grown*ish*

Episode #101

"Late Registration"

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Teleplay by

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Directed by

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2nd Rev Shooting Draft Pink - Ep. 101
"Late Registration" - 9/5/17

CAST LIST

ZOEY JOHNSON.....YARA SHAHIDI

DEAN PARKER.....CHRIS PARNELL

AARON JACKSON.....TREVOR JACKSON

CHARLIE TELPHY.....DEON COLE

ANA TORRES.....FRANCIA RAISA

NOMI SEGAL.....EMILY ARLOOK

VIVEK SHAH.....JORDAN BUHAT

JAZZ FORSTER.....CHLOE BAILEY

SKY FORSTER.....HALLE BAILEY

LUCA HALL.....LUKA SABBAT

ANDRE "DRE" JOHNSON.....ANTHONY ANDERSON

SERENDIPITY.....JULES HARTLEY

UPPERCLASS GIRL #1 [MELINA].....ASHLEY LONDON

UPPERCLASS GIRL #2 [MELANIE].....HEATHER HOPKINS

ROOMMATE [TARA].....FALLON SMYTHE

BARISTA.....RIQUE

PREPPY GUY [BLAKE].....TBC

~~JAZZ/SKY'S DAD.....TBC~~

~~VIVEK'S MOM.....~~

CLAIRE.....TBC

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SET LIST

INTERIORS

ZOEY'S DORM ROOM/HALLWAY

CHARLIE'S CLASSROOM

~~STUDENT LOUNGE~~

STUDENT UNION - REGISTRATION

CAMPUS CAFE

~~HAWKINS COMMON ROOM~~

JOHNSON HOME - MASTER BEDROOM

BATHROOM STALL

BUILDING

EXTERIORS

COLLEGE DAY PARTY

~~LIMBO~~

COLD OPEN

1 **INT. ZOEY'S DORM ROOM/INT. JOHNSON HOME - MASTER BEDROOM - NIGHT (NIGHT 1)** 1

Walls covered with design sketches, tears from fashion magazines, posters of Black and Brown Royalty: Nina Simone, Frida Kahlo, Bob Marley, Solange, and Migos. A miniature (and definitely knock-off) Jeff Koons balloon dog is haphazardly tipped over, next to a Red Bull on a windowsill.

CAMERA FINDS ZOEY standing in the middle of her room, holding her cell phone, irritated. She talks DIRECTLY INTO CAMERA.

ZOEY (TO CAMERA)
It had only been three days since I'd left home and my dad was already 5150...

Zoey holds up her cell to camera. The screen reads: DAD.

DRE (V.O.)
(screaming from phone)
Whhhhyyyy?!!!!!

We **INTERCUT** between DRE, in bed, on his cell phone, curled up in a fetal ball, and Zoey who is now laid out on her bed, irritated, as she listens to her dad.

DRE
It hurts sooo baaaaad!!

ZOEY
What hurts so bad, Dad?

DRE
My soul!!!

ZOEY
Dad, please stop this. Seriously.

DRE
You don't understand, Zo-Zo. The world is a dangerous place now! College is totally different than when I was coming up.

ZOEY
Dude, you had Freaknic!

1 CONTINUED: 1

INSERT FOOTAGE: MODERN DAY SODOM AND GOMORRAH SCORED TO NEW JACK SWING: BIG BUTTS, WEAVES, BAMBOO EARRINGS, WEED SMOKE, KEGS, TRAFFIC-LINED STREETS, PEOPLE STRIPPING ON TOP OF CARS. THIS IS ATLANTA'S EARLY '90S COLLEGE STREET PARTY, FREAKNIC.

DRE
Lies! Propaganda! Freaknic never existed!

ZOEY
There's YouTube videos. One of which I'm pretty sure you're in.

SAME FOOTAGE: A CHYRON ARROW points to YOUNG DRE on top of a 1992 Nissan Sentra. He's wildin' the fuck out!

DRE
(beat, then admitting)
Okay! It was amazing. And there's not a day that goes by that I don't think about it. But I don't want that for you.

ZOEY
Dad, *I don't* want that for me!
(then)
I've got to go--

DRE
Okay! Wait! When you come home this weekend can we watch *The Breakfast Club* together?

ZOEY
I'm not coming home this weekend.

DRE
Aaaaaaaaaaaagghhhh! But it's our faaaaaavorite! '*Don't You Forget About Me*.'
(beat)
That was the song's one rule!

Zoey shakes her head and hangs up.

ZOEY (TO CAMERA)
Three days. Shell. Of. A. Man.

CUT TO OPENING:

<u>END OF COLD OPEN</u>

ACT ONE

2 **INT. ZOEY'S DORM ROOM - CONTINUOUS (NIGHT 1)** 2

Zoey is going through her closet. After trying on several of the most insanely fresh, mind-blowing outfits a girl could imagine she pulls on a Cal U hoodie. Bingo!

ZOEY (V.O.)
I'd been in college for three days and at that moment there was no way my dad or anyone else couldn't have told me that I didn't already know everything I needed to completely master this place the same way I had in high school.

ZOEY'S SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL YEARBOOK PHOTO. HER QUOTE READS, "I CAME. I SAW. I MASTERED THIS BITCH."

ZOEY (V.O.)
I knew it all. I knew that Ronald J. Winthrop was our school founder.

CAMPUS STATUE OF AN OLD WHITE GUY.

ZOEY (V.O.)
...And that he dabbled in slavery.

SAME STATUE NOW HOLDING A CONFEDERATE FLAG.

ZOEY (V.O.)
I knew that the Cal U basketball team of 1907...

BLACK AND WHITE FOOTAGE OF CAL U'S 1907 'ALL WHITE' BASKETBALL TEAM TAKING 'POTTY SHOTS.'

ZOEY (V.O.)
...would get bodied by the Cal U basketball team today.

HD FOOTAGE OF CAL U'S 2017 'ALL BLACK' BASKETBALL TEAM COMPLETING A HALF-COURT, HIGH-FLYING, TOMAHAWK ALLEY-OOP.

ZOEY (V.O.)
I knew that this was the women's bathroom...

A GIRL WALKS INTO A BATHROOM.

2 CONTINUED: 2

ZOEY (V.O.)
And also the men's bathroom...

AS THE GIRL WALKS OUT OF THE BATHROOM A GUY ENTERS. WE SEE A SIGN MARKED 'GENDER NEUTRAL' ON THE BATHROOM DOOR.

ZOEY (V.O.)
I knew this was the campus hot spot...

A LARGE GROUP OF SWAGGED-OUT STUDENTS HANG OUT ON THE STEPS OF THE CAMPUS BOOKSTORE. SHIT IS LIT.

ZOEY (V.O.)
This was the campus lame spot...

STUDENTS AT A "TRUMP 2020" RECRUITING BOOTH.

ZOEY (V.O.)
And this was the campus dead spot...

DEAN PARKER STANDS ON THE CAMPUS CATWALK ON HIS CELL. *

DEAN PARKER
...Hold on, Mom, did you say Dad was gay or game?... Gay or game?
(loses signal)
Hello? Dammit, Mom!! Hello?!

3 **INT. ZOEY'S DORM ROOM - CONTINUOUS (NIGHT 1)** 3

Zoey notices the clock on her laptop reads 11:55 p.m.

ZOEY (V.O.)
But the one thing I didn't know about college, that I'd *never* admit to my dad or anybody else, was that in all actuality... I didn't know *anything.*

She sighs, unhappy, grabs her backpack, and heads out. As she exits, we see her roommate, TARA (boy-crazy freshman whose parents had her on a tight leash and now it's backfired), is asleep in bed. * * * *

4 **INT. CHARLIE'S CLASSROOM - NIGHT (NIGHT 1)** 4

CHARLIE is at a podium. His class is made up of OLDER STUDENTS who look like RECOVERING METH ADDICTS AND PROSTITUTES (because maybe they are). In the back of the class we find Zoey seated with six other bored looking students (NOMI, VIVEK, JAZZ, SKY, AARON, AND LUCA).

4 CONTINUED: 4

ZOEY (V.O.)
And I especially didn't know that the same film he'd begged me to watch this weekend, the same film that ignited our father/daughter bond, the film that taught me how to apply lipstick with my boobs...

CLASSIC IMAGE OF THE CAST OF *THE BREAKFAST CLUB*.

ZOEY (V.O.)
...would be way closer to my real life than I ever knew.

IMAGE OF ZOEY AND THOSE SIX STUDENTS IN AN EXACT REPLICA OF *THE BREAKFAST CLUB* PHOTO.

CHARLIE
Good evening everyone. If you're here for the Digital Marketing Strategies class, you've come to the correct place.
(then)
If you're here to inquire about the listing for a "mixed-breed litter of premature breech terrier puppies," you've also come to the correct place.

Charlie points to the screen where his name is projected. We also see a cardboard box of puppies. *

CHARLIE (CONT'D)
I am Professor, Dr. Charles Telphy. As adjunct professor of the midnight-to-2 a.m. "after-night-school" program, I welcome you to a unique, new educational frontier. Some of our jobs don't allow us to go to school during normal hours...
(tip of the hat to ladies up front)
Whores... But daylight is for the meek. The bold own the night. And with it, the future. We're in tomorrow before anyone else.

Charlie pauses to look at the CLOCK which strikes 12:00 a.m.

CHARLIE (CONT'D)
You hear that? That's tomorrow happening today.

4 CONTINUED: (2) 4

He begins to distribute packets.

CHARLIE (CONT'D)
Now this syllabus lays out the entire course starting with week one: Drones! Week two: Drones of the past. Week three: Drones of the future... Basically this is going to be an all drones class. Because they arouse me.

ANGLE ON: Zoey watching Charlie, miserable.

ZOEY (V.O.)
So just like *The Breakfast Club,* these six losers, who I normally never would have even spoken to, would not only become my friends, but some of the closest people to me in my life.

CAMERA PANS Zoey and the oddball group of freshmen. It stops on NOMI PARKER (cute, sarcastic, not a natural blonde, a bit edgy).

ZOEY (V.O.)
...Like Nomi. She's my boo.

Nomi WHIPS around to Zoey and stares her dead in the eyes.

NOMI
What. The fuck. Are you looking at?

ZOEY (V.O.)
But it didn't exactly start off that way. See, Nomi wasn't your typical Jewish American Princess...

AN ADORABLE, SMILING 13-YEAR-OLD NOMI AT HER BAT MITZVAH.

ZOEY (V.O.)
In fact she wasn't your typical anything. She liked Rottweilers...

REVEAL: NOMI HOLDING A TERRIFYING ROTTWEILER ON A LEASH AS SHE READS FROM THE TORAH. THE RABBI LOOKS ON HORRIFIED.

ZOEY (V.O.)
And moshing at Swedish death metal concerts...

4 CONTINUED: (3) 4

A MOSH PIT OF PEOPLE SLAM INTO EACH OTHER WITH AN ARROW THAT SAYS "NOMI" IN THE MIDDLE OF THE CHAOS.

ZOEY (V.O.)
She was a liberated woman who didn't conform to the boundaries or laws that her family, society, or forty-nine of the fifty states deemed acceptable.
(then)
And then there were these two...

ANGLE ON: JAZLYN and SKYLER FORSTER (Black, super bubbly, well spoken, painfully adorable) dressed in matching track suits.

JAZZ
(brightly, to Zoey)
Hey, I'm Jazlyn! She's Skyler--

ZOEY
Are you--

SKY
Twins?

JAZZ/SKY
Totally.
(then)
BT Dubs, your hair is everything!!

ANGLE ON: ZOEY looking at the Twins, creeped the fuck out.

ZOEY (V.O.)
Despite their 'Simi Valley' accent, the twins from Tyler Perry's *The Shining* were actually from the hood.

JAZZ AND SKY POSE IN FRONT OF THE FAMILIAR BACKDROP OF RANDY'S DONUTS SPORTING BAMBOO EARRINGS, JORDANS, RIPPED DENIM JEANS (YOU KNOW, SHIT FROM THE SLAUSON SWAPMEET).

ZOEY (V.O.)
...They were also Cal U's hottest track recruits...

JAZZ AND SKY ON THE COVER OF *SPORTS ILLUSTRATED* WEARING KHAKIS AND POLO SHIRTS HOLDING THE AMERICAN FLAG.

4 CONTINUED: (4) 4

ZOEY (V.O.)
...Which meant they were judged about everything, just like the young, Black, female athletes who came before them, who were scrutinized about their speed...

ALLYSON FELIX COLLAPSES IN TEARS AT THE 400 M FINISH LINE.

ZOEY (V.O.)
Their bodies...

SERENA WILLIAMS IN A SPANDEX TENNIS OUTFIT. (YOU GET IT.)

ZOEY (V.O.)
Even their edges...

GABBY DOUGLAS AND SIMONE BILES SPORTING... YOU KNOW.

ZOEY (V.O.)
But America's darlings were a far cry from *this guy*, who had a different opinion about America...

ANGLE ON: AARON JACKSON wearing a CAMO MILITARY JACKET COVERED IN POLITICAL PINS. He's showing them off to Zoey.

AARON
...This one's 'Black Lives Matter,' 'I Can't Breathe,' 'Michelle 2020,' 'Justice for Kalief Browder,' 'Free Assata Shakur.'

ZOEY
And what's the bracelet for?

AARON
(sheepishly)
Uh, that just lets the EMTs know I have a peanut allergy.

ZOEY (V.O.)
Aaron and I met during freshman orientation. He was a super-hot sophomore with a bunch of forearm tattoos, who somehow, against all odds, made a 'ducktail' work.

ANGLE ON: Aaron's ducktail.

4 CONTINUED: (5) 4

ZOEY (V.O.)
Seriously, that should not work, right?!
(then)
But questionable hair choices aside, he had big plans to change the world...

Aaron hands Zoey a flyer from his backpack.

AARON
...Ooh, I almost forgot. The BSU's protesting the fact that Cal U changed all the blackboards to whiteboards.

We hear quiet laughter from the student seated in front of them, wearing a hoodie. This is LUCA HALL (Black, an eclectic, free-spirited, rebel with a keen eye for art and fashion, rings on every finger). He removes his hood and turns to face Aaron. Zoey reacts, "Gott-damn!" *

LUCA
Psht. This dude.

AARON
Something funny, dawg?

LUCA
(condescending, to Aaron)
Nah, we get it, bruh. You're "woke."

ZOEY (V.O.)
Okay, freeze.

FREEZE ON: Luca's cynical, yet still perfect face.

ZOEY (V.O.)
Baby Basquiat over here is Luca. The only freshman fly enough to rock the same skirt as me and make *me* think about changing... *

SIDE-BY-SIDE OF ZOEY AND LUCA IN AN *US WEEKLY*-TYPE COMPARISON WEARING THE EXACT SAME GREG LAUREN SWEATSHIRT AND FEAR OF GOD KILT. CHYRON: WHO WORE IT BEST? ARROW POINTS TO LUCA.

ZOEY (V.O.)
But not everyone was a fan...

4 CONTINUED: (6) 4

AARON
(to Luca, annoyed)
...My bad for caring about the culture. Maybe I should be like you and spend all my free time ring shopping.

LUCA
But then when would you have time to look for buttons?

VIVEK (O.S.)
Shhhhhhh!

The group turns to see, VIVEK SHAH (an Indian Scott Disick, with coiffed hair and a stainless steel Rolex Submariner).

VIVEK (CONT'D)
Would you guys keep it down? This isn't the Magic Johnson theater.

Luca and Aaron stop arguing and glare at Vivek.

VIVEK (CONT'D)
(backing down)
Or the Arclight.

ZOEY (V.O.)
So that dude who was about to get 'WORLD STARRED!!!' was Vivek. A first generation Gujarati Indian, born to a devoutly Hindu family.

PICTURE OF A TRADITIONAL INDIAN FAMILY IN CULTURALLY RECOGNIZABLE, BUT DEFINITELY NOT OFFENSIVE, INDIAN GARB.

ZOEY (V.O.)
He was a straight 'A' student and National Merit Scholar...

CAMERA LANDS ON VIVEK ACCEPTING HIS SCHOLARSHIP.

ZOEY (V.O.)
And he had big dreams of following in the footsteps of his hero...

FRAMED PORTRAIT OF GANDHI.

ZOEY (V.O.)
No, not him.

FRAMED PORTRAIT OF DEEPAK CHOPRAH.

4 CONTINUED: (7) 4

ZOEY (V.O.)
Or him.

FRAMED PORTRAIT OF AZIZ ANSARI.

ZOEY (V.O.)
And thank God, not him... *Him*.

FRAMED PORTRAIT OF A SMILING DRAKE.

MUSIC CUE: "Hotline Bling," soundalike (basically just Samba from a Casio).

IN A LIGHTED BLOCK CUBE (A'LA THE "HOTLINE BLING" VIDEO) VIVEK (DRESSED EXACTLY LIKE DRAKE) DOES A BAD VERSION OF THE "HOTLINE BLING" DANCE.

BACK ON: Zoey, shaking her head at the situation she's found herself in.

ZOEY (V.O.)
So I'm pretty sure you're wondering how a girl like me, with perfectly threaded eyebrows and J-Law level charm, who knew everything about college, wound up in a midnight class full of puppies and meth addicts. Well you weren't the only one...

CHARLIE
Okay, everybody. This may come as a shock, but apparently some people in the administration are scrutinizing the legitimacy of this class.

He lands a drone, poorly.

CHARLIE (CONT'D)
Crazy, right? Well, a survey is coming around. Per protocol, I have to step out. Please feel free to talk amongst yourselves about why you enrolled in this class. It would be greatly appreciated if you'd leave out any mention of breech terrier puppies that may or may not actually be coyotes.

Charlie LEAVES, taking the puppies with him. As the papers are passed back to our group, they look at each other awkwardly.

4 CONTINUED: (8) 4

AARON
Well, I know why I'm here. I enjoy taking classes taught by Black professors. And unfortunately, he's one of them.
(then, to Zoey)
What about you?

Zoey shifts in her seat uncomfortably.

5 **EXT. COLLEGE DAY PARTY - FLASHBACK (FB D99)** 5

A STYLIZED MOMENT where a large group of college STUDENTS are laughing and gasping with shock as they snap photos and videos on their cell phones. CAMERA FINDS Zoey who looks like a deer-in-headlights watching something that, although unseen by us, is clearly horrifying to her.

6 **INT. CHARLIE'S CLASSROOM - PRESENT (NIGHT 1)** 6

BACK TO: Zoey.

ZOEY
(beat, covering)
Why am I here? Drones. Love 'em.
(to Luca, re: Aaron)
Pfft. This guy.

Off of Zoey's awkward smile, we:

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

7 **INT. CHARLIE'S CLASSROOM - CONTINUOUS (NIGHT 1)** 7

Everybody as they were.

ZOEY (TO CAMERA)
Alright, so I'm not going to lie, I'm not in this class because I like drones. Although they are *pretty* cool. I mean, it's like we gave a bunch of cameras to birds. But again, not why I'm here. And I'm not about to put my business on blast to these six randos who I'm stuck in this drones class with.

NOMI
Well, I can't put the real reason I'm in here, because my uncle reads this.

8 **INT. STUDENT UNION - REGISTRATION - FLASHBACK (FB D98)** 8

A sea of STUDENTS make their way to the **CLASS REGISTRATION WINDOW.** NOMI and DEAN PARKER are in line.

DEAN PARKER
...You know, Nomi, Cal U is where I met your second aunt.

NOMI
She the one you lost to Hedonism II?

DEAN PARKER
Yeah.
(haunted, remembering)
The rippin' and the tearin'. The rippin' and the tearin'.

ZOEY (V.O.)
Nomi's uncle was Bert Parker, the Dean of Students. And despite his eight failed marriages, he seemed oddly more preoccupied with Nomi finding the right guy than her finding the right class.

8 CONTINUED: 8

DEAN PARKER
Perhaps you'll find love here, too.
Hot tip - most of the young,
eligible Jewish guys hang out over *
there... *
(gesturing) *
We call that area *Little Boca.* *

ANGLE ON: A BUNCH OF YOUNG MEN WEARING HOLLISTER POLOS, BASKETBALL SHORTS, AND SPLIT-TOE LEATHER SANDALS HANG OUT NEAR THE UNIVERSITY POOL WITH THE DISTINCT AIR OF SEMI-CONFIDENCE. *

ZOEY (V.O.)
But unbeknownst to anyone in her
family, Nomi and her newfound
sexual freedom, had other things in
mind.

Nomi standing in the PACKED REGISTRATION LINE notices a CUTE GIRL [CLAIRE] across the room. They lock eyes for a lingering beat.

9 **INT. BATHROOM STALL - MOMENTS LATER - FLASHBACK (FB D98)** 9

Nomi and the CUTE GIRL FEROCIOUSLY make out.

INSERT: THE REGISTRATION WINDOW SLAMS CLOSED.

10 **INT. CHARLIE'S CLASSROOM - PRESENT (NIGHT 1)** 10

Everyone is staring at Nomi who's just finished her story.

NOMI
(re: survey)
So, I should just put down
'drones,' right?

AARON
Definitely. Definitely a drone
situation.

VIVEK
I think I might be a 'drone' guy too.

11 **INT. STUDENT UNION - FLASHBACK (FB D98)** 11

(*BACK TO TABLEAU*) VIVEK is in line on the phone with his MOM. *

11 CONTINUED: 11

VIVEK
(into phone) *
Yes, Mummi, I've signed up for the statistics club. Thank Auntie Beena for the Ganesh statue. It got here in one piece.
(MORE)

11 CONTINUED: (2) 11

VIVEK (CONT'D)
And tell Puppa-Ji I'll call him tonight to go over my classes. And before you ask, they're all S.T.E.M. - no arts, no humanities, no physical activities--

PREPPY GUY [BLAKE] (O.S.) *
Yo, Vivek!

ANGLE ON: A group of PREPPY LOOKING GUYS approach Vivek. *

VIVEK
(into phone) *
Oh, that's just some of my * engineering friends.

ZOEY (V.O.)
Those were not his engineering friends...

12 **INT. BUILDING - FLASHBACK - SHORT WHILE LATER (FB D98)** 12

Vivek is huddled in a corner with the Preppy Guys. He opens a binder that reads 'Statistics Club' **TO REVEAL** each page is a plastic sleeve filled with a cornucopia of different drugs.

VIVEK
I got Molly, I got Oxy, I got Roxy. I got Xanies, I got Percs, I got Addies. And this is a really strong decongestant.

Vivek hands over a BAGGIE FILLED WITH PILLS in exchange for a wad of cash.

INSERT: THE REGISTRATION WINDOW SLAMS CLOSED.

ZOEY (V.O.)
So, Vivek grew up poor...

IMAGE OF A HIGH SCHOOL PICTURE OF VIVEK WITH THE ENGINEERING CLUB. HE'S WEARING DORKY CLOTHES. ARROWS POINT TO EACH ARTICLE OF CLOTHING REVEALING THERE IS NOT A NAME-BRAND IN SIGHT. JEANS - 'SLEVIS' $5.99; BUTTON DOWN - 'TONY HILFINGER' $3.95; SHOES - 'STEPH MARBURY STARBURY'S' $14.99.

ZOEY (V.O.)
...His parents wanted him to be an engineer, and he did, too. But he wasn't willing to wait eight years to ball out.

12 CONTINUED: 12

BACK ON: VIVEK as he continues to deal. **ARROWS POINT TO HIS CURRENT CLOTHES. JEANS - 'BALMAIN' $1,330; SWEATER - 'GUCCI' $795; SHOES - 'YEEZY 750 BOOST' $1,000.**

13 **INT. CHARLIE'S CLASSROOM - PRESENT - (NIGHT 1)** 13

JAZZ/SKY
A drug dealer?!

VIVEK
I'm not a drug dealer. I just get pills at a lesser price from a guy and sell them at a mark-up.
(starting to doubt)
I mean, but it's not like I'm going to shoot you or anything.
(then, realizing)
Unless you don't pay. Then my boy Lil' Puppet will definitely do it.
(beat, realizing)
Oh my God. I'm totally a drug dealer.

Stunned silence from our group.

VIVEK (CONT'D)
Oh well.
(then, to twins re: surveys)
So I'm assuming you guys are putting 'drones' too?

Jazz and Sky exchange looks, and we...

14 **INT. STUDENT UNION - REGISTRATION - FLASHBACK (FB D98)** 14

(*BACK TO TABLEAU*) ANGLE ON: JAZZ and SKY, smiling as always, as Dean Parker APPROACHES.

ZOEY (V.O.)
You know those picture-perfect *Sports Illustrated* cover girls?

DEAN PARKER
Hello, girls.

JAZZ/SKY
Heeeyyyy, Dean Parker!

ZOEY (V.O.)
Well, don't judge a magazine by the cover.

14 CONTINUED: 14

Dean Parker walks away. Jazz turns to Sky.

JAZZ
(hella gangster)
...What is your fucking problem, bro?! Make up your bum-ass mind.

SKY
Let's see... what class can I take that won't have you in it?

JAZZ
Anything at UCLA... Bye bitch!

Jazz rips up their registration card.

INSERT: THE REGISTRATION WINDOW SLAMS CLOSED.

ZOEY (V.O.)
Yup, under those smiles that's who they really were. But as their father always drilled into them, "No one wants two ratchet-ass girls on the front of a Wheaties box." *

INSERT: JAZZ AND SKY, IN THEIR SLAUSON SWAPMEET GEAR, ON THE COVER OF AN ORANGE CEREAL BOX LABELED "RATCHET-IES". *

15 **OMITTED** 15 *

16 **INT. CHARLIE'S CLASSROOM - PRESENT (NIGHT 1)** 16

The group is still seated, all eyes on Jazz and Sky.

LUCA
I kinda disagree with your pops. That actually might bring Wheaties back.

SKY
Whatever, dude. Are you putting down 'drones' or not?

LUCA
Nah, I'm just gonna put down I don't give a fuck.

17 **EXT. STUDENT UNION - REGISTRATION - FLASHBACK (FB D98)** 17

(*BACK TO TABLEAU*) Luca lays on a step by himself smoking a cigarette.

INSERT: THE REGISTRATION WINDOW SLAMS CLOSED.

18 **INT. CHARLIE'S CLASSROOM - PRESENT (NIGHT 1)** 18

NOMI
Wow. You still smoke cigarettes? You really don't give a fuck.

LUCA
I don't.

Aaron looks at Luca and shakes his head 'Psh, this mu'fucka.'

AARON
(to Zoey)
So you gonna tell us what's behind your drone story or what?

ANGLE ON: ZOEY, growing uncomfortable.

ZOEY (TO CAMERA)
These six weirdos bared their souls and everyone seems cool with their truth. Why can't I bare mine?

Zoey turns to the group.

ZOEY (CONT'D)
Alright, guys, I gotta be honest. I don't love drones. I mean, I do, but that's not why I'm here.

Everyone turns and looks at her.

ZOEY (CONT'D)
Okay, so here it is. It's the day before registration and I'm in the coffee shop...

19 **INT. CAMPUS CAFE - FLASHBACK (FB D99)** 19

Zoey waits for her coffee order.

BARISTA
Who got the venti black iced tea, extra water, extra ice, 12 pumps classic sweetener?

19 CONTINUED: 19

Zoey and another girl, ANA TORRES (Latina, a fresh-faced understated beauty, bursting at the seams to let loose), raise their hand at the same time.

ZOEY
Right here!

ANA
That's me!

The girls clock each other and smile.

ZOEY (V.O.)
Analisa Patricia Torres was born in Miami to Cuban immigrants.

PICTURE OF A LARGE GROUP OF IMMIGRANTS BEING SWORN IN AS CITIZENS. AN ARROW POINTS TO A BABY ANA AND HER PARENTS.

ZOEY (V.O.)
She was a devout Catholic...

16-YEAR-OLD ANA, IN HER BEDROOM, LIGHTS DOZENS OF 'VIRGIN OF GUADALUPE' CANDLES, AS SHE RECITES A NOVENA.

ZOEY (V.O.)
And an even more devout Republican.

WE SEE A FRAMED PICTURE OF ANA AND MARCO RUBIO.

ZOEY (V.O.)
With a secret shame...

A WRINKLED PHOTO OF A SHIRTLESS BARACK OBAMA AT THE BEACH WITH A HEART AROUND IT.

20 **INT. CHARLIE'S CLASSROOM - PRESENT (NIGHT 1)** 20

Zoey is talking to the group.

ZOEY
...So, Ana and I hit it off immediately. We had a ton in common. We were both freshmen. She loved my hair. I loved that she loved my hair. And things only got better from there...

21 **OMITTED** 21 *

21 CONTINUED: 21

*

22 **OMITTED** 22 *

23 **EXT. COLLEGE DAY PARTY - FLASHBACK - (FB D99)** 23 *

Ana and Zoey ENTER an amazing DAY PARTY. A DJ SPINS, PARTIERS jump on a HUGE COLORFUL BOUNCER WITH A SLIDE. BIKINI-CLAD GIRLS and OILED-UP GUYS wade in a SUDS-FILLED KIDDIE POOL. Students engage in BEER-FILLED BALLOON FIGHTS, dive across a WET SLIP N'SLIDE into HUGE OVERSIZED BOWLING PINS, and BLINDFOLDED FRAT-GUYS smash into a PIÑATA FILLED WITH CONDOMS AND PILL BOTTLES.

ZOEY (V.O.) *
Some older girls I knew from high *
school invited me to a party... *

ARROW INDICATES A SMALL GROUP OF UPPERCLASS GIRLS. *

ZOEY (V.O.) *
And the next thing you know, me and *
Ana were at our first college day *
party. *

Ana looks around, floored.

ANA
This is like a real party. God,
I'm so nervous.

ZOEY
Ana, I got you. Just be cool.

ANA
Okay, you're right... Just be
cool, Ana. Chill.
(then)
(MORE)

23 CONTINUED: 23

ANA (CONT'D)
Oh my God, I'm so excited I think I gotta poop.

Zoey shoots Ana a look. Just then the UPPERCLASS GIRLS approach carrying a bowl.

UPPERCLASS GIRL #2 [MELANIE] *
Who wants Ciroc gummies?

The girls smile at each other and dive in.

QUICK CUTS: THE GIRLS DANCING, MINGLING WITH GUYS, FLYING DOWN THE SLIP 'N SLIDE.

ZOEY (V.O.)
So things with me and Ana were going great...

MORE QUICK CUTS: ANA DOWNING DRINKS, SLAMMING BACK SHOTS, SCARFING DOWN VODKA SOAKED GUMMY WORMS.

ZOEY (V.O.)
...Until they weren't.

24 **EXT. COLLEGE DAY PARTY - A LITTLE LATER - FLASHBACK (FB D99)** 24

ANA, now in her bra, is in the baby pool CHUGGING VODKA that SEVERAL GUYS POUR INTO A FUNNEL in her mouth. After a beat, she flops over and vomits. Everywhere! **(BACK TO THE MOMENT FROM ACT ONE)** In stylized **SLOW-MO** we PAN the faces of the Upperclass College Students, laughing and gasping with shock, as they snap photos and videos of Ana covered in vomit on their cell phones. ANA LOOKS UP AND SUDDENLY LOCKS EYES WITH ZOEY, who is standing with the other girls in the crowd. TIGHT ON Zoey's deer-in-headlights expression.

UPPERCLASS GIRL #1 [MELINA] *
Dude, this situation just got wack. Let's hit up another party.

The girls start off, then...

UPPERCLASS GIRL #2 [MELANIE] *
You coming, Zoey?

Zoey hesitates for a moment. She looks at Ana. Their eyes lock. Ana desperately needs a friend.

ANA *
Zoey!!! Where are you going?! *

Zoey pauses. She knows what she should do, but instead she turns and LEAVES with the older girls.

25 **INT. STUDENT UNION - REGISTRATION - FLASHBACK (FB D98)** 25

CHYRON: 24 HOURS LATER

25 CONTINUED: 25

(*BACK TO TABLEAU*) ANGLE ON: ANA ENTERING the student union. *
Zoey spots her. Holy shit! Wanting to avoid her, Zoey immediately dips out of line.

INSERT: THE REGISTRATION WINDOW SLAMS CLOSED.

26 **INT. CHARLIE'S CLASSROOM - PRESENT (NIGHT 1)** 26

Zoey exhales, relieved after coming clean with her story.

ZOEY
So there it is. The truth. Wow! That felt good. It's actually a relief to say it out loud.
(a'la *40-Year-Old Virgin*)
Let's go get some frickin' French toast.

CAMERA turns to **REVEAL** the ENTIRE CLASS staring at her, mouths agape, horrified by her story. One of the students, SERENDIPITY (who looks like a prostitute, because maybe she is one) shakes her head disgusted.

SERENDIPITY
You. Are. A monster. And I should know. I ruined Lamar Odom.

ZOEY (TO CAMERA)
I should've just put down 'drones.'

Off their disappointed faces, we...

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

27 **INT. CHARLIE'S CLASSROOM - CONTINUOUS (NIGHT 1)** 27

Everyone is as they were.

ZOEY (V.O.)
So, Serendipity told me what I was already feeling. I was a monster.

Everyone sits in silence for a beat.

NOMI
(re: Serendipity)
Don’t worry about her. You’re not worse than a woman who destroyed a left-handed, seven-foot point guard with incredible court vision.

ZOEY
No, she’s right. I should’ve helped Ana.

AARON
Yeah, but you didn’t. Why?

ZOEY
Because I was a freshman at an upperclassmen party, and there were hot guys all over the place, and I guess... I was just worried what people would think of me.

AARON
I get that, but why?

ZOEY
What do you mean ‘why?’ Because people’s opinions matter.

AARON
Yeah, but why?

ZOEY
I mean... These don’t feel like questions that any logical human being needs to answer.

SKY
Caring what people think is me and Jazz’s whole life. It’s why we live this fake-ass front.

27 CONTINUED: 27

JAZZ
If we don't make it, we end up back in the 'hood, jerking off some guy who sells incense and tube socks behind the donut shop.

ZOEY
Whoa.

AARON
Feels like you skipped over a couple steps on your spiral down.

SKY
If we go back home, we're not just failures to ourselves, we've let everybody down. We're losers.

JAZZ
Total disappointments.

AARON
I mean, there's jobs at the post office...
(finding)
...the DMV, personal trainer, those sign-turning guys... Feels like there's a lot of other options before going behind a donut shop. You just don't have to do that.

NOMI
I totally get not wanting to be a disappointment. Why do you think I haven't come out to my family? I mean, would they still love me? Sure. But would they look at me differently? I don't know, and I don't think I want to know. I just want to be their daughter, not their...

NEON LIGHTS FLASH over Nomi's head: 'BISEXUAL DAUGHTER.'

NOMI (CONT'D)
...bisexual daughter.

VIVEK
You've got to live out loud. Otherwise you'll end up like my dad.

27 CONTINUED: (2) 27

JAZZ
Your dad's a closeted bisexual?

VIVEK
Worse, he's a bum.

LUCA
That's messed up, my guy. How long has it been since you've seen him?

VIVEK
I don't know. In person? Like a week ago when he dropped me off. We Skyped this morning about our Catalina trip.

NOMI
Skyped? Oh my God, is he one of those homeless dudes with a cell phone? That drives me crazy.

VIVEK
What? No.

AARON
So what's his deal? Drugs? Alcohol?

VIVEK
He's a fucking cab driver.

Everyone pauses, unsure.

JAZZ
A cab driver... who beats your mom?

VIVEK
No, he worships my mom.

SKY
But even with the worship, his gambling is driving a wedge between them?

VIVEK
Gambling? He doesn't even play the lottery. He brings his check home every week.

NOMI
I'm sorry, in Hindi does 'bum' mean a present and supportive father?

27 CONTINUED: (3) 27

VIVEK
He's a bum because he never tried. He's a smart guy, but he's been driving that stupid cab for 35 years. Dude's got no ambition.

AARON
You mean other than fleeing a third world country, developing a professional-level understanding of English, loving his wife, and putting his son through college?

VIVEK
(beat, sullen)
Dude's a bum.

Off Vivek's complete lack of perspective, everyone sits there uncomfortably. Zoey, who's been noticeably quiet, speaks up.

ZOEY
(sotto, reflective)
I'm a bad person.

AARON
Huh?

LUCA
She said she's a bad person.

AARON
Dog, I heard her! I don't know why she said it.

LUCA
Probably because she thinks she's not a good person.

AARON
Dude, why don't you just--

Aaron stops himself as he sees TEARS START TO SLOWLY ROLL DOWN ZOEY'S FACE. The more she tries to stop them, the more they come. Everyone looks on at her in shocked confusion.

ZOEY (V.O.)
I don't know why, but at that moment something came over me. Something came over all of us.

Our crew begins to become emotional.

27 CONTINUED: (4) 27

ZOEY (V.O.)
One by one I looked around and saw a group of strangers, who an hour before saw nothing in common, look at each other and see their truest selves reflected in the tear-filled eyes of a person they would soon call family.

Tears well up in our group's eyes, then trickle down their faces. They resist, but after a beat, the moment has overtaken them.

ZOEY (V.O.)
I'd done a horrible thing to Ana. The first time out on my own, the first chance to make my own decision, and I made the wrong one. And I'd done it so easily. What did that say about me? Was that the person I really was? The thought of that scared me. But I wasn't alone in my feeling. In fact, the more we cried, the more we realized exactly why we all had stumbled into this crazy class... and it wasn't drones.

TIME DISSOLVE: On ALL the STUDENTS WRITING.

ZOEY (V.O.)
Dear Professor Dr. Telphy, you asked us to write down why we're taking this class. And the honest truth is we're scared. Scared that maybe we're a person we wouldn't like very much if we met.

ON ZOEY filling out her survey.

ZOEY (V.O.)
Scared we're people who were gonna let our communities down...

ON SKY AND JAZZ filling out their surveys.

ZOEY (V.O.)
Scared we're people our parents might think different of if they really knew...

ON NOMI filling out her survey.

27 CONTINUED: (5) 27

ZOEY (V.O.)
Scared of becoming our parents...

ON VIVEK filling out his survey.

ZOEY (V.O.)
And in some of our cases, scared of losing one of our 17 thumb rings.

ON LUCA feverishly patting himself and looking around for a lost ring.

ZOEY
(dabbing her eyes)
No one can find out about this!

Everyone nods, agrees, and shares a warm hug.

ZOEY (V.O.)
That was a moment that bonded us forever. It was a moment we never talked about again. It was a moment that was ours... *

ANGLE ON: Aaron looking at video of them crying on his phone and laughing before uploading it to Instagram. *

ZOEY (V.O.) *
Sort of. *

**NOTE: PENDING TIME, AARON LAUGHING AND SHOWING FOOTAGE TO KIDS AT THE "HOT SPOT" ON CAMPUS IN SCENE 2 *

28 **OMITTED** 28 *

29 **OMITTED** 29 *

END OF ACT THREE *

TAG

30 **INT. ZOEY'S DORM ROOM/HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS (DAY 2)** 30

As Zoey ENTERS the building she notices her roommate, Tara, EXITING with moving boxes. *

ZOEY
Tara, hey... What's with the boxes?

TARA *
(excited)
Oh! A new single just opened up over at Cardinal Towers! I'm outta here.

ZOEY
Wait, you're moving out?!

TARA *
Yep...
(leaning in)
I like to study naked, it's better for both of us.
(then)
But don't worry. They already assigned you a new roommate. She's in there unpacking.

Tara EXITS. ZOEY ENTERS THE DORM and we **REVEAL** her new roommate, ANALISA PATRICIA TORRES! And on Zoey's shock, we...

FADE TO **GROWN-ISH.**

END OF SHOW