

Commonwealth
By
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INT. POOL HALL

CHARLIE, mid to late 30s, the Campaign Manager, in the vest and pants of a 3 PIECE POPLIN SUIT, LOOSEMED TIE, CUFFLINKS

He walks over to the bar, a young man in SHIRTSLEEVES, LOOSEMED TIE, SPIKEY HAIR is drinking, not noticing him

CHARLIE
Wild Turkey, rocks
(to the young man)
You Fascist prick

The young man, RICK, looks up

RICK
You commie bastard

There's a tense beat, the two smile

CHARLIE
Working for the Alzheimer's
patient?

RICK
You're down here for Harvey Dent

CHARLIE
Shit, just like a Republican. I
coined that nickname you know.

RICK
Starting the Facebook group doesn't
mean you were the first to make the
joke.

CHARLIE
(getting a cue)
Nine ball, loser buys the next
round?

RICK
(coins up the table)
I'll rack.

He racks quickly, rolls CUEBALL to a CHALKING Charlie

Fierce break

PASSAGE OF TIME: Shown through a few empty glasses, the guys have now loosened their ties, the rack is opened up, Charlie is shooting

(CONTINUED)

RICK

I would've thought you'd be running
for state rep by now

CHARLIE

(sizing up)

Naw, that's too hard to do from
Lexington and back home

(beat, shoots, makes it)

Gotta wait for too many people to
die or retire.

RICK

Still, Joey doesn't have any name
recognition, he's young, he barely
got out of the primaries--

CHARLIE

But he got out, didn't he?

RICK

Alright, but we've got the old man

CHARLIE

(pauses from shooting,
chuckles)

The old man barely knows where he
is half the time and your bosses
are too old for the game. Besides,
I know Fancy Farm better than any
of 'em and more importantly

(beat, shoots, makes it)

I know facebook.

RICK

Don't get too confident, the old
man's got me.

CHARLIE

Answering to other old men. The
Grand Old Party sure likes to
emphasize OLD. Joey's gonna bury
you tomorrow

RICK

We'll just have to see

Charlie shoots combo ORANGE FIVE, cuts NINE BALL which sinks

CHARLIE

Then we're gonna bury you in
November.

(CONTINUED)

RICK
(paying up)
You always were a cocky son of a
bitch pinko

CHARLIE
And you hate me for it
(beat)
because I aint YOUR son of a bitch.

RICK
I'm our son of a bitch

CHARLIE
Don't I know it.

RICK
One more game?

Charlie contemplates this, looks down at his watch

CHARLIE
Naw, I gotta head over to tonight's
fundraiser. Teacher with a rich
husband.

RICK
Alright, tell Jake I said hi
(beat)
And tell all your buddies we'll
make 'em look like amateurs
tomorrow

CHARLIE
You just keep thinking that.

INT. HOTEL BATHROOM- NEXT MORNING

Charlie turns on his MP3 player, FAST, DRIVING SOUTHERN ROCK

He Visines his eyes

Pops open Ale81 or Mountain Dew, downs it

Showers

Takes ULCER MEDICINE (Prilosec forty)

Combs hair

Spits out toothpaste

Looks himself over in the mirror, smiles

(CONTINUED)

CHARLIE
Showtime

INT. "DEMOCRAT BREAKFAST"

Lots of people with POLITICAL BUTTONS, T-SHIRTS, EPHEMERA
milling around, eating SOUTHERN BREAKFAST

MUSIC continues

POLITICIANS, including JOE, "Harvey Dent," Charlie's age,
sit up front

OLD DEMOCRAT speaking passionately to the crowd

(Note: I imagine the old man as Joe B. Hall, but that'd be
lost on the whole rest of the country)

OLD DEMOCRAT
And now we got us a good young
Democrat in the White House, but we
need us a good young Democrat to
replace these crooked so and so's
in the STATE house.

EXT. FANCY FARM

This is the largest picnic in America, and it looks it

MUSIC continues

Families mill around, a BLUEGRASS BAND picks on the stage,
unceasing BINGO GAME

JOE, in "politician uniform" of BLUE DRESS SHIRT (sleeves
up), KHAKIS walks with ANNE, his wife

Close by, on a CELL is JAKE, The Press Secretary, also
Charlie and Joe's age

Charlie, in SEERSUCKER PANTS, NICE SHIRT, TIE hands various
things out to STAFFERS in MATCHING T-SHIRTS

STAFFER, talking to FAMILY in the crowd, hands MOM a PAPER
FAN and KIDS STICKERS

Joe & Co. approach Charlie

CHARLIE
Ready to get some q?

(CONTINUED)

Charlie, Joe, Anne & Jake in the mile long line to get into the DINING HALL as MUSIC FADES

JOE
(to Charlie)
Anything to remember?

CHARLIE
It's unsweet tea or water, that's it, don't look like a dink and ask for anything else. Pork's good, but real men eat mutton with it. Sit at a friendly table.

JAKE
And pie, don't forget pie

ANNE
Before the end of this, he'll be ten pounds heavier

INT. DINING HALL

Borderline food porn as we see the buffet. Fresh, homegrown VEGGIES, followed by homemade SIDES, FRIED CHICKEN, PORK & MUTTON BBQ

All of them sit at a table, eating, Jake very enthusiastically

With them is CHRIS, late 30s pretty boy, Joe's running mate, CHRIS' WIFE, and ROY, elder statesman

ROY
(to Joe)
So, man of the hour, how you like your first Fancy Farm?

JOE
It's something.

ROY
Awful different from running for Commonwealth's attorney, aint it?

CHARLIE
They don't know how to barbecue in Lexington.

ROY
Well, you ready?

(CONTINUED)

JOE
I think I am, I mean
(whispered, to Roy)
It's Fielder for Christ's sake.

Roy laughs

CHRIS
You should see it, we're gonna
have--

CHARLIE
We're gonna have a crowd pleaser.
Right Jake?

Jake, now on his second piece of pie, looks up

JAKE
Huh?

CHARLIE
The crowd pleasin', we're gonna do
that, right?

JAKE
Oh, shit, yeah, we better get
ready.

ROY
(laughing)
Lose track of time?

CHARLIE
Pie makes you do that, we need to
get those college kids ready?

JAKE
Yeah

CHARLIE
Well, we'll say adieu to y'all and
prepare our top secret crowd
pleasin' piece of political theater
and let y'all statesmen take your
seats.

JOE
This better work.

CHARLIE
It will.

Charlie and Jake get up, leave

ROY
Costumes?

JOE
(a little embarrassed)
Yeah

ROY
(grins wide)
Always a winner.

EXT. THE DEMOCRAT TRAILER

KIM, head of the organizing staff, is outside
Charlie and Jake approach, Charlie smoking

KIM
Took you guys a while

JAKE
I was having pie

CHARLIE
How we doing?

KIM
The Joker and Voldemort are here

CHARLIE
Coming along?

KIM
Not much to Voldemort, I put a
staffer on the Joker

CHARLIE
(to both Kim and Jake)
Ledger Joker?

JAKE
It was the easiest costume to find

CHARLIE
Ok, you two go inside, I'll be on
guard duty. Who am I expecting?

KIM
President, UK Dems, he shaved his
head and kid from Murray, longish
hair.

(CONTINUED)

CHARLIE
 Lex and Lord Vader
 (beat, looks over at Jake)
 If the kid doesn't show up you're
 sweating in the Vader costume.

Kim and Jake go inside the trailer, Charlie lights another
 cigarette, sips from BOTTLE OF WATER outside

Kid who will clearly be LUTHOR approaches

LUTHOR
 Hi, I'm Rich Stevens

CHARLIE
 UK dems?

LUTHOR
 Yes sir.

CHARLIE
 (shaking hands)
 Charlie Nicholson, campaign
 manager, go inside, get Luthor'd
 up.

LUTHOR
 (grins)
 Yes sir.

EXT. FANCY FARM STAGE

There's starting to be a crowd under the canopy

Joe and the other DEM POLS & SPOUSES take their seats stage
 left, highest office to lowest from the podium, putting Joe
 closest

Joe shakes some hands, says some hellos

On other side DAVID FIELDER the septuagenarian opponent sits
 closest to the podium, with other REPUB POLS & SPOUSES

On the far stage left are JOURNALISTS, far stage right
 BLUEGRASS BAND

ROY
 (shaking hands with Joe)
 Knock 'em dead, kiddo

(CONTINUED)

JOE
(smiles)
I'll try
(quietly, to Anne)
Where are they?

ANNE
Don't worry, Charlie's on top of
things

JOE
Let's hope.

EXT. DEMOCRAT TRAILER

The door opens to reveal DARTH VADER who, like the other
villains, wears a "FIELDER CAMPAIGN BUTTON"

CHARLIE
You're ok in that suit? Kim, water
(hands WATER BOTTLE to Vader)
Don't die on us, ok, it's nine
thousand degrees and you're in
that, the KDP won't forget it.

VOLDEMORT exits the trailer

CHARLIE
The Harry Potter one, I aint never
seen it, so I don't know if the
costume's good or bad

VOLDEMORT
It's good

CHARLIE
Good to know. Kim, water
(hands WATER BOTTLE to
Voldemort)
So you don't sweat in the robe.
Cast a spell on Fielder.

SUPERFRIENDS-ERA LEX LUTHOR exits trailer

CHARLIE
The bane of the man of steel. The
KDP owes you for the commitment

LUTHOR
What's hair for a better Kentucky?

(CONTINUED)

CHARLIE

I like this kid. Kim, water.

As he's handing the WATER BOTTLE to Luthor, JOKER exits

CHARLIE

Pat him down for pencils
(laughs, shakes his head)
Damn, that's a pretty good
likeness.

JOKER

Wanna know how I got my scars?

CHARLIE

If anybody asks, Fielder's
healthcare plan. Kim, get 'em
seated. Jake, you're telling Bobby
about this?

JAKE

(texting)
As we speak

CHARLIE

Good, good, I'm gonna check in with
some of the staff I'll be up there
in a minute

EXT. FANCY FARM STAGE

This is the height of political theater, a crowd that can
cheer or boo candidates waving signs, bombastic stump
speeches, CEILING FANS running slowly over the pavilion, a
relic of the old south

The Villains sit in the front row

There are Repubs dressed as ABE LINCOLN, CRUDE TWO-FACE
amongst the crowd

The HILLBILLY POLITICIAN MC speaking to the crowd

HILLBILLY MC

And if any of y'all decide to get
out of hand I have this here

(waves FLYSWATTER)

To restore order. Now I'd like to
say that I've brought a little of
Eastern Kentucky here to West
Kentucky. Back home, in Harlan
County, when they're speaking on

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

HILLBILLY MC (cont'd)
the courthouse steps and they go
over time we hear...

The BLUEGRASS BAND plays

HILLBILLY MC
A new tradition here at Fancy Farm
courtesy of your friends over in
the Eastern Coalfields. Now,
speakers, if you do go over six
minutes, that band'll tune up and
go to town. So, speakers, we
flipped a coin and Governor Fielder
won the toss, so he'll speak first.
But I would like to say one last
thing...

HECKLER
Start playin'

HILLBILLY MC
I've always been proud to represent
Harlan County in the State Senate
and I'm proud to represent them
here today at the hundred and
thirty fifth Fancy Farm picnic.

(NOTE: His number will reflect the year of a Governor's
election, for current purposes, 135 would be the race after
the next Gubernatorial election. So, in theory, this is set
in 2015)

INTERCUT- SPEECH

EXT. BACK OF THE CROWD

BOBBY, liberal blogger, little younger than Charlie, holds a
BBQ SANDWICH and SUN DROP talking to Charlie

Then we see Joe's opponent giving his speech

FIELDER
And, the, uh
(the heckling is merciless,
and distracting him)
this young tax and spend liberal
democrat thinks the policies of
Brock O-BAA-mer

His side is quiet, the other is booing and heckling loudly

(CONTINUED)

CHARLIE
Aint going to well for him, is it?

BOBBY
You kidding?
(cups hands to yell)
You suck, Fielder!

CHARLIE
(eyeing Bobby)
Creative, Bob

Fielder is struggling

FIELDER
And, instead of this inexperienced,
liberal lawyer, we, we Kentuckians,
good Kentuckians and patriotic,
patriotic Americans need, we need
to bring a--

BLUEGRASS BAND starts playing, he's run out of time before
he could finish his speech

Bobby holds his BBQ SANDWICH in astonishment

CHARLIE
Did he finish his speech? The old
sumbitch couldn't finish his
speech.

BOBBY
Man the bar is low for you guys

CHARLIE
Joe's gonna knock it out of the
park.

Joe steps to the podium, gathers himself, smiles, waves, and
starts his speech

JOE
My fellow Kentuckians...

BOBBY
When's this get fun Charlie?

CHARLIE
(grins wide)
You wait.

(CONTINUED)

JOE

He's answering to his overlords in
Washington, and let me tell you
(chuckles)
They're some dangerous fellas

Darth Vader stands up, jokingly menaces the crowd

BOBBY

Dude, this is fucking epic

CHARLIE

I told you I knew Fancy Farm

JOE

He says he has budget wizards. Well
his wizards have done some black
magic in Frankfort

Voldemort stands up and waves his wand, looks goofy

JOE

Because we all know he wants to
give Kentucky over to rich special
interests, he's ransoming our
Commonwealth to the kind of men
that prey on regular hard working
people

Lex Luthor gets up and looks evil

BOBBY

(rolling laughing)
Dude, where did you find that
costume?

JOE

But if he thinks Kentuckians are
going to fall for the same old
dirty tricks, the same old good old
boy policies, and the same old GOP
garbage then he must be...

Joker stands up theatrically, poses for the crowd

JOE

Some kind of Joker.

BOBBY

That was great man

Charlie is using his CELL as a stopwatch

(CONTINUED)

CHARLIE

It was, but I hope he can get all his last paragraph policy stuff in.

BOBBY

He's on track to.

JOE

...An investment in higher education...

Charlie's stopwatch, 5:35

JOE

...And in closing...

Charlie's stopwatch 5:40

JOE

...for our future, for our children's future and for the Commonwealth of Kentucky...

Charlie's stopwatch 5:58

JOE

Thank you.

Immediately after he finishes the band starts playing, but it intensifies cheers on the Democratic side of the crowd. Joe is able to wave to some people, give a thumbs up

Joe goes back to his seat

Roy is sitting behind him and leans over to say something in his ear

ROY

Helluva job, kid

CHARLIE

(lights cigarette)

Did we do it or did we do it?

Bobby has to give a shrug of acknowledgment

INT. HOTEL ROOM- THAT NIGHT

Charlie, Jake, Joe and Anne all have DRINKS

Jake is on his LAPTOP

(CONTINUED)

JAKE

CJ says "though he's polling behind, Lexington Commonwealth Attorney Joe Lavassaney has shown that he can"--

CHARLIE

Give a hell of a speech

Charlie toasts Joe

ANNE

They really loved you Joe

JOE

(modest)

It didn't hurt that Fielder couldn't finish his speech.

CHARLIE

Bullshit, even if he hadn't dottered through it like an old fool we'd've brought the house down. I mean the crowd was tipped in our direction...

JAKE

Bobby posted something.

JOE

Oh god, what was it?

JAKE

You've evidently showed the good old boys out in the sticks that you're as tough as any candidate in recent memory

CHARLIE

See, even Bobby knows to only be MARGINALLY offensive. But, while Kim and the staff get to rest back home tomorrow, you know what we've got do.

ANNE

Tomorrow? What's tomorrow

JOE

Black church, right?

(CONTINUED)

CHARLIE

In Daviess County, then quick
debrief at the office.

JAKE

Then?

CHARLIE

Then we rest
(beat)
For a night. Now,
(pouring another drink)
Let's take a little time to
celebrate a job well done.

JAKE

(waving empty glass)
Hear hear

INT. HEADQUARTERS, CHARLIE'S OFFICE- NEXT DAY, EVENING

Charlie's office has MAPS, CAMPAIGN EPHEMERA, SMALL PICTURE
OF RAHM EMANUEL behind his desk, LIBERAL BUMPER STICKERS
decorate the front of his desk

Joe sits across from Charlie, who is typing on his laptop

CHARLIE

Given that neither your white nor
Persian halves have any rhythm and
you've never been one to get moved
by the holy spirit

JOE

Alright, alright

CHARLIE

You're worrying too much, you did
well, the old church ladies liked
you

JOE

I guess you're right

CHARLIE

Go home, see the wifey, ride out
the Fancy Farm high. Tomorrow, go
back to putting bad guys in jail,
trust me and Jake.

(CONTINUED)

JOE
You and Jake closing up?

CHARLIE
Yeah

They stand, Charlie casually salutes Joe

Joe exits

Charlie gets up, goes over to SMALL MIRROR, tightens his tie, straightens up his hair a little

Charlie grimaces, rubs stomach, takes PILL BOTTLE from his pocket, pops two

Jake enters

JAKE
Hey

CHARLIE
Hey

JAKE
Wanna hit McCarthy's, have a drink?

CHARLIE
Not tonight man, got plans.
(grins)
Lindsay Moore

JAKE
The?

Charlie nods

JAKE
Lucky son of a bitch. All I've been able to get lately is from xtube

CHARLIE
I thought you were running game on what's her face, uh, Leann

JAKE
Charlie, she's a reporter

CHARLIE
And?

(CONTINUED)

JAKE
I'm the press secretary

CHARLIE
Aint ethics a bitch?

JAKE
We can't all hook up with
heiresses. Think you could get a
contribution from her mom, maybe an
endorsement?

CHARLIE
(chuckles)
I'll try.

EXT. SWANK DOWNTOWN BAR- THAT NIGHT, AROUND DUSK

LINDSAY, a knockout, look screams "rich girl," sits at one
of the sidewalk tables, she pulls a CIGARETTE

HAND, with visible CUFF LINKS from PERSON OFFSCREEN extends,
flicks a ZIPPO lights her cigarette

She looks up, it's Charlie

Charlie sits down

LINDSAY
How'd your political thing go?

CHARLIE
Firstly, it's more than just a
"political thing," it's a grand
Kentucky tradition...

Lindsay rolls her eyes

CHARLIE
And it went well.

LINDSAY
I saw in the paper that you're
ahead in Lexington.

CHARLIE
Right now, that's the only place
we're ahead

WAITRESS approaches

(CONTINUED)

CHARLIE
Turkey on the rocks

LINDSAY
Another Woodford and Diet

CHARLIE
(incredulous)
You know you aren't supposed to mix
the good stuff with coke, right?

LINDSAY
Shut up

CHARLIE
Just saying, you're ruining good
whiskey.

TIME PASSES- It's dark, the tables are more crowded, noisier

Charlie finishes a drink, another EMPTY glass sits beside
it, he flicks a CIGARETTE towards the curb

Lindsay's CELL rings, she looks down at it

LINDSAY
I have to take this.

CHARLIE
("it's alright" gesture)
I know the feeling

LINDSAY
Lindsay Moore. No, he's an
architect. I think you'll like him.
Talk about wine, you know wine. No,
he's kind of vanilla.

She hangs up

CHARLIE
Playing matchmaker?

LINDSAY
(shrugs)
Setting up two friends
(beat)
I can get the check.

CHARLIE
You got it last time, I can get it.

(CONTINUED)

LINDSAY

I know working in politics you
don't--

CHARLIE

I make enough to pick up the tab, I
got it.

LINDSAY

Then what?

CHARLIE

(a little hesitant)
My place?

LINDSAY

Your place clean?

CHARLIE

Well, I aint been there for four
days, so yeah.

LINDSAY

(laughs)
Fair enough

Charlie, up til now unshakable and cool, looks a little over
his head, unsure what to do, he winks at Lindsay

INT. CAR- A LITTLE AFTER SUNRISE

Jake drives, Charlie passenger seat, Joe in back, Jake and
Joe have COFFEE, Charlie has SAME TYPE OF POP AS EARLIER

JOE

So what's first this weekend?

CHARLIE

This diner, it hops on Saturday
morning, evidently. Proprietor is
friendly people.

JOE

Diner in Hazard, great way to spend
a Saturday.

CHARLIE

Yeah, yeah, what do we say at the
diner?

(CONTINUED)

JOE

The coal severance tax needs to help fund sustainable--

CHARLIE

Drop sustainable, sounds green and wonky and environmentalistly

JOE

What about "good" economic development in the region?

CHARLIE

That works, now do your dancing

JAKE

(enthused)

Let's hear the tap dancing

CHARLIE

You do it so well dear Joey

JOE

(rote)

I don't believe that right now we can talk about ending mountaintop removal mining, but we need to insure that extraction and reclamation are done responsibly. The Coal industry is still an important part of Kentucky's energy economy.

JAKE

He shouldn't even say that much tonight.

CHARLIE

No shit, he's in a Dino crowd that didn't vote for him.

JOE

(rolls eyes)

That'll be fun.

CHARLIE

You're damn right it will be, because you understand what?

JOE

In many ways Appalachia is the heart of Kentucky and too often we ignore what makes it such a

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

JOE (cont'd)
beautiful place to live and it's
undying sense of community.

CHARLIE
And your opinion on the most
important issue of the day.

JAKE
He hasn't gotten this one right
yet.

JOE
(slightly peeved)
What's his name? Buffin

CHARLIE
(surprised)
Bingo, man, remembered Opie's name

JOE
Buffin should get more playing time
in big games because he's proven
he's the team's best shooter from
behind the arc. And I'm glad LeDoux
chose UK over LSU.

CHARLIE
(grins)
He's been studying, didn't see that
last bit coming.

INT. DINER- SAME MORNING

Jake and Charlie sit at a booth, Joe is standing talking to
OLD PEOPLE at a table

A waitress comes over to Jake and Charlie

CHARLIE
(amicably, smiling)
Biscuits and gravy and a Mountain
Dew, thanks

We see Charlie watching Joe talk to the Old People

JOE
Frankly, I don't think we can just
count on...

INT. HIGH SCHOOL GYM, A RALLY- LATER THAT DAY

Joe speaks to the crowd, Charlie on stage behind him

JOE

...the same empty promises from the
General Assembly or Governor
Fielder...

INT. "CHAMBER OF COMMERCE" FUNDRAISER- THAT NIGHT

Joe, Charlie and Jake are now in their suits

Joe stands at the podium

JOE

...who only seem to care about
their bases in Western and Central
Kentucky, but I can assure you, I
want what's best...

BACK OF THE HOUSE

Charlie stands, listening to the speech

JOE (O.S.)

...for all of the Commonwealth.

There's some applause, Charlie claps lightly, grimaces,
grabs ULCER PILLS, pops them

KEITH, an older "Good Ole Boy" type approaches

KEITH

You poppin' pills city boy?

Charlie washes back the pills with BOTTLE WATER

CHARLIE

(holding up pill bottle)

Yeah, Prilosec 40s

(beat)

And I'm from Anderson County

KEITH

Hell, I's just teasing Charlie

Charlie gives an "I know" wave

(CONTINUED)

KEITH

You wanted to talk to me?

CHARLIE

Yeah, listen, Keith, I know y'all got ways of
(measured, choosing his words)
Insuring the outcomes of elections.

KEITH

I can promise this county if you need me to.

CHARLIE

No, see, that's just it. This AG race, well, we don't know which a way it's gonna go. If that little Republican gets it...

KEITH

You're afraid he'll sniff around.

CHARLIE

Right, so don't give him anything to sniff at

Keith looks at him with a mixture of understanding and feigned offense

CHARLIE

Listen, if you've gotta cast old Clem Stumpfucker's vote for him, because Clem don't come into town--fine. He won't answer no damn AG's questions. But don't do anything too big.

KEITH

You know the Republicans--

CHARLIE

I do, Keith, I do. But the biggest thing going for Joe is that he's clean. Whistle clean and I don't want to do anything, anything on earth, that'd compromise that.

KEITH

Understood.

CHARLIE

Shit, it's all I can do to keep Chris up there...

(CONTINUED)

He points to the stage where Joe's running mate is shaking hands

CHARLIE
...From waving his tallywhacker at
some nymphet volunteer

KEITH
(laughs)
Well, I'll do my part

CHARLIE
And be extra careful how you
campaign

KEITH
Why's that?

CHARLIE
They got this little prick, Ricky
Daniels, to look at him you'd just
think he was some Yankee Catholic
schoolboy

KEITH
(grins)
Yeah?

CHARLIE
Yeah, and that's why he's
dangerous.

KEITH
Understood

CHARLIE
(extends his hand)
Still guarantee this county?

KEITH
(shaking)
Shit yeah

CHARLIE
No drama, keep them usual scandals
as far from us as possible

INT. THE CAR- THAT NIGHT, DRIVING BACK

JOE
Think that went well?

CHARLIE
It went well, you looked tough, E.
KY needs to see tough.

JOE
I hate having to talk to those damn
chamber of fucking commerce
(adopts exaggerated accent)
Aint Lexington full of queers?
D'you like to hunt? Coal, coal,
coal is good. Hey coal ,
coalcoalcoal

CHARLIE
(calming Joe down)
Well, just how many liberal
progressive city boys has Perry
county elected recently?

JOE
(resigned nod)
Yeah

CHARLIE
And you also got some face time
with...

JOE
(rote)
Our Commonwealth's real families
and people

Charlie winks in the rearview

JAKE
Checked the numbers earlier

CHARLIE
And they are?

JAKE
Polling at forty two now,
statewide. Broke fifty in Jefferson
county, gaining in the Purchase

CHARLIE
Told you everybody ignores the
Purchase.

(CONTINUED)

JOE
Where's Fielder statewide?

JAKE
Fifty two

JOE
But there's that margin of error

CHARLIE
Quit being negative

JOE
I'm being realistic

CHARLIE
Realistically we got a shot, ask
Kim

JAKE
I never thought we'd get out of the
primaries.

CHARLIE
We wouldn't have if we didn't have
the only candidate who could keep
his pecker in his pants

JOE
Counting my running mate

CHARLIE
Hear hear, Kim's babysitting as we
speak.

JAKE
And Grady, he got that flagrant
non-payment charge

CHARLIE
A consequence of not keeping your
pecker in your pants

A bearable silence as the three ride on

JOE
What was it, five years ago?

CHARLIE
That what?

JOE
You started that stupid Facebook
group

CHARLIE
"Back tattoos: You see a butterfly,
I see a bullseye?"

JOE
(rolls his eyes)
"I believe in Harvey Dent"

JAKE
Aren't conservatives using that
joke now?

JOE
Thanks Charlie

CHARLIE
Hey, Harvey, we won didn't we?

JOE
We did

CHARLIE
Come on Jake, hammer it, I got a
date.

JOE
You're still seeing her?

Charlie bristles the way guys do when their not in something
they would call a "relationship," and it comes up

He rolls down the window and lights a cigarette

JOE
Charlie, Are you still seeing
the only daughter of the richest
people in Lexington?

CHARLIE
Just, man, I'm her date for some
horse trash function.

JAKE
"Horse trash function?"

JOE
(to Charlie, as if to a child)
What'd we say about that term?

(CONTINUED)

CHARLIE
(feigning indignance)
It's true
(he gives in)
I'll only use it around you guys

JOE
Keep it that way. Anything else?

JAKE
First debate is?

JOE
Next week

CHARLIE
Yee-haw.

EXT. BIG HORSE FARM- NIGHT

LARGE "EVENT TENT", next to OPULENT HORSE BARN and GUEST HOUSE, hosts a ritzy party

Lindsay stands outside, at TALL TABLE smoking, talking on CELL

BG, Imposing, Middle aged FLATTOP is also outside

LINDSAY
If he wants to take you out, let him. I mean, hey, his money, right? Ok, well call me if anything comes up.

She hangs up

Charlie, now in NICE SUIT, holding a BOURBON, enters, places an arm around her waist, surprises her

LINDSAY
Hey there

CHARLIE
(haggard)
Hey

He begins fishing for his cigs, takes one, Lindsay offers him a light, he takes a long draw

LINDSAY
I thought I'd lost you

(CONTINUED)

CHARLIE

Turns out that young contractor you introduced me to was the rainmaker for a rather large firm

LINDSAY

Mm-hm

CHARLIE

And he wanted to talk about some much needed road projects

(rolls eyes)

At great length

LINDSAY

And you?

CHARLIE

I'm willing to let him bid on it like everybody else

LINDSAY

But you didn't turn down a donation to Citizens for Joe Lavassaney?

CHARLIE

(shrugs, grins)

Baby, why do you invite me to stuff like this? You gotta know guys who enjoy it more than I do.

LINDSAY

Yeah, I do. But none of them share my deep contempt for most of the people in the room.

CHARLIE

I always wondered why you kept me around.

LINDSAY

Did you think it was your looks?

CHARLIE

Ha..ha, ha. Funny.

She kisses his cheek

LINDSAY

Come on, I'm kidding. Now put that out, we've yet to speak to Mr. McGreevy

(CONTINUED)

Charlie's looks suggests he isn't looking forward to the conversation. He stubs his cig, finishes off his drink

CHARLIE
Yeah, thanks for reminding me. If
you weren't so damn pretty
(beat)
and kinky
(beat)
and--

LINDSAY
Rich?

CHARLIE
Well, I was going to say witty, but
rich works

LINDSAY
Back inside?

CHARLIE
Lead the way

INT. CHARLIE'S OFFICE- LATE, NIGHT BEFORE THE FIRST DEBATE
Charlie and Joe look like they've been there a while
Charlie eats TAKEOUT SUSHI

CHARLIE
I'm just saying, it's the
moderators you've got to worry
about.

JOE
You're right.

CHARLIE
But you didn't handle that case any
differently than any other.
Besides, he's some dumb frat prick
and that don't elicit sympathy
where I come from.

JOE
Lots of people's kids are dumb frat
pricks

CHARLIE
Lots of people's kids don't have
four figure coke habits

(CONTINUED)

JOE
Nope, they're smart

CHARLIE
(nonchalantly)
They take their Adderall like a
civilized person

JOE
God, I should say that

CHARLIE
Say that and we'll never step foot
anywhere near Frankfort.

TEXT MESSAGE BEEP

Joe looks over at Charlie, who is reading his phone

CHARLIE
Kim, going well in Morehead, Chris
is winning over the crowd.

JOE
Kim's babysitting again?

CHARLIE
What? I needed Jake holding down
the fort. Kim won't let him do
anything stupid.

JOE
Back in law school...

CHARLIE
Pecker in pants, Joey. We're all
clear on this.

JOE
I should've gone with Conner.

CHARLIE
He's too old and he's got too much
baggage, we'll just make it through
this campaign without Chris
diddling anything he shouldn't. Now

JOE
I know, debate, tomorrow, what's
next?

(CONTINUED)

CHARLIE
(looks down at his notes,
flips pages)
Gay marriage.

JOE
Charlie--

CHARLIE
Gay marriage. Who's it up to?

JOE
As a constitutional amendment, I'll
leave it to the voters. But I
support Senate Bill--

CHARLIE
Don't say that unless Fielder
brings it up and bank on him not
bringing it up.

JOE
Well I want to show--

CHARLIE
You've got the cities locked up,
man, campaign from the center. You
think you risk losing the gays?

Joe and Charlie exchange stares, Joe relents

JOE
What's next?

CHARLIE
I don't quite like your answer on
education.

INT. THE DEBATE STAGE

Joe and Fielder at opposite podiums

JOE
...We need to insure our students
are prepared, in all subjects, for
college and the job market.
However, simply teaching a test
lets down not only our students,
but everyone in the commonwealth

INTERCUT- THE DEBATE

INT. CHARLIE'S OFFICE- DEBATE NIGHT

Charlie, taking notes, has the debate on TV

CHARLIE
Nailed it, Joey
(scribbles notes)
Now let's see if this prick goes
easy on Fielder.

INT. DEBATE STAGE- MODERATOR

MODERATOR
Governor Fielder you've expressed a
belief that prosecuting--

Charlie, visibly irritated, throws something at the TV

CHARLIE
Fucking throw him a whiffle ball
why don't you? Cocksucker--

INT. DEBATE STAGE

FIELDER
...and I believe that Mister,
Commonwealth's Attorney Lavassaney,
well, my friends he's using his
office for his own gain and not,
not for this place, this state...

CHARLIE
(scribbles notes)
Kill the senile old bastard Joe

JOE
...and it is my duty and
responsibility to prosecute all
felonies. His father's political
affiliations had nothing to do...

CHARLIE
That's the way we shut 'em up

FIELDER
...the same liberal, out of touch,
out of step and corrupt arrogant
good old boy...

(CONTINUED)

CHARLIE
Road scandal Joey
(checks stopwatch)
Hit the road scandal

JOE
...with the irregularities in my
opponent's transportation
cabinet...

MODERATOR
You will each be given closing
statements of--

CHARLIE
(scanning notes)
Law and order record,
transportation, push back hard on
higher ed

FIELDER
...Kentucky values. Good night and
God bless...

CHARLIE
Fuck you

JOE
...the future of our Common-Wealth

CHARLIE
I think--

INT. RICK'S OFFICE- NEXT DAY

Rick is in shirtsleeves, JESS, late 20s, female, sits in the
office, reading a LAPTOP

RICK
They fucking killed us. Why'd the
old man volunteer for three of
these?

JESS
Well it wasn't like anybody up top
tried to stop him.

RICK
His old golf buddies?

(CONTINUED)

JESS
(reads laptop)
Oh, even "Red State Redneck" thinks
we lost.

RICK
I expected the MSM fuckers to be in
the tank, but that? I mean, that's
like losing Rush.

JESS
We still have talk radio in the
area.

RICK
I need you to find something.

JESS
Right now the Lambert case is the
best we've got.

RICK
That didn't go anywhere last night
(collects his thoughts)
Nobody gets as far as him and stays
that clean. No way in hell.
Spitzer, Edwards...

JESS
(exasperated)
We have tried, and tried, and tried
to find something on him and the
best we could come up with was a
decade old picture of him as
Two-Face at a Halloween party

RICK
Well he's running with Chris Hall
for Christ's sake

JESS
Who not only has to fuck around, we
have to PROVE he's fucking around.

Rick looks exasperated/angry, Jess shrugs

RICK
Charlie

JESS
Nicholson?

(CONTINUED)

RICK
There's gotta be something

JESS
Rick, he's wild, he plays hard, but
he isn't--

RICK
Clean

JESS
Stupid

RICK
No, I don't care, some friend of
his, some acquaintance, somebody
from back when he worked for
McGreevy.

JESS
We've looked.

RICK
Look harder, and focus on Charlie
for right now. Joe would let some
things slide with somebody that
close to him.

JESS
Marching orders?

Rick nods, Jess gets up to exit, Rick stops her at the door

RICK
One more thing

JESS
Between us?

Rick nods

EXT. NIGHT

We see the end of a CIGAR, being lit by ZIPPO, the orange at
the end grows until it glows brightly

JAKE (O.S.)
We're a point away from
statistically even

Reveals...

EXT. SUBURBAN PATIO- NIGHT

Charlie pulls the CIGAR from his mouth, exhaling a large plume and handing his ZIPPO to Joe

Joe, Jake and Charlie all have DRINKS

While Joe lights his CIGAR Charlie speaks

CHARLIE
Man, let's not talk about the polls
and just savor a little relaxation

JOE
(examines his cigar)
These good?

CHARLIE
They're expensive

JOE
Anne's gonna be pissed about how I
smell.

CHARLIE
Reservations, Friday night, La
Deauville, real romantic

JOE
(ponders this, clearly the
first he's heard it)
French, romantic, good choice.

Jake begins to cough furiously

JAKE
God damn it, Charlie

CHARLIE
Have I told you before? You don't
inhale cigars, man. Jesus, take a
drink.

JAKE
I think I'm going to turn green.

JOE
Deep breaths man, next time, just
hold it in

CHARLIE
(lifts glass in toast)
To winning the battle, gentlemen

(CONTINUED)

JAKE
May we win the war

JOE
Amen

They toast, they drink

CHARLIE
Oh, little bit of shop talk you
fellas'll be glad to hear.

JAKE
Shoot

CHARLIE
I got us a celebrity endorsement.

JAKE
Ashley Judd?

JOE
Fuck Ashley Judd. I mean really is
that the best we can--

CHARLIE
No, not Ashley Judd.
(looks at Joe)
She irritates me too
(beat)
Buddy Lee Fitch

JAKE
Buddy Lee Fitch?

JOE
Oh, god, the guys that sings that
(singsongy, in bad southern
accent)
Stars and stripes over my small
town. Amurrka, amurrka

CHARLIE
You ridicule your supporters like
that? Your celebrity supporters?

JOE
I'm sorry, man. It is good.

JAKE
Ok, I missed something.

(CONTINUED)

CHARLIE

Buddy Lee Fitch has hit the country charts with a bullet.

JOE

And he's from Charlie's hometown.

CHARLIE

He's a third cousin of one of my best friends back home, the second cousin of my first cousin's high school boyfriend but, here's the clincher, his grandmomma went to First Baptist with my Mamaw.

JAKE

And he sings?

JOE

This really dumb jingoistic song--

CHARLIE

Patriotic song

JOE

Patriotic song about small towns and farms and what else is it about, Charlie?

CHARLIE

I dunno, Jesus, Momma and Apple Pie.

(shrugs)

I prefer "Cryin' to Jim, Jack and Jose"

JAKE

And this guy's a Democrat?

CHARLIE

Surprised me too.

JOE

Voting habits die hard in this state, evidently.

CHARLIE

(lifting his glass)

To Buddy Lee Fitch

JAKE

Buddy Lee Fitch

(CONTINUED)

JOE
God, I'm gonna have to listen to
that song for the rest of the
campaign.

EXT. COMMONWEALTH STADIUM PARKING LOT- SUNNY DAY

STAFFERS in MATCHING BLUE SHIRTS are huddled listening to
Kim

Charlie stands next to her, the only one who isn't wearing
one of the matching shirts, he shows his support more subtly
with a CAMPAIGN BUTTON

KIM
When the teams break remember to
stay in high traffic areas. Voter
reg teams, just hand them a
brochure, action teams with harder
asks. Go Cats, go Joe.

CHARLIE
Amen, amen, quick question, any of
y'all in the student section?

ENTHUSIASTIC YOUNG GUY raises his hand

CHARLIE
Good to know, good to know

Charlie pulls a bag of stickers

CHARLIE
Close to the field?

ENTHUSIASTIC YOUNG GUY
You bet

CHARLIE
Get one of these on everybody you
can, especially everybody close to
a camera.

ENTHUSIASTIC YOUNG GUY
Oh yeah, media saturation

CHARLIE
Something like that

ENTHUSIASTIC YOUNG GUY
Great strategy Mister Nicholson

(CONTINUED)

CHARLIE

It was Kim's idea

The other staffers have dispersed, the Enthusiastic Young Guy stands there looking dumb next to Kim and Charlie

ENTHUSIASTIC YOUNG GUY

So you guys see Blue Commonwealth today? I was thinking--

KIM

Steven

ENTHUSIASTIC YOUNG GUY

Yeah?

KIM

Hand out stickers

ENTHUSIASTIC YOUNG GUY

Huh? Oh, yeah, stickers. I'm on it.

CHARLIE

Hold the clipboard over your head so they can see the sign, yell as loud as you can, keep on smiling, go cats, go Joe

ENTHUSIASTIC YOUNG GUY

(walking away, a little too pumped)

Go Cats! Go Joe!

He walks away, Charlie gets himself a cigarette, gives Kim a "what's his deal" look

KIM

He thinks this is glamorous

Before lighting the cigarette, Charlie pops an Ulcer Pill

CHARLIE

I think this makes my stomach hurt

KIM

Tell me about it

CUT TO:

TAILGATE PARTY

BUDDY LEE FITCH, a slick Nashville star in a BLUE COWBOY HAT is behind the grill. Joe and Anne stand next to him

There is a crowd of BIG DONORS milling close by, trying to get next to both the candidate and the country star

BUDDY LEE
(addressing the crowd)
Now I'm fixin to make some of my
trademark Buddy brawts and I want
the first Buddy brawt to go to our
next Governor's beautiful wife

He takes a BRATWURST puts it in a bun, puts MUSTARD on it,
hands it to Anne, who smiles

ANNE
Thank you

She takes a bite, gives a thumbs up

BUDDY LEE
It's the spicy mustard that makes
it good.

Anne, somewhat disingenuously, shakes her head in agreement

JOE
Again, I'd like to thank Mister
Fitch--

BUDDY LEE
Listen at that, our next Governor
(mispronouncing the last name)
Joe Lavassaney callin me 'Mister,'
sir, Buddy Lee'll do just fine

JOE
Well thank you Buddy Lee, and I'm
proud to call you and everyone else
here, a supporter. Let's enjoy the
party and cheer on my fine Alma
Mater.

BUDDY LEE
(to the crowd)
Go cats! Go Joe!

Jake and Charlie have been at the back of the crowd

(CONTINUED)

CHARLIE
(in Jake's ear)
Get Anne somewhere where she can
throw that thing away without
looking ungrateful.

JAKE
Fun to watch her suffer through a
"Buddy Brawt," though

CHARLIE
(through his teeth)
If she starts withholding sex
you're answering to the boss

JAKE
(pulling out CELL)
I'm on it, fake important phone
call.

Jake starts walking away, Charlie watches as Anne gets a
call and excuses herself, Joe, now surrounded by laughing
old big donor types, slaps Buddy Lee's arm

Lindsay enters, a little overdressed for a football game

LINDSAY
I love a good tailgate party

CHARLIE
Hey, hey, score that extra ticket?

She holds up a ticket

CHARLIE
I could kiss you

LINDSAY
You could do a lot more if you
weren't in public.

CHARLIE
Well I was thinking tonight...

LINDSAY
We'll see, down boy

She takes a LEMONADE bottle out of her purse

LINDSAY
Refreshments?

Charlie takes the bottle, takes a drink, makes a surprised
face

(CONTINUED)

CHARLIE

Libations

LINDSAY

A girl should never be unprepared.
You know, I've seen a lot of you
guy's stickers around.

CHARLIE

We got a crack staff.

LINDSAY

Yeah, I heard them doing the cheer.

CHARLIE

It's lame, but it works

LINDSAY

Figured you'd have the radio
station over here talking to your
big country star

CHARLIE

Buzz Barker

Lindsay "what the fuck does that mean" stare

CHARLIE

Guy that does the pre-game, well he
also has a show on AM radio.

LINDSAY

And that means?

CHARLIE

Honey, there are no Democrats on AM
radio.

INT. RICK'S OFFICE- THAT NIGHT

Rick and Jess are watching Local News, Jess reading LAPTOP

T.V.

And CMA award winner Buddy Lee
Fitch was there to cheer on the
cats today--

RICK

God damn it, and Lavassaney sat
right next to him.

(CONTINUED)

JESS
That was because of Nicholson

RICK
All you've been able to dig up
about Charlie is that he secured a
ringing endorsement from a country
singer?

JESS
He's been seen a lot with Lindsay
Moore, sat with her today even.

RICK
The last thing I need is rich girl
gossip

JESS
There are actually some promising--

RICK
McGreevy, that's where there's
substance, what'd he do for
McGreevy?

JESS
He was too low on the totem pole to
know about anything like that, just
a face at the Capitol, really.

RICK
There's got to be something there,
keep looking into it.

JESS
Ok, but unless I'm missing
something really big...

RICK
...I'm going to the Lambert press
conference on Monday.

JESS
It would appear so.

INT. COURTHOUSE- DAY

Joe is at the podium, prepping for a press conference with
Jake, a few REPORTERS mill in the crowd, Charlie stands at
the back of the crowd

Rick enters, he and Charlie spot each other, Charlie goes to
him

(CONTINUED)

CHARLIE
Here to sling shit?

RICK
And watch it hit him

CHARLIE
It won't.

RICK
Keep hoping, Charlie

CHARLIE
(grins)
What's that cologne you got on?
Desperation?

RICK
Stay cocky

CHARLIE
Sure will

Rick takes a seat among the reporters, Charlie eyeing him

CHARLIE
(abrupt but loud, as if he's
sneezing the word)
Joey

Joe looks up, finds Charlie, who nods towards Rick, Joe acknowledges

AT THE PODIUM

We're now looking out at the crowd of reporters as Joe answers questions.

JOE
...and an emphasis on treatment, no
different than any other drug crime
I've prosecuted.

Rick pipes up from towards the back

RICK
But isn't Mister Lambert different
from other drug crimes you've
prosecuted?

(CONTINUED)

JOE
(slight grin)
No, not in the eyes of the law

RICK
(not backing down)
But as the son of an influential
State Senator this could be seen as
using the media...

JOE
Mister Daniel's, contrary to what
your boss might tell you, I don't
chase what gets media coverage.

Joe goes to signal another reporter

RICK
You're using this highly publicized
case to gain support and
undermine--

JOE
I'm prosecuting a felony brought to
me by the Lexington Police
Department, the fact that the young
man's father is an elected official
may have gained added media
scrutiny, and for that I sympathize
with Mister Lambert and his family,
but I treated him no differently
than any other person accused of
violating the law

RICK
But the highly public--

JOE
Those documents were matters of
public record whether I'm
representing the Commonwealth or
not
(gestures at a female reporter
in the crowd)
Leeann.

RICK
You're running from--

JOE
Listen, Mister Daniels, I'm here to
discuss this case, not our
political differences and I believe
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

JOE (cont'd)
Miss Thomas, with the Herald, would
like to ask a question.

Rick looks sullen, his plan's starting to backfire, he gets
up

INT. COURTHOUSE- OUTSIDE THE PRESS CONFERENCE

Charlie stands at the door as Rick exits

CHARLIE
He quicker than you thought?

Rick's look says "fuck you," Rick starts down the hall

CHARLIE
(yelling)
Points for persistence

Rick doesn't look back

CHARLIE
Don't forget, debate Thursday
(quietly)
You dirty pool playing son of a
bitch.

MONTAGE- CAMPAIGN TRAIL

Driving Bluegrass plays

--Joe stands at a debate podium

--Fielder stands at opposite podium

--Charlie watches the debate on TV taking notes, surrounded
by POP CANS

--Joe makes forceful "Bill Clinton style" hand gesture

--Fielder squints, makes "excuse me" face

--Charlie, watching the debate, acts like he's watching a
boxing match and he's pleased

--Jake holds up newspaper "Lavassaney Gaining in Polls"

--At a rally, Joe and Anne stand next to Buddy Lee, who's
presenting him with an AMERICAN FLAG GUITAR

(CONTINUED)

--Kim, chewing a pen, as STAFFERS man phones, Charlie finishes a phone call, looks over at Kim, pops Ulcer pills

--Joe, with Charlie right next to him, speaks to a group of FARMERS

--Joe giving a speech at FACTORY to UNION GUYS

--Charlie and Kim pass out FLYERS at a FOOTBALL GAME

--HOITY FUNDRAISER Joe is stuck talking to BLUEHAired LADY, without her noticing gives an eye roll to Charlie

INT. CHARLIE'S OFFICE- NIGHT

Charlie and Joe sit across from each other, Kim pops her head in

KIM

Back, anything I need to know?

CHARLIE

Polls are stagnant, we're either down a couple or tied

(beat)

Murray?

KIM

Went well, college kids are excited.

CHARLIE

Saturday?

KIM

You and me, Pride Rally

CHARLIE

(looks at Joe)

Man, it's a shame you'll have to be out of town, them gays know how to have a good time. I mean, drag show, full bar, free lube, crazy Catholic protest--

JOE

Charlie

CHARLIE

Yessir

(CONTINUED)

JOE
Shut the fuck up
(turns to Kim)
Murray went well?

KIM
Pretty soon you're gonna have to go
out there

JOE
Looking forward to it.

KIM
Hey, I've done my part

CHARLIE
You have, so go home, have a glass
of something, take tomorrow off

KIM
Thank you

JOE
You're a trooper

KIM
Can the trooper leave?

Charlie salutes, Joe waves, she leaves

CHARLIE
You better give her a damn good job
when you get in office

JOE
No joke

Charlie clicks around on his laptop

CHARLIE
Bobby hasn't posted anything today

JOE
That's bad
(thinks)
and good

CHARLIE
You bet, Joey, now why don't you go
home and watch TV with your wife
like a normal old person?

(CONTINUED)

JOE
Fuck you, what're you doing
tonight?

CHARLIE
Well, right now it looks like I'm
banging an heiress

Joe gets up and walks towards the door

JOE
It's better to be boyfriend than
booty call, Charlie

CHARLIE
(without looking up)
Speak for yourself Cap.

EXT. LINDSAY'S PLACE-NIGHT

A guest house on the same palatial horse farm as
before, Charlie lounging in HOT TUB on the porch of the
guest house Lindsay lives in

Lindsay enters, wrapped in a towel

CHARLIE
This is nice
(submerges his head, comes
back up)
This I could get use to.

LINDSAY
You act like it's something you're
well acquainted with.

CHARLIE
Do what now?

LINDSAY
Come on Charlie, the places you
take me, the expensive bourbon, the
suits.

CHARLIE
What about 'em?

LINDSAY
You grew up around this didn't you?

(CONTINUED)

CHARLIE
(laughs)
Baby, my people were barely
above-ground-pool rich.

LINDSAY
Excuse me?

CHARLIE
Oh, we ate steak a few Sundays, but
it was at Lonestar. In Frankfort.

LINDSAY
I just figured, way you act...

CHARLIE
I do two things honey, I get above
my raisin'

LINDSAY
And?

CHARLIE
Act like I belong.

LINDSAY
(shrugs)
It works.

CHARLIE
Especially on horse trash.

LINDSAY
Hey.

CHARLIE
(grins, caught)
Oh, you know I didn't mean you.
(beat)
But now McGreevy? Chris? They're
comin' at me from all sides.

Lindsay smiles, half buying it

She removes the towel, reveals bikini, Charlie's eyes get
big

CHARLIE
That is your "not in public"
swimsuit?

(CONTINUED)

LINDSAY
It makes my fat rolls bunch up and
I look like--

CHARLIE
Fat rolls?

This "problem" wouldn't be evident to Charlie

LINDSAY
(motions)
Here, and here, and, god--

CHARLIE
Baby

LINDSAY
What?

CHARLIE
Water's warm.

RINGTONE Charlie's phone

CHARLIE
God fucking damn it, it's ten
o'clock, what could possibly--
(to the heavens)
I got a girl and a hot tub, man.

Lindsay picks up the phone, examines it

LINDSAY
Who's "trooper?"

Charlie hops out of the water

CHARLIE
Shit, that isn't good.

LINDSAY
(answering)
Charlie's phone.
(beat)
His personal secretary.

Charlie grabs the phone with a grimace, Lindsay smiles

CHARLIE
Kim, this better be damn important
(long beat)
Son of a bitch. Son of a bitch.
Just...god damn it, wait for me.

(CONTINUED)