MEN IN LOVE
Michael Walek

Michael Walek
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CAST

The Kanes
Walker Kane A hedge fund manager
Richard Kane His father

The Hopkins
Frank Hopkins His business partner
Franklin Hopkins Junior Frank's father

The Lovers
Emma Sanders Frank's girlfriend,
Clayton Needleman A boy.
Anton Chernyev A boy.
Kyle Riley A boy.
Jack Harris A boy.
Samantha Lauren A woman.
Hadley Fox

The Traders
Scott Hirsch works at Hopkins/Kane Investments
Brian Dietrich works at Hopkins/Kane Investments
Jason Costello works at Hopkins/Kane Investments
Corey Stapelton works at Goldman

The Securities and Exchange Commission
Robert Khuzami Director of enforcement
Robert's Assistant

New Yorkers
Suitor
Escort
Mortgage Man
Barry Greene
Trainer
Assistant
Anchor
Reporter
Client #1
Client #2
Client #3
David Remnick
Bill Maher
Woman
Economist
Trainer
Walker's Assistant
Frank's Lawyer
Emma's Lawyer

Goldman Sachs
Susan Harrington
Garry Hale
Fabrice "Fab" Tourre
Taylor

Note: Walker and Frank are the only actors who do not double. The minimum number of actors are nine.
FRANK
You wake up each morning with one goal. You’re going to murder this fucking day.

BRIAN
97, 98, 99, 100.

JASON
Move the fuck over. You have the whole comforter.

SCOTT
I’m not making you pancakes.

WALKER
Can this line move faster?

BRIAN
Good morning Peter. Thank you. You too.

JASON
What time is it? We have to be really quick.

SCOTT
We don’t have time. Daddy has to get to work.

WALKER
What thirty year old doesn’t know their coffee order?

BRIAN
Of come on. Open. Open. Look I’m pretending my leg is stuck in the door.

JASON
Too quick? Sorry. Sally. Susan. Right. Summer... I was close.

SCOTT
You have to wear pants to school. It’s January.

BRIAN
Yes.

JASON
Uh-huh.

SCOTT
Ten, nine, eight, seven...this is your last warning.
BRIAN
Clipping your toenails. Clipping your toenails.

JASON
Take Plan B!

SCOTT
I fucking hate strollers. Move to the suburbs you fucking yuppie Fascists. Have a nice day, sweetie. Tell mommy I hate her.

WALKER
Morning Frank.

FRANK
Morning Walker.

WALKER
Do you want a coffee?

FRANK
Double espresso.

WALKER
I’ll be right up.

FRANK
Perfection.

SCOTT
I hate people.

BRIAN

JASON
Morning Dino. You too.

CLAYTON
Did you do the homework? I didn’t do the homework. Wanna know why?

EMMA
Send it I want to edit it one more time before we publish.

They check their phones.
SCOTT
Fuck.

BRIAN
Fuck.

JASON
Fuck.

WALKER
You’re looking good too, Claire. The usual please and a double espresso.

FRANK
My name is Frank Hopkins. I am thirty years old and I am a hedge fund manager. I was born in New York City.

WALKER
My name is Walker Kane. I am thirty years old and I am a hedge fund manager. I was born in New York City.

FRANK
I’m going to be a billionaire by thirty six.

WALKER
I’m going to be a billionaire by thirty six.

WALKER
The age Marilyn Monroe died.

FRANK
The age Bob Marley died.

*The office of Hopkins & Kane Investments.*

WALKER
Here you go.

*Walker hands Frank his coffee.*

FRANK
Thank you.

WALKER
Have a good day.

FRANK
Make us some money.

WALKER
Get us some money.
Frank goes into his office. Corner view.

Walker goes into his office. Dark room with a long table. Bloomberg monitors side by side for Walker, Scott, Brian and Jason.

BRIAN

Morning boss.

JASON

Catch.

Jason throws Walker a binder. Walker grabs it with ease.

JASON

Where’s my coffee?

Walker sucks down his cup.

WALKER

What time is it?

SCOTT

Nine-fifteen.

WALKER

T-minus, fifteen boys. Do we know the strategy for the day?

SCOTT

Hell yeah.

BRIAN

Hell yeah.

JASON

Fuck yeah.

WALKER

Alright let’s fire this up.

Walker sits.

A car.
Morning, Mr. Hopkins.

RICHARD

Morning, Richard.

FRANKLIN

Looks like smooth sailing today.

RICHARD

Sounds good.

FRANKLIN

I’m way too tired, I was up all night....why do you think...him.

CLAYTON

50 are dead after a series of insurgent attacks across Iraq comma including a suicide bomb at a Shia funeral leaving 36 dead period. God that’s bleak.

EMMA

T-minus fourteen.

WALKER

Did you guys watch the Knicks?

SCOTT

Painful.

BRIAN

It always is.

JASON

What’s on the slate?

WALKER

Work from the Detroit auto plant.

SCOTT

It fell from twenty to ten.

BRIAN

Make me a cup of coffee will you?
WALKER  
It doesn’t seem right.

EMMA  
Do it now.

BRIAN  
Makes us the first to go for it.

CLAYTON  
I just screamed for him to go harder all night.

WALKER  
What do you think is a better decision?

FRANK  
I need my coffee faster.

BRIAN  
I think it’s a stronger move.

EMMA  
They’ve fixed the glitches it’s going to work.

BRIAN  
It’ll get harder to find the stock the longer we wait.

FRANKLIN  
Can we make it by nine-thirty?

WALKER  
We better do it then.

EMMA  
No it’s faster than the Blackberry.

RICHARD  
We’ll make it.

SCOTT  
It’s a good move for us.

FRANK  
This coffee needs to be stronger.
CLAYTON
I’ve never liked anyone more than this.

BRIAN
And if we ever want to move in that direction.

EMMA
They pushed the press conference back an hour.

BRIAN
After the next quarter.

WALKER
Our work is never over.

SCOTT
And we’re off.

The traders stare at their computers.

Frank gets on the phone.

Action.

BRIAN
Look at that.

FRANK
Hi, It’s Frank Hopkins.

SCOTT
That is Apple.

FRANK
No problem I can hold.

JASON
Don’t move on it yet.

FRANK
Kill me.

EMMA
Can we talk about this later?
**CLAYTON**

Only man that has made me cum three times.

*Phone rings.*

**JASON**

(to phone)

Make me an offer.

*Frank gets a new cup of coffee.*

**FRANK**

Thank you. This is stronger.

**JASON**

I need you to go higher with that.

**FRANKLIN**

We need to hurry up.

**JASON**

Now we’re talking.

**RICHARD**

I can’t ‘cause this construction.

**EMMA**

It’s me. I can’t wait much longer to publish.

**FRANKLIN**

I know, but

**FRANK**

HI how have you been?

**FRANKLIN**

I’ve got to be there in five minutes.

**EMMA**

I’m gonna edit it right now

**FRANK**

‘Cause I’ve been crazy with the fund. You know.
WALKER

I can’t believe what Dell is doing.

FRANKLIN

Get in that lane.

CLAYTON

And he shot so much cum

EMMA

“Wronger” is not a word.

CLAYTON

He’s a man

FRANK

I’ve been waiting to call you until I had some big news.

CLAYTON

He lasted all night

WALKER

Now look at BEG.

SCOTT

That’s doing just like you said it would.

FRANK

How long have we been friends?

WALKER

I’ve been thinking we should move on it.

EMMA

On page two, we need to correct something.

FRANKLIN

You did it. We’re here.

They exit.

WALKER

I think....
FRANK
I don’t need anything

WALKER
You should pull the file on that.

CLAYTON
Right now we don’t have another date planned, but...

WALKER
I’ll look at what’s happening with DEC

FRANK
You need us

EMMA
You should change it to present tense.

CLAYTON
Right now, I’m just happy about last night.

FRANK
No one works as hard as us.

WALKER
It looks like it’s going to get a bump.

FRANK
Harder than all the rest.

WALKER
Make a note about this.

EMMA
It looks good. I’m sending.

JASON
Better flag FDC as well.

CLAYTON
It was an Italian place. Il Cantinori.

Emma hits her computer.
EMMA
Ugh Faster.

FRANK
We’ll make a presentation to you this week.

BRIAN
US-Corp is erratic today.

CLAYTON
Stronger

FRANK
You need us more than ever.

WALKER
Let’s schedule that at sixteen hundred hour.

JASON
Meeting after work.

FRANK
Our work is never over.

WALKER
Our work is never over.

Voices back to normal.
The office.

How’d it go today?

WALKER
We’re up a hundred and fifty grand.

FRANK
Drink?

WALKER
Do I ever say no? How was your day?
FRANK
I got a meeting with Aaron Hanks. Five to eight million.

WALKER
You’ve been trying to catch him.

FRANK
I have. My dad played golf with him last week and he cajoled him.

WALKER
I like that word.

FRANK
Me too.

WALKER
How’s your father?

FRANK
Good. Says, hi.

WALKER
“Hello”.

FRANK
He wants you to come to Annisa next Wednesday?

WALKER
Would love to.

Drinks in hand.

FRANK
Cheers.

WALKER
Cheers.

WALKER
When’s the meeting?

FRANK
Next week. Tuesday. I checked your schedule.

WALKER
So Wednesday could be a celebration.

FRANK
It could. What are you up to tonight?
WALKER
The guys are going out. What’s the fiancé doing?

FRANK
She has a deadline. I feel like going out.

WALKER
Can’t. Go with the guys.

FRANK
Hot date?

WALKER
Indeed.

FRANK
What’s his deal? A model? A personal trainer?

*Walker stares at him.*

WALKER
I have something I want to talk to you about.

FRANK
Shoot.

WALKER
Did you see the news about Countrywide?

FRANK
Insurance company?

WALKER
Someone’s thinking of buying it.

FRANK
Merger?

WALKER
Not exactly.

FRANK
What’s in it for us?

WALKER
I think there’s something there.
FRANK
In Countrywide?

WALKER
I think there’s something to this housing bubble.

FRANK
I’m listening.

WALKER
You’re giving me a look.

FRANK
We do merger investments.

WALKER
But there’s a housing bubble.

FRANK
Not a real one.

WALKER
Define real.

FRANK
There may be, but that’s not our game.

WALKER
What if we started putting money towards real estate?

FRANK
That’s not in our mission statement.

WALKER
I’m just thinking out loud.

FRANK
You want to invest in real estate?

*Walker takes a sip.*

WALKER
This is good stuff.
FRANK
You want to invest in real estate?

WALKER
What is this?

FRANK
Jefferson. I’ll buy you a case. Focus.

WALKER
What’d I say?

FRANK
You were thinking of investing in housing.

WALKER
Oh no, actually, the complete opposite.

Pause.

WALKER
Betting against it.

FRANK
Did you eat today?

WALKER
Of course not, but please/

FRANK
No one bets against the housing market.

WALKER
I know. I know. Trust me.

FRANK
I’m not following your point.

WALKER
I’m not really making one. I’m just going to do a little digging that’s all.

FRANK
As long as it’s a little digging.

WALKER
A little. A pittance. A cough. I just wanted to talk it over partner.
Frank: Thanks partner.

Walker: Anything else?

Frank: Sure you don’t want to go out for oysters?

Walker: Go with the boys.

Frank: They don’t like me.

Walker: Don’t be silly.

Frank: They think I’m the enemy.

Walker: They do not.

Frank: I’m sales. They’re traders. It’s the Sharks and the Jets.

Walker does a Jerome Robbin’s snap.

Walker: Which one are the Puerto Ricans?

Jason knocks on the door.

Jason: Sorry to interrupt.

Walker: It’s fine.

Jason: We’re just heading out and wanted to see if you were coming?

Walker: I can’t, but I told Frank to join you.
JASON
Oh... Great. Of course.

FRANK
No, it’s fine.

WALKER
Come on.

FRANK
I still have some work to do.

JASON
Okay, well see you guys Monday.

WALKER
Get the report on Suez and Gaz to me this weekend.

JASON
Will do.

WALKER
Have a fun night.

Jason leaves.

FRANK
See.

WALKER
What? They’re just unused to it. If you went out with them more often it wouldn’t be so shocking.

FRANK
It’s fine. I’ll call a friend.

WALKER
You don’t have any friends.

FRANK
Just potential clients and you.

WALKER
I’m your business partner.
FRANK
And friend. Best friend. Since birth.

WALKER
Five years old.

FRANK
Like there’s a difference.

WALKER
Anyway, I better be going.

FRANK
Where you going to dinner?

WALKER
Are you going to join?

FRANK
Just curious.

WALKER
Night.

Elevator.

WALKER
Room for one more?

BRIAN
Come on in, boss.

SCOTT
We can squeeze.

Doors shut.

JASON
Sure you don’t want to come out with us tonight? Party hard.

WALKER
I can’t.

SCOTT
One drink.
Can’t.

BRIAN
One drink.

The door opens.

Kyle stands waiting.

WALKER
Night guys. We got a big day on Monday. We’re gonna start something new.

Sounds good.

BRIAN
See you later.

WALKER
Hello.

KYLE
Hello.

They kiss.

JASON
Stay out of trouble.

WALKER
I won’t.

The traders exit.

WALKER
So what are you hungry for?

Kyle grabs Walker’s crotch.

WALKER
Oh yeah.

A bedroom.

Frank and Emma have sex.
Oh yeah. Yeah.

Come on pull my hair.

Yeah?

Yeah.

Yeah?

Yes.

Frank does.

That’s great.

A cell phone.

Um.

Don’t you dare.

I just have to

No.

I’m sorry. I just.

Frank stops.

Frank checks his phone.
Oh it wasn’t me.

*Frank goes to have sex.*

*Emma goes and checks her phone.*

It wasn’t me.

EMMA

So it was mine.

FRANK

Yeah, but you don’t care.

EMMA

I actually do.

*Emma looks.*

EMMA

I’m gonna have to return this call.

FRANK

Are you serious?

EMMA

Yes.

FRANK

Are you teaching me a lesson?

EMMA

Yes.

*She dials it back.*

EMMA

Hey. No. You’re not interrupting anything.

*Bedroom.*

*Jack is giving Walker a blow job.*
Walker’s phone rings. He pushes Jack down on his dick and answers the phone.

Hello.

Hey.

Hi.

What are you doing?

Getting a blowjob.

Haha, very funny. How was the date?

Good.

Who is he?

It’s one in the morning.

Did you take Bishop’s Ethics class?

I did.

I’ve never been able to figure out Epicureanism.

Really?

Yeah.
What don’t you get?

They’re stoics?

Atomic materialists.

What’s the difference?

They’re opposites.

Are you drunk?

Yeah.

Oh good. Me too.

What don’t you understand about Epicureanism?

So Epicurus says you should spend your life trying to achieve the greatest amount of pleasure.

Yep.

So pursue pleasure.

But not to excess. To much is bad. Like getting shit faced.

That makes sense.

Walker pulls up Jack. He begins to finger him.
FRANK
Epicurus said that life was a bitter gift. That was him right?

WALKER
It was.

*Walker licks his fingers.*

FRANK
And he didn’t believe in the Gods.

WALKER
He believed the gods were made of atoms like people. Hence atomic materialism, so god and man were equal and also the Gods didn’t care about our life.

FRANK
Do you think he was probably an atheist and just said that so he wasn’t stoned to death?

WALKER
It’s a good theory.

FRANK
I think I’m an Epicurean.

WALKER
So was Thomas Jefferson.

FRANK
Really? I’m just tired of telling people I’m an atheist.

WALKER
Why do you tell people anything?

FRANK
Well sometimes they ask.

WALKER
When people ask you things like that, just stare them in the eyes, say nothing, and they’ll never ask you bullshit again.

FRANK
I don’t think I can pull that off.
Walker lays Jack down on a bed. They get tangled in the sheets.

They come up and now Walker is having sex with Anton.

Anton gasps, Walker covers his mouth with his hand.

FRANK
So the book said, Epicurus defined pleasure as the absence of pain.

WALKER
I don’t know if I believe that.

FRANK
Yeah, I don’t either. I think pleasure is well pleasure.

WALKER
Me too.

FRANK
Did you know Marx wrote his doctoral thesis on him?

WALKER
He didn’t believe in an afterlife?

FRANK
Marx?

WALKER
Epicurus.

FRANK
No of course not, you know someone’s a hack when they believe in heaven.

WALKER
At least after you’re dead.

FRANK
This is true.

Emma comes back in the room.

FRANK
Can we have sex again?
Who are you talking to?

Walker.

Sure.

I need to go.

Okay.

You weren’t joking when you said you were getting a blow job were you?

No.

Good to know.

They hang up.

Was he with...

(Trying to recollect)

Kyle?

Like he ever shares his personal life with me. I think this is a new one.

There’s always a new one.

Lucky him.

I can go.

No, no of course not, but sometimes. Don’t you ever think?
EMMA
About having sex with other men. Yes. Do you?

FRANK
Well not other men.

EMMA
You know what I mean.

FRANK
I’m only human.

EMMA
Would you want an open marriage?

FRANK
(Sarcastic)
Oh yeah.

EMMA
We could talk about it.

FRANK
An open marriage. You would do that?

EMMA
I’d think about how I felt about it.

FRANK
Oh. I’m feeling...really freaked out right now.

EMMA
Why?

FRANK
My fiance is asking me for an open marriage.

EMMA
That is not at all what’s happening right now.

FRANK
But what happens if you meet someone and fell in love?

EMMA
I think that happens to people who are in monogamous relationships too.
FRANK
God an open marriage. Do people tell their spouses about the people the fuck?

EMMA
It must depend. You have rules.

FRANK
Do we tell other people?

EMMA
Like advertising?

FRANK
No, our friends.

EMMA
I don’t see why it’s anyone’s business except ours.

FRANK
And the people we have extra-marital relations with.

EMMA
This is really freaking you out.

FRANK
I’m in new territory.

* A club hallway.*

JASON
So how much?

ESCORT
How long?

JASON
The night.

ESCORT
Twelve hundred dollars.

JASON
Wow. Um, I....don’t..actually... want to have sex. I’d like to, um, cuddle.

ESCORT
You’re not paying me for sex.
JASON
I’m not?

ESCORT
No, I’m an escort. So you pay for my time and then I decide what I want to do.

JASON
So you never have sex?

ESCORT
Of course I do, but that’s not what you’re paying me for.

JASON
What’s the difference?

ESCORT
The law.

JASON
I don’t get this.

ESCORT
Are you drunk?

JASON
No, I just don’t get the contract we’re agreeing to.

ESCORT
It’s illegal to sell sex. It is legal to sell your time.

JASON
But do I get a discount for not sleeping with you?

ESCORT
No.

JASON
So there’s no difference in price if I want to fuck you?

ESCORT
It’s not based on the act.

JASON
What if I want to do anal?
I don’t do anal.

What if I want you to spank me?

That’s included in the price.

This seems like a terrible way to conduct business.

I can leave.

You know you really should hire a business manager.

That’s called a pimp.

No, like someone to do some consulting on your brand. I have a friend at Ernst & Young.

A bedroom.

Walker in bed.

Anton enters in a towel. Showered.


That’s usually not the compliment I get.

I love your apartment. Did you decorate it?

It was the model.

Oh.
WALKER
Do you want to spend the night?

ANTON
No thank you, I have an early meeting tomorrow.

WALKER
Great.

ANTON
Does anyone ever want someone to spend the night?

WALKER
Maybe that’s love.

ANTON
I wouldn’t know. Have you ever been in love?

WALKER
No.

ANTON
Me neither. I read this thing once, People would never fall in love unless, oh God, I’m forgetting it. People would never fall in love if they never heard of it before.

WALKER
La Rochefoucauld.

ANTON
Excuse me?

WALKER
That’s who said it. He was a French writer.

ANTON
You’re very smart.

WALKER
I have a good memory. It’s a party trick.

ANTON
Do you think it’s true?
WALKER
I try not to answer serious questions aloud.

ANTON
Why?

WALKER
I need to send some emails out. I’m sorry.

A bar.

BRIAN
Where did Jason go?

SCOTT
I think he was talking to that girl?

She was hot.

BRIAN
No kidding.

SCOTT
Jason always does well.

I don’t do badly.

BRIAN
No, no of course not. It’s just... I was reading this book that told me the way to get a girl is to like insult her a lot and then say something nice.

SCOTT
I’d do better if I was taller.

BRIAN
I was like, I’m never going to do that. I’m never going to start by insulting a girl. It was like PR Skills to use in dating.

SCOTT
My mom wanted to put me on human growth hormones, but my dad said that was insane.

BRIAN
Don’t you think sometimes, like I think, my life would be much better if I was just a worse person?
SCOTT
Our whole life would be different if I was five inches taller.

BRIAN
Don’t you agree?

SCOTT
Don’t you agree?

BRIAN
Totally.

SCOTT
Totally.

BRIAN
Or maybe a yacht.

SCOTT
I’d like a yacht.

*Jason comes back.*

JASON
Hey guys.

BRIAN
Did you talk to that girl?

JASON
What?

BRIAN
The blonde.

JASON
Oh no. I had to pee. More drinks?

*The office.*

WALKER
How was your weekend?

SCOTT
Interesting.

BRIAN
Depressing.

JASON
I think I learned some things.
WALKER
Well, that’s all over the board. Thank you all for coming in early on a Monday. Before we
start today, I want to talk to you about housing.

SCOTT
Housing?

WALKER
Specifically mortgages.

JASON
I did that at Goldman.

WALKER
I remember.

JASON
What exactly do you want to know?

WALKER
I think there’s something there.

SCOTT
For us?

WALKER
Yes.

SCOTT
Does Frank know?

WALKER
Actually...why do you ask that?

SCOTT
I’m just curious.

WALKER
Frank knows what he, knows. Listen we’re just doing some digging. I want you guys to
look into some ideas, just ideas. I’d like you to focus on Orange County. Ever hear about
it?

BRIAN
“We’ve been on the run driving in the sun, looking out for number one”
“California, here we come right back where we started from.”

“California, here we come right back where we started from.”

BRIAN

The O.C.

WALKER
Now that you’ve finished, whatever that was, Orange County has the highest rate of mortgages in the United States, find out why.

Roger that.

WALKER
And don’t let this affect your other work.

Yes boss.

JASON

Pause.

WALKER
Get to work.

BRIAN

(On the phone)
Hola, my name is Ryan Atwood and I’m looking for a loan to buy a house. Oh great. Okay, yeah the thing is I don’t have any money. Well, um, I’m homeless, but actually I’m like living with a wealthy family. The dad is a lawyer and he is kind of my guardian. Yeah I think he would sign my, um, loan. Yeah. So how much do you think I could get? Four Hundred Thousand Dollars. Fantastic. I’m gonna go ask him. Sandy! Sandy!

Scott hangs up the phone.

BRIAN
This is a fucking bubble.

WALKER
So here’s how it works.

SCOTT
Hi, I’m Scott. I want to buy a home, but I don’t have money.
Hi, I’m a mortgage broker.

Hello.

Hello.

I want some money to buy a house.

Oh I can’t loan any money to you, you have no way to pay me back you fucking lazy bum.

Hi, I’m a Wall Street investor. I’ve got investors who are stupid rich. They want to bet on things with astronomically high risk. Where can I get something with astronomically high risk? Wait a second. Ring ring.

Hello.

Hi, are you a mortgage broker?

Yes, I am.

Do you have people who want money to buy a house who have absolutely no way of paying it back?

Well yes, but I’d never give loans to them.

You should.

Wait why?
JASON
Because I need something with high risk that would provide high interest rates for my clients.

BRIAN
Are you sure?

JASON
Don’t you get a commission on how much money you lend?

BRIAN
Yes.

JASON
Is that affected by how much money comes back?

BRIAN
No.

JASON
Give the guy a fucking loan.

Hello.

BRIAN
I want to give you that loan now.

SCOTT
Why?

BRIAN
Because Wall Street banks needs high interest yields.

SCOTT
What the fuck does that mean?

BRIAN
Shut the fuck up, here’s a hundred thousand dollars.

Yay!

SCOTT
BRIAN
I did what you asked.

JASON
Great. Can I have two of your clients that will probably pay back their mortgage.

BRIAN
Um, why?

JASON
I’m going to bundle those three clients together, the guy who will never pay and the two people who will, to offset the losses and then sell it to a guy in China.

BRIAN
How is this legal?

JASON
I have no fucking idea, but it is.

BRIAN
Don’t you guys have agencies that grade all your transactions?

JASON
We do. And they’re giving this an A plus rating.

BRIAN
Why?

JASON
I have no fucking idea. Don’t you love it?

BRIAN
I’m sorry I can’t hear you, I’m driving a Porsche with the top down, up PCH. snorting coke off a hooker’s taint.

JASON
Wahooo.

WALKER
And this is why it’s a bubble and it’s going to collapse.

_Frank looks up from the report._

FRANK
This is speculation. I need hard facts.
WALKER
But you have to admit there is something here.

FRANK
Like when Isaac Newton thought The South Sea Company was going to fold or Adolph Merkle?

WALKER
Or like George Soros.

FRANK
Real data. Real numbers. Not guess work.

WALKER
I just need you to see the possibility.

What possibility?

WALKER
That this is it. This is Jaws. This is Jurassic Park. This is what we’ve been waiting our whole lives for.

FRANK
And what’s that?

WALKER
A blockbuster.

A deli.

Why do we have to come here?

WALKER
I like the turkey sandwich.

FRANK
I wanted to take you to the Modern. You’d like it.

RICHARD
I like this.

WALKER
Fine.
RICHARD
I only eat once a day, I want what I want.

WALKER
You have the strangest eating habits.

RICHARD
That’s why I’m not fat.

WALKER
Okay.

RICHARD
How much do you weigh?

WALKER
Why?

RICHARD
You can tell a lot about a man from how much he weighs.

WALKER
I’m fine.

RICHARD
Just wanted to know.

WALKER
*Says his weight.*

RICHARD
That’s good, but don’t let it get too much higher.

WALKER
Thanks dad.

RICHARD
How’s work?

WALKER
Fine. The usual.

RICHARD
What’s that?
WALKER
A lot of stuff. I don’t know. It’s technical. Just, you know hustling.

RICHARD
I don’t.

WALKER
I mean, I’ve got a lot going on, which is pretty typical.

RICHARD
How’s your love life?

WALKER
There’s not a lot of love in what I do.

RICHARD
That’s sad. You need to find a nice boy to settle down with.

WALKER
Not until I make my money.

Michael’s.

FRANKLIN
Should we share the chopped salad?

FRANK
Share?

FRANKLIN
Guess not.

FRANK
Dad?

FRANKLIN
Yeah.

FRANK
When you started your company. How many people said you were crazy?

FRANKLIN
Your grandmother thought I was crazy until she died. Never got over why I didn’t become a doctor.
FRANK
You quit school to start a company. You didn’t have any money, any security. That was brave.

FRANKLIN
I saw the version of myself I wanted to become and I pointed the ship straight there. I knew I was going to be a success.

But you could have failed.

FRANKLIN
Never crossed my mind. I’m like Walker in that way. We just lead with our gut. You know?

Yes.

FRANKLIN
That’s why you guys are such a good team together. It’s why you guys will be a huge success.

Because of Walker.

FRANKLIN
Because you guys work perfectly together. You each have your own skill set. Put them together and you’re in business. Yes, we both want the chopped salad and I’ll have an iced tea.

Me too.

At the diner.

WALKER
How was the drive in?

RICHARD
Hardly any traffic. Mr. Hopkins and I talked the whole

WALKER
I wish you’d call him Franklin.
RICHARD

He’s my employer.

WALKER

He tells you to call him Franklin all the time.

RICHARD

I like keeping a distance. I’m not friends with him like you are.

WALKER

Fine. They asked us to get lunch with them.

RICHARD

I like to be alone with my son. I hardly get to see you.

WALKER

You know, I’m busy. But, I’m renting a house in Montauk this summer.

Why?

WALKER

It’ll be nice.

RICHARD

Save your money. You have a house in the Hamptons, you don’t have to pay for.

WALKER

Our apartment over the garage is not a house in the Hamptons. I was just thinking you should take some time off and go stay there.

With you?

WALKER

I’ll be out there on the weekends, so yeah, we could do something then. A friend of mine has a boat. We could go fishing.

RICHARD

That sounds nice. What dates were you thinking?

WALKER

I don’t have specific dates, this is all up in the air, I was just telling you some ideas.

*Walker looks at his phone.*
RICHARD

Well tell me when you have dates.

WALKER

Listen, I have to take this.

RICHARD

Okay.

WALKER

(On phone)
Yeah. Yeah. No I don’t have those in front of me. Well no. Can I call you back in like, you know what. It’s fine. Hold on. Five minutes.

_Hangs up the phone._

I got to go.

WALKER

RICHARD

Why don’t you see if you can get your lunch/ wrapped

WALKER

It’s fine. We have food at the office. Take it home. You can have it for diner.

_Walker exits._

RICHARD

I only eat once a day.

_At the office._

WALKER

What do we have?

_A chart._

SCOTT

It’s a chart.

WALKER

I see that. Of what?

BRIAN

It’s a trend line.
JASON
So between 1975 and 2000, housing prices only climbed 1.4 percent.

SCOTT
That’s nothing.

BRIAN
Nothing.

JASON
And then in 2001, after 9/11 they soar 7 percent because the only way the Fed thought they could make the economy recover is to let people buy their own home.

SCOTT
You know how focused Bush is about that.

JASON
So here’s the crazy thing.

BRIAN
The super crazy thing.

JASON
For it to go back to normal it MUST fall, to here, and that fall will be a catastrophe.

SCOTT
It’s exactly like you predicted.

BRIAN
You have to show it to Frank. He can’t debate this.

JASON
This is cold hard facts.

WALKER
Give it to me. This is going to be good.

Frank’s office.

FRANK
This is...something.

WALKER
Isn’t it.
FRANK
If this is right/

WALKER
It’s right.

FRANK
Can you imagine? What this means?

WALKER
We’re going to see something we’ve never seen before.

FRANK
How bad could this be?

WALKER
It’s going to change everything.

FRANK
Holy fuck.

WALKER
Holy fuck is right.

FRANK
So if we did something/

WALKER
When we do something.

FRANK
Tell me what you’re thinking in that mysterious brain of yours?

WALKER
Well first, we need to be quiet because we don’t want someone else to figure this out.

FRANK
That’s bad.

WALKER
But if somebody else figured this out. We need to find them.

FRANK
That’s good. Where do we start looking?
WALKER
We need to see who is betting against this.

FRANK
There’s your first problem.

WALKER
How do we bet against a housing market?

FRANK
You can’t.

WALKER
I’m working on it. Tools? Supplies?

FRANK
Isn’t that small potatoes?

WALKER
I’m thinking aloud.

FRANK
We also have another enormous problem.

WALKER
What’s that?

FRANK
We’re a fund that deals in mergers.

WALKER
In the past.

FRANK
We told our investors, we do one thing, we can’t/ change our

WALKER
We’re going to make them billions of dollars. Who cares if we’re doing mergers or murdering children?

FRANK
I think they’d care about murdering children.
Have you met our clients?

We need to see what the lawyers think.

Not all of them. Who can we trust?

I trust Darren.

Who’s Darren?

Darren. He’s tall. Wears ties.

That’s like every lawyer in town.

Like really bright ties.

Oh yeah. You trust him?

I do. He’s a Mormon.

Who would have guessed. Then be quiet, but see what we can do.

Well until we figure out a strategy of how to bet against the bubble, we don’t have anything.

So you admit there is a bubble?

I need to get going.

Come on.
FRANK
Big meeting with Emma at William S. Beslow.

WALKER
That meeting.

FRANK
Don’t give me that tone. Both our parents said it’s the only way.

WALKER
You’re not going to sleep away camp, you’re getting married.

FRANK
You’ll have a prenup too.

WALKER
I will not.

FRANK
When you finally decide to settle down, you’ll be a billionaire. You got to protect your assets.

WALKER
I don’t think that’s how I love.

FRANK
See you tomorrow.

WALKER
I’m going to figure out how to do this.

FRANK
I know. You’re the best in the business.

The lawyers.

LAWYER
This is a list of the possessions each of your families want to be kept in their family.

EMMA
Oh my God.

FRANK
Emma, it’s fine.

They look at the list
FRANK
What? She doesn’t get to keep the house on Long Island?

LAWYER
If she bears your children, she may live there until her death.

How generous.

EMMA
What about adopted children?

LAWYER
That’s not in the contract.

FRANK
Oh my God put that in.

EMMA
Now.

FRANK
How are you feeling?

EMMA
I want to get it over with.

LAWYER
I know this is difficult, but separating is even more difficult. This ensures that everything is clear and easy, if you ever choose to separate.

FRANK
But we never will.

LAWYER
Mr. Hopkins, please forgive me, but every couple says that when they get married.

EMMA
I love you. Let’s just run away to Vegas.

FRANK
Our parents want this so badly. Let’s get this done and go to Nougatine to celebrate.

EMMA
Fine. Where do I sign?
At a meeting

FRANK
If you sign, you’ll be with the best merger team in town. I think you can see Hopkins/Kane has an aggressive, yet sensible plan for your money.

CLIENT
What do you think?

BRIAN
Me?

CLIENT
No. The one in the back? You there.

FRANK
Walker.

CLIENT
Yeah, Walker. You’re the math guy right.

WALKER
Yep, I’m the math guy.

CLIENT
So what do you think?

WALKER
You should give us your money.

FRANK
Because of all the reasons we’ve outlined, if you have any specific questions about models or/ anything

CLIENT
No, I’m good. Thank you guys for your time.

The client leaves.

FRANK
Brian will you leave us alone for a second.

BRIAN
Sure.

Brian leaves.
“Give us your fucking money.”

I didn’t say fucking, though I felt like it.

That man was about to give us forty million dollars.

He wasn’t.

He was.

I could tell the moment we came in, he wasn’t having it. He already has a merger firm, he wants a real estate firm.

No. No. Stop that.

What?

You don’t know any of that. You’re speculating.

That’s kind of our job.

No, our job is to get people’s confidence. That’s what this business is, people trusting in us, in you and me. And no one is going to believe the punk who sits in the back of the class taking a nap.

I wasn’t sleeping.

You had your eyes closed.

Only when I was thinking.
FRANK
About what?

WALKER
How to fucking go after this bubble.

FRANK
Bright tie Darren says we legally can’t change the mission of the fund without telling all our investors.

WALKER
If we tell all of them, the word will get out what we’re trying to do.

FRANK
I believe this is called a Catch-22.

WALKER
We’re going to miss out on the biggest chance of our life time.

FRANK
No we’re not, because we don’t even know how to bet against it. What was your idea, shorting a lumber company?

WALKER
I was spitballing.

FRANK
Home Depot, Lowes, John Dere

WALKER
John Dere makes tractors. You’re such a rich kid.

FRANK
Fuck you.

WALKER
These banks take the mortgages and bundle them together and sell them. Right?

FRANK
Correct.

WALKER
They’re an item, so why can’t we take out a credit default swap on them, on the bundled debt?
Frank thinks.

WALKER

Well?

FRANK

Give me a second.

WALKER

Second’s up.

FRANK

Because, well, no one has done it before.

WALKER

Just because no one has done it before doesn’t mean it can’t be done.

FRANK

That’s true in theory.

WALKER

And that’s different from reality how?

FRANK

Don’t be a cunt.

WALKER

Who do we ask?

FRANK

I’m going to dinner with Corey at Goldman.

WALKER

Corey Roth?

FRANK

Corey Stapleton?

WALKER

He’s in insurance. That’s good.

FRANK

I’ll ask him if they would set something like that up.
WALKER
Don’t ask him. Tell him. Tell him what we want to do.

FRANK
I will. But you have to pitch at the next meeting.

WALKER
You’re so much better.

FRANK
But investors want to hear from you too.

WALKER
Deal.

Masa

COREY
I’m totally in love with her.

FRANK
She’s a great girl.

COREY
You didn’t ever/ date

FRANK
No, oh no. I mean I flirted with her once or twice.

COREY
As it should be, as it should be good man.

FRANK
No, she’s really great. I think Emma and her are friends.

COREY
I think they are. I think they’re on a board. A committee.

FRANK
Of course.

COREY
But so in love, we’re going skiing in Aspen together. You ever been?
Love Little Nell.

Got to love Little Nell.

Listen, I asked you to dinner for a reason.

You didn’t just miss my smiling face?

Well yes, of course, and the fact that I feel absolutely no shame spending seven hundred dollars on sushi with you.

We earned it.

Listen Walker is interested in buying some CDOs.

Smart man. I was saying at a meeting/ today

Yes, but he wonders if we could make some deal. To insure against, well not against a company like usual, but to insure against the actual bundles of debt a company holds.

Hmmmm. Nope. Nope not gonna work.

No?

Well how much are we talking? A billion?

Corey, come on you know I don’t have that much capital.

The kind of legal team you’d need to structure this would take like every person at Sullivan and Cromwell. I’d have to be a big buy.
Got it.

Tell Walker he’s out of luck.

Will do.

Come on. Cheer up. Have some blowfish.

He does.

That’s a thousand dollar piece of fish and one in a hundred are poisonous.

Frank spits it out.

Fuck.

At the office.

Fuck.

It can’t be done.

No it can, but with a lot of money.

Money we don’t have.

One of the big banks must be doing this in secret. Because if I had the money, I wouldn’t be showing my hand. Cause you can’t come out publicly and be like, oh by the way everything is going to turn to shit. You can’t say that.

It’s probably bad for business.
WALKER
Because as you say this is about trust.

FRANK
The stock market is nothing except what we believe something’s value to be.

WALKER
What if all the banks, all of them were lining up for catastrophe?

FRANK
And not telling their clients?

WALKER
Did we tell our clients at Goldman anything?

FRANK
No, we just told them to invest more money.

WALKER
Well?

FRANK
This would be so unethical.

WALKER
For the banks. But not for us.

FRANK
Let’s meet with some mortgage guys.

WALKER
Really?

FRANK
Let’s lie to them.

A boardroom.

MORTGAGE MAN
Well this sounds very impressive.

WALKER
We’re very impressed.
Absolutely.

This would be a very big change in your guys portfolio.

But as we do the models and look at the stats, it’s the only correct outcome.

Well of course.

We only have a slight concern.

Of course.

Should we even bring it up?

Oh, no I guess not.

It’s so small.

No, please ask me.

Well..

Please, if we’re going to be doing business.

It’s just a small question.

Tiny.

Please, ask me.
FRANK
On mortgages you guys are leveraged thirty-five to one and it seems like forty percent of your clients will be unable to pay you back, don’t you think that the lending has grown out of hand to your original projections?

MORTGAGE MAN
That’s your small question?

WALKER
Define small.

MORTGAGE MAN
Every model shows nothing but growth. I’m sorry, but how serious are you?

A bar.

FRANKLIN
I’m hearing things.

FRANK
What are you talking about?

FRANKLIN
What are you guys up to?

FRANK
Nothing.

FRANKLIN
Someone said mortgages, but that can’t be you, you do mergers.

FRANK
We might be testing something new.

FRANKLIN
Son, what are you thinking?

FRANK
We’re exploring.
FRANKLIN
Listen to me, this whole game, and never forget it’s a game, relies on confidence. If I’ve heard it, your investors will hear it soon, and if your investors think you’re changing strategy without telling them. That’s a break in confidence. If you don’t have your clients trust the whole business falls apart/

FRANK
I know/

FRANKLIN
Then what’s going on?

FRANK
Well Walker thinks/

FRANKLIN
You can’t let him walk on you.

FRANK
He’s not walking on me.

FRANKLIN
You need to be in charge too.

FRANK
I am.

FRANKLIN
You know what happened with me when the Stephen Rich scandal broke.

FRANK
Of course.

FRANKLIN
I handled his legitimate business, but because of his arrest, everyone thought that I was in on it too.

FRANK
Dad, I know.

FRANKLIN
Some people, still to this day. Think I’m crooked. It kills me.

FRANK
Walker is not Stephen Rich.
FRANKLIN
No, but that tarnished me, for awhile, of course every year we get past it, the more people believe in me again, but that was a horrible time. I drank. Your mother almost left me.

FRANK
I don’t want to hear this.

FRANKLIN
It’s a warning to you. If you screw over your clients, no worse, if your clients even think you’re screwing them over, it will hurt you.

FRANK
I know.

FRANKLIN
Don’t let Walker do something without telling your investors.

FRANK
I know. Trust me.

FRANKLIN
Fine, but don’t let this get out of hand.

FRANK
It’s not out of hand.

FRANKLIN
I can tell from the way you’re reacting that you don’t have a calm mind about this.

Jesus Christ

FRANKLIN
See what I mean.

FRANK
Sometimes dad, you’re just...

What?

FRANK
I feel my phone vibrating I think I need to get this.

FRANKLIN
I don’t hear anything.
FRANK
You’re getting old. Maybe you need to get your ears checked.

*Frank picks up his phone and walks away.*

FRANK
Hello imaginary person, what’s your emergency?

*Party.*

WALKER
Hello.

HADLEY
Hello.

WALKER
It’s a party.

HADLEY
It is.

WALKER
So what do you do?

HADLEY
Don’t you hate that?

WALKER
What?

HADLEY
When the first question someone asks you is, what you do?

WALKER
Okay. How many people did John Wayne Gacy kill?

HADLEY
Are you hitting on me?

WALKER
33 and yes.

HADLEY
Does this work?
Almost always.

Wow.

I know 33 is a lot.

How many did Ted Bundy kill?

30.

Jeffrey Dahmer?

17.

God is that even serial killer numbers?

You only have to do three.

(No way)

Three?

I know.

I could do three. Tonight.

Which three would you off?

Hadley looks into the audience. Picks someone.

That’s a good starter kill.
HADLEY
What? You don’t think it’s good enough?

WALKER
Well, myself, I prefer a challenge.

HADLEY
Do you now?

WALKER
Well clearly I’m talking to you.

HADLEY
Who would you choose?

WALKER
There.

HADLEY
(Sadly)
No.

WALKER
Yeah.

HADLEY
That’s really mean.

WALKER
I’m a serial killer. I’m not a kindergarten teacher.

HADLEY
Hopefully not.

WALKER
No, really I’m a hedge fund manager.

HADLEY
I think I would have preferred serial killer.
WALKER
It’s not that bad.

HADLEY
It’s pretty bad. At least there’s an art to killing. Or so I’m told.

There is an art.

HADLEY
Excuse me?

WALKER
To what I do. There’s an art. Finding the patterns, predicting how the economy will move. It’s creative.

HADLEY
Stealing money from the little people?

WALKER
I’m not a bank. I steal money from big people, like billionaires.

HADLEY
Oh well, they don’t need it.

WALKER
Marx said dead capital was a vampire.

HADLEY
That’s dramatic.

WALKER
Well he was German.

HADLEY
Wanna hear an inappropriate German joke?

WALKER
The only kind I like.

HADLEY
Why shouldn’t you discourage an untalented painter?

WALKER
Why?
Hitler.

That’s pretty good.

I know my boyfriend told it to me.

I take back my first kill. Where is this boyfriend?

He’s not here.

You should be careful. He sounds mentally unstable.

Compared to us?

No we’re disgusting, but we belong to each other.

Right.

Seriously when you asked me how many people Ted Bundy killed I got an erection.

This is disgusting.

I know, but disgusting in a multiple orgasm, eat ice cream on the kitchen floor, watch Channel 78.

What’s Channel 78?

You don’t watch it?

No.
WALKER
It’s amazing, it’s this channel of all the surveillance camera feeds around NYC, I lay in bed and watch, every fifteen seconds click Time Square, click, Lincoln Center, click, West Side Highway. It’s incredibly soothing / like

There you are.

FRANK
There you are.

EMMA
Hello.

WALKER
Hey guys.

Hello.

EMMA
Hi. I’m Hadley.

HADLEY
Hello.

FRANK
Nice to meet you.

EMMA
Hi.

FRANK
Can we borrow Walker?

WALKER
Just give me one minute.

(To Hadley)
Can I get your number?

HADLEY
Like I said, boyfriend.

WALKER
Can I get your e-mail?

HADLEY
Boy. Friend.

WALKER
Can I walk your dog?
I don’t have a dog.

HADLEY

I’ll buy you one.

WALKER

It was nice meeting you.

HADLEY

All right. I’ll find you.

WALKER

You’re a serial killer.

HADLEY

Oh come on.

WALKER

Hadley exits.

Who was that?

FRANK

What’s up?

WALKER

Okay. We’re here on a mission.

FRANK

I got your text.

WALKER

We have to talk to Campion. He’s got ten million just laying around.

FRANK

How long do we have to stay? I’m hungry. And he was cute.

EMMA

This is important. We need to talk to him.

FRANK

Listen, I wanted to tell you, I heard a rumor today there’s someone at Deutsche Bank. I don’t know who, but he’s looking into things like we are.
Campion’s open now.

You’re not paying attention to me. We need to find this guy.

Let’s just focus on Campion.

Did you hear what I said about Deutsche Bank?

He’s almost done talking with that guy.

You’re not listening to me.

Should I leave?

No, stay. It’s no big deal.

It’s a huge deal.

I’m gonna find an hors d'oeuvre.

Why are you ignoring me?

Campion sees them.

Frank.

Campion.

Thank you for coming.

Your place is gorgeous. What is that, is that teak?
CAMPION

It’s willow.

FRANK

Oh willow. And this is my business partner, Walker Kane.

WALKER

Beautiful apartment.

CAMPION

I designed it myself.

FRANK

Really, you must give me some tips. I’m thinking of buying a place in Amagansett.

*Walker looks at him.* What?

CAMPION

Must mean Kane and Hopkins are doing well.

FRANK

We’re up three percent.

CAMPION

Three?

FRANK

Yes.

CAMPION

I don’t get you guys.

FRANK

What’s there not to get?

CAMPION

I mean what are you guys trying to do, get a ten, eleven percent return. Can’t you do better than that? John Weber is doing twenty five percent for me. I’m gonna double my money in two years and you guys are, what exactly are you guys doing?

PARTY GUEST

Campion!
CAMPION
If you’ll excuse me for a minute. Frank. Walker. Pleasure.

Campion exits.

WALKER
This is exactly what I’ve been talking about.

FRANK
Let’s not do this here.

WALKER
I’ve been telling you/

FRANK
I know, but keep your voice down.

WALKER
We need to talk to this guy at Deutche Bank/

FRANK
Be quiet.

WALKER
Stop telling me to be quiet.

Walker throws the glass across the room. It shatters
music stops.

FRANK
Fuck.

Walker exits.

WALKER
Frank goes to the bar.

EMMA
Come on let’s go.

FRANK
I need a drink.

EMMA
Everyone is staring at us.
I need a drink.

You’ve already had three.

Who are you my fucking mother?

Don’t be mean.

Don’t count my drinks.

Drink as much as you want.

Where are you going?

Home.

Fine.

Fine.

*Emma exits.*

*Frank texts.*

*A strip club.*

Now that’s what I’m talking about.

Holy shit, look over there.

Oh no.
He actually came.

Hey guys.

Hey.

This seems fun.

It is.

Do you guys need another round?

We’re doing bottle service.

Cool. I need a drink.

Frank sits down with them. Hmm.

I wonder how much a tit job like that costs?


She’ll probably make that back in tips tonight.

Good investment.

I wish we could get those returns.

Well sometimes you have to do something drastic.

Was Cristal the one that said the racist thing?
The office.

FRANK

I brought you a coffee.

WALKER

I already got one.

FRANK

Good I need two.

Silence.

FRANK

I went out with the boys.

Silence.

FRANK

We have to talk.

WALKER

About what?

FRANK

Jesus Walker.

WALKER

What?

FRANK

You need to talk to me.

WALKER

What have you found out about the guy at Deutsche Bank?

FRANK

Nothing. You?

WALKER

You’re the one with all the connections.

FRANK

I have to keep this company running.
WALKER
And I have to go make money. Excuse me.

FRANK
Have a fantastic day.

*At dinner at 15 East*

COREY
I’m in love with my new BlackBerry, if I could figure out a way to fuck it I would.

FRANK
How would Amy feel?

COREY
I dumped Amy.

FRANK
Why?

COREY
I’m getting this really great place in Sag Harbor this summer and I just was doing the final inspection and I realized that Amy really didn’t go with the house. Like she’s great and maybe in a few years I’d marry her, but for the summer I want a really hot like Thai girl or Egyptian. Have you ever been with an Egyptian girl?

FRANK
I have once in London.

COREY
Was her name Cleopatra?

FRANK
I think it was Doris.

COREY
Anyway, the house has these great Balinese sliding doors. You have to come over.

FRANK
I always think about renting a house. I stay with my parents, but I end up feeling like a little kid.

COREY
Why? Their place is gigantic.
FRANK
Can’t have the wild parties like you.

COREY
Do I throw the best parties?

FRANK
You throw the best parties.

COREY
Say it.

FRANK
I just did.

COREY
I can’t wait for the summer.

FRANK
Listen, I have to ask you. Do you know something about a guy at Deutsche Bank doing something with CDOs.

COREY
How the fuck did you hear about that?

FRANK
So there is someone.

COREY
It’s just talks right now, but we have a meeting next week.

FRANK
What is it?

COREY
I shouldn’t say anything.

FRANK
Corey, come on. It’s me.

COREY
Pay for dinner?

FRANK
No.
COREY
They’re calling them synthetic.

FRANK
Synthetic.

COREY
Isn’t that kinky?

FRANK
What do they do?

At the office.

FRANK
It’s called a synthetic CDO. Synthetic CDOs are gonna be easier, and faster, and cheaper to create than traditional CDOs, because you don’t actually have the asset.

WALKER
No way.

FRANK
It’s a bet on the *performance* of mortgage.

WALKER
That’s exactly what I asked for.

FRANK
And they’re doing it.

WALKER
Oh my God. This is it.

FRANK
Just like you said.

WALKER
How much should we start buying?

FRANK
Well we need to look into it. Study up. Plan.

WALKER
I have. My team has been doing the research. We’re ready to move on this.
FRANK
You’ve already planned this?

WALKER
Yes.

FRANK
When?

WALKER
We are always prepared. For anything.

FRANK
Without telling me?

WALKER
I think every conversation we have has been like? “Frank, I want to do this.” “Walker, no you’re crazy.”

FRANK
This is moving very fast.

WALKER
I want a billion dollars.

FRANK
The room is spinning.

WALKER
This is the best news. Frank. We can do it. I got to go tell them.

The trading office.

WALKER
They’re doing it.

SCOTT
Exactly like you said.

WALKER
We need to start making a game plan.

BRIAN
What should we start selling?
SCOTT
I think we should unload a bunch of the stocks in our B portfolio.

JASON
Lehman wanted some of that.

WALKER
Wait. We need to present all this to Frank before we do anything major.

SCOTT
Fuck him.

WALKER
Wait a second, watch that.

BRIAN
It’s all happening exactly like you said it would.

SCOTT
He said it couldn’t be done and three months. Three fucking months later, fucking Goldman and Bear Sterns create the fucking things.

WALKER
You need to put your personal things aside. I need you guys to start identifying what we’re going to buy, if we do this.

SCOTT
When we do this.

*The bar at The Four Seasons.*

FRANKLIN
You boys look good.

WALKER
Thank you, Mr. Hopkins.

FRANK
How was your day dad?

FRANKLIN
Wonderful. Did you see Sytenex fell by seven?

*A smile all around.*
FRANKLIN
What is it that you needed to see me so badly.

WALKER
We want to change our models.

FRANK
We’re thinking of changing our models.

FRANKLIN
My goodness.

WALKER
I want to invest heavily in synthetic CDOs.

FRANK
We’re thinking about it.

FRANKLIN
Frank already mentioned this. I just don’t see why.

WALKER
Because the housing market is going to collapse.

FRANKLIN
When?

WALKER
This year.

FRANK
Maybe this year. We don’t know for sure.

FRANKLIN
Jimmy, we need a round of drinks here. Boys, come on. You can’t be serious.

FRANK
We’re just talking about it.

FRANKLIN
Listen everyone knows there’s a slight bubble going on, especially in Southern California.

WALKER
New Century.
FRANKLIN
Angelo Mozilo looks like an Italian lizard.

WALKER
He’s giving loans to migrant farm workers. Migrants. Home loans.

FRANKLIN
Yes fine, but every model we have at Goldman/ says...

WALKER
Every model you have, I’m sorry to tell you is bullshit.

FRANK
Walker.

WALKER
Your models are based on loans made in the past what, decade? Two decades? This is a new world and you can’t look to history to explain it.

FRANKLIN
Frank, your mother wants to know if you’ll be her date to Company next weekend.

FRANK
I’ll check with Emma to see if we have plans.

WALKER
Mr. Hopkins, I’m serious / about this

FRANKLIN
Our drinks are here.

They raise them in a toast.

FRANKLIN
To my boys. Who always make good decisions.

At the office.

WALKER
What do you have for me?

SCOTT
SAIL, Structured Asset Investment Loan Trust
SURF, Specialty Underwriting and Residential Finance Trust.

HEAT, Home Equity Asset Trust.

These names are ridiculous.

It’s Southern California.

This is good! Keep digging.

**Frank’s office.**

We have a meeting with a new investor tomorrow.

Fantastic, we’ve identified some of the mortgage bundles we want to bet against. They have the craziest names/you’ve ever

Walker.

What?

Did you hear my dad?

Yeah. Remind me to never get old.

That isn’t very polite.

He’s stuck in the past. It’s a new world.

My father is one of the most respected men in this business.
WALKER
Yes, for what he did. A hundred years ago. Your dad was a broker in the dark ages. We’re talking Carter. He made his money in that racket with Stephen Rich.

FRANK
It wasn’t a racket.

WALKER
You know what I mean.

FRANK
You just don’t sound very grateful towards my dad.

WALKER
Grateful?

FRANK
Yeah.

WALKER
Excuse me.

FRANK
For everything he’s done. For us.

WALKER
For us.

FRANK
For us. We wouldn’t have this firm if my dad didn’t convince people to come here.

WALKER
Okay. Play it that way.

FRANK
What way?

WALKER
Like you are little boy.

FRANK
Little boy.
WALKER
What else can I call you. You’re ready to do this and then one talk with daddy/ and

FRANK
I wasn’t ready to do this. I was thinking about doing it.

WALKER
Until your dad talked you out of it.

FRANK
I made up my own mind.

WALKER
Really?

FRANK
I’m my own man.

WALKER
Prove it.

FRANK
By doing exactly what you want? That doesn’t sound very manly to me. Just giving into
your ego.

WALKER
What’s really behind all this?

FRANK
Fear of loosing all our money.

WALKER
You can’t be afraid.

FRANK
What happens if you’re wrong? Please Walker Kane just think for a moment what it would
be like to fail. Can you do that for me?

WALKER
Okay.

FRANK
Well.

WALKER
It’s taking some time to think. It’s not a place I go very often.
FRANK
Imagine the disgrace, all the guys back at Goldman/ your

WALKER
I don’t feel anything.

FRANK
What do you mean?

WALKER
So we fail? I don’t care what those people think of me. So we work harder. We start the
next venture.

FRANK
We can’t bet the house. That’s just too much risk.

WALKER
How much?

FRANK
Maybe we can find a few million to do this.

WALKER
A few million

FRANK
Ten million dollars. To see. To try this out. We’ve never done anything like this before. No
one has. Let’s start with training wheels.

WALKER
I’ll show you. I’ll take that ten million and turn it into a hundred.

*The Mark Bar.*

FRANKLIN
How much did you loose?

WALKER
Twenty million. The fucking Feds. They fucking raised inflation.

FRANKLIN
They can do that.

WALKER
If I had the money I could tell them not to.
FRANKLIN Have a drink.

WALKER Sometimes you don’t get it right on the first bet.

FRANKLIN Maybe.

WALKER Frank says it’s back to mergers for us.

FRANKLIN I know.

WALKER But I know. I feel it. I can’t even describe what right feels like. I know with such certainty in a way that, and pardon me if this sounds extreme, but in a way that some people must believe in God. I know the market, I know our economy like it is me. I know what it is going to do. I’ve prepared my whole life for this moment. I’m not going to be wrong.

FRANKLIN How much do you need?

WALKER A billion dollars.

FRANKLIN Walker.

WALKER You’ve known me since I was a little boy. You showed me this world. Do you remember the hours we spent? I would come to your office in the city and you took me to the floor of the stock exchange. You taught me everything.

FRANKLIN You taught me too. You were an incredible student.

WALKER I’m right about this. Dear God I’m right about this.

FRANKLIN I can’t give you any money, Walker.
WALKER

I know.

FRANKLIN

But I know someone who might. But you have to make the decision to call him.

WALKER

Why?

FRANKLIN

This is between you and I. Do you understand? Just you and I.

WALKER

Just you and I.

Franklin writes on a piece of paper.

He hands it to Walker.

WALKER

I see.

FRANKLIN

He’ll like this idea.

WALKER

Thank you. I should probably go start on this.

FRANKLIN

Of course.

Walker exits.

Walker comes back on. He hugs Franklin.

A park.

WALKER

Thank you for coming. I’m sorry to call you guys out of the office and so early.

JASON

It doesn’t matter.

WALKER

We’re going to do this. I have the money.
BRIAN
How much?

WALKER
I have sixty million.

SCOTT
We can work with that.

WALKER
But I’m not putting it in the company. What I’m telling you right now could send me to jail. I’m trusting the three of you with everything.

BRIAN
You think we’d ever turn on you boss.

WALKER
Of course not. I’d put my life in your guys hands, you know that. I need you guys to look through the contract. To see, well to see if we can change some things.

SCOTT
Get Frank the fuck out.

WALKER
I didn’t say that. Technically.

SCOTT
Okay.

WALKER
We know a collapse is coming. It’s going to change everything. We need to be prepared and we need to be ready.

BRIAN
Of course.

WALKER
Okay. I think I’ve said enough. See you at the office.

Walker exits.

SCOTT
Thank fucking God. I’ve been waiting for this for years.
The office.

FRANK
Where have you been?

WALKER
Thinking.

FRANK
We have a pitch today at four. The H&Y Trust with Berkus Limited.

WALKER
Great.

FRANK
The file is on your desk.

WALKER
I’ll go over it.

FRANK
Good.

They stare at each other.

WALKER
Have a nice day.

FRANK
You too.

Walker goes to his desk. The traders are there.

WALKER
All right let’s fire up.

They sit down.

JASON
(Loud)
Okay the numbers are in for the B&X Merger.
Look at SURF. JASON

And it’s tracking at 14.6. SCOTT

I’m focusing over here on

(Quiet)

Shit look over here are/ JASON

14.8.

FRANK

Hey it’s Frank Hopkins, of course I’ll look into that. How much do you want for it?

JASON

14.6.

WALKER

(Loud)

Hold on a second guys.

(To phone)

Hey yeah did you track him down for me? Cool. E-mail it. Bye.

(to Guys, loud)

I want to see a projection for this here.

(Quiet)

What do we have on SURF? BRIAN

(Quiet)

We have a projection of SURF. WALKER

No, I want to see a projection for B&X.

(Quiet)

And on SURF.
SCOTT
Can he even hear us?

FRANK
Let me go check on that. I’ll call back in five.

WALKER
This is looking good are we talking to Lehman on this?

JASON
I’ve got Richard on the phone.

WALKER
Okay and we’re moving on it.

JASON
(Quiet)
Okay look at this right here on SURF/

Frank walks in.

JASON

(Louder)
Look at Apple!

Awkward.

WALKER
Hey.

FRANK
Hey. Everything okay.

WALKER
Of course.

FRANK
I’ve got Oak Wood on the phone they want to buy half our shares of TEF.

WALKER
Okay, give me a minute. Scott that’s yours.

SCOTT
It is.
WALKER Thoughts?

SCOTT We were going to keep it until it fell below 20.

WALKER So no?

SCOTT No.

FRANK Okay I’ll tell them.

WALKER Do you want to sell it to them?

FRANK They’ve been hard on us in the past. I’d like them to owe us.

WALKER Scott, thoughts?

SCOTT Sure.

JASON Oh my God!

WALKER What? SCOTT What?

JASON Oh nothing.

WALKER Tell them we’ll give them a quarter.

FRANK Good plan.

SCOTT I’ll get it ready.
Thanks.

Okay. Bye.

*Frank exits, but pauses by the door.*

**JASON**

*(Quiet)*
Look at SURF.

**BRIAN**

*(Quiet)*
Look at SURF

**SCOTT**

*(Loud)*
Jesus.

**WALKER**

*(Loud)*
Jesus.

*Frank opens the door.*

Silence.

**WALKER**

Well show it to him Brian.

**BRIAN**

What?

**SCOTT**

Come on.

**WALKER**

I mean who sends naked pictures at nine in the morning.

**FRANK**

Oh God was this the girl from the club?

**BRIAN**

It is.

**FRANK**

I want to see it.

**SCOTT**

Wait take a look at B&X.
FRANK
Shit okay, after work.

Frank exits.

BRIAN
How’d you know she sent me her pics?

WALKER
Just keep going.

(To phone)
Hey what’s the most expensive arrangement you guys have? I need you to send it to this address.

FRANK
They’ll give you a quarter.

SCOTT
Okay I’m sending the confirmation.

BRIAN
I need you guys to look at this.

JASON
I’m moving on STW.

WALKER
Thanks. And I want it there within the hour? That’s fine. You have my AmEx on file.

SCOTT
They’re going to the press conference, can we move to that.

FRANK
Hey, dad can I get Barry’s number?

SCOTT
They’re announcing it officially.

BRIAN
Here comes the stock.

JASON & BRIAN & SCOTT &WALKER
Yes!
And we’re off.

Are you Hadley Fox?

Yes.

These are for you.

It looks like a funeral.

Hey Barry, Frank Hopkins. No. No. Not that one. I’m his son.

How is the news affecting LNX.

Like we predicted. We’re buying more right now.

Fuck I have to pee.

It’s only nine fifteen.

I couldn’t sleep last night. I had that sleepy tea.

Are you serious?

Wait look at how this affecting COR.

I’m moving on it.

Walker’s phone rings.
Walker Kane.

Hey it’s Hadley Fox.

Well hello.

I don’t like roses.

Everyone likes roses.

Please, is there someone were I can return this too?

Of course not.

(To the guys)

Look at LNX.

How did you know where I worked?

I hired a private eye.

You’re joking.

It’s on LinkedIn.

I have a boyfriend.

One date.

That’s cheating.
I didn’t mean sex.

Neither did I.

You’re an architect.

A junior associate.

Well I want to build a house. Want to design it?

Come on.

I’m being serious.

Boss look at this.

Listen I have to go. Let’s schedule a meeting to talk about houses.

This is totally unethical/ to

Come on. Do you know how I.M. Pei got his start? Total slut.

Boss.

Got to go.

Walker hangs up.

What am I looking at.
(Quiet)
SURF.

WALKER
Shit.

SCOTT
(Loud)
We would have made two million dollars if we’d had money on it.

WALKER
Jesus.

A boardroom.

FRANK
So with the holdings of H&Y Trust, the way this is going to break down is advantageous to your position in the market.

BARRY
That’s great.

FRANK
And if you look at Berkus Limited’s last quarter. It’s on page 7.

WALKER
Frank, Can I interject?

FRANK
Of course. My partner Walker Kane.

WALKER
Hello Mr. Greene.

BARRY
Call me Barry.

WALKER
Okay Barry, who the fuck are you?

BARRY
Excuse me.
FRANK Walker?

WALKER What do you want from money?

FRANK Walker?

BARRY Um.

WALKER Do you want a bigger house in the Hamptons? A bigger penthouse in Tribeca? Your kids to live like kings? A yacht in the Mediterranean?

BARRY Well that all sounds good.

WALKER Really? Cause it doesn’t to me. That’s all a bunch of shit.

FRANK Walker.
WALKER
You see I’m leaving Hopkins Kane to go out on my own, because I want real wealth. How about the ability to elect Presidents? How about the ability to change education? Campaign finance reform? Terrorism in the middle east, because there are men just like you and I who do this every day. They wake up every morning and they create the world exactly how they want it. Any fucking fool with a law degree can have a boat. They sink. Wealth influences history. And I look at you and I know you want it, no you don’t want it, you’re dying for it because we’re the same. You and I. We want the same thing and here’s the deal. Together we can open this door for both of us. We can choose who the next president is, what regime will topple in Africa, how Palestine will treat Israel. It can be up to us, with some funds from your checking account and some strokes on my keyboard the fucking world is ours. What do you say?

BARRY
How?

WALKER
I thought you’d never ask.
End of Act One.
ACT TWO

THE PENTHOUSE

2010
“Bad Romance” blares.

Home gym.

Walker, Hadley and their Trainer work out.

TRAINER

TRAINER
9

BRAIN
Bloomberg wants to interview/

WALKER
Later.

TRAINER
8

JASON
The Core Club is offering/ you

WALKER
Give me five.

TRAINER
7

ASSISTANT
Your father is on/ the

WALKER
I’ll call him back.

TRAINER
6

BRAIN
The President wants/ to talk

WALKER
Later.
Walker.

5!

Come on.

4

JASON
Your decorator wants you to pick.

That one.

Hey.

That one.

3

BRAIN
Buffet emailed

JASON
Buffet emailed

Make him wait.

2

ASSISTANT
The President wants to schedule a call.

1

They both collapse.

An assistant comes in with protein shakes.
I’ll deal with it later.

Scott enters.

I need to talk to you.

WALKER

What’s up?

SCOTT

Good morning Hadley.

SCOTT

Morning Scott.

HADLEY

Can I talk to Walker in private?

SCOTT

Of course. I liked the other one better.

HADLEY

Whatever you want.

WALKER

They kiss.

Hadley and Trainer exit.

WALKER

What’s wrong?

SCOTT

The SEC is looking into Goldman.

WALKER

No fucking way.

SCOTT

It happening. They’re going after Wall Street.

WALKER

Officially?
SCOTT

Not yet.

WALKER

How do you know?

SCOTT

Does it matter?

Thinks.

WALKER

No.

SCOTT

It’s quiet right now, I don’t think Goldman knows.

WALKER

What are they going after?

SCOTT

They’re going after Abacus.

WALKER

Excuse me?

SCOTT

Abacus.

WALKER

But that’s our deal.

SCOTT

I know.

WALKER

So they’re coming after me.

Dinning room.

WALKER

What have you guys found out?

BRIAN

There’s a new guy at the SEC, Robert Khuzami.
WALKER
Never heard of him.

JASON
Because the SEC is a joke.

BRIAN
The last person who held his position resigned because of Madoff.

JASON
So he’s trying to look bullish.

WALKER
Why do I know that name? Robert Khuzami?

SCOTT
They’re going to Goldman next week.

WALKER
Jesus, you sure Goldman doesn’t know right now?

SCOTT
Well not as of this morning, but who knows who will leak it.

WALKER
Do you think we should warn them?

SCOTT
If this becomes a battle between you and Goldman they could use it against you.

WALKER
I should warn Franklin.

BRIAN
After what he did to us?

WALKER
No, Frank Senior.

JASON
I wouldn’t risk it boss.

SCOTT
You need to prepare for the worst.
BRIAN
We should draw up a letter though to send to the investors to have ready.

WALKER
Get started on that.

SCOTT
I’m going to talk to my contact see what else I can find out.

WALKER
What the fuck do we say? Abacus is perfectly legal.

Silence.

SCOTT
Can I guess?

WALKER
I’d like you to know, but since you guys haven’t found out jack shit/

SCOTT
I found out before it was on the front page of *The New York Times*.

WALKER
Go on.

SCOTT
So when we were using the CDOs to bet against certain stocks.

BRIAN
We know what we did.

SCOTT
Okay, but for example when we were betting against SURF, with the help of Goldman. Goldman knew SURF was going to sink/

JASON
That was just painful.

WALKER
No puns before eight am.
SCOTT
Sorry. Well Goldman told their investors to buy SURF, so Goldman and us could make money on it.

BRIAN
We’ve all done that when we worked at banks.

JASON
And that’s perfectly legal.

SCOTT
Yes it is legal, but I think the question the SEC and Elizabeth Warren and Obama will ask is, is it moral?

BRIAN
I have no idea what you’re talking about.

WALKER
If they want a fight, fine. But we are going to crush those motherfuckers.

Goldman

FRANK
You wanted to see me dad?

Hey.

Frank
Hello.

Franklin
We’re wearing the same tie.

Oh. We are.

Did your mother buy it for you?

She did.

Franklin
Yes well.
FRANK
This is embarrassing.

FRANKLIN
I think it’s charming. Father and son.

FRANK
What did you want to talk to me about?

FRANKLIN
Close the door.

*He does.*

FRANKLIN
The SEC is going to investigate Abacus.

FRANK
Fuuuuuck

FRANKLIN
Exactly.

FRANK
Oh my God. Does Walker know?

FRANKLIN
No. No one knows.

FRANK
How do you know?

FRANKLIN
I’ve been in this business too long, not to have friends at the SEC.

FRANK
Well then them to stop.

FRANKLIN
They’re not that good of friends.

FRANK
What could they possibly be investigating?

FRANKLIN
You can’t be serious.
FRANK
I mean I think I know what they’re investigating.

FRANKLIN
We sold our clients shit stocks.

FRANK
But we do that all the time.

FRANKLIN
Yes, but these shit stocks happened to destroy the United States economy.

FRANK
Like we could have predicted that.

FRANKLIN
Someone did.

FRANK
I see.

FRANKLIN
They’re going to find you eventually.

FRANK
Jesus.

FRANKLIN
And they’re gonna want to know what you know.

FRANK
Oh.

FRANKLIN
What do you know?

FRANK
Nothing.

FRANKLIN
Nothing?

FRANK
What do I do?
FRANKLIN
We need to see how they handle this.

*This transcript is from CNBC’s breaking report April 2010.*

ANCHOR
Shares of Goldman Sachs getting crunched after a stunning move by the SEC today, the commission charging Goldman itself with fraud. The bank misstated and omitted critical facts about a financial product tied to those sub-prime mortgage, Scott Cohen is following the story, he’s at the breaking news desk.

REPORTER
Dennis, one of the storied firms on Walls Street Goldman Sachs charged with...activities that if they are true, um, really could tell us how the housing market and the underlying debt market all came apart in 2007/2008 and continuing to this day. The SEC charging Goldman Sachs with structuring a portfolio of mortgages that was handpicked by a hedgefund/

WALKER
Fuck.

SCOTT
How can they say that. It sounds like they’re charging us. They’re not.

WALKER
The media is.

BRIAN
I have the letters ready for our clients.

SCOTT
Send them. Now. Go. Faster.

BRIAN
I did.

SCOTT
Look, look. It’s the SEC press conference.

*Transcript from CNBC with the press conference.*
I’m sorry, but we need to get straight to this cause this is Robert Khuzami. He just spoke at a conference in New Orleans, the SEC director of enforcement and he finally spoke here he is.

ROBERT
Provide the proper and full disclosure that securities laws require or, um, um, face the consequences.

REPORTER
The investors in these synthetic CDOs were perfectly capable if they wanted to of looking at what the underlying collateral was.

JASON
Thank God!

BRIAN
Exactly!

REPORTER
They could see what it was, wouldn’t they have been in a position in terms of disclosure of releasing or make a decisions in they wanted to participate.

FRANKLIN
That’s a good point. We need to drive that point home.

ROBERT
As you see from our complaint, one of the investors specifically asked for an independent third party objective collateral manager to assist in the collection of the portfolio.

WALKER
Me.

FRANK
Walker.

WALKER
Get my lawyer on the phone.

ASSISTANT
Mr. Kane, your lawyer just called. They’re downstairs waiting for the elevator.

Lawyer’s Office.

Frank and Emma sit with their respective lawyers.

EMMA’S LAWYER
Mrs. Hopkins would like the silver Tiffany bowl.
Frank whispers in his lawyer’s ear.

FRANK’S LAWYER
Mr. Hopkins says that it fine if she compensates him the value of the bowl.

Emma whisper’s in her lawyers ear.

Emma’s lawyer whispers in her ear.

She shakes her head.

EMMA’S LAWYER
That will be fine.

FRANK’S LAWYER
Moving on. You have made a request for Mr. Hopkins to return the wedding present Mrs. Hopkins gave him. We deny this request.

EMMA
What.

Emma’s lawyer whispers in her ear.

EMMA’S LAWYER
We are willing to pay Mr. Hopkins for the watch. It is not worth much.

FRANK’S LAWYER
My client believes the watch to hold sentimental value greater than any monetary compensation. We would like to point out that the watch was a gift.

EMMA’S LAWYER
Yes, but it was Mrs. Hopkin’s grandfathers so you could argue to sentimental value is greater to her.

FRANK’S LAWYER
You could, but I would instruct you to tell your client what a gift means.

EMMA’S LAWYER
You know I think you should/

Emma and Frank whisper in their lawyer’s ears to talk them down.

FRANK’S LAWYER
We can move on and come back to this matter.
EMMA’S LAWYER
That is fine.

FRANK’S LAWYER
There is another thing that has come to our attention. Mrs. Hopkins is living with a man.

*Emma looks at Frank with rage.*

*She whispers in her laywers ear.*

EMMA’S LAWYER
My client would like to be referred to by her maiden name Ms. Sanders.

FRANK’S LAWYER
I can’t do that, since the divorce is not final. Her name is still Mrs. Hopkins.

EMMA’S LAWYER
I would like to point out that Ms. Sanders never used her married name for anything other than tax documents.

*Frank whispers in his lawyers ear.*

FRANK’S LAWYER
Sorry we must call her Mrs. Klein for consistency.

*Emma flips Frank off.*

FRANK’S LAWYER
Please stop your client now.

*Emma’s lawyer whispers in her ear.*

FRANK’S LAWYER
And my client would like a formal apology for your clients/

EMMA’S LAWYER
Oh come off it./ This is

FRANK’S LAWYER
That was hostile behavior. I could take that to the/ judge

EMMA’S LAWYER
Oh please.

FRANK
Let’s move on!
Everyone regroups.

FRANK’S LAWYER
Because Mrs. Kane is now involved with Jonathan Tucker we see no reason to supply her with the alimony outlined in the original prenup because it seems Mrs. Kane has violated her monogamous relationship with/

EMMA
You have got to be kidding me.

EMMA’S LAWYER
Please Emma.

EMMA
I’m done. I’m sorry. Fuck you.

Emma storms out followed by her lawyer.

FRANK’S LAWYER
That went very well.

FRANK
Did it?

FRANK’S LAWYER
Oh yeah. You’re getting under her skin. That’s good.

Walker’s living room

LAWYER
The claims specifically says they are not charging you.

WALKER
That’s good.

LAWYER
We have written up a statement.

WALKER
Let me look it over.

Hadley enters.

HADLEY
Honey?
Hey.

What’s... going on?

Nothing.

Nothing?

Can we talk about it in ten minutes?

We have tickets to the Opera.

(To Hadley)

Fantastic.

You need to change.

I will. I will.

Okay.

Hadley exits.

(To Lawyer)

This is good. Release this.

Press conference.

As the SEC said at its press conference, Mr. Kane is not the subject of this complaint, made no misrepresentations and is not the subject of any charges.
While Mr. Kane purchased credit protection from Goldman Sachs on securities issued under the ABACUS ABS CDO program, we were not involved in the marketing of any ABACUS products to any third parties. ACA as collateral manager had sole authority over the selection of all collateral in the CDO, securities of which were subsequently rated AAA by both S&P and Moody's. Mr. Kane did not sponsor or initiate Goldman's ABACUS program. We will not be taking questions at this time.

Met Opera.

Parterre. Box 29.

Walker on his phone.

HADLEY

Honey?

WALKER

Yeah.

HADLEY

Can you put that down?

WALKER

One minute.

HADLEY

Honey/

WALKER

Done. It’s over. Turning it off.

HADLEY

You have another one in the other pocket.

WALKER

Well that’s for emergencies.

HADLEY

You’re the worst.

WALKER

Did I tell you how beautiful you look in a tuxedo. Can I ravish you in the coat closet?
HADLEY
What’s going on at work?

WALKER
Oh nothing.

HADLEY
Nothing? It seemed very tense.

WALKER
Just the usual. Tell me about your work. How’s the house in New Canaan coming?

HADLEY
Great. We have the walk through tomorrow with the clients.

WALKER
They’re going to love it.

HADLEY
Oh who knows. They’ve changed the marble in the bathroom, twelve times.

WALKER
Sounds like someone I know?

HADLEY
Are you sure there’s nothing going on at work?

WALKER
No, I’m fine. You know that. I just don’t want you to worry.

HADLEY
I won’t worry, but I wish you’d share things more with me. I tell you everything about my job/ and

WALKER
That’s cause it’s so fascinating. You’re the best architect in the world.

HADLEY
Well.

WALKER
You’re going to be. Already one of the top in the city after two years at your own firm/

HADLEY
Thanks to you.
WALKER
No, thanks to your talent. I opened a door, but you had to perform and you did.

HADLEY
But what about your fund.

WALKER
It’s so boring. I talk about it all day the last thing I want to do is burden you. I want to be at the opera with the man I love and, oh here it is. The best part of New York City. The chandeliers going up.

HADLEY
Is anything more romantic?

WALKER
Want to get married?

HADLEY
Excuse me?

WALKER
Want to get married?

*The overture begins.*

*A meeting.*

ROBERT
Mr. Hopkins.

FRANK
Hello.

ROBERT
Thank you for meeting with me.

FRANK
Well your assistant threatened to subpoena me. That’s a horrible word, “Subpoena”.

ROBERT
Care to sit down.

FRANK
Like I have a choice.
ROBERT
Of course you do, it’s a free country. Until you do something wrong.

FRANK
Okay, sittin’ down.

ROBERT
Will you take a look at this.

*Hands him a piece of paper.*

ROBERT
Do you know what that is?

FRANK
I believe that is a restaurant receipt.

ROBERT
Very good. It is indeed a receipt for a dinner at Masa. Located at 10 Columbus Circle. Is that at The Shops there?

FRANK
Yeah.

ROBERT
Is it good?

FRANK

ROBERT
That’s good. Since you spent six thousand dollars on dinner on the night of February 17, 2006.

FRANK
Well I split it.

ROBERT
That’s right you had a date. Corey Stapleton.

FRANK
Yes.

ROBERT
Was this dinner about anything in particular?
FRANK
Corey and I worked at Goldman together, when we graduated from college.

ROBERT
And where do you work now?

FRANK
JP Morgan.

ROBERT
So just work colleagues out for some dinner.

FRANK
That is correct.

ROBERT
You guys didn’t discuss anything in particular?

FRANK
A woman to match the house.

ROBERT
Excuse me?

FRANK
Nothing. Maybe that wasn’t that dinner. I’m sorry it was a long time ago and Corey and I went to a lot of dinners.

ROBERT
Recently.

FRANK
No. He’s not at Goldman anymore.

ROBERT
Did you ask Mr. Stapleton about a CDO that would allow you to bundle mortgages and then to short against that bundle?

FRANK
May I have a glass of water?

ROBERT
Certainly.
FRANK

And a lawyer.

_Walking room_

WALKER

Have we heard from Goldman?

SCOTT

I don’t think so.

BRIAN

My friends say they’re scrambling for a plan.

JASON

I drove by the offices. There are protestors. One sign says arrest Lloyd Blankfein.

WALKER

God, I’d love to see that.

SCOTT

His little egg head pushed into a cop car.

BRIAN

Christmas could come early.

_Everyone’s cell phone rings._

SCOTT

What? Turn on the TV. Now.

_They watch._

ANNOUNCER

In a shocking twist to the story, Kane Capital is now being included in the SEC’s case against Goldman Sachs. The SEC alleges that Walker Kane created the CDO’s at the heart of the case, to explain CDO’s we/ turn over to

WALKER

Turn it off.

_They do._
We’ll murder them.

JASON

They can’t do this.

BRIAN

It’s fucking un-American.

SCOTT

We need to fight back.

JASON

Who can we call

BRIAN

We need to talk to the Bloomberg and Obama teams. You gave enough money last year.

JASON

Bloomberg gave you a fucking award last year.

WALKER

Calm down boys, calm down. It’s going to be fine. This is just... posturing.

SCOTT

It’s illegal that’s what it is.

WALKER

Of course it is. We know we didn’t do anything wrong. Brian you had a very good suggestions. We’ve been preparing for something like this for a long time. We’ve given money to the right people and charities, we’ve done this. Now it’s time to call in all those favours.

BRIAN

I’ll get right on it.

A phone.

JASON

It’s your lawyers on the phone.

WALKER

What do they want?

JASON

They want a meeting.
WALKER
Fine. Get, what’s her name in, hello!

Assistant enters.

WALKER
There you are, I need you to take this call.

ASSISTANT
Of course, Sir, it’s just a Mr. Hopkins is here to see you.

They all look at each other.

WALKER
Which one?

ASSISTANT
I don’t, is there more than one?

WALKER
How old is he?

WALKER
Your age.

SCOTT
What the fuck is he doing here?

BRIAN
What are you going to do?

SCOTT
You can’t see him.

JASON
I’ll go talk to him.

WALKER
No. Tell him I’ll meet him in the Park. First bench.

ASSISTANT
Okay.

Assistant exits.
BRIAN

What are you going to do?

WALKER

I don’t know. I haven’t seen him since we split.

JASON

You know this has to be him. Getting revenge.

SCOTT

That piece of shit.

BRIAN

Seriously can we go beat him up?

WALKER

No. Calm down. Carry on with what you were doing. I’ll see what he wants.

SCOTT

Check him for a wire.

WALKER

Please.

SCOTT

You can’t be too careful.

BRIAN

Do you want us to come with you?

WALKER

No. I’m fine. Deal with the lawyers.

Walker exits.

JASON

Jesus Christ. This is a nightmare.

BRIAN

Hi I need to talk with Chuck.

SCOTT

Larry this is Scott. We need some favors. And don’t forget how much you owe us.

A park.
FRANK
Hello.
WALKER
Hi.
FRANK
How are you doing? It’s been/ such a long time?
WALKER
They’re charging me.
FRANK
What?
WALKER
Like you don’t know.
FRANK
I didn’t.
WALKER
Come off it/
FRANK
When did it happen?
WALKER
Right now, it’s all over the news.
FRANK
But I just left him.
WALKER
What are you talking about?
FRANK
Robert Kusamo, Kusami, you know, I just left him.
WALKER
And what the fuck did you say.
FRANK
Nothing.
Yeah right.

I didn’t.

Why should I believe you?

I don’t know, maybe because I’m not the one who stabs people in the backs. That’s your job.

So you admit you hold a grudge.

Hold a grudge.

And you got your opportunity.

No.

Come off it.

They wanted me too.

What?

They asked me all about when you got the idea and how you got the idea.

Jesus, but the idea is legal. It’s not like I was doing anything wrong.

Exactly.

And I mean when we were talking/
Uh-huh.

FRANK

Wait a second.

WALKER

Walker goes and starts feeling up Frank.

FRANK

What are you? What are you? Stop?

WALKER

Are you wearing a wire?

FRANK

Are you kidding?

WALKER

Take off your shirt.

FRANK

It’s winter.

WALKER

Do it.

FRANK

What does my dad always say, all a man has is trust.

WALKER

Yeah, well trust, but verify is my new motto.

FRANK

Fine. Fuck you.

Frank takes off his shirt.

No wire.

Frank begins to shiver.

WALKER

Jesus. Put your clothes back on.
I didn’t snitch on you.

Really?

Of course not.

Of course.

Who do you think I am?

The man who went after every single one of our investors to tell them what a loose canon I was.

Well am.

You told Blaine Capital that I was a unstable.

Not in so many words. But tell me you wouldn’t do the same.

Oh of course.

Of course.

If I was in your place I’d turn you into the SEC.

Well, I guess I’m a better person.

And that’s all you have.
FRANK
It wasn’t me.

WALKER
Then who was it?

FRANK
The SEC guy, wanted to know all about that dinner I had with Corey Stapleton in 2006.

WALKER
I don’t remember that.

FRANK
Well neither did I, but I guess I had dinner with Corey and we talked about betting against
the housing market. When we couldn’t figure out how to do it.

WALKER
I remember that.

FRANK
Well they asked about that.

WALKER
I told you to ask Corey if we could bet on groupings of mortgages.

FRANK
Shit you did. But then... it’s Corey.

What?

FRANK
Corey. Told them.

WALKER
He’s at Goldman.

FRANK
No. He’s gone. He quit or something. I don’t know, we fell out of touch. I’ll go see him.

WALKER
No way.

FRANK
And you going? To the star witness, Walker you might kill him.
I’m not going to kill him.

Let me come with you.

I can handle it on my own.

I know that, but Jesus, all the fucking corruption and they’re going after you.

Was that pity in your voice?

I just mean, all the shit that goes on every day on Wall Street and they pick you.

I hate the sound of pity. I prefer the sound of hate.

You would.

I still don’t trust you.

I don’t trust you either.

The apartment

Come on you owe us. Take the meeting. Come on. Am I gonna have to come over and rip your nuts off. Hello? Fuck.

Jesus.

What about Geichner’s office?

I tried.
Jesus this is fucking miserable.

None of them.

Hadley enters.

Hello.

Hey Hadley.

Hey.

Is Walker here?

He had to go out.

Okay. I tried his cell. We have a dinner thing.

If we calls we’ll remind him.

Okay. I’m gonna be in my office.

Great.

Scott, is everything okay?

Um, you should probably ask Walker.

Okay come on. We have to know more people.
Corey’s apartment.

Walker knocks on the door.

WALKER
Corey. Corey. Your doorman says you’re in here. I need to talk to you.

Corey opens the door.

Corey looks shockingly sick.

Oh my God, um Hello.

WALKER
Walker?

COREY
Yeah.

WALKER
Oh sorry, it took me a minute to get to the door.

COREY
Yeah. No problem.

WALKER
Come in.

The apartment smells.

Thank you.

WALKER
Can I get you anything, a coffee or whisky?

WALKER
No, I’m good.

COREY
I’m having whisky.

WALKER
How have you been?
Well I’m sure you’ve heard.

No.

Yes.

I don’t know. I guess. I always thought I was lucky. Fuck if I was wrong.

Do you want to talk about it?

No. Yes. I don’t know.

What is it exactly?

Brain cancer.

Right.

They thought it’d be fine. I thought it would be fine. We had a party. Corey is going to beat this. I planned the charity I would start when I got better. I fucking ordered pens. Do you know how you die?

No.

I’m sorry. I’ve suddenly turned morbid. Do you want a pen?

But there’s no hope?

I don’t think so. I went to South America. I went to India to see if, and the funny thing is I was on this dive in the Great Barrier reef and I saw a dolphin.
What?

What?

You were telling a story and/

Oh sorry, that’s part of the whole thing. Do you want to know how I’ll die?

No.

I guess this is why people stopped visiting. I’m angry. I’d kill you right now with my hands if I could take your life from you.

Corey I/ just

You get drowsy and so you start sleeping more. Eight hours, then ten hours the next week, soon you build up into days, weeks and then you wake up and everything’s fine and then you get drowsy and you fall asleep and one day I’m just going to fall asleep and never wake up.

Fuck Corey.

I hate you. I always did. And you made billions and it’s so not fair. I’m supposed to be playing Polo in Santa Barbara, but I’m waking up after sleeping for three days covered in shit and thirsty and hungry and scared.

Is there anything I can/ do

No.

Silence
COREY
Can I get you anything to drink. A coffee or a tea?

WALKER
I’m fine.

COREY
Okay.

WALKER
I have to go.

COREY
Okay.

WALKER
Did you know the Feds are investigating me?

COREY
I’m sorry, who are you?

WALKER
I don’t know.

COREY
I don’t know who I am either.

WALKER
Most people don’t.

COREY
Can I get you anything to drink. A coffee or a tea?

WALKER
No, but thank you.

Locanda Verde

Emma wait at a table.

EMMA
Can I get a Margarita?

Frank enters.
EMMA
You’re late. Don’t you have a watch? Oh that’s right you do.

Silence.

Frank goes to speak.

EMMA
I want to go first. I’m really angry. And I know that I should not be. I know that I should put my feelings into the context of the world. Because I’ve been to lots of places, where there is actual injustice and suffering, but you know I’m gonna take a minute for my life. This life right here right now and just allow myself to feel things unjudged because. Oh I wanted salt. Thank you. But the thing is in those terrible places you can’t avoid suffering. You can’t avoid pain. They are born into that, but we are not. We were born into privilege. And somehow we could not keep the happiness that was our birthright. And I don’t mean that in a flippant way. I mean that in a way that we were always healthy, that our parents weren’t dead, that we got a responsible education, we didn’t have to worry about bullets or famine. Or the army. You know what I mean. We had everything and we still were miserable and I think that is disappointing on a scale so large it is criminal. Thank you. Can I get limes on the side. I used to think, when I heard that people were getting a divorce, their relationship must have had a fatal flaw from the beginning, some terrible fissure that they knew in the back of their mind would grow cancerous and finally kill them, but the funny thing is I think, I just wanted to believe that. I really didn’t want to face the truth that you could enter into marriage with someone and suddenly wake up four years later and not even recognize the man in the bed next to you. No. We still need a minute with the menus. And that’s what happened Frank. I’m sorry, but this is your fault.

Frank goes to speak.

EMMA
No, I’m not done. Let’s just be honest Frank, this is your fault. Ever since you left the fund. And even more specifically when Walker made his money, you turned into this wronged, slighted, Bette Davis heroine. Well no Bette Davis had more dignity. And. Hold on.

Emma downs her martini. When Frank tries to get in a word she hold up her hand and glares.

EMMA
Brian freeze. Ouch. I’ll work through the pain. You’re, you’re. I’m done with the actress metaphor. I’ll just give you specifics. You moped through our wedding. You kept apologizing for not being able to afford three hundred thousand dollars on flowers. When, I didn’t even want that. You kept saying, well if I was a billionaire. You said it during our first dance. You said, imagine the wedding I could’ve given you.
But I had the wedding I wanted. Everything was perfect except the groom. Because let’s face it. That life that we were creating would never be able to compete with the life you had in your head. The fantasy of being a billionaire was always going to be more intoxicating than the life you had and let’s face it we can always dream a little bigger and maybe imagination is a terrible thing. Maybe that’s what gets us in the end. The life we imagine we deserve and the life we have. Well it got us Frank. Sign the divorce agreement. Keep the damn watch. I was being petty. I’m sure you’d understand that.

Emma gets up and leaves.

The apartment. Hadley’s office.

WALKER

Hello.

HADLEY

Hey there.

Walker comes over and holds Hadley.

WALKER

I’m so happy to see you.

HADLEY

You okay?

WALKER

I can’t wait to marry you and have babies with you and just have the best life.

HADLEY

Walker.

WALKER

I love you.

HADLEY

I love you.

WALKER

I love you.
HADLEY
I love you.

WALKER
I love you.

HADLEY
I love you.

WALKER
I love you.

HADLEY
I love you.

WALKER
I love you.

HADLEY
I love you.

WALKER
I love you.

HADLEY
I love you.

WALKER
I love you.

HADLEY
I love you.

WALKER
I love you.

HADLEY
I love you.

WALKER
I love you.

HADLEY
I love you.

WALKER
I love you.

HADLEY
I love you.

WALKER
I love you.

HADLEY
I love you.

WALKER
I love you.

HADLEY
I love you.

WALKER
I love you.

HADLEY
I love you.

WALKER
They start to take off each other's clothes.

HADLEY
I love you.

WALKER
I love you.

HADLEY
I love you.

WALKER
I love you.

HADLEY
I love you.
I love you.

**HADLEY**

*They begin to have sex.*

I love you.

**WALKER**

I love you.

**HADLEY**

I love you.

**WALKER**

I love you.

**HADLEY**

I love you.

**WALKER**

I love you.

**HADLEY**

I love you.

**WALKER**

I love you.

**HADLEY**

I love you.

**WALKER**

I love you.

**HADLEY**

I love you.

**WALKER**

I love you.

*They cum.*

**A hotel ballroom.**

Walker, Scott and Brian stand answering questions.

**WALKER**

Thank you all for coming here today. I just want to reassure you that the SEC is just doing it’s job looking into all possible scenarios, but they will find that I am innocent of any of their charges.
CLIENT #1
Did you handpick the mortgages?

WALKER
I did, but that is not illegal. In fact, it’s perfectly legal.

CLIENT #2
They say you were the most powerful of all the

WALKER
I want to stop you right there. If you guys remember four years ago when I came begging, on my knees to you guys for money, I was not at all the most powerful broker. Most of you hadn’t even heard of me. So to say that I was some powerful guy is a joke. I was just a little guy with a big dream, a dream that has made all of you millions.

CLIENT #3
Then why are they going after you?

WALKER
That is a good question. But there is not a good answer. I have been singled out, gentlemen because we now live in a government that fears success. We have a President who wants economic equality.

CLIENT #1
Boo.

WALKER
Men like all of you, and me. Have gotten up every day and worked hard. Look at me I’m the son of a chauffeur and I am now a billionaire. That is the greatness of our country and I’m sorry it seems to me like something Obama and the Democrats want to destroy. They’re coming after us because we did our job, we worked hard, we worked within the law, I want to say that again, we worked within the law and now our own government wants to punish us for this. I’m sorry, but this is not The America that I believe in.

Applause.

Walker shakes people’s hands, is all smiles.

CLIENT #1
I still believe in you.

WALKER
Thank you.
CLIENT #2
Maybe we could talk this over later in the week?

WALKER
Lunch? Let’s do lunch. Jason put that down.

JASON
Will do.

WALKER
Great seeing you.

CLIENT #3
That was very reassuring. It’s so strange Robert Khuzami is going after you. I mean look at his record.

WALKER
Excuse me.

CLIENT #3
I mean could be more hypocritical?

WALKER
What are you talking about?

CLIENT #3
You don’t know about him?

A meeting.

ROBERT
Mr. Kane.

WALKER
Mr. Khuzami.

ROBERT
Thank you for meeting with me.

WALKER
You threatened to subpoena me. That’s a gross word, “Subpoena”.

ROBERT
Care to sit down.
WALKER
Like I have a choice.

ROBERT
Of course you do, it’s a free country. Until you do something wrong.

They sit.

ROBERT
I have some questions for you.

WALKER
I’m sorry, but you need to answer my questions first.

ROBERT
That’s not/ how we

WALKER
Where did you used to work Mr. Khuzami?

ROBERT
I am the head of the enforcement division of The/ SEC

WALKER
I meant before this. From 2002 until 2009, where did you work?

ROBERT
Deutsche Bank.

WALKER
You were general council for them.

ROBERT
Yes.

WALKER
You looked over trades to see if they were legal.

ROBERT
Yes.

WALKER
Did you ever look over Collateralized Debt Obligations or CDOs that involved bundles of sub-prime mortgages?
ROBERT
I am not at liberty to discuss this.

WALKER
Before these charges didn’t you investigate all the large banks in New York City to see who were making these deals?

ROBERT
Yes.

WALKER
And you saw that Goldman was doing it.

ROBERT
They were.

WALKER
But there was another bank that was doing it too.

ROBERT
I am not at liberty to discuss this.

WALKER
If I’m not mistaken it was Deutsche Bank.

Silence.

WALKER
No. I mean. I’m not mistaken. I’m a hundred percent correct.

ROBERT
My time at Deutsche Bank doesn't affect my work here/ at

WALKER
So you worked for a company for seven years. You made millions of dollars. Then the Federal Government appointed you to investigate if any big banks did anything wrong? Do I need to keep talking, because it seems pretty clear to me there is a criminal in the room and it’s not me.

ROBERT
Mr. Kane, I need you to/

WALKER
I’m sorry I have to go. I have an interview with 60 Minutes.

TV Studio.
WALKER
Listen Ms. Stahl, Robert Khuzami has no place being at the SEC, it’s like having a diabetic run the candy store. You can’t have someone who made millions of dollars in an industry turn around and police that industry. A child would understand this.

ROBERT
Thanks Katie, Mr. Kane is guilty of his crimes and now we have him in a corner and his only strategy is to personally attack me. I think this is the lowest kind of behavior.

WALKER
I think this is why people don’t trust Wall Street and I don’t blame them. This kind of inside baseball is not what our country needs.

ROBERT
I mean to single me out is just crazy.

WALKER
To single me out is just crazy.

ROBERT
Yes I used to work for a bank, but look at who President Obama, who I faithfully serve, made the secretary of our Treasury, Henry Paulson. He worked at Goldman Sachs for nearly forty years. When he quit to take on the Treasury he had to sell his stocks, so there wasn’t a conflict of interest and he made $600 million dollars. And that’s great. That’s how our government works, so for Mr. Kane to say that I, who never made nearly $600 million dollars is somehow tainted. I say that is ridiculous.

WALKER
I may be old fashion, but I think bankers should be bankers and politicians should be politicians. Call me crazy?

Off the air.

Scott, Brian and Jason enter.

WALKER
How’d I do?

SCOTT
Goldman Sachs just called. They want a meeting to plan strategy.

They high five.

Bedroom.
Walker and Hadley in bed.

They are both on laptops not really paying attention to the TV.

DAVID REMNICK
Ironically I think the Goldman Sachs investigation is gonna play for the Democrats, if the Democrats are able to seize this issue.

Applause from the audience.

HADLEY
So we are agreed on The Four Seasons for the engagement party?

WALKER
Restaurant of hotel?

HADLEY
Restaurant. Please.

DAVID REMNICK
Are able to seize this issue of financial regulation.

WALKER
Can you turn that off?

HADLEY
Boardwalk Empire is coming on next. I need you to send me your guest list in a week? Is that okay?

WALKER
Sure. Turn it off.

DAVID REMNICK
Make it their own and what happened in the last couple of days is a trip wire and you’re gonna see some Republicans have to flirt with voting for this bill.

HADLEY
We still haven’t told your father.

WALKER
I want to tell him in person.
HADLEY
Well it’s a three hour flight to Miami.

WOMAN
Does everybody know about this are we gonna see Lloyd Blankfein, of Goldman Sachs
frog marched out

WALKER
Frog marched

WOMAN
Out in handcuffs.

BILL MAHER
Let me ask about that because we have an eminent economist here.

WALKER
I’ve never heard of him.

HADLEY
What?

WALKER
I was talking to the TV. I’m very busy right now.

HADLEY
Yes, but he’s your dad.

BILL MAHER
I asked a question on the show a couple of weeks ago how could it be legal that a company
like Goldman Sachs can advise it’s investors to buy a stock that they know is Dog Shit

ECONOMIST
Designed to be dog shit.

BILL MAHER
Designed to be Dog shit to put it in the terms of an economist.

DAVID REMNICK
At MIT.

WALKER
Fuck this guy?

HADLEY
What’s going on?
Bill Maher
At MIT. And make money betting against it. You know, but apparently today we had the news, no you’re not gonna get away with it, they went after this guy...

Economist
The SEC is watching your show. They got the point.

*Bill Maher laughs.*

Economist
A few thousand other people told them this as well.

Bill Maher
Yes, I think so. In addition to you.

Economist
This was a fraudulent transaction.

Walker
No it wasn’t you stupid fucking piece of dog shit.

Economist
As alleged. I don’t think the SEC is going after Goldman Sachs because it’s easy or they have a weak case, they’re going to the heart of the matter.

Walker
Nice literary reference asshole.

Economist
Look there’s fraud at the heart of Wall Street.

Woman
Surprise. Surprise.

Bill Maher
Listen I’ve been trying to understand this for two years, I’m the schmuck on the phone with the broker and I’ve said this on the show, I lost a lot of money with Lehman Brothers. I mean Elizabeth Warren had to like cradle me.

*Laughs*
BILL MAHER
The best way I can understand this is like *The Producers* and I’m talking about the show. You know, where you make more money with a bad show.

ALL
Yes.

BILL MAHER
Then you would with a good show and when they say they bet against it, I don’t know what that means.

WALKER
Take Econ 101 you dumb ass.

HADLEY
He’s a comedian honey.

WALKER
But he’s talking about me. He’s allowed to go on TV and talk about shit he doesn’t know.

HADLEY
But he’s admitting it.

ECONOMIST
 Basically they designed a mechanism, they designed a security to sell to people that they knew would go bad, and it was designed by Walker Kane a person who was very good at and wanted to bet more on securities that would go bad.

*Walker turns off the TV.*

*Silence.*

Walker?

HADLEY
I don’t want to talk about it.

HADLEY
Yeah, I’m not giving you a choice.

WALKER
The SEC is investigating me.

HADLEY
You said that it was routine, like an audit.
WALKER

Exactly.

HADLEY
Then why is the editor of *The New Yorker* talking about it on HBO?

WALKER

Slow news day.

HADLEY

Walker.

WALKER

Listen, it’s not a big deal. I’m having a meeting with Goldman on Tuesday and we’re going to clear this all up.

HADLEY

Walker what happens if they don’t clear it up?

WALKER

But they will.

HADLEY

But this isn’t, like you couldn’t go to jail.

WALKER

Of course I won’t.

HADLEY

But if they find you guilty/

WALKER

But I’m not.

HADLEY

Of course you’re not, but I mean innocent people go to jail.

WALKER

Hadley, don’t worry about this.

HADLEY

I’m going to be your husband. We are going to have a family. You need to confide in me.

*He thinks.*
Walker Benjamin Kane.

The full name treatment.

Look at me. I love you. Tell me.

I could face five years in prison or a large fine. I could lose my broker license and be unable to trade stocks for life or sit on the board of any company or own any publicly traded company.

Oh my god. Walker.

I know.

You have to fix this.

I will. Just you watch me.

Goldman.

Got a minute?

Hey, what are you doing here, and so early?

I know today is when you’re meeting with Walker.

Yes.

He did really well in that 60 Minutes interview.
You sound happy.

I think he’s a dick, but I think it’s unfair.

That’s very generous of you.

I just can’t figure out why Corey Stapleton ratted on him.

Who?

That dinner Corey and I had. That’s what Robert has on Walker.

Corey Stapleton’s dead.

Oh my God.

Brain cancer.

Jesus.

And he didn’t tell the SEC about that dinner, I did.

Silence.

Dad?

What?

How could you do that?

Um, I’m sorry, what the fuck is going on.
FRANK
Yeah, what the fuck is going on?

FRANKLIN
I told the SEC about Walker. I thought you’d be jumping for joy.

FRANK
Why?

FRANKLIN
I don’t know because he humiliated you. Because he made you the laughing stock of New York City.

FRANK
Oh my God.

FRANKLIN
I did it to protect you. You’re the one who went to Goldman asking them for this, you’re the one who they wanted to go after. I had to give them Walker or they’d go after you. Can you imagine?

FRANK
But we didn’t do anything wrong.

FRANKLIN
They want to punish someone, Walker’s the perfect fit.

FRANK
I thought you. He’s your favorite.

FRANKLIN
Walker?

FRANK
You gave him the money, you sent him to Will White.

FRANKLIN
I thought Walker was going to fall on his ass. I never thought he was going to succeed.

FRANK
Oh my God.

FRANKLIN
How did you not figure this out? Frank, sometimes you’re so slow.
FRANK
All those years. Helping Walker and paying for his school and taking him on trips.

FRANKLIN
It looked good.

Frank starts to laugh.

FRANKLIN
What is the matter with you?

FRANK
It’s amazing how you can think something about yourself that isn’t true.

FRANKLIN
What are you talking about? Frank, you’re acting very strange are you drinking again?

FRANK
Oh no. I just see things now. I never saw before.

I have to go to a meeting.

FRANKLIN
You won’t stop him.

FRANK
Excuse me.

FRANKLIN
He’s too smart for you.

FRANK
We’ll see about that.

I got to go.

FRANKLIN
Frank, please.

Franklin goes to give Frank a hug.

FRANK
Don’t.
Boardroom.

Franklin enters.

There he is.

Walker.

They hug.

It’s so good to see you.

Likewise.

Are we ready to get started?

Absolutely.

Have you met everyone Walker?

Yes, well Fab and I go way back, but yes, we’ve met.

Fantastic.

Everyone finds their seats.

Thank you for meeting with us today.

Thank you for meeting with me.

Great job on 60 Minutes.

Really? I think they’re getting soft, but I digress.
FRANKLIN
You’ve been handling the whole situation very well.

WALKER
Thank you. As fun as it is playing that game, I’m ready for it to end.

SUSAN
We all are.

WALKER
Wonderful, so we are all on the same page. We want the SEC to go back to doing what it does best, nothing. We need to negotiate with this Khuzami guy a figure, a nice small number, admit no wrong-doing on your part and call it a day. Shall we call him?

GARRY
Woah. Woah this is moving very fast.

FAB
We want to talk this through.

TAYLOR
No need to be the bull on this.

WALKER
Well, that’s my nature. It’s been very profitable in the past.

FRANKLIN
Of course Walker, but that was the past. We need to think of a clear strategy that makes both of us look good.

WALKER
Both of us?

FRANKLIN
Of course.

WALKER
Let’s not forget that.

GARRY
I think this is going to be a long process. We need to really think this through.

WALKER
I want this over today.
Oh come on. Walker.

The faster we finish this, the faster your stock rises.

Public opinion is changing against Wall Street.

I think it’s changed.

Exactly. So we need to be careful. We want people to think highly of Goldman Sachs.

Well the SEC kinda has proof you stole your clients stock you knew sucked.

Yes, but it was someone else’s idea.

I see. I really didn’t want to bring this up but...

Walker opens his brief case.

I have an email here from 2007, from well you. “More and more leverage in the system. The whole building is about to collapse anytime now ... Only potential survivor, the fabulous Fab ... standing in the middle of all these complex, highly leveraged, exotic trades he created without necessarily understanding all of the implication of those monstruosities” By the way, you mispelled monstrosities, but I think the meaning is clear.

Is this blackmail?

Oh God no. I’m trying to protect you.
Oh yeah.

WALKER
How soon until the SEC subpoenas your servers and some intern in a cubical being paid a dollar an hour in India finds this? Ten minutes? I’m trying to save you the embarrassment.

FAB
Stop rubbing it in.

WALKER
I’m just starting.

SUSAN
Can I see that e-mail?

WALKER
Of course. Do you want me to send you all a copy?

GOLDMAN EMPLOYEES
No.

SUSAN
This will be fine.

WALKER
So think there is a clock on this situation.

SUSAN
Did you send this e-mail?

FAB
Well, it’s a long/ story

SUSAN
Yes or no.

FAB
Yes Sir.

SUSAN
Franklin, when did your friend at the SEC they were going to court today?

FRANKLIN
At two.
SUSAN
Do we know what they’re requesting?

FRANKLIN
No, my influence only extends so far.

SUSAN
Of course. You, go shred this.

FAB
Shall I come back?

Susan gives Fab a withering look

Fab leaves the room with the paper.

TAYLOR
Do we have any idea of the figure?

GARRY
They want ten billion.

FRANKLIN
Come on.

GARRY
That’s what my sources said.

WALKER
Who are your sources?

GARRY
It’s private.

SUSAN
There’s no more privacy on this issue.

GARRY
A reporter on the Wall Street Journal.

WALKER
What’s the name? Franklin have Frank call Emma.

FRANKLIN
Oh, Walker you haven’t heard. Frank and Emma are no longer together.
WALKER
Oh.

SUSAN
No, we’re not dealing with a reporter.

WALKER
The way I see it is we have two problems. The first problem is your alibi and then the amount you’re gonna have to pay.

TAYLOR
What about you?

WALKER
One second. Please let’s focus on the first problem. You guys need a good story.

SUSAN
What we did was perfectly legal there is nothing illegal about it. One department was betting against a stock another was not. That is perfectly common.

WALKER
Please there is no one who knows this better than I do.

TAYLOR
Exactly.

WALKER
I wonder if there is someone on any of these teams who maybe made a mistake. Who had to be let go quietly to save face.

SUSAN
What are you talking about?

WALKER
If there was someone who was let go during the deals, but of course it might have been too late to see the damage. I’m just thinking aloud. Someone who maybe had a health concern.

FRANKLIN
Corey Stapleton.

WALKER
Oh my God.

SUSAN
Oh my God.
WALKER
That never crossed my mind.

GARRY
Corey Stapleton was the main architect of the bill.

WALKER
That is who set up the original plan at dinner, where was it Masa.

Walker looks at Franklin.

SUSAN
Why was he let go?

GARRY
He quit.

SUSAN
Where is he now?

Silence.

WALKER
He’s dead.

SUSAN
He’s dead?

WALKER
He shot himself in the head.

SUSAN
Jesus.

WALKER
This deal, Abacus. It should be his legacy.

TAYLOR
By blaming him?

WALKER
By celebrating him. The SEC can say whatever they want. This deal made everyone billions. You guys paid out, what was it a record 12.1 Billion dollars in bonuses in 2007?
GARRY
Something like that.

WALKER
No, that is exactly what you paid. You would be doing a disservice to Corey if you didn’t give him the responsibility for this. To people like you and me, the real heart of Wall Street, Corey is a hero.

SUSAN
Was there any issues with mental health while he worked here?

WALKER
I wouldn’t know that. You know who was really close with him, Frank.

SUSAN
Frank?

FRANKLIN
I think he’s referring to my son.

WALKER
I would be.

FRANKLIN
You worked on his desk.

TAYLOR
I did.

FRANKLIN
Well.

TAYLOR
Well there is, something.

FRANKLIN
Go on.

TAYLOR
I don’t think I should say.

SUSAN
Son, do you see the situation we are in.
TAYLOR
He was diagnosed with brain cancer.

FRANKLIN
What?

WALKER
Oh my God.

TAYLOR
He didn’t want anyone to know.

SUSAN
Brian cancer. That’s terrible.

WALKER
Horrible.

GARRY
Poor fucker.

Silence.

Everyone bows their heads. Walker looks around.

SUSAN
Well it sickens me to bring this up, but brain cancer. Could that, I guess this is why I make the big bucks, I have to make the hard calls. Do we think there could have been some side effects that could have affected his work?

TAYLOR
I never saw anything.

WALKER
Are you a doctor?

TAYLOR
Of course, I’m not a doctor. This whole thing is disgusting and you Walker, to/

SUSAN
Taylor, I understand how hard this must be for you.

TAYLOR
Thank you.
We can take it from here.

What?

We’re talking about your friend. This is upsetting.

*Walker and Taylor exchange looks.*

*Taylor leaves.*

So we need to vote. I say we go with this story and see what the SEC and Khuzami want to do.

*Susan raises her hand.*

*Garry raises his hand.*

Does Walker get to vote?

I don’t see why not. He’s one of us.

Well thank you Mrs. Harrington.

Call me Susan.

Fantastic.

*Franklin raises his hand.*

Of course I vote for me, this plan.

Well let’s make the call.
Frank stands making call.

EMMA’S VOICE
Hello, this is Emma Sanders. I’m not at my desk. Please leave a message.

Beep.

FRANK
Hey Emma. It’s Frank. I signed the divorce documents. And I sent back the watch. I’m sorry about that. It’s yours. Anyway. It’s strange not knowing where you are. Are you back traveling around the world on assignment? Are you in a meeting? I bet you’re ignoring my calls. I don’t blame you. Anyway I’m sorry for how it all turned out. For whatever that’s worth. And you were right. It was my fault. I just couldn’t see myself. You know. I couldn’t see anything for what it was. I had this idea about what my life was and it turns out, I was so fucking wrong. Can you believe that? And it’s so funny, I’m so happy. I’m so happy for everything that happened. For the first time. And maybe I’ll feel different tomorrow, but I think I can see my life, like the big picture and I’m babbling, but/

MACHINE
End of message.

Beep.

FRANK
Oh shit. I babbled too long. But anyway you’ll never hear this Emma. But I always knew you were the best thing that ever happened to me. That’s the only thing you were wrong about. I love you.

Goldman

WALKER
Okay now we have the second problem. The money.

GARRY
They want multiple billion dollars.

WALKER
Bullshit.

GARRY
Susan.

SUSAN
Why do you think it’s bullshit Walker.
WALKER
The SEC has never gotten a fraction of that kind of money. The biggest settlement they ever got was three hundred and fifty million dollars. Three hundred and fifty million dollars. That’s a Monday morning when we’re hung over.

BARRY
Susan doesn’t drink.

SUSAN
Calm down Barry.

WALKER
Listen, we give him four hundred million dollars and he gets to say, “it the highest fine Wall Street has ever paid.” He gets his headline and we spend loose change.

FRANKLIN
I am going to stop Walker. I think it will be insulting to the SEC if we low ball them. They have the potential to really do some damage. I think that offer is insulting.

BARRY
I agree.

SUSAN
Okay well, we also have to deal with terms. Do we apologize?

WALKER
Fuck no!

FRANKLIN
Walker.

WALKER
No. Sorry. Of course not.

FRANKLIN
This is going to get so ugly.

BARRY
I agree.

WALKER
No wrong doing. Four hundred million dollars.
FRANKLIN
They’re going to kill us.

BARRY
It’ll make them come after us even harder.

WALKER
Listen I’ve met this guy. He isn’t hardcore. He’s a careerist. He doesn’t actually want to come up against Wall Street. We know some of the tactics Wall Street has used in the past. I’m not gonna say prostitution rings, extortion and murder....

BARRY
Oh come on.

FRANKLIN
Walker.

WALKER
You didn’t let me finish. I was gonna say murder threats. Threats. Elliot Spitzer. Anyway.

SUSAN
No wrong doing. A billion dollars.

WALKER
Too much. Listen Susan, I know you. I watched you work when I was here. I saw you convince the French to invest in wind farms in China. Do you guys remember that deal? It was a billion dollar day for you. It wasn’t your first. And it wasn’t your last. You’ve dealt with dictators. Do you think a Director of Enforcement at the SEC is a big deal to you?

FRANKLIN
Don’t bring up wrong doing yet. Just float the number. See what he says.

SUSAN
Let’s do this.

The SEC

ROBERT’S ASSISTANT
It’s Goldman they want to talk.

They high five.

ROBERT
We’ve been waiting for this. Give it to me.

Goldman.
SUSAN
Hello Robert. This is Susan Harrington.

ROBERT
Hello Susan.

SUSAN
You’re on the phone with Franklin Hopkins, Garry Hale and Walker Kane.

ROBERT
Hello Mr. Kane.

WALKER
Hello.

ROBERT
So what can I do for you today?

SUSAN
We want to talk about ending your investigation.

Robert is ecstatic.

ROBERT
(Controlled)
Please, tell me more.

SUSAN
The first thing we’d like to say is that we have done nothing wrong.

Franklin and Barry give each other a look.

ROBERT
Okay.

Everyone at Goldman looks around.

SUSAN
We will admit absolutely no wrong doing.

Walker and Susan lock eyes.

SUSAN
Five hundred million dollars.
ROBERT

Hold please.

Robert puts down the phone. He whispers to his assistant. His assistant whispers back.

ROBERT

Let’s meet. I think we can work something out.

WALKER

(Quiet)

Put it on mute.

SUSAN

Hold on for a minute.

Muted.

Goldman bursts into laughter.

BARRY

The fucking fool.

SUSAN

Oh my God.

WALKER

Ask about me. Ask about me.

SUSAN

Oh sorry Walker.

Un-muted.

SUSAN

And drop the case against Kane Capital.

BARRY

That shouldn’t be a problem.

WALKER

You/ stupid fucking son of a bitch.

Susan picks up the phone.
SUSAN
Where do you want to meet? I’ll leave now.

Susan hangs up the phone.

SUSAN
Oh my God.

FRANKLIN
What a fucking moron.

WALKER
They’re gonna let us get away with everything. What did I tell you? What did I tell you? We can do whatever the fuck we want.

The penthouse.

Hadley is asleep.

Walker enters with champagne.

WALKER
Wake up!

He pops the champagne.

I did it.

HADLEY
What?

WALKER
They’re dropping all charges.

Oh Walker.

HADLEY
They kiss.

I knew you’d make it better.

WALKER
Well I did nothing wrong.
Of course.

I have a surprise for you.

What?

We’re leaving for Paris in four hours.

What?

Got the first flight out. We’ll be having a drink at the Ritz by lunch.

I have a million things, I have/

Walker kisses him.

No excuses. It’s Friday.

I guess it is.

Oh God. I did it.

What happened?

Oh God, you know Goldman was just looking for someone to blame and they wanted me?

But why?

Cause I’d made all that money on those CDOs.

You know I don’t understand finance.
Nobody does except me really.

Cocky much.

Very, very cocky. And rightly so.

But what did you do?

I just went in there and showed them for the best of both our interests that I had nothing to do. Goldman doesn’t have to admit wrong doing, they just have to pay five hundred million.

That’s a lot of money.

Once this deal is public, Goldman’s stock will rise four times that.

But why did the SEC change their mind.

They didn’t. Goldman did do something wrong, and they’re going to pay five hundred million dollars because of it.

But they don’t have to say they did anything wrong.

It’s really complicated.

Don’t you think I’d understand?

Of course, but Hadley I just want you to be happy. I want you to be happy for me. For us. This is a really, really good thing.

I’m just.
Don’t worry.

Are you unethical?

Excuse me.

What you do? They’re saying these Wall Street Banks/

Who is saying this?

Everyone. The media.

Fuck the media. Are you going to believe the media or your husband.

But Goldman is paying a fine.

I’m not.

You said it was your idea? I’m just confused.

Hadley it would take hours to explain.

Well we have hours. The plane and Paris and/

I don’t want to fucking about this on vacation.

I’d just like to know.

What?
HADLEY
What you actually do.

WALKER
As opposed to what.

HADLEY
As opposed to the nothing you tell me.

WALKER
You get everything you want, why does it matter.

HADLEY
I went online and started to read some things about you. After we saw on the news and people don’t have a very good opinion of you Walker.

They’re jealous.

WALKER
They say you’re a thief.

HADLEY
If I ever heard anyone say a word against you I would murder them. I would kill that person. And what do you do, you believe them.

I’m asking a question. Is that a crime?

You don’t trust me.

HADLEY
That’s not what I’m saying. I’m saying that the government was investigating you and now they’re not and I’m confused.

WALKER
Well that’s your fucking problem. I think I’ve been very clear. When I come home I want to have champagne and have sex and have a good time. I don’t want to hear your nagging.

Walker takes a sip of the champagne. It foams up.

WALKER
Fuck. You’ve totally ruined the mood.
HADLEY
I’m sorry.

WALKER
This is one of the best days of my life.

HADLEY
I’m sorry.

WALKER
Well. I just wanted to celebrate with you.

HADLEY
I’m sorry, Walker.

WALKER
It’s fine. Sorry. It’s just been a roller coaster.

HADLEY
Of course. Let me get some glasses.

WALKER
Perfect.

*Hadley exits.*

WALKER
We can go to the Flea Market on Sunday and see if you can find some things for the new house in the Aspen. What are we looking for a mirror?

*Hadley comes back.*

HADLEY
Yes. Here you go.

Walker pours two glasses of champagne.

WALKER
Here you go. To my future husband.

HADLEY
Cheers.

*Walker stands up.*
Scott, Brian and Jason are there with champagne glasses.

WALKER
To my guys! We did it.

SCOTT
Shhh, here’s the press conference.

BRIAN
Loot at the fucking loser.

Washington D.C. July 15

Robert Khuzami speaks to reporters

ROBERT
“Good afternoon. I’m Rob Khuzami, Director of the Division of Enforcement at the SEC. I’m joined today by Lorin Reisner, Deputy Director of Enforcement and by the SEC staff responsible for the Goldman Sachs case, who I will introduce shortly. Today we are announcing that Goldman Sachs has agreed to pay more than half a billion dollars to settle charges that it misled investors in the Abacus synthetic CDO transaction.”

WALKER
He won’t say five hundred and fifty million. He’s never gonna say it.

SCOTT
He wants it to sound like it’s eight.

BRIAN
Completely.

ROBERT
“The more than half billion dollars is the largest penalty ever assessed”

WALKER
There he goes.

ROBERT
“against any investment bank or other Wall Street firm in the history of the SEC.”

WALKER
I fucking wrote that line for him, the bastard.
ROBERT
“We also insisted that as part of the settlement, Goldman publicly acknowledge the fundamental basis of our allegations.”

JASON
That’s amazing.

BRIAN
That means nothing.

WALKER
They admit the fundamental basis of our allegations.

JASON
But not that they did anything wrong.

ROBERT
“And that is what they did. They acknowledge that their marketing materials for the Abacus CDO contained incomplete information, and that they failed to disclose both Kane Capital’s role in the portfolio selection process,”

HADLEY
They’re talking about you.

WALKER
Shh.

ROBERT
“and that Paulson’s economic interests were adverse to CDO investors.”

BRIAN
Everyone on Wall Street just laughed.

JASON
It’s like he was advertising for you.

SCOTT
That was amazing.

HADLEY
What does it mean?

SCOTT
That your husband is a genius.
ROBERT
“In agreeing to the settlement, we also took into account that Goldman is engaging in a broad-based self-assessment of their overall business practices that will increase transparency, evaluate and remediate conflicts, and take other steps that collectively will reduce the chances that investors in the future will be misled.”

_Everyone excepts Hadley laughs._

ROBERT
“For that reason, today’s settlement sends a powerful message of deterence and accountability.”

_Everyone laughs harder._

WALKER
Oh my God that is hysterical.

ROBERT
“Let me now turn this over to Deputy Director Lorin/

_They turn the TV off._

SCOTT
I’ll drink to that bafoon and more like him.

BRIAN
No wonder no one trusts in the government.

JASON
They shouldn’t.

HADLEY
Well I’ll leave you guys to celebrate.

WALKER
Come on, one more drink.

HADLEY
No, I have a conference call about a building in Shanghi.

WALKER
There’s my man.
Walker kisses Hadley.

He exits.

You did it boss.

Did you ever doubt me?

Not for a second.

Never.

Can we just take next month off and go to Hawaii.

Sit on a beach with a piña colada.

And a hot girl.

(Looks at Walker)

And a hot boy.

Sounds nice.

Oh god. I want to go up to all our clients and take a shit on their face.

Oh this one who has done nothing but complain to me the entire time called me today, didn’t mention a thing, just oh hi. And it’s like, you tried to pull your money out. God I want to just give it back to him.

Do it.

What?
WALKER
Fire him.

JASON
Fire a client.

WALKER
We’ve got people waiting around the block. I’m thinking of a new expansion phase.

SCOTT
Tell us about it boss.

BRIAN
We want to go to Hawaii and he wants to get bigger.

WALKER
I was thinking/

*Frank walks in holding champagne.*

FRANK
Hey guys. I see you already have champagne.

*Silence.*

FRANK
Well I’ll just leave/ it here

WALKER
Come in. Come on someone pour him a glass.

FRANK
Thank you. I heard about the announcement, obviously, and I just wanted to congratulate you.

WALKER
That was very nice.

FRANK
It was crazy they ever went after you.

WALKER
Wasn’t it?
FRANK
Yeah. I just wanted to make sure there were no hard feelings.

WALKER
Of course not. I know you didn’t turn me in.

FRANK
Good.

WALKER
Well come on in.

FRANK
Thanks. Hey guys.

A muted reception.

FRANK
Your place is really nice. I’ve never seen it.

WALKER
Oh come on in, Hadley designed it. I’ll give you a tour. Guys put on some music. What kind of party is this? Come on I’ll show you around.

Kitchen

WALKER
And this is the kitchen.

FRANK
Nice.

WALKER
Want a real drink?

FRANK
Yes please.

WALKER
I got a good bottle.

FRANK
This place is really incredible.
WALKER
Want to buy it?
FRANK
Is it for sale?
WALKER
It is.
FRANK
How much?
WALKER
Twenty million dollars.
FRANK
I can’t afford that.
WALKER
Yeah I’m thinking of getting something bigger.
FRANK
Really?
WALKER
Need room for the kids.
FRANK
Kids?
WALKER
Well in the next couple years. We’re not getting an younger.
FRANK
You heard that Emma and I broke up.
WALKER
I did.
FRANK
This is good bourbon.
WALKER
How’s work?
FRANK
I hate it.

WALKER
Got it.

FRANK
But it’s getting better. I used to make me physically ill, but now I only loathe it.

WALKER
I think that’s the most you can ever hope for.

FRANK
That’s depressing.

WALKER
Speaking of depressing. I heard your dad is retiring at the end of the year.

FRANK
He is.

WALKER
God. I never thought I’d see the day.

FRANK
I told him it was a good idea.

WALKER
Really? He’s gonna drive your mom nuts being home all the time.

FRANK
That is definite.

WALKER
This generation is starting to close up shop.

FRANK
Now it’s our turn to rule the world.

WALKER
Watch out world.

FRANK
No kidding.
WALKER
I’ve been thinking.

FRANK
What?

WALKER
I want to make Kane Capitol the largest hedge fund in the world.

FRANK
Of course you do.

WALKER
You know this whole thing. It’s just made me even more, if I can get away with this. Can you imagine what else I can do?

FRANK
Because nothing changes.

WALKER
And I was thinking I might need a slightly-young ambiguous man to handle the sales for me.

FRANK
Walker?

WALKER
I’m serious. My guys are good traders. The best, but you know I hate the sell. And I just heard the best guy in the business hates his job.

FRANK
You seriously would do this.

WALKER
No matter what I think of you, I know I’d make more money with you on board.

FRANK
That’s reassuring.

WALKER
Hey I understand the power of money, better now than ever.

FRANK
You’d be my boss.
I was always your boss.

You can take some time to think about it.

Yes.

Really?

Listen I was afraid back then, but you were right. But I'm not anymore.

Neither am I.

You never were.

I was. I was just better at hiding it.

Thank you for saying that.

You're welcome.

So what are you thinking about?

I think there’s a bubble.

Really?

Gold.
FRANK

Gold?

WALKER

Yeah.

FRANK

But we don’t know anything about gold.

WALKER

Oh my god here we fucking go again.

FRANK

I’m just saying.

WALKER

Now just listen to me. It’s all about.

FRANK

Gold.

WALKER

Gold.

Music. .

Louder

Louder.

End of play.
Hopkins/Kane is inspired by the hedgefund Paulson & Co.

In the summer of 2007, Paulson made $15 million dollars betting against the housing marker using synthetic CDOs created with the help of Goldman Sachs.

In 2010, a department of the SEC headed by Robert Khuzami investigated Goldman Sachs for their involvement in this investment. It was called Abacus. While Paulson & Co was named in the investigation, it was never formally charged.

They settled for $550 million dollars and Goldman Sachs never apologized.

In April 2014, thanks to the Freedom of Information Act new documents revealed the SEC secretly promised Goldman Sachs they would not prosecute any instances where Goldman misrepresented their position to their clients, other than Abacus. This proved the relationship between Goldman and the SEC was much better than they portrayed for the public.

The play is inspired by these events, but is a work of fiction.