

You'll Be My Husband
(comedy)

Cast:

ANNIE BANCROFT - lead woman
BRIAN BUCKINGHAM - lead man
RYAN O'HENRY - American fiance
MAGGIE - ANNIE's cousine and friend
KELLY - BRIAN's secretaire
EMILIA BANCROFT - ANNIE's Mom
DR. ARTHUR BANCROFT - Psychologist, ANNIE's Dad
HELEN - DR. ARTHUR BANCROFT's assistant
AUNT MARY - MAGGIE's Mom, ANNIE's aunt

INT - CEO'S OFFICE AT A MULTINATIONAL COMPANY - DAY

BRIAN BUCKINGHAM, a handsome, young businessman in his late 30's is the CEO of a big multi company, sits behind his desk. He looks very busy, digs himself into the file folders and dossiers in front of him. In the background the wall is full glass, with beautiful view to the Inner Harbour and the Pacific Ocean. The office is lavishly furnished, shows a really successful venture. Suddenly one of the three phones on his desk rings. BRIAN picks up the phone.

BRIAN

Yes, KELLY?

KELLY, his secretary, is on the line. Her voice is excited.

KELLY (V.O.)

Sir, there is a woman here. She wants to talk to you.

BRIAN

Did she booked an appointment?

KELLY (V.O.)

No Sir. There is no appointment recorded for now.

BRIAN

Well, then send her away. I am busy. (beat) By the way, did she tell you what she wanted?

KELLY (V.O.)

No. The only thing she told that this was a serious family matter.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

BRIAN
(Surprisingly.) Oh. Family matter?
Serious? What's her name?

KELLY (V.O.)
Annie. Annie Bancroft.

BRIAN
Hmm. Doesn't ring the bell. (beat)
Anyway, send her in.

KELLY (V.O.)
Yes, Sir.

Seconds later a beautiful, young woman in her late 20's, ANNIE BANCROFT, enters the room. She is very determined and official.

ANNIE
Mr. Buckingham?

BRIAN
Yes, Ma'am. How can I help you?

ANNIE
Sir, I have to let you know that a woman uses your name in this town around. She pretends to be your wife.

BRIAN
(He is shocked by hearing this.)
What did you just say? This is outrageous.

He stands up and starts to walk excitedly. Suddenly he turns to ANNIE.

BRIAN (CONT'D)
Ma'am, do you happen to know who this woman is?

ANNIE
(shyly) Well...it's me...

BRIAN becomes so upset that suddenly he doesn't get the words.

BRIAN
But...but...this is unbelievable!
How dare you? (He stretches his hand to the phone.) I Call the police right away.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

ANNIE's determination disappears in a second and she starts begging.

ANNIE

Please Mr. Buckingham, don't call the police. Allow me to explain this unfortunate situation.

BRIAN

(Still very upset.) OK, then explain me! But I warn you that I will sue you for this fraud.

He crosses his arms on his chest, leans to the wall and gives an impatient, angry look at the woman. ANNIE sits down without even asking and poses comfortably in front of him.

BRIAN (CONT'D)

(Virulently.) Take a sit, Ma'am.

ANNIE

Sir, I suggest you to sit down, too.

BRIAN

No. I rather stand.

ANNIE

Well, it all started with the vacation. Maggie, my cousine, and I wanted to have some fun, so we booked an all inclusive vacation to Cancun in an elegant hotel. But for days we didn't have any success with men. Maggie figured out what the main problem was.

FADE IN:

FLASHBACK

EXT - CARIBBEAN BEACH - DAY

Camera set to ANNIE's point of view, so we see two pretty girls' legs in the beach sand with a beautiful view to the ocean. In the distance young people are having fun, windsurfers and sailboats fills out the panorama. We hear the girls talking.

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CONTINUED:

ANNIE (V.O.)

(With some disappointment in her voice.) Well, Maggie, it looks like everyone's having fun with their partners, except us. It seems that we are too old to be taken.

MAGGIE (V.O.)

You know, Annie, men don't like if women around 30 are still single. This makes them suspicious. They think there must be something wrong with this woman if nobody wanted to marry her so far.

ANNIE (V.O.)

Maybe we just haven't met the right guys, yet.

MAGGIE (V.O.)

Or they think we are too picky and have irrational expectations. Or we play to be princesses. They don't like it either.

ANNIE (V.O.)

So what can we do then?

MAGGIE (V.O.)

Hmm. I think, we should pretend that we are married. (beat) Yes, that's it! We tell everyone that we are married women. Just find out a well sound name, buy a brass ring from the dollarstore "et voila". We are ready for the dating game.

ANNIE (V.O.)

(Not convinced.) Yeah, But where are our husbands? Why are they not here with us?

MAGGIE (V.O.)

We left them home. Who cares? We are modern, emancipated women. Or we live in open marriages, ready for new relationships.

ANNIE (V.O.)

Huh, that sounds so dirty.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

MAGGIE (V.O.)
 C'mon girl! That what really
 excites men these days. The
 challenge that they can seduce a
 woman from her husband. That's
 their manly challenge.

ANNIE (V.O.)
 Hmm...not bad.

FADE OUT.

INT - CEO'S OFFICE AT A MULTI COMPANY - DAY

BRIAN
 I was in Cancun lately on a
 Business Conference. I don't
 remember we met there. So, how did
 you pick my name?

FADE IN:

FLASHBACK

EXT - CARIBBEAN BEACH HOTEL ROOM - DAY

ANNIE (V.O.)
 In our hotel room there were many
 pamphlets and magazines in the
 drawer all about the attractions
 of Cancun and the neighbourhood. I
 found your business card dropping
 out from a guide book. You
 probably used it to bookmark
 something. Your name and your
 photo on the card fitted well to
 our prank, so I chose to be Mrs.
 Buckingham, and Maggie became Mrs.
 Brian.

BRIAN
 And you didn't think that what if
 I married already?

ANNIE
 (Worrying.) Why? Are you married?

BRIAN
 No.

ANNIE
 See? We chose the right name then.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

BRIAN

OK, that's it. You two played your immature games but now it is time to put an end to it. Stop using my name and let's just forget about this nuisance, shall we? And now if you wouldn't mind, I am busy, so...

ANNIE

Well, there is something more.

BRIAN

(Suspiciously.)What? What more?

ANNIE

You know, the first night we went to the hotel disco and I met a wonderful guy, Ryan. He is a wealthy American from Texas. We really fell for each other and the end of the vacation he proposed me.

BRIAN

(Surprised.)Oh, so the prank worked. You really didn't waste your time to lure someone.

ANNIE

(Petulantly.)Don't gird at me. This is real love between us.

BRIAN

Then next time when you meet with this cowboy, you reveal your little lie. If he really loves you, he will forgive it. Then you'll live happily ever after.

ANNIE

No. He's from a very conservative family. He is so fragile, his heart will be broken. And there is some more...

BRIAN

(Angrily.)More? What else can be more than this?

ANNIE

He is here in the hall and wants to discuss the divorce with you.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

BRIAN is so surprised that he has to sit down. He cannot find the words.

ANNIE (CONT'D)
(Quietly, almost whispering.) I
told you to sit down.

Several seconds pass when BRIAN gets a grip on himself and decides what to do.

BRIAN
I think, I call the police.

ANNIE
(Starts begging.) No, Please don't!
You really want to ruin an
innocent girl's life and
happiness?

BRIAN
I don't think that girl is
innocent. She stirred up serious
complications with her lies.

ANNIE
(She is using her most innocent
look and charm.) Please, Do this
for me. Just this little thing.
Tell him that you agree with the
divorce and that's it. You will
never hear about us any more.

BRIAN
(He melts.) OK. Five minutes. But
if I hear about you again, I swear
I call the police.

ANNIE
(Happily.) Good. You are such a
nice guy! I promise you'll never
hear about us again.

ANNIE takes out her cellphone and calls her boyfriend.

ANNIE (CONT'D)
Honeybear, come up. We are waiting
for you.

BRIAN picks up the phone with a big sigh.

BRIAN
Katie, there is a man coming to
see me. Please, let him in.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

He makes an angry look towards ANNIE, but seconds later RYAN, the American from Texas enters the office. He is a tall, typically southern farmer guy wearing cowboy hat, jeans, boots etc. He has strong southern accent as well. He is a down to earth, conservative man.

RYAN

Hi mate! I hope we can arrange this issue as civilized people. I am sure Honeybee has already told you everything, so I just want to hear from you that you are cool with the situation and no bad feelings here.

BRIAN

Yes. Sure. You know, we hardly knew each other during our marriage (meaningful look at ANNIE.)

RYAN

Well then. Of course, you don't mind then, if I insist that Honeybee should move out from your home.

BRIAN

No. Not at all.

RYAN

(Surprised.) Oh, you're a gentleman. (He looks at ANNIE.)

BRIAN

Why? Have you ever doubt it?

RYAN

Well, a man who's so aggressive to his wife...

BRIAN

Oh, so this what she told you about me? (Looks at ANNIE.) So, you've complained about our marriage?

ANNIE

(With fear in her voice.) No, no...

RYAN

See? Even now she's afraid of you.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

BRIAN
(Upset.) This is...this is
outrageous. (He looks at ANNIE
wrathfully.)

ANNIE looks at him with begging eyes.

BRIAN (CONT'D)
OK, just forget it. (He changes
the topic.) Do you want to move
together with her?

RYAN
Not exactly. I guess, until you
divorce she should stay with her
parents. So, if you wouldn't mind,
we are leaving right now.

BRIAN
Yes, sure. No problem.

RYAN and ANNIE are preparing to leave.

BRIAN (CONT'D)
I advice you to be nice to her.

RYAN
Well, I won't abuse her like you.

BRIAN almost explodes.

BRIAN
Wait, can I speak some last words
with my wife?

RYAN
Why? I guess, we have discussed
everything.

BRIAN
I think I have right to say good
bye to my wife.

RYAN
(Thinking a sec.) OK, but I
suggest you not to be aggressive
to her...or I come back. (Turns to
ANNIE.) I'll be waiting for you in
the car.

RYAN leaves. BRIAN turns to ANNIE.

BRIAN
You're a witch! How could you tell
these terrible things about me?
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (5)

BRIAN (CONT'D)

This guy seems to be a decent man who loves you. What does he think about me?

ANNIE

(Innocently.) Mr. Buckingham, you are a successful, handsome man, every woman's dream in town. How could I make it believable that a wife would be able to divorce from such a great husband? (Innocent look.)

BRIAN

(Melts hearing this adulation.) OK...ok...enough. You know what? Just leave and don't involve me any more into this wondrous story. (beat) Oh, and by the way, just a good advice. I think you should tell the truth to your boyfriend. You cannot start a life lasting relationship with lie.

FADE OUT.

INT. - LIVING ROOM IN ANNIE'S HOME - DAY

FADE IN:

ANNIE's home is a bright, nice apartment. Her mom, EMILIA, and MAGGIE are sitting around the coffee table. They talk about the Cancun vacation and ANNIE's suddenly came fiance.

EMILIA

So Maggie, did you two have fun in Cancun?

MAGGIE

Yes, Aunt Emilia. Annie even found a serious relationship.

EMILIA

Serious? In only two weeks?

FLASHBACK

INT. - DISCO IN CANCUN. LIGHTS, LOTS OF YOUNG PEOPLE DANCING, DISCO MUSIC.

MAGGIE (V.O.)

Yes. The first few days were pretty boring but after then we settled in and took the rhythm of the atmosphere. Annie met RYAN at night in the hotel disco. They really fell in love.

FADE OUT.

EMILIA

And you?

MAGGIE

I wasn't so lucky. I had some dance partners but nothing serious.

EMILIA

And what makes you think that Annie's new relationship with this young man is serious?

MAGGIE

He is an American from Texas and he is already here in Victoria to propose her.

EMILIA

Oh. Isn't it too fast? I mean after two weeks they don't even know each other and this man is already here?

MAGGIE

(Excited.) Yes. And he wants to meet you and Uncle Arthur.

ANNIE arrives home.

ANNIE

Hi Ma. Hi Maggie. (She sits to the table between them.) Can I have some coffee?

She pours coffee for herself.

ANNIE (CONT'D)

So, what is the talk about?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

EMILIA

Hon, your cousine just told me that you met a handsome man in Cancun.

ANNIE looks at MAGGIE.

ANNIE

You told her? Did you tell everything? I wanted to talk about it. You're so chatty.

MAGGIE

Well, I didn't tell everything.

EMILIA

Oh, so there is something more?

EMILIA senses something fishy here, so she becomes suspicious.

EMILIA (CONT'D)

Annie! What is is? Get out with it.

ANNIE speaks shyly.

ANNIE

Well, Ma. The problem is that I lied to this guy. I said I was married. I didn't want to be seen like a spinster.

EMILIA becomes very upset.

EMILIA

How could you do that? This is not what you learnt from us. We taught you to be always honest. What if your father gets to know this? Who's idea was to lie?

MAGGIE proudly.

MAGGIE

It was mine, Emilia!

EMILIA looks at the girls.

EMILIA

Shame on you girls! Now the first thing you have to do is make it right.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

EMILIA (CONT'D)

(She turns to ANNIE.) You have to talk with this man and tell everything honestly, before he proposes you.

ANNIE startles.

ANNIE

But Ma. Then he calls back the whole proposal.

EMILIA is very determined.

EMILIA

No matter how he reacts, you have to do the right thing. If he is really serious, he may forgive you.

ANNIE and MAGGIE both sigh deeply.

MAGGIE

Hmm...Annie, she has a point. I am afraid we didn't think about it. (To herself.) But who thought that this idiot would propose you?

ANNIE angrily looks at MAGGIE.

ANNIE AND EMILIA TOGETHER

Maggie!!!

FADE OUT.

INT - HOTEL ROOM SOMEWHERE IN DOWNTOWN - DAY

ANNIE and RYAN prepare to go to ANNIE's father, ARTHUR's office to tell about their relationship.

ANNIE

RYAN, before we go to meet my father, I have to tell you something.

RYAN

(He hugs ANNIE.) You don't have to tell me anything, Sweetheart. I know your father is a psychologist and has a stressful job. He works in his office day and night.

ANNIE

Yes, but...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

RYAN

(Stops her talking with a kiss.)
Everything's gonna be fine, Baby.

ANNIE

But...

RYAN kisses her again. ANNIE gives it up.

ANNIE (CONT'D)

OK, so here is the address of my father's office. We meet there in 30 minutes. I have to drop in to Aunt Mary to invite her to our Proposal Dinner. Wait for me there in the waiting room.

RYAN

OK, Honeybee. As you wish. (They hugs again.)

FADE OUT.

EXT - HIGHWAY SOMEWHERE IN THE OUTSKIRT OF TOWN - DAY

ANNIE is standing near her car. She has a flat tire. She tries to call RYAN but there is no receiving. She is very upset.

INT. - ARTHUR BANCROFT'S PSYCHIATRIC OFFICE - DAY

ARTHUR talks to his assistant, HELEN.

ARTHUR

Helen, please look out to the waiting room and check if our client has arrived yet. He is very instable and afraid of any doctor's visit so maybe he won't show up.

HELEN

Who is that client, Doctor?

ARTHUR

You don't know him. His family booked his appointment directly with me. He is a serious case. Please introduce him to the client's database as he arrives.

HELEN opens the door and looks out to the waiting room. She notices RYAN and turns to ARTHUR.

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CONTINUED:

HELEN

Oh, he is here already.

ARTHUR

Then let him in, please.

HELEN turns to RYAN and invites him inside.

HELEN

Sir, come in please. The Doctor is waiting for you.

RYAN is surprised.

RYAN

Oh, did he know that I would come?

HELEN

Yes. Your family has already booked the appointment.

RYAN

Oh, I see. Bunny already called him.

HELEN

(Supporting and understanding.)
Yes, yes. A big bunny already called us.

RYAN

But Bunny said that I should wait for her here and we talk with the Doctor together.

HELEN

(Patiently.) No Sir. Bunny will come later. You should come in now.

RYAN

(Hesitating.) OK...

RYAN stand up and enter the office together with HELEN.
RYAN looks at ARTHUR with a wide smile.

RYAN (CONT'D)

Dr. Bancroft?

ARTHUR

Yes.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

RYAN

I am confident, if I say I am Jimmy, you already know everything.

ARTHUR

Well, maybe I don't know everything but I suspect a lot...

ARTHUR steps to RYAN and looks in his eyes, checks his arms, behind his ears etc. as doctors do when examining patients.

RYAN

(He doesn't understand this strange behaviour. He is getting unsecure.) So, I am Jimmy.

ARTHUR

(Keeps examining.) Very well. And what is your family name?

RYAN

Cartwell.

ARTHUR

Good. Very good.(beat) Ok, now you take off your clothes.

RYAN

(Surprised.) What?

ARTHUR

Take off your jacket, shirt and everything from waist above.

RYAN

Why?

ARTHUR

Because I want to examine you.

RYAN doesn't understand it but suddenly he brightens up.

RYAN

Ah, so! I understand you. (He starts to undress.) As a matter of fact, I think this should be a good routine everywhere in the world. Before you get married, you should be physically examined.

Now ARTHUR is the one who doesn't understand it but he plays along.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

ARTHUR

Yes, yes. So you want to get married?

RYAN

Yes. That's why I am here.

ARTHUR

Is that so? And who do you want to marry?

RYAN

Your daughter.

ARTHUR

(Surprised.) My daughter? How do you know I have a daughter?

RYAN

We met a few weeks ago and now I am serious with our relationship. But of course, she has to divorce first.

ARTHUR was confused first but from now everything is clear.

ARTHUR

Ah, so! My daughter. The married one! Of course! I know everything about it. Just calm down and tell me how you feel.

While RYAN talks ARTHUR moves his pointing finger in front of RYAN's face. Then he takes a little reflex hammer from HELEN and hits RYAN's knees a few times. RYAN doesn't really understand all of this but tries not to complain about it. He takes it as a strange work habit from ARTHUR. He thinks that every psychologist is crazy a little bit.

RYAN

You know, we just met your daughter's husband this morning. He seemed a nice guy, agreed the divorce right away. (Thinking.) You know, I have a feeling that he doesn't love your daughter. So, I am in the right time at the right place to save your baby girl from a bad marriage. Am I not? (He looks at them laughing.)

ARTHUR and HELEN forcibly laugh with him.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

ARTHUR

Yes, yes. He is a nice guy.

RYAN turns to ARTHUR.

RYAN

So, ARTHUR, I am here to announce that I want to marry your daughter. Do you agree?

ARTHUR

Of course, I agree.
Congratulations for you two.

Both ARTHUR and HELEN are happy for RYAN. They shake his hands.

RYAN

(Meditating.) You Canadians are so nice. Everybody agree with everything right at the first moment.

ARTHUR

Oh, we are very supportive, really. But before my daughter divorces, you should take these pills.

RYAN

(Suspicious.) Why should I take these pills?

ARTHUR

It makes you feel better.

RYAN

(Thinking awhile, suddenly he figures it out.) Oh, I've heard about this Canadian drug legalization. Wow, that's cool! Modern thinking from a ARTHUR. (He observes the pills.) Ah, these pills are blue. (Looks at ARTHUR with a sly glance as man to man.) Isn't it Viagra? You're a son-of-a-bitch, ARTHUR. (Laughing.)

ARTHUR agrees with everything whatever the "patient" says as he doesn't want to upset him. He laughs together with RYAN.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (5)

ARTHUR

Yes, yes. I want you to feel great. And now you can go. See you next week in the same time.

RYAN

But ARTHUR. I am waiting for your daughter here.

ARTHUR

No, no. She won't come. You just go home.

RYAN

Won't she come? We agreed to meet here.

ARTHUR

I assure you, she won't come. She is probably with her husband and talking about the divorce. Bye now.

ARTHUR and HELEN are pushing out RYAN together. When they escorted him out, ARTHUR comes back exhausted.

ARTHUR (CONT'D)

Phew, this one seems to be a serious case.

FADE OUT.

EXT - HIGHWAY SOMEWHERE IN THE OUTSKIRT OF TOWN - DAY

ANNIE is still at her car, helpless, doesn't know what to do, how to get help. Suddenly someone comes jogging from the bushes. It is BRIAN. When he reaches ANNIE, he stops. He is surprised.

BRIAN

Is it you? What are you doing here?

ANNIE feels embarrassed.

ANNIE

My car...I think I have a flat tire.

BRIAN

(Takes his cellphone.) We should call the Road service.

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CONTINUED:

ANNIE

I have tried already but there is no receiving here.

BRIAN

Well...then we should find a better spot. Or a cafe house nearby. (beat) Why don't you lock your car and come with me to find help?

ANNIE hesitates for a short time but then she locks the car.

ANNIE

Hmm...thank you, your really nice to help me.

BRIAN

(With a smile.) Maybe I am not so abusing as you described me to your fiance.

ANNIE

(Blushing.) Oh, I am really sorry. I didn't mean that.

BRIAN

OK, no problem. (Changes topic.) So, I know a lovely place not far from here. They must have phone or good receiving. Let's go. From there we can call help.

ANNIE joins BRIAN and they walk away on the jogging trail. While walking, they start a conversation.

BRIAN (CONT'D)

So Annie, how did you meet your fiance?

ANNIE

It's not so extraordinary. We met in the disco at the hotel in Cancun. He was so different, so charming.

BRIAN

Well, there are lots of guys charming and different. I am an old school guy myself...maybe not so charming, though.

ANNIE looks at him with meaningfully. We notice that she sees him really charming.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

BRIAN (CONT'D)

(Continues.) He must have more than that, since choosing someone for a lifetime must make him very special.

ANNIE

(She shows enthusiasm.) Well, he is so thoughtful, generous. He is real gentleman. Respects women, he behaves like a knight in shining armour.

BRIAN

I know many guys around who respect women and act charming to ladies...

ANNIE looks at him seriously.

ANNIE

You don't think we are perfect for each other?

BRIAN

(Apologizing.) No, no. I just wonder what the secret is being so irresistible. I mean, saying "I do" after two weeks...

ANNIE doesn't answer.

BRIAN (CONT'D)

Anyway, it's not my business, right? (Changes topic.) Look! How beautiful the ocean is. Can you see those birds there?

They reach the ocean beach and go to the water. On the rocks BRIAN gives a helping hand to ANNIE. She hesitates but accept it. BRIAN picks up some stones and plays stone skipping on the water surface. ANNIE follows him. She is not successful at first. BRIAN shows her how to do it.

BRIAN (CONT'D)

Choose the thin flat stones...and throw them in low angle.

ANNIE tries it and now she is more successful. They laugh out loud. They start to enjoy each other's company.

BRIAN (CONT'D)

You know...when I was a kid I came out here whenever I was in bad mode.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

BRIAN (CONT'D)

The ocean always calms me down.
Look at this enormous water mass.
How magnificent, how
worshipful...Nature in its own
marvelousness.

ANNIE

(Looks at him.) Hardly can believe
that you can ever have bad mode...

BRIAN

We all have ups and downs...

They keep silent for a minute. Then they sit down on a
big white rock.

ANNIE

How is that such a young and
successful businessman like you
hasn't gotten married yet?

BRIAN

(Throwing stones in the water.)
Usual story. Just right when I
finished the university, my father
died. I am a sole child of my
parents, so I had to take over the
company. I just simply doesn't
have time to take care of my
private life.

ANNIE

But I am sure you have a beautiful
girlfriend.

BRIAN

I don't have time...not even for a
girlfriend.

They look at each other, then shyly look away. Then they
stand up and walk again.

ANNIE

Where is this cafe you mentioned
before? I wouldn't mind a cup of
coffee.

BRIAN

Not far from here. Do you want
jogging there with me?

ANNIE

I am not dressed to run, but...why
not?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

She starts to run laughing.

ANNIE (CONT'D)

Catch me if you can!

BRIAN laughs and runs after the girl. ANNIE stops and looks around.

ANNIE (CONT'D)

Actually, this is the neighbourhood where my aunt Mary lives. Oh, my gosh! I wanted to visit her. She lives in the next street.

BRIAN

Well, then you can call the Road Service from her. I think you can manage from here.

ANNIE

Yes, I think so. (She turns to BRIAN.) Well...thank you for staying with me. I am OK from here.

She gives a hand to say good bye but just when they touch each other, an old lady shows up at the corner and calls them.

AUNT MARY

Annie, hi Honey!

They look around and they see a lady in her 60's coming towards them. She holds a bunch of flowers.

AUNT MARY (CONT'D)

Look Hon, how beautiful flowers I got from Irene, my friend. (She looks at BRIAN.) And you...you must be Annie's fiance.

They shocked of embarrassment. ANNIE tries to save the situation.

ANNIE

Oh, Aunt Mary! You are here? I thought you are home...

AUNT MARY

Of course I am home waiting for you two. I wanted to present you with some pretty bunch of flowers but the rain beat all last week.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (5)

AUNT MARY (CONT'D)

Irene helped me out with this beauty. Here you are, hon, take it.

ANNIE is loath to take the bunch and blushes of embarrassment. They reach AUNT MARY's house and they stop at the entrance.

ANNIE

Thanks Aunt Mary...but this man is...

AUNT MARY

...your fiance from the States. I know, your mother called me that you come to visit me. I am happy you brought him with yourself. (She turns to BRIAN.) How you doin'? My name is Mary, I am this cutie's mother's sister. And you are...

They don't know how to clear up the situation. After shaking hands with AUNT MARY, BRIAN tries to leave.

BRIAN

Nice to meet you, Mary. I am BRIAN. (He turns to ANNIE.) Well...Annie, I am sure you want to talk with your lovely aunt. I don't want to intrude so the best if I just leave for now.

AUNT MARY

(She grabs BRIAN's hand.) No way! You have to try my world famous apple pie. And I want to hear everything about you. How did you meet? When will be the wedding?

They enter the house. While they sit down in the living room, AUNT MARY goes to the kitchen and prepares the pies on little saucers. She shouts out from there. The couple look at each other worried and puzzled. They have no idea how to get out of this embarrassing situation.

BRIAN

(Whispers.) Now we are in big trouble.

ANNIE

(Whispers back.) Oh, my gosh! How can I get out of this mess?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (6)

BRIAN

You have two choices left. First you have to tell the truth.

ANNIE looks at BRIAN worrying.

ANNIE

That's out of question. Aunt Mary is the president of the Sacred Heart Women's Christian Society. She couldn't handle this. (beat) And what is my other choice?

BRIAN

I leave with an excuse regarding your flat tire and you explain the situation to your aunt. You tell her that I am just a friend who tried to help you with your car accident.

ANNIE thinks about the second scenario but she has no time to decide because AUNT MARY comes in with two slices of apple pie on plates.

AUNT MARY

(Talkative.) Here you are my little lovebirds. Aunt Mary's famous apple pie. (Turns to BRIAN.) This was Annie's favourite since she was little girl. Whenever she came over, I always waited her with apple pie. What a lovely girl she was...and still she is, isn't she?

She handle the plates to them. BRIAN looks at AUNT MARY.

BRIAN

Dear Aunt Mary, would you mind if I phone the Road Service? The situation is that Annie got a flat tire while coming here, so her car is quite a few blocks away from here.

ANNIE

(Takes over the conversation.) Yes, Aunt Mary. On my way here I had a flat tire and there was no receiving at that area.

AUNT MARY is surprised. She looks at both of them.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (7)

BRIAN

Moreover, somebody has to be there at the car, when they arrive. (He turns to ANNIE.) I can help you out with it.

ANNIE

Oh, it's so nice of you. Thank you.

BRIAN stands up.

AUNT MARY

But...you haven't even tried my apple pie...

BRIAN

Next time, Aunt Mary. Next time, I promise.

BRIAN leaves. AUNT MARY looks at ANNIE waiting for explanation.

ANNIE

Dear Aunt Mary, he is not my fiance. (Suddenly she touches her head with her hand.) Oh, My! He is waiting for me at ARTHUR's office. I have to call her.

AUNT MARY is totally confused. ANNIE calls RYAN on her cellphone.

ANNIE (CONT'D)

RYAN? Where are you? (beat) So you met? I see. (beat) He was strange? Well, maybe he was just shocked to hear

INT - HOTEL ROOM - EVENING

ANNIE and RYAN sit in the room, drinking cocktails and talk.

ANNIE

So, how was your meeting with ARTHUR?

RYAN keeps thinking like how to phrase it nicely.

RYAN

Hmm...it was strange, if I may say.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ANNIE thinks for a second, she evaluates what it could be mean but finally she decides that she doesn't want to discuss it in details.

ANNIE

Never mind, Sweetie. ARTHUR sometimes behaves differently but he is a warm hearted man. I am sure you will get along.

RYAN

Well, probably. (beat) So, will you stay tonight?

ANNIE

(Stands up.) No, Honey. I have too many things to arrange. But we meet tomorrow. (She turns back from the door.) And don't forget that tomorrow we dine out with my parents at Romeo's. (Leaves.)

INT - ANNIE'S HOME, LIVING ROOM - EVENING

ANNIE's ARTHUR is just about to arrive home. MOM is excited.

MOM

So, Arthur, have you met him?

ARTHUR

(Surprised.) Met who?

MOM

Annie's new boyfriend. The American guy from Texas. You know, I mentioned you that our daughter met a handsome guy in Cancun. He seems serious. They went to your office today to introduce you to this young man.

ARTHUR thinks for a second but shakes his head.

ARTHUR

No Hon. I didn't see them. It was an average, boring day...actually, I had a funny client. He...

In this moment the buzzer rings up: somebody is coming.

MOM

Wait a sec. Maybe it's them.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

She runs to the door and opens it. BRIAN stands there. MOM at once thinks that he is RYAN.

BRIAN

Good evening. Sorry for bothering you Ma'am, but I brought something for Annie.

MOM

Do come in, young man. You are...

BRIAN

I am BRIAN Buckingham and I just...

MOM

Oh, we know everything. Annie told us everything about you two. I am so happy that finally you came to visit us. Annie mentioned already what you want to give her.

BRIAN

Oh, that's good. Then I give it to her right now.

MOM

Not now! You should give it to her tomorrow, at our dinner.

BRIAN hesitates.

BRIAN

She doesn't need it? Where is she?

MOM

Of course, she needs it, but we should do it in the traditional way, at dinner, in front of the whole family.

BRIAN

(He doesn't understand what is the big fuss about a lost driver's licence.) Oh, we really shouldn't make a big deal about it. If she is not home then I just leave it here on the table and I go.

MOM

No. We have to celebrate it. But why don't you come in and wait for her? She will be home in any minute. And you haven't even met her father yet.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

They enter the living room.

MOM (CONT'D)

Look, Arthur, who is here. This is the young man, Annie met.

ARTHUR stands up and welcomes BRIAN.

ARTHUR

Oh, hi. Nice to meet you. Annie has already told us everything.

BRIAN

Oh, really?

MOM

Yes. She told us about the marriage.

BRIAN

Good. This is how it's right. She promised me anyway, that she would tell it to you and that she won't mentioned it again to anyone.

MOM

Oh, we can keep it low profile if you don't want to announce.

BRIAN

Thank you for your understanding. But I cannot stay now. I have to go.

They shake hands with ARTHUR. MOM escorts him out.

MOM

And don't forget to come tomorrow for dinner.

BRIAN

Dinner?

MOM

Sure. We expect you come tomorrow to the Romeo's at six. The whole family will be there and you can give her what you want.

BRIAN

Thank you Ma'am for the invitation. I will be there.

He leaves. MOM happily turns to ARTHUR.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

MOM

See? What a nice young man.
Perfect match for our daughter.

ARTHUR

Yes. He is a very good looking
man. I hope he really loves my
little baby girl.

MOM

So, Arthur. How was your day? You
just started to tell something.

ARTHUR

Hmm. It was usual, except I had a
silly client today. (He laughs
up.) Funny. Really funny. Just a
young man but with such a mixed up
mind. (Coffs.)

In this moment ANNIE arrives home. The parents are
excited as they welcome her.

MOM

Annie, your new boyfriend was
here. What a handsome man! You two
are a perfect match together.

ANNIE is very surprised.

ANNIE

He was here? I just came from him
from the hotel. (To herself.) He
didn't mention that he would come
over tonight.

MOM

I am sure it was a surprise. On
the other hand he probably just
wanted to meet your father.

ANNIE is more surprised.

ANNIE

Didn't they meet this afternoon in
father's office? Hmm. Maybe he
just made it up. He must have felt
bad that he didn't find ARTHUR's
office, even I explained how to
find it...Anyway, a little lie
cannot hurt. At least we are even.

INT - IN THE ROMEO'S NEXT DAY - EVENING

The family is sitting around the table. They are excited, waiting for the American fiance. ARTHUR goes out to the washroom. BRIAN arrives. The family is happy but ANNIE is upset. She turns to BRIAN.

ANNIE

Jeez! What are you doing here?

BRIAN

Your Mom invited me.

The family is surprised.

MOM

Annie, Sweetheart. What a rude question is it?

BRIAN

Sorry Annie. I brought you something.

MOM

See, Annie? Isn't it why we are here?

ANNIE is getting back from her shock.

ANNIE

But...but he is not my fiance.

The family is surprised and look at ANNIE.

AUNT MARY

Not your American fiance? Then who is this man?

ANNIE

He is my husband...I mean, he is my imaginary husband, or...

The family is angry.

MOM

What? You have already married and kept it secret? Without telling us? This is outrageous! Where is your father? ARTHUR! Where did he go? He will be destroyed that he couldn't have been on his only daughter's wedding.

BRIAN turns to ANNIE.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

BRIAN

Why do I feel that you still
didn't tell them the truth?

ANNIE collapses.

ANNIE

You know, the circumstances...

MOM

If you are not my daughter's
fiance, then why did you bring her
a proposal ring today?

BRIAN

Proposal ring? What proposal ring?
I brought back her lost driver's
licence, she left when her car
broke.

ANNIE

(Maliciously.) I really thank you
for your precious help. (Angry
look.)

BRIAN

I am sorry, Annie. I didn't want
to steer up your private life at
all.

ANNIE

And still you very well managed
to...

BRIAN

Here is your licence. I better
leave now.

BRIAN turns to the family.

BRIAN (CONT'D)

I apologize to everybody, but I am
not husband. She just made it up.
It was only a prank on her behalf.
Good night everyone.

BRIAN leaves. Suddenly ARTHUR clears up.

ARTHUR

But then where is the real fiance?

ANNIE

He should be here in any minute.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

ARTHUR

Oh, I have a terrible feeling. I think I just sent him away...

The family look at him worrying.

INT. - HOTEL ROOM - DAY

ANNIE and RYAN are sitting face each other and talking.

RYAN

So you lied to me. That wasn't necessary.

ANNIE

No. It wasn't. I am a terrible person.

She starts to cry. Suddenly she turns to RYAN>

ANNIE (CONT'D)

RYAN, you are such a great guy. You deserve a better girl than me.

RYAN

But Annie, I forgive you...

ANNIE

No, no. BRIAN was right when he told me that a lifelong relationship cannot start with a lie. And on the other hand...

RYAN

On the other hand?

ANNIE thinks for a while like it is so difficult to admit, but finally she says with a big sigh.

ANNIE

Maybe we were not in love with each other. It was just the effect of the unordinary situation and place.

RYAN

I am sad to hear that, but I respect your decision. I wish you happiness with another guy.

ANNIE and RYAN shakes hands.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ANNIE

Thank you RYAN. I wish you the same.

EXT. - BEACH - DAY

ANNIE is sitting on a rock and skipping rocks into the water. She is sad. Suddenly she feels like someone is watching her. She turns back and notices BRIAN standing in a short distance wearing jogging outfit and watching her.

ANNIE

Hi BRIAN, you are here?

BRIAN doesn't say a word just sits near her on the rock and starts to skip rocks into the water - same as ANNIE did minutes before.

BRIAN

Did he left you?

ANNIE

Yes.

BRIAN

I am sorry to hear that he couldn't forgive you.

ANNIE

He could. I left him.

BRIAN

(Surprised.) You? And why?

ANNIE

Because you were right: you cannot start a life long relationship with two lies.

BRIAN

Two? What was the other one?

ANNIE

The other was that I loved him.

BRIAN

What are you telling me? You didn't love him?

ANNIE

No. I love someone else. I love ...you.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

BRIAN is surprised and happy in the same time. He touches her hand. They both look at each other.

BRIAN

Annie, I just come here to tell
you that I changed my mind. I
don't want to divorce.

Slowly they kiss each other.

FADE TO BLACK.