

DYNASTY

by Sallie Patrick
&
Josh Schwartz
&
Stephanie Savage

based on
the original series
created by
Richard & Esther Shapiro

STUDIO DRAFT
12/18/16

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

INT. PRIVATE AIRPORT - DAY

As we gaze out at the first snow fall of the season --

TITLE: DENVER, COLORADO

Standing at a swank bar, a YOUNG WOMAN (25, Caucasian) dressed in a chic power sheath studies a mysterious text on her phone: ***Please come home.*** Nearby, two DOUCHEBAGS discuss business over Bloody Marys. Let's call them ERIC and DON JR.

ERIC

That's eight solar plants up and
down the eastern seaboard.

DON JR

But if federal grants are drying up,
and they can't attract VC --

ERIC

We could. I can pitch Eddie at
Goldman Sachs next week. I could
sell anyone on this.
(catches the woman's eye)
Even the stewardess is interested.
(off her look)
Flight attendant.

DON JR

I apologize for my friend here,
just... in general.

YOUNG WOMAN

You work in renewable energy?

ERIC

We work in whatever makes us rich.

YOUNG WOMAN

My dad says solar is a money pit.

ERIC

Bet your dad watches Hannity. Here --

Attempting to flirt, Eric plucks a few garnishes from the bar,
sticking drink umbrellas (turbines) into limes (solar panels).

ERIC (CONT'D)

Solar panels, wind turbines.

TV Calling - For educational purposes only

(CONTINUED)

YOUNG WOMAN
Thanks for the visual aid.

ERIC
Each of these contraptions costs
2.3 mil. This company, SunVy,
installed over 5 dozen of them --

DON JR
Hey, insider info --

ERIC
(waves him away; to her)
Don't tweet this, okay? But it's
the opposite of a money pit. We're
talking a hundred billion in
assets, but they overexpanded and
now they need a white knight --

YOUNG WOMAN
Enter you. And your investors,
presuming you can sell them on an
increasingly unsustainable
business.

ERIC
Actually, solar's cheaper than
ever.

YOUNG WOMAN
(takes one of his limes)
Cheaper doesn't mean cheap. Or
reliable.
(... and squeezes it into
her glass)
SunVy built their largest site in
the lee of the Blue Ridge
Mountains. Unpredictable wind
patterns, chronically cloudy skies.

A PILOT signals to her: *time to go*. She drains her drink.

YOUNG WOMAN (CONT'D)
Stop wasting your money, boys, and
try putting it to better use. Like
paying my tab.

An awestruck Eric and Don Jr ogle her as she follows the pilot.

ERIC
How does a stewardess know so much
about energy?

TV Calling - For educational purposes only

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

DON JR
No idea, but I wish she were on my
flight.

EXT. PRIVATE AIRPORT - DAY

A GULFSTREAM crosses over the snow-capped Colorado Mountains, and we spot the name painted above the wing: CARRINGTON. As the CLASSIC THEME from the original series SWELLS --

INT. PRIVATE PLANE - DAY

The Young Woman gazes out the window, on her cell phone, as a male ATTENDANT offers her a glass of champagne:

ATTENDANT
We should land in Atlanta by three,
Miss Carrington.

As in FALLON CARRINGTON, the beloved, pot-stirring daughter of the Carrington Dynasty. A ballsy brunette; body for sin, mind for alternative energy schemes. Talking on her cell:

FALLON (INTO PHONE)
I just got a tip on SunVy. Find out
how much they want for a starting bid.

Off Fallon, the THEME continuing as we PRE-LAP:

MAN'S VOICE (V.O.)
*For three generations, the
Carrington name has stood for
reliability, value, foresight...*

INT. CARRINGTON ATLANTIC - BOARDROOM - DAY

CLOSE ON A SCREEN: B/W photographs depict the Carrington Coal Mines circa 1900 in rural Georgia...

MAN'S VOICE (V.O.)
*But more than anything, we stand for
family. From the coal-mining
operation where it all began, to the
global energy empire it is today --*

PULL OUT TO REVEAL: SUITS watching this PR video (source of the theme song and VO) in a sleek Midtown high-rise.

BLAKE CARRINGTON (50s, Caucasian) presides, unimpressed.

TITLE: ATLANTA, GEORGIA

ON SCREEN, friendly graphics depict the company's branches: Coal, Nuclear, Hydro, Gas/Oil; and relevant maps & numbers...
TV Calling - For educational purposes only

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MAN'S VOICE (V.O.)

-- providing gas and electricity to
40% of businesses and 60% of
residents across the Southeast.

(over stock pics of SMILING FOLK)

When you invest in Carrington
Atlantic, you're not just investing
in a company. You're becoming part
of our family.

BLAKE

Turn it off.

An UNDERLING hops up to turn off the video. As he does:

BLAKE (CONT'D)

Forget energy. You know what we
should be investing in?

(as the room leans in)

Time travel. Because clearly
someone went back to the 1980s to
dig that up.

The room leans back out. Blake's caustic comment has everyone
dreading where this is surely going.

BLAKE (CONT'D)

Doc Brown, show yourself.

A beat. No takers. Then CRISTAL FLORES (30, Hispanic) speaks
up. She's striking and smart. Smart enough to know she's
about to be on the receiving end of one of Blake Carrington's
infamous skewerings. Trying to circumvent --

CRISTAL

You don't like it. Understood. The
team and I will regroup --

BLAKE

(not getting off so fast)

That voiceover. Why did it sound
like me? I didn't record that.

Cristal's boss, RYAN DODD, Head of PR, interjects:

RYAN

That was me, Sir. I know you hate
to do these things, so I've been
studying your vocal pattern.

BLAKE

(turns to his SECRETARY)

Alice, file a restraining order.

(to Ryan)

(MORE)

TV Calling - For educational purposes only

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

BLAKE (CONT'D)

As head of PR, you'll have to find a way to spin that. Hopefully you'll be more successful than you were with this video.

(explains)

What he -- you -- I -- was spewing were old fashioned, lazy, recycled ideas from the past. We need to sound like a company that's prepared to meet the future.

CRISTAL

(tentative)

Then maybe we need a different voice. A woman's.

RYAN

'Cause our investors don't get enough of that at home.

(off her look)

I was kidding.

CRISTAL

I'm not.

She's wading into tricky territory. But here goes nothing --

CRISTAL (CONT'D)

Let's try me for starters. How does this sound?

(in a "narration" voice)

"Here at Carrington Atlantic we've risen from number two to number one polluter in the South East just this year. We also inspired *millions* to sign a petition to stop our fracking proposal."

RYAN

This sounds like a sidebar --

CRISTAL

(and that does it)

All I'm saying is -- maybe it's not the presentation that needs to go a different direction. Maybe it's the company.

The room falls silent. She's way overstepped. Reading the situation, Blake's assistant taps her watch.

ALICE

Mr. Carrington, your next appointment is waiting.

TV Calling - For educational purposes only

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

He nods. Then, rising, to Cristal:

BLAKE

Great. You don't need me here. You
have the sound alike.

Her coworkers exchange glances; Cristal remains stoic. As Blake exits, he rests his hand on Alice's back, and in a lowered voice:

BLAKE (CONT'D)

Any word from my son?
(off her "no")
Try him again.

As she nods, PRE-LAP THUMPING BASS, taking us straight to --

EXT. BEACH MANSION - POOLSIDE - DAY

STEVEN CARRINGTON (28, Caucasian), in tight trunks and an open robe, glides through this end-of-Summer party, as almost every person he passes tries to get his attention, and fails.

TITLE: HILTON HEAD, SOUTH CAROLINA

Steven beelines towards something: a THREESOME practically mid-orgy on a chaise. As we wonder if he's about to join --

STEVEN

Don't let me interrupt...

He reaches underneath them and pulls out his phone.

STEVEN (CONT'D)

Forty-two notifications and you
never felt it vibrate?
(then, realizing)
Don't answer that.

He walks away, scrolling through his texts, the latest from "Fallon." As he dials, INTERCUT:

INT. PRIVATE PLANE - DAY

Fallon answers, stretched out on a seat. She mutes CNBC's SQUAWKBOX on the flatscreen.

FALLON

Dad's texting me to come home. I
think it's happening. The VP job.

STEVEN

Hi Fallon. I'm good, thanks for
asking. TV Calling - For educational purposes only

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

FALLON

Why bother? Have you ever not been good, Steven?

Steven considers this, takes a sip of his cocktail.

STEVEN

There was that one Coachella when Bryan forgot the edibles. But on the whole, I get your point.

(then)

You try calling him back?

FALLON

If I'm getting promoted, I want to negotiate in person. And no one knows better what this moment means to me than you.

(then)

Any chance I can convince you to come for a home cooked meal and I'm guessing a much needed shower?

STEVEN

Sorry, Sis, but your agenda's never that straightforward. Besides, I'm watching the Hilton Head house.

(as a hot guy passes)

There's a lot to keep an eye on...

FALLON

Okay fine. But one day I'll get what I want, you and me, side by side in the trenches --

STEVE

You know there's no way I can work for him again...

FALLON

Which is why you can work for me. Love you!

Off her hopeful smile, PRELAP the sound of the jet landing --

EXT. PRIVATE AIRPORT - DAY

Fallon disembarks and is greeted by MICHAEL CULHANE (35, African American, former athlete), the family chauffeur who takes her bags.

CULHANE

Welcome home. How was your summer?

TV Calling - For educational purposes only

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

FALLON

Can't say I missed the heat.

CULHANE

Well, I can promise you, it wasn't
as hot without you here.

She feigns shock at the completely inappropriate comment, as she opens her own door.

CULHANE (CONT'D)

Straight to the Manor?

FALLON

I'm open to a detour.

As she SLAMS the door behind her --

INT. CARRINGTON ATLANTIC - LOBBY - DAY

Cristal is heading out when Alice comes running after her.

ALICE

Mr. Carrington asked to see you.

CRISTAL

Can't say I'm surprised.

ALICE

But he already left. He wants you
to meet him at his home office.

Alice hands her the address. Cristal is caught off guard.

ALICE (CONT'D)

Whatever happens, good for you.
Speaking your mind. It's so rare
that anyone stands up to Blake
Carrington like that without
getting fired.

Wary, Cristal glances down to the address now in her hand...

INT. LIMO - DAY

Close on Fallon in the backseat, wearing the chauffeur's hat.
The divider is barely cracked, so we can't see the driver.

FALLON

Maybe he heard about those accounts
I poached in Dallas.

She leans back, getting comfortable. We realize: the car isn't moving.

TV Calling - For educational purposes only

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

FALLON (CONT'D)

Or that I'm considering a position
at Exxon, and he doesn't want to
lose me...

CULHANE (O.S.)

Could you stop talking about your
father for a minute?

Culhane sits up from between her legs. She tugs her skirt down.
He stays kneeling on the floor, starting to unbutton her shirt.

CULHANE (CONT'D)

Kinda makes it hard to concentrate.

FALLON

Not for me. Two heads are better
than one.

(then)

Sorry. It's just that I've spent
six years preparing for this.

CULHANE

(kissing her thigh)

Most girls... right now they would
not be talking about running a
global energy empire.

FALLON

What can I say? My daddy never gave
me a Barbie.

CULHANE

What if he doesn't give you this?

(off her look)

He always disappoints you, Fallon.

On Fallon, as she considers that reality, and brushes it off.

FALLON

You know what's disappointing?

(pushing him back down)

All this talking.

As she gazes out the window, she sees a HONDA CIVIC being let
into the front gate. Not a car she recognizes. Curious...

EXT. CARRINGTON MANOR - DAY

Cristal drives her Honda past the stables (where the limo is
parked), past rows of symmetrical oaks, to the lavish manor.
It's practically Tara in size and equally as stunning.

FRONT DOOR

Cristal hesitates. But before she can knock, JOSEPH ANDERS (55, Caucasian), the estate manager, swings it open:

ANDERS
Come in, Miss Flores.

INT. CARRINGTON MANOR - FOYER - DAY

Cristal steps in, giving us our first glimpse of this palatial home: marble floors, double staircase, fresh cut flowers, oversized Basquiats and Schnabels (because an art consultant told Blake they were good investments).

ANDERS
He's waiting in his study.

INT. CARRINGTON MANOR - BLAKE'S STUDY - DAY

Anders shows Cristal in, then departs. Cristal crosses to Blake who's behind his desk.

BLAKE
Good, you got my message.

CRISTAL
Look, I'm sorry if I was out of line, but --

BLAKE
You weren't. That's one of the reasons why I admire you. You're not afraid to speak your mind.
(laughs)
You're not afraid of anything.

She lets down her guard, smiling --

CRISTAL
I'm not afraid of you, if that's what you mean.

INT. CARRINGTON MANOR - FOYER - DAY

Fallon lets herself in. As Steven appears with a freshly mixed cocktail --

STEVEN
Every time I see you, I'm reminded that Dad can't be all bad.

TV Calling - For educational purposes only

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

FALLON

(smiles, as they embrace)
How long you been here?

STEVEN

Just long enough to mix this drink.
Turns out Dad did call me.

FALLON

Did he say why? And since when do
you come when he calls?

STEVEN

Actually, it felt good to be
included for once.

As the depth of Steven's loneliness lands on Fallon, Anders enters, shocked to see them.

ANDERS

Is your father expecting you?

STEVEN

Hello to you, too, Anders. What's
happened to polite decorum in this
country?

Seeing that Anders still looks perturbed:

FALLON

Dad asked us to come home.

ANDERS

He said you never responded.

FALLON

This is our response. Where is he?

ANDERS

In a meeting, Fallon, wait --

Before Anders can stop her, she's halfway down the hall --

INT. CARRINGTON MANOR - BLAKE'S STUDY - DAY

Fallon opens the study door, Steven just behind her:

FALLON

Daddy, guess who's --

But she stops in her tracks, seeing her father and Cristal in flagrante delicto on his desk. WTF. As they scramble apart --

TV Calling - For educational purposes only

(CONTINUED)

FALLON (CONT'D)
Oh my god --

BLAKE
What the hell are you doing?

FALLON
Who the hell are you doing?

Steven tilts his head, recognizing Cristal. Sotto to Fallon:

STEVEN
I think she works for Carrington
Atlantic.

CRISTAL
These are your kids --

STEVEN
And you must be -- ?

FALLON
Looking for a promotion.

BLAKE
Fallon --
(regaining composure)
This obviously isn't how I intended
for you all to meet, but --

FALLON
Why would we be meeting at all?

BLAKE
Fallon, Steven: this is Cristal.
(finally)
My fiancée.

Off Fallon, taking in her future stepmother, as our REVAMPED
THEME SONG KICKS IN -- this unfortunate encounter propelling
us into our opening credits...

DYNASTY

ACT TWO**EXT. CARRINGTON MANOR - VERANDA - DAY**

The outdoor living room looks out on manicured lawns; it's where you bring your guests to make them feel comfortable, yet completely depressed about their own backyards. Blake, Cristal, Fallon and Steven sit in awkward silence as a SERVANT pours Arnold Palmers. Steven taps the Servant's arm:

STEVEN

If you brought out vodka, no one would complain.

BLAKE

Why didn't you call me back? If I had any idea you were coming home --

FALLON

Dad, stop playing like you don't bang all your fiancées in front of us.

STEVEN

(to Cristal)

She's kidding. You're the only one.

Cristal smiles, nervous, takes Blake's hand to ease the tension.

CRISTAL

All awkwardness aside, it's nice to finally meet. I've heard so much about you both.

FALLON

And we haven't heard a thing about you.

Cristal's smile fades. So much for grace. Blake steps in:

BLAKE

That's why I was calling you. I want you to get to know Cristal before the little get-together we're throwing Sunday --

FALLON

So you've told other people?

BLAKE

Other people called me back.
(then, reasoning)
It all happened so fast...

TV Calling - For educational purposes only

(CONTINUED)

Fallon spies Cristal's ENGAGEMENT RING for the first time: an emerald-cut, whopper of a diamond.

FALLON
At least now we know what happened
to Kim Kardashian's stolen ring.

BLAKE
Fallon --

FALLON
No, seriously. Congratulations --

CRISTAL
Thanks..?

FALLON
-- on the Ebay record you'll set by
selling that thing once Dad dumps
you.

STEVE
Actually, Roman Abromavitch bought
a yacht for 168 million, so --

BLAKE
Enough! Why do my children always
insist on acting like --

CRISTAL
Children?

FALLON
You're right. There's no point in
being upset. It's only an
engagement. Anything can happen.

As Fallon walks off past the servant, returning with a
bottle, Blake stands, turning to Cristal:

BLAKE
I'm sorry. Let me talk to her. This
isn't like her at all.

Blake goes. As Steven mixes vodka into his tea, he clarifies:

STEVEN
Actually, it's exactly like her.

CRISTAL
(genuinely hurt)
Your father really didn't mention
we were dating?

TV Calling - For educational purposes only

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

STEVEN

He stopped bragging about his
sexual conquests once he realized
it wouldn't make me any straighter.
(then, admits)
Also, we don't talk much.

She offers him a sympathetic smile, a small bond forming
between them.

INT./EXT. CARRINGTON STABLES - DAY

Blake is just behind Fallon as she walks past the century-old
stone stalls, stopping to greet one of their many HORSES.

FALLON

I can only imagine what Mom would
have to say about your child-bride.

BLAKE

Haven't you already said it?
(off her look)
I know you're upset with me. But
honestly, if I'd told you over the
phone, would you have come home?
Why did you think I called?
(her look says it all)
You heard I'm hiring a new VP.

FALLON

And I missed you!

BLAKE

You're not ready, Fallon.

FALLON

You were my age when your father
handed you the company. All I'm
asking is to be your number two.
And I'm sure if it were Steven --

BLAKE

(teasing)
Naturally. But he's a boy, so...

FALLON

(not amused)
Did you know SunVy is going under?
At the airport today, these two
douchebags were bragging about
their plan to save it, right in
front of me --

TV Calling - For educational purposes only

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

BLAKE

They didn't know you work in acquisitions?

FALLON

They thought I was a flight attendant. That's my point.

BLAKE

They underestimated you. But I don't, Fallon. And one day, you'll make a great VP who has all my best interests at heart.

FALLON

I do now, you know.

BLAKE

Considering how you welcomed Cristal..?
(before she can reply)
I wish you'd get to know her. You have more in common than you might think.

As he turns and heads back to the house, she calls.

FALLON

Other than our first concert being Avril Lavigne? I doubt it.

Left alone with the horses, Fallon is still very much the little girl lost.

INT. CARRINGTON MANOR - GUEST SUITE - DAY

Anders shows Cristal in.

ANDERS

Sure you'll be comfortable in here?

She looks around at the stunningly opulent suite, smiles --

CRISTAL

I'll make it work.
(explains)
With Blake's children home, I think this weekend's going to be uncomfortable no matter where I sleep. But probably better if I'm in the guest room.

ANDERS

It's a suite. A wing, in fact.

(then)

Dinner will be served at 8. TV Calling - For educational purposes only

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

CRISTAL

I actually have plans tonight, so --

ANDERS

I'll alert Mr. Carrington.

CRISTAL

He knows. We still speak directly. Maybe after we've been married a few years...

(he doesn't smile)

Sorry, I'm still getting used to how things work around here. Does this place ever stop being intimidating?

ANDERS

Ms. Flores, if you're trying to prove how "real" you are by befriending the help, may I suggest you start with Hector the gardener.

CRISTAL

(stung)

I'm not sure if it's personal, or if you've just been running this house so long you feel threatened by someone new coming in. But you shouldn't.

He forces a smile, trying to bite his tongue, but he can't.

ANDERS

Don't worry. I don't.

As he blows past her, off Cristal --

EXT. CARRINGTON STABLES - DAY

The sun is low in the sky. Outside the chauffeur's cottage, beside the stables, Culhane waxes the limo while Fallon lingers, decompressing.

FALLON

He didn't even react to the SunVy tip. Probably because it came from me. But I know he'd want it if --

CULHANE

You said what he wants is someone who has his best interests at heart.

(off her look: go on)

Did you know he just entered a bidding war for the Braves?

TV Calling - For educational purposes only

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

FALLON

He hates baseball.

CULHANE

Not as much as he hates Cecil Colby. Who he's bidding against.

FALLON

You're kidding me.
(then, realizing)
Why are you so eager to help?

CULHANE

Beside the fact that I like you? Believe it or not, driving a rich old white guy around all day is not the most satisfying way to make a living.

FALLON

So, what? You think if I move up the ladder, I'll take you with me?

CULHANE

Something like that.

She smiles. She's not opposed to the idea.

FALLON

Okay. But I need to know what else you've learned from the front seat. Who is Cristal Flores?

CULHANE

Other than a woman who drives herself? Don't know.

FALLON

Well, Dad said get to know her. So that's what I need you to do.

Off Culhane, wondering exactly what she means...

EXT. ARCADIA ROOFTOP BAR - NIGHT

Cristal with her girlfriends, LIBBY, and BRIANNA, at their casual haunt, drinking their first round of cheap beer. She sheepishly holds up her hand, showing them her ring.

BRIANNA

I would say there's no way that's real --

CONTINUED:

LIBBY

Except it's from Blake-effing-Carrington.

BRIANNA

You guys have only been together for, what, four months?

CRISTAL

Three...

LIBBY

That's insane! I mean, congratulations, but that's insane.

BRIANNA

Cristal... are you sure? I didn't even realize it was over with Matthew...

That name lands hard on Cristal. After a beat:

CRISTAL

I'm not sure Matthew does either. It happened so fast, and he --

BRIANNA

Was the love of your life, you said. You have to tell him.

LIBBY

Eh. Let him read it online.
(off their looks)
He was never leaving Claudia.

BRIANNA

So? If it's true love, you can't just give up.

LIBBY

Sure you can. I did. And let me tell you, they've made some exciting advancements in vibrator technology.

Cristal throws her hand up -- *okay, that's enough.*

CRISTAL

I love Blake, okay. I do.
(off them)
And I know the rumors.

CONTINUED:

BRIANNA

How he cheated on his first wife
and has been engaged five times
since. Six, now?

CRISTAL

(ignores this)

Look, maybe there's a part of me
that will always love Matthew. But
that doesn't mean that what Blake
and I have isn't real. He's smart,
and worldly, and challenging. And
he likes that I'm challenging too,
that I can't be --

A WAITER interrupts with champagne in a plastic ice bucket.

LIBBY

Bought?

WAITER

This is for... Cristal? Someone had
it sent in for your celebration.
There's a case of it.

LIBBY

(smiles, to the waiter)

You can deposit the rest in my trunk.

As Libby pours four glasses, Brianna, Cristal's more
sensitive friend, leans over, quietly:

BRIANNA

You know I just want you to be
happy.

(off Cristal)

But if you're sure about Matthew, I
won't mention his name again.

As that lands on a guilt-ridden, conflicted Cristal...

INT. CARRINGTON MANOR - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Blake, ever the workaholic, is reading over paperwork when
Steven passes through.

BLAKE

It's good to have you back home.

STEVEN

Let's see how long it takes for you
to kick me out this time.

TV Calling - For educational purposes only

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

BLAKE

I didn't kick you out, you left --
(stopping himself)
It's behind us. And I hope you'll
stay as long as you'd like.

STEVEN

Good. 'Cause I had the staff close
the beach house for the season. It
was in need of a... deep cleaning.

Steven pours a couple fingers of whiskey from a decanter,
feeling Blake's eyes on him.

STEVEN (CONT'D)

Relax. I'm not you.

BLAKE

Sometimes I worry...
(motions to the whiskey)
... that's the only thing you got
from me.

STEVEN

(new subject)
Cristal seems nice.

BLAKE

She is. She's reinvigorated me.

STEVEN

(under his breath)
I bet...

BLAKE

To the point where I'm rethinking
everything. Actually, I could use
your help.

STEVEN

How's that?

BLAKE

You said you'd never join CA unless
we balanced our portfolio with
fifty percent renewable energy.

STEVEN

And you laughed in my face.

BLAKE

I was wrong to. Bill Prather has a
massive solar farm for sale up in
Floyd County;

TV Calling - For educational purposes only

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

BLAKE (CONT'D)

I'd like you to meet with him on my behalf. Given your common interests, I think you'll be more persuasive.

STEVEN

What's his company called?

BLAKE

SunVy. You heard of it?

Steven shakes his head. Off Blake, feeling no remorse for having moved on Fallon's tip without her --

EXT. CARRINGTON ATLANTIC COAL PLANT - NIGHT

Outside the fenced site, MATTHEW BLAISDEL (late 30's) is leaving work, the late shift. Shirtsleeves and a hard hat, a white collar worker who's not afraid to get his hands dirty.

He's startled to find Cristal waiting for him in the shadows, silhouetted by work lights. *Something's wrong.*

CRISTAL

Matthew... Can we talk?

Off Matthew --

INT. MATTHEW'S PICK-UP - NIGHT

Matthew sits with Cristal, digesting the news. Even with the serious agenda, we still sense the heat between these two.

MATTHEW

Do you love him?

CRISTAL

I do.

(off his look)

He's good for me. What you and I had... wasn't good for anyone.

MATTHEW

I'd be willing to live like that for the rest of my life if it meant holding onto you.

CRISTAL

Well, I... can't do that. To me, or to her.

A long beat. He can't judge her for that.

TV Calling - For educational purposes only

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MATTHEW

Why'd you come down here? You don't owe me this. Why bother telling me, unless...

(looks right at her)

You wanted me to stop you.

(softly)

I will.

A charged beat. A lot of history -- and chemistry -- here. But Cristal doesn't give in.

CRISTAL

I wanted you to hear it from me. So there's no confusion.

MATTHEW

Yeah, being here alone with you, not confusing at all.

(off her)

Cristal, just tell me what you want me to say.

CRISTAL

Goodbye.

He looks at her. She means it. Then he kisses her forehead with a sense of finality. And she lets him linger. And when we pull back to reveal Culhane watching from a distance, the only thing that translates is the passion.

WOMAN'S VOICE (PRE-LAP)

I get why you're worried...

EXT. INDUSTRIAL AREA - NIGHT

MONIQUE COLBY (25, African American) CHIRPS the lock on her FERRARI 488 SPIDER, parked in a public lot. She and Fallon join other fine looking 20-SOMETHINGS streaming toward an unseen location.

MONIQUE (CONT.)

I remember the stories you told me about that last woman he was with --

FALLON

Exactly. You'd think my dad would learn his lesson --

MONIQUE

So she's younger than you? Met him folding towels at the Four Seasons?

(off Fallon, not exactly)

Don't be so hard on these women!

(MORE)

TV Calling - For educational purposes only

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MONIQUE (CONT'D)

You don't want him to be alone
forever, do you?

FALLON

Of course not... Just promise
you'll come to this party Sunday? I
can't do it alone.

As the CROWD thickens, we realize we've arrived at --

EXT. MJQ CONCOURSE - NIGHT

What looks like the shitty garage where you'd strip a stolen
car is actually ATLANTA'S HOTTEST HIP HOP CLUB. As Monique
leads Fallon to the front of the LONG LINE:

MONIQUE

Can I bring a date?

FALLON

For me? Yes, please. Your brother
still single?

MONIQUE

You hate Jeff.

FALLON

I don't hate Jeff.

Monique greets the DOORMAN with a hug. They enter --

INT. MJQ CONCOURSE - CONTINUOUS

The place is alive with strobing lights and sweaty bodies.
Welcome to the Dirty South.

MONIQUE

I'll give him your number, but break
his heart, and I'll come for you.

(off Fallon's laugh)

He's been handling the Braves' bid.
You know our Dads are in another
pissing contest, right?

FALLON

(lying)

I didn't, no. At least that'll give
me and Jeff something to bond over.

Fallon relaxes, victorious... until she SEES a text from
Culhane: a PHOTO of Cristal and Matthew locked in a kiss in
his truck. As this betrayal lands on Fallon --

END OF ACT TWO ^{TV Calling} - For educational purposes only

ACT THREE**INT. CARRINGTON MANOR - GUEST WING - DAY**

Fallon saunters down the hall, the cat who ate the canary, and knocks on the bedroom door. Cristal answers.

FALLON

'Morning. Just thought you should know, Anders is in the ballroom going over details for the party tomorrow. And honestly, you don't want him making those decisions.

CRISTAL

Which decisions?

FALLON

Any, really. And since it's your day...

CRISTAL

(a bit incredulous)

Thanks, Fallon. That was thoughtful.

Fallon shrugs, grinning. But as Cristal heads downstairs, the grin fades. Blake comes down the hall.

BLAKE

Where's Cristal?

FALLON

Not sure. Can we talk, Daddy?

As a pot-stirring Fallon takes his arm and leads him off --

INT. CARRINGTON MANOR - BALLROOM - DAY

Cristal finds Anders going over the menu with the kitchen STAFF, crates of champagne and silver chests in evidence.

ANDERS

Skip the Bacarat; if the count is 190, we can use the Waterford --

CRISTAL

A hundred and ninety people? Blake said it's a small get-together.

ANDERS

That is small.

Cristal smiles self-consciously at the Staff, who stare back at her blankly, unimpressed. Putting on her best Pollyanna:

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

CRISTAL

Well, I'm here to help. I actually assist with events all the time at Carrington Atlantic as part of PR --

ANDERS

Consider this your day off, then.

Anders turns his back on her, continuing to the Head Chef:

ANDERS (CONT'D)

I was thinking we'd pass canapés for an hour and a half, before --

CRISTAL

Anders, really, you don't have to do this for me, I can handle it.

Anders pauses. *Who does she think she is?*

ANDERS

And where would you begin?

CRISTAL

Well, I pictured the party outside --

ANDERS

There's a 22% chance of rain.

CRISTAL

I'm good with those odds.

The Staff look to Anders, worried about their new "boss."

ANDERS

And for flowers? Rhododendrons? Stephanotis? Ranunculus?

CRISTAL

(no idea)

Which are the most like daisies?

In the B.G., Steven passes through, stopping to listen.

ANDERS

Daisies? Are not even flowers. They're weeds.

CRISTAL

I get it. You think I'm lowbrow. I probably am. I never dreamed of any of this, and honestly... I don't want it.

(MORE)

TV Calling - For educational purposes only

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

CRISTAL (CONT'D)

I'd rather have wildflowers and bare feet and David Bowie playing in the background, and donate the rest of this junk to charity.

That hits Steven right in the heart. But not Anders.

ANDERS

Bowie passed away.

STEVEN

I think she means his music.

(to Cristal)

Though for a fee, perhaps Anders can resurrect him.

(to Anders)

Whatever Cristal wants, or doesn't, tomorrow or any other day, make sure she gets it. Or doesn't. Alright?

Anders nods. As Steven turns to go, he smiles. OFF CRISTAL, happy to have this unexpected ally...

INT. MATTHEW BLAISDEL'S HOME - KITCHEN - DAY

As Matthew makes coffee in his modest kitchen, he stares at his phone: *Blake Carrington to Marry CA Employee*. As he grabs a mug, we notice the drawers and cabinets are labeled.

CLAUDIA (O.C.)

How long have I been in this house?

As Matthew sits down with his coffee, reveal CLAUDIA BLAISDEL (30's), lost in her own thoughts, as she always is.

MATTHEW

You went out yesterday.

(then, realizing)

You mean how long have we lived here? Almost 13 years, I think.

CLAUDIA

Isn't that unlucky?

MATTHEW

It's just time.

As he leans over to kisses her on her head, Claudia sees the announcement on his phone. He watches her reaction.

CLAUDIA

Cristal. Is that the same woman...

(then)

That's good.

TV Calling - For educational purposes only

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

The awkward silence is interrupted by IDA (30's), a caregiver in nursing scrubs, letting herself in the kitchen door.

IDA
Good morning, Claudia.
(to him)
How're we doing today?

MATTHEW
We've seen worse.

IDA
I got it from here. You go.

As Matthew kisses Claudia goodbye, SMASH TO:

EXT. BLAISDEL RESIDENCE - DAY

Matthew, now with his jacket and bag, hops in his truck as his phone RINGS. He sees the caller ID: BLAKE CARRINGTON.

MATTHEW (ON PHONE)
Hello?

BLAKE (THROUGH PHONE)
Matthew. Hope I caught you in time.
(then)
Before you head to the plant, could you meet me? Something came up that we need to discuss.

Off Matthew, worried what that something may be...

EXT. ATLANTA BOTANICAL GARDENS - DAY

Lush ferns and colorful crocuses provide the backdrop for Cristal and Blake, who, as if caught in a fantasy, KISS...

FLASH! A PHOTOGRAPHER captures the moment, as we reveal this is an engagement photoshoot, the images appearing on a monitor nearby, manned by an ASSISTANT, peered at by Fallon.

PHOTOGRAPHER
Lovely, now let's do Cristal alone.
Can we get a little fill light on her face?

As Blake steps over to Fallon, she snarks:

FALLON
Which one?
(then)
How can you stand this after what I told you?

TV Calling - For educational purposes only

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

BLAKE

A temper gets you nowhere, Fallon.
You need patience and strategy.

FALLON

(re: the photoshoot)
How is this a strategy?

Just then, Cristal's smile fades. Fallon notices, following Cristal's gaze to see Matthew arriving...

BLAKE

Matthew, thanks for meeting me --

Matthew looks around, confused by what he's walking into.
Fallon's eyes widen with her smile.

BLAKE (CONT'D)

It's a multitasking kind of day.
You've met my fiancée, Cristal?

Blake ushers Matthew over, watching her reaction as he does.

BLAKE (CONT'D)

Cristal is an associate in PR --
(to Cristal)
Matthew's my best field engineer --

CRISTAL

I... I --

MATTHEW

I don't believe we've met.

BLAKE

Haven't you? Recently, in fact?

Blake watches as Matthew and Cristal are forced to react.
FLASH! The Photographer shoots candids at Fallon's request.
Blake finally releases the tension, turning to Matthew:

BLAKE (CONT'D)

You made an appearance in the PR
video Cristal put together.

As Cristal struggles to recalibrate, Matthew covers:

MATTHEW

Thought you seemed familiar. Well,
congratulations.

BLAKE

(to Cristal)
Excuse us a minute, will you? TV Calling - For educational purposes only

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Blake kisses Cristal on the lips -- lingering a moment too long -- before walking Matthew aside to talk business, abandoning Cristal with Fallon. Fallon smirks:

FALLON

Have you heard about his wife? That man must be a saint...

Off Cristal, wondering what Matthew and Blake are really discussing, and fearing the worst.

INT. RITZ CARLTON BUCKHEAD - DAY

Steven sits at the bar with the owner of SunVy, BILL PRATHER (40's). They're on their second martini.

STEVEN

We'll send our lead engineer to survey the plant itself, in case --

PRATHER

Forgive me, but what exactly is your role at Carrington Atlantic?

STEVEN

Actually, I'm no longer with the company in an official capacity. There was a conflict of interest.
(off Prather's look)
You've heard of my father's efforts to bring fracking into Georgia?

PRATHER

The protests against it, yeah.

STEVEN

I might have funded those protests.
(off his look)
I'm the black sheep of the family, but I'm looking to come home to greener pastures.

PRATHER

Steven, usually I'd be wary about selling to Carrington. But the idea that I could play a part in the company going green...

Prather swivels his stool over, his knee touches Steven's. And he doesn't pull it away.

PRATHER (CONT'D)

Another drink to celebrate?

TV Calling - For educational purposes only

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Steven takes this in, disheartened. As he swivels:

STEVEN

(then, extending his hand)

My father will be in touch.

Prather gets the message. He shakes Steven's hand and goes. After a beat, the CUTE GUY on Steven's other side leans over.

CUTE GUY

Not your type?

STEVEN

The ones my dad picks never are.

CUTE GUY

Kinky.

(then)

Would your dad pick me?

Steven looks the guy over, considering. With a sultry smirk:

STEVEN

Never.

INT. CARRINGTON MANOR - DINING ROOM - NIGHT

The first dinner. Anders has outdone himself. Blake sits at the head, flanked by Cristal and Fallon. An empty setting waits for Steven. Fallon fills the awkward silence:

FALLON

I'm seeing Jeff Colby tonight. Did you know he's now Chief Strategy Officer of ColbyCo?

BLAKE

I did. And I know nepotism only works with the right family.

FALLON

(to Cristal)

Daddy hates Jeff's father. The tech guru? He worked in IT at the company. Before your time.

BLAKE

And yours, Fallon.

FALLON

The music software that earned Colby his first billion was developed by his team while he was technically still at CA;

TV Calling - For educational purposes only

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

FALLON (CONT'D)

ever since Daddy lost his lawsuit, they've been mortal enemies. We own an Island in Musha Cay simply because Daddy knew Cecil wanted it. I hear it's all about the Braves now...

Cristal tries to seem interested, but her mind is elsewhere. Before Blake can respond, Steven arrives. Dryly:

FALLON (CONT'D)

You're missing all the fun, Steven.

STEVEN

I had a date.

Blake senses trouble brewing...

FALLON

A date? I didn't know.

STEVEN

Neither did I.

(eying Blake)

When you said we had "common interests" I didn't realize you were whoring me out, Dad.

BLAKE

Can this wait until after dinner?

STEVEN

Sure. I'd be more pissed if he hadn't agreed to let us tour SunVy.

FALLON

(to Blake, stung)

What? I gave you that tip. And you sent Steven?

Blake looks to Cristal, who waits for him to explain.

BLAKE

When striking any deal, you send in whoever makes the client feel most comfortable. Is that so wrong?

FALLON

You acted like you couldn't care less when I told you about it!

BLAKE

I had a lot on my mind, but you know this would be good for Steven, a way to keep him close to home --

TV Calling - For educational purposes only

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

STEVEN

So you can keep an eye on me?

BLAKE

Someone has to, you only come home
when you need to dry out --

STEVEN

I drink more when I'm here!

Everything halts. On a calm Fallon, as she turns to Cristal:

FALLON

In case you wondered why my dad is
so successful, it's because he's a
genius at making you feel like he's
acting in your best interest, when
really, it's all about him.

(to Steven)

I bet he sent you to Prather with
the promise of going solar. But did
he happen to mention that SunVy's
largest site is smack in the middle
of the Conasauaga shale field?
That's 800 acres of frackable land.

STEVEN

Is that true?

BLAKE

It's complicated.

Steven takes off. Fallon looks between Cristal and Blake...

FALLON

Seems like you two deserve each
other after all.

As she goes:

CRISTAL

She's right.

Relieved, Blake reaches for Cristal's hand. She pulls away.

CRISTAL (CONT'D)

About how you manipulate people.
Matthew coming by today? Was that
some sort of test?

BLAKE

Someone from the plant spotted you
two last night. I didn't want to
believe them, but -- TV Calling - For educational purposes only

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

CRISTAL

You could've asked me --

BLAKE

I wanted to see the two of you
together myself --

CRISTAL

(upset by this)

Because if I just told you it was
over, it wouldn't be enough?

BLAKE

You're mad at me? You said me you
were going out with your friends --

CRISTAL

I did, and then I went to --

BLAKE

To see him one last time --

CRISTAL

Yes, to tell him I loved you!

BLAKE

Loved?

That got hot fast. But Cristal doesn't back down.

CRISTAL

Like Fallon said, it's not worth
getting upset about. It's only an
engagement.

As she goes, his regret sinks in immediately --

BLAKE

What does that mean? Cristal. We
have two hundred people coming to
the house tomorrow. What do you
expect me to do?

CRISTAL

You'll figure it out.

(then)

You're Blake effing Carrington.

As she closes the door behind her, off Blake, king of the
deserted castle...

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR**INT. CRISTAL'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT**

Cristal returns to her bare-bones home, giving us a glimpse of her life pre-Carrington. Feminine, just the necessities.

Her phone buzzes with a new missed call and voicemail. From Matthew. She hesitates, curious what he'd say about their run-in earlier. But after the fight with Blake... she deletes it.

Moving deeper into the apartment, she notices a DUFFLE BAG on her couch, a note on top. She reads it... then dials her phone. A MAN answers, speaking in *Spanish*. Cristal does, too.

MAN'S VOICE (THROUGH PHONE)

Hey, I just missed you.

CRISTAL (INTO PHONE)

What are you doing in Atlanta?

MAN'S VOICE (THROUGH PHONE)

Is this not a good time?

CRISTAL (INTO PHONE)

No, it's not. Where are you?

MAN'S VOICE (THROUGH PHONE)

Out. We'll talk when I get back? I gotta go. I love you.

CRISTAL (INTO PHONE)

I love you, too...

Off Cristal, deeply concerned about this stranger's arrival --

CULHANE (PRE-LAP)

She's a grade-A skank...

EXT. BONES STEAKHOUSE - NIGHT

Culhane's parked outside this upscale Buckhead landmark. He leans against the limo, keeping a nervous Fallon company.

CULHANE

He didn't dump her ass on the spot?

FALLON

Daddy deals with things in his own screwed up way. The good news is, too much damage was done for it not to fall apart. They haven't even set a date --

(MORE)

TV Calling - For educational purposes only

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

FALLON (CONT'D)
(then, seeing someone)
There he is. Wish me luck.

Culhane spots JEFF COLBY (28, African American) getting out of his own chauffeured car. As this image lands on Culhane...

CULHANE
I'll wait for you.

FALLON
I'll try to be quick...

Fallon composes herself then walks over to embrace Jeff. Off Culhane, left to watch from the outside as they head in.

INT. RITZ CARLTON BUCKHEAD - FRONT DESK/ELEVATOR - NIGHT

On the FRONT DESK CLERK as he finishes the check-in process:

DESK CLERK
Alright, we have you in the penthouse suite. Please let us know if you need anything else, Mr...
(reading his file)
"Roger Rabbit."

REVERSE TO REVEAL he's talking to Steven, who nods solemnly.

STEVEN
Thank you.

DESK CLERK
Will you be needing one key or two?

Steven holds up two fingers. Wiggling them like bunny ears.

DESK CLERK (CONT'D)
Here you are.

Steven follows the Desk Clerk to the elevators, where the "Cute Guy" (from the bar earlier) waits. Steven hands him the second key. As the Clerk holds the elevator doors for them --

BELLMAN
Have a wonderful stay, Mr. Rabbit.

As they step into the empty elevator, Steven sidles up to his roomie for the evening --

CUTE GUY
Is that a family name?

CONTINUED:

STEVEN

No, it is not.

(leans him against the wall)

And I hate the movie.

(starts to kiss his neck)

It just seemed appropriate since rabbits like to fu --

As the doors close, *Ding!* SMASH TO --

INT. BONES STEAKHOUSE - PRIVATE BOOTH - NIGHT

ATHLETES and HIP HOP PRODUCERS eat lobster tail in front of PORTRAITS of old white guys. Fallon and Jeff cozy up in a booth, martinis in front of them, a flirtatious vibe.

FALLON

Gotta say, that promotion looks good on you.

JEFF

(smiles)

Talk to me in six months. Working full time with my dad means working all the time. A night out is a special treat.

FALLON

Nice to know there's still room for me in your life...

(as he leans in, softly)

You're heading up the Braves bid, right?

JEFF

(recalibrating, realizing)

And you... have not changed.

FALLON

Reuther Capital is outbidding both of our fathers. So we won't win. Not alone, anyway. But if Colby Co and Carrington Atlantic were to pool their resources -- say, my dad gets the naming rights to the new stadium, your dad buys the team --

JEFF

I should've known you only wanted to talk work. You don't know any other way to get off, do you?

TV Calling - For educational purposes only

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

FALLON

I don't. But I've always wanted to
work with you...

Jeff studies her, tentative, and she kisses him good night --

FALLON (CONT'D)

Let me know what your dad says.

EXT. LITTLE FIVE POINTS - DAY

The next morning. The SUN RISES over this bohemian Atlanta neighborhood. CLOSE ON a finger, BUZZING apartment 2F.

MAN'S VOICE (O.C.)

Delivery for Cristal Flores?

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. CRISTAL'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Cristal opens her door for a DELIVERY MAN. As he enters, he's followed by ANOTHER. And ANOTHER, each with a FLOWER ARRANGEMENT more impressive than the last.

BLAKE (O.C.)

I'm sorry...

She turns to see him, standing at her door. He steps inside, as the Delivery Men exit...

BLAKE (CONT'D)

I didn't confront you about
Matthew, because I was afraid of
losing you. I see the irony now.

CRISTAL

I should've told you I was going to
see him before I went. I'm sorry.

BLAKE

You deserve someone who treats you
like a partner. A true equal.
(off her, she's listening)
If you don't think I can do that,
then you shouldn't be with me.

As he crosses to her, Blake clocks the duffel, a pair of Tims sticking out -- and she clocks him clocking it. Then:

BLAKE (CONT'D)

But if you think I can, I need to
know it's over with Matthew. I
won't share you.

TV Calling - For educational purposes only

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

CRISTAL

It's over. I promise.
(diverting, re: flowers)
What did you do? Buy the whole
shop?

BLAKE

Three. I know you hate extravagance
but money is my medium. An artist
uses paint; a poet, words...

CRISTAL

I'd be just as happy with --

BLAKE

Wildflowers?

Blake presents a SMALL BOUQUET he'd saved in his jacket
pocket. She smiles, as he kneels on one knee --

BLAKE (CONT'D)

Let's start over. This is more than
just an engagement to me. It's the
rest of my life.

She straddles his knee, wrapping her arms around his neck:

CRISTAL

Prove it.

And off their passionate kiss, in the middle of this
makeshift garden, as a KICK-ASS SONG KICKS IN --

INT. RITZ CARLTON BUCKHEAD - PENTHOUSE SUITE - DAY

We hear the ORGASMIC SOUND of a couple twisting beneath the
sheets. Finally, Steven peeks out, in a tangle with the Cute
Guy (who will get a name soon, promise).

CUTE GUY

That was fun. You in town long?

STEVEN

I come and go. You?

CUTE GUY

Same. More coming than going.

STEVEN

As it should be. I'm gonna hit the
shower.

TV Calling - For educational purposes only

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

C.G. smiles. As he grabs his shirt, he uncovers Steven's money clip... which binds what looks like 2k-3k in one-hundreds. C.G. hesitates. But then... Fuck it.

CUTE GUY

See ya, Roger.

The Cute Guy swipes several hundos... and sees himself out.

EXT. CARRINGTON MANOR - GROUNDS - DAY

The day of the party. VENDOR VANS stream through the gate, as WORKMEN unload and carry their cargo through the front door --

INT. CARRINGTON MANOR - FOYER/LIVING ROOM/BALLROOM - DAY

The house is buzzing as the STAFF prepares for the celebration, polishing fixtures, placing arrangements --

INT. CARRINGTON MANOR - KITCHEN - DAY

In A GLORIOUS MONTAGE, CATERERS prep canapés and desserts. As Fallon walks through, she sees a CHEF icing a tiered cake. Almost like a wedding cake. And after the Chef adds a **Bride & Groom topper**, Fallon (*What. The. Fuck.*) rips it off --

INT. CARRINGTON MANOR - GUEST SUITE - DAY

Fallon bursts in, cake topper in hand, to find Cristal being laced into a STUNNING WEDDING GOWN by a TAILOR. After a beat:

FALLON

You look so elegant, I hardly recognized you.

(to Tailor)

Glynnis? I'll handle it from here.

As Glynnis exits, Fallon crosses, locking eyes on Cristal.

CRISTAL

It was your father's idea. And since we were already having the party... But something tells me you hate surprises.

FALLON

That's not what I hate.

She bites the head off the cake topper Bride. Chews slowly.

CRISTAL

I think you should be having this conversation with your father.

TV Calling - For educational purposes only

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

FALLON

After Matthew, I thought we were done talking about you.

CRISTAL

(thrown that she knew)
Your father forgave me. It was just a misunderstanding --

FALLON

Not what it looked like to me.

CRISTAL

You followed me?
(off her look)
All those rumors I'd heard, about how your father left his other fiancées... Now I know what really happened: you scared them away.
(before Fallon can retort)
I thought as women, we're supposed to stick up for each other. That's why, knowing you wanted the VP position, I said "no" to your father when he offered it to me.

FALLON

He what??

CRISTAL

But now I've changed my mind.

FALLON

That job is mine --

With that, Fallon pulls Cristal over by her hair, RIPPING her dress. Cristal pushes her off. As Fallon regains her footing, she winds back, but Cristal catches her hand --

CRISTAL

We'll have plenty of time for that after the wedding.

FALLON

Bite me, Cristal.

CRISTAL

Please. Call me "Mom."

Fallon yanks her hand away, storming out. Off Cristal, standing her new ground, with a small victorious smile --

END OF ACT FOUR

ACT FIVE**INT. CARRINGTON MANOR - UPSTAIRS LANDING - DAY**

As GUESTS stream in downstairs, find Blake (in his tux) in the upstairs hall, being lambasted by Fallon.

FALLON

You said you weren't promoting me because I wasn't ready, but she's only a few years older than I am --

BLAKE

It's not about age, Fallon. You can't just jump up the ladder without winning people's respect.

FALLON

She didn't win mine.

BLAKE

Who can?
(off her look)
It's not like she's taking over the company. She's not even changing departments yet; I'm grooming her. She cares about the future of the company. She challenges me --

FALLON

And I don't?

BLAKE

You... are just challenging! And an opportunist, like your mother.

Fallon looks at him, stung. Now we know what hurts her.

BLAKE (CONT'D)

I shouldn't have said that.

(then)

Look, I know you're just trying to be protective. And thanks to you, Cristal and I are stronger than ever.

On a quiet, brooding Fallon...

BLAKE (CONT'D)

Glynnis bought you a few dresses. Why don't you change and head down?

He drops a kiss on her head. Off a bruised Fallon, watching as Blake heads into the master suite to tend to Cristal --

INT. CARRINGTON MANOR - BALLROOM - DAY

The stodgy cocktail party of Anders' dreams: a string QUARTET plays. Canapés are passed. GUESTS mingle, the most powerful and prominent of Atlanta society. Dressed in a fab floral number (with or without shoulder pads) and jade earrings, Fallon enters, surveying the crowd. Steven sidles up to her.

STEVEN

Looking for me?

FALLON

No. Why are you here? Aren't you still pissed at Dad?

STEVEN

I'm here for you. And Dad, I guess.
(off her look, he shrugs)
The man's never going to change.
But, you know, family sticks together...

FALLON

You mean we're stuck together.

Fallon playfully sticks her tongue out at Steven, then beelines to greet who she was looking for: Monique and Jeff.

FALLON (CONT'D)

(as she embraces Monique)
I apologize in advance. If I'd had any idea what I invited you to...

MONIQUE

What do you mean? Everything looks beautiful. Very *white*... but --

JEFF

(kissing Fallon's cheek)
I spoke to my dad. He didn't shoot down your Braves pitch, so that's --

FALLON

Let's hit pause. I might actually have a better idea...

Just then, Blake commands attention, making an announcement:

BLAKE

Thank you all for coming.
(then)

Since we got engaged, everyone's been asking us when Cristal and I are getting married.

(MORE)

TV Calling - For educational purposes only

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

BLAKE (CONT'D)

We're thrilled to announce we finally picked a date and venue. It's today. Right here. And you're all invited.

Cristal appears beside him in her (mended, flawless) wedding gown, to the astonishment of the crowd.

MONIQUE

Wait, this is a surprise wedding?

FALLON

More like an ambush.

As Blake joins his bride, ushering her to --

EXT. CARRINGTON MANOR - BACKYARD - DAY

As Cristal steps through the doors, she sees the main event is outside, as she requested. And it's simple; the most remarkable thing is the grass is covered with WILDFLOWERS...

Blake crosses to a reluctant Fallon, dragging her down the makeshift aisle, followed by Cristal's friends (Libby and Brianna), in shock but also support, bouquets in hand.

Suddenly, the String Quartet's march becomes recognizable, as it gives way to the stereo system, piping in BOWIE'S "Modern Love." Cristal stands there, amazed, before Steven volunteers to take her arm, escorting her towards the waiting Groom.

CRISTAL

Did you tell Blake --?

STEVEN

No. And you know Anders didn't.

On Anders, looking miserable. The rest of the crowd seems pleased. It's spontaneous, lighthearted, anything but stodgy. A fairy-tale wedding, and most importantly, it's Cristal's.

Steven hands her off to Blake, then steps aside. As the OFFICIANT begins, off Cristal, taking a deep breath --

EXT. SUNVY SOLAR ENERGY PLANT - DAY

Matthew and his friend/Assistant Engineer from C.A., WILLY BOLLER (50's), hop out of Matthew's truck, gazing up at the dozens of solar-powered windmills. They cross to meet Bill Prather (Steven's "date" gone wrong). Shaking hands --

PRATHER

Thanks for coming out. TV Calling - For educational purposes only

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MATTHEW

Boss says jump, we jump. And I've always been curious about this place.

PRATHER

We're pretty proud. I'll give you a tour of the facilities.

But as they start to walk, a small fleet of C.A. vehicles pull up, including 4 SEISMIC THUMPER TRUCKS...

PRATHER (CONT'D)

What's with the thumpers? I thought you boys were interested in what's above ground, not what's under it.

MATTHEW

If Carrington's gonna buy the land, he's gonna cover his bases.

(then)

Tests will take a couple hours, tops. I'll even disclose everything we find, and you can use it to milk Blake for all it's worth.

An irritated Prather walks off, presumably to call someone. Willy turns to Matthew:

WILLY

Gotta say, I'm surprised you agreed to run point on this.

MATTHEW

This is my last job.
(off his surprise)
Gave Blake my notice yesterday.
Life's too short.

WILLY

So it's got nothing to do with the fact he's marrying your girlfriend?

MATTHEW

They're not married yet.

Off Willy's look, wondering what Matthew is planning --

EXT. CARRINGTON MANOR - BACKYARD - DAY

Blake slides the RING onto Cristal's finger, then pulls her into a kiss as the crowd APPLAUDS.

EXT. CARRINGTON MANOR - PATIO - DAY

In a receiving line, Cristal and Blake greets their guests (let's call the first ones JOE and, his wife, MIKA).

MIKA

I've never seen anything like this.
A pop-up wedding!

BLAKE

Cristal tells me it's a trend, now.

JOE

Well, at least she'll keep you
young!

Cristal turns to Blake ("*at least?*"), as Blake shrugs it off. As Steven steps up to join them, Joe shakes his hand:

JOE (CONT'D)

Where were you this summer, Son?

BLAKE

Steven took a hiatus to visit
C.A.'s international sites.

JOE

Sounds wonderful, touring Europe...

STEVEN

More like sleeping my way through
it.

Blake laughs, embarrassed, then steps aside with JOE for damage control. Steven steps over to Cristal, pointing out the Who's Who of her new world. Eyes still on JOE:

STEVEN (CONT'D)

One of the top investors in C.A.
Complete sexist. You would've
sensed that if he'd spoken to you --
which, notice, he didn't.

Cristal looks to Mika. Left alone. Sadly sipping her wine.

CRISTAL

Promise that will never be me?

STEVEN

You feel bad for her? Don't. She's
on her fifth marriage, counting the
days 'til her sixth. It's one way
to get rich...

TV Calling - For educational purposes only

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

CRISTAL

What a heartwarming story to hear
on your wedding day.

STEVEN

I hope you two last. It's the
happiest I've seen him since --
(a beat, cautious)
Before our mom left...

CRISTAL

I've heard a lot about Alexis.

MAN'S VOICE (O.S.)

I am so sorry I'm late --

Cristal and Steven turn to see... the Cute Guy from the Ritz.
Both Steven and C.G. stop in their tracks. What on earth?

CRISTAL

You made it --

STEVEN

Wait, you two know each other?

CRISTAL

Do you?

CUTE GUY

(jumps in)
Not really. We crossed paths at the
bar near your place, yesterday --

That lands on Cristal, concerned. Steven's very confused...

CRISTAL

Oh. How funny. Well, Steven, this
is my nephew. Sammy Jo.

SAM

No one calls me that anymore.
(extends a hand to Steven)
It's Sam.

STEVEN

Nephew?

CRISTAL

My older sister's son.
(then, to Sam)
Can we talk?

Cristal pulls Sam aside, as a new Guest approaches Steven.

TV Calling -- For educational purposes only

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SAM

Actually, I can't stay long --

CRISTAL

I'm sorry about before. Please stay. I want you here, I just...

She clocks that Sam is still watching Steven. Concerned:

CRISTAL (CONT'D)

Did you only cross paths, or...
(then)
Did you tell him anything?

SAM

Nothing. Literally nothing.

CRISTAL

(nods, relieved, then)
I'm sorry I was short when you first called, I've been stressed out, and when I saw your bag on my couch, I --

SAM

I get it.
(then, looks at the house)
But why am I sleeping on your couch when you have like 50 bedrooms?

Off her look, as we realize Sammy Jo might be an issue --

INT. CARRINGTON MANOR - REC ROOM - DAY

Pretty much the ultimate rec room: flat-screens set up for video gaming (Steven's a gamer), vintage pinball, darts, and a gorgeous billiards table in the center, which Fallon and Jeff are playing. She's winning (was there any doubt?).

FALLON

My whole life, people have told me, "girl power, stand tall, go for your dreams," but as soon as I even touch the glass ceiling? They're pulling out the Windex to wipe off my fingerprints.

(off Jeff's smile)

All I'm saying is: how can I worry about other people, when they don't worry about me?

(then)

Does that makes me an opportunist?

TV Calling - For educational purposes only

(CONTINUED)

JEFF
It makes you a shark.
(as she sinks a solid)
Case in point.

FALLON
And you, I mean, just because
people call you a sycophant --

JEFF
What --?

FALLON
I don't. I know you're more than
that. My point is we're more than
that. We're the future, right?

JEFF
People think I'm an ass-kisser?

FALLON
You're just dedicated to Colby Co.
And your father.
(then)
But maybe everyone would respect
you more if you had ideas of your
own. Revolutionary ideas.
(off his look)
I have one. And if you take it to
your Dad today, you can present it
as yours, for all I care.

JEFF
What is it?

FALLON
Just a huge investment opportunity,
in the form of a small clean energy
site upstate...

Fallon sinks the eight-ball along with her father's plans...

EXT. PRATHER SOLAR ENERGY PLANT - DAY

Matthew and Willy set up the Thumpers, spaced out in a
quadrant. As they run them one by one, Matthew coordinating
the team, one of his DRIVERS yells over the RUMBLING:

THUMPER DRIVER
Hey Blaisdel, over here -- !

Matthew heads towards the fourth truck.

TV Calling - For educational purposes only

(CONTINUED)

MATTHEW
Try it again.

The Driver turns on the truck, but it only RUMBLES for a moment before --

BANG! A HUGE EXPLOSION THROWS MATTHEW BACK, and instantly knocks out the Driver.

Willy, Prather and others scramble to investigate --

WILLY
What happened??

PRATHER
Look out --!!

The TURBINES are damaged, spinning out of control. In seconds, they burst into flames, blades splintering --

One HURTLES RIGHT TOWARDS MATTHEW -- with no time to react.

SMASH CUT TO:

EXT. CARRINGTON MANOR - BACKYARD - DAY

Blake finds Cristal in a quiet moment, surveying the party.

BLAKE
So did you get everything you ever dreamed of?

Before she can answer, the Guests RING little silver bells.

CRISTAL
Now I did. The kissing bells.

BLAKE
Is this some family tradition?

CRISTAL
No. I saw it on Chrissy Teigen's Pinterest page.
(off his laugh)
Every time they ring the bells, we're supposed to kiss.

BLAKE
I don't mind that.

CRISTAL
It's a superstition. The ringing is supposed to scare away the devil.

TV Calling - For educational purposes only

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

As they kiss, the RINGING BLEEDING into --

EXT. PRATHER SOLAR ENERGY PLANT - DAY

The fire from the explosion swells, flames leaping as Willy rushes over to Matthew, who's seriously injured, bleeding out. Willy screams at Prather:

WILLY

Call an ambulance!

MATTHEW

No, call Cristal... Call...

Willy covers for him, to the others who heard that:

WILLY

He means Claudia. His wife.

Off Matthew, barely holding onto consciousness --

EXT. CARRINGTON MANOR - BACKYARD - DAY

The RINGING bells continue -- a now sickening cacophony --

CRISTAL

And once the devil is gone...

BLAKE

We live happily ever after.

And as they seal it with a kiss...

END OF ACT FIVE

ACT SIX**EXT. CARRINGTON MANOR - FRONT DRIVE - DUSK**

Blake's '61 Ferrari GT Spider is in the driveway, ready to escape. Cristal, now in her "going away" outfit, tosses the bouquet, and it accidentally lands in Fallon's hands -- who looks at it as if it's a rotten fish before flinging it at Steven, who catches it. Sam clocks this with a small smile.

Off to the side, Blake runs into Jeff Colby. Coolly:

BLAKE

Jeff. I didn't realize your family was here...

JEFF

Actually, I just got off the phone with my dad. He sends his regrets.

BLAKE

How considerate, considering he wasn't invited.

As Jeff smiles, Fallon drifts over, joining them. To Fallon:

JEFF

I talked to him, we moved on the tip.

BLAKE

What "tip" is this?

FALLON

Company called SunVy. Heard of it?

As that betrayal lands on Blake, Jeff continues to Fallon:

JEFF

Guy was eager to sell. Sounded like he was having a bad day...

BLAKE

(to Jeff)

This isn't a baseball team, or a hospital wing. You can't just branch out into energy -- you don't have the experience.

FALLON

But I do.

(off his look)

(MORE)

TV Calling - For educational purposes only

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

FALLON (CONT'D)

Turns out I'll get a promotion
after all: Chief Strategy Officer
of SunVy, a subsidiary of Colby Co.
Maybe Steven will be my first hire.
(then, sincerely)
I'm not an opportunist, Dad. I just
need the opportunity to prove it.

As Fallon walks away, out of her father's shadow, off Blake --

INT. MATTHEW BLAISDEL'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY

Claudia's alone looking through the drawers, trying to make a
cup of tea, when the phone RINGS. She ignores it at first,
continuing to search for a spoon... finally answering:

CLAUDIA

Hello?
(a beat, confused)
This is she...
(a beat)
No, she just left, Matthew's coming
home soon -- Willy, what's wrong?

But before we find out, off a concerned Claudia ---

INT. CARRINGTON MANOR - LIBRARY - DAY

Steven's getting a drink from his dad's bar. The good stuff.
When Sam steps in, having come to find him. Quietly --

SAM

Thank you for not saying anything
earlier. About the money.

STEVEN

What?

SAM

The money I took. At the hotel.

STEVEN

I have no idea what you're talking
about.

SAM

It was like 1400 bucks. In cash.
Right out of your money clip.
Didn't you even notice?

STEVEN

Nope.

TV Calling - For educational purposes only

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Steven smiles. Sam is stunned that this guy has so much money that he wouldn't miss 1400 bucks...

STEVEN (CONT'D)

Hey, no hard feelings. Not that I normally pay for sex, but you were worth every dollar.

SAM

And I don't normally steal from one night stands. But if they all had that much cash lying around --

STEVEN

Why'd you lie?

SAM

I'm in a tight spot, with rent --

STEVEN

No, I mean to Cristal. About us. Are you not out?

SAM

I am. She just... she wants to keep our lives separate.

STEVEN

So you're the black sheep of your family, too.

SAM

No. She is.

Off Steven's look, wondering what that means...

SAM (CONT'D)

Too bad you're leaving town soon.

STEVEN

Actually... I'm thinking I'll stay.

Sam smiles, hoping he can, too. Off a curious Steven...

EXT. CARRINGTON STABLES - DUSK

On the outskirts of the party, Fallon finds Culhane. She takes his drink, finishes it, and returns the empty glass.

CULHANE

I was about to head downtown. Unless you need a ride...

TV Calling - For educational purposes only

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

FALLON

(flirting)

Do you really have to ask?

CULHANE

(re: party)

You're in a better mood than I thought you'd be. You work things out with your dad?

FALLON

Something like that.

But when she turns towards the limo, Jeff approaches.

JEFF

Hey, thought we could run over a game plan before I go. You got time?

FALLON

Oh. Sure...

Jeff sees Culhane with the empty glass, hands his own to him.

JEFF

Can I get a refill, too? Gin and --

FALLON

(embarrassed)

He's not a waiter...

JEFF

Oh man, I'm so sorry --

FALLON

This is Michael Culhane. He's...

CULHANE

The chauffeur.

JEFF

Oh... Perfect.

(to Fallon)

Let's go out for a drink then. He can give us a ride.

As Jeff escorts her to the limo, Culhane following behind, the third wheel in this complicated, awkward love triangle --

EXT. CARRINGTON MANOR - FRONT DRIVE - DUSK

The whole party is gathered to send them off when Anders approaches Cristal with a lovely, short FUR JACKET.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ANDERS

You might find the Ferrari chilly with the top down, and we always have extra coats lying around --

CRISTAL

Oh... I don't wear fur.

ANDERS

I figured. It's *faux*.

CRISTAL

(tentative, then)

Thank you, Anders.

ANDERS

Your morality is a rainbow of grays, isn't it?

(off her look)

As you may know, I wear many hats around here, one of which is managing the hiring process for the staff. Which includes running background checks.

On Cristal, wondering why he's telling her this --

ANDERS (CONT'D)

When Mr. Carrington was concerned about your tryst with Blaisdel, he asked me to run yours.

CRISTAL

He *what*?

ANDERS

I don't do them personally. I work with very thorough, very private services. And I have to say -- the results were riveting. They make Glynnis' old prostitution ring look like a debutante ball.

(then)

Samuel Josias Jones. Sammy Jo? I believe he's here today...

CRISTAL

I don't know what you found, but whatever it is, I can explain --

ANDERS

You don't have to. Like I said, the results were thorough.

TV Calling - For educational purposes only

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

On Cristal, afraid to say anything for fear of entrapment...

CRISTAL

What do you want?

ANDERS

For you to know I told Blake
everything came back clean.

CRISTAL

Why would you do that?

ANDERS

As you noted, I like control. Also,
believe it or not, I think you're
good for Blake.

(off her look)

You spin scandals for a living. As
his wife, you'll learn how
invaluable that skill-set is. But
if you ever try to turn on Blake,
or expose his secrets --

(then)

I'll expose yours.

CRISTAL

Is that a threat?

ANDERS

Not at all. Think of me as an ally.
You're going to need one.

Off a completely numb Cristal, as Blake approaches --

BLAKE

Sweetheart, you ready to go?

Blake leads her towards the Ferrari, as Culhane's limo rolls
out towards the front gate -- but as the gate opens, another
car SPEEDS IN, SCREECHING to a halt.

As Claudia Blaisdel jumps out, an emotional wreck, tear-
stained cheeks, barreling towards a stunned Blake --

CLAUDIA

You set him up! He tried to quit,
and you sent him to that place!

On the baffled crowd and Cristal, trying to make sense of it.
Fallon steps out of the limo, approaching, hearing it all --

CLAUDIA (CONT'D)

You knew what was going to happen
because you made it happen!

(MORE)

TV Calling -- For educational purposes only

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

CLAUDIA (CONT'D)

(then)

It was no accident and you know it!

On Blake, this seems like news to him. Cristal turns to him:

CRISTAL

What accident? Is Matthew okay?

The crowd erupts in a sea of whispers. As Blake's BODYGUARDS approach Claudia, he holds them back, tempering:

BLAKE

Easy. It's alright.

(with coded significance)

This is Blaisdel's wife. She's...
not well.

But even he is startled when Claudia screams above the din:

CLAUDIA

Blake Carrington killed my husband!

The crowd falls silent, as this lands on all the Carringtons. It hits Cristal the hardest -- something primal tells her it's true. As tears suddenly, automatically well up...

CRISTAL

Matthew's dead...

Hearing this, Claudia turns her eyes on Cristal, venomous:

CLAUDIA

Don't. You have no right. I know
you were sleeping with him. I know
you cast him aside to marry this
son of a bitch!

Not exactly what you want the guests to hear on your wedding day. Even Fallon almost feels bad for Cristal. Almost. As the Guards gently escort Claudia away, to Cristal:

CLAUDIA (CONT'D)

Now Matthew's blood is on your
hands, too.

(then)

Now you're a Carrington.

OFF CRISTAL, reeling, wondering *what the hell she has gotten herself into...*

END OF PILOT