

Magic Camp

Pilot - "We Got Magic To Do"

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TEASER

INT. FAMILY SPORTS BAR - DAY - 1998

YOUNG ADA (8) sits in a booth, cleaning up piles of her Tamagotchi's digital poop.

Sitting across from her is her father, JOE (30's). They are both dressed in funeral attire. In front of Joe is a funeral program with a picture of a **black thirty-something woman** on the cover. This is... was Ada's mother.

Ada is black. Joe is white. The silence that hangs over them is only exacerbated by this juxtaposition.

Title: 1998

JOE

Ada. I know this is a hard time. It's hard for me, so I can only imagine... how difficult it is for you. I just want you to know that I'm always here. Whatever you need, just say the word.

The only response Joe gets is the beeping of the Tamagotchi.

JOE (cont'd)

Everyone handles grief differently, so whatever it is you need... I'll try my best to... you know, do it.

More beeping.

JOE (cont'd)

And uhm... Ada? Ada are you...

Ada still doesn't respond. Joe gives up with a sigh.

MAGIC MIKE (35) walks up to their table. He wears a sequin vest and a fanny pack filled with un-inflated balloons.

MIKE

Hello Hello. How are we all doing today? My name is Magic Mike and I'll be your magician for the evening.

He waits for a laugh that will never come.

MIKE (cont'd)

Okay...

JOE

I'm sorry, we're just--

MIKE

No worries. No worries. What's that you have there?

Ada actively ignores him.

JOE
She's just--

MIKE
How about this? Let me show you one
trick, and if you're still not
interested I'll leave you alone.

Mike fans out a deck of cards. Ada slowly looks up at him as if he's lost his damn mind.

MIKE (cont'd)
Pick a card, any card.

JOE
Come on sweetie. It might be fun.
Ada thinks for a moment and then picks a card.
Mike puts the rest of the deck away.

MIKE
Okay. Now, all I want you to do is
check and make sure that this is a
normal card. That there are no tricks
or wires or anything like that.

Ada un-enthusiastically turns over the card.

MIKE (cont'd)
It all good?

Ada shrugs and hands the card back to Mike. Mike places it flat on his palm. He holds his other hand above it.

MIKE (cont'd)
Okay, now, are you watching closely?

Ada nods. Mike begins to wiggle his fingers. Slowly, the card begins to **float up into the air**.

ADA
Holy crap!

Joe's face lights up hearing his daughter's voice again.

MIKE
Okay. Now, I want you to check above
and below. Make sure that there's
nothing there.

Ada waves her hand above and below the card. As she does this, Mike wiggles his fingers, and the card begins to spin.

Ada pulls back her hand giggling.

The card floats up to Mike's top hand and with a flick of the wrist, it disappears.

ADA
Oh my God! Dad! Dad, did you see
that?

JOE
I did sweetie.

ADA
How did he do that?

JOE
I don't know, but we're in public so
we should--

ADA
How did you do that?!

MIKE
A magician never reveals his secrets.
But, you look like a smart girl. I'm
sure you can figure it out.

Ada smiles, a fire starting to burn in her eyes.

CUT TO:

EXT. COLLEGE CAMPUS - DAY - 2003

The sliding door of a maroon minivan opens to reveal...

ADA (now 14) steps out of the car.

TITLE: FIVE YEARS LATER

Ada looks out at a large crowd of teenagers that are making
their way towards the **Entrance Archway** of a college campus.

There are all types of kids here, jocks, nerds, fat kids,
skinny kids, kids who climb on rocks, etc. We see some of
them trading Pokemon card while others grind rails with
their Tech Decks. Baseballs are thrown, Game boys are
linked, and one kid just shows off how his Motorola Sidekick
flips up and down.

Beyond the Archway are a row of registration tables. There's
one for **Drama Camp, Math Camp, Computer Camp, Baseball Camp,**
and at the very end... **Magic Camp.**

Above the table for Magic Camp is a sign which reads
"WELCOME TO THE AMERICAN SUMMER CAMP FOR AMATEUR MAGICIANS."

VOICE (V.O.)
Welcome Campers! Please make your way
to the registration tables. There's a
lot to do and only so much summer to
do it in, so let's get started!

TITLE: MAGIC CAMP

FADE TO BLACK

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE

EXT. COLLEGE CAMPUS - CONTINUOUS

We return to the utter chaos of the first day of camp.

VOICE (V.O.)

Reminder to parents. If we have not received the enrollment fees by the end of the day, we will have no choice but to return your children to you. And no one wants that.

All the Dads chuckle.

This scene should play out in real time, with us following characters as they move from scenelette to scenelette.

A football flies across the screen as BEN (30's) makes his way through the crowd. He is followed by a stern looking MOTHER. Ben is on the heavier side and wears a garishly bright bowling shirt.

MOTHER

It is a gateway to satanism!

BEN

AS-CAM does not ban books Ms. Bracken, especially not because they contain magic.

MOTHER

Not Magic, Sorcery!

BEN

I understand your concern, but--

MOTHER

I don't think you do! We're talking about the children's immortal souls!!!

They continue on, revealing ADA still standing in front of the maroon minivan, overwhelmed by the crowd.

A car **HONKS**.

JOE (O.S.)

Just give me a second!

Joe runs around from the the trunk. He hands Ada a duffel bag and a hard-shell suitcase.

JOE

Okay. So, we got your clothes and the kit and you have your backpack and... is that it? I think that's--you didn't have any other--

ADA

Yes Dad. This is everything.

JOE
Okay. You sure?

ADA
Mhm.

JOE
Okay. Sorry. Guess I'm a little excited. Are you excited?

ADA
No.

JOE
What--Ada.

ADA
Why can't I just study with Mike like I do every summer?

JOE
We've been over this already. I need to travel for work and you need to make friends that aren't middle-aged men.

The car behind them **HONKS** again.

JOE (cont'd)
HOLD YOUR HORSES! Jesus.

ADA
(whispered)
What if I don't.

JOE
What?

ADA
What if I don't?

JOE
Don't what?

ADA
You know...

JOE
No, I--

ADA
Make friends.

JOE
Oh, don't be silly.

ADA
...but...

JOE
There's nothing to worry about sweetie. Just be yourself.

ADA
Like that always worked out before...

JOE
This will be different than school, okay? Everyone here is a magician. They're your peers. You're all here because you love magic. Right? Half the work is already done for you.

ADA
I guess.

JOE
And if you do have any problems, I'm always just a phone call away.

Joe hands Ada a brand new Nokia 3310, aka a **Nokia "Brick."**

ADA
Oh my God! For real?

JOE
Yes. I figured it was about time.

ADA
Does it have any games?

JOE
No. Ada, this phone isn't for playing. It's for talking to friends, all right? And me. I even got you the text message thingy so you can do that too.

ADA
Fine.

JOE
Ada.

ADA
I mean thank you.

JOE
That's better. Now, can I get a hug before I go?

Ada hugs Joe.

JOE (cont'd)
Ooooooh. I love you sweetie.

ADA
I love you too Dad.

They break the hug. Ada picks up her bags and heads off into the crowd. Joe watches his daughter walk off into adulthood.

JOE
Now have a magical time!

We don't need to see Ada's face to tell that she is rolling her eyes.

HONK HOOOONK!

JOE (cont'd)

Okay. I'm going. I'm going!

Joe gets back into the minivan and drives off.

As soon as he's gone, **Another Minivan** pulls up into his place.

MALAV (16) climbs out of the passenger seat and heads around to the trunk. He is a short, slight, impeccably dressed South Asian teenager.

He opens the trunk and pulls out a matching set of suitcases and a **baseball glove**.

PRIYA (50) rolls down the window and shouts out to him.

PRIYA

Malav! Remember to tell the coach that you want to try pitching.

MALAV

Yes Amma.

PRIYA

And don't let them just put you in the outfield again.

MALAV

Yes Amma.

PRIYA

And if they say you--

Malav slams the trunk shut.

PRIYA (cont'd)

Malav!!!

MALAV

What?

PRIYA

Don't slam the trunk.

MALAV

Sorry.

PRIYA

Remember, if you want to make varsity, now is the time to put in the work.

Malav tries to make a break for freedom.

PRIYA (cont'd)

Malav! Where are you going?

MALAV
I have to go register.

PRIYA
Can't I get a kiss?

MALAV
I really have to get going, I'm
already late.

PRIYA
Okay, well, I love you.

MALAV
I love you too. See you in a month!

PRIYA
Don't forget your sunscreen.

MALAV
Yes Amma.

Malav dives into the crowd, overjoyed to be free of his mom.

We follow Malav until he passes KENNY (17) and his mother SHIRLEY (40's) unloading Kenny's luggage from the trunk of her **Mazda MX-5**.

Kenny is tall and gangly with a terribly awkward haircut.

SHIRLEY
Inhaler?

KENNY
Check.

SHIRLEY
Epi-pen?

KENNY
Check.

SHIRLEY
Mr. Toothsome?

KENNY
Mom!

SHIRLEY
I'm not driving back out here because
you can't sleep.

KENNY
I don't need a--

SHIRLEY
Kenny...

Kenny groans and pulls a **stuffed walrus** out of his bag.

SHIRLEY (cont'd)
Great. Was that so painful? Now,
remember to check in all your
(MORE)

SHIRLEY (cont'd)
 medication with the teachers. We
 don't want them thinking you're a
 little drug dealer.

KENNY
 Yeah right.

SHIRLEY
 And also, I want you to take these.

Shirley hands Kenny a **box of condoms**.

KENNY
 Mom!

Kenny shoves them back, looking around to make sure no one
 saw.

SHIRLEY
 What?

KENNY
 Don't just pull those out in--

SHIRLEY
 They're in case you get a little
 girlfriend.

KENNY
 I'm not--

SHIRLEY
 Or Boyfriend. I won't judge.

KENNY
 Mom! Get rid of those!

SHIRLEY
 Kenneth, you need to be safe.

KENNY
 I don't need them. I'm not having
 sex.

SHIRLEY
 Why not? You're a handsome boy.

KENNY
 Please stop.

SHIRLEY
 If I were seventeen, I would--

KENNY
 Stop. Please.

SHIRLEY
 Kenny, I want you to take--

KENNY
 No.

Kenny pushes the condoms back.

SHIRLEY
Take the condoms Kenneth.

Shirley shoves the condoms back. They begin to shove them back and forth.

KENNY
No! I don't want to!

| | |
|--|---|
| SHIRLEY | KENNY |
| You're a smart boy with your whole life ahead of you and I don't want some girl trying to tie you down by getting them pregnant! | No. Mom. Please. You're embarrassing me. No one is trying to have my babies!! |

KENNY (cont'd)
FINE!

Kenny shoves the condoms deep into his back pack.

KENNY (cont'd)
Happy?

SHIRLEY
Yes. Now give us a kiss.

Kenny kisses his mom on the lips. Neither of them seem to find that weird.

SHIRLEY (cont'd)
Love you.

KENNY
Love you too.

Kenny walks towards the campus. We follow him as he winds his way through the crowd until he passes by...

Ada, who is now completely lost.

ADA
Excuse me? Hello? I'm... is anyone... Does anyone know where Magic Camp is?

GOONS (O.S.)
Ooooooooooh.

Ada sees a clump of boys, whom we shall call THE GOONS, standing around an overweight eighteen-year-old with a pitiful attempt at a goatee on his face. This is TREVOR, and he is in the middle of a command performance.

Ada walks up and hesitantly taps one of the boys on the shoulder.

ADA
Excuse me?

The boy turns around and we see that it is Malav.

Ada notices the **baseball glove**.

Oh. Sorry. ADA (cont'd)

What? MALAV

No, Nothing. Never mind. ADA

This is one I learned in Vegas. TREVOR (O.S.)

Ooooooh. GOONS (O.S.)

Ada turns to see Trevor produce a **crumpled-up soda can**.

He waves his fingers magically and the can begins to "uncrumple" all by itself.

When it is finished, Trevor opens the can with a satisfying snap and hands it to one of the goons.

The Goon takes a sip...

Ooooh! Bubbles! GOON

The Goons and Malav applaud. Ada doesn't.

Thank you. Thank you. TREVOR
(noticing Ava)
Are you not entertained?

You're good. ADA

Thank you. I know. TREVOR

You should think about puncturing it on the logo though. ADA

Excuse me? TREVOR

Yeah, if you do it on the outline of the logo you can't see the hole even up close. ADA

Ada notices that everyone is looking at her.

...What? ADA (cont'd)

Who the hell do you think you are? TREVOR

What?! ADA

Trevor starts over towards Ada, but before he can reach her...

Three tall and buff JOCKS "bump" into him.

JOCK 1
Oh! Sorry there Sig-fag.

The Jocks laugh as Trevor stumbles back.

The Goons go silent. Trevor stares at his feet.

JOCK 2
Ooooh. Did we interrupt your little circle jerk?

JOCK 3
No Dude. I think they were having a little show.

JOCK 2
Oh Really? Come on, show me.

MALAV
Hey guys, we don't--

JOCK 2
You want something Apu?

MALAV
No, I just--

JOCK 1
What's this?

MALAV
Hey!

Jock 1 snatches Malav's baseball glove.

JOCK 1
You trying to switch sides?

MALAV
No.

JOCK 2
You think you got what it takes to play for the other team?

Jock 3 giggles at this.

MALAV
No, that's not it.

JOCK 2
What dude?

JOCK 3
Nothing Dude. It's just what you said, it's--

JOCK 2
And what's funny about--

JOCK 3
I'll explain it later.

MALAV
Could I please--

JOCK 2
No dude! Explain it now!

JOCK 3
Dude. Now's not the time!

JOCK 1
What are you two talking--

BRIIIIIII! A whistle blows.

The BASEBALL COACH shouts from over at the registration tables.

COACH
What the hell are you idiots doing??
Get your asses in gear and put your
stuff away. Come on!

Jock 1 turns back to Trevor.

JOCK 1
Looks like I'll have to get that show
another time.

He smiles menacingly at Trevor. Trevor averts his gaze.

JOCK 1 (cont'd)
Ha. Come on boys.

Jock 1 throws Malav's glove over his shoulder like it was trash before leading the trio away.

Malav quickly picks up his glove.

ADA
What was that?

MALAV
Baseball Camp. They're always picking
on--

TREVOR
Mind your own business Skank!

GOONS
Ooooooh.

MALAV
Trevor...

TREVOR
Who do you think you are, telling me
how to do my own trick.

ADA
I'm sorry, I just thought you might
want to do it correctly.

GOONS
OOOOOOH!

ADA
What?

TREVOR
Don't "Oooh" for her!

ADA
(to Malav)
What did I do?

MALAV
Trevor, I don't think she meant--

TREVOR
Shut up Malav, and you. You better--

BRUCE (O.S.)
MR. NESS.

Everyone freezes and slowly turns to see BRUCE (60) walking
towards them. Bruce is dark and brooding with a black t-
shirt tucked into pristine black jeans. He gives off a
strong "J.K. Simmons in whiplash" vibe.

BRUCE
Could I see you in my office.

GOONS
(whispered)
oooooooh.

TREVOR
Stop that.

BRUCE
The rest of you better hurry up. We
don't have all day.

The Goons quickly disperse.

BRUCE (cont'd)
Mr. Banerjee.

MALAV
Yes sir?

BRUCE
Ms. Wilson seems to be lost. Would
you please show her the way to the
dorms?

MALAV
Uhm, yeah. Sure.

Bruce turns and walks away, Trevor trailing behind him.

Ada turns to Malav.

ADA
How did he know my name?

MALAV
He's Bruce.

ADA
What does that mean?

MALAV
You'll figure it out soon enough.
Come on, lets go.

Malav leads Ada inside.

Ben stands up on a chair and announces...

BEN
ALL RIGHT! PARENTS! I know you love
your little darlings, but it is time
for you to go. Students! Get to your
rooms. Showcase is in four hours.
Four hours! Lets get a move on!

The remaining campers rush inside as we...

FADE TO BLACK

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

INT. CAMPUS HALLWAY - DAY

Malav leads Ada through the halls. They walk in silence for a while.

ADA
Uhm...

MALAV
Hm?

ADA
You are in the Magic Camp, right?

MALAV
Yeah. Why?

ADA
The glove...

MALAV
Oh. That. It's nothing. It's...
My Mom doesn't like the whole magic
thing, so I told her I was coming for
the baseball camp. They happen at the
same time, so...

ADA
Okay.

MALAV
Now that I say it out loud, it
sounds--

ADA
Yeah.

MALAV
If you could not tell anyone about
that--

ADA
Sure. Of course.

MALAV
Cool. Thanks.

BETH (O.S.)
IT'S NOT LIKE I'M GOING TO *KILL*
ANYONE!!!

MALAV
Oh, hey! That's Beth.

Malav leads Ada around the corner to find...

INT. CAMPUS HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

BETH (16) arguing with JASON (30's).

Jason has long greasy hair, patchy stubble, and wears a "Cradle of Filth" T-shirt.

Beth has unkempt brown hair and wears a tank top over a white t-shirt.

JASON
You know the rules. No fireballs
larger than four inches.

BETH
But it's not a fireball!

BETH
It's a controlled
pyrotechnic display.
Come on!

JASON
I know a fireball when I see
one Beth. Please don't argue
about--

BETH
Last year you let the boys set all
kinds of things on fire--

JASON
Why do you think we're being so
strict this year? They almost burned
the auditorium down!

BETH
Yes, but I know what I'm doing.

Jason spots Malav and Ada.

JASON
Malav! Thank God. Could you please
explain to Beth why she can't set off
a two foot fireball in showcase?

BETH
Could you please explain to Mr. Jason
that I know what I'm doing and he's
being a stupid butt head?

MALAV
I...

JASON
The answer's no.

BETH
That's not fair!

JASON
Yes it is! It's the rules! If I see a
fireball, I'm bumping you to B.

BETH
You wouldn't!

JASON
Try me!

BETH
AAAAAAAH!

JASON
AH to you too.

Jason turns and walks off.

BETH
(quietly)
Jerk-face.

MALAV
Hey Beth.

BETH
Oh, hey Malav. What's up?

Beth's demeanor becomes light, awkward, and a little flirty.

MALAV
Not much.

BETH
Haven't heard from you for a while.

MALAV
Sorry about that.

BETH
Don't worry. It's not like... a
thing. It's not like, you know. I was
just worried your mom wouldn't let
you come back.

MALAV
Uh, yeah. Yeah, it worked out in the
end.

BETH
Cool.

MALAV
Yeah.

BETH
Great.

MALAV
Yeah...

BETH
So, who's this?

MALAV
This is Ada. She's new.

BETH
Thank God. I was afraid it was gonna
be me and a bunch of twelve-year-old
girls now that Stacey's gone off to
community college. You any good?

ADA

I... yeah.

BETH

Good. You better get into A. I don't want to be the only girl in A again.

ADA

What's A?

BETH

Oh, right. They rank the classes according to skill. A is the top, B is second, and on and on.

ADA

Okay.

MALAV

We're both in A.

BETH

If we don't get bumped.

MALAV

Like that will happen.

Beth and Malav do a secret-friend handshake.

ADA

Uhm, is that guy in A?

BETH

Who?

MALAV

Trevor?

BETH

Unfortunately.

MALAV

He's been in A for years. He's like, the best magician in AS-CAM.

BETH

He's all right. Definitely not worth dealing with his personality. I'm surprised they let him back this year.

Beth grabs Ada's bags.

BETH (cont'd)

Come on, I'll show you to your room.

MALAV

Wait, Bruce told me--

BETH

It's the girl's dorm Malav.

MALAV

But...

BETH

If he gets mad I'll tell him it's my fault. Come on.

ADA

Okay. Thanks again Malav.

MALAV

Sure.

Beth leads Ada off down the hallway.

ADA

What's the deal with Bruce?

BETH

He teaches coin. You do not want to get on his bad side. I heard he made Teller cry once.

Ada and Beth continue down the hall.

INT. OFFICE - DAY

Bruce takes a seat at a messy desk buried in paper work. Trevor sits sheepishly across from him.

BRUCE

Trevor.

TREVOR

It's good to see you again sir.

BRUCE

You should know I was against you returning this summer. For one thing, you're too old for the camp.

TREVOR

I'm only eighteen...

BRUCE

You're also lazy, entitled, and set a terrible example for the younger campers. I think you're a detriment to this program and a waste of time for our instructors.

TREVOR

But... I won the end of camp showcase--

BRUCE

Do not mistake the incompetency of your peers for your own talent. If it wasn't for the Associate Dean threatening to throw the whole camp off campus--

TREVOR

Sir, my mother has nothing to do with --

BRUCE

Don't try to shrug off your privilege. It's sad and annoying. Consider this your one and only warning this summer. Step out of line in any way and you're gone, even if that means your mother throws the camp off campus. Do you understand?

TREVOR

I... Yes sir.

BRUCE

That goes double for harassing any of the campers.

TREVOR

That was just a misunderstanding.

BRUCE

Bullshit!

Trevor takes a beat. Did a teacher just curse?

BRUCE (cont'd)

This camp is meant for people looking to hone their craft. It is a sacred space and I will not allow anything to disrupt that. Magic is a fragile thing. If people see a bad concert, they blame the musician. If they see a bad TV show, they blame the writers or the actors. If they see a bad Magic Performance, they never see magic again. Do you understand what I'm trying to say here?

TREVOR

Not quite.

BRUCE

To me you're not just a bad magician, but an existential threat to my art, my camp, and everything I have dedicated my life to. Do you understand now?

TREVOR

Yes. Sir.

BRUCE

Good. That is all. See you at the Showcase. Try to make it good.

Trevor stands up and scampers out of the room.

INT. HALLWAY - OFFICE - DAY

Trevor walks out of Bruce's office and makes his way down the hall.

After a few feet he stops.

He stands there for a moment not moving.

Then, we hear a **sniff** and see him wipe something from his eyes. He then lets out a **quiet, pained, growl-like noise**.

In a sudden burst, he turns and kicks over a nearby plastic trash can. He stomps and kicks the trash can, which just bends and bounces back into shape as if nothing happened.

Eventually Trevor stops. He collects himself and continues down the hall.

After a few steps he stops, turns back to the trash can, and stands it back up before continuing on.

INT. HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Beth leads Ada down a hallway of classrooms. Ada peers inside and sees that each room is filled with gear, props, and an assortment of magical equipment.

BETH

So, there are six main classes. Close Up, Stage, Coin, Card, Flare, and Movement.

They pass a dance studio, complete with ballet bars.

ADA

Movement?

BETH

It's dance, but the boys won't take it if they call it that.

ADA

Oh. The man from earlier, was he--

BETH

Jason? Yeah, he teaches Close-Up. He's also been my mentor for the past couple years.

ADA

Mentor?

BETH

Right, each teacher picks a student to mentor. Those six students make up the A-class.

ADA

There are only six people in the A-class?

BETH

A is only for the best of the best.
Though, you can always try for a bump
performance.

ADA

A what?

BETH

If you get a mentor's permission, you
can challenge an A student for their
slot.

ADA

Oh.

BETH

I've never seen it actually work
though, but it keeps the A-class from
getting too lazy.

Beth and Ada continue down the hall.

INT. KENNY'S DORM ROOM - DAY

E.Z. (17) unpacks his bag, which is filled with a church
gift shop's worth of **crosses and religious paraphernalia**.

He is short, squat, and has his dress shirt tucked into his
jeans.

Kenny watches E.Z. From the other side of the room. When he
is sure E.Z. isn't looking, Kenny slips the box of condoms
into his sock drawer.

E.Z.

What's that?

Kenny freezes. He looks around quickly and grabs a Destiny's
Child CD from his dresser.

KENNY

Oh, it's... Destiny's child. I was
thinking of using it for a new
routine.

E.Z.

Oh. Cool.
But I meant that box you tucked into
your drawer.

KENNY

Box? What box?

E.Z.

You were just holding it.

KENNY

Was I? I don't--

E.Z.

It was yellow and about this big. And it had some kind of big logo--

KENNY

Oh. You mean this box?

E.Z.

Yeah. That's the one.

KENNY

Listen, my mom insisted. Okay?

E.Z.

Okay...

KENNY

Like, I was going to just throw them away, but I thought it might be even weirder if someone walked by and saw them in our trash, so I was just going to hide them until--you know what. I'll throw them away right now. I'll go down the hall so it doesn't look like us. Okay? Cool.

E.Z.

Okay... But what are they?

KENNY

What do you mean?

E.Z.

What's in the box?

KENNY

Condoms.

E.Z.

Okay... What's that?

Beat.

KENNY

You don't know what condoms are?

E.Z.

No.

KENNY

Okay. Uhm... did you not have the day in gym where they got the bananas and...

E.Z.

I'm home schooled.

KENNY

Right. That would have been... worse. Uhm. Okay. Condoms are... they are... Pieces of plastic. Latex, actually.

(MORE)

KENNY (cont'd)
They're latex and you... put them on
your... you know...

E.Z.
My what?

KENNY
Good lord E.Z.

E.Z.
Please don't take the lord's name in
vain.

KENNY
Sorry, I just... You put them... You
put them on your dangle.

E.Z.
My... Wait, what? Why would you do
that?

KENNY
This is hell. I'm literally in hell.

CUT TO:

INT. BOY'S DORM - HALLWAY - DAY

Beth and Ada walk through the Boy's Dorm. Nerdy boys of all
ages, styles, and levels of physical fitness flit in and out
of the rooms.

BETH
As you can smell, this is the boy's
floor.

ADA
Are we allowed to be here?

BETH
During the day, yeah, but after
dinner Mr. Ben gets super strict
about that kind of stuff.

Beth points out cliques as they pass.

BETH (cont'd)
Now, everyone here has their clique.
We have the Ren-Fair kids, the Wicca
Kids, the Goth Kids, the Chris Angel
wanna-bees, the David Blaine wanna
bees, the Siegfried and Roy Boys...

ADA
What are you?

BETH
I'm a girl.

ADA
That's a clique?

BETH
 Magic tends to be white, male, and
 pimply. So, us girls have to stick
 together. Right?

ADA
 Sure. Yeah.

TREVOR (O.S.)
 HEY! New Girl!

Ada and Beth turn to see Trevor storming towards them.
 The Goons emerge from their rooms at the sound of Trevor's
 voice and follow behind.

TREVOR
 I just got "Bruced" ten minutes into
 camp because your dumb ass can't take
 a joke.

ADA
 I don't know... what that is.

BETH
 Shut up Trevor. You got Bruced
 because you're a jag-off.

TREVOR
 Well Beth, I guess you're the same
 bitch you were last summer. Malav!
 Tell your girlfriend to pull the
 stick out of her cooch.

GOONS
 Ooooh.

Beth turns to see Malav standing at the end of the hall,
 blind sided at being dragged into this.

MALAV
 Ah... what?

BETH
 Malav...

MALAV
 What? This isn't... I don't...

We can see a bit of Beth's heart break.

TREVOR
 You better watch it New Girl. I'm
 coming for you.

BETH
 You better back off shit-lord. If you
 so much as look at Ava--

ADA
 Ada.

BETH
 Ada. I will rip your tiny hairless
 scrote off and use it for wadding in
 my confetti cannon!

GOONS
 Ooooooooooh!

TREVOR
 DON'T OOOH THAT!

MALAV
 Hey, why don't we all just calm down.

BETH
 Crawl further up his ass, why don't
 you Malav.

MALAV
 Beth...

TREVOR
 Come on boys. Let's go.

Trevor turns and storms off. The Goons follow.

TREVOR (cont'd)
 MALAV!

Malav hesitates for a moment, and then follows. Beth tries
 to hide how much that hurts.

BETH
 Okay. Come on. I've had enough
 testosterone for one day. Girl's
 floor is this way.

Beth and Ada continue down the hall. As they go, they pass
 the door into Kenny and E.Z.'s room...

E.Z.
 You were planning to wrap your doodle
 in plastic and fornicate in our room!

KENNY
 No! It's just in case I fornicate. I
 don't have any plans to!

CUT TO:

INT. GIRL'S DORM - HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Beth and Ada enter the Girl's floor. The layout is the same
 as the boy's, only this floor is completely empty.

BETH
 I can't believe that little jerk!

ADA
 Yeah.

BETH
 We hung out all last summer and then
 AIM'ed all year and now he's acting
 like I'm a complete stranger.

They come to a door with a sign which reads "**Ada.**"

ADA
 Who are we talking about?

BETH
 Malav.

ADA
 Oh.

BETH
 This is you.

Ada opens the door and they both walk inside.

INT. ADA'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Beth plops Ada's bags down while Ada looks around her room.
 It's a small cement-brick room with a single bed and a well
 worn dresser.

BETH
 Okay. If you need anything just give
 me a holler. I'd stay and chat, but I
 gotta get ready for showcase.

ADA
 I heard people talking about that.
 What is it?

BETH
 Showcase?

ADA
 Yeah.

BETH
 You *did* prepare a routine.

ADA
 For the audition.

BETH
 Okay, well that's Showcase.

ADA
 What do you mean?

BETH
 Well, it is an audition in the sense
 that it determines which class you're
 placed into, but it's also a showcase
 in that it's in front of the entire
 camp.

Ada's eyes go wide with panic.

ADA
What?!

BETH
Hey, don't worry. Everything will be okay. It's no big deal.

ADA
How could that not be a big deal!?

BETH
It's just the campers, okay?

ADA
Yeah, but...

BETH
Why don't we run through your routine a few times and get the jitters out.

ADA
You'd do that?

BETH
Of course. Like I said, us girls have to stick together.

Ada looks at Beth, calmed a little by her friendship.

BETH (cont'd)
And trust me, there's nothing to freak out about. It's the friendliest crowd you'll ever perform for.

CUT TO:

INT. TREVOR'S ROOM - DAY

Trevor and his Goons storm into his dorm room. Trevor angrily tosses his luggage on his bed.

Malav follows a few steps behind.

TREVOR
Who the hell does she think she is?!

MALAV
You know how Beth is--

TREVOR
Not her. That Ada bitch making me look bad like that. Getting me in trouble with Bruce. She better watch herself, cause I swear I'm gonna make her life a living hell!

Malav swallows dramatically.

FADE TO BLACK

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

INT. FAMILY SPORTS BAR - EVENING - 1998

A waiter sweeps up. Joe walks up to them and asks them something we can't hear.

The waiter points Joe to the back door.

EXT. FAMILY SPORTS BAR - ALLEY - CONTINUOUS

Joe steps out into the alley and finds Magic Mike having a cigarette.

JOE

Uhm. Hi.

MIKE

Hello.

JOE

You probably don't remember me.

MIKE

You're right.

JOE

Uhm, yeah. I... Last week you challenged my daughter to... figure out a trick.

MIKE

I do that a lot. Keeps the kids engaged.

JOE

Yeah, well, she can't.

MIKE

Okay...

JOE

But she really wants to.

MIKE

Sounds like you have a budding magician on your hands.

JOE

Yeah, but it's not like... She doesn't do anything else. Not her homework or chores, I can barely get her to eat.

MIKE

That might be about more than the trick...

JOE

Yeah. I know that, but I... I can't do anything about the other stuff, so

(MORE)

JOE (cont'd)
all I can do is... figure out how to
do the trick. I know magicians don't
tell their secrets, but--

MIKE
She might still figure it out on her
own. Have some--

JOE
No! she won't. She's an eight-year-
old girl who is lost and hurt and
afraid just... Just show me the trick
please.

MIKE
Okay. Okay. Give me a second.

JOE
Thank you. Thank you so much.

Mike tosses his cigarette, rolls up his sleeves, and pulls
out a deck of cards.

MIKE
Okay. Watch carefully.

CUT TO:

INT. ADA'S ROOM - DAY - 2003

Ada places the card flat on her hand. She waves her fingers
above the card and it slowly begins to levitate.

Beth watches in awe.

ADA
Okay... Feel free to check that there
are no wires or strings.

Beth does so.

BETH
Holy crap.

Ada sees Beth's smile. This causes her to smile, which
almost causes her to mess up the trick, but Ada catches
herself just in time.

ADA
Uhm... Okay. Now watch this.

Ada makes the card start to float **in a circle**. The circle
gets bigger and bigger until the card goes **around Beth**.

BETH
Holy sh--

MALAV (O.S.)
--she's good.

CUT TO:

INT. GIRL'S DORM - HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Malav and Trevor hide in the hallway while watching Ada's performance.

TREVOR
It's a wire.

MALAV
But Beth just--

TREVOR
It's a wire!

MALAV
Okay...

TREVOR
It's a wire and I'll prove it.

MALAV
How?

TREVOR
Keep them distracted.

MALAV
How am I -- wait, where are you--

TREVOR
Get going!

MALAV
What?

Trevor shoves Malav towards the room. Malav stumbles forward and runs smack into...

E.Z. as he steps out of the stairway.

They both freeze, looking guilty as sin.

E.Z.
Hey.

MALAV
Hi.

E.Z. Spots Trevor.

E.Z.
Hey.

TREVOR
Buzz off, Jesus Freak!

E.Z.
I'm just going to the bathroom.

MALAV
Okay.

TREVOR
No one asked!

E.Z.
The one upstairs is full and I need
to go... bad, so I'm going to the
bathroom down here.

MALAV
Sure.

TREVOR
Scram!

E.Z.
What are you two--

TREVOR
Giving Satan a hand job. Now screw
off, bible humper.

E.Z. takes a beat and then shuffles of to the bathroom.

INT. ADA'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Ada packs up her equipment.

BETH
That was off the chain.

ADA
Thanks.

BETH
You'll def get into A.

ADA
You think?

BETH
Hellz yeah. You jazz that up a bit
and you could go pro right now.

ADA
Jazz it up?

BETH
Yeah.

ADA
What do you mean?

BETH
Like... The tricks were good, but the
presentation was a bit dry.

Ada's face falls.

BETH (cont'd)
Dude, don't worry. If we were already
perfect, we wouldn't be here. Right?

ADA
Yeah. Right.

BETH
Still, that was crazy impressive.

ADA
Thank you.

MALAV (O.S.)
Uhm... Hey Beth.

Beth and Ada turn to see Malav standing in the hallway.

BETH
Hey, what's up?

MALAV
Not much. Could we talk?

BETH
About what?

MALAV
I don't know, I'm just--

BETH
Well, we're busy. I was just about to show Ada my routine.

ADA
You were?

BETH
Yes. So I don't have any time for you. Come on Ada.

ADA
What? Okay...

Beth takes Ada's arm and leads her towards the door.

BETH
If you'll excuse us.

Beth pushes past Malav and heads into the hall. Ada follows.

MALAV
Wait... Beth. Beth!

Malav follows after them.

INT. BATHROOM - DAY

E.Z. frantically locks the door to a bathroom stall and then offers up a quick prayer.

E.Z.
Please lord forgive me for bearing
false witness.

E.Z. then takes a seat on the toilet.

He pulls **one of the condoms** out of his pocket and carefully unwraps it.

He examines it with wonder and confusion before slowly unrolling it.

E.Z. (cont'd)
How... It's so long... is that how long...

He looks down at his crotch.

From outside the stall we hear him unzip his pants.

There is a moment of silence, and then...

E.Z. (cont'd)
What in the H-E-DOUBLE-HOCKEY-STICKS?!

CUT TO:

INT. GIRL'S DORM - HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Beth leads Ada towards her room. Malav follows behind.

While they talk, we see Trevor slip past them in the background.

MALAV
Beth! Hold on a second.

BETH
What?

MALAV
Are you like... mad at me?

BETH
No shit Sherlock.

MALAV
I... why?

BETH
Why don't you go ask your new BFF?

MALAV
What?

BETH
Maybe you two can make some more jokes about my genitals.

MALAV
What... Beth, that... I'm sorry. I was just surprised--

BETH
Of course you would be with that tiny penis of yours. See how it feels?

MALAV
I... I'm sorry.

BETH
If you really were, you wouldn't hang out with him.

MALAV
I know he's a jerk sometimes, but--

BETH
He's a jerk all the time.

MALAV
What other guys are there to hang out with? E.Z.? I mean, Kenny, but he's --

BETH
Why the hell do you need to hang out with "guys" in the first place?

MALAV
Cause... I am a guy.

BETH
So?!

CUT TO:

INT. ADA'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Trevor slips into Ada's room and goes over to her case.

He quietly opens it and begin to rummage through it.

He finds the deck of cards and opens it up. He goes through the deck, but can't find any clue as to how the trick is performed.

TREVOR
What the hell?

Trevor puts that deck aside and pulls out another. This time he goes through the cards more frantically.

When he can't find anything, he tosses the second deck aside and grabs a third deck.

He frantically goes through this deck and then tosses the deck to the ground, causing cards to fly everywhere.

Trevor stands there for a moment fuming. Then he grabs the case and **turns it upside down.**

He begins to frantically go through every trick, tossing them aside when he is done.

INT. GIRL'S DORM - HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Ada awkwardly watches Beth and Malav argue.

BETH
So?

MALAV
You have Ada, you--

BETH
Ada and I just met! Sorry.

ADA
It's okay. It's true.

MALAV
Still, you can talk to her about girl stuff.

BETH
What is this all about? I talk to you about girl stuff.

MALAV
Not--

BETH
I tell you all about my periods.

MALAV
And I keep asking you not to! Look, there are just things--

BETH
Like what?

MALAV
Stuff. *Guy* stuff.

BETH
How am I supposed to understand if you can't--

MALAV
Fine. Last summer, you found out that--

BETH
I SAID I WAS SORRY!

ADA
What happened?

BETH
Nothing.

MALAV
Last summer Beth realized that her Dad masturbates.

BETH
No, my brother walked in on my dad Masturbating.

MALAV
She was freaking out. I said "Why are you freaking out, all guys masturbate," which lead to her
(MORE)

MALAV (cont'd)
realizing that that meant I
masturbate. Then she didn't talk to
me for two days.

BETH
Cause it's gross.

MALAV
That's exactly my point!

CUT TO:

INT. ADA'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Trevor digs through Ada's tricks faster and faster, growing more frantic each second.

At some point he goes from "tossing the tricks aside" to deliberately **smashing them on the ground**.

TREVOR
That... bitch... freaking... bitch.
You think you can fool me!

Trevor continues on, lost in his frenzy, until...

He runs out of things to smash.

He catches his breath and then looks around to see the scene of devastation he has created...

Then he sees **E.Z. staring at him** from the doorway.

TREVOR (cont'd)
What do you want?

E.Z.
Nothing. I just...

Trevor walks out of the room, pushing E.Z. aside.

CUT TO:

INT. GIRL'S DORM - HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

As Malav and Beth continue, we see Trevor walking away in the background.

MALAV
You freaked out and then refused to
talk to me. Do you know how much that
hurt?

BETH
I didn't mean to.

MALAV
It doesn't matter, it did.

E.Z. Slowly comes up behind them.

MALAV (cont'd)
 You couldn't handle it and that's
 whatever, but what am I supposed to
 do when I have gross stuff to talk
 about?

E.Z.
 Uhm... guys?

BETH
 Fine, but does that person have to be
 Trevor?

MALAV
 I don't know.

E.Z.
 Guys...

MALAV
 I get that he's a jerk, but he's
 never that way to me.

BETH
 Are you kidding? He treats you like
 shit. You just don't see it because--

E.Z.
 Guys!

Beth, Malav, and Ada finally notice E.Z.
 After a beat, Ada's sees her room.

ADA
 Oh my god!

Ada runs to her room.

INT. ADA'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Ada stares in horror at the devastation.

Beth, Malav, and E.Z. Come up behind her.

BETH
 Holy Hell.

MALAV
 What the...

E.Z.
 I swear it wasn't me.

BETH
 It was Trevor.

MALAV
 Beth, we don't know that.

BETH
Who else could it be? Ada's been here
for like five minutes--

E.Z.
Hey, Guys...

E.Z. Nods towards Ada. "This is not the time."

Ada is on her knees, tears welling up in her eyes as she runs her fingers through the remains of her kit.

BETH
Hey. It's okay. It'll all be okay.

ADA
No it won't.

MALAV
We'll figure something out.

ADA
I knew it.

BETH
Knew what?

ADA
That it would be the same. It would
be the same here. It'll always...

BETH
Ada...

ADA
I knew it. I knew it!

Ada runs out of the room before she completely breaks down.
Malav, Beth, and E.Z. watch helplessly.

FADE TO BLACK

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

INT. JOE'S HOUSE - BEDROOM - NIGHT - 1998

Joe sits in his bedroom with a deck of cards, trying to perform the levitation trick.

JOE

Damn it.

He checks a napkin with Mike's instructions scrawled on it.

JOE (cont'd)

Okay. I think I... okay. Okay,
that... yeah.

He tries again.

INT. JOE'S HOUSE - HALLWAY - NIGHT

Joe walks quietly down the hall towards Ada's room. He knocks on the door.

JOE

Ada honey...

ADA

AAAAAH!

Joe quickly opens the door, only to find Ada levitating a playing card between her hands.

ADA (cont'd)

Look Dad! I did it! I did it!

JOE

That's... amazing sweetie.

Joe quietly slips the instructions back into his pocket.

INT. STAIRWELL - DAY

Ada sits at the bottom of the stairwell, drying her eyes.

She takes a moment to collect herself and then pulls out her phone.

INT. MINIVAN - DAY

Joe drives down the highway.

His cell phone rings. He checks the number, and is about to answer it, when...

JOE

No. Baby birds gotta fall to fly.
Fall to fly. You can do this Joe. You
can do this.

Joe puts the phone back unanswered.

INT. STAIRWELL - CONTINUOUS

Ada listens as the phone rings.

JOE (V.O.)
You have reached Joe Wilson, I am not
able to come to--

ADA
Dang it.

Ada hangs up and sits in silence.

BRUCE (O.S.)
You okay?

ADA
Holy!... No, I'm...
Yes, I'm good Mr. Bruce.

Bruce comes down the stairs towards Ada.

BRUCE
Just Bruce is fine.

ADA
Okay. Was I being too loud?

BRUCE
No.

ADA
Then, did Beth tell you I was here?

BRUCE
No.

ADA
Then...

BRUCE
I always check down here on the first
day. It's the best place to cry on
campus.

ADA
Oh...

BRUCE
Never pegged you as the home sick
type.

ADA
I'm... not.

BRUCE
Did something happen?

ADA
...

Bruce sits down next to her.

BRUCE
What's going on?

ADA
Some one... ruined my routine and now
I'll never get into the A-class and
I'll never... I'll...

Ada begins to tear up again.

BRUCE
Impressive.

ADA
What?!

BRUCE
They made you forget how to be a
magician...

ADA
I... no they didn't.

BRUCE
Oh. I'm sorry. I just assumed because
you said they ruined your routine and
you'd never get into A.

ADA
They trashed my kit. My kit, my
cards, everything is gone.

BRUCE
But all of those are just things.

ADA
What?

Bruce produces a **quarter**. He flips it across his knuckles.

BRUCE
Do you know why I teach coin?

ADA
No.

BRUCE
A coin is a coin. That's all it is.
That's all it ever will be. Just a
tiny piece of metal. There are no
gimmicks. No short cuts. It will
never help you or harm you in any
way. Because it can't. It's just a
coin, and you can either do the trick
or you can't. Understand?

Bruce flicks his wrist and the coin **disappears**.

ADA
No, not really.

BRUCE
 Props are just things. They don't
 make you a magician. They don't get
 you into A-class. That's all down to
 you and your skill. And no one can
 take that away from you.

Ada thinks for a moment. A determined look grows on her
 face.

ADA
 I understand.

BRUCE
 Good.

Bruce stands up.

BRUCE (cont'd)
 I will put you in the last block.
 That will give you time to pull
 something together.

ADA
 Yes sir. Thank you.

Bruce starts back up the stairs.

BRUCE
 (under his breath)
 You couldn't go five whole minutes,
 could you Trev--

CUT TO:

EXT. HALLWAY - DAY

Beth and Malav argue outside of Ada's room. E.Z. stands by
 watching.

BETH
 --Trevor freaking Ness!?

MALAV
 How could I possibly know--

BETH
 Cause he's TREVOR FREAKING NESS--

MALAV
 Come on Beth--

E.Z.
 Guys...

BETH
 Is this one of the "guy things" you
 wanted to talk about--

MALAV
 Screw you Beth.

BETH
No, screw you!

E.Z.
Hey, Ada seems--

MALAV
Why are you getting so upset--

BETH
WHY?! I can't believe I ever--

E.Z.
GUYS!

WHAT?! BETH MALAV
WHAT?!
E.Z. Points to Ada.

BETH
Ada! How are you doing? Are you okay?

ADA
Yeah, I'm fine.

MALAV
I'm so sorry. If I had any idea--

BETH
Turns out Malav was just distracting
us while--

MALAV
That's not what happened!

ADA
It's fine. Don't worry about it.

Ada walks over to her kit and begins to sort through the
remains.

BETH
Don't worry... We'll tell the
teachers what happened and I'm sure
they'll let you go for a Bump.

MALAV
Those never work.

BETH
You have a better idea!

E.Z.
Guys...

ADA
I'm not going for a bump.

BETH
What? So you're just giving up?!

ADA
No. I'm not doing that either.

MALAV
What else is there?

ADA
I'm going to put together a new routine and get into A.

Beat.

MALAV
What?!

BETH
Bad ass...

MALAV
Are you crazy? The showcase is in like less than three hours.

ADA
Yes. I have a lot to do, so if you'll excuse me.

Ada grabs the working tricks and moves them to the table.

Beth turns and heads out of the room.

MALAV
Where are you going?

BETH
I'm getting my kit. She's going to need all the help she can get.

E.Z.
Yeah, good point. I'll be right back.

E.Z. follows Beth out of the room.

Malav stands there for a moment thinking. He looks at Ada and the destruction he is partially responsible for.

MALAV
Uhm... yeah. I'll go get my kit too.

Malav heads out of the room.

Ada smiles as she sorts her remaining gear.

Music begins to play as a **MAGIC SHOW PREP-MONTAGE** begins.

INT. ADA'S ROOM - DAY

Malav, Beth, and E.Z. slam their kits down one after the other. Malav's is an **elegant steel case**. Beth's is a **beat-up tool box**. E.Z.'s is a **50's style suitcase**.

A fourth case is slammed down. It is a **clear plastic tub**. Ada looks up to see Kenny standing there.

KENNY

Hey, I'm Kenny. So, what's up? What are we doing?

The four of them open the cases.

Beth's case is filled with pyrotechnics and sinister looking metal contraptions.

E.Z.'s is filled with hoops, ropes, and crucifixes.

Malav's is mostly silk handkerchiefs and sequin costumes.

Kenny's contains a large selection of playing cards, cups, and balls.

Ada tries out several tricks from each of their kits.

E.Z. and Ada work on a rope trick together.

Beth and Ada experiment with flash paper, giggling at the tiny explosions.

Kenny walks her through one of his trick decks.

Malav puts together a sequin outfit for Ada.

We watch as Ada builds her new routine bit by bit.

CUT TO:

INT. VARIOUS ROOMS - CONTINUOUS

Kids of all ages rehearse their Showcase routines.

Some are calm and relaxed while others look like their about to have a panic attack.

A handful have elaborate custom made *illusions* while others have out-of-the-box magic kits.

INT. ADA'S ROOM - DAY

Ben leans in through Ada's door. The music stops suddenly.

BEN

Hey, fifteen minutes till showtime.

KENNY

Balls!

E.Z.

Oh jeez.

E.Z. and Kenny begin to frantically pack up their kits.

BETH

Where are you going?

E.Z.

I'm in the first block. I need to be backstage right now.

KENNY

And I'm just... I'm just sorry, I need to--

ADA

It's fine. Go.

KENNY

Thanks A-dog. You're the best.

E.Z.

I left the water cups over there.

ADA

I got it. Go go!

E.Z.

Good luck!

KENNY

Break a leg!

E.Z. and Kenny run out of the room.

BETH

Ass holes. Well, don't worry. We won't be going anywhere until we figure out the ending. Right?

MALAV

Yeah. Of course.

ADA

Thanks.

BETH

Okay. So, what other tricks do you know that would make a good ending?

ADA

Not much.

MALAV

It doesn't have to be big.

ADA

What do you mean?

MALAV

Mr. Ben is always saying that the ending just needs a punctuation, but that isn't always an exclamation mark. Sometimes it's better to have a period. Or even a question mark.

BETH

I say we blow something up.

A THUNK comes from the hallway.

MALAV

That's literally the opposite of what I'm saying.

BETH
I know. I just think blowing
something up is the way to go.

The conversation fades out as Ada turns to see a camper getting a **soda** out of a vending machine.

Her eyes focus in on the **soda can** as the camper cracks it open.

Ada smiles.

CUT TO:

EXT. AUDITORIUM - DAY

An establishing shot of the Auditorium.

Next to the entrance is a sign which reads, "OPENING DAY SHOWCASE"

We hear **applause**.

INT. AUDITORIUM - DAY

The audience is dark and filled with campers.

Onstage, a twelve-year-old camper is performing a mediocre routine to "Survivor" by Destiny's Child. It's rather stiff and uninspired.

A loud **laugh** comes from the audience, throwing the performer off for a beat.

We see that the laugh came from one of the Goons.

Trevor punches the Goon in the arm.

GOON

Ow.

TREVOR

Shut up. Respect the performance.

The Goon sulks as Trevor covertly peers at the back of the auditorium where...

The teachers are seated at a long table.

Bruce glares at Trevor, not fooled for a moment.

Back on stage, the camper resumes his routine.

INT. BACKSTAGE - CONTINUOUS

Ada watches from the wings. She is visibly nervous. Beth and Malav stand on either side of her.

BETH
Don't be nervous.

ADA
Okay...

MALAV
You're gonna kill it.

ADA
Okay...

Ben comes over to them carrying a clipboard.

BEN
Ada?

ADA
Yes.

BEN
You're next.

ADA
Okay...

Ben walks off.

Beth takes Ada's face in her hands and stares intensely into her eyes.

BETH
You've got this. Okay? You've. Got.
This.

ADA
Okay.

BETH
Say it. Say it.

ADA
I... I've. got. this. I've got this.

BETH
Again.

ADA
I've got this.

BETH
There we go. Good girl.

We hear applause from on stage.

BETH (cont'd)
Now go get it.

ADA
Right.

MALAV
Break a leg!

Ada walks on stage.

INT. AUDITORIUM - DAY

The stage is dark. We can just make out Ada setting up in the background.

Ben walks on stage with a microphone. A light turns on to illuminate him.

BEN

That was wonderful, thank you Sean.
Next up we have a new camper. Please
welcome Ada Wilson

There is a polite round of applause.

The lights shift and suddenly **Ada in the spotlight.**

Ada freezes.

The room is silent.

In the back we can see all the teachers flip to the next page in their notes.

We see Trevor, who tries not to react at seeing Ada. Surprisingly we can see a faint trace of guilt on his face.

Ada takes a deep breath. She closes her eyes and then gives a nod.

Music begins to play.

Ada slowly raises up her hands.

In perfect time with the music... she produces a bouquet of flowers from thin air.

The audience gives a small gasp and a few happy chuckles.

Ada smiles.

INT. BACKSTAGE - CONTINUOUS

Beth and Malav watch from backstage.

BETH

Thanks.

MALAV

For what?

BETH

Sticking around to help.

MALAV

Of course.

BETH

And... I'm sorry.

MALAV

I'm sorry too. I'm... not one hundred percent what for, but I am.

BETH

Whatever.

Beth playfully shoves Malav.

They turn to watch Ada's performance, standing side by side. Beth begins to realize just how close they're standing to one another... Their arms almost touching...

Beth's heart begins to race a little. She becomes flustered, but doesn't really know why.

BETH (cont'd)

She's uhm... really good.

MALAV

Yeah she is.

Beth begins to blush. Finally, she can't take it anymore.

BETH

I should, I need to go check my fireballs.

Beth runs off.

MALAV

...What?

Malav stares off in confusion as we return to...

INT. AUDITORIUM - DAY

Ada's routine. It's a little clunky, but Ada handles herself well and the crowd is eating it up.

Then, in the middle of a card trick, Ada's hand *slips* and her **cards scatter across the stage**.

The music stops.

The audience goes silent. They watch as Ada scrambles to get her cards.

At the teacher's table, CHRISTINE (50's), a thin blonde woman in exercise clothes, whispers to Bruce...

CHRISTINE

Poor dear. She was doing well too.

BRUCE

Not yet.

CHRISTINE

What?

BRUCE

She's not done yet.

Back on stage, Ada continues to gather her cards.

ADA
 I'm sorry. I'm sorry. Just... I'm
 nervous and I'm kinda... feeling
 faint. It's hot in here. Right?
 Right?

A few audience members nod.

AUDIENCE
 (mumbled.)
 Yeah...

ADA
 Hold on a second.

Ada turns to her box and pulls out... a crushed can of soda.

ADA (cont'd)
 I just need a drink and then I'll be
 good as new.

Ada looks **straight at Trevor** as she gives the can a shake,
 waves her hand, and magically un-crumples it.

She opens the can and takes a sip.

ADA (cont'd)
 Ahhh. Bubbles. Much better.

The audience laughs.

ADA (cont'd)
 Thank you all very much!

Ada bows. The audience applauds.

We see E.Z. And Kenny applauding from the audience.

INT. BACKSTAGE - CONTINUOUS

Backstage, Malav applauds while Beth loses her mind
 cheering.

INT. AUDITORIUM - CONTINUOUS

Bruce nods his head in stoic approval.

The only person not applauding is Trevor. He grumbles and
 sinks deeper into his chair.

Ada smiles and takes another bow.

FADE TO BLACK

END OF ACT 4

ACT FIVE

EXT. JOE'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Headlights sweep across a dark house.

A minivan drives up. The garage door opens and the minivan heads inside.

INT. JOE'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Joe walks into his house and tosses his keys on the counter. He stands there for a moment, taking in the silence.

JOE
Luuuucy, I'm home.

Silence.

JOE (cont'd)
(to himself)
Hello Ricky...

Joe continues into the kitchen.

INT. CAFETERIA - NIGHT

We pan across a cafeteria. The room is chaotic circus of excitement. Rows of tables are filed with chattering children. Some of them frantically stuff their faces with food while others shoot each other with paper straws. One group of boys shoves various bits of food into a cup and challenge each other to take a sip.

Eventually we make our way over to Kenny, who is eating alone. E.Z. walks over and sits down across from him.

KENNY
Hey. Good job tonight.

E.Z.
Thanks, you too.

KENNY
That Ada girl is something else.

E.Z.
I know. I really wish I could see the routine she actually had time to prepare.

KENNY
I know, right...
Yeah... Hey... Did you... take one of my condoms?

E.Z.
...I thought you were going to throw those away.

KENNY
I was. It's no big deal. I just saw
the box was open.

E.Z.
Really?

KENNY
Yeah. You wouldn't happen to know
anything about that?

E.Z.
I do.

KENNY
I didn't think-- wait, what?

E.Z.
Yeah. Sorry, I borrowed one.

KENNY
Borrowed...

E.Z.
Here.

E.Z. pulls out **the loose condom** and puts it on the table.

KENNY
AAAAH! What the hell?!

E.Z.
Don't worry, I washed it.

KENNY
That's not what I'm concerned about.
Throw that away!

E.Z.
I promise I got every--

KENNY
Those are disposable and this is
crazy gross.

E.Z.
Oh.

Beat.

KENNY
...So can you go throw it--

E.Z.
Right now?

KENNY
Yes right now! Throw it away. I have
food here.

E.Z.
Okay. Okay.

E.Z. walks over to the nearby trash can. While he does, he passes Malav.

E.Z. (cont'd)
Hey, good job tonight.

MALAV
Thanks.

We follow Malav as E.Z. returns to his table.

E.Z. (O.S.)
By the way, how do you keep them on?

KENNY (O.S.)
No. Not now. Let's just eat and...
not talk about that.

Malav moves through the crowd until he spots...

Ada and Beth across from each other excitedly talking.

He watches them for a moment, trying to decide if he should join them.

TREVOR (O.S.)
Yo, Malav!

The girls turn to see Malav standing a few feet away from them holding his dinner tray.

Malav looks at the girls and then at Trevor's table. He looks back at Beth. She shrugs, "Do whatever you want."

Malav thinks and then sits down next to Beth and Ada.

BETH
Hey.

MALAV
Hey. Great job. Both of you.

BETH
Well duh.

ADA
Thanks. You too.

A phone begins to **ring**.

BETH
I'm sure Trevor is like shitting himself right now.

MALAV
I'm surprised Bruce hasn't already come after him.

The phone **rings** again.

ADA
Why are you all so scared of Bruce?
He seems nice.

Beth and Malav look at Ada as if she just sprouted a second head.

ADA (cont'd)

... what?

The phone **rings** again.

BETH

Is that you?

MALAV

No. I left mine upstairs.

BETH

OH!

Ada pulls out her phone and sees that "Daddio" is calling.

ADA

It's me! Sorry. I'll be right back.

BETH

No rush.

Ada walks into the hallway.

Beth and Malav look at each other, realizing they are once again alone.

They fall into an awkward silence.

We **CUT** from Beth's face to...

INT. CONFERENCE ROOM - DAY

A Head-shot of Beth that is being held up by Ben.

BEN

Okay. It's time to pick the A-class.

Ben stands in front of a conference table. Seated at that table are the camp's five teachers. We have met four of them already.

There's: Bruce, who teaches **COIN**, Jason, who teaches **CLOSE UP**, Ben, who teaches **FLARE**, and Christine who teaches **DANCE**.

The remaining two are:

GIANMARCO (30's), a tall, suave Italian man who looks like he just stepped off a stage in Vegas. He teaches **STAGE MAGIC**.

And ANSEL (70's), a dapper man in a three piece suit with a well trimmed white beard and an English accent. He teaches **CARDS**.

Ben turns to Jason.

BEN (cont'd)

Jason, I assume you'll take Beth again?

JASON

Do I have a choice? She'll end up setting anyone else on fire.

Ben takes the photo of Beth and pins it to a cork-board. He then writes "Jason" on a **post-it note** and sticks it to the photo.

BEN

Okay. How about James? Any takers?

No response.

BEN (cont'd)

... another year in B for James.

Ben places James' photo in a separate pile.

BEN (cont'd)

Next is... Ezekiel.

CHRISTINE

Was he just off tonight or...

ANSEL

Yeah. It was rougher than last year.

GIANMARCO

He's too tense. If he doesn't start jerking it soon he's going to start shitting diamonds.

JASON

Wow. Really?

GIANMARCO

What? Sexuality is a part of who you are. You can't be a great performer when you're denying an entire part of yourself.

BRUCE

Well, can you *help* him with that?

GIANMARCO

No. I wouldn't touch that kid with a ten foot pole.

JASON

Please don't touch the kids.

GIANMARCO

Shut it, street walker.

JASON

You wanna go, lounge lizard--

BRUCE

Ben. Do you think you can help him loosen up?

BEN

Uhhhh. Yeah. I think so.

BRUCE

Good. Then we can move on.

Ben pins Ezekiel's photo on the board and adds a post-it note with "Ben" written on it.

Ben grabs the next photo.

BEN

Okay. What about Kenny? Ansel, you had him last year.

ANSEL

I did, but the problem isn't technique. He's just too stiff and awkward. There's no subtlety in his motion.

CHRISTINE

I'll take him. See if I can get him into his body.

Ben pins Kenny's photo on the board and adds a post-it note with "Christine" written on it.

BEN

Wonderful. How about Derek?

No one raises their hand. Ben places Derek's photo in the B-pile.

BEN (cont'd)

Brett?

Again no one raises their hand. Ben places Brett's photo in the B-pile.

BEN (cont'd)

Charles?

GIANMARCO

Ugh! Do we have to go through every kid? There's three teachers left. I'm keeping mine. What about you Bruce?

BRUCE

No. I've wasted enough summers on him.

ANSEL

I'll take a pass. I'd like a challenge.

GIANMARCO

Great. So then tell us who you're taking, Bruce and we can go eat.

Ben pins two more photos to the board as everyone else looks at Bruce expectantly.

EXT. CAFETERIA - HALLWAY - NIGHT

Ada stands in the hallway talking to Joe on the phone.

JOE (V.O.)
So? How was your first day?

ADA
Okay.

JOE (V.O.)
Just okay?

ADA
Yeah. Well, it started off terrible,
but then it got pretty good, so it
all kind a balanced out in the end.
It's a long story.

JOE (V.O.)
I've got time.

ADA
Maybe later. My friends are waiting
for me inside.

JOE (V.O.)
Wait, what was that? I think you're
breaking up. I couldn't have possibly
heard you say...friends?

ADA
Dad.

JOE (V.O.)
Hold on. Let me go check... Holy cow
there are pigs flying outside!

ADA
Stop it!

JOE (V.O.)
I hope they don't wreck the roof.

ADA
Shut up! Stop being such a loser.

Beth pokes her head out of the cafeteria.

BETH
Ada! They're going to announce the
classes.

ADA
DadIneedtogoIllcallyoutomorrowbye.

JOE
Uh... Okay. Love you.

ADA
Love you too!

Ada hangs up and runs after Beth

INT. JOE'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Joe hangs up the phone.

JOE

Bye.

He looks around his very empty and very quiet house.

He looks up at a photo of him, his late wife, and a young Ada. He sips his beer.

CUT TO:

INT. CAFETERIA - NIGHT

Ada and Beth enter and quickly sit down next to Malav.

BETH

Did they start?

MALAV

Not yet.

The door to the cafeteria opens and Ben enters.

BEN

AAAAALLL RIGHT CAMPERS!

Instantly everyone goes **silent**. All eyes are expectantly trained on the list in Ben's hand.

BETH

That was an amazing showcase. Before we do anything else, I think we should all give ourselves a big round of applause.

The camp applauds politely.

BEN

And now, I know what everyone is waiting for, so I won't even bother trying to talk about anything else. Without further ado...

All the campers begin to **stomp their feet, creating a drum roll**. Ada smiles at this and joins in.

BEN (cont'd)

I present to you....
The A-Class of 2003!

The camp erupts in cheers.

BEN (cont'd)

First off we have Ezekiel Bracken!

The camp applauds. E.Z. smiles and waves.

BEN (cont'd)

Next is Kenny Karper!

The camp applauds. E.Z. and Kenny high five.

BEN (cont'd)
The ever delightful, Beth Hammond.

The camp applauds, though there are some boos mixed in.

BETH
Screw you.

This gets a decent laugh from the campers.

BEN
A newcomer this year, Ada Wilson!

There is scattered applause, but the crowd mainly mumbles in confusion.

BETH
AAAAAAH!

MALAV
Yes!

BETH
You did it! You did it!

Beth hugs Ada.

The mumbles get louder.

CAMPER 1
This is her first year.

CAMPER 2
Is this an affirmative action thing?

CAMPER 3
She wasn't even that good.

BEN
Hey! HEY! Okay! It's a surprise, we get it. Let's just... keep going. Next is our returning champion, Trevor Ness.

Trevor's Goons applaud... and no one else.

BEN (cont'd)
And the final member of the A class is...

BETH
This is going to be the best summer ever.

MALAV
It's gonna be crazy.

ADA
Yeah. It's gonna be great.

BEN
BARRY ROLFS!

The camp applauds. Malav, Beth, and Ada's faces drop.

ADA
Who is...

BETH
What?!

A few tables away, Barry (16) runs around high-fiving people.

CAMPERS
Barry! Barry! Barry!

The chaos from earlier begins to return as Ben loses the student's attention.

BEN
(shouting)
Congratulations to the A-class of 2003. B, C, and D rosters will be posted in the dorms. I have a few other announcements... forget it. Get a good night's sleep! We start bright and early tomorrow.

Madness fully descends as Ben exits.

Some campers put away their dishes and head off to their room, others return to eating, but everyone is moving and talking and celebrating the beginning of camp...

Everyone except Beth, Ada, and Malav.

BETH
I... It's okay. We'll talk to the teachers and you can try for a Bump. Maybe you can even knock Trevor out. Right? Wouldn't that be great?

Malav turns to look at Beth. His face completely blank.

BETH (cont'd)
Yeah? Is that a yes? Is it?

ADA
We'll do whatever you need, so it's... don't worry.

Malav turns to look at Ada. Traces of anger and confusion begin to show on his face.

ADA (cont'd)
...Okay?

E.Z. and Kenny walk over to their table.

KENNY
Hey buddy... You okay?

E.Z.
 Sorry Malav. This is just... awful.
 I thought Barry had graduated, but...

KENNY
 That's not helpful.

E.Z.
 Right.

TREVOR (O.S.)
 Apu! Tough luck there.

Trevor and his Goons saunter over.

Beth stands up and turns to face Trevor.

BETH
 Not now Trevor.

TREVOR
 I'm just trying to comfort the guy.

BETH
 Unless you're here to apologize and
 beg forgiveness--

TREVOR
 Why would I apologize?

BETH
 You trashed Ada's kit!

TREVOR
 I don't know what you're talking
 about.

BETH
 Bull crap! We didn't have any time to
 set up or practice our routines
 because we were busy helping Ada make
 a new one. If Malav had been able to
 work on his routine instead--

TREVOR
 All of the rest of you did fine. He's
 the only one who failed out.

BETH
 What the hell!?

KENNY
 Seriously dude?

Malav stands up and silently walks away.

Everyone besides Ada is too focused on Trevor to notice.

TREVOR
 I just tell it like it is. Even the
 new chick managed to get in.

BETH
 HOW?! How is this possible?

ADA
 Wait. Malav.

BETH
 How can you be this terrible of a
 person?! How can you get things done?
 It's like you're from a cartoon!

ADA
 Malav!

The door slams and Malav is gone.

BETH
 What the... hell! Did he... Why
 didn't you... Malav!

Beth runs after Malav.

ADA
 Wait!

TREVOR
 Congrats by the way.

Ada shoots the nastiest look possible at Trevor.

TREVOR (cont'd)
 What?

Ada follows after.

TREVOR (cont'd)
 Drama queen.

The Goons laugh.

KENNY
 Jesus. Who hurt you?

E.Z.
 We should go make sure...

KENNY
 Yeah. Comforting isn't really Beth's
 thing.

Kenny and E.Z. follow after everyone else.

TREVOR
 Yeah. Walk away. You better walk
 away!

The door slams, leaving Trevor alone with his goons.
 For a brief moment a flicker of guilt appears on his face.

TREVOR (cont'd)
 Come on, let's go.

Trevor heads off in the opposite direction. His goons
 following behind him.

FADE TO BLACK

END OF PILOT