

SOUTHERN BELLES
PILOT

Written by

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Run Time 39 Minutes

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FASE IN:

COLD OPEN

INT. TATTOO PARLOR - DAY

A GROUP OF THREE ALTERNATIVE TATTOO APPRENTICES ARE HUDDLED AROUND A WORK TABLE IN THE MIDDLE OF A GRUNGY BASEMENT ST. MARKS SHOP. THE INSTRUCTOR, IN HER 50'S, COVERED IN TATTOOS EXCEPT FOR HER FACE WALKS AROUND THE TABLE INSPECTING THE STUDENT'S WORK.

A BEEFY BALD MAN IN HIS 30'S MAN HANDLES A SLAB OF PORK AS HE TATTOOS AN ADORABLE BUNNY ON IT. NEXT TO HIM IS AN EX-CON WOMAN IN HER 40'S PRACTICING HER ART ON HER ARM, SHE ISN'T FLINCHING AT ALL, WE WONDER IF SHE WAS THAT STOIC FOR HER FACE TATTOOS. ACROSS THE TABLE FROM THEM IS RYDER WILLIAMS, 25 YEARS OLD, WHO IS FIDLING WTH AN ORANGE AND LOOKING OVER THE TABLE IN ENVY.

RYDER HUFFS.

INSTRUCTOR

Ryder, for the last time, please
focus.

RYDER

It's not like anyone pays people to
tattoo oranges.

BALD MAN SPEAKS WITHOUT LOOKING UP.

BALD MAN

It's not like people pay to have their
pork inked either.

RYDER

In Brooklyn they might. Like artisanal
bacon? I haven't seen that at the co-
op yet!

INSTRUCTOR

Ryder! Unlike your attention span,
tattoos are forever! Our clients
expect you to focus.

RYDER TURNS TO HER ORANGE AND STARTS TATTOOING IT. IT SQUIRTS JUICE IN HER EYE, SHE JOLTS THROWING HER TATTOO PEN AND SPLATTERING THE INK CARTRIDGE ALL OVER THE FACE OF EX-CON WOMAN.

EX-CON WOMAN FREEZES. BALD MAN FREEZES. INSTRUCTOR THROWS HER ARMS UP AND WALKS AWAY, LEAVING RYDER TO HER FATE. EVERYONE ELSE IN THE SHOP IS FROZEN, EXCEPT RYDER WHO BEGINS TO WIPE HER EYE WITH ONE HAND WHILE APPOLOGETICALLY TRYING TO WIPE THE INK OFF OF EX-CON WOMAN'S FACE WITH THE OTHER, SMEARING IT LIKE WAR PAINT.

INT. RECREATION CENTER CRAFT FAIR - DAY

EDISON WILLIAMS, 28 IS AT HER STAND SELLING SAGE SMUDGES, AND JARS OF HER OWN HONEY IN A REC CENTER GYMNASIUM. A CHILD AROUND 8 YEARS OLD WANDERS TO THE BOOTH AND STARTS EXAMINING THE JARS OF HONEY WITH THE HONEY COMBS IN IT.

EDISON

The bees are totally free range.

CHILD

The honey is free?!?

THE CHILD GRABS A JAR EXCIEDEDLY. EDISON GRABS IT BACK.

EDISON

Not "free of charge", free of
boundaries.

THE CHILD MAKES A STINK FACE AT EDISON. EDSION WANTS TO MAKE IT UP TO HIM. EDISON PULLS OUT A PORTABLE BEE HIVE FROM UNDER HER TABLE.

EDISON (CONT'D)

Have you ever seen a Queen Bee?

THE CHILD'S EYES GET WIDE WITH EXCITEMENT. JUST THEN THE CHILD'S MOTHER BURSTS INTO THE BOOTH. SHE'S BEEN SEARCHING FOR HER WANDERING CHILD.

MOTHER
(To the child)

There you are!

SHE TURNS TO EDISON.

MOTHER (CONT'D)

What is wrong with you?! He's
allergic!

MOTHER STORMS OFF DRAGGING THE CHILD WITH HER. EDISON PICKS UP A BURNING SAGE TO RID HER BOOTH OF THE BAD JUJU OF THE MOTHER'S FURY.

EDISON

Simpletons. Their loss.

EDISON STARTS TAKING SELFIES OF HERSELF AND HER HONEY WHEN HER PHONE RINGS. SHE ACCEPTS THE CALL, AFTER SHE PRIMPS, HOLDS THE PHONE OUT AT A CUTE ANGLE. SHE THINKS IT'S A FACETIME.

EDISON (CONT'D)

Hello this is Homeopathy by Edison.

EDISON REALIZES IT'S A NORMAL CALL AND PUTS THE PHONE TO HER EAR.

EDISON (CONT'D)

I'm sorry can you repeat that?

EDISON'S FACE FALLS. SHE HANGS UP ON THE CALLER AND BEGINS TO DRAMATICALLY PACK UP HER BOOTH.

INT. TATTOO PARLOR - DAY

RYDER'S PHONE RINGS, RYDER PULLS HER PHONE FROM HER CLEAVAGE. SHE ANSWERS THE PHONE WHILE STILL TATTOOING THE ORANGE.

RYDER

What?!

RYDER PAUSES WHILE SHE LISTENS.

RYDER (CONT'D)

Like, dead-dead and left a will?

RYDER IS BITING ON THE END OF HER TATTOO GUN LIKE A PEN.

RYDER (CONT'D)

Louisiana? Is Venmo an option?

SHE LEAVES HER ORANGE AND HER TATTOO PEN BUZZING AS SHE GETS UP AND LEAVES.

INSTRUCTOR

Ryder! We aren't done yet!

RYDER

My grandma just died!

INSTRUCTOR

I am so sorry.

EX-CON WOMAN

My condolences.

RYDER

Don't be! I'm going to be rich and
open my own shop! Suck it!

THE DOOR SWINGS BEHIND RYDER, CON WOMAN GRABS THE ORANGE AND STARTS PEELING IT TO EAT.

ACT 1EXT. SHREVEPORT - DAY

WE SEE DOWNTOWN SHREVEPORT AS LOCALS MOSEY INTO ORLANDEAUX'S CAFE. WE SEE PEOPLE FLOW IN AND OUT OF THE ELDORADO CASINO & HOTEL. WE SEE A FAMILY POUR OUT OF A MINI VAN INTO A WALMART NEXT TO A MOM AND POP CONVENIENCE STORE WITH PERMANANTLY CLOSED SIGN IN THE WINDOW. WE SEE A LONE FISHERMAN ON THE CYPRESS BLACK BAYOU, PAN OVER TO REVEAL A MANUFACTURING PLANT.

INT. FUNERAL PARLOR - DAY

RYDER AND EDISON WAIT IN THE MUSKY OFFICE OF THE PARLOR THAT IS USED EXCLUSIVELY FOR WILL READINGS. EDISON IN BLACK HIPPIE/EARTHMOTHER WEAR STANDING BEHIND, RYDER IN BLACK BIKER ATTIRE WHO SITS IN FRONT OF THE DESK. THERE IS A FRAMED EMBROIDERY ON THE WALL BEHIND THE DESK THAT READS "THIS IS MY HAPPY PLACE". EDISON AND RYDER ARE NOT USED TO THE SOUTHERN HUMIDITY, THEY ARE SWEATING BULLETS, THEIR CLOTHES ARE STICKING TO THEM AND OCCASIONALLY THEY SMACK AT A MOSQUITO.

RYDER

I don't think human beings were meant
to live in Louisiana, let's just get
the cash from Gran and go back to our
lives.

EDISON CALMS HER IRRITATION WITH SOME ZEN BREATHING AND GETS MORE SOMBER.

EDISON

I thought Gran was going to live
forever. I can't believe she's
actually gone.

EDISON RUMMAGES THROUGH HER BAG UNTIL SHE FINDS A MASON JAR OF HOMEMADE KOMBUCHA WITH A DISGUISTING MOTHER THAT FLOATS AT THE BOTTOM, SHE TAKES A SWIG.

RYDER

I can, she was like a million years old. We all die Edison.

EDISON

That is inappropriately macabre of you.

EDISON IS USED TO THIS FROM RYDER AND ROLLS HER EYES WHILE SCREWING THE CAP BACK ON AND PLACING THE JAR BACK IN HER BAG.

IN WALKS THEIR GRAN'S ATTORNEY, BOB ROBERTS, 71, THE YOUNGEST SON OF GRAN'S ORIGINAL ATTORNEY WITH A THICK SOUTHERN ACCENT. BOB IS UNFAZED BY THE HEAT AND SPORTS AN AGED SUIT.

BOB

Ladies, I'm sorry for your loss.

BOB WALKS TO AN OLD TV ON A CART WITH A VHS TAPE PLAYER. EDISON SITS NEXT TO RYDER. BOB SLOWLY PUSHES THE ON BUTTON ON WE SEE STATIC.

BOB (CONT'D)

Your Gran, bless her soul, was a modern woman, all things considered. And she has recorded her will in the form of a video.

GRAN'S ANCEINT WRINKLY FACE APPEARS ON THE TV. EDISON GASPS AND RYDER STIFLES A GIGGLE- THIS IS MODERN?! GRAN IS WEARING A LARGE CHAPEAU, A FORMAL DRESS AND WHITE GLOVES. WHILE SHE ALSO SPEAKS WITH A SOUTHERN ACCENT, IT IS MORE REFINED THAN BOB'S AND LESS THICK.

GRAN

Hello Miss Ryder and Miss Edison.

GRAN HOLDS OUT A HAND, AND FROM OFF SCREEN SOMEONE PASSES GRAN A BOURBON ON THE ROCKS.

It's a shame your "liberal arts"
parents gave you names better suited
for senile alley cats- though
prophetic in a way...

GRAN TAKES A DAINTY SIP.

My only grand daughters. Fortunate for
you? We shall see.

GRAN FANS HERSELF WIYTH HER OTHER HAND.

Undoubtably unfortunate for me.

RYDER

How old was Gran when she recorded
this?!

BOB

55.

RYDER AND EDISON LOOK AT EACH OTHER AND TOUCH THEIR FACES.

EDISON

I hope premature aging isn't
hereditary.

RYDER

It's gotta be the sun, right?

GRAN

Quiet you little yankee shits, and
listen.

RYDER AND EDISON GRAB EACH OTHERS HANDS- HOW DID SHE KNOW
THEY WERE TALKING? BOB SITS BACK DOWN AT THE DESK.

GRAN (CONT'D)

It is after much deliberation that I
 have decided that in the event of my
 departure from this earthly realm, the
 responsibility and ownership of
 Southern Belles Bridal, my legacy-

THIS IS CLEARLY PAINFUL FOR GRAN. SHE PUTS HER FAN DOWN
 MOTIONS WITH HER HAND TO THE PERSON OFF SCREEN, GRAN REACHES
 OFF SCREEN. WHEN HER HAND RETURNS IT HOLDS A LIT CIGARETTE IN
 A LONG CIGARETTE HOLDER, OF WHICH SHE TAKES A LONG DRAG.

GRAN (CONT'D)

Be left to you.

THE SISTERS LOOK AT EACH OTHER, NOD AND FIST BUMP.

RYDER

Sweet!

THE SISTERS DO A LITTLE DANCE IN THEIR CHAIRS EXCITIDLY.

GRAN

Stop doing the popping and locking or
 whatever you miscreants do these days.
 Show some respect ladies... and I use
 that term loosely.

GRAN SHOOTS THE REST OF THE BOURBON AND TAKES ANOTHER DRAG.

GRAN (CONT'D)

It is my wish that you two will be
 able to put aside your differences,
 and be civil towards one another for
 once.

RYDER ROLLS HER EYES.

GRAN (CONT'D)

Unlike the time Edison manipulated
Ryder into hiding a bite wound for a
week until it festered, because
"gators are people too".

UNDER HER BREATHE-

GRAN (CONT'D)

Nitwits.

THE SISTERS REMINICE, AND SMILE.

EDISON

I remember Pickles, she was the
cutest!

GRAN

She was a wild animal Edison!... Much
like the two of you.

THE SISTERS QUIET AND STRAIGHTEN UP. GRAN DELICATELY
STRAIGHTENS HER HAT AND CONTINUES.

GRAN (CONT'D)

Or the time you two decided to try
sending smoke signals in the back yard
and burned the shed down, and almost
the neighborhood. I get flustered to
this day just thinking about you two
even lighting a candle - which I
request you do NOT do at my service.

SHE FANS HERSELF OFF IN THE VIDEO WHILE AND ARM REACHES INTO
FRAM AND REFILLS HER BOURBON. JUST THINKING ABOUT RYDER AND
EDISON IS WINDING HER UP.

GRAN (CONT'D)

It is my wish that you find it in your hearts, your brains and your humanity- to work together to make Southern Belles flourish for a new generation. And if I have not since updated this video will - a generation, I am frankly glad to not be around for anymore.

GRAN STOPS, THE IMAGE APPEARS TO FREEZE. EDISON AND RYDER TURN TO BOB.

EDISON

Wow, we are actual brick and mortar shop owners! How retro.

RYDER

Okay, so. How do we sell the boutique?

EDISON

Yes, can we do that through you?

BOB STRAIGHTENS UP SOME PAPERS AND PULLS OUT A FOLDER.

BOB

While it certainly is within your right to sell Southern Belles, I do not believe that you would find that action to be fiscally sound.

RYDER

That's just not true. I did a Google search, there are like no other bridal shops in the area. Someone will want to buy it.

BOB OPENS A FOLDER AND TURNS IT AROUND TO READ. RYDER & EDISON LOOK AT THE PAPERS. THERE IS A NEON POST IT NOTE WITH " - \$132,843".

BOB

While the boutique does have value, in addition to inheriting the business-

GRAN

You also inherited it's debts! Ha!

RYDER & EDISON JUMP.

GRAN (CONT'D)

I'll pray for you both.

A VERY HANDSOME MAN HELPS GRAN OUT OF HER CHAIR.

GRAN (CONT'D)

I've had enough of this, lets go before I'm late for my permanent makeup appointment.

GRAN EXITS OFF SCREEN. RYDER LOOKS FROM THE SCREEN TO BOB.

RYDER

So that's who I got my love of tattoos from!

EDISON

How could Gran have missed 3 years of property taxes?!

BOB

Her health was not the best these past few years.

RYDER LOOKS UP FROM HER PHONE, LIVID.

RYDER

Just Zillowed the address and the debt is GREATER than the value!

EDISON

So we make the shop work until we pay off the debts then sell!?! That can't take more than a year.

RYDER

A year?! In Louisiana?

BOB

Is now a good time to inform you that the first repayment to the IRS is due in a month?

EDISON COLLAPSES WITH HER HEAD ON THE DESK. RYDER GLARES AT BOB.

RYDER

I thought this will reading was going to be a blessing, not a curse.

BOB

Manbo Sallie Ann Glassman has a 1-800 number just for curses!

BOB WRITES THE NUMBER ON A POST IT AND HANDS IT TO RYDER.

INT. GRANS HOUSE - KITCHEN - NIGHT

EDISON AND RYDER SIT IN GRAN'S KITCHY SOUTHERN KITCHEN AT A DINETTE TABLE. THE THEME OF THE DECOR IS CHICKENS. THEIR SUITCASES ARE SCATTERED ABOUT. THEY ARE VISABLY BUMMED OUT. RYDER SITS VERY UNLADYLIKE- LEGS SPLAYED & POOR POSTURE, WHILE EDISON SITS THOUGHFULLY ACROSS FROM HER WITH HER NOTEBOOK OPEN AND FEATHER PEN IN HAND TRYING TO BRAINSTORM.

RYDER

Like, no offense, but I was kinda
looking forward to not living with you
anymore.

EDISON LOOKS AT RYDER AND SMIRKS.

EDISON

And you think I wanted to grow old
sharing a bedroom with you?

IN SILENCE THEY TAKE IN THEIR NEW SURROUNDINGS AND THEN EACH OTHER.

RYDER

What I mean is, we don't **both** have to
stay to run the business. And this
place is totally more your vibe than
mine.

EDISON'S EYEBROWS SHOOT UP.

EDISON

And my "vibe" is what exactly?

RYDER GESTURES AT THE CHICKENS EVERYWHERE.

If I have to stay, you do too.
Especially since I'm the one with the
head for business.

RYDER

Having an Etsy shop, is not the same
as an MBA!

EDISON

There has to be a way to make a
profit...

THEY BOTH TRY TO THINK, LOOKING IN SEVERAL DIRECTIONS. BUT IN EACH DIRECTION THEY TRY TO PONDER, THEIR GAZE IS MET WITH THE DEAD STARE OF MORE CHICKENS.

RYDER

Their eyes keep following me...

EDISON

I can't think here, it's like I'm
being micromanaged by a bunch of pre-
chicken nuggets.

RYDER

I have an idea..

RYDER JUMPS UP.

RYDER (CONT'D)

Grab your note book! We are going
somewhere more my "vibe".

INT. GATOR'S PUB- NIGHT

GATOR'S IS A TYPICAL DIM LIT SMALL CITY PUB, YET IT IS THE "NICEST" PUB IN SHREVEPORT, SINCE THE OWNER GATOR IS ONE OF THE ONLY BARTENDERS IN TOWN THAT KNOWS WHAT VERMOUTH IS. RYDER AND EDISON TAKE A SEAT IN THE OLD WORK WOODEN BACKED BAR STOOLS AT THE BAR. GATOR, A 42 YEAR OLD BLACK WOMAN (THINK TARA A LA TRUE BLOOD) IS A STRONG-WILLED AND CAPABLE PERSON, CHATS WITH A LOCAL AT THE OTHER END OF THE BAR BEFORE SLOWLY MAKING HER WAY TO THE SISTERS, WHO ARE TAKING IN THE ATMOSPHERE.

GATOR

Whatcha having?

EDISON

Can I have a gin fizz please?

GATOR

No. What about you?

GATOR TURNS TO RYDER.

RYDER

A whisky and-

GATOR RAISES HER EYEBROWS AND COCKS HER HEAD.

RYDER (CONT'D)

..a whiskey.

GATOR NODS AND POURS RYDER A WHISKEY ON THE ROCKS AND CRACKS A BEER FOR EDISON. GATOR PRESENTS THEM THEIR NO FRILLS DRINKS.

EDISON

Thank you.

RYDER

Can we please start a ta-

GATOR CUTS HER OFF.

GATOR

Tabs are for locals only.

GATOR STARES AT THE SISTERS UNTIL EDISON GETS THE HINT AND SLIDES GATOR SOME CASH FOR THE DRINKS.

EDISON

Keep the change.

GATOR INSPECTS THE CASH AND IS IMPRESSED, THESE LADIES OBVIOUSLY ARE USED TO PAYING BIG CITY PRICES AND TIPPING AS SUCH TOO. GATOR LEAVES THE SISTERS TO CHAT.

RYDER

Cheers- to an unexpected career in the
wedding industry.

RYDER HOLD HER GLASS FOR A TOAST BUT EDISON REFUSES TO MEET
HER GLASS. RYDER TRIES TO CHASE EDISON'S GLASS AROUND TO MAKE
CONTACT, WHILE EDISON MOVES HER BEER OUT OF THE WAY LIKE A
STEALTH AIRPLANE.

EDISON

Stop it Ryder!

RYDER STOPS AND TAKES A SIP BY HERSELF.

EDISON (CONT'D)

I refuse to toast to that. I refuse
serve an institution I do not believe
in or condone!

RYDER

Take it down a notch Edison. It's not
like anyone is forcing you to get
married or anything.

EDISON

Yes it is! This boutique is just like
an arranged marriage...

EDISON TAKES A SWIG OF HER BEER AND WINCES AT IT'S FLAVOR,
BUT TAKES ANOTHER SWING REGARDLESS.

RYDER

Weddings have always rubbed you the
wrong way ever since Prince William
got engaged - which was forever ago.
It's time to let go Edison.

(MORE)

RYDER (CONT'D)

Not only does he have kids, you've never even met!

EDISON

Whatever Ryder! It has to do with values - marriage celebrates our culture's patriarchal past. Marriage remains an institution with a convoluted past that continues to represent a power imbalance for women.

RYDER

"Represents" doesn't mean that's what everyone getting married believes. How is that power imbalance reflected in same-sex couples?

EDISON

The notion of "happily ever after" just perpetuates the unrealistic expectations people have about marriage.

RYDER

Well you may not believe in "happily ever after" but other people don't believe in "free-range" or "sustainable" and you still try to sell that concept to them.

EDISON

And I am good at selling that
concept...

BEAT.

EDISON (CONT'D)

Ryder, who even has weddings anymore?

RYDER

Daisy from Bushwick is married.

EDISON

Yeah, her and her partner got married
at city hall so they could share
health insurance. But who actually
hosts a big Cinderella ball wedding
other than in the movies?

RYDER

Lot's of people. Lots of non-New
Yorkers.

EDISON

And how would you know?

RYDER

For your information, the first tattoo
shop I was training at would get tons
of tourists. Many of them were on
their Honeymoons. One couple came in
for matching wrist tattoos. I think
they were from Ohio.. or was it Iowa..
Some place with 4 letters.

RYDER TAKES A SIP OF HER WHISKY AND LEANS FORWARD LIKE SHE'S ABOUT TO DIVULGE A BIG SECRET.

RYDER (CONT'D)

The lady said they spent over 30 grand
on their wedding!

EDISON

What?!

RYDER

And her in-laws still weren't
impressed!

EDISON

You're joking?!

RYDER

Nope.

BEAT.

RYDER (CONT'D)

And there are way more couples like
that out there.

EDISON

So what I'm hearing is that people
throw loads of money away for
something that barely lasts a day.

RYDER

And we can be the trash can they throw
it in!

EDISON

You need to work on your analogies,
but yes!

EDISON RAISES HER GLASS TO RYDER. THEY TOAST AS A
BACHELORETTE PARTY STUMBLES INTO THE BAR. THE SISTER'S EYES
PRACTICALLY LIGHT UP WITH DOLLAR SIGNS.

ACT 2INT. GRAN'S BRIDAL BOUTIQUE - DAY

THE BRIDAL BOUTIQUE IS TRENDY- FOR THE 1980'S. COTTON CANDY PASTELS EVERYWHERE, GLASS BLOCK RECEPTION COUNTER, AND CHUNKY ROUNDED FURNITURE. A LARGE OIL PAINTED PORTRAIT OF GRAN, IN AN OSTENTATIOUS BRIDAL DRESS HANGS BEHIND THE REGISTER COUNTER.

MAUDE (40'S THOUGH LOOKS OLDER, IS WORN FROM A YOUTH SPENT ON A FARM) PICKS HER NAILS AT THE FRONT DESK WITH HER FANCY HUNTING KNIFE WEARING FARM OVERALLS OVER A NICE BLOUSE- SHE HEARD SOMEWHERE THAT OVERALLS ARE BACK IN FASHION. FABIEN (50'S, CAJUN) SITS AT HIS COBBLER BENCH DAINTILY SWIPING THROUGH FASHION MAGAZINES, HE CUTS A PHOTO OF A SHOE OUT AND TAPES IT ONTO THE GIANT COLLAGE ON THE WALL. LORRAINE (21, MOUSY AND SHY) WORKS QUIETLY WITH HEMMING PINS IN THE CENTER OF THE SHOP AT THE FEET OF A BRIDE WHO IS STANDING ON THE FITTING PLATFORM IN A CAMO GOWN.

RYDER AND EDISON BURST THROUGH THE DOORS OF THE BOUTIQUE IN A FASHIONABLE ENTRANCE, EXPECTING A BIG WELCOME.

EDISON

Sorry, we're late!

RYDER

What time do we open?

MAUDE

Four hours ago. Who the heck are you?

MAUDE PUTS HER KNIFE DOWN. FABIEN LOOKS DOWN HIS NOSE AT THE SISTERS FROM HIS MAGAZINE AND LORRAINE COWERS BEHIND THE BRIDE'S DRESS.

SILENCE.

EDISON

We're Gran's granddaughters.

RYDER

The new bosses!

RYDER THROWS HER HANDS ON HER HIPS PROUDLY.

MAUDE

So you're Bea's granbabies...

THE ROTARY PHONE ON THE WALL BY MAUDE RINGS. SHE PICKS IT UP AND HANGS UP IMMEDIATELY TO STOP THE RINGING. THEN HAS A THOUGHT AND YANKS THE CORD FROM THE WALL.

MAUDE (CONT'D)

Sorry, it's been ringing off the hook
since Bea passed.

RYDER TURNS TO WHISPER TO EDISON, BUT THE SHOP IS SO QUIET THAT EVERYONE CLEARLY HEARS HER.

RYDER

(To Edison)

OMG I never knew Gran's real name was
Bee!

EDISON POINTS TO THE BOUTIQUE SIGN "BEA'S SOUTHERN BELLES BRIDAL BOUTIQUE" ABOVE THE OIL PAINTING OF GRAN.

RYDER (CONT'D)

Yeah, but I thought it was like
"you're my Bae"- Bae's Bridal..

RYDER STARES AT THE OIL PAINTING.

RYDER (CONT'D)

Why isn't she smiling?

RYDER STEPS CLOSER TO EXAMINE.

MAUDE

That is her smile.

EDISON IGNORES RYDER AND TURNS TO MAUDE.

EDISON

I'm Edison, and this is Ryder.

MAUDE POINTS TO HER NAMETAG. THEN POINTS TO FABIEN.

MAUDE

That's Fabien, he does shoes.

FABIEN DOESN'T LOOK UP FROM HIS MAGAZINE.

FABIEN

Ciao.

EDISON

I love Italian! And who are you?

EDISON AND RYDER WALK OVER TO LORRAINE WHO KEEPS MOVING AROUND THE BRIDE'S SKIRT TO HIDE FROM THEM.

BRIDE

That's Lorraine. She's a bit bashful,
but does great work!

MAUDE

This is Miss. Thomas, soon to be-

BRIDE

Mrs. Mulberry.

MAUDE

It's Mrs. Mulberry's...third? Wedding
with us. I do believe.

BRIDE

Third and last! I can feel it!

EDISON

Is the 4th one free, like at Subway?

BRIDE

I like her!

RYDER

Well your dress is very unique!

BRIDE

Thank you! It's from my mother's
second shotgun wedding.

EDISON PULLS OUT HER PHONE AND TAKES A PICTURE OF THE BIG
CAMO DRESS.

EDISON

I just love that our shop is a part of
your statement making big day!

BRIDE IS CONFUSED BUT NODS.

EDISON (CONT'D)

What better way to bring a voice to
gun control, than a day when all eyes
are on you!

MAUDE INTERVENES AND PULLS OUT A RACK OF DRESSES FROM THE
BACK FOR THE SISTERS TO CHECK OUT.

MAUDE

Why don't ya'll check out our wares
over here and leave Lorraine to her
work?

EXCITEDLY THE SISTERS START PULLING OUT DRESSES, HOLDING
THEM UP TO THEMSLEVES AND LOOKING DOWN. THE FIRST DRESS HAS
INSANELY PUFFY SLEEVES, THE SECOND HAS A BODICE THAT LOOKS
LIKE A BOLERO JACKET. THE SISTER'S EXCITEMENT IS NOW DEAD.

THEY BEGIN FRANTICALLY COMBING THROUGH THE RACKS.

EDISON

No, no, no, nono!

RYDER

Is this like a Spencer's Gifts but for
brides?

EDISON

There must be more inventory in the
back. Right Maude?

RYDER

There has to be..

FABIEN HAS BEEN WATCHING AMUSEDLY FROM HIS BENCH. MAUDE
STANDING CROSSE ARMED. NODS TO THE SISTERS.

MAUDE

Yep. We got more in the back.

EDISON

Fantastic!

MAUDE

All the same styles, just different
sizes.

EDISON

Oh my Goddess.

EDISON TURNS TO FABIEN PANICKED.

EDISON (CONT'D)

Fabien, right?

FABIEN NODS.

EDISON (CONT'D)

Fabien, please tell me our shoes
aren't in the same situation.

FABIEN

Io no comprendo.

FABIEN TURNS BACK TO HIS MAGAZINE.

MAUDE

Shoes don't sell as well now that we have a Wal-Mart. He doesn't like to talk about it.

RYDER

How are these the only dresses you have?

MAUDE

Welp. When the textile factory went under in Bossier, Bea won them in the liquidation auction. Thousands of them enough to keep the boutique's inventory full for years at a fraction of the price.

THE SISTERS LOOK DISGUSTED.

RYDER

And how many years ago was this?

EDISON PULLS ANOTHER DRESS OFF THE RACK AND EXAMINES IT, TRYING TO VISUALLY CARBON DATE IT.

EDISON

Looks like early Madonna.

MAUDE

Enough that we haven't had a need to replenish since I started in '94.

GRABBING THE DRESS FROM EDISON, RYDER APPROACHES LORRAINE.

RYDER

So if your like the seamstress, isn't
there anything you can do to update
these?

JUMPING TO LORRAINE'S DEFENSE.

BRIDE

Oh sweetheart, she already has.

LORRAINE NODS IN AGREEMENT.

LORRAINE

I've done all I can with what we have.

MAUDE STEPS IN TO DEFEND LORRAINE.

MAUDE

If it wasn't for Lorraine, we'd have
half of the variety we do.

RYDER PUTS THE DRESS BACK ON THE RACK, DEJECTED. EDISON RUBS
HER TEMPLES.

EDISON

Okay, well, is there anything else you
need to show me about the shop?

THE STAFF RELPIES IN UNISON.

MAUDE

Naw.

LORRAINE

No.

FABIEN

Non.

THE SISTERS LOOK AT EACH OTHER.

BRIDE

So which type of gun do ya'll think
goes best with this dress?

BRIDE LIFTS HER SKIRT TO REVEAL A BEDAZZLED GUN HOLSTER
GARTER BELT ON HER THIGH.

INT. GATOR'S PUB- NIGHT

RYDER AND EDISON SIT AT A HIGH TOP TABLE. TWO EMPTY SHOT
GLASSES SIT NEXT TO THEIR WHISKEY AND A RUM & COKE.

RYDER

Not only is there nothing to sell, but
they don't even treat us like the boss
babes we are!

EDISON

I just think they do some things
different out here Ryder.

EDISON TAKES A DRINK OF HER RUM & COKE THOUGHTFULLY.

RYDER

Yeah, I'd say so.. Ooo, I have an idea-
write this down.

EDISON READIES HER PEN.

RYDER (CONT'D)

An ad in one of those paper things,
that the Wall Street guys all read!

EDISON

A newspaper? Ryder we are in a
different state, not the 1800's.

RYDER

I'm out of ideas.

EDISON

Me too.

RYDER

Let me order us some more thinking
juice.

EDISON

I think that's the best idea you've
had all week!

RYDER

Thanks! Wait..

RYDER WAVES AT GATOR FOR 2 MORE - NO 4 MORE SHOTS. GATOR
STARTS POURING.

INT. GRANS BOUTIQUE - NEXT DAY

RYDER AND EDISON ARE BARELY ON TIME TO THE SHOP, AND THEY ARE
CLEARLY HUNG OVER, THEY MOSEY FROM THE BACK DOOR OF THE SHOP.

MAUDE, FABIEN AND LORRAINE GLARE AT THE SISTERS.

RYDER

What did I do now?!

MAUDE

Not you, your sister.

EDISON THROWS HER ARMS UP DEFENSIVELY.

EDISON

I don't know what you're talking
about, I have not lit one candle since
arriving!

FABIEN POINTS TO THE FRONT OF THE STORE.

FABIEN

La linea!

THE SISTERS RUSH TO THE FRONT OF THE STORE AND PULL THE
CURTAINS TO LOOK OUTSIDE.

EDISON

Is that-

RYDER

A line!

THE SISTERS TURN EXCITEDLY.

EDISON

I did this? How? If, I did do this..

Isn't it good?

LORRAINE SHYLY PULLS OUT HER PHONE AND SHOWS EDISON HER SOCIAL MEDIA POST.

RYDER

Edison! Your post went viral!

EDISON

This is great! Foot traffic!

LORRAINE STARTS BITING HER NAILS.

MAUDE

Lorraine, why don't you go work on Mrs. Mulberry's alterations in the back- we'll holler if we need anything from you sweetie.

LORRAINE SCURRIES TO THE BACK. FABIEN STRAITHENS HIS VEST AND FACES THE DOORS READYING HIMSELF FOR A STAMPEDE.

MAUDE (CONT'D)

Since it's y'all's big day, ya'll should open the doors.

THE SISTERS APPROACH THE DOUBLE DOORS EACH TAKE ONE, TWIST THE LOCK AND SWING THEM OPEN.

EDISON

Welcome you gorgeous creatures!

6 WOMEN FLOW INTO THE SHOP. WOMAN 1 IS IN HER 30'S ENTERS WHILE LIVE STREAMING ON HER PHONE WITH HER MAID OF HONOR. WOMAN 2 IS IN HER LATE 50'S AND PUT TOGETHER. WOMAN 3 IS IN HER LATE 20'S DRESSED IN GEEK CHIC. WOMAN 4-6 ARE IN THEIR 40'S, WOMAN 4 IS THE BRIDE, WOMAN 5-6 ARE BRIDESMAIDS.

WOMAN 1
(to her phone)

This decor, can you believe it!

FABIEN RUNS TO AN OLD CD PLAYER BEHIND THE FRONT COUNTER AND PRESSES PLAY. 90'S EURO RUNWAY MUSIC STARTS PLAYING.

WOMAN 5 AND WOMAN 6 APPROACH MAUDE.

WOMAN 5

I'll take a champagne for our bride
please.

WOMAN 6 POINTS TO WOMAN 4 WHO IS WEARING A SASH THAT SAYS "BRIDE".

MAUDE

I'll grab her a Dixie cup of water.

WOMAN 2 IS ROAMING WITH HER NOSE IN THE AIR LIKE A WOLF TRYING TO CATCH A SCENT.

WOMAN 2

I forgot that the 80's smelled like
Aqua Net and Noxzema.

WOMAN 2 SNIFFS THE AIR THEN GRABS A SLEEVE OF A DRESS ON A RACK AND SNIFFS IT.

WOMAN 2 (CONT'D)

Yeah...no... Reminds me too much of my
1st wedding.

WOMAN 2 TURNS AND HEADS BACK TO THE DOOR. RYDER DRAMATICALLY HOPS IN FRONT OF HER TO SAVE THE SALE.

RYDER

The latest fashion experts say
nostalgia is the latest trend!

WOMAN 2

Nostalgia only works for fond memories
sweetie.

WOMAN 2 EXITS. WOMAN 3 IS SIFTING THROUGH A BACK RACK, HER
FLIPS BECOME FASTER AS EACH DRESS DISSAPPOINTS.

WOMAN 3

I want to speak to the manager!

MAUDE INSTICTIVELY APPROACHES. BUT EDISON STOPS HER, EDISON
WILL TALK TO HER.

EDISON

Find everything you're looking for?

WOMAN 3

No, that why I want to speak to you.

EDISON

Were you looking for something with
puffier arms... or.. more Princess
Leia?

WOMAN 3

Yes, actually! More Princess Leia! Do
you have anything like that?

EDISON

We have this-

EDISON GRABS A DRESS WITH OFF-THE-SHOULDER SLEEVES AND WHAT
APPEARS TO BE A LACE BIB.

WOMAN 3

I thought you did themed weddings! All
I see here are dresses that should
have seen the same fate as Michael
Jackson's hair.

EDISON

Set on fire in the 80's?

WOMAN 3

Exactly.

WOMAN 3 STORMS OUT. RYDER SCURRIES TO THE FITTING PLATFORM
AND TRIES TO RALLY THE REMAINING 4 CUSTOMERS.

RYDER

Does anyone else need any help?

ALL REMAINING 4 WOMAN RAISE THEIR HANDS. EDISON, RYDER,
MAUDE, AND FABIEN ALL RUN TO A WOMAN TO HELP. THEY INSTANTLY
START COMPLAINING, AND THE VOLUME INCREASES.

MAUDE

(to Woman 4)

Ma'am you can yelp at me all you want
here, I don't understand why you need
your phone for that.

LORRAINE PEEKS HER HEAD OUT AT THE CHAOS AND QUICKLY RECEDES
BACK TO HER BACK ROOM. EVERYONE IS TALKING OVER EACH OTHER.

CUT TO:

INT. GRANS BOUTIQUE - LATER THAT DAY

THE WHOLE GANG LOOKS LIKE THEY'VE GONE TO WAR. FABIEN FANS
HIMSELF, MAUDE SITS DEFEATED IN A PUFFY LOUNGE CHAIR, AND
EDISON STANDS MASSAGING HER TEMPLES AT THE RECEPTION DESK.
LORRAINE IS PASSING DIXIE CUPS OF WATER TO EVERYONE LIKE A
NURSE ON A BATTLEFIELD. RYDER LOCKS THE FRONT DOORS. RYDER
TURNS AND RESTS HER BACK ON THE DOORS.

RYDER
(TO EDISON)

I have never worked so hard in my
life! How Much did we make?

EDISON

"We" lost money.

RYDER

How?!

MAUDE

I reckon it's 'cause we sold zilch.
And y'all still have to pay us for the
day.

RYDER

Do I get paid?

EDISON

No Ryder, we don't get paid until the
business makes money. And this fiasco
today may have even damaged the
boutique's reputation.

MAUDE LOOKS AT THE CLOCK.

MAUDE

Well, my shifts over. Y'all have fun
contemplating your life choices.

MAUDE, FABIEN & LORRAINE LEAVE OUT OF THE BACK. EDISON GRABS
HER BAG AND GESTURES FOR RYDER TO GET UP OFF THE FLOOR SO
THEY CAN LEAVE. AS THEY TURN TO THE BACK DOOR, THERE IS A
KNOCK ON THE DOOR.

EDISON WALKS TO THE DOOR.

RYDER
(Yells)

We are closed! Come back tomorrow!

EDISON WAVES RYDER TO SETTLE DOWN AND OPENS THE DOOR.
STANDING IN A SHARP SUIT IS BEAU BABINEAUX, THE
PERSONIFICATION OF SILVER FOX (A LA MARK CONSUELOS).

RYDER (CONT'D)

Edison, invite the man in!

EDISON
(Fumbling)

Of course! Welcome to Bea's Southern
Belles Bridal Boutique. Are you lost?

BEAU

Good evening. My apologies for
dropping in so late. I should have
called ahead.

RYDER

No need! Are you looking for something
for a special someone?

RYDER IS PRODDING.

EDISON

Or yourself!? We are open minded here
at Bea's!

BEAU LAUGHS.

BEAU

I was hoping to speak with the owner,
Bea.

EDISON

My sister Ryder and I are now the
owners, as Gran has passed on.

BEAU NODS KNOWINGLY.

BEAU

My condolences for your loss. She was
a formidable woman.

RYDER

You knew Gran?

BEAU

I knew of her.

EDISON MOTIONS FOR BEAU TO SIT ON ONE OF THE POOFY ARM
CHAIRS. BEAU SITS SEDUCTIVLY ON THE ARM INSTEAD.

RYDER

How can we help you....?

BEAU

Beau. Beau Babineaux.

EDISON

Well Beau, how can we be of service to
you?

BEAU

On the contrary, I am here to be of
service to you. I would like to make
you both a proposition.

RYDER

Oh?

RYDER (CONT'D)
(To Edison)

I did not know that "propositions"
were legal down here!

RYDER BOOSTS HER CLEAVAGE.

EDISON

I believe he means a business
proposition, Ryder.

RYDER

I mean business too.

EDISON PUSHES HER SISTER GENTLY ASIDE AND APPROACHES BEAU.

BEAU

I'd like to make you ladies an offer
for Bea's.

BEAU PULLS A BUSINESS CARD FROM HIS BREAST POCKET AND HANDS
IT TO EDISON. HE HOLDS IT FIRMLY SO WHEN EDISON GRABS IT
SHE'S STUCK LOOKING AT HIM FOR A LITTLE TOO LONG.

BEAU (CONT'D)

Or rather my company would like to
make you an offer.

RYDER GRABS THE CARD FROM EDISON WHO IS FLUSTERED AND READS
IT.

RYDER

David's Bridal? Don't you have your
own wedding dresses?

BEAU

Yes, but we'd like to purchase Bea's
and turn this location into a David's.

RYDER

For money?

BEAU

Yes.

BEAU GETS UP AND HEADS TO THE DOOR.

BEAU (CONT'D)

Call me if you have any questions.

I'll be in touch.

BEAU LEAVES. EDISON RUSHES TO LOCK THE DOOR. THE SISTERS LOOK AT EACH OTHER BEFORE HUGGING EXCITEDLY- IT'S APPARENT THEY DO NOT HUG OFTEN.

RYDER

I wonder which one of us he wants to

be in touch with more!

RYDER FANS HERSELF OFF WITH BEAU'S BUSINESS CARD.

ACT 3INT. GRANS HOUSE - NEXT MORNING

EDISON SITS AT THE KITCHEN TABLE IN HER JAPANESE ROBE SIPPING HER FRENCH PRESS COFFEE AND TRYING TO CRUNCH NUMBERS WITH HER FEATHER PEN, A NOTEBOOK AND A CALCULATOR. SHE HAS BEEN AT IT ALL MORNING. RYDER STROLLS IN, WEARING A VERY CUTE RETRO HAT WHILE IN HER PAJAMA T-SHIRT AND SHORTS. RYDER GRABS A MUG AND SITS AT THE TABLE WITH EDISON, POURING HERSELF A CUP OF COFFEE.

RYDER

I don't know how - or why - you get up so early.

EDISON

I don't know how you could possibly sleep as much as you do, nevertheless with all of this going on.

EDISON GESTURES AT HER PAPERS AND THE HOUSE.

RYDER

Show me what you've got so far.

EDISON PUSHES SOME PAPERS IN FRONT OF RYDER.

EDISON

David's is offering a fair amount-
SHE POINTS TO A SPOT ON A PAPER.

RYDER

Great, so we take it!

EDISON

But it would just cover the amount of
back taxes.

EDISON POINTS TO A DIFFERENT SPOT ON THE PAGE.

EDISON (CONT'D)

So we wouldn't make any money.

RYDER

But we'd be free of this place.

EDISON

You mean free of hard work?

RYDER

Some of us weren't made for retail..

EDISON SCOFFS AND NOTICES THE VINTAGE HAT ON RYDER'S HEAD.

EDISON

That's a cute hat.

RYDER REACHES UP, SHE HAD FORGOT SHE WAS WEARING IT.

RYDER

Right?!

EDISON

Have you always had that?

RYDER

Nope, I found it last night when I was
exploring after I couldn't fall asleep.

EDISON

It's really nice.

RYDER

Gran has a million of these and a bunch of vintage clothes in that back room.

EDISON

That room we were never allowed in as kids?

RYDER

Yes! The one Gran told us was full of quicksand!

THEY RUSH DOWN THE HALL.

INT. GRANS BOUTIQUE - DAY

THE STAFF IS IN THEIR USUAL SPOTS, MAUDE AT THE FRONT, FABIEN AT HIS COBBLER DESK, AND LORRAINE IN THE CENTER PINNING A DRESS ON A DRESS FORM.

MAUDE

I can't believe they are late again.

FABIEN

Maybe they went back to Nuovo York.

LORRAINE

Be nice. They're new.

MAUDE

They live upstairs! There's no reason on the Lord's green earth why they shouldn't be here already!

EDISON AND RYDER BURST IN THE BACK OF THE BOUTIQUE. RYDER HAS AN ARMFUL OF DRESSES AND EDISON PULLS A FLYER WAGON FILLED OF DRESSES INTO THE BOUTIQUE.

RYDER

Sorry we were late again!

MAUDE

Y'all hit an estate sale on the way
in?

EDISON

I guess we did in a way!

EDISON AND RYDER EACH PULL OUT A CUTE VINTAGE DRESS TO
DISPLAY TO THE STAFF.

RYDER

We spent the morning raiding Gran's
closet!

LORRAINE RAISES HER HAND AKWARDLY.

EDISON

Yes, Lorraine?

LORRAINE

Ummm...why?

EDISON

RYDER

Upcycling!

Upcycling!

THE STAFF LOOKS AT THEM CONFUSED.

MAUDE

Like a Goodwill?

RYDER PUTS THE DRESSES DOWN AND RUMMAGES THROUGH HER BAG FOR
A SKETCH BOOK. SHE HANDS THE BOOK TO LORRAINE.

RYDER

Lorraine, I was thinking we- or rather
you, could use my drawings to alter
these dresses into something more
bridal and fashionable.

LORRAINE FLIPS THROUGH THE PAGES, SHE SMILES AND NODS.

LORRAINE

Yeah, I think I can do that.

EDISON

We know you can.

LORRAINE BLUSHES AND TURNS AWAY. EDISON PULLS A PAIR OF VINTAGE SHOES FROM THE BOTTOM OF THE WAGON AND HANDS TO FABIEN.

EDISON (CONT'D)

Fabien, we found s bunch of old
leather shoes that need repairs and
maybe some updating.

RYDER

Do you think you'd be up for the job?

FABIEN LOOKS OVER THE PAIR UNDER A LAMP AND WITH A MAGNIFYING GLASS. HE SLOWLY LOOKS UP AT RYDER & EDISON AND NODS WITH A SMALL SMILE.

FABIEN

Challenge Accettato!

THE GIRLS TURN TO MAUDE, THEY DON'T WANT TO LEAVE HER OUT.

RYDER

And Maude, I was thinking you-

MAUDE SHOOTS HER A DAGGER STARE.

EDISON

You're doing great, keep it up!

MAUDE NODS. SHE'S NOT CHANGING A THING.

INT. GRANS BOUTIQUE - LATER THAT DAY

RYDER LOCKS THE FRONT DOORS BUT WITH PEP IN HER STEP. HER DRAWINGS ARE TAPED UP ALONG THE WALLS AND VARIOUS GRAN'S DRESSES HANG ON FORMS IN FRONT OF THEM IN DIFFERENT STATED OF PINNING AND ALTERATIONS. THE STAFF IS BUZZING WITH REJUVENATED ENERGY, THE SISTERS HAVE A NEW SENSE OF FULFILLMENT.

EDISON GOES TO GIVE LORRAINE A HIGH FIVE FOR A GREAT DAY OF WORK- BUT LORRAINE CAN'T - SHE HAS BANDAIDS ALL OVER HER FINGERS FROM BEING PRICKED WITH ALTERATION NEEDLES ALL DAY. THEY BUMP HIPS INSTEAD AND LORRAINE BLUSHES AS THEY BOTH GIGGLE.

FABIEN HANGS HIS POLISHING APRON UP AND STRAIGHTENS HIMESLF UP. MAUDE SPITS HER CHEWING GUM INTO THE BIN BEHIND THE FRONT COUNTER AND WALKS UP TO EDISON.

MAUDE

I don't know about y'all- but I need a
drink.

EVERYONE NODS IN AGREEMENT.

EDISON

Go have fun and tomorrow we want each
of you to bring in your own ideas too!

THE STAFF HEAD OUT THE BACK DOOR.

EDISON (CONT'D)

What else do we need to do to lock up?

RYDER

Nothing. But we do have a call to
make.

EDISON

Oh?

RYDER

I felt something today Edison.
Something I haven't felt since art
school. I felt fulfilled. Having my
art come to life with Lorraine, and
Fabien... well... Goddess I never
thought I'd say this- but I want to
make the Bridal shop work and well...

EDISON

You don't want to sell out to David's
Bridal.

RYDER

No, I don't.

EDISON

Okay.

RYDER

Okay?

EDISON

Yeah, I felt that magic too. I felt it
with the staff- even Maude didn't look
like she wanted to skin us alive most
of the day. But more importantly, I
felt that magic with you. We haven't
gotten along like that in-

RYDER

Years. And to be honest, we weren't exactly setting Brooklyn on fire, were we?

THEY WALK TO THE ROTARY PHONE AND THERE'S A KNOCK ON THE DOOR. THE SISTERS' S LOOK AT EACH OTHER. RYDER OPENS THE DOOR AND THERE STANDS BEAU BABINEAUX.

BEAU

Good evening ladies.

RYDER

Beau!

EDISON

We were just about to-

BEAU

May I come in?

BEAU WALKS IN BEFORE THE SISTERS CAN RESPOND. HE WALKS AROUND INSPECTING RYDER'S DESIGNS.

BEAU (CONT'D)

These are good.

RYDER

Thank you.

RYDER BLUSHES UNCOMFORTABLY.

EDISON

I am glad you stopped by Beau. We wanted to discuss your offer.

BEAU

Serendipitous. So do I.

RYDER

We really appreciate your offer but-

BEAU TURNS TO THE SISTERS AND SMILES KNOWINGLY.

BEAU

I agree. I spoke to management and they've agreed to let me double it. After all two worldly and business savvy women such as yourself don't deserve to be low-balled.

BEAU REACHES FOR A HAND SHAKE WITH EDISON, WHICH HE TURNS INTO A HAND KISS.

BEAU (CONT'D)

I'll send over papers tomorrow. I'll bring champagne to celebrate. Don't worry about the lay-offs either, I'll handle everything.

BEAU WINKS AND WALKS OUT.

RYDER

Did he just try to seduce us into a deal?

EDISON

I am both angry and tantalized!

RYDER

How dare he use his sex appeal against us!

EDISON

Well I'm going to keep that champagne, and my dignity. Bea's will not succumb to big box patriarchy!

RYDER

If we don't take the deal, is it still
okay if I succumb to his "big box"?

INT. GRANS BOUTIQUE - NEXT DAY

THE SEATS IN THE SHOP FORM A SEMI CIRCLE FOR THE TEAM'S
BRAINSTORMING SESSION. EDISON PLACES PADS OF PAPER AND A PEN
ON EACH CHAIR AS MAUDE, LORRAINE, & FABIEN ENTER FROM THE
BACK.

RYDER ENTERS THROUGH THE FRONT DOOR, PUSHING THE DOOR OPEN
WITH HER FOOT. IN HER HANDS ARE A BOX OF DONUTS AND A PLATE
OF VEGGIES.

RYDER

I have donuts!

LORRAINE HELPS RYDER AND TAKES THE PLATE FROM HER HANDS.

LORRAINE

Ummmm, we call these vegetables here-
not donuts.

RYDER

These are the donuts, those are the
veggies.

LORRAINE NODS.

RYDER (CONT'D)

It's the G.F. option.

LORRAINE

Girlfriend option?

RYDER

Gluten free!

MAUDE TAKES THE TRAY OF VEGGIES FROM LORRAINE AND SLIDES IT INTO THE TRASH CAN.

MAUDE

We don't do that here.

FABIEN TAKES THE BOX OF DONUTS FROM RYDER AND PUTS IT ON THE COUNTER EXAMINING THE GOODIES. MAUDE SNATCHES THE BEAR CLAW, FABIEN THE STRAWBERRY GLAZED AND LORRAINE AN OLD FASHIONED.

EDISON

Okay team! Grab your seats, we want to hear all of your ideas!

THE STAFF AND EDISON TAKE THEIR SEATS. RYDER LOOKS SAD AT THE TRAY OF VEGGIES IN THE TRASH. SHE SLIDES IT OUT AND PLACES IT ON THE COUNTER NEXT TO THE DONUTS AND SLIDES A CARROT OUT.

EDISON (CONT'D)

Ryder, come on!

RYDER SHOVES THE CARROT IN HER MOUTH AND WALKS TO HER CHAIR.

SOMETHING OUTSIDE THE SHOP CATCHES HER EYES. SHE STOPS. MUNCHING HER CARROT LOUDLY.

EDISON (CONT'D)

Ryder! What are you starring at?

MAUDE

That's the shop where Hanks Haberdashery was before Burlington Coat Factory came to town. It's been vacant for almost a decade.

LORRAINE

It doesn't look so vacant now. There's a man waving.

RYDER POINTS AND MUMBLES SOMETHING.

MAUDE GETS UP TO INSPECT.

MAUDE

Well, shit in your hat and punch it.

LORRAINE, FABIEN AND EDISON JOIN MAUDE AND RYDER STARRING OUT
THE FRONT WINDOW OF THE SHOP.

EDISON

It's Beau- why is he waving?

LORRAINE

That's a big sign he's putting up.

"Future site of-

FABIEN

David's Bridal!

EDISON

Unbelievable.

THE STAFF LOOK FROM THE WINDOW TO THE SISTERS.

RYDER

I know this sucks. But we have
something David's doesn't.

LORRAINE

Debts?

FABIEN

Cataracts?

MAUDE

A lifetime supply of moth balls?

RYDER

What? No..

EDISON

(to Lorraine)

We have focus.

(to Fabien)

(MORE)

EDISON (CONT'D)

We have skill.
(To Maude)

We have knowledge of the locals.
(to Ryder)

We have creativity.

RYDER

And each other.

THEY STAND AS A UNITED FRONT. RYDER TURNS TO THE WINDOW AND FLICKS THE SIGN ACROSS THE STREET OFF. EDISON, THEN MAUDE AND FABIEN FOLLOW SUIT. LORRAINE TRIES- BUT SHE CAN'T. SHE GIVES THEM A THUMBS DOWN.

RYDER (CONT'D)
(to Lorraine)

Our city ways will rub off on you
eventually.

LORRAINE

I better make sure my vaccinations are
updated..