

EXPERIMENT

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Logline: A hill Billy chicken farmer and his model wife get the help of an eccentric fertility specialist. Medical history is made when their in vitro fertilized egg hatches the first baby without birth.

SYNOPSIS

ADAM, a misplaced chicken farmer from West Virginia, struggles to survive in fast-paced Boston. His wife, CINDY, works as a model, while Adam jumps from job to job. Adam responds to a classified requesting a Nursery Helper, thinking he can utilize his degree in Agriculture. Instead, he walks into a day care center. When the harried manager pushes a screaming infant into his arms, Adam realizes what's missing in his life: a baby.

But having one isn't so simple. Cindy's obsession with her work and figure doesn't help Adam's desire. Adam meets Dr. STEVENSON, a fertility specialist, and enlists his help. Adam suggests cynically that humans should be able to give birth as chickens do. Surprisingly, Dr. Stevenson actually considers this unprecedented way of having a baby. The couple is thrilled when they realize that modern science could probably make their dream a reality without Cindy giving up her job.

Dr. Stevenson takes advantage of the situation and fertilizes an extra egg for his gay partner NICK. Their lives begin to revolve around the maturation of their in vitro fertilized eggs, while Adam struggles with living the life of a funky rooster.

The couple's secret plan goes well until the doctor's nurse, SHELLY, brags to her gorilla-like brother T-BONE about the experiment. This leads T-Bone to thinking of a way to profit from this knowledge. He strikes a deal with two "Agents." T-Bone tries to steal the egg and almost succeeds. Fearful for his life, he steals an Ostrich egg instead and tries to pass it off as the human egg.

Meanwhile, the neighbor's dog whimpers and scratches to get to the egg. Inquisitive neighbor HELEN is misled about the use of the special scanning equipment that Dr. Stevenson brings to scan the egg.

As the due date approaches, the madness mounts. To avoid T-Bone, the neighbors and media exposure, Cindy and Adam, escape to the Bahamas. Since Adam has never flown before, he is amazed by the workings of the plane, and his misconceptions about sewage disposal. The passengers settle in for the long trip and everyone but a Spanish-speaking couple are asleep when the egg hatches in the overhead compartment, dripping foul-smelling fluids on Adam.

Adam and Cindy disembark, but realize as they go through customs that they have no papers for the infant. Fortunately, they are allowed to keep Adam Junior with them as long as they abide by specific restrictions. Adam and Cindy think their worries are over, until they realize that the Agent and T-Bone are still after the egg--or Adam Jr. They end up in a desperate race to find their kidnapped baby. Nick discovers his paradise at the "gay club" in the Bahamas, and abandons his mission.

The madness mounts when the couple and the baby return to the States, where the authorities retain the rescued baby, possibly as an Alien. The media go into frenzy, and their doctor faces an ethical issue for working against Mother Nature.

They suddenly realize that what they've waited for, for so long, could be in jeopardy. A legal battles ensues as they fight to gain legitimacy of their baby. Despite the lack of legal precedent, the surprise testimony of the Spanish-speaking couple and the results of DNA testing, Adam Junior is finally returned to his rightful parents – and to his rightful status as the first Baby Without Birth.

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EXPERIMENT

A Comedy Screenplay

By: H. Abuthina

FADE IN:

INT. FASHION SHOW STAGE

Spot lights shine over the catwalk. Models wearing the latest fashion walk to the rhythm of the music. The audience watches the show with great enthusiasm. The media flash their cameras.

CINDY is one of the models. Her short blond hair, dark blue eyes, and fixed smile make her distinct. Off course, her figure is incredible.

EXT. FASHION SHOW HALL - NIGHT

Cindy chats with two of her colleagues. A Taxi pulls up.

Cindy opens the Taxi door.

CINDY

Good night girls. See you tomorrow.

COLLEAGUES

Good night.

MODEL #1

Lucky woman-has a nice husband to go home to.

MODEL #2

I don't know about that. He's been pressuring her to have a baby, and she's not ready.

EXT. DOWNTOWN BOSTON - DAY

Rush hour traffic screeches and honks. Motorists roll down windows to keep cars from overheating in the August heat. A rusted pickup with West Virginia plates stops as the light turns yellow. Cars on both sides continue to whiz by.

ADAM, the driver of the pickup, flinches as the driver behind him lays on the horn. He watches the rearview mirror as HARRY, a distinguished looking man, swears and shakes his fist, while Harry's wife, MARION, uses the visor mirror to check her lipstick.

A second before the light returns to green, the cars next to Adam jump the light and the horn behind him blares. Adam throws the 3-on-the-column into neutral and sets the brake. He grabs the straw hat on the seat next to him and puts it on as he jumps out of the truck. He is dressed in denim overalls, the legs rolled up. He strolls back to the late model Cadillac, passing the bumper sticker on his truck that reads, "West Virginia - the Friendly Hillbilly State."

Adam peers into the open car window and speaks with an exaggerated Appalachian drawl.

ADAM

Might friendly of y'all.

HARRY

What?

MARION

Lock the doors!

Adam relaxes comfortably against the car door.

ADAM

Honkin' and wavin' and all.

HARRY

Don't touch my car.

ADAM

Y'all from around these parts?

Harry looks for a way to drive around Adam's pickup.

HARRY

Move that heap of junk.

ADAM

Where I come from, people only honk and wave if they wanna visit awhile.

HARRY

I'm late.

ADAM

I just love how friendly folks are around here.

Harry rolls up the windows. Marion grabs the cell phone and punches in numbers. Adam shrugs.

ADAM

Good meeting y'all. Maybe next time, we can visit longer.

Adam meanders back to his pickup just as the light turns yellow again. He waves at Harry through the rearview mirror.

Harry pops into reverse, guns around Adam and through the red light, laughing maniacally as cross traffic swerves to avoid him.

INT. CINDY'S APARTMENT - DAY

CINDY drops a briefcase in a corner and runs to the mirror, admiring her small waist. The doorbell rings.

Cindy opens the door. Barking is heard, and the neighboring door opens slightly. HELEN, the apartment manager, peeks out the door.

Harry and Marion bustle in, hugging and kissing Cindy, looking her over from head to toe. They remain in the foyer.

MARION

Oh, Cindy-dear. The most awful thing happened. This man tried to accost us.

HARRY

Marion . . .

MARION

Just out front. Came right up to the window. In broad daylight.

HARRY

Marion . . .

MARION

It was awful. He could've had a gun.

HARRY

So, where's my son-in-law?

MARION

He could have.

HARRY

Let's just get this over with. Where is he?

CINDY

He's still at work. He should be . . .

MARION

Why couldn't you have waited? Why couldn't we have had a big beautiful wedding like we'd always planned?

HARRY

Cindy's a big girl now. She's got a good head on her shoulders, and I'm sure she's made a wise choice. You've just got to . . .

Marion pulls Cindy into her arms and sobs melodramatically.

MARION

It's been a year now since you got married, and we haven't even met him!

HARRY

Where did you two meet?

CINDY

The Internet. Great place for meeting people these days.

MARION

No!

CINDY

Well, yeah, but actually, we met in person at high school, when we ended

up in the same summer group as Senate pages. Then, I ran across his website and remembered him, and, as they say, the rest is . . .

MARION

Oh, I remember now. So, that's him!

Doorbell rings. More barking.

Cindy smiles and opens the apartment door. Adam is in front of the door talking to their neighbor, Helen. Helen's dog, BOBO, sniffs Adam's leg.

ADAM

(with a slight Appalachian accent, but nothing like the exaggerated drawl used previously) I hope he doesn't think my leg is a tree and do something funny.

HELEN

Of course not. He's very well trained. Besides, he likes you. Cindy, you have a lovely husband.

CINDY

Thanks. See you later, Helen.

ADAM

(walks into the foyer) Sorry. I forgot my keys again. Why do we have to lock the doors anyway?

CINDY

Oh, Adam.

They hug. Cindy turns to introduce him to her parents.

MARION

That's him! My God, Harry, he followed us!

Cindy looks confused, Adam looks embarrassed. Cindy realizes what must have happened.

CINDY

Adam, you didn't . . .

Adam nods ruefully.

MARION

Call 9-1-1!

CINDY

Mom, Mom, it's okay. This is Adam. He has a great heart, he wouldn't hurt a fly.

Marion looks at him distrustfully.

HARRY

Son-of-a-bitch.

Cindy puts an arm around each parent.

CINDY

Come on. Let's sit down. Adam, do you want to change?

ADAM

(with a proper British accent) Change into what? Prince Charles, perhaps?
(now with a Scottish accent) Or perhaps the lad, Scotty, from the Starship Enterprise?

CINDY

Adam delivers singing telegrams until he finds a real job . . .

Adam twitches his nose and holds up his hands for ears.

ADAM

Or should I change into an animal?

Cindy pushes him toward the bedroom. She smiles affectionately as Adam exits the room to clean up. She ushers her parents to the tastefully decorated living area and they all sit.

MARION

Oh, Cindy. A telegram singer? How
can he support you . . .

CINDY

Just get to know him, okay?

MARION

But when you have children . . .

CINDY

Mom . . .

MARION

You are going to give me a grandchild,
Cindy. I've waited too long already.

HARRY

He needs a job first. Or maybe an
education.

CINDY

He has an education.

HARRY

What kind?

CINDY

He has a BS from WVU.

HARRY

In what?

CINDY

Agriculture.

MARION

Agriculture?

HARRY

In Boston?

Cindy looks to make sure Adam is out of earshot, then
lowers her voice.

CINDY

I know he acts like a nut, but he really is smart. And funny. And you should see the way he is with kids.

Marion takes Cindy's hand and appears touched.

HARRY

I take it he's not from Boston?

CINDY

No. He grew up on a chicken farm in West Virginia.

HARRY

A chicken farm?

MARION

Oh, Cindy, couldn't you have done better than a chicken farmer?

Cindy smiles.

INT. APARTMENT HALLWAY - NIGHT

Adam, dressed as a cowboy with a Stetson hat, spurred boots and a low-slung gun belt, hesitates outside a door. He checks the address -- apartment 213 -- one more time, and then taps.

INT. APARTMENT NIGHT

From inside the apartment, loud music blares from an unseen source. Picked-over party snacks litter the living area. About a dozen women in their twenties laugh, drink and socialize.

WOMAN#1 hears the tapping and opens the door.

Silence erupts as the music stops and each lady turns her attention to Adam. Murmurs of approval pass over the crowd.

Adam awkwardly opens an envelope and takes out a paper, which he mis-handles and then drops.

Laughter tinkles around the room.

WOMAN#1

Let me get that for you, Cowboy.

Woman#1 seductively retrieves the paper, teasing Adam as she returns it to him. Adam clears his throat and begins singing.

ADAM

Thanks. Happy Birthday to you. Happy
Birthday to . . .

WOMAN#2

No, no. You have to dance.

Adam shakes his head.

WOMAN#2

We paid ten dollars extra for you to
dance.

ADAM

I don't dance.

The women close in, chanting, DANCE! DANCE! They circle around him, closing off his exit.

WOMEN

DANCE! DANCE!

Adam moves stiffly, his shoulders, hips and knees jerking sporadically as his eyes scan for an escape.

The women change their chant to TAKE IT OFF! TAKE IT OFF!
One woman grabs his hat and another unbuckles his holster.
His cap guns crash to the floor.

Adam's gyrations become more frantic as he searches for an escape.

Woman#1 grabs his vest.

He breaks away, leaving his vest in Woman#1's hands.

The women are on him like bees on honeysuckle -- buzzing and pulling, ripping his shirt and tripping him. Woman#2 unsnaps his jeans and Woman#3 assists her in pulling them to his knees. Adam falls and the swarm of women jumps on him.

Adam frantically shoves them away, grabbing onto furniture to pull himself out of the human quicksand. With only his satin Mickey Mouse boxers and his cowboy boots still intact, and the exit blocked, he darts for the open patio door, jumps over the railing, lands on the awning below and rolls off onto the sidewalk in front of a 300 pound bag lady.

Adam staggers to his feet. The bag lady smiles and looks him up and down.

Yelling from the women on the second-floor balcony grows louder.

WOMAN#1

Get him!

ADAM

(to the bag lady) Sorry, ma'am.

He runs to the rusted pickup, retrieves his keys from the visor, and coaxes the contraption to life just as the women surround him. He pulls away in a cloud of smoke and debris.

BAG LADY

(to no one in particular) He was mine first.

INT. CINDY'S APARTMENT - DAY

Adam studies the Classified Ads. His hand follows the ads for "Nursery Help." He circles one that lists "experience in all phases of plant growth," crosses through one that mentions "minimum wage," and then highlights the final one in the category, which reads: "Nursery Helper. Immediate opening. Apply in person M-F, 8-5. 915 Highlander Av."

Adam checks his watch, folds the paper and stuffs it in his pocket. He takes his keys off the key rack and leaves.

EXT. SMALL BUSINESS PARK - DAY

Adam compares the address on the ad to the one on the building. He is confused by the company name: "ABC DAY CARE," but opens the door and enters.

INT. DAY NURSERY - DAY

Miniature furniture fills the room, decorated in bright primary colors. Screaming toddlers run through the crowded play area, chased by a harried lady holding a crying infant. The lady pauses by Adam.

LADY

Can I help you?

Adam shows the classified ad.

ADAM

I must have the wrong . . .

He is cut off by shrill screaming coming from the corner.

The lady pushes the baby into Adam's arms and runs toward the commotion.

Adam looks for someone to take the baby, but other workers are as overwhelmed as the first. The infant's wails become more intense. Instinctively, Adam gently rocks the baby.

ADAM

There, there. Don't cry.

He sees a rocking chair and steps over blocks and misplaced toys to get to it. He snuggles the infant close to him and rocks gently, patting the infant and talking softly. The background noise and commotion fades. The baby quiets.

Adam talks soothingly to the infant. Soon, the baby goes to sleep, its tiny fingers wrapped tightly around Adam's much larger finger. Adam continues to rock, his face close to the infant, his contentment complete.

INT. CINDY'S APARTMENT - EVENING

Adam whistles as he shaves with his electric razor. Suddenly, the razor starts to slow, then stops. Adam has only shaven one side of his face.

ADAM

Shit!!!

Adam opens the medicine cabinet, searching for batteries or a disposable shaver. He pulls several boxes of medicine out, and something falls into the sink. Adam ignores it while still searching. Finally, he starts to re-arrange things and picks up the box that has fallen. He looks more closely at it. Birth control pills.

CINDY (O.S.)

Adam? I'm home.

ADAM

I'm in here, honey.

He looks again at the birth control pills, then replaces them in the cabinet. He steps into the master bedroom, his face a zagged design of razor tracks in dark stubble.

Cindy enters from the hallway door and they meet in a passionate hug.

CINDY

Guess what? I met Mom and Dad for lunch today, and guess what?

Adam shrugs.

CINDY

They gave us a belated wedding gift. Look.

She opens her hand to display two airline tickets and a travel brochure.

CINDY

The Bahamas. For our honeymoon!

ADAM

The Bahamas?

CINDY

Yes! Can you believe it?

Adam shakes his head uncertainly.

ADAM

That's an island, right? Like, across an ocean?

CINDY

I wish work wasn't so crazy.

ADAM

I don't fly, Cindy. Remember? (goes into his exaggerated Appalachian drawl) It ain't a natural thing for man to fly.

Cindy looks amused by Adam's half shaved face.

CINDY

What happened, honey? Conserving energy?

Adam puts his arm around Cindy and leads her to the bed, where they both sit. He takes her hands into his own.

CINDY

What? What is it?

ADAM

I want a baby.

CINDY

I know. Me, too. Someday.

ADAM

I want a baby now.

CINDY

You know I can't get pregnant right now. My job is very important to me.

ADAM

I know. I know, I know.

Cindy picks at imaginary lint on her pantsuit.

ADAM

Your job is important to you. And we need the money.

CINDY

Carl says I'm the next supermodel. (Looks at her flat stomach). And stretch marks wouldn't enhance my figure much.

Adam pulls Cindy into a warm hug.

EXT. BUSY DOWNTOWN STREET - NIGHT

Adam staggers out of a noisy bar. He catches his balance, raises his head, and walks down the street until he notices a quiet bar.

INT. NIGHT CLUB

Mellow piano music floats through the upscale night club. Adam enters and squints to adjust to the dim lighting. He looks around, then spots the bar and walks to it, sitting next to a refined looking gentleman.

BARTENDER

Yes, sir?

ADAM

Scotch. Dry.

The bartender wordlessly turns and prepares the drink, then deposits it in front of Adam.

BARTENDER

\$5.50, please.

ADAM

\$5.50? It was only \$4.25 down the road.

BARTENDER

Then why didn't you stay there?

Adam tosses a twenty on the bar. Without as much as a smile, the bartender throws the change at Adam and moves on to another patron.

ADAM

Damn friendly people.

REFINED GENT

(pleasant Southern accent) Takes some getting used to, huh?

Adam looks around to see whom he is speaking to.

ADAM

You speaking to me?

REFINED GENT

People are people, wherever you go.

ADAM

No one talks to me in this blasted city. Biggest bunch of snobs I've ever seen.

The man offers his hand to Adam.

REFINED GENT

Rutherford Stevenson. Transplant from South Carolina.

Adam relaxes and shakes his hand.

ADAM

(exaggerated Appalachian drawl) Adam Carson. Transplant from West Virginia. (Adam gulps his drink, then makes a face and continues in his normal voice) They make 'em strong here.

STEVENSON

Yep. Quicker to erase your troubles.

ADAM

I just want to have a baby. Is that so wrong?

Stevenson's eyebrows rise. He considers Adam's statement, then lifts his drink and nods toward a nearby empty table.

Adam and his new friend move to the table and sip their drinks.

STEVENSON

Let me give it to you straight. It can't happen.

Adam looks confused.

ADAM

It can't?

STEVENSON

No. Men do not have the necessary equipment.

ADAM

For what?

STEVENSON

To have babies. No matter how hard we try, only women can have babies.

ADAM

Uh, yeah. Yeah, I think I understand that. If I could get pregnant, I would. I'd have the damn thing. But I was referring to my wife.

STEVENSON

Oh. Okay, good. That's different. Is it that she can't get pregnant or doesn't want to?

ADAM

It's her work.

STEVENSON

More important than babies?

ADAM

(shakes head) Cindy works as a model.

Dr. Stevenson raises his eyebrow.

STEVENSON

And she doesn't want to spoil her figure!

Adam stares at him, then shrugs.

STEVENSON

You believe in fate? (Dr. Stevenson fishes through his pocket and tosses his card on the table.) This is the first time in my life I've walked into this bar. Something drew me here tonight. I'm a doctor. A fertility specialist. And I've got a couple of ladies right now willing to carry a baby. For a price, of course. It's called surrogate mothering.

Adam stares into his drink.

ADAM

Why can't humans do it the way chickens do?

DR. STEVENSON

(withholds laugh) Do what?

ADAM

The fertilized egg of the test tube baby. Instead of replacing it in the womb, can't you leave it to grow like chickens do? It'd sure save with all the legal mumbo-jumbo and all.

Dr. Stevenson chuckles, then checks his watch.

DR. STEVENSON

I'll tell you what. I've got to call it a night, but why don't you call me at the office and schedule an appointment? I'll bet we can find a way for you to have a baby.

Adam puts the card in his pocket and gulps his drink.

Dr. Stevenson walks toward the exit.

INT. DR. STEVENSON'S OFFICE - DAY

Dr. Stevenson and his gay assistant NICK, intently pour over their research when nurse SHELLY taps on the door.

SHELLY

(To Dr. Stevenson) Some weirdo is on the phone. Says he met you in a bar last night, and you said you'd help him have a baby.

Dr. Stevenson struggles to leave his work long enough to acknowledge the interruption.

NICK

(Annoyed) Who were you with last night?

DR. STEVENSON

That must be the chicken guy. I was hoping he would call.

NICK

Oh, really!

Shelly chuckles.

SHELLY

Doctor? What should I tell him?

DR. STEVENSON

The chicken guy. Wants to have a baby the way chickens do.

SHELLY

Excuse me? Should I refer him to Weston?

Dr. Stevenson laughs.

DR. STEVENSON

No, no. He isn't crazy. Just desperate enough to hatch a baby.

Shelly waits impatiently.

DR. STEVENSON

Go ahead and schedule him and his wife in for two weeks time. I've got a little experiment going here that just might work.

SHELLY

Work? You mean, like grow in an egg?

DR. STEVENSON

Maybe. Just maybe. Well, I must admit it sounds rather absurd. But then again, there are new scientific breakthroughs all the time.

INT. SHELLY'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Shelly is mixing a stir fry while T-BONE, her gorilla-sized brother, sits nearby, swearing at a portable television showing a WWF Wrestler bouncing his opponent like a basketball.

SHELLY

In an egg. Can you believe that?

T-BONE

(to the television) Get up! Get the fuck up!

Shelly goes to the television and turns it off.

T-Bone jumps to his feet.

T-BONE

Hey! I was watching that!

SHELLY

Did you hear what I said?

T-BONE

I don't give a damn about what you said.

T-Bone tries to out-manuever Shelly, who is guarding the TV.

SHELLY

These people want to grow their baby in an egg.

T-BONE

Big deal. Now move.

SHELLY

Not until you listen to me. They want to mix their sperm and egg . . .

T-BONE

Who don't?

SHELLY

And let it fertilize in a test tube, and then transplant it to an egg. They could have the first hatched baby in history!

T-Bone frowns, the wrinkles in his forehead making him appear Neanthropic.

Shelley stands in front of the mirror examining her not-so-perfect figure.

SHELLY

Do you know what this means? This means history will be taking place right at Dr.Stevenson's office. History! We could even make the cover of Time! Can you imagine? Of course, I'd better start a diet right now. And find a new hairstylist.

T-Bone suddenly becomes interested.

T-BONE

History, huh?

EXT. PLAYGROUND - DAY

The laughter and screams of children are heard. Adam and Cindy sit on a bench, watching children play in the early September sunshine.

Two small children get into a scuffle over a toy. The little girl has the little boy on the ground, pulling his hair. The scuffle turns into a brawl while two young mothers hurry over to break it up.

Cindy and Adam watch in awe as the little girl is pulled off the boy, kicking him in the stomach. The fight is stopped. The two mothers shake the two children as they pull them in different directions.

Suddenly, the girl turns around and gives the boy "the finger." At first, Adam and Cindy seem shocked, then they look at each other and laugh uncontrollably.

CINDY

Still want a baby?

Adam gestures toward the little boy and his mother. The boy is now sitting on his mother's knee, hugging her as she strokes his hair.

ADAM

More than ever. Cindy, when I held that little baby in my arms at the nursery and she took hold of my finger, I knew what it was I wanted. A baby.

Cindy nods her head sadly.

ADAM

Okay, let's go through it all again. We could adopt, but that is expensive and takes years, and the baby isn't our own flesh and blood. We can hire a surrogate mother. Again, it's expensive and there's a fair chance she'd skip out, taking our baby with her.

CINDY

Or, I quit my job.

ADAM

No, sweetie. That's not an option.
We need to go see that doctor. Maybe
we've overlooked something.

CINDY

We've been through it all a zillion
times.

Adam puts his arm around her.

ADAM

Where there's a will, there's a way.
And there's a way for us, Cin. There
is.

INT. DR. STEVENSON'S OFFICE - DAY

Dr. Stevenson sits behind his desk, a variety of charts,
test tubes, and plastic replicas of reproductive systems
crowding him.

Cindy and Adam listen intently while Dr. Stevenson explains
his theory.

Shelly enters with a stack of folders, files them, then
becomes distracted by the conversation. Instead of
returning to the reception area, she remains in
the room.

CINDY

Has this ever been done before?

DR. STEVENSON

There have been documented experiments
of in vitro growth, up to one week,
actually, before the fetus dies.

CINDY

Then why . . .

DR. STEVENSON

Because of something Adam said.

ADAM

Me?

DR. STEVENSON

Yes. You said, "Why can't humans do it the way chickens do?" Well -- that got me to thinking. Chickens sit on their eggs, don't they? They keep them snug under them. And I think that's the missing key -- we know a fetus needs nutrition and warmth, and we can reproduce that in our clinic. But we can't reproduce love.

CINDY

But how . . .

Dr. Stevenson holds up a model egg.

DR. STEVENSON

I'm still working on it. But, by putting the embryo in a portable, protective shell so that it can have the maximum human interaction, it just might work.

CINDY

And if it doesn't?

ADAM

At least we'll know we tried.

CINDY

You know the odds aren't in our favor.

Adam nods.

DR. STEVENSON

Just because it's never been done before doesn't mean you two . . . we three . . . can't be the first to succeed. I'll be working on ways to transfer the embryo into an eggshell.

SHELLY

You'll all be famous! Maybe even rich!

Dr. Stevenson raises his eyebrow.

ADAM

Who cares about getting rich? We just want a kid of our own.

Cindy looks at Dr. Stevenson as if he's crazy. She shakes her head.

ADAM

We have nothing to lose. Except maybe some sperm and a few eggs. Think about it -- if crocodiles, snakes and birds can do it, so can we. Come on, what do ya say? Worth a try, huh?

CINDY

Sitting on an egg like birds do? It's just nutty.

Shelly giggles, and everybody looks at her.

SHELLY

Sorry. Just trying to picture it.

The hope in Adam's face dissolves into sadness.

CINDY

I'll think about it, okay? If we actually went through with this how long would it be before we'd know if it worked or not?

DR. STEVENSON

I guess we wouldn't know for sure until the baby was bor -- er, hatched. But we could routinely scan the egg and monitor the progress.

Cindy takes Adam's hand and squeezes it.

CINDY

Darling, are you sure you want to take the chance?

ADAM

I want a baby.

They rise and Adam shakes the doctor's hand.

ADAM

Thank you, doctor. We'll get back to you.

DR. STEVENSON

I'll look forward to it. Shelly will show you out.

INT. COFFEE SHOP - DAY

Cindy and Adam sit next to a large window, sipping coffee and talking, their faces intent. Through the window, they see a young mother push a stroller with twins. They look at the babies, then at each other. They want a baby.

INT. DR. STEVENSON OFFICE - DAY

Nurse Shelly accompanies Adam and Cindy into Dr. Stevenson's office. Dr. Stevenson and Nick jump to their feet and greet them enthusiastically.

Adam looks at Cindy and smiles, his joy uncontainable.

DR. STEVENSON

Sit down. Sit down. Want some coffee?

ADAM

No, no. Thank you.

ADAM

Doc, Cindy and I gave this a lot of thought . . .

CINDY

We think it's worth a try. I mean, who would have thought that cloning would

be possible just a few years ago,
right?

DR. STEVENSON

Splendid! I assure you, you won't be
sorry.

SHELLY

Wow! We're going to be on CNN!

DR. STEVENSON

Let's not count our chickens before
they hatch, Shelly. I'll make the
preparations and we'll get this thing
started.

ADAM

Do you honestly think this could work,
Doctor?

DR. STEVENSON

I can't tell you that right now, Adam,
but I'm willing to give it my best
shot. I want you to know that, both of
you.

ADAM

We appreciate that.

DR. STEVENSON

The most important thing will be to
keep the fertilized egg warm at all
times.

ADAM

And how can we do that?

DR. STEVENSON

With an electric blanket. I guess you
could make some sort of special nest,
and when you're at home you can keep
it warm by sitting on it - not
directly, of course. As we said,
parental affection is very important.

CINDY

I'm still not sure about how this is going to work. What about fetal nutrition?

DR. STEVENSON

I hope, by using the method of osmosis and placing the egg in a cocktail of nutrient fluids at night, the fetus will have its needs. Of course, I'll need to check regularly that the chemical levels are at proper concentrations. And dispose of wastes.

ADAM

It's definitely worth a shot.

DR. STEVENSON

Great, and whether the experiment works out or not, you can forget about the charge. It's on the scientific community. And me, of course.

INT. DR. STEVENSON'S CLINIC

The office is packed with women of all ages and sizes, most appearing to be pregnant. Adam is the only man, and, in spite of Cindy's smile, he appears uncomfortable.

Adam pats his stomach as a very pregnant woman across the room scowls at him.

INT. THE LAB - DAY

Dr. Stevenson grins as he watches Shelly flit about, reassuring the patients.

DR. STEVENSON

It's time to start our new experiment.

NICK

Remember, we need to start a family ourselves.

DR. STEVENSON

What do you mean?

NICK

Fertilize an extra egg.

Dr. Stevenson scratches his head as he walks in front of Nick to the next room.

NEXT ROOM

Adam and Cindy, dressed in matching indiscreet hospital gowns, struggle to keep their derrieres covered.

DR. STEVENSON

Okay, guys. First I'll retrieve some eggs from Cindy's ovary . . .

Cindy looks worried.

DR. STEVENSON

It won't hurt a bit. It's a rather delicate procedure, so we need to do it under ultrasound control. The only thing you'll need to do, Cindy, is relax.

ADAM

What about me, Doc?

The Doctor looks at Shelly and they both laugh.

SHELLY

Well, Adam, you just take this bottle and do your thing. The restroom is two doors down, on the right.

NICK

Can I help you?

Shelly laughs harder.

SHELLY

Remember, Adam - it's the quality that counts, not the quantity!

Adam walks down the hall, holding the specimen bottle, trying to look invisible. Just as he reaches the second door, the very pregnant woman from earlier comes from around the corner. She looks at Adam, then at the specimen bottle. She nods knowingly.

Adam takes a deep breath and enters the room on the right.

INT. RESTROOM - DAY

Adam locks the door, then looks around. A curtain is pulled around the half of the room that obviously is where the dirty deed is to be done. As Adam approaches, he realizes someone is already in the enclosed area.

Just behind the curtain, out of Adam's sight, a plumber works to unclog a toilet. He has a large plunger, which he thrusts in and out of the toilet.

Adam looks at the curtain and sees only shadows of the thrusting and hears the grunts of the worker. His mouth drops open and he watches, unbelieving.

Finally, the worker drops the plunger and pulls back the curtain just far enough to stick his head out.

PLUMBER

Could you give me a hand here
a sec?

Adam drops his specimen cup and runs out the door.

SERIES OF SHOTS

- a) In the lab, busy doctors in surgical uniforms rush around.
- b) Wearing surgical mask and gloves, Dr. Stevenson's eyes gleam as he closely monitors the procedure. Nick looks very excited.
- c) The egg is combined with the sperm and placed in the incubator.

- d) Orange leaves on nearby Maple trees turning darker and falling.
- e) Adam and Cindy at home, preparing a special nest-like thing under a chair.

INT. THE LAB - DAY

Two glass tanks each contain a growing embryo floating in pink fluid. The embryos look tiny.

Nurse Shelley jots down results. She pauses and squints as she looks more closely. She smiles, then turns to the phone and dials.

Shelly waits restlessly for him to pick up.

SHELLY

Dr. Stevenson, can you believe it? The two embryos have started to form a membrane.

STEVENSON

In only seven days? That's great news. We may not have to transfer it into a shell. WOW, I'm on my way.

INT. DIRTY BAR - NIGHT

Loud music pulsates through thick smoke. Strippers both tease and fight off overweight men in grimy t-shirts.

At the corner table, T-Bone nervously fingers a beer can. Two somber Chinese "agents" sit across from him.

CHINESE AGENT #1

Fifty grand up front and fifty grand on delivery.

CHINESE AGENT #2

That's our final offer.

T-BONE

You still owe me forty grand for the last experiment.

CHINESE AGENT #1

And your American doctor friend had
already published the results.

CHINESE AGENT #2

We get it first, we get the glory, or
we don't pay.

T-Bone knocks the beer can over, grabs for it, splashing
beer over Agent Two.

Agent Two stares at T-Bone, blinking. T-Bone looks
frantically for napkins. He finds a dirty handkerchief and
swabs at the agent's face.

The agent knocks his hand away.

T-BONE

Sorry. Shit. So sorry.

CHINESE AGENT #1

I suggest you be more careful with the
egg.

CHINESE AGENT #2

Scrambled doesn't count. We want a
whole, unbroken, fertile egg.

T-Bone nods, his hands clasped tightly to prevent them from
shaking.

CHINESE AGENT #1

And we want it first this time.

Agent #2 crushes his beer can in his hand until it is a
tangled ball of aluminum.

CHINESE AGENT #2

Or else.

FADE OUT, camera on the destruction.

ADAM AND CINDY'S APARTMENT HALLWAY- DAY

Adam and Cindy walk into the apartment carrying a basket

with the egg tucked under a special little heating blanket with a battery pack. Adam's face is lit with a smile that has become a recently-permanent feature.

ADAM

I can't believe we might actually be parents soon! It's almost like the baby is here already.

CINDY

Remember what Dr. Stevenson said, honey. We can't get our hopes up.

ADAM

Either way, it's a miracle! Imagine . . . our child will be hatched out of an egg . . . like a baby chicken.

Their neighbor, Helen, is walking her dog and stops them.

HELEN

How are my sweet neighbors doing? Did you like the electric skillet I gave you?

ADAM

We're fine and the skillet's great. Thanks, Helen.

BoBo is ballistic, trying to get to the egg in Adam's basket.

Helen tilts her head to peer from beneath her bifocals.

HELEN

Do you have a new pet in this basket by any chance?

ADAM

No, no pets.

HELEN

You know, pets aren't allowed.

ADAM

And what's that you're holding there,
a battery operated toy?

HELEN

I am the manager, aren't I?

ADAM

Sure, Helen, whatever you say. Now if
you'll excuse us. . .

EXT. ADAM AND CINDY'S APARTMENT BUILDING - DAY

T-Bone spies on their comings and goings, hiding behind
starkly bare trees.

INT. CINDY'S APARTMENT - DAY

Adam, dressed in a chicken suit made of yellow feathers,
sits in the special nesting chair, watching TV.

DOORBELL RINGS.

Adam glances at the door, checks his watch, and remains on
the egg.

The door opens and Harry and Marion bustle in. Harry
carries a casserole dish covered by a dishtowel.

Adam turns the TV off.

HARRY

Marion, this isn't an emergency.

MARION

If Cindy didn't want me to use her
key, she wouldn't have given it to me.

HARRY

For emergencies, Marion. For . . .

They stop as they see Adam sitting in the chicken outfit.
Adam's mouth opens and closes as Harry and Marion gawk. An
awkward silence ensues.

ADAM

I, uh, I was, uh, just . . .

HARRY

Still singing those telegrams, I see.

Harry walks past Adam, taking the casserole to the kitchen.

Adam is obviously distracted and uncomfortable from almost being "discovered."

MARION

That's my chicken and broccoli
casserole that Cindy likes so well.

ADAM

Thank-you.

MARION

She's much too thin, don't you think?

ADAM

I think she's perfect.

MARION

Well, if you got a real job, she
wouldn't have to work so hard. (waits
for Adam to speak, and when he
doesn't, she continues)
And it just isn't right for her to
work so hard and then come home and
have to cook, too.

Adam is still unable to get his thoughts organized enough to speak.

Harry returns from the kitchen just as the entry door opens again and Cindy hurries in, dropping her briefcase by the door. She takes off her winter jacket and hangs it in the closet.

CINDY (O.S.)

Adam? Why don't we . . .

Cindy pauses as she sees Adam, still dressed in feathers and sitting on the egg, and then her parents.

Marion goes to Cindy and hugs her.

MARION

I brought you dinner. You need to take better care of yourself. (She gives Adam a nasty look)

Cindy's face shows she thinks Adam has confessed their secret.

CINDY

You told them?

Adam tries to shake his head, but his feathers just bob and sway.

MARION

It's important that you eat right.

CINDY

Oh, Mom, we would have told you, but...

Adam tries to motion her quiet, but instead he looks like a giant chicken flapping its wings.

Cindy looks at Adam, unable to decipher his message, then at her parents.

CINDY

But, I guess I'm glad you found out. It's been so hard not to tell you.

MARION

Found out? About what?

CINDY

The baby.

MARION AND HARRY

What?

CINDY

Adam and I are going to have a baby.

Marion stares first at Cindy, then at Adam.

MARION

A baby? My baby is going to have a baby? (becomes more animated as she realizes the full power of what Cindy has said.) A baby! A grandchild! I'm going to be a grandmother!

Marion grabs Cindy and pulls her into a tight hug. She eyes Adam, still looking confused in his chicken outfit. Slowly, her expression softens and she draws Adam, feathers and all, into the hug. At first Adam is suspicious of her affection, but then he relaxes. Finally, Marion releases them.

MARION

Harry, we're going to be grandparents. (she takes Adam's hand) And you're going to be our grandbaby's daddy!

Adam and Cindy exchange glances.

CINDY

Now, Mom, there's something else we need to tell you.

Adam's mouth falls open, looking like a beak, and he again does his "funky chicken" routine in order to shush Cindy.

But this time Cindy is ahead of him.

CINDY

Now, don't be alarmed, but we didn't want to tell you about the baby before because the doctor isn't sure that it will make it full-term.

Marion leads Cindy to the sofa and sits with her.

MARION

Oh, my dear baby. You must sit down. You must take it easy. And Adam, you need to make sure she gets her proper rest and that she eats right. And don't you be imposing on her for nighttime favors, if you know what I mean. Pregnancy is hard on a woman. Cindy, I guess you will be quitting your job.

CINDY

No, Mom. I...

MARION

Cynthia Michelle! Harry, talk some sense into your daughter.

HARRY

I'm sure Cindy knows what's best.

ADAM

Uh, the doctor, he, uh, he thinks it's best for Cindy if she keeps working.

MARION

I've never heard of such nonsense. Cindy, you will go to a different doctor tomorrow.

CINDY

Mom, please...

MARION

Harry, talk to her.

HARRY

Let her be, Marion.

MARION

Adam, you can't let her do this.

CINDY

Mom, it's okay. Now, this is why we didn't want to tell you.

Marion considers her words.

MARION

Then you will get a maid. Immediately.
I'll call Dusting Darlings tomorrow
and get you someone to come in to cook
and clean.

CINDY

I don't really think that's necessary,
Mom.

ADAM

The doctor insists that Cindy not be
upset. He suggested that we limit
visitors.

MARION

I should think so.

HARRY

I think that includes us, Marion.

Marion's mouth flies open and she looks at Cindy for
confirmation.

CINDY

Thanks for the casserole, Mom. It's my
favorite.

Marion stands and pats Cindy's flat tummy.

MARION

All right, dear. You just take care of
yourself. And my grandson.

Harry nudges her toward the exit. Marion takes his arm and
finally leaves.

Once they are safely out the door, Cindy laughs.

CINDY

So, how is our baby?

ADAM

Growing. I can tell.

Cindy goes to him. Adam moves over, making room for Cindy on the nesting chair. She sits, and he puts his arm around her.

The phone rings and Adam answers it.

ADAM

Hello? . . . Oh, hello, Mary, what's up?
. . . Yeah . . . Well, if necessary. This
is Cindy's time off . . . Sure, sure.
Okay, okay. . . I'll tell her . . . Bye.

Cindy seems to be expecting the worse.

CINDY

Don't tell me. Mary has the dresses ready
for fitting. Right?

ADAM

You got it, sweetie.

CINDY

Well, I guess I'd better get moving. The
sooner I get down there, the sooner I get
back.

She gestures to the egg and smiles.

ADAM

Grab me a couple of magazines before you
leave.

CINDY

I should be the one to sit on the egg,
not the rooster! And remember. It's
very important to keep the egg warm.
Every time you have to get up for
something, make sure you turn the
heating unit on.

Adam salutes.

ADAM

(in a Gomer Pyle voice) Yes, sir, Mr. Sergeant,
sir.

Cindy laughs as she tosses him some magazines.

EXT. ADAM AND CINDY'S APARTMENT BUILDING - DAY

Christmas lights twinkle and people hurry by, carrying wrapped packages. Adam steps out of his truck and walks to the door of the building. Helen is walking her dog and stops him.

HELEN

Hi, Adam. BoBo has been sniffing at your door a lot lately. Do you have a new cat by any chance?

ADAM

No, no new pets. We did get a new housekeeper, though.

HELEN

Yes, I met her. Lovely lady. But I don't think it's her. Are you sure there is nothing new in your apartment?

Adam thinks about the egg and gets nervous.

ADAM

It's been nice talking with you, Helen, but I better get in. Cindy should be home any minute.

HELEN

Oh, I see. Tell her I say hello, will you?

ADAM

Sure.

Adam hurries into the building.

INT. APARTMENT BUILDING

Adam strides down the hallway toward his apartment with Helen and BoBo right behind him. She takes the dog off the leash.

HELEN

If the new housekeeper hasn't fixed dessert for you, I just made a strawberry shortcake.

The dog beats Adam to his apartment and sniffs the door, pawing and whimpering. Adam tries to open the door, while watching the dog.

ADAM

I'm sure Susan has it covered, but thank you for the kind offer.

Adam tries to use his foot to push the dog away from the door. BoBo growls.

HELEN

Now stop that, BoBo. Adam can go into his apartment by himself. (to Adam)
He's such a good watchdog.

Adam tries to smile as he unlocks the door and opens it. But before he can go inside, the dog squeezes through and races into the apartment.

HELEN

Bo! Come to mama! It's not nice to visit without being invited!

Adam notices the dog running straight for the chair and he panics. He runs after the dog, with Helen following right behind him.

INSIDE

The dog bolts into the bedroom, sniffing and barking. He dives under the nesting chair, which is decorated for Christmas.

Adam tries to grab the dog's collar and pull him away. His spectacles fall off his face while he tries to control the growling dog.

Helen runs to Adam's aid and grabs hold of the dog's collar.

HELEN

I don't know what's gotten into him.
Do you have food under there?

Adam looks for his glasses.

HELEN

I apologize. I have no idea what's
gotten into my precious little
darling.

She turns and walks out, pulling the dog by its collar. It tries to resist, still interested in finding out what's under the chair.

Adam takes a deep breath and follows Helen to the door. As Helen leaves the apartment, she turns back to Adam.

HELEN

I'll come back again when I can stay
longer. And remember, if you and Cindy
would like some cake, just give me a
call.

ADAM

Thank you, Helen.

He closes the door and leans against it.

Adam is walking back to his chair when the telephone rings. He picks up the receiver.

CINDY

Adam?

ADAM

Hello? Oh, Hi sweetie!

INTERCUT PHONE CALL

Cindy is at her work place.

CINDY

I just talked to Susan and she seems to be happy with the job so far.

ADAM

Did she tell you about the egg skirmish?

CINDY

It's great that you got there in time before she put it in the refrigerator. She felt really bad about it. I guess we don't have to worry about what to say to her now that she's seen the egg.

ADAM

I called Dr. Stevenson to set up an appointment to scan it.

CINDY

Honey, you're such a good manager. I love you!

ADAM

I'd better get back to babysitting, sweetie.

Cindy hangs up the receiver and gets back to work. Adam does the same.

EXT. ADAM AND CINDY'S APARTMENT BUILDING - NIGHT

T-Bone stands across the street in six inches of snow, staring at the apartment building, his breath vaporizing in the winter air.

INT. ADAM AND CINDY'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Adam is wearing his chicken outfit while he sits on the egg, reading the newspaper. Just as Cindy walks in from the

kitchen, he passes gas.

Cindy holds her nose and screams at him.

CINDY

Not on the egg, the baby will stink!

Adam laughs.

ADAM

You can blame Susan and that
delicious dinner.

CINDY

Maybe you better clean the egg.

Cindy walks to the window. T-Bone sees her from the street and hides behind some bushes just before she opens the window. She turns back to Adam, her expression thoughtful.

CINDY

If we're going to have a baby, I
should look pregnant.

ADAM

We'll just have to figure out how to
pad you right. What about using an
inflatable balloon, one you can put in
your bag when you arrive at work?

CINDY

I may try that. Look, we don't need to
get very close to the neighbors, at
least until all this is over.

Adam walks to Cindy and hugs her, patting her flat stomach.

EXT. ADAM AND CINDY'S APARTMENT BUILDING

Adam walks out to the curb as Dr. Stevenson's four wheel drive vehicle pulls up and parks. He gets out and greets Adam, stepping over a patch of muddy snow.

DR. STEVENSON

Good to see you, Adam.

They pull the bulky scanning machine out of the vehicle and begin to wheel it on its trolley into the building.

DR. STEVENSON

Thanks for giving me a hand. This thing is kind of heavy.

INT. ADAM AND CINDY'S APARTMENT BUILDING

The first person they encounter in the hall is Helen.

Adam rolls his eyes back.

HELEN

Oh my goodness, Adam, what in the hell is that monster contraption?

ADAM

Nothing, Helen. Just a special machine.

HELEN

What kind of machine is it, exactly?

DR. STEVENSON

We call it an Ultra, umm, Scanner.

ADAM

Yeah, uh . . . umm . . . It's a machine to scan and check the density of the pillars in my apartment. And this is the engineer who's going to do the testing for me.

He gestures to Dr. Stevenson.

DR. STEVENSON

Hi, nice to meet you.

HELEN

Wow, really? I've never seen one of these machines before. Are you checking the whole building or just your own apartment?

ADAM

Just my apartment, I think.

She seems more curious than ever now as they try to walk away from her.

HELEN

Why are you doing this?

ADAM

You know our building is very old and I like to sleep knowing everything is all right. You hear on the news about older buildings that collapse.

Adam and Dr. Stevenson are almost at the apartment door, but Helen still follows them.

ADAM

So, Helen, I'll see you later...right?

All of a sudden her dog runs up to them and snaps at Dr. Stevenson's leg. Helen's attention turns to it.

HELEN

I'm sorry. He doesn't know you.

She reaches down and grabs the dog by the collar, pulling it back. Adam now opens the apartment door and they walk inside. He turns to Helen.

ADAM

Good day, Helen.

INT. ADAM AND CINDY'S APARTMENT

Adam, Cindy and Dr. Stevenson are in the bedroom. Cindy is wearing maternity clothes.

ADAM

Helen means well, but it's always just one question after another. I had no choice but to lie to her. I'm sure this will give her enough to gossip about for a while.

The doctor prepares to scan the egg. He squeezes jelly from the tube onto the egg, and then holds the probe of the Scanner while looking at the screen of the machine.

DR. STEVENSON

I must ask that I have complete silence while I do the testing.

Adam and Cindy stand to one side, holding hands. They twitch and wiggle as the doctor works.

When the testing is complete, he turns to both of them.

ADAM

Doctor?

DR. STEVENSON

It's doing better than I ever thought. However, the membrane isn't quite firm enough.

Adam continues to fidget. Cindy looks at the doctor with concern.

CINDY

How long before it actually matures?

Dr. Stevenson checks the nutrient in the embryo's container.

DR. STEVENSON

It's too soon to tell. But we need to add calcium to the nutrient. That might make the membrane harder.

Dr. Stevenson notices their worry. He smiles.

DR. STEVENSON

Just think what we're accomplishing here. It looks like you're going to be parents soon, and it will be a medical break through. But we still have to keep it a secret for a while, at least until the baby is born.

ADAM

I don't know how we can ever thank you for this doctor.

DR. STEVENSON

Seeing a healthy baby and two happy parents is all the thanks I'll need. Plus, if this works out as perfectly as I hope, the fact that we can bring the same happiness to other parents will be just wonderful. Now, I better get back to the office.

Dr Stevenson gathers his belongings while Adam unplugs the machine.

ADAM

I'll help you with the scanner.

Dr. Stevenson nods. They walk out of the bedroom.

DR. STEVENSON

Keep that little one warm.

IN THE LIVING ROOM

Adam, carrying the scanning machine, opens the door and walks with Dr. Stevenson into the corridor.

CINDY

Thank you, Dr. Stevenson.

Cindy shuts the apartment door.

IN THE HALLWAY

Just as Adam and the doctor reach the end of the hallway, Helen appears, looking concerned.

HELEN

Well?

ADAM

Well, Mr. umm, Wendell here, says that there is excessive pressure on some of

the pillars in the building, which creates a risk of collapse.

HELEN

Why don't you let the engineer speak for himself?

Adam confers with Dr. Stevenson in whispers, then turns to Helen, successful in maintaining a straight face.

ADAM

Mr. Wendell advises less sex and recommends the tenants create a schedule for nocturnal activities, so that all these vibrations don't occur at the same time.

Dr Stevenson can't believe what he's hearing. He pulls Adam away.

DR. STEVENSON

Are you crazy? Stop putting on all this crap! What if she finds out I'm not an engineer? I mean, for God's sake Adam, my experience is limited to women's problems below the umbilicus!

ADAM

I can't let her find out about our little secret. Just let me handle it.

Adam turns to Helen.

ADAM

The engineer will be back in a few weeks to recheck the pillars. So we have to follow his recommendations. We don't want the building to collapse now do we?

HELEN

I think I can speak for everyone when I say no. Being a widow, I don't have to worry about having too much sex... I wish I did!

Dr. Stevenson smiles as he walks away with Adam.

DR. STEVENSON
Adam, you're a terrible man!

ADAM AND CINDY'S BEDROOM LATER THAT NIGHT

Adam is sitting on the nest and the TV is on.

CINDY
The egg is beginning to grow much bigger. We have to buy a layette soon.

ADAM
I can go shopping any time, but don't expect me to pay.

IN THE HALLWAY

Helen's dog is lying right outside Adam and Cindy's door as if trying to stick its nose under the door.

INT. LABORATORY - NIGHT

The second fertilized egg is heated under an Infra-red beam. Loud music floats through the Laboratory as Nick sings and dances in a circle around the egg.

NICK
Baby I need your lovin ... Got to have all your lovin.
Baby I need your lovin ... Got to have all your lovin.

T-Bone with the two Chinese agents in a car, watches Nick from the opposite side of the road.

A police car pulls up behind. Two policemen approach them.

POLICEMAN #1
Do you like the song or the singer?

POLICEMAN #2
Do you live in the neighborhood, or did you come for the show?

T-Bone
Waiting for a friend.

POLICEMAN #2
Your IDs please.

T-Bone and the two Chinese men show their ID.

The policeman writes down their names and the car registration number.

POLICEMAN #1
We hope to see you again, in your own neighborhood.

THREE WEEKS LATER

INT. ADAM AND CINDY'S APARTMENT - DAY

Dr Stevenson is back to rescan the egg. He's busy scanning in the bedroom as Adam and Cindy, who now appears about six months pregnant, stand quietly beside him. He makes a new discovery this time.

He turns and smiles.

DR. STEVENSON
Looks like a healthy baby boy.

Adam and Cindy are too overjoyed for words. They pull each other close.

DR. STEVENSON
We'll need very close follow-ups from now on. It appears the baby is about six months.

IN FRONT OF ADAM AND CINDY'S BUILDING - DAY

Dr Stevenson drives off and Adam returns to his apartment. Suddenly, Adam is pulled from behind by a big man resembling an overgrown super Mario.

Adam almost loses his balance and swings back.

ADAM

Oh, hello, Mr. White.

Now Mr. WHITE, the Landlord, holds Adam by his shirt collar.

ADAM

Can I help you?

LANDLORD

You sure can!

ADAM

Mr. White, your face is turning red!
Did my check bounce?

LANDLORD

You son-of-a-bitch! Who the hell gave you, you, above all people, the authority to check my building? Do you have any idea what you've done? You've frightened the tenants. Some of them have even stopped having sex in their own friggin' apartments!

ADAM

But I'm only trying to help sir, and it was all for the better. You don't want to pay out millions in compensation if the building collapses, now do you?

LANDLORD

Of course not, you twit. But you could have asked me about it first.

ADAM

Did that nosey Mrs. O'Connor tell you?

LANDLORD

Are you telling me you don't like my sweet cousin Helen?

ADAM

Of course not, Mr. White. She is one

of the sweetest ladies I have ever met.

LANDLORD

Cut the horse shit, Adam! You are trying to create a huge problem for me, and I'm not the kind of person who likes problems. I don't want this building having a bad name.

ADAM

Yes, Mr. White. Don't worry, everything will be just fine.

Dr. Stevenson turns so they don't see him chuckle.

This time Helen's dog runs to Adam's apartment while Adam chases after him. Adam slips on the wet floor of the corridor and skids past the dog and beats him into the apartment.

Adam then quickly pulls himself together, slams the door behind him and throws his body against it. Adam is breathless while the dog keeps barking on the other side of the door.

INT. RESTAURANT - NIGHT

Adam, Cindy, Marion and Harry are having dinner. Cindy appears quite large.

ADAM

So, how does it feel knowing that you'll soon be grandparents?

MARION

Oh, it's a dream come true. A blessing.

HARRY

I didn't think I'd ever live to see this day. I can't wait to take my grandson fishing with me.

Cindy begins to cry.

CINDY

Oh, Mom, Dad, I've never been happier!

Harry and Marion embrace each other as Adam holds Cindy's hand.

INT. ADAM AND CINDY'S APARTMENT BUILDING

While Adam and Cindy are out, T-Bone tiptoes down the hall of the quiet building with a flashlight in his hand and a black ski mask over his face. He reaches Adam and Cindy's apartment door, then digs into his pocket and pulls out a piece of wire. He tries to unlock the door.

Helen's dog barks in her apartment. T-Bone hears the scratching and barking and gets nervous. He tries to hurry. Just as Helen lets the dog out, T-Bone gets the door open and steps inside, shutting the door just before the dog reaches him.

T-Bone moves quickly around the dark apartment, using his flashlight. He heads into the bedroom. He finds the special chair. He removes the electric blanket, but there's no egg on the warming nest.

He goes to the kitchen, and finally his flashlight shines on the jar where the egg is kept in the nutrient fluid. He snatches the egg, turns around and runs to the door, where Helen's dog is barking insanely.

T-BONE

Damn it!

He thinks for a moment and then hurries back into the kitchen and opens the refrigerator. He grabs a piece of meat and runs back to the door.

Upon opening the door, the dog growls and snarls. He shows it the meat and tries to coax it to settle down.

T-BONE

Nice doggie, nice doggie! See the nice piece of meat?

The dog quiets and turns its attention to the meat.

T-Bone breathes a sigh of relief.

T-BONE

That's a good boy.

He then acts as though he's going to throw it down the hall in the opposite direction from which he needs to go.

T-BONE

Now go get it, boy. Go get it!

T-Bone tosses it as far away as he can and the dog runs after it.

T-Bone then shuts the door and runs down the hallway toward the gate of the building. Just as he reaches the gate, the dog catches up and jumps at him, biting his butt. T-Bone yells with the dog, still holding on.

At the gate, Helen, who's holding the stick of a sweeping brush, confronts T-Bone. The dog tries to pull T-Bone to the floor. The egg slips out of T-Bone's hand and rolls across the floor towards the steps to the gate.

Helen beats T-Bone with the stick, while T-Bone tries to get off the dog.

Adam and Cindy arrive just in time. Adam dives and saves the egg from rolling down the steps. He balances it until Cindy comes and helps him hold it steady. They ignore all the commotion around them as they examine the egg for defects.

ADAM

(quietly) Do you think we should call the police?

CINDY

How would we explain the egg?

ADAM

What if that horrible man comes back? He knows about the egg.

CINDY

We gotta call Dr. Stevenson. Make sure
the baby is okay.

Once out on the sidewalk, the dog lets go and barks loudly
at T-Bone as he runs across the street and escapes in a
rusted, red (70's) Volkswagen Bug.

Helen demands to know what is going on (AD LIB), but Adam
and Cindy are in their own little world, protecting the egg
with their bodies and taking it back to their apartment.

INT. ADAM AND CINDY'S APARTMENT - AN HOUR LATER

Dr. Stevenson walks out of the bedroom. Adam and Cindy are
concerned about the look on his face.

CINDY
What is it?

ADAM
Is it de--?

DR. STEVENSON
Tough baby. Not even the shell has
cracks.

Adam and Cindy still appear concerned. Dr. Stevenson smiles
to convince them all is well.

DR. STEVENSON
Everything is fine, just fine. The
only thing this baby needs is less
commotion.

ADAM
Somehow, that man knew about the egg.

DR. STEVENSON
Have you told anyone? Relatives?
Neighbors?

ADAM
No one.

DR. STEVENSON

Maybe he overheard you talking about it?

ADAM

Maybe. But we can't get the police involved.

DR. STEVENSON

If that man has any idea how valuable this experiment is—and he must—he will be back.

CINDY

What can we do?

DR. STEVENSON

Stay somewhere else. It's only a month before the baby is due.

CINDY

You know, we've still got those tickets for the Bahamas.

DR. STEVENSON

(thoughtfully) Good plan. Warm sunshine, less noise, sounds great.

ADAM

No. I thought we had that settled. I won't fly.

CINDY

That man will never find us there.

DR. STEVENSON

And it gives me an excuse to give a house call. I could use some sun.

ADAM

I said I won't fly.

FADE OUT as Cindy and Dr. Stevenson discuss flights, hotels and beaches.

INT. LABORATORY - NEXT DAY

Dr. Stevenson checks the Laboratory egg with the Ultrasound machine. Nick and Shelly stand behind him. Dr. Stevenson looks concerned.

DR. STEVENSON

I'm not happy about the progress of this one.

NICK

Is there anything else we can do to make it work?

DR. STEVENSON

We may have to increase the heat.

SHELLY

Sure thing.

DR. STEVENSON

Shelly, make sure the alarm system is on every Night. You know why!

EXT. LOCAL ZOO - NIGHT

Late spring flowers bloom throughout the area. Animal sounds penetrate the darkness. Pan through different habitats - lions yawning, monkeys mating, zebras resting in groups, finally stopping on a flock of ostriches. One mating group rests peacefully. In another, a nine-foot female picks at a flea, then freezes, her head jerking as she scans for trouble.

We then see T-Bone, dwarfed by the huge birds, crawling slowly toward a male ostrich squatting over a hole scraped into the ground. As he nears, the female squawks and the male stands. Eight six-inch by five-inch white eggs glisten in the moonlight.

T-Bone grins and grabs one, but before he can think about escaping, the female rushes towards him. She kicks him with her powerful leg, and T-Bone is lifted off the ground and moved six feet. He grunts, but cradles the egg. Before he can scramble to his feet, the female kicks him again.

The rest of the flock is alerted and a dozen giant birds run at 40 mph to converge on the intruder.

T-Bone protects the egg under him, grimacing in preparation for the next kick.

EXT. DESERTED ROAD - DAY

The two Chinese agents sit in their car at the side of the road. One looks impatiently at his watch.

At the other end of the road, the red VW approaches slowly, then stops. T-Bone steps out. He half-limps, half-crawls to the other car, carrying the egg in a brown paper bag.

Chinese Agent One and Chinese Agent Two exchange disgusted looks. They both step out.

CHINESE AGENT #1

What's this?

T-Bone is gasping.

T-BONE

The egg.

Chinese Agent One picks it up and examines it closely.

T-BONE

Money. Give me the rest of the money.

Chinese Agent One hands the egg to Chinese Agent Two, who also checks it out. They look at each other and shrug.

CHINESE AGENT #2

We'll take this back to the office and have it checked out.

T-BONE

(still gasping) Money.

Chinese Agent Two packs the egg into a foam-protected camera case.

CHINESE AGENT #1

Tomorrow. Same place. Same time.

INT. HELEN APARTMENT -DAY

Helen is on the phone with a construction engineer.

HELEN

. . . I see . . . so there's no such a
machine for checking the density of
pillars?

Helen slams down the phone. She readjusts her dentures as
she considers her options.

INT. CINDY'S APARTMENT HALLWAY - DAY

Adam and Cindy are preparing to leave for the Bahamas.
Cindy folds bikini swimwear sets, while Adam packs tiny t-
shirts, diapers, bottles, etc.

CINDY

We better pack a carry-on with the
essentials - bottles, diapers and so
on, just in case they lose our
luggage.

ADAM

Lose our luggage? How could they . . .

CINDY

Don't worry about it. It's just a
possibility. I'd rather be safe than
sorry.

Adam nods and holds up a tiny gown. He smiles happily.

CINDY

And no more Helen wanting to know
where the egg came from and what it is
. . .

ADAM

I told her it was an alien egg.

CINDY

Adam!

ADAM

(smiles) I just wish Dr. Stevenson

could come with us.

CINDY

I know. But he says he'll try to come down to join us in two weeks. How are we gonna sneak the egg onto the plane?

ADAM

I've been thinking about that. How about coating the egg with chocolate just before we leave for the airport? That way there'll be no way anyone will know what's really in it.

Cindy looks at Adam as if he just might be nuts.

CINDY

Good idea, hon.

Cindy tries to adjust the padding around her waist. It's obviously uncomfortable.

CINDY

Damn this thing!

INT. SHELLY'S APARTMENT - DAY

T-Bone lies on the worn sofa, his face bruised and battered, his barely visible eyes aimed at a TV talk show. He holds a beer can in his hand, but the effort to take a drink is too much. He groans.

The two Chinese agents appear silently behind him. Slowly, T-Bone feels their presence and painfully looks at them.

CHINESE AGENT #1

Seems like we have a problem.

CHINESE AGENT #2

You have twenty-four hours to produce the human egg.

Chinese Agent One holds the Ostrich egg over T-Bone's face and crushes it. Three pounds of slimy yolk ooze over T-Bone's bruises.

As the two agents leave, T-Bone grabs the cordless phone and punches in a number.

T-BONE
Shelly, how is your egg doing?

SHELLY
What egg?

T-BONE
Your fucking experiment.

SHELLY
Not good. Why are you asking?

T-BONE
Damn.

EXT. CINDY AND ADAM'S APARTMENT - VERY EARLY MORNING

T-Bone sits in a tree across from the apartment. He watches through binoculars as Adam decorates the egg.

EXT. ADAM AND CINDY'S APARTMENT BUILDING - DAY

Cindy holds the egg in a basket, while Adam is surrounded by luggage. He looks at his watch.

ADAM
Are you sure your parents will get here on time?

As if in answer, Harry's car swerves around the corner, breaking sharply in front of him.

ADAM
Never mind. Your father is a maniac.

INT. CINDY'S FATHER'S CAR - DAY

Adam loads their luggage in the trunk, then takes the egg from Cindy. He places the basket on his lap.

Harry becomes curious about the egg Adam's carrying.

HARRY

Why are you taking an Easter egg with you?

ADAM

A gift for a friend of mine.

HARRY

But Easter was two months ago; don't you think it's a bit late?

Cindy adjusts the padding in her blouse.

ADAM

Not for this guy. Easter or not, he loves chocolate and this thing's going to be gone in less than 24 hours. Believe me!

Marion notices Cindy's nervousness.

HARRY

But where the hell can you buy Easter eggs of such a size at this time of the year?

ADAM

Cindy and I made it!

Cindy really starts fidgeting now.

MARION

Are you all right, dear?

CINDY

I'm fine, Mom. Just excited, I guess.

INT. HELEN APARTMENT -DAY

Helen sees a copy of the National Enquirer on the table. She glances over the headlines: "Aliens eggs spotted in New Mexico." She is on the phone again.

HELEN

You know those Aliens eggs seen in New Mexico? My neighbors are harboring one of these eggs . . . Of course I'm sure! . . . No! An Alien egg! It's huge. . . Why don't you just send someone out here to check it out?

EXT. BOSTON STREET - DAY

While driving to the Airport, Harry checks the rear view mirror. He notices a red Volkswagen Bug following them.

HARRY

That red car has been right behind us the whole way.

They all turn around to see and now the red car is trailing right behind them. Adam holds the basket close to him as if to protect it.

The VW still closes in behind HARRY'S CAR.

INT. CINDY'S FATHER'S CAR

ADAM

What the hell does this bastard want?

HARRY

You tell me.

Adam looks around to get another look at him.

ADAM

I've seen that car before.

Cindy stiffens, remembering.

CINDY

Last week, Adam. When, you know . . .

ADAM

Shit. Step on it, Harry. This guy is bad news.

HARRY

Who did you piss off now, Adam?

ADAM

The wrong guy.

EXT. CINDY'S FATHER'S CAR

The VW starts gaining on Harry's Cadillac as both cars go down the busy street. In the distance, a narrow road goes off to the right.

INT. CINDY'S FATHER'S CAR

HARRY

Okay, everyone, hold on. This is going to be one really sharp turn . . .

ADAM

Oh, shit!

Harry violently throws the wheel to the right and slides off into a perfect 90-degree skid to the right and just manages to straighten up in time to squeeze through the turn onto the new road.

MARION

Harry! Take it easy! Your daughter is pregnant!

The VW driver tries to do the same, but the back left tire blows. The car speeds helplessly out of control, onto the sidewalk where it knocks down several parking meters and then hits a ladder in a cordoned off area. The painter on the ladder falls with the ladder, and paint splashes over the windscreen of the VW.

The driver instantly slams on the brakes and the VW spins 360 degrees before it hits a light post. The car lurches to a stop and steam hisses out of the radiator.

Harry concentrates on driving and Marion's eyes are squeezed shut, so only Adam and Cindy see what has happened to the other car. They exchange a tense smile.

ADAM

I think you lost them.

INT. VW - DAY

T-BONE
Shit! Shit! Shit!

T-Bone twists the car key out of the ignition. He pushes the car door open and dives out onto the ground. He opens the backdoor and grabs a basket with an Easter egg in it.

A shopkeeper runs out of a nearby grocery and races over to T-Bone.

SHOPKEEPER
Are you all right, man?

T-BONE
What's it to you?

INT. AIRPORT - DEPARTURE HALL - DAY

Adam and Cindy check their bags. Adam sets the basket down at his side. People see it and comment, AD LIB. Adam and Cindy smile.

From behind, T-Bone walks quickly towards them. He is carrying his own decorated Easter egg in a similar basket. The closer he gets to Adam and Cindy, the faster he walks. Because he's limping from the kicks he received from the ostrich, he's very clumsy. Just before he reaches them and is ready to grab their basket and make the switch, he loses his footing, slips and begins to slide helplessly.

T-Bone slides head first into the counter, the egg crashes between his head and the counter. At the same time, Adam picks up his basket and turns to walk away. Adam uses both hands to hold the basket and a travel bag, and is unable to adjust his falling spectacles.

T-Bone pulls himself up off the floor with half of his smashed Easter egg over his head.

MAN AT THE COUNTER

Happy Easter, sir!

T-Bone wipes chocolate from around his bruised eyes as he elbows his way through the crowd towards the exit door.

DEPARTURE AREA.

The entire family is now in the departure area.

Cindy gives her Mother a very tight hug. Marion feels a hard lump at the side of her daughter's stomach.

MARION

Oh, my God, what is that?

CINDY

Oh, umm. . . that's the baby's head, Mother. It's in a transverse position. But don't worry. Dr. Stevenson said it would tilt in time.

MARION

Oh, thank God. It feels like a rock in there.

Cindy and Adam look at each other and put on a false smile.

MARION

You better have a checkup when you get there. I don't want any thing happening to you or my first grandchild.

CINDY

Of course I will, Mother.

Adam and Cindy say their good-byes to the family AD LIB.

They all leave.

INT. AIRPLANE - DAY

When they finally board the aircraft, Adam becomes excited. He carefully places the basket with the egg in it on his lap.

Cindy removes the cloth holding the padding around her belly and lets out a huge sigh of relief.

The flight attendant walks by, checking seat belts. She stops by Adam.

FLIGHT ATTENDANT

Your basket will have to go in the overhead compartment, sir.

ADAM

(puts both arms around the basket) No. It has to stay with me.

The attendant reaches to take the basket, but Adam holds on tighter.

FLIGHT ATTENDANT

Sir, it will be just fine in the compartment.

ADAM

No. It stays here.

FLIGHT ATTENDANT

Sir . . .

CINDY

It's okay, Adam.

Adam looks at Cindy uncertainly. Cindy touches his hand and he releases his grip on the basket. The flight attendant lifts it from his lap. Adam jumps to his feet, helping to place it just so in the compartment, cushioned by the other pieces of luggage. Finally, the attendant closes the overhead and moves on, and Adam returns to his seat.

CINDY

Honey, I know this is your first flight and that you're a bit nervous, but please, don't get us thrown off.

ADAM

How can you be so calm when our baby is (whispers and points) up there?

INT. ADAM AND CINDY APARTMENT BUILDING - DAY

Helen, Mr. White (the landlord), and other tenants are assembled in the hallway guiding the National Enquirer to Adam and Cindy's apartment. They seem very excited and anxious.

HELEN

I knew they were up to something.

NATIONAL ENQUIRER

Are you sure that they're harboring an alien egg?

HELEN

Not only did I see the egg with my very own eyes, Adam told me it was an alien egg.

While Helen is ringing the doorbell, the landlord starts knocking heavily on the door of Adam and Cindy's apartment. A tenant passes by.

TENANT#2

They left for the airport a few hours ago.

HELEN

What? Well, that proves it!

INT. AIRPLANE - DAY

The plane is in the air and the passengers have finished their meal. Adam likes the food. A hostess walks down the aisle.

ADAM

Excuse me, miss, but could I have another meal, please?

HOSTESS

I'm sorry, sir, but this is a full flight. There are no extra meals.

He looks disappointed and hands his and Cindy's tray over

to her.

ADAM

Boy, these people are cheap!

Cindy chuckles and notices that Adam is sitting in a cross-legged position and is becoming very restless.

ADAM

Cindy listen, I don't think I can't hold it anymore.

CINDY

Hold what?

Cindy thinks for a moment and then erupts into laughter.

CINDY

Adam, the toilets are at the end of the aisle!

Adam bursts out of his seat and races for the toilet. He runs into a trolley which is blocking his way, then struggles to get past it.

ADAM

Holy Shit! Excuse me, miss!

HOSTESS

Please wait a minute, sir.

Adam stands with both hands over his genitalia.

ADAM

Uh -- I can't.

The hostess realizes how badly he needs to pass and she reverses the trolley.

Adam finally reaches the toilet, and after a while of trying to figure out how to open it, he finally enters.

Adam seems terribly frightened by the powerful suction sound of the toilet and its intense vacuum. He quickly yanks open the door and hurries out into the aisle with his

pants still round his knees. He pulls them up and zips them, then returns to the lavatory to examine the toilet with the door open. He flushes the toilet again, watching where the waste goes. After a thorough examination, he storms over to the hostess.

ADAM

Those toilets of yours almost sucked my ass in along with my...

HOSTESS

Well sir, plane toilets do have very powerful flushing systems.

ADAM

And where does all that mess go anyway? I bet you guys drop all that shit onto the ground, huh?

The hostess shakes her head in disbelief.

Adam returns to his seat in a state of shock. Cindy notices how agitated he is.

CINDY

What's wrong with you?

ADAM

It's that toilet. It almost sucked me down the drain and dumped me into the clouds! I still can't believe they dump all that shit out into nowhere.

CINDY

Honey, calm down. You're going to make yourself sick.

ADAM

You know something, I was walking one day and out of nowhere, this piece of shit just landed in front of me, Cindy. I looked up into the sky and there was a seagull flying around. And I was wondering how could a little seagull like that blow out a fat piece of shit like

that? It wasn't from the goddamn bird, it was from a goddamn airplane! They shouldn't be serving food on these things!

Cindy bites her lip to keep from laughing.

ADAM

How many flights take off around the world each day?

CINDY

Probably around twenty five thousand.

ADAM

Well, let's say there are two hundred passengers on every one of those flights. And if that's true, then that means that about five million people shit all over those poor folks down there. So don't you think it would be wise to have all the passengers clear their bowels before take off?

CINDY

Are you stupid or what? Waste from the toilets is not flushed out of the plane into the open. It must be flushed into special containers on the plane.

ADAM

Containers?

CINDY

Of course.

ADAM

So that's why they give us so little food on the plane then, right? It's because they don't want their containers to get too full.

Cindy just smiles.

ADAM

But what if the passengers get diarrhea and the containers get too full? Would they make an emergency landing?

CINDY

I don't think that will ever happen.

Adam shakes his head, his eyes scanning the plane for the location of the waste containers.

INT. SHELLY'S APARTMENT - DAY

T-Bone is in the shower with brown water streaming down his face (the washed chocolate from the smashed egg). The telephone rings insistently in the background. T-Bone hears it, ignores it, and then decides it must be important. He steps out of the shower and goes for the phone.

INTERCUT PHONE CALL

CHINESE AGENT #1

Did you get the fucking egg?

T-BONE

They got away. I'm going after them.

CHINESE AGENT #1

To where?

T-BONE

The Bahamas.

CHINESE AGENT #1

You think we're gonna trust you to finish this on your own? Huh-uh.

T-BONE

You just bring the cash. I'll get the egg.

CHINESE AGENT #1

You bet you will. And you bet we'll be looking over your shoulder.

INT. AIRCRAFT - NIGHT

The lights on the plane are off and most of the passengers are asleep. Adam and Cindy check on the egg, then smile at each other before cuddling up for the night.

LATER THAT NIGHT

Adam is awakened from his sleep by a cracking sound and something dripping on his forehead. He wipes his forehead and then looks at the brown fluid. He smells it before jumping out of his seat.

ADAM

(loud whisper) Cindy! Cindy! Wake up!

Cindy slowly wakes up, confused. She wipes her eyes.

CINDY

What, Adam? What is it?

ADAM

The shit containers are cracking or creaking or overflowing or something.

Adam turns on the overhead lights, then stands up. More fluid is coming from the overhead compartment. He opens the compartment. He discovers that the cracking sound and the leak are actually coming from the basket.

Adam inspects the egg, his jaw slackening.

ADAM

It's hatching! The egg is hatching!

Cindy jumps up and joins Adam in witnessing the hatching of their first baby.

We hear another crack, and a big piece of the eggshell falls to the side. We can see the baby's head with a little hair. He starts to cry and raises his arms. More eggshell pieces fall into the basket.

Cindy cries as she reaches up and lifts their new baby. We see a beautiful baby boy covered with slimy fluid.

ADAM

Hello, Adam Jr. I'm your Daddy.

Cindy is crying now.

CINDY

Oh . . . our baby.

The couple is ecstatic. Luckily, everyone on the plane is asleep except for the Spanish couple down the same row. The man is reading a book with the overhead light on. He glances up, notices the commotion, and wakes his wife. He whispers to his wife in Spanish.

SPANISH MAN

How the hell did they get that baby to hatch out of an egg? Americans!

CINDY

Oh, Adam, he's beautiful, perfect.
I can't believe my eyes.

Adam and Cindy examine the baby in detail, then Cindy grabs a small bag and hurries to the toilet to clean him up and dress him.

Some of the passengers are disturbed by the baby's cries.

PASSENGER#1

Where the hell did that baby come from?

PASSENGER#2

Keep quiet, and go to sleep.

Adam is looking up at the remains of the egg. He is all smiles, but finally sits down.

The Spanish couple look at the overhead compartment, and then toward the toilet, and then back at Adam. They shrug, but appear happy for Adam and Cindy.

A LITTLE LATER

Cindy returns from the toilet with the baby, who is now

wrapped in an airline courtesy blanket. She sits down with Adam and they smile lovingly at the baby and at each other. Adam puts his arm around Cindy and stares at their new child in admiration.

The Spanish man smiles and puts his arm around his wife. Adam gestures to the Spanish couple.

ADAM

I can see there are lots of nosy neighbors like Helen.

EXT. THE PLANE - DAWN

Adam and Cindy exit the plane with the other passengers. Adam is carrying the basket with Adam Jr. in it snuggled up under a blanket.

IN THE ARRIVAL HALL - BAHAMAS

Adam and Cindy are in line at the passport control desk.

CINDY

Oh my God, Adam, the baby has no papers!

ADAM

Shit!

They move up to the immigration desk. Adam places their passports on the desk and the immigration officer points to the baby.

ADAM

He was born on the plane.

The officer eyes Cindy up and down, then looks at Adam.

OFFICER

Excuse me?

Adam looks nervous.

ADAM

Umm . . . he was born on the plane.

OFFICER

Do you think I'm some dumb idiot, my friend?

ADAM

I don't know what you mean, sir.

OFFICER

You're trying to tell me that your wife gave birth on the flight just a couple of hours ago, and now she's up and walking around as if it never happened? Shit, next time my wife gets pregnant I'll take her to America to have the kid, cause over here she has to spend about a week in bed after delivery.

Adam and Cindy become exceedingly nervous.

OFFICER

Besides, if the child was born on the plane, you would need a certificate signed by the captain, and between you and me, from the bottom of my heart -- Nice try! So, what's really going on?

ADAM

Fine, think what you like, the captain is right over there. Why don't you ask him?

The officer beckons the captain over to the desk.

OFFICER

Captain, this couple is coming in with an uncertified newborn, claiming that it was born on your flight. Are you aware of the delivery?

The captain looks totally surprised.

CAPTAIN

No, we had no birth on board.

OFFICER

So what do we have here, then, a baby without birth? It must be the work of the Bermuda Triangle out there.

CINDY

Honey, I think we're going to have to tell them the truth.

OFFICER

That would be nice!

Adam is reluctant because he knows how strange it will sound.

ADAM

Well, okay, here it goes. But you're not going to believe it.

SERIES OF SHOTS

- a) Adam telling his story to the immigration officer and the Captain.
- b) The immigration officer and Captain totally in shock with their mouths hanging open.
- c) Cindy standing back, attending to the baby.
- d) The immigration officer on the telephone.
- e) The immigration and Captain arguing with Adam.
- f) The immigration officer on the telephone again.

FINALLY . . .

The officer is still in a state of disbelief.

OFFICER

Okay, you can enter under certain conditions. First, your passports stay with us. Second, you sign a declaration stating that you will take the baby back to America. And third,

you must report to the local police department once a week while you are here.

Adam and Cindy look relieved.

ADAM

That's fine with us, thank you so much.

OFFICER

Now go. Get out of my sight. You've taken up too much of my time already.

Adam and Cindy turn and walk away.

INT. BEDROOM - LUXURIOUS HOTEL - BAHAMAS

Adam and Cindy are in their room. Adam is on the phone to Cindy's mother.

ADAM

... yeah, we just arrived and Cindy isn't feeling too well.

INTERCUT PHONE CALL

Marion turns the bedside light on and looks at the time.

MARION

Where is Cindy?

ADAM

She's in hospital.

MARION

Oh my God, what happened?

ADAM

She's showing signs of premature labor. It was all caused by the airplane's toilet seat.

MARION

What are you talking about?

ADAM

Well, she went to the toilet on the plane and I think it was the powerful suction that caused all this. She went straight to the hospital as soon as we landed.

MARION

How is she?

ADAM

She could deliver at any time now!

Adam Jr. CRIES in the background.

MARION

Is that a baby I hear?

ADAM

Oh.. yes, umm it belongs to the lady in the bed next to Cindy.

MARION

Can I speak to Cindy now?

ADAM

I'm sorry, Mom, but they have an oxygen mask on her right now.

MARION

Oh my God, make sure you call us as soon as you have any news.

ADAM

Will do!

Adam hangs up and turns to Cindy.

CINDY

Adam, we can't keep them wondering for long. It's not fair.

ADAM

I know, sweetie. I'll call them back tomorrow and tell them you delivered

and all went well. But we have to keep a cover on all this for as long as we can. I'd better call Dr. Stevenson.

INT. DR. STEVENSON'S OFFICE

Dr Stevenson is ending the telephone conversation with Adam.

DR. STEVENSON

Wonderful! And the baby sounds perfect. But be sure and consult a physician there if the baby stops feeding from the bottle. See you soon. Bye!

Dr Stevenson hangs up the receiver just as Nick and Shelly walk into the office. He's ecstatic.

DR. STEVENSON

Yes! Yes! Yes! It's a boy! A healthy baby boy. We did it!

Shelly grabs a bottle of champagne and three glasses from the cabinet and POPS the bottle open.

NICK

Where are they staying?

INT. AIRPLANE - DAY

The final passengers have boarded and are taking their seats. Marion and Harry sit midway back, Marion in the window seat, Harry in the aisle, with an empty seat between them.

Marion squirms to get comfortable.

MARION

We should have gone First Class.

HARRY

Last time, we got upgraded for free.

MARION

But that's because the flight was overbooked. This one isn't even sold out.

HARRY

And that's why I requested window and aisle seats -- we'll have an extra seat between us.

T-Bone squeezes down the aisle. He bumps into the flight attendant, knocking her off balance, then pushes Nick out of his way. Nick falls into the lap of a big man.

NICK

Oh, that's nice, thank you.

T-Bone pays no attention to the effects of his aggression. Instead, he squints as he reads the seat assignment on his ticket and tries to match it with the actual seat. He pauses next to Harry's aisle. Without speaking, he steps on Harry's feet. With great difficulty, he struggles to get past while Harry tries to stand to get out of his way. T-Bone shoves his large body into the small seat. He overflows on both sides, crowding Harry and Marion.

Marion eyes him up and down, her contempt unhidden. She mumbles to herself.

MARION

Next time, we go first class.

INT. ADAM AND CINDY HOTEL ROOM - DAY

Adam and Cindy are playing with the baby.

CINDY

I just never thought it would really happen. That we could have a baby, and he'd be so beautiful and perfect and . . .

A knock on the door interrupts them.

CINDY

Did you call room service?

ADAM

(Getting up) No.

He opens the door. Harry and Marion stand in the doorway. Before Adam can greet them, Marion pushes past him.

MARION

Why aren't you at the hospital?
Where's my baby?

Harry shakes Adam's hand while Marion rushes to Cindy. Marion kisses Cindy, then takes the baby from the bed.

MARION

He's beautiful! Oh, Harry, look. He's
got your nose.

Cindy jumps to her feet before she remembers she's dressed in a two-piece swim suit that hides nothing -- especially not a post-partem belly. She looks frantically for her robe.

MARION

Don't get up, sweetie. I can't believe
they pushed you out of the hospital
already. That's criminal.

Cindy pauses and looks for Adam's help. Marion looks up from her grandson, then puts the baby into Harry's arms.

MARION

My God, Cindy! You are so thin! (to
Harry) Hold his head. (back to Cindy)
And why are you in a bikini? What is
going on?

Adam goes to Cindy's side.

ADAM

We, uh . . .

CINDY

Mom, Dad, sit down.

Adam and Cindy start to explain with the clock showing 4:05

p.m. We see flashes of Harry and Marion in various degrees of irritation and Adam and Cindy going from frustration to explanation and back. By the time they finish the clock shows 5:15 p.m.

Adam and Cindy are exhausted. Harry leans against the wall, his arms folded in front of him, and Marion paces the floor.

MARION

So, you mean you deceived us all this time?

ADAM

I'm sorry.

MARION

And it was all your idea, Adam?

Adam nods ruefully.

Marion approaches Adam and lifts her arm. Adam flinches, but Marion throws her arms around him and hugs him like she's never hugged him before. When she finally pulls away, her eyes are moist.

MARION

I'll never be able to thank you enough. Not too many men would go through all that just to have a baby.

Harry pats the still-nervous Adam on the back.

HARRY

C'mon. Let's go to the club and celebrate. I'm sure the girls won't mind taking A.J. shopping.

ADAM

A. J.?

Harry ushers Adam to the door.

HARRY

Adam Jr.

SERIES OF SHOTS

- a) Adam and Cindy walking with their baby through the streets and enjoying the Bahamian atmosphere. They enter a souvenir shop.
- b) T-Bone in a shabby motel, lying on the bed, appearing to be making a plan.
- c) Nick arriving at Adam and Cindy's hotel.
- d) Adam and Cindy meeting the Spanish couple at the Hotel foyer.
- e) The Chinese Agents landing at the airport.

EXT. AT A SIDEWALK CAFE - DAY

Adam and Cindy are seated at an outdoor café, preparing for lunch.

ADAM

I told Dr. Stevenson about our problem with the baby when we arrived in the Bahamas, and he said we should prepare for a media blitz when we arrive back in the States.

The baby is in the basket at Adam's feet. It makes a baby noise and they giggle.

T-Bone, hiding his bruises with dark glasses and disguised as a waiter, walks up to them. They, of course, don't know him.

T-BONE

Good afternoon. May I get you a drink?

ADAM

I'll have a glass of orange juice, please.

CINDY

White wine, please.

T-BONE

Very well.

He leaves a menu and walks back into the cafe. As he walks, he glances down at the baby in the basket and mumbles to himself.

T-BONE

A damn baby! Ransom just went up.

CINDY

Honey, did I tell you I called Susan? She was just as anxious as our folks to find out about the baby.

Adam smiles.

T-Bone walks back with the drinks on a tray. He places the drinks on the table.

T-BONE

Excuse me, sir, are you Mr. Carson?

ADAM

Yes, I am. Is there a problem?

T.BONE

No, sir, there's a telephone call for you inside.

CINDY

Who could it be?

Adam gets to his feet.

ADAM

It must be your folks. But we just left them at the hotel's swimming pool.

T-BONE

Follow me, sir.

Adam looks at Cindy as he walks away.

CINDY

We'll be fine, hon.

T-Bone glances down at the baby in the basket. He gestures to a woman nearby. She quickly walks up to Cindy.

WOMAN

Excuse me, ma'am.

Cindy looks up at the face of the smiling woman.

CINDY

Yes?

WOMAN

I'm wondering if you might be able to help me. I have to put in some eye drops, but I have a problem with my shoulders and can't lift my arms high enough to put them in. My husband normally does it for me, but he had to leave.

Cindy smiles as she glances toward the café interior.

CINDY

I know the feeling.

WOMAN

I don't feel comfortable asking a man to help me. And since we seem to be the only two women here right now, I thought maybe you wouldn't mind.

CINDY

Sure, what do I need to do?

The lady walks back to her table.

WOMAN

I've got the drops right here in my bag.

She gestures for Cindy to follow her to her table, which is only a few steps from Cindy's table. T-Bone moves up behind

Cindy.

Cindy's back to the baby as she prepares to put drops in the woman's eyes. T-Bone moves up silently, snatches the baby, and runs.

About ten seconds later, Cindy turns and sees that her baby is gone. She screams.

INT. POLICE STATON

ADAM and Cindy are trying to tell the police captain what happened.

ADAM

. . . and when I got inside, there was no phone call for me. It was the waiter who stole our baby! I know it was!

Cindy is crying and is extremely upset.

CINDY

I was only trying to help that poor woman.

POLICE CAPTAIN

Well, Ma'am, she could have been a part of this kidnapping.

ADAM

But why would someone want to take our baby? Nobody even knows us here in the Bahamas.

POLICE CAPTAIN

We'll do all we can to locate this waiter from the description you've given us.

EXT. DR. STEVENSON'S OFFICE - DAY

Dr. Stevenson's excitement has driven him to give the story to the media, who are gathered outside to ask him questions. As usual, reporters all try to ask questions at

the same time. AD LIB (such as "Does the baby look normal?", "How big was the egg?", etc.)

SERIES OF SHOTS

- a) Dr. Stevenson answering many questions, appearing to be very happy.
- b) Cameras flash many pictures of Dr. Stevenson.
- c) Headlines read: "Baby Without Birth Lives!", "Baby Hatched From Egg In Bahamas!", and the usual super market tabloid headlines such as "Human/Chicken Baby Born With Feathers" and "Alien Baby From Mars Hatches!", etc.

INT. SHABBY MOTEL - DAY

T-Bone is trying to stop the baby from crying.

T-BONE

Babies who hatch out of eggs are supposed to chirp like birds, not scream their heads off!

It's obvious that he knows very little about babies as he attempts to change Adam Jr.'s diaper.

T-Bone paces around the small room until he finally comes up with an idea.

T-BONE

Look kid, you keep your mouth shut about T- Bone changing diapers, you hear me?

He removes the used diaper and holds it at arm's length.

T-BONE

Oooh, this stinks! I ain't gonna keep it in here!

T-Bone puts the dirty diaper on the floor. He pulls back the bedspread and looks at the sheet, then at the baby, and finally at the pillowcase. He decides on using the pillowcase and makes a diaper.

Just as T-Bone bends forward to change the diaper, the baby's jet of urine hits T-Bone's face.

T-BONE

Oh shit, I can't believe this is happening to me. Now shut up and stop crying!

All of a sudden the baby stops crying and T-Bone smiles.

T-BONE

Smart Kid.

He wipes his face, and then tries to figure out how to fit his home-made diaper.

The baby looks at T-Bone's face and smiles. T-Bone smiles back.

T-Bone lifts the baby and holds the baby's face close to his. The baby looks very happy.

T-BONE

Why the hell do you gotta be so cute?

T-Bone lays Adam Jr. on the bed. The baby immediately begins crying. T-Bone walks away, his face scrunched in thought. He returns and picks up the baby.

The baby cries every time T-Bone puts him down. T-Bone appears touched and talks to the baby soothingly.

T-BONE

What have I done, what have I done? I can't let them agents take you. You ain't no experiment. You're a baby and I gotta find your momma. Okay?

The baby looks very happy. He jerks his four limbs and nods his head as if he understands.

OUTSIDE THE MOTEL

The two Chinese agents step around the corner, watching T-Bone's room.

Chinese agent#1 grabs the cell phone and punches in the motel number.

INTERCUT PHONE CALL

CHINESE AGENT#1

Did you get the fucking egg?

T-BONE

Oh. You're too late. The egg already hatched. Bad luck.

CHINESE AGENT#1

Hatched! Hatched what?

T-BONE

A baby. A real human baby.

CHINESE AGENT#1

Shit. Fine. Give us the baby, then.

T-BONE

The baby wasn't part of the deal.

CHINESE AGENT#1

Not like we can get the egg now, is it? The baby will have to do.

T-BONE

Go to hell.

T-Bone slams down the phone, and then starts dialing.

The two agents look at each other angrily.

EXT. NIGHT CLUB DISTRICT - NIGHT

Nick wanders round in very busy side street. He notices a sign board that reads "Gay Paradise." Without any hesitation he walks in. Nick is very happy as he is cuddled by two gays and taken to the dance floor.

INT. POLICE STATION - DAY

Adam, Cindy and her parents sit in the waiting area, very

upset.

The phone of the police station rings. While policeman #1 gets the phone, policeman #2 walks up to them with cups of coffee.

ADAM

Thank you.

POLICEMAN#2

You must be patient. We're doing all we can. Unfortunately, we've been unable to locate the kidnapers. The airport is under surveillance. He can't get away.

CINDY

But what if he hurts our little baby?

Policeman #1 suddenly hangs up the phone, picks up his cap, and hurries to the door.

POLICEMAN#1

Let's go! The kidnapper wants to give the baby back.

Everybody follows him.

INT. SHABBY MOTEL - DAY

T-Bone picks up the dirty diaper and walks to the door and opens it. At first he looks like he's going to throw the diaper out the door, but then after thinking a bit, he decides to walk outside and dump it in a trashcan. He looks outside to see if anyone is around and then walks out.

While T-Bone tosses the diaper into the trash can at the end of the hallway, the two Chinese agents hurry into T-Bone's room and lock the door.

INT. T-BONE'S ROOM

The two Chinese agents notice the baby asleep on the bed. A newsflash broadcasts on the television about the kidnapping.

T.V. NEWSMAN

. . . is described as American, early thirties, and Caucasian. The male was last seen wearing black pants and a white shirt, the female a flower-print sundress. Both are considered dangerous. We send our prayers to the family of the kidnap victim, and pray for his safe return.

The two agents smile.

OUTSIDE THE MOTEL

Adam, Cindy, Marion, and Harry stand across the street from the motel, talking with several policemen.

INT. T-BONE'S ROOM

Heavy knocking on the door causes the two agents to jump.

POLICEMAN (O.S.)

Police! Open up!

CHINESE AGENT#2

Oh, shit!

The two agents run in circles. They finally stop and look at the baby on the bed.

CHINESE AGENT#2

You're on your own, kid. I'm out of here.

CHINESE AGENT#1

No. We're taking the baby with us. He's ours.

The two agents rush to the back window and pull it up. One wiggles out and lands on the ground, the other passes the baby down, then jumps just as the police break down the door.

The policemen rush in and start searching the room.

Cindy and Marion run past the officers. Adam follows. He

goes to the far window and sees the two Chinese agents jogging through the rear parking lot with one of them holding the baby. They get into a silver station wagon. Chinese agent#1 flips the key and explodes out of the parking lot.

T-Bone tries to stop the kidnappers' car by standing in the driveway. He jumps to the side as the station wagon almost knocks him down. He runs to a white jeep and blasts out of the parking lot in pursuit of the kidnappers.

ADAM

I'll meet you at the police station.

CINDY

Be careful, Adam!

Harry runs after Adam.

HARRY

Wait for me!

Adam jumps out of the window and runs toward the parking lot. Harry tries to follow, but his coat catches in the handle of the window shutter.

HARRY

Adam! Wait!

ADAM

Shit!

EXT. REAR PARKING LOT - DAY.

Adam grabs a ladder from a nearby worker and uses it to climb up to Harry. Adam pulls Harry's coat off the handle and helps pull him through. Adam and Harry climb down to the ground and run as fast as they can across the parking lot to a blue Ford sedan. Adam gets behind the wheel and Harry gets into the passenger seat. The Sedan reverses and Adam and Harry look for where the cars may have gone. Suddenly a speeding police car with its sirens blaring passes in front of them. They spot one of the rescue policemen in it and decide to follow it.

INT./EXT. - CAR CHASE MONTAGE - NASSAU STREETS - DAY

Adam accelerates after the police car. The road gets narrower and extremely slippery from spilled water. The car swings from side to side and Harry holds onto the handle of the car door, his eyes wide open in shock.

INT - THE CAR - STILL DRIVING - DAY

ADAM

Can you see the station wagon?
Or the jeep?

HARRY

No. They got to be in front of the
police car.

The police car takes a flying right turn, sways down a steep hill, hits a bump, and flies through the air. The Ford does the same and lands with a thud.

Now they can see the station wagon fighting its way through heavy traffic, followed by the jeep.

INSIDE THE JEEP

T-BONE

Hold on, baby. I'm coming to save you.

During this sequence, we'll see the four cars and the streets they travel through.

The four cars dodge through traffic, heading for an intersection about two hundred yards away. The street is thick with traffic. The police cruiser gains on T-Bone. The traffic ahead is held up by a red traffic light. The station wagon suddenly swings wildly into the opposite lane, and the jeep does the same. The police car takes a screaming swing, followed by the Ford. All four cars speed towards the intersection.

Adam realizes that he's now going against heavy traffic. He sideswipes several cars, but avoids a major crash.

INSIDE THE FORD -

HARRY

Take it easy.

ADAM

You didn't say that when you were driving to the airport, did you?

HARRY

Yeah, but I was driving.

THE INTERSECTION

Going the wrong way, the four cars fly through the rush-hour traffic while going against it.

The station wagon weaves in and out of traffic and goes through red lights. The jeep cruiser tries the same but crashes into a van crossing the intersection. The police car slides sideways, spinning out of control and flipping over four times before coming to a stop.

Adam swerves out of the way to avoid the crash and just makes it to the other side.

THE FORD

HARRY

Don't you lose them. We're on our own now.

EXT. AFTER THE INTERSECTION

The Chinese driver realizes they are still being followed and accelerates even faster.

The side road is narrow. Adam tries to overtake them, but can't. The Ford slams into the side of the station wagon, and the Chinese driver accelerates faster and faster. A police motorbike joins the chase with its sirens blaring.

The Chinese agent takes a right turn and Adam does the same, followed by the motorbike.

The Chinese driver comes to a narrow dead end and gets trapped in by Adam and the police bike. While the policeman

pulls up next to the Chinese driver, the other agent drops the baby on the front seat and runs away. He is never captured.

INT. POLICE STATION

The station is in frenzy with everyone talking at once. Adam asks a policeman about Cindy and the baby, and the Chinese agent tries to tell his story to the police chief while the traffic cop explains that they were speeding.

TRAFFIC COP

They were going sixty miles an hour in a thirty-mile zone with a baby in the front seat.

ADAM

(to the police chief, while pointing at the Chinese agent) He kidnapped my baby!

Cindy and her mother exit the next cubicle, run past the officers and race to the crying baby. Cindy holds Adam Jr. and Adam hugs them both.

TRAFFIC COP

They were going sixty miles an hour in a thirty mile an hour zone, with a baby in the front seat.

ADAM

But this man kidnapped our baby!

POLICE CHIEF

Enough! Now let's start from the beginning.

HARRY

This man kidnapped my grandson.

TRAFFIC COP

And they were going sixty miles an hour in a thirty mile an hour zone . .

.

POLICE CHIEF

Officer, I think we've heard you say that number enough times. In fact, I'll probably have nightmares about it tonight. So if you don't mind, officer, why don't you go outside for some fresh air!

The Traffic Cop obeys.

POLICE CHIEF

Now, you guys come into my office.

Cindy, Harry, and Marion follow them to the office.

INT. POLICE CHIEF OFFICE

CHINESE AGENT#1

We didn't have a choice. T-Bone was going to keep the baby.

POLICE CHIEF

Who's this T-Bone?

POLICEMAN#1

T-Bone was the man who informed us about the baby. He said the Chinese agents were after him.

POLICE CHIEF

Why?

POLICEMAN#1

They wanted the human egg. They want to take credit for the experiment.

The police chief looks confused.

POLICE CHIEF

The human egg?

CHINESE AGENT#1

Yeah. The goddam egg. And then it had to go and get hatched, so we thought maybe we'd better get the baby

instead.

POLICE CHIEF
Where's this T-Bone?

POLICEMAN#1
He crashed while trying to rescue the
baby. He's unconscious in the local
hospital.

The Police Chief rubs his bald head.

POLICE CHIEF
Human egg?

ADAM
Sir, maybe I can explain . . .

INT. ADAM AND CINDY'S APARTMENT BUILDING - DAY

Nosy neighbor Helen is leading the news media around the
apartment building. She's the perfect tour guide.

HELEN
And right down the hall, to your
right, is their apartment. Cindy
carried the egg with her to the
laundry room every day. In fact, she
asked me to baby-sit many times. I had
to sit on it to keep it warm. I think
they've already made me the baby's
godmother.

INT. THE AIRPORT DEP. HALL - BAHAMAS - DAY

The police chief waves to Adam, Cindy, and Adam Jr. as they
prepare to enter the passport control area. Reporters and
cameramen are everywhere.

The immigration officer who was on duty when they came into
the Bahamas returns the passports to Adam and shakes his
head.

OFFICER
When I have grandchildren, they'll

never believe this!

The second Chinese agent (the one who wasn't captured during the chase scene) follows Adam and Cindy. Whenever Adam looks behind, the agent turns his head. At the security checkpoint, the agent closes in, directly behind our heroes.

Adam sets off the beeper as he goes through the scanner. He removes his keys and tries again. The Chinese Agent looks worried. The beeper goes off. This continues, the Chinese Agent becoming more and more concerned. Finally, Adam is waved through despite the beeping. The Chinese Agent relaxes.

The agent walks confidentially through the scanner. Bells and beeps blare, lights flash and dozens of security personnel surround him. He is searched, his weapon seized. The security officer cuffs the agent.

SECURITY OFFICER

Looks like you just won the lottery.

Adam and family watch the arrest of the Chinese Agent, and they erupt into cheers.

ADAM

His partner will have some very pleasant company now!

INT. THE PLANE - DAY

Cindy is holding Adam Jr., who is now sleeping. She smiles at him lovingly while Adam seems to be thinking deeply.

ADAM

Do you realize what we have to face when we land?

CINDY

I don't want to think about it.

ADAM

I wonder who this T-Bone is, who tried to rescue our baby!

INT. AIRPORT ARRIVAL HALL- BOSTON

As Adam, Cindy, Marion and Harry enter the arrival hall, the media swarms them. Adam, however, seems overwhelmed. Two immigration officers approach Adam and Cindy.

OFFICER

Mr. Carson, do you have any official papers on this child?

ADAM

No, sir, we don't.

OFFICER

I'm sorry, Mr. Carson, but I'm going to have to take your baby until some questions are answered.

CINDY

Adam, do something.

OFFICER

I'm sorry, but unless you have documentation, I'm afraid I have to take him, with or without your cooperation.

ADAM

Listen, goddamn it, we are the parents, he's our baby and we can prove it!

OFFICER

That will be up to the authorities. But the baby will be fine until then.

The officer reaches for the baby and Cindy pulls away hysterically.

ADAM

Sweetie, Adam Jr. will be fine. If we want to keep him, we have to play by the rules.

Just then RYAN BROWN, a well dressed, smart-looking

attorney walks up to them.

BROWN
He's right, you know, Ma'am.

Adam and Cindy look at him.

ADAM
Who are you?

BROWN
Ryan Brown, Dr. Stevenson's Attorney.
I think you need me.

CINDY
Tell them. Mr. Brown. Tell them Junior
is our baby. Tell them.

BROWN
Right now, you must surrender him.
Just for a little while.

CINDY
But what if they won't give him back?

BROWN
I'm confident we'll get your baby
back. And they'll take him whether you
give him freely or not.

Cindy hands the baby over, crying painfully, while Adam
tries to comfort her. Harry hugs the sobbing Marion.

They all move to the nearby waiting area.

ADAM
Mr. Brown, where's Doc Stevenson?

BROWN
I've got to meet him before he goes to
the Medical Ethical Committee for
questioning.

Adam and Cindy gaze at each other, astounded.

INT. ADAM AND CINDY'S APARTMENT BUILDING - DAY

Adam, Cindy and her parents fight their way through a barrage of reporters and neighbors, all wishing them well and wanting to see the baby.

Helen helps usher them to their door.

ADAM

Helen, how long has it been like this?

HELEN

Ever since I did the interview with CNN.

Just then Mr. Brown walks in, looking concerned. He sees Helen and quietly gestures to Adam.

BROWN

We need to talk.

Nothing ever gets past Helen, who wants to know everything.

HELEN

No problem. I have to get ready for my next interview anyway.

Neighbors giggle.

HELEN

Oh, and I imagine some of the reporters will want pictures of me with the baby since I am the little sweetheart's godmother.

She leaves as Adam and Cindy speak at the same time.

ADAM AND CINDY

Godmother?

INT. ADAM AND CINDY'S APARTMENT - NIGHT.

Cindy's parents try to comfort Cindy as they sit on the couch.

MARION

It'll be okay, sweetheart. We'll see our grandson soon. You'll see. Adam Jr. will be back with his mother and father. Isn't that right, Mr. Brown?

BROWN

We have a lot of work to do before the trial. It's going to be a tough road with all the media sticking their noses into it. But that's why I wanted the case. Something no one has ever done before. And I'm the man to do it.

HARRY

I agree. I've heard a lot of good things about you.

Mr. Brown seems pleased with the vote of confidence.

BROWN

We better get started; we got a lot of hard work ahead.

Mr. Brown, Adam and Cindy move into the study, where they sit around a table. Mr. Brown opens his briefcase and shuffles papers. He finds what he wants, placing it and a legal pad in front of him.

Adam and Cindy seem very curious.

BROWN

Adam Jr.'s citizenship.

CINDY

Yeah, we thought about it. But, hey, we're US citizens and he's our son.

BROWN

True. But, he was born over the ocean with no doctor present. And hatched from an egg. It's never happened before. There's no legal precedent.

CINDY

But we're the baby's parents, for God's sake. We can prove that by DNA testing.

BROWN

That isn't the only issue here. We have to overcome two more legal problems.

ADAM & CINDY

Two?!

BROWN

First, we need to obtain a court order for issuing a legal birth certificate. That's the easy part. Next, the issue of how the child was born . . . I'm sorry, hatched. Since it was a medical experiment with no prior medical or legal approval, Adam Jr. may belong to science.

ADAM

And that means . . . ?

BROWN

I'll need to do a lot of research.

INT. HUGE OFFICE - DAY

Dr. Stevenson faces a committee of five elderly physicians.

CHAIRMAN

Dr. Stevenson, how many years have you been practicing as a gynecologist?

DR. STEVENSON

Twenty-two years.

CHAIRMAN

And how many experiments of this type have you performed?

DR. STEVENSON

None.

CHAIRMAN

So you succeeded from your first attempt?

DR. STEVENSON

I suppose I was lucky . . .

CHAIRMAN

I'm sure you were, but did you obtain the couple's consent to perform this experiment?

DR. STEVENSON

For IVF, yes, I did.

CHAIRMAN

But you didn't perform IVF, did you? You did just a bit more than that, didn't you?

Dr. Stevenson looks around the room, appearing speechless.

CHAIRMAN

Dr. Stevenson, did you obtain consent from any Ethical Medical Committee to perform this unprecedented experiment?

DR. STEVENSON

No, I didn't. Well, Adam and Cindy were desperate to have a child without having to have to go through pregnancy. The egg part was Adam's idea, and, yeah, it was off the wall, and the chances of success were slim, but we went for it. And it worked . . . Incredible, isn't it?

MEMBER#1

So what, exactly, made your experiment a success when similar trials have failed?

DR. STEVENSON

I think it's probably the way they
kept the egg warm by sitting on it.

Laughter heard from all the members.

The chairman becomes annoyed

CHAIRMAN

Talk scientifically, Doctor Stevenson!

DR. STEVENSON

Love isn't scientific, Mr. Chairman.

ADAM AND CINDY'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Knock at the door. Cindy walks to the door.

CINDY

Who is it?

HELEN (O.S.)

The godmother.

Cindy opens the door.

HELEN

And how's my precious godchild today?
Did you contact the nursery?

CINDY

He's fine.

HELEN

I'm here to tell you that I forgive
you for lying to me about that doctor
and the strange machine. I followed
through on your lie and they did find
structural damage to the building
after all. As usual, I'm a hero.

Adam and Cindy glance toward each other, smiling.

ADAM AND CINDY

You certainly are, Helen. You

certainly are.

HELEN

And speaking about that engineer . . .
er, doctor, did you see he made the
front page of the newspaper today?

ADAM

Why?

CINDY

What happened?

HELEN

Well, they had his picture and the
whole story about . . .

CINDY

Did he lose his medical license?

HELEN

Uh, I don't think so.

Helen digs the paper out of her oversized handbag, where we
can see the headlines: "PARDONED" and, in lower captions:
"Local doctor makes medical history with first baby without
birth."

INT. DR. STEVENSON OFFICE

INTERCUT PHONE CALL

DR. STEVENSON

Don't waste more time, the baby is here in
Boston, it's over. Come back will you!

Loud music from gay club.

NICK

I never had such a holiday. I'd like
to stay a bit longer.

DR. STEVENSON

Well, suit yourself.

EXT. COURTROOM - DAY

Adam, Cindy and Brown are outside the courtroom waiting to go in. Cindy's parents are there, as well as Dr. Stevenson, Helen and some of the other neighbors from the apartment block.

HELEN

I can't wait to baby-sit for
little Adam Jr.

CINDY

I know, Helen. But we have to
get him back first.

Helen touches Cindy's arm caringly as she and the other neighbors move into the courtroom.

T-Bone and Shelly approach the couple. T-Bone holds a pair of crutches. His head is bandaged and his right leg is in plaster.

T-BONE

I'm T-Bone. I'm so sorry for all the
pain I caused you. I guess I went a
bit haywire.

ADAM

At least you helped us at the end.

Mr. Brown calls Adam and Cindy.

They take a deep breath before entering the courtroom with Cindy's parents.

INT. COURTROOM

BAILIFF

All rise.

The courtroom quiets, except for the sounds of dozens of spectators standing.

The judge, stern even by judge-standards, breezes into the courtroom. He trips over his robe, falling into the chair

behind the mahogany bench.

Snickers are heard throughout the courtroom until the judge's beady gray eyes silence them with a glare.

COURT REPORTER

The Magistrate Court of the State of Massachusetts will now convene, the Honorable Judge John Ashonny presiding. The State of Massachusetts vrs. Mr. Adam Carson and Mrs. Cindy Carson, Case Number 1468589, to determine the natural origin and the custody of infant Adam Carson, Jr.

Judge Ashonny then searches for his glasses, finally finding them in front of him on the bench. He perches the tiny frameless specs on his huge nose and turns his gaze to the papers on his desk, which he reads painfully slow.

Adam's foot taps nervously on the marble floor, echoing loudly in the large room. The judge stops reading, removes his glasses, and glares at Adam. Adam crosses his legs, but still his foot taps spastically.

JUDGE

Silence!

Adam crosses his legs the other way, with the same result. Finally, he suspends them in air.

Adam's suspended legs tremble, and then shake. Cindy, on his left, takes his left leg while Mr. Brown steadies his right.

The judge hunts again for his glasses, then balances them on his beak.

JUDGE

Mr. Brown?

BROWN

(stands) The defense is prepared to prove that custody of Baby Carson belongs with his parents, Adam and

Cindy Carson. (sits)

JUDGE

Mr. Newman?

NEWMAN

(stands) The prosecution will prove that Baby Carson was conceived and incubated by unapproved, experimental means, and therefore the infant should remain in the custody of the scientific community. (sits)

JUDGE

Mr. Brown, in order for this court to find in favor of the defendants, you must prove two things. First, that Adam and Cindy Carson are the biological parents of Baby Carson, and second, that they should receive custody of said baby by proving a vested interest. That can be done by proving that they were, indeed, present and custodial of the . . . er, egg . . . during the incubation process and were present at the time of the, uh, hatching. (looks over his glasses at the defensive section) So let's get on with it. Mr. Brown, your first witness?

BROWN

I'd like to call Dr. Stevenson to the stand.

Dr. Stevenson walks to the front of the courtroom and is sworn in. He sits in the witness chair.

BROWN

Dr. Stevenson, would you explain to the court the procedure you followed to product the baby in question?

DR. STEVENSON

After collecting Cindy's eggs and

Adam's sper . . . Oh, I'm sorry ...

The people in the room laugh and the judge hits the gavel.

DR. STEVENSON

I mixed them in an incubator.
I left the embryo to grow in vitro
instead of placing it into Cindy's
uterus.

BROWN

And how did you know that this egg was
actually maturing and going to hatch?

DR. STEVENSON

I scanned the egg regularly, insuring
the fetus was normal and healthy.

BROWN

Do you have any evidence of these
scannings?

DR. STEVENSON

Of course.

Dr. Stevenson pulls out several pictures from his briefcase and hands them to the Bailiff, who passes them on to the Judge, who appears not to have a clue as to how to read them, but acts like he does anyway.

BROWN

When was the last time you scanned the
egg?

DR. STEVENSON

Two days before Adam and Cindy left
for the Bahamas.

BROWN

And your conclusion at that time?

DR. STEVENSON

The maturation was almost complete, I
told Cindy and Adam the baby would
hatch in approximately three weeks

from that time. But it ended up hatching prematurely.

JUDGE

Do eggs hatch prematurely?

DR. STEVENSON

Yes, your Honor, they can...

JUDGE

Oh!

The people in the room laugh and the judge hits the gavel.

BROWN

Do you have any evidence to show that Adam and Cindy are the biological parents?

DR. STEVENSON

A DNA test should prove that.

BROWN

Thank you, doctor. No further questions, your Honor.

The Prosecution, lead by JAKE NEWMAN, now walks up to the witness stand.

NEWMAN

Dr. Stevenson, did you obtain consent from the Ethical Medical Committee to perform this unprecedented experiment?

BROWN

Objection your Honor! Dr. Stevenson was questioned by the Medical Ethical Committee and was pardoned.

JUDGE

Objection sustained.

NEWMAN

No further questions, your Honor.

Brown smiles.

Judge picks up his gavel.

JUDGE

This court will recess until two
o'clock. This court is adjourned!

THAT AFTERNOON

Court is back in session.

JUDGE

Is there any other evidence to be
considered?

BROWN

We had the testimony of Dr. Stevenson.
And DNA results are pending.

JUDGE

Do we have any witnesses to the birth
- er, hatching?

BROWN

They have not yet been located. Your
Honor, could we please have 48 more
hours to find two more witnesses?

JUDGE

24 hours. No more. If no witnesses are
available by 2 p.m. tomorrow, the
Medical Research Institute will
receive custody. In the meantime, the
infant shall remain a ward of the
state. Court recessed until tomorrow
at 2 p.m.

BAILIFF

All rise!

Everyone gossips (AD LIB). Brown gets to his feet and
quickly leaves the courtroom with his hand on the shoulder
of his assistant. They whisper.

BROWN

We have to have that Spanish couple from the plane and I don't want you back 'til you find them. They saw the whole thing.

ASSISTANT

Yes, Mr. Brown.

EXT. COURTHOUSE - DAY

The assistant runs to his car. With a scream of tires he speeds away.

Adam and Cindy catch up with Brown and look concerned.

NEXT DAY AFTERNOON

The Court is back in session with Helen on the witness stand.

NEWMAN

Mrs. O'Connor, could you please tell the court what you know about the egg?

HELEN

Well, when I first saw the doctor, Adam told me he was an engineer. They were pushing this strange machine into his apartment and said it was to check the density of the pillars of our apartment building, which is quite old.

NEWMAN

And how many times did you see this happen?

HELEN

Oh, a couple of times, I guess. I'm not exactly sure.

NEWMAN

And each time you saw this happen, what did Adam say they were doing?

HELEN

The same thing. Checking the density of the pillars. I even told the tenants to keep the noise and vibrations down.

The people in the room buzz.

Helen becomes a little angry.

HELEN

I mean, they told us we couldn't have sex cause the vibrations might create problems or something like that . . . some of the tenants haven't even had sex in their own apartment since. They had to hire rooms at the local hotels.

The people in the room laugh and the judge hits the gavel.

BROWN

Objection, your Honor! This is irrelevant!

JUDGE

Objection overruled! You may continue, Mrs. O'Connor.

NEWMAN

Mrs. O'Connor, how did you come to know about the egg?

HELEN

I discovered that they were checking the egg and not the pillars! Even my dog knew about the egg!

NEWMAN

Did you actually see the egg?

HELEN

Of course. I was egg-sitting for Adam and Cindy.

Suddenly, Brown's assistant hurries in with the Spanish couple.

BROWN

Your Honor, my assistant has just arrived with our two most important witnesses. May we bring them forward?

JUDGE

Very well.

The assistant escorts the couple forward.

BROWN

Your Honor, we'll need a translator, and my assistant is fluent in Spanish.

The judge nods.

Mr. PEREZ is sworn in, in Spanish.

ASSISTANT

(in Spanish)

Do you solemnly swear to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

MR. PEREZ

Si!

BROWN

Did you see the hatching of the egg belonging to this couple on flight 2175, from Boston to the Bahamas?

The Assistant translates in Spanish.

MR. PEREZ

I saw a newborn baby, but I never saw an egg hatching!

Adam deflates. Brown leans over and whispers to Adam and Cindy.

The audience buzzes. The judge pounds his gavel.

JUDGE

Mr. Brown, any further questions?

Brown looks defeated.

BROWN

No, sir, Your Honor.

JUDGE

Mr. Newman?

NEWMAN

No, sir, Your Honor.

JUDGE

In that case, custody will be granted
. . .

The Spanish woman stands and speaks in Spanish.

The judge looks at her, annoyed, but Brown's assistant runs to the bench.

ASSISTANT

Your Honor, Mrs. Perez wants to be sworn in.

The judge rolls his eyes, but Mrs. PEREZ is sworn in with Brown's assistant translating.

Brown stands and approaches her.

BROWN

Mrs. Perez, did you witness the hatching?

MRS. PEREZ'S INTERPRETATION:

Si!

BROWN

Did you see the egg hatching?

MRS. PEREZ'S INTERPRETATION:

Well, when I was leaving the plane, I opened the overhead compartment over

this couple's seats, and I saw the eggshell.

The room explodes with chatter. The judge pounds his gavel.

BROWN

No further questions, your Honor.

Brown seems very pleased with himself as the Judge looks at Newman.

NEWMAN

No questions your Honor.

There's a look of defeat on his face.

JUDGE

Very well . . .

Just then a police officer hurries into the room and hands an envelope over to the Bailiff, who then passes it on to the Judge. The court is silent while the judge opens it and reads the paper inside.

JUDGE

These are the results of the DNA testing. Adam Carson and Cindy Carson are the biological parents of Adam Carson, Jr. Adam Carson Junior will be granted a birth certificate. (He pauses, waiting for all to quiet) And based upon the testimony of the last witness, the Carsons were both present at the birth—er, hatching—of their baby, and therefore should be the custodial parents. Adam Carson Jr. will be placed in the permanent custody of his parents, Adam Carson Senior and Cindy Carson.

The room erupts into cheers as Marion and Harry run up to Adam and Cindy, giving them big hugs and kisses.

The baby is brought into the courtroom and handed to Cindy. She and Adam are delighted. Helen cries with happiness.

ADAM

I love you, sweetie.

CINDY

And I love you, too, baby!

The Spanish couple pause as they exit. Mrs. Perez fusses over the baby, then winks at Cindy.

MRS. PEREZ

(in Spanish) I am a mother, too.

Before anyone can question her, she disappears into the crowd.

ADAM

What did she say?

CINDY

I think she said she was a mother, too.

ADAM

You mean?

CINDY

Yeah.

EXT. THE COURTHOUSE - DAY

Adam, Cindy and the baby leave in the midst of the crowd.

At the court building's main entrance, Dr. Stevenson is waiting. He opens his arms and hugs Adam, Cindy, and their baby.

Reporters are everywhere.

REPORTER#1

How do you feel about getting your baby back?

CINDY

Words can't express our happiness.

REPORTER#2

What are your future plans?

ADAM

(smiles) Next? (drops into his exaggerated Appalachian accent) I think we'll go for another young 'un. A girl, this time. Right, darling? (puts his arm around Cindy, who just smiles).

FADE OUT

THE END