STUPID CUPID

Written by

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A FACE IN PINK CAMOUFLAGE

His eyes dart from right to left above a cloth-covered table at an upscale restaurant. The head ducks back down.

His pink combat boots move stealthily among the tables.

A 45-year-old man in a mishmash of pink hunting and fishing gear goes unseen by the many wealthy patrons. The name-plate/logo on his uniform says CUPID 24601.

Stalking his prey, he stops suddenly, props himself up on one knee, pulls an arrow out of his frilly quiver, loads it in his frilly bow, and eyes his target.

A YOUNG ENTREPRENEUR (male, late 20s) holds up a wine glass to his date, a PAN-ETHNIC HOT-SHOT (female, late 20s).

Cupid 24601 aims, so that his arrow will travel through both of them. He closes his eyes and takes a deep breath. He lowers his bow.

A CRYING WOMAN (mid-20s) sits alone at a table in the foreground.

Cupid 24601 does a forward roll to reposition himself, struggling to come out of it gracefully, and falling onto his side. Recovering without a hint of embarrassment, he lets his arrow fly.

The arrow flies through the Young Entrepreneur and the Crying Woman and dissipates into thin air.

INT. MIDDLE MANAGER'S OFFICE - DAY

Cupid 24601, now wearing a dark red suit also with a 24601 name-plate, stands in a drab office. No windows. No decor.

CUPID 24601

I'm a Cupid, sir. I had to follow my instincts.

The MIDDLE MANAGER, aka Cupid 4677, is about 24601's age, but his bitterness makes him seem older.

MIDDLE MANAGER 4677
Do you understand what we do here?

CUPID 24601

We make matches for the Tech Division of Major Corporate Mergers.

MIDDLE MANAGER 4677 We're supposed to be good for business, numbruts. Your last three couples?

He holds up a piece of paper.

MIDDLE MANAGER 4677 (CONT'D) Divorce. Loss of venture capital.

He slams down the paper.

CUPID 24601

I was following orders on that one.

The Middle Manager holds up another page.

MIDDLE MANAGER 4677 Divorced-remarried-divorcedremarried-and... divorced. Plus three startups dissolved.

He slams down the page.

CUPID 24601

They're actually about to remarry.

The Middle Manager holds up a third page.

MIDDLE MANAGER 4677
My personal favorite. Triple
homicide, arson, and, worst of all,
bankruptcy.

He slams down the page.

CUPID 24601

You can't say they didn't have passion.

MIDDLE MANAGER 4677 Dodo brain! Heartbreak, tragedy, and death are bad for business.

CUPID 24601

Well, you watch. One day I'm gonna do something great. Like create a lasting match for a Kardashian. (MORE) CUPID 24601 (CONT'D)

Or get Paul McCartney to marry without a prenup... again. I won't be in Corporate Mergers forever.

MIDDLE MANAGER 4677 You won't be in Corporate Mergers for another ten minutes. I've traded you.

Cupid 24601 gets excited.

CUPID 24601

Who'd you trade me to? Reality stars? TV sitcom? Political beards?

The Middle Manager leans forward and relishes his words.

MIDDLE MANAGER 4677
Because I don't have the power to
Relegate you, I traded you to
someone who does.

Cupid 24601 gasps, even more excited.

CUPID 24601

Big Celebrity? Movie stars? Country singers? Thank you!

MIDDLE MANAGER 4677
It's not a promotion, moron. It's a step closer to Relegation.

CUPID 24601

I will make the most of this terrific opportunity! I'm gonna make you proud!

MIDDLE MANAGER 4677
No. Listen. Next time you screw up, you're Relegated. Gone. Forever.

24601 smiles broadly at him.

CUPID 24601

Don't you worry, sir. I will not fail you.

MIDDLE MANAGER 4677 24601? Seriously? You are one stupid Cupid.

INT. SLEEK OFFICE BUILDING - DAY

Cubicle farms make up much of the swanky, super corporate offices that serve as bureaucratic home of the Cupids. A sign above the cubicles reads: "MAJOR CORPORATE MERGERS" with a slightly smaller text underneath: "Tech."

Cupid 24601 packs his belongings into a pink moving crate with the help of the everlastingly earnest SWEETIE CUPID 66344 (35 years old), Cupid 24601's closest friend.

CUPID 24601

I think it's the Big Time.

SWEETIE 66344

How do you know? And can I come?

CUPID 24601

My new boss must be important. She has the power to Relegate me!

Sweetie covers her mouth and screams.

CUPID 24601 (CONT'D)

I know! I'm gonna finally get a chance to spread my wings!

SWEETIE 66344

But no one returns from Relegation!

CUPID 24601

Don't worry. I'll just make some killer matches.

SWEETIE 66344

No!

CUPID 24601

Not in the death way. Again. I mean really good matches.

MEAN GIRL 282

24601?

MEAN GIRL CUPID 282 (early 30s), ambitious and intimidatingly competent, waits for a response.

MEAN GIRL 282 (CONT'D)

Are you 24601?

CUPID 24601

What? Oh. Yes. Yes.

MEAN GIRL 282

Do you have some kind of mental impairment?

SWEETIE 66344

He's special and a winner!

Cupid 24601 smiles at Mean Girl.

MEAN GIRL 282

(to Sweetie)

You, go suck on a toaster.

(to 24601)

You, follow me.

Cupid 24601 quickly slides everything else off of his desk into the pink crate, picks it up, and hurries to follow.

INT. SLEEK OFFICE BUILDING HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Rows of cubicles fill the giant office space. Cupid 24601 struggles to keep up with Mean Girl, especially while carrying his crate full of stuff.

They pass several "MAJOR CORPORATE MERGER" signs, each with a different sub-heading: "Finance"; "Lobbyist"; "Healthcare."

They pass a "BIG CELEBRITY" sign with smaller text beneath: "TV-Reality." Cupid 24601's excitement mounts, as he cranes his neck to see several other "BIG CELEBRITY" signs, each with smaller text underneath: "TV-cable"; "TV-Network"; "Indie Film"; "Major Motion Picture."

CUPID 24601

Am I working Big Celebrity?

Mean Girl stops in her tracks to face him. He stops just short of bumping into her.

MEAN GIRL 282

You have terrible word-of-mouth.

24601 checks his breath.

MEAN GIRL 282 (CONT'D)

Do you know that you're an idiot?

Cupid 24601 thinks hard about this.

MEAN GIRL 282 (CONT'D)

Great. So you're a dangerous idiot.

CUPID 24601

I will be your All-Star of Love.

MEAN GIRL 282

Be my All-Star of Shut Your Love Hole.

She opens the office door next to them.

INT. BOSS LADY CUPID 37'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

The office is glorious, offering spectacular views outside the windows, mostly of stunning clouds. And the room is just enormous. About 60 Cupids, well-dressed in various red tones, sit in comfy chairs.

BOSS LADY CUPID 37 (about 40 years old), gorgeous and very much in charge, holds court.

BOSS LADY 37

We get an opportunity like this maybe once a generation.

Cupid 24601 gestures silently that he's just going to find a place to sit. Boss Lady barely acknowledges him. He works his way toward the back of the room, looking for a chair.

BOSS LADY 37 (CONT'D)

And the truth is, Cupids, this woman is a catch. So I'll be looking for a certain subtlety, nuance, and care in your approach.

Cupid 24601 sees an empty chair back in the other direction off, and he turns back toward the front of the room.

BOSS LADY 37 (CONT'D)

We have a matter of months before her coronation, so research and recon will be fast and thorough.

Behind Boss Lady Cupid on a giant screen, the face of their mark: beautiful, regal, classy. Cupid 24601 drops his crate and screams.

CUPID 24601

HOLY BOW & ARROW, IT'S THE PRINCESS EMMA! THAT'S THE PRINCESS EMMA! WE'RE MATCHING THE PRINCESS EMMA!

He's jumping up and down like a lunatic cheerleader, clapping his hands, and just generally losing his mind.

Mean Girl closes her eyes, pinches the bridge of her nose as if she has a headache, and takes a deep breath.

Boss Lady stares at the idiot Cupid in front of her, still jumping up and down in excitement.

EXT. PRIMARY SCHOOL PLAYGROUND - DAY

PRINCESS EMMA (23) lines up for a turn at kickball. She hikes up her high-fashion pantsuit legs to more clearly reveal her clowny sneakers and socks.

Eight-year-old CHILDREN cat-call. Emma takes their taunts with good humor, and speaks in a very posh English accent.

PRINCESS EMMA

Will you still be laughing when you see the magic of my wee booties?

The PITCHER rolls the red kickball, and Emma boots it hard. Shouts from the kids on the playground, the spectators, and even the media, as Emma takes off running.

The children corral the ball from the outfield and toss it in to a BIG KID at shortstop.

Emma has rounded first, blazing into second, when the Big Kid throws the ball as hard as he can at her.

Right in the face. She crumples to the pavement like a sack of high-fashion potatoes.

EMMA'S FACE

She winces happily, as blood streaks from her nose.

ELVIS (32), a royal bodyguard, elbows his way out of a group of teachers, leaving one holding her eye and another sprawled face-down on the pavement.

He sprints toward the Princess, Heisman-trophying one kid, lowering a shoulder into a trio of students who go flying, barreling over a few human obstacles, and leaving a path of body-checked children in his wake.

PRINCESS EMMA (CONT'D) Elvis! For the love of First Aid,

I'm fine!

Elvis hoists her over his shoulder and, in his working-class accent, calls into the security monitor in his sleeve.

ELVIS

"Tigress" is injured! Bring the car immediately!

Elvis runs Emma off the playground, but she manages to look up at the kids with her bloody nose.

PRINCESS EMMA

A fine wallop, young rapscallion, but next time, I'm ready!

She gives the kids a thumbs-up, and they all cheer for her.

INT. CORPORATE LOCKER ROOM - DAY

Cupid 24601 wears a pair of tiny red briefs and one pink combat boot.

CUPID 24601

This is a truly formidable battalion. I've found my place.

Sweetie Cupid, in rapt attention in front of him, slips the other pink combat boot onto his foot and laces it.

SWEETIE 66344

Do you think you could put in a good word for me? A donor just gave a five-figure gift to help save the whales. It was my arrow that made the difference!

Cupid 24601 chuckles pompously.

CUPID 24601

Charity work... So, so sweet.

SWEETIE 66344

I can be an asset.

She holds up his pink bandana. He grabs it.

CUPID 24601

I'll see what I can do.

He ties the bandana around his head.

SWEETIE 66344

You will? Really? You mean it?

CUPID 24601

You bet.

Pleased, she hands him his pink camouflaged hunting pants. He tries to put them on over his boots, causing him to trip and fall over the bench, and landing head-first in his locker.

SWEETIE 66344

Oh!

Mean Girl is suddenly there, seemingly out of nowhere, taking in this image of Cupid 24601's body, which is like a seesaw over the bench, legs up in the air, one foot wrapped in his pants, red briefs exposed, head trapped.

MEAN GIRL 282

Once he's done, give him his list of potential matches.

Mean Girl hands her a manila envelope. Sweetie nods. Cupid 24601's voice echoes from inside his locker.

CUPID 24601

Thank you!

INT. EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT CHAMBER - DAY

Cupid 24601 in full love fatigues stands unseen in the middle of a House of Commons-style parliament, currently in session. He studies the face of a MALE MINISTER (42) on an 8x10 glossy. He tucks it in the back of his trousers and stalks his prey.

A FEMALE MINSTER (42) holds the floor.

FEMALE MINISTER

How, sir, do you presume to pay for these handouts? We're facing a debt crisis unlike any in our history!

MALE MINISTER

A crisis created by your irresponsible corporate tax breaks!

Cupid 24601 takes stock of his instincts and BINGO, they're a match. He parkours over a railing and stands on the benches to line them up.

FEMALE MINISTER

Will the gentleman yield his time?

MALE MINISTER

I will never yield, madam.

Cupid 24601 fires his arrow through them both, which dissipates. They both seem to absorb the blow quickly, locking eyes, still seemingly in opposition.

MALE MINISTER (CONT'D)
I will never yield in my
determination that the welfare
state protect the most vulnerable
in society. And I will never yield
in love for my grossly misguided
and esteemed colleague across the
aisle, for she has an arse that
carries me into next week.

Cupid 24601 looks quite pleased with himself.

FEMALE MINISTER

And I will never yield in keeping the government's business out of business, nor in my unquenchable thirst for nibbling on the nipples of my opposition lover, no matter how his heart bleeds for those who feed from the troughs of the government coffers.

And they grab hold of one another and proceed to make passionate love on the table in the middle of the parliament. The chambers erupts in chaos, with screaming and physical altercations.

Cupid 24601 wanders off satisfied, another job well done.

INT. SLEEK OFFICE BUILDING BULLPEN - DAY

Amongst the activity in the cubicles, a MAINTENANCE CUPID hangs a new sign, "SPECIAL TASK FORCE: The Princess Emma."

Cupid 24601 sets up his new desk with the things from his pink crate.

BOSS LADY 37 (O.S.) Don't get too comfortable.

Boss Lady and Mean Girl stand over him.

CUPID 24601 Impressive couple, right?

MEAN GIRL 282 No, you complete ninny.

BOSS LADY 37

He was a potential match for the Princess.

MEAN GIRL 282

Now that option's off the table.

CUPID 24601

They did it on the table.

MEAN GIRL 282

You think this is a joke?

CUPID 24601

No! They're a good match.

Mean Girl lets out a frustrated groan. Boss Lady holds out a hand to Cupid 24601.

BOSS LADY 37

Quiver, please.

Cupid 24601 hands her his quiver full of arrows. Boss Lady hands it over to Mean Girl.

CUPID 24601

Those are all standard issue...

BOSS LADY 37

And your bow.

Cupid 24601 hands it over.

CUPID 24601

You might notice the detail on...

BOSS LADY 37

(to Mean Girl)

Lock those up. Somewhere safe.

Mean Girl storms off.

CUPID 24601

But a Cupid without his bow is like a present without a bow.

BOSS LADY 37

Recon and report. Pull another stunt like that, and you're Relegated, Cupid.

Cupid 24601 nods, put in his place.

INT. MIDDLE MANAGER'S OFFICE - DAY

Mean Girl has Middle Manager by his lapels against the wall in his office.

MEAN GIRL 282

He's too stupid. She took his bow!

MIDDLE MANAGER 4677

Let his stupidity play out. This guy is, like, <u>innovator</u> stupid.

MEAN GIRL 282

He better be. I can't take being her errand girl much longer.

She throws him into his chair and heads to the door. Middle Manager smooths out his shirt and breathes deeply.

INT. HEDGE FUND OFFICE - DAY

In an office that has pretty much the best view of New York City ever, Cupid 24601, wearing his red recon outfit, furiously scribbles down notes.

An incredibly handsome, impeccably dressed hedge fund manager, TODD POOLE (36), downs espresso from an exquisite tiny cup and saucer set. Then he drops the fine china into his trash can.

TODD

I rule you, America.

Cupid 24601 keeps scribbling down his notes.

INT. HUGH GRANT'S DRESSING ROOM - DAY

HUGH GRANT, the actor, wearing only a towel, checks out his costume, a gorgeous three-piece suit, circa 1920. Hugh catches a glimpse of himself in the mirror, and soaks it in.

HUGH GRANT

Why don't I have any chest hair?

Cupid 24601 stops scribbling just long enough to check out Hugh's lack of chest hair, and then keeps scribbling.

INT. MAN CAVE - DAY

A MASTURBATOR (20s) lies back in a recliner with his pants around his ankles.

The only light cast in this high-tech masturbation chamber comes from the dozen or so HD monitors. Sound of pornography in stereo.

24601 stands in front of him, scribbling notes furiously. He looks up, calmly steps to the side, watches the trajectory of ejaculate, and then goes back to scribbling.

INT. BOSS LADY CUPID 37'S OFFICE - DAY

Many Cupids deliver their Recon Reports. As each walks by Boss Lady's desk, they drop simple reports into her inbox, not more than a page or two long. She nods, pleased with their work. Mean Girl stands nearby, observing.

Cupid 24601 approaches and drops several hundred pages into her inbox, causing it to collapse. He grins broadly at Boss Lady, as Mean Girl grabs his report.

CUPID 24601

You don't have to thank me, ma'am. I'm just doing my job.

Mean Girl hits him over the head with his report.

CUPID 24601 (CONT'D)

Ow! What?

BOSS LADY 37 Did you rule anyone out?

CUPID 24601

Of course not.

Mean Girl is flipping through the report.

BOSS LADY 37

That's your job, Cupid.

MEAN GIRL 282

Even this one?

She holds the page up to his face.

CUPID 24601

He had excellent stamina.

BOSS LADY 37

Cut your list down to two or three at most. Pros and cons for each.

Cupid 24601 hesitatingly raises his hand to ask a question. Boss Lady Cupid and Mean Girl Cupid look at each other, confused, before turning back to him, his hand still up.

BOSS LADY 37 (CONT'D)

By all means...

CUPID 24601

How can I know who to cut unless... Can I study the Princess Emma?

MEAN GIRL 282

YOU MOST CERTAINLY CANNOT!

Cupid 24601, taken aback for a moment, turns his head to Boss Lady 37, in search of another answer.

BOSS LADY 37

What she said.

INT. PRINCESS EMMA'S OFFICE - EVENING

Princess Emma stands over a glorious conference table covered in file folders and flips through a brochure, comparing it to a website open on her laptop. Elvis stands at the door.

Unseen by the humans, Boss Lady and Mean Girl stand directly across the table from the Princess.

BOSS LADY 37

Our potential matches seem weak. I want to do right by her.

MEAN GIRL 282

Regulation 4.683: It's love. Don't over-think it.

Hiding from Boss Lady and Mean Girl, Cupid 24601 hunkers behind Princess Emma's massive desk.

Princess Emma holds up a brochure to Elvis.

PRINCESS EMMA

Elvis, If I were to show up and dig a well, how disruptive would it be?

Boss Lady and Mean Girl watch them interact.

ELVIS

Your presence is always welcome, your highness.

PRINCESS EMMA

Not my question, artful dodger. If I dig a well, will I get in the way of actual work getting done?

ELVIS

Of course you would, your highness.

PRINCESS EMMA

You're a disappointment, Elvis.

ELVIS

Yes, you're highness.

The Cupids watch her closely.

MEAN GIRL 282

Her coronation is soon. We have to make a decision.

BOSS LADY 37

I know what the assignment is.

Mean Girl 282 turns away, silently fuming, and she sees...

Cupid 24601, who's peering out from behind the desk, across the room. They make eye contact, and Cupid 24601 ducks back out of sight.

Mean Girl is about to say something, but sees that Boss Lady didn't notice him, and she reassesses her situation.

From behind the desk, Cupid 24601 considers: Did she see him? She saw him. Maybe she didn't. Oh, god, did she? He slowly pokes his head back out.

Mean Girl glares directly at him and gestures for him to get back hidden. Boss Lady turns to Mean Girl, who changes her gesture into a shoulder stretch.

CRASH! The office door flies and slams open. Before anyone knows what's happening, Elvis has flipped the intruder, JAMES (20), flat onto his back, knocking the air out of him.

JAMES

Gwaaaah!

ELVIS

Oh, good evening, sir.

PRINCESS EMMA

Serves you right.

JAMES

I've got a big sister emergency!

All three Cupids are now transfixed by this interaction.

JAMES (CONT'D)

Arvid and I have convinced the Mikonos twins to play strip poker, but I can't find a deck of cards! Elvis, you know the Mikonos twins.

ELVIS

Quite right, sir.

PRINCESS EMMA

Please, James, don't drag Elvis into your depravity.

JAMES

Help me. They're alone with Arvid.

Princess Emma sighs at her pathetic baby brother.

PRINCESS EMMA

Strip Rock-Paper-Scissors.

From behind the desk, Cupid 24601 nods in approval at this excellent solution.

JAMES

Yes! Genius! This is why you're taking over the utterly meaningless figurehead role of monarch!

He bounds for the door.

PRINCESS EMMA

No cameras!

JAMES

Best big sister ever!

PRINCESS EMMA

And for the love of chlamydia, use protection!

James is gone.

INT. SLEEK OFFICE BUILDING BULLPEN - DAY

Cupid 24601 prints out a copy of his report. Mean Girl rolls up next to him in an office chair. Cupid 24601 lets out a little scream, startled by her.

MEAN GIRL 282

How'd you like the Princess Emma?

CUPID 24601

She's amazing. I mean, obviously, I wasn't there since you were really clear about not... doing that.

Mean Girl smiles, which for her looks more like a grimace. Cupid 24601 isn't sure what to make of it.

MEAN GIRL 282

I didn't tell her. She would Relegate you for that.

CUPID 24601

That's kind.

She holds the smile. It really makes her face look awful.

MEAN GIRL 282

Can I see your list?

He hands it over to her. She looks at it, same frozen grimace/smile on her face, now muttering to herself, and he catches phrases like, "Unbelievable" and "For love's sake" and "Can't keep up this charade." She takes a deep breath, holds her grimace/smile.

MEAN GIRL 282 (CONT'D)

This is really terrific work.

Cupid 24601 is confused.

CUPID 24601

Thanks?

The physical effort it takes Mean Girl 282 to stay kind starts to show. Her voice gets higher and more constricted.

MEAN GIRL 282

Really, really terrific. What pros did you have for Todd Poole?

CUPID 24601

The hedge fund manager? Ugh. Nice hair, though.

MEAN GIRL 282

Okay. I'll take it from here. Really, really terrific work.

She storms off. Cupid 24601 stares after her, still confused.

CUPID 24601 Is that what praise feels like?

INT. BOSS LADY CUPID 37'S OFFICE - DAY

The Princess Emma's team of about 60 Cupids gather once again, sitting in plush chairs.

BOSS LADY 37
We've been poring over your

reports, and I'm thrilled to announce that we have a target.

Excited murmurs throughout the room.

BOSS LADY 37 (CONT'D) And as luck would have it, he will be attending a fundraising event for the Princess Emma charities next week. We may not get a better opportunity than this. The suitor is one Todd Poole, a hedge fund manager from New York City.

Todd Poole's exceptionally handsome and slightly evil headshot comes up on the screen behind her.

CUPID 24601

Because of his hair?

BOSS LADY 37

And look! The Cupid who identified Todd Poole as a possible match. A round of applause for Cupid 24601.

The rest of the Cupids golf-clap, much to his surprise.

CUPID 24601

More praise? Feels good...

BOSS LADY 37

Well, get on it with, Cupid 282.

Mean Girl momentarily takes offense before barking orders.

MEAN GIRL 282

Level-3 archers! My office!

A handful of ARCHER CUPIDS exit with Mean Girl.

BOSS LADY 37

The rest of you can take the remainder of the day off and come back tomorrow, ready and rested, for logistical support.

As the room clears, Cupid 24601 approaches Boss Lady's desk.

CUPID 24601

Hi, I'm the, uh... The, uh, you took my bow?

BOSS LADY 37

I just publicly acknowledged you. I know who you are.

CUPID 24601

Thank you.

BOSS LADY 37

American royalty is a stroke of genius, actually.

CUPID 24601

Is it?

BOSS LADY 37

Paternal grandfather a United States Senator, and mother's roots going back to the Palace of Versailles under Louis the Fourteenth... Very impressive, Cupid. Very impressive indeed.

CUPID 24601

You think I've done a good job.

BOSS LADY 37

That's right, Cupid.

Cupid 24601 burst out crying.

BOSS LADY 37 (CONT'D)

Um, are you...?

CUPID 24601

I'm so happy!

INT. SLEEK OFFICE BUILDING BULLPEN - LATER

Cupid 24601 sits at his desk, staring off into space, just a touch of drool sliding down the side of his open mouth.

He's still as a statue. Sweetie Cupid pokes her head around the corner.

SWEETIE 66344

It's time for our sandwich, and I forgot my locker combination again.

No response from Cupid 24601.

SWEETIE 66344 (CONT'D)

Hello?

Still no response. Sweetie leans close.

SWEETIE 66344 (CONT'D)

HEY!

Cupid 24601's whole body jerks in surprise, which causes him to fall out of his chair, land hard on the floor, and bounce back up into a karate position.

SWEETIE 66344 (CONT'D)

I'm your friend! Don't hurt me!

Cupid 24601 relaxes slightly, but still on alert.

CUPID 24601

Something's wrong. I don't get praise.

He sprints off, leaving Sweetie behind.

SWEETIE 66344

But it's sandwich time and I'm hungry!

INT. PALACE CONCERT HALL - DAY

On stage in an empty, gorgeous concert hall, Princess Emma wails on the bagpipes, playing "We Will Rock You" by Queen.

Elvis, off to the side in the audience, taps his foot, enjoying the music.

Cupid 24601, in the back row, calculates, thinking hard.

CUPID 24601

Okay, so Princess Emma is awesome.

As if on cue, Emma kicks over her chair, rocking out hardcore on her pipes.

INT. HEDGE FUND OFFICE - EVENING

In impeccable workout clothes, Todd Poole uses a contraption that simulates cross-country skiing. An EXECUTIVE (30) goes down a list on a pad of paper.

EXECUTIVE

Six of our executive secretaries are asking for a raise.

Cupid 24601 stands off to the side, arms crossed, taking all of this in.

TODD

Ignore them for five days, and then switch up their desks. It's probably menstrual synchrony and they're cycling together.

Cupid 24601 calculates further, thinking hard.

CUPID 24601

Okay, so Todd Poole is not awesome.

Something clicks into place for him.

CUPID 24601 (CONT'D)

Bad match. Bad match!

He sprints out of the room.

INT. MEAN GIRL CUPID 282'S OFFICE - EVENING

Out of breath, Cupid 24601 barges into Mean Girl's office, and immediately trips, falls, and gets back up. Mean Girl stands over what looks like a model battlefield, and she arranges possible Cupid positions.

MEAN GIRL 282

Go away. I'm planning the attack.

CUPID 24601

(breathing heavily)

Match... Mistake...

Mean Girl slowly looks up at him.

CUPID 24601 (CONT'D)

He's kind of a douche. Not kind of. Major douche.

Mean Girl gets up and escorts him toward the door.

MEAN GIRL 282

I can't tell you how grateful I am to know. I'll take care of it. Thank you. You did good. Real good.

She escorts him out of her office, closes the door behind him, rolls her eyes, and gets back to it.

INT. HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

CUPID 24601

More praise?

And Cupid 24601 suddenly sprints away.

INT. CORPORATE LOCKER ROOM - EVENING

Sweetie, on the verge of tears, tries a combination on her locker. It won't open. She yanks the handle repeatedly.

SWEETIE 66344

Come on! Open! Open! Open!

Cupid 24601 comes around the corner.

CUPID 24601

My instincts are going nuts!

Sweetie 66344 grabs him by the shirt and shakes him.

SWEETIE 66344

Please help me! I need my sandwich!

Cupid 24601 opens her locker on the first try. She pushes him out of the way, grabs her tuna sandwich, and takes a huge bite. She sits calmly on a bench and hands the other half of her sandwich to Cupid 24601, who sits next to her.

CUPID 24601

Something's really off.

SWEETIE 66344

Mm...

CUPID 24601

Like we're doing this all wrong. Remember the Prince Charles fiasco?

Sweetie grabs his arm and looks at him earnestly.

SWEETIE 66344

Princess Diana was the loveliest, smartest, most conscientious and beautiful woman in the world.

CUPID 24601

I don't disagree. But she was not right for Charles. And the arrow didn't stick.

SWEETIE 66344

The Cupid that shot Charles and Camilla got Relegated.

CUPID 24601

But she was right!

SWEETIE 66344

And we've never heard from her again!

Cupid 24601 sighs, defeated. He takes a bite of sandwich.

CUPID 24601

Delicious tuna. Are those chives?

SWEETIE 66344

And fresh dill!

Cupid 24601 chews appreciatively.

SWEETIE 66344 (CONT'D)

Did you ever talk to them about getting me on the team?

Cupid 24601 looks at her seriously. He pulls a ballpoint pen out of his shirt and writes numbers along the sole of Sweetie's shoe.

CUPID 24601

This is a really important project. And you can't even remember your locker combination.

This stings Sweetie.

SWEETTE 66344

It takes a true friend to be honest. Thank you.

INT. PRINCESS EMMA'S DRESSING ROOM - EVENING

Cupid 24601 stands unseen in a corner, watching stylists put final touches on Princess Emma's gown. She looks stunningly beautiful.

James, sits on a table nearby, eating movie-sized Milk Duds.

JAMES

Pearls.

PRINCESS EMMA

Excuse me?

JAMES

The Mikonos twins are wearing pearls.

PRINCESS EMMA

Why would I want to be like the Mikonos twins?

JAMES

I'll go get grandmother's necklace.

James heads toward the door.

PRINCESS EMMA

I won't ask why you have grandmother's pearls, but send in Elvis, will you?

James is out the door. She assesses herself in the mirror.

Elvis takes a step in, then stops in his tracks.

ELVIS

Wow, you look...

PRINCESS EMMA

Ridiculous?

ELVIS

...beautiful.

Princess Emma turns from the mirror to face him, surprised. As is Elvis.

ELVIS (CONT'D)

...your highness.

PRINCESS EMMA

Be honest. Am I a dilettante?

FLVIS

I wouldn't say that, your highness.

PRINCESS EMMA

That's because you're kind. Look at what goes into this. The materials, the labor, the time. The cost of the gown alone could probably end malaria in Africa.

ELVIS

Rubbish, your highness. Cause and effect aren't linked that way, and you know it. This is how things work. You were born into royalty. Your role in ending poverty and fighting illness is to raise money and awareness. You throw parties. You attend parties. And you look good doing it. End of story.

PRINCESS EMMA

That feels a bit like shite to me, Elvis.

ELVIS

Eighty-three percent of what you do is total shite, your highness. But this is something I can get behind.

Cupid 24601 watches closely.

Princess Emma cracks a smile.

PRINCESS EMMA

Eighty-three percent?

ELVIS

Maybe eighty-four.

PRINCESS EMMA

Thank you for your honesty. I cherish it. Truly.

James re-enters and heads straight over to drape the pearls around her neck.

JAMES

Do those Mikonos twins know neckwear, or do they know neckwear?

Emma and Elvis look at each other through the mirror.

Cupid 24601 smacks himself in the head, as if to say, "Of course."

INT. BOSS LADY CUPID 37'S OFFICE - AFTERNOON

Boss Lady and Mean Girl lead Three Archer Cupids and a handful of other Operational Support Cupids through the attack plan.

MEAN GIRL 282 Archer One, your battalion will cover the Northeast. Archer Two, due West. Archer Three, your soldiers will cut off the angle from the stage.

Cupid 24601 rushes by the open door. A moment later, his head pokes back into the door frame. A shocked look of dawning comes onto his face, and he gets one step inside the door, when he's suddenly jerked back into the hallway.

INT. SLEEK OFFICE BUILDING HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Middle Manager has Cupid 24601 pinned against the wall, a hand clasped over his mouth. The Middle Manager motions, "Shh" and gestures quietly for 24601 to follow him.

INT. MIDDLE MANAGER'S OFFICE - MOMENTS LATER

Middle Manager shoves 24601 toward a chair.

MIDDLE MANAGER 4677

Sit.

Cupid 24601 does so. Middle Manager stays standing, leaning against his desk.

CUPID 24601

They're making a mistake!

MIDDLE MANAGER 4677

This is bigger than you. It's bigger than me, too.

CUPID 24601

Love is bigger than us all!

MIDDLE MANAGER 4677
That's why I'm just gonna lock you in here for a couple of hours.

He kicks over the chair Cupid 24601 is sitting in, keeping him motionless long enough to run out of the office and close the door behind him.

Cupid 24601 gets up and starts pounding on the door.

CUPID 24601

Let me out! Let me out! The Princess is getting the wrong match!

No one answers. He slumps defeated against the door.

INT. BOSS LADY CUPID 37'S OFFICE - MOMENTS LATER

Middle Manager walks slowly by the open door, giving a subtle thumbs-up to Mean Girl, who smiles slightly.

MEAN GIRL 282

Whatever happens, don't shoot blind. We may not get a better chance than tonight, so let's do it by the book. All clear?

Nods from the Cupids.

BOSS LADY 37 Let's make love, Cupids.

The small group of Cupids fist bump.

INT. MIDDLE MANAGER'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

A chair sits on top of Middle Manager's desk, and a panel from the drop ceiling is missing right above it.

CRASH! Cupid 24601 falls through another panel of the drop ceiling and crashes to the floor. Covered in dust, he coughs a couple of times.

Suddenly the door opens, and a MAINTENANCE CUPID peeks in.

MAINTENANCE CUPID Everything okay in here?

CUPID 24601

Thank you! I was locked in!

Cupid 24601 runs out into the hallway.

MAINTENANCE CUPID

Our doors don't lock!

INT. HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Cupid 24601 turns a corner and nearly runs into Mean Girl.

CUPID 24601

Oh, good! Did you tell the boss what I found out?

MEAN GIRL 282

Of course I didn't, bozo. It's utterly and completely irrelevant.

CUPID 24601

The answer's been right in front of us all the time!

MEAN GIRL 282

Let me make one thing absolutely clear: you don't know anything about anything.

CUPID 24601

But...

MEAN GIRL 282

Stop. This is done. You are done.

She turns on her heels and goes, leaving Cupid 24601 fuming.

EXT. DECADENT HOTEL - NIGHT

The red carpet shines with media lights and flashbulbs.

BRAD PITT and ANGELINA JOLIE have brought out the whole family, looking grungy and glamorous.

OPRAH WINFREY and GAIL wave to the throngs.

Screams pierce the ears as JUSTIN BIEBER wanders by.

Even piercier screams ring out as ONE DIRECTION walks by. Bieber makes a vomiting gesture.

INT. CORPORATE LOCKER ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Cupid 24601 sneaks around the lockers quietly. Making sure no one sees him, he tucks around a corner and stands in front of Sweetie's locker.

EXT. DECADENT HOTEL - CONTINUOUS

BILL CLINTON and GEORGE W. BUSH wave to the cameras on their way inside.

GARY BUSEY and MEATLOAF get into a shoving match and have to be separated by TWO BEEFY SECURITY GUARDS. DONALD TRUMP looks on disapprovingly and takes a bite of his hotdog.

INT. GORGEOUS BALLROOM - NIGHT

Luminaries of all stripes putter about the massive room, snagging fancy appetizers from cater waiters and ordering cocktails from the open bars.

ARCHER CUPID 1, in his hunting cupids, leads a half dozen SOLDIER CUPIDS in full pink body armor, crossbows locked and loaded. Archer 1 holds his bow at the ready, quiver full of arrows strapped to his back, and gestures militarily across the room.

ARCHER CUPID 2 gestures back. Her half dozen SOLDIER CUPIDS move in unison like Marines, locking and loading their crossbows, and hunching down into position. Archer 2 then turns and gestures across the room.

ARCHER CUPID 3 gestures back. His half dozen SOLDIER CUPIDS do flips like ninjas, loading their crossbows and taking positions around Archer Cupid 3, who completes the cycle by gesturing back to Archer Cupid 1.

INT. BALCONY - CONTINUOUS

Boss Lady and Mean Girl take ideal vantage points from opposite sides of the balcony that goes around the perimeter of the room.

GORGEOUS BALLROOM

Princess Emma makes her entrance, looking glorious, flanked by Elvis and two SECURITY GUARDS.

Archer Cupid 1 gestures wildly to the other Archers, and the three battalions mill about in perfect formations, unseen by guests, to stalk the Princess and seek advantageous angles.

BALCONY

Boss Lady, using binoculars, locates Todd Poole.

GORGEOUS BALLROOM

Todd Poole gets his first glimpse of the Princess, and he speaks out the side of his mouth to his Executive.

TODD

Excuse me, your highness. Let me clear a place for you to sit.

With some flair, he uses a napkin to wipe his face, cracking up his sycophantic Executive.

BALCONY

Boss Lady frowns at the joke, as she lowers the binoculars and looks over at Mean Girl, who laughs as she watches Todd Poole through her own binoculars.

GORGEOUS BALLROOM

Princess Emma works the room like the pro she is. Everyone leaves her presence feeling like the most important person on earth.

Emma slowly makes her way toward Todd Poole.

The Cupid Battalions angle for position. The three Lead Archers each grab an arrow out of their quivers, arm their bows, and wait for a clear shot.

From the stage behind the dinner tables, an arrow points out between the curtains.

STAGE BEHIND THE CURTAIN

In near darkness, Cupid 24601 crouches low, peers through the slit in the curtain, and carefully aims his arrow.

GORGEOUS BALLROOM

Princess Emma greets another guest, now just a couple of people separating her from Todd Poole.

Archer Cupid 1 gestures a "prepare" signal. It seems he'll have the shot.

Emma turns slightly and cuts away from Todd to greet the next guest.

Archer Cupid 1 has lost his angle. He gestures to Archer Cupid 2 to get ready for firing.

Princess Emma finds herself suddenly face-to-face with Todd. He smiles just a bit too charmingly at her.

STAGE BEHIND THE CURTAIN

Cupid 24601 fires his arrow.

GORGEOUS BALLROOM

Archer Cupid 2 fires her arrow.

Everything slows down as...

Cupid 24601's arrow just misses Todd's head, and instead flies through Princess Emma, then through Elvis, before dissipating into thin air.

Elvis nudges Todd slightly in one direction and the Princess in the other, as Archer Cupid 2's arrow hits only Todd before flying out of view.

Princess Emma and Elvis lock eyes and share a moment.

BALCONY

Everything is momentarily still. Boss Lady calls into her sleeve.

BOSS LADY 37 Was that a mismatch? Report!

GORGEOUS BALLROOM

Archer 2 turns.

ARCHER CUPID 2

STAGE!

Her battalion turns and fires arrows toward the stage.

Their arrows go through partygoers, and suddenly couples can't keep their hands off each other.

Sensing the mounting energy in the room, Elvis guides Princess Emma to an exit and out to safety.

BALCONY

BOSS LADY 37

Hold your fire, Cupids! Hold your fire!

GORGEOUS BALLROOM

Her orders go unheard, as the growing chaos at the party causes Archer 3's battalion to fire as well.

More couples, and now some trios, are losing control of their inhibitions, and in the noise and sexual mayhem, Archer 1's battalion also fires into the crowd.

BALCONY

Mean Girl watches the orgy unfold below her, clearly enjoying the hell out of it.

BOSS LADY 37

Where's the Princess? Does anyone have eyes on the Princess? AND IN THE NAME OF SAINT VALENTINE, STOP SHOOTING! YOU'RE MAKING IT WORSE!

GORGEOUS BALLROOM

Everyone's now going at it. You can't tell for sure, but you'd swear that even Angelina Jolie and Jennifer Aniston are making out. Guests begin to disrobe. Arrows continue to fly from all directions.

BALCONY

Boss Lady calls into her sleeve microphone.

BOSS LADY 37

Find the rogue Cupid!

GORGEOUS BALLROOM

Archer 3's battalion leaps up onto the stage, ready for a fight. Archer 3 goes through the curtain.

STAGE BEHIND THE CURTAIN

No one is there. Archer Cupid 3 hunts for the rogue Cupid.

BALCONY

Boss Lady calls into her sleeve.

BOSS LADY 37

Who was it?

ARCHER CUPID 3 (O.S.)

No sign of him, ma'am.

GORGEOUS BALLROOM

It's full-on Caligula out there.

BALCONY

Mean Girl looks through her binoculars at the crowd. Mostly blurry body parts and discarded gowns and tuxes.

MEAN GIRL 282

Well, this is a disaster.

Mean Girl struggles to hide her glee. Boss Lady calls into her sleeve.

BOSS LADY 37

Where's the Princess? What happened to the Princess??

INT. PARKING GARAGE - NIGHT

Princess Emma has Elvis slammed up against a wall, and she kisses him passionately. He's very much kissing her back.

She rips open his tuxedo shirt, studs flying in every direction.

PRINCESS EMMA

I've always wanted to do that. It's amazing!

ELVIS

Let's do this the right way, your highness.

PRINCESS EMMA

I've had lessons. I know the right way.

ELVIS

I want to marry you, your highness.

PRINCESS EMMA

You do?

ELVIS

Of course I do. And I think you want to marry me, too. I think we've always known. But something just sort of clicked tonight, didn't it?

PRINCESS EMMA

Let's run away! Maybe Vegas!

ELVIS

Your highness, let's do it right.

PRINCESS EMMA

It's far easier to get forgiveness than permission.

ELVIS

I've worked security for your family for most of my life. I know that's not true.

A limousine screeches to a halt in front of them. One of the Security Guards opens the door, and Princess Emma hurries into it. The Security Guard gives Elvis a surprised look when he sees Elvis' open shirt.

ELVIS (CONT'D)

Now you know I'm not wearing a wire! Let's go!

Elvis climbs into the back seat.

INT. LIMOUSINE BACKSEAT - CONTINUOUS

The door closes, as Elvis climbs in. The Princess isn't next to him on the seat. A moment of panic, but then sees her in front of him. His eyes widen.

In a baby doll nightie, Princess Emma lies seductively along the length of the side seat in the backseat of the limo.

ELVIS

How did you get changed so quickly, your highness?

PRINCESS EMMA

I left on the pearls.

Elvis happily removes his jacket.

INT. LIMOUSINE FRONT SEAT - MOMENTS LATER

As they drive, the Security Guards in the front seat feel the distinct shaking of the car moving rhythmically from side to side. They share a look of surprise.

INT. BOSS LADY CUPID 37'S OFFICE - NIGHT

Boss Lady leans against the front of her desk, arms crossed, clearly waiting.

Mean Girl essentially carries Cupid 24601 by the scruff of his neck and throws him down into the comfy chair in front of Boss Lady.

BOSS LADY 37

Where were you an hour ago?

CUPID 24601

Um... my desk!

MEAN GIRL 282

Forget Relegation! Let's end him!

BOSS LADY 37

The Princess was mismatched.

CUPID 24601

What?! That is shocking!

BOSS LADY 37

Why did you do it?

CUPID 24601

You have my bow and arrows!

BOSS LADY 37

Whose did you borrow?

CUPID 24601

Lending and borrowing hunting equipment is a violation of regulatory measure 708.546!

BOSS LADY 37

There will be a full investigation.

MEAN GIRL 282

We'll find out what you did, you mother-loving piece of fairy dust.

BOSS LADY 37

(to Mean Girl)

You. Contact the Internal Reversal Service. We'll need their best. And immediately.

(to Cupid 24601)

You. Are a lousy actor. Dismissed.

It takes him just a little too long to extricate himself from the comfy chair.

INT. MIDDLE MANAGER'S OFFICE - LATER

Middle Manager hands Mean Girl a glass of champagne. The mess of the drop ceiling remains on the floor.

MIDDLE MANAGER 4677 Job well done, I'd say.

MEAN GIRL 282

I don't see how she survives this.

MIDDLE MANAGER 4677

To a great team. Us. May you finally take her place.

They clink glasses and sip.

MIDDLE MANAGER 4677 (CONT'D)

And I become your number two?

Mean Girl downs the rest of her glass.

MEAN GIRL 282

This isn't over yet. Game face back on. I should at least pretend to move with some urgency.

INT. BOSS LADY CUPID 37'S OFFICE - MORNING

The entire team of Cupids assigned to Princess Emma have gathered.

BOSS LADY 37

Obviously, it's been a long night. Many of us haven't slept. But we need to push through.

Murmurs of assent in the crowd, including Cupid 24601. Boss Lady nods to Mean Girl.

MEAN GIRL 282

Reversalists. Report. Cupid 740?

LADY BRAWNY CUPID 740 (female, 30) is all muscle.

LADY BRAWNY CUPID 740

Here, ma'am.

MEAN GIRL 282

Cupid 398?

ANCIENT CUPID 398 (male, 80) looks like the tiniest retired insurance salesman in the world.

ANCIENT CUPID 398

Here, ma'am. The Reversal Plan is almost ready.

BOSS LADY 37

How long?

LADY BRAWNY CUPID 740

Another eight to ten hours.

BOSS LADY 37

Can you do it any faster? It's the Princess Emma.

ANCIENT CUPID 398

Which is why the time is necessary. Reversalism is delicate and nuanced and takes a deft hand.

BOSS LADY 37

Please work as fast as you can.

CUPID 24601

What if it's a good match?

Total silence, as the entire room turns to face him. Boss Lady walks slowly over to him.

BOSS LADY 37

Let me make something clear. To you. To everyone. But I think especially to you. The match is wrong.

CUPID 24601

Even if...?

BOSS LADY 37

Shut up. Princess Emma is heir to the throne.

(MORE)

BOSS LADY 37 (CONT'D)

She can never be with a bodyguard. No matter how much she loves him, she won't be happy in one week or one month or one year. If she chooses him, she loses everything. Whoever it was that went rogue on this match...

Cupid 24601 looks around the rest of the room innocently.

BOSS LADY 37 (CONT'D)

...may have single-handedly brought down the entire monarchy.

CUPID 24601

What if...

BOSS LADY 37

IT'S A WRONG MATCH, YOU BRAINLESS TWIT!

CUPID 24601

Okay. Just wondering.

Some guilt starts to sink in.

INT. ANCIENT CUPID OFFICE - DAY

The Ancient Cupid's walls are all whiteboards, and nearly every surface is covered with marker, various mathematical equations and diagrams. He's working on another equation.

Cupid 24601 pokes his head around the corner.

CUPID 24601

Hello!

Ancient Cupid jumps.

ANCIENT CUPID 398

You startled me, young master. During a Reversalism, I can get lost in the process.

CUPID 24601

That's excellent. Really, really excellent. Because it's the Reversalism process that I'd like to ask you about.

I'm happy to talk to a young Cupid about Reversalism any time. Sit! I'll get tea!

INT. ANCIENT CUPID OFFICE - LATER

Ancient Cupid sets a piping hot cup of tea in front of Cupid 24601 and sits across from him.

ANCIENT CUPID 398

Oh, hibiscus infusion. How I love thee. Reversalism!

He pounds the table, causing Cupid 24601 to jump and tea to splash out of his mug.

ANCIENT CUPID 398 (CONT'D)

Let me first dispel a myth.

CUPID 24601

Yes, sir.

ANCIENT CUPID 398

Reversalism is not cynicism. For without Reversalism, how can humans find their ultimately true matches? Think about that, young master.

CUPID 24601

I certainly will. How does it work?

ANCIENT CUPID 398

Oh, it's very complex.

He gestures to the walls behind him. Cupid 24601 frowns.

CUPID 24601

Let's say, hypothetically, that I accidentally shot two humans that shouldn't be matched. What would I need to do?

ANCIENT CUPID 398

Call the Internal Reversal Service.

CUPID 24601

I couldn't Reverse it myself?

Heavens, no. It takes no less than seventeen moving pieces working simultaneously to Reverse the power of a Cupid's arrow. In my many years, I've never been able to achieve a true Reversal with fewer than five Cupids. And even then, those five were very skilled.

CUPID 24601

Well, what if, hypothetically, of course...

Ancient Cupid nods "of course."

CUPID 24601 (CONT'D)

...I needed to Reverse a match without anyone knowing?

ANCIENT CUPID 398

Oh, dear chap. You'd be up a creek with just one boat. Is that the phrase?

CUPID 24601

There's nothing I could do?

ANCIENT CUPID 398

I'm afraid not.

Disappointment and deep sigh from Cupid 24601. Ancient Cupid takes another sip of his tea.

ANCIENT CUPID 398 (CONT'D)

Unless...

CUPID 24601

Yes?

ANCIENT CUPID 398

Long ago, I heard of a radical Reversal performed by a lone Cupid.

CUPID 24601

How?

ANCIENT CUPID 398

Although he was successful, it cost him dearly.

CUPID 24601

Relegation?

More than that. I understand he reasoned with the mismatched couple and talked them out of it.

CUPID 24601

How did he do that, unless...

ANCIENT CUPID 398

That's right, young master. He Revealed himself.

Cupid 24601 gasps.

INT. SLEEK OFFICE BUILDING SNACK ROOM - DAY

In a fairly crowded room, Sweetie Cupid considers her options at a vending machine.

Cupid 24601 peeks his head around the corner.

CUPID 24601

Pssst!

Every Cupid in the room turns their head to 24601. So much for subtlety.

INT. SLEEK OFFICE BUILDING HALLWAY - MOMENTS LATER

Sweetie Cupid, with her can of soda, struggles to keep up with Cupid 24601, who walks with purpose down the hallway.

SWEETIE 66344

If I knew my locker combination, could I join the team?

Cupid 24601 stops and checks that they're alone.

CUPID 24601

Have you ever Revealed yourself?

Sweetie Cupid gasps, covers her mouth, and drops her can of soda on Cupid 24601's foot.

CUPID 24601 (CONT'D)

("son of a bitch")

Empty <u>quiver!</u>

SWEETIE 66344

No, no, of course I haven't.

CUPID 24601

Do you know anyone who has?

SWEETIE 66344

No one does that. It's humiliating.

CUPID 24601

That's what I've heard, but I don't know anyone who does it, so how can I know for sure?

SWEETIE 66344

Don't Reveal yourself. Ever. Don't even think about it. The experience... Just... it's... the worst... thing...

The poor, sweet thing can't even get the words out because she's crying too hard.

CUPID 24601

You've done it!

SWEETIE 66344

No!

CUPID 24601

Yes, you have!

Sweetie Cupid breaks down completely, throwing her arms around Cupid 24601 and sobbing on his shoulder.

INT. SLEEK OFFICE BUILDING BULLPEN - MOMENTS LATER

Cupid 24601 places a mug of tea, a box of tissues, and three donuts down on Sweetie Cupid's desk. He rolls up next to her in a desk chair. She's recovering slightly, still fighting back tears.

SWEETIE 66344

It was the actress that was married to that baseball player for like 62 hours? The match was never supposed to happen. I'd just been traded, and I wanted to make a splash. So while our Level-3 leaders debated how to handle it, I took matters into my own hands.

She fights back more sobs.

CUPID 24601

So it worked!

SWEETIE 66344

They split up, yes. But she went to a mental hospital because she told her publicist she saw a Cupid!

CUPID 24601

No one knows that!

SWEETIE 66344

I <u>Revealed</u> myself!

CUPID 24601

What does that mean?

SWEETIE 66344

Never such humiliation. I won't go through it again. Not even for you, and you're like my favorite Cupid in the whole wide world.

Cupid 24601 sighs disappointingly.

SWEETIE 66344 (CONT'D)

But if you're asking because you're considering it, stop. I mean it. Don't do it. Really. Don't.

Cupid 24601 looks into her pleading, traumatized eyes.

INT. PRINCESS EMMA'S BEDROOM - EVENING

Princess Emma reads in bed, checks her clock, looks over at the door, and goes back to reading.

Cupid 24601 stands, unseen, a few feet away.

CUPID 24601

Okay, I can do this. How bad can it be really? Here goes nothing.

Cupid 24601 Reveals himself: Now visible to humans, he looks like a cherub. His completely naked baby body floats above the Princess's bed, as his tiny wings flap. His face is more or less the same.

Princess Emma sees the floating Cupid.

PRINCESS EMMA

AAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAA.

Cupid 24601 looks at himself.

CUPID 24601 AAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAA

Cupid 24601 un-Reveals himself. Back to his unseen form, fully clothed, now hyperventilating.

CUPID 24601 (CONT'D)

What... how... why... what... oh...

Princess Emma points, unable to use actual words.

PRINCESS EMMA

Ah! Ah! Ah! Ah! Ah!

Elvis bursts through the door.

ELVIS

Your highness!

PRINCESS EMMA

Ah! Ah! Ah!

CUPID 24601

Oh, sweet Eros, god of love.

ELVIS

What is it, your highness?

She looks around in a panic, taking deep breaths.

PRINCESS EMMA

There was... I saw... I don't know. A flying baby?

Elvis frowns, confused.

PRINCESS EMMA (CONT'D)

Yes, I know, but this crazy flying baby appeared out of nowhere above the bed!

Elvis looks at her like she's nuts.

PRINCESS EMMA (CONT'D)

I saw it! And you have no idea how horrible it was.

CUPID 24601

Okay. Suck it up, Love Bug. You won't get another chance like this.

Cupid 24601 Reveals himself. Same naked cherub look.

CUPID 24601 (CONT'D)

Hi.

ELVIS

Jumping PANTS! WHAT THE...?

Elvis half-stumbles, half-protects the Princess.

CUPID 24601

It's okay. I mean, this is horrible for me, too, but I'm a Cupid. Specifically, I'm your Cupid.

ELVIS

Not on my watch!

Elvis reaches for 24601, who easily floats out of reach.

CUPID 24601

Hey!

PRINCESS EMMA

Did James set this up?

ELVIS

Speak, Cherub!

CUPID 24601

I'm not a cherub. I'm a Cupid.

Princess Emma turns Elvis toward her.

PRINCESS EMMA

Are we going insane, Elvis?

ELVIS

I would've thought so, your highness, but you see him too.

CUPID 24601

Don't talk about me like I'm not here, when I clearly am.

PRINCESS EMMA

How can we get him to go away?

ELVIS

Stay focused on me. Maybe he'll just leave.

Naked cherub 24601 folds his arms and looks down at them disapprovingly.

PRINCESS EMMA

He's still here.

ELVIS

I'll protect you.

CUPID 24601

I'm not hurting anyone.

PRINCESS EMMA

I'm freaking out, Elvis.

ELVIS

So am I, your highness, but I'll never show it.

CUPID 24601

I have not Revealed myself to put up with this nonsense! You listen to me RIGHT NOW!

Cupid 24601's outburst gets their attention, petrified though they may be. Cupid 24601 takes a calming breath.

CUPID 24601 (CONT'D)

Hi. I'm 24601. I'm on the team of Cupids assigned to the Princess Emma. It was my arrow that matched you with Elvis. So I've Revealed myself to you today — and turned into this humiliating form — because I'd like to try to reason with you to break the connection.

Cupid 24601 looks rather pleased with himself for getting it out so easily. They look blankly back at him.

PRINCESS EMMA

I didn't understand any of that.

CUPID 24601

You're not supposed to love each other! I'm sorry. It was my mistake but you need to split up now.

Silence, as Emma and Elvis stare in disbelief.

PRINCESS EMMA

I love him.

FLVTS

And I love her.

CUPID 24601

But you shouldn't. So just walk away now before anyone gets hurt.

PRINCESS EMMA

I most certainly will not.

CUPID 24601

Princess, please. It's not right. You two have some natural chemistry and I like you, but I fired a shot I never should have. No insult intended, but he's security detail.

ELVIS

It's not an insult. It's my job.

PRINCESS EMMA

I don't care what he does. I love him and I'll fight to keep him.

ELVIS

I didn't think it was possible for me to love you more, your highness.

CUPID 24601

Stop! Listen! I'm just one of many Cupids. You can take the easy way and let me talk you out of this, or you can face the Reversalists.

ELVIS

Can't say I much like the sound of that, your highness.

PRINCESS EMMA

Get the car, Elvis. We're going underground.

ELVIS

Yes, ma'am.

He's off as Emma pulls down a suitcase from the top of her armoire and throws clothing into it haphazardly.

CUPID 24601

You can't hide, Princess. We're assigned to you.

PRINCESS EMMA

Either assist me, or shut up.

CUPID 24601 I'm not helping you pack!

PRINCESS EMMA
Of course not. Your chubby legs,
little wings, and tiny willy are
utterly useless.

Cupid 24601 remembers how ridiculous he looks.

CUPID 24601

That was so mean.

INT. CORPORATE LOCKER ROOM - EVENING

Sweetie stands in front of her locker, struggling to remember the combination. She looks around for help. Nothing. Concentrates hard. Nothing. Then eureka! She removes her shoe and finds the combination written on the side. She opens her locker. Success.

She notices something in her locker, and her face falls.

I/E. MINI COOPER - MORNING

Elvis races his Mini Cooper down a single-track road in the Scottish Highlands as the sun rises.

PRINCESS EMMA

Did we lose him? I think we lost him!

Cupid 24601 suddenly appears inside the car, floating between them. Emma and Elvis let out a startled yelp.

CUPID 24601

You can't outrun us. We're Cupids!

Princess Emma grabs Cupid 24601 by the shoulders.

PRINCESS EMMA

See here, you freaky aberration of nature...

CUPID 24601

That's uncalled for!

PRINCESS EMMA

You won't stop our love! Isn't that right, Elvis?

ELVIS

That's right, Tiger Lily.

Elvis rolls down Princess Emma's window and she tosses the cherub out of it.

CUPID 24601

Hey!

PRINCESS EMMA

With those tiny wings, he can't possibly keep up.

Cupid 24601 reappears right on the windshield.

CUPID 24601

Yes, I can.

Startled again, Emma screams and Elvis drives off the road, bouncing over the heather and through a field of Highland cows and sheep.

CUPID 24601 (CONT'D)

The road's back that way! Hey!

Elvis uses the windshield wipers to brush 24601 out of view.

The Mini Cooper bounces over the uneven terrain and continues over a hill.

Cupid 24601 floats next to a Highland cow, who moos.

CUPID 24601 (CONT'D)

I know.

INT. BOSS LADY CUPID 37'S OFFICE - MORNING

Boss Lady, Mean Girl, Ancient Cupid, and Lady Brawny stand over Reversalist plans around the conference table. A knock at the door gets their collective attention.

Sweetie hovers in the doorway, holding her bow and quiver of arrows.

MEAN GIRL 282

You? Go away.

The group turns back to the Reversalist plan.

SWEETIE 66344

Well, I mean, um...

MEAN GIRL 282

Was my "go away" not clear?

SWEETIE 66344

Um... Yes? As a bell? It's just that... um...

They all stare at her, as she struggles.

SWEETIE 66344 (CONT'D)

My arrow? Um... I can't find... um...

Boss Lady loses it.

BOSS LADY 37

SPIT IT OUT! YOU'RE KILLING ME!

SWEETIE 66344

I KNOW WHO SHOT THE PRINCESS!

Sweetie drops her arrows and quiver, as she covers her mouth, startled by her own outburst, and breaks down in sobs.

EXT. SCOTTISH CASTLE - MORNING

The Mini Cooper skids to a halt in front of an isolated castle. Elvis and Emma pop out of the car.

PRINCESS EMMA

No one will think to find us here.

Cupid 24601 appears again.

CUPID 24601

You can't escape the long arm of the Cupids!

INT. BOSS LADY CUPID 37'S OFFICE - MORNING

Boss Lady, with Mean Girl standing behind her, sits at her desk across from Sweetie, holding a mug of tea.

BOSS LADY 37

Any ideas where he may have gone?

Sweetie still recovering from a sob fest, shakes her head and takes an uneven breath in. As she sips from her tea, her eyes widen, as a thought strikes her.

BOSS LADY 37 (CONT'D)

What is it?

Sweetie shakes her head "no," not wanting to say. Mean Girl smacks the tea cup out of her hands to the floor.

MEAN GIRL 282

Tell us!

Sweetie speaks so softly no one can hear her.

BOSS LADY 37

Speak up!

SWEETIE 66344

He asked me what it's like to Reveal yourself!

This shocks them into silence.

MEAN GIRL 282

He really is innovator stupid.

Mean Girl is so flabbergasted, she's almost laughing.

Boss Lady stands up, pulls down her suit jacket.

BOSS LADY 37

He's with the Princess. Find her. Get the Reversalists.

EXT. SCOTTISH CASTLE - DAY

Cupid 24601, now back in his usual un-Revealed form, sits dejectedly on a step outside the Castle. The sounds of Emma and Elvis making incredibly loud, wild, and passionate love cause him to cover his ears.

Two sets of feet appear in front of him. He looks up. Boss Lady and Mean Girl tower over him.

CUPID 24601

I tried to stop them.

Boss Lady turns to Lady Brawny Cupid and Ancient Cupid, standing with their teams of Reversalists.

BOSS LADY 37

Wait until they're finished. Then turn the Cold Shower Reversal Plan up to Code Blue.

LADY BRAWNY CUPID 740

Done.

Ah, young master! Have you come to see the Reversal process?

MEAN GIRL 282

He gets nowhere near either of them at any time for any reason!

ANCIENT CUPID 398

Oh, I see. Not such hypothetical questions, then.

Cupid 24601 hangs his head in shame.

INT. BOSS LADY CUPID 37'S OFFICE - DAY

Cupid 24601 sits nervously, bouncing a leg up and down. Sweetie darts her eyes from Cupid to Cupid on the verge of tears. They sit in front of Boss Lady's desk, as she silently fills out a pink form. Mean Girl glowers, as usual.

CUPID 24601

What will happen to them? The Princess and Elvis.

SWEETIE 66344

What will happen to us?!

MEAN GIRL 282

You need to not talk, mouth breathers.

BOSS LADY 37

The Princess will wake up tomorrow, come to her senses, go back home, cope with minor scandal, and look back fondly on a day of impetuousness. Things might look a bit worse for him.

SWEETIE 66344

What will happen to us?!

Boss Lady stamps RELEGATED across two forms, hands one pink copy to Cupid 24601, and another pink copy to Sweetie Cupid.

SWEETIE 66344 (CONT'D)

No. I can't be.

CUPID 24601

I'm sorry. I really am.

BOSS LADY 37

I'm not.

Cupid 24601 looks down at his pink Relegation slip, in a bit of shock as Sweetie sobs next to him.

FADE OUT.

EXT. RECEPTION OFFICE TRAILER - DAY

A few trailers sit in what looks to be a city park outside a major metropolitan area.

INT. RECEPTION OFFICE TRAILER - DAY

Cupid 24601 sits in a worn chair, Relegation slip in hand, pretending that Sweetie, in the chair next to him, isn't even there.

SWEETIE 66344

You have to talk to me. You don't know anyone else here.

Cupid 24601 scratches the inside of his ear.

SWEETIE 66344 (CONT'D)

I said I was sorry. I'll say it again! I'm sorry!

ROGER (45), a no-nonsense kind of guy, struggles through the door, carrying a load of bows, arrows, and quivers.

Cupid 24601 hops up and takes them.

ROGER

Hey, thanks. Just toss them in the corner with the others. Project for a loveless day. New Relegations?

SWEETIE 66344

Yes.

Roger considers them.

ROGER

Steve and Betsy.

SWEETIE 66344

Who's that?

ROGER

You maybe. You look like a Steve and a Betsy, and I don't think we have any of those.

CUPID 24601

We get names?

ROGER

I'm Roger. Forms, please.

Cupid 24601 and Sweetie hand their forms over, and Roger fills out another form on his clipboard.

SWEETIE 66344

Betsy?

ROGER

You like it?

SWEETIE 66344

I love it.

CUPID 24601

It's ridiculous.

SWEETIE 66344

Okay, you know what? I love Betsy, and you don't get to decide! In fact, you shouldn't be giving me the silent treatment! I should be giving you the silent treatment! I'm only here because you stole my arrows! And just because I couldn't remember my locker combination, you never stood up for me! So you just shut your love hole about my name! I'm Betsy!

Roger holds up a form for her. She grabs it out of his hand and storms out of the trailer.

ROGER

Yeah, that happens a lot.

CUPID 24601

I don't like Steve.

ROGER

It's your call. I just pulled that out of my wings, so...

CUPID 24601

Cullen Skink.

ROGER

Excuse me?

CUPID 24601

I've always liked Cullen Skink.

ROGER

You mean the Scottish soup?

CUPID 24601

Is it? Okay, then.

ROGER

Right. You're Cullen Skink.

Roger hands him the form from his clipboard.

CUPID 24601

What happens now?

ROGER

It's happened. You're here.

Cupid 24601 looks around, frowning slightly. Roger nods.

ROGER (CONT'D)

Yeah, it's anticlimactic. I get that a lot. Oh! Just one rule: Don't mess with matches from the clouds. Can you manage that?

Cupid 24601 nods, not completely understanding.

INT. LOCKER TRAILER - DAY

Sweetie struggles to open her new locker.

SWEETIE 66344

("damn, damn, damn")

Bunnies! Bunnies! Bunnies!

She slams her fist against the locker. From down the row, Cupid 24601 chuckles to himself and opens his locker.

SWEETIE 66344 (CONT'D)

It's not funny, Steve!

CHLOE (60), a sun-leathered earth mother of a Cupid, appears from around the corner, to see what the hubbub is all about.

CUPID 24601

My name is Cullen Skink.

Sweetie has absolutely no idea how to respond to that.

CHLOE

Well, that's a little bit funny.

Both Cupids turn their heads to Chloe.

CHLOE (CONT'D)

Are you true love makers or among the disenchanted?

SWEETIE 66344

We just got here. We don't know anything.

CHLOE

No one knows anything, honey. Don't trust anyone who says they have it all figured out.

Another Cupid, MARCUS (30), wanders into the mix, leaning cockily against the lockers, toothpick in his mouth.

MARCUS

Hi, goodie two poops.

CHLOE

Shove your head in a quiver, Marcus!

MARCUS

Did you choose Cullen Skink?

CUPID 24601

Why? You have a problem with it?

MARCUS

Cullen Skink is the greatest name in the history of Cupids.

CUPID 24601

Oh... Thanks!

MARCUS

Wanna go mess up some love lives?

CUPID 24601

What? Really?

MARCUS

Of course not! Let's qo!

Marcus grabs Cupid 24601 by the elbow and runs off with him.

CHLOE

Marcus! How dare you? You rotten love for nothing!

SWEETIE 66344

What's gonna happen to him?

CHLOE

Best not think too much about it.

Sweetie looks really worried.

EXT. HIGH LINE COFFEE CART - DAY

Marcus and Cupid 24601 wear pink hunting vests and carry their bows and quivers.

MARCUS

Check it. This is awesome.

Marcus lets an arrow fly, which goes through only a DUDE ORDERING COFFEE, as he orders at a cart presided over by a HOT BARISTA CHICK.

MARCUS (CONT'D)

Unrequited love! Poor sap.

Marcus laughs. Cupid 24601 looks surprised.

MARCUS (CONT'D)

He'll be fine. So what's your greatest fantasy?

CUPID 24601

Um... finding the perfect match for Princess Emma.

MARCUS

No.

CUPID 24601

No?

MARCUS

No. Here. On the ground. Where there are no rules. What's your greatest fantasy?

Cupid 24601 looks at him blankly.

MARCUS (CONT'D)

Okay, I'll rephrase for where you're at.

(MORE)

MARCUS (CONT'D)

What would you never ever <u>ever</u> consider doing, not in a million billion years?

Cupid 24601's eyes widen, and he looks absolutely shocked.

CUPID 24601

(whispering)

Love triangle?

MARCUS

Love triangle?! That's so twisted!

CUPID 24601

No! I'd never do a love triangle!

MARCUS

Naw, I'm kiddin' ya, Cullen Skink! Man, that's a great name. Don't believe the hype. A love triangle can be wonderful. Love between two humans is great. So what's love among three?

Cupid 24601 ponders for a moment. And they speak the obvious answer together.

CUPID 24601

MARCUS

Dangerous.

Greater.

CUPID 24601

Oh. Greater?

MARCUS

Greater! Exactly! You get it!

Cupid 24601 looks both pleased and confused.

EXT. RIVERFRONT PARK - EVENING

The sun sets behind Manhattan, as Chloe and Sweetie observe diners enjoying the weather, the view, and the cafe alongside the river in Queens.

CHLOE

We are the unpoliced, unregulated Cupids of everyman. Ugly people get to love, too, Betsy. So do the poor, the downtrodden, and the putupon.

(MORE)

CHLOE (CONT'D)

We serve the above average and the below average, the expected and the unexpected, the unemployed, the under-employed, and the over-employed. We do the riders of public transportation and makers of car payments, the homeowners and the foreclosed upon. We cope with the generous souls and the a-holes.

SWEETIE 66344

So... anyone?

CHLOE

Real people, honey. Real people. They're the best.

Sweetie finds this rather surprising.

INT. SONY PUBLIC PLAZA - DAY

Marcus and Cupid 24601 hunt, insofar as you can call it that.

MARCUS

Schlubs, jerks, yahoos, boneheads.

CUPID 24601

So you mean <u>anyone</u>? Like, anyone?

Marcus gestures to a MAN IN A SUIT sitting on the edge of a fountain, next to a WOMAN IN A PANTSUIT.

MARCUS

Couple of coworkers having an innocent lunch. Just one with a wedding ring.

Marcus shoots an arrow that goes through the two of them.

MARCUS (CONT'D)

Smell that?

Cupid 24601 sniffs the air, confused.

MARCUS (CONT'D)

Divorce!

Marcus laughs. Cupid 24601 laughs uncomfortably.

MARCUS (CONT'D)

Hey, man. It's all fine. This is your time. Own it.

Cupid 24601 takes this in, nodding.

MARCUS (CONT'D)

You know what's really fun when two Cupids go hunting together?

CUPID 24601

Sharing French fries?

MARCUS

No, man. What? No! Let's see who can make the craziest couple in the next hour.

CUPID 24601

What about true love?

MARCUS

You're still thinking like you're in the clouds. These are real people, man. They don't matter.

Marcus puts his arm around Cupid 24601.

MARCUS (CONT'D)

I really wish I'd come up with a name like Cullen Skink. It's top-notch.

Cupid 24601 is flattered.

MARCUS (CONT'D)

Let's keep our eyes out for an animal rights vegan to pair up with a big game hunter.

Cupid 24601 nods, concentrating seriously.

INT. ST. JOHN'S UNIVERSITY DINING HALL - DAY

Students carrying trays fill the room. Back-to-back, Chloe and Sweetie spin and assess the crowd.

CHLOE

I like couples who eat. Hone your instincts on the soup station.

SWEETIE 66344

How can you know that there's a perfect match the soup station?

CHLOE

There is no perfect match.

SWEETIE 66344

What about "The One"?

CHLOE

Oh, honey. "The One" is a load of hogswallop they fed us up in the clouds. Love potential is everywhere. Each human has thousands of soul mates. But there is no perfect.

SWEETIE 66344

That can't be!

CHLOE

Humans invented "The One" to make sense of love. But if there were just one, that guy over there might only be able to meet his soulmate in Mongolia.

SWEETIE 66344

My whole life is a lie.

They've reached the soup station.

CHLOE

You feel anything?

Sweetie takes a breath.

SWEETIE 66344

Nothing major.

CHLOE

Me neither. But why not?

Chloe shoots through two STUDENTS reaching simultaneously for the soup ladle. They share a moment.

CHLOE (CONT'D)

I like a good intense, semesterlong romance. Something to look back fondly on. Even though she'll come out in two years. Fun, right?

SWEETIE 66344

Yes!

EXT. THE METROPOLITAN MUSEUM OF ART - EVENING

Cupid 24601 and Marcus turn out of Central Park toward the museum. Lots of people. Down the steps outside, a red carpet runner rolls toward the street. Press line velvet ropes.

MARCUS

Forget it. There are always Cupids from the clouds at special events. Lots of important people. Look.

Sure enough, milling about the paparazzi are a half dozen Archer Cupids in their pink armor. The flashbulbs start going nuts as a limousine pulls up.

CUPID 24601

Who is it?

MARCUS

Who cares? Let's go.

CUPID 24601

Wait. I know her!

Princess Emma climbs out of the limo with Todd Poole. He looks absolutely besotted in love. She's mostly indifferent to him, even as she takes his arm.

Archer Cupids fire several arrows that go through both of them. Todd Poole looks at Emma lovingly, and Emma rolls her eyes.

Cupid 24601 takes a couple of steps toward her, when Marcus tackles him from behind and sits on top of him.

CUPID 24601 (CONT'D)

Ow! What are you doing?

MARCUS

Listen to me, Cullen Skink, and listen good. There's only one rule here, and I follow it: Don't mess with matches from the clouds.

CUPID 24601

But I'm assigned to her!

MARCUS

Not anymore. Stop. After Relegation is Disintegration.

CUPID 24601

Relegation doesn't seem so bad.
Maybe Disintegration is okay, too.

MARCUS

It's called Disintegration.

Cupid 24601 shrugs a lack of understanding.

MARCUS (CONT'D)

A Cupid I know was vaporized just because he got caught in the middle of a cloud match.

Marcus gets off of Cupid 24601 and helps him up.

MARCUS (CONT'D)

I will do anything for messed-up love. But I won't do that.

EXT. CITY PARK - DAY

Marcus and Cupid 24601 wander through a mostly paved public space, surrounded by food carts, milling about the unsuspecting lunch crowd. Marcus suddenly puts out a hand to stop Cupid 24601.

MARCUS

Pollyanna alert.

Sweetie and Chloe also hunt amongst the crowd.

MARCUS (CONT'D)

So... what's your greatest fantasy?

CUPID 24601

Love triangle.

MARCUS

Love between two is great. Love among three is...?

CUPID 24601

Greater.

MARCUS

And these people?

CUPID 24601

Don't matter.

MARCUS

Look at you, Einstein! Let's circumnavigate.

Marcus and 24601 stalk Sweetie and Chloe.

In front of an Indian curry truck, Chloe closes her eyes and takes a deep breath.

CHLOE

There. These two. Feel that?

Sweetie takes a deep breath.

SWEETIE 66344

T do!

An ART DIRECTOR (male, 35) contemplates his curry options, and a LAWYER (female, 35) sidles up to him to offer advice.

Marcus gets Cupid 24601 to follow him to a different angle of the situation.

MARCUS

Line it up. Take aim. And...

Sweetie lines up... and releases.

MARCUS (CONT'D)

Fire!

Cupid 24601 lets the arrow fly. Simultaneous arrows fly through the Art Director and Lawyer, and the Lawyer and a MALE LAWYER (40) standing next to her.

SWEETLE 66344

What just happened?

CHLOE

Marcus!

She turns in the direction of 24601's arrow, and only Cupid 24601 appears in a small clearing, still in firing position. Busted.

SWEETIE 66344

No!

MARCUS

And that's how you do a love triangle, Cullen Skink! Well done!

Chloe turns toward Marcus. He gives her the double-v signs.

CHLOE

This isn't over yet, you son-of-a-loveless-marriage!

MARCUS

Making my own love triangle is fun. But turning one of your couples into a triangle is even funner!

Marcus laughs, takes a bow, and then goes off running.

Sweetie stays staring in disbelief at 24601.

SWEETIE 66344

How could you?

CUPID 24601

Love among three is greater?

Sweetie's devastation turns to confusion: Excuse me?

After another moment, Cupid 24601 takes off running as fast as he can.

SWEETIE 66344

No. No, I can't believe it.

CHLOE

Believe it, Betsy. Your boy has gone over to the disenchanted.

INT. REC ROOM TRAILER - DAY

Cupid 24601 eats a sandwich by himself at a table in the rec room, flipping through a magazine.

Sweetie Cupid sits across from him silently and unwraps a sandwich of her own.

SWEETIE 66344

That was mean.

CUPID 24601

It was fun.

SWEETIE 66344

Fun? You just ruined three lives!

CUPID 24601

These people don't matter.

SWEETIE 66344

These are the only people who matter for us now.

CUPID 24601

I matched a Princess!

SWEETIE 66344

You mismatched a Princess!

CUPID 24601

These humans mean nothing. They are nothing. Love... is nothing.

Sweetie smacks the sandwich out of his hands and onto the floor, surprising them both.

CUPID 24601 (CONT'D)

I was eating that!

Sweetie, slightly ashamed, holds up half of her sandwich.

SWEETIE 66344

You want my other half?

Cupid 24601 takes it slowly, then stands up, throws it down onto the floor, and jumps up and down on it.

CUPID 24601

You stink! Love stinks! And YOUR! SANDWICH! STINKS!

He storms out of the rec room. Sweetie, fighting tears, picks up the smashed sandwiches.

INT. TRAILER WORKSHOP - DAY

Marcus lightly taps the point of one of his arrows with a tiny hammer, Cupid 24601 looking on in awe.

MARCUS

Arrow adaptation takes a delicate touch, but the havoc makes it totally worth it. Pliers.

Cupid 24601 hands Marcus pliers like a surgical assistant.

And the way Marcus carefully plucks a couple of tiny feathers from the tail of his arrow, it is quite like surgery. Marcus holds up the finished arrow.

MARCUS (CONT'D)

One-night-stand arrow.

Cupid 24601 takes it.

CUPID 24601

Wow...

MARCUS

Keeping the tail asymmetrical guarantees that one person just wants to get laid, and the other wants something a little more.

Marcus laughs, and so does Cupid 24601.

CUPID 24601

Can I make some of these?

MARCUS

Sure, but just take some of mine. I got hundreds. I'll throw in some sexual harassment and fetish arrows, too. Knock yourself out.

Cupid 24601 gives him an excited double thumbs-up.

MARCUS (CONT'D)

And don't do that anymore.

Cupid 24601, properly abashed, agrees.

INT. LIBERAL ARTS COLLEGE - DAY

A large group of students gather on the quad, listening to a STUDENT SPEAKER (female, 19).

STUDENT SPEAKER

Today we honor indigenous peoples and will spend the next hour in silence to represent how so many voices were silenced forever.

Cupid 24601 stands amongst the crowd, wearing his pink fishing vest and looking pretty bored. Hardly even looking at what he's doing, he fires arrows into the crowd. A dozen or so in really quick succession. He walks away from the crowd, just as it starts to turn into something else entirely.

EXT. ICE SKATING RINK - DAY

Cupid 24601 leans against the wall, watching the ice skaters. Pretty uninteresting. He turns around to see TWO TOTAL DUDES (24) removing their shoes to change into their skates. He casually shoots them.

Instead of putting on their skates, the TWO DUDES start sucking on each other's toes.

EXT. BROOKLYN BRIDGE PARK - DAY

Cupid 24601 lounges in a beach chair, Manhattan skyline behind him, as he faces the Carousel in DUMBO. He wears sunglasses and is unshaven. A cigarette dangles from his lips, beer open next to his chair on the pier. He randomly shoots a LITTLE BOY (8), who then grabs a NANNY's butt.

INT. REC ROOM TRAILER - DAY

Cupid 24601 lounges on a sofa. He's really let himself go, wearing cutoff pink sweat shorts, a tank top, poker visor, straggly beard, and only one flip-flop. He smokes two cigarettes and dribbles root beer down his shirt.

Sweetie stands in front of him.

SWEETIE 66344

You're disgusting.

Cupid 24601 takes a drag off his cigarettes, burps, and blows smoke up at her face.

SWEETIE 66344 (CONT'D)

And you obviously don't care about anything anymore.

Cupid 24601 farts.

SWEETIE 66344 (CONT'D)

So I guess it doesn't matter to you that the Princess Emma is single.

Cupid 24601 peers at her over his sunglasses.

CUPID 24601

What about Todd Poole?

SWEETIE 66344

Do you care?

CUPID 24601

No.

EXT. PUBLIC SCHOOL - DAY

A limousine pulls up to the front of the parking lot, and several PHOTOGRAPHERS descend upon it.

GAVIN (35), a giant security guard, opens the door, and Princess Emma climbs out.

PRINCESS EMMA

We're just painting a library today, so no need to get your knickers in a bunch.

Cupid 24601 stands behind a tree a few yards away, observing.

Among the photographers stands Todd Poole, unshaven and rather desperate looking, his spectacular suit worn loosely.

Like some kind of Sonny Corleone hit from The Godfather, several teams of ARCHER CUPIDS in full pink body armor pop up from behind the limousine, out of the bushes, behind the windows of the school. With automatic machine bows, they shoot arrow after arrow through the Princess and Todd.

The Princess stops, sensing something, and whispers to Gavin.

PRINCESS EMMA (CONT'D)

He's here.

Todd belts out something like Debbie Gibson's "Lost In Your Eyes" in a gorgeous operatic baritone voice.

The arrows keep flying through them.

CUPID 24601

There's no point! It's not working!

ARCHER CUPID 1

RELEGATION! CODE RED! SET TO "DISINTEGRATE."

The Archer Cupids turn toward Cupid 24601 and create a blockade, like a line of pink riot police.

Cupid 24601 holds his hands up.

CUPID 24601

Hey, hey, hey! I'm not loaded!

The Archer Cupids don't care, and they fire at him.

Cupid 24601 dives out of the way of the arrows, which explode all around him as bright pink flames.

Gavin quickly escorts Princess Emma into the school, while SEAMUS, another security guard, tackles Todd.

Protected from the rear by pink shields, the Archer Cupids follow Princess Emma into the school.

Todd Poole reaches the end of the second stanza and SEAMUS beats the shit out of him.

SEAMUS

You're! Ruining! Debbie! Gibson!

TODD

I love you, Princess!

Photographers capture everything.

Seamus turns Todd over, knee in his back, and handcuffs him.

Cupid 24601 watches Todd struggle for a moment, before rather nonchalantly shooting Seamus with an arrow.

Seamus lifts Todd up and gets in his face.

SEAMUS

You're a handsome little devil, aren't you?

And Seamus tosses him into a car in the Princess's motorcade and climbs in after him. Alarms blaring, the car pulls away.

The Photographers snap shot after shot.

Sweetie appears next to Cupid 24601.

SWEETIE 66344

See? You can't hide your true self from me, Cullen Skink!

CUPID 24601

I don't care about anything! I was almost Disintegrated! I'm jaded and I like it!

Sweetie tilts her head, not buying it.

CUPID 24601 (CONT'D)

Love is <u>not</u> blind! There <u>is</u> no love! Love is hate!

Sweetie, shocked, covers her mouth. Cupid 24601 does the same. Shame sets in, and he bursts into tears.

CUPID 24601 (CONT'D)

I don't mean it! Love is all that matters! Cupid Regulation 1.0! Love is the meaning of life! It's the meaning of life! IT'S JUST AWFUL BEING ME!

Sweetie embraces Cupid 24601 as he sobs dramatically onto her shoulder.

EXT. ROCKEFELLER CENTER - AFTERNOON

Cupid 24601 winds down his crying, eating an ice cream sandwich. Sweetie sits next to him.

CUPID 24601

I can't do anything about the Princess. That's what kills me.

SWEETIE 66344

But look around you.

He does so. Nothing.

SWEETIE 66344 (CONT'D)

Regular humans!

CUPID 24601

Ugh. Boring and normal and disgusting!

SWEETIE 66344

Messy, complex, and beautiful. And we get to give them their own love stories.

CUPID 24601

Who cares?

SWEETIE 66344

Whatever that Marcus told you, we don't serve no one. We are the Cupids of everyman. And we serve them. Because ugly people get to love, too. And, uh, the poor, also. Plus people who have jobs... and don't have jobs, as well. Um... Ugly people and some okay ones. You know... We serve a-holes. But like good a-holes.

CUPID 24601

What you're saying makes a lot of sense. But it's just so... basic.

SWEETIE 66344

It's basically wonderful. You just need to open your heart and get your new wings plucked.

INT. GROCERY STORE - AFTERNOON

Sweetie and Cupid 24601 stalk shoppers through the aisles.

SWEETIE 66344

How about these two?

An OBESE WOMAN and OBESE MAN shop in the frozen food aisle.

CUPID 24601

Whoa!

SWEETIE 66344

Love ripples out from anyone, you snob. And love always makes the world a better place. What do your instincts tell you?

Cupid 24601 takes stock of his instincts.

CUPID 24601

They'd be a good match. But she'd be even better with that guy.

Beyond the Obese Woman is a SUPER-SKINNY HIPSTER.

SWEETIE 66344

Good for you. Go on, then.

Cupid 24601 takes aim and fires. His arrow goes through the new couple and dissipates.

The Obese Woman considers her frozen blueberries.

SUPER-SKINNY HIPSTER
Those are good in smoothies, but if
you want some to add directly to
your yogurt, the organic wild
blueberries are better.

The Super-Skinny Man hands her his blueberries.

SUPER-SKINNY HIPSTER (CONT'D)

They're a little more expensive, but here.

He hands her a coupon.

SUPER-SKINNY HIPSTER (CONT'D)

My friends make fun of me for clipping coupons.

OBESE WOMAN

You should be making fun of them!

She looks at him nervously.

OBESE WOMAN (CONT'D)

I'm Bess.

SUPER-SKINNY MAN

I'm Jess!

They smile sweetly at each other.

SWEETIE 66344

Good, right?

CUPID 24601

Not bad.

INT. TRAILER WORKSHOP - DAY

Cupid 24601 shaves down the sides of an arrow tip. Chloe observes his work through reading glasses tethered around her neck. Sweetie stands over him and watches, as well. Cupid 24601 hands the arrow to Chloe.

CHLOE

Okay, that should be good.

Chloe quickly demonstrates the next steps.

CHLOE (CONT'D)

Dip the tip in rubber cement and let most of it run off. Then wrap it tightly with a rubber band.

She hands the finished arrow back over to Cupid 24601.

CUPID 24601

Wow.

MARCUS

What's this I spy with my beady, bloodshot eyes?

Marcus has been standing there god only knows how long.

CUPID 24601

A Rebound Arrow?

MARCUS

That sounds like something humans need!

CHLOE

These make Rebounds really, really good.

MARCUS

You'll become a sap if you listen to these losers, Cullen Skink.

SWEETIE 66344

We're winners!

MARCUS

You're an idiot.

CUPID 24601

She's not an idiot! I'm an idiot!

MARCUS

Ugh! You three deserve each other. I bet your favorite movie is "Love Actually"!

Marcus storms out.

SWEETIE 66344

I love that movie.

CHLOE

It'd be better without all the weird fat jokes.

CUPID 24601

I think he's mad.

CHLOE

Completely. Rebound time.

Cupid 24601 holds up the Rebound Arrow again, and Chloe flicks her eyebrows up and down rapidly.

INT. COFFEESHOP - DAY

A THIRTY-SOMETHING MOTHER signs divorce papers, closes a folder, lets out a deep breath, and rocks a toddler in a stroller.

Cupid 24601 lines up his shot to go through a TOTAL STUD (25) in the corner. Chloe and Sweetie study his aim.

CHLOE

Nice one. He's mostly gay, too, so it's perfect.

Cupid 24601 fires away. His arrow flies through them both, and at the same time another arrow flies through the Stud.

CUPID 24601

Marcus!

MARCUS

She's going to find it hard to get him to stop spanking her now!

Marcus laughs that awful laugh of his and runs off.

INT. REC ROOM TRAILER - DAY

Sweetie Cupid unwraps one of her classic tuna sandwiches.

CUPID 24601 (O.S.)

Superjuice?

Sweetie looks up at Cupid 24601, holding two bright green juices.

CUPID 24601 (CONT'D)

Your favorite: Green kale, wheatgrass, red kale, apple, Italian kale, ginger, and hydroponic kale.

She takes it and smiles.

CUPID 24601 (CONT'D)

It comes with a side of apology.

She gestures for him to sit across from her. He does.

CUPID 24601 (CONT'D)

You're only here because of me. And I'm happy you're here with me, but I'm also truly sorry.

Sweetie looks at him for a moment and then offers him the other half of her sandwich. He's about to grab it, when she pulls it back.

SWEETIE 66344

You have to eat it.

CUPID 24601

T will.

They smile at each other, and she passes the sandwich to him. He takes a bite.

CUPID 24601 (CONT'D)

I've been thinking.

SWEETIE 66344

That gets you in trouble!

CUPID 24601

It's about the Princess. I can't really be here if I'm also there. You know?

SWEETIE 66344

Yeah.

CUPID 24601

You say these regular humans are a gift, right? I think I'm only gonna get that when I let her go.

SWEETIE 66344

I've never thought you were stupid.

CUPID 24601

Your tuna salad is outstanding.

They eat in satisfied silence.

EXT. BLACKTOP BASKETBALL COURT - DAY

During a fierce game of one-on-one, a WHITE PLAYER guards a BLACK PLAYER, who dribbles, calmly waiting to make his move.

Cupid 24601 shoots them. The Black Player smiles. The White Player smiles back and, when he does, the Black Player spins around him and dunks the basketball.

EXT. CENTRAL PARK - DAY

A TEENAGE GIRL (17) and TEENAGE BOY (17), both in private school uniforms, stroll among the trees.

Cupid 24601 shoots them. The Boy takes the Girl by the hand, and she looks away, letting her hair hide her pleased face. The Boy absolutely beams.

Cupid 24601 fists-pumps.

CUPID 24601

First love!

INT. AUTO-PARTS SHOP - DAY

A UPS MAN (30) hands a package to a CUSTOMER SERVICE REP (40), who signs for the package.

Cupid 24601 shoots them. As the Customer Service Rep hands the signing contraption back to the UPS Man and takes the package, they share a smile.

INT. LOCKER TRAILER - DAY

Cupid 24601 and Sweetie put away their quivers and arrows.

ROGER (O.S.)

Cullen Skink!

Roger stands in the doorway of the trailer.

ROGER (CONT'D)

You have a visitor from the clouds.

Cupid 24601 turns to Sweetie, who looks just as surprised.

SWEETIE 66344

That happens?

Cupid 24601 shrugs.

INT. RECEPTION OFFICE TRAILER - DAY

Roger leads Cupid 24601 into the trailer, and sitting in the trailer opposite Roger's desk is Boss Lady.

CUPID 24601

You were Relegated?!

BOSS LADY 37

Of course not, you idiot.

ROGER

Well, you two obviously know each other...

Roger makes himself scarce.

BOSS LADY 37

Sit down.

CUPID 24601

No.

BOSS LADY 37

Excuse me?

CUPID 24601

You're not the boss of me.

BOSS LADY 37

Fine, then stand right there.

CUPID 24601

I'm gonna sit over here.

Cupid 24601 sits behind Roger's desk.

CUPID 24601 (CONT'D)

Why are you here?

BOSS LADY 37

Bit of a crisis with Princess Emma.

CUPID 24601

Sounds like a management problem.

BOSS LADY 37

I wouldn't put it that way.

CUPID 24601

Of course not, that would mean taking responsibility.

BOSS LADY 37

This is bigger than us.

CUPID 24601

You mean the conspiracy goes all the way to the top? To Cupid Nine?

BOSS LADY 37

What?

CUPID 24601

Cupid Four?

BOSS LADY 37

Will you please ...?

CUPID 24601

Oh, no, not Cupid One!

BOSS LADY 37

SHE WON'T LOVE!

Cupid 24601 is stunned by this news.

BOSS LADY 37 (CONT'D)

I can't get Princess Emma to love. No one can.

CUPID 24601

She loved Elvis.

BOSS LADY 37

We fixed that problem. She won't love anyone else.

CUPID 24601

Why are you here?

BOSS LADY 37

The Princess did something unusual.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. PRINCESS EMMA'S BEDROOM - EVENING

On a marble-top side table sits a stack of gorgeous first edition books: <u>Les Miserables</u> by Victor Hugo, <u>The Brothers Karamozov</u>, <u>Don Quixote</u>, <u>Anna Karenina</u>, and <u>Bleak House</u>.

Wearing comfy pajamas and surrounded by pillows, the Princess sits in her bed reading <u>War and Peace</u>. She finishes the book and closes it.

PRINCESS EMMA

It appears I prefer war.

She throws <u>War and Peace</u> to the floor, and picks up the next massive book: <u>Les Miserables</u>. She flips through it. It's long. She sighs deeply. Then she gets an idea.

On a smartphone, she accesses iTunes, finds the musical <u>Les Miz</u>, and listens to the opening number, "Work Song."

As the prisoners sing "Look down, look down," she gets out of bed and walks to her window. The prisoners continue singing.

The sun sets over a hill, and Emma takes in the color, even as the prisoners sing about their tragic lives, how they've been forgotten, how they wish to die, how they're standing in their graves.

PRINCESS EMMA (CONT'D)

This is a depressing musical.

Then Javert sings, "Now bring me Prisoner 24601," and something clicks for the Princess.

PRINCESS EMMA (CONT'D)

24601?

The singing conversation between Valjean and Javert continues about the crimes and time served. And Javert repeats "24601."

PRINCESS EMMA (CONT'D)

24601...

Javert sings, "Do not forget my name! Do not forget me! 24601!"

PRINCESS EMMA (CONT'D)

24601!

Emma yanks out her earbuds and spins to face the room.

PRINCESS EMMA (CONT'D)
Are you there? If not 24601, then
another Cupid? I need to see 24601.
Immediately. He's this awful sort

Boss Lady Cupid stands shocked in the corner of the room.

of naked baby type of cherub thing.

BACK TO:

RECEPTION OFFICE TRAILER

Cupid 24601 holds his head in embarrassment.

BOSS LADY 37

I erased her memory personally. No one has ever broken the memory arrow before.

CUPID 24601

What do you want from me?

BOSS LADY 37

Help us get her to love again.

Cupid 24601 leans back in his chair, considering.

CUPID 24601

No.

BOSS LADY 37

We'll reinstate you at Level-3.

CUPID 24601

Stop. No. I belong here. Things are messy but they're real. You may have a good system up there in the clouds, but it's not good for me, not for the kind of love I want to make. Here I can follow my instincts and make true love matches. So no. I'm staying.

INT. REC ROOM TRAILER - DAY

Sweetie and Cupid 24601 are mid-tuna sandwiches, when Chloe plops down next to them.

CHLOE

You turned her down?! Even though you got it right with the Princess?

CUPID 24601

How can you know that?

CHLOE

No Cupid could know better than I.

Sweetie gasps. Cupid 24601 doesn't understand.

CUPID 24601

What?

CHLOE

You really are as stupid as everyone says, aren't you?

CUPID 24601

Yes!

CHLOE

I shot Camilla and Charles. It was a lucky shot, but it was correct.

Cupid 24601 stares at her, stunned.

CHLOE (CONT'D)

And now you're gonna let the Princess miss out on love, just because you like it here? Your place is wherever there can be love. You can make love for the Princess. You can. What are you waiting for?

Cupid 24601 looks at Sweetie. They both look at Chloe. They look at each other again. And back at Chloe. And each other. Cupid 24601 takes Sweetie by the hand, and they run off.

INT. RECEPTION OFFICE TRAILER - DAY

Cupid 24601 and Sweetie barge through the door to find Boss Lady 37 gathering her things to leave.

CUPID 24601

Okay, I'll do it.

BOSS LADY 37

Great!

CUPID 24601

But Betsy comes with me.

Sweetie is very surprised.

BOSS LADY 37

I don't know who that is.

CUPID 24601

Well, those are my terms. You can take them or leave them.

BOSS LADY 37

I'm not arguing. I just don't know who you're talking about.

CUPID 24601

I don't care if you think she's not good enough! It's non-negotiable!

BOSS LADY 37

I'm not fighting with you! Bring whoever you want!

CUPID 24601

(to Sweetie)

Come on. I have to do this. And I want you by my side.

Sweetie takes his hand, squeezes it, and nods.

INT. SLEEK OFFICE BUILDING HALLWAY - DAY

Following Boss Lady to her office, Cupid 24601 and Sweetie treat the return like some sort of political victory party, waving and pointing at their fellow Cupids, even though faces express nothing but shock that they're back.

INT. BOSS LADY CUPID 37'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

Mean Girl and the Reversalists (including Brawny Lady and Ancient Cupid) stand there waiting, as Boss Lady, Sweetie, and Cupid 24601 march in. Cupid 24601 points at Mean Girl.

CUPID 24601

No. Not her. The Princess is goodness and kindness and purity and heart. She's... whatever the opposite of all that is.

MEAN GIRL 282

You can't talk to me like that, you dopey toolshed.

CUPID 24601

If she doesn't leave, I go back.

MEAN GIRL 282

Blow it out your nose, dodo brain.

CUPID 24601

Go love yourself, honey diver.

Sweetie gasps.

MEAN GIRL 282

What did you say to me?

They stand toe-to-toe, nose-to-nose.

CUPID 24601

I'm not sure if you really didn't hear me or not.

BOSS LADY 37

You heard him. Go love yourself.

Sweetie gasps again.

BOSS LADY 37 (CONT'D)

Now.

Mean Girl heads to Boss Lady.

MEAN GIRL 282

You are losing it, and if you think I'm putting up with this...

Boss Lady punches Mean Girl in the face, knocking her back. Mean Girl shakes her head to get her vision back.

MEAN GIRL 282 (CONT'D)

You... <u>hit</u> me!

BOSS LADY 37

Yeah, I did. I know you've been undermining this mission from the start, just to get my job, so...

Mean Girl dives at Boss Lady, tackling her to the ground.

LADY BRAWNY CUPID 740

BL00000000000000D!

The Brawny Lady lightly jabs Ancient Cupid, who collapses immediately, causing the two teams of Reversalists to brawl.

Sweetie and Cupid 24601 try to stand off to the side to stay out of it. A chair flies by their heads. Sweetie takes off out of the office.

SLEEK OFFICE BUILDING BULLPEN

Sweetie leaps up top a desk amongst the many Cupids, working in relative silence.

SWEETIE 66344

FIGHT! FIGHT! FIGHT!

Many heads turn to her. She looks a bit sheepish.

SWEETIE 66344 (CONT'D)

Cupid fight?

A moment of silence, then every Cupid in the bullpen goes at it. It's utter Cupid chaos, as they attack each other, ululating their battle cries, tossing desk lamps, clocking each other in the face with various objects, biting calves.

Not exactly what Sweetie had in mind. A roast beef sandwich smacks her in the face.

SWEETIE 66344 (CONT'D)

That was meat! I'm pescetarian!

Sweetie dives and tackles several Cupids to the ground.

BOSS LADY CUPID 37'S OFFICE

The melee escalates. Archer Cupid 2 sits on Archer Cupid 1, punching him in the face repeatedly.

ARCHER CUPID 1

Doesn't hurt. Doesn't hurt. Doesn't hurt. Ow. Doesn't hurt.

Ancient Cupid, nose bloodied and teeth gone, jumps up.

ANCIENT CUPID 398

VENGEANCE!

Ancient Cupid beats Brawny Lady Cupid with a shoe.

Cupid 24601 steps slowly backwards, avoiding flying objects and Cupids. He sidles out of the office.

SLEEK OFFICE BUILDING HALLWAY

Cupid 24601 presses himself against the wall to avoid the chaos.

A foot connects with his face, causing his head to bang against the wall. He crumples to the floor.

Mean Girl, lip bleeding, stands over him, fake leg in hand.

MEAN GIRL 282

I've been wanting to beat you with a fake leg for a long time.

She winds up, and Cupid 24601 winces, ready to take it.

CRACK! A giant wooden plank clocks Mean Girl on the skull. She's down.

Cupid 24601 looks up.

Boss Lady tosses the wooden plank onto the floor next to the unconscious Mean Girl. The plank reads, "SPECIAL TASK FORCE: The Princess Emma."

BOSS LADY 37

Let's get to work.

EXT. PALACE - MORNING

It's a beautiful morning, sun shining over the castle.

INT. PRINCESS EMMA'S BEDROOM - MORNING

Dressing Assistants put the finishing touches on Princess Emma's glorious outfit. The Princess Emma looks downright depressed. Regally and royally depressed.

James sits on the table in ceremonial attire. He eats pickled onion flavored Monster Munch.

JAMES

Minus the sourpuss face, you almost look like a queen.

PRINCESS EMMA

You're getting Monster Munch on your uniform.

JAMES

Bah. Doesn't matter. All eyes on you, big sister.

Princess Emma rolls her eyes.

JAMES (CONT'D)

I'm going to say something serious now, and if you ever tell anyone I did, I will deny it wholeheartedly.

James hops off the table and steps toward her.

JAMES (CONT'D)

Today is your Coronation Day. Like it or not, this is what you were born for. Any reluctancy has to end. You must go out there and show our nation that it will be safe in your good and capable hands. We need our Queen now.

She reaches into his packet of Monster Munch and eats one.

PRINCESS EMMA

Ugh. How could you like that?

JAMES

I'm extremely high on ecstasy.

Princess Emma taps his face lightly and sweetly, then once really hard.

INT. DUNGEON - MORNING

It might as well be the 17th century down here, dark and dank, dripping stone walls, iron bars. A PRISON GUARD brings a bowl of gruel and slides it between the bars.

The clank of a chain sounds, as Elvis, in a filthy black-and-white-striped prison uniform, limps to the bars, one leg strapped to a ball and chain. He grabs the bowl.

The Prison Guard drops a maraschino cherry on top.

PRISON GUARD

Happy Coronation Day.

ELVIS

She's becoming queen today?

PRISON GUARD

You'd have made a wonderful king.

The Prison Guard wanders off. Elvis sits at the edge of a cot and eats his gruel.

Cupid 24601, with Boss Lady and Sweetie, stands unseen in the corner.

CUPID 24601

Do they get all of their ideas from cartoons?

SWEETIE 66344

What century is this?

CUPID 24601

Actually, what country is this?

EXT. CORONATION ROAD - DAY

Cheering crowds line the street, as an extravagant coronation coach is pulled slowly by a couple of horses. In addition to the COACH DRIVER, Seamus and Gavin from the Princess's security team are dressed in their finest pomp-and-circumstance outfits and stand on the back of the coach.

INT. CORONATION COACH - DAY

Princess Emma sits quietly in the coach, staring straight ahead and barely noticing the crowds outside.

With a pop sound, Cupid 24601 appears, visible to Princess Emma, i.e., in naked baby cherub form.

CUPID 24601

Hi.

PRINCESS EMMA

UGLY BABY!

The carriage slams to a halt, and Cupid 24601 un-reveals himself again. Seamus, sword drawn, opens the carriage door.

SEAMUS

What is it, your highness!?

PRINCESS EMMA

Oh, dear heavens, it's nothing. I must have dozed off for a moment.

Seamus frowns.

SEAMUS

You dozed off on your way to becoming Queen?

PRINCESS EMMA

Yes, that's correct, Seamus! I get sleepy when I'm nervous! Go away! Carry on! To the cathedral!

SEAMUS

Yes, highness. Begging your pardon.

Seamus closes the door of the carriage. Princess Emma makes sure he's out of sight.

PRINCESS EMMA

Are you still there?

And Cupid 24601 Reveals himself again.

CUPID 24601

Smooth.

PRINCESS EMMA

You came!

CUPID 24601

Yeah, back to this nightmare.

PRINCESS EMMA

You think I'm a nightmare?

CUPID 24601

Yes! And Elvis is rotting in prison!

PRINCESS EMMA

It was his idea. He told them he kidnapped me.

CUPID 24601

And you let him do that? What kind of terrible person are you?

PRINCESS EMMA

Oh, I can't bear it.

CUPID 24601

You're bearing it just fine. Look at this carriage.

PRINCESS EMMA

Why are you being so mean to me?

CUPID 24601

Because, Princess, you need a good, swift kick in the privilege.

Princess Emma tears up.

CUPID 24601 (CONT'D)

Oh, come on! This isn't even mean!

She cries.

CUPID 24601 (CONT'D)

They say you won't love. So what is it? Won't love or can't love?

PRINCESS EMMA

I don't feel like loving.

CUPID 24601

Even Elvis?

Her face brightens a bit.

PRINCESS EMMA

He's the most wonderful man I've ever known.

CUPID 24601

Then why don't you get him out of prison and start the rest of your life together?

PRINCESS EMMA

I can do that?

CUPID 24601

You're almost the Queen. Your sense of entitlement is matched only by your actual entitlement.

She beams at him.

PRINCESS EMMA

Stop the carriage!

EXT. CORONATION ROAD - CONTINUOUS

Princess Emma hops out of the carriage in her gown. The crowd cheers upon seeing her.

SEAMUS

Your highness? Everything okay?

She marches straight to the horse and, quite masterfully and quickly, releases one of them from the carriage.

COACH DRIVER

Your highness?

SEAMUS

Your highness!

She hikes up her gorgeous gown and hops up top the horse's back. Initially startled, the horse rears up a bit, but the Princess, an expert rider, holds on and takes control.

The horse is off like lightning, and Princess Emma leads him straight for one of the crowd barricades.

A LITTLE FIVE-YEAR-OLD GIRL looks up wide-eyed at the horse coming straight for her.

The crowd behind her panics and clears out of the way. The Little Girl doesn't move.

The horse leaps over the barricade, clearing the head of the Little Girl, who cranes her neck to follow the horse's leap above her.

The horse lands safely on the other side. Princess Emma waves back at the Little Girl.

PRINCESS EMMA

Always follow your heart!

LITTTLE GIRL

I love you!

Princess Emma and the horse are off to the races.

Seamus, Gavin, and the Coach Driver, stand by the disabled coach, stunned and gaping. Gavin calmly lifts his sleeve microphone to his mouth.

GAVIN

Code One alert? "Weeping Willow"? She just took off? Um... Weeping Willow is on the run?

They stare after her, still in shock. The Coach Driver finally comes out of it. He shakes Seamus.

COACH DRIVER

She took Fast Eddie! Bring me back Fast Eddie!

GAVIN

(into sleeve)

She's on a horse... How are you?

EXT. EUROPEAN CITY - DAY

Still galloping at full speed, Princess Emma rides through traffic with great skill, leaping over an occasional taxi, nearly bowling over pedestrians.

INT. EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT CHAMBER - DAY

It's mayhem. Shouts of "Where's the Princess?" and "Constitutional crisis!" can be heard vaguely over the noise of ministers on their phones.

The Male Minister, who was victim of Cupid 24601's arrow, yells into his phone.

MALE MINISTER

Our very nation hangs in the balance! Find her! Find her now!

Princess Emma, still on horseback, suddenly looms over him.

MALE MINISTER (CONT'D)

Found her.

He hangs up his phone and bows.

The noise dies out, as everyone realizes that the Princess is there. The entire chamber of ministers bows.

Princess Emma looks around the chamber. Then she points at the Male Minister.

PRINCESS EMMA

You.

And she points at the Female Minister that Cupid 24601 shot.

PRINCESS EMMA (CONT'D)

And you. Come.

Princess Emma dismounts and hands the reins to a BEFUDDLED MINISTER.

Princess Emma leads the Male and Female Ministers out of the chamber.

INT. PRIVATE OFFICE - DAY

The Male Minister, Female Minister, and Princess Emma stand facing each other. The Male and Female Minister look at each other in disbelief.

FEMALE MINISTER

Renounce your throne?

PRINCESS EMMA

Renounce. Abdicate. Relinquish.

Surrender. Disown.

The Male and Female Ministers stare at each other again.

PRINCESS EMMA (CONT'D)

Resign. Give it up.

MALE MINISTER

Your highness, we understand your meaning, but...

FEMALE MINISTER

Why?

MALE MINISTER

And why come to us?

PRINCESS EMMA

I need a broad coalition of support from the government. You represent different parties. And however you hushed it all up, I know what happened, and I know you're lovers.

MALE MINISTER

What?

FEMALE MINISTER

How?

A small pop and Cupid 24601 appears in naked cherub form, floating in front of them.

CUPID 24601

Hi.

MALE MINISTER AAAAAAAAAAAAAH!

FEMALE MINISTER AAAAAAAAAAAAAAA!

CUPID 24601 (CONT'D)

This is really not good for my self-esteem.

INT. EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT CHAMBER - CONTINUOUS

The sound of their screams echo through the silent chamber.

EXT. PRISON - DAY

Dark and dreary, the giant, stone prison looms over the countryside.

Elvis limps out from behind the gate and into the blinding sun and fresh air.

PRINCESS EMMA

Elvis!

Princess Emma, about 50 yards away, waves at Elvis.

He blocks the sun and squints to try to make her out. He can't believe it.

And he takes off running to get away from her.

PRINCESS EMMA (CONT'D) Wait! Elvis! I love you! Cupid, help me! He's getting away!

Cupid 24601 stands there, un-revealed, next to Boss Lady and Sweetie.

CUPID 24601

Nothing's ever easy, is it?

EXT. COUNTRYSIDE - DAY

Over a vast open field, Elvis sprint-limps away from Emma.

The hem of her coronation gown hiked up, Emma runs after him as fast as her fancy shoes allow, finally kicking them off to run barefoot. Over uneven terrain, she's not much faster.

Fluttering his tiny wings next to Elvis, Cupid 24601 appears.

CUPID 24601

Oh, hey, Elvis.

ELVIS

No! You might be the only person or thing or whatever that I want to see less than her!

He picks up his pace slightly, but Cupid 24601 catches up.

CUPID 24601

Running is pointless, remember?

Elvis grabs him by one of his tiny legs.

CUPID 24601 (CONT'D)

Hey!

Keeping a hold of Cupid 24601's leg, Elvis punches him. His fluttering wings bring him right back up to face Elvis again.

CUPID 24601 (CONT'D)

You can't actually...

Elvis punches 24601, who pops back up.

CUPID 24601 (CONT'D)

...hurt me. I don't...

Elvis punches 24601, who pops back up.

CUPID 24601 (CONT'D)

...feel pain or bleed...

Elvis punches 24601, who pops back up.

CUPID 24601 (CONT'D)

...like a human.

PRINCESS EMMA (O.S.)

ELVIS!

Elvis looks at Princess Emma gaining on him, and while distracted, Cupid 24601 kicks Elvis in the face with his free foot.

Elvis lets go of Cupid 24601 and falls backwards down a ravine.

EXT. RAVINE

Elvis howls in pain all the way down the ravine, finally coming to a halt in some overgrown weeds. Cupid 24601 floats above him.

ELVIS

I hate you, cherub.

Cupid 24601 grabs him by the lapels.

CUPID 24601

I am a Cupid. And if you call me cherub again, I'll punch you in the nose with my tiny baby arms.

Princess Emma appears by Elvis's side.

PRINCESS EMMA

Elvis! Are you okay? Oh, Elvis!

ELVIS

Your highness, please no.

PRINCESS EMMA

I got you out! I've abdicated my throne! All I want is to be with you! Do you still love me?

Elvis looks at her, exhales.

ELVIS

Loving you hasn't worked out well for me, your highness.

CUPID 24601

He makes an interesting point.

PRINCESS EMMA

Things will be different.

ELVIS

I'm lying here in stinging nettles.

PRINCESS EMMA

They tried to undo our arrow. Several times. Did you know that? But it doesn't work. They think I can't love, but the truth is, I can only love you. Only you, Elvis.

CUPID 24601

She makes an interesting point.

PRINCESS EMMA

It's just me now. Just Emma. And I love you. Please tell me you still love me.

She looks at Elvis and his bruised face, which is a bit unreadable. He hoists himself up into a sitting position.

ELVIS

You grew up in a bubble, m'lady. You weren't just born with a silver spoon in your mouth, but a whole bloody silverware drawer. And the silverware drawers of several neighboring countries.

PRINCESS EMMA

But those things...

ELVIS

You're also the most genuine woman I've ever known. You're beautiful and funny. Smart and fiery. You fight for what you believe in and have shocking grace under pressure. You show remarkable kindness and a keen sense of spontaneity.

Princess Emma looks at him hopefully.

ELVIS (CONT'D)

But taking recent events into consideration, I think it's best that I stay away from you.

PRINCESS EMMA

But you love me, don't you, Elvis?

ELVIS

No, m'lady, I don't. You left me in prison.

Princess Emma's face falls, and she fights back tears.

Cupid 24601 feels like he shouldn't be witnessing this.

PRINCESS EMMA

Please, Elvis. Please...

ELVIS

I'm very sorry, but I no longer love you.

Princess Emma turns to Cupid 24601.

PRINCESS EMMA

Shoot us again!

CUPID 24601

Whoa, there!

PRINCESS EMMA

We're right here. Get your bow and arrow and shoot us again. He'll have to love me then!

ELVIS

No! Please! Don't shoot me again!

CUPID 24601

He doesn't want to be shot.

PRINCESS EMMA

I don't care. I want it. Shoot us again.

CUPID 24601

It's not up to you.

PRINCESS EMMA

Is it up to him?

CUPID 24601

No, it's up to me.

PRINCESS EMMA

Good. So do it.

CUPID 24601

No, I don't think I will.

PRINCESS EMMA

You came back for me. I demand that you shoot us!

CUPID 24601

You can't tell me what to do.

PRINCESS EMMA

You're a sad little Cupid. It's pathetic!

CUPID 24601

Insult me all you want. I follow my instincts. And my instincts tell me not to shoot you.

PRINCESS EMMA

We're perfect for each other, and you know it!

CUPID 24601

I will not shoot you!

PRINCESS EMMA

Why on earth not?

CUPID 24601

Because of you! Look at yourself! You're an embarrassment! You don't deserve an arrow!

ELVIS

Oi! Watch your mouth, cherub!

Emma can't believe what she's hearing.

CUPID 24601

Once in your life you don't get exactly what you want, and you lose all sense of yourself. This isn't love! This is a bad reaction to losing!

PRINCESS EMMA

I love Elvis!

CUPID 24601

And he no longer loves you. You blew it. And the other Cupids' arrows don't work on you. You need my arrow. But I won't do it. Because you are a spoiled brat.

ELVIS

Don't talk to her like that! No one talks to the Princess like that!

CUPID 24601

I'll talk to her however I want because she doesn't deserve love.

PRINCESS EMMA

Everyone deserves love!

CUPID 24601

Nope. That's a myth. You will never know true love. You will die bitter and alone. Goodbye.

Cupid 24601 disappears.

PRINCESS EMMA

No! Cupid! Come back! 24601! Come back! Please!

Princess Emma falls to her knees, sobbing.

PRINCESS EMMA (CONT'D)

Please, no... Please...

Elvis's hand comes down upon her shoulder.

ELVIS

Come on, m'lady. We don't need his bloody arrow. I love you. You know I love you. I love you terrible.

PRINCESS EMMA

Elvis? Really? Oh, Elvis!

She's up and in his arms. They kiss.

Back in his un-revealed form, Cupid 24601 stands with Boss Lady and Sweetie. His arms are folded, and he looks rather pleased with his work. Sweetie cries for the happy couple. Boss Lady observes relatively dispassionately.

BOSS LADY 37

Risky approach.

CUPID 24601

Not really.

BOSS LADY 37

You don't want to shoot them, just to make sure?

CUPID 24601

Please. Look at them.

Elvis and Emma kiss passionately, like it's the first time.

BOSS LADY 37

You're not as stupid as people think, are you?

CUPID 24601

Yes, ma'am. Yes, I am.

BOSS LADY 37

Things up in the clouds have to change, and we need some... unusual thinkers. Will you come back?

SWEETIE 66344

Yuck! I mean, no thank you.

CUPID 24601

We belong with the regular humans.

BOSS LADY 37

Well, I'm in your debt, 24601.

CUPID 24601

My name is Cullen Skink.

SWEETIE 66344

I'm Betsy.

Boss Lady shakes hands with them, nods curtly, and walks away.

CUPID 24601

This is starting to get a little bit gross.

Emma and Elvis are really making out now. And we spin around them again and again, until we...

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. MIDTOWN MANHATTAN - DAY

Crowds swarm around Cupid 24601 and Sweetie Cupid, who stand back-to-back, dressed in their pink hunting cupids, a calm presence amongst the hustle and bustle.

CUPID 24601 (V.O.)

Wherever you find love, we will be there.

A TEENAGE COUPLE kiss on the street corner.

SWEETIE 66344 (V.O.)

Maybe it's your first love.

An OLD COUPLE sits on a bench, holding hands.

SWEETIE 66344 (V.O.)

Maybe it's your final love. Or your only love. We'll be there.

People in the crowd march forward, always moving forward.

CUPID 24601 (V.O.)

If you've given up on love, if you've been hurt by love. If you hate love or love love. We'll be there.

A STAY-AT-HOME HIPSTER DAD kisses his HIPSTER PROFESSIONAL WIFE goodbye on the street, and she bends down to kiss their THREE-YEAR-OLD.

SWEETIE 66344 (V.O.)

For the ones who want children, we'll be there.

A MAN IN A SUIT and CASUALLY DRESSED WOMAN give quick kisses goodbye.

SWEETIE 66344 (V.O.)

And for those who want only themselves, we'll be there.

INT. CASTLE THRONE ROOM - DAY

James has draped himself across a massive throne, wearing a fur-lined royal cape, jeweled crown, leopard-print briefs, and little else. He holds the royal scepter. MIKONOS SISTER 1 drops a grape into his mouth as MIKONOS SISTER 2 removes his crown and places it on her own head.

INT. RECEPTION OFFICE TRAILER - DAY

Mean Girl Cupid 282 and Middle Manager 4677 sit in mismatched chairs, pink slips in hand. Middle Manager almost says something, but Mean Girl punches him in the face.

MEAN GIRL 282 I'm gonna get that stupid Cupid.

EXT. MIDTOWN MANHATTAN - DAY

A LIPSTICK LESBIAN and TRANSGENDER MAN eat bagels and laugh.

CUPID 24601 (V.O.)
Gay, straight, bicurious, or trans.
Normal or strange. Monogamous or
polyamorous. We'll be there.

EXT. MIDTOWN MANHATTAN - DAY

As the crowd circles around Sweetie and Cupid 24601, they close their eyes and hold their arms out wide to take stock of their instincts for a moment.

CUPID 24601 (V.O.) For the fetishists, missionaries, and the missionary fetishists. The cynical and the idealistic. The hopeless and the hopeful. It doesn't matter who you are.

Sweetie opens her eyes in looks directly into the camera.

SWEETIE 66344

You're in our playground now.

Cupid 24601 looks directly into the camera.

CUPID 24601

Your arrow is coming.

SWEETIE 66344

I am Betsy.

CUPID 24601 I am Cullen Skink.

CUPID 24601 & SWEETIE 66344 And we are your Cupids.

They each pop on a pair of sunglasses and disappear into the crowd.

FADE TO BLACK.

THE END.