

ALTER-CATION

Written by

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COLD OPEN

INT. CLAUDIA'S ROOM - DAY

6:00 AM, Claudia sleeps through her alarm.

6:15 AM, Claudia sleeps through her alarm.

6:30 AM, Claudia is still sleeping through her alarm.

Breaking the 4th wall, THE SOUND GUY starts to poke Claudia the boom mic. Claudia wakes up like she's possessed by a demon.

CLAUDIA

WHAT THE-

Not paying attention, she just smashed into the boom mic.

END OF COLD OPEN

\*

ACT 1CLAUDIA TALKING HEAD - INT. CAR - DAY

Inside her car, crumpled up Wawa bags are scattered... everywhere.

CLAUDIA  
I'm someone who likes to wake up  
early...

## B-ROLL INT. CLAUDIA'S ROOM

Claudia runs around her room like a chicken without a head. She throws everything in her purse. Except for her office keys, but she did pack an extra bra...just in case.

CLAUDIA (V.O.)  
...maybe get a practice in, like a  
yoga practice, set my intention for  
the day and try to be super  
mindful.

CLAUDIA TALKING HEAD - INT. CAR - DAY

CLAUDIA  
The job is some real high level  
stress...

## B-ROLL EXT. WAWA

Claudia walks out of Wawa with a mocha latte and pork roll and shoves two unknown pastries into her purse.

CLAUDIA (V.O.)  
...so I do my best to treat my body  
right, like it's a temple, ya know?  
I just love the idea of clean  
eating. Like I'm only putting  
premium oil in your car but, you  
ARE the car.

Like a rabid animal she shoves the pork roll into her mouth.

CLAUDIA TALKING HEAD - INT. CAR - DAY

CLAUDIA

What do I do? Do I really-okay-I just run the premiere Southern Jersey bridal boutique, called B.D.E, that sounds-I should change that. It's not what you think, okay? Bridal Design Enterprise-not the other thing. Built it from the ground up. We do phenomenal work...

B-ROLL EXT. WAWA

On her phone Claudia enlarges a photo of her on a walkie-talkie holding a bouquet of fake fish on a boat for a Nautical Themed wedding. \*

(all curses will be bleeped but still said)

CLAUDIA (V.O.)

...we're all over bridal-zene scene. Well just The Modern Jersey Bridal Girly, heard of it? I mean it's an online magazine, but who reads print anymore?! We cater from Little Egg Harbor all the way to Cape May, like you name it we'll get there and we'll get it done. I'm a goddamn business boss b\*tch. Oh sh\*t, can I say that? Listen, I know about this shindig-like when I was getting-

B-ROLL FLASHBACK INT. WEDDING VENUE

Claudia in a wedding dress stands at the alter with TYLER 30s. The two hold hands under a chuppah. Six bridesmaids and six groomsmen stand on either side. A sea of people fill the seats.

THE OFFICIANT extends her palm.

OFFICIANT

Do you take this woman to be your lawfully wedded wife?

Tyler takes a breath, pukes all over Claudia's dress and he runs away.

ZOE 30s, her maid of honor whistles after him.

ZOE  
Well, shit...

CLAUDIA TALKING HEAD - INT. CAR - DAY

Still driving, she pulls into the wedding venue parking lot.

CLAUDIA  
When you think of a wedding, you just think elegance, classiness, like you're Audrey Hepburn at the end of Roman Holiday. It should just scream sophistication.

CLAUDIA (CONT'D)  
It should just scream sophistication. But... we've fallen on some...uh...not so great times, so we're appealing to different clientele.

EXT. PARKING LOT - DAY

Claudia parks the car and heads over to a gaggle of women with shirts that read "This b\*tch is getting hitched". MICHELLE 27 stands in an inflatable kiddie pool getting a fresh spray tan, but only the top half of one side of her body is done.

\*  
\*  
\*

A bridesmaid hands Claudia a shot of fireball.

CLAUDIA  
How's it going so far? This is the biggest, most glamorous-

The bride does a shot of fireball.

MICHELLE  
I'M GETTING F\*CKING MARRIED!  
WOOOOO!

BRIDESMAIDS  
WOOOOOOOOOOOOOOO!

The bridesmaids all do a shot. When no one is looking Claudia dumps hers on the ground but, makes the same post shot face.

\*

EXT. OUTSIDE THE OFFICE - DAY

In the middle of a mini mall is BDE headquarters. With a big wooden door and sprawling windows painted over as semi-tacky french doors. \*

NOAH 35 Midwestern transplant who is too old to look that uncomfortable in his own skin.

He continuously twists the door knob, expecting a miracle. Nothing happens. Noah starts to bang on the door.

NOAH

Hello?!

NOAH TALKING HEAD - EXT. OFFICE - DAY

All of a sudden a line of sweat appears on Noah's forehead.

NOAH

Um, uh, is it hot? It feels hot.  
Just me? Great. Um, I'm Noah, it's technically my first day-nobody is here. So, I'm pretty new to this, well, all of this.

B-ROLL EXT. NOAH'S AUNT'S BASEMENT.

Noah is unpacking boxes filled with clothes. He unsuccessfully tries to make this old decayed basement his new home.

NOAH (V.O.)

Originally an Ohio boy, GO BUCKEYES! Did that sound fake? I don't do the sports thing. I never really payed attention to that. Nothing really happens in Ohio...

The clothes are folded and Noah tries to shut the t-shirt drawer. It pops back open. He is now in a shoving match with an inanimate object.

NOAH (V.O.)

...except once a Zebra escaped from the Cincinnati zoo, made it all the way to Zaynesville. I mean they shot it down, wild animal and stuff. So I left, not because of the murdered zebra...

A twin size bed is in the corner, Noah lays down and tries to find a comfortable position. Flat back, side, fetal, feet legs up on the wall.

NOAH (V.O.)  
 ...but more like my ex murdered me metaphorically and now I live in my Aunt's basement, in New Jersey.

INT. WEDDING VENUE - DAY

Claudia and Michelle (THE BRIDE) walk through the venue. Some tables were set up the night before. \*

One side of Michelle's is body completely tanned, like an oompa loompa. The other side is as white as a ghost. \*

CLAUDIA  
 So within the hour, the flowers will be beautifully shaped, plucked and sprayed metallic. \*

MICHELLE  
 Great. What about- \*

CLAUDIA  
 Am I freaking out? \*

MICHELLE  
 Nope. \*

CLAUDIA  
 When I start freaking out that's when you have full permission to freak out, 'kay? \*

MICHELLE  
 'kay. You got the veil. I spent a lotta money on that bad boy-

CLAUDIA  
 Do I got the veil? Of course I got the veil, it's in the office, I'll grab it and rush straight back here. I gotchu. I swear.

EXT. WEDDING VENUE PARKING LOT

Claudia rushes to her car.

CLAUDIA  
 I totally forgot about the veil.

THE BRIDE TALKING HEAD - EXT. WEDDING VENUE - DAY

Back in the kiddie pool, The Bride finishes up her spray tan.

THE BRIDE

So I met my future husband at the shore, at a place called DJ's, ya know it? No? You are really missing out. Well, he bought me a drink, well it was a shot of tequila and I donnnnn't do tequila. Like seriously, I'll puke. And that's just what I did, I took the shot and puked on his shoes, it's been love ever since-

She shudders at the application of the spray tan.

THE BRIDE (CONT'D)

-ooooo it's cold.

INT. FLOWER WAREHOUSE - DAY

OWEN (70'S) a man stuck in the 70's picks up the flower order and walks so slowly, it looks like a waddle. He waves to every person in the flower warehouse. He talks to everyone and no one all at once.

OWEN

Hi, hiya, hi, hey you-it's been too long-you still got the old ball and chain. HA, nah nah nah, not anymore. Oh wow, you got old you son of a bitch-

INT. VAN - DAY - TALKING HEAD

A tiny disco ball hangs from the rearview mirror. Pictures of him with grandkids, his wedding photos, him looking like John Travolta. Random flower petals litter the floor of his van.

OWEN

Let me just say this is not where I thought i'd be at this point. Shlepping flowers for a living. When I was twelve I was a bus boy at the diner down the block and they didn't give a sh\*t about f\*ck. Labor laws. I did that for a long time, barely graduated high school, I was a soldier, lost my pinky finger-

Owen is pushing the speed limit.

OWEN (CONT'D)  
Luggage hauler at Newark. Bouncer  
at a night club, bouncer at a night  
club, ballroom instructor, bouncer  
at a night club-

A SHERIFF flashes his light and starts to follow Owen.

OWEN (CONT'D)  
-shit.

EXT. OFFICE - DAY

Claudia walks up to see Noah sitting against the door. \*

CLAUDIA  
OH oh, you're the new guy right? My  
mom knows your Aunt Vita. Ohmygod  
where are my manners!

Claudia crouches down and extends an arm.

CLAUDIA (CONT'D)  
Hi, I'm Claudia Piscopo and you're-  
who are you?

NOAH  
(standing) \*  
Noah Berry. Yes, hi, that is me.  
Uh, are you planning on opening the  
door? I really have to use the  
bathroom.

CLAUDIA  
Oh wow so sorry. Yup, I'll get  
right on that.

She riffles through her bag for the key, which she forgot...

CLAUDIA (CONT'D)  
You know it's kind of a funny thing  
we got going on here. Ya know how  
you've been stuck out here, well  
I'm stuck with ya!

NOAH  
WHAT?

CLAUDIA

If you really need to pee, you can do it in the bush near my car, I won't look, eh, maybe I will. AH. Gotcha, I won't I swear.

Claudia digs for her phone.

In the background MICHAEL 30s the human equivalence to a Bull Terrier marches over to the office, he wears a custom sleeveless and shorts tux set.

CLAUDIA (CONT'D)

I could try to punch the door-I just started karate, I'm almost a yellow belt, I say almost because um, the whole breaking wood with your hand thing. I don't get the mind over manner- I'll call my guy.

Noah crosses his legs to hold his pee in.

INT. COFFEE SHOP - DAY

ZOE 30's a little too posh for her surroundings. STEVIE 20s a butch workout-a-holic enjoy their drinks. A matcha latte with oat milk and a PB&J protein shake.

ZOE

When I was with Nat Geo. We were in the Bugøynes-

STEVIE

-babe, I don't know what that even is-

Zoe's phone rings.

ZOE

-hold on it's Claudia.

STEVIE

Thank god.

ZOE

What did you say?

STEVIE

Nothing, babe.

Zoe picks up the phone.

ZOE  
What's up?

CLAUDIA (O.C.)  
Yo my, guy-

ZOE  
-not your guy-

CLAUDIA (O.C.)

I'm an idiot and forgot my keys...

Stevie obnoxiously slurps her shake. Zoe mouths "STOOOOOOP".

CLAUDIA (CONT'D)  
...can you come early and let us in  
with that gorgeous set of keys I  
gave your Christmas? Tell me you  
love please. Please? Pretty please?

Stevie slurps louder.

ZOE  
Of course, I'll see you soon. Okay,  
bye, yes okay I love you too. God  
you're going to make me vomit.

Zoe hangs up.

ZOE (CONT'D)  
What is wrong with you?

STEVIE  
What's wrong with her? She can't  
remember: Phone in pocket. Wallet  
in pocket. Keys in...maybe it's  
because that one doesn't rhyme...

ZOE  
(she realizes nothing  
rhymed and takes a beat)  
It's only been a month since Tyler  
left her high and dry, cut her some  
slack, okay?

EXT. OUTSIDE THE OFFICE - DAY

Noah starts to fidget like a 5 year old. Claudia has taken  
Noah's position on the floor.

CLAUDIA  
 My guy is coming with the spare.  
 Just hold out for a few more  
 minutes okay?

NOAH  
 Who? Ah, my gonads.

The Groom stomps towards Claudia.

CLAUDIA  
 Well you made a new friend even if  
 this friend might give you a UTI,  
 guys can get UTI'S right?

NOAH  
 Do I look like a Doctor?

MICHAEL (O.C.)  
 YO, PISCOPO!

Claudia stands up, tries to act professional in front of the client.

CLAUDIA  
 Mr. Romero, let me introduce you to  
 my new associate-

Noah walks like he's about to pee his pants. Spoilers. He will.

CLAUDIA (CONT'D)  
 -what's the problem?

MICHAEL  
 I was told by the Priest that this.  
 THIS. Was inappropriate. Does he  
 know how much money I give to Our  
 Lady of Perpetual Pity?

CLAUDIA  
 Well, isn't it customary to cover  
 your arms in a house of the Lord?

Noah starts a pee-pee dance.

MICHAEL  
 Listen, this is The Situation's  
 couture line. The inside is hand  
 stitched with the name of my  
 enemies.

Michael show's off his tux in all its glory. It's somehow bedazzled and spray painted.

NOAH  
Don't most suits have sleeves?

CLAUDIA  
Noah I wouldn't-

MICHAEL  
What's his problem? You wanna go?

NOAH  
I mean, the priest is a man of God,  
why fight a man of God?

CLAUDIA  
I really wouldn't fight anyone in  
general.

MICHAEL  
So you'd side with the priest?

CLAUDIA  
Mike-crap-Mr. Romero, I can  
explain, he's from Indiana!

NOAH  
It's Ohio! What are you in the mob,  
looking all like, like like this?!

MICHAEL  
OH, big Hoosiers fan over here-wait-  
DID YOU TALK TO VIN?

NOAH  
Who-WHAT? Who is he? You from The  
Sopranos or something?

MICHAEL  
Don't play like that. I should wipe  
that look off your face, you got  
me?

NOAH  
WHERE AM I?

CLAUDIA  
So we're working for someone right  
now, not like a someone, but a  
collective someone.

Noah and Michael start to inch closer.

CLAUDIA (CONT'D)

...and do you think it's pretty,  
it's more like a good looking boy  
face.

NOAH

Alright you over inflated meat  
head, did all the 'roids damage  
your receptors of good taste?

CLAUDIA

I don't think that's how the brain  
works...

NOAH

Who the hell do you think you are?  
Do you think we're in a Scorsese  
situation?

CLAUDIA

Well-

THE GROOM

If you don't apologize about-

Michael whips out a 9 mm glock.

NOAH

HOLY SHIT.

Claudia is unphased.

MICHAEL

You come to me on the day of my  
wedding, practically piss all over  
me and now you're accusing me that  
I-I AM THE CONSIGLIERIE SOUTH NEW  
JERSEY!

CLAUDIA

It's really my fault, I didn't have  
the key so he couldn't pee, huh,  
unintentional rhyme scheme...

MICHAEL

APOLOGIZE PRETTY BOY.

Michael aims the gun at Noah. Noah pees his pants.

The puddle grows and moves towards The Grooms Gucci sneakers.

THE GROOM

MY SHOES!

He drops the gun. It goes off.

CLAUDIA

...sh\*t.

NOAH

DON'T KILL ME, I REALLY HAD TO PEE.

Claudia tries to intervenes.

CLAUDIA

ALL RIGHT, THE TESTOSTERONE IS  
FLOWING!

Noah goes in to slap The Groom and wallops Claudia.

END OF ACT 1

ACT 2

INT. STEVIE'S CAR - DAY

Stevie and Zoe park the car, they bop to Rapper's Delight.  
They watch the altercation that just happened.  
They run out of the car to help.

EXT. OUTSIDE THE OFFICE - DAY

Claudia sits on the curb. Noah and The Groom hover over her.

NOAH

Ohmygod, I'm-woah my hand. What are  
those cheek bones made out of-wait  
I'm so sorry, you okay?

CLAUDIA

It's fine. I'm fine. Really...

Claudia tentatively touches her nose.

CLAUDIA (CONT'D)

...it's fine. How does it look?

NOAH

Uhhhh. You know, I'm not really  
good with blood.

MICHAEL

I should kick your ass for that,  
who the hell hits a lady?!

NOAH

I didn't mean to! You came at me,  
remember?! YOU LITERALLY CAME AT ME  
WITH YOUR GUNS AND HANDS! Oh that's  
a lot of blood-I'm gonna be sick.

Stevie surprises Michael and puts him in a headlock.

STEVIE

Dude, let me just say, nice shorts.

CLAUDIA

Zoe can you open the door. Noah  
apologize. Now.

Michael chokes in the background.

NOAH  
Sorry for ALMOST peeing on your  
Juicy shoes.

MICHAEL  
(a strained voice)  
GUCCI SHOES.

CLAUDIA  
Noah, apologize more.

NOAH  
Uh-uh okay, I'm very sorry for  
peeing on your shoes and sorry for  
insulting your sense of self?

Noah looks to Stevie. The Groom struggles in the headlock.

MICHAEL  
(a strained voice)  
Nope. Say sorry for those absurd  
allegations for my line of work.  
That shit going-YOU DON'T KNOW  
PUNK. Wow, you got me in here real  
tight.

Stevie breaks the fourth wall looks into the camera and  
kisses her own bicep.

NOAH  
And who are you?

With their head, Stevie nods to Zoe.

STEVIE  
I'm with her.

With her head, Claudia's nods to.

CLAUDIA  
She's my guy.

NOAH  
FINE. I'm sorry. You are a man with  
great taste and look nicely muscled  
with the best morals ever. OKAY?

MICHAEL  
(a strained voice)  
Apology accepted.

Stevie releases him from the headlock.

Noah fans his face. Remember he peed his pants. stands in second position and fans his crotch.

CLAUDIA

Good, ha, wow, that was...

Claudia starts recreating the choking part on herself.

CLAUDIA (CONT'D)

(a strained voice)

"I'm not gonna accept your apology". Ha. No, but seriously, how does my nose look?

Everyone looks at Claudia in discomfort.

OWEN TALKING HEAD - INT. VAN - DAY

Owen speeds down the highway.

OWEN

You know, I'm usually a very punctual individual, as the great Lou Lombardi, no no no, Guy Lombardi...NOPE. Is it Joe, Jesus, my mind is not what it used to be...

The same highway patrolman follows him...again.

Whatever the football guy said, If you're early, you're doing okay. If you're on time, Uh Oh. If you're late, get on your knees and beg for...

OWEN notices the siren and pulls over.

OWEN (CONT'D)

...mercy.

The Sheriff (50's) a woman with a wide gait walks to the van.

She taps the glass. Owen rolls the window down manually so it takes...a while.

SHERIFF

Damnit, we just did this, did you know you were going-

SHERIFF (CONT'D)

The first one was a warning, now I have to give you a ticket.

(MORE)

## SHERIFF (CONT'D)

I'm going have to tell your kids to  
Mr. Goldstein.

The Sheriff walks away.

## OWEN

You don't have to tell my kids. Now  
you're just being mean! You think  
you got all this power? ALL YOU CAN  
DO IS WRITE A LOUSY SPEEDING  
TICKET.

Owen peels out off the shoulder.

CLAUDIA TALKING HEAD - INT. OFFICE - DAY

The office is chaotic, unorganized and filled with too much  
fucking glitter.

Claudia stands in the middle, the only spot not filled with  
various tablecloth swatches, bags of white powder. teeshirts  
that says "Bride or Die" and random DJ'ing equipment.

Claudia holds a pair of paisley pants for Noah.

## CLAUDIA

Please ignore, all of the um  
creative...clutter.

Noah does unintentional hopscotch over a pile of inflatable  
instruments and trips on a neon pink guitar.

## NOAH

What did you get me into? Are those  
just...bags of drugs?

## B-ROLL INT. OFFICE CLOSET - DAY

Claudia walks to the closet, the closet door says "THE  
FORGOTTEN CLOTHES REALM" parenthesis says (turn back now,  
it's a scary f\*#&@\$g place).

CLAUDIA TALKING HEAD - INT. OFFICE - DAY

## B-ROLL INT. OFFICE CLOSET - DAY

Claudia walks to the closet, the closet door says "THE  
FORGOTTEN CLOTHES REALM" (turn back now, it's a scary f\*#&@\$g  
place).

CLAUDIA TALKING HEAD - INT. OFFICE - DAY

CLAUDIA

So this closet is actually my pride and joy, well it's not actually. It's my cat, Purrrnadette Peters. I totally named her that. Um, actually please, don't look in here.

## B. ROLL INT. OFFICE CLOSET - DAY

Claudia does the sign of the cross and opens the door.

It's closet with suits, dresses, flip flops, singular heels and singular dress shoes. Random nonsense.

She starts throwing stuff to throw the random nonsense to the ground.

A binder that says "MOB SHIT AND CLIENTS" is thrown to the ground.

Claudia grabs the jacket, gives it a sniff and recoils.

She runs to the wall and grabs a bottle of Febreze and douses the jacket. Claudia re-sniffs. It's passable.

## EXT. OFFICE PARKING LOT - DAY

Claudia holds the other suit jacket. Stevie watch The Groom flap his arms up and down in his new suit jacket.

MICHAEL

You know I haven't done sleeves since 10th grade.

CLAUDIA

What about the winter?

MICHAEL

What about it?

Stevie nods in approval.

STEVIE

Hardcore. Respect.

The Groom and Stevie fist bump.

MICHAEL

Claud, tell the Priest he won this battle, but he won't win the war.

Claudia passes the jacket to The Groom.

CLAUDIA  
Hey, at least you get to wear this  
later. Right?

Michael reaches into his pocket pulls out a hundred dollars.

MICHAEL  
Exactly, okay well, thanks Piscopo  
and here is a little extra for the  
jacket.

Claudia hesitates and takes the money.

STEVIE  
Do you want a ride to the venue?

The Groom starts to jog in place.

MICHAEL  
Nah, I got all this adrenaline, I  
gonna run it out.

The groom creates a peace sign, kisses it, throws his hands  
to the sky and sprints away.

CLAUDIA  
Do we think this is dirty?

STEVIE  
Looks clean to me.

Stevie starts to walks back inside.

CLAUDIA  
Yo Stevie, can you tell everyone to  
bring equipment out.

STEVIE  
Heard.

Claudia grabs her iPhone from her pocket and looks at the  
time.

CLAUDIA  
Damn, it Owen.

EXT. WAWA - DAY

Owen sits in his van as he finishes his Wawa iced black  
coffee. He breathes for a second. He sees a call from  
Claudia.

OWEN

Dang it.

He ignores the call, aims for the garbage, throws his coffee out from the window, it misses almost hitting the GUY PUMPING GAS.

GUY PUMPING GAS

Are you littering?

Owen runs out of the van and puts it in the garbage bin.

GUY PUMPING GAS (CONT'D)

Are you not gonna recycle that?

Owen grabs the coffee cup out of the garbage and chucks it into the recycling bin.

Owen walks back to his van and flips him off.

EXT. OFFICE PARKING LOT - DAY

Stevie, Zoe and start to bring the party favors, extra suit jackets and Stevie's DJ equipment to the curb.

Claudia comes out with a bandaid over the bridge of her nose.

CLAUDIA

Uh, Zoe, Stevie this is Noah from Illinois, he's our new finance um, person?

ZOE

I think accountant is the technical term.

CLAUDIA

Correct, well Zoe is a renowned photographer on a break or "sabbatical" from her international travels.

Zoe waves.

CLAUDIA (CONT'D)

And Stevie is the 5th best DJ in South Jersey.

Stevie gives a nod.

Noah cannot pick up a speaker. Stevie slaps his back in encouragement.

STEVIE

If you bend your knees and squeeze  
your butt like you're trying hold  
in a gnarly fart, it's gonna help.

Noah grunts and picks up the speaker. He staggers and  
struggles.

NOAH

I got it, I got it, I swear I got  
it.

STEVIE TALKING HEAD - EXT. OFFICE PARKING LOT - DAY

Stevie stands with her hands crossed in front of her and  
puffs out her chest.

STEVIE

I believe the world can be your gym  
if you try hard enough. I was once  
of those uh whatcha call a gym rat?  
Now I'm a world rat.

B-ROLL INT. OFFICE PARKING LOT - DAY

For cardio, Stevie sprints from one side of the parking lot  
to the other side of the parking lot.

STEVIE (V.O.)

You just have to be creative with  
what you do. You have to use the  
elements at your physical disposal.

Stevie picks up a turntable and starts to do over head squats  
with that equipment.

Next proceeds to do curl ups with her speakers.

STEVIE TALKING HEAD - EXT. OFFICE PARKING LOT - DAY

Stevie flexes her biceps.

STEVIE

It's cheaper than Crunch fitness.  
They bumped up the prices. Rat  
bastards.

OWEN

Can you repeat that? My windows  
were all the way up.

CLAUDIA  
I said "You're 32 minutes late?  
WHAT FREAKING GIVES?"

Claudia looks at her iPhone. Everyone else lingers...

CLAUDIA (CONT'D)  
Now you're 33 minutes late. Can you  
just unlock the door?

Owen clicks a button that unlocks the door.

OWEN  
Wait, hold on I gotta gift for you.

From his pocket, Owen pulls out two crumpled tickets.

OWEN (CONT'D)  
TADA, I'm sorry Claud, The Man got  
me today, well The Man was a woman  
but, here ya go.

ZOE  
I'm gonna lock up because you are  
keyless and I have the power.

Claudia grabs the tickets.

CLAUDIA  
Goddamnit. This is just-not like  
I'm panicked about money, but um-  
can we not get two tickets in one  
day?

Zoe heads towards the door and an exhausted Noah passes  
Claudia.

CLAUDIA (CONT'D)  
Just the man I needed. Your first  
official action as accountant  
extraordinaire.

Claudia passes the ticket to Noah. Zoe and Stevie get in the  
van.

OWEN  
We got a new money guy?

CLAUDIA  
Owen meet Noah. Noah meet Owen.

STEVIE  
He likes to hit women.

NOAH

Are you kidding?! I do not-wait,  
you got two speeding tickets within  
30 minutes?

OWEN

What can I say. I got the luck of  
the Jewish.

Claudia pats Noah on the back and they get in the van.  
Claudia slams the door.

INT. VAN - DAY

Everyone is cramped in the back of the van. They look unhappy  
and exhausted. They hit a bump and they all fly out of their  
seats.

OWEN

Sorry about that.

ZOE

So Noah from Illinois-

NOAH

Actually it's Ohio.

STEVIE

Go Buckeyes.

NOAH

Yup, exactly, for sure.

ZOE

So what brought you to the glorious  
state of New Jersey?

NOAH

Well it's a little personal-

CLAUDIA

Listen team, this is a big wedding,  
and by big I mean expensive and by  
expensive I mean this gig could get  
the business out of the red for the  
first time since well-

The van jolts to a halt. They drove 5 blocks.

CLAUDIA (CONT'D)

I guess that's enough of a pep  
talk.

NOAH

We were so close. Why didn't we just walk. Why did we have to pack everything just to unpack it?

ZOE

You wanted to walk...with all this?

Noah looks in the back of the van.

Zoe helps Claudia and Stevie with load out.

Everyone except Owen exits the van.

Owen stays in the van and lights up a joint and sits in silence.

ZOE TALKING HEAD - EXT. WEDDING VENUE - DAY

Claudia walks past Zoe, waits till Claudia is out of sight.

ZOE

You know this is where her wedding was supposed to go down. I was working in Papa New Guniea and I was forced-not forced-recommended to come home because I was her maid of honor.

B-ROLL FLASHBACK INT. WEDDING VENUE

Claudia is sprawled on the ground sobbing. Everyone is frozen in shock, staring at Claudia.

ZOE V.O

I love her truly I do, but I was not prepped for her personal disaster to lead to MY career change. Woo weddings. Stimulating. SO MUCH JOY.

INT. BRIDAL SUITE - DAY

Claudia checks in on Michelle. Michelle is covered in spray tan, the same shade as a clementine.

CLAUDIA

Wow, you look radio act-nope, I mean um, radiant. Like a radiant, bomb uh-um, ooh I got it! You look like an orange, you know that I could-uh-I could eat.

MICHELLE

Ohmygod, thank you so much.

CLAUDIA

You're welcome, I think. So, I'm just here giving you the update, my team is setting up and we'll be good to go.

Michelle looks up the sky and crosses herself.

MICHELLE

WOO, that's what I want to hear!

CLAUDIA

I'm just you know, doing my job.

Claudia starts to exit.

MICHELLE

One more thing, you got the veil?

Like her keys, Claudia forgot the veil. She deadeyes the camera in panic.

END OF ACT 2

ACT 3

INT. VENUE - DAY

Claudia bursts through the reception hall doors. Zoe and Noah set up table decorations. Stevie sets up her DJ booth. Owen is asleep on a row of chairs.

CLAUDIA

Okay, so minor slip up on my end and I forgot a major piece for the bride—remember how I said this was a big deal for the business? I'm f\*cking up the business.

Stevie methodically puts together her station.

STEVIE

Shocker.

ZOE

Babe.

CLAUDIA

Thank you for the passive aggressive constructive criticism in the form of a singular word.

STEVIE

I gotchu boss.

CLAUDIA

Okay, I gotta run back to the office. Zoe, you're in charge.

ZOE

Yes!

STEVIE

NOOOO!

Stevie flips off Zoe. Zoe blows her a kiss in response.

CLAUDIA

Zoe, start setting up the ceremony space. Got it?

Zoe gathers the needed floral arrangements.

ZOE

Understood.

Zoe runs like a foal that just learned to use their legs.

NOAH  
She looks like an injured Zebra.

STEVIE  
How do you know what an injured  
Zebra looks like?

NOAH  
Ohio is a dark place.

Claudia claps to get their attention.

CLAUDIA  
Hey. Focus Okay? OKAY?! Okay.  
Stevie keep doing what you're  
doing. Owen can you drive me...

Claudia looks at Owen sleeping in his chair.

CLAUDIA (CONT'D)  
Stevie, do your best to wake him up  
and tell him to set up the table  
decorations. Okay?

NOAH  
But...

Stevie walks over to Owen.

STEVIE  
He looks dead.

CLAUDIA  
He's not, I swear. Nebraska, come  
with me.

Claudia grabs her bag and runs out of the reception hall.  
Noah chases after her like a puppy.

EXT. STREET - DAY

Claudia, followed by Noah, runs in one direction.

NOAH  
I THINK YOU'RE RUNNING IN THE WRONG  
DIRECTION

CLAUDIA  
GODDAMNIT!

They stop and run in the opposite direction.

INT. VENUE - DAY

Stevie finishes her DJ set up and heads over to Owen. Looks down and repeatedly pokes him on the cheek.

STEVIE

Hey...Owen?

No response. Stevie finds a broom and lightly taps his stomach. No response. Stevie takes a spray bottle for the flowers and starts spraying his face. No response.

Finally Stevie goes to her booth and blasts on the highest volume: Creedence Clearwater.

OWEN

You'll never take me to 'NAM!

EXT. OFFICE PARKING LOT - DAY

Noah is winded. Claudia has a light jog.

NOAH

I'm-sheesh-I don't know If I can keep doing this.

CLAUDIA

Come on Minnesota, I can literally see the office from here...

Noah slows his pace.

CLAUDIA (CONT'D)

...and my guy, I never pegged you as the dramatic kind, more of the suffer in awkward silence kind.

NOAH

I'm not, I'm just-I need a minute, I don't know if I can do this, like all of this. Like why do you have cocaine in your office.

Claudia matches his pace.

CLAUDIA

What do you mean?

NOAH

I literally fought a man in a bedazzled crop tuxed man who MIGHT be running the italian mob is ridiculous, also that I used those words in a sentence is bonkers. ALSO I HIT YOU TODAY-uh again, I'm so sorry.

CLAUDIA

I've seen worse, a literal altercation at the alter.

NOAH

You have?

CLAUDIA

Listen, you peed your pants and you might have to pay for my nose job-

NOAH

-but it's not just that, your office is like a tornado of taffeta. It's just-it's just this nonsense gonna eventually end.

Claudia grabs Noah's hand and forces him to move.

CLAUDIA

But it might not. Just because you've been burned doesn't mean everyone else has to feel it.

NOAH

What makes you so optimistic?

CLAUDIA

I started this business over a year ago with my fiancée-well, ex-fiancée. Oh yes, I was supposed to be a married lady, but he ran away, like RAN, like he was in the 2024 Summer Olympics. Terrible optics for business. We're in a bit of a financial rut, I can't wait for you to see the books-

Noah and Claudia sees the office.

CLAUDIA (CONT'D)

-AH, hold that thought. Come on, I'll tell you the rest of the story. Don't you want to hear it?

Claudia runs towards the office. Noah looks into the camera.

NOAH  
This is how I die.

ZOE TALKING HEAD - INT. CEREMONY SPACE - DAY

The chairs are set up in 10 meticulous rows and the podium is adorned with flowers.

ZOE  
Soooooooo, I'm done early. I have no idea why Claudia is like on the edge of a nervous break down at all hours of the day. Like this job is stupid easy. I've been sent to Greenland on an assignment where they almost had to cut off two of my toes. This is breezy. She's always like...

B-ROLL INT. BRIDAL SUITE - DAY

Zoe knocks of the Bridal Suite and enters. Two bridesmaids are getting their make up done. One is getting her hair done.

ZOE (V.O.)  
(in a bad Claudia accent)  
"Zoe, I don't have my keys" or  
"Zoe, I don't know where the spare edible glitter went" or "Zoe, I don't know if I'll ever get out of financial debt and get over my ex"...

Zoe tells Michelle, that Claudia left the venue. Michelle starts to cry and crumples to the ground.

ZOE (V.O.)  
or "Zoe, I don't know where I left my last remaining brain cells"...

The Bridesmaids push her outside the bridal suite and console Michelle.

ZOE TALKING HEAD - INT. VENUE HALLWAY- DAY

Zoe clutches her invisible pearls.

ZOE

I take it back. I take it all back.  
Don't make me go back in there.

EXT. OFFICE- DAY

Outside, Claudia pulls her eyes back, which makes her look like Joan Rivers. Noah bangs his head against the door.

CLAUDIA

It could be worse ya know?

Noah doesn't stop to acknowledge her.

CLAUDIA (CONT'D)

We could have been chased by a rabid goose. That actually happened to me when I was seven, it was frothing at the beak, have you ever seen something like that?

Again, Noah doesn't stop.

CLAUDIA (CONT'D)

Well, we would've needed shelter, ya know because it's rabid and we would've gotten here and go "Where's the key?" and we would've been attacked, get rabies and die.

Noah stops. Claudia walks towards the door.

CLAUDIA (CONT'D)

If you're not up to date on your vaccinations you're screwed.

NOAH

How do you know this?

CLAUDIA

I was pre-med...for like a semester. Didn't last.

NOAH

Why?

CLAUDIA

I don't know, maybe it's the shaky hands thing or it's the I faint at the sight of blood thing. Huh, maybe that's why I'm scared of breaking a block with my hand...

Claudia and Noah look at her hands. Claudia takes the stance she learned in karate class.

CLAUDIA (CONT'D)  
I think I'm gonna do it.

NOAH  
What?

CLAUDIA  
I'm gonna break it.

NOAH  
Are you sure?

CLAUDIA  
I'm gonna do it.

NOAH  
I really don't think-

Claudia strikes the door.

CLAUDIA  
HYAHHHHH-OHMYGAHHHHH

NOAH (CONT'D)  
NO NO NO WHAT IN ALL THAT IS  
HOLY?!

Claudia shakes out her hand.

CLAUDIA (CONT'D)  
Wow. That was a terrible idea.

NOAH  
Huh, wonder who said that thirty  
seconds ago?

CLAUDIA  
You can be all high and mighty  
after you come up with a way to get  
through that door. Ow, this really  
hurts.

NOAH  
What if we ignore the door and  
break the window?

CLAUDIA  
Uh, it's just the security system.  
We only have 90 seconds to get in  
and out...

NOAH  
Do you have a better idea?

Claudia takes the decorative rock and chucks it through the big window.

CLAUDIA  
TOO LATE. WE ALSO WORK FOR THE MOB.

The alarm goes off. They climb through the broken glass.

NOAH  
Goddamnit.

INT. GROOM'S SUITE - DAY

Stevie knocks on the door and nobody answers. Michael and all his groom men are in a huddle crying, with lines of cocaine ready to sniff.

INT. OFFICE - DAY

The office looks like a war zone. Claudia throws things around. Searches high and low. Noah is frozen.

A loud continuous beep plays.

CLAUDIA  
We have sixty seconds.

NOAH  
What am I even looking for?!

Claudia doesn't stop.

CLAUDIA  
A veil. Dang, it's like looking for a sparkly needle in a sparklier haystack. Now fifty seconds, so are you gonna bitch or are you gonna help?

Noah starts to help. He lifts random stacks of paper.

NOAH  
Why do you even bother? You're just as emotionally screwed as I am.

Claudia moves over to another section and throws things onto the floor. The beep speeds up.

CLAUDIA  
I thought all Midwesterners were-I don't know, kind?

Claudia goes to her desk, sits down and lays her head on her desk. Noah stops dead in his tracks.

NOAH

Wait, Claudia-IS THIS A BOOK THAT  
JUST SAYS MOB? WHAT IS THIS?  
Claudia what is wrong with you?

CLAUDIA

Well. His name was-he's not dead,  
ugh, his name is Tyler. He used to  
be the money guy and since he's  
gone, all I do is stress about  
that. Business plummeted after we  
split, and I turned to the people I  
knew and now, I'm kinda doing their  
weddings for lowered LOWERED wages,  
and I watch the drugs and at some  
point they'll aske me for my soul,  
I guess?

B-ROLL FLASHBACK INT. WEDDING VENUE

The venue empty except for two, Zoe watches Claudia in her  
wedding dress. Claudia starts to rip apart the chuppah.

INT. OFFICE - DAY

NOAH

-Claudi-

CLAUDIA

Why can't we have a reason to  
celebrate love and no matter which  
wack-job it is, they deserve it.  
Hell, I deserve it too. EVEN  
MURDERERS WITH DRUG PROBLEMS.

NOAH

CLAUDIA. THE VEIL.

Claudia lifts her head and beneath her is the veil.

CLAUDIA

Damn, twelve seconds.

Claudia and Noah look at the office. Pure chaos.

CLAUDIA (CONT'D)

We'll worry about that later.

They climb out the window and see the security golf cart drive into the parking lot. They both run back to the venue.

INT. BRIDAL SUITE - DAY

Michelle paces back and forth in her dress. The bridesmaids sit nervously. Claudia and Noah walk into the bridal suite. Claudia clutches her bag.

BRIDESMAIDS  
NO BOYS.

NOAH  
What-I-um-ooop-sorry.

Noah exits. Claudia grabs the veil and presses a button. The veil blinks neon lights like at a rave.

CLAUDIA  
IT'S GO TIME BITCHES!

MICHELLE & BRIDESMAIDS  
WOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOO!

A RANDO BRIDESMAIDS screams.

RANDO BRIDESMAID  
SH\*T MY BRA!

Claudia reaches into her purse and reveals the extra bra.

INT. OFFICE - DAY

A man wearing a Sherman's Alarms Company PETER 42, walks through the shattered glass. Tries to not step on any of the clutter.

PETER  
Uh...hello? I work for Sherman's  
Alarm on reports of a disrupted  
alarm...dear God.

PETER TALKING HEAD - INT. OFFICE - DAY

PETER  
So, my job can get pretty dicey...

B-ROLL INT. OFFICE - DAY

Peter climbs over the clutter. He pulls out a pen that has an antenna wire.

PETER (V.O.)  
I've been chased by dogs, cats,  
bunnies, lizards more dogs, just  
trying to get into a scene of the  
crime.

Peter starts pushing around objects, sniffs the air like a drug dog in the airport. He picks up the inflatable air guitar, plays it, obviously. He closes his eyes and starts to hum Immigrant Song.

PETER (V.O.)  
When I tell you, I've been  
tased...multiple times from the  
job. Well I have. This is I gotta  
say, is a first...

Lost in the moment he trips over the book that says "MOB SHIT AND CLIENTS". He picks it up and looks straight into the camera.

INT. CEREMONY - SUNSET

The 18 bridesmaids and the 14 groomsmen stand with the bride and groom.

All of them dressed for a rave, big gold jewelry and the best man with a gold plate that says VIN.

The Bride's veil blinks so much it could give you a seizure. The priest wears a pair of sunglasses. Michelle and Michael hold hands.

MICHAEL  
...ever since you spewed tequila  
chunks on my Gucci shoes I knew you  
were the one.

A wedding guest starts to sob.

MICHAEL (CONT'D)  
You understand me, to my core. The  
inner sweet sensitive Sun Bear when  
everyone else a rabad feral beast  
who will chew you up and gnarl on  
your bones.  
(MORE)

## MICHAEL (CONT'D)

Finding someone who stands by you when the sh\*t hits the fan isn't easy, but hell if any ugly SOB can do it, anybody can. Let me just say this is a lovely-ass wedding. Am I right or am I right? Where was I-right-baby you are the literal light of my life.

Claudia starts to cry. Claudia stands in the back and dabs her eyes. Noah stands next to her.

## NOAH

I think I get it now.

She blows her nose a little too loud. The whole wedding party looks at Claudia.

INT. RECEPTION HALL HALLWAY - NIGHT - TALKING HEAD

Claudia has a glow stick on her head like a crown.

## CLAUDIA

So this is it, this is the gig and I wouldn't trade it for the world. Money comes and goes...

Claudia reaches into her cleavage and pulls out the money that Michael gave her.

## B-ROLL INT. RECEPTION HALL - NIGHT

Michelle and Michael have their heads pressed together.

The Bridesmaids and The Groomsmen have started a grind line. Stevie looks like a stud in the booth.

Noah watches from the side in disgust as two guests make out with one another with too much tongue.

## CLAUDIA (V.O.)

I mean look at this, I can forget about my happily never after and remember...how kickass I am! Like, I'm good, like really good.

INT. RECEPTION HALL HALLWAY - NIGHT - TALKING HEAD

In the background a man wearing a Sherman's Alarms Company uniform runs towards Claudia.

CLAUDIA  
Truthfully today went pretty well-

BOOM OPERATOR  
Uh-

Claudia looks behind her and runs past the camera and the Peter chases after her.

TAG

EXT. RECEPTION HALL

Two groomsmen huddle in a corner, rub cocaine into their gums.

Claudia runs past them.

Peter runs past them.

The groomsmen run after them.

END