

THE SNOWFLAKE WEARS PAYLESS

"PILOT"

Written by

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COLD OPEN

EXT. PARK - DAY

TWO MEN (early 20s) are having a conversation in a park. The sun is shining and the backdrop is picturesque.

GUY 01  
I'm sorry.

GUY 02  
Yeah... Me too.

Guy 01 puts his hand on Guy 02's face and stares longingly into his eyes; so melodramatic.

GUY 01  
Goodbye.

Guy 01 walks away as Guy 02 looks like he has just been punched in the gut.

COLIN (O.S.)  
And cut!

COLIN - (22) lanky and scruffy - stands behind a camera as JOÃO - (22) clean cut with a trendy dress style, speaks with a Brazilian accent - stands off to the side of Guy 01 and Guy 02 while holding a boom mic.

LESLIE - (22) Girl next door type - sits off to the side on the lawn, reading an art history book.

João runs over to Colin.

JOÃO  
Good?

COLIN  
We got it.

João runs to the actors as Colin begins packing up.

JOÃO  
Okay, that's a wrap, you guys.  
Thank you so much.

Leslie closes her book and begins to help pack up.

EXT. CAMPUS - DAY

The campus is full of students going in every direction.

Colin, João, and Leslie are speed walking, film equipment in tow.

JOÃO

Can you start editing tonight?

COLIN

I have that Film as Literature test tomorrow.

JOÃO

And I have that science test tomorrow.

The three run into the library.

INT. LIBRARY - DAY

A typical college library. Students are filling every chair, couch, and table with their noses in books or laptops.

Colin and João hand Leslie the equipment and continue marching forward. This is a library, they must whisper now.

JOÃO

(to Colin)

I'm really struggling in this class.

LESLIE

Excuse me.

Colin and João stop, João backtracks and gives Leslie a loving kiss.

Colin and João begin walking forward as Leslie stays behind at a table with the equipment. She reopens her art history book.

JOÃO

Please, Colin.

COLIN

I gotta study too. Midterms are coming up and I'm still not even sure what this class is.

JOÃO  
Can failing a course get you  
deported?

COLIN  
Oh, you've got to stop guiltting me  
with deportation. Your grades are  
fine.

JOÃO  
Because I study.

Colin scrambles for a response before giving up.

COLIN  
You owe me.

JOÃO  
Thank you, thank you, thank you!

The two go behind the counter, they obviously work here.

JOÃO (CONT'D)  
Maybe you can sneak some studying  
in while here.

A CO-WORKER approaches with a stack of books in hand.

CO-WORKER  
Unlikely. Perkins just finished an  
inspection, apparently, the  
historical fiction section is a  
mess.

Colin and João both let out a beleaguered sigh.

COLIN  
I am so tired.

JOÃO  
We got this. I'll start with gothic  
and you get nautical. We'll get  
through this.

Colin and João look at each other.

COLIN  
Paying our dues.

JOÃO (CONT'D)  
Paying our dues

The two high-five.

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

Colin, João, and Leslie - Now all 33 - stand over an AC wall unit. The living room is dim even with all the windows open. None of the furniture matches and the walls have seen better days, but damn it they try to make the room look nice.

LESLIE  
Well, it's blowing air.

COLIN  
But is it cold air?

LESLIE  
I'm not sure.

COLIN  
Please don't break down now, it's supposed to be in the hundreds all week.

Their POV: suddenly the air conditioner starts making LOUD VIOLENT NOISES. Is it going to explode?

LESLIE  
Get back!

COLIN  
Kill it!

The three scatter in fear.

The air conditioner continues to make a few LOUD PUTTING NOISES then it completely breaks down. Silence.

The three stare at the broken-down air conditioner while trying to recover from their brush with death.

João is holding a bat in his hand fully prepared to strike the air conditioner if it comes back to life.

LESLIE  
New rule, if we see an appliance on the curb... leave it!

**END COLD OPEN**

ACT 01

INT. MOVIE THEATER LOBBY - DAY

The theater is run-down and dingy. The only thing sadder than seeing a movie here is working here.

Colin is in a tacky bellboy/movie theater-style uniform while cleaning the concession stand. There is no charisma, he is just going through the motions.

DARRYL - (47) sleazeball with a tie - approaches Colin and holds out a headband with bug antennas on it.

COLIN

Please don't do this to me.

DARRYL

While we're promoting this kid's bug movie, all employees are required to wear these.

COLIN

Darryl, I just had a customer threaten to sue me because we only allow refills on large popcorns. Two guys tried to pick a fight with me because I asked them to wait in the lobby while I clean up the theater. Tell me, how am I supposed to reinforce rules while dressed like a literal pest?

DARRYL

Why can't you be more of a team player? Reese has no problem wearing the headband.

Darry calls out to REESE - 19 and full of light - Reese is currently refilling the butter dispenser.

DARRYL (CONT'D)

Hey Reese, how's the headband?

REESE

(sincere and upbeat)  
Buzz, buzz!

Darry looks at Colin.

COLIN

Reese is 19 and still thinks this job is a means to something. Wait till she figures it out, then see how perky she is with that headband.

DARRYL

Wearing a uniform is part of your job.

Darryl holds out the headband.

DARRYL (CONT'D)

This is part of your uniform.

Colin tenses up, maybe he'll quit. No, he begrudgingly takes the headband and puts it on.

Darryl walks away.

COLIN

(completely monotone to himself)

Buzz, buzz.

Colin returns to cleaning the counter, antennas bouncing with every move.

INT. MUSEUM LOBBY - DAY

The lobby is vast and is covered floor to ceiling with marble. The reverb of WHISPERS and SHOES fill the room as people walk around.

Leslie runs out of the gift shop and approaches MR. WAKEFIELD - (68) old, stuffy, and intimidating; Even if you're taller, you still feel shorter.

LESLIE

Mr. Wakefield?

MR. WAKEFIELD

Yes?

LESLIE

Hi, I'm Leslie Slater. I work in the gift shop.

MR. WAKEFIELD

How can I help you?

LESLIE  
I've been hearing rumors that Sarah, the office receptionist, is leaving.

MR. WAKEFIELD  
Okay?

LESLIE  
I would like to be considered to be her replacement.

MR. WAKEFIELD  
But you already work in the gift shop.

LESLIE  
Yes, but I would like to work in the office.

MR. WAKEFIELD  
Well, have you ever worked as a receptionist?

LESLIE  
I've never officially held that title-

MR. WAKEFIELD  
Well-

LESLIE  
- but I've had many jobs where I answer phones. I even answer phone calls in the gift shop. Quite often to be honest.

MR. WAKEFIELD  
And I'm sure you are great at it, but unfortunately, we're looking for a receptionist.

LESLIE  
I thought you'd say that.  
(beat)  
Think of it like this, my working here puts me at an advantage.

MR. WAKEFIELD  
Oh?

LESLIE  
Yes. I already work in the museum. I know this place.

(MORE)



LESLIE (CONT'D)

And before I was moved into the gift shop, I was a gallery attendant, so I know the museum very well. I was only transferred to the gift shop because Marcy quit and I had prior experience working a cash register.

MR. WAKEFIELD

Well, there's the key phrase, prior experience.

Mr. Wakefield attempts to walk away, but Leslie is prepared.

LESLIE

Well, on top of already being familiar with the museum, isn't the phone in the gift shop the same type of phone used by the receptionist?

MR. WAKEFIELD

I'm not sure about that.

LESLIE

It is.

Mr. Wakefield is silent for a second, maybe she is onto something.

MR. WAKEFIELD

What did you say your name was?

LESLIE

Leslie. Leslie Slater.

MR. WAKEFIELD

Okay, Miss Slater, I'm going to look into a few things, and I'll be in touch. Okay?

LESLIE

Thank you! Thank you, Mr. Wakefield.

MR. WAKEFIELD

Good day.

Mr. Wakefield walks away. Leslie smiles, clearly pleased with herself.

INT. WAITING ROOM - DAY

João is sitting in a waiting room of an immigration law office while scrolling through his phone.

Did this building use to be a fast food joint? A tattoo parlor? Whatever it was before, there was little work done to make it feel like an office.

RECEPTIONIST (O. S.)  
João Cardoso.

INT. LAWYER'S OFFICE - DAY

João is now in the office. It doesn't look much better than the waiting room.

STEVEN, (35) Professional looking, but clearly overworked. He is not in this for the money.

STEVEN  
Mr. -

JOÃO  
Cardoso. João.

STEVEN  
João. Nice to meet you, I'm Steven Curtis.

The two shake hands and Steven takes a seat behind his desk.

STEVEN (CONT'D)  
So, tell me why you're here.

JOÃO  
Well, I'm from Brazil. Manaus. I came here for my undergraduate and left in 2012. I came back in 2021 for my master's and now that I've graduated, I've applied for a work visa. It's been a while since I heard anything so I wanted to talk with a lawyer and see if there's anything that can be done.

STEVEN  
When did you apply?

JOÃO  
About eight months ago.

Steven makes an unnerving face.

STEVEN

And what did you get your masters  
in?

JOÃO

Film Theory.

Steven makes another unnerving face.

STEVEN

Look, I hate to be the bearer of  
bad news here, but I've seen  
trained doctors get denied. And if  
you haven't gotten a response in  
eight months, that's not a good  
sign.

JOÃO

I was afraid of that... Is there  
anything I can do?

STEVEN

Do you have any major awards or  
achievements related to your  
degree?

JOÃO

I had a few films get into a couple  
of festivals.

STEVEN

Like Sundance?

JOÃO

More like The Milwaukee Afternoon  
Film and Music Festival.

STEVEN

Oh.

JOÃO

I do have one option.

STEVEN

What's that?

JOÃO

I have a girlfriend.

STEVEN

Oh, so you're thinking of marriage?

JOÃO

We've talked about that being an option. I mean we love each other and we've been together for years so it's not like it would be a green card marriage or anything.

STEVEN

Well, marriage could be a solution... could be.

JOÃO

What do you mean?

STEVEN

I see a lot of clients bring up marriage and I always have to warn them. It's not like in the movies where you just get married, answer a couple of questions about toothbrushes and what side of the bed you sleep on, and then everything's fine. How much does your girlfriend make?

JOÃO

I don't know off the top of my head.

STEVEN

Well, even if you two are married, she's going to have to sponsor you, and to qualify as a sponsor she has to make at least \$24,000 a year.

João's face begins to drop.

STEVEN (CONT'D)

Then there are the fees. You're going to have to apply for a green card which is almost two grand plus there are countless fees that will inevitably pop up, and you guys are in for a lot of paperwork which one mistake could set everything back or even worse, get you denied, which is why I strongly recommend you do this with a lawyer.

João looks distraught.

(MORE)

STEVEN (CONT'D)

I am happy to go over my fees with you, but you also need to remember until you're approved, you cannot work while this is going on, which could be six months to a year.

Feeling discouraged and overwhelmed, João stares off into space. Steven's voice begins to drown out. João may be psychically in the room, but mentally he is miles away.

**END ACT 01**

DISSOLVE TO:

ACT 02

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

João is sitting on the couch in the exact same way he was in the lawyer's office. He is staring at the tv, but he is still mentally miles away.

João is shaken back to reality by the sound of a KEY UNLOCKING THE FRONT DOOR.

Colin opens the front door but does not enter.

COLIN

Before I come in, any luck on finding a new air conditioner?

JOÃO

I checked Craigslist and Facebook Marketplace but unfortunately, it seems an unprecedented heat wave causes air conditioners to skyrocket in price.

Colin closes the door in front of him.

COLIN (O.S.)

I'm not coming in.

JOÃO

Where are you going to go?

COLIN (O.S.)

I don't know, a suite at The Hilton, my home in the Hamptons.

JOÃO

You don't have a home in the Hamptons and you couldn't even afford a room at a Motel 6.

Colin swings the door open and enters.

COLIN

You make good points.

JOÃO

And you slammed the door behind you before I could tell you the good news.

João displays a handful of cheap spray bottle fans.

JOÃO (CONT'D)

Leslie swung by the dollar store  
and got these. There are also wet  
paper towels in the freezer.

COLIN

Nothing but luxury.

(beat)

Oh, that reminds me, you know how  
my job gets more and more  
undignified?

JOÃO

Yeah.

COLIN

Well, check out my new uniform.

Colin takes the bug antenna headband out and puts it on his  
head.

COLIN (CONT'D)

Who am I?

Colin begins tap dancing.

JOÃO

El Chapulín Colorado?

COLIN

I don't know what that is, but no.  
Come on, here's another hint.

Colin begins to sing Blind Melon's 1992 hit, No Rain.

COLIN (CONT'D)

I just want someone to say to me,  
oh, oh, oh, oh, I'll always be  
there when you wake, yeah, yeah.

João looks puzzled.

COLIN (CONT'D)

Didn't Blind Melon hit Brazil?

JOÃO

Maybe?

COLIN

Well, this was a very funny bit,  
you'll just have to trust me.

João laughs.

COLIN (CONT'D)

Ugh, I can't believe I have to wear these every day now.

JOÃO

Why don't you just quit this job?

COLIN

What's the point?

JOÃO

Um, the pay sucks. The hours suck. It's draining the life out of you.

COLIN

Yeah but that's every job I'm able to get. The only difference is the software used for the registers.

(beat)

Anyways, how was your day?

JOÃO

Eh.

COLIN

What's wrong?

JOÃO

Nothing.

COLIN

Oh, I'd know that "nothing" anywhere. It's definitely something.

JOÃO

Just immigration blues.

COLIN

Yeah, I know this is tough, but you're in the home stretch.

JOÃO

But what if I'm not?

Leslie enters the front door.

LESLIE

Hi.

The first thing Leslie notices is Colin's antennas.



LESLIE (CONT'D)  
Hey Colin, you off to search for a  
field of like-minded bee people to  
frolic with?

COLIN  
(to João)  
See- Blind Melon!

João just shakes his head.

COLIN (CONT'D)  
Leslie, your boyfriend needs a pick-  
me-up.

LESLIE  
What's wrong?

COLIN  
Immigration blues.

Leslie sits on the couch next to João and gives him a hug.

LESLIE  
What's it today? Sad that you're  
not working or scared that you'll  
be denied.

JOÃO  
(in Portuguese)  
Can't it be both?

COLIN  
Alright, Leslie, I'm trusting you  
to get this boy in a better mood.  
He's starting to turn into me.

JOÃO  
Jeez, Colin, I'm depressed enough.

Leslie laughs as Colin and João playfully sneer at each  
other.

COLIN  
Funny.

Colin retreats to his bedroom.

Leslie gives João a comforting embrace.

INT. COLIN'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Collin's room is filled with his accomplishments. His degree in filmmaking is framed on his wall, and his dresser has several awards he won while in film school. Next to the awards is a photo of Colin and João taken during their college days.

Colin is out of his uniform and in loungewear.

He gets in bed and picks up his phone. He sees a notification from a dating app: "L.A. Singles: Today's Matches".

He scrolls aimlessly but stops at the profile of SUMEET - (34) Very Attractive, possibly out of Colin's league. Big smile, and a presence that is full of life -

Colin scrolls through the pictures of Sumeet. Sumeet in front of the Eiffel Tower, Sumeet Skydiving, Sumeet at a wilderness park. Someone is living their best life.

Colin starts to type a message to Sumeet.

It reads:

"Hey there, just came across your profile"

Colin stops typing. He looks over at his work uniform that is hanging on his door.

He deletes the message and closes the dating app.

Next he pulls up a job site specifically for jobs in the entertainment industry. He searches "Entry Level Positions".

This leads to a series of shots of "Entry Level" job postings, but each one says you need years of prior experience.

The light of the screen glows on Colin's face and the scrolling becomes more erratic as he is "denied" job after job. He's not qualified for anything.

Colin aggressively throws his phone down.

PHOTO COLIN (O. S.)

Oh man, is that me?

Colin looks over at the picture of João and him on the dresser. The João and Colin in the photo are now moving.

PHOTO JOÃO

Woah, you got old!

COLIN

I did not!

PHOTO COLIN

What are you...like 40?

COLIN

Thirty!

(beat)

three.

PHOTO JOÃO

Wait a minute Colin, look at what room he's in.

The Photo Colin looks around.

PHOTO COLIN

Oh my god, is that my room! I'm still living in that cheap, dumpy apartment?

COLIN

Well... the rent keeps going up, so it's no longer cheap.

PHOTO JOÃO

Do I still live with you?

Colin doesn't answer, his face tells it all.

PHOTO JOÃO (CONT'D)

Oh my god!

PHOTO COLIN

Oh my god!

PHOTO COLIN (CONT'D)

Wait a minute, Is that the uniform for that gross movie theater downtown!?!?

COLIN

They painted it about a year ago.

PHOTO COLIN

How did this happen? How did you fail? I'm working so hard! What did you do?

Colin throws the photo into a drawer and aggressively tries to close it but the drawer gets stuck. As Colin struggles to close the drawer, Photo Colin's muffled voice gets louder then lower, louder then lower.

PHOTO COLIN (CONT'D)

Loser!

Colin successfully slams the drawer shut. Blissful silence.  
He grabs his phone and exits his room.

**END ACT 02**

ACT 03

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

João is spread out on the couch, scrolling for something to watch, and spraying himself with the spray bottle fan.

Colin enters, spray bottle in hand, and sits next to him.

COLIN  
Leslie asleep?

JOÃO  
No, she's reading in the bedroom.

COLIN  
What are you watching?

JOÃO  
Just scrolling, waiting for something to catch my eye.

Colin's phone CHIMES. Colin looks at his phone and he does not look pleased.

COLIN  
Shit.

JOÃO  
What?

COLIN  
I was looking at some guy's dating profile and I guess he has the premium membership because he knows I looked. "Hey there, saw you checked my profile out. Thought I'd say hi."

JOÃO  
Is he a total creep or something?

COLIN  
No, he's the opposite.

JOÃO  
Let me see.

Colin hands João the phone.

JOÃO (CONT'D)  
Nice.

João scrolls.

JOÃO (CONT'D)

Nice.

João continues to scroll.

JOÃO (CONT'D)

Nice.

João quickly types something and hands the phone back to Colin. He then picks up the remote back up and continues to browse.

COLIN

What did you do?

JOÃO

I responded.

COLIN

João!

JOÃO

You need to get out there!

Colin's phone CHIMES again.

COLIN

Oh great, now we're officially chatting.

Colin begins texting.

JOÃO

You're welcome.

COLIN

I'm not in any position to date.

JOÃO

Yes, you are.

COLIN

I can't date. I currently have \$126 to my name right now.

JOÃO

Stop bragging Uncle Pennybags.

Colin's phone CHIMES

COLIN

Oh great, he wants to go on a date.

JOÃO  
You're welcome.

COLIN  
Okay, he said he'll pick a place  
and message me tomorrow.

Colin sends one last message and throws his phone down.

COLIN (CONT'D)  
Please be someplace cheap like  
McDonald's or a vending machine.

JOÃO  
You don't have to go someplace  
fancy, that's not the point of a  
first date. Leslie and I had our  
first date at a diner.

COLIN  
Yeah, that's cute when you're young  
and in college. In your thirties,  
you need to go someplace like...  
The Ivy.

JOÃO  
Is the Ivy still a thing?

COLIN  
I don't know, I don't get out much.

João stops browsing when he comes across a series called,  
"The Big 3-0" and reads the synopsis out loud.

JOÃO  
This multi-award-winning series  
gained instant success in the 1980s  
for its realistic portrayal of the  
day-to-day struggles of people in  
their thirties.

They look at each other, make a "why not face" and are about  
to hit play, but Leslie enters the room, spray bottle in  
hand.

LESLIE  
If I read one more article about  
impressionistic paintings, my mind  
is going to melt like a Salvador  
Dalí painting.  
(beat)  
So, what are you guys up to?

JOÃO  
 About to watch boomers struggle  
 with their thirties, care to join?

LESLIE  
 Would I?!?

Leslie hops on the couch next to João and Colin.

João presses play.

ON THE TV:

INT. YUPPIE LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

The living room is well-decorated and modern (for the 1980s... These people really leaned into the southwest trend)

A YUPPIE MAN and YUPPIE WOMAN enter the room in the middle of a heated argument.

YUPPIE WOMAN  
 I asked you to help me more around  
 the house.

YUPPIE MAN  
 Oh, and I don't do that?

YUPPIE WOMAN  
 When I asked you to please do the  
 laundry-

YUPPIE MAN  
 I did the laundry!

YUPPIE WOMAN  
 But you didn't separate the colors  
 from the whites!... You didn't.

The Yuppie Woman begins to choke up.

YUPPIE WOMAN (CONT'D)  
 You just threw everything in all at  
 once... How am I supposed to get  
 past that?... How are we supposed  
 to get past this?

Tears fall down her face.

BACK TO THE  
 LIVING ROOM:



The three of them sit on the couch, spray bottle fans aimed at their faces, dumbfounded by what they are watching.

LESLIE

What the hell is this?

COLIN

This was a realistic portrayal of life in your thirties?

JOÃO

Well, it's kind of relatable if you think about it.

(to Leslie)

I recall us having an epic fight about laundry.

LESLIE

Oh, that is so not the same. It was your turn to do laundry and you forgot my uniform.

COLIN

Oh, I love this story!

LESLIE

(to Colin)

By the time I realized what this fool had done, he was in class and the good laundromat had already closed. So I had to use that gross laundromat on First Street.

COLIN

Then what happened? Then what happened?

LESLIE

I got covid!

COLIN

Ohh!

LESLIE

(to João)

The same week my job ended their covid relief pay.

COLIN

(to João)

You bastard!

LESLIE

(to João)

I had no sick days left so two weeks sick as a dog, stuck in isolation, no pay... all because you forgot to wash my uniform.

COLIN

(mocking the voice of the Yuppie Woman)

How are we supposed to get past this?

The three erupt into laughter.

ON THE TV:

YUPPIE WOMAN

You still need to help me pick a carpet for the guest room.

YUPPIE MAN

We have bigger problems than that! The tiles for the kitchen have been delayed and we need to get this place finished for the party.

The couple's arguing is interrupted by the sound of their BABY CRYING.

YUPPIE WOMAN

I just can't take anymore!

BACK TO THE LIVING ROOM:

The laughter is gone; the tone in the room has shifted.

COLIN

Is this really what it's supposed to be like? Remodeling woes while bickering about laundry.

JOÃO

Maybe for them, but this was a different time.

COLIN

And they have a kid. I can't see myself with kids. Can you?

João and Leslie glance at each other.

LESLIE

Honestly, right now there's no point in asking a question like that. It's like asking if I want a chateau in France.

COLIN

Sometimes I feel like somewhere along the way... I messed up.

LESLIE

Colin, you're the first person in your family to hit 30 without owning a home.

COLIN

Thanks, Leslie.

LESLIE

You're also the first person in your family to go to college. How many people over the years have you worked with that have a bachelor's, a master's, and everything else? There's a glitch in the system and we're all feeling it.

JOÃO

I have a master's and I'm not even allowed to work.

Colin's phone CHIMES. He looks at his phone.

COLIN

Well, prepare to feel worse.

LESLIE

Oh no, what?

COLIN

I got us an air conditioner. We can pick it up tomorrow.

João and Leslie cheer in delight and toast their spray bottles like champagne glasses.

JOÃO

Wait, why is this a bad thing?

COLIN

It's my Uncle Dale's. He just got central air, so he doesn't need a wall unit anymore.

LESLIE  
 (trying to put a face to  
 the name)  
 Uncle Dale?...Uncle Dale?

Leslie's entire demeanor changes. It looks like she just ate a whole lemon.

LESLIE (CONT'D)  
 Wait, is this your alt-right MAGA  
 uncle?

COLIN  
 That's the one.

LESLIE  
 The one that ends every Facebook  
 post with "hashtag all lives  
 matter"

COLIN  
 Yup.

JOÃO  
 Is this the uncle that says  
 immigrants steal all the jobs yet  
 criticizes me for not working?

COLIN  
 Yup.

JOÃO  
 Ah jeez, Colin.

COLIN  
 Hey, don't forget he suggested  
 conversion therapy when I came out.  
 I'm not his biggest fan either.

LESLIE  
 Why did he even offer to help us?

COLIN  
 Well according to his message,  
 "It's the Christian thing to do."  
 (beat)  
 He's probably just doing it for  
 clout. Something to hold over us  
 helpless snowflakes.

JOÃO  
 You know...we don't have to take  
 him up on his offer.

LESLIE  
Yeah, I mean...we have to have  
standards, right?

Colin pulls up the forecast on his phone.

COLIN  
It's supposed to be a hundred and  
seven tomorrow.

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

The three have just finished installing the air conditioner.

The air conditioner has a sticker that says, "It's Climate  
Change. Climate Changes!"

Colin covers the sticker up with painter's tape and then  
switches the unit on.

All three of them bask in the cold air.

COLIN  
Okay, so we're all in agreeance.  
This is just a loan. As soon as we  
save up enough money, we get our  
own air conditioner and return this  
one to Uncle Dale.

JOÃO  
Yes.

LESLIE  
Yes.

The three stand in front of the air conditioner embracing the  
cold air, satisfied yet depressed.

LESLIE (CONT'D)  
Remember when our goals were much  
bigger?

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. PARK - DAY

Flashback:

Everything is bright and colorful. Colin and João are packing up their film equipment while Leslie sits on the grass, flipping through an art book. They all look happy as they chat with each other. Their whole lives are ahead of them

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

Close-up on the air conditioner cooling the room down.

FADE OUT.