

DIS-INVITED

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Voices can be heard coming from another room. As the camera moves along, a wonderful collection of books—paperbacks, hard covers, and even a few leather-bound ones—is shown. There are classics, Anthologies, and complete works stacked in a random fashion around a series of modern western novels. We highlight the series by Huck Wilde.

The voices become clearer as the camera passes the last of the books to see down an old-school apartment hallway. Marisol, an attractive Latinx in her late 20s, appears carrying a tablet. She is talking to someone over Facetime.

MARISOL

I promise I will go tomorrow.

FEMALE VOICE

(O.S.)

Mari, it is less than a week away.

MARISOL

I know I know. But with the new book coming out next week there was all this last minute things my publisher was asking of me.

She makes her way into the room. As we get a better view the writer's room is more like an explosion of a pack rat's office.

She walks over to a cluttered desk and makes room for the tablet.

MARISOL (CONT'D)

Sam, promise no excuses. Tomorrow you can check that box off your wedding to do list.

On the Screen is SAMANTHA, Marisol's best friend. She holds up a yellow pad. It is her to do list for her wedding.

SAMANTHA

Mari, do you see this list?

Off Marisol's look.

On the corner of a street full of midtown hustle and bustle of 5 o'clock city life. A 30 something, NEIL CASSIDY comes out of the shop talking on the phone.

NEIL

Tux fitting: Done!. Picking it up in the morning. All that is left is a quick review tonight that I have to write and I'm wedding bound.

FEMALE VOICE

Last minute for you, but glad to hear.

NEIL

Last minute. This is all part of a well orchestrated plan.

3 EXT. RANCH- PORCH - CONTINUOUS 3

On the other side of the this phone conversation is Jacquelin BERRA, biracial athletic 30ish year old.

JACQUELIN

Okay. Wait 'till you see it out here. It is beautiful.

The large farmhouse is isolated but surrounded by acres of nature.

4 EXT. CITY STREET - CONTINUOUS 4

NEIL

Tell me you're not wearing cowboy boots already Jackie.

(The rest of the scene intercut between the two men)

JACQUELIN

Nope but got me a Cowboy hat.

She puts it on.

An actual cowboy passes her on the porch. The cowboy critically shakes his head, shows her how to properly wear the hat.

The man adjusts Jacquelin's hat.

5 INT. RANCH LARGE BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS 5

Marisol on Samantha's Screen.

MARISOL
 Maybe you shouldn't have fired
 wedding planner.

SAMANTHA
 Please he wanted to go with Greco-
 Roman theme.

MARISOL
 Ugh! How many have you gone
 through?

SAMANTHA
 Interviewed or officially hired?

MARISOL
 Both.

SAMANTHA
 Interview fifteen and fired three.

MARISOL
 Wow.

SAMANTHA
 Besides all the things that I have
 to do you want to know how many
 times your on the list?

She raises the note pad so the Marisol can see it again.

Marisol leans in and takes a closer look.

MARISOL
 Oh my six times.

SAMANTHA
 I love you Mari, but till you are
 here with my dress. I will not
 relax.

MARISOL
 I promise.

6 EXT. RANCH- PORCH - CONTINUOUS

6

JACQUELIN
 Neil don't forget the...

NEIL
 ...the ring. Sister, this is Neil
 Cassidy you are talking to. Picked
 up and polished.

JACQUELIN
Your are the best.

NEIL
Best man to be exact.

JACQUELIN
By the I'm sending a car to pick
you up at the airport.

NEIL
Sounds great.

JACQUELIN
Plus it will give you a chance to
meet Sam's best friend Mari.

NEIL
Fantastic.

JACQUELIN
You never know maybe the two of you
will hit it off and...

NEIL
Stop it.

JACQUELIN
She is pretty just saying

NEIL
Good Bye.

He hangs up and makes his way down the crowded street.

7 INT. A WRITERS STUDY - CONTINUOUS

7

SAMANTHA
Sorry. I'm being a bit bitchy huh?

MARISOL
Just a tad.

They smile at each other.

SAMANTHA
Congrats on the book by the way.
It's about time.

MARISOL
What do you mean?

SAMANTHA
You used your...

MARISOL
Don't jinx it!

SAMANTHA
What?

MARISOL
Don't say it. I'm nervous enough.

SAMANTHA
When does the review come out?

MARISOL
This Sunday.

SAMANTHA
That is awesome it will be great
day for both of us. My wedding and
your...

MARISOL
Don't say it!

A beat of Silence.

MARISOL (CONT'D)
Sorry.

SAMANTHA
Mari go to your kicking box class.
Get out of your head.

MARISOL
I know I'm going in the morning.

SAMANTHA
Then get my dress, right?

MARISOL
Yes!

They both share a slight laugh.

SAMANTHA
E-mailing you flight info tonight.
And remember pack layers.

MARISOL
I will.

SAMANTHA

Love you Mari! It's going to be so much fun once you get here.

MARISOL

I know it will. Love you too. Bye.

She hangs up. She looks over to a open box of her newly published books. Title reads "Fire in the Prairie" by Marisol Montoya.

Her face shows her concern and lack of confidence.

8 INT. LOFT APARTMENT - MORNING

8

Neil enters his apartment. He lays down his tuxedo on the couch next to some piles of neatly stacked clothes and toiletries lined up from largest to smallest, which are next to a leather dopp kit and a small empty suitcase.

He makes his way over to his desk. The room is a feng shui layout of a very meticulous individual. Probably verges on O.C.D.

At his desk he opens the middle drawer and takes out a black ring box. He opens the box. Inside a large size diamond wedding ring. He walks over and places it next to the empty suitcase. Prepped and ready to go first thing to be packed.

NEIL

Siri play Hobo Prophets.

A very Mumford and Sons type song begins to play as he walks back to his desk. He sits down and turns on his computer. He removes from his IN basket a manuscript. He starts to peruse his red ink notes on the margin.

As he begins to type camera pushes past him to a large shelf of books Alphabetize and categorized. We see there is a complete collection of all the western books written by Huck Wilde.

9 Ext. CITY STREET - MORNING

9

The music still plays as we move down the early morning rush traffic of pedestrians and cars. A cab pulls over in front of a wedding dress shop. We hear nothing but the music.

Marisol steps out of the cab wearing a set of wireless earbuds and dressed in workout clothes, carrying a gym bag. She seems engrossed with something else as she bumps into people. She makes her up stream towards the store.

There is a man running behind her yelling. We can only tell because he is waving his arms. People are slowing down intrigued with who is he yelling at. This drama all plays out as Marisol makes her way to the door of the store unaware.

Suddenly a hand grabs her gym bag aggressively. Marisol spins around and instinctively yanks the bag away and kicks him. SMACK right on the groin area.

MARISOL

No you do don't!

People stop to watch when all the commotion starts.

The man bends over in hurting tries to speak between the gasps of pain. She can barely hear what he is saying. He points to his ears. Gestures for her to remove the earbuds. She removes them.

MAN

Lady you forgot to pay me.

Marisol looks and through the crowd she can see the cab and the open driver's door.

MARISOL

Oh my god. I'm so sorry. My mind is all over the place, with the wedding and did I do the right thing with the book. Then my favorite song came on and I...

MAN

Lady I just want my money.

MARISOL

Sure.

She reaches for her wallet. The crowd slowly goes back to its own business.

MARISOL (CONT'D)

Here is 20.

She looks at the man who stares at him through teary eyes.

MARISOL (CONT'D)

Let's say 25 with a tip.

The man gives her a "Are you Serious" look.

MARISOL (CONT'D)

30?

Man looks at her "Come On Lady I'm in pain here"

MARISOL (CONT'D)

35?

He takes the money.

MARISOL (CONT'D)

Sorry about that.

Points to his groin area. He turns hobbles back to cab muttering.

MARISOL (CONT'D)

(awkward)

I am sorry.

MAN

Whatever lady.

Marisol watches the poor guy get in his taxi painfully.

MARISOL

(to herself)

My trainer would have said not enough follow through.

She sighs and goes into the store.

10 INT. WEDDING DRESS STORE - DAY

10

Marisol steps out of the dressing room. She is wearing an ill fitted horrendous brides maid dress. The two store attendants look at each other. No words needed the look says it all.

Marisol steps in front of the mirror.

MARISOL

You've got to be kidding me.

The two attendants come in start poking and pinning. Marisol just drops her head in disbelief.

11 INT. COFFEE SHOP - DAY

11

Tight on Neil's Phone. It begins to vibrate on the table. The name REGAN ARCHER flashes.

Neil wearing a headset listens to music and stares blankly ahead. He looks down at his phone.

NEIL

Oh crap.

He answers the phone.

NEIL (CONT'D)

REGAN. I'm sorry I 'm sending it right now.

He grabs a flash drive from his bag then connects it to the tablet.

NEIL (CONT'D)

You should have it in just a minute.

12

INT. REGAN'S OFFICE - DAY

12

A 50 plus year old BLACK WOMAN sits behind a large desk. Behind her a large office window where we can see a busy bullpen with reporters and other employees. She is the editor of a weekly magazine called "Town and City" a west coast version of the Harper or The New Yorker. Regan has stern but eloquent English accent.

REGAN

I wasn't worried but I know your leaving out of town soon and today is Thursday.

NEIL

Thursday?

REGAN

Yes it was part of our very trying negotiations when I hire you and stole you away from that little magazine you were at. What is called again?

NEIL

The Chatter.

REGAN

Yes what a quaint name. Well we are NOT the "The Chatter" Neil. I believe I made it very clear that I expect your very best on every article even if today is THURSDAY, the day you go MIA to "work" on your book.

NEIL

Yes I understand.

A message saying incoming e-mail from Neil Cassidy arrives on his computer.

REGAN

I just received it. I will review it and let us hope there no issue.

NEIL

There shouldn't be.

REGAN

Let us hope so. I would hate to have call you again. Go back to trying to finishing that book.

13 INT. COFFEE SHOP - DAY

13

NEIL

Yeah. Bye.

He hangs up the phone looks down to his tablet.

Its a blank screen.

As camera pulls back it see him frozen staring at the blank screen in a busy coffee shop.

14 EXT. RANCH-PORCH - DAY

14

Jacqueline stands on the front porch sipping a coffee. They appear slightly spellbound by the beauty of the countryside. Samantha comes up behind them and squeezes Jacquelin tight.

JACQUELIN

Morning sleepy head.

They kiss.

SAMANTHA

Morning. I don't know what it is. Out here it feels like mornings should not be rushed.

JACQUELIN

This from the woman who back at home is stressing if the first quarter of her to-do list is not done by 9 am.

SAMANTHA

I know. I'm still a little stress,
with wedding stuff but being out
here with you, doing the finishing
touches I realized something.

JACQUELIN

What?

SAMANTHA

That as long as you and I get
married and begin a life
together...nothing else matters.

JACQUELIN

Nothing?

SAMANTHA

Nothing.

Holding each other they take in the view.

15 INT. MARISOL'S STUDY - DAY

15

Marisol sitting at her messy desk signing a stack of her new
books.

MARISOL

I don't understand why this can't
wait till I get back.

Helen her Asian American 60 something agent her comes out of
the bathroom with a blow dryer and other feminine supplies.
FYI Helen is her chain smoking trying to use a vape now.

HELEN

Because your publisher requested
it.

Marisol looks up to see smoke come out of Helen's mouth.

MARISOL

Don't get cigarettes smell on
everything.

Helen stops. Her hands are full but like a pro she pops the a
vapor stick in her mouth.

HELEN

It is an e-cig and smells like
cotton candy.

Helen exhales cloud of vape then heads down the hallway to the bedroom with the stick still in her mouth.

MARISOL
What are these for?

From the other room Helen yells.

HELEN (O.S.)
Special gifts to some important folks.

She comes back down the hallway.

HELEN (CONT'D)
One of them is a prominent Hollywood producer.

MARISOL
Your kidding?

HELEN
Nope.

Marisol stops signing.

MARISOL
Helen do you think...

Helen goes over to the bride's maid dress sitting on the chair. She exhales as she picks it up.

HELEN
...Wow, is this what are you going to wear?

MARISOL
Yes, I know don't say it.

She looks at her desk clock as Helen takes the dress down the hall trying to bite her lip.

MARISOL (CONT'D)
We have to go. The airport will be a mess.

From the bedroom, Helen yells

HELEN (O.S.)
Well, maybe you should have packed.

MARISOL
I know I just wanted to get on more workout in. You know it helps me.

(MORE)

MARISOL (CONT'D)
Plus I didn't plan last minute
signing spree.

HELEN (O.S.)
So you lucky I'm here for you.

Marisol closes the last book after signing it. She stares at the cover. Maybe this book is it for her. Maybe it will be a movie?

Helen coming down the hall with Marisol's bags and garment bag.

HELEN (CONT'D)
Lets go the airport will be mess.

She leaves Marisol's bag near the door.

HELEN (CONT'D)
You get the bag since there no
elevator in this place.

We stay on the suit case.

16

INT. LARGE CITY AIRPORT - DAY

16

The suit case lands on the scale.

Neil is checking in at the airline counter. There is a long line behind him. An ATTENDANT is behind the counter is printing out his ticket.

ATTENDANT
Okay Mr. Cassidy. You are all set.
Seat 12 D Window. Gate B7.

NEIL
Thank you.

ATTENDANT
Enjoy your trip.

Neil walks away from the counter and starts heading for his gate. There is a very upset teenager walking past him towards her mother.

TEENAGER
I can't believe they lost my
luggage.

MOTHER
They will find it don't worry.

TEENAGER

Easy for you to say it wasn't your bag.

Neil freezes in his track. A panic look comes over Neil's face.

Bam! He is smacked in the shoulder by Marisol who rushes past him with her suitcase on wheels very similar to his and a garment carry on.

MARISOL

Sorry.

He spins and watches her run to the end of the line. Rubbing his shoulder.

NEIL

(muttering)

Surprisingly strong.

Any idea pops in his head. He races back to the counter in a panic.

ATTENDANT

So how many bags are you checking in today?

NEIL

Excuse me.

The attendant and the couple at the counter look up at Neil.

ATTENDANT

I'm sorry sir you need to wait till I finish with these guest.

NEIL

No I can't.

ATTENDANT

Sir, please you need to wait.

Behind her, Neil sees his bags as it gets put on conveyer belt. He start to chase his bag as travels further away from him.

BACK AT THE END OF THE LINE of the line that seems like miles away from the counter is Marisol starting to freak out. She looks at the digital clock above her.

MARISOL

Excuse me, how fast has the line been moving?

MAN IN LINE

Pretty slow.

MARISOL

Really.

She looks at the clock again.

BACK AT THE COUNTER: The bag makes its way further and further away from Neil

NEIL

NO! Wait!

He continues to chase his bag down the length of the counter. He tries the best that he can not to run into other people but he is not very successful.

MEANWHILE AT THE LINE Marisol staring up at the clock as yet another minute clicks away. True panic set in her eyes. She grabs her two bags and starts pushing her way past people apologizing to each person as best as she can.

MARISOL

I'm sorry. Its my best friends wedding and I am afraid I'm going, miss my plane and I promised her I would be there. Really sorry...

As she makes her way up the line chaotically some people wave her on. Others are upset they too have places to go. She is walking backwards apologizing almost every other step. She turns around...

Bam! Right into a large security guard.

MARISOL (CONT'D)

You have to understand I have her wedding dress.

BACK AT THE COUNTER Neil still chases his bag. Finally he sees an opening jumps over the scales. Counter Attendants react in fear at this mad man jumping to their side of the counter. He dives for his bag.

He lands on his bag with a thud! Then rolls off the conveyer belt with the bag. He has it. He takes a deep breath of satisfaction. Then he sees...

A Large SECURITY GUARD built like a bull staring down on him.

17 INT. BACK ROOM - DAY

17

Neil sits in a metal chair. It is a very sparse back room. The security guard from before enters.

SECURITY GUARD # 2

Okay Mr. Cassidy. Everything checks out.

He hands him his phone, boarding pass, ID and the ring box.

SECURITY GUARD # 2 (CONT'D)

Next time plan a little better.

NEIL

Yes sir.

SECURITY GUARD # 2

Your bags are on the way to the plane.

NEIL

Thank you.

He gets up puts the ring box in his jacket pocket.

SECURITY GUARD # 2

You better get going. Your plane is already boarding.

NEIL

Yes. Thank you. Thank you.

As he runs out the door. No one notices he forgot his phone.

18 EXT. LARGE AIRPORT TARMAC - DAY

18

An Airbus type plane takes off into the air.

19 INT. RANCH- EVENT HALL - DAY

19

JOSEPHINE, a young 20-something employee at the Ranch, is working on a flora decoration on a folding table. Two male employees are stringing lights, and two others are setting chairs. Samantha walks over and joins her. She watches Josephine work for a moment.

SAMANTHA

So, do you like that combination?

Josephine knows this is a loaded question.

JOSEPHINE

Uhm. Do you?

SAMANTHA

No.

JOSEPHINE

Neither do I but I was told to do it this way.

SAMANTHA

Really by who?

Josephine looks over to the small stage where LYDIA, Samantha's mother, and MONICA, her soon-to-be mother-in-law, are. Both women are well dressed in casual clothes and in their early 60s. They look like the type of housewives who busy themselves volunteering by heading boards of non-profits and fund-raisers. They are explaining to two of the men that they are hanging the lights wrong. Finally, Lydia tells the worker to get down and climbs the ladder herself.

SAMANTHA (CONT'D)

Sorry, what's your name again?

JOSEPHINE

Josephine but people call me Jo.

SAMANTHA

Well, Josephine why don't we scrap that idea.

20

EXT. RANCH - DAY

20

Jacquelin walks near the horse corral with two very distinguished men. One is her father Marcus, a corporate lawyer the other is his soon to be father-in-law PHILIP, a CEO type.

JACQUELIN

She is stressing and she won't accept any real help.

PHILIP

I will take the blame for her being a control freak but "The Do It Herself Thing" is all her mother.

JACQUELIN

I just want her to enjoy it.

MARCUS

Have you ever thought in her own way she is?

JACQUELIN

Maybe...you know I think that was what first attracted me to her.

MARCUS

Jacquelin, it will be alright. Plus Philip and I have both of your backs.

JACQUELIN

Then help us with the moms.

PHILIP

Let's go get both the wives out of the hall.

They head off towards the event hall.

21 INT. SPOKANE AIRPORT TERMINAL - DAY

21

Passengers step through Gate C into the waiting area. Neil is part of the first group. He walks down the terminal over to the flight board while checking his watch. He begins looking for his flight. A young mother carrying a crying baby in her arms also looks at the board. Neil keeps switching his focus between the board and the wailing baby.

PA SYSTEM

Passenger Cassidy and Passenger Montoya please come to gate C10.

Wait, was that his name? He can't tell because of the screeching baby. He concentrates on finding his flight.

PA SYSTEM (CONT'D)

Passenger Cassidy and Passenger Montoya please come to gate C10.

He can't make out what is coming over the PA between it being so muffled and the wailing baby. Neil finds his flight. Looks at his watch. Crap it is leaving. He rushes back to the gate.

He is running back the way he came. He is dodging people left and right. He doesn't see a passenger electric cart as it screeches to a stop. Neil's instincts kick in he sticks out his hands to protect himself. He looks up to see a wide-eyed attendant and Marisol.

NEIL
Sorry, my bad.

MARISOL
Are you hurt?

NEIL
No.

MARISOL
(Impatiently)
Then could you move? I don't want
to miss my flight.

He glares at her. Moves slowly to one side. The cart
continues on its way. As it passes..

NEIL
(Mutters)
If you do you could always just get
on your broomstick.

Marisol's head snaps back to look at him. She heard that.

As she pulls further away she sees Neil make his way to the
gate. There the older Middle Eastern Airline Attendant tells
him that he is at the wrong gate and quickly points down the
terminal. He waves his hand telling Neil to run and then
picks up the phone at his counter.

22 EXT. SPOKANE AIRPORT TARMAC - DAY 22

Bags are going up on a conveyor belt onto a small bombardier-
q400 propeller plane. A bag handler holds a very familiar bag
in his hands. He hears something over his head set. He puts
the bag down on the ground as he tries to hear better what is
coming over the head set. BAG HANDLER # 1 comes over to him.

BAG HANDLER #1
We're full that bag goes on the
next plane.

He points to the bag. The other bag handler throws it on the
cart and drives away. WAIT! Was that Marisol's or Neil's?

As they pull away Neil comes running onto the Tarmac and up
the stairs on to the plane.

23 EXT. KOOTENAI NATIONAL FOREST - EVENING 23

An aerial of western Montana as Marisol and Neil's plane fly
over the trees lit by late summer light.

24 EXT. RUNWAY - DAY 24

The small plane wheels hit the asphalt of the runway.

25 INT. AIRPLANE - DAY 25

Neil sitting next to the window is jerked awake as the plane comes to a landing. His coat lays over him like a blanket. He tries to shake the sleep out of his head.

A few rows back is Marisol sitting in an aisle seat. She nervously starts eyeing the over head compartment three rows up. People in front of her start getting up from their seats. She pops up but can't move more than a foot away from her seat.

Neil slowly rises and sees the line to get off the plane is not moving anywhere. He sits back down. He reaches into his jacket pocket feels for something. Its not there. He quickly checks the other pocket. Pulls out the ring box. Reaches inside his pocket again.

NEIL

Damn it. My Phone.

He puts the ring box on the arm rest next to him. He double, triples checks all his pockets for his phone. Then in the edges of his seat. He drops to his knees down and awkwardly look for his phone on the floor. The person next to him leaves so he gets on all fours to look deeper under the seats. He sits up realizing the phone is not there.

Suddenly someone steps on his ankle. He pops up.

NEIL (CONT'D)

AHHH!

MARISOL

So sorry. Just trying to get my bag.

Marisol lowers her garment carry on. Neil sits in the aisle seat and rubs his ankle. She realizes who he is.

MARISOL (CONT'D)

Guess I didn't need my broomstick?

People behind Marisol get a little impatient. Marisol starts down the aisle. Couple passengers pass by then someone stops.

WOMAN IN AISLE

Would you like to go sir?