

CLIMATE CHANGED

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INT. LIVING ROOM - CHAD'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Chad paces around the room, phone to ear.

CHAD

...No-no-no. They're supposed to be
Ra-nun-cu-lus, not Hydrangeas!
Ranunculus compliment the tulle.
Since when do Hydrangeas do that?

His phone BUZZES.

CHAD (CONT'D)

Hold on!... Hello?... This is
Chad... No, I said *thirteen* place
settings, not thirty! I
specifically--

The land line phone BUZZES again.

CHAD (CONT'D)

Hold please...

Chad picks up the land line phone and cradles it in his other ear.

CHAD (CONT'D)

Hello?...This is he... Oh, hi Mom.
Yes, the float's in the parade
queue for eleven a.m., sharp.

Max enters disheveled and sweaty.

MAX

I need your help, man.

Chad shakes his head, holding out his palm.

CHAD

(to Mom)

My head's spinning, can I call you
back.... Will won't be flying back
until Thursday, so I need to
handle...

MAX

Chad, please. It's important.

CHAD

So's my wedding!... No, not you
mom. Gotta go. Bye.

Chad drops the land line phone to the floor.

CHAD (CONT'D)

Not now!

Chad clicks on one cellphone call.

MAX

She's a fraud!

CHAD

Fraud?... Not you, sorry. Anyway about the Ranunculus... What...? Oh, the place settings-sorry.

Chad waves Max off, but Max presses on at his peril.

MAX

Kim doesn't really care about the environment. She's helping them hide the company's pollution numbers.

CHAD

Excuse me...?

(to Max)

You dove head-first into an empty pool.

(to caller)

No, not you. I didn't mean... We won't pay for thirty settings.

MAX

What should I do, Chad? I thought she was the one, but she's a liar.

CHAD

Could you hold again, please?

(to Max)

NOT NOW, MAX!

(to first caller)

Hello, Ranunculus? Good. So how much will it be replace them?... Excuse me, it was your shop's mistake... Will's not here, so I wouldn't know what he told you.

MAX

I don't know what to do about this.

CHAD

Hold please.

(to Max)

Can't you see I'm drowning here?

His phone BUZZES again.

CHAD (CONT'D)
Hello?... Oh, sorry. I-I must have
disconnected you. It has to be
Ranunculus!

MAX
SHE CAN'T GET AWAY WITH THIS! I
hate her!

CHAD
(to Max)
I'm not liking you very much right
now, either.
(to caller one)
No, not you, I--

Caller one disconnects.

CHAD (CONT'D)
God Max, could you just GO AWAY!
(to caller two)
No, not you. Wait, we need to
resolve--

Caller two disconnects.

Chad chucks the cellphone and glares at Max.

CHAD (CONT'D)
The wedding's Saturday, Gay Pride's
on Sunday, Will's away on work, so
I have to do EVERYTHING.

MAX
I'm sorry... I just thought you
could give me some advice. Like you
always do.

CHAD
Your problems can't be part of my
everything anymore, Max. Why can't
you ask someone at work?

MAX
No one likes me there. It's not
like I'm part of any coffee break
cabal.

CHAD
THEN START YOUR OWN! You've got to
learn to solve your OWN problems,
Max, because they're getting too
big for me.

MAX

I know you're gonna be with Will a lot from now on, but, we'll still get to hang out, right?

Chad steps away.

CHAD

Before Will gets back, you need to find your own place... and find someone else to solve your problems for you. This wedding means everything to me.

Chad walks to the bedroom.

CHAD (CONT'D)

You're still coming with Kim, I hope. The meals are all paid for.

Chad walks into the bedroom.

MAX

Yeah, sure.

The DOOR SLAMS as a stunned Max stares at the bedroom door.

Max stuffs his things from the couch into his duffle bag.

INT./EXT. YMCA - NIGHT

MONTAGE:

- Max walks into a Y-M-C-A.
- Max pays a clerk, who slides him a key.
- Max turns on the light to find a puny space.
- Max flops down on the bed like the dead.

INT. HALLWAY - DAY

A BURLY HAND yanks Simon into a side hallway as he walks out of the men's room.

SIMON

Yikes!

It's Max - who blocks his escape - cornering Simon between a janitor's closet and a water fountain.

MAX

I've been watching you since we started and it's time this bullshit ended.

SIMON

Oh my God! Are you one of El Chappo's guys? I swear I didn't know what I was doing. Please don't hurt me!

MAX

What? No! I'm bringing you in on a mind blowing secret about this place, and as far as I can tell, you're the only one around here that can help me get to the truth.

SIMON

Aw Max, I don't wanna lose my job.

MAX

Job? You call this a job? This is way bigger. I'm asking you save the planet--and make your legal career while leaving "El Chappo" behind.

SIMON

Y-you really think so?

MAX

(grinning)
Definitely.

Kim walks by and notices them.

KIM

Hey, guys.

SIMON

Hi, there.

KIM

What's up?

MAX

Oh, we were just, uh, talking about the new document protocols Arjun e-mailed everyone this morning.

KIM

Yeah, right. That's what I'd be talking about on my break. See ya' later.

Max winks at Kim as she turns away and walks out.

MAX

Here's what I need you to do...

INT. DOCUMENT REVIEW ROOM - LATER THAT DAY

As Arjun leaves, Max nods to Simon, who scoots over to Shioban's vacant desk, and lifts up her keyboard to find a post-it with a password written on it, then logs into her workstation.

Simon leaves the workstation just as Shioban returns and tries to log in.

SHIOBAN

Damn-it! I can't log in again.
Where's Arjun?

MAX

I think he just left for lunch, but
I just saw Cyrus in his office.

Shioban bolts up and marches into Cyrus' office in a huff.

Max and Simon leave their workstations and wait outside Cyrus' office.

When Cyrus follows Shioban out to her workstation, Simon enters Cyrus' office. Max stands by the copy machine as look out.

INTERCUT: Simon typing frantically on Cyrus' computer and Max looking back at Shioban's workstation where Cyrus works on Shioban's computer as she hovers over him complaining.

INTERCUT INT. HALLWAY/INT. CHAD'S APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

Max's iPhone buzzes.

INSERT: "CHAD" on the screen.

Max answers it.

MAX

I'm kinda busy right now.

CHAD

About last night. I'm sor--

MAX
If it's about the speech, I'm on
it, okay? Hey, I'm in the middle of
something. Gotta go. Bye.

Max disconnects the call.

INT. HALLWAY OUTSIDE CYRUS' OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

Suddenly, Kim surprises Max from behind.

KIM
Whatcha doing here?

MAX
Oh, just a general question about a
document category.

KIM
You could ask me. I know the system
pretty well.

MAX
(changes subjects)
So, you psyched for the wedding
this Saturday?

KIM
Sure. I wouldn't miss it. Oh, and
that reminds me: Did you get a
wedding gift yet?

MAX
Uh, not yet.

KIM
Well, where are they registered?

MAX
Registered?

KIM
Well, they have to be registered
somewhere.

Max peers over Kim's shoulder to see Cyrus leave Shioban's
workstation and make his way back to his office.

MAX
Ya know, I'll have to get back to
you about that. My head's not into
it right now.

KIM

Well, I've been thinking about an appropriate gift and thought that--

Cyrus walks up to them.

KIM (CONT'D)

--a cool gift would be one of those Mr. & Mr. mug sets.

MAX

That sounds okay, but hey, why don't we ask Cyrus?

CYRUS

Ask me what?

MAX

Excuse me, Cyrus, uh, we were wondering, what would be a cool wedding gift for a gay couple?

Max shifts around so Cyrus and Kim have to turn away from Cyrus' office entrance.

CYRUS

Oh, my-my. No different than a gift for any straight wedding, I suppose.

Looking over Cyrus' shoulder, Max sees Simon step out of the office and give him a quick "thumbs up". Max turns to Kim.

MAX

See? I told you it didn't matter.

Cyrus forces a smile, and then continues into his office.