

Karina: You owe me child support, Rex. #18yearsX5
 #noGeico4ur\$\$\$

Gadha Fernandes: Daisy, where you are??? I call you phone why
 you no pick it up I call you many times Call Mumma Uma

DAISY (CONT'D)
 UGH... I can't.

JACK
 You're in the freezer, aren't you?

DAISY
 (slams freezer door)
 No....

She tosses the spoon in the sink. Immediately regretful, she grabs another clean spoon.

JACK
Daisy, you're prediabetic!!

Daisy flees the kitchen clutching her pint.

The sink is littered with spoons.

INT. DAISY'S HOME - BEDROOM - NIGHT

In bed, discouraged by the abysmal dating landscape, Daisy again peeps Tom Swift's Facebook profile.

Routinely scrolling, suddenly, she freezes. OMG. NO WAY.

Daisy furiously dials on her phone and reaches voicemail:

JACKIE (V.O.)
(RuPaul catch-phrase)
"She done already done had herses."
BEEP.

DAISY
Jackie! Call me! NSFW!!!

Daisy clutching phone to her chest, lies back on her bed...

FADE TO FLASHBACK 22 YEARS EARLIER:

We see the smoky shadow of a figure with his hand outstretched - reminiscent of Tom walking down the school hallway earlier that day. His hand clasps another hand whose wrist wears a dazzling Bracelet.

CLOSE ON: Radiant Bracelet, iridescent, like a prism bending light and memories.

INT. MALL DEPARTMENT STORE - LADIES DRESSING ROOM - DAY

ATTENDANT
Sweetie...
(knocks on door)
Hello... Can I help you?

YOUNG DAISY
(lamenting)
No one can help me!!!

The door opens, and Attendant gasps.

YOUNG DAISY, AGE 16, wears the "Bling Bracelet." Its brilliance contrasts against her attire, a clashing oversized mess. She wears also velcro sneakers with gym socks, a long braid, and Coke-bottle glasses.

INT. DEPARTMENT STORE - LADIES DEPARTMENT - DAY

Attendant tries to reason with Daisy's annoyed Father, KRISH, INDIAN (IMMIGRANT, FIFTIES).

ATTENDANT

Sir, I can find items that would be more appropriate for a teenager.

KRISH

Oh, you're going to teach me what's appropriate for my daughter?

Points to ads with child models dressed like baby hookers.

KRISH (CONT'D)

You people think that's appropriate!?

Outburst draws attention, including from handsome YOUNG JOCK.

KRISH (CONT'D)

(carrying on)

My child is not going to be another Miss Teen Mom USA statistic!

ATTENDANT

Well, then why are you dressing her in clothes from our maternity department?

YOUNG DAISY

(mortified)

Please Dad...

KRISH

Please nothing! Daisy, these salespeople are just trying to make their commission. What's wrong with your hair??

KRISH has just noticed that instead of her typical braid, Daisy's hair has been restyled in a high pony with a poofy scrunchie.

KRISH (CONT'D)

(to Attendant)

I'll have YOU ring up these clothes right here.

(offering his selections)

Unless you don't want my business.

Attendant sadly looks at Daisy, before accepting KRISH's selections as they head to register.

Daisy's tears up as she follows, when a SALESPERSON stops her-

SALESPERSON

I'm sorry Miss. I need those accessories back.

Her heart breaks removing the Bling Bracelet.

SALESPERSON (CONT'D)
(points to her head)
That too.

Pulling out scrunchie, her gorgeous hair cascades around her face.

Young Jock watches as she walks away, head bowed.

INT. HIGH SCHOOL - HALLWAY - DAY

Head still bowed, in the same maternity outfit her Dad picked out, Daisy walks down a long hall lined with gawking teens.

H.S. PRINCIPAL JOY (FEMALE) approaches Daisy-

PRINCIPAL JOY
Young Lady... your name is?

YOUNG DAISY
Daisy?

PRINCIPAL JOY
You just let me know if you need anything, Daisy. I know how hard high school can be...

YOUNG DAISY
(surprised and touched)
Thanks Principal Joy.

PRINCIPAL JOY
(leans in to confide)
I was a teen mom, too.

INT. HIGH SCHOOL - GIRLS LOCKER ROOM - DAY

Girls change into uniforms. MEAN GIRLS RACHEL (BLONDE) and LINDSAY (RED-HEAD) pout in the mirror. Frustrated, Rachel yanks out her glitter scrunchie, tossing it in the garbage.

RACHEL
Ugh, I hate these uniforms.

LINDSAY
Wish we could trash these too, ugh!

They pivot in-synch out the door. As the locker room empties, Daisy looks around to make sure no one is watching- she leans into the trash.

INT. HIGH SCHOOL - GYM - DAY

Students, including frail boy, JERRY, breathlessly exercise led by Phys. Ed. Teacher- COACH WIX (AFRICAN AMERICAN, elegant, like a former Olympian).

COACH WIX

I don't know who you are. I don't want to know who you are. But what I do have are a very particular set of skills. Skills I have acquired over a very long career. Skills that make me a nightmare for people like you.

Kids are freaking out but too terrified to stop.

COACH WIX (CONT'D)

Pass the Presidential Fitness test, and that'll be the end of it- you will pass this class and you will graduate. And you will never have to see me again. But if you don't, I will look for you, I will find you, and I will-

COACH WIX (CONT'D)

YOU!

Daisy's eyes widen as she pumps high-knees in double time.

COACH WIX (CONT'D)

I SAID YOU! GET OVER HERE.

Students look on pitifully as Daisy heeds the call in dread.

COACH WIX (CONT'D)

What are you doing?

YOUNG DAISY

High... knees?

COACH WIX

(motions to bench)

Take a load off for now.

(commands ASSISTANT)

Water!

Assistant obeys, retrieving a bottle for confused Daisy.

COACH WIX (CONT'D)

(blows whistle returning to class)

Let's go! Let's go!!!

As Daisy walks towards the bench, a vicious pull on her hair flings her around so violently, her glasses fly off.

Rachel holds up the glitter scrunchie.

RACHEL
Isn't this mine!??

LINDSAY
Did you seriously go dumpster
diving for her scrunchie??

RACHEL
Oh come on Linds. It's not her
fault... she's a hobo!

Daisy bends to get her glasses, when she's tripped by Rachel.

RACHEL (CONT'D)
There she goes diving again!

Sprawled on the floor, Daisy is encircled by peers laughing.

Then, the gym doors swing open- and Daisy sees for the first
time- HIM.

Time slows down. Music plays, as a marching band enters. See
that handsome Young Jock, walking ahead of the band, same guy
from the department store. Yes, well that's not him! Look to
the side, among the band, playing the FLUTE- is YOUNG TOM.

As Tom nears her, he stretches out his hand - reminiscent of
the earlier scene from the present day. Daisy grabs his hand.

YOUNG TOM
(helping Daisy up)
Hello... are you okay?

OMG- he had her at HELLO.

Meanwhile, Young Jock accidentally steps on glasses- CRUNCH.

YOUNG JOCK
Oops...

Young Jock sheepishly picks up the broken glasses. Rachel,
gleeful, tries to hug him. Young Jock steps backwards-

YOUNG JOCK (CONT'D)
(throws hand up)
Not today, Satan!

He grabs Daisy's hand and leads her away.

RACHEL
(crushed)
Great, now Jack's mad at me!

Young Jock, hunky, swoon-worthy, teen idol, is YOUNG JACK!!

RACHEL (CONT'D)
(sighing)
He's such a dream...

COACH WIX
(rips off a notepad)
Ladies, I'll see you after school.

Coach hands over PINK "DETENTION" slips leaving Mean Girls aghast.

Jack extends glasses to Daisy, whose enchantment remains unbroken.

YOUNG DAISY
(puts on broken glasses)
Oh... Sorry...

YOUNG JACK
I'm the one who should be sorry.

Daisy remains mesmerized as Tom smiles, rejoining the band marching out the double doors to the school yard.

Jack snaps fingers in her face breaking Daisy's trance.

YOUNG DAISY
Oh. Sorry.

YOUNG JACK
You need to stop apologizing so much. Come on, let's get something to eat. I'm starving!

YOUNG DAISY
Me too. Um, but I'm not eating for two even though I'm wearing maternity pants.

Jack laughs aloud, throwing his arm around Daisy.

Confused, Rachel and Lindsay watch them leave gym together.

EXT. SCHOOL FOOTBALL FIELD - NIGHT

Quarterback Jack leads football team to victory! Daisy watches not just Jack but Tom in the band.

Cheerleaders Rachel and Lindsay hurrah for Jack- who blows past them to high-five Daisy in the stands, before she is yanked away by Krish.

INT. HIGH SCHOOL - HALLWAY - NEXT DAY

As peers laugh, Daisy hugs stomach sick, which in yet another maternity outfit looks like she's cradling pregger belly.

Principal reprimands bullies instructing them to carry her books. Principal nods reassuringly at embarrassed Daisy.

YOUNG JACK
(catching up to Daisy)
Meet me after school.

YOUNG DAISY
But my Dad picks me up?

YOUNG JACK
Make an excuse!

As they walk into class, Mean Girls are in disbelief.

LINDSAY
They're not.

RACHEL
They can't be!

INT. HIGH SCHOOL - GYM - DAY

YOUNG DAISY
Um... excuse me... Coach Wix?

COACH WIX
Yes, Daisy.

YOUNG DAISY
Well... I was wondering...

COACH WIX
Yes?

YOUNG DAISY
If... maybe... you could...

COACH WIX
Come on, girl! Just spit it out!

YOUNG DAISY
(startled, blurts out)
Could you please give me
detention??

COACH WIX
(walking away)
What?? No. That's ridiculous.

Coach Wix snaps at an Attendant who hands Daisy water.

Daisy losing nerve, turns around- crashing headfirst into Tom. Her glasses go flying again, along with his sheet music floating into the air around them.

YOUNG DAISY
(bending down)
I'm so sorry!

YOUNG TOM
(rushing off)
Wait, what about your glasses?

Daisy gathers music when a foot stomps on sheet- she looks up-

RACHEL
What is even going on with you and
Jack? You're probably, like,
tutoring him, right?

Standing up, Daisy is confused.

LINDSAY
Yeah, totally, Rach - that's it.

RACHEL
(invading Daisy's space)
So, do tell, Daisy...
Who IS the Daddy?

Mean Girls cackle, as Tom returns, extending glasses-

YOUNG TOM
Here you go, Daisy.

Rachel smacks his hand. Glasses fall to the floor.

RACHEL
OOPS.

Tom bends down for glasses. Rachel stomps again- CRUNCH.

RACHEL (CONT'D)
OOPS.

YOUNG TOM
Why would you do that??

Who cares!? Daisy is awed her hero comes to her defense!

RACHEL
Why do you even care, Tom??

LINDSAY
Yea, Tom, like why do you??

YOUNG TOM
Because that's so messed up,
Rachel.

RACHEL
OH please! Wait...
(feigning realization)
OMG. I got it. DUH!

Daisy, Tom, and even Lindsay are confused.

RACHEL (CONT'D)
I guess now we know who the BABY
DADDY is?

Mean Girls laugh, while Tom hands broken glasses to Daisy.

LINDSAY
I hear Daisy plays Tom's skin flute
during band practice!

Tom is mortified and Daisy has had enough. She walks up and
dumps water from her bottle all over Mean Girls' heads.

RACHEL
(gasps)
YOU BITCH!

Daisy not done- smacks the bottle across Rachel's head.

RACHEL (CONT'D)
OMG!! YOU CRAZY BITCH!!

Coach Wix arrives at the scene- grabs bottle with cat-like
reflexes before Daisy takes next swipe. Dragging her away-

COACH WIX
(empathetic)
Listen, I know how hormones can get
but I can't have you attacking
students in my gym, even those
ones.

YOUNG DAISY
I'm not PREGNANT!!!

PREGNANT... PREGNANT... echoes bring gym to a standstill.

Daisy cowers before Coach Wix. Whipping out pad, Coach rips
off pink slip and hands it over.

Daisy looks... HAPPY! GOAL!!! She waves pink slip
victoriously at Jack back on the court. He beams back right
before shooting a ridiculous three-pointer.

INT. HIGH SCHOOL - PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE - DAY

Daisy uses SECRETARY's phone. INTERCUT to Krish at home.

YOUNG DAISY
Dad... I'm in the Principal's
office. I... got detention.

KRISH
You got detention!? What for??

YOUNG DAISY
Um... Plagiarism.

KRISH

Why would you do that, Daisy!?

YOUNG DAISY

I didn't! My paper was so good that my teacher assumed I must have plagiarized.

KRISH

What?? I'm coming to school now! Wait until I see this teacher. Falsely accusing my child!

YOUNG DAISY

No, no, she's not anymore. She apologized and gave me an A.

KRISH

But then why do you still have to stay for detention?

YOUNG DAISY

Well... because it's like a traffic ticket. Once they write it up, they can't really cancel it. But I'll get... extra credit for staying.

KRISH

Bastards! Trying to reach their quotas. Well how long is detention? I'll get you after.

YOUNG DAISY

OH, it could be hours...

KRISH

HOURS??

DAISY

But don't worry. Because the teacher messed up, she said she'd just give me a ride back home.

SECRETARY

Your Pops actually buying any of this?

YOUNG DAISY

Dad, I gotta go.

KRISH

Wait! Put the Principal on - I want to know what's going on in your gym that you keep breaking your glasses. It is a high school, not the Olympics! Are they getting kickbacks for every new pair I have to buy you?

YOUNG DAISY
(as she hangs up abruptly)
The Principal is grading SATs! I'll
see you later, Dad. BYE!

EXT. HIGH SCHOOL TRACK - DAY

After school, Coach Wix blows whistle furiously. Daisy, Mean Girls, and other detainees fail the Presidential Fitness Test.

EXT. HIGH SCHOOL - FRONT ENTRANCE - DAY

Post-detention, Daisy jumps into Jack's car.

YOUNG DAISY
(breathless)
I think I'd rather be pregnant.

Jack LOLs as they speed off.

INT. DEPARTMENT STORE - LADIES DRESSING ROOM - DAY

Daisy steps out from the dressing room in a cute outfit. Next door opens- Jack emerges in matching outfit!

ELDERLY WOMAN enters, screams, drops clothes and runs out.

INT. DEPARTMENT STORE LADIES DEPARTMENT (CONTINUOUS)

Attendant (same) calms Elderly Woman. When Daisy and Jack peek their heads out, Attendant motions them back into hiding.

ATTENDANT
Oh honey, she can't help her big
bones.

LATER- At the register, Daisy removes items. Jack pulls her clothes back-

YOUNG DAISY
(touched)
Jack... I can't let you do that.

YOUNG JACK
Yes, you can.
(reaches for item hanging)
We'll take this too!

The Bling Bracelet! Daisy, tearfully, hugs Jack. As they leave, bags in hand, Attendant wipes her own happy tears.

Rachel and Lindsay emerge, jaws dropped.

EXT. HIGH SCHOOL - ENTRANCE - DAY

Next morning, Krish drops off Daisy in a disastrous outfit.

INT. HIGH SCHOOL - GIRLS BATHROOM - DAY

Daisy exits stall in new outfit! Jack applies her make-up.

INT. HIGH SCHOOL - HALLWAY - DAY

Post-makeover, Daisy and Jack exit bathroom, arm in arm. Mean Girls exchange looks-

LINDSAY
They weren't hooking up in there?!

RACHEL
They can't be!

"POPULAR GIRL" MUSICAL MONTAGE:

Proud to give them all something to talk about, Jock, with his girl on his arm, walk the hallway as if it was a runway.

Passing by, Daisy sadly eyes Tom. But Rachel is crushed-sadly eyeing PROM-A-PALOOZA poster.

Students manning Prom King and Queen ballot boxes congratulate Jack before he's even won.

Another "Revolucion!" poster, captioned "Down with Prom Tyranny," with his face badly superimposed for Cesar Chavez, serves as backdrop for Jerry- who holds cupcakes. At his side stands his beret-wearing comrade, REVOLUTIONARY PAM.

Jack wolfs down a cupcake, flashing a smile. Mesmerized Jerry is elbowed by Pam, raising her fist-

REVOLUTIONARY PAM
(translates "Long Live the
Revolution")
Inquilab Zindabad!

LATER BACK IN GYM: Daisy closes her eyes and tips ball rack over, sending balls flying across the gym floor.

ASSISTANT
(points at Daisy - Karma
Police Curse!)
THIS IS WHAT YOU GET WHEN YOU MESS
WITH US. Wait for it.

Then, nonchalantly, the Assistant returns to collecting balls. Coach Wix hands over pink slip to Daisy. GOAL!!!

LATER DEPARTMENT STORE: Jack models dashing tuxedo.

LATER DEPARTMENT STORE LADIES' DRESSING ROOM: Daisy emerges in a prom gown. Jack exits from next room also in prom gown! So gorg!

Attendant applauds, just as same Elderly Woman enters, drops clothes, as if she will run like last time. They are caught!

Elderly Lady adjusts thick glasses, walks straight to Jack-

ELDERLY LADY
I don't think that's your color,
dear.

CUT TO: Dressing room doors swing open. Out twirl Daisy and Jack post-swapping gowns! Elderly Woman nods approvingly.

END "POPULAR GIRL" MUSIC MONTAGE.

Room empties, but a single dressing room door left ajar creaks open- spies creep out.

LINDSAY
Did you get it??

Rachel looks back smugly at Lindsay.

INT. DAISY HOME BEDROOM - DAY

Daisy and Jack plot together on the landline phone:

YOUNG JACK
You're not even going to ask to go
to the Palooza??

YOUNG DAISY
My Dad's just going to say no.

Krish, eyes wide, overhears on the extension he's picked up.

YOUNG JACK
But you're my beard! We'll
strategize after school.

EXT. HIGH SCHOOL - ENTRANCE - DAY

Next morning, Krish drops Daisy off in a maternity outfit.

BUT LATER THAT AFTERNOON AFTER SCHOOL: Lurking in car, Krish sees Daisy bound down steps in hip outfit definitely not his selection. She jumps into Jack's car. Krish tails them.

INT. MALL - DAY

Krish spies Daisy and Jack sharing a sundae... very romantic.

Storming over, Krish is blocked by perfume hawkers he shoos away, only to be mauled by a GIANT ANIMAL MALL MASCOT. Krish struggles out of hug and shoves away Mascot, losing sight of his targets. Krish frantically chases after the crowd.

Ahead, seeing his teammates, Jack smacks FRANK on shoulders-

YOUNG JACK
Hey Frank!

FRANK
Don't touch me!

YOUNG JACK
(taken aback)
Is everything okay??

Mean Girls circulate flyers- throwing some in Jack's face.

Shaking off flyers, Jack sees the photocopy of him in a prom dress from the dressing room, marked up with disparaging words.

FRANK
Hey guys, turns out Fruits *can* jump-
guess your fairy wings help.

As they laugh, Jack decks Frank, breaking out into a fight.

Catching up, Krish rushes in to break up fight, aided by fluffy Mascot and SECURITY GUARD. Daisy is shocked to see her Dad.

Krish holds Jack back, grabbing a bystander's flyer-

KRISH
(hands flyer to Mall Cop)
Do you know these kids are
violating customers snapping photos
in your dressing rooms?

Mean Girls' escape is blocked by the Security Guard alerted by Daisy.

KRISH (CONT'D)
(warning Mall Cop)
If I were you, I'd find the
responsible parties and bury
this... unless you want a lawsuit
on your hands.
(ushering Jack away)
It's okay, Son. Come along.

Daisy is in dreadful awe as Krish leads them away from the melee.

INT. DAISY'S CHILDHOOD HOME - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Pairs of broken glasses and pink slips are scattered before him. Krish picks up glasses but they break off in his hand. Shaking his head, he raises instead a fistful of slips-

KRISH

Is this how I raised you?? To be a liar!?

YOUNG DAISY

(mouthy)

Like the truth would make any difference to you.

Krish slaps Daisy- her glasses go flying off, again. Daisy holds her cheek, shocked (though this can't be first time).

GADHA

KRISH! NO!

KRISH

(explosively at GADHA)

Don't you interfere to defend her!

YOUNG DAISY

(quietly defiant)

I guess broken glasses are okay when it's you breaking them.

GADHA

Daisy!

Krish actually pauses, called out. Daisy can't stop now-

YOUNG DAISY

(exclaims)

I get bullied every day! Even the teachers think I'm pregnant because my dad picks out my maternity clothes for me!!

KRISH

You care so much about what other people think about your clothes- but not what they'll say about your character. You know what's much worse for your reputation- breaking your family's trust and living like a total FRAUD!!

Daisy turns crying, running up the stairs to her room-

KRISH (CONT'D)

DID I SAY YOU COULD LEAVE! GET BACK HERE!!

Daisy immediately heeds his call. What was she thinking? Her life was no TV family sitcom.

Krish furiously paces before he calms himself enough to speak-

 KRISH (CONT'D)
When I was your age, I had one
shirt. ONE. And I didn't wear it to
school. I wasn't so lucky like you.
I worked the fields, and I didn't
wear it then to not dirty it. I
saved that shirt... until the day I
had outgrown it.

Daisy head bowed deeply in shame.

 KRISH (CONT'D)
If I worried so much about what
everyone else thought, you'd be
working that field today... not
living the American nightmare where
you sneak off to malls with your
boyfriends to eat ice creams and
fast food and cry over having
clothes and shoes and a nice house
like this to live in with your
horrible parents.

Krish waves in dismissal. Gadha leads crying Daisy to the stairs.

At Krish's feet are Daisy's glasses- broken. Instantly remorseful, he picks up the glasses, extending them to Gadha-

 KRISH (CONT'D)
 (regretful)
You check on her.
 (lowering his voice)
She can keep the clothes.

Gadha takes the glasses and gently touches his arm.

 KRISH (CONT'D)
But what does she have to do with
the boy's beard??

EXT. HIGH SCHOOL - FOOTBALL FIELD - NIGHT

Homecoming championship - QB Jack hurls football in perfect play. It soars a ridiculous distance straight into the arms of his teammate- who steps away, leaving the pass incomplete.

Jack is now a 1-man team. In the next play, Jack is abandoned to be pummeled by offense. Bewildered FOOTBALL COACH yells.

INT. HIGH SCHOOL - OUTSIDE OF BOYS LOCKER ROOM - NIGHT

After the game, battered Jack, with Football Coach behind him, sees a handwritten sign on the locker room door: "NO FAGS." Coach angrily rips it down. Devastated, Jack rushes off.

INT. HIGH SCHOOL - HALLWAY - DAY

Jack walks the long hallway alone. Someone takes his hand - it is Daisy. They walk together. Onlookers include smug Mean Girls.

INT. DAISY CHILDHOOD HOME - ROOM - NIGHT

Later, Daisy on the phone with Jack-

YOUNG DAISY
So, ready to claim your crown
tonight, your Majesty?

YOUNG JACK (V.O.)
I can't go.

YOUNG DAISY
Jack, don't let them get to you.

YOUNG JACK (V.O.)
It's not that...
(beat)
My Dad found my dress.

YOUNG DAISY
Oh no.

INT. DAISY CHILDHOOD HOME - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Daisy scrambles down the stairs, as Krish watches TV.

YOUNG DAISY
Dad? Can I please go to the school
dance tonight?

KRISH
(not even turning from TV)
No.

YOUNG DAISY
Dad, please! Principal Joy asked if
I'd do a performance.

GADHA
That's wonderful! Well, she can't
let the Principal down, Krish!
Daisy needs her recommendation
letter for Harvard!

KRISH
Oh really?? A dance performance??

YOUNG DAISY
Yes!

KRISH
Well then I'm driving you to your
dance performance. How's that??

YOUNG DAISY
Great! Thanks Dad!
(running up stairs)
We need to pick up Jack on the way.

Krish is confused, with Gadha following her excitedly-

GADHA
I will get out your ornaments!

EXT. JACK'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Krish drives up. Daisy gets out of car in full BHARATANATYAM
INDIAN CLASSICAL DANCE COSTUME. Her belled anklets announce
her every movement. She wears her special Bling Bracelet.

Daisy squints walking. Front door opens. Even without
glasses, she can see 20/20 Jack's badly bruised BLACK EYE.

YOUNG DAISY
Jack, are you okay??

YOUNG JACK
Now you see why I can't go.
(catches Daisy stumbling)
Maybe you can't see??

Daisy looks up sadly. But then EUREKA! She yells back-

YOUNG DAISY
(pushing Jack into house)
Dad, Jack just needs 10 more
minutes to get ready!

INT. JACK'S HOUSE - BEDROOM - NIGHT

Armed with Jack's makeup kit, Daisy carefully covers his
shiner, as he winces. Grasshopper has learned well!

EXT. JACK'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Jack in tuxedo and Daisy in Indian dance regalia get into car-

KRISH
That was not 10 minutes.

EXT. HIGH SCHOOL - ENTRANCE - NIGHT

YOUNG JACK
(as he exits car)
Thanks Uncle.

Krish is impressed this White kid knows Indian niceties.

KRISH
(then to Daisy)
Get going?

YOUNG DAISY
Ugh... actually... I have a stomach
ache. I'll just go home.

KRISH
And I'll be the one who doesn't
hear the end of it from your
mother! You're doing the dance. Get
out. I will park the car.

Daisy reluctantly exits. As her dad drives away, she panics-

YOUNG DAISY
OMG!! Jack! People are going to see
me like this!?

As limos pull up, they run off, Jack leading blind Daisy by
the hand. Dodging people, they sneak to the back of school.

YOUNG DAISY (CONT'D)
We made it!

Jack, pauses, seeing what astigmatic Daisy cannot...
Floodlights come on - revealing the dance is outside! The
area is already swarmed by teens who curiously eye Daisy.

PROM PHOTOGRAPHER
(snaps photo of mortified
Daisy)
Now, that's making the yearbook.

YOUNG JACK
Daisy, it's going to be okay.

PRINCIPAL JOY
(from stage)
And now, as in every modern
democracy striving to be great
again, it's time to crown your
monarchs.
(opening envelopes)
Your Prom-a-palooza King is-

Daisy looks expectantly at Jack-

PRINCIPAL JOY (CONT'D)
Jerry Rockford??

Spotlight Jerry- elbowed by Pam, whom he abandons. Flinging
off matching beret, Jerry gallops to the stage to assume his
crown.

Daisy touches Jack's arm sadly, as he shrugs off the loss.

PRINCIPAL JOY (CONT'D)
 And your Prom Queen...
 (even more confused)
 What is this??
 (nudged to continue)
 Jackson... Wendell.

Crowd goes silent. By ballot boxes, Mean Girls cackle.
 "Queen" title slips- reveals it actually covers "King" box.

Jack is caught like a deer in spotlights. Humiliating
 SILENCE. If only there was something Daisy could do- THERE
 IS. Sacrifice herself to mob.

Daisy jumps ahead of Jack- and busts out in Bharatanatyam
 DANCE. Crowd is confused- is she crazy??

Tom, seeing her martyrdom, picks up his flute. He plays
 melody- leading the ready band to back him up. Daisy's
 expressive eyes connect with Tom's in appreciation.

MUSIC: DANCE SONG IS LIKE BRODHA V. AIGIRI NANDINI.

The DJ looks confused- but MINI-ME, his little sidekick,
 KOREAN, ABOUT AGE 7, dressed in a sequined jacket, takes
 over. He adds furious beats- and each one is matched by
 Daisy's intricate footwork in a fusion flurry. Mini-Me spits
 a verse on top in rapid-fire Korean.

Krish appears in the crowd, proudly watching his daughter. As
 she fiercely completes the final pose- silence.

Then, CRAZY APPLAUSE!!! Daisy is shocked they loved her!

DJ high-fives Mini-Me, whose jacket reveals "Rap Monster."

Inspired by her courage, Jack makes a request - DJ nods:
 MUSIC: RUPAUL "SUPERMODEL (YOU BETTER WORK)!"

Jack, hand-in-hand with Daisy, accepts Queen crown. Taking
 astonished Jerry by the other arm, the trio work the stage!

Even Revolutionary Pam is overcome, throwing up her fist- and
 WHOA - under the lights, with that beret and that hair, she
 actually looks like the iconic Che Guevara poster!

Royal throuple are celebrated by all on the dance floor!

YOUNG TOM
 Daisy, that was amazing.

YOUNG DAISY
 Tom, thanks for having my back...
 again.

Upbeat music gives way to slow dance- Two by two, Daisy's and
 Tom's bodies become one; eye to eye, they need no words at
 all. Slowly now they begin to move, every breath they're
 deeper in-

KRISH
 (yanks away Daisy)
 We're going home!

To mega-dramatic music (and referencing famously heart-wrenching scene in Bollywood blockbuster DDLJ)- Daisy struggles to pull her wrist away from her father's hold.

She is helpless, as her hand slips away from Tom's grasp, his hand remaining outstretched.

Krish relentlessly drags Daisy off the dance floor, in slow motion- Daisy looks desperately back at Tom, standing alone.

The crowd closes in on Tom; wind blows his hair.

The Bling Bracelet falls off her wrist and SHATTERS in dazzlingly bright bits on the ground, like Daisy's heart in that same moment.

Daisy gets one last look before the crowd envelops Tom.

FLASHBACK OVER - and that was 22 years ago.

EXT. CORPORATE OFFICE - PRESENT DAY

STAKEOUT IN CAR: Wearing shades, in complementary not so incognito outfits like Neo and Trinity- Jackie as Trinity.

Daisy uses high lens camera (smartphone!) to scout location.

JACKIE
 OMG?? So we're not here for Drag
 Con? But Tom Swift's married!
 Adulterer!

DAISY
 Not anymore- LOOK!

Her phone scrolling is represented mid-air by "Minority Report" matrix she operates Tom Cruise-like swiping holographic images. Jackie is mesmerized.

DAISY (CONT'D)
 Tom and Amanda divorced 7 months
 ago... and...

Daisy swipes in photos of buff and handsome JERRY ROCKFORD- a replica of pregnancy photo shoot Amanda had with Tom:

DAISY (CONT'D)
 Amanda and her new man just
 celebrated their baby's first
 birthday.

Jackie's hand over mouth, removing it only to continue calculating by counting fingers on both hands but runs out.

JACKIE
OOH that's messy...

DAISY
Search of Jerry Rockford reveals-
Company website, with Jerry's headshot and bio at the top-

DAISY (CONT'D)
He's CEO of the multi-billion
dollar hedge fund... where Tom
works as an accountant.

JACKIE
HIS BOSS?? JERRY ROCKFORD??
Jackie sees buff Jerry's profile pics on Daisy's phone-

JACKIE (CONT'D)
High school Prom King Jerry?!
(shaking head)
Daisy, you do not want to be the
rebound to that mess...

Daisy pauses.

JACKIE (CONT'D)
Daisy??

DAISY
(zooming in using phone)
There he is!

Tom exits office building, dressed sharply in a fine suit.

JACKIE
(over Daisy's shoulder,
impressed)
Wow.

Tom moves closer; Daisy ducks, her face in Jack's crotch.
Startled by sharp tapping on window by a uniformed COP-

DAISY
(lowering window)
Officer... it's not how it looks...

JACKIE
It's *really* not...

TRAFFIC COP
(hands ticket, flatly,
before walking away)
No standing.

JACKIE
(peering at ticket)
That is a new wig right there!
(MORE)

JACKIE (CONT'D)
 (then to comfort Daisy)
 ... a cheap one.

As Tom gets closer, they frantically duck again!

INT. FANCY GYM - DAY

They come up for air in a pool- matching bathing suits, goggles and water caps.

JACKIE
 (following instructor's moves)
 OMG -now we're stalking him at his gym??

DAISY
 I'm not a stalker! We're just taking advantage of the free trial that just happens to be available... at his gym.

Water noodle bops Daisy's head. Jackie dodges another noodle-

JACKIE
 (helping flailing Daisy)
 Why Water AeRobics?! You can't even swim??

DAISY
 (spitting water)
 The free trial required checking out a group fitness class.

JACKIE
 (twirling with the class)
 And 7 am Water Aerobics was your first choice!?

DAISY
 (attempting to keep up)
 NO! But it perfectly coincides with Tom's regular gym routine.

JACKIE
 OK Ms. Not-a-Stalker??

DAISY
 He checks in online! I don't follow him here! The membership is crazy expensive.

Jackie peers over swim goggles, giving Daisy another look-

DAISY (CONT'D)
 (as she sinks again)
 I owe you bottomless brunch at the Mexican place across the street.

JACKIE
 (helping Daisy back up)
 You're lucky this pool isn't
 bottomless!

INT. FANCY GYM - SALES - DAY

Buff salesman, VINCE, slides contract across table.

JACK
 (eyeballing contract)
 Daisy, you can't afford this on a
 teacher's salary!? That's like 3
 wigs right there... virgin hair!

VINCE
 Mrs. Swift, you can't put a price
 on health.

Jack's head snaps towards Daisy, as she looks sheepish.

VINCE (CONT'D)
 (suddenly serious)
 Daisy... it's my job, so I have to
 ask-

UH OH.

VINCE (CONT'D)
 Do you have cancer?

BFFs have twin "Huh" faces.

DAISY
 No...

VINCE
 Well, cancer is an excuse for most
 anything, but I even have cancer
 patients in here, mid-chemo,
 fighting for their lives - so
 what's your excuse, Daisy?

JACK
 You're awful!

VINCE
 Whoa ladies. Now don't be so
 sensitive. What's awful is not
 prioritizing your good health when
 people are dying all around us!

JACK
 (aghast)
 Seriously??

VINCE
 (continuing to Daisy)
 This way you can work out with your
 husband- keep each other on track.
 Although, you need it more-
 especially as you get to a
 particular age. I'll even throw in
 a complimentary body fat analysis.

Vince extends body fat gadget that's swatted away by Jack.

JACK
 She is not fat!

Vince eye-balling Daisy's physique, re-extends gadget.

VINCE
 Hmm... her BMI indicates otherwise.
 Daisy, you're what we experts in
 the field diagnose as "skinny fat."

Jack knocks away gadget, pulling Daisy out of the chair-

JACK
 How very dare you! Let's go Daisy.

VINCE
 You can't handle the truth!! I see
 what sags!!

As Jack ushers Daisy away out of the gym-

JACK
 (whispering)
 MRS. SWIFT???

DAISY
 It was the family trial!

INT. MEXICAN RESTAURANT ACROSS FROM GYM - DAY

At the bar, toasting margaritas-

DAISY
 You're right- our first meeting
 after decades shouldn't be at the
 gym when I'm a sweaty mess.

JACK
 Drowning mess.

DAISY
 I can engineer a more favorable
 reunion.

Jack slurps in protest.

DAISY (CONT'D)
 I'm not a stalker! Jack, I don't
 need to waste time creeping on him
 online when we actually know each
 other? I can find a way to run into
 him... just to see if there's
 anything there after all these
 years...

JACK
 (shaking his head)
 You promised me nachos...

Daisy grabs nachos straight off tray from passing WAITER-

DAISY
 (shoving them towards Jack)
 Happy??

JACK
 (diving in)
 Skinny fat... what a jerk!
 (devouring)
 These are so worth it.

Waiter moves to object when Jack winks seductively with a
 mouth full of cheesy nachos. Waiter hurries away...
 intrigued.

DAISY
 (joining him)
 MMM. So worth it.

Sudden pause- she casts the nacho back into the basket-

DAISY (CONT'D)
 I can't do this!

JACK
 (eats discarded nacho)
 Uh huh... yes you can!

DAISY
 I can't meet TOM SWIFT saggy!

JACK
 OMG... you're already planning on
 getting naked with TOM SWIFT?!

HOT BLONDE
 OH HELL NO!??

Daisy and Jack baffled- as a nearby HOT BLONDE shoves aside
 the Waiter storming over.

HOT BLONDE (CONT'D)
 Keep your hands off hussy!

JACK
(eating faster)
I'm not sharing, Henny...

HOT BLONDE
Neither am I!

DAISY
We can just order you more nachos?

UH OH... Tom appears, handing Hot Blonde/AKA LORI her drink-

TOM
Lori- what's wrong?

LORI
I want to know WHO this is and what
you're doing with her, Tom??

Daisy sinks into her seat like she could die.

TOM
(puzzled)
I'm not sure what you're talking
about?

LORI
Oh really, you're not getting naked
with her behind my back??

TOM
What?? Naked?? No, I don't even
know these people.
(on second thought, as he
looks more carefully)
Wait... Jack??
(then)
DAISY??

LORI
OH! So you do know this slut!?

JACK
Hey! If you're going to slut-praise
anyone here, it should be me.

Just then, Vince from the gym rushes up to Daisy-

VINCE
Mrs. Swift, I chased your husband
down here from the gym. You left
your credit card behind.

LORI
YOU'RE MARRIED!

Lori throws her drink in Tom's face.

DAISY
But we're not!

Lori grabs Tom's drink and throws it in Daisy's face.

LORI
LI-AH!

She storms off. All mouths drop, including of other diners.
Vince delicately hands Daisy her credit card-

VINCE
Um... so, Daisy, I already took
care of everything and charged the
membership to your card at the
discounted family rate.

Daisy protests. Vince shushes her with a finger to her lips-

VINCE (CONT'D)
Remember, Daisy... even cancer is
no excuse.

Then, Vince is gone-with-the-wind fitness.

Looking worried for Daisy, Jack wipes off confused, wet Tom.

DAISY
Tom... I'm so sorry.

TOM
Wait... wait...
(shaking head)
I can't believe this.

DAISY
I can explain.

TOM
This is horrible.

JACK
(weakly, still wiping)
Just maybe hear her out Tom... for
old times' sake?

DAISY
Tom, I feel so awful about this.

TOM
You have cancer?!

Tom embraces Daisy as Jack's mouth drops.

TOM (CONT'D)
I'm so sorry she did that to you,
Daisy. Here...

Tom forgets himself, handing Daisy his napkins to help her.

DAISY

Well, ugh... I can understand why your girlfriend would be mad.

TOM

No, no, she wasn't my girlfriend. You can probably see why. So ha ha, maybe I should be thanking you for that weird misunderstanding?

JACK

Yeah... such a weird misunderstanding.

TOM

But wow, small world! It's great to see you guys again.

Tom's phone rings interrupting them.

TOM (CONT'D)

Oh, that's an urgent client. Hey, I hate to leave like this.

(pulls out business card)

Daisy, here's my card. I'd love to catch up. I hope you'll be okay.

(rushing off)

Call me.

JACK

Daisy!? What are you going to do!?

DAISY

(dreamy)

Call him...

JACK

Daisy...

Daisy is still in a trance, hearing Bollywood flute music.

DAISY

Uh huh...

As he did in their childhood, Jack snaps his fingers in Daisy's face to break her trance.

JACK

When are you going to tell him you DON'T HAVE CANCER!???

EXT. [SAME] BAR & RESTAURANT - NIGHT

MUSIC: ALLIE X - "HELLO"

Daisy dolled up, waits expectantly.

TOM
Hello Daisy...

All the feels are back for Daisy.

TOM (CONT'D)
(holding open door)
After you.

INT. BAR & RESTAURANT (CONTINUOUS)

As they walk in towards the bar-

BARTENDER
(recognizing Daisy)
Hey! Sex on the Beach!?

As Tom gives her an amused look.

DAISY
Ha.. Ugh... inside joke...

TOM
Oh! I see. I was wondering how the
Bartender knew my favorite drink.

Daisy looks pained.

TOM (CONT'D)
(to Bartender)
A Fuzzy Navel then, good Sir!

Daisy and Tom share a laugh. Daisy noting the live band-

DAISY
Hey, do you still play?

TOM
(surprised)
You remember that?

DAISY
(embarrassed)
Oh... it was so long ago. You
probably don't remember.

TOM
Do you still dance?

It's Daisy's turn to be surprised...

TOM (CONT'D)
(sentimental)
Of course, I remember.

DAISY
You do??

TOM
You know, I tried to get in touch
with you after high school...

DAISY
You did??

TOM
Well, it's kind of embarrassing. I
actually called your house once.

DAISY
YOU did???

TOM
I probably looked like such a
stalker to your Dad.

DAISY
My Dad knew??

TOM
Ugh yeah. He said you'd moved to
India before hanging up on me.

DAISY
What?? He did?? I didn't!?

TOM
I figured he was overprotective.

DAISY
I can't believe him. I never
knew... you called me?

TOM
Yes.

Tom is suddenly intense, eyes locked with Daisy.

TOM (CONT'D)
I called you every day for a year.

DAISY
You did??

TOM
It wasn't over...

Daisy stunned and breathing heavy...

TOM (CONT'D)
It still isn't over!

Tom pulls in a breathless Daisy for a passionate kiss. He
lifts her up onto the bar, as they kiss crazy. Daisy sweeps
away drinks to make room. Glasses go flying-

CRASH of breaking glass INTERRUPTS FANTASY- as Daisy has clumsily leaned onto the bar, causing their drinks to fall.

DAISY
(grabbing napkins)
I'm so sorry, Tom!

TOM
No worries. Hey...
(looking down)
Just what I ordered.

They laugh as Daisy dabs his stomach.

EXT. DAISY'S HOME - NIGHT

Tom walks Daisy to her door, under a moonlit sky.

TOM
Daisy, I had a great time tonight.

DAISY
Me too, Tom.

TOM
I'm glad you were up to it...

Daisy is confused, then uncomfortable as she gets his drift.

TOM (CONT'D)
I didn't want to put you on the spot earlier... but I feel bad not asking at all. So, how are you?

DAISY
I'm good. I'm great. Actually...

TOM
Daisy, you can be honest with me.

DAISY
(defensive)
I am being honest. Like... what? What's that supposed to mean??

TOM
Whoa, Daisy, I'm sorry. I didn't mean to intrude.

DAISY
(deflated)
No... don't be sorry. Tom, I'm the one who should be sorry... I mean, I had a wonderful time tonight...

TOM
Me too.

DAISY
It's just that... this kind of all
caught me by surprise.

TOM
Me too.

DAISY
(struggling)
But I need to be honest with you.
I realize maybe this is even
happening because you feel sorry
for me. You didn't have to do this
tonight. I'm fine... I...

Interrupting her confession, Tom kisses Daisy. Daisy checks
to see that this isn't another fantasy running wild. It's
not.

TOM
I was so happy to see you again,
Daisy.

DAISY
You were??

TOM
What are the chances that I run
into you after all these years?

DAISY
Ha! Yes, totally by chance, running
into each other at that restaurant.
It's very popular for brunch.. so
if you're into breakfast food at
lunch, it was probably only a
matter of time.

TOM
At Rainbow Elementary! I thought I
recognized you under all that
sloppy joe!

DAISY
Ugh...

TOM
I know, I'm coming off like a
stalker again... but I want to see
you again.

DAISY
You do??

TOM
If that's okay with you. I don't
want to pressure you at all.

Daisy looks up at Tom... it's now or never for the truth.
She leans in and kisses him again. Maybe later.

INT. DAISY'S HOME - NIGHT

Closing door, she kicks off shoes in the dimly lit home. She hums "SO THIS IS LOVE" from Disney's Cinderella.

DAISY
 (throws purse on table)
 Mmmhmmmm hnn... Mmmhmmmm mmmmm....
 (twirls around)
 And now I know... Mmmhmmmm...
 (jumps on sofa, spreads
 arms)
 My heart has wings... Mmmhmmmm
 (leaps off to window)
 Mmmhmmmm... Mmmmmmmmmmmmm...
 (fully singing)
 I'll touch every star in the sky...
 (looks out at moon)
 SO THIS... IS....

Behind her looms a dark presence... closer with each step...
 Daisy, startled, turns to see the shadowy figure-

DAISY (CONT'D)
 (trips backward)
 AAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAHH!!!!!!

INTRUDER
 (crashing into table)
 AAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAHHH!

Intruder flicks on the lights as Daisy picks herself up-

DAISY
 MOM??

GADHA
 Oh my God! Daisy! You almost gave
 me a heart attack!?

DAISY
 I gave YOU!? How did you even get
 in??

GADHA
 What do you mean??
 (scoffs, picks up items)
 I got in with MY KEY. How else? Am
 I BAT WOMAN??

DAISY
 You mean Cat Woman? And what do you
 mean YOUR KEY?

GADHA
 Bats, cats, dogs, thieves- this is
 how you think of your mother?

DAISY
(flings open drawer)
You took my spare key!?

GADHA
(tidying around Daisy)
Of course. How else would I help
you in case of any emergency?

DAISY
WHAT's the emergency MOM??

GADHA
Do I need an emergency to see my
only daughter?

Gadha points to the kitchen table set with a feast.

GADHA (CONT'D)
I brought you all this but now it's
cold.
(waves hand before nose)
But who needs food when I see
you've had your fill of drinks.

DAISY
Yes Ma... I'm almost 40. I think
I'm old enough to drink.

GADHA
A single woman, like you, coming
home so late at night. DRUNK. You
watch the TRUE ID channel!

DAISY
(picks at food)
I'm not drunk...
(realization hits)
Oh... I lost track of the day.

GADHA
You could have at least come by for
his birthday...

DAISY
Mom, do we have to do this now?

GADHA
He's your father, Daisy.

DAISY
I'm not the one who needs the
reminders...

GADHA
DAISY!

DAISY
(remorseful)
I'm sorry.
(MORE)

DAISY (CONT'D)
 (touches Mom's arm)
 I'm jumping in the shower. Leave
 the food out. I'll eat.

Pleased, Gadha eagerly plates food to reheat.

INT. DAISY'S HOME - BEDROOM - NIGHT

Daisy shovels ice cream but not stalking FB this time-
 Googles: "Cancers that are not as bad to have and not fatal."

INTERCUT with search results, we see dates with Tom.

COFFEE DATE:

TOM
 Wow... so thyroid cancer. What's
 the treatment for that?

DAISY
 Oh, they've got all the latest
 tech, just to zap that pesky
 thyroid away.

TOM
 So they removed yours?

DAISY
 (confused)
 Removed what?

TOM
 Your thyroid.

DAISY
 OH. MY THYROID. You mean do I still
 have my thyroid...

INTERCUT: Google results- "Depending on stage of cancer..."

BACK TO DATE: Daisy improvising badly-

DAISY (CONT'D)
 OH no, tonsils out years ago but
 thyroid still hanging on. Haha...
 eh... they caught mine really
 early. Stage barely there.

Tom looks relieved as he moves forward to clasp her hand.

INTERCUT more Google cancer research: "Treatments include
 surgery, hormone therapy, radioactive iodine"

BACK TO DATE:

DAISY (CONT'D)
 They treated mine with...
 radioactive iodine.

TOM
Wow... was that painful?

Daisy coughs, spitting out, catching her throat.

TOM (CONT'D)
Are you okay!?

Daisy nods vigorously as she continues to clear her throat-

DAISY
No, that's not the cancer...
(wiping her mouth)
Ha... just sucked some hot coffee
down my windpipe.

Tom rubs Daisy's back.

INTERCUT: Daisy's search results turn up a "Cancer Support Group" in her neighborhood.

DAISY (CONT'D)
(thinking aloud)
Nah... that's crazy...

INT. COMMUNITY CENTER - NIGHT

Daisy looks around suspect, as she quickly scampers in. She hangs towards the back, as attendees greet each other.

Overcome by guilt, Daisy turns quickly to leave. She collides into handsome man, BOBBY- donuts go flying.

DAISY
I'm so sorry!

Bobby manages to catch a flying donut mid-air.

BOBBY
It was for the best. They're sugar
free.
(takes a bite)
Meh. I'd rather have cancer.

Daisy is shocked- Bobby laughs and offers her what remains in the box. Daisy smiles and helps herself to a sad donut.

EXT. PARK - DAY

On another date with Tom- Daisy is noticeably more comfortable.

DAISY
Yes, so I'm pretty far along in my
treatment plan...

INTERCUT to cancer survivors from the support group-

NANCY

And my doctors have worked really closely with me to align their recommendations-

Back to Daisy talking to Tom-

DAISY

... so that they're compatible with my personal goals.

Tom listens intently walking along with Daisy.

INTERCUT to another cancer survivor-

PERRY

I felt really rushed, like I didn't have a lot of time to do the research. And I felt so pressured to make a decision quickly-

Back to Daisy with Tom-

DAISY

... about something I really didn't know much about...

INTERCUT to Bobby-

BOBBY

And sure, Doctors have the expertise, but we know ourselves. We know what our health is like-

Back to Daisy with Tom-

DAISY

I know how I feel day to day...

INTERCUT support group-

BOBBY

We know what makes us feel better or worse. So it's really important that my doctors are listening and including me in decision-making-

Back to Daisy talking to Tom-

DAISY

... and then it's okay if I don't feel like an expert. Because I don't have to be.

TOM

I'm learning so much from you, Daisy. I never realized what fighting this truly involves.

(MORE)

TOM (CONT'D)
(embracing Daisy)
I'm so proud of you.

Daisy looks sick.

EXT. COMMUNITY CENTER - NIGHT

As Daisy leaves support group meeting, Bobby catches up.

BOBBY
Hey! Daisy!

DAISY
Bobby- hi!

BOBBY
You always cut out of here so quickly!

DAISY
Oh. I thought it might be weird for the group... that I'm just like this creepy observer with nothing to share.

BOBBY
No pressure. I'm just glad to see you again. After your first meeting, I wasn't sure you'd be back... I mean, not because you died...
(pounds her arm)
Survivor!

DAISY
(struggling)
Oh Bobby, I've really appreciated meeting you, all of you... I just... don't want to impose...

BOBBY
Don't feel that way. Hey, you hungry?

DAISY
Oh. I'm actually seeing someone.

BOBBY
What kind of monster boyfriend would have you deny a dying man what could be his last meal?

DAISY
I'm so sorry!

BOBBY
(cracks up)
I'm just messing with you!
(MORE)

BOBBY (CONT'D)

But no seriously, I gotta pack it
in before my chemo starts and I
can't keep down my extra-cheesy-
double-mac-melts.

Daisy looks sad.

BOBBY (CONT'D)

Daisy...

Daisy looks up.

BOBBY (CONT'D)

Have you ever had an extra-cheesy-
double-mac-melt?

Daisy shakes her head no.

BOBBY (CONT'D)

Well then, what's your man gotta do
with me!?

(extending his elbow)

Let's go lady!

Daisy laughs as she grasps Bobby's arm.

INT. DINER - NIGHT

Daisy peruses selections on a mini-juke box on the table.

BOBBY

(holds up quarter)

So what do we toast to?

DAISY

WOW! They actually have BTS!

BOBBY

BTS?

DAISY

(open-mouthed)

The global sensation...

She grabs quarter from Bobby- plops it in, punching entry-

DAISY (CONT'D)

The biggest boy band of all time.

BOBBY

The Beatles?

DAISY

The Bangtan Boys!

Bobby nods to music- they toast milk shakes before feasting!

AS MUSIC BTS "BOY WITH LUV" CONTINUES:

EXT. HOSPITAL - DAY

BOBBY
You don't have to do this with
me... it's going to be hours.

DAISY
(shakes head)
I don't know if that's going to be
enough time... to get through this.
(holds up phone)
The entire discography of BTS going
back to their first studio album,
Dark & Wild.

BOBBY
Wow! Are you going to show me all
the dance moves too?

DAISY
Is that even a question? Team work
makes the dream work!

Together, arm in arm, they step through Hospital doors.

MONTAGE:

Hospital: Bobby hooked up to chemo by DOCTOR MENTA.

Doggie Park: Daisy is greeted by Tom, Susie and their dog:

DAISY
Hello, Susie. And Buster! I have a
little something for you...

SUSIE
(takes gift bag)
You do?? For me??

DAISY
Yes, just for you.

Susie excitedly pulls out BUTTERPHANT- a stuffed hybrid
elephant with giant colorful butterfly wings for ears.

SUSIE
(hugs Daisy)
OH MY GOSH! A BUTTERPHANT!!

TOM
How did you know?? She's obsessed
with them.

DAISY
Who isn't?

LATER AT HOME: Daisy closes Tom's Facebook noting Susie's toy
wish list with Butterphants at the very top.

LATER AT HOSPITAL: Bobby looks weaker and has lost his hair. Daisy helps him walk down the hallway towards the exit.

END MONTAGE

INT: TOM'S HOME - NIGHT

Tom grabs snacks from the kitchen, as Daisy clicks through TV, catching "The Fault in Our Stars":

AUGUSTUS
(to Hazel, with cigarette)
You put the thing that does the
killing right between your teeth,
but you never give it the power to
kill you.

Daisy quickly changes the channel. Next, a sobbing couple:

OLIVER
Jenny, I'm sorry.

JENNY
Don't. Love means never having to
say you're sorry.

DAISY
Bullshit.

Daisy clicks past "Love Story" only to see "A Walk to Remember" after Mandy Moore reveals her leukemia.

JAMIE
"I do not need a reason to be angry
with God."

DAISY
(to herself)
What the hell??

She abruptly turns off TV, throwing remote like it's cursed.

TOM
(waves Peach Schnapps)
Susie is with my mom tonight, so we
can really let loose.

Joining with snacks and drinks, Tom catches Daisy's tears.

TOM (CONT'D)
Daisy, what's wrong??

DAISY
(quickly wipes face)
I'm so sorry... I don't want to
ruin tonight.

TOM
(taking her hands)
Daisy, you can talk to me.

DAISY
(holding back tears)
Bobby... had a rough day today...

TOM
I'm so sorry, Daisy. This must be scary for you, too.

DAISY
No... no it's not about me. I just realize... how lucky I am... and I just feel... really stupid.

TOM
No Daisy...

DAISY
(insistent)
I need to make things better...

TOM
(tenderly)
Don't put so much pressure on yourself.

DAISY
Tom, I need to tell you something...

Tom pulls her in and kisses her, taking Daisy's breath away-

TOM
Me too. Daisy... I love you.

Daisy is shocked. They proceed to make love.

LATER: Together in Tom's bed, Daisy's dreams have finally come true, but she's silently crying.

INT. DAISY'S HOME - BEDROOM - DAY

Daisy hugs a giant pillow to her chest, teary-eyed.

JACK
DAISY. You still haven't told him??

DAISY
Jack, I tried... but then...

JACK
But then...

Daisy looks down.

JACK (CONT'D)
BUT THEN???

Daisy shakes head.

JACK (CONT'D)
You didn't...

Daisy buries head in the pillow.

JACK (CONT'D)
YOU DID IT!!?

DAISY
Jack... he told me loved me.

JACK
Oh my God, Daisy. You have to tell
him the truth.

DAISY
I can't...

JACK
What do you mean, you can't!? You
can't keep doing this!?

DAISY
I'm not going to!

Jack is confused.

DAISY (CONT'D)
I'm going to break up with him.

JACK
I don't understand. You did all
this for the man of your dreams.
Now he tells you he loves you, and
you're just going to dump him??

DAISY
Not forever...

JACK
OH GOD DAISY.

DAISY
Just long enough...

JACK
Long enough for what??

DAISY
To be cured?

JACK
Daisy!?

DAISY

Jack, this way I don't have to keep lying to him anymore.

JACK

Wait, so let me get this straight. You're going to stop lying to him... by lying to him.

DAISY

It will be the last one! I swear. I don't see any other way out of this. It's gone too far.

JACK

Why can't you just tell him the truth?

DAISY

I'll look like a total psychopath!

JACK

Well, yes.

DAISY

See!?

Daisy picks up her cell phone and starts to dial.

JACK

Oh God.

DAISY

(on phone)

Tom, last night was... everything. But I just need some time... to focus on getting better. It doesn't mean that I don't want to be with you... because I do.

Daisy paces the room as Jack looks on open-mouthed.

DAISY (CONT'D)

I really really do. I just need to take this break. I promise I will call you... when I'm all better. And I hope you can understand why I'm doing this. I'm so sorry.

(hangs up, sadly)

There... I did it.

JACK

Did you just break up with him over voicemail??

Daisy is sheepish. Jack throws a pillow at her.

INT. RAINBOW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - K-CLASSROOM - DAY

BUDDY
(passing around cartons)
MMM. Delicious pea milk for
everyone!

LITTLE MIKEY
EW PEEPEE MILKS!!!

BUDDY
Mikey, it's not peepee milk. See,
let me try. So yummy...

Buddy takes a sip from the carton and gags.

Meanwhile, Billy tugs at Daisy's elbow-

DAISY
Yes, Billy?

LITTLE BILLY
Ms. Daisy, is my sister okay?

DAISY
(confused, then
apologetic)
Oh... yes, YES of course... your
sister. She is totally fine, Billy.
She was just, um, getting a
makeover.

Billy nods happily. Suddenly, a ridiculous milk stream shoots
out of Buddy's nose. Students are hysterical.

DAISY (CONT'D)
(rushing to Buddy's aid)
Oh no, Buddy. Don't force it...

BUDDY
(milk drips down face)
I tried, Ms. Daisy. I really tried.

Little Jenny adamantly shoves her pea milk carton away.

INT. HOSPITAL - DAY

Bobby is getting more chemo. Doctor Menta hands Daisy papers.

DOCTOR MENTA
These may help with his discomfort.

DAISY
Bobby, I'll be back in no time.

BOBBY
Thanks Babe.

Daisy rushes out. Cell rings. She sadly ignores Tom's call.

EXT. HOSPITAL - DAY

As she walks out, Daisy runs straight into her Mother-

GADHA

DAISY...

(hugging her, crying)

MY BABY!!???

To Daisy's added horror, Tom breathlessly runs up-

TOM

Daisy, I'm so sorry. I tried
calling you.

GADHA

You have cancer!??

TOM

I was worried about you... I came
to your place. Your mom was there.
I didn't know she didn't know...

GADHA

How could you keep this from me!?

DAISY

Mom, it's not like that...

GADHA

How else is it?? You're coming
here... to the hospital... going
through treatments... in secret??

DAISY

Mom, please...

GADHA

And even your secret boyfriend
knows, but you can't tell me - how
can you keep such secrets from me??
Your own mother!?

TOM

I'm so sorry, Daisy.

GADHA

No... no... I am the sorry one...
(grips Daisy fiercely)
Daisy, I know your father and I...
we were not perfect. But whatever
our faults, nothing should make you
feel like you have to go through
this alone.

Gadha hugs Daisy again crying, as Tom approaches-

TOM

Daisy, your Mom is right... You don't have to do this all alone.

DAISY

Tom... I don't want to bring you into this...

TOM

Daisy, I'm not here out of whatever pity you think I have for you. It's my choice to be by your side but I will respect your decision, whatever you need from me, because I meant what I said when I told you I loved you.

GADHA

Daisy! Did you hear that?? He loves you!

(breaking down sobbing)

Don't push us away, not when you need us the most. I beg you.

DAISY

Mom, please. Okay. I'm sorry. Just please... can we just keep this between us. Please stop crying.

GADHA

Only if you promise not to shut me out.

DAISY

I won't...

GADHA

And Tom, too!?

Daisy slowly nods. Gadha hugs Daisy and pulls Tom in to join them. Sandwiched in between them, Daisy looks suffocated.

INT. CAFE - DAY

As a WAITER serves her eggs-

DAISY

I didn't order this?

Gadha grabs the dish from the Waiter and then dumps her own same egg dish onto Daisy's plate.

GADHA

(serving piles of eggs)

Eat. You need your protein. And here-

(pours tall glass of OJ)

Vitamin C. Dolly checked with Connie.

DAISY
What? Mom?? You told Aunt Dolly!?

GADHA
Of course I did! Your cousin Connie
is a cancer specialist!

DAISY
Mom, you promised-

Gadha's phone rings; as she answers-

GADHA
Oh, that's Dolly!

Daisy mouths "nooo" as Mom shoves phone in her face on
speakerphone.

AUNT DOLLY (V.O. ON SPEAKER)
Hello? GADHA? DAISY??

DAISY
(painfully)
Yes, Auntie.

AUNT DOLLY (V.O.)
CAN YOU HEAR ME?? ARE YOU THERE??

DAISY
Yes, AUNTIE! It's Daisy.

AUNTY DOLLY (V.O.)
I told Connie everything! She wants
to see you right away!

DAISY
Ugh. That's okay, Aunty.

Gadha and Aunty Dolly protest at once-

GADHA
What do you mean that's OK??

AUNTY DOLLY (V.O.)
No no, that is not okay!! You
should not keep such secrets from
your mother. You are torturing her!

Daisy looks up in annoyance, as Gadha shrugs innocently.

AUNT DOLLY (V.O.)
You see here, Daisy- you know your
cousin graduated from Johns Hopkins
Medical School. If anyone can cure
cancer, it's my Connie.

Daisy stands up, shoving the phone back at her Mom.

GADHA
(whispering)
Where are you going??

DAISY
Can I go to the bathroom please?
I'm going to be sick...

GADHA
(hysterically)
Oh no, Dolly, she says she's
feeling sick!

DAISY
Not like that! It's that time of
the month. Gosh Ma!

GADHA
(relieved to Dolly)
It's okay. It's her time of the
menses.

AUNT DOLLY (V.O.)
OH, so she still has eggs left??

Daisy shakes her head walking away but then freezes hearing-

GADHA
No no, she still has all her hair.

AUNT DOLLY (V.O.)
She's getting chemo but her hair
isn't falling out?? Are you sure,
Gadha? What treatment is she
getting? How do you know she's even
getting the right treatments?? Let
me ask Connie about this.

INT. CAFE BATHROOM - DAY

Daisy shuts herself inside. She looks at her reflection,
fingering her hair.

Her cell rings... it's CONNIE.

DAISY
(disbelief)
Already?

She ignores the phone.

INT. CAFE - DAY

Exiting bathroom- Daisy is shocked to see ahead at the table,
her mother greeting CONNIE (in scrubs).

GADHA
 Connie, sorry for troubling you
 dear.

DAISY
 (to herself)
 Already?!

CONNIE
 No worries, Aunty. I work right
 around the corner. Mom had me
 emergency paged to let me know you
 were in the neighborhood. I've been
 trying to reach Daisy.

GADHA
 She just stopped in the rest room-
 come sit, sit.
 (serving)
 Have eggs. Protein is good for
 cancer patients, yes?

As Daisy hides behind a moving waiter to sneak out, Connie
 doubtfully catches sight of her.

CONNIE
 Daisy?

EXT. OUTSIDE CAFE - CONTINUOUS

BEGIN ABSURD CHASE SCENE THROUGH CITY STREETS:

Daisy makes a mad dash. Connie leaves restaurant after her,
 with Gadha following Connie but falling behind.

CONNIE
 (confused, chasing)
 Daisy?? Wait... Daisy!

Waiter assuming it's a dine-and-dash rushes out-

WAITER
 (waving check)
 Hey! Wait! Stop there!

Daisy grabs the large floppy hat of a passerby to cover her
 face. The confused passerby grabs at her head as Daisy
 escapes.

Unable to see well past the hat, Daisy crashes into another
 pedestrian who hurls insults at her.

Gadha wiping her brow, breathlessly flags down a pedicab. She
 directs biking PEDICAB DRIVER to catch up to Connie, who
 jumps in.

Waiter chases the pedicab.

Looking behind her, still shielded by the floppy hat, Daisy breaks out into a run as she sees the pedicab gaining on her.

Daisy crosses the busy intersection to go opposite traffic, with Gadha and Connie shouting after her.

Pedicab Driver recklessly careens through traffic to follow Daisy and narrowly misses colliding with a TRAFFIC COP directing the busy intersection. Waiter, catching up, alerts Traffic Cop to unpaid bill.

Traffic Cop jumps on segway, with Waiter hopping behind grabbing on by the cop's waist. Segway flashes lights in pursuit combined with sirens.

Now chased through city streets by her mother and cousin in a pedicab, followed by a siren-blaring segway, Daisy cuts through a park and blends into a group of STROLLER STRIDERS - exercising parents with their kids in tow. She assists in pushing a tired mom's stroller as she weaves her way through the group in escape.

Pedicab chaotically maneuvers through the fitness group, eventually emerging with a displaced TODDLER in GADHA's arms in the back seat.

ANGRY MOM
MY BABY!!!

Amused Toddler loves this fun game and waves back at mommy.

In the group's collision with the segway, empty stroller now seats Waiter who was knocked off Cop's back. Another FIT MOM steps in to stroll the Waiter.

Angry mom, followed by army of striders, run after pedicab, yelling. They are fit and fast, with stroller Waiter even overtaking segway Cop.

Finally, Daisy catches sight of refuge, marked by a distinctive pole with a helix of striped red, white and blue. She throws open the doors.

INT. BARBER SHOP - DAY (CONTINUOUS)

BARBER SHOP OWNER
(tending to a customer)
Hey Doll - how can we help you?

Daisy madly charges to the Barber Shop Owner.

She can see through the windowed exterior of the shop, as the Traffic Cop pulls over the pedicab, detaining all those in pursuit who are pointing wildly in her direction.

To the bewilderment of everyone in the shop, Daisy grabs the buzzer out of Owner's hand and runs it straight through the middle of her head.

INT. DAISY'S HOME - BEDROOM - DAY

JACK
NO. YOU. DIDN'T.

We see a totally bald Daisy.

JACK (CONT'D)
GURL. You had the good hair!! And
you didn't even save me any!?
(then seriously)
Daisy... don't you think this has
gone way too far? Come on...

DAISY
It will grow back.

Daisy's phone rings- it's Tom.

DAISY (CONT'D)
Tom can't see me like this!

JACK
So you did all this to be with him,
and now you can't even be with him.

DAISY
Just for now... I don't want to
drag him further into this mess. I
just need to lay low for the next
month. Then, it will be over with
my clean bill of health.

Doorbell rings- they freeze. Jack rushes to look out window.

JACK
Oh no...

DAISY
No...

Daisy and Jack wildly scramble around room. Jack throws
whatever he sees- shirts, pants, nothing works. Catching
stuffed animal-

DAISY (CONT'D)
WTF?!

JACK
IDK!?

GADHA
(busts open door)
Daisy, you have guests!

Jack throws a bath towel straight over Daisy's head-

DAISY
 (blindly, arms
 outstretched)
 What?? MOM - NO? No guests!

Susie bursts in and rushes over to give Daisy a warm hug.

SUSIE
 Daisy!!!

The towel slides off Daisy's slick bald head... as Tom follows in-

TOM
 Your Mom invited us over? I hope
 we're not intruding...

GADHA
 Of course you're not! Jackie, help
 me get some tea, why don't you?

Jack gives Daisy a helpless look as he follows Gadha out.

Daisy can't even make eye contact.

TOM
 Daisy... please... would you just
 look at me...
 (takes her face in hands)
 You're beautiful. Nothing can
 change that.

SUSIE
 Yes, Ms. Daisy... see!

Susie holds open a hand-drawn card- inside Daisy as Wonder Woman fights cancer, cheered on by Tom, Susie and Buster.

DAISY
 (tearful)
 Oh Susie...

SUSIE
 Do you like it?

Daisy nods and extends her arms to hug Susie again.

DAISY
 Oh yes. How lovely of you...

Tom embraces both Daisy and Susie.

EXT. RAINBOW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - DAY

As Daisy heads in, Principal Walters bursts out of the doors.

PRINCIPAL WALTERS
 Daisy, we need to talk.

DAISY
Sure Joyce...

Daisy proceeds forward assuming they're heading inside-

PRINCIPAL WALTERS
No. You're not working today.

DAISY
Excuse me?

Principal Walters motions walking away from the school.

PRINCIPAL WALTERS
I've already arranged for a sub to cover you.

DAISY
Joyce... I'm not sure what's going on...

PRINCIPAL WALTERS
(points at Daisy's head)
Really Daisy? Come on, we're not blind.

DAISY
(touches head scarf)
Oh this... I can explain...

PRINCIPAL WALTERS
I don't need your explanations. But I've been getting questions from parents also.

DAISY
Wow... already??

PRINCIPAL WALTERS
You have a responsibility to this school and to its students.

DAISY
Of course. Yes, I totally understand. I'm so sorry.

PRINCIPAL WALTERS
See, there you go.

Daisy is really not following...

PRINCIPAL WALTERS (CONT'D)
Daisy, you're not going to be able to help anyone if you don't put on your own oxygen mask first.

DAISY
I'm sorry??

PRINCIPAL WALTERS
 There you go again! Why do you keep
 apologizing?? Of course, you can
 take time off. You should never
 have hesitated to ask me.

DAISY
 I don't need time off?

PRINCIPAL WALTERS
 Your mother reached out to me.

DAISY
 Oh no... she shouldn't have!

PRINCIPAL WALTERS
 I'm glad she did. She was
 distraught.

DAISY
 No, you don't understand Joyce...

PRINCIPAL WALTERS
 Of course I understand! I've
 already approved your leave so you
 can focus on your treatment.

DAISY
 I don't want leave, Joyce.

PRINCIPAL WALTERS
 Is it financial, Daisy?? Listen,
 you need to BREATHE FIRST.
 (cups Daisy's mouth)
 TAKE IN THAT OXYGEN.

Daisy as she deep breathes...

PRINCIPAL WALTERS (CONT'D)
 See how good that feels.

Daisy nods, as Principal wafts air towards her face.

PRINCIPAL WALTERS (CONT'D)
 Good! That's better. I know how
 dedicated of a teacher you are, but
 I'm here to support you.

Daisy unwittingly has been led to the back of the school...

PRINCIPAL WALTERS (CONT'D)
 WE ALL ARE!!!

Teachers and students await, including her own K-Class. Buddy
 rips away his clothing revealing colorful unitard.

DAISY
 Oh... My... God.

Buddy twirling gymnastics ribbon leads K-Class in a heartfelt song and dance to upbeat pop song for their teacher.

Tom joins in a flute solo. Susie cheers!

Magical performance ends with Buddy and K-Class swarming Daisy for massive group hug! As Daisy clambers out from the pit of love, cameras descend-

NEWS STACEY

We're here live, at Rainbow Elementary, where cancer survivor Daisy Fernandes was just celebrated by her kindergarten students in an amazing tribute to their teacher!

As news cameras zoom in even closer on the horrified Daisy-

PRINCIPAL WALTERS

Yes, we want Daisy to know how much she is loved by all of us here. And that's why, it's my honor, on behalf of our Parent Teacher Association, to let Daisy know...

Daisy dreadfully waits for the bomb drop.

PRINCIPAL WALTERS (CONT'D)

The Go-FundMe we set up for you has already raised over \$100,000!!

DAISY

Oh no...

NEWS STACEY

That is incredible Principal Walters! And in even more amazing news, our local dealership has generously gifted Ms. Daisy this brand new car!

Car with red bow drives up. Man exits, hands keys to Daisy-

DAISY

(shaking head furiously)
I can't accept this...

PRINCIPAL WALTERS

Daisy, your mother let us know your hardships. You don't have to worry about making it to your treatments in your old beat-up car anymore.

DAISY

(confused)
It's 2 years old??

Principal Walters shoves keys into Daisy's hands while making the "breathe" motion. Tom and Susie throw arms around Daisy, as reporter concludes-

NEWS STACEY

What a heartwarming story, and you
can just feel all the love here,
with me, Stacey Dominguez, signing
off, with this message from
everyone-

As Stacey aims her mic back towards the crowd, they shout-

RAINBOW SCHOOL CROWD

CANCER CAN'T STOP MISS DAISY!!!!

CUT TO: School parking lot, Daisy in new car, on phone-

DAISY

OH MY GOD! Jack, what could I do??

INTERCUT: Jack outside of dance rehearsal, hush-hush-

JACK

I mean- those kids were freaking
adorable- future queens, all of
them. And wow, Tom still killing it
on the flute!

DAISY

JACK... What am I going to do??

JACK

Honey... it's never too late for
the truth.

DAISY

NO! NO! I can't! I could lose my
job now if the truth comes out.

JACK

Daisy, it will be okay. We'll think
of something. OH NO...

DAISY

What? WHAT???

JACK

(looking down at phone)
It already has a million views.

Throwing open door, Daisy rushes to a trash bin and throws
up. As she hurls, a small hand pats her back comfortingly-

LITTLE BILLY

Are you okay, Ms. Daisy?

Billy's Mom, KATIE (WHITE), whispers to husband, MONROE
(AFRICAN AMERICAN):

KATIE

Poor Ms. Daisy...

As Daisy collects herself, wiping mouth, Katie hands her a water bottle.

KATIE (CONT'D)
Here, Ms. Daisy, have some of this.

DAISY
(weakly)
Thank you...

Then, Daisy suddenly remembers-

DAISY (CONT'D)
Oh Billy, I'm glad to see you!
Here...

Daisy turns back into open car- Jack on phone screeching-

JACK
DAISY!! DAISY!! Are you okay?? Give
me a sign girl! Or I'm calling
911!!!

DAISY
(rummaging through tote)
Jack... JACKIE! I'm okay. Be right
back!

Daisy retrieves the fresh and clean Reborn Doll.

DAISY (CONT'D)
Here, Billy- I have your baby
sister for you!

LITTLE BILLY
(head tilted)
That's not my baby sister...
(points at Monroe)
That's my baby sister!

Monroe steps forward to show Daisy the BABY he's holding.

DAISY
Oh my gosh! She's precious!

Katie puts an arm behind Daisy, turning away so she can confide in her as Billy dotes on his baby sister.

KATIE
Ms. Daisy, I actually lost a baby
before Stephanie...

DAISY
I'm so sorry!

KATIE
I actually wanted to thank you for
indulging Billy.
(MORE)

KATIE (CONT'D)

It was really hard on him too.
You've been so wonderful to him.

DAISY

Billy is such a sweet child. He's
adjusted so well to school.

KATIE

(motions to Reborn Doll)
Well, you know, that's why I even
got that - it's a therapeutic doll.
My doctor recommended it to me.

DAISY

Oh wow. I didn't realize...

KATIE

They're pricey too. Insurance
doesn't cover realistic newborns.

DAISY

(offering doll)
Here you go. She's all cleaned up.

KATIE

(taking Daisy's hands)
Please keep it. Maybe it could help
someone else, now that our little
miracle has come along.
(hugs Daisy powerfully)
And Ms. Daisy, we're all praying
for you, too! You're going to be
just fine!

Daisy, caught awkwardly in the hug, makes eye contact with
creepy side-eyes of Reborn face pressed right up against
hers.

INT. BOBBY'S APARTMENT - DAY

Daisy is floored by orderly chaos of beautiful artwork.

DAISY

Bobby! You did all this??

BOBBY

(beams watching fan-girl)
Yes Ma'am.

DAISY

This is amazing! Oh wow.

BOBBY

(seductively)
Is this where we fall in love?

Daisy raises an eyebrow. Bobby laughs backing off-

BOBBY (CONT'D)
 So, I expect you'll be there for my
 debut exhibition!

DAISY
 WOW! Of course! I can't wait.

BOBBY
 Yes, my own little "Rue Lafitte"-
 (pauses sensitively)
 If you're up to it...

DAISY
 (instantly remorseful)
 Oh Bobby... I feel awful...

BOBBY
 (arranging couch)
 Oh no- here, sit down. You've been
 really pushing yourself lately,
 especially for me.

DAISY
 No, no it's not my health. I'm
 totally fine. That's the thing I
 need to talk to you about.

Daisy's cell rings; she looks puzzled-

DAISY (CONT'D)
 Sorry Bobby...
 (answering phone)
 I keep getting missed calls from
 this number.

CALLER
 Daisy Fernandes?

DAISY
 Yes? Who's this?

CALLER
 This is Mayor Kendall's office.

DAISY
 The Mayor!?

BOBBY
 (mouthing)
 The Mayor??

Baffled, Daisy nods at Bobby.

CALLER
 Yes, Mayor Kendall would like to
 extend you an invitation to her
 annual charity gala?

DAISY
 Me??

CALLER

The Mayor was blown away by the news coverage on you, Daisy, and she wants you to be her very special guest of honor.

DAISY

OH NO.

CALLER

Excuse me?

DAISY

I'm so sorry. I can't.

CALLER

Are you too ill to attend? Mayor Kendall's Chief of Staff is already on the way to your home to personally deliver the invitation.

DAISY

MY HOME?? Now?? Oh. Oh wow. I'm so sorry. I have to go.

CALLER

Daisy... Daisy??

Daisy has hung up the phone.

BOBBY

What was that about?

Daisy kisses Bobby on the cheek as she rushes out.

DAISY

I'm so sorry, Bobby. I have to run. I'll make it up to you!

EXT. DAISY'S HOME - DAY

Front door opens- Gadha falls all over SUPER HOT HENRY, Korean, as Daisy arrives realizing it is too late-

GADHA

Daisy, come, come - look it's Mr. Henry from THE MAYOR!! They've been trying to reach you!!

(to Henry)

She never picks up when I call either...

(back to Daisy)

They are honoring you!!

HENRY

(extending hand)

Daisy, it's a privilege to meet you. I'm Henry Lau.

DAISY

Henry, thank you so much. But I'm so sorry that I can't make it to the Mayor's event.

GADHA

Of course you can! Look Daisy!
(holds up invitation)
The invitations have already been printed. Look, that's your name on there! Next to the Mayor's!!

DAISY

(sick)
NO. I really can't.

HENRY

I'm so sorry. I realize this is very short notice. I understand if your health isn't up to it.

GADHA

She's not too sick to go!

DAISY

MOM.

GADHA

She's finished with all her treatments and is feeling better. She just told me! She was ready to keep teaching even!

HENRY

Is there something else then that we can offer you, Daisy?

GADHA

(whispers to Henry)
I know. I know what it is.
(points to Daisy's head)
She had such beautiful hair, Mr. Henry. Now, it's all gone and even growing back grey.

DAISY

MOM!!

GADHA

(undeterred)
Look at her- her weight's dropped.
(shakes her head)
Tsk... She could stand to lose some pounds but I told her, this is enough. This is good now.

HENRY

Daisy, we won't spare any expense in helping you feel more confident.

GADHA
Any expense??

HENRY
We would cover everything- dress,
hair, makeup, whatever you need.
You deserve the VIP treatment.

GADHA
VIP!!

DAISY
No, I really don't. Henry,
please...
(motions away from house
so they can walk away)
I really appreciate what you're
offering. Please convey my thanks
to Mayor Kendall. But I'm sure you
will be able to find someone more
deserving.

HENRY
Daisy, I don't mean to impose. But
the gala is a very important event.
And the fact that your story gained
so much attention has actually had
an incredible impact on our fund-
raising goals.

DAISY
No way...

HENRY
Just this one night, with even a
brief appearance, you would help
bring in millions for cancer
research.

DAISY
Millions?? Ugh... when is it?

HENRY
It's tonight.

DAISY
Tonight!?

HENRY
(opens limo door)
Daisy, if you will. All of the
arrangements have been made.

Gadha looks on pleadingly. Daisy weakly nods, getting in.
Gadha excitedly flashes a thumbs up sign to Henry.

INT. MAKEOVER SPA & SALON - DAY

Glam squad hustles around Daisy for her VIP makeover.

EXT. MAKEOVER SPA & SALON - NIGHT

Henry checks luxury watch marked with tiny letters "X.O."

Doors burst open and fully glam Daisy steps out- dazzling gown, wig done, like a beautiful modern-day Cinderella. No one would ever think she was sick.

Admiring, Henry guides her to limo, out of which steps Tom.

DAISY

Tom?! What are you doing here?

TOM

(adjusting bow tie)

They gave me a makeover too! Being your man has its perks!

HENRY

Well, of course you get a Plus 1.

(checking time again)

Sorry to rush you, but we're tight on time.

Limo driver waves Tom and Daisy in.

INT. LIMO - NIGHT

TOM

Wow, Daisy. This is unreal!

DAISY

Oh Tom... I don't even know how this happened. Somehow it all got out of my control...

TOM

Daisy, I totally understand if this isn't your thing... not that I couldn't get used to it.

(laughs nervously)

But there is another reason to celebrate...

(taking Daisy's hand)

I had been waiting to do this but this moment seems as perfect as any other could be, when I'm with you.

DAISY

Oh Tom...

Tom whips out box- reveals brilliant diamond ring.

DAISY (CONT'D)

OH TOM.

TOM
 (slides ring on)
 Marry me, Daisy.

Tom quickly realizes Daisy isn't happy crying...

TOM (CONT'D)
 Daisy, are you okay??

Tom rubs her back as she sobs into his shoulder. Limo doors fly open- Daisy wipes her face hastily and nods.

EXT. MAYOR'S FOURTH ANNUAL GALA - RED CARPET - NIGHT

Lights flash, as Daisy walks down red carpet with Tom.

INT. MAYOR'S FOURTH ANNUAL GALA - BALLROOM - NIGHT

Magnificent venue- is this the Mayor's Gala or the Met Gala?

Daisy in her nerves and avoiding Tom, drinks way too much.

CUE Daisy's Drunken Dance Disaster Sequence - homage to "Jack Tripper" famed "tranquilizer" comedy dance routine in *Three's Company* "Up In The Air" (Season 6, Episode 25).

Post-dance crash & burn - as Tom helps Daisy drink sobering ice water, she eyes among the guests- Dr. Menta.

DAISY
 (panicked)
 Tom, I need to go.

TOM
 I'm so sorry, Daisy. That was really selfish of me to make your night about my stupid proposal. I shouldn't have put you on the spot like that.

DAISY
 Oh no. It isn't that at all. I love this.
 (at ring, then at Tom)
 I love you!

Tom is relieved.

DAISY (CONT'D)
 I'm just really not feeling well.

TOM
 Come on... Let's get out of here.

Tom, with his arm protectively around Daisy, weaves through the crowd. The exit is in sight, when Henry swoops in.

HENRY

Daisy, that was quite the show...

TOM

Henry, I don't think she's up for tonight.

HENRY

Five minutes. That's all I need.
Daisy, just let me introduce you to the Mayor before you go.

Daisy nods hesitantly, as Henry whisks her away.

MAYOR KENDALL

(takes the stage)

Thanks to all of you for joining us here tonight. Your support will make a real difference in our fight against cancer, and this is a fight I intend for us to win!

Thunderous applause!

MAYOR KENDALL (CONT'D)

But enough from me when there are true heroes among us. And so, it is my pleasure, to extend tonight, the KEY to our great city, to tonight's guest of honor - Daisy Fernandes!

Spotlight drops down on Daisy aghast-

MAYOR KENDALL (CONT'D)

Daisy, please join me up here and accept this token of our support for you, and all those like you, who continually strive to serve no matter life's challenges.

Henry coaxes ghost-faced Daisy up onto the stage with a supportive push. Handing her the key, Mayor poses for flashing cameras. As Daisy scurries to leave-

MAYOR KENDALL (CONT'D)

A few words... please, Daisy.

With all eyes on her... she cannot refuse the Mayor.

DAISY

Um... hello... everyone...
(voice booming over mic)
I... don't even have the words...

MAYOR KENDALL

(into mic)

Well, what's public speaking when she's already fought and beat cancer! Am I right?!

Audience loudly hoots and applauds in encouragement of Daisy.

DAISY

Well... I know... cancer is really hard. And fighting it... isn't easy... but... what's really made a difference for me... is... the people that I love.

(eye contact with Tom)

And I accept this generous gift from Mayor Kendall on behalf of all of them. Thank you so much.

Mayor continues, as Daisy rushes off stage to Tom.

TOM

Daisy, you were amazing.

DAISY

(frantic)

Tom, we have to go.

Tom nods. As they make a break for it, Daisy's heel slips off. Tom turns back to retrieve it.

Daisy arrives at the exit. Relieved, she looks back at Tom as he stands holding her shoe.

MULTIPLE BURLY SECURITY OFFICERS step in to block the doors.

HEAD SECURITY OFFICER

Ma'am, you need to come with us.

INT. MAYOR'S GALA - BACK INTERROGATION ROOM - NIGHT

Henry and other authorities sit before despondent Daisy. Outside room, Tom pushes past officers, busting inside-

TOM

What the hell is going on here??
Why are you people doing this!?

Officers manhandle Tom- Henry motions for them to back off.

TOM (CONT'D)

How dare you treat her like this?!

HENRY

Daisy... now's the time if you want to say anything... before this gets worse for you.

TOM

Don't talk to her that way!

HENRY

Dr. Menta let us know that Daisy's not his patient.

TOM
Well, that's absurd. Clearly
there's some misunderstanding.

DAISY
I don't have cancer.

TOM
Yeah, not anymore. She's in
remission.

DAISY
I never had cancer.

Tom is stunned into silence. Officers place Daisy in
handcuffs. As they move her out of the room past Tom-

DAISY (CONT'D)
Tom... I'm so sorry.

As Daisy is marched out...

MUSIC: RADIOHEAD "KARMA POLICE"

INSERT TV BREAKING NEWS-

NEWS STACEY
It was the kind of story that
warmed our hearts. Daisy Fernandes,
kindergarten teacher, claimed she
was battling cancer. Friends and
family, and even her 5-year old
students, rallied to her support,
raising thousands of dollars to
help.

News story includes footage of K-Class epic performance.

NEWS STACEY (CONT'D)
She was even honored by the Mayor-

INSERT video clip of Daisy from the Gala-

DAISY (VIDEO CLIP)
Well... I know... cancer is really
hard. And fighting it... isn't
easy...

NEWS STACEY
But investigators say it was all a
lie- a hoax that has led to her
arrest tonight.

A sad mug shot of bald Daisy is displayed.

INSERT PRESS CONFERENCE-

MAYOR KENDALL

The fact is Daisy Fernandes didn't have cancer. She preyed upon people's hearts and we- all- became her victims. This doesn't change our appreciation for the generosity of donors, and their gifts will be used to help the people who truly need it. Daisy Fernandes will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law.

As the Mayor concludes press conference, reporters go wild.

INT. COURTHOUSE - COURTROOM - DAY

Daisy, bald in an orange jump suit like a hardened criminal, with cousin GEORGE/ATTORNEY.

PROSECUTOR (FEMALE), dressed high fashion dominatrix-stilettos, red lips, she might as well be brandishing a whip. She is fierce, and she is out for blood.

PROSECUTOR

Your Honor, the Defendant took advantage of people's generosity and everyone's worst nightmare of a cancer diagnosis to prey on countless individuals.

JUDGE

How does the Defendant plead?

GEORGE/DEFENSE ATTORNEY

Not Guilty, Your Honor.

PROSECUTOR

The state asks for bail to be set at \$50,000.

In court, Gadha, Jack, and AUNT DOLLY who mouths "\$50,000???"

GEORGE/DEFENSE ATTORNEY

Your Honor, 50,000 is excessive.

PROSECUTOR

It's a fraction of the amount the Defendant has defrauded.

GEORGE/DEFENSE ATTORNEY

Ms. Fernandes is not a flight risk or a threat to anyone.

JUDGE

I will set the total bond at \$25,000.

Judge bangs gavel. Daisy is taken away by officers.

Prosecutor sashays down aisle, stilettos sounding her exit.

JACK
Wench... but damn, those heels.

INT. COURTHOUSE - OUTSIDE COURTROOM - DAY

GADHA
What's happening, Georgie?! Why are they taking her back to jail!?

GEORGE/DEFENSE ATTORNEY
The judge set Daisy's bail. We'll take care of it, and then she'll be released pending trial.

AUNTY DOLLY
\$25,000!? Gadha, can you even afford that?

JACK
Yes.
(nods to Gadha)
We're getting her out.

GADHA
I don't understand! Why is she in jail? Even murderers and rapists are set free these days??

GEORGE/DEFENSE ATTORNEY
Aunty, the charges against Daisy are very serious. Multiple counts of fraud and theft by deception.

GADHA
OH MY LORD!

GEORGE/DEFENSE ATTORNEY
But I'm looking to work out a deal with the Prosecutor.

AUNT DOLLY
Well, if my doctor-daughter can't help, at least my lawyer-son can try to save Daisy.

George gives his mom a look.

AUNT DOLLY (CONT'D)
What?? Dying would have been better for the family name than all this.

GEORGE/DEFENSE ATTORNEY
MOM!?

Gadha faints in Jack's arms as Dolly fans her sister's face.

EXT. DAISY'S HOME - DAY

As they exit Jack's car, Gadha screams, while Daisy is numb-

Daisy's house and her old car in driveway are vandalized-insults spray painted all over, like "LIAR" "JUST DIE" "CANCER WON'T KILL YOU BUT WE WILL."

Jack calls cops. Just then, Daisy's gifted car parked on sidewalk is repossessed and towed away.

LATER: Jack speaks to an OFFICER reporting to the scene-

OFFICER
I don't advise she stay here, not
until this thing blows over.

JACK
She's getting death threats.

OFFICER
She'll need to change her number
too.

INT. DAISY'S CHILDHOOD HOME - BEDROOM - NIGHT

Daisy can't sleep. By now, so miserable, she looks like she actually does have cancer.

NEXT MORNING-

GADHA (V.O.)
Daisy!!

Daisy, still in bed, throws a pillow over her head.

GADHA (V.O.)
Daisy, your breakfast went cold...
now your lunch too. DAISY!!

INT. DAISY'S CHILDHOOD HOME - KITCHEN - DAY

Her mom feverishly sets a warm plate. Daisy waves it away.

GADHA
You haven't eaten since yesterday.
(hands Daisy a plate)
Here, it's your favorite jam!

Daisy weakly accepts, then catches official letter on table.

GADHA (CONT'D)
Oh yes, that came for you this
morning. I had to sign for it.

Daisy opens it hastily and pauses- over her shoulder, Gadha reads "NOTICE OF TERMINATION" from Rainbow Elementary. Just then, on the TV, Daisy's mug shot flashes again-

REPORTER (V.O.)
 Local kindergarten teacher Daisy Fernandes has been released on bail. She faces up to 10 years in prison, charged with multiple counts of...

Gadha scrambles for remote. Daisy walks back to bed, a zombie.

INT. DAISY'S CHILDHOOD HOME - BEDROOM - DAY

Cell rings. No movement at first, but then an arm emerges thrashing, grabbing phone, pulling it under covers in bed.

DAISY
 Hello...
 (leaps up from covers)
 What??
 (wipes eyes)
 I'm on my way.

Daisy scrambles out of bed, tripping in her haste.

INT. HOSPITAL - HALLWAY - DAY

Daisy rushes but outside room, freezes- musters up courage.

INT. HOSPITAL - ROOM - DAY

Bobby hooked up to machines. Bedside, his Father, PIERRE.

BOBBY
 (weakly)
 Babe...

DAISY
 Bobby...

PIERRE
 Thanks for coming, Daisy.
 (hugging Daisy)
 With how much the kid talks about you, I thought you were one of his babies' mothers.

BOBBY
 Now Dad, come on. Daisy's no less as their step mom.

DAISY
 How many babies??

PIERRE
(chuckles)
I leave you two to figure out co-parenting.

BOBBY
Thanks Grandpa.

Daisy sits by Bobby's bed and reaches out to touch his hand.

DAISY
How are you feeling, Bobby?

BOBBY
I should be asking you that.

DAISY
Oh Bobby... I figured by now you'd know. It's all over the news. I don't have cancer.

BOBBY
I know.

Bobby points to the TV, where again, Daisy's mug shot flashes on True ID channel's latest crime special. Crime Show Anchor welcomes special guest for criminal profile interview: Rainbow Elementary Janitor.

BOBBY (CONT'D)
I can't say True ID's description of you as a criminal mastermind is quite fair but overall, their profile is pretty riveting.

Daisy is mortified.

DAISY
I'm so sorry Bobby... for lying to you... especially you... what I did is unforgivable.

BOBBY
Daisy... I knew.

DAISY
What?? You did??

BOBBY
Yeah!

DAISY
How??

BOBBY
Daisy... Having cancer gives me this very unwanted expertise on the matter.

DAISY

Wow. Oh, ugh. Then, why did you think I was coming to the support group meetings?

(points to head)
Or why I did this??

BOBBY

I don't know... solidarity?

Daisy looks sheepish.

BOBBY (CONT'D)

Hey, I just figured you were going through something.

DAISY

And you're not mad at me??

BOBBY

For what? Coming to treatments with me, bringing me meds and food, supporting me through this shit, introducing me to the magic that is BTS??

DAISY

Of all the people I lied to, I thought you would be the angriest with me...

(choking up)
with everything you're going through...

BOBBY

(grabs her hand)
Daisy, with everything I'm going through... I know we don't have that much time to waste.

Unable to stop crying, Daisy puts his hand to her face.

BOBBY (CONT'D)

I may be immuno-compromised, but you're so cute, I don't mind getting your snots all over me.

Daisy laughs as Bobby reaches out to wipe her tears away.

MONTAGE- Daisy nurses Bobby, trading shifts with Pierre.

INT. COURTHOUSE - COURTROOM - DAY

Daisy is back in court. Prosecutor in another killer outfit.

JUDGE

Considering the Defendant's clean record, the large number of character references that have poured in on her behalf, and most importantly, that she did not retain any of the funds raised on her behalf, I will accept the plea bargain.

Daisy looks up in relief.

JUDGE (CONT'D)

The defendant is ordered to complete mandatory psychiatric counseling, 500 hours of community service at the local hospital, and 1 year probation. The reinstatement of her teacher's license will be conditioned on her successful progress.

Judge pounds the gavel. Gadha and Jack hug each other, as George hugs Daisy.

Prosecutor pounds her heels but pauses on her way out-

PROSECUTOR

Ms. Fernandes, you're very lucky to avoid jail time. That won't be the case if I ever see you back in here.

Dom Prosecutor whips her hair back making her fierce exit.

JACK

(watching her leave)
Such a mean dominatrix.
But those shoes- I have to have them.

EXT. RAINBOW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - DAY

Daisy exits carrying a box before she's tackled.

PRINCIPAL WALTERS

Buddy... come now...

Sobbing, Buddy hangs on to Daisy for dear life, hysterical.

DAISY

I'll miss you too, Buddy.

Daisy pats his arm but struggles to take on his full weight.

PRINCIPAL WALTERS

(prying him off)
Let go, Buddy. You have to- Let go.

EXT. RAINBOW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - PARKING LOT (CONTINUOUS)

Daisy passes judgmental parents, whispering, avoiding her. She pushes on to her still "marked" old car, when-

LITTLE MIKEY

Ms. Daisy...

Turning, Daisy braces herself-

LITTLE MIKEY (CONT'D)

I don't know why everyone's so mad
at you. I'm glad you're not dead!

Mikey throws his arms around Daisy hugging her, before he's reprimanded by his mom, RACHEL (WHITE, hot mess blonde hair, haggard and harassed, "sweatpants are all that fit," looks way older than she should)-

RACHEL (MOM)

Michael, get over here right now!

Mikey sadly walks back to his mother, who drags him away.

INT. THERAPIST'S OFFICE - DAY

THERAPIST

(perceptive)

So Daisy, I noticed you're still
wearing your engagement ring.

DAISY

Ugh... skinny fat fingers??

THERAPIST

Do you still follow Tom on social
media?

DAISY

No... Oh no... Nope.

THERAPIST

(perceptive)

Have you ever considered whether he
even follows you?

INT. GADHA'S HOME/DAISY'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Diamonds sparkle familiarly on Daisy's "bling" engagement ring, which she eyes sadly.

Back to Facebook, it looks like Tom is dating again. Hurt, Daisy consoles herself in her pint. Daisy moves cursor to "Unfriend" but she can't do it.

Reflective, she instead clicks to her page... it's bare. Facebook was to peep Tom. She'd never bothered with her own profile.

Spooning mouthfuls to get through, she clicks "Deactivate." She can't believe she did it. But still, she does not remove the ring.

MONTAGE - Bobby's illness progresses badly. He breathes heavy in hospital bed, as Daisy holds his hand.

EXT. CEMETARY - DAY

Daisy cries from a distance.

PIERRE
Come Daisy.

DAISY
Pierre, are you sure?
(looking at others ahead)
I wouldn't want anyone to be upset
that I'm here.

PIERRE
Daisy, Bobby loved you. That makes
you family.

DAISY
I'm so sorry Pierre... for making
your loss about me.

Daisy sobs as Pierre hugs her closer.

PIERRE
(pointing ahead)
You don't need their forgiveness.
But, you should forgive yourself.

Pierre takes Daisy by hand towards Bobby's resting place.

LATER: After the burial, Daisy is shocked to run into Tom!

DAISY
Tom??

TOM
I know how much Bobby meant to you.
I came to pay my respects.

DAISY
Oh... thank you.

It is so awkward...

DAISY (CONT'D)
Tom... I'm really sorry.

TOM
How could you not even call me??

DAISY
I... didn't think you'd want to talk to me.

TOM
That doesn't mean you shouldn't have tried. You even changed your number?

Daisy swallows hard, knowing he's right.

DAISY
How's Susie?

TOM
(clearly hurt)
You know she asks about you all the time. I still don't know what to say. You really put me in a bad spot, Daisy, in so many ways.

DAISY
(coming undone)
I have no excuse for what I did, Tom. I told a horrible lie, and I did it because I was too scared and too stupid to just tell you the truth... that I've been in love with you for over 20 years.

Tom is blown away.

DAISY (CONT'D)
I'm so sorry.

Tom looks down at Daisy's hand. Embarrassed, she pulls to remove the ring. Despite her tugging, it's stuck.

TOM
Just keep it.

Tom walks away, leaving Daisy crushed.

INT. DAISY'S CHILDHOOD HOME - BATHROOM - NIGHT

Daisy has no more tears left. Red-eyed, face puffy, with a vacant look, she empties a bottle of pills into her hand. She moves her hand to her mouth...

Suddenly lights flash on, with Gadha barging in furiously-

GADHA
What are you doing!?

Gadha knocks Daisy's hand away and pills go flying.

DAISY

MA??

Gadha slaps Daisy across the face.

GADHA

How could you be so selfish!?

DAISY

(rubbing her face)

OW?? What the hell, Ma?? What are you even talking about??

GADHA

(holding up bottle)

What's this??

DAISY

AIRBORNE??

GADHA

What?? This bottle doesn't say

Airborne?? It says...

(squints reading)

Ortho-Tri-Cyclen...

(more confused)

You're on birth control??

DAISY

Not now!

(grabs bottle back)

I just use my old bottle to hold my Airborne. I was feeling under the weather... and this stuff really works!

Gadha sniffs a pill, then tastes it... it's orange flavor.

GADHA

(chewing)

Why so many at once??

DAISY

You can take 12 in a day.

GADHA

You need 12??

DAISY

I'm feeling really sick!

GADHA

(relieved)

So you weren't trying to kill yourself.

DAISY

Are you crazy!? Why would you think I was trying to kill myself??

GADHA

OH... I'M CRAZY?? You faked having
CANCER!? How do I know what you
would do?!

DAISY

(desperate frustration)
Well everyone was a lot nicer to me
when they thought I was sick. But
now that I'm totally fine and not
dying, you can all go back to
treating me like crap.

GADHA

DAISY?? Are you really that self-
centered??

DAISY

(sheepish but defensive)
How many times do I have to say I'm
sorry!? I feel like all I ever do
is apologize!

GADHA

After what you put me through...
having me think you were DYING...
you're tired of apologizing? You
really think you have apologized
enough, Daisy??

Daisy is even more defeated hearing it out loud.

GADHA (CONT'D)

Okay, fine. I don't need any more
apologies. But how are you done
apologizing to everyone else? Tom,
Susie, Jack... to your Father? But
like you always say, what
difference would it make to him,
right??

DAISY

(crying more)
I know... I know...

GADHA

What could have possessed you to go
so far, Daisy??

DAISY

I don't know... Mom... I'm really
sorry... I really am...

GADHA

(hugs Daisy, crying too)
I know. It's okay. It will all be
okay.

DAISY

Mom...

(choked up)

Thank you... for everything.

Gadha feeds Daisy an Airborne pill, patting her head lovingly. Gadha pops one into her mouth also.

GADHA

12 though??

Daisy nods, as Gadha shoves a few more into her own mouth.

MONTAGE: Daisy finally removes Tom's ring, studying its brilliance longingly before closing it away in a drawer.

As Daisy rebuilds her life- her hair grows out to show passage of time.

At the HOSPITAL - Daisy volunteers, reading to sick children.

At THERAPY - she continues meeting with her doctor.

At a NURSING HOME - Daisy walks up to an OLD MAN, seated in a wheelchair by a window. He looks longingly outside, waiting expectantly for someone who never seems to arrive.

When he turns, we see it is an aged Krish! It is shocking to see him so frail compared to his fatherly prime.

KRISH

(confused)

Hello??

Daisy is pained that her Dad has no recognition of her.

Tentatively, Daisy reaches into bag, pulls out Reborn Doll.

KRISH (CONT'D)

(amazed)

Baby!!

He extends his hands, shaking, to receive the baby doll.

KRISH (CONT'D)

(tearfully)

My baby??

Daisy nods, also crying, as her father rocks the doll gently. Krish looks up in wonder, showing her his baby proudly, as she wipes her eyes. As Krish cradles the baby doll to his chest cuddling it, Daisy embraces him.

ADDRESSING THE SCHOOL BOARD - Daisy is poised and confident, appearing before a hearing panel for teaching reinstatement.

BUT LATER IN THE MAIL - Daisy retrieves REJECTION letter.

INT. BOBBY'S APARTMENT - DAY

PIERRE
(boxing items)
Thanks for helping out, Daisy.

DAISY
I wish Bobby could have been here
for his art exhibition.

PIERRE
What exhibition?

DAISY
(surprised)
Bobby was planning his... "Rue
Lafitte."

PIERRE
Oh... that. Bobby was always
talking about a big showing of his
art. But he knew that wasn't going
to happen.

DAISY
But why, Pierre?

PIERRE
Daisy, he didn't have a regular job
with health insurance. His medical
bills bankrupted him.

Daisy crushed- another aspect of cancer she'd underestimated.

PIERRE (CONT'D)
I'll just have to put these all
away in storage for now.
(suddenly excited)
Aha! I have found it! Come Daisy...

Still sad, Daisy is astonished to see what Pierre has
uncovered- a PAINTING of BTS depicting "Boy with Luv" but
instead of singer Halsey, they are posing with Daisy.

PIERRE (CONT'D)
Obviously, he wanted you to have
this one.

Daisy moves towards the painting touching it in awe.

INT. DAISY'S HOME - DAY

Though her home remains vandalized, Daisy has worked up
courage to return. She lovingly hangs Bobby's painting and
stands back to admire it- inspiring classic EUREKA moment!

Daisy frantically pulls out phone, tries dialing. No luck.

Daisy scrolls on phone- "Minority Report" mode visuals pop up splendidly. She hones in on the gorgeous Henry-

DAISY
Gotcha!

EXT. CORPORATE BUILDING - DAY

DAISY
Henry!

Henry walks away in the opposite direction.

DAISY (CONT'D)
Henry, please. Please!

HENRY
You can make an appointment with the Mayor's Office. I'm late for a meeting.

DAISY
(dives in front of him)
Please. I just need a minute of your time. It's about the gala.

HENRY
OH, you mean the one you ruined?! I was lucky to even keep my job, Daisy.

DAISY
I'm so sorry. But I came to help.

HENRY
I think you've helped enough.

He moves to leave when Daisy holds phone to his face-

DAISY
SEE!! Just look at it.

Henry pauses. Then intrigued. He grabs Daisy's phone-headlining a petition is meme mock-up of Daisy's mug shot.

HENRY
"The Girl Who Cried Wolf?" - huh...

DAISY
Yes, and do you see how many times it's been shared.

HENRY
WOW. I can't say I'm surprised. When it comes to you... nothing does at this point.

Daisy's hands begging. Henry scoffs turning away, but-

HENRY (CONT'D)
(opens car door)
Get in.

INT. MAYOR'S OFFICE - DAY

HENRY
Let me do the talking.

Daisy nods, dreadful. Door swings open.

MAYOR KENDALL
(looks disgusted at Daisy)
Seriously?? Henry, you better have
a good explanation for this.

As Henry walks in, Mayor Kendall slams door in Daisy's face.

LATER: Doors finally open. Henry walks out, grim-faced. Daisy is crestfallen... then Henry gives her a mega-watt smile.

MUSICAL MONTAGE - FRANKMUSIK "WONDER WOMAN"

Daisy squeals, excitedly throwing her arms around Henry. He actually looks like he... likes... loves it??

-Daisy and Henry plan- working closely together towards massive enterprise, enlisting a growing team.

-Outside Daisy's home, Daisy leans on Jack after looking upon their successful death-threat clean up efforts.

-Shrouded items transported into venue, worked on by a swarm.

EXT. MAYOR'S FIFTH ANNUAL GALA - RED CARPET - NIGHT

Guests pour down red carpet- but Daisy is not to be seen.

INT. MAYOR'S FIFTH ANNUAL GALA - BALLROOM - NIGHT

Dressed down, Daisy is inconspicuous backstage behind the scenes.

HENRY
With everything you did to make
this all happen, I hate that you
have to hide out this way. But the
Mayor wanted to avoid any negative
publicity this time around.

DAISY
I totally understand. I'm just so
glad she actually went for it. I
couldn't have done this without
you, Henry. Thank you so much...
for giving me another chance.

HENRY
(rolls eyes)
Oh please... I did it for me.

Daisy smiles seeing through his front.

HENRY (CONT'D)
And for the people who actually
have cancer.

Daisy cringes, as Henry pats her on the back.

MAYOR KENDALL
(from stage)
Now, none of us can forget last
year's gala, and despite that
debacle, you all came out again to
rally with us in support, and for
that, I can't thank you enough. But
there is someone else I need to
acknowledge... DAISY FERNANDES.

Audience gasps. Henry shoves Daisy into the open - PTSD from
last gala, cold judging faces, cameras flashing.

MAYOR KENDALL (CONT'D)
I went into this year's gala intent
on not having any mention of this
woman's name... but I would be
remiss not to do so.

SPOTLIGHT on Daisy.

MAYOR KENDALL (CONT'D)
And though public sentiment is
still divided over whether she
remains an attention-seeking
opportunist-

Daisy winces-

MAYOR KENDALL (CONT'D)
It cannot be denied... thanks to
her brilliant marketing campaign,
and your contributions tonight, we
raised more money this gala than in
the last 4 years combined!

Giant spotlights on Bobby's artwork displayed around room.

MAYOR KENDALL (CONT'D)
The proceeds from the artwork of
the late, great Bobby Bernard will
fund medical expenses for those,
like him, regardless of their
health insurance status, and will
also go towards opening the new...

Curtain drops, fantastic reveal of image/holograph-

MAYOR KENDALL (CONT'D)
Bobby Bernard Art Therapy Center
named in his honor at Memorial
Hospital.

Daisy stunned- crowd rises in ovation, Mayor & Henry joining.

Suddenly, the unmistakable music begins.

As BTS takes the stage, front-man KIM NAM-JOON aka RM (the original Rap Monster!) pats Henry on the shoulder:

HENRY
Thanks guys!

RM
(using Korean honorific
for older brother)
Anytime for you, Hyung!

As the members of BTS gather around Daisy for their epic performance, Daisy is even more astounded. The image is reminiscent of Bobby's masterpiece come to life.

The crowd goes wild as BTS performs!

INT. RAINBOW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE - DAY

Daisy's hair, grown out, has a cool touch of silver.

PRINCIPAL WALTERS
So, Daisy, I hope you're ready for
the challenge... because you've now
been charged with the first
graders.

DAISY
Joyce, I can't thank you enough for
getting me reinstated.

PRINCIPAL WALTERS
Actually, as much as I wanted you
back, I can't take the credit...
(opening door)
Mayor Kendall personally
recommended your reinstatement to
the Board.

Walking out, Daisy is even more stunned as Buddy jumps her.

INT. RAINBOW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - DAISY'S CLASSROOM - DAY

Daisy and Buddy happily lead familiar bunch of now first graders in the new school year.

EXT. RAINBOW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - DAY

As school lets out, Daisy waves bye to students.

Mikey's mom, Rachel, picks him up, looking haggard as ever.

RACHEL (MOM)
Michael, you better not be giving
Ms. Daisy any trouble!

DAISY
No, not at all, Rachel.

RACHEL (MOM)
(petting Mikey's head to
his annoyance)
Now, that's my boy. Takes after his
Momma. Michael, you be good for Ms.
Daisy. We go way back - we were
best friends in high school,
weren't we!?

As she turns to leave with Mikey, we see in Rachel's hair a
Glitter Scrunchie (throwback to Rachel's identity)!

SUSIE
Ms. Daisy!!

Daisy turns stunned to Susie run up and hug her.

DAISY
Susie!
(then more surprised)
Tom!?

TOM
(smiling at Susie)
Susie's started kindergarten.

Susie excitedly pulls out Butterphant from her bookbag.

SUSIE
Look, Daisy! Butterphant was my
Show and Tell!

DAISY
I'm so glad, Susie.
(more discreetly to Tom)
I'm sorry, Tom. I guess you didn't
know... that I got my job back.

TOM
I saw.

DAISY
You did??

TOM
 Susie, if you study hard and
 graduate kindergarten, you'll get
 to be in Ms. Daisy's first grade
 class next year.

SUSIE
 (hugs Daisy)
 Oh! I can't wait Ms. Daisy!
 I'll try really hard not to get
 left back!

Tom takes Susie by the hand and walks away. Susie turns back to wave again, holding up Butterphant from a distance.

Throwing back to their first meeting, Daisy imitates a swamp monster, to Susie's great amusement.

When they are out of sight, she lowers her hands slowly. She walks alone, gets into her car and wipes away her tears.

INT. DAISY'S HOME - DAY

Daisy walks straight to the freezer. Grabbing a spoon, she fights against frozen ice cream- when she sees Bobby's painting.

With resolve, she chucks the pint in the trash as she walks out of kitchen... ON second thought- she runs back in, fishes the pint out, wipes it on her shirt, and returns it to the freezer.

INT. HOUSE OF LADY JACKIE - NIGHT

In a dance workshop- surrounded by Jackie, budding drag queen SAFFRONIQA and company, Daisy feels all the love! She throws in Indian classical dance moves- she's still got it!

INT. DAISY'S HOME - BEDROOM - NIGHT

Daisy brushes her teeth, readying for bed. Lights off-

SUDDENLY, her eyes dart open. She sits up energetically-

DAISY
 Wait... how did he SEE?!

Whipping out her phone- her FB account is no longer deactivated. Her once defunct profile is now full-

-Photos from most recent Mayor's Gala;

-News media reports of her successful viral campaign;

-Principal Water's welcome back. Comments include-
 "Karen - If you're going to have con artists and criminals
 for teachers, I'm pulling my kids."

Daisy is hurt but then sees supportive comments in response-
 "Katie F. - Ms. Daisy is the best teacher our son could have
 ever hoped for. I'm so glad she's back!"

"Queen Jackie - Sit down, Karen. P.S. I'll adopt your kids.
 #rescueKarenskids"

DAISY (CONT'D)

Jack??

Daisy continues to furiously scroll. Her mouth drops open.

-Cell phone video of her messy, drunken karaoke of BTS hit
 breakup song, like "Love Is Not Over" but in PERFECT KOREAN.

-Most recent, upcoming birthday event: "40 Years Cancer-free!"

DAISY (CONT'D)

JACKIE!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

INT. PARTY LOUNGE - NIGHT

Daisy, arm in arm with Jackie, both in full glam, walk in-

DAISY

I still can't believe you did all
 this!? My Facebook makes me look
 crazy!

JACKIE

Gurl... you ARE crazy!

Daisy gives a look of admission.

JACKIE (CONT'D)

(hugging her BFF closer)

Just own it, Babe. As Mama Ru says,
 "If you can't love yourself..."

DAISY AND JACKIE

"How in the hell you gonna love
 somebody else?!"

JACKIE

Can I get an Amen!?

Daisy and Jackie throw up hands in "Amen" as they are greeted
 by friends. DJ plays dance music.

DAISY

Hey, how did you even get into my
 account??

JACKIE
Oh hmmm... What ever could be your password??

DAISY
Ugh. I need to change my password.

JACKIE
I already took care of that for you.

DAISY
Wait... what's my password??

Daisy wonderstruck to see Tom enter- grabs Jackie-

DAISY (CONT'D)
You didn't tell me you invited Tom??

JACKIE
I didn't! I didn't think he'd come??

They play it cool, as Tom steps to Daisy- Jackie backs away-

TOM
Happy birthday Daisy.
I hope you don't mind me crashing...

JACKIE
(whispers to Saffroniqa)
So, he has been following her!!

SAFFRONIQA
Mmmhmm, you know it Gurl!

DAISY
Of course not! Thank you for coming.

So awkward.

TOM
I have something that belongs to you.

Daisy look confused, then shocked, as Tom reveals her shoe (the one she left behind at the Mayor's Ball).

He gets on his knees before Daisy. She removes the shoe she's wearing, handing it back to Jackie.

Daisy steps her foot into the shoe held by Tom- a perfect fit-

DAISY
(wincing)
Oooh... Ahhh...

TOM
(coming to her aid)
Daisy, are you okay?

Daisy hobbles in obvious pain.

DAISY
OHH ow, sorry, it's just this
plantar fascitis. My podiatrist
says no more stilettos.

Jackie helps Tom prop Daisy up, returning her party flat.

JACKIE
I got you Gurl.

Jackie hands the stiletto to Saffroniqa as they shuffle away.

DAISY
(as she leans on Tom)
Tom, it means a lot to me that
you'd even come tonight, given
everything I did. I never thought
you'd want to have anything to do
with-

TOM
I still love you.

Daisy floored- looks at him in disbelief.

TOM (CONT'D)
I never stopped...

Daisy in relief throws her arms around Tom, as they make-out
for lost time in the center of the dance floor.

As Daisy comes up for air, she motions to DJ, who nods back.

DAISY
(grabs dancing Jackie)
Jackie... I have my own little
surprise for you, too-

Music changes to an unmistakable RuPaul hit.

JACKIE
No...

DAISY
Yes Gurl.

RUPAUL's grand entrance followed by other famous DRAG QUEENS.

MAMA RUPAUL
(to Jackie)
I saw your audition video- and I
have one thing to say to you for
next season's competition...

Jackie's mouth open-

MAMA RUPAUL (CONT'D)
Lady Jackie - You better werk.

Jackie jumps up ecstatic and hugs Daisy!!

MAMA RUPAUL (CONT'D)
(with closing line of each
Drag Race episode)
Now- let the music play!

Queens bring life to all on dance floor- HAPPILY EVER AFTER!

FIRST CLOSING CREDITS ROLL- Daisy's FB profile scrolls by with updates of her life:

- Together with Tom, Susie, now 2 doggies;
- Ribbon cutting at art therapy center with Pierre;
- Hospital patients delighted by Buddy & co. performance;
- Magazine cover, Henry and Daisy back to back with headline acknowledging Mayor's Dynamic Duo planning next gala;
- Jackie's competition debut on RuPaul's Drag Race, with Daisy, Tom and Susie rooting for her watching the TV.
- Susie introduced to smiling Krish; Gadha watching happily.
- Gadha quizzically holds Reborn Baby- COMMENT FROM KARINA: Congrats Grandma!! FOLLOWED BY DOLLY: "Daisy had a baby?!";
- Close up on Krish's lunch table. A plate of toast with jam - featuring their favorite jam - family business "GADHA JAM."
- Pan around room to old family photo of Krish and Gadha when they were young with baby Daisy in their arms: Along with the Gadha Jam, this is a throwback to VANDANAM (Famous Priyadarshan Indian Tragic Comedy Movie Starring Mohanal as UNNIKRISHNAN and Girija as GADHA)!

INSERT FLASHBACK VANDANAM HAPPY ENDING (CORRECTION TO A FAMED TRAGEDY - WITH VANDANAM THEME SONG PLAYING) - Two cars go separate ways at an intersection seemingly dooming the lovers to a tragic parting; however, as the camera pans to an aerial shot, we see the cars travel in a precise heart shape in the traffic circle, meeting at the point of the heart - lovers exit their cars and rush towards each other embracing. They do reunite, escape to America & are Daisy's parents!

POST-FIRST CLOSING CREDITS - MUSIC: SONG BY *BTS RIVALS* EXO "OBSESSION" PLAYS!

ZOOM in on Daisy's photo- her updates had been scrolling by as, late at night, sipping blood red wine, someone stalks Daisy on Facebook. Sprinkled throughout the movie, "XO"s marked very hot "usual suspects" in Daisy's orbit.

As camera pans away from mysterious figure, clues are scattered throughout posh space to Daisy's SECRET STALKER:

- COCKTAIL SHAKER by a fully stocked bar;
- LUXURY WATCH COLLECTION (like Henry was wearing);
- STILETTOS (in corner among power heels, one pair appear to have an "X" and "O" marked on the soles).

Other red herrings??

- BODY FAT GADGET;
- BOBBY'S ART PIECE.

WHO is crushing on Daisy?

CLOSE IN on Daisy's Mayor's Ball "Bling" stiletto in the hands of Daisy's admirer. It is dazzling even in the dark.

THE END.