

WARLORDS

"Pilot"

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Warlords

COLD OPEN

EXT. ARMY BASE AIR STRIP - DAY

CHYRON: Fort Hood. Killeen, Texas.

A U.S. Army troop transport plane lands on a base. On the runway, families carrying "Welcome Home" signs have gathered to greet the returning veterans.`

The troops deplane, each carrying his duffel bag. One by one, we watch as these returning heroes find their loved ones. Wives reunited with husbands. Fathers reunited with children, some seeing their babies for the first time. A soldier's dog runs up, jumps into his arms, and greets him with a big lick. Hugs and tears all around.

The last soldier off the plane is STAN (think Michael Cera). Unlike the rest of the troops, he's slight of build, nerdy, thoughtful -- more Regular Joe than G.I. Joe.

Stan looks around and surveys the scene. No one has a Stan sign. He looks at the faces but none of them recognize him. None of them are his family. He finds a quiet area and dials a phone.

STAN

Hi, I'm calling for a taxi cab.

HONK! HONK!

JEFF

Let's go, Stan! Jeez.

Stan looks up and through the chain-link FENCE and sees a crappy car driven by JEFF (also 25ish, but schlubby, annoying-guy vibe; think Jonah Hill). He's eating a fast food burger.

STAN

Jeff!

JEFF

An hour and half. That's how long it took to get here. You owe me big time. Thirty-four dollars for gas.

INT. JEFF'S CAR - DAY

Jeff drives through the Texas backcountry. Stan is in the passenger seat. His Army duffel bag is in back.

JEFF

It's awesome you're back, bro. The apartment hasn't changed a bit. I basically never went in your room or did anything weird in it while you were gone.

(then)

And definitely nothing erogenous.

STAN

Gross.

JEFF

So what's the first thing you're going to do now that you're back from Afghanistan? Play a hundred video games? Drink a hundred beers? Are you gonna go insane? Cuz if you're gonna go nuts you gotta tell me.

STAN

Let's just say, there's someone I need to see.

Jeff's car SCREECHES to the side of the dusty road.

JEFF

Wait. You're not talking about Emma, are you? You spent two years in a hellhole on the other side of the planet and you're still carrying a torch for Emma? You are going nuts. This is classic PTSD. We gotta get you beer.

STAN

I haven't been carrying a torch for Emma, Jeff.

(then)

I've been carrying a love for Emma. And I'm sure she feels the same way.

CUT TO:

INT. EMMA'S APARTMENT - BEDROOM

CHYRON: Emma's Apartment. Austin, Texas. At that moment.

DOLPH (25ish, handsome, rich-looking) and EMMA (25ish, cute, bookish) are lying in bed, post-coital.

DOLPH

What they don't tell you in cooking school is that every food brings a different flavor of orgasm. That's something I discovered myself. What shall we try next, Emma, my sweet?

EMMA

Let's empty out the whole kitchen.

Dolph feeds Emma a spoonful of ice cream and they immediately kiss passionately.

CUT TO:

INT. JEFF'S CAR - DAY

Stan and Jeff are still driving in the car.

STAN

Yeah. I definitely feel good about trying to get back together with Emma.

JEFF

Good for you, man. Sometimes you gotta look reality in the face and say no.

Stan reacts. They drive on a little further.

STAN

So how have things been in Austin?

JEFF

Umm... awesome? You're not the only one who earned a medal.

STAN

Get out of here.

INT. APARTMENT - ONE YEAR AGO - DAY

CHYRON: Jeff's Apartment. Austin, Texas. One year ago.

Jeff is on the couch playing a modern-warfare themed first-person-shooter game. He's talking into a headset.

JEFF

Get some! Get some! YEAH!

Jeff stands up in triumph.

JEFF (CONT'D)

First place! First place! Gold medal. Suck it! Suuuuuuck iiiit.
(then)

You guys wanna play again?

INT. JEFF'S CAR - PRESENT DAY

Back in the car.

JEFF

So I guess that makes us both heroes.

STAN

Eh. I'm not a hero. I wasn't a combat guy. My job was to carry the bag of money.

JEFF

A literal bag of money?

STAN

Yup. I mainly had to bribe the locals, but sometimes I got to decide what the villages should build. Schools. Parks. Roads. That kind of stuff.

JEFF

So you didn't even shoot one single person?

STAN

Nope.

Jeff seems bummed.

STAN (CONT'D)

I did get shot at, though.

JEFF

Really? Are you serious?

STAN

We were driving through Kandahar...

EXT. KANDAHAR STREET - ONE YEAR AGO - DAY

CHYRON: One year ago. Kandahar, Afghanistan.

Stan, in desert fatigues, is in the passenger seat of his Humvee. Next to him is his BAG OF MONEY.

Next to the bag, another SOLDIER drives. They are stuck in a traffic jam of local cars, animal carts, and pedestrians.

STAN

Carpool lanes would clear this mess
right up.

Just then, an Afghani, ASHWIN (25ish, wearing traditional garb; an opportunist; think Aziz Ansari) comes running toward them. He speaks English in a moderate Afghani accent.

ASHWIN

Get out! Now! Run! Danger!

Stan and the Soldier look confused. Ashwin points up. They see on the rooftop a militant taking aim at them with an RPG. They get out of the Humvee and RUN. A ROCKET streaks smoke toward the Humvee... and hits it in a FIERY EXPLOSION. Burning money flutters through the air.

INT. CAR - PRESENT DAY

Back in the car and almost home.

JEFF

Wow. So some Afghani rando saved
your life? What happened to him?

STAN

Oh, they gave him some award.

JEFF

So crazy that there's just some guy
out there who saved your life.

STAN

Yeah. I sometimes wonder where he
is.

The car pulls up to their large apartment complex. On the front walkway is Ashwin. He's dressed in some pretty crappy American clothes and has a suitcase.

ASHWIN

Stan! What's up! Good to see you
again, homie!

STAN

Oh, there he is.

END OF COLD OPENING

ACT ONE

INT. APARTMENT - DAY

Jeff, Stan, and Ashwin all enter the apartment, which is pretty small and crappy.

STAN

Ashwin! It's great to see you. But what are you doing here?

ASHWIN

Well, for saving your life, the U.S. Army offered me the chance to come to America.

JEFF

And what are you doing in this apartment specifically?

ASHWIN

Stan's the only guy I know in the whole country.

JEFF

And so you came to him to get a good hotel recommendation. Got it.

ASHWIN

Actually, I do need a place to crash tonight. Just until I get a job and get established. As a CEO or governor or something. They say the first billion is the hardest, right?

STAN

Your English is really good.

ASHWIN

The web is world-wide. I know all about your American lolcats. So I can haz place to stay?

JEFF

Stan, a word in private if I may, because there's no way I'm letting this weirdo stay with us.

Ashwin reacts. Jeff and Stan sidebar.

STAN

Jeff. He saved my life. I owe him.

JEFF

There's no room, Stan. Plus, he smells bad.

ANGLE ON Ashwin at an overflowing trash can. It's gross.

ASHWIN

You guys want me to take out your trash? I think the smell is scaring some of your cockroaches.

ANGLE ON Stan and Jeff.

STAN

He can sleep on the couch in the living room.

JEFF

But that's where I play video games. Don't you remember all the video games we used to play together?

FLASHBACK TO:

INT. APARTMENT - DAY - THREE YEARS AGO

CHYRON: Jeff and Stan's Apartment. Three years ago.

Stan and Jeff sit on the couch playing a video game.

STAN

Man... You ever think there's more to life than Xbox?

JEFF

Like PlayStation?

STAN

I'm thinking about joining the Army.

JEFF

If you do, don't expect your ice cream pops to be here when you get back.

INT. APARTMENT - DAY - PRESENT DAY

Stan and Jeff are still conversing. Jeff is now eating an ICE CREAM POP. Ashwin is still to the side.

STAN

Is that my ice cream pop?

JEFF

Warned you, bro. Point is, I'm sorry, but I'm going to have to send your little buddy back to Afghanistan. Give me the phone number for the government. Give it.

ANGLE ON Ashwin looking at a Reservoir Dogs poster.

ASHWIN

Man. This apartment is so awesome.

Jeff responds to this. He can obviously be flattered.

JEFF

I'm listening.

ASHWIN

Bathroom indoors? And outdoors, no guerilla warfare? I mean, I haven't even almost died once today. That's like a record.

JEFF

And before you ask, yes, that is a mostly working mini air hockey table.

ASHWIN

This place is like a palace.

JEFF

Alright. Ashwin, you can stay on the couch for a couple of days. But if I catch you destroying so much as a single World Trade Center tower, I will ask you to leave.

ASHWIN

Deal. So what are we gonna do now?

STAN

Well, I have to unpack and then go see my old girlfriend.

JEFF

And I have to go to work. Because I have a job. Unlike a certain lazy foreigner I know.

ASHWIN
Is your work hiring?

JEFF
Nope.

ASHWIN
Can I tag along?

JEFF
No.

Ashwin has already learned how to manipulate Jeff...

ASHWIN
I bet your job is really awesome.

INT. ADAVEES INVESTMENTS - DAY

In the lobby of a large office building downtown, Jeff and Ashwin sit at the security desk. There are several monitors.

ASHWIN
So you just sit here and watch TV
all day? Seems like a snooze fest.

JEFF
(condescending)
Oh, Ashwin. Will you ever
understand America?
(then)
I also have to greet people.

Just then, AKAKO (25ish, super-hot, Asian, businesswoman) enters on her way to the elevators.

JEFF (CONT'D)
(nervous energy)
Hello, Akako. Some weather we're
having.

Akako smiles and passes by. Jeff slumps down in his chair.

ASHWIN
What's wrong?

JEFF
I am so in love with her.

ASHWIN
Who? That girl? Why didn't you hit
on her?

JEFF

I just did. Didn't you hear me?

ASHWIN

It sounded like a normal greeting.

JEFF

At first I greeted her, then I started flirting about the weather. Pay attention.

(then)

She's not interested anyway.

ASHWIN

How could she be? She doesn't know anything about you. If you're really into in her, tell her.

JEFF

Ah, why bother? She's not going to date some stupid security guard anyway. Akako's a corporate hot shot and probably only interested in corporate-type guys.

ASHWIN

Look, just cause a guy wears a different turban every day of the week doesn't mean he'll get the girl. I think you should walk up to her, tell her you think she's beautiful, and you want to-- how do you say in English?

JEFF

Go on a date?

ASHWIN

(remembers)

Make forbidden love to her on her desk until her body is sick from pleasure. Her and her cute friend. Also your buddy Ashwin is invited.

JEFF

I'll get fired.

ASHWIN

There's an Afghani proverb. It says, "you can live your entire life in a cave."

JEFF

That's it?

ASHWIN

It's not a very good proverb.

JEFF

You know what? I'm going to do it.

ASHWIN

(high fives)

Holla!

JEFF

Here's the plan. We'll go up to her floor. You'll run down the hall. I'll call you a thief and tackle you in front of her door. Then I'll rip off my shirt and start pounding you hard, like real punches, until she can't control herself and needs to make love to me on the spot.

(off Ashwin's hesitation)

It's the only way, bro.

ASHWIN

You know what? It sounds painful, but I'll do it.

JEFF

Sweet. Next week.

ASHWIN

What? Why not now?

JEFF

Gotta work on my core if I'm gonna have my shirt off. I got serious body issues, dude.

Jeff takes out a tiny hand squeezer. Ashwin gives up on Jeff.

ASHWIN

Alright, well, in that case, I'm going to see if I can find a job.

JEFF

Shh. Working on my core. Body issues. Go away.

INT. EMMA'S APARTMENT - HALLWAY OUTSIDE FRONT DOOR - EVENING

KNOCK KNOCK KNOCK. Stan, looking exhilarated and carrying roses, is knocking on an apartment door. Emma answers.

STAN

Emma!

EMMA

Stan?

STAN

I'm back from Afghanistan.

EMMA

That's fantastic. But why are you here? Like, at my apartment specifically.

STAN

Emma, when I was out there in the desert, I realized you're the love of my life.

EMMA

But Stan--

STAN

And someday. I'm going to put a ring on that finger.

(then)

Hey, how come there's a ring on that finger?

EMMA

Dolph put it there.

STAN

Dolph? Who's Dolph?

Dolph steps to the door.

EMMA

My fiancée.

Dolph extends for a hand shake.

DOLPH

What's good, bro?

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

INT. EMMA'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Emma and Stan are chatting in Emma's living room. Dolph is off-screen, in the kitchen.

STAN

So you don't want to get back together?

EMMA

No. I don't.

STAN

Just tell me honestly. Is this about Dolph?

EMMA

My fiance? Yes. Of course it's about Dolph.

STAN

I knew it! Look, I'm just as awesome as he is.

EMMA

(No you're not, Stan)
Stan. He's a molecular
gastronomist.

Dolph enters from the kitchen carrying a tray of daiquiris.

DOLPH

Who wants daiquiris?

EMMA

Aww. Thank you.

Emma takes one.

STAN

No thanks, "Dolph."

DOLPH

You sure? They're fresh. Picked the limes this morning. Fermented the molasses last week.

STAN

They look and sound amazing, but...
(dignity)
No. Thank you.

Dolph exits back to the kitchen.

EMMA

Stan, do you remember how we used to be "on-again, off-again" for so long?

STAN

Yes. And now I want to be on-again.

EMMA

I don't. I don't want to be anything-again ever again. Those years and years of agonizing break-ups? That never happened with Dolph. He knows what he wants. And it's me. After the ups and downs you and I had, it's a nice feeling.

STAN

But... but... it was an unstable time in my life. Now I'm super-stable.

EMMA

Look. You're back from overseas. You have a chance to start over and do it right. Why would you want to get back in the same old rut?

Stan is hurt.

STAN

I'm just a rut to you?

Emma doesn't know what to say. It's an awkward moment between these two ex'es. From the Kitchen, Dolph breaks the silence.

DOLPH

Hope you don't mind, I put those flowers in water and set them next to Emma's other flowers.

We see in the Kitchen that Emma has received a veritable forest of flowers from Dolph. They dwarf Stan's measly bouquet.

EMMA

Oh, Dolph.

Emma and Dolph kiss. Stan exits.

INT. JEFF AND STAN'S APARTMENT - DAY

Stan and Jeff are sitting on the couch, playing a modern warfare themed video game. Around them are empty BEER BOTTLES and general dude rubbish. Ashwin enters.

ASHWIN

Whoa whoa. What's going on here?

JEFF

I'm kicking Stan's ass. Guess I'm a better soldier than Army guy, here.

STAN

You can't camp the respawn point in real life.

JEFF

Maybe they should try.

ASHWIN

I thought you were getting in shape for Akako.

JEFF

No, bro. That turned out to be harder than playing video games.

ASHWIN

What about you, Stan? Weren't you supposed to be winning the love of your life?

STAN

Oh, update: Emma thinks I'm a rut. And she's going to marry the perfect guy.

JEFF

It's true, I looked him up on Facebook. Gorgeous. And there's a picture of him hanging out at Scottie Pippen's house. Any sane woman would let him have his way with her.

(then, to Stan)

Sorry, bro.

ASHWIN

So you're just going to sit here playing video games?

STAN

You call it video games. I call it numbing my emotions.

ASHWIN

Well, if you two aren't going to help yourselves, then I am. I didn't travel ten thousand miles to watch you be drunk and depressed.

(then)

And besides. I can't really sleep if you're on that couch.

Ashwin exits. Jeff throws a beer can at him on his way out.

INT. ADAVEES INVESTMENTS - AKAKO'S OFFICE - EVENING

KNOCK KNOCK KNOCK. Ashwin enters. We see that Akako is there at her desk.

AKAKO

Hello?

ASHWIN

Hi. I want to tell you about this amazing guy. He works here and you probably don't even know he exists. But he's in love with you and...
Wow, you are so hot.

Akako smiles.

AKAKO

Is this guy, by chance, speaking to me right now?

Ashwin takes less time than you'd think to betray Jeff.

ASHWIN

Yes. I'm Ashwin. I work on another floor or something. I'm a corporate-type guy. And I love you.

Akako smiles.

TIME CUT TO:

INT. AKAKO'S PENTHOUSE - EVENING

Akako lives LARGE in a gorgeous apartment with a great view and balcony.

ASHWIN

Oh my God, your place is amazing.
What did you call it?

AKAKO

It's a penthouse.

ASHWIN

(whispered; dreaming big)
Penthouse.
(then)
This blows away Jeff's apartment.

AKAKO

Who's Jeff?

ASHWIN

No one. He doesn't exist.

Ashwin kisses Akako passionately.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

INT. JEFF AND STAN'S APARTMENT - MORNING

Ashwin enters. He sees Stan and Jeff eating cereal and looking hungover.

ASHWIN
You two look like garbage.

STAN
Thanks. Where were you last night?

ASHWIN
Figuring out our future.

JEFF
The future? Do you have magic? Tell us right now if you have Afghani magic and you can stay.

ASHWIN
No, I spoke to your building manager. The penthouse is vacant.

STAN
So?

ASHWIN
So, we can move in right away. We just need to sign this.

Ashwin show Stan and Jeff a RENTAL AGREEMENT.

JEFF
I didn't know they made numbers that big.

STAN
Seriously, Ashwin. We can't afford this. And you just got to America. Aren't you broke?

ASHWIN
No. I made almost a hundred and fifteen bucks yesterday.

JEFF
How?

ASHWIN
Valet.

FLASHBACK TO:

EXT. STREET - VALET STAND - DAY - YESTERDAY

CHYRON: Downtown Austin, Texas. Yesterday.

Ashwin stands at a shoddily-rigged valet stand. A fancy car pulls up and a GUY and a LADY step out and hand him the keys.

GUY
Not a scratch.

ASHWIN
No problem.

Ashwin rips off his half of the claim ticket. Another DUDE hands Ashwin a claim ticket.

DUDE
Yo! Pick up my car while you're out there.

ASHWIN
Sure thing, buddy.

Ashwin gets in the car and drives around the corner. He haphazardly DOUBLE-PARKS the car. He looks at the claim ticket and finds DUDE'S car. It's also double-parked. It has a parking violation TICKET on the windshield. Ashwin crumples it up and throws it to the sidewalk. As he drives DUDE's car back to the stand, we see that the entire street is full of double-parked cars with tickets on them.

BACK TO:

INT. JEFF AND STAN'S APARTMENT

Back to Jeff, Stan, and Ashwin.

JEFF
Well, whatever. A hundred bucks doesn't pay for the penthouse apartment.

STAN
Yeah, we'll be broke in no time.

ASHWIN
I don't think you understand how awesome life in a penthouse would be.

JEFF

What happened to that dude who was just excited that we had an apartment without any land mines?

ASHWIN

I've seen how the other half lives!

JEFF

Jeez, when?

ASHWIN

I get around.

JEFF

Stan, a word in private.

(without pausing)

I'm tired of this guy. We take him in. He sleeps on our nice video game couch. And now he wants to spend all our money. I say we send him right back to Mexico.

Stan is trying to decide.

STAN

Look, Ashwin. I like your enthusiasm. But you're asking for something we can't do.

Ashwin takes a beat to collect his thoughts.

ASHWIN

You know what your problem is? You put yourself last. In my country, the people who are respected are the ones that take what they want. And do what they want. And they don't bow down to anyone.

STAN

Wait. Are you talking about warlords? You're talking about Afghani warlords, right?

ASHWIN

Yes, that's exactly who I'm talking about.

(to Stan)

Warlords don't care that some ex-girlfriend is getting married.

(to Jeff)

(MORE)

ASHWIN(CONT'D)

They don't play video games all day
hiding from the real world.

JEFF

Sound like noobs to me.

ASHWIN

And they don't worry about how
they're going to pay the rent two
months from now. Because they know
they might be dead tomorrow.
Admittedly, that's less likely to
happen to you dudes. But, still. No
one gets any guarantees.

(then)

I'm giving you a choice. Do you go
back to the rut you've been living
in? Or do you take everything you
can get out of life and start
living like warlords?

This is striking a chord with Stan.

STAN

This sounds crazy, but I think he's
right.

JEFF

Are you serious?

STAN

Jeff, ever since I got back, I have
been in a rut. Living in this
apartment. Being stuck on Emma. I
need a change. And I think you do,
too.

JEFF

But... we can't afford this place.
Not even close.

STAN

It's like you said. Sometimes you
gotta look reality in the face and
say no.

Stan signs the RENTAL AGREEMENT. Jeff considers.

JEFF

Oh, what the Hell. I don't really
understand what a credit score is
anyway.

Jeff signs as well.

ASHWIN

Gentlemen, let's go crush some puss.

There's a real sense of accomplishment.

MONTAGE

-- A LANDLORD shows the guys into the PENTHOUSE APARTMENT. It's even better than Akako's place. They look thrilled.

-- They carry in some of their crappy furniture from the old apartment. It barely furnishes the place.

-- Jeff walks into a Fitness Gym. He gives the trainer his credit card.

-- Stan and Ashwin go to a SUPERMARKET and buy a lot of booze and snacks. Stan charges it. Ashwin passes out PARTY FLIERS to cute girls.

-- On the treadmill at the Gym, Jeff passes out more party fliers to cute girls.

-- The Ultimate Party happens in their new place. Tons of booze and beautiful party-ers. A banner reads "Welcome Back from 'Stan, Stan'".

-- Stan pulls Ashwin aside and speaks loudly over the party music.

STAN

I have no idea how I'm going to pay for any of this when the credit card bill arrives.

ASHWIN

Doesn't matter. Are you having fun right now?

STAN

Time of my life. Perfect remedy for getting over a girl.

ASHWIN

I think I just saw Emma walk in--

STAN

(manic, desperate)
Where?!

ASHWIN

False alarm. It's awesome you're totally over her though.

STAN

Oh, yeah, totally.

Across the way, we see Jeff confidently striking muscle-man poses for ladies. We fade out from party to...

INT. PENTHOUSE - MORNING

It's the morning after. Sun streaks in. The place is a total mess. Cups, snacks, misplaced clothes, people passed out. We find Stan who slept shirtless on the couch. He stands up and walks to the kitchen.

STAN

Morning, warlord.

JEFF

Ungh. Shut up.

Jeff is passed out, rolled up in an impossibly uncomfortable ball on a chair. Jeff looks around and surveys the mess.

JEFF (CONT'D)

Damn, we have a rad kitchen now.

Jeff walks over and fixes himself a bowl of CEREAL. At that moment, Ashwin and Akako come from Ashwin's room.

ASHWIN

Now that is more like how I thought America would be!

Jeff looks up and sees Akako.

JEFF

Morning Ashwin. Morning Akako.

(then)

Wait, what are you doing here... with him?

(then)

No. No no no no no.

ASHWIN

(forthright)

I'm sorry you had to find out this way, bro, but me and Akako are nailing.

JEFF

You took my girl! I'm going to kill you.

AKAKO

(to Jeff)

I'm sorry, have we met?

JEFF

Yes. In my dreams. Like a hundred times.

(like a lover scorned)

And for your information, I had dibs on you.

AKAKO

You're the security guard at my office, right?

JEFF

Security specialist. Show some respect.

(to Ashwin)

And you. I don't know how they run things in your crappy country, but in America it's bro's before ho's.

(then)

Stan may owe you a life debt, but I don't. We're fighting. Right now.

(then)

As soon as I get my energy up with a few more Sugar Bombs.

Jeff WOLFS down more cereal and immediately starts CHOKING.

STAN

Are you okay?

JEFF

Can't-- can't-- huh!

Jeff is turning BLUE. Ashwin, thinking fast, runs over and performs the Heimlich manoeuvre on Jeff, freeing his esophagus of the cereal. Jeff hunches over, genuinely shaken.

JEFF (CONT'D)

Ashwin... You saved my life.

ASHWIN

I did. I did save your life.

JEFF

Yeah... thank you?

ASHWIN

(manipulative)

Nope. Now you owe me. You also owe me a life debt. Just like Stan.

Jeff thinks for a second... Shit, he's right.

JEFF

Dammit...

Ashwin realizes he has the upper hand.

ASHWIN

Come on, Akako. Let's go back to my room and nail. Because America is awesome and this is a penthouse.

He and Akako exit, leaving Jeff and Stan.

JEFF

She knew who I was. You think she's into me?

Just then, there's a KNOCK at the front door. Stan looks through the peephole.

STAN

It's the Landlord.

Stan opens the door and the LANDLORD enters.

LANDLORD

Hey fellas, got your keys to the back door-- what the hell happened in here?

JEFF

Party of the century, bro. There's panties in the toilets. Vomit in the air vents. Someone left a dog out on the balcony. Don't go out there, by the way. He's pissed.

ON THE BALCONY, a dog drinks from a half-empty red cup.

STAN

We think he's drunk off half-empty beers. Just let him sleep it off.

LANDLORD

Guys. You're not allowed to throw parties in here. How do you not know that?

INT. JEFF AND STAN'S APARTMENT - DAYS LATER

CHYRON: Jeff and Stan's Apartment. Three days later.

Stan, Jeff, and Ashwin are on their couch in the old apartment, like nothing ever changed.

JEFF

I like this place better anyway. The gorgeous views from all the windows in that penthouse were giving the TV glare.

STAN

It was nice of the landlord to let us have the old place back.

JEFF

Yeah. What a stupid week.

STAN

How much money do you think we lost, all said?

JEFF

I haven't done the math yet. But I'm guessing a billion dollars?

ASHWIN

Fellas, fellas. Shut your dumb faces up for two seconds. Who cares what we lost. We gained an amazing party. For a brief moment, you guys had lives.

JEFF

You're not still on your warlord kick, are you?

ASHWIN

Can you honestly say that wasn't the most exhilarating night of your incredibly un-exhilarating life?

JEFF

Okay, step back, guy. I own the Lord of the Rings boxed set on DVD. So don't tell me about "exhilarating."

ASHWIN

Stan. You're telling me that you think that was all a mistake?

STAN

Well...

Just then, Stan's cell PHONE rings.

STAN (CONT'D)

Hello?

EMMA (O.S.)

Stan. It's Emma. I'm sorry how things went the other day. Want to meet up for coffee? I made you cupcakes as a peace offering.

STAN

Uh, yeah yeah. I'll be right over.

Stan hangs up.

STAN (CONT'D)

It's Emma. She says she made cupcakes as a peace offering. What do I do?

ASHWIN

Be strong. Don't forgive her. You're a warlord.

JEFF

No, you should crumble. Being a warlord is stupid. And for God's sake, get those cupcakes.

EXT./INT. COFFEE SHOP - LATER

From the sidewalk, Stan looks through a window and see Emma waiting at a table with a box of cupcakes.

STAN

(to self)

Be strong. Be strong. Afghani warlord.

Stan enters and walks up to Emma

STAN (CONT'D)

Hello, Emma.

EMMA

Stan!

Emma gives Stan a giant hug, making it difficult for him to remain serious.

STAN

Okay...

EMMA

It's so good to see you.

STAN

It's good to see you too, Emma.

EMMA

You were away for two years. And now you're home safe and in one piece. I worried so much about you.

STAN

Wow, you're huggy today.

Stan escapes the hug. He tries to regain his seriousness.

STAN (CONT'D)

You know, you could have told me you were engaged.

EMMA

I know. I should have written to you. I guess I couldn't figure out how to say it. But look, I'm sorry. I made cupcakes.

Emma shows Stan the cupcakes that read "Su-Cupcakes".

STAN

Su-cupcakes? What does that mean?

EMMA

Suck-up cupcakes. Suckupcakes. Duh.

Stan's obstinacy finally melts.

STAN

Aw, I'm actually glad it happened how it did. You were right. I was in a rut.

EMMA

Really?

STAN

Totally. Now that I'm back, it's the perfect time to try new things. Date new people. Start my whole life over again and make it awesomer.

EMMA

That's great.

STAN

You helped me realize all that. So
thank you.

EMMA

That's great. That's great...

Emma is hiding something. We see her remembering...

FLASHBACK TO:

INT. EMMA'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - LAST NIGHT

CHYRON: Emma's Apartment. Three days earlier.

Emma enters her apartment.

EMMA

Dolph, I'm home.

She sees that Dolph is in the kitchen. He and a woman TISH
are making love and are covered in food.

EMMA (CONT'D)

What is going on?

DOLPH

Tish and I are experimenting on a
new orgasm recipe based on
coriander.

EMMA

You're having sex with another
woman?

DOLPH

Yes... I thought we were both
having sex with other people.

EMMA

What?!

DOLPH

Why do you think I kept making
daiquiris for you and that guy?

EMMA

How could you? You said you wanted
to be with me.

DOLPH

I do. But not only you. Babes.
There's a lot of different kinds of
orgasms out there. And you can't
eat gluten.

EMMA

Well, I guess you know exactly what
you want, don't you.

Emma removes her wedding ring.

CUT BACK TO:

INT. COFFEE SHOP - THE PRESENT

After remembering that night, Emma is lost in thought as Stan
talks.

STAN

...And this guy, Ashwin -- he's
crazy. He pisses off Jeff so much.

EMMA

I like him already.

STAN

Emma, it's so good to just talk to
you again. I'm glad we can be
friends after all we've been
through.

She covers her ring-less finger from Stan.

EMMA

(hard to say the words)
I'm glad you broke out of your rut.

Emma realizes that Stan is no longer "carrying a torch" for
her. And perhaps she is carrying one for him. As Stan
entertains her with stories, the camera pulls out.

STAN

Do you know if dogs can get
addicted to nicotine? Because I
don't know whose dog it was, but it
was eating a lot of cigarette butts
and...

END OF EPISODE