

SCENE 6

Later that morning.

BRIAN and CATE are sitting
on the couch, playing a
video game.

BRIAN

Wow, you suck at this.

CATE

When did they add these flash bomb things? They're kicking my
ass.

BRIAN

Yeah, they suck. They had to put a warning on the case. It was
giving kids seizures.

CATE

I can see why. Have you heard from Jill lately?

BRIAN

She's probably fine.

CATE

She's been gone for over an hour.

BRIAN

Has she?

CATE

Do you need to call her?

BRIAN

I thought Emma said the neighborhood was safe.

CATE

It is... It was just kind of a rough morning for her.

BRIAN

You think she's okay?

CATE

She probably found the art museum down the street.

BRIAN

Of course you have an art museum down the street.

CATE

There's all of this crazy post-modern stuff.

(MORE)

CATE (CONT'D)

They have this whole installation section. You know. A single chair smeared in pig's blood and this blind woman crying in the corner holding her eyeballs. That sort of thing.

BRIAN

That's fucked up.

CATE

(to the game)

What's this?

BRIAN

Press X. It'll upgrade your gun.

CATE

Nice. Does Jill like art?

BRIAN

Probably. I don't know.

CATE

So how long have you guys been dating?

BRIAN

Four months.

BRIAN dies in the game.

BRIAN

Fuck.

CATE

Flash bomb?

BRIAN

Fuckin' flash bomb. I got sniped.

CATE

Do you want to take a break?

BRIAN

Sure.

BRIAN saves the game and
pauses it.

They make themselves
comfortable on the couch.

CATE

How's Shep's?

BRIAN

It's good. Not as much fun since you left, but it's good. Do you like Minneapolis?

CATE

I love it.

BRIAN

So you don't miss it at all?

CATE

There just wasn't a lot there for us. And Shep's? The only people who looked like they were having any fun were the assemblers.

BRIAN

That's cause we were all high.

CATE

I figured.

BRIAN

I got a promotion.

CATE

That's awesome.

BRIAN

I'm a specialist. Assembly Specialist.

CATE

It's a step in the right direction. Right? Is Hot Maggie still there?

BRIAN

Not anymore. She quit and opened a Chili's. I've been there a few times. She asked me if I wanted to be in the kitchen.

CATE

Do you?

He shrugs.

CATE

Why don't you just go for it?

BRIAN

Because I don't want to peel potatoes and do prep and cook other people's recipes.

CATE

Isn't that part of the whole experience?

BRIAN

I don't want to be a line cook.

CATE

So you'd rather assemble chairs?

BRIAN

You think I'm wasting my life?

CATE

Not if you're doing what you want to do.

BRIAN

Are you doing what you want to do?

CATE

Yeah.

BRIAN

So you guys don't think you'll ever come back?

CATE

I think Emma likes the distance. Not from you, but from...

BRIAN

Mom and Dad?

CATE

I don't think your mom has forgiven us for eloping.

BRIAN

After last night, I'm sure she's over it. Least of her disappointments.

CATE

Don't beat yourself up over all of that.

BRIAN

Same goes for the wedding stuff.

CATE

It was weird, you know? No one was there. It was just us, which was fine, but it wasn't special. And that's not how I wanted it to feel. It was our wedding.

BRIAN

You should have a wedding party.

CATE

I think it's a little late for that. I have a feeling after this anniversary thing your sister isn't going to want to throw a party for a while.

BRIAN
I didn't help that much, did I.

CATE
You helped.

BRIAN
Okay, but she invited everybody, booked the place, picked the food -

CATE
- I picked the food -

BRIAN
- Did the travel stuff. Thought of it in the first place.

CATE
You still helped. We can't all be Emma. Emma's not even Emma all the time.

BRIAN
(laughs)
God, I miss you.
(a Beat)
It's just... It's like we were friends.

CATE
We are friends. You know, we may not move back but you could move Jill out here.

BRIAN
She has a practice.

CATE
She could have a practice down here. Do you think she's "the one?"

BRIAN
Do you really think that's a thing?

CATE
I hope so. I'm married.

BRIAN
You really think there's just one single person?

CATE
Otherwise it gets complicated, doesn't it?

BRIAN
But what if you have more than one?

CATE

Like polyamory or something?

BRIAN

No, not that. But in a universe where you can have more than one - of anything! Not just a person to be with. But a job, or, or a place to live. You didn't have to choose one thing over the other. There are a lot of options. You know? You see the world and you see yourself as part of it and there are infinite possibilities.

CATE

Except that there aren't.

BRIAN

How do you know? Why do you have to choose one thing?

CATE

Because you're choosing all the time whether or not you want to think about it like that. You're wearing a gray shirt. You had to pick. Gray shirt or blue. You can't wear both, right? But just because you pick gray over blue doesn't mean that you're only wearing gray forever. It's not like you're stuck.

BRIAN

You want to explain that to them?

CATE

Marsh and Penny?

BRIAN

Yeah, Marsh and Penny.

CATE

Fuck what they think. You're probably right. Why do you have to pick one? I'm sure that there are people out there who wear two shirts.

BRIAN

If I stay with her after this because of what's happening, because I feel bad or something, I'm shit. And if leave because of this, I'm shit.

CATE

You're not shit.

BRIAN

Then why do I feel like I am?

CATE

Because your dad is a dick and life's messy.