

**I'M NAKED. WHAT NOW?**

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FADE IN:

**EXT. BLACK ROCK DESERT - AFTERNOON**

A van, tyres roll on SANDY GRAVEL, a song PLAYS on the radio.

ALEX JEN  
STOOOOP THE FUCKING CAR!!!! STOOP THE FUCKING CAR!!!!

The van BRAKES, sliding over the GRAVEL creating a cloud of dust that makes the van disappear behind it.

The screaming voices SLOW DOWN: into a weird sound, a GROWL.

**INT. VAN - AFTERNOON**

In A CRAZY SLOW MOTION, ON ALEX: 22, cool brunette with curly hair, dust in her teeth, she has a bewildered expression as she throws punches at the DRIVER:

ALEX (V.O.)  
That's me, Alex, short for  
Alexandra Liss, and I'm pretending  
to be upset the day after I've  
graduated from Law School.

ON JEN: a 22-year-old blonde with blue eyes and short hair, almost crying, she tries to punch the Driver, dust flies everywhere.

ALEX (V.O.)  
And that's Jen! She's probably  
genuinely upset in there, she's a  
childhood friend and the privileged  
one. -- We're both supposed to  
start working in her dad's firm  
tomorrow.

THE CRAZY SLOW MOTION: continues, a few hands come out of the cloud and he attempts to avoid them. This continues for a few beats. HAIR mixed with dust, CLOTHES FLAPPING:

ALEX (V.O.)  
But how did we end up in here?  
Throwing punches like kung fu  
masters...

**INT. RENO HOTEL - ROOM - MORNING (HOURS EARLIER)**

SUPER: "Hours earlier"

A BLURRED IMAGE: of a hotel room, bodies all around.

IMAGE STARTS TO FOCUS, revealing SEVERAL-20s-KIDS, half-naked, laying on the top of each other in one bed. A real mess. We hear a mobile VIBRATING.

SUPER: "I'm Naked. What Now?"

Alex's sleeping on a couch:

SUPER: "Inspired by Alex's travels".

ALEX (V.O.)  
Earlier that morning, my brain  
tried to talk to Alex but I didn't  
have the capacity to process  
anything.

ON THE FLOOR: against the couch is Jen, sleeping. We hear the mobile VIBRATING again. ON ALEX:

ALEX (V.O.)  
Oh my god, the bed must have fleas,  
I think.  
(scratching her leg)  
Ew! It wouldn't stop biting me.

A mobile VIBRATES inside her pocket. Alex, with her eyes closed, reaches for her mobile.

ALEX (V.O.)  
Until I realised my mobile was  
exploding into a chorus of  
notifications.

MOBILE SCREEN: dozens of social media notifications. She opens the notifications:

PHOTO of Alex and Several-20s-Kids singing karaoke; PHOTO of Alex surfing on a restaurant chair; PHOTO of Alex next to Jen in the back of a van drunk, wild, both screaming; PHOTO of her under the sign "Reno THE BIGGEST LITTLE CITY IN THE WORLD".

ALEX (V.O.)  
Oh... My... God. What had we been  
doing? I remembered our graduation  
party, but what was all of this?

PHOTO of CHRIS, a gorgeous tattooed man posing for the photo; PHOTO, selfie of Chris and Alex.

ALEX  
Oh my god, who is this guy?

Alex keeps sliding through photos on her mobile.

ALEX (V.O.)  
My mother would hate him, I already  
loved him...

We hear a firm KNOCK on the door. She jumps, scared.

ALEX (V.O.)  
And then I panicked.

POLICE (O.S.)  
Police! Open this door. Now!

She searches around for help, everyone is asleep.

A MORE INTENSE KNOCK on the door.

POLICE (O.S) (CONT'D)  
Open up!

Some of the Several-20s-Kids start to move. Kick each other's faces. They start to wake up, some GRUMBLE, they're confused.

JEN also wakes up, with her eyes opening:

JEN  
Oh my god, where are we? Everything  
is spinning in here.

ALEX  
I think we're in Reno.

JEN  
Reno? How?

ALEX  
SHHHH!

JEN  
Shh what?...

POLICE (O.S)  
(PUNCHING the door)  
Police! Open this door, now! I know  
you're in there.

Several-20s-Kids, realizing it's the police, run nervously to the toilet to FLUSH their stash. There's a nervous queue, a few more FLUSHES. Alex stalls him:

ALEX  
What do you want us to open up? --  
What have we done?

A beat.

POLICE

Miss! I will count to three. If you  
don't open this door by then, I  
will take it down, I swear to god! -  
- Oooone... Twooooo...

Alex jumps towards the door and opens it:

BRIAN, police hat and bare chest, he's the Driver we've seen  
before. She's distracted by his abs.

BRIAN

I need you to come with me... now!

ALEX

What have I done?  
(recognizing him now)  
Heeeey!! Brian!?

BRIAN

Hey!

He goes inside, the flushers moan as they go back to sleep  
and Brian picks up a t-shirt from the pile of clothes, it has  
a fake tie printed on it. Showing it to Alex:

BRIAN (CONT'D)

You want to come with me?

ALEX

Back to San Francisco?

BRIAN

(dressing in the t-shirt)  
Nope, Burning Man!

JEN

Who's going to get burned?

**INT./EXT. VAN - AFTERNOON (DRIVING)**

ON ALEX: sleeping. The van hits a BUMP, this makes her open  
her eyes, just about.

POV OF ALEX: narrow vision, looking at the desert through the  
window.

ALEX (V.O.)

I know I was hung over, so maybe  
that was all just a dream, but...  
(MORE)

ALEX (V.O.) (CONT'D)  
 Since dreams have no smell or  
 vibration, this could only mean one  
 thing, I was really awake!

Eyes wide open, an unsure expression, she turns to Jen and  
 SHAKES her.

ALEX  
 Hey Jen, Jen? Jen! Wake up... Wake  
 up now!

JEN  
 What, what? What happened? Are we  
 there yet?

ALEX  
 We're definitely not there yet,  
 (points outside)  
 look!

JEN'S EYES: Yellow reflection. A beat. She gets it:

JEN  
 Ooh shit, noo! Whatafuck, again?  
 Where are we? We need to be in San  
 Francisco.

ALEX  
 I'm not sure... Maybe he took us to  
 the Burning Man thing?

JEN  
 So there's a man burning?

They look at Brian, suspicious. A beat to sink in...

ALEX  
 You mother-fuckkk....

They SCREAM:

ALEX (CONT'D)	JEN
STOOOOP THE FUCKING CAR!!!!	STOOOOP THE FUCKING CAR!!!!

Alex throws, as hard as possible, a few quick PUNCHES at him.  
 He BRAKES suddenly.

DUST FILLS THE VAN: Same as before. Repetition of the early  
 punches but at a NORMAL SPEED,

BRIAN  
 Are you crazy? I'm fucking driving!  
 And this is not a car!

JEN

No you're not driving and you are a fucking asshole! Why did you lie to us? How are we gonna get to New York tomorrow you piece of shit...

Brian defends himself from Jen's misguided punch attempts, she's almost crying.

BRIAN

Why do you need to be there tomorrow? You've just graduated.

JEN

It's our first day at work, at my dad's law firm.  
(a beat to think)  
Oh my god, he's gonna kill me.

BRIAN

(smiling)  
No he's not and you're definitely not gonna be there tomorrow either, so just relax will ya? You'll love it.

ON JEN AND ALEX: Staring at each other in disbelief. Jen makes an ANGRY SOUND, then quickly tries to recompose herself with breathing techniques.

Brian slowly continues on his way. Jen throws a chewing gum in her mouth as she looks out the window, still trying to breathe normally.

Alex takes the opportunity and starts to make A SELFIE VIDEO:

ALEX

Felt like beating him up again but... It would actually be impossible to fly back today and to be honest?  
(whispering to us)  
I'd rather be here, I really never wanted to be a lawyer and I'm not really sure of what I want to be...

Jen's chewing gum balloon POPS. Alex STOPS THE SELFIE VIDEO.  
ON JEN AND ALEX:

JEN

What about my father? I have to tell him something.

ALEX  
Not to worry, sorting that now  
as... we... Speak.

Alex QUICKLY TAPS on her mobile, she's texting Jen's dad.

JEN  
And how do we get back tomorrow?

ALEX  
When we get there we ask for a ride  
to San Francisco and then... Maybe  
catch the red-eye?

JEN  
Love it! Will we make it before the  
end of the workday?

Alex's not sure, Jen POPS another balloon.

ALEX  
Hey Jen? - D'You remember anything  
from last night?

JEN  
Zero. Nothing. Puff. Why?

Alex shows Jen her mobile with photos of her and Chris.

ALEX  
I have no idea who he is but I  
think I fell in love with him last  
night, or today... I'm really not  
sure.

JEN  
Ohhh, that guy!?

ALEX  
So you know who he is?

JEN  
Nooo, sorry, all my short-term  
memory has is the conversation we  
just had.

Van BRAKES quickly making the girls lurch forward.

BRIAN  
Ladies and gentleme... Nevermind,  
Ladies... I present to you... The  
Burning Man.



**EXT. BURNING MAN - AFTERNOON (ESTABLISHING)**

SUPER: "Burning Man"

**EXT. COSTCO SOULMATE TRADING**

PEOPLE QUEUE in front of a large tent.

Alex, covered with dust, gets to the front of the queue where she approaches JARED, a ginger guy talking to ANOTHER-GUY.

ALEX

Hello! Do you know anyone that can  
give us a ride to San Francisco?

JARED

(stopping his  
conversation)

A ride?

He makes an ironic LAUGH then analyzes Alex for a moment.

JARED (CONT'D)

You're not integrated here, you're  
trapped inside yourself and you  
want to get out right?

ALEX

(confused)

Riight.

Jared gets down and draws a small circle with his finger in the sand, then a bigger circle next to it.

JARED

Here is where you are...

(pointing to the small  
circle)

...This is your safety zone circle.

He draws a smile inside the bigger circle.

JARED (CONT'D)

But the real magic happens here.  
Outside your world, in the big  
circle.

(smiling)

Enjoy life!

Alex stares thoughtfully at the smiling circle.

By the tent, the ORACLE, a woman dressed as a messiah sitting on the sand, makes a LOUD sound to call Alex.

JARED (CONT'D)  
Looks like the universe is calling  
you... Go ahead.

She hesitates at first but goes to sit in front of her.

ALEX  
Hi!

ORACLE  
(handing her a pen and  
paper)  
Here! Fill this in.  
You only need your name, date of  
birth and address in Burning Man.

ALEX  
Okay.

She fills it in and gives the paper back to the Oracle, who  
passes it on to her ASSISTANT, 20s girl.

ALEX (CONT'D)  
What now?

ORACLE  
We wait.

The Oracle closes her eyes and starts to MUMBLE WORDS for a  
few moments.

ALEX  
That was quick!?

The Assistant is back and gives a paper back to the Oracle.  
She reads it, then writes in the sand. "Jongee".

ORACLE  
Jongee.

ALEX  
Jongee?

ORACLE  
Jongee, that's your soulmate.  
(handing her the paper)  
You can find him in there. Good  
luck.

She gazes at the paper.

ORACLE (CONT'D)  
Next!

Alex is caught off guard with the quick dismissal and walks awkwardly to where Jen is, she's shaking her head back to Alex, she couldn't find a ride.

Alex gives her an "I want something" kind of look.

CUT TO:

MOMENTS LATER, Jen, arms closed, head looking the other way, she's not convincible.

JEN

NO!

ALEX

Pleeease. I've got to find my  
soulmate.

JEN

Nope, we have to go!

Jen notices the abs of some Hot-Guys passing by, one winks at her.

They flirt with each other. Jen looks at his abs, then his face, alternating until he's out of sight,

JEN (CONT'D)

Okay...

(pulling out her mobile  
and starting to text)

Maybe we could stay!

ALEX

Yes!

Alex jumps to grab her.

# **EXT. JONGEE'S TENT**

They're in front of a tent SHAKING to the sound of sex.

ALEX

It's in there!

JEN

Really? Sounds like...

(a beat)

... This one is taken.

Alex KNOCKS on the tent, with a couple of shakes. A moment after, it UNZIPS.

A BLONDE, naked and holding just a t-shirt to cover herself, puts her head out the opening.

BLONDE  
Can I help?

ALEX  
Hi... Sorry, do you know Jongee?

BLONDE  
No idea! But if you're looking for  
hot guys, I know a few by the  
Spanish Galleon.  
(pointing)  
That way!

She winks and goes back inside the tent. The girls look at each other: it sounds good enough to them. The SEX SOUNDS resume inside.

#### **EXT. SPANISH GALLEON**

A Spanish Galleon, a 10m height ship with wheels, made into a disco parade vehicle.

Chris and a DOZEN-HOT-MEN, look at the UPPER DECK: they all LAUGH at SOMEONE-DANCING, in a silly way.

JEN  
(biting her lips)  
Oh my god, Oh my god,

ALEX  
Oh... my... god...

JEN  
They're so hot, aren't they?

ALEX  
No! I mean, yes, it's not that!  
It's him.  
(pointing to Chris)  
He's the one in the photos.

JEN  
Who? What?

ALEX  
(showing her mobile)  
Look!

PHOTO of Alex and Chris. ON JEN: looks at Chris, then the screen, then back to him. Chris turns around their way.

JEN  
Yep. It's definitely him.

ALEX  
(talking to herself out  
loud)  
I found my soulmate.

He notices her and with a cheeky smile, approaches. Taking off his sunglasses, he asks Alex:

CHRIS  
Do you know my name?

ALEX  
Of course.

CHRIS  
No you don't, I never told you.

ALEX  
(false confidence)  
I'm Alex.

CHRIS  
I know, I'm Chris.

ALEX  
What did we do in Reno?

CHRIS  
Nothing... You were too drunk.

ALEX  
(panicking)  
I can't remember... I don't drink.

CHRIS  
You did that night.

ALEX  
Did we...?

CHRIS  
Did we what...?

ALEX  
You know, if we...

He doesn't answer.

ALEX (CONT'D)  
I'm from New York and living in San Francisco.

CHRIS  
I'm from San Francisco and living  
in New York.

ALEX  
Jongee, is that your Burning Man  
name by any chance??

CHRIS  
Jongee? Sounds like colon pills.

ALEX  
So... you're not Jongee?

CHRIS  
No.

ALEX  
Damn it!

CHRIS  
Why?

ALEX  
Jongee is my soulmate name,  
according to the Oracle.

CHRIS  
Maybe you have more than one  
soulmate, you know?

Chris is looking intensely at her for a moment.

ON ALEX'S EYES: moving down slowly,

ON CHRIS, they're following Chris getting down on his knees.  
He holds her hand.

CHRIS (CONT'D)  
Alex, whatever your last name is,  
Will you marry me?

**INT. STUDIO - CRASH TEST DUMMYS (DREAM SEQUENCE)**

SLOW MOTION: Alex inside a crash test car, two airbags hit  
the sides of her head, eyes close, she GRINDS anticipating:

Airbags IMPACT.

**INT. PHOTOSHOOT STUDIO (DREAM SEQUENCE)**

A grey backdrop, Alex's hair blows in SLOW MOTION, she's sexy and confident, her EYES: glow.

BACK TO:

**EXT. SPANISH GALLEON**

CHRIS

I think we should get married. Now,  
right here, by this mutant vehicle.

ALEX

How?

MATT (O.S.)

I'm an ordained minister.

MATT, young guy dressed as an orthodox monastery monk,  
reaches out to shake Alex's hand.

MATT (CONT'D)

(shaking hands with Alex)

Matt. -- I'm a friend of Chris.

She's in silent, looking at Chris.

ALEX (V.O.)

Faced with such a proposal...

**EXT. DESERT - LOST SPACE - DAY (DREAM SEQUENCE)**

Alex is alone in the desert.

ALEX (V.O.)

... The most I could promise myself  
was...

**INT. LONELY DARK SPACE (DREAM SEQUENCE)**

Alex in a dark place, she's talking to herself:

ALEX

... We could get to know each other  
better and then we would see.

BACK TO:

**EXT. SPANISH GALLEON**

Alex's still lost for a moment, this was clearly not right, and she's about to say no but then flips, she's reassured:

ALEX

Sure!

Alex and Chris get in place, side by side in front of Matt.

Everyone gathers behind them in rows, they pretend to be sitting at a wedding ceremony. Jen sends a WOOHOO!

MATT

We are gathered here today...

**EXT. DESERT - LOST SPACE - DAY (DREAM SEQUENCE)**

Alex is alone with Matt in a vast desert near the Spanish Galleon, she is kneeling and looking at the sand, Matt's hand is on her head.

MATT (O.S.)

...on this Spanish Galleon to join  
these two lives...

We stop hearing Matt's speech as she becomes unaware of everything around her.

BACK TO:

**EXT. SPANISH GALLEON**

Their bodies are glued. They're kissing and grabbing each other passionately. We hear some shy CLAPS.

Matt's slightly confused,

MATT

You may kiss the bride...

CHRIS

(low voice)

You know what?

ALEX

What?



CHRIS  
This was our first kiss.  
(kissing her again)  
Second.

People CLAP to finish the ceremony. More WOOHOOS!

ALEX (V.O.)  
And then the wedding reception...

**INT. PARTY TENT**

Alex dances with Chris under a mirror ball, an improvised one, Jen and Chris' friends all dance to a romantic tune.

ALEX (V.O.)  
It was all, happily ever after,  
right?

CUT TO:

**INT. PARTY TENT (DREAM SEQUENCE)**

Alex is alone, dancing with an invisible pair.

**EXT. DESERT - MORNING (DAYS LATER)**

SUPER: "Days later"

Burning Man. Alex and Chris walk across the desert, beautiful landscape behind them. He stops and holds her hand.

CHRIS  
This is Burning Man's last day and  
I would like us to have a romantic  
dinner, alone. Okay?

Alex has a silly smile,

ALEX  
Okay.

ALEX (V.O.)  
At that moment I would have said  
yes to...

**EXT. DESERT - DAY (DREAM SEQUENCE)**

Chris and Alex walk across the desert in the same place. Same beautiful landscape behind them.

CHRIS  
Let's eat grasshoppers?

ALEX  
Yes.

CHRIS  
Let's eat scorpions?

ALEX  
Fine.

CHRIS  
Let's kill dolphins?

ALEX  
(unsure)  
Sure!

**INT./EXT. SPANISH GALLEON - DUSK/NIGHT**

UPPER DECK: A table for two, meals finished on plastic dishes, candles gone. Alex and Chris hold hands, the sun is about to set and we can hear Spanish Guitars PLAYING.

ALEX (V.O.)  
I was sure that this was the man  
who would always be by my side.

Alex takes A DEEP BREATH IN, then they look deeply into each other's eyes. The FIREWORKS START.

They stand and head to the edge of the Spanish Galleon to watch them, then they start to talk without us hearing:

ALEX (V.O.)  
I felt so very happy that my life  
should have been turned into a  
screensaver. We said that I'd make  
a good living as a lawyer and that  
we would spend unforgettable  
holidays in Jen's house in the  
Hamptons.

The Burning Man statue starts to burn.

ALEX (V.O.)  
At that moment, Disney was probably  
already writing a story based on  
us: The Desert Pocahontas, Beauty  
and the Tattooed Beast, Alex in  
Wonderland.

He looks at her and, keeping eye contact, slowly starts to undress her.

She's shy at first but lets herself go. They slip to the deck floor, OUT OF FRAME.

Statue continues to BURN as we hear SOUNDS OF PLEASURE, and when it reaches its highest flames, we hear Alex having a LOUD ORGASM.

A moment later, she peeks over the edge to see the statue burning, he joins her, he's satisfied and confident.

She kisses him. He gets her back on the deck floor and we hear her GIGGLES.

**INT. SOHO LOFT - MORNING (DREAM SEQUENCE)**

Alex walks inside a beautiful loft, dapped light coming from the huge windows.

ALEX (V.O.)  
I was really excited. Chris and I  
were going to live together in a  
loft in Soho and all, but who...

BACK TO:

**EXT. SPANISH GALLEON**

Burning Man statue is breaking into pieces and the last bits of fire start to disappear.

ALEX (V.O.)  
... The hell invented and they  
lived happily ever after? -- I want  
to know, I want to press charges!

The statue SLOWLY BURNS down INTO:

**BLACK**

We hear the sound of a mobile dial tone ringing and CHRIS'S VOICE MAIL coming up.

**EXT. NEW YORK - MORNING (ESTABLISHING)**

SUPER: "New York"

ALEX (O.S.)  
I flew to New York the day after  
Burning Man was over...

**INT. NEW YORK APARTMENT - ALEX ROOM - MORNING**

Alex walks left to right, she's on the phone, waiting for a call to be picked up.

ALEX (V.O.)  
...while Chris and his friends went  
to Las Vegas.

**INT. VEGAS HOTEL ROOM - MORNING**

Chris, hung over on the bed, speaks into a mobile phone. A VEGAS-WOMAN, with wife beater t-shirt, comes out of the bathroom.

He hangs up the call and grabs the Vegas-Woman.

**INT. SOHO LOFT - DAY (DREAM SEQUENCE)**

She's on the wooden floor of the empty loft. No lights. RAIN outside.

ALEX (V.O.)  
After much insistence, he said that  
he didn't want to live with me,  
that I was boring and that my  
personality needed to travel.  
At that moment my world collapsed.  
(a tear rolls down her  
cheek)  
I had made so many plans with him  
that my thoughts pained me into  
crying a lot. And I mean... A lot!

BACK TO:

**INT. ALEX ROOM**

Alex is on the bed crying. TIME PASSES, DAY to NIGHT and NIGHT to DAY a couple of times.

ALEX (V.O.)  
And after spending many days  
thinking about what he said about  
me being boring, and needing to  
travel, I've made a life changing  
decision.

ALEX-MUM looks through the door, worried about her daughter.

DISSOLVE TO:

**BLACK**

ALEX (V.O.)  
I was going away!

ALEX-MUM  
Where to, honey?

We hear the sound of an AIRPLANE JET TAKING OFF.

**EXT. BANGKOK - DUSK (ESTABLISHING)**

SUPER: "Bangkok"

ALEX (V.O.)  
I would let everyone know online!

**EXT. BANGKOK AIRPORT - DUSK (WEEKS LATER)**

ON ALEX: surrounded by bags, she's at THE ARRIVALS exit,  
she's about to take a selfie when Jen approaches her and  
picks up her bag,

JEN  
So you know where we're sleeping  
tonight?

ALEX  
Yup.

We hear a HORN. ON TAXI-DRIVER: a small man with blond dyed  
hair, with a Kim Kardashian t-shirt. He's in front of his  
taxi, it's pink with lights blinking on the dashboard.

He sticks his arm through the window: HORN. HORN.

TAXI-DRIVER  
American! Tourists. Taxi. Come!

They head over to him. He OPENS the trunk, all smiles, and helps with Jen's bags, then Alex's.

Alex asks him to be in a selfie with them. He awkwardly agrees and she takes it.

She posts it straight away on social media. ON SCREEN: Picture with text "Thailand!!".

Alex starts to go to the door, when a comment from Alex-Mum appears,

"Why Thailand? It's so far away, it's so dirty and dangerous!"

Alex types, "MOOM!?"

JEN

Oh My God. This is gross.

Alex rushes inside while Taxi-Driver CLOSES the trunk. Jen is disgusted by the greasy seats. Taxi-Driver enters.

#### **INT. TAXI - DUSK**

He STARTS the ENGINE and starts to move.

JEN

Does he know where we're heading?

Alex shows him the mobile with directions to their hostel.

ALEX

Here!

He gazes at it quickly.

TAXI-DRIVER

Yes. American. Tourists.

ALEX

(to Jen)

Okay, great. I think we're...

He turns the VOLUME UP over Alex, a bad karaoke of a pop song PLAYS.

BY THE REAR MIRROR: They ignore what he's just done and get themselves into a comfortable position to sleep.

**INT. TAXI - KHAO SAN ROAD - NIGHT**

We hear a BANG at the back. They wake up in distress.

Alex turns round to see through the window A YOUNG-GIRL-DRESSED-AS-PROSTITUTE, grabbed by a DRUNK-OLD-MAN who zig-zags away from the taxi.

JEN

Have we arrived? Are we there?

Taxi-Driver SAYS something, OPENS the door quickly and heads to the trunk.

ALEX

Finally!

**EXT. KHAO SAN ROAD**

He takes the bags out. The girls join him, Alex pays him and he quickly heads back to the taxi door.

TAXI-DRIVER

You. American. Tourists. Thank You  
Kim.

They wave goodbye to him and he DRIVES OFF with his arm out the window waving and LOUD MUSIC PLAYING.

ALEX (V.O.)

At this particular moment...

We hear a mixture of CROWD, FOOD GRILLING and MUSIC playing. Alex with her mobile and Jen with her purse turn around in a silly way to the street. They DROP their bags.

ON THEIR FACES: they're wowed, coloured lights coming from the busy street BLINK over their faces,

ALEX (V.O.)

... I would have to stop time to explain what happened. And I could say...

FOAM PARTICLES fly over their faces as TIME SLOWS DOWN. Foam particles come to a stop:

ALEX (V.O.)

... There were elephants showering people but to be honest, it was quite different. Quite something.

TIME UNFREEZES: 2-ASIAN-PROSTITUTES lean on a wall under the sign "Syn Bar". On the tables, 2-SOAKED-WET-WOMEN dance for 10-YOUNG-MEN and an OLD-PEVERT walks out with a YOUNG-ASIAN.

JEN

Oh... my... god... How are we going to sleep tonight?

ALEX

Don't know...

(a beat)

Let's go and find our hostel!

They turn to a dark building, a broken neon sign: "H stel".

JEN

What's the name of our hostel?

CARTOON MOMENT: This is played as a 2D cartoon, lights blink on her face and eyelashes twitch as she looks at her mobile.

ALEX

(SLOW MOTION)

I dooon't thiink thiiis is our hostel.

JEN (O.S.)

What?

She shakes her head. BACK TO NORMAL:

ALEX

(SLOW MOTION)

I doon't think thiis is our hostel.

Jen takes the mobile from Alex. She reads it, then to the,

STREET SIGN: "} / ! : ^ \* & # > Khao San Road"

JEN

Shit! This is definitely NOT our hostel!

ALEX

Great. I'm dead tired. Now what?

Jen is lost in her thoughts, she can't believe it.

Alex tries to take her backpack but the straps have got tangled up, her attempts to disentangle them are comical, until she finally removes her backpack.



ALEX (V.O.)

At that moment I just wanted to  
call my mom and what happened next?  
Hmm, I think it needs to be told by  
David Attenborough or you won't  
believe that it really happened.

CUT TO:

**DOCUMENTARY STYLE:** This is played as a BBC Documentary from  
David Attenborough. MONTAGE as an introduction: CITY light  
details, BUILDINGS.

LONG FAKE PLANTS open up to reveal KHAO SAN ROAD: where Alex  
and Jen are. It INTERCUTS with DOC STYLE SHOTS:

DAVID ATTENBOROUGH (V.O.)

Alex thinks about calling her  
mother to vent about the situation.  
-- Jen sighs loudly about how heavy  
the bags are and how far they might  
have to carry them. -- Ahead of  
them, a group of three good looking  
males appear.

3-GUYS, Eastern European, walk in their direction. GUY-01  
asks the girls something we can't hear.

DAVID ATTENBOROUGH (V.O.)

One of the Eastern Europeans  
approach the females in a very  
sympathetic way. -- Jen cannot help  
but to look at one of the boys'  
abs. He has a rock star charisma  
and oozes sexuality. For a moment  
she's not tired or desperate as  
they start to communicate.

GUY-01

This happens often. We can help you  
get another taxi to get to your  
place.

(looking at their bags)

I have seen postmen with less  
stuff.

DAVID ATTENBOROUGH (V.O.)

They all laugh. The girls are very  
interested in the three boys.

3-Guys carry the bags, guiding the girls to a new street.

DAVID ATTENBOROUGH (V.O.)  
The boys take the girls' backpacks  
and the three new friends speak  
cheerfully with each other as they  
walk to an alley.

**EXT. ALLEY**

A shiny blue car is parked about ten yards away, Guy-01  
points at it.

SHINY BLUE CAR: 3-Guys wave to the DRIVER-2 who gets out of  
the car and helps them to put the luggage into the trunk.

DAVID ATTENBOROUGH (V.O.)  
The girls look very happy, very  
grateful for being saved and they  
are hopeful they will get the boys'  
numbers to meet up the next day,  
but unfortunately for these two  
girls...

Alex and Jen nod in appreciation, they wave their mobiles at  
them but the 3-Guys run to the car with the bags get in and  
CLOSE THE DOORS quickly,

JEN  
Hey!

ALEX  
Hey! What are you doing?

Driver-2 STARTS UP the car and RACES IT away. Alex and Jen  
running after the car:

JEN  
What are you doing? Come Back!!

ALEX  
Our baags!!

The car turns the street and disappears.

DAVID ATTENBOROUGH (V.O.)  
It looks like these naive creatures  
will have to learn fast if they  
want to survive in this dangerous  
world full of predators, just  
wanting to take advantage of them.

ON THEIR FACES: sweating, they BREATHE HEAVILY.

**DOCUMENTARY STYLE ENDS:**

ALEX

Now what?

Jen BREATHES heavily, she's about to cry.

ALEX (CONT'D)

Where will we sleep?

Jen is HYPERVENTILATING and Alex is about to break down.

JEN

(crying)

I don't know. -- I don't know...

A beat.

BOBBY (O.S.)

Do you need any help?

They ignore him at first, then remembering what just happened, they start walking followed by Bobby's shadow into,

**EXT. QUIET STREET**

BOBBY (O.S.)

Do you need help?

They walk quicker, shadow follows.

BOBBY (O.S.) (CONT'D)

DO YOU NEED ANY HELP?

Alex looks back at BOBBY, a mid-20s good looking man, she softens for a moment,

ALEX

(pulling and rushing Jen)

No, we're fine.

BOBBY (O.S.)

I saw what happened. I can help!

ALEX

We don't need your help.

BOBBY (O.S.)

Really? Where will you sleep tonight?

Alex loses her pace a bit, his shadow is closer.

BOBBY (O.S.) (CONT'D)  
My name is Bobby. I can help you. --  
I'm an American too and would take  
you to The Embassy but it's closed  
now and they don't really have room  
for mugged tourists like you.

Alex's face lights up. They both stop and communicate  
silently with one another, Alex nods to Jen and they turn to  
him.

BOBBY (CONT'D)  
Right. First things first, do you  
have a place to sleep tonight?

ALEX  
Nope.

JEN  
Absolutely not.

BOBBY  
I'm a couch-surfer. -- I'll call my  
host and see if you can sleep there  
tonight.

Bobby steps away a few meters to talk into the phone.

JEN  
Couch what?

She shrugs.

BOBBY  
(shaking his head)  
No luck. My host says he can't have  
any more couch-surfers tonight.

ALEX  
What's a couch-surfer?

Bobby makes a face, as if he has seen,

**INT. WRESTLING RING (DREAM SEQUENCE)**

2-ELEPHANTS in a wrestling match. DING DING.

BOBBY (V.O.)  
You're in Asia and you have never  
done couch-surfing?

Elephants stop and look AT US.

BACK TO:

**EXT. QUIET STREET**

They're confused.

BOBBY

Girls wanting to see Asia by  
staying at a hostel? what a cliché!  
Couch-surfing is a much better way  
to know a country...

Bobby starts TALKING FAST without us hearing,

ALEX

Do you have to pay?...

With JUMP CUTS:

ALEX (CONT'D)

Floor?

JEN

Near cockroaches?

BOBBY

You just need to make a few  
requests and wait for an answer.

Bobby is confused with their reaction, they're communicating  
in silence again.

BOBBY (CONT'D)

So, what do you guys want to do?

Alex and Jen face Bobby at the same time.

ALEX

Couch-surf.

**INT. COFFEE SHOP - KHAO SAN ROAD - NIGHT**

AT THE TABLE, MOBILE SCREEN: "[www.couchsurfing.org](http://www.couchsurfing.org)" website  
on, Bobby gives it to them:

BOBBY

There you go.

They look at profiles of happy people. Alex taps on a list of  
countries.

SCREEN: "Latvia", "Iran" ...

JEN  
Are all these countries for real?

BOBBY  
How can you not know these? - Do you travel?

ALEX  
Yes! A lot.

BOBBY  
Where to?

JEN  
Hawaii, Catalina Island and Cabo.

A long pause, he scratches his forehead.

BOBBY  
Okay... So, you need to create a profile.

JEN  
Do we need anything for that?

BOBBY  
A picture and an email.  
(taking their mobile)  
Here, both of you, look at the camera.

They try to look fun, but look awful, he takes A PICTURE.  
ANOTHER.

BOBBY (CONT'D)  
(giving the mobile back)  
You both look... Really good.

ALEX  
Ok... So...

SCREEN: Typing, "Subject: need a couch tonight! Urgently".

ALEX (CONT'D)  
We are two New York girls, we were robbed just now and urgently need a place to stay.  
(to Jen)  
-- What you think?

JEN  
(rushing it)  
Send it!

ALEX  
Now what?

BOBBY  
Now we wait.

The girls worry. Alex stays looking at the screen for a long time. Jen starts to manicure, she RASPS one of her nails.

We hear a MESSAGE ARRIVING.

CUT TO:

MOMENTS LATER, Alex was still looking at the screen and Jen manicuring RASPING one nail. We hear a MESSAGE ARRIVING, Alex straightens in her seat:

ALEX  
We will help you.  
Our address is... whatever that is,  
and... See you soon. Ron and Mike. -  
- YES!

The girls SCREAM, JUMP and hug. The OTHER-CUSTOMERS are annoyed.

Bobby comes from the counter and reads it for a beat, then smiles. The girls stop jumping and look at him, worried. Still hugging:

ALEX (CONT'D)  
What?

JEN  
WHAT?

BOBBY  
Nothing... I think you'll have a  
fun experience. Shall we go? I'll  
take you there.

**INT. RON AND MIKE'S APARTMENT - NIGHT**

IN THE CORRIDOR, by the door. Bobby KNOCKS on the door then steps back leaving Alex and Jen alone in front of the door,

ALEX (V.O.)  
We were about to spend the night  
with two complete strangers, I  
couldn't help to wonder who would  
be behind the door?

Alex looks back at Bobby and fakes a smile, he signals to the opening door,

Behind it, MIKE, wearing a wife beater t-shirt and a hat.  
Next to him, RON, bare-chested with tracksuit pants on, he's  
showing off his muscles, contracting them.

ALEX (V.O.)  
One looked like a raver and the  
bare chested one could only have  
one acceptable reason for doing  
that, if he was the Incredible  
Hulk, and even if he wasn't he was  
pretty close to that.

RON  
Hello girls, my name is Ron.

The girls are hypnotized with Ron's contracting muscles.

MIKE  
(trying to distract them)  
Hey! Mike.

ALEX  
(to Ron)  
If you're not comfortable you can  
put a t-shirt on you know?

Ron smiles ironically as he gives way for the three to come in. They all enter to the,

LIVING ROOM: Alex and Jen simultaneously sit exhausted on the couch. ALEX looks around and notices a mattress on the wall, she looks with unease,

ALEX (CONT'D)  
(talking to camera)  
Ohh no! Oh no! - I asked the higher  
powers for a miracle. I asked for  
this mattress not to be our room.

RON  
Are you hungry?

He shows them a plate of unhealthy fried chips with ketchup.



ALEX  
(talking to camera)  
And at that moment I forgot that  
fried food was terribly  
unhealthy...

ALEX (V.O.)  
...and I said:

ALEX  
I love the smell.

JEN  
Sure! We'll have some.

MIKE  
Great!  
(to Bobby)  
Want to join us?

BOBBY  
No thanks. I had dinner already.  
(to Alex and Jen)  
You're in good hands now, so I'll  
come by tomorrow to check on you.

Alex follows him to, THE CORRIDOR:

ALEX  
(close to his ear)  
Thank you.

BOBBY  
(he nods in reply)  
I'll come and check on you guys  
tomorrow.

Bobby waves to the living room, they all reply BYE back.

She watches him close the door, the song "Wiggle, wiggle,  
wiggle Yeah!!!" from LMFAO starts to PLAY from the,

LIVING ROOM, Mike is holding a plate in Alex's direction:

MIKE  
Can you please move that laptop?

ALEX  
Yeah, sure.

She grabs the computer from the table, making the screen turn  
on by accident. On her anguished face:

ALEX (CONT'D)  
Oh boy! We're in trouble.

Ron and Mike take a couple of chips and go to the sofa, they start to do a silly dance to the sound of the music, they try to be sexy in a funny way.

Alex grabs Jen's hand very hard. She SCREAMS in pain.

JEN  
(upset)  
AUCHH. What's wrong with you?

Jen notices Alex's terrified face.

ALEX  
(whispering)  
We have to go now! We're in danger.

JEN  
(out loud)  
Why? What?

ALEX  
(into her ear)  
I saw a list in their computer that said Fucket List!

LAPTOP SCREEN: With the "Fucket List" title and a long list of women's names and origins.

ALEX (CONT'D)  
I think they use couch-surfing to attract girls to their house and rape them.

The boys go a bit wilder with their dance while we HEAR "I'm sexy and I know it... Wiggle, Wiggle, Wiggle Yeah."

JEN  
Fucket list. Is that true?

They stop their dance, Mike turns down the volume on his phone.

MIKE  
You say what?

JEN  
(picking up a fork full of ketchup)  
Fucket list mother fuckers!! -- Are you rapists?

Boys look at one another for a moment, then LAUGH as they sit on the couch, they GIGGLE for a bit more.

RON

We are not rapists. I just have a Fucket List with all the women I have sex with. Some people have a diary, I have that...

Jen gives a judgmental look.

JEN

(still pointing the fork)  
Why?

RON

(showing his arms and  
stepping away)  
I used to be a geek, but it all changed when we came here, I started to be more open and I wanted to catch up so I thought of a Fucket List.

Alex blushes, she's embarrassed:

#### **INT. CIRCUS STAGE (DREAM SEQUENCE)**

Alex wears a tomato costume, arms and legs sticking out, she's being introduced, Alex-tomato waves uncomfortably.

ALEX (V.O.)

I was blushing so hard that I looked like a tomato with arms and legs!

BACK TO:

#### **INT. RON AND MIKE'S APARTMENT**

MIKE

Right, now that we know all about the Fucket List...

(getting as many chips as  
he can)

We're going out, you guys want to come?

ALEX

(also looking at Jen)  
Thanks, but all we want is a bed to sleep on. Right?

JEN  
Yeah, big time.

MIKE  
Okay,  
    (pointing to the couch)  
Your beds are there  
    (pointing to the mattress)  
And there. You can pick.

The girls look disappointed.

RON  
    (dropping yellow sheets)  
Sheets!

Noticing their reaction.

RON (CONT'D)  
What, they're clean! -- Right!

Both head to the door and mumble a BYE.

The girls don't even reply, they're frozen looking at it, Ron and Mike GIGGLE at their reaction and close the DOOR.

They reply back with a big delay, BYYE.

We start to hear BANGS on the walls.

CUT TO:

HOURS LATER, Alex is staring at the ceiling, her eyes are open and she has tissue in her ears.

We can hear woman's SCREAMS and the BED BANGING in another room. Jen moves from side to side trying to shake the sound, Alex makes a desperate GROWL.

BANGS on the wall START TO MIX with KNOCKS on the door.

**INT. RON AND MIKE'S APARTMENT - MORNING**

Another KNOCK. Alex waits a beat and then heads to the door.

Through the SPY HOLE, Bobby is carrying some plastic bags. SHE clears her throat and opens the door.

ALEX  
Hey! Nice to see you.

BOBBY  
Good afternoon.

ALEX  
Afternoon? Already? - Shit, the  
Embassy.

BOBBY  
Don't worry, you have time. I  
brought something for you!

Bobby takes clothes out of the bags.

BOBBY (CONT'D)  
How long are you staying?

ALEX (V.O.)  
From that moment on, he became  
known as Saint Bobby.

CUT TO:

MOMENTS LATER, Jen's outside the bathroom wearing shorts and  
a miner's shirt.

JEN  
Guys! I can't go out like this.

Alex looks down at her own shirt and LAUGHS, she has on an  
old man polo shirt with writing on it,

ALEX  
We need to go now...

Jen looks down at her outfit and makes a GRUMBLING SOUND.

# **INT. U.S. EMBASSY - AFTERNOON**

Bobby is in a corner scribbling something as Alex and Jen  
talk to the EMBASSY-WORKER, fat and fed up:

EMBASSY WORKER  
You can come to pick up your new  
passports in five days.

STAMPS a paper. Another STAMP.

# **EXT. TALING CHAN FLOATING MARKET - AFTERNOON**

Many boats on the river shore of a colourful market, they're  
inside one stopping by the structure, they jump out onto the  
platform.

ALEX (V.O.)  
Jen wanted to go shopping for  
clothes, but we haven't eaten all  
day, so we ended up going anyway,  
but I think she wished we didn't.

They enter a RESTAURANT and sit by a TABLE on the floor,  
Jen's grumpy and Alex notices her phone.

A PM message on social media from Chris: "Babe, are you in  
Bangkok? How is it?"

Alex types something very quickly,

CUT TO:

LATER, Jen receives her FOOD PLATE: A weird mix. She's so  
hungry we hear HER HUNGRY STOMACH, she looks at them and  
their food, less weird, she's too hungry and FORKS it anyway.

**INT. RON AND MIKE'S APARTMENT - MORNING (A WEEK LATER)**

Alex sleeps on the couch in a weird position. Jen's on the  
floor mattress, stands up quickly looking awful.

ALEX (V.O.)  
She got food poisoning and during  
the next few days the only two  
things Jen could say was...

JEN  
Oh my god.

She runs for the bathroom and SHUTS the door.

SUPER: "A week later"

Alex wakes up, she's hung over, she reaches her VIBRATING  
mobile. Another PM from Chris. She drops the phone.

**EXT. ROYAL PALACE BANGKOK - MORNING**

Alex, sunglasses on, arrives by the Statue of Lying Buddha  
where Bobby PLAYS guitar to 4-THAI-GIRLS, they GIGGLE. She  
greeted him and he nods back.

He finishes the song with a strong STROKE and everyone CLAPS.  
The guitar lesson has finished.

ALEX (V.O.)

I looked at Bobby's sweet smile  
with his nice tan and wearing a  
slim t-shirt and I realised that in  
front of me was a fabulous guy who  
had helped me and had been showing  
me around here in Thailand but then  
I remembered the previous night...

He says GOODBYE to two of the girls that are leaving, then he  
zips up the guitar bag and gives it to another one.

ALEX

(talking to camera)  
...and I felt really ashamed. I was  
still spending time thinking about  
Chris...

#### **INT. RESTAURANT - KHAO SAN ROAD - LAST NIGHT**

CAMERA TRACKS BACK from dozens of empty beer glasses on a  
table in front of Alex to Bobby, Mike, Ron and OTHER-COUCH-  
SURFERS, not recognisable and almost OUT OF FRAME.

She CRIES like a little baby and shows Chris' PM messages on  
her mobile, Other-People avoid engaging, she's too drunk.

#### **INT. NEW YORK APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM (DREAM SEQUENCE)**

Alex as Bridget Jones in a lightless apartment watching TV,  
she presses the "DELETE" key REPEATEDLY. On the screen Chris  
image fades slowly.

ALEX (V.O.)

... But I decided I was not going  
to be that girl!...

BACK TO:

#### **EXT. ROYAL PALACE BANGKOK**

They're alone now.

ALEX (V.O.)

... I wanted to erase Chris from my  
memory.

BOBBY

Sorry to disturb whatever was going  
on in there but I'm really hungry.

She punches him softly with a smile.

**EXT. STREETS OF BANGKOK - AFTERNOON**

Bobby buys a plastic bag full of cube shaped food bits from a food car and turns to Alex,

She's in the middle of the street. A few RAIN DROPS START TO FALL, a beat later, HEAVY RAIN and she runs to a shop on the other side.

BOBBY  
What are you doing?

Bobby walks to the middle, where she was, under HEAVY RAIN.

She's paying for a transparent raincoat and THANKS the seller.

ALEX  
(dressing it)  
I don't want to catch a cold.

BOBBY  
Have you ever been in the rain at  
30 degrees Celsius? Come over...

ALEX  
No.

The sun is now out and starts to mix with the rain to produce RAINBOWS. There's one near Bobby:

BOBBY  
So come out and experience this,  
It's fantastic!  
(opening his arms)  
Rain is liquid sunshine.

Step by step, she heads towards him.

BOBBY (CONT'D)  
Is it good?

ALEX  
(unsure)  
Love it.

She contemplates for a moment.

BOBBY  
(offering some food)  
Let's go?



She covers her head and takes a bite of her cube food, they start to walk.

ALEX

Do you know why people become deaf throughout life?

BOBBY

Aging?

ALEX

Because it is the only way to avoid killing each other.

BOBBY

I don't get it, are you talking about couples?

ALEX

Yes, after some time, couples grow tired of each other and because they're already old and can't meet new people they just put up with each other...

BOBBY

(interrupting)

So, they don't kill each other? Do you really believe in that?

ALEX

I would like to believe that with your soulmate, you'd be happy forever.

BOBBY

Ookaay.... The craziest thing you've ever done for love?

ALEX

I married a person who I had known for two minutes and met officially a few hours before... I knew he was the man of my life.

BOBBY

Maybe he just hypnotized you?

She lets a small LAUGH out, her head drops, thinking.

ALEX

Love at first sight, serendipity... Who knows....

BOBBY

Hey, I love those concepts you find in self-help books!

ALEX

Then tell me, what's the chance of me meeting a guy one night and finding him again the next day in the middle of 50,000 people? -- Things like this don't happen by chance.

BOBBY

Maybe... Maybe not. I think we're conditioned to think that these coincidences are destined to be.

ALEX

So you don't believe that the love of our life exists?

He reacts looking intensely at her without answering.

ALEX (CONT'D)

I believe in serendipity and that's what happened to me.

BOBBY

If so, why are you surrounded by pee instead of being with him right now?

Alex doesn't reply. She has just noticed the smell.

BOBBY (CONT'D)

People like to say love of my life but only looking back can you say that and chances are there were several loves of your life.

ALEX

So you don't believe that what happened between me and Chris was serendipity?

BOBBY

No, I think you gave it too much importance. You were just passionate about the emotional rush you felt for him.

ALEX

How many times have you really been in love?

With a closed face, he looks the other way and reaches a tuk tuk he hops into, she follows.

**INT. TUK TUK - DUSK**

ALEX  
So, how many times?

BOBBY  
One.

ALEX  
Can you tell me about it?

BOBBY  
(signaling the TUK-DRIVER)  
Hmm, let's go home. I'm tired.

Tuk-Driver SPEEDS. They're in silence for a moment. Alex receives a PM message from Chris,

SCREEN: "When are you back in N.Y.?"

Alex looks at Bobby, he's facing the other way, other vehicles pass by.

**EXT. RON AND MIKE'S APARTMENT - NIGHT**

Tuk tuk DRIVES OFF. They're both silent.

BOBBY  
I'll walk home.

Bobby turns to leave but she rushes to peck him on his cheek.

ALEX  
You are a very special person.

Without a word, Bobby turns and walks away. HER EYES glisten.

ALEX (V.O.)  
I never saw him again...

**INT. RON AND MIKE'S APARTMENT - MORNING (DAYS LATER)**

Alex by the door ready to go out, Jen in her pyjamas runs back to the toilet.

ALEX (V.O.)  
For a few days.

SPY HOLE: Bobby's on the other side.

ALEX (V.O.)  
And we got back to our strolling  
the streets of Bangkok until...

**INT. RON AND MIKE'S APARTMENT - NIGHT**

Door opens to show Bobby and Alex holding raincoats, they stare at Jen, all dressed up by the door.

Alex checks Jen's eyes and ears for anything wrong,

ALEX  
May be better going to a doctor,  
no?

JEN  
No way! I'm going out tonight.  
Where are we going?

Alex and Bobby look at each other disappointed.

BOBBY  
Ping-pong.

**INT. GO GO BAR - NIGHT**

ENTRANCE HALL, small and made of old wooden planks. The BOUNCER, opened shirt and a heavy gold wire hanging on his chest, points upstairs from where the light and NOISE is coming.

They NOD and start climbing the old wooden stairs.

JEN  
Ping-pong?

BOBBY  
Yes. They are very popular here.  
Like, American football.

We hear CROWD cheering, they hesitate for a moment and then continue climbing to:

A DARK ROOM: The song "Moves Like Jagger" PLAYS.  
Stage spotlights reveal LADY-BOY-OLD at the entrance, she strokes Jen's arm, she's uncomfortable and avoids her:

JEN  
Ooh myy good!

Bobby LAUGHS to Alex. He pays for the three and they head to an empty table.

Jen is disgusted by GIRL-NEXT-TABLE, transparent dress showing her body half naked. Bobby notices and before she makes a comment:

BOBBY

Show's about to start.

ON STAGE: A NAKED-PERFORMER, lying down, shows three ping-pong balls. Absolute silence.

PLOP. One of the balls disappears, a beat, another PLOP. As a rotating tank, balls fly to the crowd. A ball hits Jen's arm.

JEN

EW, gross! Those balls are so wet... Let's just go!

Alex and Bobby ignore her. Jen cleans her wet arm and storms out of the room angry. They both shrug and stay.

The show ends and the Audience stands, CLAPPING in a wild OVATION.

#### **EXT. GO GO BAR**

Jen's on her mobile. Alex approaches her and Jen gives her a laser look.

JEN

I'm just glad we're going back to New York!

Alex stops, she was not expecting it.

ALEX

Wait, when!?

Jen doesn't understand her reaction.

JEN

In a couple of days!?

BOBBY

(pretending to be cool)  
Sounds like you need a farewell party.

**INT. RESTAURANT - NIGHT**

SEVERAL-COUCH-SURFERS, Alex, Bobby and Jen having dinner.

BOBBY

(standing)

Guys, just want to say congrats to  
Alex and to Jen for their first  
couch-surfing experience, happy it  
was here in Thailand

(looking to Mike and Ron)

And that I helped making it happen,  
cheers to them!

They all drink from their glasses. He continues to stand.

BOBBY (CONT'D)

And also...

(they all start refilling  
their glasses)

... sadly this is a goodbye  
(we can hear OOHHSs)

...

Bobby continues to speak as Alex stops minding him, Chris is  
video calling her.

BOBBY (CONT'D)

So... Cheers to them and see you  
soon!

SEVERAL-COUCH-SURFERS toast with their drinks to Alex and  
Jen. Alex pretends to drink and to engage, but rushes to  
stand away to pick up the call, Bobby notices:

ALEX

Heey Chris...

CHRIS

Hey babe, how you doing, how's  
Thailand?

ALEX

Finishing, I'm going back tomorrow.

CHRIS

Great! Shall we hook up when you're  
back?

Bobby gets upset and leaves without saying a word. She  
notices him.

ALEX

Yes, yes. I gotta go now! Cya!

She follows him into the streets and sees him getting into a tuk tuk.

She gets in one too and follows.

**EXT. BANGKOK AIRPORT**

She sees him getting out of his tuk tuk and entering the airport, she quickly pays and follows him.

**INT. BANGKOK AIRPORT - DEPARTURES - AFTERNOON**

Bobby knew Alex had followed him and was waiting for her in front of the DEPARTURES MONITOR:

BOBBY

Monitor, this is Alex. Alex, let me introduce you to your destiny, the departures monitor.

ALEX

What?

BOBBY

Now, choose a destination, where will you go?

ALEX

I'll go to New York, flight 546 bound for JFK!

BOBBY

JFK? Is there where you really want to go?

ALEX

I wanted to travel around the world but I should go back.

BOBBY

To a job you don't want and to jerks like Chris?

Alex takes it.

Listen, the world is not just New York or Thailand and I don't buy it when you say you wanted to travel the world because Chris dumped you, I think that was an excuse.

(MORE)

BOBBY (CONT'D)

I think you wanted to find out for yourself, you wanted to explore the world, find different cultures as a way to find yourself... -- And now, you're five continents short and you also have a decision to make.

ALEX

(almost crying)

I wanted to travel around the world but I don't think I can. I don't have the money, I don't know how to give guitar lessons and I don't have rich parents, I have to work.

BOBBY

Money is not a problem, you have couch-surfing to sleep and you can work as a freelance from a laptop anywhere in the world.

Alex shakes her head to him as if she's saying, I'm sorry, she's letting him and herself down, she rushes away from the Airport.

Bobby SIGHS, his attempt failed, he follows her.

**EXT. RON & MIKE'S APARTMENT - NIGHT**

A tuk tuk leaves in the b.g. as Alex, with a small tear,

ALEX

(wanting to hug)

So...

They hug for a moment, she starts squeezing as strong as she can, he tries MUMBLES something.

ALEX (CONT'D)

What?

BOBBY

I'll take you to the airport tomorrow.

She nods and tries not to cry.

BOBBY (CONT'D)

See you then.

ALEX

I'll see you then.



He looks at her and gently touches her head. A beat. Then he turns around and Alex watches him walking away.

**INT. APARTMENT BUILDING STAIRCASE**

ALEX sits on the stairs crying in silence, the light is blinking on her face as when she arrived in Bangkok, she closes her eyes and lights DIM to, BLACK.

**INT. TAXI 2 - NEXT MORNING**

Alex is next to Jen. Bobby is in the front. Alex forces eye contact with Jen, she's avoiding it.

An uncomfortable silence.

ALEX (V.O.)  
When I asked her, she said she  
could barely remember what happened  
last night... I personally think  
that even the cops got called up.

**INT. RON AND MIKE'S APARTMENT - NIGHT (PREVIOUS)**

Ron, wearing a cop's hat, BANGS Jen, with legs open on top of the dinner table. She ORGASMS and they slowly stop.

She catches her breath until she hears DOOR KEYS opening the door on the outside and quickly reacts to cover up.

Laptop opens, ON SCREEN, the Fucket list with Jen's name and origin being typed.

ALEX (V.O.)  
And I'm pretty sure I read her name  
on the Fucket List the next  
morning, but when we arrived at the  
airport, I had to face reality.

We hear the sound of the taxi BRAKING.

BACK TO:

**INT./EXT. BANGKOK AIRPORT - MORNING**

The three, carrying luggage, leave the taxi and walk towards the main entrance. Alex stops for a beat. She knows she doesn't want to catch that airplane.

ALEX (V.O.)  
 I was going to leave Thailand,  
 Bobby and forever be locked in a  
 job I didn't want, in a place  
 without neon lit bars, ping-pong,  
 and so many interesting people.

CUT TO:

NEAR CHECK-IN: Alex and Jen queue behind a FEW PEOPLE, Jen talks energetically without us hearing, Alex's not listening to her.

They are next to be checked in.

ALEX (V.O.)  
 And when I was one person away from  
 not being able to change my mind, I  
 thought about me in 40 years  
 time...

**INT. BANGKOK AIRPORT - DAY (DREAM SEQUENCE)**

ALEX-62 in an EMPTY AIRPORT by the DEPARTURES MONITOR, with its destinations changing QUICKLY.

ALEX (V.O.)  
 ... how I would look back and  
 examine whether there had been a  
 moment in my life I could have made  
 a different choice...

The Departures Monitor stops flicking through and stops on,  
"CHOOSE A FUCKING DESTINATION!... PLEASE...".

BACK TO:

**INT. BANGKOK AIRPOT**

Bobby meets them in the queue with some coffees and as the girls turn to be checked in, Jen rushes forward and Alex stops to face the DEPARTURES MONITOR:

ALEX (V.O.)  
 ... I would forever remember that  
 departures monitor and ask myself,  
 how would my life have been if I  
 had chosen...

We hear the DRUM sounds mimicking a heart coming back to life  
 and DRUM RHYTHM START TO PLAY,

ALEX  
SOUTH AFRICA!

BOBBY  
Wahoo, really?

ALEX  
Really! I want to go to South  
Africa.

DRUMS suddenly stop.

JEN  
When? We are just about to go back.

Alex and Bobby don't understand her.

ALEX  
I'm not going back.

Jen seems more angry than surprised.

CUT TO:

**REALITY SHOW RECAP:** this is played as cheesy reality show  
recap, BY THE DEPARTURES MONITOR: Jen and Alex FIGHT without  
us hearing,

SUPER: "Recently on Alex in Thailand:"

On a small square Alex APPEARS, as the REALITY SHOW PRESENTER  
in the studio.

REALITY SHOW PRESENTER  
Hello everyone and welcome, I'm  
here to recap today's eviction and  
to let everyone know that Alex is  
going to continue to travel, she  
said to Jen she will stay in  
Thailand for some time and that she  
will continue to couch-surf around  
the world but unfortunately... Jen  
didn't take it very well. She said  
she never believed she would really  
want to go to dirty places like  
Asia with so many sex bars and  
girls who catapult balls from their  
vaginas. -- Apparently that didn't  
seem to affect Alex, so she tried  
to say she didn't have money to  
travel and that she had to come  
back to work for her father's firm  
and all of that...

Alex shakes her head. Then she goes for Bobby, she points at him, saying it's his fault. She opens the coffee lid and throws it at him upset, he dodges it, just about.

REALITY SHOW PRESENTER (CONT'D)  
 ... But even then, she stood her ground and seems confident. She kept saying she wants to travel and see the seven continents and all of that.

BY THE SECURITY ENTRANCE: Alex waves her goodbye, Jen doesn't wave back. She's leaving upset, she hits an OLD-MAN-1 and SCREAMS at him, then she gets ahead of him.

REALITY SHOW PRESENTER (CONT'D)  
 And so obviously, what happened was that Jen had no other option but to leave and fly back to the U.S. alone.  
 (clicking his tongue)  
 Hmm so, stay tuned after the break.

Alex, the reality show presenter, gives a thumbs up before going to the break.

**REALITY SHOW RECAP STOPS.**

**INT. ELECTRONICS SHOP - DAY (DAYS LATER)**

SUPER: "Days later"

Alex is choosing a second-hand laptop from the several available.

She receives another PM message from Chris and ignores it.

She picks up a silly pinky furred laptop and shows it to Bobby, expecting a reaction, she's disappointed,

BOBBY  
 Listen Alex, We have to talk.

ALEX  
 We're talking.

BOBBY  
 Hmm, it's just that, I can't go with you to South Africa.

ALEX  
 Why not?

BOBBY

I have to stay a few weeks, I have the guitar lessons to finish and all.

ALEX

I don't understand.

BOBBY

Don't.. Huh, You'll be fine. You're no longer the same person and I'll go and meet you after okay?

Alex pretends it doesn't affect her and nods to avoid continuing discussing the situation further, she grabs the first laptop she can to buy, it's clearly not the best one.

ALEX

This one!

**EXT. SOUTH AFRICA HIGHWAY - MORNING (ESTABLISHING)**

SUPER: "South Africa"

**INT. EMILE AND BIANCA'S TRUCK - MORNING (DRIVING)**

Alex on the back of a truck working on her laptop. BIANCA and EMILE, a Caucasian couple, in the front seats.

We hear the sound of "Black Man in a White World" song PLAYING from a car in the other lane.

ALEX'S POV: A BLACK-DRIVER, good looking is overtaking. Emile OPENS the window and SPITS towards the Black-Driver,

ALEX

Whaataaa Fuck...

Black-Driver looks angrily at him and with the arm sticking out as he finishes overtaking shows him the finger.

Alex is looking into the spit left on her window screen, moving with the wind. She sinks into her seat.

ALEX (V.O.)

I had always imagined that members of the Ku Klux Klan were big bad men, but in front of me were two people I would have helped cross the street and also the most racist people I had ever met.

BIANCA  
 (looking back)  
 Have you ever stood behind black  
 people?

ALEX  
 What do you mean?

EMILE  
 They smell.

Alex is surprised. Awkward moment, sound from the WIND and  
 CARS coming the opposite direction:

BIANCA  
 They really smell bad. Even doing  
 nothing, they stink.

ALEX  
 Do they?

Bianca and Emile are nodding and MUMBLING yes. Alex  
 straightens up in her seat, defiant:

ALEX (CONT'D)  
 Why do you say that? They are  
 people like us.

She is ignored by both.

**EXT. CAPE TOWN - AFTERNOON (ESTABLISHING)**

SUPER: "Cape Town"

We hear tyres on GRAVEL.

ALEX (V.O.)  
 Under normal circumstances, I would  
 have gone to another couch-surfing  
 host in Cape Town, but...

**EXT. EMILE AND BIANCA'S FARM**

Truck moves through the middle of a field crop with TWENTY-  
 BLACKS-WORKING, the truck STOPS SLOWY.

A BLACK-EMPLOYEE, a tall man dressed badly, opens the door to  
 Emile, he gets out. Bianca takes off her seatbelt and waits  
 until he comes around to open hers.

ALEX V.O.  
... I had an idea, a surprise for  
them.

Alex is on her laptop, looking at CROMWELL's profile, a black South African man in his 30s, she TYPES.

Black-Employee opens her door but she drifts to the other side and gets out by herself. She stands and looks around.

**EXT. PLAZA - AFTERNOON**

Alex is in a plaza near a statue looking around, she finds him and greets:

ALEX  
Cromwell?

CROMWELL  
Yes!

ALEX  
Hi, nice to meet you!

CROMWELL  
Nice to meet!

ALEX  
Thanks for doing this, but... are  
you sure?

CROMWELL  
Let me show you something.

Alex is reluctant but accepts his hand. They walk through the plaza holding hands. EVERYONE, mainly Caucasians, start to look at them with disapproval, many turn their heads away.

ALEX  
Woow.

CROMWELL  
So, yes. I'm pretty sure.

**INT. EMILE AND BIANCA'S FARM - TEA ROOM - AFTERNOON**

THE TEA ROOM: They are all quiet at the tea table. Alex, Cromwell, Bianca and Emile. An embarrassing silence mixed with tea SIPS.

BIANCA  
Why do you smell so bad?

Alex is incredulous, no one is reacting but Cromwell, he's calmly drinking his tea up, he takes his time to drink until the last SIP. Bianca disapproves with a TONGUE CLICK sound.

EMILE  
Disgusting.

CROMWELL  
(standing up)  
Do you have to stay with them?

ALEX  
(she follows)  
NO.

While Alex picks up her bags from the corner, Emile and Bianca stand up and follow them to the,

#### **EXT. EMILE AND BIANCA'S FARM**

FRONT PORCH as Alex CLOSES the door Black-Employee nods in respect. In the fields, Black-Workers gather by the road as they walk away.

CROMWELL  
I'm sure my mom won't mind if you stay with us.

ALEX  
Thanks Cromwell.

Bianca comes out of the door, SCREAMING madly at Blacks-Workers.

ALEX (V.O.)  
Once one of them dies, I'll go to the funeral, steal the body and throw it into a volcano in order to prevent cloning.

Alex and Cromwell, both carrying her luggage, walk out of the gate.

#### **INT. CROMWELL'S HOUSE - MORNING**

CROMWELL-MOTHER, A Zulu woman, cooks on an old hob heater with an old pan full of food.

She takes the pan to the table. They are eating.

ANOTHER DAY, same ritual bringing the food to the table.



ALEX (V.O.)  
 I stayed several days at Cromwell's  
 home until I received that message  
 and rushed to Portugal.

**INT. FRANCISCO'S APARTMENT - OFFICE - DAY**

The back of an unknown man at a computer desk. An email  
 message from "Couchsurfing - Alex". He's replying,

TYPES: "Hello. If it's a love story,"...

BACK TO:

**INT. CROMWELL'S HOUSE**

BY THE DOOR: Alex is with her bags, Cromwell-Mother gives her  
 a big kiss, Alex hugs Cromwell.

**EXT. CABO DA ROCA - DUSK**

The sun sets beyond the sea, Alex's dark silhouette by the  
 fence, WIND makes her clothes FLAP and hair undulate.

ALEX (V.O.)  
 I tried not to think about what I  
 was doing there, in the westernmost  
 point of Europe.

She looks at her wrist watch.

DISSOLVE TO:

**EXT. LISBON - MORNING (WEEK EARLIER)**

SUPER: "Lisbon, a week earlier"

**INT. FRANCISCO'S APARTMENT - AFTERNOON (LATER)**

FRANCISCO, a mid-40s writer, opens the door to Alex, he's the  
 one writing before and we recognise the house.

FRANCISCO  
 Hi Alex, welcome.

Alex THANKS him and goes inside the spacious apartment, she  
 rushes to the large WINDOW to see,

Hundreds of red tile roofs and in the distance the River Tagus with several boats sailing and a lookalike Golden Gate Bridge.

ALEX  
You stole the bridge from San Francisco?

FRANCISCO  
(pointing to the statue)  
And the statue from Rio.

At the end of the bridge, a replica of Christ the Redeemer statue. She's still confused but laughs at the situation.

ALEX  
So writing huh?

FRANCISCO  
Yes.

ALEX  
Have you published many books?

He points to a shelf with books aligned, with his name on.

FRANCISCO  
A few.

She looks back to the relaxing view.

#### **EXT. LOST IN CAFÉ - AFTERNOON**

A panoramic view of Lisbon with the river. Alex and Francisco have finished their meals. Two white wine glasses. She faces the view. The sun is far from the horizon.

FRANCISCO  
So, who's the lucky one you are coming to meet?

ALEX  
His name is Bobby.

Francisco SIPS his wine.

FRANCISCO  
Why are you so unsettled about it?

Alex is thoughtful for a beat.

ALEX

Do you think it's possible for two friends to become more than that?

FRANCISCO

Yes, I do.

ALEX

I always thought that there was a point of no return. Like, if after some time as friends nothing physically happens, then they forever will be in the friend zone,

FRANCISCO

I think that in life nothing is so firm like that. Each person is different, there are some people who have been friends for years and then suddenly realize there's something more.

ALEX

And won't that create a strange atmosphere between them?

FRANCISCO

Maybe, in the beginning, and only because of the physical part. But they already know each other's good and bad traits so the relationship starts out on a more solid foundation.

ALEX

That makes tremendous sense.

FRANCISCO

What do you feel for this Bobby?

ALEX

I'm not sure. I spent the best two months of my life with him. He's very important to me but I figured that maybe, I was just another traveler he met on his journey... It was only when I received that message from him when I was in South Africa that I started thinking that maybe not...

She focuses on the distance.

FRANCISCO

You know, sometimes we miss out on relationships that never really happen because we don't project the reality but our fantasies. The best thing is to try to make them work so that we don't spend the rest of our lives asking, what if?

Alex sinks into her thoughts.

FRANCISCO (CONT'D)

Have you heard of the word saudade?

ALEX

Nope, is it Portuguese?

FRANCISCO

Yes, saudade means that when we miss someone, we miss not only him or her, but what we would have had. It's a sort of nostalgia for the future.

ALEX

How do you know all these things?

FRANCISCO

I guess that it helps having written mostly about relationships.

ALEX

Yeah, I guess that makes sense.

FRANCISCO

When does he arrive?

ALEX

If, he arrives... Should be by sunset.

FRANCISCO

I can drive you there if you want.

She nods.

**EXT. CABO DA ROCA - DUSK**

Bobby's silhouette, he's leaning on the fence as Alex was before, the sunset is about to happen.

He checks his wrist watch then he heads to:

**INT. GIFT SHOP**

He grabs a chocolate with "Serendipity" written on it.

**EXT. CABO DA ROCA**

Walking back, to the fence, he sees Alex, the WIND makes her clothes FLAP and hair undulate.

He comes near her, she doesn't notice him.

BOBBY  
(sunglasses off)  
I didn't think you would come.

She slides up to him. Lying:

ALEX  
I thought of not coming.

BOBBY  
When I met you, you would never  
have come to meet me.

ALEX  
I'm different now.

He smiles and gives her the chocolate:

BOBBY  
I'm sure you are.

Alex reads it and makes a HAHA, then she GIGGLES.

**EXT. LISBON - NOON (ESTABLISHING)**

ALEX (V.O.)  
Listen, I have an idea.

**EXT. SÃO JORGE CASTLE - NOON (WEEK LATER)**

Alex and Bobby walk inside the castle.

BOBBY  
And what's that?

ALEX  
Direct questions.

BOBBY

Okay, can you tell a bit more about it?

ALEX

Well, we've been in Lisbon for a week and we spent two months in Asia, but I still don't know many things about you. If we play the direct questions game I will be able to know, for example... What's your favourite color?

BOBBY

Ah. Those exciting details about a person. I imagine you also want to know how many white hairs I have?

They go outside the castle to:

**EXT. ALFAMA STREETS**

A narrow street, multi-coloured. A FAT-WOMAN hangs her laundry by the window, down their path, a restaurant with a WAITER getting the tables outside ready for lunch.

BOBBY

Hi there.

WAITER

Hi.

BOBBY

Can we sit down?

WAITER

Yes, come... Sit.

They pick a table and sit.

**EXT. ALFAMA STREETS - RESTAURANT - MOMENTS LATER**

The Waiter brings a sangria pitcher.

ALEX

What's the minimum amount of sleep you can get by with?

BOBBY

What?

ALEX

The game has started.

BOBBY

I'd hoped you'd forgotten about that.

BOBBY (CONT'D)

Four. -- What's the best decision you've ever made?

ALEX

Not returning home with Jen.

(talks to camera)

...and coming here to meet you.

(to Bobby)

Does silence make you uncomfortable?

BOBBY

There are two kinds of silence. Annoying silence and comfortable silence. One is when there is nothing to say and the other one is because there's respect for each other's thoughts and space. That's the good silence. -- Who were your role models?

ALEX

My mother. What does romance mean to you?

Bobby is mute. We hear people TALK LOUDLY from another table.

ALEX (CONT'D)

So, no answer?

BOBBY

The idea of romance is overrated. Next question; if you had the world's attention for one minute, what would you say?

ALEX

You didn't answer my question.

BOBBY

Yes I did. Now you answer mine.

ALEX

I'd tell everyone to travel. What does romance mean to you?

Silence, she PUNCHES him in the arm.

BOBBY  
Hey? What was that!?

ALEX  
Just making sure you're awake. Who  
brings out the best in you?

BOBBY  
Now? Me. Your favorite old film?

ALEX  
The Sound Of Music. Where the  
annoying family speaks singing.

BOBBY  
Really? Why?

They keep talking without us hearing. TIME PASSES: Sardines  
arrive, then DESSERTS and they DRINK ESPRESSOS:

ALEX (V.O.)  
I felt like a secret agent.  
My goal was to tire him out so he  
could reveal why he became sad when  
I asked him if he had ever fallen  
in love back in Thailand.

They pay the bill and Waiter waves to them from the street.

ALEX (V.O.)  
I was using all my ammo and the  
fire continued as we reached  
Adamastor.

#### **EXT. ADAMASTOR GARDEN - AFTERNOON**

They sit on the grass by the statue.

From a window in the houses behind, a VIOLINIST-GIRL, 12,  
plays "Aase's Death" from Edvard Grieg. Alex notices her  
playing strikes an emotional chord, then to Bobby:

ALEX  
What led you to couch-surf?

BOBBY  
It's a long story and I don't want  
you to fall into a deep sleep from  
which you will never wake up...

She pulls him and both lie down:



ALEX

I have no place to go and I want to hear it.

A beat of silence. ON BOBBY: looking at her,

BOBBY

Okay... After I finished medical school, I went on a surfing adventure in California and that's where I met Monica.

We hear STRONG WIND and OCEAN WAVES.

**EXT. CALIFORNIA - MONICA'S CLIFF - DUSK (PAST)**

A stopped car on a cliff road. On the edge of the cliff, A TABLE: set for two with a view to the ocean, Los Angeles is visible in the distance.

ON BOBBY: OPENS the passenger door.

CUT TO:

LATER, by the TABLE, MONICA, a beautiful woman taken from a fashion magazine with a big happy smile on her face.

BOBBY (V.O.)

I asked her to date me on her 23rd birthday, by a stunning cliff.

Bobby gets to his knees near her and asks her something. In the b.g. the sun is setting:

BOBBY (V.O.)

And shortly after, we moved in together.

**INT. BOBBY AND MONICA'S HOUSE - DAY (PAST)**

They take the first steps in their brand new KITCHEN, checked floor.

They look at each other, happy. He grabs her by the waist and rotates her around, her skirt flies with the spins.

BOBBY (V.O.)

For a few months I was the happiest person in the world. I know that all people say this when they feel happy, but then...

Spinning continues, she's getting dizzy, IMAGE SPINS. We hear VOMITING sounds.

SAME SPOT, LATER: Monica VOMITS all over the checkered floor.

BOBBY (V.O.)  
...there was vomiting, sickness and  
headaches every day.

REPETITION of Monica VOMITING AGAIN and AGAIN.

**INT. HOSPITAL - DOCTOR SURGERY - MORNING (PAST)**

Bobby and Monica listen to the DOCTOR, bald. Over his voice:

BOBBY (V.O.)  
It's brain cancer. I'm so sorry...  
he said.

**INT./EXT. BOBBY AND MONICA'S HOUSE - AFTERNOON (PAST)**

It RAINS HEAVILY. Bobby arrives by the front door with grocery bags.

BOBBY (V.O.)  
One day when I arrived and opened  
the front door, I saw a bottle of  
wine shattered all over the floor.

INSIDE: he heads to the KITCHEN where a bottle of wine is broken on the floor. Mixed with it, Monica's blood flowing from her body.

BOBBY (V.O.)  
She was on the floor too, covered  
in blood. I tried everything, but  
after shouting and shouting...

HE CHECKS her pulse.

HE MAKES a call.

HE PUMPS her heart. ANOTHER BLOW on her chest.

BOBBY (V.O.)  
... I realised she couldn't hear  
me.

PARAMEDICS come in and pull him away from her.

**INT. HOSPITAL - MORGUE - NIGHT (PAST)**

Doctor talks. Over his voice:

BOBBY (V.O.)  
Even if I'd been there, I probably  
wouldn't have been able to help  
her. The Doctor said sorry again...

Bobby is sat on a chair near the morgue door, he's depressed,  
Doctor puts his hand on his shoulder before leaving him:

BOBBY (V.O.)  
At that moment, my whole world  
collapsed.

He CRIES. A small pool of water starts to form on the floor  
as Doctor leaves the morgue and FILLS the room, leaving Bobby  
to drown in his own tears.

BACK TO:

**EXT. ADAMASTOR GARDEN**

He has been crying, she tries not to. ON VIOLINIST-GIRL: she  
gets to end of the music with one beautiful note. ON BOBBY:

BOBBY  
And so, I went to China where I  
started couch-surfing, then to  
Nepal, Vietnam and finally  
Thailand, where I started teaching  
guitar.  
(a beat)  
I was there two months when I met  
you.

ALEX  
(avoiding crying)  
I'm so sorry....

BOBBY  
Don't be...

She puts an arm around him and her head touches his, in  
silence, look at the boats passing by on the distant river as  
the TIME PASSES and they fall asleep.

DISSOLVE TO:

ALEX is on the floor sleeping, she wakes up to a pigeon  
looking at her, he bites her nose.

She's about to apply a Karate trick to the pigeon in SLOW MOTION.

ALEX (V.O.)

If I was in a Kung Fu movie, a swoosh could be heard, by the force of the slap I was about to give to the pigeon. But this was real life.

REPETITION: The pigeon bites her nose.

Alex swings her arms in a clumsy way and turns around. The pigeon flies away.

A beat. Next to her Bobby is still asleep, she gently touches his face with her hand open. His eyes open slowly behind her fingers. Alex is smiling at him.

BOBBY

Good morning...

(a beat)

What's this?

ALEX

I'm taking a picture with my eyes. -  
- We don't capture the moment in our memory when we take a picture with a machine, It becomes a second-hand memory.

BOBBY

Is that so?

ALEX

Yes, this moment is too special for a second-hand memory.

He puts his hand to her face for a beat.

They are about to kiss. His eyes are closed, she stops halfway:

ALEX (CONT'D)

No way!

BOBBY

What?

ALEX

(forcing Bobby to follow)  
We have to go... NOW!

She starts to RUN, Bobby follows, confused:

BOBBY

Why? Is it forbidden to sleep in public parks?

ALEX

NO! It's Francisco, he's catching a flight and we need to pick out stuff for our next couch.

Bobby doesn't understand why he doesn't know it, but follows.

ALEX (V.O.)

Unfortunately after three minutes running, we started speed walking, and another minute later, we were just walking... And not very fast.

ANOTHER STREET, narrow and inclined, they lean on the wall.

ANOTHER STREET, they walk slowly. We hear a BUZZ RINGING, when they turn to:

**EXT. FRANCISCO'S APARTMENT**

Francisco approaches from the street.

ALEX

I thought you had left.

FRANCISCO

(opening the door)

Leaving soon. I was having something to eat.

ALEX

Uff. I'm starting to believe in miracles....

FRANCISCO

(to Alex)

You know what? What if I write a book about your couch-surfing experience and adventure?

ALEX

(looking at Bobby happy)

I don't know, never thought about it, but sounds amazing!

Francisco nods in reassurance and they all go inside, he CLOSES the door behind them.

**INT. LOVE MANSION**

In the CORRIDOR, they reach a door with a sign on top, "Love Mansion". Bobby and Alex are with OLD-LADY-2, short.

The Old-Lady-2 hands them an envelope, and cheekily winks at him. She TALKS in Portuguese, they react as if she's wishing them good luck:

BOBBY

Thanks.

INSIDE in the HALLWAY, the big door CLOSES behind them. They are amazed. A spacious, bright and quiet mansion with a high ceiling.

BOBBY (CONT'D)

What's in the envelope?

She OPENS IT and READS IT for herself quickly.

ALEX

They're out.

A beat. They drop the bags to the floor and grab each other's bodies and kiss passionately, starting to undress each other.

CUT TO:

CAMERA TRACKS IN the hallway, close to the floor, into the bathroom's TUB: behind the blurry curtains, the shape of two bodies making love energetically.

They ORGASM. SIMULTANEOUSLY.

We hear the sound of a tram BELL.

**INT. TRAM - MORNING (WEEK LATER)**

SUPER: "A week later"

They are sat by the window. Bobby sleeps with his head on her shoulder, she looks outside to the big plaza.

She gently drops her head on his.

**INT. LISBON - TANGO CLUB - AFTERNOON**

A nightclub used to give dancing lessons. TANGO is PLAYING, DOZEN-PEOPLE-DANCE.

Alex and Bobby do it too. They're in sync.

Bobby does a small trick and Alex is left steps away,  
He then looks at Alex's happy face, he's embarrassed... He  
stops dancing and reaches her ear.

BOBBY  
I'm so sorry...

ALEX  
Why, why are you saying sorry?

BOBBY  
I must go...

ALEX  
Where?

BOBBY  
To the States.

ALEX  
Why?

BOBBY  
Monica.

ALEX  
What about her?

BOBBY  
Next week it's going to be one year  
since her death... I feel that I  
need to go there.

**INT. LISBON - TANGO CLUB (DREAM SEQUENCE)**

ON ALEX'S FACE: Shakes her head slowly, eyes are locked ON  
CAMERA. She BREATHES HEAVILY.

Dancers around SLOWLY FREEZE, the tango music QUIETS, light  
around DIMS.

ALEX  
(with jump cuts)  
And what will you do after? --  
What?

BOBBY  
I don't know...

ALEX  
Why? -- You'll stop couch-surfing?

BOBBY  
I don't know...

She has an expression of rage. Around her, light continues DIMMING until reaching complete darkness.

Her expression changes to a deep sadness. SMOKE starts to fill the club.

**EXT. CALIFORNIA - MONICA'S CLIFF - DUSK (DREAM SEQUENCE)**

MONICA'S CLIFF, a table ready for two. No one is there.

**INT. LISBON - TANGO CLUB (DREAM SEQUENCE)**

Around her, the space fills completely with SMOKE.

The smoke wipes her face to WHITE.

**INT. BAR - NIGHT (WEEKS LATER)**

WHITE starts to DISSOLVE into smoke, it's hard to see, smoke is disappearing and shows Alex by the bar.

ALEX (V.O.)  
The table in front of me was an  
orgy of smoke, and I couldn't help  
but think of what happened since I  
left Lisbon, a few weeks earlier.

There's a bottle of Absinthe with two glasses. Someone unrecognizable next to her, they both drink their shots and glasses HIT the wood.

We hear the sound of A TRAIN.

**INT. TRAIN - MORNING (AFTER THE TANGO)**

SUPER: "Weeks earlier"

Alex is on her laptop working, she looks out the window.  
TRAIN-INSPECTOR-1, asks her for her ticket. TICKET:  
"Barcelona"

ALEX (V.O.)  
The day after the Tango, I needed  
people who might help me forget  
about Bobby.



**EXT. SPAIN - BARCELONA - AFTERNOON (ESTABLISHING)**

SUPER: "Barcelona"

**EXT. BARCELONA TRAIN STATION**

Alex walks out of the station with her bags.

ALEX (V.O.)

And so I went to Barcelona and I didn't stay with a host for more than two days because I didn't want to create any relationship or affection, just a couch.

**MONTAGE**

WE SEE ALEX waking up on couch 01.

WE SEE ALEX waking up on couch 02.

**EXT. BARCELONA TRAIN STATION - MORNING**

International train STOPS in front of Alex, she climbs onto the train.

ALEX (V.O.)

Next stop was Toulouse, France. --  
And why not Paris? Because I gave myself about five minutes' notice.

**EXT. FRANCE - TOULOUSE - AFTERNOON (ESTABLISHING)**

SUPER: "Toulouse"

**INT./EXT. TRAIN - TOULOUSE TRAIN STATION - AFTERNOON**

Alex is lying over three seats, covered with her jacket.

The train is stopped. TICKET-INSPECTOR-2 shakes her awake. She straightens, sleepy and shows him the ticket.

He SPEAKS in French, pointing outside to the train station, signaling her to leave. She understands and gets up:

ALEX (V.O.)

I needed to be in constant motion.  
I needed to stay busy, so I didn't think of Bobby.

**INT. BAR - NIGHT**

ANNE MARIE, a sophisticated woman, and Alex approach the bar. Anne Marie, orders.

ALEX (V.O.)  
I stayed a few days with Anne Marie, she was the one who introduced me to Absinthe.

An Absinthe BOTTLE, two shot glasses. Alex drinks a shot and two glasses HIT the wood, this is the same bar as the earlier smoky bar.

The liquid in the bottle disappears shot by shot and IMAGE BLURS until end of the bottle. All is BLURRED by now as Alex downs one last sip.

DISSOLVE TO:

**INT. TRAIN - MORNING (DAYS LATER)**

SUPER: "Days later"

She's under her jacket, ON HER MOBILE: a social media post, a PHOTO of a bottle with the description: "@alexcouchsurfing New best friend, #absynthftw".

Alex looks through the window. The EIFFEL TOWER. TIME PASSES:

ALEX (V.O.)  
And three days later, I arrived in Berlin.

**EXT. GERMANY - BERLIN - MORNING (ESTABLISHING)**

SUPER: "Berlin"

**INT. CHRISTIAN'S APARTMENT - MORNING**

CHRISTIAN, late 20s and good looking, on a couch. While he talks:

ALEX (V.O.)  
I stayed with Christian, in one of Berlin's most artistic neighbourhoods, Kreuzberg, aka Xberg.

Nearby, GOLDA, a young Israeli girl, gets up from the mattress. She's sleepy, as she heads to the toilet:

CHRISTIAN  
Sorry guys. Did we wake you up?

GOLDA  
No, not a problem, that's fine.

Another head rises. A beat. SHARON, another Israeli girl.

ALEX (V.O.)  
Interestingly, he had two Israeli  
couch-surfers staying with him. I  
bet Hitler was crying in his grave.

**INT. CHRISTIAN'S APARTMENT - NIGHT**

Alex, on the couch with the two Israeli girls. Excited:

ALEX  
Absinthe!

GOLDA  
What is that?

Alex is confused for a beat. ON ALEX'S FACE: she brightens up  
as if she just had an idea, she smiles.

ALEX  
I'll show you!

**INT. NIGHT CLUB - NIGHT**

A shot HITS the bar table, there are two shot glasses.

ALEX (V.O.)  
She loved it... First, I was  
impressed how she picked up the art  
of drinking but then she was so  
good at it that I couldn't get her  
to stop.

Alex and Golda down another shot and another glass HIT the  
wood, they both celebrate with TRIBAL NOISES.

Sharon pulls Golda away from the bar but she holds onto the  
counter childishly:

GOLDA  
Don't mother me.

SHARON  
Haven't you had enough already?

GOLDA  
 (slowly, drunk)  
 Imagine an old man naked. There! I  
 have just ruined your night like  
 you're ruining mine.  
 (standing straight)  
 Now, let me live my life.

She heads to the DANCE FLOOR and grabs MAN-01 and kisses him.

GOLDA by the bar makes out with MAN-02.

GOLDA on the DANCE FLOOR: kisses OLD-MAN-03.

ALEX on the dance floor where Golda was, Sharon comes over:

SHARON  
 Where'd she go? -- Where is she?

#### **EXT. NIGHT CLUB**

By the main entrance, they ask BOUNCER-2, bald muscled guy:

ALEX  
 Have you seen our friend coming out  
 with an older man?

Bouncer-2 shrugs. Sharon shows the mobile to him:

BOUNCER-2  
 Not with an old man, but I think I  
 saw her going in an ambulance, just  
 now.

They look at each other, worried.

ALEX  
 Shit!

#### **INT. TAXI 3**

ON ALEX'S FACE: looks out the window, cars PASS quickly.

ALEX (V.O.)  
 Did she have alcohol poisoning? Was  
 she raped?

SHARON (O.S.)  
 Is she dead?

**INT. HOSPITAL - ER - NIGHT**

Corridor of beds with SICK-PEOPLE. Golda is unconscious on one, very pale skin. A NURSE, a stiff one, comes by.

ALEX  
(to Nurse)  
Sorry miss, is she dead?

Nurse ignores Alex and pushes Golda's bed. Alex watches her going away and turning the corner.

ALEX (V.O.)  
She couldn't be dead. Could she? --  
And I feel so bad because I was the  
one that got her to drink Absinthe.

HER FACE: a tear rolls down her cheek, she wipes it:

ALEX (V.O.)  
Watching all the sick people, I  
couldn't help remember all that had  
happened since Lisbon.

**EXT. DESERT SAND - DAY (DREAM SEQUENCE)**

Alex drowns in quicksand:

ALEX (V.O.)  
I felt like my thoughts were  
walking on quicksand and I was  
drowning and after almost getting  
my new friend dead, I made my  
decision.

BACK TO:

**INT. HOSPITAL - ER**

Alex cries. She faces THE CAMERA for a beat:

ALEX  
It was time for me to go home.

She wipes a small tear and INHALES deeply, then stands up and notices GOLDA, she's walking back towards them with Nurse's help.

**EXT. BERLIN AIRPORT - MORNING**

Alex walks with her bags inside the airport.

**INT. AIRCRAFT - DUSK**

ON WINDOW: Clouds blinking from the wing light. CAMERA TRACKS BACK from her reflection to her staring at herself:

ALEX (V.O.)  
 Bobby occupied 80% of my thoughts.  
 The remaining 20% were spent  
 writing him private messages asking  
 if he was ok or when would I see  
 him again.

**EXT. CALIFORNIA - MONICA'S CLIFF - DAY**

Bobby with the dinner table set for two as when he asked her to date him, he's sitting alone, writing.

BACK TO:

**INT. AIRCRAFT**

ON MOBILE SCREEN: "Bobby: I don't know."

ALEX (V.O.)  
 I urgently needed a priest to  
 perform an exorcism on my mind and  
 get rid of all my thoughts of him. -  
 And because that was not an option  
 I went for the next best thing...

**INT. SINGAPORE AIRPORT - WAITING AREA - NIGHT**

Alex, lying on the seats, relaxed. She reads A TRAVEL BOOK:  
 "Sydney".

ALEX (V.O.)  
 ... Australia!

ALEX  
 (speaking to camera)  
 I know... I know... I said I was  
 going home but when I was packing  
 in Berlin...  
 (nervous and guilty)  
 I figured that going the opposite  
 side of the world without trains,  
 Absinthe or Bobby would be the best  
 thing for me.

**INT. SYDNEY AIRPORT - LUGGAGE PICKUP - NIGHT**

Alex is picking up her heavy luggage by the carousel near the sign "CAUTION WET FLOOR". She SLIDES and falls on the wet floor, hitting the ground with her hand,

ALEX  
(holding her wrist)  
FUUUCK!

**INT. HOSPITAL - WAITING ROOM - NIGHT**

ON THE CLOCK: Five hours pass.

ON ALEX: looking at the clock, bored, she's with her bags.

ON SCREEN: A PM message on social media to Bobby, "Are you okay?", there's no reply from him.

ON QU'S FACE: 20s, good looking, long hair and beard,

ALEX (V.O.)  
Sitting next to me in the waiting  
room was Qu, he was recovering from  
pneumonia.

He's looking at ALEX'S BOOBS: they're sexy.

QU  
Come here often?

She replies with a LAUGH. He continues talking to her boobs:

QU (CONT'D)  
I can predict the future,

ALEX  
Why are you staring at my boobs  
like they are two oracle balls?

QU  
(to Alex)  
See? I knew you would say that. I  
can predict the future.

QU (CONT'D)  
(shake hands)  
My name is Qu and I am couch-surfer  
from England.

ALEX  
You also a couch-surfer?

QU

Yeah. I started when I was 18, My first experience was in London where I was supposed to stay for two days and I...

(JUMP CUTS TO:)

...don't have money problems and don't want to work. I want to do something meaningful. I want to draw people's attention...

He continues to speak, ON ALEX: glares whilst listening to him. A PA ANNOUNCEMENT for Alex's name a SECOND TIME, she notices it and picks up her stuff as quickly as she can because of the wrist:

ALEX

Sorry sorry sorry, gotta go, they just called my name.

He nods, disappointed.

CUT TO:

LATER, Alex walks back to the waiting room. She looks around for Qu. He's outside the waiting area by the vending machine.

He INSERTS A COIN, Alex approaches:

ALEX (CONT'D)

A dislocated wrist for four hundred dollars? Pff, I wanted to have been diagnosed with a radioactive pulse or have some Wolverine's claws inside or something.

QU

HA! That's cool.

ALEX

(pecking him on the cheek)  
Thanks for the company.

She's about to leave but he tries to grab her attention:

QU

Have you ever couch-surfed in a park?

ALEX

(smiling)  
Why don't you convince me to?

She writes her couch-surfing user on his hand.



**EXT. THE DOMAIN PARK - AFTERNOON (WEEKS LATER)**

SUPER: "Weeks later"

Qu assembles a tent, large. Alex carries some rocks, her hand is healed:

ALEX (V.O.)  
And so we went couch-surfing in a park. But this was a protest about climate change and maybe we arrived early? A few hot guys, but that was it.

Not many tents around. A PROTESTOR-HOT, ginger beard and wearing a hat walks about. Alex gets excited:

ALEX  
IIIIIIIIIIUUUUuuu.

Then she notices QU who's finishing building the tent. She bites her lower lip softly:

ALEX (V.O.)  
When I looked at Qu, I got shivers.  
-- Then I remembered Bobby.

She EXHALES HEAVILY.

**EXT. THE DOMAIN PARK - NIGHT**

SEVERAL-PROTESTORS, including Alex and Qu, PROTEST in the cold night. There are Policemen around.

ALEX (V.O.)  
We were all excited and somehow this helped me dilute my anger towards Bobby.

**EXT. THE DOMAIN PARK - AFTERNOON**

Qu and Alex are on the grass, sleeping. Qu wakes up and looks at Alex's bottom, ON ALEX'S FACE: We hear a SPANK.

ALEX  
Oh.  
(she's enjoying it)  
OUUU... HEY!

Sequential SPANKS turn to feet KICKING.

TWO-POLICEMEN kick them:

TWO-POLICEMEN  
Run bastards, RUN!

Several-Protestors, followed by the POLICE stampede past Alex and Qu. They get pushed around until they get up and run from the situation.

MOMENTS LATER, they're exhausted, away from the crowd.

QU's mobile RINGS, he answers it and starts walking up and down talking, Alex is still catching her breath, he comes back:

QU  
Things are heating up in New York.  
We need to go there.

ALEX  
New York?

QU  
Yes, New York. Wanna come?

ALEX  
(with jump cuts)  
Yes. Maybe. No. Maybe.

A beat. Alex bites one of her lips, she's noticing HIS LIPS:

ALEX (V.O.)  
With South America and Antarctica  
left, should I go home with Qu or  
try to reach my goal?

#### **INT. TENT**

Alex checks her MOBILE, PM messages. Bobby hasn't replied to any of her messages.

#### **INT. BOSTON - BOBBY'S APARTMENT - NIGHT**

Bobby's small apartment, not too messy but not really fit to live either, he's at the table with a long beard, he's writing a postcard, he looks out of the window.

BACK TO:

**INT. TENT**

Alex tosses a coin in the air, coin FALLS IN SLOW MOTION and HITS the floor, BOUNCING and ROTATING nervously until it stops:

ALEX (V.O.)  
I tossed a coin and samba it was!

We hear SAMBA DRUMS STARTING TO PLAY.

**EXT. BRAZIL - RIO DE JANEIRO - AFTERNOON (ESTABLISHING)**

SUPER: "Rio de Janeiro"

**INT. MARCELLE'S APARTMENT - FRONT DOOR - AFTERNOON**

Alex is in front of an apartment door, OPENS to MARCELLE, curly dyed hair and to RYAN, built body.

ALEX (V.O.)  
My host in Rio de Janeiro was named  
Marcelle and her partner, Ryan.

**INT. MARCELLE'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - AFTERNOON**

Alex drops her bags as RYAN passes her a caipirinha and invites her to sit on the couch. Alex THANKS HIM and sits.

They stand in front of Alex, almost like an intervention:

MARCELLE  
Over the next four days you'll be  
staying by yourself. Okay?

ALEX  
(smiles)  
Are you going to travel? -- I  
probably just won't leave before  
you come back.

MARCELLE  
Mmm, I really don't know if I'll  
come back.

Alex's smile disappears slightly, she's confused.

MARCELLE (CONT'D)  
I need an operation..

RYAN  
(comforting her)  
Stomach cancer.

ALEX  
Is this a good idea? For me to  
stay?

MARCELLE  
Please do stay and enjoy.

Alex hesitates for a beat then SIPS her drink in acceptance  
as we hear SAMBA PLAYING AGAIN.

**INT. MARCELLE'S HOUSE - NIGHT (A MONTH LATER)**

SUPER: "A month later"

AT THE TABLE, Alex speaks without us hearing, with Ryan and  
Marcelle, she has her head covered with chemo head-wrap  
scarf:

ALEX (V.O.)  
I told them all about my traveling  
stories and decided there that I  
would want to create a  
crowdsourcing organization to help  
people with cancer, like Marcelle.

RYAN  
You know what? Your adventures  
started in Burning Man and it's  
what, August? It's soon right?

ALEX  
Yep.

RYAN  
Maybe we should go there and  
celebrate Marcelle's successful  
operation and the fact that if it  
wasn't for Burning Man we wouldn't  
be here right?  
(to Marcelle)  
What you think?

MARCELLE  
That's a great idea.

RYAN

Shall we?

Alex looks worried to Marcelle for a beat, but then raises the glass and TOASTS to it.

**INT. BOSTON - BOBBY'S APARTMENT - NIGHT**

Bobby's checking his social media, reading Alex's private messages.

A social media post from her with a PHOTO: Of Burning Man with a comment: "On my way to celebrate my 1 year of travels!!!"

He lets it sink in for a moment as he looks around, he knows he has to do something, he reaches for a backpack and starts throwing clothes inside.

**EXT. BURNING MAN - AFTERNOON (ESTABLISHING)**

SUPER: "Burning Man"

**EXT. BURNING MAN - ROAD - MORNING**

A GUY-FROM-GROUP, similar to Ron, asks Alex to take a photo. She's about to take it when a long shadow blocks the sun:

ALEX (V.O.)

When I saw a shadow in front of me.  
I was sure I knew him and that he  
had meant a lot to me. But now,  
after meeting dozens of people he  
seemed just like any another guy.

CHRIS

Alex!?

Alex takes a bad photo, the Guy-from-group, falsely THANKS her.

CHRIS (CONT'D)

Alex!?

ALEX

Hey!?

CHRIS

Good to see you. I missed you.

Chris hugs her. She doesn't engage,

CHRIS (CONT'D)  
I have been thinking about you.

She looks at Marcelle and Ryan behind, heading away.

ALEX  
Oh really?... That's, huh, sorry  
but I have to go.

She rushes to meet them.

CHRIS  
Will I see you again? -- I'd like  
to tell you about what happened  
this last year.

ALEX  
Sure. Whatever.

**EXT. RENO AIRPORT - MORNING**

Bobby is in a queue for a bus, with the destination "BURNING MAN".

**EXT. BURNING MAN - TENT - MORNING**

Alex gets out of her tent to see Chris waiting, with his moron face sunglasses on and his cheap flirty expression:

CHRIS  
Hey.

**EXT. BURNING MAN - ROAD 2 - AFTERNOON**

Alex with UNKNOWN-PEOPLE around her, Chris waves nearby and comes up to her, she's bored:

ALEX (V.O.)  
I don't know if he installed some  
kind of sensor but he kept finding  
me and telling me about stuff and  
even if it annoyed me, I got softer  
and recognized his effort.

**EXT. BURNING MAN - ROAD 3**

Chris' moron face. Sunglasses on again:

CHRIS  
HEY!

She's less defensive and enjoying his effort, she smiles as she looks away for a moment,

A few meters away Bobby is looking at his mobile at a PICTURE POSTED recently from Alex in Burning Man, he has found the place, he spots her near Chris.

When Alex looks back at Chris, he forces a kiss. She doesn't turn down the kiss and seems to settle into it.

Bobby takes his glasses off, he does not want to believe it, he turns his back and leaves, not in time to see Alex pushing Chris away upset, she slaps him.

ALEX

You jerk!

CHRIS

C'mon babe. Don't treat me like that.

ALEX

I am not your baby!

CHRIS

Hey! C'mon!

CASEY FENTON (O.S.)

HEEY!

Alex's face lights up as she turns to CASEY FENTON, 29.

CASEY FENTON (CONT'D)

Hey man! Don't you see that she's running out of patience?

(to Alex)

Hi! Casey Fenton. Want a coffee?

ALEX

(moving next to him)

Hey... Hello Casey, I would like a coffee.

As Alex leaves without saying goodbye, ON CHRIS: big dumb expression upon his face.

#### **EXT. COFFE SHOP CARAVAN**

A silver metallic caravan with tables and chairs outside. They're having the coffee, when Alex has his realization,

ALEX

(with excitement)

OHH, MY GOD.

Alex quickly reaches her mobile.

ALEX (V.O.)  
I had to be spanked by a fairy so  
that I could have the epiphany.

ON SCREEN, "[www.couchsurfing.org](http://www.couchsurfing.org)" Website, Casey's PHOTO,  
underneath reads, "Founder":

ALEX (V.O.)  
This was Casey Fenton. The founder  
of couch-surfing website.

**EXT. BLACK ROCK DESERT - SUNSET**

A reddish purple sunset heats the desert floor where Alex and Casey's silhouettes walk towards the big sun.

ALEX (V.O.)  
We hang out until the end of  
Burning Man and we walked off into  
the dust and with it I know my  
journey was also coming to an end.

They keep walking towards the horizon.

DISSOLVE TO:

**INT. DARK SPACE (DREAM SEQUENCE)**

SLOW MOTION: Alex walks along a corridor made of everyone she has met along the way, one by one they CLAP to her, she's about to reach the end of the corridor:

ALEX (V.O.)  
Casey had convinced me that it was  
time to have a break and see my  
family even without making it to  
the seven continents...

It's WHITE with smoke as in the Tango Club. Bobby is there, stiff as a bouncer, blocking the passage. He stares at her.

DISSOLVE TO:

**INT. NEW YORK APARTMENT - AFTERNOON**

Previous smoke dissolves into a normal CORRIDOR. Alex is in front of the door about to knock on it, she hesitates, then LAUGHS softly. She realizes she's holding the keys.



She opens and goes INSIDE, IN THE HALLWAY:

ALEX  
(closing the door)  
Mom!?

A beat. Alex moves to the next ROOM, there are rosemary and lavender flowers nearby. She SMELLS them with a long inhale.

ALEX (CONT'D)  
Mom!?

She goes to the LIVING ROOM: no one, then to a ROOM: the same.

#### **INT. ALEX ROOM**

On top of her bed there's stacked correspondence, several postcards.

Alex leaves her backpack on the floor and jumps onto the bed. She settles for a moment as if she is absorbing all of her travels. After a beat she grabs the postcards.

POSTCARD: "I'm really sorry about Thailand... XXX Jen."

Alex smiles with it and puts it aside. She reads for a bit the next one, then FLIPS a few more quickly. She starts over with the postcards:

BOBBY (V.O.)  
Hello Alex. I am so bored I had to  
write this. :)

#### **INT. BANGKOK - U.S. EMBASSY - AFTERNOON (SEP)**

Alex and Jen fill in some documents.

Bobby writes in one corner. He heads near Alex to gaze at the PAPER: with her address.

BOBBY (V.O.)  
PS - I'm in the Embassy, you  
understand the boredom right? Bye.

#### **INT. LISBON - LOVE MANSION - DAY (APR)**

Alex KISSES Bobby and gets out of bed to go to the toilet, naked. He picks up a postcard and starts to write:

BOBBY (V.O.)  
I am loving every second of our  
time in Portugal. I didn't think  
that I could be so happy again... I  
wish I could stay here forever.

**EXT. CALIFORNIA - MONICA'S CLIFF - DUSK (MAY)**

Bobby with the dinner table set for two as when he asked  
Monica to date him, he's sitting alone, writing.

**INT. BOSTON - BOBBY'S APARTMENT - DAY (MAY)**

Bobby, at his kitchen table, writing a postcard.

BOBBY (V.O.)  
I could have written you a message  
explaining but... I'm confused and  
it's hurting.

**EXT. BURNING MAN - AFTERNOON (AUG)**

Bobby looking at Alex and Chris kissing:

BOBBY (V.O.)  
I am on my way home. I showed up at  
Burning Man to make you a surprise  
and saw you kissing that jerk...

BACK TO:

**INT. ALEX ROOM**

Alex is now sitting against the wall, still reading, she  
CRIES for a beat, then she shakes as she turns to another  
POSTCARD:

**EXT. BOSTON - BOBBY'S APARTMENT - DAY (SEP)**

BALCONY, he's looking at the clear sky he's writing another  
postcard:

BOBBY (V.O.)  
At Burning Man I hated you... but  
I've realized now that I was the  
one that left you in Lisbon... I  
would like to see you again, I  
loved the time I spent with you.

We hear the sound of a dial tone ringing.

BACK TO:

**INT. ALEX ROOM**

She walks left to right while it's RINGING, he doesn't pick up, she's still SOBBING.

She types a message ON SCREEN: hand shaking, she deletes and retypes: "Daer Bobby. Wi neeed to spe ..." She can't do it.

She tries to catch her breath for a moment.

She looks at the postcard she has in her hands and turns it around, it has his Boston address on it.

She check's Bobby's couch-surfing PROFILE: "Last login: 1 hour ago in Boston."

**INT. HALLWAY**

Alex-Mum is by the door with grocery bags:

ALEX-MUM

Alex?

Alex has a backpack, she hugs her mother hard and starts to SOB again. ALEX-MUM gently puts her hand on her head and hugs her, for a beat.

**INT. PENNSYLVANIA STATION - AFTERNOON**

She gets in a bus, to "BOSTON"

**EXT. BOSTON PUBLIC GARDEN - DUSK**

Alex walks in the park and passes by a COUPLE-KISSING. A tear drops when she walks past them, as if she was invisible.

She sits on a bench nearby, a lake in front of her. A beat contemplating the view.

She takes out a postcard and a pen from her bag, she writes:

"Bobby... I Love you..."

**EXT. BOSTON - BOBBY'S APARTMENT - NIGHT**

Alex walks up the stairs to the door, and knocks on the door. She waits with the postcard in her hands.

A COUCH-SURFER-WOMAN opens the door.

COUCH-SURFER-WOMAN  
Hello, can I help?

ALEX  
Is Bobby in?

COUCH-SURFER-WOMAN  
Oh, he's not in, he went away and  
allowed me to couch-surf in here...  
-- He was so sweet.

ALEX  
Ah, okay. Hmm...

She was not expecting it and is almost about to thank her and walk down the stairs, but comes back,

ALEX (CONT'D)  
(handing her the postcard)  
Could you let him know Alex left  
this for him? Please?

COUCH-SURFER-WOMAN  
Are you Alex?

ALEX  
Yes, why?

COUCH-SURFER-WOMAN  
Wait a sec, I have something for  
you too.

Couch-Surfer-Woman goes inside, Alex is again caught by surprise, she comes back with another envelope,

COUCH-SURFER-WOMAN (CONT'D)  
He said to give this to an Alex.  
(laughing in a silly way)  
If one came by, obviously.

Alex smiles and THANKS her and Couch-Surfer-Woman, closes the door, she opens up straight away, it's another postcard.

**EXT. ARGENTINA - USHUAIA - DUSK (ESTABLISHING)**

SUPER: "Ushuaia"

ALEX (V.O.)  
 What if we meet in Ushuaia in  
 Argentina to catch a boat to  
 Antarctica? Love, Bobby.

**EXT. USHUAIA - DUSK**

Alex with her travel bag, close to the boat's entrance.  
 GENTLE RAIN falls, she's looking for Bobby.

IN A CRAZY SLOW MOTION: MANY-PEOPLE pass by, rain drops on  
 people's clothes, SPLATTING.

ALEX (V.O.)  
 I had to come and try find him and  
 I did meet him in the end...

A rainbow appears, and, behind SOME-MAN, Bobby appears, he's  
 heading her way.

He reaches her, and again they drop their bags to kiss, under  
 the rain. They say I LOVE YOU to each other without us  
 hearing.

They pick up their bags and hold hands, they board the boat.

ALEX (V.O.)  
 ... And there we kissed and said we  
 loved each other but... The truth  
 is, nothing really ever ends and me  
 and Bobby? We didn't really end up  
 together because... I guess that we  
 don't always really end up with who  
 we thought we would...

**EXT. ANTARCTIC GLACIERS - DAY (ESTABLISHING)**

SUPER: "Antarctica, Alex's last continent."

ALEX (V.O.)  
 ... But I did travel the world and  
 I did find love in the end, just in  
 someplace else. -- Maybe that was  
 my serendipity.

**END CREDITS**

ALEX-REAL travel PHOTOS.

ALEX-REAL crosses a NEW YORK STREET holding Francisco's book.

ALEX-REAL in the FILM SHOOTING, waving goodbye to us.

ALEX-REAL playing with a KID, her son.

FADE OUT.

**THE END**