

The Introduction

EXT. LOUD HOUSE-NIGHT

The house booms with music and people as ALEX makes his first steps inside. He walks in and sits on the couch, observing.

RYAN
Alex, hey!

ALEX
Hey! Long time no see.

RYAN
Aw I know dude, way too long. Can I get you anything?

ALEX
No I think I'm good, thanks though.

RYAN
Alright. Hey Margot, have you met Alex?

FOCUS SHIFTS TO THE YOUNG WOMAN STANDING NEXT TO RYAN

BEGIN FLASHBACK

INT. COFFEE SHOP-MORNING

This is their first introduction from a few months prior. The two strangers are waiting in line at a coffee shop.

MARGOT
What's good?

ALEX
Oh, um, nothing? what's...good with you?

MARGOT
No I meant here, what's good on the menu.

ALEX
Oh! Sorry, uh, well I'm probably not the best person to ask: I just go straight black coffee

MARGOT
Straight black coffee it is. I'm Margot.

ALEX

Alex.

She reaches out her hand

MARGOT

Nice to meet you Alex.

INT. LIVING ROOM- NIGHT

A month or two after the previous scene, ALEX is laying on a couch in the dark room while MARGOT stands, restless and energetic.

MARGOT

No way!

ALEX

I'm being serious!

MARGOT

There is no way you think the new "Star Wars" is better than the old ones!

ALEX

The budget is higher, the production quality is stronger-

MARGOT

Bullshit! Next thing you know they're gonna put a *pretty princess* crown on Chewy!

ALEX

Just because it's owned by Disney doesn't mean-

MARGOT

I might have to break up with you, Alex, this is a very serious matter!

INT. BEDROOM-NIGHT

ALEX is laying in bed, talking to MARGOT on the phone.

ALEX

Hey! how's it going?

MARGOT (V.O)

Good, good. Was no one gonna tell me

how much you have to walk in Europe?
 Jesus, all I packed were heels for
 work, I'm this close to going
 barefoot.

ALEX
 You? Walking more than a block?
 Incredible.

MARGOT (V.O)
 Oh shut up. Shouldn't you be sleeping
 anyways? It's what-12:30, 1 for you?

ALEX
 Something like that.

Pause

Hey, I really miss you. I know that's
 cheesy and everything but just, come
 back soon alright?

MARGOT(V.O)
 Alright, Alex.

INT. LIVING ROOM- NIGHT

The two are playfully fighting for the TV remote. A few close
 calls occur before ALEX clearly and dramatically surrenders.

MARGOT
 Yes!

EXT. PARK-DAY

MARGOT and ALEX sit on a park bench. She's working on the
 notebook and laptop in front of her while he's people
 watching. They're silent and content, with a slight
 awkwardness about them.

INT. LIVING ROOM-MORNING

MARGOT and ALEX stand by the door. Her suitcases are packed
 for another trip.

MARGOT
 Alright, I think I've got everything.

ALEX
 See you in ten days.

MARGOT
Ten days, yeah

ALEX
Call me when you land okay?

MARGOT
I will.

ALEX
And hey, bring me something back from
the *exotic* lands of-

MARGOT
Madison, Wisconsin? I'll see what I
can do.

They share a smile and brief embrace before MARGOT walks out the door.

INT. BEDROOM-NIGHT

ALEX lays in bed like he had many times before, waiting for her by the phone. He stares, disappointed, then turns the light off.

INT. LIVING ROOM-MORNING

ALEX leaves several voicemails for MARGOT asking her to call him back. Eventually, her voicemail inbox is full.

INT. LIVING ROOM-DAY

A few weeks have passed. ALEX is doing work or watching TV, habitually checking his phone for any word from Margot.

END FLASHBACK

INT. LOUD HOUSE-EXT.

We repeat the last few lines of the first scene.

RYAN
Hey, can I get you anything?

ALEX
No I think I'm good, thanks though.

RYAN
Alright. Hey Margot, have you met
Alex?

As he looks over and recognizes her, ALEX is shocked and at a loss for words.

MARGOT

No, I haven't.

She reaches out her hand

Nice to meet you, Alex.

FADE TO BLACK

END