

Bled Dry
(first draft)

By

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INT. LUNCH ROOM - DAY

DAVID WATT, 25 is sitting in the lunch room of the department store he works at. It is the main store for the mall. David sits with his friend TIM, 21.

A cheesy love song is playing on the store-wide speaker system.

DAVID

I don't know if I want to work here anymore.

TIM

Why not?

DAVID

This music for one. Why do they have to play this soft rock crap all the time? It's driving me nuts.

TIM

Just wait until November when they start playing Christmas songs for two months straight.

DAVID

Aghh, I hate that too. I think I've been here too long.

TIM

It's not so bad.

DAVID

Come on, it's as bad as this stupid music we're forced to listen to every day. It's always the same.

TIM

You don't like this song?

DAVID

Hell no. I mean, why are there so many love songs on the radio anyway? Do people really feel like that? Like does this guy love his girl that much? Is it even possible to feel that?

TIM

There certainly are enough songs about it. If the law of large numbers has anything to it than yes, it must be possible.

(CONTINUED)

DAVID
You ever felt like that?

TIM
I'm only 21.

INT. HOME APPLIANCES FLOOR - DAY

A family is walking through the department looking at the refrigerators. Two young kids, 6 and 4, skip ahead of their parents. The couple look like they are in their thirties and they hold hands as they browse. David walks over to serve them.

DAVID
(reaches his hand out)
How ya doing today?

MAN
(shakes his hand)
Pretty good. We're just looking at getting a new fridge.

DAVID
(shakes his wife's hand)
You've come on a great day for it.
My name's David. Let me show you what we've got.

MAN
We don't have a lot of money to spend.

DAVID
Who does? Refrigerators can be so expensive these days. Luckily though, we got a few really good deals today.

David leads the family down an aisle that consists of merely refrigerators.

DAVID
Have you ever bought a fridge before?

MAN
Never. But the one at the new house has been on the fritz now for weeks.

(CONTINUED)

WOMAN

It won't keep our frozen stuff
frozen.

MAN

It just started doing that too.
It's weird.

DAVID

I'd say. Is it an old one?

MAN

I think it's probably as old as the
house.

WOMAN

Yeah, it's a yucky avocado green.

DAVID

Yeah, my mom had one of those until
very recently. She loves her new
stainless steel one.

MAN

Aren't those expensive?

DAVID

They can be, but they are so energy
efficient that you'll notice a big
drop in your energy bill.

WOMAN

I really like this one honey.

DAVID

It's a great model. A bit on the
pricey side though.

MAN

What else do you have?

INT. CHECK OUT COUNTER

David rings up the sale on the cash register.

DAVID

It's a good thing you guys came in
today. I don't think that fridge
would've still been here tomorrow.
That's the best deal I've seen here
in months.

(CONTINUED)

MAN

That's great. Thanks.

DAVID

(hands the man his card)
So it'll be delivered to your place tomorrow, and remember if you have any problems with it, just give me a call, okay?

MAN

Will do. Thanks again.

The family leave and Tim comes up to David right away.

TIM

Another happy customer?

DAVID

Yeah, I think so. They took last year's floor model.

TIM

They looked happy.

DAVID

Why wouldn't they be?

TIM

No, I mean, they looked happy in love.

DAVID

I don't know if you can tell from one sale.

TIM

Oh, I can tell. I've had some couples bicker and argue every little detail. I've had some that-

DAVID

Okay, I know what you mean. I've had my share of those to.

TIM

So maybe she's out there somewhere.

DAVID

Who?

TIM

The one that will get you writing a love song.

DAVID

I doubt it. Anyway, I'm in no mood to date right now. I need a break after the whole Julie thing.

TIM

That was tough but it's been two years man. It's time to move on and look at new fridges. (beat) Get it? 'cause she was so cold.

DAVID

(shakes his head and laughs)
Good one.

TIM

So are you going to give blood today after work?

DAVID

What?

TIM

There's a blood donor clinic in the community room today.

DAVID

Nah, I don't think so.

TIM

Oh come on. It only takes a few minutes. You could save a life... And they have cookies.

DAVID

Cookies?

TIM

And juice.

DAVID

All right. I'll go and see what it's about. but if I don't like the looks of it, I'm leaving.

TIM

You're not scared of a little needle are you.

(CONTINUED)

DAVID

No, it's not that.

TIM

Then just do it. Besides, my dad says that it actually helps your body. It forces it to create new blood to replace what you've lost, and in so doing, it cleans up your system. It's like an oil change for your body.

DAVID

I've never heard of that before.

TIM

It makes sense though, doesn't it.

DAVID

Yeah, and I could never turn down a free snack.

INT. COMMUNITY ROOM (TEMPORARY BLOOD DONOR CLINIC) - DAY

The community room is a store within the mall that various community groups can use. Today, it has been transformed into a temporary blood donor clinic.

At the front there is a receptionist's desk. There is a table just behind that where the nurses check to see if you can donate today.

There are little cubicle booths similar to voting stations where people can have some privacy to fill out the forms needed. There are three nursing office cubicles that have tall partitions around them for complete privacy.

At the back of the room is the refreshment lounge where those who have just donated get a free snack.

In the middle of the room are the donation chairs. They look like comfortable loungers. There are eight of them in total and six are in use as David and Tim approach the reception desk.

RECEPTIONIST

How are you today fellas?

TIM

(hands her his donor card)

Pretty good. I have an appointment for right about now.

(CONTINUED)

RECEPTIONIST

Excellent. Thanks for coming in today.

TIM

And this is my friend David. He's a newbie.

RECEPTIONIST

It's always good to see new donors. It's really needed you know. Thanks for coming.

DAVID

(still not sure about this)
No problem.

The receptionist puts a sticker on his shirt that resembles a drop of blood. It says 'First Time Donor' in the middle of it

RECEPTIONIST

Don't worry. Just go see the nurse over there. She'll let you know how easy the process is.

DAVID

Thanks.

David and Tim walk over to the admittance nursing station and have a seat on the chairs set up for waiting.

ADMITTANCE NURSE

I can take one of you right away.

TIM

You might as well go first.

DAVID

Okay.

ADMITTANCE NURSE

I see that you're a first time donor.

DAVID

Yeah, Tim over there talked me into it.

ADMITTANCE NURSE

(waves to Tim)

Good for him. And good for you for coming. I just need to set you up

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

ADMITTANCE NURSE (cont'd)
for a donor card and put you in the
computer.

Tim is talking to the person who just sat down beside him.

ADMITTANCE NURSE
Now I just need to poke your middle
finger real quick.

David lays his hand down on the desk. The nurse positions
his hand under a molded plastic screen and pokes it with an
instrument. She then takes the droplet of blood she just
collected and puts it into a small test tube of blue liquid.

ADMITTANCE NURSE
I just tested to see if your iron
count was in the acceptable levels
to donate.

DAVID
And I'm good?

ADMITTANCE NURSE
(hands him a file folder)
You're good to go. You just need to
fill out this questionnaire by
carefully reading it and darkening
every square. Only do the first
twenty questions though. The nurse
will ask you the last twenty, okay.

DAVID
Got it!

David takes the folder and goes to the cubicle desk to fill
it out.

DAVID
Are you feeling healthy today. Yes!
Have you taken any medications
today. No. This seems easy enough.

David completes the questionnaire and starts to walk toward
the nursing station. A nurse invites him to go into one of
the cubby rooms. Inside there is a desk that the nurse sits
behind. There is a blood pressure machine on the desk.

NURSE
First time, eh?

DAVID

Yeah, the only other time I donated
it was kind of against my will. I
hate mosquitoes.

NURSE

I know what you mean. Any way, can
I see your arms? I'm just looking
for track marks.

David holds out both arms as the nurse examines them.

NURSE

Now I need to take your blood
pressure and you need to put this
under your tongue.

She applies the cuff to his arm and hands him the
thermometer. She starts up the machine and the cuff starts
to tighten on his arm. He can see the readings bouncing
around on the device.

NURSE

Alright. Blood pressure is good.

The nurse takes his questionnaire sheet out and hovers over
it with a pen.

NURSE

Now I need to ask you some
questions. In the last six months
have you had sex-

DAVID

No.

NURSE

-with someone you didn't know the
sexual history of?

DAVID

No.

The nurse darkens the square on the questionnaire.

NURSE

In the last 12 months have you had
sex-

DAVID

No.

NURSE

-with anyone who was born or has
lived in Africa?

DAVID

No.

NURSE

I need to read the whole question,
okay?

DAVID

Okay.

While the nurse asks him the rest of the questions, just outside of the cubicle, we see AUTUMN REYNOLDS, 22, sitting down on one of the donation chairs. A nurse is getting everything ready to start taking her blood. Tim is already in the process of donating.

NURSE

Alright. That's pretty much it. Now
you just need to decide which arm
you want us to use.

The nurse leads him toward the available donation chairs. David looks at his arms and at the chairs available.

DAVID

It doesn't matter.

SALLY, 34, a nurse, leads him to a donation chair that is right beside Autumn. He sits down on it and she leans the chair back so he is now in a comfortable reclined position.

SALLY

First time, eh? So what do you do?

She places the collection bag and file folder on his chest and she rubs a prep solution on his arm. Autumn pays attention to their conversation.

DAVID

I sell appliances right here in the
mall. Big ticket items at the
department store over there.

SALLY

Oh yeah, how's business these days?

DAVID

Oh, you know. It's slowed down a
bit, but it's a living.

(CONTINUED)

She inserts the needle into his arm and we can see the dark blood flowing down a tube and into a plastic bag. The bag sits on a device that gently rocks it back and forth.

SALLY
How does that feel?

DAVID
Okay.

SALLY
It's not too tight or anything then?

DAVID
Nope. It's all good. So, is this your main job?

SALLY
Yeah it is. I go around to a different temporary clinic every week. I also work at the main one downtown.

DAVID
Interesting. So there are a lot of these then?

SALLY
Yeah, we even go out to high schools but we always seem to be short on our supply.

DAVID
That's weird. You guys look busy enough.

SALLY
We are. But we still need more people donating. The need is always there.

TIM
(as he walks toward the refreshments)
Come on man, you got slow veins or something? I'm done.

SALLY
He's doing just fine, aren't you David?

DAVID

I don't know. How long is this supposed to take?

SALLY

It all depends. I think you just might beat Autumn over here.

David looks over at her and smiles.

DAVID

Beginner's luck, that's all that is. Besides I don't think it's a race is it?

AUTUMN

Not right now.

DAVID

Huh?

AUTUMN

I'm a runner. Bet I could beat you in real race.

TIM

My boy here is a runner too.

SALLY

And he's all done.

TIM

Wave the checkered flag.

Sally pulls the needle out of David's arm, places a piece of gauze over it, and sets a timer.

SALLY

Hold that tight for two minutes.

TIM

(to David)

Meet ya at the snack table, then.

DAVID

(to Autumn)

So do you give often?

AUTUMN

Every 56 days.

(CONTINUED)

DAVID

Why's that?

AUTUMN

That's as often as you're allowed.
The clinic comes here every three
months to make sure they get as
much of our blood as they can
possibly get.

The timer goes off. Sally moves David's hand away from the gauze and places a bandage over the puncture mark.

SALLY

(to David)

Go get yourself a snack over there.
Great job for your first time.

DAVID

Thanks.

SALLY

(to Autumn)

Looks like you're done now too.
Perfect timing.

David walks over to tables in the back and has a seat beside Tim. A volunteer comes up to him to serve him.

VOLUNTEER

What can I get for you? Coffee?
Juice?

DAVID

Apple juice would be great, thanks.

VOLUNTEER

I'll be right back. Help yourself
to any snack from the basket.
(she motions to the snack
basket on the table)

DAVID

Nice selection.

David grabs a package of cookies and the volunteer comes back with his apple juice.

DAVID

Thanks

(CONTINUED)

TIM

So you survived your first donation. (looks at his watch) and it only took an hour.

DAVID

An hour? Uh oh. I almost forgot.

David gets up to leave.

TIM

Forgot what?

David tried to get up too quickly and is overcome by dizziness. He stumbles and almost falls backward but Autumn puts her hand on his back and guides him back to his seat.

AUTUMN

Careful there big guy.

TIM

There's a reason they give us these snacks, David. If I knew you were gonna jump up like that I would've warned you.

VOLUNTEER

Are you okay there? Maybe you should lie down.

DAVID

I'll be fine. Autumn saved me there. Thanks.

AUTUMN

No problem.

DAVID

(opens a pack of Bits & Bites)
So what do you do when you're not saving newbies?

AUTUMN

Believe it or not, I'm a lifeguard.

DAVID

So, you're always saving people.

TIM

And here you thought it was a magical first meeting.

(CONTINUED)

DAVID

This is my friend Tim.

AUTUMN

(to Tim)

Nice to meet you (to David) So where were you trying to hurry off to so quickly there?

DAVID

Um, it doesn't matter. I'd rather be here right now.

TIM

Yeah, it's like Easter here. We get a nice basket of treats.

DAVID

Actually it was the Bits and Bites that reminded me about the computer class I'm teaching at the library tonight.

AUTUMN

So are you like a computer expert then?

DAVID

No, it's nothing like that. I just show people who've never really tried a computer how it works, and what they can do with it. Pretty much anybody could teach it.

AUTUMN

But not just anybody does.

DAVID

(smiles)

I wanted to go home first and get some dinner. I guess these treats will have to do for now. I'm going to have to go straight there from here.

TIM

Do you think you're still up to going today?

DAVID

Yeah, I'm not feeling faint anymore. I think I just got up too quick there.

(CONTINUED)

AUTUMN

So what library do you work at?

DAVID

Oh, it's just a volunteer position over at Redhill.

AUTUMN

My aunt lives right by there.

DAVID

We'll maybe I'll see you there sometime.

David gets up to leave.

DAVID

(to Autumn) It was really nice meeting you. (to Tim) See you at work tomorrow Tim.

AUTUMN

Will you be back here to donate again?

DAVID

Only if you're going to be here.

AUTUMN

I will.

David smiles, nods his head, and then heads out of the clinic. On his way out, he stops at reception and makes an appointment for the next clinic. Autumn notices him doing so and smiles. She talks to Tim, he takes out a business card, writes on the back of it, and gives it to her. David does not see this.

INT. REDHILL LIBRARY - NIGHT

David is just finishing up his computer class. There are five people attending it; FOUR SENIOR CITIZENS and a newly landed IMMIGRANT from China. There is also a LIBRARIAN at the check-out desk.

LADY

Thank you so much David. I'm really starting to get this computer stuff now.

(CONTINUED)

DAVID

You sure are. Great job today.

LADY

Will see you next week then.
Thanks.

David sits down at a computer to check his email - nothing but junk mail. He makes sure all of the computers have been shut down. The librarian leaves at the same time and locks up the library behind them.

LIBRARIAN

Good class today?

DAVID

Yeah, it's been a long day though.
Time to head home and relax.

LIBRARIAN

Okay, you have a good night then.

DAVID

Thanks, you too.

INT. DAVID'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

David comes home with a box of pizza. He places it on the kitchen table and heads to the bedroom. He empties his pockets and places his wallet, keys, lip balm, and a packet of gum on his dresser. He then heads back to the living room. He grabs a beer from the fridge before flopping down on his couch and turning on the television. It's obvious that it has been a long day and that he's tired.

CLOSE UP: THE PIZZA BOX (HALF EMPTY) A BEER BOTTLE EMPTY

The television shows the eleven o'clock news. David shuts it off, puts the left over pizza in the fridge and gets ready for bed. He turns off the light.

CUT TO BLACK

INT. HOME APPLIANCES FLOOR - DAY

START IN BLACK. THE CAMERA IS INSIDE A FREEZER. WE SEE THE DOOR OPEN AND A CUSTOMER LOOKING INSIDE IT. DAVID STANDS BEHIND HER.

(CONTINUED)

LADY

Wow, that's pretty good.

DAVID

(mumbles to self)

I feel like I'm boxed in.

LADY

What?

DAVID

(back to salesman mode)

I was saying, 'You can fits lots in.' It's an expanded capacity model. Fits more than your standard freezer.

LADY

That's what I need. We don't have a separate freezer.

DAVID

You should look at getting one. You wouldn't have to go shopping for your family as much. It's a real time saver and well worth the investment. I'll show you what I mean.

David shows her the different models but then notices Autumn strolling through his department.

DAVID

Excuse me. I'll let you browse for a minute and I'll be right back.

David walks over to greet Autumn.

DAVID

Hi Autumn!

AUTUMN

Hey, you remember my name.

DAVID

I'm in sales. I'm good with names and faces. Even if I wasn't I couldn't forget yours.

AUTUMN

(shakes her head and smiles)

Um, I was just wondering if you had your lunch break yet, and if not, whether or not you'd like to-

(CONTINUED)

DAVID

Can you give me ten minutes? I'm gonna try to make this sale and then I can sneak away for a bit.

AUTUMN

Sure. I'll be back in ten.

David starts back to deal with his customer but Tim heads him off.

TIM

What are you doing man? You're just letting her go like that?

DAVID

I'm gonna finish this sale and then we're gonna go get some lunch.

TIM

I can finish your sale.

DAVID

Yeah, and take my commission.

TIM

I'll ring it in as yours. I owe you one anyway.

DAVID

Thanks man.

David rushes off to catch up to Autumn. Tim goes to greet the customer.

TIM

Hi. I'm Tim. David had to rush off to a meeting quickly. He apologizes greatly.

INT. MALL HALLWAY

David catches up to Autumn just as she's about to go into a woman's clothing store.

DAVID

You don't want to go in there. Everything's so overpriced.

AUTUMN

And how would you know that?

(CONTINUED)

DAVID

Actually it was just a guess.
Everything seems to be over-priced
in this mall.

AUTUMN

You're right. I don't even know why
I come here.

DAVID

Me either.

INT. HIGH SCHOOL BLOOD DONOR CLINIC - DAY

Sally is working with KAREN, 46 at another temporary clinic.
This one is set up in the detention room at a high school
and it looks pretty much the same as the one we saw earlier.

SALLY

You've been working here for a long
time haven't ya?

KAREN

In one way or another, yes.

SALLY

Have you noticed that a person's
blood type can almost predict their
personality?

KAREN

Can't say I have.

SALLY

Ya know the really out-going and
social type?

KAREN

(laughs)

Yeah.

SALLY

Well next time, check their blood
type and you'll mostly likely find
it to be Type O.

KAREN

Sure. Will do.

SALLY

You're just saying that to shut me
up, aren't ya?

(CONTINUED)

KAREN

It's bad enough people believe in horoscopes but blood types, come on?

SALLY

Okay, I'll give you one more. Do you know any perfectionists? Bet ya any money they'll have Type A blood.

KAREN

That should be easy enough to spot here since we're at the school. I'll just see if someone comes in with really neat and organized books.

SALLY

Alright. let's just focus on those two blood types today and when you find out I'm right, we'll look at two different types tomorrow.

KAREN

(rolls her eyes)
Whatever.

INT. MALL RESTAURANT

David and Autumn are just finishing up their lunch. They both have a glass of beer, nearly empty in front of them.

AUTUMN

So why are you a salesman?

DAVID

I don't know. Why are you a lifeguard?

AUTUMN

I'm actually going to school to become a nurse. I'm just a lifeguard to help pay my tuition.

DAVID

That's pretty cool actually. I'd thought about going back to school but I just sort of fell into this job, realized that I was good at it, and stayed.

(CONTINUED)

AUTUMN

That's good. I think it's important to do what you like.

DAVID

It definitely is.

David looks towards the windows and puts a hand in front of his face. It's obvious that he wants to say more but he stops himself.

DAVID

Well. I should be getting back to work. Tim'll be needing his break soon.

AUTUMN

I have a late class this afternoon too.

DAVID

Can I call you later then?

AUTUMN

I'd like that.

DAVID

Me too.

INT. HOME APPLIANCES FLOOR - DAY

David walks back to his department. Tim is standing behind the register.

DAVID

So did you make a sale for me?

TIM

First things first, tell me about your lunch date.

DAVID

I don't know if it was a date.

TIM

Of course it was a date. What else did she come here for? She didn't buy any appliances and she didn't seem to have a shopping bag so she didn't buy anything else here.

(CONTINUED)

DAVID

Didn't know you were such a detective.

TIM

Learned everything I know from the world's greatest and my extensive collection of Batman comics.

DAVID

So did you make the sale?

TIM

Yeah, stop worrying. She bought a freezer, okay. Anyway did you and Autumn hit it off?

DAVID

I think so. I told her I'd call her later tonight.

TIM

Nice!

INT. HIGH SCHOOL BLOOD DONOR CLINIC - DAY

Karen is prepping KAYLA, 16 by rubbing the new non-alcohol solution on the inside of her arm opposite her elbow. Beside Kayla, on the floor lies a zippered binder with a textbook and a novel neatly stacked on top.

KAREN

They still have you reading "Lord of the Flies" eh? I think I read that when I was in Grade 10.

KAYLA

Yeah, I've just started it. We're only five chapters in so far.

KAREN

Making good grades?

KAYLA

Always do.

KAREN

Good for you.

Karen checks Kayla's chart and smiles.

(CONTINUED)

KAYLA

What?

KAREN

Nothing.

Meanwhile, Sally is prepping a member of the football team. FOOTBALL PLAYER is a big guy, 17, and he's wearing his jersey.

FOOTBALL PLAYER

Hey Kayla, how's it going?

KAYLA

Pretty good. How about you?

FOOTBALL PLAYER

Can't complain, can't complain.

SALLY

So, what position do you play.

FOOTBALL PLAYER

Defensive tackle.

SALLY

Nice.

FOOTBALL PLAYER

(points to a guy in line)

Hey, hey! Don't let that guy near any of those bags (he points to the blood collection bag underneath him) He might think it's a football and we'd all be in trouble.

All the high school kids around him laugh, so do a few of the blood services staff. Karen checks on Kayla and then heads over to Sally's patient.

KAREN

Mind if I check his chart real quick?

SALLY

(laughs)

Not at all.

KAREN

(to Football Player)

How ya doing today?

(CONTINUED)

FOOTBALL PLAYER
(looks at the tube in his arm)
Oh, you know. Just going with the
flow.

KAREN
Very good. Everything looks good
here.

The football player looks at a BEAUTIFUL GIRL who has just
come into the room.

FOOTBALL PLAYER
It sure does. (smiles)

The clinic is a buzz for a little while and then we see that
only the staff remain. Sally and Karen are packing up the
supplies into carts.

KAREN
I hate to say it Sally but you were
right. I found three
perfectionist-types and they all
had Type A blood.

SALLY
It's weird huh?

KAREN
Yeah and the out-going people-
turned out that they all had Type O
as well. Funny how I hadn't noticed
this before.

SALLY
I'm always amazed at what people do
and do not notice.

KAREN
I wonder if blood type can predict
who'd be good together.

SALLY
Hmmm. Blood type as a marriage
predictor. I've heard of stupider
things.

KAREN
We could be famous if we figured
that one out.

(CONTINUED)

SALLY

I doubt it. No one even seems to know what blood type they are.

KAREN

They would if they paid more attention.

Sally shoots her a knowing look but it seems to go over Karen's head.

EXT. REDHILL VALLEY TRAIL - DAY

David and Autumn are getting ready for a run. They are doing some warm-up stretches.

DAVID

This is one of my favourite places to run in the whole world.

AUTUMN

The whole world, eh? Where else have you run?

DAVID

Well, nothing really outside of the province but you know what I mean.

AUTUMN

I've only been here a few times. It's a little out of the way for me.

David stretches an arm behind his back by pushing down on his elbow with his other hand. He repeats this stretch with the other arm, and then he jumps up on his toes three times. It's kind of a pre-run ritual for him.

DAVID

Well, I'm ready to go. Think you can keep up?

AUTUMN

Watch me.

Music plays as they run down the trail. The trail twists and turns and the two run side-by-side.

David gets some distance on her on a rather steep hill. Autumn picks up the pace and we see David had been running in circles at the top waiting for her. They both smile, and fall back into step with each other.

(CONTINUED)

David picks up the pace as they approach the point of the trail they started at. He checks his watch and then waits for Autumn to catch up. He checks his watch again for her and smiles.

DAVID

Impressive. You are a really good runner.

AUTUMN

(a little winded)

You're not so bad yourself.

DAVID

That was awesome. I haven't had anyone to run with since the high school cross country team.

AUTUMN

And now you've got yourself a partner, if you want one.

David puts his arm around her.

DAVID

I definitely want one.

Autumn removes his arm from her shoulder.

AUTUMN

You need a shower.

START MONTAGE: MUSIC OVER SCENE. NO DIALOGUE HEARD.

She then takes his hand in hers and they walk back towards the car.

INT. DAVID'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Autumn has nursing books all over the kitchen table. She's busily studying while David sits on the couch reading a graphic novel.

EXT. MINIATURE GOLF COURSE - NIGHT

David putts a near perfect shot but it stops on the edge of the hole. He throws his hands up in the air, stomps his feet, and then makes a blowing motion to try and sink the ball.

Autumn's next shot is a hole-in-one.

They turn in their golf clubs at the end of the game.

EXT. PARK - DAY

David and Autumn both enjoy an ice cream cone as they go for a walk. They stop at the playground and ride the teeter-totter together.

END MONTAGE:

INT. AUTUMN'S APARTMENT

Autumn just walks in and David follows her. There is loud music playing from a backroom. ONE ROOMMATE is watching TV in the living room with HER BOYFRIEND.

AUTUMN
I'll just be a minute.

Autumn runs to her bedroom. David stands there awkwardly for a moment.

BOYFRIEND
Have a seat man.

Boyfriend moves over so that David has some room on the couch. They are watching some action movie. No one speaks for a moment.

ROOMMATE
So you're Autumn's boyfriend?

DAVID
David.

ROOMMATE
Nice to meet you.

Just the Autumn enters the living room again with her backpack.

AUTUMN
(to David)
Okay, you ready then?

David quickly gets up.

DAVID
(to roommate and boyfriend)
Nice meeting you two.

Autumn and David then leave the apartment.

INT. DAVID'S CAR

David drives a blue four-door mid-sized car. Autumn fiddles with the radio. She lands on a country music station and starts singing along to the song.

AUTUMN
I love this song.

DAVID
Who is it?

AUTUMN
I'm not sure. I don't really know the names of singers or songs. I just like what I like.

DAVID
What? I've never met anyone who doesn't know the artists and song titles to the music they like.

AUTUMN
Well now you have.

DAVID
Two months ago.

AUTUMN
Well, two months ago you did and you just figured it out now.

DAVID
So, what else am I going to figure out about you?

AUTUMN
I don't know. What do you want to know?

DAVID
Well for starters, I'd like to know how you can live where you do?

AUTUMN
Yeah, it's loud and busy and not the best place to live but it's close to school and it's cheap. I can't afford much else.

DAVID
You could move in with me.

(CONTINUED)

AUTUMN

Oh really. I'll think about that.

David keeps his eyes on the road as he make a turn but we can tell from his facial expression that he's not quite sure why he just said that last remark.

INT. REDHILL LIBRARY - NIGHT

David is teaching a computer class. There are FOUR PEOPLE in the class today.

DAVID

In the old days we used to use disk drives or CDs to save files. Now we use one of these things.

David starts to pass out thumbdrives to all of the participants.

DAVID

These are yours to keep. No one seems to agree on what to call them though. Some people call them thumbdrives since they are only about the size of a thumb. Other people call them flashdrives or USB sticks. Whatever you call them, they all do the same thing.

David takes off the cap of his.

DAVID

These easily plug into the port at the front or back of your computer. I'll show you.

David continues to show everyone how they work and how to save a word file to them. He then looks towards the children's section of the library and sees Autumn reading a story to a group of kids. She looks up, catches his eye, smiles, and then focuses back in on her group.

DAVID

Think of your thumbdrive as a video cassette. You need to eject it properly or you can do some damage to your files. Here's how you do it.

David keeps stealing looks at Autumn, who is now working on a craft with the children.

(CONTINUED)

DAVID

And that's it. Take home your thumbdrive, type up a letter, save it, and bring it back here next week. Thanks for coming.

David's group leaves and they've all shut down the computers themselves today. He has nothing else to do so he heads over to see Autumn, who has also just dismissed her group and is cleaning up the art supplies.

DAVID

Well, how was it?

AUTUMN

It was okay. A few of the kids didn't listen that well.

DAVID

Kids will be kids. So are you gonna come back and try it next week?

AUTUMN

Yeah, I think I will.

DAVID

Awesome. I guess that makes us teaching partners.

AUTUMN

I guess it does.

David puts his arm around her and then they head towards the exit.

EXT. BASKETBALL COURT - DAY

David is playing a two-on-two basketball game with some friends. His teammate is SCOTT, 26 and they are facing off against JEFF, 23, and Tim.

They take a break, sit down on the side and grab drinks from their respective water bottles. David and Scott sit together on one side of the court while Jeff and Tim sit on the other side.

DAVID

I did a stupid thing man.

SCOTT

What else is new?

(CONTINUED)

DAVID

Man, come on.

SCOTT

Oh, serious. Sorry man.

DAVID

Yeah, I told Autumn that she could move in with me. I don't even know why I said it. It just came out and the offer floated there in the air for two weeks.

SCOTT

Okay, so take it back. Tell her you think it's too quick to do it.

DAVID

Too late. She's already started to pack up her stuff, has got someone else to rent her room, and seems really excited about the move.

SCOTT

Okay. So is it such a bad thing? I mean you are always talking about her.

DAVID

I know. I really like her and I'm so comfortable around her. I think that's why I said it. It just felt right at the time.

SCOTT

And now you're worried that you're moving too quick.

DAVID

Exactly. I think that's what went wrong between Julie and me.

Tim and Jeff get up eager to restart the game. They walk over to their opponents.

TIM

Alright, break's over. You ready to lose horribly?

DAVID

Don't think so dude.

(CONTINUED)

SCOTT

Yeah, you're the ones going down.

JEFF

You're down by six already.

SCOTT

That was just to lull you into a false sense of security.

The four of them are back into position now on the court. Tim checks the ball to Scott. Scott dribbles forward, breaks around Tim, passes the ball to David, who shoots and scores.

INT. DAVID AND AUTUMN'S APARTMENT - DAY

Scott knocks on the door but doesn't wait for David to answer it and walks right in. He's wearing a Buffalo Bills jersey. David is wearing a Bills T-shirt.

SCOTT

You let her take down your Star Trek poster?

DAVID

Her grandma painted that. I like it.

SCOTT

You don't have to lie to me, man. She's not here right now.

DAVID

(laughs)

I'm not lying. It's nice having her here. Yes, I've had to make a few changes but that's what you do in a relationship.

SCOTT

I thought you didn't want to move too quick.

DAVID

Well, I read something yesterday on Twitter that really spoke to me. It said, "We don't know what we have until it's gone but we also don't know what we're missing until it arrives."

(CONTINUED)

SCOTT

Wow, deep.

DAVID

Stop it. Let's just watch the game.
Jeff and Tim should be here soon
and Autumn will be home around
half-time.

CUTAWAY: TO THE TELEVISION. WE SEE THE QUARTERBACK OF THE
OPPOSING TEAM GET SACKED. WHEN WE COME BACK TO THE LIVING
ROOM WE SEE THAT TIM, AND JEFF HAVE JOINED THE PARTY.

JEFF

Ouch. (to David) Bet it feels like
that sometimes with Autumn here all
the time.

DAVID

Not at all. She's really cool. She
doesn't give me grief about
watching football on Sundays. I
like having her here. Tim gets it,
right.

TIM

Yeah, maybe it's time for you to
write the love song now.

DAVID

(smiles)

Maybe it is. If only I could write.

CUTAWAY: TO THE TELEVISION. WE SEE A PUNT RETURN AND THE
BILLS MAKE SOME GOOD YARDAGE.

TIM

(stands up to cheer the play)

Yes!

SCOTT

That's what I'm talking about!

Just then Autumn comes home.

AUTUMN

Do you ever stop talking Scott?

SCOTT

I wouldn't want to deprive the
world of my voice and opinions now,
would I?

(CONTINUED)

AUTUMN
Heaven forbid.

David runs over to give her a hug and a kiss.

DAVID
Do you want to watch the game with
us for a bit?

AUTUMN
Just a bit, then I gotta do some
studying.

David nudges Scott. Scott moves over to a different chair so that David and Autumn can sit together on the couch. David put his arm around her and they look perfectly content there.

INT. HOSPITAL - DAY

Autumn is one of TWELVE STUDENTS being lead around the hospital by a TEACHER-NURSE.

The students are wearing scrubs that identify them as students. STUDENT 1 and STUDENT 2 speak quietly to each other periodically during the tour. Autumn is listening attentively. Some of the other students are taking notes.

TEACHER-NURSE
So next week, you will receive your
placements. Remember that this is a
teaching hospital so you should
find most of the staff will be
quite helpful.

STUDENT 1
(to Student 2)
I don't know about that. My friend
was placed here last year and she
had some interesting stories to
tell.

STUDENT 2
(to Student 1)
Yeah, I heard some people don't
even want to deal with us students.

TEACHER-NURSE
Okay, that's all for today. See you
here next week. Good luck!

INT. HOME APPLIANCES FLOOR - DAY

David is standing at the check out counter. Tim is conducting a sale with a couple. A cheesy love song is playing on the radio. David looks up towards the speakers, then towards the couple, smiles, and then starts writing something down on a piece of paper.

INT. MALL HALLWAY

David and Autumn walk down the hallway of the mall. They are holding hands. They are heading towards the temporary blood donor clinic.

INT. COMMUNITY ROOM (TEMPORARY BLOOD DONOR CLINIC) - DAY

RECEPTIONIST

How are you doing today guys?

DAVID

I hope you have our reservations ready. This is an important day.

RECEPTIONIST

Really? Why's that.

AUTUMN

It's kind of our anniversary.

DAVID

Yeah, we met here, 56 days ago.

RECEPTIONIST

How sweet. I've never heard that before.

The receptionist checks her chart.

RECEPTIONIST

Okay, you're all set. Thanks for sharing this day with us, and your blood.

David and Autumn walk towards the admittance nurse and she takes Autumn right away. David watches her and smiles. He looks around at the room. It's a bustle of activity. MAN sits down beside him to wait.

MAN

How ya doing today?

(CONTINUED)

DAVID
Awesome, how about you?

MAN
I'm okay, I guess. I'll survive
anyway.

David nods politely.

MAN
It's just amazing how you think you
can know someone and then they turn
around and just take and take and
take.

ADMITTANCE NURSE
Next.

DAVID
Hang in there buddy. I'm up.

MAN
Alright. It's been nice talking to
you.

David goes over to the admittance table and sits down.

DAVID
Thank you. That guy was starting to
bring me down.

ADMITTANCE NURSE
I know what you mean. He's like
that every time. He must like being
a victim. He's always got a story.
Every single month we come here.
Good thing that's only 5 times a
year.

DAVID
I don't want anything bringing me
down today. I'm feeling really
good. I think I might even be in
love.

ADMITTANCE NURSE
Oh yeah.

DAVID
You just saw to her.

David motions to Autumn.

ADMITTANCE NURSE

Well, congratulations. Are you going to tell her?

DAVID

I don't know. I don't want to rush things.

The nurse pokes his finger and squeezes it to get a drop of his blood to test.

ADMITTANCE NURSE

I hear ya. But I think the heart knows what it wants and our brains don't like to be led. But they can work together.

DAVID

That's actually kind of cool.

The admittance nurse places a small bandage on David's finger.

ADMITTANCE NURSE

You're good to go.

DAVID

I think you're right.

They both smile. A few minutes later, David and Autumn are both sitting in donation chairs, although they are separated by several chairs between them this time. Sally comes to check on David.

SALLY

Good to see you back again. You're the salesman right?

DAVID

That's right.

SALLY

So how's life treating you these days?

She starts to unhook him from the tubes and collect his donation bag.

DAVID

Ya know, I love that saying, especially right now because it seems that life is actually giving me a treat.

(CONTINUED)

SALLY

Most people aren't that happy to
give blood.

Sally wipes off the arm prep, gives David a piece of gauze
and asks him to hold it tightly for two minutes.

DAVID

I'm giving more than blood today.
I'm giving my heart to that lovely
young lady over there.

David motions to Autumn. Sally looks over and the two ladies
wave at each other.

DAVID

I'm gonna tell her that I love her
today.

SALLY

That's great.

Sally collects the donation bag and then takes it over to
where Karen is collecting them.

SALLY

A Type 0 is falling for a Type B+
over there.

KAREN

Uh, oh.

SALLY

What?

KAREN

Well, I've been doing some
research. It's fascinating
actually. The Japanese believe in
blood types in the same way people
over here do Astrology. And
according to the charts, those two
(motions to David and Autumn) just
aren't compatible.

By this time, Autumn and David are enjoying a snack at the
back table.

SALLY

But he's O negative and they're the
only group that can give to every
other group.

(CONTINUED)

KAREN

When it comes to blood, yes. I'm sure the same is true in life too. O people seem to be very giving. But according to charts and personality, they are best with other O's or AB's.

SALLY

That's interesting.

KAREN

Yeah, I don't know if it's true. I need to look at some more married couples and see what types they are but so far the personality types have been fitting the pattern.

SALLY

(bites her lip)

I know what you mean. It's just he seems so happy.

KAREN

Who knows? Maybe there isn't much to this part of the theory.

SALLY

Let's hope so. For them.

Sally looks at David and Autumn.

DAVID

Who needs dinner and a movie when you can donate blood and have a cookie?

AUTUMN

'Blood and a cookie.' It just doesn't have the same ring as 'dinner and a movie.' Don't know if it'll catch on. And you're supposed to be the salesman.

DAVID

Huh, interesting thought. I bet they need someone in sales to recruit more people to donate.

AUTUMN

They probably do. You'll need a better idea though if you want them to hire you.

(CONTINUED)

DAVID
How about Blood, cookie, and a
movie?

AUTUMN
Nah, that still doesn't work.

DAVID
No, I mean for us tonight, right
now, what do you say?

AUTUMN
Oh, that sounds really good honey.

EXT. MOVIE THEATRE - NIGHT

David and Autumn walk out of the movie theatre, hand in
hand.

DAVID
That was a good movie.

AUTUMN
Yeah it was.

DAVID
Do you want to go get a drink
before we head home?

AUTUMN
Sure.

EXT. STREET AND PARKING LOT - NIGHT

David and Autumn walk over to the bar just across the street. In
the parking lot, David stops, and brings Autumn in close to
him.

DAVID
Did you know that you are amazing?

Autumn shies away, turns and starts to head into the bar.
David grabs her arm so that she's facing him again.

DAVID
What I was trying to say was, I
love you.

AUTUMN
I love you too. I've wanted to say
that for days. I just didn't want
to be the first one to say it.

They hug and kiss. David hands her an envelope. Autumn opens it up and starts to read it as they enter the bar.

INT. HOME APPLIANCES FLOOR - DAY

TIM
 (to David)
 Why do you look so happy this morning?

David just smiles a huge ear to ear smile.

TIM
 Wait a minute. Yesterday I saw you write something down and put it in your pocket. You wrote her that love song didn't you?

DAVID
 It was a poem actually.

TIM
 I told you didn't I? People do feel like that.

DAVID
 I never have. I didn't even feel this way with Julie. But there's something about Autumn that, ah, I just can't describe. I just love Autumn.

A CO-WORKER from another department walks by at this point and happens to overhear David's last comment.

CO-WORKER
 Everyone loves the fall. It's the most beautiful time of the year.

DAVID
 Well, I love Autumn all year long.

CO-WORKER
 You mean you look forward to it all year long?

DAVID
 No, but I do look forward to it from now on, each and every day.

(CONTINUED)

CO-WORKER

You feeling okay today?

TIM

Don't mind him, some people get all giddy and love sick in the spring. David's always been a little slow. He's just getting to that mind state now that it's Autumn.

CO-WORKER

Okay, well I gotta go earn some money. See you guys later.

The co-worker leaves. David slaps Tim on the shoulder.

DAVID

You had to make me look stupid there, didn't ya?

TIM

You take the credit for that all on your own. Sometimes displaying how you feel just comes across as cheesy. Like this song maybe.

Tim points up to the store-wide speaker system, which as usual is playing a cheesy love song. Tim and David both laugh.

EXT. DAVID'S PARENT'S DRIVEWAY - DAY

David pulls into the driveway of his parent's house. Autumn is in the passenger seat.

DAVID

My mom makes the best stuffing.

AUTUMN

You think she'll like me?

DAVID

She'll love you. How could anyone not? Don't be nervous, okay?

AUTUMN

I'm not.

David reaches in to the back seat and pulls out a gift bag. They walk up to the door.

INT. THE WATTS' HOUSE

David knocks and then goes right in. His mom, CLAIRE WATTS is washing her hands in the kitchen. She runs up to meet them. LEWIS WATTS, his father, is in the basement.

DAVID
Happy Turkey Day!

David hands her the gift bag and Kate pulls out a bottle of wine.

CLAIRE
Very nice! You didn't need to bring anything though. (looks at Autumn)
Well besides her any way.

Claire gives David a hug and a kiss on the cheek.

DAVID
Mom, this is Autumn. Autumn meet my mom, Claire.

AUTUMN
I hope you don't mind but I baked a pie for dessert.

Claire takes the pie, places it on the counter.

CLAIRE
That's great. Can't wait to try it.
(hugs Autumn)

David's dad, LEWIS WATTS comes up from the basement at this time.

LEWIS
Gobble gobble gobble. Happy Turkey Day!

DAVID
Hey dad, meet Autumn. Autumn, Lewis.

LEWIS
You never told me she was this gorgeous son.

David blushes a little. Autumn just smiles.

CLAIRE
Let's go sit in the backyard. It's a nice day. Can I get you something to drink Autumn?

(CONTINUED)

AUTUMN

Sure.

CLAIRE

Beer, wine, a cooler, juice, pop?

AUTUMN

Let's see what you have.

Autumn follows Claire to the fridge.

LEWIS

They'll bring us one, don't worry.

Lewis and David head outside to the back deck.

EXT. BACK DECK - WATT'S HOUSE - DAY

LEWIS

So how's business these days?

DAVID

It's starting to slow down a bit.
It usually does around this time.
People don't seem to give large
appliances for Christmas gifts.

LEWIS

I guess not. The car running okay?

DAVID

Yup!

LEWIS

Let's go check it and top up the
fluids. The ladies'll probably be
chatting for a bit any way.

DAVID

I don't know if I should abandon
Autumn like that with mom.

LEWIS

She'll be fine. Let's go.

David and Lewis walk around the side of the house towards
the parking lot and as soon as they are out of sight, Autumn
and Claire come out to the deck.

AUTUMN

Where'd they go?

(CONTINUED)

CLAIRE

Oh, Lewis has to check out the car every time he comes over. They'll be back in a minute.

Claire puts the two drinks she was carrying down on the patio table and Autumn does the same. Claire runs back inside to get a bowl of chips and dip and then places them on the patio table as well.

CLAIRE

So, you're a nursing student I hear?

AUTUMN

Yeah, I'm just finishing up a six week term in Cardiology. Then it's back to the classroom until the new year, and then I'll be back in the hospital for another placement.

CLAIRE

I wouldn't want to do it. I hate hospitals.

AUTUMN

Lots of people think like that but we need them.

CLAIRE

I just hope no one I know needs one any time soon. That is until you're working there.

AUTUMN

That's nice to say, thanks.

INT. THE WATTS' HOUSE - DINING ROOM - NIGHT

The Thanksgiving dinner is just finishing up.

DAVID

Thanks Mom! That was a great dinner.

AUTUMN

It sure was.

LEWIS

I'll go get the ice cream from the freezer.

(CONTINUED)

CLAIRE

I don't know if I need it. I'm stuffed.

DAVID

You gotta have a small slice. Autumn is a great baker.

LEWIS

I can eat your slice.

CLAIRE

(laughs)

I'll have a little piece. Just let me clear off the table a bit.

Claire starts to clear the table and Autumn and David help her. Lewis heads downstairs to the freezer.

CLOSE UP: SCRABBLE BOARD

The camera zooms out from a nearly full Scrabble Board to see David putting a word down. He spells "Autumm"

LEWIS

Hey, you can't use people's names in Scrabble.

DAVID

It's so much more than a name dad.

CLAIRE

Awww.

Autumn just shakes her head.

LEWIS

And you got "M" on the triple letter too. (grunts)

AUTUMN

We're not doing too good are we?

LEWIS

Can't ever against those two. I think I've only managed to win a handful of times. Next time we're together we need to play euchre, okay?

AUTUMN

Sounds good to me.

EXT. CHURCH - WINTER - DAY

The ground is covered in snow and we see the big Blood Services van pull up to the front doors of the church. TWO MEN start to haul equipment inside. It's slightly snowing as they do so.

A car pulls up and Sally and Karen get out.

KAREN

Brrr. Winter seems to have come early this year.

SALLY

Yeah. It was a quick fall wasn't it?

KAREN

Sure was. I'm glad we're here though today.

SALLY

Oh, come on. We're not here just to get treats from the ladies auxiliary, ya know.

KAREN

Yeah, but their treats are always so good.

SALLY

I know what you mean.

KAREN

I'd be so fat if we got this treatment at all the different spots.

INT. DAVID AND AUTUMN'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

The phone rings. David gets up from the couch, shuts the TV off, and answers it.

DAVID

Hi Mom!

David starts to tidy up the living room a bit.

DAVID

Yes, it really was nice coming over for dinner.

INT. THE WATTS' HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

CLAIRE

I really like Autumn. I think
you've done good there.

THE CAMERA CUTS BACK AND FORTH BETWEEN DAVID AND CLAIRE NOW
SO THAT WE CAN FOLLOW THEIR CONVERSATION.

DAVID

Oh, I know that.

CLAIRE

It's good to see you happy.

DAVID

Yeah, I never felt like this
before. She and I just connect on
every single level. The things that
always annoyed Julie, Autumn loves
about me. It's so cool. And she
doesn't have any of those annoying
habits Julie had either.

CLAIRE

I never really liked Julie.

DAVID

You don't need to remind me.

CLAIRE

So are you coming over for
Christmas?

DAVID

We'll come over on Christmas Eve if
that's okay. We're going to go to
her parents for Christmas and
Boxing Day.

CLAIRE

I thought you might. They're out in
Barrie aren't they.

DAVID

Yeah, good snowmobile territory up
there.

CLAIRE

Oh, I don't know if I like that.
You should just stay inside and
visit.

(CONTINUED)

DAVID

Mom, her brother does it and so does she. They have an extra ski-doo and we'll go out as a group. Stop worrying.

CLAIRE

I can't help it. That's what moms do.

DAVID

I guess so. Anyway, I should get going. I really should do the dishes and clean up a bit before Autumn gets home.

CLAIRE

Yeah I got some housework to do too. Talk to you later.

EXT. THE REYNOLDS' HOUSE - DAY

David pulls into a townhouse survey. There aren't any open spots in visitor parking so he turns back onto the road and parallel parks.

DAVID

I used to live in a townhouse too and we never had any visitor parking.

AUTUMN

You can usually get a spot here. It's just busy at Christmas time.

Autumn doesn't bother to knock as she goes inside the house. David follows her lead.

INT. THE REYNOLDS' HOUSE - DAY

Autumn's brother, ALEX, 17, is playing a video game in the living room. Her sister, ANGEL, 27, watches as her mother LINDA rolls a musical ball to GRACE, 2. HAL, 5 is playing with some toys with his bigger brother CODY, 8. The house is a bustle of activity.

AUTUMN

Hello!

(CONTINUED)

LINDA

Hi baby! This must be David. Come on in and have a seat.

Linda continues to play with the baby. Autumn and David sit down on the couch beside Blaire.

LINDA

I'm so glad you could make it. How was the drive.

Hal runs and jumps on Autumn's lap.

HAL

Aunt Autumn!

AUTUMN

How ya doing Hal!

HAL

Santa comes tomorrow!

CODY

Hi Aunt Autumn.

AUTUMN

Taking care of your little brother alright.

CODY

When he's not annoying.

Hal jumps off of Autumn's lap and tries to tackle his bigger brother.

LINDA

Hey, calm down. Go play with your toys. (to Autumn) And don't you get them going. (to David) So how was the drive?

DAVID

Fine. We used to come up this way every summer. My grandpa had a cottage in Wasaga Beach. Never been up here in the winter though.

ALEX

Oh, you gotta get out on the snowmobiles then.

(CONTINUED)

DAVID

Yeah, Autumn let me know about that.

ALEX

So, what do you say, should we head out now?

LINDA

Alex, they just got here. Let them settle in at least.

ANGEL

Ah, life's too short to settle. Let them go.

ALEX

She's right. I'm not getting anywhere with this game today anyway. Let's go.

Linda looks at David and shakes her head.

LINDA

Boys will be boys.

CODY

Uncle Alex can you put on the wrestling game for us?

Alex changes the video game.

AUTUMN

I want to go too.

Everyone gets up to go.

LINDA

Fine, just abandon me to all this craziness.

AUTUMN

You can come if you want.

LINDA

You know I hate those things.

DAVID

You sound like my mom.

LINDA

Should have brought her so I'd have someone sane to talk to.

(CONTINUED)

ANGEL

Hey!

ALEX

I won't keep them out too long,
Mom.

Hal fiddles with the video game controller trying to get his character to move the way he wants him too.

HAL

How do you do this again Uncle
Alex?

Alex goes to help Hal and Cody get started on the game.

DAVID

(to Autumn)

Wait a minute, a kid named Hal
can't use the computer.

AUTUMN

(to David)

Shhh! His dad will be here later
and he hates when people make that
comparison.

DAVID

You gotta think about stuff like
that when you're naming a kid.

AUTUMN

His name is Harold but they didn't
want him to be called Harry.

DAVID

Yeah, Hal sounds much cooler.

ALEX

Okay, you ready to go?

Alex, Autumn, and David get their winter clothing on and head out to the garage.

EXT. REYNOLDS' GARAGE - DAY

Alex opens up the garage and we see two snowmobiles.

ALEX

So we only have two ski-dos.
You'll have to take turns or ride
together. (to David) Have you ever
driven one before?

(CONTINUED)

David shakes his head.

ALEX

Better let my sister do the driving then.

AUTUMN

I'll show you how, you can have a turn once we get to the open field.

The three of them put on their helmets. David sits behind Autumn and holds on as they zoom off.

EXT. OPEN FIELD AND TRAIL - DAY

Autumn zooms down the trail following her brother. David is holding on tight to Autumn and just enjoying the ride. Autumn and Alex race beside each other when they get to the open field.

Autumn lets Alex zoom ahead so that David can have a turn at driving the ski-doo. David does okay but Autumn takes back over for the ride back home.

INT. THE REYNOLDS' HOUSE - NIGHT

The family is taking turns playing the Rock Band video game. David is working with the guitar controller. Angel is on vocals, Alex is on the drums. Autumn is sitting beside her mother on the couch.

DAVID

I don't know what I'm doing here.

AUTUMN

Just press the buttons as they come up on the screen.

DAVID

Alright, I think I get it now. I wanna try drums next.

CODY

No, I'm next.

DAVID

Yeah, I know.

Linda takes this time to talk to Autumn.

(CONTINUED)

LINDA
He's a keeper.

AUTUMN
Mom!

LINDA
What? He seems like a really nice
guy. A step up from Eric.

AUTUMN
You just didn't understand him.

The song comes to an end and so does their aside
conversation as David passes the guitar to Autumn.

DAVID
Your turn.

AUTUMN
You really wanna be shown up by a
girl?

DAVID
Hey! I did okay for my first time.

ALEX
Yeah, he did.

Alex passes the drum sticks to Cody. Hal grabs the
microphone. Now David and Alex have an aside conversation.

ALEX
I'm so glad you're here this year.

DAVID
Yeah.

ALEX
Her last boyfriend was such a
loser. We all hated him. I was
afraid that she'd marry him.

DAVID
Oh yeah.

ALEX
Yeah, I caught him cheating on her
and she still stayed with him for
months afterwards.

(CONTINUED)

DAVID

She's talked about him before and I never heard any of this.

ALEX

There's no figuring out girls is there? Even when she's your sister.

EXT. HIGHWAY - DAY

David is driving home from Barrie. Autumn is in the passenger seat.

INT. DAVID'S CAR

DAVID

I think your family really likes me.

AUTUMN

That's good.

DAVID

Yeah, I had a nice discussion with your mom and with your brother too.

AUTUMN

Uh-oh, what did they tell you.

DAVID

Not much, just that they didn't like your ex.

AUTUMN

I told you about him.

DAVID

I know, but he didn't sound like such a bad guy from what you told me.

AUTUMN

They just didn't get him. Can we change the subject now?

Autumn looks out the window.

DAVID

Sure, wanna buy a ski-doo?

(CONTINUED)

AUTUMN

What? You almost got us killed.

DAVID

I think you're exaggerating a bit.

Autumn laughs and then turns up the car stereo.

EXT. MALL - DAY - WINTER

CLOSE UP: AN ICICLE SUSPENDED FROM THE ENTRANCE TO THE MALL IS DRIPPING.

WEATHER SHOT: THERE ARE A FEW SNOW HILLS LEFT IN THE PARKING LOT BUT IT IS CLEAR THAT WINTER IS NEARLY OVER.

INT. HOME APPLIANCES FLOOR - DAY

TIM

What's up man? You seem a bit off today.

DAVID

It's not me that's off. It's Autumn.

TIM

Uh-oh, trouble in paradise?

DAVID

I don't know. She doesn't talk about herself much but she's been more quiet than usual these past few weeks.

TIM

Maybe you should write her another poem.

DAVID

It was hard to write that last one, ya know? I'm not really a writer.

TIM

Well, what else can you do?

DAVID

I don't know. Just be there I guess. She'll tell me what's wrong if she wants to. Maybe I'm just imagining this.

(CONTINUED)

David flips through some sales slips on the sales counter.

DAVID

I don't know. I just love her so much. Maybe it's time we took the next step.

TIM

What like marriage?

DAVID

I know she's "the one."

TIM

I know. You've been saying that for a while. But you need to time this right. Maybe you should wait to see what's bothering her.

DAVID

I can't wait. I want to spend the rest of my life with her and I want that to start right now.

David checks the sales slips again.

DAVID

Can you handle the floor for a bit. I gotta go do something.

TIM

Sure, go do what you gotta do.

DAVID

Thanks.

INT. JEWELRY STORE IN THE MALL - DAY

David stands at the counter of the jewelry store and looks at the wedding rings. A SALESLADY comes over to help him.

SALESLADY

Can I help you find something today?

DAVID

I've found the right girl, I just need to find the right ring now.

SALESLADY

Well, congratulations. I'm sure we'll be able to find it here.

The saleslady shows him some rings and David picks one out. She puts it into a small box and David walks out of the store smiling widely.

INT. MALL HALLWAY - DAY

David walks down the hallway of the mall and heads into a hobby shop.

EXT. HOBBY SHOP - DAY

David walks into the hobby shop but the camera does not follow him in. A minute later he walks out carrying a shopping bag. The bag seems to have a rectangular box about the size of an instant oatmeal box. He's still smiling.

INT. MALL HALLWAY - DAY

David head back to his job at the department store. He opens the ring box again, looks at it, smiles, and then puts it back in his pocket.

INT. HOME APPLIANCES FLOOR - DAY

David puts the Hobby Shop bag under the check-out counter. Tim comes back from talking to a fellow employee from the neighbouring department.

DAVID

Thanks a lot Tim. Do you want to take a break now?

TIM

No! I want to know what you got?

David shows him the ring.

TIM

Wow, that's nice. But what's in the bag.

A customer strolls through the fridge aisle.

DAVID

Why don't you take a look, I'll look after this customer, and then you can take your break.

(CONTINUED)

Tim ducks behind the counter and comes up laughing. David turns back to him while putting a finger over his mouth to 'Shh" him because he wants it to be a surprise for Autumn.

Tim nods, zips his lips, and then shakes his head in disbelief.

INT. HOSPITAL NURSE LOUNGE - DAY

Autumn sits with a fellow nursing student, JOAN. They are sitting at table in the lounge having lunch.

JOAN

So how are things going with David?

AUTUMN

David's great. He's kind, he's considerate. He's really there for me. All the time.

JOAN

But?

AUTUMN

He can be a little smothering some times. Eric gave me my space.

JOAN

He didn't give you space. He just made sure he had enough for himself.

AUTUMN

He just needed-

JOAN

Look, I know you think you can save him. That's why you got into nursing, to help people right? But you can't save someone who doesn't want to be saved.

AUTUMN

Did I tell you, I ran into him last week?

JOAN

Oh, A-girl! You're gonna mess up a good thing with David.

(CONTINUED)

AUTUMN

I think I still love him.

JOAN

What are you saying?

AUTUMN

I think we moved too quick. I shouldn't have moved in with David. I'm feeling trapped, like I don't know who I am without a guy. I think I just need to get some space.

JOAN

As long as you take that space for yourself. Don't do anything stupid, okay?

AUTUMN

I want to travel the world. There's so much I want to do.

JOAN

You could do that all with David too, ya know?

Autumn doesn't answer. She just looks out the window.

EXT. LION'S CLUB - TEMPORARY BLOOD DONOR CLINIC - NIGHT

The big blood donor truck is parked outside of the Lion's Club. There is no snow on the ground at all now. We can see a few couples walking to and from their cars.

INT. LION'S CLUB - TEMPORARY BLOOD DONOR CLINIC - NIGHT

SALLY

So what are we looking for today?

KAREN

What do you mean?

SALLY

Come on, ever since I told you about the theories behind blood types, you've been on a little mission to see if it's true.

Karen just smiles.

(CONTINUED)

SALLY

You think I didn't know?

KAREN

I thought you'd think I was nuts if you knew I've been doing it for months.

Karen pulls out a notebook from her purse and hands it to Sally. Sally starts to flip through it and is surprised to see how much data Karen has collected.

KAREN

It's been hard to do. Most people don't know their blood types.

SALLY

This is incredible.

KAREN

Yeah, there really is something to all this. Today I want to look at married and divorced couples some more.

SALLY

How did you get all this data?

KAREN

When married couples come in together it's easy. Divorced ones are harder since no one seems to really know their blood type, much less that of their ex. So I've gotten some of them to find out and then call me back.

SALLY

Huh, I thought we were just doing this for fun. I had no idea

Sally flips through the book and stops at a page she finds interesting.

KAREN

You can see that A's usually end up with A's or AB's. B's usually end up with B's or ABs. But AB's can be happy with other AB's, B's, A's, or O's. Maybe they're the luckiest in love since they have so many more compatibility options.

(CONTINUED)

SALLY

Which is weird since they are the rarest blood type and can only be given blood from AB donors too.

KAREN

I guess God makes up for that by making them more compatible in love.

SALLY

So you really believe in this stuff now?

KAREN

You don't. Look at my data. It's pretty clear there is a pattern there. I even checked online but I didn't look too closely because I didn't want it to skew my results.

SALLY

So do I fit with this pattern?

KAREN

You're happily married aren't you? Are you sure you want to know?

SALLY

Why wouldn't I?

KAREN

Oh, I've seen some people try to make their horoscopes work for either the better or the worse.

BEAT

KAREN

I'm just kidding. I already checked and you and your husband are a match made in blood. I mean love. I mean blood.

SALLY

Yeah, it seems we are. We're both O's.

KAREN

Pretty cool, isn't it?

The nurse brings a FEMALE DONOR over and Sally sees to her.

(CONTINUED)

SALLY

And which arm would you like to use?

FEMALE DONOR

Right.

SALLY

Alright, come sit down over here.

The female donor sits down on the chair and Sally reclines it and starts to set her up for the donation.

SALLY

You donated last time we were here, didn't you?

FEMALE DONOR

Yup, my husband and I always do. That's him right over there.

SALLY

That's so nice to see. Thank you both for coming in regularly.

FEMALE DONOR

I've never needed a transfusion or anything but I figure lots of people do. This is a pretty easy way to help people out.

SALLY

I wish more people thought like you. We have a terrible shortage right now. Especially of your type.

FEMALE DONOR

I don't know why more people don't donate.

Sally gets her donation started and then walks over to see Karen who has been working with the HUSBAND DONOR.

SALLY

So, she's a B. What's he?

KAREN

O.

SALLY

They don't fit the compatible couple model, do they?

(CONTINUED)

KAREN

Nope.

SALLY

They look happy.

KAREN

Looks can be deceiving. I bet they'll get a divorce in a few years.

SALLY

That's a horrible bet to make.

KAREN

I'm just saying. It fits with what I've been seeing, that's all.

SALLY

I thought we were helping people in this job. Blood is always needed. Now you've got me thinking about couples and seeing potential heartbreak.

KAREN

You're the one that got me started on this.

SALLY

Yeah, but back then I thought it was just a silly superstition.

KAREN

People in western society don't put much faith in this. Who knows, maybe love conquers all.

SALLY

That's what I've always believed.

KAREN

Well don't let me steer you otherwise.

INT. DAVID AND AUTUMN'S APARTMENT - DAY

David is working on putting together a model. We can see modeling paint, tubes of glue, and assorted plastic pieces all over the kitchen table.

The phone rings.

(CONTINUED)

DAVID

Hi Tim.

David holds the phone up to his ear as he glues a piece of the model together and fastens it with an elastic band.

DAVID

I can't today, man. I'm putting it together now before Autumn gets home.

David looks at the instructions and tries to find the next piece.

DAVID

Yeah, I think so. She's been really busy with school. She's got exams this week. I'm sure it's stressful, so I'm going to wait till next week.

David picks up two pieces and tries fitting them together.

DAVID

Okay, you might have been right when you mentioned timing last week.

BEAT

DAVID

Don't let it go to your head. I gotta go finish this up. See you at work on Tuesday.

David hangs up and gets back to work on the model.

EXT. COLLEGE - DAY

David waits outside of the building. He paces back and forth. In a few moments, Autumn comes out.

DAVID

There's my girl.

AUTUMN

What are you doing here?

DAVID

It's your last exam. You're free for the summer now. Thought we should celebrate.

(CONTINUED)

AUTUMN

That sounds really nice but I told
a friend-

DAVID

Tell her that you and your man are
gonna go out.

Autumn looks hesitant.

DAVID

Come on. Spring seems to have
sprung, let's go have some fun.

AUTUMN

Okay, just let me send a text.

Autumn pulls out her phone and taps a few keys.

AUTUMN

Okay. Good to go. Where are you
taking me?

DAVID

You'll find out.

David walks Autumn to the car and opens up her door for her.
He walks around to his side, gets in, and starts to drive.

EXT. ROAD - DAY

CAMERA: FOLLOWS THE CAR FROM A CRANE OR A PLANE AS DAVID
DRIVES TOWARDS THE BEACH. WE CAN SEE A CEMENTED WATERFRONT
TRAIL THAT RUNS ALONGSIDE THE BEACH FOR KILOMETRES.

EXT. WATERFRONT TRAIL - BEACH - DAY

They arrive at the beach. David pulls into the parking lot.

DAVID

Okay, we're here.

David opens up the trunk.

DAVID

I brought our
rollerblades. Thought it would be
great to get the first ride of the
year in today. Or we could just go
for a walk if you want.

(CONTINUED)

AUTUMN

No, rollerblading sounds good.

David and Autumn put on their skates and David throws a backpack on as well. They start to skate down the trail.

David skates a little bit ahead of Autumn and spins around. She quickly catches up to him.

AUTUMN

Why are we stopping here?

David opens the backpack and takes out their running shoes.

DAVID

I want to show you something.

David and Autumn put on their shoes. David takes Autumn by the hand and leads her out towards the beach.

EXT. ROCK OUTCROPPING - BEACH - DAY

David leads Autumn out onto a grouping of large rocks that stems out from the beach like a dock. He holds her hand and leads her right up to the end.

He sits down on the rock and Autumn follows his lead.

DAVID

I love coming here.

AUTUMN

It's nice.

DAVID

I could sit here all day long and just stare out at the water.

David looks relaxed. Autumn appears to be a bit impatient.

DAVID

I have something I want to give you.

David reaches into his backpack and pulls out a wrapped gift.

AUTUMN

What's this for?

(CONTINUED)

DAVID
Just open it.

Autumn opens the present to find a model of a snowmobile.

DAVID
I know it's spring now. But we
joked about getting one.

AUTUMN
Cute.

DAVID
I made it while you were busy with
your exams this week.

AUTUMN
Thanks! Let's go skate some more.

DAVID
Okay, sure.

David holds her hand and they walk back towards the beach
side trail. They both put their skates back on.

DAVID
Oh, I almost forgot. There's
something else in their for you.
Look under the seat.

Autumn looks under the seat of the snowmobile model and is
surprised. She looks back towards David who is now on bended
knee. She pulls out the ring.

DAVID
Autumn, I love you with all my
heart. I've known that for sometime
now. I want to spend the rest of my
life with you and I want it to
start right now.

Autumn turns on her skates. David stands up and skates
around her so he can see her. He takes her by the hand and
can see that she's crying.

DAVID
Baby, will you marry me?

AUTUMN
I... I...

DAVID
Just say, "Yes"

AUTUMN
I... I'm sorry... I can't.

Autumn puts the ring back under the seat of the snowmobile and passes the model back to David. She then turns and skates off. David falls to the ground, stares at the model, and then looks up and sees Autumn is nearly gone from his sight.

David stays on the ground, lying there for a few moments without moving.

He then gets up and skates quickly back towards the car. He throws the backpack into the trunk and starts to skate quickly to catch up to Autumn.

David hits a patch of sand that was covering up a pothole on the cemented trail. He falls into a roll and lands on the beach. His elbow is scratched up and bleeding slightly but he gets up and skates on. He doesn't seem to notice he's hurt himself.

He gets to the end of the trail and can't see Autumn anywhere. He turns around to head back down the trail. He skates slowly now.

INT. DAVID'S CAR - DAY

He gets back to the car, pours a bottle of water over his scratched up arm, dabs it with some facial tissue, and lays back in the driver's seat. He closes his eyes.

AUTUMN
David?

David wipes his eyes.

DAVID
I tried to catch up to you and had
a bit of a wipe out.

AUTUMN
Are you okay?

DAVID
No.

Autumn starts to look at his arm for him. David pulls back.

(CONTINUED)

DAVID

My arm's fine. It's everything else that's not.

AUTUMN

I'm sorry David. I don't know what to say.

DAVID

You don't have to say anything. I'm heading home now. You coming?

Autumn gets into the passenger side. David starts the car and they drive off.

Autumn looks at the speedometer and sees that David is driving a little fast.

AUTUMN

David, can we pull over somewhere and talk?

DAVID

Why? What you haven't said, says it all.

AUTUMN

Do you realize how fast you're going?

DAVID

Shit.

David was going forty kilometers over the limit. He lets his foot off the gas and pulls into an empty parking lot.

AUTUMN

David, I've been thinking that we've been moving too fast. It's been bothering me actually.

DAVID

Why didn't you say something?

AUTUMN

I didn't know how. I know how much you love me and I didn't want to hurt you.

DAVID

I thought you were just stressed out from your exams.

(CONTINUED)

AUTUMN

I thought that might have been it too but it's not. I think I should move out.

DAVID

Damn it. I don't want you too.

David starts to cry.

AUTUMN

We can still be friends. Slow things down a bit. See where it goes.

DAVID

Where will you go?

AUTUMN

It's easy to get a place at the college residence in the summer.

DAVID

And you'll be back there in the fall again? Come on, you didn't want to be there in the first place.

AUTUMN

Yeah, and that wasn't a good enough reason to move in with you. I'm sorry.

DAVID

Shit!

AUTUMN

I'm sorry!

David is crying too much to say anything more. Autumn doesn't know what else to say. They don't talk for a few minutes.

David then wipes his tears, composes himself as best he can, and then restarts the car.

DAVID

I'm going to take you home now. I'll go crash at Scott's tonight.

AUTUMN

You don't need to do that.

(CONTINUED)

DAVID

Yes, I do.

David pulls out of the parking lot and heads back to his apartment.

INT. SCOTT'S APARTMENT

DAVID

Thanks a lot for letting me stay here. I didn't know what else to do.

SCOTT

Not a problem dude. Stay here as long as you want.

DAVID

It won't be long. She's hardheaded and once she makes a decision, that's it.

David starts to tear up.

DAVID

She's leaving me.

SCOTT

Hey, hey, hey. There's other fish in the sea.

DAVID

I don't even like fish.

SCOTT

Look man. You know I've got quite the movie collection. I've got tons of snacks in the cupboards. Why don't you watch a movie, pig out, and try to forget about her for the night.

DAVID

What are you going to do?

SCOTT

I gotta go out for a bit.

DAVID

Alright. Thanks man.

(CONTINUED)

SCOTT
Want me to pick you up anything?

DAVID
No thanks.

David is already scanning the DVD collection. Scott leaves. David gets a text message on his cell phone. He flips it open.

TEXT MESSAGE: GOODNIGHT HONEY. I LOVE U AND MISS U XOXOXOXO

David closes his phone up, flips it over in his hand, and doesn't move for a moment. He then opens it back up and reads the message again.

TEXT MESSAGE: GOODNIGHT HONEY. I LOVE U AND MISS U XOXOXOXO

He searches through the cupboards, gets a box of cookies, a bag of chips, and a package of cheesies and he throws them on the couch. He gets a beer from the fridge and starts a movie.

Scott comes back home THREE HOURS LATER to see the empty snack food wrappers on the floor beside David and three empty beer bottles. David is fast asleep on the couch.

Scott shuts of the TV and throws a blanket over David.

INT. SCOTT'S APARTMENT - DAY

David wakes up, a little disoriented. He tries to get up but falls back down on the couch.

Scott is sitting at the kitchen table having a coffee and reading the newspaper.

SCOTT
So, it is alive.

DAVID
(grumbles)
Barely, I think.

SCOTT
It's a new day, man.

DAVID
That doesn't mean it's any better.

(CONTINUED)

SCOTT
Coffee's on. Want some?

DAVID
Please.

Scott gets a mug and starts to pour it. David sits up.

DAVID
Woah, I feel like shit.

Scott hands him the mug of coffee.

SCOTT
Take the day off then. Just chill
out here.

DAVID
Thanks man. I will. Ya know, I've
been thinking. She's 'the one.' She
has to be. And if she's not ready
for 'us,' I can't force her. I
gotta let her go.

SCOTT
I think so too. You know what they
say about loving something and
setting it free.

DAVID
I know. She'll come back to me. I
can feel it. And then all will be
right with the world again.

SCOTT
So what are you gonna go?

DAVID
I'm gonna take today off, be a bum,
and then help her move out.

SCOTT
Alright, if you need anything, call
my cell okay?

DAVID
Will do.

SCOTT
I gotta go man. Stay strong.

Scott leaves. David looks at the mess he created last night
and flops back down on the couch.

INT. HOME APPLIANCES FLOOR - DAY

Tim is standing at the check out counter when Autumn walks up to him.

AUTUMN
Hi Tim.

TIM
Autumn.

AUTUMN
Is David in?

TIM
No, he took today off.

AUTUMN
Oh, because his phone's not on and he didn't return my text.

TIM
He'll call you later today. He just needs some time.

AUTUMN
He told you, didn't he?

Tim nods.

AUTUMN
If you talk to him, tell him I was here.

TIM
I will.

AUTUMN
Thanks.

Autumn leaves.

INT. DAVID AND AUTUMN'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Autumn is on the computer when the phone rings

AUTUMN
Hi, David?

INT. SCOTT'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

DAVID

Sorry I had my phone off and that I didn't call earlier.

THE CAMERA CUTS BACK AND FORTH BETWEEN DAVID AND AUTUMN NOW SO THAT WE CAN FOLLOW THEIR CONVERSATION.

AUTUMN

Are you okay?

DAVID

(makes a quiet half laugh)
No. I'm not.

BEAT

DAVID

Listen, Autumn. I love you and I know we've moved fast but that's only because it felt right.

AUTUMN

I wish it still felt right to me.

DAVID

You love me, don't you?

AUTUMN

Of course I do, it's not that.

DAVID

Okay then, I'll slow down. I give you some space. But please don't move out.

AUTUMN

I have to.

DAVID

No you don't. We don't have to get married yet. We can take that right off the table. I'll take the ring back to the store. We can slow things down.

AUTUMN

I just think I need my space right now. We can still be friends.

(CONTINUED)

DAVID
Space sucks. It's cold and no one
can hear you scream.

AUTUMN
Oh, David.

DAVID
I don't know what else to do right
now.

BEAT

AUTUMN
I'm going to move out this weekend.

DAVID
I'll help you.

AUTUMN
You don't have to.

DAVID
I want to. We can borrow Scott's
truck (to Scott) Right Scott?

(V.O)
SCOTT
Sure thing.

DAVID
See, easy as that.

AUTUMN
Alright. Thanks David.

DAVID
I'm gonna stay here one more night.
I'll see you tomorrow. I love you.

AUTUMN
Goodnight David.

DAVID
Goodnight.

David hangs up the phone.

DAVID
She didn't even say, 'I love you.'

(CONTINUED)

SCOTT
Give her her space man. That's all
you can do right now.

DAVID
I know, This just sucks!

INT. COLLEGE RESIDENCE BUILDING - STAIRWELL - DAY

David and Autumn haul a dresser up the stairs.

DAVID
You would have to be on the second
floor, wouldn't ya?

AUTUMN
At least I don't have a lot of
stuff.

DAVID
That's true.

INT. COLLEGE RESIDENCE - AUTUMN'S NEW APARTMENT - DAY

David and Autumn bring the dresser into her bedroom and
Autumn immediately starts unpacking her stuff to fill it.

DAVID
I'll go hook up your TV and stereo
for you.

AUTUMN
Sounds good. Thanks.

David works on setting up all her electronic stuff in the
living room, including her desktop computer.

Autumn comes in to the living room and hangs up her
grandma's painting above the television. David finishes up
with the computer and they both sit down on the couch.

DAVID
Well, it looks like you're all set
up now.

David looks around.

DAVID
This is a really nice place.

(CONTINUED)

AUTUMN

Yeah, I think I'll like it here. So you want to stay for dinner.

DAVID

Sure. What's on the menu.

AUTUMN

I thought we'd order a pizza.

DAVID

Sounds good.

CUTAWAY: PIZZA BOX WITH ONLY TWO SLICES LEFT

The television is on and a show is just coming to a close.

DAVID

Well, I'm stuffed.

David pauses hoping for Autumn to say something. She doesn't. He gets up from the couch.

DAVID

Well, I guess I should get going.

AUTUMN

Alright. Thanks a lot for helping me move in.

Autumn gives David a hug by the door. David starts to cry but holds it back the best he can.

AUTUMN

Hey, don't do that. Just let me have my space for now, okay. I'll call you tomorrow.

David nods and then wipes his eyes.

DAVID

If you need anything, call me.

AUTUMN

I will.

David turns to leave and heads down the staircase. He winces a bit when he hears her door close.

INT. HOME APPLIANCES FLOOR - DAY

DAVID

She didn't even give me a key, man.
That's gotta be a sign right there.

TIM

Not necessarily. If you two are
meant to be, it will happen.

DAVID

That's cool. Maybe we're like Luke
and Lorelai on Gilmour Girls.
Everyone knew they were supposed to
be together and it took them like
eight years.

TIM

Maybe.

DAVID

I just don't want to wait eight
years.

TIM

I don't know if your show would
stay on that long anyway.

DAVID

Are you calling me boring?

TIM

Yeah.

DAVID

All my favourite shows get
cancelled usually anyway.

TIM

Uh-oh.

David pretends he doesn't hear that last comment.

INT. DAVID'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

David comes home with a bag of Chinese Food. He places it on the kitchen table and heads to the bedroom. He empties his pockets and places his wallet, keys, lip balm, and a packet of gum on his dresser. He then heads back to the living room. He picks up the take out bag and grabs a beer from the fridge before flopping down on his couch and turning on the television.

(CONTINUED)

He flips through channels for a minute and then pauses in thought. It's a few moments before he snaps out of it, changes the channel, and then opens up the take-out bag.

After dinner, he shuts off the TV, and stares at the phone for a minute. He double checks that his cellphone is on, and then he puts his shoes back on, grabs a basketball, and heads out the door.

EXT. BASKETBALL COURT - NIGHT

There are some KIDS playing on one half of the court. David makes himself at home at the other net. He does a few lay-ups and then starts taking shots from different angles and positions along and outside of the key.

It's getting dark and the kids soon leave. The neighbourhood seems really calm, so much so that the quiet swoosh of the net as David lands a shot, breaks the silence of the night in a major way.

David sits down on his basketball.

ZOOM OUT: WE SEE THAT DAVID IS COMPLETELY ALONE. THE PARK IS EMPTY AND THE STREETLIGHTS ARE ON.

INT. DAVID'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

David comes home, checks the messages, there are none. He brings the phone to the bedroom and places it right beside him on the night stand.

He picks up a novel and starts to read before going to bed.

INT. DAVID'S APARTMENT - DAY

David wakes up, grabs the phone and takes it with him into the bathroom. He places it on the sink counter. He jumps in the shower and doesn't want to get out.

The phone rings.

David immediately shuts the shower off and jumps out to answer it.

INT. AUTUMN'S APARTMENT - DAY

AUTUMN
You sound out of breath.

INT. DAVID'S APARTMENT - DAY

DAVID
I just got out of the shower.

BEAT

DAVID
No I was done. I was hoping you'd call. So how've you been?

THE CAMERA CUTS BACK AND FORTH BETWEEN DAVID AND AUTUMN NOW SO THAT WE CAN FOLLOW THEIR CONVERSATION.

AUTUMN
Good. It's a lot nicer being here in the summer. It's quieter.

DAVID
Yeah, I think I'd like it there.

AUTUMN
I start my summer job next week. The college runs a day camp for the kids.

DAVID
You'd be great at that. You were so good with the kids at the library.

AUTUMN
Yeah, sorry I just can't do that anymore with you.

DAVID
Did you want to go for a run later?

AUTUMN
Not today. Maybe later in the week?

DAVID
Sounds good.

AUTUMN
You probably have to get ready for work don't you?

(CONTINUED)

DAVID
I got ten minutes.

AUTUMN
Cool.

START MONTAGE:

They continue to talk as David gets ready for work.

INT. DAVID'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

David stares at the phone. He vacuums, looks at the phone, does the dishes, looks at the phone, watched TV, keeps looking at the phone. He's in bed reading when it rings.

We can see that it is Autumn on the other end. David has a huge smile.

INT. DAVID'S APARTMENT - DAY

Autumn calls while David is getting ready. He tries to do his morning routine while holding the phone between his head and shoulder.

EXT. BASKETBALL COURT - NIGHT

David is taking shots alone when his cell phone rings. It's Autumn. He talks to her the entire walk home.

EXT. REDHILL VALLEY TRAIL - DAY

David and Autumn run together. When they walk back to the car they keep their distance from each other.

EXT. AUTUMN'S APARTMENT - DAY

David doesn't get a hug or a kiss goodbye when he drops her off.

INT. DAVID'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

David is in bed reading when the phone rings. He talks to Autumn for half an hour, hangs up with a smile, shuts the light off, and goes to sleep.

END MONTAGE:

INT. HOME APPLIANCES FLOOR - DAY

TIM
So she calls you every day?

DAVID
Pretty much.

TIM
But she doesn't want to get back together with you?

DAVID
I don't think so. We went for a run a few days back but nothing happened.

TIM
I hate to say it man, but she's probably over you.

DAVID
But why's she keep calling me then?

TIM
I don't know but you're never going to be able to move on if you keep this connection to her.

DAVID
But that's what I'm saying. We're connected or she wouldn't try to stay in touch, right?

TIM
If I were you, I'd cut off contact for a while.

DAVID
But I don't want to move on.

TIM
Maybe it's just the summer hiatus of your show.

DAVID
Or maybe it's gonna get cancelled?

Tim shrugs his shoulders.

DAVID
You're right. I need to cut off contact with her. I know that.

START MONTAGE

INT. DAVID'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

David checks the messages, nothing.

INT. DAVID'S APARTMENT - DAY

David stares at the phone every time he walks by it as he gets ready for work.

EXT. BASKETBALL COURT - DAY

David is playing basketball with Tim, Scott, and Jeff but he keeps checking his cellphone in between plays.

INT. DAVID'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

David checks the messages and is excited to see one. It's a solicitor though and he erases it right away.

INT. DAVID'S APARTMENT BUILDING - LAUNDRY ROOM - DAY

David takes the phone into the basement with him as he does some laundry. It doesn't ring. He checks the bars to see if he is getting a signal down there.

END MONTAGE

INT. DAVID'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

The phone rings. David answers it and we stay with him. We don't hear what his mom has to say.

DAVID

Hi Mom!

BEAT

No, I haven't heard from her in two weeks.

BEAT

Yeah it's really strange. We've never gone more than three days without talking. I'm worried about her.

BEAT

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

DAVID (cont'd)
I don't want to.

BEAT
She's the love of my life. We're supposed to be-

BEAT
Yeah I know.

BEAT
Okay, Mom. I gotta go.

David hangs up the phone.

EXT. COLLEGE SPORTSPLEX - DAY

David drives up to the Sportsplex and parks his car. He sees that there are only a few kids left to be picked up. Autumn in starting to collect the pylons that are set up on the soccer field.

David gets out of his car and starts to walk towards her. He's still quite the distance from her when he sees ERIC, approach Autumn and give her a big hug. Autumn seems to shoe Eric away. She doesn't see David. Eric sits down on the bleachers.

David goes back to his car and doesn't know what to do. The last two kids get picked up and David watches as Eric and Autumn embrace and kiss.

David drives off quickly.

INT. DAVID'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

David scrolls through the phone book on his phone. He hesitates as he stares at Autumn's number.

He puts the phone down and walks around the apartment. He goes on the computer and goes to check his email but before he signs on, he gets back up and dials the phone.

INT. AUTUMN'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

The phone rings.

(CONTINUED)

AUTUMN

Hello.

THE CAMERA CUTS BACK AND FORTH BETWEEN DAVID AND AUTUMN NOW SO THAT WE CAN FOLLOW THEIR CONVERSATION.

DAVID

He's there isn't he?

AUTUMN

Yeah.

DAVID

Damn it. I thought you were "the one."

BEAT

DAVID

Listen, I know you can't talk right now but I really need to see you tomorrow.

AUTUMN

I don't know if that's a good idea.

DAVID

Just call me then, okay.

AUTUMN

Okay.

INT. DAVID'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

David hangs up the phone. He sits on the couch. The emptiness and silence is quite apparent.

INT. DAVID'S APARTMENT - DAY

David pours a bowl of cereal but then dumps it back into the box.

The phone rings. It's Autumn.

THE CAMERA CUTS BACK AND FORTH BETWEEN DAVID AND AUTUMN NOW SO THAT WE CAN FOLLOW THEIR CONVERSATION.

AUTUMN

I'm sorry you found out that way. I was going to tell you.

(CONTINUED)

DAVID

We had never gone two weeks without talking. Never.

BEAT

I was trying to give you your space. But I was worried about you. So I went to the college to see you at the sports camp.

BEAT

I saw you with that guy.

AUTUMN

I didn't know how to tell you.

DAVID

That was Eric wasn't it?

AUTUMN

Yeah.

DAVID

How could you go back to him? How? We could have been perfect together.

AUTUMN

I know that. I don't doubt that you'd always be there for me. It's not you. You're perfect.

DAVID

That's why you stayed in contact with me, isn't it?

BEAT

We have a connection. I know you can feel it. You have to. We can be together.

AUTUMN

No we can't. Eric is the jealous type. If he knew I were talking to you.

DAVID

I know. Alex told me about him. That's why I let you go last night. I wish I never had to let you go. I wish I never did.

David starts crying.

(CONTINUED)

AUTUMN

I'm not good for you. You need to move on.

DAVID

I couldn't sleep. I couldn't eat. Still can't. Haven't had anything since last night.

BEAT

DAVID

I gotta go to work.

AUTUMN

Take an apple or something with you. You need to eat.

DAVID

Can I see you today?

AUTUMN

That wouldn't be a good idea.

DAVID

I'll always be here for you if you need me.

AUTUMN

Just look after yourself. I'm fine. I'm happy.

DAVID

You be happy then. I'll be miserable.

David hangs up. He's already dressed for work. He puts his keys in the door and is about to leave when he stops, heads back to the fridge and grabs an apple.

EXT. MALL - DAY

David drives up to the mall and parks in the near back of the lot. He walks inside and after a few minutes we see the Blood Services truck pull up to the door.

INT. HOME APPLIANCES FLOOR - DAY

DAVID

Today is the worst day of my entire life.

TIM

What happened?

DAVID

Autumn went back to her ex.

TIM

Oh, man.

DAVID

I haven't slept. I've only eaten an apple since last night.

TIM

Why'd you come in then?

DAVID

I couldn't just stew at home man. I can't do that again. I gotta make a few sales today anyway. It's been a slow week.

TIM

Just take it easy today man. I'll cover for you.

DAVID

Alright then. Maybe I'll go lie down in the back for a bit.

TIM

Yeah, you do that. Okay, buddy?

David nods and walks to the back room.

INT. COMMUNITY ROOM (TEMPORARY BLOOD DONOR CLINIC) - DAY

There are several PEOPLE setting up the temporary clinic in the community room of the mall.

INT. HOME APPLIANCES FLOOR - DAY

Tim is seeing to a CUSTOMER.

TIM
I think you'll be very satisfied
with this model.

Tim sees David coming out from the back.

TIM
(to costumer)
Can you excuse me a minute?

CUSTOMER
Sure.

Tim walks over to see David.

TIM
Have a good nap?

DAVID
Yeah, I so needed that. Thanks!

TIM
Hey man, I really could use a
break. Can you look after this
customer for me?

DAVID
Sure thing buddy.

Tim slaps David on the back and then walks back towards the customer with him.

TIM
(to customer)
This is David. He's going to help
you out the rest of the way, if
that's okay.

DAVID
So what have you been looking at?

Tim is already walking down the aisle and towards the mall as David takes over the sale.

Tim comes back just as the customer is walking away with a bill slip in his hand. David is standing at the check out counter.

(CONTINUED)

DAVID

You gave me that sale.

TIM

I've done okay this week. You said you needed it and after your night last night-

DAVID

Thanks, man. You're the best.

TIM

You better go get some lunch now.

DAVID

I don't think I could eat anything today.

TIM

You won't be able to give blood if you don't eat something all day.

DAVID

That's today.

TIM

Yup.

DAVID

Maybe I just shouldn't today.

TIM

Ya gotta look after yourself any way. So go take a break.

DAVID

I guess you're right.

David starts to walk away and then turns back.

DAVID

Yeah, I gotta go. Maybe Autumn will be there. We signed up for appointments at the same time.

Tim starts to say something but David just turns and heads for the mall food court.

INT. COMMUNITY ROOM (TEMPORARY BLOOD DONOR CLINIC) - DAY

David walks by the clinic on his way to get some lunch. We can see Karen and Sally walking up the perpendicular aisle as they head into the clinic.

KAREN

Ya know, every time we come here I end up buying a blouse or something.

SALLY

You love this traveling gig don't you?

KAREN

I don't know why I stayed at the main clinic so long. These temporary ones are the best.

SALLY

Treats at the church, doing your research, shopping at the mall, what's not to love? It's like you got it all down pat.

KAREN

Yup, but my name's Karen.

Sally and Karen set up everything they need to do their jobs and then we see the donors start to trickle in. After a few hours, Tim and David come in.

David looks at his watch as he sits in the waiting area for the nurse.

DAVID

I didn't think she'd come.

TIM

She usually does, doesn't she?

DAVID

That's what she said when we met here at this time last year.

TIM

Wow, it's been a year.

DAVID

She said it would be best if we didn't see each other though. She'll probably just go to a different clinic.

(CONTINUED)

NURSE

Who's next?

TIM

You go.

David follows the nurse into the cubby booth. Tim looks around for any sign of Autumn.

The nurse leads David out and Sally directs him to a donation chair. There is a LADY sitting in the chair beside him. David sits down and Sally preps his arm.

SALLY

How you doing today?

DAVID

Horrible!

SALLY

Why's that?

DAVID

I lost the love of my life.

SALLY

Oh, I'm so sorry to hear that. You two looked so good together.

DAVID

What can you do?

Sally gets his blood flowing and David looks at the tube filling up with his blood with a little bit of disbelief.

DAVID

Huh! Who would've thought? ... I could give blood with a broken heart.

SALLY

Awww.

Sally pats him on the arm and goes to see to another donor.

LADY

How long were you together?

DAVID

A year. We met here actually.

(CONTINUED)

LADY

That's too bad then.

DAVID

Yeah, I was sure she was 'the one,'
ya know? I can't believe that I was
wrong. My grandma always said when
you meet the right person, you'll
just know. I think I got a false
alarm then.

LADY

Well, some people can really touch
our lives without being in them
forever. Does that make sense?

DAVID

Sure! That's a good way to look at.
Ya know, I wouldn't trade anything.

Tim walks by David and heads towards the snack table.

TIM

You still are slow at this bro.

DAVID

Hey, I'm surprised they got any out
of me today. The blood can still
flow with a broken heart.

KAREN

Maybe blood has more to do with it
than you know.

SALLY

Oh come on Karen!

KAREN

What?

SALLY

He doesn't need to hear about that
right now.

DAVID

Hear about what?

SALLY

She has done some research on blood
type and personality traits.

(CONTINUED)

DAVID

Oh yeah?

KAREN

See? He's interested.

Sally just shakes her head.

KAREN

Listen, I'll finish him up if you look after that guy over there.

Sally switches donors with her silently and Karen fills David in on the theory.

David walks back to the snack table to meet Tim.

DAVID

Ya want to hear something crazy enough that there could be something to it?

TIM

You know me. I'm all for crazy.

DAVID

Apparently blood type can predict who will make a good mate. According to a popular Japanese belief, Autumn and I weren't compatible.

TIM

What?

DAVID

I know it sounds freaky but that nurse over there has been doing some research. She showed me a notebook that confirms pretty much all of it.

TIM

Sounds like superstitious nonsense.

DAVID

Maybe it is. But I thought she was 'the one.' I was sure of it with my brain. My blood could have had other ideas.

Tim shakes his head.

(CONTINUED)

DAVID

It still hurts like hell that we aren't going to be together. It feels like she's sucked me dry, like there was no way I would ever have got through this day. But I did.

TIM

You better have another cookie.

DAVID

Blood and a cookie.

David jumps up and goes to see the Receptionist. He comes back with a business card. Tim looks at him like he's nuts.

TIM

What was that all about?

DAVID

I don't want to sell fridges anymore.

David takes a sip of his apple juice.

DAVID

I can't be a coincidence that Autumn and I are over, for sure, and I'm here. It can't be.

TIM

You really shouldn't have listened to that crazy nurse.

DAVID

This is the worst day of my life but I see a future now. I can feel it.

TIM

Okay?

DAVID

(slaps the table)
I'm gonna work here.

TIM

Here?

(CONTINUED)

DAVID

They need more people to donate.
I'm going to go after a job in
promotions for them.

TIM

Blood and a cookie.

DAVID

Exactly.

TIM

I don't think that will reel them
in.

DAVID

No, I don't think so either but I
just got a great idea that I think
will.

TIM

Are you gonna tell me?

DAVID

After I've written a proposal and
updated my resume.

INT. HOME APPLIANCES FLOOR - DAY

David finishes up a sale and shakes a CUSTOMER's hand. The
customer walks away looking happy.

TIM

So, it looks like you had a pretty
good last day.

DAVID

You think you'll survive here
without me?

TIM

Of course I will.

DAVID

It just sucks that I'll be moving
away for that job.

TIM

But you got it and you'll love it.

David pauses at that phrase.

