

The reception area is half filled with GUESTS for the day's wedding. SAM and EMILY are bent over at a table going over changes and making modifications to various elements of the wedding individually, occasionally looking at their own respective crib sheets for reference. LIZ stands idly besides Emily with a filled glass of white wine. LOU stands attentively.

SAM

Emily, I think we need to add another table. We got some unannounced guests from Taiwan who didn't RSVP on Edgar's side.

Emily sighs in frustration.

EMILY

This is so last minute. We should already know who is coming by now. Let's hope the caterers have enough food. Liz, can you call the caterers and check if they have enough for five more?

LIZ

Sure.

Liz looks down at one of the papers in front of Emily and dials a number off of it.

EMILY

(to Sam)  
Well, if they are relatives, we need to change the seating arrangements a little bit (Pause) put them closer over here (Pause) bump those people over there...

LIZ

(on phone)  
Hey, we just found out we have five more people, are we going to be alright? (Pause) Okay, great.

LIZ (CONT'D)

Yeah, it's not a problem.

Sam turns his head to acknowledge Liz.

SAM

That's good news.

LIZ

(to Lou)  
What happened to Michelle and your baby? I saw the pictures on Facebook! He's so adorable! I want to squeeze his cheeks!

LOU  
 Oh, Michelle's in Switzerland for a conference. My mom's baby-sitting Charlie.

EMILY  
 Oh, so is she the one taking care of the baby, while you guys are working?

SAM  
 No, this guy's a certified househusband.

Liz and Emily look pleasantly surprised.

LOU  
 (laughs)  
 You should see how fast I can fold two loads of laundry.

CHLOE and MONICA arrive together, but separately. Monica spots Chloe but isn't very confident and considers hiding, but decides to approach Chloe.

MONICA  
 Chloe, Chloe, is that you?

Chloe lifts up her sunglasses and checks out Monica from top to bottom.

CHLOE  
 Oh, hi, Monica?

MONICA  
 Yeah? Hey, I haven't seen you since graduation! How have you been?

CHLOE  
 Just fabulous, as always. Can't you tell?

MONICA  
 Oh, of course, you look great! Beautiful as always. I love your outfit.

CHLOE  
 (with false humility)  
 Oh, this? You know, it's just Marc Jacobs, Spring 2011. Some Salvatore Ferragamo's (shoes) and Roger Vivier (holds up clutch).

MONICA  
(awestruck)  
Oh, wow. You must be doing great.

VROOM VROOM. The exhaust tones of a German sports car attracts the attention of the Guests as it pulls up outside the Reception Area.

CHLOE  
(awestruck)  
Look at that.

ANDREW comes up from behind the two girls.

ANDREW  
That's a Porsche 911 GT3 RS (Pause)  
4.0.

MONICA  
Hey Android, you're here.

ANDREW  
It's Andrew now.

The driver, BRAD, enters with arm candy in hand.

MONICA  
It's Brad. He looks like he's doing well.

CHLOE  
Who's that girl he's with? She looks (Pause) young.

ANDREW  
Oooh. Looks like he's gained a few pounds... and lost a little hair.

BRAD  
Hey! It's the old gang again. Android! (Roughs up Andrew) You still that tech thing?

ANDREW  
It's Andrew now. And yeah, sort of. I'm part of the Geek Squad at Best Buy. I still take some freelance programming jobs every now and then.

BRAD  
Nice nice. Monica! You hit that glass ceiling yet? I kid, I kid!

MONICA  
(chuckle, slightly  
offended)  
No, but I'm on my way. I'm a second  
year associate at Goldman Sachs.

BRAD  
Ooh, not bad, not bad. And Chloe,  
Chloe, Chloe, (eye Chloe up and  
down) you're looking good.

CHLOE  
Oh stop it!

BRAD  
Still modeling?

CHLOE  
Oh, whenever I can fit a shoot in.  
Acting takes up most of my time  
now.

ANDREW  
Oh really? That's pretty cool.

CHLOE  
And who's your friend here, Brad?

BRAD  
Oh, this is Julia.

JULIA  
(sweet and naive)  
Hello! This is so romantic!  
Weddings always make me cry on TV.  
Oh! Champagne! Can I have some?

BRAD  
Yeah, sweetie, go ahead.

JULIA  
Yay!

Julia scampers off.

ANDREW  
Can she have some? Good thing  
they're not carding.

Sam enters with Emily.

SAM  
Hey guys! Glad you could make it.

EMILY

Did you guys get your table cards yet?

ANDREW

Table 7

MONICA

I heard you two coordinated most of the wedding. It must be tough. How did you guys manage to find the time to do that?

SAM

Whew, two years ago when Habitat for Humanity asked me to start up their Riverside branch, there's no way I would have been able to do it, but things are running smooth now and my schedule's much more flexible.

EMILY

It's been busy. But I graduated from business school a couple months ago and the new job I have lined up doesn't start until next week, so I had some free time. Plus, a lot of this stuff is good to know for my wedding next year.

CHLOE

You're engaged? Let me see your ring.

MONICA

Is your fiance here?

EMILY

(points and waves at JAMES  
in the distance)  
Yeah, it's James, over there.

SAM

Hey, hey, Emily we need to take care of those extra guests. Hey guys, we'll do some more catching up later. Sorry.

EMILY

Yeah, sorry.

Emily hugs Monica and Chloe.

EMILY (CONT'D)

Oh, it's so good to see you guys.

MONICA

Oh, it's so good to see you too.

CHLOE

We'll catch up at the reception.

Sam and Emily turn to leave. Sam starts walking away, but Emily is still hugging the girls. Girls finish hugging, and Monica and Chloe are now slightly separated from Brad and Andrew.

BRAD

(to Andrew)

Hey, I'm going to grab a beer. You want anything?

Brad turns and begins to walk away.

ANDREW

Virgin Strawberry Daiquiri!

BRAD

Strawberry Daiquiri?! You a girl?

Brad leaves to get some drinks. Monica and Chloe return to Andrew. Chloe looks distracted, wondering where Brad went. Liz and Lou also join Andrew. Liz catches only the last word of Brad's comment.

LIZ

A girl? Where's your girlfriend, Android? She here?

LOU

Hey.

ANDREW

Hey.

Andrew and Lou greet one another, hand-shake-clench-hug style.

ANDREW (CONT'D)

It's Andrew now. Yes and no. Yes, I have a girlfriend. No, she's not here. I met her...

Chloe interrupts.

CHLOE

Where'd Brad go?

ANDREW

He went to get some drinks.

Chloe peers in the direction of the bar.

ANDREW (CONT'D)

I, uh, met her...(sheepish)  
online...(even more sheepish) in a  
game.

Andrew pauses briefly to judge the reaction of the group around him. There's no outright laughter, so he continues his story. Chloe continues to peer in the direction of the bar.

ANDREW (CONT'D)

Actually, I met her at a wedding on  
the RP server we're on. She was  
role-playing as this elf who  
couldn't speak Common Tongue, so we  
spent the whole time gesturing to  
one another. (Chuckles)

LIZ

Aww, that's so cute. What else?  
Details details.

Chloe interrupts.

CHLOE

I'm going to get a Brad, I mean, a  
drink.

Chloe turns and begins to walk to the bar but stops when she sees Julia who is by herself, mesmerized by some fanciful object. Chloe turns and walks toward Julia.

LOU

(shakes his head)  
Every time I turn around my wife is  
gaming. She says Black Ops helps  
her relax after work. I don't get  
it. Half the time when I tell her  
dinner's ready, she tells me she's  
in the middle of a clan match.

Andrew laughs. Monica and Liz shrug at one another, having no idea what Lou is talking about. Liz's phone rings, it's a message.

LIZ

(just slightly tipsy)  
Oh, Sam and Emily are wondering  
where we are.

(MORE)

LIZ (CONT'D)

It's going to be more "Do this!",  
 "Do that!". I feel like I'm at  
 work. (Sips drink). Get the coffee,  
 make the weekly target reports,  
 take notes of the reviews, make  
 review lists, shop for the office  
 snacks, setup overtime meals,  
 replace the printer toner, organize  
 production meetings, take out the  
 trash. Why am I taking out the  
 trash?

LOU

Let's go.

Liz and Lou say their goodbyes and leave. A few small CHILDREN run in front of and through Monica and Andrew, causing Monica and Andrew to back up. Andrew engages with the kids while Monica seems awkward, unable to interact with them.

Chloe approaches Julia. Julia is watching food servers walk around with their trays of food.

CHLOE

(acting sweet)

Hey there!

JULIA

Hey! I wonder if those are heavy?  
 They look hard to balance.

Chloe looks at the servers.

CHLOE

I don't know.

Chloe spots a filled tray of food and has an idea.

CHLOE (CONT'D)

Oh, hey, why don't we try it out?  
 Here!

JULIA

Oh oh oh, yeah, let me try it.

Chloe picks up the tray and is about to put it in Julia's hands, but stops and puts it down.

CHLOE

Oh wait, we don't want to get the  
 chiffon lace (or whatever material  
 Julia's dress has) on your gown  
 dirty. You look so pretty in it!

JULIA  
Oh, thank you!

CHLOE  
Oh here, put this on. This will  
keep it clean.

Chloe picks up an apron and shirt and begins to put it on  
Julia. Chloe picks up another article of caterer clothing and  
places it on Julia

CHLOE (CONT'D)  
Oh and this hat too. Okay, here's  
the tray.

Chloe hands Julia the tray, which is nearly too much for her  
to handle.

CHLOE (CONT'D)  
Alright, try practicing walking  
around a bit, I'll be right back.

Chloe makes cute motions at Julia as she leaves, causing  
Julia to smile back in glee as she tries to move about with  
the tray.

The Children clear away and Andrew resumes the conversation.

ANDREW  
So, I haven't met her yet, in real  
life that is, but we video chat all  
the time! She's given me some great  
ideas for iPhone apps. But, yeah, I  
don't know. I'm pretty sure she  
wants to meet up for real, but  
things are going good right now.  
Why mess them up? (Pause, nods)  
Yeah, I'm happy with the way things  
are right now.

MONICA  
(slightly distant and  
depressed)  
You're happy?

ANDREW  
Yeah, heh. You know, you remember  
that, uh, professor, what's his  
name? Chang! When Chang asked us  
that question in Philosophy?

2

INT. DORM FLOOR - NIGHT

2

The dorm floor is filled with UNDERCLASSMEN in various stages of preparation for going out. SAM and LOU walk out of their dorm room and down the hall, dressed for a night out.

SAM

So did Brad say how much it was going to be?

LOU

I don't know, he said 'donations'. What's that suppose to mean?

SAM

(shrug)

Oh, you signed up for Philosophy 101, right? With Chang?

LOU

Yeah, I got in.

SAM

Sweet. Yeah, I've had Chang before, last quarter actually. A bulk of the grade is usually based on discussions.

LOU

Easy A.

Sam and Lou stick their heads into the open doorway of ANDREW'S dorm room. Andrew is playing a game on his computer.

SAM

Hey, you going to Brad's thing?

Andrew's attention is focused on the game, unaware that people are in his doorway.

LOU

(loudly)

Android, you going to Brad's?

Andrew's focus is snapped and he realize there's people trying to talk to him.

ANDREW

What? Oh hey guys.

Most of Andrew's attention returns to the game, reserving just enough to talk to Sam and Lou.

LOU  
You going to Brad's?

ANDREW  
Yeah.

SAM  
Know where it's at?

ANDREW  
Yeah.

LOU  
(to Sam)  
I don't know if he's paying  
attention.

SAM  
Hey, how do you get there?

ANDREW  
Left out the lot, three lights, two  
rights, four lights, a left, 5th  
house on left.

LOU  
Good enough.

SAM  
Don't forget buddy, last weekend  
before classes start.

Sam and Lou continue walking down the hall. As they pass  
another open door. They are yanked into Chloe's room.

CHLOE  
Perfect. I need your help. What  
should I wear tonight?

Chloe begins to cycle through outfits.

CHLOE (CONT'D)  
I like the silhouette on this one,  
but the color isn't right for  
tonight. [[More outfits, more  
descriptions of why they do and do  
not work.]] So what do you think?

SAM  
Uh..

LOU  
Don't know.

SAM  
We're going to go. We'll see you there.

Sam and Lou back out of Chloe's room and bump into Monica. Monica is in business attire.

LOU  
Oh sorry.

SAM  
Is that what you're wearing to Brad's?

MONICA  
No, I just got back from an Asian Business Association meeting. We had mock interviews. I'm about to go change. I'll see guys there.

3 EXT. STREET - NIGHT

3

EDGAR and CINDY are exiting a car and walking hand in hand down a street to a party.

CINDY  
Shelby did this rollover trick the other weekend when I was home, Edgar. It was so cute! Awww! I wish I had a camera!

EDGAR  
Uh huh.

CINDY  
For her birthday, I took her to this awesome grooming salon, they brushed her teeth and everything. She came out so fluffy.

EDGAR  
Yep, real fluffy.

CINDY  
I can't wait to see her again. I bet she misses her mommy.

EDGAR  
Yeah. Yeah.

Cindy and Edgar pass TWO OTHER GUYS unloading cases of beer to bring to the party. The Two Other Guys are having a conversation about something that Edgar is deeply passionate about. Edgar cannot help but interject. Cindy continues talking and does not notice that Edgar has stopped.

CINDY

Oh, and I really want to get one of those purses to take Shelby around everywhere I go. I could take her to...

Cindy notices Edgar has stopped.

EDGAR

(to Two Other Guys)

No way, man! I totally agree with him! There's obviously only one real solution!

Cindy tugs on Edgar's arm.

CINDY

Edgar, Edgar, were you listening to me? You always do this.

Cindy and Edgar continue walking.

EDGAR

(to Cindy)

Oh, sorry sorry.

(to the Two Other Guys)

He's right by the way!

(to Cindy)

Okay, what were you talking about? Shelby? Shelby did what?

4

EXT. FRONT OF FRAT HOUSE - NIGHT

4

EMILY and LIZ are walking down the street toward the party.

EMILY

So did you sign up for that Philosophy class with Chang? It's supposed to be pretty easy.

LIZ

Oh, I totally forgot. Thanks for reminding me.

EMILY

No problem.

LIZ

I'll do it tomorrow. Do you think  
this dress makes me look fat?  
Should I have gone with the pink  
strapless dress?

EMILY

No Liz, you look fabulous. Girl,  
we're gonna have so much fun  
tonight.

Liz and Emily approach the door of the house and converge  
with Sam and Lou. They exchange hey's. The door opens and  
they enter into--

5 INT. FRAT HOUSE - NIGHT

5

All the makings of a rager are going on. The place is fairly  
packed but movement is not hindered. Typical party scene:  
beer pong, Solo cups all around, kegs, makeshift bar. Liz,  
Lou, Emily and Sam are greeted by Brad.

Shots of various party going-ons without main characters.

Cindy and Edgar are walking through. Liz and Emily spot Cindy  
and rush to hug her. Edgar wanders off. Liz, Emily and Cindy  
take off for the dance floor. Liz, Emily, and Cindy begin  
dancing. Liz is more animated than her two counterparts.  
(SNAPSHOT LIZ). Cindy and Emily laugh at Liz. (SNAPSHOT  
EMILY). Cindy looks around wondering where Edgar is.

CINDY

Where's Edgar?

Edgar appears from behind her with two drinks, and passes one  
to Cindy. Edgar hugs Cindy. (SNAPSHOT EDGAR and CINDY).

EDGAR

(to Cindy)

I'm going to go find Sam and Lou.

Edgar wanders off again to find Sam and Lou. Sam and Lou are  
paired with, respectively, CHEERY FEMALE PARTNER and DISMAYED  
FEMALE PARTNER and playing beer pong against one another. Lou  
is in the middle of taking a toss. (SNAPSHOT LOU). Edgar  
approaches from Sam's side and catches the ping pong ball  
that has been thrown horribly off target.

EDGAR (CONT'D)

(to Lou)

Damn, Lou, you suck at this.

Sam and Edgar laugh at Lou's lack of skills. Sam and Edgar greet each other.

EDGAR (CONT'D)

(to Sam)

Have you gone through this month's New Republic? There's an article that's right up your alley.

SAM

Not yet.

EDGAR

Do it.

SAM

I will. I will!

Sam tosses the ball and sinks it in one of the cups. Sam and his Cheery Female Partner cheer. (SNAPSHOT SAM). Lou picks up the cup, sets aside the ball, and apologizes to his Dismayed Female Partner.

LOU

I'm much better at the real thing.

Edgar walks away passing Andrew. Andrew and Edgar give each other a nod. Andrew continues the conversation he's having with some FELLOW GAMERS.

ANDREW

Rocket jumping to the third platform is your best bet. Then mine the path behind you. (SNAPSHOT ANDREW) That's what I would...

Liz falls from her drunken dancing nearly knocking over Andrew.

LIZ

Oh! Sorry Android!

Sam helps Liz up. Chloe and a potential SUITOR glance over at the commotion. The Suitor continues trying to hit on Chloe but she is uninterested. (SNAPSHOT CHLOE). Monica walks past Chloe and waves, but Chloe doesn't see Monica. Monica continues her conversation with STOCK NERD as they walk toward the bar.

MONICA

Absolutely, it's totally speculative.

(MORE)

MONICA (CONT'D)

But options trading is definitely something you want to have available for investing. (SNAPSHOT MONICA.)

Monica and Stock Nerd approach the bar where Brad has just finished pouring several whiskey shots for some eager PATRONS. Liz steps up and requests a drink. Brad begins fill a cup with vodka. Liz turns around. Sam motions to Brad to cut her off. Brad stops pouring and Sam fills the rest of the cup with water. Liz turns back around and picks the up the drink. Liz takes a big gulp and complains.

LIZ

Hey, this isn't what I wanted.

SAM

You can barely stand. Where's Emily?

LIZ

I'm fine.

Brad shrugs. Emily guides Liz away. Brad passes a shot to Monica and Stock nerd. Brad grabs one of the shots and downs it with his Patrons.

BRAD

Yeah! (slight grimace) Woo!  
(SNAPSHOT BRAD).

The party goes on into the night. From the outside you see some lively people coming and some drunk people leaving.

6 INT. CLASSROOM - DAY

6

Everyone except Edgar and Liz is here along with other STUDENTS. PROFESSOR is finishing up his introduction for the class. The Students are looking over their syllabi and the Professor continues to the first topic.

PROFESSOR

... with fifty percent going to discussions. Okay, now that we've gotten all of that sorted out. We go onto our first question for the class.

Professor writes "Happiness" on the board.

PROFESSOR (CONT'D)

What is this? What is happiness?  
Now I'm not looking for a clinical  
answer. So don't tell me about  
serotonin and dopamine levels. I'm  
going to split the class in half.  
This side is one group, the other  
side is another group. Now, what  
you need to ask each other is: what  
is happiness for you? What makes  
you happy?

Liz comes in late. Professor passes her a syllabus.

PROFESSOR (CONT'D)

(to Liz)

Go join them in that group. What is  
happiness? (points at the word  
"Happiness" on the board)

Liz sits down, looking confused.

They all talk about things besides happiness.

PROFESSOR (CONT'D)

Okay, enough for today. I want you  
guys to get out of here and talk  
about this. I want to hear what  
consensus each group has reached  
and how you got there next class.  
Now git. Shoo! Go!

The students begin to exit the classroom. Sam steps up to the  
professor's desk.

SAM

Hey.

PROFESSOR

Hey Sam, it's nice to have you in  
my class again. Oh, here's a copy  
of that letter of recommendation.  
And if you're ever interested in  
doing an independent study with me,  
just ask. I really enjoyed your  
paper last year on Existentialism.

SAM

Thanks. I'll think about it. And  
thanks again for the letter of  
recommendation.

7

INT LOUNGE - NIGHT

7

Monica, Liz, Chloe, Emily, Brad, Andrew, Sam, and Lou are gathered in the lounge to discuss the question at hand. Chloe, Liz, and Monica are talking about a guy. Emily is prepping her notes for the discussion. Brad, Andrew, Sam and Lou are playing poker.

EMILY

Where's Cindy?

LIZ

She's out with Edgar. They should be here soon.

EMILY

(looks at her watch)

We were supposed to start 30 minutes ago. Okay guys, let's start this discussion. I'll take notes as go along. Alright, so who wants to go first.

Everyone continues with their activities.

EMILY (CONT'D)

Guys! Let's start.

Frustrated, Emily swipes Andrew's cards, inadvertently revealing them to the other guys.

ANDREW

Hey!

BRAD

Oh! Pocket Aces!

EMILY

Android, go first.

ANDREW

What? Why do I have to go first?

EMILY

Just go!

ANDREW

Alright. (Pause) Well, I guess, I've been trying to get my machine's clock speed up to 3.6. I think I need to get a new waterblock. That would make me happy. Destroying all those benchmarks.

Everyone is silent. Not knowing how to reply.

BRAD

Right, ok, well, I'd totally be happy if I were driving an M3. Details, details of the car.

ANDREW

Details.

BRAD

Yeah, you know it.

Edgar and Cindy arrive. Nods and hellos. Brad, Andrew, Sam, and Lou return to playing cards. Chloe begins to flip through a fashion magazine. Monica is twirling her pen against her planner anxiously.

CINDY

Hey guys, sorry I'm late, so where are we?

EMILY

Oh, Monica was just about to tell us what makes her happy. Right, Monica?

MONICA

What? (Sighs). Well, I'd like to land that internship at Lehman Brothers. It would totally jump start my career. And that would make me happy.

Liz's phone begins to ring. She begins to have a conversation. Everyone is impatiently waiting for her to get off the phone.

LIZ )

Hello? Yeah (Pause) What? (Pause). There's KDPHi rush event tonight? (Pause) Okay cool, I'll be there. What should I be wearing? (Pause) Okay, yeah, okay. I'll be there.

CHLOE

Oh a KDPHi rush event? I know what I would wear. I would wear my short red Gucci cocktail dress with Louboutin stilettos.

BRAD

Let me guess. Clothes make you happy.

CHLOE

Of course, who wouldn't want to be wearing clothes straight from the runway. The best thing would be to become a model then you can be the first person wearing a designer's clothes, even before the celebrities. Oh I have to get my nails done for a photo shoot tomorrow.

LIZ

You have a photo shoot?

CHLOE

Yeah, I have...

EMILY

Whoa whoa whoa, let's focus. Cindy, what makes you happy?

CINDY

I think happiness is living happily ever after with Prince Charming, having three children and two pets. My Prince Charming would have [Edgar's physical details]. (to Edgar) That's you pumpkin!

Cindy pinches Edgar's cheeks.

EDGAR

(initially uncomfortable at Cindy's outpour of devotion)

Okay, well, um, what about all the injustice in the world? There's so many people out there unable to defend themselves. Someone needs to represent their interests. Someone needs to stand up for the little guy. If I could make things right, that would be my happiness.

LOU

Hey, I think Commissioner Gordon is calling for you with the Bat Signal.

EDGAR

What? I'm just trying to make the world a better place. What about you?

LOU  
Happiness? Easy. [Team] winning the  
[Championship].

SAM  
Dude, they're totally going to  
lose.

LOU  
No, they're not! They're going to  
win!

SAM  
Nope, no happiness for you.

EMILY  
Sam, what's your happiness?

SAM  
Well, I guess, (Pause) you guys  
know how I've been working for  
Habitat for Humanity, right? Well,  
this house we're working on is  
behind schedule. And every little  
thing that comes up is delaying it  
more and more. If we can just get  
the framing done on time, then  
we'll be all set. That would make  
me happy.

LIZ  
That's great Sam, I'm trying to get  
into Alpha Delta Kappa Phi. Emily,  
you're last one, what makes you  
happy?

EMILY  
Right now, I'm happy. My aunt's  
breast cancer is in remission. And  
that is something I can be grateful  
for.

Emily begins to cry. Other girls rush to comfort her. Emily  
regains her composure.

EMILY (CONT'D)  
Okay, well, I've got it all written  
down. But how are we going  
summarize this? Everyone has  
different things that make them  
happy.

Silence. No one knows how to bring it to a conclusion.

ANDREW

Happiness (Pause) seems to be desires. Or achieving your desires. Whether that is a goal, an object, a relationship, or health. It is what each individual desires the most.

Everyone nods their heads in agreement.

EMILY

Great, that's what I'll put down as our conclusion.

BRAD

We done, we done? Alright, I'm getting out of here.

LOU

Third floor lounge is going to have the Laker's game on in five minutes. Anyone want to come?

BRAD

Hang Seng and Nikkei markets are about to open. I got to plan out my strategy and do some research.

Brad exits. Cindy and Edgar begin having a private conversation.

ANDREW

Lou, I'll be right there.

LIZ

Chloe, and what would you wear again?

Lou exits.

CHLOE

[Description of clothes]

Liz and Chloe exit.

MONICA

Hey Sam, I wanted to ask you how I should approach a professor to ask for a letter for recommendation.

SAM

Well, first...

MONICA

Actually, I got to go right now.  
I'm hosting a corporate sponsor  
event. We can go over it tomorrow.

Monica opens her planner.

MONICA (CONT'D)

How about 3:15PM in front of the  
Student Union?

SAM

Uh, sure.

MONICA

Great! See you there.

Monica exits. Cindy blows up.

CINDY

You always do this! You always  
flake out on me at the last minute.  
I'm just not that important to you,  
am I?

EDGAR

I spend a lot of time with you, but  
I need to work on my project. I  
need to get it done. I got to go

Edgar exits. Cindy starts crying. Emily hurriedly finishes  
gathering her things and ushers Cindy out.

EMILY

Edgar is just really driven. He  
works hard.

CINDY

I'm just not important to him.

Emily and Cindy exit.

ANDREW

I don't know what you do when they  
start bawling like that.

SAM

They've just got some issues to  
work out. (Pause) I just wanted to  
ask you something. (Pause) It seems  
like you know something about  
(Pause) happiness.

ANDREW

Not really. I just tried to sump up what we all said. It seems like the basics for happiness is being healthy and knowing the people around you care for you.

SAM

So if I'm healthy, I have good grades, I have a good relationship with my friends, my family, my professors, I do volunteer work and in the future if I get married and have kids and have a gratifying career, then I'll be happy right? But then what? Is that all there is to life? Is that the meaning of life?

ANDREW

I don't know. You can ask the professor.

Andrew and Sam chuckle and walk out of the lounge.

8

INT. RECEPTION AREA - DAY

8

Andrew and Monica are continuing their conversation from before about happiness.

ANDREW

Yeah, and I'm at home right now, and it's great. My mom cooks for me, does laundry, cleans my room. My dad takes care of my car, fills it up for me. I have no expenses. It's awesome.

MONICA

Awesome? How can you consider staying at home awesome? I hate living at home! My parents are always keeping tabs on me. I have no privacy. Follow family's schedule. They look through my mail. They're always nagging about something. Oh Monica, why don't you have a boyfriend? Oh Monica, you should exercise more. Oh Monica, why are you always sleeping in? Oh Monica, why weren't you home by 11 last night? Oh Monica, why haven't you found a job yet?

ANDREW

What? I thought you were working,  
didn't you say you were...

MONICA

I lied. I used to work there, but  
they shutdown our entire Compliance  
department and outsourced it to  
India. I'm sending out a hundred  
resumes a day, but I'm not getting  
any bites.

ANDREW

You know, I'm sure once the economy  
turns around, you'll be fine.  
You're not the only person it's  
affecting. I think I saw Chloe  
waiting tables the other day at  
Cheesecake Factory.

MONICA

No way! I thought she...

Andrew nudges Monica and she stops abruptly as Brad and Chloe  
return.

CHLOE

I know right?

Brad and Chloe share a laugh with each other.

BRAD

Yeah. Oh heres your strawberry  
daiquiri, Andrea.

Brad hands Andrew his drink. Andrew sips it daintily from the  
straw.

BRAD (CONT'D)

So I was just telling Chloe here,  
about my S63 AMG.

ANDREW

(excited)

An S63? What year?

BRAD

This year.

ANDREW

(excited, matter-of-fact)

Wow, it's the first time Mercedes  
is using piezo-electric injectors  
together with twin turbos!

CHLOE

When can I get a ride?

BRAD

After the wedding. Actually I lent it to Edgar and Cindy for the wedding.

CHLOE

Oh, you're so sweet.

BRAD

I know, I know, I'm such a nice guy. But it was the least I could do for these guys.

LOU

Hey guys! Hey, have any of you tried the hors d'oeuvres yet? The bruschetta is great. Oh, and Brad, you got to check out that server over there. Right up your alley.

Lou indicates to Julia who walks up with a serving tray.

JULIA

Would anyone like some hors d'oeuvres? Chloe, this is so much fun! Thanks for finding me the apron.

BRAD

Julia, what the...?

Liz rushes toward the group.

LIZ

Lou! Lou! I need to tell Sam about the flowers!

Liz trips and falls, knocking over Julia's tray of hors d'oeuvres. The crowd disperses trying to dodge Liz, her drink, and bits of flying food. Julia looks like she's going to cry. The group sifts into the rear as they try to brush off Liz and clean her up.

Edgar is sitting at a small desk on his laptop, busily typing away. Sam approaches him with a concerned look.

SAM

I can't believe you're still doing work this close to your wedding.

Sam looks at his watch.

SAM (CONT'D)

I mean, it's three hours before your wedding, and the photographer's going to be here any second. Why aren't you in your tux yet?

EDGAR

A lot is riding on this. I'm talking partner track here.

Edgar turns in his chair to face Sam.

EDGAR (CONT'D)

Do you know how many other attorneys I had to screw over just to get the chance to work on this case? This is a big, seriously big. Not Fortune 500, Fortune 10.

SAM

Okay, okay, I get it. But this is your wedding day. Don't you think you can spare a few moments?

Sam takes a ribbed tuxedo shirt off a hanger.

SAM (CONT'D)

At least put your shirt on.

Sam tosses Edgar the shirt, just as Edgar's phone rings. Edgar immediately picks up his phone, neglecting to catch the shirt. Sam walks over, picks up the shirt and begins dusting it off.

EDGAR

Yes sir! I'm here sir. Yes. Uh huh. Understood. Yes, but... but sir... I'm going over the depositions right now. The farmers just don't have much of a defense. Like you said before, if we just drag it on, yes... that is true. Okay... yeah... you want me to... okay... but if we do that then the farmer's will lose everything. I thought we just wanted to win, not go this far.

(MORE)

EDGAR (CONT'D)

This is beyond what we intended. Is that what we really want to... no, no sir, it's not a problem. Consider it done. Oh and sir, thank you for being so generous. Yes, yes, we got them. Oh your wife picked them out? Oh (LAUGHS). Alright, I'll be sure to do that. Thank you sir, I'll see you soon. Alright, bye.

Edgar hangs up, puts down the phone, and relaxes. Sam has an even more concerned look now. Edgar walks over to take the shirt from Sam. Sam recoils.

SAM

Did I hear that right? Sounds like you're picking on small farmers.

Edgar reaches out, grabs the shirt, puts it on and begins buttoning up and accessorizing.

EDGAR

Yep, that's how it is. But, you weren't supposed to hear that. The case is still ongoing and I'm not supposed to be revealing details.

SAM

Man, you've changed. You've changed. You used to want to stand up for the little guy.

EDGAR

And I still do. When I worked as legal council for that non-profit, even when won cases, the results were meaningless. Nothing ever changed. The world did not become a better place. I realized I had to move up to bigger and better things to have the opportunity to work on the cases that would make a difference. I've got to first work my way up. Climb that ladder. Once I'm a partner, then I'll be able to do those pro bono cases, put the associates to work on them. Pick the cases with the little guy. Whatever I want.

Edgar looks around for his last accessory.

EDGAR (CONT'D)  
Where's the boutonniere?

Lou comes in.

LOU  
Hey, Liz just told me the flowers were supposed be here half an hour ago. She said they said the flowers were ready, but they won't be able to get them here for another hour, hour and a half.

SAM  
That's too late. The photographer's going to be here any moment.

LOU  
No bouquets, no boutonnieres, not good.

Sam begins to pat his pockets confirming he has his essentials: keys, wallet, phone.

SAM  
I know where the florist is. I'll go pick them up. Thirty minutes max.

EDGAR  
Sam to the rescue, again. What would I do without you?

LOU  
I'll come with you. Your tiny putt-putt hybrid is not going to fit all those flowers.

Sam and Lou exit. Edgar returns to his laptop.

10 INT. WOMENS PREP ROOM - DAY

10

Cindy is sitting stoically in front of a mirrored table with hair done up. A HAIRSTYLIST is putting the finishing touches on Cindy's do. Emily is blotting her makeup with an oil absorbent sheet.

EMILY  
Your hair is looking really beautiful. I knew that Lancome lipstick was going to look good on you. Michelle Phan said Sheer Plum works really well for Asians.

Cindy is not there mentally with Emily, but Emily does not notice. Emily looks into a mirror.

EMILY (CONT'D)

That workout is (patting her butt and shaking her head in disbelief) just fabulous. There's no way I would have fit into this dress without it.

HAIRSTYLIST

Oh, what workout is that?

EMILY

Zumba!

Liz enters, glass of white wine in hand, having only heard the last word of the conversation.

LIZ

Roomba?!?! You have one? They're so awesome. They just go around cleaning, and you don't have to do anything. I totally want to get one. Two of my coworkers have one, my neighbor has one...

EMILY

No, Zumba, the dance workout, not the robot vacuum.

LIZ

Oh, well, I still want to get one.

EMILY

Yeah, yeah, my fiance's got one. I heard it works pretty well. I can ask him to let you borrow it.

LIZ

Really? Thank you thank you thank you!

HAIRSTYLIST

Okay, all done.

Hairstylist begins to gather her gear. Liz and Emily gather around looking at the beautiful work.

LIZ

Oh! It looks so good!

EMILY

Yeah, the curls are the perfect size. (Alternate Line: Yeah, your updo really reveals your beautiful neckline and necklace.)

LIZ

Yeah. Yeah.

EMILY

I love the way the curls frame your face. (Alternate Line: The sparkles from your necklace really bring out your eyes.)

Hairstylist pauses to leave.

EMILY (CONT'D)

Oh, right.

Emily starts flipping through a stack of envelopes, all filled with checks, and notices the florist's envelope. She pulls out the florist's envelope. Liz finishes her drink and begins to uncork another bottle.

EMILY (CONT'D)

The florist!

Emily sets aside the florist's envelope and continues thumbing through the rest of the envelopes, eventually finding the one for the hairstylist.

EMILY (CONT'D)

Here we go.

Emily hands the Hairstylist an envelope with a check in it.

HAIRSTYLIST

Thank you.

Hairstylist turns to shoulder hug Cindy.

HAIRSTYLIST (CONT'D)

You're a beautiful bride. Your hubby-to-be is so lucky. Congratulations.

Cindy is pulled back into the reality of the moment and realizes where she is.

CINDY

Oh. Oh, thank you.

Hairstylist turns to leave. Liz pours herself a new glass of wine.

HAIRSTYLIST

You girls are all so stunning.  
Congratulations. Good luck.

EMILY

I'm definitely coming to you for my wedding.

HAIRSTYLIST

Yeah, just let me know. Alright,  
bye girls!

EMILY, LIZ

Bye!

Hairstylist leaves. Emily notices Liz is on her second bottle of wine.

EMILY

That's your second bottle. You know you're going to need to be able to stand up for the wedding.

LIZ

I'll be fine.

Emily looks at the florist's envelope still in her hand.

EMILY

Did you tell Sam about the flowers?

LIZ

No. I couldn't find him, but I did tell Lou.

Emily's phone rings. She picks it up and looks at it.

EMILY

It's Sam. Hey Sam. You're picking up the flowers? Oh, why didn't I think of that? Thanks for taking care of it. Oh, Lou's with you? Okay. See you later. Alright, bye.

LIZ

Yay! Flower problem solved.

EMILY

I wonder if the photographer's here yet.

(MORE)

EMILY (CONT'D)

Cindy, you need to get into your wedding gown. Liz, where's our four things?

Liz shuffles through a bag.

LIZ

Yeah, we brought it with us from her parent's house. Oh, it's right here. Something old, something new, something borrowed, something blue.

Cindy begins to break down. Tears that were welling up, now stream down her face. Emily rushes to console her.

EMILY

Oh, it's okay, it's okay.

LIZ

Oh, don't cry. You're going to make me cry and we're all going to ruin our makeup.

EMILY

It's okay to be emotional. It's normal. It's your big day. You guys make a wonderful couple. Edgar's a great guy.

Cindy stands up and lashes out.

CINDY

Fang Pi!

LIZ

Cindy, what's wrong?

Cindy, shocked at her own behavior, continues sobbing and quietly sits back down.

EMILY

You're just getting cold feet. It's temporary, it'll go away.

LIZ

Here take a sip of this. It'll help.

Liz begins offer her glass of wine.

LIZ (CONT'D)

On second thought, you'll need this.

Liz pulls out a flask and offers it to Cindy.

CINDY

I don't think it's going to work out between Edgar and me. He's changed a lot lately. More so since he's started working at that new firm.

EMILY

Changed?

LIZ

What do you mean?

CINDY

He's so involved with his job, it just consumes him.

EMILY

That's nothing new.

CINDY

We don't talk like we used to.

EMILY

Edgar's always been dedicated to his work.

LIZ

Yeah, you should know that. He's been like that since college.

CINDY

No, his values have changed. I can understand being career oriented and climbing that corporate ladder. But he's doing it by stepping on people. And the case he's on, even though I don't know the details, it sounds like he's working against the little guy. What happened to "Fighting for Justice"?

EMILY

Are you serious about this?

LIZ

Come on, all attorneys are like that. You'll get over this. Just think of your life after this. You'll be comfortable, you won't have to work. Wasn't that what you wanted?

CINDY  
 I thought I knew what I wanted, but  
 now (Pause) I don't know. He's  
 already changed so much, I don't  
 know who I'm marrying.

Cindy stands up nervously.

EMILY  
 So, what are you going to do?  
 You're not going to call it off are  
 you? Oh no, I didn't mean to say  
 that.

CINDY  
 Yeah, yeah, I'm think I'm going to  
 call this off.

LIZ  
 Are you sure?

CINDY  
 Yeah. (Pause) Yeah.

Cindy runs out of the room. Liz and Emily are in shock. They  
 look at each other and then chase after Cindy.

11 INT. RECEPTION AREA - DAY 11

Cindy runs through the room as the Guests who fill the room  
 stare in confusion and disbelief.

BRAD  
 Hundred bucks says the wedding's  
 off.

CHLOE  
 Nah, I think everything is fine.  
 Where is the dress? I heard it was  
 Vera Wang.

Liz and Emily are not too far behind but lose her in the  
 crowd. Cindy exits the Reception Area. Confused, the Guests  
 inquire about the situation. Liz and Emily are left trying to  
 calm the crowd. The Guests begin whispering, shocked and  
 worried. Gossip begins to spread across the reception area.

12 INT. MENS PREP ROOM - DAY 12

Edgar sits at a desk, attentively reading and sporadically  
 typing on his laptop.

Occasionally, he buttons another button of his vest while reading. Cindy enters hurriedly and shuts the door. Startled, Edgar turns to face Cindy.

EDGAR

Whoa whoa, what's going on? I'm not supposed to see you.

CINDY

I just... (Out of breath)

Edgar gets up and approaches Cindy.

EDGAR

You just what?

CINDY

I just... I just can't do this.  
This wedding.

EDGAR

What are you talking about?

Edgar's phone rings. Diverting his attention, he reaches to pick it up. Cindy snatches it from him.

EDGAR (CONT'D)

What are you doing? That could be the office calling? Give it to me.

Edgar reaches for the phone, but Cindy makes every effort to keep it from him. The phone continues to ring.

CINDY

Didn't you hear what I said?

Edgar is only concerned about phone in Cindy's hand. The phone continues to ring.

EDGAR

Are you out of your mind? Give me the damn phone!

Edgar lunges for the phone, but knocks it up and out of Cindy's hand. While fumbling and bobbling the phone, it stops ringing. Cindy is trying to knock it out of his hands. Edgar desperately brings the phone to his head in an attempt to answer it without even seeing who is calling. Edgar turns his back to Cindy to shield himself from the barrage of wild, but weak blows.

EDGAR (CONT'D)

Hello? Hello? (Turns to face Cindy)  
You made me miss...

Edgar is interrupted by a forceful slap that reverberates across the room. Edgar, stunned at what just occurred, just stares back at Cindy.

CINDY

Today was supposed to be about our wedding. And when I tell you that it's off all you care about is a call from your office?

Edgar stands there, speechless. Cindy continues to speak her mind about him, his attitude towards work, his shifting morals.

13

INT. RECEPTION AREA - DAY

13

Liz and Emily try to convince the crowd that Cindy is just having cold feet and that it will pass. Liz and Emily look at each other unsure of the situation themselves.

LIZ

Don't worry, don't worry, everything is fine. Cindy and Edgar just need a moment. I'm sure the ceremony will start soon. Have another drink. Are you guys making use of the open bar?

SOBER GUEST

Open bar? There's an open bar?

Emily's phone rings. She looks at it and begins to answer it. Liz continues to try to unsuccessfully calm things down.

EMILY

It's Lou. Hey, you guys better get back here soon, things aren't going so well. (Pause) Wait wait, what?

Emily's face goes pale. The previous expression of frustration of her surrounding situation suddenly dissolves. Emily puts down her phone. The bustle of the room continues. Emily quietly repeats Lou's message to Liz and turns to leave the room. Her voice is lost in the noise. Shocked, Liz snaps her head to face Emily whose only reply a blank look that confirms, I'm serious. Emily exits as Liz suddenly breaks down and begins sobbing. The Guests around her gather to see what is wrong.

14 INT. MENS PREP ROOM - DAY

14

Cindy and Edgar are in a heated argument with raised voices, arm movements, and hand gestures. There is a knock at the door as it slowly opens.

EDGAR

What?! Can't you see we're busy?!

Emily enters.

EMILY

Lou just called...

EDGAR

Where are those guys?

EMILY

Lou just called. Sam's car was struck head on by an oncoming truck. Sam's dead.

15 INT. MEMORIAL - DAY

15

LIZ

Sam, you're always looking for us. Making sure we were okay and keeping us safe. I always listened to your advice and I will surely miss your guidance. Now I'll have to do more on my own.

BRAD

Money can't buy you happiness, that's something you would have said to me, you damn jerk. Why do you always have to be right? I guess the jokes on me now.

CHLOE

I spent the week doing all my usual things. Getting my hair done, getting my nails done, window shopping, but nothing seemed as satisfying as it used to be.

EDGAR

I still remember the last thing I said to you: What would I do without you? You were always there for me steering me in the right direction.

(MORE)

EDGAR (CONT'D)

You reminded me of what I used to stand for, and how far I had strayed from that path.

MONICA

All I ever thought about was getting to the top. My career was the most important thing to me. Now I'm wondering what I'm working for when it can all be taken away so quickly.

ANDREW

Sam, looking at your picture here, has made me realize it has been a long time since I've looked this closely at someone in awhile. I've just been Facebooking and emailing.

CINDY

Sam, you once mentioned to me that I needed to find my own passions, that I shouldn't depend on someone else for my own happiness.

LOU

Sam, I miss you. My family misses you. You were always there for us. You were there by my side when Michelle and I got married. You were there when Charlie was born. And although he won't grow up with you around, I hope he grows up to be just like you.

EMILY

Sam, why did you have to leave us so soon? You, out of all of us, could have been the one to change the world. And after seeing you pass, it makes me cherish all the things I have even more.