

OVEREXPOSED
"Pilot"

by
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FADE IN:

INT. MIDDLE SCHOOL CLASSROOM - DAY

CASSANDRA BARTLETT (late 20s), African American, just heavy enough not to be noticed in L.A., wearing a frumpy shirt and stretchy skirt that's a little too big for her, signs a STUDENT'S handbook, hands a folder to another TEACHER, and holds a finger up to a MOTHER and SON to indicate just one moment, all the while on the phone.

CASSANDRA

Yes, the order is in my name not the school's...No, I didn't ask for the free gift...I just need the ribbons. The ribbons I paid for.

She smiles again at the mother and turns to face the wall.

CASSANDRA

You must have a courier or a delivery person or perhaps you could hire an Uber...Yes...Thank you.

She takes a deep breath before she turns around.

CASSANDRA

(to mother)

Sorry about that. Now we can focus on Ethan's attendance issue.

She looks at ETHAN (12) who is terrified. She talks to him like he's a murder suspect and she's the D.A. who wants him to fry.

CASSANDRA

Basically, you need to come to school. And when you come? You need to make it to science class. Capisce?

Ethan nods. Cassandra picks up a stack of folders, grabs her coffee cup, and heads out.

CASSANDRA

The science fair waits for no man, Ethan. I'll meet your mom and you down there.

INT. TEACHER'S BATHROOM - DAY

Cassandra exits a stall. ADITRI SHARMA (20s), Indian American and thin, wearing almost inappropriate short shorts and a school tee-shirt, enters. She swings a bunch of keys like she owns the place.

ADITRI

Hey Cass, can you run to The Grilled Cheese Truck for me? Daniel had nothing to eat at his place this morning.

CASSANDRA

Who's Daniel? Wait, nevermind, I don't need to learn their names.

MS. RUFFINS (late 50s) enters. She fixes her lipstick.

MS. RUFFINS

It's too bad that the air conditioning had to go out today. It's a shame. When I ran the fair-

CASSANDRA

It sure is a shame. But luckily science can help us out with this one, Ms. Ruffins.

Cassandra heads for the door. Aditri follows.

CASSANDRA

(whispers to Aditri)
You've slept with the plant manager, right? Go. Find. Him.

INT. AUDITORIUM - DAY

STUDENTS and PARENTS set up science fair projects as Cassandra plugs in an OLD BOX FAN and signs for a delivery.

CASSANDRA

Your company almost got a really bad review on Yelp.

A DELIVERY WOMAN drops a box at Cassandra's feet and leaves. Cassandra opens the box to reveal her ribbons. Thank God.

TUCKER (O.S.)

I could write a bad review for you. I'm always up for tearing down a crappy company.

Cassandra looks up from the ribbons at TUCKER BAILEY (late 20s), Anglo American, gorgeous. He smiles. She smiles.

CASSANDRA

I gave the manager a piece of my mind earlier so hopefully they'll get their act together.

Cassandra picks up the box of ribbons.

TUCKER

Hopefully.

TUCKER

Can I help with any of this? Move that somewhere?

He attempts to take the box from her. His hand rests on hers for a second. More smiles. This time, there's a moment.

CASSANDRA

I've got it but thanks.

PRINCIPAL PICKING (40s), a larger African American woman, joins them followed by JACKSON JONES (12), African American, who carries a watermelon, carved to resemble a brain, and a tri-fold poster, and ROXANNE (12), Korean American, who carries an elaborate race car project.

Principal Picking addresses the students as Cassandra moves away with her box.

PRINCIPAL PICKING

Indoor voices from now on. Even if you are talking about electrical charges used in solar-powered race cars.

ROXANNE

But that's the point! You don't use electrical charges in anything solar-powered!

Principal Picking gives Roxanne a look that could freeze time and Roxanne stomps away. Jackson stays glued to where he's stopped next to Tucker.

Tucker looks around the room. His gaze falls on Cassandra. He watches her for a moment as Principal Picking talks.

PRINCIPAL PICKING

(off Roxanne)

She's a trouble maker, that one.

(MORE)

PRINCIPAL PICKING (CONT'D)
A little more mad than scientist
if you ask me.

Cassandra notices Tucker watching her and gives a quick smile before moving on. Tucker refocuses on Jackson. He takes the poster from him.

TUCKER
Hey buddy, ready to do this?

PRINCIPAL PICKING
If you need anything, Mr. Bailey,
do not hesitate to find me. Good
luck with your project, Matthew.

JACKSON
I'm Jackson.

TUCKER
We'll be fine, thanks.

Jackson trips and drops his watermelon. Tears start.

JACKSON
My *citrullus lanatus* frontal
lobes!

TUCKER
Aw, buddy. Um. Here, let's pick it
up.

Jackson CRIES. Tucker grabs watermelon chunks.

TUCKER
Should we call your dad? Or take a
sick day? We could get breakfast
burritos and hit the water...

Jackson looks at Tucker like he has two heads.

TUCKER
I mean it's just a watermelon bud,
you fail science this early in
life no one cares.

JACKSON
I...I...I care.

TUCKER
Right. You care. I care. We can
fix this.

Tucker scans the room and spots a young MOTHER and her DAUGHTER (12). He heads toward them. He eyeballs the girl's POTATO ELECTRICITY PROJECT.

TUCKER

Excuse me. Hi. You've got a great project there, any chance you'd be willing to sell it to me?

They are awe struck as Tucker pulls out his wallet.

TUCKER

I've got um seven twenty nine. All yours. You'd be doing me a huge solid.

As if in a trance, the mother hands the project to Tucker. He hands her the money. Tucker takes the project back to Jackson's table. He pulls a marker from Jackson's backpack and writes Jackson's name over the girl's.

JACKSON

Ms. Bartlett isn't stupid. She'll know.

TUCKER

It's fine.

Cassandra joins Tucker and Jackson. She knows.

Another student, ALLIE (12), runs up to them.

ALLIE

Ms. Bartlett, have you seen my mouse? He's grey with a pink nose and a white tail and-

CASSANDRA

I know what a mouse looks like Allie and no.

Allie moves on. Cassandra refocuses on Jackson.

CASSANDRA

Potato energy. Interesting last minute change, Jackson.

JACKSON

I...I...

TUCKER

Sorry 'bout that.

(MORE)

TUCKER (CONT'D)

We had a minor problem with our watermelon whatchathingy and we decided to go a different direction.

CASSANDRA

Do you understand the ramifications of plagiarism?

TUCKER

It was all my idea. Don't put it on the kid. No harm, no foul.

CASSANDRA

No harm, no foul? Jackson understands this is wrong, don't you, Jackson?

They look at Jackson, who starts to cry again. He nods yes.

CASSANDRA

I don't know who you think you are-

The CROWD takes notice as SOMEONE records on a phone.

CASSANDRA

-but I assure you this is not how we operate around here. If we fail in teaching our children the basics of moral behavior then we as a society perish. Per-ish. Suffer complete and utter ruin. This is literally a matter of life or death. You parents come in here and you-

TUCKER

I'm not a parent-

CASSANDRA

-think you can make everything perfect for these children. And you can't. The world doesn't need perfect children who haven't been prepared to face life's battles. The world needs children who grow up to be responsible, intelligent global citizens who know the difference between right and wrong and that sometimes it's okay to fail as long as you learn from it and try again.

Jackson SNIFFLES.

CASSANDRA

The world needs less people who think no harm, no foul is an acceptable apology and more people who actively work to make our planet a better place. Frankly, we need less liars and more learners.

(to Jackson)

We'll talk about this after school.

She moves on. Tucker lets a slight smile escape his lips.

INT. CLASSROOM - DAY

Aditri enters as Cassandra deals with STUDENTS.

CASSANDRA

(to Aditri)

I cannot go track down any type of food truck with you-

Aditri holds her phone out to Cassandra and hits a button. A video of Cassandra's outburst at the science fair plays.

ADITRI

I don't think you get it, Cass. The guy this morning? In the video? It's Tucker Bailey. Tucker. Bailey. The movie star.

CASSANDRA

Shit.

The kids all look up, shocked. Aditri grins.

INT. CASSANDRA'S APARTMENT - DAY

GUY DELL (30s), Anglo American, wearing expensive monogrammed pajamas, sits on the couch surrounded by a laptop, iPad, phones and magazines with Tucker Bailey's photo on the cover. He clicks and types and answers the phone when it RINGS.

GUY

Cassandra Bailey's phone... Seriously? Your tabloid trash U.R.L. is not on our list of priorities... No... Yeah, probably never.

He drops the phone and scrolls through websites on the iPad. The phone RINGS again. He answers.

GUY

Cassandra Bailey's phone... I'm authorized to negotiate... Of course... Can she keep the clothes?... We'll get back to you... Yes... I love you too, Mrs. Bartlett.

He drops the phone again. When it RINGS a third time he hits ignore, takes it and the iPad, and heads down the hall.

INT. CASSANDRA'S APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

Guy POUNDS on Cassandra's bedroom door as he watches a video on his phone. Cassandra opens the bedroom door.

GUY

Ladies and gents, the teacher who schooled the sexiest man alive.

Guy holds his hand up for a high five. Cassandra walks past him into the kitchen. She pours coffee. Guy follows her. He pulls out the iPad and reads from a file.

GUY

TMZ wants to do a follow up for their TV show, which is more low-rent than their website if possible so maybe a pass? I'd suggest a pass. Ok! magazine wants to do a spread, a little makeover what will you. They're gonna get back to me on the whole clothes sitch. They're owned by the same company that owns Entertainment Tonight which I think would be a much better debut vehicle-

CASSANDRA

Why does anyone care about this?

GUY

Because it's Tucker Bailey.

CASSANDRA

And me. Nobody knows me.

GUY

Oh they will, soon. They're all a flutter about you.

He shows her his phone. On it plays a clip from The View.

ON SCREEN: WHOOPI, JOY, SUNNY, and MEGHAN debate.

JOY

She's not unattractive. She's a teacher, not a supermodel.

WHOOPI

No one's even mentioned she's a sister.

Cassandra stops the video as the doorbell RINGS. Guy lets Aditri in. She's dressed to the nines. Guy and Cassandra look her up and down.

ADITRI

Your building is crawling with paparazzi. I need to look my best just in case.

Cassandra and Guy rush to the window and look outside. Two PHOTOGRAPHERS are stationed out front.

GUY

I'll walk you out. My no comment is fierce.

CASSANDRA

There's literally nothing to comment on. How did they even find me? Should I call the police?

ADITRI

Some attention isn't bad attention, Sweetie. How about that black jacket we bought last fall, with the skinny jeans? We'll put your hair up, some big hoops in your ears.

Aditri digs in her purse and pulls out a lipstick.

ADITRI

This color would be perfect.

CASSANDRA

I've gotta get ready for work.

Cassandra goes into her room and SLAMS the door.

INT. CASSANDRA'S APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

Guy turns to Aditri, squares his shoulders, and CLEARS HIS THROAT. He snaps his finger after every syllable.

GUY
No. Com. Ment.

Aditri gives Guy a smoldering stare that goes a beat too long.

ADITRI
No comment, friends.

Guy turns and walks away then looks back at Aditri over his shoulder.

GUY
I said no comment, bitch.

Aditri follows his lead, walks away and looks back.

ADITRI
Yo mama said no comment last night.

Guy stops. He cringes. He's done with this game. Back to focusing on Cassandra.

GUY
She'll be okay. We've lead by example.

INT. TUCKER'S MANSION - DAY

Tucker lies on a couch watching the TMZ science fair video. He smiles to himself. A SUPERMODEL (early 20s) sits down next to him. Way too close to him.

SUPERMODEL
Whatcha doin?

Tucker moves over and continues to watch the video.

TUCKER
(yells)
Hey Eddie! You should make your friend breakfast!

TYLER BAILEY (late 20s), Anglo American, thin, conservatively dressed, enters the room. She stops in front of Tucker.

TYLER

I'm going to put a call in to TMZ to get the video pulled. It's not good for us.

TUCKER

I'll apologize to her and it'll all go away, Tyler.

TYLER

She's dressing you down in a room full of children.

SUPERMODEL

(to Tucker)

I could undress you.

TYLER

(to supermodel)

Stop talking.

EDDIE JONES (30s), African American, tall, in a basketball jersey, joins them and puts an arm around the supermodel.

EDDIE

You still watching that science thing? High-larious, dude. She's a piece of work. Jackson is terrified of her but in that way where I'm sure he wants to sleep with her.

TYLER

He's twelve!

TUCKER

He's twelve!

EDDIE

(to supermodel)

You could never tell they're related, huh.

EXT. MIDDLE SCHOOL - DAY

Cassandra pushes through a small crowd of PAPARAZZI at the front entrance.

INT. CLASSROOM - DAY

Cassandra sits at her desk. STUDENTS surround her.

STUDENT 1

Is Tucker Bailey your boyfriend?

STUDENT 2

Can you bring him to school so he
can be on my TikTok?

CASSANDRA

Pop quiz. Five minutes.

The students hurry back to their desks. Her phone VIBRATES,
unknown number. She answers.

CASSANDRA

Ms. Bartlett.

INT. TUCKER'S MANSION - DAY

Tucker paces in his living room, phone to his ear.

TUCKER

Hi, this is Tucker. From
yesterday?

INTERCUT CASSANDRA/TUCKER

CASSANDRA

Tucker Bailey.

TUCKER

Yeah, the cheater. I'm sorry about
all of this. I'd like to apologize
in person, maybe take you out for
dinner?

CASSANDRA

That is not necessary, Mr. Bailey.

TUCKER

No, it is.

CASSANDRA

Mr. Bailey, I'm very busy and I
really need to get back to-

TUCKER

Let me help somehow. Let me show
you I'm sorry for what happened.

CASSANDRA

I get it, you're sorry.

TUCKER

I'd really like to see you again.

Beat.

CASSANDRA
How sorry are you?

INT. AUDITORIUM - NIGHT

Tucker mops the floor as Cassandra eats pizza.

As this is happening there's a FAINT LIGHT coming through an open auditorium window neither of them notice.

CASSANDRA
You ate all the pineapple off these pieces.

TUCKER
Yep.

CASSANDRA
So you're a guy who takes what he wants.

TUCKER
Well, I like to think of it more as being proactive. I considered the fact that you might eat all of the pineapple pieces and then I'd have nothing when I finished. So I went for the pineapple first.

CASSANDRA
That's not a fact.

TUCKER
But I was right, wasn't I?

Cassandra hides a smile and puts ribbons on projects. Tucker finds pieces of watermelon on the floor and throws them away.

CASSANDRA
I never had fruit on pizza until I was in law school. Not once. I wanted to call Child Protective Services on my mom.

TUCKER
Wait, law school?

CASSANDRA
All three years. Passed the bar too. And here I am.

TUCKER
Why? How?

CASSANDRA

Teach for America. I was recruited and just couldn't leave after my two years were up. These kids get under your skin.

TUCKER

Couldn't you have practiced some sort of family or child advocacy law? Seems like-

CASSANDRA

Do not say it's a waste. It's a privilege to get to be a part of these kids' lives on such an intimate level.

TUCKER

I was gonna say it seems like they got the better end of that deal.

CASSANDRA

Everyone benefited.

TUCKER

Definitely.

INT. AUDITORIUM - NIGHT

Tucker finishes mopping the floor, Cassandra marks grades from projects on a clipboard.

CASSANDRA

So you didn't even make it through a semester?

TUCKER

I really looked good in U of M's colors but being a Wolverine was not in the cards for me. However...

He uses the mop as a microphone and goes into showman mode.

TUCKER

...fame, fortune, and a little seen television commercial for cucumber-flavored yogurt were.

Cassandra watches with amusement.

TUCKER

You had to see it to believe it.

(MORE)

TUCKER (CONT'D)

My enjoyment of said yogurt on screen should have won me an Oscar. Instead it got me a commercial agent and a bus ticket out here from Detroit.

CASSANDRA

It snows in Detroit. I've never seen snow.

TUCKER

You live a couple of hours from some of the best skiing in the country, how is that possible?

CASSANDRA

I don't look good in scarves.

TUCKER

Oh, I doubt that.

He takes a party streamer off of a science fair project and drapes it around her neck.

TUCKER

Beautiful.

Cassandra tacks a red ribbon on his chest.

TUCKER

Not blue?

CASSANDRA

Not yet.

INT. AUDITORIUM - NIGHT

Cassandra and Tucker put together a jigsaw puzzle that is part of a student's project on baby cows being born. The visuals are disturbingly graphic and accurate.

CASSANDRA

Horror movies have a formula. You know exactly what's going to happen when, who's going to die, and that ultimately, you'll feel relieved when it's over. I like that in a movie.

TUCKER

You wouldn't rather laugh for a couple of hours?

CASSANDRA

I didn't say you couldn't laugh during a horror movie. Come on, The Purge? It's so preposterous that all you can do is laugh.

TUCKER

(with a smile)

Then feel relief because you survived.

The puzzle is almost finished, one piece is missing.

CASSANDRA

We're missing one piece. Man. Sebastian is not going to get an A now. I don't care how anatomically correct his cow renderings are.

Tucker pulls the missing piece from his pocket and ceremoniously puts it in.

TUCKER

Ta-da!

CASSANDRA

Jerk! I wanted to put the last piece in!

He gets very serious. He takes the piece back out of the puzzle. He holds it out to her and they put the piece in together. Cassandra cannot contain her laughter.

CASSANDRA

So not the same.

INT. AUDITORIUM - NIGHT

Cassandra stops in front of a project on flower pollination. Tucker stands next to her. They examine the project like it's a piece of fine art.

CASSANDRA

This is one of my favorites.

The poster board has a vaginal-looking flower on it with words like sperm and embryo in glitter. And kissing bees.

TUCKER

The U.S. has over four thousand species of native bees but I've never seen any of them making out before.

CASSANDRA
You're a nature guy?

TUCKER
I like bees. They have two sets of wings and they help pollinate. You gotta watch for the imposters like the flies and wasps.

Cassandra and Tucker take a beat. They smile. Then something scurries over Tucker's foot. He SCREAMS and jumps on a chair.

TUCKER
What the-

CASSANDRA
(laughing)
Remember the grey mouse with a pink nose and a white tail? I'll have to let Allie know we spotted him.

EXT. AUDITORIUM - NIGHT

A PAPARAZZO records Cassandra and Tucker's exchange with a video camera.

EXT. MIDDLE SCHOOL - NIGHT

Cassandra and Tucker linger near their cars.

CASSANDRA
Cross my heart I will not tell a soul you screamed like an infant baboon.

TUCKER
Great, thanks, it's good to know I can count on you.

CASSANDRA
For sure.

TUCKER
And next time, extra pineapple.

It's a comfortable sweet moment interrupted when Cassandra's phone RINGS.

CASSANDRA
Sorry. I didn't realize it was on.

Tucker's RINGS too. Hers BUZZES again. They both check their phones.

TUCKER

Really?

He dials and puts his phone to his ear.

CASSANDRA

How did they know we were even here?

Aditri jogs up to them. She's dressed in skimpy running clothes. Tucker moves away to talk on the phone.

CASSANDRA

Aditri, you don't run.

ADITRI

I figured if the paparazzi were here it's a party and Eddie might show up too.

CASSANDRA

Who's Eddie?

ADITRI

Tucker's BFF.

Cassandra gives her a look. Really?

ADITRI

He's ex-NBA. He's loaded. And kinda cute.

Cassandra's phone goes off again. She opens a link and watches a second of the VIDEO of her night with Tucker before turning off the phone.

CASSANDRA

I need to go find security so they can make sure whoever took this video is off campus now and prevent anyone else from showing up.

ADITRI

Relax, if no one's here by now, no one's coming.

Tucker turns back to them as he wraps up his call.

ADITRI

I'll handle security. You handle him.

Aditri fixes her hair and adjusts her breasts in her sports bra as she saunters off.

TUCKER

I'm so sorry, I'm trying to take care of this.

Cassandra heads back into the school.

CASSANDRA

Aditri went to find security.

Tucker catches up with her. They enter the school building.

INT. MIDDLE SCHOOL - CONTINUOUS

TUCKER

I don't know why they're making such a big deal about this. It's just because you're different, you're...

CASSANDRA

Different? That's a polite turn of phrase.

TUCKER

I didn't mean, I don't want to imply...

CASSANDRA

But you do, you know I'm different. I'm not used to all of this and I have no desire to be a part of this nonsense.

TUCKER

Not even for a second date?

Cassandra stops.

CASSANDRA

This wasn't a date.

She opens an office door and sees Aditri and a male security guard, FRANK. They appear to be flirting.

CASSANDRA

Frank, we have a problem.

EXT. MIDDLE SCHOOL - NIGHT

Cassandra stands next to Tucker's car. He sits in the driver's seat with the window rolled down.

TUCKER

I'd be more than happy to follow you home, to make sure the coast is clear, no one follows you.

CASSANDRA

I can take care of myself.

TUCKER

I'd imagine you can. I just hate that our evening ended like this. We could get a drink or-

CASSANDRA

It's a school night-

TUCKER

Right. Well, thanks for the pizza.

CASSANDRA

Thanks for the bee lesson.

She doesn't know what to do next. Neither does he.

TUCKER

Goodnight, Cassie.

CASSANDRA

It's Cassandra.

TUCKER

Cassandra, right. I'll remember that.

She heads toward her car and gets in the driver's side.

INT. CASSANDRA'S CAR - CONTINUOUS

Aditri, in the passenger seat, files her nails.

ADITRI

He's trouble.

CASSANDRA

I know.

ADITRI
Sometimes trouble's not such a bad
thing.

INT. SCHOOL OFFICE - DAY

Cassandra is making copies on an old, loud copy machine. Ms. Ruffins stands next to her.

MS. RUFFINS
If you need me to cover tutoring
this morning, I'm free. I'm here
to help any way I can.

CASSANDRA
Thank you, Ms. Ruffins but that
won't be necessary.

MS. RUFFINS
Oh, dear. Did something go wrong?
These Hollywood relationships sure
do fan out quickly.

CASSANDRA
Tucker Bailey and I weren't in a
relationship.

Cassandra sorts copies and slams more paper into the machine.

MS. RUFFINS
You don't have to pretend to be
strong in front of me, honey. I
know how these playboys are.

CASSANDRA
And how do you even know we're
broken up? I mean not broken up
but whatever. How?

MS. RUFFINS
Word travels fast.

INT. CLASSROOM - DAY

Cassandra points to a diagram of a bee and a diagram of a wasp on the overhead projector. Her STUDENTS watch.

CASSANDRA
Bees have two sets of wings, wasps
only have one.

Aditri comes in and sits down at Cassandra's desk.

CASSANDRA

Label your worksheets accordingly,
you've got five minutes.

She sets a timer and joins Aditri at her desk. She shuffles papers and makes notes.

ADITRI

Bummer about the Tucker news.

Cassandra stops, momentarily. Then goes on working.

CASSANDRA

What are you talking about?

Aditri shows Cassandra a video on her phone.

ON SCREEN: TUCKER WALKS OUT OF A RESTAURANT WITH A SUPERMODEL.

HEADLINE ON SCREEN: 'SEXIEST MAN ALIVE + VICTORIA'S SECRET'S
OWN VICTORIA = WOWZA!'

ADITRI

A few hours ago. Paps caught them
whispering over a romantic lunch.

Cassandra marches to the front of the class.

CASSANDRA

Time's up.

STUDENT 1

Ms. Bartlett, we're not-

STUDENT 2

I need more time-

Cassandra watches Aditri leave. As Aditri closes the door she pats her heart and blows her a sweet kiss.

CASSANDRA

Moving on!

INT. URTH CAFE - DAY

Tucker, Tyler, Eddie and VICTORIA (early 20s), the supermodel, finish lunch. Tucker is seated next to Victoria who hangs on his every word. The PAPARAZZI wait outside.

EXT. URTH CAFE - DAY

Tucker, Tyler, Eddie and Victoria wait at the valet stand. Eddie and Victoria talk and Tucker pulls Tyler to the side. The PAPARAZZI snap photos and record their every move.

TUCKER

Victoria's under the impression
this was a date.

TYLER

Is that a bad thing?

TUCKER

My professional life is your
domain, not my personal life.

TYLER

It's all one and the same, big
brother.

INT. PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE - DAY

Cassandra stands in front of Principal Picking's desk.

PRINCIPAL PICKING

Don't worry about the faculty
meeting, take the afternoon off,
get some ice cream, watch a rerun
of Toddlers and Tiaras or
something with Kevin Costner half-
naked.

CASSANDRA

I don't need to leave early.

PRINCIPAL PICKING

That broken heart of yours needs
time to mend.

Cassandra notices the TMZ app open on the principal's iPad. Tucker's face stares up at her. Cassandra's phone BUZZES, a text from Tucker. She ignores it.

CASSANDRA

I have work to do.

Cassandra storms out of her boss's office as her phone BUZZES again, a call from Tucker. She turns the phone off.

INT. TUCKER'S MANSION - DAY

Tucker hits redial on his phone as he paces. Tyler relaxes behind a large desk. She finds the E! app on her phone and lands on Tucker and Victoria's lunch photos.

Tucker tosses his phone on the couch in frustration.

TYLER
Anything I can help with?

TUCKER
No.

Tyler smiles to herself.

INT. CASSANDRA'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Cassandra's sound asleep on the couch, surrounded by papers and red pens. There's a POUNDING on the door. Cassandra wakes. Guy comes out of his room, expensive suit half off, tequila bottle in hand, and opens the door to reveal Tucker and Aditri. Guy looks Tucker up and down.

GUY
(to Tucker)
Can I buy you a drink?

ADITRI
(to Cassandra)
Cassandra? Time to wake up.
Someone's here to see you.

CASSANDRA
It's the middle of the night!

TUCKER
It's nine-thirty.

ADITRI
(to Guy)
What happened to you?

GUY
I had a horrible first date. You know the kind where you know he's not into you when he orders garlic shrimp? Garlic. Come on.

He takes another swig of the tequila and offers it to Tucker who declines.

CASSANDRA

I have to be to work in eight and
a half hours.

Aditri and Guy find seats on barstools in the kitchen and
watch. And drink.

TUCKER

Look, I just came here to tell you
that lunch with Victoria wasn't a
date.

CASSANDRA

You can have lunch with whomever
you want.

Beat.

TUCKER

I had more fun scrubbing
watermelon off the floor and
eating pizza with you than I've
had with anyone else in a really
long time.

CASSANDRA

You must really love thin crust.

TUCKER

And I think you had a good time
too. Just hanging out, talking,
laughing. I want to do that again.
I want to take you skiing. Make
you watch a really good movie that
doesn't have decapitated corpses
in it.

CASSANDRA

Tucker, it's been a long few days.

TUCKER

(genuine)
If you'll just give me a second,
well, a third chance really...

They look at each other for a beat.

CASSANDRA

(to Tucker)
Hold on.
(to Aditri and Guy)
Can you guys come here for a sec?

She leads them down the hallway and into Guy's room.

GUY

Think about it. I am your PR guru,
I do this for a living. I'll walk
you through it. A little polish, a
little shine, our Cass will be
tabloid ready.

ADITRI

I'll take you shopping.

Beat.

ADITRI

He's a good guy.

Cassandra pulls Guy's bedroom door shut leaving them on the
other side.

GUY

(from inside the bedroom)
Just think about my offer, I won't
ask for a retainer!

ADITRI

(from inside the bedroom)
Can we get some chips and salsa to
wash down this tequila?

INT. CASSANDRA'S APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

Cassandra rejoins Tucker.

CASSANDRA

What did you do today?

TUCKER

What do you mean?

CASSANDRA

What was your day like, from
beginning to now? Tell me.

He pauses. Then sits down on the couch. She joins him.

TUCKER

This morning I had a call about a
new movie I'm thinking about
doing.

CASSANDRA

What time was the call?

TUCKER

About eleven.

CASSANDRA

And then what?

TUCKER

I went to lunch with Tyler and Eddie and an up and coming actress.

CASSANDRA

Aditri gets the Victoria's Secret catalog at work, Tucker.

TUCKER

And I was supposed to go out with Eddie tonight but I had him hunt down Aditri with me instead. Which wasn't hard. Do you know she lists her cell on her IG profile? Girl's got issues.

CASSANDRA

We know.

TUCKER

And that's it.

Cassandra picks up the large stack of papers near her.

CASSANDRA

These are science tests I have to finish grading. And because I adhere to the new standards, I include only short answer and essay questions on the test. I started grading these when I got home at about eight. I was at work until seven-thirty because tonight's the night we explain to the parents what the sex-ed assembly is all about. As if they don't know.

Tucker listens intently, his eyes never leaving hers.

CASSANDRA

Before that I had tutoring, which turned into a counseling session because one of my students from last year, who's all of fourteen, is pregnant.

(MORE)

CASSANDRA (CONT'D)

And no, I wasn't counseling her, which is against the law, but her friends who on one hand can't quite fathom that their BFF is having a baby and on the other hand think maybe they should have babies too because the baby clothes at Target are just so cute.

Cassandra finds a can of Diet Coke on the floor and drinks.

CASSANDRA

And before that, I went to the faculty meeting where some higher ups from the district told my colleagues and I how we need to do more work for less pay...and all of this was after my eight and a half hour work day.

TUCKER

I get it. I'm an ass.

CASSANDRA

No, you're not Tucker. I just want you to understand how very different we are.

(beat)

This would never work.

TUCKER

But we could make other choices.

CASSANDRA

It's been a pleasure meeting you Tucker Bailey but I really think it's time for you to go home.

Cassandra stands. She leads Tucker to the door. She holds it open and he smiles, sadly, and walks through it.

EXT. CASSANDRA'S APARTMENT - DAY

Cassandra's phone BUZZES as she pulls her front door closed. She looks at the text. [Note: Texts are in italics.]

MOM (TEXT)

Does Tucker like banana bread? If he's allergic to nuts I can leave them out. Love mom

CASSANDRA (TEXT)
I don't know ma, check wikipedia

MOM (TEXT)
*It doesn't say. Get back to me
 ASAP. I'm at Trader Joe's. Love
 mom*

Cassandra drops the phone into her bag and heads out.

INT. TUCKER'S CAR - DAY

Tucker is asleep, sitting up, in his car. The sound of Cassandra OPENING HER CAR DOOR wakes him. He glances at his phone on the seat next to him. Missed calls and texts from Tyler and Eddie. He looks at the last text from Eddie.

EDDIE (TEXT)
*Dude Tyler's so freaked you didn't
 come home. Call her so she gets
 off my jock. Hope ur not dead.*

Tucker leaves the phone on the seat and gets out of the car.

EXT. CASSANDRA'S CAR - DAY

Cassandra rolls down the window. Tucker leans in.

CASSANDRA
 Tucker, I have to get to work.

TUCKER
 Just give me a minute.

She turns off the car and waits.

TUCKER
 I know we're different and I know
 that my life is crazy. But I also
 know that we have a spark. You are
 an amazing, intelligent,
 passionate woman. And? You treat
 me like a real person. That never
 happens. I haven't been just
 Tucker in a long time.
 (beat)
 I guess what I'm try to say is...I
 like you.

He falls silent.

She's silent for a long moment.

TUCKER

And I promise to share the
pineapple with you.

Finally, she smiles.

FADE OUT.