

THE MORNING SHOW

Season One, Episode 3

Bradley & Corey

INT. BARNEY'S - NIGHT

BRADLEY and COREY browse with a CLERK. Store to themselves.

BRADLEY

Am I supposed to be impressed you
can open Barneys?

COREY

You're supposed to be impressed
that I've got \$30,000 for you to
spend on whatever you want.

CLERK

Do you have a favorite silhouette?

BRADLEY

Pants.

CLERK

Pencil, cigarette, flared, high-
waisted, gaucho, drop-crotch...

COREY

You know what? Just bring us a
variety. We trust you. And throw in
some dresses too, please.

Clerk leaves. Bradley continues selecting clothing from the
racks.

COREY (CONT'D)

(To Bradley) Look, I get you're not
a typical woman, but try to see the
joy in a wardrobe upgrade.

BRADLEY

What is a typical woman?

COREY

You know, not everything is a
challenge.

BRADLEY

People usually say that when they
don't wanna be challenged.

COREY

Wow. You're fun.

BRADLEY

I'm tired. And I don't feel like
pretending Pretty Woman is my
favorite movie.

COREY

What is your favorite movie?

BRADLEY

What do you want my favorite movie to be?

COREY

I'm beginning to sense that you're very frustrated.

BRADLEY

Look, I don't wanna sound ungrateful. New clothes are fun. They're, they're... You know what's even more fun? Having your image workshopped by a focus group. I can't wait to hear how I'm gonna alienate Americans. I've been contending with the misogynistic world of journalism for 15 years. I've only been told about a thousand different ways I'm too liberal, too conservative, too in-between. "You have too much chin. You're not smiling enough. You're too brunette. Do you wanna go blonde? Where are your boobs? Quick, put your boobs out. Wait, put your boobs away. You're attracting men. You're scaring women. You know, try not to be so confrontational; men don't wanna fuck you. Don't be so angry; women feel criticized." But here, no, no, here, I'm gonna transform into the aspirational, inoffensive dream girl. Here, I'm gonna become the Mother Teresa of the morning news. Though I'm pretty sure that Mother Teresa had too many fucking wrinkles for HD. (THEN) All right, are we doing this? Let's go.

COREY

Mmhmm.

She enters the fitting room.

BRADLEY

I'm trying on a lot of clothes for someone without a signed contract.

COREY

It'll be ready tomorrow. You need a better agent.

BRADLEY

My agent is fine.

COREY

He's an idiot if he closes at \$700,000.

BRADLEY

I thought you were trying to get me on the cheap.

COREY

I don't mind paying someone what I think they're worth. You're single, right?

BRADLEY

Huh?

COREY

Single.

BRADLEY

What's that got to do with my contract?

COREY

So, you are? That's great. Good. Keep it that way. American women, they're getting married later, often not at all. Eggs frozen to be used another day, if at all. Men to be fucked but not needed for fulfillment. That's exciting, that's reality, and that is not on morning television.

Bradley exits the fitting room wearing a pantsuit.

BRADLEY

Okay. What do you think of this?

COREY

Oh, yeah. Right. Very Pantsuit Nation.

BRADLEY

Fuck off.

She looks for shoes to pair with the look.

COREY

No, I love it. I'm serious. It just, it... It reminds me of my mom.

BRADLEY

Seriously?

COREY

My mom is awesome, and she is gonna love you. Martha has never seen herself reflected on The Morning Show.

BRADLEY

Is this the mom you took care of after Daddy left?

COREY

Oh, I see. You think of her as, like, a sad, weak, abandoned woman?

BRADLEY

Hey, I didn't say that.

COREY

I took care of my mom, in the cooking her dinner and giving her hugs sense. Telling her to put her work away and go to bed. And I was, you know, a terrific 12-year-old mom to my mom.

BRADLEY

What does she do?

COREY

Retired now. She was a campaign organizer for progressive women who usually lost. Martha loved an easy sell.

BRADLEY

Like mother, like son.

COREY

How so?

BRADLEY

Peddling out to America a 40-year-old, single, childless woman who's a political independent?

COREY

I don't think you're a tough sell. We already have the housewives watching TMS. If we want to win the ratings war, we need the women who aren't watching, the ones that don't see themselves reflected in Ice Queen Alex. So, be messy. Let's do segments on the ways that you haven't "lived up." Be the narrative real women are living.