SINGLE IN ALBQ

"<u>Pilot</u>"

written by Carly Petrone

COLD OPEN

INT. ALBUQUERQUE MARRIOT - BALLROOM - 1999

SHELBY DONOVAN, 30, and TAMMY DONOVAN, 48, walk up to the podium as the AUDIENCE reluctantly claps. They are dressed like how the other one should be - Tammy in a tight, sequined dress and Shelby in a conservative skirt suit.

SHELBY (V.O.)

My mother has always had that thing about her. You know, that "I'm a woman, hear me roar" kind of thing. I on the other hand...

Shelby trips on the stairs while Tammy doesn't notice and takes the microphone.

SHELBY (V.O.)

Do not.

TAMMY

(to audience)

Thank you. Thank you, everyone.

Nobody helps Shelby up from the stairs.

SHELBY

(to no one, yet everyone)
I'm fine. I'm fine. Nothing to see
here.

TAMMY

When MAYOR CLANCY asked us to speak at tonight's Entrepreneurs of New Mexico banquet, my daughter and I knew we had to come and speak to you all.

Camera pans to audience, which consists of a handful of people who are more excited about the cheese platters being passed around then her.

Camera cuts to Shelby.

SHELBY

Ooh, cheese.

She motions to one of the CATERERS but no one sees her. Tammy continues to talk into the mic.

TAMMY

Now, you may be thinking, why is this overly attractive woman-

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She cups the mic with her right hand and speaks in a raspier tone.

TAMMY (CONT'D)

Some people mistake me for Heather Locklear...

She takes her hand off the mic and continues in her regular voice.

TAMMY (CONT'D)

Why is she talking to us about starting a business in Albuquerque? Because, my friends, this is where my daughter, Shelby, say hello Shelby...

Shelby twists her skirt to the front as she stands up but it's still backwards. She awkwardly waves.

TAMMY (CONT'D)

(rolling her eyes)

This is where she and I first started Dating Divas.

CUT TO:

EXT. STRIP MALL - TEN YEARS EARLIER - DAY

Tammy walks out of her DIVORCE ATTORNEY'S OFFICE and happily SLAMS the door. She takes out her lipstick from her purse, applies it to her lips, and kisses the air. She puts on her sunglasses from atop her head.

TAMMY

So long Mrs. Trevor Witworth. Welcome back single Tammy Donovan!

She takes a deep breath, pulls down her already plunging shirt, and opens up the next door that reads "Dating Divas."

TAMMY (CONT'D)

Hello boys!

Camera pans to a room full of GOOD-LOOKING MEN holding clipboards. They all look up at her and smile.

BACK TO:

INT. ALBUQUERQUE MARRIOT - BACK TO PRESENT DAY

SHELBY (V.O.)

My mom never had a problem with getting a man's attention.

(MORE)

SHELBY (V.O.) (CONT'D)

It was keeping a husband that was the hard part.

TAMMY

Sure, I admit that I started Dating Divas for selfish reasons. But I mean, a divorced gal's gotta do what Elizabeth Taylor would do, am I right?

No one cares.

TAMMY (CONT'D)

My point is that what started as an experiment, turned into my calling and that is why I encourage you to find out what you are passionate about and turn it into your very own business. Like you, sir, for example.

She points to a distinguished OLDER MAN sitting in a wheelchair.

TAMMY (CONT'D)

You look like a fine person. What is it that you are passionate about?

OLDER MAN

I'd like to feel my legs again.

TAMMY

Oh, okay. Well, maybe you could get into say, oh I don't know, how about taxidermy? Those animals can't feel their legs either...Because they're dead.

The man grows angrier.

TAMMY (CONT'D)

(uncomfortable)

Not that you're dead. But your legs are. Not to say that you'll never walk again but then I'm no doctor.

(smiling)

Although some do call me the doctor of love.

She winks and gives her signature Tammy pose but it just adds to the tension.

TAMMY (CONT'D)

(to the caterers)

Can we get this nice man an extra cheese plate, please?

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The SCREEN FREEZES on Tammy pointing to the man while giving Shelby a "help me" face.

SHELBY (V.O.)

This is normally where I come in for the rescue. I wish I could tell you this is the worst thing my mother has ever done. But it's not. Not by a long shot. Sometimes I wonder why I decided to go into business with Tammy. Then I remember, she is the best at helping people find love. And that's all I've ever wanted.

MONTAGE

INT. DATING SERVICE - 1989 - DAY

Tammy and Shelby turn over the "Open for Business" sign at the front door. They are again wearing age-inappropriate outfits. Tammy looks like Cyndi Lauper's long lost sister. Shelby is a walking ad for Laura Ashley.

A LINE OF MEN AND WOMEN walk through the door. Tammy squeezes the last guy's butt. Shelby rolls her eyes and shuts the door.

INT. WEDDING CHAPEL - 1991 - DAY

Tammy officiates a wedding for a YOUNG COUPLE. They exchange vows and kiss at the altar. Then, they hug Tammy and thank her.

SHELBY (V.O.)

Unfortunately, while I was busy finding love for everyone else, I forgot about myself. Not Tammy though. She found two ex-husbands in the process.

EXT. RUNNING PATH - 1993 - DAY

Tammy sits on a bench wearing a leotard, spandex pants, and a sweatband. She sees a MALE JOGGER coming up from around the corner. She gets up and aggressively stretches. He notices and stops to talk to her. Tammy hands him her card.

CU on card. It reads: Tammy Donovan: Professional Matchmaker. CEO & Client.

INT. ALBUQUERQUE MARRIOT - BACK TO PRESENT

SCREEN UNFREEZES. Pieces of cheese are being thrown at Tammy's face.

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SHELBY (V.O.)

That's why we decided to move back home to Albuquerque. Fresh off her third divorce, my mom was ready to come back home. Secretly? I think it's to get her old high school boyfriend back, even though he's married to her best friend. Well, ex-best friend. Whatever the reason, I'll take it. After opening up offices across the country for the past ten years, I'm ready to settle down - two words I don't think my mom will ever understand.

TAMMY

(to the man in wheelchair)
So, you're not a fan of cheese. I'm
sure I can find you someone special
who is lactose intolerant?

A piece of cheese lands on her face. CAMERA FREEZES.

SHELBY

This might be harder than we thought.

END OF COLD OPEN

ACT ONE

INT. DATING DIVAS OFFICE - THE NEXT DAY

Shelby and Tammy sit at desks facing each other. Everything in the office is decorated in animal print and Tammy fits right in. Shelby stands out in a plain-colored pant suit.

YMMAT

So, the evening didn't go quite as planned.

SHELBY

No, I think getting escorted out of the hotel was a new low for us, don't you think?

TAMMY

Oh, I don't know. I got the security guard's number. He was kind of cute. In a Jason Patric from Speed 2 kind of way.

SHELBY

Anyway, I'm glad we went for a different look with this office. After all, we are approaching the millennium.

TAMMY

Speaking of the millennium, I think it's time you entered it.

SHELBY

What does that mean?

TAMMY

It means, you look like you just walked out of a Talbots commercial. I mean, I don't even shop there.

SHELBY

Exactly.

TAMMY

Anyway, that's why I hired STUART.

SHELBY

Stuart? Who's Stuart?

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TAMMY

The new receptionist. I hired him yesterday.

CUT TO:

INT. DATING DIVAS OFFICE - THE DAY BEFORE

STUART, 25, gay and fabulous, sits across from Tammy.

TAMMY

So, tell me about yourself, Stuart.

STUART

Well, I'm twenty-five. Single. Gay. And fabulous.

TAMMY

You're hired.

BACK TO:

INT. DATING DIVAS OFFICE - PRESENT DAY

TAMMY

I told him to come in today to fill out his W-2.

(pauses)

And to give you a makeover.

SHELBY

What? No. That's not happening. If anyone needs a makeover it's you. I dress professionally. You dress like-

TAMMY

(excitedly)

Samantha from Sex in the City?

SHELBY

Actually?

(annoyed)

Yes.

TAMMY

Anyway, while you and Stuart are out taking care of...

She makes a disgusted face while motioning her hands near Shelby's body.

TAMMY (CONT'D)

That, I'm going to meet with the tenant next door. Her name is KK.

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Tammy holds up a handwritten note from her desk.

TAMMY (CONT'D)

She's the owner of Weight Loss Revolution. She left me a note. Apparently she wants to meet for coffee. That's nice and neighborly don't you think?

SHELBY

Yes. Definitely better than working next door to your divorce attorney.

TAMMY

But it was so convenient, wasn't it? Plus they had donuts. What are we going to get from these people? A Thighmaster? God, I bet this KK woman looks just like Suzanne Somers.

(pauses)

I really do need to sign up for those step classes.

Tammy grabs a handful of M&Ms from the jar on her desk and shoves them all into her mouth.

SHELBY

You're about as coordinated as Gumby.

TAMMY

(smirking)

Well, I have been told that I'm as flexible as Gumby.

SHELBY

Gross.

The doorbell rings. Shelby opens the door to REVEAL Stuart standing outside. He takes one look at her and gasps.

STUART

Oh child, you are gonna thank me later.

He pushes past her and gives Tammy a hug and kiss hello like they've known each other for years.

TAMMY

I told you. She looks like she walked straight out of a *Judging Amy* episode.

STUART

Don't you worry Miss D. I got you covered.

(MORE)

STUART (CONT'D)

The next time you see her she'll look like Samantha from Sex in the City.

Stuart grabs Shelby by the arm and pushes her out the door.

STUART (CONT'D)

(to Shelby)

Business-sexy, girl. We're going to make you business-sexy!

INT. ALBU-CAFE COFFEE SHOP - AN HOUR LATER

Chairs shaped like various types of cacti adorn tables with more cacti on them. The menu only serves coffee drinks with ridiculous Albuquerque-inspired names like "Albu-quirky" (decaf coffee) and "Albu-hershey" (mocha).

Tammy scans the room for KK. Being the vain person that she is Tammy assumes KK is overweight since she owns a weight loss center. She walks up and introduces herself to an OVERWEIGHT WOMAN sitting at the table in the center of the room.

TAMMY

KK? Nice to meet you. I just want to say that what you're doing is just inspiring. I'm sure clients feel comfortable with you right off the bat.

She holds out her hand. The woman looks confused. Suddenly, a familiar voice is heard from behind the woman. Tammy leans to the right and sees KK, her nemesis and ex-best friend from high school. She looks like Christie Brinkley. KK runs up and gives her an all too friendly hug.

KK

Tammy? Wham bam, thank you ma'am Tammy? Wow, you haven't changed a bit!

Tammy is still stunned, not sure how to react.

KK (CONT'D)

Gosh, what's it been? Thirty years? Well, why don't you have a seat.

She pulls out a chair for her. Tammy sits down in it awkwardly.

TAMMY

(dazed)

Wait, Kimberly? What are doing here?

KK

I'm here to meet you, silly.

TAMMY

No no. I'm here to meet some lady named-

KK

KK? Yeah, that's me. Kimberly Kehr. For some reason KK just kind of stuck after I got married.

TAMMY

(depressed)

So, you're still married to Bill then?

KK

Twenty-eight years and counting.

She lifts up her left hand and smiles down at her gigantic wedding ring, wiggling her fingers a little.

CUT TO:

INT. DATING DIVAS CONFERENCE ROOM - AN HOUR LATER

ANGLE ON Stuart who is sitting at the table eating popcorn like he's at the movies.

STUART

Oh. My. God. What did you do? What did you say?

ANGLE ON Tammy, sitting across from him.

TAMMY

What could I do? I wasn't prepared to see Kimberly. The last time I saw her was senior year of high school, when I walked in on her sleeping with Bill, my boyfriend of three years.

REVEAL Shelby who is sitting next to Tammy. She looks like ANNIE LENNOX from the "Why" music video. She raises her hand in the air.

SHELBY

(sarcastically)

And don't forget, father of her only child.

Stuart can barely handle all this gossip.

STUART

Whaaaaaaat? You're telling me your baby daddy married your best friend and now she has the guts to meet you for coffee after all these years like nothing happened? Oh hell no.

TAMMY

It gets worse.

Stuart takes another heaping mouthful of popcorn. Shelby tries to reach for some but he slaps her hand away.

TAMMY (CONT'D)

She works next door to us. At Weight Loss Revolution? Apparently she owns like twenty of them. She's a god damn millionaire!

Tammy bursts into tears and uses Shelby's bright pink and orange boa that's wrapped around her neck as a tissue.

SHELBY

Oh god. Does that mean I'm going to see Dad?

All of a sudden the chorus from "Why" by Annie Lennox plays. Shelby looks confused.

STUART

Too much?

Stuart takes out a pastel-colored portable stereo from underneath the table and hits the stop button.

STUART (CONT'D)

Just since you have this whole Annie Lennox look going on, I thought this would be the perfect soundtrack for this part of the story.

Shelby unwraps the hot pink and orange boa from around her neck, throws it at Tammy, and storms out of the conference room. Stuart turns on the song again.

TAMMY

Stuart!

STUART

Okay. I get it. You're not Annie Lennox fans. Which is just sacrilegious.

He turns off the stereo. Tammy dabs the tears from her face, takes a deep breath, and gets up in a huff. She opens the conference room door and marches out. We see her enter through the doors of Weight Loss Revolution.

INT. WEIGHT LOSS REVOLUTION LOBBY - CONTINUOUS

Tranquil music plays while good-looking MASSEURS give neck massages to the mostly ALL FEMALE CLIENTELE in the waiting area. Enormous pictures of KK with celebrity endorser Suzanne Somers hang on the walls. Tammy runs up to the counter where a YOUNG WOMAN sits, Indian-style.

YOUNG WOMAN

Welcome to Weight Loss Revolution, where your body is our body.

TAMMY

What? Whatever, listen I need to speak to Kimberly Kehr.

YOUNG WOMAN

Who?

TAMMY

(annoyed)

KK. I'm here to see KK.

YOUNG WOMAN

Sure, but first, here's a bottle of our complimentary asparagus juice.

The young woman pages KK very politely and calmly over the loud speaker as to not disturb anyone.

TAMMY

Yeah, no thanks.

Suddenly, a masseur comes up from behind her. He starts to give her a neck massage.

MALE MASSEUR

(smiling)

You should try it. I made it myself.

Tammy looks up and melts.

TAMMY

Okay, well...

She takes a large gulp. She obviously finds it disgusting but wants to be polite.

TAMMY (CONT'D)

Mmmmmm.

MALE MASSEUR

Here, take a seat.

She walks over to a chair in the corner and finds herself completely relaxed as the masseur continues. KK enters the room.

KK

Tammy? I'm so glad you stopped by. I wanted to say-

TAMMY

(worked up again)

No, you listen to me, KK, or whatever your name is. And who goes by their initials after the age of twelve anyway? I came here to tell you one thing: We are not friends. And we never will be friends. Ever. In fact, if you ever set foot inside my business I'll...

She starts to get up but the masseur hits a pressure point that completely relaxes her.

TAMMY (CONT'D)

Damn it, Sven! That feels good.

MALE MASSEUR

My name is Jon.

TAMMY

Don't ruin this fantasy for me, Sven.

ΚK

Listen, Tammy. I know you probably still hate me.

TAMMY

Yep.

KK

That's why I wanted to get coffee with you this morning. To try and clear the air since we'll be working so close to each other.

TAMMY

It's gonna take a lot more than a cup of coffee, I'll tell you that. You got a time machine in this hippie place?

(MORE)

TAMMY (CONT'D)

Because that's the only way this thing will ever be resolved.

Tammy wiggles her way out of Jon's hands.

TAMMY (CONT'D)

Now, if you'll excuse me, I have clients waiting for me.

She stands up, straightens her dress, and falls down on the floor. Jon helps her up.

TAMMY (CONT'D)

(to KK)

My body is far too relaxed now but I'm still extremely angry at you even though it doesn't seem like it.

(to Jon)

Thank you, Sven.

She stumbles through the reception area.

TAMMY (CONT'D)

And you can tell Bill that Shelby has no interest in seeing him. Ever.

She walks out of Weight Loss Revolution and back into her office.

INT. DATING DIVAS OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

Tammy sits down at her desk next to Shelby. The Annie Lennox song plays again.

TAMMY SHELBY

Stuart! Stuart!

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

INT. DATING DIVAS OFFICE - SAME DAY

Shelby walks to the kitchen sink. She wets a towel and attempts to take off her eye makeup.

Spy shot through the kitchen window: A public bus pulls up on the street in front of the building. Along the side of the bus is a HUGE AD for Dating Divas with Tammy and Shelby posing back to back with their arms crossed, smiling. Underneath it says: "You're a catch. Let us find you a match.*(*Guaranteed or we'll date you ourselves!) The bus pulls away.

Shelby sees this and is mortified. She turns around to face Tammy. She now has mascara running down her face.

SHELBY

Mom, you've got to be kidding me with that bus ad.

TAMMY

Well there's no need to cry about it.

Shelby aggressively wipes the rest of the mascara off with her hands.

TAMMY (CONT'D)

I think it's our best slogan yet. It says, we're here if you need us but we're also...

(seductively)

Here if you need us.

Tammy gets up from her desk, shoves way too many M&Ms from the candy jar at reception into her mouth, and gives Stuart a hi-five. She walks toward the conference room.

STUART

Get it, girl!

TAMMY

(to Shelby)

Now hurry up. We've got to start planning our grand opening party.

SHELBY

Is a party really necessary?

CUT TO:

INT. DATING DIVAS OFFICE - THE FOLLOWING NIGHT

The reception area is now a large dance floor with plenty of open bars surrounding it. Music plays and the lights are dim. Awkward couples make small talk.

SHELBY

(annoyed)

I quess so.

Shelby drinks the rest of her cosmopolitan in one sip. Stuart has given her yet another makeover. Shelby looks like a Spice Girl: clip-in striped hair pieces, a mid-drift shirt and short skirt, platform shoes, and more glitter than a discoball. Tammy walks up to her.

TAMMY

Pace yourself, Shelby. After all, we are the hostesses.

Tammy grabs two cosmos from the WAITER passing by and drinks them in two gulps. Shelby gives her a judgmental look.

TAMMY (CONT'D)

What?

SHELBY

I've gotta run to the ladies room and take some of this glitter off. I think Stuart wanted me to be visible from space.

Tammy surveys the people in the room. She seems happy with the turn out until...

CAMERA PANS TO FRONT DOOR.

BILL KEHR enters the room in slow-motion. Wind mysteriously blows through his hair. Time has been good to him. He looks like ROB LOWE.

TAMMY

Goooo Vikings!

Tammy, surprising even herself, does the splits and puts her hands up in the air like a cheerleader.

TAMMY (CONT'D)

I don't know why I just did that.

She blushes. Stuart runs over with a handheld fan and puts it up to her face.

TAMMY (CONT'D)

(under her breath)

Go away Stuart.

She smiles. Bill walks up to Tammy, amused.

BILL

Good to see you haven't lost your flexibility there, Tam. Then again, you were the best cheerleader Rio Grande High ever had.

He offers her his hand. Tammy takes it and gets up from the ground. Stuart continues to follow her with the fan.

TAMMY

(under her breath again to Stuart)

I'm good.

STUART

But you might be hurt. Let me-

Unaware of personal boundaries, Stuart begins to wipe off any dirt that might have gotten on her dress.

TAMMY

(smiling through her teeth)
I'm fine Stuart! Go check on our
guests, please.

Stuart turns around.

STUART

Girl, you a hot mess. You better...

We can't make out what he's saying as he walks away but it doesn't matter.

TAMMY

Employees, am I right?

BILL

I hear ya. So the famous Tammy Donovan is back in town, huh?

YMMAT

Yep, I'm opening up my tenth Dating Divas location. So, you know, I'm rich and successful. So you married that whore KK, huh?

Bill smirks.

BTT.T.

You never were one to beat around the bush.

TAMMY

Well, it's just so hard to forget that image of you guys together. I never knew KK was into guys with small...

BILL

Well, that was a long time ago, Tammy. Things have changed.

TAMMY

(looking down at his pants)
Obviously not everything has changed.

Embarrassed, Bill clears his throat.

BILL

I guess I deserve that. You're looking good, Tam. So, where's my daughter anyway? I haven't seen her in...

TAMMY

Ten years?

BILL

Has it been that long?

TAMMY

Yep.

Another WAITER walks by with a cosmopolitan. Tammy takes it and downs it in one sip.

There's a beat.

The alcohol now hits her all at once. She stares down at her empty glass, confused.

TAMMY (CONT'D)

Hey, someone drank my cocktail! I need a drink.

She walks toward the bar. Bill follows her.

INT. DATING DIVAS OFFICE - AN HOUR LATER

Tammy and Bill sit at a table in the corner. They are both hysterically laughing and obviously drunk.

BTT.T.

So that's how you got an A in Mr. Doheney's class.

Stuart walks up to the table.

STUART

Ok, I know you said not to bother you but I thought you should know that Shelby left.

TAMMY

Why, because she saw her father? (to Bill)

You tend to have that effect on women.

She laughs with a snort, raises her glass in the air, and takes a sloppy sip of yet other cocktail.

STUART

No, because some Freddie Prince Jr. look-a-like hit on her and I made her go home with him.

TAMMY

How do you know she went home with him?

STUART

Because I'm DD tonight and I dropped them off at his apartment. Plus I stole her house keys.

He holds up her keys and giggles.

TAMMY

Good man. That girl needs to get laid like I need another drink.

She takes out her red lipstick from her purse and seductively puts it on. She completely misses her lips.

STUART

Let's get you some water. Excuse us.

Stuart grabs Tammy and takes her to bathroom. She waves goodbye to Bill.

<u>INT. TRAVIS'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS</u>

Shelby sits on the couch while TRAVIS, 28, good-looking, is O.S. in the kitchen. A Sugar Ray song plays in the background.

TRAVIS

So, you're from Albuquerque then?

SHELBY (V.O.)

Just say yes, Shelby. Don't over share.

SHELBY

Well, I was born here but my mom and I kind of moved around a lot. She liked to play a little game called "Where Does My Next Boyfriend Live?"

In an effort to shut herself up she shoves a bunch of peanuts from the coffee table into her mouth. Travis walks into the living room and hands her a glass of white wine.

SHELBY (CONT'D)

(between bites)

Thanks. Sorry, was that too much information?

TRAVIS

Hey, I asked, didn't I?

Shelby smiles and swallows her last peanut. She notices he is left-handed.

SHELBY

Hey, we're both left-handed.

TRAVIS

Huh, how about that? I used to be allergic to peanuts as a kid, you know.

SHELBY

Really? Me too! Luckily I'm not anymore. I think.

TRAVIS

Let's hope not.

They cheers each other and each take a sip of their wine. They both cross their left leg over their right. There's a beat. Then they both shiver and sneeze.

TRAVIS (CONT'D)

SHELBY

White wine makes me sneeze. White wine makes me sneeze.

TRAVIS (CONT'D)

SHELBY

Huh.

Huh.

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TRAVIS (CONT'D)

So, what made you go into the matchmaking industry?

SHELBY

Well, personally, I've never really had any luck when it comes to the whole dating scene.

CUT TO:

INT. ITALIAN RESTAURANT - 1995 - NIGHT

Shelby sits with MARK, 26, at a candlelit table. The WAITRESS hands them their menus.

MARK

I have to admit, reading isn't my strong suit.

Shelby looks puzzled. He opens up the menu and struggles to read it.

MARK (CONT'D)

Let's see. We'll just have the... noodles.

Mark folds up his menu and gives it to the waitress.

MARK (CONT'D)

So, how much money do you make?

SHELBY

Yep, I'm outta here.

She grabs her coat and leaves.

EXT. BEACH - 1996 - SUNSET

Shelby and DAN, 28, walk happily hand in hand along the shore. A GROUP OF PEOPLE pass by them. One WOMAN gives them a strange look.

SHELBY

Did you know that woman?

DAN

(indifferently)

That's my wife.

SHELBY

Whaa-

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Suddenly the woman knocks Shelby over from behind. They both scream and roll around in the sand. Dan is turned on.

DAN

Yeah, take it off!

They continue to roll around, scratching and fighting each other. Dan is busy taking pictures with a disposable camera.

INT. CHURCH - 1996 - DAY

Shelby sits in the second row of pews waiting for the BRIDE to walk down the aisle. Wedding music plays. The happy GROOM, ROGER, 30, steps up to the altar. Shelby recognizes him immediately and stands up.

SHELBY

Roger?

Roger sees Shelby and turns bright red.

ROGER

Shelby?

SHELBY

You're getting married? You told me you were going out of town to go visit your parents.

ROGER

Well...I...

Roger is too shocked to answer.

SHELBY

(sarcastically)

Oh, I'm sorry, how rude of me. These must be your parents.

She gestures toward the OLDER COUPLE in front of her and aggressively shakes their hands. The couple looks understandably confused.

SHELBY (CONT'D)

Nice to meet you Mr. And Mrs. Morgan. I am...was Roger's girlfriend.

She grabs her purse and storms down the aisle just as "Here Comes The Bride" begins to play. She freezes in her place as the doors open to REVEAL the bride.

BACK TO:

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INT. TRAVIS'S LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

SHELBY

That's still not how I imagined myself walking down the aisle.

TRAVIS

What?

SHELBY

Nothing. Let's just say I'm much better at finding love for other people.

She clears her throat.

SHELBY (CONT'D)

But you seem nice and normal. You're not married are you?

SHELBY (V.O.)

I bet he's married.

TRAVIS

Nope.

SHELBY (V.O.)

Then he's getting married.

SHELBY

Engaged?

TRAVIS

Nope.

SHELBY (V.O.)

Definitely a murderer then.

SHELBY

Certifiably crazy?

TRAVIS

Well, it depends who you talk to.

He winks at her. Shelby relaxes and giggles. Travis lifts up her chin and tucks a piece of hair from behind her ear. He leans in slowly. A piece of striped hair comes out into his hand.

SHELBY

(under her breath)

Damn it Stuart!

TRAVIS

What?

SHELBY

Sorry, it's just - I don't normally dress like this.

She grabs the piece of hair from his hand and awkwardly snaps it back in. Travis laughs.

TRAVIS

I kind of had a feeling.

Shelby smiles bashfully and takes another sip of wine. They meet eyes again and start making out. A few seconds later the phone rings and the answering machine picks up.

TRAVIS (V.O.)

Hey, you've reached Travis. You know the drill.

The machine BEEPS.

TRAVIS' MOM

Hey honey, it's Mom. Just wondering if you've heard from your father. I know he's staying at your place tonight but I really need to talk to him. Can you have him call or page me please? Thanks, hun.

She hangs up. Shelby and Travis come up for air.

SHELBY

You're father is staying with you?

TRAVIS

Yeah, my parents are kind of having a hard time right now. Well, I'm adopted, actually. My dad is crashing in the quest room for a while.

SHELBY

Oh. Maybe I should get going then?

Travis puts his hand on hers.

TRAVIS

No, stay. He's not even home anyway. It's nice having you here.

She blushes.

SHELBY

It's funny, I feel like I've known you
forever.

TRAVIS

I feel the same way.

Right as Travis leans in to give her a kiss on the cheek, they both sneeze.

SHELBY TRAVIS

Sorry. Wine. Sorry. Wine.

CUT TO:

INT. TRAVIS'S HALLWAY - THE NEXT MORNING

A disheveled Shelby tip toes out of Travis' bedroom. She drops one of her shoes. As she bends down to get it another WOMAN tip toes out from the room across from her. We only see the woman's legs.

WOMAN

Oh here, hun, let me get that for you.

The voice is all too familiar.

REVEAL Tammy, looking like the poster woman for the walk of shame. They are both stunned.

TAMMY

Shelby?

SHELBY

Mom?

They both scream at the top of their lungs. Travis runs out. He is only wearing a towel around his waist. Bill comes out only wearing boxers.

TRAVIS

Shelby?

BILL

Shelby?

SHELBY TRAVIS

Dad? Dad?

They all scream.

END OF ACT TWO

"Pilot" 26.

ACT THREE

<u>INT. DATING DIVAS OFFICE - CONFERENCE ROOM - A FEW HOURS</u>
LATER

Stuart and Shelby sit at the conference table. Shelby is still in her clothes from the night before.

CU ON: Stuart, who is once again eating popcorn.

STUART

Wait a minute. Travis is the hottie from last night?

SHELBY

Yes.

STUART

And he's your brother.

SHELBY

Apparently.

STUART

And you said your mom was there with your Dad?

SHELBY

Yes.

STUART

And why are you still in your clothes from last night?

SHELBY

Because you have my house keys.

STUART

Right.

He eats an enormous handful of popcorn.

SHELBY

Stuart!

STUART

What? I stress eat.

SHELBY

No, what am I going to do about Travis? And my mother, for that matter. If this means that she and my Dad are getting back together...

Stuart's not listening. He's busy dialing a number on his cellphone.

STUART

Hi. I'd like to order a large pepperoni pizza, please. Yes. 145 Southwest Pepper Dr.

SHELBY

It's 10 a.m.

STUART

What part of stress eating don't you understand, woman?

SHELBY

Can they deliver vodka too?

Stuart takes a bottle of vodka from underneath the table with his free hand and presents it on the table. Tammy enters the room.

ТАММҮ

Oh good. You found the bar.

Tammy grabs the bottle, takes a swig, and sits down at the table.

STUART

(into phone)

Thanks.

(flirting)

Wait, is this GARRETT?

TAMMY

Stuart!

Stuart!

SHELBY

STUART (CONT'D)

(to them)

Okav!

(to Garrett)

Byeeeee.

He hangs up.

STUART (CONT'D)

Pizza should be here in fifteen minutes. Your first client is waiting in the video room. And what the hell were you both thinking?

He grabs the bottle of vodka and takes a sip. Shelby and Tammy both start to rehash their versions of the story.

"Pilot" 28.

STUART (CONT'D)

Hold up Grey Gardens! I have something to say. Bill and Travis are on their way over.

TAMMY SHELBY

What?

What?

STUART (CONT'D)

Hey, we gotta straighten this whole thing out if we are going to work together. I mean, I likes me some awkward drama but this is taking it to a whole other level.

(pauses)

And I dated a ginger once.

SHELBY

Please, we didn't sleep together, Stuart. I'm not my mother.

She glares at Tammy.

TAMMY

Hey, I can't help it if your father still loves my little...

SHELBY

Please. You did that just to get back at KK. And when were you going to tell me that I had an adopted brother anyway? You've only had, oh I don't know, a few decades to tell me.

Bill and Travis appear in the doorway.

BILL

She didn't know.

SHELBY

What?

Shelby spins around to face the two of them.

BILL

I never told Tammy about Travis.

STUART

I'm going to go wait for the pizza. Mainly because I don't want to share it with you. But also because this is awkward. And, again. I've dated a ginger.

Stuart starts to leave but stops to grab the rest of his popcorn and the bottle of vodka. He looks Bill up and down on his way out.

STUART (CONT'D)

Let me know if you ever want to go underwear shopping sometime. I have a discount at Calvin Klein. Long story.

Stuart gives Bill his business card and leaves the room. Bill and Travis sit down at the table.

TRAVIS

Listen, nothing happened.

TAMMY

How does he have business cards already?

TRAVIS

Between me and Shelby. Nothing happened, okay? Thank God.

SHELBY

Thanks.

TRAVIS

You know what I mean.

Everyone starts to give their opinion again. Bill stands up.

BILL

Listen! You should both know that Travis is adopted. I didn't tell Tammy about Travis because KK specifically asked me not to.

SHELBY

Well, that's a great reason, Dad. You're a real stand up guy. Then again, I guess I already knew that. Because most fathers lie to their daughters about having a whole other family. Guess now I know why you haven't been around all these years.

 ${\tt BILL}$

I'm sorry. I was going to tell you when I heard you both were back in town. I was just waiting for the right moment.

"Pilot" 30.

SHELBY

Well here's an idea. How about waiting until right after I admit to my sort of brother that I have a crush on him? Or even better, how about after we make out with each other?

Travis and Shelby both shiver in disgust. Shelby smirks.

SHELBY (CONT'D)

You know what? Of course I made out with Travis. Because that's the only crazy dating situation I haven't been a part of yet. So thank you for letting me check that off my list. And don't even get me started on you two.

She points to Bill and Tammy. Suddenly, the chorus of the same Annie Lennox song blasts from the hallway. Shelby stands up.

SHELBY (CONT'D)

Now, I don't know about you but I'm extremely embarrassed, I need to go throw Stuart's stereo against the wall, and I have to meet with a first-time client looking like Posh Spice. So, if you wouldn't mind leaving and never coming back I would greatly appreciate it.

She exits the room.

BILL

Travis, look I...

Travis glares at Bill and leaves the room. Bill and Tammy sit in silence for a few seconds.

TAMMY

I think you should go.

BILL

Are you going to tell KK?

TAMMY

I don't know yet.

BILL

Do you still love me?

TAMMY

I don't know yet.

BTT_iT_i

Okay, well, I'll be next door. You know, selling asparagus juice. (pauses)

That stuff is disgusting.

TAMMY

Yep.

Bill leaves the room.

SHELBY (V.O.)

So, that's a totally normal way to meet your adopted brother, right? Let's just say the next few days were slightly awkward.

CUT TO:

MONTAGE

INT. DATING DIVAS OFFICE - VIDEO ROOM - A FEW DAYS LATER

Shelby sits with a NEW MALE CLIENT in the video room, holding a clipboard.

SHELBY

What are your thoughts on adoption and have you ever made out with one of your relatives?

The client gives her a strange look.

INT. LOCAL NEWS STATION - DAY

Shelby, Tammy, and Stuart sit on the couch during a live TV interview with a LOCAL REPORTER.

REPORTER

So, tell our viewers a little bit about Dating Divas.

TAMMY

Well, Dating Divas is for anyone looking for love.

SHELBY

Well, not anyone. You have to be single, of course.

REPORTER

Of course.

SHELBY

(to Tammy)

You'd be surprised how many people date married men these days.

Stuart nudges Shelby while smiling to the camera.

STUART

I do makeovers!

He waves to the camera.

TAMMY

Yes, Stuart is our resident stylist. He really works miracles.

SHELBY

Yeah, before this my mom looked slightly less slutty.

The reporter nervously giggles.

REPORTER

Okay, well, thanks for coming by this morning.

EXT. OUTSIDE OF WEIGHT LOSS REVOLUTION - DAY

Travis, and KK sell bottles of asparagus juice in the parking lot. Tammy crazily runs up to the table and knocks over all of the glass bottles.

TAMMY

You might as well sell urine!!!

Tammy walks away proudly while everyone stares at her in awe.

BACK TO:

INT. DATING DIVAS OFFICE - CONFERENCE ROOM - DAY

Stuart sits at the table with Shelby and Tammy.

STUART

So, I think you guys need to work on your aggression issues. It's starting to affect business.

SHELBY

You don't think it has anything to do with the fact that our parking lot smells like asparagus?

STUART

Well, that certainly doesn't help. But you two have to start getting along or nobody is going to want you to help them find love. Which means I'll have no job and I'll have to move back in with my parents. And trust me, they definitely don't want me there.

CUT TO:

INT. STUART'S PARENTS LIVING ROOM - EVENING - ONE YEAR EARLIER

Music plays. The room is filled with MIDDLE-AGED COUPLES. Stuart's PARENTS sip martinis and dance. A huge banner that says "Stuart Is Finally Out!" hangs from above the piano in the corner of the room.

Spy shot: Stuart comes down the stairs, holding his portable stereo and dragging an overly-stuffed leopard print suitcase. He gets to the bottom and tries to get his parent's attention.

STUART

(annoyed)
I'm leaving now!

Stuart's parents don't notice him. They clink their martini glasses together and everyone cheers. Stuart opens the front door and leaves in a huff.

BACK TO:

INT. DATING DIVAS OFFICE - CONFERENCE ROOM - CONTINUOUS

STUART

Oh my God. I think they were throwing me a coming out party. Not a going away party. I haven't talked to them in like a year.

(pauses)

Excuse me, I have to go call my parents.

He dashes out of the room. Shelby and Tammy sit there quietly for a few seconds.

SHELBY

So, are you and Dad seeing each other again?

TAMMY

It's complicated.

SHELBY

Actually, it's not. You either are. Or you aren't.

TAMMY

I can't talk about this right now, Shelby. I have a new client waiting for me.

Tammy exits. The conference room phone RINGS. Shelby hits the speaker button. Stuart is crying hysterically and the chorus from "A Song for Mama" by Boyz II Men plays in the background.

STUART

(in between cries)

I'm sorry, Mom. I love you!

SHELBY

Stuart?

STUART

Other line!

More crying ensues. Shelby smirks and presses the other line.

SHELBY

Hello? Dating Divas. This is Shelby.

INT. DATING DIVAS OFFICE - FRONT DESK - CONTINUOUS

Stuart hands Tammy a folder without looking at it. He is now hysterically crying.

INT. DATING DIVAS OFFICE - VIDEO ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Tammy looks down at the folder as she enters the room. A WOMAN sits in front of the camera. Tammy shuts the door.

TAMMY

Sorry about all that. Welcome to Dating Divas. What can I do for you today?

WOMAN

Well, hopefully, not my husband again.

TAMMY

Excuse me?

Tammy looks up and sees that the woman in the chair is KK.

TAMMY (CONT'D)

Oh boy.

"Pilot" 35.

The door opens and all we see is Stuart's hand putting the half empty bottle of vodka on the floor.

SHELBY (V.O.)

Welcome home, Tammy.

She smiles awkwardly at KK.

END OF SHOW