

Furry

By

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OPEN TO:

BLACK.

TAILS

(V.O.)

It rained heavily that morning.

EXT. WINDSHIELD OF TAILS' TRUCK - MORNING

Rain falls upon a truck's windshield. TAILS, a teenage boy with dark brown hair, drives the truck. He wears a purple jacket with a dark blue T-shirt underneath. He has an irritated look in his eyes, and breathes quite heavily.

TAILS

(V.O.)

I woke up at 6:35, and had to use the small amount of driver's ed knowledge that somehow got me a driver's license to rush to school. Dad drove Mom to work, which meant I would be home alone till about 5:30 after school. For reasons I'll get into later, I was nothing short of ecstatic.

CUT TO:

BLACK.

CAPTION: A BOATS AGAINST THE CURRENT PRODUCTION

CAPTION: A SEAN MCGANN FILM

CUT TO:

EXT. SCHOOL PARKING LOT - MORNING

Tails parks his truck.

CAPTION: FURRY

INT. HIGH SCHOOL - MORNING

Tails walks into school, disheveled and carrying a backpack. He walks through the front entrance, around a corner, up some stairs and through two corridors.

TAILS

(V.O.)

My name is Miles Steadman, but
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

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TAILS (CONT'D)

everyone called me Tails, if anyone ever talked to me. To be perfectly honest, I think I gave myself that dumbass nickname because I was a hardcore *Sonic the Hedgehog* fanboy back in middle school, when it was acceptable. A Dr. Pepper Sonic lover, as Dave the Bastard once put it. The nickname is because Tails' full name is Miles "Tails" Prower, assuming you care. Anyway, I was a junior, though I was smarter than half the boys in my grade. They were the kind of assholes that would dig a hole in the ground just to see if they could break something important, like a water pump or the Earth's core.

INT. JUNIOR HALLWAY - MORNING

Tails walks to his locker. He opens it and puts his things away. He takes out some books, utensils and folders.

TAILS

(V.O.)

My story begins on May 5, 2015, four weeks before summer vacation. I thanked the Lord, because that meant I had a ten-week break from being my high school's low-tier punching bag. Now, if I had a chance run-in with the drug dealers or try-hard gym kids during break, there would be a wider variety of places where they could publicly beat the shit out of me with no consequences.

Tails closes his locker and goes into the first classroom on his right.

TAILS (CONT'D)

(V.O.)

Don't worry, this story will get optimistic soon.

INT. COMPUTER CLASS - MORNING

Tails walks in. Save for the COMPUTER TEACHER drinking coffee near the right side doorway, Tails is the only one there.

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COMPUTER TEACHER
Morning, Steadman.

TAILS
Morning.

Tails sits up front.

TAILS (CONT'D)
(V.O.)
The first day in this story isn't really significant except to show you what my life was like before it truly began. And my past life started and ended with my girlfriend. Now, once I tell you about her, you're gonna tell me that I'm crazy or autistic or that I need to die in a fire. That's fine. But at this point in time, I could care less what anyone thought. She was everything to me. My girlfriend was out of this world. In fact, she wasn't of this world. She didn't exist in this world; only my own. She was imaginary. And beautiful. And a mongoose.

On a revolving desk chair, MELINDA, an anthropomorphic female mongoose, rolls over to Tails. She looks human except for her whiskers, pointy short ears, and spotted sandy-blonde fur all over her body. She wears a tight red T-shirt and white shorts. She looks over to Tails.

MELINDA
Hello, Foxy.

TAILS
So, you've come to see me at school today.

MELINDA
It appears so.

Beat.

TAILS
Can I ask a possibly dumb question?

MELINDA
Possibly dumb?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

TAILS

I just need to ask something because I need to confirm my suspicions.

MELINDA

Ask your possibly dumb question.

TAILS

Why are you visiting me at school?

MELINDA

I wouldn't say that's a dumb question, Foxy.

TAILS

That's not an answer.

Melinda smirks.

MELINDA

Well, I was at home doing... whatever the hell I'm supposed to be doing, when I saw Mr. Steadman drive Mrs. Steadman to work. My mind thought nothing of it, but after a while I realized that there were some, shall we say, pleasant implications. It will be... what, 6:30?

TAILS

5:30.

MELINDA

5:30 till they get home. My first thought was to run up here and tell you-

TAILS

We have a perfect opportunity to fuck?

Long pause. Melinda gets serious.

MELINDA

It's been six days, Tails. Six days. You threw away six days and nights of quality time between me and you. I mean, you even threw away the weekend. Come on, Foxy. You know you can do better.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

TAILS

Which is why I'm spending quote-unquote quality time with you when I get home, okay?

Melinda smiles and shakes her head.

MELINDA

Oh, Foxy. Oh, Foxy, Foxy, Foxy.

Tails takes some headphones out of his pocket. He untangles them.

MELINDA (CONT'D)

Our anniversary is this Saturday. Can you believe it?

TAILS

Wow, four years and I'm still trucking.

Melinda looks aside.

MELINDA

I'd drop the "tr" and replace it with a certain letter. That's us in a nutshell.

Tails reaches to plug his headphones into the computer in front of him. He stops to turn to Melinda in disbelief.

TAILS

Was that cynicism?

Melinda smirks.

MELINDA

Maybe, maybe not.

TAILS

Did I just hear cynicism come out of cute little Melinda the Mongoose?

Melinda gives a tempestuous look. Tails chuckles.

TAILS (CONT'D)

I think I'm starting to rub off on you.

MELINDA

In more ways than one.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (5)

Both laugh. The teacher comes back into the room.

COMPUTER TEACHER
Everything alright, Miles?

They stop laughing. Tails looks over to his teacher.

TAILS
Yeah.

COMPUTER TEACHER
Alright, just... wondered who you
were... talking to.

Tails is all alone.

TAILS
I'm just reading a story on Wattpad.

COMPUTER TEACHER
Oh... of course. Well, uh, don't be on
that all day though.

TAILS
Right.

The teacher is suspicious, but looks away. Tails looks over to Melinda, who has reappeared. She gets up from her chair.

MELINDA
Don't forget me.

She kisses Tails on the cheek and runs off. Tails looks back to his computer. He plugs in his headphones.

INT. DAVE'S RECORDING STUDIO - MORNING

A mouth approaches a microphone.

DAVE
Welcome to the 69th circle of Hell.

DAVE KELLEY, a bearded man in his mid-twenties wearing sunglasses and a cowboy hat, sits at a desk with a recording set-up. RALPH, a dorky man wearing glasses and a striped polo shirt, sits behind a pane glass window working the sound. He presses a button that starts a short jingle. Dave grooves to it, then leans on his counter when the music stops.

DAVE (CONT'D)
Happy Monday morning, motherfuckers!
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

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DAVE (CONT'D)

This is Dave the Bastard on another episode of Bastardization Live. You know, if there's one director who I think represents a true auteur, it's Stanley Motherfucking Kubrick. Everything he did was deemed awful, slow and repetitive when it was first released, but after one to ten years, give or take a few, it goes from shit to "the shit." You know, I remember when I was ten, I watched *A Clockwork Orange* for the first time. Now, I know what you're thinking. You're thinking, "Why the fuck did you watch *Clockwork* when you were ten?" Well, 'cause my parents were awesome, assholes!

INT. COMPUTER CLASS - MORNING

Tails listens to Dave talk. STUDENTS file in and sit at computers.

DAVE

(V.O.)

Now, I find myself fapping to this film as an adult. Not the rape scenes, obviously. I'd hate myself if I did that, and as you know, when I'm not in love with Sabby, I'm in love with myself. No, the scene that always gets me hot and bothered is the scene where they're testing Alex DeLarge to see if he was successfully turned into a pussy.

INT. DAVE'S RECORDING STUDIO - MORNING

DAVE

A girl who looks like the heroine from *Heavy Metal* has her tits out and walks up to Malcolm McDowell, who I must say really needs to find better work than films on The Movie Channel at one in the fucking morning. Anyway, she's walking towards him to see if he's still the degenerate he was before the brainwashing. He tries to grasp for her tits, but he's being overpowered by the bullshit the government has done to him. But at this point, I'm

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

DAVE (CONT'D)

too busy playing with my remote control, pushing all the buttons, because I'm picturing *Heavy Metal* chick as a skunk, my skunk, torturing me with her goddamn beauty. Her naked form standing over me, give or take the nipples. You know, I have never found nipples to be that sexy. They're not a body part exclusive to women, for one. I know most men think that they're what make titties so fucking awesome, but really, it's a number of features and circumstances that... I might have already talked about in a previous episode. Ralph!

Ralph turns on a microphone inside his booth.

RALPH

Yeah?

DAVE

Ralph the engineer, everybody! Hey, Ralph! Have I ever talked about the key factors of what makes women's breasts great and why my wife displays all the key factors?

RALPH

That's about every episode, you hack.

Dave smirks.

DAVE

Thanks for the info, you cynical lurking fuck. Okay, that went a little off-topic, but that was just my morning thought. It seems it's already time for the new commercial break thing to kick in, so we'll be back to talk about the news.

Ralph cuts to commercial. Dave angrily throws off his headphones.

DAVE (CONT'D)

I need a fucking swear counter.

Ralph turns on his microphone.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

RALPH

A swear counter?

DAVE

Like, is this a demographic thing? Am I supposed to swear for some "16-year-old shittard from Reddit" demographic?

RALPH

The revenue dip getting to you?

DAVE

I mean, I'm at the point where I'm using blip.tv tactics, God rest their soul, as a means of making people think I have sponsors when in reality, surprise, surprise, I don't. Now, don't get me wrong, I'm not saying swearing isn't my cup of tea, obviously. I just wish I had more... versatility.

RALPH

Versatility?

DAVE

Variety? I don't know what word to use!

RALPH

Well, we'll get 'em back somehow, hotshot.

Dave shakes his head.

RALPH (CONT'D)

Thirty seconds, Mr. Kelley.

Dave picks his headphones up from the floor.

DAVE

Gotta love that attitude, Ralph!

Dave puts his headphones back on. Ralph presses buttons.

INT. COMPUTER CLASS - MORNING

The teacher lectures the class of students. Tails watches him with earbuds still in.

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CONTINUED: (2)

TAILS

(V.O.)

I had discovered Dave the Bastard four months prior. I found his show entertaining not just for the fact that he was also a furry, but for his philosophy of saying whatever you want, no matter what people think. That's why he was part of Revolting Radio, with other personalities and shows like Lieutenant Crow and Skadoosh's Fast Food Hour. They allowed you to say anything, uncensored, as long as you didn't cause deaths.

EXT. HIGH SCHOOL - NOON

The bell rings. Kids empty out of the school.

Tails walks towards his truck. Four raggedy, dirty-faced CRONIES walk behind him. Their leader, IAN, has an evil grin and bloodshot eyes.

IAN

Hey, faggot!

Tails freezes in place and sighs. He turns around.

TAILS

Hey, Ian.

IAN

Where do you think you're going?

TAILS

To the Coney Island Pizza Palace.

IAN

What's that, some kind of joke?

TAILS

Well, sarcasm is a type of humor. So you're right... for once.

IAN

Well, news flash; I'm always right.

TAILS

Ah, boosting the old ego, I see.

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Ian walks closer towards Tails.

IAN

It's pronounced "eggo," dipshit.

Tails tries to hold back laughter, but cracks up.

TAILS

Wow. Thanks for the correction. Now I feel so honored that such a smart specimen like yourself is stealing five dollars from me.

IAN

How you know I would steal five bucks?

TAILS

What, are we not going through the same old routine today? Because if not, that would be a blessi-

Ian picks Tails up by his shirt collar and brings him closer.

TAILS (CONT'D)

Oh, shit!

IAN

You know what? I won't, you little faggot. I'm stealing ten fucking dollars from you for talking back with some ignorant-ass shit.

TAILS

Hey hey, dude, I didn't mean it. I'm sorry.

IAN

This is what fucking happens when you talk shit to me! You got it, you fucking fairy?

TAILS

I... I... I only have-

IAN

What the fuck do you have?

TAILS

I only have... five dollars.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

IAN
Why?

TAILS
Be-becau-

IAN
Why?!

TAILS
Because I thought we were going
through the same goddamn routine
today!

Ian sets Tails down.

IAN
Lemme see your money.

Tails kneels down and opens his backpack. He takes out five dollars and hands it to Ian.

IAN (CONT'D)
I want one full ten. If you don't have
five more bucks tomorrow, your ass
will be my footrest. Got it, faggot?

Ian throws the money in Tails' face. Tails is resigned.

TAILS
Yeah, yeah, I will.

IAN
Good. I'm glad we've reached an
understanding.

Ian walks back to his cronies.

IAN (CONT'D)
Let's go. See you tomorrow, Tails.

Ian and his cronies leave. Tails picks up his crumpled up money and walks away.

INT. TAILS' LIVING ROOM - NOON

Melinda sits on the couch, watching television.

INT. TAILS' KITCHEN - NOON

Tails enters the dining area and sets his backpack on the

(CONTINUED)

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dining table.

TAILS

Honey, I'm home.

Melinda walks in.

MELINDA

You're a bit late.

TAILS

Sorry, I had a run-in with Ian.

MELINDA

That's the guy who keeps swiping your leftover lunch money, right?

Tails throws his jacket onto a chair next to him.

TAILS

Bingo. He was harassing me for finding a circadian rhythm in his assholish behavior. And yet, I'm still legit worried he's gonna break me.

Melinda rubs Tails' shoulders.

MELINDA

Well, forget your worries. You're home now, and everything's about to get a whole lot better.

TAILS

Oh, is it now?

Melinda kisses Tails gently, then starts to kiss his neck.

CUT TO:

BLACK.

CAPTION: FOUR AND A HALF MINUTES LATER.

CUT TO:

Melinda sits at the dining table, wearing nothing but a white robe and her hair slightly disheveled. She drinks a cup of tea. A toilet flushes. Tails emerges from the nearby bathroom and zips up his jeans.

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CONTINUED: (3)

TAILS (CONT'D)

Well, I nearly broke a sweat.

MELINDA

Yeah, I nearly broke one, too, going so fast and all.

TAILS

Yeah, I could probably go longer at that speed, but that was pretty satisfying.

Melinda drinks more from her cup.

TAILS (CONT'D)

So how was I?

Melinda sets her cup down and smiles.

MELINDA

You were great.

TAILS

Are you serious? Like, was I really great, or is my control of you just projecting invisible compliments? No offense.

Melinda scoffs. She sips her tea, then sets it down.

MELINDA

You were beyond words. It was an enchanting transgression of magical thrusts. If you swapped out your hands for an actual vagina, I think its owner would be in a state of whimsical pleasure. Truly you'll be amazing when you have real sex.

Melinda smiles disingenuously and sips more tea. Tails looks guilty and touches her hand.

TAILS

You are my sex. Hopefully forever.

MELINDA

Do you mean it? Because you've been making me feel like real shit lately.

TAILS

I'm sorry. It's that six-day absence,
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

TAILS (CONT'D)

I guess. I need to make it up somehow.

MELINDA

You don't have to.

TAILS

But I do, Melinda.

MELINDA

Really, it's fine. You don't-

Tails suddenly kisses Melinda and they begin to make out. Melinda feels under Tails' shirt before he takes the shirt off. She grabs for the belt of her robe.

INT. WHITE BEDROOM - NOON

Tails and Melinda aggressively have missionary sex. She moans loudly while he is about ready to climax. They finish. Melinda is breathless.

MELINDA

Fuck, Foxy.

An equally out-of-breath Tails smiles at her. A garage door is heard opening.

INT. FIRST BATHROOM - NOON

Tails sits on a toilet, backwards and completely naked. He peeks out from behind the white wall obscuring the toilet. Melinda isn't there. He grabs for some toilet paper.

EXT. VIEW OF SUNSET - NOON

Tails walks through a path surrounded by trees. He has a tripod in one hand and a camera in the other. He sets up the camera and tripod atop a cliff overlooking an entanglement of trees and greenery.

TAILS

(V.O.)

I became fascinated with photography at a young age. I started off taking pictures of animals, usually dead or mating. About two years back, I started photographing the sky. That's how I made bread as a freelance photographer specializing in nature.

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CONTINUED: (2)

Tails prepares the shot.

TAILS (CONT'D)

Unfortunately, Wilmington's forest areas have horrible odds of showcasing gorgeous sunsets. That day, I decided to give it a shot, and what a shot it was!

Click.

INT. TAILS' KITCHEN - EVENING

Tails sits at the kitchen counter eating Spaghetti-Os. TOM STEADMAN, a balding man in his late forties, sits at a desk, typing on a computer. SALLY STEADMAN, a brown-haired woman in her mid-forties, sits at the dining table, eating a Lean Cuisine-type meal.

TAILS

(V.O.)

My parents are not in this story that much due to their lack of involvement, but they're still pretty influential people. I mean, they're my parents after all. My mom, Sally, worked as a pharmacy clerk up in Plainfield, while my dad, Tom, was a tenant for a few apartment buildings in town. I liked to throw this idea around that my mom was some sort of super pharmacy clerk extraordinaire and/or selling medicine without a prescription on the side. It was the only reason I could come up with for her making more money than Dad.

Sally looks at Tails.

SALLY STEADMAN

Miles, we need to have a talk.

Tails turns around on his stool.

TAILS

Yeah?

TOM STEADMAN

This is important, so listen.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

SALLY STEADMAN

Well, as you know, we're going to Chicago this weekend to see Straight No Chaser's summer show. We would be back around Sunday night.

TAILS

Uh-huh.

TOM STEADMAN

We know that we usually drop you off at Grandma and Grandpa's, but... we're considering just leaving you here. We want to know if you feel you're responsible enough.

Tails is shocked.

TAILS

I'm... I'm flattered. I'm ready to... I'll give it a shot.

TOM STEADMAN

You sure? We know you're too lazy to make your own meals.

TAILS

I have money and a car. I can always order pizza.

TOM STEADMAN

Yeah, I guess you're right.

SALLY STEADMAN

Your pills, though. And your homework!

TAILS

I'll remember to take them, Mom. Don't worry. I can take good care of myself.

Tom and Sally look at each other, unsure. They look back at Tails.

SALLY STEADMAN

Alright, I guess you can stay home.

TAILS

Thank you, guys! I love you so much!

SALLY STEADMAN

We love you, too.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

Tails turns back to his Spaghetti-Os, smiling.

TAILS

(V.O.)

Holy shit, holy shit, this is so
fucking awesome, holy shit, Melinda
will flip her fucking tail for this,
holy fucking shit!

INT. TAILS' BEDROOM - NIGHT

Tails is in bed, under the covers and shirtless. His bedroom is dark except for the window light. He seems to be making out with thin air.

Tails and Melinda make out. She wears a tank top.

MELINDA

I fucking love you, Foxy.

TAILS

I love you, too.

They continue making out.

MELINDA

I need to admit something.

Tails stops and looks at Melinda.

MELINDA (CONT'D)

The first time we did it today, it was
just... OK.

TAILS

Oh, I know.

Tails kisses and caresses Melinda's neck.

MELINDA

The second time, however, was probably
the fourth best we've ever had.

TAILS

Fourth best? What are the top three?

MELINDA

Number three: the first time, May 9,
2011. Number two: November 7, 2013.
Number one...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

Melinda trails off mid-sentence as they kiss each other on the lips once again.

MELINDA (CONT'D)
 Number one will be this Saturday. I
 just know it.

Tails smiles. They continue making out.

INT. TAILS' BEDROOM - MORNING

The room is dark except for the half-open blinds slipping faint light into the room. Tails groggily wakes up. He looks at the clock: 6:45. He jolts up.

TAILS
 Oh shit!

Tails gets up and runs into the bedroom door before opening it and running out. Melinda is now on the other side of the bed. She wakes up and sits up.

MELINDA
 Hmm... mornin', honey.

TAILS
 (O/S)
 I'm gonna be late! Goddammit!

Melinda gets out of bed. She wears a white tank top and pink panties.

TAILS (CONT'D)
 (O/S)
 How did my alarm not go off?

Melinda walks out of the room.

INT. THIRD BATHROOM - MORNING

Tails turns the faucet on. He has two white pills in one hand and a Dixie cup filled with water in the other. He drinks from the cup and swallows the pills. Melinda enters.

MELINDA
 Maybe you were too busy making out
 with me to set your alarm.

Tails turns around, snaps his fingers and points at Melinda.

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CONTINUED: (2)

TAILS

That's a very legitimate theory.

Tails turns off the faucet. He draws a bath and takes his socks off.

MELINDA

I'm guessing you don't have enough time to have some fun in the shower.

Tails feels the water before turning the shower on.

TAILS

I really wish I could, but from past experience, my Zoloft doesn't allow me to do quickies. By the time I cum, school will practically have started.

Tails takes his shirt off.

MELINDA

You think the Zoloft works at all?

TAILS

Well, I'm pretty much the same antisocial person I've always been, only I don't listen to Three Days Grace as much. So I guess you could say the Zoloft makes me half the emo kid I was freshman and sophomore year.

Tails is about to remove his pants.

INT. TAILS' KITCHEN - MORNING

Tails eats a dry bowl of cereal. He wears a gray hoodie and jeans. He looks at Melinda.

TAILS

You gonna change your clothes?

MELINDA

You know, I don't see the point. Don't you find this attractive?

TAILS

I mean, of course.

MELINDA

I stay at home doing whatever you feel like I should be doing. I rarely go

(MORE)

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MELINDA (CONT'D)

outside the house unless you want me to show up. Why should I wear pants?

TAILS

Because pacing. We take our clothes off with pacing. It's foreplay.

MELINDA

Right. First we make out, then I suck your dick, then we fuck. Occasionally you'll go down on me, but only once in a blue moon-

TAILS

You look really cute right now.

They stare at each other.

TAILS (CONT'D)

Your whole get-up with the shirt and panties; I mean, it's just really cute. You look like my waifu or some shit.

MELINDA

I am your waifu.

Tails goes back to his cereal.

MELINDA (CONT'D)

Was that a compliment?

TAILS

Yes. Why have you been so hard on me lately?

MELINDA

Because you let me.

Tails looks at his watch.

TAILS

I need to get going. I'll just brush my teeth at school.

Tails kisses Melinda goodbye and gets up.

MELINDA

Don't forget me.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

Tails turns and looks at the empty stool. No Melinda. He sighs.

TAILS

(V.O.)

I ended up in such a rush that I forgot one little thing.

Tails grabs his backpack and heads out the door.

TAILS (CONT'D)

(V.O.)

I still had only five dollars in my wallet.

The door closes.

INT. JUNIOR HALLWAY - DAY

In a packed hallway, Tails walks up to his locker, carrying a binder and books in his arms. He starts to work the combination. Ian and his cronies approach and surround him.

IAN

Morning, homo!

Tails stops.

TAILS

Oh crap.

Tails sets his books on the floor. He stands up and turns around.

TAILS (CONT'D)

Morning, Ian! How's the drug dealing business holding up?

IAN

Quit kissing my dick and give me my ten.

Tails stands motionless, his eyes widening.

IAN (CONT'D)

Well?

Tails gulps.

TAILS

Would you be able to wait another day,
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

TAILS (CONT'D)
and I give you fifteen?

Ian grabs Tails' arm, pushing him down with his other arm. His cronies surround him.

TAILS (CONT'D)
Hey, what the hell are you doing, man?

IAN
Check his pockets!

The cronies rummage through Tails' pockets. They grab his wallet and retrieve five dollars. Ian snatches it. He chucks it at Tails. A few students notice the scene.

IAN (CONT'D)
You fucking retard! You know I got bills to pay; a stash to grow. I don't want fifteen fucking dollars. I want your fucking neck cracking on my knee.

TAILS
You're a goddamn stoner.

Ian slaps Tails firmly across the face.

IAN
Doesn't mean I can't fuck you up!

The cronies drag Tails to the middle of the hallway. One crony grabs Tails' head. Some people walk away. Others take out their phones.

IAN (CONT'D)
Stop squirming!

TAILS
Just let me go, Ian! Where the fuck are the teachers?

Ian rolls up his pant legs.

IAN
You could have just brought ten dollars, faggot!

KIKALO
(O/S)
Let him go.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

They stop. All the boys look in front of them.

KIKALO, a teenage girl with short, black hair, ear buds in her ears, and a toothpick in her mouth, stands before them. She wears a blue hoodie with a "K" stitched into it and an "{Ears of Wheat Means This Movie is Good}" T-shirt underneath. She takes the toothpick out of her mouth and throws it on the floor.

KIKALO (CONT'D)
Let the kid go, Wells.

Tails stares at her in bewilderment.

TAILS
(V.O.)
To quote a mediocre film I once saw,
"She was the most frightening person
I'd ever seen, but I enjoyed looking
at her."

Kikalo takes out her ear buds. The music playing is now only a muffled radio sound.

KIKALO
I'm not asking you again, Wells.

Ian scoffs and looks around.

IAN
Why should I? He didn't give me what I
wanted. His ass belongs to me.

KIKALO
You can beat up your customers all you
want, but he doesn't quite look like a
pothead.

IAN
He's not.

KIKALO
Then why hassle him? You know, I bet
you call him a faggot all the time
because you hope he'll be into you.

The cronies look at each other, confused.

IAN
What the fuck did you just say?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

KIKALO

If *Hey, Arnold!* taught me anything, it's that when you bully someone to an extreme degree, you really just have a crush on them. A classic case of a tsundere. You want this kid's dick, is that it? You want to fellate him?

IAN

How about I beat the shit out of you?

KIKALO

Oh, I didn't know this would be a cat fight.

Ian's cronies snicker. Ian turns around and glares, so they stop. He walks towards Kikalo.

IAN

You have no business cutting into my business.

KIKALO

Oh, I think I do. You see, I myself am in the business of logic. A drug peddler like you doesn't need to push this kid around for lunch money. From what my friend Link tells me, you're already pretty damn successful.

IAN

We "push him around" because he doesn't have any friends.

KIKALO

You hang around him all the time. You're not his friend?

IAN

No!

KIKALO

Why not?

IAN

Because-

Kikalo speaks in unison with Ian.

IAN (CONT'D)

-he's a faggot!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (5)

KIKALO

He's a faggot! Figured you'd say that. You're so fucking original, you know that, Wells? About as original as your fucking smelly-ass kush. You really need to find some lifted goods that don't smell like moldy fucking cheese.

Ian tenses up.

IAN

"Lifted goods"? Who said that?

KIKALO

It could be me, if you don't let the kid go. I'll tell everybody about how you quote-unquote "grow" all of your product.

Ian stares at Kikalo, who smiles. Ian shakes his head.

IAN

You're one sly bitch.

KIKALO

So are you.

IAN

Fuck you. Guys, we're leaving.

Ian's cronies let go of Tails, who staggers. The boys walk away. Ian bumps Tails' shoulder.

IAN (CONT'D)

Lucky little fairy.

Tails turns towards the center of the hallway. Kikalo has vanished. The students are speechless. They begin to scatter. Tails stands by his lonesome.

EXT. HIGH SCHOOL - NOON

The bell rings. Tails exits the front entrance. He reaches into his pocket and retrieves his keys. He tosses them in the air and catches them.

KIKALO

(O/S)

Listen, asshole!

Tails stops. Kikalo is a few yards away. She talks on her

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

cell phone, agitated.

KIKALO (CONT'D)

I made it very clear that it would be in the shop till Saturday morning. You have to come pick me up... You already have enough fucking money. You shouldn't be asking to work overtime... Well that's just great, Bill. You'll make forty extra fucking bucks, that's enough justifi-... What the hell is that supposed to mean? "You're starting to act like a girlfriend." Oh, fuck you! I hope I die of heatstroke walking home so you'll always feel like fucking shit in the morning knowing you let me fucking die!

Kikalo hangs up and stashes her phone away. She puts her fingers to her forehead, distraught and ticked.

TAILS

(O/S)

I could drive you home.

Kikalo turns around. Tails stands behind her. She stands up straight.

KIKALO

You overheard me?

TAILS

Sorry.

KIKALO

No, it's fine. It makes sense. I was yelling.

TAILS

I feel like I owe you.

They stare at each other.

KIKALO

Sure.

Kikalo picks up her briefcase and backpack.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

INT. TAILS' TRUCK - NOON

Kikalo steps into Tails' truck with him.

TAILS

I haven't heard anyone talk about the fight, not even the principal.

KIKALO

Eh, it has to be someone's Snapchat story by now. You have nice taste in pickup trucks.

Kikalo rearranges her stuff.

TAILS

Thanks. Do you think we should introduce ourselves?

KIKALO

Huh?

TAILS

I mean, I was always told never to pick up strangers.

Kikalo chuckles.

KIKALO

My name's Justine, but everyone calls me "Kikalo."

TAILS

My name's Miles, but everyone calls me "Tails."

KIKALO

Please tell me that's not a fucking *Sonic* reference.

TAILS

Sorry.

Tails grabs his keys out of his pocket.

TAILS (CONT'D)

So where to, Kikalo?

Tails puts the keys in the ignition.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

KIKALO

Well, go up to the school sign, take a right, go straight until you reach the second road to your left. My place is six houses down on the left.

Tails pulls out of the parking space.

KIKALO (CONT'D)

So tell me a bit about yourself, Tails. Was Wells bullshitting when he said you didn't have any friends?

Tails aligns with the road. He stops and looks at Kikalo.

TAILS

Uh... no. No, I haven't had any real friends since eighth grade.

Kikalo frowns.

KIKALO

Oh, I thought he was just being a dick. I'm sorry.

TAILS

No, no, it's fine. I don't like talking to people much anyway. Especially since everyone at this school sucks. Not you, of course.

Kikalo nods her head.

KIKALO

Of course.

Tails drives out of the parking lot.

TAILS

How about you? Tell me about yourself.

KIKALO

Well, what do you think you know about me?

TAILS

Well, from what I've observed, you're very polite, you have a very quick wit, your boyfriend's an asshole, and you carry around a suitcase that, to be honest, may or may not be carrying
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

TAILS (CONT'D)

a bomb. It's just that type of suitcase.

KIKALO

Not bad, though some minor inaccuracies. My boyfriend's not an asshole; he's just a dumb, condescending prick. My suitcase actually contains a vast array of mixtapes, though a bomb would be pretty fucking sweet.

TAILS

Could I listen to one of your mixtapes... if you don't mind?

KIKALO

Sure thing. You like Dexy's?

Kikalo zips open her briefcase.

TAILS

Who?

KIKALO

Dexy's Midnight Runners.

TAILS

They're the "Come On, Eileen" band, right?

KIKALO

You sound so innocent when you say that.

Kikalo removes a CD from her briefcase with "Essentials: DEXY'S MIDNIGHT RUNNERS" written in Sharpie.

KIKALO (CONT'D)

But to answer your question, yes, they're the "Come On, Eileen" band. Have you ever listened to a song from them besides that?

TAILS

I can't say I have.

KIKALO

That's because you just met me.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

Kikalo puts the CD in the truck's CD player. She presses play. (Depending on the rights) "Geno" by Dexy's Midnight Runners begins to play. As the song begins, Kikalo nods and bounces up and down to the song. She places a toothpick in her mouth. At a stop sign, Tails glances at Kikalo's dancing.

Freeze frame.

TAILS

(V.O.)

In that instant, it started to sink in that, if I hadn't almost been murdered by an homophobic drug dealer, I would have never met this beautiful stranger.

When the song kicks in, Kikalo dances and lip-syncs to the song. Tails keeps looking at her, while also trying to focus on the road. He makes a left turn to a suburban road. He passes six houses until he reaches a two-story house. Kikalo stops dancing.

KIKALO

This is my abode.

Kikalo ejects the CD and lets out a giggle.

KIKALO (CONT'D)

Yeah, I'm pretty much obsessed with one-hit wonders. I especially love looking at the back catalogs besides the hits. I'm such a hipster.

Kikalo laughs again. Tails looks to the side, smiling.

TAILS

No you're not.

KIKALO

What?

TAILS

You're not a hipster.

Tails looks to Kikalo. She is a bit offended.

KIKALO

Excuse me?

TAILS

I wouldn't call you a hipster.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (5)

Kikalo looks suspiciously at Tails. She throws her arms in the air with an amused grin.

KIKALO

Okay, Mr. Nice Guy. What the fuck am I then?

TAILS

You're Kikalo.

Tails turns towards the steering wheel.

TAILS (CONT'D)

You're this girl who, out of nowhere, decided to save my life. You're this strange, interesting teenage girl; the rare kind that doesn't spew all that trademark *Clueless* bullshit and instead raises a middle finger to the norm. That's probably why I let you into my car. I haven't done that with anyone outside of my family. You're this girl who dances to an 80's rock group while a complete stranger drives you home because your boyfriend wouldn't do it... and you just accept that. You're not a hipster; you're just... you. You're... hauntingly original. If you prefer to call yourself a hipster, I apologize, but that's just how I see it.

Tails looks at Kikalo. She is amazed by his speech.

KIKALO

Holy shit, that was some beautiful rambling. That was like Cameron Crowe. I mean, good era, pre-*Elizabethtown* Cameron Crowe.

TAILS

I'm sorry.

KIKALO

No, really. I mean, I'll still call myself a hipster, but... you're... you're right about me... being myself, and not being some label. What you said was... patronizing at first, but then I started to like the sentiment.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (6)

Beat.

KIKALO (CONT'D)

I like your style, Tails. If you ever decide to have friends, you're welcome to sit with me at lunch this Friday. I won't bite, though I'm not sure about Link and Beatrice.

TAILS

That... that sounds nice.

KIKALO

Have a nice day... Tails.

Kikalo smiles. She gets out of the car with her belongings. Tails watches her walk up to her house. He looks down at his radio and sees that the CD is still left in the player, ejected. He glances at Kikalo's house, then to the CD. He then starts the car, pushes the CD back in, and drives off. Slowly, a smile forms across his face.

INT. WHITE BEDROOM - NOON

Melinda and Tails have sex, her riding him on a white bed. She orgasms and falls on top of him, extremely satisfied.

TAILS

I made a friend today.

Melinda blinks, then lifts her head up off his chest.

MELINDA

What?

TAILS

So, Ian and his gang were about to bash my skull in, when this girl butted in and saved my life with insults and blackmail. Her boyfriend couldn't drive her home, so I offered her a ride. Now she wants me to sit at her lunch table.

Melinda's jaw drops.

MELINDA

You're not fucking with me?

Tails smiles.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

MELINDA (CONT'D)

Holy shit, that's amazing! Great news,
Foxy! Great, great, great news!

Melinda hugs and kisses Tails energetically.

MELINDA (CONT'D)

This doesn't mean we're breaking up
though, right?

TAILS

What? No! Of course not! Just because
I have a human friend made out of
actual matter doesn't mean I no longer
love you! Why do you keep doubting us
lately?

MELINDA

Because when you're in love... there's
no such thing as no worries.

They stare at each other. Slowly and tenderly, Melinda kisses
Tails with a grin. She kisses him multiple times on his neck,
then his shoulder, then down his shoulder. She goes down on
Tails. He breathes heavily as he lies on the bed in deep
pleasure.

INT. SECOND BATHROOM - NOON

Tails lies back on the toilet, naked save for the pants
around his ankles. He masturbates with both hands to simulate
a mouth giving him a blowjob.

INT. TAILS' BEDROOM - EVENING

Tails is on his laptop. Tom walks in. Tails minimizes his
browser window.

TOM STEADMAN

Hey, Miles?

TAILS

Yeah?

TOM STEADMAN

I need to talk to you.

TAILS

About what?

Tom is pissed.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

TOM STEADMAN

You know what.

Tails is confused.

TOM STEADMAN (CONT'D)

So what is crack like? I've never tried it, mainly because I'm not a bonehead, but since-

TAILS

Who said anything about crack?

TOM STEADMAN

An anonymous tip called and said word is going around that your drug dealer was about to kill you at school today, but some girl talked them out of it. Is this true or not?

Tails stammers.

TAILS

Dad, I'm not on drugs! That guy's not my drug dealer! I mean, he is a drug dealer, but-

TOM STEADMAN

Do I need to press charges?

TAILS

Whatever you do, don't do that.

TOM STEADMAN

Why didn't you tell us you were being bullied?

TAILS

Because I thought you would assume I was being bullied at school.

TOM STEADMAN

Not by a fucking drug dealer!

TAILS

Dad, listen. This guy has been stealing my lunch money since sophomore year. Everything's fine; it's just today I forgot to bring extra money.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

Tom squints.

TOM STEADMAN
Doesn't Mom make you lunch?

TAILS
Yeah?

TOM STEADMAN
Why bring the lunch money then?

TAILS
So he doesn't murder me?

TOM STEADMAN
Well, who was the girl that saved you?

TAILS
Her name's Justine. I think I made a friend today.

Tom is stunned.

TOM STEADMAN
You... you made a friend?

TAILS
Yeah.

TOM STEADMAN
This isn't funny, Miles.

TAILS
I'm not joking.

Tom is left speechless.

TAILS (CONT'D)
If I can make friends, I guess there's hope for all of us, huh, Dad?

Tails shrugs and smiles.

INT. ENGLISH CLASSROOM - NOON

Tails sits with other students as an ENGLISH TEACHER discusses *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*.

TAILS
(V.O.)
I can understand why she said to sit
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

TAILS (CONT'D)

with her on Friday, because the next day, I didn't see her. Not like I knew what her classes were, but I knew she was at locker number 513.

INT. JUNIOR HALLWAY - NOON

Tails passes by locker #513 while carrying a sack lunch.

TAILS

(V.O.)

I kept checking it in between classes. Either she was really fast, never needed to take out anything, or she wasn't even there.

INT. CAFETERIA - NOON

Tails sits at a lunch table with a STANDOFFISH STUDENT, who keeps looking down at their food. Tails glances up from time to time, but focuses on his lunch.

TAILS

(V.O.)

Ian dropped the whole ten dollars thing, halle-fricking-lujah, and apologized to my father on the phone for spreading a rumor about me doing crack, which in reality, only a few people believed, because Ian doesn't sell crack. It was the first time in two years where I went to high school and felt... safe.

INT. TAILS' BEDROOM - NIGHT

Tails and Melinda make out.

TAILS

(V.O.)

Melinda and I were excited as hell for our four-year anniversary this Saturday. I was hyped even more when she said it was going to be the best sex we ever had. The previous times we fucked this week were great, really great, but I just had to know how Saturday was going to go down, no pun intended.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

INT. CAFETERIA - NOON

Link walks into the cafeteria, carrying a sack lunch.

TAILS

(V.O.)

Friday came, and Kikalo left a note in my locker saying she had lunch during B period, which I also had, so I was pretty thrilled.

Tails looks around for Kikalo, notices her, and walks towards her. She sits at a table near a stage with LINK LATER and BEATRICE BANKS. Link is scruffy and skinny, and wears a black No Vacancy T-shirt and blue jeans. Beatrice is short and mousey, and wears a pink blouse with a fluffy white vest and jeans. She reads a copy of *The Inferno*.

LINK

So Lily is all like "Fuck you, motherfucker!" I'm in stitches. Fucking bitch from *Moment by Moment* is yelling in his face, and Russell fucking deserves it!

Kikalo laughs, then sees Tails.

TAILS

Hey.

Link looks at Tails. Beatrice looks up from her book.

LINK

Who the fuck are you?

KIKALO

Oh, sorry. Guys, this is Miles, better known as Tails. I saved him from Wells two days ago.

Link's face lights up.

LINK

That's him? Why didn't you say so?

Link pats Tails on the back, catching him off-guard.

LINK (CONT'D)

Sit the fuck down, my man.

Tails sits in between Link and Kikalo.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

LINK (CONT'D)

You brought down a real poser, you know that? He's just like Carlos Mencia; stealing from other people to seem like a baller, even though he's really a fucking pussy.

Tails awkwardly looks at Link.

TAILS

Okay. Thank you.

LINK

No, thank you, man.

Beatrice looks at Tails, then at Kikalo.

BEATRICE

As is the circle that around it turns.

CAPTION: (Canto XVIII, Line 3)

TAILS

Yes?

Beatrice closes her book and sets it to the side. She gives Tails a disgusted glare.

BEATRICE

Whence o'er me comes a shudder...

CAPTION: (Canto XXXII, Line 71)

BEATRICE (CONT'D)

...for thou hast intruded upon our gathering withouten intentions nor knowledge of past.

Kikalo is shocked.

KIKALO

Now why the hell would you say something like that, Beatrice? That's extremely rude.

BEATRICE

I apologize amain.

KIKALO

Thank you. That was very out of character.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

Kikalo turns to Tails with a smile.

KIKALO (CONT'D)

I'm very glad you could join us for lunch.

TAILS

I think I should introduce myself properly.

LINK

Oh, it's okay.

TAILS

I feel like I should.

LINK

At least let us do it first.

TAILS

Excuse me?

Freeze frame.

TAILS (CONT'D)

(V.O.)

And to my surprise, they did.

WHIP PAN:

Link looks into the camera.

LINK

My name is Link Later. I do a lot of fucking heroin. I am currently single and bisexual with a proclivity towards women, though a little dick in the ass never hurt anybody. A big dick does, but I can handle it. I'm a senior who can't wait to get out of this rotting hellhole next week. I'm agnostic, but I don't give a fuck about anyone's religion. My current employment is drummer/manager of the Anarchist Coffee Suites. My favorite movie is *Caligula*.

PAN:

BEATRICE

I take the name Beatrice Banks. I have
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

BEATRICE (CONT'D)

attained an infatuation with Master Dante Alighieri's 1308 scribe *The Inferno*. Aye alone I am, and I restrict thy loins to the opposite sex for respect of elders. I have but one year until I rise above this withering confinement, surrounding myself with clay, sweat, ordure and dole. I believe in the gods. I am employed to Hermes, thy god of transitions and boundaries, who will spread his message when he escapes his shackles of the dullards whose complexity of his they cannot understand. My favorite motion picture is *Constantine*.

PAN:

KIKALO

My name is Justine Kelley. I drink and only once tried pot. It was awesome. I have a boyfriend by the name of Bill Oakley. Because I've sworn never to discuss what happened at summer camp in 2010, let's just say I'm straight. I'm a junior. I'm an atheist. I am the lead vocalist and lead guitarist for the Anarchist Coffee Suites. My favorite movie is *Starship Troopers*.

PAN:

TAILS

Oh, it's... it's my turn. Uh, my name is Miles Steadman. You guys can call me Tails, and Kikalo already said that. Uh, I like... water? I'm not sure what I like really. Don't drink or do drugs. Uh, I have a "waifu," her name is Melinda, and I'm straight. I'm a junior. I'm a Catholic, non-practicing. I am a freelance photographer who's been featured in the Free Press Advocate and the Daily Journal a number of times... assuming you read newspapers. My favorite movie is... *Magnolia*?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (5)

KIKALO

Oh, I fucking love that movie!

TAILS

You do?

LINK

If Tom Cruise were like Frank T.J. Mackey in real life, I'd be a fucking Scientologist in a heartbeat. I wouldn't even care about them killing Jeremy Blake.

KIKALO

Respect the cock.

LINK

Respect the cock!

TAILS

Respect the cock.

BEATRICE

We may be through with the past, but the past ain't through with us.

KIKALO

You can quote the movie, Beatrice?

BEATRICE

In my fucking sleep.

Kikalo's eyes narrow.

TAILS

That's... that's what Jimmy said after that line.

KIKALO

Oh, yeah, I forgot.

Beatrice looks up from her book.

BEATRICE

'Twas a correct assumption. You give off the aura of pleasantness now that examination concludes itself. Once more, apologizing amain.

Beatrice continues reading. Tails leans in to Kikalo.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (6)

TAILS

Does she-

KIKALO

Yeah, she can speak normally. She just chooses not to. You'll get used to it.

LINK

So, Tails, you ever seen that video of Lily Tomlin bitching at David O. Russell on YouTube?

TAILS

Who's David O. Russell?

LINK

Well, we were just talking about it. So, okay, Lily Tomlin is flipping David off, and just keeps fucking pausing to think...

Tails listens attentively to Link's recap.

TAILS

(V.O.)

So we talked about Lily Tomlin's meltdown and what a piece of shit the guy who directed *American Hustle* is for the rest of lunch. I also remembered that Beatrice was in Precalculus with me, which seemed like it could be useful. After school, we hung out and chatted some more.

EXT. HIGH SCHOOL - NOON

The bell rings. Tails, Kikalo, Link and Beatrice chat by a sculpture of a bell.

TAILS

(V.O.)

The band that Kikalo and Link formed, Anarchist Coffee Suites, was a tribute band of sorts to a band I adored named Neutral Milk Hotel. Never heard of them? "In the Aeroplane Over The Sea," "Two-Headed Boy," "King of Carrot Flowers," "Oh Comely," "Holland, 1945." No? "I love you, Jesus Christ," "All secrets sleep in winter clothes," "Her sister and mother and five-

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

TAILS (CONT'D)

hundred families," "Semen stains the mountaintops." Still? They're the ones with the album cover of the lady with the grapefruit head. They're to indie folk what Led Zeppelin is to rock and roll. Kind of a big deal.

INT. WHITE ROOM - ???

Kikalo plays acoustic guitar against a white backdrop.

TAILS

(V.O.)

Kikalo was also a huge fan and wanted a band that emulated their music but wasn't a cover band. She called it a "stylistic tribute band."

Link plays the drums.

TAILS (CONT'D)

(V.O.)

She and Link put out some Classified ads and found two additional members.

JOPLIN WEEZY, a short young man with a bowl cut, plays the trumpet.

TAILS (CONT'D)

(V.O.)

Joplin Weezy, a Ritalin addict who knew how to play a killer trumpet...

ERIC TYPOVSKI, a tall man with a ponytail haircut, plays a keyboard despite messing up a few times.

TAILS (CONT'D)

(V.O.)

... and Eric Typovski, a JJC student who is a jack of all trades and a master of none.

EXT. HIGH SCHOOL - NOON

The four continue to chat.

TAILS

(V.O.)

They had been successfully playing at a club in Coal City called Opening

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

TAILS (CONT'D)

Soon for the past four months. I was impressed, to say the least.

LINK

Alright, I think I gotta bounce. See you tomorrow, Kikalo.

BEATRICE

I shall depart as well, if thou do not mind the close.

KIKALO

It's fine. I'll see you both tomorrow.

Link and Beatrice leave. Kikalo turns around and smiles at Tails.

TAILS

What?

KIKALO

So, Mr. Steadman, how does it feel to have friends?

TAILS

I feel like a fucking needle in a haystack.

KIKALO

It'll pass.

TAILS

And I did have friends back in junior high. They just kinda... left.

KIKALO

Oh, I know that feeling too well.

Beat.

TAILS

Oh, almost forgot!

Tails unzips his backpack and pulls out Kikalo's mixtape. He hands it to her.

TAILS (CONT'D)

You left it in my truck the other day.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

KIKALO

Oh shit, I guess I did.

TAILS

Just wanted to give it back.

Kikalo zips open her suitcase and puts the CD back inside.

KIKALO

How many times did you listen to it?

Tails smirks.

TAILS

I just finished it this morning.

KIKALO

Which song was your favorite?

TAILS

Well, I really liked "Geno" and "Jackie Wilson Said," and there was another good track I don't know the name of. But the song "All in All" might be my favorite. It's hard to decipher what Kevin Rowland is saying, but after a while, you collect the pieces. You know, you piece them together with his emotion and create this sad story of separation and growing apart from his lover. It's just so beautifully composed, especially with the strings.

KIKALO

I love the strings. Personally, that was my favorite era of theirs.

A loud honk is heard. Tails and Kikalo turn and see a blue car by the curb.

KIKALO (CONT'D)

And there's Billy. Hey, can I pick you up sometime? My van will be fixed by tomorrow morning. I'd love to hang out.

TAILS

Uh, yeah. Sure.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

KIKALO

Great! Can you give me your address?

Kikalo takes out her phone. Another honk. She turns her head.

KIKALO (CONT'D)

Wait a minute, jackass!

TAILS

Alright, my address is 2-

Another honk. Kikalo turns her head.

KIKALO

Fucking stow it, Bill!

Kikalo turns back to Tails.

KIKALO (CONT'D)

Go on.

TAILS

28900 Adamson Drive. It's the brick house on the corner.

KIKALO

Alright, let me jot this-

Several repeated honks. Kikalo turns her head.

KIKALO (CONT'D)

I will rip out that fucking horn and ram it up your ass, Bill!

BILLY

(O/S)

That better be a promise!

Kikalo flips Billy off. She resumes typing.

KIKALO

28900 Adamson Drive. Alright, I'll see you around.

TAILS

Yeah, see ya.

Kikalo runs off. Tails watches her leave. (Depending on the rights) "Mrs. Robinson" by Billy Paul starts to play.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (5)

TAILS (CONT'D)

(V.O.)

It was like a lucid dream that never
ceased.

INT. TAILS' TRUCK - NOON

Tails drives home. A smile grows on his face.

TAILS

(V.O.)

It puzzled me how it had only been two
days since I met this girl, and now I
already had two more friends. It may
seem obvious if I say this, because I
had been spending my life getting
robbed by an amateur drug peddler,
chatting friendly with no one but my
parents, getting through school work
with a mix of A's and B's, and jerking
off, but it needs to be said. This was
the greatest week I had had in a long,
long, long time.

INT. TAILS' KITCHEN - NOON

Tails slides into the room. He dances around, feeling the
groove all over. Melinda walks in.

MELINDA

What are you doing?

TAILS

I'm dancing!

Melinda giggles.

MELINDA

Why are you dancing?

TAILS

Why not?

Tails grabs Melinda and dances with her. They laugh as they
dance about.

MELINDA

I've never seen you like this!

TAILS

I haven't seen me like this either!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

The two continue to dance and laugh.

INT. WHITE BEDROOM - NOON

Melinda lies on her back as Tails thrusts into her.

MELINDA

Oh god!

TAILS

Oh yeah!

MELINDA

You need to make friends more often!

TAILS

Tell me about it!

Tails starts to thrust faster.

INT. TAILS' KITCHEN - EVENING

Tom, Sally and Tails sit at the dining table, chatting happily and eating dinner. Suitcases are in the background.

TAILS

(V.O.)

Before they left, my family wanted to hear all about my new friends. I left out about fifty-seven percent of the truth, so they were happy to hear about my awesome, wholesome friends. We even ate as a family for once, and it wasn't even Thanksgiving. I was happy, and tomorrow I would be even happier. My four-year anniversary with Melinda. Things could only go up from here.

INT. DAVE'S RECORDING STUDIO - EVENING

Dave talks into his microphone. He wears a cowboy hat.

DAVE

Did you not even think of *Norbit*, Reese? After *Dreamgirls* came out, people thought Eddie Murphy was finally getting his shit together, but then he made that abortion of a movie and his chances of winning went out the fucking window! You made the great

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

DAVE (CONT'D)

decision, and I'll give you this, to have *Hot Pursuit* released in May after everyone forgot you were one of the twenty vanilla faces nominated this year, but you dropped the shitty trailer before that. By the way, everyone, I know we've already forgotten about the fucking train wreck that was this year's Oscars, but I just thought about something. Did you notice that, despite the numerous times Neil Patrick Harris made fun of #OscarsSoWhite, he forced Octavia Spencer, a black woman, to watch a fucking box for three hours? And you know she wasn't fucking paid to watch that shit! To paraphrase the Smodcast, if I may, she should have said, "Fuck you, Doogie Howser! I actually have an Oscar!" So yeah, I give *Hot Pursuit* a very low 2 out of 10. Fucking abhorrent. And that's my Late Night Insomniac Review, and my show for tonight. I'll be seeing you all on Monday. Remember to like us on Facebook for more updates. You can follow me on Twitter and Instragram at SabbyAndDave as well. This has been Dave the Bastard, and as always, remember to enjoy your weekend... just a little too much.

The sign-off music plays. Dave takes off his headphones. Dave approaches him, papers in his hands.

RALPH

Here's this week's data, Dave.

DAVE

Thanks.

Dave takes the papers and looks at them. Ralph grabs his things.

DAVE (CONT'D)

Fuck me.

As Dave sifts through papers, he notices a peculiar document.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

DAVE (CONT'D)

Ralph, what's this?

Ralph walks back in and is handed the document.

RALPH

Huh?

Ralph glances at the document.

RALPH (CONT'D)

Oh, right. Some... radio show I haven't heard of wanted to talk about bringing you on.

DAVE

And you didn't tell me about this?

RALPH

Well, it looked sketchy.

DAVE

Ralph, you need to let me know about this shit unless you're trying to sabotage my career. And sketchy? They're with a premium content provider!

RALPH

Sorry.

Ralph starts to leave. Dave keeps reading. Ralph stops in the doorway.

RALPH (CONT'D)

You know you can take that home, right?

Dave looks up.

DAVE

Right, right.

Dave gets up and leaves while reading the document. Ralph turns off the lights.

INT. TAILS' BEDROOM - NIGHT

Tails and Melinda lie in bed together. Melinda sleeps. Tails is wide awake staring upwards at the ceiling. He smiles.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

INT. TAILS' BEDROOM - MORNING

An alarm clock goes off at 6:45. Tails hits the snooze button. His hands fall under his covers. He looks over to his left and Melinda is not there.

TAILS

Huh.

A jolt of energy comes across Tails' face.

TAILS (CONT'D)

Oh.

Tails smiles, his eyes fluttering.

TAILS (CONT'D)

Oh...

Tails looks down.

TAILS (CONT'D)

Good morning, honey.

Melinda emerges from under the covers.

MELINDA

Good morning, Foxy.

TAILS

You know with the Zoloft, it'll take way longer than usual.

MELINDA

Oh, I know.

Melinda crawls back under the covers. Tails lays his head back and smirks.

TAILS

You are fucking magnificent.

Tails grins.

INT. SECOND BATHROOM - MORNING

Tails brushes his teeth while naked. As he rinses, his phone goes off. He spits and checks his phone. It's a text message.

MOM: REMEMBER 2 TAKE YOUR PILLS!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

Tails scoffs and smirks. A honking sound catches him off guard. Tails looks at his phone. It's 7:56.

EXT. TAILS' HOUSE - MORNING

Tails steps outside. He wears slippers, a robe, and boxers. He holds onto the robe to keep it shut. Kikalo stands outside with a white van parked by the curb next door. She wears a different blue hoodie and a T-shirt with the seeing-eye painting from *Mallrats* printed on it.

KIKALO

Mr. Steadman, I presume.

Tails raises an eyebrow as his arms fall to his sides.

TAILS

Good morning, Kikalo. Um... what are you doing here?

KIKALO

Well, I thought I might take you out to breakfast. Like the van?

Tails looks at the van, then back at Kikalo.

TAILS

It's, uh... it's nice.

Beat.

TAILS (CONT'D)

When you said you wanted to hang out, I didn't think you meant this early.

KIKALO

Well, you have any plans for today?

TAILS

Well, I... I kinda was... I mean, I...

KIKALO

Those sound like good fucking plans.

Beat.

KIKALO (CONT'D)

Come on, I got some fun stuff for us to do.

Tails thinks.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

TAILS

Let me get dressed.

KIKALO

Yeah, slow it down a bit. We've only known each other for three days and you're already dropping trou.

Tails looks down. He grips his robe and covers himself before walking back inside.

INT. KIKALO'S VAN - MORNING

Tails gets in the van. He wears a windbreaker, a navy blue T-shirt and jeans. Kikalo sticks the keys in the ignition. Tails looks at her shirt.

KIKALO

It's a sailboat.

Kikalo looks at Tails as he looks up.

TAILS

Oh.

Kikalo looks forward.

KIKALO

You just wanted to look at my tits.

TAILS

What? No, I wasn't! Honestly!

KIKALO

Kidding, kidding. You know, I've always thought girls wearing T-shirts with detailed pictures and words on them was fucking strange.

Kikalo puts the gear into drive.

KIKALO (CONT'D)

Like, you're just trapping guys into looking like perverts. I mean, at least I can tell the difference...

The van drives off.

TAILS

(V.O.)

I didn't see Melinda for the rest of
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

TAILS (CONT'D)

the day.

EXT. SILVER DOLLAR - DAY

Exterior shot of a restaurant.

INT. SILVER DOLLAR - DAY

Tails and Kikalo are seated at a booth. A WAITRESS takes their order.

KIKALO

I'll have the Eggs of York with two hash browns and a cup of coffee.

WAITRESS

How do you want your coffee?

KIKALO

Black.

WAITRESS

Alright.

TAILS

I'll just have a donut. Glazed, please.

KIKALO

You sure?

TAILS

Yeah.

KIKALO

Nothing to drink or anything? I'm paying.

Tails sighs.

TAILS

You know, I'll have a glass of milk, too.

WAITRESS

Alright, your order will be here shortly.

Tails and Kikalo hand her their menus.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

KIKALO

Thank you.

TAILS

Thank you.

The waitress leaves. Kikalo looks outside.

TAILS (CONT'D)

So, that was fast. You really like me, huh?

KIKALO

Whose car is that?

Kikalo turns to Tails.

KIKALO (CONT'D)

What? Oh, you mean the... right. Well, I was just interested in getting to know you a bit more, you know? Find out your ambitions, your likes, dislikes; shit like that.

TAILS

Not everything, though.

KIKALO

Well, you're not an axe murderer, right? Cause I don't like being friends with axe murderers. Too timid, usually. You wouldn't hurt a fly, right?

TAILS

I assure you I would hurt a fly, but not a human.

KIKALO

Good. Fuck flies. How many flies have you killed recently?

TAILS

Ooh, that's hard to remember.

Two teenage girls, HANNA and HOLLY, step inside. Kikalo looks behind her, then quickly looks back. She shields her face.

KIKALO

Shit.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

TAILS

What?

Hanna and Holly talk to the MAITRE D'.

TAILS (CONT'D)

Is something wrong?

KIKALO

Are they looking at us?

TAILS

I can't hear what you're saying.

Tails looks at the two girls being led to their table.

KIKALO

Please don't fucking come over here.
Please dear fucking god don't come
over here. Please, please, please
don't fucking-

HANNA

Kikalo?

Kikalo sits up with a pleasant expression. Hanna stands at her table.

KIKALO

Hanna! Hi! Fancy seeing you here! I
haven't seen you in a while!

HANNA

Well, you never really kept in touch.

KIKALO

Oh, well...

HANNA

I recognized the jacket and thought it
might be you.

KIKALO

And it was!

HANNA

It was! I haven't seen you since
Backbone. How have things been?

KIKALO

Oh, they've been fine.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

Holly walks over to Hanna.

HANNA

Glad to hear. Holly, I just ran into Kikalo.

Kikalo waves hello, but Holly shrinks up.

HANNA (CONT'D)

We just came to grab a bite to eat. We're doing this bake sale at the VFW in an hour as part of the Wildcat Service.

KIKALO

I'm glad you support our veterans.

HANNA

Hope everything's fine at home.

KIKALO

Right.

HANNA

You know, you can always come to the meetings again if you want. You're not banned or anything.

KIKALO

I'll keep that in mind.

HANNA

You wanna have breakfast with us?

KIKALO

Thank you, but I'm fine over here.

HANNA

Well, it's nice to see you again. Talk to us anytime.

KIKALO

Alright, see ya.

Hanna and Holly walk away. Holly leans into Hanna.

HOLLY

Who was that fuckboi?

Kikalo looks over to Tails. She looks embarrassed.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (5)

TAILS

You were in Backbone?

KIKALO

Yeah, for a couple of months when it started up. Ooh, here's our food.

The waitress comes back with their food on a tray.

WAITRESS

Here you go.

The waitress passes out the plates of food.

KIKALO

Thank you very much.

TAILS

Thank you.

WAITRESS

You're welcome. Anything else I can get you for today?

KIKALO

We're fine for now.

WAITRESS

Alright.

The waitress leaves with the tray. Tails drinks his milk as Kikalo looks at him. Tails notices.

TAILS

What?

KIKALO

Aren't you going to ask me why I was in Backbone?

TAILS

Well, I mean, I wouldn't want to pry.

Kikalo points a fork at Tails.

KIKALO

Correct. That was a test. Expect more to come.

Kikalo cuts up her eggs.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (6)

KIKALO (CONT'D)

It's all in the name of friendship.
Right now, you're knocking it out of
the goddamn park.

Kikalo eats her eggs.

TAILS

That's... great to hear.

Tails takes a bite of his donut. He drinks his milk.

KIKALO

When I was in Backbone, I turned that
Holly girl lesbian.

Tails almost chokes on his milk.

TAILS

What?

KIKALO

When I was in Backbone, I turned that
girl, Holly, lesbian.

Tails swallows.

KIKALO (CONT'D)

Long story. So I went to Backbone
because I was stressed out from
relationship bullshit, and thought it
was a welcoming safe space to talk
about issues with bullying and
depression and what not. Besides, why
wouldn't I want to be part of a Gay
Straight Alliance? I'm straight, and I
align myself with gay people all the
fucking time. However, Backbone was,
to me, mostly just arts and crafts
mixed with public speakers that only
ever talked about how to survive
college while gay. Great intentions,
but flawed execution. People were
nice, though.

Kikalo takes a sip of her coffee.

TAILS

Uh-huh.

Kikalo sets her coffee down.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (7)

KIKALO

So, noticing that I hadn't talked that much at the meetings, Hanna asked if I wanted to say something about homophobia in high schools. That was that day's topic. Instead of being constructive or helpful to the conversation, I ended up, right the fuck off the top of my head, coming up with this story about a lesbian love affair I had with a custodian at JJC. I went into detail, and I mean detail, about just... eating pussy, playing with clit, fucking rubbing clams together. But I made it sound like we were making love, you know what I mean? Of course, I'm a virgin, none of that shit happened. Hanna figured that out after talking to the group leaders, who knew me better and were a little pissed off. However, despite Holly finding out that I was lying... I still turned her gay.

Tails is in awe.

KIKALO (CONT'D)

I'm honestly glad I did it. Like, I helped her discover her identity. I may have lied, but she found herself in the process.

Kikalo takes another sip and looks over to Holly and Hanna. Holly turns away.

TAILS

Isn't she also into BDSM?

KIKALO

Her favorite book is *Fifty Shades of Grey*, so... not really.

Kikalo grabs a hash brown and munches down on it.

TAILS

I'm sorry you have relationship troubles.

KIKALO

Well, I don't have them right now!
Sure, I have my squabbles with Bill,
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (8)

KIKALO (CONT'D)

but we love each other at the end of the day. I'm sure you've had a fight or two with Melinda.

Kikalo takes another bite of her hash brown.

TAILS

Right... Melinda.

KIKALO

So, tell me about this girl. You've been together a long time?

TAILS

Yeah, four years. She's not real.

KIKALO

She's not?

TAILS

I'd go as far as to say she is an imaginary friend.

Tails recoils, bracing for impact. Kikalo takes another bite of her hash brown.

KIKALO

Now... when you say imaginary friend, you mean like... Elvis imaginary friend... or Tyler Durden imaginary friend?

TAILS

Tyler Durden?

KIKALO

You ever seen *Fight Club*?

TAILS

No.

KIKALO

Shit. Never mind. What do you mean by imaginary?

TAILS

Like, I pretend that I have this girlfriend that's there for me after school. She brightens up my day and she... helps me dig through my mind to

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (9)

TAILS (CONT'D)
find... what I'm really feeling.

KIKALO
Ah, so Elvis imaginary friend.

TAILS
Yeah, but I wouldn't fuck Elvis.

Tails puts his hand over his mouth. Kikalo cracks up.

KIKALO
Nice, nice.

Beat.

KIKALO (CONT'D)
I mean, come on. Don't be ashamed.
Everyone jerks off! You do it to
Melinda, Holly does it to me, I do it
to Alex Turner; everyone fucking jerks
off! It's just no one wants to talk
about it but me.

Kikalo eats some eggs.

TAILS
Yeah, I guess.

Tails eats his donut.

KIKALO
Now, tell me. What does this perfect
woman look like?

Tails looks up towards the ceiling.

KIKALO (CONT'D)
I want to visualize Melinda.

Beat.

TAILS
Um... size C chest...

KIKALO
Nice, middle ground.

TAILS
...very seductive, soft voice...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (10)

KIKALO

Oh yeah, I bet she does.

TAILS

...heart-melting smile...

KIKALO

Very cute.

TAILS

...and a mongoose.

Tails looks directly at Kikalo. She stares at him while holding a piece of egg on a fork.

KIKALO

Mongoose?

TAILS

Well, she's kinda human.

KIKALO

So you're a furry?

Tails sighs.

TAILS

Yeah. Yeah, that's the correct term.

Kikalo stares for a bit, then snaps out of it.

KIKALO

Okay.

Kikalo eats her eggs.

TAILS

That's okay?

KIKALO

What? You think I have a problem with it? You want me to?

TAILS

No, no, I didn't mean... I don't... I don't suit or anything.

KIKALO

It doesn't make a difference to me. We all have that one thing we're into.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (11)

Tails lets out a big sigh and leans back.

TAILS

Oh thank god. I thought I was done for.

KIKALO

What? You think someone like me is weirded out by furrries? As long as it's anthro, I don't give a fuck. I mean, hell, Link used to be a clopper.

TAILS

Link was?

KIKALO

Fuck yeah, probably still is, come to think of it. He had a hard-on for Fluttershy and everything.

TAILS

I was always more into Rainbow Dash-god fucking dammit!

Tails facepalms. Kikalo cracks up.

KIKALO

You too?

TAILS

I mean, only for a while. I lost interest.

KIKALO

This is fucking great.

TAILS

You sure you don't care?

KIKALO

I don't care if you wanna penetrate some poor pony's plot, or hatefuck a sweaty Vinyl Scratch in workout clothes, or want Cheese Sandwich to eat you with his anus, or masturbate furiously to the Mane Six being raped by their moms with twenty foot long dicks. Everyone knows the internet's a strange place, but only Hot Topic and my people know how truly strange and fucked up it can get. So fuck whoever

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (12)

KIKALO (CONT'D)

kinkshames you. I'll only be concerned with pedophilia, loli or an incest fetish if it's with your actual family. And even then, that's your private fetish! Besides, some of that incest anime I watched during my yaoi phase was pretty fucking steamy.

Kikalo finishes her hash brown. Tails shakes his head as he picks up his glass of milk.

TAILS

We only met three days ago.

Tails drinks his milk.

KIKALO

I know, isn't it wild?

TAILS

Not even my parents know about this shit.

KIKALO

Why would they? It's fucking disgusting.

Tails tilts his head.

KIKALO (CONT'D)

I'm kidding! Lighten up!

Tails shakes his head and drinks more of his milk.

TAILS

Tell me this though.

Tails sets his milk down.

TAILS (CONT'D)

By "your people," you mean the hipsters, right?

KIKALO

Muy bien.

TAILS

What made you want to become one?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (13)

KIKALO

Why does anyone become anything?

Beat.

KIKALO (CONT'D)

I guess because I wanted a word for "being better than everyone else." I get the know-how on all the best up-and-coming bands out there in the indie scene. I don't have to give a fuck about what fucking clothes I put on every morning. I'm a "cool girl" to all the guys, but too cool for most, enabling me to weed out all the dickheads and find my knight in a Shinedown T-shirt. I can be what I want, who I want, how I want.

Kikalo reaches for her cup of coffee.

KIKALO (CONT'D)

Oh, and I can claim I was the audience for Wes Anderson before regular white people ruined it.

Kikalo drinks her coffee. Tails is about to say something, but doesn't. (Depending on the rights) "Making Time" by The Creation begins to play.

EXT. SILVER DOLLAR - DAY

In slow-motion, Kikalo walks out of Silver Dollar with a toothpick in her mouth, looking badass. Tails follows behind her, but trips on the curb. He catches himself before falling to the ground. Kikalo doesn't turn around and keeps walking.

EXT. OPEN ROAD - DAY

The van speeds along an open road surrounded by crop fields.

KIKALO

(V.O.)

So why a mongoose?

EXT. CROP FIELD - DAY

Tails and Kikalo sit by the side of the road near a crop field. They drink cans of root beer.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

TAILS

I don't know. I guess I just looked at a bunch of stuff on DeviantArt, and of what I saw, I like the mongooses the most. Eventually, that was all I looked for.

KIKALO

So, is Melinda based on someone's OC?

TAILS

No, no, I came up with her on my own.

KIKALO

Yeah, I thought so. I mean, you can't draw a sexy voice.

Beat.

KIKALO (CONT'D)

Am I really the only one who knows?

Tails sips from his can of root beer.

TAILS

No, Ian knows.

KIKALO

So, he equates homosexuality with bestiality. Of course he fucking does.

Kikalo sips from her can of root beer.

TAILS

I mean, I understand the taboo, but I wish he'd leave my personal life out of it. You know, sometimes I think that it's just not worth it, and I should just pretend to be normal, but then I remember no one knows who I am anyway so it doesn't matter. I'll just be me I guess. If people are upset, it's their fault for defining me.

KIKALO

I can relate. You know, after *Perks of Being a Wallflower* came out, there were so many middle-class fucking white girls trying to be Sam. It was fucking embarrassing. especially since they were all more like Susan than

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

KIKALO (CONT'D)

Sam. "Oh my God, 'Come On, Eileen' is my favorite song! Dexy's is the best band ever!" "Well, can you name any of their other songs?" "...Screw you, Kikalo." It's like people dismiss me because I make them look like posers. I'm an original hipster; an OH if you will. People at our school call me names.

TAILS

Really?

KIKALO

Juno, New Girl, Ramona Flowers, Lana Del Rey; that last one fucking cracks me up. I do like getting called Aubrey Plaza, though, since she is an absolute goddess. Oh, and I fucking swear, until she plays, like, a Bond girl or some shit, I'm gonna get called Greta Gerwig till the day I graduate. I don't even fucking look like her! If they wanted to be more accurate, I'd suggest calling me Parker Posey, but since they saw Greta in... I don't know, that fucking Natalie Portman movie, and they somehow know she does a bunch of indie films, that's what some of them have dubbed me.

TAILS

Damn.

Beat. Tails sips.

KIKALO

So, you do photography?

TAILS

Yeah. I want to focus on it when I go to college. I've made all my money sending nature photos to newspapers. I even got a photo featured in a magazine that, like, ninety people bought, so that was pretty cool.

KIKALO

Anything other than nature?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

TAILS

Not really.

Tails takes another sip.

KIKALO

You ever thought about people?

TAILS

Well, yeah, but I just like Melinda.

KIKALO

No, photographing people.

TAILS

Oh, yeah. But I don't really have anyone to photograph.

Kikalo leans into Tails with a grin.

KIKALO

How about nude photography?

TAILS

Nude photography?

KIKALO

I mean, if you want to start taking pictures of people, maybe not. That might not be for beginners, but... you seem like you know what you're doing.

TAILS

Who would model for me?

Kikalo pauses.

KIKALO

Why not me?

They look at each other. Kikalo blushes.

TAILS

Are you serious?

Kikalo collects herself.

KIKALO

I mean, it'd only be to tease my boyfriend. If I'm gonna send him nudes, I'll wanna be classy about it.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (5)

KIKALO (CONT'D)

Oh, speaking of him, I almost forgot!
I left my watch at his work. I'm sorry
to do this, but hey; it's a record
store. You may find something there.

Kikalo gets up and walks to her van. Tails watches her leave,
then looks back to his root beer can.

KIKALO (CONT'D)

(O/S)

You coming?

Tails looks up.

INT. WHIRLED RECORDS - DAY

Kikalo walks into a record store, Tails right behind her.

KIKALO

Sup, bitches?

BILLY OAKLEY, a black man in his early twenties with dark
locks of hair, stands behind a glass counter. He wears a
Watsky T-shirt and jeans.

BILLY

Now look what the angels sent me
today.

KIKALO

You know I'm really a bat out of hell.

Kikalo kisses Billy.

BILLY

Tastes like corn.

Kikalo playfully slaps Billy's arm.

KIKALO

So, I left my watch in here. You guys
still have it?

BILLY

You got a watch?

KIKALO

Yeah, how else am I supposed to know
what time it is?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

BILLY
Well... a phone.

KIKALO
What the fuck? I didn't know phones
could do that now!

BILLY
Who's the kid?

Kikalo pulls Tails up to the counter.

KIKALO
Billy, I'd like you to meet my new
friend, Tails.

BILLY
Weren't you the one she saved from an
ass-whooping?

TAILS
It was less an ass-whooping and more
like attempted murder.

BILLY
Still, she saved your ass.

TAILS
Yeah, yeah, she did.

KIKALO
And there's nothing wrong with that.

JASON QUAN
(O/S)
Oakley!

Tails looks towards the back corner near the counter.

BILLY
Aw, shit.

JASON QUAN, a young, short Japanese-American man, walks out from the back corner office. He wears a sweater vest and glasses.

JASON QUAN
What's going on here, Billy?

BILLY
It's just Kikalo.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

JASON QUAN

You just started your shift and you think it's acceptable to be chatting with your girlfriend?

BILLY

Yes I do, Jason. Maybe if you had a girlfriend, you'd do the same thing.

JASON QUAN

Very funny. If I had a girlfriend, I think she would respect my work ethic.

Jason looks over to the CD section of the store and notices something.

JASON QUAN (CONT'D)

Billy!

BILLY

Damn, Jason. I'm right here!

JASON QUAN

What is this bull?

Jason points to the "New CDs" end cap.

JASON QUAN (CONT'D)

Why are the copies of *Kyonyū* no longer in the "New CDs" section?

BILLY

They're in there, Jason.

JASON QUAN

I don't see them.

BILLY

They're hidden behind Best Coast's new joint.

JASON QUAN

Why did you obscure them?

BILLY

I "obscured" them because they're a month and a half old. Not exactly new?

JASON QUAN

But I told you to keep them in the "New CD" section!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

BILLY

They are!

JASON QUAN

Well, they should be front and top!

Jason points again to the end cap.

JASON QUAN (CONT'D)

I mean, what... what about... what about *Cherry Bomb*? That's months old.

BILLY

It's not even a month old yet.

JASON QUAN

But the album sucks.

BILLY

I actually kinda like it; I think Tyler really comes into his own.

JASON QUAN

And you don't like my album!

BILLY

No, I don't!

Billy scrunches his face in regret. Jason gasps.

JASON QUAN

What the heck did you just say?

BILLY

Here we go.

JASON QUAN

Boki in the Dark Woki are the first Asian-American rock band to address social issues from an Asian-American perspective. None of this universal, pop poop. We're like Kendrick Lamar, but Asian and not rappers.

BILLY

Then how are you like Kendrick?

JASON QUAN

Because we're real! And we're gonna be big because people like real!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (5)

BILLY

Hopsin says the same damn thing.

Jason shakes his head.

JASON QUAN

You know what? You want to work overtime? How does 10:30 sound to you? Does that sound like overtime? Does it, huh?

Jason storms off to the back room. He pokes out his head.

JASON QUAN (CONT'D)

Respect my flipping art!

Jason slams the door. Tails stares. Kikalo leans forward.

KIKALO

So about my watch...

Billy sighs.

BILLY

Right. You'll have to get it from Jason. He has a lost and found.

KIKALO

Cool. Wait here.

Kikalo walks to the back room.

BILLY

So how long you known her for?

Tails looks to Billy.

TAILS

Oh, um, three days. You?

BILLY

Well, we've been together for almost three months now. Met at the Metro in Chicago at a Cloud Nothings concert. We really connect when it comes to music, you know? From what I heard, she's getting you into her music.

TAILS

Yeah, I guess.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (6)

BILLY

Like she wants to connect.

TAILS

Oh no, we share a lot of interests. I mean, we both love Neutral Milk Hotel; I was a fan before I met her.

BILLY

Favorite album by them?

TAILS

Naturally, *In the Aeroplane Over The Sea*.

BILLY

Nah, see, I'm more of an *On Avery Island* kind of guy.

TAILS

Really? It's rare I find someone who likes that album better.

BILLY

Yeah, I mean, I love *Aeroplane* just fine, but *On Avery Island* appeals to more than just a few emotions. It lets me remember and recall more memories, and actually lets me delve deeper into those memories more so than *Aeroplane* did. Like, I'll remember losing someone listening to "Oh Comely" and be like, "I was at this nigga's funeral and cried." Or I'll listen to the title track and think about how my aunt had Alzheimer's. But I'll listen to fucking "Naomi" and not just remember my biggest crush in high school, but I'll remember the way she fucking walked, her shade of lipstick, the friends we shared; all that shit. I'll listen to "You've Passed" and not just think about my aunt, but the pivotal moments in our relationship, the most challenging moments for both of us, and what our final hours together were like. It's that mix of poetry and tone that conjures that shit up. Know what I mean?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (7)

TAILS

Yeah, that's... that's actually really insightful.

Beat. Tails glances to his left, surprised.

TAILS (CONT'D)

(V.O.)

Huh! What do you know? Billy was actually pretty cool! I wondered why they fought all the time.

BILLY

Thanks, man. I'm not bashing *Aeroplane*, just to be clear. I just prefer *On Avery Island*.

TAILS

No, I get you, man. I like that album, too.

Tails smiles and nods.

TAILS (CONT'D)

What kind of name is Boki in the Dark Woki?

BILLY

No fucking clue, man.

Kikalo walks out of the back room.

KIKALO

Alright, got it back.

Kikalo shows her watch, then puts it on.

BILLY

Nice.

KIKALO

Well, I gotta run by my house real quick. See you tonight, Billy.

Billy waves goodbye.

BILLY

See ya.

Kikalo leaves with Tails.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (8)

JASON QUAN
(O/S)
Buy my album!

EXT. KIKALO'S HOUSE - DAY

Kikalo parks her van in front of her house. She gets out, while Tails stays in. She turns around.

KIKALO
You want to come in?

TAILS
I mean, if you're just getting something-

KIKALO
No, I'd like it if you came in.

The two stare at each other.

TAILS
Okay, cool.

Tails unbuckles and gets out of the van. The two walk towards her house.

KIKALO
I want you to meet my brother. I think you'll like him.

TAILS
Really?

KIKALO
Let's just say you share some common interests.

Kikalo unlocks the door.

INT. KIKALO'S HOUSE - DAY

Kikalo and Tails walk in.

KIKALO
Dave, we're home!

DAVE
(O/S)
What do you mean "we're"?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

KIKALO
Tails is here. The one I've been
telling you about?

INT. KIKALO'S LIVING ROOM - DAY

Kikalo and Tails walk in. Tails freezes. Dave Kelley is sitting on the couch watching TV. He looks at Tails.

DAVE
What's up, man?

TAILS
Dave the Bastard?

Kikalo looks at Tails with an irked look.

KIKALO
You're a fan?

TAILS
Kikalo, where's your bathroom?

INT. KIKALO'S BATHROOM - DAY

Tails closes the bathroom door and locks it. He grabs a towel and holds his tight over his mouth. He muffles his screams and rocks back and forth.

TAILS
Okay, okay. Calm down. You can do
this.

Tails lowers the towel.

TAILS (CONT'D)
You can do this. Just breathe. Okay?
Just breathe.

Tails takes deep breaths.

TAILS (CONT'D)
(V.O.)
Needless to say, Dave and I hit it off
pretty quickly...

INT. KIKALO'S LIVING ROOM - NOON

Dave and Tails chat while Kikalo sits detached from them, looking at her phone.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

TAILS

(V.O.)

...much to Kikalo's chagrin.

DAVE

To be honest, I don't have any desire to fur suit.

TAILS

Yeah, I don't, either. If anything, it'd make it easier to single me out.

DAVE

Exactly! Back in college, I was a fucking laughing stock. Sure, they have those "safe spaces" now, but what about life in the "unsafe spaces"? Gotta prepare us for that!

TAILS

But bless the people who do it though. They don't give a single fuck.

DAVE

As much as I yiff more than anything, I will always have respect for the wholesome people in our fandom. Especially now after that chlorine bomb at Midwest Furfest.

TAILS

One of my favorite moments of yours is you going off on *Morning Joe*.

DAVE

Even if you find furies amusing, hold your laughter the fuck in when they had a near-death experience! Though I'm glad you liked that rant. I thought I got too Alex Jones-y around the time I talked about mass media.

TAILS

No, it was great! They want to act tolerant of everyone over at MSNBC and be on the right side of history. Meanwhile, they don't take a terrorist attack seriously when it happens to people in expensive, silly costumes!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

DAVE

Like I said, one minute they'll suck Brianna Wu's fucking clit, then they're laughing at people who are different. Goddamn.

Kikalo stands up.

KIKALO

Well, I'm glad you guys like each other. Enough to talk a whole hour, as it turns out. But I've got some more plans for today.

DAVE

Oh, yeah, don't let me hold you back or anything.

Kikalo rolls her eyes.

DAVE (CONT'D)

I'm really happy to meet you, man.

The two shake hands.

TAILS

To meet me? I'm so happy to meet you!

DAVE

We gotta talk again sometime.

KIKALO

Yeah, you do.

Kikalo pulls Tails up and drags him off.

DAVE

You can stop by the station anytime. Just tell them you're a friend.

TAILS

That means the world to me!

DAVE

Great... great to hear!

Tails and Kikalo have left the room. Dave waves goodbye.

DAVE (CONT'D)

I'll see...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

Dave drops his hand.

DAVE (CONT'D)

Why am I waving my hand? There's no one in the fucking room.

INT. KIKALO'S ROOM - NOON

Kikalo cleans up her room as Tails sits on the bed.

TAILS

I can't believe your brother is Dave Kelley!

KIKALO

I thought you knew my last name was Kelley.

TAILS

I mean, it's a common last name.

KIKALO

I guess so. A lot of people mistake it for a *From Justin to Kelly* reference.

Kikalo sits on the bed.

TAILS

But how come you don't have a Southern accent?

KIKALO

My mom was raised in Shreveport, Louisiana, while my dad was raised in Spokane, Washington. They all lived in Baton Rouge until I was born, so Dave kept his Southern accent while I gained a Midwestern accent.

TAILS

So, I take it from Dave your parents aren't around much then.

KIKALO

No, they haven't been for a while.

TAILS

I'm sorry to hear that. Whenever he brings them up on the show, he always says they're "not around."

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

KIKALO

Well, nowadays they like to hang around the cemetery... because they're... they're dead.

Tails is floored.

TAILS

Oh my god, I'm so sorry.

KIKALO

Eh, it's fine. It was three years ago. It was the weirdest thing though.

Beat.

KIKALO (CONT'D)

Do you want to know what happened?

TAILS

Uh, I mean...

KIKALO

That was another test.

Tails squints. Kikalo shrugs.

KIKALO (CONT'D)

Fuck it, I'll tell you.

Kikalo takes a toothpick out of her pocket and puts it in her mouth.

KIKALO (CONT'D)

So, Dave was graduating from college. My parents and I were so happy for him. He was looking forward to interning at Sirius that June with a goddamn Bachelor's in broadcast communications. He had a future and we were proud of his success. So we were driving to DePaul, and it was raining like hell. I remember Mom wouldn't shut the fuck up about the weather; she was checking her million fucking weather apps every five minutes.

Kikalo smiles awkwardly.

KIKALO (CONT'D)

I was listening to "Sweater Weather"
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

KIKALO (CONT'D)

on the drive. I loved that song when it first dropped. I think I listened to it at least twice a day after it came out. Once in the morning, once in the evening. It was building up to that really slow part near the end of the song, which is just so soothing and serene... and then we crashed. Semi had pulled out too early as Dad tried to beat the yellow light. Mom yelled "Are you crazy?" I looked up and the whiplash actually made me close the phone as we were crashing. So there was no soundtrack for my near-death experience, which sucked.

The toothpick falls out of Kikalo's mouth. She picks it up and puts it between her fingers.

TAILS

Were you hurt at all?

KIKALO

Not that much. I bumped my head on the top part of the window, like the plastic that's part of the hood and holds the window in place. So that was a nasty bruise. Also I sprained my right ankle, but that cleared up in about a day. But I was fucking sore in the immediate aftermath. I can still remember my eyelashes fluttering, my fucking head spinning; it was maddening. And then I realized that my parents were hurt. I saw their heads lying back. Immediately, I had to unbuckle my seat belt, sore as I was, hop over the seats and run over to my dad. I shook his unconscious body, shouting at him with tears in my eyes, "Dad, wake up! You gotta wake up, Dad! Dad, please for the love of God, wake up!"

Beat.

KIKALO (CONT'D)

And then the ambulances came. When I was in the hospital, I kept thinking about how fucked up Dave was gonna be.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

KIKALO (CONT'D)

Not how fucked up I was already, but how fucked up he would be. Think about it: the worst day of Dave's life was supposed to be the best day of his life. And that's how he became my guardian.

Kikalo nods her head. She tosses the toothpick in a wastebasket by her bed.

TAILS

Wow.

KIKALO

You want to hear me play guitar?

Tails is silent and wide-eyed. Kikalo hops off the bed and grabs her acoustic guitar.

KIKALO (CONT'D)

Have any song requests?

Kikalo hops back onto the bed.

TAILS

Um... no.

KIKALO

No requests?

TAILS

Not... really.

KIKALO

Are you just drawing a blank because I told you about my parents dying and tried changing the subject too quickly?

TAILS

Yes!

Kikalo points at Tails.

KIKALO

There's that honesty I love. You know what, I have a song in mind.

Kikalo strums the guitar.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (5)

KIKALO (CONT'D)

Shit.

Kikalo tunes the guitar until it sounds right.

KIKALO (CONT'D)

Sorry, lemme just...

Kikalo continues tuning and strumming.

KIKALO (CONT'D)

Okay, it should be good.

Kikalo strums the guitar. (Depending on the rights) She sings the first English-language verse of "99 Luftballons."

Kikalo stops, then looks up at Tails.

KIKALO (CONT'D)

I'm still learning that one. I know most of the English lyrics, but I don't have it down just yet.

Tails stares in awe.

KIKALO (CONT'D)

The band's actually playing tonight. I'm sure you'll be fine with tagging along.

TAILS

Fuck yeah.

KIKALO

Glad to hear it. Watch my guitar, I need to freshen up.

Kikalo takes off the guitar and walks out of the room. Tails watches her leave. He looks at the guitar and pictures of her on her bed stand. He blinks.

TAILS

(V.O.)

And that's when I knew I was in love.

EXT. OPEN ROAD - NOON

The van speeds across the freeway.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

INT. KIKALO'S VAN - NOON

Kikalo jams out to the first instrumental break of "99 Luftballons." Tails looks at her before jamming out as well.

MONTAGE:

Various shots of Coal City. Stops on an exterior shot of an apartment building.

INT. LINK'S APARTMENT - NOON

Kikalo knocks on an apartment door. Link opens the door.

LINK

Dippy-do-fucking-wa, faggots! Come on in!

Kikalo and Tails walk in. The apartment is messy, with garbage, papers, books, and narcotics scattered across the apartment.

LINK (CONT'D)

I just had the place cleaned.

KIKALO

Really nice of GG Allin to help you out like that.

LINK

True fucking pal.

Link walks into his kitchen.

KIKALO

But seriously, I commend you for throwing out one pizza box from last month. You have to make some room for this month's pizza boxes.

LINK

I'm cutting back, goddammit! Don't hate me because I'm chubby. Hate me because I'm beautiful.

Link takes a spoon out of a kitchen drawer.

LINK (CONT'D)

So, you bringing him tonight or what?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

KIKALO

Of course! How else am I supposed to cap off a perfect day?

LINK

You glad you spent it with her, Tails?

TAILS

I really am.

KIKALO

I took him to breakfast at Silver Dollar, had a few root beers by the Spot, introduced him to my brother, who happened to be his favorite radio host, and played him a bit of "99 Red Balloons." You know, to warm him up to the big finish.

Link lights a lighter under a spoon.

LINK

Jesus Christ, you're such a fucking cool girl, you two should be drinking cheap beer and watching Adam Sandler movies.

TAILS

We also went to a record store.

LINK

Lemme guess. Whirled Records?

TAILS

Yes.

KIKALO

I had to get my watch.

TAILS

You know, your boyfriend is actually really cool.

KIKALO

You think so?

LINK

You two talked? That's a great fucking idea. Billy loves it when she surrounds herself with guy friends.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

KIKALO

What are you getting at?

LINK

Remember when he told you a while back, "Where all the girls at? Too many dicks on the dance floor." Let's face it, without Amarna and Beatrice, your list of friends would be a fucking reverse harem.

KIKALO

Does that make you my bitch?

Link fills up a syringe.

LINK

I'm already everybody's fucking bitch. I put David Hasslehoff to shame, I'm that much of a whore. But at least I have some girls who I don't fuck. How many ex-boyfriends do you have now?

KIKALO

Wow, you've already injected today.

LINK

Come on, let's tell Tails all about your exes. It'll be like showing him your baby pictures.

KIKALO

At least in my baby pictures, my parents aren't beating the shit out of me.

Link smirks as he flicks the needle.

LINK

Suck my fucking balls, babe!

KIKALO

I hope Princess Celestia takes a giant shit in your mouth, though I think that might turn you on.

LINK

Only if it's the *Equestria Girls* version of Celestia, though I can settle for her regular form. You watch *My Little Pony*, Tails?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

TAILS

Um, used to.

Link walks into the living room.

LINK

Ever watched it stoned?

TAILS

No.

LINK

Don't. It's trippy as hell, but I find it impossible to pay attention to the good fucking story.

KIKALO

Even when Faust quit?

LINK

That's when I get stoned more often than not. That and most episodes by Charlotte Fullerton.

Link rummages through his debris.

KIKALO

I once drank some cough syrup and watched *Sharkboy and Lavagirl*. It was fucking terrifying, especially in 3-D.

LINK

3-D and drugs are like drugs and alcohol. Don't fucking mix that shit unless you want to die.

KIKALO

Well, I want to die, but it sounds like a douche way to go out.

LINK

It's extremely douche.

KIKALO

If I were to kill myself, I'd go with autoerotic asphyxiation.

Link sits in an old armchair.

LINK

Fuck yes!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (5)

KIKALO

Though I wouldn't do it while hanging from a doorknob.

LINK

Oh god no. I don't want people thinking I'm fucking short.

KIKALO

If I'm going to die, I'm gonna die doing someone I love. But I'll have some goddamn respect for myself and hang from the fucking ceiling.

LINK

Amen to that. But the real question is, are you gonna watch porn while killing yourself or think creatively?

Link rubs a sanitary wipe over his arm.

KIKALO

Well, I usually watch porn on my phone, so having to position the rope and flick it at the same time will leave no room to hold the phone. And having to set up the TV, pay for some soft core shit... I'll just imagine shit.

LINK

Can you imagine how porn stars must feel knowing that someone is hanging themselves while jerking off to them?

KIKALO

Like the Björk stalker?

LINK

Exactly! Some sick fuck is going "Victory" while watching Busty Nurses 25? Painting themselves blue and shit? Fucking wild!

Link shakes his head and smiles. He looks at Tails.

LINK (CONT'D)

You okay there, kid?

The two look at an uncomfortable Tails. He clears his throat.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (6)

TAILS

I'm sorry, I guess I'm just new to...
all of this.

LINK

Yeah, we have the mouths of sailors.
You'll get used to it. Maybe you'll
even love it!

Link injects the heroin. He flinches with delight.

LINK (CONT'D)

Oh yeah, that's the good shit! Oh
fuck!

Link sinks into his chair, ecstasy on his face. A toilet
flushing is heard. A TOPLESS GIRL, wearing jeans and shoes
but no bra or shirt, walks out of the bathroom.

TOPLESS GIRL

Link, have you seen my shirt anywhere?

The girl stops and looks at Tails and Kikalo.

TOPLESS GIRL (CONT'D)

You invited more over?

Link puts a bandage on his arm.

LINK

Oh no, these are my friends.

TOPLESS GIRL

Oh. Well... hello.

TAILS

Hi.

KIKALO

What's good?

The girl examines the couch. Tails is sitting on a black T-
shirt.

TOPLESS GIRL

Um... you're... sitting on my shirt.

Tails looks down.

TAILS

Oh, sorry.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (7)

Tails stands up. The girl picks up her shirt. She puts it on as she walks over to Link.

 TOPLESS GIRL
So, I've got a meeting with some very
important people.

 LINK
Is that so?

 TOPLESS GIRL
Yeah, I've gotta run.

The girl rubs Link's thigh.

 LINK
You sure?

 TOPLESS GIRL
Yeah I am.

 LINK
They are very... very important.

 TOPLESS GIRL
They so are. You gonna call?

 LINK
Oh, I'll call you.

 TOPLESS GIRL
Yeah? You'll fucking call me?

 LINK
I'll fucking call you.

 TOPLESS GIRL
Oh yeah?

 LINK
Yeah.

The two tongue kiss. Tails stares. Kikalo checks her phone. Eventually, the girl pecks Link on the cheek and walks out.

 TOPLESS GIRL
I'll see ya around.

 LINK
See ya.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (8)

The girl leaves and closes the door. Link twitches and licks his lips. He looks over to Tails.

LINK (CONT'D)

I do a lot of fucking heroin, but I also do a lot of fucking, period.

TAILS

Good for you.

LINK

Thank you. Let's get going.

Link claps his hands and gets up from his chair.

EXT. OPENING SOON - NIGHT

Kikalo drives up to a busy bar. Beatrice is outside reading *The Inferno*.

LINK

Well, look who decided to show up.

KIKALO

How's the crowd look tonight, Beatrice?

BEATRICE

They go by turns each one unto the judgment; they speak, and hear, and then are downward hurled.

CAPTION: (Canto V, Lines 14-15)

KIKALO

How many people?

BEATRICE

Thy amount is fifty interchangeable with sixty, whenceforth-

KIKALO

Thanks, Beatrice. Looks like we got a crowd tonight, boys.

The three exit the van.

INT. OPENING SOON BAR - NIGHT

The four walk in. Tails is in awe.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

TAILS

Holy shit.

The bar is very much alive. Several people are on the dance floor, most of the booths and tables are filled, and the indie rock music is bumping.

TAILS (CONT'D)

(V.O.)

It was like the Chicago nightlife came to Coal City.

Link drapes his arm over Tails' shoulders.

LINK

Welcome to Jurassic Park.

Link pats Tails on the back and walks up to the bar. AMARNA, a red-headed petite woman in her late twenties, serves drinks to CUSTOMERS. She sees Kikalo.

AMARNA

Kikalo, mi cariño!

KIKALO

How you doing, sweetie?

The two hug over the counter.

KIKALO (CONT'D)

Tails, this is Amarna. She owns the bar.

AMARNA

You want anything to drink? Bourbon, beer, whiskey?

Tails is thrown off by the question.

TAILS

Wait... I'm...

Tails leans into Kikalo and whispers.

TAILS (CONT'D)

I'm underage.

KIKALO

Oh, that's fine, man. She's my cousin. We go bowling. If you're good with me, you're good with her.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

AMARNA

Yeah, if you're under twenty-one, that's no problem. I even have the cameras turned off. That's how little of a fuck I give when it comes to her friends.

TAILS

Wait, she's your cousin?

AMARNA

Her father's brother is my father. He moved to Spain after joining the military, and then we moved back to Joliet.

KIKALO

My family is like an STD; we're fucking everywhere.

AMARNA

The last two generations are based in America, but span three continents. So how about that drink, Tails?

TAILS

Um, I think I'll just have a Sprite.

AMARNA

You sure? No booze?

TAILS

I'm fine.

AMARNA

Alright, alright. Is Sierra Mist okay?

TAILS

Um, sure.

Amarna goes over to the taps. Link walks up to Tails.

LINK

I don't drink soda. Shit rots your teeth.

AMARNA

Yeah, unlike heroin.

Amarna walks back up and serves Tails his soda.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

LINK

Oh, I'm sorry. I forgot how much of an upstanding citizen you were. By the way, can I borrow a spliff?

AMARNA

It's called a joint. Only out-of-touch stoners from the seventies call it a spliff.

LINK

How can you smoke so much pot but keep such a tight ass?

AMARNA

I'm vegan.

LINK

Why don't you just use the proper term for vegans? Back in my day, they were just called "assholes."

AMARNA

You take so much man meat in your mouth, I understand why you don't like veganism.

LINK

Also, I'll take a rum and coke, señorita.

AMARNA

Coming right up... jodida puta yonqui.

Amarna turns around and walks off.

TAILS

I understood one of those words.

LINK

Me, too.

INT. OPENING SOON - NIGHT

The band is on stage, with Kikalo on guitar, Link on drums, Joplin on trumpet, and Eric on bass and musical saw. Kikalo approaches and taps the microphone.

KIKALO

Alright, we're the Anarchist Coffee Suites! We're here to chew bubble gum
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

KIKALO (CONT'D)
and eat ass, and we never run out of
ass!

Tiny, muffled laughs from the audience.

KIKALO (CONT'D)
Anyway, here's a song called "Spider
Dismemberment."

LINK
Two... one, two, three, four!

Kikalo begins playing her guitar. The song is reminiscent of
"Song Against Sex."

KIKALO
Don't you goddamn move

The sun swallows the cattle's hoof

And makes all the flowers grow

With sunshine and radiation

She lingers with anticipation

Because she knows something I don't
know

The audience is indifferent for the most part. Tails is into
it.

TAILS
(V.O.)
Of course they were great.

INT. OPENING SOON DANCE FLOOR - MIDNIGHT

Tails leans against a wall and drinks a soft drink, turned
away from the loud speakers. Everyone dances around him. An
energized Kikalo hops over.

KIKALO
It's fucking popping!

TAILS
Yeah, it is.

KIKALO
You know you can get drunk if you
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

KIKALO (CONT'D)

want. I'm driving.

TAILS

I'm good.

KIKALO

I'll buy you a drink.

TAILS

Thank you, but I don't wanna drink tonight.

KIKALO

You sure?

TAILS

Yeah.

KIKALO

Okay, whatever. I'm sure you'll enjoy yourself sober.

TAILS

Are you being sarcastic?

KIKALO

Course not! I find that having fun while sober can be just as enthralling as doing it drunk.

TAILS

If you say so.

Kikalo grabs Tails' shoulder.

KIKALO

I mean, you must have had fun the past seventeen years you didn't know me.

TAILS

Do you think I've never been drunk?

Kikalo backs away sarcastically.

KIKALO

If you say so, Keith Richards. I'll see you in a bit.

Kikalo dances away. Tails sips from his drink.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

TAILS

(V.O.)

I had never been drunk. Well, not counting two sips of communion wine in second grade.

Link walks over, grooving out.

LINK

What are you doing over here? Why don't you bust a fucking move, Tails?

TAILS

No, man. I only dance when no one is looking.

LINK

So you're a shitty dancer then.

TAILS

Pretty much, yeah. Hey, Beatrice.

Beatrice walks over.

BEATRICE

Greetings and salutations.

LINK

You enjoying yourself, Bea?

BEATRICE

Not particularly. I am compelled to depart in due time.

LINK

You need a ride home?

BEATRICE

I transported thyself here. Therefore logically I shall transport thyself back.

LINK

Oh, right... okay. See you on Monday.

Beatrice walks away.

LINK (CONT'D)

I forgot that she can drive.

The two stand around. Tails points to nothing in particular.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

TAILS

Is this song saying "E's are good"?

LINK

Probably! It's Madchester after all.

Link looks around.

TAILS

When you said ex-boy-

LINK

Booty at 2 o'clock. See ya.

Link dances away. Tails shakes his head and drinks his soda.

BILLY

(O/S)

Ay, yo, Tails!

Tails looks up. Across the room, Billy stands by the bar with two black men, ANTWONE and SUGAR. Billy motions for Tails to come over. Tails is curious. He shifts through the crowd and walks over to the bar.

INT. OPENING SOON BAR - MIDNIGHT

Tails makes it over to Billy.

TAILS

What's going on?

BILLY

Nothing much. You?

TAILS

Um, same.

BILLY

These are my boys, Antwone and Sugar. Sounds like a law firm on *Empire*, I know.

SUGAR

Fuck your ass, man.

TAILS

His ass?

ANTWONE

Billy's been telling us you trying to
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

ANTWONE (CONT'D)

roll with the hipsters.

SUGAR

You mean Billy's girl, the faggot, and the Renaissance Faire girl?

ANTWONE

Nah man, that girl isn't trying to be medieval. It's the ancient Greeks.

SUGAR

Like Zeus?

ANTWONE

More like Hades.

SUGAR

Hercules?

ANTWONE

You like those guys?

TAILS

Yeah, I think they're cool.

BILLY

If you didn't know Kikalo, would you think anything of them?

TAILS

Excuse me?

BILLY

Never mind. I'm glad you getting along with them. When I met them, we didn't hit it off right away, but then they grew on me. Shit's crazy with Link, though.

TAILS

I've never met anyone who actively uses heroin before.

BILLY

Oh yeah?

TAILS

There was a guy who gave a speech in my health class last year, but he was a recovering addict.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

BILLY
You seen Link's dick yet?

TAILS
No?

BILLY
You will.

TAILS
Have you?

BILLY
What do you think? It's so
traumatizing I remember every detail.
Guess his size.

TAILS
Guess his size?

BILLY
Just guess.

Tails looks around.

TAILS
Um... hung?

BILLY
This motherfucker said "hung"!

Billy and his friends break out in laughter.

BILLY (CONT'D)
You alright, kid!

TAILS
Thanks, man. You know, you're not too
bad yourself.

Kikalo walks over to Tails.

KIKALO
Hey, baby.

BILLY
Hey.

KIKALO
I think I'm gonna head out.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

BILLY

You sure?

KIKALO

Yeah, I got homework tomorrow. You ready to go, Tails?

TAILS

I guess so.

KIKALO

Alright, let's head on out. See ya later.

Kikalo grabs Tails' arm. They walk away.

SUGAR

See ya, Kikalo.

ANTWONE

See ya, Kikalo.

BILLY

Yeah, see ya.

Billy looks on, suspicious. He takes a sip from his drink.

INT. KIKALO'S VAN - MIDNIGHT

Kikalo parks in front of Tails' house.

TAILS

I had such a great time today.

KIKALO

Anything for a new friend.

Kikalo hugs Tails. She breaks the hug and there's an awkward silence.

TAILS

Well, I should get some rest!

Tails exits the van.

KIKALO

I'll see you Monday!

TAILS

Great, see ya then!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

Kikalo looks on, smiling. He disappears from her sight and she drives away.

INT. TAILS' KITCHEN - MIDNIGHT

Tails walks into the dark kitchen. He turns on the light. Melinda sits on the counter in the farthest corner from Tails. She eats a banana. He bites his lip before smiling.

TAILS

Hi, babe.

Tails takes off his windbreaker.

TAILS (CONT'D)

You won't believe the day I had.

Tails walks towards Melinda.

TAILS (CONT'D)

Kikalo... took me out to breakfast at Silver Dollar, then we hung out by the side of the road, drinking root beer and talking about life. Then I found out her brother is... get this... Dave the Bastard. So yeah, I kinda met my idol. Then, she took me to a bar and did a little set with her band. So, then... yeah.

Beat.

TAILS (CONT'D)

But of course, nothing can be better than coming home to you.

Melinda glares. Tails' eyes dart, then look to Melinda. He grins.

TAILS (CONT'D)

So, do you want to get started?

Melinda throws the banana peel in Tails' face. She hops off the counter and walks off. Tails follows her.

INT. TAILS' BEDROOM - MIDNIGHT

Melinda sits on the side of the bed. Tails walks in.

TAILS

Alright, so you're mad.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

MELINDA

No fucking shit!

Melinda jolts up.

MELINDA (CONT'D)

Four fucking years, Tails! And now it's technically four years and one day and you fucking forgot about our anniversary!

TAILS

Alright, come on. A lot of people don't have sex on their anniversary.

MELINDA

I guess so. Too bad most of our relationship revolves around us fucking!

TAILS

There's also the intimacy.

MELINDA

But mostly fucking! Can you hear yourself right now? You act like you don't care!

TAILS

I do care!

MELINDA

If you cared, you would've been here all day long, making love to me like never before.

TAILS

Have you forgotten that you're part of my imagination?

MELINDA

So you- you'd prefer to hang out with people you barely know and not with your imaginary friend of four years? Good to fucking know!

Melinda walks to the door. Tails backs out of her way.

TAILS

Why do you have to be like this?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

Melinda stops and pivots back around. There's tears in her eyes.

MELINDA

Do you like that girl? Like like her?

TAILS

Like like her? No.

MELINDA

Do you love her then?

TAILS

These goddamn doubts, Melinda! Can't I have friends? When I said I made friends, you were so happy for me. And now that I'm hanging out with them, you're blowing a fucking fuse! Aren't you happy? Or is this a symptom of the fucking attitude you've been coping all fucking week?

MELINDA

Don't you get it? It's not that we can have sex whenever we want. It's that this sex was a milestone. We've fucked in every bathroom in this house, in your bedroom, in the basement, in hotel bathrooms, even once in the basement kitchen at your aunt and uncle's house. We're monogamous nymphomaniacs! But if there was one time- one fucking time- that we were to consummate and make it worth a damn, it was supposed to be this Saturday! Now it's Sunday and all that happened yesterday was a morning blowjob! You disappointed the one person in your life that you haven't disappointed before! How could you?

TAILS

Why can't we just have sex right now?

Melinda slaps Tails across the face. He reacts in disbelief. (Depending on the rights) "Gangsta" by Tune-Yards begins to play.

TAILS (CONT'D)

(V.O.)

She slapped me. She fucking slapped

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

TAILS (CONT'D)

me.

Tails rubs his face.

TAILS (CONT'D)

(V.O.)

I didn't know what to do when she slapped me, so... I took it as a yes.

Tails straightens up and looks directly at Melinda.

TAILS (CONT'D)

Hit me again. Hit me again please.

Melinda is confused and disgusted. She raises her arm to slap him again. Tails catches her arm before it makes contact. He kisses her, taking her aback. The two begin to make out and passionately and ferociously grab and squeeze each other.

TAILS (CONT'D)

(V.O.)

That night, I knew nothing would ever be the same. But for that moment, I wanted to fuck Melinda so good that it seemed like things were still the same. Just for now, I wanted to throw away my responsibility along with all of my clothes.

Tails and Melinda lie down on the bed. Tails rubs Melinda's crotch over her shorts. He rips open her buttoned shirt with his other hand, revealing her right breast. He sucks on her nipples. Melinda moans and grabs his shirt to take it off.

A now-shirtless Tails removes Melinda's shorts and panties. He rubs her clit and goes down on her at the same time. She moans aggressively.

MELINDA

Goddammit, put it inside me.

TAILS

Gotta let me finish, babe.

Melinda grabs Tails' hair as he finishes giving head. She writhes in pleasure. Tails unzips his jeans.

Tails, completely naked, rams his penis inside of Melinda's vagina. He aggressively thrusts into her as she reacts with amazement. He goes faster and faster. Melinda becomes louder

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (5)

and louder.

Melinda loudly orgasms. She is quivering and Tails stops thrusting. She grabs his neck and brings him close. The two lock eyes.

MELINDA

I want you to fuck me in the ass.

Tails' eyes widen.

TAILS

Absolutely!

Tails pulls out and Melinda shivers. She takes deep breaths and flips over.

Melinda pushes herself up on all fours. Tails kneels and slowly places his penis in her anus. Melinda shakes.

MELINDA

Holy fucking shit! Ohhhh!

Tails thrusts hard into her ass. He sweats bullets and breathes fast. Melinda moans in joy as he thrusts.

TAILS

Oh fuck!

MELINDA

Yeah, that feels good! You feel good?

TAILS

Oh God yes!

Tails is ready to climax. The anal sex gets more aggressive. He grips her ass tighter, digging his nails into her cheeks. Melinda is in absolute heaven.

MELINDA

Oh god I'm gonna cum!

TAILS

You cum with me, baby. You better fucking come with me!

Tails slows down, his thrusts growing larger as they both climax at the same time. Tails is in shock as he cums, then pulls out his erect penis, dripping with semen.

MONTAGE:

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (6)

INT. JUNIOR HALLWAY - DAY

Concurrently edited with the sex scene, Tails hangs around Kikalo and her crew.

In slow motion, Kikalo, Tails, Link and Beatrice walk down the hallway. She has a toothpick in her mouth and looks badass.

INT. SENIOR HALLWAY - DAY

Link empties out his locker. He puts his old notebooks into a tin bucket. He carries everything off.

INT. DOLLAR STORE - EVENING

Kikalo, Tails, and Link run around grabbing various items: lighter fluid, lumber, Graham crackers, marshmallows, and thin fireplace poker.

EXT. OPEN FIELD - EVENING

At sunset, Link takes his high school notebooks out of the bucket. He tears a small portion of one page and throws the rest of the notebooks onto the wood. Kikalo squirts the lighter fluid and Link ignites the fire with a match.

Link, Kikalo, Tails, and Beatrice dance around the fire and roast marshmallows. Beatrice is quite passive, reading *The Inferno* while roasting her marshmallow, and spitting out her S'more when it's too burnt.

The four run to Kikalo's van.

EXT. OPEN ROAD - NIGHT

The van speeds down the road. The passenger doors are open, with Kikalo and Tails standing on the ledges, cheering and living in the moment.

INT. GREEN ROOM - NIGHT

Time lapse of the Opening Soon green room, where the four occasionally hang out, sometimes with other bands. At one point, Billy and Kikalo are on the couch making out and humping.

INT. OPENING SOON BAR - NIGHT

Time lapse of the busy bar.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

INT. OPENING SOON - NIGHT

Time lapse of the stage. When the Anarchist Coffee Suites perform, the time lapse stops as they rock out. Tails watches from the audience. Kikalo sees him and winks.

INT. GYMNASIUM - DAY

In a crowded gymnasium, a SHOW CHOIR made up of seniors in purple graduating robes performs. A piano begins to play and a GRADUATING SINGER approaches a microphone. (Depending on the rights) They begin singing the intro to "See You Again."

Onstage, the PRINCIPAL announces the graduating students as FACULTY MEMBERS hand out diplomas.

SHOW CHOIR
(O/S)
Oh-oh-ohhhh-ohhhh!

PRINCIPAL
Elaine Laddy.

Applause.

PRINCIPAL (CONT'D)
Link Later.

Applause. Link receives his diploma. He gives a thumbs up to the crowd.

EXT. HIGH SCHOOL - NOON

Link kicks the front door open. Tails and Kilalo carry him out. Beatrice tags behind.

LINK
Free at last, free at last! Thank God
almighty, I am free at last!

KIKALO
Let us know what the outside world is
like.

LINK
Oh, I've been so sheltered!

TAILS
But really, congrats, man. You got out
of this shithole before us.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

KIKALO

I'm jealous as fuck!

BEATRICE

I find myself with much agreement.

LINK

Thanks, kiddos.

SALLY STEADMAN

(O/S)

Miles!

The four look behind them. Tails' parents walk towards them.

SALLY STEADMAN (CONT'D)

Aren't you coming home with us?

TOM STEADMAN

Are these the friends you've been telling us about?

Link shakes Tom's hand.

LINK

Mr. Steadman, a pleasure to meet you.

TOM STEADMAN

Congratulations on graduating.

LINK

Thank you very much, sir.

SALLY STEADMAN

You coming home?

Tails looks at his friends.

TAILS

Is it okay if I hang out with these guys? We were planning to go out to a graduation party downtown.

SALLY STEADMAN

You should've told us that before.

TOM STEADMAN

Go right ahead. It's a celebration.

TAILS

Really?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

TOM STEADMAN

Yeah, sure.

TAILS

Thank you so much. I love you guys!

Tails hugs his parents. He and the others walk off. He gives his dad a thumbs up, who does the same. Tom looks at Sally.

SALLY STEADMAN

Tom, you shouldn't encourage him to spring things on us like that!

TOM STEADMAN

Just let him be a teenager. He barely gets out of his own room. Just look at how happy he is now!

Tails gets into Kikalo's van. Sally is still worried, but Tom smiles.

TOM STEADMAN (CONT'D)

In just eleven days, he's able to make three friends! Just think of all the fun they're having!

INT. LINK'S APARTMENT - EVENING

Link injects heroin.

LINK

Woo!

Link prepares to inject some more.

TAILS

(V.O.)

Link had the tolerance of a Buddhist fucking monk. I will always be shocked at how he could inject so much heroin into himself without so much as feeling faint. Kikalo told me-

Tails sits on the couch with Kikalo. The two eat cake.

KIKALO

He's actually ODeD three times.

TAILS

(V.O.)

...which was still impressive.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

KIKALO
He always bounced back.

Link injects.

LINK
Damn straight. Ah-ha!

Beatrice looks at Link, eating cake. She shakes her head.

TAILS
(V.O.)
If you took one look at Link, you would think you knew him. In some ways, your assumptions about him would be right, but other times you were gravely mistaken. He was someone who was relentless in his shamelessness. That's what drew people to him. That's what drew women to him. He was irresistible because he seemed like he wasn't ashamed of who he was.

LINK
It's the new Willeonium! We still got shit to do!

Link gets up, does a small dance and trips over his chair.

INT. GREEN ROOM - NIGHT

A band is heard rocking out onstage. Kikalo checks her phone. Link is annoyed.

LINK
Of course on graduation night, they had to schedule the Wes Chavez Band before us. Tell Amarna she's taking an L for this.

KIKALO
Don't take it too personally.

TAILS
What's wrong with them?

LINK
What the fuck isn't wrong with them?

KIKALO
When we started out, Wes Chavez did an
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

KIKALO (CONT'D)

interview where he said Opening Soon is his favorite place to do gigs, specifically on nights when the bartender's cousin doesn't drag out her, and I quote, "rag-tag group of slags."

TAILS

Slags?

KIKALO

Yeah, he called the band "slags." He's from Montana.

LINK

And racist! He's also really, really fucking racist! He thinks Kikalo and Billy are promoting white genocide!

BEATRICE

'Tis an illusory abstraction.

KIKALO

I wish I were promoting white genocide. That would mean I'm getting laid.

LINK

He's in the alt-right for fuck's sake!

TAILS

What's the alt-right?

KIKALO

He means neo-Nazis.

BEATRICE

Gledes, the lot of them.

The green room door opens. WES CHAVEZ, a twentysomething light-skinned Mexican, walks in with his BANDMATES.

WES CHAVEZ

What the fuck is up? We haven't seen you kids in a hot minute!

KIKALO

Well, you guys have been so busy doing dive bars in Chicago.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

WES CHAVEZ

Good point, but you know we'll never forget about the little people! Even if we've been opening for actual bands, we're always willing to do some charitable work!

LINK

Tell your mom I enjoyed sucking her dick last night.

WES CHAVEZ

Will do! So what songs are you "re-imagining" tonight?

KIKALO

Why would it matter to you?

WES CHAVEZ

You know, you're right. It doesn't.

Wes smiles. He coughs.

WES CHAVEZ (CONT'D)

Traitor.

Tails glances around. Eric pops his head into the room.

ERIC

We're on in one minute.

Eric pops back out. Kikalo grabs her guitar and Link grabs his drumsticks.

KIKALO

Let's go, fellow slags.

The band and Tails walk out of the green room.

WES CHAVEZ

Good luck out there, kids!

Link turns around, disgusted.

LINK

Sod off, you swastika muncher.

Link turns back around and walks out.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

INT. OPENING SOON - NIGHT

The band stands on stage ready to perform.

KIKALO

We believe you can write a great song
about anything. So give us a topic and
we'll try something out!

AUDIENCE MEMBER 1

(O/S)

Jews control the media!

AUDIENCE MEMBER 2

(O/S)

Gushing grannies!

AUDIENCE MEMBER 3

(O/S)

Bean curry!

KIKALO

Bean curry? What?

Kikalo looks at her band. She faces back to the mic.

KIKALO (CONT'D)

Well, I heard "Jews," so here's
another song about Anne Frank.

LINK

2, 4, 6, hey!

The band begins to rock out. The song they play is
reminiscent of "Ghost."

KIKALO

Little love standing in a swamp

You don't know where you're going

But don't worry, cause I am here with
you

Here touching and knowing

INT. OPENING SOON BOOTHS - NIGHT

After the show, Tails sits at a booth with Eric and Joplin.
Eric drinks a beer.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

ERIC

If you could be any animal, what would you be?

JOPLIN

A plankton.

ERIC

Why?

Joplin stares at the ceiling.

JOPLIN

I don't exactly know.

ERIC

Well, I'd be a peacock. I want more people to bask in my presence. Plus, I'd look fucking stunning.

Eric takes a sip.

ERIC (CONT'D)

Tails? How about you?

TAILS

Personally? I'd be a polar bear.

ERIC

Really?

TAILS

Yeah, I'd be alone but I'd also be fierce. Plus, I'll always be warm; you know, being conditioned to the Arctic and all.

ERIC

Weird. I would've thought you'd say a mongoose.

Tails is expressionless. He gets up and leaves. Eric raises his hands up in disbelief.

ERIC (CONT'D)

Hey, come on, man! Don't be ashamed!

Eric brings his hands down and drinks his beer.

JOPLIN

Oh, I get it! He fucks them!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

INT. OPENING SOON BACK HALLWAY - NIGHT

Tails walks down the hallway.

KIKALO

(O/S)

You fucking dick!

Tails stops in his tracks. He sees the open door to the green room.

KIKALO (CONT'D)

(O/S)

On this night of all fucking nights,
you choose to pull this shit?

BILLY

(O/S)

I'm pulling this shit?

Tails approaches the door.

INT. GREEN ROOM - NIGHT

Kikalo and Billy argue.

BILLY

You're the one who wants to take my
help and shove it up my own ass!

KIKALO

Because the way you go about "helping"
me is to take the phone out of my hand
like I wasn't fucking doing something!

BILLY

You looked down in the dumps, like
those Nazi fucks got in your head, so
I went to break my news, and you were
ignoring me, so I just took your
phone. I didn't mean any goddamn thing
by it!

KIKALO

You could've asked me to put my phone
down first!

BILLY

What was so important?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

KIKALO

I was writing lyrics for a new song. I was on a roll, and then you snatched my phone away and ruined my creative process!

BILLY

Creative process!

KIKALO

Don't you respect that?

BILLY

I do! That's why I got you the fucking gig!

KIKALO

I don't care about a gig if it means taking away my damn phone without asking! Nothing comes between me and my brainstorming!

Billy is pissed and grumbles.

BILLY

You know what? Fuck all this, this is some bullshit!

Billy storms out.

KIKALO

Yeah, there you go! Walk away! That proves your point!

INT. OPENING SOON BACK HALLWAY - NIGHT

Billy walks out of the green room. Tails is backed up against the wall out of sight. Once Billy is out of sight, Tails walks down the hallway, cautiously looking over his shoulder.

INT. BROOM CLOSET - NIGHT

Tails walks towards the bathroom. The door to a broom closet is open. He walks past but walks back to the doorway and stops.

TAILS

Link?

Link receives oral sex from a random GIRL. He looks at Tails while she continues to blow him.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

LINK

Hey, man, what's happening?

Tails stares. The girl stops blowing Link.

LINK (CONT'D)

You look like you've seen a ghost or something. You good?

TAILS

Uh, yeah. I, uh, I just needed to use the bathroom.

LINK

Okay. Just letting you know that some guy clogged one of the stalls and caused a bunch of overflow. It looks like the movie *Hard Rain* in there. So I suggest taking the girls' room; no one will mind anyway.

Link looks down at the girl.

LINK (CONT'D)

You know, you can keep going.

BLOWJOB GIRL

Okay.

The girl continues to blow Link.

LINK

Yeah, those two fight a lot. Just best to ignore it. Never turns physical if it helps calm your tits.

BILLY

(O/S)

Hey, Tails!

Tails looks to his right.

LINK

Speak of the devil.

Billy walks over, agitated. He looks away when he sees Link.

BILLY

Damn, dude!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

LINK
What's shaking, bacon?

The girl stops performing oral sex.

BILLY
Nigga, you ever stop and not put your
dick in something?

LINK
Wigga, at least I'm putting my dick in
something.

BILLY
Fuck yourself. I gotta bounce.

Billy walks off.

BILLY (CONT'D)
(O/S)
See ya, Tails.

Tails looks at Billy leave, then back to Link.

TAILS
Did you just call him "wigga"?

LINK
Well, Billy and I usually call each
other the "n-word," but I don't want
to use it in front of this... lovely,
sweet lady. Isn't that right?

BLOWJOB GIRL
Uh-huh.

LINK
Yeah, that's right. You want some
spice?

BLOWJOB GIRL
Hell yeah.

The girl continues to jerk Link off as he reaches into his
pocket for an open bag of powdered heroin.

LINK
There you go. That's right. Take a
bit. Lets you... forget that... sexist-
ass statement I just made.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

The girl snorts some heroin then keeps blowing Link. He looks at Tails.

LINK (CONT'D)

You were saying something?

Tails awkwardly walks away.

INT. OPENING SOON BAR - NIGHT

Kikalo sits at the bar drinking a beer. Tails walks over and sits next to her.

TAILS

Hey.

KIKALO

Hey.

TAILS

You know, I'm fine with letting people I know in on my secrets, but for future reference, please don't go around... telling...

Kikalo frowns looking at her drink.

TAILS (CONT'D)

Kikalo?

KIKALO

What? Sorry, I wasn't listening.

TAILS

You alright?

KIKALO

Oh yeah, I'm dandy. Why wouldn't I be?

TAILS

Do you... wanna talk-

KIKALO

I'm fucking fine, okay? Don't poke the bear!

Kikalo balances her head on her arm.

KIKALO (CONT'D)

I'm sorry, I didn't mean to snap.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

TAILS

I'm sorry, too.

KIKALO

I shouldn't be moping about like this.
It's Link's night.

Beat.

TAILS

If you're feeling-

KIKALO

You know what?

TAILS

What?

KIKALO

It is Link's night. Why the fuck
should any of us make this night about
someone other than him? And, and you
know what Link would do right now? He
would want us to party till our
assholes bleed!

Kikalo takes a swig of her beer.

KIKALO (CONT'D)

So how about... we just fucking party?
Amarna!

Amarna walks over.

KIKALO (CONT'D)

Can you get a round a shots for Tails
and I, please?

AMARNA

Sure thing.

TAILS

Whoa, whoa, whoa. Hold up. You know I
don't drink.

KIKALO

Well, it's a celebration, isn't it?
Why not also celebrate your seventeen
years of sobriety coming to a big damn
close?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

Link pops in.

LINK

I like the sound of this.

KIKALO

Where the hell have you been?

LINK

A girl was sucking my dick in the broom closet.

KIKALO

Oh, cool beans.

Amarna gives Kikalo three shot glasses.

AMARNA

I saw Link walk over and knew he'd mooch off you.

KIKALO

Thank you.

Amarna walks off. Kikalo passes out the shot glasses. She raises her glass in the air.

KIKALO (CONT'D)

Here's to Link's post-graduation success, or lack thereof, my happiness, and our continuing corruption of young Miles Steadman.

TAILS

I'll drink to that!

KIKALO

Let's get fucking mortal!

The three toast.

LINK

Now that was British!

The three drink their shots.

INT. OPENING SOON - MIDNIGHT

MONTAGE:

Tails, Kikalo, and Link get drunk and party all night long.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

Beatrice takes a couple of shots before getting wasted. The four all revel in their drunken behavior.

INT. LINK'S APARTMENT - MORNING

Beatrice is passed out on the couch with purple sunglasses on and a dragon dildo in her left hand. Link is passed out on the floor, laying on top of Tails.

Tails wakes up. He feels sick. He tries to wriggle himself out from under Link. His hangover makes his every movement all the more painful. He eventually slides out from under Link and drags himself across the floor to the bathroom door.

INT. LINK'S BATHROOM - MORNING

Link opens the door. He falls face first onto the tiles before looking back up. Kikalo sits on the toilet, masturbating. She has her pants all the way down, sweat across her face. She stops when she sees Tails staring.

KIKALO

What the fuck?

TAILS

Sorry.

Tails backtracks out of the bathroom.

INT. LINK'S APARTMENT - MORNING

Link closes the door. He vomits all over the floor. He is revolted by the smell.

KIKALO

(O/S)

Did you just throw up?

TAILS

Yeah, I did.

Tails burps.

TAILS (CONT'D)

Not... not because of what you were doing. Just I'm hungover. It wasn't because-

KIKALO

(O/S)

I fucking get the picture!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

Tails shakes his head before laying it back on the floor.

INT. TAILS' LIVING ROOM - DAY

Sally exercises to a DVD. In the kitchen, Tails sneaks past. He wears sunglasses.

SALLY STEADMAN

Tom?

Sally continues to exercise, unconcerned by the lack of an answer.

INT. ABIGAIL'S OFFICE - DAY

At a disorganized desk with stacks of papers and boxes, ABIGAIL RYDER, a trans woman with blond hair and large earrings, types on her computer. The phone rings and she picks it up.

ABIGAIL

Yes?

AUSTRALIAN INTERN

(V.O.)

Miss Ryder, Mr. Dave Kelley is here to see you.

ABIGAIL

Great, tell him I'll be right down.

Abigail hangs up the phone.

INT. FFR WAITING ROOM - DAY

Dave sits with a Manila folder. Abigail approaches him.

ABIGAIL

Dave Kelley?

Dave looks up. He stands up and walks towards Abigail. The two shake hands.

ABIGAIL (CONT'D)

It's nice to finally meet you in the flesh.

DAVE

Usually people like me better as a disembodied voice.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

ABIGAIL

I get the same reaction. "She has a face for radio."

DAVE

Well, I'm telling you now; you don't.

ABIGAIL

Hey, don't make me call HR!

Abigail giggles.

INT. FFR OFFICES - DAY

Dave and Abigail walk throughout the station.

ABIGAIL

I imagine you're familiar with Freedom Fighter Radio.

DAVE

I've heard of it before. You're like NPR or This American Life.

ABIGAIL

More NPR.

DAVE

You like to talk about important political movements and cultures and LGBTQ+ issues.

ABIGAIL

In a general sense, we're that. But every since we started this four years ago, I like to think of us as the voice that the 2010's needs more than anything else. We represent Americans who are tired of their rights being infringed upon because of not just bigotry, but capitalism. We want to give a voice to those brought down by billionaires who heads are well-acquainted with their assholes. And in these four years, we've never lost sight of our mission.

The AUSTRALIAN INTERN with blue hair and a sweater approaches Abigail with coffee in a green plastic cup. Abigail grabs it.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

ABIGAIL (CONT'D)

Thank you, sweetheart.

The intern runs off.

ABIGAIL (CONT'D)

What started out as a platform for the Occupy movement has now blossomed into a platform for all the other oppressed voices: people of color, women of color, transgender persons, queer people, intravenous drug users, and most recently, we branched out a bit and got a female gamer. She left due to low ratings and very few comments to pull. Her words, not mine.

DAVE

Perhaps furies can be added to that list?

ABIGAIL

Perhaps they can.

Abigail sips from her cup and continues to walk with Dave.

INT. ABIGAIL'S STUDIO - DAY

An ASIAN-AMERICAN BROADCASTER reads an excerpt from *Emmanuelle* by *Emmanuelle Arsan*. A THAI WOMAN sits to her left. Dave and Abigail watch this from the control booth, with a SOUND ENGINEER at the desk.

ABIGAIL

This has been getting us places.
Content and Context.

DAVE

Catchy alliteration.

ABIGAIL

No, people fuck it up constantly. I would've replaced the "and" with a "with" to make things easier.

DAVE

What's it about?

ABIGAIL

So the one reading *Emmanuelle* is Sandra Ken. She's Vietnamese-American
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

ABIGAIL (CONT'D)

and wanted to do a show about books, but put them in the perspective of when they were written and the cultural background of the author. So she started with *The Outsiders* by S.E. Hinton. She put it in the context of the time period, the discrimination women writers face in the twentieth century, women writing male characters, and a bunch of other stuff.

DAVE

So now she's doing *Emmanuelle*?

ABIGAIL

Uh-huh, by a Thai woman writing French erotica.

DAVE

And who's the other woman?

ABIGAIL

She brings in a guest for each chapter, which she could read for at least fifteen minutes, and talks for hours with someone who's either shared the experiences of the author or is an expert in said background.

DAVE

That sounds like a lot of work.

ABIGAIL

Well, Sandra really wanted to give *Serial* a run for its money.

INT. ABIGAIL'S OFFICE - DAY

Dave sits in front of Abigail's desk. She shuffles papers.

ABIGAIL

So, did you enjoy the tour?

DAVE

It's like I'm being bombarded with professionalism. Color me interested.

ABIGAIL

Glad to hear it.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

Abigail folds her hands together across her desk.

ABIGAIL (CONT'D)

Now, we know how... you don't hold back online.

DAVE

Right.

ABIGAIL

We will admit that this quality was one of the reasons we were interested in bringing you on.

DAVE

This is the part where you tell me what I have to change in order to work here, isn't it?

ABIGAIL

Oh, absolutely not. We like you just the way you are. Everything about you.

DAVE

Come on, there's gotta be something.

ABIGAIL

We wouldn't feel it right to require you to change yourself. I mean, we could make suggestions.

DAVE

Suggestions?

ABIGAIL

If we were to force you to make changes, that would be a bad look for us, especially... myself. But we would like to... pitch some ideas for... possible improvement... should you decide to work here.

Dave looks to his side.

ABIGAIL (CONT'D)

Think of it like a choose-your-own-adventure.

Dave smirks.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

ABIGAIL (CONT'D)

Are you fine with me making these suggestions?

Dave sighs. He slouches forward.

DAVE

Shoot.

ABIGAIL

First, the persona. It's a little... intimidating. Maybe lose the hat.

DAVE

It's radio. No one can see the hat.

ABIGAIL

But it keeps the persona intact. Like, it'll be creeping in.

DAVE

What's wrong with my persona?

ABIGAIL

I know the accent is real, so there's no changing that.

DAVE

You thought my accent was fake?

ABIGAIL

Some of us did, admittedly. Not me, though. I've been to Texas.

DAVE

I'm from Louisiana.

ABIGAIL

You mean like the Bayou?

DAVE

I mean Louisiana.

ABIGAIL

Our second idea is to... maybe talk less about sex when it isn't relevant.

DAVE

It's just something I like to talk about, though.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

ABIGAIL

But you're quite frank about it.

DAVE

I know.

ABIGAIL

Okay, okay. No need to get defensive.

Abigail starts tapping her desk.

ABIGAIL (CONT'D)

Third... maybe... stop talking about being a furry.

DAVE

Oh, come on!

ABIGAIL

Again, we're just sug... they're just suggesting it!

DAVE

That's one of the biggest fucking reasons I'm even popular! What other radio host can be a furry AND entertaining independent of that shit?

ABIGAIL

Well, there it is. You're entertaining independent of that furry shit! Independent, as in breaking off and separate. You can be a furry and entertaining, but you're also capable of just being entertaining! Just... think about these little tips. Everyone makes decisions at some point in their careers that could change their paths forever. Who knows? You might even move up the ranks!

DAVE

I just need to play ball, huh?

ABIGAIL

I wouldn't put it like that. That makes us sound seedy. We are not seedy.

Dave nods his head.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (5)

INT. SECOND BATHROOM - NIGHT

Tails and Melinda have sex on the floor, him thrusting on top of her.

TAILS

(V.O.)

Of course Melinda and I still had a sex life. After our anniversary, we banged at least six times after that. It wasn't even like, "Oh, I don't have a girlfriend. I might as well stick with Melinda." I wanted to be with her. I liked Kikalo, I really did; but I thought Melinda suited me better.

Tails is about to finish.

TAILS (CONT'D)

(V.O.)

I did prove her right, though. Our anniversary was the best sex we ever had.

Tails climaxes inside Melinda, who lets out a loud moan. The two finish and breathe heavily. Tails cleans himself off.

MELINDA

Holy shit.

TAILS

Well, there we go. Time to get ready.

Tails slips his pants back on and gets off the floor. He walks over to the sink. Melinda gets up after putting her panties back on.

MELINDA

Where are you going?

TAILS

There's a party tonight at Coming Soon.

Tails puts on a tuxedo jacket and adjusts his suit. Melinda buttons up her shirt.

MELINDA

Why are you wearing a tux?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

TAILS

It's a costume party. Well, a gender-flipped costume party.

MELINDA

What does that mean?

TAILS

All the girls dress up as male characters and people while the boys go as females. I'm going as... Annie Lennox!

Tails turns around to present himself.

MELINDA

That's a pretty masculine suit, though.

TAILS

It's the best I could do on short notice.

Tails combs his hair.

MELINDA

Don't you need red hair? Or a white pixie cut?

TAILS

I googled images of her where she had dark hair. Granted, she looked more like Joel Grey in those pictures but I can pull it off.

Tails puts on long, black gloves.

MELINDA

But she has red hair in the "Sweet Dreams" video.

Tails turns around, annoyed.

TAILS

Well, do you wanna dye my hair, then? Huh?

Melinda's eyes narrow.

MELINDA

I'm just trying to help, Foxy. You
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

MELINDA (CONT'D)
need some lipstick, too.

TAILS
Whatever. I'm gonna be late.

Tails leaves the bathroom. Melinda is left cold.

Tails goes back into the bathroom, where Melinda has disappeared. He forgot to flush.

EXT. LINK'S APARTMENT BUILDING - NIGHT

Link wears a white tank top, black jeans, and a short red wig. He listens to his phone. Tails pulls up to the apartment, turns off the car and hops out. Link takes out one of his earbuds.

LINK
Swanky.

TAILS
You don't look too bad yourself.

LINK
Thank you. You don't wanna know how much these tits cost.

TAILS
So, what's going on?

LINK
I've just been here listening to B.B. King. It's weird how we never truly appreciate some artists until they're dead.

TAILS
Do you like his music?

LINK
Well, I don't want to give my opinion. The man died two days ago.

Link looks around.

TAILS
So who are you supposed to be? Wait, you're the girl from *Fifth Element*, aren't you?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

LINK
Fuck no, I'm Hayley Williams!

Tails is indifferent.

LINK (CONT'D)
Lead singer of Paramore? Hot as all
hell?

TAILS
I've heard the band name, but I
haven't looked them up.

LINK
I thought you had an emo phase.

TAILS
Yeah, two years ago. Maybe they were
too mainstream for me.

LINK
Shit, if they were too mainstream for
you two years ago, you'll hate their
new shit.

Beatrice, dressed in armor similar to Dante's in the *Dante's Inferno* video game, walks out of the building. Link's eyes widen.

LINK (CONT'D)
You sew that cross yourself?

Beatrice looks at Link and Tails.

BEATRICE
I regret to inform thee of a
predicament.

INT. APARTMENT FLOOR - NIGHT

Tails, Beatrice and Link walk towards Link's apartment.

TAILS
So who are you supposed to be?

BEATRICE
Master Dante.

TAILS
Right.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

BEATRICE

Master Dante as he appears in the
electronic game.

TAILS

Oh!

The three walk up to the door.

INT. LINK'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Link opens the door. He stumbles.

LINK

Jesus Christ!

Tails steps in and gasps. Kikalo lies on the table dressed as
the Joker, her wrists slit.

BEATRICE

I had been relieving myself in the
lavatory. I entered upon here once
again and she was perished by her own
hand.

LINK

I knew things were bad, but fuck!

BEATRICE

I'm immensely torn.

Tails walks over slowly to Kikalo's body.

LINK

I just... I can't. Okay, we gotta call
Billy. He's gonna be pissed. No, fuck
that, call Amarna.

Tails reaches for Kikalo's wrist.

TAILS

No, we should call Dave first; tell
him his sister's dead.

Kikalo jolts up. She holds a rubber blade to Tails' throat.

KIKALO

How about alive?

TAILS

What the fuck?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

Kikalo mimics the Joker's voice.

KIKALO

You wanna know how I got these scars?
My mother was a drinker, and a fiend.
And one night, she goes off crazier
than usual. Daddy gets the kitchen
knife to defend herself. She doesn't
like that. Not. One. Bit. So, me
watching, she takes the knife to him,
laughing while she does it. She turns
to me and says, "Why so serious?"
Comes at me with the knife. "Why so
serious?"

Kikalo puts the blade in a terrified Tails' mouth.

KIKALO (CONT'D)

She sticks the blade in my mouth...
"Let's put a smile on that face."
And...

Kikalo moves in closer.

KIKALO (CONT'D)

Why so serious?

Tails blinks, then talks with the blade still in his mouth.

TAILS

I've never seen *The Dark Knight*.

Kikalo drops the act.

KIKALO

Get the fuck out!

Link snickers.

TAILS

I'm not a superhero film guy.

KIKALO

It's not just a superhero film!

Link and Beatrice laugh.

LINK

That's the worst fucking excuse I've
ever heard. It's the *Dark Fucking
Knight!*

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

TAILS

Sorry.

KIKALO

I've met people who didn't see *Shawshank*. I've met people who didn't see *The Godfather*. I've even met people who didn't see *Star Wars*. But I be done seen about everything when I meet someone who hasn't seen *The Dark Knight*.

Beat.

KIKALO (CONT'D)

Either way, I'm the Joker.

TAILS

I mean, I know the character. I know "Why so serious?".

KIKALO

Oh, it's so much more than that.

LINK

It even edges out *Returns* as the best Batman movie.

Kikalo shakes her head.

KIKALO

Let's get going.

Kikalo tucks away her blade and walks out. Beatrice follows. Link and Tails walk behind them.

LINK

Never seen *The Dark Knight* but you have seen *The Fifth Element*. Jesus fucking Christ, you needed us in your life.

TAILS

Shut up.

LINK

If you hadn't seen *Magnolia*, I would've kicked you out the fucking group.

Link closes the door behind them.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

INT. KIKALO'S VAN - NIGHT

Kikalo drives the van with Tails in shotgun, and Link and Beatrice in the back.

KIKALO

I mean, you'll wanna start with *Batman Begins*, but after that, watch *The Dark Knight*.

TAILS

I watched *Interstellar*. So I know he's a good director.

LINK

You liked *Interstellar*?

TAILS

I loved it!

LINK

That movie was like ninety fucking hours long! About an hour into it, my date and I walked out and fucked in a men's stall for two hours. I mean, I'm sure it ends with some deep shit about the human condition. No need to re-watch it.

TAILS

Well, then you can't really judge it that way.

LINK

I walked out, that should say enough. If it's any consolation to you, Tails, the spin-off with Matt Damon looks good.

KIKALO

Spin-off?

LINK

Yeah, Matt Damon is doing a spin-off. Ridley Scott's directing?

KIKALO

The Martian?

LINK

Hell yeah. That shit looks tight.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

KIKALO

That's not a fucking spin-off!

LINK

Yes it is!

KIKALO

The Martian and *Interstellar* are not related to each other!

LINK

Well, the movie hasn't come out yet! How the fuck do you know if they're not related?

KIKALO

The Martian is based on a book.

LINK

Oh please!

KIKALO

Interstellar was written by the Nolans, who aren't even involved in the goddamn *Martian*!

LINK

Then why the fuck would Matt Damon do two back-to-back films about being in space?

TAILS

Maybe he likes space.

Kikalo smirks.

LINK

Whatever.

TAILS

How do you know Matt Damon was in *Interstellar*? It was supposed to be a twist.

LINK

Wikipedia, motherfucker!

Kikalo pulls up to Opening Soon.

LINK (CONT'D)

Martian still looks tight, though.
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

LINK (CONT'D)

Then again, I'll see anything with
Jessica Chastain's fine ass.

BEATRICE

Hark! Agreement!

Beatrice gets out of the van. Link looks at Beatrice with an
eyebrow raised as she closes the door.

LINK

I swear, I love her, but sometimes she
reaches for those translations.

Link gets out of the van. Kikalo turns the van off. Tails
unbuckles his seat belt.

KIKALO

Wait.

Kikalo takes out a stick of red lipstick and hands it to
Tails.

TAILS

Lipstick?

KIKALO

Well, you're Annie Lennox, aren't you?
Try to look a little like her.

TAILS

This was the best I could do.

KIKALO

I know. That's why I'm helping you.

TAILS

Is it your lipstick?

KIKALO

Yeah, I used it for the red lips.

Tails looks at the lipstick before taking it. He wipes off
his lips before taking the cap off. He applies the lipstick,
then gives it back to Kikalo.

TAILS

How do I look?

Kikalo smiles.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

KIKALO

You look like Annie Lennox.

Kikalo gets out of the van. Tails smiles before getting out.

INT. GIRLS' BATHROOM - MIDNIGHT

Link takes a deep breath. A large crowd surrounds him.

LINK

Okay.

Link brings a rolled-up twenty-dollar bill to his nose. Five straight lines of heroin lie on the counter. He bends down and begins to snort all five lines without stopping. The crowd watches in amazement as he breezes through the lines. After snorting the fifth line, he bolts up and gasps for air.

LINK (CONT'D)

That's some good shit.

The crowd cheers.

INT. OPENING SOON DANCE FLOOR - MIDNIGHT

A group of people party to new wave music. Tails is among the crowd. He bumps into Eric.

TAILS

Sorry about that.

ERIC

So who are you supposed to be?

TAILS

Annie Lennox!

Eric pauses and examines Tails.

ERIC

Really?

TAILS

Hey, have you seen Kikalo anywhere?
She should get in on this party!

INT. OPENING SOON BACK HALLWAY - NIGHT

Tails walks towards the green room, drink in hand.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

INT. GREEN ROOM - MIDNIGHT

Tails walks into the door frame and stops. Kikalo and Billy make out on the couch.

BILLY
I'm so, so sorry.

KIKALO
No, honey. It's my fault.

Billy gropes Kikalo's breast.

KIKALO (CONT'D)
I love you so goddamn much.

BILLY
Not as much as I love you.

They continue to make out. Tails walks away, disappointed.

KIKALO
(O/S)
So you said something about a gig?

INT. OPENING SOON - MIDNIGHT

Tails walks towards the front entrance in slow motion. Loud music plays.

TAILS
(V.O.)
I didn't know... I... sorry, let me turn this down...

The loud music's volume is turned down.

TAILS (CONT'D)
(V.O.)
There we go. I didn't know why seeing her and Billy happy together bothered me so much. I was falling in love, sure, but it was like a minor crush. Like, I appreciated her beauty, but never saw her in a sexual light or as a partner. But that intimacy... it haunted me.

Tails approaches the entrance.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

EXT. BACK ALLEY - MIDNIGHT

Tails walks outside. He spots something.

TAILS

Hey, Link.

Link is on the ground, on top of a GIRL while another GUY is behind him. All three are naked, but Link still wears his orange wig. Link stops and looks at Tails.

LINK

Tails! Come join the party!

TAILS

If Kikalo wants to know where I am, tell her I left early.

LINK

How are you gonna get home?

THREE WAY GUY

You're clenching.

LINK

Sorry.

Link keeps having sex with the girl while the guy has sex with Link.

TAILS

I didn't think of that.

LINK

Just wait in the van. I got a spare key. Oh, that's the goddamn spot!

TAILS

I don't know if you can drive.

Link doesn't respond. Tails look around awkwardly.

THREE WAY GIRL

(O/S)

I'm in love! I'm in love!

CUT TO:

Beatrice comes over and grabs the keys out of Link's pants. She walks towards Tails, who stands off to the side.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

BEATRICE
Acquired the keys.

LINK
(O/S)
Hey look, Beatrice got in my pants!

INT. KIKALO'S VAN - MIDNIGHT

Beatrice drives the van. Tails sits shotgun.

TAILS
Thank you for doing this, by the way.

BEATRICE
'Twas a favor, nothing more.

TAILS
I... I just felt like going home.

BEATRICE
Any reasoning is a reasoning just.
Commingled are they with that caitiff
choir of angels, who have not
rebellious been, nor faithful were to
God, but were to self.

CAPTION: (Canto III, Lines 37-39)

Tails blinks.

TAILS
Yeah, exactly.

Beatrice pulls up to the parking lot next to Link's building.
She turns off the ignition.

TAILS (CONT'D)
I'm sorry I had to take you away from
the party.

BEATRICE
No burthen, only a fresh
acquaintanceship birthed from the
horizon to develop whole.

Beat. Tails nods awkwardly. Beatrice sighs.

BEATRICE (CONT'D)
They can be a handful, right?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

Tails looks to Beatrice, surprised.

BEATRICE (CONT'D)

It's fine. You can tell me.

Tails is confused.

TAILS

Um, yeah, sure, I guess.

BEATRICE

Three answers of no importance. Heh, I'll have to look up how they said "importance" back then.

Beatrice sighs.

BEATRICE (CONT'D)

I remember starting high school. My grandma and I had moved from Peoria, and I knew absolutely no one. I was scared shitless. Some kid in Algebra happened to tell me about this book called *The Inferno* and described it as, "How far would you go for the woman you loved? Would you go all the way to Hell and back?" And when I found out that the girl Dante loved was named Beatrice, I felt this... unbreakable connection.

TAILS

Yeah?

BEATRICE

I was so enamored with the language that I just started talking like him. I thought it would make me adorably quirky, like, "We should hang out with this one girl. She speaks like Shakespeare or some shit. She's so cool!" But people like Hayden Jacobson and Brittany Southall just found me to be a weirdo. The only people whose attention I caught were the two schmucks who never shut the fuck up.

Tails laughs, then Beatrice starts to laugh.

BEATRICE (CONT'D)

I remember Kikalo's first words to me.
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

BEATRICE (CONT'D)

"Hey, you! You're strange! Get your ass over here! Oh wait, sorry! I mean, 'prance thy derrière to the commons' or something!" She actually said that!

The two continue to laugh.

BEATRICE (CONT'D)

And so now I just kinda sit around like an NPC just letting them do their thing. I'm like a babysitter who doesn't give a shit.

TAILS

But like, why do you stick around? If you feel like this?

BEATRICE

I mean, they really are my friends. Had it not been for them, I don't think I could've made it through high school this far. Sure, I'm pretty passive, but I feel like I help the dynamic. Plus, I'm always doing something. Say what you will about Kikalo and Link; there's never a dull moment with them.

TAILS

That's true.

BEATRICE

Yeah, I'm lucky to have them around, I really am. And you're lucky, too. But the two of us can admit how frustrating they can be.

Tails nods his head.

TAILS

If anything, I like them more now.

BEATRICE

I'm actually pretty mad they were too busy getting busy to drive you to your car. It's only a fucking mile! Link'll be back in time to get his ass licked by whoever he wants!

Tails laughs.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

BEATRICE (CONT'D)

Hey. Can you make sure you don't let them know I said any of this? Not me breaking character, but, you know, the whole babysitter shit?

Tails clears his throat dramatically.

TAILS

Thy secret is safe with... thou. I can't do it.

BEATRICE

Thou secret is concealed to the parties involved and to the puissance divine.

TAILS

You're actually really good at that.

BEATRICE

Thank you.

Beatrice smiles.

INT. WHITE BEDROOM - NIGHT

Tails sits on the bed in red boxers.

MELINDA

(O/S)

So they're working late again?

TAILS

Not really. One of Dad's tenants is throwing a house party and the only way he is allowing it is if he and Mom are invited.

MELINDA

(O/S)

When will they be back?

Tails shakes his head.

TAILS

They don't know. Could be four hours from now, could be thirty minutes.

Tails looks towards the door. Melinda walks in completely naked. She leans against the door frame.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

MELINDA

That makes it all the more exciting.

TAILS

Yes it does.

Tails pulls down his boxers. Melinda approaches the bed and climbs on top. She kisses him for a bit before mounting him. She rides slowly and sensually as Tails looks on in awe.

The riding and bouncing starts getting faster. Tails becomes uncomfortable. He blinks rapidly.

MELINDA

Oh god, I'm ready to cum. You cum with me, baby?

KIKALO

(V.O.)

You cum with me, baby?

TAILS

Did you... oh, god... hear something?

MELINDA

You're hearing my fucking pussy bouncing on your big cock?

TAILS

Yeah, yeah, that's it. Oh yeah, that's fucking it.

Melinda is about to finish. Frames of memories of Kikalo and a sad Melinda against a gray backdrop splice into the scene. Melinda climaxes and falls on top of Tails. She brings her head up, but her head is now Kikalo's.

KIKALO

Wanna do it again?

Freaked out, Tails hops up. He runs out of the room. Melinda, confused, lies on the bed in defeat.

INT. DAVE'S RECORDING STUDIO - DAY

Dave talks into a microphone.

DAVE

I think that there's a pedophilia problem in the organization, but it's not about homosexuality. So with these
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

DAVE (CONT'D)

stereotypes, gay Scout leaders have an increased likeliness of getting their fucking asses creamed... as well as getting their asses kicked out. Overall, I think we should have gay Scout leaders, we shouldn't have pederast Scout leaders, and the Boy Scouts of America should know the fucking difference when handling both. Either way, I'm taking a six-hour break. This has been the morning show. See you in a bit for my review of...

Dave sighs.

DAVE (CONT'D)

...the *Poltergeist* remake. Enjoy yourself.

Dave takes off his headphones as the outro plays. Tails knocks on the window of the door. Dave notices him and motions him in. Tails opens the door.

DAVE (CONT'D)

The hell are you doing here?

TAILS

Just thought I'd stop by because you said I could.

DAVE

That's all the reason I need.

TAILS

I liked today's show.

DAVE

Oh, did you?

TAILS

I really liked the part about your encounter with the drunk twink.

DAVE

That's good.

TAILS

I mean, it seemed like an uncomfortable experience; having some twink talk about wanting to molest you

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

TAILS (CONT'D)

and that you're not shit. But you were able to make something creepy and turn it into something hilariously demented and... enthralling.

DAVE

I'm glad you liked it.

Dave watches Tails, smiling.

DAVE (CONT'D)

You want to fuck my sister, don't you?

Tails is caught off-guard.

TAILS

What?

DAVE

Be honest with me, Tails. You want to fuck my sister.

Tails stammers.

TAILS

If you think that I'm kissing your ass, it's only because I'm a huge fan.

DAVE

Just because you're a huge fan doesn't mean you don't wanna fuck my sister.

Tails shakes his head, but Dave keeps looking at him.

TAILS

Um... oh, alright. Sure! I'm sorry.

DAVE

So you want to fuck her?

TAILS

Yes, yes, I want to... fuck Kikalo.

DAVE

Hey, man! It's okay. You're a better option than the current guy she fucks.

TAILS

She's... still a virgin.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

DAVE

Oh, good. Let's keep it that way.

Tails shrinks up.

DAVE (CONT'D)

I'm kidding! I don't care who my sister fucks. Except Ralph, because I fucking hate him.

RALPH

That's right.

Ralph takes a bite of his sandwich.

DAVE

But yeah, at the very least, you seem to get along with her. It's sad that's a quality to aspire towards when dating my sister, since it should be a fucking given.

TAILS

I mean, I think she loves him, though. And really, it's only a crush. I can get over it.

DAVE

So you want to collaborate with her to try and friend-zone yourself?

TAILS

I don't know!

DAVE

Jesus, calm yourself. You're just a kid. You don't know what you want yet. And I'm not saying that because of your inexperience; you're legally a kid. Kikalo doesn't know what she wants, either. You'll figure it out when you grow up.

TAILS

But... she's my friend! And I don't want to ruin that.

DAVE

Eh, fair.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (5)

TAILS

Please don't tell her this.

Beat.

DAVE

You know what? I'll keep your secret if I can tell you my own secret that I'm keeping from Kikalo.

Tails glances around.

DAVE (CONT'D)

Consider this insider information. Sit down.

Tails sits down.

CUT TO:

Tails listens to Dave talk.

TAILS

(V.O.)

He then proceeded to describe the events shown previously in the movie, which is why I was able to include them without actually being there.

DAVE

So now I don't know what to do.

TAILS

Hot damn.

DAVE

I mean, you're a fan. What would you think of me if I did this?

Tails taps the table.

TAILS

Well, I know you personally, kinda. So I know you're funny in real life. If we're talking about the show, I would be disappointed if everything was radically changed, especially if you no longer talked about furrries.

DAVE

Right.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (6)

TAILS

But at the same time, you're still charming. You're still you. As long as there's still the feeling of Bastardization when you're her sidekick or whatever, then I'd be all for it.

Dave looks out the window.

DAVE

I never thought I'd be doing this for so long. I just needed to do something. I gave up so much but my dream of radio had to stay. And I was so fucking comfortable... for a while.

Tails nods his head.

INT. LINK'S APARTMENT - NOON

Link leans against the counter in his kitchen, smoking a joint. Tails sits on the couch, eating a burger.

LINK

We really are corrupting your fucking innocence. I mean, it's one thing to walk in on a girl and I having sex, but to walk in on two dudes having sex just four days later? Shit's crazy. It took me a year after losing my cherry to walk in on that shit. At least I cushioned the blow for you by fucking a girl at the same time. I mean, it's not homophobia, it's just something you're probably not used to seeing outside of your gay furry porn.

TAILS

Remember when you said I'd get used to this? I think I got used to this.

LINK

You think so?

TAILS

You think I'm not?

LINK

Maybe you are just that progressive.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

Link takes a drag while sitting on the couch.

TAILS

But what do I do? I mean, if it's obvious to fucking Dave, then it should be obvious to Kikalo that I'm... that I'm attracted to her.

LINK

She's a pretty girl.

TAILS

But I mean... really attracted to her. I wanna just... spend the night with her... alone.

LINK

You wanna fuck her?

Tails rolls his eyes.

TAILS

Sure, I wanna fuck her!

Tails's brows furrow.

TAILS (CONT'D)

Shit, I think I actually do the more I say that.

LINK

Well, that's a predicament. I don't know, between fucking my hand and fucking a human, I'd usually go with a human since they're, like, real and softer.

TAILS

But she has a boyfriend.

LINK

Well, then fuck your hand.

Link takes another drag.

LINK (CONT'D)

Look, I know you're a virgin. From my experience, virgins tend to believe that the first time should be special. That it should be with someone you love, in a warm, comfortable bed, with
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

LINK (CONT'D)

fucking birds singing and mice sewing dresses. Every motivational speaker tells you it's all bullshit, but it really is. My first time was two years ago with a hooker from North Clark Street up in Chicago. It cost \$69, though we didn't do that. Instead she had to climb on top because I was nervous and going limp, and I came within a minute. It was really disappointing, but now that I've gotten the hang of things, I'm banging a girl practically every night. You know, those fries look good.

TAILS

Everyone says I'm a kid and that I'm naive about all this.

LINK

Well, you think they're saying that because it might be true?

Link takes another drag. Tails slouches into the couch.

LINK (CONT'D)

Chin up, Tails. It's not like you're the only person afraid to admit your feelings due to... complications.

TAILS

What are you talking about?

LINK

Let's just say I've been studying Mrs. Banks.

TAILS

Beatrice?

Link nods his head.

LINK

I don't know what it is about her, but... she's just so different from everyone else.

TAILS

Maybe because she doesn't talk. Normally, I mean.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

LINK

True, true, but I think you can relate here. The same way you wanna be with Jessie's Girl, I wanna be with Beatrice. I wanna be... the peanut butter to her jelly; the Tom Hanks to her Meg Ryan; the Teddy Riley to her Michael Jackson.

TAILS

Don't you mean Quincy Jones?

LINK

No, fuck that! Everyone knows that Mike worked best with Teddy Riley producing his beats, and that's why *Dangerous* is his best album! And I could talk for an hour about that album, but these fries look damn good.

Link grabs Tails' fries and munches down. Tails stares at him.

INT. GROCERY STORE - MORNING

Kikalo grabs items off shelves as Tails pushes a cart.

KIKALO

Bug spray.

Kikalo puts a bottle of bug spray in the cart. She grabs a spray can of sunscreen.

KIKALO (CONT'D)

Sunscreen!

Kikalo throws the sunscreen to Tails, who doesn't catch it.

KIKALO (CONT'D)

I'm shocked.

TAILS

Fuck off!

Kikalo laughs.

EXT. GROCERY STORE PARKING LOT - MORNING

Tails and Kikalo load up the back of her van with their products.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

TAILS

Why do we need this shit again?

KIKALO

I told you. We're cooking a new form of meth. I'm gonna be like Heisenberg if he was crossed with MacGyver. Nothing can get a man to a higher plain of existence than sunscreen, bug spray, rubbing alcohol, and a bag of Takis.

TAILS

But where's the meth?

KIKALO

We'll figure that out eventually. Just as soon as I can get Link from practically sticking his cock in the bags of meth. Though who knows? Maybe his cock sweat will be the secret ingredient.

Kikalo turns around. Tails sighs, smiles, and shakes his head.

KIKALO (CONT'D)

What's wrong?

TAILS

You're just so... happy. Whenever I see you, you're either happy or pissed off.

KIKALO

What do you mean? You want me to be sad?

TAILS

It's just so strange how you're never held down by anything.

KIKALO

Sadness for me would be if Fueled by Ramen filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy. Sadness for me would be if David Bowie died in the least fabulous way possible. Sadness for me would be waking up without genitals! I've had my fair share of sadness, but nothing ever came close to my parents dying.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

KIKALO (CONT'D)

So... I'm benevolent.

Kikalo closes the trunk. She walks to the driver's seat.

INT. KIKALO'S VAN - MORNING

Kikalo drives along the freeway.

TAILS

You still haven't told me where we're going today.

Kikalo smirks.

KIKALO

Well, I was gonna keep it a surprise until we got there, but... I probably should tell you. Have you ever been to Indiana Beach?

TAILS

The amusement park?

KIKALO

Yeah.

TAILS

Maybe when I was six.

KIKALO

Well, get ready to reunite with your long-lost love after eleven years, 'cuase that's where we're going!

TAILS

Okay... any particular reason?

KIKALO

I mean, yeah, but does there need to be?

TAILS

I guess not.

KIKALO

Well, if it really matters to you, the band is performing there tonight.

Tails' head snaps to Kikalo.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

TAILS

What?

KIKALO

We got a gig there tonight.

TAILS

How?

KIKALO

Billy knows a guy.

Tails is shocked.

TAILS

Anarchist Coffee Suites is performing
at Indiana Beach?

KIKALO

Why are you so surprised? Are we not
talented enough?

Tails doesn't respond.

KIKALO (CONT'D)

Wait, do you not think we're talented
enough?

TAILS

No, no, no, you are. You guys
definitely are. You are!

Tails looks ahead as they continue to drive.

EXT. INDIANA BEACH - DAY

MONTAGE:

Tourists and kids play around and have fun at Indiana Beach,
whether it be on the rides or in the arcades.

EXT. INDIANA BEACH PARKING LOT - DAY

Kikalo parks the van in the parking lot. Link, Billy, Joplin,
and Beatrice unpack nearby. Kikalo, with guitar case and
equipment bag in hand, and Tails get out of the van and walk
towards the group.

BILLY

Hey there, baby.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

Billy goes for a hug but Kikalo keeps walking.

KIKALO

Hey, Billy! Anything missing, guys?

LINK

You got your guitar?

KIKALO

Nope, just this Tommy gun in a guitar case.

LINK

Alright, great. Eric's on his way, we should get going.

BILLY

Just letting you know... you need to pay for admission.

Kikalo raises an eyebrow.

LINK

But we're tonight's act.

BILLY

It's just a condition.

LINK

Do we pay for refreshments, too?

Billy nods his head.

BILLY

They'll give you mics, though. And amps.

KIKALO

Can we use our own amps?

BILLY

Yeah.

KIKALO

Alright, let's pay to ride some wooden roller coasters.

The group carries their stuff towards the entrance.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

EXT. BRIDGE - DAY

The group carries the equipment across a long, wobbly bridge. Kikalo's phone goes off and she pulls it out of her pocket. A wrapped condom falls out of her pocket. Tails, carrying a cable, stops in front of the condom and picks it up. He examines it before pocketing it and walking onward.

EXT. BOARDWALK - DAY

Tails walks next to Link, with Beatrice behind carrying a piece of Link's drum set, and Kikalo in front.

LINK

What I'm gonna do is I'm gonna find a girl who is definitely up to no good. I'll chat her up a bit, we'll flirt, make sexual comments; then, we'll get on a long wooden roller coaster, and I'll just start fingering her. It is actually quite satisfying. I call it "the *Fear* Maneuver."

TAILS

Why is it called that?

LINK

Jesus, you really haven't seen any movies. I call it that because it's from this movie called *Fear*. There's a scene where Marky Mark starts fingering some girl on a roller coaster, which bruises her pussy but still gets her off.

KIKALO

I can't believe what I'm hearing. It's not "some girl," it's Reese fucking Witherspoon!

LINK

Oh, I'm sorry, I forgot who she was. Now I'm about to find out who she is!

Beatrice giggles.

BEATRICE

'Twas an amusing reference.

KIKALO

Hey, Tails. Can you hand me that
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

KIKALO (CONT'D)

cable?

Kikalo stops Tails as the others walk on.

KIKALO (CONT'D)

I'll catch up, don't worry.

TAILS

What's wrong?

Kikalo pulls out her wallet.

KIKALO

Could you get me a Diet Dr. Pepper?

Kikalo gives Tails a ten-dollar bill.

TAILS

Oh, it's fine. I'll pay for it.

KIKALO

I insist. And you can have the change to get yourself something, too.

TAILS

Really?

KIKALO

Yeah, I'll just meet you at this stand here.

Kikalo points to a taco shack. She gives Tails the money.

TAILS

Uh, yeah, okay.

Tails gives Kikalo the cable.

KIKALO

Thanks a lot.

Kikalo moves on to the group. Tails, confused as ever, walks over to the shack.

INT. BACKSTAGE - DAY

Kikalo, Link, and Joplin drop off their equipment.

KIKALO

Alright, looks like we have some time
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

KIKALO (CONT'D)
to kill.

Kikalo grabs her bag and runs off.

LINK
I'm going on the Sea Dragon first. And
she's gone. Yeah.

Link nods his head contently.

JOPLIN
She's always fast.

LINK
Only when something's on her mind.

Joplin tilts his head in confusion.

EXT. BOARDWALK - DAY

Tails drinks his soda at a table. Kikalo's soda sits across
from him. Tails' phone goes off. He picks up.

TAILS
Hello?

SALLY STEADMAN
(V.O.)
Miles, where on earth are you?

TAILS
Mom?

SALLY STEADMAN
(V.O.)
Dad said you would be hanging out with
that Kelio girl today, but you also
said you have a very important paper
for English due on Monday!

TAILS
Mom, it's Ki- it's Kikalo.

SALLY STEADMAN
(V.O.)
What's all that background noise,
Miles?

Tails looks around.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

TAILS

Uh, there's no other way to say this.
I'm at Indiana Beach right now.

SALLY STEADMAN

(V.O.)

You're all the way in Monticello,
Indiana?!

Tails winces.

TAILS

To be fair, I didn't know I would be
here, either.

SALLY STEADMAN

(V.O.)

You need to tell me these things!

TAILS

I just said I didn't know.

Tails finishes off his soda, then throws it in a nearby
garbage bin.

SALLY STEADMAN

(V.O.)

Well, I'm sorry, but you should come
back home, if this paper is as
important as it sounds! You're in a
Honors class, for Christ's sake!

Tails gets up, Kikalo's soda in his hand. He walks out to the
boardwalk and paces around.

TAILS

I know, but this is actually important
to Kikalo. She has a gig with her band
here, and she wanted me-

SALLY STEADMAN

(V.O.)

I don't care if she got seasons passes
for all her friends! I hate when you
procrastinate like this!

TAILS

I'm not procrastinating! I said I
didn't know I would be here!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

SALLY STEADMAN

(V.O.)

God, I knew this would happen.

TAILS

What was that?

SALLY STEADMAN

(V.O.)

Nothing, nothing.

Beat.

SALLY STEADMAN (CONT'D)

(V.O.)

Alright, fine. Get a low grade from lack of effort. I mean, Joliet Junior College is cheaper than School of the Institute of the Arts.

TAILS

I guess you're right.

Sally sighs.

SALLY STEADMAN

(V.O.)

Did you at least bring sunscreen? It's hot in Indiana in May.

TAILS

(V.O.)

Yeah, Kikalo bought some.

Tails looks forward, then double-takes and stares off in that direction. He lowers the phone slightly.

SALLY STEADMAN

(V.O.)

Can you at least promise me that you'll be home by nine at the latest?

Tails keeps staring. He brings up the phone.

TAILS

I'm gonna have to call you back.

SALLY STEADMAN

(V.O.)

Alright, but-

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

Tails hangs up and lowers his phone.

In slow-motion, Kikalo walks down the boardwalk wearing a lime-green bikini and flip flops. Her bag is under her arm with her jacket sticking out. Tails is in awe with his jaw dropped as she walks over to him.

KIKALO

Do you have the change left over?

Tails snaps out of it and hands her the change. She puts it in her bag.

KIKALO (CONT'D)

Can I have my drink, please?

Tails extends the drink out to her. She grabs it, then sips the soda while pinching the straw adorably.

KIKALO (CONT'D)

Yeah, that's good. I usually don't go for diet, as I feel it lessens the punch, but I find that Diet Dr. Pepper is actually pretty good; maybe even eclipses regular Dr. Pepper.

Kikalo smiles.

KIKALO (CONT'D)

You like what you see? I wanted to go to the water park later, so I thought I'd just dress like this until the show tonight. Billy said it looked hot on me.

TAILS

I bet he did.

Tails winces as Kikalo laughs. She looks down at her chest and pushes up her breasts while sighing.

KIKALO

Don't worry. My tits will be even bouncier on the Hoosier Hurricane.

Tails' brow furrows.

TAILS

Hoosier Hurricane?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (5)

EXT. HOOSIER HURRICANE - DAY

Tails and Kikalo ride the roller coaster. Tails screams in anguish while Kikalo screams in excitement.

EXT. BOARDWALK - DAY

Tails and Kikalo run around the park, smiling. Kikalo has her jacket tied around her waist.

INT. MUSIC EXPRESS - DAY

Tails and Kikalo ride the Music Express, enjoying themselves. Kikalo scoots gradually closer to Tails when he's not looking.

EXT. STEEL HAWG - DAY

Tails and Kikalo approach an orange metal coaster. They get in line.

KIKALO

This is by far my favorite ride here.
It's the only one that goes upside
down.

TAILS

I've been to Six Flags a few times,
and those rides are usually the best
when they're upside down.

KIKALO

Yeah, but it's Six Flags. It's the Wal-
Mart of theme parks.

TAILS

Six Flags is the Wal-Mart of theme
parks?

KIKALO

In my esteemed opinion, yes.

TAILS

Then what's Disneyland?

KIKALO

Never been. Only been to Disney World,
which isn't the same thing. I went
when I was six.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

ANNOYING TEEN BOY #1

(O/S)

Look at her boobs.

KIKALO

Even though it was... so long ago, I think it's incomparable to anything.

ANNOYING TEEN GIRL #1

(O/S)

So not her color.

ANNOYING TEEN BOY #2

(O/S)

Puke green.

KIKALO

It was like I went to kid heaven. I'm sorry, did you guys say something?

Kikalo looks over to TWO TEEN BOYS, one flamboyantly gay, and TWO TEEN GIRLS. They're all pristine-looking and very preppy.

ANNOYING TEEN BOY #1

We weren't saying anything.

KIKALO

Sorry, I heard something about green and thought you were talking about my outfit.

The second boy giggles. The first girl slaps his arm.

KIKALO (CONT'D)

What's so funny?

ANNOYING TEEN BOY #2

Nothing, nothing. Just... neon. Like, oh my god.

ANNOYING TEEN GIRL #2

Dude!

KIKALO

Just because something is lime green doesn't automatically make it neon.

ANNOYING TEEN BOY #2

Oh, back the hell up, sis. I think I would know more about fashion sense than you.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

KIKALO

Why? Because you wear clothes?

ANNOYING TEEN BOY #1

What?

ANNOYING TEEN BOY #2

What? No!

KIKALO

Because you studied fashion?

The teens are confused.

ANNOYING TEEN BOY #2

Hello?

KIKALO

Oh, it's because you're gay! I couldn't tell with how subtle you are about it! Nothing like a Paul Lynde impression and clear skin to hide the homosexuality! Good job!

ANNOYING TEEN BOY #2

Who the hell is Paul Lynde?

ANNOYING TEEN GIRL #1

Look, can we just drop this?

Kikalo sighs.

KIKALO

Sure, I'm sorry.

The line starts to move forward.

ANNOYING TEEN GIRL #2

Fucking bitch.

KIKALO

Oh, I guess we're not dropping it then!

ANNOYING TEEN GIRL #1

Why'd you have to do that, Becky?

ANNOYING TEEN GIRL #2

I was whispering it.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

KIKALO

I think it's hilarious you JC Penney catalog rejects wanna give me fashion tips. I've seen Nazi skinheads with more style and grace. And even bigger titties than the three of us girls put together.

ANNOYING TEEN BOY #2

Oh my god.

KIKALO

Got more to say, Kurt Hummel? You know the bassist of 4 Non Blondes called; she wants her baggy plaid shirts back.

The second boy scoffs.

KIKALO (CONT'D)

And you, sharp shooter. I appreciate that you aren't that stereotypical of a jock to be stuffing the gay guy in a garbage can or something, but can you at least find a gay guy with some fucking fashion sense? You look like a football player who doesn't go crazy after head trauma and just lets himself go. Like everyday is the Super Bowl and you don't own a fucking washing machine.

Tails looks around nervously. The first boy is confused.

KIKALO (CONT'D)

And don't get me started on you bitches. Daphne here needs to put some fucking ranch on her salads; you look like Geoff Peterson. And you, the blonde with mosquito bites for tits? You dress like you give incredibly mediocre blowjobs in a back alley. Maybe put on a denim jacket if you want to seem more "wholesome." That's not an insult, that's some goddamn advice. By the way, where the fuck are your frigging bikinis? At least I'm comfortable enough to flaunt my shell. You'd have to deal with guys looking at your rib cages instead of your boobs.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (5)

ANNOYING TEEN GIRL #1
You keep talking about boobs but yours
really ain't shit.

KIKALO
Really?

ANNOYING TEEN GIRL #1
Yeah, nigga. No one wants two perfect
spheres that look like they'll fall
off at any moment. It looks weird.

The two girls laugh.

KIKALO
It's not as weird as a white girl
saying the "n-word" because they wanna
be Nicki Minaj. I'm guessing you don't
even have black friends. Maybe the
closest you have is a Southeast Asian
chick.

ANNOYING TEEN BOY #1
Why is she so specific?

ANNOYING TEEN GIRL #2
Just drop it!

KIKALO
You started it!

ANNOYING TEEN GIRL #1
We didn't start shit! You're the one
who's uppity about a passing comment.

ANNOYING TEEN BOY #2
We don't even know you, ho!

KIKALO
Don't call my shit puke green if
you're not gonna fucking say that shit
to my face!

ANNOYING TEEN BOY #1
Hey, dude, is she on her period?

KIKALO
Leave him out of this!

ANNOYING TEEN BOY #1
Why's that?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (6)

KIKALO

I'll kick your ass if you do, that's
fucking what!

ANNOYING TEEN BOY #2

Bring it, Juno!

Kikalo is about to charge at the group. Tails steps in.

TAILS

Alright!

Tails wraps his arms around Kikalo and begins to drag her
away. She starts to kick and throw punches.

TAILS (CONT'D)

Maybe we'll do this ride later!

KIKALO

Let me go, Tails! It's four against a
beast!

TAILS

Sorry, it's this thing where she tries
to get kicked out of parks. Let's go.

KIKALO

I'll fucking kick your ass!

Tails drags her away. The second boy shakes his head as the
others are mortified.

ANNOYING TEEN GIRL #2

Would I look good in denim?

ANNOYING TEEN GIRL #1

No!

The line moves ahead.

EXT. SKYRIDE - DAY

Tails and Kikalo calmly ride a chairlift. Kikalo has her
jacket covering her shoulders. They approach the other end.

KIKALO

Why didn't you defend me back there?

The two get off the chairlift and walk on the wooden stand.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

TAILS

You shouldn't have done that.

KIKALO

What else was I supposed to do? Let them take the piss out of me all the way fucking home?

The two walk down the stairs. Kikalo takes off her jacket.

TAILS

I'm surprised you even cared about what they thought.

KIKALO

I know, I'm supposed to be tough as nails. If I cared about what I dressed like, I wouldn't be a hipster.

EXT. DINING AREA - DAY

Tails and Kikalo walk around.

TAILS

Then why did you go off on them?

KIKALO

I don't know, I just... I just didn't want to let their bullshit slide. Besides, I think my top is fucking cute.

TAILS

Should I have defended you and your top?

KIKALO

I mean, it would've been better than holding me back like a caged animal. Were you embarrassed or something?

Beat.

TAILS

I mean...

KIKALO

Were you embarrassed?

TAILS

Only a little, but you were in the
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

TAILS (CONT'D)

right. It was just... shocking, I guess.

KIKALO

Well, I'm a shocking girl.

TAILS

Yeah, sorry.

Kikalo sighs.

KIKALO

Alright, I'm sorry I embarrassed you.

TAILS

I mean, I wasn't that embarrassed. It was kinda cool breaking up a fight. A little exhilarating, even.

KIKALO

Exhilarating, huh?

Tails nods his head. Kikalo has a devilish grin.

KIKALO (CONT'D)

You have yet to see exhilarating.

EXT. BIG FLUSH - DAY

Tails and Kikalo slide down a water slide, Tails fully clothed. They scream in excitement when they get to the end.

TAILS

God, I'm soaking wet.

KIKALO

Hey, I'm wet, too, you know.

Tails laughs.

EXT. WABASH CANNON BALL EXPRESS - NOON

Link lies back in a small train cart, nearly passed out. He spots Tails and Kikalo walking nearby. Kikalo is now dressed normally.

Link hops off the train and walks towards them.

LINK

Hello, my lovelies. How have you
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

LINK (CONT'D)
 enjoyed the mechanical attractions?

KIKALO
 They were quite pleasant. And you,
 sir?

LINK
 Well, I slipped a little something in
 my 7-Up and, after riding the Jet
 Star, Zero G, and Sea Dragon, I kinda
 threw up on a toddler swimming.

TAILS
 Is the kid alright?

LINK
 Fuck if I know. Rides were fun,
 though. Oh, and the booking manager
 needs to talk with us in fifteen
 minutes.

KIKALO
 Cool. Let's go.

The three walk off.

LINK
 Why is your ass all wet, Tails?

INT. STEFAN'S OFFICE - NOON

Kikalo knocks on a small office door. The door opens. She,
 Tails, Link, and Eric are greeted by STEFAN OBLOWSKY, a bald
 man in his mid-thirties wearing a button-up white shirt and
 brown pants.

STEFAN OBLOWSKY
 Hey, Stefan Oblowsky. Nice to meet ya.

Stefan shakes hands with Kikalo and Link.

KIKALO
 The name's Kikalo; I'm lead singer.

LINK
 Link Later; I'm their manager.

STEFAN OBLOWSKY
 But you didn't get this gig?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

LINK

It's kinda in-name only, if I'm being honest.

STEFAN OBLOWSKY

Oh, sure, that's fine. You're here, anyway. That's all that matters.

Stefan walks towards his desk.

KIKALO

You know, I've been here many times in the past and... I always thought the gigs were in the RoofTop Lounge.

STEFAN OBLOWSKY

Well, you know, that's kinda a bar.

Link pulls out a lighter and herbal cigarettes.

KIKALO

I've played bars before. I'm not complaining; I'm just asking.

STEFAN OBLOWSKY

Look, even if you were Hanson in the "Mmmmbop" era, we wouldn't let you perform in the bar. Only people over the age of eighteen are allowed in there. Besides, my boss wants to do more outdoor venues.

Stefan looks over to Link.

STEFAN OBLOWSKY (CONT'D)

You can't smoke here. Park policy.

LINK

Okay.

Link puts his herbal cigarettes away.

KIKALO

I mean, I kinda like the fact we're performing in the parking lot. Gives us a larger audience.

ERIC

Yeah, 'cause we draw that many people.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

KIKALO

Be optimistic. People like music.

STEFAN OBLOWSKY

They also like water and breathing.
I'm sure Billy told you that you're a
replacement for this local band?

Kikalo raises an eyebrow.

KIKALO

He did not.

STEFAN OBLOWSKY

Yeah, it was some goth punk band.
Called themselves the Deadites.

ERIC

Like in *Evil Dead*?

STEFAN OBLOWSKY

Yep. But then they were deemed "not
family friendly." So we got you. You
know, the band who does songs about
fucking Anne Frank or whatever.

Stefan looks at Link, who is snorting heroin off the back of
his hand.

STEFAN OBLOWSKY (CONT'D)

Are you fucking kidding me?

Link snuffles and looks up.

LINK

Wait, is there a "no heroin" policy,
too? Damn, you should really put up
some signs about it around the park.

KIKALO

Link! Cut it out.

STEFAN OBLOWSKY

That's heroin?!

KIKALO

Look, we're just ready whenever you
want us to go. 8:00, right?

Stefan shakes his head in frustration.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

STEFAN OBLOWSKY

Alright, but just a reminder; Indiana Beach looks down on the use of or partaking in drugs or related paraphernalia on park grounds.

KIKALO

Understood.

Link smirks.

STEFAN OBLOWSKY

And keep it clean! Don't have any swears stronger than "sucks."

LINK

Clean is my middle name, Mrs. Walsh.

Kikalo rolls her eyes at Link.

STEFAN OBLOWSKY

Alright, get out there.

The band leaves.

EXT. VENUE - NIGHT

A crowd begins to gather in front of the stage. A jittery Billy walks over to Tails, who stands near the back.

BILLY

Hey.

TAILS

Hey.

BILLY

I'm fucking excited. You?

TAILS

Yeah, yeah, I really am. I can't imagine how excited the band must be.

INT. BACKSTAGE - NIGHT

Link appears uncomfortable.

LINK

You sure you want to do this, Kikalo?

Kikalo is flustered.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

KIKALO

I am so fucking sure, Link.

LINK

I mean, I guess I can't stop you.

KIKALO

You know me. I'm a man with a plan.

Kikalo puts a toothpick in her mouth and walks towards the stage. Link grabs his drumsticks.

LINK

I guess we're doing the song.

Link gets up.

EXT. VENUE - NIGHT

The band finishes setting up. Kikalo approaches the microphone.

KIKALO

Alright, our name is Anarchist Coffee Suites, and we like to fu... rock. We really like to rock!

The crowd is mildly enthused.

KIKALO (CONT'D)

This first song is dedicated to someone particularly special to me. He's been with me for a while, and has given me so many great memories over the short time we've hung around each other.

BILLY

Did she write a song for me?

Billy smiles.

KIKALO

I won't say who because I don't want to embarrass you with association in case this gig goes bad.

Mild laughter.

KIKALO (CONT'D)

Just know that this song was written
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

KIKALO (CONT'D)

because... well, you're very special
to my heart.

Billy looks at Tails in blissful disbelief. Tails smiles.

TAILS

I think she did.

KIKALO

So anyway, this song is called
"Furry." 1, 2, 5, 6!

The band starts to rock out. Billy's smile fades. Tails' eyes
dart around. The band plays a song reminiscent of "Holland,
1945."

KIKALO (CONT'D)

Hey there, sodden Joe

I was thinking and I was drinking

The blood of a rhinoceros

But I would be so amiss

If I didn't ask you to dance with me
tonight

I'm not looking to start a fight

But when the tides are low and with
the right Fahrenheit

I want my friends to have a little
more bite

Just like an animal imprinting

But instead

We learn something new from you

The band rocks out. Tails looks over and Billy has left. He
looks back to the band.

KIKALO (CONT'D)

In aeroplanes and Adam's apples

Pounce like you're one of Hannibal's
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

KIKALO (CONT'D)

Prodigies, sod... my is the key

But of course, there's so much wrong

But who gives a hoot when you have a
wonderful song

Wonderful song, yes, a wonderful song

Melodies, they come from me

To you

The band rocks out.

KIKALO (CONT'D)

Baking cupcakes with ponies

Baking ourselves into sleep

As we ride upon the Ferris wheel

If nothing matters in life,

Then why does our friendship matter so
much

To me

The band rocks out. Link goes hard on the drums as the song
finishes.

The crowd cheers. Kikalo smiles. Beatrice steps out and takes
Tails' picture. Tails is caught off guard.

BEATRICE

This scene is etched in stone.

Beatrice walks away. The crowd continues to cheer as the band
begins to play "Spider Dismemberment."

EXT. BEACH - NIGHT

Around a hundred PARTYGOERS dance on a beach lit by tiki
torches. A DJ commands the party on an elevated turntable.

Beatrice shows Link the picture she took on her digital
camera.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

LINK

And that will be our EP cover. You know, you should take more pictures.

BEATRICE

'Tis but a jape.

LINK

Even so, you saw the moment and you took it. And who would think something so spontaneous would look so beautiful?

BEATRICE

'Tis humbling.

Beatrice nods and walks away. Link bites his lip.

LINK

Link, you fucking pussy. Link, you no-balls-having fucking pussy.

Link takes a sip from a red solo cup. He walks off.

INDIANA BEACH DJ

How y'all doing tonight?

The crowd cheers as they hop up and down.

INDIANA BEACH DJ (CONT'D)

That's what I like to hear!

Billy drinks from a cup. Tails stands next to him and tries to break the tension.

TAILS

Great set tonight, huh?

BILLY

Yeah, yeah.

TAILS

Hey, uh, just-

BILLY

I liked the new song. It was good, just wish they'd show *On Avery Island* some love.

Billy walks away.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

TAILS

That's fair.

Tails grooves slightly. Link walks over, on edge.

LINK

Hey, there's something I should tell you.

TAILS

What?

LINK

I said there's something I should tell you!

TAILS

What about?

LINK

It's about Kikalo!

KIKALO

(O/S)

What about me?

Link looks over to Kikalo standing next to him.

LINK

I'm dipping.

Link pats Tails on the arm and walks off. Tails watches him leave, then turns back to Kikalo, smiling.

KIKALO

So what'd you think of the song?

TAILS

Which song?

KIKALO

You know which one I'm talking about!

TAILS

You mean the song? Oh, I loved it!

KIKALO

That's great! I was worried it would come off too strong.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

TAILS

It was abstract enough! Hey, you might wanna talk to Billy. It seems he has a lot on his mind.

Kikalo glances over to Billy talking with Joplin and Eric.

KIKALO

Tonight isn't about him.

TAILS

Did you say something?

KIKALO

I said I'll talk to him soon!

TAILS

Alright!

Kikalo smiles and dances to the music as she walks towards the crowd. The music fades.

INDIANA BEACH DJ

This next song is less up-tempo, but nonetheless groovy!

(Depending on the rights) The DJ plays "Rock On" by David Essex as the crowd cheers.

KIKALO

I love this song!

Kikalo glances over to Tails. She turns around and starts to dance, slowly and sensually, as he watches. She motions for him to come closer as she mouths the lyrics. Tails glances at Billy.

TAILS

Me?

Kikalo nods her head. Tails shrugs and walks over as Kikalo continues to dance.

TAILS (CONT'D)

What is it?

KIKALO

You wanna dance?

Kikalo starts to slink and shake closer to Tails.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (5)

TAILS

Um, yeah...

Tails nods his head and bends his knees.

CROWD

James Dean!

Kikalo grinds on Tails. He is shocked. He looks over to Billy, still talking to Eric and Joplin. Kikalo moves Tails' head back to her. She grabs him and slow dances with him. He gulps. She whispers in his ear.

KIKALO

And where do we go from here?

Which is the way that's clear?

Tails is about to speak, but closes his mouth and continues to dance. The two dance until they stop and look deep into each other's eyes.

Freeze frame.

TAILS

(V.O.)

I wanted to kiss her. I wanted to kiss her right then and there. I wanted to tell her how I felt like she was the one true love for me and that I wanted to spend the rest of my life with her, then kiss her with all the passion that was in my heart. I wanted to make her fall in love with someone like she hadn't fallen in love before. I wanted to-

Unfreeze. Kikalo kisses Tails. He pulls back, in shock of what just happened.

TAILS (CONT'D)

Kikalo?

BILLY

(O/S)

What the fuck?!

Tails and Kikalo looks to the right. Billy decks Tails in the face and he falls over. The crowd is aghast as the music stops.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (6)

INDIANA BEACH DJ
Hey, that isn't the way!

BILLY
Little punk ass!

Tails tries getting up, but Billy kicks him back down.

KIKALO
Billy, stop!

Link and Eric hold Billy back.

BILLY
You fucking try that shit again, I'll
kill you!

KIKALO
There will be no killing of any sort!

Billy is furious, almost ready to jump on Kikalo.

BILLY
Don't tell me what to do here!

KIKALO
Please!

Awkward silence. Billy shakes his head angrily and looks back to Tails.

BILLY
You lucky fuck... you lucky fucking
son of a bitch!

Billy walks off in anger as Link and Eric let go. Eric walks away. Link looks at Kikalo, disappointed.

LINK
Look at what you're doing.

Tails slowly gets up in a daze.

KIKALO
Oh, good job victim blaming!

LINK
(O/S)
How are you the victim here?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (7)

INT. KIKALO'S VAN - MIDNIGHT

Kikalo drives the van with Tails sitting in shotgun. He has an ice pack on his face. They are completely silent.

INT. TAILS' LIVING ROOM - MIDNIGHT

Tom and Sally watch TV. Tails enters the house and walks by in the background.

SALLY STEADMAN

So, Miles. How was Indiana Beach?

No answer.

SALLY STEADMAN (CONT'D)

Miles?

TOM STEADMAN

Ooh, CJ's doing "The Jackal." Shh!

Sally gives up and continues to watch TV.

INT. TAILS' ROOM - MIDNIGHT

Tails walks in and flops down on his bed. He turns right side up. Melinda sits on his hamper.

MELINDA

Bitch is dangerous.

TAILS

Don't.

MELINDA

When are we ever gonna talk about this?

TAILS

When my parents aren't in the other room.

MELINDA

They're used to you talking to yourself.

TAILS

Then I'll be honest; just leave me alone.

Tails closes his eyes and turns to his side. Melinda sighs.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

He pulls the condom out of his pocket and looks at it. He tucks it under his mattress.

INT. KIKALO'S ROOM - DAY

Tails and Kikalo sit on the bed, textbooks open. Kikalo writes on a printed study guide as Tails holds some flashcards.

TAILS

Alright, at what point do igneous rocks form layers?

Kikalo thinks it over.

KIKALO

Igneous rock?

TAILS

Yeah.

KIKALO

I'm gonna say... when they're deposited over old layers.

TAILS

That's sedimentary rock.

KIKALO

Fuck! I am definitely not taking science next year.

TAILS

At least you're studying for it. Alright, this is between a set of tilted layers and a set of horizontal layers.

Kikalo scrunches her face as she thinks it over.

KIKALO

Angular unconformity?

TAILS

You got it!

Kikalo fist pumps in victory.

KIKALO

That was one of the tougher ones, too.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

TAILS

I bet it is. I mean, it looks better than physics.

KIKALO

Yeah, let's promise never to take physics. Besides, the finals for that would be the ultimate bitch.

Tails chuckles.

KIKALO (CONT'D)

Isn't it weird how you rarely see teenagers working on homework in teen movies?

TAILS

Huh?

KIKALO

Like, I think of some of my favorite teen movies: *Ferris Bueller*, *Donnie Darko*, *Akira*, *Nightmare on Elm Street*... okay, bad examples, those are more esoteric. But look at a John Hughes film or a 90's teen film. You never see someone doing homework. And I don't mean like a project or big assignment that sounds fun, like a rewrite of a soliloquy or some interview with people who experienced 9/11. I mean, math or science or history; an assignment that requires a textbook or numbered questions. Even movies in elementary school have that problem. When I was in fourth grade, we didn't just write papers about wanting BB guns for Christmas. We also had all this shit about studying for tests and condensation and water vapor and fractions. We need more scenes in teen films where they stop to work on boring, pointless homework.

TAILS

There has to be something. What was that film about the SATs?

KIKALO

The Perfect Score? I haven't seen it.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

Kikalo looks back to her textbook.

TAILS
Neither have I.

Beat.

TAILS (CONT'D)
Look, about the other night...

Kikalo's cell phone rings. She picks it up and sees the caller ID. The call is from Oak Lawn.

KIKALO
Saved by the bell, right?

Kikalo answers the call.

KIKALO (CONT'D)
Hello?

INT. HERSCHFELD'S OFFICE - DAY

An OBSCURED FIGURE sits in a chair facing towards the back window.

LARRY HERSCHFELD
Is this Justine Kelley?

INT. KIKALO'S ROOM - DAY

KIKALO
Yes, it appears so.

INT. HERSCHFELD'S OFFICE - DAY

The man swivels around in his chair to face his desk. He is LARRY HERSCHFELD, a scruffy-looking man in his late forties, wearing glasses and a nice suit.

LARRY HERSCHFELD
The same Justine Kelley who plays in Anarchist Coffee Suites?

INT. KIKALO'S ROOM - DAY

Kikalo is suspicious.

KIKALO
Yes. Who am I speaking with?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

INT. HERSCHFELD'S OFFICE - DAY

LARRY HERSCHFELD

Well, my name is Larry Herschfeld and I'm with Joint Venture Records in the Chicagoland area. We've signed acts like Your Wish, Ken Doll, Furry Chainsaw Gang, Mylie Hoffman, Smash Mouth... the list goes on.

INT. KIKALO'S ROOM - DAY

Kikalo's jaw is wide open.

KIKALO

I'm familiar.

LARRY HERSCHFELD

(V.O.)

Well, I think you'll want to become even more familiar with us soon.

INT. HERSCHFELD'S OFFICE - DAY

LARRY HERSCHFELD

You see, one of my talent scouts saw your show in Indiana after the Deadites cancelled... hold on. Bella!

HERSCHFELD'S ASSISTANT, a young Southeast Asian woman in her early forties, comes in to the office with three dogs on leashes.

LARRY HERSCHFELD (CONT'D)

Get my fucking mutts outta here when I'm on the phone! I'm talking to new, fresh talent! Up the stairs.

The assistant walks the dogs upstairs.

LARRY HERSCHFELD (CONT'D)

Sorry about that. My talent scout recorded a bit of your performance, and played it back to me.

INT. KIKALO'S ROOM - DAY

KIKALO

And you liked it?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

INT. HERSCHFELD'S OFFICE - DAY

LARRY HERSCHFELD

Oh yeah, I love the subversive sound that your influence has, just like their contemporaries. And from a commercial standpoint, kids will love this music just as much as I do, because it's out there and it's labeled "outsider." NMH, Death Grips, Animal Collective, Kanye West; I love all that /mu/ shit. Bella!

One of the dogs is downstairs peeing. The assistant runs down the stairs to retrieve the dog.

LARRY HERSCHFELD (CONT'D)

Bella! Bruiser's pissing!

Larry returns to the phone.

LARRY HERSCHFELD (CONT'D)

Anyway, I believe that you have serious potential at Joint Venture.

INT. KIKALO'S ROOM - DAY

Kikalo is enthralled.

KIKALO

This is incredible!

INT. HERSCHFELD'S OFFICE - DAY

Larry smiles.

LARRY HERSCHFELD

Thought you might be interested. Uh, we do, however, need you to make a demo for us.

KIKALO

(V.O.)

Absolutely.

LARRY HERSCHFELD

What we got on tape was great, no doubt, but I want to show the others on board what you're truly capable of.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

INT. KIKALO'S ROOM - DAY

KIKALO
Of course, that makes sense.

LARRY HERSCHFELD
(V.O.)
Alright then.

INT. HERSCHFELD'S OFFICE - DAY

LARRY HERSCHFELD
I have to run, but please send in a demo by the end of the month. Damn dog. Anyway, you can just call me at this number or the number on our site.

KIKALO
(V.O.)
Alright, talk to you later.

LARRY HERSCHFELD
Thanks, bye.

Larry hangs up and runs to a dog barking off-screen.

INT. KIKALO'S BASEMENT - NOON

The band practices. Furniture is rearranged. Tails sits next to Beatrice, who reads. Kikalo strums on her acoustic guitar, trying out different notes.

ERIC
That last batch sounded melodic.

KIKALO
Not really. We're emulating Mangum, not Philip Glass.

TAILS
Has this always been her process?

BEATRICE
Of tremendous curiosity it is to those who seek no value.

KIKALO
I can hear you, Beatrice. And fuck you.

Kikalo keeps playing notes and mumbling words. Link, fed up,

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

starts to play rhythmic drums.

KIKALO (CONT'D)

Link, can you cut that for a sec?

LINK

Sorry, just helping get this done.

KIKALO

Well, this could be our big break. A lot of time and effort goes into each song I write.

LINK

Right, right.

Kikalo's eyes narrow as she strums more notes. She finds two notes she likes and repeats them over and over with other notes.

LINK (CONT'D)

May I interject?

KIKALO

What is it?

LINK

I know you finally found two notes instead of just looking up Neutral Milk Hotel sheet music and going from there, but I'm not sure if those two notes really work together.

ERIC

What's up with you?

LINK

Nothing, Eric.

JOPLIN

There's a problem.

ERIC

No shit, Joplin.

KIKALO

What do you think of the other songs we did today?

LINK

What, "Jousting" and another
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

LINK (CONT'D)
performance of "Spider Dismemberment"?
They're good.

KIKALO
What do you really think?

Link rolls his eyes.

LINK
Honestly, Kikalo, they're good.

KIKALO
Don't blow smoke up my ass unless you
can try and sound convincing. What do
you think?

LINK
This sucks, okay? That's what I think!
We don't need a fucking label telling
us what to do!

KIKALO
They're an indie label! They manage
independent music. That's music based
upon independence!

JOPLIN
I never thought of it like that.

LINK
I just wish you would discuss the
future of our shitty little emulator
band with the other band members
before we got on a fucking label!

KIKALO
You know what, I say we write a new
song, and then we do "Furry," and then
we're done with the demo!

LINK
Oh, I forgot that it's the Kikalo show
and that we're not an actual band who
makes decisions as a team. Let's just
straight up call ourselves Maroon 5
while we're at it!

KIKALO
Let's just jam, Link! We need to get
this demo done!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

LINK

You wanna jam? Sure, let's jam. I even wrote a little something.

Link does a long, aggressive drum solo.

LINK (CONT'D)

That was called "Shove a Football Up Your Ass Sideways." I'm getting a drink.

Link tosses his drumsticks across the room and gets up. The band watches him leave.

INT. WHIRLED RECORDS - NIGHT

Billy is on the computer at his counter, writing an email. An IGNORED CUSTOMER is in front of him.

IGNORED CUSTOMER

Excuse me, I'd like to buy this record, please.

Billy ignores her.

IGNORED CUSTOMER (CONT'D)

Excuse me, sir. Can you ring this up?

Billy ignores her.

IGNORED CUSTOMER (CONT'D)

Bro, are you listening to me?

BILLY

Can't you see I'm buying shit here?

IGNORED CUSTOMER

I'm buying shit, too!

Billy waves her off. He finishes his email.

BILLY

Alright, what the fuck do you want?

EXT. ALLEYWAY - NOON

Billy buys some drugs off of a DRUG DEALER.

INT. TAILS' BATHROOM - EVENING

Tails freshens up and applies deodorant.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

TAILS

(V.O.)

When asked which was better, things that were imaginary or things that were real, Big Bird replied, "I think both are good, because it's kinda fun to see all the real, wonderful things there are, and then it's kinda nice to think of all the wonderful imaginary things you can think of." At that moment I didn't know if either the real or imaginary things in my life were quite that wonderful.

Tails brushes his teeth.

INT. TAILS' KITCHEN - EVENING

Tails walks in. He looks over to Melinda, who eats an apple by the window.

TAILS

Hey, Melinda. I'm sorry, but I gotta run.

Melinda walks up in front of Tails, who is confused.

MELINDA

So... what are you doing tonight?

TAILS

Kikalo's having a house party to premiere her demo.

MELINDA

You really like her, huh?

TAILS

I know how you're putting that, and I don't appreciate it.

MELINDA

Do you think Billy appreciated you getting close and pulling a half chub when she grinded her ass on you?

TAILS

How would you even know that?

MELINDA

Don't be fucking stupid, Tails.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

Tails is getting annoyed.

TAILS

This isn't how you should be acting
right now.

MELINDA

How should I be acting?

TAILS

I don't know, but-

MELINDA

Not like a bitch?

TAILS

I wasn't gonna say that!

MELINDA

But you thought it! Are you in love
with her?

TAILS

No, I'm not!

MELINDA

Do you want to fuck her?

TAILS

I just said-

MELINDA

There's a difference between loving
someone and wanting to fuck their
brains out! So do you want to fuck her
or not?

Beat. Tails wipes his forehead.

TAILS

I mean, I think about her from time to
time-

MELINDA

I knew it! I fucking knew it! Is that
what's gonna happen, huh? You're gonna
try and be... normal? Like it's not
too late for that?

TAILS

Can you stop asking me all these
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

TAILS (CONT'D)

goddamn questions?

MELINDA

I'm only asking because I care about us! I care about our future together. Do you even like yiffing anymore? Or are you into your species now?

TAILS

Stop!

MELINDA

No, I will not stop until I get all my answers!

TAILS

You're really going about getting them the wrong way, Melinda! I love you, but I... I don't know.... you're doing this! You're putting ideas in my head because you're projecting your fucking doubts so much that I'm now acting out those fears! Are you happy? You're driving away the only person in your life!

MELINDA

So are you!

Tails is taken aback.

TAILS

Sure, keep believing that. I have friends, you're just my right hand. Now if you'll excuse me, I have a party to go to. Expect me to come home late and maybe then we can discuss this like rational human beings.... or... a rational human and a rational anthro... God!

Tails throws his arms in the air and heads out. He slams the door behind him. Melinda is pissed.

MELINDA

Don't fucking forget me!

INT. KIKALO'S BASEMENT - CONTINUOUS

Link shoots up heroin, then places his tools on a box. He

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

stumbles up the stairs, tripping halfway through, but getting back up again. He opens the door at the top.

INT. KIKALO'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Link opens the door to a rambunctious house party. He stumbles around as Kikalo walks around with Beatrice.

KIKALO

I'm glad I could put this together.

BEATRICE

Where perchance is Dave?

KIKALO

Fuck if I know, probably out drinking with Ralph. I'm so glad you could make it.

BEATRICE

Your joy is worth the celebration, one can surmise.

A loud crash is heard.

KIKALO

That sounds like something important.

BEATRICE

Truthfully.

Kikalo dashes off. Beatrice chuckles as she walks past Tails leaning against a staircase, talking to Amarna.

TAILS

So what goes into a Coming Attraction?

AMARNA

I mean, this is just what I hope to do if I get it approved. I want one pint of Miller Lite for the bottom layer, half a pint of raspberry vodka for the next layer, quarter pint of scotch for the second to last layer, and then a quarter pint of Hennessy for the top layer. Then we take some lemon powder and mix it all together. That's what I'm calling a Coming Attraction.

TAILS

Does it taste good?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

AMARNA

Fuck yeah, it does! It also knocks you out like a goat!

Billy approaches Tails.

BILLY

Hey Amarna, I was wondering if I could talk to Tails for a second.

Tails grows tense.

AMARNA

Yeah, no problem.

TAILS

What's the matter?

BILLY

Just walk with me.

Billy wraps his arm around Tails' shoulder and the two walk off.

BILLY (CONT'D)

Kikalo told me what happened. I shouldn't have jumped to conclusions just because she tripped while dancing up on you and planted face first.

TAILS

She said that?

BILLY

Yeah, that's what she said.

TAILS

Well... that is what happened.

BILLY

Glad to get confirmation. Now, I personally feel terrible about what happened.

TAILS

It's fine.

BILLY

I kicked you in the head, okay? That shit ain't right. I thought maybe we could... you know what, personally, I
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

BILLY (CONT'D)

kinda want to keep this between us. Is it okay if we go upstairs for a bit?

TAILS

Is there somewhere upstairs that's private?

ERIC

(O/S)

Kikalo!

BILLY

I think there's a study or something.

TAILS

Um, okay.

BILLY

Hey, I'm not gonna fucking rape you or anything. I just wanna talk about some stuff.

The two reach the staircase. Link is passed out on the steps.

ERIC

Oh fuck!

The two stop. Kikalo walks over to Eric, who stands over Link with worry on his face.

KIKALO

The hell is going on?

ERIC

He fucking ODed, that's what!

Kikalo looks over to Link, skeptical. She crouches next to him.

KIKALO

What, you found him like this?

ERIC

I was just talking and he slipped right underneath!

Kikalo snaps her fingers in Link's face. He starts to move. Eric is startled.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

ERIC (CONT'D)

Oh god!

KIKALO

Link, what's the difference between Wilmer Valderrama and Milo Ventimiglia?

LINK

One was Fez, the other's Wolverine.

KIKALO

If he knows that, he's fine. Just get him some lukewarm water.

Kikalo walks off. Eric is puzzled. He picks up Link and drags him away.

BILLY

Let's just go.

Billy and Tails go upstairs.

INT. STUDY - NIGHT

Tails sits in an armchair. A bowl of sugar cubes lies next to him on a small table. Billy sits down in a neighboring arm chair.

TAILS

I feel strange.

BILLY

Why's that?

TAILS

Like... everything is calm.

BILLY

Well, when I listen to reason, I can be pretty chill.

TAILS

Chill, right.

BILLY

But yeah, again, I apologize for beating you up like that. It was really impulsive and unreasonable.

Billy picks up the bowl and presents it to Tails.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

BILLY (CONT'D)

Sugar cube?

Tails looks at the bowl.

TAILS

Sure.

Tails reaches, but Billy picks a sugar cube from the top and places it in Tails' hands.

TAILS (CONT'D)

Oh, thanks.

BILLY

Don't mention it.

Billy sets the bowl down.

BILLY (CONT'D)

How did you feel about the whole...
kissing thing?

TAILS

I mean, personally... it was pretty
awkward.

BILLY

Yeah.

TAILS

I just... um, don't think of her that
way.

BILLY

Yeah, okay.

TAILS

So initially I thought she was being
serious until the whole... tripping
thing. So it kinda confused me.

BILLY

Hey, no problem there, I thought she
was being serious, too. If anything,
you were the one I shouldn't have been
decking.

Billy presents the bowl to Tails again.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

BILLY (CONT'D)

You want another one?

TAILS

Another sugar cube?

Tails licks his lips.

TAILS (CONT'D)

I'll pass.

BILLY

Alright, that's fine. You don't want to take too much acid, anyway.

Billy sets the bowl down. Tails stares blankly.

TAILS

Did you ju... did you say "acid"?

Billy grows serious and nods his head. Tails starts to bug out. Billy leans in.

BILLY

You see, Tails, Miles, whatever the fuck your name is; I think my girlfriend wants to fuck you.

TAILS

It was a mistake.

BILLY

I've seen her make mistakes. That was not a fucking mistake.

Tails' eyes dilate.

BILLY (CONT'D)

Nigga, are you listening? I think she wants to fuck you.

TAILS

She doesn't.

BILLY

Well, let's test this theory out then. I'll have you trip on this shit, and you'll act foolish. Embarrass yourself in front of all these motherfuckers.

Tails sways back and forth as the room grows darker and

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

wavier.

BILLY (CONT'D)

Personally, I have no idea what she sees in you. Your scrawny ass is incredibly unappealing, and I'm not even saying that as, like, I'm attracted to you. Cause I'm not. I'm saying that, as someone who is sexy, you're pretty fucking subpar as far as I'm concerned. But apparently she sees nothing wrong with some... droopy-chinned, tussled-haired, socially awkward ass clown. But no matter! She wants to fuck you!

Tails has drool coming down his bottom lip. Billy leans in closer.

BILLY (CONT'D)

But I know that she won't fuck a fool.

TAILS

Why...

Tails slurs and droops the word. He falls to the floor and groans.

BILLY

I... I just told you why. Were you really not listening to me?

The "me" becomes higher and higher-pitched as it repeats.

INT. KIKALO'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Tails steps out of the study, tripping balls. Billy slinks his way into the bathroom and closes the door. Flashing colors and strange visions plague Tails' fish-eyed view of his surroundings. Beatrice walks up the steps as he goes down. She looks at him.

BEATRICE

There is something that appears amiss.

Tails pushes Beatrice aside. The trip continues as he stumbles around the house. He stops and stares at Kikalo laughing with some guests. She transforms into a Sumerian demon that laughs at Tails, who recoils in shock. Kikalo de-transforms and looks confused at him.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

KIKALO

Hey man, you alright?

Tails ignores Kikalo and continues to stumble around. He leans against the staircase wall as the room shifts all over the place. He looks to his right. Melinda stands in the front doorway, pissed off.

TAILS

What the hell?

Melinda storms in in slow motion and walks up to Tails.

TAILS (CONT'D)

The fuck are you doing h-

Melinda decks Tails in the face. He is caught off-guard. Melinda begins to beat up Tails, grunting as she does so. The party guests, including Kikalo, watch on in confusion as Tails stumbles around, acting like he's getting beaten up when no one is touching him. Link walks up to Kikalo with a bloody tissue in his nose.

LINK

My teeth are so numb, I can't chew an apple or a dick.

Link looks over to a stumbling Tails.

LINK (CONT'D)

Is my dude tripping?

Melinda continues her beat down. People don't see her. She gives one final blow which sends Tails writhing on the ground.

MELINDA

Get herpes and die!

Link points to the collapsed Tails.

LINK

I'll have what he's having.

Kikalo runs over to Tails. Melinda runs off.

KIKALO

Tails, what happened?

Tails mumbles incoherence.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

KIKALO (CONT'D)

Tails, you gotta tell me what's going on.

Tails imitates Billy Bob Thornton for no reason.

TAILS

She beat the shit out of me. Just for coming here.

KIKALO

Who did?

TAILS

I... sugar cubes.

Kikalo grows wide-eyed.

LINK

Told you.

Kikalo is deeply concerned.

INT. STUDY - MIDNIGHT

Billy sits in a chair, reading *Of a Fire on the Moon* by Norman Mailer. Kikalo knocks on the door.

BILLY

Come in.

Kikalo walks in. Billy sets his book down and stands up.

BILLY (CONT'D)

Hey baby, what's wrong?

KIKALO

I think Tails was tripping on acid.

BILLY

What? Really?

KIKALO

Well, he said something about some substance. Then we was walking around and thinking he got punched in the face.

BILLY

Did he ruin your party?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

Kikalo cocks her head to the side.

KIKALO

I mean, Link has done worse. So I think people were just confused but... party is still going down. What are... you doing up here?

Kikalo notices the bowl of sugar cubes.

KIKALO (CONT'D)

What's with the cubes?

Billy turns around.

BILLY

Just some party snacks.

KIKALO

Why are they up here then instead of downstairs?

BILLY

That is a good question.

Beat.

KIKALO

Did you do it?

BILLY

Do what?

KIKALO

Did you give him acid?

BILLY

Kikalo...

KIKALO

Did you? Did you?!

BILLY

Okay, I did! So what?

Kikalo scrunches her face and claps her hand, rocking back and forth.

KIKALO

Well, I think we're officially done here.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

BILLY

What?

KIKALO

Or at least I'm fucking officially done with... like, all of this.

BILLY

Bullshit.

KIKALO

Oh, bullshit, huh? You think me going off on you for pulling a fucking *Training Day* on my best friend is fucking bullshit?! Huh?!

BILLY

Keep your voice down.

KIKALO

Oh, are you fucking scared or something? Scared I'll expose you as a fucking nutjob?!

BILLY

You're a fucking nutjob for wanting to fuck him!

Kikalo is appalled.

KIKALO

Get the fuck out! Get the fuck out!

BILLY

We need to talk about him.

KIKALO

Get out of my fucking house, motherfucker! Get out! I never wanna see you again! We're fucking through!

BILLY

You're seriously breaking up with me?

KIKALO

Get out! Get out! Right fucking now, get out!

BILLY

Fine! Alright! I'll fucking leave!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

Billy walks out of the room.

KIKALO

Yeah, that's right! Fucking leave! Go!
Asshole! Fuck you, asshole! Fuck you!

Billy walks down the stairs. Kikalo watches him leave, furious tears rolling down her cheeks.

EXT. TAILS' DRIVEWAY - MIDNIGHT

Two green slime balls move around a mailbox. Tails hits them with his truck and they turn into garbage bins.

INT. TAILS' KITCHEN - MIDNIGHT

Tails walks slowly into the house. Melinda walks out of Tails' bedroom and leans against the hallway.

MELINDA

Well, I got your attention.

Tails stops and stares at Melinda.

MELINDA (CONT'D)

I bet you fuck like a bonobo on acid.

Tails takes a deep breath.

TAILS

I want you out of my life. Are you listening to me?

MELINDA

You don't mean that.

TAILS

Are you listening to me?!

Melinda freezes.

TAILS (CONT'D)

I created you. And as quickly as I created you, I can destroy you. So I suggest that you leave me alone before I shut you out of even the deepest, most inactive corners of my mind. I love you, Melinda, but I can't continue to love you if you keep going about things like this.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

Melinda blinks.

MELINDA

Don't act like this, please.

TAILS

My actions right now are perfectly justifiable!

Tails lets out a small awkward scream. Melinda sighs.

TAILS (CONT'D)

Just leave now. We can't keep doing this. So go.

Melinda hangs her head and holds back tears.

MELINDA

Don't forget me.

Melinda walks out of the kitchen and out the front door. Tails stays looking towards the hallway.

INT. TAILS' ROOM - MIDNIGHT

Tails lies in his bed. He grabs his phone and plugs in his earbuds. He plays Anarchist Coffee Suites' "To the Wood" from an mp3 file of their demo. The instrumental, with sad guitar and horns, is reminiscent of "Communist Daughter."

INT. TAILS' TRUCK - NOON

Tails drives with a stoic look, his camera in the passenger seat.

EXT. KIKALO'S HOUSE - NOON

Tails parks in front of the house as he loads up his camera. He gets out of his truck and walks towards the front door.

TAILS

(V.O.)

My two biggest influences as a photographer were Art Sinsabaugh and Edward Weston. I remember going to a museum with my mom when I was nine years old and being in awe of their photography. I found other influences, but Sinsabaugh and Weston always stuck with me in a large way.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

Tails rings the doorbell.

TAILS (CONT'D)

(V.O.)

I hadn't done nude photography before, so I had to reach for the secondary influence of Annie Liebowitz for today. I looked through her work the past couple weeks. You know, when I wasn't sweating bullets about taking pictures of Kikalo naked.

Tails knocks on the front door. Kikalo answers in a red robe.

INT. KIKALO'S BASEMENT - NOON

Tails and Kikalo walk down the stairs. A white bed sheet has been tacked onto the ceiling.

KIKALO

Like my setup?

TAILS

Very professional. So how do you want to go about this?

KIKALO

Well, what do you want me to do for you?

TAILS

As much as you're comfortable.

Kikalo giggles as she stands in front of the sheet. Tails kneels on a couch.

KIKALO

Well...

Kikalo drops her robe to reveal a button-up, see-through blouse and tan short shorts. Tails blinks in awe.

KIKALO (CONT'D)

I was thinking I would do a sort of striptease; maybe get a more playful vibe doing that. So you can just... take my picture as I do my thing. That sound good?

TAILS

Umm... oh, yeah, yeah.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

KIKALO

Great.

TAILS

I bet Billy is gonna love these.

KIKALO

Oh, I forgot to tell you.

Tails turns on his camera and looks up at Kikalo.

TAILS

What?

Kikalo bites her lip.

KIKALO

Nothing. Let's just not talk about him.

TAILS

But these pictures are for him.

KIKALO

Yeah, they were.

Tails glances around.

TAILS

What do you mean by "were"?

KIKALO

Do you mind if I play some music while I do this?

Tails is confused.

TAILS

No, go right ahead.

KIKALO

Terrific. I picked it just for this shoot.

Kikalo walks over to an end table and grabs a remote. She turns on a music player. (Depending on the rights) "Riotriot" by tUnE-yArDs starts to play. Kikalo starts to groove.

KIKALO (CONT'D)

Duck.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

Kikalo tosses the remote onto the couch. Tails ducks and it falls behind him.

KIKALO (CONT'D)

Now... start shooting and listen.

Tails strengthens himself out and takes pictures. Kikalo continues to dance sexy as she lip-syncs to the first verse. She puts emphasis on the line "I dreamt of making love to you." Tails stops for a second and wonders, but ignores it.

The second verse comes in. Kikalo rips open her blouse, revealing her breasts. Tails is caught off-guard, but returns to taking more photos. She continues to dance and tease. She unbuttons her shorts on the line "So you can hear us through the night." She slides down the shorts and reveals her white lace panties. She gives a "come hither" stare to Tails as he begins to realize what is happening.

The bridge comes in. Kikalo starts to move towards the couch. Tails stops taking pictures and lets the camera fall to his side. She kneels on the couch in front of him, still lip-syncing.

The song becomes chaotic and Kikalo bursts with energy. On the line "Put your hand upon my heart, feel the beating of the wall," she grabs Tails' hand and places it on her chest. As the song gets more chaotic, she rubs the hand all over her chest while Tails is stunned. She drops the hand and slowly looks up on the line "There is a freedom in violence that I don't understand."

Kikalo grows closer to Tails' face on the line "And like I've never felt before." Then, she kisses him as the music swells. Tails pushes her off, grabs the remote, and turns off the music.

KIKALO (CONT'D)

What's wrong?

TAILS

Are you fucking nuts? Billy already thinks-

KIKALO

Fuck what Billy thinks! I want you, Tails! I want you inside of me! You know you want this as much as me.

TAILS

This isn't right!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

KIKALO

Why do you suddenly care about what's wrong and what's right?

Tails gets up from the couch.

TAILS

I like you, Kikalo, but this is not something I feel all that comfortable with doing! So... I think it's best if I just leave.

KIKALO

Oh, don't go, Tails.

TAILS

I have to.

Tails walks off to the foot of the stairs.

TAILS (CONT'D)

And besides, this is totally child pornography! I just realized that!

Tails runs up the stairs. Kikalo looks on in silence. She presses a button on the remote and lip-syncs to the rest of the song.

INT. TAILS' TRUCK - NOON

Tails drives home, perplexed and freaking out.

INT. KIKALO'S DINING ROOM - NIGHT

Dave video chats with Abigail on his computer. Kikalo sits nearby, looking at her phone.

DAVE

So, this is really happening.

ABIGAIL

It sure is! Don't worry, I'm sure you're gonna be a great addition to the team.

DAVE

At least I'll still be talking about furrries.

ABIGAIL

Of course. You said it yourself. I
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

ABIGAIL (CONT'D)
talk all the time about so-called
"degeneracy." Why wouldn't I welcome
all different types of degeneracy to
be discussed on my show?

Dave chuckles. Abigail leans in.

ABIGAIL (CONT'D)
It also shows that you listen to our
program.

DAVE
Well, of course! Why wouldn't I join
if I didn't know what to look forward
to? You got the application?

ABIGAIL
All the paperwork has been filed.
So... I'll see you first Wednesday
next month.

DAVE
First Wednesday next month!

ABIGAIL
Alright, you have a good night, Dave!

DAVE
Good night!

They hang up the call. Dave leans back in his chair and looks
over at Kikalo.

DAVE (CONT'D)
So, how was your day?

Kikalo gets up in a huff and walks out.

INT. KIKALO'S BASEMENT - CONTINUOUS

Kikalo watches TV from the couch. She looks over and sees
Tails' camera. She picks it up and turns it on. She flips
through the nude photos.

CUT TO:

Kikalo is asleep on the couch, camera by her side.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

 TAILS
 (O/S)
Kikalo? Kikalo?

Kikalo slowly wakes up. Tails stands over her.

 TAILS (CONT'D)
I forgot my camera.

Kikalo squints.

 KIKALO
You did?

 TAILS
Uh-huh.

 KIKALO
How the hell did you get in here?

 TAILS
Dave let me in before he left.

Kikalo's eyes start to fully open.

 KIKALO
Well, the camera's right here.

Kikalo grabs the camera and hands it to Tails.

 TAILS
Thanks.

Tails turns the camera on. Kikalo stands up.

 TAILS (CONT'D)
Shit, it's almost out of charge.

Tails flips through the photos.

 TAILS (CONT'D)
I mean, I have to delete these 'cause they're highly illegal, but I'm kinda glad since... looking at them now, this isn't some of my best work. Not that you had to do with it, though; you were rocking.

Kikalo sighs.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

TAILS (CONT'D)

But as well as you did at modeling, the framing just didn't work for it. I probably should've asked to adjust some of the lighting, too. In this one, you basically blend in with the fucking background. It's that overexposed. And I must have gotten too excited because the motion blur-

KIKALO

Look, I'm sorry if I made things weird yesterday.

TAILS

Weird, huh? That's what you'd call it?

KIKALO

Don't say that.

TAILS

I thought you liked me for my honesty.

KIKALO

Look, what happened yesterday was... honesty. I was being completely honest and open with you in the way that I wanted to do it. Hell, I would've slept with you then and there.

TAILS

You think I want this?

Kikalo stops in her tracks, stunned. Tails sets his camera on a dresser next to a picture of Kikalo's mother.

TAILS (CONT'D)

Do you think I wanted to be treated like that?

KIKALO

I was... I thought you liked me.

TAILS

I do, that's the problem. Hell, I don't just like you. I'll admit it right now, Kikalo. I think I'm in love with you. But after yesterday, I'm more confused than ever. If you really love me, why would you make me a homewrecker?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

Kikalo is irritated.

TAILS (CONT'D)

I'm not going to be someone you cheat on your boyfriend with, or someone you leave your boyfriend for. I want to have time, because that's what a good person does. When they love someone, they don't make them feel like Plan B; like a dirty secret. I'm not Angelina Jolie or Daniel Craig. I'm Miles Fucking Steadman, and I don't want to be the rebound. I mean, if you're poly or whatever it is, that's fine. But you could've told me that instead of making me feel like utter shit. So I think the best option is that we don't see each other anymore. It's not because I don't love you. It's because I love you and I don't want to see anyone get hurt. You're already hurting Billy; he fucking told me how scared he is. Scared enough to drug me. So before you let things escalate, I'm getting the fuck out of here.

Kikalo is seething with restrained anger.

KIKALO

Are you finished now? Are you done with your little lecture?

TAILS

Yeah, I suppose I am. Well, I wish you good luck with your band-

KIKALO

Don't say goodbye just yet, you fucking cunt. It's my turn now.

Beat.

TAILS

Is it now?

KIKALO

Let's analyze your little fucking "virgin-whore" complex, motherfucker. Are you really holding my love for you against me because I have someone else in my life? Someone who I broke up

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (5)

KIKALO (CONT'D)
with two days ago?

TAILS
You never told me that, but that's
still too fast for me.

KIKALO
Oh, breaking up with McFightsalot and
then trying to bang my crush the next
day is too fast.

TAILS
Yes, it makes me feel uncomfortable
knowing that about you.

KIKALO
Knowing what about me? Knowing what
about me?

TAILS
That you would be that quick.

KIKALO
Oh, I'm sorry, did you want me to be a
good little girl who waits until
marriage and prays to the fucking Lord
every night? Doesn't think about my
own fucking feelings and ambitions and
acts all proper for some douchebag
who's uncomfortable fucking woman who
aren't his right fucking hand? Do you
know that you're not the first time
I've cheated with someone?

TAILS
Oh, I'm not surprised.

KIKALO
Of course you're not. You're too busy
being surprised at how far your head
is able to go inside your fucking anal
cavity. But yeah, I've cheated on
boyfriends before. But I'm not poly.
Oh, I'm not fucking poly. What I have,
Tails, is an inferiority complex. And
I don't know if it's brought up by my
influences or me being-

A long censor bleep is heard as Tails grows wide-eyed and
startled.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (6)

KIKALO (CONT'D)

-or me being unable to see your gender as anything other than easy to figure out. But I have it!

TAILS

Wait, that happened?

KIKALO

What, the cheating?

TAILS

No, the... the... oh my God, I didn't know. Kikalo!

KIKALO

That's besides the point. Just forget I said that.

Tails is perplexed.

TAILS

How can I ignore it?

KIKALO

Just shut up! There's a reason that I actually cheat on every guy I get romantic with. But it's not because you're some good-looking floozy I see in line or in the halls or at the bar. I fucking lived for that shit! When I was with Billy, I even thought I might be able to stop; just like I thought with Roger and Jon and DJ. But instead it goes back to the foreseeable conclusion. However... however... this time, it's very fucking different.

TAILS

How so? How am I not just another guy?

KIKALO

How long did you know you liked me?

TAILS

What?

KIKALO

At what point did you fucking say to yourself, "Hey, I think I'm in love with this girl"?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (7)

TAILS

I'd say... since May 9.

KIKALO

Try two fucking years!

Beat.

TAILS

What?

KIKALO

Almost three. You really don't remember me? Surely you remember Honors English 101, right? I had different hair that semester.

INT. ENGLISH CLASSROOM - NOON

Kikalo sits in a desk. She wears a trench coat and has green-dyed hair.

KIKALO

(V.O.)

Admittedly, green didn't look so good on me, but I wanted a change after everything that had happened three months before. Then I saw you.

Tails introduces himself awkwardly.

TAILS

Hi, my name is Miles. My favorite book is probably *Infinite Jest*, though I also like *Number the Stars*. I enjoy playing games on Steam; that's what Valve made for playing *Portal* and *Half-Life*.

KIKALO

(V.O.)

I was probably the only one in there who didn't find you cringey as fuck. I was so sure that with my hair and trench coat, I was alt enough to catch your attention.

CUT TO:

Tails reads a book with a table of other STUDENTS. Kikalo looks at him from another reading table.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

KIKALO (CONT'D)

(V.O.)

But to my surprise, you never did. If I had known you liked good girls-

TAILS

(V.O.)

That's not what I meant.

KIKALO

(V.O.)

Alright, you like subservient girls. Big difference. You have to summon me like you do with that Melinda girl.

INT. JUNIOR HALLWAY - DAY

Kikalo packs up her locker as Link talks to her. She looks over to Tails, who is being pestered and mugged by Ian and his cronies.

KIKALO

(V.O.)

Every semester came and I wanted to talk to you. I thought, man, I'm sure he'll have time for me in between being mugged. And as I made out with boy after boy, boyfriend after boyfriend, I still thought about the one boy I was unable to confront. This strange kid everyone called "Tails."

Tails drops his phone. "Communist Daughter" by Neutral Milk Hotel plays on his Music app. Kikalo stares at the phone. She looks at Link.

KIKALO (CONT'D)

Hey, what's Neutral Milk Hotel?

Link smirks.

LINK

Oh, you'll love them.

INT. KIKALO'S BASEMENT - NOON

Anarchist Coffee Suites practices and rocks out.

KIKALO

(V.O.)

Looking back, all the pieces to create
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

KIKALO (CONT'D)

Kikalo were there. I just needed your push to make them stick together. I wanted to be the most mesmerizing girl you had ever come across. Even if you had some far-off girlfriend, I wanted to steal your ass from her just by saying "Hi."

INT. JUNIOR HALLWAY - DAY

Kikalo is dressed like she was when Tails was being threatened and beaten up. She closes her locker as the other STUDENTS look over to the scene by Tails' locker. As Ian beats on Tails, she takes a deep breath and plays the music on her iPhone. She walks over to Tails and Ian.

KIKALO

(V.O.)

Everyone saw you as pathetic. I guess I saw you as someone who really needed saving. Seeing you getting your fucking ass kicked by some second-rate drug dealer; it gave me the final push to saying-

KIKALO (CONT'D)

Let him go.

INT. KIKALO'S BASEMENT - CONTINUOUS

Kikalo shakes her head.

KIKALO

At that moment, I forgot about every other person in my life. Nobody except me knew that I was in love with someone I never formally met. They were fine with me introducing you into my world because I did that with every fucking guy I met. Even the ones I didn't want plowing me. They didn't realize I had ulterior motives. That first Saturday was a seduction. I showed you everything I wanted you to see. My strengths, my weaknesses, my likes, my dislikes. I wanted you under my spell. I didn't just want you fascinated by me; I wanted you to fall in love. When I took you to Indiana Beach, that was the day that I showed

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

KIKALO (CONT'D)

you how cool and strong I was; that I would be sexy as fuck in a tiny little green bikini. That I would take you by the hand and get you on amazing coasters. That I would be so damn cool as to get a gig at an amusement park. Who cares if Billy set that up? He didn't know I would use it against him. That I would write a motherfucking song pouring my fucking feelings about you into it and even calling it "Furry." That I would dance like an enchantress and ignore my own boyfriend because you were the center of my world. I became the coolest hipster slut in the world because I wanted to be with you.

Kikalo sneers and looks down.

KIKALO (CONT'D)

You and I, we're not so different. We both saw each other as something to obtain and not as people. I didn't know you were nuanced. You didn't know I was nuanced. We were blinded by each other, so we didn't dig deeper. And now we've dug and we've dug and we're disgusted by our discoveries.

Tails stands speechless, with his hands on his hips and his head down. Kikalo looks in frustration.

KIKALO (CONT'D)

Well, aren't you gonna say something?

Tails looks up and stares.

TAILS

No.

Tails grabs his camera and walks out of the basement. As he walks up the steps, he pauses at the top, letting out a long sigh. He opens the door and walks out. Kikalo stares in amazement.

Kikalo falls onto the couch and sobs uncontrollably.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

INT. TAILS' TRUCK - NOON

Tails drives.

TAILS

(V.O.)

I had to censor out part of what she told me because it was very sensitive information. Even in that moment, I still respected her privacy.

Tails turns on the radio. "99 Red Balloons" is just ending. He begins to quiver. He turns off the radio once the song ends, then screams and slaps the wheel.

INT. TAILS' ROOM - EVENING

Tails charges into his room. He flops onto his bed and pounds on the mattress. He grabs a pillow and throws it into his closet, scattering clothes and trinkets everywhere. He grabs another pillow and beats it against his floor. Feathers fly everywhere. He grabs the comforter on his bed and wraps himself in it before throwing it onto his dresser. Books and papers scatter. He lets out a loud, painful scream. Tom and Sally enter the room.

TOM STEADMAN

What the hell is going on?

TAILS

Get out of my room!

SALLY STEADMAN

Oh my god, is this happening again?

TOM STEADMAN

Son, did something happen? Tell us what happened!

TAILS

Nothing, just please leave me alone!

SALLY STEADMAN

Do we need to take you to the hospital?

TAILS

No, that would screw up everything. I'm fine.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

SALLY STEADMAN
If you're at this point-

TAILS
I said I'm fine!

Tails' parents are taken aback. Tom grows serious.

TOM STEADMAN
Now, we know you're upset, but like I
always say, there's absolutely no
reason for you to raise your voice
towards your mother.

Tails screams in their faces. Sally goes wide-eyed. Tom rubs
the back of his head awkwardly.

SALLY STEADMAN
Why do you always think that'll work?

Sally walks away. Tails continues to sob.

TOM STEADMAN
Well, just... just remember to clean
this up when... when you're done. I'm
sorry.

Tom walks away. Tails continues to sob.

EXT. BEATRICE'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Link walks up to the front of a nice-looking house. He has a
bouquet of flowers in his hands and wears a spiffy suit. He
smooths out his hair as he walks.

TAILS
(V.O.)
While my shocking surprise was due to
what I thought was not knowing how to
read people, Link was in for a
shocking surprise that no one could
see coming.

Link rings the doorbell.

INT. BEATRICE'S HOUSE - NIGHT

BEATRICE'S GRANDMA approaches the door. She opens the door
with a smile.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

BEATRICE'S GRANDMA
Little Link Later! How have you been?

LINK
Oh, I've been doing just swell, Mrs.
Banks!

BEATRICE'S GRANDMA
Are you still living alone?

LINK
Yes I am. I have an apartment up in
Coal City.

BEATRICE'S GRANDMA
Well, that's lovely!

Beat.

LINK
I was wondering if I could talk to
Beatrice for a moment. Do you mind if
I come in?

BEATRICE'S GRANDMA
Sure, come right on in!

Link steps into the house. He closes the door.

BEATRICE'S GRANDMA (CONT'D)
Beatrice!

Link stands next to Beatrice's grandma.

BEATRICE'S GRANDMA (CONT'D)
Beatrice, come downstairs! Your friend
Link is here to see you! He...

Beatrice's grandma looks to Link.

BEATRICE'S GRANDMA (CONT'D)
What are you here for again?

LINK
Let's just say these roses might have
something to do with it.

Beatrice's grandma perks up.

BEATRICE'S GRANDMA
Oh, you're so old-fashioned! Beatrice!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

LINK

Is she busy right now?

BEATRICE'S GRANDMA

She has a friend over. They're studying for a test.

LINK

I could just go up and talk to her.

BEATRICE'S GRANDMA

Well, she hasn't come down yet.

LINK

Yeah, I'll just go check on her.

Link goes up the stairs.

BEATRICE'S GRANDMA

You should stop by more often.

LINK

Hopefully I will.

Link goes towards Beatrice's room.

INT. BEATRICE'S ROOM - NIGHT

Beatrice lies on her bed, making out with Holly, who is on top of her. Beatrice starts to feel up Holly. Link opens the door. Beatrice stops and looks at him.

LINK

Oh, wow.

BEATRICE

Why, perchance, have you approached?

LINK

Well, whatever it was I came here for... it obviously makes no difference if I tell you or not.

Holly and Beatrice sit up.

BEATRICE

Are you upset about something?

LINK

No, I'm... I'm not. Just... I came here to say that... I love you.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

Beatrice is shocked.

LINK (CONT'D)

I had a whole speech planned but... if you couldn't care enough to share this with me, you probably wouldn't care about my speech. So... bye.

Link exits and closes the door. Holly looks at Beatrice.

HOLLY

Who was that fuckboi?

Beatrice jumps off the bed and runs to her bedroom window.

EXT. BEATRICE'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Link walks out. He throws the roses into a bush by the door and puts his hands in his pockets. He walks down the block.

INT. OPENING SOON BAR - CONTINUOUS

Link drinks solemnly by himself. Amarna talks off-screen with someone on the phone in Spanish. She hangs up and walks over with another drink for Link.

LINK

Thanks.

Link toasts to nothing in particular and takes a sip of his drink. Tails walks in and sits to Link's left.

TAILS

Hey, Amarna, am I still good here?

AMARNA

Is Kikalo with you?

TAILS

No.

AMARNA

Well, I can't serve you alcohol, only soft drinks.

TAILS

That's fine. I'll take a lemonade, please.

AMARNA

Anything for one of her friends.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

Amarna smiles and turns to make the lemonade.

TAILS
Yeah, of course.

Tails sighs. He looks over and sees Link.

LINK
She broke your heart, huh?

TAILS
She loves me. She's loved me longer
than I loved her.

LINK
Yeah, I know. She told me.

Tails puts his face in his hands.

TAILS
She did?

LINK
Indiana Beach. She told me why she
wrote that song about you. I thought
it was because of your friendship.
Turns out she had this crush for the
longest time.

Tails looks up.

TAILS
Pray tell, why didn't you tell me?

LINK
I tried to at that beach party. She
stopped me. So I dropped it.

TAILS
What else did you know?

LINK
How the fuck do you think that a girl
asking you to take nude photos of her
wasn't in any way suspicious?

Tails, embarrassed, puts his face back in his hands.

TAILS
Ahh!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

LINK

I mean, not saying "she was totally asking for it" or some shit, but you could still suspect something. That's not rape culture; that's just a thought in the back of your fucking head.

TAILS

God, I'm so... brain dead!

LINK

Well, you are a furry.

Tails looks at Link. Link grabs his drink, then looks at Tails.

LINK (CONT'D)

I'm kidding!

AMARNA

Here you go, Tails.

Amarna serves the lemonade.

TAILS

Thanks.

Tails takes a sip.

LINK

Don't be so hard on yourself. Maybe she'll get over it. She always finds another guy after a while. I mean, she found a black guy who listens to Neutral Milk Hotel... in Will County nonetheless. She'll be fine.

TAILS

But she said I was "the one."

LINK

She probably didn't mean it.

TAILS

If you had heard the speech she gave, Link, you would believe that she thought I was "the one."

Link shrugs his shoulders.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

LINK

You know when she was talking to me, she did have some conviction in her tone. Maybe you were the one!

Tails bangs his head on the counter. Link shakes his head.

LINK (CONT'D)

I have my own sad story if it'll cheer you up. Ironically, the inspiration for it came from Kikalo calling me and telling me how you two knuckleheads confessed to one another.

Tails looks up.

TAILS

No. You didn't.

Link nods his head.

CUT TO:

Amarna gives Tails another lemonade. Link is worn down by his story.

LINK

So now I'm here. Everything is so fucked up.

TAILS

I'm sorry.

LINK

It's fine. Even if you never came into our lives, eventually things would fall apart. It's what people tell me happens after high school. You can never keep those friendships outside of that far-off, mystical building.

TAILS

You really think you'll never see us again after this summer?

Link sighs.

LINK

I'm going to JJC. Of course I'll still see you guys. It'll be like I never fucking left. I wish things were

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (5)

LINK (CONT'D)

different, not personally but... internally. I mean, if I had known that she was... bi... gay... sexual, things would be easier. But why would she keep that from me?

TAILS

I mean, she does care about you guys.

LINK

Yeah, so you said.

Link takes another sip of beer.

LINK (CONT'D)

But just think about it. I have so much sex and drugs and alcohol just flowing in my goddamn veins because I chose that. It makes me feel alive. It wasn't who I always was or thought I wanted to be, but it felt right. And yet, there was always one thing I wanted and I decide one day, "Go for it." So I grab the fucking suit I wore in my ninth grade play, buy some roses, and now I look like the punk rocker who got a promotion at corporate.

Tails chuckles.

LINK (CONT'D)

Then, the one person you actually want to impress turns you down after you've tried to impress her for months and months. Soon, you wonder if the facade was even worth it. You know what I'm saying?

Tails is uncomfortable with his realization.

TAILS

I'm not a lesbian, but I get you.

LINK

It's just what I thought was cool, and it's all resulted in shit! Utter shit, Tails! My name's not Link Later anyway. It's Jim Jarmusch!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (6)

Tails stares at Link with a confused look.

TAILS

What?

LINK

Yeah. My parents were Henry Jarmusch and Laurie Jarmusch. No relation to the guy. They just named me Jim because I guessed they hadn't seen *Dead Man* or *Ghost Dog*.

TAILS

I mean, he isn't quite the most well-known director out there.

LINK

Yeah, with people like my fucking parents! But... but here's the kicker! They ended up renting *Broken Flowers* one night and the only reason they changed my name was because they hated the movie! They regretted me having the same name as the guy who made a movie where you could see a girl's pussy! It's like... what the fuck?

TAILS

So you were named after Richard Linklater?

LINK

No, sadly. But I'm glad you know who these guys are. So, they were in the process of legally renaming me online. So they wrote down a bunch of baby name suggestions, and put "Link Later" as, like, a placeholder, because they didn't fucking know how to attach a file. And it just stuck.

Link downs another drink.

TAILS

So your name is a mistake?

LINK

Just like me, yes.

TAILS

You're not a mistake.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (7)

LINK
Quit flattering me.

TAILS
I'm not trying to flatter you here.
I've gotten to know you the past month
and... you're different in the best
way possible. I mean, heroin kills
people but... it's a lifestyle?

LINK
It's a harsh addictive substance,
thank you very much.

TAILS
Alright, fine.

LINK
I mean, you only got to be friends
with me because of her. I bet you'll
drop me.

TAILS
I'm offended you'd think that of me.

LINK
What? You're seriously gonna stay with
this bumbling fuckwit?

TAILS
Just because everything's fucked with
her right now doesn't mean I'm
abandoning you as a friend.

Link looks at Tails.

LINK
You mean that?

TAILS
Yeah, I really do.

Tails smiles. Link chuckles.

LINK
Well, I think it's safe to say you've
finally gotten used to us.

Link finishes his drink as Amarna walks over.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (8)

AMARNA

Alright, you know I love you, Tails,
and you know I tolerate you, Jim, but
we're closing in five.

Tails looks at Link.

LINK

I walked here.

TAILS

Perfect.

INT. TAILS' TRUCK - MIDNIGHT

Tails drives his truck with Link in the front seat. Link
leans against the window with his elbow.

LINK

I think I'm gonna stop.

TAILS

Stop what?

LINK

The drugs. The drinking. I only ever
did it because some junkie named Raoul
got me into it. He and I broke up like
two days later, but I got addicted. I
always played it off like it was
nothing, but that's because it
practically fused with me like that
gay universe show on Cartoon Network.

TAILS

You think you can stop cold turkey?

LINK

I have, like, two bags worth of heroin
left. That should be good enough for
me for the rest of my life. Then, I'm
done, hopefully.

TAILS

Hopefully. What about the sex?

Link scrunches up his face.

LINK

I may cut back on that while I'm at
it. I'll try and only fuck something
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

LINK (CONT'D)
every twenty-five hours as opposed to
twenty-four.

Tails chuckles. Link chuckles in return.

TAILS
That's a good one. Nice.

Tails arrives in front of Link's apartment building.

TAILS (CONT'D)
And me?

LINK
What about you?

TAILS
What do I do about Kikalo?

Link has sad eyes.

LINK
Earlier on, I should've given you more
advice. It's in your best interest not
to fuck with her. I mean, you can fuck
her, I don't care, but don't fuck with
her. She'll fuck with you twice as
hard.

TAILS
I messed up.

LINK
She can be really over the line
sometimes. In my opinion, you did what
you felt was right. If someone tries
to touch you in a place or in a way
that makes you feel uncomfortable,
that's no good.

TAILS
Now that is a good *Sonic* reference.

LINK
Though you told me you wanted to fuck
her.

TAILS
At this point, I've kissed her twice,
I've seen her in nothing but her
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

TAILS (CONT'D)

panties, she's made me feel her boobs, I've fucking walked in on her masturbating. Honestly, I'm surprised we haven't fucked already.

LINK

Well, even if she's butt-ass naked, she's not always asking for it.

TAILS

She was saving it for me.

Beat.

LINK

Yeah, that's pretty fucked. Maybe you deserve a break from her. For your own sake, for her own sake. Or her own good, depending on how you look at it.

Tails nods his head.

LINK (CONT'D)

I'll see you around, Tails.

Link pats Tails on the shoulder and gets out of the truck. He closes the door and goes inside. Tails drives off.

TAILS

(V.O.)

Who knew the last week of school could be such a downer?

INT. LINK'S APARTMENT - MIDNIGHT

Link shoots up heroin and lays back on his couch. His cell phone rings. Caller ID reads "BEATRICE." He slowly removes the needle from his arm and answers his cell phone.

LINK

Beatrice?

INT. BEATRICE'S ROOM - MIDNIGHT

Beatrice takes a deep breath.

BEATRICE

Now bears us onward one of the hard margins...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

CAPTION: (Canto XV, Line 1)

BEATRICE (CONT'D)

Okay, you know what? I'm gay. I'm fucking gay! I'm fucking gay, and only you and all the girls I've slept with know it. Yeah, that's right. I'm also not a virgin. I don't just like girls! I fuck girls! How about that? I've fucked Holly, I've fucked girls from out of town, I've even fucked some of the girls you've fucked! I've fucked like eighteen, nineteen girls in the past three years of high school! And yes, I fucking keep count! And there's nothing wrong with keeping count! Good for the fucking memory! But yeah, if you wanted to know why I'm the one girl who won't fuck you, it's because I don't like to fuck guys! I fuck girls! There, I fucking said it!

Beat.

LINK

(V.O.)

Why didn't you tell me?

BEATRICE

Why would I tell you guys anything?

INT. LINK'S APARTMENT - MIDNIGHT

Link covers his mouth and begins to weep.

INT. BEATRICE'S ROOM - MIDNIGHT

Beatrice listens to Link weep.

BEATRICE

Link, I'm- I'm sorry.

Link cries harder. Beatrice frowns and hangs up the phone. She sighs.

INT. LINK'S APARTMENT - MIDNIGHT

Link stumbles over to a trash can by his desk. He drops the last bag of heroin in the bin. He takes a match and lights it, throwing it into the trash. A small but growing fire ignites. Tails stares in awe, then blinks.

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LINK

That was a very stupid thing to do.

Link runs to the kitchen and gets a glass of water. He runs back to the trash can and pours it over the fire.

EXT. HIGH SCHOOL - NOON

The bell rings. Hundreds of students run out. Tails walks silently alone. Ian and a stern PAROLE OFFICER brush past him, but stop.

IAN

Hey, yo, Tails!

Tails looks up and is worried, then tries to act cool as the two walk up to him.

TAILS

Hello... Ian Wells.

Ian glances around.

IAN

Last day of school, huh?

Tails motions to the parole officer.

TAILS

What the hell do you want?

IAN

I just wanna make sure that there's no hard feelings between us.

TAILS

What?

IAN

I know I was a bit of a dick... a delinquent... but I want to get rid of all bad blood between us.

TAILS

Bad blood?

IAN

Like the Taylor Swift song? Bad blood!

TAILS

You mean like how you would steal my
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

TAILS (CONT'D)

money and/or beat me up whenever you got the chance, which kinda sucked because that was my only real interaction with anyone at this fucking school?

Ian tenses up. The parole officer leans in.

PAROLE OFFICER

You stole his money?

IAN

Just... just... I want to make things right. No hard feelings?

Tails stares.

TAILS

Sure, whatever.

IAN

I'm glad to hear that... thank you.

Ian almost goes in for a hug, but backs out. He and the parole officer walk off.

PAROLE OFFICER

You never told me that you stole his money.

IAN

I didn't steal it. He gave it to me.

PAROLE OFFICER

Alright, you mugged him for his money! I'm your parole officer, you need to tell me these things!

Tails is left by his lonesome. He looks around, then hangs his head. He walks away, staring at the ground.

DAVE

(V.O.)

Y'all knew I couldn't stay here forever.

INT. DAVE'S RECORDING STUDIO - DAY

Dave talks into his mic. A guitar lays next to him.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

DAVE

Don't act like I was always gonna be on some shitty internet show. That's not to say that I don't realize how much this show means to some people. I've gotten letters from people the last few years who said that listening to me got them through hard times. And this shit means a lot to me, because this show got me through hard times. But of course, we all have to get up and move on with our lives because that's just part of who we are as human beings. I mean, it's not like I'm gonna stop talking shit!

Dave laughs.

DAVE (CONT'D)

You all know I can never keep my mouth shut. I'm gonna keep talking shit; I'm just gonna be doing it with Abigail Ryder now. I hope that you'll want to go on that journey with me as well. Now... I decided... since it's my last episode...

Dave picks up his guitar.

DAVE (CONT'D)

I might bust out good old Charlene. That's right, I named my guitar Charlene. Don't judge me, you probably named your cock or pussy something at one point in your life. So I think the last thing I'll do before I go... is end it all with a little song. It's dedicated to my sister, who'll recognize this immediately, my parents, Ralph, who's coming with me to Freedom Fighter, and of course, to listeners like you. Thank you for your hospitality, and enjoy yourselves.

Dave looks down at his guitar. He looks back up.

DAVE (CONT'D)

Enjoy yourselves.

Ralph smiles. Dave begins to strum his guitar as (depending on the rights) "Oh Comely" by Neutral Milk Hotel begins to

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

play.

INT. BOOKSTORE - DAY

Link purchases a book and waves goodbye to the CASHIER as he walks out.

EXT. BEATRICE'S HOUSE - NOON

Link knocks on the front door. Beatrice's grandma answers.

INT. BEATRICE'S ROOM - NOON

Beatrice sits on her bed, browsing her laptop. She hears a knock on the door. She opens the door and Link steps in. The two sit on the bed, with her looking guilty. Link reaches into his plastic bookstore bag. He pulls out a copy of *The New Life* by Dante Aligheri. She smirks and laughs.

The two hug as tears roll down their cheeks.

INT. BEATRICE'S CAR - DAY

Link sits in the passenger seat, nervous. Beatrice comforts him and she shrugs her shoulders.

EXT. REHABILITATION CENTER - DAY

Beatrice walks Link up to a large one-story building with a sign that says "Sunny Futures Rehabilitation Facility." Link takes a deep breath and walks in with Beatrice.

CUT TO:

Beatrice cries in her car, alone.

INT. DAVE'S RECORDING STUDIO - NIGHT

Ralph and Dave pack up their things from a practically cleaned-out studio. Dave turns off the light.

INT. ABIGAIL'S STUDIO - DAY

The calendar behind Abigail reads "June 26th." She is decked out in rainbow-colored garb as she joyfully celebrates. Her CO-HOST, a small woman with a shaved head, does the same. Dave smiles as he's given a rainbow-colored cowboy hat. He takes off his regular hat and puts it on. He looks at Ralph, smiling and shaking his head. Dave laughs heartily.

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INT. HERSCHFELD'S OFFICE - DAY

Larry Herschfeld talks to Kikalo in his office. She is disappointed.

INT. FFR OFFICES - EVENING

The crew leaves the studio. Dave removes his rainbow hat. He notices a phone number attached to the ribbon. He looks over to Abigail, who winks at him before she walks off. Dave smirks and walks away.

INT. KIKALO'S LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Dave walks in, giddy with excitement. His happiness fades as he looks at Kikalo crying on the couch. He runs over and comforts her.

CUT TO:

Dave sits at a nightstand, an assortment of framed family pictures upon it. He stares at them, tears down his face.

INT. KIKALO'S HOUSE - DAY

Kikalo opens the front door. Billy stands on the other side. She smiles and motions him in. He walks in. She looks outside with a content but sad look on her face.

INT. KIKALO'S ROOM - NOON

Kikalo and Billy make out and snuggle on her bed. Billy reaches towards her crotch, but she pushes his hand back up. He is confused, but she shrugs her shoulders. They go back to making out.

EXT. TAILS' DRIVEWAY - NOON

Tails parks his truck and gets out. He walks with his backpack in his right hand, a miserable look across his face. He walks over to a button-based garage opener and punches in a code. A garage door opens and he slumps inside.

INT. TAILS' ROOM - NOON

Tails lies in bed, staring at the ceiling. He reaches under his mattress and pulls out the Indiana Beach condom. He unwraps it. He blows the condom into a balloon before popping it with a toothpick.

CUT TO:

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

Tails listens to "Oh Comely" on his laptop, depressed. Melinda comes over from behind and wraps her arms around him. She kisses his neck as the song ends.

INT. TAILS' BASEMENT - NOON

Tails lies on the couch, scrolling through his phone. Tom opens the door at the top of the stairs. He peeks down.

TOM STEADMAN

Miles?

TAILS

Yeah?

Tom walks down the stairs.

TOM STEADMAN

Hey, buddy. What are you up to?

TAILS

I'm just on my phone.

TOM STEADMAN

I can see that. What are you doing on your phone?

TAILS

Just browsing.

Tails taps on a page with furry porn.

TOM STEADMAN

Just browsing the Internet, huh?

TAILS

Yep.

TOM STEADMAN

You know it's really nice outside. Probably the nicest day we'll have this August. You should go outside and ride around on your scooter. Maybe we could go for a walk or something.

TAILS

Maybe later.

Tails continues browsing on his phone. Tom sighs.

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CONTINUED: (2)

TOM STEADMAN

What about your friends? You could go hang out with them. You ever talk to Kikalo anymore?

TAILS

Dad?

TOM STEADMAN

What?

Tails bites his lip.

TAILS

We had a falling out.

TOM STEADMAN

You did? How did that happen?

TAILS

Irreconcilable differences.

Tom squints.

TOM STEADMAN

Well, that must suck.

TAILS

Yeah.

TOM STEADMAN

What about that one guy, Link? The senior?

TAILS

He... went away for a while.

TOM STEADMAN

Like on vacation?

TAILS

Yeah, he took a vacation.

TOM STEADMAN

For how long?

TAILS

Um... twenty-eight days?

Tom scrunches up his face. Beat.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

TOM STEADMAN

You have any other friends right now?

TAILS

Beatrice is busy taking care of Link.

TOM STEADMAN

Well, that's nice. I mean, bad for you, but nice of her to do that.

TAILS

Yeah.

TOM STEADMAN

Wish you could talk to someone?

TAILS

Kinda sorta.

TOM STEADMAN

Kinda sorta, kinda sorta. So I guess you don't have any friends you can get in touch with at the moment.

TAILS

Yeah.

Beat.

TOM STEADMAN

Are you still into the furry shit?

Tails puts his phone down and stares at Tom.

TOM STEADMAN (CONT'D)

You think I won't find out about your secrets at some point or another?

TAILS

How though?

TOM STEADMAN

You really need to get a password for your phone, son. Anyone can fucking snatch it, or stumble across... hairy breasts.

TAILS

Does... does Mom know?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

TOM STEADMAN

Oh God, no! Do you think I'm stupid?
If she knew, you'd be in a mental
hospital right now!

TAILS

Are you upset?

TOM STEADMAN

I mean, a little, yeah! It's kinda
weird! But at the same time... you're
my son. Your mom and I have always
known you were weird. So if you're
into that... I'll... I'll support you.

Tails wipes his eyes. Tom sits down on the couch.

TOM STEADMAN (CONT'D)

Hey, is... is something wrong?

TAILS

No, I'm... I just... why is everything
so hard?

TOM STEADMAN

Yeah, life's a bitch. But just think.
In a year or so, you won't have to see
or think of any of these people ever
again. You'll be up in Chicago, taking
pictures, making friends... maybe
you'll meet other furies. Don't they
have... they have conventions or
something?

TAILS

I'm not into the furry conventions.

TOM STEADMAN

Fair enough. You'll be in college soon
enough, and that's when your life
really starts. Just think about that.
You're the most special person in the
world to me. Never forget that.

Tails snuffles and smiles.

TAILS

I love you, Dad.

TOM STEADMAN

I love you, too, son.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (5)

The two hug. Tom kisses the side of his son's head.

TOM STEADMAN (CONT'D)
Just let me know if you need anything.

TAILS
I will, Dad.

Tom walks away from the couch. As he reaches the stairs, he stops and turns around.

TOM STEADMAN
You know, when I was your age, I had a thing for Smurfette.

TAILS
Dad!

TOM STEADMAN
Alright, just thought I'd help.

Tom goes back upstairs. Tails goes back to his phone.

EXT. TAILS' HOUSE - DAY

Tails stands in the driveway with his parents. They have packed their car. Sally hugs Tails.

TAILS
Tell Iris I'm sorry about Aunt Horsey.

SALLY STEADMAN
I will.

The hug breaks and Sally walks to the car. Tom, hands in his pockets, walks over to Tails.

TAILS
I can't believe she's dead.

TOM STEADMAN
Well, we all die eventually. Someday soon, Grandma and Grandpa will die.

TAILS
I don't even wanna think about that.

Tails and Tom hug.

TOM STEADMAN
Remember what I said.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

TAILS

I will.

The hug breaks. Tom walks to the driver's seat.

TAILS (CONT'D)

I love you guys!

TOM STEADMAN

Love you too!

SALLY STEADMAN

Love you too!

The car drives off. Tails waves to them and they wave back.

INT. TAILS' KITCHEN - DAY

Tails walks in. His phone goes off and he pulls it out of his pocket. It's a text from Kikalo. Tails stops cold and opens his phone. He stares at the first text message.

TAILS

"About two hours from now, the eagle will be landing in an untouched region of America."

Tails is perplexed. Another text pops up.

TAILS (CONT'D)

"What I mean is that Billy's penis is going inside my virginal snatch."

Tails lowers the phone to his side. He gets another text from Kikalo.

TAILS (CONT'D)

"Also peep this..."

INT. TAILS' BEDROOM - NOON

Tails plays a SoundCloud link for "They Got Tim Minchin" by The Pudding Bandits. A zoomed-in, purple-tinted photo of Kikalo is the album cover. The fast punk song begins to play.

KIKALO

(V.O.)

Amateur chicken fucker!

Whiskey pussy!

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

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KIKALO (CONT'D)

What a lovely fucking couple!

Listening to Claude Debussy!

Kidding, bitch!

They're cutting each other to avoid a situation!

In court!

Don't do drugs if you're not cool!

They got Tim Minchin, and I'm very sad!

All he's doing is musicals based on movies, and I'm not glad!

If he quit tomorrow, think of all the great songs to be had!

Fuck the motherfucking fuckers on Broadway!

Broadway!

Broadway!

Yeah! Yeah!

Tails pauses the song. He squints in confusion. Melinda slowly moves into the room.

MELINDA

That sounded like shit.

TAILS

I didn't think it was that bad.

MELINDA

What the hell were those lyrics even about?

TAILS

Tim Minchin?

Melinda smiles and rolls her eyes.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

MELINDA

Come on. Forget about her. She broke your heart.

TAILS

I broke her heart.

MELINDA

Whatever, hearts were broken. That's why you came back to me.

Melinda walks over to Tails and rubs his shoulders.

MELINDA (CONT'D)

Come on, Foxy. Don't you wanna fuck me? When the parents are away, the lovers will play.

Tails smiles.

INT. WHITE BEDROOM - EVENING

Melinda lies naked on the bed, her arms over her head.

INT. SECOND BATHROOM - EVENING

Tails removes his socks, then his shirt. As he unzips his jeans, he stops midway and looks in the mirror. He lets go of his pants and turns on the faucet. He washes his face before looking back up. He stares at his reflection in the mirror.

TAILS

This is the end, friend.

Tails grabs his shirt and starts to put it back on.

INT. HALLWAY - EVENING

Tails, fully clothed, exits the bathroom.

MELINDA

(O/S)

Are you ready, baby?

TAILS

Melinda, could you come out here for a sec?

MELINDA

(O/S)

Ooh, we're not doing it in the

(MORE)

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CONTINUED: (2)

MELINDA (CONT'D)

bedroom? Someone's got some ideas!

Tails puts his hands in his pockets. Melinda steps out in a blue robe, her hands also in her pockets.

MELINDA (CONT'D)

So what's up?

TAILS

Look, Melinda... there's no other way to say this. I'm not going to have sex with you.

Melinda's smiles slowly drops to a frown.

TAILS (CONT'D)

I have to be completely honest. I am in love with Kikalo. I have been ever since I laid eyes on her. It's only now when she sends me this message out of the blue that I realize how much I love her. I know our hearts are broken, but I know there's always second chances. And in this second chance, I know for certain that I want to be with Kikalo for the rest of my life. I am utterly fascinated, truly captivated by her. I'm sorry, but I think this might be the end of our relationship. I've found someone else. It's not you. It's me. I'm sorry.

Melinda looks at the ground.

MELINDA

Well, I knew this day would come.

TAILS

If you're pissed off, I understand.

MELINDA

Do I look like I'm mad? I'm not. I'm happy for you. You're not only being honest with me. You're being honest with yourself. I knew we wouldn't always be together. You wanted it to not be like that. Hell, I wanted us to be together. But I think it's time you stopped listening to your head and started listening to your heart.

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MELINDA (CONT'D)

Because up there... it wants things to stay the same. But in there, in that big heart of yours, you really know what you want. I'm not mad at you, I'm not disappointed. I'm proud of you, Miles "Tails" Steadman.

Tails smiles.

TAILS

I'll always remember you.

MELINDA

I'll always remember you... Foxy.

Melinda smiles. The two embrace to share one last passionate kiss.

TAILS

Thank you.

MELINDA

The pleasure was all mine.

The embrace breaks.

MELINDA (CONT'D)

Go get her.

Tails walks backwards. He dashes out of the house. Melinda stands in the hallway, smiling. She closes her eyes and begins to dissolve out of existence.

EXT. TAILS' DRIVEWAY - EVENING

Tails hops into his truck. He turns on the ignition and begins to pull out.

INT. TAILS' TRUCK - EVENING

Tails pulls out of his driveway.

TAILS

(V.O.)

There's always that scene at the end of romantic movies where the main character rushes against all odds to find their one true love. They might've hit some bumps along the way that brought them to that point, but

(MORE)

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TAILS (CONT'D)

now they realize what is most important to them. So the hero races against time. It's almost as annoying as narration trying to be clever by pointing out the trope of heroes racing against time to find their true love. At that moment, though, I didn't give a fuck about any of that bullshit. All I cared about was driving to Kikalo's house.

INT. KIKALO'S ROOM - EVENING

Kikalo opens the door. She and Billy make out against a wall before they fall onto her bed.

TAILS

(V.O.)

I figured she'd want to lose her virginity in her own bed. Probably something symbolic or meaningful.

Billy takes off his shirt.

INT. TAILS' TRUCK - EVENING

Tails drives down a hill and over railroad tracks.

TAILS

(V.O.)

Sure, she thought I was easy to win over and saw me as some goal to attain. I saw her as the manic pixie cool girl who does all the things I find cool and daring. At that moment, none of that bullshit mattered. The way I saw it, I didn't need her, and she didn't need me. We needed each other.

INT. KIKALO'S ROOM - EVENING

Kikalo takes off her T-shirt. She has a white bra underneath. Billy feels her up and kisses the top of her breasts. She leans back in pleasure.

INT. TAILS' TRUCK - EVENING

Tails waits at a stop light. He taps on the wheel as it finally turns green. He accelerates.

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INT. KIKALO'S ROOM - EVENING

Kikalo removes her shorts, revealing her white panties. She mounts Billy and makes out with him. His hand rubs and squeezes her backside.

INT. TAILS' TRUCK - EVENING

Tails turns the corner at a Dollar Store. He drives closer and closer to Kikalo's house.

INT. KIKALO'S ROOM - EVENING

Kikalo kisses down Billy's chest. She reaches his waist and grabs the belt of his pants. She begins to undo the belt.

INT. TAILS' TRUCK - EVENING

Tails drives towards the front of Kikalo's house. He slams on the brakes.

INT. KIKALO'S ROOM - EVENING

Kikalo removes Billy's jeans, revealing his red briefs that conceal a large erection. Kikalo smiles and licks her lips.

EXT. KIKALO'S HOUSE - EVENING

Tails runs towards Kikalo's window.

INT. KIKALO'S ROOM - EVENING

Kikalo leans in to kiss Billy's clothed erection.

TAILS

(O/S)

Kikalo!

Kikalo stops. Billy looks towards the window.

BILLY

What the fuck?

Billy gets up. Kikalo sits on the edge of her bed.

EXT. KIKALO'S HOUSE - EVENING

Tails stands below her windowsill.

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CONTINUED: (2)

TAILS

(O/S)

Kikalo! I'm here!

Billy opens the window and looks down at Tails.

BILLY

The fuck is your ass doing here?

TAILS

Kikalo! I got here as fast as I could!

BILLY

Do I look like Kikalo, asshole?

TAILS

Billy, I know she can hear me in there! Just tell her I got her message and that I'm sorry!

BILLY

What message?

Beat.

KIKALO

(O/S)

Is that really you, Tails?

TAILS

I love you, Kikalo!

BILLY

What fucking message?

TAILS

I've been wanting to say it to you for so long and now I truly mean it when I say it.

BILLY

Is just no one gonna answer my fucking questions?

TAILS

I know I haven't been the best for you, and you know you haven't always the best for me. But I see now that we go together so perfectly. And I realize you're in the middle of losing your virginity, so... I'm sorry if I

(MORE)

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CONTINUED: (3)

TAILS (CONT'D)

killed the mood or your horniness. The point is I wanted to say this whether you took me back or not.

INT. KIKALO'S ROOM - EVENING

Kikalo watches on in splendid awe.

BILLY

Take you back? Nigga, she was never yours to begin with!

Kikalo smiles and lowers her head. She takes a deep breath.

KIKALO

This was a test!

Kikalo raises her head.

EXT. KIKALO'S HOUSE - EVENING

Tails is surprised.

TAILS

What?

INT. KIKALO'S ROOM - EVENING

Billy turns to Kikalo.

BILLY

What?

Kikalo nods her head.

KIKALO

I never intended to have sex with you, Billy. I mean, if he didn't come over, I probably would've, but it was never my intention. I told him beforehand that I was planning on having sex with you because I wanted to see if he still cared. He does. Tails, I'm still in love with you, too!

Kikalo looks at Billy.

KIKALO (CONT'D)

It's nothing personal. I just had to get him back. Of all the ex-boyfriends
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

KIKALO (CONT'D)

I had, you were definitely top three,
if that makes you feel any better.

Billy stares at Kikalo, his anger growing.

BILLY

You used me? You fucking used me?

KIKALO

I'm sorry, Billy. I hope you
understand what I needed to do and
don't take any of this the wrong way-

Billy punches Kikalo in the face. She falls onto the bed.

BILLY

The fuck is wrong with you, crazy
bitch?!

KIKALO

First of all, how dare you!

Billy punches Kikalo again. He starts to beat her.

KIKALO (CONT'D)

Tails!

EXT. KIKALO'S HOUSE - EVENING

Tails becomes worried.

TAILS

Kikalo? What happened?

Another punch.

BILLY

(O/S)

I'll fucking kill you, you psycho
cunt!

TAILS

Oh shit!

INT. KIKALO'S ROOM - EVENING

Billy continues to hit Kikalo.

KIKALO

Tails? Tails! Please- please hurry!

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CONTINUED: (2)

Kikalo tries to claw Billy's face, but he grabs her neck and rams it into the bedpost before smacking her again.

EXT. KIKALO'S HOUSE - EVENING

More punches and grunts are heard as Tails runs to the door.

TAILS
I'm coming up there!

KIKALO
Hurry!

Tails backs up to get a running start. He runs into the door. He recoils in pain.

TAILS
Fuck!

KIKALO
The door's unlocked!

Tails runs towards the door and opens it.

TAILS
Thank you!

Tails dashes inside.

INT. KIKALO'S ROOM - EVENING

Tails runs inside. Billy repeatedly punches a bloody Kikalo.

BILLY
You are nothing but a fucking
psychopathic bitch, and I'm fed up
with your fucking shit!

Tails tries to pull Billy off of her. Billy flings up and Tails lets go. Billy backs up and bumps into the edge of a window frame. He recoils and grabs the back of his head.

BILLY (CONT'D)
Ow, ow, ow! Fuck! Fucking hell!

TAILS
Kikalo, are you okay?

Kikalo props herself up.

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CONTINUED: (2)

KIKALO

Just dandy.

Billy yells in pain. Kikalo looks over to Billy. She grabs his clothes and stands up. She limps over to Tails' side.

BILLY

God, it's like a funny bone! God!
Shit!

TAILS

Hey, man, you okay?

Billy brings his hands down and jets out at the two.

BILLY

Fuck you!

Tails instinctively stands partially in front of Kikalo.

BILLY (CONT'D)

You fucking bitch! I'll fucking kill you, then I'll clone you, then I'll kill all your clones, and then I'll never fucking see you ever again!

TAILS

Don't you threaten her.

KIKALO

That's from *Madagascar*.

Tails looks at Kikalo.

KIKALO (CONT'D)

I'm... I'm just saying, it is!

BILLY

I'm getting the fuck out of here! Give me my damn clothes.

Billy reaches for his clothes but Kikalo backs away. Tails looks at her with confusion.

KIKALO

You think after almost beating me to a bloody fucking pulp that I'll just give you your clothes back? You don't deserve the clothes on your back! You-

Tails grabs the clothes from Kikalo's hand and gives them to

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

Billy.

BILLY

Thanks.

Kikalo raises an eyebrow as Tails' gaze darts over to her.

KIKALO

Why would-

TAILS

Just let him go.

BILLY

You don't deserve this bitch. She's
fucking Satan. She's Satan!

Billy storms out.

EXT. KIKALO'S HOUSE - EVENING

Billy walks to his car. He stops and takes one last look at Kikalo's house, then continues to walk. He gets in his car and drives off. Tails watches from the bedroom window.

INT. KIKALO'S ROOM - EVENING

Tails tends to Kikalo's bruises and scrapes. The two sit on her bed. She has her wrinkled clothes back on.

KIKALO

You know, the more I think about it,
my plan kinda sucked.

TAILS

It really didn't make sense.

KIKALO

"Hey, man. I'm using you to see if
this boy still likes me. You're fine
with that, right?" Ow! Fuck!

TAILS

Sorry, hold still.

Tails tends to her facial cuts as she winces.

TAILS (CONT'D)

So...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

KIKALO

So... you're here.

TAILS

I listened to the new track.

KIKALO

Oh, you did?

TAILS

Well, you sent the link.

KIKALO

I thought you'd care more about the first text. What did you think?

TAILS

Personally? It was pretty good.

KIKALO

Come on. Be honest.

TAILS

Brutally honest?

Kikalo nods her head, then winces.

TAILS (CONT'D)

I'd give it a six.

KIKALO

Fuck me. A six?

TAILS

Sorry.

KIKALO

No, my neck just hurts. A six is fine. That's above average.

TAILS

What inspired it?

KIKALO

A lot of shit, a lot of shit. Needless to say, the record company was not as interested in Anarchist Coffee Suites as I thought.

TAILS

Shit, sorry.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

KIKALO

It's fine. Neither were we at that point. Eric had enough of our shit, Link was in rehab and needed a break from everything, but Joplin learned how to play the drums. So I channeled that anger into some raw punk.

Tails stops tending to the injuries.

TAILS

Yeah, really raw. You happy with it?

KIKALO

I guess. It's really just a side project for whatever the future holds. But we've gotten some attention.

TAILS

I saw. 110 plays.

KIKALO

My favorite comment so far is that we're like if Wesley Willis wrote for The Sex Pistols and had sex with Mark Mothersbaugh.

TAILS

So why name the band The Pudding Bandits?

Kikalo sighs.

KIKALO

Is this an interview? Well, there's this anime, *The Girl Who Leapt Through Time*, and in the first scene, the main character, Makoto, laments...

Kikalo stops herself. She looks into Tails' eyes.

KIKALO (CONT'D)

Am I a bad person?

The two stare at each other. Tails gives a bittersweet half-smile.

TAILS

If you're a bad person, then I'm in love with a bad person.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

KIKALO

So me lying to Billy and using him
like that doesn't bother you?

TAILS

He punched you in the face!

KIKALO

He was angry.

TAILS

No reason to do something like that.
If I were him I'd have just gotten the
fuck out and never spoken to you
again.

Kikalo smirks.

KIKALO

And yet here you are.

Beat.

KIKALO (CONT'D)

What did you say when I asked if I'm a
bad person? Just now?

TAILS

If you're a bad person, then I'm in
love with a bad person.

A tear runs down Kikalo's cheek as she smiles.

KIKALO

This is really happening, isn't it?

Kikalo rubs her hand over Tails' hand.

KIKALO (CONT'D)

I think it is.

TAILS

Oh my god.

KIKALO

I mean, if you have cold feet again, I
don't wanna pressure you.

TAILS

No, it's not that. I don't want to
hurt you.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (5)

KIKALO

I heal fast.

TAILS

But, after what you've been through,
you know, I'm worried I might hurt you
again.

KIKALO

You mean?

TAILS

Yeah.

Kikalo sighs. She touches Tails' face.

KIKALO

Tails, she can't hurt me anymore.

Tails looks down.

KIKALO (CONT'D)

I want to make love to you.

Tails looks up, deep into Kikalo's eyes. She giggles.

KIKALO (CONT'D)

Am I always gonna be the one to make
the first mo-

Tails kisses Kikalo. The two start to make out.

KIKALO (CONT'D)

There's a condom in the bedside
drawer.

TAILS

Let's hope it fits.

The two make out some more. Tails moves towards the drawer.
Kikalo begins to remove her shirt.

CUT TO:

BLACK.

TAILS (CONT'D)

(V.O.)

And that was how it all began.

CUT TO:

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (6)

Tails and Kikalo lie underneath the covers, exhausted and filled with ecstasy. Kikalo grabs a toothpick.

KIKALO

That was... great.

TAILS

Thanks, I've had a lot of time to practice.

Kikalo laughs.

KIKALO

Oh my god.

Kikalo places the toothpick in her tooth. She looks at Tails.

KIKALO (CONT'D)

You came twice, didn't you?

Tails sighs.

TAILS

There's just no fooling you, is there?

The two laugh.

KIKALO

No, I mean, it's fine. I hear most guys cum after a minute the first time and I could tell!

TAILS

I kept going though.

KIKALO

You sure did.

Kikalo places the toothpick on her bedside table.

KIKALO (CONT'D)

Honestly, I'm just happy you remembered to make me cum.

TAILS

Really?

KIKALO

Yeah, all the girls I've talked to about losing it; the guy never thinks about getting the girl off. But what
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (7)

KIKALO (CONT'D)

can you do? It is their first time.

TAILS

So I really did make you cum?

KIKALO

The female orgasm exists apparently.
It just takes a little over nine
minutes. And a couple inches.

Tails smirks.

KIKALO (CONT'D)

I love you.

They stare at each other. Tails moves over and kisses Kikalo.

TAILS

I love you, too.

The two lay back in silence. They lightly giggle from time to time, but an awkward silence forms.

KIKALO

You know, I actually am out of milk.
The last jug went bad yesterday. Could
you be a helping hand and drive me
over to the Dollar Store? I just want
some milk.

TAILS

Sure.

Kikalo kisses Tails.

KIKALO

Thank you.

Kikalo gets out of bed, completely naked.

KIKALO (CONT'D)

I wrote some new songs about my summer
since some other cool things happened.
I thought you might like a sneak peek.

TAILS

That sounds good.

Kikalo pulls up her panties. She grabs her bra and starts to strap it on. Tails thinks something over.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (8)

TAILS (CONT'D)

Do you think we could buy some more
condoms while we're there?

Kikalo hooks back on her bra. She stops and looks at Tails.

KIKALO

You mean, like, after we get back from
the store, you... you wanna do it
again?

Beat. Tails shrugs and nods. Kikalo smiles and gawks.

KIKALO (CONT'D)

Fuck yeah.

Kikalo puts her panties back on. Tails watches with a smile.

INT. TAILS' TRUCK - EVENING

Tails closes the door of his truck. He starts the ignition
and begins to drive. Kikalo lays her head on his right
shoulder. He looks at her, then back to the road. He smiles.

THE END