

THE PRINCE

"PILOT"

Written by

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WGA Registration #:

BLACK SCREEN

Chapter I: The Kinds of Principalities and the Means Which They Are Acquired

A quotes materializes:

"By fortune or strength, a prince can acquire a new principality with his own army or with the arms of others."

INT. BOARD ROOM - DAY

A giant blurry dick pic fills the board room monitor. A room full of political types grumble.

NICOLAS (34) looks at the screen and stands to address the room.

NICOLAS

Is this all?

SENATOR RUSSELL WILLARD (60) rubs his beard.

SENATOR WILLARD

I think it's the only one that's been released.

NICOLAS

What exactly do you want me to do about it?

SENATOR WILLARD

I want you to make it...go away.

NICOLAS

Unfortunately, I don't think my sock is big enough.

Nicolas's assistant TIM (25) takes a break from his scribbled notes.

TIM

I'm actually pretty impressed. I mean the lighting is really good for a dick pic.

ADVISOR

It's a excellent looking penis, Senator.

The Senator rolls his eyes.

ADVISOR #2

I don't see what the problem is.
Lyndon B. Johnson showed his dick
to everyone. He called it Jumbo.

NICOLAS

While we are on history lessons,
I'd like to remind everyone here
that it's not 1960, and he's no
Lyndon B. Johnson.

ADVISOR #2

Well I wouldn't call it jumbo...

SENATOR WILLARD

So what should I do?

NICOLAS

You might want to consider hiring
some female advisors...but for now,
make a short statement and
apologize.

The Senator sighs.

SENATOR WILLARD

Will I be able to run again?

NICOLAS

I don't know...but I'll find out.

EXT. RESTAURANT PATIO - DAY

Nicolas walks up to a table where his ex-wife MAGGIE (35) is
tapping her foot.

MAGGIE

Meeting go long?

NICOLAS

How did you know?

MAGGIE

Because you're late.

NICOLAS

Maybe I was stuck in traffic or had
the runs...

MAGGIE

No. I can tell you are still full
of shit.

NICOLAS
That's what I love about you.

Nicolas kisses her on the cheek.

MAGGIE
So you are handling Willard's
account then?

NICOLAS
Yeah, you want it?

MAGGIE
I've worked for enough misogynists.
I don't need to search them out.

NICOLAS
Are you calling me a misogynist?

MAGGIE
Well you hate women.

NICOLAS
I don't hate women. I hate my
mother. That's one woman.

MAGGIE
What about me?

NICOLAS
You know very well I still want to
be with you.

MAGGIE
If you truly didn't hate me, you'd
never suggest such a harsh
punishment.

NICOLAS
Ah come on. I'm not that bad.

MAGGIE
You aren't that bad...But you're
bad enough.

NICOLAS
I'll take it.

Nicolas smiles.

MAGGIE
Why are we meeting again?

NICOLAS
Because it's your birthday. And I
wanted to see you again.

Nicolas hands her a stuffed bear with a tiny sombrero hat.

MAGGIE
What is this?

NICOLAS
It's a bear with a tiny sombrero
hat.

MAGGIE
I don't want this.

NICOLAS
Because it's *too* adorable?

MAGGIE
No, I don't want this because I
have a boyfriend now. It's also
kind of shit.

NICOLAS
So would you take it if it was
better?

ADAM, Maggie's boyfriend, walks up to the table.

NICOLAS (CONT'D)
Ew, you brought Adam.

MAGGIE
Shhh.

ADAM
You ready to go honey?

MAGGIE
Yeah.

Maggie gets up.

NICOLAS
I thought we were going to have
lunch?

MAGGIE
You were late. I ordered you a BLT.

Maggie throws down some money.

NICOLAS
But I don't like BLTs.

MAGGIE
Neither do I.

ADAM
I heard about a flower show. I
thought it would be fun to check it
out.

A BLT sandwich awkwardly hovers near Nicolas' head. Nicolas,
begrudgingly, takes it from the waitress.

ADAM (CONT'D)
(to Nicolas)
You want to come to the flower
show?

MAGGIE
(shaking her head)
Bye Nicolas.

She puts the bear down on the table and walks off.

NICOLAS
What the hell is a flower show?

Nicolas sighs and shrugs. He takes a bite of his sandwich.

INT. RESTAURANT - BATHROOM - DAY

Nicolas is sitting on the toilet and texting: the stuffed
animal just behind his head. He gets up and flushes. He stops
short of un-buckling his belt and looks at his phone.

Nicolas drops trow. He takes a picture and exams it. Not all
that happy with the outcome, he looks to the bear and grabs
it.

NICOLAS
Sorry Buddy.

INT. NICOLAS' OFFICE - DAY

Tim gets up when Nicolas walks into the room.

TIM
Hey boss...Kyrie's waiting.

NICOLAS
In my office?...But he's crazy.

KYRIE (O.S.)
I'm not crazy.

TIM
Yeah, of course he's crazy. I'm not
telling that nut ball what to do.

KYRIE
I'm not crazy.

Nicolas sighs. He looks over and sees OLIVIA (22), pretty yet
a bit uncomfortable, waiting patiently.

NICOLAS
Who the hell is that?

TIM
That's Olivia.

OLIVIA
You could just ask me.

NICOLAS
Why is she here?

TIM
I didn't think you wanted her in
your room. She's much less
intimidating than Kyrie.

NICOLAS
Ok, but what is she here for?

TIM
Oh, she's interviewing for our
internship program.

NICOLAS
We have an internship program?

TIM
After we hire her, we will.

NICOLAS
I don't have time for that. Tell
her to leave.

OLIVIA
Really?

Nicolas walks into his office. Kyrie's one good eye stares
Nicolas down while he chews on a pencil.

KYRIE

I'm not crazy.

NICOLAS

That's debatable.

KYRIE

Why'd you call me then?

NICOLAS

Because you're crazy.

KYRIE

Well that's true.

NICOLAS

Job's on the desk.

Kyrie picks up the envelope and walks toward the door. Nicolas opens it for him. Kyrie looks him down, grinds his teeth, and spits.

KYRIE

See ya next week.

NICOLAS

You just spit on my floor.

KYRIE

Don't be ridiculous.

Kyrie walks out. Nicolas notices Olivia.

NICOLAS

What's your name again?

OLIVIA

Olivia.

NICOLAS

I thought I told you to leave?

OLIVIA

No, you told Tim to tell me to leave.

TIM

I was wrong. She's actually quite intimidating.

NICOLAS

Fine you want something to do?

OLIVIA

Sure.

NICOLAS

Come.

Nicolas walks into his office. Olivia scampers in. Nicolas writes some questions down and hands the paper to Olivia.

NICOLAS (CONT'D)

Take these questions and pole the state of Ohio.

OLIVIA

The entire state of Ohio?

NICOLAS

Did I stutter?

Olivia runs out of the room. Tim walks in.

TIM

You have a meeting at 3.

NICOLAS

Who's it with?

TIM

Your mother.

NICOLAS

Why did you schedule that meeting?

TIM

She asked me to.

NICOLAS

I'm your boss.

TIM

Yeah, but she's more important.

NICOLAS

That's...fair...Why do you work for me again?

TIM

Because I'm handsome and good at my job.

NICOLAS

No.

TIM

Because I have questionable morals and a sunny disposition that most read as stupidity, but in reality allows me to subtly pretend to not notice all the under table things you do to get stuff done.

NICOLAS

...Right.

TIM

Are we done?

NICOLAS

Yeah.

TIM

Great. Leave for your meeting.

INT. CAPITOL HILL - WAITING AREA

Nicolas arrives at his mother's office. ERICA, his mother's assistant, greets him..

ERICA

Hello, Nicolas.

Nicolas smiles.

ERICA (CONT'D)

She'll be with you in just a minute.

CONGRESSMAN BILL JANOKOWSKI (72) appears in the doorway.

CONGRESSMAN JANOKOWSKI

Hello Nicolas. How's the business?

Nicolas meets him at the door.

NICOLAS

It's good Bill. How's your district doing?

CONGRESSMAN JANOKOWSKI

We'll see. Still trying to fund the Valley Energy Project.

NICOLAS

Nuclear Energy's a tough sell.

CONGRESSMAN JANOKOWSKI
I'm positive about it, but to be
honest...I'm doubtful. Are you
going to the benefit?

NICOLAS
I might stop by. How are you and
Kim?

CONGRESSMAN JANOKOWSKI
Good. Better.

A moment of silence brews.

CONGRESSMAN JANOKOWSKI (CONT'D)
You here to see Janice?

NICOLAS
Unfortunately.

CONGRESSMAN JANOKOWSKI
You never much cared for your
mother.

NICOLAS
Well, in my defense, she never
cared for me either.

CONGRESSMAN JANOKOWSKI
I wouldn't take it personally.
She's a frigid bitch to everyone.
That's half her appeal.

NICOLAS
I think you've been working with
her too long.

ERICA
Nicolas?

NICOLAS
(to congressman)
That's my number. Congressman.

CONGRESSMAN JANOKOWSKI
Nicolas.

They shake hands. Congressman Janokowski walks away. Nicolas
stares at his hand and toward the Congressman. Something just
clicking when---

ERICA
Nicolas? You ready?

NICOLAS

Yeah.

Nicolas walks into his mother's office.

INT. SENATOR JANICE MACHIAVELLI'S OFFICE - DAY

SENATOR JANICE MACHIAVELLI gets up slowly.

JANICE

Hello, Nicolas.

NICOLAS

What do you want?

JANICE

I wanted to talk about your future.

NICOLAS

Yeah?

JANICE

I want you to stop working as a political consultant.

NICOLAS

I'm not going to run for Congress---

JANICE

You misunderstand me.

NICOLAS

Well then...what do you mean?

JANICE

I want you out of the political circle. I've heard whispers, and I think it's best if you leave Washington. I don't want your life to be dredged up because of me.

NICOLAS

Wow, you almost sound concerned about me.

JANICE

I am your mother---

NICOLAS

You only care about yourself.

Janice stares him down.

JANICE

I know you are angry, but I hope you listen to reason. Your father would---

NICOLAS

My father is dead.

JANICE

Why do you think you've never been asked to run?

NICOLAS

Because I've never wanted to.

JANICE

Don't delude yourself, Nicolas.

Janice walks around the room, biding her time before she strikes.

JANICE (CONT'D)

You've never been asked because I've never let them. You think your father wanted this life for you?

NICOLAS

I think he would have let me choose.

JANICE

You didn't know him, Nicolas.

NICOLAS

I still knew him better than I'll ever know you.

Nicolas walks out of her office.

SECOND ACT

INT. CAPITOL BUILDING - WAITING AREA - AFTERNOON

Nicolas is clearly angry.

ERICA

Are you ok?

Nicolas grabs a piece of paper from her desk. Scribbles something furiously and hands it to Erica. She looks up and gives him a knowing smile.

INT. ERICA'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Erica snuggles with Nicolas.

ERICA

Man she really pissed you off today. That was a bit rougher than usual.

NICOLAS

Sorry.

ERICA

You know I liked it.

NICOLAS

Yep.

Nicolas smiles.

ERICA

This is when you say you liked it too.

NICOLAS

Best sex I ev' had.

Erica laughs.

ERICA

Fuck off.

Nicolas lights a joint.

ERICA (CONT'D)

What do you want, Nick?

NICOLAS

Are we having the talk?

ERICA

Oh please. I don't want to be with you.

NICOLAS

Quick talk.

ERICA

You know what this is: two people coming together because we both hate your mother. Plus, you still love your ex-wife.

NICOLAS

I don't still love my wife.

ERICA

You didn't even say ex...Honestly it's a bit adorable...or sad. I'm on the fence.

Nicolas shrugs.

ERICA (CONT'D)

Look I'm young. And I like to fuck. Believe me. You aren't the only one...although you're the most fun because of our mutual hate thing.

NICOLAS

It really does make it better.

ERICA

I'm a young staffer in a city and era that doesn't appreciate relationships. But you...you're getting old.

NICOLAS

Thanks.

ERICA

Seriously, Nick. Don't you want something more?

INT. NICOLAS' FRONT OFFICE - MORNING

Tim and Olivia are chatting.

TIM

No, I get that. Most of them are taken poorly. But if it's done well...and you happen to get one.

OLIVIA

Never.

TIM

Not even if it was from a boyfriend? Like hey! I'm coming over...Here's one for the road?

OLIVIA

I don't know. I guess it might be ok.

(MORE)

OLIVIA (CONT'D)
I haven't really had a long-term
boyfriend though so I can't say.

Tim sighs.

TIM
This isn't sexual harassment,
right?

OLIVIA
Nah I'm cool. Are you cool?

TIM
Yeah.

OLIVIA
Think it's fine then.

TIM
What's up with people not wanting
to talk about sex at work? It's
just an activity.

Nicolas walks in sunglasses and a bit disheveled.

OLIVIA
Probably because it's usually
sexual harassment.

NICOLAS
Stop talking about sex at work,
Tim.

OLIVIA
And there's that.

TIM
This is coming from the guy walking
in with the same clothes from
yesterday.

NICOLAS
These aren't the same clothes. I
always keep a spare in my car.

Tim smiles.

NICOLAS (CONT'D)
I really walked into that one.

TIM
(correcting Nicolas)
Thrusted.

OLIVIA
Thrust*

TIM
Really?

NICOLAS
(to Olivia)
Why are you here?

OLIVIA
I---

NICOLAS
(to Tim)
Get me Kyrie.

Nicolas walks into his room.

INT. NICOLAS' OFFICE - MORNING

The phone rings, and Nicolas picks it up.

TIM (O.S.)
You're on with Kyrie.

NICOLAS
Hey Kyrie...I have a new assignment
for you.

INT. NICOLAS' FRONT OFFICE - MORNING - CONTINUOUS

Olivia sighs.

TIM
Don't worry. He'll warm up to you.
Sometimes when he's stressed he
becomes a bit...

OLIVIA
Dickish.

TIM
I was going to say difficult, but
you aren't wrong...Anyways sorry
about the conversation. I've just
been fascinated since this dating
website sent me an article called
the Anatomy of Dick pics. It said
dick pics are as multifarious as
sushi.

OLIVIA

Well that's a disturbing image.

TIM

The word "multifarious" certainly doesn't help.

OLIVIA

If your dick or vagina was a sushi roll what would it be?

TIM

I don't know. Whitefish? Unagi?

OLIVIA

I think mine would be a jumbo scallop.

TIM

Red Dragon, Cucumber roll, Mango tango? Oh wait...Party roll.

OLIVIA

Surf Clam. Octo-pus.

TIM

Urchin.

OLIVIA

Please don't call your penis Urchin.

TIM

What? I was calling you vagina Urchin.

OLIVIA

...Don't do that either.

TIM

Not the prickly part. The soft orange insides that kind of smell and taste funny. It's also a bottom feeder.

OLIVIA

I can't decide which one I prefer...a spiny exoskeleton or smelly orange slime.

TIM

I just go with the one that's easiest to spell.

OLIVIA
 What a delightfully strange person
 you are.

Nicolas comes out of his room in thought.

NICOLAS
 Maybe...a Rainbow roll?

TIM
 That's a terrible name for your
 dick.

NICOLAS
 What? That's what I'm thinking
 about getting for lunch...What were
 you guys talking about?

TIM Nothing. OLIVIA Nothing.

NICOLAS (CONT'D)
 (to Olivia)
 I thought I gave you a task.

OLIVIA
 I finished it.

Olivia gets up and hands him a stack of papers. She is
 visibly skittish.

NICOLAS
 How did you do this so fast?...Did
 you sleep?

Nicolas starts to go through the pages.

OLIVIA
 I hired a calling center.

NICOLAS
 Where did you---

OLIVIA
 The Senator paid for it. Well his
 campaign did. I explained to him
 how important the survey was.

NICOLAS
 You--

OLIVIA
I didn't sleep. Spent the whole
night typing it up. But I had a lot
of coffee.

Olivia's hand is a bit jittery.

OLIVIA (CONT'D)
The news is pretty bleak---

NICOLAS
Go home and get some rest.
(off Olivia)
Don't worry. You look like you need
some sleep. This is really good
work...Consider yourself hired. Tim
I'm going to Willard's.

Nicolas walks out the door. Olivia looks toward Tim and
smiles. She looks a bit unstable.

TIM
You look like you have a stick of
dynamite in your mouth.

INT. NICOLAS' CAR - DAY

Nicolas' phone starts to ring.

NICOLAS
Hello.

TIM (O.S.)
Hey, just want to warn you. Another
photo leaked.

NICOLAS
Great.

TIM
Oh the charity event is tonight by
the way. Are you going?

NICOLAS
Do I have to?

TIM
According to everyone. Yes.

NICOLAS
What's it for again?

TIM

I think...trees? I don't know. Does it matter?

INT. CAPITOL BUILDING - HALLWAY - AFTERNOON

Nicolas walks down a hallway. He passes a TV screen with the new dick pic on it. He stops and walks back. His jaw drops.

It's not the Senator's penis. It's definitely his own. Tiny sombrero hat and all.

ANCHOR

Yes, but what does the sombrero mean?

GUEST

Well, personally I think it shows how little this Senator respects the Hispanic people...

Nicolas pinches his nose.

INT. SENATOR WILLARD'S OFFICE - AFTERNOON

Nicolas is sitting with Willard.

WILLARD

I swear that isn't me.

NICOLAS

I believe you.

WILLARD

You do? I mean I would never put a little sombrero on my penis. That's just childish.

NICOLAS

I don't know. I thought it gave the photo an air of whimsy...and the filter was pretty cool---

WILLARD

Why did you come?

NICOLAS

Did you send the photo to anybody?

WILLARD

No, of course not...

NICOLAS

Are you sure? Going forward this will be an important detail.

WILLARD

It's a staffer I've had...relations with...A sombrero...
(Shakes his head)
Ridiculous.

NICOLAS

Re-dick-ulous.

Willard angrily looks toward Nicolas.

INT. CHARITY BALL - NIGHT

Nicolas looks at a poster that says "Save the Bees."

NICOLAS

(to himself)
He was pretty close.

Nicolas sees Erica and walks over to her.

NICOLAS (CONT'D)

I need to talk to you.

They walk into a hallway.

INT. HALLWAY - NIGHT

Erica looks guilty.

ERICA

So you know?

NICOLAS

Can't say I'm surprised you hooked up with Willard. My mom probably hates him the most.

ERICA

Yeah...it was an error in judgment.

NICOLAS

So...

ERICA

I went through your phone when you were in the bathroom and saw the pic.

NICOLAS
Who did you send it to?

ERICA
Myself. I thought it was cute so I sent it to my email.

NICOLAS
Did Willard email you his?

ERICA
You think he has snapchat? I doubt he even knows how to text...

NICOLAS
Yeah.

ERICA
I didn't send them to anyone. I wouldn't do that to you.

NICOLAS
I know...Change your password.

Nick sees his mom across the room.

NICOLAS (CONT'D)
We'll talk later.

ERICA
That's it?

NICOLAS
I think sleeping with Willard is punishment enough.

ERICA
I could be punished again...

Erica bites her lip.

NICOLAS
Then we'll definitely talk later.

Nicolas walks over to his mother who is talking to GOVERNOR ALLEN.

JANICE
Nicolas. Have you met Governor Allen?

NICOLAS
Yes, I helped with his campaign.

GOVERNOR ALLEN
It's good to see you again.

NICOLAS
(To mother)
Can I talk to you--

JANICE
Of course honey; however, Senator Williamson just walked in, and she told me she'd give me a recipe for a bunt cake.

Janice walks away.

NICOLAS
Bunt cake?

GOVERNOR ALLEN
(laughing)
I always liked you Nicolas. You should consider running for something. Think you'd be a wonderful addition.

NICOLAS
Thank you, Governor. My mother doesn't think it's a good idea.

GOVERNOR ALLEN
All the more reason then.

Nicolas sees his mom chatting with some overly fake excitement across the room. He squints.

INT. NICOLAS' FAMILY ROOM - NIGHT

Nicolas walks into his house, tie undone, and roughed up hair. He turns on the TV.

NEWS CASTER
So Mrs. Brian. In your expert opinion. Is it the same phallus in both pictures?

GUEST
Well you can see here that the frame of the penis is consistent...however, if you notice the skin just below the jack off wrinkle line, you see some age spots.

(MORE)

GUEST (CONT'D)

That along with the white hairs on the first picture seem to indicate that second picture is of a different member. Possibly 4-5 years younger.

NICOLAS

Hey...My penis does not look 55.

Nicolas turns off the TV.

He sees Olivia's research and starts to read it. It jumps as he flips through pages. His bottle of whiskey gets lower and lower. Nicolas looks up and sighs.

NICOLAS (CONT'D)

I'm so screwed.

He types in a number into his phone.

WILLARD

Hello?

NICOLAS

Hey Senator Willard...I just went through the numbers...

WILLARD

Yeah?

NICOLAS

They hate you.

WILLARD

Well I know that, but will they reelect me?

NICOLAS

No.

WILLARD

Is there anything else you can do?

NICOLAS

I mean I could get more poling data, but...

WILLARD

If you can't help me, you're fired.

NICOLAS

I'm aware.

Willard hangs up.

KNOCK KNOCK KNOCK

Nicolas' head jerks toward the door, and he gets up to answer it. A furious Maggie stands with a stuffed animal of a gorilla with a cowboy hat.

MAGGIE

Stop it.

Maggie starts to walk away.

NICOLAS

Why?

She stops and comes back. She is crying.

MAGGIE

I saw your dick pic.

NICOLAS

I'm surprised you remember what it looked like.

MAGGIE

Please. The hat.

NICOLAS

Oh right.

MAGGIE

What if I took home that stupid bear and then Adam saw the dick pic. Saw that hat. You don't think he'd put it together.

NICOLAS

I...I mean I took the picture after you left so...

MAGGIE

You just don't think through things. I don't love you anymore Nicolas. I loved the young getter who could do anything. Who was sweet and handsome...take a look at yourself. You pretend that you are happy dealing with some d bag's issues...You didn't think I noticed.

NICOLAS

Noticed what?

MAGGIE

This job is crushing you.

NICOLAS

I got fired so technically I don't have a job---

MAGGIE

You could be great, Nicolas. I know you didn't come to Washington to fuck random assistants, get drunk, and get shit on by assholes that deserve none of what they have.

Nicolas hugs her. They briefly kiss, but she pushes him away.

MAGGIE (CONT'D)

Adam asked me to marry him.

NICOLAS

Oh.

MAGGIE

I said yes.

She puts the stuffed gorilla down and walks down his driveway.

INT. NICOLAS' FAMILY ROOM - NIGHT

Nicolas stares at a the gorilla. He puts his head back...

THIRD ACT

INT. NICOLAS' FAMILY ROOM - NIGHT - LATER

In his sleep, Nicolas leans on the TV remote. The TV turns on, jerking Nick awake. News blares throughout the room. Two guests are talking about Senator Willard.

GUEST 1

I don't care if the second picture is his or not. The fact is he is a pervert, and he should step down.

GUEST 2

I'm not sure about pervert, but certainly irresponsible. Either way I just don't see Ohio getting behind his campaign.

Nicolas mouth suddenly lowers. He turns off the TV and rushes out the door.

EXT. OLIVIA'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Nicolas is pressing the buzzer to Olivia's apartment. Finally she comes down in her pajamas, half asleep.

OLIVIA

How did you get my address?

NICOLAS

Your W9.

OLIVIA

Oh...why are you here? I thought you said I could sleep?

NICOLAS

You had a good 5 hours.

OLIVIA

What do you want?

NICOLAS

Do you think you could redo the questionnaire?

OLIVIA

What? Why? What was wrong with it?

NICOLAS

Nothing. It was perfect.

OLIVIA

Then...why again? What time is it?

NICOLAS

It was the wrong area.

OLIVIA

No, it was definitely Willard's state.

NICOLAS

Exactly.

Nicolas smiles.

OLIVIA

What?

NICOLAS
Your Surf Clam is showing.

CUT TO:

THREE DAYS LATER

INT. CAPITOL BUILDING - CONGRESSMAN JANOKOWSKI'S OFFICE - DAY

Nicolas walks into Bill's office. He shakes Bill's hand.

CONGRESSMAN JANOKOWSKI
What do I owe the pleasure,
Nicolas?

CUT TO:

INT. BOARD ROOM - DAY

Nicolas stands in front of the same room of board members as he did last week, except this time, he has a smile painted across his face.

NICOLAS
Thank you for having me.

WILLARD
You can wipe the shit eating grin
off your face. Get down to it.

NICOLAS
Of course, Senator Willard.

Nicolas flicks on a power point. Numbers flash on the screen.

75%

WILLARD
What's that?

NICOLAS
The percentage of Ohioans who
disapprove of you job. One person
was quoted saying that she doesn't
want her kids to look up to a "semi-
hard, disgusting exhibitionist."

85%

NICOLAS (CONT'D)

The percentage of people in your state who are disgusted that you sent a dick pic. One person quoted saying that you are a "scum bag of the first degree."

10%

NICOLAS (CONT'D)

10 percent of people in your state would vote for you next year---

WILLARD

Are you getting to any point other than that the people in my state seem to hate my guts?

NICOLAS

That is the point sir. Emphasis on "your state."

WILLARD

I don't understand.

Nicolas clicks.

37%

NICOLAS

That is the percentage of people in Indiana's 9th district that are disgusted by your dick pic.

75%

NICOLAS (CONT'D)

75 percent think that's it not a big deal.

WILLARD

What does any of this matter?

NICOLAS

It matters because you are going to be the newest representative of the Indiana's 9th.

WILLARD

What do you mean? What about Bill?

CUT TO:

INT. CAPITOL BUILDING - SENATOR JANOKOWSKI'S OFFICE - DAY

Nicolas collects himself.

NICOLAS

I'm going to have to ask you to
step down.

CONGRESSMAN JANOKOWSKI

What are you talking about?

NICOLAS

If you don't step down, I'll
release the story.

CONGRESSMAN JANOKOWSKI

Why?

NICOLAS

I can't answer that.

CONGRESSMAN JANOKOWSKI

I won't.

NICOLAS

Yes, you will.

CONGRESSMAN JANOKOWSKI

Why?

NICOLAS

Because you love your wife.

CONGRESSMAN JANOKOWSKI

She *cheated* on me...Do you know how
that feels? To have the woman you
love fall into bed with another
man?

NICOLAS

Unfortunately, I do. I also know
you still love her, and you'll do
anything to not drag her dirty
laundry over town...Do you know why
she cheated on you?

CONGRESSMAN JANOKOWSKI

No.

NICOLAS

Yes you do.

The Congressman bites his lower lip.

NICOLAS (CONT'D)
Spend some time with your wife,
Bill.

CONGRESSMAN JANOKOWSKI
I thought I had another term left
in me.

NICOLAS
You don't. You have until tomorrow.
If you don't by then the story hits
stands.

Nicolas stands up to leave.

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. BOARD ROOM - DAY

WILLARD
I'm a Senator. Why would I leave to
be a Congressman?

NICOLAS
Because in a year you will be out
of job you can't win back. The 9th
is looking for a tough leader, and
you will crush any opponent you
face there. They need someone that
knows enough people to help pass an
energy bill that will directly
impact that area.

WILLARD
Yeah, but---

NICOLAS
The house needs leadership. With
your tenure in the Senate...They'll
most likely consider you for
Minority leader.

Willard sits in silence.

WILLARD
What do I do?

NICOLAS
Resign. Go to the 9th. Buy a house.
And put up some signs.

Nicolas walks to the door.

NICOLAS (CONT'D)

Oh. By the way, when you tell the Governor you are resigning he's going to ask you who you think should take over the position until the next election.

WILLARD

Yeah.

NICOLAS

You're going to suggest me. He'll be receptive.

WILLARD

Why?

NICOLAS

Because I've been nice enough to get you a new job...and not tell the whole world about the women you've been cheating with.

He puts down a picture of Willard with another woman. Willard searches his gum for answers. He finds none and nods.

Nicolas leaves. Willard picks up his phone and dials.

WILLARD

Hey honey...yep...So how do you feel about living in Indiana?

INT. BAR - NIGHT

Nicolas brings three drinks to the table. He hands one to Tim.

NICOLAS

(to Olivia)

You're old enough right?

OLIVIA

Ha. Ha.

Nicolas looks to Tim and Tim shrugs.

NICOLAS

I honestly have no idea. But still. I couldn't have done it with either of you...To the Senate.

They clink glasses

TIM
Are these free all night?

NICOLAS
You better believe it.

A smile leaps across Tim's face, and he runs to get another.

INT. NICOLAS' BEDROOM - MORNING

Nicolas wakes up to the sound of his inappropriate ring tone.

NICOLAS
Hello?

JANICE
You asshole!

NICOLAS
Hey mom.

Nick walks by his bathroom. The shower is running. Nick walks into the family room. We cut between him and Janice, who is walking furiously by the windows in her beautiful high-rise apartment.

JANICE
How could you do that to Bill? He was a friend. He practically raised you.

NICOLAS
First off, I know you used to sleep with Bill.

Janice gulps.

NICOLAS (CONT'D)
Secondly...I did what was best for his marriage. Something I doubt you ever gave a shit about.

JANICE
Seems really coincidental that it would also open up a space to run.

Nicolas laughs.

NICOLAS
Maybe. But I'm not going after Bill's seat.

JANICE
Then what are you doing?

NICOLAS
In two weeks, I'm going to be a
Senator...and then I'm coming after
you. Look outside.

Janice looks out here window.

EXT. OUTSIDE JANICE'S HOUSE - MORNING

Kyrie points his telescopic lens on Janice. He takes a
picture, waves and pretends to ride a horse.

INT. JANICE'S HOUSE - MORNING

Janice runs away from the window.

JANICE
You're spying on me?

NICOLAS (O.S.)
You have to know your opponent. Oh
by the way...I left something for
you at your front door. I know you
hacked Erica's email. Next time you
stumble across a dick pic you
should actually try to find out
whose it is.

Janice finds an envelope next to the door. It's a picture of
Nicolas' penis with a little cowboy hat on it.

NICOLAS (CONT'D)
If you wanted a picture of me, You
could have just asked for one at
Christmas.

Nicolas hangs up. Janice runs to the bathroom to puke.

INT. NICOLAS' FAMILY ROOM - MORNING

Nicolas turns on his TV.

NEWS ANCHOR
In shocking news both Congressman
Bill Janokowski and Senator Russell
Willard have resigned from their
respective positions.
(MORE)

NEWS ANCHOR (CONT'D)

The Governor has yet to announce who will take over the vacant Senate seat; however, many suspect it will be Nicolas Machiavelli, the son of long time Senator Janice Machiavelli.

Nicolas smiles. A knock at the door steals his attention, and he turns off the TV.

Maggie stands at the door.

MAGGIE

I got your message.

NICOLAS

I honestly didn't expect you to come.

MAGGIE

I almost didn't.

NICOLAS

Look...I'm sorry.

MAGGIE

I know.

NICOLAS

Does this mean you'll accept my offer?

MAGGIE

Why do you even want me?

NICOLAS

Because you're the best campaign manager I've ever worked with.

MAGGIE

This won't win me back.

NICOLAS

I know.

MAGGIE

I was coming over here to tell you to fuck off.

Nicolas looks down.

MAGGIE (CONT'D)

However, on the way...I realized that it is a great opportunity.

NICOLAS

And...

MAGGIE

And like I said...you aren't all bad. I mean you did hire my niece.

NICOLAS

Who?

MAGGIE

Olivia. She's working for you right?

NICOLAS

Oh, I didn't know you two were related...She is an impressive girl.

MAGGIE

Yeah, she is. Anyways, I see that you are barely dressed. Sure you're probably with someone so I'll get out of your hair.

NICOLAS

When do you want to start?

MAGGIE

This afternoon.

Maggie walks down the driveway and out of view.

Nicolas bites his lip and closes the door.

INT. NICOLAS' BEDROOM

Nicolas walks into his bedroom. Olivia stands in a towel.

OLIVIA

I took a shower. I hope you don't mind.

NICOLAS

How dare you!

Olivia is shocked.

NICOLAS (CONT'D)

It's common courtesy to invite me in.

Nicolas smiles, and Olivia returns it. He walks over to her, and the towel falls.

Oliva pushes his shorts to the ground. She looks down.

OLIVIA

Honestly, it looks way better in person than it does on TV.

NICOLAS

That's what I'm saying!...I blame the sepia filter.

They kiss.

THE END