

SUBURBAN QUEEN

Written by

JJ Duffy

Los Angeles, CA
954-394-3143

A beat from Todrick Hall's "Nails, Hair, Hips, Heels", drag anthem starts from black screen.

FADE IN

INT. SUBURBAN LIVING ROOM - DAY

From blurry to slow focus we first see a hand posed, then as the camera zooms back, a boy JASON (10), hair in kid-like pony tails and a transformers blanket wrapped around him like a boa, mimics the choreography he's watching.

"Nails, hair, hips, heels, ass, fat, lips, real, purse, full, big, bills..." In adult heels strutting, sashaying, and poppin' in front of the TV on beat to the video playing in front of him.

A music video-style montage continues against the score's backdrop to include:

INT. JESSICA'S BATHROOM - DAY

"I don't dance, I work, I don't play, I slay..."

Jessica: legs step out of a shower in a white, sharp-cornered bathroom, towel wrapped around her head, to pose at the mirror.

INT. GIOVANNA'S BATHROOM - DAY

"I don't walk, I strut-strut-strut... and then sashay..."

Giovanna: legs step out of a shower in a parallel manner, in a bathroom bursting with color, towel wrapped around her head, to pose at the mirror.

MONTAGE BETWEEN JESSICA'S BATHROOM / GIOVANNA'S BATHROOM / SUBURBAN LIVING ROOM:

"What you gonna let them see? My..."

JASON in his bedroom twirling, and "dropping;"

"...Nails, hair, hips, heels..."

JESSICA putting on conservative eye makeup;

"...Nails, hair, hips, heels..."

GIOVANNA putting on illustrious eye makeup;

"...Nails, hair, hips, heels..."

JEFFREY (LATE 30's Male), GIOVANNA's partner, happily taking the "For Sale" sign down from the front yard.

"...Nails, hair, hips, heels..."

JASON is still in his bedroom dancing having a blast;

"...Nails, hair, hips, heels..."

JESSICA confidently shaking her long curly hair out, cautiously sexy clothes now on.

"...Left, right, left, right, left with a spin bitch, where's my sash and crown cuz I win bitch..."

GIOVANNA confidently shaking her long curly hair out, unapologetically sexy clothes now on.

"...I'm so fab, I'm gone with the wind bitch, Y'all six, seven, eight, nines, I'm a ten bitch..."

JASON practices his drag strut.

"...Girl, what did that girl just say girl?..."

The score fades into the background of each scene: The song playing somewhere in the background of JESSICA's house; the song coming out of GIOVANNA's phone.

INT. JESSICA'S BATHROOM - DAY

The camera then reveals the made up face of JESSICA.

JESSICA
Perfect.

INT. GIOVANNA'S BATHROOM - DAY

The camera reveals the made up face of GIOVANNA, Who, BOOM!
...is a Sassy Drag queen.

GIOVANNA
YAZbitch.

She turns and exits the bathroom.

INT. SUBURBAN LIVING ROOM

JASON is still dancing in front of the TV now with a shirt on his head as hair, strutting wildly to the beat of the song when JESSICA appears from a door way, shocked, eyes darting up to her framed picture of Jesus above the TV, then quickly back at the boy.

JESSICA

Jason!

She angrily snaps the TV off with the nearby remote.

JESSICA (CONT'D)

How dare you disrespect the lord in my house. God made you in his image-

JASON

-mom! I'm just having fun, you should see the way they can dance-

JESSICA

-I don't want to hear another word. Get in your room and get changed, the neighborhood gals will be here any minute.

He defiantly whips his hips one more time right in tune with the music ending, then in his best Todrick Hall voice, says,

JASON

That's all! Ah ah ha ha.

Then runs into his bedroom. The camera follows him up into his bedroom; he slams the door, poses in the mirror... then..

whoosh! Huge shirt-hair flip that turns the screen blank white, allowing a FADE IN of the movie title:

SUBURBAN QUEEN

INT. GIOVANNA'S HOUSE

GIOVANNA walks into the kitchen where JEFFREY is wrapping steaming Tupperware in a brown bag.

GIOVANNA

Babe, have you seen my headdress with the orange feathers?

JEFFREY

Closet.

He points.

GIOVANNA
Thanks, this house is almost too
big, isn't it?

JEFFREY
Before you go, here, I made you
dinner to-go.

GIOVANNA
Oh my gosh, you cooked?

JEFFREY
Well I can't just let all this new
kitchen space not be used now, can
I?

They look happily into each other's eyes.

GIOVANNA
I can't believe we've made it, to
middle class.

JEFFREY
We sure have, babe. You have busted
your ass to get here.

GIOVANNA
Literally.

JEFFREY
That's not what I meant.

GIOVANNA
That dance pole was loosened, I
still think it was that bitch
Ivanna Donut.

They both chuckle.

JEFFREY
I meant, that you have worked hard
to create this life, and you
finally bought this house with your
own money...

GIOVANNA
One crispy drunk drag dance floor
dollar at a time, okerrr!

JEFFREY
...and I for one am proud to be
your man.

They exchange a romantic peck.

GIOVANNA
Okay, I gotta get going.

She hurriedly shuffles to the door.

JEFFREY
(To himself) I actually want a doughnut now. (To GIOVANNA) Oh, I forgot to mention, the woman next door invited us to their Neighborhood Caring Night.

GIOVANNA
A neighborhood Karen night? Guuuurl
A group of Karen's is called a Complaint and I have questions (snap), fo' (snap), the (snap) manager hunty!

JEFFREY
Caring. Not Karen, silly.

GIOVANNA
Oh! Oh my god that's so adorably suburban, what do they do? Like, braid each other's hair and talk about which poppers pair best with which lube or something?

JEFFREY
I highly doubt that.

GIOVANNA
Well, once I start going maybe.

JEFFREY
It's like a neighborhood crime watch, but she said they changed the name because there's really no crime. They just get together and I guess, talk about how to improve the neighborhood? It's tomorrow night.

INT. JESSICA'S LIVING ROOM - THE NEXT AFTERNOON

JESSICA is putting out a cheese plate on the table while talking to someone on the phone.

JESSICA

Well I think we'll all have PTSD
after those people, good
riddance...the new neighbors? Oh!
Two men... fantastic from what I
can tell...

She spies through her blinds towards the house.

JESSICA (CONT'D)

...well you know gays, they're so
neat, and clean, take care of their
lawns... yes, Marjorie, but Jesus
says hate the sin, not the sinner-
Ohhhh my. There's a woman... some
whoreish looking woman is leaving
the house, bless her soul.

INT. DANCE CLUB - EVENING

Loud indistinguishable club music is playing while GIOVANNA
signals to the club owner, MARV, Italian mid-50's, big teeth,
that she's there and walks to the back. Over the loud music..

MARV

New girl is starting if you wanna
show her around-

GIOVANNA walks right past a bitch.

GIOVANNA

Nope. Ain't gonna happen, bitch can
sink or swim like the rest of us!

MARV

Christ Giovanna, it wouldn't hurt
to-

GIOVANNA

-Don't start with me Marv! I don't
need your nasty yellow clackers in
my face tonight!

MARV

Such a way with words!

GIOVANNA

(To the sky)
Thank you Jesus!

The scenes mood darkens when the camera catches a glimpse of
an intoxicated gentleman in a baseball hat watching her
intently.

INT. JESSICA'S LIVING ROOM - EVENING

The cheese plate is half eaten and five posh women are gleefully drinking wine with JESSICA at the head of what looks like a very casual board meeting.

JESSICA

Okay girls, let's stay focused. The last couple items on the agenda center around some very exciting news... The Peterson's next door.. have been extinguished from the neighborhood thank you Jesus.

MARJORIE

Ugh, thank you god. It was like living with Roseanne Barr, all the yelling-

CLAIR

-And those kids.

JESSICA

Girls, girls, girls... Jesus has delivered them to a place that is more suited for them and we pray they heal. So, I am excited to announce that Jeffrey and Danny, two clean and neat men, have moved in and I for one couldn't be more thrilled.

ANGIE

Gay men? In our little neighborhood? How exciting!

MARJORIE

Although we should keep an eye on them, because apparently the manly one was alone with some whoreish looking woman the other night-

JESSICA

-Marjorie, Ephesians 4:29?... "Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths."

MARJORIE

Oh, forgive me Jesus, I didn't mean anything by it. My apologies.

JESSICA

..but we will of course do our neighborhood due diligence (she winks at Marjorie), and make them feel welcome.

INT. GIOVANNA AND JEFFREY'S LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

JEFFREY is in the house, with the lights dim watching TV in pajamas.

INT. DANCE CLUB - NIGHT

A host readies the crowd.

HOST

Up next, the act you've all been waiting for, She's where Halloween meets hair-commercial, and the single reason I put a padlock on my purse.. Miss! GIOVANNA! Payme!!

The crowd cheers while GIOVANNA's number starts. The man in the baseball hat watches intently.

INT. JESSICA'S HOUSE - LATER THAT NIGHT

Jessica is on the phone, putting the empty cheese plate and wine glasses in the sink.

JESSICA

...I think it went well too. Yes, Marjorie I still think white is the best option for the new rose garden...

She peeks out the window and see's JEFFREY in the house alone.

JESSICA (CONT'D)

...I don't care if we already have red roses. Red roses symbolize romantic love which would look ridiculous when entering a neighborhood community...

She looks around and see's nobody else around.

JESSICA (CONT'D)

Well I'm glad you agree...well,
Angie's obviously not that bright
when it comes to decorating, you've
seen her foyer...Okay.

She hangs up the phone, then wonders why JEFFREY was alone
with a whoreish looking woman.

INT. GIOVANNA AND JEFFREY'S LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

JEFFREY receives a text from GIOVANNA. "Made good \$\$ tonight,
On my way home."

INT. DANCE CLUB BACK STAGE - NIGHT

GIOVANNA packs her things, counts her money before putting it
in her purse, casually says goodbye to a few dancers, while
the camera follows her to a back door which leads her
outside.

As soon as she steps outside she notices the man in the
baseball cap. She pretends to not see him. She walks down the
sidewalk towards her car; she feels his presence behind her.

She walks faster.

INT. GIOVANNA'S CAR, SIDE STREET OF CLUB

The door slams and she quickly locks the door. She looks
around and doesn't see anyone, and breathes a sigh of relief.

EXT. GIOVANNA AND JEFFREY'S FRONT YARD - NIGHT

Giovanna walks up to the front door and sees a trash bag
JEFFREY left out with a note on it. She reads the note and
takes the garbage out.

EXT. SIDE OF THE HOUSE - NIGHT

Giovanna sees two women on a bench giggling, saying their
goodbyes, and one starts walking in her direction.

As the woman walks past,

GIOVANNA

Hi! I'm Giovanna, I'm new to the
neighborhood, is the...?-

Marjorie, completely ignoring Giovanna, knew exactly who she was.

GIOVANNA (CONT'D)
(To her trash bag under
her breath)
...And I thought you were the
biggest bag of trash out here.

She continues towards the dumpster, cautiously nearing another woman, ANGIE, sitting on a bench with a wine glass in her hand.

ANGIE
Well that was rude.

GIOVANNA
Excuse me?

ANGIE
Ignoring you like that.

GIOVANNA
Oh. I'm fine.

ANGIE
I'm sure you are honey, and Jesus forgive my sailor mouth but fuck her and the nose she bought in Mexico, she can be such a bitch.

GIOVANNA
Aw, thanks. Who was that?

ANGIE
My best friend Marjorie, are you thirsty?

ANGIE holds up a wine bottle. Giovanna accepts the invite and sits.

ANGIE (CONT'D)
Some of these women are...
protective... of this little
community.

GIOVANNA
Is that what that was?

ANGIE (CONT)
Well, we've had some doozies as
neighbors I'll tell you that.
(MORE)

ANGIE (CONT) (CONT'D)
Done a lot of cleaning up for our
own peace of mind. It's been tough
and we make a great team.

GIOVANNA
We're good people.

ANGIE
I know, I can tell. You have great
energy.

GIOVANNA
So... why are you telling me this?

ANGIE
Well...

ANGIE looks into the black starry sky.

ANGIE (CONT'D)
...when the last people got evicted
- they had their problems but they
weren't bad people. You look around
and realize we're what happens when
the Mean Girls grow up... you know
that movie?

GIOVANNA
Honey, please.

ANGIE
... except now we're all sitting
around the HOA trying to make
"Fetch" happen.

She pours GIOVANNA some wine.

GIOVANNA
You don't seem like a "Mean girl."

ANGIE
Oh, well I've been out of this town
before. Plus, I was raised on
Rock'n'roll baby. I'm like the
outcast.

GIOVANNA
Like Janis Ian.

ANGIE
Who?

GIOVANNA

From the movie. Never mind. But I don't know, everyone seems okay. Jessica seems nice.

ANGIE

Ha! Famous words of home schooled Lindsay Lohan. Jessica's the queen bee, honey. She gets things done, I'll give her that. But the woman has no off button. And if she doesn't like someone then-

GIOVANNA

-Well, I am what I am.

ANGIE

Honey, I love all this. I'm just telling you- cuz this neighborhood is ready for a swift kick the ass- that you live next door to bulldozer barbie a.k.a Regina George.

They chuckle a bit as the buzz of the wine starts to hit Giovanna.

GIOVANNA

Well, you don't have to warn me about her, honey. Regina George gets run over by a bus at the end of the movie. And I know you're sitting here thinking I'm Kady Herron. Honey, I'm the bus!

They both clink their wine glasses in laughter.

ANGIE

You know she's one of my closest friends.

GIOVANNA

To friends!

ANGIE

I knew I liked you.

Angie reaches in her bag.

ANGIE (CONT'D)

You smoke?

GIOVANNA

God no, cigarettes are the worst.

ANGIE

Not cigarettes you African transfer student, you think my skin looks this good smoking cigarettes?

GIOVANNA

You smoke *pot*?

ANGIE

Not according to my real friends I don't.

She sucks on a joint.

GIOVANNA

I knew I liked you.

She passes Giovanna the joint and response mid-exhale.

ANGIE

No you pfffffffuckin didn't.

They both start laughing.

EXT. GIOVANNA AND JEFFREY'S FRONT YARD - MID DAY

Giovanna and Jeffrey are gardening in their front yard when JESSICA and JASON, Jessica's 10-year-old son come outside.

Giovanna is wearing a beautiful flowing sundress and big sun hat. The tree Jeffrey was trimming back is only half done and looks jagged.

JESSICA

Jeffrey!

JEFFREY

Hi!

JESSICA

Oh. I see you cut down that ficus that was there.

JEFFREY

Oh, yeah, it wasn't our style. But fear not, we have big plans to make this yard finally pretty.

Jessica looks perturbed. Jeffrey realizes her yard is essentially the same look.

JESSICA

I see. I just ... the decision was made that all the yards be uniform and matching the way I designed them...at Caring Night.

GIOVANNA

(Chuckles under her breath)

"Karen night."

JESSICA

What?-

GIOVANNA

-What?

JESSICA

I don't believe we've met. Do you live with the boys?

Giovanna turns around.

GIOVANNA

(super polite)

Hi! Oh no, we met when we were moving in. It's me, Danny, but I felt like it was a Giovanna day today, so.. Hi! I'm Giovanna!

Jessica is stunned. She shades Jason's eyes.

JESSICA

(To Jason)

Uh, Jason, the dog is barking, please go make sure he's okay.

JASON

I don't hear the dog-

JESSICA

-Go! Now.

He rolls his eyes and walks towards the house.

JASON

Ugh, mom, she's not sacrificing someone in the name of Santeria, she's just dressed as a girl.

The door slams.

JESSICA

So, I'm just confused. I don't mean to be rude, and I don't judge at all.. but is there a reason you're... dressed up?

GIOVANNA

Oh! Please honey, don't tell me you think a TJ Maxx sale rack sun dress is "dressed up."

JESSICA

I mean dressed in this ...costume.

Jeffrey pops a worried look.

GIOVANNA

(sarcastic)

Oh, well my couture gardening outfit is at the cleaners.

JESSICA

I'm sorry, I just.. I love the LGBTQ community, I don't want you to think I don't. But I just worry, you know.. about the influence it may have on the kids in the neighborhood if they see you dressed like this...

Giovanna's appalled.

JESSICA (CONT'D)

...I mean whatever you dress like in your house is between you and your maker-

GIOVANNA

Ummm, I think the kids will be okay.

JESSICA

(Polite, but pointedly)

Well, do you have any kids?

GIOVANNA

No.

JESSICA

So, you wouldn't really know, would you?

Giovanna gets up to face her shoulder to shoulder.

GIOVANNA

Well I don't see a male influence
in your house and from what I can
tell your boy isn't running around
with tacky four-dollar eye shadow,
is he?

Jessica gasps and brings her fingers up to her eye shadow.

JESSICA

That's because his male influence
is Jesus Christ.

GIOVANNA

So you're divorced, was it the eye
shadow?

JESSICA

I would never live in sin.

GIOVANNA

Buh'scuse me, bitch??

A threatening ass hair flip.

JEFFREY

Gi'-

GIOVANNA

-I'm sorry, where are my manners?
Buh'scuse me, Mizz Bitch...

JEFFREY

Gi,' simmer down.

Giovanna's sassing her index finger up and down Jessica.

GIOVANNA

...First-ally...My lord Jesus knows
I worked my lil' drag ass off to
earn this palace, and second-ally,
I'm glad you "love the 'LGBQ"
community but I'm 'bout to give you
the T your forgot, Hun-teeee.

Jessica clutching her chest in abhorrent offense.. the two
women stare each other down for a long silent BEAT, until
Jessica's body language changes.

JESSICA

I love tea. And I'm sorry if I
upset you, I meant that I am... a
widow.

GIOVANNA

Oh. Oh my goodness, I'm so sorry. I didn't mean to say all that-

JESSICA

-It's fine. I'm simply offering you our neighborhood etiquette because I want you guys to be comfortable living here....

JEFFREY

Thank you. See, this is just a big misunderstanding-

JESSICA

...because I would just hate to see the whole neighborhood turn against you over something silly like a costume...

GIOVANNA

'The whole neighborhood turn against me?' (to JEFFREY) Is this Ratchet Rachel Zoe Bargain-bin-dumpster-blouse wearing Stepford ho tryna threaten me?

JESSICA

(Pointed)

Now you listen here. I have worked too hard to let some foul mouthed cross dresser move in and poison the minds of our children.

GIOVANNA

Bring it on, bitch. (Sarcastically) Children! Everybody gather 'round! Story time! ...I'm sexy! I'm cute! I'm popular to boot! I'm bitchin, great hair! The kids all love to stare! Hate me cuz I'm beautiful well I don't like you either-

Jessica turns on her heels and stomps toward her house, where JASON has snuck back out. She walks right by him so angry. He's totally into it.

JASON

We're cheerleaders, we, are cheerleaders, role call!

Suddenly.. from off camera inside her house.

JESSICA
-JASON! GET! IN! HERE! NOW!

He runs in the house and the door slams. Jeffrey is mortified.

INT. GIOVANNA AND JEFFREY'S LIVING ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

JEFFREY and GIOVANNA are taking their gardening gear off.

JEFFREY
Giovanna.

GIOVANNA
What? Don't look at me like that,
she started it.

JEFFREY
She doesn't understand.

GIOVANNA
Understand what? Human decency?
Angie warned me.

JEFFREY
Who?

GIOVANNA
Angie, one of the "Karen's?"-

JEFFREY
-It's "Caring"-

GIOVANNA
-Girl-please, she told me Jessica
is great for the neighborhood but
has a cross-shaped stick up her
ass.

JEFFREY
Babe, these are our neighbors.
We've been here two weeks and now
our next door neighbor already
hates us. Please. I'd like to show
them we're nice people.

GIOVANNA
She thinks she can come up to me.
She doesn't know me-

JEFFREY
-and what do you know about her?

GIOVANNA

Her kid has clearly watched Bring
It On more than once and psh, you
know what that means, and I was
told she was-

JEFFREY

-No babe, what effort have you made
to know her?

Giovanna looks away, then looks up at Jeffrey with vulnerable
eyes.

JEFFREY (CONT) (CONT'D)

Please. Let's not start this way.
She is not some drag queen taking
your spot, she's not some kid
beating you up in school. She not
your father-

GIOVANNA

-Stop. (beat)

JEFFREY

-Sorry, that was-

GIOVANNA

-Jeffrey. (beat) Fine. You're
right. I'll apologize. But I'm
gonna wear whatever I want in my
own damn garden.

JEFFREY

Of course, babe. Let's just let
them at least warm up to us, first,
okay?

GIOVANNA

.... Fine, you're right. (beat)
What would I do without you?

She smiles.

EXT. GIOVANNA AND JEFFREY'S HOUSE - THE NEXT MORNING

JEFFREY is getting on a suit for work. GIOVANNA is still in
bed watching him.

JEFFREY

So... I was thinking...

GIOVANNA

(flirty)

Oooh fine but we have to make it quick I don't want you to be late.

JEFFREY

No.. Not that..

GIOVANNA

But you look so handsome. My sexy man bringing home the bacon.

JEFFREY

Is that supposed to be a compliment? You make twice as much as I do.

GIOVANNA

Yes but without your immaculate credit we'd never be here. You're my sexy credit daddy. Woof.

Still putting on his tie in the mirror now.

JEFFREY

Anyway.. I was thinking, why don't we go to their little neighborhood caring group tonight?

Giovanna winces.

JEFFREY (CONT'D)

We'll bring a nice bottle of wine, and offer our apologies. Get to know them a little bit.

GIOVANNA

Ughhhhh, that sounds absolutely horrifying. How can so many 35-year-old woman be so crotchity?

Now fully dressed, Jeffrey leans onto the bed close to Giovanna's face.

JEFFREY

Babe, it's the right thing to do..

GIOVANNA

Says you.

JEFFREY

Be ready by 6:30 as Danny please.

GIOVANNA
Ugh, little Danny could use a break
from the tape anyway.

She reaches under the covers, her face crinkles up until a
tearing sound is heard.

GIOVANNA (CONT'D)
Aaaaa! Ugh...

She crumples up some tape and throws it on the floor.

JEFFREY
You had that on all night?

GIOVANNA
It can be comforting.

JEFFREY
Okay, well, I love you. I'll see
you tonight.

They kiss goodbye.

INT. DOORWAY OF GIOVANNA AND JEFFREY'S HOUSE - MOMENTS LATER

Jeffrey is walking out the front door when...

GIOVANNA
Wait! One more kiss...

Jeffrey chuckles. They kiss, and Jeffrey heads towards the
car. Giovanna is leaning against the open door smiling when
she notices a piece of paper with the words "FINE" taped to
the outside of the door.

GIOVANNA (CONT'D)
What the fuck?

INT. GIOVANNA AND JEFFREY'S KITCHEN - LATE MORNING

Giovanna and on the phone, clearly upset.

GIOVANNA
Four hundred dollars for tree
abuse?? ... We weren't abusing the
tree we were cutting it back! We
weren't going to keep it like
that... well why didn't they knock
on the door and ask?? ... In one
day?? What even made you guys check
for something like that?

Just then, Giovanna catches a glimpse of Jessica outside through the window, peering up at the tree.

GIOVANNA (CONT'D)
... I have to call you back.

She hurries outside.

JESSICA
Good morning Daniel! Hey, I should let you know that if the city sees the unsightly way that tree is cut, it could be a really hefty fine!

GIOVANNA
You don't say.

Jessica smugly gets in her car and drives off. Giovanna walks back in her house and slams the door.

GIOVANNA (CONT'D)
You wanna play dirty huh? This cunt ass karen is about to lipsync for her LIFE.

EXT. FRONT DOOR - DAY

Giovanna opens her door slowly and looks around to see if anyone's around before sneaking across the street.

INT. GIOVANNA AND JEFFREY'S KITCHEN - AFTERNOON

Giovanna is in her living room watching TV when out the window she sees Jessica pull up to her driveway; Giovanna smirks to herself.

Jessica gets out of the car with a few bags of groceries before she freezes in shock. Giovanna runs out front.

GIOVANNA
Is everything okay?? I heard screaming!

JESSICA
I didn't scream.

GIOVANNA
Maybe not on the outside-

JESSICA
What did you do to my tree!!

The camera pans to reveal Jessica's tree that's been broken off to look like a hand giving the middle finger.

GIOVANNA

I was inside all day, But maybe it was a really strong angry gust of wind? Mother nature can be so tough on these poor *hideous* trees...

Jessica still stunned at what she's seeing.

GIOVANNA (CONT'D)

.. oh but, I wouldn't leave it like that in case the city sees it. I can tell you from personal experience it's a hefty fine. Okay bye Jessica!

Jessica stomps into her house.

INT. JESSICA'S HOUSE - A MOMENT LATER

Jessica slams the door.

JESSICA

(to herself)

Oh you wanna play hardball huh?
I'll show you hard ball!

Suddenly something catches her eye.

JESSICA (CONT) (CONT'D)

Jason?

She scurries to the living couch where Jason is staring painfully at a picture in a picture frame.

She sits next to him. Staring at the photo of a younger him, her, and an adult male, presumably his father.

JESSICA (CONT) (CONT'D)

That's the first time we took you to Disney World. Your father said it would be a waste of time, that you wouldn't remember. I remember we got off the train from the parking lot, you had dozed off. But you woke up just in time, and the second you saw Cinderella's Castle, you...

Jason is holding back his emotions.

JESSICA (CONT'D)
 ...you started screaming "Daddy
 look! It's Cinderella's Castle! Her
 Castle! Daddy look!" You were so
 happy.

JASON
 I miss him, Mom.

JESSICA
 Me too, sweetie.

JASON
 It's been two birthday's now he
 wasn't at. I just wish...

JESSICA
 -You know what? Why don't we go to
 the store and make Pizza tonight
 from scratch, like we use to. Okay?
 You and me.

JASON
 Okay. That sounds nice, mom.

JESSICA
 Okay!

INT. DANCE CLUB BACK STAGE - NIGHT

Several drag queens are in a theatrically lit backstage area getting their makeup on together.

Giovanna is lining her eyes in front of her mirror which is filled with inspirational magazine cutouts of celebrity drag queens, and a necklace with a cross on it nonchalantly hangs off one corner of the mirror.

Giovanna's friend ALICIA ROUNDERNECK, Late 20's, big girl, fierce as fuck, is at her area uncrinkling and counting wads of endless dollar bills she pulls them out of every crevice.

ALICIA ROUNDERNECK
 You cut down the bitch's tree?

GIOVANNA
 Honey, Miss tightass walks around
 like she's rich, and I'm trash...

CUT TO:

INT. JESSICA'S CAR GROCERY STORE PARKING LOT - NIGHT

Jason is getting out of the car.

JESSICA
I'll be in in one sec.

JASON
Okay.

He shuts the door. She quickly opens her purse to check her bank balance on her phone, and breathes a sigh of anxiety while holding it to her chest. Then exits the car.

CUT BACK:

INT. DANCE CLUB BACK STAGE - NIGHT

GIOVANNA (CONT)
...even though we basically live in the same damn house and the same damn neighborhood, and I'm like, okay, you wanna see ghetto? I'll show you ghetto.

ALICIA ROUNDERNECK
Miss Giovanna always shakin' hands with her fists.

GIOVANNA
Excuse me?

AUTUMN, awkwardly feminine, the new drag queen has been listening, too intimidated to speak.

CHRISTY CROSS
You know what she means baby, everyone you meet is in an invisible boxing ring and you don't even get it. You always ready for battle.

CUT TO:

INT. GROCERY STORE - NIGHT

Jessica is in line with a pizza crust, shredded cheese, sauce, and some ice cream. Each item ringing up gets her a little more tense. Until the Ice Cream puts her over.

The cashier looks at her,

CASHIER
Total is \$23.48.

CUT BACK:

INT. DANCE CLUB BACK STAGE - NIGHT

GIOVANNA
Uh-uh, I give people a fair shot.

ALICIA ROUNDERNECK
Honey, when we first met, you cut
the weave outta half my wig when I
was in the bathroom.

GIOVANNA
That's cuz you insinuated I was too
fat to be better than you-

ALICIA ROUNDERNECK
No what I had said was, you looked
larger than life-

Off Giovanna's confused look, CUT TO:

INT. GROCERY STORE - NIGHT

Jessica is still paused in front of the checker.

CHECKER
Ma'am? It's \$23.48.

JESSICA
Yes, but... that... ice cream is
supposed to be on sale. The only
reason we bought it is because it
was on sale and if it's not... I
don't want it.

Jason stares at a magazine, trying his best not to comprehend
what's really going on for his mother's sake.

JASON
It's okay mom. I don't even feel
like ice cream.

INT. DANCE CLUB BACK STAGE - NIGHT

CHRISTY CROSS

...and you straight up dragged me off stage half way through my performance and read my ass in front of everyone my very first night!

The queen's all knowingly laughing.

GIOVANNA

Girl, you stole my song and tried to upstage me-

CHRISTY CROSS

-You think I knew on my first night that was your song bitch?

GIOVANNA

Bitch it's on you to do your homework before you prance on up into new territory with your big black Celine Dion ass, lookin like James Earl Jones' Auntie!

The girls are all laughing.

GIOVANNA (CONT) (CONT'D)

I was worried your heart wouldn't go on after that "poppin and lockin," it would just stop.

DRAG QUEENS

Ohhhhh!!!

ALICIA ROUNDERNECK

See all dis' why she my number one best fr-emesis, okerr!

Once the laughing settles down...

ALICIA ROUNDERNECK (CONT'D)

And as yo true sister, I get it, our whole life people tried to beat the 'swish' out of our hips. We've had to just take it. But girl, now that we strong enough to defend ourselves, and we a little more accepted, thank you Jesus and Queen Ru, we don't take shit. And we shouldn't. But honey, not everyone is out to get us.

GIOVANNA questions herself for a few seconds in the mirror.

CUT TO:

INT. JESSICA'S CAR

Jessica and Jason are driving home with the groceries in an awkward silence. Then Jason looks over,

JASON
Thanks for doing this mom.

JESSICA
Of course, sweetie.

They end up in the driveway.

JASON
What happened to the tree?

JESSICA
I'm not sure, but I'm going to find out.

CUT BACK:

INT. DANCE CLUB BACK STAGE - A LITTLE FURTHER INTO THE NIGHT

In the reflection she sees the new drag queen, AUTUMN.

GIOVANNA
Hey. New Girl.

AUTUMN stops putting on her makeup and looks up. Intimidated.

GIOVANNA (CONT'D)
Do you see me that way?

She shakes her head, more out of fear than agreement. (beat)
GIOVANNA thinks to herself. She grabs one of her best wigs off her table and walks it over to the new girl.

GIOVANNA (CONT'D)
Here honey, take my place tonight
and make some good money.

AUTUMN
Thanks.

The other queens secretly share some surprised looks.
GIOVANNA sits near her, and offers to help with it.

GIOVANNA

Here.

She starts working on her Autumn's hair.

GIOVANNA (CONT'D)

What's your name, sweetie? (To herself) Damn baby, what'd you do to your hair?

AUTUMN

It's Autumn Sunrise. Do you like it?

GIOVANNA

Well Autumn Sunrise, welcome to The Queen's Cathedral.

CUT TO:

EXT. OUTSIDE THE CLUB

Jessica is parked inconspicuously outside the club. Inside the car she's making a secretive call.

JESSICA

How is he?.... Okay good. Is it a good time?.. Okay, I'll call back.

CUT TO:

INT. DANCE CLUB - NIGHT

The man in the baseball hat inside the club hangs up the phone.

CUT BACK:

INT. DANCE CLUB BACK STAGE - NIGHT

As GIOVANNA continues to do Autumn's makeup, something catches GIOVANNA's eye through an open door on the other side of the room. It's the man with the baseball hat subtly peeking in from a few feet outside the door.

INT. DOORWAY OF GIOVANNA AND JEFFREY'S HOUSE - LATER THAT NIGHT

JEFFREY opens the front door of the house. He's still dressed in his work suit. He stops to grab a few envelopes out of the mail box and a small package sitting on top of the box.

INT. JEFFREY AND GIOVANNA'S BEDROOM

Jeffrey walks in.

JEFFREY
You're home.

GIOVANNA
Yeah.

JEFFREY puts the package on the end table and starts to get undressed, looking over a GIOVANNA slightly concerned.

JEFFREY
Everything... okay?

GIOVANNA
Yeah. What's that?

Not thinking much about it,

JEFFREY
A gift?

GIOVANNA opens the box and sees cookies.

GIOVANNA
Yes please.

Assuming he bought them somewhere she grabs a cookie and takes a bite of it while he sits down with her.

GIOVANNA (CONT'D)
Do you think I battle people when I first meet them?

He lets out a chuckle.

JEFFREY
Uh oh, what happened.

GIOVANNA
No, I'm serious Jeffrey, am I too defensive when I meet people?

She grabs another cookie.

JEFFREY

Do you remember when you first met me?

GIOVANNA

Of course. You bought me my favorite drink after a show, without me even having to ask me what it was, and then we slow danced for hours.

JEFFREY

Yeah... but .. before that.

GIOVANNA

What?

JEFFREY

(Lightheartedly)

The night before? You kicked me out of the club. You literally screamed in my face with a microphone. On stage. In front of everyone.

GIOVANNA

Oh, well, yeah but that doesn't count, you were like, stalking me, weirdo!

She smacks his chest lovingly.

GIOVANNA (CONT) (CONT'D)

...I didn't know who the hell you were and you got all in my face asking about my business-

JEFFREY

I asked for your phone number.

GIOVANNA

No, you were asking me.. (Pause) for.. was it...?

JEFFREY

I just asked for your number. That was it. Alicia Rounderneck was practically-...nevermind, what's important is that we met, and we fell in love, and.. what's wrong? Is it your stomach?

GIOVANNA

Alicia Rounderneck did what now?

JEFFREY

What?

GIOVANNA

You said "Alicia Rounderneck practically..." and if you don't finish that sentence Imma get my hands rounderneck!

JEFFREY

Okay okay, calm down. I never told you this, but ... Alicia actually got my number from a friend of a friend and she texted me out of the blue...

GIOVANNA

-That giant half deflated beach ball hoho filled blob of WHORE-

...some text like, "Giovanna is a one in a million..."

GIOVANNA (CONT'D)

-Who is my bestie for life by the way-

JEFFREY

...You'd be stupid not to see her tonight," or something like that.....I, I'm not used to being publicly humiliated and then, y'know, coming back. But she insisted that you're amazing, and she was right. ... I never mentioned it because it just seemed not as romantic.

GIOVANNA

Wow. Well shit. (Looking up) Jesus O Graceful Lord, I don't wanna be that person anymore-

Jeffrey hears Giovanna's stomach gurgle a bit.

JEFFREY

Baby you okay?

People are heard talking outside.

GIOVANNA

Yeah, it must be the fries I had on my way home; I know better.

She gets up and looks out the window to see Jessica getting out of the car with a man. Suddenly the camera pans in and sees it's the guy with the baseball hat from the club.

GIOVANNA (CONT'D)

Hmm.

JEFFREY

What?... babe?.... Babe, what is it?

Giovanna caught in suspicion doesn't hear JEFFREY, instead starts to rush out of the room to get a better look, past the half empty box of cookies, but she's stopped by her gargling stomach.

She turns back and rushes into the bathroom.

Jeffrey looks confused. The toilet flushes; she rushes back in and looks out the window to see she's missed them.

JEFFREY (CONT'D)

You okay sweetie?

GIOVANNA

Yeah, something's just not sitting right. But it's fine.

She gets in bed and turns out the light. Against a BLACKOUT screen, a slight gargle is heard. Giovanna quickly turns on the light. Nothing. Turns it back off. A long silent moment. Then, Boom! A explosive gargling and simultaneous shriek is heard echoing from the bedroom, and down the invisible corridors of the neighborhood.

INT. JESSICA'S LIVING ROOM

A two-shot shows Jessica casually chatting with Baseball Hat Guy. The echoed scream stops Jessica in mid-sentence.

JESSICA

Ugh, I'm sorry. My new next door neighbors are two men, so..

She takes a sip of her wine.

JESSICA (CONT'D)

...who knows what's going on over there.

He hands her a postcard type flyer.

JESSICA (CONT'D)

Here?

BASEBALL HAT GUY

Yep.

JESSICA

My child's father works at a church?

Jason has been listening out of sight. He can't hear the whole conversation but sees his mom look at something that looks like an ad in the mail, then stick it in her purse.

INT. GIOVANNA AND JEFFREY'S BEDROOM - A SECOND LATER

JEFFREY clicks on the light. An above shot shows GIOVANNA in a panic, lying with the blankets pulled up to her chest.

GIOVANNA

Oh my god! Oh my god it's everywhere!

JEFFREY

What is? What's wrong, oh I smell it. Oh my god-

GIOVANNA

-LEAVE!

JEFFREY

What? No baby it's fine-

GIOVANNA

-No get OUT, Get out now or I WILL kill you. I swear to god I love you but please Jeffrey, I beg you to get OUT of the bed and go away right NOW.

JEFFREY

Okay. Okay, just put the sheets in the corner-

GIOVANNA

GET OUT!!

JEFFREY

Okay.. okay.

Jeffrey rushes out and gets to the door and turns around on his way out...

JEFFREY (CONT'D)
Love you babe, no matter what,
okay? I love all of you-

GIOVANNA
-oh my god..

She suddenly turns to the box of cookies.

GIOVANNA (CONT'D)
Jeffrey, where did you actually get
this box of cookies?

JEFFREY
On top of the mailbox.

She opens the card and reads it.

GIOVANNA
"Welcome to the Neighborhood!"
(beat) That fucking bitch.

Jeffrey sneaks back in as Giovanna grabs her phone and makes
a call.

JEFFREY
(to himself)
Just gonna sneak the
windows open here, get a
little (gags), wow, fresh
air in here.

GIOVANNA
(Into her phone) Shalonda, girl are
you still micro-dosing? Okay cuz I
need a favor.

EXT. THE COMMUNITY POOL

Jessica, Marjorie, and Angie are laying by to the pool in
swimwear and big sun hats. Jason is in the pool somewhere
near by.

JESSICA
And I just felt terrible. I don't
know how my laxative powder even
ended up near the flour jar.

MARJORIE
Well, honey, God works in
mysterious ways.

JESSICA
Apparently!

ANGIE
But, you told them of course?

JESSICA
Oh, well, I would have, but I don't think it was enough to change the flavor.

ANGIE
So you had one?

JESSICA
What? No of course not.

ANGIE
Then how would you know?

Jessica shoots Angie an angry look.

JESSICA
I just know.

Across the pool, the girls see Jeffrey and Giovanna entering the pool. Jeffrey in a square cut swim suit.

When Giovanna enters, rock music underscores a slow-motion scene as she enters owning the place, wearing a sexy bikini under a bright colorful flowy silk robe, a huge over-the-top wig/head dress, strutting in six-inch stilettos while her hair sexily flips in the wind.

- Everyone in the area seems blown away.

- A random wife sees her husband gawking and smacks him out of his trance.

- Young Jason in the pool is admirably stunned and mouths "yassssss!"

JEFFREY
So much for easing them into it, huh.

GIOVANNA
They'll be fine.

They pass by the three women.

GIOVANNA (CONT'D)
(Facetious Greeting)
Ladies?

JESSICA
 (Facetious Greeting)
 Gentlemen?

ANGIE
 (Genuine)
 Girl, I am loving your head dress!

JESSICA
 Yeah! Wow, is it waterproof?

GIOVANNA
 As a woman who I dearly admire once
 said,... "I like your outfit too,
 but when I dress up as a frigid
 bitch, I try not to look so
 constipated."

A quick burst of laughter escapes Angie. Jessica seethes at her and she stops herself. Giovanna and Jeffrey walks away as Jeffrey mouths "I'm sorry" to the women.

JESSICA
 (whispers to Marjorie) Speaking of
 constipation... (calls out to
 GIOVANNA) Did you guys enjoy the
 cookies?

Record scratch. Giovanna stops, and turns.

JEFFREY
 Giovanna, you made your point, now
 stop the madness.

GIOVANNA
 They were delicious, thank you!

They turn and keep walking.

JESSICA
 (To Angie)
 See? And you were worried. I told
 you it wasn't very much.

The camera catches a look of disappointment on Jessica's face.

EXT. THE COMMUNITY POOL - SOME TIME LATER THE SAME DAY

A kid throws a ball past Jason which ends up rolling next to Jeffrey's chair. Jeffrey picks up the ball as Jason approaches.

Jeffrey hands him the ball.

JEFFREY
Here ya go, bud.

JASON
Thanks, Mr. Jeffrey!

He hesitates. Then,

JASON (CONT'D)
Excuse me, Giovanna?

GIOVANNA
Hey there kiddo...

She looks across the pool and sees the women still there. Jessica hasn't noticed.

GIOVANNA (CONT'D)
...what can I help you with?

JASON
Hey, I'm sorry my mom is so hard on you.

GIOVANNA
Listen, you don't have to worry about me, I've dealt with a thousand-

She stop herself, glances at Jeffrey, then back at the boy, and collects her thoughts a bit.

GIOVANNA (CONT'D)
Your mom's heart is in the right place. We just ... we just scare each other a little bit.

JASON
You don't scare me at all.

GIOVANNA
Well thanks kid. How did that happen?

Referring to a scrape on Jason's elbow.

JASON
Oh, at football practice. If I sell enough chocolate bars I get to go to the tournament in Houston, Texas. Isn't that cool?

GIOVANNA
You like football?

JASON
I love football. And I'm good at it.

GIOVANNA
Oh. Well I'm sure your mom will make sure you can go, right? She's got the money to send you.

JASON
Oh. We don't really have a lot of- ... Well after my dad- ... See, my dad, I mean he's no longer-

GIOVANNA
It's okay, bud. You don't have to explain.

Jason looks across the pool, then takes a step forward.

JASON
.. it's been hard for my mom. She hasn't worked. The only reason we still have our house is because the church has been paying our rent. (he leans in) And she's on every board around so nobody wants to kick us out.

Giovanna is shocked. She reaches into her purse and hands Jason a huge roll of money.

GIOVANNA
Here. Go do what you love.

JASON
What, Oh my gosh. holy...wow! Are you sure? this is, this is so cool, thank you!

Jason hugs her.

GIOVANNA
Oh and, don't tell your mom you got it from me, okay? Let's keep it between us.

JASON
I'll give you all my chocolates! My mom and I made them.

GIOVANNA

You know what? I'm gonna pass on that, I'm on this new diet where I don't eat homemade trash that comes from-

Jeffrey smacks her arm.

GIOVANNA(CONT) (CONT'D)

-Treats! I meant I don't eat homemade treats from ... neighbors. Just consider your chocolates sold and eat them or give them to your friends or something.

JASON

Oh my god, YazQueen!

Jason snaps the air.

GIOVANNA

Oh whaaaat? YazQueen!!

She snaps the air back.

JASON

I only did that for you.

GIOVANNA

I know dollface. And I appreciate it.

CUT TO:

EXT. THE SOUTH SIDE OF THE POOL - DAY

On the other side of the pool Marjorie nudges Jessica and signals her to look across the pool where Giovanna and Jason are just finishing their conversation.

MARJORIE

Jess, look what the boys are up to.

JESSICA

What? Oh, dear lord Jesus, please keep my boy safe from that monster. (to Jason) Jason! Jason honey it's time to get going!

CUT BACK:

EXT. THE NORTH SIDE OF THE POOL - DAY

Jason hears his mom and the delight on his face turns to concern.

JASON

I gotta go.

Giovanna waves goodbye and Jason runs towards his mom's voice.

INT. BIG AND TALL RETAIL CLOTHING STORE - DAY

Danny and Autumn are fishing in among the women's clothing rack, occasionally sizing certain pieces up.

DANNY

Let's see this...

He holds a dress up.

AUTUMN

This one is, wow, so shimmery.

Danny throws it over his shoulder and keeps shuffling through the rack.

Autumn unhooks a pastel looking blouse from the rack.

AUTUMN (CONT'D)

Oooh, what about this one?

Danny gently takes it and puts it back without interrupting his search.

AUTUMN (CONT'D)

Thanks again Giovanna, for just, everything.

DANNY

Danny.

AUTUMN

Sorry, Danny. (beat) How did you get to be so.. comfortable with yourself?

Danny sizes up another dress on Autumn.

DANNY

Well, when you're an outcast your whole life, and your deepest most authentic genderbent god-like self is also an outcast, it ain't a huge life change.

Autumn admirably chuckles.

DANNY (CONT) (CONT'D)

But I'm glad I can help. And the money's good when you know what you're doin' right?

AUTUMN

(pensively)

Yeah.

DANNY

"Yeah?" Yes honey. It took me years to even afford the wig I gave you.

AUTUMN

It's not the money. It's the job.

DANNY

What do you mean?

AUTUMN

And it's not even the job really. I miss.. you know, my old job. I ran a corporate accounting department, and I really enjoyed it.

DANNY

Ugh, corporate accounting?? Ack!!

Danny looks up at her.

DANNY (CONT) (CONT'D)

Sorry, that was rude of me. I just felt a tickle of white oppression in my throat. (He fake coughs) got it, ehem!.. So corporate accounting huh?

AUTUMN

Says the guy whose boyfriend works at a bank.

DANNY

That sass! Good Girl! And good point, I have had a good amount of white oppression in my throat.

AUTUMN

I mean I love performing. But I'm no drag queen. I just really didn't know what to do. I wanted to find my people and ended up at the club. Marv saw me hanging out and asked if I could perform, I sang him a song and that was that.

DANNY

Well your voice is off the hook. It makes so much sense now, you know singing isn't even required.

AUTUMN

Judging by Alicia Rounderneck's routine, neither is dancing.

DANNY

Oh! Hunty is on! Fire!

They head to the changing rooms as they chat.

INT. CHANGING ROOM OF THE RETAIL STORE

GEORGE, a heavysset latinx man is working.

GEORGE

Wassup Dannyboy, how you doin babe.

DANNY

Georgie my love I need you to shut it down, we'll be a minute.

GEORGE

Way ahead of you boo, I gotchu, I gotchu.

George grabs a signage post that says, "Changing Room Closed Temporarily" and places it in front of the door as they enter.

DANNY

(discreetly)

Also, you have something for me.

GEORGE

Ah, yes, courtesy of Shalonda.

He slips him a small bag of something.

DANNY

Thank you love.

AUTUMN

Hi.

GEORGE

Good morning gorgeous, would you be so kind as to share your name and pronouns with me?

AUTUMN

What a polite man you are. She and her, and my name is Autumn.

GEORGE

Autumn, beautiful name for a beautiful face. Autumn I'm George and I'm here Monday's through Thursday's, so whatever you need babydoll okay? I'm at your service.

DANNY

Okay Georgie, enough flirting or your wife's is gonna kill me (to Autumn) George is the BEST, and he's also a rap artist.

AUTUMN

Oh, wow.

Autumn enters a room with all these shimmery dresses Danny's picked out and starts changing.

Autumn talks through the door:

AUTUMN (CONT'D)

Anyway, I enjoy singing, I always have. But I miss my desk. Crunching numbers, corporate calls, board meetings, I was good at it. I miss my boring life...

Danny thinks hard. Then runs out of the room.

INSERT:

- Danny grabbing a female professional blouse from a rack.
- Danny grabbing a female professional suit bottom a different rack.
- Danny running back into the room.

AUTUMN (CONT'D)

...all the way home. I couldn't believe it!

(MORE)

AUTUMN (CONT'D)

I never spoke of it before now.
Wow, Danny, I must really trust
you. I've never, ever done anything
like that before!

Feeling guilty for not hearing her, he fibs,

DANNY

Oh.. yeah me neither, here put this
on.

Danny throws the new outfit over the door.

AUTUMN

You haven't?!?

Danny whinces.

AUTUMN (CONT'D)

But you're so flirty!

DANNY panickly looks over at George nearby. George silently
laughs, then mouths to him "But Giovanna has!" while nodding
his head.

DANNY

...but Giovanna has.

AUTUMN

Oooh, of course...these ones aren't
shimmery.

DANNY

Do you like them?

AUTUMN

Well, yeah, I absolutely love them.

DANNY

Well then, don't leave me waiting,
let's see how they look.

She unlocks the door and is dressed in stunning female
business attire. She faces the mirror where they both stare.

AUTUMN

What's today?

DANNY

Tuesday.

AUTUMN

Tuesday.

DANNY

Yeah.

AUTUMN

Tuesday. A random Tuesday, in a random retail store, and the little girl who's been imprisoned inside me as long as I can remember is finally, finally free. On a Tuesday.

Danny is surprised and touched at Autumn's emotional reaction to what he thought were pretty plain clothes.

DANNY

I have an idea.

INT. JESSICA'S HOUSE - DAY

Jessica is putting things away in Jason's room when in a drawer, she finds the roll of money.

JESSICA

What the? .. Jason!

INT. LIVING ROOM OF JESSICA'S HOUSE

Jessica walks in while Jason is watching TV.

JESSICA

Jason honey, where did you get this?...

JASON

Um...

JESSICA

Jason, where did you get this money? Answer me!

INT. SAGEBRUSH HOA OFFICE

There's an older man sitting at a desk. Jessica is sitting across from him exasperated.

JESSICA

...and now she's giving my child huge amounts of money...I just...Stan, I can't keep doing this.

(MORE)

JESSICA (CONT'D)

I have prayed and prayed about this, and I need you to step in and do something. I don't know why they are trying so hard to impose this type of sinful lifestyle on my child!

STAN

Jess, I know you're upset. But offering to help you out financially doesn't constitute something needing to be done. Especially given your current, situation? I'm sorry, unless it's something egregious there's nothing we can do. So unless Mr. Whitfield somehow loses his job in the next few days, there's nothing we can do.

JESSICA

Who?

STAN

Mr. Whitfield. Danny's husband, Jeffrey would have to literally lose his proof of income in the first 30 days, and he's worked at that bank for 14 years.

JESSICA

He has, has he?

INT. JESSICA'S HOME OFFICE - DAY, A TIME LATER

Jessica finishes typing something on her computer with a look of revenge on her face.

The camera slowly pans over her shoulder to reveal the words, "...will all close our accounts immediately if Mr. Whitfield's employment is not TERMINATED." She claps her laptop closed in satisfaction, then crosses her chest.

JESSICA

Forgive me Jesus, we both know it's for the greater good.

INT. KITCHEN - MORNING

JEFFREY is drinking coffee and DANNY joins.

He sees the roll of money on the counter with a note on it.

DANNY
What is this?

A note on it reads, "We don't take money from a sinner."

JEFFREY
It was in the mailbox this
morning...you tried babe.

She stares at the word, "sinner."

JEFFREY (CONT'D)
It was a really nice gesture.... Is
there anything I can do?

Then, abruptly...

DANNY
I have to go.

He grabs the roll of money and runs to the bedroom.

INT. GIOVANNA AND JEFFREY'S LIVING ROOM - A LITTLE LATER

Giovanna is dressed UP, and struts to the front door past Jeffrey reading a paper.

GIOVANNA
Babe, where's that Real Estate "For
Sale" sign that was in the yard
when we moved in?

JEFFREY
In the side yard... why?

GIOVANNA
I need it.

JEFFREY
For what?

GIOVANNA
There's a house on the block I want
to sell.

JEFFREY
Gi'. Absolutely not.

GIOVANNA
Babe. I'll be doing her a favor.
The bitch needs the money.

JEFFREY

Gi' I know you're upset. But don't do this.

GIOVANNA

It'll be funny I promise! Imma sell that bitches house!

JEFFREY

(uncharacteristically aggressive)

Giovanna. No.

GIOVANNA

You can't tell me what to do, boo.

She immediately regrets saying that.

JEFFREY

Giovanna. I love you. I'm here for you. But if you walk out that door to impose your pain onto that family, I...

Their eyes are locked.

JEFFREY (CONT'D)

...I will not be on board.

She opens the front door, and slams it shut behind her.

EXT. GIOVANNA AND JEFFREY'S FRONT YARD - MOMENTS LATER

Giovanna walks towards the side yard, but conflicted, she stops. Suddenly she sees Jessica pull up in her car, so she walks to her own car as if that was the plan.

INT. GIOVANNA'S CAR

He pulls the note out and reads it again,

"..a sinner."

FLASH BACK:

INT. LIVING ROOM OF YOUNG DANNY

A flashback of a young Danny wearing a blanket around his neck, his father in a lounge chair.

FATHER
Got your cape on, huh Superman?

YOUNG DANNY
It's a dress! I'm Princess Leia and
I'm gonna blast the f-

The father gets up and rips the blanket off of him practically pushing Danny onto the floor.

FATHER
Boys don't wear dresses, Christ
Danny, where do you learn this
shit?

Danny sits on the floor shocked at what just happened.

FATHER (CONT'D)
Jesus'll know you're a *sinner*. You
don't wanna be a *sinner* like the
people on tv huh!

The scene blurs into another memory of:

INT. LIVING ROOM OF YOUNG DANNY

Young Danny coming home scraped and bruised from being beat up. His father turns from watching TV.

FATHER
It's your own damn fault. I hope
they beat the girl right outta you.

He runs up and hits his father with all his might but his dad easily pushes him to the floor.

FATHER (CONT'D)
Sinner.

Danny runs away.

FLASH BACK:

Giovanna wipes the myst from her eyes. Then starts the car.

Jessica, who saw her get in her car, runs to her car to follow her.

EXT. A CHURCH BUILDING

The two cars drive up and park. Jessica discreetly parks behind another car.

INT. JESSICA'S CAR

She adjusts her mirror and sees the church.

JESSICA

What in the world are we doing
here?

She gets out of her car and carefully follows Giovanna into the church.

INT. CHURCH DOORWAY

Inside the beautiful catholic church, Jessica crouches down behind a planter with a large tree in it, watching Giovanna walk across the church.

She sees:

INT. CHURCH

GIOVANNA sits with a priest she seems to know at a near by pew.

FATHER MICHAEL

Giovanna, darling, it's so good to
see you.

GIOVANNA

Thank you Father Michael, I'm sorry
it's been a minute, I need to get
my head straight.

FATHER MICHAEL

Of course. Come, come, let's sit.

Meanwhile, CUT TO:

INT. CHURCH DOORWAY

Jessica is crouched behind the large tree in a planter, peeking around to see Giovanna and the Father.

She looks up to see a Jesus statue on a cross looking right at her. Judging her perhaps.

She tries to listen in to their conversation from behind the tree.

CUT BACK:

INT. CHURCH

A little girl is playing by herself in the middle isle nearby.

GIOVANNA
Jeffrey and I moved... and it's
been mostly great...

FATHER MICHAEL
Oh, that's wonderful. We've been
praying for you.

GIOVANNA
Oh, thank you so much Father.

CUT TO:

INT. CHURCH DOORWAY

She keeps catching a glimpse of the Jesus statue.

JESSICA
(whisper yelling)
..and you flipped over a bunch of
tables in your day so stop judging
me.

Out of nowhere,

LITTLE GIRL
No I didn't.

This little girl's voice echoes through the church.

JESSICA
Not you-!... Sweetie.. (the little
girl stares) now, move along, go
on.

LITTLE GIRL
Why are you stuck there? Cuz you
knocked over tables?

JESSICA
(Still whispering)
Shh! I'm not stuck. (She looks up
at Jesus) I'm ... inspecting.. the
tree for.. look! There's your
mommy!

Arbitrarily pointing.

LITTLE GIRL

My mommy passed away when I was a baby.

Giovanna and the father look over and see what looks from their angle like the little girl talking to the tree.

JESSICA

Oh, wow, well... I'm sure they offer counseling if you're grieving.

LITTLE GIRL

What's grieving?

CUT BACK:

INT. CHURCH

Giovanna and the father are interrupted again as it looks like the little girl is asking the tree about grieving.

FATHER MICHAEL

So sad. Her mother passed away tragically and she's never been the same.

CUT TO:

INT. CHURCH DOORWAY

JESSICA

(Still whispering)
...okay, look over there! A toy! Just turn around, and just, go play now! I have to get back to.. maybe climbing it? I love this tree-

LITTLE GIRL

How come you don't climb on other trees and love them?

Jessica's face is mortified.

CUT BACK:

INT. CHURCH

The father looks confused at the little girl talking to the tree,

FATHER MICHAEL

Well that took a turn now, didn't it. But when you don't have a mother, there's nobody there to explain, those types of things, I guess.

GIOVANNA

Anyway..

The little girl is finally called away. Jessica breathes a sigh of relief.

Meanwhile:

INT. JEFFREY'S OFFICE

Jeffrey sits typing at his desk. His boss walks in.

JEFFREY'S BOSS

Hey Jeff, can I see you for a sec?

JEFFREY

Sure.

CUT BACK:

INT. CHURCH

Jessica finally starts to hear what they're saying.

GIOVANNA

So...I just don't know what to do. She won't accept anything. I tried, and you know it's not easy for me, Father. I've made mistakes, but I'm losing faith. I feel like I...I...I love myself less because of this woman.

FATHER MICHAEL

What has God told you in your morning prayers?

GIOVANNA

I pray for her to heal -she's a widow- and to help me be a beacon of healing for her and her boy, but-

Jessica's face turns shocked when she realizes who she's talking about.

CUT TO:

INT. JEFFREY'S BOSS'S OFFICE

Jeffrey sits across from his boss.

JEFFREY'S BOSS

We've received several complaints that you and your partner are harassing some of our customers?

Jeffrey's stunned.

JEFFREY'S BOSS (CONT'D)

This wasn't just one complaint, Jeffrey.

He shows a file folder with several pieces of paper to him.

JEFFREY'S BOSS (CONT'D)

I don't know what's going on. This is completely out of character for you. But, we need you to take a few days off and get your home life in order, okay?

JEFFREY

Wait, you're suspending me?

JEFFREY'S BOSS

It's going to be fine. But, come on, you know when an employee's personal life starts leading to closed accounts we have no choice...I'm sorry....Get this under control.

CUT BACK:

INT. CHURCH

Jessica's face is now filled with regret.

Giovanna, in a moment of emotional pain and physical discomfort, takes her shoes and wig off.

GIOVANNA

But she keeps calling me a sinner. Saying homosexuality is a "deadly sin." And, truthfully I've never dressed in drag so much in my life, but.. I just don't like being told I can't. I fought so hard for this right. And she keeps using that word.

FATHER MICHAEL

We are all sinners, dear.

He gives Giovanna a moment to collect herself.

FATHER MICHAEL (CONT'D)

I know it's hard my child. The lord is asking you to accept her point of view of you. Then show her what an astounding human being you are. But allow her room to heal, like Jesus says, you shall love your neighbor as yourself.

Jessica sneaks out the front door.

GIOVANNA

Thank you father. (beat) There's also, a terrible sin I've committed...

EXT. ANGIE'S FRONT DOOR

A rock-type musical score jams to a slow-mo scene of Angie opening her front door, seeing Giovanna with dark sun glasses and a huge jar labelled "Magic Tea" with a picture of a mushroom on it. She looks both ways and hands it to Angie, who smirks, takes the jar, and closes the door.

INT. JESSICA'S CHURCH

The woman are in a small circle in a carpeted church room sitting around a table drinking tea.

JESSICA

Well, she was talking to the father in a skirt and heels. I can't imagine what kind of church would promote something so dangerous.

ANGIE

It's not dangerous for a man to dress up in women's clothes.

MARJORIE

Really Angie? You know how Jess's family was devastated. How could you say that?

ANGIE

Your husband didn't kill himself. He tried and.. I don't mean to be so brash but it wasn't because he dressed in women's clothes, it was because he wasn't accepted by the people around him. Everyone called him a ...

But Jessica loses focus after she noticed an odd sensation taking over her body.

INT. DANCE CLUB BACKSTAGE - NIGHT

Dance music is heard in the background.

ALICIA ROUNDERNECK

You spiked the bitch tea with Mushrooms??

CHRISTY CROSS

While they was in church?

GIOVANNA

Ha! Yasssbitch! Mess with the bull, you get the horns.

ALICIA ROUNDERNECK

She did warn a bitch she was gonna get some tea, okeerrrr!!

CHRISTY CROSS

This bitch right here goin' to jail.

GIOVANNA

Oh Please, it wasn't that much. One of 'em helped, and was with them, so they'll be fine.

The music in the background ends.

GIOVANNA (CONT'D)

Oh, she's almost done!

INT. THE FRONT OF THE DANCE CLUB - NIGHT

AUTUMN has just finished her set and the crowd goes wild. She's picking up the dollars that have been showered onto the stage before greeting Giovanna at the left back wing of the stage.

AUTUMN
You were right!

GIOVANNA
I told you you'd make a perfect
Dolly!

AUTUMN
Do you need these back tonight?

Referring to the over-sized prosthetic breasts she's wearing.

GIOVANNA
Honey, they're yours.

She gasps, then hugs Giovanna excitedly. Mid-hug Giovanna sees Baseball Hat Guy in the crowd, drinking a beer, staring at her intensely. She darts into the back.

She grabs her purse off her chair and reaches inside for a pair of brass knuckles.

EXT. BACK DOOR OF THE CLUB - NIGHT

Giovanna swings open the back door. Baseball Hat Guy is nowhere to be seen. Nobody is around. Giovanna thinks before heading toward the door, when, Autumn pops out of the door, followed by Baseball Hat Guy.

AUTUMN
I guess so. I was really nervous,
but...

Suddenly Giovanna grabs Baseball Hat Guy and slams him up against the wall. Brass knuckles in his face.

BASEBALL HAT GUY
Whoa! What the hell is wrong with
you?

GIOVANNA
Listen you fucking perv, leave me
and my friends alone or you'll
really find out what the hell is
wrong with me.

AUTUMN

GIOVANNA!

GIOVANNA

No! Autumn, you have to get used to drunk assholes like this-

AUTUMN

No, Giovanna let him go!

GIOVANNA

(To the man) Leave her the fuck alone, you got it!

BASEBALL HAT GUY

I'm his brother! I'm Matthew's brother!

GIOVANNA

Who??

AUTUMN

He means me, Giovanna, he's my brother!

GIOVANNA looks at her, then back at him, then backs off.

GIOVANNA

Oh. I'm ... I'm sorry, I didn't know.

Then she goes back in and slaps him in the face.

GIOVANNA (CONT'D)

Never blurt out a woman's dead name like that!

BASEBALL HAT GUY

-Autumn, I meant... (to Autumn) I meant Autumn.

GIOVANNA

.. but other than that, (to Autumn) I'm sorry I attacked your brother.

AUTUMN

Technically my brother-in-law. My ex wife's always sending him out here to make sure I'm okay.

GIOVANNA

(To Baseball Hat Guy)
Well no offense but you have a pervy-ass vibe.

Autumn Laughs, relieving some of the tension.

AUTUMN

Well shit, she's got you there.

Autumn's laughter spreads to the three of them. Then,

GIOVANNA

(To BBH Guy) Wait, but if you're not spying on me then why were you at Jessica's house the other night?

AUTUMN

My ex wife?

GIOVANNA

Say WHAT now?

AUTUMN

Jessica Michaelson, in Sagebrush Gardens?

Giovanna flips. Her. Hair.

GIOVANNA

That god-awful spawn of the devil and hitler's sister is *your ex wife?*

BASEBALL HAT GUY

Hey man, that's my sister you're talking about.

GIOVANNA

(To BBH Guy) Sorry honey, I meant that charming, lovely blend (to Autumn) of the devil and hitler's sister is *your ex wife??*

INT. CHURCH

The three women have moved to pews. They're all now trippin balls from the Mushroom Tea that Angie has helped Giovanna spike. The camera pans across Marjorie's panicked face, then Jessica's Panicked face, then Angie's meditative face.

JESSICA

Ladies! I am having a full on spiritual experience right now!

ANGIE

Just roll with it babe.

MARJORIE

Does anyone else see that
Leprechaun carrying the pig up the
wall?

The camera slowly closes up on Jessica's panicked face.

JESSICA

Jesus?

Jesus' face, the size of an entire wall, is protruding from a
wall and looking at Jessica.

JESSICA (CONT'D)

Jesus!

JESUS

Yeah?

JESSICA

Are you here to see me, lord Jesus!
Do you guys see that Jesus has
arisen!!

JESUS

No no, I'm lost. Where am I right
now? It smells weird in here.

JESSICA

We're at the (she smells her arm
pit) Church of (She smells her
other one) Holy Trinity.

JESUS

Oh, I have to go.

JESSICA

Wait! Jesus!

MARJORIE

I'm not going anywhere.

JESSICA

I was talking to Jesus, Marjorie!

MARJORIE

Oh, I thought you were using his
name in vein.

JESUS

Oh Jesus, here we go.

JESSICA

Have I done right by your name?

JESUS
 Oh, you know what Jessica?
 You have...
 ...your heart is always in
 the right place. Your
 actions, however, could use
 some work.

MARJORIE
 Yeah, I mean you could bite
 down on the 'j' more, to be
 honest, "Marjorie,"

MARJORIE (CONT'D)
 What? Who just said Marjorie? Was
 that the Leprechaun?

JESSICA
 I'm just so scared right now.

MARJORIE
 Of the pig? That Leprechaun has a
 pretty tight hold of him.

JESUS
 You don't have to be. Let that go.
 Use faith, forget keeping track of
 others' sins. Be still and look
 inward to feel sin, for yourself,
 not outward, at others.
 Okay, I'm supposed to meet someone
 in a chicken sandwich.

JESSICA
 What?

JESUS
 Never mind.

MARJORIE
 I said the Leprechaun has a tight
 hold of the pig. Although it would
 hurt if it dropped from up there.

Jesus disappears.

ANGIE
 You know what? (She turns to face
 them) I love you two medusa-haired
 cunts.

INT. GIOVANNA'S CAR - EARLY MORNING

GIOVANNA

Every time I gotta pick your drunkass up, we get in this argument: I'm the Vida Boheme, you are the Noxeema.

ALICIA ROUNDERNECK

Bitch, gag! I am the Vida I am a powerful woman!

GIOVANNA

Gurl, I'm driving! Miss Vida always drive her girls around tryna give those bitches a better life!

ALICIA ROUNDERNECK

yo mind is goop, girl once in a blueass moon when my hormones ragin I call you.

GIOVANNA

Honey I got the damn alarm set on my phone, labeled Noxeema gonna call Vida to scrape her ass off the club floor at least once a month.

CHRISTY

Who am I?

GIOVANNA AND ALICIA

Chi-chi!

ALICIA ROUNDERNECK

...Always fallin in love with some straight cornfed piece a trouble.

They're cracking themselves up. Suddenly, out the window, Giovanna sees a kid distraught.

GIOVANNA

Hold on sis, that's the kid.

ALICIA ROUNDERNECK

Who? Honey I'm a little turnt out, I can't be facing no lil thing.

GIOVANNA

Something's wrong.

She starts pulling the car over to the side of the road where Jason is clearly upset, a backpack strap is ripped.

ALICIA ROUNDERNECK

Okay, shit. How's my breath, damn
gurl, this damn neighborhood takin
over ya life... okay okay, pull it
together, I'm a good christian god
fearing drag queen who happens to
see six impressionable little
triplets, damn my drunkass eyes!
Let's channel momma Oprah.
OmmmmmmGayleKingChaiLatteYougetACar
YouGetACar
OmmmmmmGayleKingChaiLatteYouGetACar
YouGetACar...

Giovanna leans out the window.

GIOVANNA

Baby what's wrong!

JASON

Some kids stole my bike just now!
I'm okay I'm just-

GIOVANNA

WHAT??

(under her breath) Drunkass
bitch.

ALICIA ROUNDERNECK

Oh HELL no! Some kids about
to get a mufuckin BEAT DOWN!!

ALICIA ROUNDERNECK (CONT'D)

Sorry momma Oprah I am a mad black
woman right now Susta! Ain't NOBODY
MESS with my-... (to Jason) baby
what's your name again, I had a
long night.

GIOVANNA

Jason, get in the car.

ALICIA ROUNDERNECK

Jason! Right, Jason baby- I'm
surprised I forgot that name
because I knew a man named Jason
once, Oooh boy did we-

GIOVANNA

-STOP. Stop that story and move on.

ALICIA ROUNDERNECK

You got Vida's stuck up attitude,
I'll give you that.

Jason is in back of the car with Christy. Giovanna's driving
quickly.

GIOVANNA
Where'd they go baby, up ahead?

JASON
Yeah. Up there. But why? What are you gonna do?

Christy sees the torn backpack strap, pulls out a sewing kit from her bag, and starts repairing the strap.

ALICIA ROUNDERNECK
We gon have a light little campfire chat with these boys, see if we can't beat a Christ shaped hole into em like they parents should have!

GIOVANNA
We're gonna get that bike back hon. Just relax and we're gonna see if we can't right some wrongs is all.

Jason sees Christy fixing the strap of his bag.

JASON
Wow. Thank you.... I'm Jason.

CHRISTY
I'm Miss Christy Cross, please to make your acquaintance, young man.

JASON
Oh, that's clever, I love the drag names on Ru Paul's show, I understand most of them. (to Alicia) What's your name?

ALICIA ROUNDERNECK
Alicia baby, Alicia Rounderneck! For twenty years henny!

JASON
Oh. Ooooooh, A leash... around your neck like a dog. You love dogs!

ALICIA ROUNDERNECK
Got that right, boo! In more way than one! Okrrrrrr!

GIOVANNA
(To Alicia)
I am about to open your door and bounce you on out this car if you don't cut the cackle.

CHRISTY

Here you go baby, backpack is good
as new.

JASON

Wow. How did you do that so fast?

ALICIA ROUNDERNECK

Listen here, Justin, She once made
an entire wardrobe out of bandaids
and receipts! Girl! .. 'Course I
didn't make a damn dime that night.
What ever happened to that skirt?
But Justin, miss Giovanna says you
gotta good ass head on ya
shoulders, which is shocking cuz I
also heard-

GIOVANNA

-CHRISTY! Sew this bitch's mouth
shut right quick! - ... Wait, is
that them?

She points to some kids.

JASON

Yeah! That's my bike!

The car comes to a screeching halt in front of two teenage
kids riding bikes. The girls get out ahead of where the boys
are heading and Jason and Christy stay in the car.

EXT. STREET

GIOVANNA

Boys! Excuse me boys! I'm wondering
if you can't help me out. We're
lost.

The kids look at each other and keep moving.

ALICIA ROUNDERNECK

Yeah, we're wondering which one of
y'all's momma's needs to get her
'gina sewed up. She don't know how
to smack some damn morals into
whoever one a y'all took that bike!

GIOVANNA

(To Alicia)

Okay, you need to not talk.

The boys look at each other... then bolt past the girls.

ALICIA ROUNDERNECK

Oh HELL no bitch!! You done it now
homey! You don't know who y'all
MESSED with toDAY!

Alicia is running but not fast. Like, at all.

ALICIA ROUNDERNECK (CONT'D)

The damn heels.. Imma catch all
twelve a you lil' bike theivin
monster-asses! (panting) ToDAY
Imma..!! (panting hard) I'm sorry
Jesus, today is.. (panting) I don't
think today is the day lord.

She's sits down. Meanwhile Giovanna is running and catches up
to the kid on the stolen bike, and KICKS him off with her
heel. He lands in the grass.

The boys friend stops to help him, but sees Giovanna throw
the kid down and spanks him like a mother, so he takes off.

The boys starts wailing his arms and pops her in the eye.

GIOVANNA

Oh HELL no.

She turns into a superDrag, arms slapping at light speed.

GIOVANNA (CONT'D)

Listen you little heathen, I'm bout
show you what it means to mess with
a ghettoass bitch- !

KID

Ow! Ow! I'm sorry! I'm sorry!

She picks up the kid about to punch him in the face, but she
hears from her parked car..

JASON

Giovanna!

She freezes.

JASON (CONT'D)

Please. He's got his own problems.
I just want my bike.

Fist still up ready to pound, she takes in the moment. Then
pulls the kids face close to hers, looks deep in his eyes..

GIOVANNA

Don't. Fucking. Steal shit. Got it?

The kid, frightened, nods. Then, she pulls two hundred-dollar bills out of her pocket and slips it in his jeans pocket.

GIOVANNA (CONT'D)
Go get your own damn bike.

She releases him. Confused, he pulls the money out of his pocket, shocked, then runs away.

She walks toward the car.

GIOVANNA (CONT'D)
(To Jason)
Grab your bike, let's take it home. I'll give you a ride to school. (to Christy) And where were you?

CHRISTY
Uh-uh no ma'am. I was monitoring the situation from the car. I have my yellow stallions on! I am NOT running after no kids in my yellow stallions. Uh-uh, Jason, you seem like a nice kid but I did not sign a contract for this madness.

In the car Giovanna inspects the slight bruise on her face.

CHRISTY (CONT'D)
I'm sorry Gi.

GIOVANNA
It's okay.

EXT. FRONT OF JESSICA'S HOUSE

Giovanna and the girls pull up. Jason gets out of the car and goes to the trunk to get his bike out.

Jessica comes out, arms folded. As Giovanna walks up, Jessica walks up. They meet half way. The other Karen's posse up behind Jessica.

INT. GIOVANNAS CAR - SAME MOMENT

ALICIA ROUNDERNECK
(To Christy)
Oh, sista' look at these.

CHRISTY

Uh oh.

They jump out of the car to back a sista' up.

ALICIA ROUNDERNECK

Bring it on, bitches.

CHRISTY

Do you always have to swear? Does your pastor know 'bout that mouth?

ALICIA ROUNDERNECK

No. But he ain't a bitch with a attitude.

CHRISTY

Lord.

As they walk toward Giovanna.

ALICIA ROUNDERNECK

(To the sky/herself)

Forgive me Jesus you know a sista' gotta express herself every once in a while as part of her healing process.

Now three women are staring at three drag queens like they're the bloods and the crips.

Jason walks up with his bike. Jessica breaks posture to hug Jason and inspect him for injuries.

JESSICA

Are you okay honey?

JASON

Mom. Giovanna helped me today. Please. Be nice. She helped me get my bike back from these kids. Okay? Mom?

Jessica stands back up, and locks back in on Giovanna, staring at her.

JESSICA

Jason, go put your bike inside the house please.

He shakes his head and obliges.

JESSICA (CONT'D)

Were *they* with you?

ALICIA ROUNDERNECK
Gurlllll, her shoulders bout to be
bobbin and weavin. This ma'am right
here is what my nightmares made of.

GIOVANNA
Alicia. Enough with the inner
dialogue please. (to Jessica) Yes,
ma'am.

JESSICA
Well, I'm not sure what happened
this morning that lead to all this-
but...

ALICIA ROUNDERNECK
Some punk ass kids is what happened
miss Karen- MA'AM, I meant miss
Ma'am.

Angie chuckles at Alicia's antics.

JESSICA
..I'm glad Jason's okay.

ANGIE
Thank you, girls!

JESSICA
(Hesitantly)
Yes, thank you.

GIOVANNA
I told him I'd drop him off at
school, it's on the way to Alicia's
place so I don't mind-

JESSICA
-No. No that won't be necessary,
I'll handle it from here. Thank you
all. Have a blessed day...

Jason now back outside the house, is disappointed. The girls
start to retreat, but then Jessica, in a condescending,
knowledge testy kind of way says,

JESSICA (CONT) (CONT'D)
...Oh and Giovanna, Matthew
7:1, am I right?

MARJORIE
(Under her breath) "Do not
judge, or you too will be
judged."

The tension rises.

GIOVANNA
 Mmm. And Matthew 22:39 to you
 as well... am I right?

CHRISTY
 (under her breath) You must
 love your neighbor as you
 love yourself, *princess*.

JESSICA
 So true, but, always remember,
 Romans 12:17.

Alicia pulls out her phone.

ALICIA ROUNDERNECK
 Imma need my bible app for this.

Angie, who's been admiring Alicia, goes up to her.

ANGIE
 (whispering)
 What the heck's going on?

ALICIA ROUNDERNECK
 Straight up bible battle.

Angie hovers over Alicia's shoulder whose looking at her
 phone, which reads:

Romans 12:17: "Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Carefully
 consider what is right in the eyes of everybody."

GIOVANNA
 Ah, of course, but your tone
 reminds me, Sirach 25:12.

CHRISTY
 Oh, *bloop!*

Alicia signals to Christy who comes over and whispers:

CHRISTY CROSS
 "Worst of all wounds is that of the
 heart, worst of all evils is that
 of a woman, *henny!*"

Snap, snap!

JESSICA
 (pointedly)
 Ah, well Corinthians 16:13.

Marjorie appears with the girls, and whispers:

MARJORIE

"Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be courageous; be strong... ladies."

Snap, back!

Jason rolls his eyes and goes back into the house as the Jessica and Giovanna get all up in each others' faces.

The girls quickly fill each other in between lightning fast biblical insults:

GIOVANNA
Mark 8:17!

CHRISTY
"You have eyes, can you not see?"

JESSICA
Proverbs 21:19!

MARJORIE
It is better to dwell in the wilderness, then with a contentious and angry woman!"

GIOVANNA
Well, Matthew 18:9 bitch!

ALICIA AND CHRISTY
Gurrrrrrl!!...

ALICIA ROUNDERNECK
...wait which one is that?

CHRISTY
I don't know!

JESSICA
Wow, such a Christian tongue you have!-

ANGIE
-GALATIANS 5:12!!

ALICIA
AGREED, Mama!!

CHRISTY
.. you agree we should be castrated?

ALICIA
-Come again?

ANGIE
-ALL of you!!

A Beat.

JESSICA

You shouldn't use The Bible as a
weapon.

GIOVANNA

I'm using it as a shield.

The response gives Jessica pause. Giovanna shakes her head
and turns to leave.

GIOVANNA (CONT'D)

(To Jessica)

Good chat..

Giovanna turns to leave.

GIOVANNA (CONT'D)

...and remember Proverbs 26:11! Bye
now!

ALICIA

"As a dog returns to its vomit so a
fool repeats her folly, gurr!"

JESSICA

That's *disgusting*.

ANGIE

Really Jess? Gouging eyes and
castration is okay but...

CHRISTY

..dog vomit is a shield? Really
Gi'?

The girls get in the car and leave Jessica standing there.
Marjorie and Angie retreat to the house.

Then, as she reflects on Giovanna's undeniable biblical
knowledge, she says to herself,

JESSICA

Respect.

INT. GIOVANNA AND JEFFREY'S PLACE - LATER THAT MORNING

Giovanna walks in exhausted. She sees JEFFREY, standing there
with some packed suitcases.

GIOVANNA

What.. what is this?

JEFFREY

I love you Gee... so much, but..

GIOVANNA

What are you saying? Jeffrey, you don't understand-

JEFFREY

.. I just can't keep doing this.

GIOVANNA

Wait wait wait, babe.. you don't understand, Jessica's not even a w-

JEFFREY

-See? You don't even get it. I don't want to hear about Jessica.

He reaches into his bag.

GIOVANNA

No but the reason she hates me-

JEFFREY

-I don't care!

Jeffrey throws a file folder on to the counter in front of her. Papers from it fly around.

Giovanna is stunned.

JEFFREY (CONT'D)

I'm leaving first thing in the morning. Let me know when you this all figured out.

Jeffrey exits the room.

Giovanna starts picking up the letters. Her face shows the shock of what she reads.

She walks into the living room, and plops down on the couch, emotionally defeated.

INT. GIOVANNA'S LIVING ROOM - THAT SAME EVENING

Giovanna, still devastated, as if she hasn't moved from her spot in a year, checks her phone. Nothing. She decides to text Alicia: "Jeffrey Left."

Just as she sends it, she sees the women packing into Jessica's house for their weekly Neighborhood Caring Night.

She erupts off the couch, goes upstairs to put on an outfit and marches on over.

INT. DANCE CLUB BACK STAGE - NIGHT

Alicia is at her area getting ready. Her phone buzzes and she picks it up and reads the text.

ALICIA ROUNDERNECK
Oh, what? No honey..

She immediately calls Jeffrey.

ALICIA ROUNDERNECK (CONT) (CONT'D)
(to herself) This bitch... I am so
Vida Boheme, pickin up all her
pieces... (to Jeffrey in the phone)
Hey papa, we need to talk.

INT. JESSICA'S LIVING ROOM

The cheese plates are set out, the chairs are all set in the meeting circle and the women are all chatting with each other. People seem gleeful.

JESSICA
Okay girls! Everyone take your
seats we have a big night ahead of
us.

Just as everyone sits, BOOM! The door bursts open.

GIOVANNA
I have something to say.

JESSICA
Well this is NOT the way to-

ANGIE
-Oh shut up JESS!

The room goes silent.

GIOVANNA
I have tried to get along with you.
I have worked my whole life to fit
in with people like you. To just,
share a freakin' recipe or talk
about minivans. But...you win.. I
give up.

She takes off her wig, defeated.

GIOVANNA (CONT'D)

I can't live in a place where people don't see me, but see some walking sin. Don't you get it? God made me this way. Maybe he made me this way for you to learn something? And I know I am defensive, I realize that now. But...truthfully, all I ever wanted was just... to be a nice neighbor, in a nice neighborhood, where people would maybe look at our house and say, we love those guys. And we would maybe look at your house and say, we love those guys, and maybe.. I don't know we'd borrow some sugar or play bridge.

Giovanna looks around the room, taking in the camaraderie of the women in the room..

GIOVANNA (CONT) (CONT'D)

I just wanted... this. What you all have. This.

Giovanna starts to cry.

GIOVANNA (CONT) (CONT'D)

I'm sorry for interrupting. I don't know why I even came.

JESSICA

Thanks for stopping by.

Giovanna stops. Burns Jessica with a stare.

GIOVANNA

Oh, and by the way, your dead husband says hello. Yeah, he's still alive. Her name is Autumn, and she's more of a woman than you'll ever be. And I mean you're right, *he* died, but *she* didn't. You threw her away 'cause, no offense ladies, but you've got a bad habit of throwing away the best women.

ANGIE

Preach! Jesus loves you Jessica, but why do you have to be such a bitch?

She leaves. Angie runs out after her. Leaving a moment of total awkwardness. Then Marjorie pops out from the kitchen.

MARJORIE

Ladies horrible news, we are completely out of swiss cheese cubes! ...(feeling the awkwardness in the room) I really didn't think you all would take it this hard.

EXT. OUTSIDE JESSICA'S APARTMENT - NIGHT MOMENTS LATER

Angie jogs towards Giovanna.

ANGIE

Giovanna, wait....wait.

Giovanna turns around.

ANGIE (CONT'D)

Giovanna. I could slap myself across the face for not slapping every single one of those ladies across the face, for the way have been emotionally slapping you across the face.

Angie hugs Giovanna.

GIOVANNA

Jeffrey's leaving.

ANGIE

What? ... Oh my word. Come here baby. I'm so, so sorry.

GIOVANNA

I just don't understand. If you're out here, why did you write those letters?

ANGIE

What letters?

GIOVANNA

To Jeffrey's boss. He's been suspended and blames me.

ANGIE

What?

INT. JESSICA'S HOUSE - DAY

Jessica is helping Jason with his homework.

JESSICA
..and how many times to 3 go into
6?

JASON
Mom.

JESSICA
What?

JASON
Why are you helping me so much?

JESSICA
What do you mean? I .. I want you
to do well. I want to help you.

JASON
I'm doing well, I appreciate your
help mom.

JESSICA
Well.. good. I enjoy it. It's a
good brush-up for me to...you know,
learn the fundamentals of basic
math.

JASON
Thanks mom.

He looks at her.

JASON (CONT'D)
Is everything okay?

JESSICA
With me? Don't be ridiculous Jason,
is everything okay with you?

JASON
I'm fine mom.

JESSICA
Because you can tell me if anyone
at school is bothering you or if
you don't know how to talk about
something I can help-

JASON
-Mom. I'm doing fine.

JESSICA
But football camp.

JASON
I promise. I'm okay.

She embraces him.

JESSICA
I just love you so much, baba, you
know that and I just wish-...

JASON
I know mom. I love you too. I'm
fine- I'm.. I'm great. Okay?

JESSICA
Okay.

Angie suddenly appears.

ANGIE
We have to talk.

Jessica knows.

JESSICA
(To Jason)
Honey, take a break in your room so
I can talk to Angie, okay?

Jason leaves the room.

ANGIE
You're out of control, Jess.

JESSICA
I'm out of control! That person
over there literally drugged me!-

ANGIE
-Oh please, you talked to Jesus,
you had the damn time of your life.
And honestly, Jessica, way too far
this time. It's one thing to put
laxatives in her cookies-

JESSICA
-that was an accident-

ANGIE
-and the complaint letters to
Jeffrey's boss, getting him
suspended. Was that an accident?

JASON
What?

JESSICA

Jason! I told you to give us time to talk.

JASON

You got Jeffrey suspended from his work? Mom! Giovanna and Jeffrey are the best next door neighbors we've ever had. How could you do that? What is wrong with you??

He runs out of the room.

JESSICA

Jason! Honey, you don't understand!

The SLAM! of the bedroom door claps Jessica's temples.

ANGIE

How dare you put my name on one of those letters. They're nice people Jessica. Just because they want, you know, a little say over their own goddamn -scuse me Jesus- garden doesn't make them misfits. They're nice people.

The two women look at each other. Jessica knows Angie's right. Angie shakes her head and leaves.

INT. JESSICA'S LIVING ROOM - THE FOLLOWING DAY

Jessica watches Jeffrey leave through her blinds. Her face is filled with shame and regret.

An emotionally somber MONTAGE of the next several days is seen, which includes:

- Autumn looking over at Giovanna's empty backstage chair,
- Jessica drinking mid-day red wine in her pajamas,
- Danny slouched in front of the TV,
- Jeffrey showing up at a friend's house with his suit cases,
- Jessica remembering Giovanna working on her garden; give her son money; the excited faces of the people seeing her ensemble at the pool.
- Jason sneaking into his mom's purse, and pulling out the flyer of the place where his dad works.

- Autumn somberly walking with her brother-in-law, Baseball Hat Guy at night after work,
- A "For Sale" sign going up in Danny and Jeffrey's front yard.

INT. DANNY'S FRONT DOOR

A knock is heard at Danny's door. Danny opens it to see an emotional Jessica standing there. They stare at each other.

JESSICA

Can I come in?

INT. DANNY'S LIVING ROOM

Jessica is sitting, Danny puts two coffees on the table in front of them and sits with his arms and legs crossed.

JESSICA

Thank you. Wait, this doesn't have any hallucinogens in it, does it?

DANNY

No, but it is a natural laxative
(he winks)

Jessica uneasily chuckles, then puts the cup down without drinking it.

DANNY (CONT'D)

I have to get ready for work pretty soon.

JESSICA

Right... so...The other night... 14 years ago, I got married and it was the happiest day of my life. Picturesque and perfect. In our church actually. About 8 years ago I came home to my husband ...wearing my clothes. It was confusing. I ignored it. But it happened again. At first he played it off and I just kept trying to ignore it, but he kept getting more courageous I guess. In the beginning I... I stood by him - it felt like the right thing to do, but it, it didn't work. I could feel myself losing him.

(MORE)

JESSICA (CONT'D)

On top of that I didn't know who to talk to about it. So I started fighting it, fighting him. And I put up a good fight-well, you know...and then...one night, I...I found him, in the bathtub, blood all over, almost dead. He had...

She motions an imaginary razor over her wrists.

GIOVANNA

Oh my god.

JESSICA

I couldn't believe he would do this to himself. We have a child for goodness sakes.

GIOVANNA

Jessica, I'm so sorry.

JESSICA

It was the worst day of my life. I have nightmares about it. I'm a god-fearing christian. He was a christian. But that night I thought I'd lost him.

GIOVANNA

But he didn't die, he's still here.

JESSICA

But I did lose him. Matthew. Like you said the other night. Matthew died that night.

GIOVANNA

Right. But Autumn was there the whole time. And I'm telling you Autumn is freaking amazing.

JESSICA

It's very difficult for me to understand. And now.. I am just so frightened about my Jason. I don't know what I would do if he ever hurt himself that way.

GIOVANNA

I had no idea.

JESSICA

How could you?

GIOVANNA

He's a fantastic kid, Jessica.
 (beat) How about, you and I make a
 pact to stop 'doing' to each other
 and let it just be...just let go
 and let God...oh my god, did I
 seriously just say that?

JESSICA

You're right. It's the most
 Christian thing to do. I've been
 holding on tight, and...I need to
 let go.

GIOVANNA

Yes. And, ugh, me too.

They hug. Then,

JESSICA

You know, you are gorgeous. Even in
 TJ Maxx.

GIOVANNA

You're gorgeous. Even with 4-dollar
 eye shadow.

JESSICA

Giovanna I am so, so sorry.

GIOVANNA

Danny.

JESSICA

Sorry, Danny. I just didn't want
 you to think-

GIOVANNA

-I'm sorry too honey. I can be such
 a bitch.

JESSICA

Yes you can.

They both laugh.

DANNY

But so can you.

JESSICA

Yes I can. Except in my case I
 guess now called a "Karen."

They both laugh again.

DANNY

Well I've realized something, miss Karen...

JESSICA

What's that?

DANNY

...You know what a 'Karen' really is? It's a generation of women who were raised to believe their voices and their needs are as valuable as a man's. Put a Karen in a man's body and you know what you've got? ...A man!

JESSICA

Dang right, honey!

She sassily snaps. Danny politely grabs her hand out of the air.

DANNY

I don't think we're there yet. But, my sister's a Karen and she's the one who taught me how to stand up for myself. How do I think I became just a loud mouth drag Kuaren!

JESSICA

Okllelelele-

DANNY

-nope. Nonono, too early, girl.

JESSICA

I think I almost had it-

DANNY

-No. Let's stick with your strengths for now, like evil stares and whatnot.

They chuckle.

JESSICA

Thank you, Danny. I should get back. Jason probably needs to eat AGAIN or something.

DANNY

Oh to have the metabolism of a preenager again.

JESSICA

To be fair, he's been in his room all day. He's not too happy with me right now.

DANNY

Ah.. well, kids. They get over things.

JESSICA

Yeah.

They walk toward the door.

INT. JESSICA'S HOUSE - OUTSIDE JASON'S BEDROOM DOOR

Jessica has come into the house and is standing outside Jason's bedroom door. She knocks respectfully.

JESSICA

Jason? Honey? Are you ever gonna come out of there? ... I talked to Giovanna. We just had a really, great conversation. ...We are gonna try to be friends. Honey? I'm so sorry. The last thing I ever, ever wanted to do was disappoint you.

She hesitates. Then tries the doorknob.

JESSICA (CONT'D)

Jay? Can I come in? I'm just worried-

The room is empty. The window is open.

JESSICA (CONT'D)

Jason! Shit! JASON!

She runs to the window.

EXT. GIOVANNA AND JEFFREY'S FRONT DOOR

Jessica is furiously ringing the doorbell until Giovanna, dressed for work, answers.

JESSICA

Jason's missing!

GIOVANNA

What?!?

JESSICA

The last thing he screamed at me
was he wished I was more like his-
... I think I know where he is.

INT. CITY BUS

Jason is on the city bus looking out the window.

INT. JESSICA'S CAR

Jessica pulls her car onto a freeway. Concerned looks on both
their faces.

INT. CITY BUS

Jason pulls the "stop" string on the bus.

INT. JESSICA'S CAR

The car speeds through busy city streets.

EXT. CITY SIDEWALK

Jason steps out of a bus. It's getting dark. He looks up at a
sign that reads, "The Queens Cathedral" He walks towards the
front door.

INT. JESSICA'S CAR

Jessica is now on the phone at the tail end of a
conversation.

JESSICA

...thank you.

She hangs up the phone, shoots Giovanna a confirming look,
and keeps driving.

EXT. THE QUEENS CATHEDRAL

Jason is talking to the CLUB BOUNCER standing in front of an
empty sidewalk lined with velvet rope.

CLUB BOUNCER

Sorry little buddy, there's no way.

JASON

I'm not gonna like, get a drink or something. I just need to speak to someone.

CLUB BOUNCER

Who you got business with in here little man?

JASON

It's complicated.

Just then, Baseball Hat Guy comes out.

BASEBALL HAT GUY

Jason?

JASON

Uncle Leo!

BASEBALL HAT GUY

Hey Kiddo.. what'r ya doin' here?

He signals an "I got this" look to the Bouncer, and walks into the empty club with the boy.

INT. DANCE CLUB - LATE AFTERNOON

Inside the club, the bright lights glow a pre-opened atmosphere as the bartender is refilling his fridge for the night.

Jason and his uncle walk to an empty table.

BASEBALL HAT GUY

Teddy, can you grab us a couple waters?

BARTENDER

Sure boss.

JASON

You're his boss?

BASEBALL HAT GUY

Nono, it's just a nickname.

JASON

Cool, how did you get that nickname?

BASEBALL HAT GUY

No, he just probably doesn't
remember my name, I don't work here
I'm just here a lot, but it doesn't
matter...

One of the drag queens comes rushes in, but is jarred at the
sight of Jason..

DRAG QUEEN

Gurl these queens are gettin'
young!

..then continues to the back.

BASEBALL HAT GUY (CONT)

...what matters is, what in the
world are you doing here little
buddy? Does your mom know you're
here?

Jason shakes his head.

BASEBALL HAT GUY (CONT'D)

Does your.. Dad? Know? You're here?

Jason's face tenses in emotion.

JASON

I really, really miss my dad. I
don't know why, but my mom won't
let me see him for over a yearI
miss him so freakin' much.

Jason starts crying.

JASON (CONT'D)

Why can't I see him anymore? He's a
woman I guess now but why can't he
still be my dad, or, I dunno, my
other mom? I don't understand. He
was in so much pain last time I saw
him, and my mom... my mom... she,
she won't even barely let me talk
about him. And I just want to see
him. I don't even know if he's
okay.

BASEBALL HAT GUY

Wow, Jason. I just.. I had no idea.

JASON

But why am I being punished?

Something behind Jason catches Baseball Hat Guy's eye. Jason turns around. Autumn is standing there.

JASON (CONT'D)

DAD!!!

He runs over and hugs her practically knocking her over. He holds her tight.

JASON (CONT'D)

I miss you so much dad. I miss you so much.

AUTUMN

I miss you too Mister. I miss you too.

She's holding back tears. Just then, Jessica and Giovanna burst in. Jessica sees Autumn. Autumn subtly shrugs at her as if to say, "I'm as shocked as you are!"

Giovanna nudges Jessica with her elbow. "Get over there" She says with her eyes, until Jessica walks over and joins in the hug.

JASON

Dad what's your new name? You, you look really nice, you look so comfortable and I love your hair.

Autumn can't stop crying.

JASON (CONT'D)

Are you okay dad?

Jason grabs her hand and takes her to a table. He studies her.

JASON (CONT'D)

Dad, I want to know all your new stuff like your hair and whatever. I've missed all your new stuff and I'm really sorry. I wish I could be there for you.

AUTUMN

Jason, I'm so sorry. I... I was just so, scared.

JASON

Of mom?

The camera catches a frightened shock in Jessica's eyes.

AUTUMN

No kiddo, I was just scared of ...
I don't even know.

JASON

I wish I could have been there for
you when you were scared dad. You
are the best dad and I really,
really miss you.

AUTUMN

Autumn. My name is Autumn.

JASON

Autumn! Uncle Leo! My dad's name is
Autumn like my cat! Remember when I
was a kid and I loved the name
Autumn?

He suddenly realizes his mom and Giovanna are there. and that
he should be in big trouble. Luckily, his mom smiles.

JESSICA

It's a beautiful name, right kiddo?

JASON

Yeah. (to Autumn) Dad, I'm doing
really good at football. I'm the
quarterback now. Remember you said
I was good? I've gotten better.
Uncle Leo and me have been
practicing. We've won the last 5
games in a row and we would've won
the one before that but this guy
Buster Jenkins, rolled his ankle
right before we started the
game....

Jason goes on as the camera now focuses on Giovanna and
Jessica, now both standing with BaseBall Hat Guy.

GIOVANNA

Kids these days, huh?

BASEBALL HAT GUY

Right? (Sarcastically) So much to
explain!

GIOVANNA

Speaking of explaining things, why
do you always wear a baseball hat
with the bill so low over your
shadowy face, weirdo?

BASEBALL HAT GUY

How else am I gonna maintain my
pervy ass vibe?

GIOVANNA

Hmm, you could hang out at clubs
way before they're supposed to
open? Oh! Check that one off the
list-

Giovanna notices Jessica looks upset.

GIOVANNA (CONT'D)

Honey, you okay?

JESSICA

I'm a terrible mother.

GIOVANNA

No. No, Jessica. There's no way in
gay hell that boy over there...
That amazing, compassionate, sweet,
talented, incredible boy over there
was raised by a terrible mother.
You are a terrible neighbor. Sorry,
this isn't the time to joke. You
were being the best mother you
could be, with the information you
had. And frankly, I never, ever
thought I'd say this, but you and I
are a whole lot a like babe.
Stubborn as hell, Jesus fearin, and
FREAKIN' GORGEOUS.

Giovanna grabs her and hugs her tight.

JESSICA

Good point....you have better hair
than I do though.

GIOVANNA

Well of course honey, let's not get
crazy.

They chuckle. Then Jeffrey walks in,

JEFFREY

Knock-knock?

Giovanna and Jeffrey lock eyes.

GIOVANNA

Jeffrey!

JEFFREY

Hey Gi'.

She walks over to him in the doorway.

GIOVANNA

It's good to see you.

Jessica walks over.

JESSICA

Jeffrey, I....I just want to say...
I am so, so sorry. I am absolutely
mortified with my behavior.

JEFFREY

Well, I appreciate that Jessica,
and honestly I'm not crazy about
our first impressions either. But I
must say, as disheartening as it
was, those letters, all thirty of
those letters, were actually really
well written and well thought-out,
I was impressed. Well, I mean I was
super bummed, but, then I was
impressed.

JESSICA

Well, again I apologize profusely.
And also, thank you! That's so
kind! But of course, also I
apologize.

Jessica steals a quick hug from Giovanna before disappearing.
Jason comes up.

JASON

Miss Giovanna my dad's name is
Autumn and he says you gave her the
coolest wig and she made tons of
money is that true?? You are so
awesome, thank you so MUCH! My dad
is such a good singer, we used to
go to this one restaurant- dad!
Dad! Show Giovanna how good of a
singer you are!

He goes back to the table with his dad.

AUTUMN

She's heard me sing a few times,
Jay. But you'll have to come over
and we'll have Karaoke like the old
days.

JASON

Mom! Dad says I can come over and do Karaoke, okay? Dad, can I call you mom when mom's not around? I can't believe I sorta have two moms! Uncle Leo, do you know anyone else with two moms? Are there any famous quarterbacks with two moms?

BASEBALL HAT GUY

I don't... think so, you'll have to be the first, bud.

EXT. OUTSIDE A CORPORATE OFFICE

Autumn is in a stunning business suit and her hair is freshly curled. Danny is rubbing lint off her shoulders and arms.

AUTUMN

Danny, I just realized, I forgot my resume-

DANNY

Shut it, just get in there.

AUTUMN

I need my resume.

DANNY

You worked here for over ten years.

AUTUMN

Ugh, but what if Barbara Bellini's there? She was awful to me in early transition.

DANNY

Well her parents named her Barbara so she was destined to be horrible.

AUTUMN

That doesn't change the fact that I forgot my resume.

DANNY

You don't need a resume, you need to grow a pair of-...you know what? Better yet, breasts out!

AUTUMN

What?

DANNY

You heard me. Breasts out! Breasts out! And if Barbara Baloney or whatever is in there I want you to walk straight up to her and slap her with your breasts...

Autumn waits for him to finish his sentence.

DANNY (CONT'D)

That's it. Slap her with your breasts, each one across her stupid face, now get in there.

She twirls Autumn around and pushes her towards the door.

AUTUMN

(lightheartedly)

You know my breasts are barely in yet, right?

DANNY

No more excuses! 'forgot my resume,' 'forgot my breasts,' Get in there. Go!

INT. CORPORATE OFFICE - DAY - A TIME LATER

Autumn opens the door. A woman walks up to greet her. Of all the people in the world, after all this time has passed, it's *Barbara*.

BARBARA

Hi, welcome to G&C, I'll be right with y-... Wait... Is that..?

Autumn, at first stunned, then turns to Barbara, looks her dead in the eye and pops her chest out.

AUTUMN

My name is Autumn Sunrise.

Then offers a handshake. A tense beat.

BARBARA

It's nice to see you Autumn.

Then, Barbara forces a hug through Autumns extended hand. Autumn is stunned.

BARBARA (CONT'D)

I'm so sorry for the way I treated you. I didn't understand.

She pulls away.

BARBARA (CONT'D)
I'm really glad you're okay.

EXT. OUTSIDE THE CORPORATE OFFICE - DAY

Danny is watching Autumn get hugged through the window.

DANNY
Slap her in the face with your
boobs! Slap her in the face with
your boobs! Ugh, It was too perfect
and she didn't try, I'm so mad.
Just when you think your work is
done.

Danny sits in the moment, proud of his friend. Then walks
away.

INT. JEFFREY'S OFFICE - DAY

His boss comes in while he's in his office.

JEFFREY'S BOSS
Welcome back, Jeffrey.

JEFFREY
Thanks!

JEFFREY'S BOSS
What's your new assistant's name
again?

JEFFREY
Jessica.

JEFF'S BOSS
Jessica, she's good!

EXT. BUS STOP - WEEKS LATER

Jason is standing on the side of a football field in his
gear. Jessica walks over with an envelope.

JESSICA
Jason, are you sure you want to go
to football camp?

JASON
Yes, mom.

JESSICA

Okay, because if you feel..
inside.. like dad-.. like Autumn, I
fully support you, in all the ways
that, I can-

JASON

Okay, simmer down mom, (rolling his
eyes) I'll let you know, but for
now I'm very comfortable in my
skin.

JESSICA

Okay.

She hugs him, then hands him the envelope with the money.

JASON

Thank you Danny!! ...

Danny is sitting in the bleachers and waves back happily.
Autumn is sitting with him.

JASON (CONT'D)

...Hi mom!!

FOOTBALL PLAYER

I thought that was your mom.

A fellow teammate points to Jessica.

JASON

That's my other mom.

FOOTBALL PLAYER

Oh.

CUT TO:

EXT. BLEACHERS

AUTUMN

You know you don't have to pay for
camp. I can pay for it.

DANNY

Blah blah she gets her fancy boring
accounting job back and now she's
throwing around her money and
prestige like she's Caitlyn Jenner.

AUTUMN

I still can't believe that I,
Autumn Sunrise, confident
transgender woman, get to work at
an accounting office.

DANNY

You're so weird.

AUTUMN

I love my job.

DANNY

Well I'm glad I could help you be
that boring waspy tax lady you
always imagined you'd be.

AUTUMN

I'm not a tax accountant, but,
really, you don't have to pay for
this.

DANNY

Um, how else am I supposed to earn
"Auntie" status? I don't know how
to catch a football, so back off
betty, I got this.

Autumn laughs.

AUTUMN

You are my flippin hero.

DANNY

I know.

AUTUMN

It's your humility mostly.

DANNY

I know.

The girls giggle.

DANNY (CONT'D)

I do need you for one more little
gig at the club though.

AUTUMN

Oh lord.

INT. DANCE CLUB - NIGHT

Giovanna is dolled up in a major outfit in the wings of the stage.

GIOVANNA
Are you ready?

The camera slides over to see Autumn in a major outfit.

AUTUMN
I'm ready. (Turns her head) Are you ready?

The camera slides over to see Jessica in a major outfit.

JESSICA
I'm ready. (Turns her head) Are you ready?

The camera slides over to see Jason in a major outfit.

JASON
Oh yeah, I was born ready.

The club falls silent. Then.... A beat from Todrick Hall's "Nails, Hair, Hips, Heels", drag anthem starts from black screen.

FADE IN - from blurry to slow focus we see a hand first posed, then as the camera zooms back we see a boy, hair in kid-like pony tails, on stage, with a triangle of backup dancers including Giovanna, Jessica, Autumn, Jeffrey, Angie, Marjorie, Alicia, Christy, and Baseball Hat Guy, Poppin', snappin', and struttin' the Todrick Hall Choreography to an explosive crowd.

While the song rolls, we also CUT TO:

A montage of:

INT. JESSICA'S HOUSE

The girls getting ready for Neighborhood Caring Night with Giovanna there, hosting, pointing to a dry erase board that says, "Announcing! Our New Name, The Karen Patrol!" And all the girls laughing.

INT. GIOVANNA'S HOUSE FRONT DOOR

Angie and Giovanna open the door, and Jessica is pointing to a measuring cup she's holding as if asking for sugar.

Giovanna gasps with gratitude, then slams the door in her face.

Jessica comes around back, where Giovanna throws a bag of sugar out the window to her and they all laugh with each other.

Jeffrey is seen sitting in the chair, shaking his head, but chuckling at the shenanigans.

EXT. THE BENCH NEAR THE DUMPSTERS

Angie, Marjorie, and Giovanna are drinking wine, laughing, and clinking glasses. Jeffrey is on the bench asleep.

EXT. MARJORIE'S FRONT YARD

Jessica and Giovanna sneak the "For Sale" sign up on her lawn, ring her doorbell, then wait in the nearby bushes for her to answer and see the sign. She sees it and the girls run away laughing.

Then CUT BACK:

INT. DANCE CLUB NIGHT

The end of the routine, flips and twists to a final stance to Todrick's last line: "That's all, ahahahahaha"

The house erupts.

END

The credits roll.

INT. BREAK ROOM OF A CLOTHING STORE

George sits at the break room table with a paper bag. He takes out a chicken sandwich and opens the paper. He looks down at the sandwich which is below camera.

GEORGE

What the fuck!?!

It's Jesus.

JESUS

Stop selling drugs, George!

END