

JUICE - Act 3

The Juice, ACT THREE

EXT. STREET OUTSIDE THE JUICEBAR - DAY

It is a rainy day outside The Juicebar. A tattered sign above the entrance reads: THE JUICEBAR GRAND OPENING PARTY - FREE SAMPLES OF ALL 66 FLAVORS! Frank and Gary stand outside, calling out advertisements for their party. No passersby pay attention or enter The Juicebar. In contrast, a long line of umbrella-wielding patrons waits outside the entrance of the neighboring restaurant, Breakfast.

A group of laughing COLLEGE GIRLS walk up to the entrance of The Juicebar wearing shirts that read: HILTON COLLEGE CLASS OF 2020. Frank and Gary look ecstatic. People have finally come to their party.

COLLEGE GIRL #1, brunette and clearly the group's leader, opens the door of The Juicebar while Frank and Gary welcome the girls in and try to flirt. Inside The Juicebar, Candi and Ben sit on stools, Ben obviously wishing he were anywhere else but sharing a conversation with Dancing Candi. Candi's blind dog HERMAN, a tiny fluff, chases his tail at her feet. Candi's laugh, overly loud and piercing, comes through the door before it closes again. College Girl #1 steps back outside, disappointed and slightly annoyed.

COLLEGE GIRL #1

Wrong place, girls. It's just an empty warehouse or something.

Frank scoffs under his breath.

COLLEGE GIRL #1 (CONT.)

(to Frank and Gary) Do you know where the restaurant Breakfast is?

GARY

Actually, it's right—

FRANK

Nope sorry. No idea. Have a nice day.

COLLEGE GIRL #2, blonde, eyes glued to her phone, sighs.

COLLEGE GIRL #2

Just a second, I'll look it up on my phone.

College Girl #1 hovers over her friend's cell phone in the rain as the girls search for directions to Breakfast. Ten feet away, a big sign above the neighboring restaurant reads BREAKFAST: WORTH WAKING UP FOR.

COLLEGE GIRL #2'S CELL PHONE

The destination is on your right.

The two girls finally look up to Breakfast's signage. College Girl #1 looks to Frank, incredulous.

COLLEGE GIRL #1

You're not a nice person, are you? Come on girls.

Frank shrugs. College Girl #1 leads her crew to Breakfast's growing line.

FRANK

(mocking) Come on girls.

GARY

Very mature.

FRANK

I can't do this anymore.

GARY

Can't do what?

FRANK

This is our second grand opening party and it's worse than I ever could have imagined.

GARY

Really? I can imagine worse. Our first grand opening party, for instance.

FRANK

What are their names again?

GARY

Who's names?

FRANK

Them.

Frank points in the general direction of Breakfast.

GARY

I don't know any of those people.

FRANK

No idiot. The owners. What are their names?

GARY

Greg and Karen. Nice people.

Frank grabs Gary by the shoulders and shakes him.

FRANK

No. Not nice people. Not nice people.

GARY

Okay. Not nice people.

FRANK

Say it again.

GARY

Not. Nice. People?

FRANK

Good enough. Now we need a plan.

Frank opens the door to The Juicebar.

FRANK (CONT.)

Step inside, co-conspirator.

GARY

I'm not sure I like the sound of that, but okay.

3 INT. THE JUICEBAR - DAY 6

Ben and Candi still sit on stools at the juice counter. Ben has stopped listening to Candi entirely. Candi is still animated, chatty, dancy, as if running on everlasting batteries.

BEN

Hey guys! Has Emily come yet?

Gary slaps his eager friend on the back.

GARY

I'm sorry dude. She didn't RSVP and she hasn't come.

Ben hangs his head.

CANDI

Girl trouble?

BEN

I thought she would come.

FRANK

(clearing his throat) All right. Listen up everyone.

Thank you for coming to the first meeting of MISSION TAKE DOWN BREAKFAST.

CANDI

Oh my, I thought this was just a party.

FRANK

Circumstances have changed. All, right. Gather in.

The group huddles together near the juice counter. Herman continues chasing his tail. Frank looks down at the dog.

FRANK

(to Herman) I said 'gather in.'

Herman stops chasing his tail and jumps on top of the counter, joining the circle of Gary, Frank, Ben, and Candi. He sits at attention.

CANDI

That's strange. He never listens. You'd think he was deaf and not blind.

FRANK

I speak blind dog. Actually, I speak deaf dog too, but that's neither here nor there. Anyway, he knows this is important, don't you Herman?

Herman cocks his head to the side as if in affirmation.

The Juicebar door chimes. Todd Hamilton Schumaker and EMILY GRANGER, mid-20s and beautiful, walk in arm and arm.

GARY

(to Frank) This is going to be awkward.

BEN

Guys. What is Emily doing here with HIM?

FRANK

We kind of set them up together. You know, since it wasn't working out with you and her.

GARY

(to Ben) I tried to talk Frank out of it. I'm sorry dude.

Ben nods at Emily and Todd. Herman licks Ben's sullen face.

CANDI

(to Herman) So empathetic.

FRANK

Welcome, Schumaker. Welcome Emily. You're just in time.

TODD

Just in time for what?

EMILY

(to Ben) Hey.

Ben nods at Emily again, his face vacant.

FRANK

Gather in. Okay starting over. Welcome to the first meeting of MISSION TAKE DOWN BREAKFAST.

EMILY

Oh Breakfast! We just came from there. It's so good.

FRANK

(angrily) Are you in or are you out, Emily? You decide.

EMILY

Um....in?

FRANK

Okay, starting over one more time. Welcome to the first meeting of MISSION TAKE DOWN BREAKFAST.

The door chimes again.

A nice friendly family enters and looks around expectantly, waiting for service.

FRANK (CONT.)

Get out! Can't you tell this is a private meeting?!?!

GARY

(to Herman) There goes our first ever real business.

The family leaves, stunned.

FRANK

Okay, one more time. Welcome to the first meeting of mission TAKE DOWN BREAKFAST.

*Frank looks toward the door and to the group, surprised nothing/no one has interrupted him.
Herman barks.*

FADE OUT

CANDI

I know Herman. It's so exciting! Okay Frank. What's the plan?

END OF ACT THREE