

**BEANS & SCENES**

"Pilot"

Written by

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COLD OPENEXT. BEANS & SCENES THEATRE - DAY

KRYSTAL, 42 with a country twang, stands nervously on the sidewalk.

KRYSTAL

(to camera)

The last time anybody in Lutz got to see a celebrity was nineteen ninety-eight when N\*SYNC's tour bus broke down just outside of Tampa Bay.

B-ROLL: GARY, 53 and obscenely blue collar, picks up road kill.

KRYSTAL (CONT'D)

Gary happened to be driving by on his monthly highway pickins. And even though everybody was sleeping except for JC...

B-ROLL: Gary looks through the window at JC CHASEZ who waves at him enthusiastically. Gary sighs with disappointment.

KRYSTAL (CONT'D)

...we still count that as one. There's even a statue commemorating it outside the library.

B-ROLL: Children take photos of the N\*SYNC statue outside of the library.

KRYSTAL (CONT'D)

But today, today! We have been waiting over ten months for this historic day for our theatre. Our town. OUR NATION! Ten long and difficult months. I could have had a baby by then. Hmm, that's kinda disappointing.

Gary yells from across the street.

GARY (O.S.)

She here yet?

KRYSTAL

(to Gary)

NO!

(MORE)

KRYSTAL (CONT'D)  
(back to camera) She'll probably  
arrive in a limo, or a chariot of  
gold or something.

A rental car pulls in behind her.

KRYSTAL (CONT'D)  
Oh gosh, there she is! I think I  
just wet myself.

She looks down.

KRYSTAL (CONT'D)  
Nope, the lid on my water bottle is  
loose.

She shows the water bottle to camera.

KRYSTAL (CONT'D)  
But I'm that excited!

Krystal runs towards the car, camera following close behind.

KRYSTAL (CONT'D)  
(to camera, COPS style)  
Celebrities love to be ambushed.  
It makes them feel like  
celebrities.

Krystal runs up to the car and beats on the back window.

KRYSTAL (CONT'D)  
Hello!

An arm extends out of the window and sprays Krystal in the  
with mace. Krystal screams in pain.

KRYSTAL (CONT'D)  
It's me, Krystal!

Two probes from a taser shoot out of the window and latch on  
to Krystal's face. She immediately drops to the ground.

REBECCA, 37 with a stuffy Manhattan style, jumps out of the  
car in a panic, looking down at Krystal squirming.

KRYSTAL (CONT'D)  
(through tears)  
Welcome to Florida.

**END OF COLD OPEN**

ACT 1INT. BEANS & SCENES THEATRE HALLWAY - DAY

Krystal and Rebecca walk down the hallway. Krystal holds an ice pack to her swollen eyes.

REBECCA

Are you sure you're alright?

KRYSTAL

I'm fine! I tend to get overly excited. But we've never had a Broadway legend grace the halls of our theatre before.

REBECCA

Still trying to remind myself this isn't New York City.

Krystal squeals in excitement at the words "New York City."

KRYSTAL

New York City! Those words just send me into a song! You know, the second this town heard you were singing at the benefit tonight, the whole show sold out in less than four hours! That's quicker than the Wal-Mart Annual Snake Toss which I don't have to remind you is THE event of the year around here.

KRYSTAL INTERVIEW

KRYSTAL

"Beans and Scenes" is Florida's oldest faith-based Dinner theatre, where we proudly serve up big helpings of fellowship and jazz hands.

She does big jazz hands for the camera.

KRYSTAL (CONT'D)

If the webbing on my hands weren't so severe I could give you even bigger ones!

INT. BEANS & SCENES HALLWAY - DAY

SIMON HARRIS, the mid-60's overweight theatre owner, waddles in.

SIMON

You bitch!

KRYSTAL

Excuse me?

REBECCA

YOU bitch!

They embrace. Krystal tries to join in.

KRYSTAL

Awww...I'm a bitch too! We're all bitches.

SIMON

I haven't seen that beautiful mug since, what, Cats at the Papermill 20 years ago?

REBECCA

Don't remind me.

SIMON

(to Krystal)

Our lead cat got really sick, so instead of singing "Memory," she just signed the whole number with her paws while we danced around like a bunch of assholes.

REBECCA

In fur, no doubt.

KRYSTAL

No way!

SIMON

How are you my sweets?

REBECCA

Desperately trying not to pass out from this heat.

SIMON

You'll never get used to it.

KRYSTAL INTERVIEW

KRYSTAL

Central Florida has an average of 120% humidity at any time during the year. It makes for having to be very creative with your outfits.

B-ROLL: Krystal in the ladies bathroom, putting Maxi pads under her armpits. She sees the camera and closes the door.

INT. BEANS & SCENES HALLWAY - DAY

REBECCA

What is that smell?

KRYSTAL

(proudly)

Lutz, Florida is the nations second largest producer of turpentine, just behind stupid Turpentine, Alabama.

SIMON

Well, we're happy you're here to save our little theatre from complete financial collapse.

KRYSTAL

(she laughs uncomfortably)

I wouldn't say financial collapse, really. We do have a very popular production of Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat that's been running here for over 8 years.

REBECCA

Impressive.

KRYSTAL

...not including that year the theatre caught fire after we found out the magician we hired was just a drifter who found a tux.

Gary enters in a panic with CLINT, a thin thirty-something redneck.

GARY

You seen Sondheim?

KRYSTAL  
Sondheim's loose!?

SIMON  
Not again.

REBECCA  
Who's Sondheim?

KRYSTAL  
(nervously)  
Only the greatest musical theatre  
composer of our generation!

REBECCA  
I know who that Sondheim is, I mean  
who is...

GARY INTERVIEW

GARY  
It's a gator.

INT. BEANS & SCENES HALLWAY - DAY

GARY  
Ok, nobody panic. This thing  
happens all the time.

REBECCA  
What do you mean, all the time?

KRYSTAL INTERVIEW

KRYSTAL  
When people say Florida isn't  
really the south...

We zoom out to see a sign directly next to the theatre that  
says "Gary's Gator Barn - Entrince." (The sign is spelled  
incorrectly)

Krystal sighs in defeat.

KRYSTAL (CONT'D)  
Here, the further north you go, the  
further south you get.

A MAN in a four-wheeler races by behind her.

INT. BEANS & SCENES HALLWAY - DAY

KRYSTAL

Clint, go get his treats, we are trying to impress our Broadway diva! Please don't humiliate me.

Clint runs off.

Peeking from behind Rebecca are TANNER and AMBER, an effeminate married couple in their mid-30's. Tanner is as gay as Christmas.

AMBER

Did somebody say "diva?"

TANNER

Guilty!

They giggle.

SIMON

Oh, no.

REBECCA

Are we not going to talk about the crocodile?

GARY

It's a gator.

KRYSTAL

Ms. Lenore, please meet Mr. And Mrs. Tanner and Amber Swallows, two of the oldest members of our resident acting company.

TANNER

Old? Please. Was I old when my turn at Kenickie in Grease was reviewed as "strikingly adequate" by the Lutz Observer? I don't think so.

AMBER

Or when my Anybody's from West Side Story brought that old woman to tears? I don't think so.

KRYSTAL

She was chocking on her peach melba.



AMBER  
(over confident)  
Then I guess we'll never know.

SIMON  
Come on, Rebecca, I'll show you the  
theatre where you'll be performing  
tonight.

KRYSTAL  
We'll be performing. (She starts  
to sing) "Sisters..."

REBECCA  
(to Simon)  
Do you have any honey? My voice is  
feeling a bit tired from the  
flight.

SIMON  
Sure.

Simon, Rebecca, and Krystal walk away.

TANNER  
Did you hear that? Honey!

AMBER  
Add it to the list.

TANNER AND AMBER INTERVIEW

TANNER  
We consider ourselves part of the  
Broadway community, what with the  
superior amount of comments we post  
on the theatre chat boards.

AMBER  
I'm ShowQueen82.

TANNER  
(referring to himself)  
ShowQueen84.

AMBER  
And we know how everybody has to  
save their vocè because, hello,  
eight shows a week!

TANNER  
A typical Broadway schedule.

AMBER

So we do what the Broadway kids do.  
Recently Tanner's been drinking a  
shot of olive oil before every  
solo.

TANNER

It lubricates the throat.

INT. KRYSTAL'S OFFICE - DAY

Krystal works at her desk, and listens to "Go Go Go Joseph"  
on her computer. Hung on the walls are photos from past  
productions at the theatre.

KRYSTAL INTERVIEW

KRYSTAL

I cannot believe the Goddess of the  
boards is finally here! It's  
exactly how I pictured it when I  
was a little girl. We'd stand on  
stage, holding hands, singing into  
each others faces, feeling the  
sweat running between our palms.  
And I'd stare into her eyes so blue  
I could swim in them...hmm...it was  
a little dykey now that I think  
about it.

INT. KRYSTAL'S OFFICE - DAY

Rebecca and Simon enter.

KRYSTAL

Hey dollface! So, where are you  
staying while you're in town?

REBECCA

I have some family near here.

KRYSTAL

(excited)  
What? We might be related!

REBECCA

Oh I hope not.

SIMON

In central Florida the chances are  
pretty good.

Rebecca notices the show posters on the wall.

REBECCA

Looks like you guys have done quite a few big shows.

KRYSTAL

Oh yes, we've taken on some of Broadway's biggest hits. Here is our very first Godspell, an audience favorite Sound of Music, and our somewhat complicated production of Dreamgirls.

The photo features an all white cast, possibly in bronzer?

KRYSTAL (CONT'D)

(to camera)

Diversity is a problem in Lutz. (Back to Rebecca) But enough about that, let's talk about our big duet tonight!

REBECCA

I'll be singing solo, thanks.

KRYSTAL

So, we'll play it by ear then. Cool. Cool.

INT. TANNER AND AMBER'S HOUSE - DAY

The home of Tanner and Amber is filled with Broadway memorabilia. Obnoxiously so.

They unpack bags of groceries.

TANNER

Sweetie, did you remember the kale?

AMBER

Kale is lettuce, right?

TANNER

You can't juice lettuce. I don't think.

TANNER AND AMBER INTERVIEW

AMBER

Everybody who is anybody is juicing.

TANNER

A.K.A detoxing.

AMBER

All I know is that this is how you get skinny, thin, and happy with who you are on the inside.

TANNER

Broadway is all about juicing. And looking sexy. Hello, Broadway Bares!

AMBER

I mean, it's not like I WANT to get sexually harassed, but there's a little piece of me that wonders if I'm pretty enough to.

INT. TANNER AND AMBER'S HOUSE - DAY

TANNER

So we're not allowed to eat any solid foods at all?

AMBER

Just juice. We can do this, right?

They do an elaborate handshake.

INT. KITCHEN - DAY

BOLO, 88 and the theatre's head cook, leans against the sink eating some noodles and smoking a cigarette as Krystal and Rebecca enter. *[When Bolo speaks, it is so entirely southern and garbled that we cannot understand what he is saying, but the local characters do.]*

KRYSTAL

And here is the man who puts the dinner in dinner theatre, Bolo! Bolo, this is Rebecca, Broadway star extraordinaire!

BOLO

Dj'eatyet?

REBECCA

(unsure of what exactly he just said)  
Hello.

REBECCA INTERVIEW

REBECCA

I only agreed to come down here because Simon is a near, dear friend of mine, and he needed my help. (Pause) That's it. (Looks at Producers off-camera) What?

INT. KITCHEN - DAY

REBECCA

I have some papers to sign in Simons office.

KRYSTAL

Right down the hall on the left.

REBECCA

Thanks.

As Rebecca walks away, Krystal tries to mimic her way of walking directly behind her, carefully copying each step.

Rebecca turns around and catches her. Krystal turns quickly and leaves.

Rebecca rolls her eyes at camera.

INT. GARY'S GATOR BARN - DAY

Gary and Clint take the camera on a tour of their zoo.

GARY

(to camera)

And here's the cage Sondheim used to live in before he up and went on vacation.

They chuckle.

GARY (CONT'D)

But seriously, it's pretty dangerous right now with him loose. He's got some anger management issues and one hell of an irritable bowel.

CLINT

But we got other gators still.

GARY

Yes, here at Gary's Gator Barn and pool lining repair, we proudly serve the community we love.

INT. BEANS & SCENES HALLWAY - DAY

KRYSTAL

(to camera)

I know I should be preparing for tonight's show, but I just gotta see if Rebecca has reconsidered my "Sisters" duet idea. I really feel like this is a missed opportunity for her.

Krystal approaches Simon's office drinking bottled water, and overhears Rebecca and Simon talking. She listens in.

REBECCA

I'm happy to help, and honestly, between you and me, I really needed this.

SIMON

I'm pretty sure we'd be sunk without you here.

REBECCA

What about Krystal?

Krystal looks to camera, with an equal mix of excitement and confusion.

SIMON

I'll let her down easy. Maybe make reservations at Ponderosa to soften the blow. Replacing Krystal with you as Artistic Director will be good for everyone.

Krystal recoils in horror to camera and backs into a wall, spilling her water all over her pants, looking like she just peed.

END OF ACT 1

ACT 2INT. SIMON'S OFFICE - DAY

Krystal, with water-soaked pants, barges in.

KRYSTAL  
(to Rebecca)  
Judas!

REBECCA  
Who?

KRYSTAL  
We were best friends and then you  
threw me under the bus!

REBECCA  
We were not best friends.

SIMON  
Krystal, honey...

KRYSTAL  
Don't Krystal-honey me you back  
stabber.

REBECCA  
Why are your pants wet?

Krystal grabs a potted plant and holds it in front of her  
crotch.

KRYSTAL  
Never mind.

SIMON  
You know we'd have to close the  
doors to this theatre if it weren't  
for Rebecca.

KRYSTAL  
I thought she was here to sing, not  
steal!

REBECCA  
I promise to do everything I can to  
make it better here.

KRYSTAL  
(to Simon)  
How could you?  
(MORE)

KRYSTAL (CONT'D)

After all the blood, sweat, and costumes I've put in to this theatre.

SIMON

We still want you to be around, and to be honest we still want those costumes, we just need a fresh new voice around here to increase ticket sales and I think Rebecca is it.

REBECCA

Yeah, I thought we could lose the whole "Faith-based" thing and make it more appealing to non-religious people.

KRYSTAL

Non-religious?! Where do you think we are Becky, Orlando?!

SIMON

Krissy...

KRYSTAL

Nobody in this world loves theatre more than I do.

REBECCA

We all love theatre.

KRYSTAL

Listen, Jolene, Broadway.com has been my homepage for over 14 years. I have all 9 cast recordings of *Les Misérables* [*she says it very French*] including the rare Dutch concert version that was never even released in the United States. I legally changed my middle name to Lupone for Pete's sake!

SIMON

Krystal, we're broke.

KRYSTAL

Like my heart. Now I finally know how Eponine felt when Marius rejected her for the beautiful blonde.



REBECCA  
I have brown hair.

KRYSTAL  
(to Rebecca)  
JUDAS!

Krystal storms out of the office, knocking into the camera.

SIMON INTERVIEW

SIMON  
When I hired Kyrstal, I did so because she had an intense passion for the art of dinner theatre, more than anybody else who applied. Also, she was the only one who applied.

INT. BEANS & SCENES THEATRE - DAY

Krystal storms into a music rehearsal with Tanner, Amber, ELLIOTT, 24, ENSEMBLE MEMBERS, and MAGGIE, the house manager who is pushing 100.

KRYSTAL  
I'm going rogue!

MAGGIE  
Vogue?

KRYSTAL  
Rebecca and I's duet is now a solo, I'm breaking up the band.

AMBER  
I thought she said no to your duet.

KRYSTAL  
Never mind that. I'm a solo Yoko. And she's a backstabbing temptress who's only here to take away our theatre.

TANNER  
No!

KRYSTAL  
Yes! And we can't let her do that. Can we?

Rebecca enters.

KRYSTAL (CONT'D)  
Speaking of the little vampire.

REBECCA  
Krystal, we need to talk.

Krystal turns her back dramatically.

KRYSTAL  
Hmph.

REBECCA  
I'm not trying to take away your theatre. I'm trying to help you save it.

KRYSTAL  
We don't need saving! Unless it's for your soul, then for sure we need some saving on your end.

MAGGIE  
Ha!

REBECCA  
Krystal...

KRYSTAL  
NO!

Krystal storms out of the room, back still to Rebecca.

Tanner and Amber's eyes light up.

TANNER AND AMBER INTERVIEW

TANNER  
We love drama.

AMBER  
LOVE it.

TANNER  
Sometimes, we'll induce arguments with the staff just to watch them fight.

AMBER  
For characters studies.

TANNER  
But this thing with Krystal and Rebecca is fabulous!

AMBER

We are loving it. Though, it could also be that we haven't eaten in a few hours.

TANNER

But we have juiced!

Amber slightly falls over off-balance. She regains her composure and smiles at the camera.

EXT. DUMPSTER - DAY

Gary and Clint search around the dumpster for Sondheim, when they hear WHIMPERING.

GARY

Clint, quit your crying.

CLINT

It ain't me this time.

Gary looks behind the dumpster, and sees Krystal sitting on the ground, crying and eating a biscuit.

KRYSTAL INTERVIEW

KRYSTAL

Ever since I was a little girl, I would come behind here to hide from the world.

B-ROLL: A YOUNG KRYSTAL cries behind the dumpster, as a large snake climbs up the fence, and an alligator slowly walks her way.

KRYSTAL (CONT'D)

Sometimes it feels like the only place that is safe.

EXT. DUMPSTER - DAY

GARY

Hey sunshine, what's the matter?

KRYSTAL

Oh, like you care.

GARY

Dumplin', just because you and I are on a break-

KRYSTAL

Gary, we got divorced 3 years ago.

GARY

-don't mean I don't care about you none.

KRYSTAL

It's just...I thought Rebecca coming here would be like my Broadway dream, but it's become my non-equity nightmare.

GARY

Huh?

KRYSTAL

You wouldn't understand. I've put my whole life into this theatre, and now it's all gone.

GARY

Well, why don't you try and get it back?

Krystal looks puzzled.

GARY (CONT'D)

I hear from a very trusted source, that Miss Prissy Pants is deathly allergic to peanuts.

KRYSTAL

Gary, I'm not going to kill her.

GARY

I didn't say kill, I said deathly allergic.

She ponders.

INT. BEANS & SCENES THEATRE - DAY

The company rehearses a dance routine as Krystal enters with new found vigor.

MAGGIE

Can we start from the top again?

ELLIOTT

The top top or the top of this section? Or the tippy top? Full-out?

KRYSTAL

Excuse me everybody, I have an announcement to make.

Tanner and Amber immediately jump into their seats and pull out a bucket of popcorn.

KRYSTAL (CONT'D)

I would first like to apologize for my little outburst earlier. It's been a long and stressful day, and I'd like to clear the air and start anew.

She opens her arms encouraging the group to create a circle.

Tanner and Amber stand up, and Amber falls back into her chair.

AMBER

I'm a little light-headed.

The group becomes a circle.

KRYSTAL

Even though leadership might be changing around here, our faith hasn't. Let us pray.

KRYSTAL (CONT'D)

Zip-

ELLIOTT

-zap-

MAGGIE

-zop.

They bow their heads.

KRYSTAL

Dear lord, please keep us safe as we embark on our benefit tonight.

Rebecca enters the rehearsal hall, and Krystal catches her through squinted eyes.

KRYSTAL (CONT'D)

And please watch over those of us who don't know any better but to come into other peoples towns, take their jobs, and steal their dreams right out from under them. Bless their hearts.

GROUP

Bless their hearts.

Rebecca turns to leave. Krystal see's her through squinted eyes and continues.

KRYSTAL

But, and this is a pretty big butt, like the biggest butt I've ever seen, we believe in the company before the soloist; the ensemble before the principle; the loaf before the slice. So, let's put aside our differences for now, and just have a great show.

Everybody claps.

KRYSTAL (CONT'D)

Oh, and look! Bolo made us some cookies. Thanks, Bolo!

Bolo coughs and exits.

Tanner reaches for a cookie, but Amber slaps his hand.

Krystal walks to Rebecca with a plate full of cookies.

KRYSTAL (CONT'D)

I'm sorry I called you Judas.  
Wanna cookie?

Rebecca eyes the cookies, and suspiciously takes one.

REBECCA

What kind are they?

KRYSTAL

Cookie kind.

REBECCA

No thanks.

KRYSTAL

TAKE IT!

REBECCA

Ok!

Krystal regains her composure. Rebecca takes a bite.

REBECCA (CONT'D)

So, listen, I'm sorry about all of this, really. I just...

KRYSTAL

Wait...how is this possible?

REBECCA

Well, I think I could really turn this theatre around...

KRYSTAL

No, your throat.

REBECCA

My throat?

KRYSTAL

Isn't it closing up?

REBECCA

No, why?

From behind them, Elliott begins to cough and heave dramatically. He clutches his throat.

ELLIOTT

I can't breathe!

KRYSTAL

Darnit, Gary!

Krystal stomps off to the kitchen.

INT. GARY'S GATOR BARN - DAY

Gary is in boots cleaning out a gator cage, while Clint hangs over the water with a turkey in his hand.

CLINT

C'mon Scarlett, come get yer dinner!

Clint waves the turkey over the water. Nothing.

GARY

I'm starting to get worried about Sondheim.

(MORE)

GARY (CONT'D)

It's not like him to be away from his lady friend for so long.

CLINT

Well, maybe he wants to take a break from the tanglements of romance because he feels as if the relationship needs some space before he can really commit to anything long term.

Gary considers.

GARY

Maybe.

INT. BEANS & SCENES THEATRE - DAY

The company rehearses. Krystal is singing Sisters to the puppet she's holding.

KRYSTAL

(sung)

SISTERS, SISTERS  
THERE WERE NEVER SUCH DEVOTED  
SISTERS  
NEVER HAD TO HAVE A CHAPERONE, NO  
SIR  
I'M THERE TO KEEP MY EYE ON HER  
because she's an untrustworthy  
scene-stealer and my life is over  
and I might as well jump off a  
bridge!

She breaks down crying. The company stares in silence.

Krystal wipes her tears with the puppet's arm, regains her composure, then continues to sing.

KRYSTAL (CONT'D)

CARING, SHARING...

INT. KITCHEN

Tanner sneaks into the kitchen, where Bolo is on his computer.

TANNER

Hey. You have anything I can eat?

BOLO

Archu onna newfurncy diea?



TANNER

I can't do it anymore, Bolo. It's killing me. Please, you gotta help.

BOLO

Y'allnuh ahkaint feeddjuah 'till ennermish.

Bolo goes back to his computer playing poker.

Tanner eyes a loaf of bread on the counter. He grabs it and runs off.

REBECCA INTERVIEW

REBECCA

This is my first time in Florida, actually.

B-Roll: There is an intense thunderstorm, and we see Rebecca sneak out of her car with a few suitcases and enter an apartment in the "Extended Stay" complex off the interstate. She sees the camera and quickly closes the door. She then peaks out of the curtains, and closes them sharply.

REBECCA (CONT'D)

I'm looking forward to this...little experiment.

INT. SIMON'S OFFICE

Simon works at his desk. Krystal enters on her knees.

SIMON

What in the-

KRYSTAL

I know things haven't been so great lately. Our matinee's have been slow and I'm positive we can kick higher if we need to-

SIMON

Krystal-

KRYSTAL

Please don't fire me. I love this theatre so much. These walls...

She touches the wall next to her, and the plaster crumbles in her hands.

KRYSTAL (CONT'D)  
...were built by my grandfather.

SIMON  
Theatre isn't any different than  
any other business. It's about  
money. And Rebecca's name is the  
only thing that'll keep this place  
afloat.

She stands.

KRYSTAL  
Theatre doesn't have to be in a  
fancy building! It can be  
anywhere. We could put together  
little skits in the parking lot  
like the pilgrims used to do!

SIMON  
Krystal, it's over. Have some  
dignity and just enjoy tonight.

INT. CAR - DAY

Tanner and Amber drive home from rehearsal.

AMBER  
(seeing a billboard for  
Hardee's)  
Why do I all of a sudden see food  
everywhere?

TANNER  
No idea, my dear.

AMBER  
I'm so hungry, I can't think  
straight.

TANNER  
Me neither.

AMBER  
But we're doing it because we love  
the theatre, and this is what  
actors do. They lose weight so  
people will hire them for their  
talents.

TANNER  
Mmhm.

A BURP slips out of Tanner's mouth. The car gets quiet.

Tanner looks to Amber to see if she knows.

She knows.

AMBER

Tanner...

TANNER

Hmm?

AMBER

Let me smell your breath.

TANNER

What? No! Ew.

AMBER

Tanner...

Amber jerks the wheel of the car and the car goes skidding off the side of the road. She puts the car in park.

AMBER (CONT'D)

I am a hungry woman with curves,  
Tanner. Don't screw with me.

TANNER

Ok, I may have had a little  
something...

Amber pushes Tanner out of the car.

AMBER

Get out!

Tanner fumbles out of the car.

TANNER

But sweetie!

She slams the gas as the car door swings closed.

AMBER

(yelling out the window)  
You will rot for what you did!

TANNER

I stole a loaf of bread!

The car screeches away, leaving Tanner alone on the side of the road.

The car gets about 10 feet away until it skids into a Burger King drive-thru.

**END ACT 2**

ACT 3INT. STAGE

Sound check. Actors mill about the stage doing various vocal warm-ups.

KRYSTAL INTERVIEW

KRYSTAL

Being fired sucks, pardon my French. But as my Mawmaw always said, "when one door closes, God opens a window." She also accused her children of stealing from her and was proudly racist. But, I think her point still stands.

INT. HALLWAY

Rebecca walks down the hallway dressed for the show, and as she turns the corner Tanner and Amber immediately appear in front of her, white as ghosts. Rebecca jumps.

REBECCA

Gah!

TANNER

Hey, gypsy lady!

REBECCA

Hello.

Amber falls into the wall, Tanner pulls her back upright.

REBECCA (CONT'D)

Is she ok?

TANNER

She's fine, she's just not used to feeling so dang fabulous! We're on a detox right now.

REBECCA

Oh, I've heard those are really bad for you.

TANNER

What?!

Amber vomits into a trash can.

EXT. TICKET BOOTH - SUNSET

Marguerite sells tickets to a PATRON. The ticket booth serves both Gary's Gator Barn and the theatre.

MARGURITE

Gator, show, or combo?

PATRON

Show.

Behind the patron, an overly eager and enthusiastic PENELOPE waits in line. 22, overweight, very tall with no makeup, wearing a white cotton t-shirt embroidered with horses and hearts, tucked into her painfully tight jeans.

PENELOPE INTERVIEW

PENELOPE

(to Producer off-camera)

Start? Ok. (to camera) My name is Jennifer Seymour. But people call me Penelope.

PRODUCER (O.S.)

Are you excited about seeing the show?

PENELOPE

Are you kidding me!? I've been waiting for this day my whole life! Literally musical theatre means more to me than horses.

She begins to tear up.

PENELOPE (CONT'D)

I'm sorry. I just love horses so much.

She pets the horses on her shirt.

INT. BACKSTAGE

Krystal gathers everybody for one last group prayer.

KRYSTAL

Come on everybody, let's circle 'round and pray it up.

KRYSTAL (CONT'D)

Zip-

ELLIOTT

-zap-

MAGGIE

-zop.

The bow their heads.

KRYSTAL

Dear Lord God, we pray that you watch over us tonight, and make this performance one that's special not only for me, but for those smiling faces out there. That's why we do it. And Lord Jesus we pray that you watch over Elliott and help him to remember his lines this time, and that *[she sings a note]* "this is an A" *[she sings a slightly lower note]* "not this."

Elliott, who's face is severely swollen from the cookie incident, hangs his head in shame.

KRYSTAL (CONT'D)

(she looks around at all the bowed heads)

I'm gonna miss you guys so much.

INT. BACKSTAGE

Tanner and Amber eat snacks off of a table, reaching orgasm with every bite.

TANNER AND AMBER INTERVIEW

AMBER

Those were the worst 4 hours of our lives.

TANNER

The worst.

AMBER

But we learned something very valuable today, didn't we Tanner?

TANNER

Yes. We should never lie to our wives, because we love them very much.

AMBER

Mmhmm. Also, we should treat our bodies and lives as individuals, and not copy others just to get the same success as they do.

They smile at the camera.

TANNER

Unless it's Bernadette-

AMBER

-Unless it's Bernadette.

INT. KITCHEN

Krystal enters the kitchen, which is full swing, and walks back towards the walk-in freezer.

KRYSTAL INTERVIEW

KRYSTAL

My favorite thing to do before a show is stand in the walk-in freezer to ramp up my energy, so I wanted to enjoy it one last time. I also like to eat the cookie dough.

EXT. WALK-IN FREEZER

Krystal walks towards the freezer humming a scale to warm up her voice, when she hears slight whimpering behind the dumpster.

KRYSTAL

Clint, is that you?

She walks around the corner and finds Rebecca crying.

KRYSTAL (CONT'D)

Rebecca?

She walks closer.

KRYSTAL (CONT'D)

Why are you crying?

REBECCA

(her back to Krystal)  
I'm not crying.



KRYSTAL

Please, I've cried behind this dumpster more times than I can possibly count, I know what crying behind a dumpster looks like.

Rebecca turns towards Krystal, and her face is a mess of makeup. It scares Krystal and she jumps.

KRYSTAL (CONT'D)

Gah!

Rebecca, embarrassed, tries to wipe away her tears, only to smudge her face more.

REBECCA

My face is melting. WHY IS IT SO HOT HERE!?

CHRISTOPHER, the theatre's stage manager, yells out the door.

CHRISTOPHER

Five minutes to places! Five minutes to places y'all!

KRYSTAL

Thank you, five!

REBECCA

Thank you, five!

They look at each other, connecting for the first time.

Krystal grabs Rebecca and drags her into the freezer.

INT. WALK-IN FREEZER

Krystal pulls over a bag of beef and sits Rebecca down on it.

KRYSTAL

I didn't think demons could cry.

REBECCA

I'm not a demon. I'm not an actress. I'm not a wife. I'm not anything. I'm a loser who can't even do her own makeup evidently.

KRYSTAL

Well Florida make-up needs to be water, sweat, and locust repellent.

REBECCA

I'm a failure. Nobody wants me in their shows anymore. Broadway has changed.

Krystal goes into a fantasy world hearing the word "Broadway."

KRYSTAL  
Broadway...

She snaps back into reality.

KRYSTAL (CONT'D)  
Sorry, go on.

REBECCA  
You wanna know the real reason why I came down here? Because this is all I have. Literally. I haven't been offered anything in over 2 years, and I need the money. It's not just this theatre that's broke, it's me that's broke.

Krystal, fascinated, chews on a ball of cookie dough.

GARY INTERVIEW

PRODUCER (O.S.)  
So, are you excited about the show?

GARY  
Yeah, yeah, I'm real excited like. I love when K sings and dances and such. Real real nice.

PRODUCER (O.S.)  
And the alligator?

GARY  
No idea. One'a God's mysteries, I guess.

INT. WALK-IN FREEZER

Ice is now starting to form on Rebecca, and Krystal's lips are blue.

REBECCA  
I don't know what I'm doing down here. If I lose this job, I lose everything. I don't know how to run a theatre, much less my life.

Krystal stares at Rebecca. Rebecca awaits a reply. Silence.

REBECCA (CONT'D)

Good luck, Krystal. For some reason, you really do love this place. You deserve it more than I do.

Rebecca stands up. Krystal grabs her hand.

KRYSTAL

Wait. What if we did it...together?

REBECCA

Together?

KRYSTAL

Dreams do come true! I have a plan!

INT. BEANS & SCENES THEATRE

The overture. The ensemble begins their opening number, which involves serving appetizers as they dance.

ENSEMBLE

(sung)

WELCOME TO  
WELCOME TO  
WELCOME TO!  
THE BEANS AND SCENES!

ANNOUNCER (O.S.)

And now, please welcome to our very own 3/4 thrust stage, Broadway's own...Rebecca Lenore!

The audience claps. Most of the older folks are focusing on their soup. Rebecca enters stage with a mic.

REBECCA

Thank you so much. I just want to give a sincere thanks to you all, or, "y'all," for having me here tonight. And I would also like to announce that I will not be taking the Artistic Director position here.

The audience gasps. Penelope jumps up in hysterics.

PENELOPE

NO!

REBECCA

BUT, I do have something I would like to share with you all. I am going to co-Artistic Direct with your very own, and my new friend, Krystal Humphries!

Krystal enters with a cartwheel and a bouquet of roses (a la Chicago). She hands them to Rebecca.

Krystal grabs the mic out of her hands.

KRYSTAL

And in honor of our new found partnership, I figured "Sisters" wasn't the right song for us to sing. So cliché. So instead, we bring you, the Hot Honey Rag from Chicago!

The music starts. Krystal begins to dance around Rebecca.

REBECCA

Krystal, I don't know this dance.

KRYSTAL

Sure you do!

Krystal continues to dance around Rebecca.

Rebecca holds off as long as she can, until she rips off her dress to reveal a sexy black skirt with black leggings.

The audience GASPS. Krystal and Rebecca perform the Hot Honey Rag dance with expert precision.

#### KRYSTAL INTERVIEW

KRYSTAL

Tonight was more than I could have ever dreamed of. Sure, it didn't happen the way I wanted, but as the great Ann Reinking once said, "you will always achieve your dreams, just never in the way you planned."

B-ROLL: The show continues behind her.

REBECCA INTERVIEW - EXT. STAR DRESSING ROOM

REBECCA

It certainly isn't where I thought  
I'd be in my life right now, but  
it's my reality, and I plan on  
living it with dignity and grace.

Rebecca opens the door to her dressing room, and Sondheim the  
gator is on her makeup chair. He turns and hisses towards  
camera.

Rebecca quickly shuts the door.

REBECCA (CONT'D)

(to camera)

Fuck.

END ACT 3

END OF EPISODE