

THE GOOD PLACE

SPEC SCRIPT

"A PROM FOR ADULTS"

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Previously On:

THE GOOD PLACE

We're in the home stretch of the final experiment.

It's been nine months since THE JUDGE agreed to let our heroes, ELEANOR, MICHAEL, CHIDI, TAHANI, JASON & JANET, repeat Michael's original neighborhood experiment to test whether four rotten new humans would be able to come together and become better people. This experiment is crucial, as the results will determine whether or not the points system, which judges whether or not humans deserve to be in The Good Place or The Bad Place, is fundamentally flawed. If our heroes fail they, and the majority of humans from now until the end of time, will be sent to The Bad Place to be tortured forever.

To make things even more complicated, after it was revealed that one of the new test subjects would be SIMONE, Chidi's ex, Chidi decided that his indecisiveness would put the experiment at risk. He allowed his memory to be wiped, becoming the fourth human in the experiment.

This was an incredible blow to Eleanor who, after a lifetime and multiple after-lifetimes, finally found someone who she loves and loves her back.

Eleanor was also forced to pose as the neighborhoods architect after Michael had a nervous breakdown when the experiment began. It's been incredibly hard trying to help the new residents, Simone, JOHN & BRENT, become better people in secret. Not to mention the daily almost-disasters, the intentional sabotage from The Bad Place, & the unintentional sabotage from Jason & DEREK.

Things almost fell apart after Brents catastrophic book launch, but things have slowly been looking up since then. The humans are better than they've ever been. Though our heroes don't know what the numbers have been so far, they're starting to hope that maybe, just maybe, they'll succeed...

COLD OPEN

INT. MICHAEL/ELEANORS OFFICE. AFTERNOON

ELEANOR sits at the desk, a file open in front of her. She looks tired and stressed. TAHANI, JASON, JANET and MICHAEL all stand opposite her.

ELEANOR

Ok. Mixed success with Rainforest-Waterpark day. Brent cut in line 19 times before John called him out. But Simone did spend the afternoon with Chidi when he got sick on the whirly dirly.

JASON

Which I broke!

ELEANOR

You sure did bud. Didn't ask you to but you did it. Another B+ day.

MICHAEL

Let's not worry about that anymore. Tonight's neighborhood prom. A chance to test Johns cattiness, Brents misogyny and Simones complete inability to lighten up. Should be simple enough, prom's torture for 70 percent of people who attend them on earth and 100 percent for the people who work them. Tahani do you need any more help setting it up?

Tahani laughs- stops when she sees the rooms befuddled reaction.

TAHANI

Oh, you're serious. I'm sorry Michael. It's just that you asking if I need help with party planning is like asking Elon Musk if he needs help being a creep. He's got it all handled on his own.

ELEANOR

Ok, great. I'll see you all there. Oh, uh, Janet, can you set up the thing I asked for the other day?

Janet nods and leads the others out of the room. Tahani looks back, suspiciously. Once everyone's left a small TV appears on the desk. Playing is a MEMORY from Eleanor's POV. We see CHIDI, in a cowboy hat, trying to wrangle a giant pig.

ELEANOR- ON SCREEN/POV
-I'm not touching it man! That pig hates me. If Jason want's a pet so much he can wrangle it himself.

CHIDI
Eleanor, help! The pig's bucking!
The pig! Is bucking!

There's a knock at the door. Eleanor jumps, surprised to see Tahani standing in the doorway.

ELEANOR
 Geez Tahani, announce yourself next time. I could have been going to town on myself in here.

TAHANI
 ...I knocked... doesn't matter, sorry. I didn't mean to interrupt. My curiosity. I'll go if you...

ELEANOR
 No, it's ok. I just need a break. No one's made any great strides lately and it's stressing me out. Watching these old memories, it's comforting. This one's from reboot five-forty-nine. Pork Bortles here thought Chidi's laces were spaghetti.

TAHANI
 ...I miss him too. Three more months Eleanor and we'll be in The Good Place. All of us. Or you know. Not.

ELEANOR
 (Deflecting)
 Do you wanna see your old corndog restaurant?

TAHANI
 (Shuddering)
 Do not mock me with such ghastly memories. I still have nightmares of that hat.

Eleanor presses a button on the remote.

TAHANI- ON SCREEN
(Miserable)
Welcome to Corndog Al-a-Jamil. May
I take your order?

SMASH TO TITLES:

THE GOOD PLACE

ACT ONE

INT. TAHANI'S HOUSE. FOYER. NIGHT

A large banner hangs in the foyer of Tahani's house labelled- NEIGHBORHOOD PROM. People stream in. It looks like everyone in town showed up.

It's a prom almost in name only. All the staples are there, banners and balloons and the like, but they've been Tahanified. Everything looks far too expensive. Tahani and Janet are at the door greeting people as they enter.

TAHANI

(Greeting someone)

Welcome to Neighborhood Prom.
Please help yourself to some punch
or a mini quiche.

Eleanor, Jason and Michael arrive. They look blown away.

MICHAEL

Wow, Tahani. You've really outdone
yourself.

TAHANI

Thank you Micheal.

ELEANOR

A little too much. This doesn't
look like any prom I've ever been
too.

JASON

Me neither. Everything's so shiny
and on the inside. At least the
whippits guy is here. Right?

JANET

Jason, there's no whippit's guy.

JASON

Oh. Well let me know when he gets
here.

TAHANI

(Ignoring Jason)

Is this not what your typical
American ball looks like? I never
had one. The closest thing I got
was the Hertfordshire Posture Ball.

(MORE)

TAHANI (CONT'D)

And that was a parasol competition more than anything.

MICHAEL

It looks wonderful Tahani. Look guys, I've been thinking. We've all been working so hard. Why not take a break? Just for tonight. The humans are so much better than they were when they first got here. Why not just let them look after themselves for tonight?

ELEANOR

Is that really a good idea? Chidi punched Brent in the face a few months ago. What if tonight he says something worse and Chidi starts kicking?

MICHAEL

We'll keep our eyes on them. Tahani will do her pish-posh thing, Jason'll stay in a corner being quiet. We've done this hundreds of times. We've got this.

ELEANOR

...Ok fine. God knows I could use a drink. But just warning y'all, I crushed every prom I went to on earth, and I'm probably gonna crush this one too. Don't come crying to me if someone turns the photo booth into a vomit booth cause I *will* blame it on someone else.

She points jokingly at Janet before heading inside.

JANET

I can't throw up. My insides are empty and smooth, like the outside of a fridge.

INT. TAHANI'S HOUSE. DANCE FLOOR. NIGHT.

The prom is in full swing, the residents spread all around Tahani's house. Eleanor's at the bar, pouring herself a *large* margarita. She dips a couple shrimp into the glass and pops them in her mouth.

ELEANOR

Oh momma.

Chidi, the real one, and SIMONE, step into frame. They both look impeccable.

CHIDI

Wow. That might be the grossest thing I've ever seen, and yesterday I saw Brent eat a bagel.

ELEANOR

I'm an immortal being, let me freak.

(Noticing how they look)

Wow! You guys look...wow.

SIMONE

Thanks. We're wearing Janet tonight. For a walking calculator she's got surprisingly good taste.

(Turning to Chidi)

I'm gonna step outside Ducky. The Tahani of it all is already... a bit much.

CHIDI

Sure.

Eleanor awkwardly looks away as they kiss. Simone steps outside. Chidi watches her go before getting himself a glass of punch. Eleanor looks at Chidi anxiously, before shaking it off.

ELEANOR

Have you voted yet?

CHIDI

Hmm?

ELEANOR

Prom King and Queen. Tahani set up a voting thing up over there.

We see BRENT standing by a golden voting box that says PROM KING. He slips in a small gold note with his name written on it. He then slips in another two dozen.

CHIDI

No I didn't. Huh. Is that real gold?

ELEANOR

I mean, it's The Good Place, so everything's made out of Janet magic, but it's the realest Janet magic we've got. Dip shrimp?

She offers him a margarita dipped shrimp. He politely declines. She shrugs and pops it in her mouth.

CHIDI

Wow. My prom was nothing like this.

ELEANOR

As your all knowing architect I'll tell you right now, no ones prom was like this. I swear, sometimes it feels like Tahani stepped out of an infomercial on how to waste jewels. What was your prom like?

CHIDI

Nothing special. I couldn't decide who to ask, so I went stag. And when I got there I was so nervous about what I wanted to do I spent the whole night sitting in the corner by myself. When my friends finally forced me to dance I got stuck doing the Macarena for twenty minutes.

ELEANOR

The french vanilla of dances? Woof. You really blew prom.

Chidi chuckles. Eleanor smiles. He looks so cute when he chuckles.

ELEANOR (CONT'D)

How about a do-over? I'll take the reigns, show you how to make the most out of tonight. I've read thousands of human files, seen every prom experience from every angle, the good, the bad and the accidentally pregnant.

CHIDI

Oh, I don't want to be a burden.

ELEANOR

Don't be stupid. You're not a burden. Who ever told you that?

CHIDI

A great many people.

ELEANOR

Come on. Prom bucket list. Let's tick it off. First things first-

She grabs a big bottle of booze and starts pouring it into the punch.

ELEANOR (CONT'D)
Someone's gotta spike the punch.

Chidi takes a swig from his glass.

CHIDI
I think it's already spiked.

ELEANOR
Oh is it?

She looks at the bottle. It's half empty. She makes no attempt to stop herself.

ELEANOR (CONT'D)
Eh, I might as well finish.

Across the room, Tahani is watching them. She looks a little concerned. She saunters over to Micheal.

TAHANI
Michael, I don't mean to alarm you but do you think Eleanor is acting a bit too, you know, like herself? It might make Chidi suspicious if the architect's acting with such frivolity.

Michael looks a little hurt.

MICHAEL
Am I not fun? I thought I was pretty fun...

TAHANI
-That is -not what I meant-

MICHAEL
No It's ok. It's constructive. I can work on it. Tahani, you've gotta remember, Eleanor is a world class liar. She once pretended to be a strangers granddaughter to score finger sandwiches at a wake. She deserves to blow off some steam and I trust that she can do that without flushing the fate of the universe down the inter-dimensional toilet. You should too.

TAHANI

I do trust Eleanor. But we're so close and I'm just ever so nervous that this whole thing is going to blow up in our faces and-

MICHAEL

Tahani. Take a breath.

She does.

MICHAEL (CONT'D)

There's nothing to worry about. Everything's fine.

Janet suddenly appears in front of them.

JANET

Derek's here.

MICHAEL

...what?

JANET

Derek. He's here. Schmoozing.

The three of them turn to see Derek, mingling with some of the other residents.

DEREK

(To no one in particular)
Happy Derek. Good to see you. How are your Dereks?

Our heroes look mortified.

MICHAEL

Find Jason. Keep an eye on the humans.

Tahani nods and starts briskly walking for the door. She and Eleanor share a brief look, Tahani pointing out Derek. Eleanor nods.

ELEANOR

(To Chidi)
Next on the list, warm pretzels!
Nothing says a prom for adults like a salty, microwaved snack.

She leads him away from Derek as Janet and Michael make a beeline right for him.

DEREK

(To no one in particular)
I always say, a Derek a day keeps
the Derek away-

JANET

Derek, what are you doing here?

DEREK

(Sincere)
Oh, hi Mommy! Sorry. I mean ex-
mommy. How are you? It's been so
long since we Dereked.

JANET

You *cannot* be here. If one of the
humans see you the whole experiment
is compromised.

DEREK

Well, I know how important this is
to you, so I wanted to show up
unannounced and tell you that since
my last horrible Derek, I've rested
and am now ready to help however I
can.

JANET

No. No more helping. Eleanor told
me how you couldn't handle it last
time. I'm sorry but I can't afford
to have you help me anymore.

DEREK

Come on. It's been months. Mindy's
rebooted me twelve hundred times
since then. I'm a different man!
Can I at least offer you a classy
martini?

MICHAEL

...what's in it?

DEREK

The concept of Austin Powers. It's
pretty shagaderek.

He pulls one out of thin air and offers it to Michael. After
a beat he shrugs and reaches out. Janet slaps his hand away.

MICHAEL

Sorry, sorry. Curious.

INT. TAHANI'S HOUSE. FOYER. NIGHT

Tahani races into the foyer, looking for the other humans.

JASON

Tahani!

She spots Jason standing in one corner. She rushes to him.

TAHANI

Jason, thank goodness...

JASON

No time! Derek's here. We gotta warn Janet!

TAHANI

I know, I just saw him...

JASON

You did? Aw man, I thought I found the Derek room. I felt like Christopher Columbus but dope instead of racist-

TAHANI

I'm sorry. The Derek room?

JASON

Yeah homie.

He leads Tahani to a door on the other side of the room.

TAHANI

Jason, once again, that's a bathroom. You didn't discover it, it was secretly invented by the Welsh in the 1400's to spite the English.

JASON

No homie, look-

He opens the door. A startling white light shines onto them before fading away to reveal-

TAHANI

Derek?

Inside is an infinite white void, much like Janet's, filled to the brim with what looks like Derek themed merchandise. Lunchboxes and wallpaper and carpet, all with Derek's face on it.

Right in the middle of the space is a large cardboard cutout of Derek raising a glass to the door, much like Leo in "*The Great Gatsby*".

JASON

I know he doesn't like me but he doesn't have to look at me like that. Like I get it homie, you can eat glass!

TAHANI

No Jason. That's not Derek. Derek's in the other room. I think this is his void.

JASON

What? He's got a void *and* his own line of luchboxes?? Derek gets everything-

He leans in a little too close-

TAHANI

Wait, Jason!

Jason falls through the door and down the previously unnoticeable drop to the bottom of the void.

TAHANI (CONT'D)

Jason! Are you alright?!

JASON (O.S.)

Tahani! Watch out! There's a drop!
Ow.

INT. TAHANI'S HOUSE. DANCE FLOOR. NIGHT

Micheal looks around anxiously to see if the other humans have noticed Derek.

JANET

I'm sorry Derek. Please, just go back to Mindy's.

DEREK

I get it. I know when I'm not wanted. I guess I'll just mingle in my void. Alone.

JANET

...Derek what did you just-

He exits. Both Michael and Janet look confused.

MICHAEL

Oh good. Great. Problem solved. Hey Janet could you make me one of those weird Martini's? It looked so weird and bad I think I kinda just have to try it-

JANET

Michael, shut up. Did he say *his* void?

INT. TAHANI'S HOUSE. FOYER. NIGHT

Tahani starts to move back towards the dance floor.

TAHANI

Don't worry Jason, I'll see if I can get some help.

JASON

Hurry Tahani. What if being here means I turn into a Derek? That would be so not dop-

POP

The door to the void vanishes. Tahani stops in her tracks to look back at the empty wall.

TAHANI

Jason?

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

INT. TAHANI'S HOUSE. FOYER. NIGHT

Eleanor meets Micheal, Tahani and Janet by the wall where Derek's void used to be. They all look *incredibly* stressed out, Micheal in particular.

ELEANOR

Ok, I got Chidi talking deontological moral theory with one of the Janet babies which, considering they're empty pistachio shells with faces, will keep him busy for a while. So what's up? What happened to Derek?

MICHAEL

Uh, he left.

ELEANOR

Ok, great! Problem solved. Easy peasy.

MICHAEL

No. Not easy peasy. Hardy phardy.

ELEANOR

Hardy farty?

TAHANI

Derek's been rebooted so many times that he's now got his own void. Jason found it and kind of- fell in. When Derek left so did the void and subsequently...Jason.

ELEANOR

What? You can't just walk into a Janets void-

MICHAEL

Well apparently you can with his. It had a *door* Eleanor. Cause *that's* normal.

ELEANOR

Janet can you call Derek back?

JANET

I tried. He's not answering me.
(Screaming)

(MORE)

JANET (CONT'D)

DERRRRREEEK!!!

(Normal)

See, nothing.

ELEANOR

Well, can you find it? You're a big brainy wikipedia, if anyone can...

JANET

I can sense it a little, but it's hard to pin down. It's kind of everywhere and nowhere and underground-

MICHAEL

Ok great. I'll get a shovel, we'll dig till we hit Mendoza.

TAHANI

Not through my ivory floors you won't!

ELEANOR

Both of you hush. Janet, ignore any requests for the rest of the night, focus on Jason. We'll keep the residents busy, tell them you're out with malware or something. I'll get Chidi and Simone together, they'll be too focused on each other to notice anything else, Tahani you watch John, Michael on Brent.

MICHAEL

Why do I have to watch Brent?

ELEANOR

You're white and old and you have a penis. You're the only one he'll listen to. Janet, find our boy. God knows what wild shirt he's facing in there.

Janet nods as the others rush back into the main room.

MICHAEL

It's not a working penis...

INT. DEREK'S VOID

Jason inspects himself in front of a Derek themed mirror.

JASON
Not Derek. Very cool.

He looks around, a bit taken aback by all the Derek stuff.

JASON (CONT'D)
Lot's 'o' Derek. Not cool.

He trips, falling on his butt. He looks up, spotting what he tripped over- Derek. He's in casual clothes, lying flat on the ground, face down. Not moving.

JASON (CONT'D)
Uhhhh- Derek?

Another Derek, this one dressed all fancy like we saw at prom, suddenly appears in front of Jason.

DEREK
Derek? Wait, no. Jason? Jason?!
This void is Dereks only. And
friends of Derek. And you are no
friend of Derek!

JASON
I'm sorry. I didn't mean to fall
into your void. I fall into a lot
of things. It's how I bought my
first three cars- What's with all
the Derek stuff? Like I get a
couple pictures of yourself, like
if you drink a whole Baja Blast in
ten seconds or win at go karts or
if you barf up a whole Baja Blast
but this is just weird.

DEREK
It's not that weird. You have to
get rebooted a few hundred times
for things in your void to stop
turning into you. Duh doi! Everyone
knows that.

He reveals a big bottle of gin from behind his back.

DEREK (CONT'D)
See. This ain't no Derek. Just a
regular old stuff.

He drops the bottle and it shatters on the ground.

JASON

Listen Derek, I know things have been weird between us in the past, but I can't stay here. Can you be cool and let me out? I'll hook you up with some whippits when I find the guy.

DEREK

Hmmm, let me think about- NO. You stink! I'm not gonna help out some stinky not-Derek! You might as well get comfy Man-derek-za, cause you're gonna be here a long time!

He notices the Derek on the floor.

DEREK (CONT'D)

Oh there's my other sock.

He picks up the Derek, shaking it a bit so it shrinks down to sock size and shoves his hand in the mouth, wearing it like a glove. Jason sits on a futon shaped like Derek's face and sighs.

INT. TAHANI'S HOUSE. DANCE FLOOR. NIGHT

Chidi is chatting with WANDA, a mindless neighborhood resident. She's politely listening to Chidi ramble about philosophy. Eleanor approaches them.

CHIDI

...so it doesn't matter how much good your actions put into the world if your *motivations* are selfish.

WANDA

(Mindlessly)
Wow. Interesting.

CHIDI

It is!

Janet suddenly appears behind Eleanor, looking frustrated.

ELEANOR

Janet? Any luck?

JANET

No. Derek's void keeps ping ponging all over the neighborhood.

(MORE)

JANET (CONT'D)

Is this what tag is? I've never played tag. Tag sucks.

Her eyes suddenly light up.

JANET (CONT'D)

Is he?

She grabs a bowl of chips on the table and tips them out on the floor.

JANET (CONT'D)

I thought I sensed Jason in the bowl. But I didn't. It was just chips.

She exits. Chidi looks to Eleanor.

CHIDI

Wow, that malware must really be screwing with Janet's systems.

ELEANOR

I'm sure she'll be fine. She's built like a sexy truck, she can handle a little space virus. Besides, tonight's about you. Prom bucket list, what do we tick off next?

CHIDI

Honestly, I was perfectly happy talking Kant with Wanda, but it seems as though she's off opening the door.

He's right. She's caught in a loop with another resident saying "No after you".

CHIDI (CONT'D)

Maybe I ought to find Simone...

A million things flash through Eleanor's mind as she makes a split second decision.

ELEANOR

-Or, you can talk Kant at me while we get our pictures taken.

CHIDI

(Surprised)

You? You're the architect. You know everything there is to know about the universe, including Kant.

ELEANOR

Yeah, but I'd like to hear it coming from you.

She offers him his arm. He takes it and the two of them stroll over to the photo-booth. Across the room Tahani glares at them. John is sitting across from her, sipping on something bubbly and hard to look at.

JOHN

-Of course she was only a PA on the set of a Star Is Born, so I brushed her off at first, But then she started talking about his feet... Tahani!

TAHANI

Hm? Sorry?

JOHN

You're very obviously not paying attention to my Bradley Cooper cut sex scene story. What's wrong?

TAHANI

Where's Simone?

JOHN

I don't know. Hopefully at a nail salon am I right? HA! Sorry, old habit.

TAHANI

John do me a favor and don't go anywhere or do anything please? I need to find Simone.

JOHN

Works for me.

Tahani gets up and starts towards the door.

INT. DEREK'S VOID

Jason is standing on the futon, staring up at the small door shaped hole six feet above him. Every couple of seconds it suddenly pops into a new location. In a house, next to a lake, under a bridge-

He jumps for the door. Misses. Derek's watching him, smirking, swirling a martini glass full of paperclips.

JASON

Can you at least get me a pogo stick or something?

DEREK

You think you're gonna get special treatment? You want something you gotta hit the summon stick and hope for the best like any other me.

JASON

I can't summon stuff! I tried once but all I did was fart a bunch.

DEREK

Neither can I dumb brain! Just use the Derek machine.

He points to his left, at a large gashapon machine.

JASON

You summon things randomly? Janet can summon whatever she wants.

DEREK

Do I look like I'm made of money?

Jason shrugs and pulls the lever. Out pops a martini glass with a can of corn inside. Derek laughs.

JASON

It's always dumb stuff isn't it.

DEREK

Almost always. I'm fundamentally flawed.

Jason sighs, tossing the glass away and putting the can on the futon. He stands on it, still not enough to reach.

JASON

You're enjoying this.

DEREK

It's what you deserve.

Jason sulks back to the gashapon machine.

EXT. TAHANI'S HOUSE. BACKYARD. NIGHT

Chidi and Eleanor are laughing to themselves just outside the main hall. They're sitting under a window with a beer each.

ELEANOR
Prom bucket list- sneak away to
drink under the bleachers. Check.

CHIDI
It's a shame Janet couldn't whip us
up some proper bleachers.

ELEANOR
The Tahani family crest is serving
its purpose.

CHIDI
Thank you for this Eleanor. This
has been great. You know for an age
old immortal being, you're more fun
than I ever was while alive.

ELEANOR
Knock it out. I've read your file,
you were plenty fun on earth.

CHIDI
My idea of paradise was reading
french poetry on a lake.

ELEANOR
I dunno. Sounds pretty fun to me.
Maybe we should do it some time?

CHIDI
(Snickering)
What? You and me?

ELEANOR
Is that so crazy?

Before he can answer a door to their left suddenly swings
open. A very stressed Tahani steps out of it.

TAHANI
Eleanor. May I speak to you a
moment.

ELEANOR
...sure.

Tahani pulls Eleanor aside. They begin to whisper at each
other-

TAHANI
What are you doing?

ELEANOR

I'm watching over Chidi. That's the plan.

TAHANI

I thought the plan was to find Simone and let them talk books at each other all night. Where is Simone?

ELEANOR

She...is hanging out. In the...somewhere. I don't know where she is.

TAHANI

Do you want this experiment to be compromised?

ELEANOR

Of course not! How could you even ask me that?!

TAHANI

Then please, as your friend, I ask that you stop acting like it. We're almost done. I know it's hard being away from Chidi. We've all had to sacrifice-

ELEANOR

What have you sacrificed??

Tahani winces. She regrets saying that. All the same, she struts off the way she came, passing Chidi as she does.

TAHANI

Chidi, Simone was looking for you. Something about a philosophy text she wanted to discuss?

CHIDI

Ooh! Thank you Tahani.

Tahani steps back inside. Chidi looks over at Eleanor.

CHIDI (CONT'D)

Are you ok?

ELEANOR

Yeah. Yeah... Anyway. Your list. It's not even half finished. You still have so much to do. Get into a drunken fight with an ex.

(MORE)

ELEANOR (CONT'D)

Yell something you regret at the DJ. Do a dance that *isn't* the Macarena.

CHIDI

Listen, I meant it. This has been so much fun. So much fun that I almost, kinda forgot I came here with my girlfriend. I better see how she's doing. I'll see you later Eleanor.

He starts towards the door.

ELEANOR

No. Stay. Please stay.

He turns back, a little confused.

ELEANOR (CONT'D)

There's still a lot to do.

CHIDI

Like what?

Long beat. Eleanor doesn't know what to say.

ELEANOR

Chidi...

CRASH!

Jason crashes through the door on a makeshift mountain of Derek themed stuff, the void on the other side, gone as quickly as it appeared.

JASON

Oh. Hey homies.

CHIDI

...what.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

EXT. TAHANI'S HOUSE. BACKYARD. NIGHT

We pick up immediately after we left off. Chidi looks at Jason wide eyed.

CHIDI

(Performative)

Jianyu? What are you doing in a boundless void, with all this merchandise, being silent, not saying anything?

Jason clocks on. Chidi doesn't know that Eleanor knows his true identity. He tries to casually zen out on his stomach. He and Eleanor share a look, neither of them quite sure what to do.

ELEANOR

Oh, there you are Jianyu! Let me-

She helps him to his feet, dusting off lots of little Derek things off his person, pulling a lego out of his hair.

ELEANOR (CONT'D)

(Quickly thinking)

How did your meditation session with Janet go? Did your years of spiritual wisdom help her combat her strange otherworldly disease?

Jason gives her a confused double thumbs up.

CHIDI

Is everything ok Jianyu?

ELEANOR

Oh did I not mention? We found out that the problem with Janet was in her void, the place where she summons everything, so I asked our resident Rinpoche here to jump inside and see if he could, you know, vibe it out. Let's see if it worked. Janet?

Janet enters, looking confused but relieved to see Jason.

ELEANOR (CONT'D)

Hey Janet. Feeling much better after your spiritual spa day?

JANET
 (Catching on)
 Yes. I feel better already. It's
 like cucumber slices have been
 placed on my soul.

She summons a large avocado.

JANET (CONT'D)
 Oh good. Just what I wanted.
 Everyone can stop panicking.

CHIDI
 Were we supposed to??

ELEANOR
 Not anymore. Hey bud, you oughta go
 find Simone. She's probably missing
 you. Back to the party everyone.

She starts off back towards prom. Chidi whispers to Jason.

CHIDI
 Jason, are you alright? Did anyone
 catch on to who you are? Are you
 distressed? Because I am very
 distressed-

Jason places a gentle hand on his shoulder. Chidi immediately
 calms down.

CHIDI (CONT'D)
 Did you do that to Janet?

JASON
 (no idea what's going on)
 Yes.

ELEANOR
 Jianyu? With me please.

Jason smiles and wanders after Janet and Eleanor.

CHIDI
 He should not be that good at that.

INT. TAHANI'S HOUSE. SIDE ROOM. NIGHT

Eleanor shuts the door behind her, turning to face the small
 reading room. Tahani, Michael and Janet are also there. Jason
 is twiddling his thumbs on a chair.

ELEANOR

Derek?

No response.

ELEANOR (CONT'D)

Derek I have your you-legos.

She holds up the lego she pulled out of Jason's hair. It's shaped like Derek. Derek enters.

DEREK

There you are lil Derek- hey! A bamboozle!

ELEANOR

Ya got that right. Your shenanigans almost cost us the experiment tonight. We can't afford that, not when we're so close. You and Jason'll stay in here until all the other guests leave, is that understood?

DEREK

You're not the boss of Derek.

ELEANOR

I'm keeping your lego until the end of the night, and if you're not in here when everyone leaves, you're not getting it back.

DEREK

Huhwhaaa?? Noooooo!

ELEANOR

Yes. Jason there are lollipops in the corner in case you get hungry.

JASON

Aw yussss.

Eleanor motions to the others and they all leave the room.

MICHAEL

Ok. That solves that. Thank goodness. Brent wouldn't shut up about all the high school basketball teams he lost money on. That man is exhausting.

Eleanor shoots him a look.

MICHAEL (CONT'D)
 But you know. Getting better. Like
 we want.

Tahani looks awkwardly at the back of Eleanor's head-

TAHANI
 Eleanor-

ELEANOR
 Janet, can I ask for a favor?

Janet nods and the two of them walk towards the main hall.
 Tahani watches them go. Micheal puts a hand on her shoulder.

MICHAEL
 Come on. Let's go de-stress.
 Hopefully there are still some mini-
 quiches left.

INT. TAHANI'S HOUSE. SIDE ROOM. NIGHT

Jason sits on the couch, playing with a pen, while Derek
 paces around in front of him.

DEREK
 Great. Thanks Jason. You really
 Dereked that one up didn't ya. I
 would have let you out eventually,
 but nooooo. Now we're stuck in this
 square, four dimensional blob.

He suddenly has a popcorn bucket filled with scrabble tiles.

DEREK (CONT'D)
 Great. And now you got me stress
 eating. Thanks.

He smushes a handful against his mouth.

JASON
 What did I do?

DEREK
 Huh?

JASON
 If someone's this mad at me I
 usually did something. Like I keyed
 their car or their x-box. I don't
 understand what I did to you.
 (MORE)

JASON (CONT'D)

Please just tell me so I can apologize. You don't have to like me afterwards, but I need to do it.

Derek goes quiet, mashing scrabble tiles against his closed mouth.

JASON (CONT'D)

Is it because of Janet?

DEREK

Of course it's because of Janet ya doink!

Beat.

DEREK (CONT'D)

I was Janet's rebound guy. I was made specifically so she could get over you. And then she tossed me aside. I didn't understand what that meant at first. But thousands of reboots puts things in perspective.

Jason sits there, really trying to listen, to understand.

DEREK (CONT'D)

I get that Janet is over me, but I want to help. To show her that I'm not just that broken wind chime boy she made. But every time I try, I just screw things up. And when I get inside mad at Derek, it's easier to get outside mad at Jason.

Beat.

JASON

I've screwed up everything I've ever touched. It's really hard to not do. I'm really sorry I made you feel that way. And if it helps, you being able to do anything made me feel insecure too.

DEREK

...thank you Jason. That does.

They share a smile, both of them with a better understanding of one another. Derek reaches for some more scrabbles-

JASON

Hey man don't eat those. Just cause they're letters doesn't mean they make you smarter. Trust me.

INT. TAHANI'S HOUSE. DANCE FLOOR. NIGHT

Prom is starting to wind down. Eleanor leans against the main halls far wall. She spots Chidi across the room. He waves. She waves back. She looks like she wants to join him so badly-

Simone appears in the crowd and wanders up to him.

SIMONE

Hello Ducky. Where'd you disappear off too?

CHIDI

Hi Muffin. I was learning how to do prom properly.

SIMONE

(Playfully)

Did you learn that when your date says she wants some air you join her?

Chidi freezes up. Not sure quite what to say. Janet pops onto the stage and looks at Eleanor. Eleanor sighs and nods.

JANET

Announcing! The first ever neighborhood prom king and queen!

The residents all turn to look at her. Brent looks around expectantly.

JANET (CONT'D)

With a total of 334 votes, the winners are- Simone Garnett and Chidi Anagonye!

The residents all clap and make a space on the dance floor for the two of them. They look surprised.

BRENT

(To himself)

Rigged.

Simone smiles and offers a hand to Chidi.

SIMONE

Come dance?

CHIDI

Uh...

He looks around the room, accidentally making eye contact with Eleanor. She mouths the word "Duh" at him.

CHIDI (CONT'D)

Yeah. Yes. I would.

They take each other and begin to sway, finding comfort in each others arms. Tahani walks up behind Eleanor.

TAHANI

I'm sorry about what I said. It was uncalled for and unbecoming and not at all chic.

ELEANOR

No, you were right to call me out. I was doing a classic Eleanor. Do whatever you want and ignore everyone saying otherwise. I know I put everything at risk- I just miss him. Tonight was like being on a date. And if I kept it going long enough, I could pretend like I didn't have to let him go.

TAHANI

It's like what my good friend Gigi Hadid said when I helped her buy her first vacuum. This whole thing sucks. Though she said it as a question. And I'm saying it more as a statement.

She hugs Eleanor tight.

TAHANI (CONT'D)

I don't know how you do it. I'm astonished by you every day. I hope you know that.

Eleanor doesn't have anything snarky to respond to that. She smiles at her friend.

ELEANOR

Thank you.

TAHANI

Would you like to dance?

Eleanor nods. She leads Tahani out onto the dance floor and starts doing the Macarena.

TAHANI (CONT'D)

What is that? I'm not familiar with that one.

ELEANOR

(Laughing)

Of course not.

The two of them dance the night away.

INT. MICHAEL/ELEANORS OFFICE. MORNING

Eleanor walks into the office, pausing when she spots the tv. She stares at it for a beat and sighs before stuffing it in a corner. There's a knock at the door and Tahani walks in. She looks as glamorous as usual.

ELEANOR

It is far too early for you to be wearing that.

TAHANI

It's a mid-morning garden frock Eleanor. When else am I supposed to wear it? I brought you something.

She places a small machine on the desk.

ELEANOR

Oh hey, Janet's old memory simulator. Haven't seen this guy since Australia. G'day mate.

TAHANI

I asked Janet to set up a simulation just for you. I told everyone how you were feeling last night and they all agreed. Feel free to take the day off. We'll take care of everything.

ELEANOR

Ok, well now I'm scared. What is it? Is it one of those jump scare car commercials? I will warn you, I sent hundreds of those to my co-workers during a February in 2006 so I'm completely desensitized.

TAHANI

(Smiles)

I hope you enjoy.

She leaves, shutting the door behind her. Eleanor shrugs and places the pods in her ears. Smooth jazz starts to play as we cut to-

EXT. LAKE. EVENING

A beautiful, shimmering lake. The setting sun is hitting the water just right. Eleanor stands at the edge. It takes her a moment to realize that Chidi is approaching her, a picnic basket in hand.

CHIDI

Hi.

He kisses her on the forehead.

ELEANOR

Hi?

CHIDI

You ok? Are you sure you want to spend date night out here? We can do something else if you want?

Eleanor is beaming.

ELEANOR

No. This is perfect.

He smiles and takes her hand, leading her to a rowboat. They sit, and Chidi rows them out to the center of the lake. He pulls out a book of French poetry as Eleanor pours herself a glass of red wine.

END OF SHOW