

AWAKE

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INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - DAY

HARPER (30s) lies unconscious in a hospital bed. After a beat, he stirs, opens his eyes, and sits up.

HARPER
(confused, looking around)
Hello?

Suddenly, Harper's beautiful fiancée, VICTORIA (30s), enters. She notices Harper sitting up and rushes over to him.

VICTORIA
(ecstatic, hugging him)
Harper! Oh my god! You're awake!

HARPER
(confused)
Victoria? Where am I?

VICTORIA
(realizing)
Oh, no. You don't remember the car accident at all, do you?

HARPER
Car accident?

A beat, as Victoria struggles with what to say next. She hesitates too long, and so--

HARPER (CONT'D)
Sweetheart, just tell me what's going on.

VICTORIA
(apprehensive)
Harper... I need you to stay calm, because I have something to tell you and it may come as a shock, okay?
(beat)
You were in a horrific car crash. The doctors didn't think you'd even make it through the surgery, but somehow you pulled through, and....

Beat, as Victoria gets choked up.

HARPER
And *what*?

VICTORIA
You've been in a coma ever since.

HARPER
 (in disbelief)
 A coma? Jesus.
 (beat)
 How long have I--

Harper's thought is cut short when his roommates, STEVE, JASON, and JEREMY (30s), enter.

STEVE
 (shocked)
 Holy shit! You're out of the coma!

The guys rush to Harper's side, hugging and HIGH-FIVING him.

JASON
 It's so good to see you, man!

JEREMY
 Yeah! What was that coma like?

STEVE
 (smacking Jeremy in the
 arm)
 Dude. Rude.

JEREMY
 Sorry.

HARPER
 (chuckling)
 It's okay, man. I'm just glad to
 see you guys.

STEVE
 For sure.

HARPER
 I can't wait to get out of here and
 back to our apartment. We're gonna
 have to throw one hell of a welcome-
 back party. Right, guys?

The guys look back and forth at each other awkwardly for a beat. Then--

JASON
 Yeah, about that....

Beat.

HARPER
 What?

STEVE

We had to get a new roommate.

HARPER

(hurt)

Oh. Yeah, of course. Makes sense. I mean, you guys didn't know when I was coming out of the coma.

STEVE

Exactly.

(off Harper's look)

We cool, dude?

HARPER

Yeah, we're cool.

(beat)

So, you guys put my stuff in storage then, or--

JEREMY

We sold it.

HARPER

To... pay for my medical bills?

JASON

Beer, mostly. Pizza. Little bit of weed. You know, guy stuff.

(raising hand)

High-five!

Harper hesitates, but then actually goes to high-five Jason.

He misses though, as Jason becomes distracted and moves his hand out of the way when BRADLEY (30s), an extremely attractive, professional, and sharply dressed man, enters.

Bradley's holding the hand of PABLO (5), a small boy licking an ice cream cone.

BRADLEY

(shocked)

Whoa! He's up!

The roommates are *clearly* excited to see Bradley.

JASON

I know, right?

(shifting high-five to
Bradley)

High-five!

Bradley HIGH-FIVES Jason with great enthusiasm.

HARPER
(confused)
And you are?

STEVE
This is Bradley, dude! He's the
coolest!

HARPER
Ah, Bradley. The new roommate, I
assume?

BRADLEY
(chuckling)
Oh, no.
(beat)
I'm Victoria's husband.

HARPER
(shocked)
Her *what?!?*

VICTORIA
(to Bradley)
I hadn't had a chance to tell him
yet.

BRADLEY
Damn.
(to Harper)
My bad.

VICTORIA
(showing wedding ring)
Harper, I'm married now.

BRADLEY
(patting Victoria's
stomach)
And pregnant!

VICTORIA
(re: Pablo)
And this little jelly bean, this is
Pablo... our adopted son from
Columbia.

HARPER
(in shock)
You're married? And have an adopted
son from Columbia?

BRADLEY
 (patting Victoria's
 stomach)
 And she's pregnant!

HARPER
 Yeah, I heard you the first time.

VICTORIA
 I'm sorry, Harper.

HARPER
 But... we've been together since
 college. We were engaged, sent out
 our wedding invitations. Hell, I
 already paid for our honeymoon.

BRADLEY
 Speaking of which, Bali is
beautiful. You totally gotta go
 someday, bro.

VICTORIA
 Harper, I'm so sorry, but nobody
 knew if you were ever going to wake
 up. You didn't expect me to put my
 life on hold *forever*, did you?

Harper thinks and SIGHS, then--

HARPER
 No, of course not.
 (to everyone)
 I'm sorry. Obviously, this is just
 a lot to process right now.

STEVE
 It's cool, dude.
 (remembering)
 Oh! By the way...
 (patting Victoria's
 stomach)
 ...I'm actually the father of this
 little one.

HARPER
What?!?

VICTORIA
 It's not like we dated or anything.
 Steve and I just had a drunken one-
 night stand.

HARPER
After I slipped into the coma?

VICTORIA
Of course.

BRADLEY
Before she got hitched to me.

VICTORIA
Exactly.

Steve and Bradley HIGH-FIVE.

HARPER
(to himself)
I think I preferred the coma.
(to everyone)
Seriously, and I need you all to be
completely honest with me no matter
how much you think it might hurt,
but exactly how long was I--

Harper's thought is cut short when his FATHER (60s) enters
with a HOT BLONDE (20s) by his side.

FATHER
(shocked)
Harper!

Harper's father rushes to his side; he gives Harper a huge
hug and a kiss on the forehead.

HARPER
Hey, Dad. Where's Mom?
(noticing Hot Blonde)
And who's *this*?

A silent beat passes as everyone looks around awkwardly at
one another; some glance around the room, unable to make eye
contact with Harper.

FATHER
Son, I know this has already been a
roller coaster of a day, but I'm
afraid I've got some bad news.

HARPER
(sarcastic)
Lemme guess. You remarried this hot
blonde who's one-third your age
after you and mom divorced.

FATHER
 (re: Hot Blonde)
 Well, we are married but... your
 mother and I didn't divorce.

HARPER
 You didn't? Then where is she?

FATHER
 She's dead.

HARPER
 She's *dead*? From what?

FATHER
 This might be hard to believe but,
 on the day of your horrific car
 accident, your mother also got into
 a horrific car accident.

HARPER
 Where?

FATHER
 Right outside the hospital here.
 You see... she was coming to visit
 you.

HARPER
 Jesus!
 (beat)
 Did she die quickly, at least?

FATHER
 I'm afraid not. Like you, she also
 slipped into a coma. But your
 mother never would've wanted to go
 on in a vegetative state, so we
 collectively decided to unplug her
 from life support.

Everyone lowers their head as a beat of silence passes.

HARPER
 What the....
 (beat)
 I'm sorry. This is just so much for
 me to absorb. Everything, my *entire*
life, is completely different now.

FATHER
 (placing hand on Harper's
 shoulder)
 I know, son.
 (MORE)

But we're here for you. All of us.
(to everyone)
Right, guys?

ALL
(together)
Right.

Beat.

HARPER
How long was I in the coma for?

VICTORIA
Four days.

A long, long beat passes as Harper looks around at everyone, waiting for the punch-line. It doesn't come, and then--

HARPER
(dead serious)
What?

THE END